

Characterization and comparison of devices fabricated from epitaxial graphene on SiC and electrostatically transferred graphene

Stephen W. Howell

Laura B. Biedermann, Thomas E. Beechem, Anthony J. Ross, Wei Pan, and Taisuke Ohta

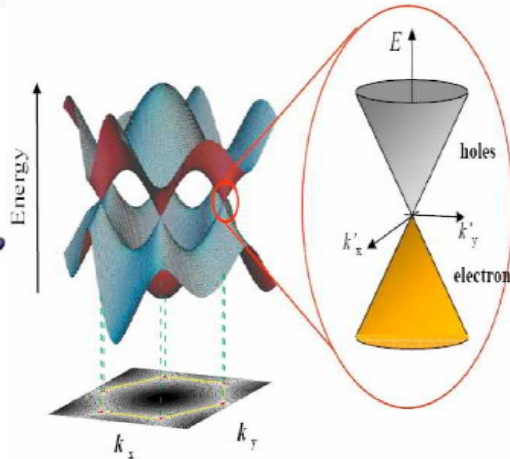
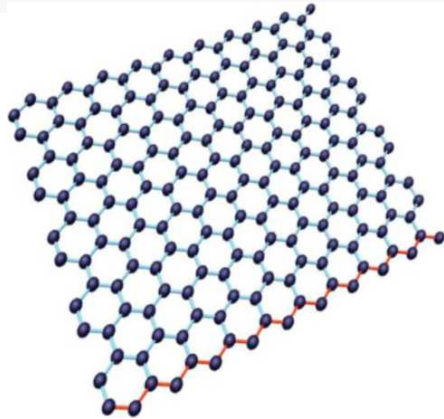
Sandia National Laboratories

GOMAC Tech 2011

Sandia is a multiprogram laboratory operated by Sandia Corporation, a Lockheed Martin Company, for the United States Department of Energy's National Nuclear Security Administration under contract DE-AC04-94AL85000.

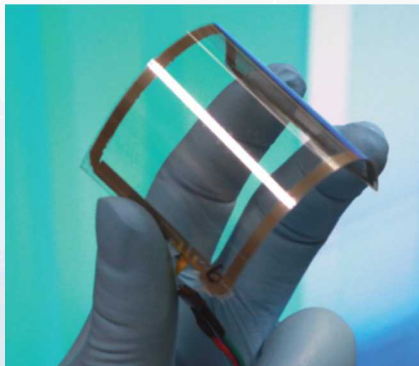


Why graphene?



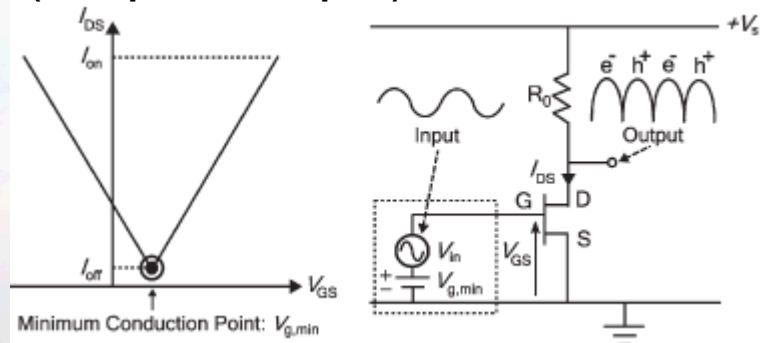
Mobility, μ , up to 250,000 cm²/Vs
(suspended exfoliated graphene)
Ambipolar, zero-bandgap
Current densities up to 5×10^8 A/cm²
Elastic modulus ~ 1 TPa

Transparent electrodes



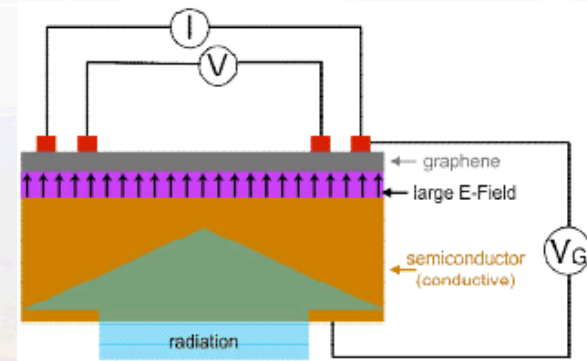
S. Bae et al, *Nature Nano.*,
5, 574-578 (2010)

Frequency multiplier (ambipolar transport)



H. Wang et al., *IEEE Elec. Dev. Lett.*,
30, 547-549 (2009).

Read-out for radiation detection



M. Foxe et al., *IEEE Trans. Nuclear Sci.*, submitted (2010).



Motivation for transferring epitaxial graphene (EG) from SiC

- **Transfer of CVD grown graphene has been demonstrated**
 - CVD typically has lower mobilities than EG on SiC
- **Limitations of EG on SiC**
 - Lack of a back gate
 - Difficult to create suspended graphene
 - EG is inherently doped by underlying SiC (electronic properties are highly substrate dependent)
- **Why use EG on SiC?**
 - EG grown on SiC has high carrier mobility
 - Current synthesis approaches allow for tight control of graphene thickness (wafer-scale monolayer and bilayer coverage)
- **Development of a scalable transfer technology that preserves EG's remarkable electronic properties could enable:**
 - EG integration with current CMOS processes
 - Integration with optical devices (eg: metamaterials, laser pulse formers)

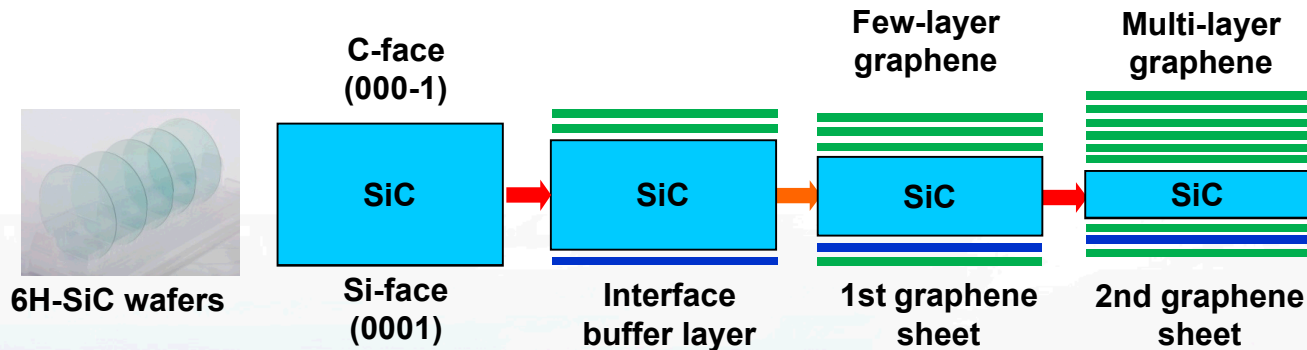


Ar-mediated synthesis yields high quality epitaxial graphene

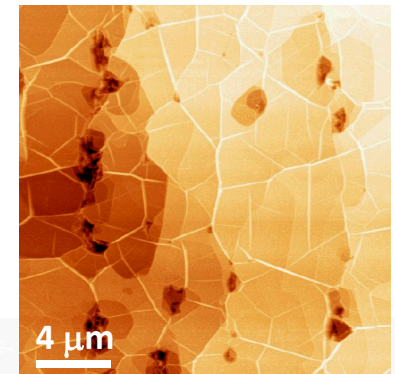
SiC graphitization conditions:

High temperature ($>1200\text{ }^{\circ}\text{C}$)

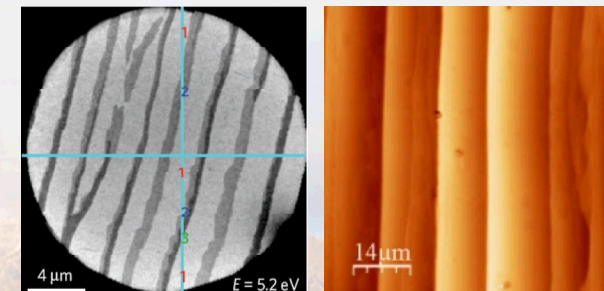
Argon atmosphere at atmospheric pressure



C-face (000-1)



Si-face (0001)

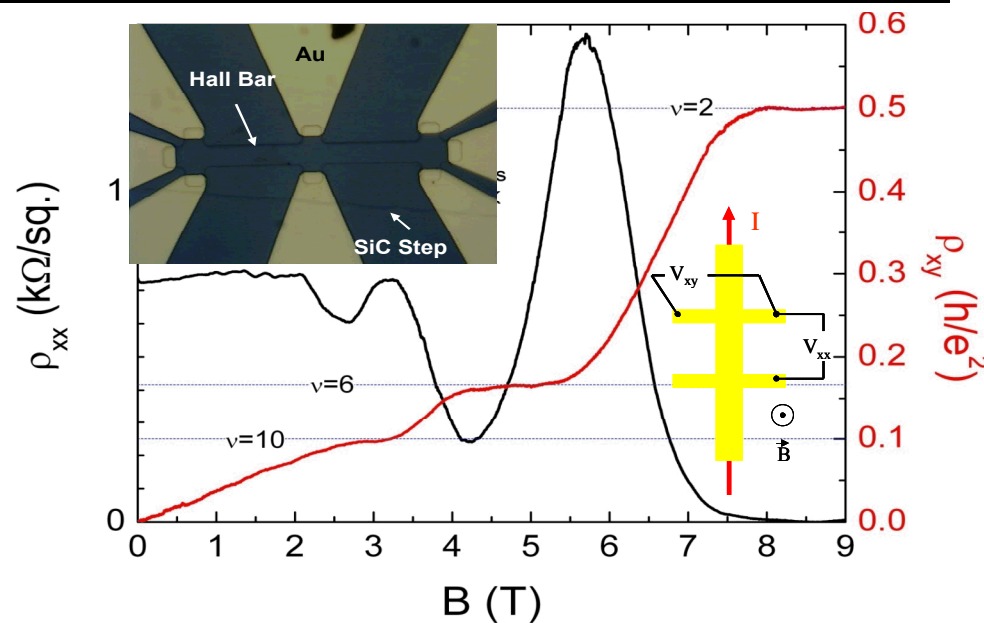


K. V. Emtsev *et al.*, *Nature Mater.* **8**, 203 (2009)..
C. Virojanadara *et al.*, *Phys. Rev. B* **78**, 245403 (2008).
T. Ohta *et al.*, *Phys Rev B* **81** 121411(R) (2010).
Samples provided by T. Ohta



Electronic characterization of EG grown on SiC (0001)

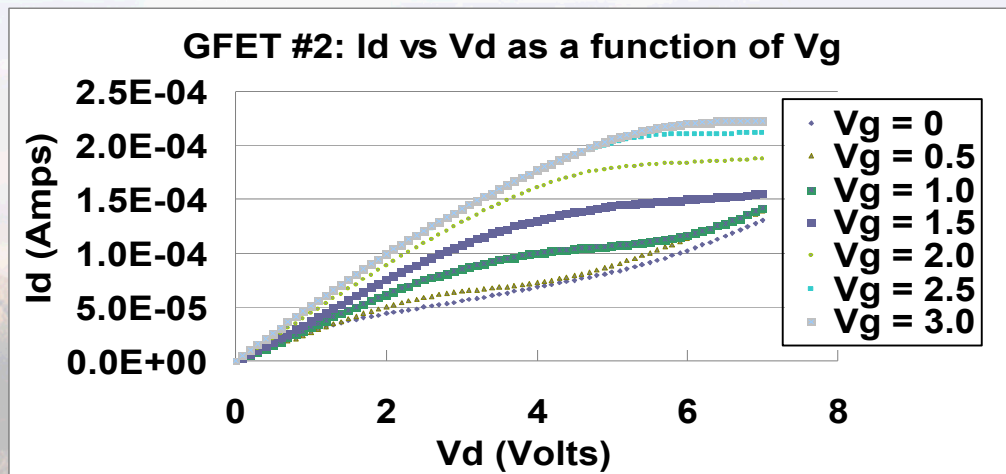
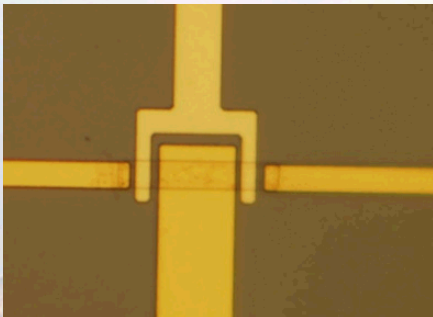
Low Temp Transport Measurements (4 K)



- EG electron mobility: $14,000 \text{ cm}^2/\text{Vs}$
 - Record mobility (at time of measurement)
- Electron density: $6 \times 10^{11} \text{ cm}^{-2}$
- Graphene sheet resistance:
 - $\sim 1600 \Omega/\text{sq}$ (average of 12 devices)
 - Indicates high uniformity
- Observed IQHE on 3 devices on the same chip

Pan, Howell, Ross, Ohta and Friedmann
Appl. Phys. Lett. 97, 252101 (2010)

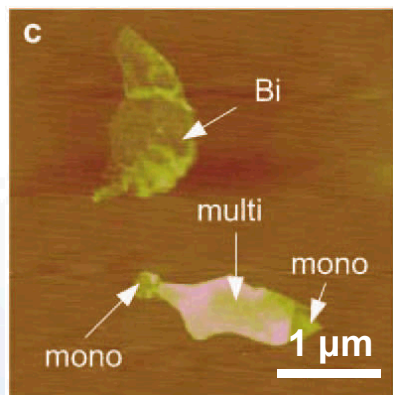
GFET Development



Methods to transfer EG to SiO₂

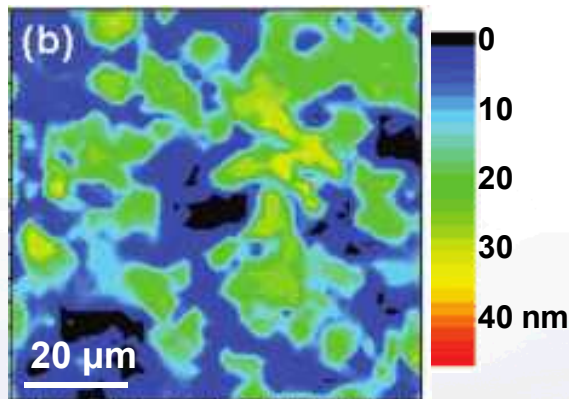


**Thermal release tape
+ 5 N/mm² pressure**



Si-face EG
Small flakes

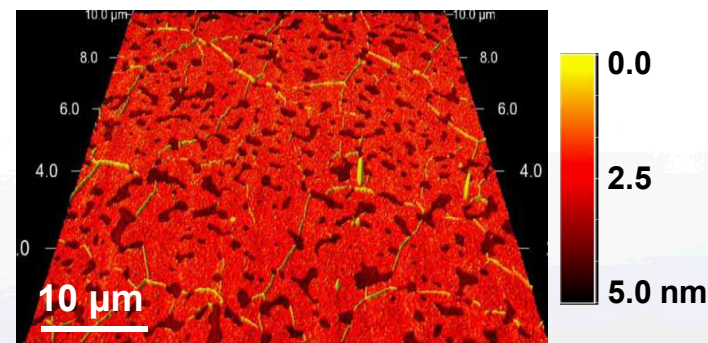
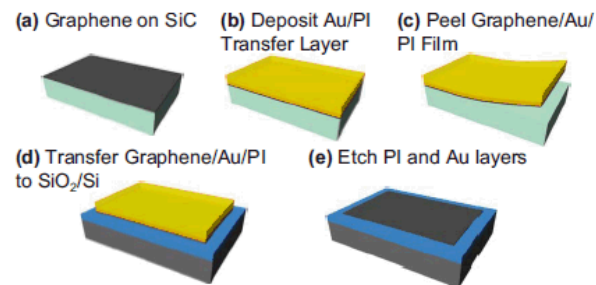
D. Lee *et al.*, *Nano Lett.* **8**,
4320-5 (2008).



C-face EG
Very thick graphene
 $\mu \sim 1350 \text{ cm}^2/\text{Vs}$

J. Caldwell *et al.*, *ACS Nano.* **4**,
118-14 (2010).

Gold/polyimide film handle



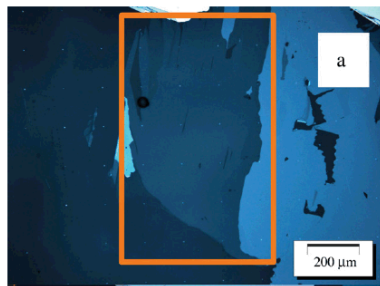
Si-face EG
Damaged graphene
 $\mu \sim 100 \text{ cm}^2/\text{Vs}$

S. Unarunoai *et al.*, *APL.* **95**, 202101 (2009).

Voltage-driven exfoliation of graphite

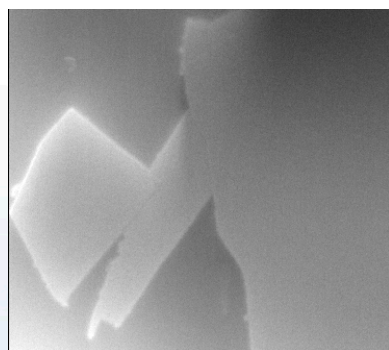
Stress to exfoliate graphene from bulk graphite: $P = 0.4 \text{ MPa}$

T. Kuzumaki *et al.*, *APL*, 79, 4580-2 (2001).



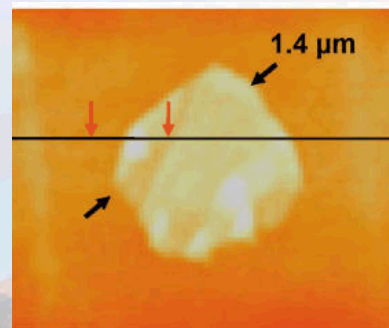
Graphite to Pyrex
1.2 – 1.7 kV
 $\mu \sim 10^4 \text{ cm}^2/\text{Vs}$

A. Shukla *et al.*, *Solid State Comm.* **149**, 718-21 (2009).



HOPG to SiO_2
3-30 kV

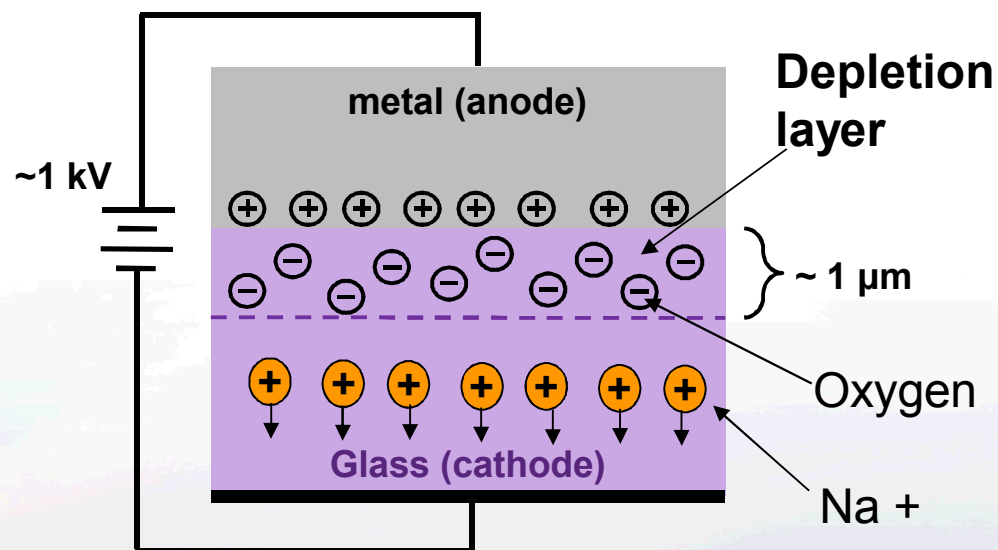
A. Sidorov *et al.*,
Nanotechnology **18**,
135301 (2007).



Pre-patterned
HOPG to SiO_2
8.5 V
 $\mu \sim 1050 \text{ cm}^2/\text{Vs}$

X. Liang *et al.*, *Nano Lett.* **9**, 467-72 (2009).

Shukla's method is derived from anodic bonding.

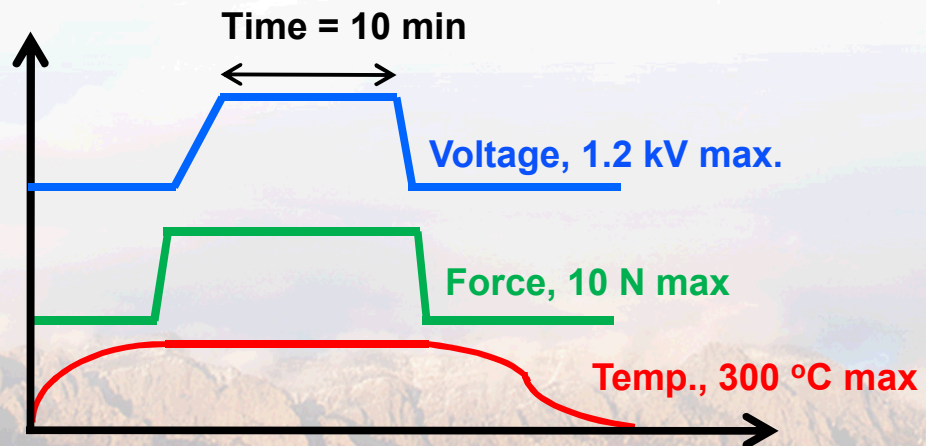
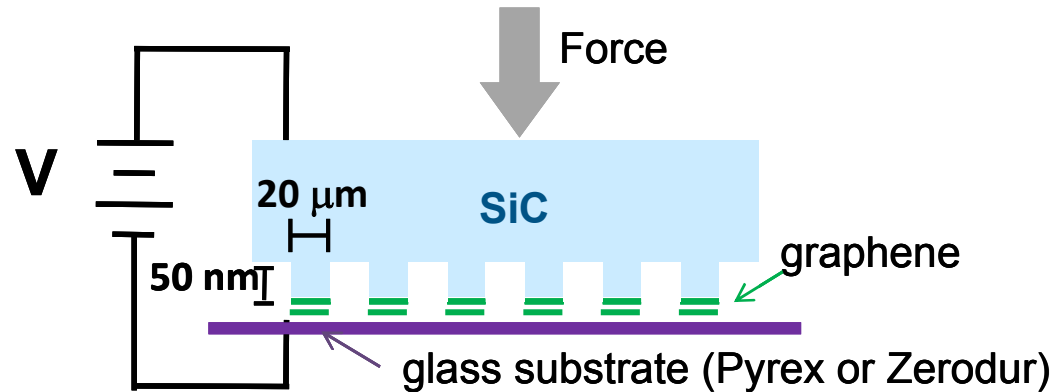
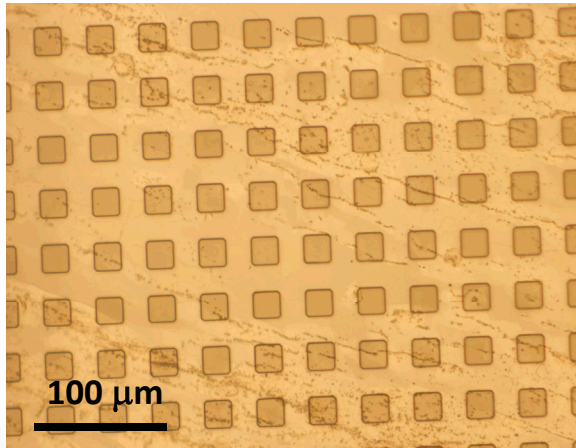


$$E_{\text{depletion}} \approx 300 \text{ MV/m}$$

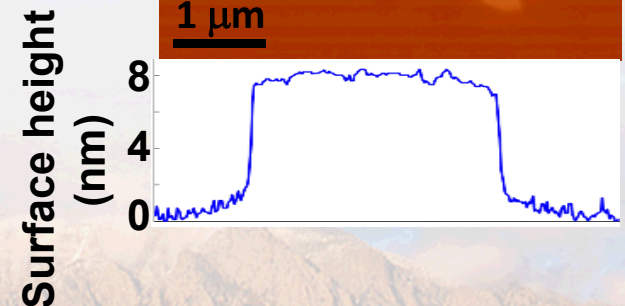
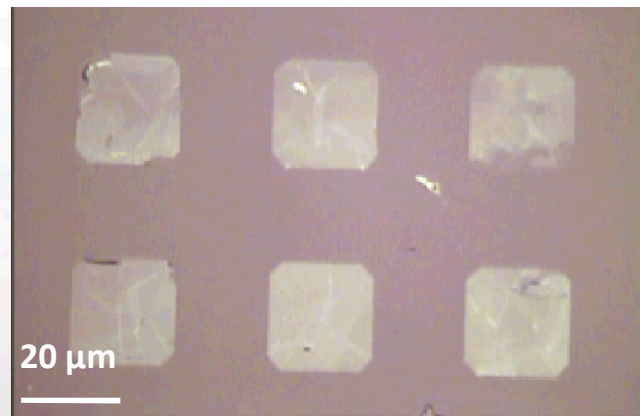
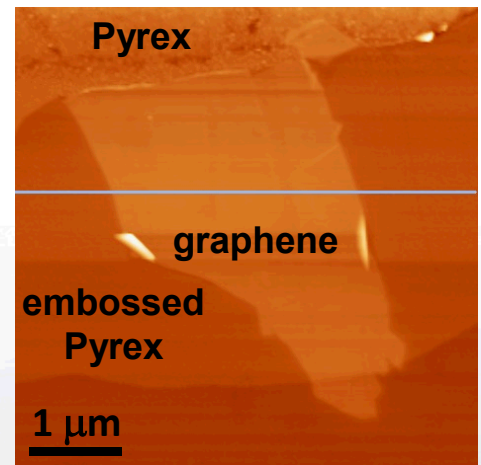
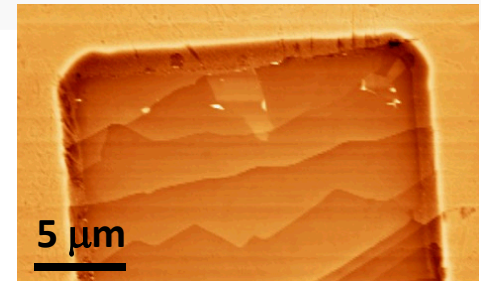
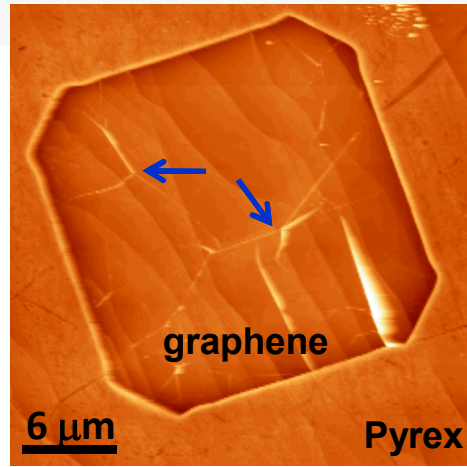
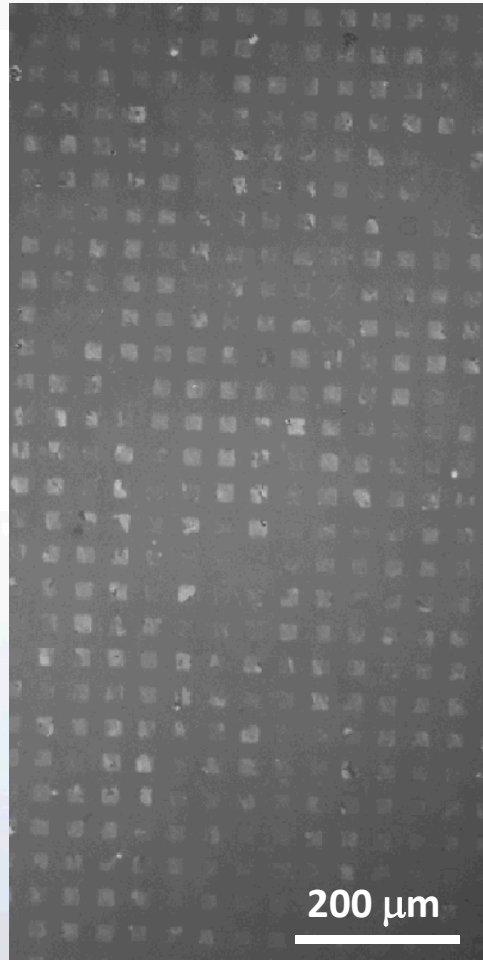
$$\text{Assuming parallel plates: } P = \frac{1}{2} \epsilon_o \epsilon_r E^2 \approx 2 \text{ MPa}$$

Graphene transfer procedure

Patterned epitaxial graphene



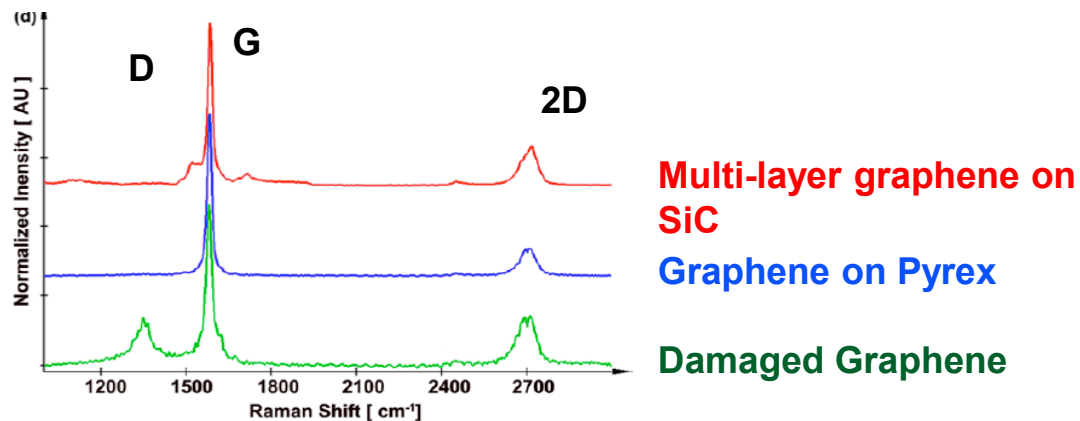
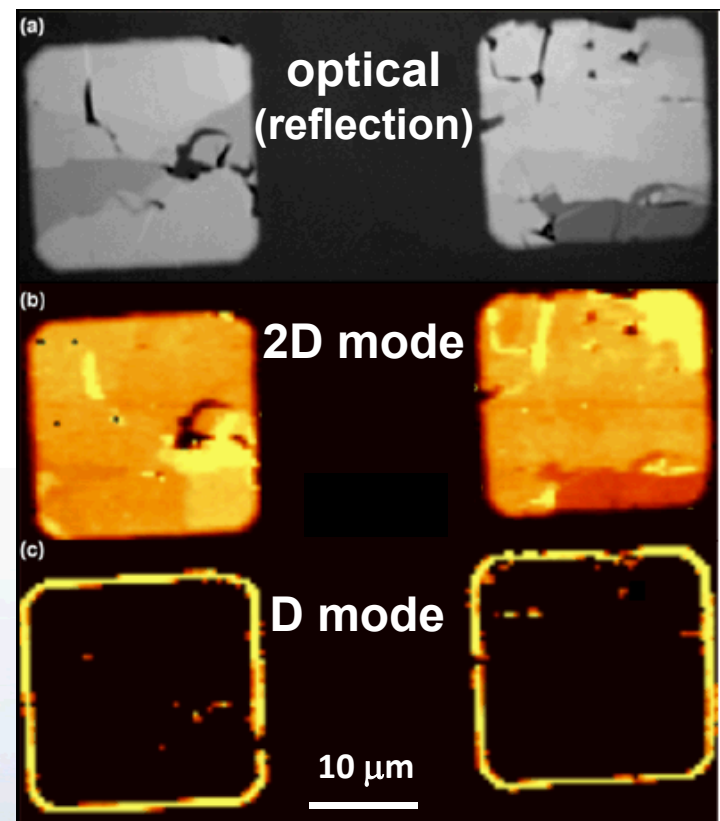
C-face graphene squares transferred to Pyrex



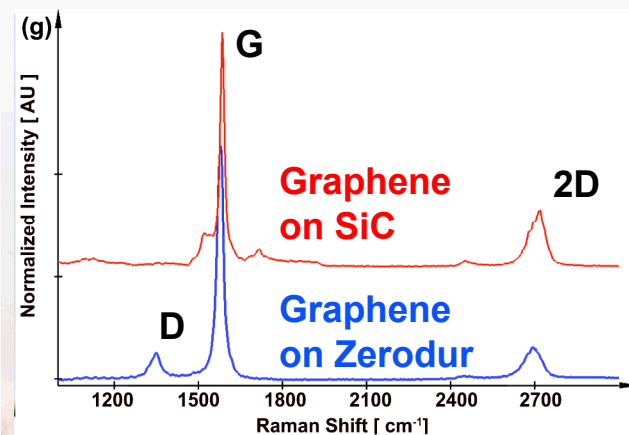
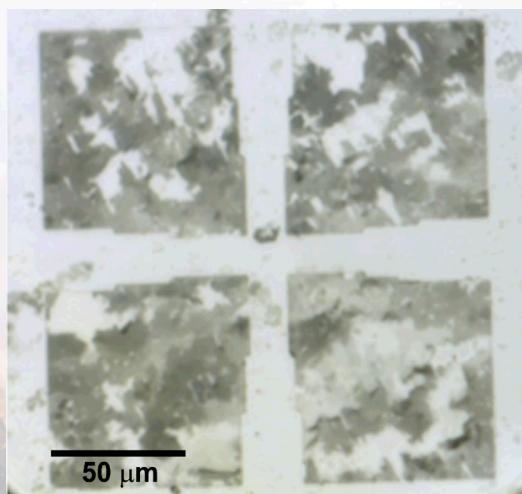
63% \pm 7% of graphene was successfully transferred (determined by flood analysis of optical image)

Raman analysis confirms graphene transfer

Graphene on Pyrex

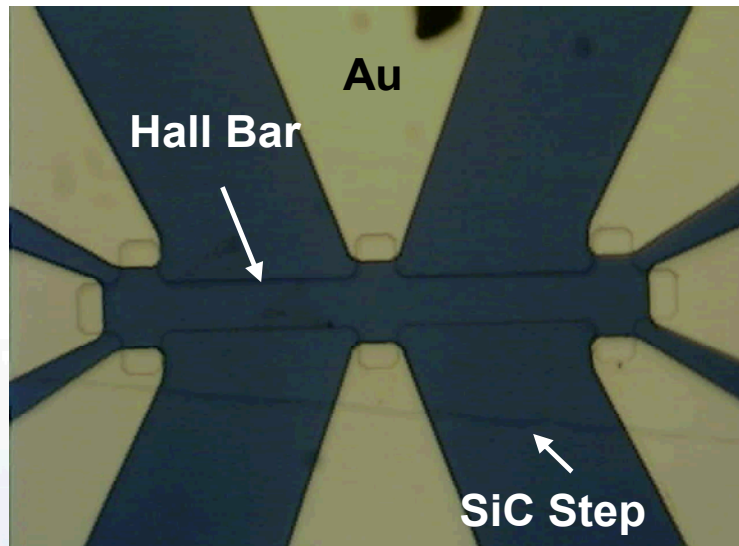


Graphene on Zerodur



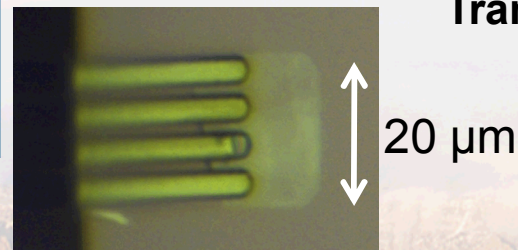
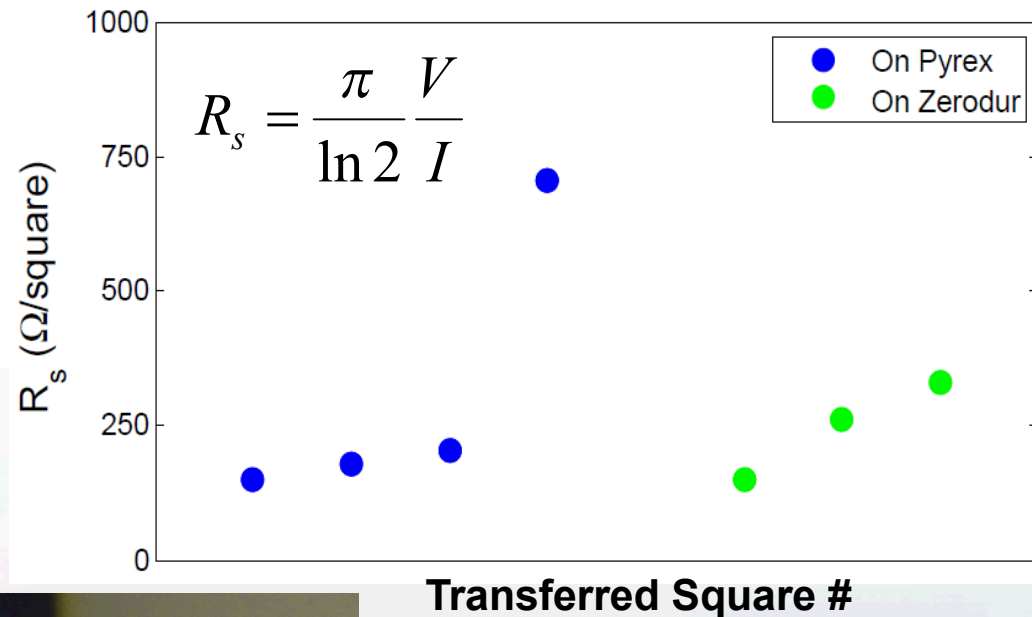
Electronic characterization of C-face transferred graphene

At ~10 K, $R_s = 180 \pm 70 \, \Omega/\text{sq}$ for epitaxial graphene on SiC(000-1)



Sizes: $400 \times 50 \, \mu\text{m}^2$ down to $50 \times 6 \, \mu\text{m}^2$

At RT, R_s is as low as $150 \, \Omega/\text{sq}$ for transferred graphene

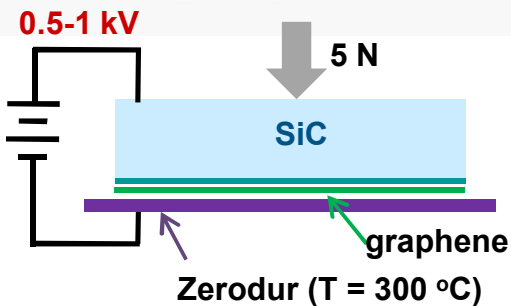


- Average R_{sheet} :
 - Pyrex: $320 \, \Omega/\text{sq}$
 - Zerodur: $250 \, \Omega/\text{sq}$

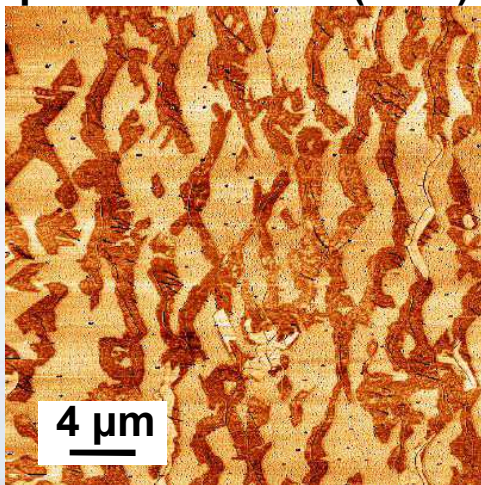


L. Biedermann, T. Beechem, A. Ross, T. Ohta, and S. Howell, *New J. of Physics* 12 (2010) 120516

Chip-scale transfer of Si-face graphene to Zerodur

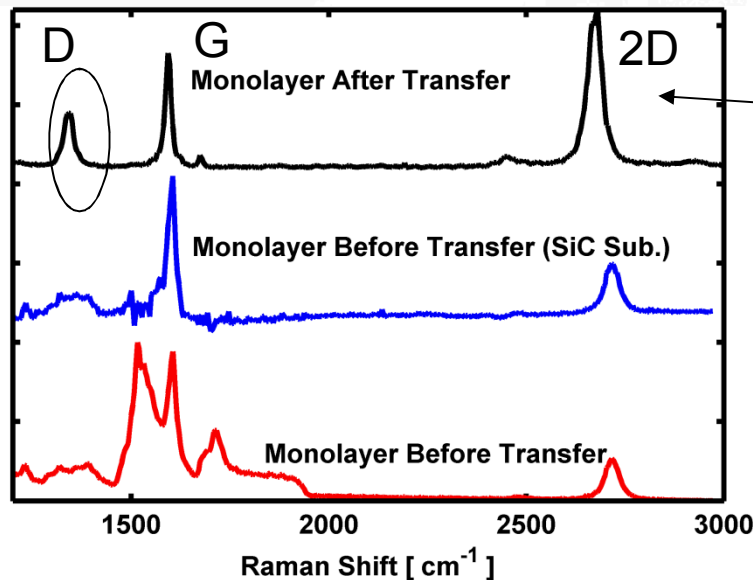
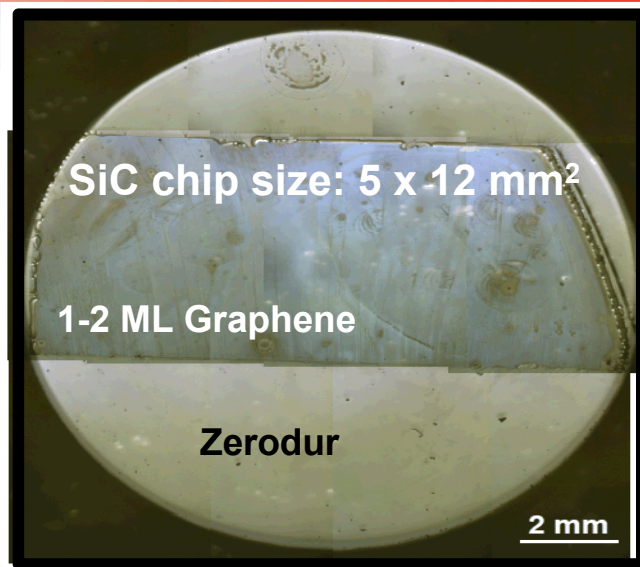


Graphene on SiC,
prior to transfer (AFM)



Bright phase = 1 ML

Dark phase = 2 ML



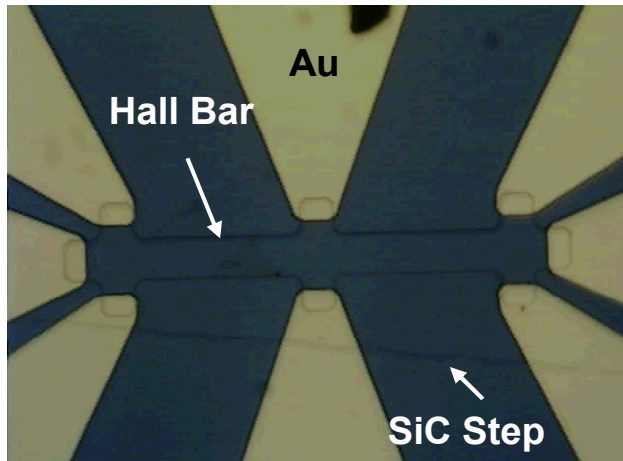
Similar to
exfoliated few-
layer graphene



Sandia National Laboratories

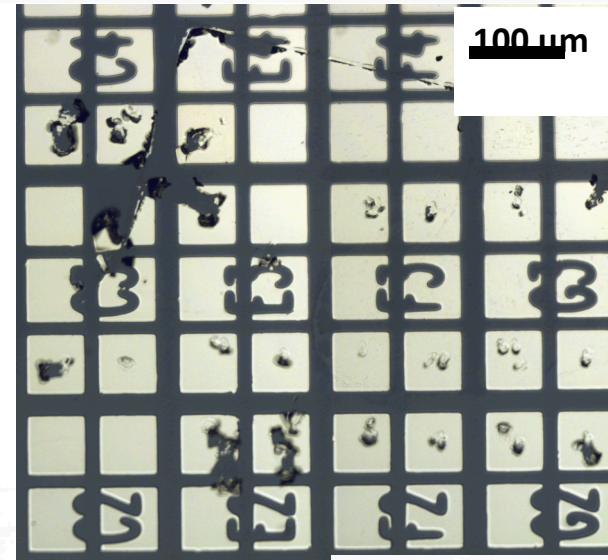
Comparison of transferred Si-face graphene to EG

EG Hall bar on SiC(0001)



- Graphene Rs: $\sim 1630 \pm 170 \text{ } \Omega/\text{sq}$
 - (average from 12 devices)
- EG electron mobility: $14,000 \text{ cm}^2/\text{Vs}$
- Electron density: $6 \times 10^{11} \text{ cm}^{-2}$

EG transferred to Zerodur

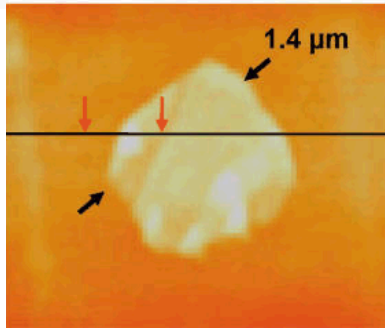


- Graphene Rs: $1210 \pm 260 \text{ } \Omega/\text{sq}$
- Large area connectivity $\sim \text{mm}^2$

Issues:

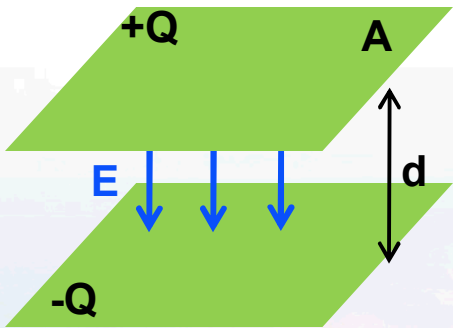
- Reliability of transfer
- Damage to graphene during transfer and additional processing
- SiC/glass bonding (at some defect locations)

Ongoing work: Electrostatic rather than electrochemical transfer



Pre-patterned
HOPG to SiO₂
8.5 V
 $\mu \sim 1050 \text{ cm}^2/\text{Vs}$

X. Liang *et al.*, *Nano Lett.* **9**, 467-72 (2009).

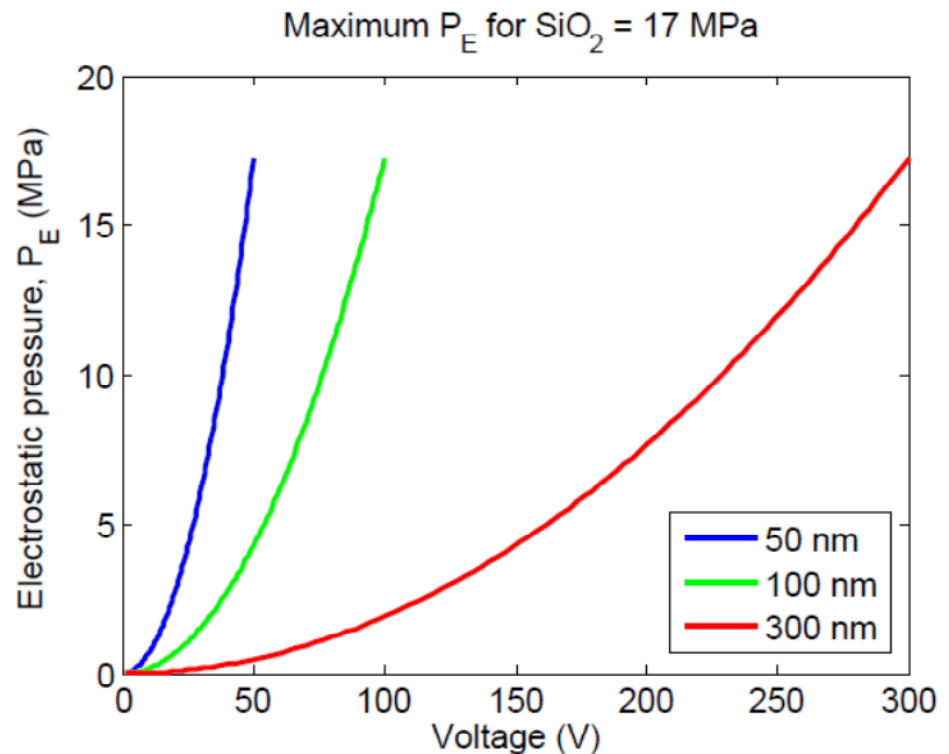


$$\vec{F}_{cap} = Q\vec{E}$$

$$P_E = \frac{\vec{F}_{cap}}{A} = \frac{\epsilon_o \epsilon_r V^2}{d^2}$$

The exfoliation strength of graphite is $\sim 0.4 \text{ MPa}$.

- We are currently developing a method for lower voltage ($< 300\text{V}$) transfer
- Improving the capacitance of the system for increased electrostatic force



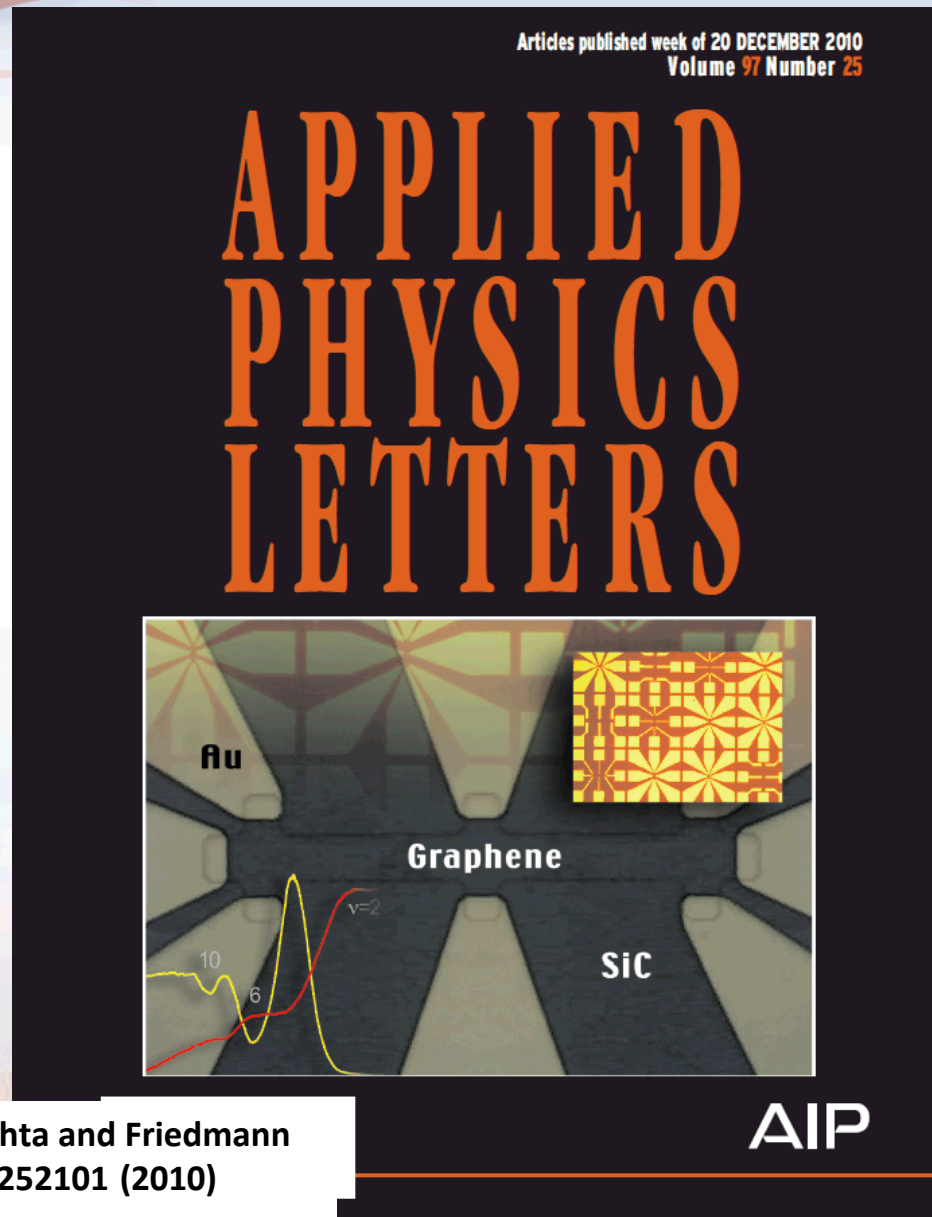


Conclusions

- **Demonstrated transfer of C-face EG to Pyrex and Zerodur from SiC**
- **Graphene transferred from C-face was characterized with Raman and micro four probe**
 - C-face graphene can be transferred without inducing defects
 - Average R_s : 320 Ω/Sq (Pyrex) and 250 Ω/Sq (Zerodur)
 - R_s for the transferred graphene was comparable to that for the epitaxial graphene ($R_s = 180 \pm 70 \Omega/\text{sq}$ at $\sim 10 \text{ K}$)
- **Monolayer/Bilayer EG can also be transferred from the Si-face**
 - Increased defects detected by Raman
 - Observed areas of large scale connectivity ($\sim \text{mm}^2$)
 - average R_s : $1210 \pm 260 \Omega/\text{Sq}$
 - Transfer relaxes strain inherent in Si-face EG (data not shown)
- **This technique may be very useful for transferring few layer graphene films prepared on C-Face SiC**



APL Cover

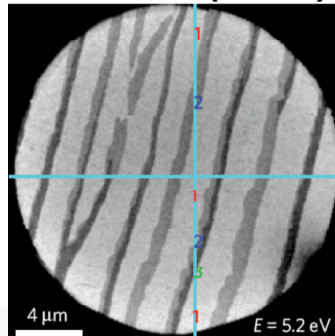


Pan, Howell, Ross, Ohta and Friedmann
Appl. Phys. Lett. 97, 252101 (2010)

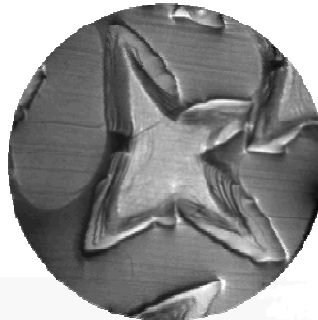
Acknowledgements

Sandia is in the 3rd year of an internally funded project to develop the scientific basis required for synthesis of high quality graphene

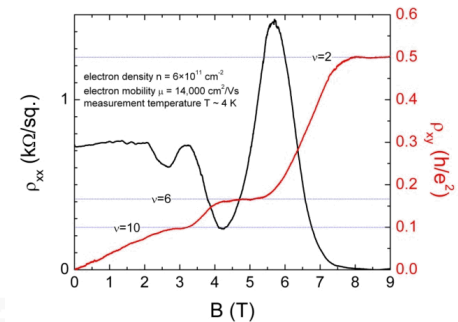
**Thermal Decomposition
of SiC (Ohta)**



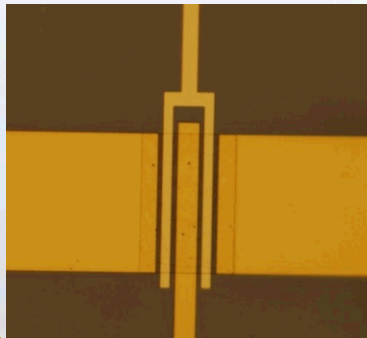
**CVD Dep on Metals
(McCarty)**



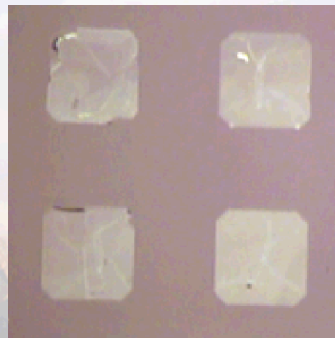
**Transport Measurements
(Pan, Howell)**



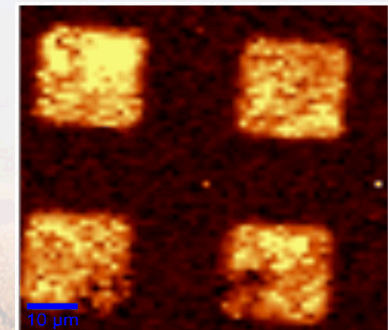
**GFET Development
(Howell, Ross, Trotter)**



**Transfer
(Biedermann, Howell)**



**Raman Mapping
(Beechem, Ohta)**



L. Biedermann, T. Beechem, A. Ross, T. Ohta, and S. Howell, *New J. of Physics* **12** (2010)



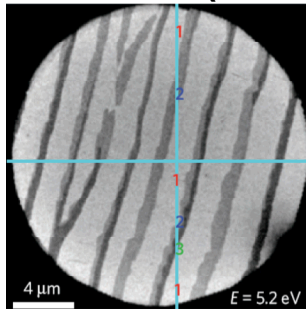
Backup Slides



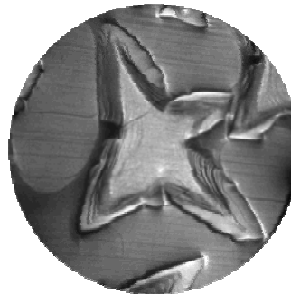
Acknowledgements

Sandia is in the 3rd year of an internally funded project to develop the scientific basis required for synthesis of high quality graphene

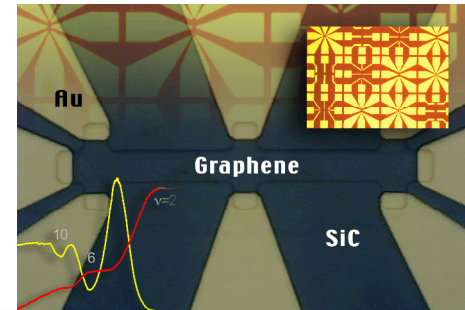
**Thermal Decomposition
of SiC (Ohta)**



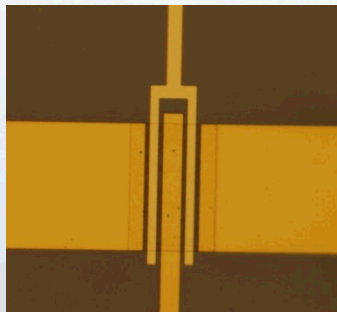
**CVD Dep on Metals
(McCarty)**



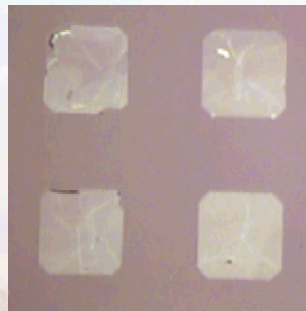
**Transport Measurements
(Pan, Howell, Ross)**



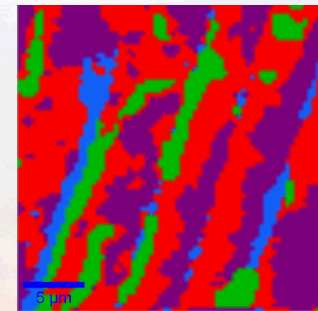
**GFET Development
(Howell, Ross, Trotter)**



**Transfer
(Biedermann, Howell)**



**Raman Mapping
(Beechem, Ohta)**



Observation of the integer quantum Hall effect in high quality, uniform wafer-scale epitaxial graphene films

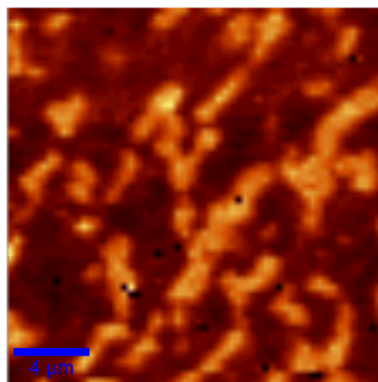
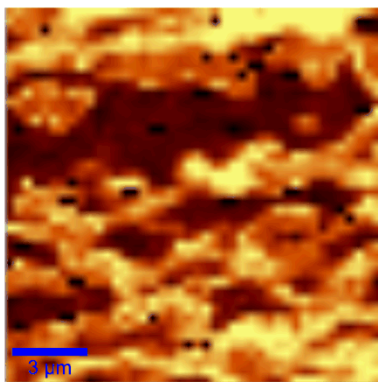
W. Pan, S. Howell, A. Ross, T. Ohta, and T. Friedmann, to be published in *APL*, Dec. 2010 (cover article)

Electrostatic transfer of patterned epitaxial graphene from SiC(000-1) to glass

J. Biedermann, T. Beechem, A. Ross, T. Ohta, and S. Howell, to be published in *New J. of Physics* **12** (2010)

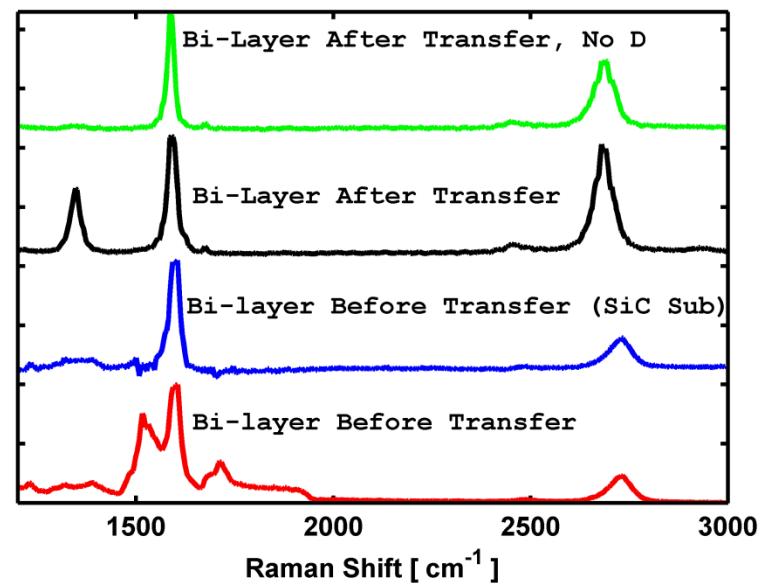
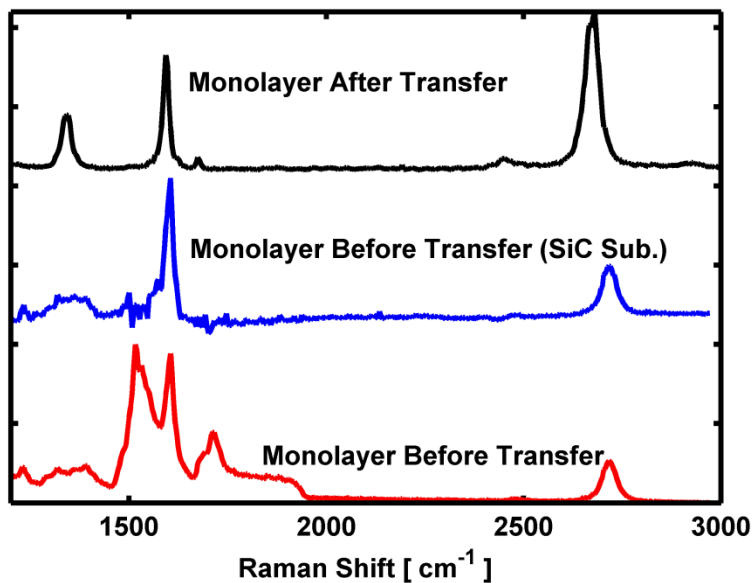
Before (G/SiC)

After (G/Zerodur)



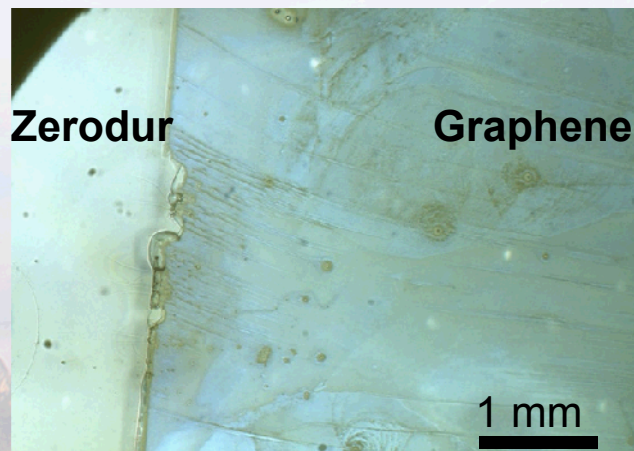
090609 #11 Before After Transfer of Si Face Graphene

2D-FWHM. Note these are on same scale.

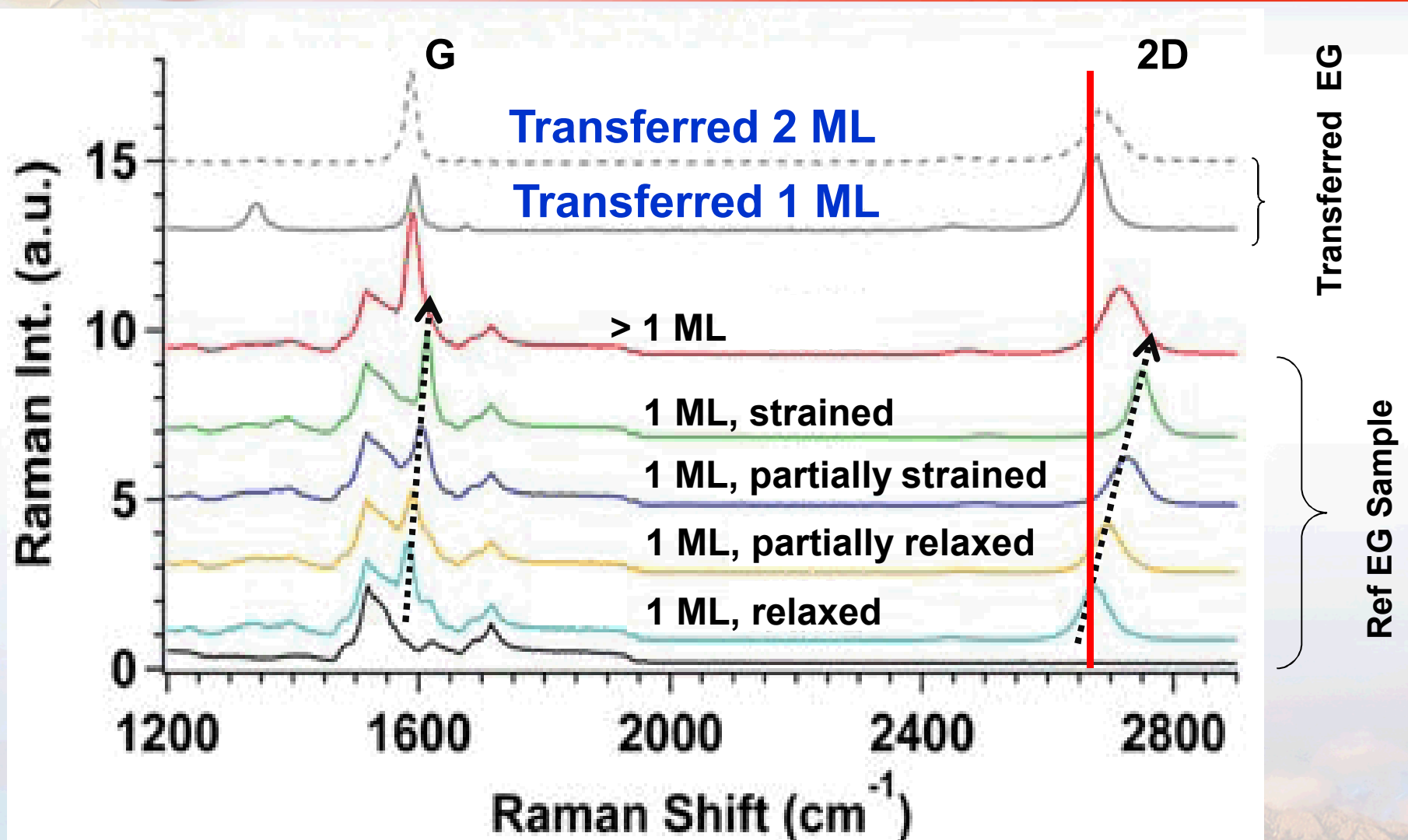


Conclusions

- Demonstrated transfer of epitaxial graphene to Pyrex and Zerodur from SiC
- Graphene transferred from C-face was characterized with Raman and micro four probe
 - C-face graphene can be transferred without inducing defects
 - The average sheet resistance was $320 \text{ } \Omega/\text{Sq}$ (Pyrex) and $250 \text{ } \Omega/\text{Sq}$ (Zerodur)
 - R_s for the transferred graphene was comparable to that for the epitaxial graphene ($R_s = 180 \pm 70 \text{ } \Omega/\text{sq}$ at $\sim 10 \text{ K}$)
- Epitaxial graphene can also be transferred from the Si-face
 - Transfer relaxes strain inherent in Si-face EG



Transfer relaxes strain inherent in epitaxial graphene

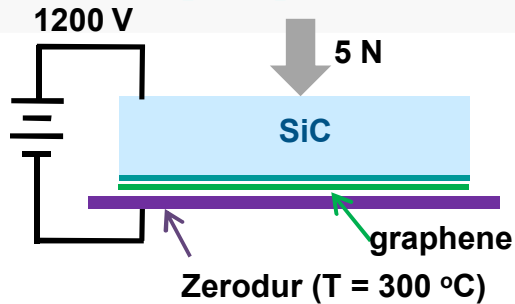


D. Schmidt *et al.*, submitted to *PRB* (2010).

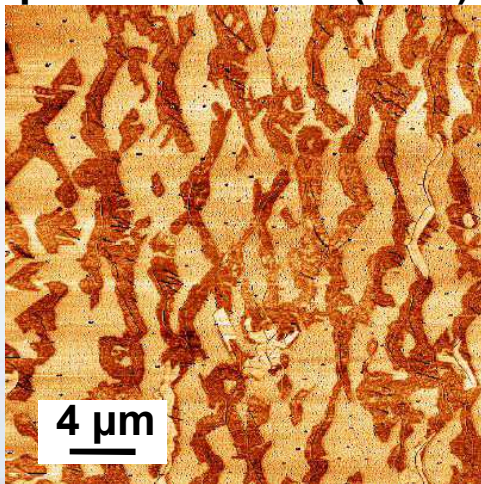


Sandia National Laboratories

Chip-scale transfer of Si-face graphene to Zerodur

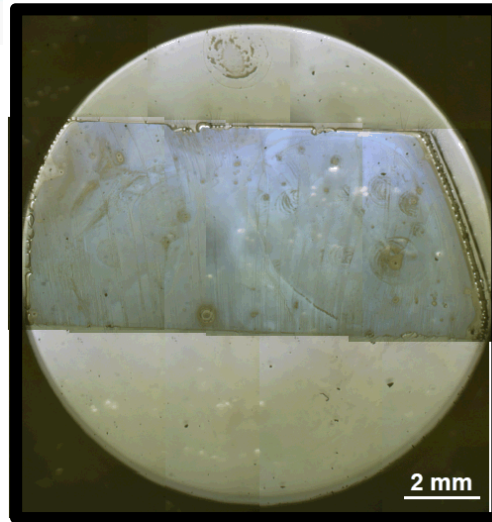


Graphene on SiC,
prior to transfer (AFM)

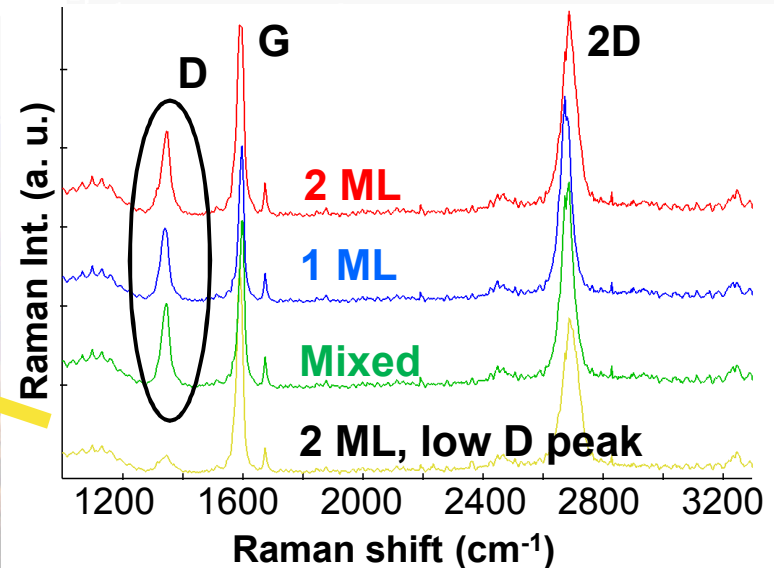
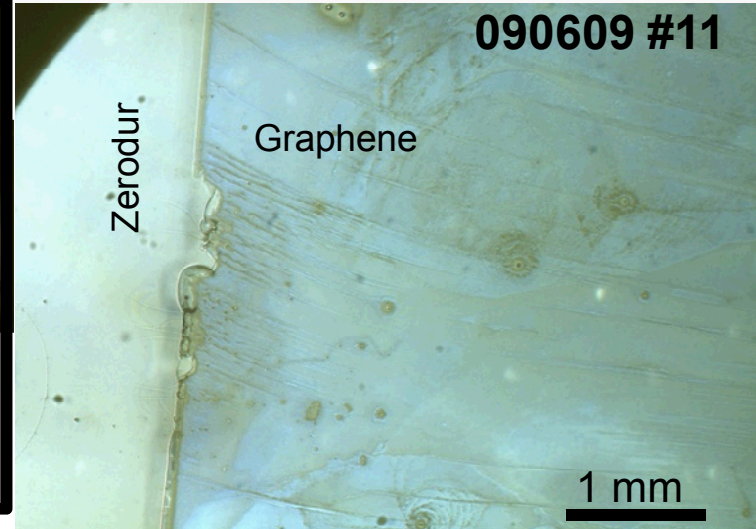
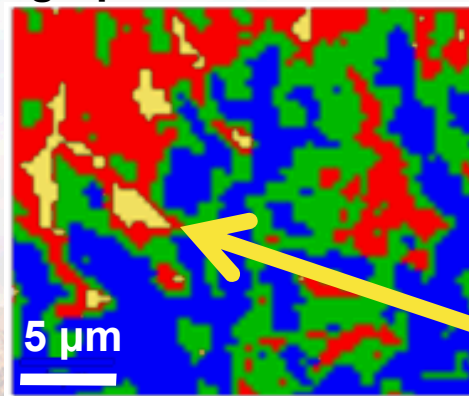


Bright phase = 1 ML

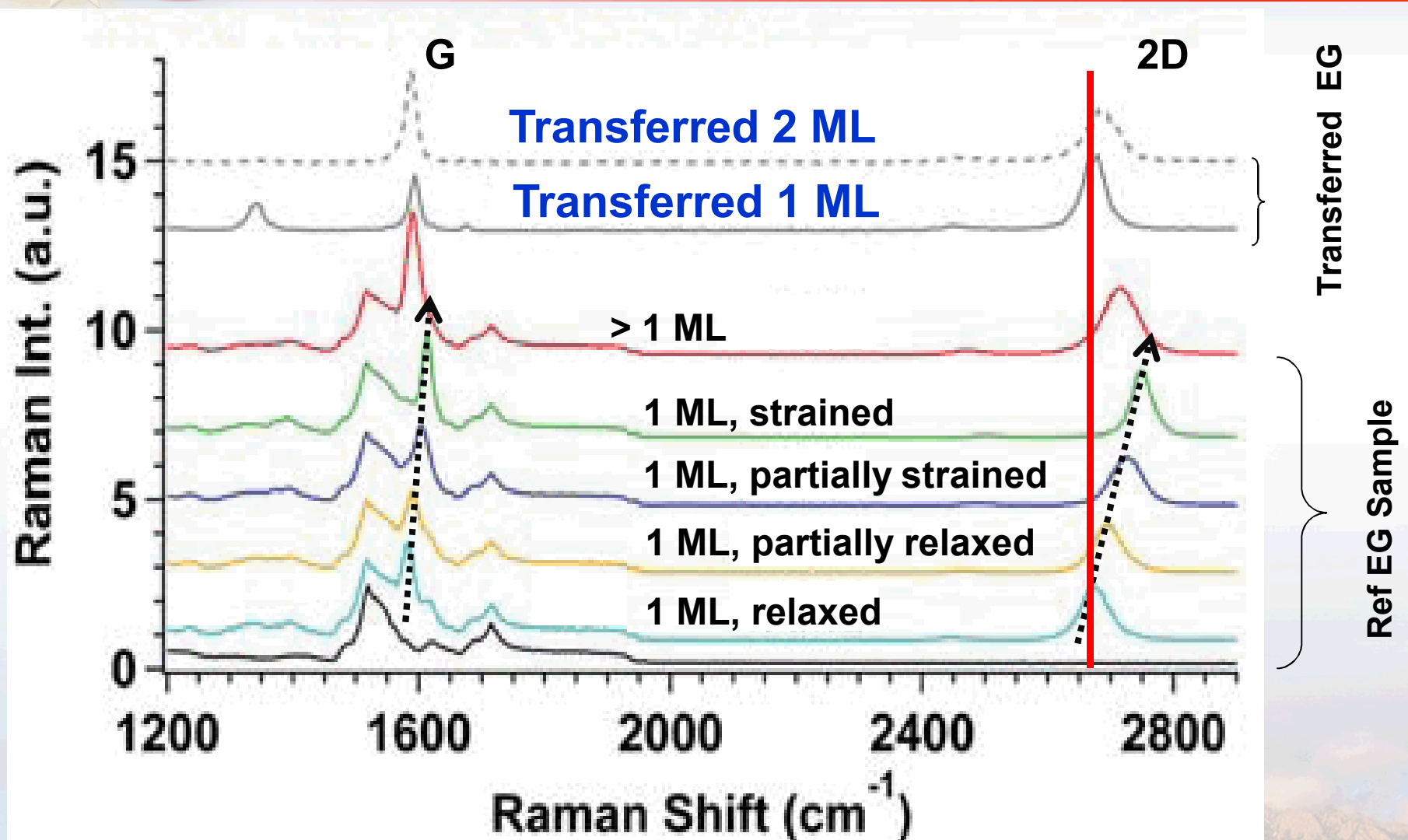
Dark phase = 2 ML



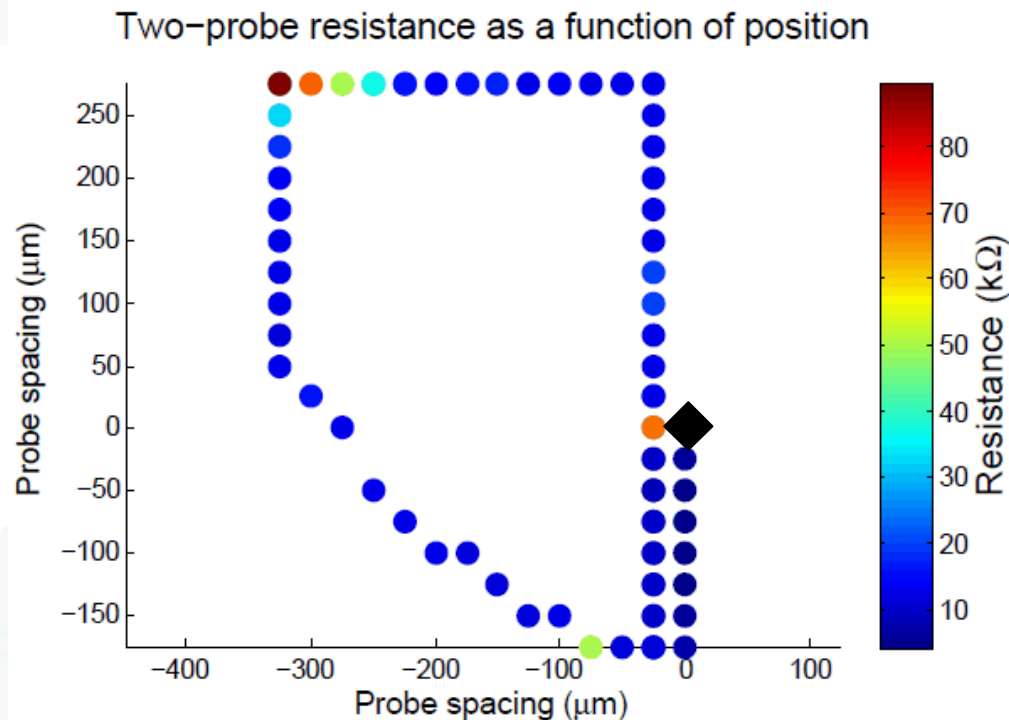
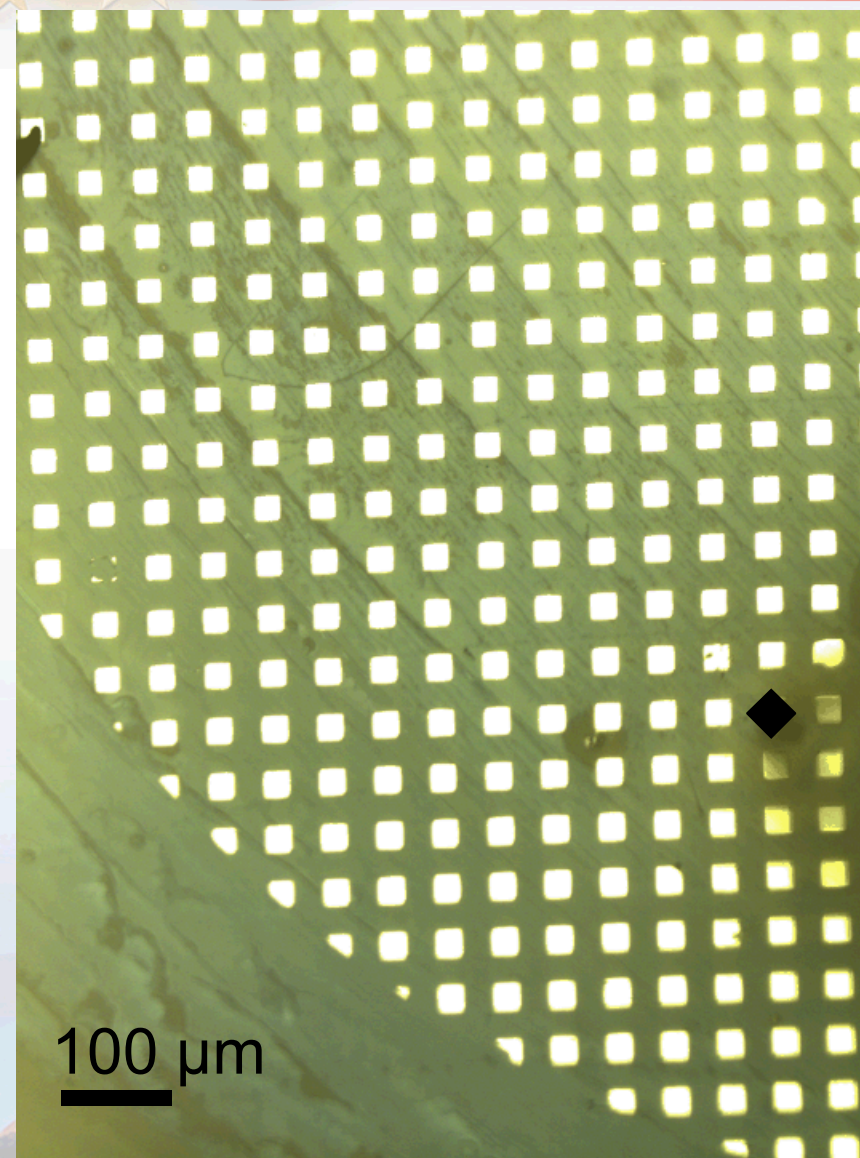
Cluster analysis of
graphene on Zerodur



Transfer relaxes strain inherent in epitaxial graphene



Transferred Si-face graphene can be conductive over 100s of microns

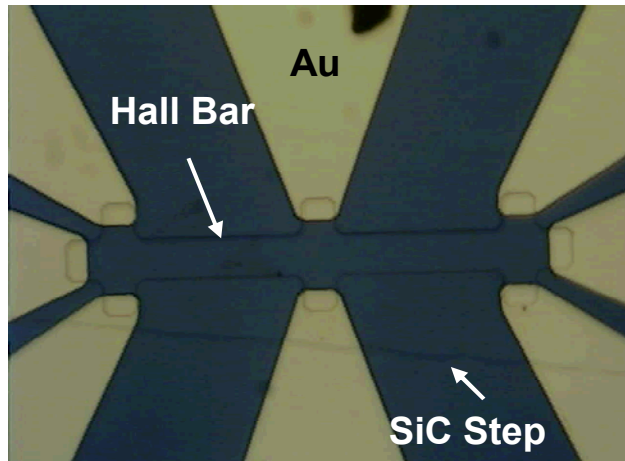


Preliminary four-probe measurements suggest $R_s \sim 4 \text{ k}\Omega/\text{sq}$.

Jim Stanley and Bob Kaplar

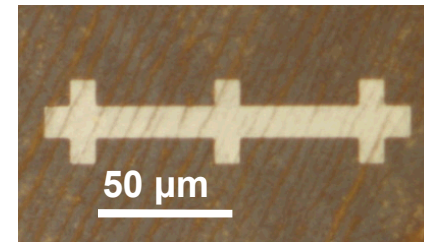
Comparison of transferred Si-face graphene to EG

EG Hall bar on SiC(0001)



- EG electron mobility: $14,000 \text{ cm}^2/\text{Vs}$
- Electron density: $6 \times 10^{11} \text{ cm}^{-2}$
- Graphene sheet resistance: $\sim 1600 \text{ } \Omega/\text{sq}$ (average from 12 devices)

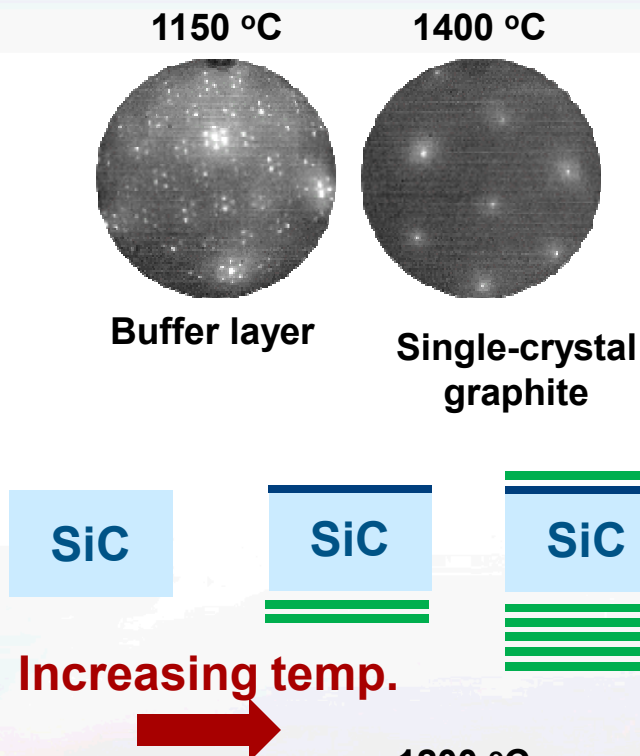
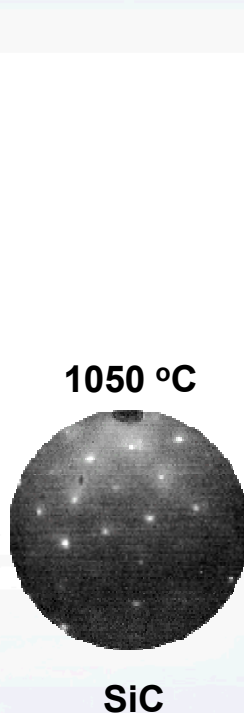
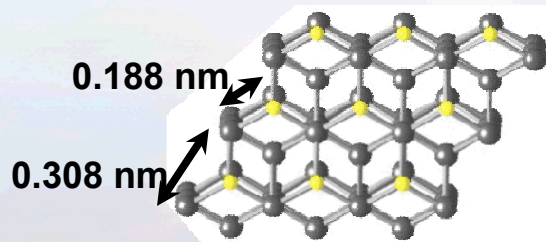
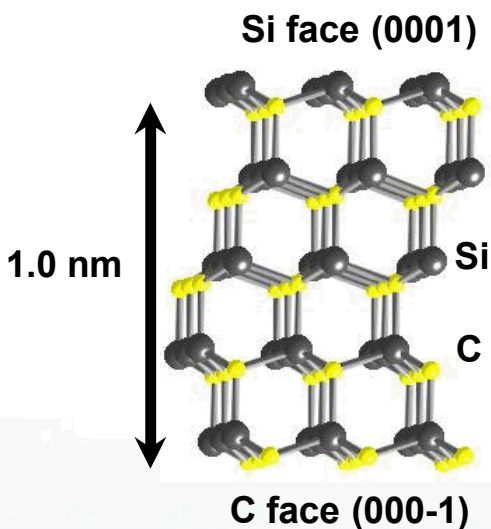
Hall bars structures, Si-face graphene on Zerodur



- Poor large scale transfer (most Hall bars are open circuit across their length)
- Measurements across small distances ($< 10 \text{ } \mu\text{m}$) do show some electrical activity ($\sim 5 \text{ k}\Omega$ -- $5 \text{ M}\Omega$)
- The transferred material appears to be isolated ribbons of graphene
 - Breaks could be caused by SiC steps

Epitaxial graphene growth on SiC

4H - SiC



- 1 to few ML graphene
- Buffer layer between graphene and SiC



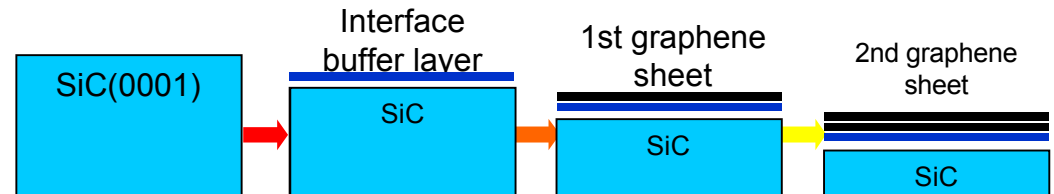
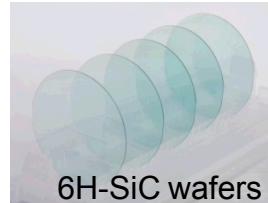
- Many-layer graphene common
- Disordered stacking



Understanding Graphene Growth on SiC

■ Graphitization of SiC:

- Sublimation of Si at high temperature ($>1200\text{ }^{\circ}\text{C}$) leaves graphene layer at SiC surface



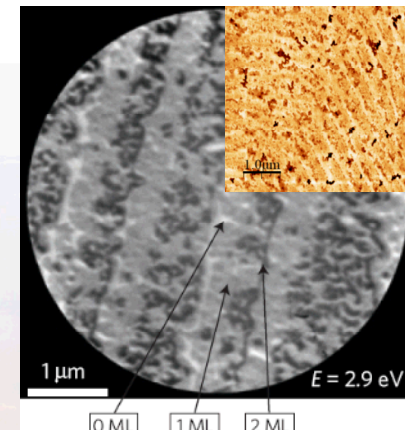
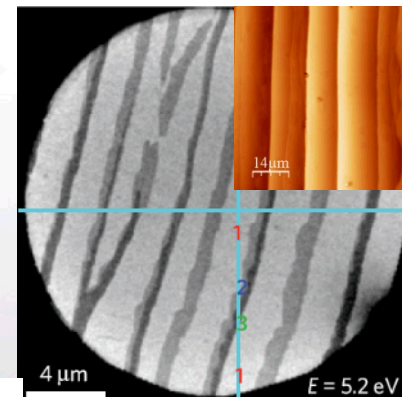
• Argon-assisted graphene formation yields large ($\sim 100\text{ }\mu\text{m}^2$) graphene domains

- Samples prepared using Ar atmosphere at atmospheric pressure and high temp
- Using this method we have exquisite control of :
 - Domain size
 - Percentage coverage of mono/bilayers
- Understanding the growth mechanism of graphene on SiC
- Growth morphology strongly depends on the step structure

Atmospheric pressure Ar high temp. processing



Ultrahigh vacuum mid temp. processing

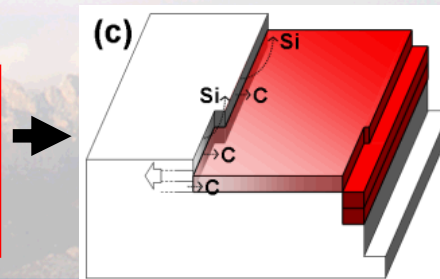


K. V. Emtsev et al., Nature Mater. 8, 203 (2009).
C. Virojanadara et al., Phys. Rev. B 78, 245403 (2008)

T. Ohta, N. C. Bartelt, S. Nie, K. Thürmer, G. L. Kellogg, PRB 81, 121411(R)(2010)

Step-flow growth

- Key for high large-area growth
- Real-time growth observations using LEEM



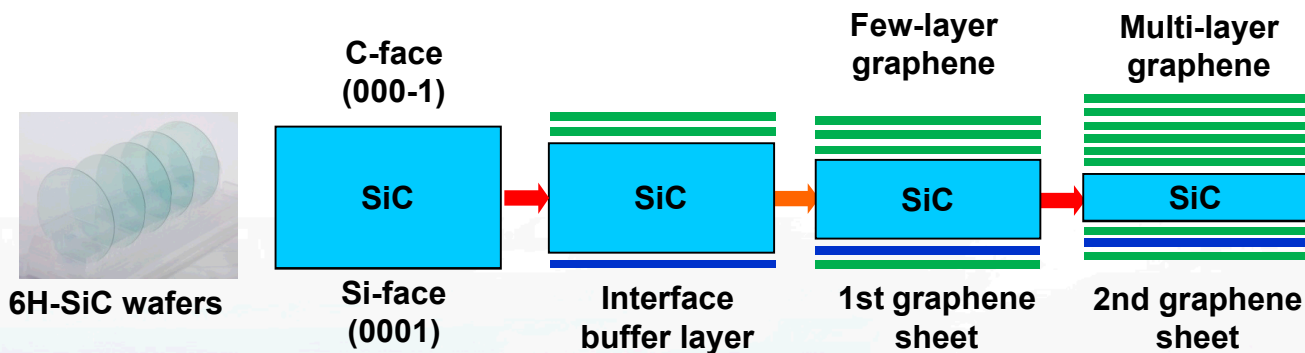
Ar-mediated synthesis yields high quality epitaxial graphene

SiC graphitization conditions:

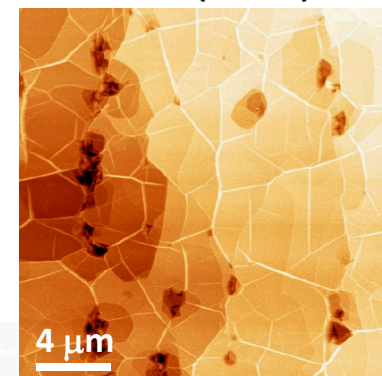
High temperature (>1200 °C)

Argon atmosphere at atmospheric pressure

K. V. Emtsev *et al.*, *Nature Mater.* **8**, 203 (2009).
C. Virojanadara *et al.*, *Phys. Rev. B* **78**, 245403 (2008).
T. Ohta *et al.*, *Phys Rev B* **81** 121411(R) (2010).
Samples provided by T. Ohta



C-face (000-1)



Si-face graphene:

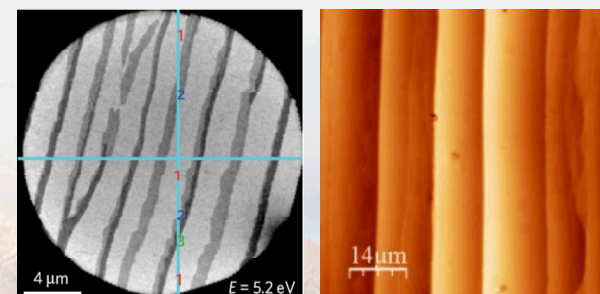
Large ($\sim 100 \mu\text{m}^2$) graphene domains

$\mu = 14,000 \text{ cm}^2/\text{Vs}$, $n = 6 \times 10^{11} \text{ cm}^{-2}$

Graphene sheet resistance: $\sim 1600 \Omega/\text{sq}$

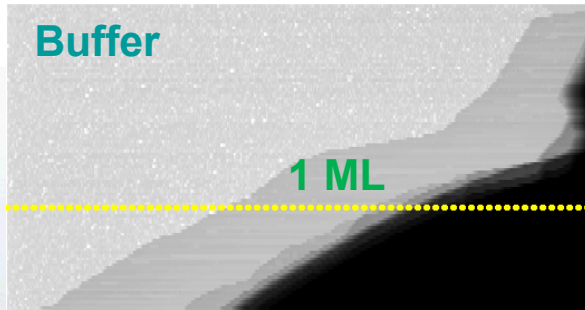
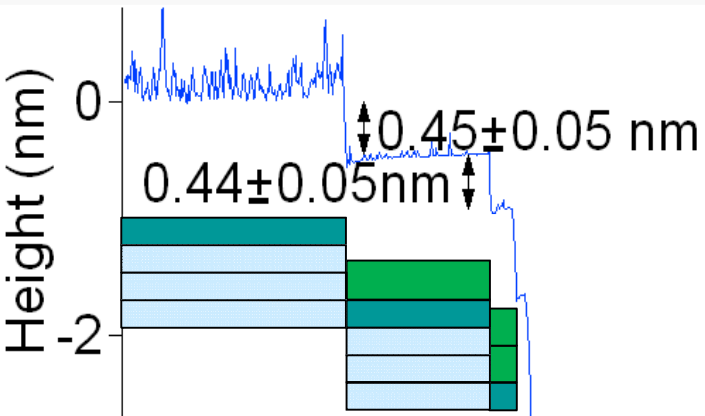
IQHE observed on three devices on the same chip

Si-face (0001)



W. Pan, S. Howell, A. Ross, T. Ohta, and T. Friedmann, to be published in *APL*, Dec. 2010

About-face: Si-face epitaxial graphene

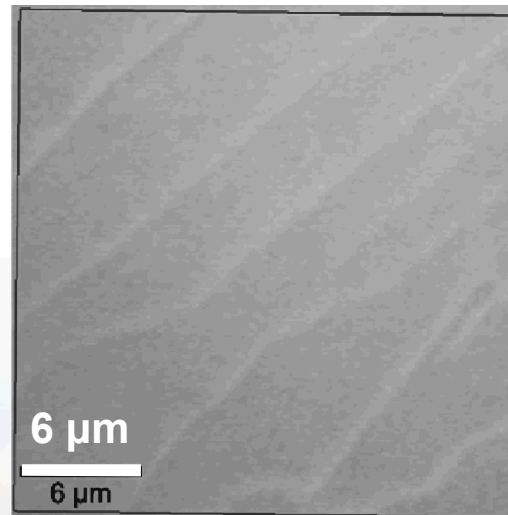


T. Ohta *et al.* *Phys Rev B* **81**, 121411(R) (2010).

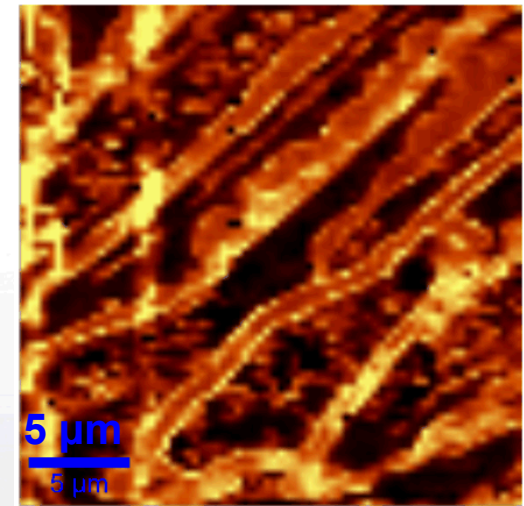
Sample 090728 #27

60 % 1 ML, 30 % 2 ML, 10 % ≥ 3 ML

Optical



2D FWHM



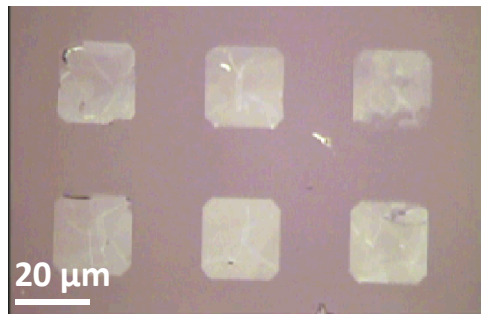
Mobility at 4 K: $\mu = 14000 \text{ cm}^2/\text{Vs}$

Wei Pan, Sandia

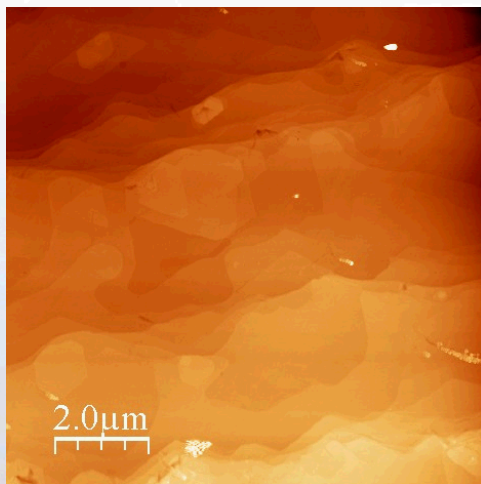


How to judge graphene transfer

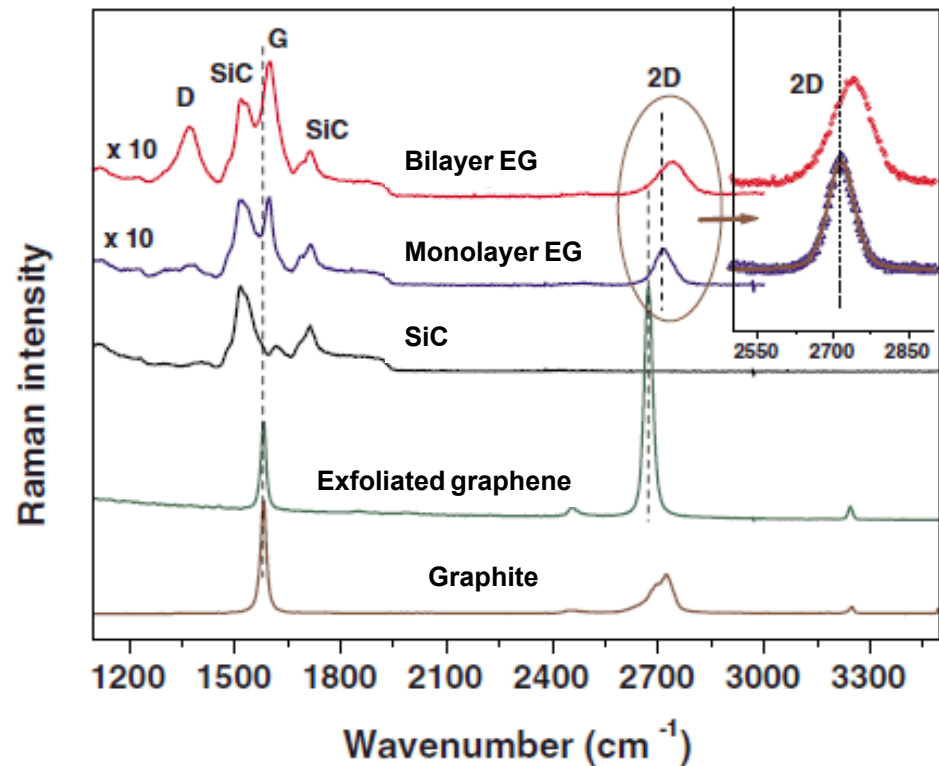
Optical microscopy



Atomic force microscopy



Raman spectroscopy



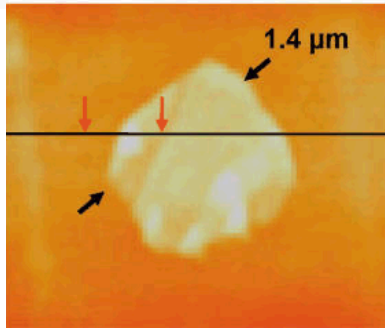
D-band: $\sim 1350 \text{ cm}^{-1}$

G-band: $\sim 1580 \text{ cm}^{-1}$

2D-band: $\sim 2700 \text{ cm}^{-1}$



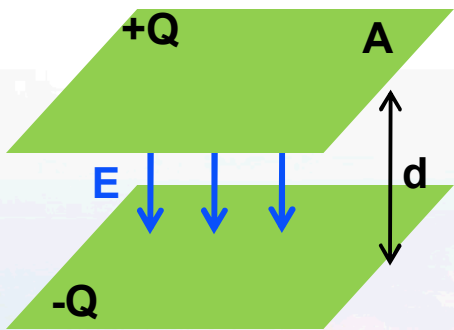
Ongoing work: Electrostatic rather than electrochemical transfer



Pre-patterned
HOPG to SiO₂
8.5 V
 $\mu \sim 1050 \text{ cm}^2/\text{Vs}$

X. Liang *et al.*, *Nano Lett.* **9**, 467-72 (2009).

- We are currently developing a method for lower voltage ($< 30 \text{ V}$) transfer
- We are improving the capacitance of the system for increased electrostatic force



$$\vec{F}_{cap} = Q\vec{E}$$

$$P_{cap} = \frac{\vec{F}_{cap}}{A} = \frac{\epsilon_o \epsilon_r V^2}{d^2}$$

The exfoliation strength of graphite is $\sim 0.4 \text{ MPa}$.

