

# Rational Control of the Electronic Properties via Graphene-Organic Interface

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Electronic skin: electronic devices that mimic skin function



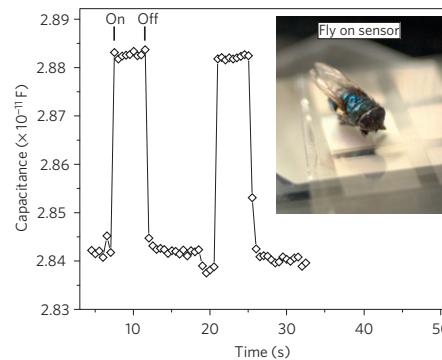
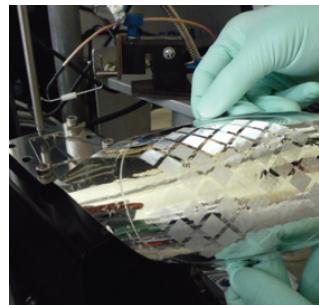
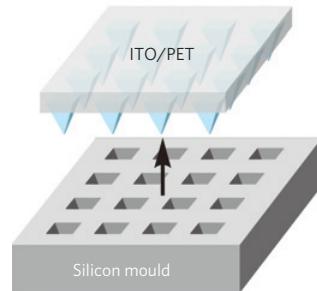
- ❖ Touch (pressure) sensors
- ❖ Temperature sensors
- ❖ Chemical sensors
- ❖ Flexible, stretchable materials
- ❖ Self-powered – stretchable solar cells
- ❖ Self healing

- To build electronic skin devices, new materials need to be developed to enable versatile skin functions

# Various materials for electronic skin in our group

- 1 Microstructured PDMS (polydimethylsiloxane)
2. Conducting spray-deposited CNT arrays
3. New conjugated polymer (polyisoindigobithiophene-siloxane (Pil2T-Si))
4. Self-healing polymer

Integrate microstructured PDMS as dielectric layer to form a capacitive pressure sensor



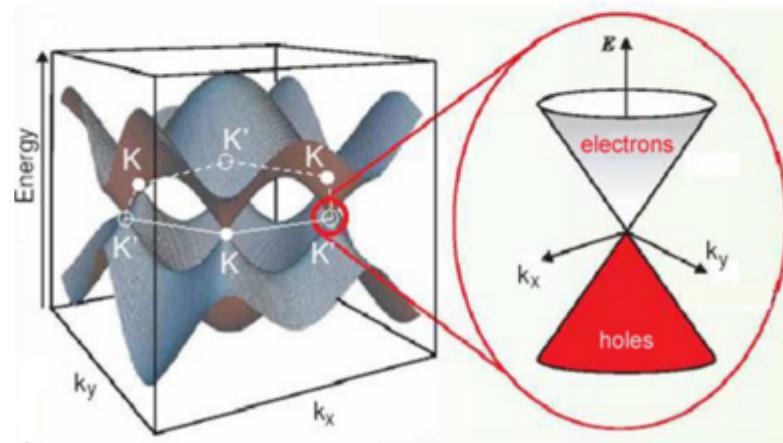
## 5. Graphene?

S Mannsfeld, Z Bao, Nature Materials, 2010, 9, 860

# Advantages of Graphene

## 1. The electrons in graphene behave as massless Dirac Fermions

- High electron mobility (15,000 cm<sup>2</sup>/Vs in Experiment; 200,000 cm<sup>2</sup>/Vs in Theory);
- Resistivity  $10^{-6}\Omega\text{m}$  lower than silver



S Sarma, Review of Modern Physics, 2011, 83, 407

## 2. It is flexible, transparent and biocompatible

# Outline

- 1) Bao Group research on solution processed graphene
- 2) To control graphene electronic properties via graphene-organic interface
  - a) To control Fermi level
  - b) To open up band gap

# Work in Bao group using RGO

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Advantages of GO:

- Solution processible
- Flexible
- Transparent
- Large scale and low cost

Main challenge: low conductivity

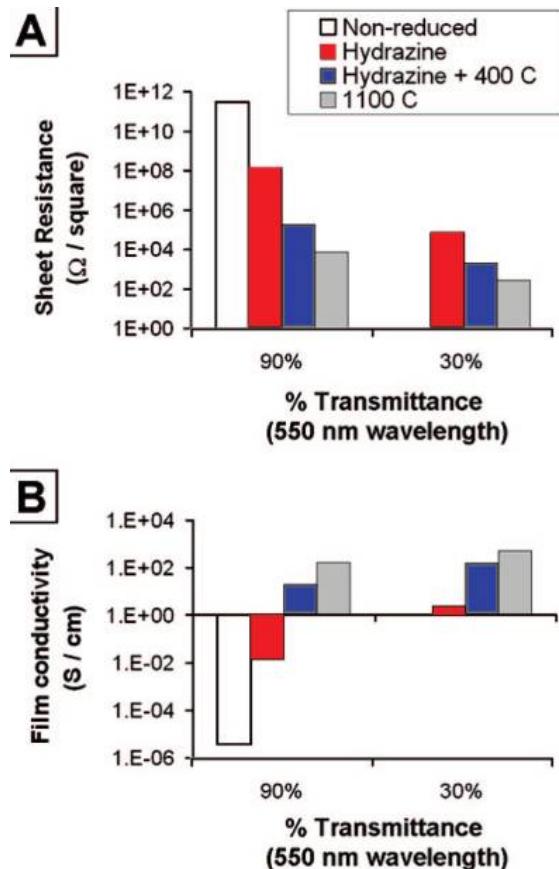
Thermal graphitization from Graphene oxide (GO) to reduced graphene oxide (RGO)

~ 100  $\Omega/\text{sq}$  @ 80%  
transmittance for  
550nm light



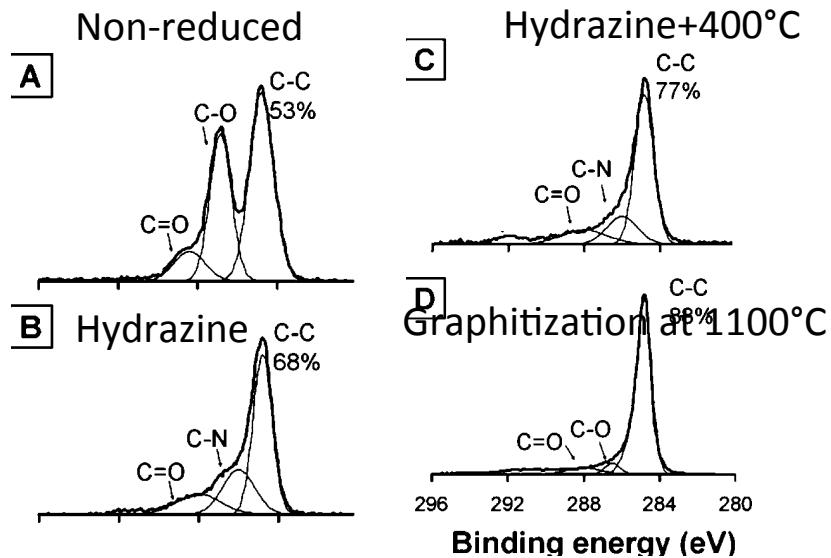
H Becerril, Z Bao, ACS Nano 2008, 2, 463

# Reduction of graphene oxide



Sheet resistance decreases (Film conductivity increases): non-reduced, hydrazine, hydrazine +400°C, graphitization at 1100°C

## X-ray photoelectron spectroscopy (XPS)



B and C: significant C-N signals, forming hydrazone groups, partially reduced byproducts

D: indicates higher conductivity is due to higher percentage of C-C bond

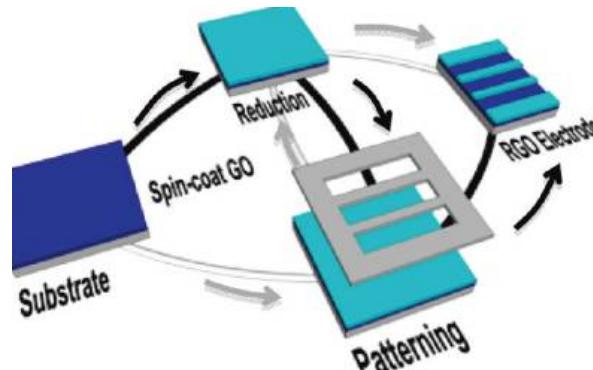
Applications in:

1. Organic thin film transistors (OTFTs)
2. Organic light emitting diodes (OLEDs)
3. Solar cells

# OTFT using RGO as electrodes

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## Fabrication process of RGO electrodes

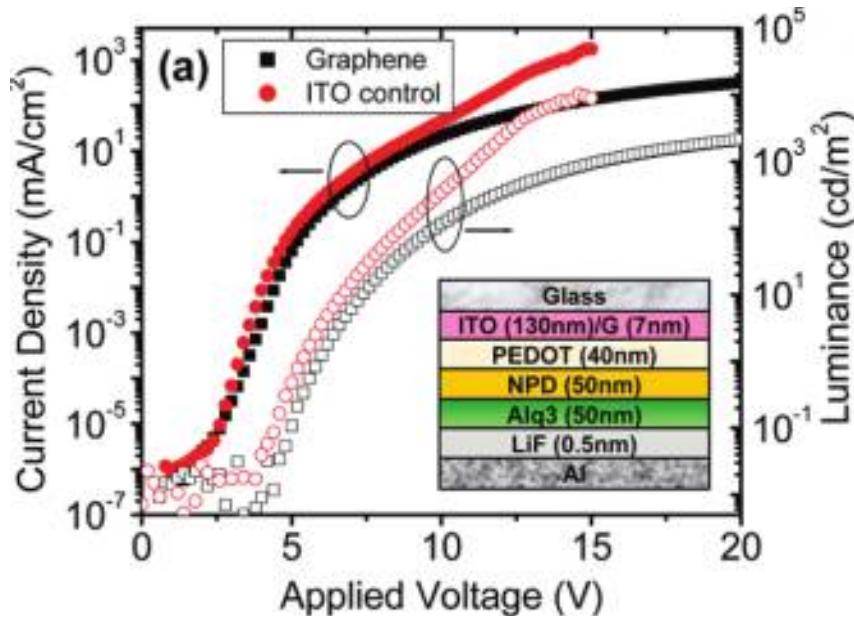


material	contact	$I_{DS}^a$	av FET- $\mu^b$	$I_{ON}/I_{OFF}^e$
pentacene	RGO	$1.19 \times 10^{-4} \pm 9\%$	$1.80 \times 10^{-1} \pm 14\%$	$5.23 \times 10^6$
	gold	$9.95 \times 10^{-6} \pm 9\%$	$1.05 \times 10^{-2} \pm 0.2\%$	$5.75 \times 10^5$
$F_{16}CuPc$	RGO	$1.60 \times 10^{-5} \pm 26\%$	$2.76 \times 10^{-2} \pm 23\%$	$1.00 \times 10^7$
	gold	$4.41 \times 10^{-7} \pm 17\%$	$1.10 \times 10^{-3} \pm 25\%$	$6.23 \times 10^5$
PQTBTz-C <sub>12</sub>	RGO	$6.34 \times 10^{-6} \pm 75\%$	$8.96 \times 10^{-3} \pm 77\%$	$1.04 \times 10^6$
	gold	$4.65 \times 10^{-7} \pm 13\%$	$1.07 \times 10^{-3} \pm 15\%$	$3.54 \times 10^4$

Key figures of merits (on-current, mobility, on/off) of RGO-contacted TFT shows an enhancement of ~10x compared to those with gold contacts.

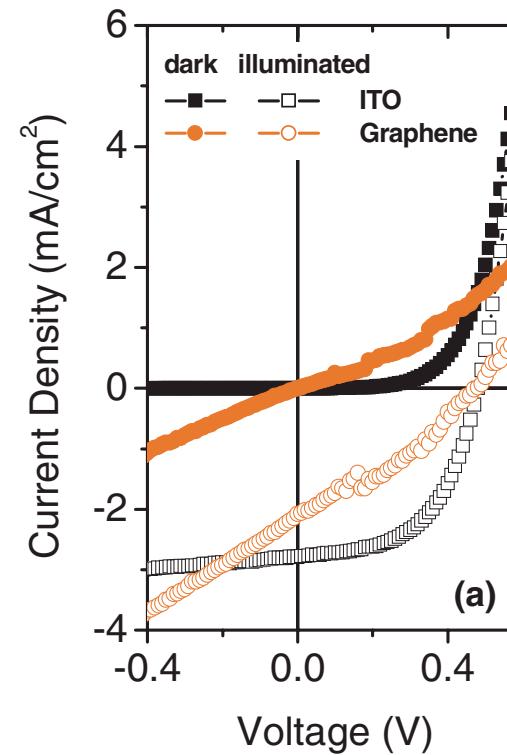
# RGO electrodes in OLEDs and SCs

Graphene/glass vs. ITO/glass as anode



J Wu, Z Bao, ACS Nano 2010, 4, 43

Solar cell using RGO as electrodes

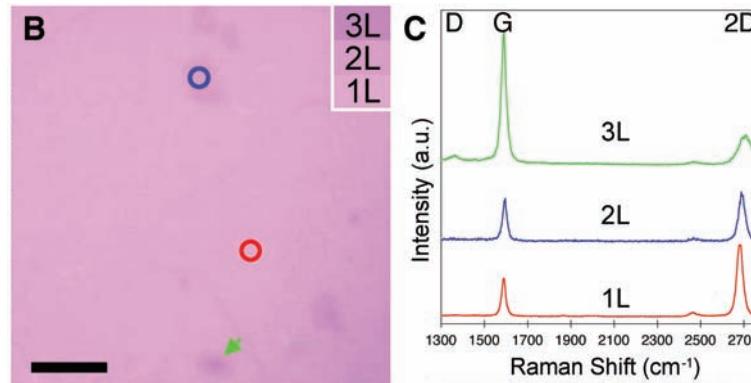


J Wu, Z Bao, Applied Physics Lett, 2008, 92, 263302

Device characteristics is comparable to control devices on ITO transparent anodes, while using earth-abundant materials and solution process

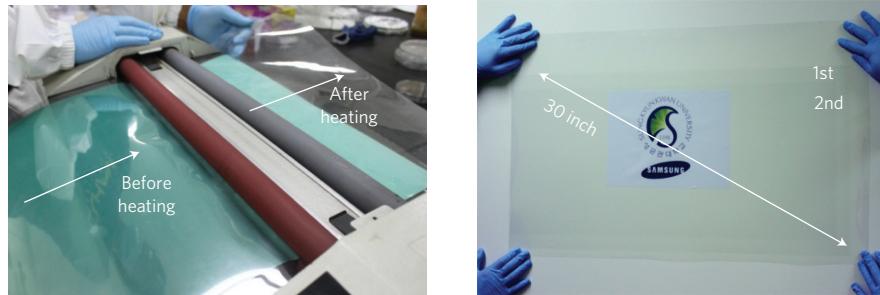
# Chemical vapor deposition (CVD) grow graphene

- High conductivity and electron mobility
- Uniform and highly crystalline single layer



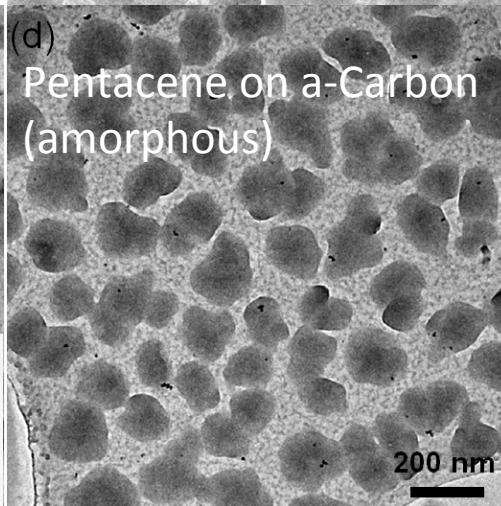
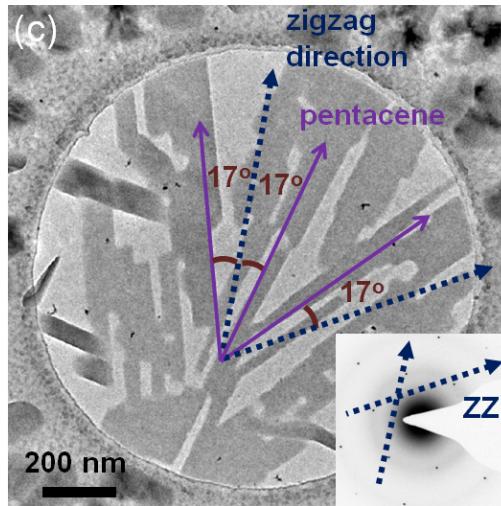
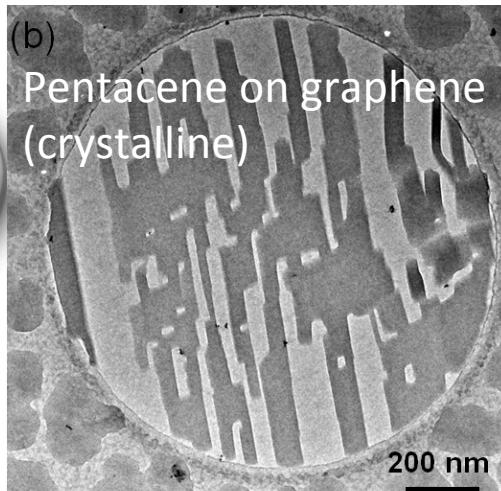
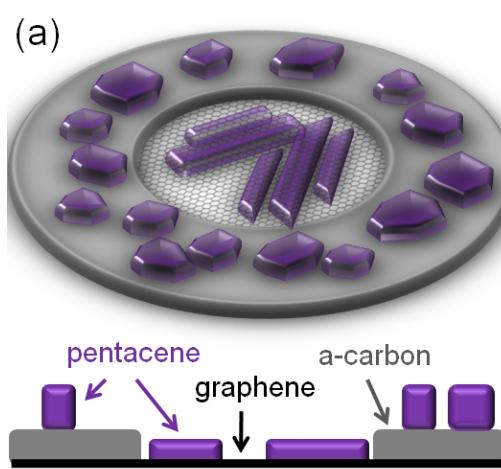
R Ruoff, Science, 2009, 324, 5932

- Over a large area



B H Hong, Nature Nanotechnology, 2010, 5, 574

# Graphene-organic interaction



High resolution TEM to show the morphology of pentacene deposited on graphene vs. a-carbon:

- On graphene pentacene is highly crystallized with a preferential lattice orientation
- On a-carbon it shows island growth without particular orientation

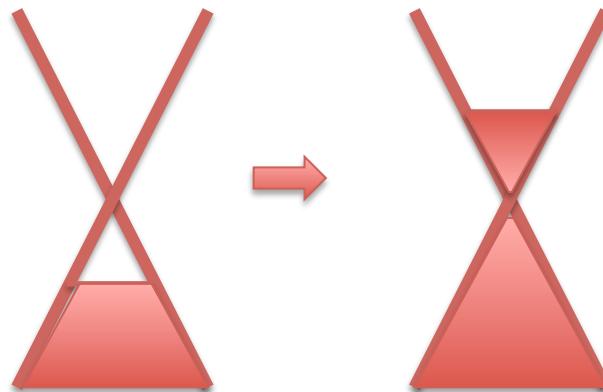
Can we harness this strong interaction to enable a tuning in graphene's properties?

- 1) Bao Group research on solution processed graphene
- 2) To control graphene electronic properties via graphene-organic interface

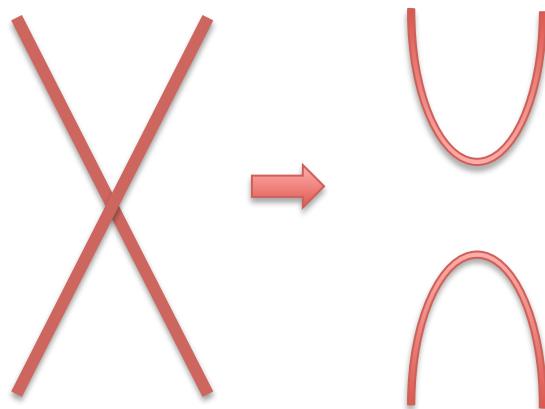
a) To control Fermi level

p-type

n-type



b) To open up band gap



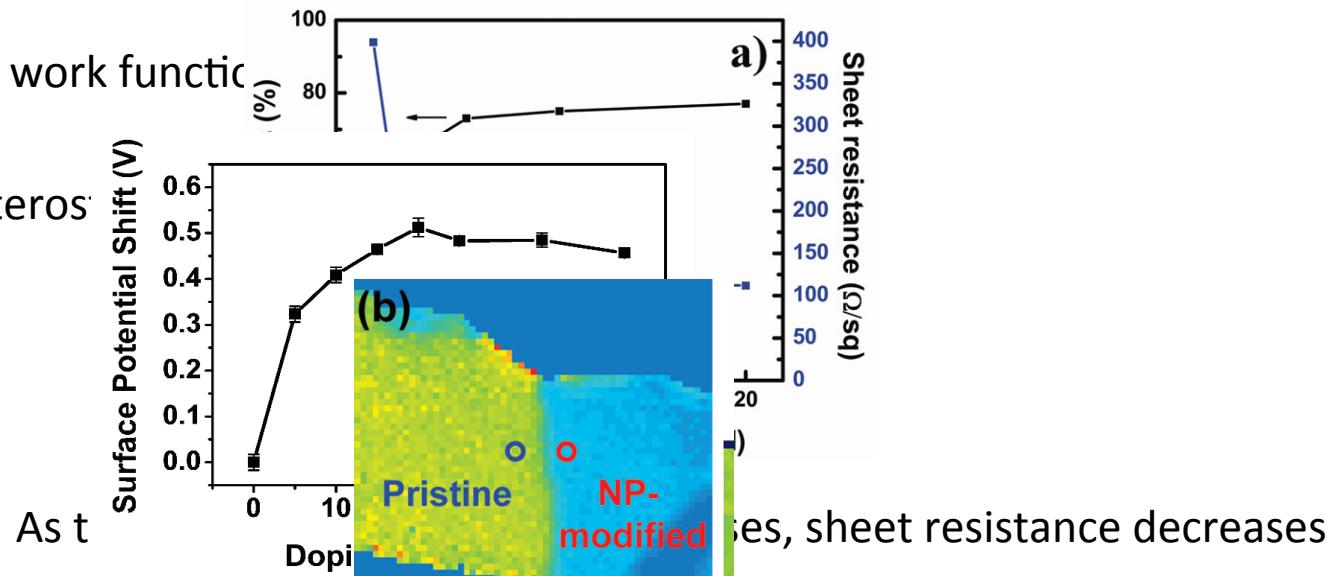
# Importance of controlled Fermi level

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1) Tuning conductivity

2) Modulating work function

3) Creating hetero-



By changing the doping time, the surface potential of graphene is modulated.  
By having complementary doping, p-n junctions can be created.  
to make efficient contact to different materials

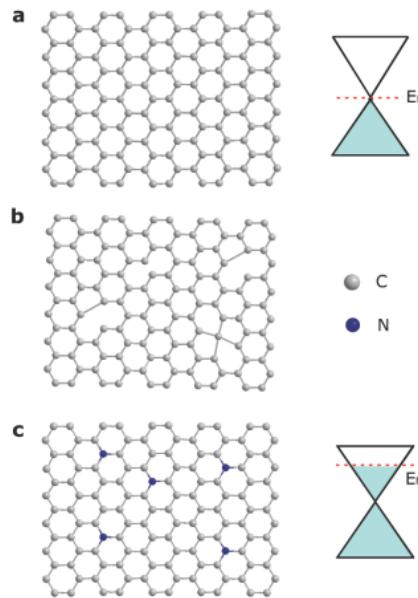
Y Chen, ACS Nano, 2011, 3, 26051

J Kong, ACS Nano, 2010, 5, 2689

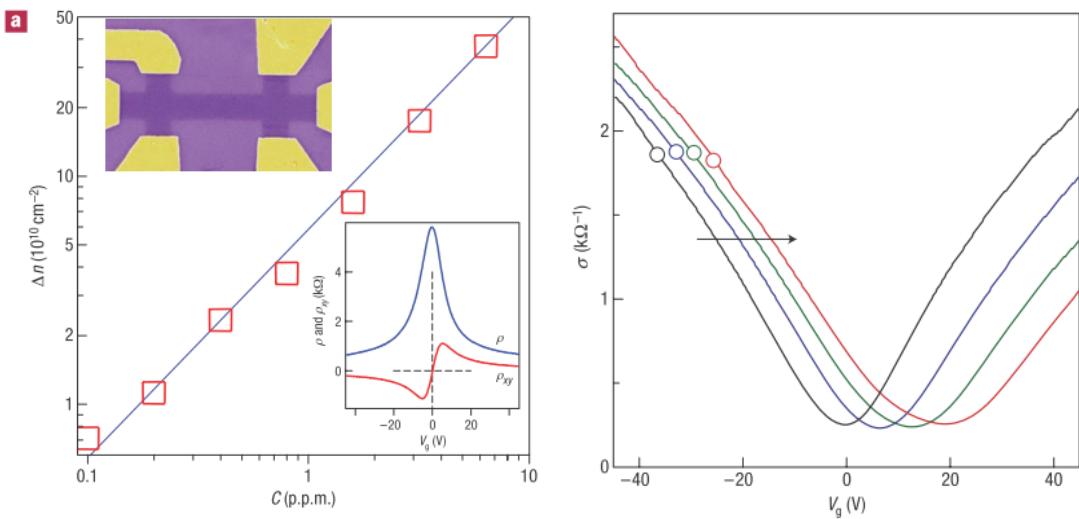
# Doping to control graphene Fermi level

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## 1) Substitute C in the lattice



## 2) Physically adsorbed gaseous molecules



Limitation: disrupts the honey comb lattice of graphene

J Gong, Nano Lett. 2010, 10, 4975

Limitation: not a stable doping way, tend to dissociate from the surface

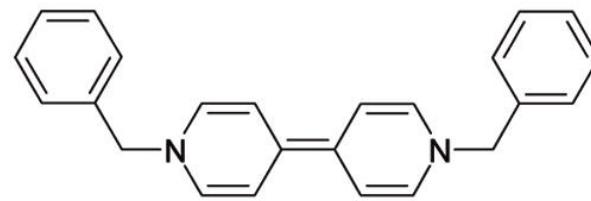
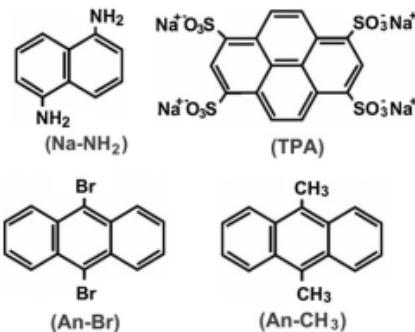
K.S. Novoselov. Nature Materials 2007, 6, 652

# Doping to control graphene Fermi level

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## 3) Noncovalent binding of nongaseous organic molecules

- Stable;
- Preserving the honeycomb structure.



Reduced 1,1'-Dibenzylyl-4,4'-bipyridinium

Pyrene derivatives bearing withdrawing or donating functional groups

# Design new n-type dopant

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2-(2-Methoxyphenyl)-1,3-dimethyl-1H-benzoimidazol-3-ium Iodide



P Wei, Z Bao, J. Am. Chem. Soc. 2012, 134, 3999  
P Wei, Z Bao, J. Am. Chem. Soc. 2010, 132, 8852

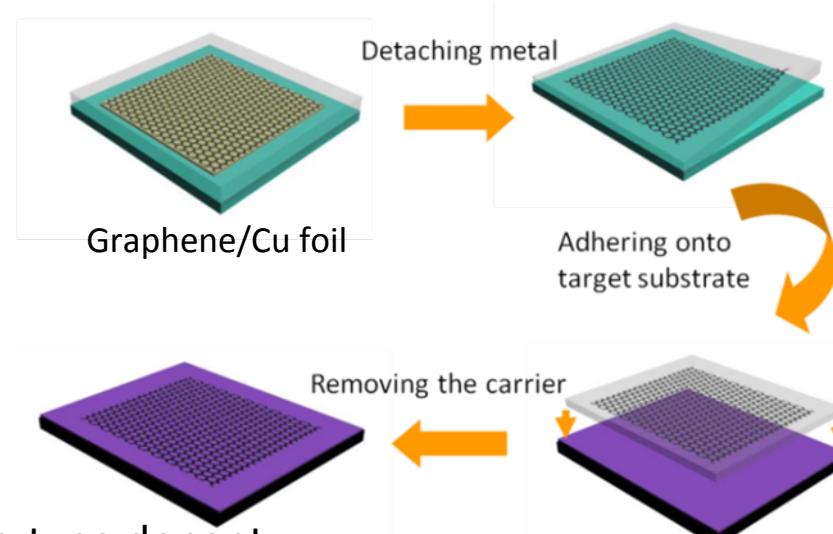
- *o*-MeO-DMBI is air-stable and can be stored and handled in air for extended periods without degradation
- Solution process or vacuum deposition

Can we tune the Fermi level of graphene using this molecule?

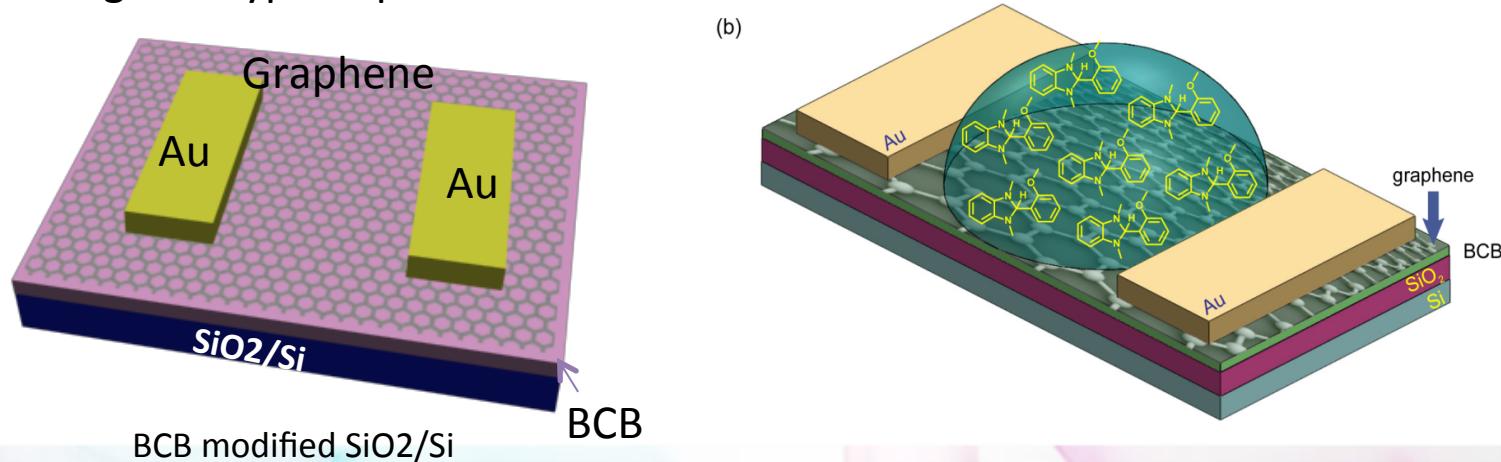
# Process of doping graphene

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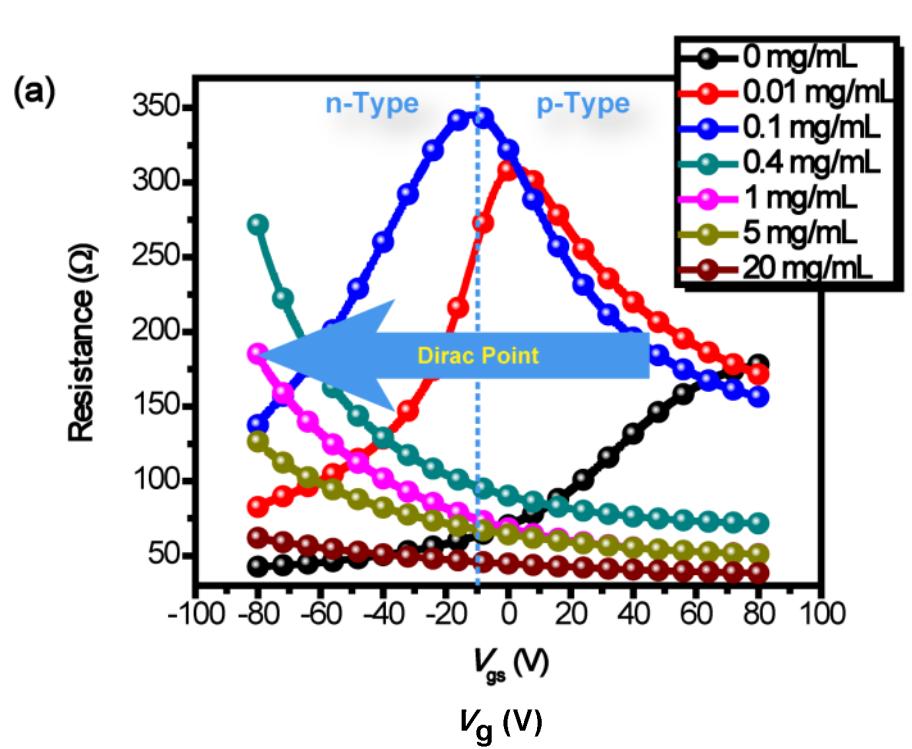
## 1. Transfer graphene and fabricate graphene devices



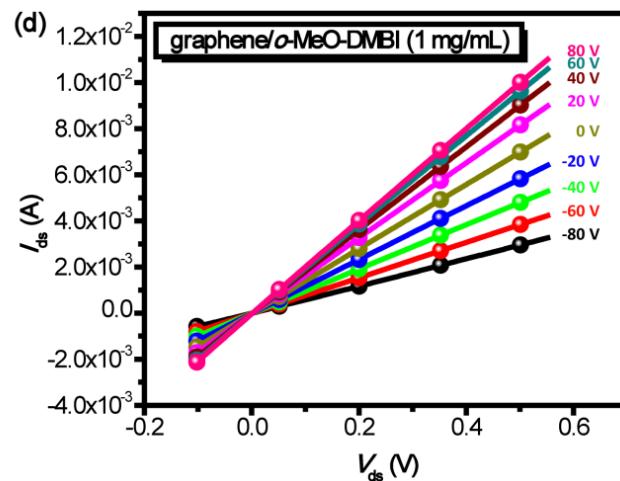
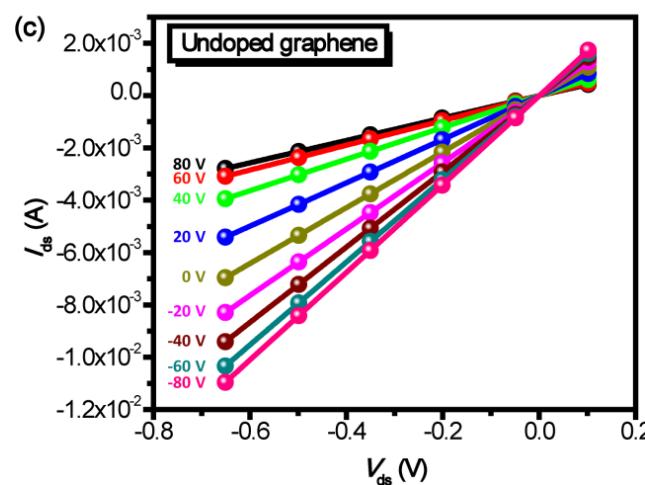
## 2. Spin-coating of n-type dopant



# Transport behavior before and after n-doping



Transfer curves: charge neutrality points (CNPs) shift downwards.  
Indicating: p-type to ambipolar to n-type



R



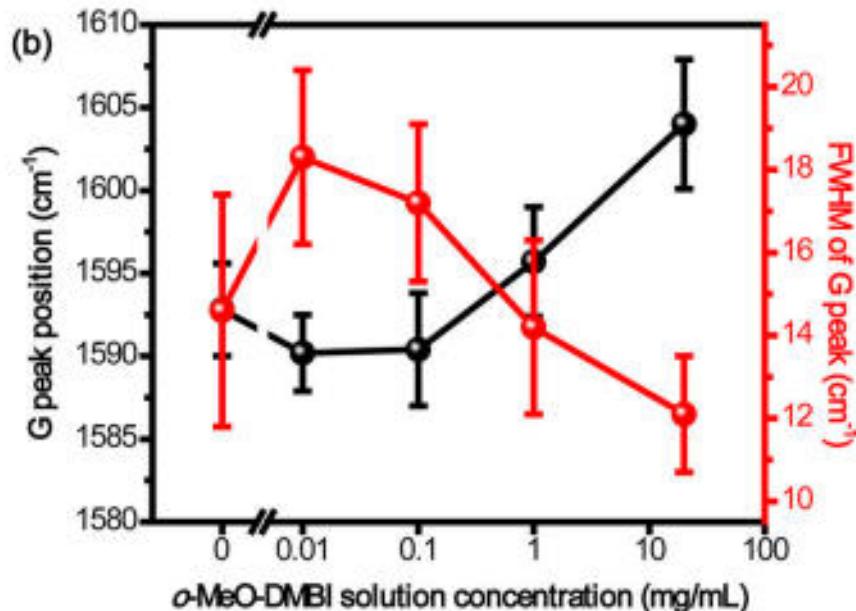
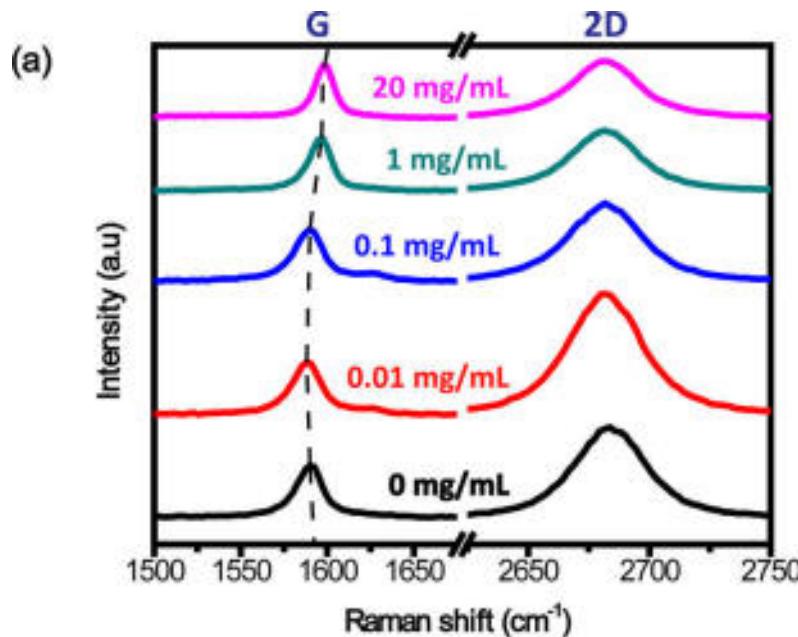
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Before doping: p-type; after doping: n-type

# Raman studies before and after n-doping

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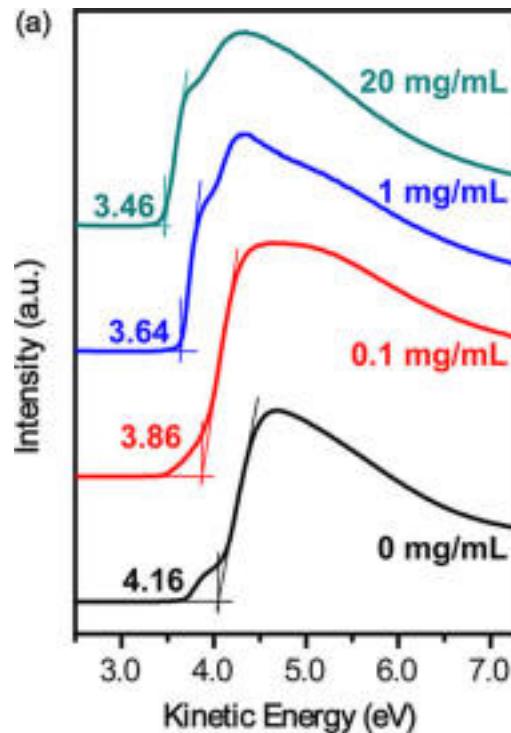


- Doping of graphene up-shifts the G peak position and decreases peak width
- The G peak position (width) is at minimum (maximum) at the 0.01 and 0.1 mg/ml, suggesting it is tuned to be intrinsic
- Further increase dopant concentration upshifts the G peak position and decreases peak width, suggesting it is tuned to be heavily n-doped

# UPS study before and after n-doping

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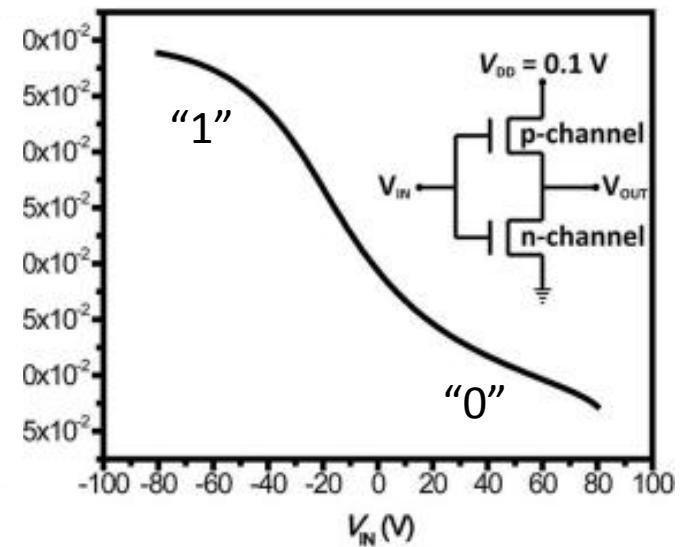
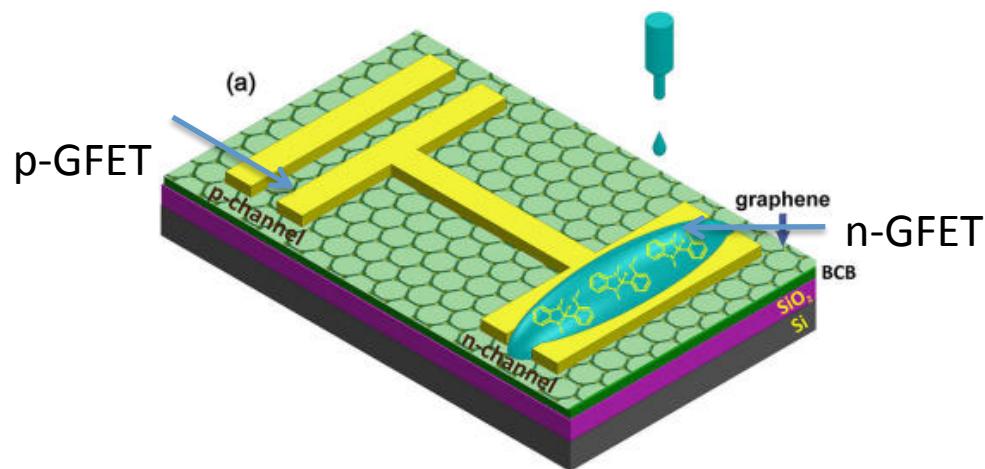
Ultraviolet photoelectron spectroscopy (UPS):



- 0.5eV shift of work function by n-type doping
- This indicates an interfacial charge transfer from the n-type dopant to the underlying graphene

# Application 1: inverter

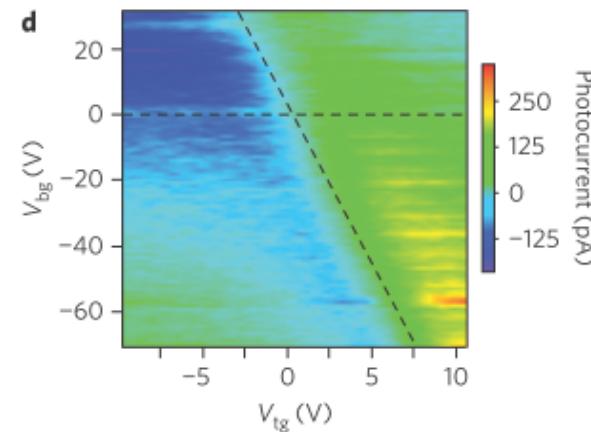
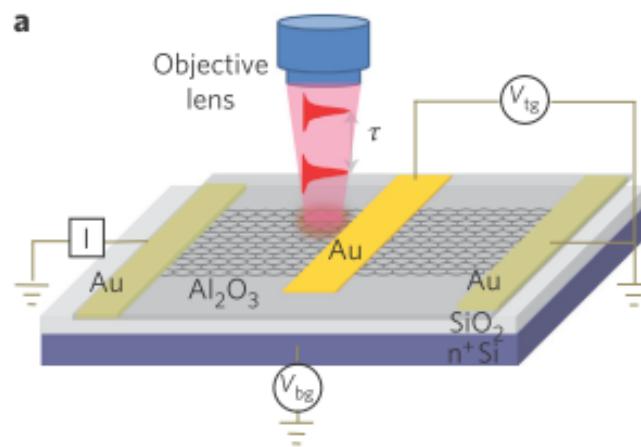
A complementary inverter, that integrates both p- and n- type graphene transistors



An inverter behavior: output level at low; input level at high

# Application 2: p-n junction

Using dual gates to fabricate graphene p-n junction as a photosensing device

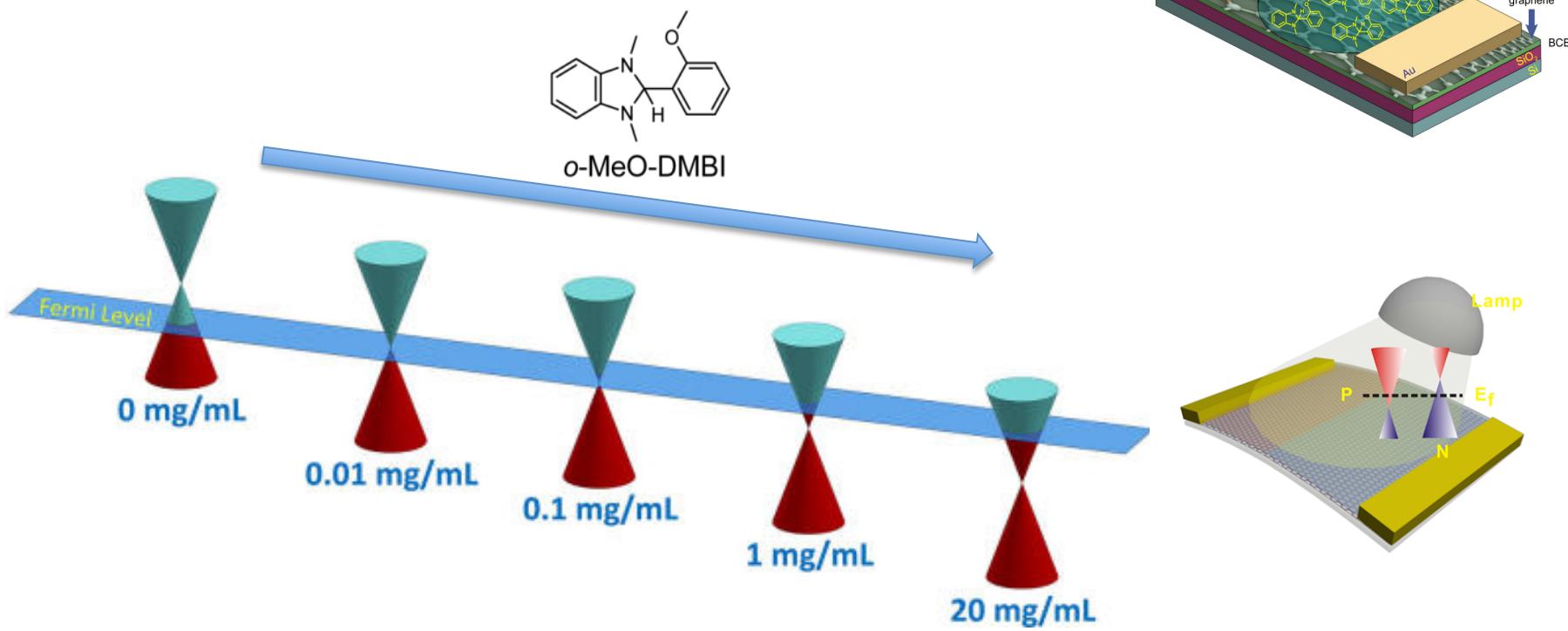


- It requires 4 terminals to operate the device, which complicates both fabrication and the operation of the photodetector.
- Metal top gates prevent creation of flexible, all-transparent photodetectors

**Can we use chemical doping to create p-n junctions to address these challenges?**

# Summary I

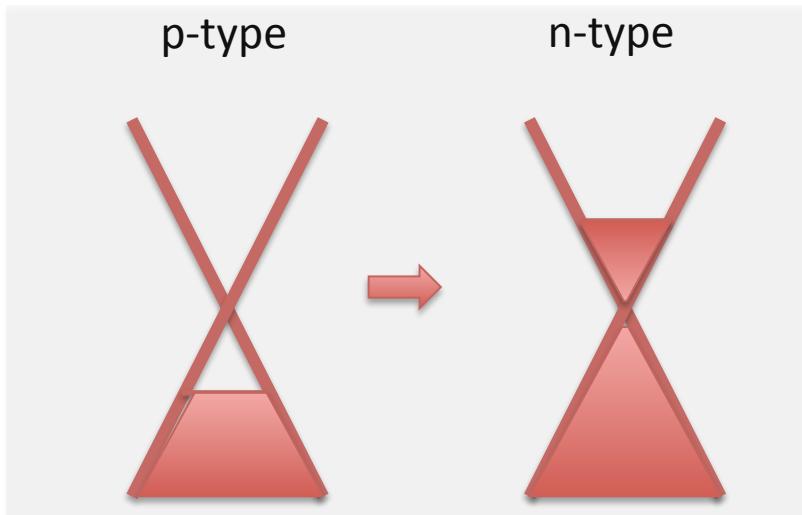
- O-MeO-DMBI is an efficient n-dopant for graphene
- New device structures (flexible and all transparent graphene photodetectors) are enabled by chemical n-doping



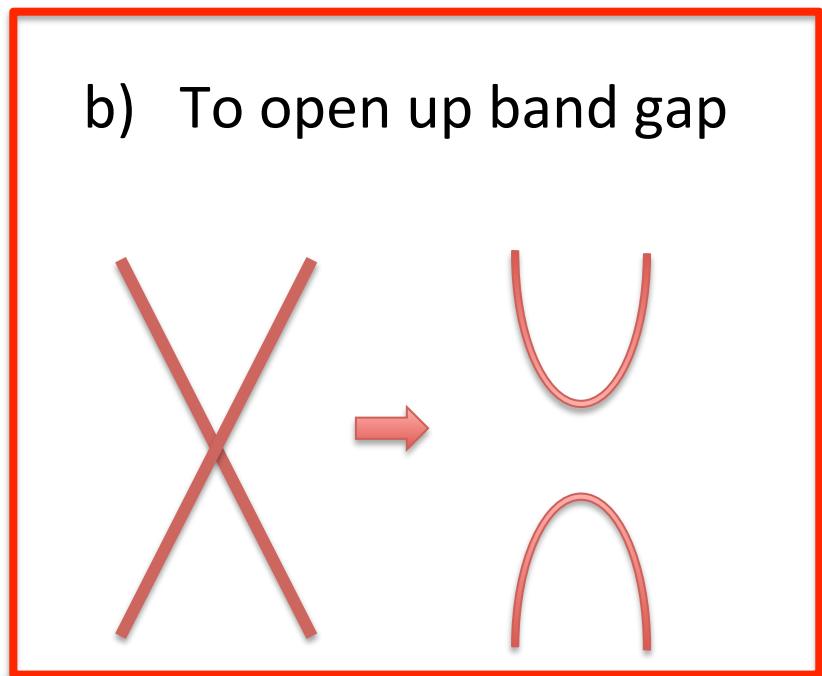
# Outline

- 1) Bao Group research on solution processed graphene
- 2) To control graphene electronic properties via graphene-organic interface

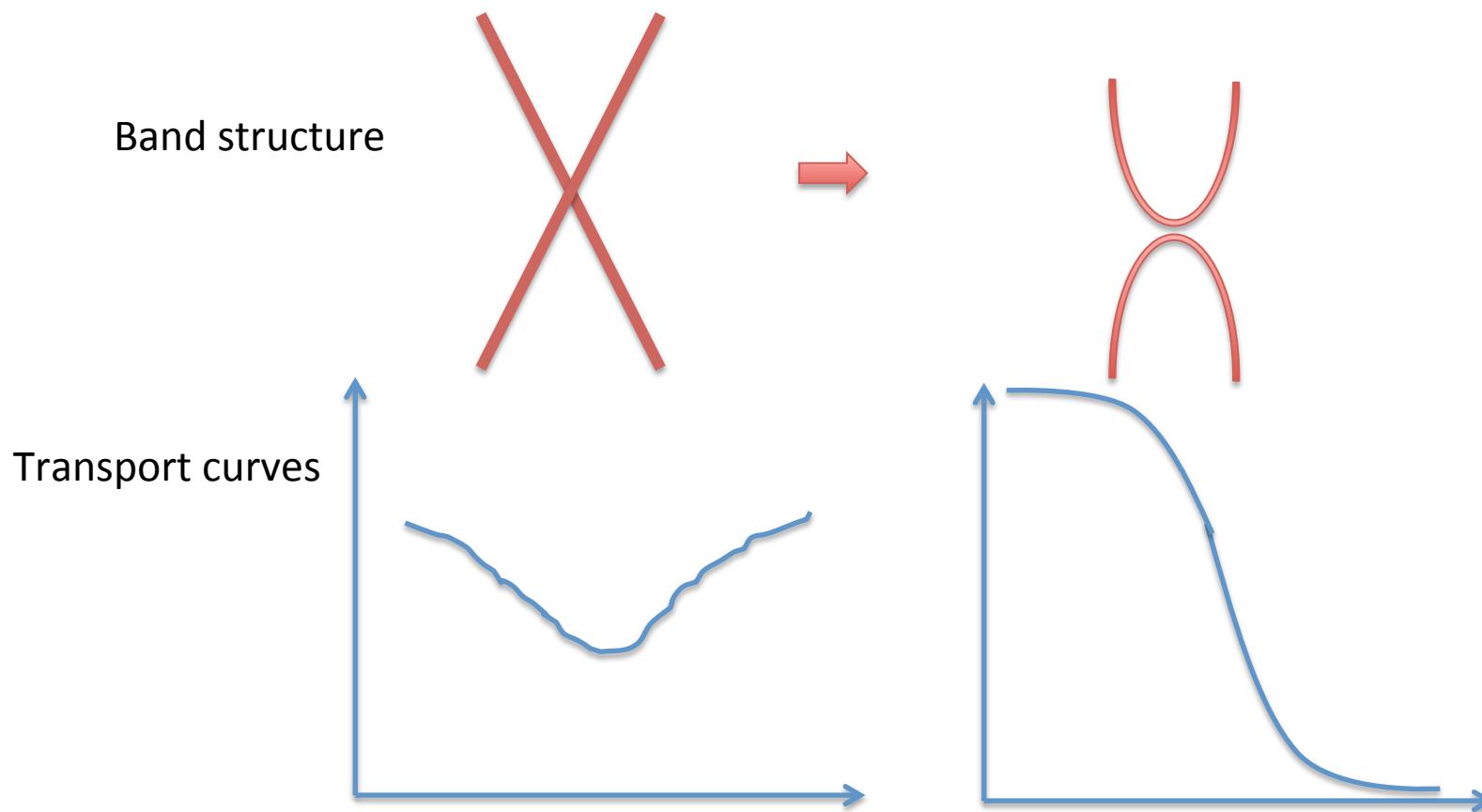
a) To control Fermi level



b) To open up band gap



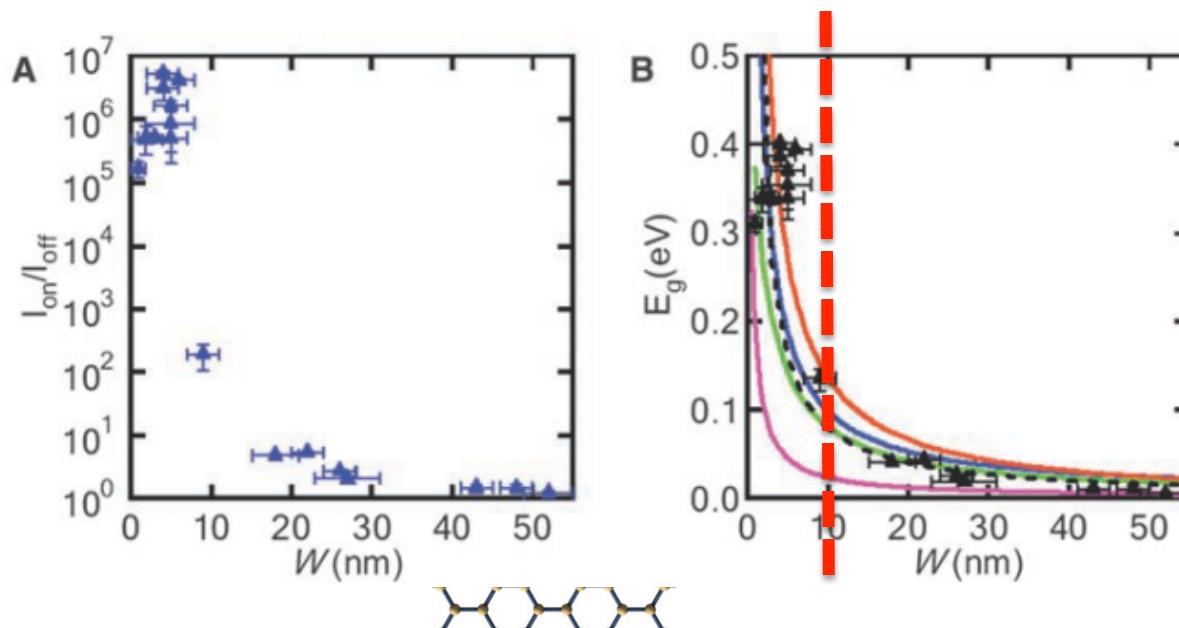
# Why bandgap?



- The application of graphene in digital electronics is limited by its lack of a band gap.
- No full turn-off; poor on/off ratio; large static power consumption

# Bandgap in GNR

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$$E_g(eV) = \frac{0.8}{w(nm)}$$

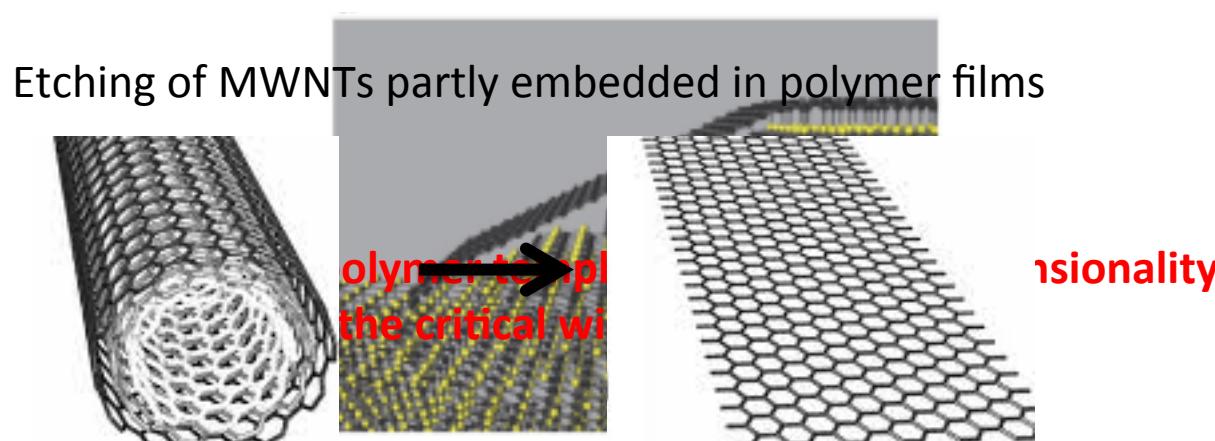
GNR below 10 nm will result in a sufficient band gap and large on/off ratio for room temperature operation.

# Methods of GNR Synthesis

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## 1. Unzipping CNTs

## 2. Epitaxial growth on templated SiC



Limitation: width about 40 nm  
Limitation: scalable fabrication  
The problem is that direct growth of sub-10 nm  
ribbons has not been possible  
Dai, Nature 2009, 458, 877

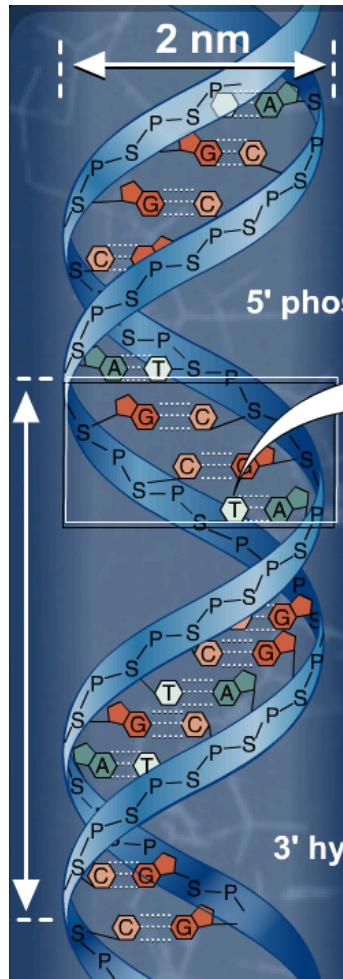
W de Heer, Nature Nanotechnology, 2010, 5, 729

W de Heer, Nature, 2014, 506, 349

# DNA Bio-template to GNRs

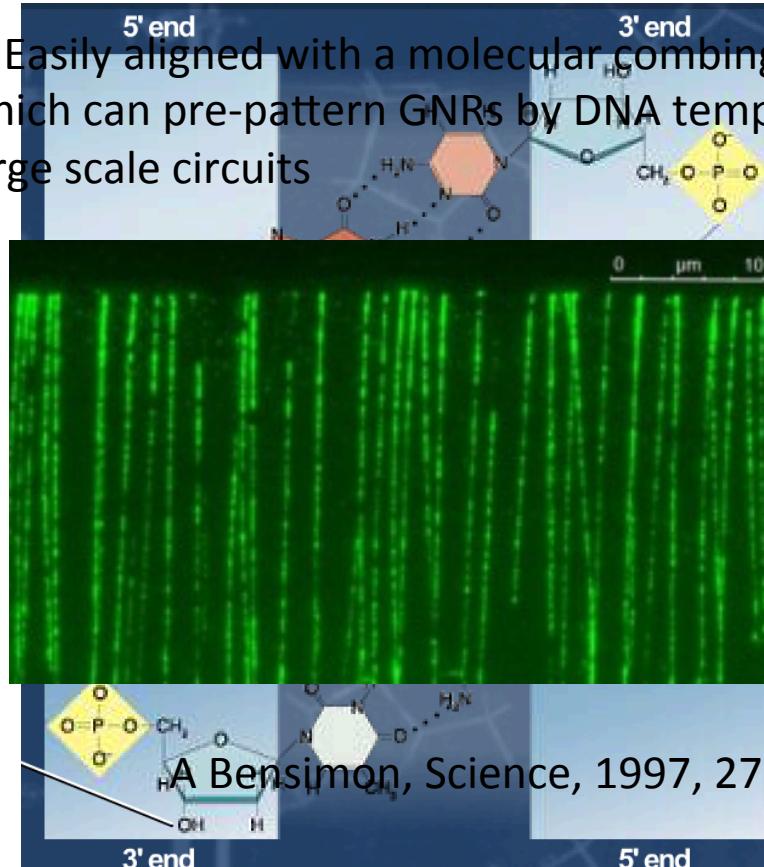
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1. DNA width ~2 nm



2. Phosphate backbones act as metal binding sites to catalyze the growth of graphitic structures

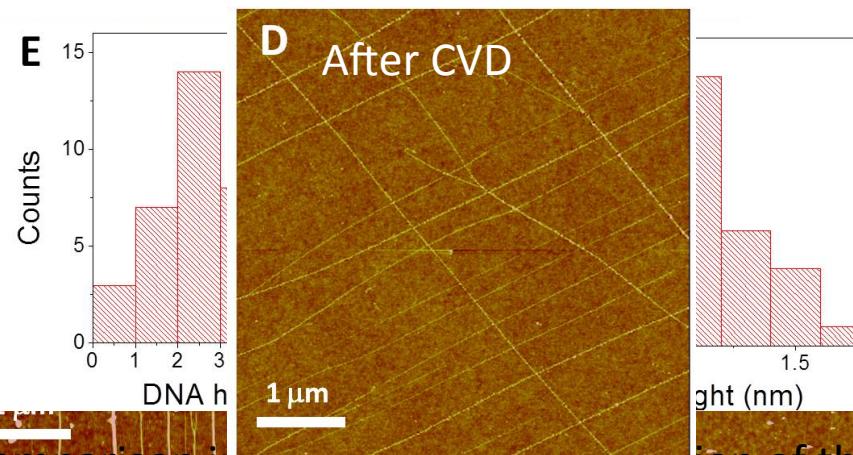
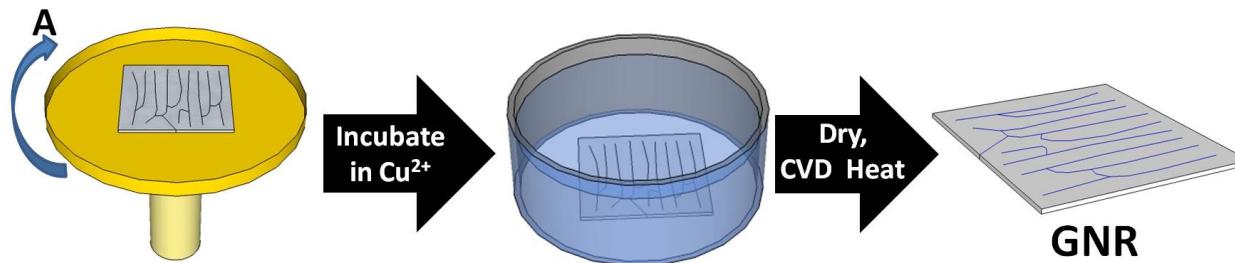
3. Easily aligned with a molecular combing method, which can pre-pattern GNRs by DNA template for large scale circuits



A Bensimon, Science, 1997, 277, 1518

# Templated growth of GNRs

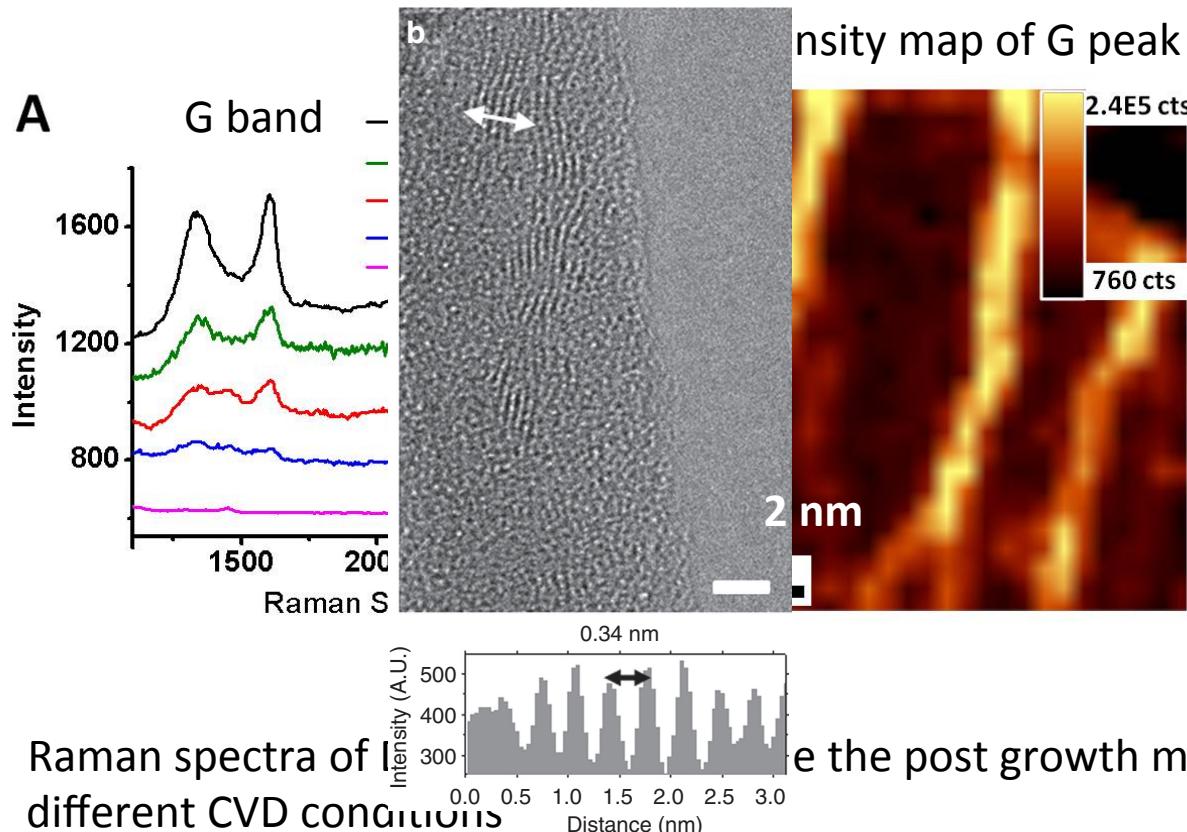
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Height comparison indicates that the formation of these 1D morphologies of the post-growth surface duplicate that of the DNA template (1D parallel lines)

# Structure of GNRs

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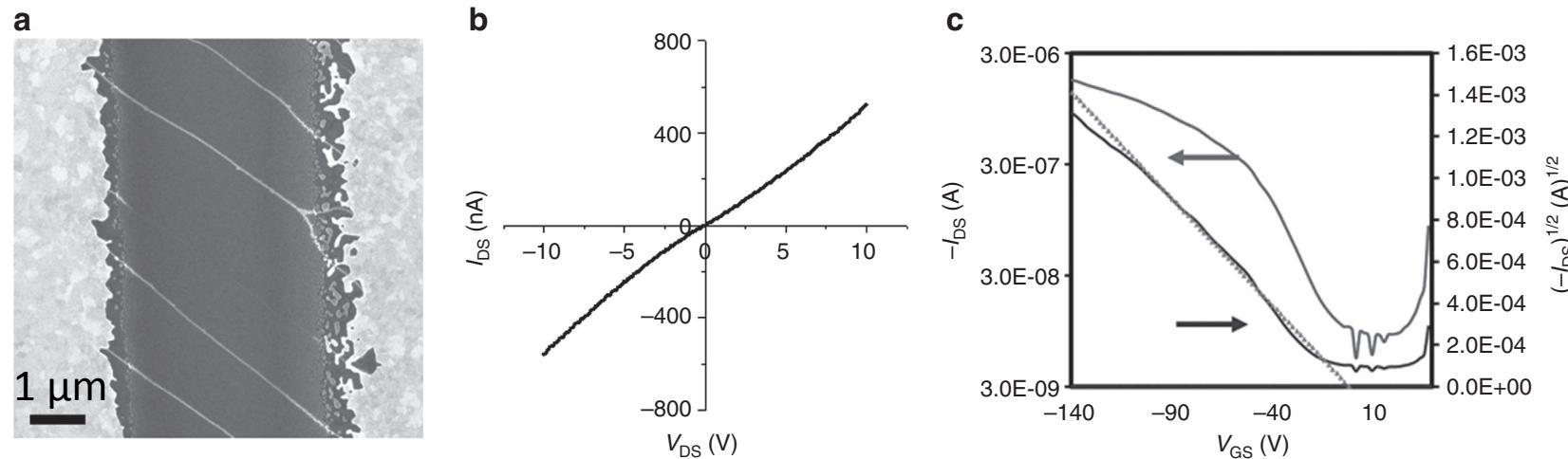


- Raman spectra of I<sub>G</sub> versus I<sub>H</sub> were used to characterize the post growth materials at different CVD conditions
- Strongest G peak when using H<sub>2</sub>/CH<sub>4</sub> with Cu
- TEM further confirms the formation of GNRs from DNA templates
- Maps of G peak localized the 1D structure: G band signals are localized on these 1D structures

# Electrical properties of GNRs

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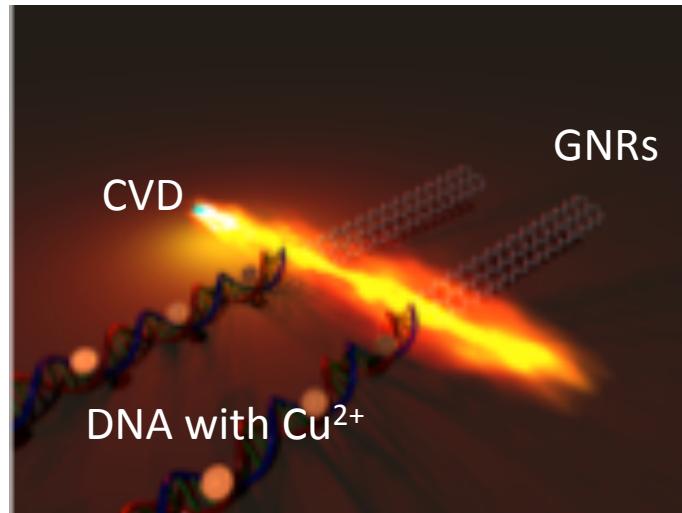
A sufficiently narrow GNR to function as FETs at RT



- Channel length about 5 um with ~10 GNRs between S and D electrodes
- Linear I-V curve
- p-type transistor with an on/off ratio ~200
- First time proof of concept that sub-10 nm ultra-thin GNRs can be synthesized by polymer templates over a large scale

# Summary II

- First demonstration of large scale, DNA templated sub-10-nm GNR growth
- Dimensionality-enhanced on/off ratio of GNR-FET device



Current effort:

- Understanding the effect of polymer templates
- Design, synthesis and application of novel polymer templates for GNR growth
- Integration of polymer-derived GNR with electronic skin devices

# Conclusion

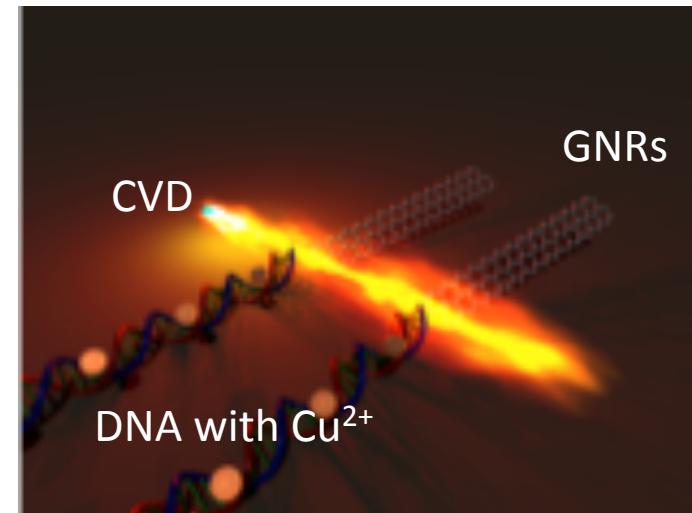
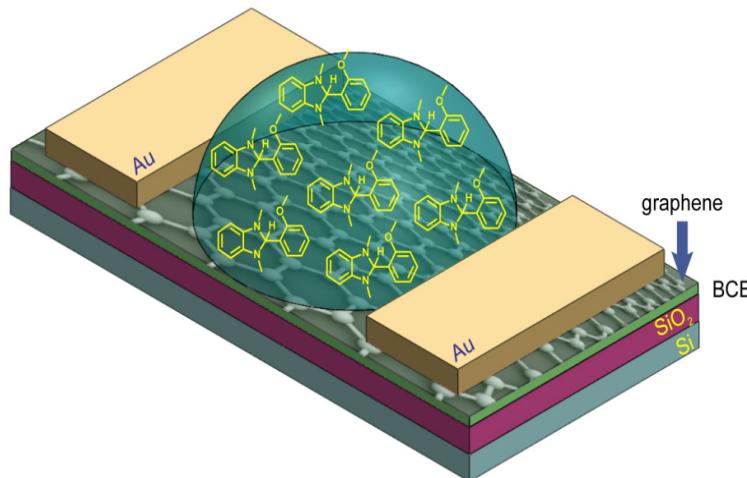
To control graphene electronic properties via graphene-organic interface

Graphene-organic molecules

Graphene-polymer

a) To control Fermi level: n-type doping

b) To open up band gap: DNA to GNRs



# Thanks for your attention!

