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Subdiffractive Spectral-Microscopy for Multidimensional Materials Imaging

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Venue: 31A, 3F Faculty of Engineering Bldg. 2
／Online (hybrid)

For online zoom participants, register by July 19th.
<https://forms.gle/m4fjLoHxz1Juyx45A>



Abstract:

Recent success in synthesis of new two-dimensional (2D) materials beyond graphene (including TMDCs, heteronanotubes, hBN family, MXenes and atomic polar metals), followed by exploring their novel applications in quantum technologies, biosensing, energy and computing, motivated scientists to extend existing characterization capabilities to better understand physics at 2D.

Atomically thin 2D materials, having an ultimate surface-to-volume ratio, may possess surface non-uniformities at the nanometer scale (atomic impurities/adsorbates/defects, wrinkles/ruptures) that modulate their optical properties. For example, lattice mismatch and work function difference in the heterostructure material result in strain and charge transfer, often varying at nanometer scale, hard to detect and study.

In this talk, a new multidimensional optical imaging technique will be presented. A few examples will be discussed including: a vertical heterostructure comprised of monolayer graphene and single layer flakes of MoS₂, [1] heteronanotubes with carbon core and hBN/MoS₂ shell, [2] and heterostructures of graphene/Ag/SiC atomic layers. The core of analytic technology is scattering Scanning Near-field Optical Microscopy (sSNOM). Being correlated with other characterization channels, it allows multidimensional nanoscale imaging and reveals the physical origin for local optical response of 2D materials. For example, it allows us to map sub-diffractive distributions for doping and strain and understand the role of those for modulation of electronic properties.

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1. ACS Nano 2022, 16, 2598.
2. ACS Nano 2021, 15, 5600.



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