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Comparison of carrier scattering mechanisms in chemical vapor deposited graphene on fused silica and strontium titanite substrates

Michael A. Andersson 1, Andrei Vorobiev 1, Spartak Gevorgian 1, and Jan Stake 1

1 Terahertz and Millimetre Wave Laboratory, Department of Microtechnology and Nanoscience, Chalmers University of Technology, 412 96 Göteborg, Sweden

Graphene is explored for numerous applications for both electronics and photonics. These range from high frequency and low noise field effect transistors [1] to conductive and highly transparent LED electrodes [2]. To exploit the full potential of graphene, the remarkable intrinsic carrier transport properties and tunable, potentially low sheet resistance must be efficiently utilized. However, graphene carrier mobility is currently strongly degraded by extrinsic factors arising mainly from the dielectric environment, i.e. substrate and gate oxide [3, 4]. A proposed route to enhance transport is the use of a high-κ substrate to screen charged impurities at the graphene-substrate interface.

In this paper, mobility and carrier concentration in CVD grown graphene films on fused silica (FS, κ=3.9) and strontium titanite (STO, κ=300) substrates are extracted from microwave measurements, and compared to Hall data (red symbols), as presented in Fig. 1. Also shown is solid lines are the modelled mobilities including scattering by charged impurities (CI), substrate polar phonons (SPP) and resonant centers (RS). The scattering contributions are compared in Fig. 2, where resonant scatterers dominates on strontium titanite and together with charged impurities on fused silica. While resonant scatterers are likely reduced by moving from wet to dry graphene transfer methods, the nominal mobility improvement by screening of charged impurities on high-κ strontium titanite would be masked at room temperature by increased surface phonon scattering.

Fig. 1. Extracted mobility versus concentration (symbols) from microwave measurements and theoretical fit (solid lines). Impurity concentration $N_{CI}=4\times10^{12}\, \text{cm}^{-2}$.

Fig. 2. Mobility divided by scattering mechanism. Impurity concentration $N_{CI}=4\times10^{12}\, \text{cm}^{-2}$. Resonant scatterers has concentration $N_{RS}=1\times10^{12}\, \text{cm}^{-2}$.