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**S E M I N A R**  
on  
**Semiconductor Physics and Nanotechnology**

**Mi, 22.05.2024, 16:15 Uhr,**

**Seminar in  
person in the Physics lecture hall or via Zoom**

**“Prospects of Isotope-pure SiGe Heterostructures for Quantum Computing”**

**Dr. Kevin-Peter Gradwohl**

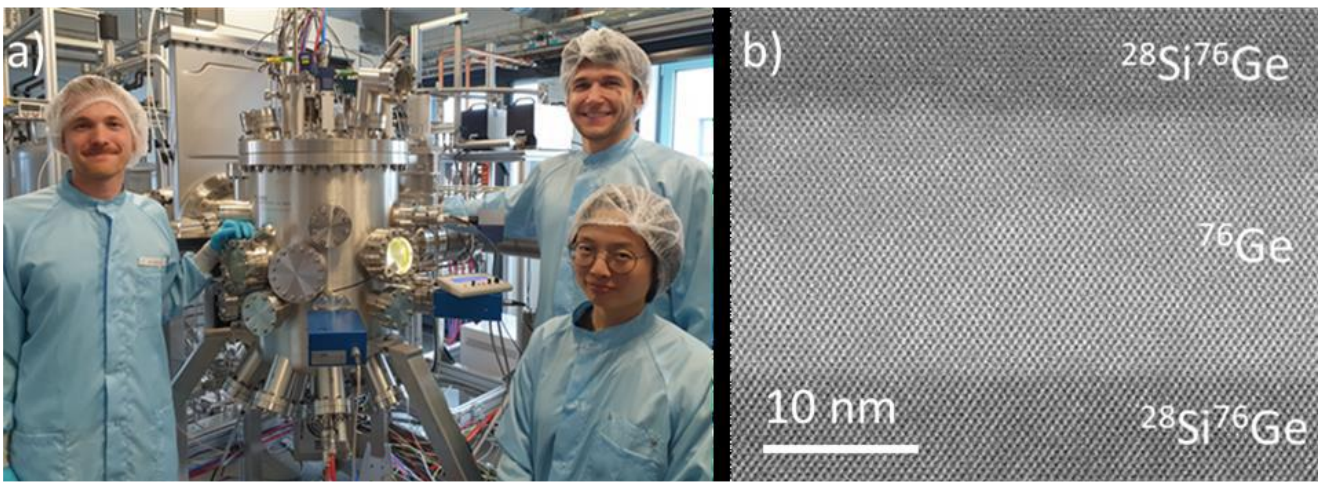
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Silicon (Si) and germanium (Ge) are the workhorses of the modern semiconductor industry, where decades of science and technology development yielded advanced device fabrication of extremely pure materials. This tremendous know-how, together with the possibility to produce isotopically enriched Si and Ge completely free of isotopes with nuclear spin, make them also extremely interesting for application in quantum computing utilizing spin qubits [1,2].

IKZ researches the processing, purification, and growth of isotope enriched  $^{28}\text{Si}$  and  $^{76}\text{Ge}$  volume crystals with  $^{29}\text{Si}$  and  $^{73}\text{Ge}$  concentrations as low as 30 ppm, and became a world-leading competence center in the field [3, 4]. These unique materials are utilized as source material in molecular beam epitaxy (MBE) for the development of novel quantum materials. Investigated material platforms include nuclear spin-free  $\text{SiGe}/^{28}\text{Si}/\text{SiGe}$  and  $\text{SiGe}/^{76}\text{Ge}/\text{SiGe}$  heterostructures for spin qubits, as well as  $^{28}\text{Si}/\text{SiO}_2$  structures (Silicon on Insulator, SOI) for optical quantum computing [5]. Hereby, material challenges encompass the fabrication of homogeneously strained quantum well layers, avoiding relaxation/formation of misfit dislocations, and control of interface sharpness, while maintaining high chemical and isotopic purity.

Our goal is the benchmarking of high-quality nuclear spin-free SiGe-based heterostructures for quantum computing, as well as the distribution of such MBE grown quantum materials to the European research market (e.g. for Q-device manufacturing) offered in collaborations in common R&D projects with interested partners.



a) nuclear spin-free molecular beam epitaxy, b) cross-section scanning electron microscopy image of strained  $^{76}\text{Ge}$  quantum well heterostructure for qubit application

[1] Steger, M., et al. "Quantum information storage for over 180 s using donor spins in a  $^{28}\text{Si}$  "semiconductor vacuum"." *Science* 336.6086 (2012): 1280-1283.

[2] McJunkin, T., et al. "SiGe quantum wells with oscillating Ge concentrations for quantum dot qubits." *Nature Communications* 13.1 (2022): 7777.

[3] Abrosimov, N. V., et al. "A new generation of 99.999% enriched  $^{28}\text{Si}$  single crystals for the determination of Avogadro's constant." *Metrologia* 54.4 (2017): 599.

[4] Gradwohl, K-P., et al. "Hydrogen reduction of enriched germanium dioxide and zone-refining for the LEGEND experiment." *Journal of Instrumentation* 15.12 (2020): P12010.

[5] Liu, Yujia, et al. "Role of critical thickness in SiGe/Si/SiGe heterostructure design for qubits." *Journal of Applied Physics* 132.8 (2022).

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**Zoom – Link:**

<https://zoom.us/j/96375934537?pwd=RTIKTWhSdzRHU211YTY1bGFxTUtpZz09>

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