



Dr. Alejandro Suarez

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Alejandro is a computational physicist with a background in surface science and the chemical modification of graphene. After obtaining his B.S. in applied physics from Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute (RPI), he obtained a Bunton-Waller fellowship to attend Penn State University (PSU) for his graduate studies. While at PSU, Alejandro studied the electronic properties of graphene, a two-dimensional allotrope of carbon with novel physical and mechanical properties. By better understanding how graphene could be chemically modified, Alejandro helped advance research for incorporating graphene into modern electronic devices. While at PSU, Alejandro was also awarded an NSF GK-12 fellowship. As part of the fellowship, Alejandro worked closely with a sixth grade educator in Harrisburg, PA to enhance the scientific curriculum of the classroom and develop skills in communicating science to diverse audiences. After obtaining his Ph.D., Alejandro received an NRC postdoctoral associateship with the U.S. Naval Research Laboratory to study the effect of substrates on the chemical reactivity of graphene. Alejandro is currently a AAAS S&T fellow in the Computer and Information Sciences and Engineering (CISE) directorate at NSF, where he plans to study the use and future impact of data science and software development in scientific research.