



# Matériaux chalcogénures pour le stockage des données

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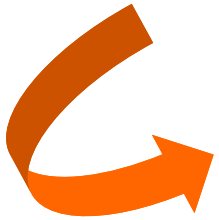
*Pl. E. Bataillon, F-34095 Montpellier cedex 5, France*

# Stockage des données

**Demande croissante et variée :**

- **densité d'information**
- **re-inscription**
- **stockage pérenne**

**Contraintes différentes**



**Différentes voies de stockage possible**

- ➔ **Optique (CD-ROM, CD-Rw,...)**
- ➔ **Electrique (mémoire flash)**
- ➔ **Magnétique (disque dur)**

# Optical devices

→ **CD-ROM** (*Compact Disc- Read-Only Memory*) → dye

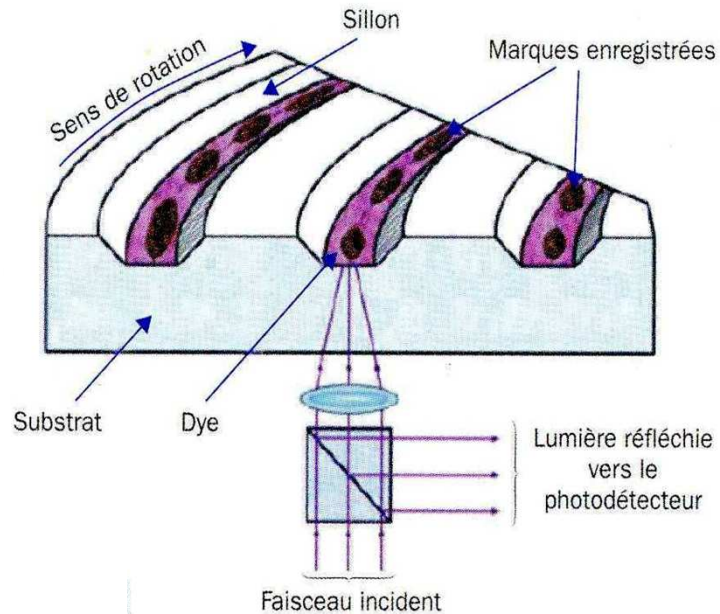
→ **CD-RW** (*Compact Disc-ReWritable*) → **Chalcogenide materials**

→ **BD** (*Blu-ray Disc*) → **Chalcogenide materials**

Mais aussi exploration de nouvelles voies

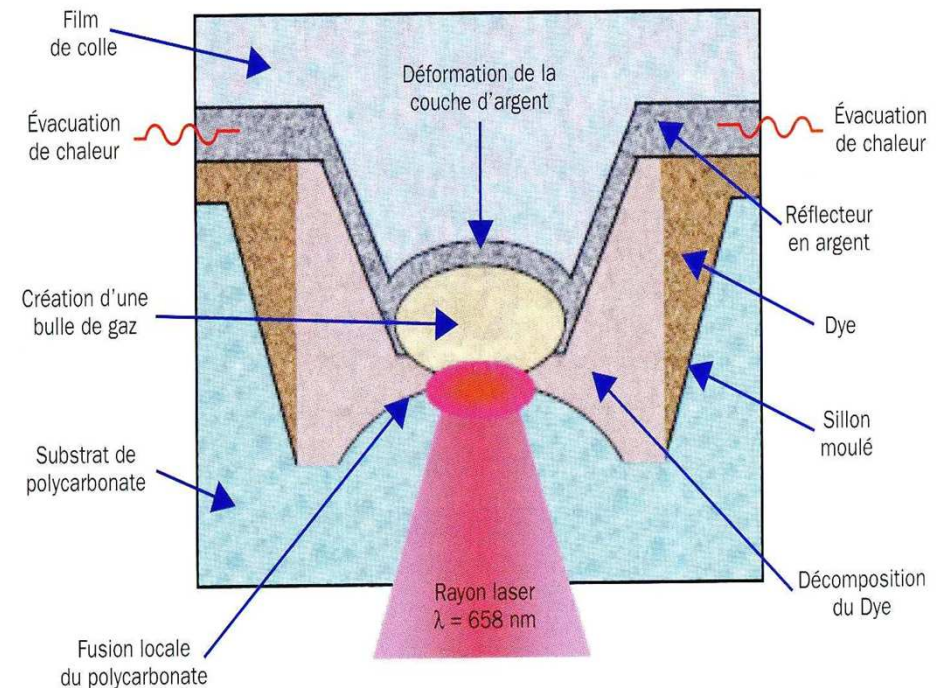
**Cu/Si**

# CD-ROM (Compact Disc- Read-Only Memory)



## Matériau actif:

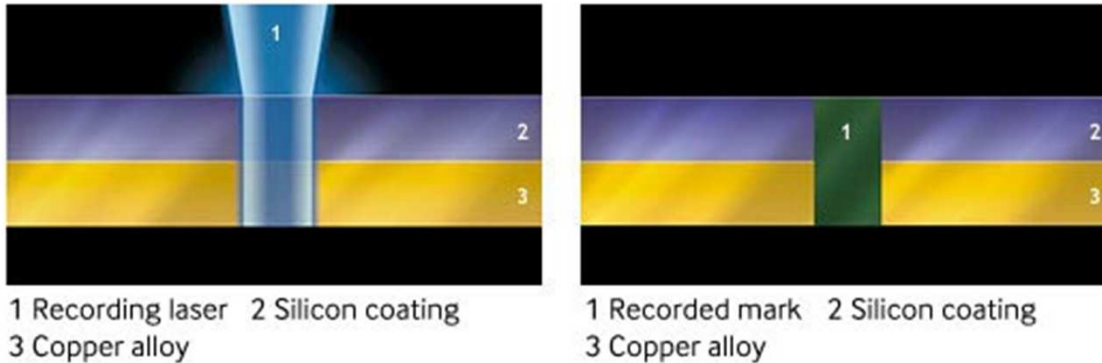
- **colorant**  
**(phthalocyanine)**



Longévité de l'information numérique,  
Hourcade, Laloë, Spitz,  
EDP Sciences 2010, p 84

# BD (*Blu-ray Disc*)

## Recording with TDK Blu-Ray Disc



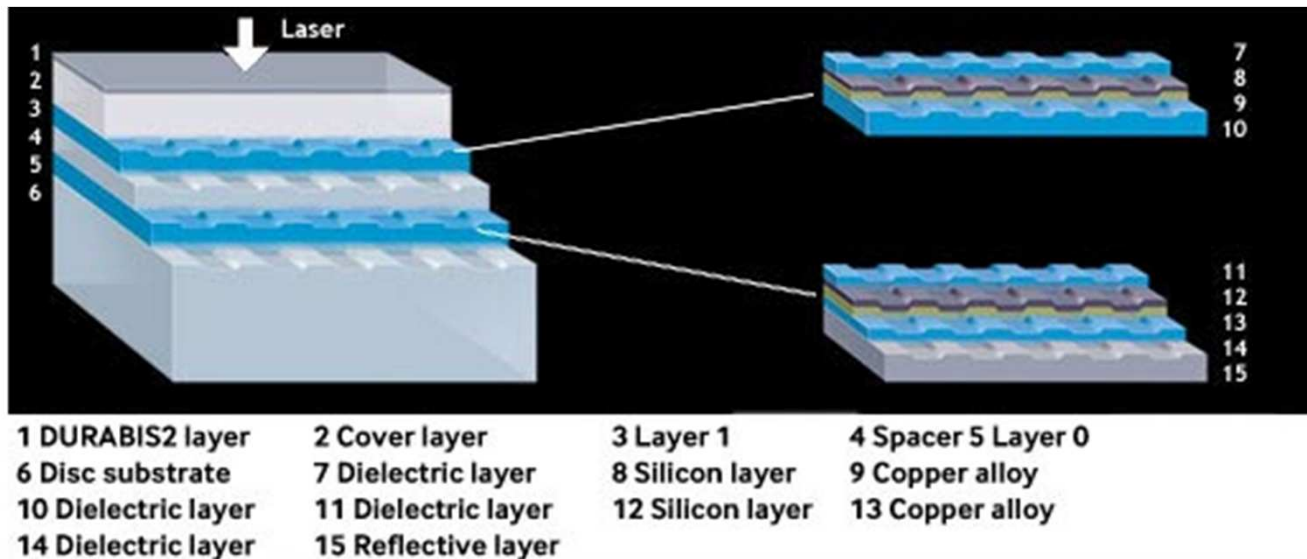
### Materials:

- *Cu/Si*

### Principle:

- *Melting + alloying of Si and Cu alloy*
- *Creation of a metallic spot in a semiconductor medium*

## ➔ Blu-Ray Double Layers

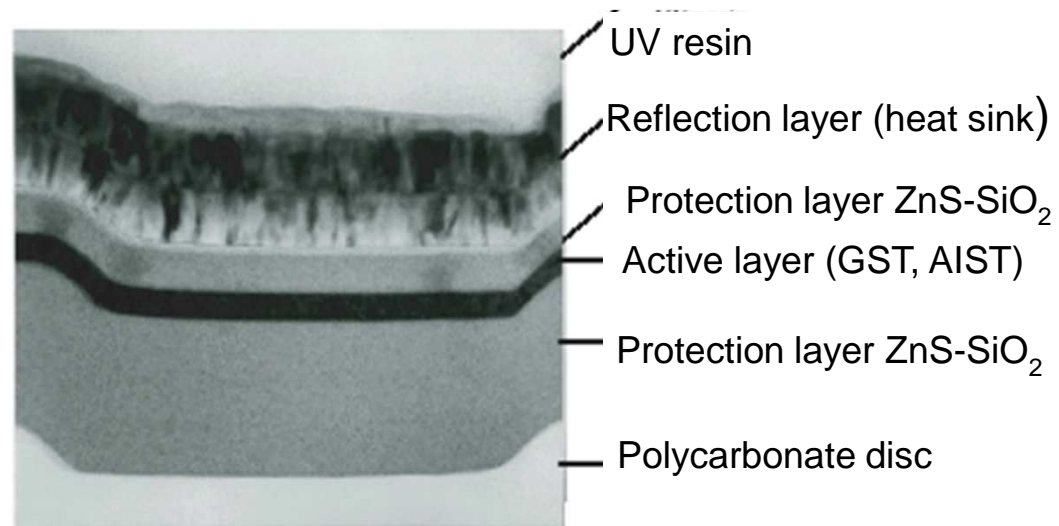


### Companies:

- *TDK*
- *Philips*

## CD-RW (*Compact Disc-ReWritable*)

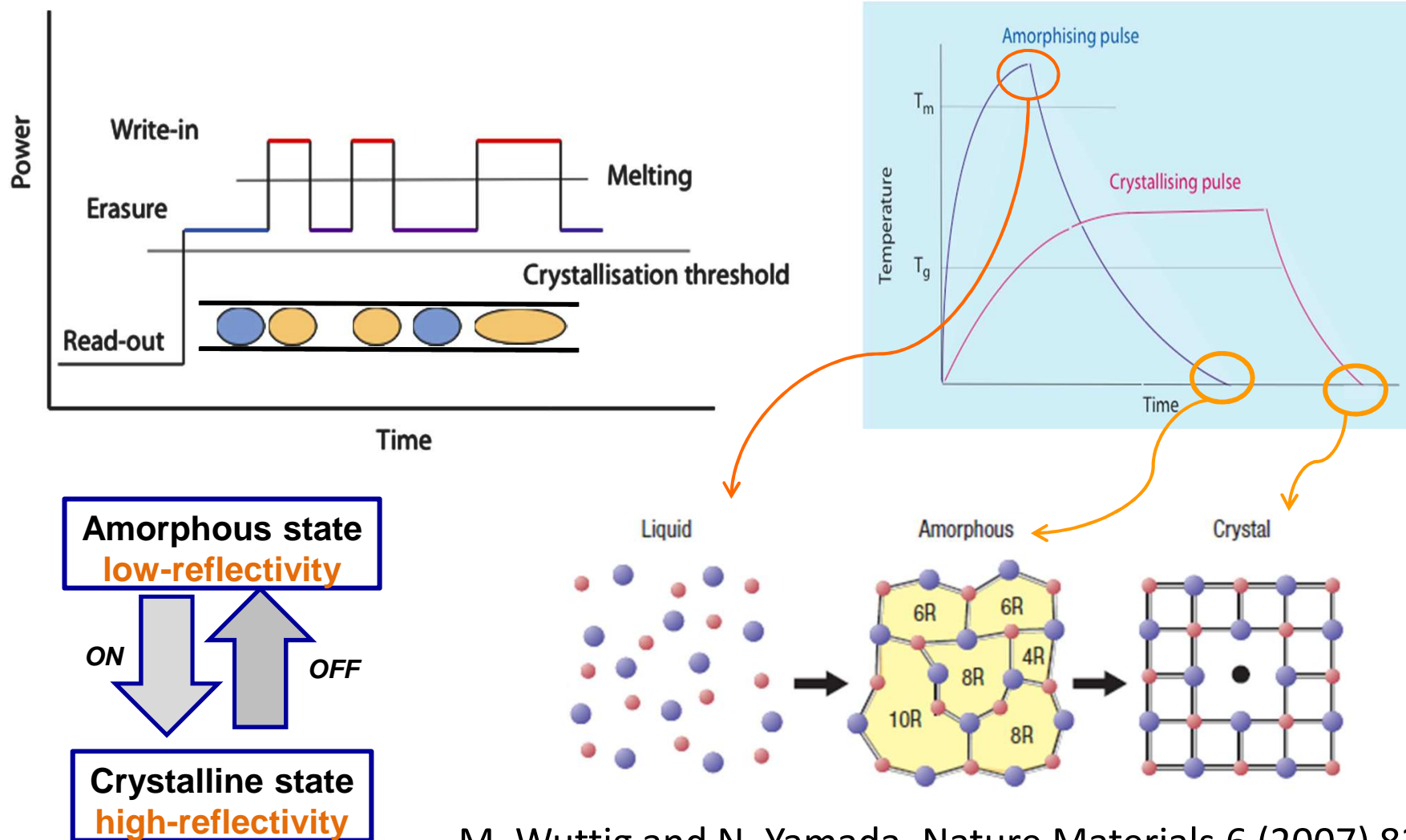
Active material : a phase change material i.e. a chalcogenide



*T. Ohta, JOAM 2001*

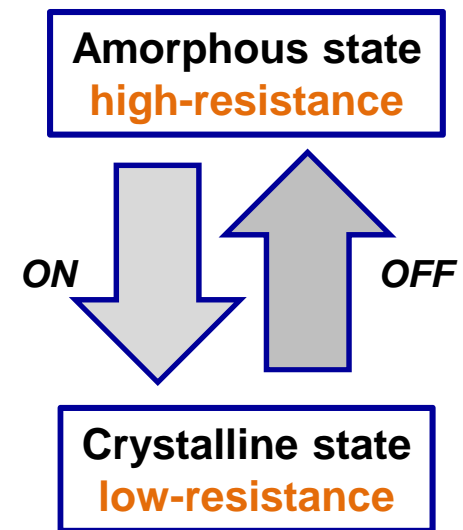
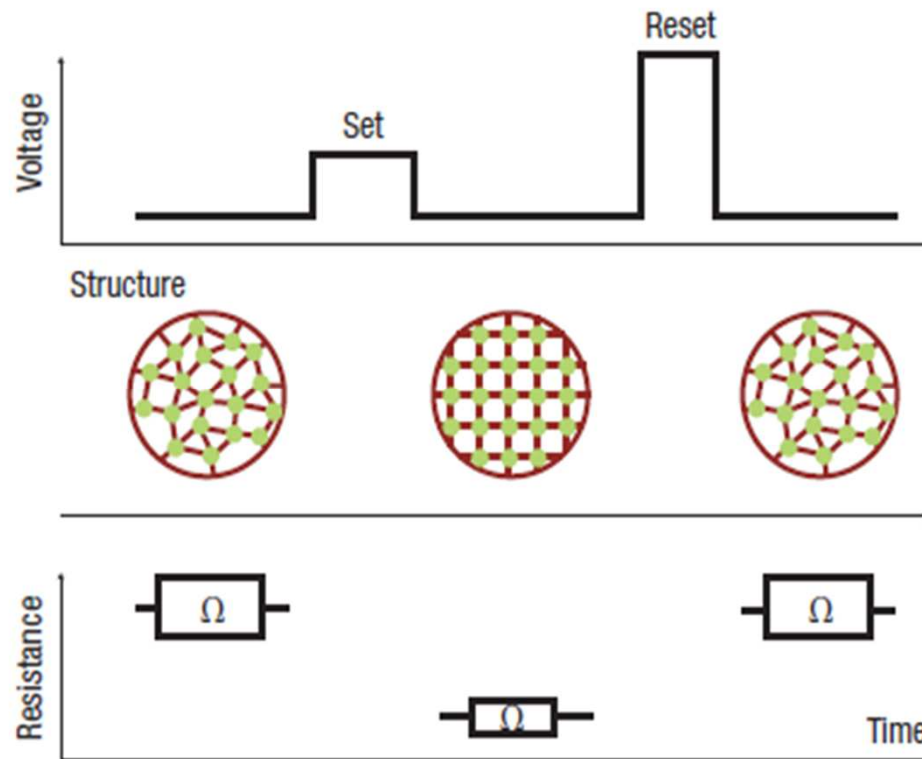
# CD-RW (Compact Disc-ReWritable)

## principle of a memory device based on phase change materials



M. Wuttig and N. Yamada, Nature Materials 6 (2007) 824.

# Electrical memory (PC-RAM)



*M. Wuttig, Nature Materials 4 (2005) 265.*



## ■ To be eligible a Phase Change Material (PCM) requires

- ➔ Large optical and/or electrical contrasts between amorphous and crystalline phases
- ➔ Very fast crystallization

Such a family of materials exists: it belongs to the **telluride family**

																<b>0</b>				
<b>Ia</b>												<b>IIIa</b>	<b>IVa</b>	<b>Va</b>	<b>VIa</b>	<b>VIIa</b>	<b>2</b>			
1 <b>H</b>	<b>IIa</b>											5 <b>B</b>	6 <b>C</b>	7 <b>N</b>	8 <b>O</b>	9 <b>F</b>	10 <b>Ne</b>			
3 <b>Li</b>	4 <b>Be</b>											13 <b>Al</b>	14 <b>Si</b>	15 <b>P</b>	16 <b>S</b>	17 <b>Cl</b>	18 <b>Ar</b>			
11 <b>Na</b>	12 <b>Mg</b>	<b>IIIb</b>	<b>IVb</b>	<b>Vb</b>	<b>VIb</b>	<b>VIIB</b>	<b>VIIIb</b>			<b>Ib</b>	<b>IIb</b>	31 <b>Ga</b>	32 <b>Ge</b>	33 <b>As</b>	34 <b>Se</b>	35 <b>Br</b>	36 <b>Kr</b>			
19 <b>K</b>	20 <b>Ca</b>	21 <b>Sc</b>	22 <b>Ti</b>	23 <b>V</b>	24 <b>Cr</b>	25 <b>Mn</b>	26 <b>Fe</b>	27 <b>Co</b>	28 <b>Ni</b>	29 <b>Cu</b>	30 <b>Zn</b>	49 <b>In</b>	50 <b>Sn</b>	51 <b>Sb</b>	52 <b>Te</b>	53 <b>I</b>	54 <b>Xe</b>			
37 <b>Rb</b>	38 <b>Sr</b>	39 <b>Y</b>	40 <b>Zr</b>	41 <b>Nb</b>	42 <b>Mo</b>	43 <b>Tc</b>	44 <b>Ru</b>	45 <b>Rh</b>	46 <b>Pd</b>	47 <b>Ag</b>	48 <b>Cd</b>	81 <b>Tl</b>	82 <b>Pb</b>	83 <b>Bi</b>	84 <b>Po</b>	85 <b>At</b>	86 <b>Rn</b>			
55 <b>Cs</b>	56 <b>Ba</b>	57 <b>La</b>	72 <b>Hf</b>	73 <b>Ta</b>	74 <b>W</b>	75 <b>Re</b>	76 <b>Os</b>	77 <b>Ir</b>	78 <b>Pt</b>	79 <b>Au</b>	80 <b>Hg</b>									
87 <b>Fr</b>	88 <b>Ra</b>	89 <b>Ac</b>	104 <b>Unq</b>	105 <b>Unp</b>	106 <b>Unh</b>	107 <b>Uns</b>														
							58 <b>Ce</b>	59 <b>Pr</b>	60 <b>Nd</b>	61 <b>Pm</b>	62 <b>Sm</b>	63 <b>Eu</b>	64 <b>Gd</b>	65 <b>Tb</b>	66 <b>Dy</b>	67 <b>Ho</b>	68 <b>Er</b>	69 <b>Tm</b>	70 <b>Yb</b>	71 <b>Lu</b>
							90 <b>Th</b>	91 <b>Pa</b>	92 <b>U</b>	93 <b>Np</b>	94 <b>Pu</b>	95 <b>Am</b>	96 <b>Cm</b>	97 <b>Bk</b>	98 <b>Cf</b>	99 <b>Es</b>	100 <b>Fm</b>	101 <b>Md</b>	102 <b>No</b>	103 <b>Lr</b>

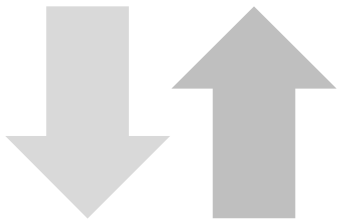
# Telluride materials: Phase Change Materials (PCM)



Cubic metastable phase

Rock-salt structure

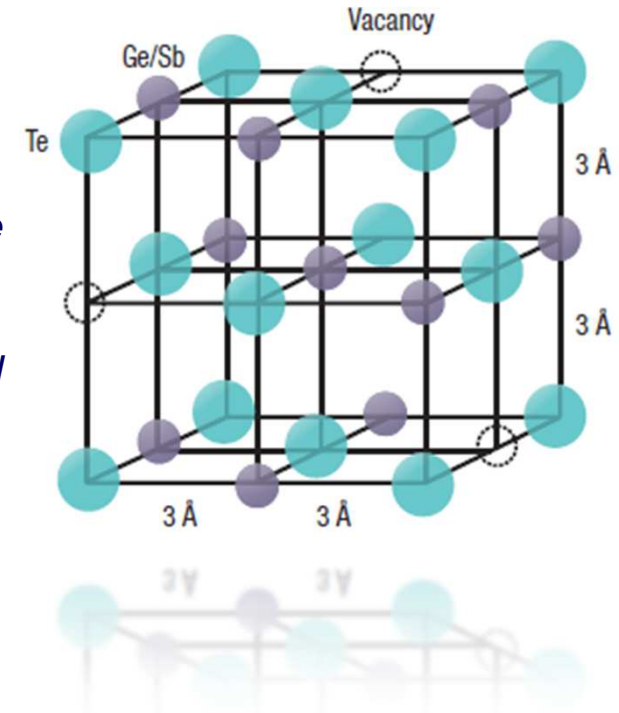
OFF



ON

Amorphous phase

*Te atoms occupy one sublattice of the crystal, and Ge atoms, Sb atoms and vacancies randomly occupy the second sublattice.*

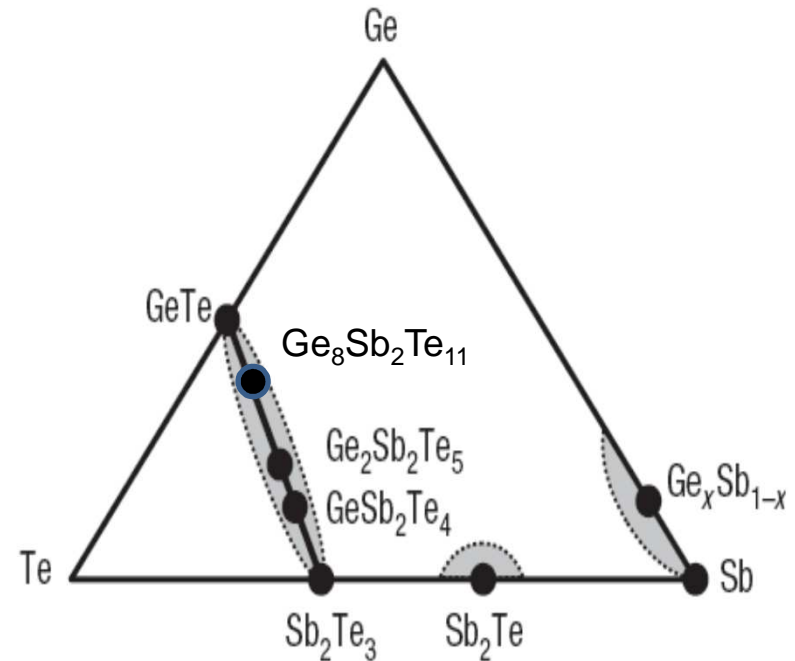


*The amorphous phase not so well known:  
Presence of Ge in Td environment*

# Telluride materials: Phase Change Materials (PCM)

➔ Different classes of phase-change materials were empirically discovered:

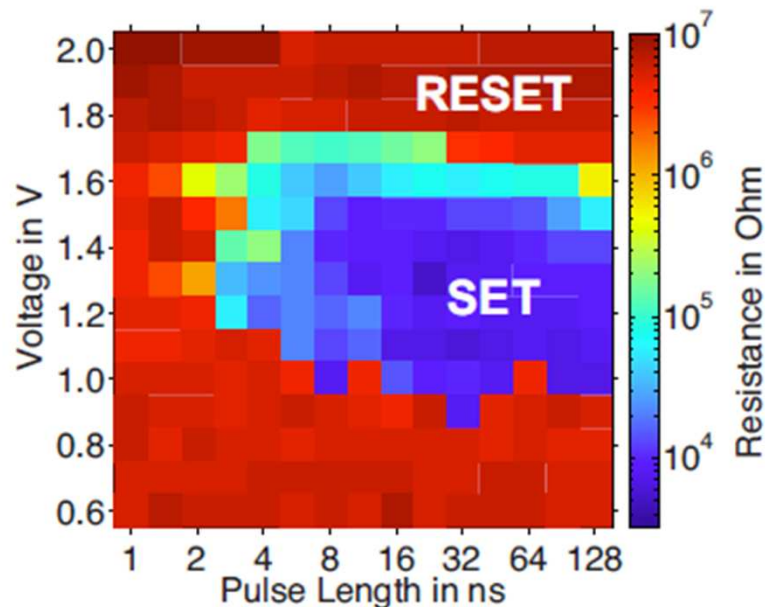
- ▣ the tie line between GeTe and  $\text{Sb}_2\text{Te}_3$
- ▣ the region around  $\text{Sb}_2\text{Te}$
- ▣ the area around Sb



➔ All of these alloys crystallize in a metastable rock-salt structure, where Te atoms occupy one lattice site (anion site) and Ge and Sb atoms as well as vacancies occupy the second lattice site (cation site).

# Telluride materials: Phase Change Materials (PCM)

Very fast crystallization



Cell resistance after application of set pulses with different amplitude and length, each starting from the amorphous reset state.

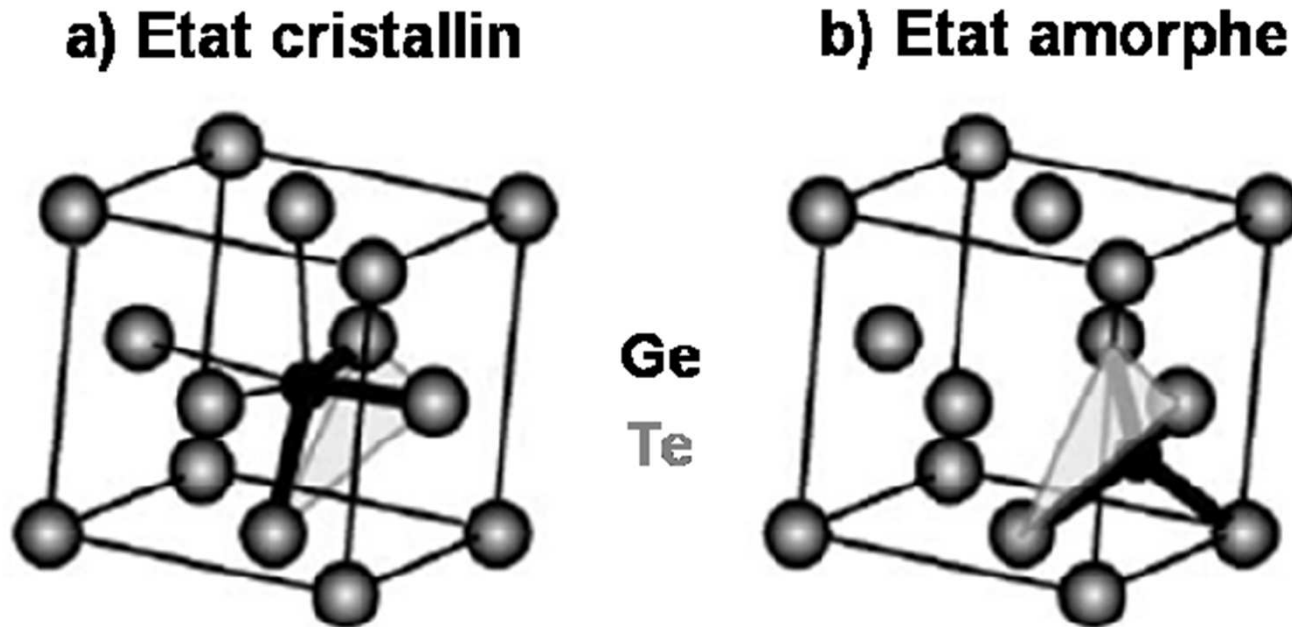
The color of each data point represents the cell resistance after the test pulse.

For pulses longer than 4 ns a broad crystallization window opens between 1.0 and 1.5 V.

**The crystallization behaviour shows that the phase transition can be operated within a few nano seconds.**

# Telluride materials: Phase Change Materials (PCM)

- Fast switching: « Umbrella flip »



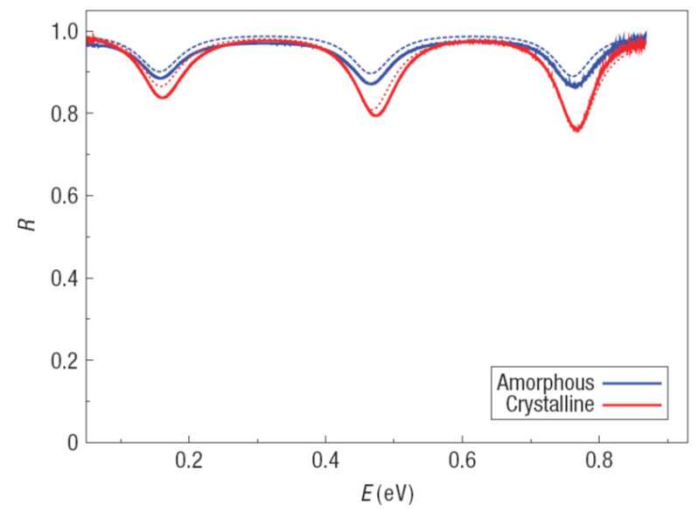
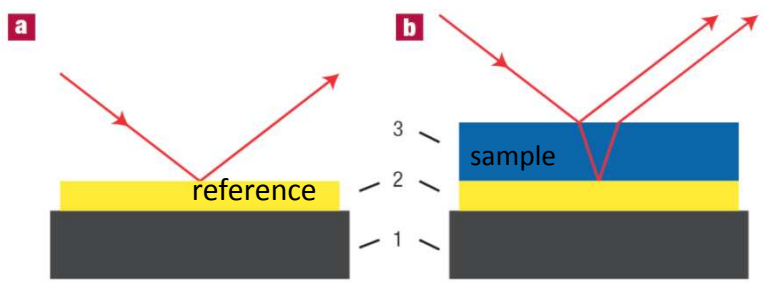
Kolobov et al., Nature Mater. 3 (2004) 703

- Tellurides are very bad glass formers ( $T_g \sim T_{\text{cryst.}}$ )

# Telluride materials: Phase Change Materials (PCM)

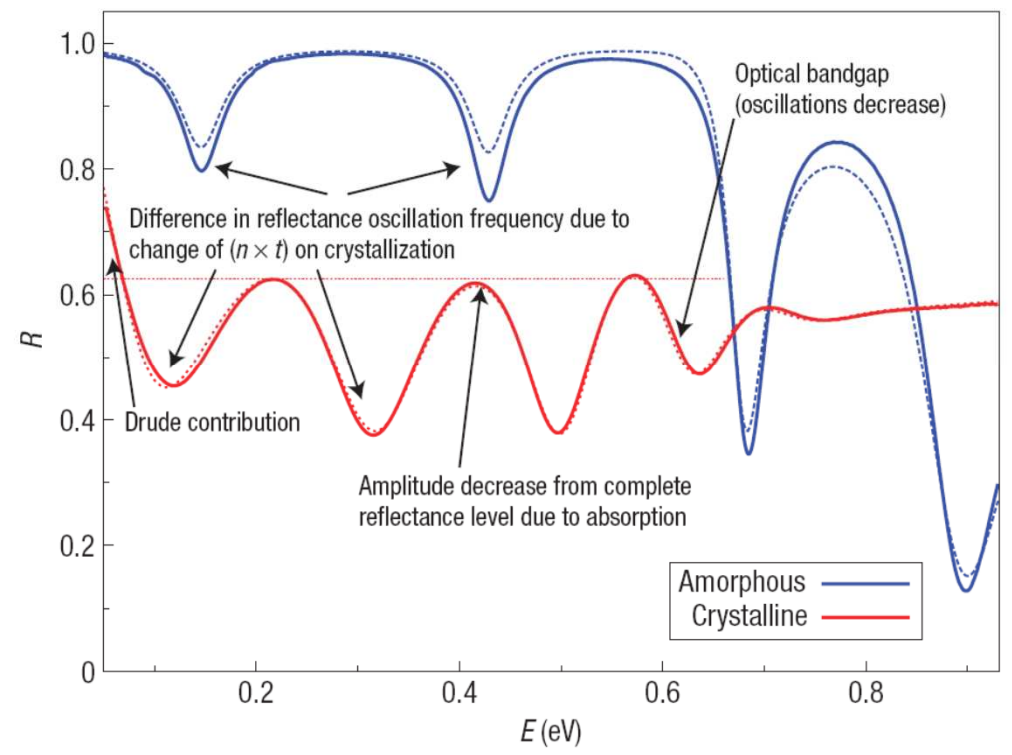


Large optical contrast between amorphous and crystalline phases



Infrared reflectance spectra of an  $\text{AgInTe}_2$  film (no PCM material)

## Infrared reflectance spectra of a PCM film



*K. Shportko, S. Kremers, M. Woda, D. Lencer, J. Robertson, M. Wuttig, Nature Mater. 7 (2008) 653.*

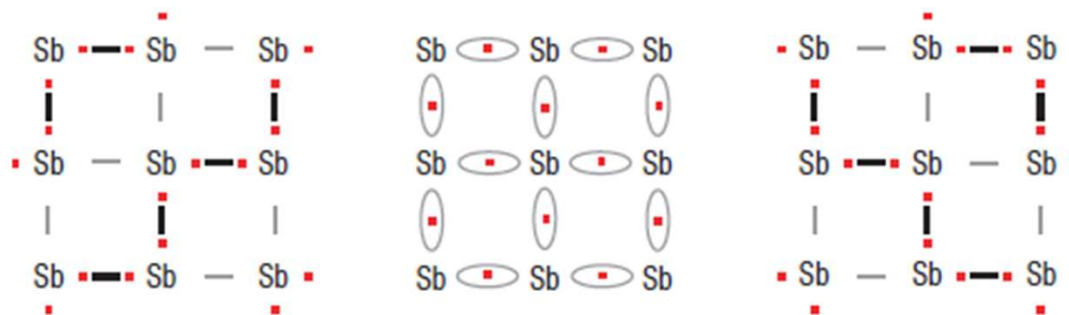
# Telluride materials: Phase Change Materials (PCM)

- Amorphous phase behaves in a conventional way (expected polarisability for covalent semiconductor)
- The crystalline phase has a much larger polarisability. Its refractive index is larger than that of the homologous amorphous phase by 50%

## Resonance bonding

In phase-change materials, an average of three *p-electrons per atom is present while the environment is octahedral* → *less than 2 electrons per bond*

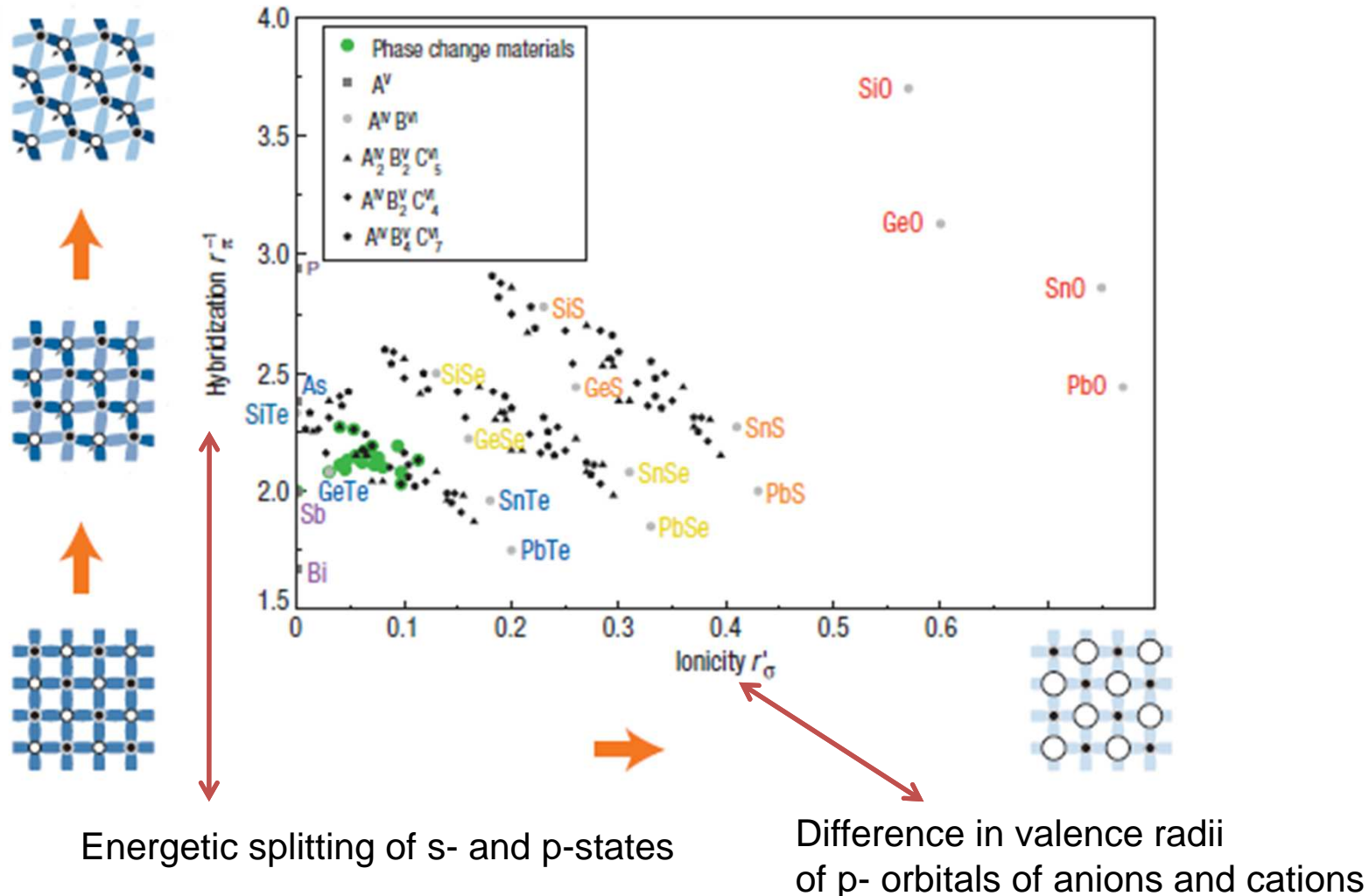
Schematic diagram demonstrating the origin of resonance bonding for Sb



*K. Shportko, S. Kremers, M. Woda, D. Lencer, J. Robertson, M. Wuttig, Nature Mater. 7 (2008) 653.*

# Telluride materials: Phase Change Materials (PCM)

## ■ A map for phase-change materials: Resonance bonding

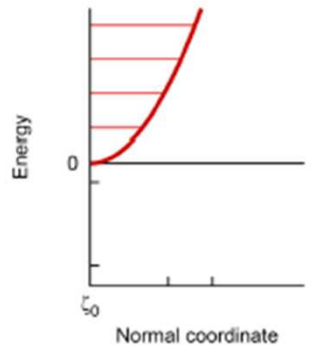


Lencer *et al.* Nature Mater.7 (2008), 972

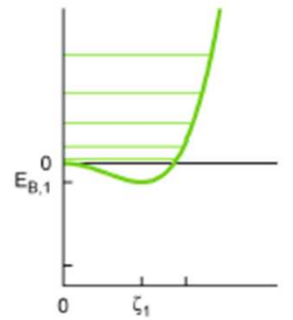


# Telluride materials: Phase Change Materials (PCM)

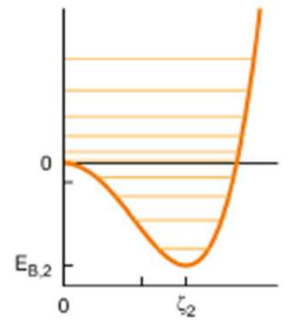
Potentials for atomic displacements



Undistorted structure



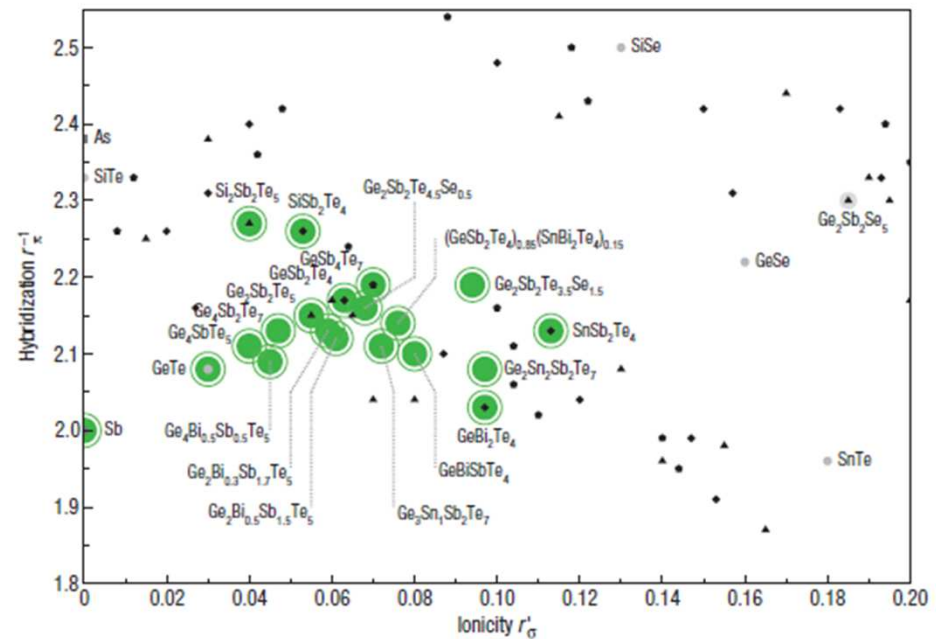
Slightly distorted structure



Strongly distorted structure

Crystalline Phase

Hybridization vs. Ionicity

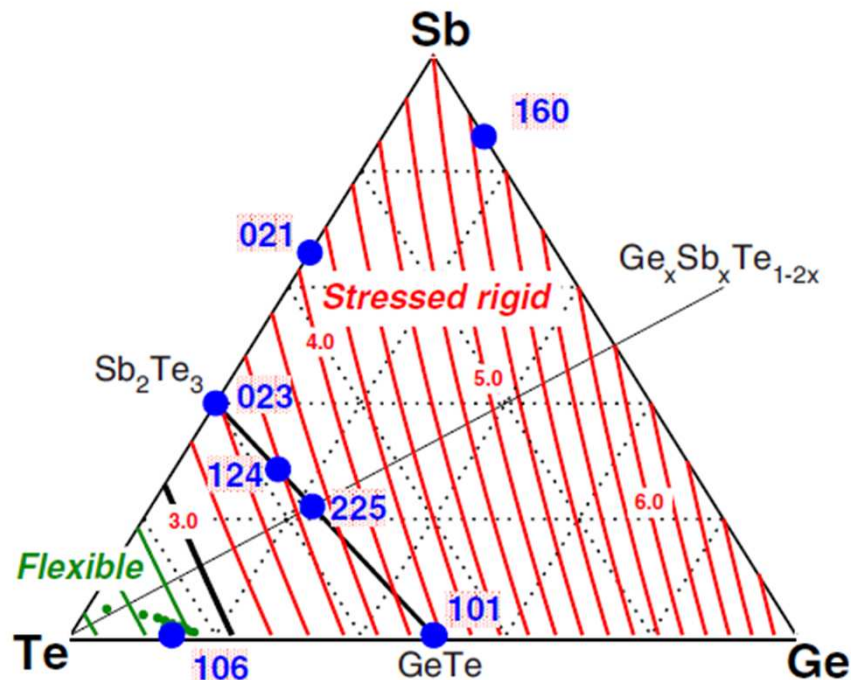


# Telluride materials: Phase Change Materials (PCM)

## Application of rigidity theory (Maxwell constraint) to Ge-Sb-Te system

Fully relaxed region: tie line  $\text{GeTe}_4$ - $\text{SbTe}_4$

Amorphous  
Phase



Constraint contour plot in the Ge-Sb-Te triangle defining a flexible (green) phase and a stressed rigid phase (red).

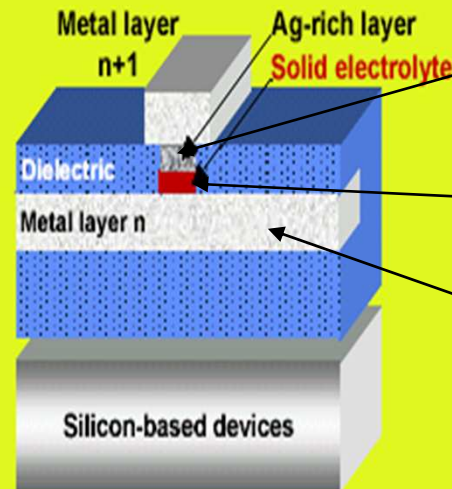
Micoulaut *et al.*,  
*Phys. Rev. B* 2009

Increased stability in time for the “fully relaxed” glasses? No expected ageing

# Ag-Ge-Se(S) systems: Electrical memory (CB-RAM)

## Conductive Bridging RAM (CB-RAM)

Solid electrolyte is formed in a **via** between two levels of metal in a *back end of line (BEOL)* process



**Anode: Ag or Ag-containing material**

**Solid electrolyte: Ag photo-dissolution in  $\text{GeSe(S)}_y$  (~ 30-50nm)**

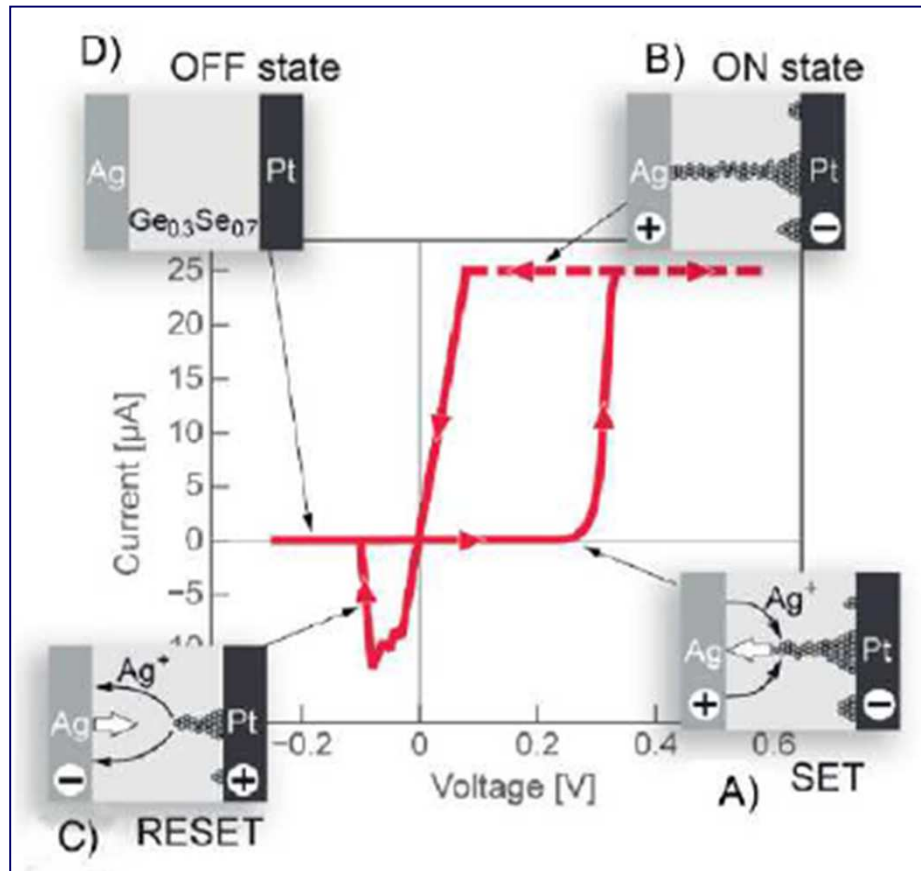
**Cathode: inert metal (Cr, Ni..)**

*N. Kozicki, M. Mitkova, M. Park, M. Balakrishnan, C. Gopalan, Superlattices and Microstructures 34 (2003) 459.*

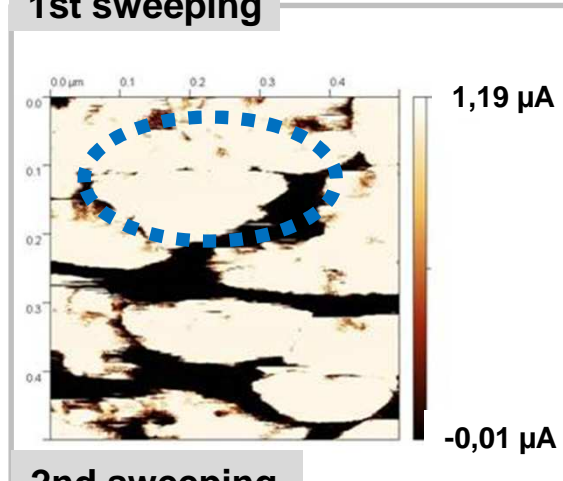
- **Bipolar resistive switching:** write-in and erasure occur under different polarities.

# PC-RAM

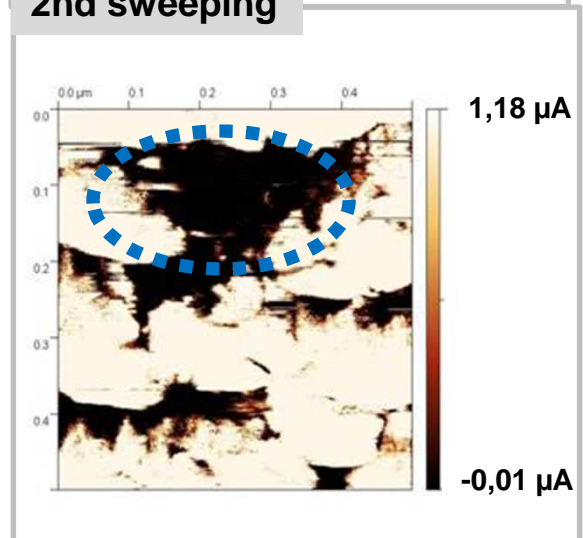
## Operation principle of an electrical memory



1st sweeping

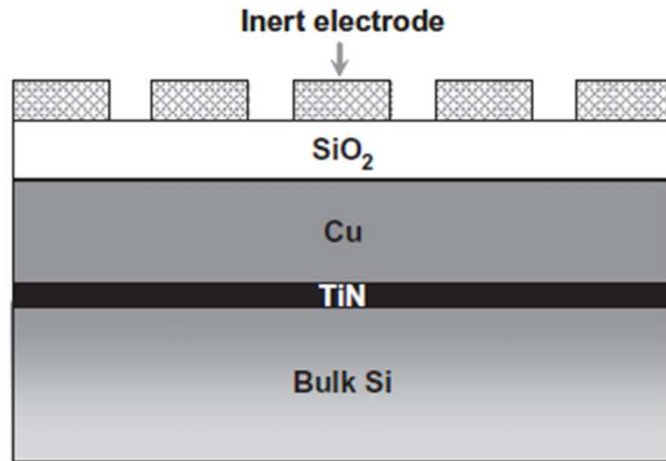


2nd sweeping



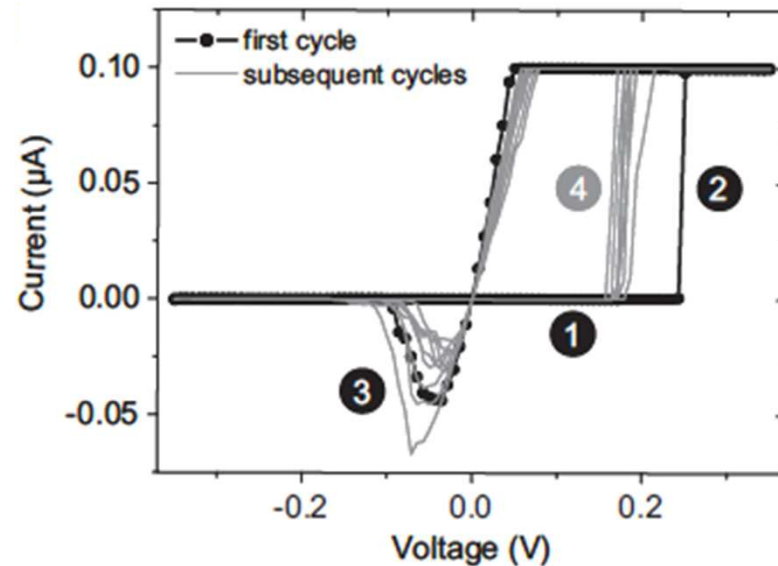
*Conductive spots do not occur at the same place*

## Recently.... $\text{Cu}/\text{SiO}_2$ studied as CB-RAM memory



*The couple  $\text{Cu}/\text{SiO}_2$  is a good choice in order to make CB-RAM integration easier with fabrication processes that are already in use*

- ✓ Bipolar resistive switching
- ✓ Similar operation principle to  $\text{Ag}/\text{GeSe}(\text{S})$  memories



Y. Bernard *et al.*, *Microelectronic Engineering* 88 (2011) 814.

# Conclusion


## Tellurures



Matériaux à changement de phase cristallisée-amorphe  
Étudiés surtout pour la réalisation de **mémoires re-inscriptibles**  
et/ou à forte densité de stockage

Réflectivité très différente entre amorphe et cristallisé car nature très différente des liaisons chimiques (liaison résonante dans le cas du cristallisé)

### Vieillessement

Cristallisé  rôle de lacunes, distorsion, nano-separation de phase

Amorphe  modèle de rigidité de Maxwell (pas de vieillissement pour la « phase intermédiaire »)

## Sulfures, séléniures



Mémoire à pont conducteur  
Propriété exploitée: très grande mobilité de l'argent  
dans les chalcogénures