

# Resonant terahertz detection using graphene plasmons

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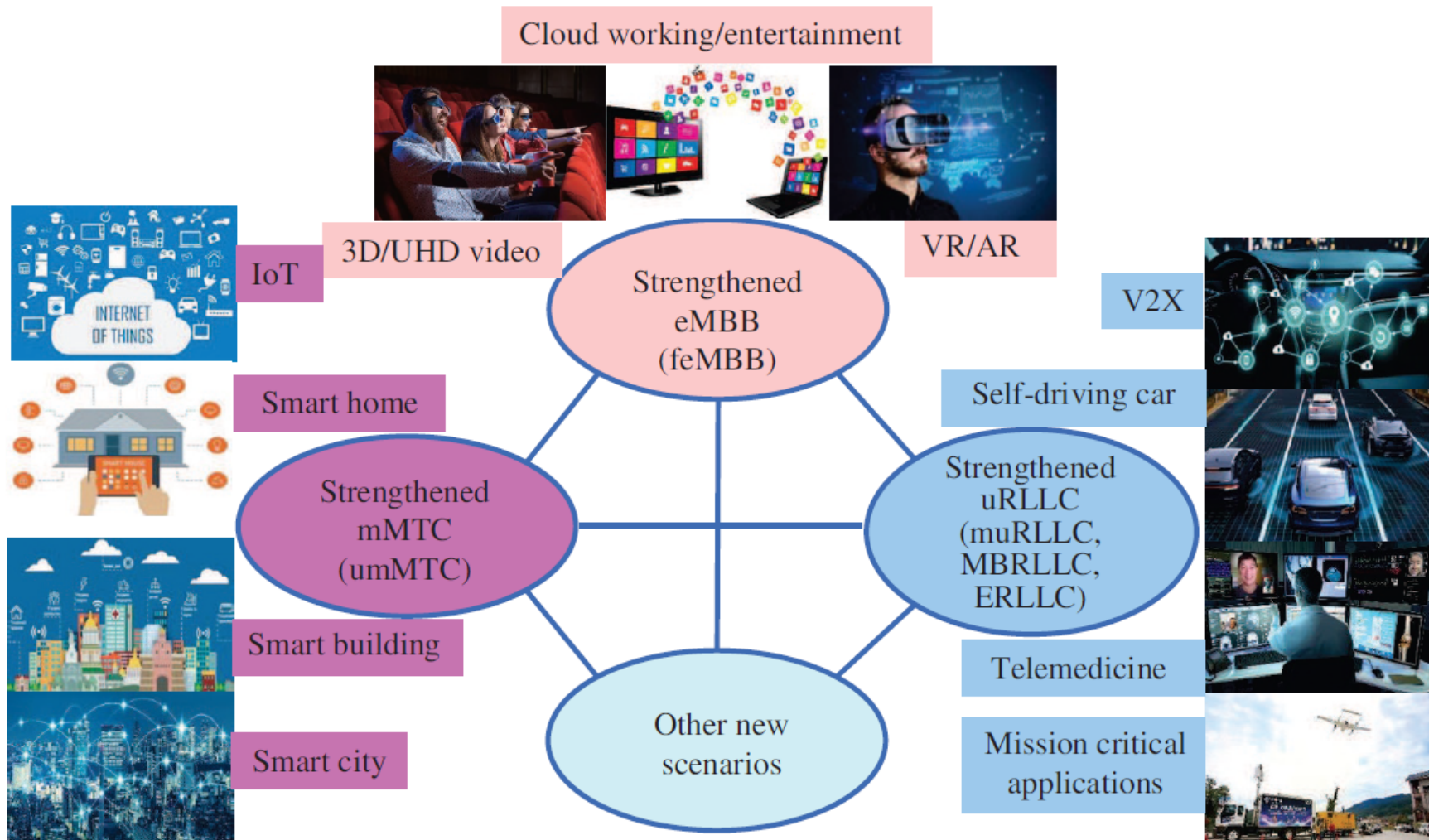
School of Physics, University of Manchester

**Shuigang G. Xu, Takashi Taniguchi, Kenji Watanabe**

National Institute for Materials Science, Japan

- 1. Introduction:
  - - What is THz radiation?
  - - THz Detectors. Why graphene based?
- 2. The main mechanisms of THz radiation detection by graphene-based FET devices.
- 3. THz detection using FETs based on double layer graphene encapsulated in hBN:
  - - Broadband detection
  - - Resonant detection
  - - THz spectroscopy of plasmons in graphene
- 4. Conclusions

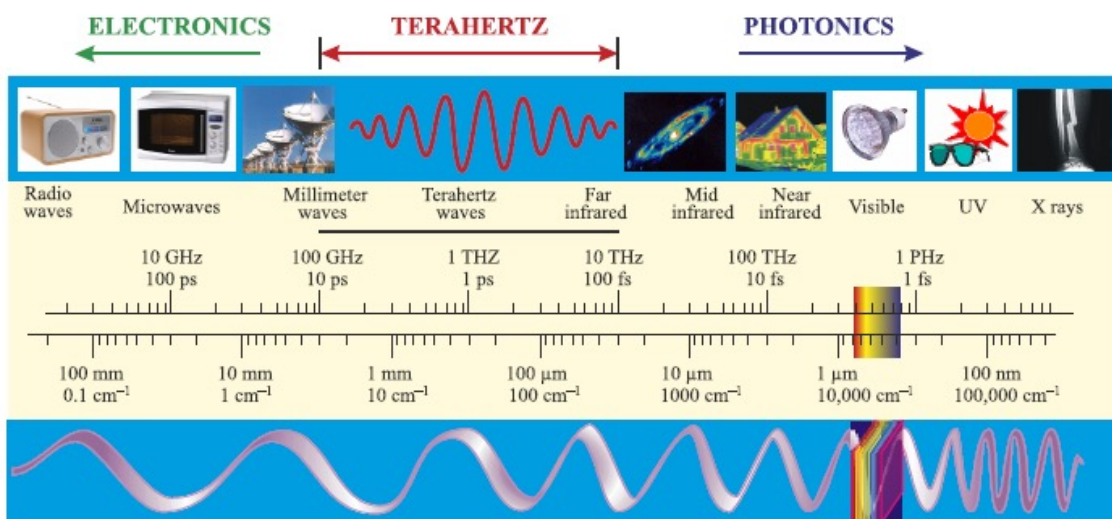
# Motivation



## Problems:

- Modern THz radiation detectors either operate at low temperatures or are quite slow;
- It is necessary to develop new methods and approaches for detecting THz radiation.

# MOTIVATION



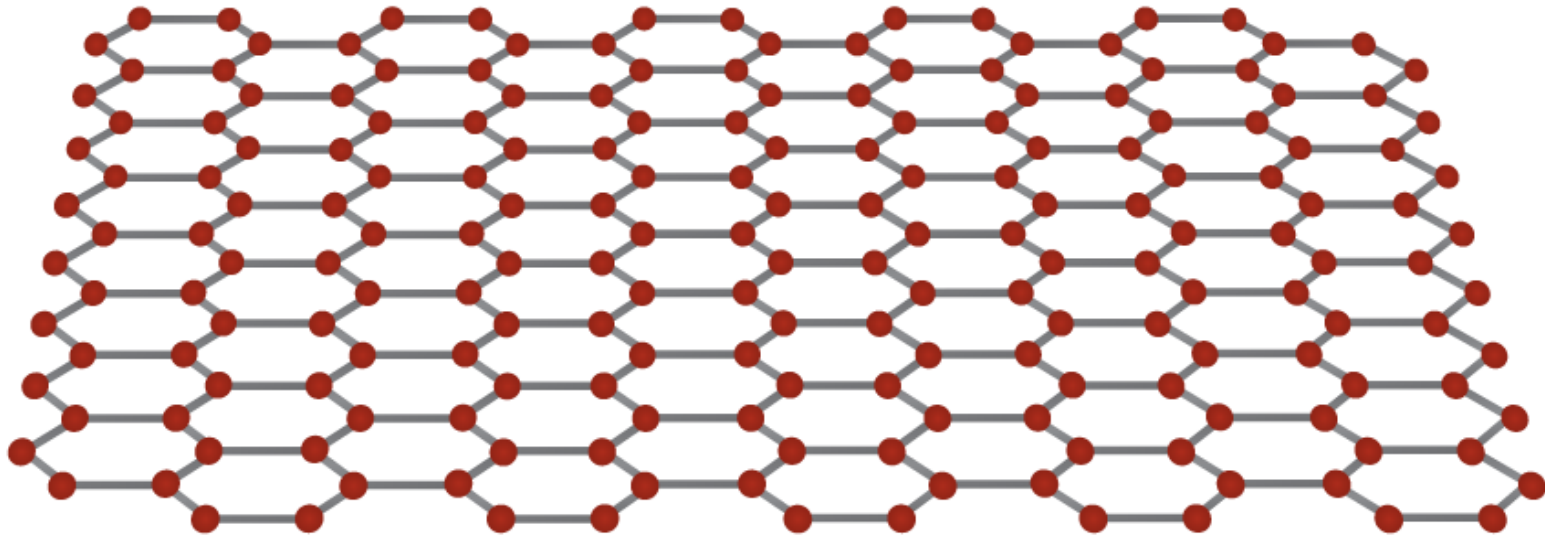
## Detectors.

### Why nanosturture:

- Sensitive
- Fast
- Energy efficient
- Spectral sensitive

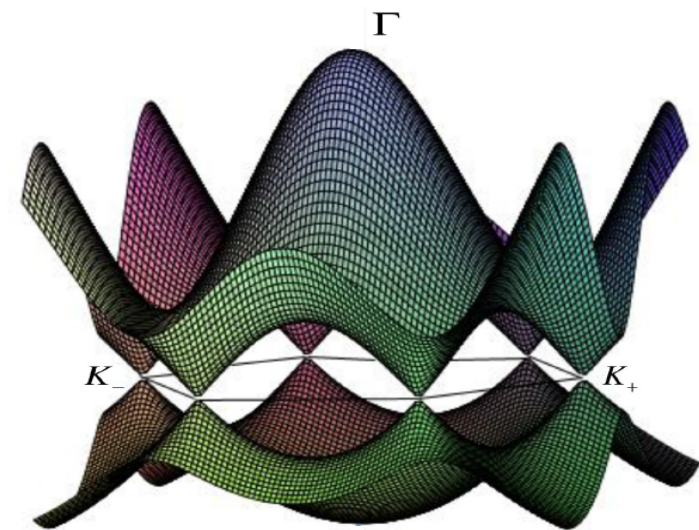
## Detectors. Why graphene (CNT) based:

- Gapless graphene has strong interband absorption at all frequencies
- High room-temperature mobility
- Geometric control of the band structure
  - Easy to fabricate
  - The frequency of graphene plasma waves lies in the terahertz range



## **Detectors. Why graphene (CNT) based:**

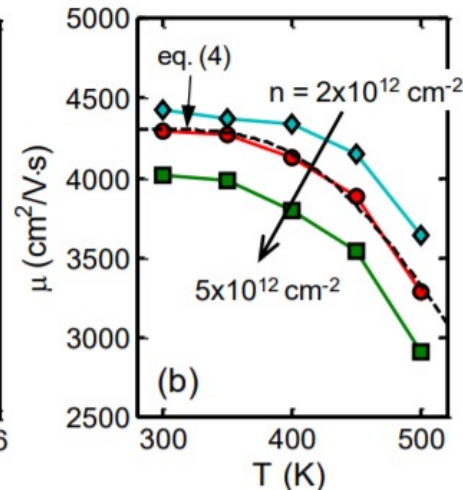
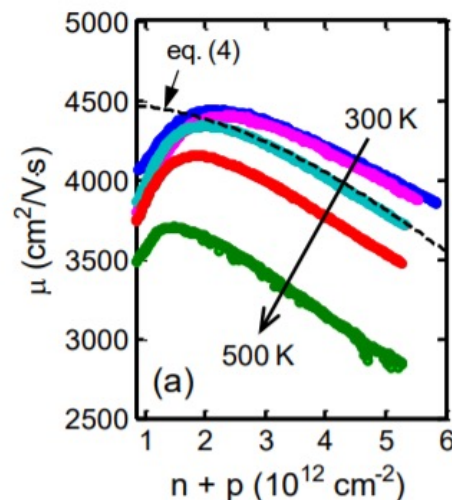
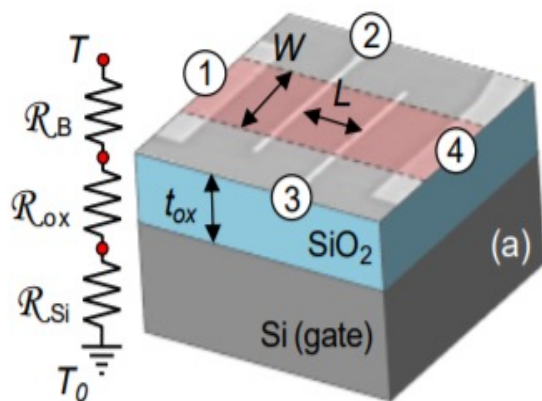
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$$E(k) = E_0 + 2\gamma_1 \left( \cos(\vec{k}\vec{a}_1) + \cos(\vec{k}\vec{a}_2) + \cos(\vec{k}(\vec{a}_1 - \vec{a}_2)) \right) \pm \gamma_0 \sqrt{3 + 2 \cos \vec{k}\vec{a}_1 + 2 \cos \vec{k}\vec{a}_2 + 2 \cos \vec{k}(\vec{a}_1 - \vec{a}_2)}$$

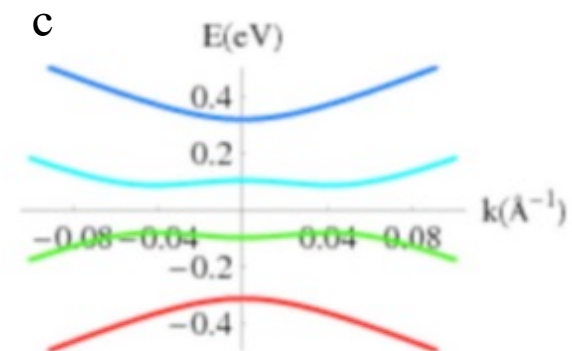
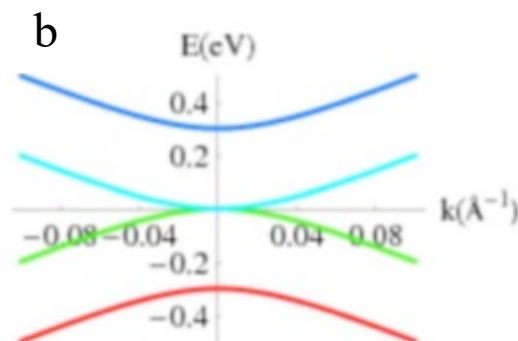
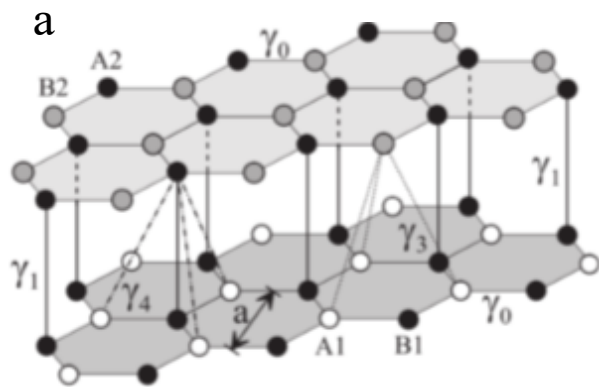
## Detectors. Why graphene (CNT) based:

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## Detectors. Why graphene (CNT) based:

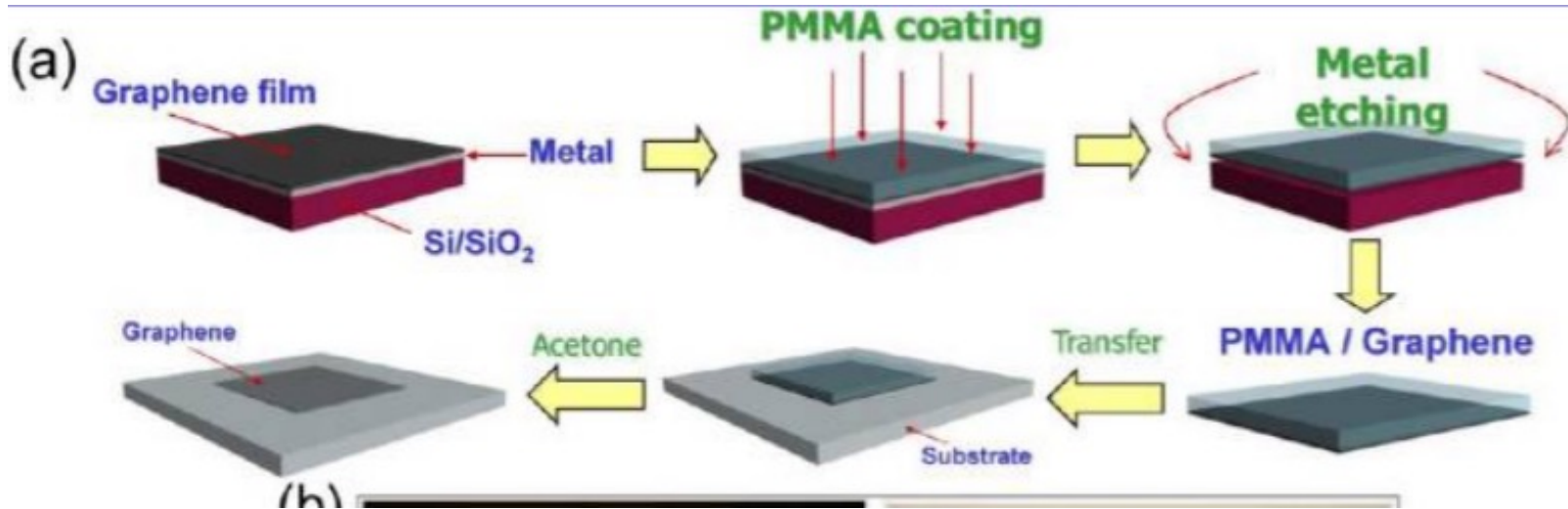
- Gapless graphene has strong interband absorption at all frequencies
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## Detectors. Why graphene (CNT) based:

- Gapless graphene has strong interband absorption at all frequencies
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- Geometric and electrostatic control of the band structure
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  - The frequency of graphene plasma waves lies in the terahertz range





## Detectors. Why graphene (CNT) based:

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  - The frequency of graphene plasma waves lies in the terahertz range

**Plasmonics forms a major part of the fascinating field of *nanophotonics*, which explores how electromagnetic fields can be confined over dimensions on the order of or smaller than the wavelength.**

*Plasmonics: Fundamentals and Applications*

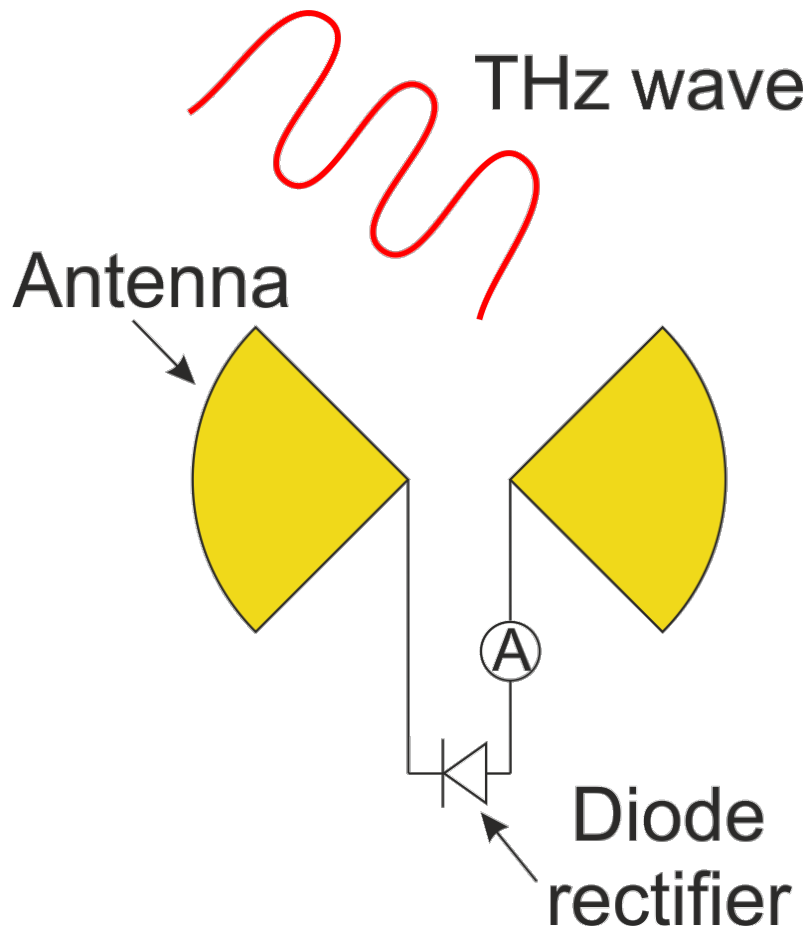
*Authors: Maier, Stefan Alexander*

*Springer, 2007*

## **Detectors. Why graphene (CNT) based:**

- Gapless graphene has strong interband absorption at all frequencies**
- High room-temperature mobility**
- Geometric control of the band structure**
  - Easy to fabricate**
    - The frequency of graphene plasma waves lies in the terahertz range**

# What do we mean by graphene THz detector



$$\langle I(\delta V \cos \omega t) \rangle_T \approx$$

$$\frac{dI}{dV} \delta V \langle \cos \omega t \rangle_T + \frac{1}{2} \frac{d^2 I}{dV^2} \delta V^2 \langle \cos^2 \omega t \rangle_T$$

$$= \frac{1}{4} \frac{d^2 I}{dV^2} \delta V^2$$

Study of detection mechanisms  
is the study of nonlinearities

# The main mechanisms of THz radiation detection by graphene-based FET devices

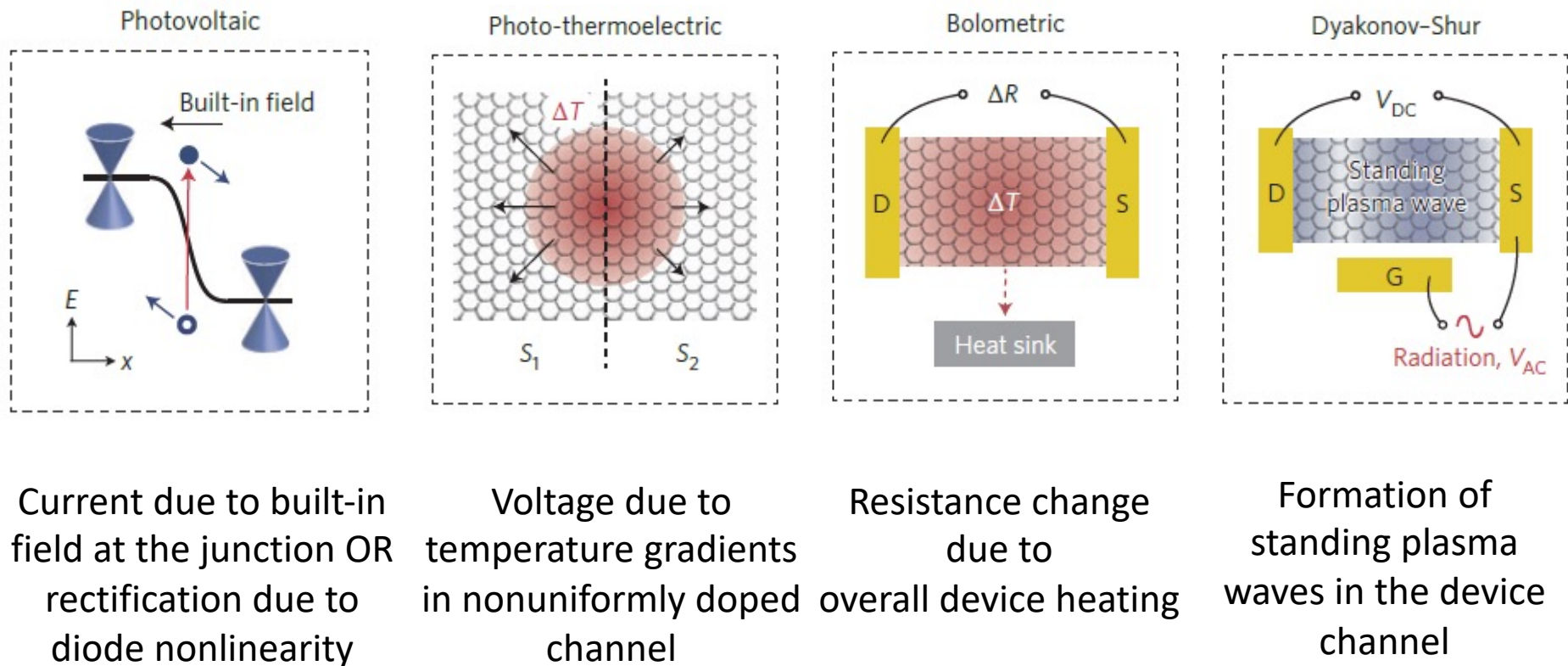
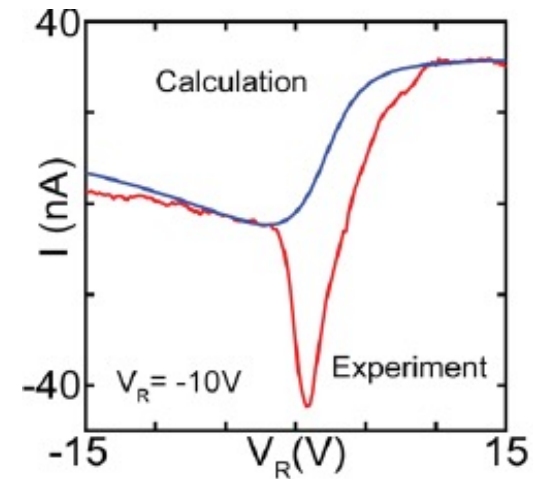
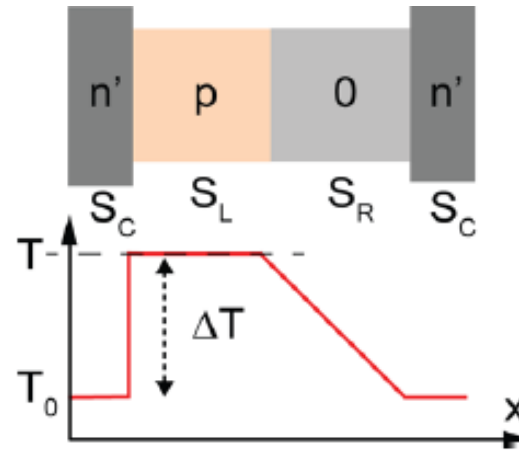
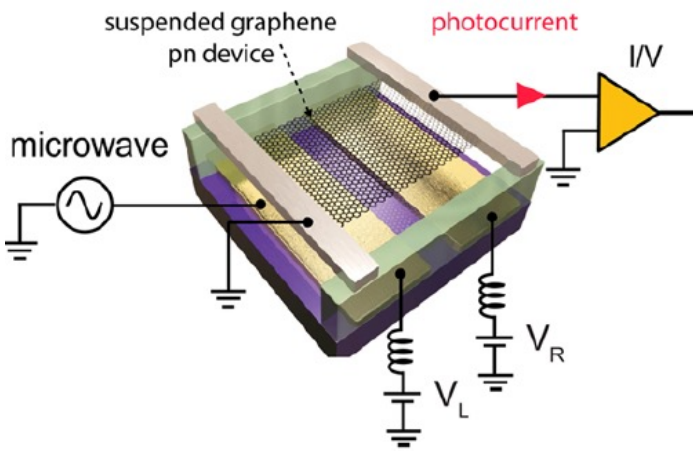


Figure from: F.H.L. Koppens, T. Mueller, P. Avouris, A.C. Ferrari, M.S. Vitiello, M. Polini, "Photodetectors based on graphene, other two-dimensional materials and hybrid systems" *Nature nanotechnology*, 9, 780-793 (2014)

# Photo-thermoelectric effect in graphene

In case of a **photothermoelectric effect** an non-uniform doping of the channel and non-uniform heating of the channel results in onset of a DC voltage proportional to increase of the electron temperature



## Graphene advantages for hot-electron photothermoelectric detection:

- Gapless graphene has strong interband absorption at all frequencies.
- The electronic heat capacity of single-layer graphene is much lower than in bulk materials, resulting in a larger change in temperature for the same absorbed energy
- The photothermoelectric effect has a picosecond response time, set by the electron– phonon relaxation rate

## Photo-thermoelectric effect

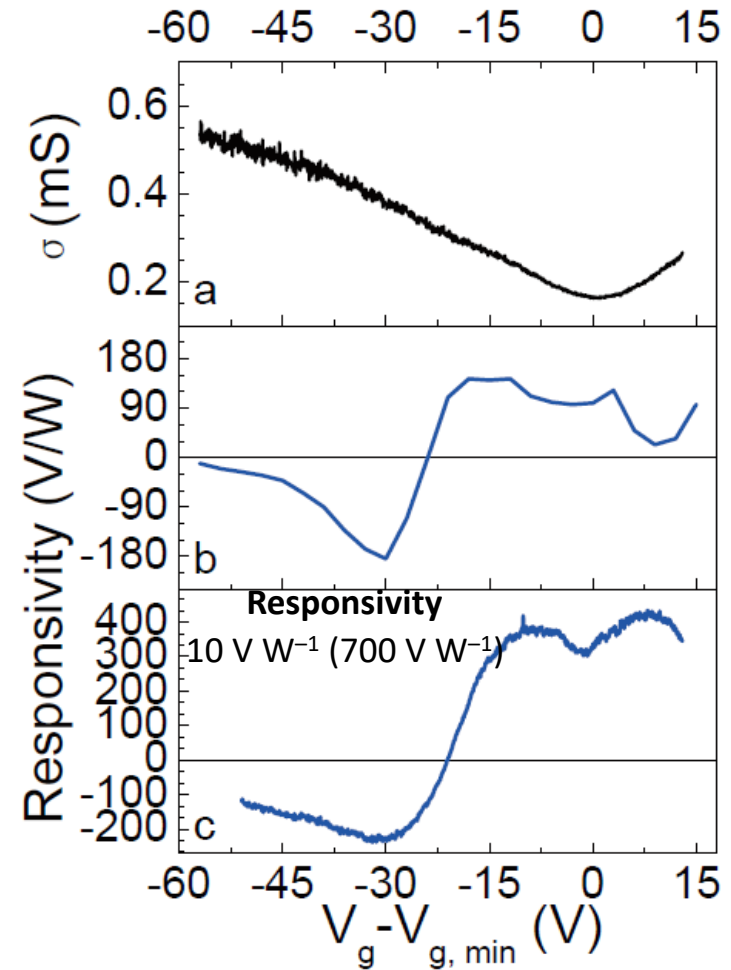
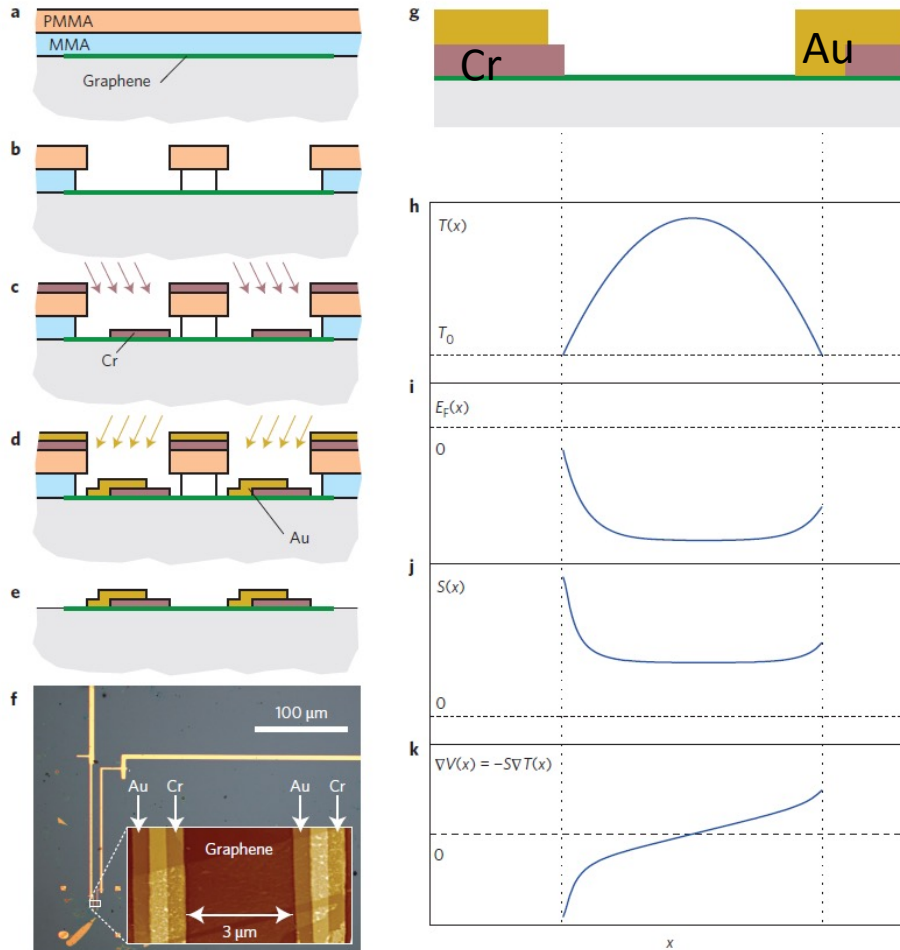
$$U_{PTE} = -\int SdT \approx S(T_S - T_D)$$

$$S \approx -\frac{\pi^2 k_B^2 T}{3e} \frac{1}{\sigma} \frac{d\sigma}{dE_F}$$

# Photo-thermoelectric effect in graphene

## Graphene photothermoelectric detector.

### Principle of operation

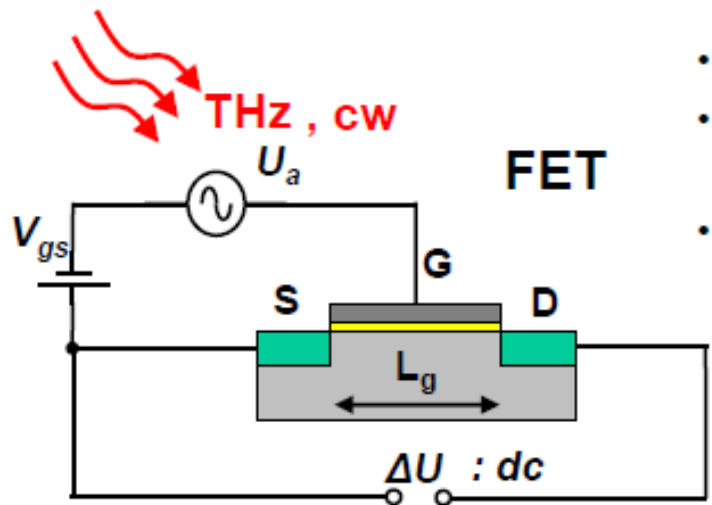


Broadband thermoelectric responsivity of graphene photothermoelectric detector. (a,d) Electrical conductance, (b,e) responsivity to Joule heating, and (c,f) responsivity to radiation as a function of gate voltage for the device shown in Fig. 1f at room temperature and in ambient environment.

Graphene photothermoelectric detector device fabrication and principle of operation. (a-e) Lithographic sequence used to produce the graphene terahertz detector. (f) Optical micrograph showing electrical contacts and (inset) atomic force micrograph showing bimetallic contacts connected to an exfoliated graphene layer. (g-k) Schematic of the principle components during device operation. (g) Cross-sectional view of the device. (h-j) Profiles across the device of (h) electron temperature  $T(x)$ , (i) Fermi level  $E_F(x)$ , (j) Seebeck coefficient  $S(x)$  and (k) potential gradient.

*Nature Nanotechnology* **9**, 814–819 (2014)

# Детектирование ТГц излучения за счет возбуждение плазмонов



$$n_s = CU/e$$

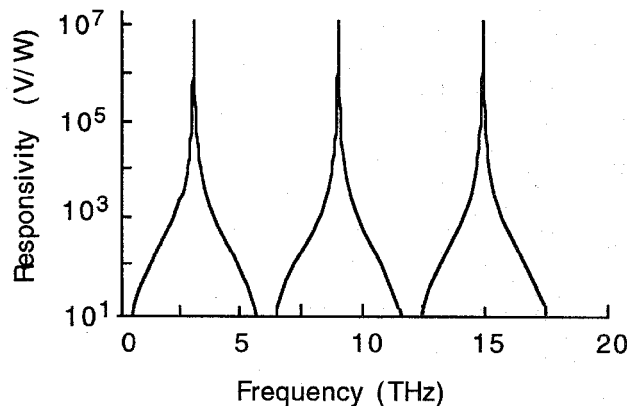
$$\frac{\partial v}{\partial t} + v \frac{\partial v}{\partial x} + \frac{e}{m} \frac{\partial U}{\partial x} + \frac{v}{\tau} = 0$$

$$\frac{\partial U}{\partial t} + \frac{\partial(Uv)}{\partial x} = 0.$$

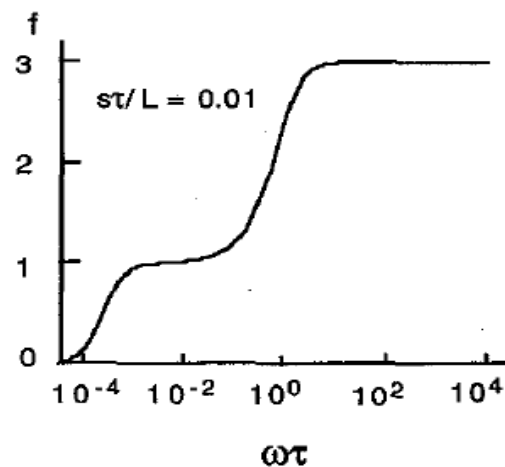
$$U(0, t) = U_o + U_a \cos \omega t \quad \text{for } x = 0$$

$$j(L, t) = 0 \quad \text{for } x = L$$

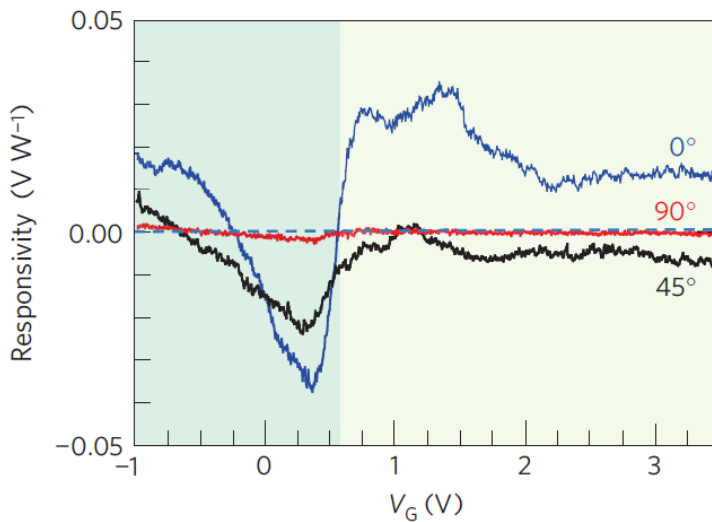
**Resonant Detector**  $\omega\tau \gg 1$



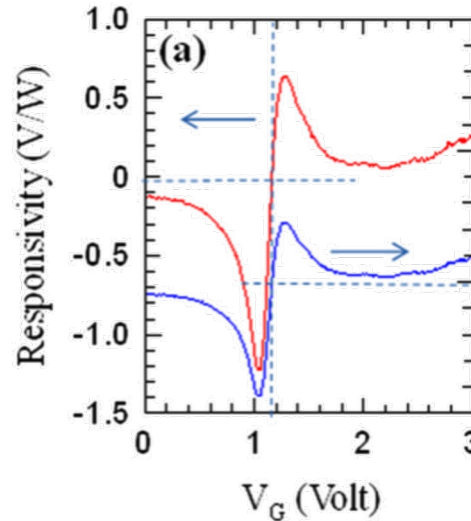
**Broadband Detector**  $\omega\tau \ll 1$



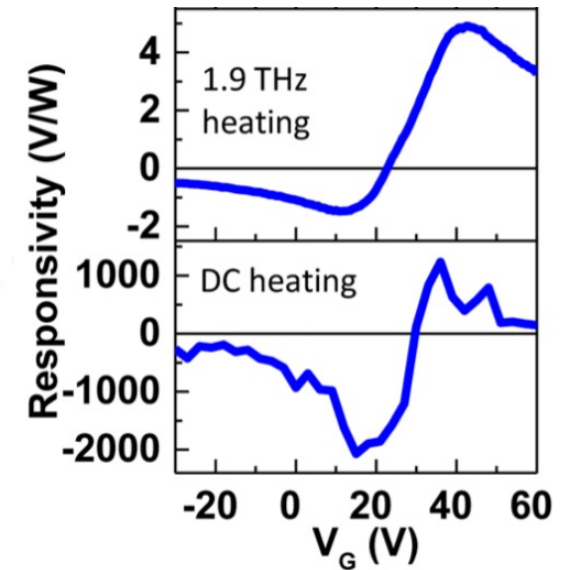
# Experiment: GaAs high-mobility FETs



Vicarelli et.al. Nat. Mater. **11**, 865 (2012)  
 $R_{\max} = 100 \text{ mV/W}$ ,  $f = 300 \text{ GHz}$



Spirito et.al. APL **104**, 061111 (2014)  
 $R_{\max} = 1 \text{ V/W}$ ,  $f = 300 \text{ GHz}$



Tong et.al. Nano Lett. **15**, 5295 (2015)  
 $R_{\max} = 5 \text{ V/W}$ ,  $f = 1.9 \text{ THz}$

*Measured responsivities of graphene-based THz detectors vs. gate voltage obtained by various groups to date. In all setups, THz radiation is fed between source and gate, the signal is read out between source and drain*

$$Q = 2\pi f_{\text{res}} \tau_p \gg 1$$

$$\mu = 10\,000 \text{ cm}^2/(\text{Vs}) \Rightarrow \tau_p = m^* \mu / e \approx 0.1 \text{ ps}$$

$$Q(1 \text{ THz}) \approx 0.6$$

$$\Delta u = \frac{U_a^2}{4} \frac{1}{\sigma(U_0)} \left. \frac{d\sigma(V_G)}{dV_G} \right|_{V_G=U_0}$$



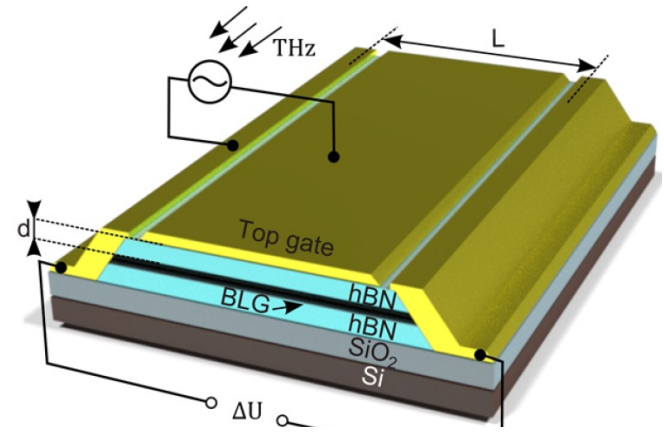
# Resonant terahertz detection using graphene plasmons

There are three crucial steps to consider in the design of resonant photodetectors.

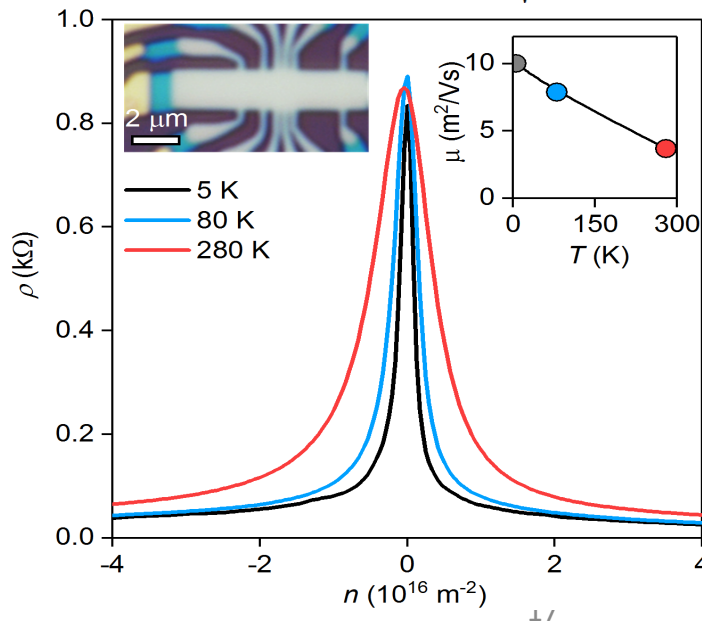
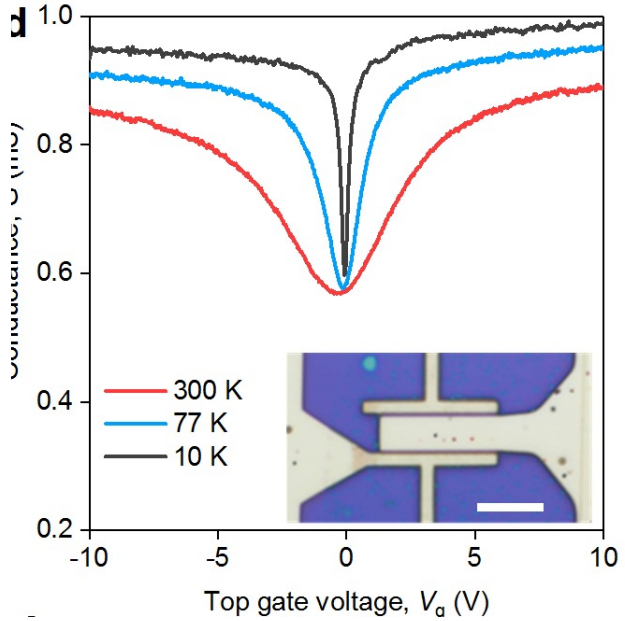
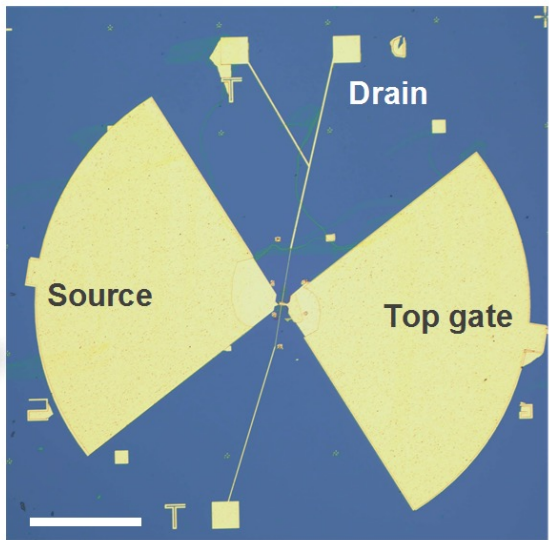
First, the incoming radiation needs to be efficiently compressed into plasmons propagating in the FET channel.

Second, the channel should act as a high-quality plasmonic cavity, where constructive interference of propagating plasma waves leads to the enhancement of the field strength.

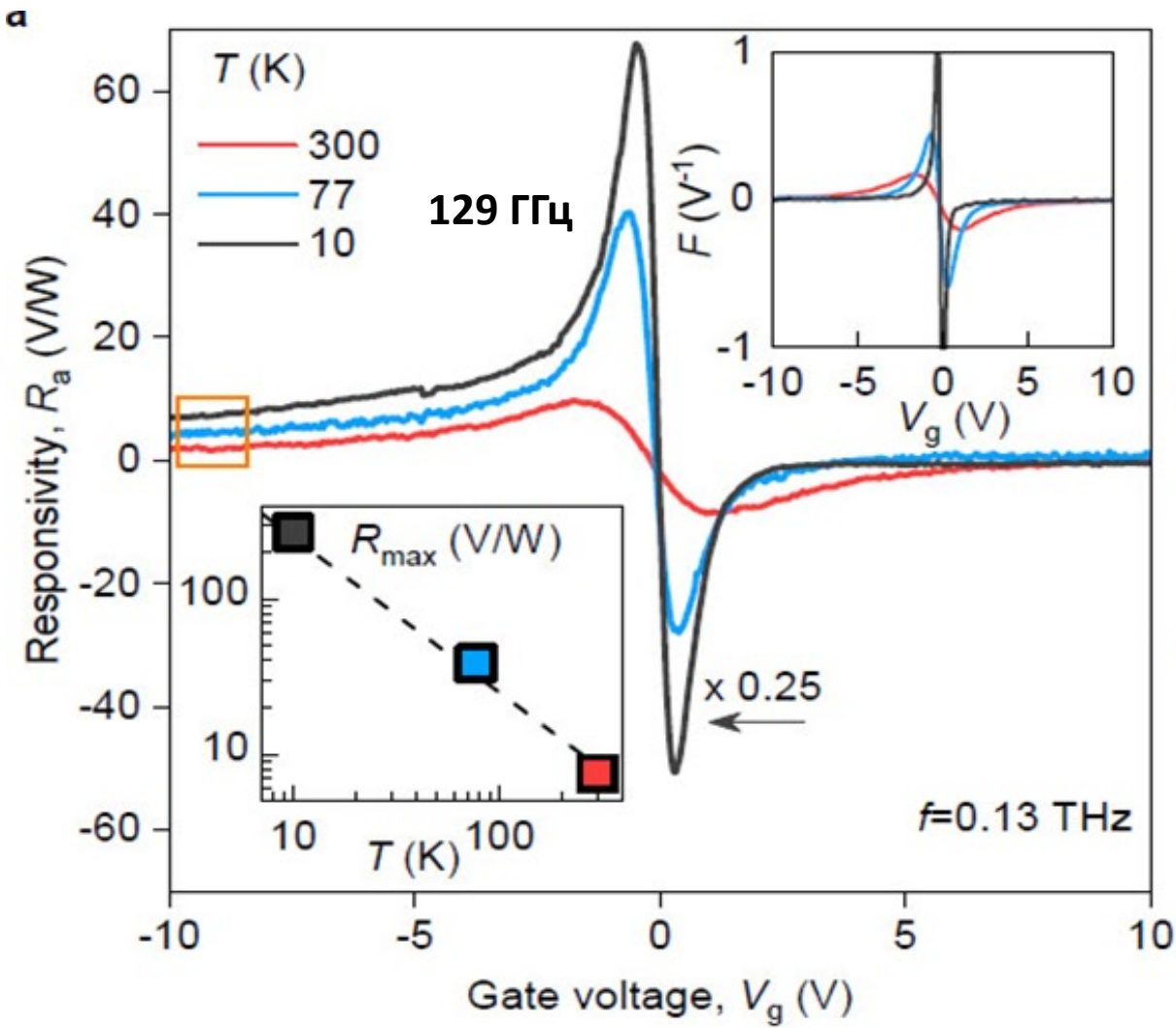
Third, the high-frequency plasmon field needs to be rectified into a dc photovoltage.



$$s = v_F \sqrt{4\alpha_c k_F d} \approx \sqrt{\frac{e}{m} |V_g|}$$



# Broadband detection



**Quality factor 129 GHz**

$$Q = 2\pi f \tau_p = 0.2 \dots 0.7$$

**Broadband DS detection**

$$\Delta U_{DS} = \frac{U_a^2}{4} \frac{1}{\sigma} \frac{d\sigma}{dV_{bg}} g(\omega) \propto U_a^2 F,$$

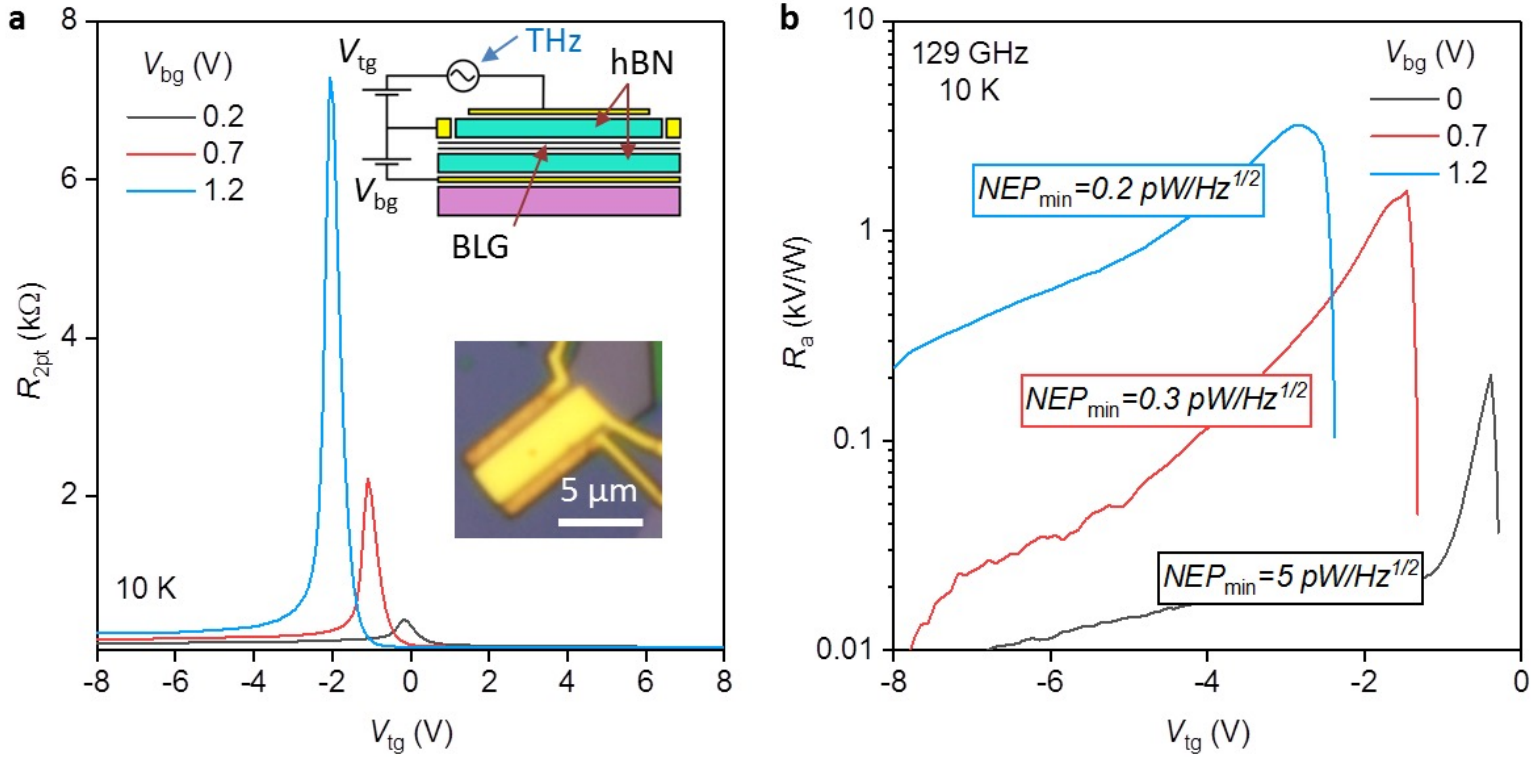
$$F = \frac{1}{\sigma} \frac{d\sigma}{dV_{bg}}.$$

**Photo-thermoelectric effect**

$$U_{PTE} = -\int S dT \approx S(T_S - T_D)$$

$$S \approx -\frac{\pi^2 k_B^2 T}{3e} \frac{1}{\sigma} \frac{d\sigma}{dE_F}$$

# Broadband detection



Photoresponse of a dual-gated BLG detector. a, Two-terminal resistance as a function of  $V_{tg}$  measured in a dual-gated BLG FET for different  $V_{bg}$ . Top inset: Schematic of a dual-gated THz detector. Bottom inset: Optical photographs of the device. b, Responsivity as a function of  $V_{tg}$  for different  $V_{bg}$  measured at given  $f$  and  $T$ .

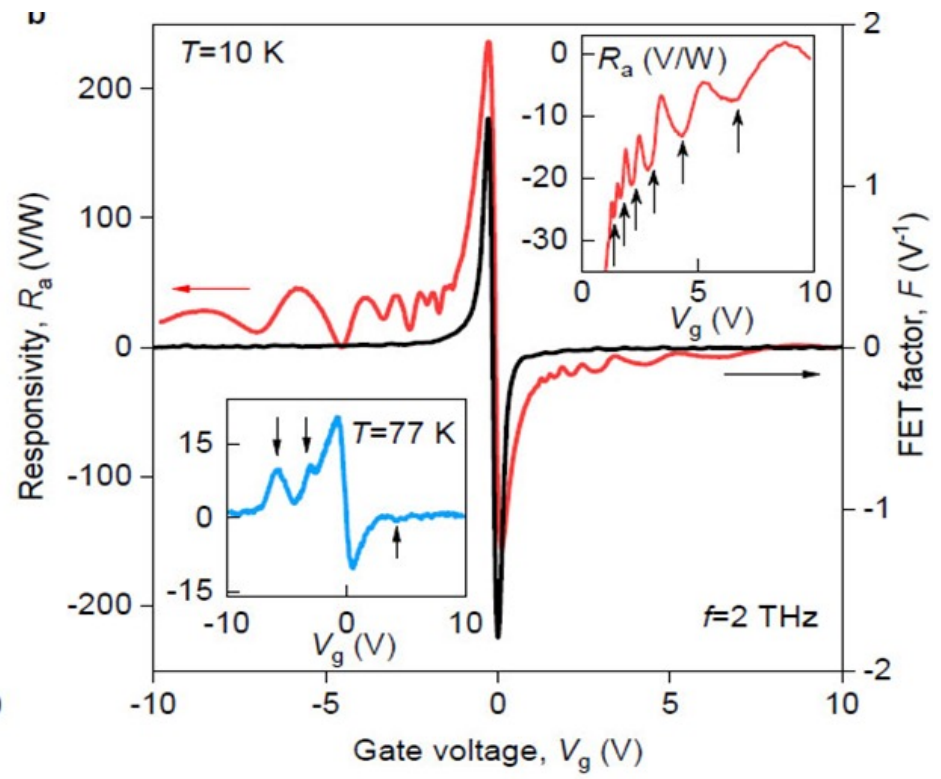
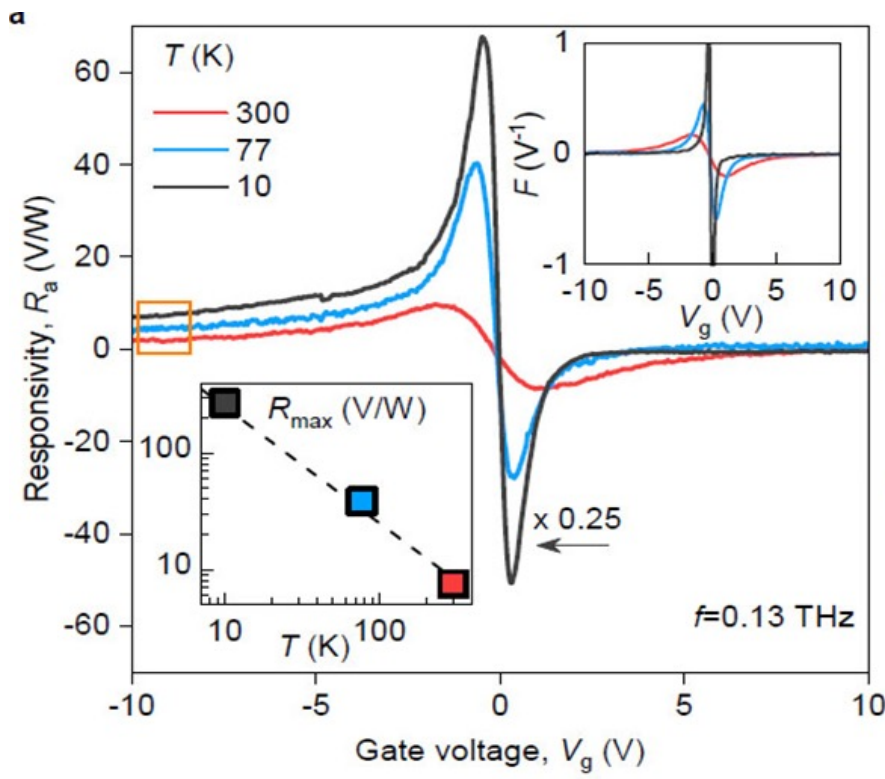
$$D = \frac{\epsilon}{2} (V_{tg}/d_{bg} + V_{bg}/d_{tg})$$

# Resonant detection

129 ГГц

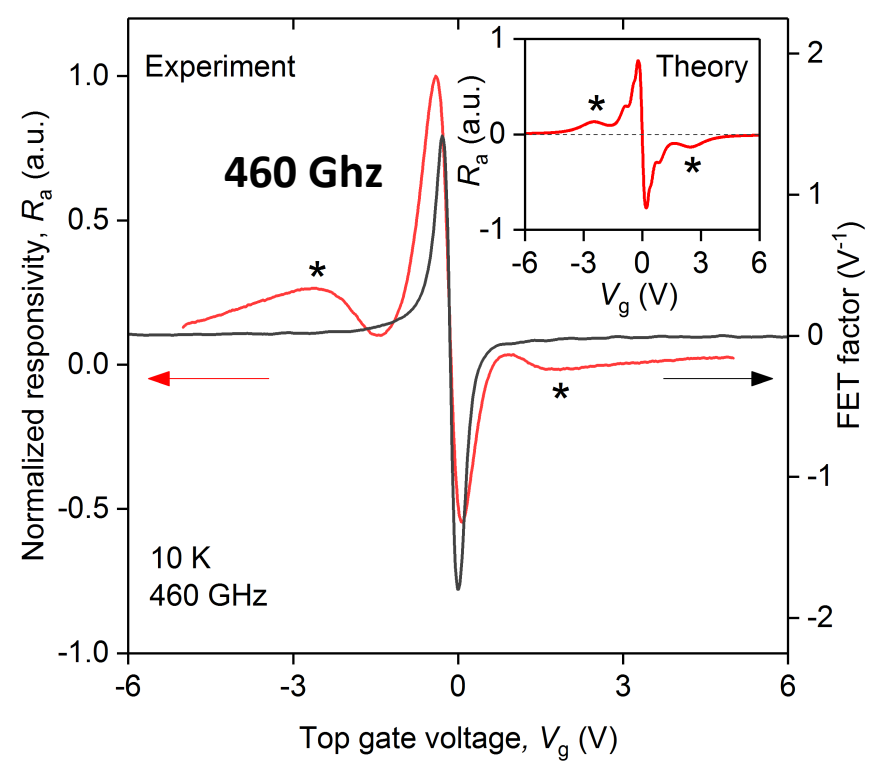
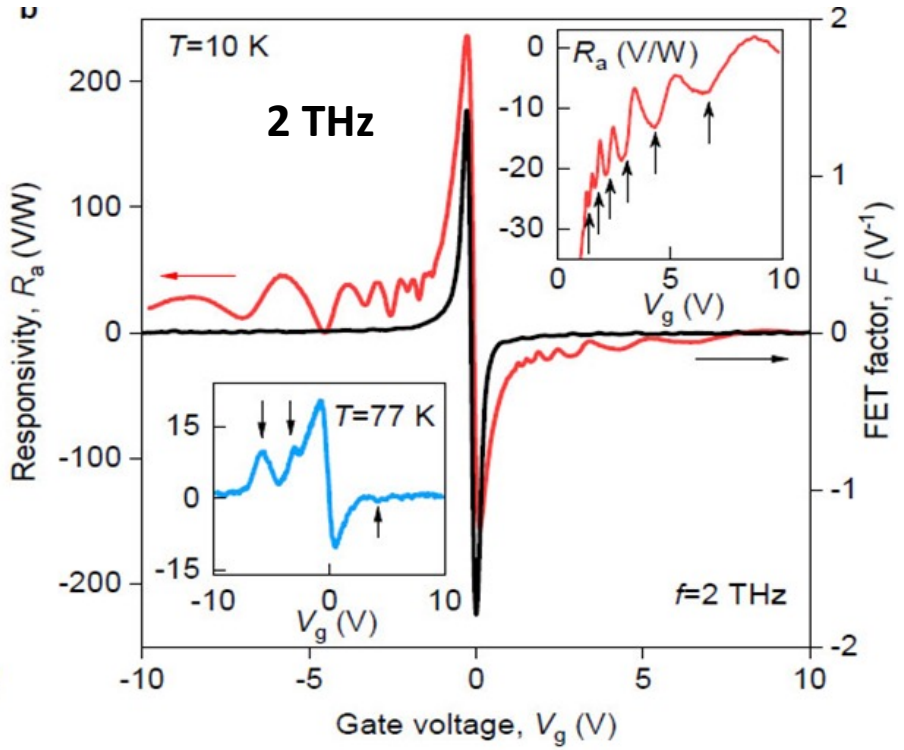


2 ТГц



$$s = v_F \sqrt{4\alpha_c k_F d} \approx \sqrt{\frac{e}{m} |V_g|}$$

# Resonant detection



$$s = v_F \sqrt{4\alpha_c k_F d} \approx \sqrt{\frac{e}{m} |V_g|}$$

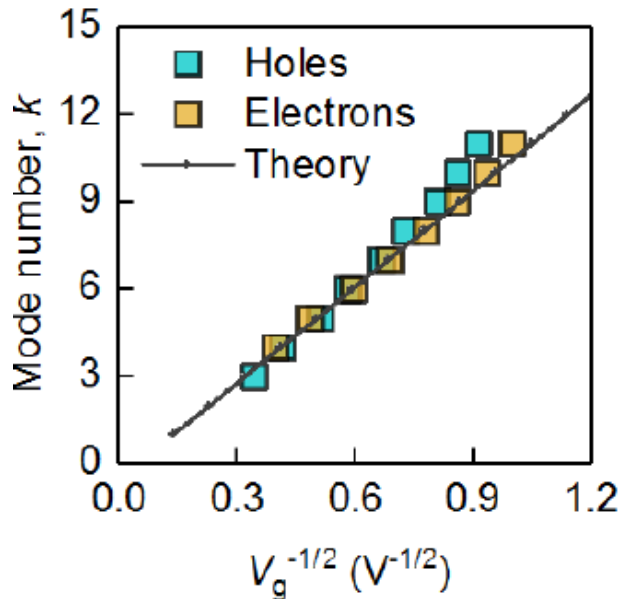
# Resonant detection

Theoretical responsivity of our FET as a plasmonic Fabry-Perot cavity endowed with a rectifying element :  $R_a = \frac{R_0}{|1 - r_s r_d e^{2iqL}|^2}$

where  $R_0$  is a smooth function of carrier density  $n$  and frequency  $f$  that depends on the microscopic rectification mechanism,  $r_s$  and  $r_d$  are the wave reflection coefficients from the source and drain terminals, respectively, and  $q$  is the complex wave vector governing the wave propagation in the channel

Resonance conditions:  $1 - r_s r_d e^{2iqL} = 0$       In case of  $r_s r_d \approx -1$ :  $q' = \frac{\pi}{2L} (2k + 1)$ ,

Plasma wave velocity in 2D system:  $s = v_F \sqrt{4\alpha_c k_F d} \approx \sqrt{\frac{e}{m^*} |V_g|}$

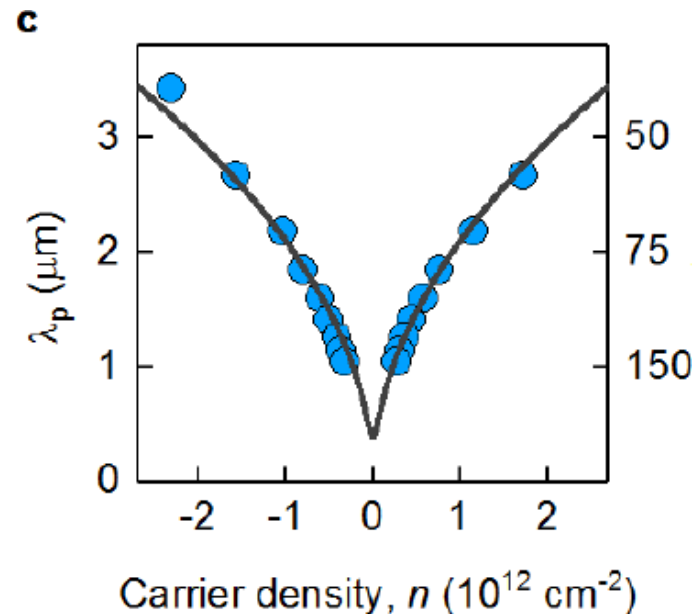


# THz plasmon spectroscopy at 10 K

The resonant gate-tunable response of our detectors offers a convenient tool to characterize plasmon modes in graphene channels

Plasma wave velocity in 2D system:  $s = v_F \sqrt{4\alpha_c k_F d} \approx \sqrt{\frac{e}{m^*} |V_g|}$

$$q' = \frac{\pi}{2L} (2k + 1),$$



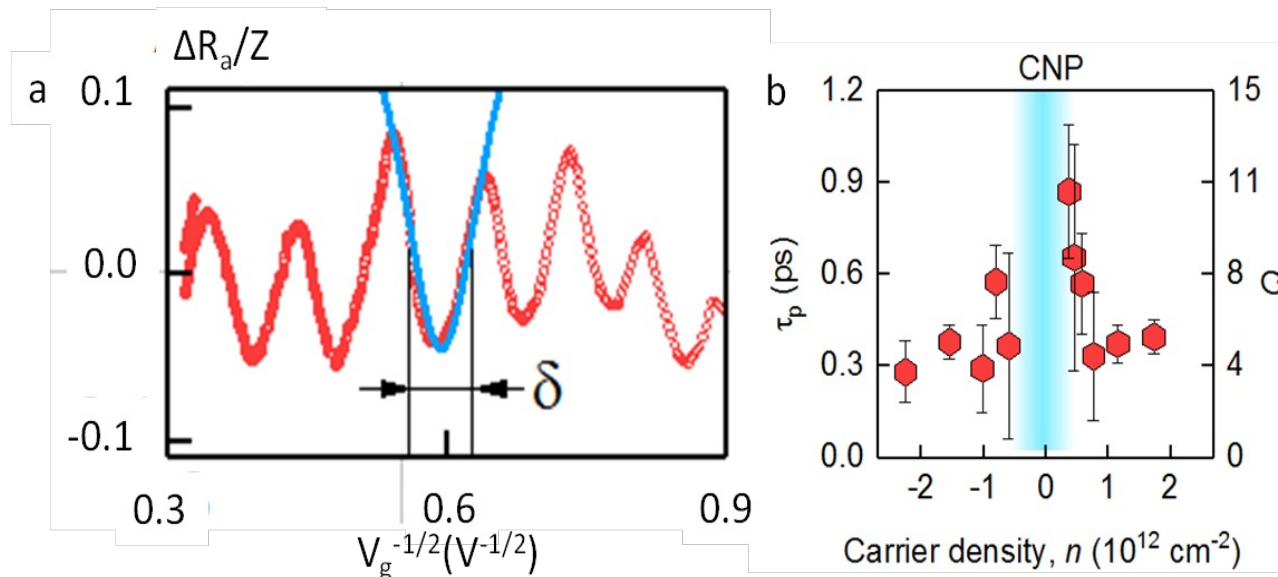
$L = (2k+1)\lambda_p/4$ , where  $\lambda_p = 2\pi/q'$

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Plasmon lifetime: 
$$\frac{\delta V_g^{-1/2}}{V_g^{-1/2}} = \frac{1}{\omega \tau_p}$$





# Conclusion

1. We have shown that high-mobility graphene FETs exploiting far-field coupling to incoming radiation can operate as resonant THz photodetectors.
2. Our devices represent a convenient tool to study plasmons under conditions where other approaches may be technically challenging. Due to their compact size and far-field coupling, our photodetectors can easily be employed to carry out plasmonic experiments in extreme cryogenic environments and in strong magnetic fields, as well in studies of more complex van der Waals heterostructures.

# Collaboration



. Gayduchenko, M. Moskotin, N. Titova, B. M. Voronov, N. Kaurova,  
G. N. Goltsman, **MPSU, Moscow, Russia**



G. Fedorov ,D. Svintsov, ***MIPT, Russia***



D. Bandurin, ***The University of Manchester, UK***

***Thank you for attention!!!***

# Полевые транзистора в конфигурации Дьяконова Шура с графеновым каналом для детектирования ТГц излучения

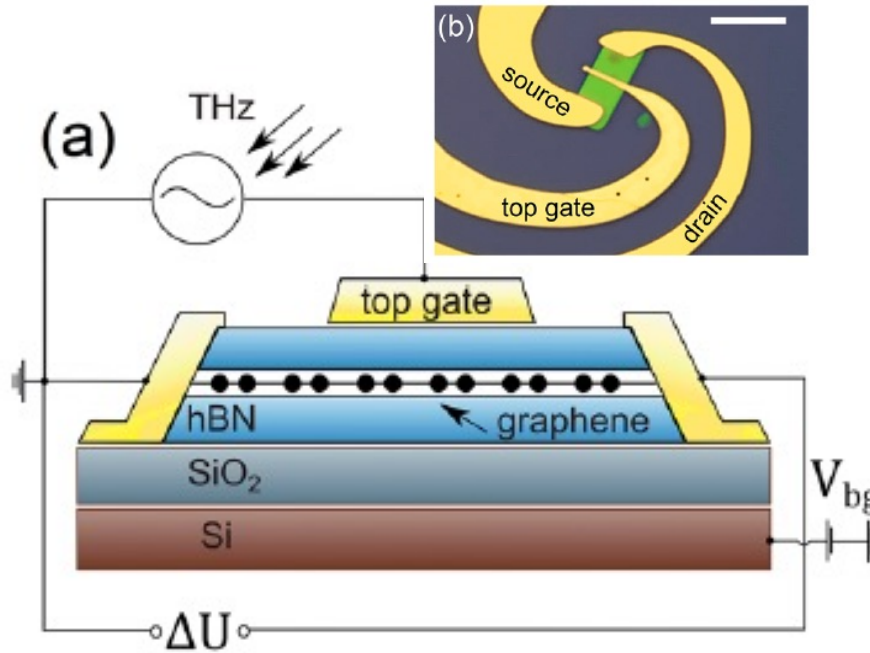
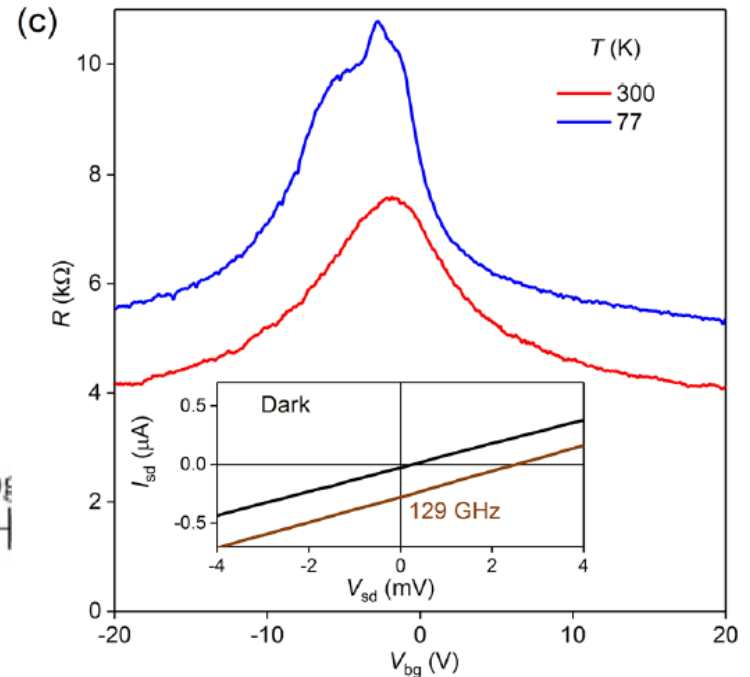


Схема полевого транзистора с графеновым каналом

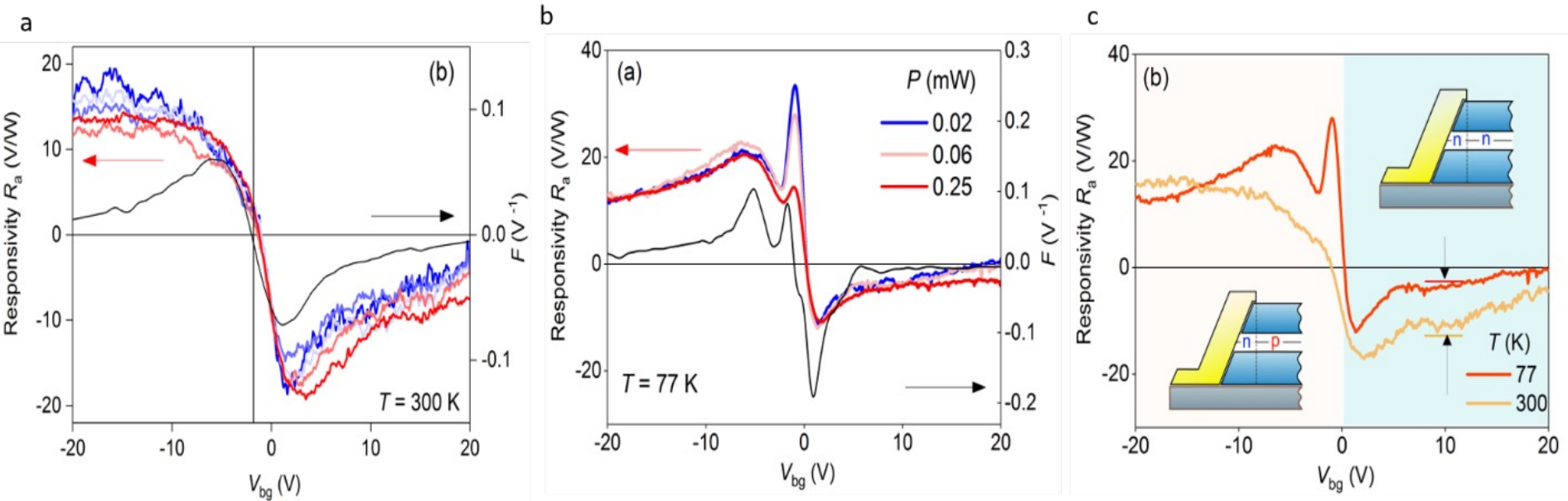


Зависимость двухконтактного сопротивления затворного напряжения

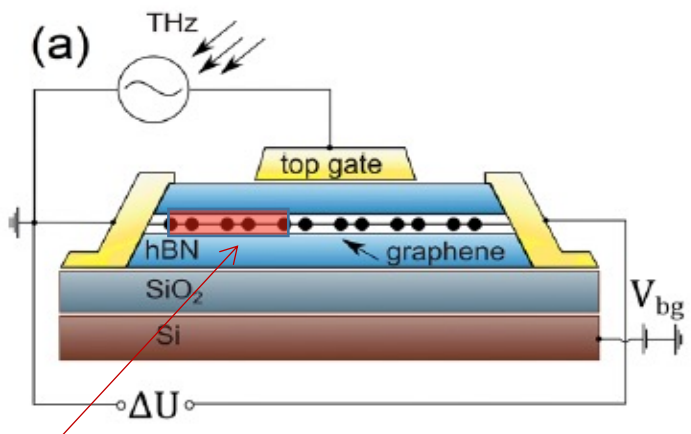
**RT mobility**  
 $\mu = 3200 \text{ cm}^2 \text{ V}^{-1} \text{ s}^{-1}$

# Полевые транзистора в конфигурации Дьяконова Шура с графеновым каналом для детектирования ТГц излучения

Отклик полевых транзисторов на излучение 129 ГГц при температуре 300К и 77К



## Фото-термоэлектрический эффект



$$U_{PTE} = -\int SdT \approx S(T_S - T_D)$$

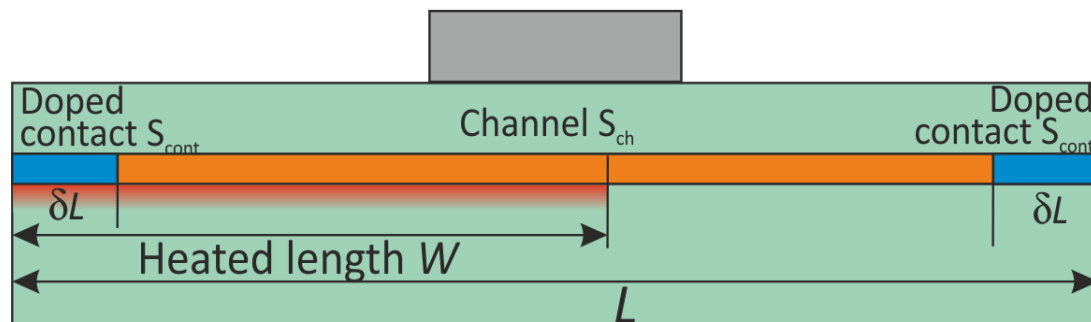
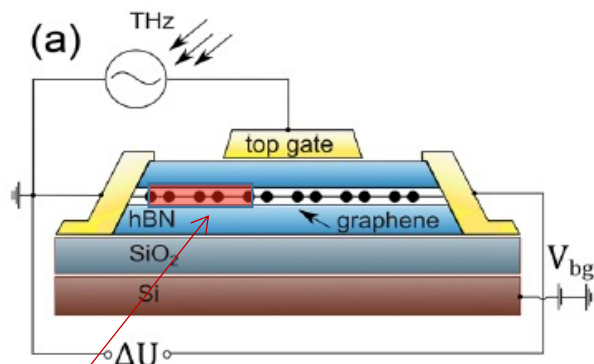
$$S \approx -\frac{\pi^2 k_B^2 T}{3e} \frac{1}{\sigma} \frac{d\sigma}{dE_F}$$

is the Seebeck coefficient

$$F = \frac{1}{\sigma} \frac{d\sigma}{dV_{bg}}$$

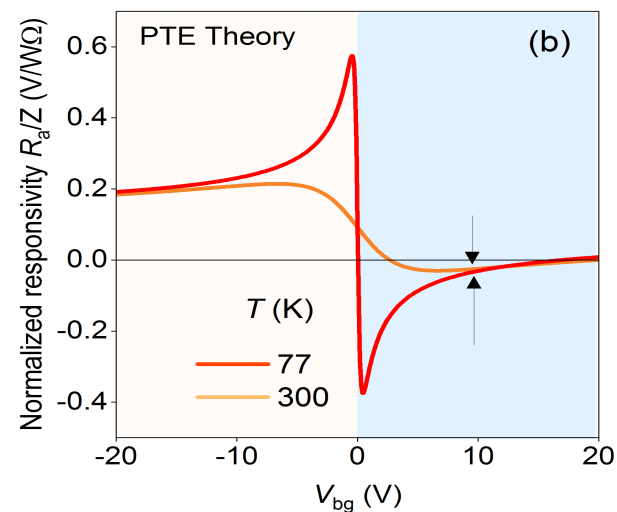
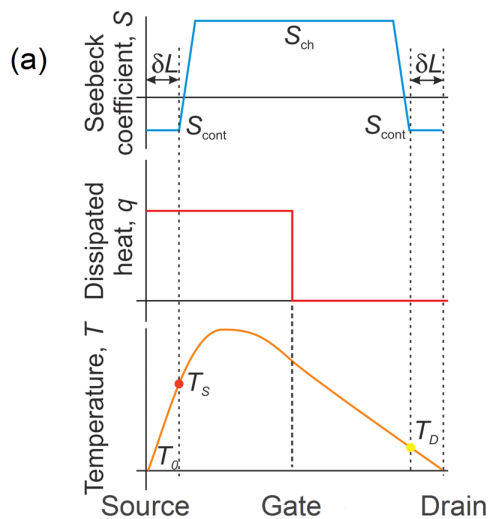
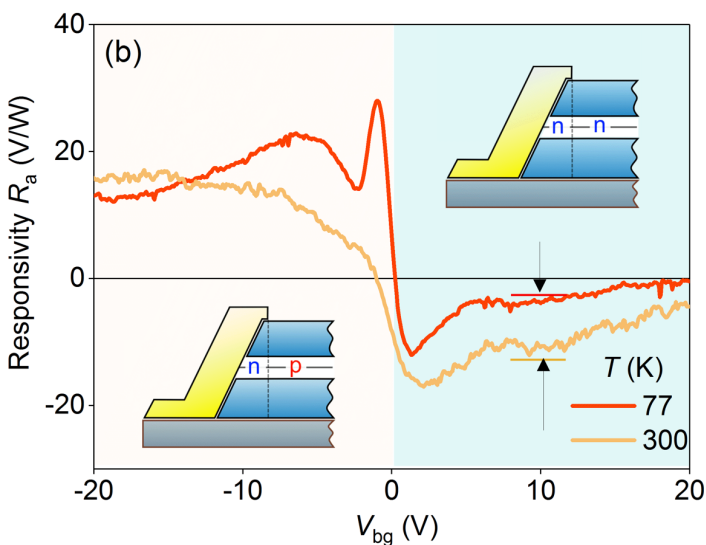
**Перегретая область**

# Фото-термоэлектрический эффект

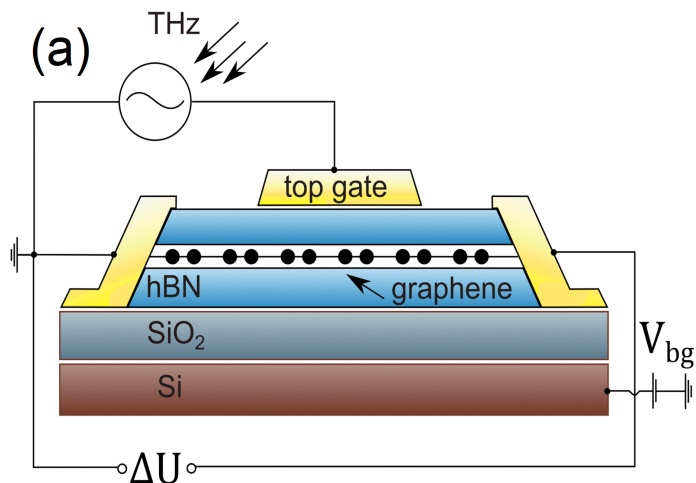


**Перегретая область**

$$U_{PTE} = (S_{ch} - S_{cont})(T_S - T_D) \quad R_a \approx \frac{3}{2\pi^2} \left[ \frac{e}{k_B} (S_{cont} - S_{ch}) \right] \frac{eZ_a \delta L}{k_B T L}$$



# Эффект Дьконова-Шура



$$\Delta U_{DS} = \frac{U_a^2}{4} \frac{1}{\sigma} \frac{d\sigma}{dV_{bg}} g(\omega) \propto U_a^2 F$$

Где  $U_a$  – напряжение на антенне,  $L$  – длина канала,  $g(\omega) = (\sinh^2 kL - \sin^2 kL) / (\sinh^2 kL + \cos^2 kL)$  – форм фактор, зависящий от волнового числа  $k = \sqrt{\omega / (2s^2\tau)}$  затухающей плазменной волны, характеризующейся групповой скоростью  $s = \sqrt{4\alpha_{ee}d\sqrt{\pi n}}$

