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Multi-channel Nonlinear Interactions in Practical Graphene Components

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**METANANO
2020**

Poster
Session VII,
F1.7

Introduction

Graphene Properties

Theory framework

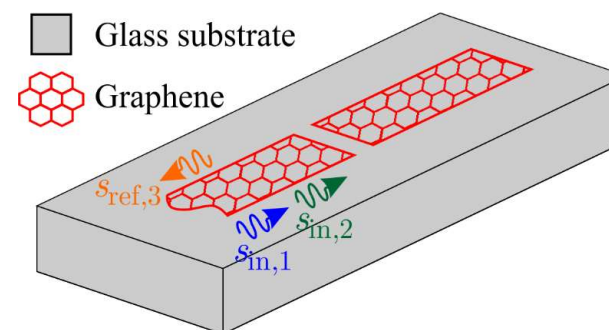
Four-wave mixing

Saturable Absorption

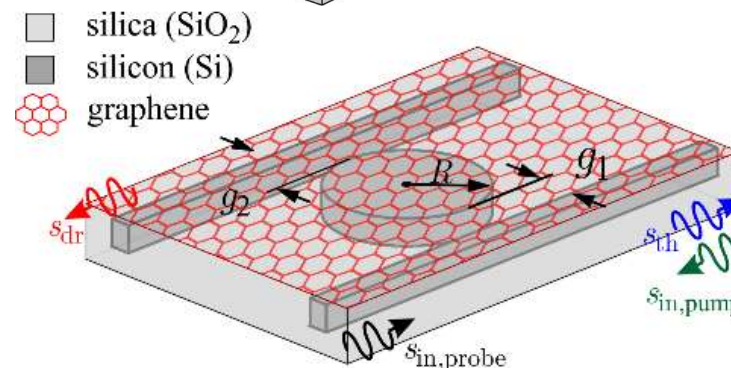
Conclusion

Scope and Motivation

- Graphene as nonlinear material in integrated photonics
- High third-order nonlinearity from THz to NIR and low I_{sat}
- Practical graphene components with low power requirements and high performance
- Multi-channel processes for high functionality
 - Four-wave mixing for frequency generation
 - Saturable absorption for routing and switching
- Develop efficient perturbation/coupled-mode theory framework for 2D conductive materials and graphene
 - Extra stored energy in *dispersive* graphene
 - Electric and magnetic energies *not* equal on resonance



- Graphene micro-ribbon
- Glass substrate
- Tight plasmons
- FWM at 5 THz



- Graphene on Si disk structure
- SOI substrate
- Sat. Absorption
- Routing at 1.55um



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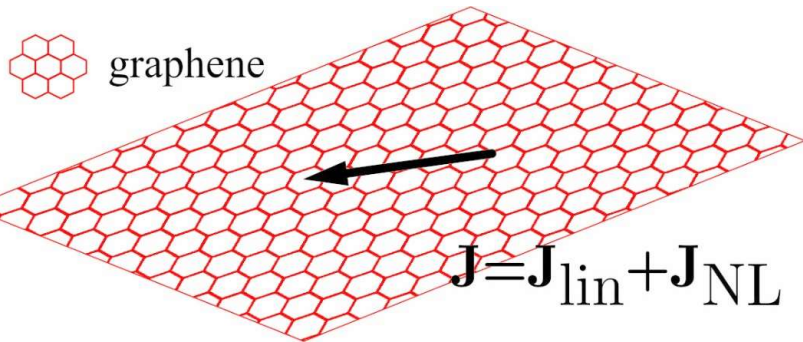
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Graphene as an infinitesimally-thin current sheet with linear and nonlinear contributions



Linear current: conductivity saturates (SA)

$$\mathbf{J}_{\text{lin}} = \sigma_1 \mathbf{E}_{\parallel}$$

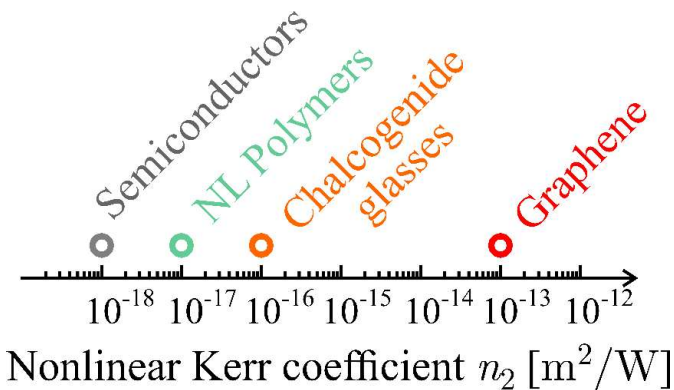
$$\text{Re}\{\sigma_1(\mathbf{E}_{\parallel})\} \propto 1/(1 + |\mathbf{E}_{\parallel}|^2/E_{\text{sat}}^2)$$

	Ref.	I_{sat}
NIR	Bao, Nano Res. 4, 297, 2011	1 MW/cm ²

Third-order nonlinear current

$$J_{\text{NL},\mu}(\omega_k + \omega_l + \omega_m) = \frac{1}{4} \sum_{\alpha\beta\gamma} \sigma_{\mu\alpha\beta\gamma}^{(3)} E_{k,\alpha} E_{l,\beta} E_{m,\gamma}$$

	Ref.	Surface conductivity σ_3 [S(m/V) ²]	Equivalent nonlinear index n_2 [m ² /W]
FIR	Mikhailov, <i>J. Phys.-Condes. Matter</i> 20 , 384204, 2008	$j1.3 \times 10^{-18}$	3×10^{-13}
NIR	Vermeulen, <i>Phys. Rev. Applied</i> 6 , 044006, 2016	$-j1.2 \times 10^{-20}$	-1×10^{-13}





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Efficient and Accurate Theoretical Framework

**Perturbation
Theory +
Temporal CMT**

**Linear Full-Wave
Simulations
(3D-VFEM)**

**Nonlinear
Optical Response**

Formulations for different phenomena and materials:

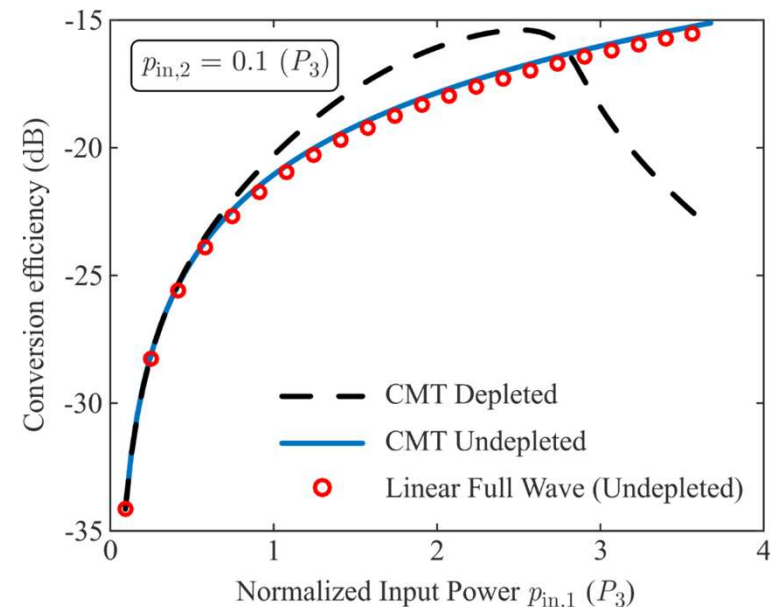
Tsilipakos, *J. Lightwave Technol.* **34**, 1333, 2016

Christopoulos, *Phys. Rev. E* **94**, 062219, 2016

Ataloglou, *Phys. Rev. A* **97**, 063836, 2018

Verification against full-wave nonlinear simulations

Christopoulos, *Phys. Rev. B*, **98**, 235421, 2018



- Excellent agreement in FWM conversion efficiency
- CMT allows for efficiently studying complex NL phenomena



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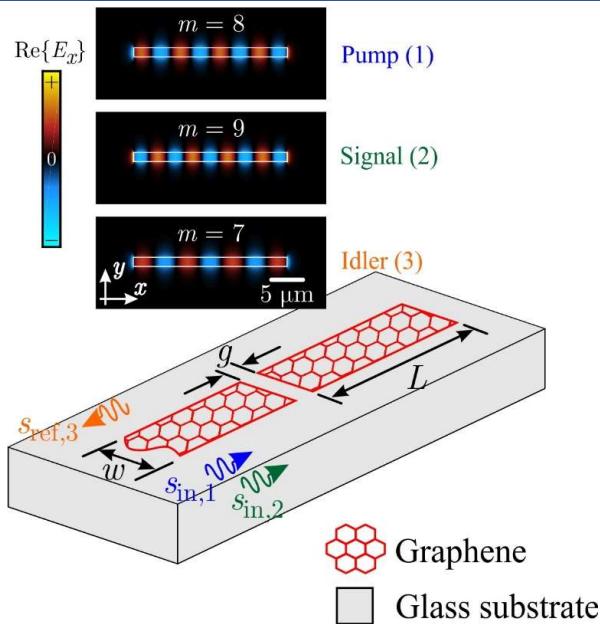
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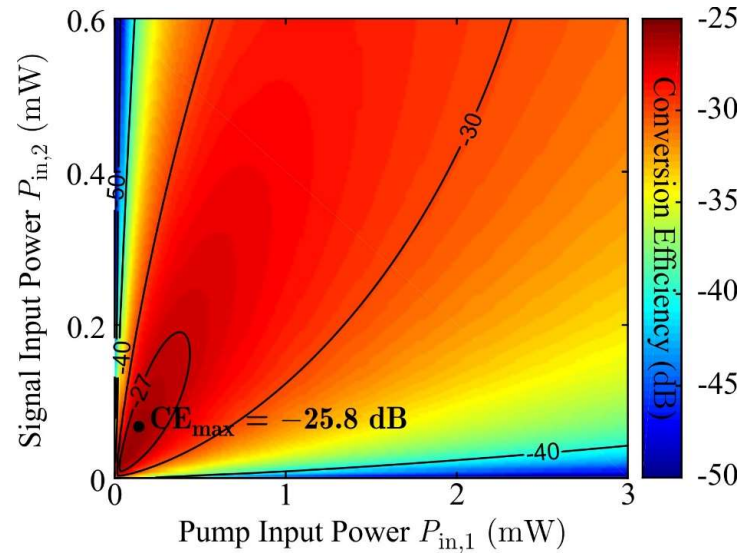
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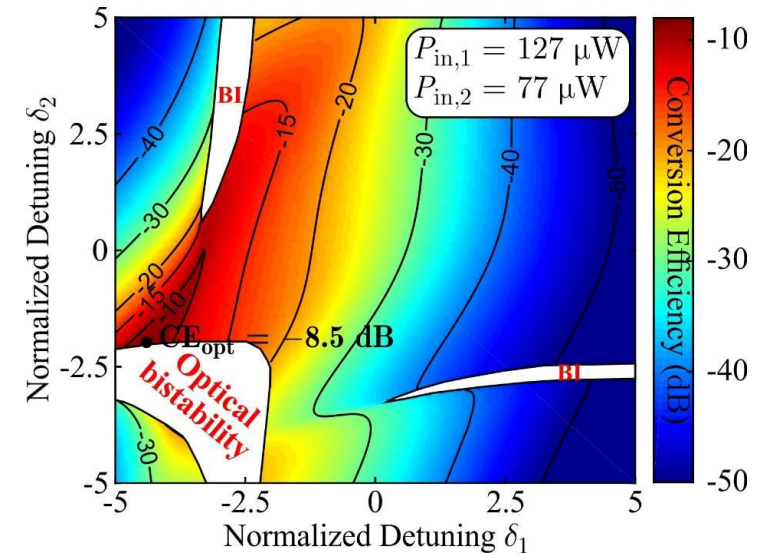
Efficient FWM at 5 THz by aligning pump and signal beams with the cavity resonances



- 1- μm -wide graphene ribbon
- Tight graphene plasmons
- Single-port, direct coupling



- **Pump** and **signal** at $m=8$ and $m=9$ modes
- Idler **not** exactly on $m=7$ due to dispersion
- $P_{\text{in},1} = 127 \mu\text{W}$, $P_{\text{in},2} = 77 \mu\text{W}$
- $\text{CE}_{\text{max}} = -25.8 \text{ dB}$



- Tune input frequencies
 - Counteract dispersion
 - Counteract Kerr shifts
- $\text{CE}_{\text{max}} = -8.5 \text{ dB (14\%)}$



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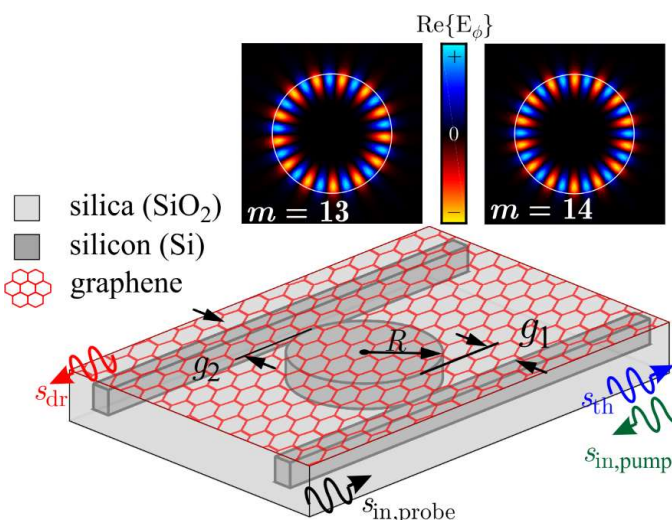
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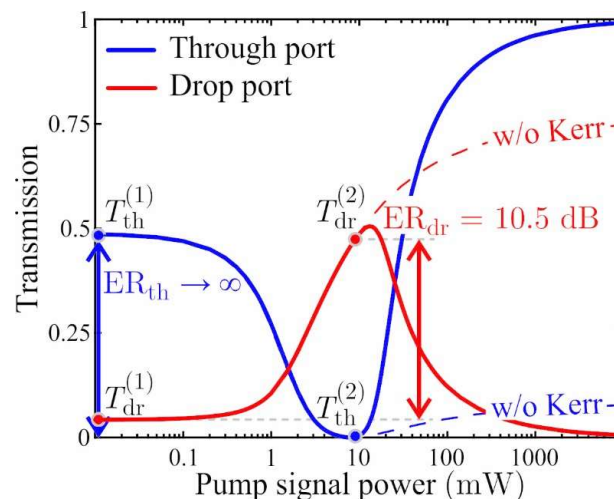
Saturable Absorption

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Graphene-covered add-drop Si disk for efficient routing via Saturable Absorption at NIR (1550 nm)

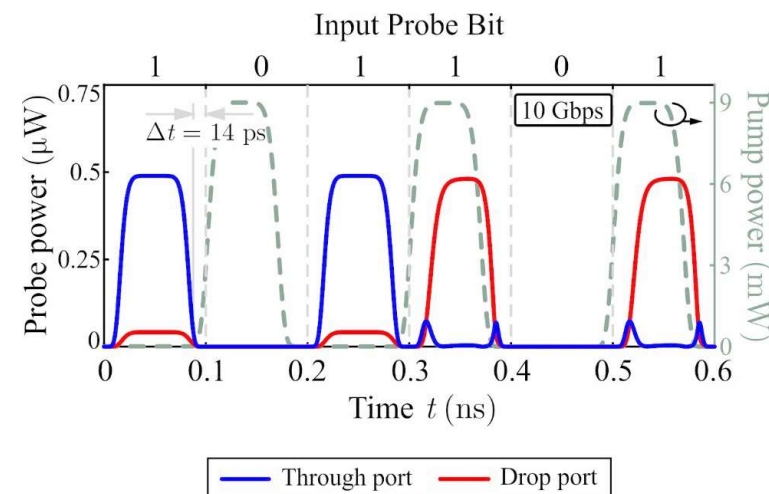


- Strong pump (re)routes weak signal
- Critical coupling condition under pump



CW operation

- Output to through and drop is power-dependent
- Low power requirements ($P_{\text{pump}} = 9 \text{ mW}$).
- $ER_{\text{th}} \rightarrow \infty$, $ER_{\text{dr}} = 10.5 \text{ dB}$
- Other nonlinearities appear for higher powers.



10 Gbps operation

- Perfect signal routing at 10Gbps
- Pump wave pulses should be applied 14 ps ahead to introduce the loss saturation effect in time



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1. Graphene shows potential as a nonlinear material from THz to NIR
2. Exploit multi-channel processes for functional photonic components: frequency generation, routing/switching, memory operation
3. Low power requirements and high performance demonstrated
4. Perturbation/coupled mode theory frameworks allow for efficient and accurate nonlinear response

For more info:

[Christopoulos, Ataloglou, Kriezis,
J. Appl. Phys. 127(22), 223102, 2020]

[Christopoulos, Tsilipakos, Kriezis,
J. Opt. Soc. Am. B 37(9), 2626, 2020]

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