

Figure S1. Time-lapse optical microscopy images depicting different drying stages of a bead on the 0.5wt% SWNT/PSS/PDDA polyelectrolyte fiber at (a) 0, (b) 8, (c) 16, (d) 24, (e) 32, and (f) 40 minute intervals. (All images taken at room temperature using a 100X objective) (Scale bar at the bottom = 100 μ m). Individual nuclear fibers can be seen as striations that appear at the edges of the bead as it dries, eventually collapsing together forming a single fiber strand.

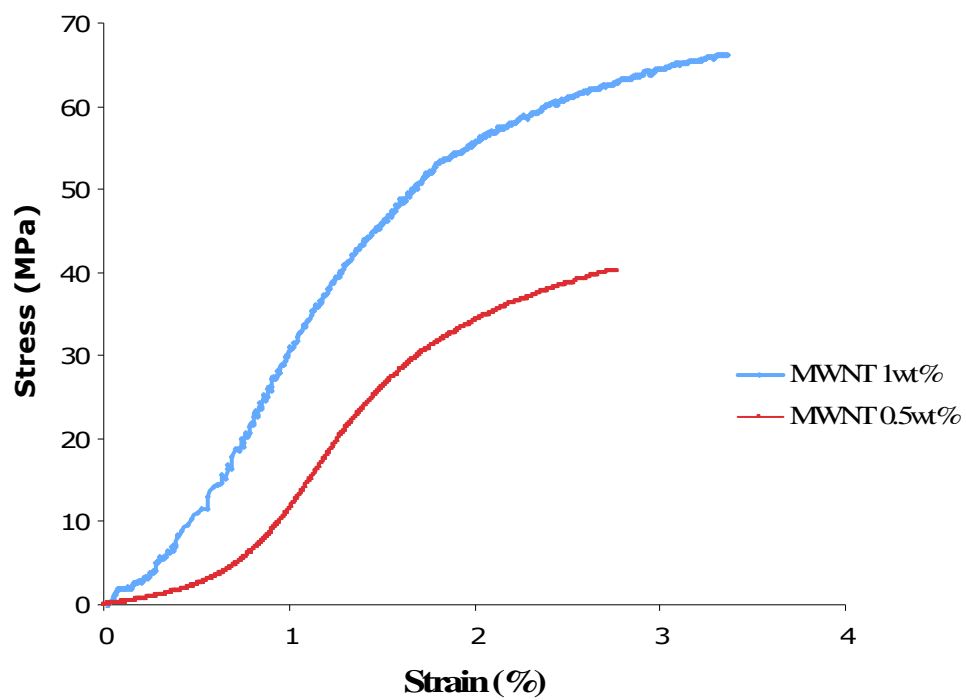


Figure S2. Comparative engineering stress-strain curves for different concentrations of MWNT in a PSS/PDDA complex system.

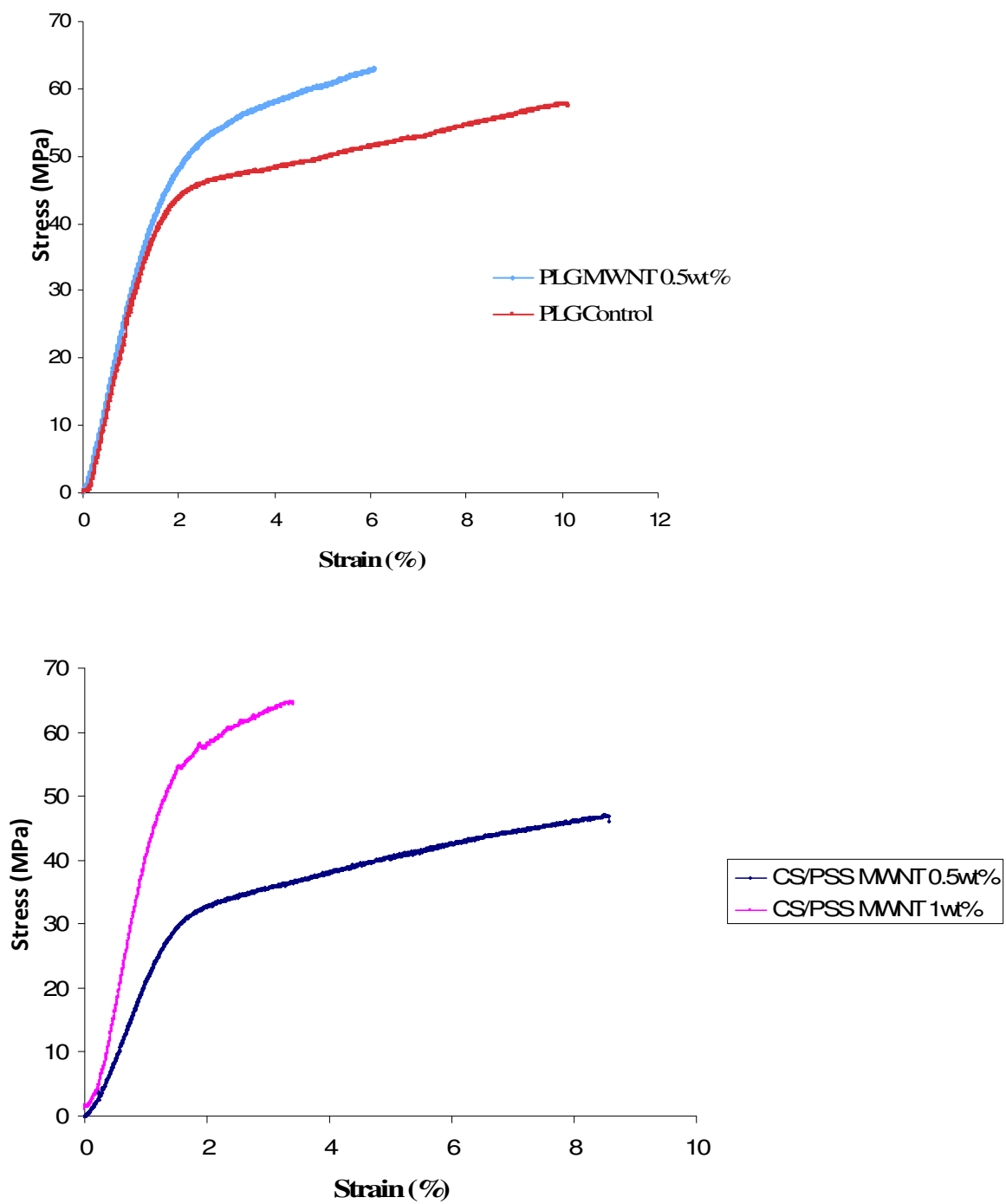


Figure S3. Engineering stress-strain curves for (a) MWNT-PLG/Chitosan and (b) MWNT-PSS/Chitosan complex based fibers.

Table 1 Tensile properties for fibers of different polyelectrolyte systems containing MWNTs.

Polyelectrolyte System	MWNT Conc. (wt%)	Young's Modulus (GPa)	Tensile Strength (MPa)	Strain to break (%)
PSS/PDDA	0.5	3.2	40	2.76
	1	3.8	66	3.36
PSS/CS	0.5	2.38	45.93	8.96
	1	4.71	64.42	3.4
PLG/CS	0.5	3.24	63	6.07

(PSS = Polystyrenesulfonate, PDDA = Polydiallyldimethylammonium chloride, CS = Chitosan, PLG = Poly(L-glutamic acid))

(Due to limited sample availability of PLG, only one MWNT concentration was used).