

Nanoscale optical devices

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One-dimensional and two-dimensional conductors offer exciting opportunities to explore novel design structures for sensing and optoelectronic devices.

Here I will discuss two examples. The first is a terahertz sensor based on carbon nanotubes. I will show that carbon nanotube quantum dots coupled to antennas are extremely sensitive, broad-band terahertz quantum detectors with spectral resolution. I will also report a striking and counterintuitive effect: the THz irradiation *reduces* the effective temperature of the electrons in the dot and drastically increases the device response. I will compare carbon-nanotube based terahertz sensors with graphene-based sensors.

The second example is an optoelectronic device based on MoS₂, a layered semiconductor that can be exfoliated to obtain atomically thin flakes. I will discuss the photovoltaic effect in MoS₂ Schottky diodes made with multilayer flakes. This type of device can open the way to engineering efficient nanoscale photodiodes.

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