

# **Multiphysics Simulation of Nanodevices**

## Luca Pierantoni, Davide Mencarelli

Università Politecnica delle Marche, Ancona, Italy

l.pierantoni@staff.univpm.it, d.mencarelli@staff.univpm.it



UNIVERSITÀ Politecnica Delle Marche

# OUTLINE

- **Research Areas and Activities**
- Nano- /smart material in devices/systems
- □ The computational platform for the multi-physics modeling
- **Examples**

# Electromagnetics – Nanotechnology group : Research Areas and Activities

- Analysis EM + Quantum / thermal transport in nano-structures
- Computational platform for the multi-physics modeling of nano-to-meso-scale systems
- Atomistic (ab-Initio) simulations
- Molecular Dynamics (MD) simulations
- Modeling/design of opto-mechanical systems
- Opto-electronics and microscopy





# Electromagnetics – Nanotechnology group : Research Areas and Activities

- Analysis EM + Quantum / thermal transport in nano-structures
- Computational platform for the multi-physics modeling of nano-to-meso-scale systems
- Atomistic (ab-Initio) simulations
- Molecular Dynamics (MD) simulations



### ... a typical scenario where the mutiphysics modeling becomes necessary a technological platform incorporating nano- / smart-materials

- nano-structured material regions (CNT, graphene etc...)
- embedded in micro-/mm regions
- Extreme multi-scale: geometrical/electrical aspect ratios
- Multi-physics (EM+transport+thermal+...) phenomena



M. Dragoman, L. Pierantoni, et al., APPLIED PHYSICS LETTERS 106, 2015

#### Graphene antenna



Graphene thicknss: < 1 nm

#### rectifying antenna



MIM diode based is a 6-nm-thick HfO<sub>2</sub>

M. Aldrigo, M. Dragoman, M. Modreanu, et al., 2018, https://doi.org/10.1109/TED.2018.2835138

### ... a typical scenario where the mutiphysics modeling becomes necessary a technological platform incorporating nano- / smart-materials

- nano-structured material regions (Quantum models)
- embedded in micro-/mm regions (EM models)
- Extreme multi-scale: geometrical/electrical aspect ratios
- Multi-physics (EM+transport+thermal+...) phenomena



### ... a typical scenario where the mutiphysics modeling becomes necessary a technological platform incorporating nano- / smart-materials

- **nano-structured material regions (Quantum models)**
- embedded in micro-/mm regions (EM models)
- **Extreme multi-scale: geometrical/electrical aspect ratios**
- Multi-physics (EM+transport+thermal+...) phenomena



**APPLIED PHYSICS LETTERS 106, 2015** 

# **GreEnergy scenario: rectenna + diode + supercap + ...**



Schematic view of the future combined system architecture

**GreEnergy Summer School 2022** 



Bridging from atomistic to continuum level

Interfacing mathematical models (PDEs)



### Bridging from atomistic to continuum level

Interfacing mathematical models (PDEs)





Bridging from atomistic to continuum level

### Interfacing mathematical models (PDEs)



**GreEnergy Summer School 2022** 



#### Bridging from atomistic to continuum level

### Interfacing mathematical models (PDEs)



# The theoretical-computational platform



### Computational platform: new home-made interface COMSOL - MATLAB

- Quantum transport,
  Schrödinger/Dirac
- SM, NEGF
- DFT analysis
- In-house software:Fortran, Matlab, C, etc.
- Quantum W, Gromacs



- DC AC analysis
- Full-wave EM analysis of FET in linear regime
- Equivalent circuits
- COMSOL multiphys
- CST Microwave S.
- HFSS Ansoft
- EM3DS Univpm



.



# **Block scheme of the Atomistic Simulations Method**



## **DFT and Molecular Dynamics simulations**

In silico methods based on combined DFT-MD simulation



**GreEnergy Summer School 2022** 

### Quantum and EM Models at continuum level (ii)

- 1) Quantum models are coupled to Maxwell eqs. in time- and/or freq. domain
- 2) combined electromagnetic-transport phenomena
- 3) Multi-scale numerical techniques (FEM, FDTD, ...)



**GreEnergy Summer School 2022** 

# Examples

- Graphene Antenna
- MoS<sub>2</sub> FET
- Schrödinger Poisson eqs.: CNT FET
- Dirac Maxwell eqs.: Ballistic Ratchet effect on graphene

# Examples

## Graphene Antenna

- MoS<sub>2</sub> FET
- Schrödinger Poisson eqs.: CNT FET
- Dirac Maxwell eqs.: Ballistic Ratchet effect on graphene

## **Tunable Graphene-based Antenna**





Pierantoni

- microwave slot antenna in a CPW based on graphene
- Antennas fabricated on a high-resistivity Si wafer
- 300 nm SiO<sub>2</sub> layer
- A CVD grown graphene layer is transferred on the SiO<sub>2</sub>
- Reflection parameter can be tuned by a DC voltage
- 2D radiation patterns in the X band (8–12 GHz)

**GreEnergy Summer School 2022** 

Graphene: the constitutive relation is based on the Kubo-Drude model (strictly valid for monolayer/on air)



Graphene can be described by a surface conductivity tensor tobe inserted in a EM computation

$$\underline{\underline{\sigma}}_{graphene} = \underline{\underline{\sigma}'} + j \underline{\underline{\sigma}''}$$
$$\underline{J} = \underline{\underline{\sigma}}_{G} \underline{E}$$

Kubo-Drude Formulation (monolayer/on air)

$$\sigma_{\pm} = \frac{i e^2}{\pi \hbar} \frac{1}{\hbar \omega \pm i \gamma} \int_0^\infty d\varepsilon \varepsilon \left( \frac{\partial f_D(\varepsilon)}{\partial \varepsilon} - \frac{\partial f_D(-\varepsilon)}{\partial \varepsilon} \right) \quad \text{intraband} \\ - \frac{i e^2}{\pi \hbar} \frac{1}{\hbar \omega \pm i \gamma} \int_0^\infty d\varepsilon \left[ \frac{f_D(\varepsilon) - f_D(-\varepsilon)}{1 - \left(\frac{2\varepsilon}{\hbar \omega \pm i \gamma}\right)^2} \right] \quad \text{interband} \\ f_D(\varepsilon) = \frac{1}{1 + e^{\frac{\varepsilon - \mu}{kT}}} \quad \text{Fermi-Dirac Distribution} \quad \gamma = 2\pi/\tau$$

# Examples

- Graphene Antenna
- MoS<sub>2</sub> FET
- Schrödinger Poisson eqs.: CNT FET
- Dirac Maxwell eqs.: Ballistic Ratchet effect on graphene

# MoS2 – based Field Effect Transisitor (FET)

### GOAL: derivation of the MoS<sub>2</sub> channel permittivity (conductivity)



The device: 3.5 m. Out-of-plane thickness (width): 6.8 um Gold contacts (orange) are 75 nm thick, Active region (magenta): --- > number of layers Thickness SiO2 gate insulator (green) is 300 nm, The n+ Si gate (plum) has a thickness of 2 um

#### MoS<sub>2</sub>

- Very HIGH ON/OFF ratios >10<sup>7</sup> (vs 10<sup>6</sup> of CMOS)
- Lower mobility (many defects) vs. graphene/
- Eg = 1.8 eV

### **Theoretical-computational route**

- 1. study of the material (MoS2) at the atomistic level
- 2. derivation of constitutive relations (CR)
- 3. insertion of the CR in the full-wave solver (COMSOL)
- 4. Coupling of Poisson and transport (drift) eqs. using the semiconductor physics module by COMSOL
  - Hafnium-Zirconium Oxide (HfxZr(1-x)O2, x = 0.3)
  - as a substrate ferroelectric material
  - high tunability
  - CMOS technology compatibility

# MoS2 – based Field Effect Transisitor (FET)

### GOAL: derivation of the MoS2 channel permittivity (conductivity)





The device: 3.5 m. Out-of-plane thickness (width): 6.8 um Gold contacts (orange) are 75 nm thick, Active region (magenta): --- > number of layers Thickness SiO2 gate insulator (green) is 300 nm, The n+ Si gate (plum) has a thickness of 2 um

#### MoS<sub>2</sub>

- Very HIGH ON/OFF ratios >10<sup>7</sup> (vs 10<sup>6</sup> of CMOS)
- Lower mobility (many defects) vs. graphene/
- Eg = 1.8 eV
- Electron affinity: 4.7 eV
- Electron (hole) mobility: 10 cm<sup>2</sup> V<sup>-1</sup> s<sup>-1</sup> (10 cm<sup>2</sup> V<sup>-1</sup> s<sup>-1</sup>)
- Electron (hole )effective mass:  $0.5 \times m_e (0.5 \times m_e)$
- Defect n-type doping:  $1.5 \times 10^{18}$  cm<sup>-3</sup>

## **Atomistic Simulations**



possibility of simulating defects and particular contacts with the substrate

#### **GreEnergy Summer School 2022**



Bandgaps decreased with increasing MoS2 layers' number [Zhao, C M Wei, L Yang, M Y Chou. Phys Rev Lett. 2004;92(23):236805] A direct correlation between the number of layers and the dielectric constant value was observed

### HfO2: Comparison of DFT simulations vs. data reported in the literature



**GreEnergy Summer School 2022** 

# **Comparison to experimental results**

Atomistic Simulations

Derivation of constitutive relations



and the set

 $10^{-5}$ 













. . . .

# Examples

- Graphene Antenna
- MoS<sub>2</sub> FET
- Schrödinger Poisson eqs.: CNT FET
- Dirac Maxwell eqs.: Ballistic Ratchet effect on graphene

# Schrödinger – Poisson eqs. coupling

Modeling of sensors, FETs, quantum dots, ...



Quantum capacitance, effective transconductance, etc....

# Schrödinger – Poisson eqs. coupling

- Possibility to evaluate multiwall/multichannel structures
- **Rigorous analysis (no equivalent circuit approximations)**



**CNT Matrix** 

# **Simulation method**



# **Simulation workflow**



## **Schrödinger Equation model for CNT**

describes the quantum mechanical behaviour of a charge carrier



## **CNT-based Devices: self-consistent solution of the combined Poisson- Schrödinger eqs.**

Schrödinger equation  $\nabla^{2} \psi = -\frac{2m_{0}}{\hbar^{2}} \left[ E + V \right] \psi$ source  $q \int |\psi(\mathbf{r}, E)|^{2} dE = \rho_{T}$ normalization condition

#### **Poisson equation**





- **Schrödinger equation for all the transport channels (modes)**
- multi-wall and multi-band coherent carrier transport
- **V** is the electrostatic potential satisfying the Poisson equation

D. Mencarelli, T. Rozzi, L. Pierantoni "Modelling of multi-wall CNT devices by self-consistent analysis multichannel transport" IOP Science Nanotechnology,

#### **MULTIPHYSICS MODELING**

#### ...we developed an home-made solver



D. Mencarelli, L. Pierantoni,

Modeling of Multi-wall CNT Devices by Self-consistent Analysis of Multi-channel Transport, Nanotechnology, vol. 19, Number 16, 2008

## **Analysis of CNT Transistors**

#### multi-wall and multi-band coherent carrier transport



The Schrödinger equation is written for each individual transport channel

*V* is the electrostatic potential satisfying the Poisson equation

**GreEnergy Summer School 2022**
#### iterative solution



 $E_{vac}$  is the vacuum energy  $R_{G}$  radius of the gate electrode  $\Phi_{g}, \Phi_{d}, \Phi_{s}$ , the work functions

 $E_g^{n,m}$  *n*-th energy gap of the *m*-th wall  $\chi_T^{n,m}$  is the electron affinity

**GreEnergy Summer School 2022** 

#### **Transmission Line approach**



 $\beta_{h,e}^{n,m}(L_1) = \sqrt{E - U_{h,e}^{n,m}(L_1)} \quad ; \quad \beta_{h,e}^{n,m}(L_2) = \sqrt{E - U_{h,e}^{n,m}(L_2)}$ 

Luca Pierantoni

**GreEnergy Summer School 2022** 

### **Analysis of CNT Transistors**

#### multi-wall and multi-band coherent carrier transport



The Schrödinger equation is written for each individual transport channel

*V* is the electrostatic potential satisfying the Poisson equation

**GreEnergy Summer School 2022** 

# CNT-based FET: 3D Full-Wave simulation + Schrödinger – Poisson eqs. coupling

- Substrate  $SiO_2$
- Oxide HfO<sub>2</sub>
- Contacts Gold

CNT (16,0)

- R = 0.63 nm
- L = 50 nm
- Spacing 0.50 nm



## **Results – Current reduction**

2<sup>nd</sup> CNT 50-40% less 5<sup>th</sup> CNT 90-80% less

 $I_n$ Current in the nth CNT $I_1$ Current in the 1st CNT



## **Results – Current saturation**

- Distance from the gate
- Shielding from above CNTs

### CNTs 1-5 more than 80% of $\rm I_{tot}$



## **Results – Coupling**

### 5 CNT 6% reduction 10 CNT 9% reduction

Uncoupled  $\rightarrow$  One row at the time Coupled  $\rightarrow$  All rows at the same time



**GreEnergy Summer School 2022** 

## **Results – Potential**

Variation of the channel potential due to carriers in the CNT array

### **Shield Effect**



## **Future works**

- Presence of metallic nanotubes
- Hamiltonian terms for charge correlation
- Mechanics modes analysis
- RF parameters extraction

## Examples

- Graphene Antenna
- MoS2 FET
- Schrödinger Poisson eqs.: CNT FET
- Dirac Maxwell eqs.: Ballistic Ratchet effect on graphene



#### Bridging from atomistic to continuum level

#### Interfacing mathematical models (PDEs)



### Interfacing Physics --- > PDEs equations Systems



**GreEnergy Summer School 2022** 

### Electrodynamics and Quantum Transport : combining Maxwell < --- > Schrödinger/Dirac

$$\nabla \times \mathbf{E}(\mathbf{r}, t) = -\frac{\partial}{\partial t} \mathbf{B}(\mathbf{r}, t)$$
$$\nabla \times \mathbf{H}(\mathbf{r}, t) = \frac{\partial}{\partial t} \mathbf{D}(\mathbf{r}, t) + \mathbf{J}(\mathbf{r}, t)$$
Electromagnetic: Maxwell

$$H(\mathbf{r},t)\mathbf{\psi}(\mathbf{r},t) = i\hbar \frac{\partial \mathbf{\psi}(\mathbf{r},t)}{\partial t}$$
  
Quantum: Schrödinger/Dirac

- interaction particles-EM field transient
- Quantum dots, quantum wells
- Ballistic electronics
- non-linear devices
- Spintronics
- photodetectors

...







CNT

#### Home-made Software



#### Quantum-EM: Dirac Equation in the presence of an EM field

**GreEnergy Summer School 2022** 

#### Dirac Equation – Maxwell Equations Graphene devices: ballistic transport, effective mass

modeling of discontinuities – absorbing boundary conditions

$$i\hbar \frac{\partial \psi^+}{\partial t} = \mathbf{\sigma}_{xy} \cdot \left(\hat{\mathbf{p}}_{xy} - q\mathbf{A}\right) v_F \psi^- + M(\mathbf{r}) v_F^2 \sigma_z \psi^+ \Box \mathbf{A}$$

the mass term M may models discontinuities

$$i\hbar \frac{\partial \psi^{-}}{\partial t} = \mathbf{\sigma}_{xy} \cdot \left(\hat{\mathbf{p}}_{xy} - q\mathbf{A}\right) v_{F} \psi^{+} + M\left(\mathbf{r}\right) v_{F}^{2} \sigma_{z} \psi^{-}$$

$$\boldsymbol{\sigma} = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ 1 & 0 \end{pmatrix} \hat{x} + \begin{pmatrix} 0 & -i \\ i & 0 \end{pmatrix} \hat{y} + \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & -1 \end{pmatrix} \hat{z} = \boldsymbol{\sigma}_{xy} + \boldsymbol{\sigma}_{z} \hat{z}$$
$$\hat{\mathbf{p}} = -i\mathbf{h}\nabla = \hat{\mathbf{p}}_{xy} + p_{z} \hat{z}$$
$$\mathbf{J} = v_{F} \boldsymbol{\psi} * \hat{\sigma} \boldsymbol{\psi}$$
$$\hat{\sigma} = \begin{bmatrix} \sigma_{x}, \sigma_{y} \end{bmatrix}$$



obstacles/discontinuities can be analyzed by means of the effective mass concept

#### **Example: Dirac + Maxwell in**

#### Ballistic Ratchet effect in antidot patterned on graphene

... a collective motion of particles in a preferential direction, due to spatially-asymmetric perturbations







... under microwave linear polarized radiation, the effect was observed in a high mobility two-dimensional electron gas based on AlGaAs/GaAs heterojunction, with periodic array of artificial semi-discs shaped obstacles

#### **GOAL:** graphene in place of semiconductor

(\*) D. Medhat, A. Takacs, H. Aubert, J. C. Portal, **Comparative Analysis of Different Techniques for Controlling Ratchet Effect in a Periodic Array of Asymmetric Antidots**, <u>Micr.Conference</u>, (2009). <u>APMC</u> <u>2009. Asia Pacific</u>

S. Bellucci, L. Pierantoni, D. Mencarelli, **"Ballistic Ratchet effect on patterned graphene"**, Journal of Integrated Ferroelectrics, Vol. 176, Issue 1, pp. 28-36, Dec. **2016**, DOI: <u>http://dx.doi.org/10.1080/10584587.2016.1185883</u>

## Transport: Ballistic vs Diffusive



**Ballistic Transport** = Electrons travel without scattering from injected contact to absorbing contacts

weak recombination with phonons

#### NON-BALLISTIC (DIFFUSIVE) TRANSPORT



**Diffusive Transport** = Electrons undergo a **random walk** as they go from left to right contact

- the average distance between collisions is called the mean free path (λ)
- The diffusive transit time will be much longer than the ballistic transit time

GreEnergy Summer School 2022

## scattering/diffraction by obstacles



**GreEnergy Summer School 2022** 

A plane wave couples with a graphene charge wavepacket

$$E_{ext} = E_0 \cos(\omega_0 t)$$





- a uniform external time-dependent plane wave is impinging on the graphene
- EM plane wave spectrum up to THz

- a charge wavepacket is set on graphene
- corresponding Energy: up to 0.5 eV
- Q(t=0) corresponds to  $n_s(t_0) = 10^{11} cm^{-2}$

**GreEnergy Summer School 2022** 

#### charge diffraction by **ELLIPTIC** obstacles



Software: originanally written in Fortran



Normalized potentilas difference between probes



**GreEnergy Summer School 2022** 

- coupling bewteen EM propagation and charge transport
- charge diffraction by obstacles

from an electrode

ଞ୍ଚିଷ୍ଣ

time [fs]

GreEnergy Sum

30Ò

200

100

2

200





Normalized potentilas difference between probes

### charge diffraction by **TRIANGULAR** obstacles



**GreEnergy Summer School 2022** 

### Application of the models/tools in the area of smart material-based Photonics



#### graphene optical modulator





#### graphene infrared detector

#### **CNT** photodetector

D. Mencarelli, L. Pierantoni, T. Rozzi, "Optical Absorption of Carbon Nanotube Diodes: Strength of the Electronic Transitions and Sensitivity to the Electric Field Polarization", Journal of Applied Physics, vol. 103, Issue 6, pp.0631-03, March 2008, DOI: <u>10.1063/1.2890392</u>

## THANK YOU !!!

**GreEnergy Summer School 2022** 

## **Back up slides**

### Platinum diselenide (PtSe<sub>2</sub>)-based devices

- Graphene has high mobility but little bandgap
- MoS<sub>2</sub> has sizable bandgap but low mobility
- Black phosphorus has high mobility and sizable bandgap, but is unstable
- PtSe2 has high mobility, sizable bandgap
- **CMOS compatible** with typical thin-film transistor processes
- □ is semimetallic, with low-resistance contacts-a challenge



Platinum diselenide is a transition metal dichalcogenide with a layered structure. It has an Hexagonal unit cell with a = b = 0.375 nm, c = 0.506 nm and  $\alpha = \beta = 90^{\circ}$ ,  $\gamma = 120^{\circ}$ .

#### **STEP I: ATOMISTIC SIMULATIONS**

#### **ATOMISTIC LEVEL**



**GreEnergy Summer School 2022** 

bulk material

#### **Band-structure vs. number of layers**



[1]: High-Electron-Mobility and Air-Stable 2D Layered PtSe2 FETs, Zhao et. al., Adv. Mater. 2017, 29, 1604230

#### Band-structure vs. data in literature/experimental results



[1]: Direct observation of spin-layer locking by local Rashba effect in monolayer semiconducting PtSe<sub>2</sub> film, W. Yao, *Nature Communications*. 2017, 8, 14216
[2]: Monolayer PtSe<sub>2</sub>, a New Semiconducting Transition-Metal-Dichalogenide, Epitaxially Grown by Direct Selenization of Pt, Y. Wang, *Nano Lett.*, 2015, 15, 4013-4018
[3]: High-Electron-Mobility and Air-Stable 2D Layered PtSe<sub>2</sub> FETs, Zhao et. al., *Adv. Mater*. 2017, 29, 1604230

### **STEP II: obtaining the constitutive relations**

#### Relative Permittivity $\varepsilon_r(\omega)$



**GreEnergy Summer School 2022** 

#### PtSe<sub>2</sub>: from monolayer to bulk to metal-contact



### **STEP III: inserting the constitutive relations** into the full-wave EM simulations

 $\Box$  NOTE: for the modeling of realistic PtSe<sub>2</sub> FET we are trying:

- A total **ATOMISTIC** simulation (but with a limit of 5k atoms-domain)
- A full-wave **EM** simulation (extreme scale contrast)
- An interfaced **ATOMISTIC-EM** model/simulation



0.4

0.2

0.6

Normalized width (a u )

0.8

1.0

Results are in the context of a International Project



Vds (V)

a Pierantoni

#### CNT DESIGN TOOLS II



#### **GRAPHENE DEVICES DESIGN TOOLS III**



GreEnergy Summer School 2022
# scattering/diffraction by obstacles



**GreEnergy Summer School 2022** 

ca Pierantoni

**Physical Properties** 



**Computational Parameters** 



**GreEnergy Sum** 

**Pierantoni** 

#### Propagation of a Gaussian pulse for wide-band electron energy



## Propagation of $|J_z|$



# Propagation of $|J_x|$



**GreEnergy Summer Schoo** 

Luca Pierantoni

### Transmittivity of a Graphene Channel





**GreEnergy Summer Sc** 

Luca Pierantoni

## self-generated EM field in the presence of a potential barrier



**GreEnergy Sum** 

#### Pierantoni

#### CNT wavepacket dynamics with or without the self-generated EM field



**GreEnergy Summer Sc** 

Luca Pierantoni