

Graphene-PbS Quantum Dot Based Highly Sensitive Infrared Photodetector

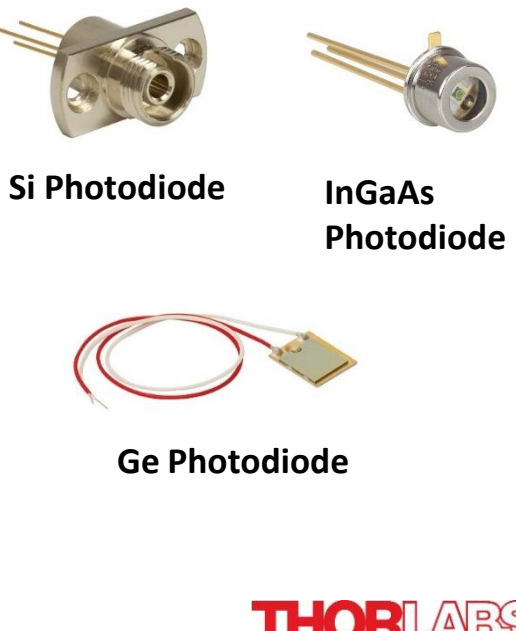
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INFRARED (IR) PHOTODETECTORS

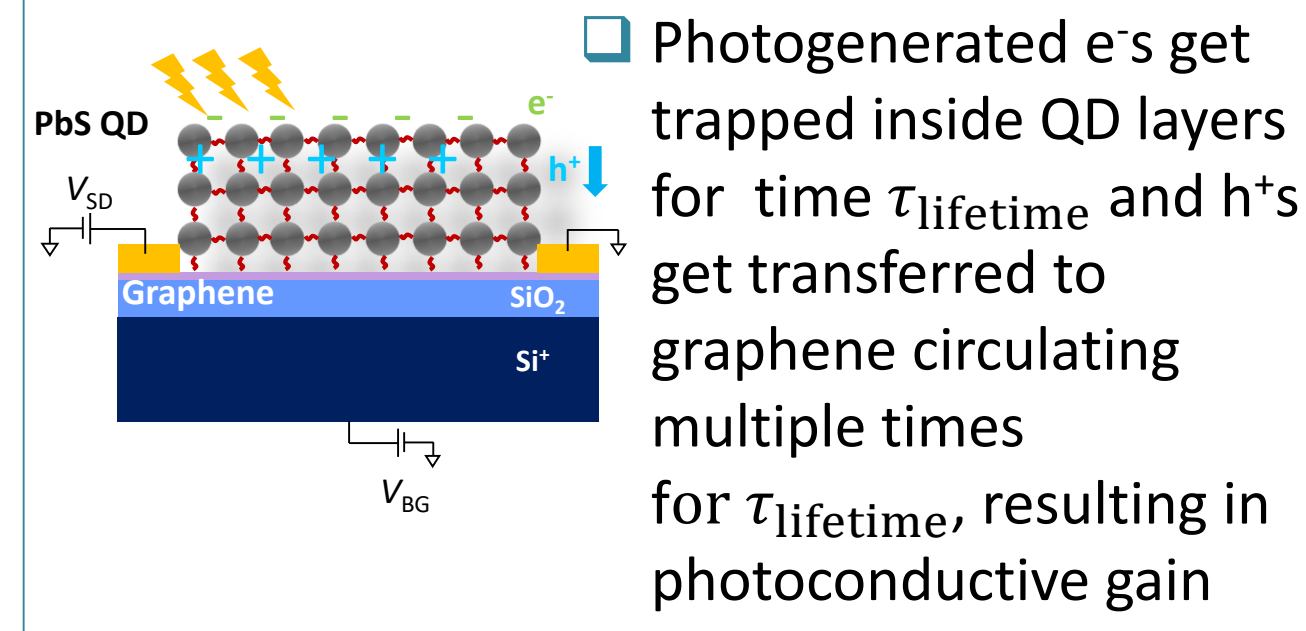
Markets for room temperature IR photodetectors

- Thermal management of electronic products
- Night vision
- Thermal drone for building inspection
- Environmental monitoring
- Food analyzer etc.

Few commercially available products



Alternative, cost effective, high resolution IR photodetector of graphene/PbS QD hybrid



GRAPHENE/PBS QD HYBRID

**PbS QD**

**SYNTHESIS**  
 bis(trimethylsilyl)sulfide + octadecene + lead oxide + oleic acid + octadecene → Injection @ 120 °C / 150 °C → PbS QD

**SIZE OF QD**  
 TEM images and histograms for QD<sub>small</sub> (Mean d = 3.1 nm) and QD<sub>big</sub> (Mean d = 5.2 nm).

**CVD grown single layer graphene FET on SiO<sub>2</sub>/Si (low p-doped, 1 - 10 Ωcm resistivity)**

Transfer characteristics showing V<sub>CNP</sub> = 6 V.

Mobility ≈ 500 - 1000 cm<sup>2</sup>/Vs

**Hybrid**

Layer-by-layer controlled dip coating of PbS QD on graphene to obtain homogeneous crack-free light absorbing layer

Ligand exchange from oleic acid to 1,3 benzene dithiol

Surface passivation via tetrabutylammonium iodide

SEM images showing homogeneous PbS QD layer on graphene.

Transfer characteristics showing V<sub>CNP</sub> = -11.6 V (shift, ΔV<sub>BG</sub>).

Band bending at the interface

Charge neutrality point (CNP) shifts to negative back gate voltage

Similar mobility

PHOTORESPONSE

Photocurrent, I<sub>p</sub> (μA) vs time (s) for GrQD<sub>small</sub> at λ = 940 nm.

Responsivity, R (A/W) vs Irradiation power, P (nW) for GrQD<sub>small</sub> at various wavelengths.

Equation:  $R = \frac{I_p}{P_d A_s}$

Maximum responsivity, R = 10<sup>8</sup> A/W

Detection capability of low light upto power 0.1 pW

Photoconductive gain = 8 × 10<sup>8</sup>

External quantum efficiency = 16 %

Slow detector, high response time ~55 ms

Maximum responsivity = 2 × 10<sup>7</sup> A/W

Lower responsivity due to lower filling factor of bigger QDs

Maximum responsivity = 6 × 10<sup>4</sup> A/W

In low-doped Si substrate, accumulation of photogenerated e<sup>s</sup> with longer lifetime at Si/SiO<sub>2</sub> interface results in additional gating effect leading to higher responsivity

Sensitive until 1050 nm as Si substrate acts as primary light absorbing material

TUNABILITY OF PHOTO RESPONSE

**QD size dependence**

Tunability of photodetection range of wavelength with the size of PbS QD

abs (a.u.) vs Wavelength (nm) showing exciton peaks at 875 nm and 1376 nm.

Responsivity (A/W) vs Bias, V<sub>SD</sub> (V) for GrQD<sub>small</sub> at λ = 940 nm.

**Bias dependence**

Responsivity (A/W) vs Bias, V<sub>SD</sub> (V) for GrQD<sub>small</sub> at λ = 940 nm.

**Photogating effect**

Graphene is hole doped. Hole transfers from QD to graphene. I<sub>SD</sub> ↑ ⇒ Positive photoresponse

Graphene is electron doped. Hole transfers from QD to graphene. I<sub>SD</sub> ↓ ⇒ Negative photoresponse

NOISE EQUIVALENT POWER (NEP)

NEP (W) vs Irradiation power (nW) for GrQD<sub>small</sub> at various wavelengths.

NEP (W) vs Irradiation power (nW) for GrQD<sub>big</sub> at various wavelengths.

NEP = 2 × 10<sup>-15</sup> W for integrated noise power spectral density (PSD), 5 × 10<sup>-14</sup> A<sup>2</sup>/Hz

NEP = 4 × 10<sup>-15</sup> W for integrated noise PSD, 7 × 10<sup>-15</sup> A<sup>2</sup>/Hz

COMPARISON OF DIFFERENT DETECTORS

Responsivity (A/W) vs Wavelength (nm) for GrQD<sub>small</sub>, GrQD<sub>big</sub>, Graphene, Si, Ge, and InGaAs.

Regions: Vis, NIR, SWIR.

Responsivity (A/W) vs Irradiation power (nW) for GrQD<sub>small</sub>, GrQD<sub>big</sub>, and Graphene at λ = 940 nm.

Responsivity (A/W) vs Irradiation power (nW) for GrQD<sub>small</sub>, GrQD<sub>big</sub>, and Graphene at λ = 660 nm.

**CONCLUSIONS:**

- Graphene/PbS QD hybrid photodetectors operate in the visible-NIR-SWIR range whereas the graphene device is photosensitive only until 1050 nm due to its absorbing material, Silicon.
- Maximum responsivity of graphene/PbS QD hybrid is more than 7 orders of magnitude higher than commercially available IR detectors.
- Graphene photodetector cannot detect light of power below 0.1 nW (0.06 nW) for 940 nm (660 nm) wavelength, whereas the graphene/PbS QD hybrid exhibit high responsivity below 1 pW.
- Modification of the ligand exchange and surface passivation chemistry in QD layers can possibly improve the response time further.

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