

PULSE SUMMER SCHOOL on EPITAXY BASES AND PROMISES

2-8 July 2021
Porquerolles (France)

ORGANIZERS:

Jean-Noël Aqua, Institut des NanoSciences de Paris (INSP), Sorbonne Université, Paris
Isabelle Berbezier, l'Institut Matériaux Microélectronique Nanoscience de Provence (IM2NP), CNRS, Marseille
Michele Amato, Laboratoire de Physique des Solides (LPS), Université Paris Saclay, Orsay
Noëlle Gogneau, Centre de Nanosciences et de Nanotechnologies (C2N), CNRS, Palaiseau

INVITED SPEAKERS

Peter Voorhees (Northwestern University, Evanston)

Alberto Pimpinelli (Rice University, Houston)

Eli Kapon (EPFL, Lausanne)

Bernard Gil (CNRS, Montpellier)

Monica Bollani (L-NESS, Como)

Lorenzo Rigutti (U. Rouen)

Guylaine Poulin-Vittrant (CNRS, Tours)

Julien Brault (CRHEA, Valbonne)

Dan Buca Mihai (PGI, Julich)

Mathieu Abel (IM2NP, Marseille)

Clément Merckling (IMEC, Leuven)

Valerio Pasquali (XFAB)

Noëlle Gogneau (C2N, Palaiseau)

Michele Amato (U. Paris Sud, Orsay)

Jean-Noël Aqua (Sorbonne U, Paris)

Paola Castrucci (Università Roma Tor Vergata)

Fabien Deprat (ST Microelectronics)

Jean Decobert (III-V lab)

POSTERS

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Ramiro Zapata

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Alexandre Llopez

In situ growth of 1T'-WTe₂ thin films

Bastien Marguet

Interface collisions with diffusive mass transport

Virginia Falcone

Graphene suspended on Ge micro-crystals for photodetection applications

Ismaila Kounta

Epitaxy growth and structural and magnetic characterizations of the antiferromagnetic compound Mn₅Si₃

Giulio Gentile

Fe_xGeTe₂ van der Waals Ferromagnets grown by Molecular Beam Epitaxy

Arup K. Kunti

Development of flexible InGaN white LEDs based on nano-phosphors

T. Sodhi

Electrical characterization of PA-MBE grown GaN nanowires via conductive probe AFM - Effect of load and generator resistances

R. S. Joshya

Chiral photodetector based on GaAsN

R. S. Joshya

InGaAsP quantum-well active regions for telecom devices: design, growth and optical characterization

Zouhour Ben Jabra

Hydrogen-Mediated CVD Epitaxy of Graphene on SiC: Implications for Microelectronic Applications

I. Madaci

Integration of oxide ferromagnets with high spin polarization onto ZnO-based 2D, 1D nanostructures: growth, structure, properties of Fe₃O₄ onto ZnO(0001) substrates

SCIENTIFIC PROGRAM

Day 1 – Friday July 2, 2021

Registration and welcome

- 18:00 to 20:00 – Registration and welcome

Day 2 – Saturday July 3, 2021

- 9:00 to 10:45 – **Alberto Pimpinelli**
Crystal in and out of equilibrium
- 11:15 to 13:00 - **Noëlle Gogneau**
Instrumental epitaxy
- 13:00 to 17:00 – **Lunch and Break**
- 17:15 to 19:00 - **Jean-Noël Aqua**
Growth on a stepped surface and stochastic equations

Day 3 - Sunday July 4, 2021

- 9:00 to 10:45 – **Michele Amato** (on-line)
Physical properties of semiconductors nanostructures: theory and simulations
- 11:15 to 13:00 - **Dan Buca Mihai**
Optical applications
- 13:00 to 17:00 – **Lunch and break**
- 17:15 to 19:00 - **Alberto Pimpinelli**
Growth modes

Day 4 - Monday July 5, 2021

- 9:00 to 10:45 - **Clément Merckling** (on-line)
New challenges in applications
- 11:15 to 13:00 - **Eli Kapon** (on-line)
Epitaxial growth of quantum nanostructures
- 13:00 to 17:00 - **Lunch and break**
- 17:15 to 19:00 - **Peter Voorhees** (on-line)
Nucleation and coarsening

Day 5 - Tuesday July 6, 2021

- 9:00 to 10:45 - **Bernard Gil** (on-line)
Physical properties of nanostructures and their characterization

- 11:15 to 13:00 - **Noëlle Gogneau**
Self-organization and surface structuration
- 13:00 to 17:00 - **Lunch and break**
- 17:15 to 19:00 - **POSTER SESSION**

Day 6 - Wednesday July 7, 2021

- 9:00 to 10:45 - **Julien Brault**
Electronic applications
- 11:15 to 12:15 – **Lorenzo Rigutti** (on-line)
Atom Probe Tomography and Semiconductor Nanostructures: Principles, Applications, and Correlative Techniques
- 12:15 to 13:10 – **Guylaine Poulin-Vittrant** (on-line)
Piezo-semiconducting nanowires integration into flexible nanogenerators for mechanical energy harvesting
- 13:00 to 17:00 - **Lunch and break**
- 17:15 to 19:00 - **Paola Castrucci** (on-line)
Epitaxial growth of 2D materials

Day 7 – Thursday July 8, 2021

- 9:00 to 10:45 – **Monica Bollani**
Solid state dewetting in semiconductor thin films
- 11:15 to 13:00 - **Round table: From fundamental research to industrial sector: what opportunities?** (on-line)
 - 11:15 to 11:30 **Valerio Pasquali**, XFAB
 - 11:30 to 11:00 **Clement Merckling**, IMEC
 - 11:45 to 12:00 **Fabien Deprat**, ST Microelectronics
 - 12:00 to 12:15 **Jean-Decobert**, III-V Lab
 - 12:15 to 13:00 Discussion
- 13:00 - **Closing words**

MBE-grown Be-doped InP and related materials behavior after high temperature annealing

Q.Hochart^{1&2}, A.Elias¹, O.Delorme¹, H.Carrère², A.Wilk¹

¹III-V Lab, 1 rue Augustin Fresnel, 91767 Palaiseau.

²LPCNO, 135 avenue de Ranguel, 31077 Toulouse.

This work focus on the effect of Be-dopant diffusion in GaInAsP-based materials - typically used in MBE -grown on InP substrate, following a high temperature annealing of InP at various steps of the epitaxial process. A MOCVD reactor has been used to perform annealing on MBE-grown epilayers. Studies have been carried-out on various types of structure: bulk and more complex stacks such as multi-QW structures.

In comparison with MBE, MOCVD is a high temperature process that can eventually modify underlying layers' properties. By means of E-CV (figure 1, exhibiting active doping) and SIMS (figure 2, displaying total amount of Be contained in the structure) characterizations, we show how Be is behaving depending on annealing conditions (temperature and gaseous species involved) and the type of epilayers (alloys, stacks and interfaces). It has been observed diffusion and dopant deactivation. Diffusion from substitutional to interstitial sites and hydrogen passivation are the main mechanisms observed. We will also show in which conditions we can reactivate Be, at least partially.

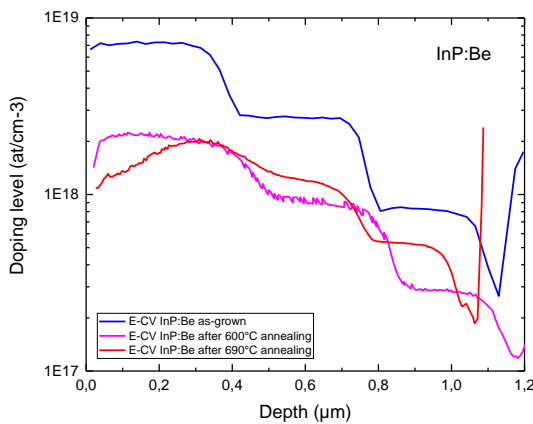


Figure 1: E-CV Be-Profile after MOCVD annealing

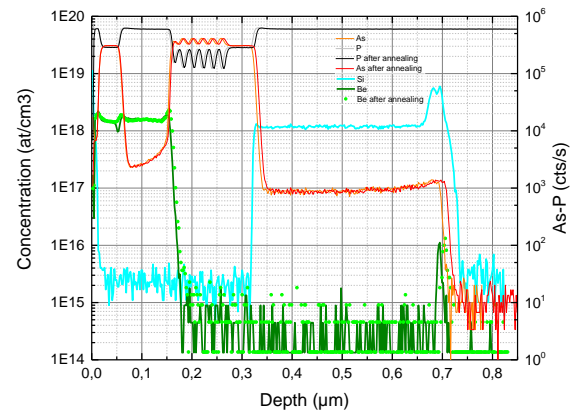


Figure 2: SIMS Profile of GaInAsP-based MQW

Bibliography:

- ▶ M. B. Panish, R. A. Hamm, D. Ritter, H. S. Luftman, and C. M. Cotell, "Redistribution of beryllium in InP and Ga_{0.47}In_{0.53}As grown by hydride source molecular beam epitaxy and metalorganic molecular beam epitaxy", *J. Cryst. Growth*, vol. 112, no. 2–3, pp. 343–353, 1991, doi: 10.1016/0022-0248(91)90309-S.
- ▶ Y. J. Ma et al., "Behaviors of beryllium compensation doping in InGaAsP grown by gas source molecular beam epitaxy", *AIP Adv.*, vol. 7, no. 7, 2017, doi: 10.1063/1.4989884.
- ▶ L. Ji et al., "The striking influence of rapid thermal annealing on InGaAsP grown by MBE: material and photovoltaic device", *J. Cryst. Growth*, vol. 458, pp. 110–114, 2017, doi: 10.1016/j.jcrysgro.2016.11.003.

Silver thin film growth on glass substrates: microstructural control using magnetron sputtering deposition process parameters

Authors : ZAPATA Ramiro^{1,2}, MONTIGAUD Hervé¹, BALESTRIERI Matteo¹, GOZHYK Iryna¹, CREPET Jean-François¹, LAZZARI Rémi^{*2}

1 : Laboratoire SVI Surface du verre et interfaces (CNRS – Saint-Gobain Recherche Paris) – UMR 125

2 : Institut de Nanosciences de Paris (Sorbonne Université)–UMR 7588

In the context of low-emissivity (low-E) glazing production, silver thin films (approximately 10 nm thick) are deposited on glass substrates. Current research efforts aim at optimizing low-E performance by producing silver films with the lowest possible thickness and electrical resistance. The aim of this thesis is thus to explore the effects on the resulting silver thin film, of different changes in process parameters for magnetron sputtering deposition. Both *in situ* and real-time measurements are carried out in order to monitor film growth and to assess the effect of different process parameter changes on the resulting film microstructure, composition and properties. First results are shown for the effect of different O₂/Ar gas mixtures in the deposition chamber, on the film thickness threshold value for film percolation (a growth stage characterized by a sharp decrease in film electrical resistance), using real-time electric resistance measurements for Ag films deposited on Si wafers. A reduction in said threshold is observed with increasing oxygen flux (Figure below).

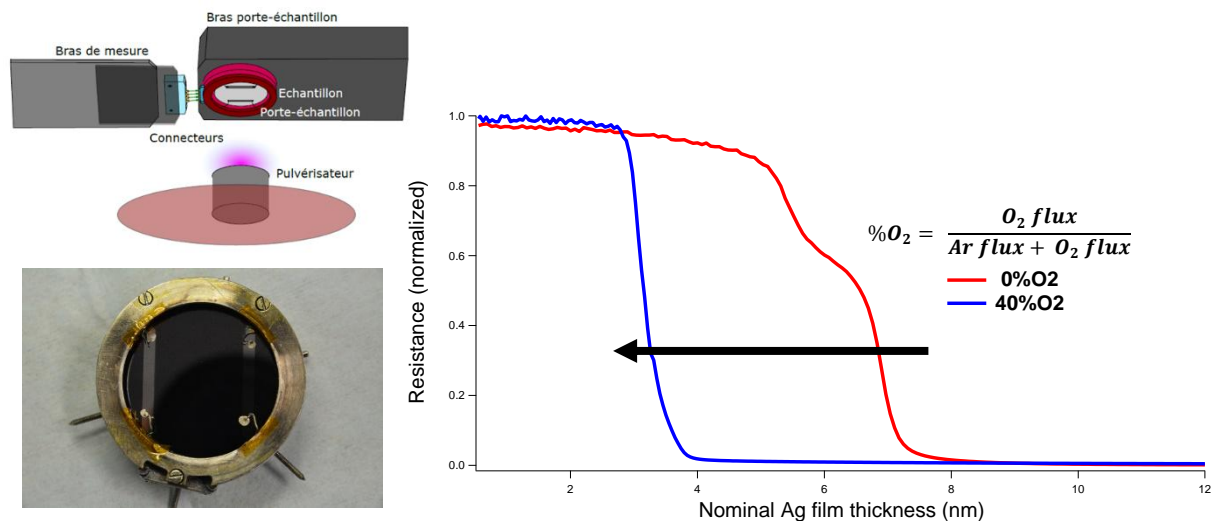


Figure: Real time measurement of the Ag film electrical resistance during deposition. Percolation threshold thickness shift with oxygen addition.

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Pliatsikas, N.; Jamnig, A.; Konpan, M.; Delimitis, A.; Abadias, G.; Sarakinos, K. Manipulation of Thin Silver Film Growth on Weakly Interacting Silicon Dioxide Substrates Using Oxygen as a Surfactant. *J Vac Sci Technol A J Vac Sci Technol A* **2020**, *38* (4).

Highlights of 15R crystal phase in Au-catalyzed ZnS nanowires

Sumit Kumar^{a*}, Frédéric Fossard^b, Gaëlle Amiri^a, Jean-Michel Chauveau^a and Vincent Sallet^a

- a. GEMaC, CNRS - UVSQ, Université Paris-Saclay, 45 avenue des Etats-Unis, 78035 Versailles, France
 b. LEM, ONERA-CNRS, Université Paris-Saclay, 29 avenue Division Leclerc, 92322 Chatillon, France

* email : sumit.kumar@uvsq.fr

Unique growth mechanisms involved in semiconductor nanowires (NWs) pave the way to the achievement of new crystallographic phases and remarkable material properties. Interestingly, in the case of 1D nanostructures, polytypism can arise due to the particular growth mode below a catalyst droplet, that may induce stacking faults along the length of the NWs. Moreover, these stacking faults can be correlated and form ordered arrays, until giving rise to new phases (polytypes) with distinct properties [1,2]. Hence, 4H, 6H, 8H, and 10H (so-called high order polytypes) can be observed in NWs [3]. Hence, studying polytypism in semiconductor NWs arouses a strong interest for the next generation of electronic and photonic applications. In this framework, ZnS is an important II-VI semiconductor which has a wide range of optoelectronic applications including luminescent devices, infrared windows, and UV-photodetectors.

In this work, Au-assisted ZnS NWs were grown by MOCVD, directly on GaAs (111B) substrate (VLS, vapor-liquid-solid mode), and on ZnS (buffer)/GaAs (111B) (VSS, vapor-solid-solid mode). The idea is to provide a change in the growth mechanism *via* the physical state of catalyst droplet (liquid or solid) and hence, study the induced polytypism in ZnS NWs. ZnS NWs with length up to 1.4 μm and diameter in the range 10–34 nm was successfully achieved. The obtained morphologies and densities of the NWs has been systematically inspected by scanning electron microscopy (SEM) directly on the substrate. Transmission Electron Microscopy has been also used to investigate the crystallographic structures and compositions of both catalysts and NWs. NWs grown directly on GaAs (VLS mode) induced periodic stacking faults, and the resulting structure was accurately identified as 3 sequences of 5 planes ABCBA-BCACB-CABAC (refer Figure 1), giving rise to an astonishing 15R crystal structure [4]. This structure is highlighted for the first time in ZnS nanowires. Additional conventional TEM has been performed to identify the signature of the 15R phase and its peculiar pattern (*i.e.* a 5th order superstructure). Additionally, we modeled this 15R structure and plotted its formation probability in the framework of the classical nucleation theory and axial-next-nearest-neighbour-Ising model (ANNNI).

Interestingly, in contrast with the VLS case, in nanowires grown on ZnS buffer (*i.e.* VSS mode, with solid catalyst), a different crystal structure made of pure ZB and WZ phases was observed.

[1] G. Priante *et al.* Phys Rev B. 89 (2014) 241301

[2] F.J. Lopez *et al.* Nano Lett. 9 (2009) 2774–2779.

[3] Y. Jiang *et al.* Adv. Mater. 15 (2003) 1195–1198.

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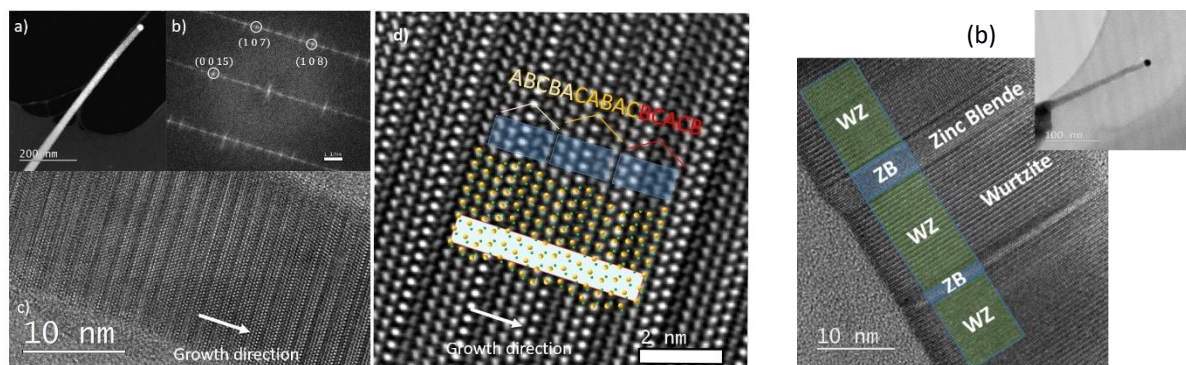


Figure 1: HRTEM image of ZnS nanowires grown by a) VLS process, HRTEM image of NW with 15R stacking sequence, and b) VSS process, pure ZB/WZ phases.

Two dimensional Metal-organic Frameworks at a metal surface

Nesrine Shaiek*^{a,b}, Mathieu Koudia^a, Chokri Lamine^b, Akremi Abdelwaheb^b, Mathieu Abel^a

^a Aix Marseille University, Im2np, NOVA Team,

^b Faculty of Sciences of Bizerte, University of Carthage, Materials Physics Laboratory Structure and Properties, Surface and Interface unit, Bizerte-Tunisia.

*E-mail: nesrineshaiek.phy@gmail.com

Abstract:

Two-dimensional materials (2D) are the favored appropriate material, which has attracted a great scientific interest, due to their several important and excellent electronic properties. In a similar way to the transition metal dichalcogenide materials, the combination of metal and organic species (preserving the pi-delocalization) allows to obtain not only a particular electronic structure of 2D materials but also unique magnetic properties. In this context, the new class of conductive 2D -MOF has emerged in 2009 [1] and are particularly attractive because of their ability to form stable 2D materials for application in spintronic (spinvalve ferrimagnet), superconductivity, or electrochemistry.

Herein the growth of 2D conductive MOF composed of Tetrahydroxy-1,4-benzoquinone (THBQ) and metal atoms of manganese and copper have been studied under UHV on Ag(111) substrate. The surface is studied by complementary methods of Scanning tunneling microscopy (STM), low energy electron diffraction (LEED) and X-ray photoelectron spectroscopy (XPS) to optimized the growth conditions (fluxes, temperatures...).

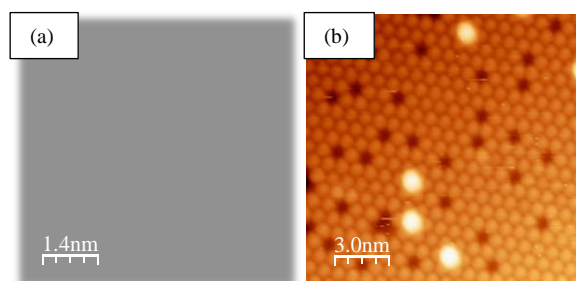


Figure 1: STM images acquired after Co-depositing (a) (THBQ-Cu) (b) (THBQ-Mn) molecules on a Ag(111) substrate.

Molecular Beam Epitaxy of van der Waals $\text{Cr}_{1+x}\text{Te}_2$ with perpendicular magnetic anisotropy

Q. Guillet, H. Boukari, A. Marty, F. Bonell, C. Vergnaud, J.F. Jacquot and M. Jamet

Achieving the large-scale growth of 2D ferromagnetic materials with above room temperature Curie temperature and perpendicular magnetic anisotropy is highly desirable for the development of future magnetic sensors or magnetic memories based on van der Waals heterostructures. In this context, $\text{Cr}_{1+x}\text{Te}_2$ appears as a promising candidate [1].

In this poster, I present large-scale ($1 \times 1 \text{ cm}^2$) deposition by molecular beam epitaxy of $\text{Cr}_{1+x}\text{Te}_2$ on graphene/SiC substrates.

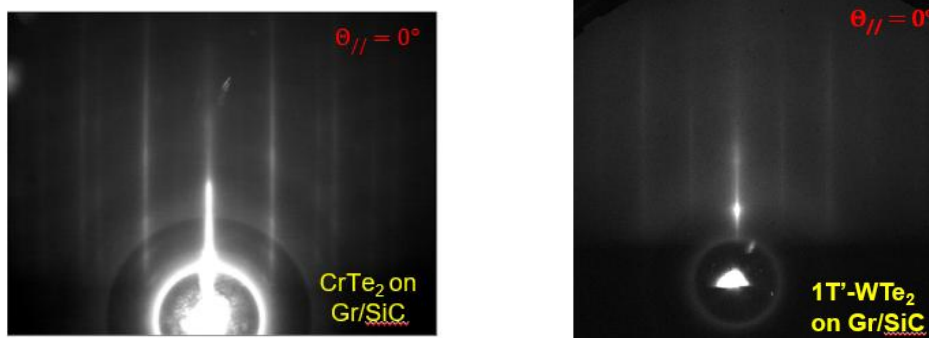


Figure 1: RHEED images of the layers grown by MBE

The crystalline quality was verified in-situ by RHEED (see Fig. 1), post-growth x-ray diffraction and Raman spectroscopy. The samples were capped with amorphous Te to prevent any oxidation in air.

The magnetic properties of the $\text{Cr}_{1+x}\text{Te}_2$ layers were measured by SQUID magnetometry in out-of-plane and in-plane geometries and normalized in units of Bohr magneton per Cr atom. We obtained a perpendicular magnetic anisotropy with a Curie temperature of 180K down to a thickness of 2 nm corresponding to 1-2 monolayers.

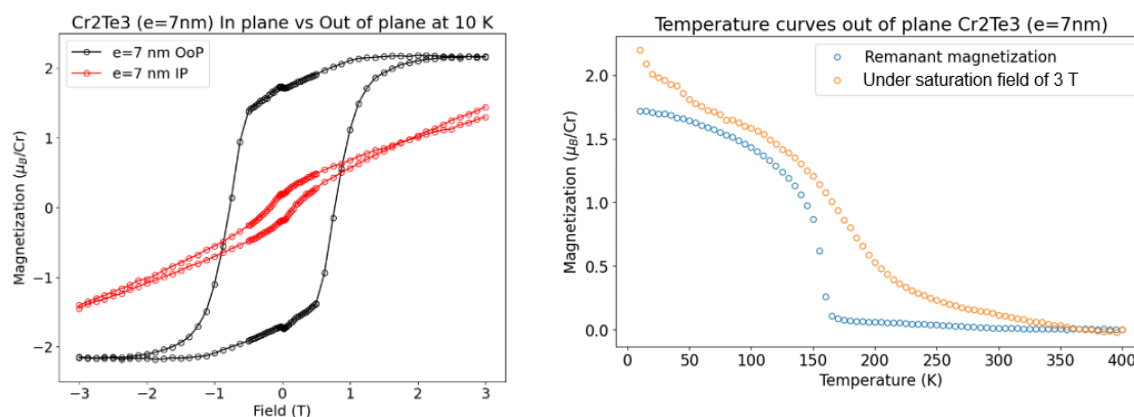


Figure 2: SQUID data of a 7 nm-thick Cr_2Te_3 layer grown on graphene in out-of-plane and in-plane geometries.

I also present preliminary data on the epitaxial growth of $1\text{T}'\text{-WTe}_2$ on graphene by MBE. For its exotic spin texture and strong spin-orbit coupling, this material is a good candidate to generate spin currents from charge currents to switch the magnetization of an adjacent 2D ferromagnet like $\text{Cr}_{1+x}\text{Te}_2$.

In situ growth of 1T'-WTe₂ thin films

Alexandre Llopez¹, F.Leroy¹, A. Michon², S. Curiotto¹, B. Croes¹, F. Cheynis¹

¹CINaM, Aix Marseille Université & CNRS, Marseille, France

²CRHEA, Université Côte d'Azur & CNRS, Valbonne, France

Original works of Geim and Novoselov on graphene in 2004 highlighted the exceptional properties of two-dimensional materials (2D) [1]. A considerable research effort is now focused on 2D materials such as transition metal dichalcogenides (TMDCs). TMDCs can be elaborated in different crystal structure called polytypes. Among those, 1T'-polytype was predicted to exhibit Quantum spin Hall (QSH) effect [2]. This makes 1T'-TMDCs promising materials for spintronic or quantum computation. Among TMDCs, WTe₂ favorably exhibits a 1T' polytype under ambient conditions [3] and was predicted to be a semimetallic QSH material at the monolayer [4].

In order to obtain 1T'-WTe₂ monolayer at large-scale (~ 1cm²), WTe₂ growth has been realized by molecular beam epitaxy on a graphene substrate on 4H-SiC(0001). The temperature of the substrate during the growth is around 275°C and the W:Te-flux ratio is maintained between 1:200 and 1:800. The growth conditions are monitored *in situ* by RHEED and confirm the crystalline quality of the deposited films (Fig. 1). Post-growth characterizations include STM and LEED/LEEM along with *ex situ* Raman spectroscopy.

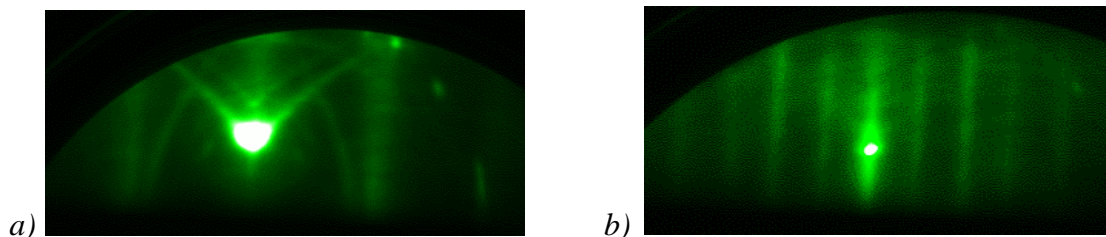


Figure 1: RHEED pattern of a) graphene on 4H-SiC(0001) substrate b) as grown WTe₂ thin film.

Preliminary STM characterizations have been carried out on sub-monolayer WTe₂ films (≈ 0.25 ML). For a W:Te-flux ratio of 1:200, undesired clusters remain on WTe₂ islands (Fig.2.a). By annealing the sample around 350°C-400°C, we can eliminate the majority of those clusters (Fig.2.b). Growth with a lower W:Te flux ratio (1:800) also seems to give films with an improved quality (Fig.2.c).

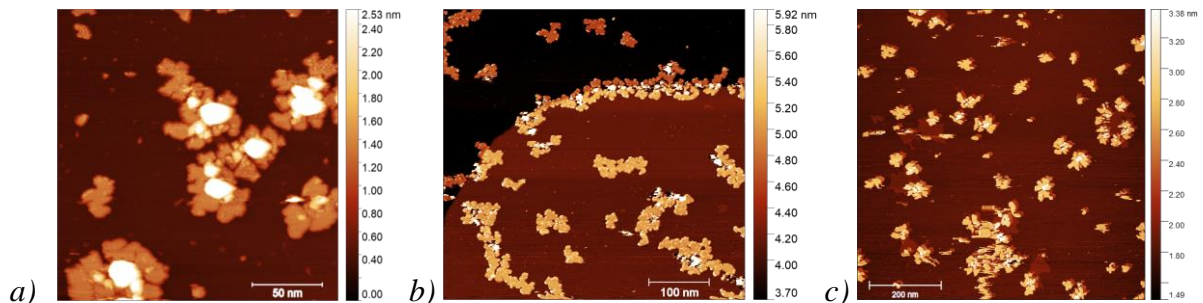


Figure 2 : STM images of sub monolayer WTe₂ sampels. Growth with a W :Te flux ratio of 1 :200, a) before annealing, b) after annealing. c) Growth with a flux ratio of 1 :800 without annealing.

[1] K. S. Novoselov et al. Science **306** (2004) 666

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[3] K.A. N. Duerloo et al. Nat Commun **5** (2014) 4214

[4] F. Zheng et al. Advanced Materials **28** (2016) 4845-4851

Interface collisions with diffusive mass transport

Authors : Bastien Marguet¹, F. D. A. Araao Reis² & Olivier Pierre-Louis¹

¹ Institut Lumière Matière, UMR5306 Université Lyon 1-CNRS, Université de Lyon 69622 Villeurbanne, France

² Instituto de Física, Universidade Federal Fluminense, Avenida Litoraneas/n, 24210-340 Niteroi RJ, Brazil
bastien.marguet@univ-lyon1.fr

In many growth processes, two-dimensional domains are nucleated, grow, and finally merge. This scenario can be found in diverse non-equilibrium processes, such as the quenching of magnetic systems [1], epitaxial growth of molecular or atomic monolayers [2], or growth of bacterial colonies [3]. While nucleation and growth have been studied extensively, less is known about the merging process. In order to investigate this process, we study in detail the collision of two straight interfaces moving toward each other and colliding. When the interfaces interact only with short-range interactions [4], the interface which is formed by the collision was recently found to be asymptotically independent on the collision details (type of interaction, fluctuations during the collision, etc...). As a consequence, despite the complex nonlinear character of the collision process, simple universality emerges.

We focus on the case where interactions are induced by diffusing species, such as during the growth of two-dimensional materials (such as graphene), or during the growth of bacterial colonies competing for food. We use on-lattice Kinetic Monte Carlo Simulations and find that a linear Langevin model can reproduce the main results. As opposed to the intuitive expectations, we find that the roughness of the newly formed interface can be smaller when growth is faster. These results could help to minimize the roughness of grain boundaries of grown 2D materials, which have a strong influence on the thermal and electronic transport properties of these materials.

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2. Gao, Li and Guest, Jeffrey R. and Guisinger, Nathan P., Epitaxial Graphene on Cu(111), Nano Letters, Volume 10, number 9, pages 3512-3516, 2010, doi.org/10.1021/nl1016706
3. Be'er A, Zhang HP, Florin EL, Payne SM, Ben-Jacob E, Swinney HL., Deadly competition between sibling bacterial colonies, Proc Natl Acad Sci USA, Jan 2009
4. Araao Reis, F. D. A. and Pierre-Louis O., Interface collisions, Phys. Rev. E, Apr 2018, American Physical Society

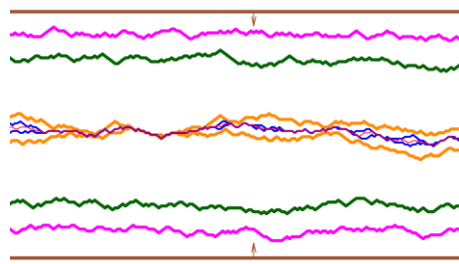


Figure 1: Collision of lines

Graphene suspended on Ge micro-crystals for photodetection applications

Virginia Falcone^a, Andrea Ballabio^a, Andrea Barzaghi^a, Carlo Zucchetti^a, Luca Anzi^a, Jacopo Frigerio^a, Federico Bottegoni^a, Roman Sordan^a, Paolo Biagioni^a and Giovanni Isella^a
^aPolitecnico di Milano

The epitaxial growth of germanium on silicon enables the microfabrication of Si-based photodetectors with near-infrared (NIR) sensitivity. In this work we report on a new type of detector, obtained from Ge micro-crystals epitaxially grown on a patterned Si substrate. The faceted morphology and relatively high aspect ratio of the micro-crystals was found to enhance the detector responsivity in the wavelength region comprised between the direct ($\lambda \approx 1550$ nm) and indirect gap ($\lambda \approx 1800$ nm) as compared to conventional planar devices. The epitaxial growth was performed by Low-Energy Plasma-Enhanced CVD (LEPECVD). Micro-crystal formation is based on the self-assembly of Ge crystals on a Si substrate, deeply patterned by optical lithography and reactive ion etching. Three-dimensional micro-crystals, several micrometer tall and with a limited lateral expansion are obtained by using optimized growth parameters. Modeling of the near-IR absorption properties of the Ge/Si micro-crystals was done by finite difference time domain simulations (FDTD). The absorptance ratio is always larger than one, with a relevant increase in the indirect gap wavelength range. The main challenge in realizing vertically illuminated photodiodes based on Ge-on-Si micro-crystals is the fabrication of a top transparent contact that can adapt to the 3D-morphology of the sample and bridge the 100-200 nm gap between adjacent microcrystals. Graphene can be used as a suspended continuous top contact, with an absorption that does not exceed 2.4%. After the wet transfer of a single graphene layer, characterization by the scanning electron microscope (SEM) revealed the presence of cracks and discontinuities in the graphene layer placed over the patterned area, generating a “spider web” effect. This was caused by the capillary forces that play an important role for this type of structures in which the distance between the micro-crystals is the order of hundred nanometers. Different strategies were attempted to solve this problem. Eventually, the number of suspended graphene layers was increased and a graphene bilayer was used by modifying the transfer process. The absorption due to the graphene bilayer, was estimated to be $\sim 5\%$ which did not significantly affect the efficiency of the optoelectronic device. The fabricated devices were characterized by electrical and optical measurements that confirmed the NIR photoresponse. Responsivity measurements, by a confocal microscope and a supercontinuum laser, proved the enhancement of absorption of this type of structure close to the Ge indirect gap. Fixing the reverse bias $V_b = -2V$ the responsivity of the micro-crystals was almost ten times that of a reference Ge epitaxial layer in the 1650-1800 nm wavelength range. This effect is linked to the light-trapping effects that take place in this structure. Their dependence on the pattern geometry and the micro-crystal morphology, is still under investigation.

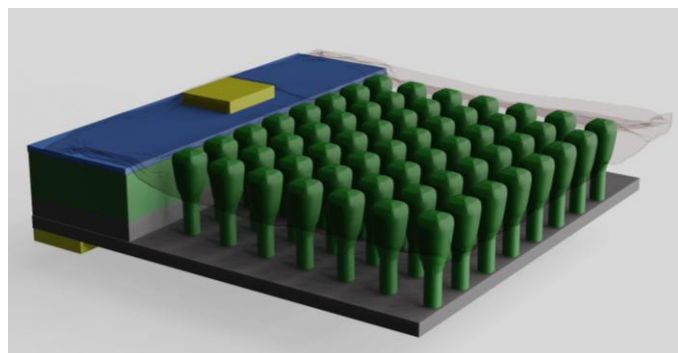


Figure 1: Graphene suspended on Ge self-assembly micro-crystals

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- [3] R. Bergamaschini et al., Surf. Sci. Rep., Vol. 68 (2013), no. 3–4, 390–417.
- [4] J. Pedrini et al., Opt. Express (2020), vol. 28, no. 17, 24981

Title :Epitaxy growth and structural and magnetic characterizations of the antiferromagnetic compound Mn_5Si_3

Authors : Ismaila KOUNTA*, Lisa MICHEZ and Matthieu PETIT,
Aix-Marseille Université CINaM UMR7325 CNRS Campus de Luminy

Summary of the poster:

The development of innovative energy-efficient solutions becomes crucial to overcome the ultimate scaling limit and reduce power consumption of the electronic devices. This is one of the main challenges of spintronic, which is based on mutual dependence of electron transport and magnetization dynamics. This field, in which ferromagnetic (FM) materials play so far a major role, has stimulated numerous applications especially in engineering, information science and nanotechnology. It has recently been established that antiferromagnetic material (AFM) can also play an active role [1, 2].

Besides their attractive spin-dependent transport properties, their robustness against magnetic fields perturbation, the absence of stray fields, their fast dynamics open new routes in spintronic for devices with better energy-efficiency and better compactness. In this context, the material Mn_5Si_3 is particularly attractive, hence the interest of the study.

Its non-trivial temperature-dependent spin arrangement (non-collinear antiferromagnetic (AF) phase at $T < 66K$ and collinear AF order for $66K < T < 99K$) can be used to study a collinear effect. A topological Hall effect was observed on the non-collinear AF phase on polycrystalline samples [3].

Moreover, its isostructural ferromagnetic (FM), $Mn_5Si_3C_x$ by carbon doping, makes possible the complete epitaxial growth of an FM / AF structure and thus the study of the effect of FM / AF heterostructure.

So for the growth of Mn_5Si_3 , we opt to codeposition of Mn and Si on Si(111)- 7×7 reconstruction surface and $(\sqrt{3}\times\sqrt{3})R30^\circ$ reconstruction (by Sn deposition on Si(111)- 7×7 substrate).

We were able to observe the spontaneous Hall effect for the first time in antiferromagnetic materials, for samples of Mn_5Si_3 with high crystal quality (<https://arxiv.org/abs/2012.15651>).

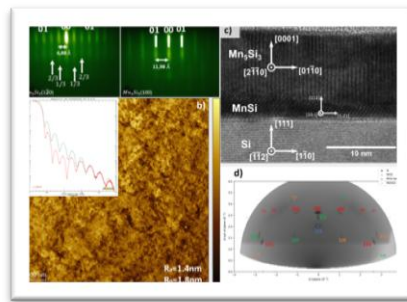


FIG. 5. Growth characterization of the epitaxial Mn_5Si_3 films.

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Fe_xGeTe_2 van der Waals Ferromagnets grown by Molecular Beam Epitaxy

Giulio Gentile¹, Mário Ribeiro¹, Alain Marty¹, Hanako Okuno², Céline Vergnaud¹, Jean-François Jacquot³, Frédéric Bonell¹ and Matthieu Jamet¹

(1) University Grenoble Alpes, CEA, CNRS, IRIG-Spintec, F-38000 Grenoble, France

(2) University Grenoble Alpes, CEA, IRIG-MEM, F-38000 Grenoble, France

(3) University Grenoble Alpes, CEA, IRIG-SYMMES, F-38000 Grenoble, France

Since the discovery in 2017 of ferromagnetism in single layer CrI₃¹, 2D van der Waals (VdW) magnetic materials have been regarded by the scientific community as promising for spintronics^{2,3}. Among these, Fe_xGeTe_2 ($x=3,5$) compounds are of interest for their itinerant ferromagnetism and Curie temperature T_c close to room temperature^{4,5}. Due to their VdW nature they can be micro-mechanically exfoliated, but only small micrometer sized-films are obtained.

In this work, molecular beam epitaxy (MBE) allows us to grow large cm-scale area Fe_xGeTe_2 ($x=3,5$) on Al_2O_3 (111), controlling both the thickness and the composition. The crystal structure was characterized by RHEED, x-ray diffraction and scanning transmission electron microscopy, and the magnetic properties were measured by SQUID magnetometry and anomalous Hall effect.

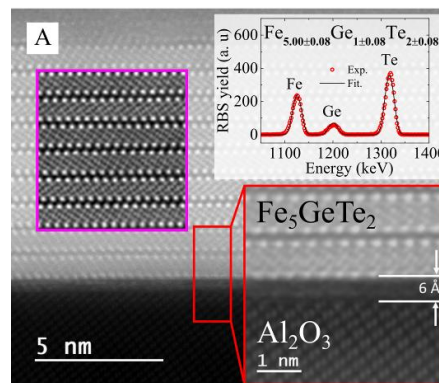


Figure A: HAADF-STEM cross section of Fe_5GeTe_2 van der Waals ferromagnet. Inset: composition determined by Rutherford backscattering.

We show that thin films of Fe_xGeTe_2 grown by MBE display a very high crystalline quality (Fig.A). SQUID magnetometry and transport measurements show magnetic properties consistent with those of bulk crystals grown with other techniques^{4,5}. The obtained films feature long range ferromagnetic ordering. 11-nm-thick Fe_3GeTe_2 has a $T_c \approx 240K$ and perpendicular magnetic anisotropy, while 12-nm-thick Fe_5GeTe_2 has $T_c \approx 293K$ and in-plane magnetization. Ultrathin films of Fe_5GeTe_2 (2 nm) retain a large $T_c \approx 240K$.

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Development of flexible InGaN white LEDs based on nano-phosphors

Arup K. Kunti^{*1}, Jean-Christophe Harmand¹, Akanksha Kapoor², Christophe Durand², Subrata Das³, Noelle Gogneau¹, Maria Tchernycheva¹

¹ Centre de Nanosciences et de Nanotechnologies (C2N), Université Paris-Saclay, CNRS, UMR 9001, 10 Boulevard Thomas Gobert, 91120 Palaiseau, France

² CEA, IRIG, PHELIQS, NPSC, Univ. Grenoble Alpes, Grenoble 38000, France

³ Materials Science and Technology Division, CSIR-National Institute for Interdisciplinary Science and Technology, Thiruvananthapuram, Kerala, 695019, India

*Email: arup.kunti@universite-paris-saclay.fr

White light emitting diodes (LEDs) have enormous applications in lighting and display devices. Commonly, a blue emitting InGaN LED chip with yellow emitting $\text{Y}_3\text{Al}_5\text{O}_{12}:\text{Ce}^{3+}$ phosphors are used to fabricate commercially available white LEDs. However, this technology suffers lower color rendering index (CRI) and high value color correlated temperature for the lack of the red component in the emission spectrum. Now a days, technology demands flexible LEDs to design foldable displays, wearable optoelectronic device, bio-medical devices... Commercially, available flexible LEDs are made of active organic medium. However, organic LEDs are not stable over the long period and are characterized by low brightness. These problems can be solved by developing mechanically flexible LEDs using InGaN nanowires (NWs), where the lack of red component can be overcome by introducing red phosphors with yellow emitting phosphors.

In this project, investigations focused on the optimization of indium concentration within InGaNNWs, grown either by MOVPE or by MBE, to achieve proper blue emission to excite yellow and red phosphors and then to fabricate flexible white LEDs. We demonstrate a successful fabrication process of flexible InGaN NWs/phosphorus based LEDs and the corresponding electro-luminescence emission spectra highlighting the performance of the device.

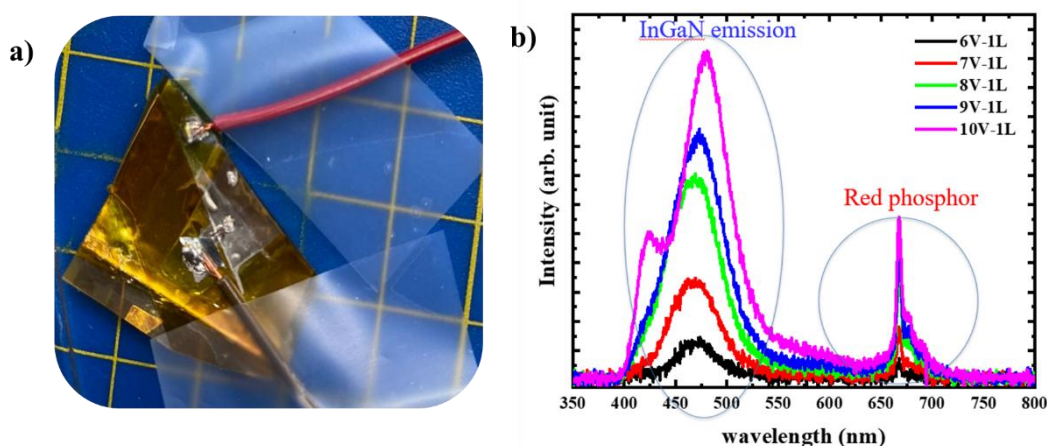


Figure 1:(a)Image of a laboratory prototype flexible LED device and (b) electroluminescence performance of the device.

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Electrical characterization of PA-MBE grown GaN nanowires via conductive probe AFM - Effect of load and generator resistances

Authors: T.Sodhi^{1,2}, P.Chrétien², L.Travers¹, F.Houzé², N.Gogneau¹

¹ Centre de Nanosciences et Nanotechnologies, Université Paris-Saclay, CNRS, UMR9001, Boulevard Thomas Gobert, 91120 Palaiseau, France

² Université Paris-Saclay, CentraleSupélec, Sorbonne Université, CNRS, Laboratoire de Génie électrique et électronique de Paris, 11 rue Joliot-Curie, 91190 Gif sur Yvette, France

Today, the miniaturization of the electronic devices has led to a decrease on their energy consumption (mW- μ W) and opened new ways for renewable energy harvesting solutions to power them. We focus on energy sources like mechanical deformations and vibrations, which are present at all times. Our goal is to develop a new generation of piezoelectric generators, which are easily integratable, ultra-compact and generate sufficient power to supply the micro-devices, without increasing their size or weight. Due to their superior mechanical properties, higher piezo-electric coefficients (6 times higher than bulk GaN) and sensitivity to smaller forces (nN-pN range), GaN nanowires (NWs) appear as promising nanostructures to convert efficiently the mechanical energy, found in the direct environment of the micro-device, into electrical energy.

Here, we study the piezo-electric response of single GaN NWs via an atomic force microscope (AFM) equipped with a home-made modified Resiscope that permits to measure simultaneously the topographic and piezo-generation signals in contact mode. The efficiency of the modified Resiscope module to collect the piezo-charges is maximum for an R_{Load} of 1 Gohm and asymptotic values of O.V. are obtained (Figure 1). However, the corresponding P_i are negligible (Figure 2) which indicates a low efficiency. For the first time in the nanoscale regime, we investigate the influence of R_{load} (varying from 1 Mohm to 1 Gohm) of the system's electronics on the output voltage (O.V.) and power (P_i) generated by intrinsically doped GaN NWs. Based on this study, we emphasize the importance of optimization of R_{load} . We also demonstrate that the resistance of the nano-generator, R_{gen} , (convolution of contact resistance and NW resistance), which is often neglected in literature, cannot be ignored to optimize the electronic system associated to the piézo-generator (Figure 2).

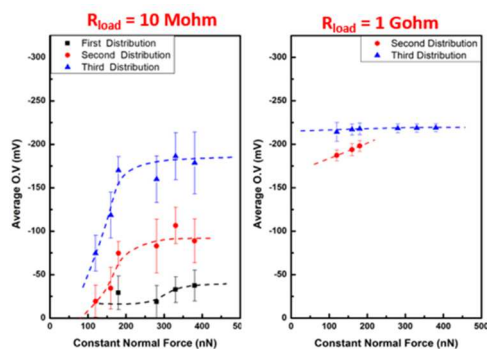


Figure 1 : Effect of R_{load} on output voltage

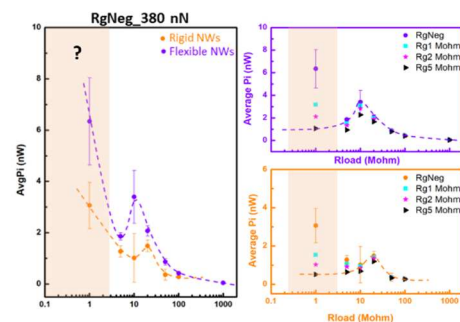


Figure 2 : Optimisation of R_{load} without R_{gen} (left) and with R_{gen} (right)

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CHIRAL PHOTODETECTOR BASED ON GaAsN

R. S. Joshya^{1}, H. Carrère¹, V. G. Ibarra-Sierra², J. C. Sandoval-Santana², V. K. Kalevich³, E. L. Ivchenko³, X. Marie¹, T. Amand¹, A. Kunold³, and A. Balocchi^{1*}*

¹Universite de Toulouse, INSA-CNRS-UPS, LPCNO, 135 Avenue Rangueil, 31077 Toulouse, France

²Área de Física Teórica y Materia Condensada, Universidad Autónoma Metropolitana Azcapotzalco, 02200 Ciudad de Mexico, Mexico

³Ioffe Physical-Technical Institute, 194021 St. Petersburg, Russia

* email : rajagopa@insa-toulouse.fr & andrea.balocchi@insa-toulouse.fr

Direct detection of circularly polarized light plays a vital role in various fields, from drug production to optical communication. However, conventional photodetectors are inherently difficult due to the lack of intrinsic chirality in traditional semiconductors. In this work, we propose a novel scheme for a chiral detector based on GaAsN, allowing for the simultaneous detection of the intensity and degree of circular polarization of incident light at room temperature. It relies on the engineering of deep paramagnetic defects (Ga^{2+}) displaying giant spin-dependent recombination. The device's operating spectral range can be extended from visible to infra-red using (InGaAl)AsN alloys.

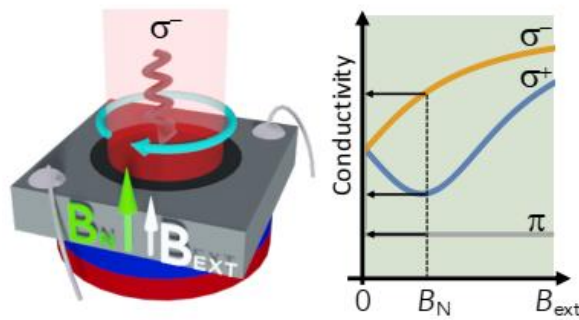


Figure 1: A novel scheme for a chiral detector based on GaAsN

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InGaAsP quantum-well active regions for telecom devices: design, growth and optical characterization

R. S. Joshya¹, Q. Hochart², A. Balocchi¹, O. Delorme², A. Wilk², H. Carrère¹

¹ LPCNO, 135 avenue de Rangueil, 31077 Toulouse.

² III-V Lab, 1 rue Augustin Fresnel, 91767 Palaiseau.

In order to cope with the growing increase in telecommunications needs, recent years have seen the emergence of very high speed optical networks to connect the major metropolitan centers, and the development of optical access network such as Fiber-to-the-home (FFTH). Low cost, optoelectronic devices are key elements to the achievement of dense and ultra-dense wavelength-division multiplexing (WDM) networks. In this study, we investigate InGaAsP quantum wells as gain material for optoelectronic devices emitting in the O, C and L bands, the transmission windows of silica fibers. First, we present the heretofore design in terms of composition and widths with the view of reaching the appropriate wavelengths, namely 1,3 μm , 1,55 μm and 1,625 μm . The band structure and transition energies are calculated by solving a 6-band Luttinger-Kohn k.p Hamiltonian including strain and confinement. The eigenvalue problem is solved by the transfer-matrix method, taking into account the interfacial discontinuity condition. The heterostructures were grown by MBE on n-doped InP substrates and consist of.... Finally, we perform photoluminescence characterization and discuss the matching with the quantum well design.

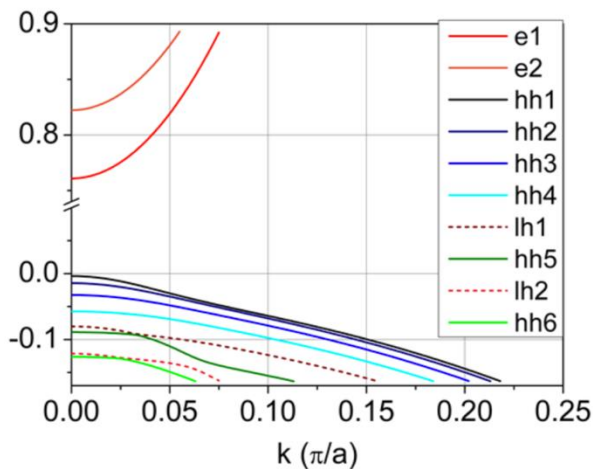


Figure 1: band structure of InGaAsP/InGaAsP quantum well

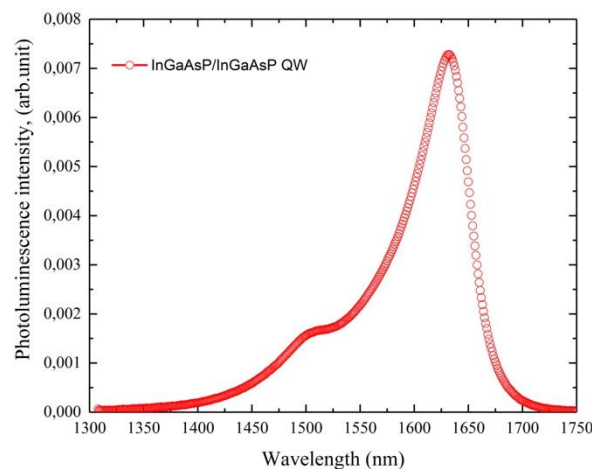


Figure 2: room temperature photoluminescence spectrum of InGaAsP/InGaAsP quantum well

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Hydrogen-Mediated CVD Epitaxy of Graphene on SiC: Implications for Microelectronic Applications

Zouhour Ben Jabra¹, Isabelle Berbezier¹, Adrien Michon², Mathieu Koudia¹, Elie Assaf¹, Antoine Ronda¹, Paola Castrucci³, Maurizio De Crescenzi³, Holger Vach⁴, Mathieu Abel¹

¹Aix Marseille University, Université de Toulon, CNRS, IM2NP Marseille, France

²CRHEA, Université Côte d'Azur, CNRS, Rue Bernard Gregory, 06560 Valbonne, France

³Dipartimento di Fisica, Università di Roma Tor Vergata, via della Ricerca Scientifica 1, 00133 Roma, Italy

⁴LPICM, CNRS, Ecole Polytechnique, IP Paris, Palaiseau, 91128, France

Abstract

Despite the large body of literature reporting on the growth of graphene (Gr) on 6H-SiC(0001) by chemical vapor deposition (CVD) [1-3], some important issues have not yet been solved, and full-wafer-scale epitaxy of Gr remains challenging, hampering applications in microelectronics. With this study, we shed light on the generic mechanism which produces the coexistence of two different types of Gr domains: Gr on hydrogen (H-Gr) and Gr on buffer layer ((6 × 6) Gr), whose proportion can be carefully controlled by tuning the H₂ flow rate. We show for the first time that the growth of Gr by CVD under a H₂/Ar flow rate proceeds in two stages [4]. First, the nucleation of free-standing epitaxial Gr on hydrogen (H-Gr) occurs; then, H-atoms eventually desorb from either step edges or defects. This gives rise, for a H₂ flow rate below a critical value, to the formation of (6 × 6) Gr domains. The front of H-desorption progresses proportionally to the reduction of H₂. Using the robust and generic X-ray photoelectron spectroscopy (XPS) analysis, we realistically quantify the proportions of H-Gr and (6 × 6) Gr domains of a Gr film synthesized under any experimental conditions. Scanning tunneling microscopy supports the XPS measurements. From these results, we can deduce that the H-assisted CVD growth of Gr developed here is a unique method to grow fully free-standing H-Gr in contrast to the method consisting of H-intercalation below (6 × 6) Gr epitaxial layer. Further description will be highlighted in the poster. These results are of crucial importance for future applications of Gr/SiC(0001) in nano- and microelectronics and in particular for field-effect transistors, for which maximization of mobility is mandatory. We achieve thus a precise identification of new Gr surface structures which provide the groundwork for the use of Gr as an optimal template layer for Van der Waals homo- and heteroepitaxy for optoelectronic applications.

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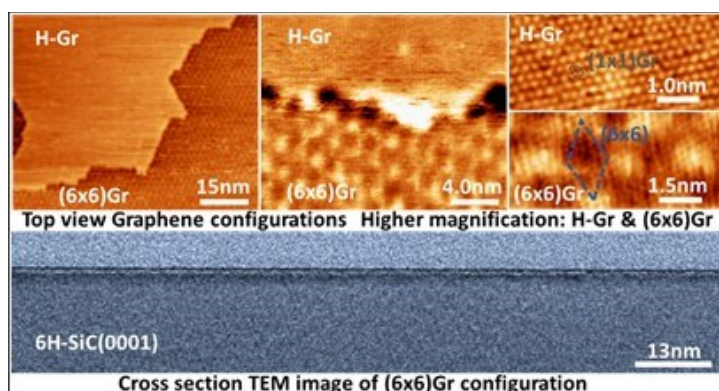


Figure 1: STM images showing the interface between H-Gr and (6×6)Gr domains existing on the same surface layer and their atomic structures. Large scale TEM image showing the continuity and homogeneity of (6×6)Gr configuration

Integration of oxide ferromagnets with high spin polarization onto ZnO-based 2D, 1D nanostructures: growth, structure, properties of Fe₃O₄ onto ZnO(0001) substrates

I. Madaci^{1,2}, E. Popova^{1,3}, P. Vennéguès², M. Nemoz², I. Stenger¹, B. Berini¹, C. Morhain² and Y. Dumont¹

¹GEMaC, Université Paris-Saclay, UVSQ, CNRS-UMR8635, 78035 Versailles, France

²CRHEA, CNRS-UPR10, rue Bernard Gregory, 06560 Valbonne, France

³IPR, CNRS-UR1 UMR6251, 263 avenue Général Leclerc, 35700 Rennes, France

Summary of the poster:

Spintronics is the field of physics where we exploit the spin of electron instead of, or coupled with its electrical charge which give another degree of freedom. It offers a new range of applications with lower heating generation, smaller packaging, less energy consumption and higher processing speed [1]. The main idea of my PhD project is to pair a magnetic material which controls (manipulates) the spin of electrons with a semiconductor where we exploit these spin polarized charges. Several systems of metallic ferromagnet(FM)/semiconductor(SC) have been investigated by researchers, but always defects and interdiffusion at the interface FM/SC are the major obstacle to an efficient spin injection and detection.

In order to reduce the spin depolarization at the interface FM/SC, we have focused our study on all-oxide structures. The Fe₃O₄ as a ferrimagnetic oxide with a high Curie temperature ($T_c \sim 850\text{K}$) and an expected $\sim 100\%$ spin polarization (80% already measured [2]), and the ZnO as a wide bandgap semiconductor with a long spin lifetime [3] and conduction band that can be aligned with the Fermi level of the Fe₃O₄ [4], present a promising combination for opto-spintronics applications.

In this work we present the Pulsed Laser Deposition (PLD) growth of thin Fe₃O₄ films onto (0001)-oriented ZnO substrates. The Fe₃O₄ has an inverse-spinel structure, while the ZnO has a wurtzite structure with lattice parameters of $a=8.396\text{\AA}$, $c=3.249\text{\AA}$ respectively. This difference of lattice parameters gives rise to a large lattice mismatch (8,6%) from which comes down the complexity of this growth, beside the possibility of formation of other iron oxide phases (FeO, $\alpha\text{Fe}_2\text{O}_3$, $\gamma\text{-}\alpha\text{Fe}_2\text{O}_3$). We targeted lower growth temperatures to limit the interdiffusion at the interface FM/SC. Samples have been studied by structural, morphological, and magnetic characterizations (RHEED, X-ray diffraction XRD, Raman spectroscopy, Atomic Force Microscopy AFM, High Resolution Transmission Electron Microscopy HR-TEM, Vibrating Sample Magnetometry VSM).

We show that we achieved an efficient stoichiometry control by adjusting the PLD growth parameters at relatively low growth temperatures (substrate surface temperature $\sim 260^\circ\text{C}$). Thus, the growth conditions of three stable iron oxide phases were established, most interestingly for epitaxial Fe₃O₄. The magnetic measurements show a sharp Verwey transition at the expected temperature but magnetization of the grown Fe₃O₄ films is slightly lower than the bulk value, probably due to the antiphase boundaries.

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