



FLAG-ERA

*Kick-off meeting*

# Project **GraNitE**:

**Graphene heterostructures with Nitrides for  
high frequency Electronics**

Filippo Giannazzo

Consiglio Nazionale delle Ricerche (CNR),  
Institute for Microelectronics and Microsystems (IMM),  
Catania, Italy

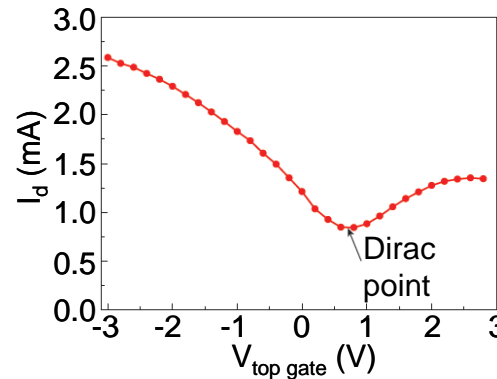
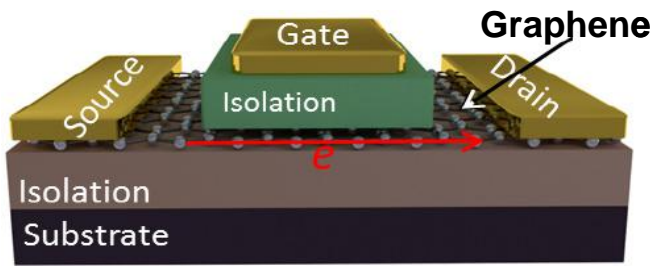


FLAG-ERA

# Outline

- **Description of the project and research method:**
  - *State of the art*
  - *Objectives*
  - *Consortium*
  - *Implementation, workplan*
- **Interaction with the Graphene Flagship Core1 project**
- **Expected impacts**

# Lateral graphene field effect transistors (GFETs)



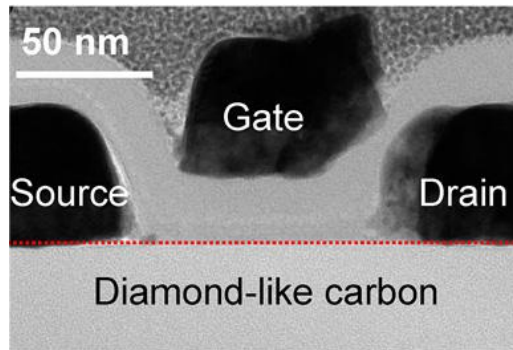
$$I_{\text{on}}/I_{\text{off}} < 10$$

high  $I_{\text{off}}$  Power dissipation

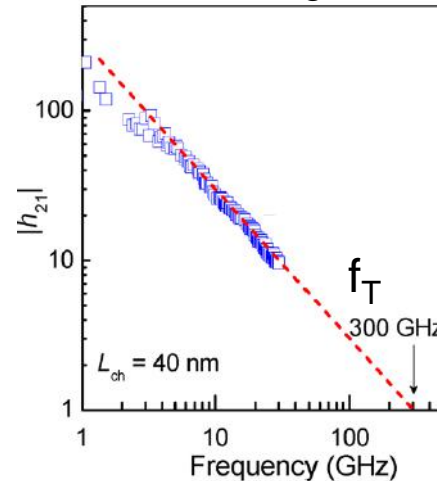
No bandgap in Gr banstructure

## State of the art RF transistors

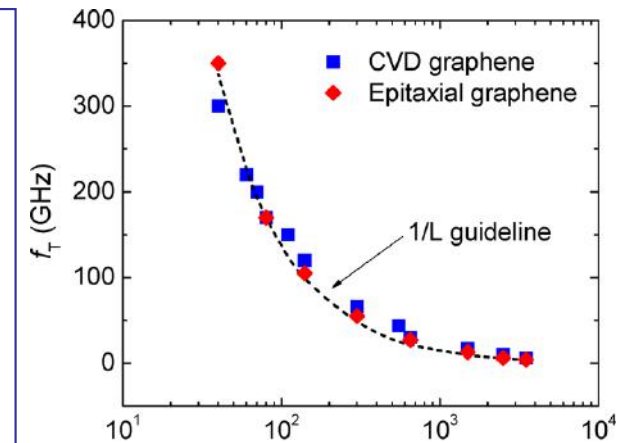
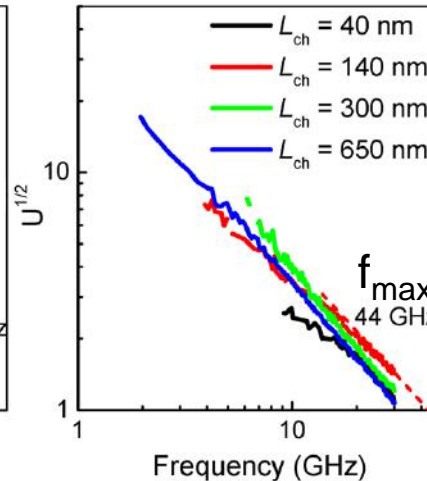
### CVD graphene



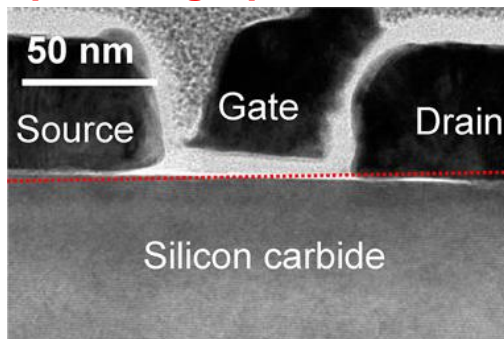
### Current gain



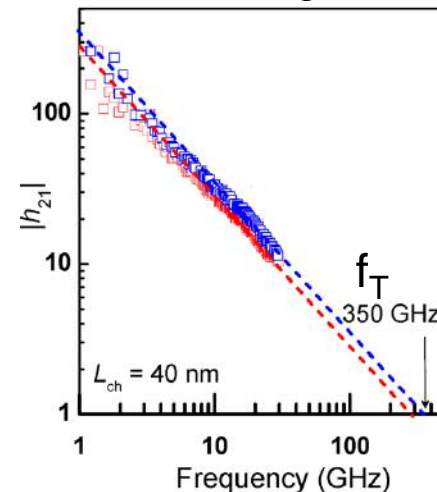
### Power gain



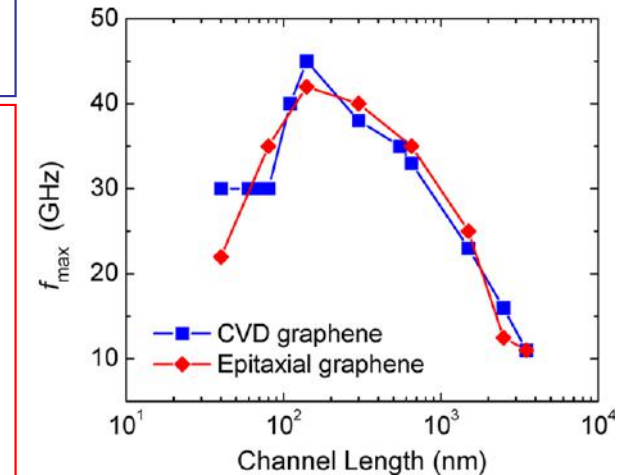
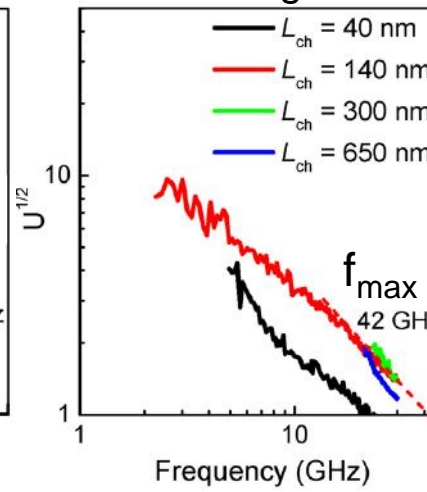
### Epitaxial graphene on SiC



### Current gain



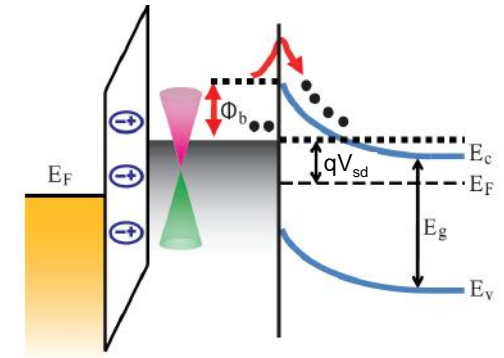
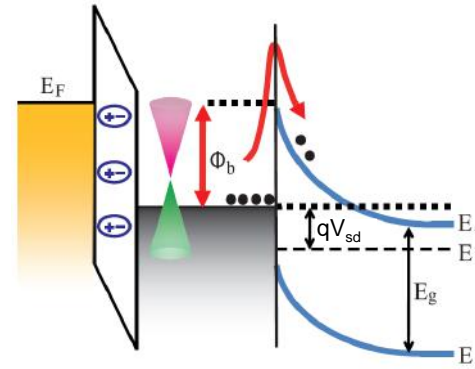
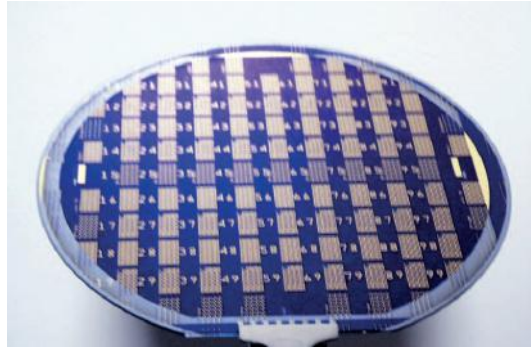
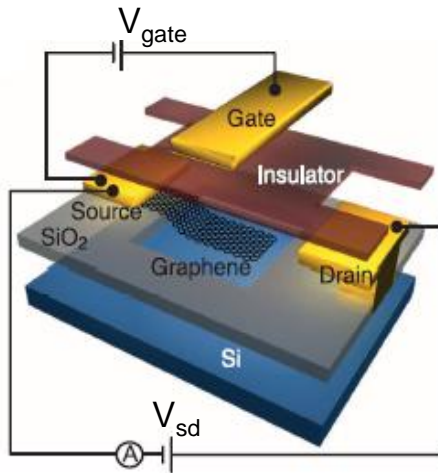
### Power gain



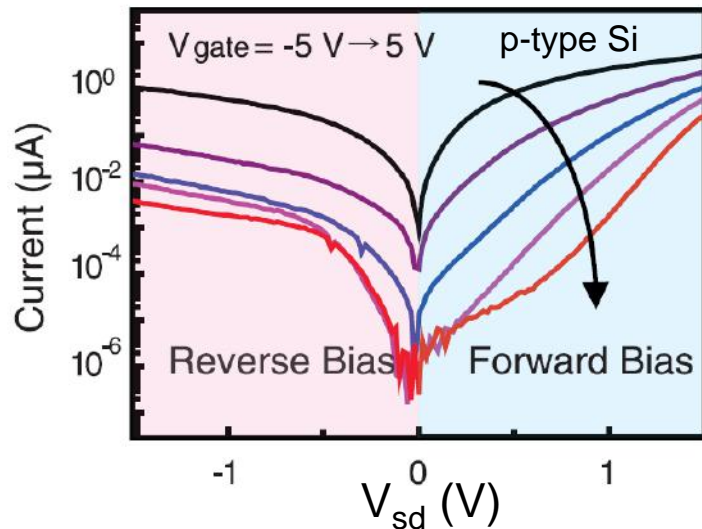
Y. Wu, et al, Nano Lett., 12, 3062–3067 (2012).

# Graphene integration with semiconductors technology

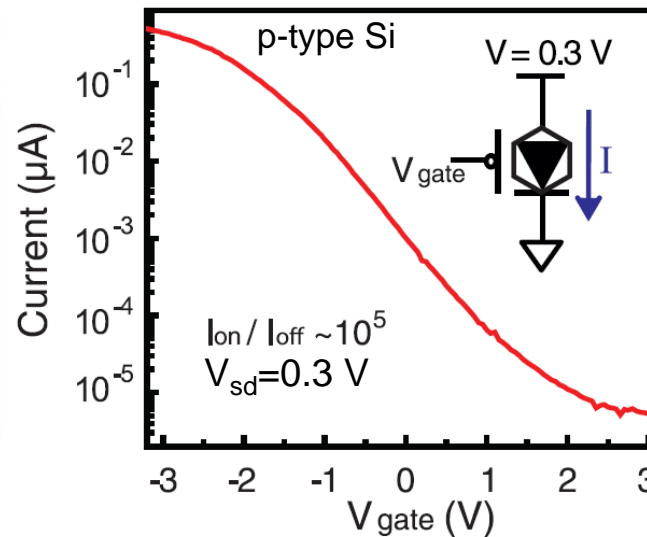
## Graphene/Si Schottky diode with gate modulated barrier height: Barristor



Output characteristics

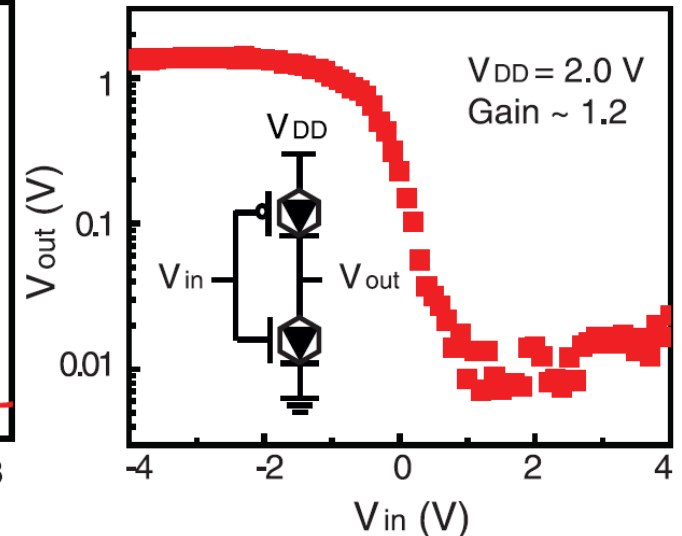


Transfer characteristics



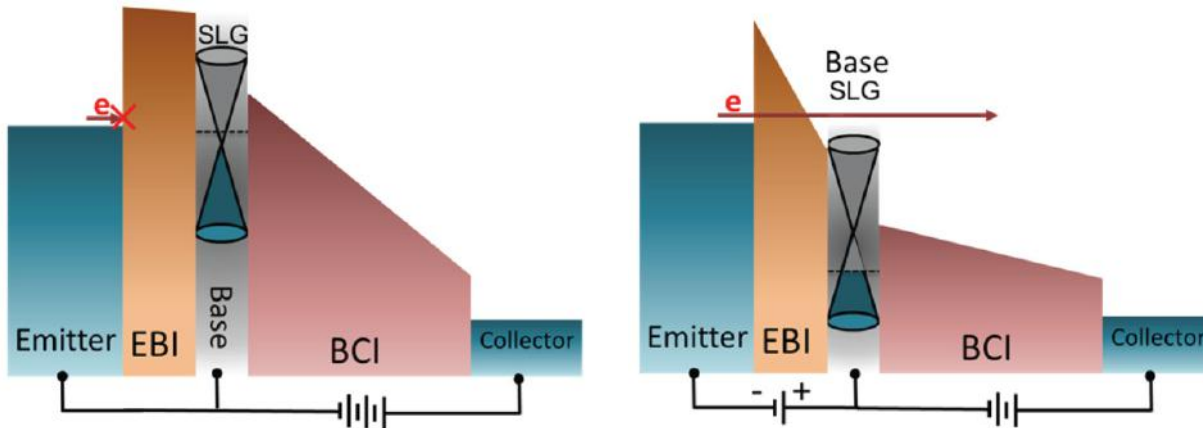
## Applications

Logic circuits: inverter



# Graphene integration with semiconductor technology

## Hot electron transistor (HET) with a graphene base

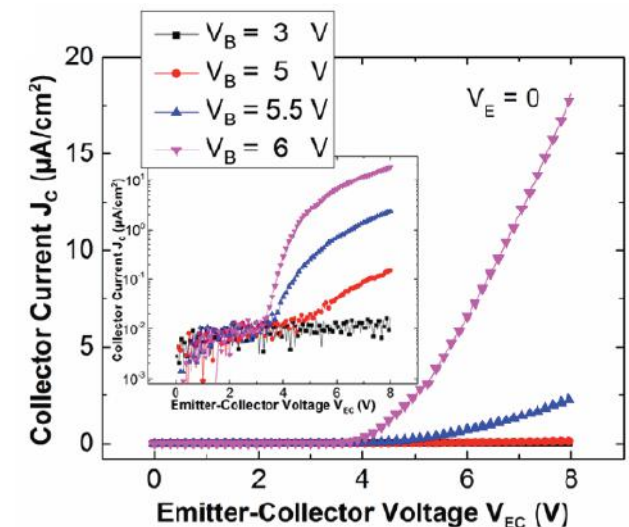
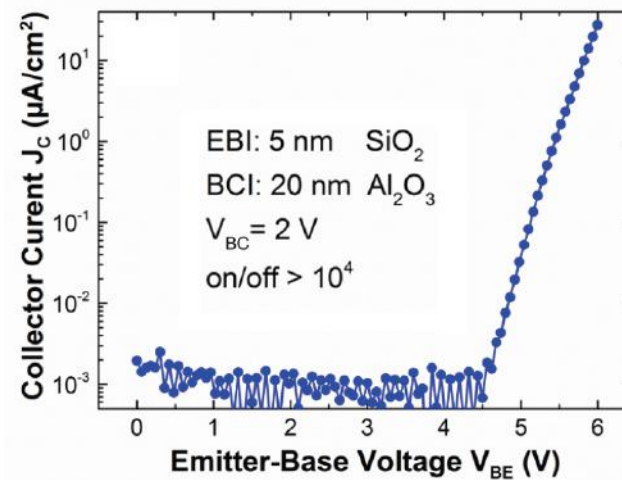
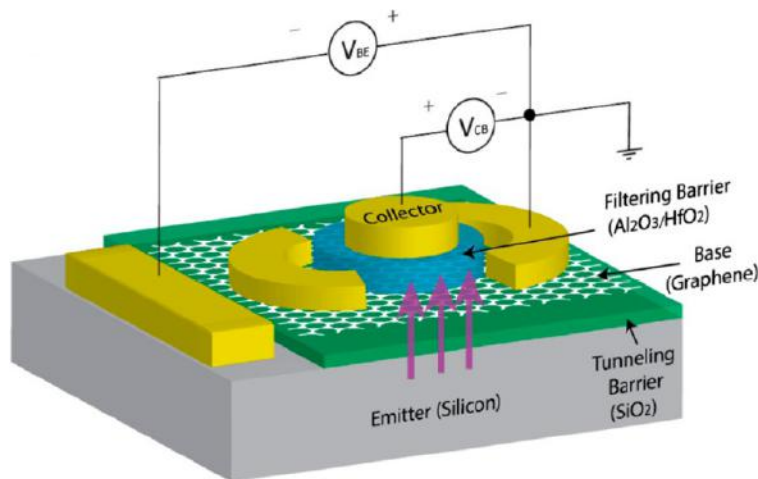


- Current injection of from the emitter into the Gr base by Fowler-Nordheim (FN) tunneling controlled by  $V_{BE}$ .
- Injected electrons ballistically transit in the Gr base.
- After overcoming a filtering barrier layer, hot electrons are collected at the collector terminal.

Graphene ideal material for the base of HET

THz operation predicted

## State of the art graphene HETs



C. Zeng, E. B. Song, M. Wang, S. Lee, C. M. Torres, J. Tang, B. H. Weiller, K. L. Wang, *Nano Lett.* **13**, 2370–2375 (2013)

S. Vaziri, G. Lupina, C. Henkel, A. D. Smith, M. Ostling, J. Dabrowski, G. Lippert, W. Mehr, M. C. Lemme, *Nano Lett.* **13**, 1435 (2013)



# Graphene integration with group III-Nitride (III-N) semiconductors

**Motivations:** GaN material of choice for optoelectronics (LED, lasers)...  
....and energy efficient high frequency electronics



I. Akasaki



H. Amano



S. Nakamura



for the invention of efficient blue light-emitting diodes which has enabled bright and energy-saving white light sources

	Si	GaN
Bandgap (eV)	1.11 (Indirect)	3.4 (Direct)
Intrinsic carrier concentration (cm <sup>-3</sup> ) at 300 K	1.5×10 <sup>10</sup>	1.9×10 <sup>-10</sup>
Electron mobility (cm <sup>2</sup> V <sup>-1</sup> s <sup>-1</sup> )	1350	1600
Saturation electron velocity (10 <sup>7</sup> cm/s)	1.0	2.7
Critical electric field (MV/cm)	0.3	3.3
Thermal conductivity (W/cmK)	1.5	2.1

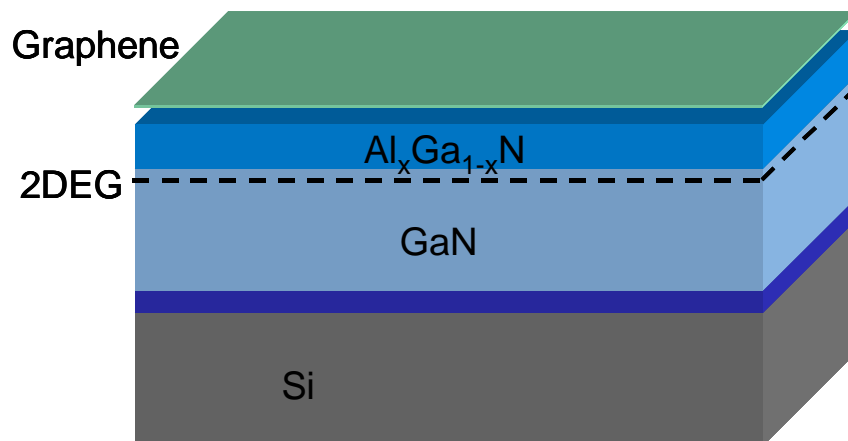
Very low off-state currents

Superior current transport

Higher breakdown voltage

Superior heat dissipation

Large area system of electrostatically coupled Dirac and Schroedinger 2DEGs

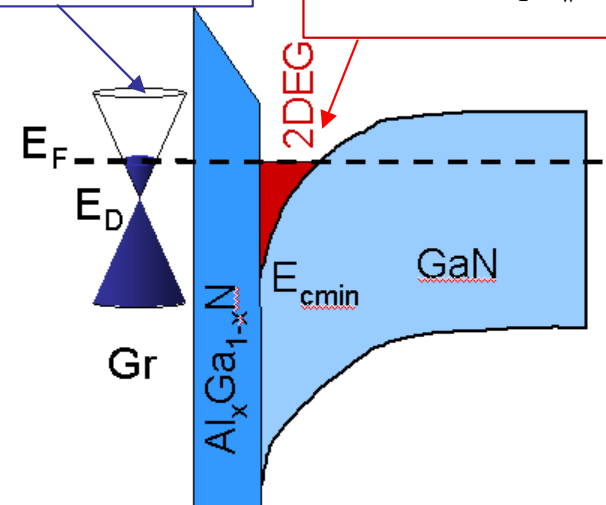


Dirac electrons

$$E_F - E_D = \frac{\hbar v_F \sqrt{\pi n_{gr}}}{q}$$

Schroedinger electrons

$$E_F - E_{cmin} = \frac{\pi \hbar^2}{q m_w^*} n_s + \frac{1}{q} \left( \frac{9 \pi \hbar^2 q^2}{8 \epsilon_0 \epsilon_{AlGaIn} \sqrt{8 m_w^*}} \right)^{\frac{2}{3}} n_s^{\frac{2}{3}}$$

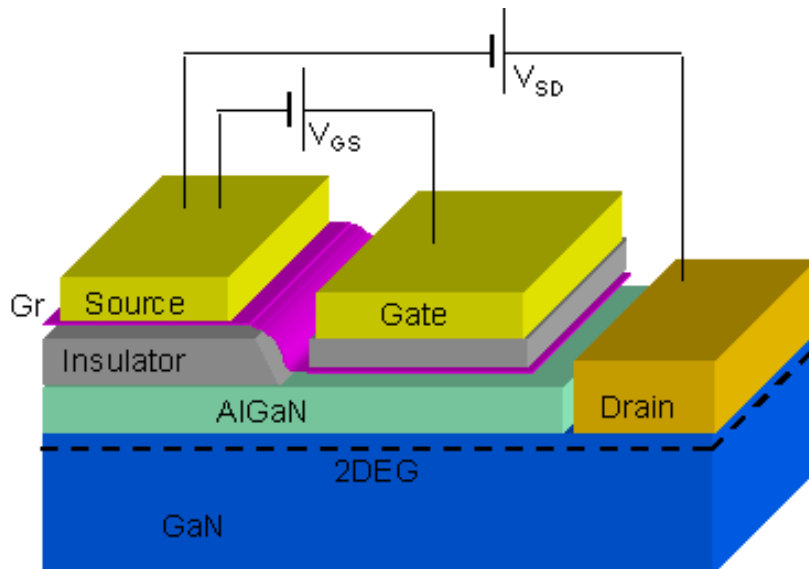


# GraNitE: Graphene heterostructures with Nitrides for high frequency Electronics

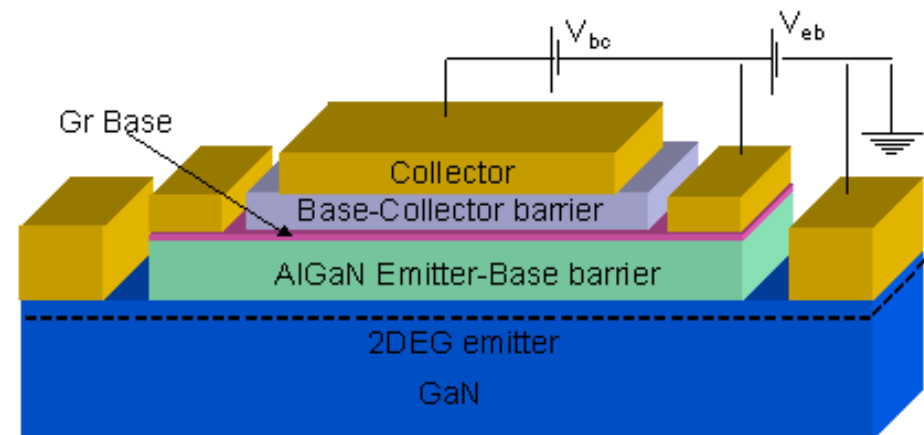
## Objectives:

- (i) Design, fabrication, structural and electrical characterization of **high quality graphene (Gr) heterostructures with thin films of Nitrides**, i.e. GaN, AlN and related alloys ( $\text{Al}_x\text{Ga}_{1-x}\text{N}$ ).
- III-N layers grown by MBE or MOCVD on different substrates:  $\text{Al}_2\text{O}_3$ , SiC, GaN, Si.
  - **Transfer** of CVD grown Gr from Copper to III-N or **direct growth** of Gr on III-N and of III-N on Gr.
  - Advanced structural and electrical characterization of the heterostructures: understanding current transport mechanisms at the interfaces.
  - Multiscale simulations for the growth, processing and device design.
- (ii) Demonstration of novel device structures

**Graphene/AlGaN/GaN Schottky diode with a gate modulated Schottky barrier (*Barristor*) for logic applications**



**Graphene *Base-Hot Electron Transistor* (GB-HET) on Nitride heterostructures for ultrahigh frequency (THz) applications**

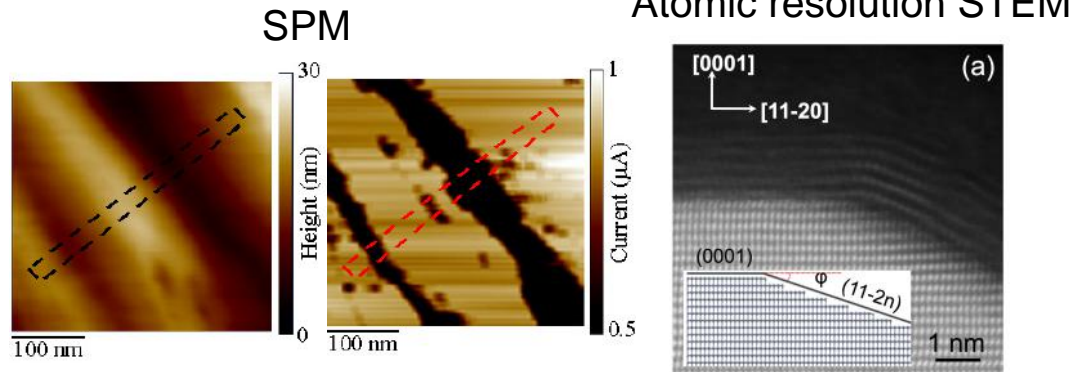


# GraNitE project's consortium



PI: F. Giannazzo, Co-PIs: F. Roccaforte, A. La Magna

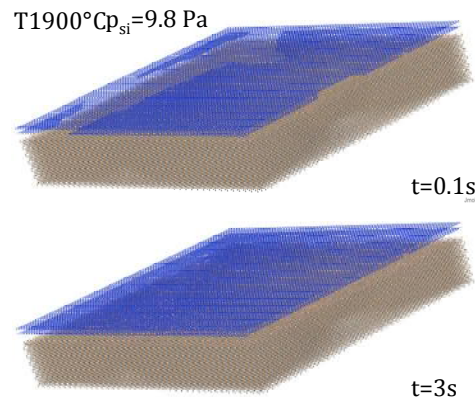
## Advanced characterizations



G. Nicotra, Q. M. Ramasse, I. Deretzis, A. La Magna, C. Spinella, F. Giannazzo, ACS Nano 7, 3045 (2013)

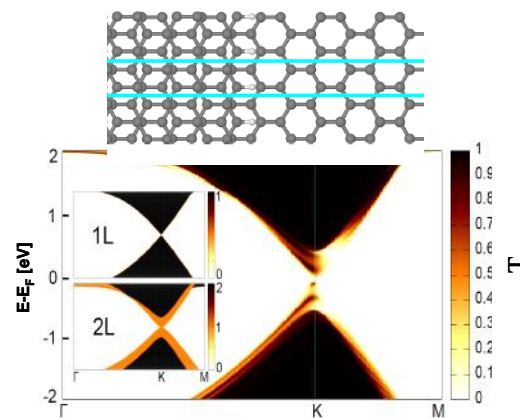
## Multiscale simulations

Process simulations  
Example: epitaxial graphene growth



I. Deretzis et al., Phys. Rev. E 93, 033304 (2016)

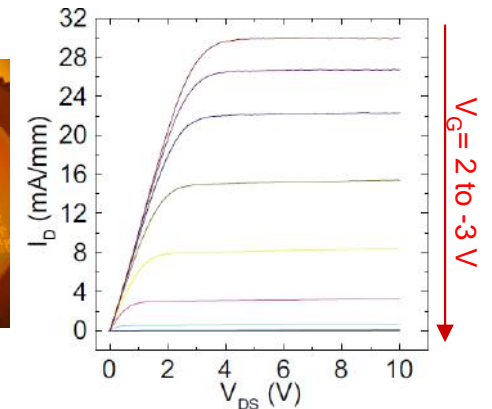
Electronic transport simulations



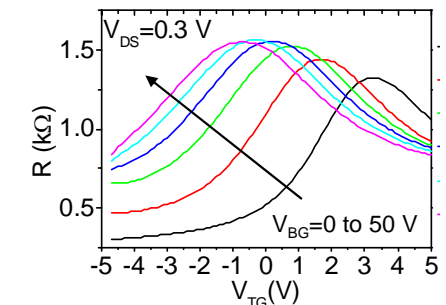
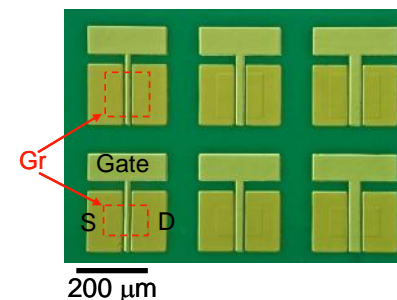
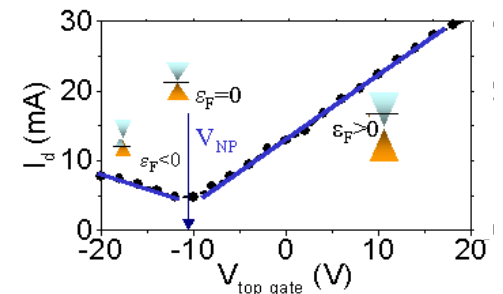
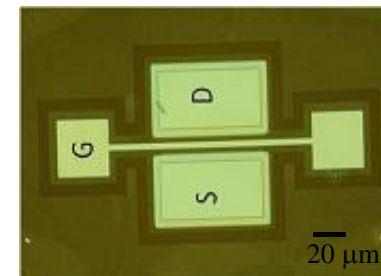
F. Giannazzo, et al., Phys Rev. B 86, 235422 (2012)

## Processing and devices prototyping

GaN-based HEMTs



Graphene field effect transistors





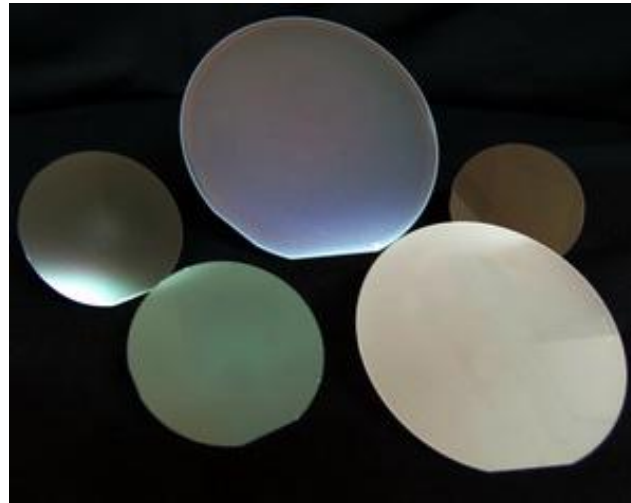
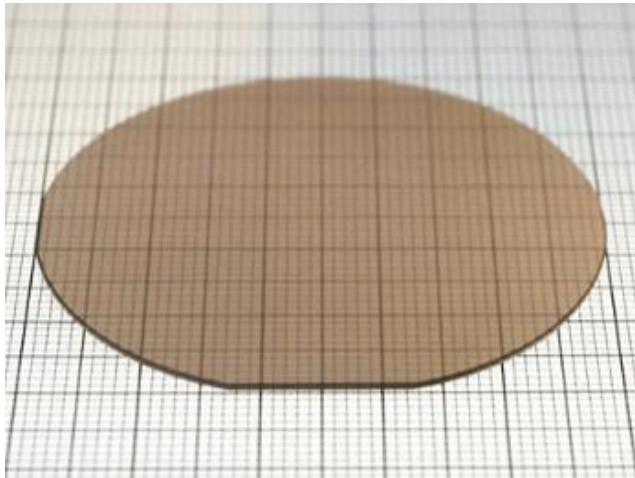
# GraNitE project's consortium



**Warsaw, Poland**

***PI:** M. Leszczyński, **Co-PIs:** P. Kruszewski, P. Prystawko*

Growth of III-N epi structures on different substrates:  
 $\text{Al}_2\text{O}_3$ , SiC, bulk-GaN



Technology for GaN-based power devices, LEDs, Lasers



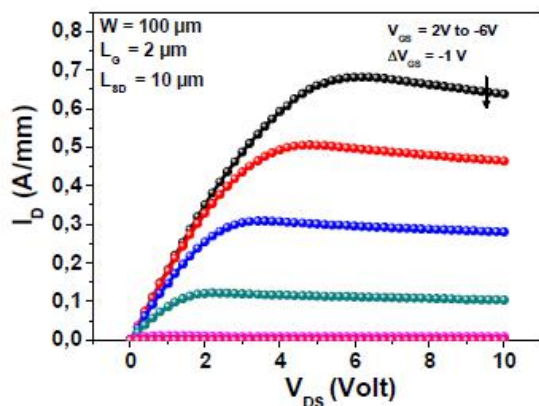
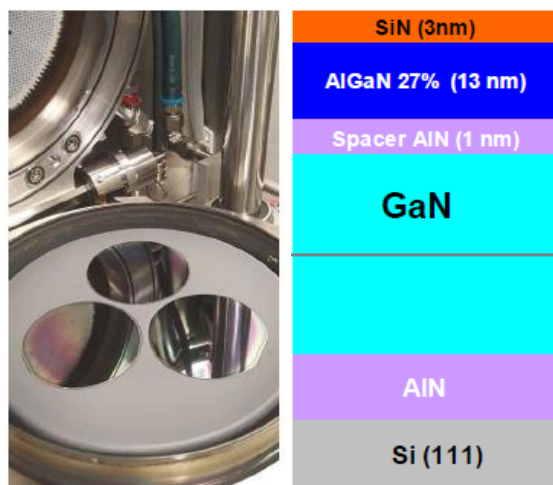
# GraNitE project's consortium



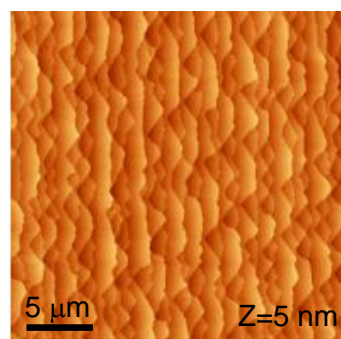
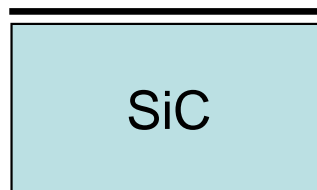
Valbonne, France

PI: Y. Cordier, Co-PI: A. Michon, E. Frayssinet

MOCVD growth of III-N multilayers on silicon wafers (up to 150 mm)



CVD growth of Gr on SiC

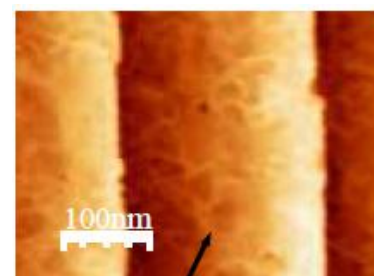
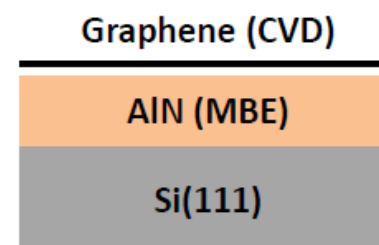


$$n_s = 1.8 \times 10^{11} \text{ cm}^{-2}$$

$$\mu = 9400 \text{ cm}^2 \text{ V}^{-1} \text{ s}^{-1}$$

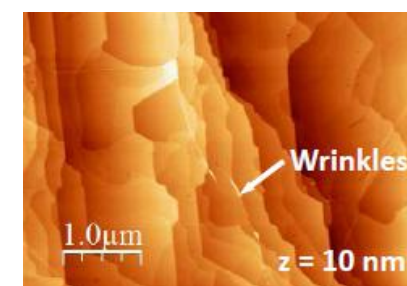
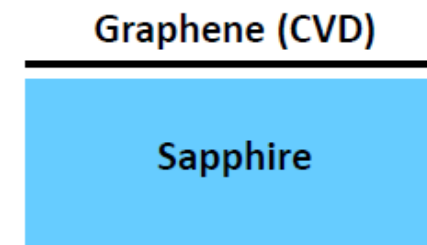
R. Ribeiro-Palau et al., Nature Nanotechnology 10, 965 (2015)

CVD growth of Gr on AlN thin films on Si



Wrinkles and small domains

CVD growth of Gr on  $\text{Al}_2\text{O}_3$  (sapphire)



A. Michon, et al., APL **104**, 071912 (2014).



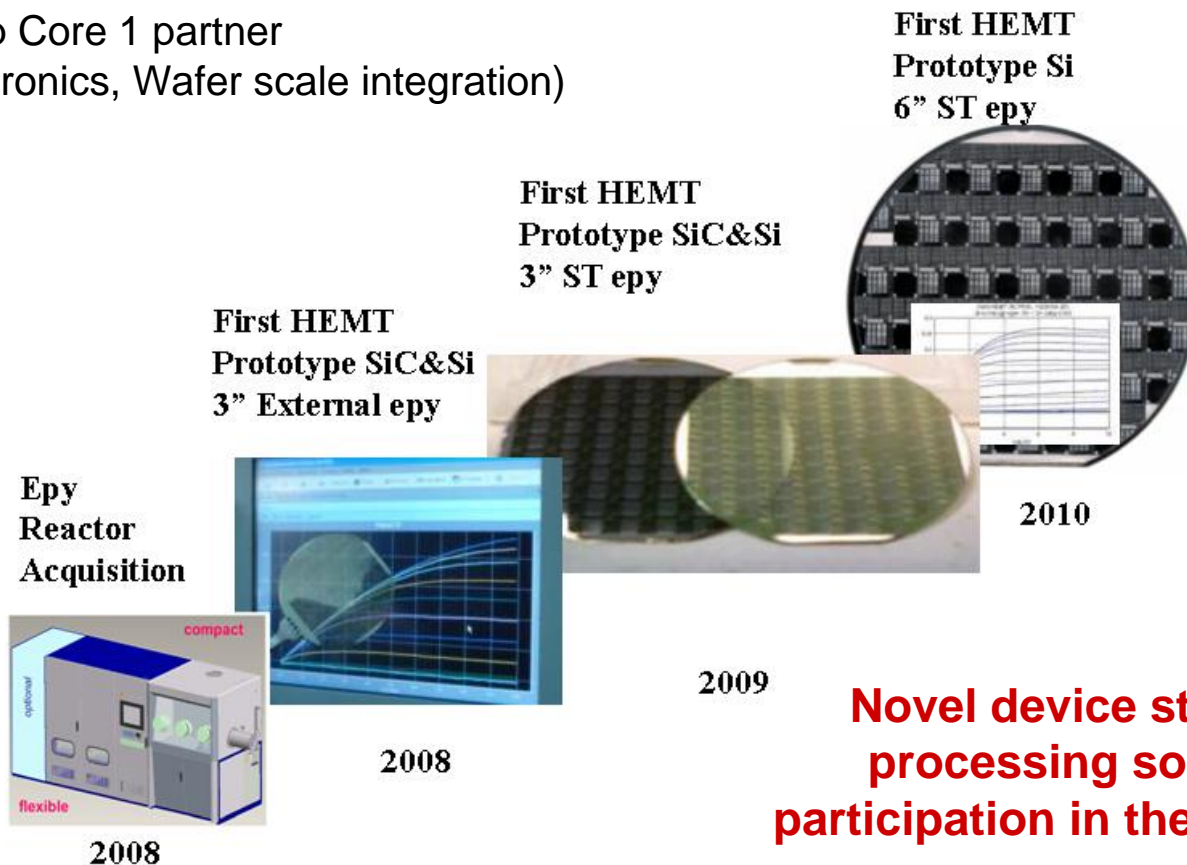
# GraNitE project's consortium



Catania, Italy

**PI:** S. Ravesi, **Co-PIs:** F. Iucolano, S. Lo Verso

- One of the largest microelectronics industries in Europe
- Strong commitment in GaN technology for energy efficient power and high frequency electronics
- GaN pilot line in the Catania site
- Graphene Flagship Core 1 partner  
(WPs Flexible electronics, Wafer scale integration)



**Novel device structures and processing solutions from participation in the GraNitE project**

# GraNitE project's consortium Roles of the partners



*-Project coordination,  
-Processing  
-Characterizations,  
-Simulations*

- Key process steps: Gr transfer, 2DEG isolation, ALD deposition of dielectrics, contacts,..
- Device design and multiscale simulations
- Fabrication of device test structures and prototypes
- Advanced structural/electrical characterizations (SPM, TEM).



*-Growth of Nitride Substrates/multilayers  
- Characterizations*

- Growth of AlGaN/GaN on different substrates:  $\text{Al}_2\text{O}_3$ , SiC, bulk-GaN
- Characterization (AFM, XRD, CV) of as-grown epi-wafers



*-Growth of Graphene/Nitrides heterostructures  
-Characterizations*

- Growth of AlGaN/GaN on 6" Si wafers
- CVD growth of Gr on III-N thin films
- MOCVD growth of III-N thin films on Gr
- Characterization (LEED, XPS, AFM, SEM, XRD) of as grown heterostructures

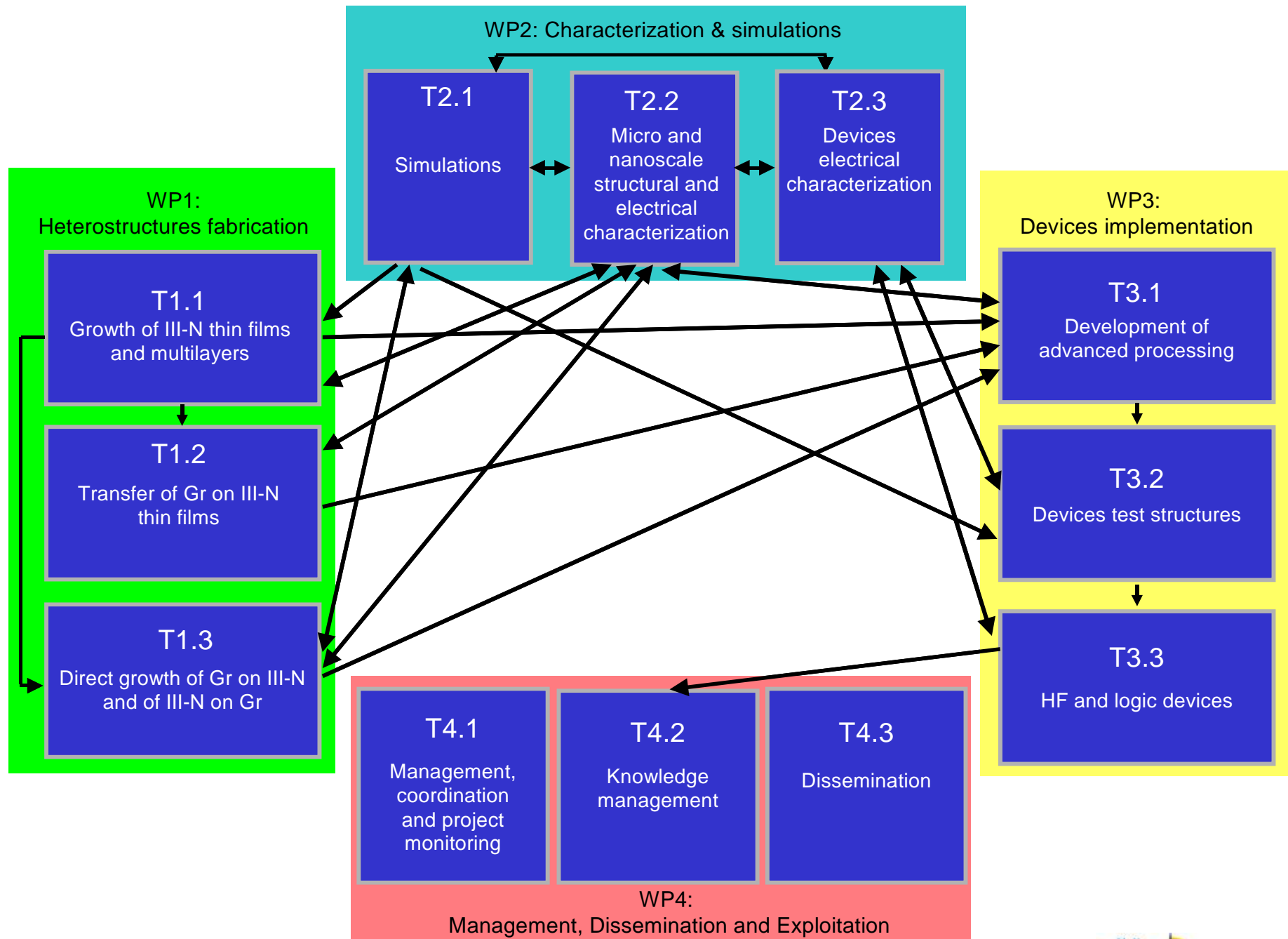


**Device processing in a semiconductor fab environment**

- Processing of Gr/AlGaN/GaN heterostructures on 6" silicon wafers
- Testing of high frequency devices.
- Exploitation management

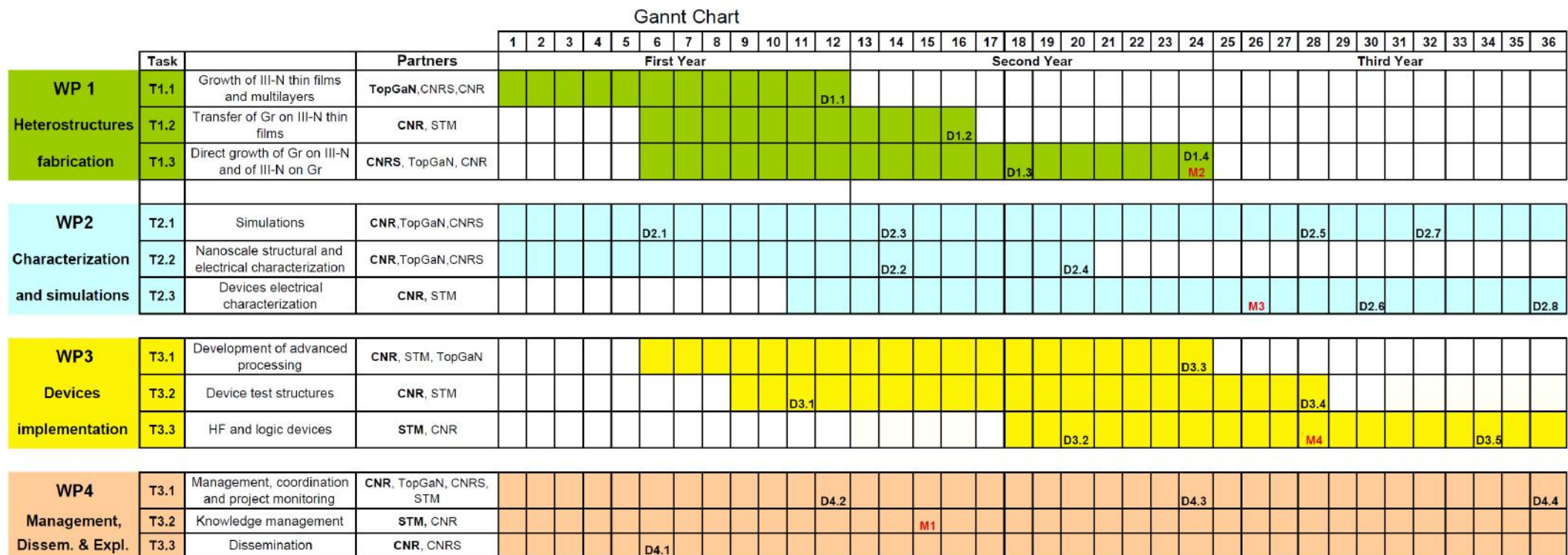


# Project's implementation



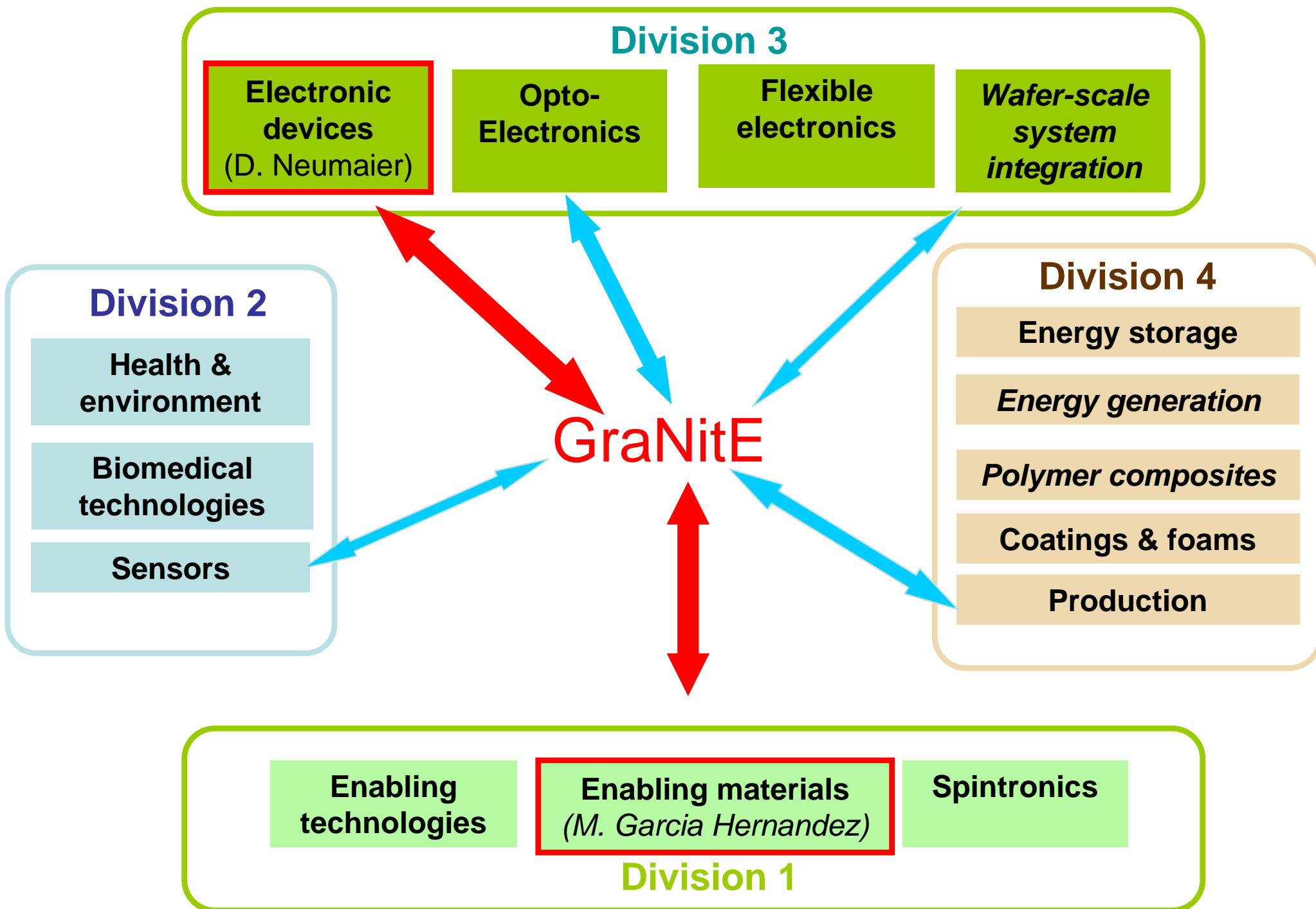


# Project's implementation



- Starting date: February 1, 2016
- Kick-off meeting: Catania, February 25, 2016

# Interactions with the Graphene Flagship Core 1 project



# Interactions with the Graphene Flagship Core 1 project

## GraNitE project's activity

Development of large area and high quality Gr heterostructures with III-N thin films:

- Gr transfer from Cu to III-N layers
- CVD growth of Gr on III-N and of III-N thin films on Gr.

Novel electronic devices based on Gr heterostructures with AlGaIn/GaN junctions hosting a 2DEG at the interface:

- *Gr/semiconductor Schottky diode with a gate modulated Schottky barrier*
- *Gr Base Hot Electron Transistor*

## Graphene Flagship Core 1 WP

### Enabling materials (*M. Garcia Hernandez*)

- Synergies with the groups working on the large area growth of Gr on SiC (e.g. Linköping University) and on metals.
- Interactions with the characterization and modelling groups.

### Electronic devices (*D. Neumaier*)

- Comparison with other device schemes developed using different heterostructures for benchmarking.
- Interactions with the groups working on devices simulations and high frequency electrical characterization



#### Memorandum of Understanding (MoU)

*for association of a Partnering Project to the Graphene Flagship*

Following the submitted application and the approval by the Graphene Flagship Executive Board/Management Panel, the project:

**GRAPHENE HETEROSTRUCTURES WITH NITRIDES FOR HIGH FREQUENCY ELECTRONICS  
(GRANITE)**

becomes associated to the Graphene Flagship initiative as a Partnering Project (PP).

On behalf of the Graphene Flagship Core 1  
Project:

WP Electronic devices or WP Enabling  
Materials Leader or Deputy

Name and signature:

Daniel Neumaier

On behalf of the Partnering Project:

PP coordinator  
Name and signature:

Filippo Giannazzo



# Interactions with other FlagERA JTC2015 projects



Linköping  
University,  
Sweden

A. Kakanakova, R. Yakimova,  
G. K. Gueorguiev, V. Khranovsky

## GRIFONE:

Graphitic films of group III nitrides and group II oxides:  
platform for fundamental studies and applications



IMM, Catania

P. Fiorenza, F. Giannazzo



Hungary

B. Pécz, J. Lábár, L. Tóth

# Expected impacts

Development of hybrid Graphene/III-N technology :  
know-how on materials, processing, devices

## Significant scientific and technological impacts in important areas of ICT and beyond

### **High-frequency electronics:**

*Vertical hot electron transistors based on graphene/AlGaIn/GaN heterostructures with cut-off frequency  $f_t > 1\text{THz}$ , common base current gain  $\alpha > 1$ , collector current density up to  $J_c > 1\text{A/cm}^2$ .*

### **New logic devices.**

*Gate modulated Gr/AlGaIn/GaN Schottky diodes (Barristors) with  $I_{\text{on}}/I_{\text{off}} > 10^8$ , very low  $I_{\text{off}} < 10^{-12}\text{ A}$  (i.e. very low power dissipation) and the possibility to operate at temperatures  $> 200^\circ\text{C}$  (applications in special environment).*

### **Production of Gr/III-N heterostructures on large area.**

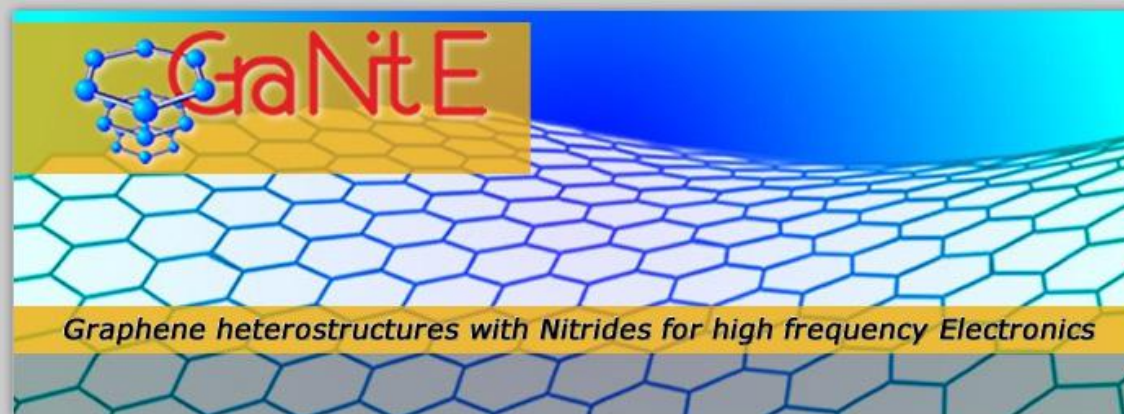
*High quality heterostructures of Gr with III-N thin films/multilayers grown on different substrates including Si (6 inches wafers), SiC, Sapphire, GaN (from 1 to 3 inches wafers).*




Potential applications in several fields: optoelectronics (LEDs, lasers), sensing,...

**In line with the objectives of Graphene Flagship:**  
***Transformational impact on science and technology and substantial benefits for the European economy and society.***





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FLAG-ERA

**Joint Transnational Call (JTC) 2015**

*Project*

**GraNitE:**

**Graphene heterostructures with Nitrides for high frequency Electronics**



## FlagERA

JTC2015 Kick-off meeting  
April, 13 and 14, 2016  
Budapest (Hungary)

[link](#)

## EMRS

Spring Meeting  
May, 2 to 6, 2016  
Lille (France)

Symposium L: Wide bandgap  
material for electron devices

Chairmen:

D. Alquier (GREMAN, Tours, France),  
K. Zekentes (FORTH, Greece),  
Y. Cordier (CNRS-CRHEA, Valbonne, France)

[link](#)