



Epitaxy for Physics Research and Device Applications: *and other*

Research activities in the Semiconductor Materials Research Laboratory

Ya-Hong Xie

Department of Materials Science & Engineering

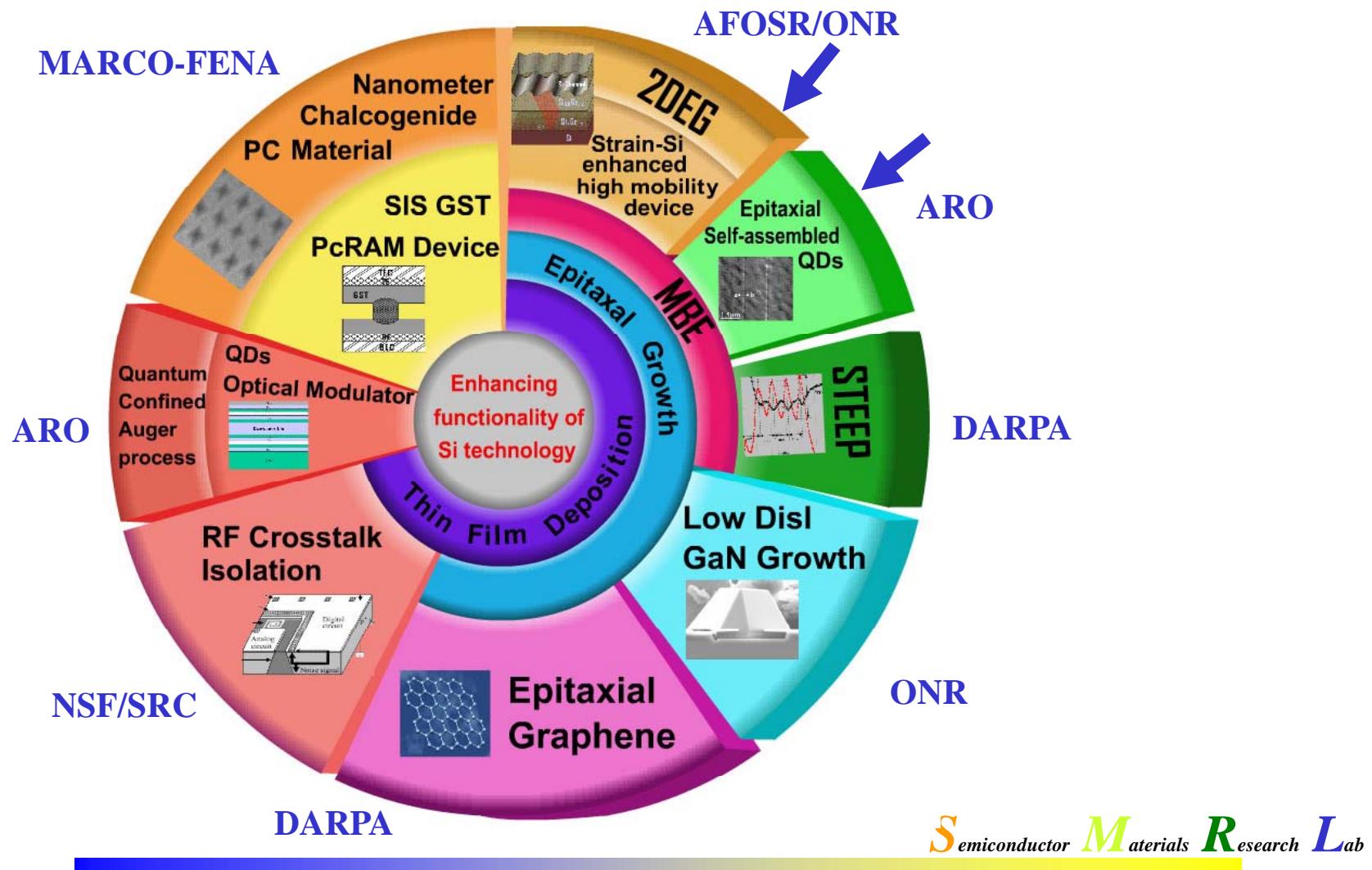
University of California Los Angeles

yhx@ucla.edu

Semiconductor **M**aterials **R**esearch **L**ab



Outline



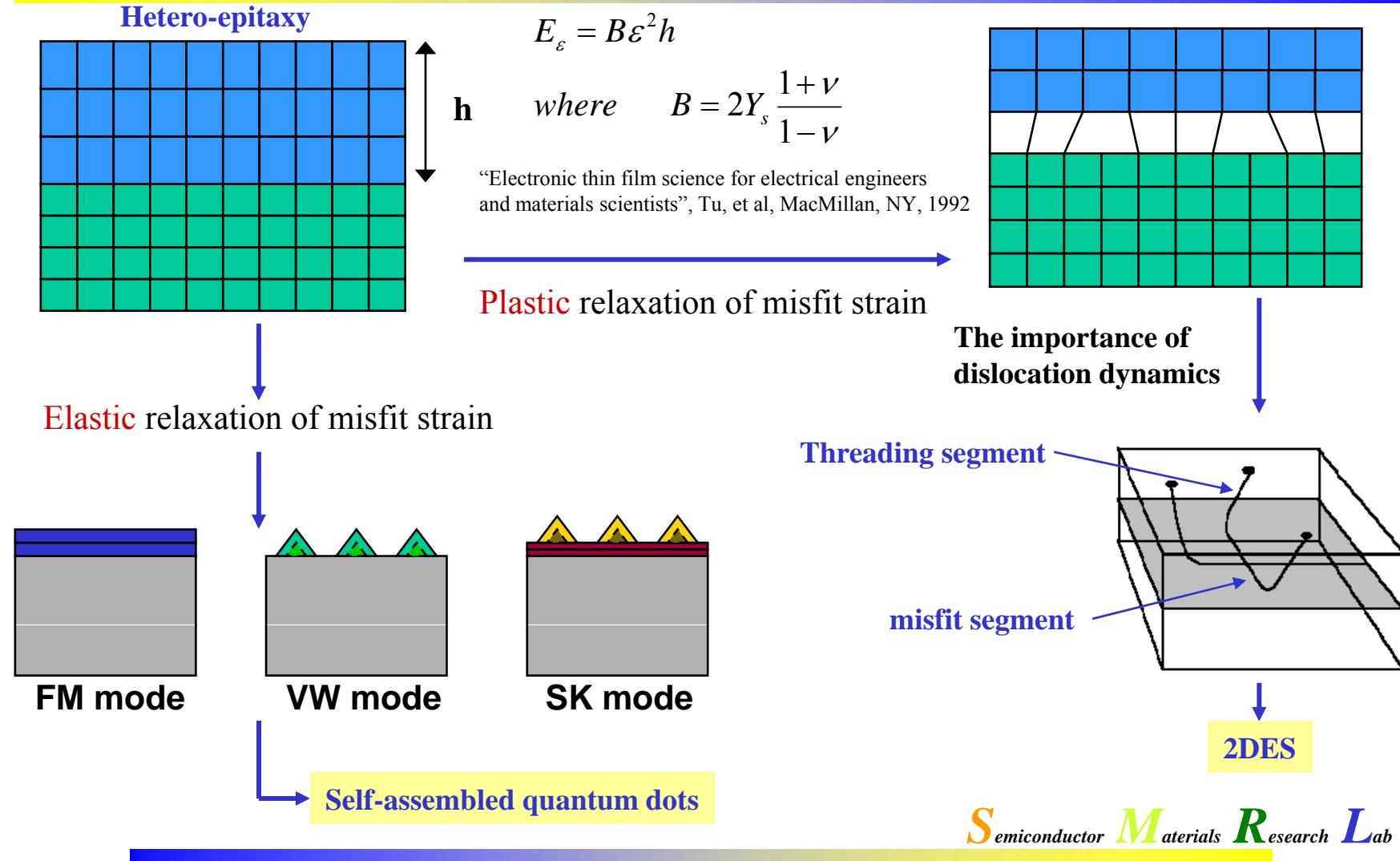


Epitaxy of Semiconductors for Physics Research and Device Applications

Semiconductor **M**aterials **R**esearch **L**ab



Fundamentals of Epitaxy



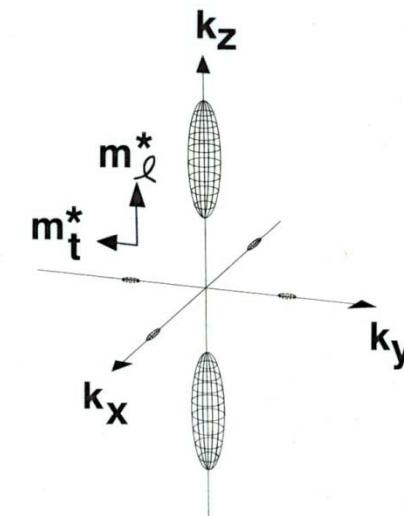
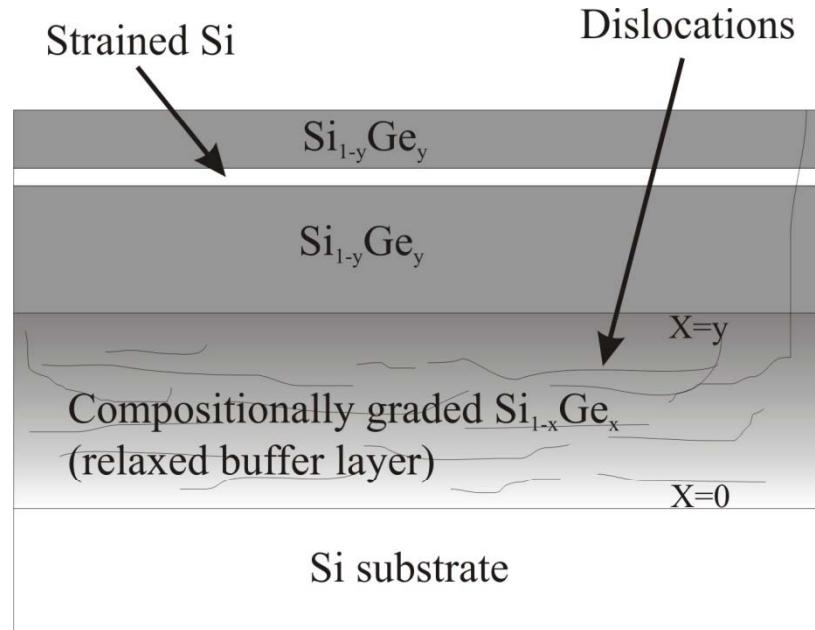


2D Electron System in Strained Si

in collaboration with D.C. Tsui & group, Princeton University

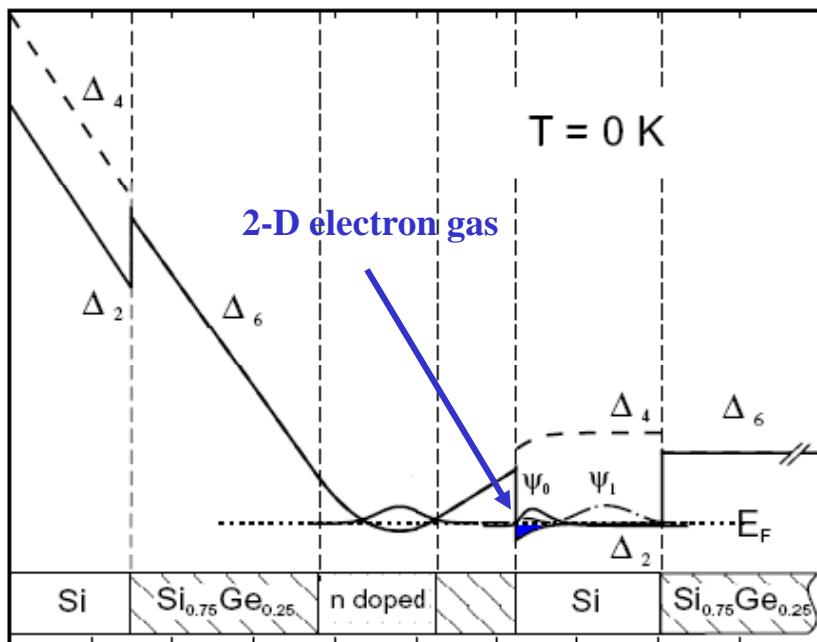
Other collaborations: Marc Kastner (MIT); Jagadeesh Moodera (MIT magnet lab)

- The compositionally graded, relaxed SiGe buffer layers: the controlled plastic relaxation of misfit strain that forms the foundation for the fabrication of strained Si;
- The magnitude of strain required for effective separation between the 2- & 4-fold conduction band valleys: ~1%;

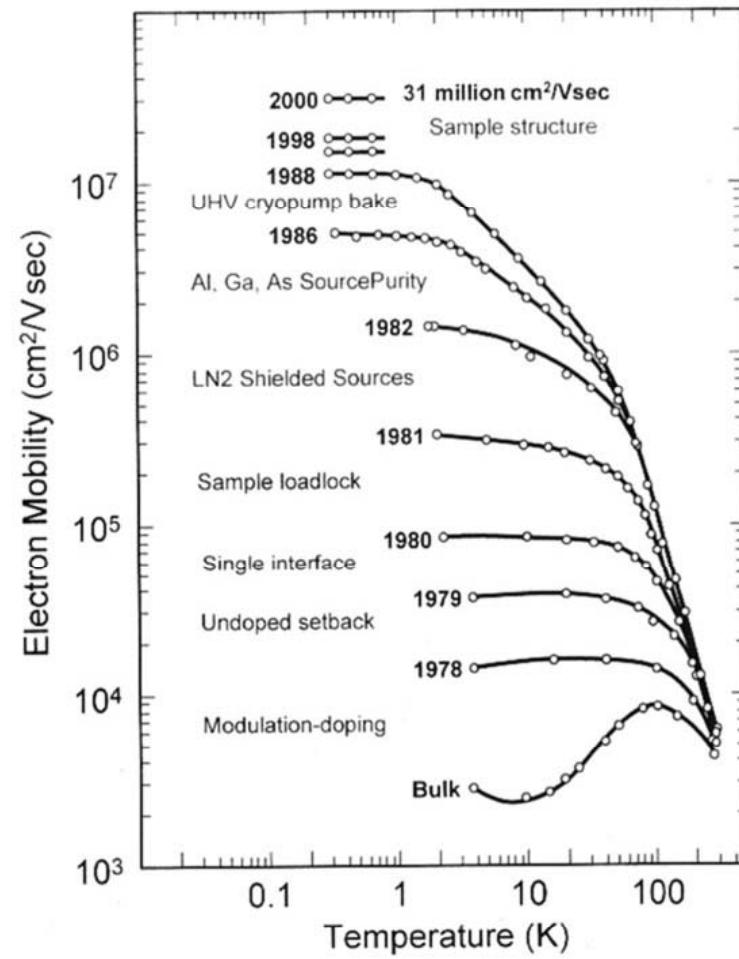




Modulation Doped 2DES



Relaxed SiGe buffer layer on Si (001)

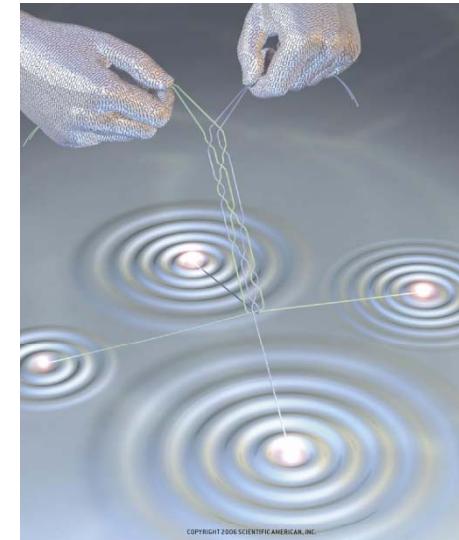


Semiconductor Materials Research Lab



The “Usefulness” of 2-dimensional Electron Systems in Strained Si

- Room T applications:
 - Mobility being limited by phonon scattering;
 - High carrier density: the need for large current drive;
 - The importance of the out of plane effective mass;
- Low T transport research:
 - High mobility: fine features in the transport characteristics;
 - Low carrier density: the importance for correlated behaviors;
 - Application: topological quantum computing?
 - **Understanding correlated electron behaviors is at the forefront of condensed matter physics;**



Computing with Quantum Knots

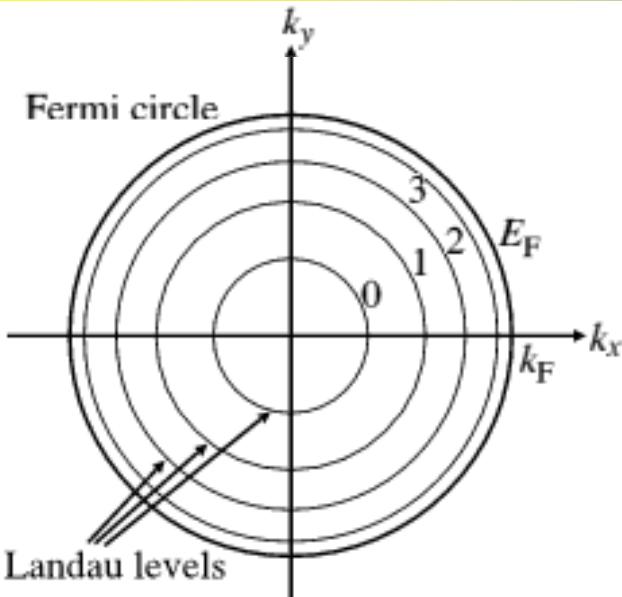
A machine based on bizarre particles called anyons that represents a calculation as a set of braids in spacetime might be a shortcut to practical quantum computation

Scientific American, p.56, April 2006,

Semiconductor **M**aterials **R**esearch **L**ab

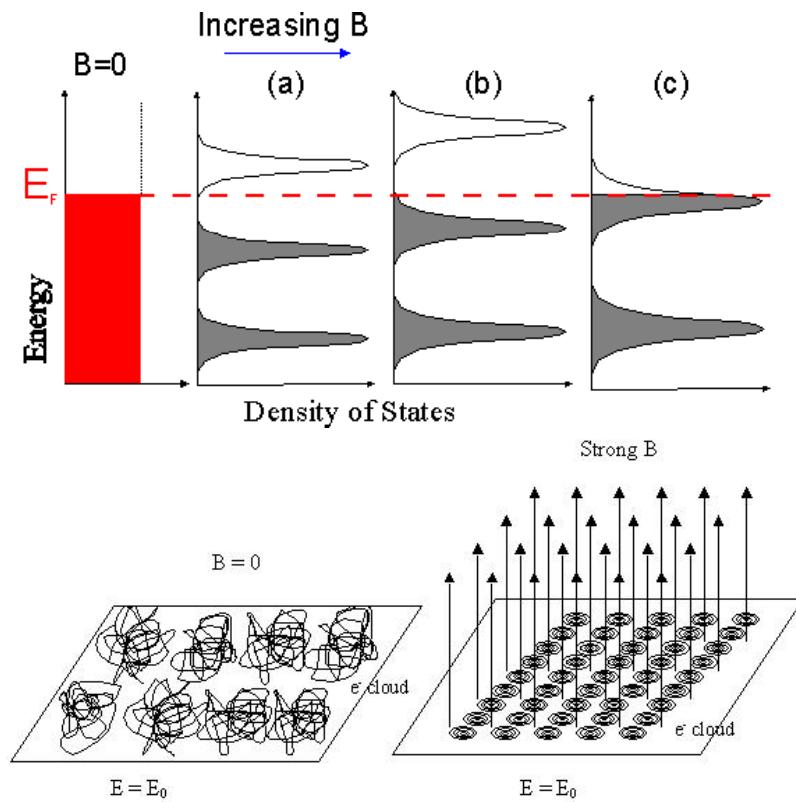


Integer Quantum Hall Effect: electron localization



2D density of states of electrons ($B=0$):

$$g(E) = \frac{m^*}{\pi \hbar^2}$$

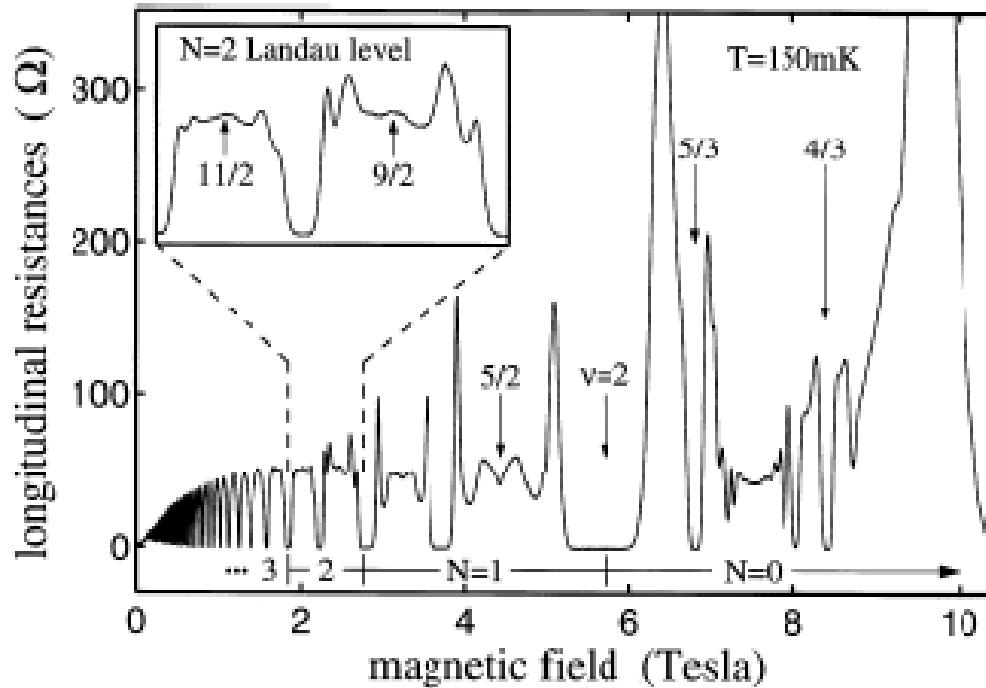


The density of state increases and the 2D electrons pack closer together with increasing B



Fractional Quantum Hall Effect: Composite Fermions

J.P. Eisenstein, et al, Phys E, v.6, 29 (2000)



$\mu \sim 11,000,000 \text{ cm}^2/\text{V}\cdot\text{s}$
2DES in GaAs/AlGaAs

The details of the ρ_{xx} -B relation can be visible only if the mobility is high;

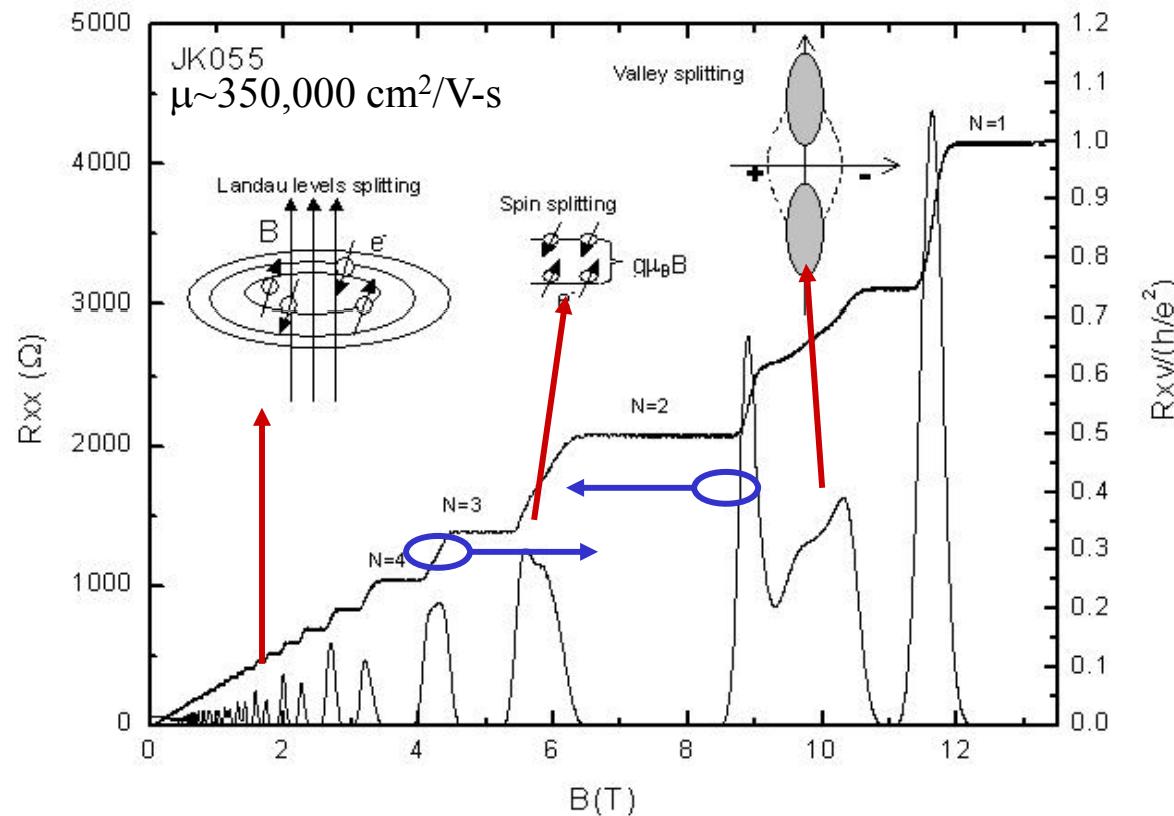
Fractional quantum Hall effect: the need to invoke correlated electron behaviors

Semiconductor **M**aterials **R**esearch **L**ab



What high mobility provides for us

The in-ability of resolving fine features in the transport (R_{xx} & R_{yy}) curves because of low μ .



The quest for ever higher μ : identifying the dominant scattering mechanism

Semiconductor Materials Research Lab



The quest for lower 2DES density

- The importance of low carrier density for the study of correlated behaviors:

The dimensionless density parameter:

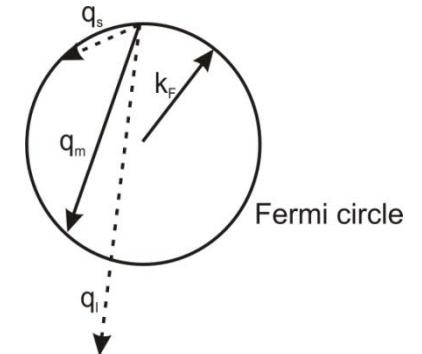
$$r_s = E_{e-e}/E_F$$

Given that $E_{e-e} \sim \sqrt{n_s}/\epsilon$ and $E_F \sim n_s/m^*$, where n_s = carrier density, ϵ = dielectric constant and m^* = effective mass.

Therefore:

$$r_s \sim m^*/\epsilon \sqrt{n_s}$$

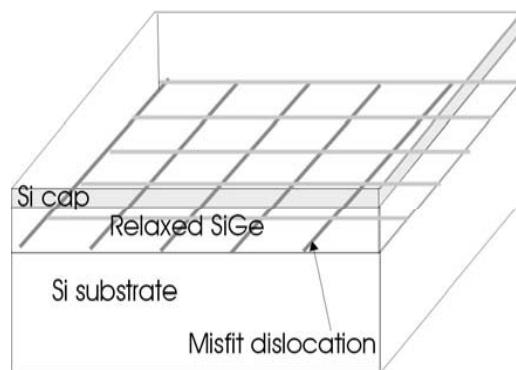
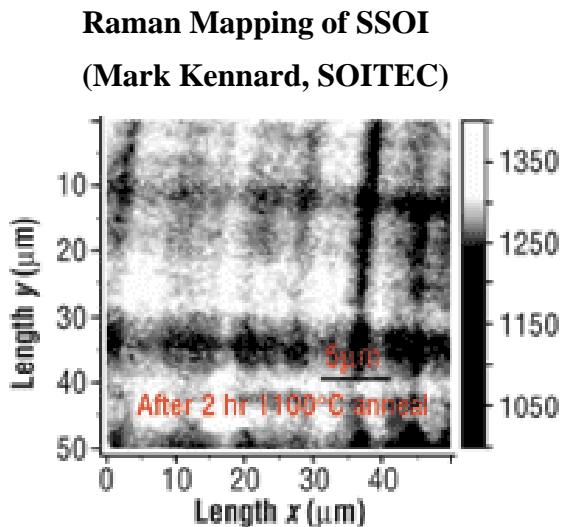
To achieve large r_s , we need **large m^* , and small n_s** .



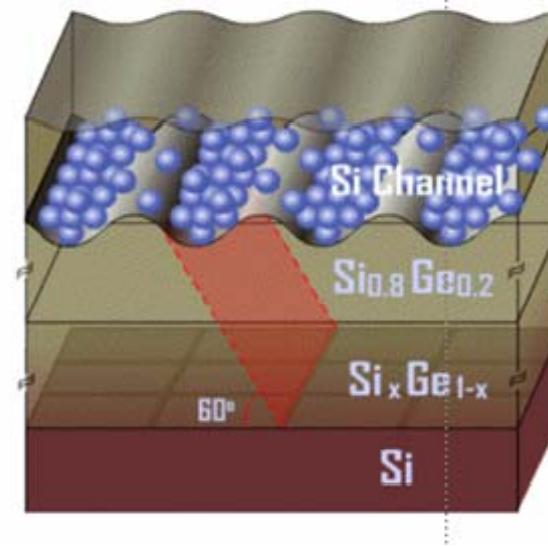
- The factors that could limit the achievable carrier density;
 - Localization induced by impurities and other inhomogeneity in the sample;
 - The uniqueness of 2DES in strained Si: another source for poor homogeneity.



The Challenges in Achieving Low 2DES Density



Deformation potential calculation



Amplitude of potential undulation: 7 meV
Spatial correlation: ~1 um;
Lower limit of carrier density : $5\text{--}6 \times 10^{10}\text{cm}^{-2}$

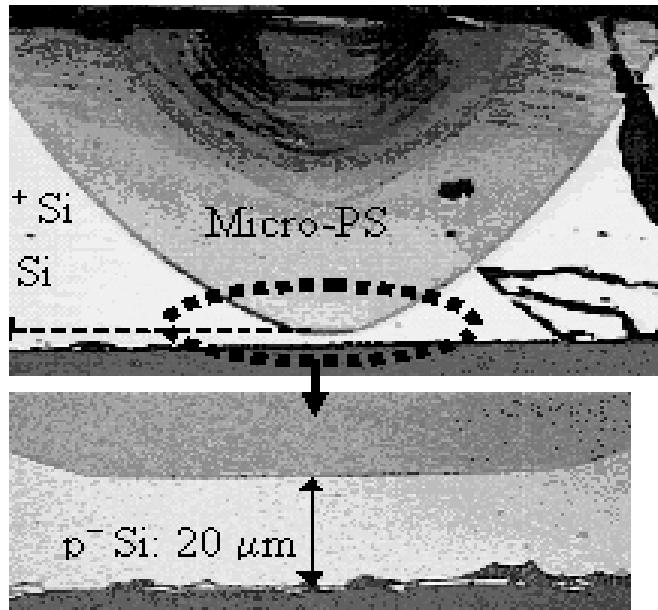
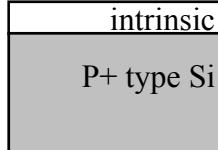
Alternatives: avoid dislocation



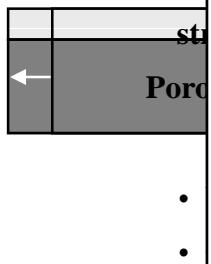
An alternative method for fabricating dislocation-free strained Si

Oxidation of porous

Epitaxial g
(100 nm~4 μm)



Wet oxidation



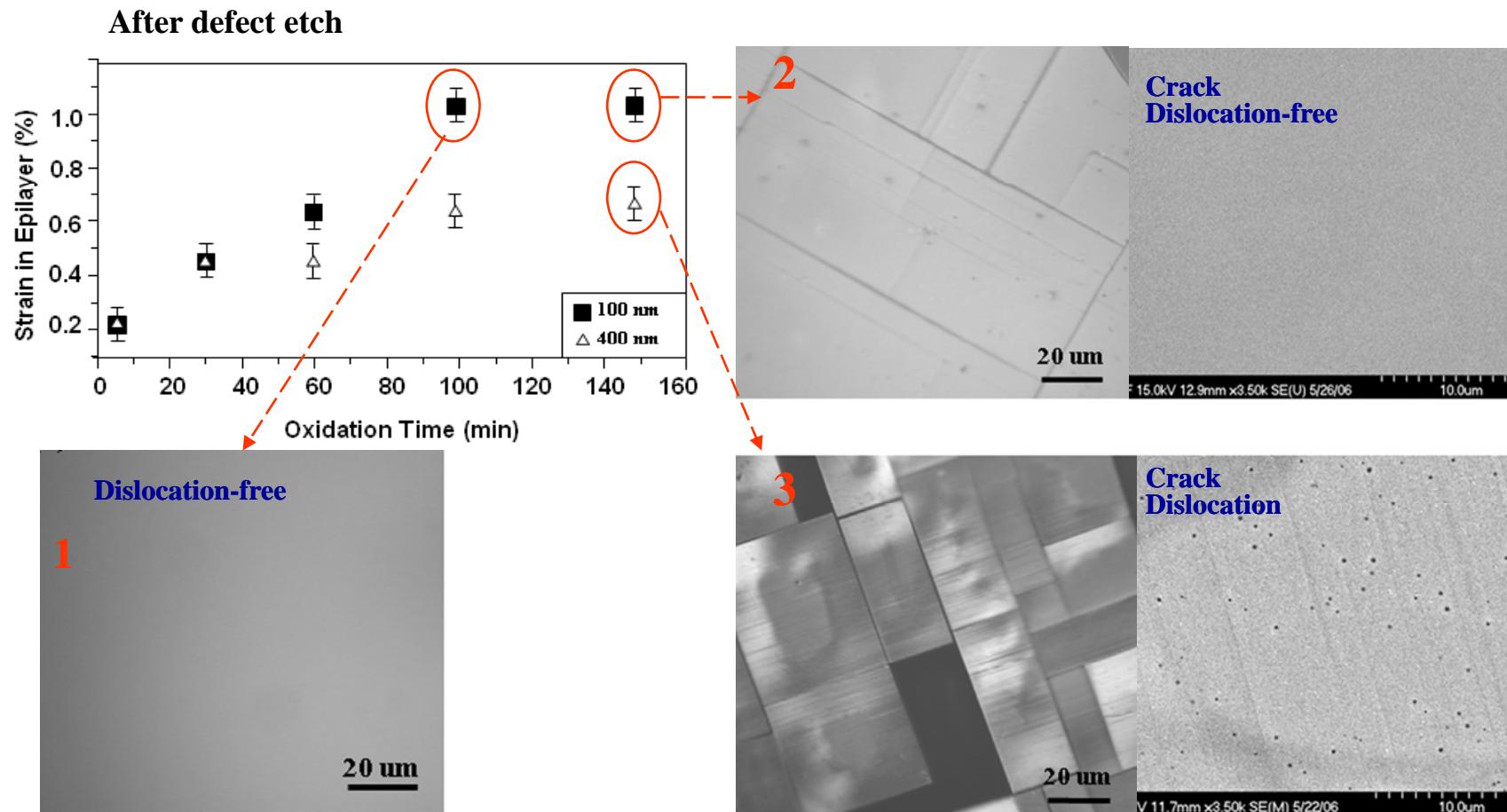
“Three-dimensional impedance engineering for mixed-signal system-on-chip applications”, Kyuchul Chong and Ya-Hong Xie, in “Si-based RFIC”, W.Z. Cai, Editor, p.153-216, Transworld Research Publishers, publisher, 2006;

node
Platinum Film

rate



An alternative method for fabricating dislocation-free strained Si



Dislocation-free 100nm thick Si film under 1% tension with strain variation undetectable by Raman

Semiconductor Materials Research Lab



Summary of 2DES in Strained Si

- Sample fabrication (the enabling factor): The continued quest for 2-D electron or hole systems with higher mobility and/at carrier density.
- Physics: 2-D electron and hole systems with increasingly complex energy band structures that allows the probing into the complex world of correlated behaviors.



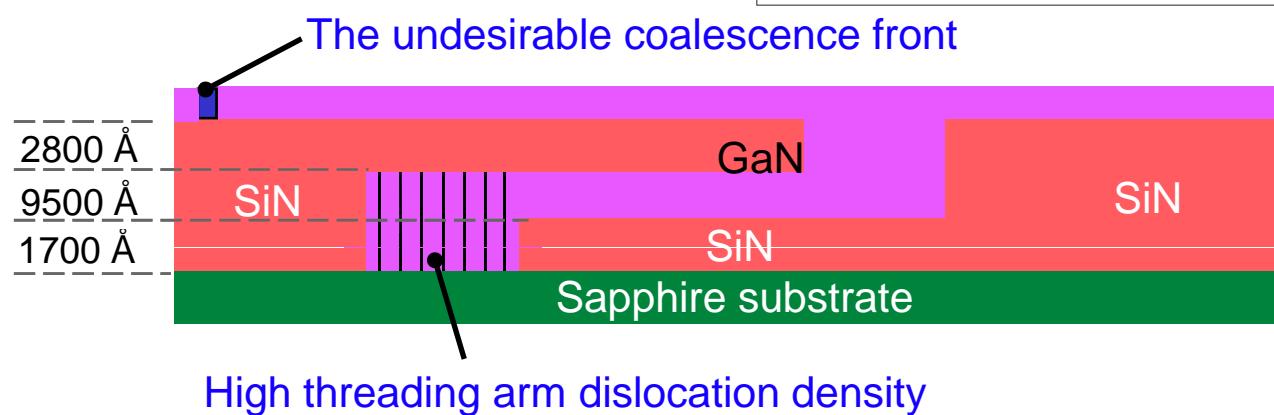
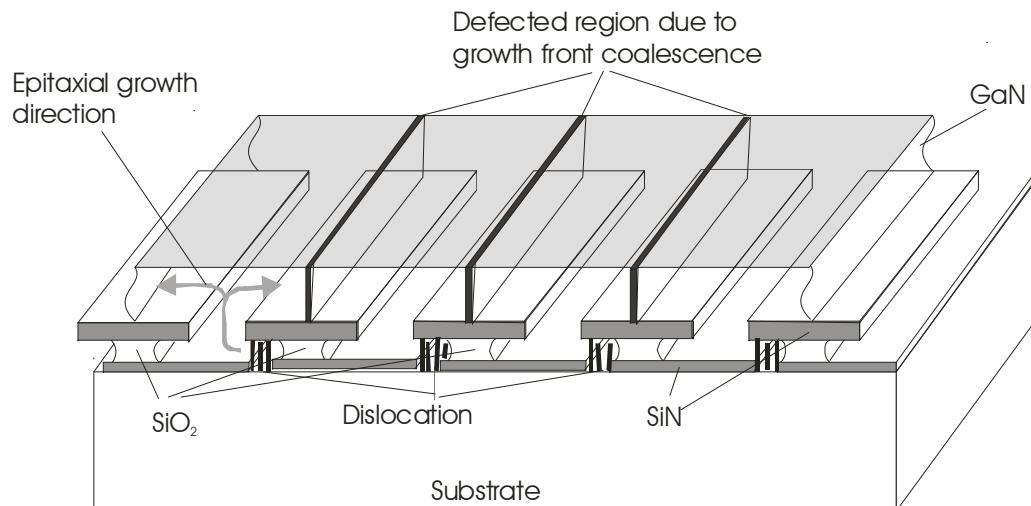
*and other Epitaxy related
Research activities in the Semiconductor Materials Research Laboratory*

Semiconductor **M**aterials **R**esearch **L**ab



Selective-Epi of GaN using Patterned Substrates

in collaboration with S.J. Chang, Y.K. Su & groups at National ChengKung University, Taiwan

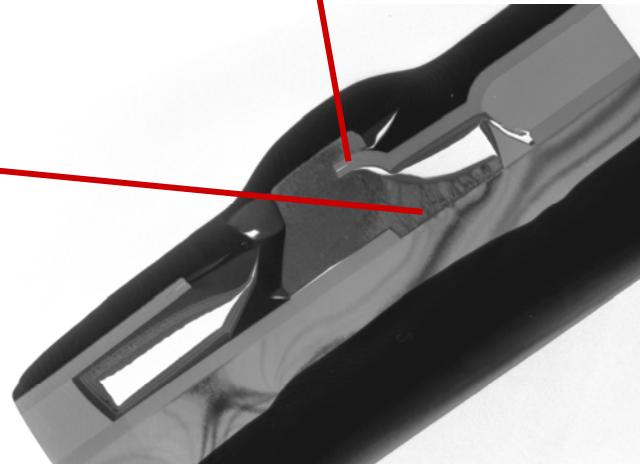
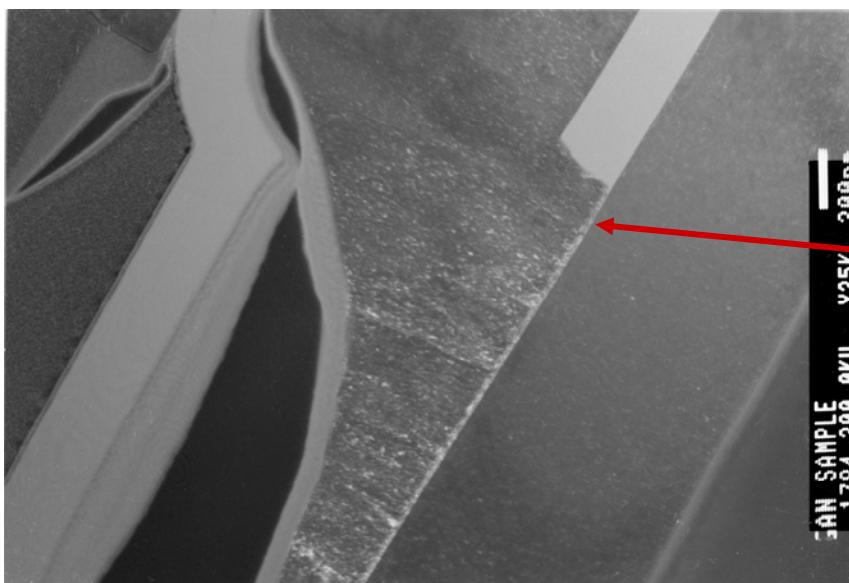
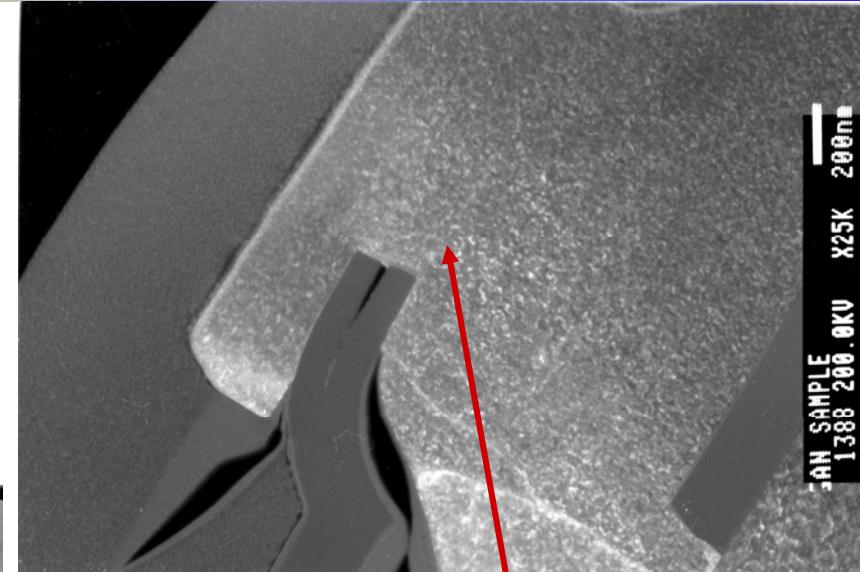
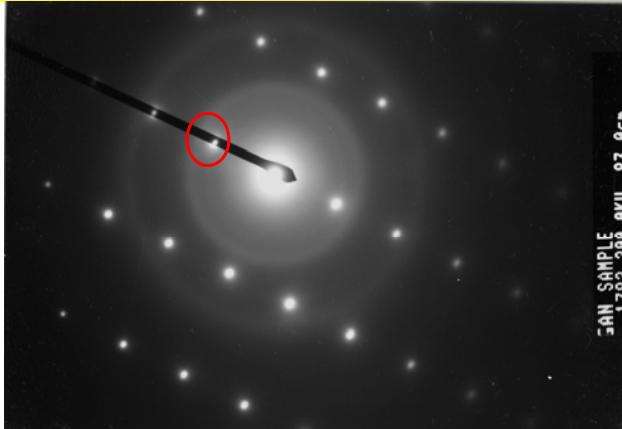


U.S. Patent Number 6,495,385, December 17, 2002: "Hetero-integration of Dissimilar Semiconductor Materials," Y.H. Xie

Semiconductor M_aterials R_esearch L_ab



Dark-field Transmission Electron Micrographs of GaN on Sapphire



YHX February 2008

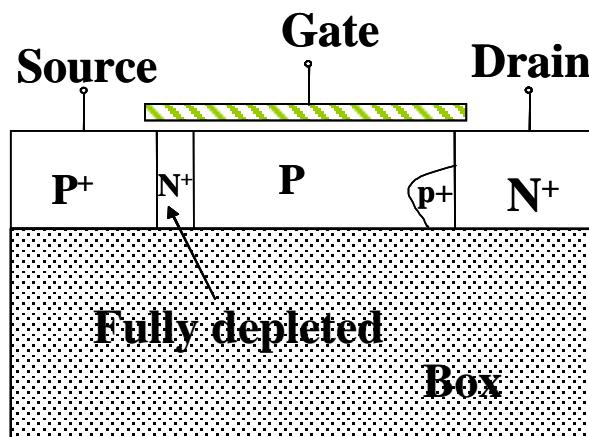
UCLA Semiconductor Materials Research Lab



Scalable Silicon Tunnel Transistor Technology for Low Power Circuits (S2T3)

DARPA STEEP Program

Jason Woo, PI, EE UCLA



Requirements:

- Carrier concentration as high as possible;
- Abrupt doping concentration gradient.

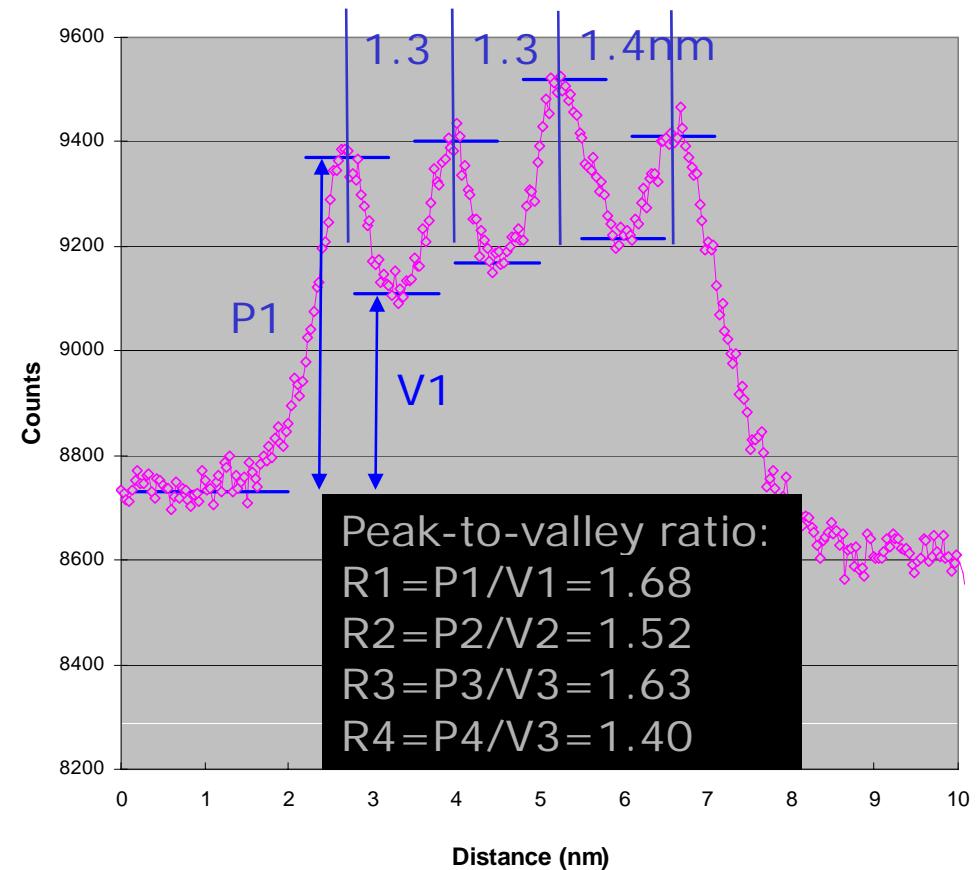
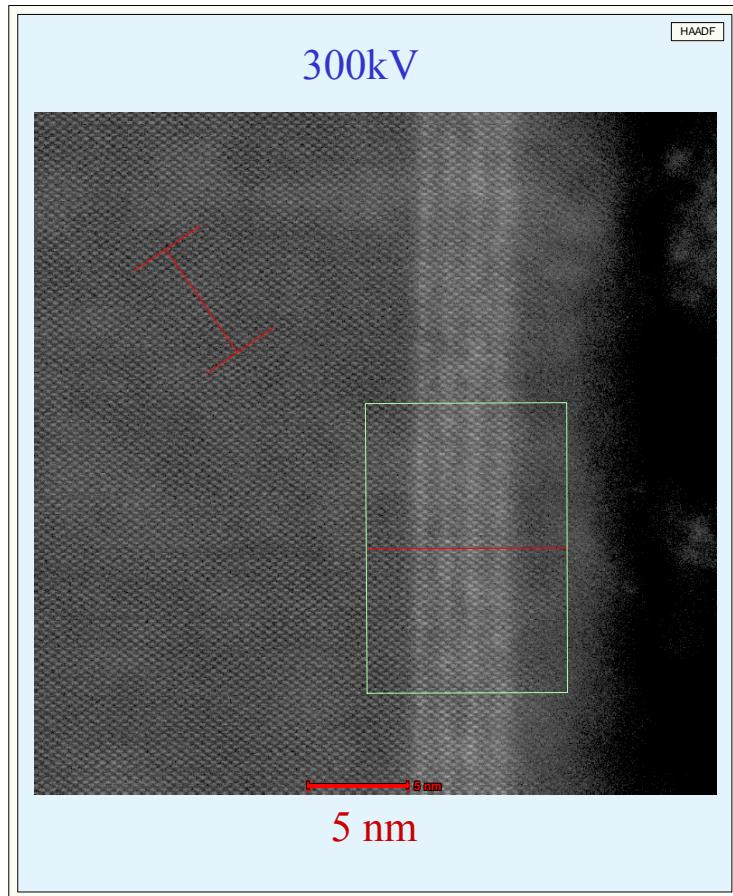
Materials science challenge:

- High dopant concentration while maintaining 100% in substitutional sites;
- Minimize diffusion while maintaining “good” crystalline quality in terms of point defects.

*S*emiconductor *M*aterials *R*esearch *L*ab



HRTEM of Ge Spikes Separated by 1 nm Si on Si (001)

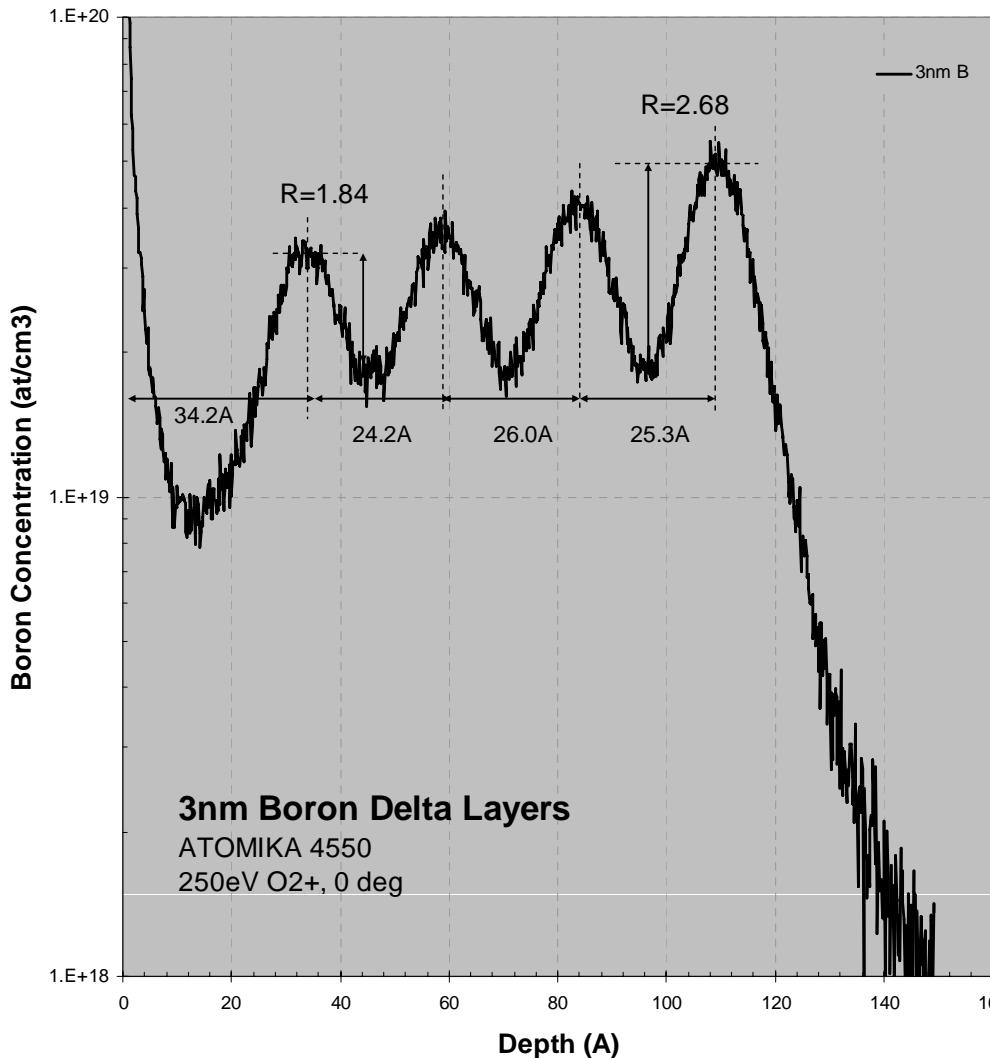


Semiconductor Materials Research Lab



Pushing the Limit on the Abruptness of Compositional Transition

collaboration with Intel @ Oregon



B spikes separated by 3 nm
using SIMS with trailing edge
slope > 2 nm/dec;

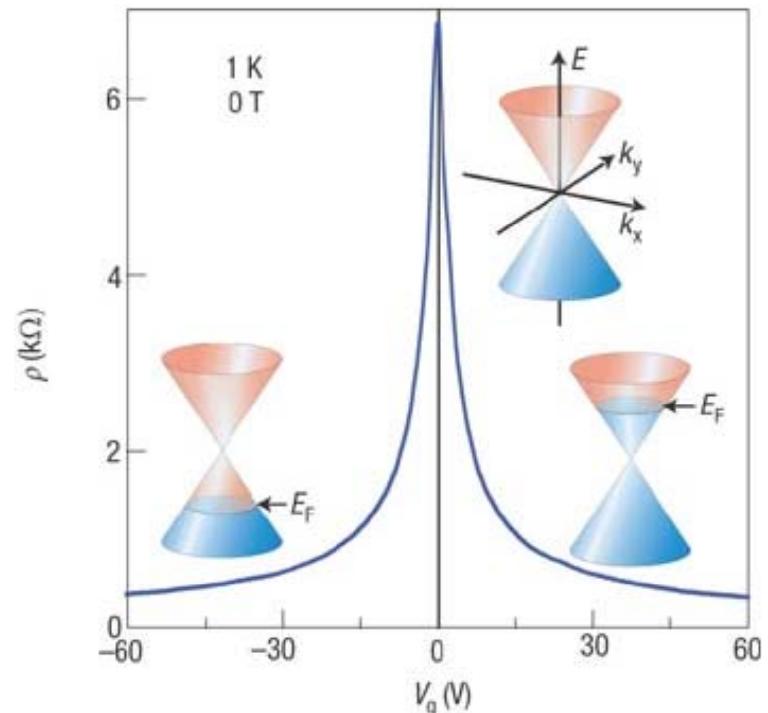
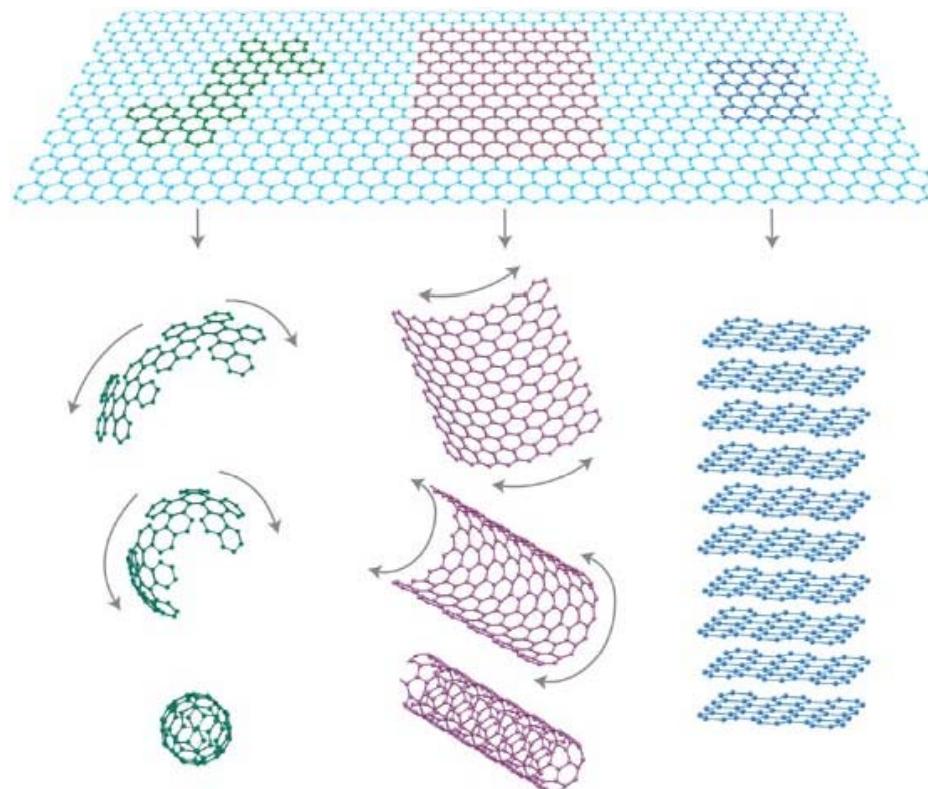
Semiconductor Materials Research Lab



The rise of graphene

Jason Woo, PI, EE UCLA

The unique feature: highly anisotropic material



The Challenge:
Wafer scale fabrication with
uniform (1 monolayer) thickness

A. K. Geim [\[1\]](#) and K. S. Novoselov, Nature Materials 6, 183 - 191 (2007)

Semiconductor Materials Research Lab



*and other Non-epitaxy
Research activities in the Semiconductor Materials Research Laboratory*

Semiconductor **M**aterials **R**esearch **L**ab



Understanding the Scaling Limit of PcRAM Technology of Chalcogenide Materials



1	H	Hydrogen 1.00794																		2	He	Helium 4.003																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																				
3	Li	Lithium 6.941	4	Be	Boron 9.012182	5	B	Boron 10.811	6	C	Carbon 12.0107	7	N	Nitrogen 14.00674	8	O	Oxygen 15.9994	9	F	Fluorine 18.9984032	10	Ne	Neon 20.1797																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																			
11	Na	Sodium 22.989770	12	Mg	Magnesium 24.3050	21	Sc	Scandium 44.955910	22	Ti	Titanium 47.867	23	V	Vanadium 50.9415	24	Cr	Chromium 51.9861	25	Mn	Manganese 54.938049	26	Fe	Iron 55.845	27	Co	Cobalt 58.93200	28	Ni	Nickel 58.6934	29	Cu	Copper 63.546	30	Zn	Zinc 65.39	31	Ga	Gallium 69.723	32	Ge	Germanium 74.92160	33	As	Arsenic 78.956	34	Se	Selenium 78.960	35	Br	Bromine 79.904	36	Kr	Krypton 83.80	37	Rb	Rubidium 85.4678	38	Y	Yttrium 87.62	39	Zr	Zirconium 88.90585	40	Nb	Nobium 91.224	41	Mo	Molybdenum 95.94	42	Tc	Technetium 98	43	Ru	Ruthenium 101.07	44	Rh	Rhodium 102.90550	45	Pd	Palladium 106.42	46	Ag	Silver 107.8682	47	Cd	Cadmium 112.411	48	In	Indium 114.818	49	Sn	Stannum 118.710	50	Sb	Sb 120.90447	51	Te	Te 126.90447	52	I	Iodine 131.29	53	Xe	Xenon 131.29	54	Cs	Cesium 132.90545	55	Ba	Barium 137.327	56	La	Lanthanum 138.9055	57	Hf	Hafnium 178.49	58	Ta	Tantalum 180.9479	59	W	Tungsten 183.84	60	Re	Rhenium 186.207	61	Os	Osmium 192.217	62	Ir	Iridium 195.078	63	Pt	Platinum 196.96655	64	Au	Gold 200.59	65	Hg	Mercury 204.3833	66	Tl	Thallium 204.3833	67	Pb	Lead 207.2	68	Bi	Bismuth 208.98038	69	Po	Polonium 209	70	Yb	Ytterbium 210	71	Lu	Lu 222	72	Ce	Cerium 140.116	73	Pr	Praseodymium 144.24	74	Nd	Neodymium 149.90765	75	Pm	Promethium 150.36	76	Sm	Samarium 151.964	77	Eu	Europium 157.25	78	Gd	Gadolinium 158.92534	79	Tb	Terbium 162.59	80	Dy	Dysprosium 164.93032	81	Ho	Holmium 167.26	82	Er	Erbium 168.93421	83	Tm	Thulium 173.04	84	Yb	Ytterbium 174.967	85	At	Actinium 223	86	Rn	Radon 222	87	Fr	Radium 226	88	Ra	Rutherfordium 227	89	Ac	Actinum 261	104	Rf	Rutherfordium 262	105	Db	Dubnium 263	106	Sg	Seaborgium 262	107	Bh	Bh 262	108	Hs	Hassium 265	109	Mt	Meltetrinium 266	110	Es	Es 269	111	Am	Meitnerium 270	112	Cm	Curium 274	113	Bk	Berkelium 247	114	Cf	Californium 251	115	Dy	Dysprosium 252	116	Ho	Holmium 257	117	Er	Erbium 258	118	Tm	Thulium 259	119	Yb	Ytterbium 262	120	No	Nobelium 259	121	Lr	Lawrencium 262
90	Th	Thorium 232.0381	91	Pa	Protactinium 231.03588	92	U	Uranium 238.0289	93	Np	Neptrium 237	94	Pu	Plutonium 244	95	Cm	Americium 243	96	Bk	Berkelium 247	97	Cf	Californium 251	98	Dy	Dysprosium 252	99	Es	Einsteinium 252	100	Fm	Fermium 257	101	Md	Mendelevium 258	102	No	Nobelium 259	103	Lr	Lawrencium 262																																																																																																																																																																																																																																	

A.L. Lacaita / Solid-State Electronics 50 (2006) 24–31, Phys. Rev. Lett. 96, 055507 (2006)

Characteristic features: significant difference in optical and electrical properties between amorphous and poly-crystalline states.

From optical memory to electronic memory: the size of the programming volume.

Semiconductor **M**aterials **R**esearch **L**ab



The Topics of Research of Our Group

1. The minimum size required for the existence of 3 distinguishable phases in chalcogenide materials (amorphous, FCC, and HCP);
2. The phase change kinetics as a function of the volume: the effects of interface and surface;
3. The cross-over from nucleation dominated crystallization process to growth dominated regime with reducing volume;
4. Assessment of thermal proximity effect and the implication on technology scaling limit.

Work in progress

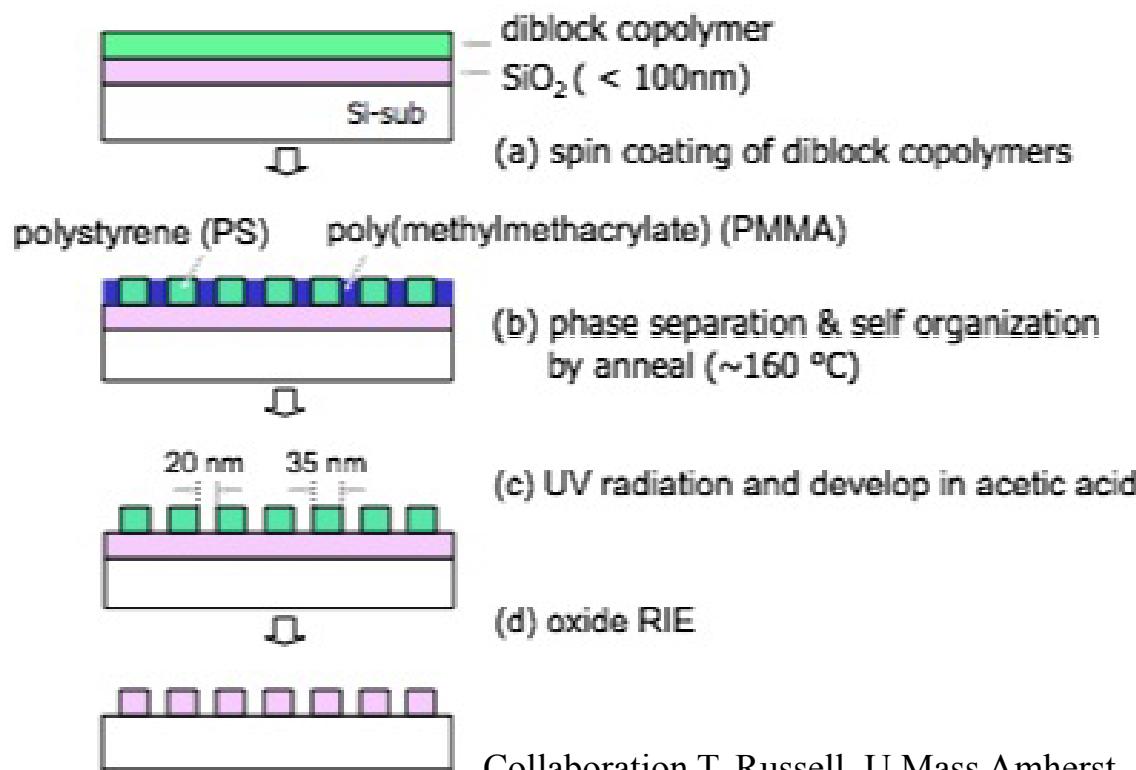
Semiconductor **M**aterials **R**esearch **L**ab



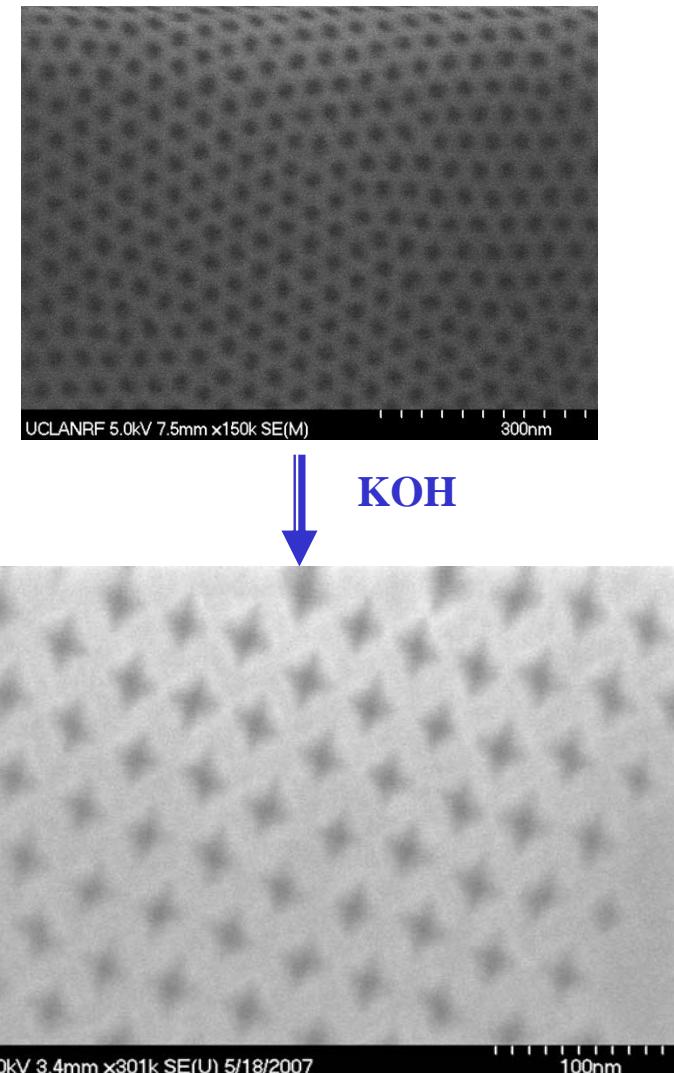
Nano-Patterning: the prerequisite for our research

Requirement: large area uniform coverage of nanometer dimension features

Process Schematics of di-block copolymer patterning

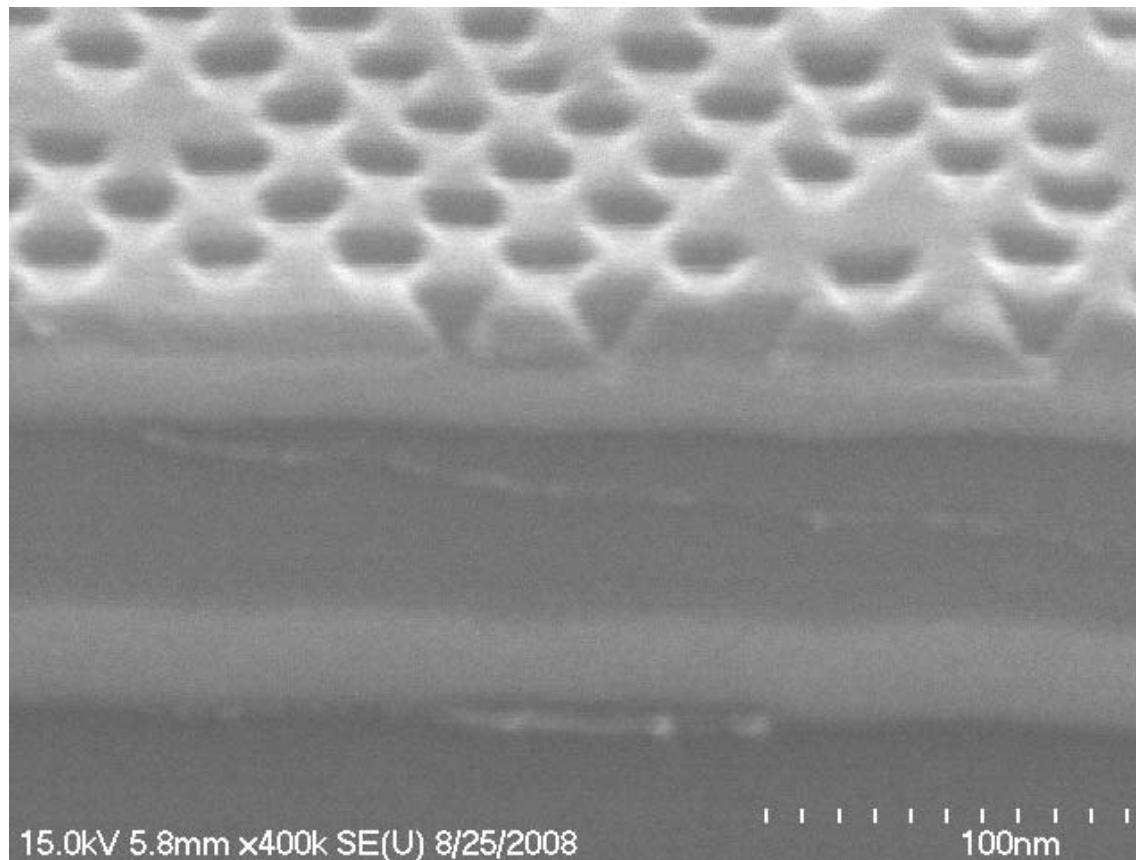


Collaboration T. Russell, U Mass Amherst





Nano-Patterning: the prerequisite for our research



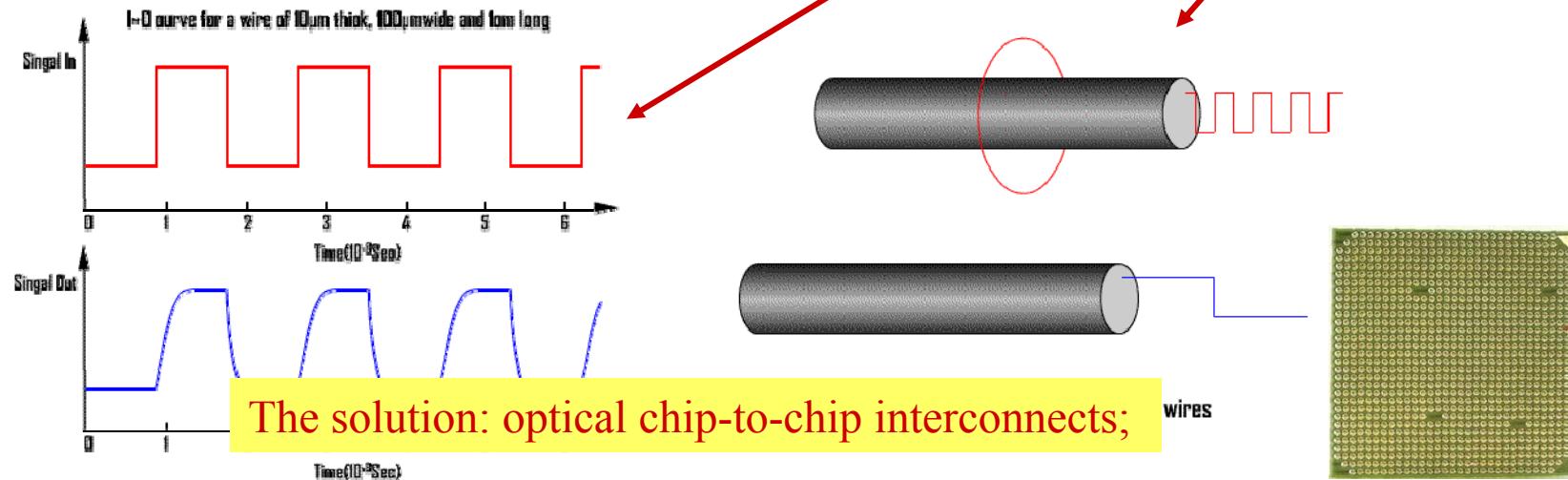
Semiconductor **M**aterials **R**esearch **L**ab



A Quantum Dot Based Electro-optic Modulator *for chip-to-chip optical interconnects*

- The non-zero R, L, and C in each real electrical wire;
- For high frequency or bit rate, electrical interconnects are prone to **data skew** and **crosstalk** with an ultimate bit rate limit:
- The rate limit B is determined by the aspect ratio of the interconnects and is <1 Gbps for typical chip interconnect geometry;

$$B \approx \frac{A}{l^2} \times 10^{15} (\text{bps})$$



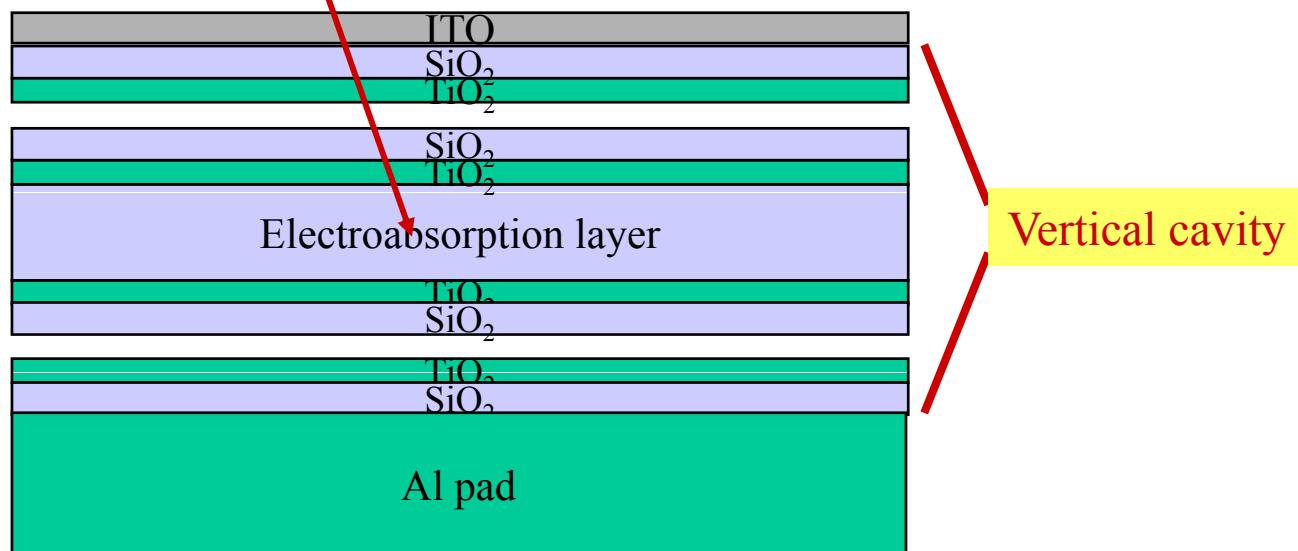
“Limit to the bit-rate capacity of electrical interconnects from the aspect ratio of the system architecture”, D.A.B. Miller and H.M. Ozaktas, J. Paral. Distrib. Comput., v.41, 42 (1997).

Semiconductor **M**aterials **R**esearch **L**ab



Schematics of Our Quantum Dot Based Modulator Structure

- Using **semiconductor quantum dots** operating near saturation absorption as the electro-absorption medium;
- Employing a dielectric vertical cavity for signal (both the pumping light intensity and the modulation effect) amplification;
- A capacitor as opposed to a current injection device from the circuit perspective;
- Inherently compatible with 2D array architecture.



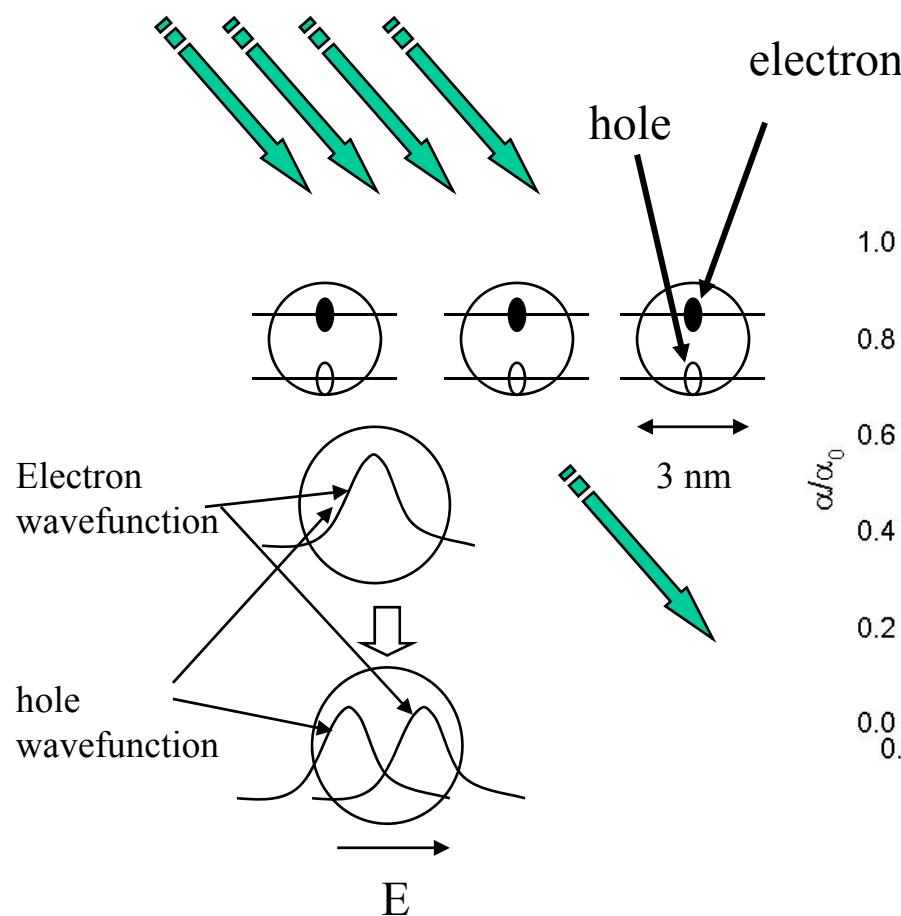
The function of the vertical cavity: amplification.

Semiconductor **M**aterials **R**esearch **L**ab

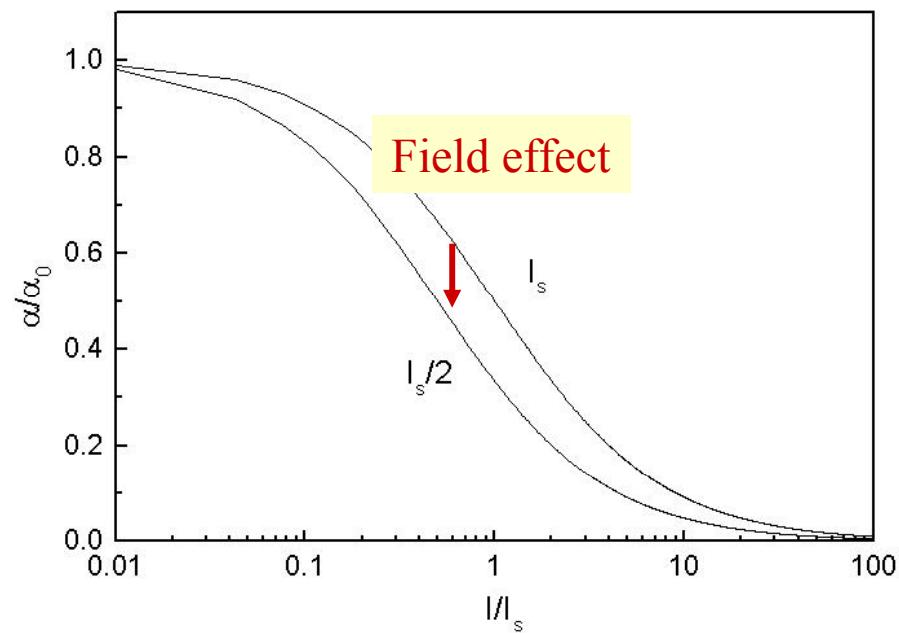


Quantum Dot Absorption under External Electric Field

Saturation absorption of QDs



$$\alpha = \frac{\alpha_0}{1 + I / I_s}$$



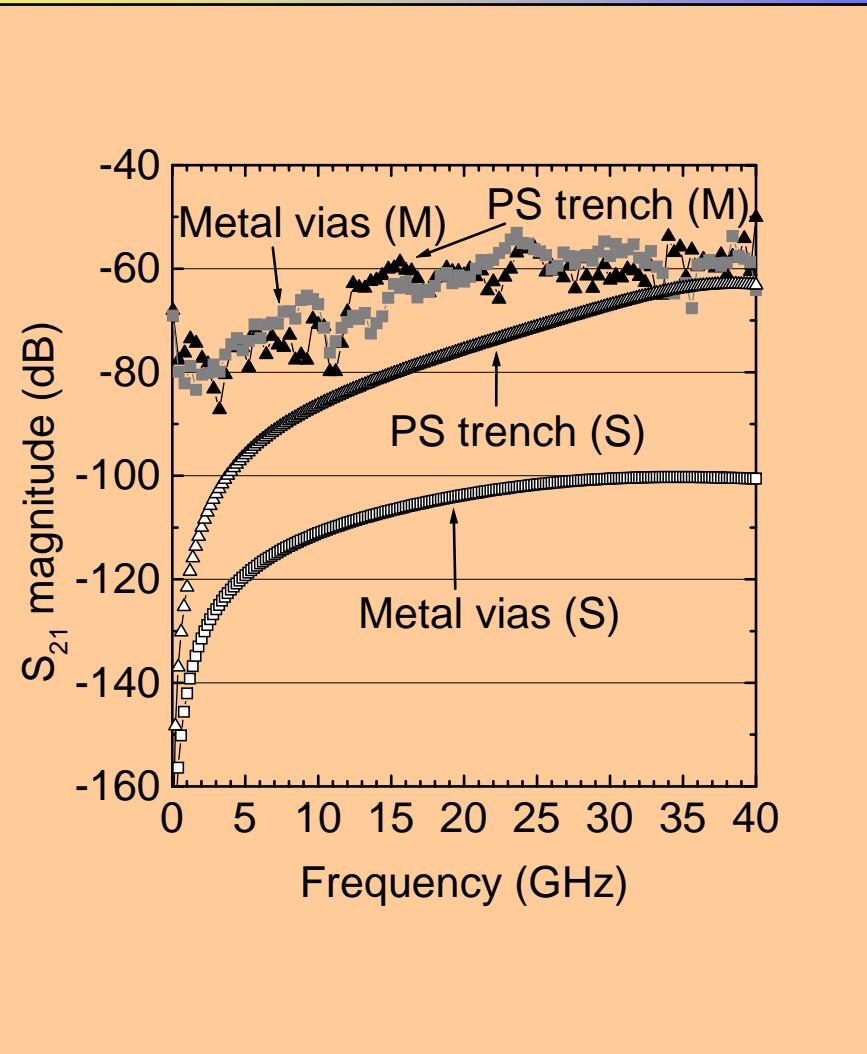
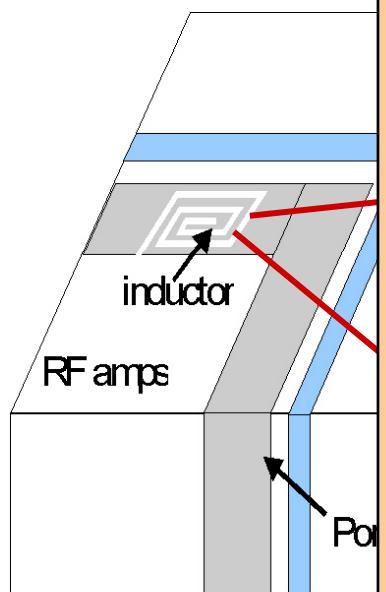


RF Crosstalk Isolation Technology

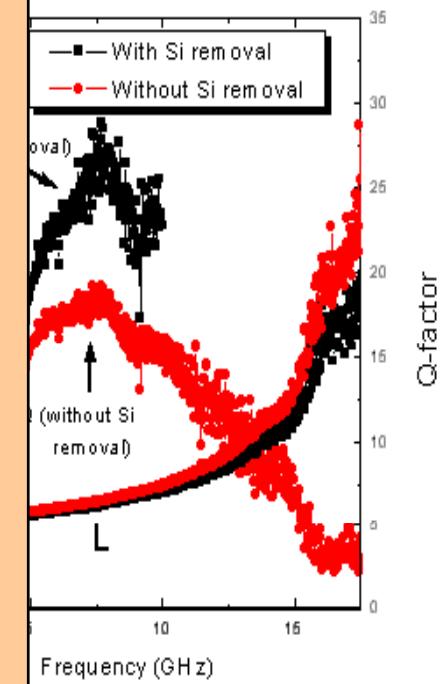
Substrate impedance engineering

Substrate impedance engineering

- Integration of passive components
- RF crosstalk isolation



circuit applications:
capacitors;



ductor **M**aterials **R**esearch **L**ab



Acknowledgement

- **Graduate students:**
Karen Li, Jae-Young Lee, Janet Wen Feng, Jian Liu, Jeehwan Kim, Bin Shi, Ke Sun, P. Sam Chang, Engdu Workneh, Seife Wooldeyesus, Albert Lipson;
- **Postdoctoral fellows:**
ZuoMing Zhao, HyungJun Kim; JoonYeon Chang, YoungMin Kim, Oksana Hulko;
- **Collaborators:**
Chander Radhakrishnan, Mike Lo and Harold G. Monbouquette (Chem. E. UCLA)
Keji Lai, Tzu-Ming Lu, Daniel Tsui (Princeton University)
Ryu, Tom Russell (U. Mass Amhurst)
Larry MingJoo Lee, E.A. Fitzgerald (MIT)
Y.D. Jhou, S.J. Chang (NCKU)
Aaron Gin, Alec Talin and JianYu Huang (CINT)
- **Funding agencies:**
AFOSR, NSF, DARPA, SRC, ARO, ONR

Semiconductor **M**aterials **R**esearch **L**ab
