

Advanced characterization of the crystal lattice in Group IV quantum wells

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Quantum wells made of Si, Ge, Sn and their alloys are experiencing a Reinassance, thanks to their possible use in advanced devices such as semiconductor-based qubit, MQW and quantum cascade lasers. For all these applications, it is required to control the composition and strain profile of the quantum well at the sub-nm scale and over the typical size of the substrate, which might reach the diameter of 300 mm. In this talk I will describe how advancement in the Scanning X-ray Diffraction microscopy and in Electron Microscopy Tomography techniques can provide a complete, spatially resolved, description of the QW lattice in the Si/SiGe, Ge/GeSi material systems. These gained knowledge provides valuable insights for quantum computing[1,2] as well as optoelectronic applications [3].

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[2] “Lattice deformation at the sub-micron scale: X-ray nanobeam measurements of elastic strain in electron shuttling devices”. C. Corley-Wiciak, M. H. Zoellner, I. Zaitsev, K. Anand, E. Zatterin, Y. Yamamoto, A. A. Corley-Wiciak, F. Reichmann, W. Langheinrich, L. R. Schreiber, C. L. Manganelli, M. Virgilio, C. Richter, and. G. Capellini, Physical Review Applied 20, 024056 (2023)

[3] “Three-dimensional reconstruction of interface roughness and alloy disorder in Ge/GeSi asymmetric coupled quantum wells using electron tomography”. E. Paysen, G. Capellini, E. Talamas Simola, L. Di Gaspare, M. De Seta, M. Virgilio, and A. Trampert, ACS Applied Materials & Interfaces 16, 4189 (2024)