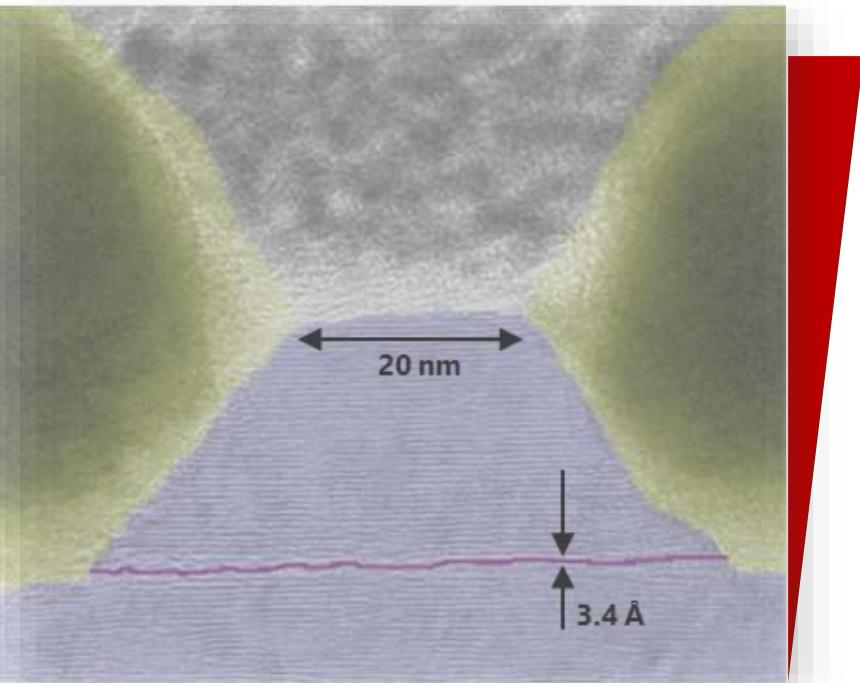




**Empa**

Materials Science and Technology



## Integrating Low Dimensional Materials for Quantum Technology and Sensing

Michel Calame

Transport at Nanoscale Interfaces Laboratory, Empa, Switzerland  
& Department of Physics, University of Basel, CH, Switzerland

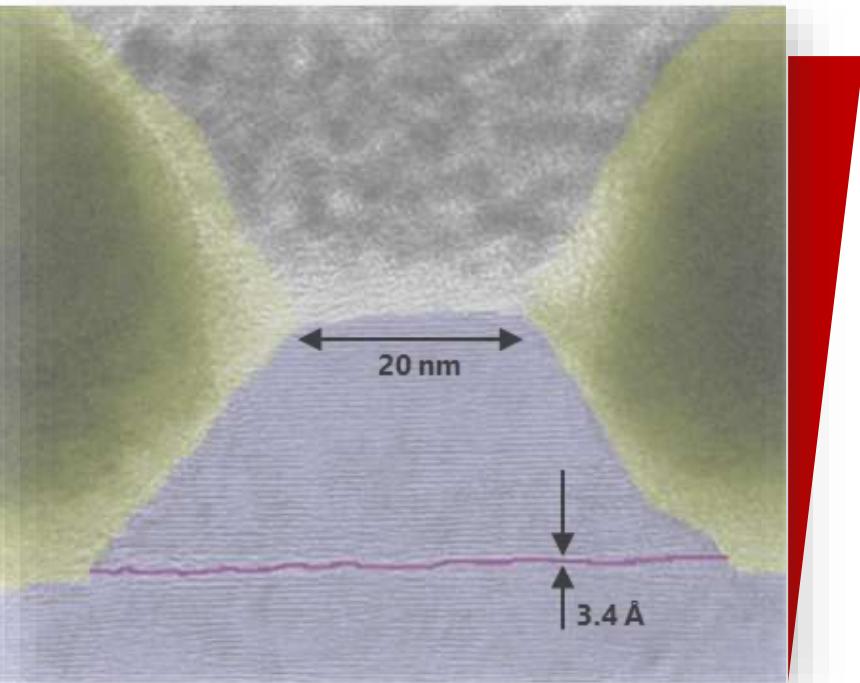
[www.empa.ch/tnilab](http://www.empa.ch/tnilab)

Quantum Workshop | 15-18 January 2024 | SNOLAB, Sudbury, CA



Empa

Materials Science and Technology



## Integrating Low Dimensional Materials for Quantum Technology and Sensing

### Outline

- Transistors from nanocarbons: charge & current
- Photodetectors from colloidal qdots
- Upscaling (?)



# ETH Domain in Switzerland





# ETH Domain in Switzerland - Empa

Materials & technologies for  
a sustainable future



% = share of base funding



# Research Focus Areas at Empa



Nanoscale Materials  
& Technologies



Built Environment



Health &  
Performance



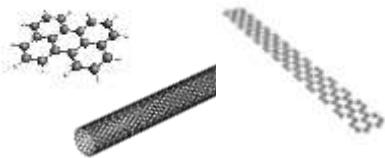
Energy, Resources &  
Emissions





# Integrating Low Dimensional Materials for Quantum Technology and Sensing

Nanocarbons

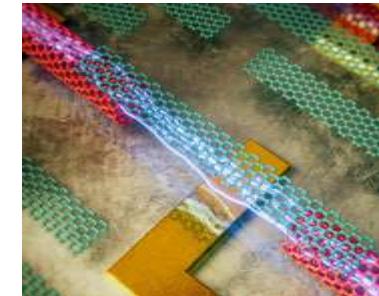


Synthetic Qdots

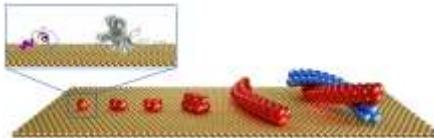


de Arquer *et al.* Science (2021)

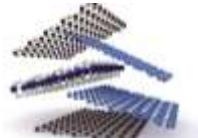
Devices



Molecules & Biomarkers

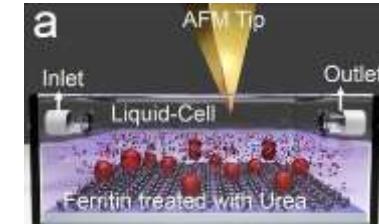


2D materials



Novoselov *et al.* Science (2016)

Methods





# Integrating Low Dimensional Materials for Quantum Technology and Sensing

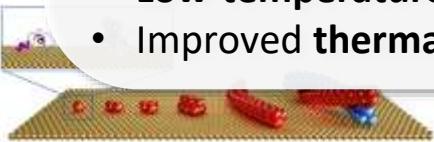
Nanocarbons



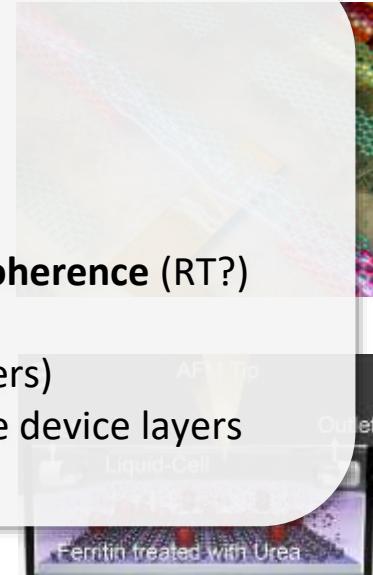
## The promise(s) of low-dimensional materials

de Arquer et al. Science (2021)

- Unique physical and (opto-)electronic properties (meV-eV); coherence (RT?)
- Ultra-thin channel: high-speed, low power (opto-)electronics
- Highly crystalline (controlled doping/defects: each atom matters)
- Low-temperature processing: 3D integration of multiple active device layers
- Improved thermal management



Novoselov et al. Science (2016)

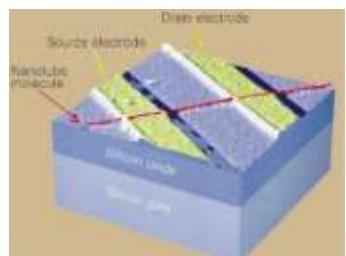


Ferritin treated with Urea



# A long-standing promise Are we there yet ?

**Nanotechnology**  
**Carbon-based electronics**  
Paul L. McEuen



*Nature* 1998, news&views

1998 – Research Devices, CNT  
Transistor

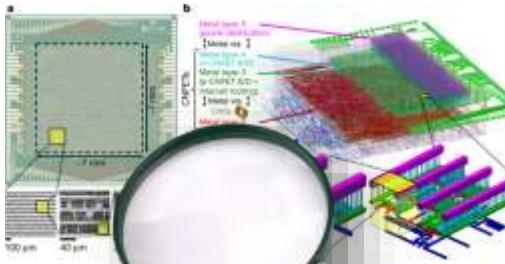


## ARTICLE

<https://doi.org/10.1038/nature23910>

### Modern microprocessor built from complementary carbon nanotube transistors

Jianguo Huang<sup>1,2</sup>, Christian Lutz<sup>1,2</sup>, Andrew Wright<sup>1</sup>, Steven Chu<sup>1</sup>, Michael H. Balaji<sup>1</sup>, Takayuki Arima<sup>1</sup>, Prakash Kulkarni<sup>1</sup>, Rebecca He<sup>1</sup>, Avinash Patel<sup>1</sup>, Yosef Strain<sup>1</sup>, Dennis Mitzlaff<sup>1</sup>, Arvind R. Vasudevan<sup>1</sup> & Max M. Shulaker<sup>1\*</sup>

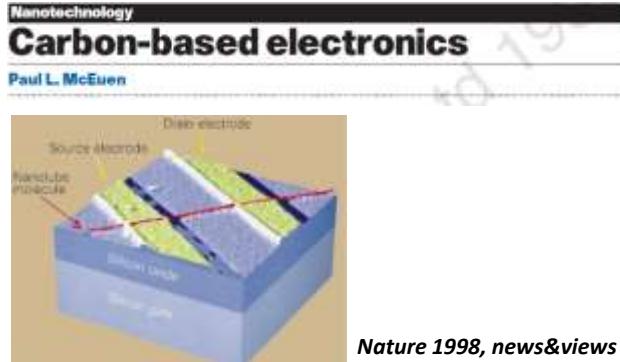


*Nature* 2019

2019 – CNT 16 bit Processor



# A long-standing promise Are we there yet ?



*Nature 1998, news&views*

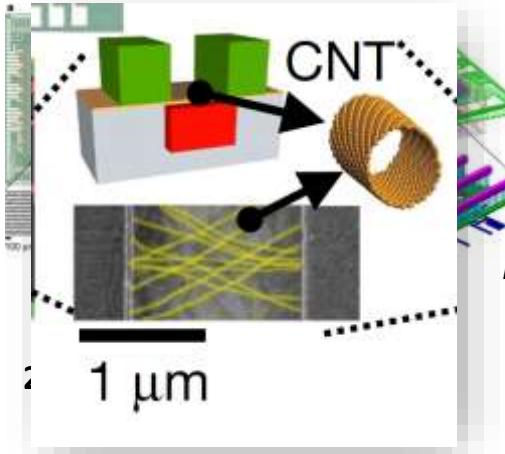
1998 – Research Devices, CNT  
Transistor



## ARTICLE

### Modern microprocessor built from complementary carbon nanotube transistors

George H. H. D. Christensen<sup>1,2</sup>, Andrew M. Wright<sup>1</sup>, Steven E. Bailey<sup>1</sup>, Michael R. Bakaryan<sup>1</sup>, Sarvagya Singh<sup>1</sup>, Prakash Kulkarni<sup>1</sup>, Rebecca He<sup>1</sup>, Ana Amezcua<sup>1</sup>, Yosef Strain<sup>1</sup>, Dennis Mitzner<sup>1</sup>, Arvind<sup>1</sup>, Arunava Chatterjee<sup>1</sup> & Max M. Shulaker<sup>1\*</sup>



*Nature 2019*

*Still, not individual Carbon Nanotubes ...*

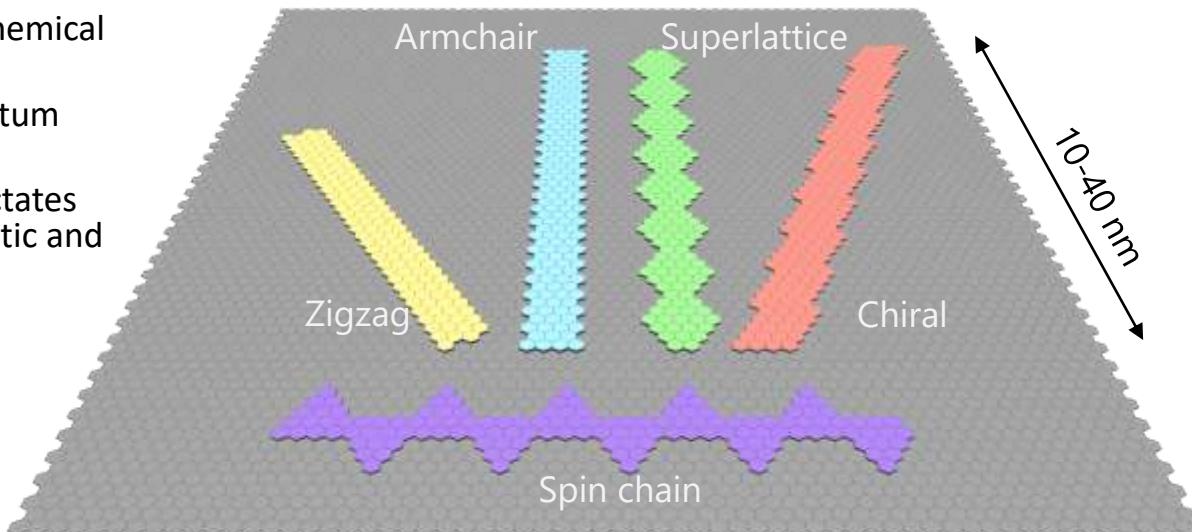




# An emerging Material: Graphene Nanoribbons

## Advantages

- Bottom-up synthesized
- Largely tunable chemical structure
- Pronounced quantum effects
- Edge structure dictates electronic, magnetic and optical properties



In collaboration  
with Prof. R. Fasel



Dr. G. Borin Barin



with Prof. Mickael Perrin

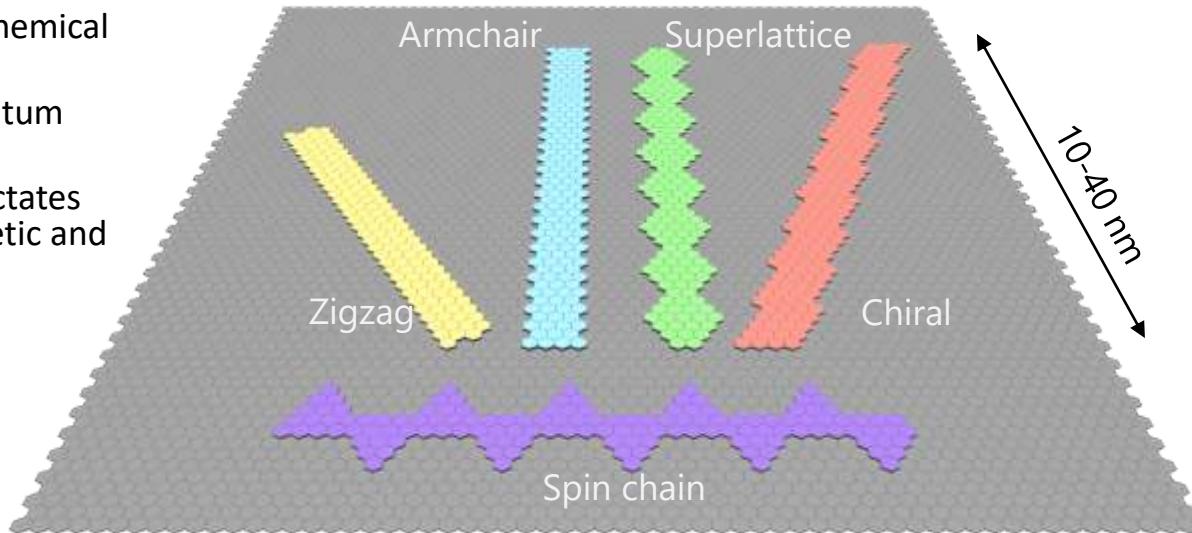


# An emerging Material: Graphene Nanoribbons

## Advantages

- Bottom-up synthesized
- Largely tunable chemical structure
- Pronounced quantum effects
- Edge structure dictates electronic, magnetic and optical properties

**ZZ:** metallic (n.n. tight-binding); edges: ferromag. ordering (channels near Fermi); spintronics  
**AC:** metallic or semiconducting (width) – cf nanotubes  
**SL:** top. Protected spin centers, tunable exchange interaction



In collaboration  
with Prof. R. Fasel



Dr. G. Borin Barin

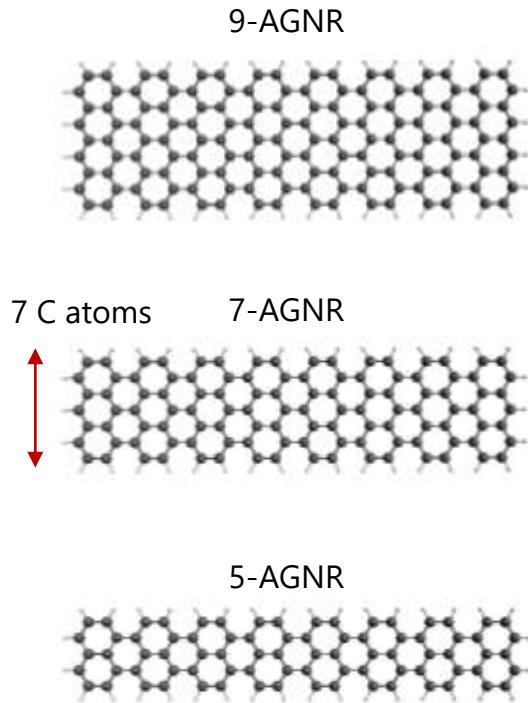


**Highly-tunable and fully carbon-based material class**  
NB: stability/encapsulation



# Graphene Nanoribbons: Tunable Properties

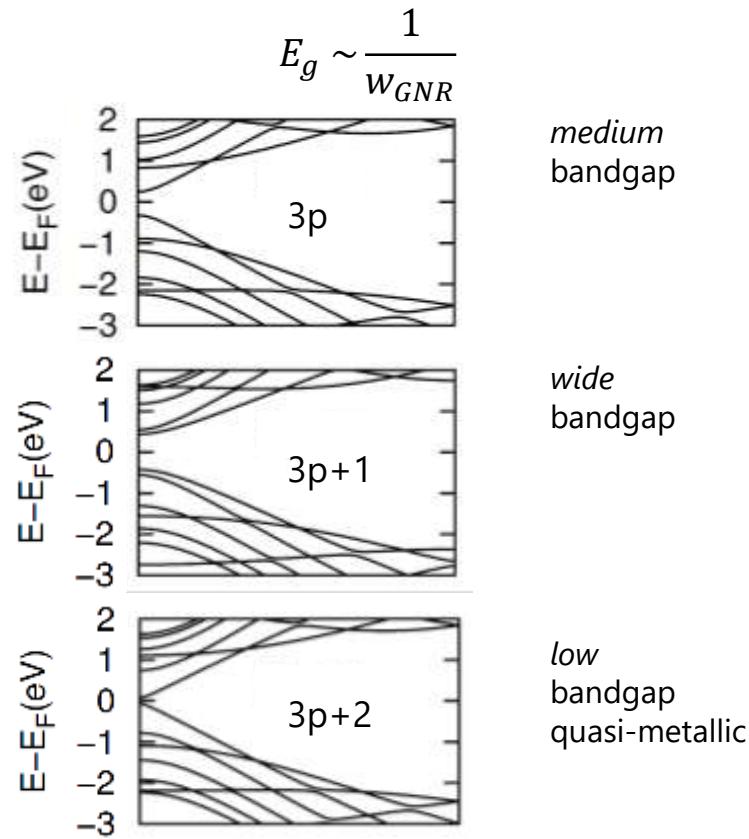
## Armchair GNRs (AGNRs)



Finite size leads to bandgap and edge states

M.S. Dresselhaus et al., Phys. Rev. B (1996)

M. Sigrist et al., Phys. Rev. B (1999)



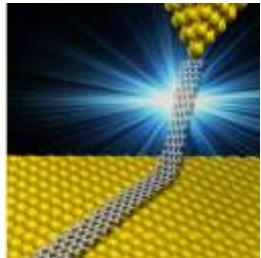
S.G. Louie, M. Cohen et al., Phys. Rev. Lett. (2006, 2007)



# Contacting GNRs

STM approach

UHV, 4K



G. Schull et al., *Nano Lett.* (2017)



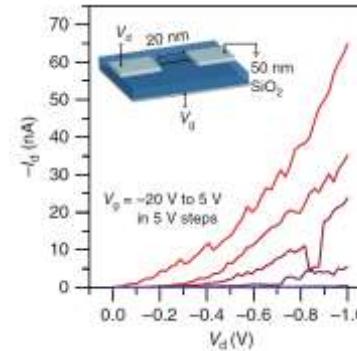
Magnetic porphyrin bonded to GNRs  
J.I. Pascual et al., *Sci. Adv.* (2018)

Device geometry

Ambient, room temp.

9- & 13AGNRs, wide bandgap, metallic contacts (Pd)

J. Bokor et al., *Nat. Comm.* (2017)

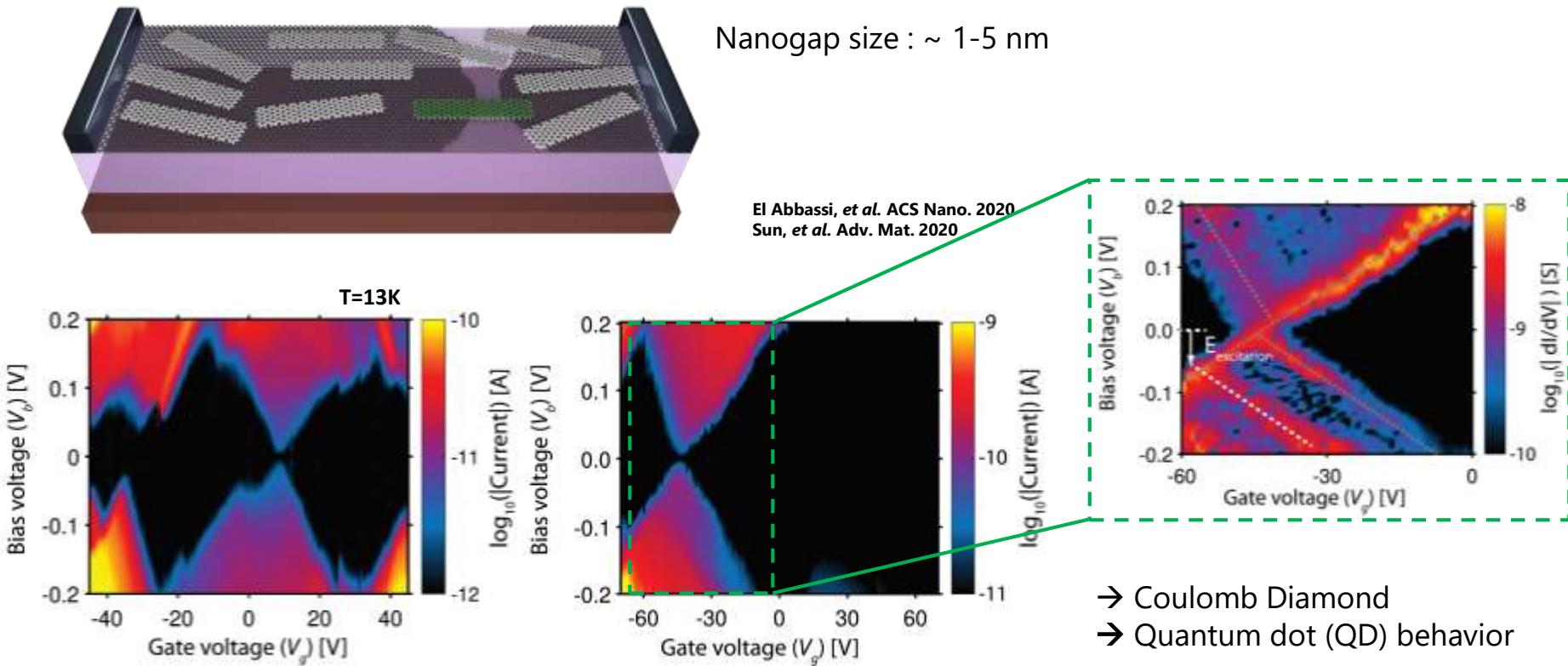


## Issues

- GNRs size & positioning
- Contact control
- Correlation structure - transport

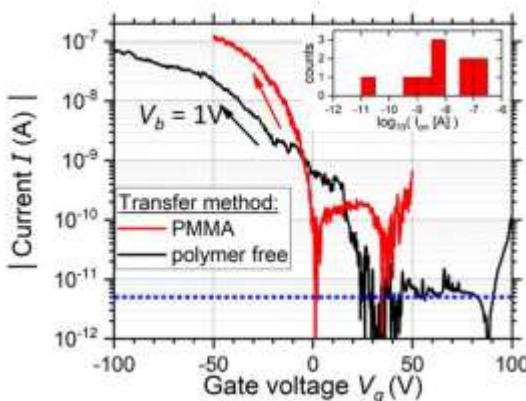
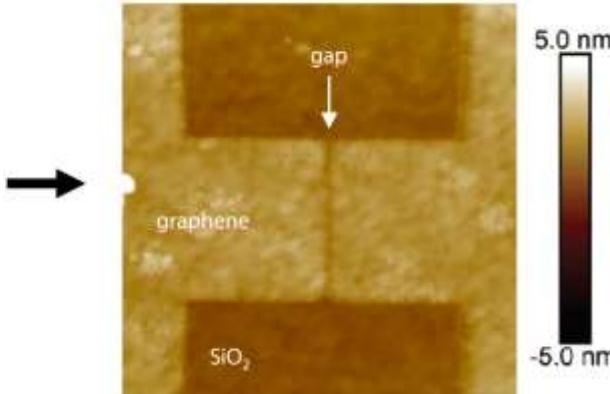
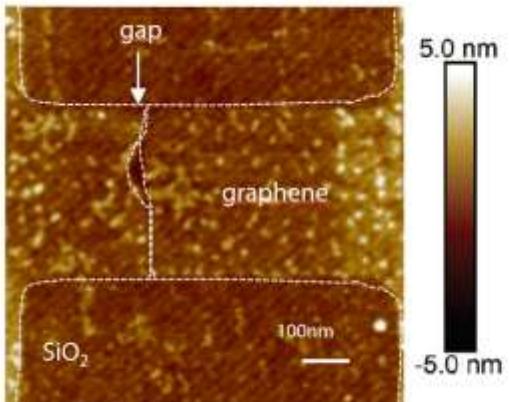


# Graphene electrodes & First Devices





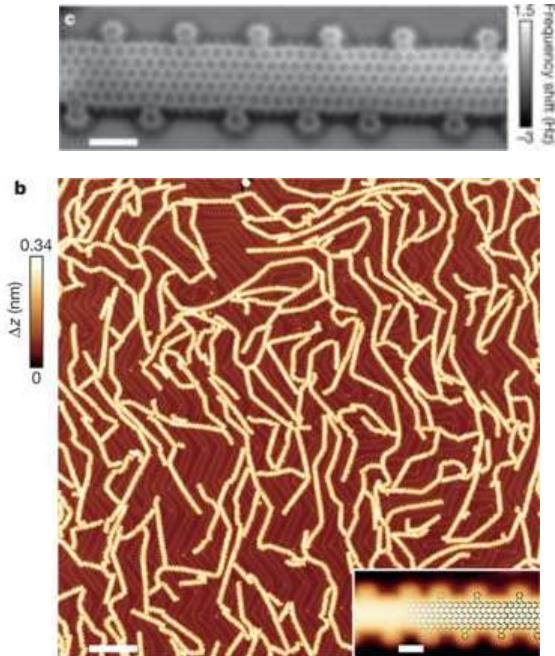
# Improved Graphene Electrodes



FET behavior with on/off currents ratio up to  $10^4$  at room temperature

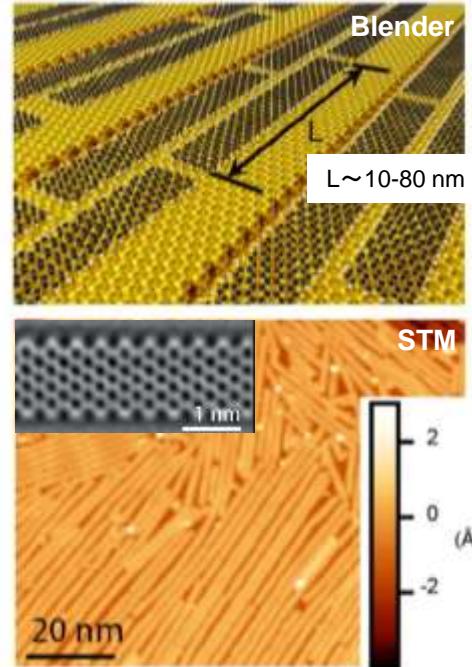


# GNRs orientation and ordering



P. Ruffieux et al., Nature 531 (7595), 489 (2016)

Uniaxially aligned  
9-AGNRs with a  
medium dense  
coverage  
on Au(788)

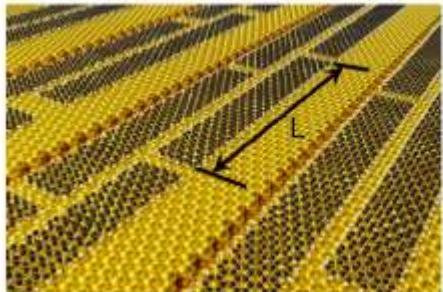


Borin Barin et al. ACS Appl. Nano Mater. (2019)

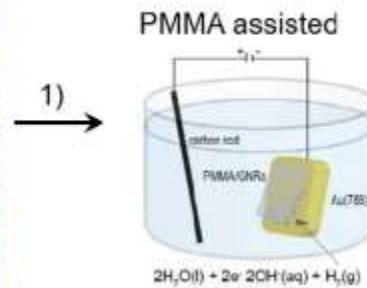


# Graphene electrodes & GNRs transfer

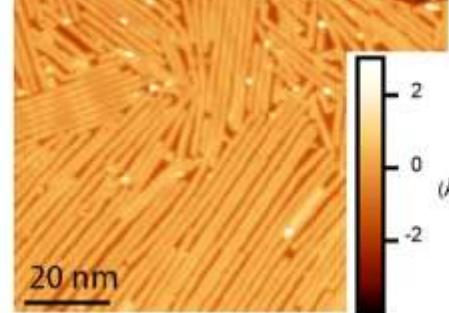
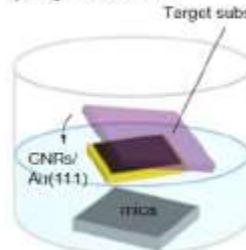
a) On-surface GNR synthesis



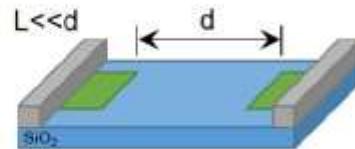
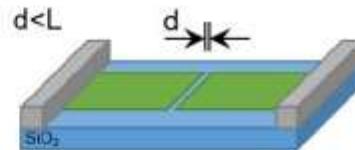
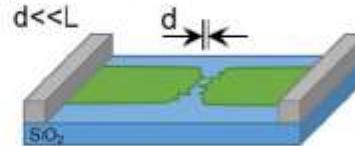
b) Transfer process



polymer free

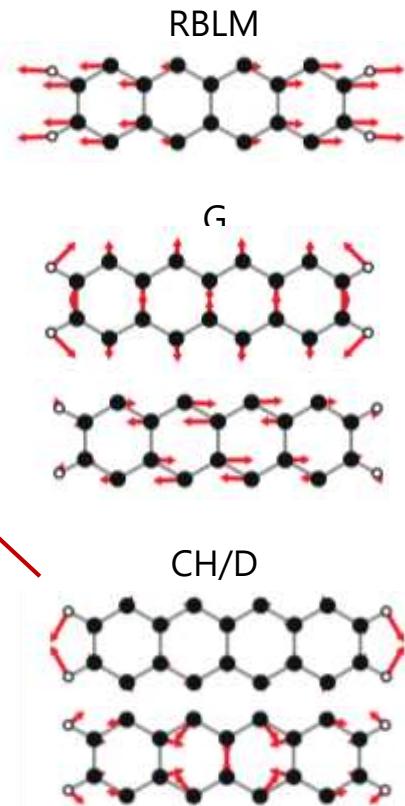
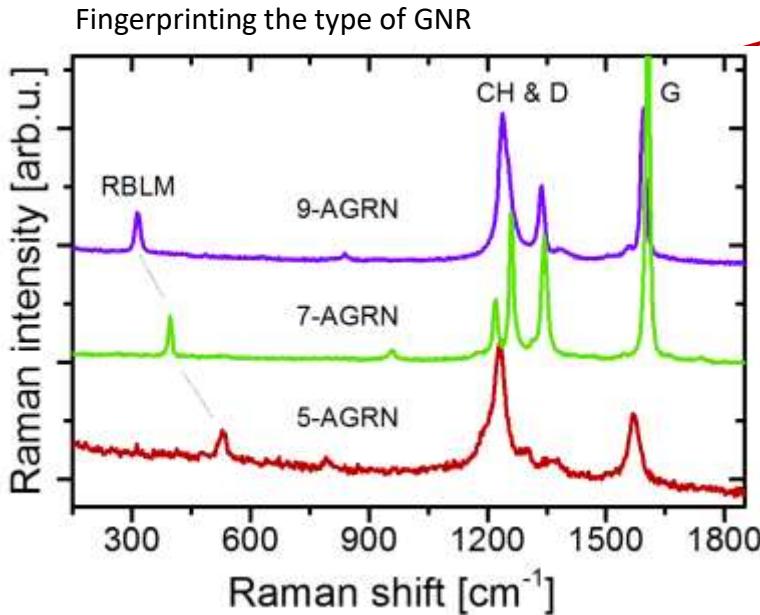
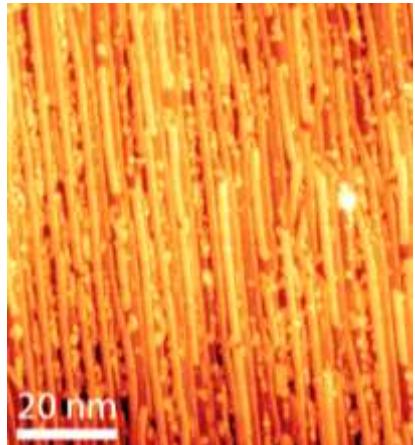
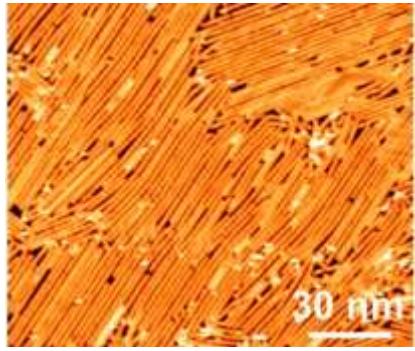


c) Target substrate with predefined graphene electrodes





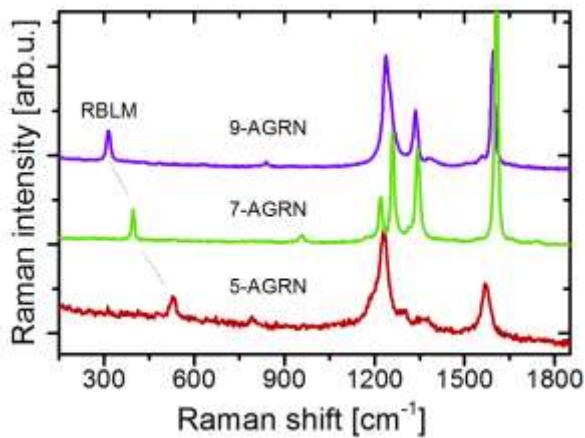
# Raman Spectroscopy of GNRs



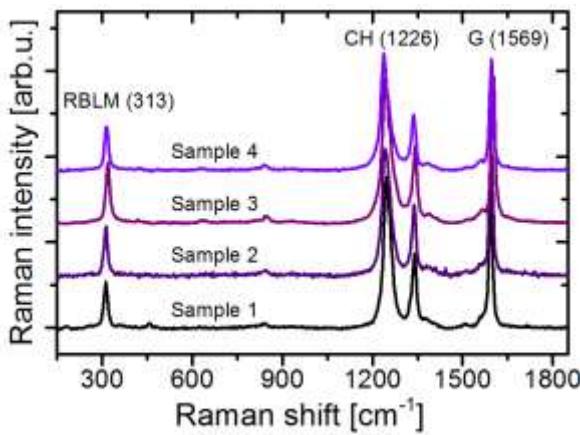


# Raman Spectroscopy of GNRs

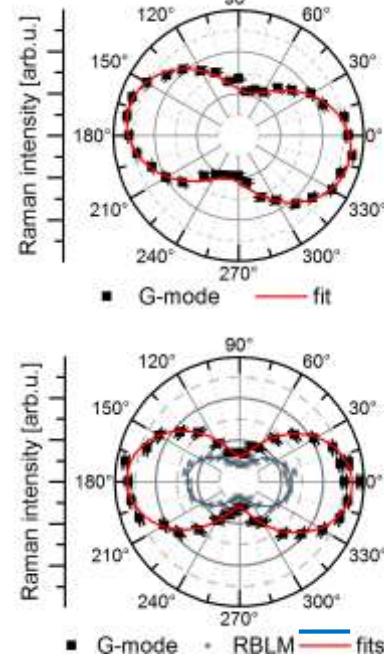
Fingerprinting the type of GNR



Assessing sample-to-sample variation



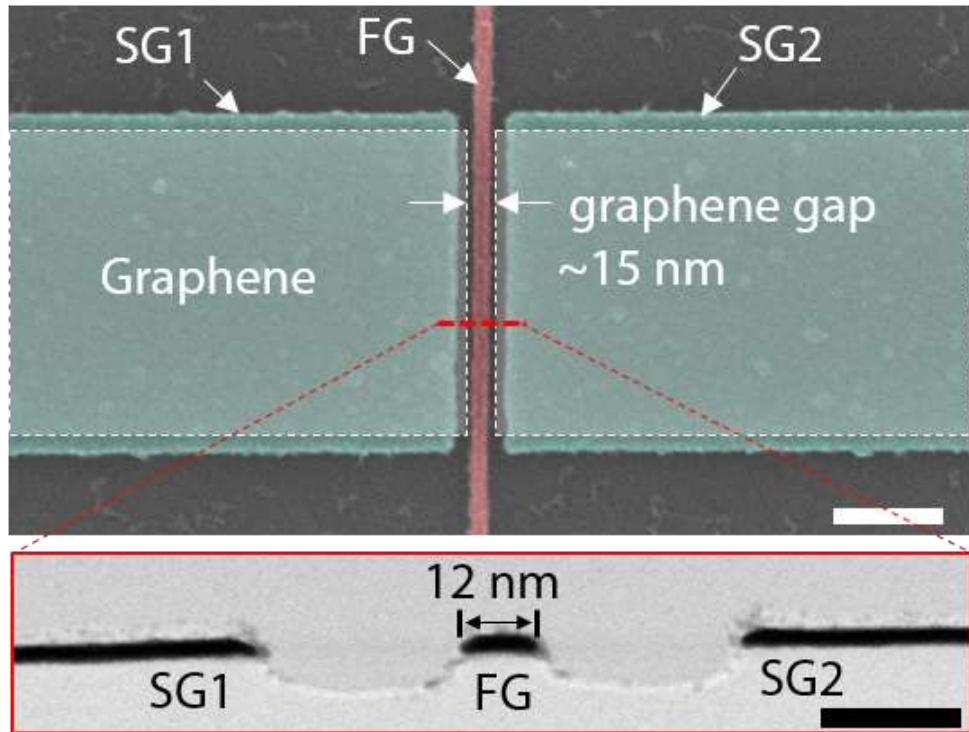
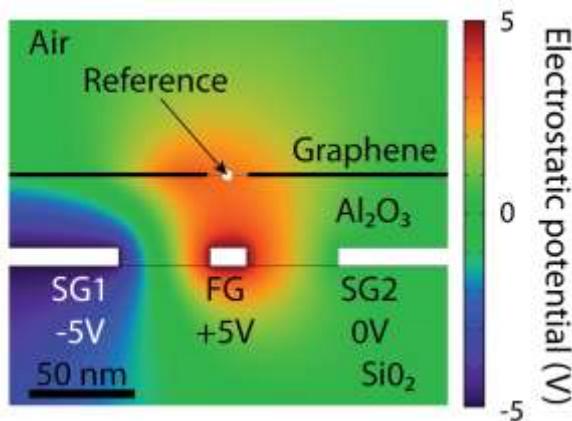
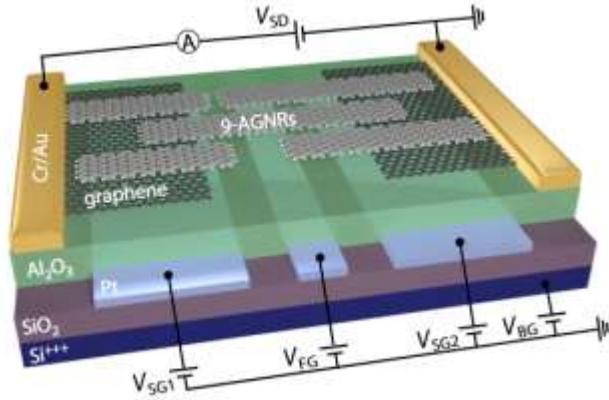
On growth substrate...



On device substrate...

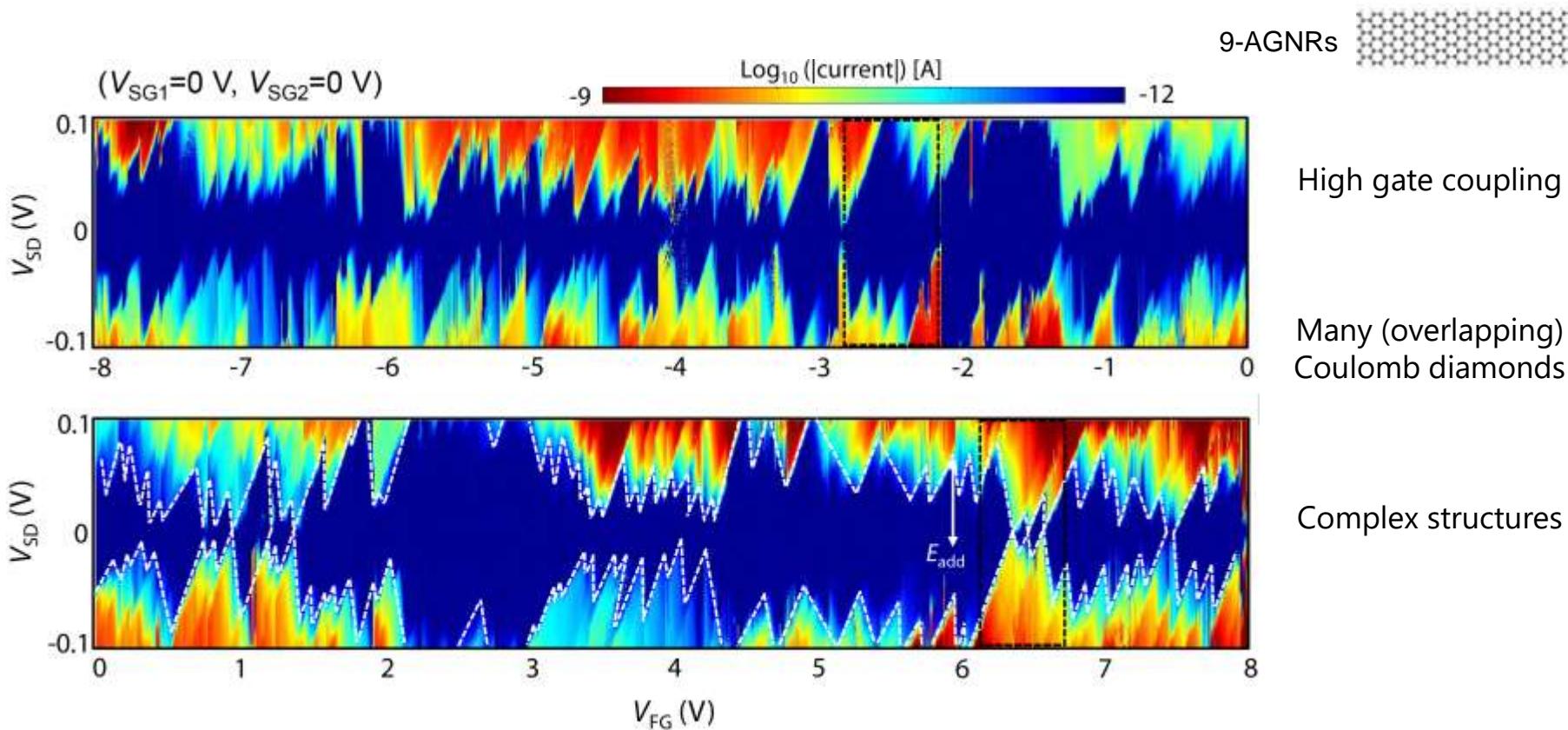


# Local Gates for Electrostatic Control



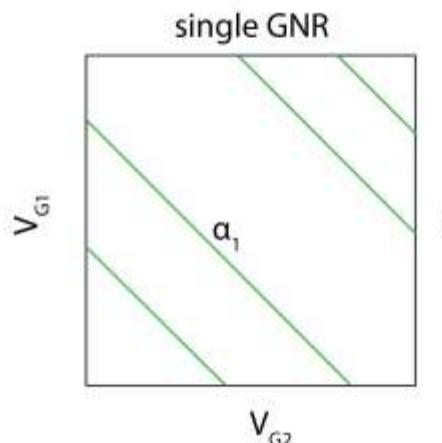
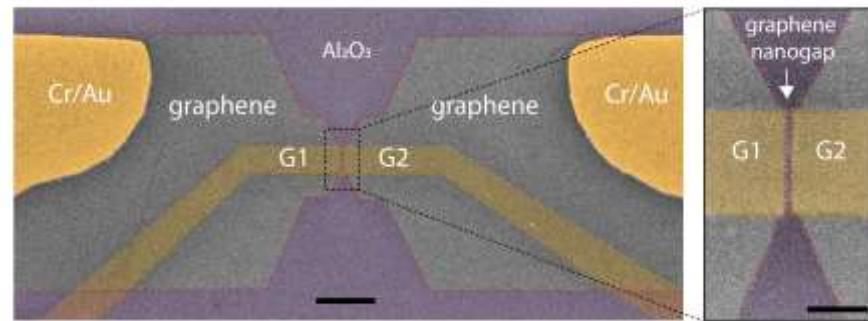
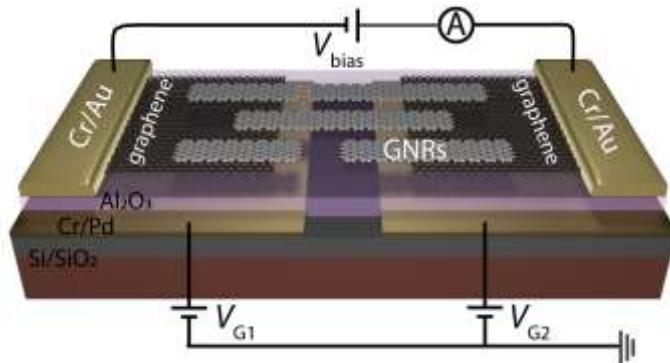


# Local Gates for Electrostatic Control



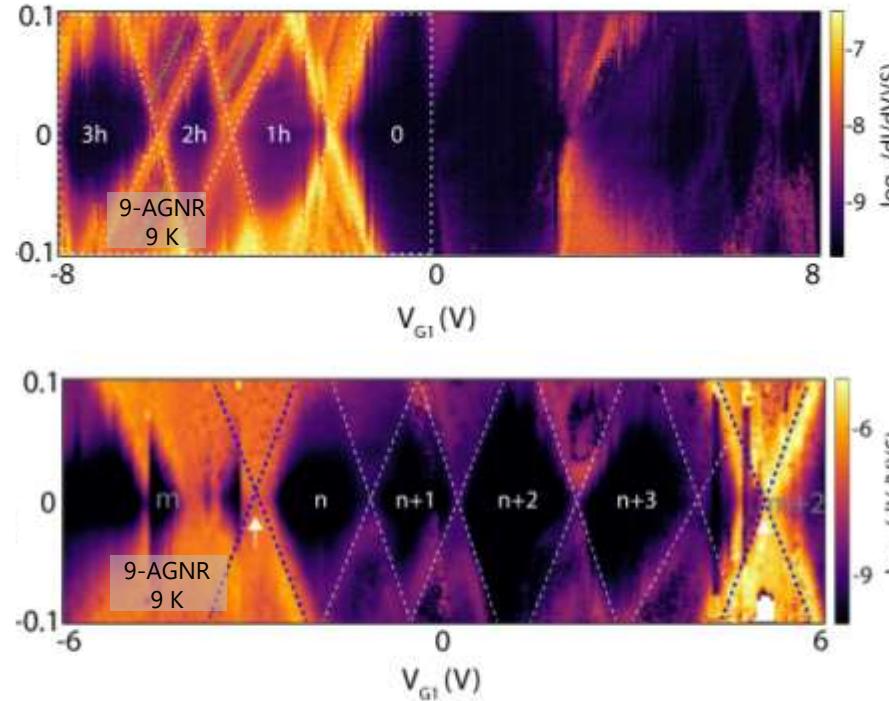


... and for identifying the number of GNRs





# ... and for identifying the number of GNRs

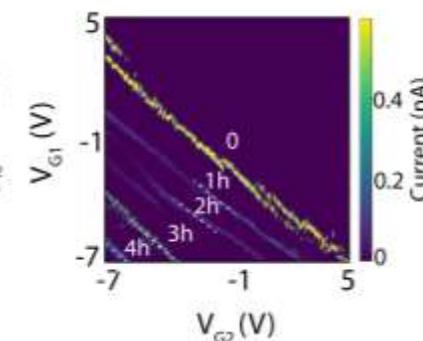
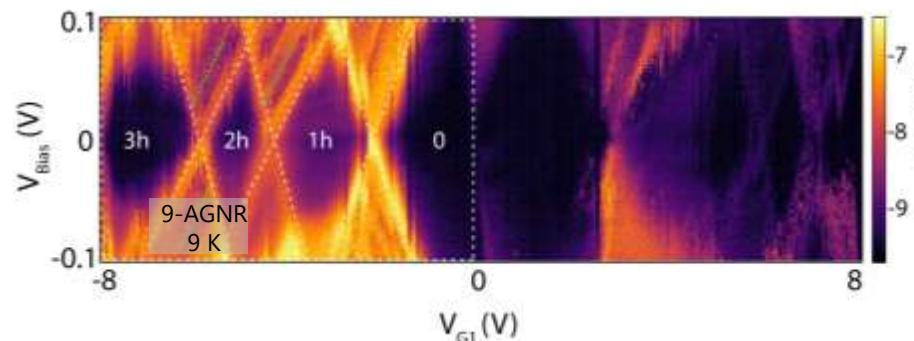
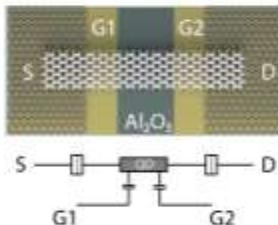


- Stability diagrams show well-defined Coulomb diamonds

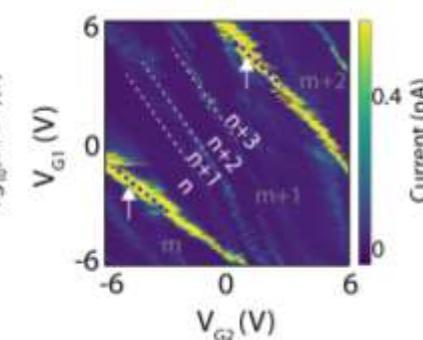
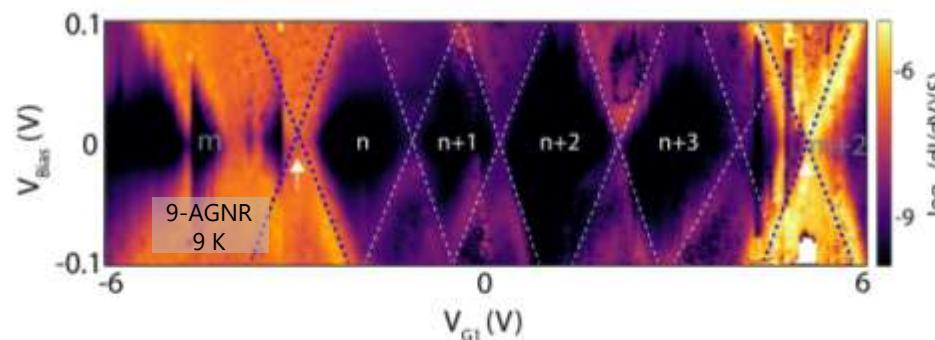
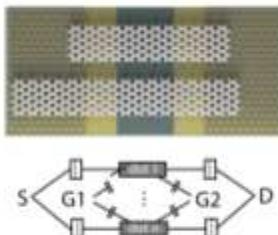


# ... and for identifying the number of GNRs

9-AGNR single QD



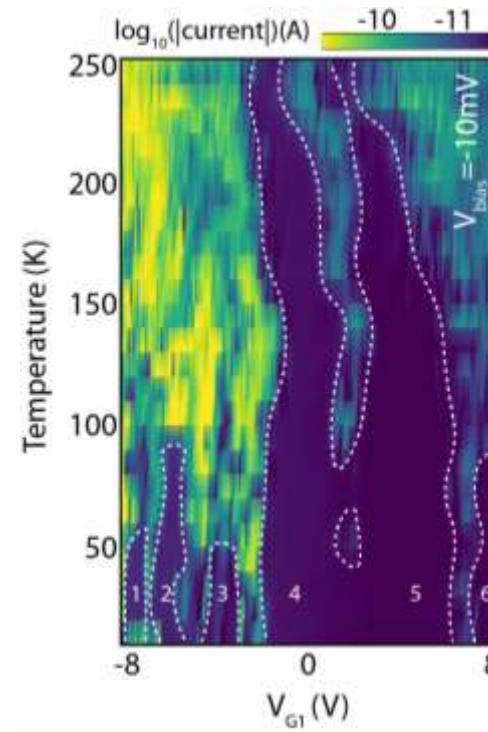
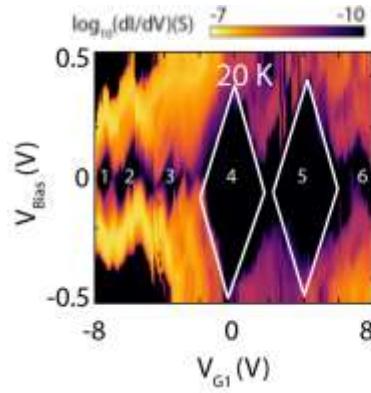
9-AGNR parallel QDs



- Stability diagrams show well-defined Coulomb diamonds
- Gate-gate sweep helps identify the number of quantum dots



# Temperature dependence of CB signature

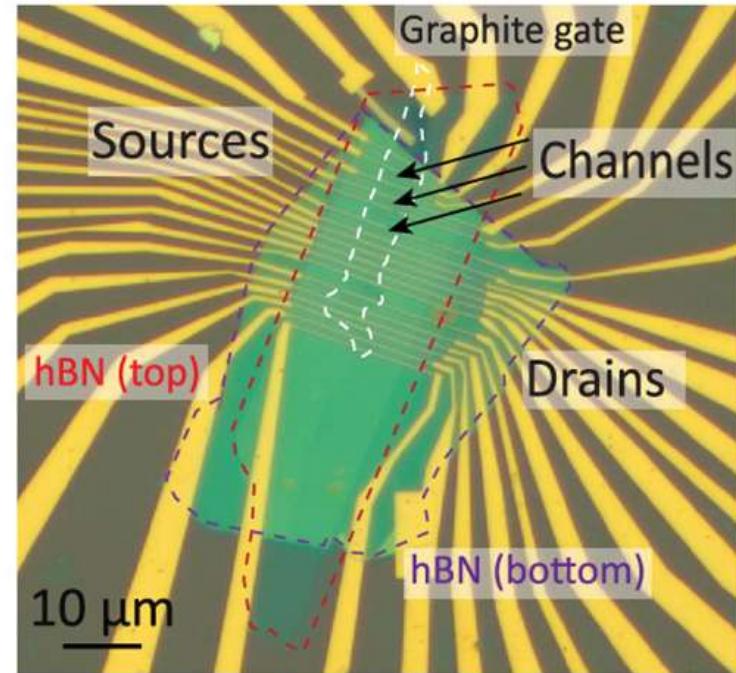
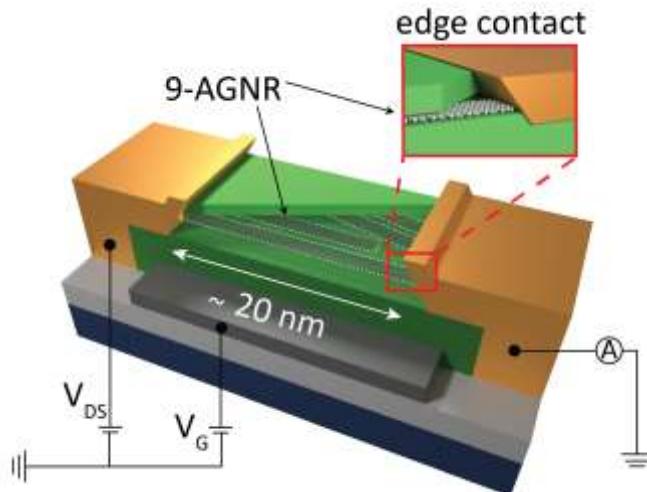


- Coulomb Blockade signature up to 250K



# More on Contacts and Environment

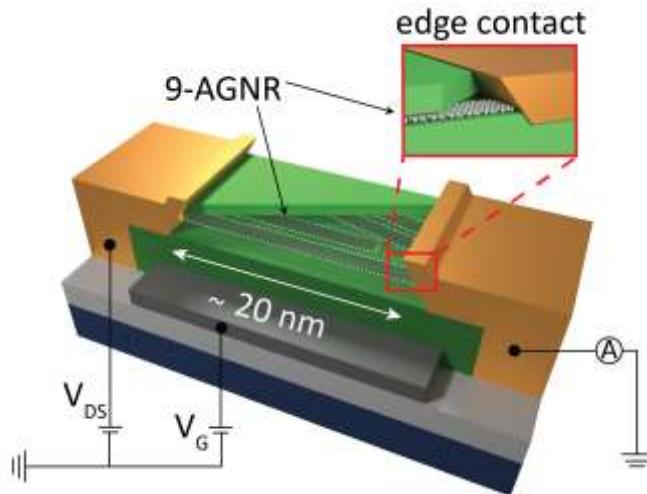
## Passivation and Edge Contacts



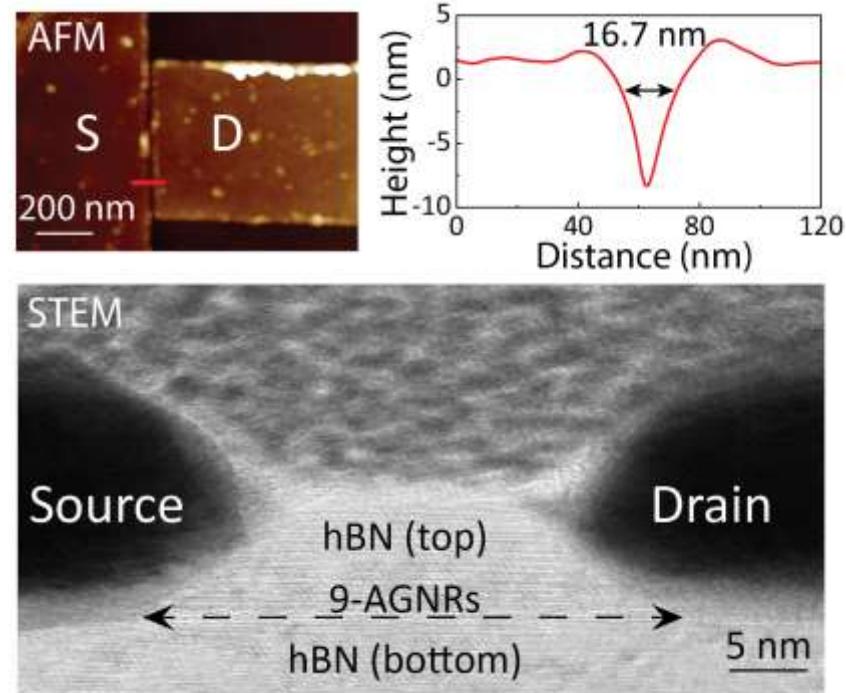


# More on Contacts and Environment

## Passivation and Edge Contacts



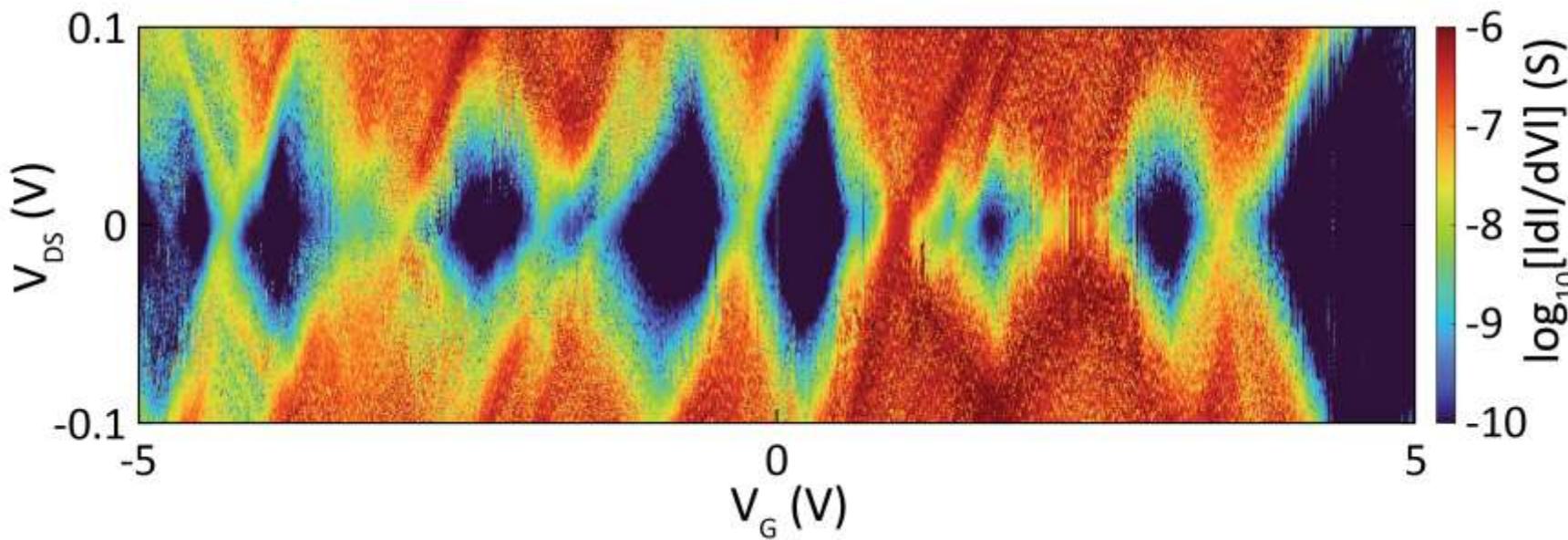
- Atomically smooth substrates
- Small lattice mismatch
- **Charge trap-free dielectric**
- Encapsulation, preventing material degradation
- Small footprint, reduced contact length
- Polymer-free contacts at the edge





# More on Contacts and Environment

## Passivation and Edge Contacts



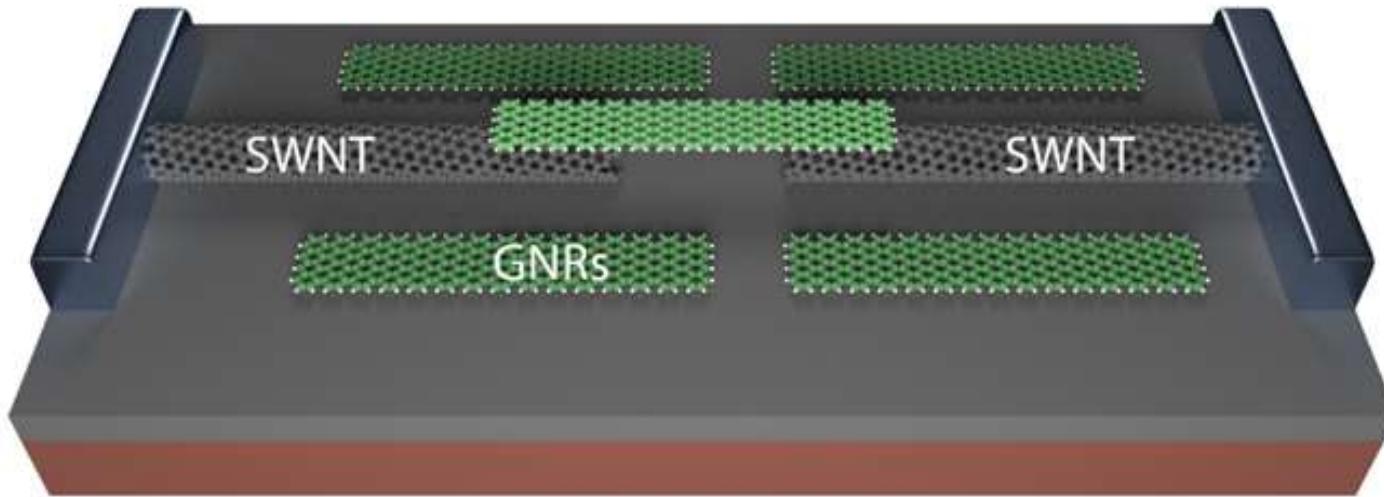
- Quantum dot behavior (9 K)

Huang et al. ACS Nano, 2023



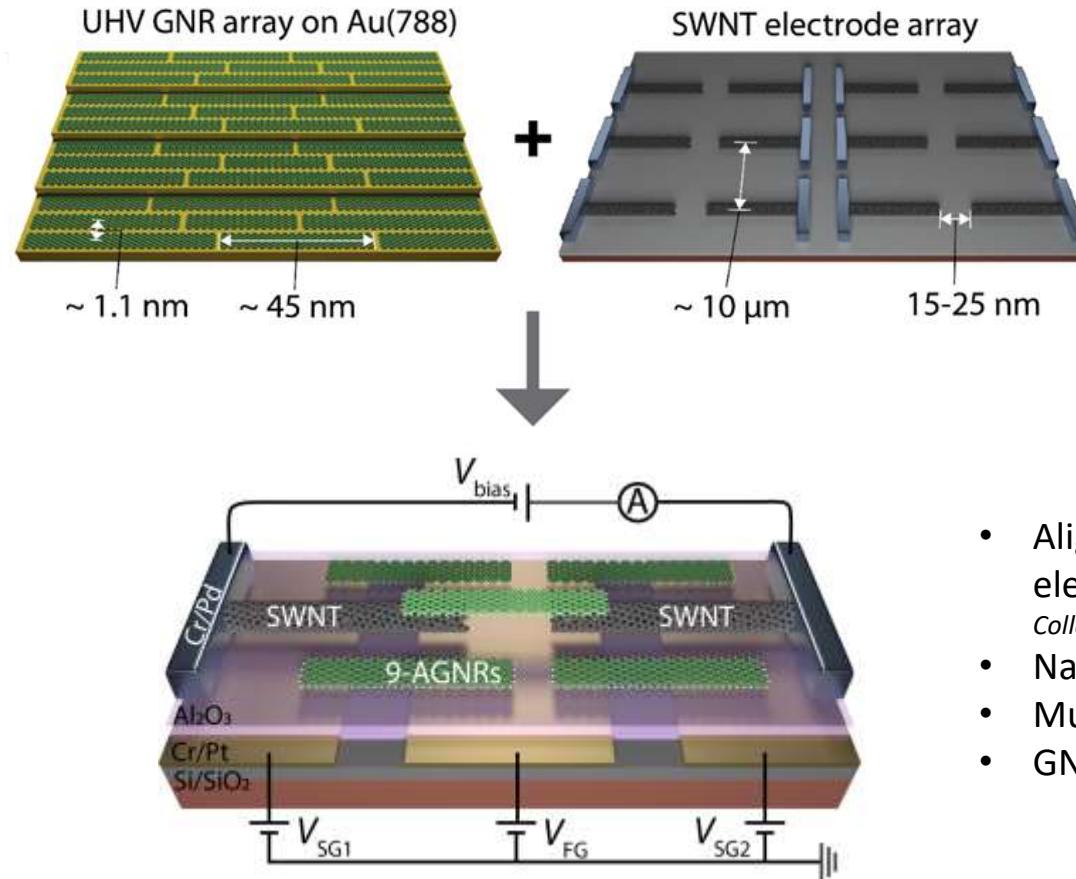
# Ultimate (?) Contacts : Carbon Nanotubes

Controlled contacting of individual GNRs



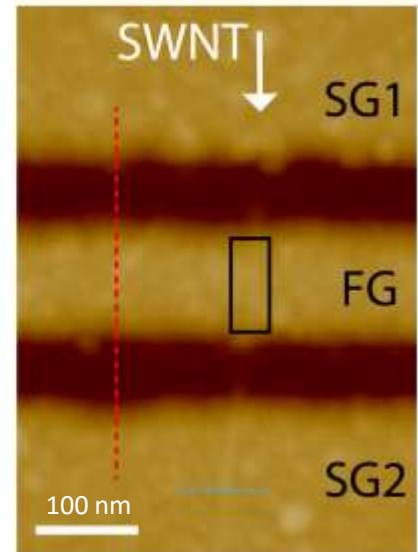
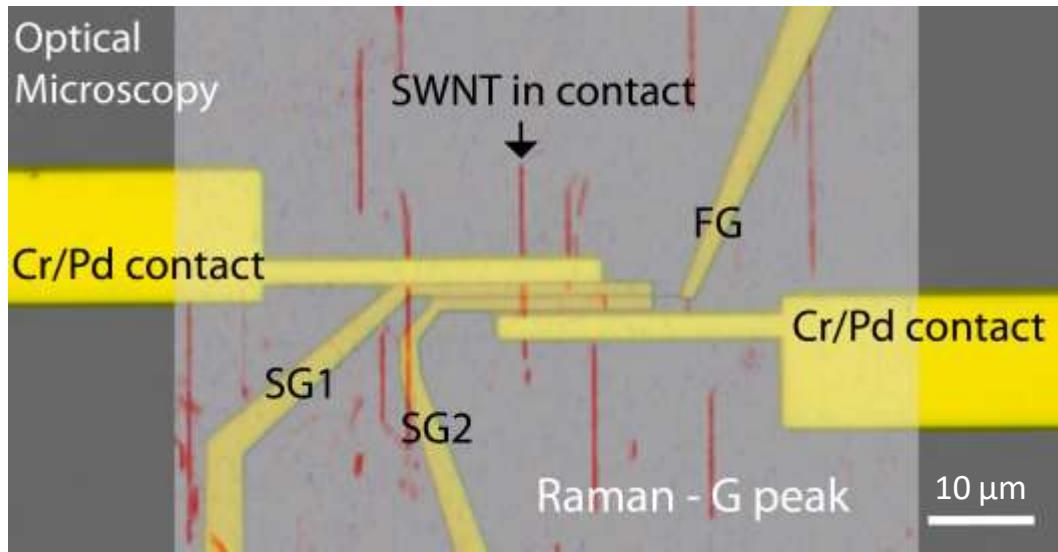


# Ultimate (?) Contacts : Nanotubes



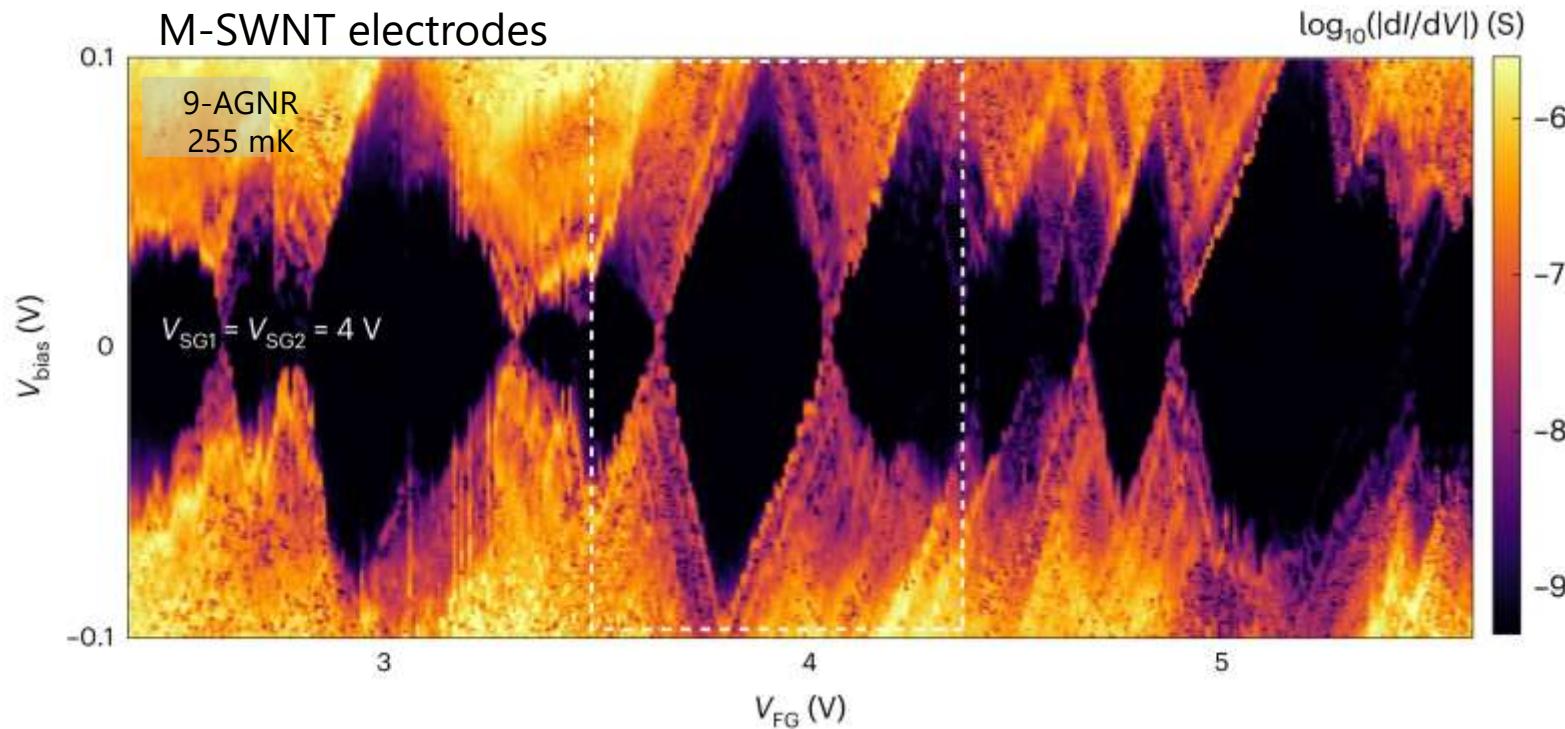
- Aligned **single-wall carbon nanotubes** as electrodes  
*Collaboration with Prof. Jin Zhang & Dr. Liu Qian*
- Nanogap formed using e-beam lithography
- Multiple gates
- GNRs last

# GNR - Carbon Nanotubes Devices





# GNR - Carbon Nanotubes Devices



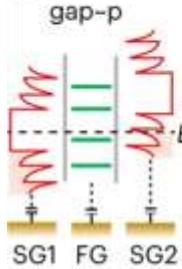
Well-defined Coulomb diamonds observed, including excitations in the SET regime



# GNR - Carbon Nanotubes Devices

D7 (S-SWNT leads)

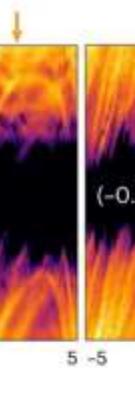
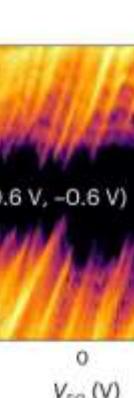
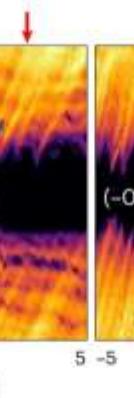
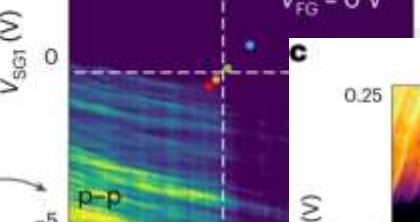
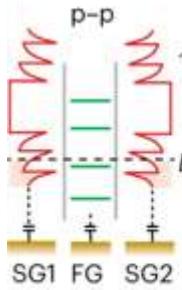
a



S-SWNT electrodes

Current (nA)  
gap-p      gap-gap

gap-gap



# Thermoelectric response in nanomaterials

## Enhancing Thermoelectric Effects

Lyndon Hicks, Mildred Dresselhaus, 1993

PHYSICAL REVIEW B

VOLUME 47, NUMBER 19

15 MAY 1993

### Effect of quantum-well structures on the thermoelectric figure of merit:

L. D. Hicks

Department of Physics, Massachusetts Institute of Technology, Cambridge, Massachusetts 02139

M. S. Dresselhaus

Department of Electrical Engineering and Computer Science and Department of Physics,  
Massachusetts Institute of Technology, Cambridge, Massachusetts 02139  
(Received 3 December 1992)

Currently the materials with the highest thermoelectric figures of merit  $Z$  are Bi/Tu alloys. These See these compounds are the best thermoelectric refrigeration elements. However, since the 1990s only slow progress has been made in enhancing  $Z$ , either in Bi/Tu alloys or in other thermoelectric materials. So far, the enhancement in appearance have all been in bulk form. In this paper, it is proposed that it may be possible to increase  $Z$  of certain materials by preparing them in a quantum-well structure. Calculations have been done to investigate the potential for this approach, and also to evaluate the effect of anisotropy on the figure of merit. The calculations show that layering the potential to increase significantly the figure of merit of a highly anisotropic material such as Bi/Tu, provided that the superlattice multilayers are made in a particular orientation. This result opens the possibility of using quantum-well superlattice structures to enhance the performance of thermoelectric systems.



## Phonon glass/electric crystal

PHYSICAL REVIEW B

VOLUME 47, NUMBER 26

RAPID COMMUNICATIONS

15 JUNE 1993-B

### Thermoelectric figure of merit of a one-dimensional conductor

L. D. Hicks

Department of Physics, Massachusetts Institute of Technology, Cambridge, Massachusetts 02139

M. S. Dresselhaus

Department of Electrical Engineering and Computer Science and Department of Physics,  
Massachusetts Institute of Technology, Cambridge, Massachusetts 02139  
(Received 29 March 1993)

We investigate the effect on the thermoelectric figure of merit of preparing materials in the form of one-dimensional conductors or quantum wires. Our calculations show that this approach has the potential to achieve a significant increase in the figure of merit over both the bulk value and the calculated two-dimensional superlattice values.

- **Graphene not ideal**

Gapless  $\Rightarrow$  small S (opp. contrib of e & h); excellent thermal conductor

- **Nanostructuring & Band gap engineering: GNRs & CNTs**

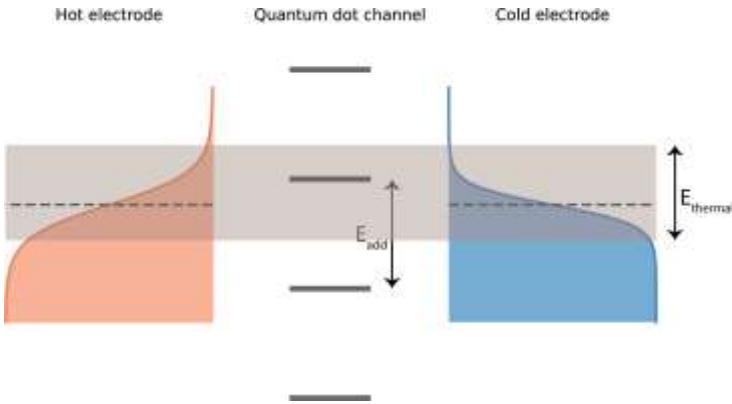


### See for instance (GNRs)

- Li et al., Nanostructured and Heterostructured 2D Materials for Thermoelectrics, Eng. Science 13, 24 (2021)
- Massetti et al., Unconventional Thermoelectric Materials for Energy Harvesting and Sensing Applications, Chem. Rev. 121, 12465 (2021)
- Dollfus et al., Thermoelectric effects in graphene nanostructures, J. Phys.: Cond. Matt. 27, 133204 (2015)

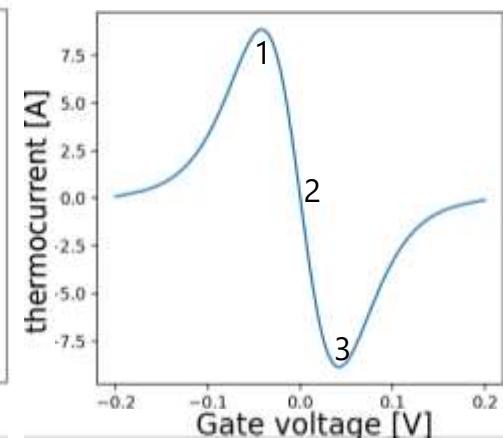
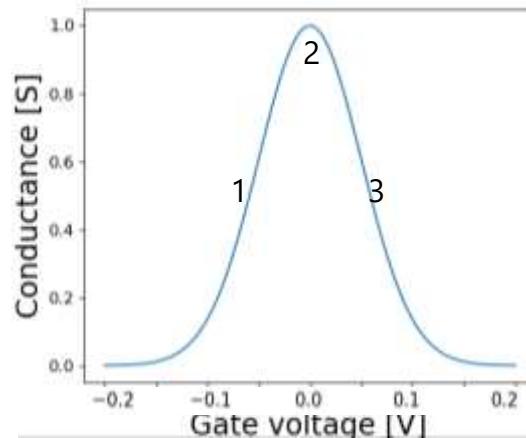


# Thermoelectrical behaviour expected



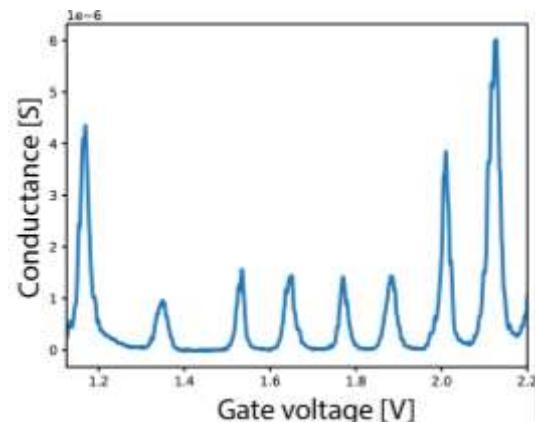
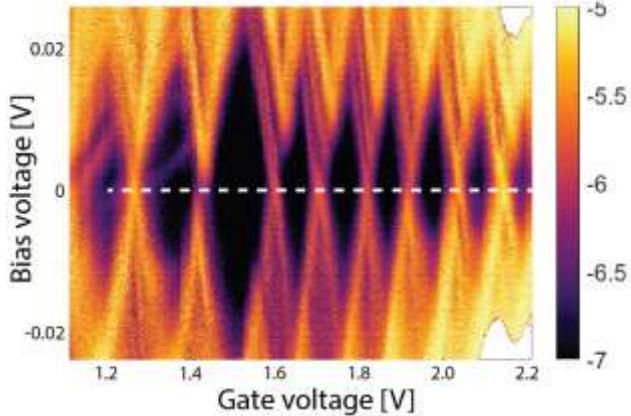
- Window for thermoelectric transport ( $E_{\text{thermal}}$ ) scales with  $T$
- High efficiency:
  - only single level within the window
  - $E_{\text{add}} > E_{\text{thermal}}$
- Demonstrated so far:  $E_{\text{add}} < 5\text{meV}$

- Sign change for thermoelectric current
- Theoretical gate characteristic for single level:





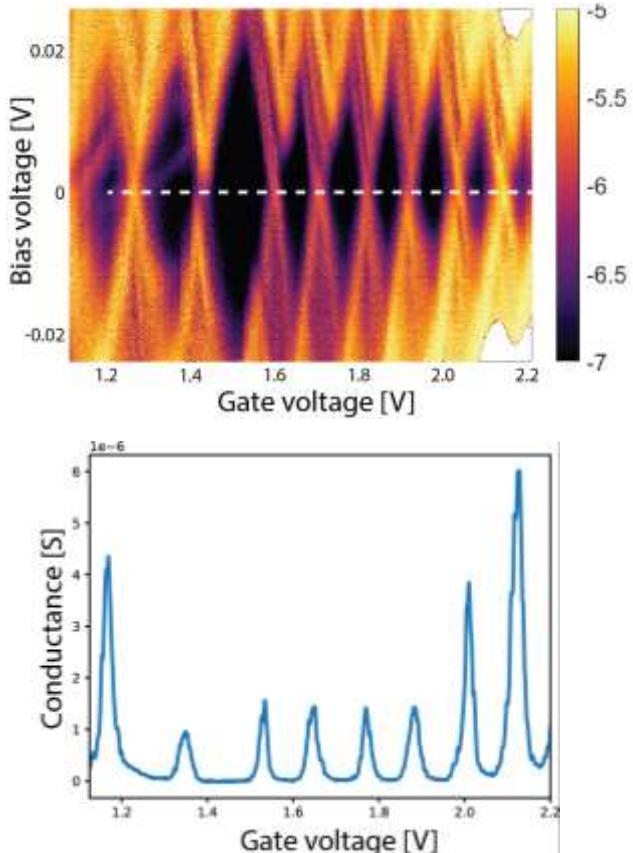
# Carbon Nanotube Qdot (4K)



- No interface barriers (closing diamonds)
- Zero-bias gatesweep shows clean peaks
- Addition energies of  $\sim 20$  meV

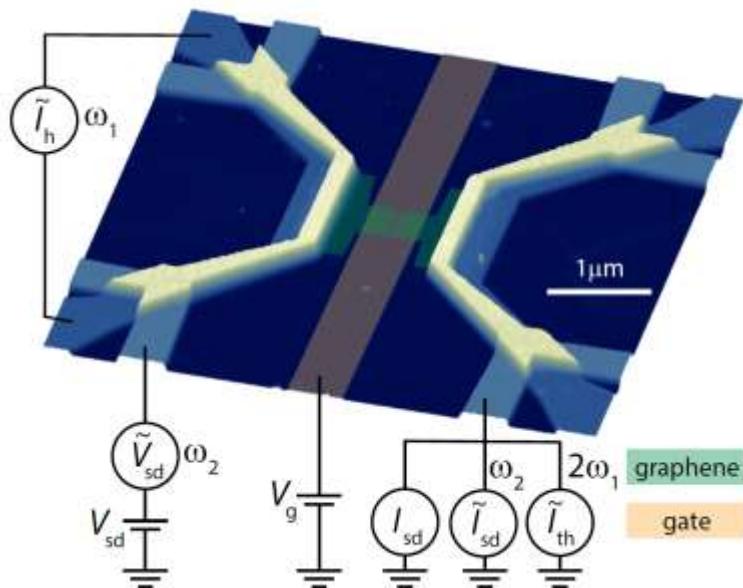


# Carbon Nanotube Qdot (4K)



## Measurement principle

Equivalent Seebeck coefficient:  $\frac{I_{\text{th}}}{G} \cdot \frac{1}{\Delta T}$      $G = \frac{dI}{dV}$

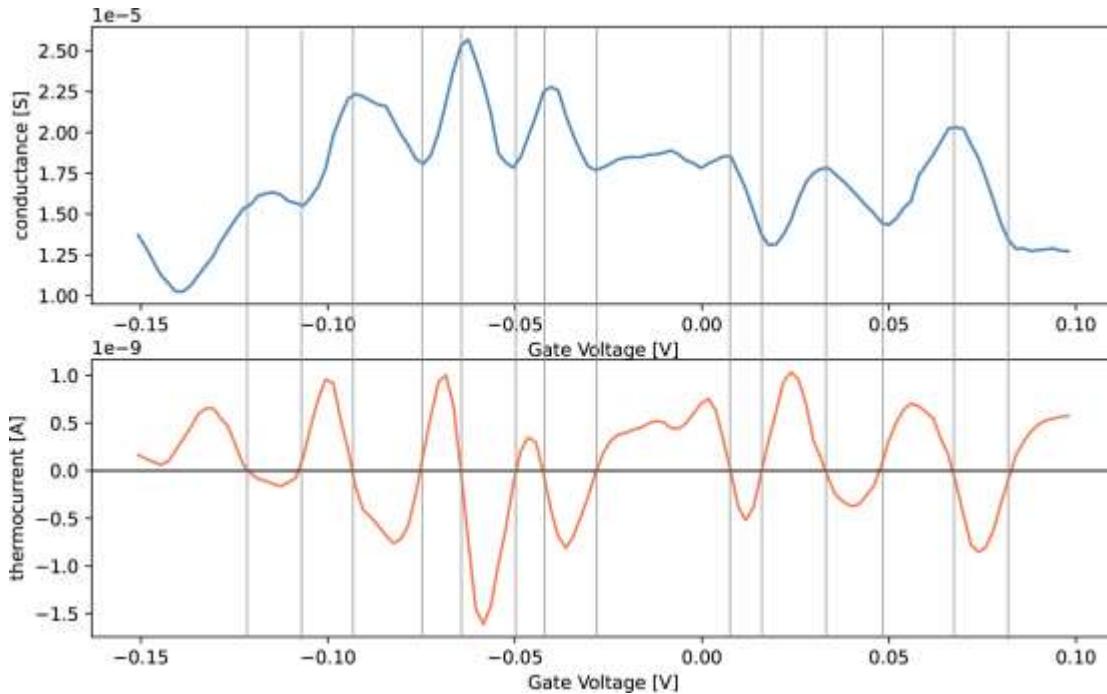


$G\Omega$  impedance: Double- modulation technique

Similar approach as Gehring et al., APL (2019) & Nat. Nanotech (2021)



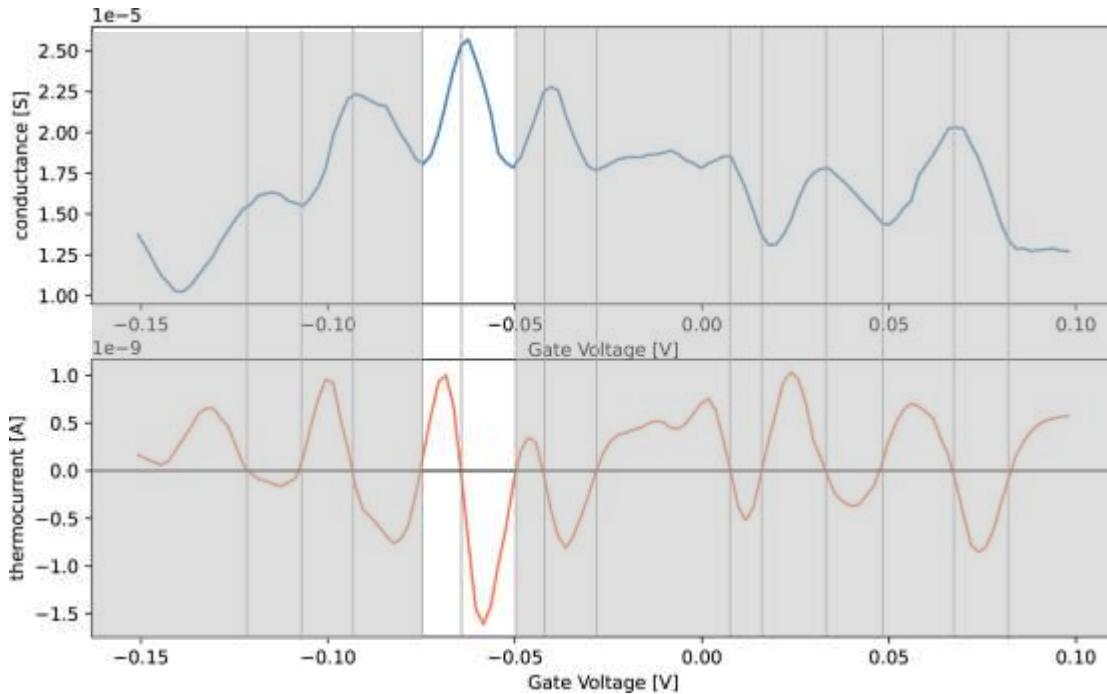
# Thermoelectrical measurement on CNT Qdot



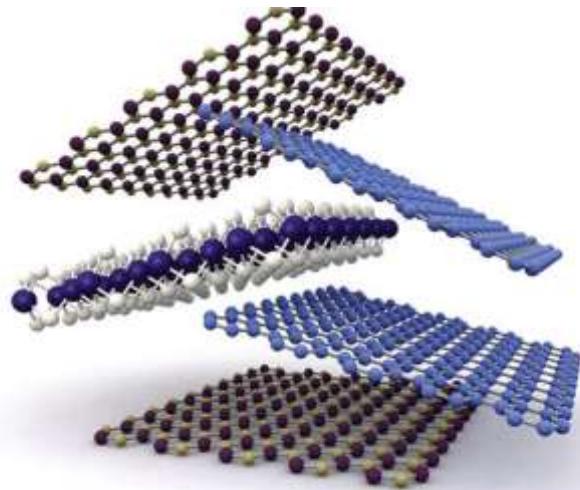
- Every conductance peak correspond to a single level
- For each peak we observe the characteristic sign-changing curve
- Generated current can be controlled electrostatically



# Thermoelectrical measurement on CNT Qdot



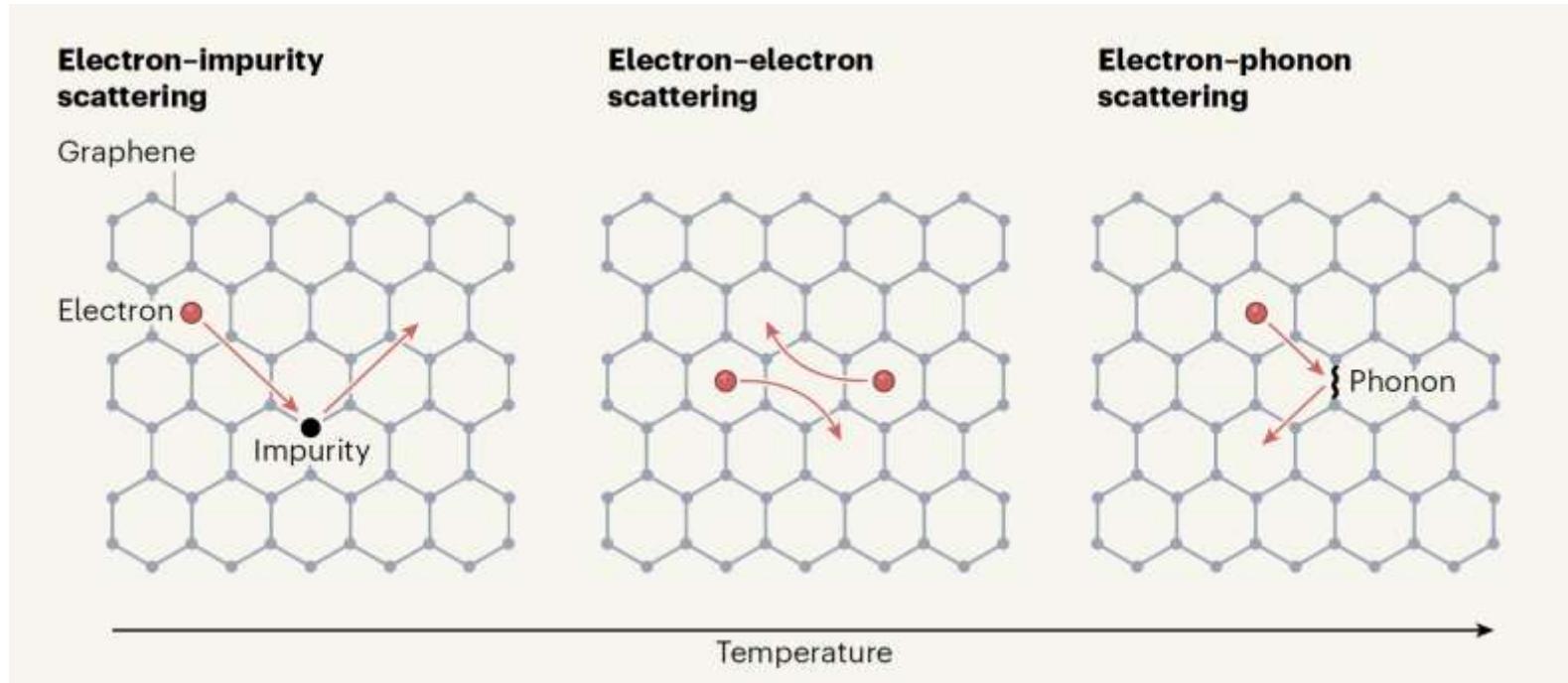
- Every conductance peak correspond to a single level
- For each peak we observe the characteristic sign-changing curve
- Generated current can be controlled electrostatically



Novoselov *et al.* Science (2016)

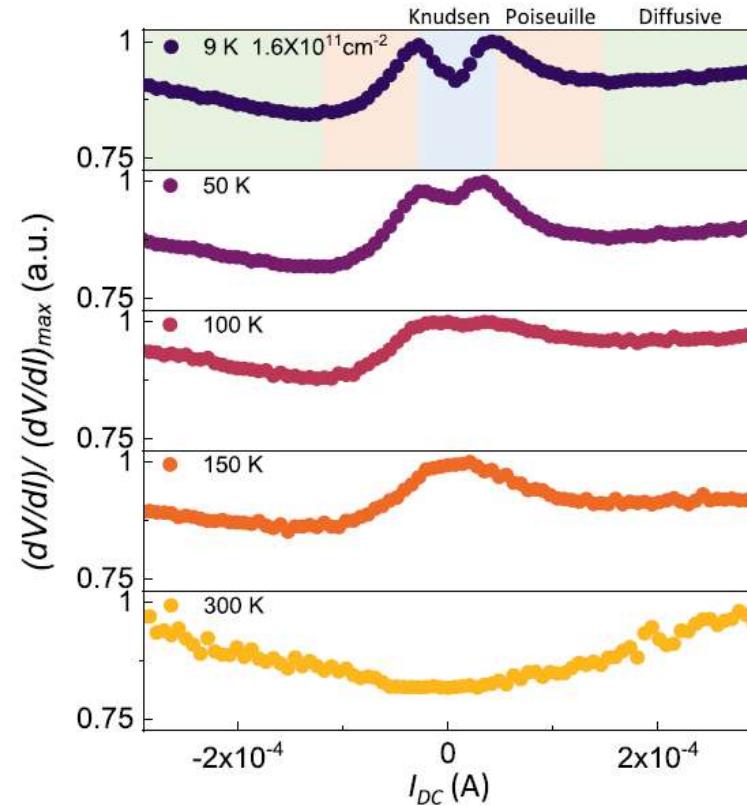
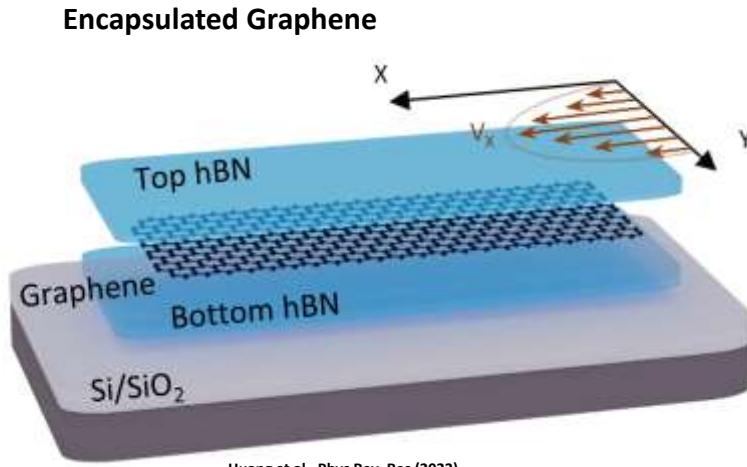


# Exotic Transport Regime: Electron hydrodynamics



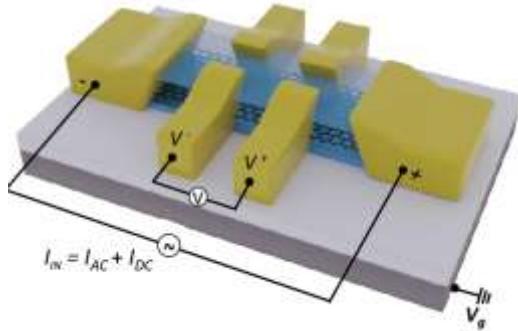


# Exotic Transport Regime: Electron hydrodynamics

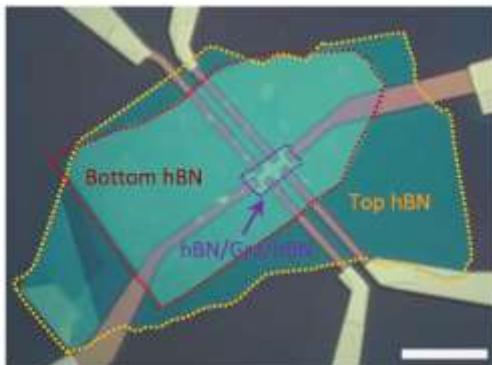




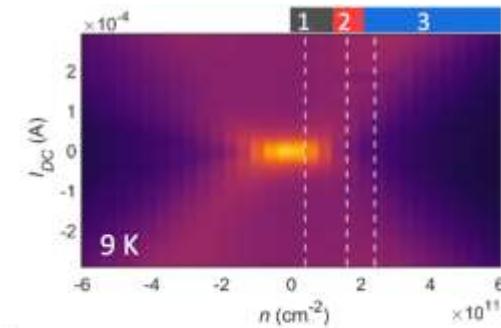
# Exotic Transport Regime: Electron hydrodynamics



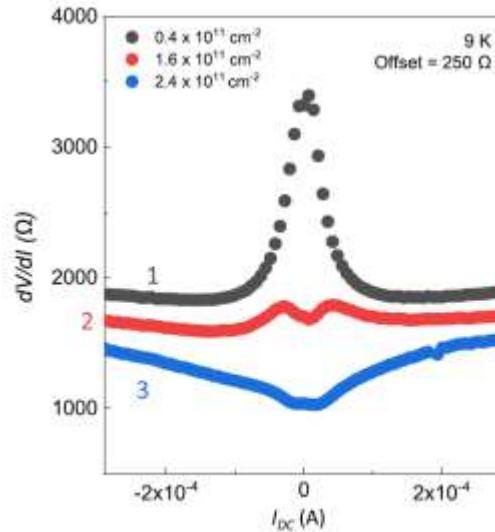
R dependence on charge carrier density at 9K



Huang et al., Phys Rev. Res (2023)

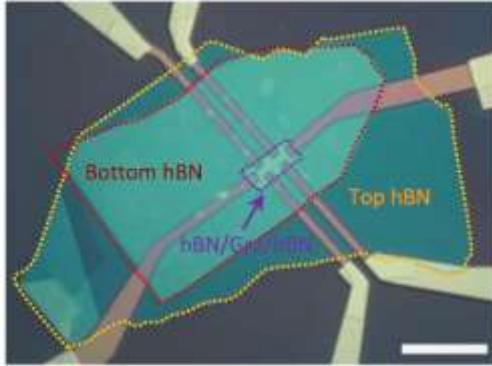
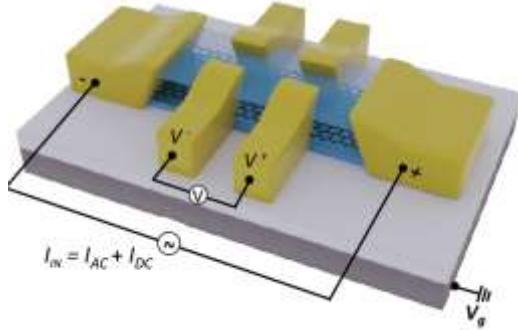


(d)



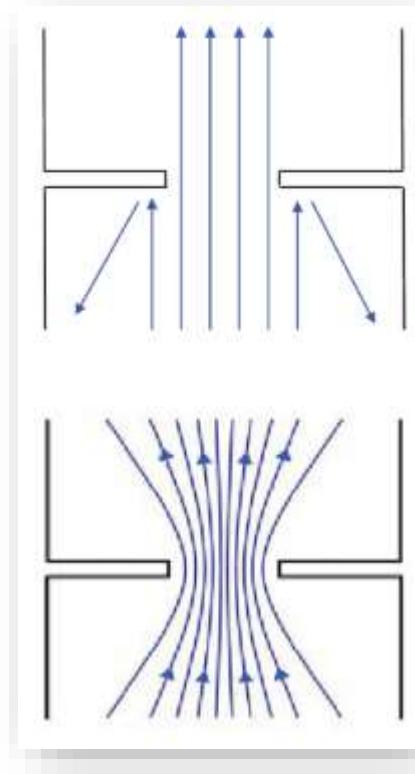


# Exotic Transport Regime: Electron hydrodynamics



Huang et al., Phys Rev. Res (2023)

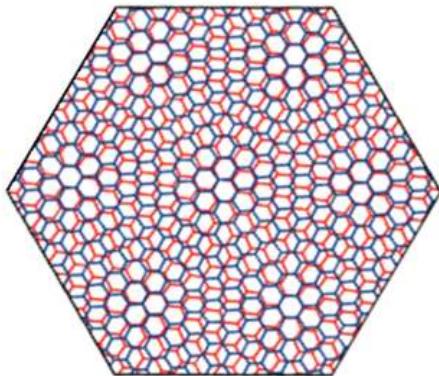
⇒ Engineer electron flow to improve energy efficiency / enable conductance beyond ballistic and Landauer-Sharvin limits



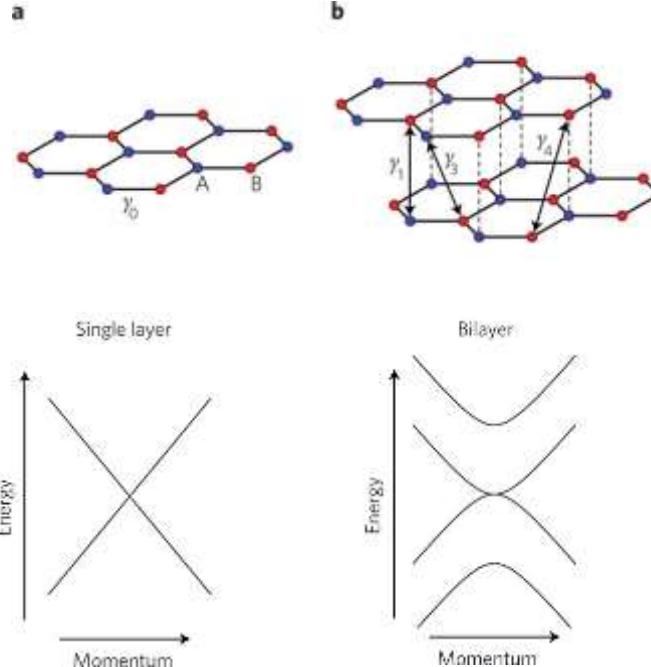


# Moiré systems: Band engineering in 2D materials

## Twisted n-layer graphene



Zhang, Perrin et al., under review



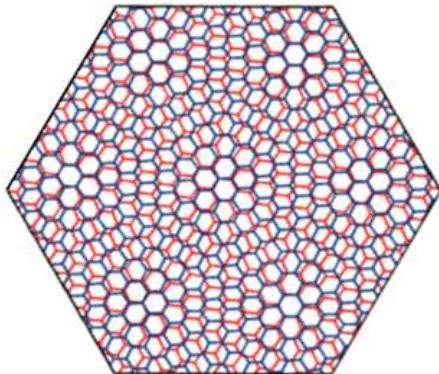
M. Freitag, Nat. Phys. 2011

- massive chiral Fermions (no QED equivalent)
- higher energy subbands do not contribute to transport (unless high doping)



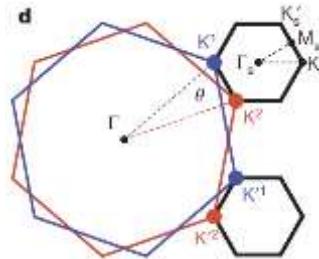
# Moiré systems: Band engineering in 2D materials

## Twisted n-layer graphene

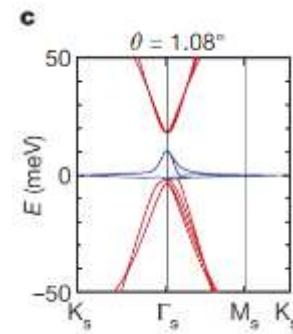


Zhang, Perrin et al., under review

## Twisted bilayer graphene



Moiré bands in twisted double-layer graphene  
Bistritzer & McDonald, PNAS (2011)



Band energy  $E$  of magic-angle ( $\theta = 1.08^\circ$ ).  
TBG calculated using an  
*ab initio* tight-binding method

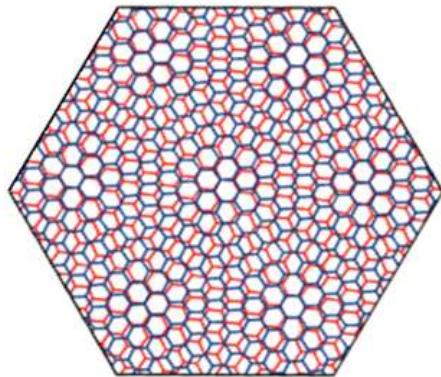
## Superconductivity for angles leading to "flat bands"

E. Mele, *Nature n&v* (2018)  
P. Jarillo-Herrero et al., *Nature* (2018)



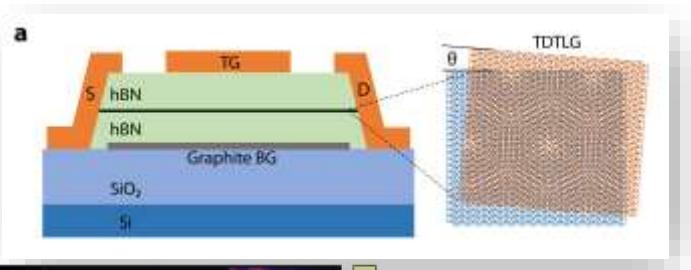
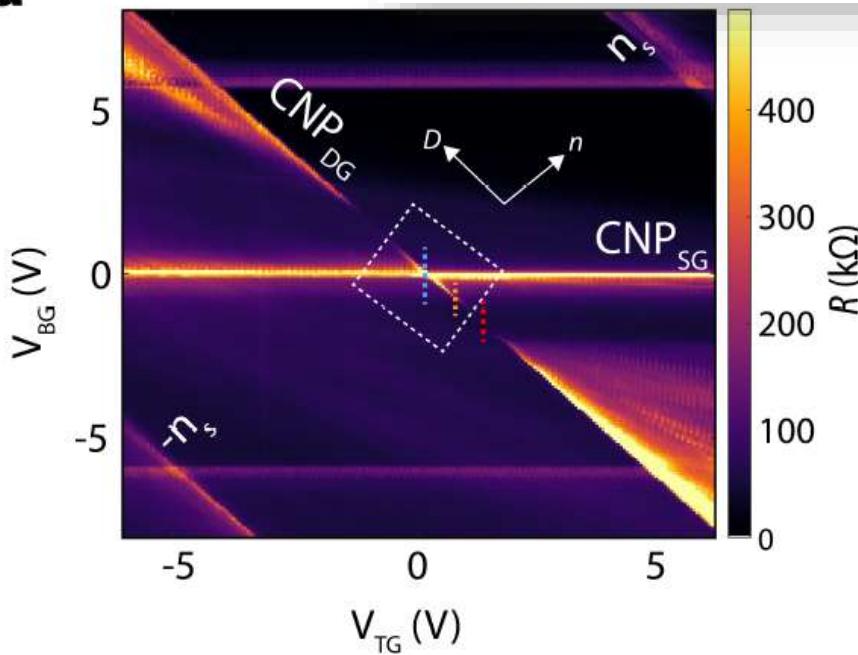
# Moiré systems: Band engineering in 2D materials

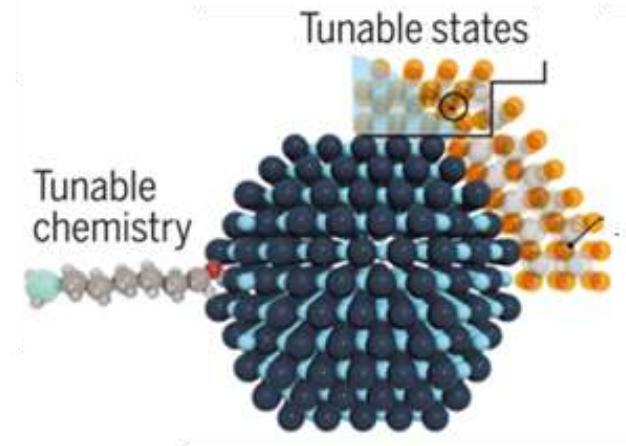
Twisted  
n-layer graphene



Zhang, Perrin et al., under review

a



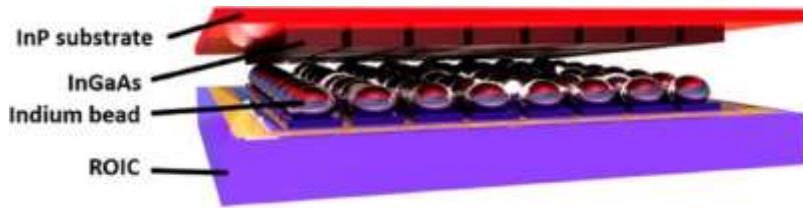


de Arquer *et al.* Science (2021)



# Colloidal Quantum Dots (cQDs) for IR imaging

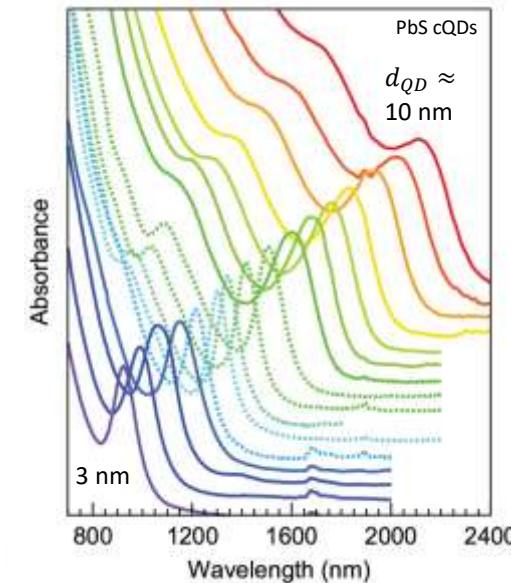
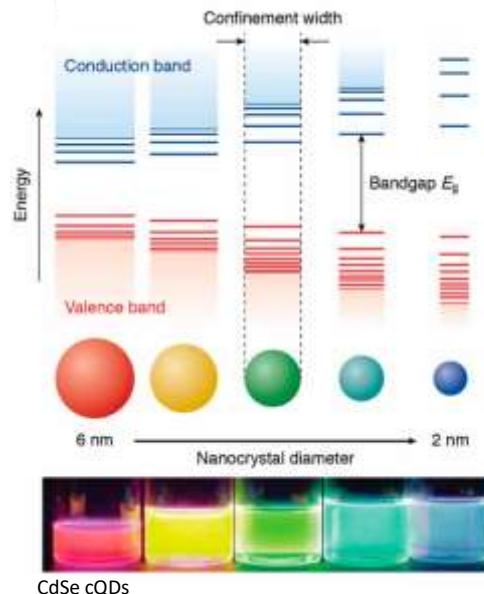
State-of-the-art



Solution-processable photoactive material



cQDs: Size tunable optical properties



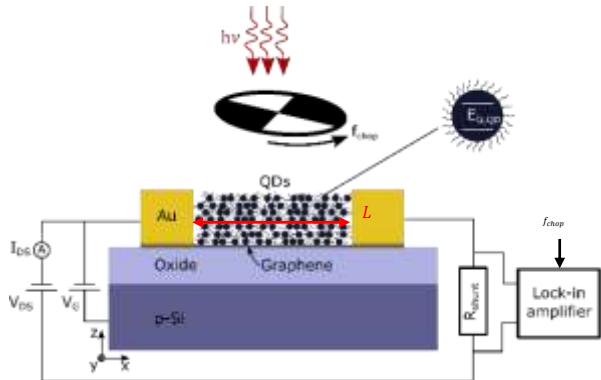
Gréboval et al. *Chem. Rev.* 2021. <https://doi.org/10.1021/acs.chemrev.0c01120>.

Berends et al. *J. Phys. Chem. Lett.* 2017.  
<https://doi.org/10.1021/acs.jpclett.7b01640>.

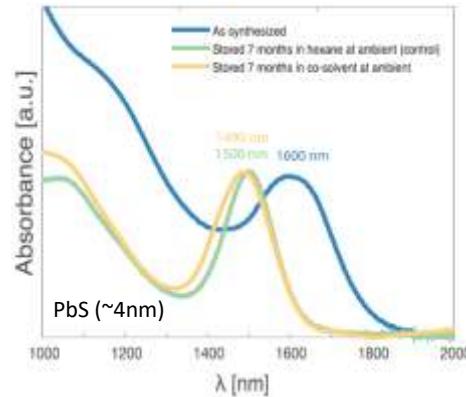
Moreels et al. *ACS Nano* 2011, 5 (3), 2004–2012.  
<https://doi.org/10.1021/nn103050w>.



# Photodetectors from printed cQDs

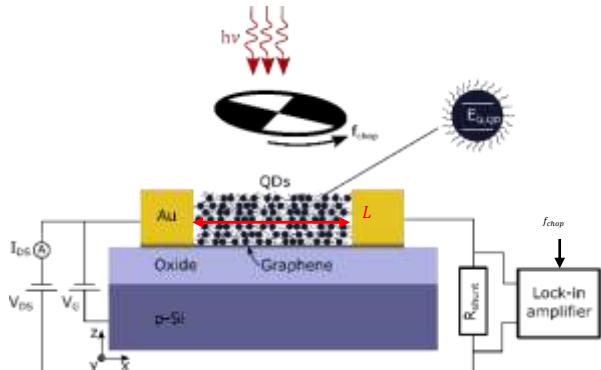


Original idea: Konstantatos, ... & Koppens, Nat. Nanotechnol. (2012)

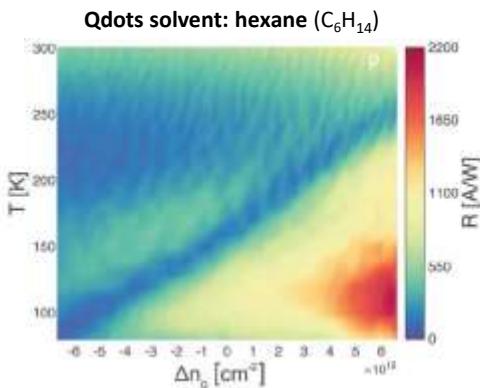




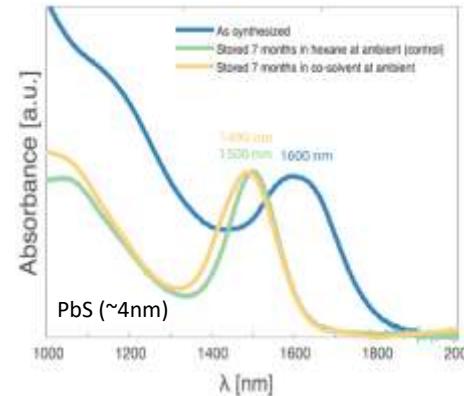
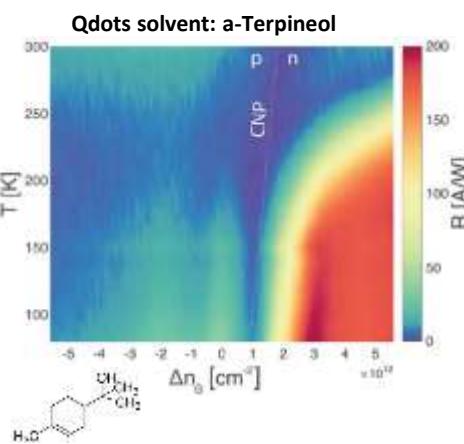
# Photodetectors from printed cQDs



Original idea: Konstantatos, ... & Koppens, Nat. Nanotechnol. (2012)



Kara et al., Adv. Mat. Tech. (2023)



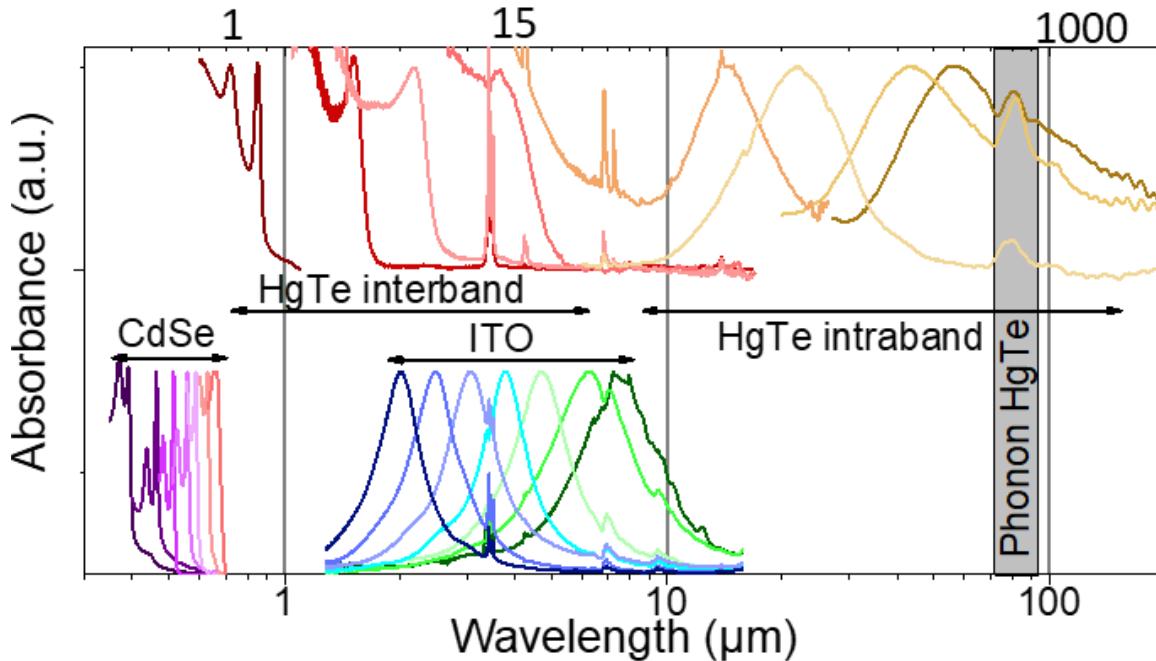
Responsivity maps for 2 different Qdots solvents vs charge carrier density and Temperature

$$\text{Responsivity } R = \frac{I_{ph}}{P_{in}}$$

⇒ Importance of processing  
Printing, Ink viscosity, pinning of dots on substrate, packing/order of qdot film; ligand & ligand exchange



# Extensive tunability: HgTe



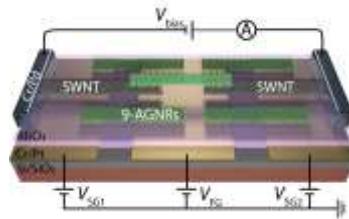
- Spectral tunability over two orders of magnitude
- Combine interband, interband and plasmonic absorption
- *Single photon counting ?*

NB: **perovskite** materials  
X-ray absorption (10-30keV)  
See e.g. Kovalenko et al. Nat. Photonics (2023)

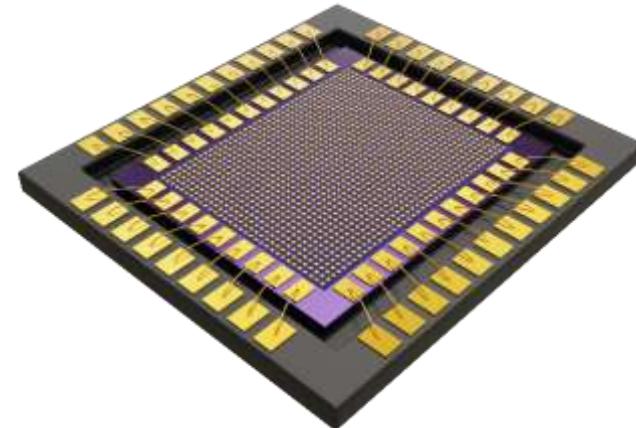


# Upscaling ... ?

One device



$M \times N$  devices

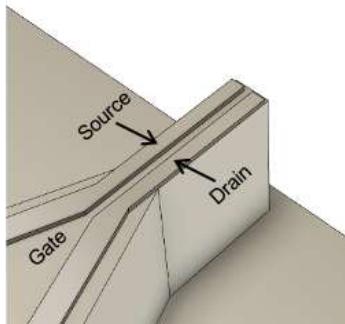
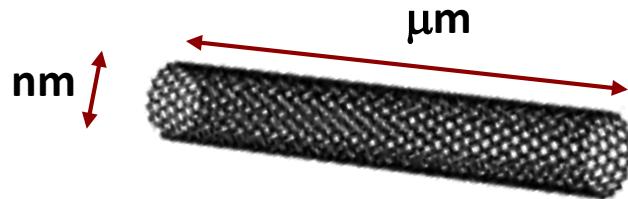




# Automatization of the Nanomaterials Integration



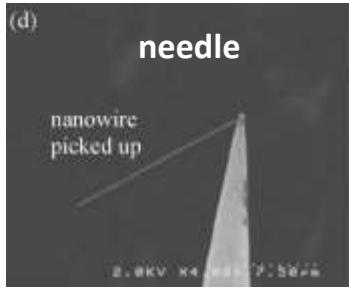
with nanostructures - 1 million x smaller



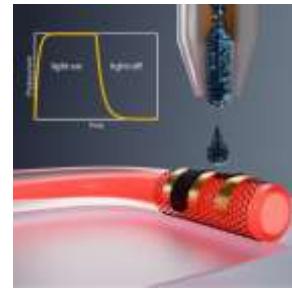


# State-of-the-art - Nanomaterials integration

## Pick and place



## Alternative techniques, e.g.: Printing



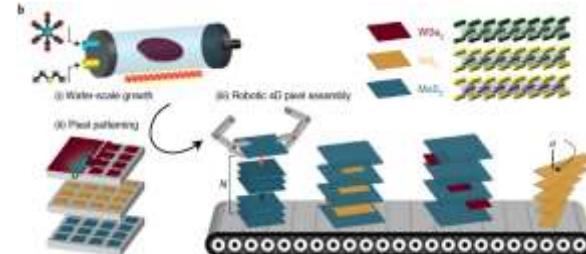
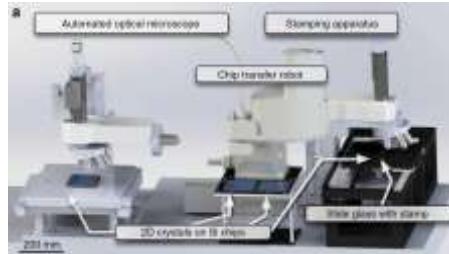
### Electrohydrodynamic Printing of Synthetic Qdots Ink

e.g. HgTe, PbS

Synthesis: M. Kovalenko et al.  
Devices: I. Shorubalko et al.

Shorubalko et al., Nat. Photonics (2022)  
Grotev et al., US Patent 11,067,442, 2021  
[www.scrona.com](http://www.scrona.com)

## Robotic assembly of Nanomaterials





# State-of-the-art - Nanomaterials integration

## Pick and place

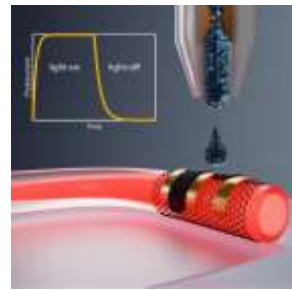


Ye et al., IEEE Trans. Automation Sci. & Eng. (2013)



P. Böggild et al., Nanotech. 17 (2006)

## Alternative techniques, e.g.: Printing



e.g. HgTe, PbS  
Synthesis: M. Kovalenko et al.

Devices; I. Shorubalko et al.

Shorubalko et al., Nat. Photonics (2022)  
Groteveld et al., US Patent 11,067,442, 2021  
[www.scrona.com](http://www.scrona.com)

Kara et al., Adv. Mater. Technol. (2023)

## Robotic assembly of Nanomaterials

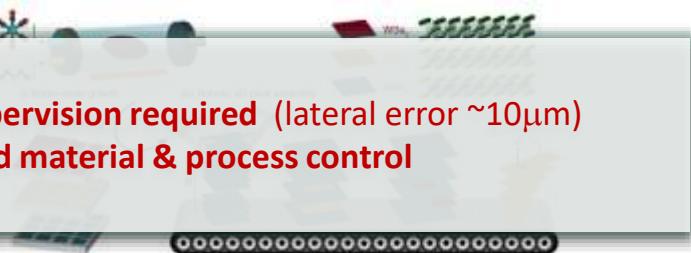


R. Frisenda, A. Castellanos-Gomez, News & Views  
Nature Nano, 13 (2018) 441



S. Masubuchi et al., Nature Comm. (2018) 9:1413

- **Operator supervision required** (lateral error  $\sim 10\mu\text{m}$ )
- **No integrated material & process control**

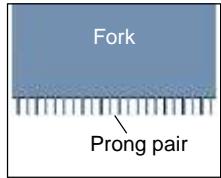


Mannix et al., Nature Nanotech. (2022)

# Manufacturing process overview



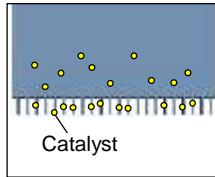
## Substrate Fabrication



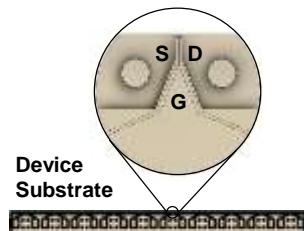
Growth Substrate



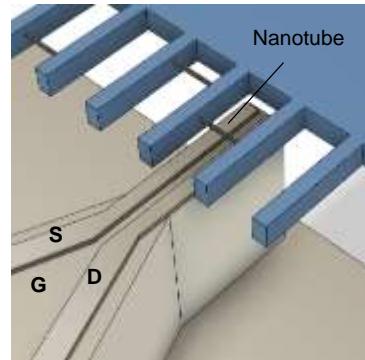
## Catalyst Deposition



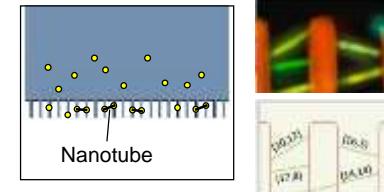
## Nanotube Growth

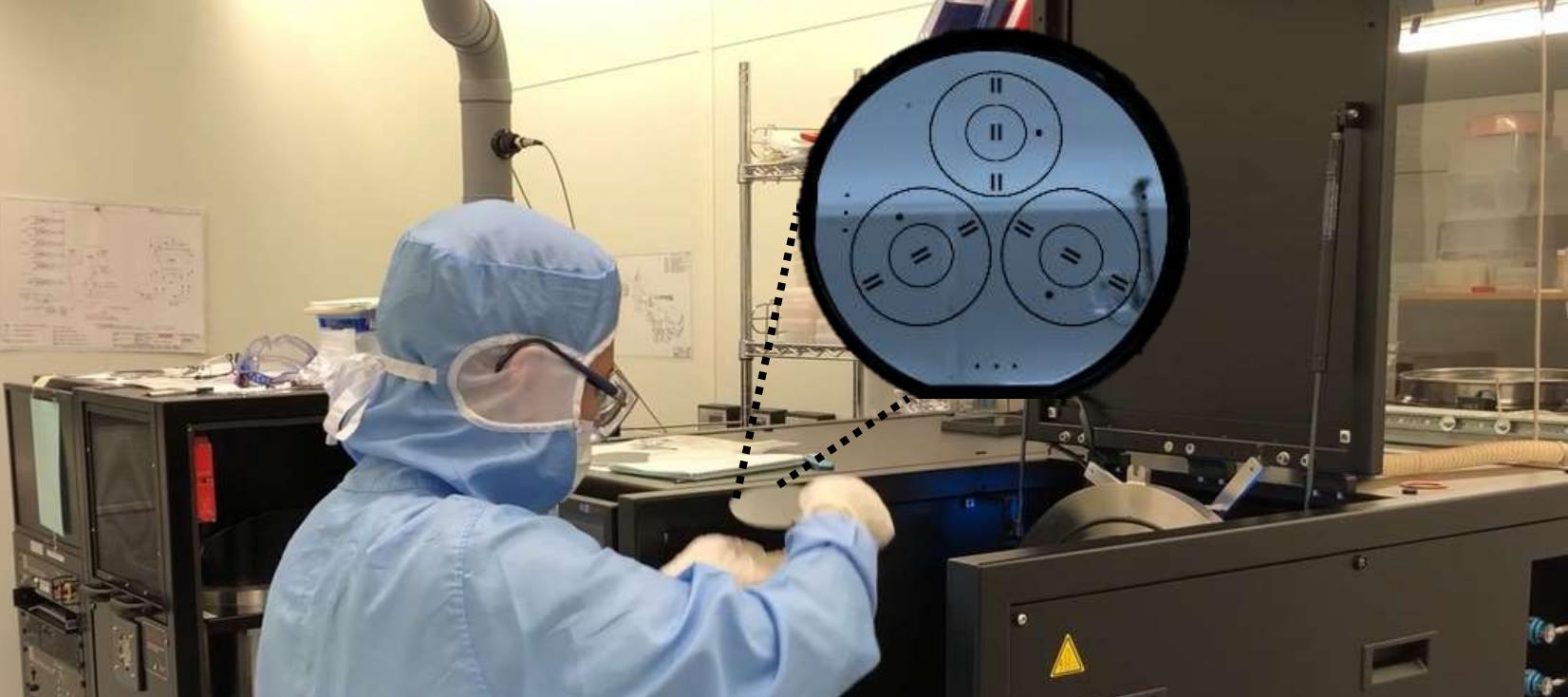


## Automated CNT Transfer



## High-speed Raman Imaging and Machine Learning Classification





Growth chip



12  $\mu\text{m}$

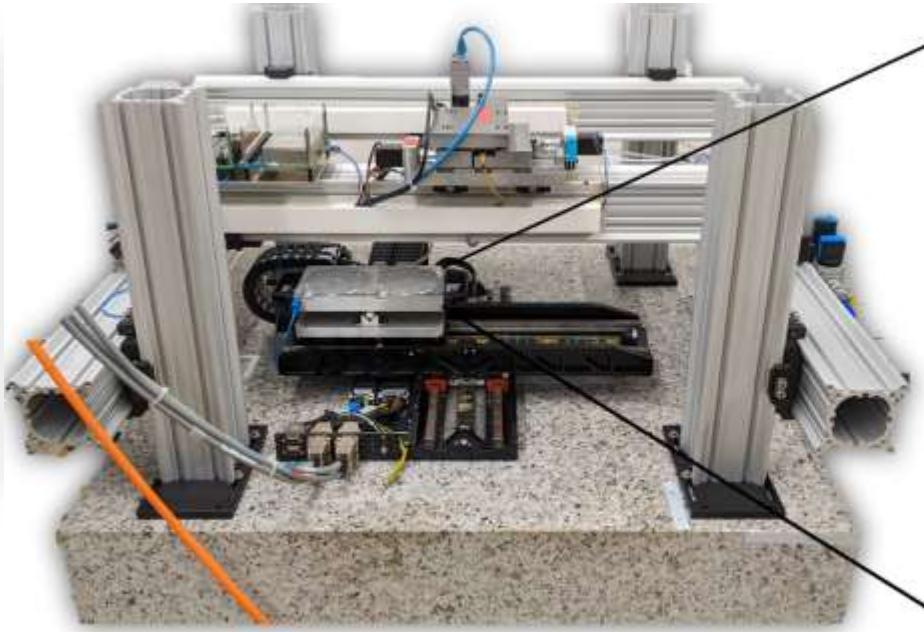
30 min later

Growth chip

Nanotube

# Automatized Materials Integration

## Carbon Nanotubes



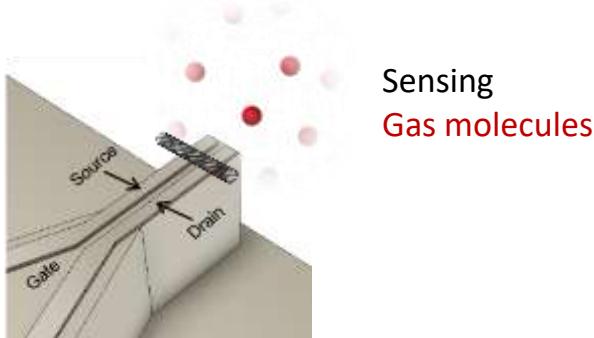
<https://www.sfa-am.ch/nano-assembly.html>

# Potential Applications



## Sensing Technology

Ultra-low power & portable sensors



**NO<sub>2</sub>** detection demonstrated (sub-ppm level);  
Benchmarking to manually assembled devices  
Satterthwaite *et al.*, Sens. Actuator B (2019)

**NB: recovery is accelerated in our case using an external microheater**

S. Jung *et al.* In preparation

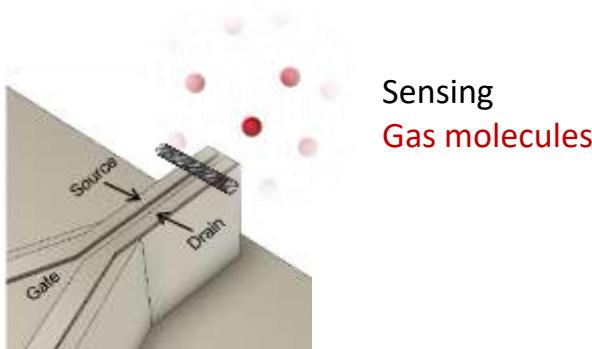
S. Jung et al., Sensors and Actuators B: Chemical, 331, 129406, (2020).

# Potential Applications



## Sensing Technology

Ultra-low power & portable sensors

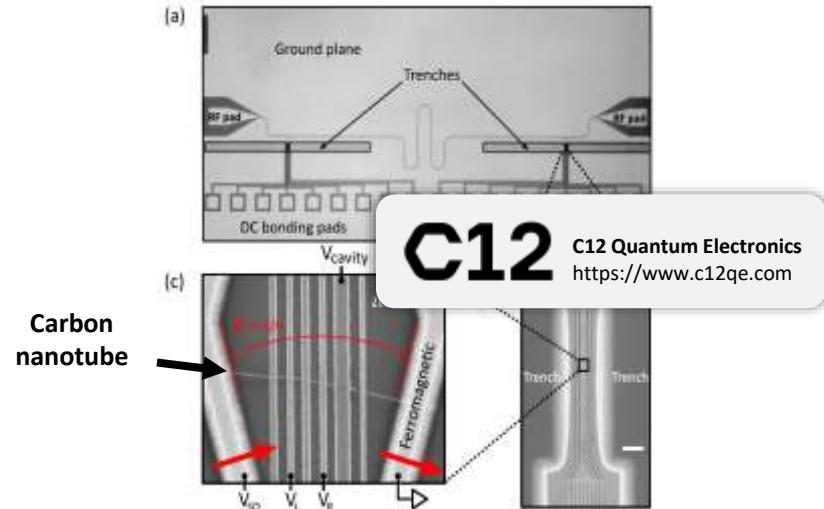


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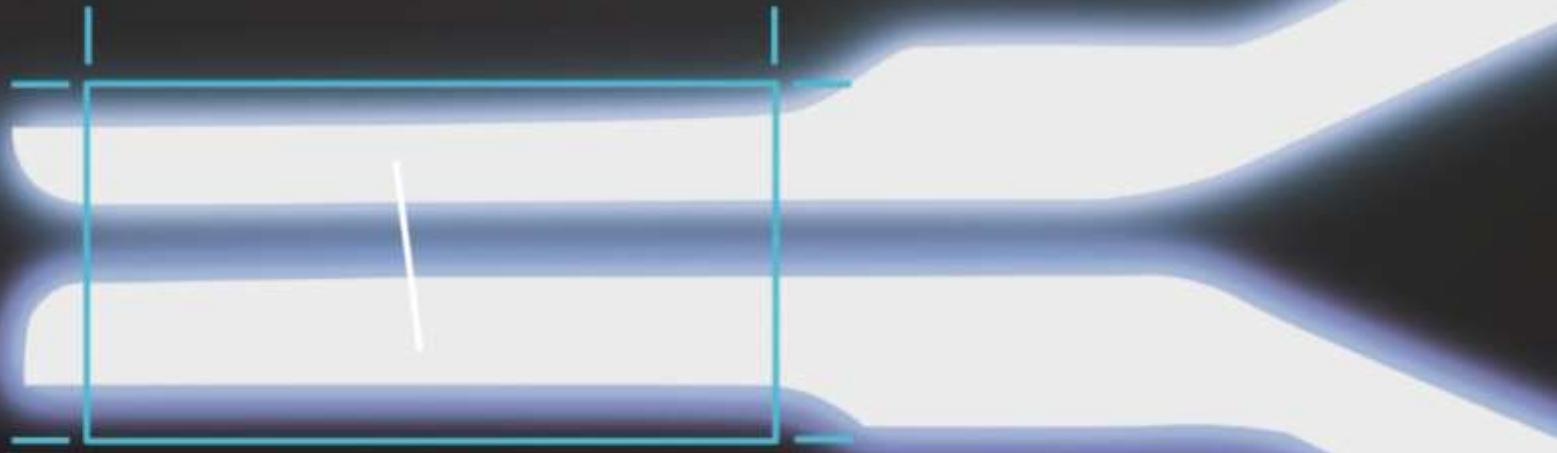
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S. Jung *et al.* In preparation  
S. Jung et al., Sensors and Actuators B: Chemical, 331, 129406, (2020).

## Quantum Technology

Qubits for circuit quantum electrodynamics



Highly coherent spin states in carbon nanotubes coupled to cavity photons; Cubaynes *et al.*, npj Quantum Information 5:47 (2019)



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Materials Science and Technology

# Thank you

## Fabrication Facilities



## Funding Agencies

