# SYNTHESIS OF MONOLAYER GRAPHENE ON POLYCRYSTALLINE NICKEL AND NICKEL-COPPER BIMETALLIC CATALYST AND STUDY TOWARD THE REUSE OF NICKEL CATALYST

by

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#### LIST OF ABBREVIATIONS

μm Micron

AFM Atomic force microscopy

Ar Argon

at% Atomic percentage

atm Atmospheric pressure

Au Gold

C Carbon

CH<sub>4</sub> Methane

C<sub>2</sub>H<sub>6</sub> Ethane

C<sub>3</sub>H<sub>8</sub> Propane

 $C_4H_{10}$  Butane

Co Cobalt

Cu Copper

cm Centimeter

CVD Chem cal vapor deposition

C60 Buckminsterfullerene

CO<sub>2</sub> Carbon dioxide

CNT Carbon nanotube

D Diameter

DFT Density functional theory

EDS Energy dispersive spectrometer

EVA Poly(ethylene co-vinyl acetate)

Fe Iron

fwhm<sub>2D</sub> Full width half maximum of 2D-band

GC Gas Chromatography

GO Graphene oxide

H<sub>2</sub> Hydrogen gas

H<sub>2</sub>S Hydrogen Sulfide

He Helium

HNO<sub>3</sub> Acid nitrate

HOPG Highly ordered pyrolytic graphite

HRTEM High resolution tramission electron

microscope

ICT Information and communication

technology

I<sub>2D</sub>/I<sub>G</sub> Intensity ratio of 2D-band over G-band

IPA Isopropyl alcohol

Ir Iridium
J Joule
K Kelvin

keV Kilo electron Volt

KOH Potassium hydroxide

kV KiloVolt
L Length
m meter

MD Molecular dynamics

min Minute

MIT Massachusetts Institute of Technology

MET Mechano-electro-thermal

ML Monolayer
mm Milimeter
Mg Magnesium

MOHE Ministry of Higher Education

mol/L Mol per liter

MOSTI Ministry on Science, Technology &

Innovation

MR Member ring mW MegaWatt

N<sub>2</sub> Nitrogen

NaOH Sodium hydroxide

Ne Neon Ni Nickel

Ni<sub>3</sub>C Nickel carbide

Ni TFB Transene Thin Film Nickel Etchants

nm Nanometer

O Oxiigen

O<sub>2</sub> Oxygen gas

OD Outer diameter

Pa Pascal

PBU Polybutadien

PC Poly(bisphenol-A-carbonate)

PDMS Polydimethylsiloxane

PECVD Plasma enhanced chemical vapor

deposition

PET Polyethylene terephthalate

PI Polyimid

PMMA Poly(methyl methacrylate),

Pt Platinum

R2R Roll-to-roll

R&D Research and Development

Ru Ruthenium

s Second

sccm Standard cubic centimeter

SiC Silicon carbide

SiO<sub>2</sub> Silicon oxide

SSPO1 2-(diphenylphosphory) spirofluorene

SW Stone-Wales

TCD Thermal conductivity detector

TEM Transmission electron microscopy

Tpa Terapascal

TRT Thermal release tape

UHV Ultra high vacuum

USA United State of America

V Volt

Xe Xenon

XRD X-ray Di fraction

## LIST OF SYMBOLS

% Percent  $\pi \qquad \qquad \text{pi}$  °C Degree Celcius  $\text{Å} \qquad \qquad \text{Angstrom}$ 

# PENUMBUHAN GRAFENA BERLAPIS TUNGGAL PADA NIKEL POLIHABLURAN DAN PEMANGKIN DWILOGAM NIKEL-KUPRUM DAN KAJIAN UNTUK PENGGUNAAN SEMULA PEMANGKIN NIKEL

#### **ABSTRAK**

Grafena merupakan struktur karbon dengan ketebalan satu atom. Grafena terdedah semua atomnya ke medium sekitar. Selepas penemuan grafena pada 2004, ia menjadi subjek utama penyelidikan di seluruh dunia. Grafena mempunyai sifatsifat yang luar biasa dari segi mekanikal, optik, haba dan elektrik. Sifat-sifat tersebut menjadikan grafena berpotensi digunakan dalam pelbagai aplikasi. Pemendapan wap kimia bermangkin (CVD) adalah saluran yang paling baik untuk menghasilkan grafena berskala wafer, kerana teknik ini mempunyai kelebihan dalam proses pemisahan grafena daripada pemangkin selepas CVD. Dengan bantuan penyejukan pantas, grafena berlapis tunggal berjaya dibentuk pada foil nikel polibabluran dibawah CVD tekanan atmosfera, dengan suhu 850 °C, tekanan separa metana 0.2 atm and 5 min tempoh reaksi. Tetapi grafena berlapis tunggal gagal didentuk dengan menggunakan foil kuprum sahaja. Penyejukan pantas selepas CVD mendorongkan pelindapkejutan aktiviti pemangkin dan menghadkan kadar difusi karbon dalam nikel ke permukaan nikel. Proses ini memudahkan pembentukan grafena berlapis tunggal berskala wafer. Untuk meningkatkan keseragaman grafena berlapis tunggal, satu teknik mudah digunakan untuk menumbuh grafena berlapis tunggal secara serentak pada kedua-dua foil nikel polihabluran dan foil kuprum polihabluran, pada suhu 950 °C, tekanan separa metana 0.2 atm and 5 min tempoh reaksi. Stuktur grafena yang seragam dan berkualiti tinggi dapat dibukti dengan spektroskopi Raman dan mikroskop transmisi electron resolusi tinggi. Sistem pemangkin dwilogam yang dicadang membolehkan pengawalan difusi karbon ke permukaan dalam foil Ni dan

Cu. Khususnya, kebolehcapaian karbon dapat dikurangkan pada permukaan Ni dalaman, manakala Cu memainkan peranan sebagai penghalang karbon. Mekanisme pertumbuhan grafena berlapis tunggal dapat dibantu denagn difusi karbon melalui bijian Ni dan sempadan bijian Ni. Daya penggerak untuk difusi karbon datang daripada kepekatan kecerunan karbon antara permukaan yang kaya dengan karbon dan permukaan kurang karbon. Sempadan bijian Ni telah terbukti memainkan peranan yang penting dalam kawalan difusi karbon semasa peringkat pertumbuhan. Dengan bantuan penyejukan pantas, proses pelindapkejut mengurangkan jumlah atom karbon diasing dari Ni, hanya atom karbon yang terletak berhampiran permukaan Ni mempunyai masa yang cukup untuk mengasing dan membentuk grafena. Sementara itu difusi atom karbon dalam tengah foil Ni telah dihalang dan lepas itu membentuk Ni<sub>3</sub>C. Ni<sub>3</sub>C dikenali sebagai perlindungan yang baik terhadap kakisan. Kehadiran Ni<sub>3</sub>C digabungkan dengan penggunaan ferum nitrat (0.5mol/L) sebagai bahan punar lemah semasa pemisahan grafena, foil Ni boleh digunakan semula sehingga 6 kali tanpa menyebabkan sisihan yang besar terhadap kualiti dan keseragaman grafena berlapis dua. Ni<sub>3</sub>C ternyata mampu untuk menghadkan kesan punaran foil Ni. Kerja-kerja ini telah berjaya mempamerkan cara yang mudah dan novel untuk mensintesis grafena berlapis tunggal dengan kualiti yang tinggi

# SYNTHESIS OF MONOLAYER GRAPHENE ON POLYCRYSTALLINE NICKEL AND NICKEL-COPPER BIMETALLIC CATALYST AND STUDY TOWARD THE REUSE OF NICKEL CATALYST

#### **ABSTRACT**

Graphene is a layer of sp<sup>2</sup> hybridized carbon atoms with a thickness of only one atom, which exposed most of its atoms to the surrounding medium. Since the discovery of graphene in 2004, it has become the main subject of research around the world. The attractiveness of graphene is mainly attributed to its remarkable mechanical, optical, thermal and electrical properties, enabling graphene to be potentially used in various applications. To date, CVD is the promising method to produce wafer-scale graphene, because it allows an easier separation of graphene from the catalytic substrate. With the assist of fast cooling, monolayer graphene was grown directly on polycrystalline Ni foil under atmospheric pressure CVD with temperature of 850 °C, methane partial pressure of 0.2 atm and reaction duration of 5 min. However, monolayer graphene could not be formed on Cu under the chosen CVD conditions. Fast cooling after CVD allowed the quenching of the activity of the catalyst and limiting diffusion of dissolved carbon to the surface of Ni, which later facilitate the formation of predominantly wafer scale monolayer graphene. To further improve the uniformity of monolayer graphene, a facile technique was applied to grow monolayer graphene simultaneously on both polycrystalline Ni and Cu foils using a Ni-Cu bilayer catalyst at temperature of 950 °C, methane partial pressure of 0.2 atm and reaction duration of 5 min. High uniformity and quality of the crystalline structure of the grown graphene was evidenced by Raman spectroscopy mapping and High Resolution Transmission Electron Microscope. The straightforward bimetallic catalytic system allows the control of carbon diffusion to the interface of Ni and Cu.