

Electronic Supplementary Material (ESI) for RSC Advances.

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## Supporting Information

### In situ polymerization of graphene-polyaniline@ polyimide nanocomposite films with high EMI shielding and electrical properties

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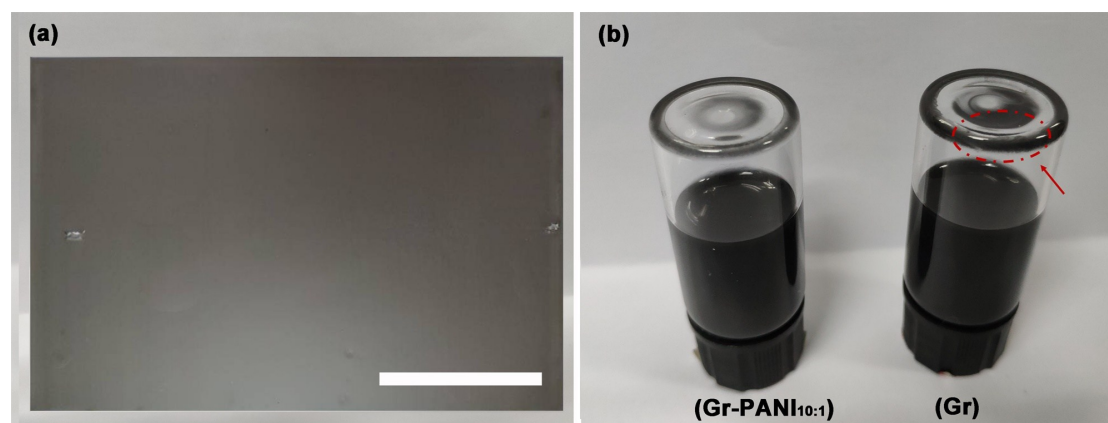


Fig. S1 (a) The large size 40%Gr-PANI<sub>10:1</sub>@PI film (the scale bar is 10 cm); (b) Gr-PANI<sub>10:1</sub> in NMP and Gr in NMP.

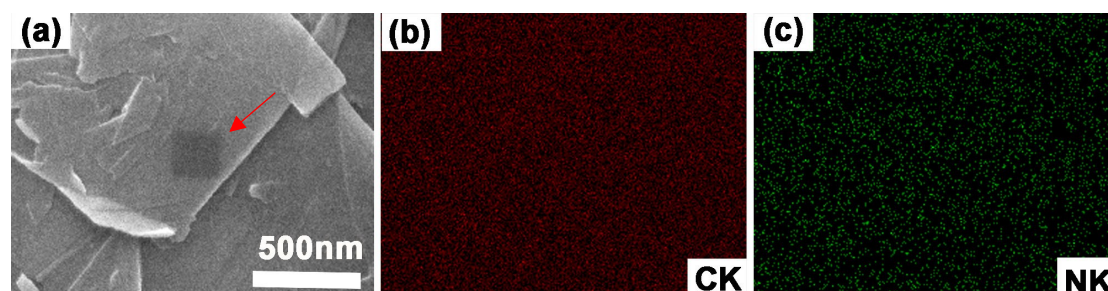


Fig. S2. SEM image of Gr-PANI<sub>10:1</sub> and the EDS mapping of Gr-PANI<sub>10:1</sub>.

Table S1 Element content of Gr-PANI<sub>10:1</sub> composites.

Element (Gr-PANI <sub>10:1</sub> )	At%
CK	77.15
NK	22.19
OK	00.66

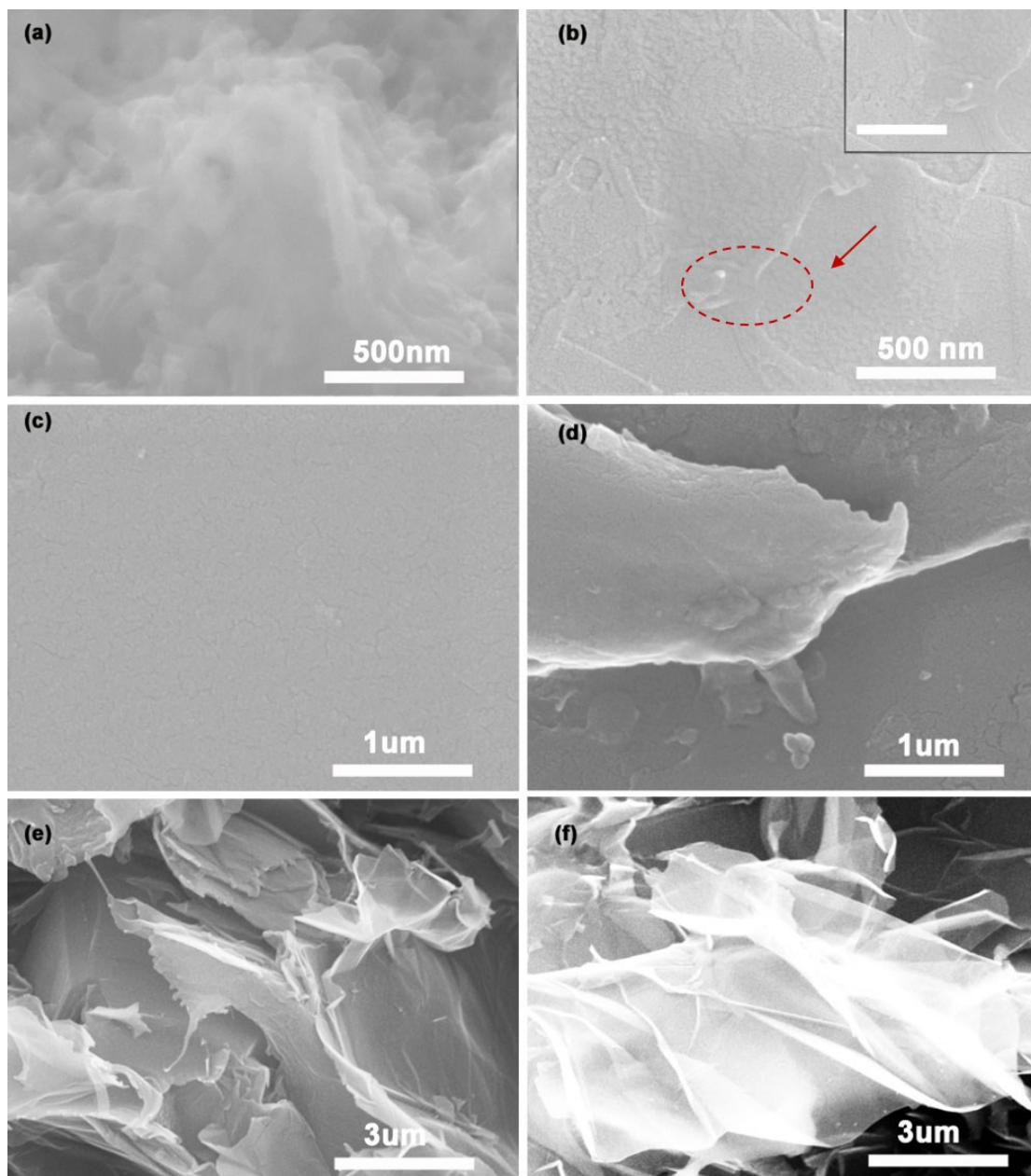


Fig. S3 The SEM images of (a, b,c,d) surface morphology of PANI, Gr-PANI<sub>5:1</sub>, Gr-PANI<sub>10:1</sub>@PI and PI; The cross-section images (e, f) of Gr@PI and Gr-PANI<sub>10:1</sub>@PI; The inset shows the magnification of the selected area and the scale bar is 0.1 um.

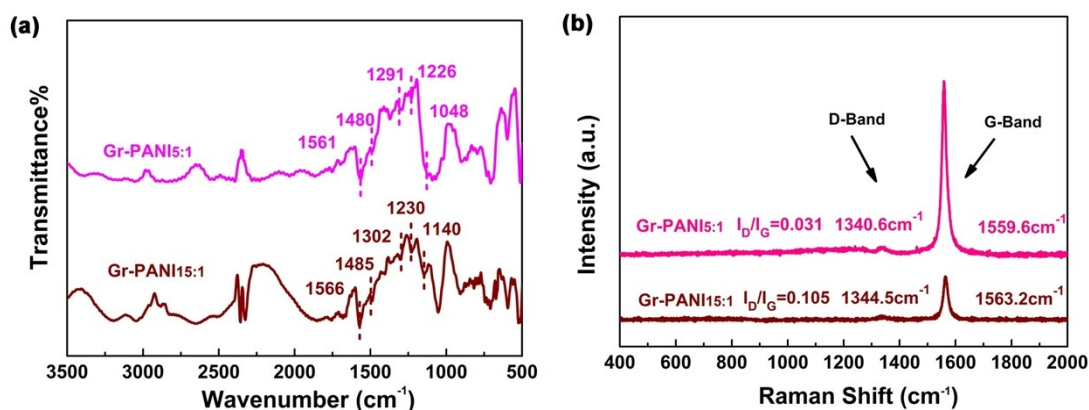


Fig. S4 (a) FTIR spectra of Gr-PANI<sub>5:1</sub> and Gr-PANI<sub>15:1</sub> composites; (b) Raman spectra of Gr-PANI<sub>5:1</sub> and Gr-PANI<sub>15:1</sub> composites.

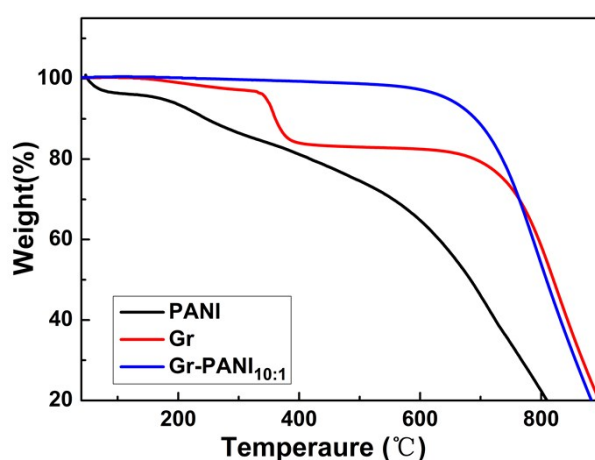


Fig. S5 TGA curves of pure PANI, Gr and Gr-PANI<sub>10:1</sub> composites.

Fig. S5 shows TGA curves of pure PANI, Gr and Gr-PANI<sub>10:1</sub> composites. The 15 wt% weight loss temperatures of the PANI, Gr and Gr-PANI<sub>10:1</sub> are 328.5 °C, 383.1 °C, and 717.5°C, respectively. Meanwhile, the residual weight at 700 °C for the Gr-PANI<sub>10:1</sub> is remarkably enhanced from 79.3% (pure Gr) to 86.8%, indicating that the Gr-PANI<sub>10:1</sub> shows superior thermal stability. The TGA curve of Gr-PANI<sub>10:1</sub> is the superposition of Gr and PANI. The weight ratio of PANI in Gr-PANI<sub>10:1</sub> is calculated by the following equation (1):

$$\text{wt\%(PANI)} = 1 - \frac{\Delta W_2 - \Delta W_3}{\Delta W_2 - \Delta W_1} \times 100\% \quad (1)$$

where the  $\Delta W_1$ ,  $\Delta W_2$  and  $\Delta W_3$  represent the weight loss of Gr-PANI<sub>10:1</sub>, PANI and Gr from 40 to 800 °C. According to the TGA data, the PANI content in Gr-PANI<sub>10:1</sub> is 12.5 wt%, which is close to the theoretical value.

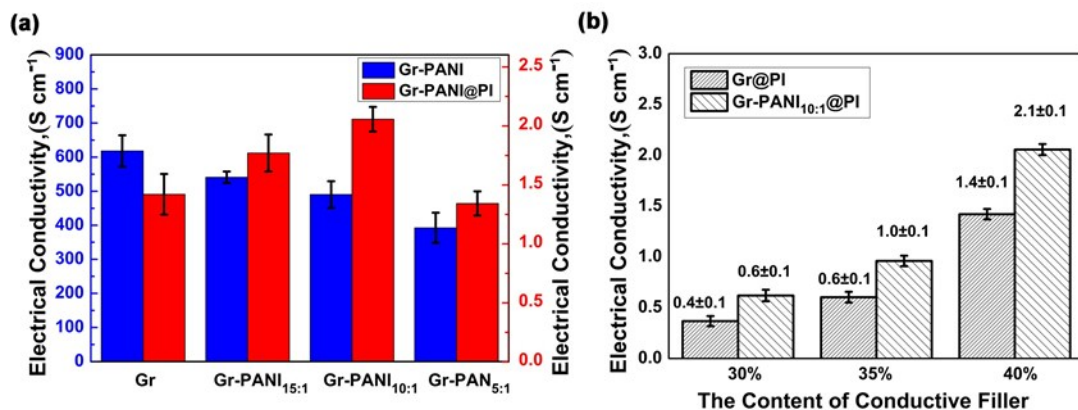


Fig. S6 Electrical conductivity of (a) Gr-PANI and 40%Gr-PANI@PI with different mass ratios of Gr to PANI; (b) Gr@PI and Gr-PANI<sub>10:1</sub>@PI with different filler contents.

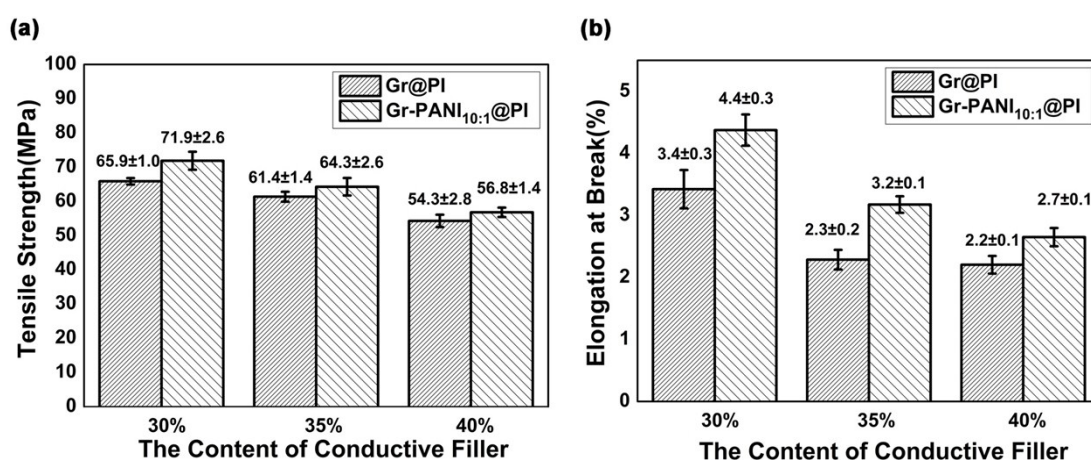


Fig. S7 The mechanical properties of Gr@PI and Gr-PANI<sub>10:1</sub>@PI with different filler contents (a) the tensile strength; (b) the elongation at break.

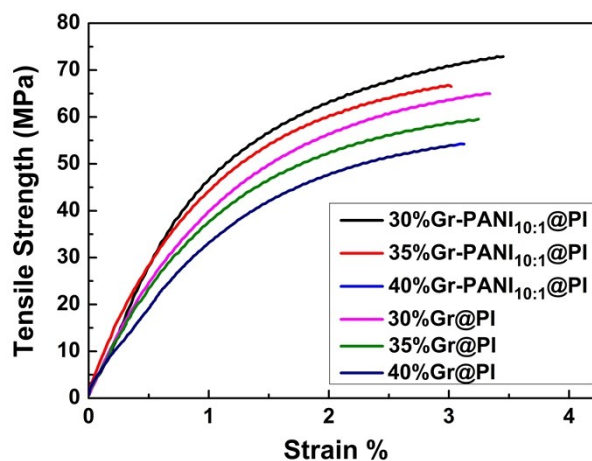


Fig. S8 Typical stress-strain curves of pure Gr@PI and Gr-PANI<sub>10:1</sub>@PI films with different filler contents.



Fig. S9 Experiment setup for EMI shielding measurement: vector network analyzer.

Table S2 EMI shielding performance of various carbon-based polymer composite films

Materials	Content (wt%)	Thickness (mm)	EMI SE <sub>T</sub> (dB)	EMI SSE value (dB·cm <sup>2</sup> g <sup>-1</sup> )	Ref
PS/graphene	30.0	2.50	~17.3	~256.3	1
PEI/graphene foam	10.0	2.30	~11.0	~164.9	2
PU/MWCNT	22.0	0.10	~20.0	/	3
WPU/CNT	76.2	0.32	~49.0	~3408.0	4
PVDF/graphene	15.0	0.10	/	~1265.0	5
Phenolic/rGO	70.0	0.30	~43.4	/	6
PI/graphene	8.0	0.50	13.7–14.9	~693.0	7
PI/graphene foam	16.0	0.80	17.0-21.0	~75.0	8
PE/graphene	15.0	1.00	~33.0	/	9
Cellulose/CNT	40.0	0.15	~35.0	~1372.4	10
WPU/CNT	76.2	2.30	~35.0	~2143.0	11
Gr-PANI <sub>10:1</sub> @PI	40.0	0.04	~21.3	~4096.2	This work

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