

Strong nanomechanical softening signature induced by memristive charge accumulation in suspended monolayer MoS₂

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Abstract

The new 2D transition metal dichalcogenide (TMDs) as MoS₂ represents ideal material for multiple purposes. MoS₂ is promising for electronic transistor and fundamental phenomena such as superconductivity or valleytronics. It is a rich platform for optoelectronics; excitonic effects have high binding energy, strain engineering can induce a high tunability of the band gap itself. Moreover, MoS₂ transit between different crystalline phases (2H-1T) making this material interesting for memristive devices and energy storage.

Nanomechanical systems have been at the heart of recent physics discoveries of importance, from the detection of cosmic gravitational waves to the sensitivity record for detection of mass or force. It is a recent and almost universal probe of condensed matter issues and quantum mechanics. Since 2007, the emergence of suspended atomically thin materials, with the largest geometrical aspect ratio which can be obtained, brought new insights in nanomechanical resonators with very low mass and spring constant, high elongation resistance, high frequency-tuning and especially strong mechanical non-linearities. A high potential release in MoS₂ for nanomechanics. It opens new experimental perspectives by measuring unique intrinsic properties when transduced into the mechanical motion. We propose to focus on unexpected electrical behaviors measured in our samples^{1,2}: a strong photodoping under illumination and a hysteretic loop in the I-V curve corresponding to a memristive effect. We use the sensitivity of our mechanical MoS₂ membrane as a non-conventional probe to explore deeply these intriguing behaviors and we have seen a strong effect of softening due to the non-linear charge of the devices.

Figure 1 We explore these topics within unique sample geometry of a suspended single layer membrane of the MoS₂ embedded in a nano-opto-electro-mechanical system (NOEMS)

1. Chaste, J. *et al.* Intrinsic Properties of Suspended MoS₂ on SiO₂/Si Pillar Arrays for Nanomechanics and Optics. *ACS Nano* (2018). doi:10.1021/acsnano.7b07689
2. Chaste, J. *et al.* Nanostructures in suspended mono- and bilayer epitaxial graphene. *Carbon* **125**, 162–167 (2017).

