

Supporting Information

Enhanced Mechanical Toughness of Isotactic Polypropylene Using Bulk Molybdenum Disulfide

*Vijay S Wadi, Kishore K. Jena, Kevin Halique and Saeed M. Alhassan**

Department of Chemical Engineering, Khalifa University of Science and Technology,

PO Box 127788, Abu Dhabi, United Arab Emirates (UAE)

*Corresponding Author:

Sample Geometry for Tensile Testing

The figure below shows the sample geometry used for the tensile testing. The tensile tests were carried out using an Instron 2519-107, USA universal Testing machine at a crosshead speed of 5 mm/min in displacement control mode at room temperature (19 °C).

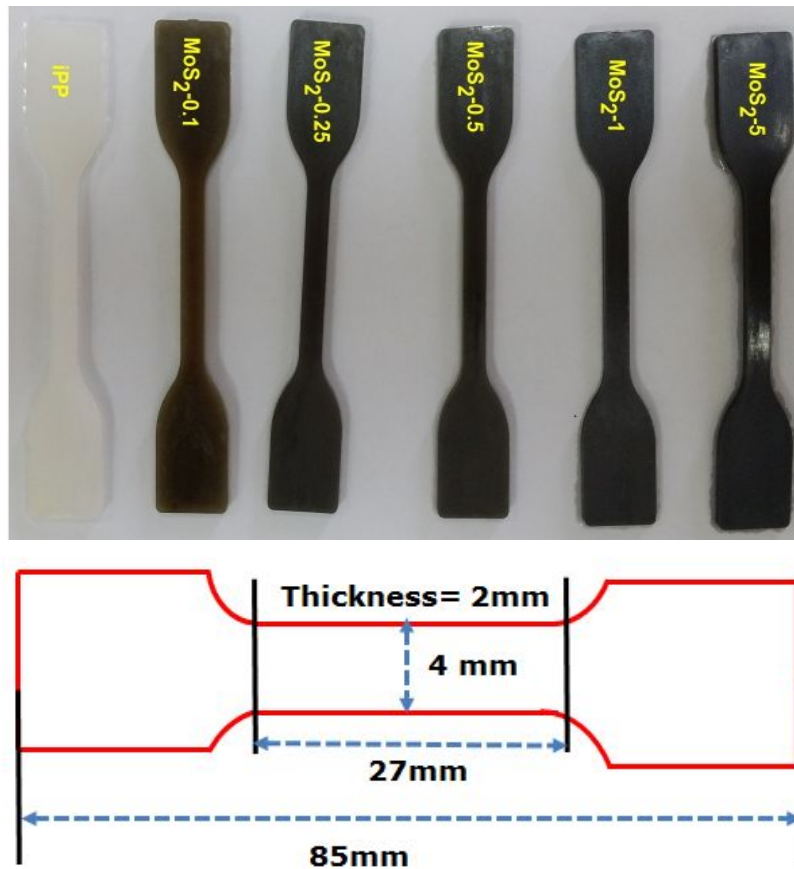


Figure S1. Digital image of iPP and iPP-MoS₂ nanocomposites before UTM study. The color of iPP-MoS₂ nanocomposites turned to black green with increase of MoS₂ content. The sample geometry used for the tensile testing.

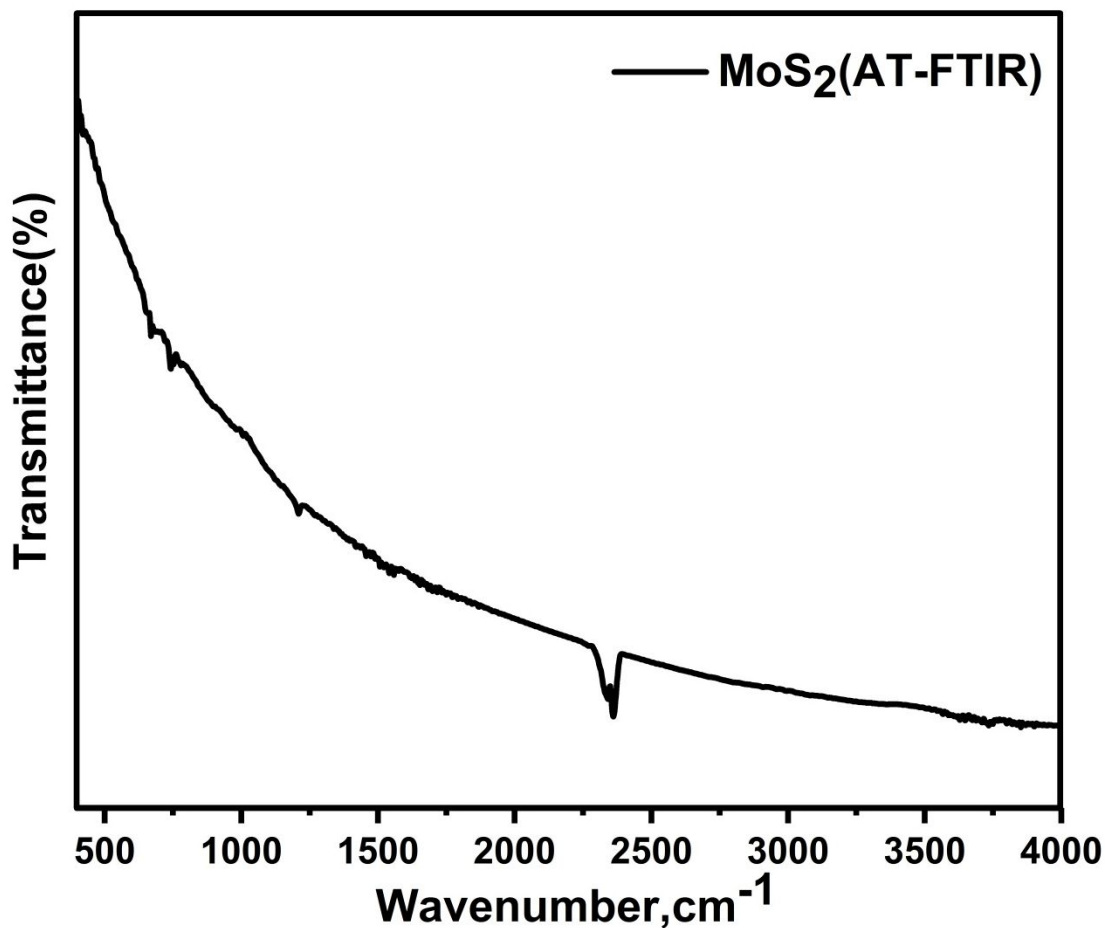


Figure S2. AT-FTIR spectra of bulk hexagonal MoS₂,

AT-FTIR measurement was conducted in the range of 400-4000 cm⁻¹ to study the chemical compositions and bonds of the samples in the bulk MoS₂. Results indicate that there is only one weak absorption peak at 474.1 cm⁻¹ for the bulk MoS₂ powder, which can be ascribed to characteristic (Mo-S)_{str} stretching vibration mode of MoS₂. As can be seen in FTIR spectra, the bulk MoS₂ almost has no any characteristic absorption peaks due to the absence of functional groups on the surface of MoS₂ nano sheets.

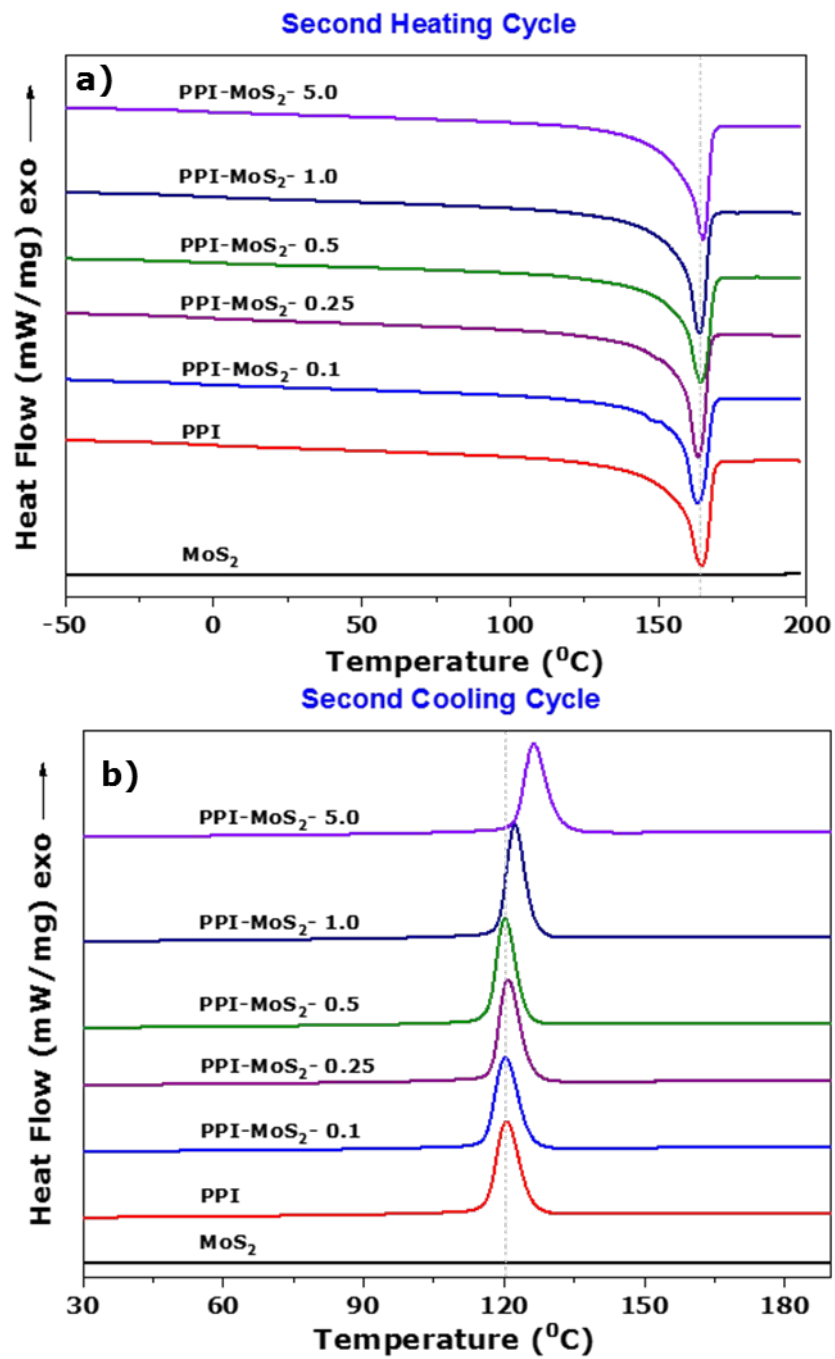


Figure S3. (a) Second heating and (b) cooling cycle DSC curves of MoS₂, iPP and iPP-MoS₂ hybrid composites

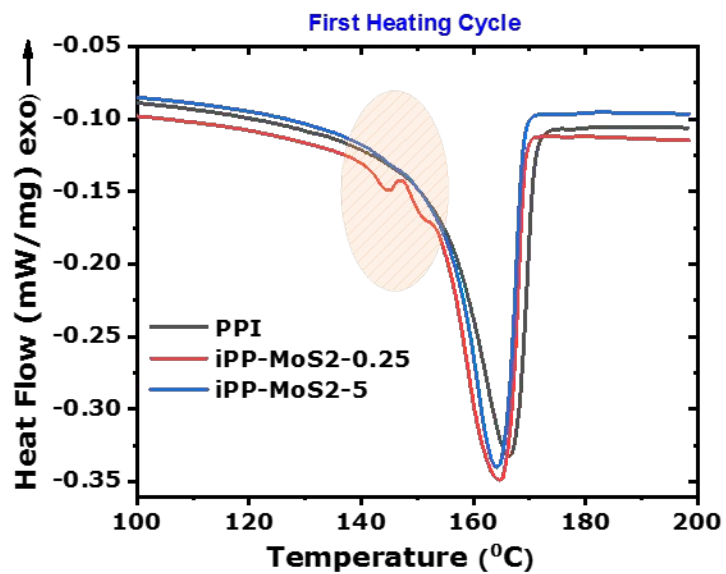


Figure S4. First Heating cycle of iPP, iPP-MoS₂-0.25 and iPP-MoS₂-5. In thermogram it can be clearly seen that the MoS₂ at lower concentration shows the presence of beta crystal melting peak at around 145°C, whereas this peak is completely absent in pure iPP and iPP-MoS₂-5 indicating the ability of the MoS₂ to form beat crystals only at lower concentration

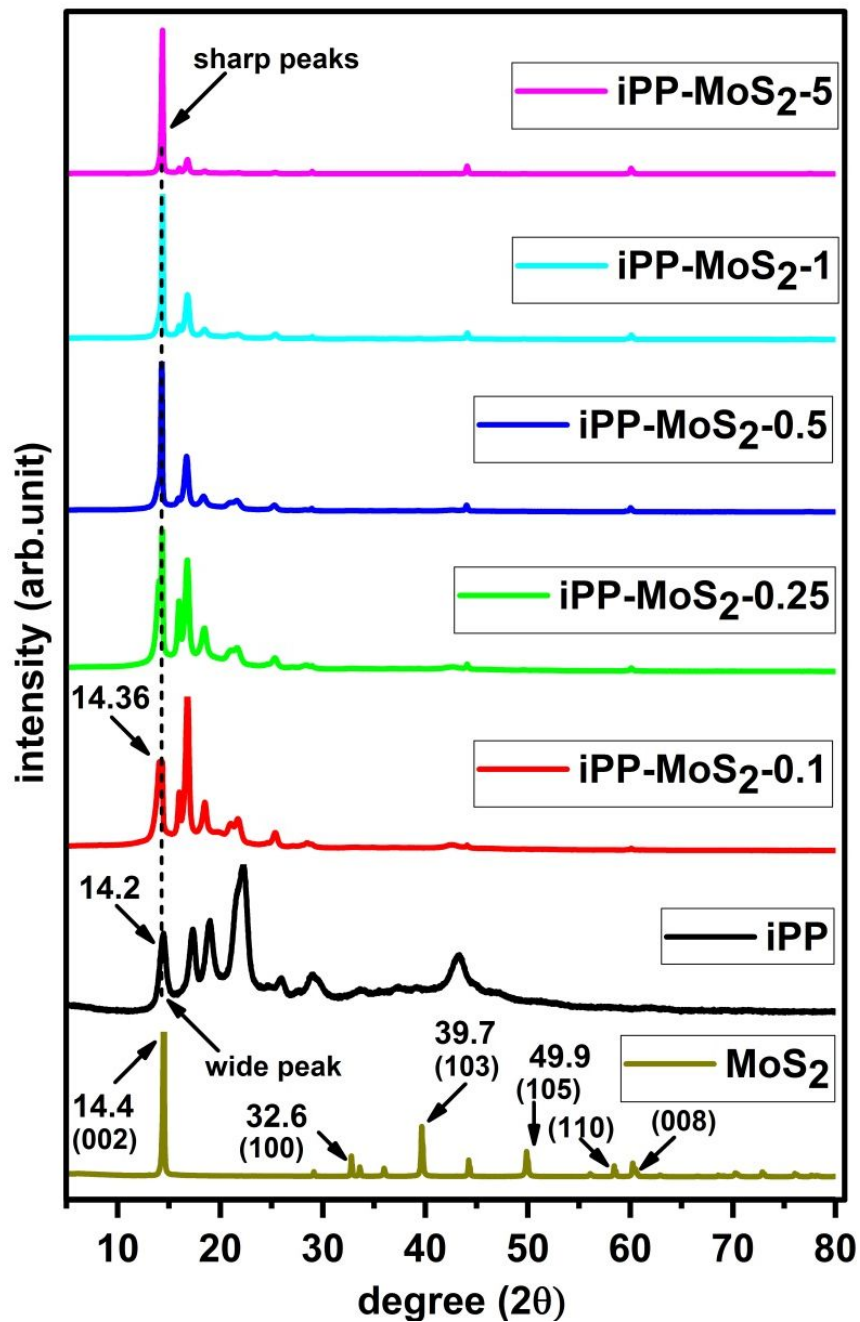


Figure S5. XRD patterns of bulk MoS₂, pure iPP and iPP-MoS₂ nanocomposites.

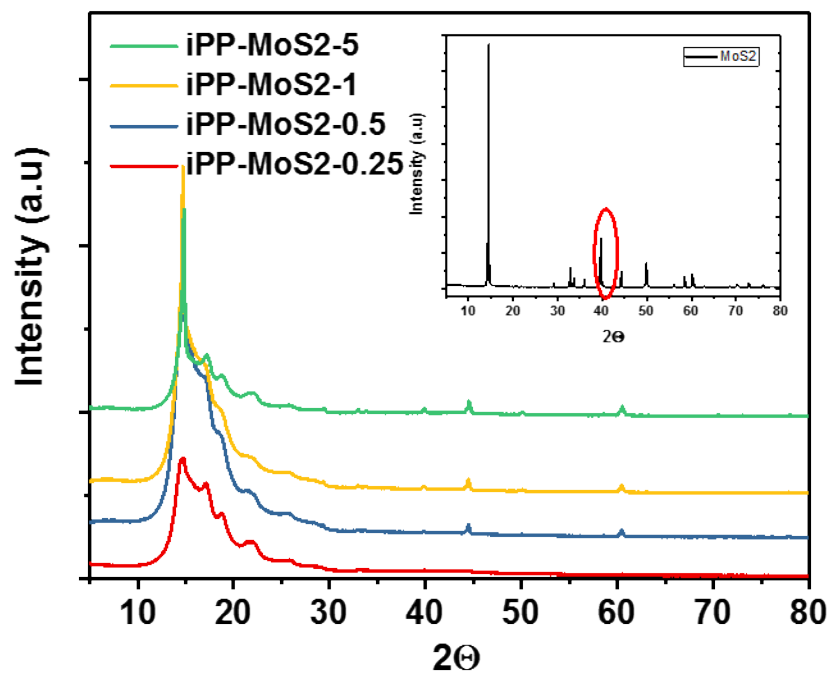


Figure S6. XRD patterns of stretched portion of iPP-MoS₂ nanocomposites after UTM test.

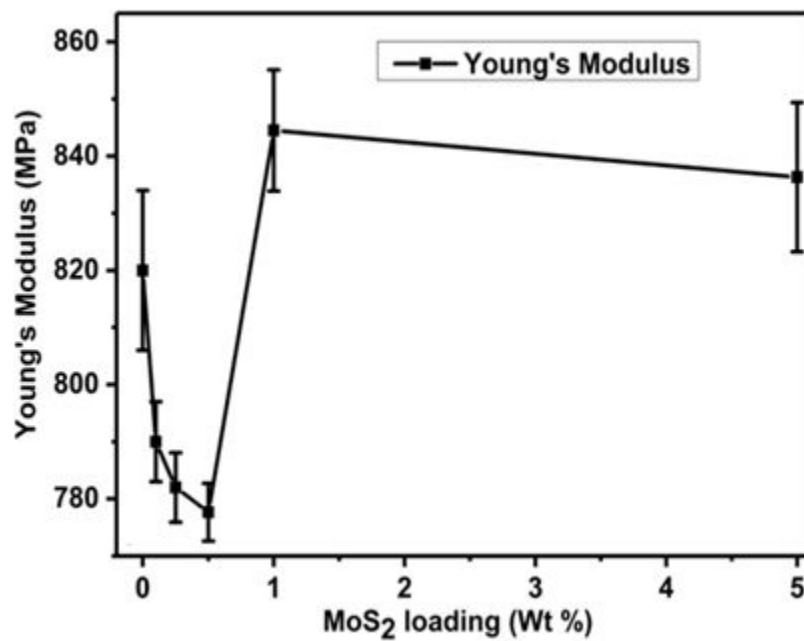


Figure S7. Effect of young's modulus at different loading percentage of MoS₂

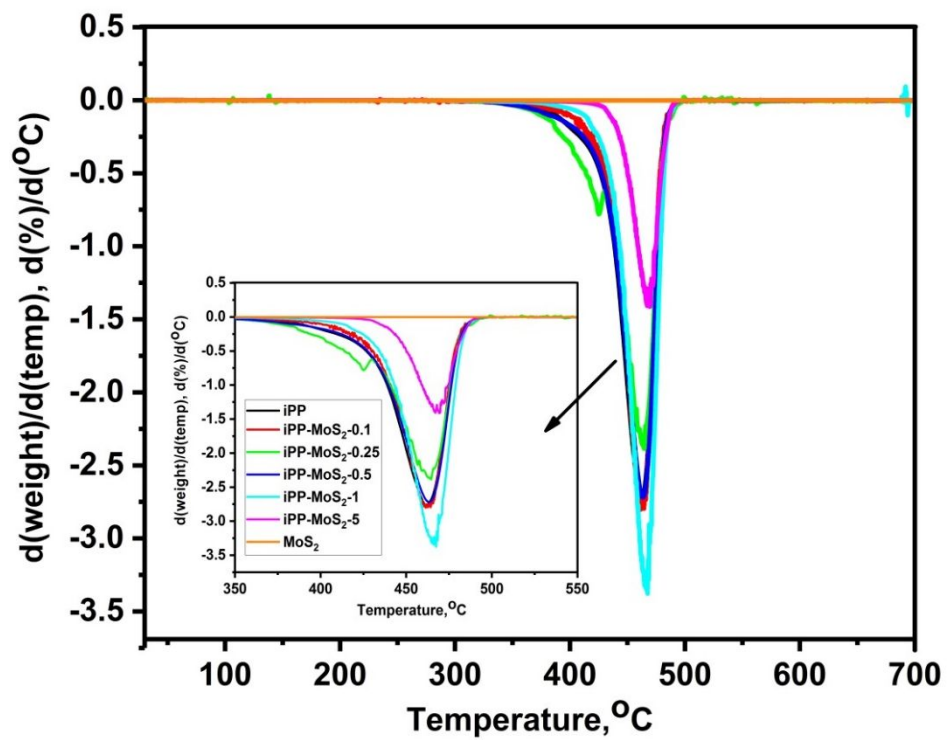


Figure S8. DTG curves of bulk MoS₂ and iPP-MoS₂-0.5 nanocomposites.

Tables

Table S1. Mechanical properties of iPP and iPP-MoS₂ nanocomposites.

Sample Name	ELONGATION (%)	MODULUS (MPa)	UTS (MPa)
iPP	152.7±22.0	843±14	34±0.6
iPP-MoS ₂ -0.1	620.0±30.0	790±7	33.1±0.7
iPP-MoS ₂ -0.25	791.3±67.4	782±6.08	32.6±0.63
iPP-MoS ₂ -0.5	683.3±52.6	777±5.03	32.2±0.16
iPP-MoS ₂ -1.0	552.7±48.2	844±10.6	35.6±0.19
iPP-MoS ₂ -5.0	41.0±4.2	836±13.0	37.6±0.48