



# Nanostructure Enhanced Terahertz Technology for Sensing and Imaging

Seongsin Margaret Kim, Babatunde Ajilore, Gang Shen, Dave Wilbert, and Patrick Kung

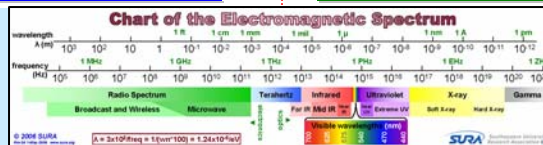


Supported by NSF DMR-0821704 and EEC-0824452



## TERAHERTZ FOR SENSING AND IMAGING

- Material fundamental properties studies (metamaterials, quantum nonlinear dynamics)
- Biomedical imaging
- Gas sensing, gas phase spectroscopy
- Biological agent, explosive detection

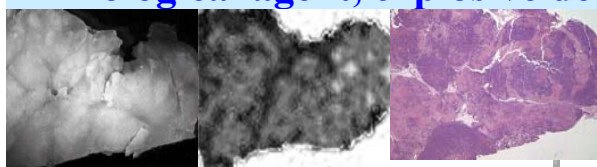
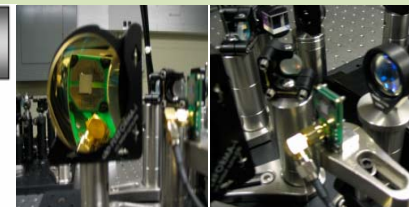
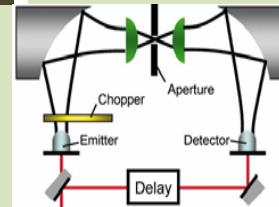


### THz-TDS System:

- Broadband THz signal upto 3THz
- High dynamic range

## NANOSTRUCTURE SYNTHESIS AND CHARACTERIZATION

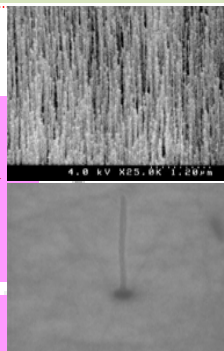
- Unique custom designed MOVPE reactor
- Specifically designed for wide bandgap semiconductors and nanostructures



Biomedical imaging, S.M. Kim et al, (2005)

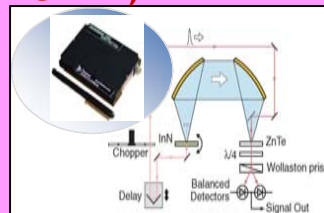
## III-NITRIDE NANOSTRUCTURES and COMPACT THz SOURCES

- Nanowires/rods have a significantly increased smooth emitting surface area
- Diameters can be on the order of the accumulation layer thickness.



### Advantages of InGaN for THz:

- Engineerable bandgap ( $\lambda=365\sim 1775$  nm)
- High saturation & peak drift velocity
- Short carrier lifetime
- High breakdown electric field



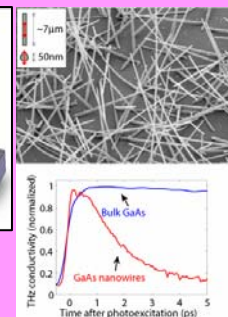
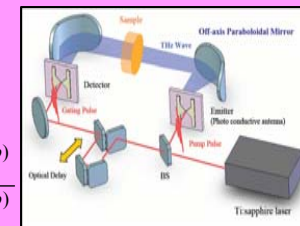
## THz NANOSTRUCTURE CHARACTERIZATION

- The time-resolved photoinduced conductivity can be obtained from the differential terahertz transmission

$$|\Delta\sigma(\tau)| = \frac{1+n_s}{\omega} \frac{\Delta T}{T}$$

$$T(\omega) = \frac{E_s(\omega)}{E_r(\omega)} = \frac{\delta Z_0}{|E_s(\omega)|} \frac{T}{|E_r(\omega)|} e^{i\phi_s(\omega)}$$

$$\Delta n(\omega) = -\frac{cd}{\omega} [\phi_s(\omega) - \phi_r(\omega)]$$



- New method of nanomaterials characterization: charge transfer in photovoltaic solar cell

Parkinson et al, (2007)

# THz NANOSTRUCTURE CHARACTERIZATION

Being a non-contact optical method, THz time domain spectroscopy is an ideal method to characterize the electrical properties of semiconductor nanostructures, including carrier densities and conductivity.

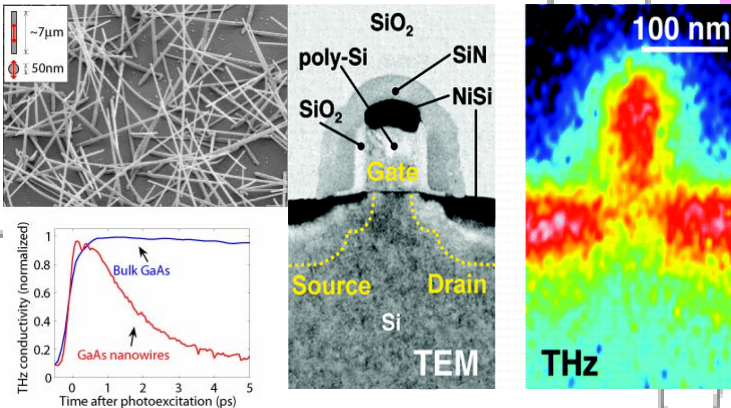
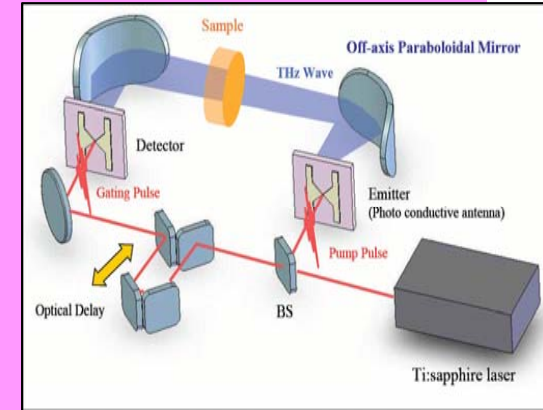
➤ The time-resolved photoinduced conductivity can be obtained from the differential terahertz transmission

$$|\Delta\sigma(\tau)| = \frac{1 + n_s}{\delta Z_0} \frac{\Delta T}{T}$$

$$T(\omega) = \frac{E_S(\omega)}{E_r(\omega)} = \frac{|E_S(\omega)| e^{i\phi_s(\omega)}}{|E_r(\omega)| e^{i\phi_r(\omega)}}$$

$$\alpha(\omega) = -\frac{2}{rd} \ln \frac{|E_S(\omega)|}{|E_r(\omega)|}$$

$$\Delta n(\omega) = -\frac{cd}{\omega} [\phi_s(\omega) - \phi_r(\omega)]$$



Parkinson et al, Nano Lett. (2007)

A. Huber et al, Nano Lett. (2008)

➤ Application of various THz spectroscopy technology

- New method of nanomaterials characterization:
  - Nanomagnetic materials, spintronic devices
  - Probe for charge transfer in photovoltaic solar cells
  - Carbon Nanotube