



## WUHAN UNIVERSITY OF TECHNOLOGY

Wuhan University of Technology (WUT), is a state key university directly affiliated to the Ministry of Education of the People's Republic of China. WUT is among the first batch of universities which have entered the national "211 Project" and China's "Double-First Class" Initiative. WUT is jointly developed by the Ministry of Education and the Ministry of Transport. As the university directly affiliated to the Ministry of Education which cultivates the largest number of talents in three major industrial sectors, namely, building and construction materials, transportation, and automobile industries, WUT becomes an important base for the cultivation of high-level scientific talents and technological innovation for the three industrial sectors.

WUT has three campuses, including Mafangshan campus, Yujiatou campus and the South Lake campus,

with a total land area of 2.67 million square meters and a total gross floor area of 1.95 million square meters. Currently, WUT has over 50,000 faculty and students, 24 academic schools, 4 National Technology Innovation Bases and 4 modern libraries with a collection of 3.61 million books. Since 2000, WUT has been awarded over 20 national science and technology prizes, ranking in the forefront of all Chinese colleges and universities. In 2019, WUT was listed in Times Higher Education World University Rankings, U.S. News Best Global Universities Rankings, Shanghai Jiao Tong University's Academic Ranking of World Universities and QS Asia University Rankings.

Since the founding of New China, WUT has cultivated more than 600,000 senior professionals. In the past decade, the first-time employment rate of graduates has

remained above 95%, and about 55% of total employment join world's top 500 enterprises and fields of strategic emerging industries.

Over the years, WUT has formed educational ideology system with distinctive characteristics, with the lofty ideal of “Building an excellent university to win worldwide recognition and admiration”, the spirit of “Sound in morality, broad in learning and pursuing excellence”, the principle of “Taking students’ cultivation as our essence, and taking academic development as our priority”, and the educational concept of “Implementing excellent education, nurturing excellent talents and creating an excellent life”. Guided by the WUT Charter approved by the Ministry of Education, WUT is committed to the modernization of the governance system and capability, aiming to rank among the world-class universities with distinctive features.

### MSE Discipline of Wuhan University of Technology

Founded in 1958, the Materials Science & Engineering (MSE) discipline of Wuhan University of Technology (WUT) was supported in priority through the “State 211 Project for Higher Education Universities” from 1995 to 2015, and has been supported via the “World-Class University & World-Class Discipline” development plan of China since 2016. WUT’s MSE ranks A+ among 172 leading universities in China (No.1 alongside MSEs of Tsinghua University and Beihang University) in the 4<sup>th</sup> round national discipline evaluation organized by the Ministry of Education in 2017, and is world top 1% in Clarivate Analytics’ Essential Science Indicators.

WUT’s MSE owns 1 member of Chinese Academy of Sciences, 3 members of Chinese Academy of Engineering, 3 members of Academia Europaea, 1 member of the Royal Academy of Belgium, 1 member of the World Academy of Ceramics, 1 fellow of the Australian Academy of Technology and Engineering, 10 fellows of the Royal Society of Chemistry, American Physics Society and American Ceramic Society. It also owns 23 national high-level talents including recipients of the National Natural Science Foundation of China for Distinguished Young Scholars (equal of NSF Career Awards), and 22 national high-level young talents.

WUT’s MSE has established 2 state key laboratories, the State Key Laboratory of Advanced Technology for Materials Synthesis and Processing and the State Key Laboratory of Silicate Materials for Architectures. The State Key Laboratory of Advanced Technology for Materials Synthesis and Processing was evaluated “Excellence” among 21 state key laboratories in MSE in 2018. It also has built 2 state international joint-research laboratories, and 4 bases of foreign outstanding expertise-introduction for discipline innovation (also known as “111 Project”).

### International School of Materials Science and Engineering

The International School of Materials Science and Engineering (ISMSE) was selected into the list of “Network of International Centers for Education” supported by the State Administration of Foreign Experts





Affairs and Ministry of Education of P. R. C. in June 2015 as one of the 16 international schools all over the country.

Driven by the “National innovation driven development strategy” and the great demand for national higher education reformation, ISMSE is devoted to building a world-leading MSE discipline through optimizing a high-level research and teaching team, constructing an innovative training pilot zone and establishing an innovative talents training system. Guided by the idea of “enterprise cooperation, international cooperation and research cooperation”, ISMSE organized 21 mentor teams lead by academicians or distinguished professors and 4 interdisciplinary innovation and entrepreneurship training teams.

Aiming at leading the world’s building materials and new materials in the 21st century, ISMSE values the innovative ability as one of the core capabilities and reform the innovative talent training system of the bachelor program, master and PhD program and international program. ISMSE provides students with a comprehensive curriculum, which covers materials science, life science, energy science, environmental science, information science and advanced manufacturing science. To expose all students to international experiences, joint training programs were created in cooperation with world-leading universities. Furthermore, ISMSE built a variety of platforms for students’ all-round development, such as Distinguished Scholars Forum, International Vision Forum, Quality Education Seminar and Material Advantage WUT Chapter. The Material Advantage WUT Chapter was awarded Chapter of Excellence Award in the past 5 years from 2018 to 2022.

### **State Key Laboratory of Advanced Technology for Materials Synthesis and Processing (Wuhan University of Technology)**

The State Key Laboratory of Advanced Technology for Material Synthesis and Processing was approved by the State Development Planning Commission in 1987. After state inspection, it was opened for the public in March 1990. The laboratory is under the direct administration of the Ministry of Science and Technology. Currently, Professor Gu Binglin, an academician of the Chinese Academy of Sciences, is the Chair of the laboratory’s academic committee, and Professor Fu Zhengyi, an academician of the Chinese Academy of Engineering, is the Director of the laboratory. The laboratory is located in the Wuhan University of Technology, and it is a state key laboratory that specializes in the field of new materials. The Department of Materials Science and Engineering at the Wuhan University of Technology has been classified as a first-class State Key Discipline, included in the national “985” project of “Build a world-class discipline program,” and is ranked as A+ in the fourth round of national discipline evaluation. Aiming at the global frontier research of materials science and addressing the primary national needs, this laboratory provides a world-class platform for materials compounding and preparation technology, for developing advanced composite materials for national major projects and pillar industries, and for providing support at the national strategic level. Original and systematic research results, with international impact in transformative technologies, frontier new materials, and interdisciplinary fields, have been reported in this

laboratory, and therefore, it leads the international development in several strategic frontier new materials. The laboratory fosters the development of global first-class research talent through advanced scientific research in the field of materials science and technology. In addition, the laboratory has created a culture of international collaborative innovation and has carried out “Win-Win” international cooperative research, thereby enhancing the international influence, attractiveness, and cohesion of the laboratory. The laboratory has achieved a historic breakthrough in the evaluation of the State Key laboratories in the field of materials science.

Centering on the overall vision and objectives, the laboratory focuses on the establishment and development of multi-component, multi-scale, and multi-level composite principles and material design theories that are built on core research platforms comprising material gradient composite technology, in-situ composite technology, nanocomposite technology, and their integrated innovations. Currently, research on five key materials, including advanced composite materials for national major projects and pillar industries, efficient energy conversion and storage materials for new energy technologies, nanocomposite biomaterials for life sciences, information functional materials for information technology, and frontier new materials for transformative technologies, is being carried out in this laboratory. Therefore, the laboratory has established the following five distinctive research directions: gradient composite technology and new materials, in-situ composite technology and new materials, nanocomposite technology and new materials, transformative technology and frontier

new materials, and material composite principles and material design.

The laboratory has an active and innovative research team that mainly comprise young and middle-aged researchers. There are hundred permanent staff members, including one academican of the Chinese Academy of Sciences, two academicians of the Chinese Academy of Engineering, one academican of the Royal Academies for Science and the Arts of Belgium, two academicians of the European Academy of Sciences and Arts, one academican of the Australian Academy of Technology and Engineering, one academican of the World Academy of Ceramics, twelve national level researchers, one chief scientist of the National “973” program, five recipients of the national “Outstanding Youth Science Fund,” and thirty recipients of the “national talent Support Plan”. etc. This laboratory has been actively supporting outstanding scholars to visit and conduct collaborative research worldwide in world-class universities and research institutions. In recent years, the laboratory has sent several outstanding young scholars to world-class international universities for more than one year to conduct visits and collaborative research.

The laboratory emphasizes global academic exchange and collaboration. In the last five years, we have hired twenty-five international scholars as honorary and visiting professors in the main research areas, with an aim to create cordial working conditions for world-renowned scientists to conduct collaborative research in the laboratory.

The laboratory has carried out substantial “Win-Win” collaborations with the University of Michigan; Japan





Aerospace Exploration Agency (JAXA); the Institute for Materials Research, Tohoku University (Japan); the Materials Research Center, University of Oxford (UK); Composites Research Center, the University of California (US); and the National Institute of Fuel Cells (Canada), among other internationally renowned research institutions. The Ministry of Science and Technology has established the “International Joint Laboratory of Advanced Technology for Materials Synthesis and Processing,” which is one of the first thirty-three international joint laboratories in China. Additionally, the State Administration of Foreign Experts Affairs and the Ministry of Education have jointly formed three discipline bases supported by the Program of Innovation and Talent Introduction, namely “New Material Composite Technology and Advanced Functional Materials,” “Advanced Preparation Technology and Application Engineering of New Functional Thin Film Materials,” and “Innovation and Talent Introduction Base of Life Composites.” Relying on these important international collaboration platforms, the laboratory has undertaken several state key projects with international collaborations and achieved fruitful results in international collaboration and exchanges.

Currently, the laboratory has a floor area of 25,350 square meters, with several advanced materials synthesis and processing instruments, as well as state-of-the-art instruments specializing in materials structure

analysis, characterization, and performance testing. The total estimated value of the instrumentation asset is approximately 430 million RMB.

### **Introduction to the State Key Laboratory of Silicate Materials for Architecture**

The State Key Laboratory of Silicate Materials for Architecture was authorized by the Ministry of Science and Technology of China (MoST) in October 2011, and passed the expert acceptance of MoST in July 2013. The laboratory aims to solve the major fundamental theories and common key technology issues during the preparation and service process of silicate materials for architectures, develop low environmental load preparation methods and energy efficiency enhancement theories, research and develop high performance and multifunctional building materials to support major engineering construction and the development of green, energy-saving and intelligent building systems, and provide new theories, new methods and common key technologies for achieving long-term stability and recycling of building materials and structures.

The main research directions of the laboratory comprise the low environment load preparation, the functional design and regulation, the service behavior and life extension principles as well as the recycling design of silicate materials for architecture.



The Laboratory shares a construction area of 12 500 m<sup>2</sup> and lots of professional research equipment worth more than 100 million RMB, forming a research platform including eight professional secondary laboratories and one public experiment center. The research platform is able to support the research of the science and technology in the field of thermal equipment, cement and cementitious materials, concrete, glass, ceramics, film and coating, wall and road materials.

The Laboratory is open to both domestic and international applications, and values domestic and international academic exchanges and cooperation. Relying on the laboratory, the “International Science and Technology Cooperation Base for Environmental Friendly Building Materials” was established and was identified as a model of international science and technology cooperation base by MoST in 2013.

The innovation achievements of scientific research of the laboratory contribute a lot to the national economy and social development, including providing key technical support for the construction of national major infrastructures, boosting the structural transformation and technological upgrading of traditional building materials industry, and promoting the implementation of energy saving and emission reduction strategies.

### Introduction to Interdisciplinary Materials

The scientific journal *Interdisciplinary Materials* (ISSN: 2767-441X) was launched by Wuhan University of Technology and John Wiley & Sons, Inc in Dec, 2021.

*Interdisciplinary Materials* is an open-access, peer-reviewed, and rapid-publication journal focusing on the interdisciplinary researches between materials science and other disciplines, such as physics, chemistry, mathematics, mechanics, biology, energy, environment, information, engineering, etc. The journal aims at reporting cutting-edge developments across science and technology around the world.

*Interdisciplinary Materials* is expected to take an interdisciplinary, frontier, and integrated approach to all areas of materials research while cultivating the exchange of ideas between scientists involved in the different disciplines. Readership includes physicists, chemists, mathematicians, mechanics, biologists, and energy, environment, materials scientists, engineers from academia and industry as well as policymakers.

The first issue was published in Jan, 2022. It has been included in the Emerging Sources Citations Index (ESCI), Ei Compendex and Directory of Open Access Journals (DOAJ) databases.

### Contact information

Address: 122 Luoshi Road, Hongshan District, Wuhan, Hubei, P. R. China  
Postal Code: 430070  
Supporting Institution: Wuhan University of Technology  
Tel: 86-27-87884448; Fax: 86-27-87879466  
E-mail: sklwut@whut.edu.cn  
Contacts: Zhao Xiang, Zhou Lihua

R