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**Microwave Switching in Amorphous-Carbon Quantum Wells**

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Guildford, GU2 7XH, UK — Demonstration of long phase coherence length showing  
resonant tunnelling and fast switching in amorphous carbon quantum well structures  
has recently been established [1]. Here we show a bias controlled reversible switching  
of the complex impedance by transmitting a microwave signal up to  $110\text{GHz}$  through  
amorphous carbon resonant tunnel diodes. By employing a coplanar waveguide tech-  
nique and through the analysis of the return loss ( $S_{11}$ ) microwave enhanced mobility  
greater than  $30\text{cm}^2(\text{Vs})^{-1}$  in the delocalized regime of (filamentary) conduction in  
these devices is demonstrated. Also a switching behaviour at about  $85\text{GHz}$  can also  
be observed. We suggest a new model for the microscopic origin of the increased  
mobility and show routes to achieve longer coherence lengths. In addition microwave  
conductance of carbon quantum wells parallel to their plane and across a channel  
length larger than  $100\text{nm}$  determines the momentum scattering time of electrons  
in carbon. These results exhibit a potential for pure amorphous carbon-based fast  
memory devices. [1] S. Bhattacharyya, S.J. Henley, E. Mendoza, L. Gomez Rojas,  
J. Allam and S.R.P. Silva, Nature Mater. **5**, 19 (2006).

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