

Jakub Jagiello

Artur Dobrowolski, Tymoteusz Ciuk

Lukasiewicz Research Network – Institute of Microelectronics and Photonics, Aleja Lotnikow 36/46 02-668, Warsaw, Poland

jakub.jagiello@imif.lukasiewicz.gov.pl

Investigation of graphene on SiC under neutron irradiation by Raman Spectroscopy

In this work, we report study on the impact of neutron radiation on quasi-free-standing (QFS) graphene [1]. For this purpose, we have fabricated hydrogen-intercalated QFS graphene on semiinsulating high-purity 4H-SiC (0001) [2], passivated with an Al₂O₃ layer [3], and exposed it to a fast-neutron fluence of $\approx 6.6 \times 10^{17} \text{ cm}^{-2}$. The result have shown that the graphene sheet is only moderately affected by the neutron radiation with the estimated defect density of $\approx 4 \times 10^{10} \text{ cm}^{-2}$. The effect was more pronounced within the SiC step edges than the terraces [4]. However, in both cases the defect density was seven orders of magnitude lower than the fluence, which indicates that graphene has a small cross-section for neutrons.

References

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Figures

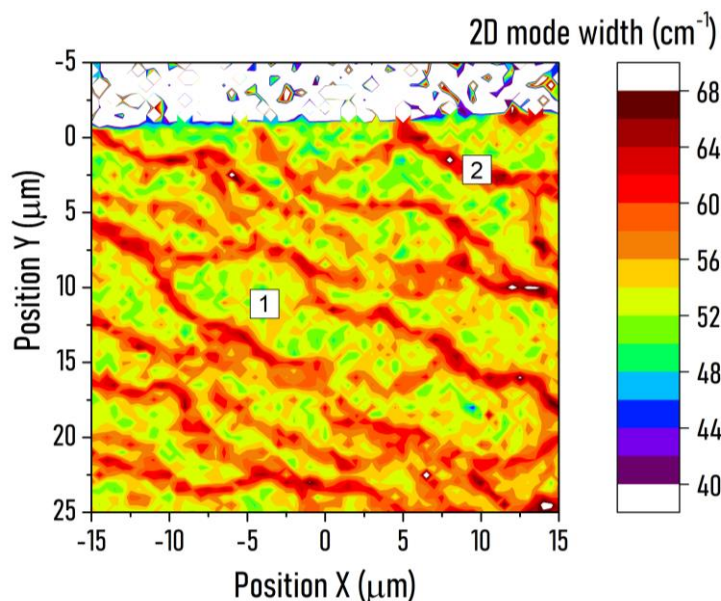


Figure 1: High-resolution post-neutron-irradiation Raman map (2D band width) of hydrogen-intercalated QFS epitaxial CVD graphene on semiinsulating high-purity on-axis 4H-SiC (0001), all passivated with a 100-nm-thick-atomic-layer-deposited aluminum oxide layer. Spots numbered 1 and 2 have their individual Raman spectra.