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Nanoparticle decorated multi walled carbon nanotubes and nanocomposites: Next generation high intensity electron source

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We present here field emission (FE) properties of two types of nanostructured composite films, promising novel materials for third generation electron sources and displays: (i) nanoparticle decorated multi-walled carbon nanotubes (MWCNTs) and (ii) metal insulator nano composite thin-films. FE measurements were carried out in an indigenously developed high vacuum diode set up. The salient results obtained can be summarized as a significant improvement of FE current and temporal stability associated with an appreciable reduction in turn on field from metal nanoparticle decorated MWCNT films as compared to only MWCNT films: showing promises for electron guns, x-ray sources etc., and appreciable increase in FE current density with high mechanical durability in metal nanoparticle decorated composites: promising planar emitter for future flat-displays. The enhanced FE characteristics of these emitters are understood from combined experimental results, electronic structure first-principles based calculations study.

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