

Tomonori Saito

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Job

Oak Ridge National Laboratory	Oak Ridge, TN, U.S.A.
Distinguished R&D Staff	April 2024 – current
Senior R&D Staff	January 2021 – March 2024
R&D Staff	January 2017 – December 2020
R&D Associate	December 2012 – December 2016
Soft Matter Group Chemical Sciences Division	
Postdoctoral Research Associate	August 2010 – November 2012
Polymer Matrix Composites Group Materials Science and Technology Division	

Service

The University of Tennessee, Knoxville	Knoxville, TN, U.S.A.
Joint Faculty (Faculty Advisor) 2019-current	
The Bredesen Center for Interdisciplinary Research and Graduate Education Materials Science and Engineering	

Education

The Pennsylvania State University	University Park PA, U.S.A.
Postdoctoral Research Associate	May 2008 – August 2010
Department of Materials Science and Engineering Department of Civil and Environmental Engineering Research Advisors: Prof. Bruce E. Logan (CEE), Prof. Michael A. Hickner (MATSE)	
Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University	Blacksburg, VA, U.S.A.
Ph.D. Organic Polymer Chemistry	May 2008
Department of Chemistry Research Advisor: Prof. Timothy E. Long Dissertation: “Synthesis and Characterization of Multiphase Block Copolymers: Influence of Functional Groups in Macromolecular Architecture”	
Waseda University	Tokyo, Japan
M. S. Chemical Engineering	March 2003
B. S. Applied Chemistry	March 2001

Research Expertise

Dr. Tomonori Saito is a synthetic polymer chemist, who has extensive experience in the synthesis of well-defined polymers via living/controlled polymerization as well as post-modification of various polymers. His expertise has been applied to various projects at ORNL including polymer upcycling, vitrimers, flow battery, fuel cell membranes, ion-conducting polymers for batteries and battery binders, CO₂ separation membranes, polymer nanocomposites, additive manufacturing, polymer nanoparticles, elastomers, self-healing materials, thermal insulation materials, gas pipeline renewal, uranium extraction from seawater, carbon fiber composites, polyolefin-based carbon fibers, lignin based-carbon fibers, and lignin-based renewable thermoplastics. He has published more than 140 peer-reviewed articles (*h*-index 54), 16 patents issued (several were licensed.), won R&D 100 in 2012, 2016, 2019, 2021, 2024, and FLC award in 2025, as well as received the inventor of the year by Battelle in 2023, and elected for Battelle distinguished inventor in 2024.

His strength in research relies on the use of his skills in synthetic polymer chemistry to impact material sciences, energy, and chemical & environmental engineering applications. His polymer synthesis experience includes synthesis of block, graft, random copolymers with functional groups using living anionic polymerization, ATRP, RAFT, ROMP, conventional free radical polymerization, step-growth polymerization, and post-functionalization chemistry. His engineering expertise includes design, process and characterization of polymeric materials using various techniques for applications such as 3D printing, thermal insulation materials, renewable/upcycled plastics, carbon fibers, composites, gas pipe rehabilitation, CO₂ separation membranes, fuel cell, flow battery, self-healing materials, elastomers, metal adsorbents, ion-conducting polymers for energy storage, etc..

Current Research Focus

- Polymer Upcycling
- Polymer Composites
- Self-healing and Dynamic Polymers (Vitrimers)
- Polymers with Non-equilibrium States
- Additive Manufacturing (Binger Jet 3D Printing, FDM, DIW)
- Polymer Electrolytes
- Energy Storage (Li-ion Battery, Flow Battery, Fuel Cell)
- Building Materials (Thermal Insulation)
- Adhesives

He currently leads projects as a lead PI on 1. Polymer Upcycling (BES), 2. New Frontier in Polymer Matrix Composites via Tailored Vitrimer Chemistry (EERE VTO), 3. Understanding Multi-stage Non-equilibrium States of Soft Matter (LDRD), 4. Robust Membranes and Ionomers for HT PEMFC (EERE HFTO), 5. Mixed Plastic Waste Recycling (DOE OTT TCF). He also has multiple projects as a co-PI and key contributor. 1. Development of facer and facer bonding for

thermal insulation foams, and development of R10 foams (EERE BTO), 2. Self-healing sealants (EERE BTO, and TCF), 3. Preinstall sealants for Prefab Components (EERE BTO), 4. Bio-based Foams (EERE BTO, and TCF), 5. High-Energy-Density, Organic Radical-Mediated Redox Flow Batteries (OE), 5. FaCT EFRC, 6. Bio-based Adhesives for CLTs, and a several other projects.

Research Accomplishments

Peer-reviewed Publications (total 145)

2025

1. Jeffrey Foster, Isaiah Dishner, Joshua Damron, Vilmos Kertesz, Ilja Popovs, **Tomonori Saito**, Towards Efficient Entropic Recycling by Mastering Ring-Chain Kinetics, *Macromolecules* 2025, 58, 5, 2694–2700, **Journal cover**
2. Weixing Min, Lengwan Li, Mingli Wang, Shuaijiang Ma, Hao Feng, Weirong Wang, Hang Ding, Tianhui Cheng, Zhenxi Li, **Tomonori Saito**, Huabin Yang, Peng-Fei Cao, Mastering the Copolymerization Behavior of Ethyl Cyanoacrylate as Gel Polymer Electrolyte for Lithium-metal Battery Application, *Angewandte Chemie*, 2025
3. Menisha S. Karunarathna, Md Anisur Rahman*, Guang Yang, Catalin Gainaru, Zoriana Demchuck, Christopher C. Bowland, Harry M Meyer III, Natasha Ghezawi, **Tomonori Saito*** “Tough and Circular Glass Fiber Composites via Tailored Dynamic Boronic Ester Interface”, *Mater. Horiz.*, 2025, 12, 788 - 801 **Journal back cover**

2024

4. Shalini J. Rukmani, Sungjin Kim, Md Anisur Rahman, Xiao Zhao, Alexei P. Sokolov, **Tomonori Saito***, Loukas Petridis, Jan-Michael Carrillo, and Aditya Savara*, “Source of Processable Vitrimer Viscosities: Swap Frequencies and Steric Factors, *Macromolecules* 2024, 57, 23, 11020–11029
5. Zitan Huang, Michelle L. Lehmann, Amit Bhattacharya, Yifan Liu, Valentino R. Cooper, Raphael J. Clement, **Tomonori Saito**, Michael A. Hickner, and Ralph H. Colby, “Enhanced Anhydrous Proton Conductivity in Azole Phosphonic Acid Mixtures” *ACS Appl. Energy Mater.* 2024, 7, 23, 10826–10833
6. Jeffrey C. Foster*, Joshua T. Damron, Jackie Zheng, Chao Guan, Ilja Popovs, Md. Anisur Rahman, Nicholas J. Galan, Isaiah T. Dishner, and **Tomonori Saito**, “Polyalkenamers as Drop-in Additives for Ring-Opening Metathesis Polymerization: A Promising Upcycling Pathway”, *J. Am. Chem. Soc.* 2024, 146, 48, 33084–33092 **Journal cover, featured in multiple media**
7. Michelle L. Lehmann, **Tomonori Saito**, Mohamed Kamaludeen, and Guang Yang, “Development of Tailored Hydrocarbon-Based Pentablock Copolymer Membranes for Sodium-Polysulfide Flow Batteries”, *Batteries & Supercaps* 2024, e202400401
8. Sungjin Kim*, Catherine Biju, Menisha S. Karunarathna, Niya Y. Grimes, Nadim S. Hmeidat, July Reyes-Zacarias, Shradha Agarwal, Md Anisur Rahman, Dustin B. Gilmer, Brett G. Compton, Steve E. Bullock, **Tomonori Saito***, Corson L. Cramer*, “Tuning Crosslinking of Hybrid Pre-ceramic Polymers in Vat Photopolymerization toward Controlled Ceramic Yields”, *Chemical Engineering Journal* 499 (2024) 156585
9. Ding Ma, Ye Wang, Michele L. Sarazen, Cyrille Boyer, **Tomonori Saito**, Haohong Duan, Wenyu Huang, “Catalysis for plastic deconstruction and upcycling”, *Cell Reports Physical Science* 5, 102209, October 16, 2024 <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.xcrp.2024.102209>
10. S. Shrestha, Z. Demchuk, F. PoloGarzon, A. Tamraparni, J. Damron, D. Howard, **T. Saito**, A.P. Sokolov, D. Hun, C. Gainaru, “An experimental toolbox for the physical characterization of thermal insulating polymeric foams”, *Heliyon* 10 (2024) e36074
11. Ji-young Ock, Amit Bhattacharya, Tao Wang, Catalin Gainaru, Yangyang Wang, Katie L. Browning, Michelle Lehmann, Md Anisur Rahman, Miaofang Chi, Fan Wang, Jong K. Keum, Logan Kearney,

- Tomonori Saito**, Sheng Dai, Raphaële J. Clément*, Alexei P. Sokolov*, Xi Chelsea Chen*, “Percolating Interfacial Layers Enhance Conductivity in Polymer–Composite Electrolytes”, *Macromolecules* 2024, 57, 15, 7489–7498
12. Xiao Zhao, Zoriana Demchuk, Jia Tian, Jiancheng Luo, Bingrui Li, Ke Cao, Alexei P. Sokolov, Diana Hun,* **Tomonori Saito***, Peng-FeiCao*, “Ductile adhesive elastomers with force-triggered ultra-high adhesion strength”, *Mater. Horiz.*, 2024, 11, 969-977
 13. Xiaomin Tang, Changhao Liu, Jihua Chen, Rajeev Kumar, Christopher Bowland, **Tomonori Saito**, Brent Dial, Jong Keum*, Changwoo Do*, Xi Chelsea Chen*, “Probing the interface structure of block copolymer compatibilizers in semicrystalline polymer blends”, *J. App. Poly. Sci.*, 2024, e55178
 14. Pardeep Kumar, Bobby G. Sumpter, **Tomonori Saito** and Robert J. Davis*, “Importance of hydrogen bonding in Base-Catalyzed transesterification reactions with vicinal diols,” *J. Catal.* 429, 115246 (2024)
 15. Dustin Gilmer, Sungjin Kim, Desarae J Goldsby, Peeyush Nandwana, Amy Elliott*, **Tomonori Saito*** “Predictive Binder Jet Additive Manufacturing enabled by Clean Burn-off Binder Design” *Additive Manufacturing* 80, 103955 (2024)

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16. Jeffrey C. Foster*, Jackie Zheng, Md. Arifuzzaman, Md. Anisur Rahman, Joshua T. Damron, Chao Guan, Ilja Popovs, Nick Galan, Zoriana Demchuk, and **Tomonori Saito***, “Closed-loop recycling of semi-aromatic polyesters upcycled from poly(ethylene terephthalate)”, *Cell Reports Physical Sciences*, 2023, 4, 101734
17. Md Anisur Rahman,* Menisha Mahappu Koralalage, Christopher C. Bowland, Guang Yang, Catalin Gainaru, Bingrui Li, Sungjin Kim, Vivek Chawla, Natasha Ghezawi, Harry M Meyer III, Amit K. Naskar, Dayakar Penumadu, Alexei P Sokolov, **Tomonori Saito***, “Tough, Recyclable Carbon-Fiber Composites with Exceptional Interfacial Adhesion via a Tailored Vitrimer-Fiber Interface”, *Cell Reports Physical Science* 2023, 4, 101695, **featured in multiple media**
18. Bingrui Li, Sirui Ge, Xiao Zhao, Qiyi Chen, Jia Tian, Diana Hun, Alexei P. Sokolov, **Tomonori Saito***, Pengfei Cao*, “Well-Tunable, 3D-printable, and Fast Autonomous Self-Healing Elastomers”, *Supramolecular Materials*, 2 (2023) 100042
19. Md. Arifuzzaman, Bobby G. Sumpter, Zoriana Demchuk, Changwoo Do, Mark A. Arnould, Md Anisur Rahman, Peng-Fei Cao, Ilja Popovs, Robert J. Davis, Sheng Dai, **Tomonori Saito***, "Selective deconstruction of mixed plastics by a tailored organocatalyst" *Mater. Horiz.*, 2023, 10, 3360–3368 DOI: 10.1039/d3mh00801k **Journal Front Cover, featured in multiple media such as ORNL, Chemistry World, eurekaalert, phys.org, newswise, sciencedaily, sceincetimes, selected for 2024 Materials Horizons HOT Article! and 2023 Materials Horizons Most Popular Articles!**
20. Catalin Gainaru, Rajeev Kumar, Ivan Popov, Md Anisur Rahman, Michelle Lehmann, Eric Stacy, Vera Bocharova, Bobby G. Sumpter, **Tomonori Saito**, Kenneth S. Schweizer, Alexei P. Sokolov, Mechanisms Controlling the Energy Barrier for Ion Hopping in Polymer Electrolytes, *Macromolecules* 2023, 56, 15, 6051–6059
21. Michelle Lehmann, Ethan Self, **Tomonori Saito**, Guang Yang, “Composite Membrane for Sodium Polysulfide Hybrid Redox Flow Batteries”, *Membranes* 13 (8), 700
22. Bingrui Li, Sirui Ge, Sheng Zhao, Kunyue Xing, Alexei P. Sokolov, Peng-Fei Cao* and **Tomonori Saito***, Puncture-Resistant Self-Healing Polymers with Multi-cycle Adhesion and Rapid Healability, *Mater. Horiz.*, 2023, 10, 2868–2875, **Journal Back Cover**
23. Jackie Zheng, Md Arifuzzaman, Xiaomin Tang, Xi Chelsea Chen*, **Tomonori Saito***, Recent Development of End-of-Life Strategies for Plastic in Industry and Academia: Bridging Their Gap for Future Deployment, *Mater. Horiz.*, 2023, 10, 1608–1624 **Journal Back Cover, Materials Horizons Outstanding Review 2023!**
24. Syed Islam, Md. Arifuzzaman, Gernot Rother, Vera Bocharova, Robert Sacci, Jacek Jakowski, Jingsong Huang, Ilia Ivanov, Ramesh Bhav, **Tomonori Saito**, David Sholl, “A Membrane Contactor Enabling Energy-efficient CO₂ Capture from Point Sources with Deep Eutectic Solvents” *Ind. Eng. Chem. Res.*, 2023, 62, 10, 4455–4465 **Journal Cover**

25. Bingrui Li, Peng-Fei Cao, **Tomonori Saito***, Alexei P. Sokolov*, “Intrinsically Self-Healing Polymers: From Mechanistic Insight to Current Challenges”, *Chem. Rev.* 2023, 123, 701–735, **Journal Cover**
26. Michelle Lehmann, Daniel Leonard, Jackie Zheng, Lilin He, Xiaomin Tang, Xi Chelsea Chen, Katie Heeyum Lim, Sandip Maurya, Yu Seung Kim,* and **Tomonori Saito***, Quaternized Polynorbomene Random Copolymers for Fuel Cell Devices, *ACS Appl. Energy Mater.* 2023, 6, 3, 1822–1833
27. Lu Han, Dustin B. Gilmer, Amy Elliott*, **Tomonori Saito***, “Spray coating for washout tooling by binder jet additive manufacturing”, *Composites Part B* 250, 2023, 110436
28. Shilun Gao, Zhenxi Li, Zhen Zhang, Bingrui Li, Xi Chelsea Chen, Guang Yang,, **Tomonori Saito**, Ming Tian, Huabin Yang, Peng-Fei Cao, Constructing a Multi-Functional Polymer Network for Ultra-Stable and Safe Li-metal Batteries, *Energy Storage Materials*, 55 (2023) 214–224
29. Jiadeng Zhu, Sheng Zhao, Jiancheng Luo, Wei Niu, Joshua T. Damron, Zhen Zhang, Md Anisur Rahman, Mark A. Arnold, **Tomonori Saito**, Rigoberto Advincula, Alexei P. Sokolov, Bobby G. Sumpter, Peng-Fei Cao, “A Novel Dynamic Polymer Synthesis via Chlorinated Solvent Quenched Depolymerization”, *CCS Chem.* 2023, 5, 1841–1853

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30. Daniel P. Leonard, Michelle Lehmann, Jeffrey M. Klein, Ivana Matanovic, Cy Fujimoto, **Tomonori Saito***, and Yu Seung Kim*, Phenyl-Free Polynorbornenes for Potential Anion Exchange Ionomers for Fuel Cells and Electrolyzers, *Adv. Energy Mater.* 2022, 2203488
31. Jacob Fischer, Lu Han, **Tomonori Saito**, Mark Dadmun, When does a macromolecule transition from a polymer chain to a nanoparticle? *Nanoscale Adv.*, 2022, 4, 5164–5177
32. Zhengping Zhou, Sungjin Kim, Christopher C. Bowland, Bingrui Li, Natasha Ghezawi, Edgar Lara-Curzio, Ahmed Hassen, Amit K. Naskar, Md Anisur Rahman*, **Tomonori Saito***, “Unraveling a Path for Multi-Cycle Recycling of Tailored Fiber-reinforced Vitrimers Composites”, *Cell Reports Physical Science* 3, 101036, 2022, **featured in more than 10 media**
33. Michelle L. Lehmann, Guang Yang, Jagjit Nanda,* **Tomonori Saito***, “Unraveling Ion Transport in Trifluoromethanesulfonimide Pentablock Copolymer Membranes in Nonaqueous Electrolytes” *Macromolecules*, 2022, 55, 7740–7751
34. Lingyao L. Meng, Alexander S. Ivanov, Sungjin Kim, Xiao Zhao, Navin Kumar, Amanda Young-Gonzales, Tomonori Saito, Wim Bras, Kyle Gluesenkamp, and Vera Bocharova*, “Alginate–Sodium Sulfate Decahydrate Phase Change Composite with Extended Stability”, *ACS Appl. Polym. Mater.* 2022, 4, 9, 6563–6571
35. Sungjin Kim, Md Anisur Rahman, Md Arifuzzaman, Dustin B. Gilmer, Bingrui Li, Jackson K. Wilt, Edgar Lara-Curzio, **Tomonori Saito***, Closed-loop Additive Manufacturing of Upcycled Commodity Plastic through Dynamic Crosslinking, *Sci. Adv.* 2022, 8, eabn6006, **featured in more than 20 media such as ORNL, eurekaalert, phys.org, newswise, materials today etc.**
36. Michelle L. Lehmann, Landon Tyler, Ethan C. Self, Guang Yang, Jagjit Nanda*, **Tomonori Saito***, “Membrane Design for Non-Aqueous Redox Flow Batteries: Current Status and Path Forward”, *Chem* 8, 1–26, June 9, 2022
37. Jiancheng Luo, Zoriana Demchuk, Xiao Zhao, **Tomonori Saito**, Ming Tian, Alexei P. Sokolov,* Peng-Fei Cao, “Elastic vitrimers: Beyond thermoplastic and thermoset elastomers” *Matter* 5, 1391–1422, May 4, 2022
38. Guang Yang, Peng-Fei Cao, Ethan C. Self, Michelle Lehmann, Xi Chelsea Chen, Sheng Zhao, Sirui Ge, Chenhui Zhu, **Tomonori Saito**, Frank M. Delnick, Jagjit Nanda, “Selective Plasticization of Poly(ethylene oxide) (PEO) Block in Nanostructured Polystyrene–PEO–Polystyrene Triblock Copolymer Electrolytes” *Journal of The Electrochemical Society*, 2022 169 050506
39. Adrienne K. Blevins, Mengyuan Wang, Michelle L. Lehmann, Leiqing Hu, Shouhong Fan, Christopher M. Stafford, Jason P. Killgore, Haiqing Lin, **Tomonori Saito**, Yifu Ding, Photopatterning of two stage reactive polymer networks with CO₂-philic thiol–acrylate chemistry: enhanced mechanical toughness and CO₂/N₂ selectivity, *Polym. Chem.* 2022, 13, 2495–2505

40. Xiaomin Tang, Changhao Liu, Jong Keum, Jihua Chen, Brent E. Dial, Yangyang Wang, Wan-Yu Tsai, Wim Bras, **Tomonori Saito**, Christopher C. Bowland, X. Chelsea Chen, “Upcycling of semicrystalline polymers by compatibilization: mechanism and location of Compatibilizers”, *RSC Adv.*, 2022, 12, 10886
41. Mohammadreza Mahmoudi, Sungjin Kim, Md. Arifuzzaman, **Tomonori Saito**, Corson L. Cramer, Majid Minary-Jolandan, Processing and 3D printing of SiCN polymer-derived ceramics, *Int J Appl Ceram Technol.* 2022, 19, 939–948

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42. Ye Zhang, Guang Yang, Michelle L. Lehmann, Chaoshan Wu, Lihong Zhao, **Tomonori Saito**, Yanliang Liang, Jagjit Nanda, Yan Yao, “Separator Effect on Zinc Electrodeposition Behavior and Its Implication for Zinc Battery Lifetime,” *Nano Lett.* 2021, 21, 24, 10446–10452
43. Md Anisur Rahman, Christopher Bowland, Sirui Ge, Shree Ram Acharya, Sungjin Kim, Valentino R. Cooper, Xi Chen, Stephan Irle, Alexei Sokolov, Aditya Savara, **Tomonori Saito***, “Design of Tough Adhesive from Commodity Thermoplastics through Dynamic Crosslinking”, *Sci. Adv.* 2021; 7 : eabk2451, **featured in more than 20 media including Newsweek, ORNL, eurekaalert, phys.org, newswire, ritzherald, newsbreak, National Geographic (Russia), Romanian TV and many others.**
44. Dustin B. Gilmer, Lu Han, Michelle L. Lehmann, Derek H. Siddel, Guang Yang, Azhad U. Chowdhury, Benjamin Doughty, Amy M. Elliott*, **Tomonori Saito***, “Additive Manufacturing of Strong Silica Sand Structures enabled by Polyethyleneimine Binder”, *Nat Comm*, 2021, 12, 5144, **featured in Nat Comm Editor’s highlights, Nat Comm’s additive manufacturing articles’ highlight, featured in multiple media including Mashable, ORNL, Phys.org, Defense Digest, STEM Magazine: Chosen for Top 10 short video by Springer Nature**
45. Corson L. Cramer, Jackson K. Wilt, Quinn A. Campbell, Lu Han, **Tomonori Saito**, Andrew T. Nelson, “Accuracy of stereolithography printed alumina with digital light processing”, *Open Ceramics* 8 (2021) 100194
46. Subarna Samanta, Sungjin Kim, **Tomonori Saito**, Alexei P. Sokolov, “Polymers with Dynamic Bonds: Adaptive Functional Materials for Sustainable Future”, *J. Phys. Chem. B* 2021, 125, 33, 9389–9401, **Journal Cover**
47. Martin Tress, Maximilian Vielhauer, Pierre Lutz, Rolf Mülhaupt, Friedrich Kremer, Kunyue Xing, Sirui Ge, Pengfei Cao, **Tomonori Saito**, Alexei Sokolov, “Polymer Dynamics in Nanostructured Environments: Structure-Property Relations Unraveled by Dielectric Spectroscopy”, *ACS Symposium Series* Vol. 1375, Chapter 10 p 223-238
48. Christine Fisher, Bruce J. Warmack, Yongchao Yu, Lydia N. Skolrood, Kai Li, Pooran C. Joshi, **Tomonori Saito**, Tolga Aytug, “All-aerosol-jet-printed highly sensitive and selective polyaniline-based ammonia sensors: a route toward low-cost, low-power gas detection”, *J Mater Sci*, 2021, 56 (22), 12596-12606
49. X. Chelsea Chen, Yiman Zhang, Laura C. Merrill, Charles Soulen, Michelle L. Lehmann, Jennifer L. Schaefer, Zhijia Du, **Tomonori Saito**, Nancy J. Dudney, “Gel composite electrolyte – an effective way to utilize ceramic fillers in lithium batteries”, *J. Mater. Chem. A*, 2021, 9, 6555–6566
50. Guang Yang*, Michelle L. Lehmann, Sheng Zhao, Bingrui Li, Sirui Ge, Peng-Fei Cao, Frank M. Delnick, Alexei P. Sokolov, **Tomonori Saito***, Jagjit Nanda*, Anomalously high elastic modulus of a poly(ethylene oxide)-based composite electrolyte, *Energy Storage Materials* 35 (2021) 431–442
51. Jackson K. Wilt, Dustin Gilmer, Sungjin Kim, Brett G. Compton, **Tomonori Saito***, “Direct Ink Writing Techniques for In-situ Gelation and Solidification”, *MRS Communications*, 2021 (11) 106–121
52. Bingrui Li, Sheng Zhao, Jiadeng Zhu, Sirui Ge, Kunyue Xing, Alexei P. Sokolov, **Tomonori Saito***, Peng-Fei Cao*, “Rational Polymer Design of Stretchable Poly(ionic liquid)s Membranes for Dual Applications”, *Macromolecules* 2021, 54, 896–905, **Journal Cover**
53. Martin Tress, Sirui Ge, Kunyue Xing, Peng-Fei Cao, **Tomonori Saito**, Anne-Caroline Genix, Alexei P. Sokolov, “Turning Rubber into a Glass: Mechanical Reinforcement by Microphase Separation”, *ACS Macro Lett.* 2021, 10, 2, 197–202

2020

54. Sheng Zhao, Yiman Zhang, Hoang Pham, Jan-Michael Y. Carrillo, Bobby G. Sumpter, Jagjit Nanda, Nancy J. Dudney, **Tomonori Saito**, Alexei P. Sokolov*, Peng-Fei Cao*, “Improved Single-Ion Conductivity of Polymer Electrolyte via Accelerated Segmental Dynamics”, *ACS Applied Energy Materials* 2020, 3, 12, 12540-12548
55. Anjali N. Preman, Hyocheol Lee, Jungwoo Yoo, Il Tae Kim*, **Tomonori Saito***, Suk-kyun Ahn* “Progress of 3D Network Binders in Silicon Anodes for Lithium Ion Batteries” *J. Mater. Chem. A*, 2020,8, 25548-25570
56. Zhen Zhang, Natasha Ghezawi, Bingrui Li, Sirui Ge, Sheng Zhao, **Tomonori Saito***, Diana Hun*, Peng-Fei Cao*, “Autonomous Self-Healing Elastomers with Unprecedented Adhesion Force”, *Advanced Functional Materials*, 2020, 2006298, **Journal Cover, Frontispiece**
57. Corson L. Cramer, Herb Armstrong, Alexis Flores-Betancourt, Lu Han, Amy M. Elliott, Edgar Lara-Curzio, **Tomonori Saito**, Kashif Nawaz, “Processing and properties of SiC composites made via binder jet 3D printing and infiltration and pyrolysis of preceramic polymer”, *Int. J. Ceramic Eng. Sci.* 2020, 2, 320–331.
58. Umesh M. Shrestha, Lu Han, **Tomonori Saito**, Kenneth S. Schweizer, Mark D. Dadmun, “Mechanism of Soft Nanoparticle Diffusion in Entangled Polymer Melts” *Macromolecules* 2020 53, 17, 7580–7589
59. Lu Han*, Michelle L. Lehmann, Jiadeng Zhu, Tianyi Liu, Zhengping Zhou, Xiaomin Tang, Chien-Te Hsieh, Alexei P. Sokolov, Pengfei Cao, Xi Chen, **Tomonori Saito***, “Recent developments and challenges in hybrid solid electrolytes for lithium-ion batteries” *Front. Energy Res.* 2020, 8, 202
60. Sahar Rostom, B. Tyler White, Guangcui Yuan, **Tomonori Saito**, Mark D. Dadmun, “Polymer Chain Diffusion in All-Polymer Nanocomposites: Confinement vs Chain Acceleration”, *J. Phys. Chem. C* 2020, 124, 18834–18839
61. Dustin Gilmer, Lu Han, Eunice Hong, Derek Sidel, Alexander Kisliuk, Shiwang Cheng, Dan Brunermer, Amy Elliott*, **Tomonori Saito***, “An in-situ crosslinking binder for binder jet additive manufacturing”, *Additive Manufacturing* 35 (2020) 101341
62. Peng-Fei Cao*, Bingrui Li, Guang Yang, Sheng Zhao, Jacob Townsend, Kunyue Xing, Zhe Qiang, Konstantinos D. Vogiatzis, Alexei P. Sokolov, Jagjit Nanda, **Tomonori Saito***, “Elastic Single-Ion Conducting Polymer Electrolytes: Toward a Versatile Approach for Intrinsically Stretchable Functional Polymers”, *Macromolecules* 2020, 53, 3591–3601
63. Shilun Gao, Feiyuan Sun, Alexander Brady, Yiyang Pan, Andrew Erwin, Dandan Yang, Vladimir Tsukruk Andrew G. Stack, **Tomonori Saito**, Huabin Yang, Peng-Fei Cao, “Ultra-efficient polymer binder for silicon anode in high-capacity lithium-ion batteries”, *Nano Energy* 73 (2020) 104804
64. Sirui Ge, Martin Tress, Kunyue Xing, Peng-Fei Cao, **Tomonori Saito**, Alexei P. Sokolov, “Viscoelasticity in associating oligomers and polymers: experimental test of the bond lifetime renormalization model”, *Soft Matter*, 2020, 16, 390–401
65. Michelle L. Lehmann, Guang Yang*, Jagjit Nanda*, **Tomonori Saito***, “Well-designed Crosslinked Polymer Electrolyte Enables High Ionic Conductivity and Enhanced Salt Solvation”, *Journal of The Electrochemical Society*, 2020, 167 070539

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66. Tao Hong, Peng-Fei Cao*, Sheng Zhao, Bingrui Li, Connor Smith, Michelle Lehmann, Andrew J. Erwin, Shannon M. Mahurin, Surendar R. Venna, Alexei P. Sokolov, **Tomonori Saito***, “Tailored CO₂-philic Gas Separation Membranes via One-pot Thiol-ene Chemistry”, *Macromolecules*, 2019, 52, 5819–5828
67. Martin Tress, Kunyue Xing, Sirui Ge, Pengfei Cao, **Tomonori Saito**, Alexei Sokolov, “What dielectric spectroscopy can tell us about supramolecular networks” *Eur. Phys. J. E*, 2019, 42, 133
68. Michelle L. Lehmann, Guang Yang*, Dustin Gilmer, Kee Sung Han, Ethan C. Self, Rose E. Ruther, Sirui Ge, Bingrui Li, Vijayakumar Murugesan, Alexei P. Sokolov, Frank M. Delnick, Jagjit Nanda*, **Tomonori Saito***, “Tailored Crosslinking of Poly(Ethylene Oxide) Enables Mechanical Robustness and Improved Sodium-Ion Conductivity”, *Energy Storage Materials*, 2019, 21, 85–96
69. Benjamin Doughty, Anne-Caroline Genix, Ivan Popov, Bingrui Li, Sheng Zhao, **Tomonori Saito**, Daniel A. Lutterman, Robert L. Sacci, Bobby G. Sumpter, Zaneta Wojnarowska, Vera Bocharova, “Structural correlations tailor conductive properties in polymerized ionic liquids” *Phys. Chem. Chem. Phys.*, 2019, 21(27), 14775-14785

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Mentoring History

He currently mentors a few staff members, 4 postdocs, and 4 graduate students. The list of current and past advisees with current institution is listed as follows:

Postdoctoral Advisees:

Dr. Zhenbin Niu, currently at Dow Corning

Dr. Sabornie Chatterjee, currently at Firmenich

Dr. Casey Johnson, Amy Research Laboratory, then currently at DuPont

Dr. Pengfei Cao, a staff at Oak Ridge National Laboratory, then a professor at Beijing University of Chemical Technology

Dr. Konstantinos Misichronis, currently at BIC

Dr. Lu Han, currently at Kaneka

Dr. Md Anisur Rahman, a staff at Oak Ridge National Laboratory

Dr. Sungjin Kim, a staff Oak Ridge National Laboratory, then an assistant professor at The University of New Mexico

Dr. Md. Arifuzzaman, a founder of a start-up, Re-Du

Dr. Menisha S. Karunaratna, currently at UTK

Dr. Ain Uddin, Oak Ridge National Laboratory, currently at Avery Dennison

Dr. Ke Cao, Oak Ridge National Laboratory, currently in China

Dr. Bokyung Park, currently at Huntsman

Dr. Nick Glan, Oak Ridge National Laboratory

PostmasterAdvisees:

Mr. Bingrui Li, graduate school, UTK, then a postdoc at Fudan University

Ms. Eunice Hong, currently at Acella Performance Materials

Postbachelor Advisees:

Mr. Tyler White, graduate school, Virginia Tech

Dr. Michelle Lehmann, graduate school, UTK, then a staff at ORNL

Ms. Natasha Ghezawi, currently at graduate school, UTK

Graduate Student Advisees:

Dr. Tao Hong, University of Tennessee, Knoxville, currently an assistant professor at Xi'an Jiaotong University

Dr. Michelle Lehmann, University of Tennessee, Knoxville, currently a technical staff member at ORNL

Dr. Dustin Gilmer, University of Tennessee, Knoxville, currently a faculty at University of Tennessee, Knoxville

Dr. Bingrui Li, University of Tennessee, Knoxville, currently a postdoc at Fudan University in China

Ms Natasha Ghezawi, University of Tennessee, Knoxville

Mr. Jackie Zheng, University of Tennessee, Knoxville

Ms. Jihye Choi, University of Tennessee, Knoxville

Undergraduate Student (SULI or HERE) Advisees (indicating their next career step):

Ms. Sophia Lai, graduate school at Harvard University (SULI from Cornell)

Mr. Tyler White, graduate school at Virginia Tech (SULI from UTK)

Mr. Christopher Scanlon, graduate school at University of Southern Mississippi (SULI from Columbus State)

Mr. Connor Smith (SULI from Cornell)

Mr. Jay Hingu (SULI from New Jersey College)

Mr. Leo Parsons, graduate school at UC Davis (SULI from Cal Poly)

Mr. Dustin Gilmer, graduate school at UTK (SULI and HERE from East Tennessee State)

Ms. Michelle Lehmann, graduate school at UTK (SULI and HERE from UTK)

Mr. Hoang Pham, graduate school at UC Davis (HERE from Colorado College)

Mr. Tony Su, graduate school at Northwestern Univ (HERE from Grinnell College)

Mr. Alex Huynh (SULI from U of Houston)

Ms. Maria Furukawa, SOLVAY (SULI from Georgia Tech), then graduate school at UNC Chapel Hill

Mr. Benjamin Stacy, graduate school at U of Texas Austin (SULI from U of Kentucky)

Ms. Lauryn Carver, graduate school at U of Chicago (SULI from U of Oklahoma)
 Ms. Christine Fisher, graduate school at CUNY, then Beiersdor (HERE from CUNY)
 Mr. Jackson Wilt (HERE and SULI from UTK), Fulbright Scholar in Netherland, graduate school at Harvard University
 Ms. Sylvie Blanton (SULI from Georgia Tech)
 Ms. Mairead Boucher (SULI from Ave Maria University)
 Ms. Christine Rukeyser (ECO and GEM from The University of Tennessee, Chattanooga), graduate school at Northwestern University
 Mr. Octavio Jupp (MSIIP from U Texas Rio Grande Valley)
 Ms. Marybeth Appleyard (SMART from Virginia Tech)
 Mr. Ju-An Kim (SULI from UC Irvine)
 Mr. Avanish Bharadwaj (SULI from UNC Chapel Hill)

Awards and Membership

2025	FLC Award: Transforming Sustainable Construction with Self-Healing Barrier Film for Vacuum Insulation, Tomonori Saito , Diana Hun, Natasha Ghezawi, Andreana Leskovjan, Andrea Bowers, Michael Merwin
2024	Battelle Distinguished Inventor, Tomonori Saito
2024	2024 R&D 100, “Selective Mixed Plastic Recycling” Tomonori Saito , Md Arifuzzaman, Bobby Sumpter, Changwoo Do, Zoriana Demchuk, Sheng Dai, Ilja Popovs, Jeff Foster, Nick Galan and Jackie Zheng; and Robert Davis
2023	Battelle - ORNL Inventor of the Year, Tomonori Saito
2022	ORNL Award, Research Accomplishment, Tomonori Saito
2022	ORNL Award, Outstanding Scholarly Output, Amy Elliott, Tomonori Saito , Michelle Lehmann, Desarae Goldsby, Guang Yang and Benjamin Doughty
2022	ORNL BTSD 2022 Outstanding ORNL Collaborator Award, Tomonori Saito
2021	2021 R&D 100, “Autonomous self-healing sealant”, Diana Hun, Pengfei Cao, Tomonori Saito , Zhen Zhang, Bingrui Li, Natasha Ghezawi and Zoriana Demchuk
2019	2019 R&D 100, “High Strength Binder System for Additive Manufacturing”, Tomonori Saito , Amy Elliott, Dustin Gilmer, Michelle Lehmann, Lu Han, Rick Lucas, Dan Brunermer
2017	ORNL Research Team Award, Carter Abney, Vyacheslav Bryantsev, Christopher J. Janke, Sheng Dai, Richard Mayes, Tomonori Saito , Costas Tsouris
2016	2016 R&D 100, “U Grabber”, Sheng Dai, Suree Brown, Robin Rogers, Christopher J. Janke, Richard Mayes, Tomonori Saito , Ronnie Hanes
2012	2012 R&D 100, “HiCap Adsorbents”, Christopher J. Janke, Yatsandra Oyola, Sheng Dai, Chris Bauer, Richard Mayes, Tomonori Saito , Xiao-Guang Sun, Costas Tsouris, Jim Brang, Jeff Haggard
2006.5	ACS Polymer Division Travel Award – POLY Biennial Meeting
2005.1- 2005.6	MII (Macromolecules and Interfaces Institute at Virginia Tech) Frontiers in Graduate Research Fellowships
2003.3.5	Best Research Award (Kurita award) in 2003 at 37 th Japan Society on Water Environment

	Conference in Kumamoto, Japan, Mar. 3-7, 2003
2005 -	Member of American Chemical Society (ACS) (POLY, PMSE)
2016 -	Member of Materials Research Society (MRS)
2018 -	Member of North American Membrane Society (NAMS)
2018 -	Member of the American Institute of Chemical Engineers (AIChE)

Synergistic Activities:

- Oak Ridge National Laboratory, Distinguished Staff Fellow Committee, 2018-2021
- Georgia Tech, Polymer Depolymerization MURI Advisory Panel, 2020-
- DOE EERE AMMTO SUPR Verification Team, 2022-
- ACS Division of Polymer Chemistry, Webinar Committee (Chair 2023-), 2019 –
- Organizer of Symposia at ACS National Meetings, MRS Meetings, and Euromat. Organizer for ACS CCC: “Sustainable Polymers: A Multidisciplinary Challenge” 2022-2023
- Contributor to the workshop report and factual document for DOE BES Roundtable on Chemical Upcycling of Polymers
- Serving as a reviewer for many proposals and many journals such as *Nature*, *Science*, *Science Advances*, *Nature Communications*, *Nature Sustainability*, *JACS*, *Advanced Materials*, *Angewandte Chemie*, *Advanced Functional Materials*, *Materials Horizons*, *Energy Storage Materials*, *Macromolecules*, *Additive Manufacturing*, *ACS Applied Interfaces*, *J. Mat. Chem. A.*, *ACS Applied Energy Materials*, *Green Chemistry*, *Chemical Engineering Journal*, etc.