

# **Growth of Two Dimensional Materials – Applications in Energy and Sensing**

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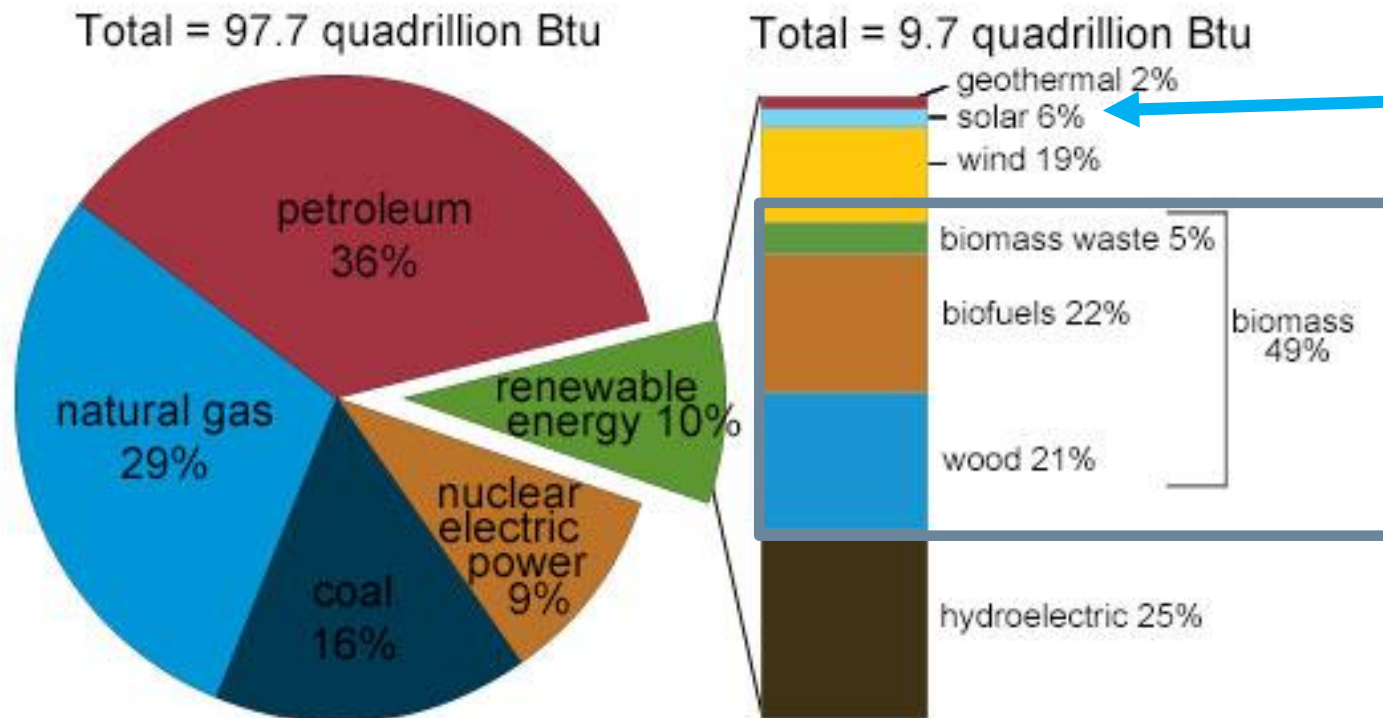
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# Overview

- **Section 1: Motivation**
- **Section 2: Quasi-freestanding Epitaxial Graphene via Hydrogen**
  - Section 2a: Narrow THz Plasmon Resonance
- **Section 3: Biocompatibility of Epitaxial Graphene**
  - Section 3a: Label Free Potentiometric Sensor
- **Section 4: Future Work**
  - Section 4a: Cellular Redux Potentials
  - Section 4b: Exploration of other 2D Materials
  - Section 4b: Growth of TMDs and TMOs
  - Section 4c: Intercalation of van der Waals Materials
  - Section 4d: van der Waals Heterostructures

# Motivation

## U.S. energy consumption by energy source, 2015

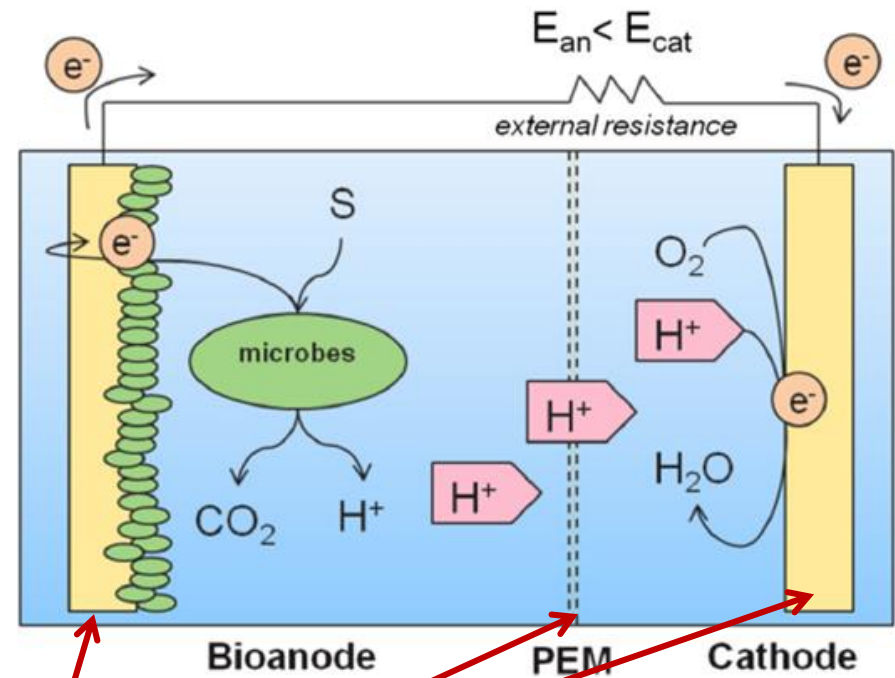


Note: Sum of components may not equal 100% because of independent rounding.

Source: U.S. Energy Information Administration, *Monthly Energy Review*, Table 1.3 and 10.1 (April 2016), preliminary data

# Microbial Fuel Cells

- Energy efficient
  - >90 conversion from biomass (30% for combustion)
- Zero net carbon emission
- Waste remediation
- Electricity generated by bacteria metabolic process





Low power density due to electrodes

# Electron Transfer of Bacteria


 Non-electroactive bacterium


 Electroactive bacterium

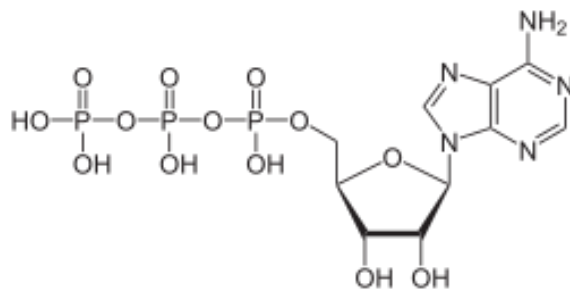
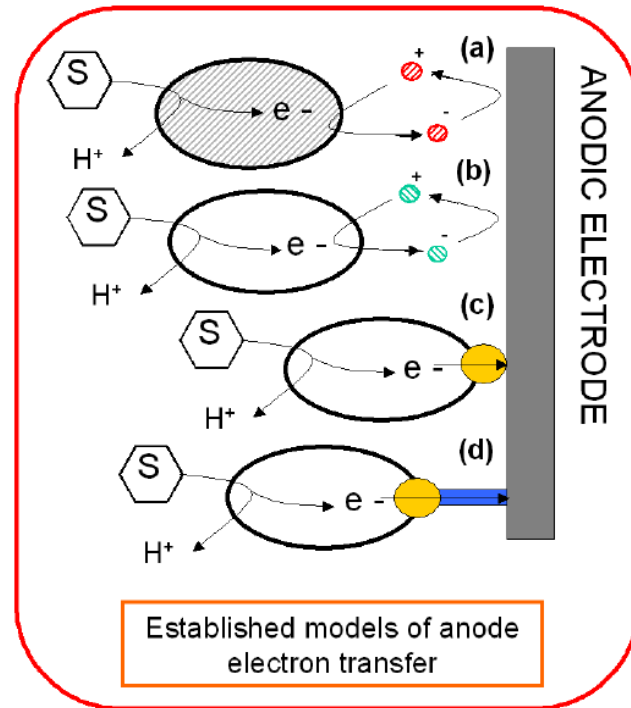
 Substrate (organic matter, sulphide, metal ions, etc.)

 Outer membrane cytochrome

 Nanowire

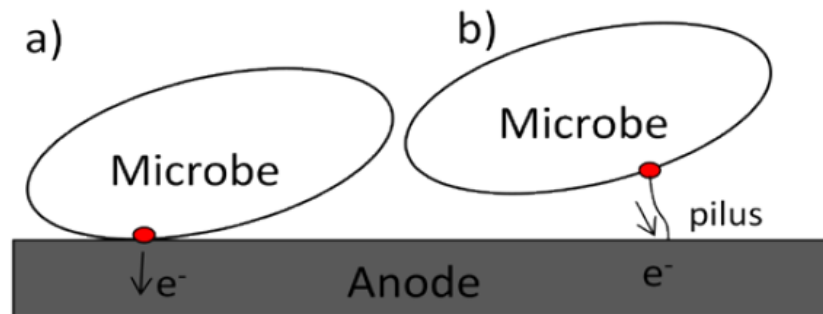
 Self produced mediators (phenazines, flavins, sulphide, ...)

 Externally added mediators (thionine, neutral red, methylene blue, ...)



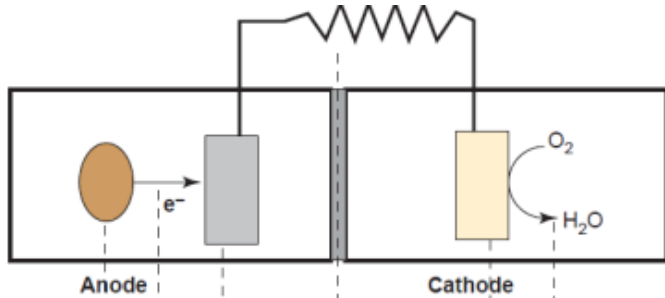
Adenosine triphosphate (ATP)

 c-cytochrome



# Electrodes

1. Losses in bacteria electron transfer.
2. Losses in solution resistance.
3. Losses at anode.
4. Losses at proton exchange membrane.
5. Losses at cathode.
6. Losses at electron reduction.



Losses  $\propto$   Resistance


$$P = \frac{V_{OC}^2}{R}$$

$$R \propto \frac{1}{A_{ELECTRODE}}$$

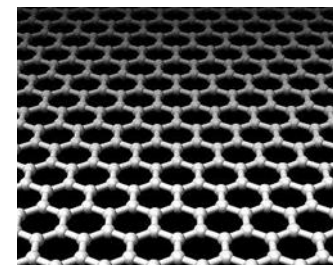
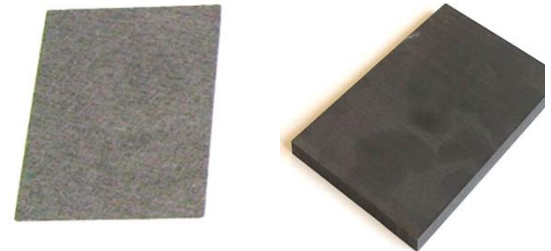
Low surface area of the electrodes

= Poor bacterial adhesion and low power density

High Surface Area  $\blacktriangleright$  Two-Dimensional Materials

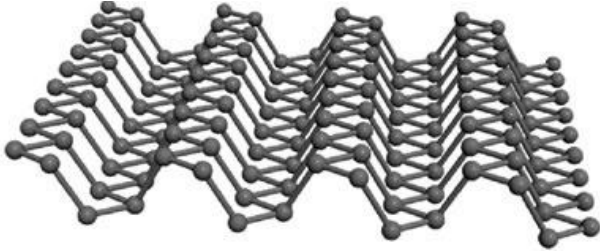
 electrode distance and internal resistance

 bacterial adhesion and charge transfer.

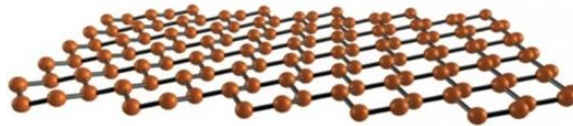


# 2D Materials

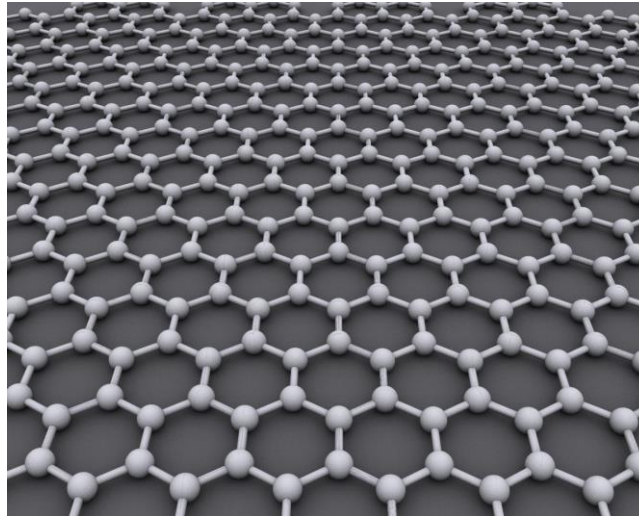
Black Phosphorous



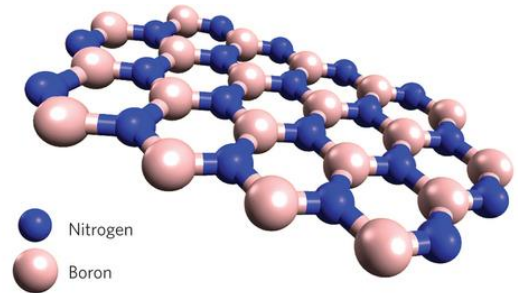
Silicene



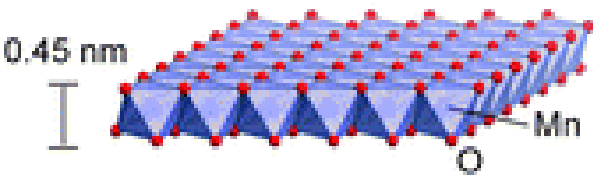
Graphene



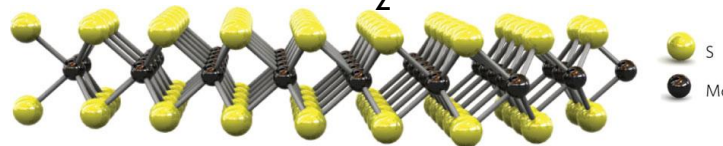
h-BN



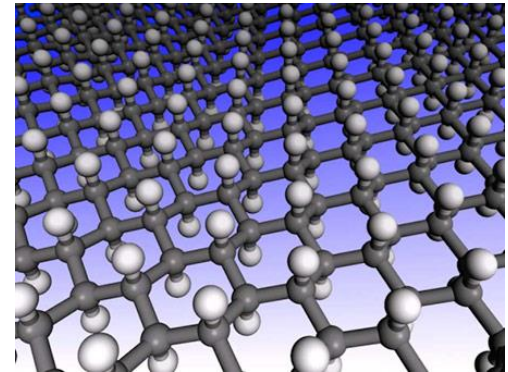
MnO<sub>2</sub>

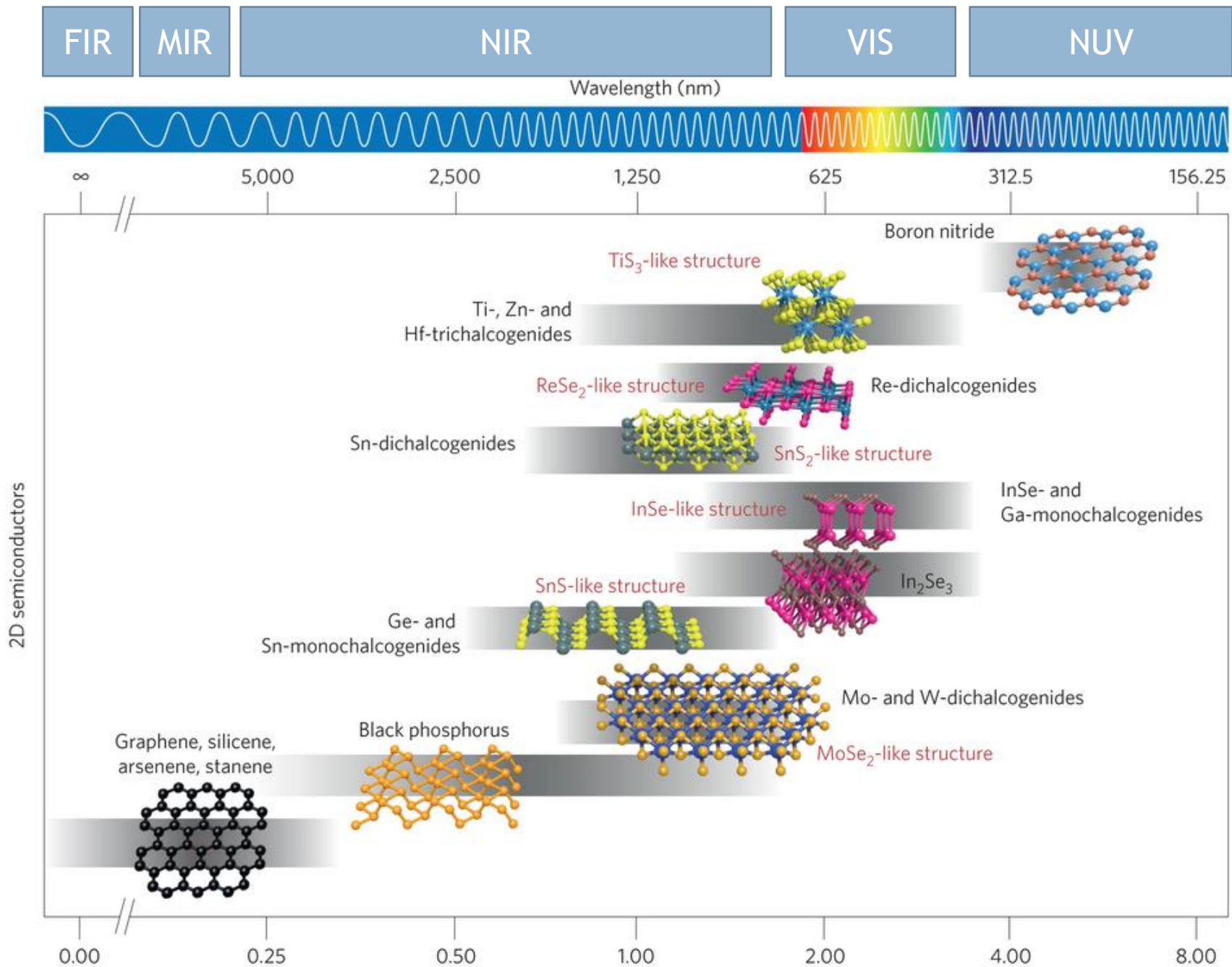


MoS<sub>2</sub>



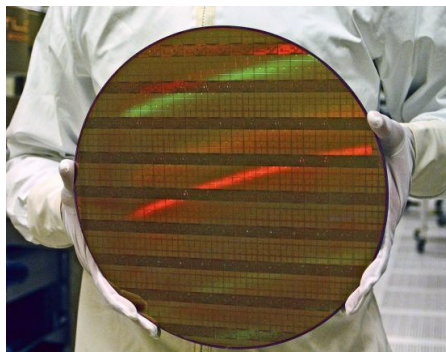
Hydrogenated Graphene



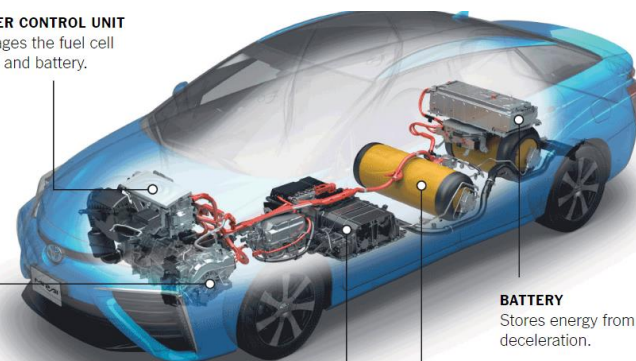




# Why 2D Materials



**POWER CONTROL UNIT**  
Manages the fuel cell stack and battery.

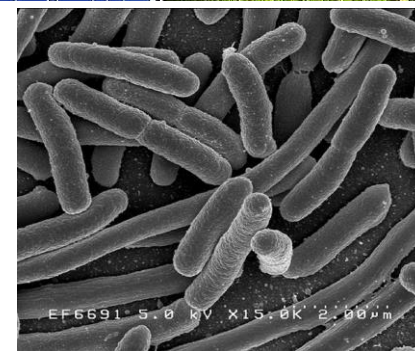
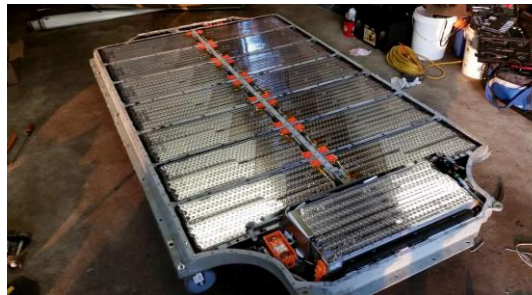
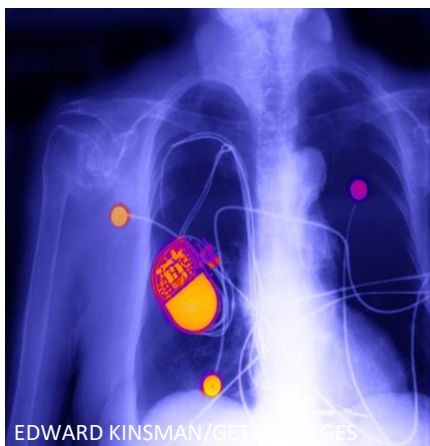


**BATTERY**  
Stores energy from deceleration.

**MOTOR**  
Runs on electricity from the fuel stack and the battery.

**FUEL CELL STACK**  
Generates electricity from hydrogen fuel.

**HYDROGEN TANK**  
Stores hydrogen fuel under high pressure.



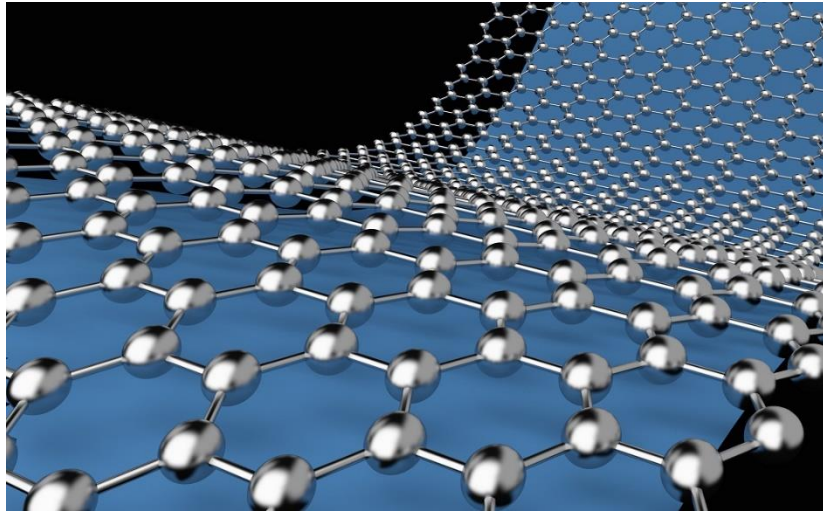
Make up for deficiencies in existing technology



# **Growth of Epitaxial Graphene**



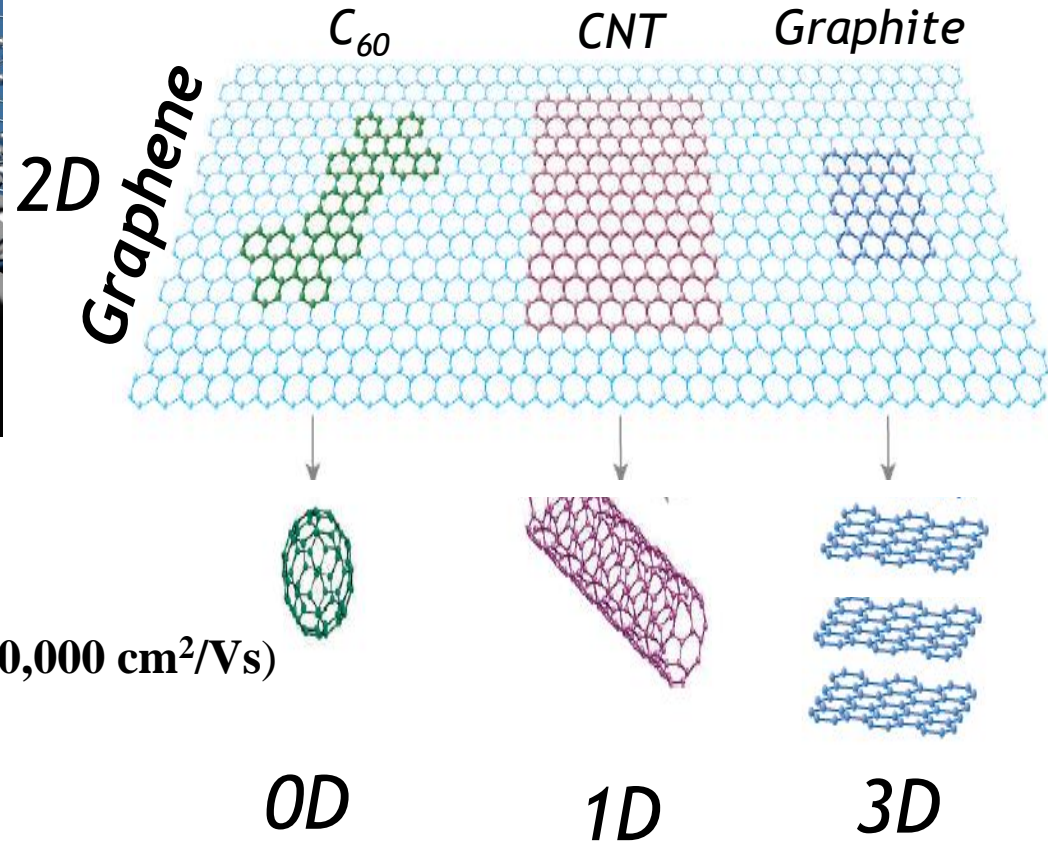
# The First 2D Material-Graphene



An atom thick (1.7Å)

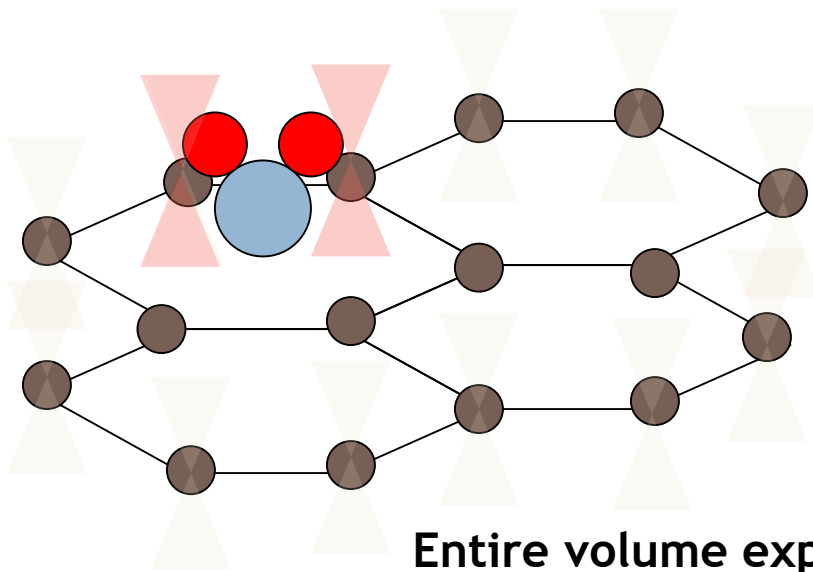
- Exceptional Properties
  - High Electrical Conductivity
  - High Room Temperature Mobility (**100,000 cm<sup>2</sup>/Vs**)
  - High Surface Area (**2630 m<sup>2</sup>/g**)
  - High Current Capacity
  - Quasi-ballistic Transport
  - Low Noise

- Graphite
  - Poor Surface Area

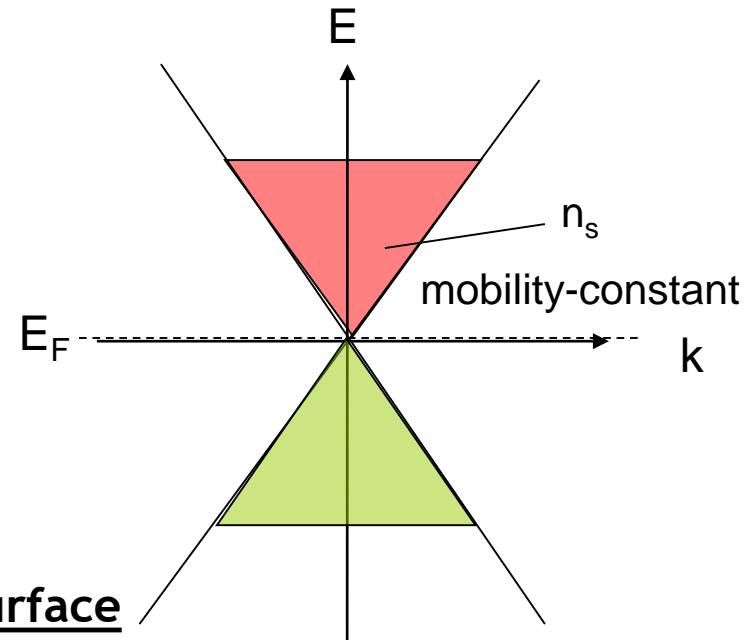
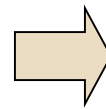


- Carbon Nanotubes
  - Toxic to Bacteria

# Physisorption on Graphene



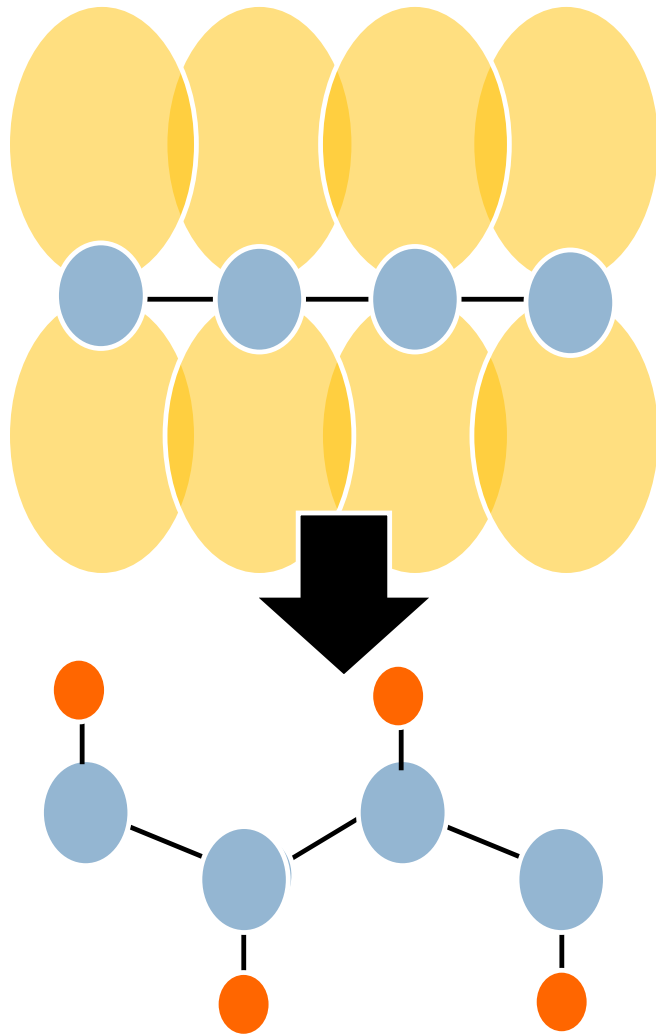
$\text{NO}_2$ ,  $\text{NH}_3$ ,  
K, OH,  
etc.



Entire volume exposed to surface

- Weakly attached molecules act as donors/acceptors
  - van der Waals force ( $E_{\text{ads}} \leq 100 \text{ meV}$ )
- Changes in carrier concentrations
- Remains highly conductive

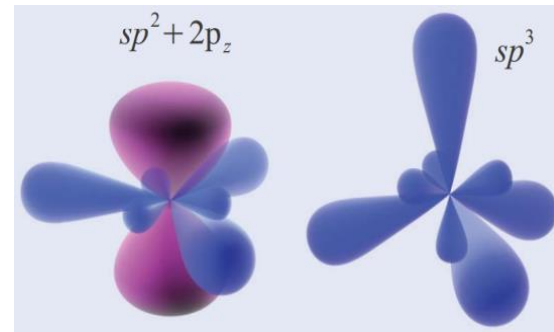
# Chemisorption of Graphene



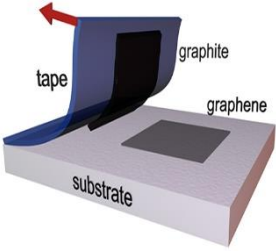
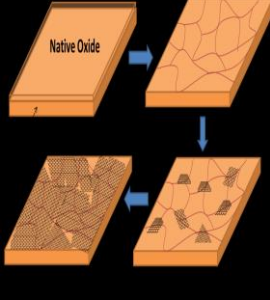

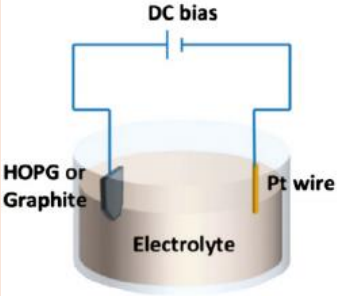

$sp^2$

$sp^3$

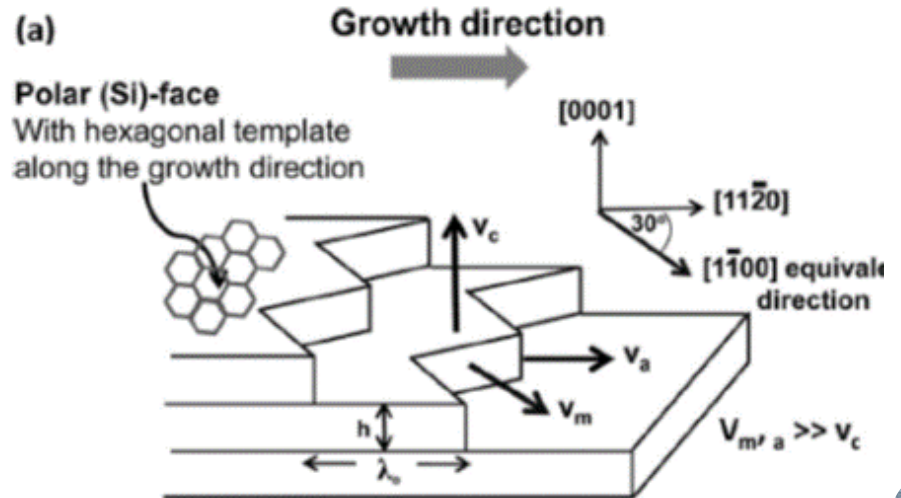
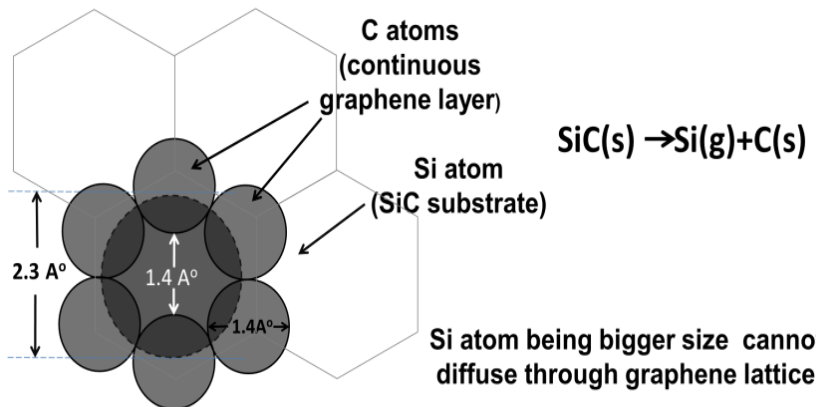
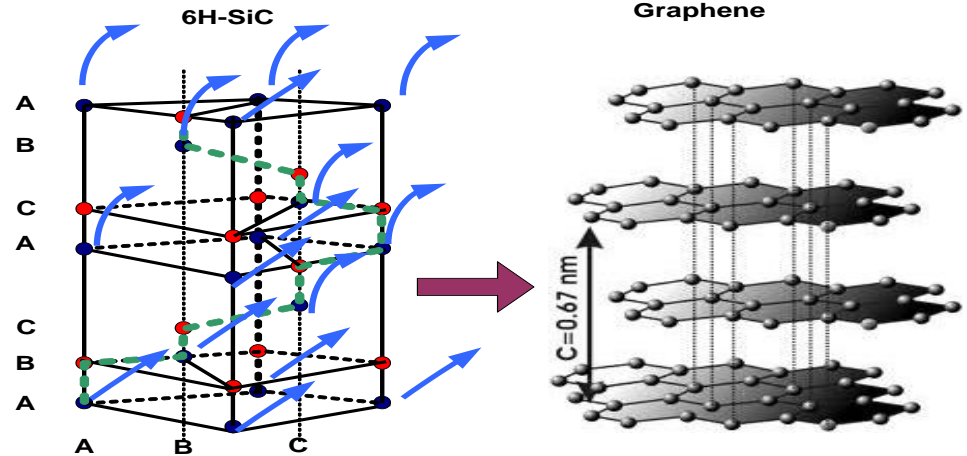
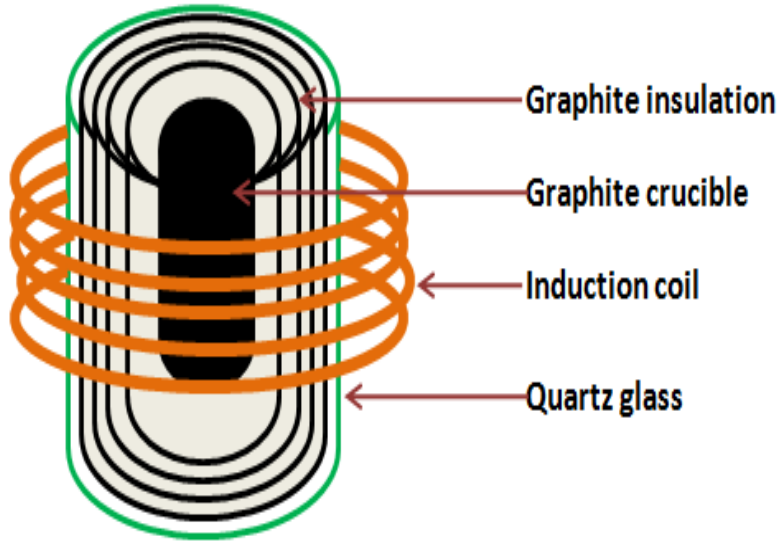
- Forms covalent bonds with ions/cations ( $E_{\text{ads}} \geq 500 \text{ meV}$ )
  - Charged atoms/molecules
  - $F^-$ ,  $OH^-$  and  $H^+$
- Arranged periodically
- Bond to  $\pi$  orbitals
  - Form  $\sigma$  bond
  - Changes in lattice
    - $sp^2$  to  $sp^3$
  - Semi-metal to insulator



# Graphene Synthesis

|           | <u>Exfoliated</u>   | <u>CVD</u>  | <u>Epitaxial</u>   | <u>Electrochemical</u>  | <u>Reduction</u>  |
|-----------|---|---|--|---|---|
| Synthesis |  |  |  |  |  |
| Pros      | Cheap   | Large Area  | Single crystal<br>Large grain size<br>~mm<br>Easy to process                       | High yield  | High yield  |
| Cons      | Small area<br><br>Poor yield  | Need to be transferred<br><br>Grain sizes<br>~10-20 $\mu$ m                       | Cost of SiC<br><br>Carrier scattering from SiC                                     | Poor control<br><br>Electrolyte contamination                                       | Poor control<br><br>Defects   |

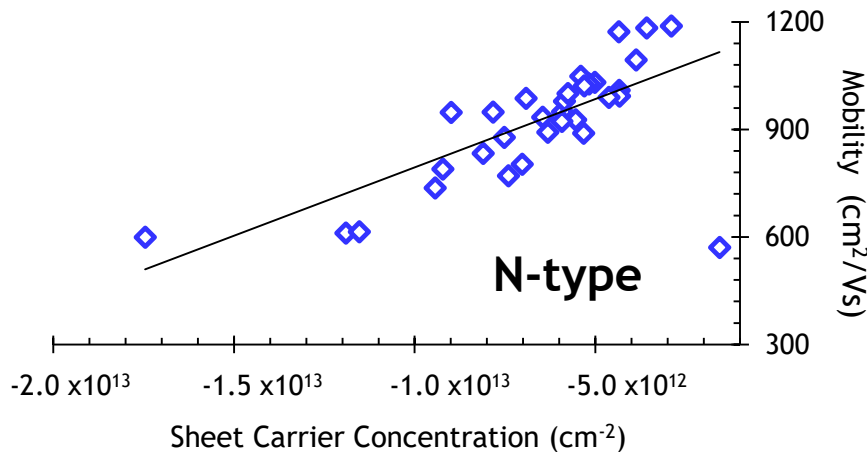
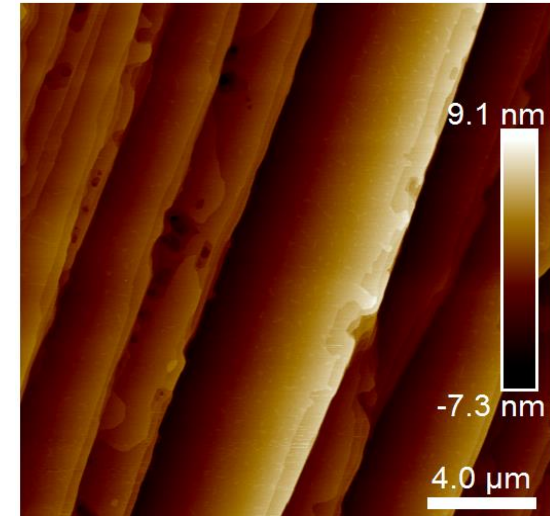
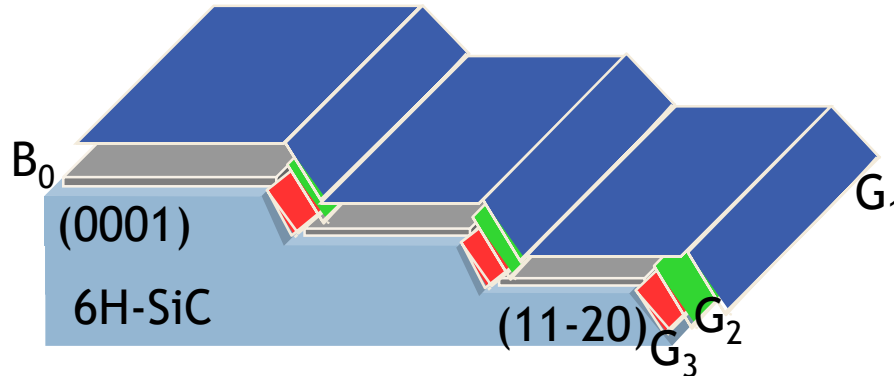
# Growth of Epitaxial Graphene



# The $6\sqrt{3}$ Buffer Layer - SiC Phonon Scattering

SiC was ramped to 1570°C under 10slm, 100mbar of  $H_2$ .

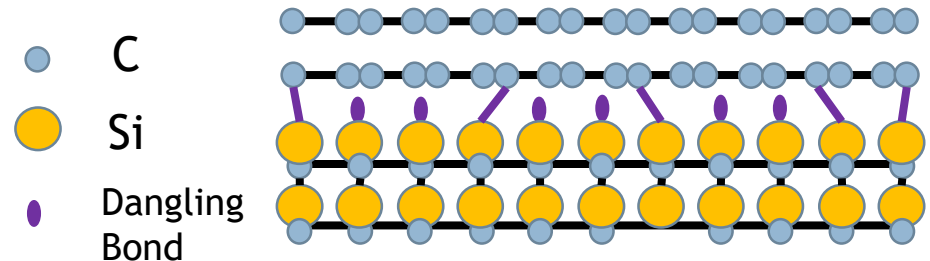
Graphene was grown by Si sublimation of SiC at 1580°C under 10slm, 200mbar of  $Ar$  for 20 min.



$n_s$  decreases with increasing  $\mu$

$$R_{sheet} \sim 3000 \Omega cm^{-2}$$

Due to interactions of  $6\sqrt{3}$  buffer layer

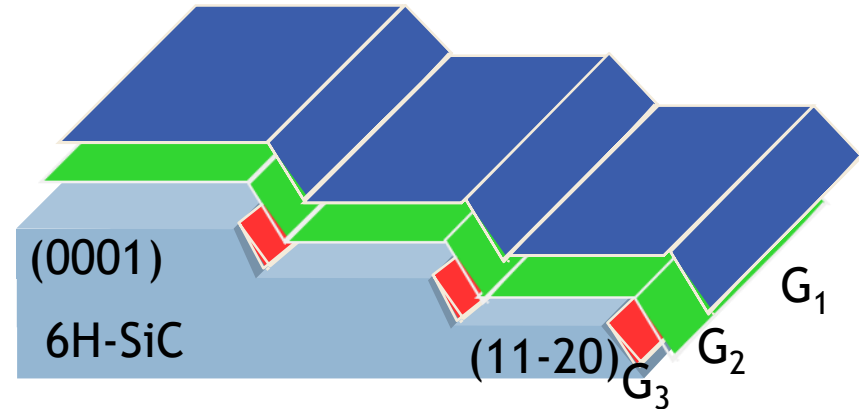
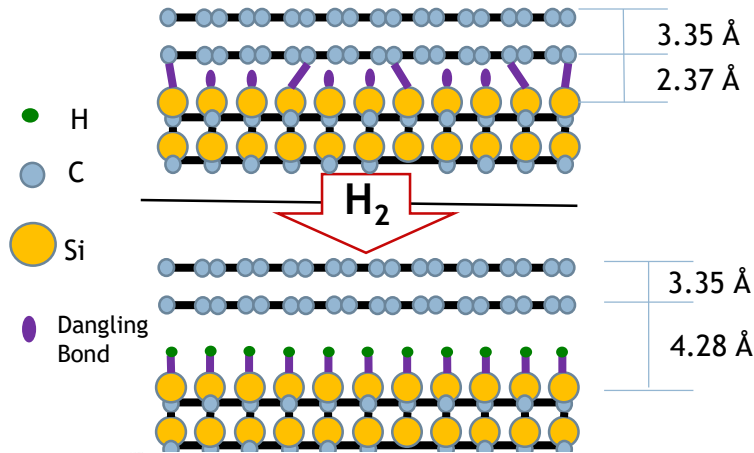


Graphene buffer layer can be released from SiC substrate via hydrogen intercalation

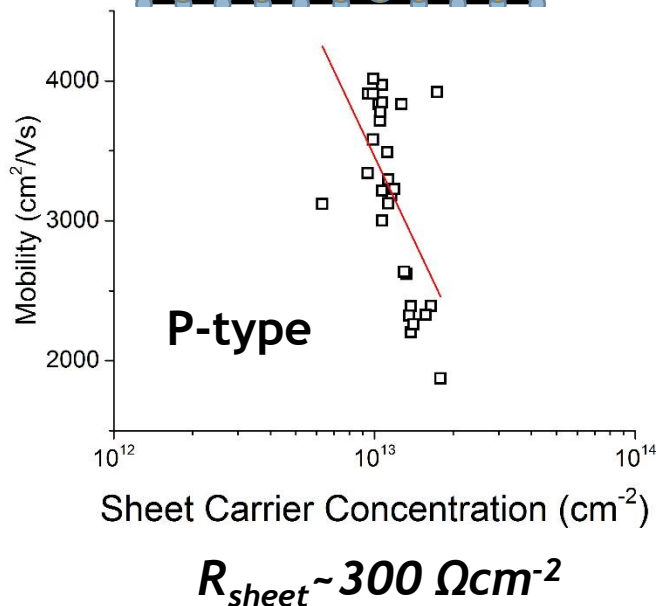


# Quasi-freestanding EG via H-intercalation

Samples H-intercalated in 50slm, 900mbar H<sub>2</sub> at 1050°C for 15-75 min. (60 min. optimal)  
 H-intercalation was performed during EG growth and on previously grown EG



Quasi-freestanding Bilayer Epitaxial Graphene

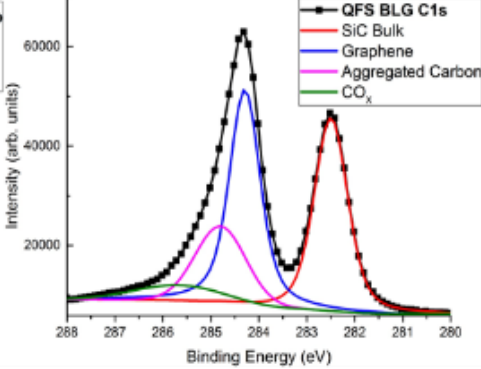
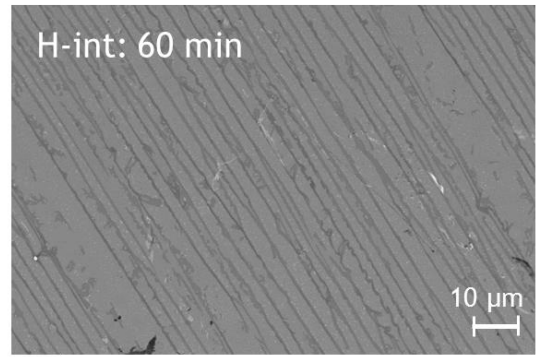
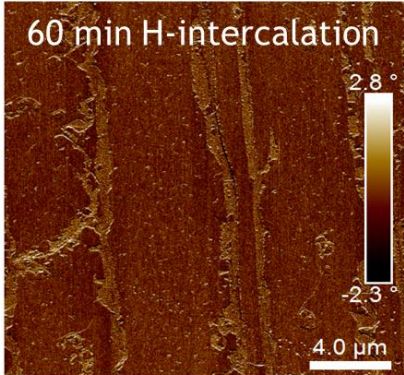
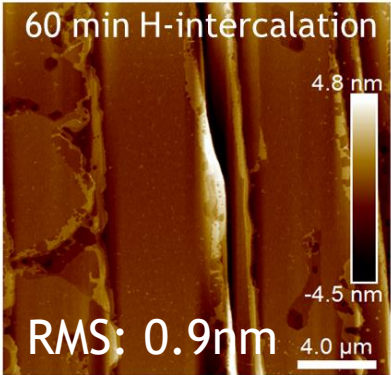
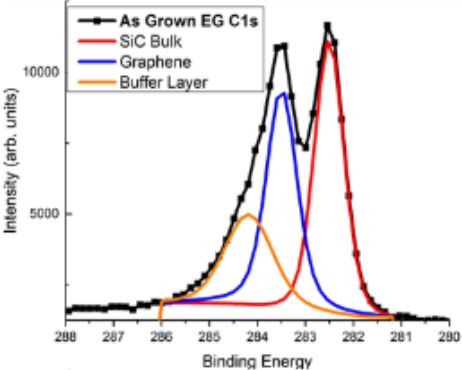
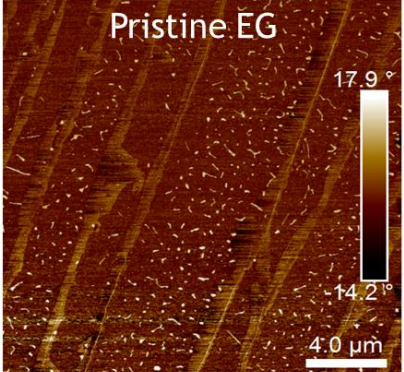
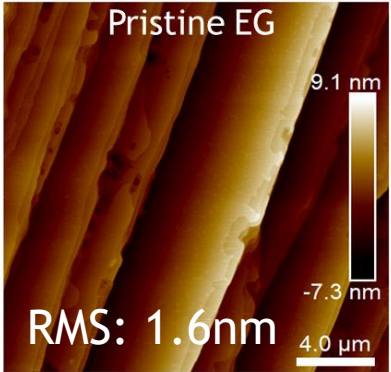


## Major Takeaways:

- (1) H<sub>2</sub> gas does not react with graphene
- (2) 4x increase in carrier mobility
- (3) High sheet carrier concentration (10<sup>13</sup>)
- (4) Order of magnitude drop in sheet resistance

C. Riedl *et al.* Phys. Rev. Lett. (2009)  
 F. Speck *et al.* Appl. Phys. Lett. (2011)  
 J.A. Robinson *et al.* Nano Lett. (2011)

# Fully Intercalated H-intercalated EG



AFM-Height

AFM-Phase

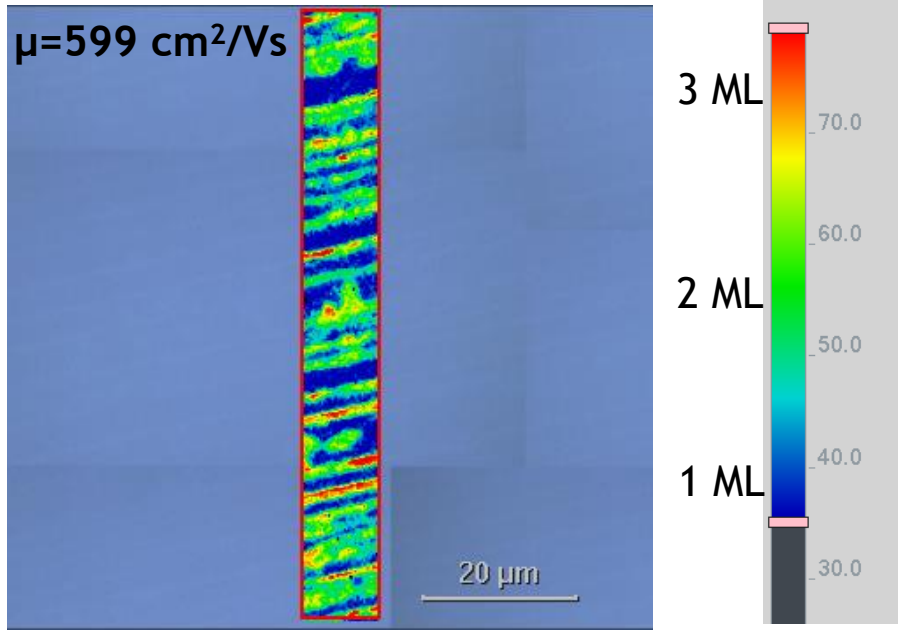
SEM

XPS-C1s Peak

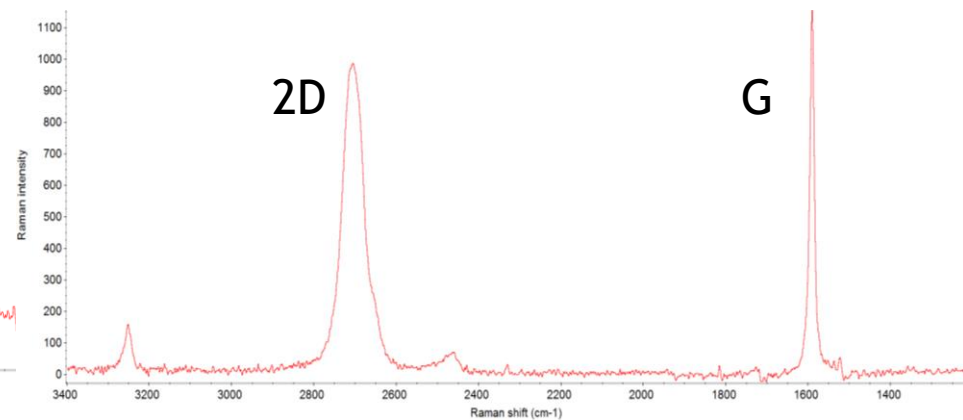
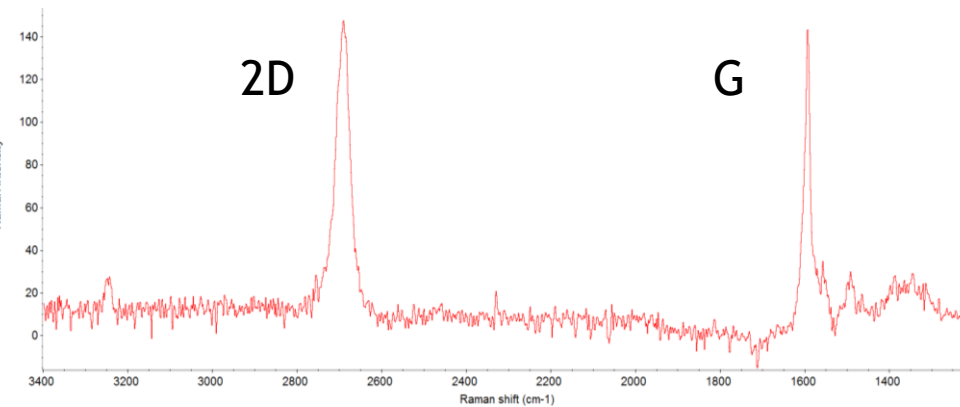
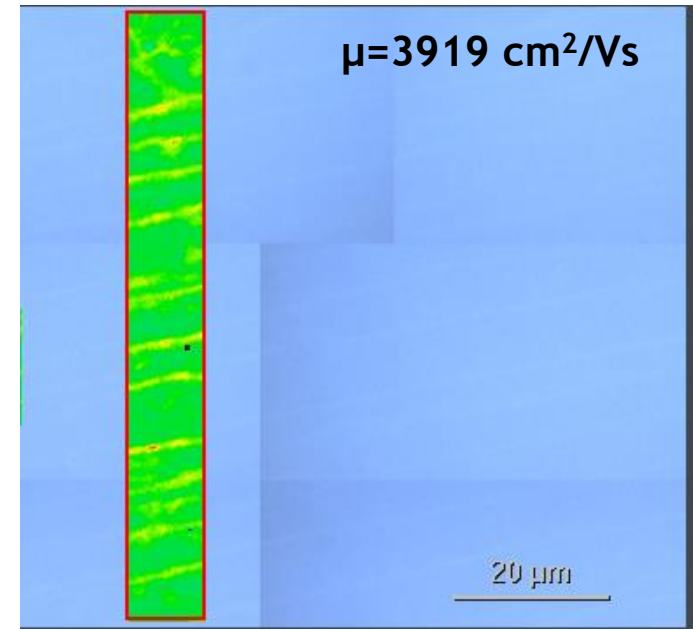
Improvement of surface uniformity and release of the BL from SiC as observed by AFM, SEM and XPS

# Mapping Graphene Layer Thickness

Before H-intercalation



After 60 min H-intercalation

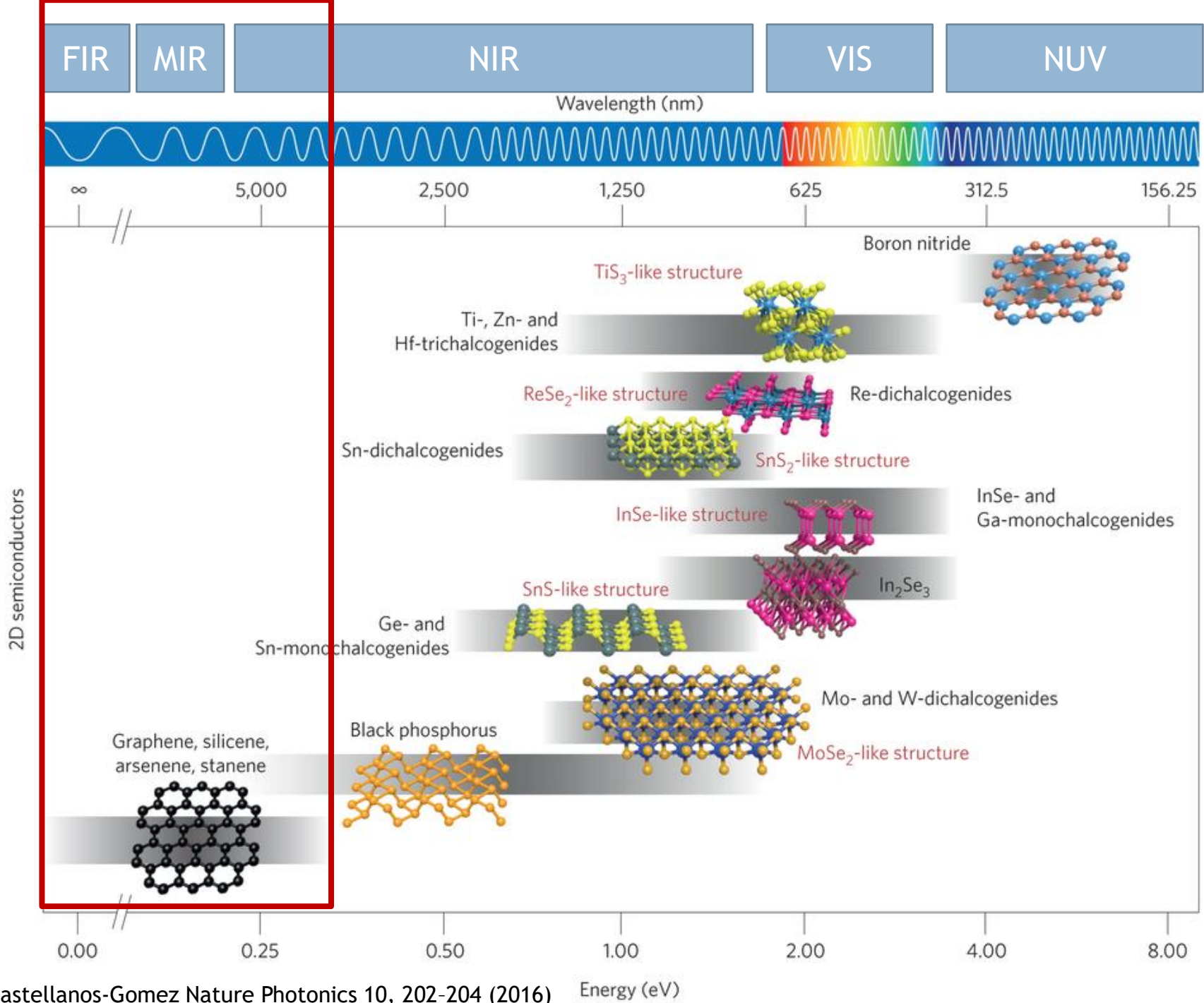


Conforms with M. Ostler stating no buffer layer is formed on the (11-20) surface.



# **Narrow Terahertz Transmission Resonance of Quasi-freestanding Bilayer Epitaxial Graphene**



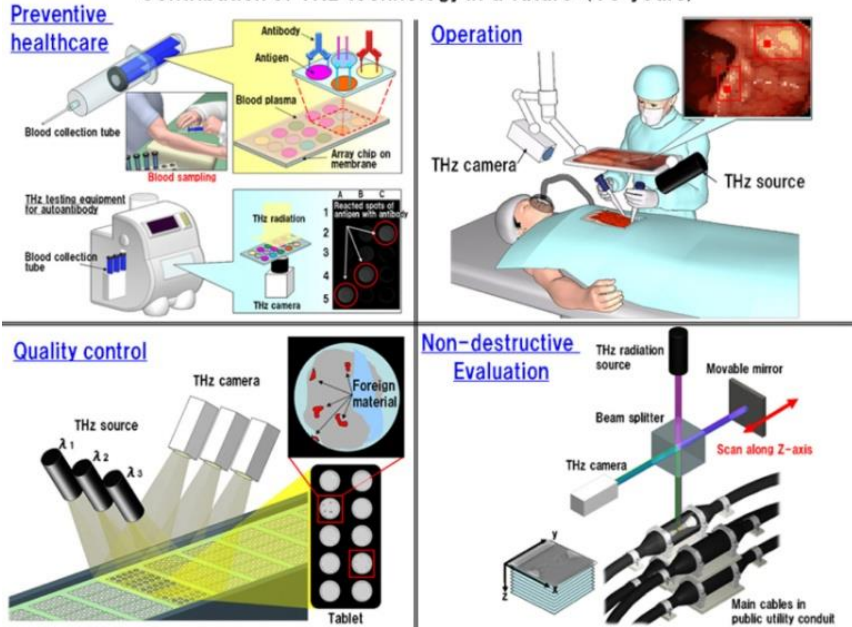


# Overview of THz Detection

Applications for THz detection include:

Non-destructive evaluation and medical imaging

Contribution of THz technology in a future (10 years)



Iwao Hosako and Naoki Oda, SPIE Newsroom. DOI: 10.1117/2.1201105.003651 (2011)

Current methods for THz detection use:

Cryogenic cooled superconductors (bolometers) *Expensive and cumbersome*

Thermal sensing elements (10-400Hz sampling rate) *Too slow for rapid detection*

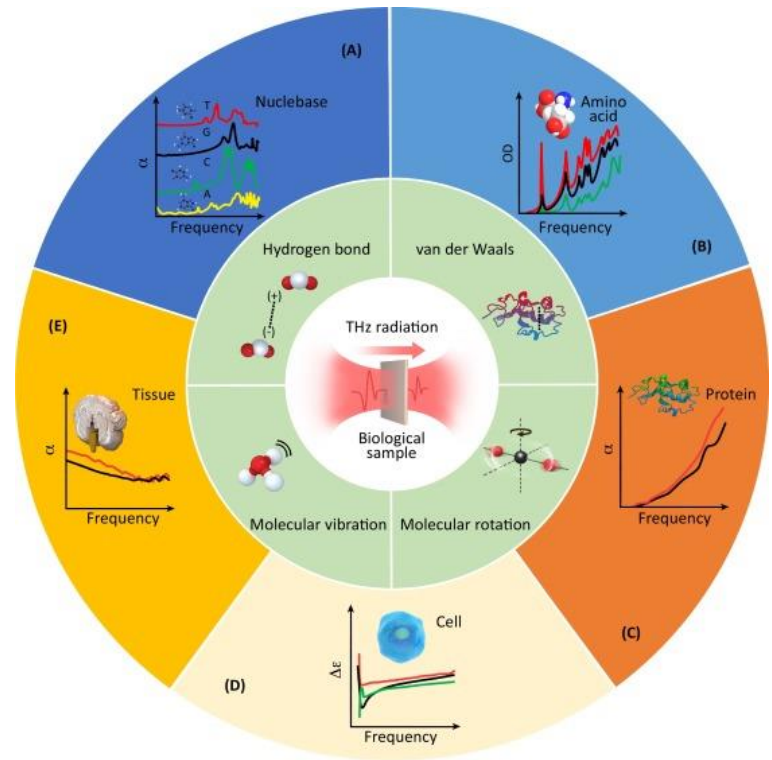
Graphene seen as an ideal material for THz detection:

Operation at room temperature

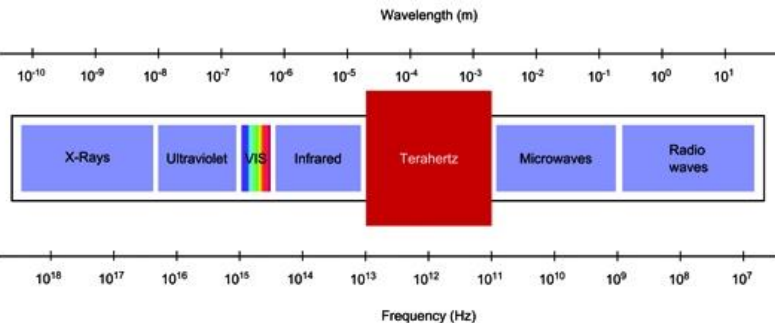
Ideal for applications for rapid detection

Benefits of epitaxial graphene:

Large area

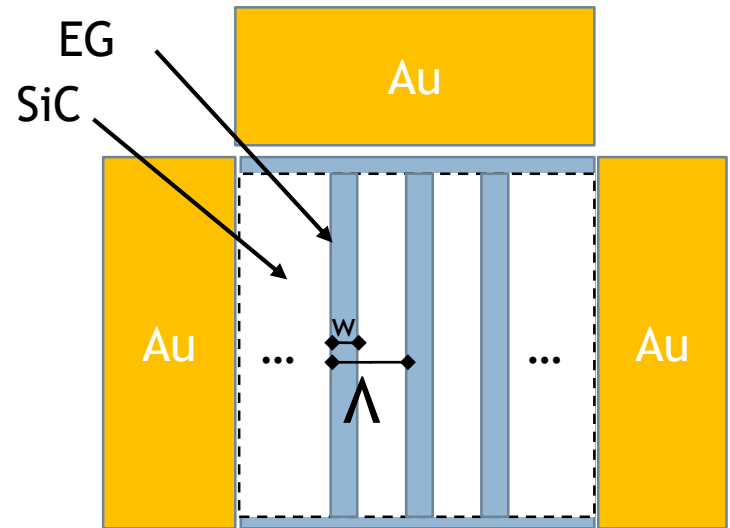
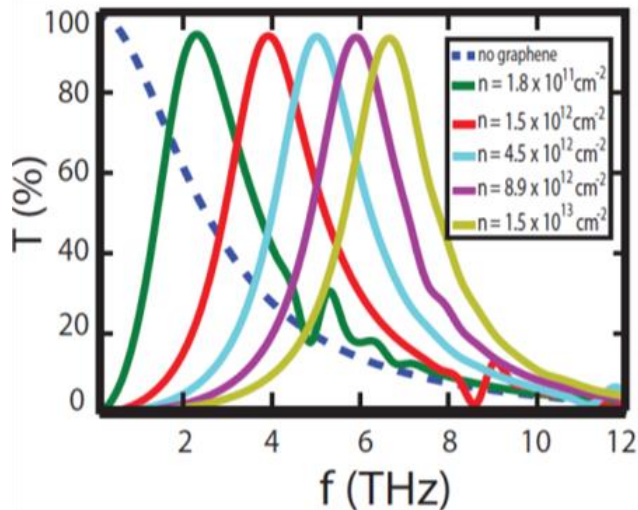


Trends in Biotechnology



# Surface Plasmon Resonance in EG

- Improve the broad plasmon resonance response observed in graphene based THz optoelectronics by H-intercalation.



M.M. Jadidi *et al.* , Nano letters 15 (10), 7099-7104 (2015)

- Patterning confines surface plasmon polaritons (THz regime)

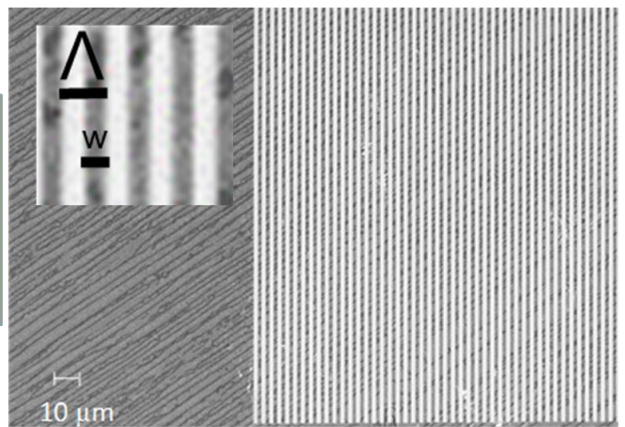
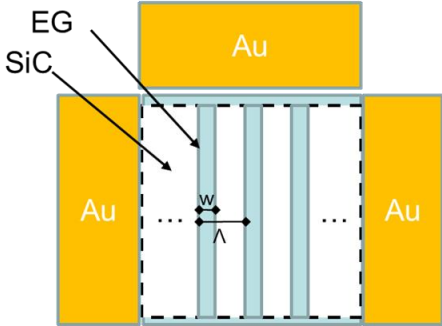
- Plasmon resonance peak: 
$$\omega_0^2 = \frac{e^2 v_F \sqrt{\pi}}{2 \hbar} \frac{\sqrt{n}}{w \epsilon_0 \bar{\epsilon} \ln[2 \csc(\pi w / \Lambda)]}$$

# H-Intercalated Patterned THz Transmission

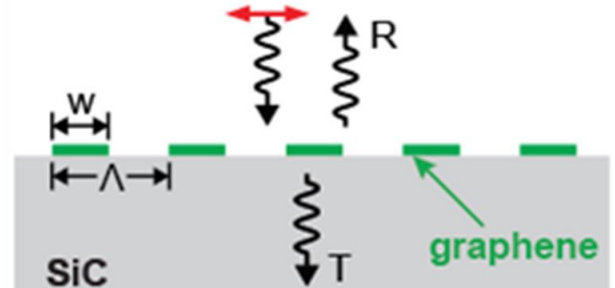
Tuning Plasmon Resonance Frequency

$$\omega_p^2 = \frac{\pi - \Phi e^2 V_F 1 \sqrt{n}}{2\sqrt{\pi} \epsilon_0 \hbar \epsilon w}$$

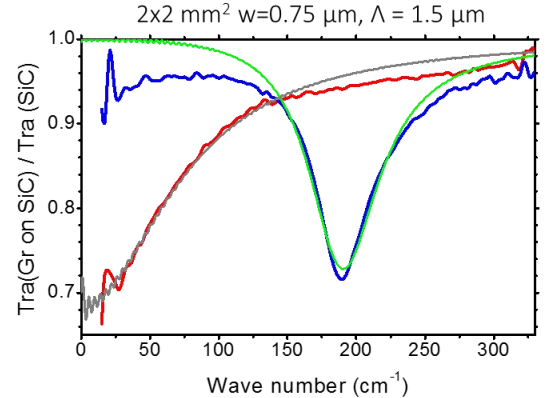
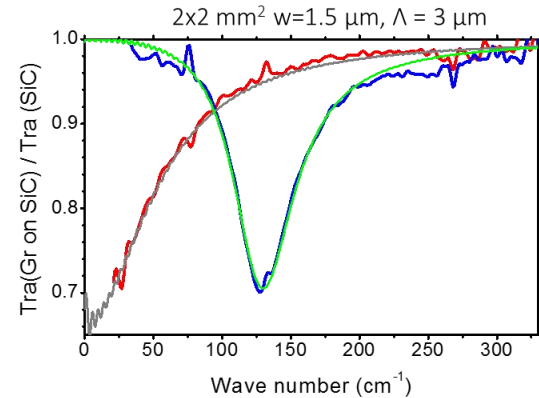
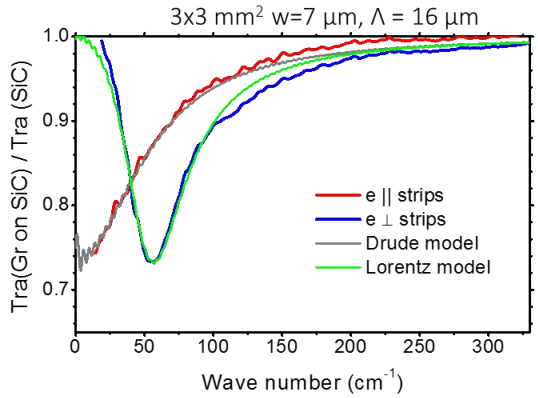
- 1) Changing Carrier Concentration (Gating)
- 2) Changing Graphene Width (Duty Cycle)



- Far IR simultaneous transmission/reflection measurements
  - Source (Hg Lamp) and two detectors (4K silicon composite bolometers)
  - One on transmitted other on reflected side
- Polarizer used in beam path to pass polarization perpendicular to EG strips
- THz beam illuminates the backside of the device
  - Through a 1.5mm diameter aperture in Cu



M.M. Jadidi *et al.* , Nano letters 15 (10), 7099-7104 (2015)





# Gated (electrolyte) Comparison of Plasmon Resonance

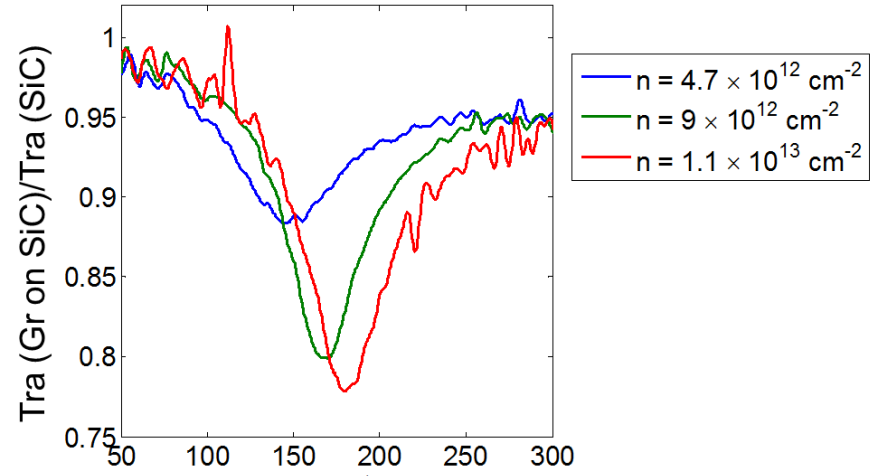
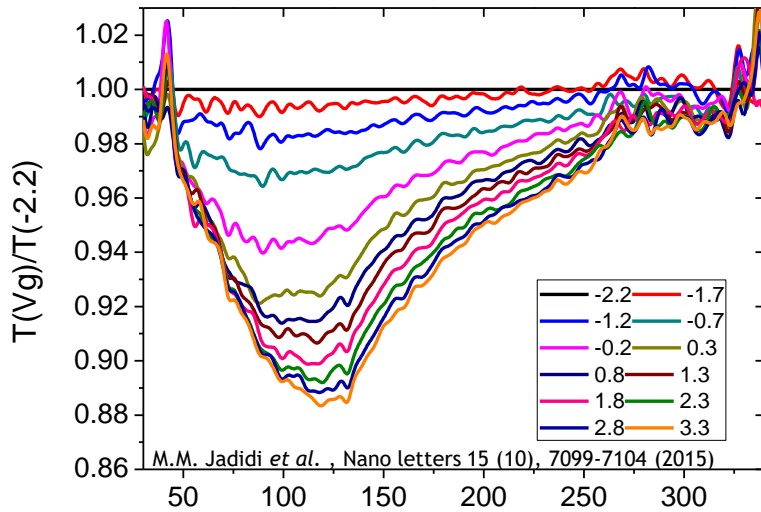
Sample gated with  $\text{LiClO}_4$  electrolyte

Non-intercalated,

$w=2.3 \mu\text{m}$ ,  $\Lambda=4.46\mu\text{m}$ ,  $1.5 \text{ mm}^2$

Intercalated,

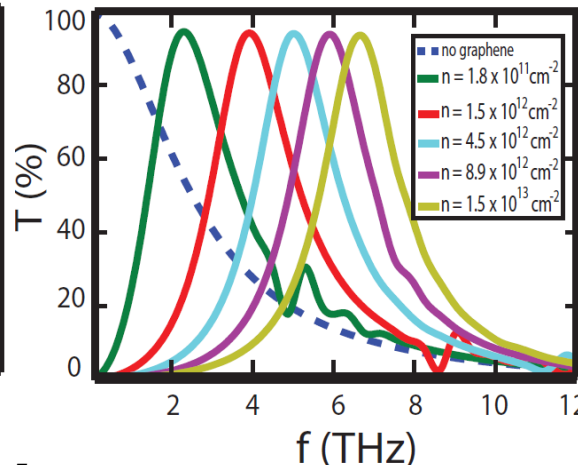
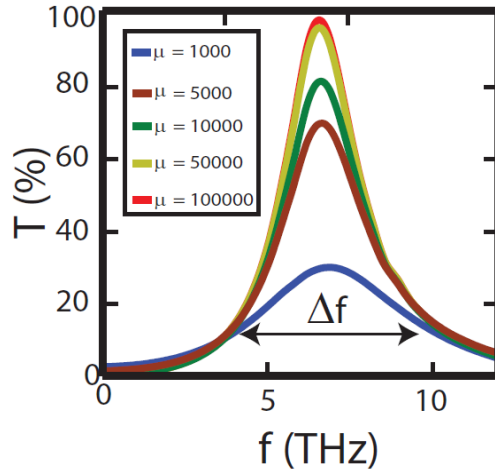
$w=0.75 \mu\text{m}$ ,  $\Lambda=1.5 \mu\text{m}$ ,  $2 \text{ mm}^2$



Wavenumber (cm-1)

Wavenumber (cm<sup>-1</sup>)

K. M. Daniels *et al.* 2D Materials 4 (2), 025034, (2017)



$1/\tau \propto \mu$  [scattering rate]

$\omega_0 \propto n^{1/4}$  [f of THz response]

M.M. Jadidi *et al.*, Nano letters 15 (10), 7099-7104 (2015)



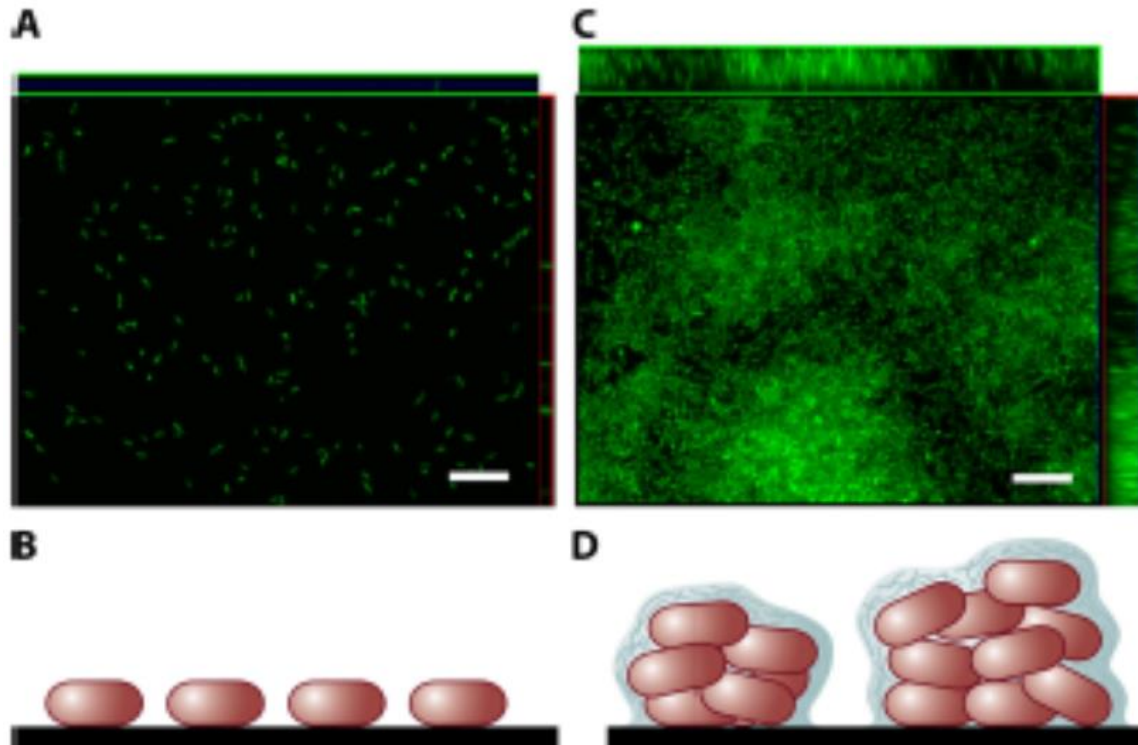
# **Biocompatibility of Epitaxial Graphene**



# Background: Biofilm

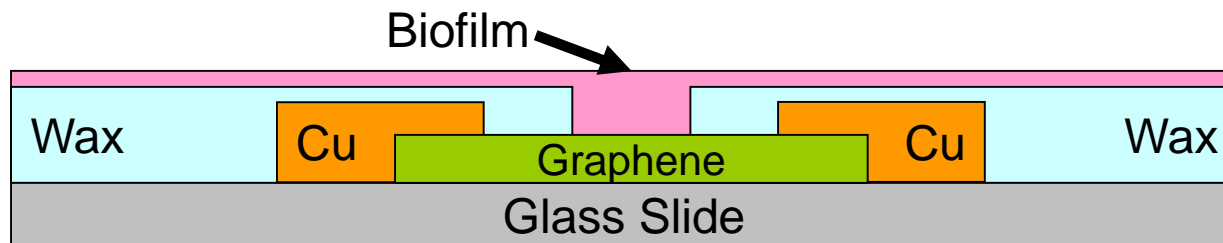
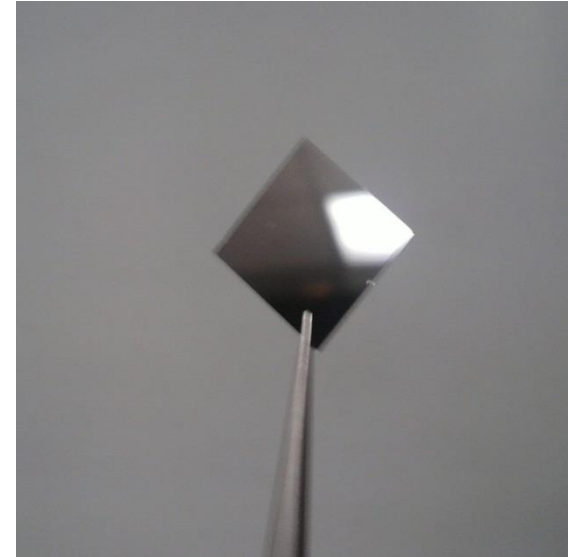
Biofilm formed as a protection mode of growth for bacteria

- Can form on abiotic (i.e. minerals) and biotic (i.e. humans)
- Allows cells to survive in hostile environment
- Promotes cell to cell communication



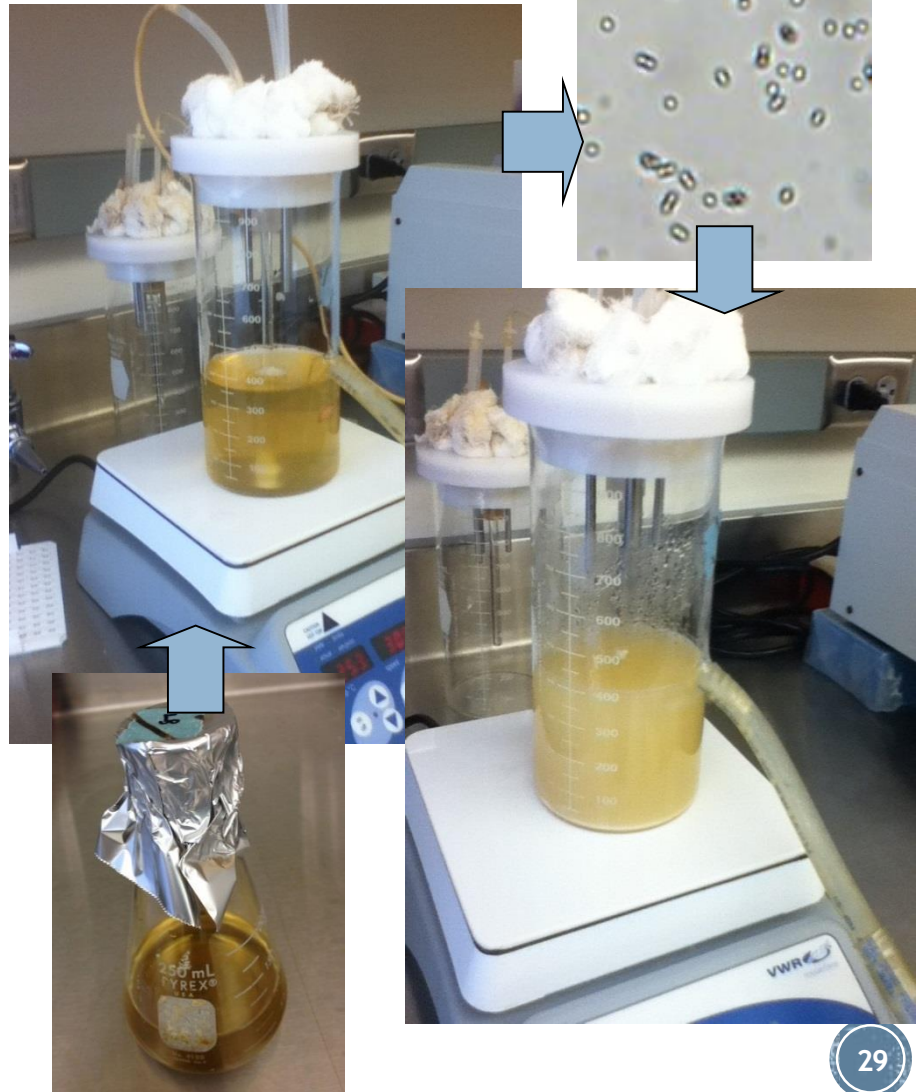
# Experimental Details: Graphene

- **Biocompatibility confirmed by**
  - Optical Microscopy
  - Confocal Microscopy
    - Stained with flouochromes
- **Graphene mounted on glass slide**
  - Copper contacts to measure resistance
  - Sealed with wax
  - Placed in Bioreactor
    - Resistance measured throughout growth



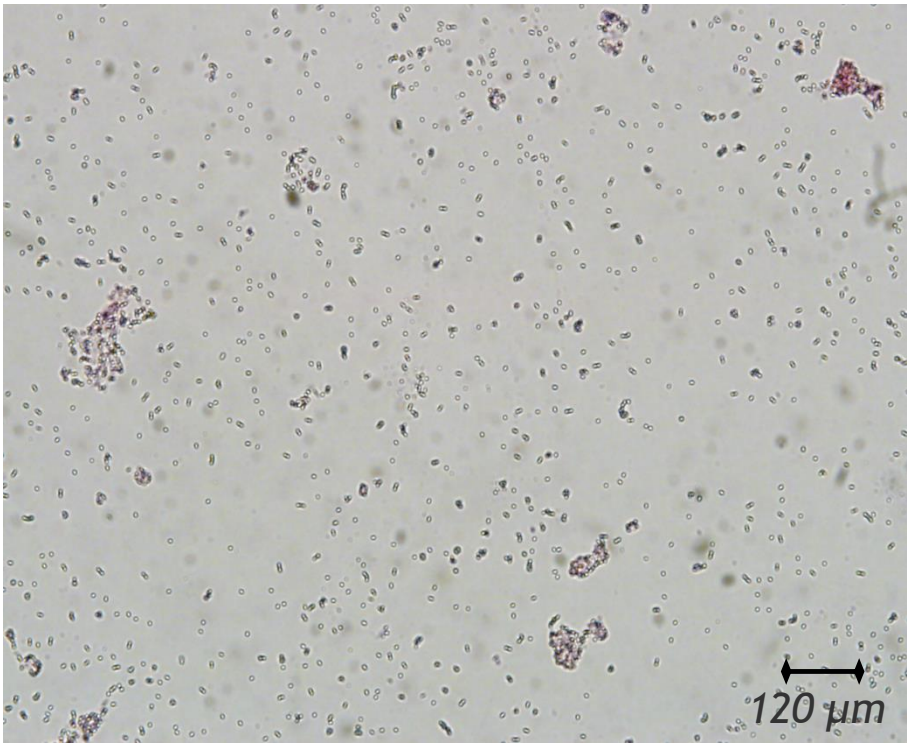
# BioReactor

- CDC Biofilm Reactor
  - Biosurface Technologies (Bozeman, MT)
- K12 Growth Medium
  - Food for the bacteria
  - Consists of 37 g/L EC Media
  - Flow rate 0.1 mL/min
  - Stirred at 400 rpm
- *E. coli* strain 25922
  - 3mL introduced at inoculation
  - Gram negative bacterium
  - Surface charge measured

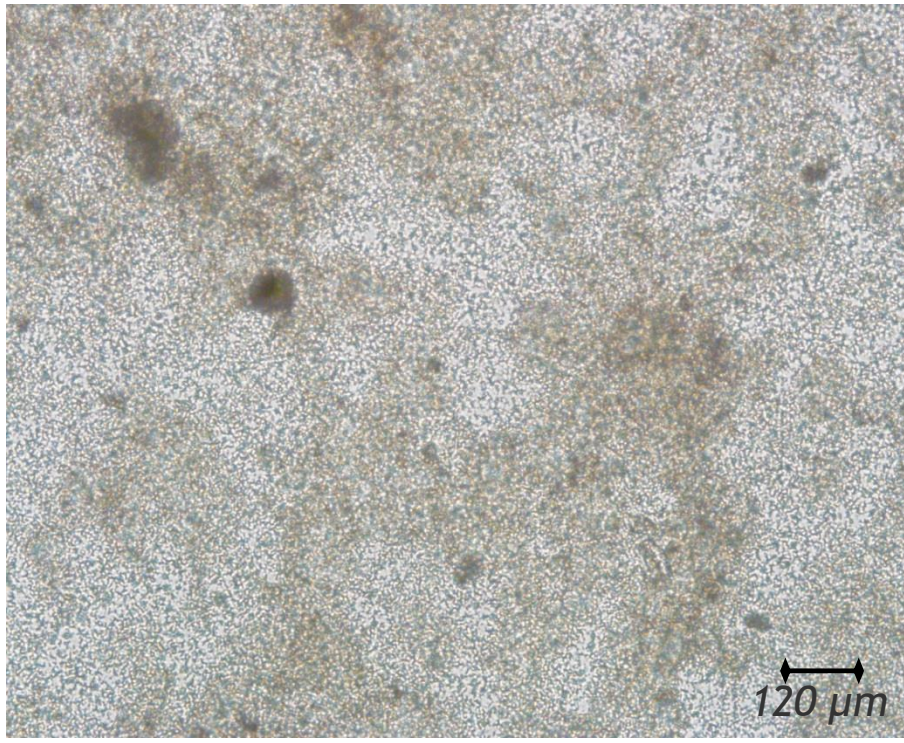


# Results: Optical Microscopy

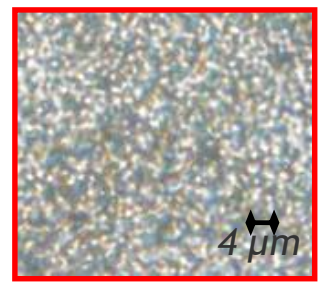
40x *E. coli* gram stain on glass slide



40x *E. coli* biofilm on epitaxial graphene

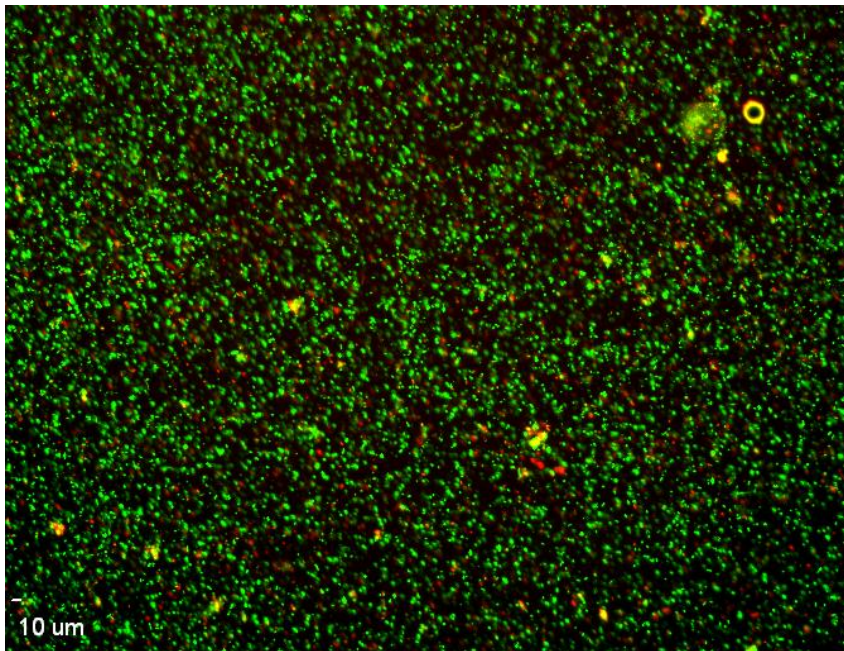


*Formation of Biofilm on graphene confirmed*

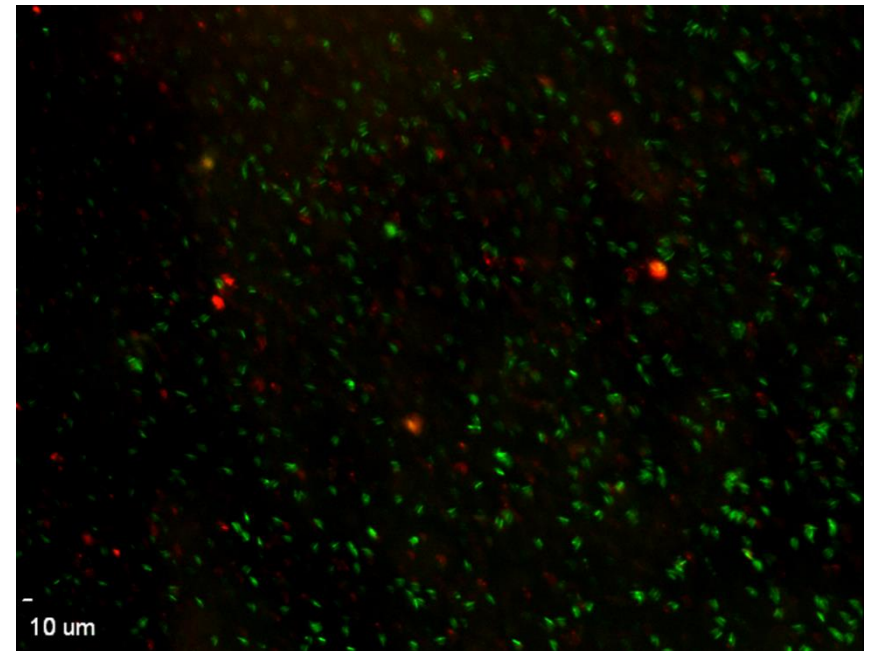


# Scaffold for Bacteria Growth

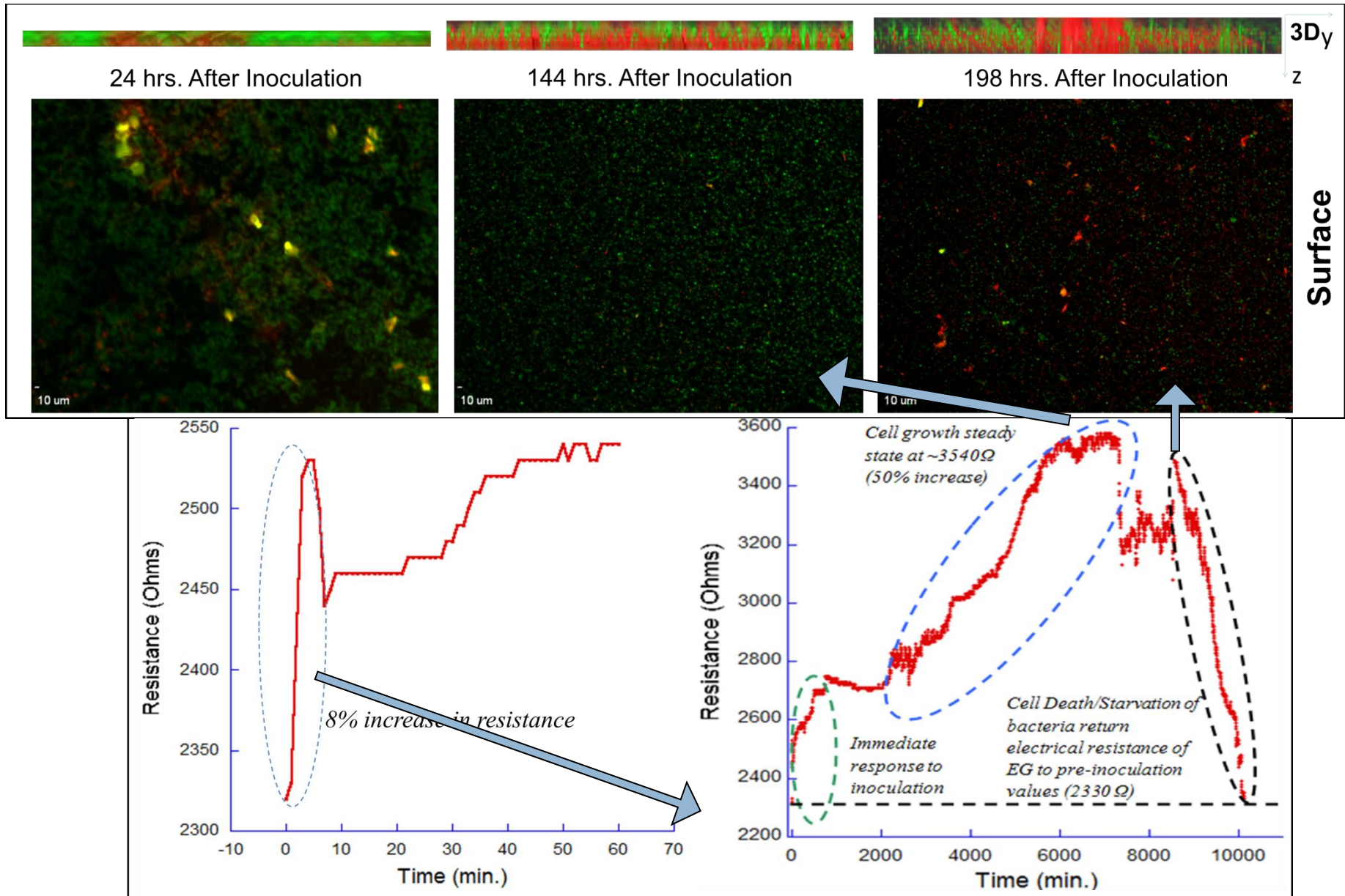
- Bacteria on Graphene
  - Formation of Biofilm



- Bacteria on SiC
  - Planktonic Cells



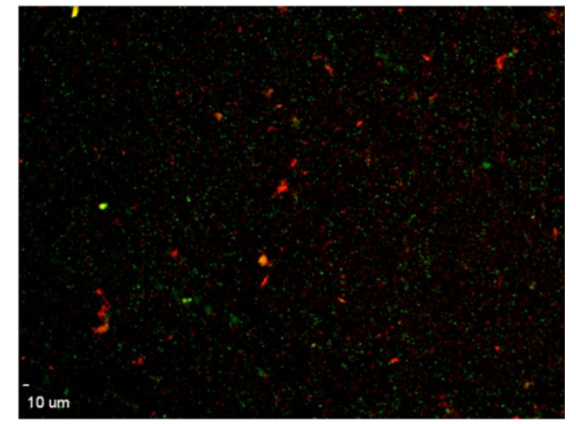
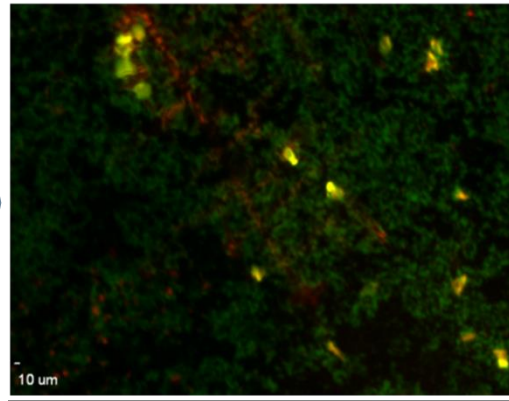
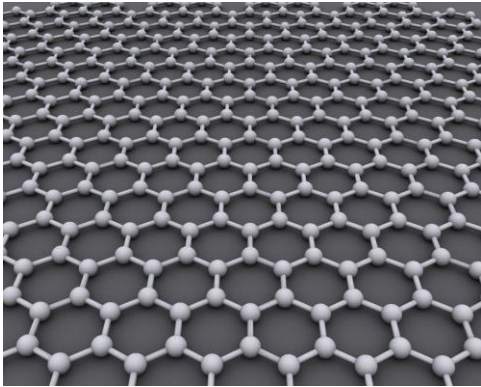
# Electrical Sensing of Bacteria on Epitaxial Graphene



Kevin M. Daniels, N. Aich, K. P. Miller, B. K. Daas, N. Saleh, A. W. Decho, T. S. Sudarshan, MVS Chandrashekhar "Biological Sensing Applications of Epitaxial Graphene"



# Graphene as a Label-free Testbed

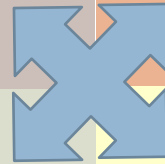


[https://www.cascademicrotech.com/images/Sourcelmage/eps150rf\\_angled.jpg](https://www.cascademicrotech.com/images/Sourcelmage/eps150rf_angled.jpg)

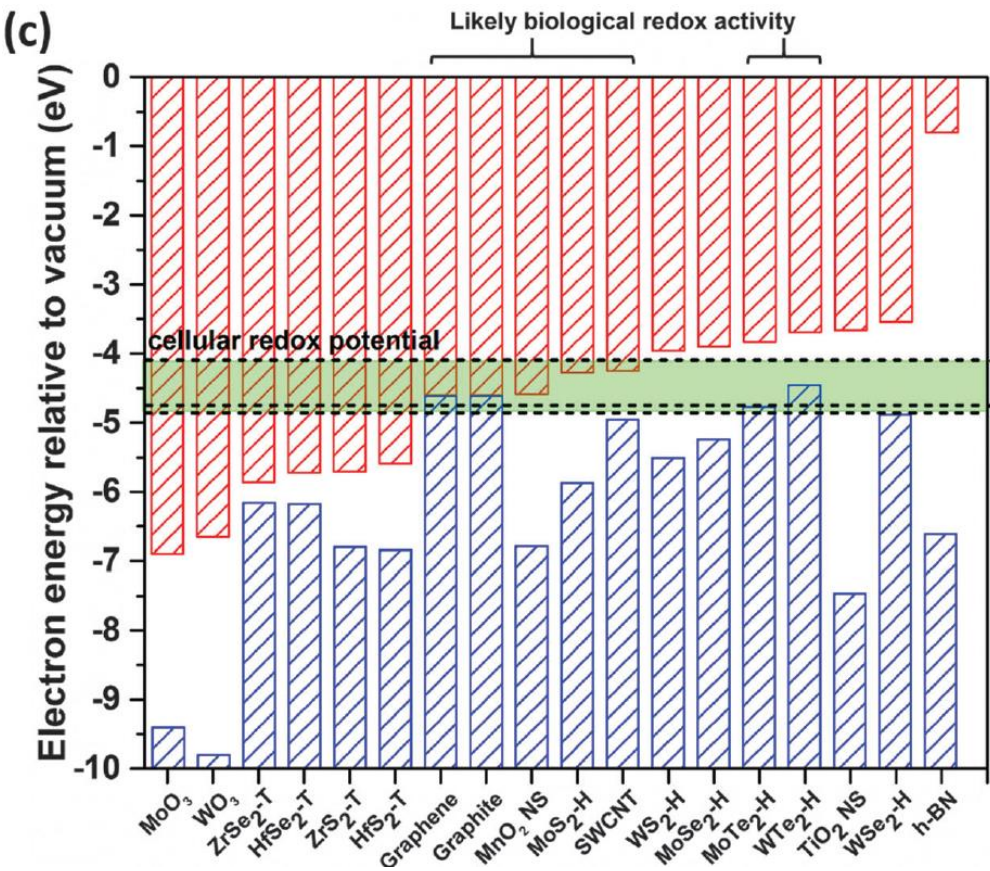
<http://kabirdental.com/sterilization/>

# Outline for Future Work

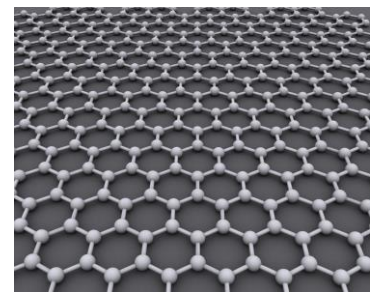
- Van der Waals Electronics
  - Large, Single Crystal Epitaxial Graphene Framework
  - 2D Material Stacks (Metal Oxides and Dichalcogenides)
  - Intercalated Growth of Semiconductors into EG (GaN)
- Simulations by COMSOL
  - Stack Physics
  - Theoretical Fuel Cell Configurations
- Growth of 2D Materials
  - Stack by Transfer
  - Flexible Electronics
- Sensors
  - Pathogens
  - Biomedical
  - Environmental
- Electrodes for Energy
  - Fuel Cells
    - Microbial, Biofuel
  - Batteries
  - Capacitors



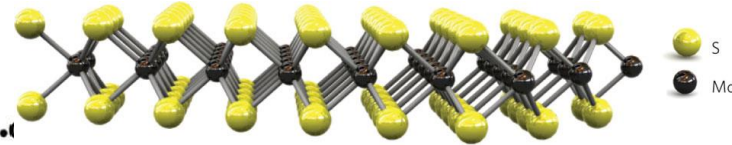
# Cellular Reduction-Oxidation Potential



Chem. Soc. Rev., 2016, 45, 1750-1780

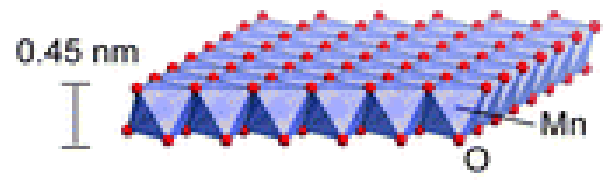


Graphene and Graphite (Multilayer EG)



MX<sub>2</sub> (MOS<sub>2</sub>, MoTe<sub>2</sub>, WTe<sub>2</sub>)

MnO<sub>2</sub>

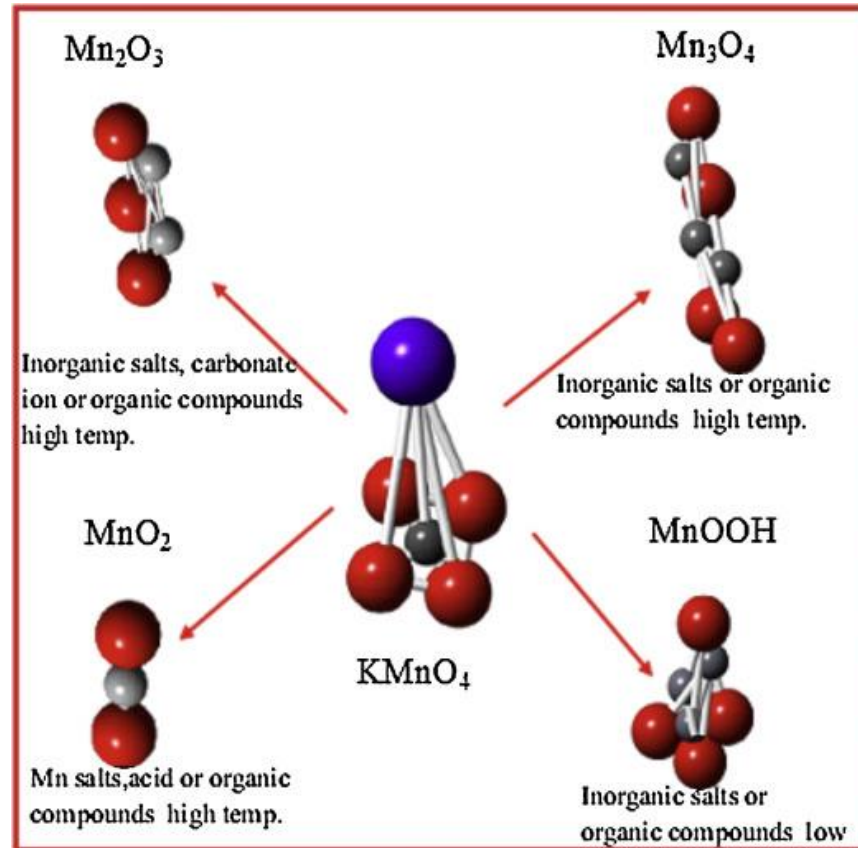


Growth of single layer EG and TMDs are established

Growth of single layer MnO<sub>2</sub> is the challenge

# $\text{KMnO}_4$ Reduction towards $\text{Mn}_x\text{O}_x$ Nanostructures

Journal of Taibah University for Science, Volume 10, Issue 3, 2016, 412–429

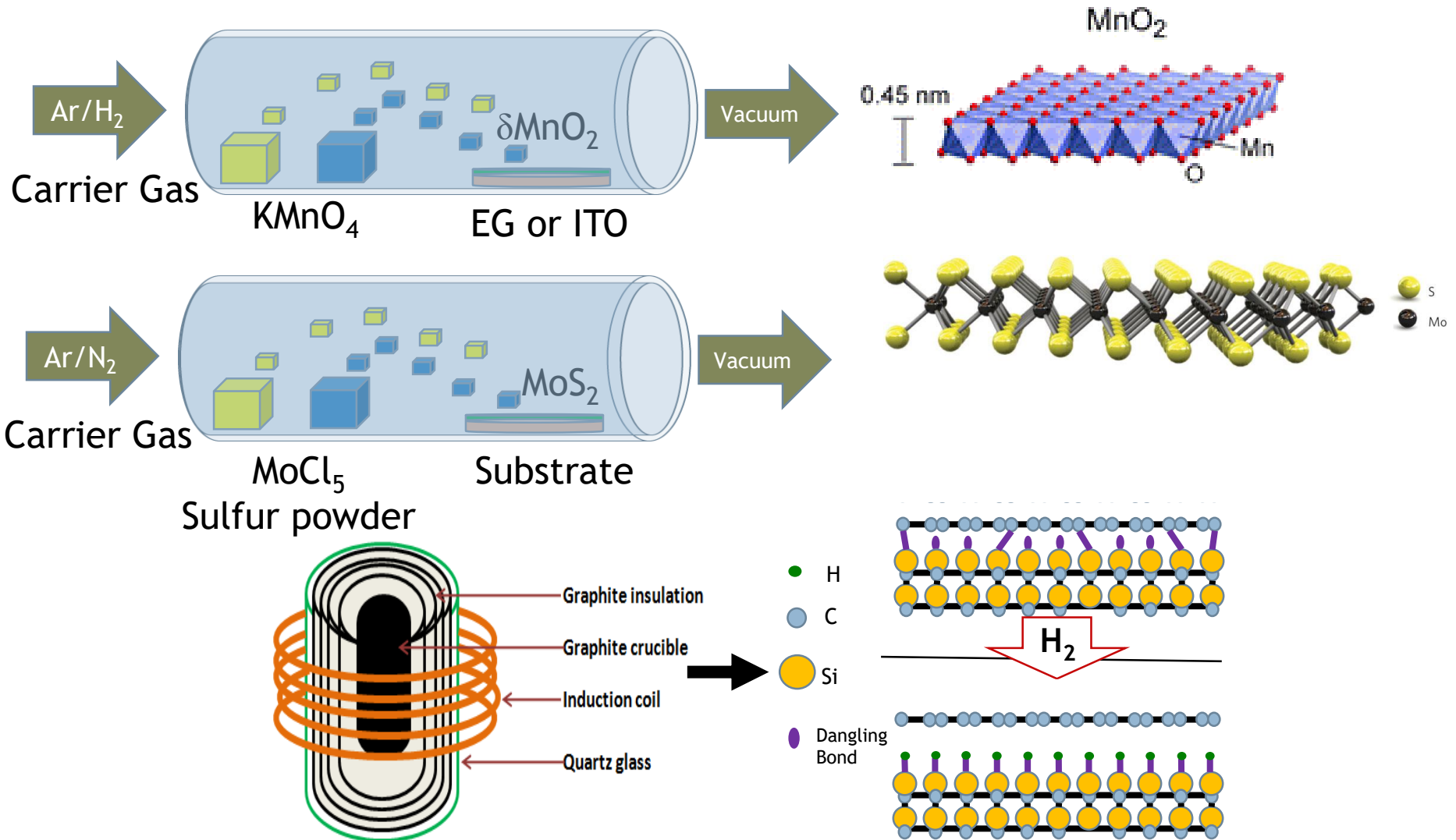


$\text{MnO}_2$  has a 2.6% lattice mismatch to EG

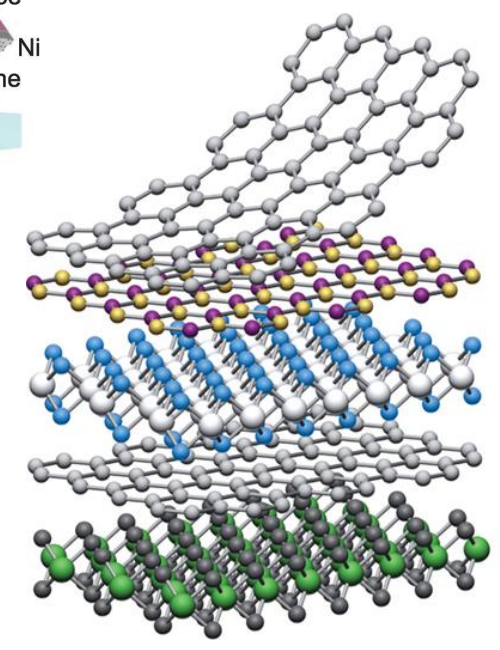
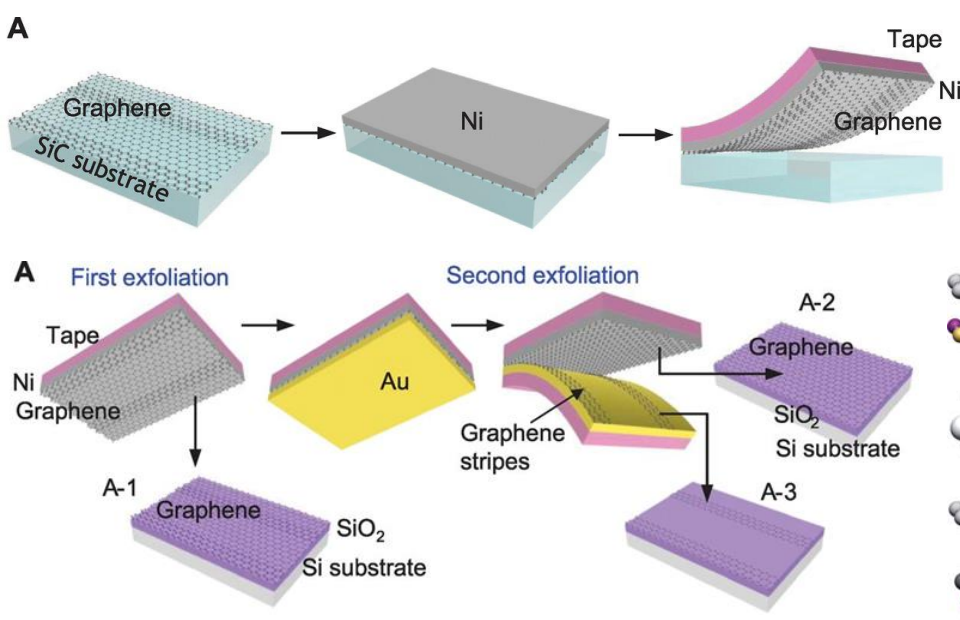
Attempt thermal decomposition of  $\text{KMnO}_4$  and vapor transport of  $\text{MnO}_2$  to EG

*Chem. Mater.*, 1999, 11 (3), pp 557–563

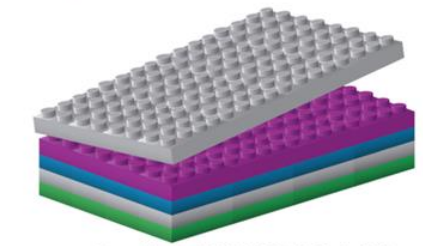
# Growth of 2D Materials



# 2D Heterostructure Stacks



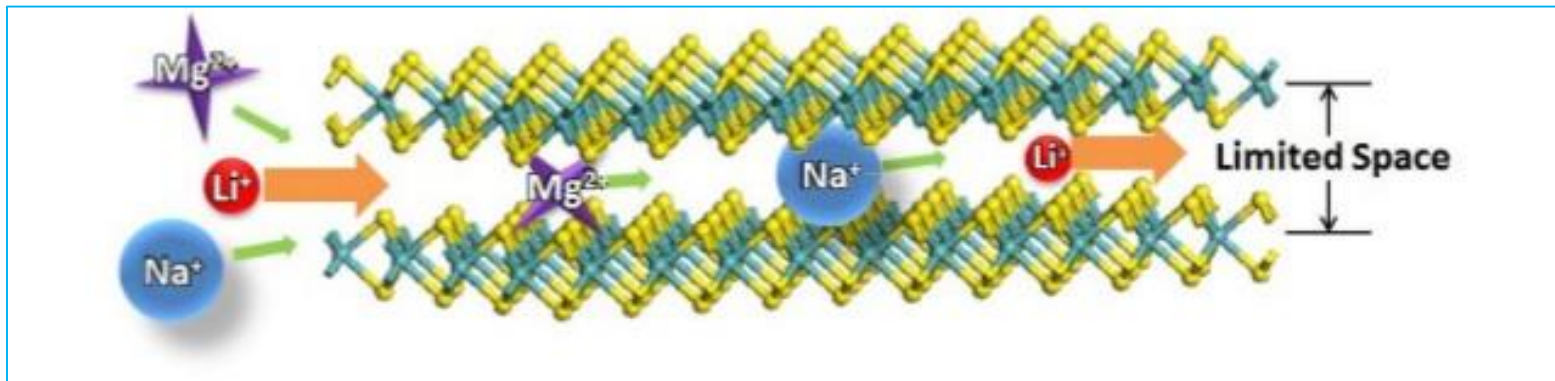
|  |                  |  |
|--|------------------|--|
|  | Graphene         |  |
|  | hBN              |  |
|  | MoS <sub>2</sub> |  |
|  | WSe <sub>2</sub> |  |
|  | Fluorographene   |  |



Jeehwan Kim et al. Science 2013;342:833-836

Nature 499, 419–425 (25 July 2013) DOI: 10.1038/nature12385

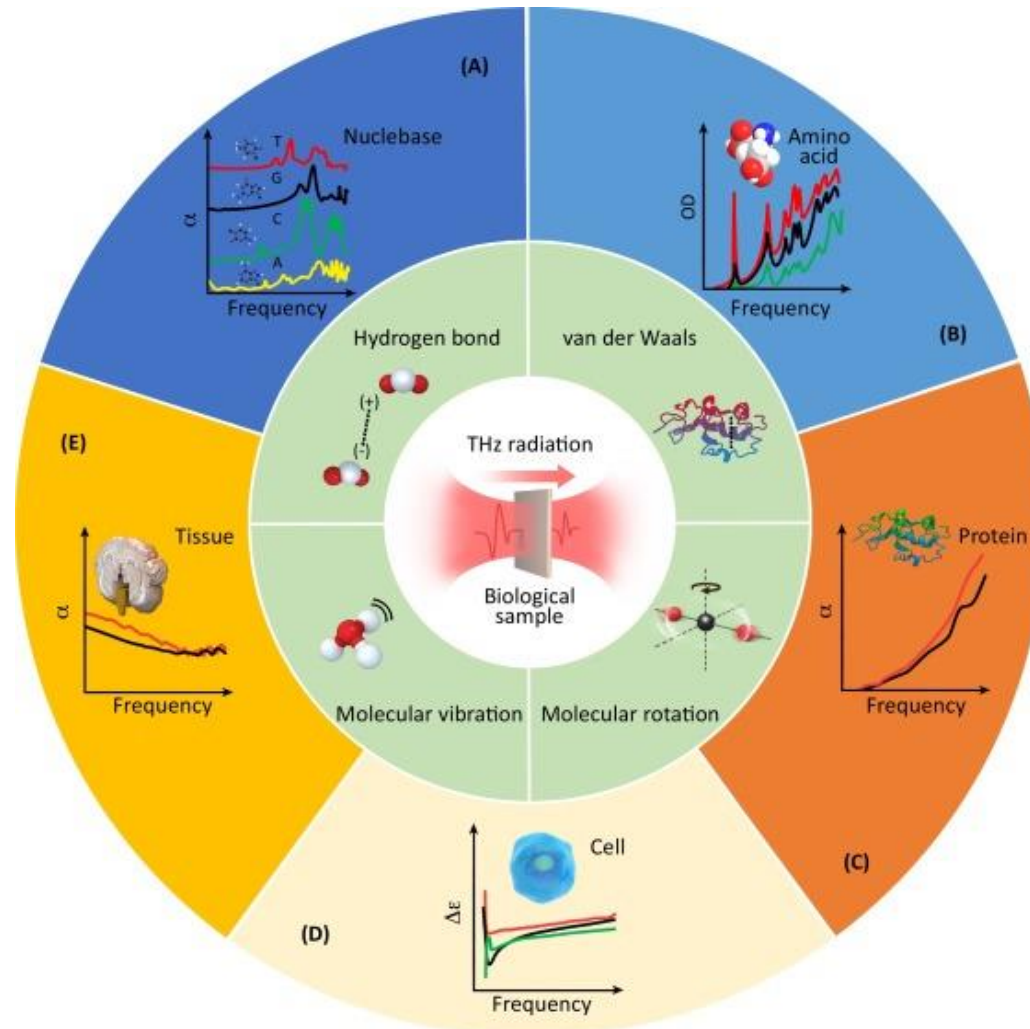
# Towards Capacitor and Battery Electrodes



- Interlayer Distance in van der Waals Materials
- Less expensive batteries utilizing  $Na^+$  and  $Mg_2^+$  ions
  - $\delta-MnO_2 \sim 7\text{\AA}$

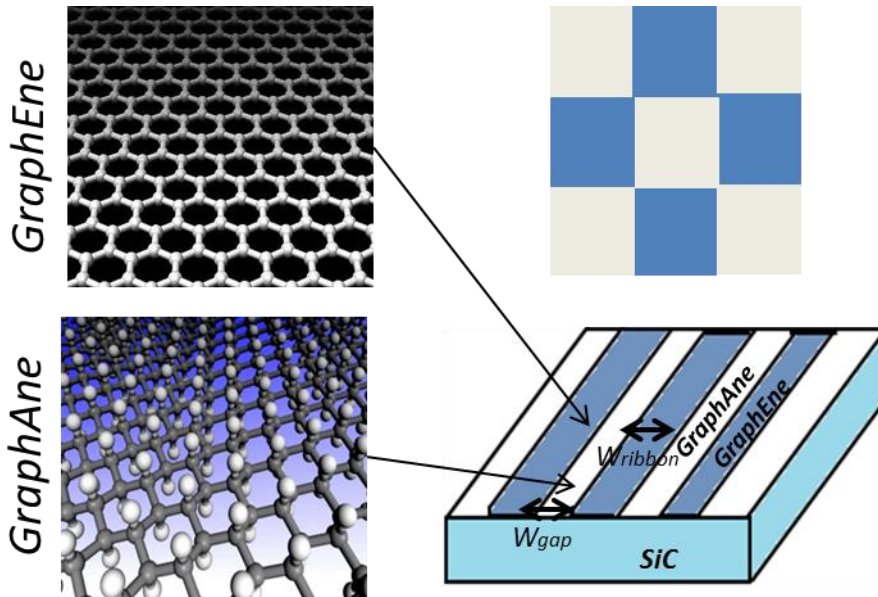
# Bacteria Detection via THz

Exploiting the THz Regime

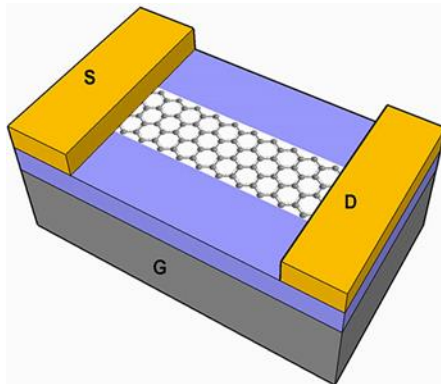




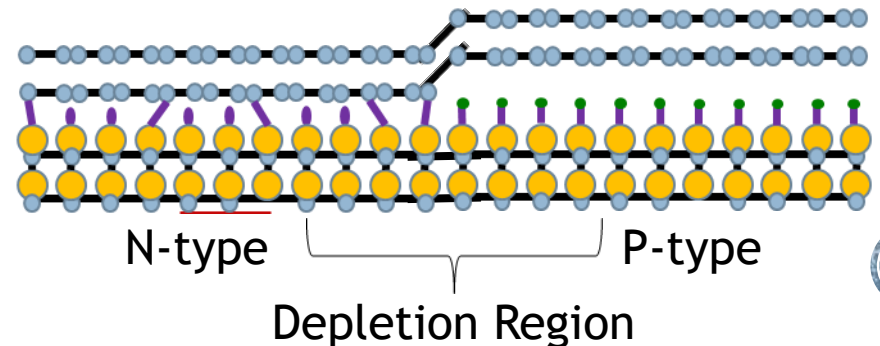
# Adatom and Intercalation Graphene Structures



- Atomic Device Structures
  - Metamaterial Structures
    - Conductor (Graphene)
    - Insulating (Graphane or Fluorinated Graphene)
- Graphene/Graphane Logic Switches



Atomic PN Junction  
N-type (EG) and P-type (QFS EG)



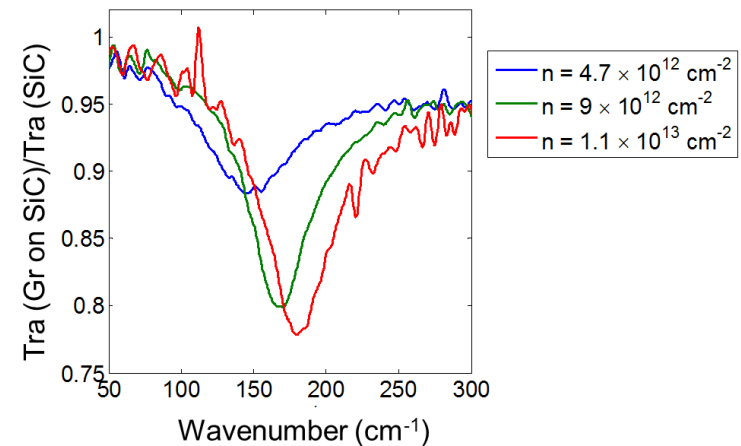
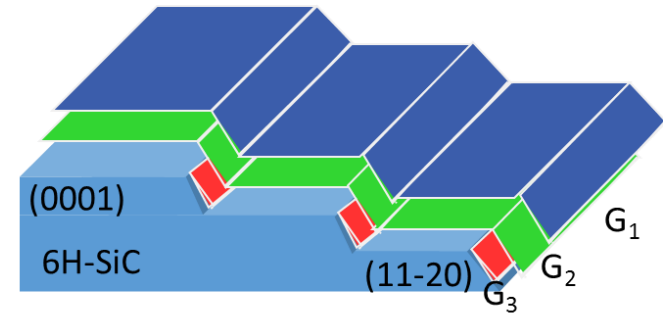
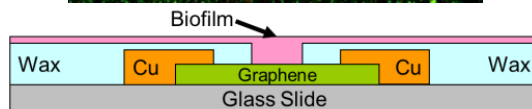
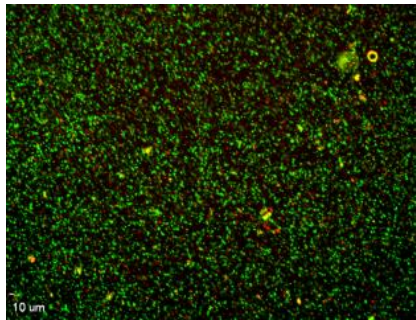
# Conclusion

Hydrogen Intercalation weakens SiC electron-phonon interactions

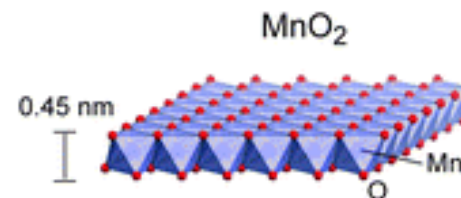
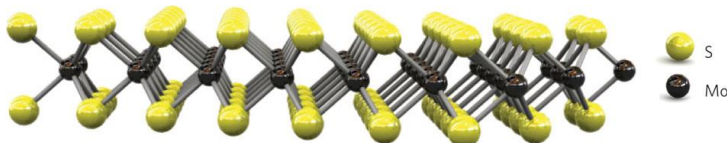
Narrow THz Plasmon Resonance of QFS BLG

Formation of bacteria biofilm on graphene

Graphene based biosensor demonstrated



Exploration of sensing and electrode capabilities of different novel 2D materials

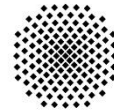


# Collaborators and Acknowledgement

- **NRL:** Dr. Rachael Myers-Ward, Dr. Kurt Gaskill, Dr. Chip Eddy, Dr. Fritz Kub, Dr. Glenn Jernigan, Dr. Michael Maestro, Dr. Jennifer Hite, Dr. Ginger Wheeler, Dr. David Tulchinsky, Dr. Anindya Nath, Dr. Anthony Boyd, Dr. Alex Kozen
- **UMD:** Dr. Thomas Murphy, Dr. Andrei Sushkov, Dr. Dennis Drew
- **USC:** Dr. MVS Chandrashekar, Dr. Tangali Sudarshan, Dr. Alan Decho, Dr. Chris Williams, Dr. John Weidner, Dr. Andrew Greytak
- **Georgetown:** Dr. Paola Barbara
- **Monash:** Dr. Michael Fuhrer
- **MIT:** Dr. Jeehwan Kim
- **Carnegie Mellon:** Dr. Randall Feenstra
- **Clemson:** Dr. Goutam Koley
- **Max Planck:** Dr. Ulrich Starke
- **Stuttgart:** Dr. Petr Neugebauer
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- **UC Berkeley:** Dr. Lili Jiang



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