# Impact of Carbon and Hydrogen Doping on Stability and Mechanical Properties of Amorphous Boron Nitride

#### Onurcan Kaya<sup>1,2</sup>

Ivan Cole<sup>2</sup> Stephan Roche<sup>1,3</sup> <sup>1</sup>Catalan Institute of Nanoscience and Nanotechnology (ICN2), Bellaterra, 08193, Barcelona, SPAIN <sup>2</sup>School of Engineering, RMIT University, Melbourne, VIC, 3001, AUSTRALIA <sup>3</sup>ICREA Institucio Catalana de Recerca i Estudis Avancats, 08010 Barcelona, SPAIN <u>onurcan.kaya@icn2.cat</u>

### Abstract

Amorphous boron nitride (aBN) has been revealed as an ultralow dielectric constant material  $(\kappa < 2)$ , with strong thermal stability and mechanical properties, making this material suited for next generation interconnects technologies [1, 2]. The uniqueness of amorphous materials derives from the inherent imperfect structure nature, which can be controlled at fabrication level, represents the key ingredient for specific target applications. In this respect, new fabrication strategies to modify the structural properties and a systematic theoretical characterization of the impact of the structural properties on thermal stability and mechanical properties are urgent. In this talk, a theoretical investigation of thermal and mechanical properties of aBN as a function of varying external parameters such as temperature, quenching rate, presence of unwanted or dopant atoms using molecular dynamic simulations will be presented. Using machine learning technique, we ensure the reliability of calculations of properties by first describing the atomic interactions more accurately, introducing two Gaussian Approximation Potentials [3] (for aBN:C and aBN:H) which are trained on a large dataset of atomic structures which generated ab-initio calculations [4,5]. We found that then incorporation of both C and H atoms causes a significant change in atomic environment of aBN, which is strongly reflected in the resulting the thermal stability and mechanical properties of the compounds [4]. We will also discuss the antioxidation properties of aBN.

### References

- [1] Hong, S., et al. Nature 582 (2020) 511–514.
- [2] Lin, C-M., et al., Adv. Mater. Technol. (2022), doi: 10.1002/admt.202200022.
- [3] Bartók, A. P., et al., Physical Review Letters, 104 (2010) 136403.
- [4] Kaya, O., et al., Nanoscale Horizons (2023), doi: 10.1039/D2NH00520D.
- [5] Kaya, O., et al (in preparation).



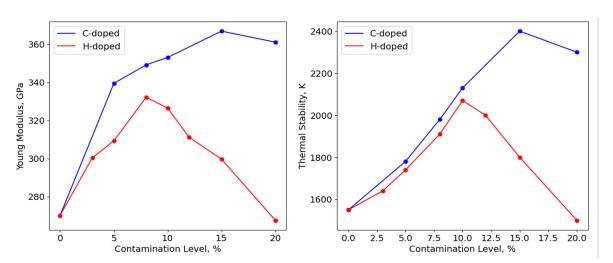


Figure 1: Young's modulus and thermal stability of C- and H-doped amorphous boron nitride.

Graphene2023

## Acknowledgment

This project has been supported by Samsung Advanced Institute of Technology and is conducted under the REDI Program, a project that has received funding from the European Union's Horizon 2020 research and innovation programme under the Marie Skłodowska-Curie grant agreement no. 101034328. ICN2 acknowledges the Grant PCI2021-122092-2A funded by MCIN/AEI/10.13039/501100011033 and by the "European Union NextGenerationEU/PRTR". Simulations were performed at the Center for Nanoscale Materials, a U.S. Department of Energy Office of Science User Facility, supported by the U.S. DOE, Office of Basic Energy Sciences, under Contract No. DE-AC02-06CH11357. Additional computational support was received from the King Abdullah University of Science and Technology-KAUST (Supercomputer Shaheen II Cray XC40) and Texas Advanced Computing Center (TACC) at The University of Texas at Austin.