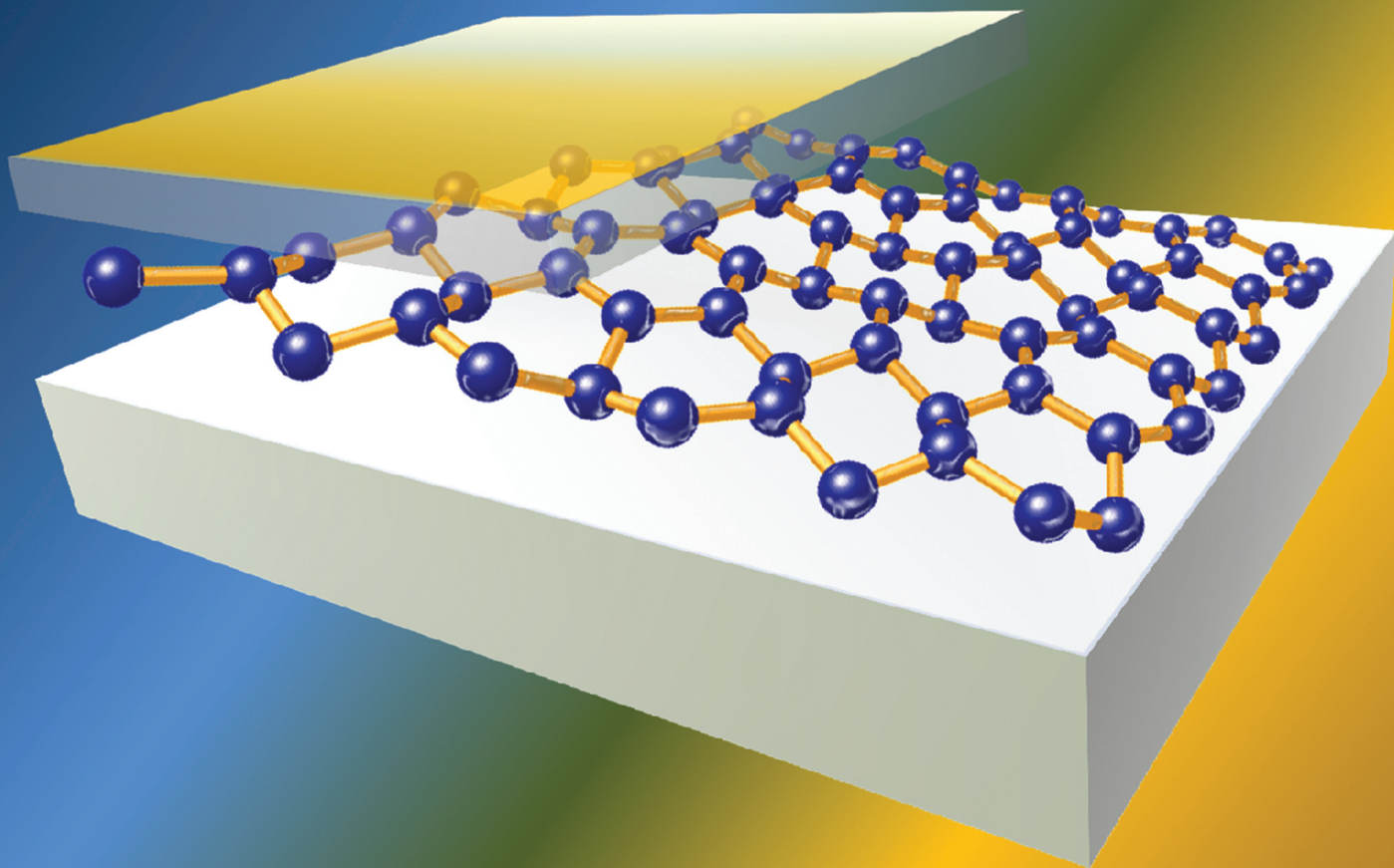


# ADVANCED FUNCTIONAL MATERIALS



## NANOSTRUCTURES

A. Molle and co-workers engineer a 'silicene sandwich': the encapsulation of silicene layers epitaxially grown on Ag(111) is necessary to avoid oxidation.  $\text{Al}_2\text{O}_3$ -based encapsulation of these layers, demonstrated on page 4340, results in a sandwiched structure that can be exploited for the ex situ characterization of silicene, or for devices incorporating a gated silicene sheet.