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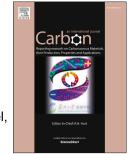
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Topological Line Defects in Graphene for Applications as Gas Sensing

Fábio A. L. de Souza^{a,b}, Rodrigo G. Amorim^c, Jariyanee Prasongkit^{d,e}, Wanderlã L. Scopel^b, Ralph H. Scheicher^f, Alexandre R. Rocha^{g,h}

^aFederal Institute of Education, Science and Technology of Espírito Santo, Ibatiba/ES, Brazil

^bDepartamento de Física, Universidade Federal do Espírito Santo, Vitória/ES, Brazil

^cDepartamento de Física, ICEx, Universidade Federal Fluminense, Volta Redonda/RJ, Brazil

^dDivision of Physics, Faculty of Science, Nakhon Phanom University, Nakhon Phanom, 48000, Thailand

^eNanotec-KKU Center of Excellence on Advanced Nanomaterials for Energy Production and Storage, Khon Kaen 40002, Thailand.

^fDivision of Materials Theory, Department of Physics and Astronomy, Uppsala University, SE-751 20 Uppsala, Sweden

^gInstituto de Física Teórica, Universidade Estadual Paulista, São Paulo, Brazil.

^hDepartment of Chemical Engineering, Massachusetts Institute of Technology, Cambridge, MA, 02139, U.S.A.

Abstract

Topological line defects in graphene synthesized in a highly controlled manner open up new research directions for nanodevice applications. Here, we investigate two types of extended line defects in graphene, namely octagonal/pentagonal and heptagonal/pentagonal reconstructions. A combination of density functional theory and non-equilibrium Green's function methods was utilized in order to explore the application potential of this system as an electronic gas sensor. Our findings show that the electric current is confined to the line defect through gate voltage control, which combined with the enhanced chemical reactivity at the grain boundary, makes this system a highly promising candidate for gas sensor applications. As a proof of principle, we evaluated the sensitivity of a prototypical device toward NO₂ molecule, demonstrating that it is indeed possible to reliably detect the target molecule.

Email addresses: fabio.souza@ifes.edu.br (Fábio A. L. de Souza), rgamorim@id.uff.br (Rodrigo G. Amorim)

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