

## Electronic Supplementary Information

In the case of a nondegenerate n-doped semiconductor, the Boltzmann approximation for the concentration of electrons ( $n$ ) reads:

$$n = N_c \exp\left(-\frac{E_F - E_C}{K_B T}\right), \quad (1)$$

Where  $N_c$  is the effective density of states in the conduction band,  $E_c$  and  $E_F$  are the conduction band energy level and the Fermi energy level,  $K_B$  is Boltzmann constant and  $T$  is the temperature. If the effective donors concentration  $C_D$  is significantly higher than the intrinsic carriers concentrations  $n_i$ , the concentration of electrons  $n$  can be used to estimate  $C_D$  by using the following approximation:

$$C_D \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} N_D^+ - N_A^- \approx n \quad (2)$$

Where the effective donors concentration  $C_D$  is defined as the difference between the ionized concentration of donors  $N_D^+$  and the ionized concentration of acceptors  $N_A^-$ . When the n-doped semiconductor surface is electrically connected to the tip through a back contact, the  $V_{CPD}$  can be written as:

$$V_{CPD} = \frac{\phi_{tip} - \chi + (E_F - E_C)}{q} \quad (3)$$

Where  $\chi$  is the electron affinity of the semiconductor. Analogous expressions can be derived for a p-doped semiconducting surface. In equation (3) the band bending term  $\phi_B$  is not explicitly included and its effect on the electrical conductivity of the surface is taken into account by including it in the bulk. By combining equations (1-3),  $V_{CPD}$  images probed by SKPM can be mapped into the effective donors concentration  $C_D$ , which actually corresponds to the effective doping profile:

$$C_D \approx N_c \exp\left(\frac{qV_{CPD} - \phi_{tip} + \chi}{K_B T}\right) \quad (4)$$

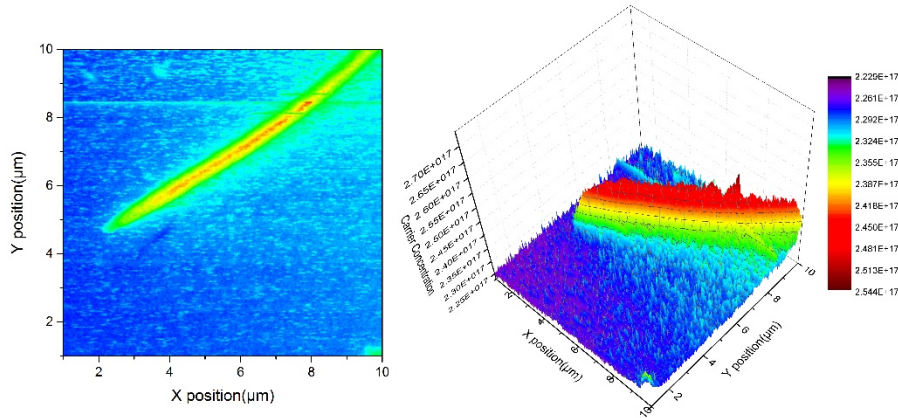
$V_{CPD}$  between Au and tip could be calculated as below

$$V_{CPD} = \frac{\phi_{tip} - \phi_{Au}}{q}, \quad (5)$$

Combined formula (4, 5),  $V_{CPD}$  could be writhed as

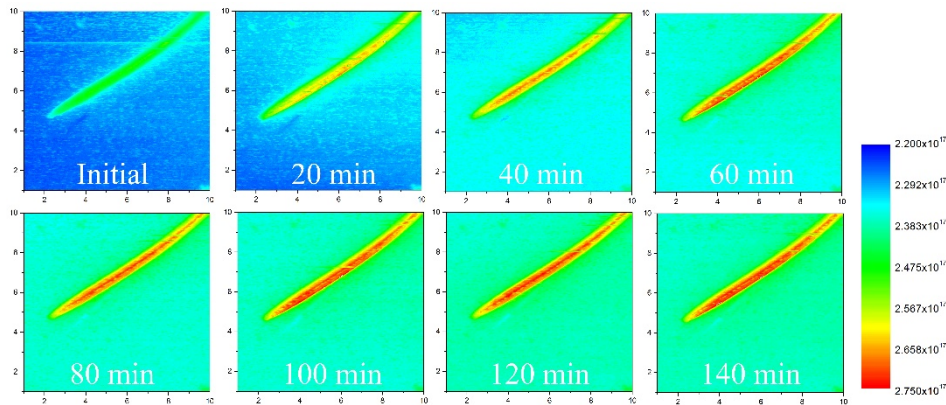
$$V_{CPD} = \frac{(\phi_{Au} + qV_{CPD}) - \phi_{sample}}{q}, \quad (6)$$

Here, work function of Au is 5.1 eV, electron affinity of ZnO is 4.5 eV, effective density of states in the conduction band  $N_C$  is  $3.7 \times 10^{18}$ , Boltzmann constant  $K_B$  is  $8.6 \times 10^{-5} \text{ eV/K}$ , and temperature  $T$  is 300K. The carrier density of ZnO nanowire could be calculated, as shown Fig S1. The Fig S1 shows that the carrier density of small terminal is lower. The carrier density decrease along axle of ZnO nanowire, which consistent with trend of surface potential.



**Fig S1 carrier density of ZnO nanowire**

The carrier density of ZnO nanowire increase after UV illumination with 0-140 min, as shown in Fig S2. The carrier density of ZnO with 300nm diameter increase from  $2.45 \times 10^{17}$  to  $2.68 \times 10^{17}$  after UV illumination. The carrier density reach to saturation, after 40 min illumination. At the beginning, numerous electron-hole pair were generated by UV illumination. The hole attracted by surface oxygen ion. Therefore the electron density increase drastically. Meanwhile, the surface potential decrease due to increasing electron density. The recombination of electron-hole pair increase due to carrier density increase. The carrier density reach equilibrium when photo-generation equal to recombination.



**Fig S2 carrier density of ZnO nanowire under UV illumination with 0-140min**

