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Broadband Photovoltaic Detectors based on an Atomically Thin Heterostructure. MINGSHENG LONG, ERFU LIU, School of Physics, Nanjing University, PENG WANG, Shanghai Institute of Technical Physics, Chinese Academy of Sciences, ANYUAN GAO, School of Physics, Nanjing University, HUI XIA, WEIDA HU, Shanghai Institute of Technical Physics, Chinese Academy of Sciences, BAIGENG WANG, FENG MIAO, School of Physics, Nanjing University — Van der Waals junctions of two-dimensional materials with an atomically sharp interface open up unprecedented opportunities to design and study functional heterostructures. However, many important optoelectronic applications, such as broadband photodetection, are severely hindered by their limited spectral range and reduced light absorption. Here, we present a p-g-n heterostructure formed by sandwiching graphene with a gapless bandstructure and wide absorption spectrum in an atomically thin p-n junction to overcome these major limitations. We have successfully demonstrated a MoS₂-graphene-WSe₂ heterostructure for broadband photodetection in the visible to short-wavelength infrared range at room temperature that exhibits competitive device performance, including a specific detectivity of up to 10^{11} Jones in the near-infrared region. Our results pave the way toward the implementation of atomically thin heterostructures for broadband and sensitive optoelectronic applications. References: M. S. Long et al., Nano Lett. 16, 2254 (2016).

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