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Graphene Week 2023

Graphene on Silicon Carbide Platform

for Magnetic Field Detection

under Extreme Temperature Conditions

and Neutron Radiation



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Thermal stability of transport properties

Two-dimensional character Why graphene on SiC? Hole mobility up to 5000 cm²/Vs

Fixed hole concentration



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Epitaxy: Chemical Vapor Deposition (CVD)

Carbon source: methane or propane

Substrate: 4H-SiC(0001) or 6H-SiC(0001)

Type: semi-insulating on-axis

Dimensions: 20 mm x 20 mm



dx.doi.org/10.1016/j.carbon.2015.06.032 dx.doi.org/10.1016/j.carbon.2016.01.093



Hydrogen intercalation: quasi-free-standing graphene

Spontaneous polarization vector: P₀

Surface-bound pseudo charge: P₀/e

Reflected in QFS graphene as: -P₀/e



doi.org/10.1016/j.apsusc.2020.148668



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Hydrogen intercalation: quasi-free-standing graphene

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On 4H-SiC(0001): p = +1.2 E13 cm^{-2}
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On 6H-SiC(0001): $p = +7.5 E12 cm^{-2}$



doi.org/10.1016/j.apsusc.2020.148668



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Basis: signal intensity attenuation

Implementation: shadow cast on LO 964 cm⁻¹

Number of layers N: fractional and statistical

Alternative to: 2D width, 2D-to-G ratio

Provident beam
Incident beam
Incident beam
Incident beam
Incident beam
Incident
Incident
Incident
Incident
Incident

Schematic diagram of the measurement principle

doi.org/10.1016/j.physe.2021.114853 doi.org/10.1016/j.apsusc.2022.155054



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Principle of operation: classical Hall effect

Configuration: van der Pauw

Active area: equal-arm cross 100 µm x 300 µm

Total dimensions: 1.4 mm x 1.4 mm



doi.org/10.1016/j.carbon.2018.07.049



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Input: direct current

Output: offset voltage + Hall voltage





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Passivation: aluminum oxide

Process: atomic layer deposition

Precursors: TMA and DI

Purpose: environmental protection



doi.org/10.1016/j.physe.2022.115264



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Phenomenon: passivation-enhanced Raman spectroscopy

Positive interference: 85 nm

Stoichiometry: oxygen deficiency

Passivation thickness: 100 nm



doi.org/10.1063/5.0082694



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100-nm *a*-Al2O3: excess positive charge On 4H-SiC(0001): $p = +7.5 E12 \text{ cm}^{-2}$

On 6H-SiC(0001): $p = +4.6 E12 cm^{-2}$



doi.org/10.1016/j.apsusc.2020.148668



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doi.org/10.1016/j.physe.2021.114853



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Mounting: custom holders

Feed current: < 10 mA

Magnetic induction: 0.55 T

Temperatures: up to 500 °C



10.1109/TED.2019.2915632



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Current-mode sensitivity:
$$\frac{dU_{Hall}}{dB}/I$$

Expressed in: V/AT

Inversely proportional to: hole density



Temperature [°C]



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and Photonics

Temperature T [°C]

-200 -100 Π 100 200 300 400 500 160 140 6H-SiC sensitivity [V/AT] 120 Current-mode 100 4H-SiC 80 60 0 100 200 300 400 500 600 700 800 Temperature [K]

Characteristic down-bending: >300 °C

Physical degradation: No

Fully reversible: Yes

Possible hallmark: Yes

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September 7, 2023

Temperature [°C]

Double-carrier transport: holes in QFS graphene and thermally-activated electrons emitted in the bulk of the semi-insulating 6H-SiC(0001) and 4H-SiC(0001)





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Double-carrier transport: holes in QFS graphene and thermally-activated electrons emitted in the bulk of the semi-insulating 6H-SiC(0001) and 4H-SiC(0001)





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Graphene on **Defect-engineered** Silicon Carbide Platform

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As revealed by High-Resolution Photo-Induced Transient Spectroscopy (**HRPITS**)

SI vanadium-compensated 6H-SiC has 9 trap levels

SI HP intrinsically-compensated 4H-SiC has 17 trap levels



Pre-epitaxially modify the semi-insulating high-purity 4H-SiC by **implanting hydrogen (H**⁺**)** or **helium (He**⁺**) ions**





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Pre-epitaxial bombardment: H⁺ and He⁺ ions

Energies: 20 keV - 50 keV

Effect: elimination of deep electron traps related to silicon vacancies in the charge state (2-/-) occupying the *h* and *k* sites of the 4H-SiC lattice

T5_{4H}: $E_a = 708 \text{ meV}$ **T6_{4H}:** $E_a = 753 \text{ meV}$







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Platform: 4H-SiC

Type: Defect-engineered

Thermal stability: -0.03 %/K

End temperature*: 500 °C

Advantage: linear, without characteristic downward bending





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Completed and published:

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Fast neutron fluence of 6.7 E17 cm<sup>-2</sup> (peak at 1 MeV)
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Completed not yet published:

Fast neutron fluence of **2.0 E18** cm⁻² (peak at 1 MeV)

Fast neutron fluence of 4.0 E18 cm⁻² (peak at 1 MeV)



Experiment in MARIA reactor: fast neutron fluence of 6.7 E17 cm⁻² (peak at 1 MeV)

Estimated defect density: 4 E10 cm⁻² (low cross-section)



doi.org/10.1016/j.apsusc.2022.152992 doi.org/10.3390/s22145258



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Material composition: Al2O3/QFS-graphene/SiC(0001)

Competitive advantages:

- operates up to 500 °C and possibly beyond
- largely resistant to neutron irradiation

Potential application: magnetic diagnostics in fusion reactors



Do not hesitate to contact us for validation-oriented cooperation!



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References in order of appearance

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10.1063/5.0082694 Enhancement of graphene-related and substrate-related Raman modes through dielectric layer deposition

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