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COST Action TD1105

**3<sup>rd</sup> International Workshop *EuNetAir* on**

***New Trends and Challenges for Air Quality Control***

**University of Latvia - Faculty of Geography and Earth Sciences**

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# ONE-DIMENSIONAL ZnO NANOSTRUCTURES AND THEIR OPTOELECTRONIC APPLICATIONS

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# Introduction

## Methods for the preparation

Gas phase methods: Chemical or solution-based methods:

- ✓ MOCVD;
- ✓ MBE.

- ✓ Sol gel;
- ✓ Electrodeposition;
- ✓ Hydrothermal growth.

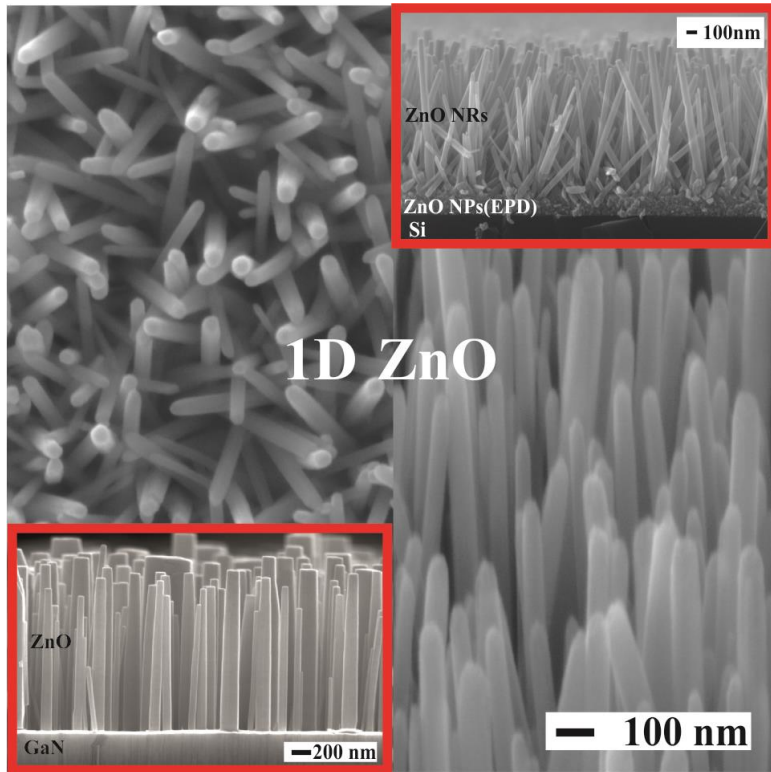
*advantages:*

- ✓ low growth temperature,
- ✓ allows for the large scale production,
- ✓ low cost,
- ✓ flexibility in the selection of the substrate, etc.

*disadvantages:*

✓ low quality

✓ seed layer



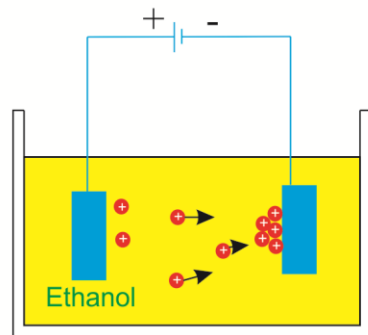
## Applications:

- ✓ Gas sensors;
- ✓ Field effect transistors;
- ✓ Energy harvesting devices;
- ✓ Light emitting devices.
- ✓ Annealing in different ambient (vacuum, hydrogen, argon, air, nitrogen);
- ✓ Doping.

- ✓ Magnetron sputtering;
- ✓ Pulsed laser deposition;
- ✓ Spin coating;
- Our solution:
  - ✓ Electrophoretic deposition.

# Preparation of the seed layer

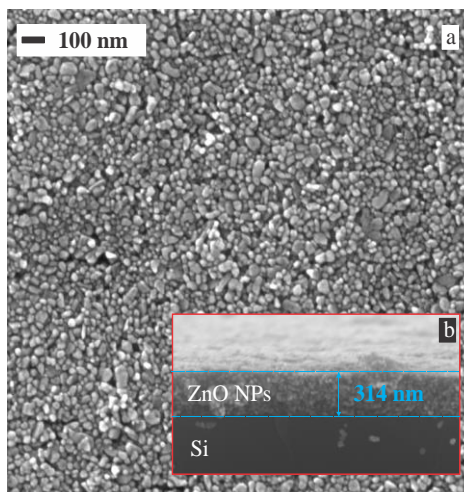
Electrophoretic deposition.



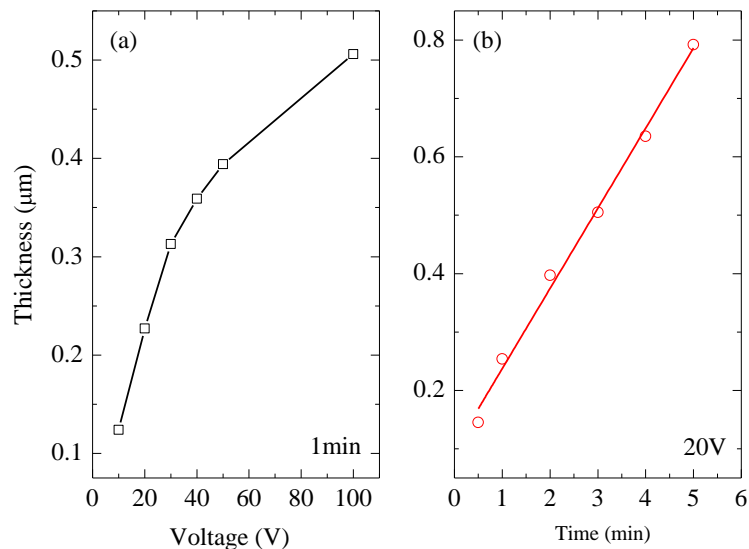
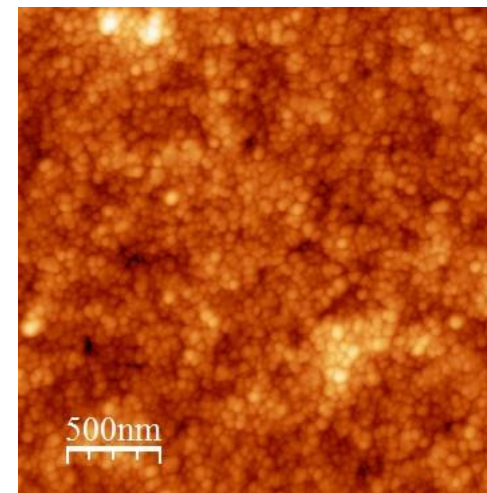
• ZnO NPs

Relationship between the ZnO NP layer thickness and (a) applied voltage, (b) deposition time.

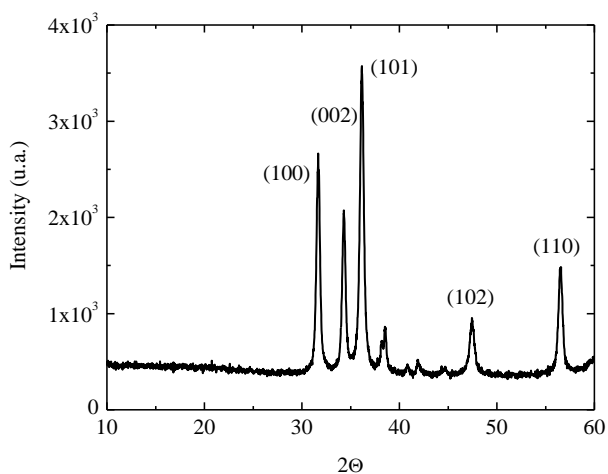
SEM images of ZnO NPs prepared by EPD. (a) top view, (b) cross section.



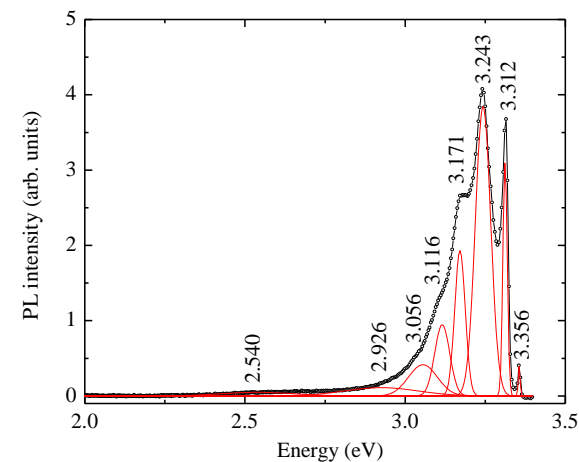
AFM image of ZnO NPs prepared by EPD.



X-ray diffraction pattern.



4 K photoluminescence spectrum.



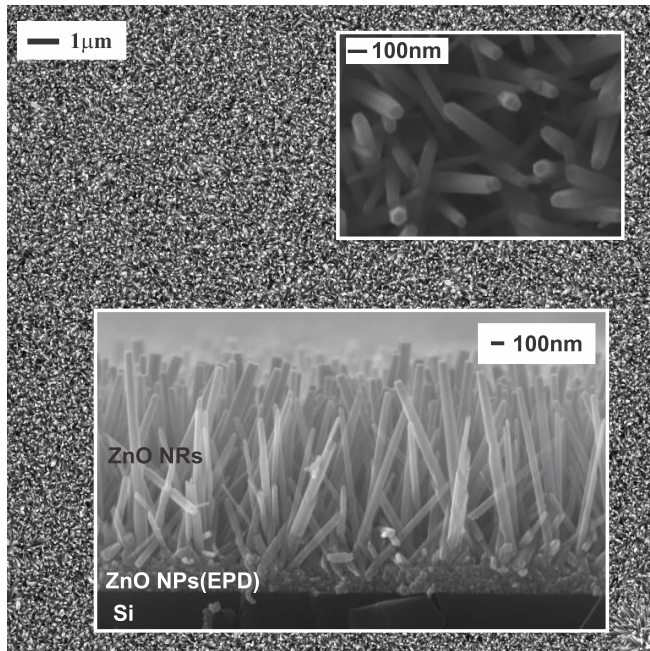
# Preparation of the ZnO NRs

Hydrothermal growth (95°C, 3h)

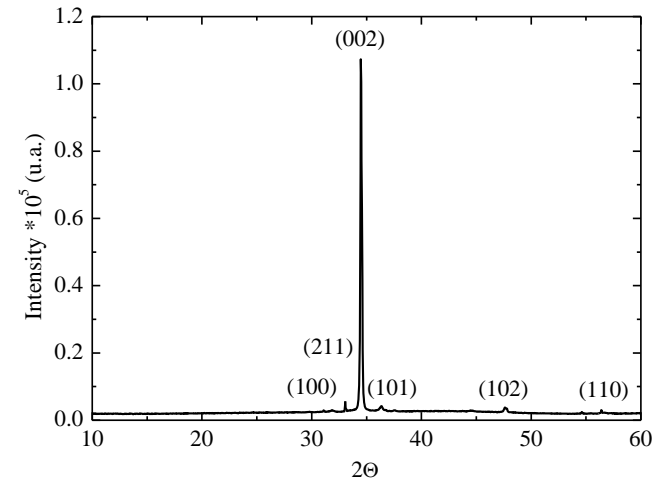
Zinc nitrate { $\text{Zn}(\text{NO}_3)_2 \cdot 6\text{H}_2\text{O}(\text{NO}_3)$ }

HMTA { $\text{C}_6\text{H}_{12}\text{N}_4$ }

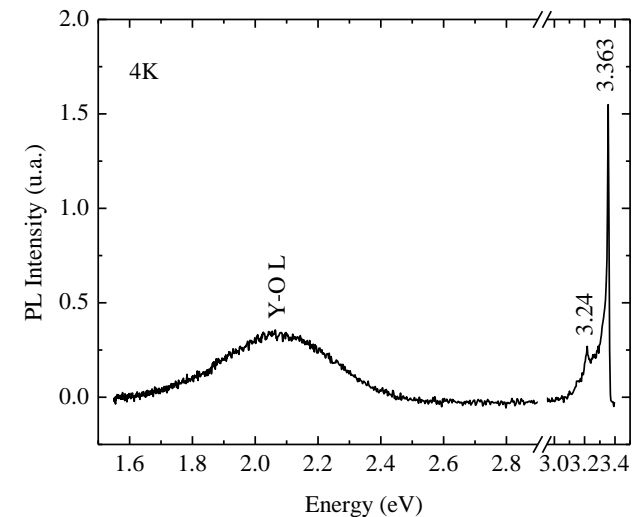
SEM images of ZnO NRs



X-ray diffraction pattern.



4 K photoluminescence spectrum.

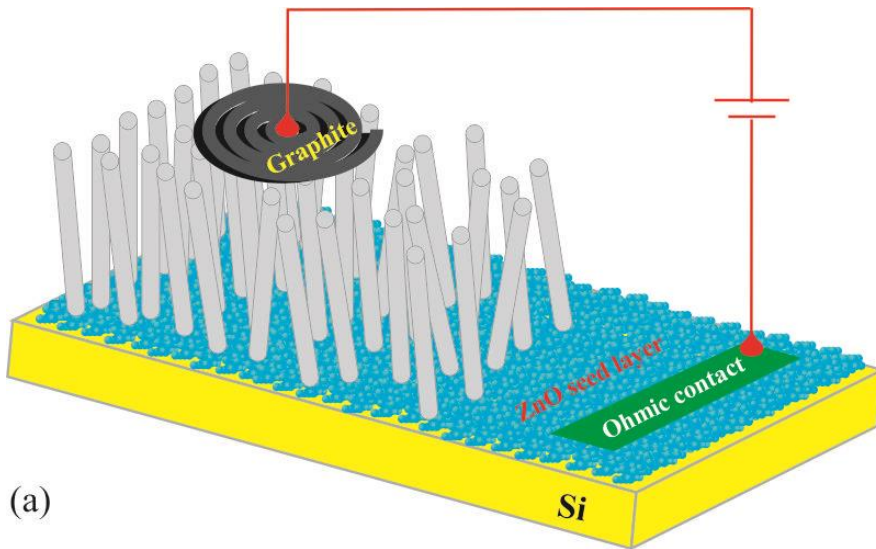


R. Yatskiv, J. Grym and M. Verde, **Solid State Electron** 105, 70-73 (2015).

R. Yatskiv, V. V. Brus, M. Verde, J. Grym and P. Gladkov, **Carbon** 77, 1011-1019 (2014).

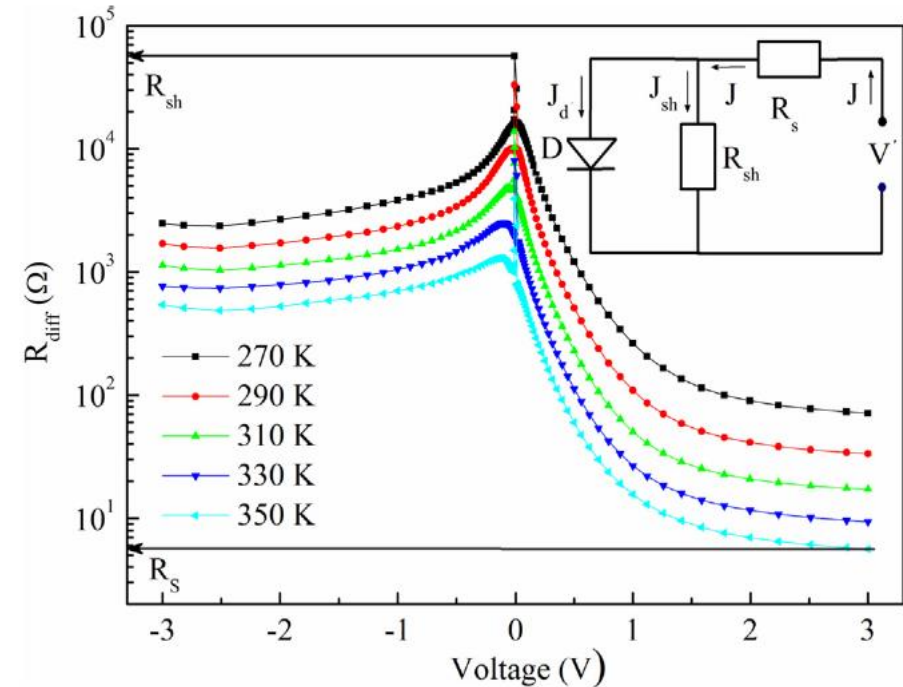
# Electrical characterization of ZnO nanorods

Schematic cross section of the graphite/ZnO NRs junction.



(a)

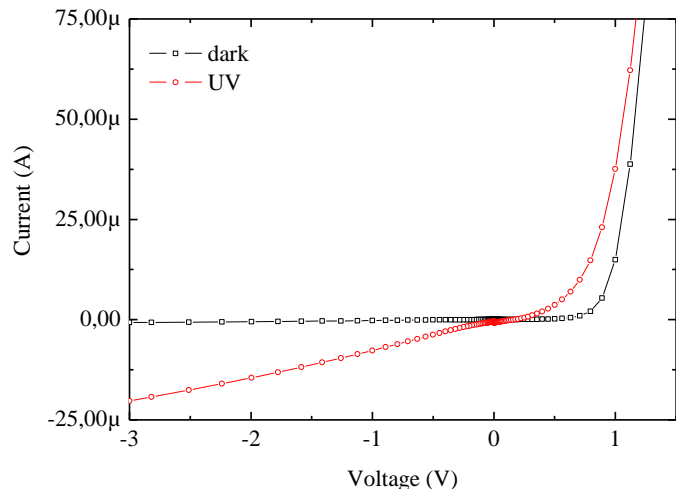
Differential resistance  $R_{diff}$  of the graphite/ ZnO NRs heterojunctions vs. voltage. The inset shows the equivalent DC circuit.



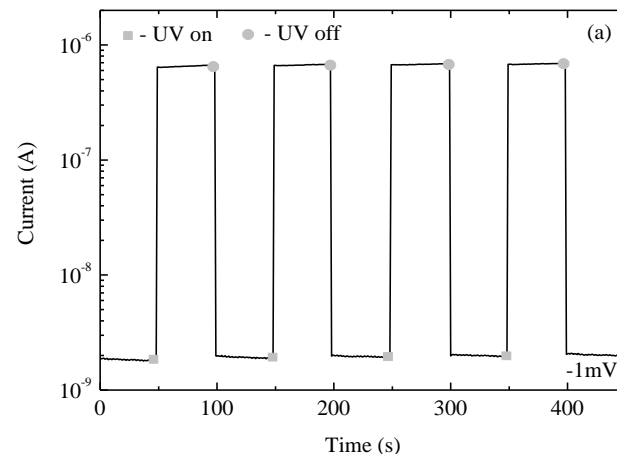
R. Yatskiv, V. V. Brus, M. Verde, J. Grym and P. Gladkov, **Carbon** 77, 1011-1019 (2014).

# Graphite/ZnO NRs junction for UV photodetectors

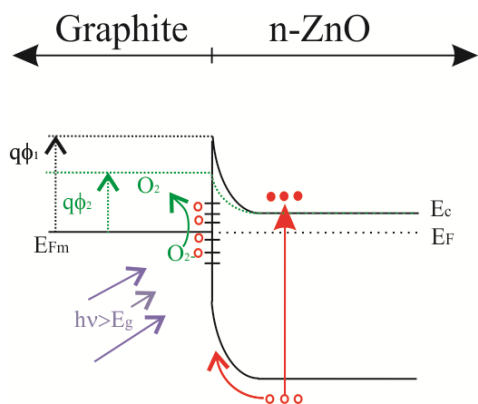
I-V characteristics of the graphite/ZnO NRs junction measured in darkness and under UV illumination



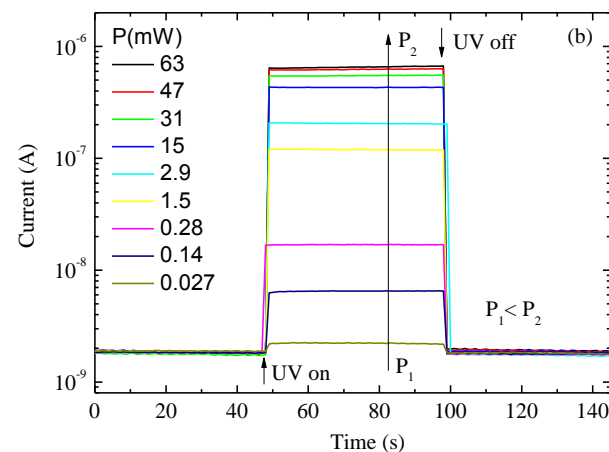
Time dependent photoresponse of the graphite/ZnO NRs at a reverse bias 1 mV under UV illumination with 395nm light for 4 cycles.



Schematic diagram of the working principle of the graphite/ZnO NRs junction UV photodetector

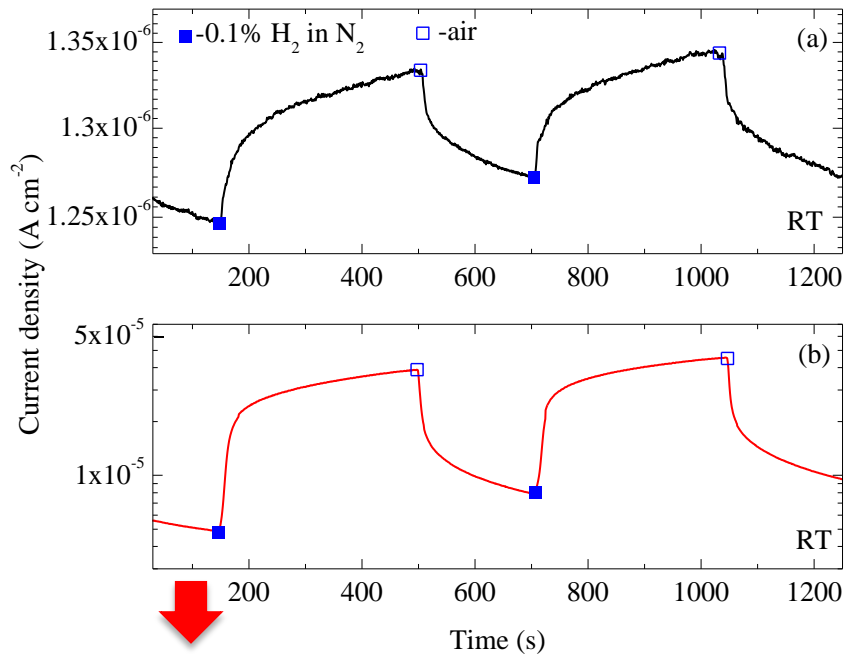


Photoresponse under various UV illumination intensities at a reverse bias of 1 mV.



# Graphite/ZnO NRs and Graphite-Pt NPs/ZnO NRs junction for gas sensors

Current transient characteristics of (a) the graphite/ZnO NRs junction, and (b) the graphite Pt NPs/ZnO NRs junction measured at -0.1 V.



**Type 1: Graphite/ZnO NRs junction**  
 Sensitivity response (S): 7%;  
 Reponse time ( $\tau_a$ ): 81s;  
 Recovery time ( $\tau_b$ ): 47s.

graphite →  
 ZnO NRs →  
 ZnO NPs →  
 Si → ← Ohmic contact

**Type 2: Graphite-Pt/ZnO NRs junction**  
 Sensitivity response (S): 700%;  
 Reponse time ( $\tau_a$ ): 68s;  
 Recovery time ( $\tau_b$ ): 22s.

(a) TEM and (b) HRTEM images of the Pt NPs

EPD Pt NPs on ZnO NRs

graphite →  
 Pt NPs →  
 ZnO NRs →  
 ZnO NPs →  
 Si → ← Ohmic contact

R. Yatskiv, J. Grym, V. V. Brus, O. Cernohorsky, P. D. Maryanchuk, C. Baziotti, G. P. Dimitrakopoulos and P. Komninou, **Semicond Sci Tech** 29 (4), 045017 (2014).

R. Yatskiv, J. Grym, P. Gladkov, O. Cernohorsky, J. Vanis and J.H. Dickerson, **Solid State Electron** (submitted)

# CONCLUSIONS

- ✓ Arrays of ZnO NRs were prepared by hydrothermal growth on electrophoretically deposited seed layers of ZnO nanoparticles.
- ✓ Colloidal graphite was deposited on top of these arrays to form a Schottky barrier.
- ✓ The Schottky barrier was employed in highly-sensitive self-powered UV photodetectors and hydrogen sensors.
- ✓ When the NR arrays were decorated with Pt nanoparticles, the hydrogen sensing response was improved by a factor of 100, and faster recovery and response times were achieved.



# Acknowledgment



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