

Washable and wearable electronic textiles enabled by two-dimensional materials

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Wearable electronic requirements

Wearable electronic requirements:

- Highly stretchable (i.e. human skin elongation $> 30\%$)
- Low-power
- Conformable
- Breathable
- Easy to integrate with clothes. (i.e. weavable)
- Washable (i.e. water resistant)

Electronic clothes and Body Area Networks



Electronic-skin



Kaltenbrunner *et. al.* Nature (2013)

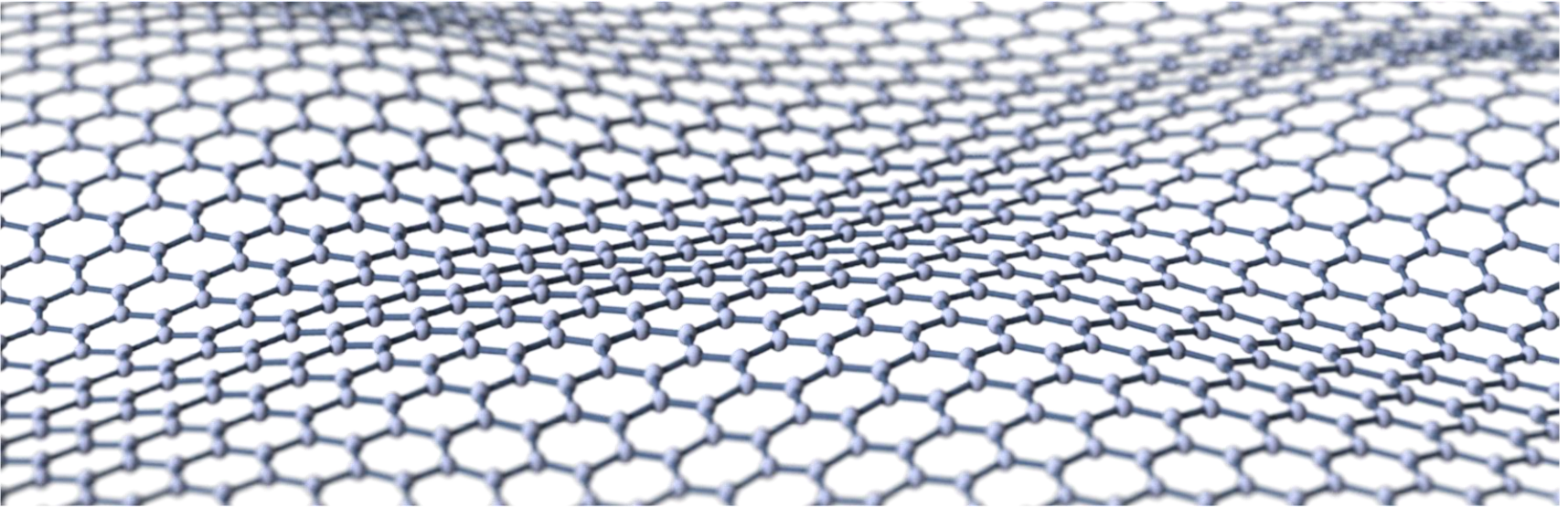
Bio-compatibility and environmental stability required

Textile for wearable electronics



Textile is the ideal substrate!

Graphene properties



Transparent

- Optical transmittance (across visible) : **97.7%**

Conducting

- Doped graphene: sheet resistance ~ **30 Ω /sq**

Stretchable and conformable

- Can withstand up to ~ **25%** strain

Environmentally stable and bio-compatible

- Compatible with **skin, myocardial and neuronal cells**

Liquid Phase Exfoliation

Solvent



Natural/synthetic
Graphite



Graphene ink



Ultrasonic, shear mixing

Shear forces enable exfoliation

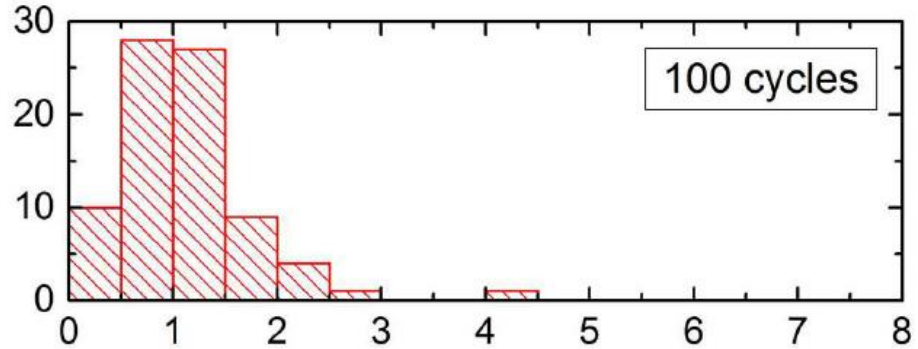
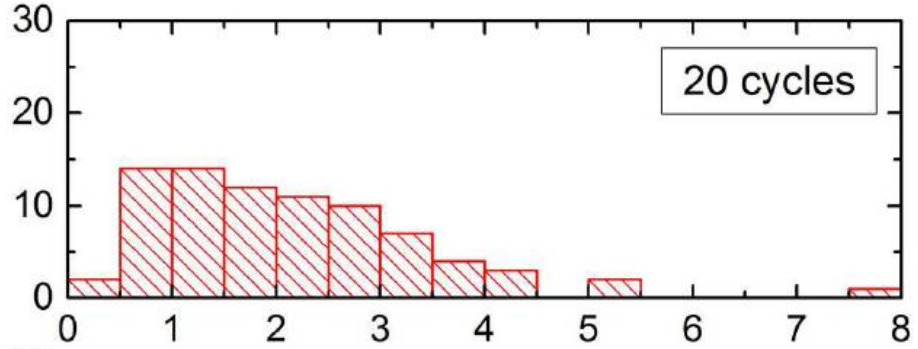
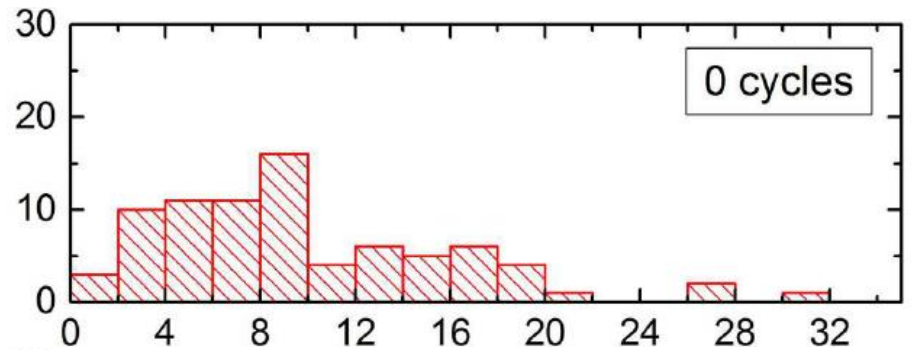
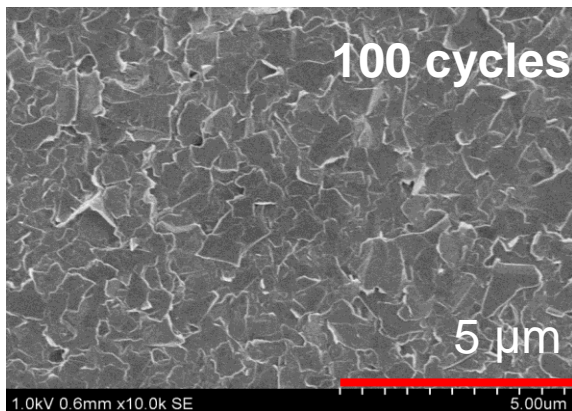
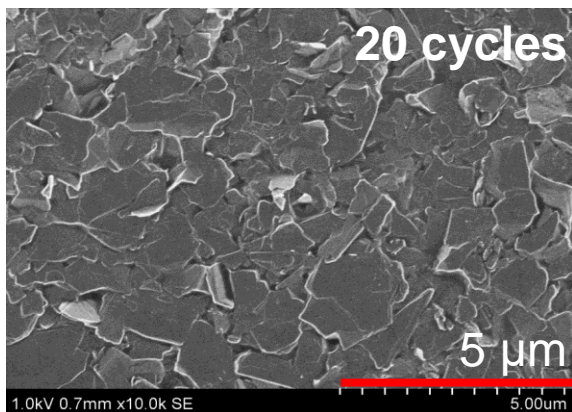
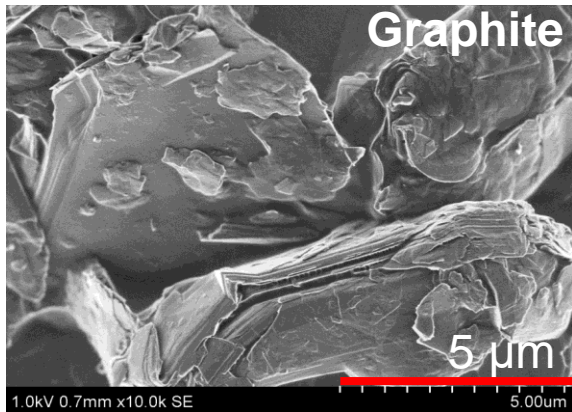
F. Torrisci *et al.* ACS Nano (2012)

T. Hasan, F. Torrisci *et al.* Phys. Stat. Sol. B (2010)

Y. Hernandez *et al.*, Nature nanotechnol. (2008)

F. Torrisci *et al.* Nature nanotechnol. (2014)

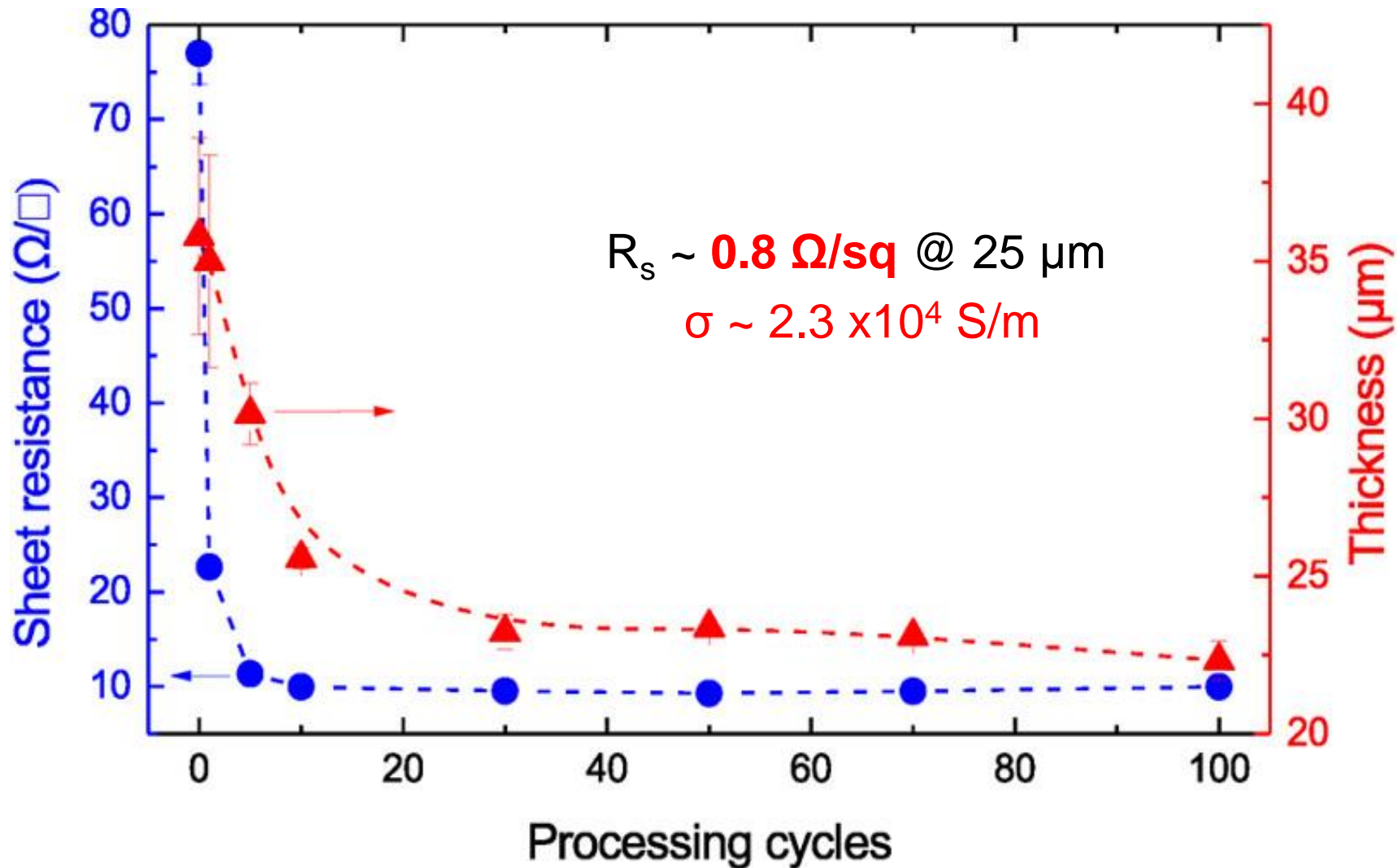
Microfluidic exfoliation of GNP - SEM



Lateral size (μm)

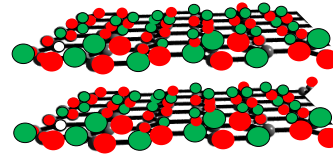
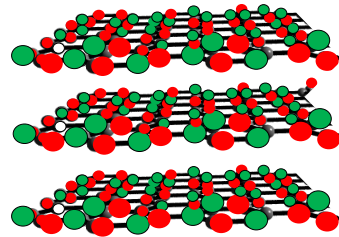
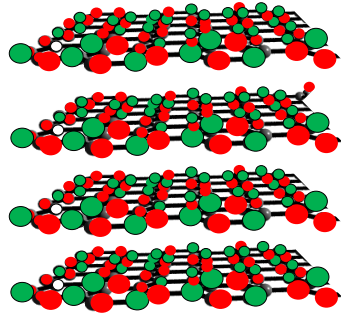
Single layer graphene flakes yield ~ 40%

Conductivity of graphene ink vs exfoliation

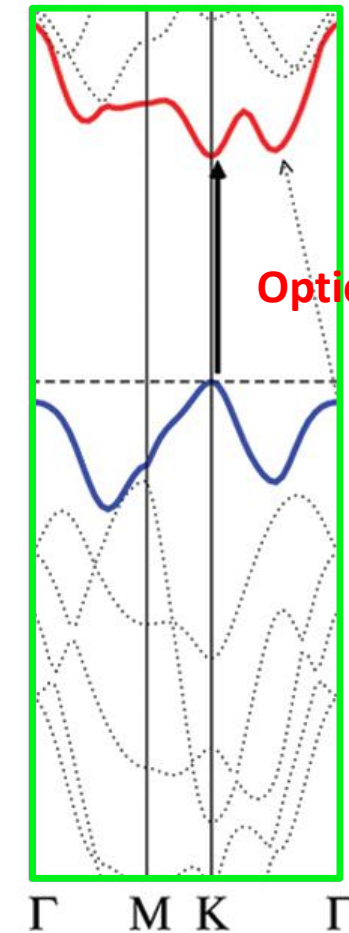
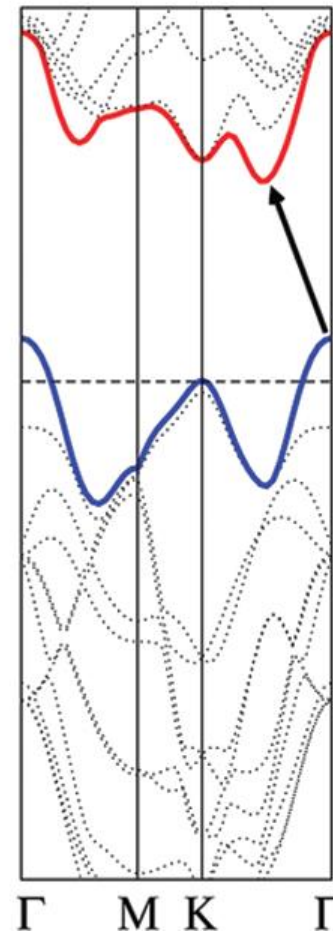
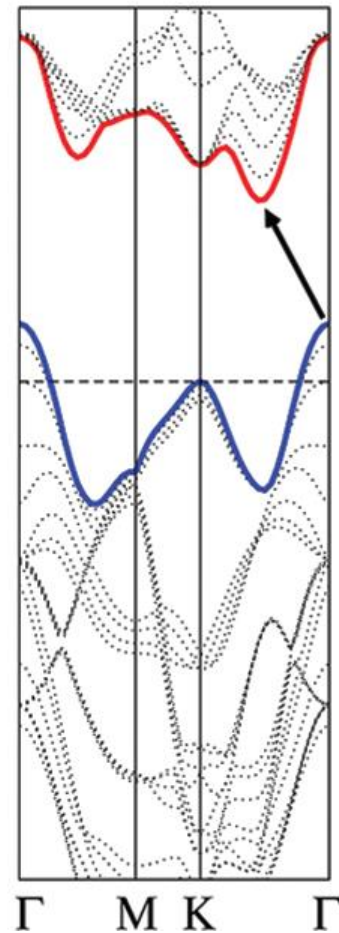
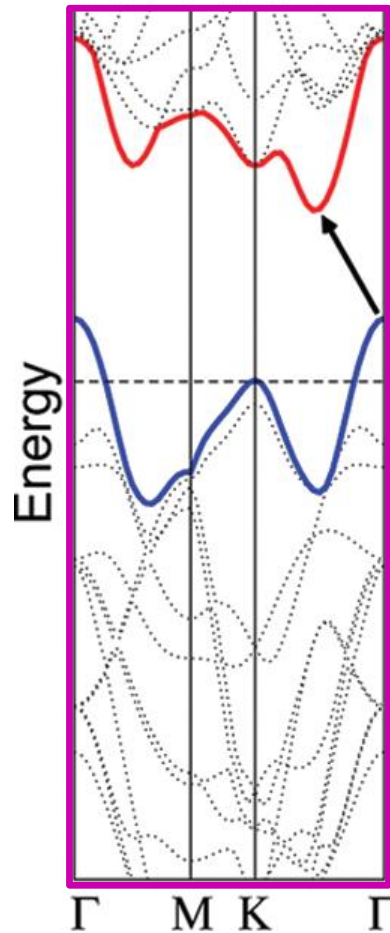
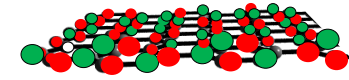


Conductivity of graphene inks is **controlled by the exfoliation** via the **aspect ratio of the flakes**

Layered materials



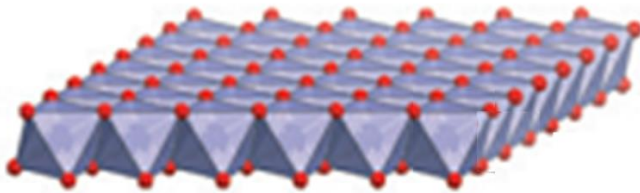
MoS₂, MoSe₂
WS₂, WSe₂ etc.



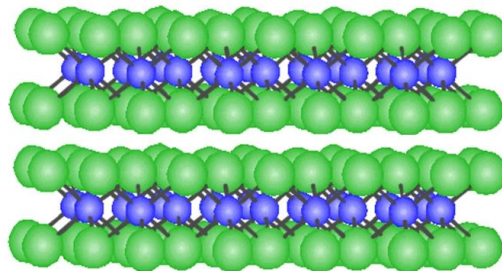
Graphene inks production rate



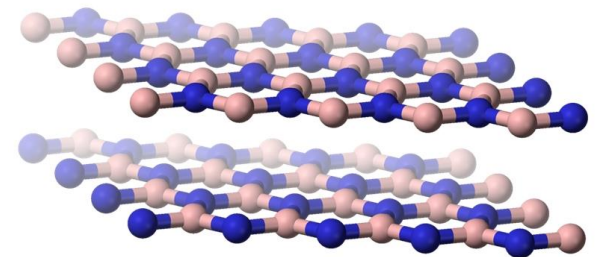
Paton *et al.* Nature Mater. (2014)



Metal Oxides



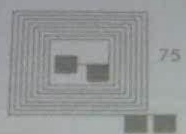
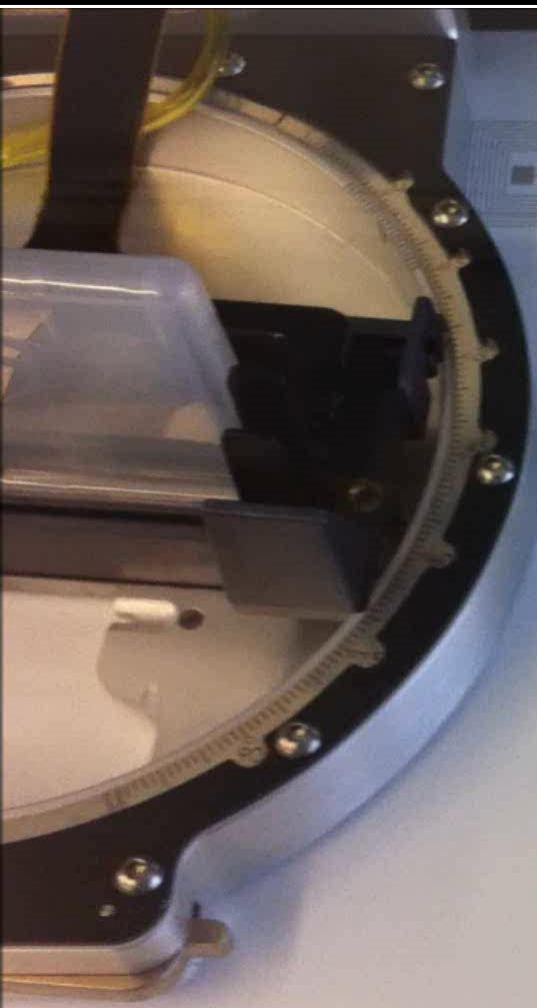
Metal chalcogenides



Boron Nitride

Application:

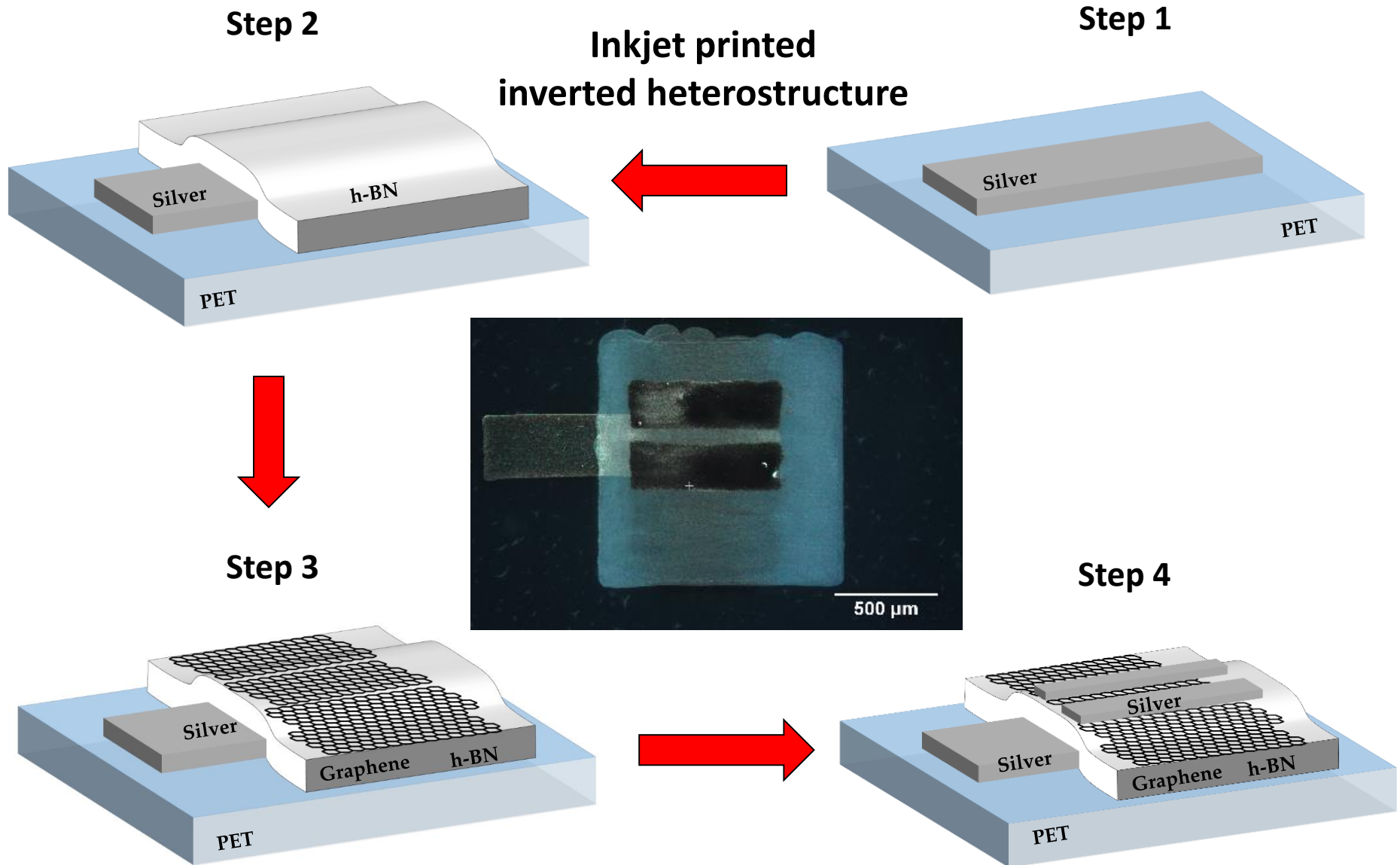
Inkjet printed large area electronics



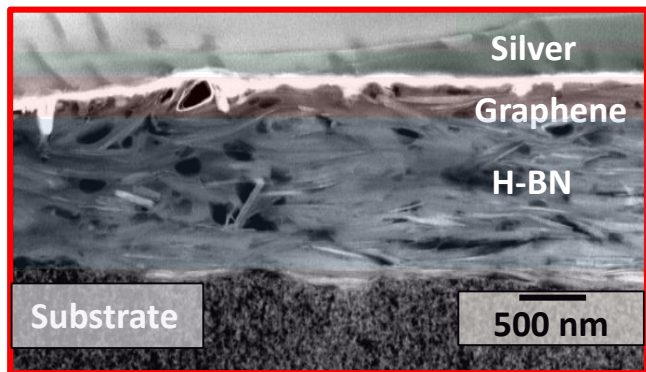
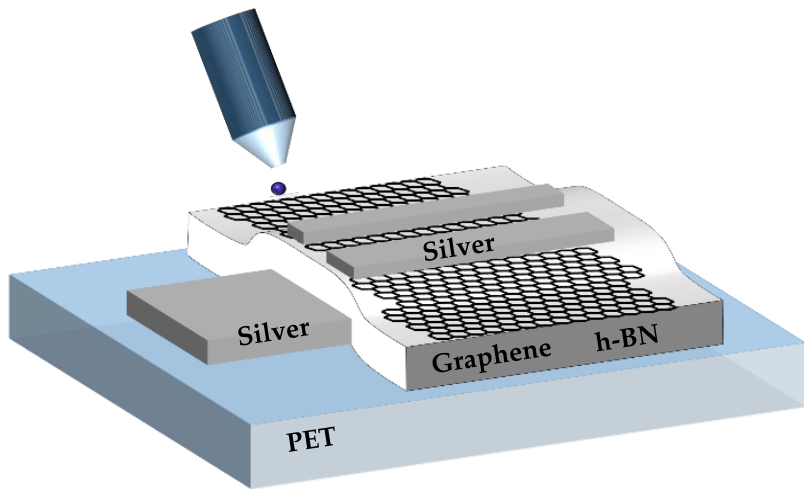
UNIVERSITY OF
CAMBRIDGE



All ink-jet printed graphene/h-BN field effect transistors

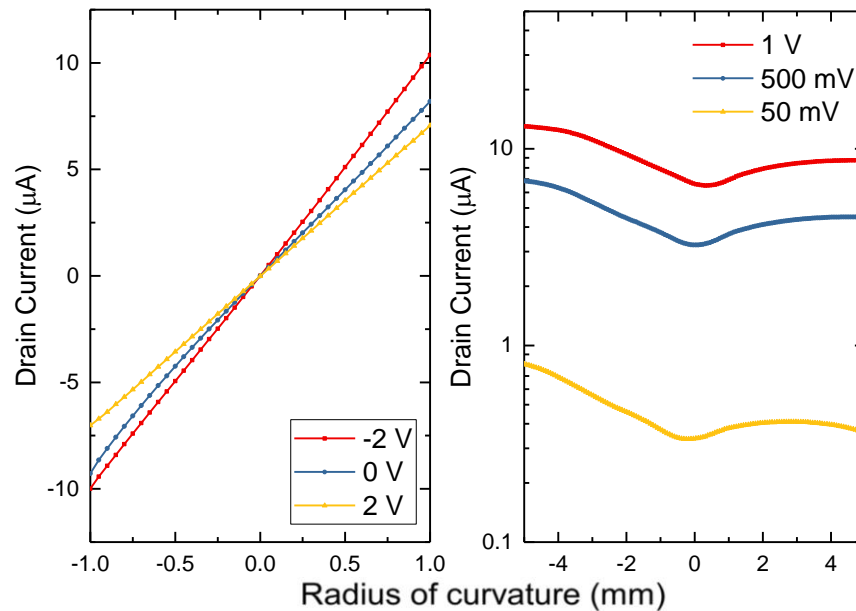


Graphene/h-BN field effect transistors: I-V characteristics

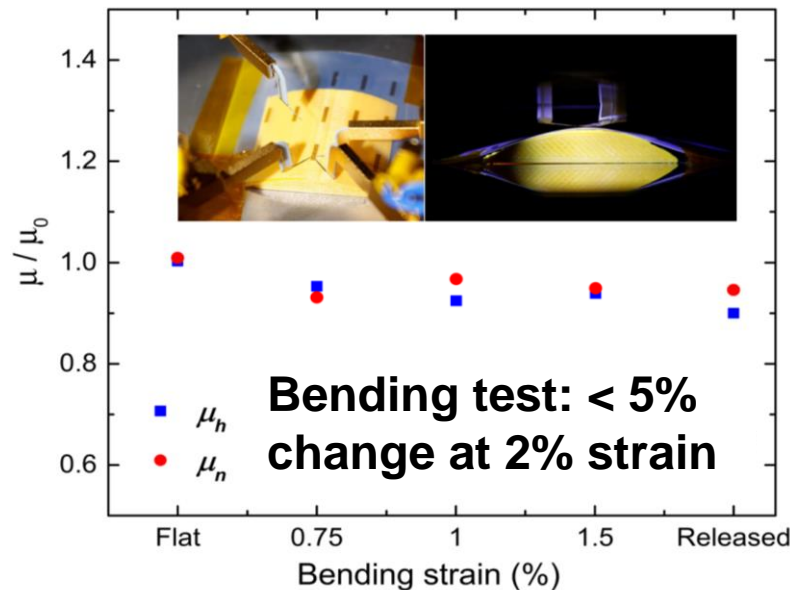


Output Characteristic

Transfer Characteristic



Flat 10 7.5 5 Released



$L = 50 \mu\text{m}$, $W = 580 \mu\text{m}$

Mobility (hole) $\sim 150 \pm 18 \text{ cm}^2\text{V}^{-1}\text{s}^{-1}$

ON/OFF ratio ~ 2.5

Power consumption $< 10 \text{ uW}$

Room temperature operation

T. Carey *et al.* Nature Comms (2017)

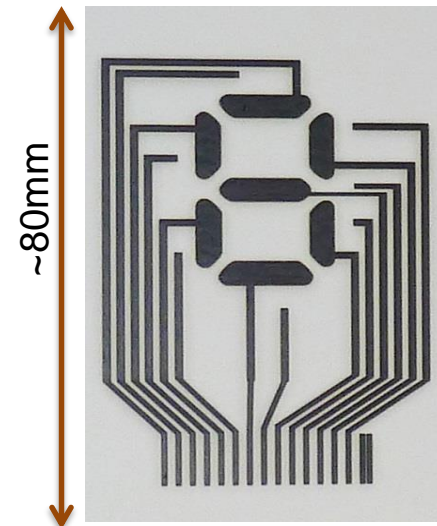
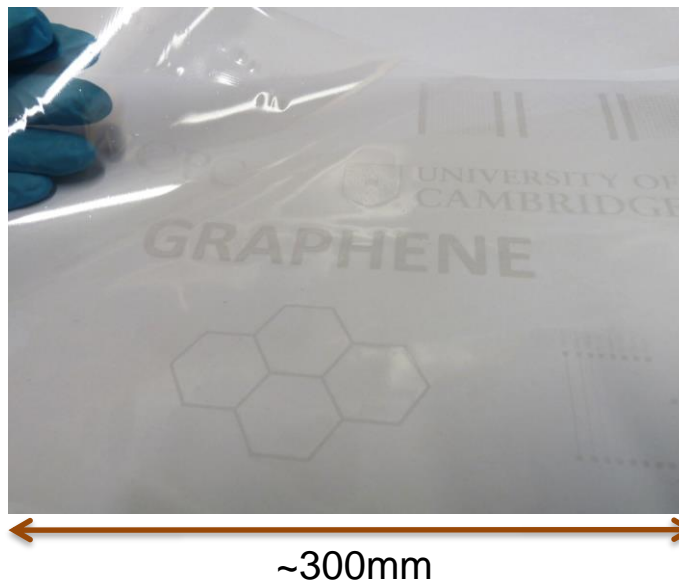
Graphene Printing on Flexible Substrates

- Printed electronics over large area

F. Torrisi *et al.* ACS Nano (2012)

F. Torrisi *et al.* Nature Nanotech. (2014)

P. Karagiannidis *et al.* ACS Nano (2017)

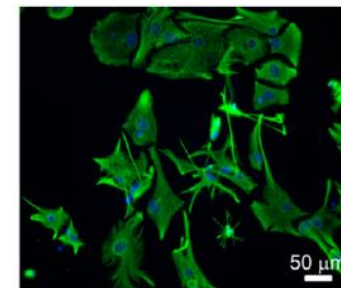
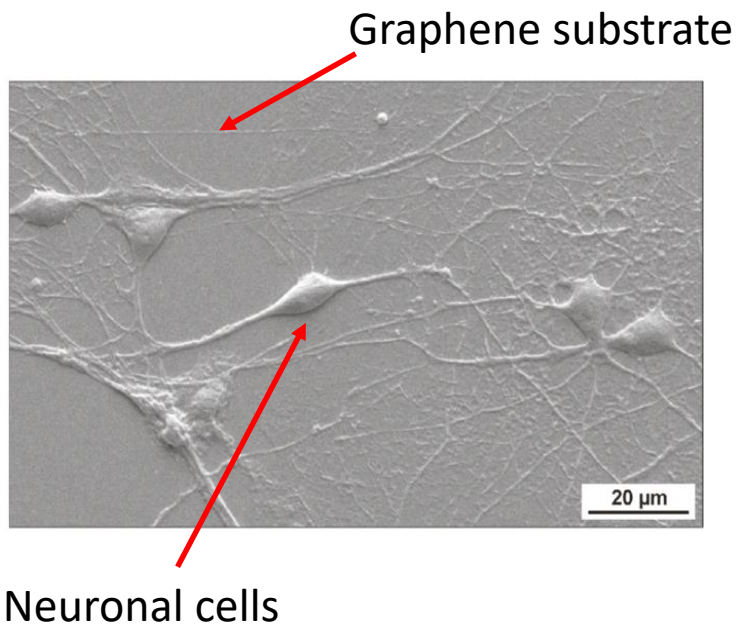


- Bio-compatible

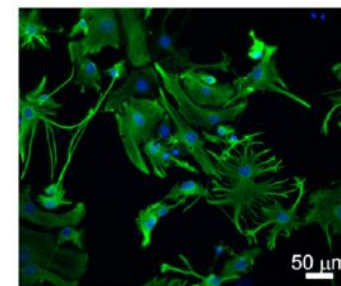
F. Fabbro *et al.* ACS Nano (2016)

McManus *et al.* Nature Nanotech. (2016)

Tested also with
skin cells and
myocardial cells



Control



Graphene substrate

Inkjet printing on textiles



Inkjet printing on polyester or cotton fabric

**Washable
Flexible**



**Design of an adhesion process of
graphene ink on fabric**

Engineering adhesion of graphene flakes on cotton

Positively charge induction on cotton



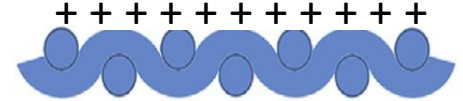
Cotton fabric



3-chloro-2-hydroxypropyltrimethylammonium chloride (CHPTAC) + NaOH



Cationic modification



Positively charged cotton fabric

Negatively charged graphene



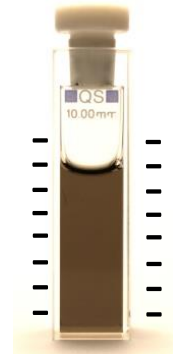
Graphene dispersion

$\text{H}_2\text{SO}_4 + \text{H}_3\text{PO}_4 + \text{KMnO}_4$
stirred at 50°C



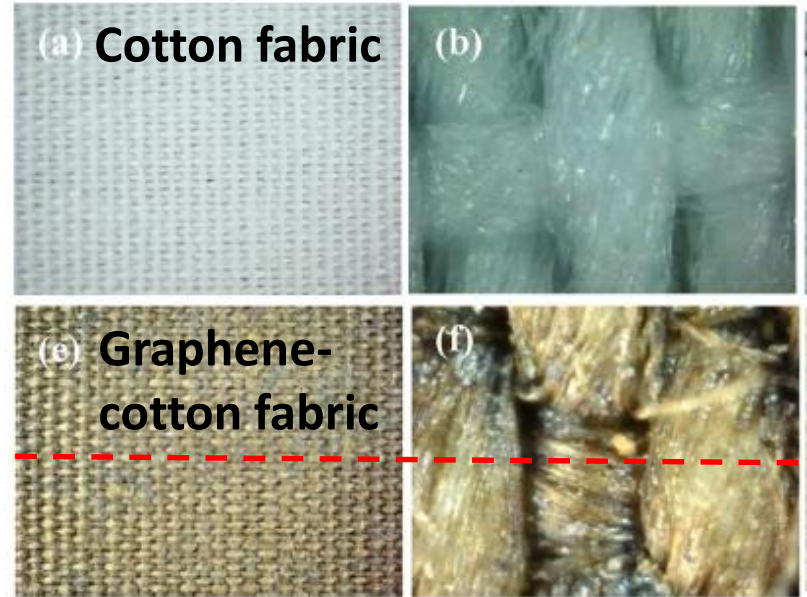
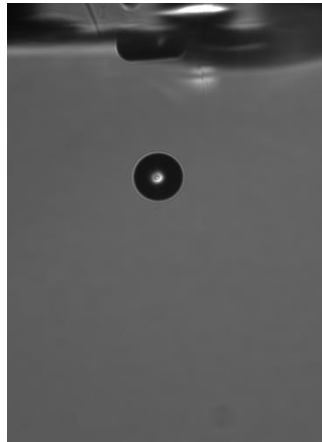
Graphene oxide

Rinsing in ice bath
with $\text{H}_2\text{O}_2 + \text{HCl}$

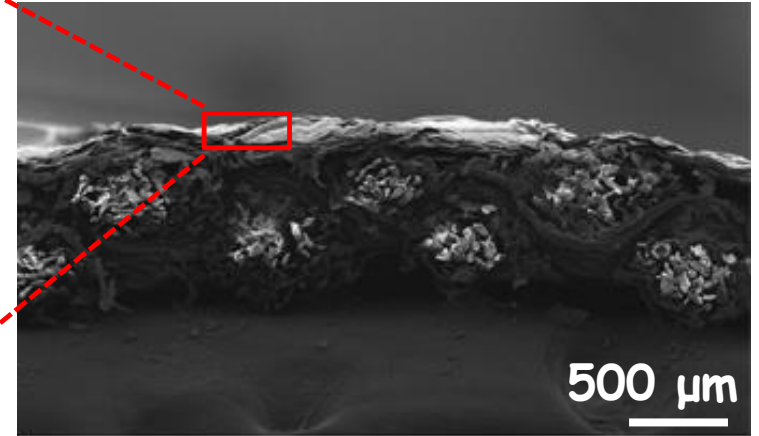
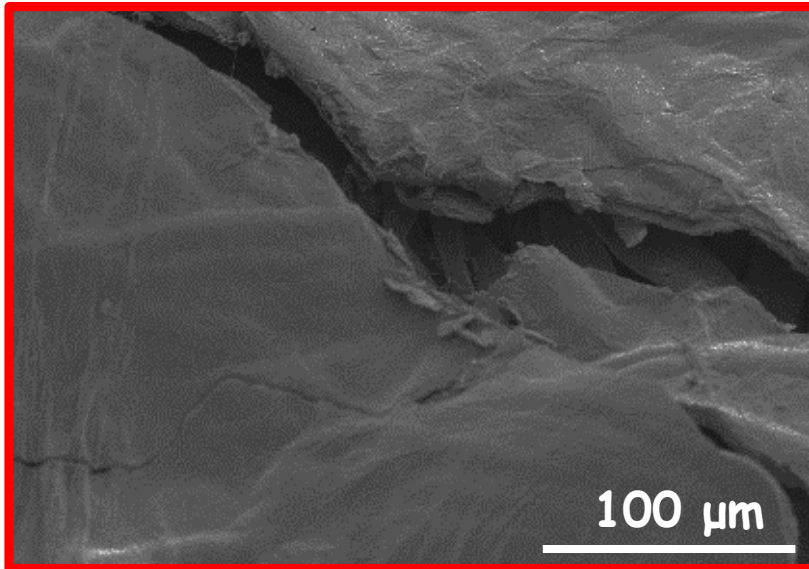


Negatively charged graphene oxide ink

Inkjet-printed graphene-based electronic textiles



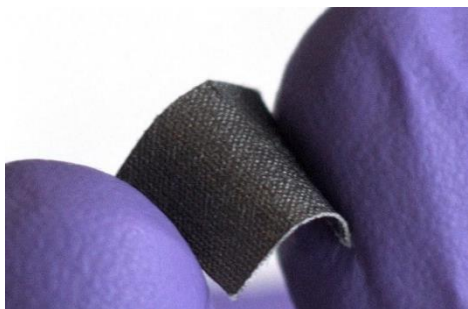
Hot press
reduction
@ 120°C



Graphene-cotton fabric

Electronic textiles:
Graphene-cotton motion sensor

Graphene-cotton motion sensor fabric



Designed and manufactured to be **highly sensitive to strain** and compression (gauge factor > 1500)

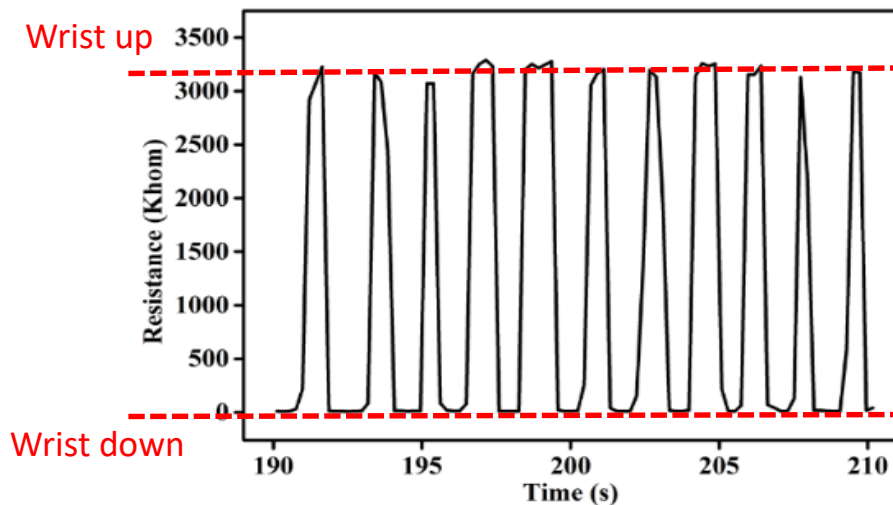
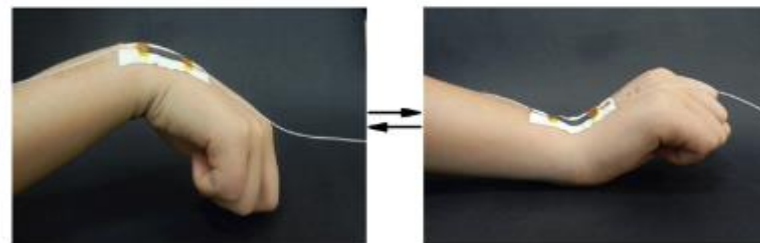
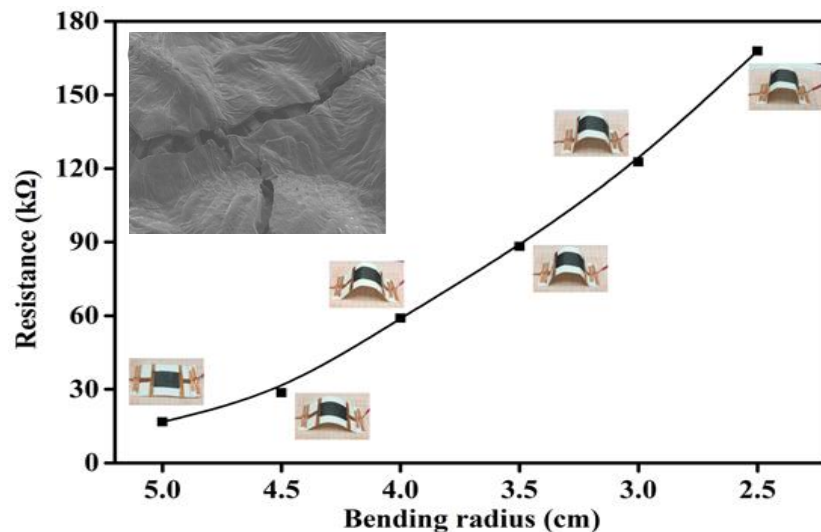
Graphene-cotton motion sensor

Linear relationship used to monitor the motion of the wrist in a wearable wristband

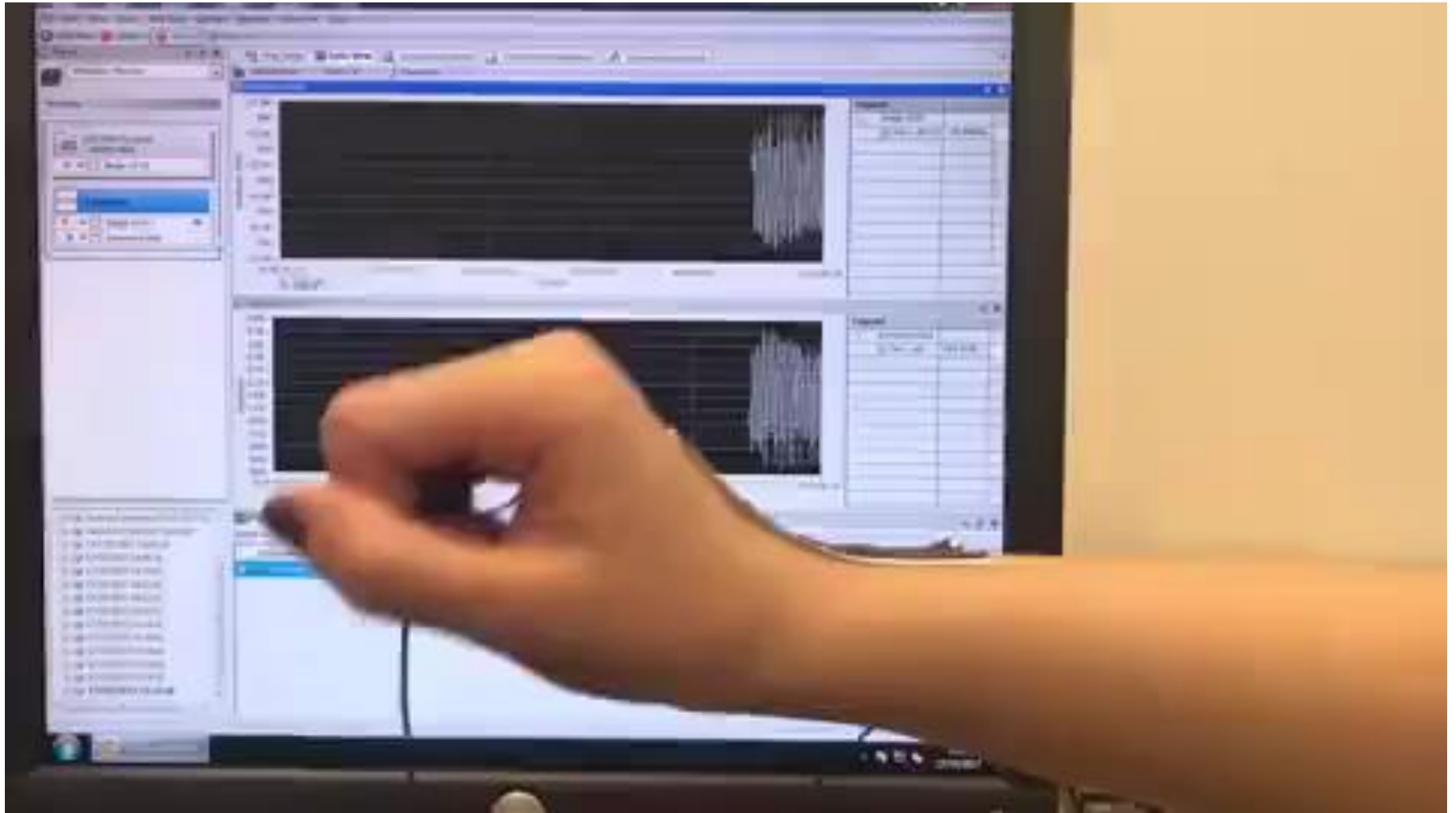


Pressure or motion sensors

J. Ren et al., Carbon, 111,622 (2017)

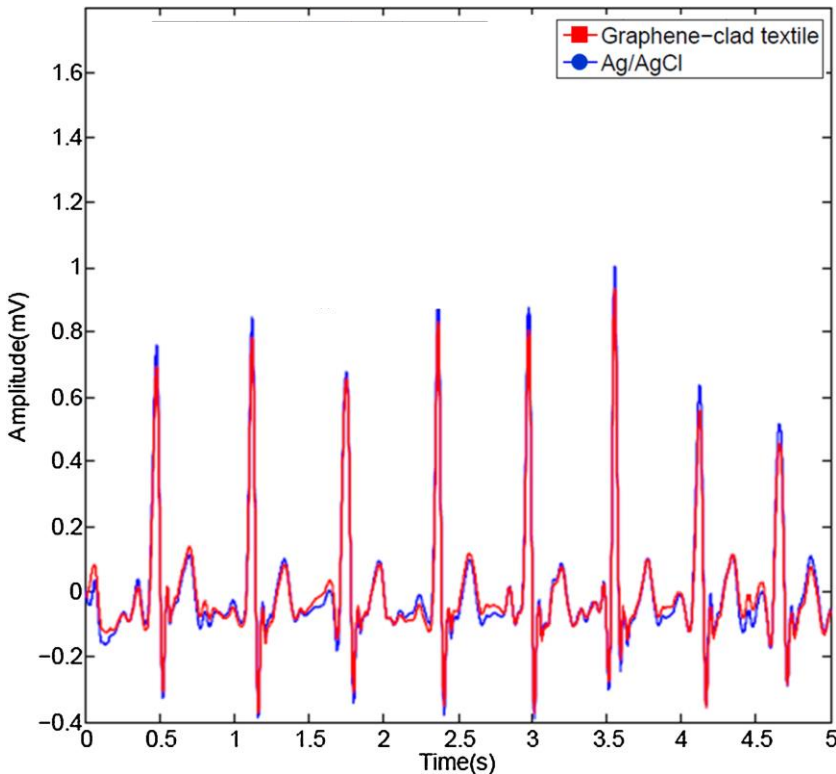
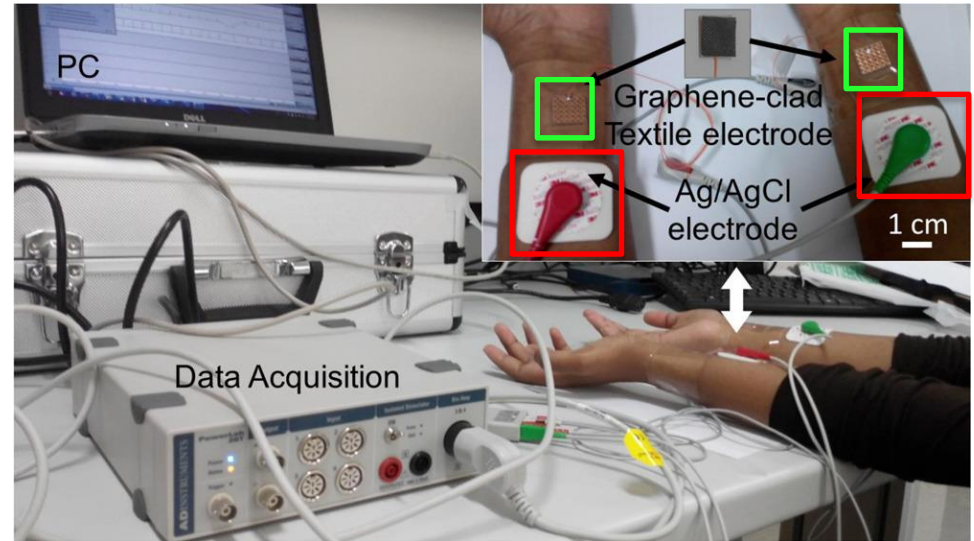


Graphene-cotton motion sensor fabric



Stable for more than 20 washing cycles!!

Graphene-cotton fabric for ECG electrodes



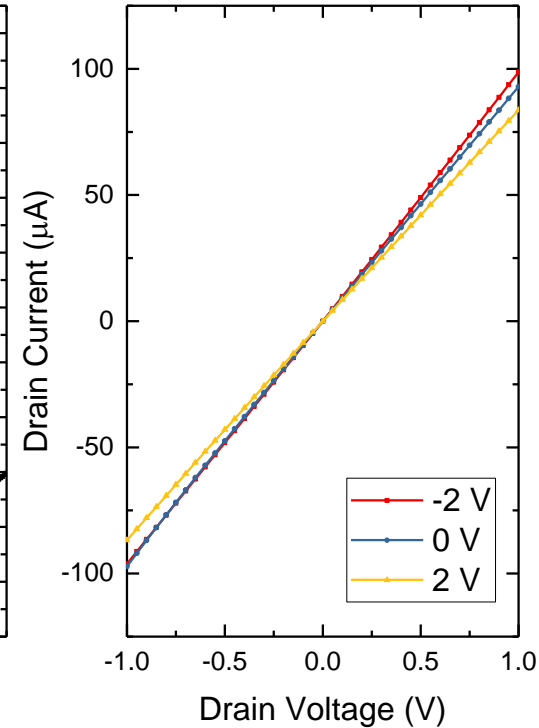
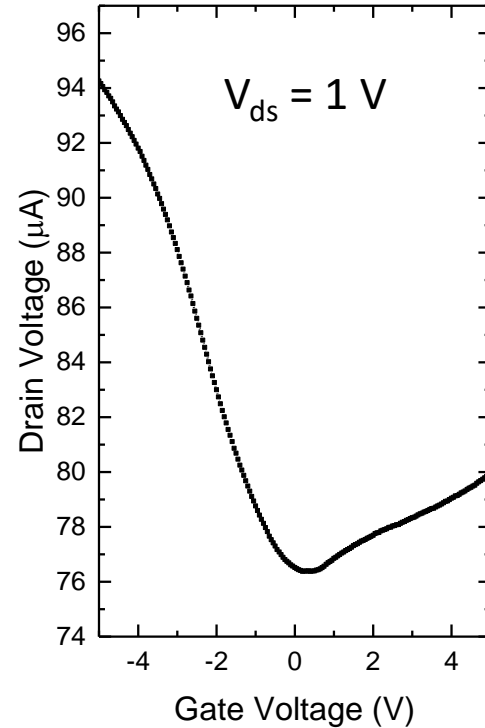
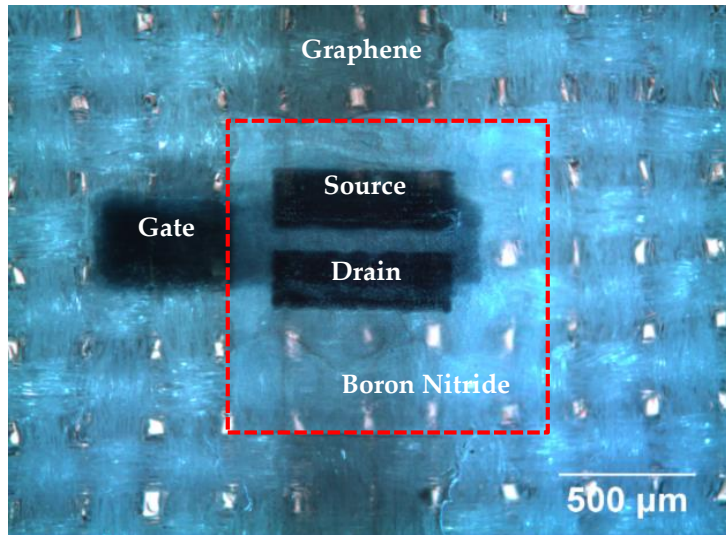
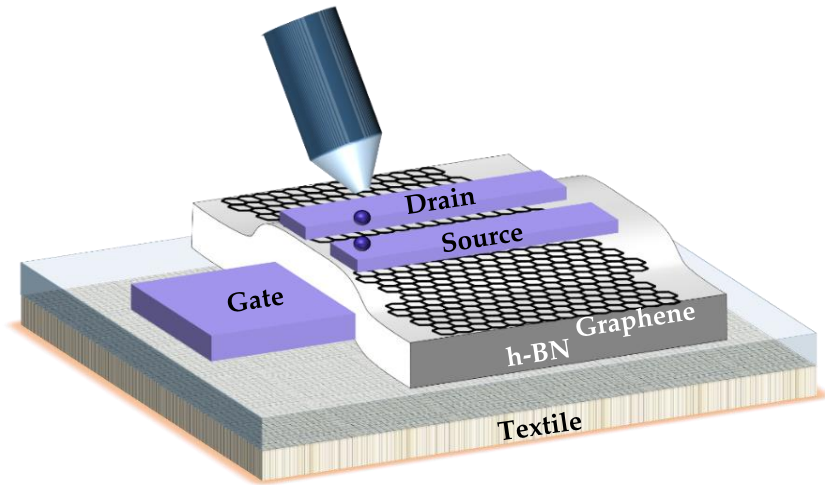
In collaboration with

MRC | Epidemiology Unit

- **Stable** ECG signal (5000 cycles)
- **Stretchable**
- **Bio-compatible**
- **Washable**
- **Power consumption** < 10 μ W
- **Operation in ambient conditions**

Smart electronic textiles:
Inkjet printed circuits on textiles

Inkjet printing a wearable field-effect transistor on textile



Mobility $\sim 105 \text{ cm}^2\text{V}^{-1}\text{s}^{-1}$

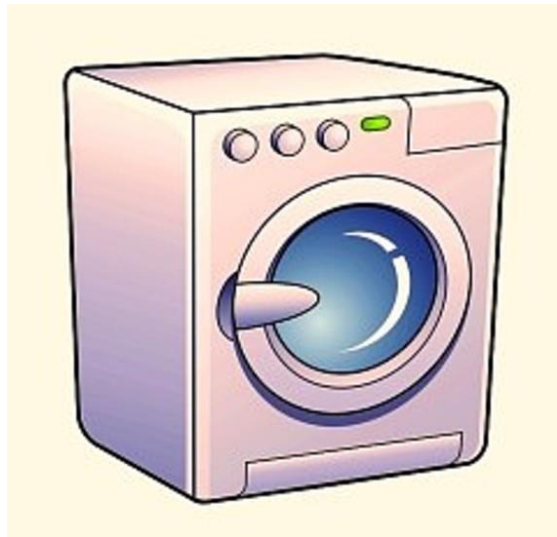
ON/OFF ~ 2.5

Power consumption $< 10 \text{ uW}$

Operation in ambient condition

Graphene field effect transistor on textile: washing, bending

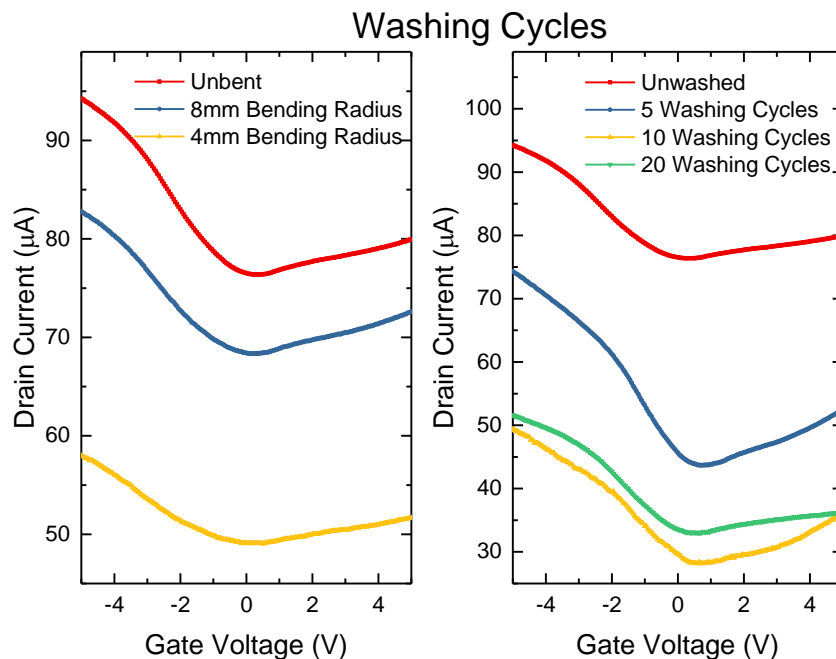
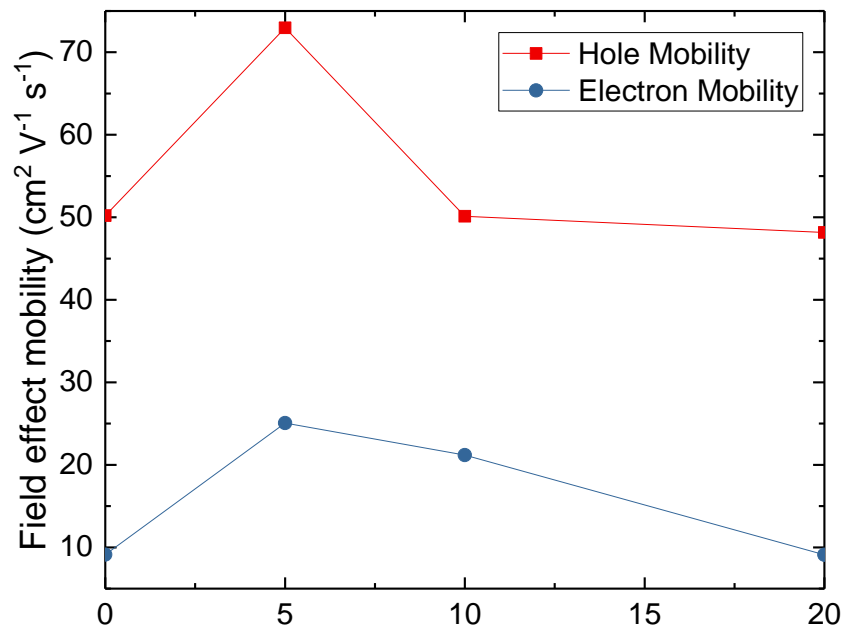
Washing test (ISO 9001):
30 min, 60°C, washing powder (cholates)



Washable > 20 washing cycles
Bending test: $\Delta\mu \sim 10\%$ at 4% strain



T. Carey et al., Nature comms (2017)

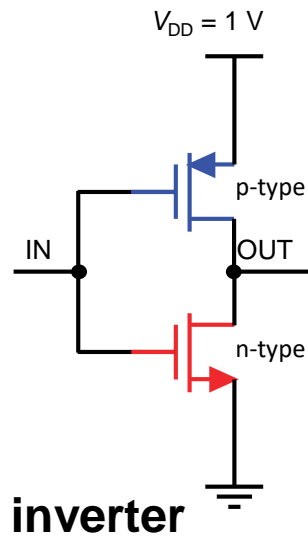
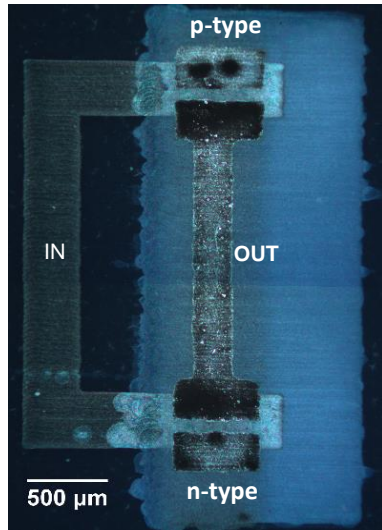


Ink-jet printed 2d material FET on textiles

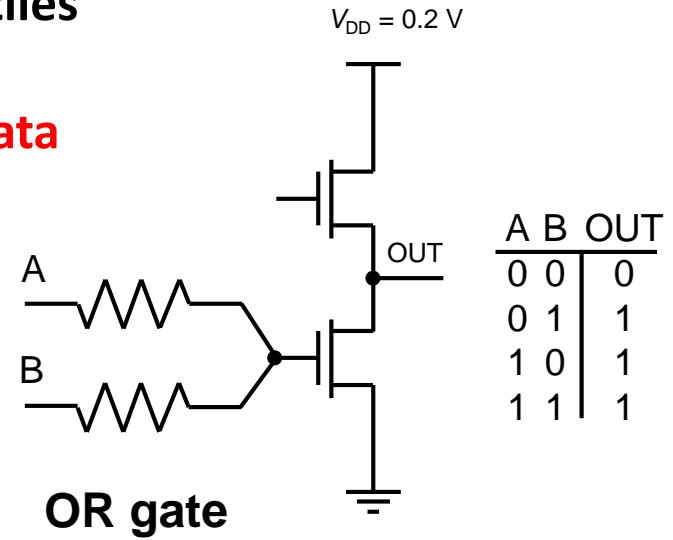
Design of printed integrated circuits in textiles

Truly smart textiles

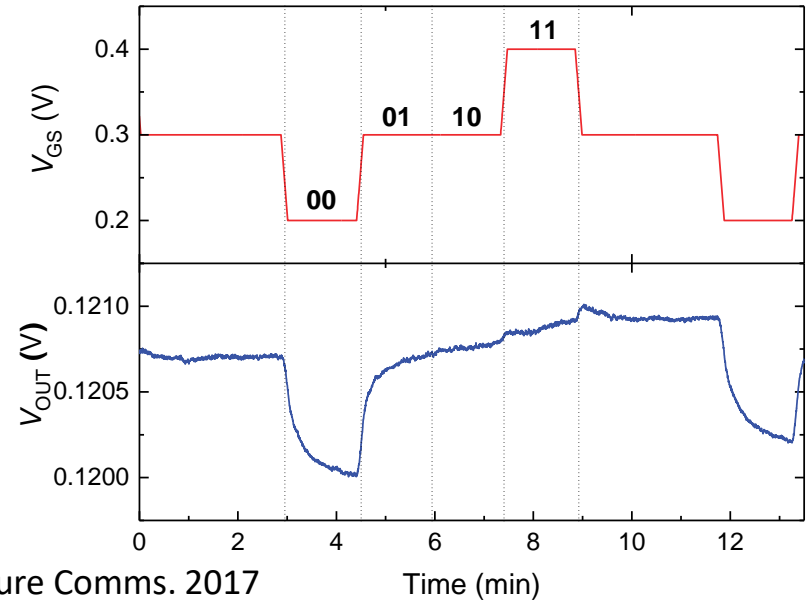
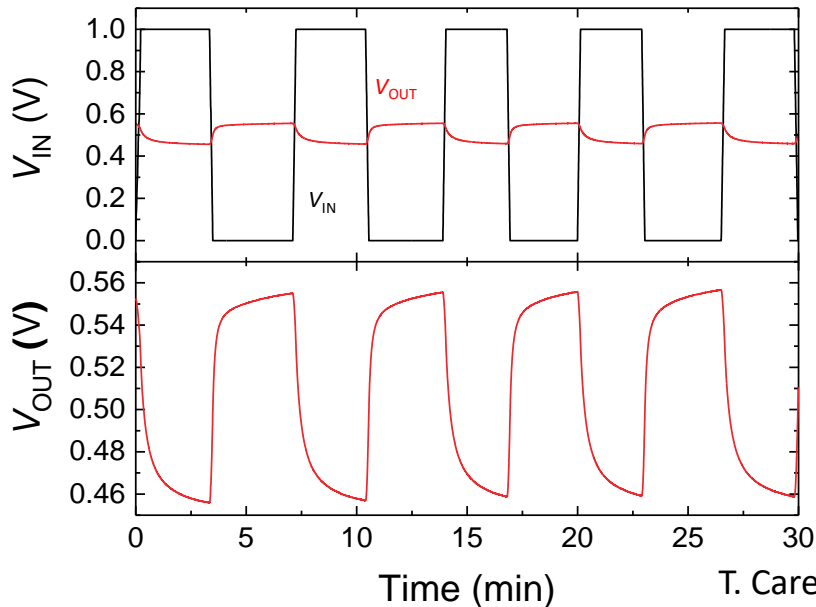
- Sense data
- Manage the data



inverter



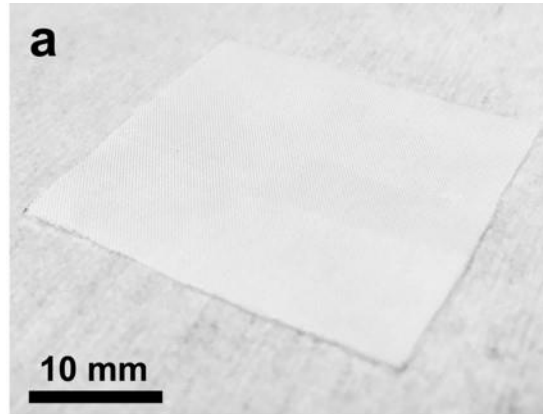
OR gate



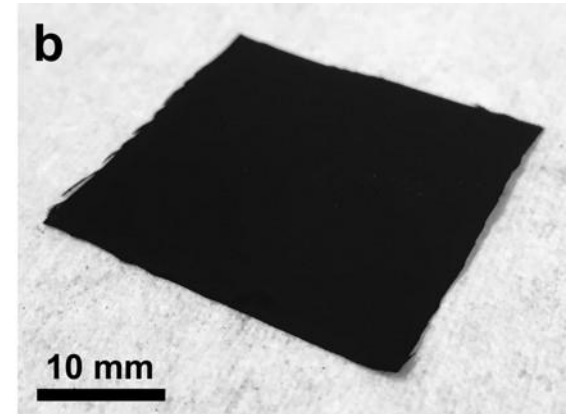
Charge storage textiles:
Textile-based capacitors

Graphene and h-BN polyester fabrics

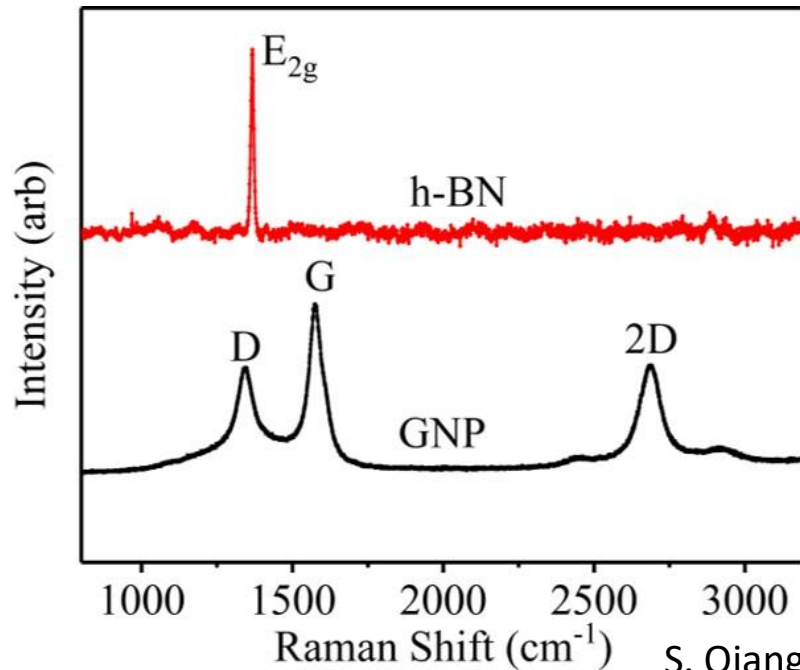
Dip and dry process



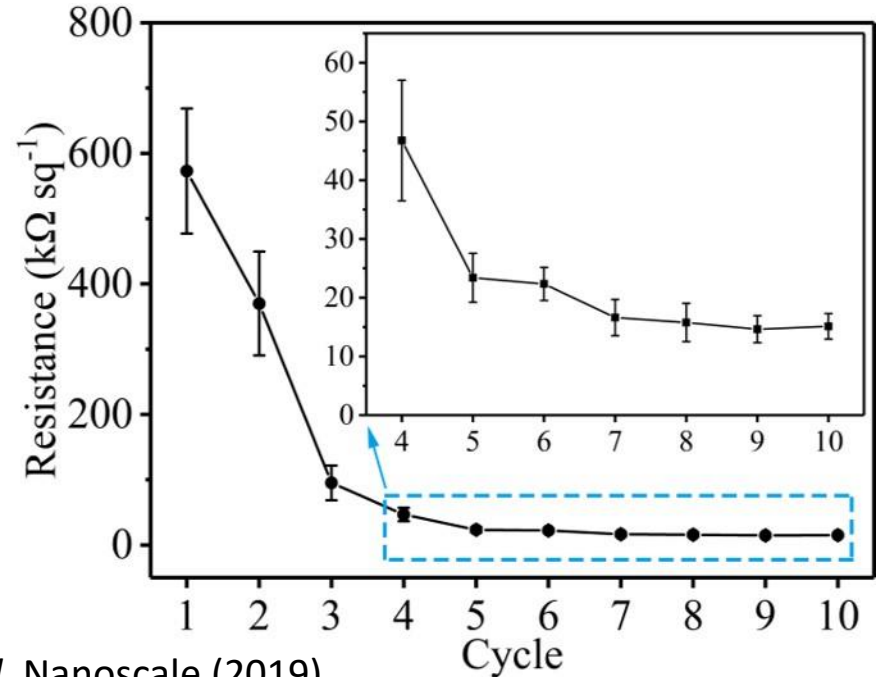
h-BN/polyester fabric



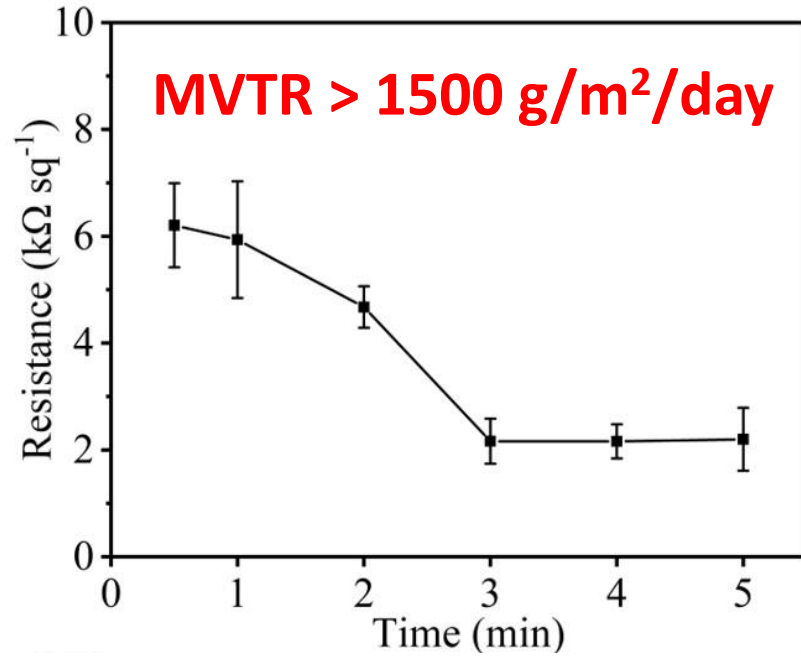
graphene/polyester fabric



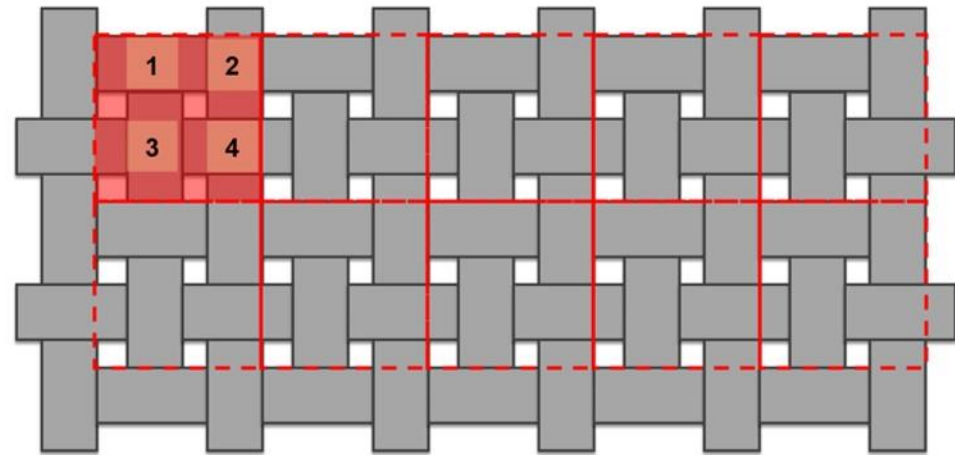
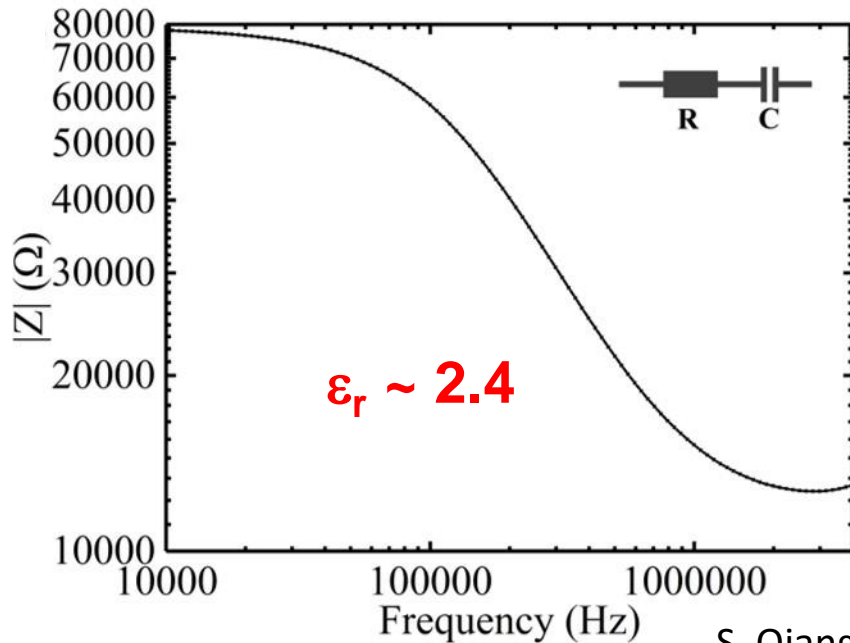
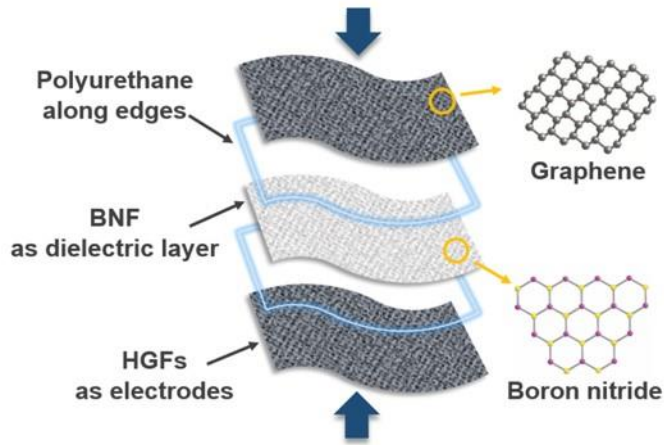
S. Qiang *et al.* Nanoscale (2019)



Superhydrophobic behaviour of the graphene-cotton fabric



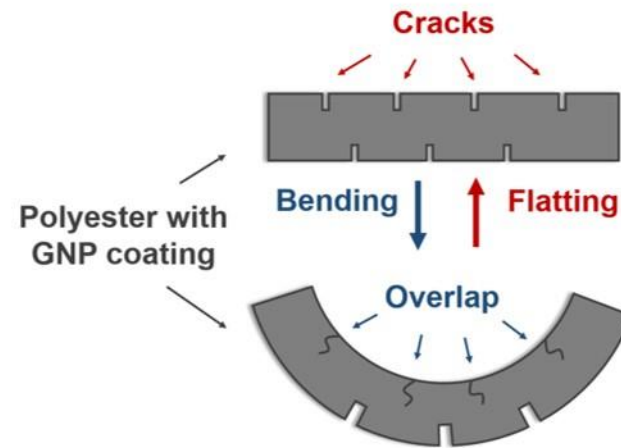
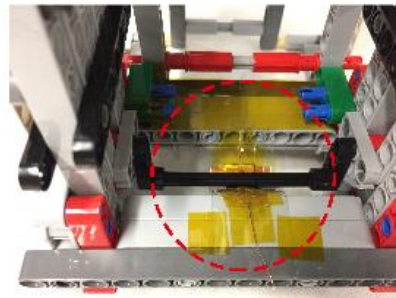
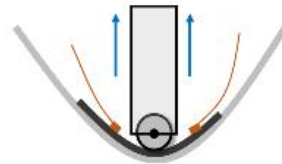
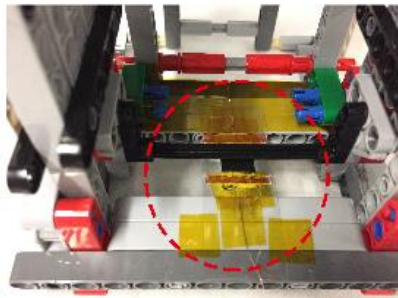
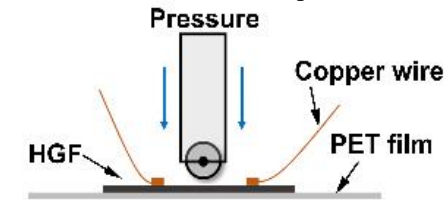
Graphene/h-BN heterostructure textile capacitor



Capacitance ~ 50 nF/cm²

Graphene/h-BN heterostructure capacitor

One-point bending test



Conclusions

- **2D material inks as a viable platform for electronic textiles**
- **Chemically modified graphene and cotton fabric for inkjet printed graphene-based washable electronic textiles**
- **Suitable as electrodes and heaters on fabric**
- **Paves the way to fibre-based optoelectronics and sensors**

Thanks to

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L. Occhipinti

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J. Ren

S. Qiang

C. Wang

Y. Yin

X. Ji

Politecnico di Torino

E. Piatti

R. Gonnelli

Politecnico di Milano

A. Mansouri

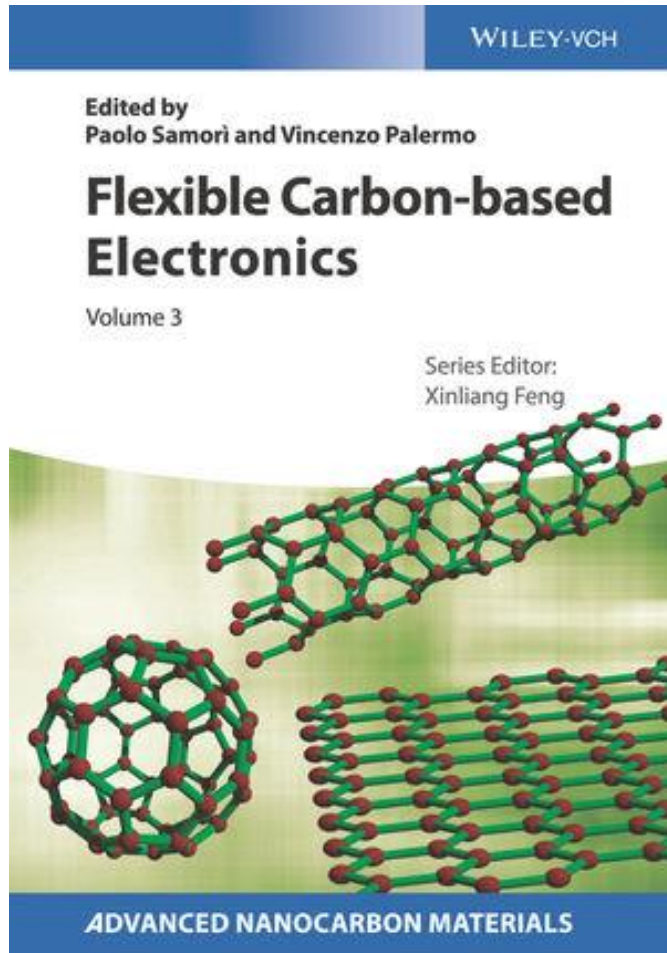
R. Sordan

Acknowledgements



GRAPHENE FLAGSHIP

Printing 2D materials



6

Printing 2D Materials

Felice Torrisi and Tian Carey

University of Cambridge, Cambridge Graphene Centre, Cambridge CB3 0FA, UK

6.1 Introduction

Ever-evolving advances in materials synthesis, solution processing, and device design have fueled many of the developments in the field of printed electronics. This technique has progressed from printing text and graphics [1] to a tool for rapid manufacturing [2], being now a well-established technique to print thin-film transistors (TFTs) [3–5], light-emitting diodes [6, 7], photodetectors [8, 9], photovoltaic cells [10, 11], sensors [12, 13], and photonic devices [14, 15]. New device integration processes combining flexible and

Washable and wearable electronic textiles enabled by two-dimensional materials

Felice Torrisi

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(now Department of Chemistry, Imperial College London, UK)