

Oxide interfaces

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J. Rault, J.P. Rueff

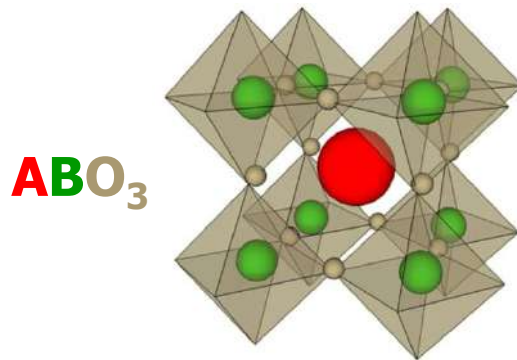
CSNSM

A. Santander

U. Complutense de Madrid

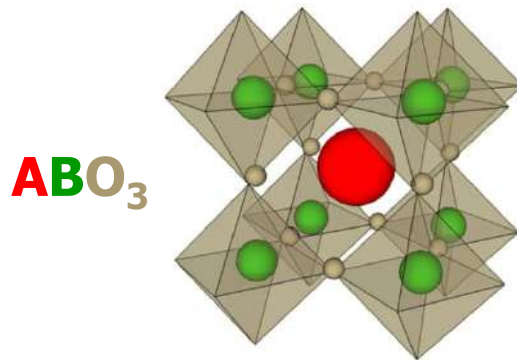
J. Santamaria, M. Varela

Transition metal perovskite oxides



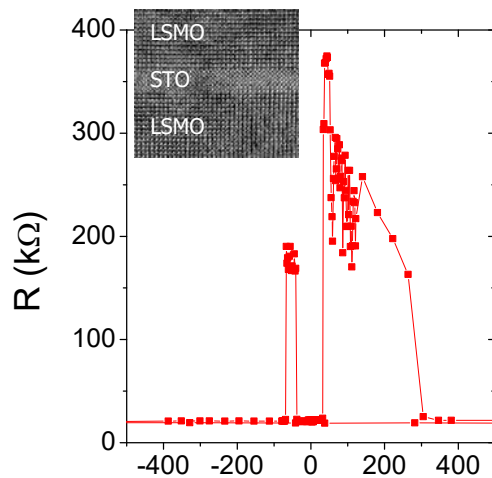
- ⊙ Very **flexible** structure
doping, tuning of bond lengths and angles
- ⊙ Broad range of **electronic states**
superconductivity, ferroelectricity, magnetic order, orbital order
- ⊙ Competition : **giant/coupled responses**
colossal magnetoresistance, magnetoelectric coupling
- ⊙ Multifunctional heteroepitaxial architectures

Transition metal perovskite oxides



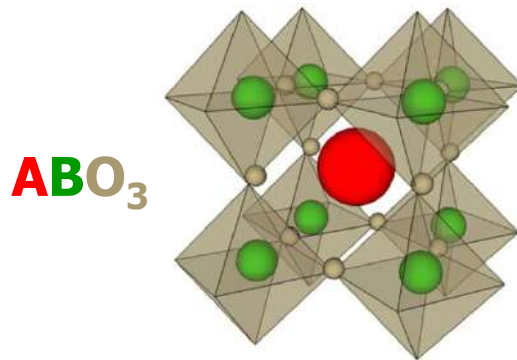
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MTJs based on La_{2/3}Sr_{1/3}MnO₃



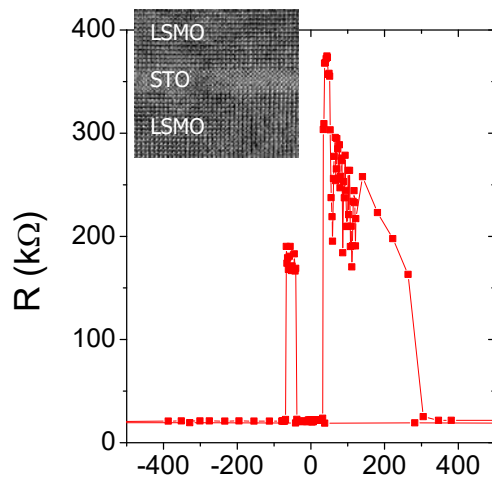
→ Record TMR > 1800%
[APL 82, 233 \(2003\)](#)

Transition metal perovskite oxides



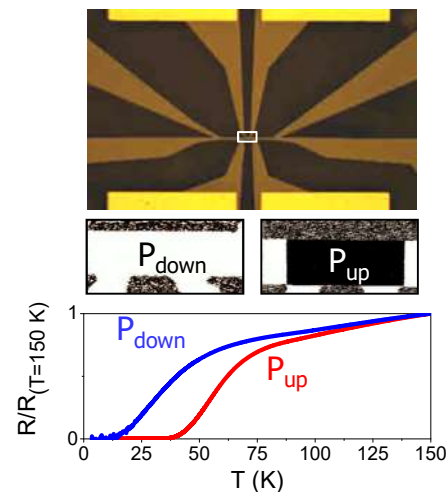
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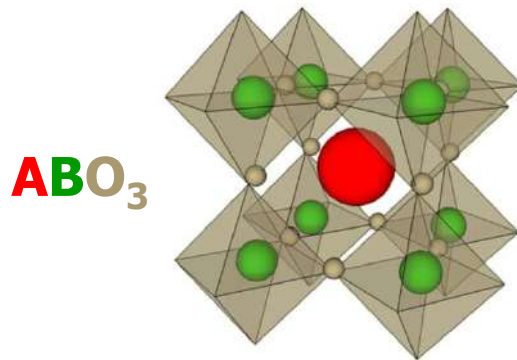
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Ferroelectric FETs based on in YBa₂CuO₇/BiFeO₃



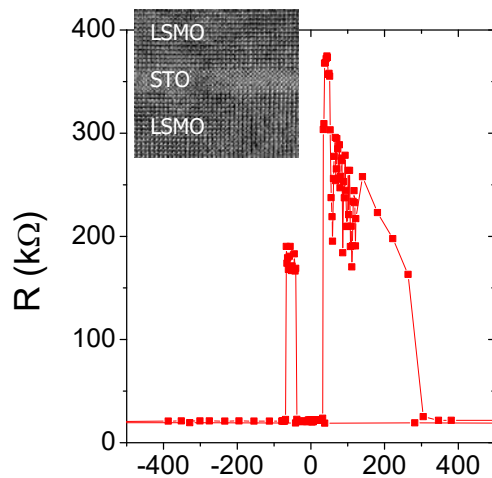
→ Non-volatile control of SC
PRL 107, 247002 (2011)

Transition metal perovskite oxides



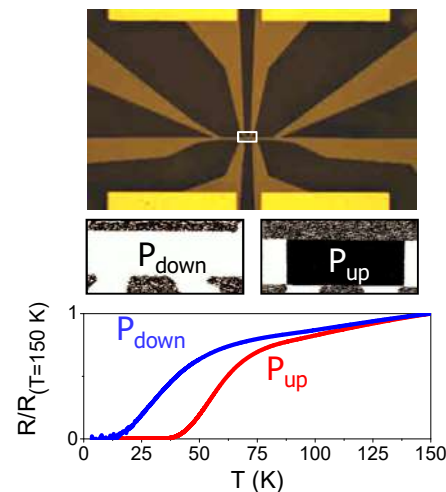
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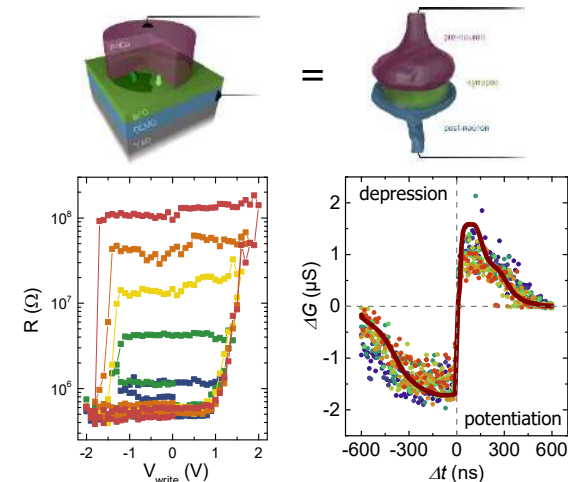
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APL 82, 233 (2003)

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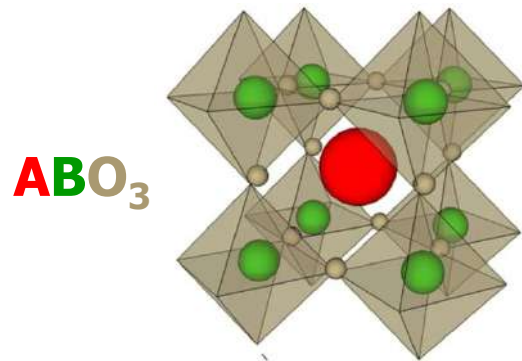
→ Non-volatile control of SC
PRL 107, 247002 (2011)

Electronic synapses based on (Ca,Ce)MnO₃/BiFeO₃ FTJs



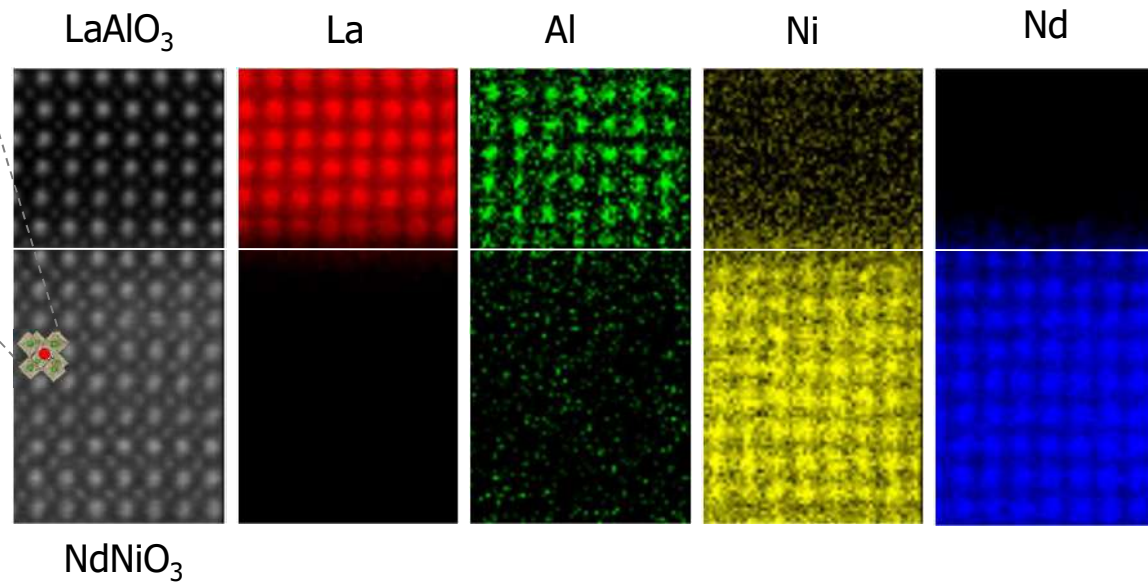
→ Memristive response + learning
Nature 460, 81 (2009) ; Nature Mater. 11, 860 (2012) ; Nature Comm. 8, 14736 (2017)

Transition metal perovskite oxides



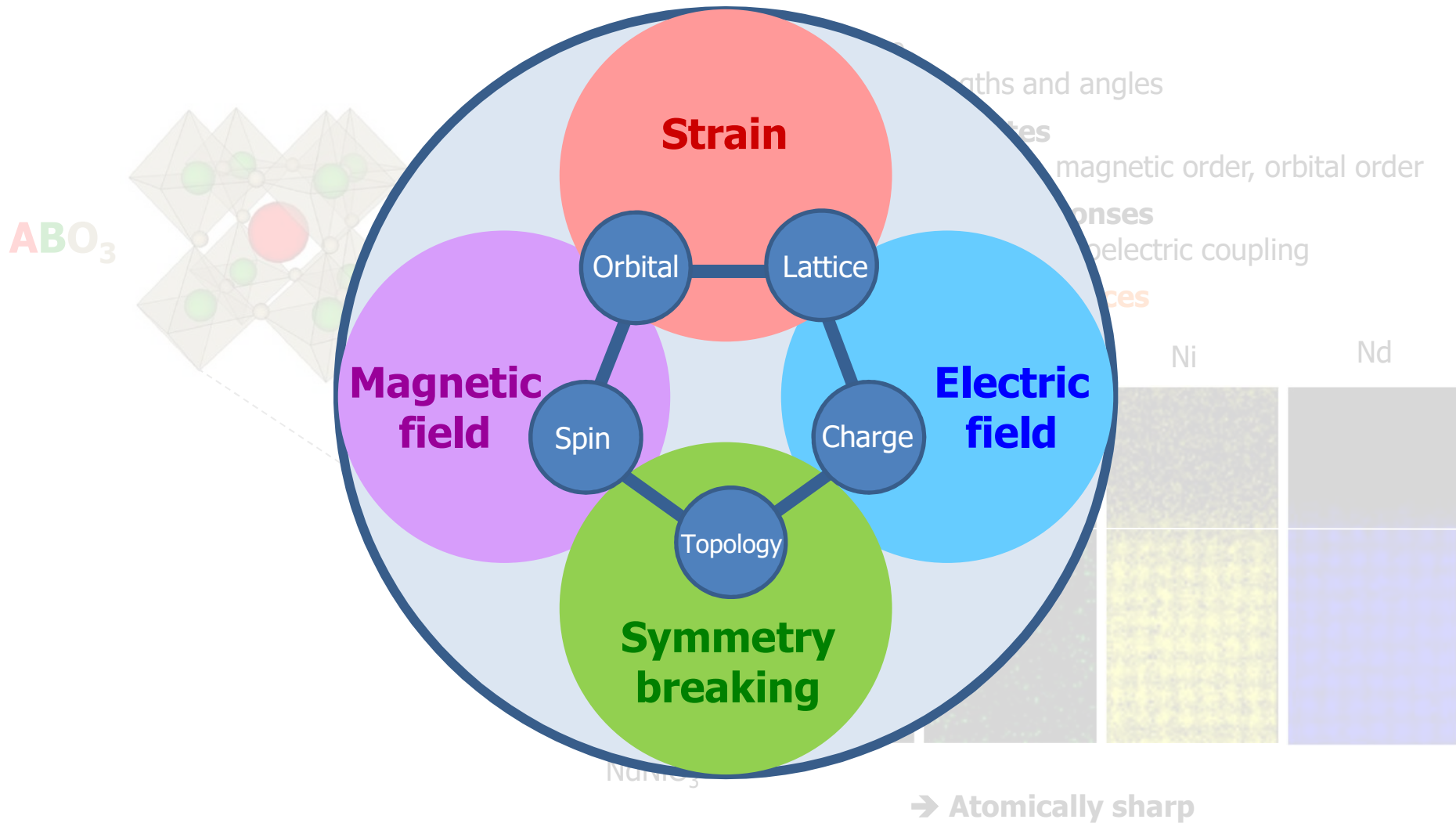
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- Competition : **giant/coupled responses**
colossal magnetoresistance, magnetoelectric coupling
- Multifunctional heteroepitaxial architectures
- New interface properties**

STEM by X. Yang & A.
Gloter (LPS Orsay)



→ **Atomically sharp**

Oxide interfaces : new playground for physicists



STEM by X. Yang & A. Gloter (LPS Orsay)

- 1. d_0 -oxide-based interfaces**
 - 1.1 Physics of bulk SrTiO_3**
 - 1.2 $\text{LaAlO}_3/\text{SrTiO}_3$ 2DEGs**
 - 1.3 Other SrTiO_3 2DEGs**
 - 1.4 2DEGs not based on SrTiO_3**
- 2. Interfaces between oxides with partially filled d shells**
 - 2.1 « Correlated » oxide perovskites**
 - 2.2 Nickelate/Titanate interfaces**

1. d_0 -oxide-based interfaces

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1.3 Other SrTiO_3 2DEGs

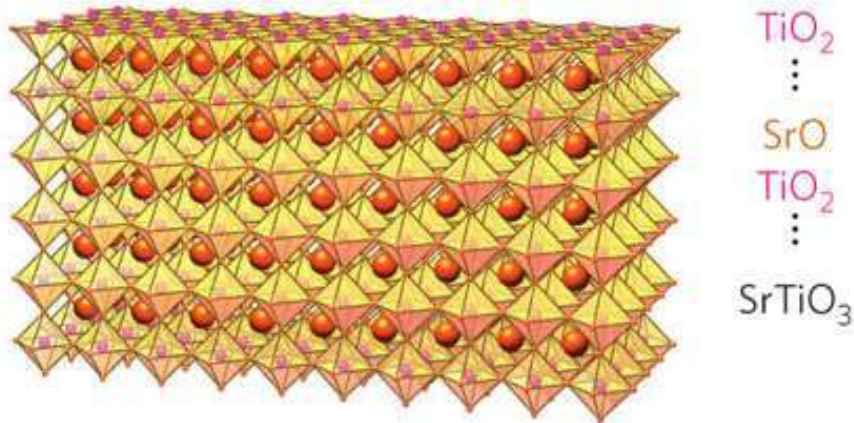
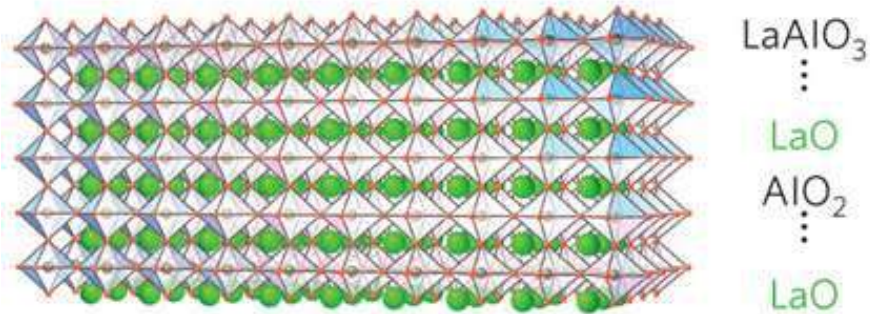
1.4 2DEGs not based on SrTiO_3

2. Interfaces between oxides with partially filled d shells

2.1 « Correlated » oxide perovskites

2.2 Nickelate/Titanate interfaces

An unexpected discovery



LaAlO₃ (LAO)
 thin film
 ($\Delta = 5.6$ eV)

SrTiO₃ (STO)
 substrate
 ($\Delta = 3.2$ eV)

A high-mobility electron gas at the LaAlO₃/SrTiO₃ heterointerface

A. Ohtomo^{1,2,3} & H. Y. Hwang^{1,3,4}

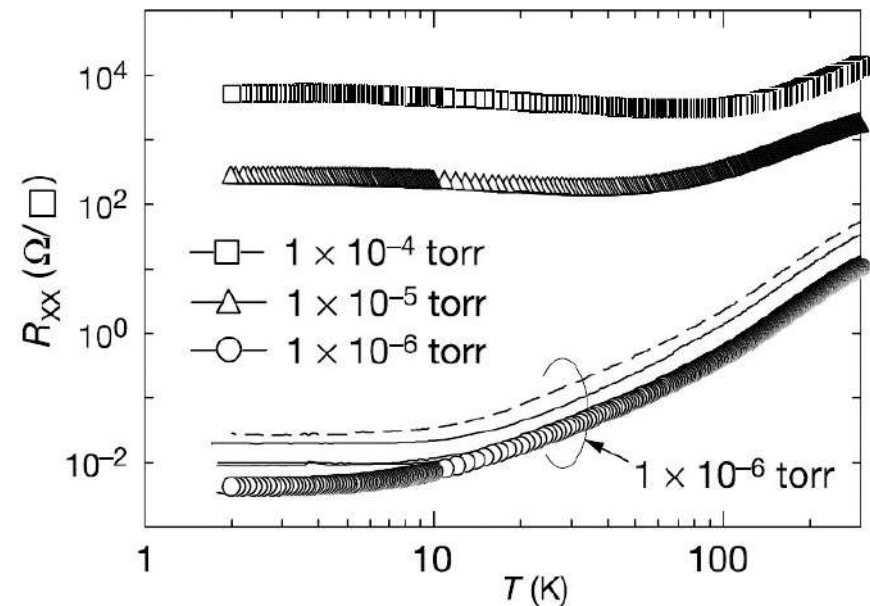
¹Bell Laboratories, Lucent Technologies, Murray Hill, New Jersey 07974, USA

²Institute for Materials Research, Tohoku University, Sendai, 980-8577, Japan

³Japan Science and Technology Agency, Kawaguchi, 332-0012, Japan

⁴Department of Advanced Materials Science, University of Tokyo, Kashiwa, Chiba, 277-8651, Japan

LaAlO₃ (60 Å) /SrTiO₃(001)



Ohtomo & Hwang, Nature 427, 423 (2004)

1. d_0 -oxide-based interfaces

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1.3 Other SrTiO_3 2DEGs

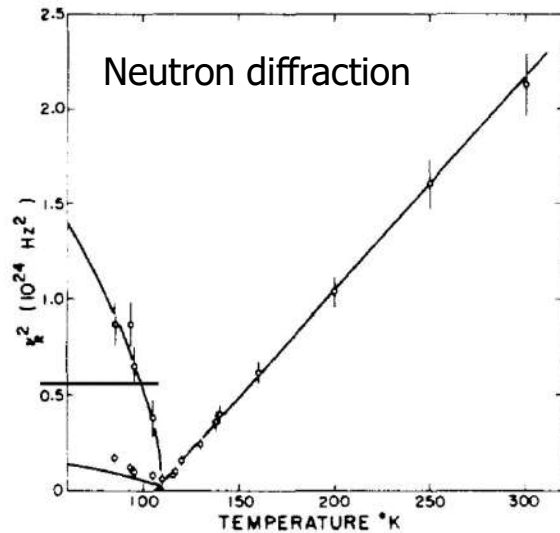
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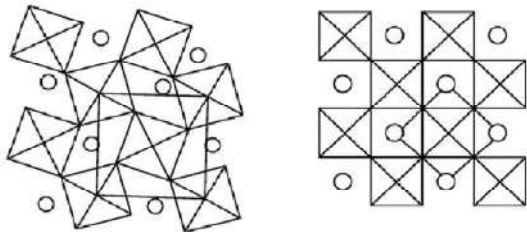
2.1 « Correlated » oxide perovskites

2.2 Nickelate/Titanate interfaces

Structural properties

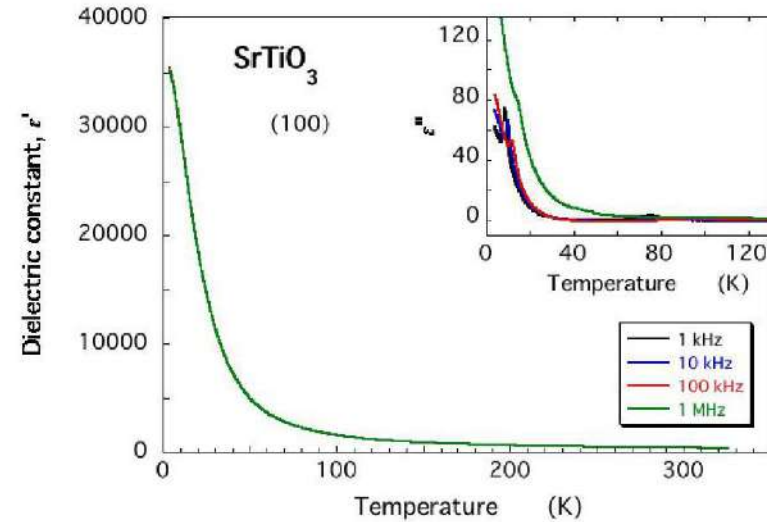


Cowley et al, Solid. State. Commun. 7, 181 (1967)



- ⦿ SrTiO₃ is cubic at room temperature and above 105 K
- ⦿ Below 105 K, it is tetragonal, with oxygen octahedra tilt pattern a⁰a⁰c⁻

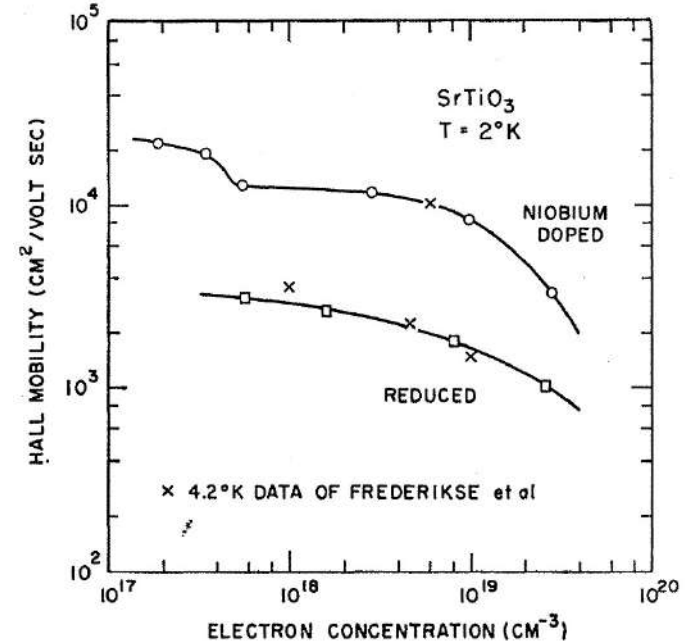
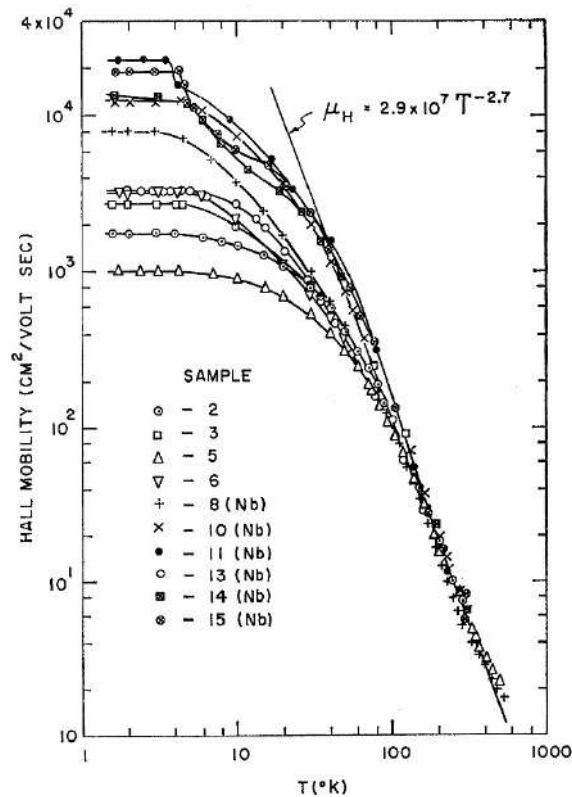
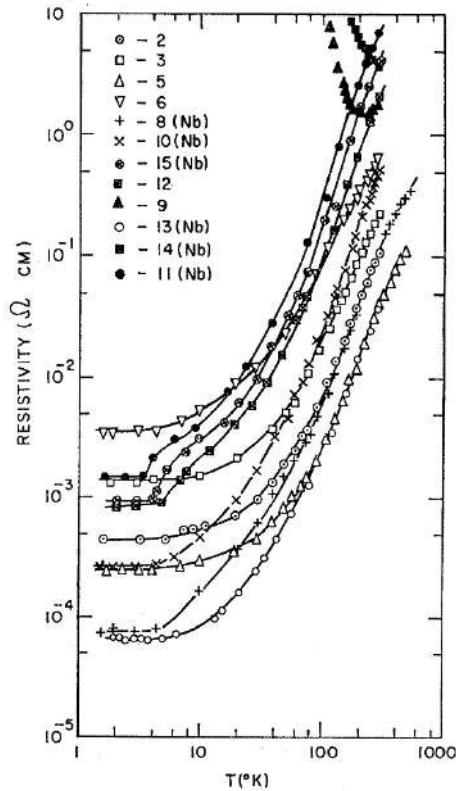
Dielectric properties



Hideshi et al, JPSJ 85, 045703 (2016)

- ⦿ SrTiO₃ has a large dielectric constant that diverges at low temperature
- ⦿ « Quantum paraelectric » : ferroelectric instability suppressed by quantum fluctuations

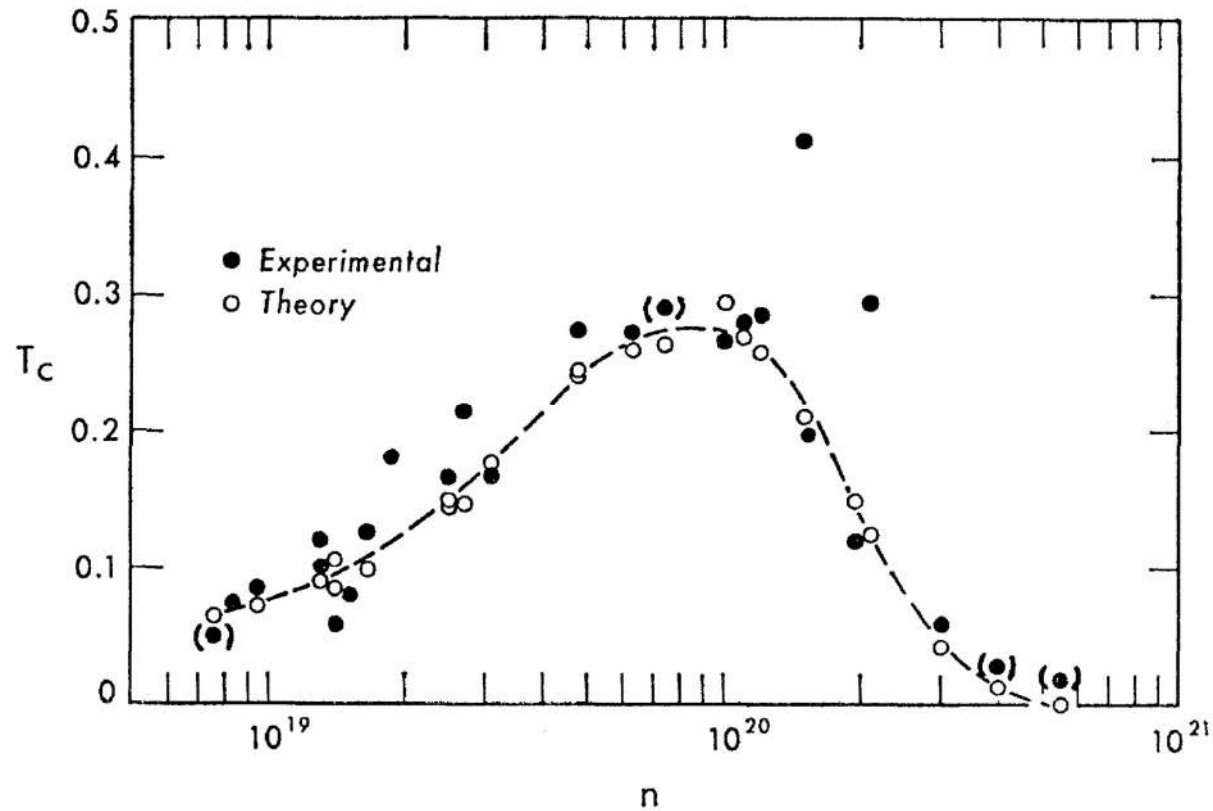
Transport properties of electron doped SrTiO₃



- ⊙ SrTiO₃ can be (n-type) doped into a metal by La substitution at the Sr site, Nb substitution at the Ti site, or by the creation of oxygen vacancies
- ⊙ Minute doping amounts (e.g. 10 ppm) are enough to induce metallicity
- ⊙ Electron mobility is very high ($>10000 \text{ cm}^2/\text{Vs}$) at low T and decreases with doping

Tufte and Chapman PR 155, 796 (1967)

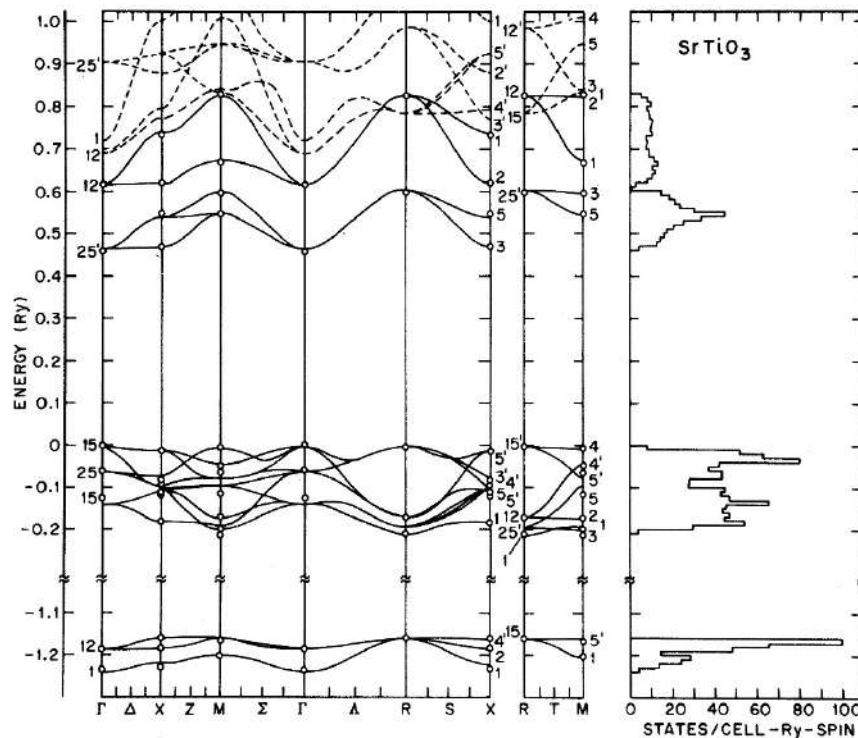
Superconductivity in electron doped SrTiO₃



- ⊙ SrTiO₃ becomes superconducting below about 300 mK for doping levels > a few 10¹⁸ cm⁻³
- ⊙ Dome-like phase diagram as in high T_c superconductors

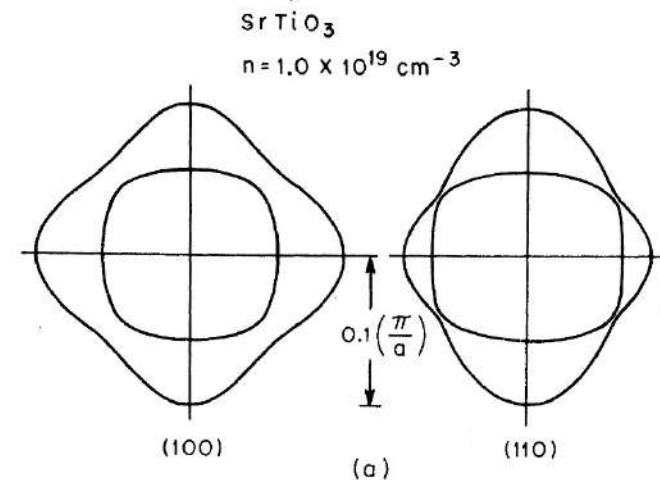
Koonce PR, 163, 780 (1967)

Electronic structure of SrTiO₃



Ti t_{2g}

O 2p



Mattheiss PRB 6, 4718 (1972)

- ⊙ SrTiO₃ is a band insulator, with the valence band made of O 2p states and the conduction band of Ti 3d t_{2g} states
- ⊙ The gap is at the Gamma point with two degenerate bands with small and large effective masses
- ⊙ The light electron band has a « circular » Fermi surface around Gamma while the heavy electron band consists of a double ellipse.

1. d_0 -oxide-based interfaces

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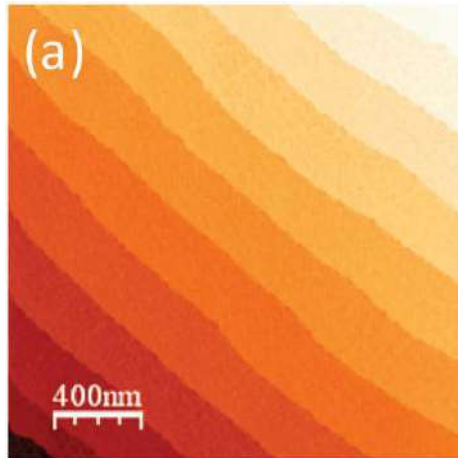
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How to grow LAO/STO 2DEGs ?

TiO₂-terminated substrate



PLD growth conditions for LaAlO₃

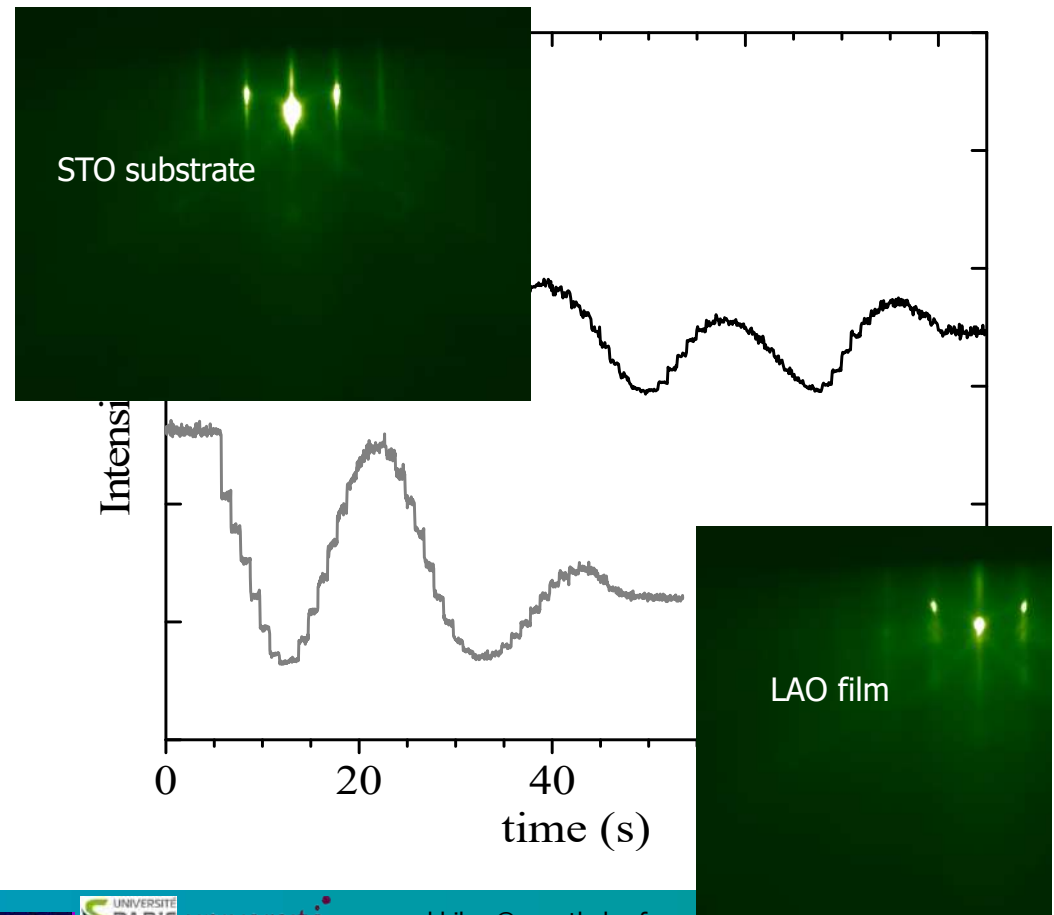
- ⦿ 700-800°C
- ⦿ 2×10^{-4} mbar of O₂
- ⦿ KrF excimer (248nm) – 0.6-1.2 J/cm² at 1 Hz
- ⦿ in-situ annealing in high O₂ pressure (0.2-1 bar) at T ≥ 500°C for 30-60'

Essential steps:

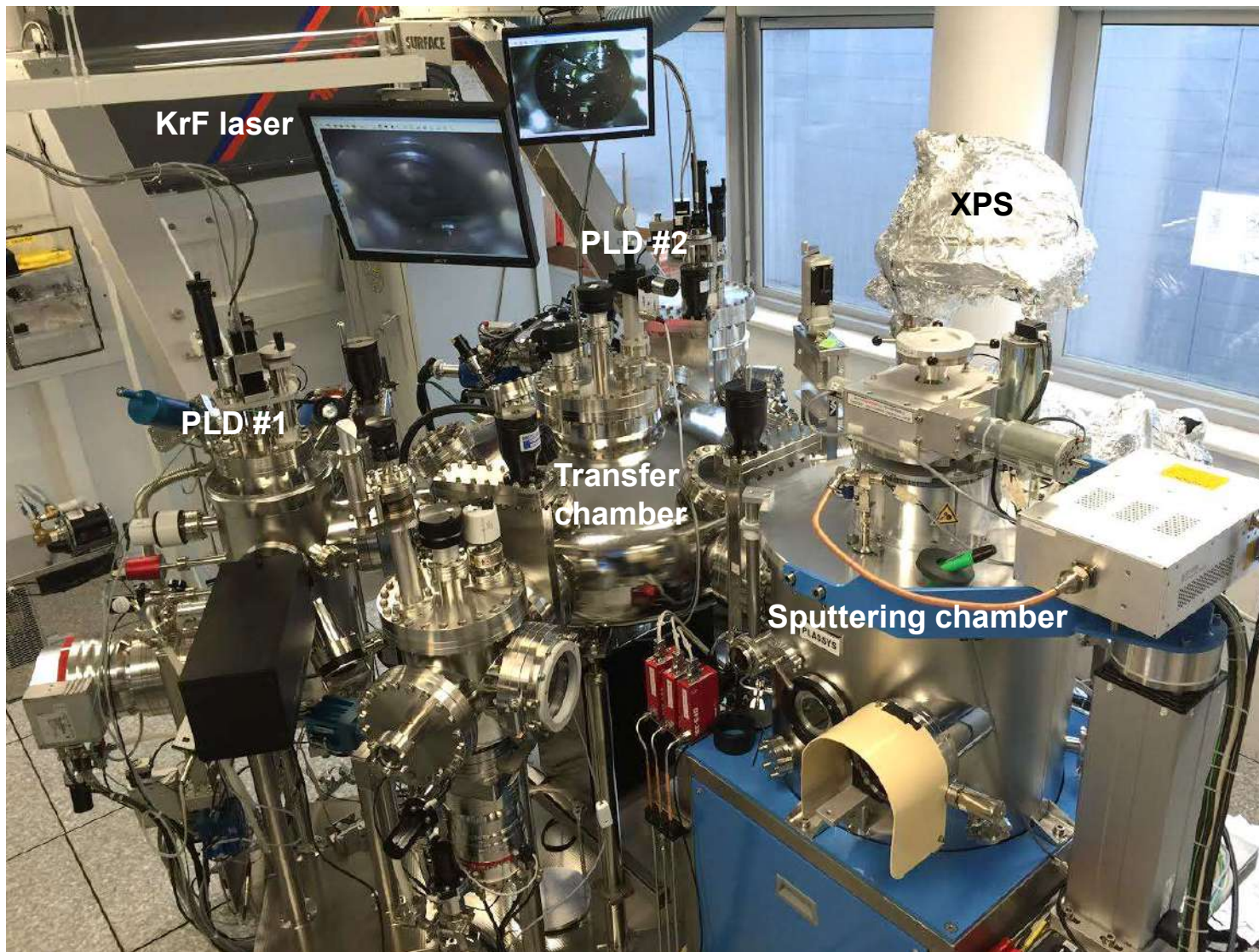
- ⦿ Use a TiO₂ terminated STO single crystal
- ⦿ Grow an integer number of LAO unit cells ≥ 4
- ⦿ Post-anneal in O₂

Lesne, MB et al, *Nature Comm.* 5, 4291 (2014)

Vaz, MB et al, *Adv. Mater.* 29, 1700486 (2017)

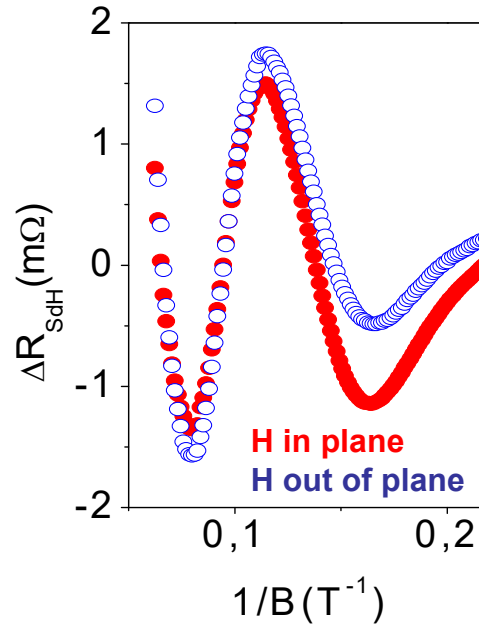
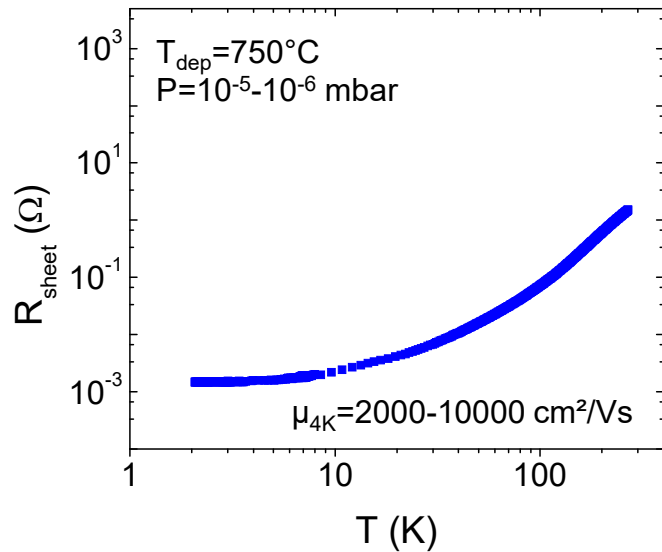


Coupled PLD+sputtering deposition system



Do we really have a 2DEG ? How to measure its thickness ?

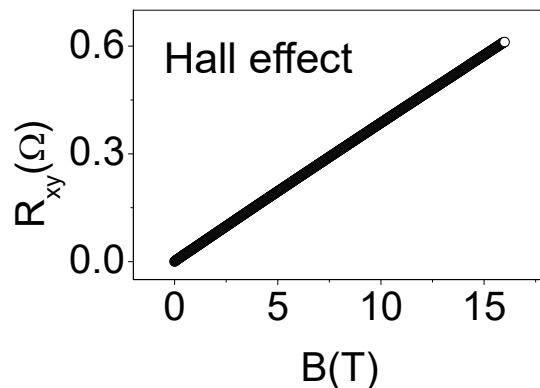
Magnetotransport measurements



High-field magnetoresistance:
Observation of Shubnikov-de Haas oscillations

$$F_{\text{SdH}} = \frac{\hbar k_F^2}{2e} \quad n = \frac{k_F^3}{3\pi^2}$$

SdH oscillations provide the **carrier density** (cm^{-3})



Hall measurement provide the **sheet carrier density** (cm^{-2})

$$\text{SdH} \rightarrow \boxed{n} \times t_{\text{gas}} = (1/e) \boxed{B/R_{xy}} \leftarrow \text{Hall}$$

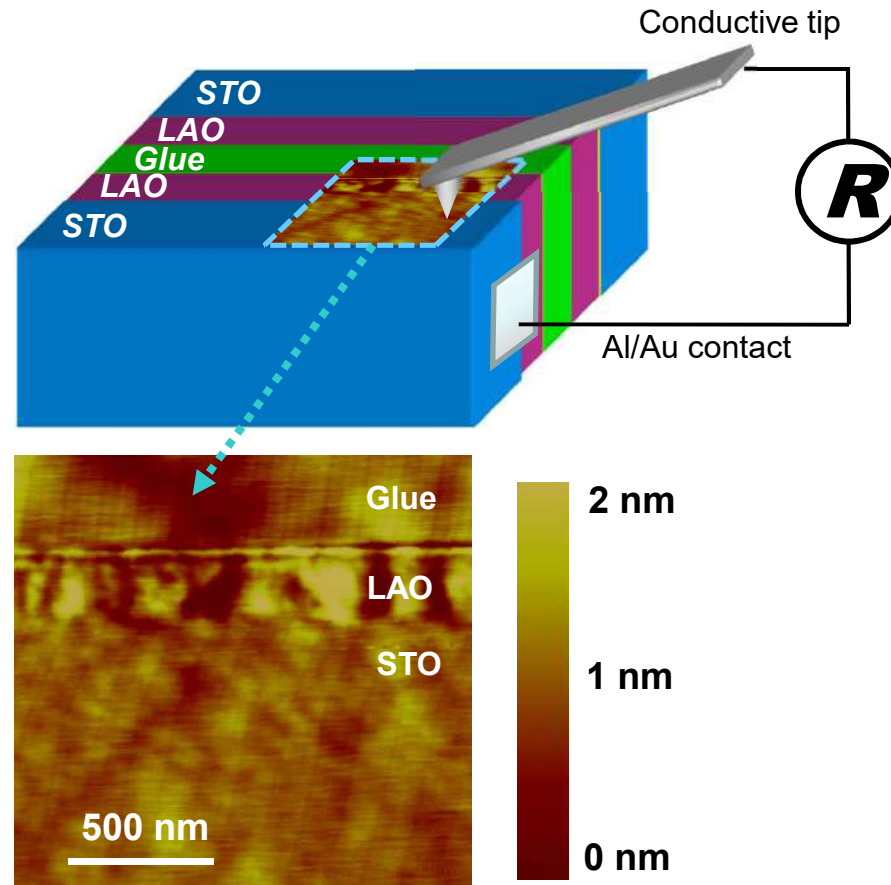
Determination of the electron gas thickness : **~500 μm**

Herranz, MB et al, PRL 98, 216803 (2007)

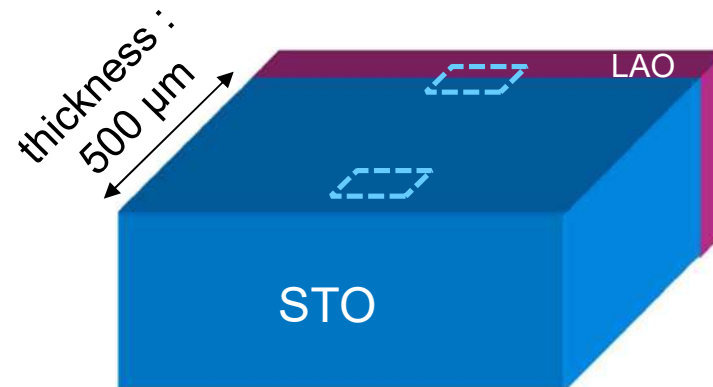
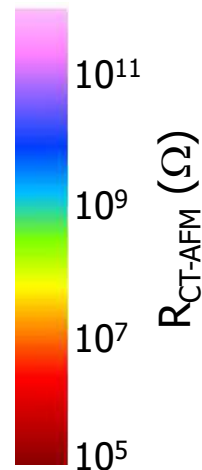
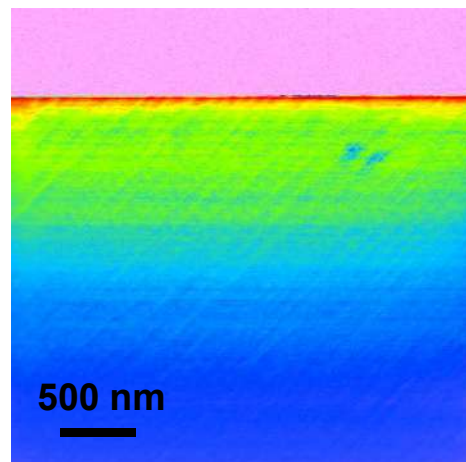
- ⊙ Metallic behaviour, high mobility, quantum oscillations : nice sample !
- ⊙ But : electron gas thickness is **500 μm** ! Hint : this sample was **not post-annealed in oxygen**

Conductive-tip AFM in cross-section samples

Local measurement of transport properties



Resistance mapping of non-annealed samples



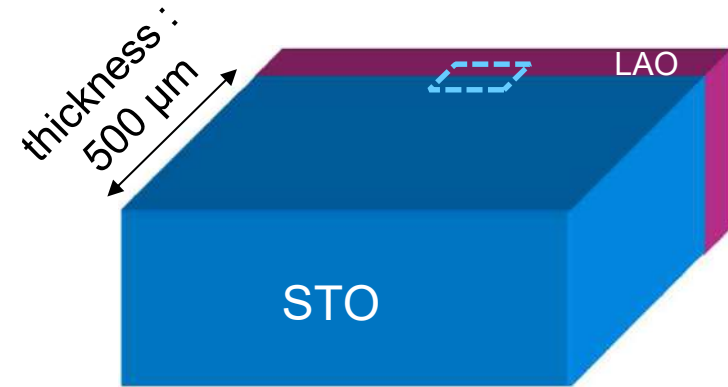
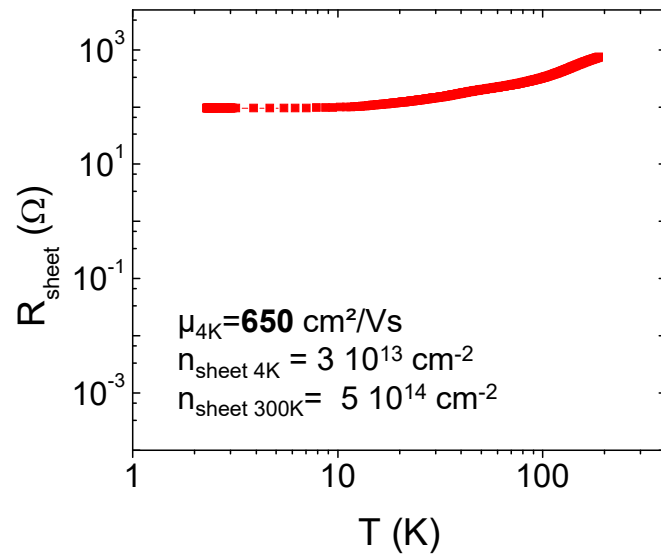
- Low resistance ($\sim 10^6 \Omega$) at LAO/STO interface
- Conductance increases over 1-2 μm up to $\sim 5 \cdot 10^{10} \Omega$
- STO substrate is conductive far away (500 μm) from the interface
- Confirmation of SdH results

How to isolate the large conductivity at the interface ?
Get rid of oxygen vacancies : in-situ annealing

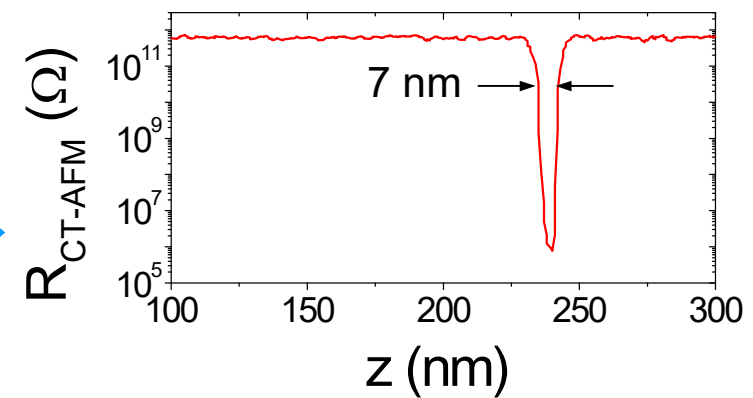
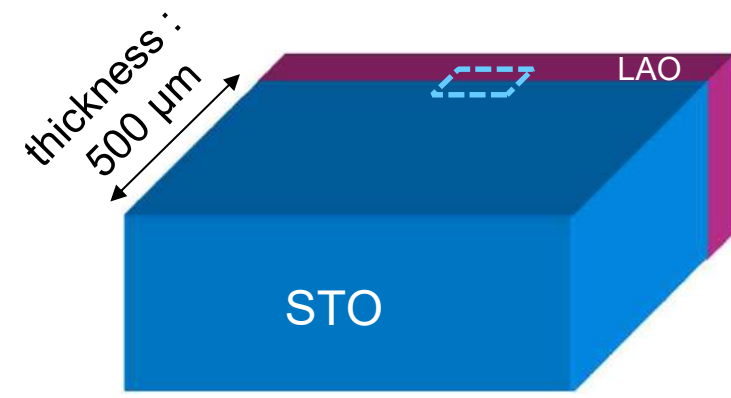
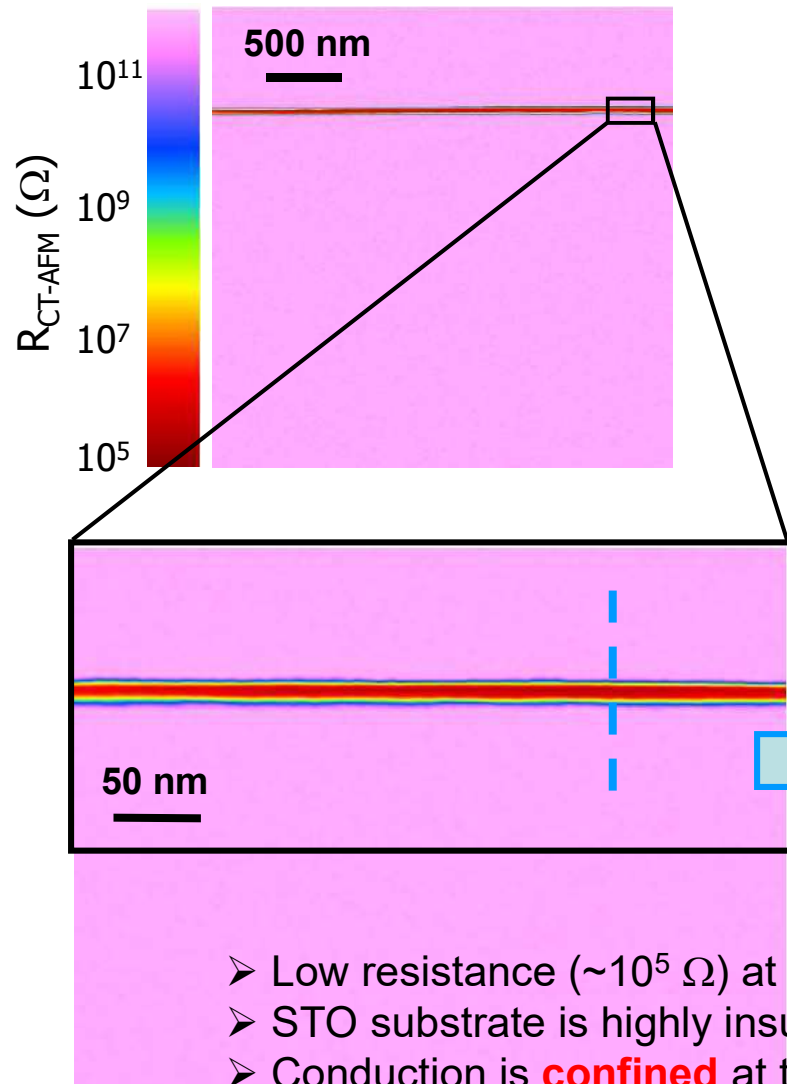
(as in Thiel et al, Science 313, 1942 (2006); Reyren et al, Science 317, 1196 (2007))

Basletic, MB, et al Nature Mater. 7, 621 (2008)

Resistance mapping of in-situ annealed sample



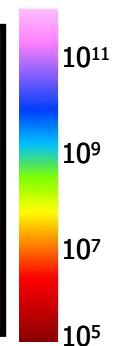
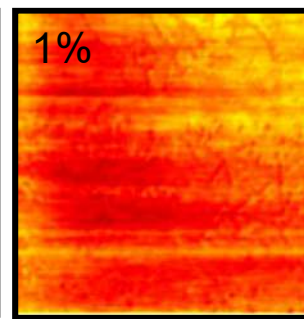
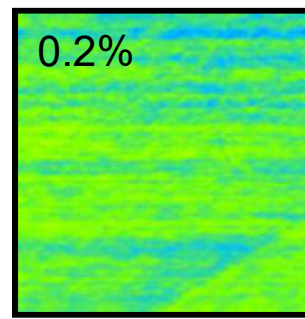
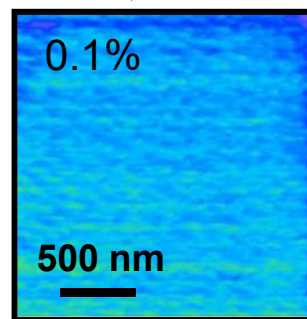
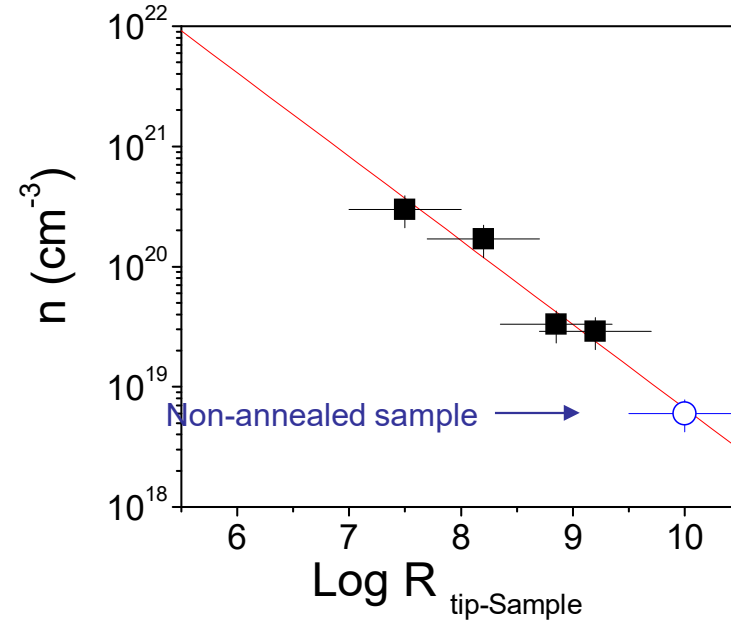
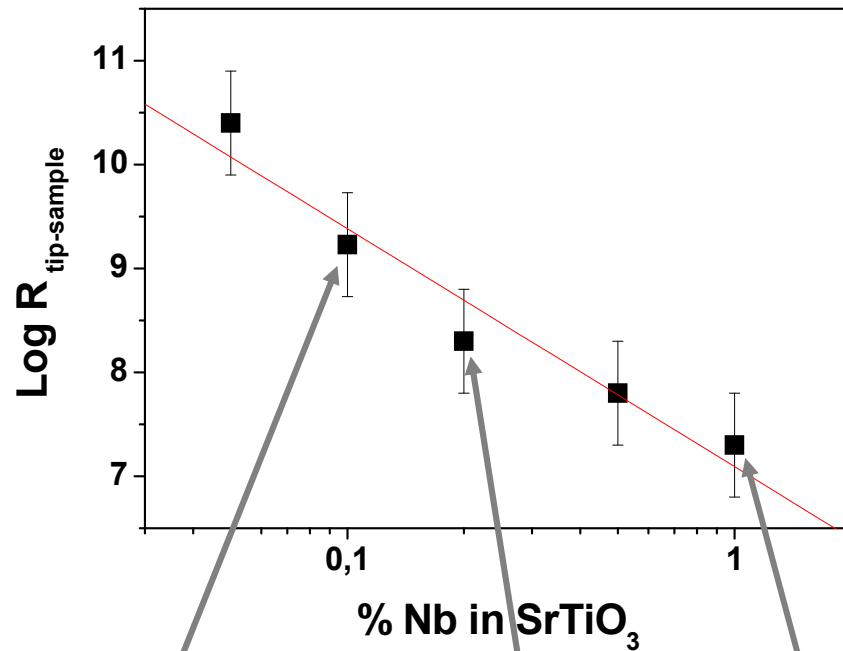
Resistance mapping of in-situ annealed sample



- Low resistance ($\sim 10^5 \Omega$) at LAO/STO interface
- STO substrate is highly insulating far away (500 μm) from the interface
- Conduction is **confined** at the interface
- Thickness of the metallic gas : **7 nm** (upper estimate)

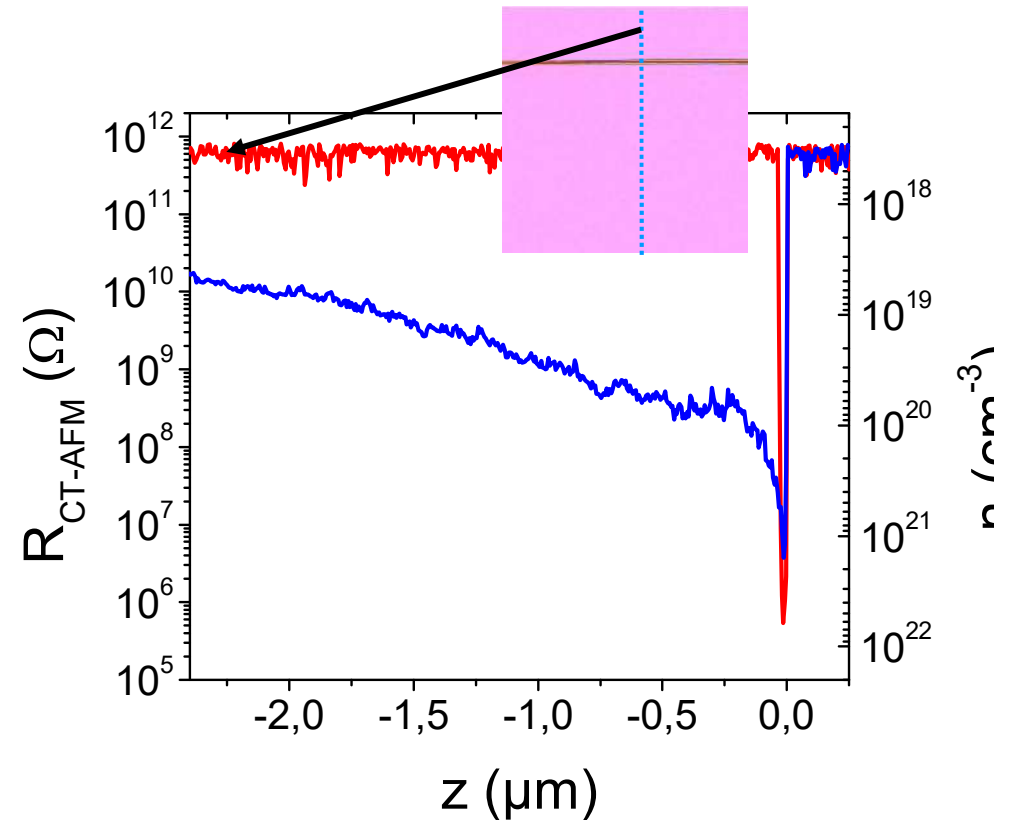
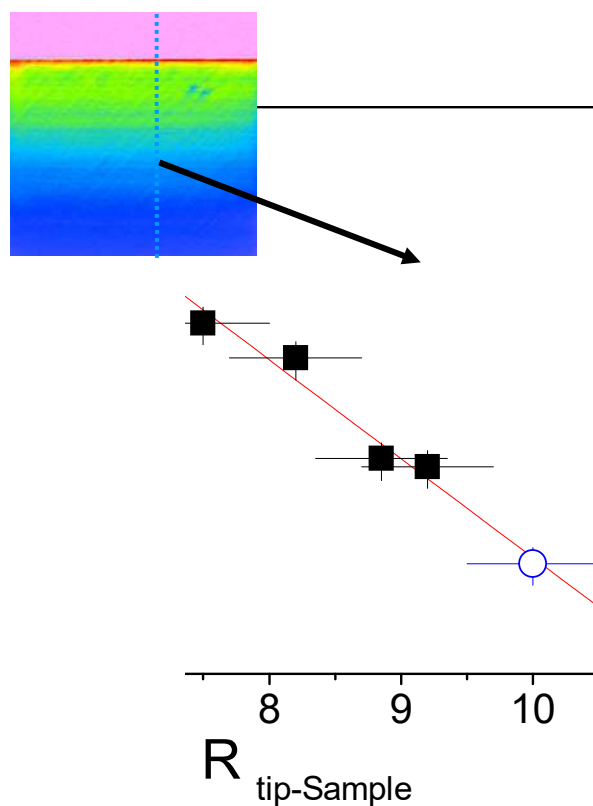
Basletic, MB, et al Nature Mater. 7, 621 (2008)

Calibration of $R_{\text{tip-sample}}$ vs n using Nb-doped SrTiO_3 crystals



- Direct correspondence between $R_{\text{tip-sample}}$ and n
- Valid for different types of dopant (Nb, O vac.)

Local mapping of the charge carrier distribution



Non annealed sample

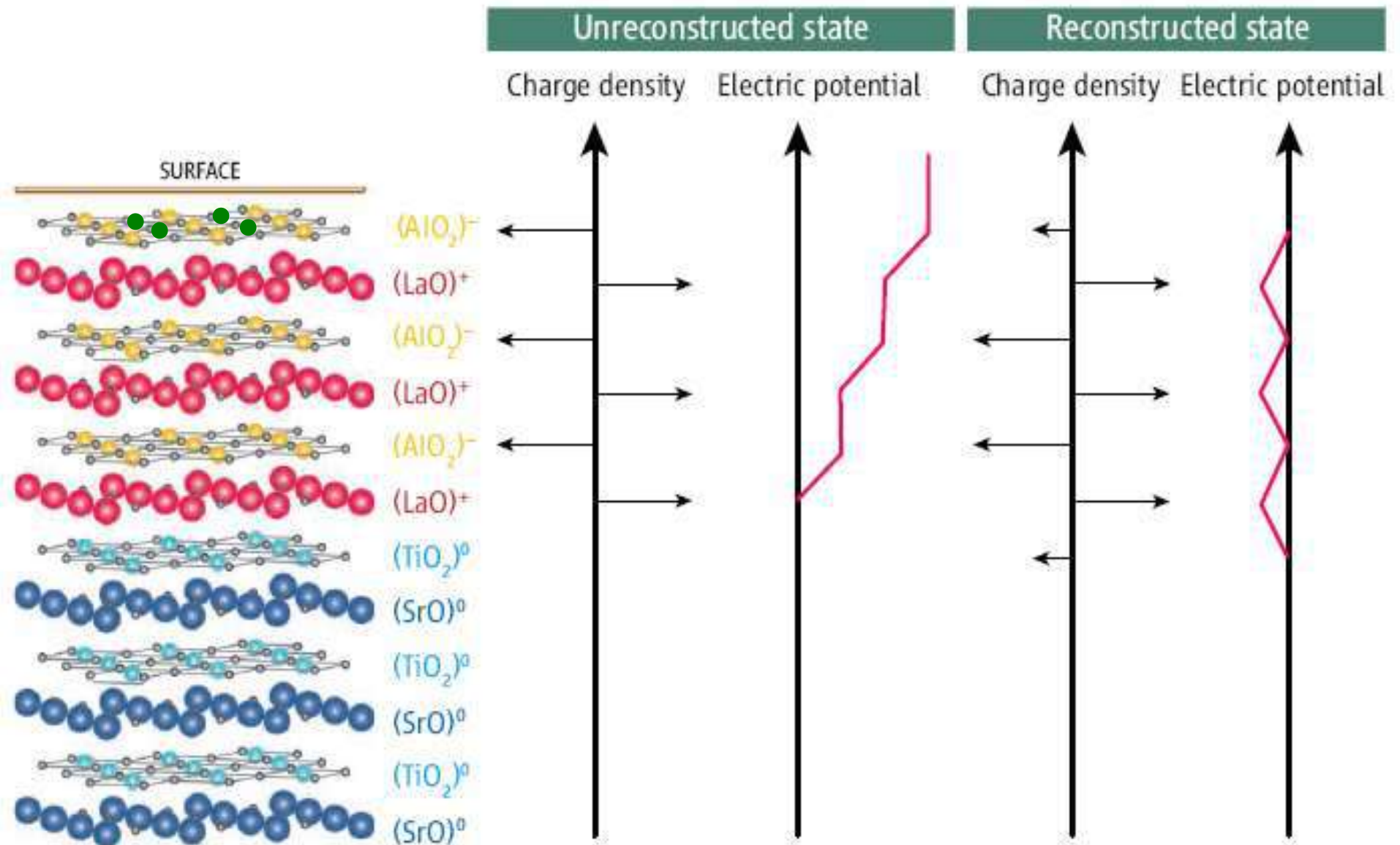
Carrier density away from interface : $5 \cdot 10^{18} \text{ cm}^{-3}$: $t_{\text{gas}} \approx 600 \mu\text{m}$

In-situ annealed sample

Carrier density at the interface : $7 \cdot 10^{21} \text{ cm}^{-3}$: $t_{\text{gas}} \approx 1 \text{ nm}$

Basletic, MB, et al Nature Mater. 7, 621 (2008)

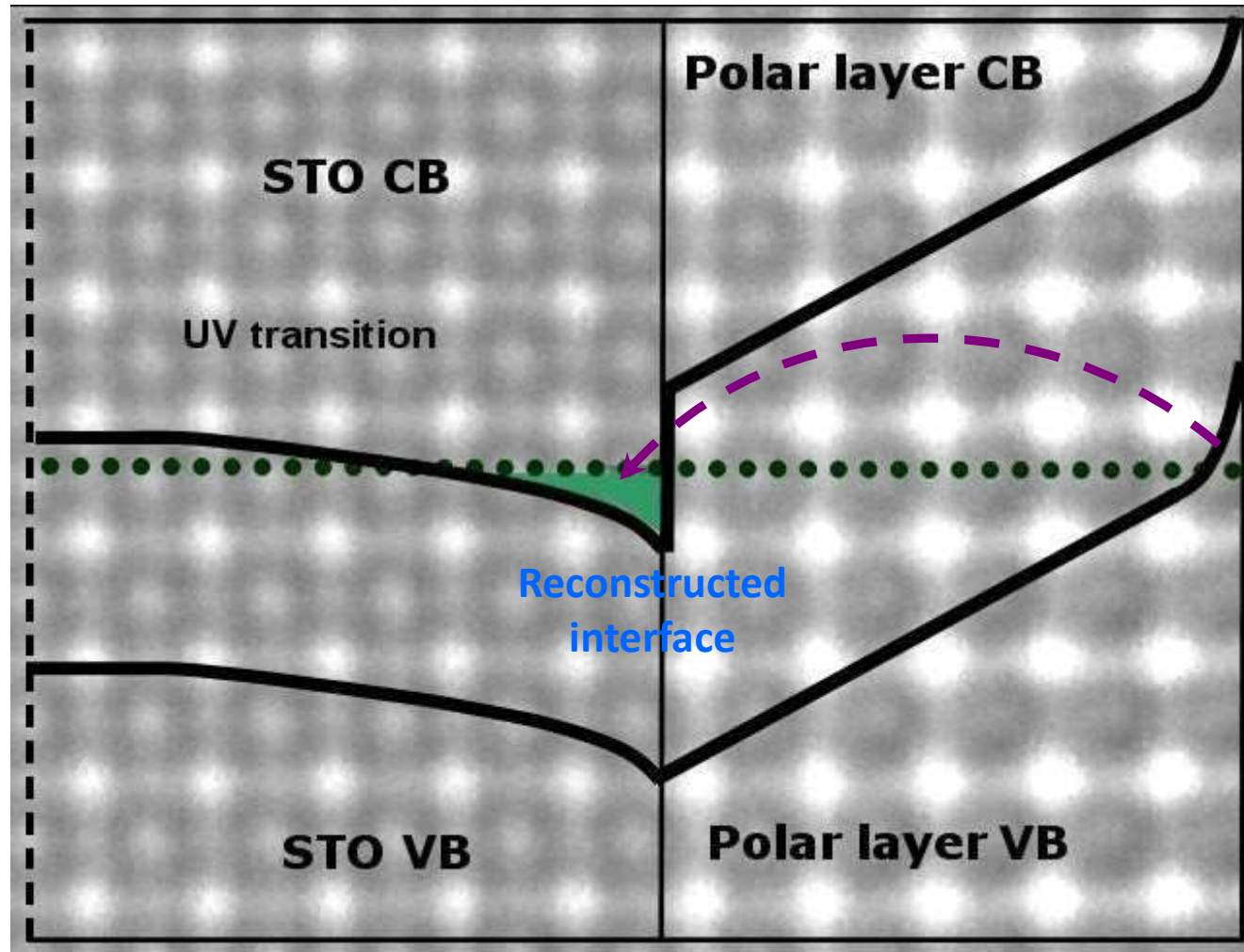
Mechanism for 2DEG formation : electronic reconstruction



Ohtomo and Hwang, Nature Mater

© F. Milletto

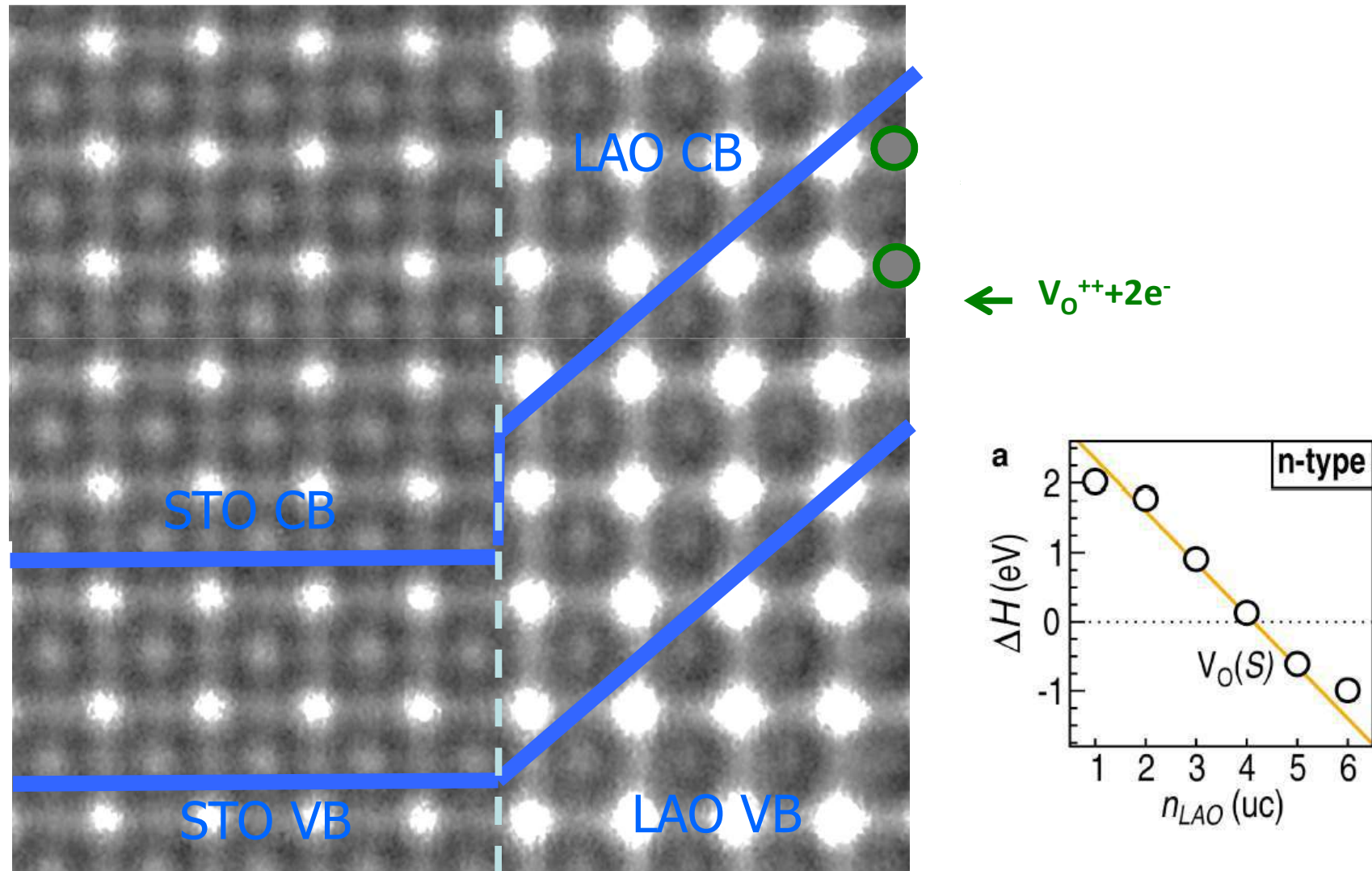
Mechanism for 2DEG formation : electronic reconstruction



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Mechanism for 2DEG formation : oxygen vacancies at LAO surface

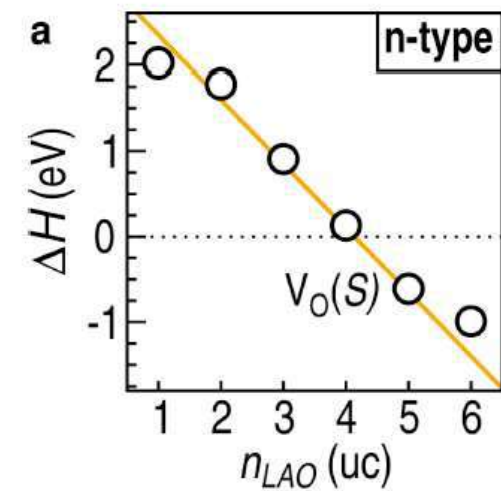
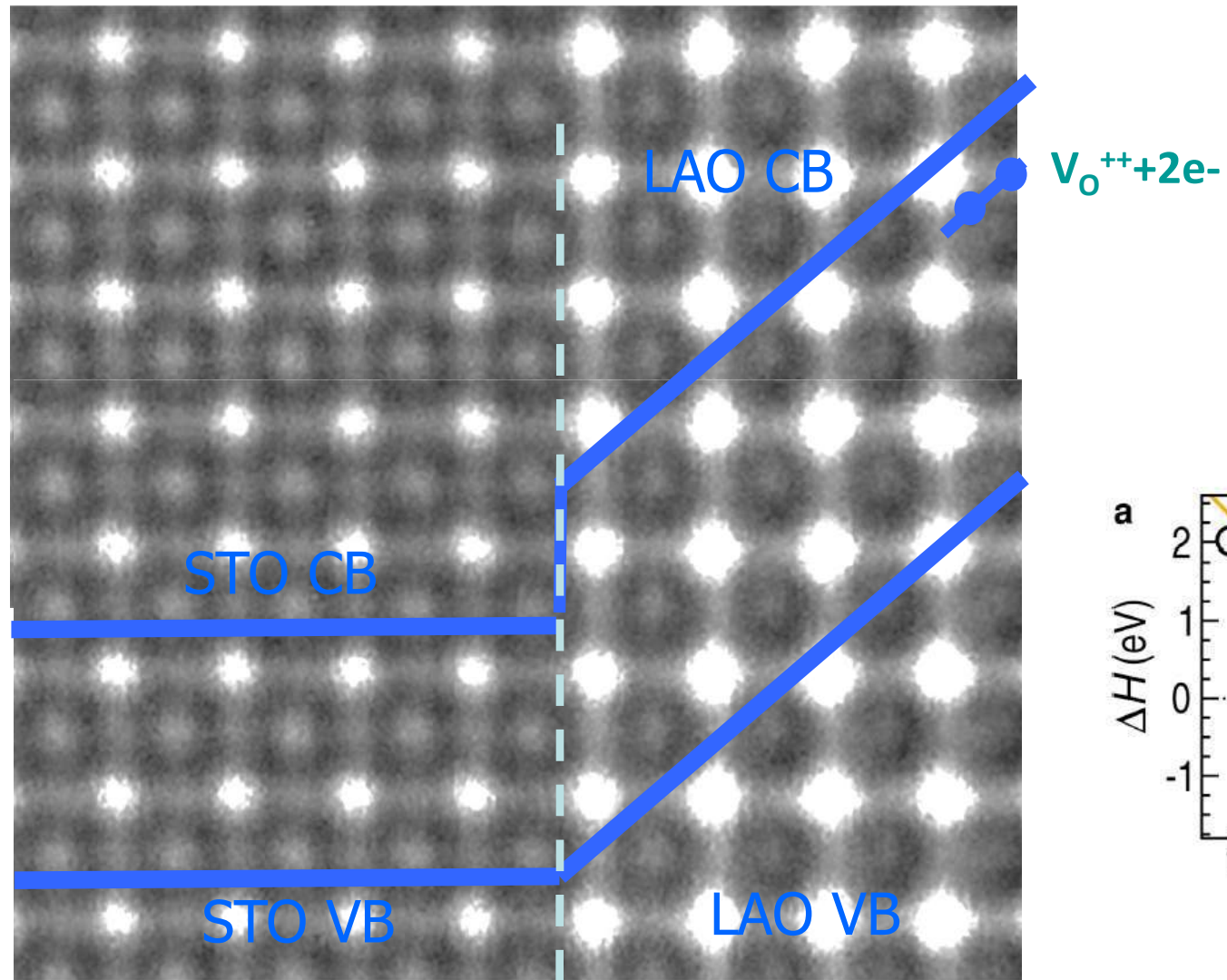
Yu and Zunger, Nature Comm. 5, 5118 (2014)



© F. Milletto

Mechanism for 2DEG formation : oxygen vacancies at LAO surface

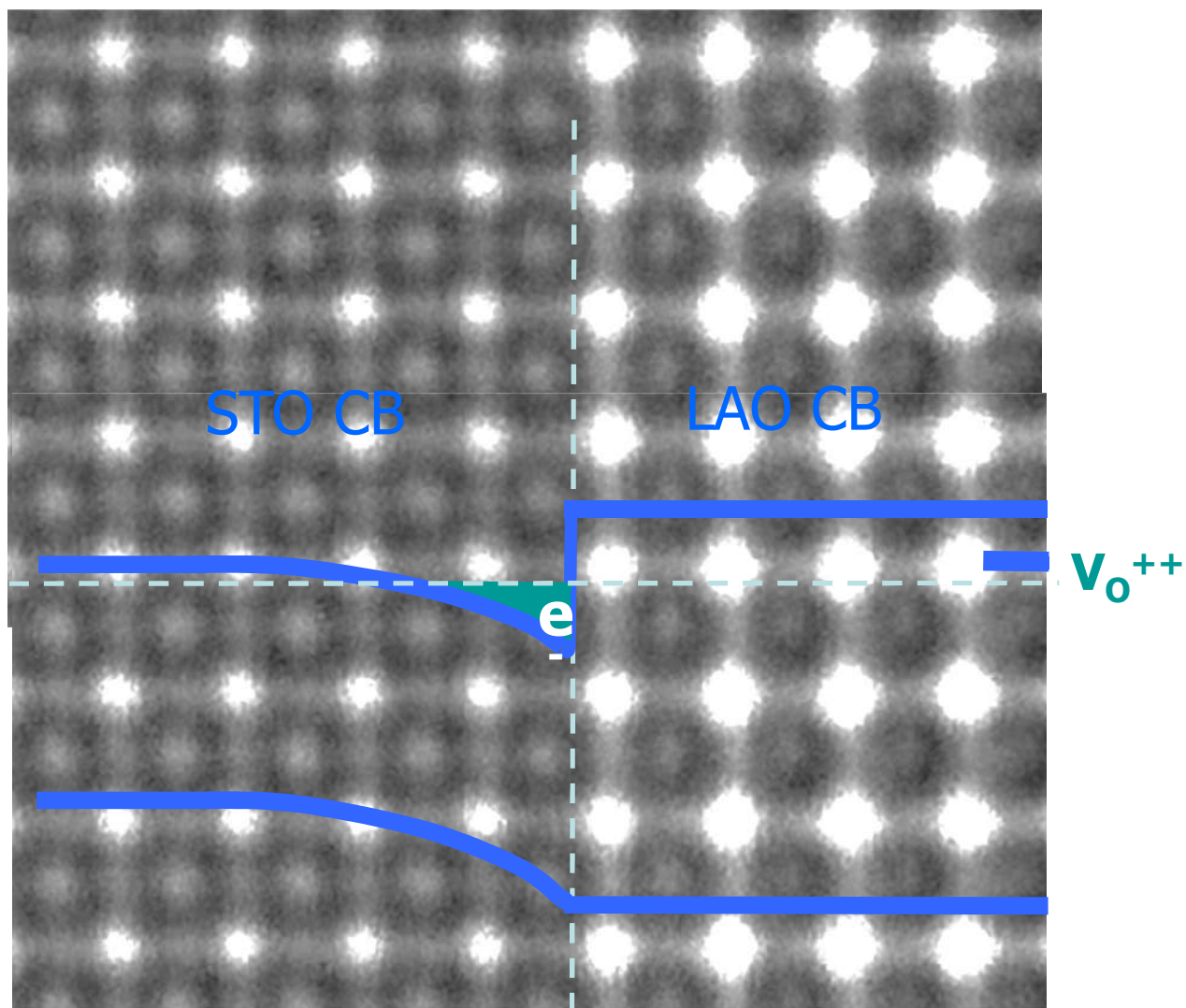
Yu and Zunger, Nature Comm. 5, 5118 (2014)



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Mechanism for 2DEG formation : oxygen vacancies at LAO surface

Yu and Zunger, Nature Comm. 5, 5118 (2014)



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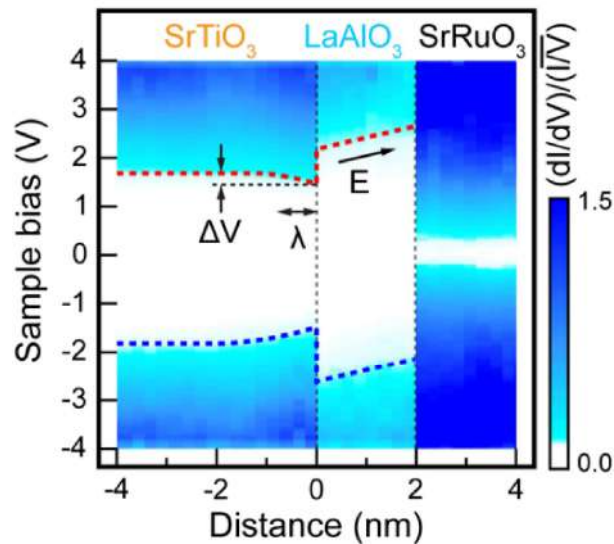
Mechanism for 2DEG formation : conclusion

So which mechanism is it ?

Hard to tell because

- Both mechanisms require a polar interface, i.e. no 2DEG for SrO-terminated STO
- Both mechanisms lead to a critical thickness of 4 unit cells
- But after 2DEG formation, there should be an E field in the 2DEG in the polar catastrophe scenario, but not in Yu and Zunger's model

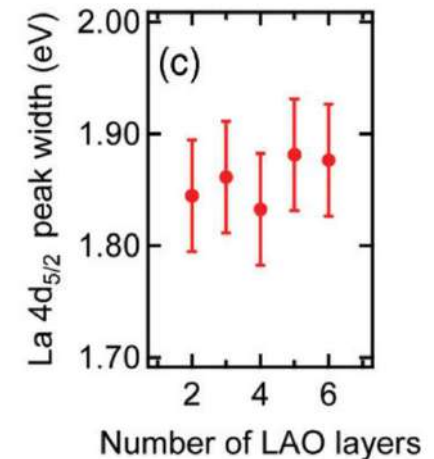
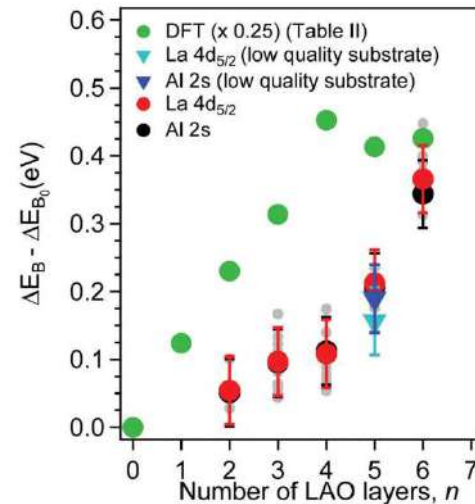
Cross section scanning tunnel spectroscopy



- Electric field visible in LAO

Huang et al, PRL 109, 246807 (2012)

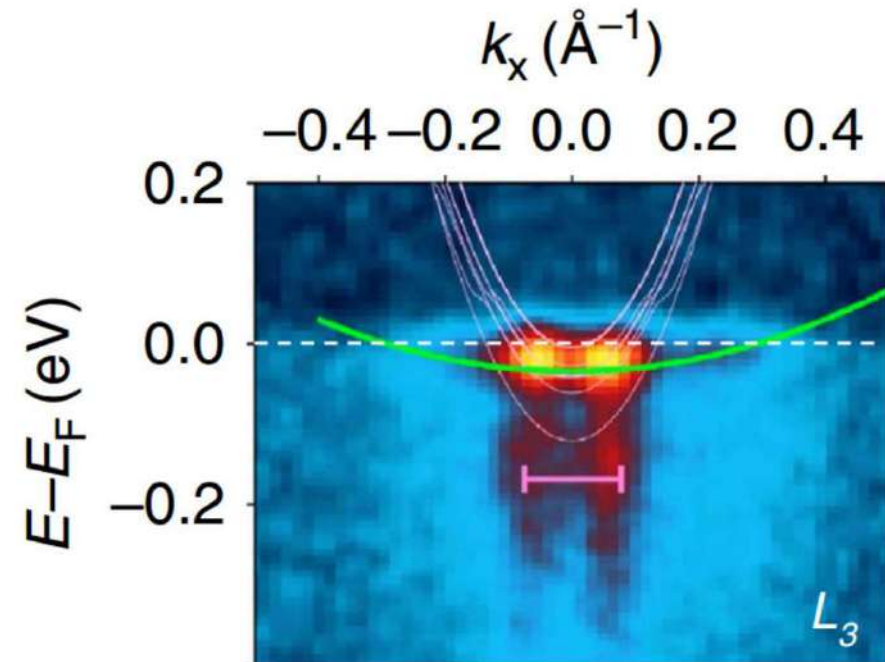
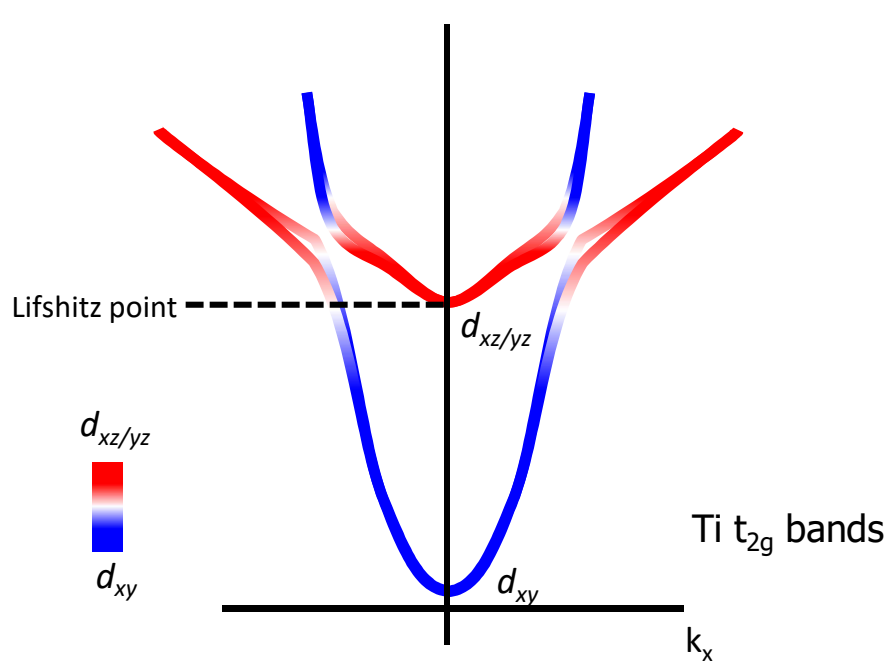
Hard X-ray photoemission spectroscopy



- Core level shifts disagree with theory and no broadening

Slooten et al, PRB 87, 085128 (2013)

Electronic structure of the 2DEG

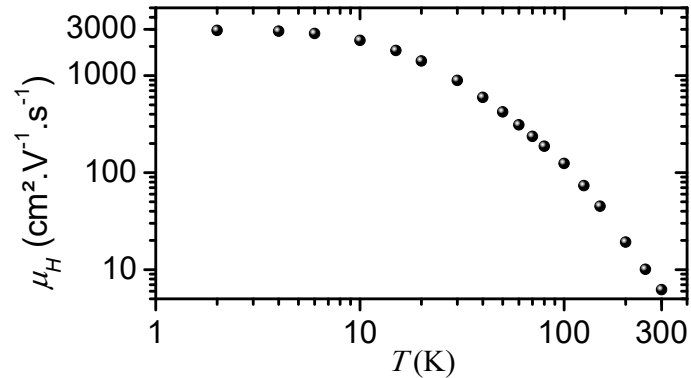


- ⊙ Compared to bulk STO, the degenerescence of the t_{2g} states is lifted (splitting is 50-100 meV)
- ⊙ Low lying d_{xy} band with light mass
- ⊙ Above Lifshitz point, onset of second band with $d_{xz/yz}$ character and heavier mass
- ⊙ Avoided crossing due to orbital mixing and spin orbit coupling

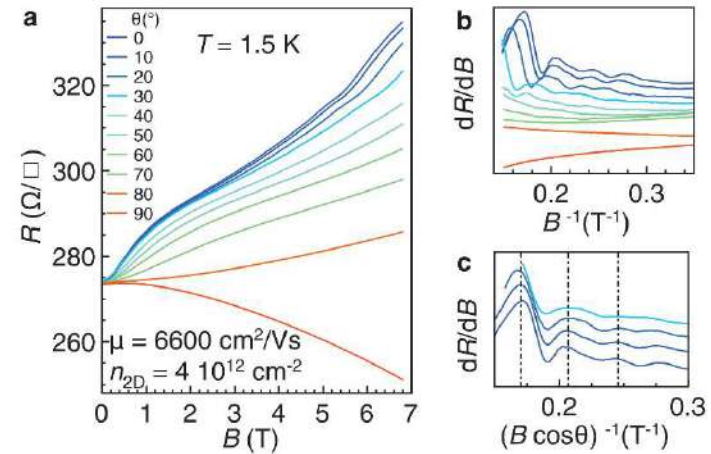
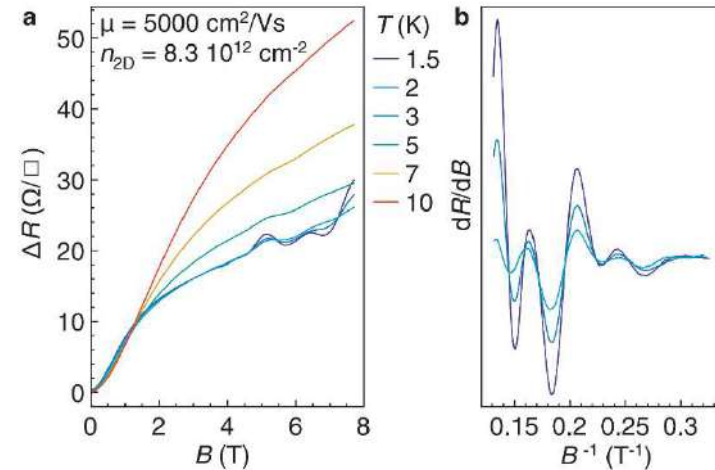
- ⊙ Experimental ARPES mapping of the band structure in LAO/STO
- ⊙ Poor signal quality due to LAO overlayer
- ⊙ Yet, the main features of the band structure are observed.

Cancellieri et al, PRB 89, 121412 (2014)

High electron mobility

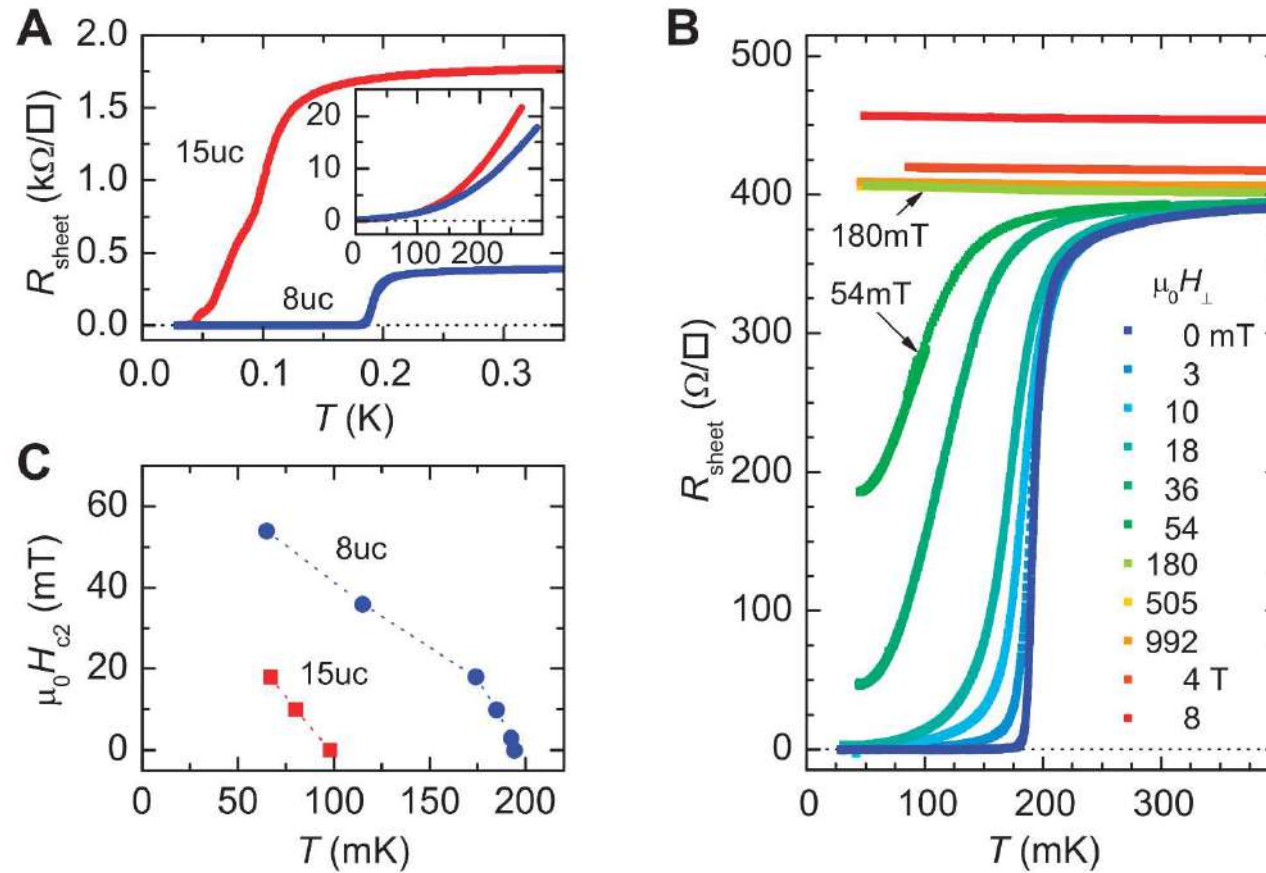


- At low T electron mobility can reach a few 1000 cm²/Vs
- Accordingly, Shubnikov de Hass oscillations can be observed (criterion is $B\mu \gg 1$)
- Angle dependence of the oscillations reveal the 2D nature of the 2DEG



Cavaglia et al, PRL 105, 236802 (2010)

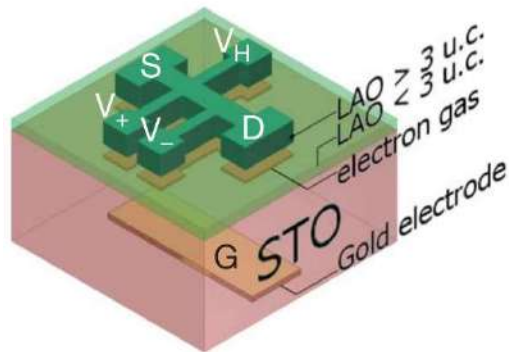
Superconductivity



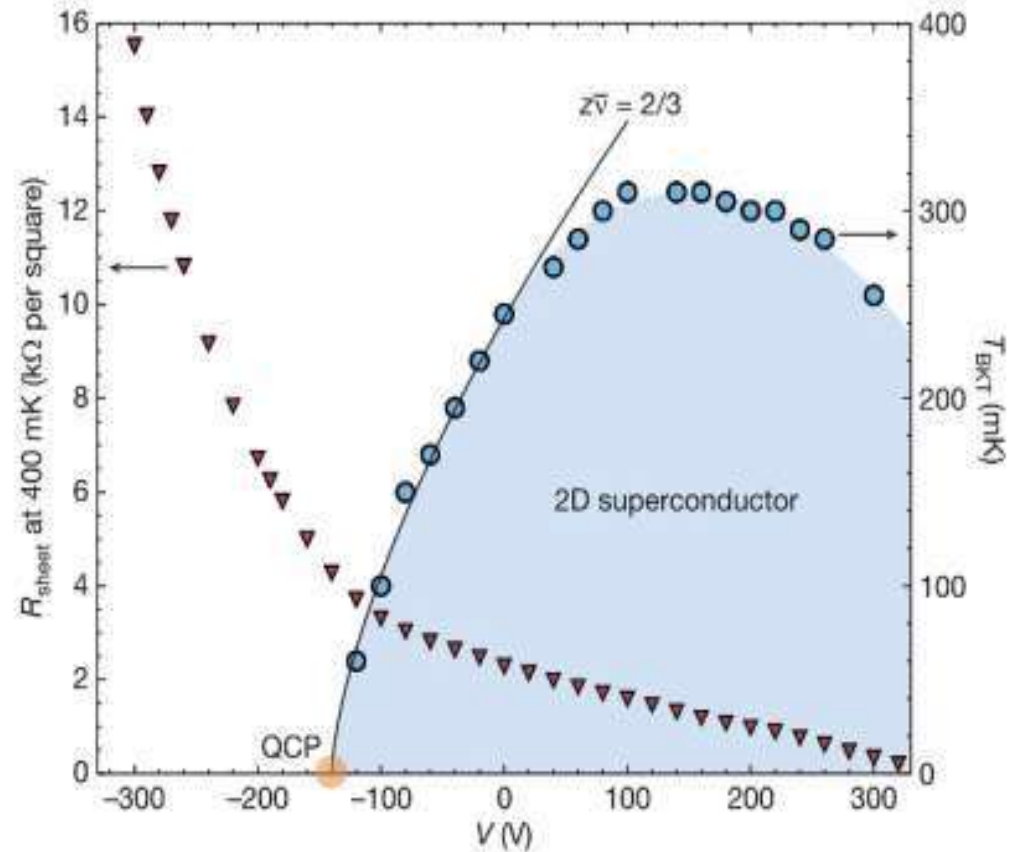
- ⊙ 2DEG is superconducting at $T < 200$ mK (like n-type doped bulk STO)
- ⊙ Superconductivity is 2 dimensional

N. Reyren et al., Science 317, 1196 (2007)

Electrostatic gating

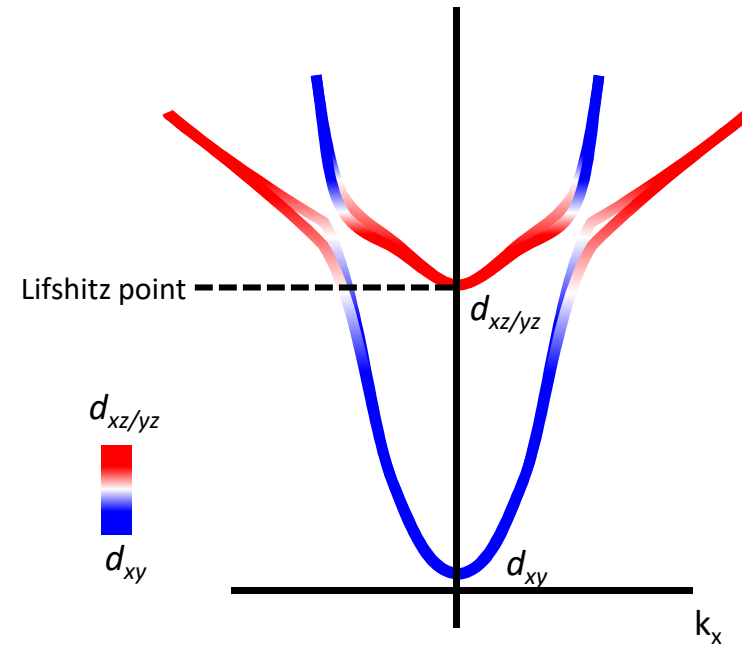
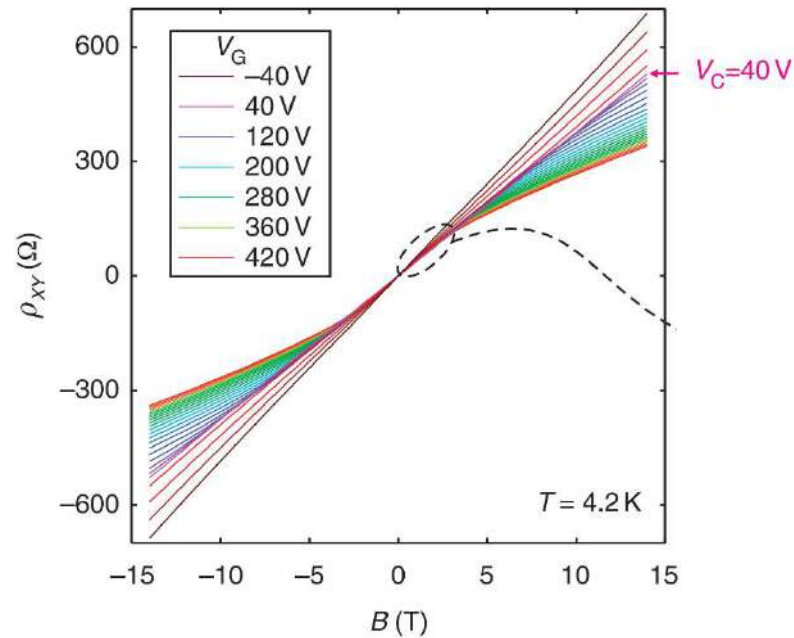


A. D. Caviglia et al.,
Nature 456, 624 (2008)



- ⊙ Positive gate voltage accumulates electrons in the 2DEG and negative gate voltage depletes electrons
- ⊙ Accordingly, the 2DEG normal state resistance varies over more than one order of magnitude
- ⊙ Superconductivity T_C is modulated in a dome-like dependence

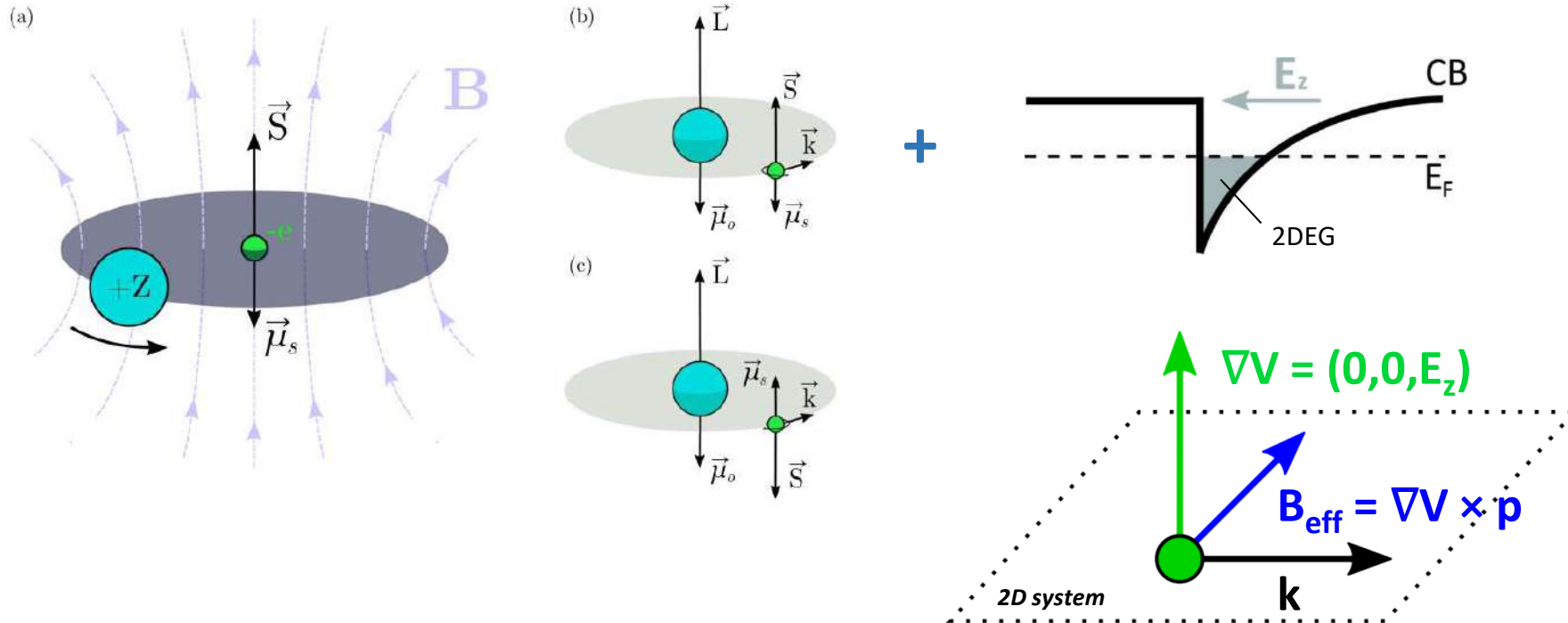
Electrostatic gating



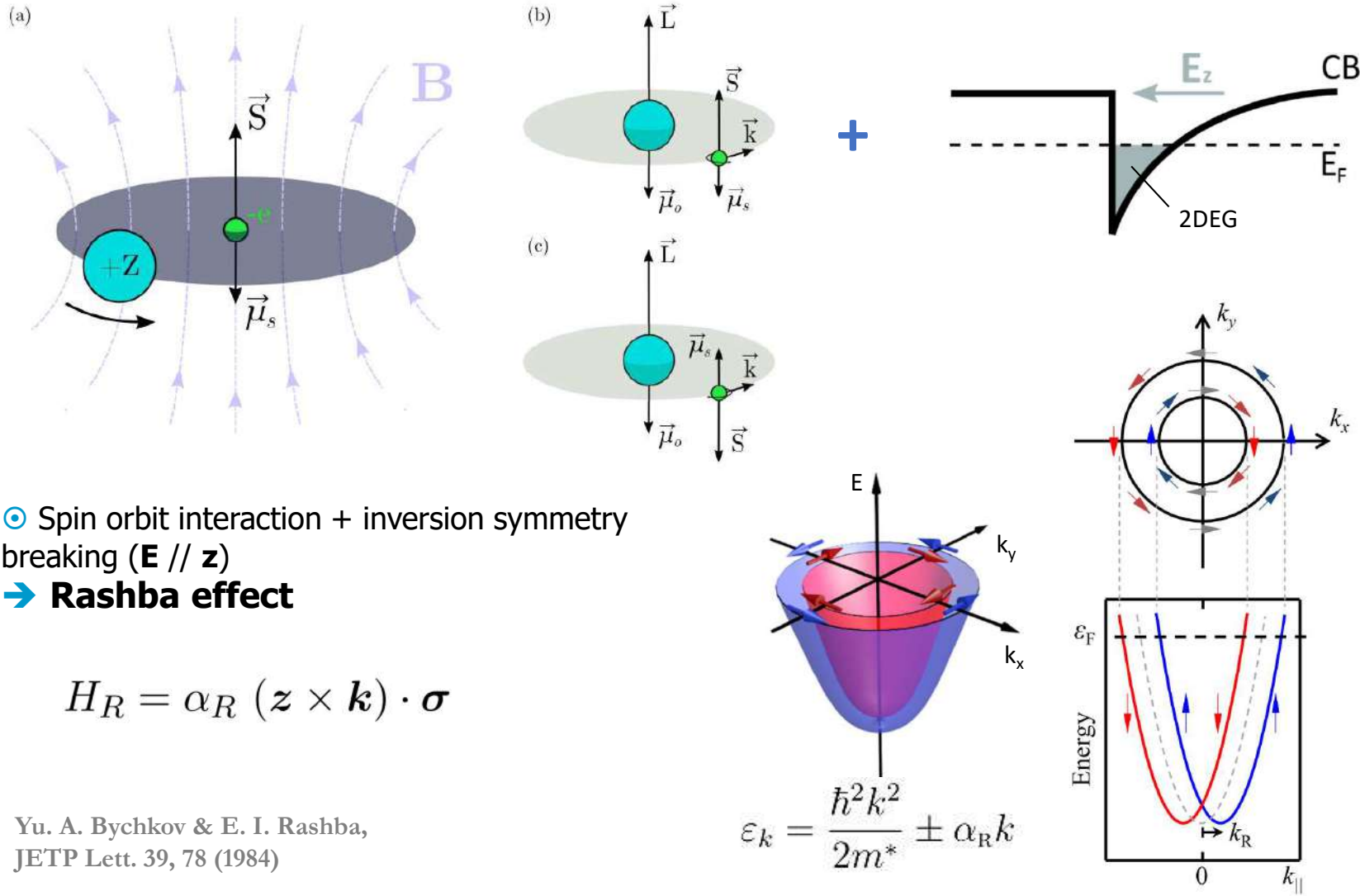
- At low carrier density (negative gate voltages), the Hall effect is linear : one type of carriers
- Upon adding carriers, the Hall effect becomes non-linear : two types of carriers
- Gate induced Lifshitz transition (at $1.5-2.5 \cdot 10^{13} \text{ cm}^{-2}$)

Joshua et al, Nature Comm. 3, 1129 (2012)

Signatures of spin-orbit coupling



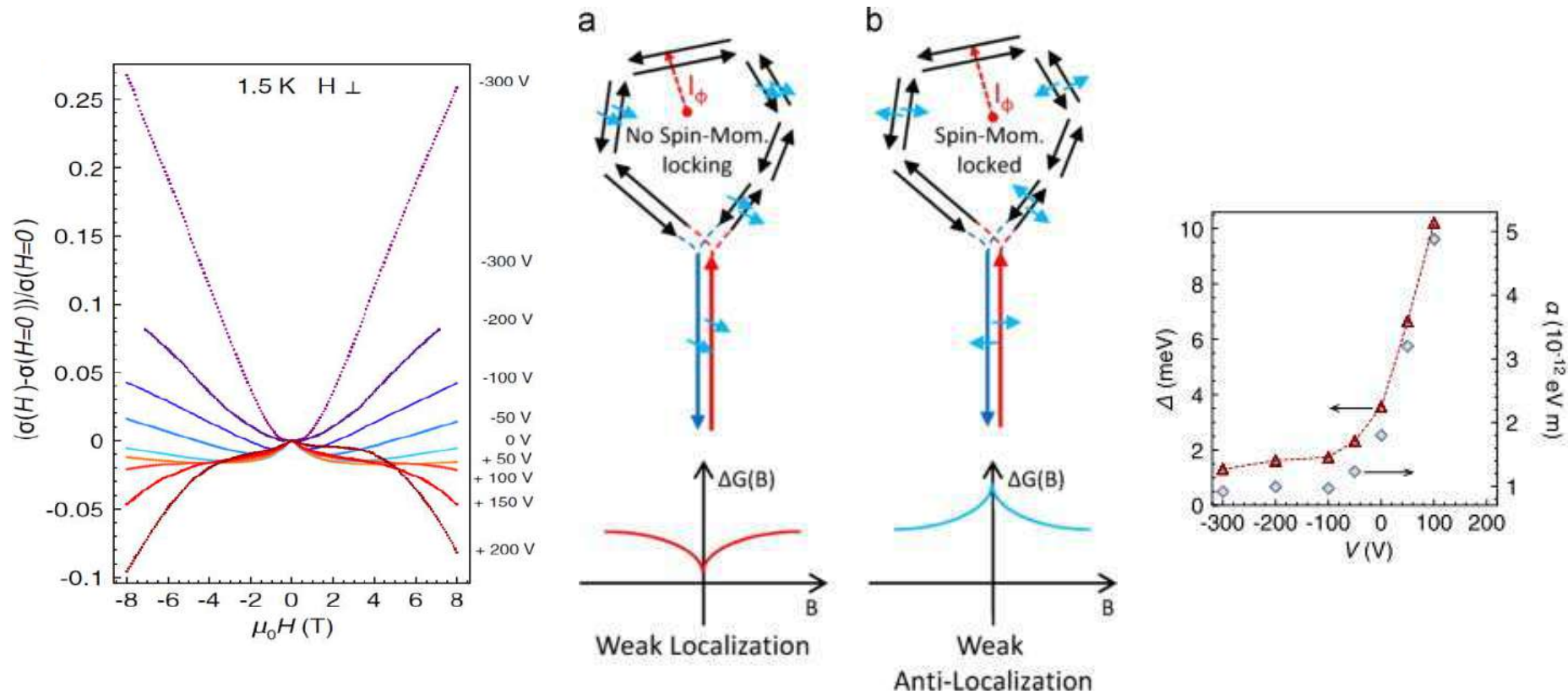
Signatures of spin-orbit coupling



Yu. A. Bychkov & E. I. Rashba,
 JETP Lett. 39, 78 (1984)

$$\varepsilon_k = \frac{\hbar^2 k^2}{2m^*} \pm \alpha_R k$$

Signatures of spin-orbit coupling



- ⊙ Magnetoresistance shows signs of weak localization and weak antilocalization
- ⊙ WAL is a signature of Rashba SOC
- ⊙ Rashba coefficient α_R is 10-50 meV.Å, i.e. 10-100 times lower than record systems like Bi/Ag interfaces
- ⊙ Rashba coefficient is strongly tunable by gate voltage

A.D. Caviglia et al., PRL. 104, 126803 (2010)

1. d_0 -oxide-based interfaces

1.1 Physics of bulk SrTiO_3

1.2 $\text{LaAlO}_3/\text{SrTiO}_3$ 2DEGs

1.3 Other SrTiO_3 2DEGs

1.4 2DEGs not based on SrTiO_3

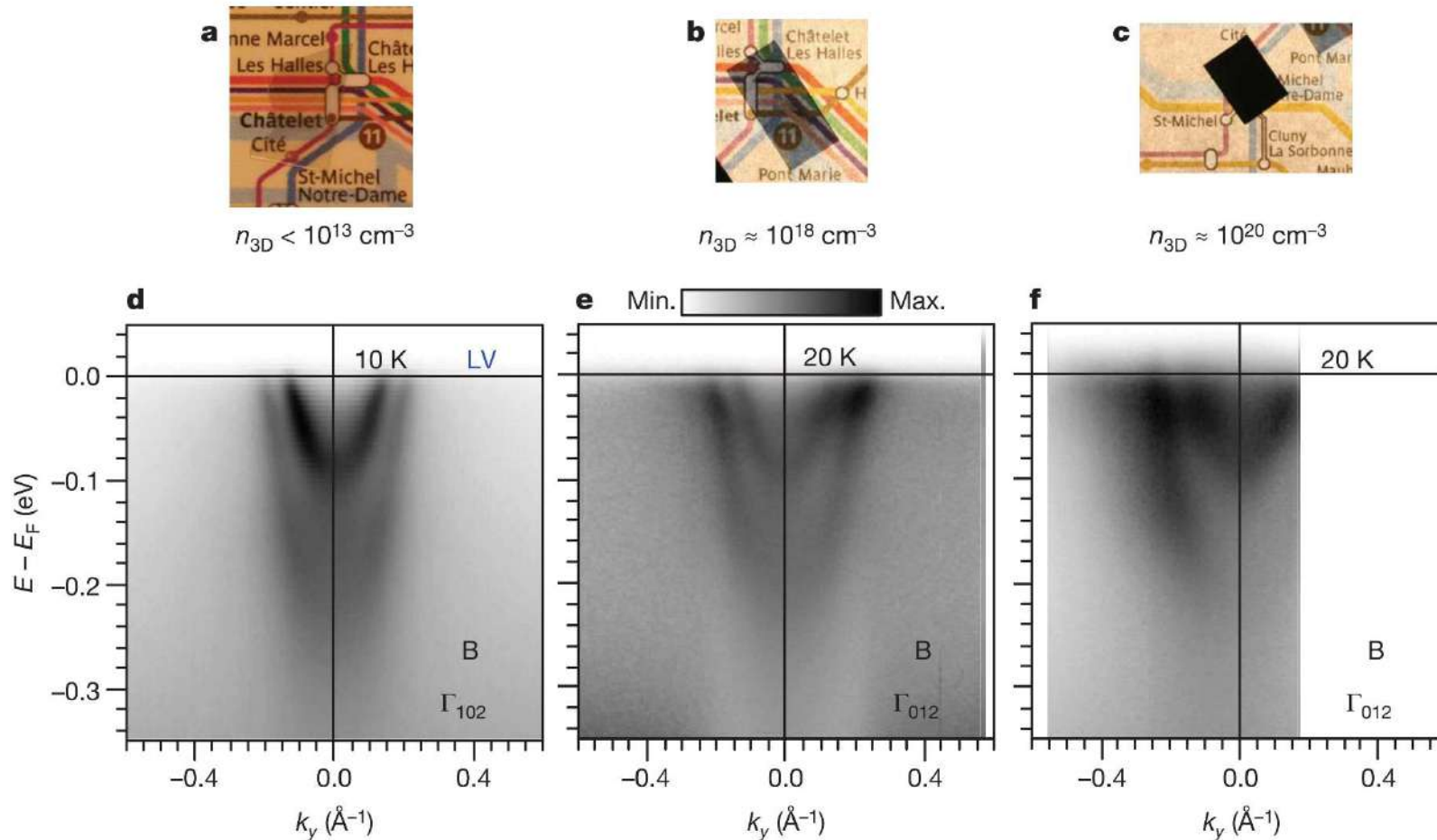
2. Interfaces between oxides with partially filled d shells

2.1 « Correlated » oxide perovskites

2.2 Nickelate/Titanate interfaces

Other types of SrTiO₃-based 2DEG_s

A 2DEG at the surface of STO

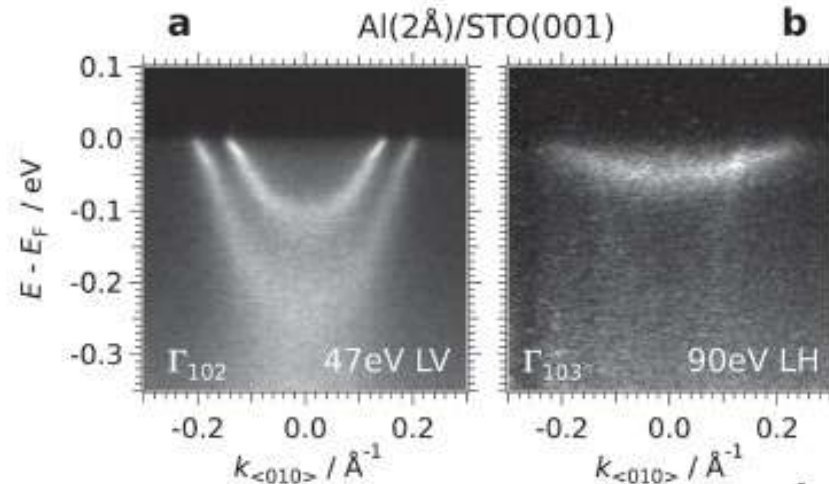
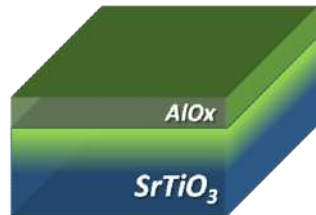


- ⊙ Fracturing a STO crystal in vacuum creates a 2DEG at its surface
- ⊙ 2DEG electronic structure very similar to that of the LAO/STO 2DEG

Santander, MB et al, Nature 469, 189 (2011)

Other types of SrTiO₃-based 2DEG_s

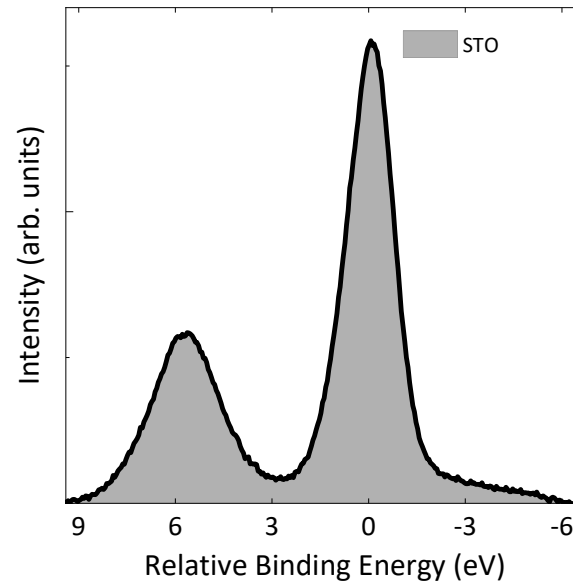
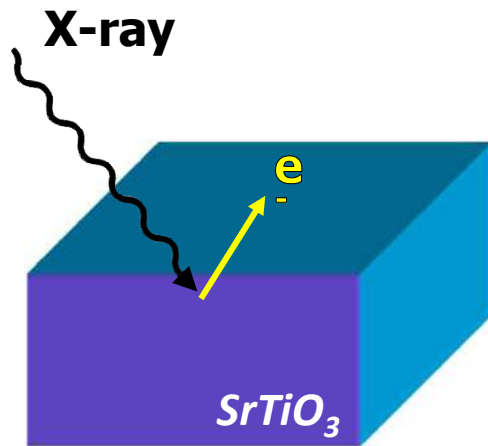
A 2DEG at Al/STO interfaces



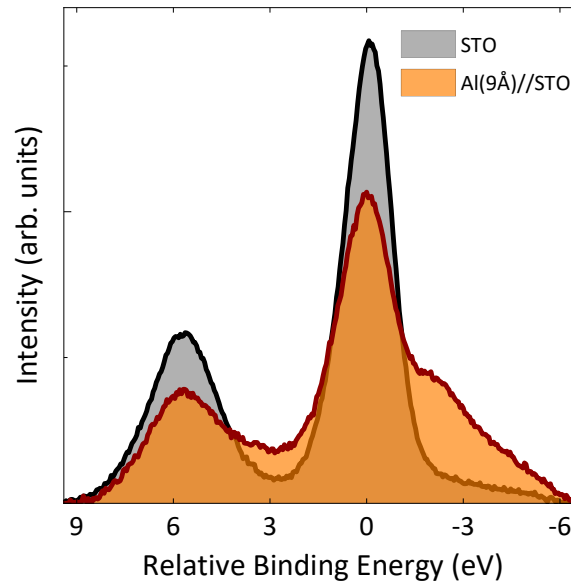
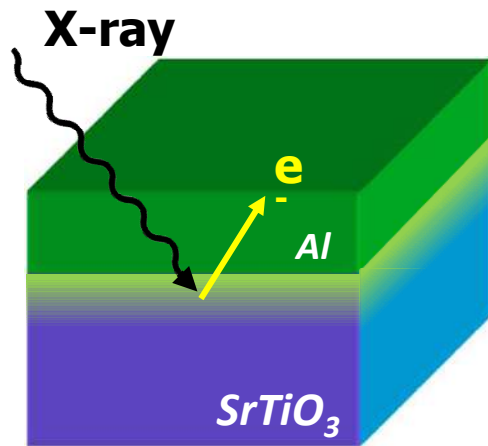
T.C. Rödel et al., Adv. Mater. 28, 1976 (2016)

- ⊙ Reactive metals → Oxygen vacancies release electrons to form a 2DEG
- ⊙ Room temperature growth
- ⊙ What about the polar catastrophe mechanism ? Is the 2DEG formation only driven by oxygen vacancies ?

A 2DEG in Al/STO

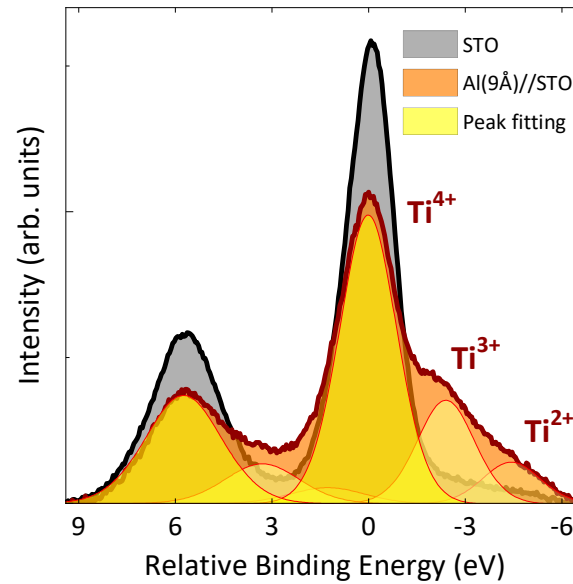
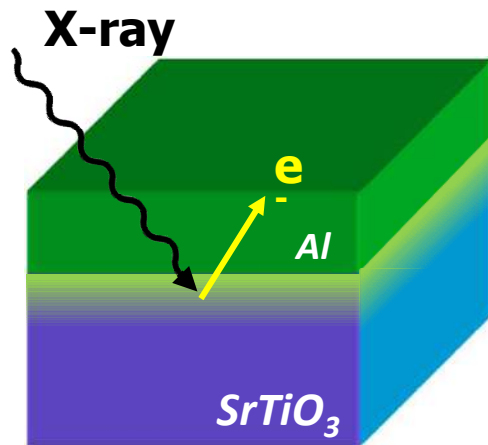


A 2DEG in Al/STO



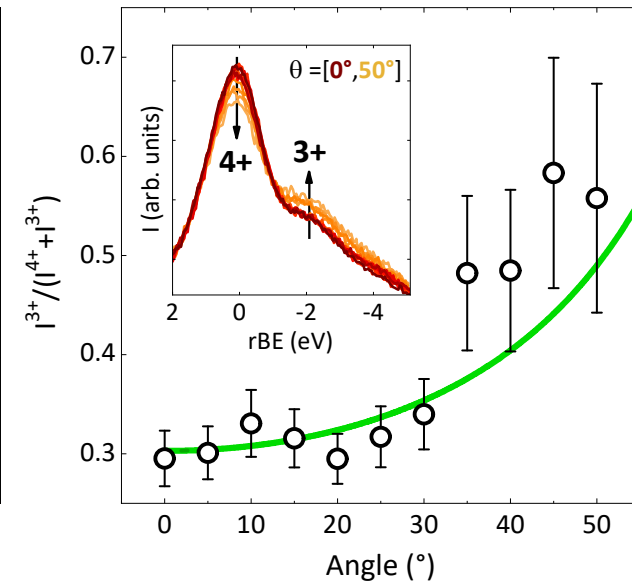
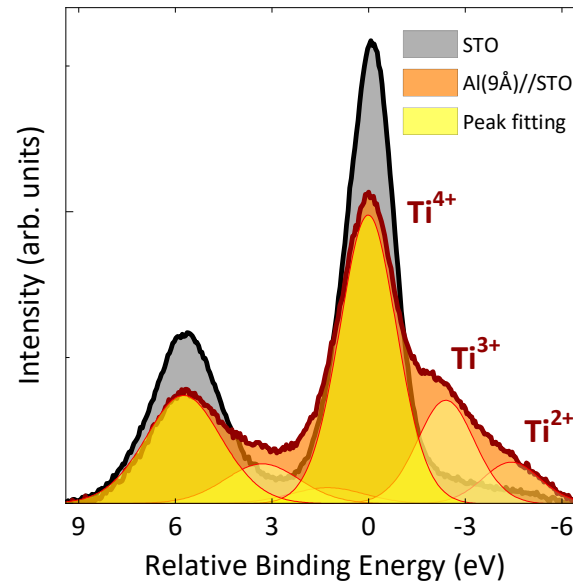
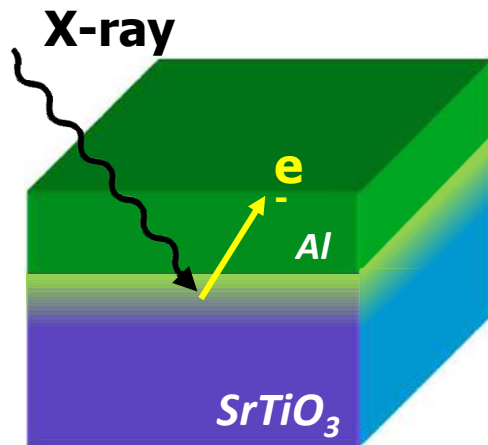
- ⊙ Deposition of 9 Å of aluminum
- ⊙ Aluminum pulls oxygen from the STO
- ⊙ Oxygen vacancies are formed

A 2DEG in Al/STO



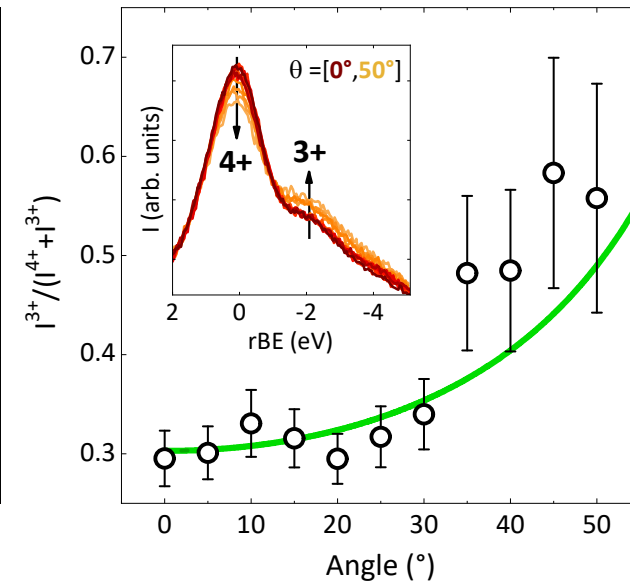
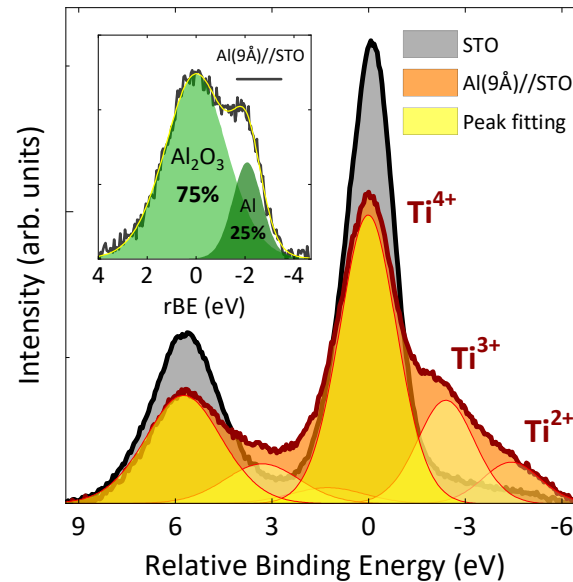
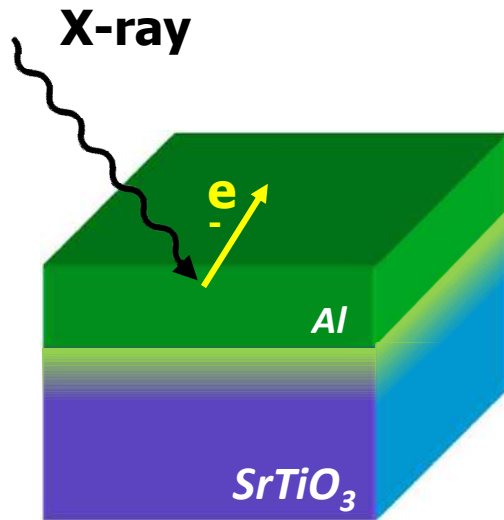
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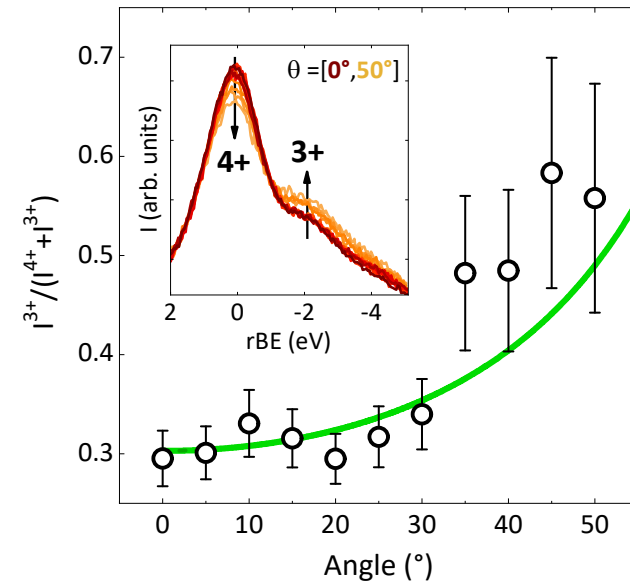
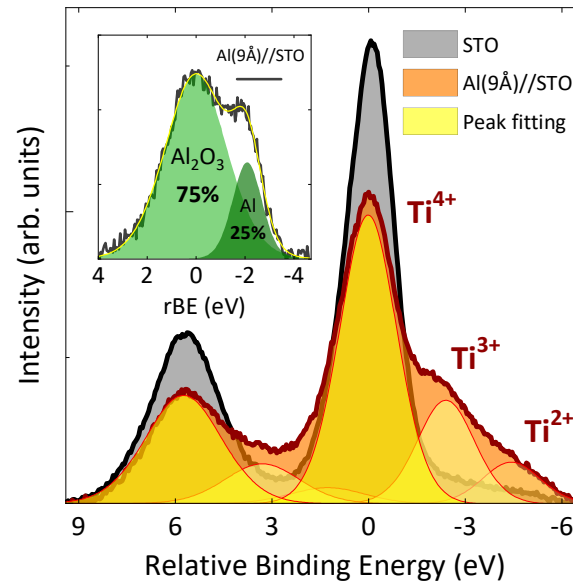
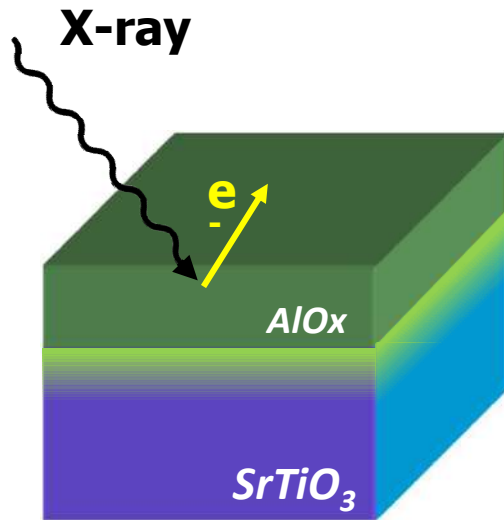
- ⊙ Deposition of 9 Å of aluminum
- ⊙ Aluminum pulls oxygen from the STO
- ⊙ Oxygen vacancies are formed
- ⊙ A 2DEG emerges at the interface

A 2DEG in Al/STO



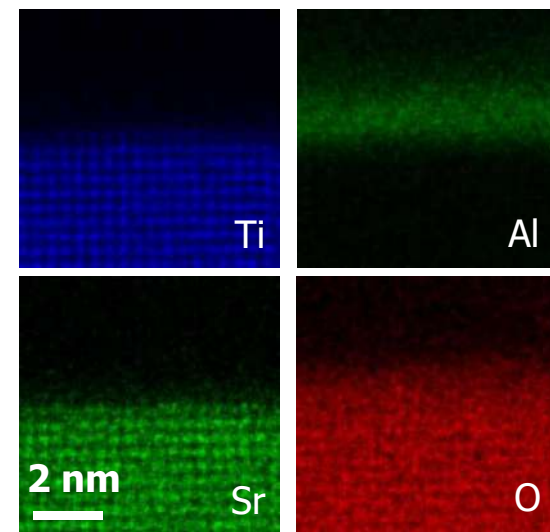
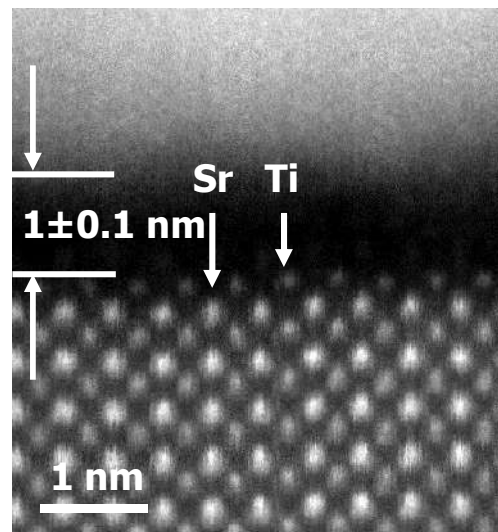
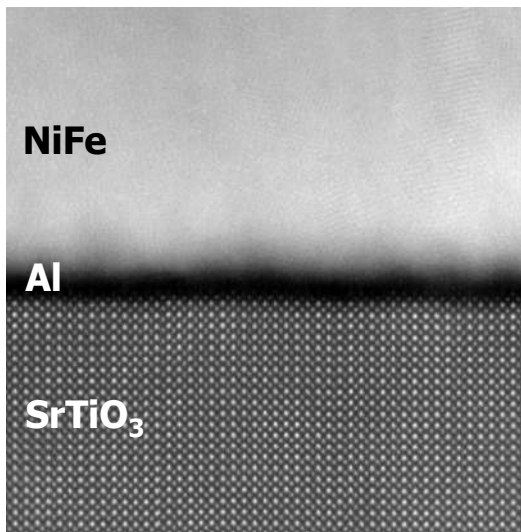
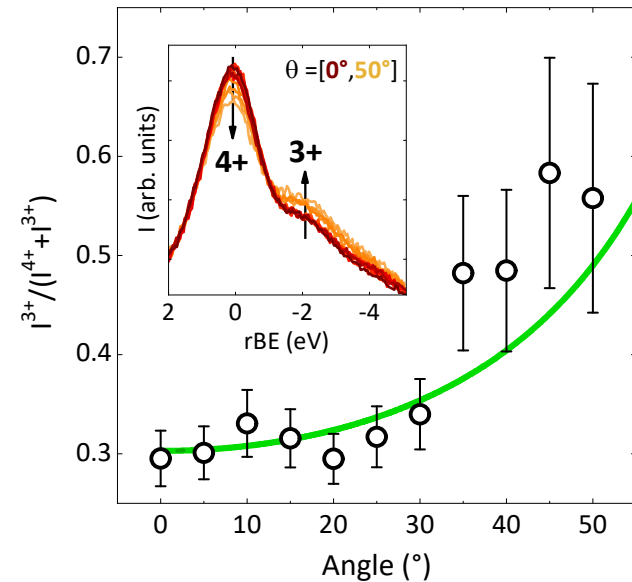
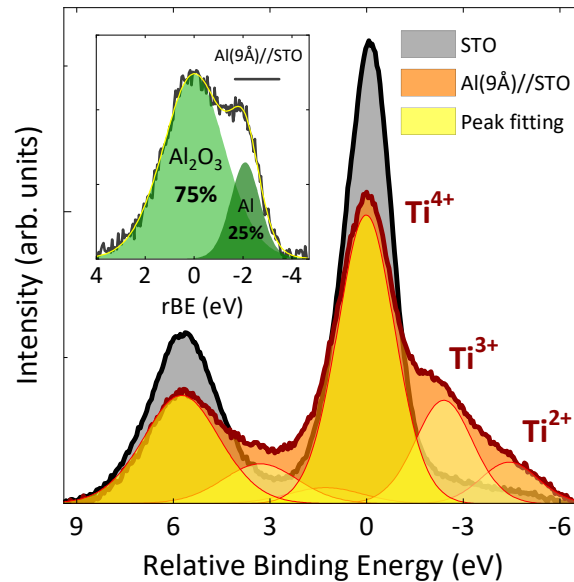
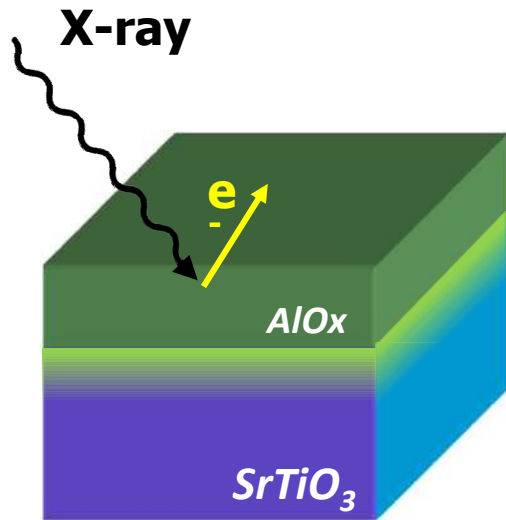
- ⊙ Deposition of 9 Å of aluminum
- ⊙ Aluminum pulls oxygen from the STO
- ⊙ Oxygen vacancies are formed
- ⊙ A 2DEG emerges at the interface

A 2DEG in Al/STO



- ⊙ Deposition of 9 Å of aluminum
- ⊙ Aluminum pulls oxygen from the STO
- ⊙ Oxygen vacancies are formed
- ⊙ A 2DEG emerges at the interface
- ⊙ The deposited aluminum layer is completely oxidized

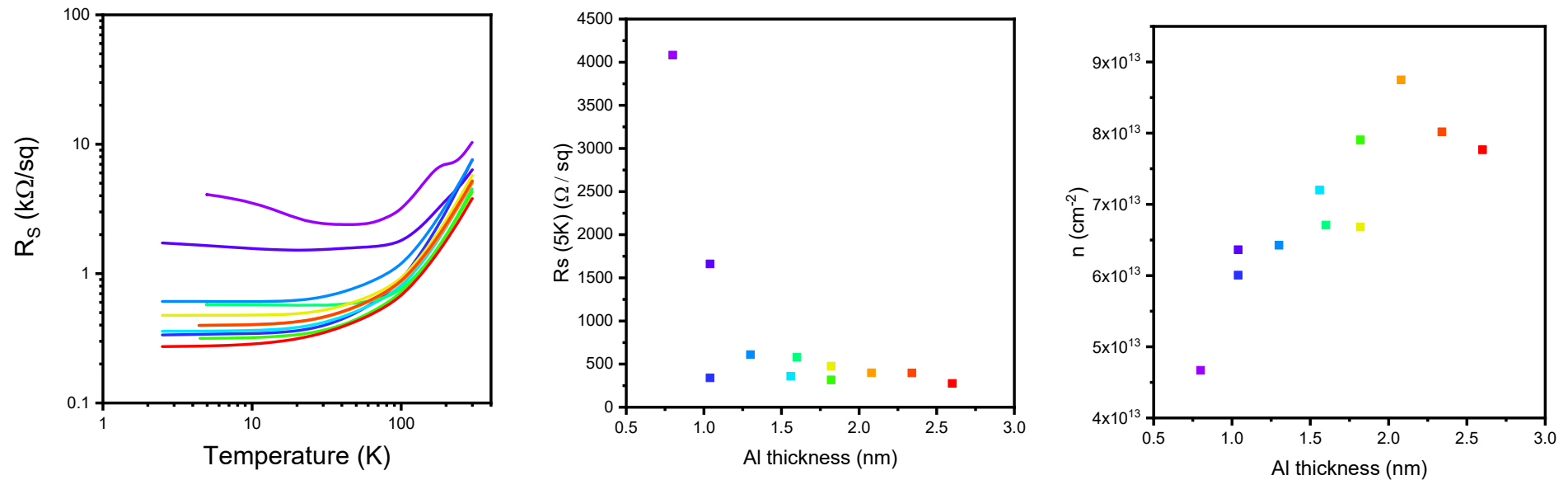
A 2DEG in Al/STO



○ Presence of 1 nm AlOx layer at interface with STO

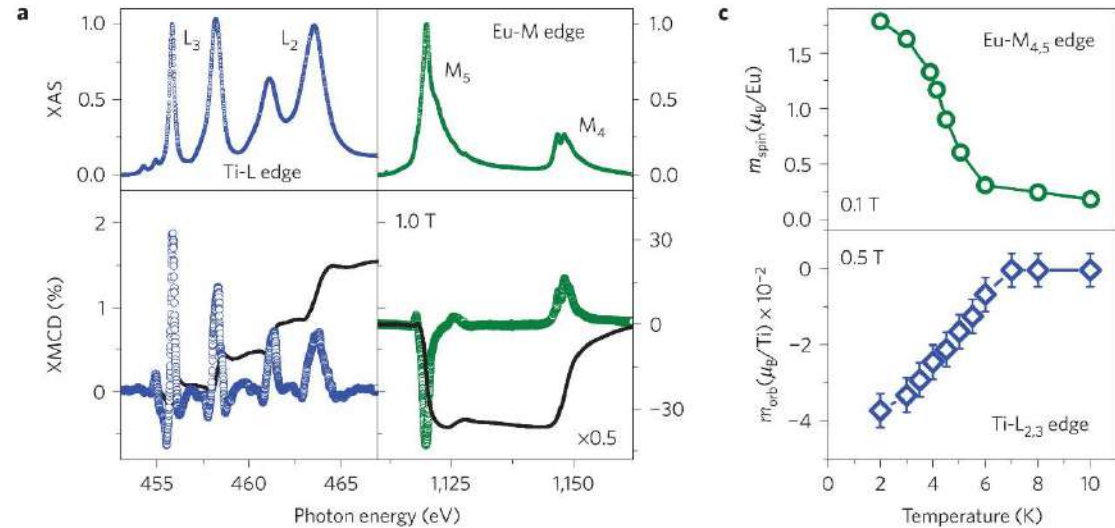
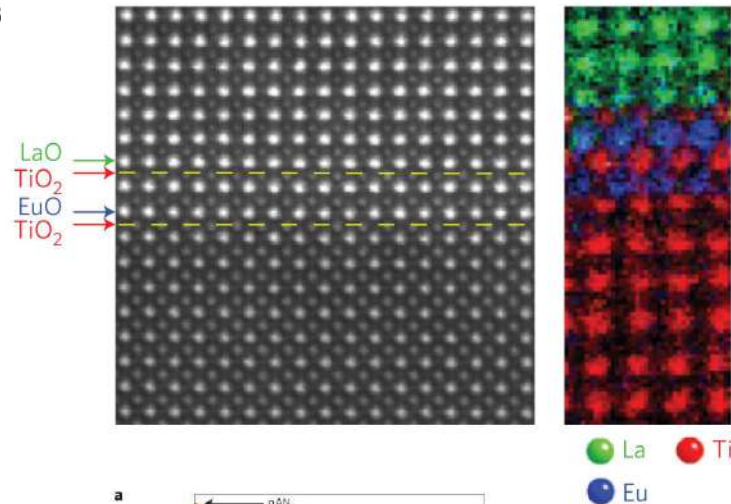
○ Very little interdiffusion if any

Dependence of transport properties with Al thickness

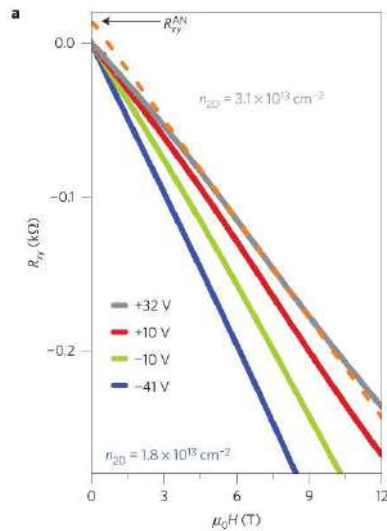


- ⊙ Conductivity and carrier density increase with Al thickness
- ⊙ More oxygen vacancies, more carriers
- ⊙ **Check Luis Moreno's poster tomorrow !**

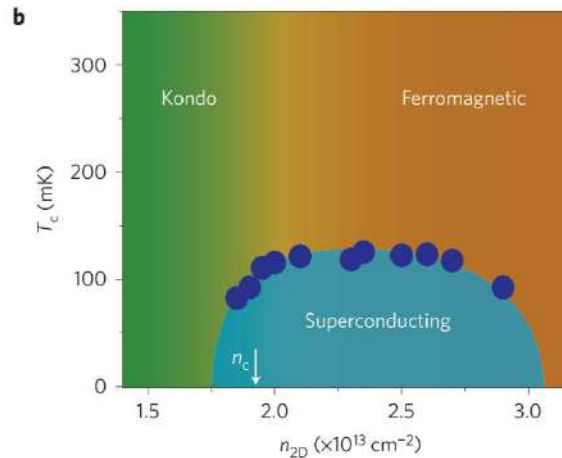
Insert a monolayer of EuTiO_3 between LAO and STO



⊙ XMCD at Ti and Eu edges



⊙ Anomalous Hall effect



⊙ Coexistence of ferromagnetism and superconductivity, tunable by gate voltage

Stornaiuolo et al, Nature Mater 15, 278 (2016)

1. d_0 -oxide-based interfaces

1.1 Physics of bulk SrTiO_3

1.2 $\text{LaAlO}_3/\text{SrTiO}_3$ 2DEGs

1.3 Other SrTiO_3 2DEGs

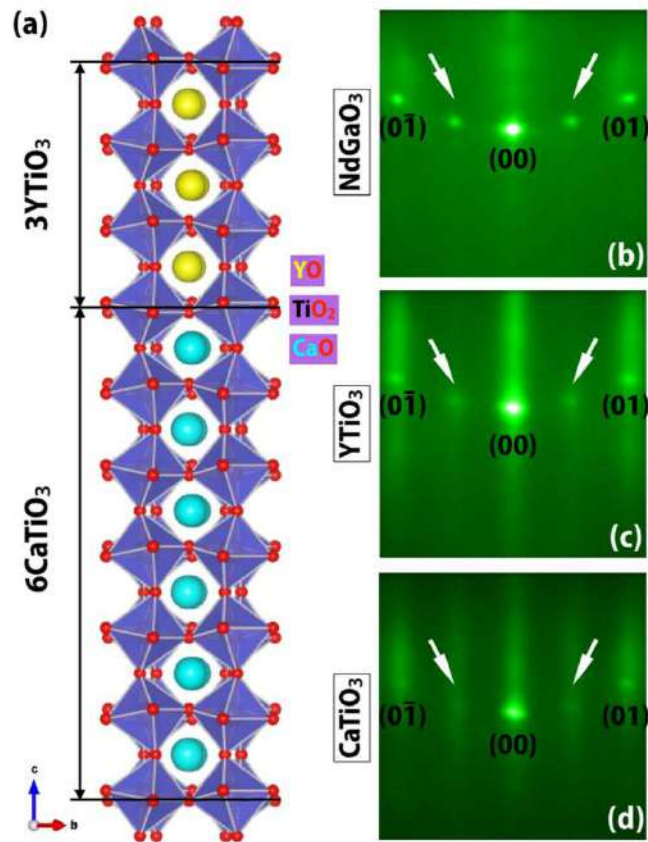
1.4 2DEGs not based on SrTiO_3

2. Interfaces between oxides with partially filled d shells

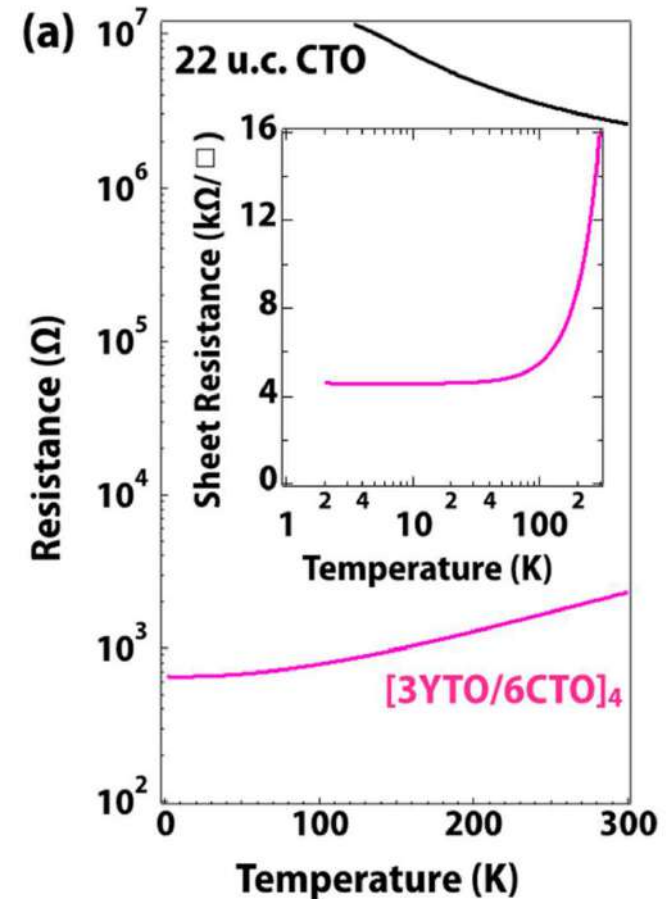
2.1 « Correlated » oxide perovskites

2.2 Nickelate/Titanate interfaces

Metallic interface between CaTiO_3 and YTiO_3



Liu et al, APL 107 191602 (2015)

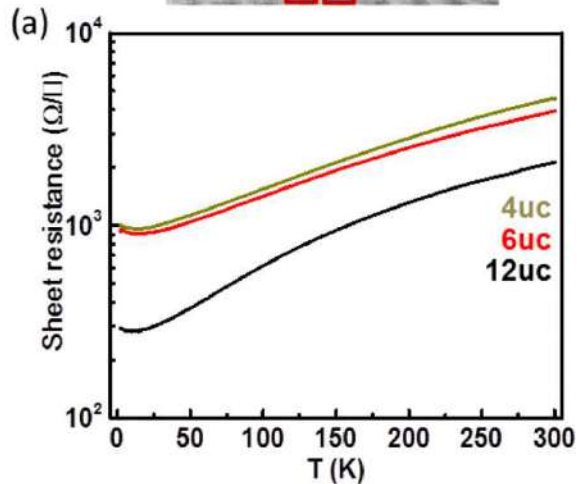
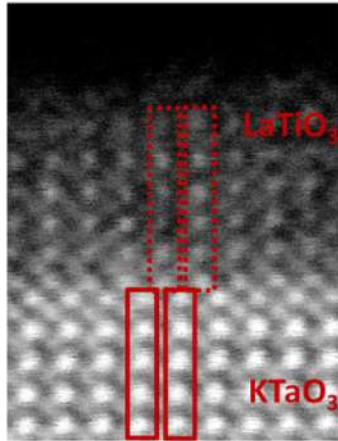


- $\text{CaTiO}_3/\text{YTiO}_3$ bilayer is grown on NdGaO_3 substrate
- Conductive interface appears (2DEG ?) : charge transfer from YTO to CTO ?

2DEGs in non STO systems

2DEGs based on KTaO_3

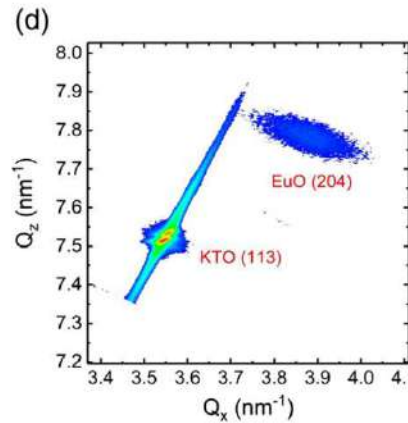
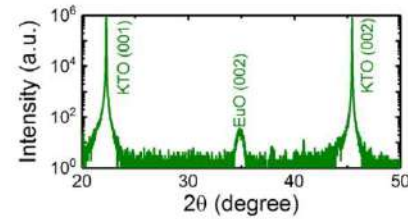
$\text{LaTiO}_3/\text{KTaO}_3$



Zou et al, APL Mater. 3, 036104 (2015)

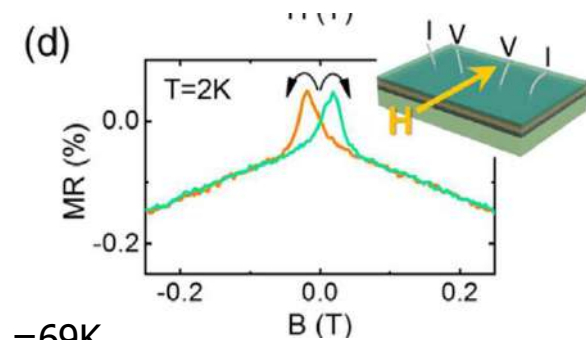
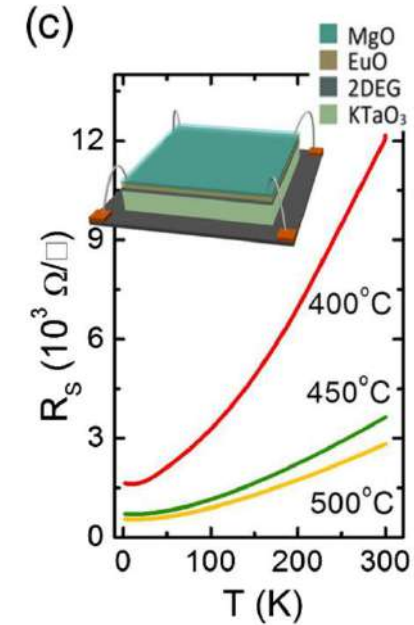
- ⊙ LaTiO_3 film grown on KTaO_3 single crystal
- ⊙ Conductive interface looking like 2DEG

EuO/KTaO_3



Zhang et al PRL 121, 116803 (2018)

- ⊙ EuO is FM insulator with $T_C=69\text{K}$
- ⊙ EuO film grown on KTaO_3 single crystal
- ⊙ Conductive interface with magnetoresistance : magnetic 2DEG



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1.4 2DEGs not based on SrTiO_3

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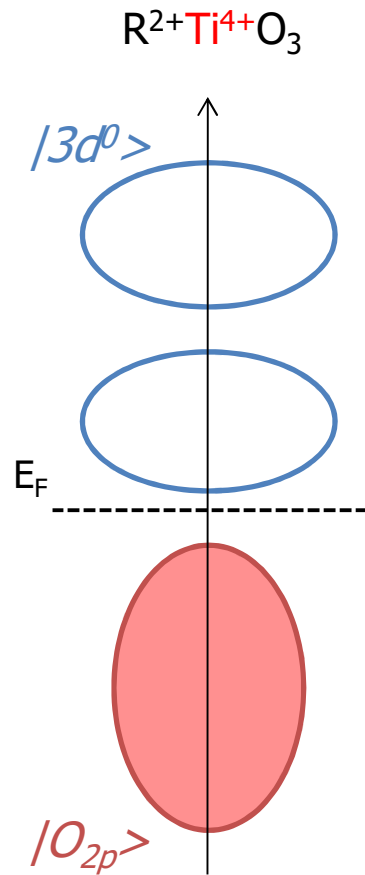
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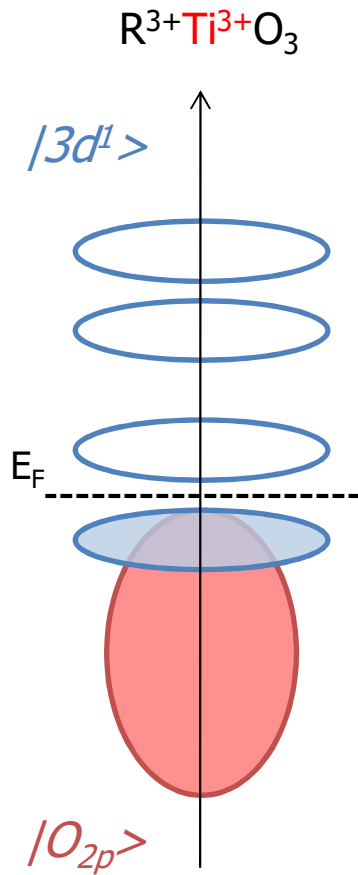
2.2 Nickelate/Titanate interfaces

Interfaces between oxides with partially filled d shells



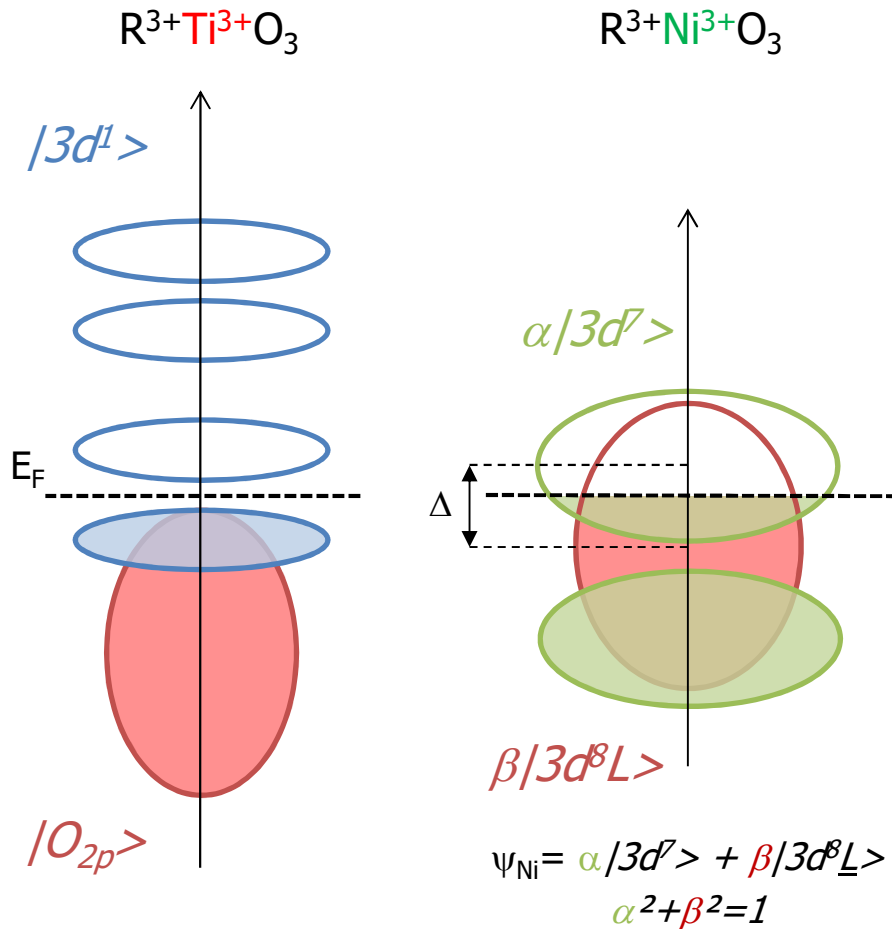
- ⊙ No ***d*** electrons
- ⊙ No magnetism

Interfaces between oxides with partially filled d shells



- ⊙ ***d*** electrons
- ⊙ Magn/orb order
- ⊙ **Mott insulator**

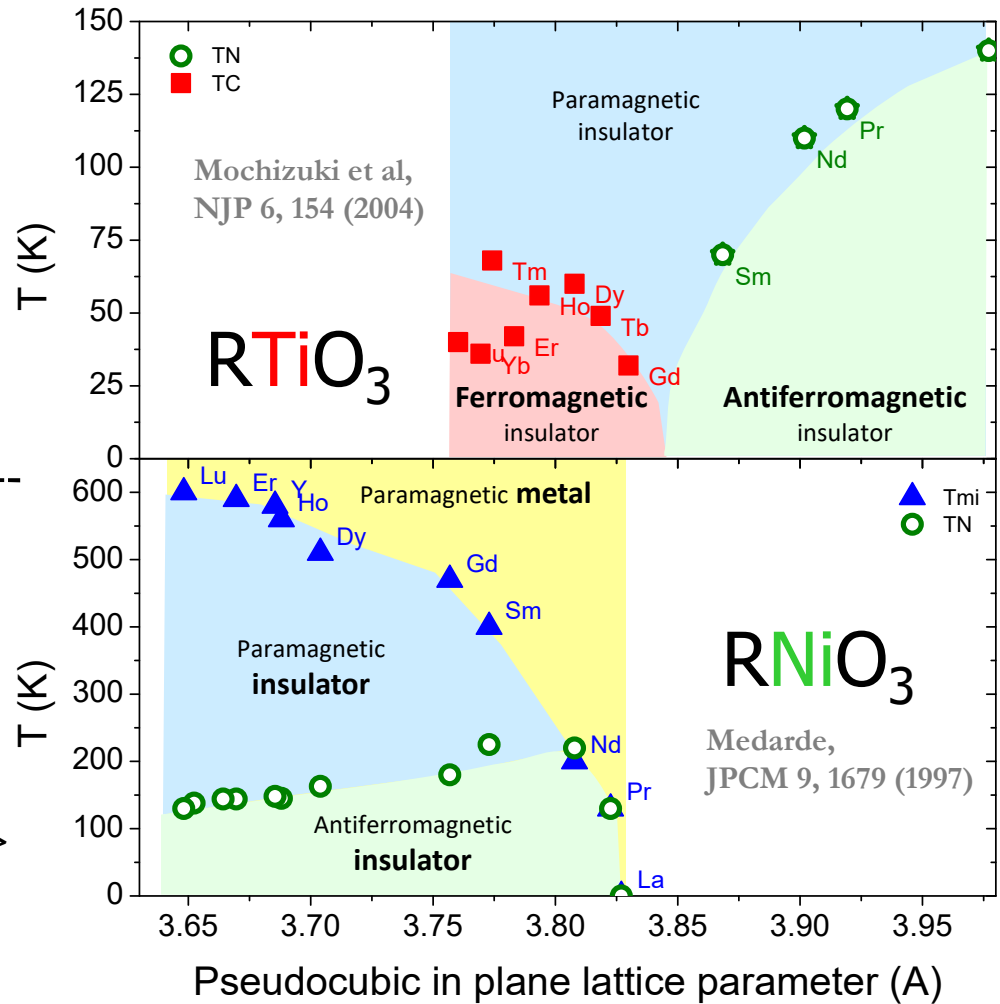
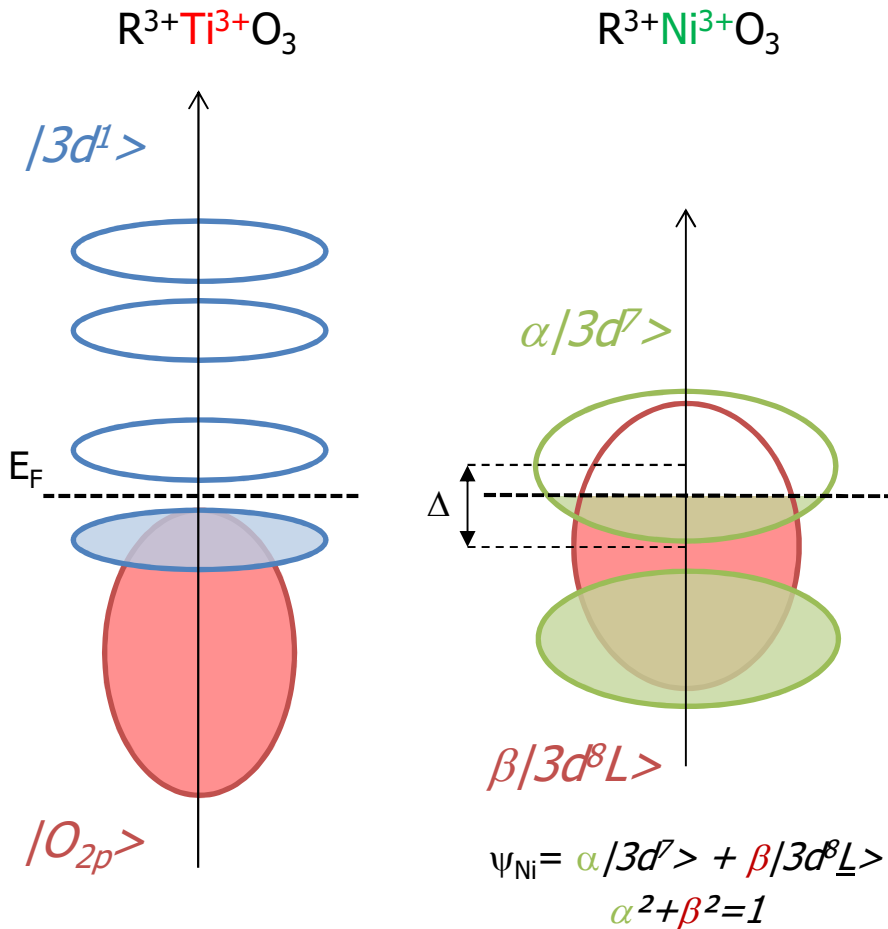
Interfaces between oxides with partially filled d shells



- ⊙ **d** electrons
- ⊙ Magn/orb order
- ⊙ **Mott insulator**

- ⊙ **d** electrons
- ⊙ Magn/orb order
- ⊙ Strong covalence

Interfaces between oxides with partially filled d shells

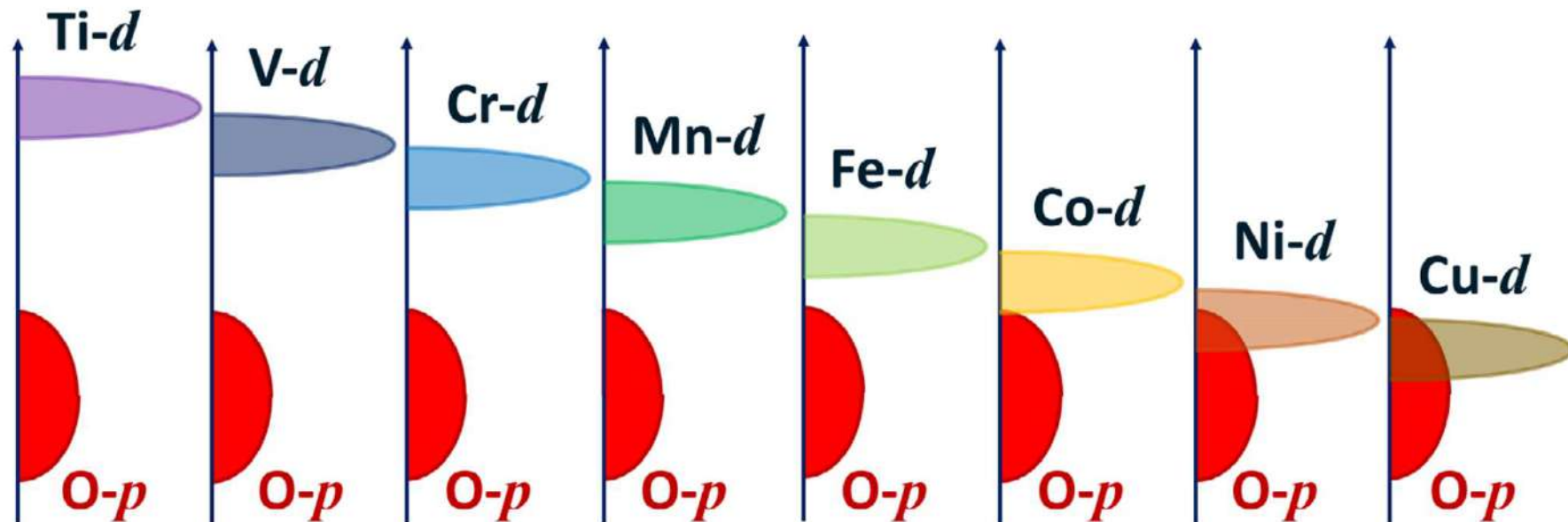


- ⊙ **d** electrons
- ⊙ Magn/orb order
- ⊙ **Mott insulator**

- ⊙ **d** electrons
- ⊙ Magn/orb order
- ⊙ Strong covalence

- ⊙ Very rich phase diagrams
- ⊙ **Magnetic instabilities** (Ferro/Antiferro)
- ⊙ **Electronic instabilities** (Metal/Insulator)

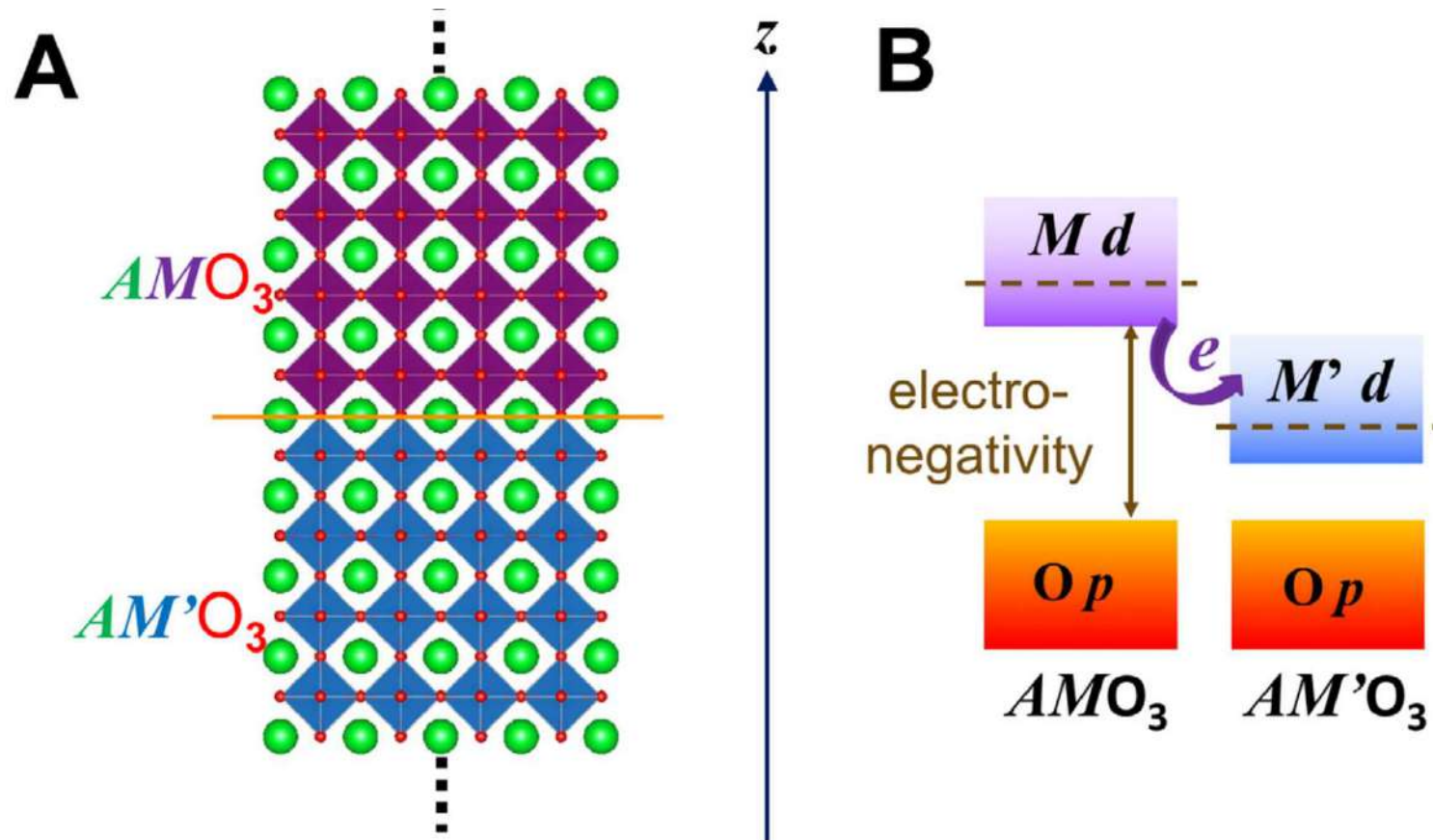
Electronic structure of transition metal perovskites



- ⊙ As the mass of transition metal elements increases, the metal d level decreases.
- ⊙ For titanates, Ti-d states lie above O-p by about 3 eV.
- ⊙ For nickelates and cuprates, Ni-d and Cu-d states even lie below O-p states, leading to a 'negative charge transfer' energy and strong hybridization.

Chen and Millis, JPCM, 29, 243001 (2017)

Interfaces between oxides with partially filled d shells



- ⊙ Due to continuity of oxygen lattice, oxygen p states will align
- ⊙ Charge transfer will occur from material to larger electronegativity to material with smaller electronegativity

Chen and Millis, JPCM, 29, 243001 (2017)

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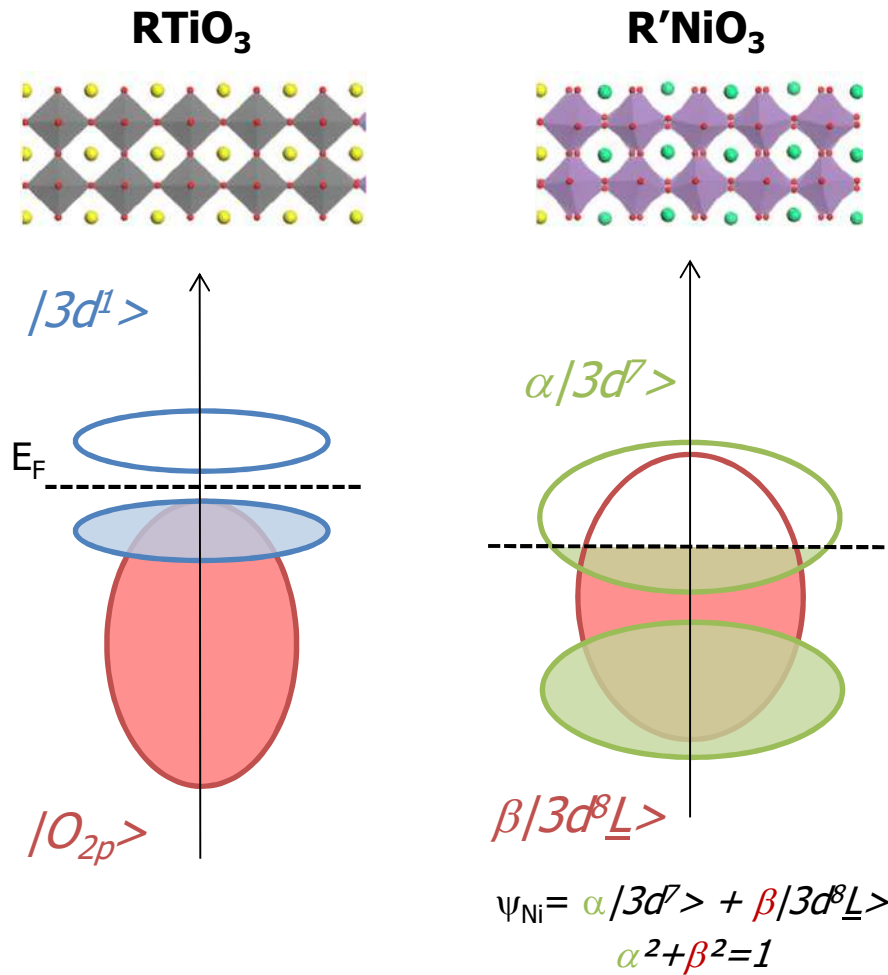
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2. Interfaces between oxides with partially filled d shells

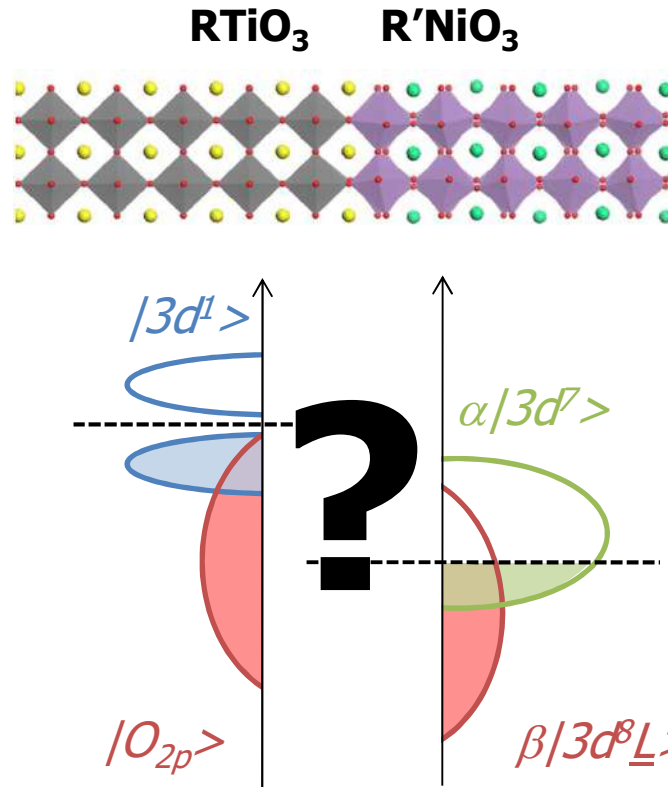
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Interfaces between oxides with partially filled d shells



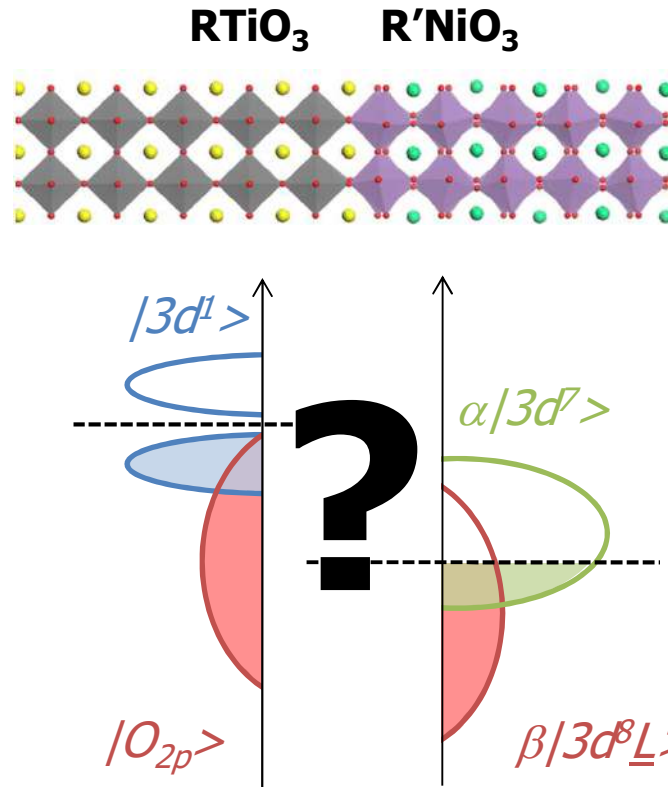
Interfaces between oxides with partially filled d shells



Unusual band structure → complex electronic reconstruction at interface

Degrees of freedom : charge, structure, orbital, spin

Interfaces between oxides with partially filled d shells



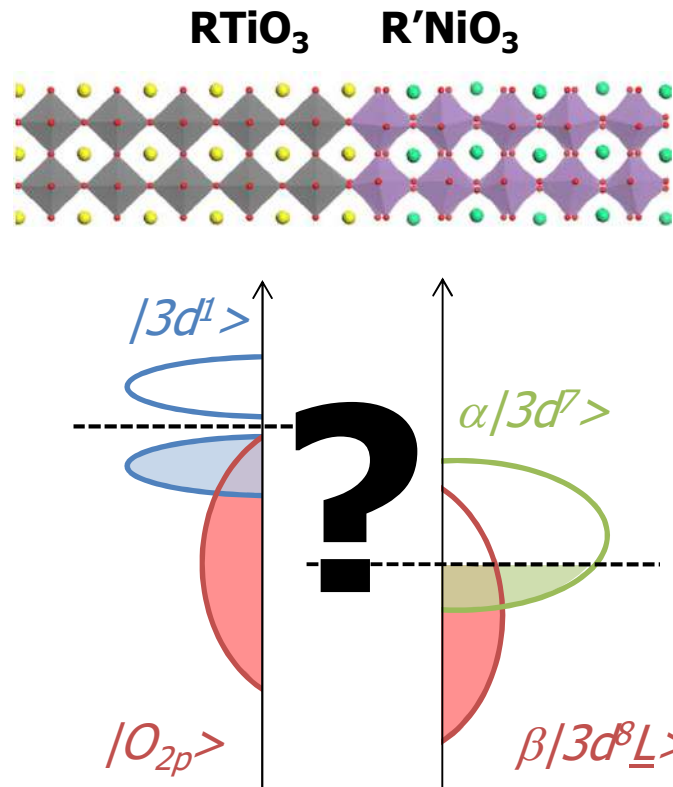
Unusual band structure → complex electronic reconstruction at interface

Degrees of freedom : charge, structure, orbital, spin

Various predicted **new properties** in related systems

- ❖ **Ferromagnetic 2-dimensional electron gases** in LaTiO₃/SrTiO₃ Okamoto & Millis, Nature (2004)
- ❖ **Superconductivity** in LaNiO₃/LaMnO₃ Chaloupka et al, PRL (2008)
- ❖ **New spin/orbital states** in GdTlO₃/SrTiO₃ Li et al, ArXiv (2013) ; in LaTiO₃/LaNiO₃ Millis et al, PRL (2013)
- ❖ **New ferroelectrics** in LaGaO₃/YGaO₃ Rondinelli & Fennie, Adv. Mater. (2012)

Interfaces between oxides with partially filled d shells



Unusual band structure → complex electronic reconstruction at interface

Degrees of freedom : charge, structure, orbital, spin

- ❖ Here systematic study of interface properties between GdTiO_3 and RNiO_3
- ❖ Change rare-earth (La, Nd, Sm) : **tune bandwidth, bond angles, p-d energy**, etc

Interfaces between titanates and nickelates

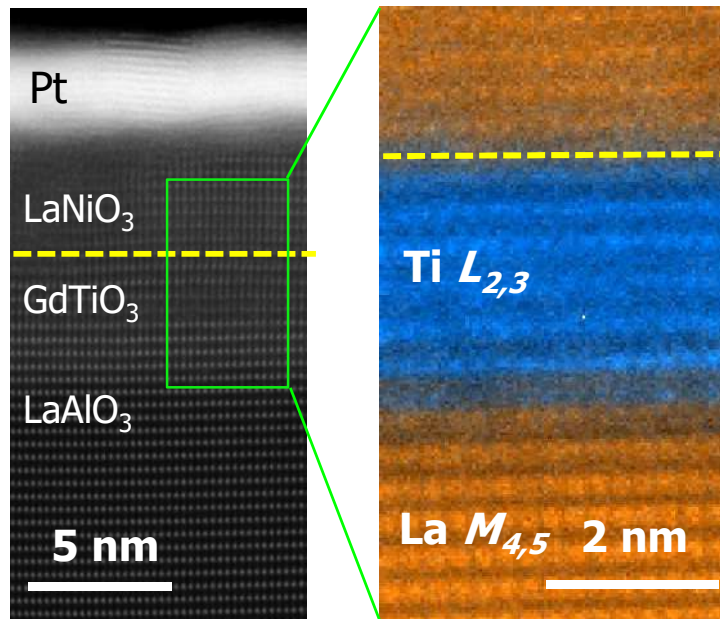
Electronic reconstruction at $\text{RNiO}_3/\text{GdTiO}_3$ interfaces



- ⊙ Epitaxial growth of bilayer system

Interfaces between titanates and nickelates

Electronic reconstruction at $\text{RNiO}_3/\text{GdTiO}_3$ interfaces

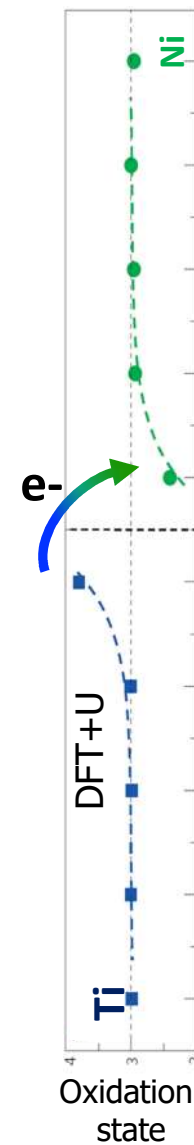
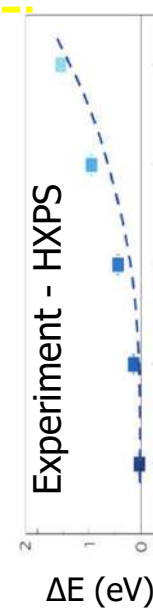
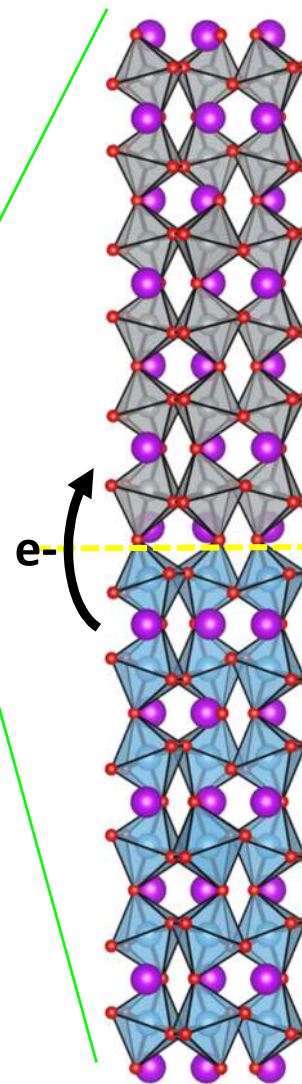
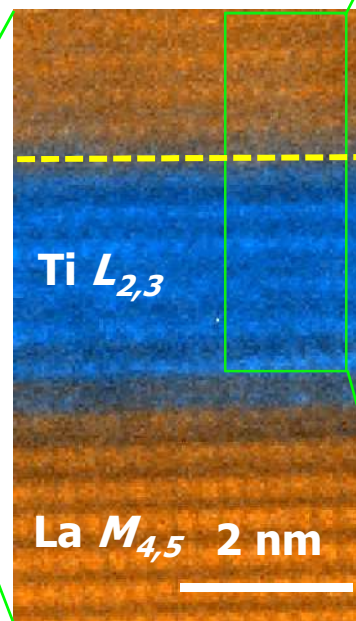
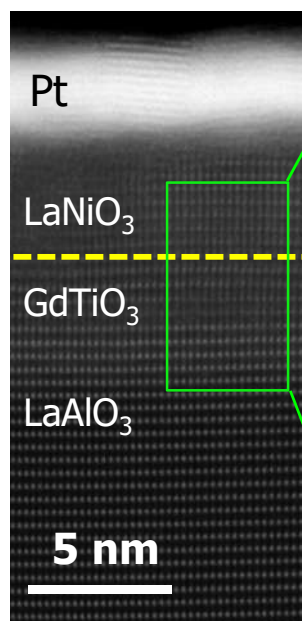


- ⊙ Epitaxial growth of bilayer system

Grisolia, MB et al, Nature Phys. 12? 484 (2016)

Interfaces between titanates and nickelates

Electronic reconstruction at $\text{RNiO}_3/\text{GdTiO}_3$ interfaces

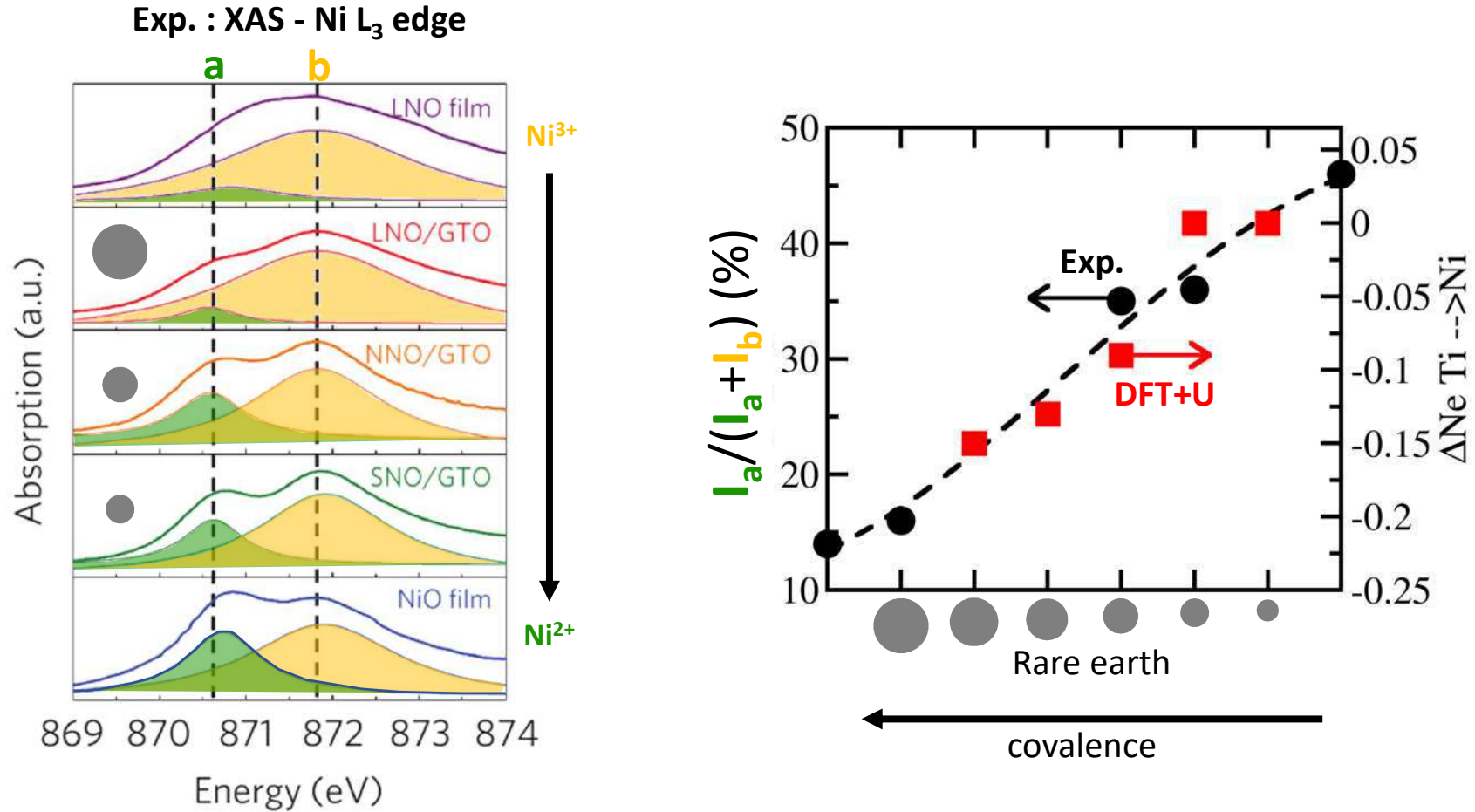


- ⊙ Epitaxial growth of bilayer system
- ⊙ **Electron transfer** between nickelate and titanate from experiments and theory

Grisolia, MB et al, Nature Phys. 12? 484 (2016)

Interfaces between titanates and nickelates

Electronic reconstruction at $\text{RNiO}_3/\text{GdTiO}_3$ interfaces : role of covalence

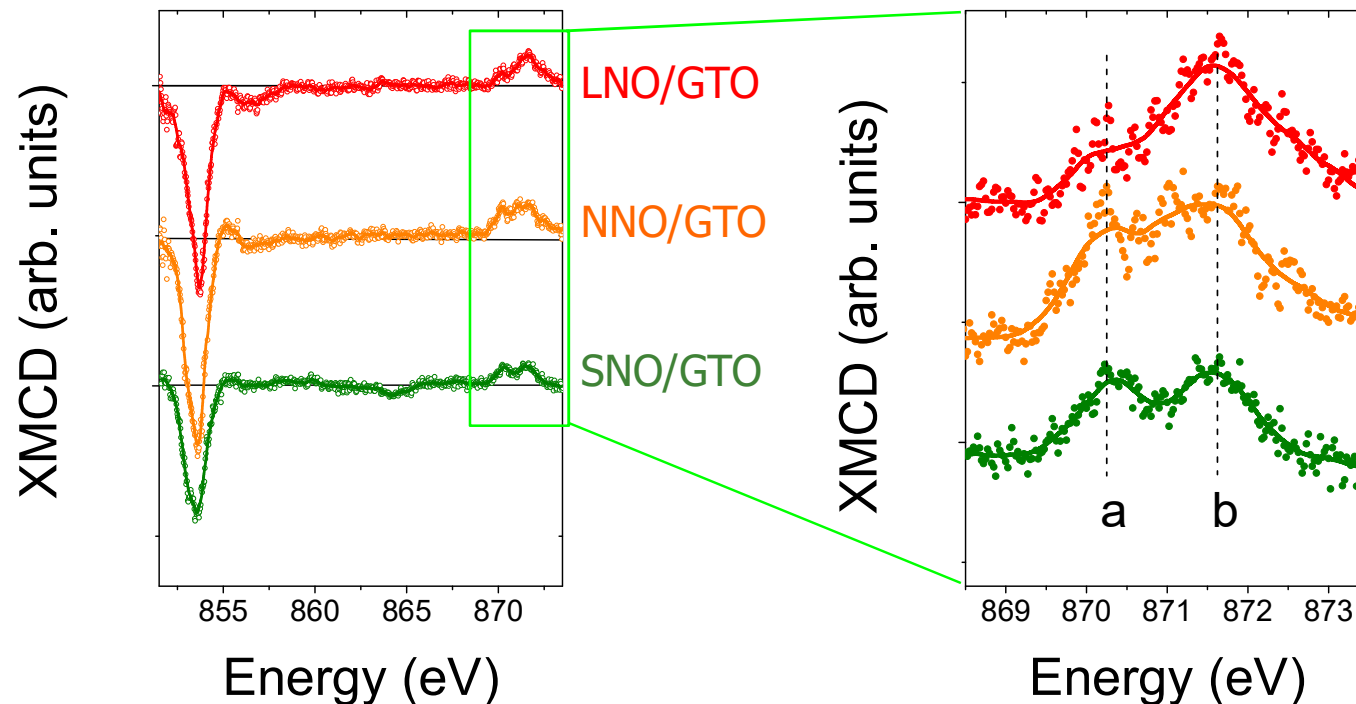


Amount of charge transferred from titanate to nickelate **modulated by covalence** in nickelate material

Grisolia, MB et al, Nature Phys. 12: 484 (2016)

Interfaces between titanates and nickelates

Magnetic properties of $\text{RNiO}_3/\text{GdTiO}_3$ interfaces



- ◉ XMCD is observed at Ni $L_{2,3}$ edge for all bilayers while individual nickelates are AF
- ◉ Strong signature of **Ni^{2+} magnetism**
- ◉ « Covalent exchange » can induce ferromagnetic coupling between Ni^{2+} and Ni^{3+}
- ➔ **Novel magnetic state in nickelates**

Goodenough, PR 100, 554 (1955)

Goodenough, J. Solid State Chem. 127, 126 (1996)

Grisolia, MB et al, Nature Phys. 12, 484 (2016)

Conclusions and perspectives

- ⊙ Oxide interfaces have **unexpected electronic and magnetic properties**
- ⊙ Some properties derive from the bulk of the compounds involved, **some are readily new**
- ⊙ **Inversion symmetry breaking** is key to most new properties
- ⊙ Most literature focuses on SrTiO_3 and related d^0 compounds like KTaO_3
- ⊙ Much work remains to be done for **interfaces between non d^0 perovskites**
- ⊙ Harder to grow as interesting couples often need to be grown in different conditions
- ⊙ Parameter space is huge and more **exotic phenomena** should arise from orbital and spin reconstruction (**topological effects**)

MB et al, Adv. Phys. 60, 5 (2011)

J. Varignon, MB et al., Nature Phys. 14, 322 (2018)