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# **Graphene's Double Identity**

## Extraordinary Conductor







Novoselov *et al Nature* 2005;

Zhang *et al*, Nature 2005.

## 2D Elastic Membrane



New model system for condensed matter research and electronic materials

Linear dispersion, tunable carrier, surface 2DEG, high thermal and electrical conductivity

Thinnest isolated membrane with exceptional mechanical properties

. . . .

# Outline

- Quantum Transport of charges
  - Tunable *pn* junctions
- Graphene as a 2D membrane
  - A new wrinkle











# **Extraction of Single- and Bi-Layer Graphene**

## **Optical Microscope**

AFM

Single-layer graphene Bi-layer graphene







- Mechanical exfoliation -- rub graphite flakes onto SiO<sub>2</sub> substrates
- Identify the number of layers by
  - Raman spectroscopy
  - Transport measurement
  - Color contrast in an optical microscope
- AFM images reveal mesoscopic features

# **Graphene Supercurrent Transistor**



•Supercurrent carried by electrons, holes and in nominally undoped regimes.

•Critical current depends on gate voltage.

Miao, Bao, Zhang, CNL, Solid State Comm.(2009)

# **Graphene** *p-n* **Junctions**

- Unique advantage: local control of charge density and type
- Graphene p-n junctions with top gate(s):
  - •allow in situ tuning of junction polarity and dopant levels
- Application
  - Klein tunneling

(perfect transmission of relativistic particles across high barrier) recent evidence: Kim's group, Goldhaber-Gordon's group, & Savchenko's group.

- Veselago lensing (optics-like focusing of electron rays)
- Band gap engineering of bi-layer graphene
- Particle collimation
- Valley polarization

Theories: Abanin *et al* 2006, 2007; Fogler *et al* 2007; Shytov *et al* 2007; Katsnelson *et al* 2006; Beenakker group, Cheianov *et al* 2006, 2007 Experimental demonstration: Huard *et al* 2007; Williams *et al* 2007, Ozyilmaz *et al* 2007, Oostinga *et al* 2007

# **Klein Tunneling**

Relativistic charged particles at normal incidence has perfect transmission across a high barrier ( $V_0 > 2mc^2$ ).



Cheianov and Falko, PRB (2006). Katsnelson et al, Nature Physics (2006).

- Thought to be realizable at the edge of blackholes
- Graphene: electrons in conduction band  $\rightarrow$  holes in valence band
- Transmission probability depends on incidence angle

# Graphene p-n Junctions

- Challenge deposition of top gate tends to dope or damage the atomic layer
- Innovation: Suspended, contactless top gate
  - •Gentle process
  - •Graphene can be annealed to improve mobility and contact









# **Conductance of** *p***-***n***-***p* **Junctions**



see also Gorbachev et al, Nano Letter (2008).

# **Fabry Perot Interference**



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# Quantum Hall States in graphene p-n-p Junctions

8 10

- Quantum Hall plateau at fractional values of  $e^2/h$
- Edge state equilibration, full mixing of propagation modes at interfaces
- Full and partial edge state equilibration



# **Future Work**

- Spin transport in p-n junctions
- Junction shape
- Veselago Lensing (requires extremely clean devices →suspended graphene + suspended gate?)
- Supercurrent in p-n junctions

Abanine & Levitov, PRB, 2008; Cheianov *et al* 2006, 2007, Fogler et al, 2008; Zhang & Fogler, 2008.



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## The Softer Side of Graphene



Collaborator: Chris Dames, ME@UCR

Thinnest isolated membrane with exceptional mechanical properties

. . . .

# **Ripples in Graphene**

- Presence of ripples in suspended graphene
- *inferred* from electron diffraction patterns
- Significant implication on electrical transport properties
  - induce local gauge field
  - change local chemical potential
  - ultimate bottleneck for mobility?



(Theories by Louie, Castro Neto, Katnelson, Guinea, Herbut *et al*, Juan *et al*...)

Meyer et al, Nature (2007)

### No direct observation of ripples

## (Attempts to) Fabricate Suspended Graphene Devices

### Successful Technique (Kim and Andrei groups, 2008)

- Exfoliate graphene onto substrates
- Deposit electrodes
- Release completed devices from SiO<sub>2</sub> using HF etching
- Anneal
- Observed much higher mobility (up to 250,000)

### Our technique

- Etch trenches on substrates
- Directly exfoliate graphene sheets across trenches
- Deposit electrodes
- Anneal
- Initial test: very low mobility (~100-500)

our typical substrate-supported devices: ~ 2,000-10,000



Du et al, *Nature Physics* (2008)



# Huh?



# **Imaging Suspended Graphene**

- Directly exfoliate graphene sheets across pre-defined trenches
- Image under SEM



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## **Spontaneous, Periodic Ripple Formation in Graphene**

Directly exfoliate graphene sheets across pre-defined trenches

- Many graphene sheets are not flat, but spontaneously form ripples
- Almost perfectly sinusoidal profile
  - + thickness: 0.3 nm (single layer) -- 16 nm
  - amplitude: 0.7 to 30 nm

SEM

+ wavelength: 370 nm -- 5 μm







# **Origin of Ripples**



• ripples can be induced by longitudinal strains or shears



# **Graphene as an Elastic Membrane**

VOLUME 90, NUMBER 7 PHYSICAL REVIEW LETTERS week ending 21 FEBRUARY 2003

#### Geometry and Physics of Wrinkling

E. Cerda<sup>1,2</sup> and L. Mahadevan<sup>1,\*</sup> <sup>1</sup>Department of Applied Mathematics and Theoretical Physics, University of Cambridge, Silver Street, Cambridge CB3 9EW, United Kingdom <sup>2</sup>Departamento de Física, Universidad de Santiago de Chile, Avenida Ecuador 3493, Casilla 307, Correo 2, Santiago, Chile (Received 25 June 2002; published 19 February 2003)

competition between bending and stretching

• ripples induced by longitudinal strains or shears



## **Strain-Induced Ripples in Atomic Membranes**



- Membranes that are a few atomic layers thick obeys thin film mechanics
- Larger range of strains (up to 2%) observed for thinner membranes

# Graphene as the World's thinnest Saran Wrap

### macroscopic



### mesoscopic







# **Device Fabrication Attempt**

## Ripples are the culprits for low mobility of our devices? Not so fast!

Devices were annealed to improve mobility



 $\rightarrow$  graphene sheets collapsed

# **Thermal Effect on Ripples**





- Ripples have larger wavelengths and amplitudes
- Membranes buckles upward or towards the bottom of the trench

# In Situ SEM imaging of ripple formation



# **Movie of ripple formation**



# **Mechanism of ripple formation**



Graphene has a *negative* thermal expansion coefficient



### Heating

graphene contracts, substrate expands → erasing pre-existing ripples



## Cooling

- graphene expands, substrate contracts
- bending is easier than sliding
- $\rightarrow$  edges remain pinned by the trench edges
- $\rightarrow$  ripples (transverse)
  - slacks (longitudinal)

## Measurement of Thermal Expansion Coefficient $\alpha$



- Single layer graphene heated to 500 K and cools down slowly
- Compute  $I(T)=L_g(T)/L_t(T)$  at different temperatures
- Slope  $b = \frac{dl}{dT} \approx \alpha \alpha_{Si}$



Bao, Miao, Chen, Zhang, Jung, Dames and CNL, Nature Nanotechnol. (2009)

# **Ongoing: Cooling Suspended Graphene**



## **Ongoing: Electrostatic Distortion of Suspended Graphene**



Back to 0V

Gate voltages induces deformation in suspended graphene membranes.



Leon, Prada, San-Jose, Guinea, PRL (2009)

## **Lessons Learnt**

- Always look at the devices
- Suspended graphene membranes are very finicky!
  - often have ripples
  - anneal with care
    - collapse graphene
    - cause ripples to form or change
  - morphology is strongly temperature dependent
    - resistance is strongly temperature dependent
    - quantum Hall plateaus disappear after annealing
    - nanoelectromechanical resonator's characteristic frequency shifts with temperature
  - shape changes with gate voltages

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Castro Neto, Guinea, Katsnelson, Brey, Louie, etc

## Exploit Electrical Properties of Rippled Graphene?

superlattices, strain-based engineering...

. . . .

# **Coming soon -- Electrical Measurement**

- Device with random or periodic ripples
- suspended and substrate supported portions of the same graphene sheet



- Despite small random ripples, suspended graphene has higher mobility
- Collapsed graphene (with very severe strain) does have very low mobility
- Ripple's *T*-dependence: relevant for suspended graphene devices

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Hang Zhang

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