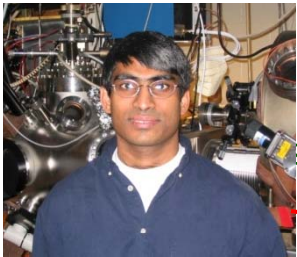


# New collective and single particle phenomena at oxide interfaces and digital superlattices

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Xiaofang Zhai,<sup>1</sup> Maitri Warusawithana,<sup>2</sup> Bruce Davidson,<sup>3</sup>  
Jian-Min Zuo,<sup>4</sup> Amish Shah,<sup>4</sup>



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<sup>4</sup>Department of Materials Science and Engineering, Univ. of Illinois, Urbana, IL



Supported by Dept of Energy - Basic Energy Sciences

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*University of Illinois*



# New phenomena at oxide interfaces (3 topics)

What are the new results?

- global symmetry can be controlled by architecture Warusawithana
- design SL to obtain new optical transitions,  $\sigma(\omega)$  Zhai
- superconductivity with e-h antisymmetry Davidson

Global symmetry:

Make a digital superlattice out of 3 dielectric phases and use SL architecture that breaks inversion symmetry

→ dielectric has permanent polarization and finite  $\chi^{(2)}$ .

New electronic transitions

Digital superlattice to mix bands at interface

→ new optical transitions between composite states.

Modified superconductivity at interface (unexpected)

a-axis interface between YBCO and CaTiO<sub>3</sub> (NIS tunnel jct)

→ crystalline interface causes DoS measured by tunneling to have broken e-h symmetry at interface (not like BCS)

topic 1

# Nanostructured asymmetric dielectrics

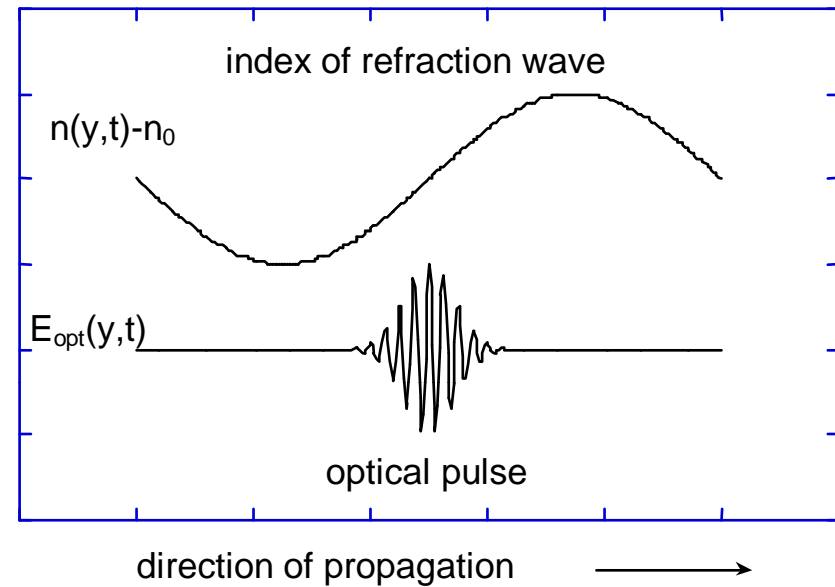
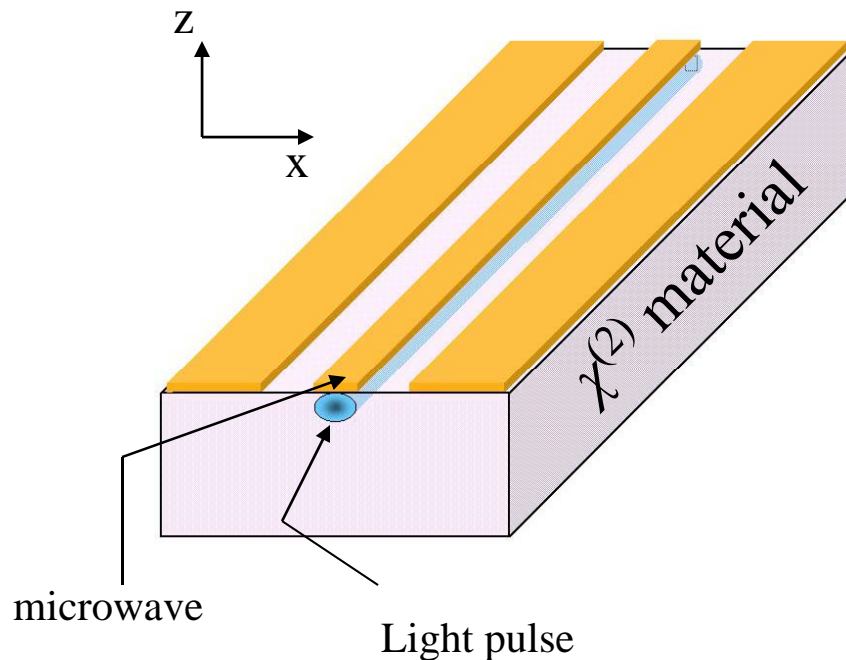
summary

Lattice strain distorts bonds at heterointerfaces  
asymmetric supercell  $\rightarrow$  asymmetric strain "field"

Supercells with broken inversion symmetry lead to  
self-poled materials (similar to ferroelectricity, but...)  
asymm. strain field acts like effective bias field,  $E_{\text{eff}}$   
permanent polarization, with no two state switching

Strain "proximity effect" extends about 2 uc

# Electro-Optic Frequency Shifter



$$E_{\mu} = E_0 \sin(ky - \omega t)$$

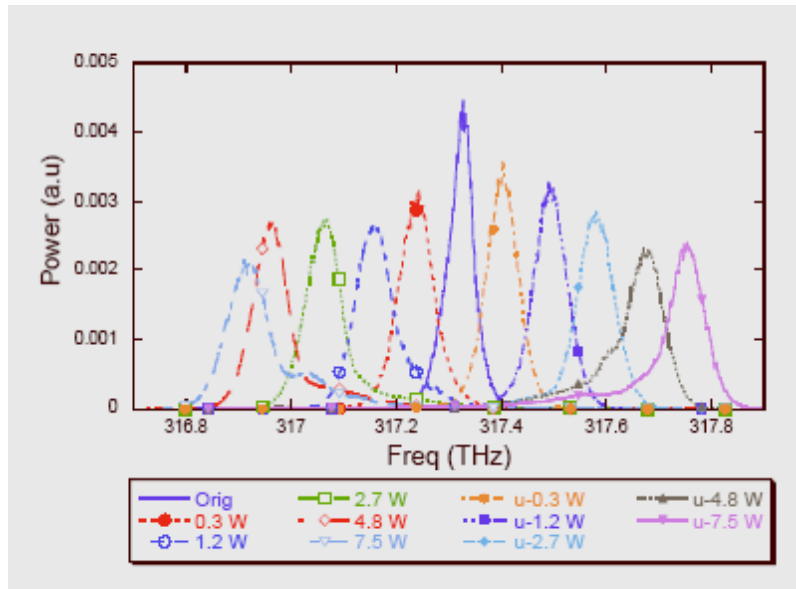
Index of refraction experiences a dynamic change given by

$$\delta n = -\frac{1}{2} n_0^3 r_c E_{\mu}$$

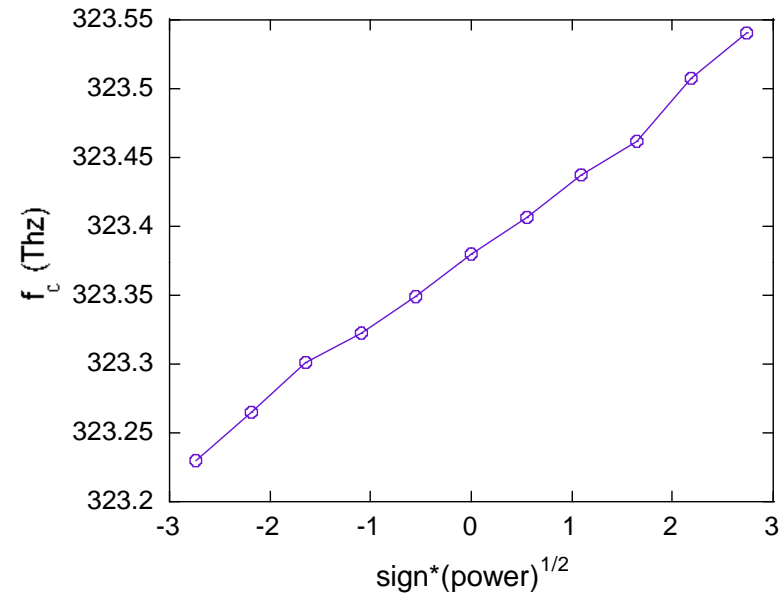
D. A. Farías and J. N. Eckstein. "Coupled-Mode Analysis of an Electro-optic Frequency Shifter," IEEE J. of Quant. Elect. Vol 39. No 2. , pp. 358-363, Feb. 2003.

# Experimental Results *EOFS*

power vs frequency



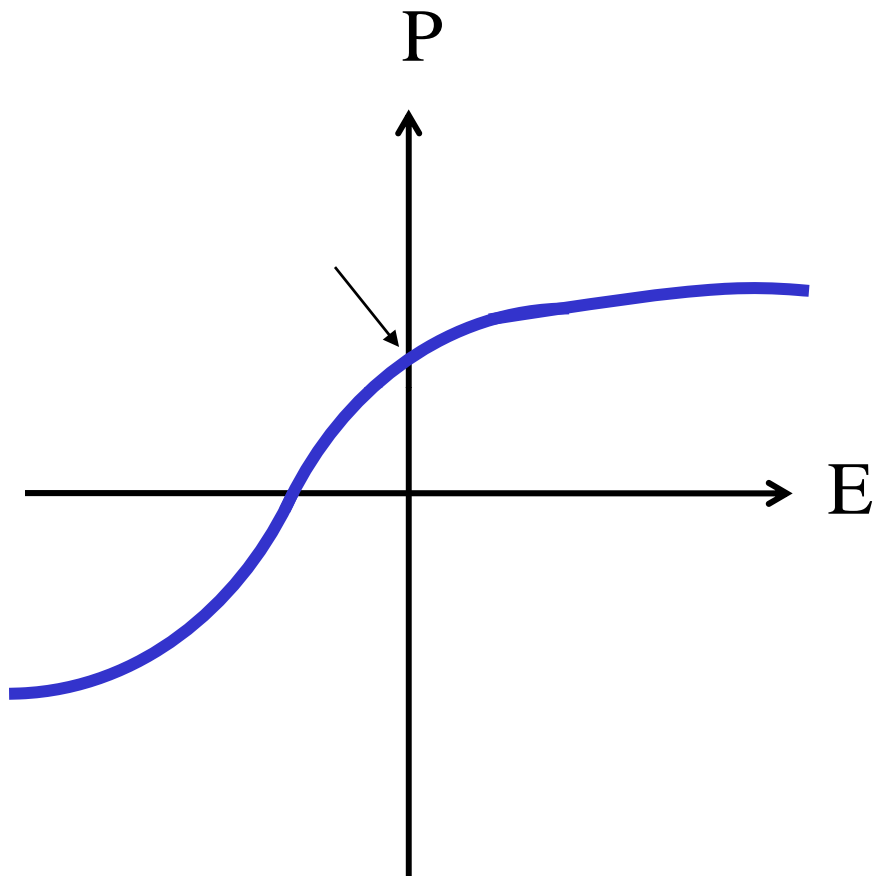
Frequency Shift vs. Microwave Power



Frequency shifting proportional to  $p^{1/2}$

Experiments done with 927 nm., 20 ps. pulses at a 75.7 MHz repetition rate. Microwave was chosen at the 80<sup>th</sup> harmonic (6.056 GHz), and powers of 0, 0.3, 1.2, 2.7, 4.8, and 7.5 Watts were applied to the modulator. Freq shifting range = 1 THz **limited by  $r_c$**

## What you would like for non-linear modulators, etc...



For non-linear optical and other field tuning applications would prefer a characteristic like this.

Stable, single solution  
*can't de-pole*

Permanently polarized  
dielectric with big  $\chi^{(2)}$

Use molecular  
nanostructuring to make  
such a material (MBE)  
*(once you figure out what matters!)*

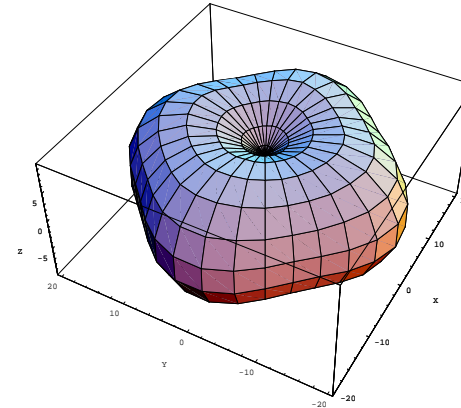
# Artificial structures

using ALL-MBE to synthesize materials and heterostructures not found in nature

Controlling material properties via epitaxial strain

**Tensile strain-induced magnetic anisotropy in magnetic oxide**

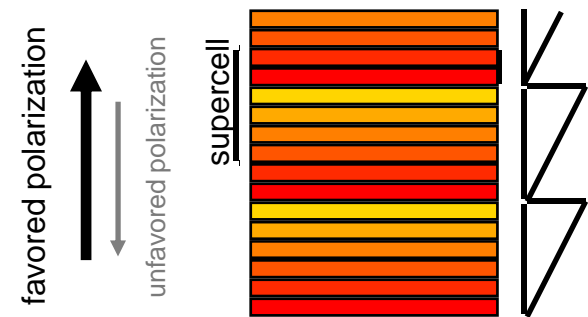
anisotropy energy surface  
( $\text{La}_{0.7}\text{Ca}_{0.3}\text{MnO}_3$  on  $\text{SrTiO}_3$  substrate)



Producing new “materials” by modulated heterostructure growth

**Grow crystal using ferroelectric and related phases: stack with *structurally broken c-axis inversion symmetry***

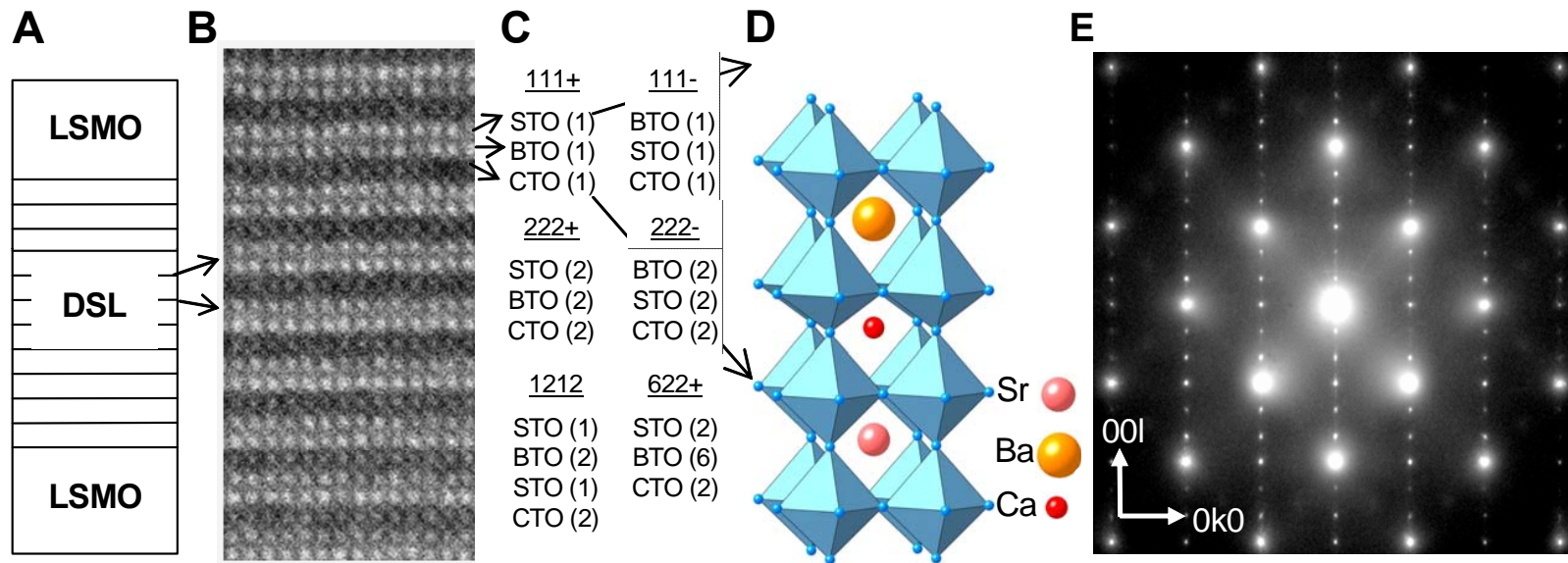
lattice property, e.g. strain,  $T_c$



- broken symmetry *throughout* film favors one polarization
- permits stable operation nearer to Curie temperature
- obtain larger response at zero bias

# Electrodynamical properties of atomically layered “meta-materials”

## Asymmetric dielectric superlattices broken inversion symmetry

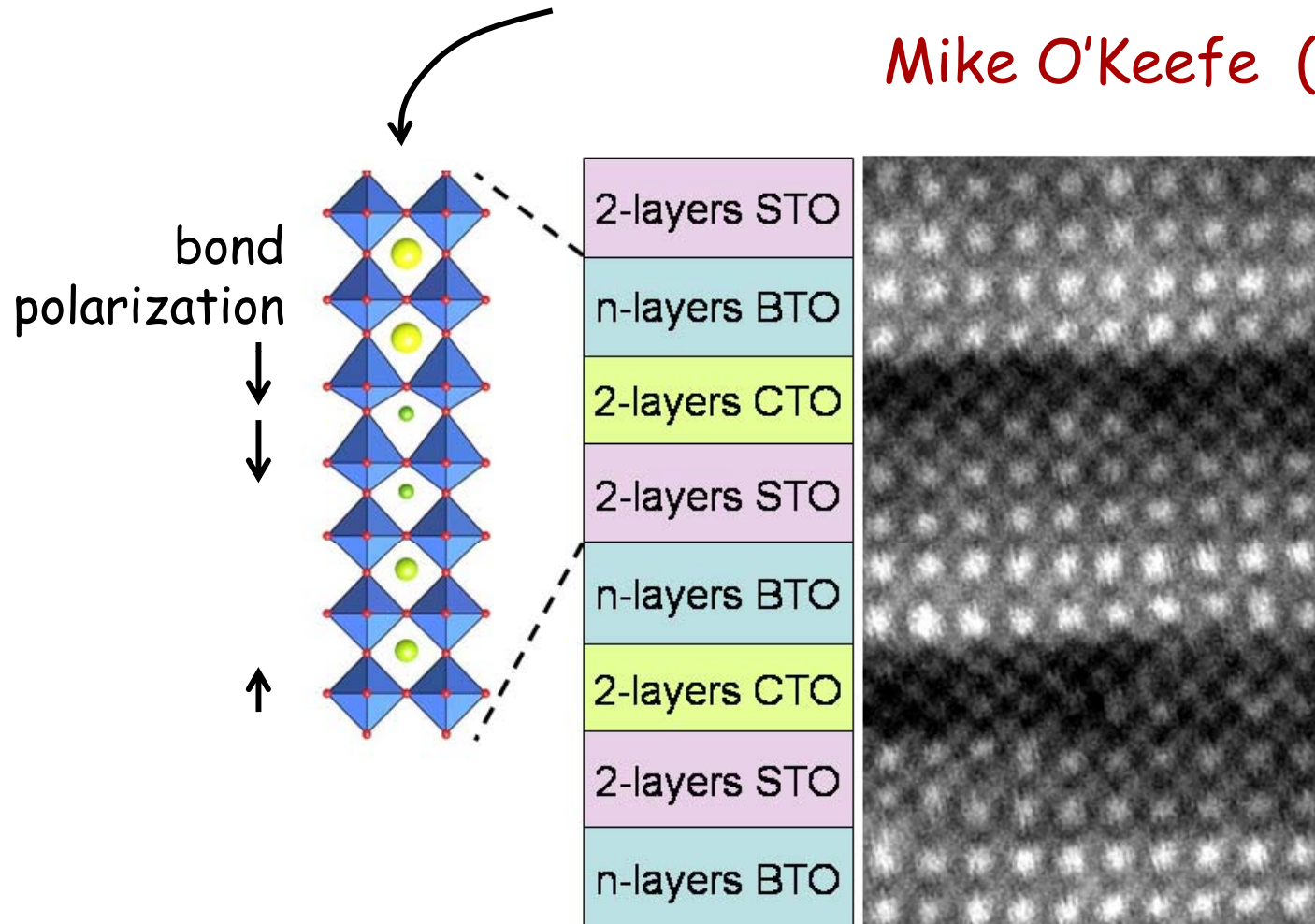


Calculation by Mike O'Keefe ASU  
Microscopy by J. Zuo and H. Chen UIUC



# bond valence sum calculation

Mike O'Keefe (ASU)



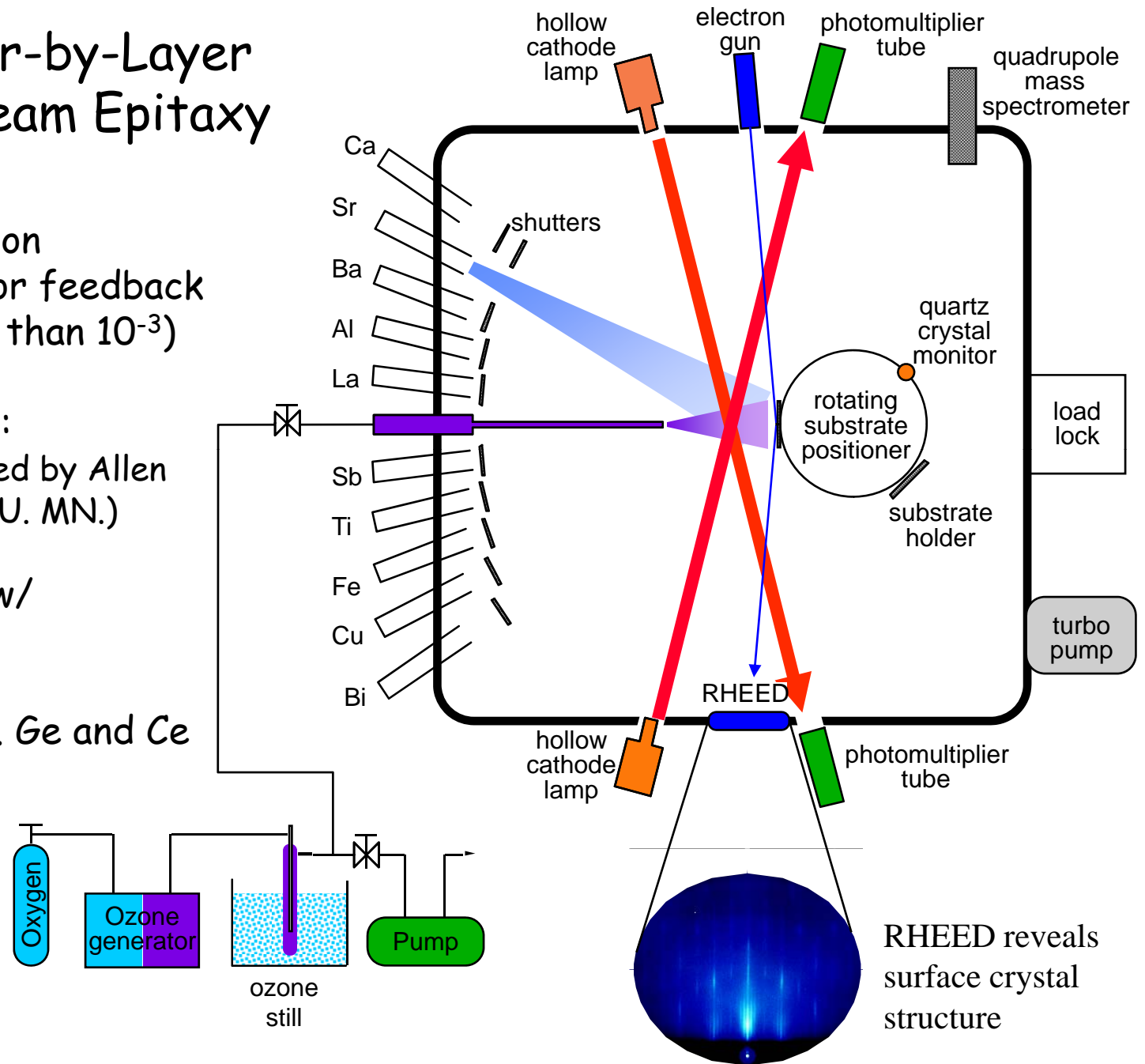
Z-contrast STEM image

Hao Chen UIUC

Jim Zuo UIUC

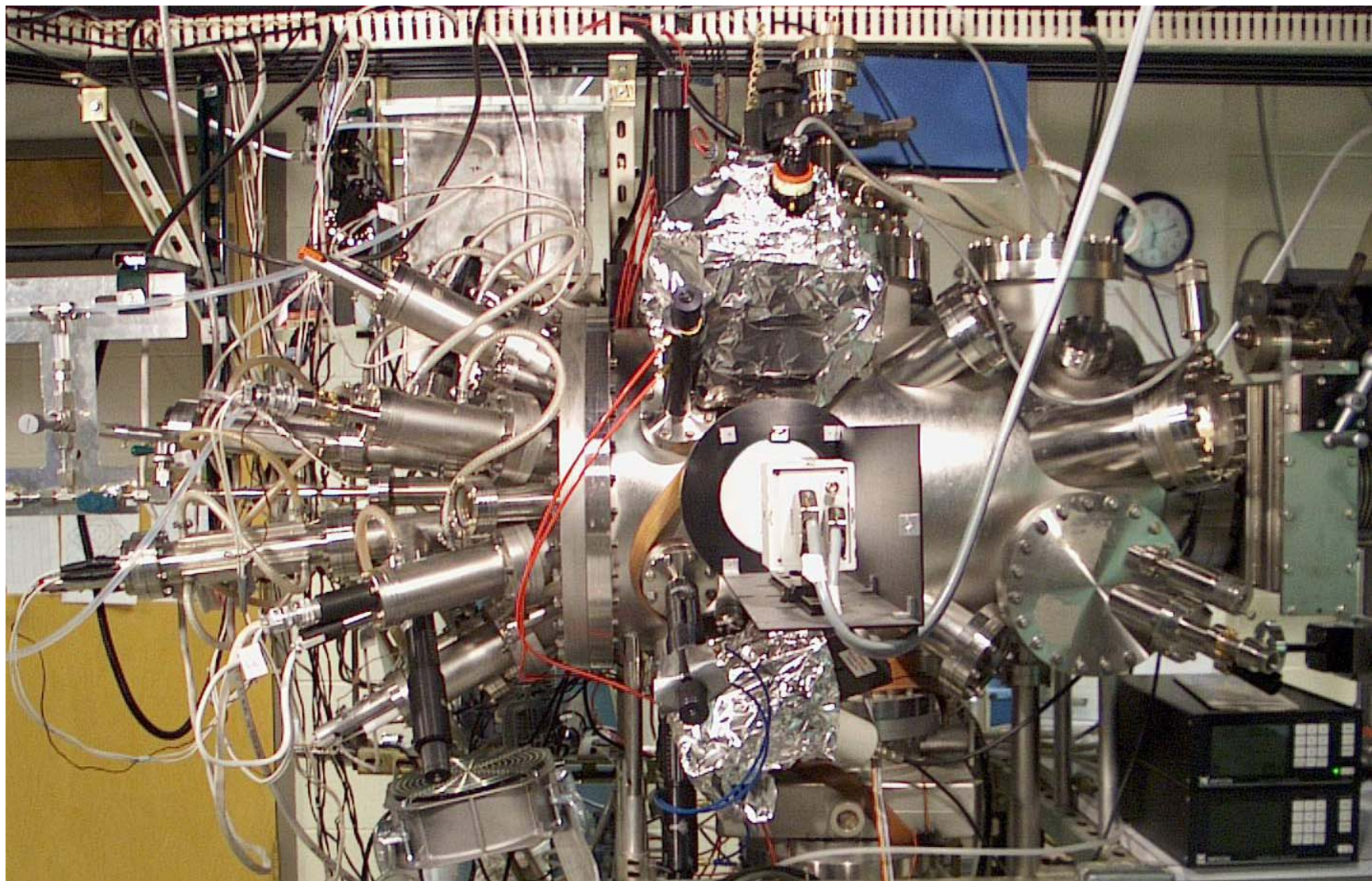
# Atomic Layer-by-Layer Molecular Beam Epitaxy

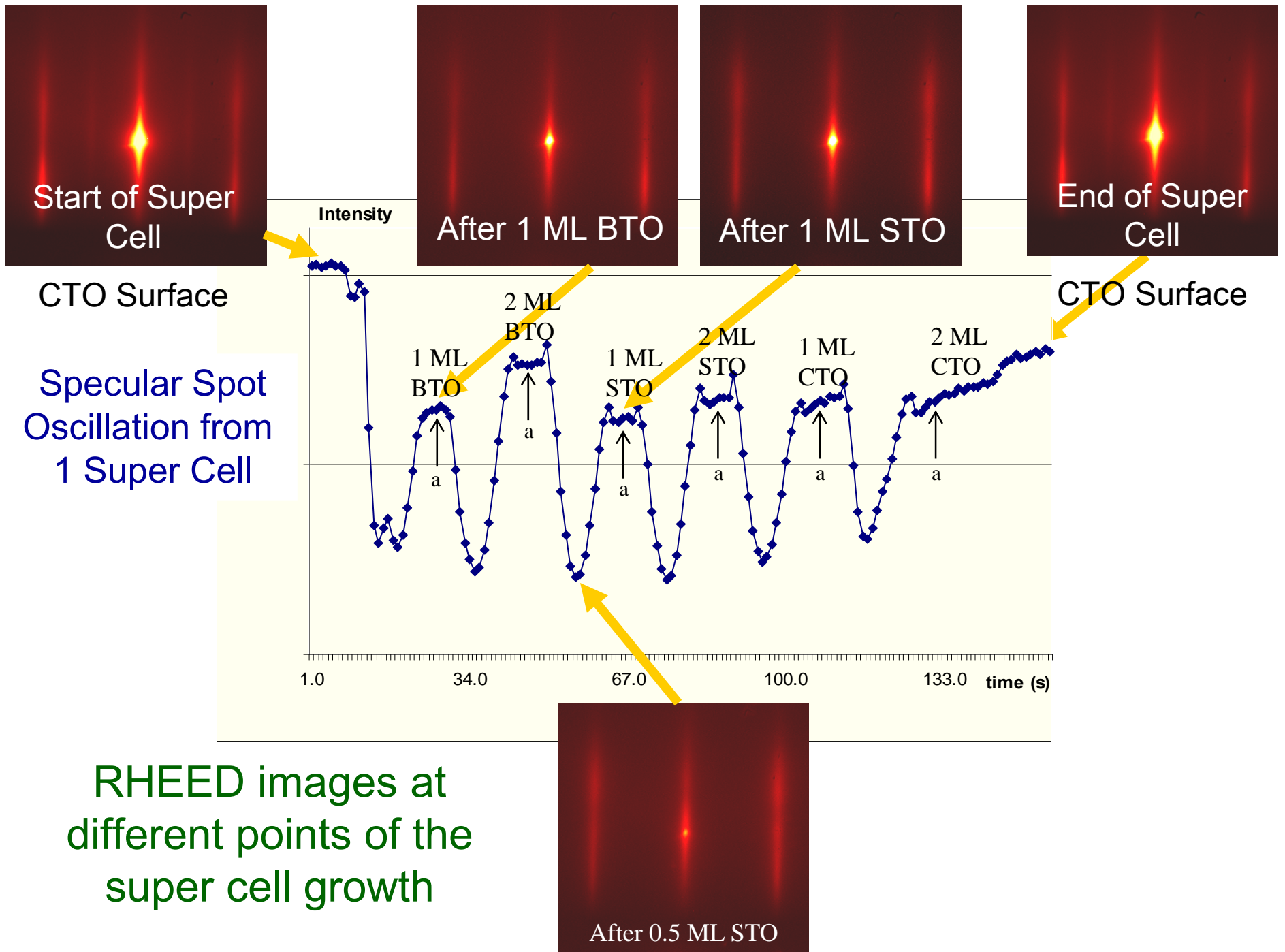
- atomic absorption spectroscopy for feedback control (better than  $10^{-3}$ )
- ozone oxidation:  
(introduced by Allen Goldman, U. MN.)
- in-situ RHEED w/  
**digital video**
- 12 sources, incl. *Ge* and *Ce*



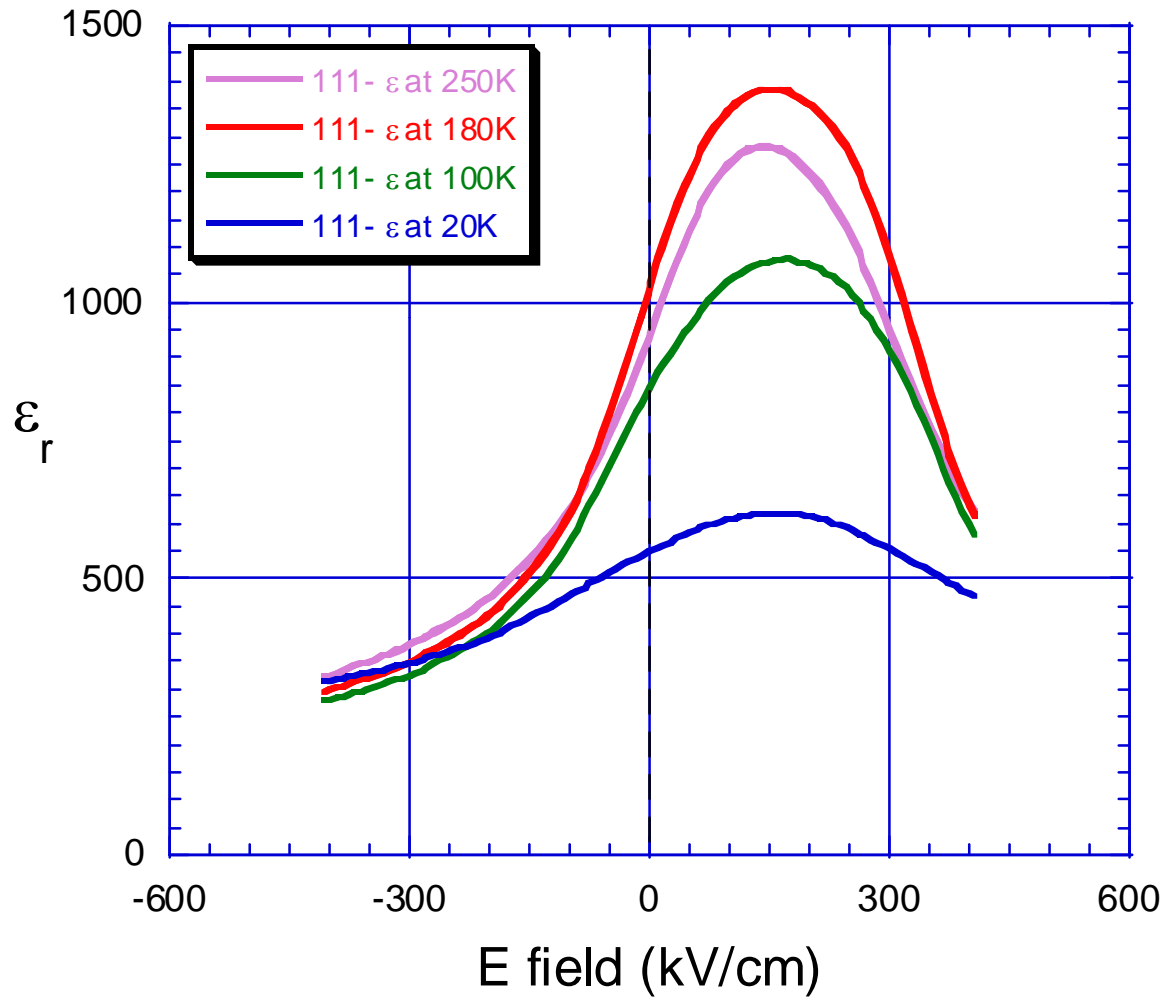
RHEED reveals surface crystal structure







# digital superlattice BTO-STO-CTO 111-

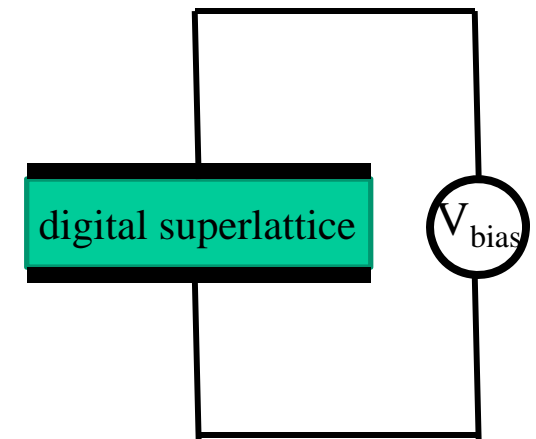


Behaves as though  
subject to effective  
bias field  $\sim 150$  kV/cm

$$P(E=0) = 0.17 \text{ C/m}^2$$

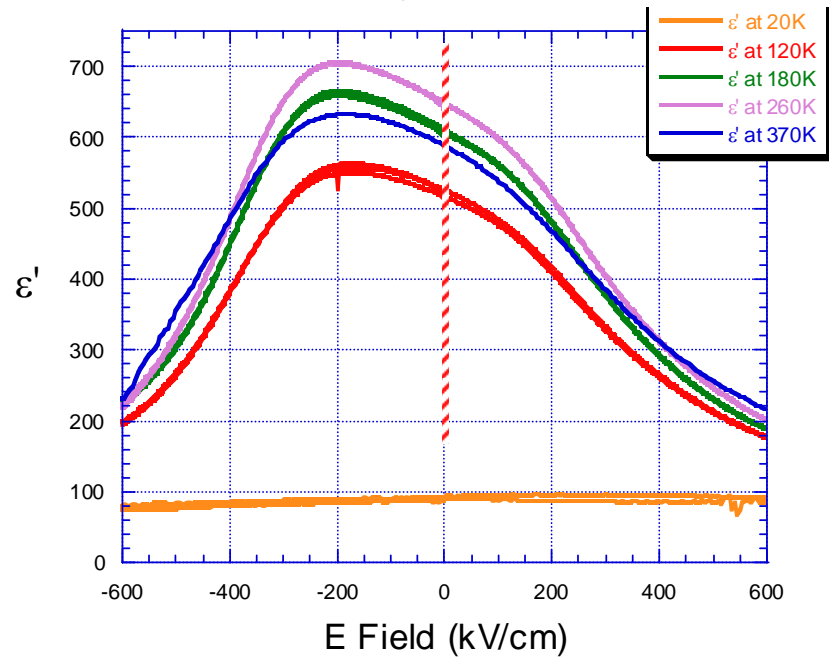
Samples without broken  
inv. sym. have sym. Curves

Sign of  $P$  depends on + or -  
superlattice architecture

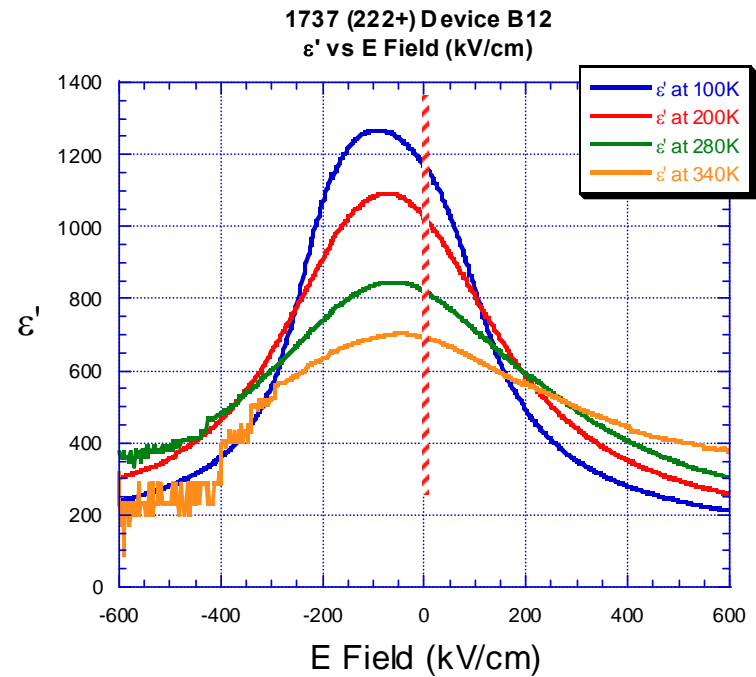




# 422+ proximity effect



# 222+



422+ appears to be made up of a superposition of a larger (+) curve plus a smaller (-) curve

(+) response comes from stronger CTO/BTO heterointerface, and...



heterointerfacial strain  $\rightarrow$  bond distortion  $\rightarrow$  polarization  
 This says that the polarization extends  $\sim 2\mu\text{c}$  away from int

topic 1

# Nanostructured asymmetric dielectrics

summary

Lattice strain distorts bonds at heterointerfaces  
asymmetric supercell  $\rightarrow$  asymmetric strain "field"

Supercells with broken inversion symmetry lead to  
**self-poled materials** (paraelectric)

asymm. strain field acts like effective bias field,  $E_{\text{eff}}$   
permanent polarization, with no two state switching

Strain "proximity effect" extends about **2 uc**

## topic 2

# New optical absorption bands in digital superlattices

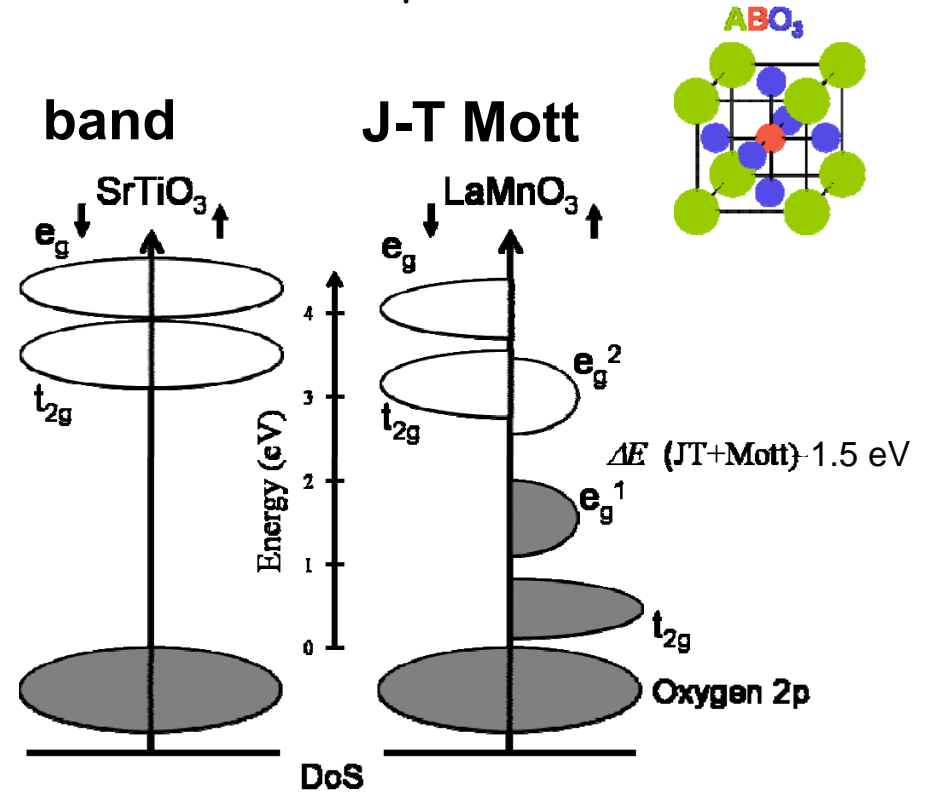
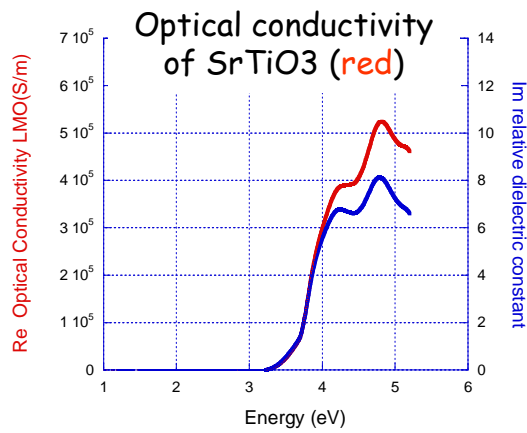
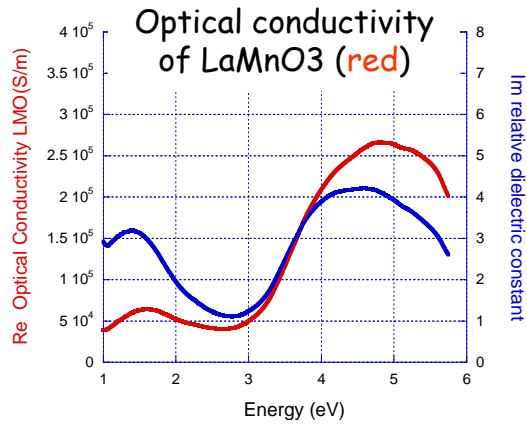
## summary

- Short period digital superlattices of perovskite phases having different TMs can be accurately grown.
- New optical transitions can be created by placing different molecular layers that electronically hybridize next to each other
- Electron transitions from source state to destination state
  - Source state is mainly from one molecular layer
  - Destination state is mainly from other molecular layer
- Measure heterojunction band line-up



# New optical absorption bands in atomically layered digital superlattices

Combine Jahn Teller - Mott Hubbard insulator with band insulator  
band line-up

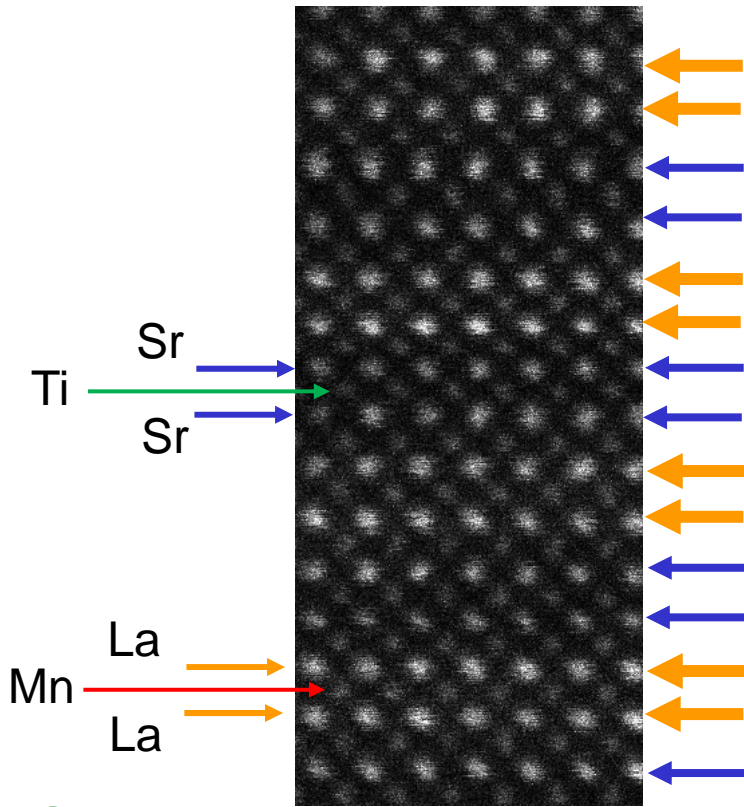


LMO is an A-type antiferromagnet below 140 K, FM planes stacked AFM-ly

# New optical absorption bands in atomically layered digital superlattices

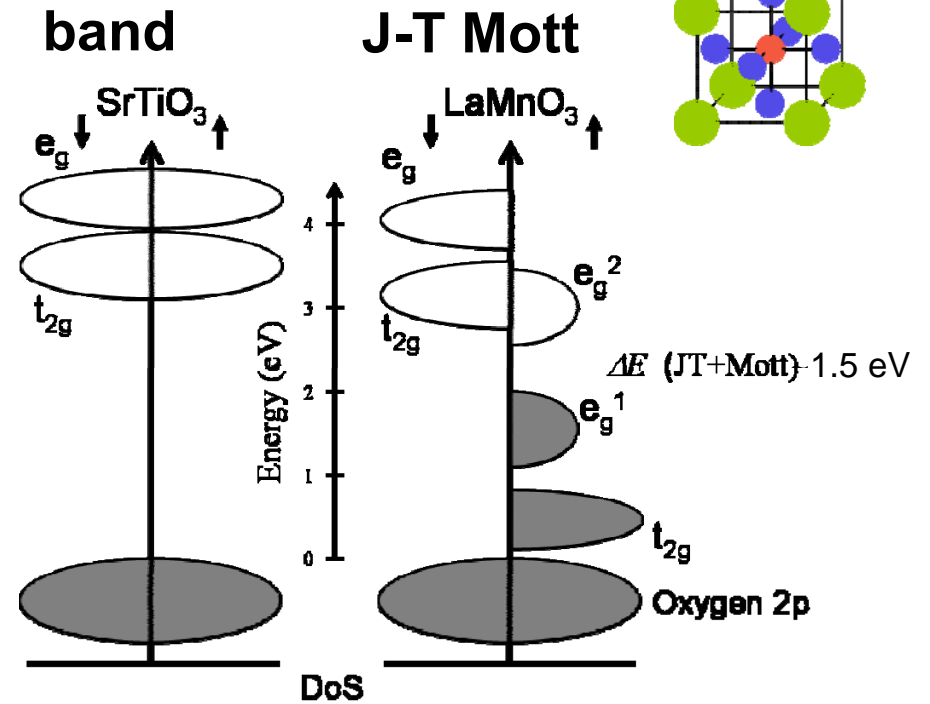
Combine Jahn Teller - Mott Hubbard insulator with band insulator

band line-up



JEOL 2200FS  
with probe forming  
Cs Corrector

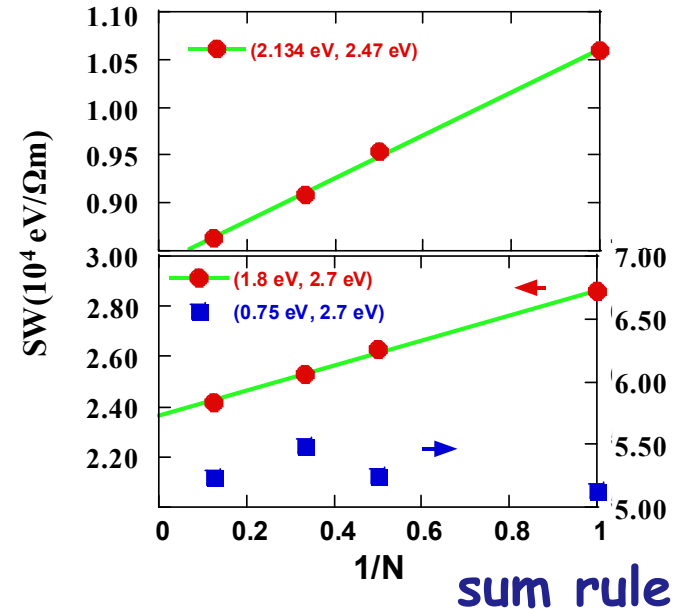
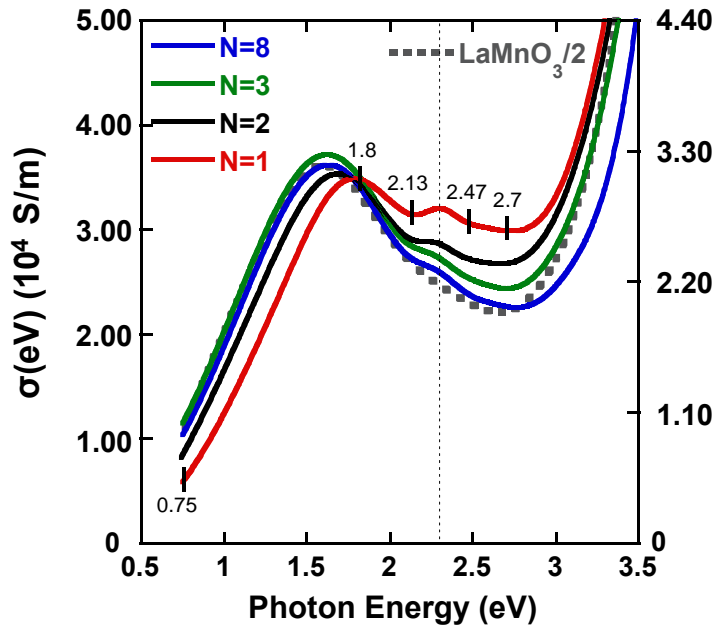
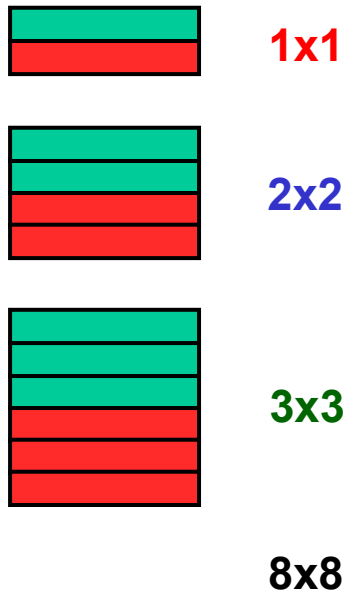
J-M Zuo group  
Amish Shah



LMO is an A-type antiferromagnet  
below 140 K, FM planes stacked AFM-ly

# New bandstructure in short period superlattices

Key:  SrTiO<sub>3</sub>  
 LaMnO<sub>3</sub>

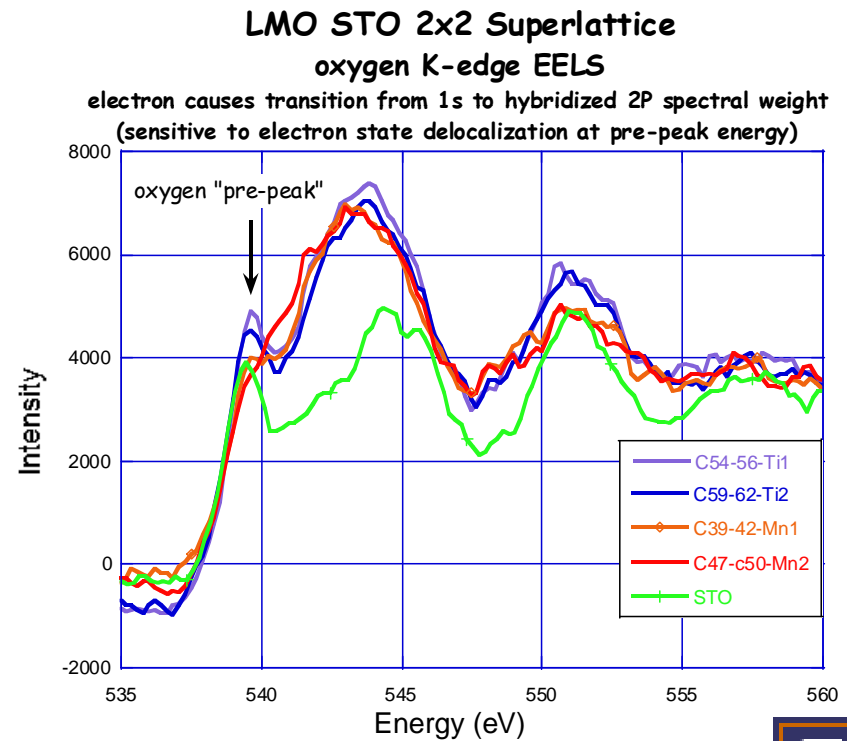
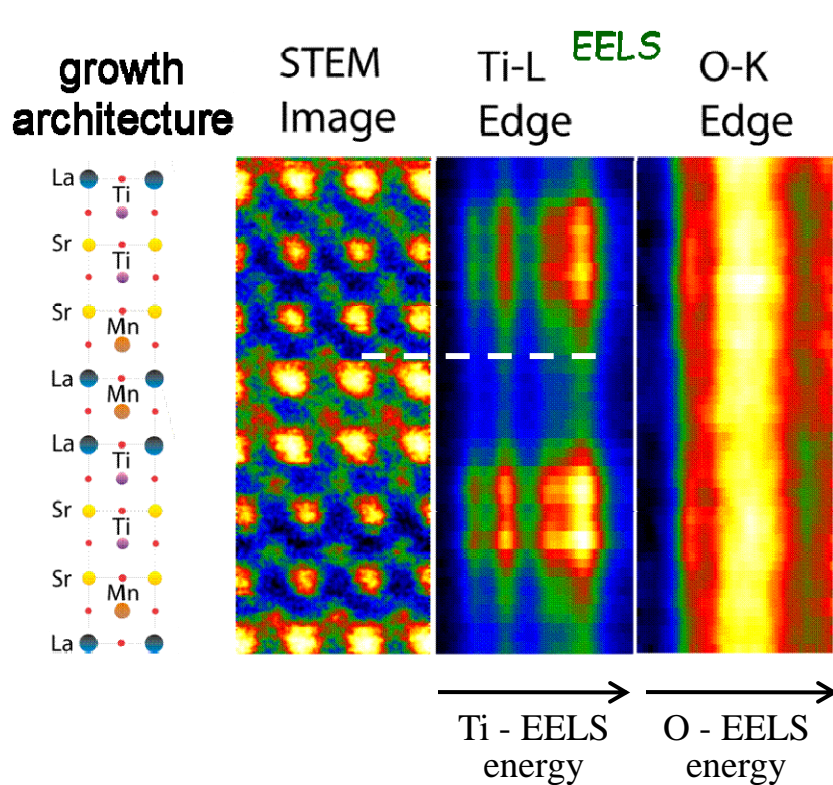


- Like GaAs/AIAs minibands, but here the quantum mechanically blended phases are very different: STO is band insulator while LMO is insulator due to e-ph and e-e interactions
  - Jahn Teller and Mott Hubbard
- 1.5 eV peak (MH-gap) blue shifts in shorter period SL
- New spectral weight emerges between 1 and 3 eV, and SW lost below 1.7 eV.

# Oxygen EELS shows similar spectra in Ti and Mn layers

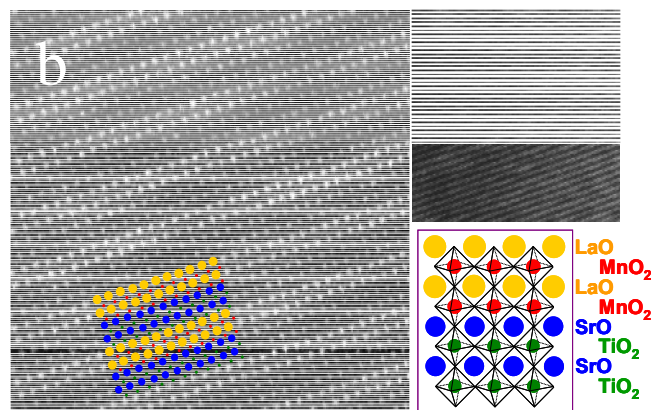
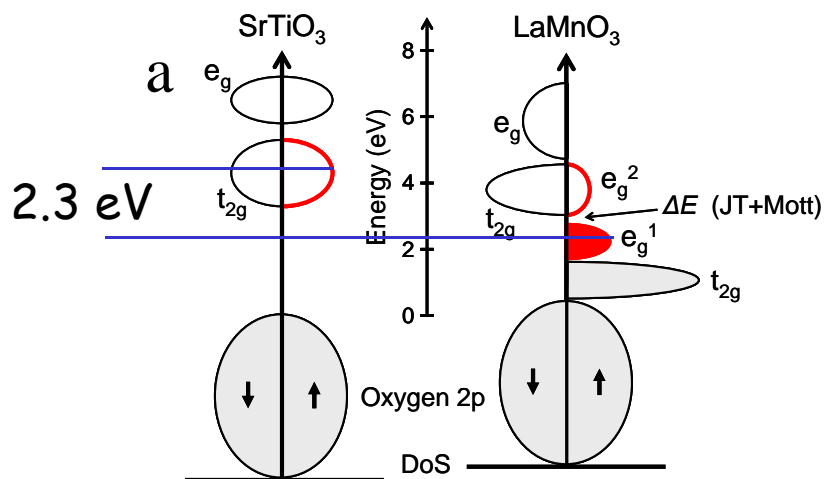
Further evidence that the metal wavefunctions appreciably hybridize with oxygen

Spatially indirect or hybridized interface band transition at 2.4 eV (Mn→Ti)

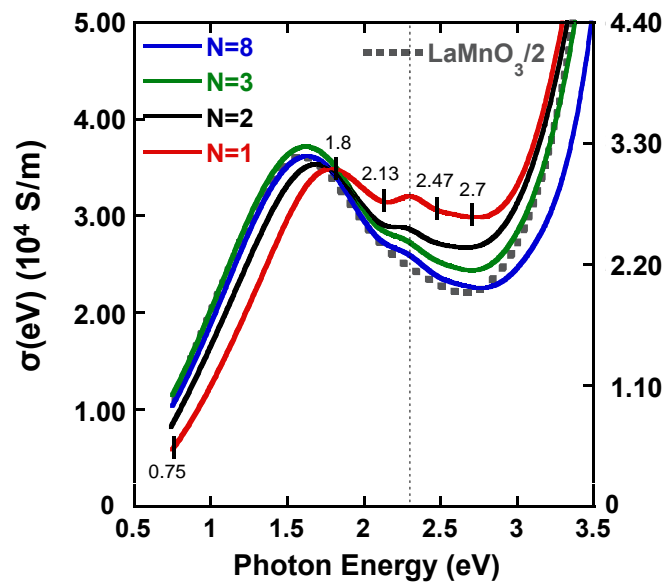


microscopy by Zuo and Shah

# Band line-up and electronic structure



2.3 eV peak is Mn e<sub>g</sub><sup>1</sup> to Ti t<sub>2g</sub>  
 for example, Mn d(3x<sup>2</sup>-r<sup>2</sup>) to Ti d(xz)  
 oxygen bands nearly align



# New optical absorption bands in digital superlattices

## summary

- Short period digital superlattices of perovskite phases having different TMs can be accurately grown.
- **New optical transitions** can be created by placing molecular layers that electronically hybridize next to each other
- Electron transitions from source state to destination state
  - Source state is mainly from one molecular layer
  - Destination state is mainly from other molecular layer
- Measure heterojunction band line-up

## topic 3

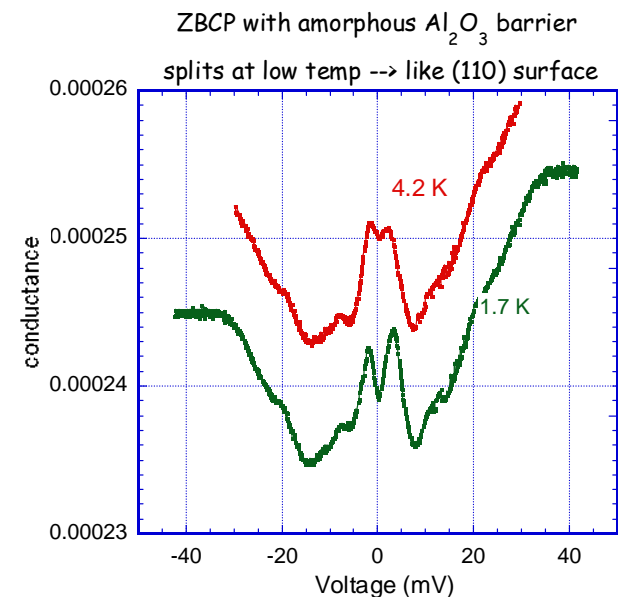
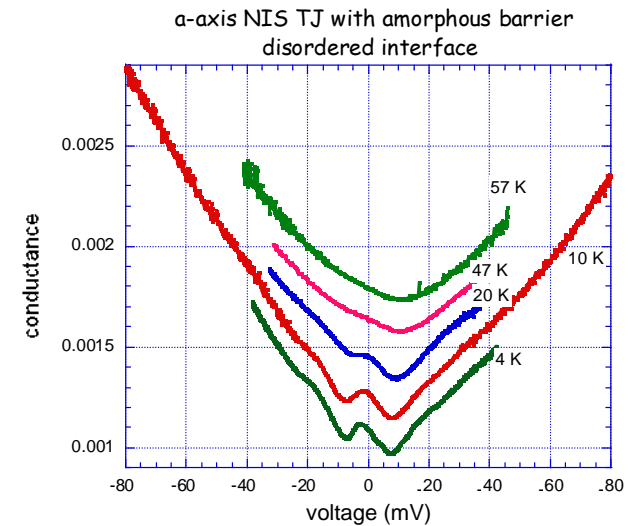
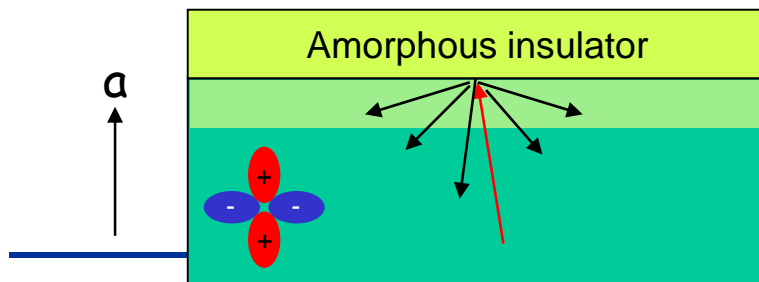
# Unusual quasiparticle DoS at cuprate/insulator interfaces (NIS tunnel junctions) (not c-axis cuprate interfaces, rather they are *a*-axis)

- If the interface causes a k-state to scatter to opposite signs of  $d_{x^2-y^2}$  then SC is quenched
  - At the surface a normal 2-D band is formed confined by the gap  $\rightarrow$  the Andreev bound state
  - These electrons eventually pair in some other state and this is unique (expt. L.H. Greene group, theory J Sauls group)

# interface scattering at amorphous barriers!

## Single crystal vs amorphous barriers

- non-specular reflection at **amorphous barriers**
- amorphous barrier devices show ZBCP DOS at surface similar to a+b direction devices: ZBCP which splits at lower temperatures (**LH Greene**)
- $G(V,T)/G(V,T_c)$  is particle/hole symmetric here  $\rightarrow$
- everything that follows now depends on **single crystal** heterostructure





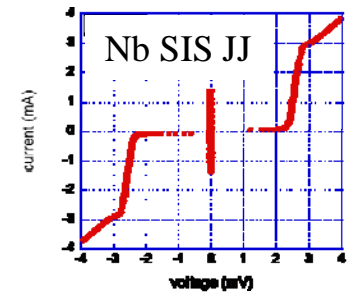
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  - At the surface a normal 2-D band is formed confined by the gap  $\rightarrow$  the Andreev bound state
  - These electrons eventually pair in some other state and this is unique (expt. L.H. Greene group, theory J Sauls group)
- If the interface is specular, and reflections don't mix + with -, then we find that the superconductivity at the surface doesn't have particle-hole symmetry (violates the core of BCS)

# new electronic structure emerges because of the specular interface

- In bulk, approximate e-h symmetry (BCS)
  - c.f. Renner, Davis, Yazdani, others (STM of 2212)
- At specular (100) surface we find this is **really** broken!
- Is it a superconducting state at interface?
  - It only appears below  $T_c$
- How deep does it extend?
- Is it useful for engineering new electronic ground states that may have interesting properties?
- No theory yet.

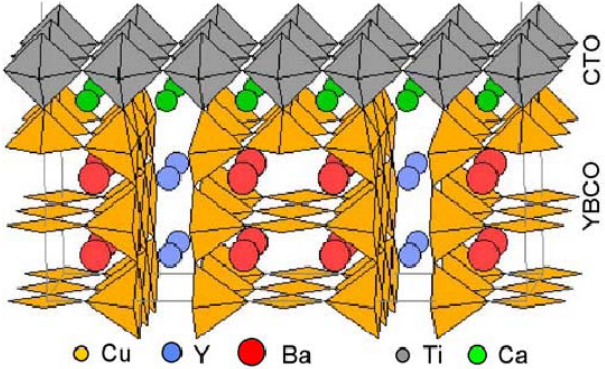
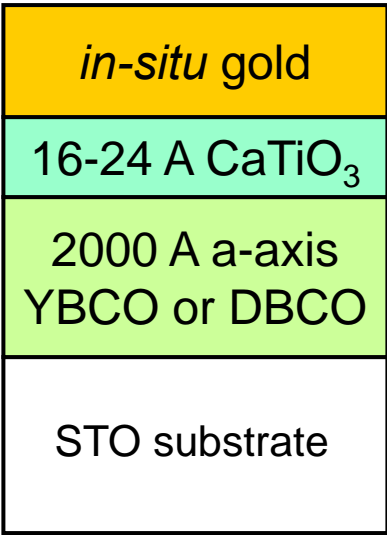


# N-I-S tunnel junction fabrication

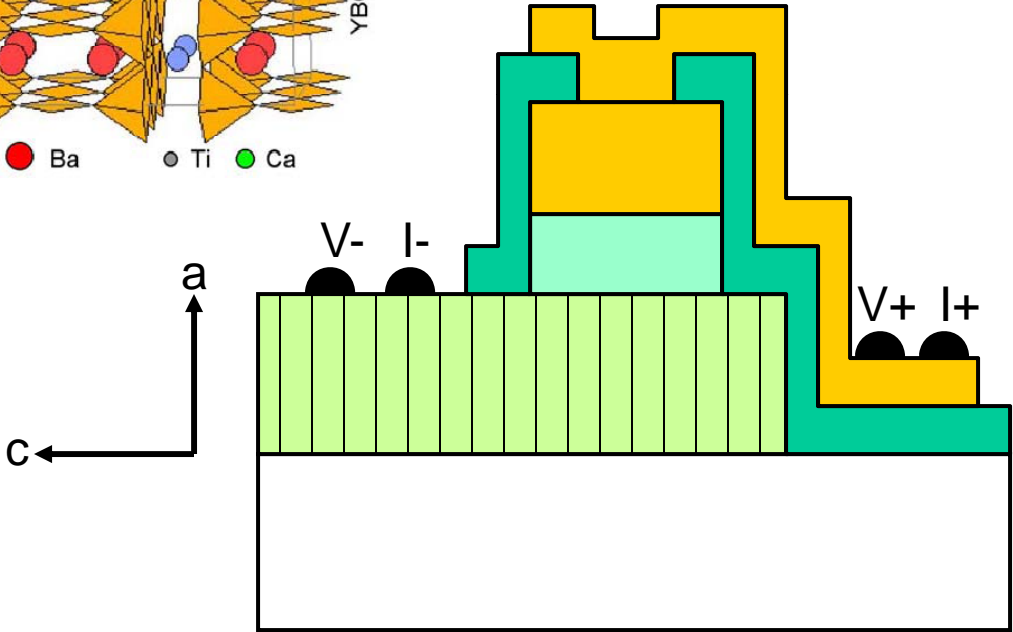
Trilayer film growth

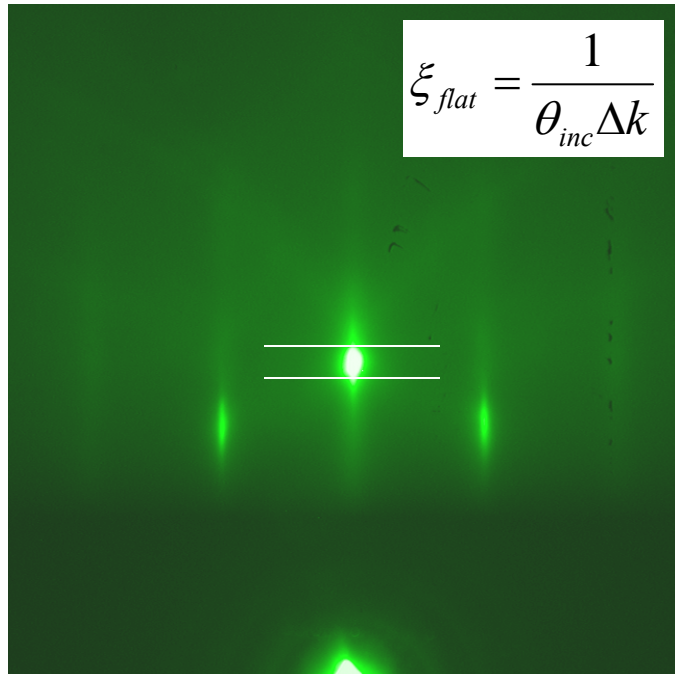
or amorphous AlOx

single crystal

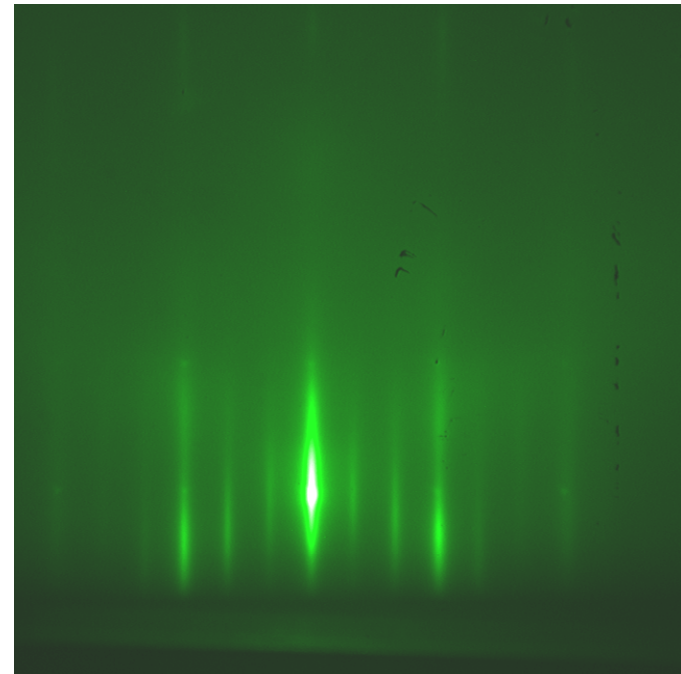


Junction process



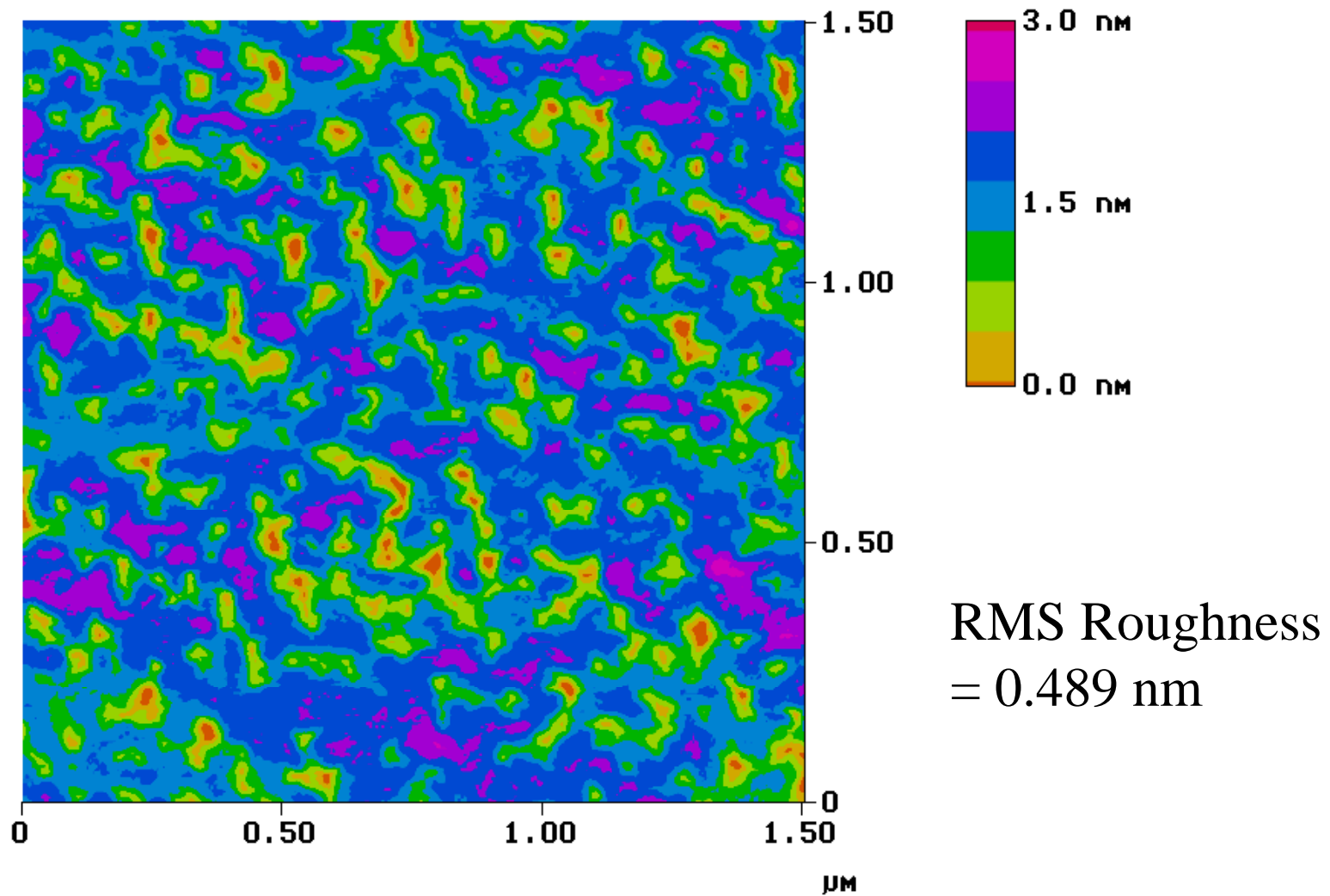


Rheed image of  
substrate before  
growth



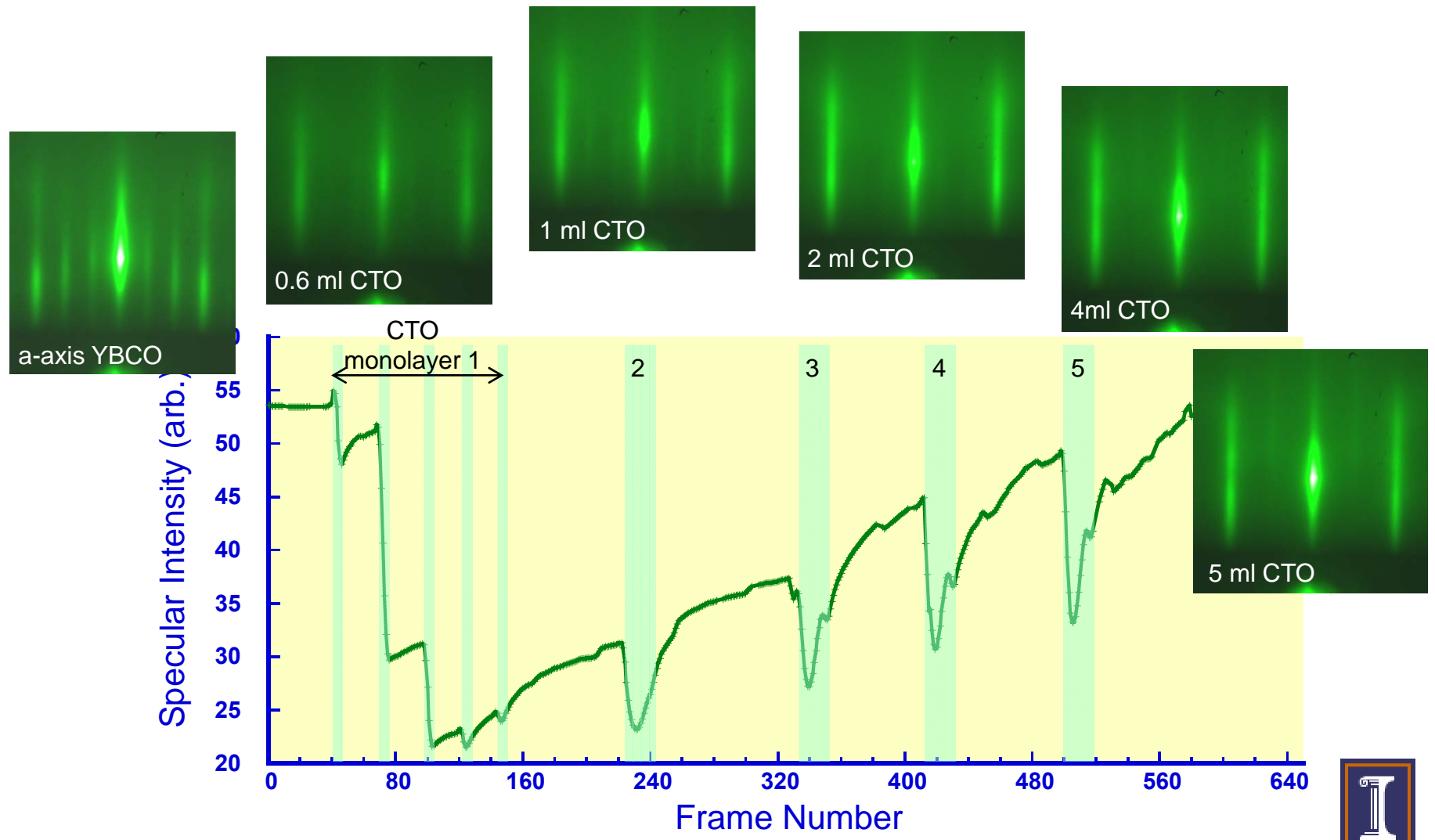
Rheed image of  
YBCO after growth  
of 2000 Angstroms

# AFM Image of $a$ -axis-YBCO



# NIS tunnel junction

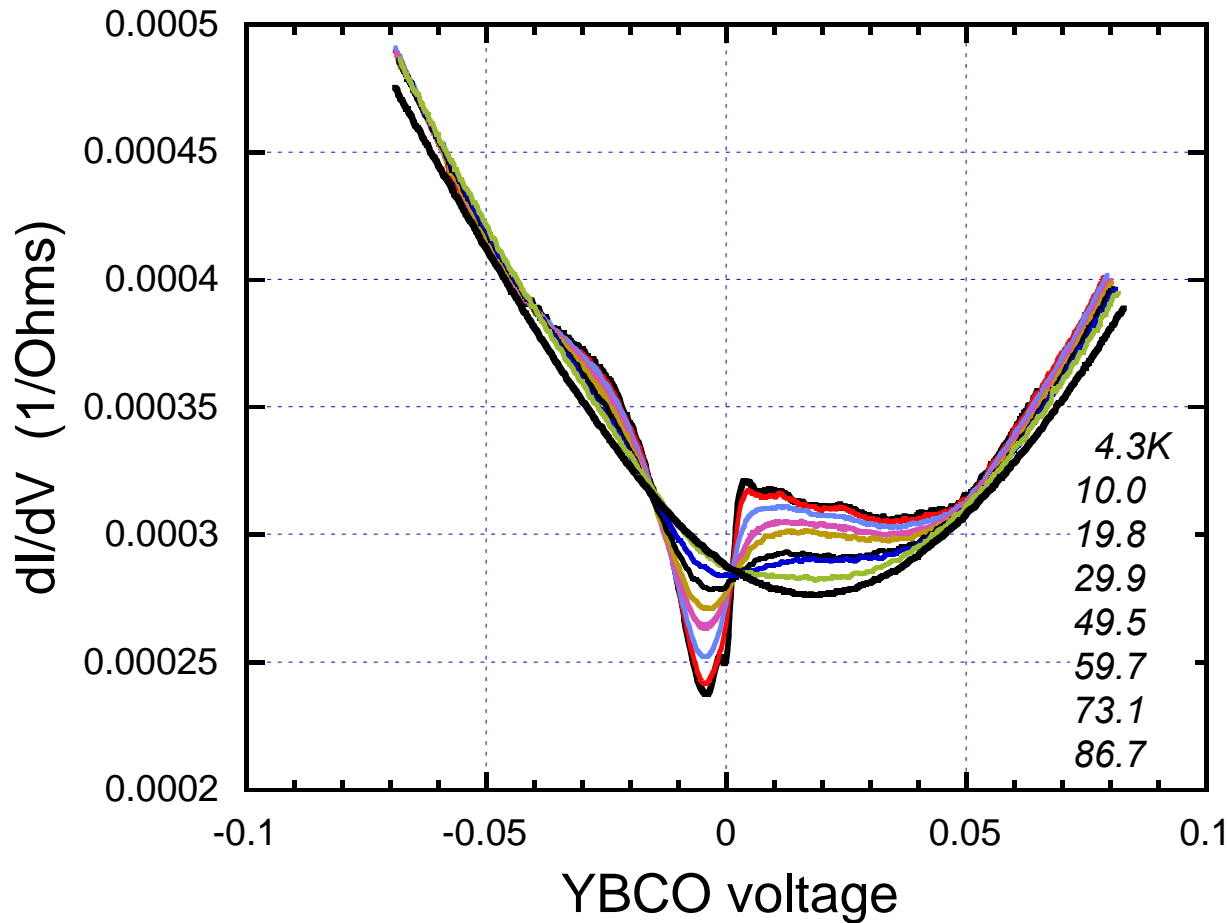
## RHEED oscillations during crystalline barrier heteroepitaxy



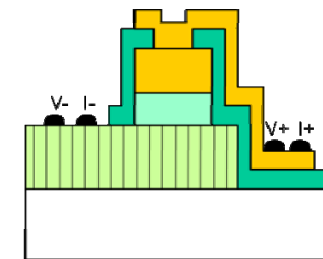
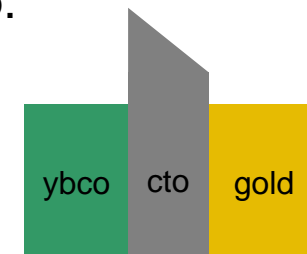
# spectroscopy of electronic structure

## broken particle-hole symmetry

87K a-axis YBCO NIS tunnel junction

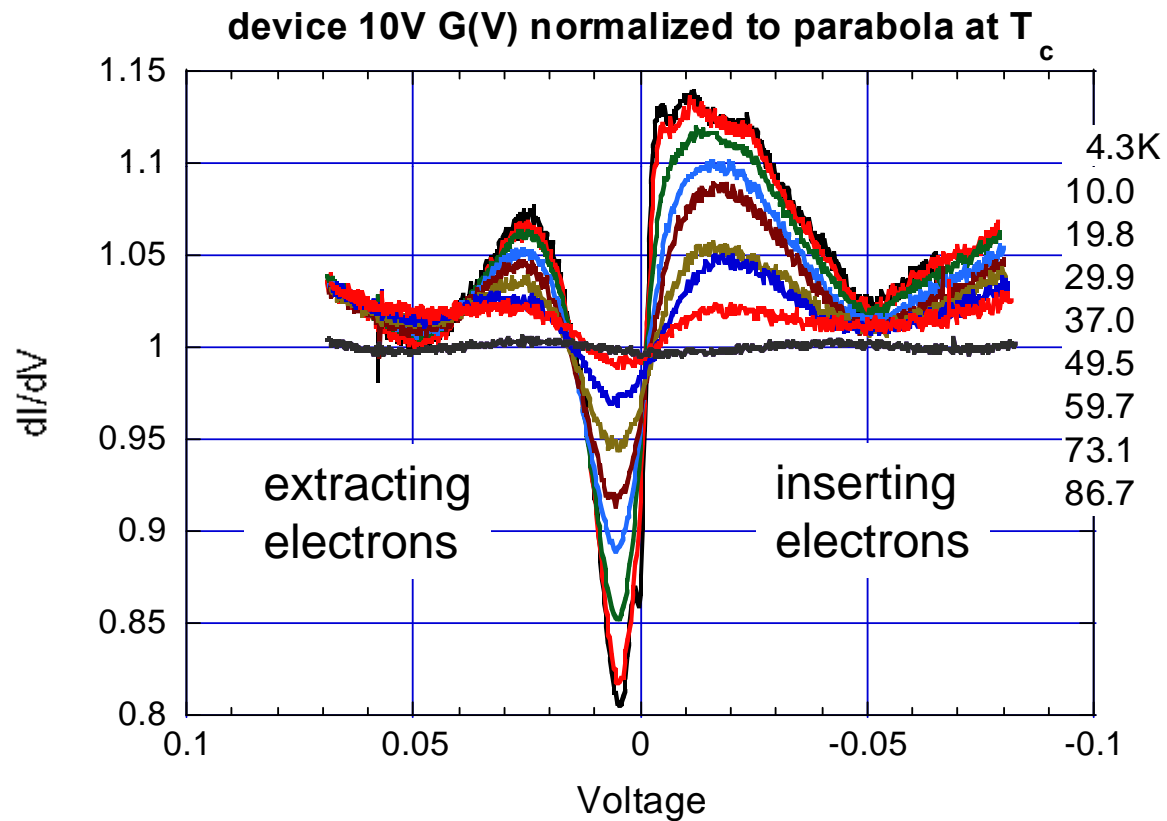


Offset parabola due to different band line up.



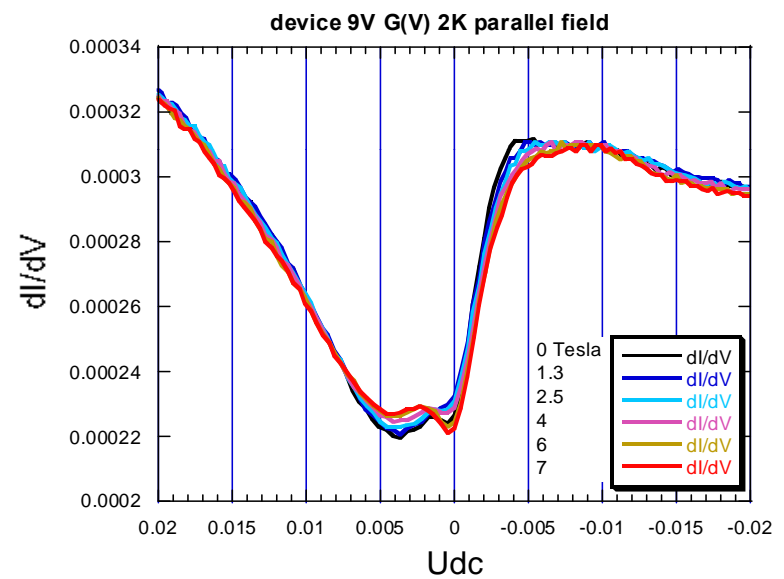
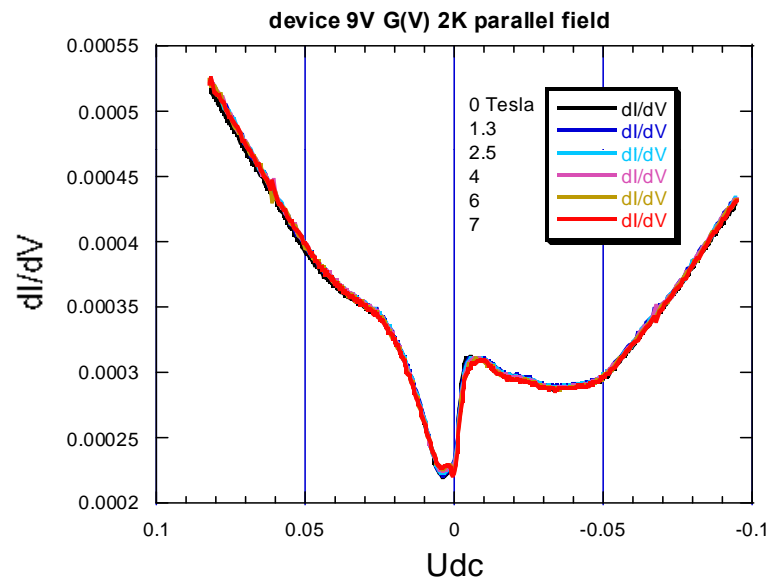
# Normalize data to parabola above $T_c$

$T_c = 87\text{K}$

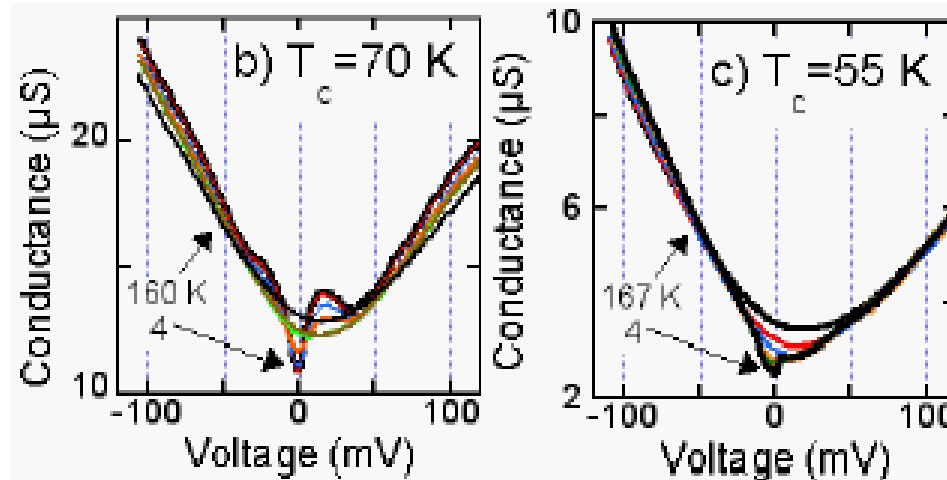




# Magnetic field parallel to junction



## Similar results in underdoped cuprate



# new electronic structure emerges because of the specular interface

- In bulk, approximate e-h symmetry
- At specular 100 surface this is **really** broken
  - For all carrier dopings
- **Anti-symmetry** tied to the Fermi energy
  - Not due to a single particle cause (Schottky barrier)
  - Due to interacting electrons
- How deep does it extend?
- Is it useful for engineering new electronic ground states that may have better properties?
  - SC is modified, can this be used?
- No theory yet (not that I know of).

# Summary

## Oxide interfaces and superlattices (3 topics)

### What are the new results?

- global symmetry can be changed Warusawithana
- design SL to obtain new optical transitions,  $\sigma(\omega)$  Zhai
- emergence of modified collective order Davidson

### Global symmetry:

Make a digital superlattice out of 3 dielectric phases and use SL architecture that breaks inversion symmetry

→ dielectric has permanent polarization and finite  $\chi^{(2)}$ .

### New electronic transitions

Digital superlattice to mix bands at interface

→ new optical transitions between composite states.

### Modified superconductivity at interface (unexpected)

a-axis interface between YBCO and CaTiO<sub>3</sub> (NIS tunnel jct)

→ crystalline interface causes DoS measured by tunneling to have broken e-h symmetry at interface (not like BCS)