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1, 2, 3... Ripples, Gaps and Transport in Few-layer Graphene Membranes





Acknowledgments

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FAME UC Lab Fee

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IEEE Symposium

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Outline

- Suspending Graphene Membranes
- Bilayer Graphene
 - Tunable gap (single particle)
 - Tunable gap (many body interactions)
 - Collective, symmtry-broken states in bilayer graphene
- Trilayer graphene
 - ABA and ABC stacking
 - Tunable interaction-induced gap in ABC-stacked trilayer

Outline

- Suspending Graphene Membranes
 - -- free of substrate interference
 - intrinsic optical, mechanical, thermal and electrical properties
- Bilayer Graphene
 - Tunable gap (single particle)
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Graphene is very strong and tough

Breaking strength is ~ 200 times of steel

Graphene is very elastic



Source: Columbia Univ.

can be stretched by 25% and return to its original shape (most materials can only be stretched by one-tenth of 1 percent)

Graphene is very soft

Single atomic layer, bends or buckles very easily

Mechanical Properties: Periodic Ripple Formation

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
 - wavelength: 370 nm 5 μm





Graphene as an Elastic Membrane



ripples induced by longitudinal strains or shears



A=amplitude, L=length, λ =wavelength, *t*=thickness, v=Poisson ratio~0.165

W. Bao, F. Miao, Z. Chen, H. Zhang, W. Jang, C. Dames, and C. N. Lau, Nature Nanotechnology, 4, 562 (2009).

Graphene as the World's thinnest Saran Wrap

macroscopic



mesoscopic







Graphene's Double Identity

Extraordinary Conductor



New model system for condensed matter research and electronic materials

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

2D Elastic Membrane



Thinnest isolated membrane with exceptional mechanical properties

Castro Neto, Guinea, Katsnelson, Brey, Louie, etc Exploit Electrical Properties of Rippled Graphene? superlattices, strain-based engineering...

. . .

Engineering Based on Strain and Ripples

All-graphene integrated circuits via strain engineering

Vitor M. Pereira, Antonio H. Castro Neto

(Submitted on 27 Oct 2008 (v1), last revised 19 Feb 2009 (this version, v3))

We propose a route to all-graphene integrated electronic devices by exploring the influence of strain on the electronic structure of graphene. We show that strain can be easily tailored to generate electron beam collimation, 1D channels, surface states and confinement, the basic elements for all-graphene electronics. In addition this proposal has the advantage that patterning can be made on substrates rather than on the graphene sheet, thereby protecting the integrity of the latter.

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Brey & Fertig, arxiv (2009).
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- Modified band structure
- Anisotropic transport
- Supercollimation
- Inducing effective magnetic field
- Selective *sp*²-*sp*³ modification





Park, Yang, Son, Cohen, Louie, Nature Physics (2008)





Paco Guinea, Katsnelson and co.

Engineering Based on Strain and Ripples

Strain-Induced Pseudo–Magnetic Fields Greater Than 300 Tesla in Graphene Nanobubbles

N. Levy,^{1,2}*† S. A. Burke,¹*‡ K. L. Meaker,¹ M. Panlasigui,¹ A. Zettl,^{1,2} F. Guinea,³ A. H. Castro Neto,⁴ M. F. Crommie^{1,2}§



Highest steady magnetic field on earth: = 45T in National High Magnetic Field Lab, Tallahassee, FL.

In Situ SEM imaging of annealing effect



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

Movie of ripple formation



Mechanism of ripple formation



Graphene has a *negative* thermal expansion coefficient



Heating

graphene contracts, substrate expands \rightarrow erasing pre-existing ripples



Cooling

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

Measurement of Thermal Expansion Coefficient



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



W. Bao, F. Miao, Z. Chen, H. Zhang, W. Jang, C. Dames, and C. N. Lau, Nature Nanotechnology, 4, 562 (2009).

Current Annealing

Current annealing performed at 4K

Moser et al, APL.

Optimal when current saturates, ~0.2mA/layer/µm



H. Zhang, W. Bao, Z. Zhao, J.-W. Huang, B. Standley, G. Liu, F. Wang, P. Kratz, L. Jing, M. Bockrath, C. N. Lau, Nano Lett., 12, 1772 (2012)

In situ Imaging of Annealing and Electromigration

Further annealing

 \rightarrow Ripple starts to form due to negative thermal expansion of graphene

- →abrupt changes in I-V curves
- →Electromigration occurs



H. Zhang, W. Bao, Z. Zhao, J.-W. Huang, B. Standley, G. Liu, F. Wang, P. Kratz, L. Jing, M. Bockrath, C. N. Lau, Nano Lett., 12, 1772 (2012)

Atomic Switches in Suspended Graphene

- After electromigration \rightarrow atomic switches
- Reversible, cyclable switching
- Proposed mechanism: formation and dissolution of carbon chains



H. Zhang, W. Bao, Z. Zhao, J.-W. Huang, B. Standley, G. Liu, F. Wang, P. Kratz, L. Jing, M. Bockrath, C. N. Lau, Nano Lett., 12, 1772 (2012)

Outline

- Suspending Graphene Membranes
- Band gap engineering in Bilayer Graphene
 - Tunable gap (single particle)
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Graphene Bipolar FET



- Conductivity increases (more or less) linearly with charge density $n \sigma \propto V_g \propto n$
- σ remains finite at Dirac point $\rightarrow \sigma_{\min}$

(Novoselov *et al, Nature*, 2005, Zhang et al, *Nature* 2005, Lau group, *Science* 2007; Kim group, Fuhrer group, Das Sarma group, Ando, Castro Neto, Katsnelson, Beenakker, Guinea, Lee, Peres...)

• mobility up to 10⁶ cm²/Vs; High current density (10⁸ - 10⁹ mA/ μ m, or μ A/atomic row)

Band Gap Engineering

- What makes graphene such a wonderful conductor also gives rise to its critical weakness
- Gapless: not useful for digital electronics
- → Band gap engineering



- Many proposals
 - Nanoribbons
 - Chemical modification
 - Strain-based engineering
 - Bilayer and trilayer

most cases: transport gap induced by disordered edges, not true band gap

 \rightarrow requires very large strain

Bilayer and Trilayer

✓Truly 2D material

✓Quadratic and cubic Dispersion Relations: massive Dirac fermions

✓ Surface 2DEG with tunable charge density and type

- ✓Optical, STM and mechanical measurements
- Easily coupled to special electrodes (superconductors, ferromagnets)

✓ the ultimate elastic membrane

 \checkmark Morphology $\leftarrow \rightarrow$ electronic properties

✓ High Mobility (up to $10^5 - 10^6$ cm²/Vs)

✓ High thermal conductivity

✓ Chemically inert and stable

Tunable band gaps (both single-particle and interaction-induced)

✓Interaction-induced collective states

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Bilayer Graphene (BLG) – Single Particle Picture



• Quadratic dispersion with zero band gap

McCann PRB 2006; McCann & Fal' ko PRL 2006;Castro *et al* PRL 2007; Castro Neto *et al* PRB

Morpurgo group, Nature Materials 2008; Avouris group, Nano Lett., 2010; Szafranek *et al*, APL 2010; Wang group, Nature 2009; Zhu group, PRB 2010; Fuhrer group, Nano Lett. 2010; Jarillo-Herrero group, PRL 2010; Lau group, Nano Lett. 2010.

Bilayer Graphene – Single particle gap



- Stacked atoms hybridize to form higher energy bands
- Left with A sub-lattice from top layer and B sub-lattice from bottom layer
- A-B symmetry <-> layer symmetry
- Out-of-plane electric field breaks
 A-B symmetry → generate a gap

Lui et al Nano Lett. 2010

Aoki et al, Solid state commun. 2007; McCann PRB 2009; Guinea et al PRB 2006

Bilayer Graphene (BLG) – Single Particle Picture



- Quadratic dispersion with zero band gap
- Perpendicular electric field induces band gap

McCann PRB 2006; McCann & Fal' ko PRL 2006;Castro *et al* PRL 2007; Castro Neto *et al* PRB

Morpurgo group, Nature Materials 2008; Avouris group, Nano Lett., 2010; Szafranek *et al*, APL 2010; Wang group, Nature 2009; Zhu group, PRB 2010; Fuhrer group, Nano Lett. 2010; Jarillo-Herrero group, PRL 2010; Lau group, Nano Lett. 2010.

Bilayer Graphene (BLG) – Band Structure



McCann PRB 2006; McCann & Fal' ko PRL 2006;Castro *et al* PRL 2007; Castro Neto *et al* PRB

- Quadratic dispersion with zero band gap
- Perpendicular electric field E_{\perp} breaks sublattice and inversion symmetry
- \rightarrow opens band gap
- Tunable Band gap (α electric field)

Morpurgo group, Nature Materials 2008; Avouris group, Nano Lett., 2010; Szafranek *et al*, APL 2010; Wang group, Nature 2009; Zhu group, PRB 2010; Fuhrer group, Nano Lett. 2010; Jarillo-Herrero group, PRL 2010; Lau group, Nano Lett. 2010.

Necessity for Dual Gates



• In single-gated devices, E_{\perp} scales with charge density n

McCann PRB 2006; McCann & Fal' ko PRL 2006;Castro *et al* PRL 2007; Castro Neto *et al* PRB

• Dual-gated devices:

$$n \propto V_{bg} + V_{tg}$$
$$E_{\perp} \propto V_{bg} - V_{tg}$$

Lau group, APL 2007, New J. Phys. 2008; Savchenko group, Nano Lett. 2007; Marcus group, Science 2007; Goldhaber-Gordon group, PRL 2007.

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• needs very large voltages

Bilayer Graphene – Interaction-induced gap



- Stacked atoms hybridize to form higher energy bands
- Left with A sub-lattice from top layer and B sub-lattice from bottom layer
- A-B symmetry <-> layer symmetry

electronic interactions spontaneously

Out-of-plane electric field breaks
 A-B symmetry → generate a gap

Lui et al Nano Lett. 2010

Aoki et al, Solid state commun. 2007; McCann PRB 2009; Guinea et al PRB 2006

High Mobility Bilayer Devices



Insulating State and Intrinsic Gap

dl/dV vs. Electric field and source-drain bias at charge neutrality point



J. Velasco Jr., L. Jing, W. Bao, Y. Lee, P. Kratz, V. Aji, M. Bockrath, C.N. Lau, C. Varma, R. Stillwell, D. Smirnov, Fan Zhang, J. Jung, A.H. MacDonald, Nature Nanotechnol., 7, 156 (2012).

Temperature Dependence



- Consistent $\sigma_{min}(T)$ dependence among different devices for 5<T<130K
- At 5K
 - abrupt change in slope of $\sigma_{min}(T)$
 - deviation between insulating and non-insulating devices
 - *dl/dV* side peaks disappear
- →Transition from insulating to conductive states,
 - $T_c \sim 5K$, activation gap ~ 1.8 meV

W. Bao, J. Velasco Jr, F. Zhang, L. Jing, B. Standley, D. Smirnov, M. Bockrath, A. MacDonald, C.N. Lau, PNAS, 109, 10802 (2012).

Collective State(s) at the Dirac Point in BLG

• Strong interaction at the Dirac point \rightarrow broken symmetry states

Experimental Work

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Partial list of theoretical work

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- Michael M. Scherer, Stefan Uebelacker, Carsten Honerkamp, arXiv:1112.5038 (2012) April 2014

An analogy...

Singe Particle Picture



8 million strangers...

Electronic Interactions



dinner party with assigned seating

→ correlated phases such as superconductors, magnets, Mott insulators, etc...

An analogy...



Electronic Interactions



dinner party with assigned seating

Electrons can

- have spin up or down
- K and K' valleys

Collective States at the Dirac Point in BLG

- Strong interaction at the Dirac point \rightarrow broken symmetry states
- Nature of the states under intense efforts.



Possible Collective States

	Nematic	Anomalouș	Quantum Spin	Layer	QVH
	Order	Hall /	Hall /	Antiferromagnet	
Gapped?	Nø	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
2- terminal	finite	$4e^2/h$	$4e^2/h$	0	0
σ_{min}		X	X		X
Symmetry	rotation	time	spin rotational;	time reversal;	inversion
Broken		reversal;	Ising Valley	spin rotation	
		Ising Valley			
			- b + +		
					red: K electrons

- Electronic interactions gives rise to a intrinsic gapped, insulating collective state in charge neutral graphene
- Gap can be closed by electric field of either polarity

Most likely candidate



- Electronic interactions gives rise to a intrinsic gapped, insulating collective state in charge neutral graphene
- Gap can be closed by electric field of either polarity

Collective States Protected edge states

~ topological insulators gap							
	Nematic	Anomalous	Quantum Spin	Layer	QVH		
	Order	Hall	Hall	Antiferromagnet			
Gapped?	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes		
2- terminal	finite	$4e^2/h$	$4e^2/h$	0	0		
σ_{min}							
Symmetry	rotation	time	spin rotational;	time reversal;	inversion		
Broken		reversal;	Ising Valley	spin rotation			
		Ising Valley					



red: K electrons blue: K' electrons

Outstanding Questions

- Is the insulating state antiferromagnetic?
- Is it the ground state?
- Can we engineer BLG to other ordered, collective states,
- e.g. with protected edge states, dissipationless transport? (tentative yes)

Conclusion

- Insulating state with an intrinsic gap ~ 2-3 meV in bilayer graphene
- Gap can be tuned by temperature, disorder, electric field and density
- Can we realize transition among various collective states?
- Source-drain bias spectroscopy to resolve symmetry-broken Landau level gaps, which are strongly electric field dependent

Why stop at 22

Trilayer Graphene

- ABA (Bernal) stacking
- ABC (rhombohedral) stacking
- can be distinguished using Raman spectroscopy



Aoki *et al, Solid state commun.* 2007; McCann PRB 2009; Guinea et al PRB 2006

Trilayer graphene – Single Particle Picture



et al Nature Phys. 2011; Henriksen et al PRX 2012; Zhang et al Nature Phys. 2011; Zhu group Nano Lett. 2013.

Minimum conductivity (σ_{min})



- Stacking orders identified by Raman spectroscopy
- σ_{min} ABA-stacked trilayer remains finite >100 μ S.
- σ_{min} of ABC-stacked trilayer is significantly smaller, ~0 for suspended devices.

W. Bao, L. Jing, J. Velasco Jr., Y. Lee, G. Liu, D. Tran, B. Standley, M. Aykol, S. B. Cronin, D. Smirnov, M. Koshino, E. McCann, M. Bockrath, and C.N. Lau, Nature Phys. (2011)

Dual-Gated Suspended ABC Trilayer Devices



- mobility $20,000 90,000 \text{ cm}^2/\text{Vs}$
- Device is insulating at $n = E_{\perp} = 0$
- Insulating state persists for large range of E_{\perp}
- Failure of single particle picture

Intrinsic Insulating state



Effect of electric field

Differential conductance *G* vs source drain bias *V* at *n=0*



- intrinsically insulating at $n=E_{\perp}=0$, a gap ~42 meV
- gap closes symmetrically with applied E_{\perp} (linearly after corrected for screening)
- gap not completely closed at largest $|E_{\perp}|$
- \rightarrow not a single particle gap
- \rightarrow arises from electronic interactions

Recent theoreis: MacDonald, Vafek, Xie, Honerkamp, Vozmediano, Barlas

Interaction Parameter

 $\alpha \sim \frac{\text{Coulomb Energy}}{\text{Fermi Energy} \sim k^{p}}$ $\sim \kappa^{-1} n^{-\frac{p-1}{2}}$

n=charge density (10^{10} cm⁻²) κ =dielectric constant

	Dispersion	α (κ=1)	Interaction- induced Gap
GaAs/AlGaAs	E~k²	(10-50)/√n	
Single Layer Graphene	E~k	2.2	<0.2 meV
Bilayer Graphene	E~k ²	70/√n	2-3 meV
ABC-stacked Trilayer	<i>E~k</i> ³	1500/n	42 meV
ABC-stacked N-layer	E~k ^N	gigantic	300 meV?

Interaction-induced gap in tetra-layer?

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Conclusion



Challenges and Opportunities

- Large scale growth with controlled stacking order
- Controlling impurities and substrate