

# Patterned Growth of SWNTs for Facile Fabrication of Field Effect Transistor Device

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A single-walled carbon nanotube (SWNT) with small diameter (1-2 nm) is one of the most promising materials for application as an electron transporter, owing to its quasi one-dimensional structure. A carbon nanotube field effect transistor (CNT-FET) having an SWNT as its gate channel has been particularly investigated as an ideal nanoscale device for next-generation electronics [e.g., 1].

However, in most previous reports post-processing such as drop-casting of dispersed SWNTs or deposition of electrodes are required after SWNTs growth. Such fabrication process may induce significant damage of the SWNTs, degrading the high-quality characteristics of as-grown SWNTs. A CNT-FET consisting of as-grown SWNTs can be prepared by catalyst deposition on pre-formed electrodes [2], but diameter distribution of the SWNTs remains wide (1-3 nm). Recently we succeeded in restricting the catalyst deposition area by patterning a self-assembled monolayer (SAM) on a Si substrate [3]. This method has two advantages compared with conventional MEMS techniques (photolithography and lift-off). Firstly, since the SAM surface is hydrophobic it is possible to easily prepare substrates using a scalable liquid-based dip-coating method for catalyst deposition, which can synthesize SWNTs with small diameters (less than 2 nm) [4,5]. Secondly, the SAM can also be patterned with high resolution (~10 nm) using the electron beam of a scanning electron microscope (SEM), which also makes the patterning process visible.

We fabricated a CNT-FET with an as-grown SWNT as its gate channel using this method. The  $I$ - $V$  characteristics were evaluated using the Si substrate as a back-gate. We measured the characteristics before and after SEM observation to see an effect of induced damage by electron beam irradiation. As a result, the  $I_{\text{on}}/I_{\text{off}}$  ratio decreased after SEM observation. Here we discuss the reduced  $I_{\text{on}}/I_{\text{off}}$  ratio after electron beam irradiation.

## References:

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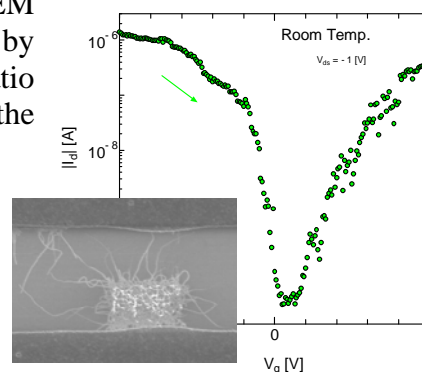


Figure 1. Transfer characteristics of the fabricated device (inset).

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