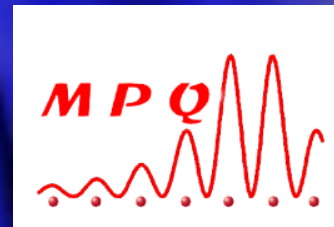


# Apport de la microscopie à effet tunnel pour l'ingénierie de défauts dans les matériaux bidimensionnels

M. Bouatou, U. Chazarin, D. Demba, C. Chacon,  
Y. Girard, V. Repain, A. Bellec, S. Rousset, and J. Lagoute

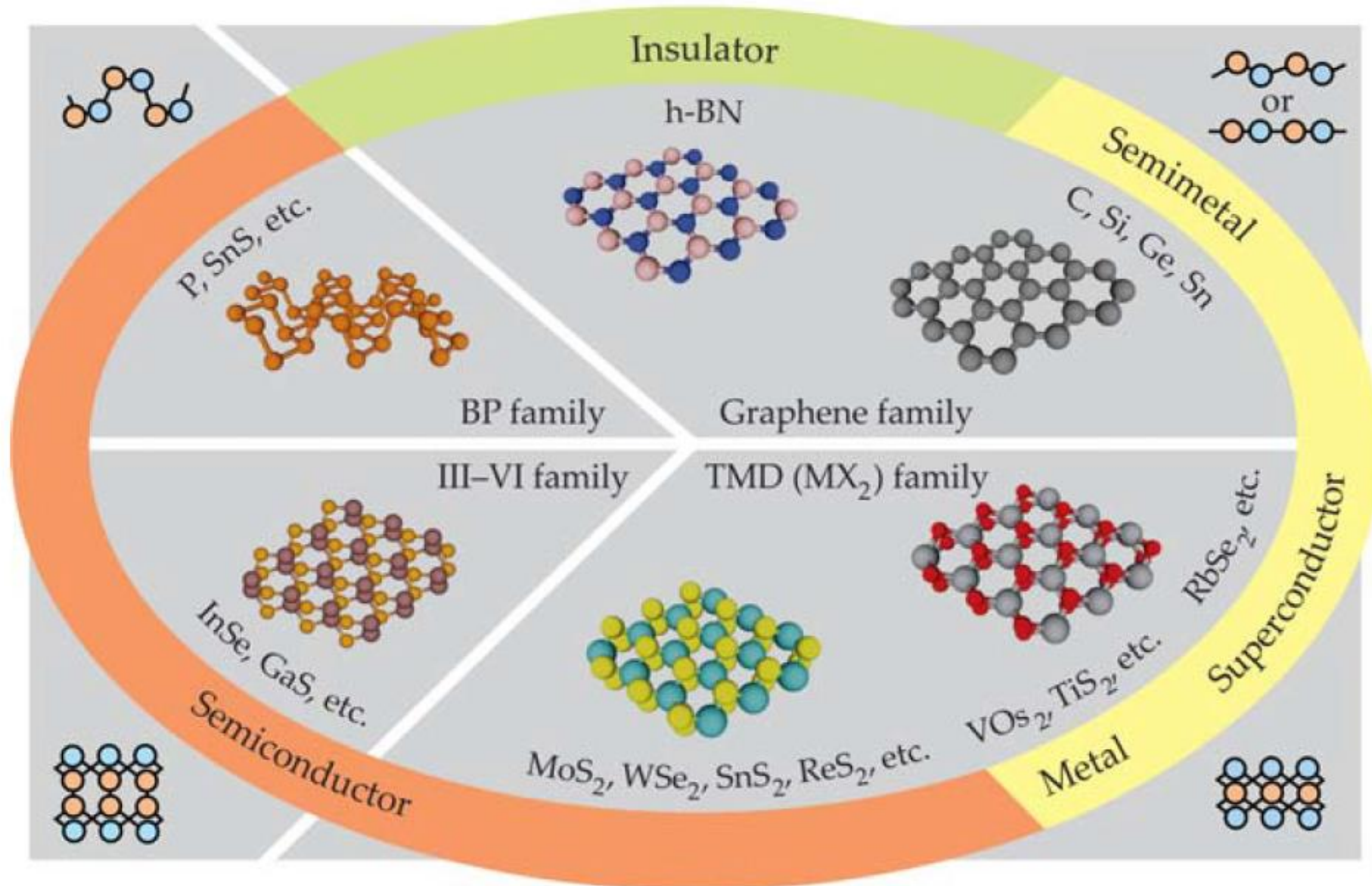
Matériaux et phénomènes quantiques CNRS, Université Paris Cité, France



# Outline

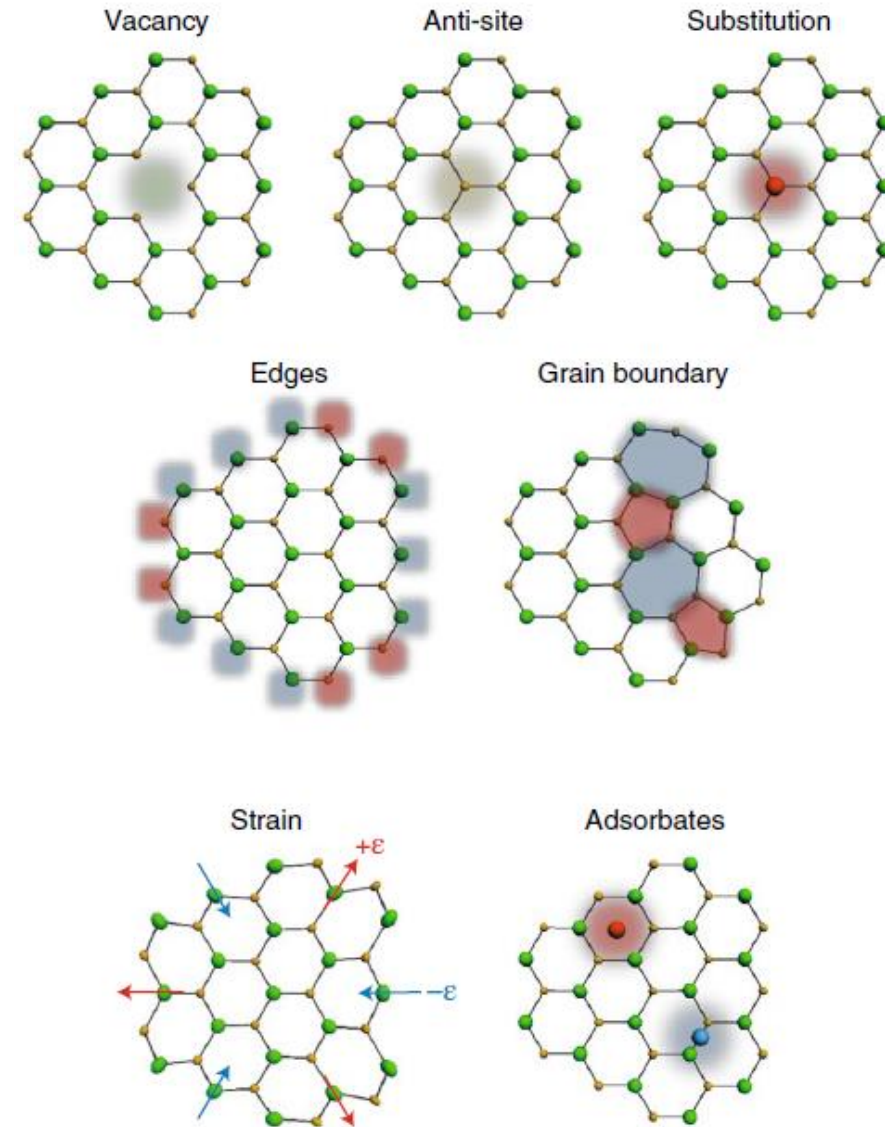
- Introduction
- Nitrogen doping of graphene
- Charge density waves in Transition Metal Dichalcogenides

# 2D materials family



# Defects in 2D materials

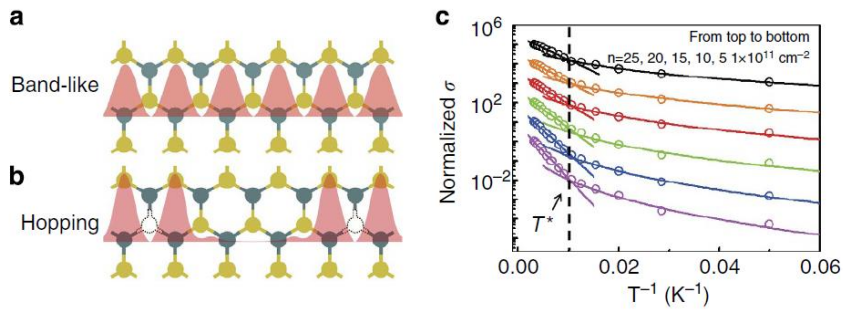
- Native defects are unavoidable
- Defects can alter the performances of materials
- Defect engineering: an approach to modulate the properties on demand and achieve dedicated functionalities





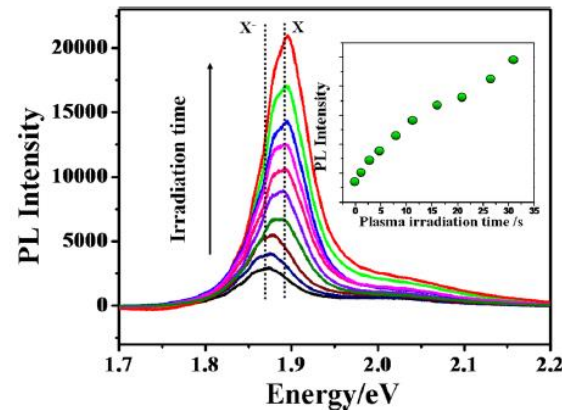
# Defect engineering in 2D materials

## Vacancies in MoS<sub>2</sub>: Hopping transport



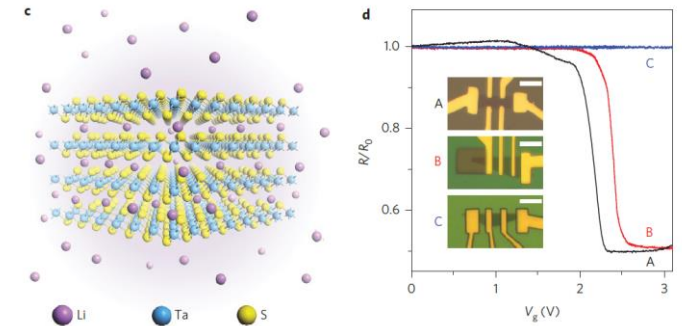
*Nat. commun.*, 4, 2642 (2013)

## Enhanced Photoluminescence in MoS<sub>2</sub> due to O<sub>2</sub> bonding on vacancies



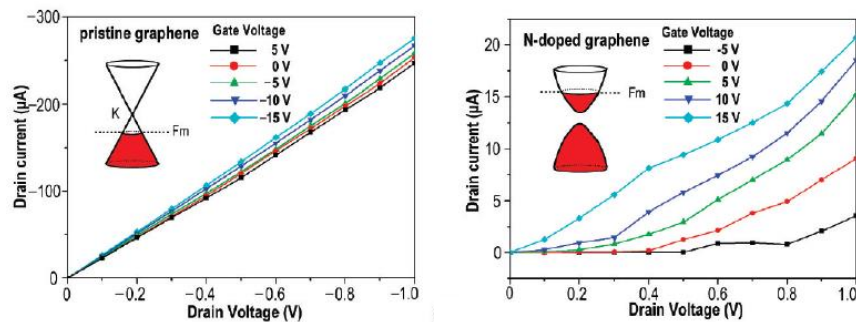
*ACS Nano* 8, 5738 (2014)

## Intercalation induced CDW transition in TMDs



*Nat. Nanotechnol.* 10, 270 (2015)

## Nitrogen doped graphene: Transistors: high ratio I<sub>ON</sub>/I<sub>OFF</sub>



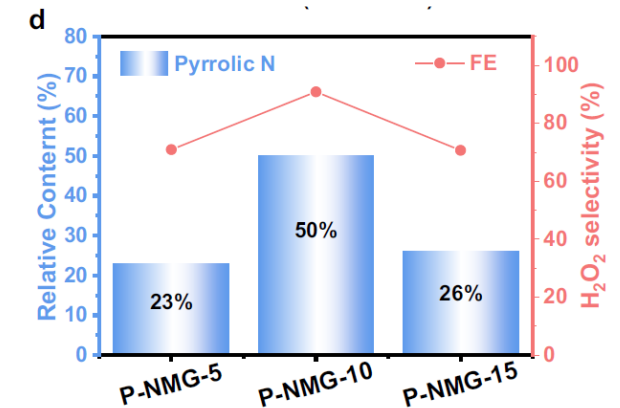
D. Wei et al., *Nano Lett.*, 9, 1752 (2009)

## Supercapacitor



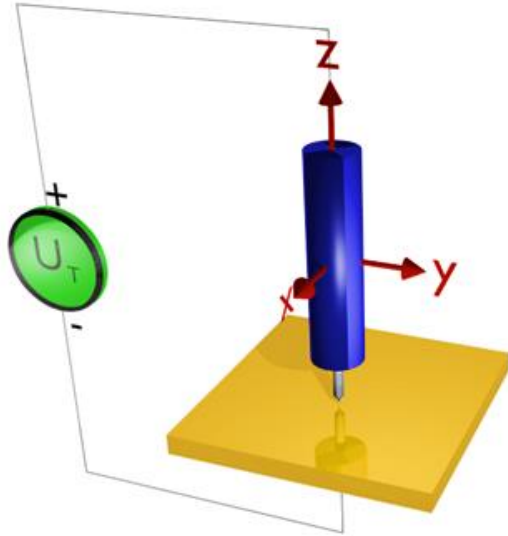
H. M. Jeong et al., *Nano Lett* 11, 2472 (2011)

## Nitrogen doped graphene: enhanced oxygen reduction



*Nat Commun* 14, 4430 (2023)

# Scanning tunneling microscopy

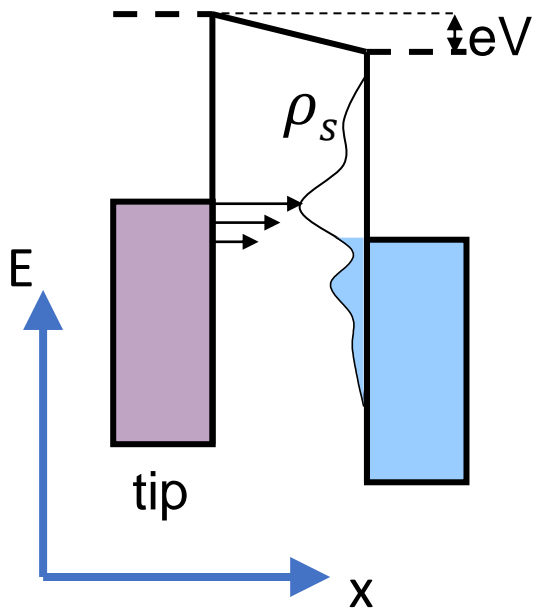


Tersoff and Hamann approximation:

$$I_t \propto \int_{E_F}^{E_F + eV} \rho_t(E - eV) \rho_s(E, \vec{r}_0) dE$$

assuming a metallic tip with  $\rho_t = \text{cte}$

$$I_t \propto \rho_t \int_{E_F}^{E_F + eV} \rho_s(E, \vec{r}_0) dE$$



$$\frac{dI}{dV} \propto \rho_t \rho_s(eV, \vec{r}_0)$$

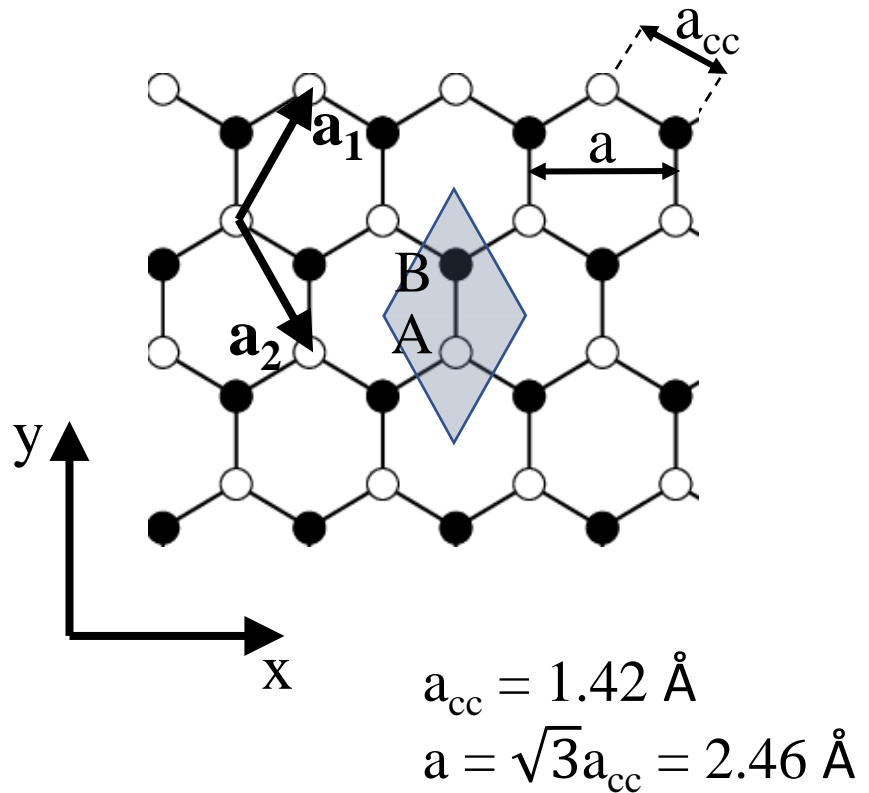
$dI/dV(V)$  is proportional to the local density of states (LDOS) of the sample at the energy  $eV$

# Outline

- Introduction
- Nitrogen doping of graphene
- Charge density waves in Transition Metal Dichalcogenides

# Electronic properties of graphene

Real space: crystal structure



Bloch functions on the two sublattices

$$\Phi_A(\vec{r}) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{N}} \sum_{i=1}^N e^{i\vec{k} \cdot \vec{R}_{A,i}} \Phi(\vec{r} - \vec{R}_{A,i})$$

$$\Phi_B(\vec{r}) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{N}} \sum_{i=1}^N e^{i\vec{k} \cdot \vec{R}_{B,i}} \Phi(\vec{r} - \vec{R}_{B,i})$$

$$H = \begin{pmatrix} E_0 & \gamma_0 f(\vec{k}) \\ \gamma_0 f^*(\vec{k}) & E_0 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$f(\vec{k}) = e^{ik_y a / \sqrt{3}} + 2e^{-ik_y a / 2\sqrt{3}} \cos(k_x a / 2)$$

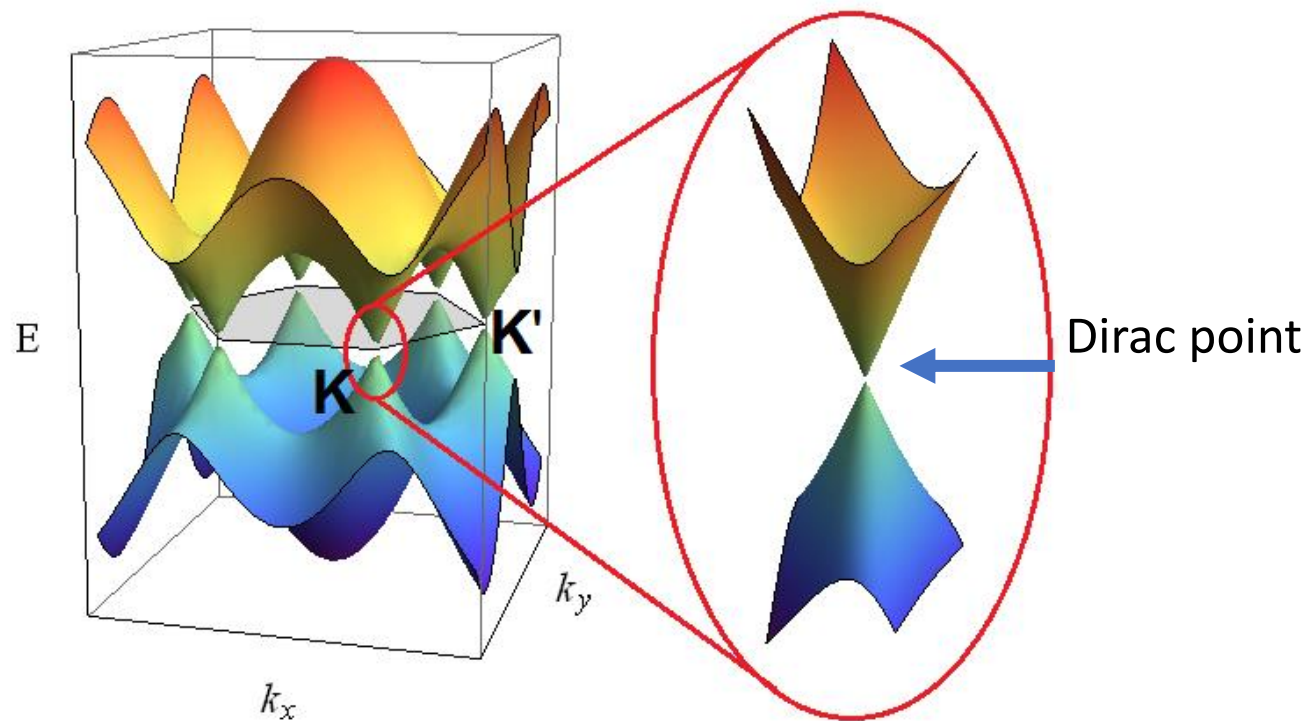


# Electronic properties of graphene

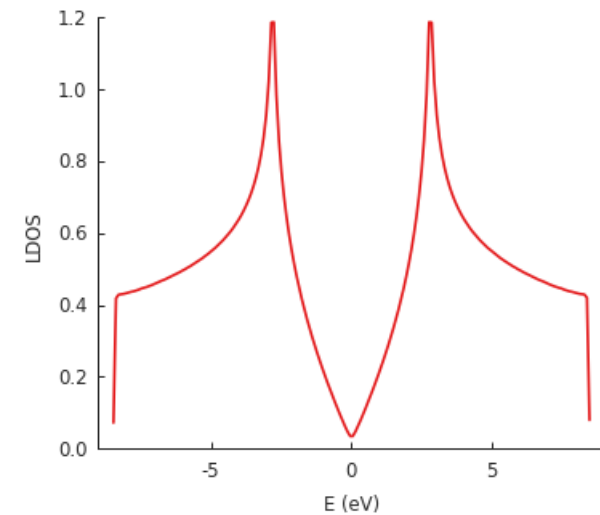
$$E = E_0 \pm \gamma_0 |f(\vec{k})|$$

$$f(\vec{k}) = e^{ik_y a / \sqrt{3}} + 2e^{-ik_y a / 2\sqrt{3}} \cos(k_x a / 2)$$

Electronic bandstructure

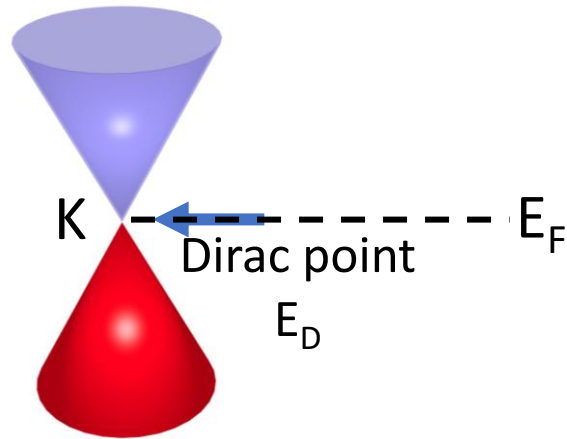


Density of states



# Electronic properties near the Dirac point

Bandstructure around K point



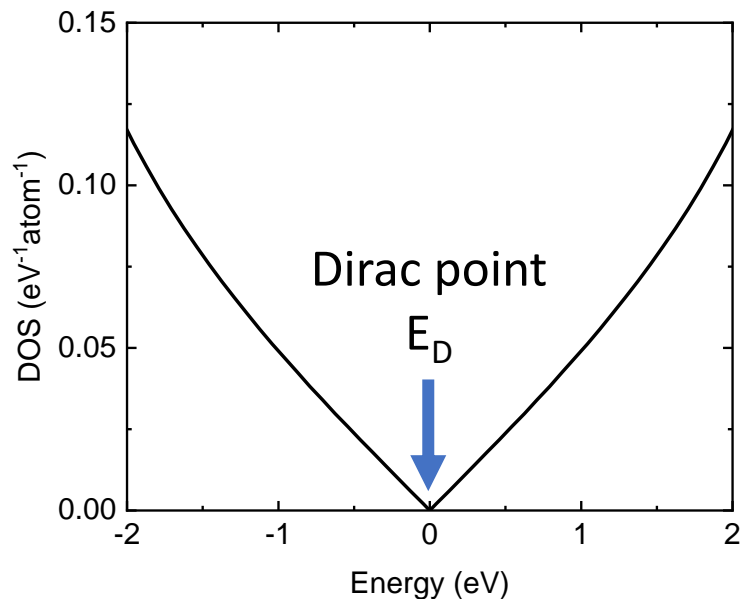
Linear dispersion

$$E = \pm \hbar k v$$

$v$  : Fermi velocity

$k$  measured from the K point

Density of states



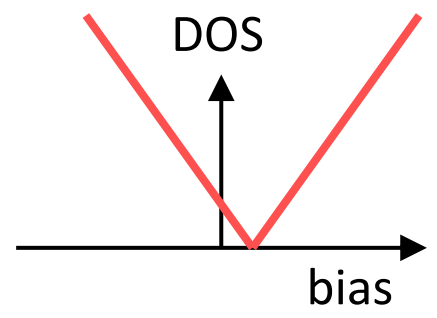
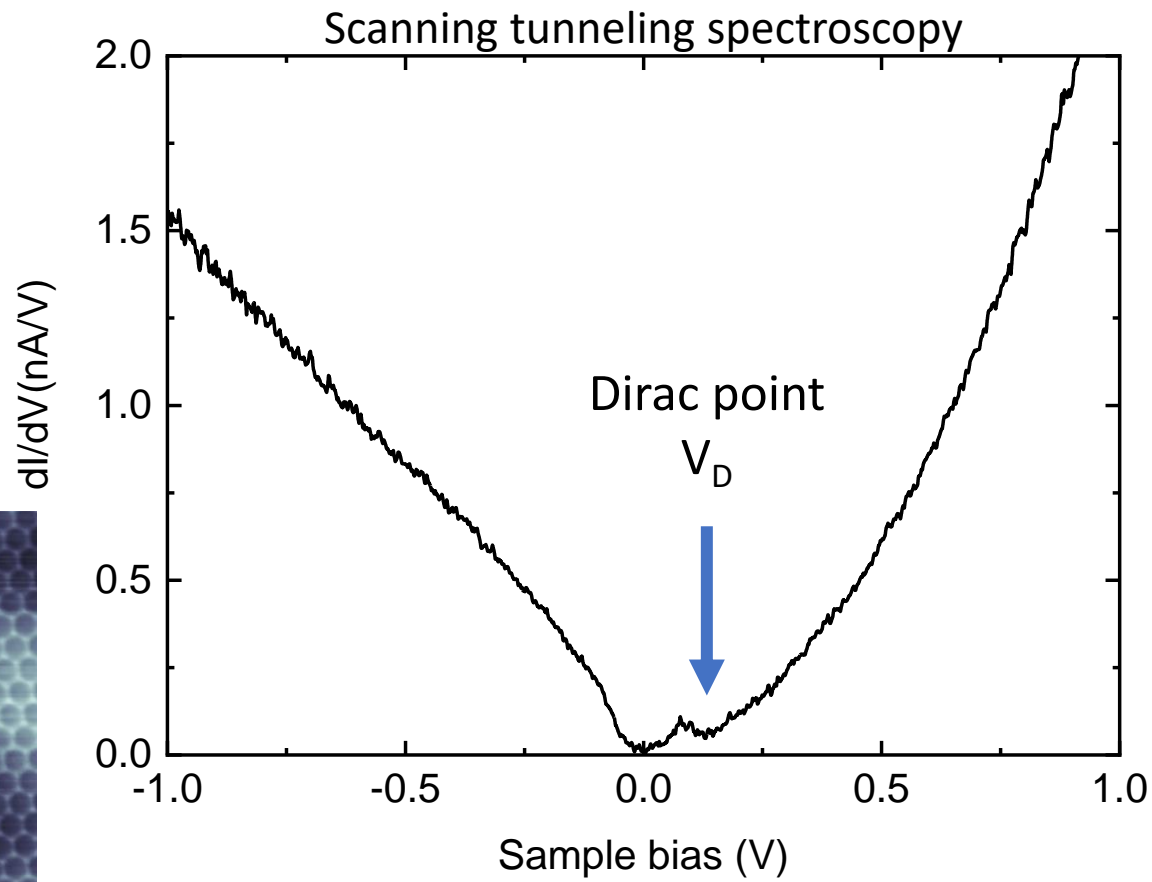
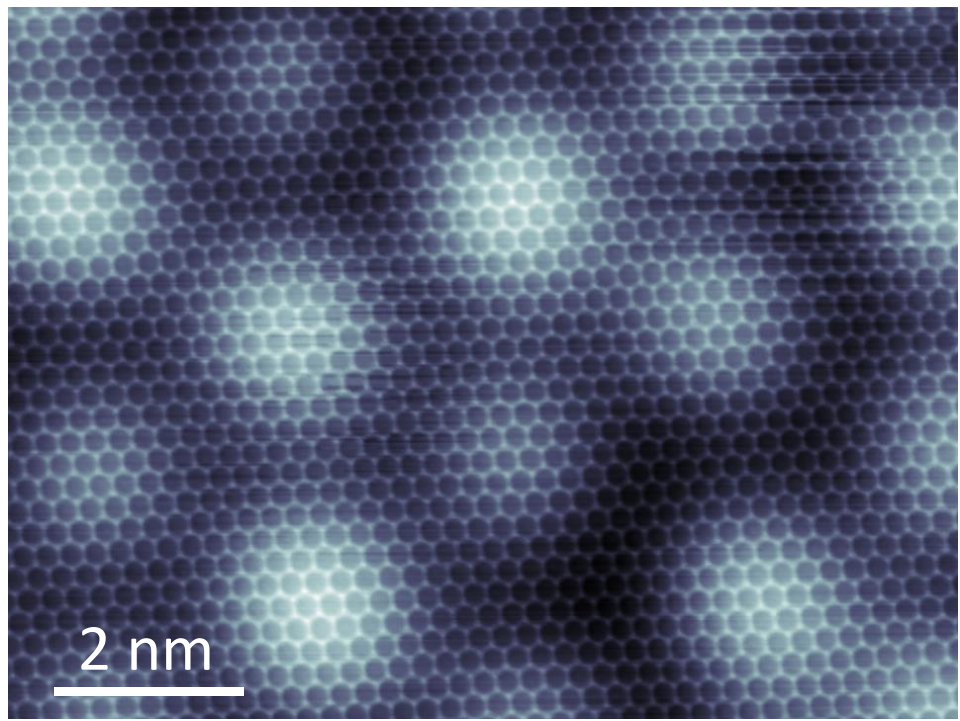
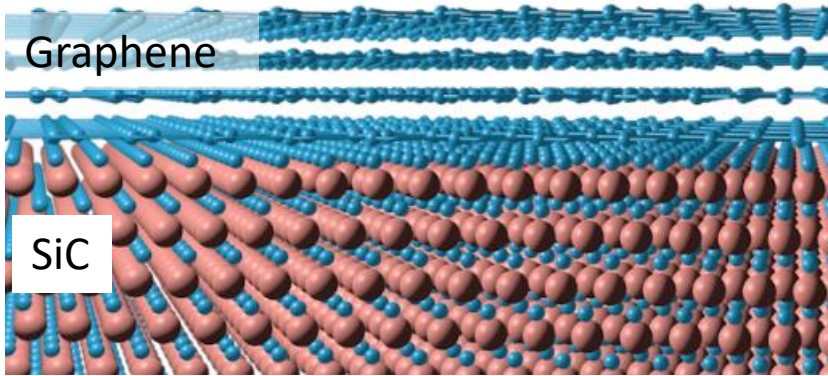
Linear density of states

$$\frac{dN}{dE} = \frac{dN}{dk} \frac{dk}{dE} = \frac{k}{2\pi} \frac{1}{\hbar v} = \frac{|E|}{2\pi(\hbar v)^2}$$

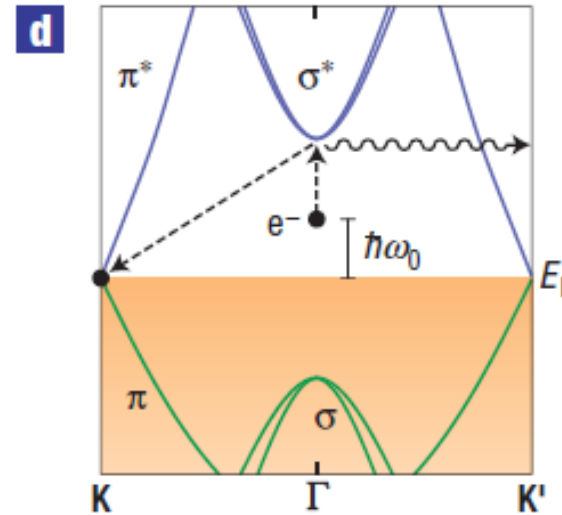
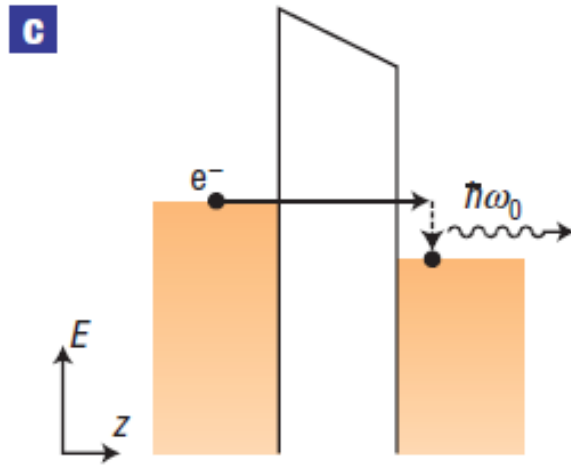
$$N(E) = \frac{2|E|}{\pi(\hbar v)^2}$$

# Scanning tunneling spectroscopy on graphene on SiC(000 $\bar{1}$ )

Multilayer graphene on SiC(000-1)



# Inelastic process in STM measurement on graphene



$$\text{LDOS}(z, k_{\parallel}) \propto e^{-z/\lambda} \quad \lambda^{-1} = 2\sqrt{2m\phi/\hbar^2 + k_{\parallel}^2},$$

STM current dominated by states around  $\Gamma$  point

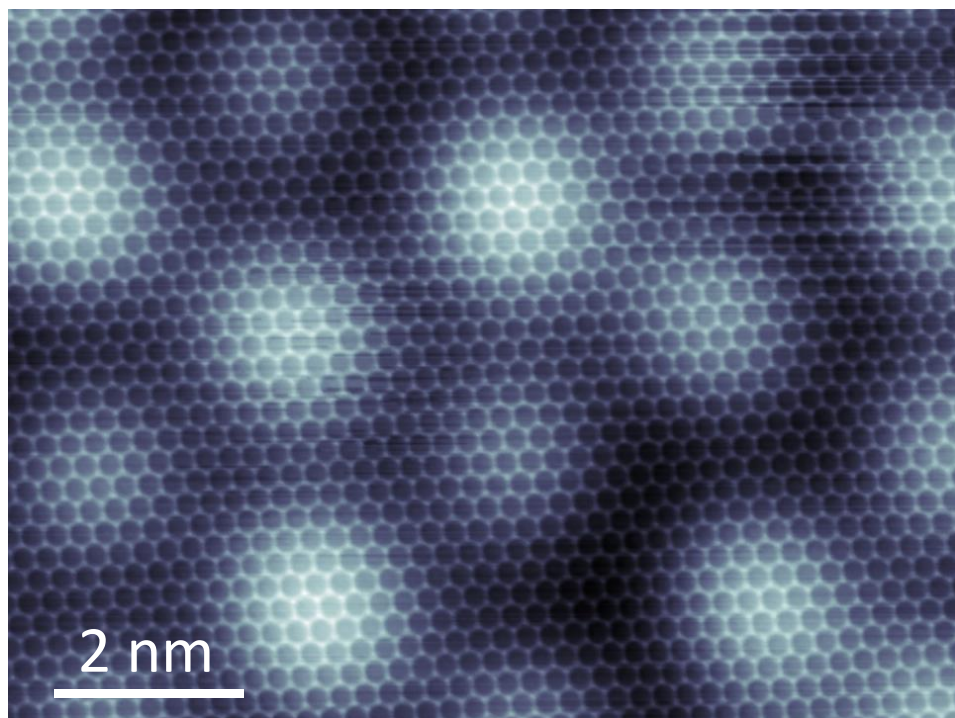
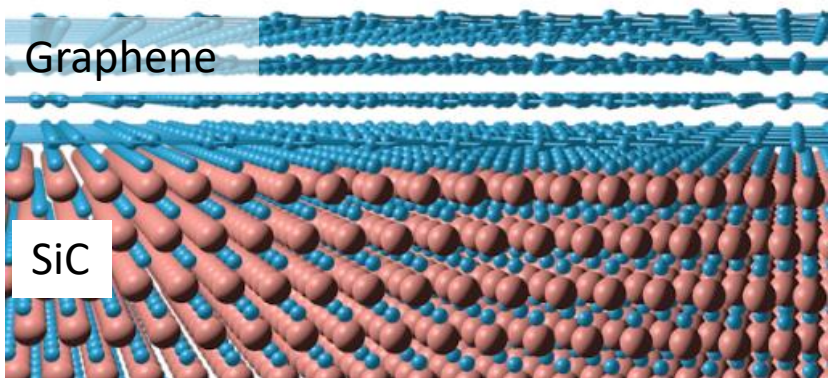
No state at  $\Gamma$  point in graphene

=> need phonon excitation at K point to tunnel through the K point of graphene

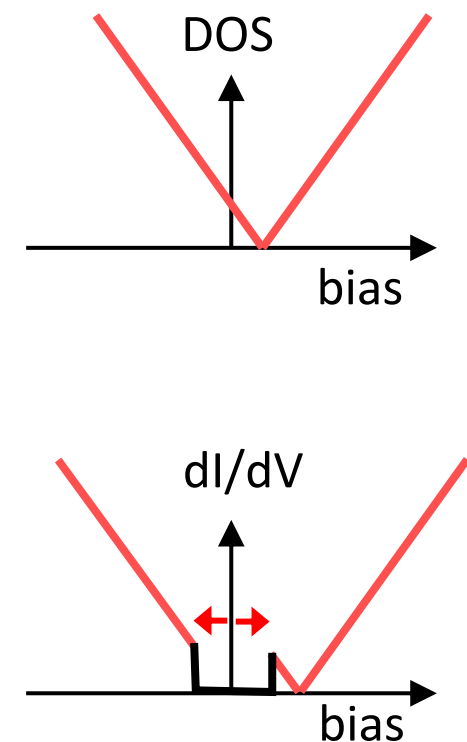
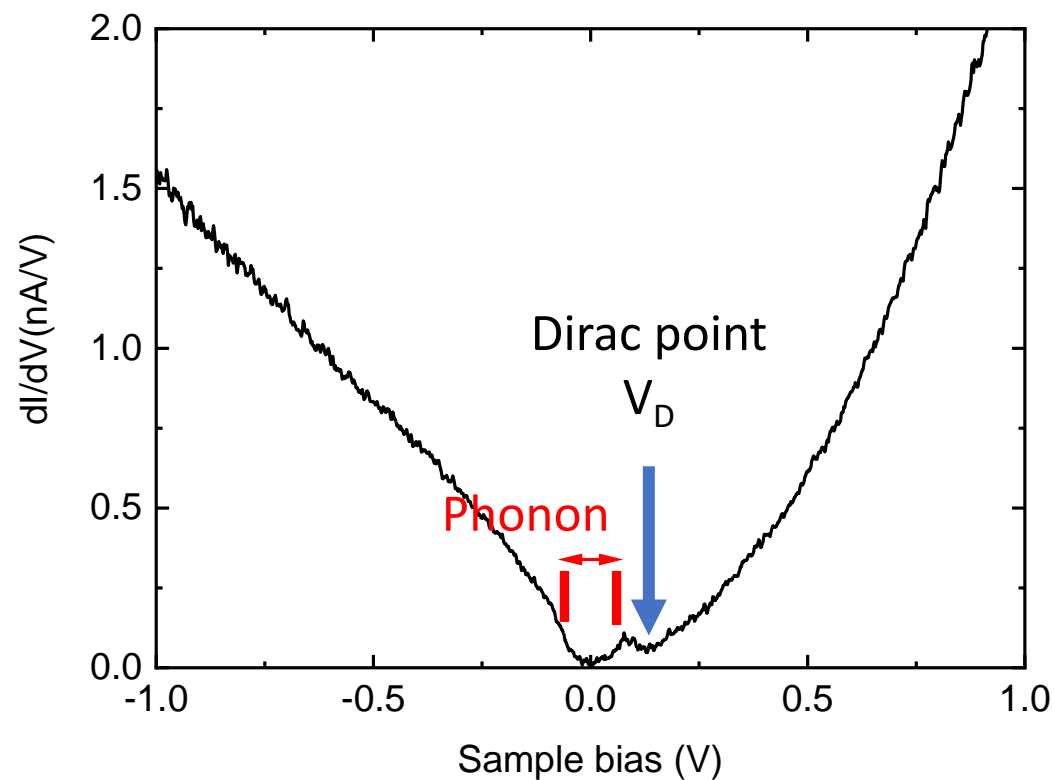


# Scanning tunneling spectroscopy on graphene on SiC(000 $\bar{1}$ )

Multilayer graphene on SiC(000-1)



Scanning tunneling spectroscopy



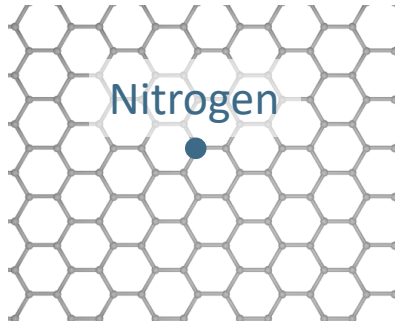
Phonon inelastic excitation at  $\pm 60$  mV

$$V_D = 140 \text{ mV} \Rightarrow E_D = 80 \text{ mV}$$

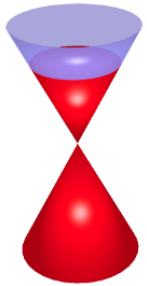
Slight natural p-doping in pristine graphene on SiC carbon side



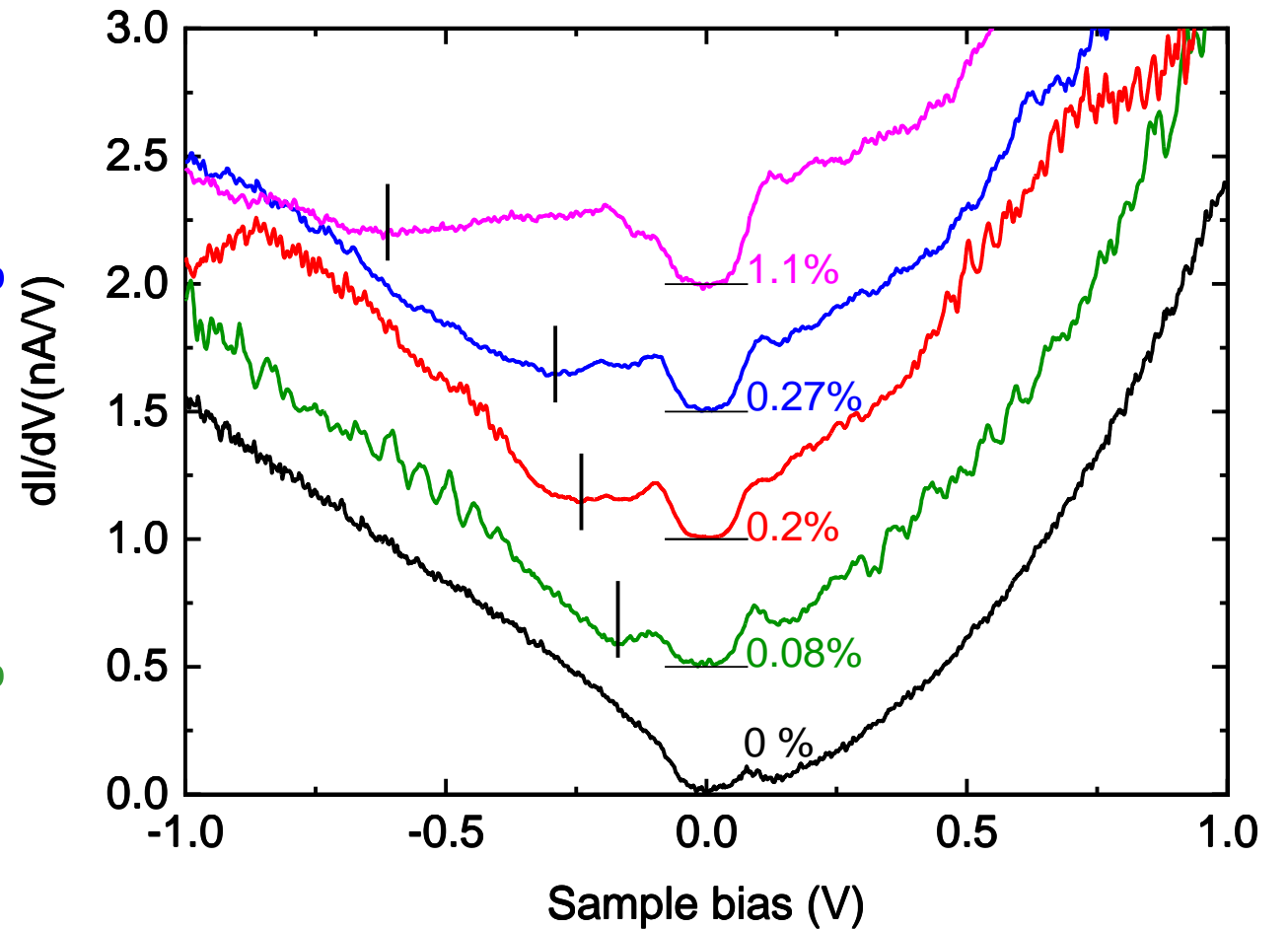
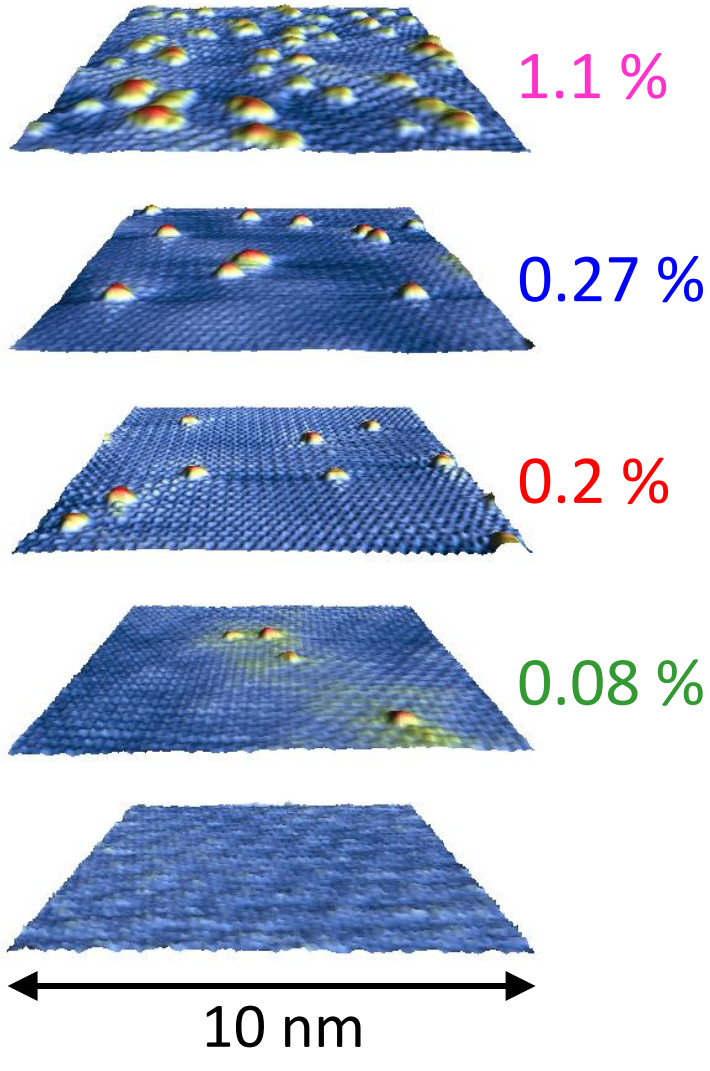
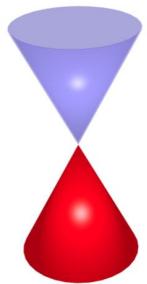
# Nitrogen doped graphene



n-doped



Pristine

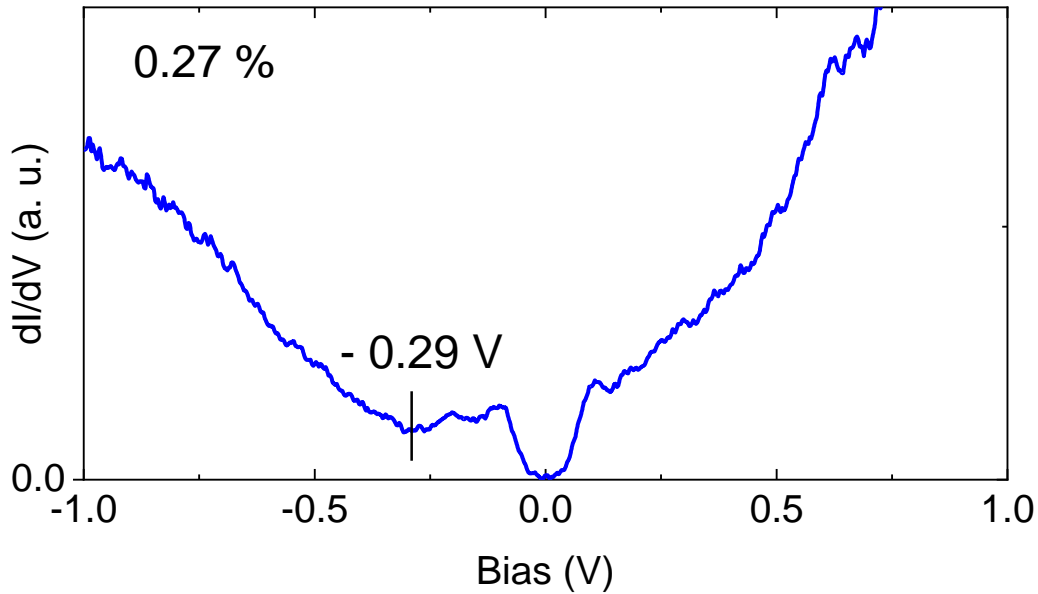


F. Joucken et al., *Scientific Report* **5**, 14564 (2015)

Review article:

Joucken, L. Henrard and J. Lagoute, *Phys. Rev. Materials* **3**, 110301 (2019)

# Nitrogen doped graphene



Charge density

$$n = \int_{E_F}^{E_D} N(E) dE = \int_0^{E_D} \frac{2E}{\pi(\hbar v_F)^2} dE = \frac{E_D^2}{\pi(\hbar v_F)^2} = 3.7 \times 10^{16} m^{-2}$$

Nitrogen concentration

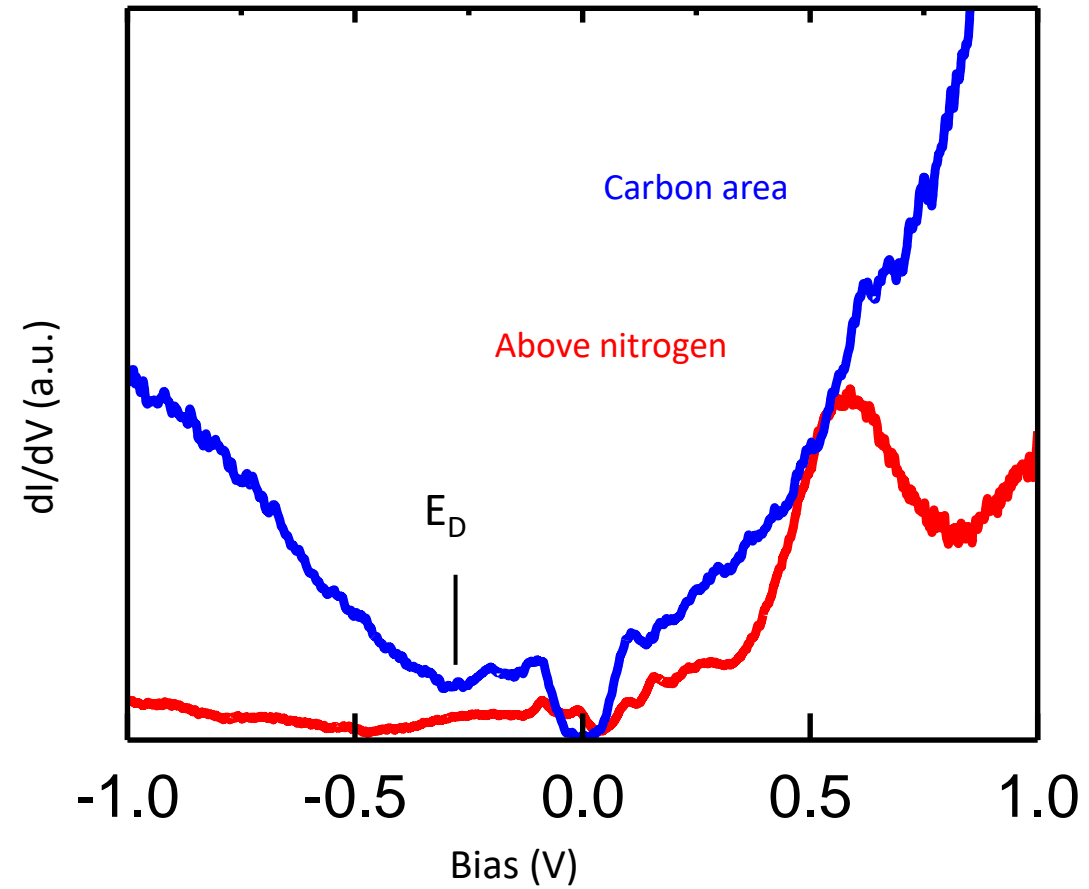
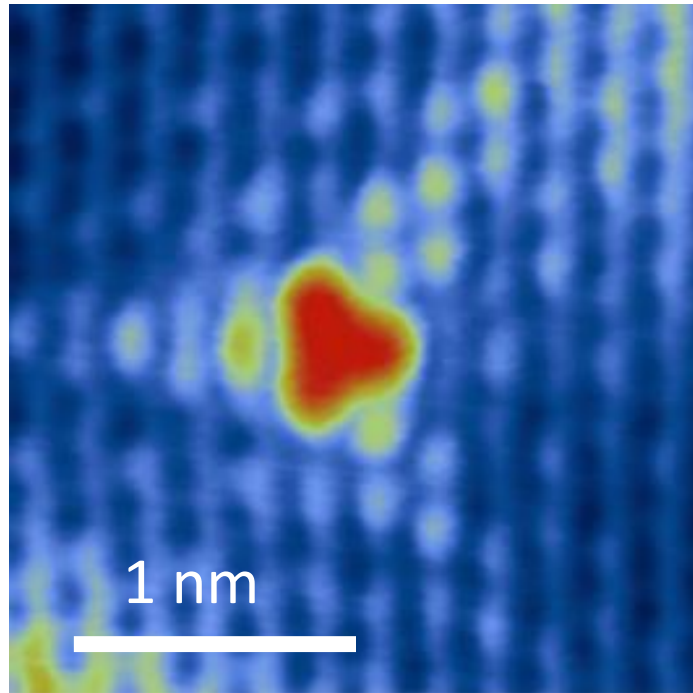
$$n_N = n_C \times 0.27\% = 10.4 \times 10^{16} m^{-2}$$

Charge given by each nitrogen atom:

$$\frac{n}{n_N} = 0.36 \text{ electron per nitrogen}$$

Less than 1 !

# Localized resonant state



# Graphene with a point defect

Density of state  $D(E)$

$$D(E) = -\frac{1}{\pi} \text{Tr}[\text{Im}(G(E))]$$

Green function  $G(E)$

$$G(E) = \frac{1}{\varepsilon - H}$$

Where  $\varepsilon = \lim_{\eta \rightarrow 0^+} (E + i\eta)I$

$$H = H^0 + U$$

$H$  Total Hamiltonian

$H^0$  Hamiltonian Wwthout defect

$U$  Defect potential

$$H^0 = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & & & & \\ & \triangle & & & \\ & & \dots & & \\ & & & \triangle & \\ & & & & \dots \end{bmatrix}$$

$$U = \begin{bmatrix} U & & & & \\ & \triangle & & & \\ & & \dots & & \\ & & & \triangle & \\ & & & & \dots \end{bmatrix}$$

# Graphene with a point defect

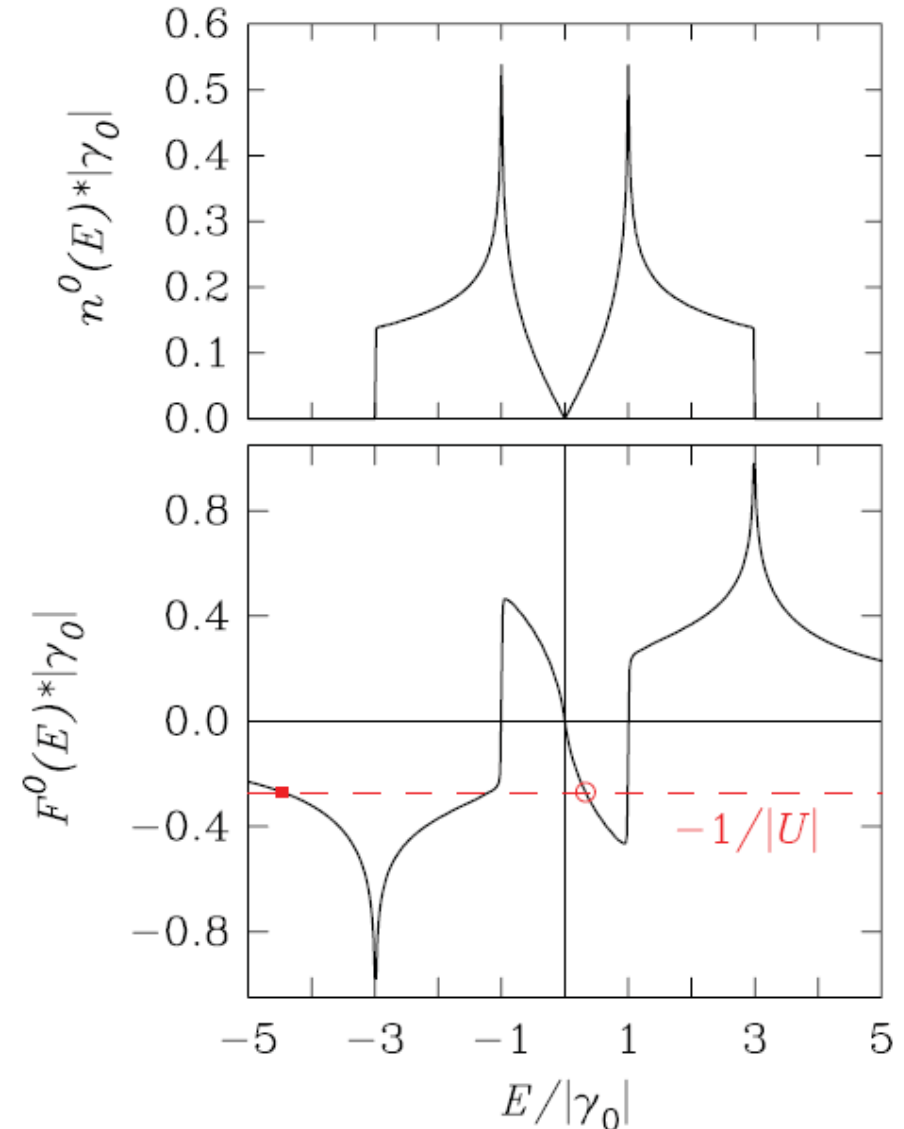
Density of state projected on the defect site

$$n_{00}(E) = -\frac{1}{\pi} \text{Im}(G_{00})$$

Green's function without defect  $G_{00}^0 = F^0 + in^0$

$$n_{00}(E) = -\frac{1}{\pi} \frac{n^0}{(1 - UF^0)^2 + U^2 n^0{}^2}$$

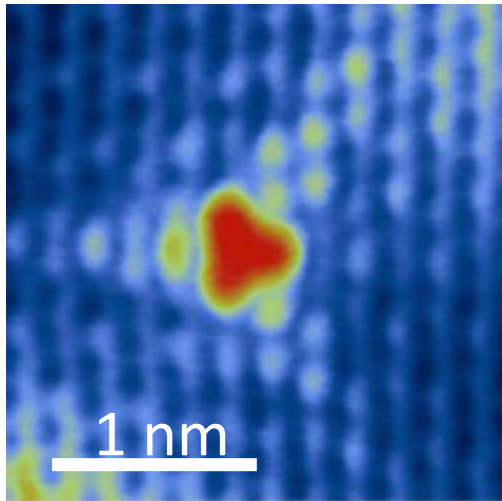
For small  $n^0$  peak for  $F^0 = \frac{1}{U}$



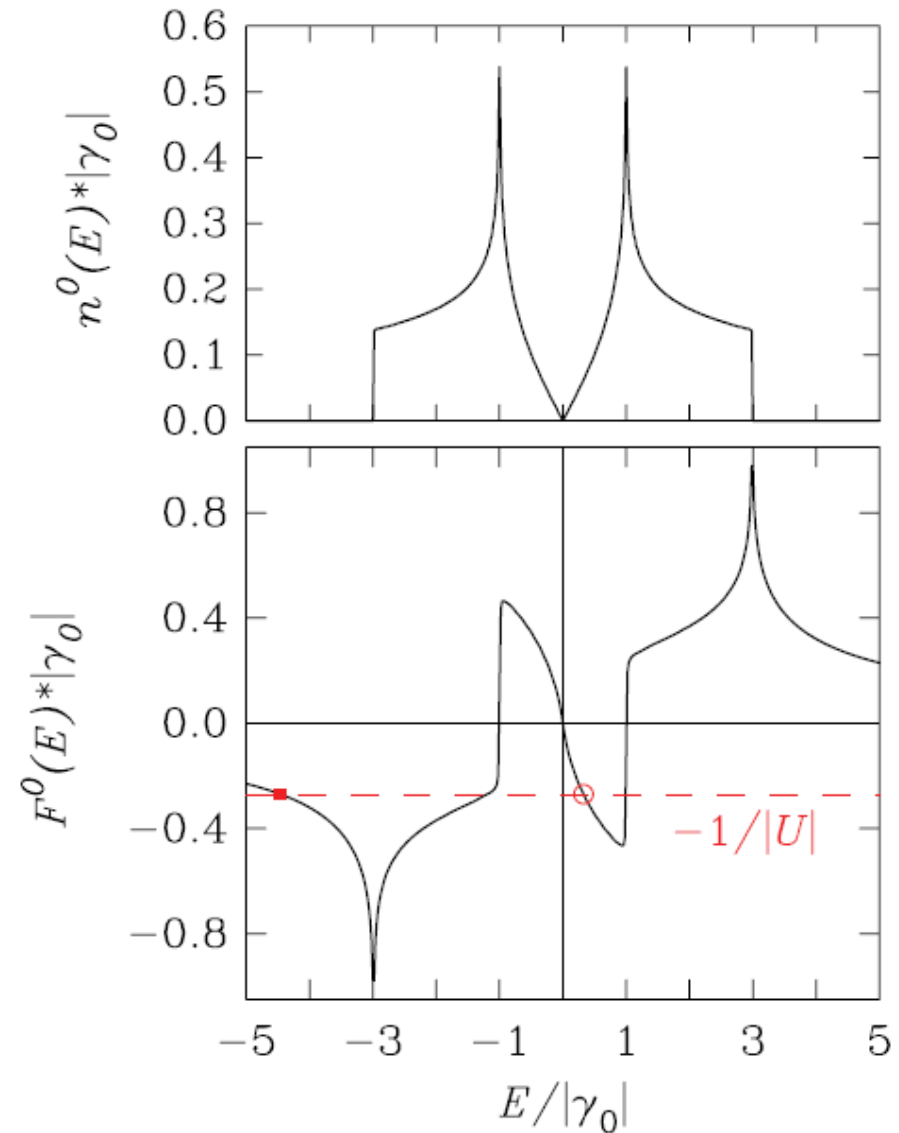
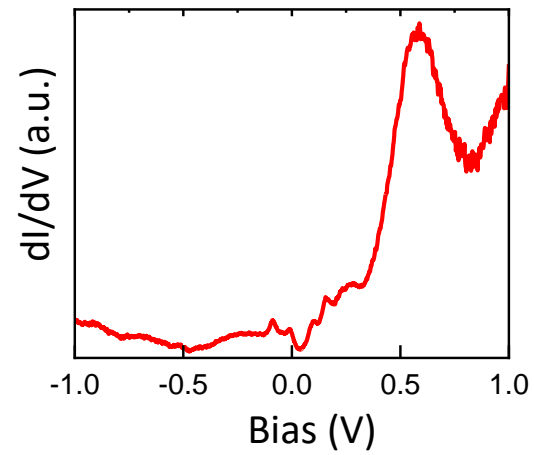


# Nitrogen in graphene

STM on nitrogen in graphite

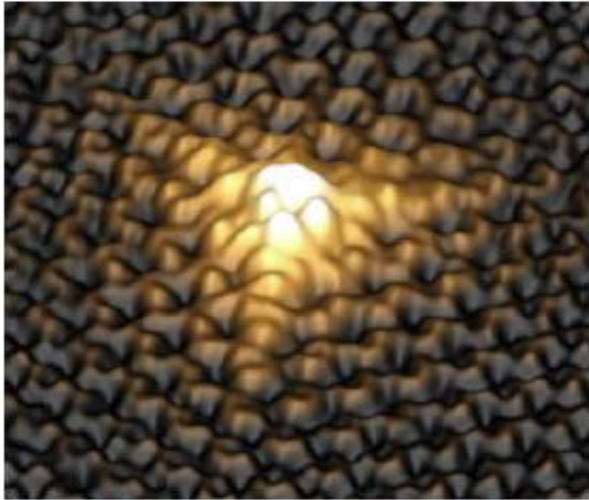


STS on nitrogen in graphite



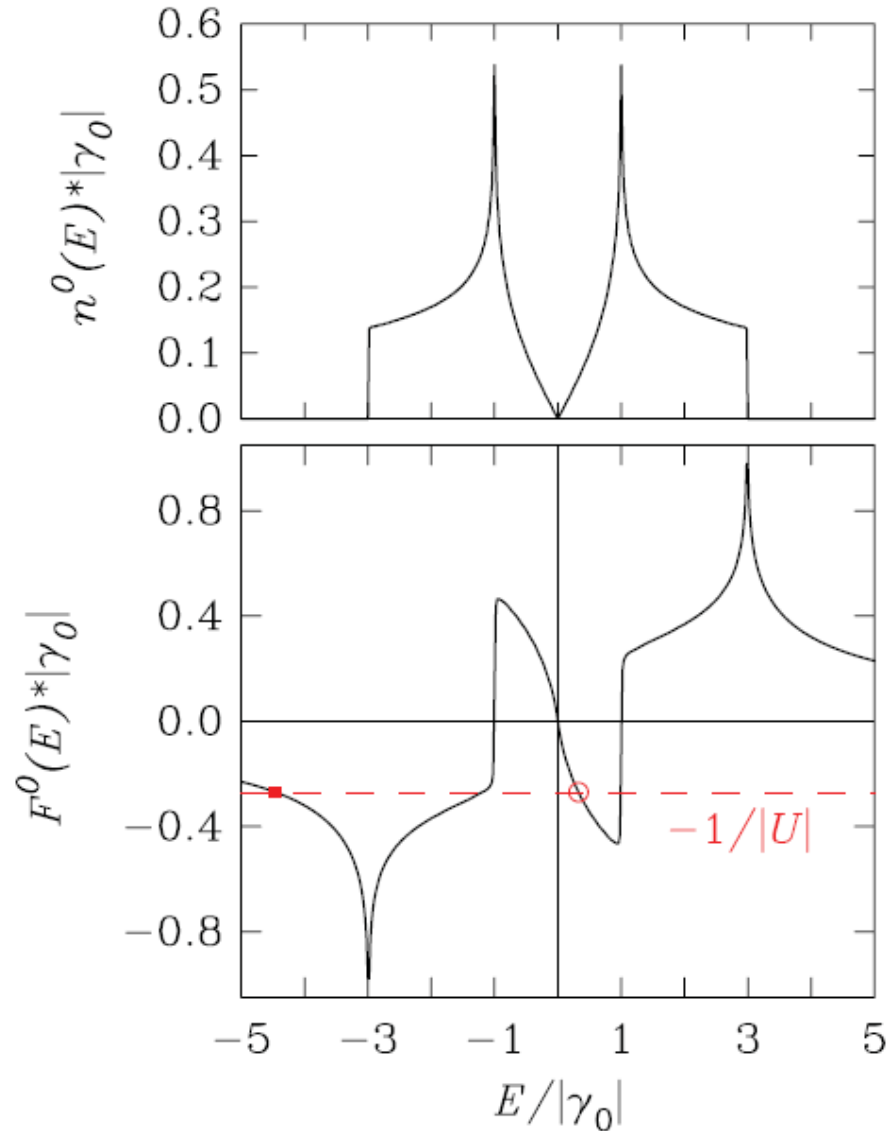
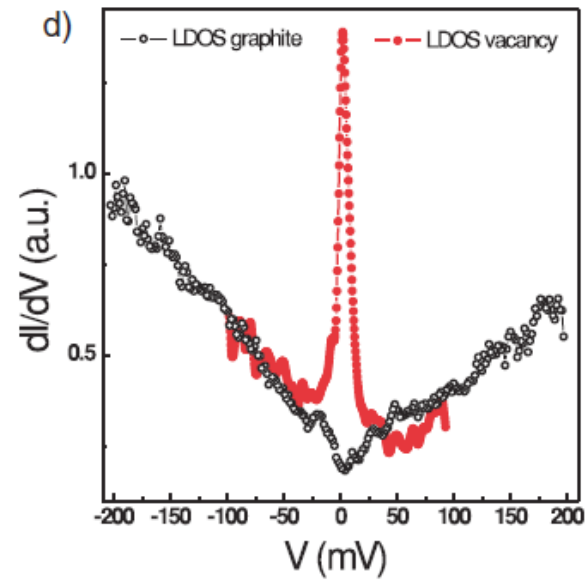
# Vacancy in graphene

STM on vacancy in graphite



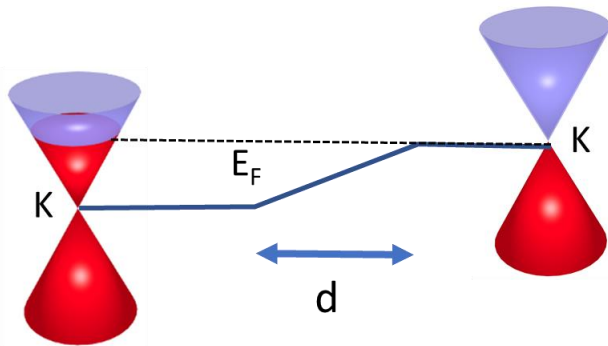
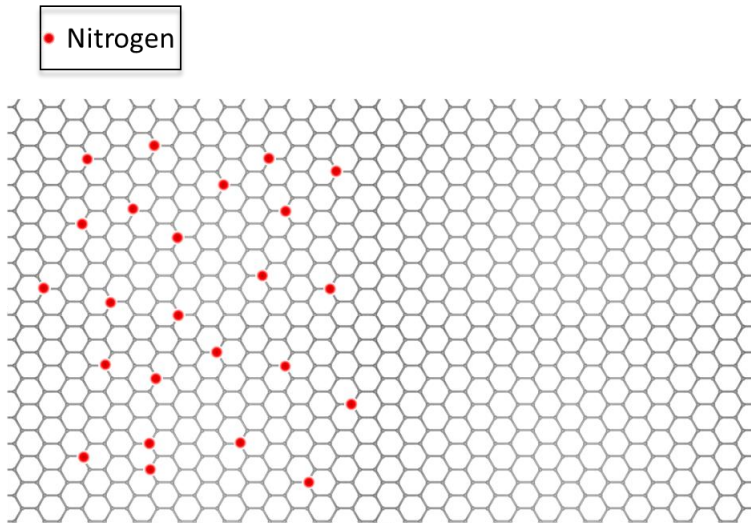
M. M. Ugeda et al. PRL **104**, 096804 (2010)

STS on vacancy in graphite

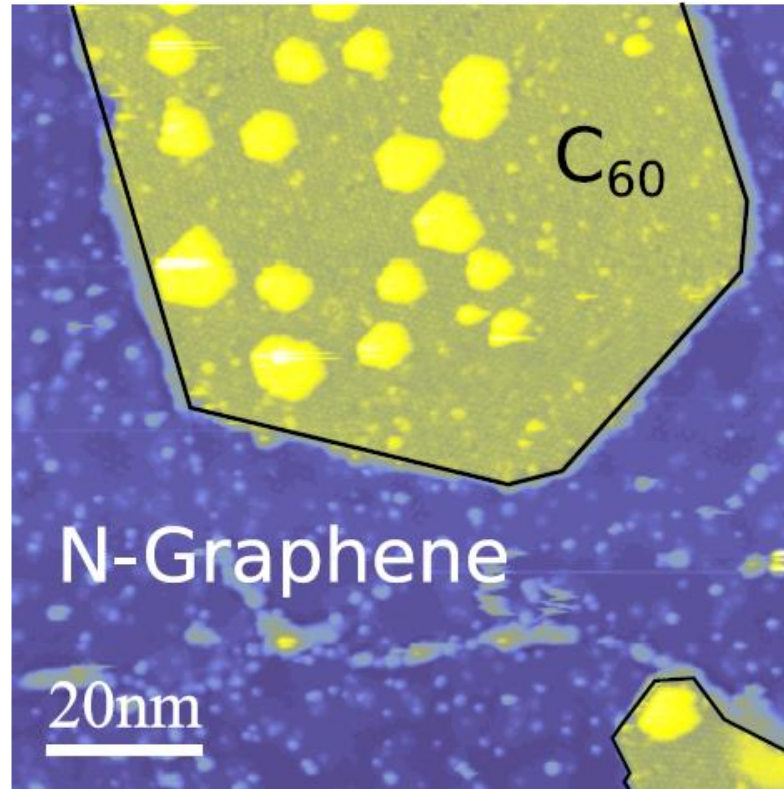


Ph. Lambin et al. Phys. Rev. B **86**, 045448 (2012)

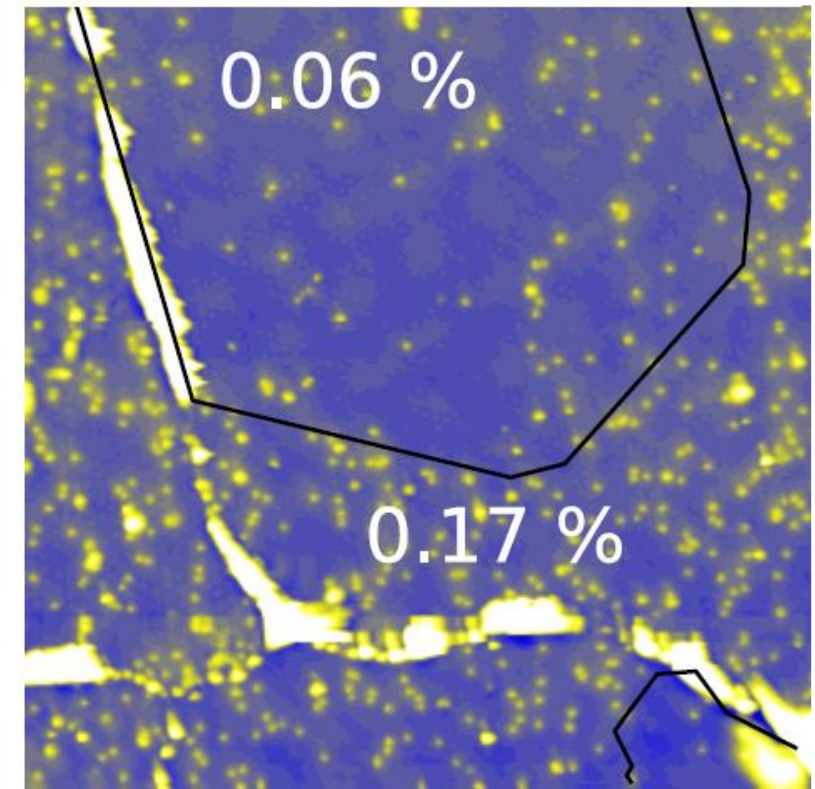
# Band engineering: realization of in-plane junction



$C_{60}$ /graphene after nitrogen plasma Nitrogen doping of graphene reduced below the  $C_{60}$  island



2V, 10 pA

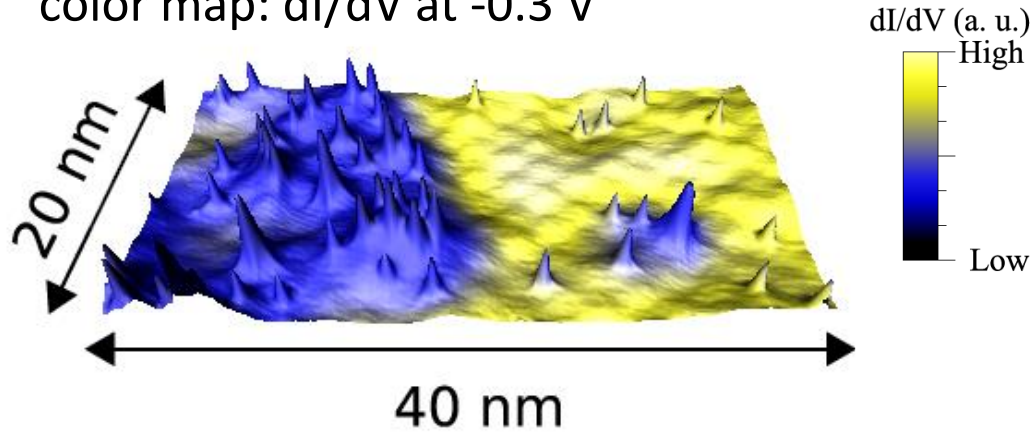


2V, 50 pA

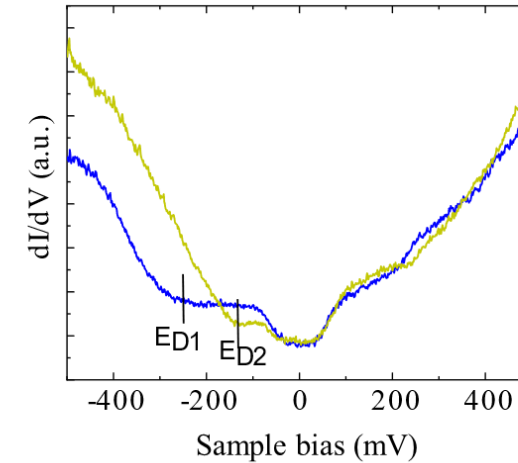
65% of incoming nitrogen species are stopped by the  $C_{60}$  monolayer

# Sharp junctions (width < Fermi wavelength)

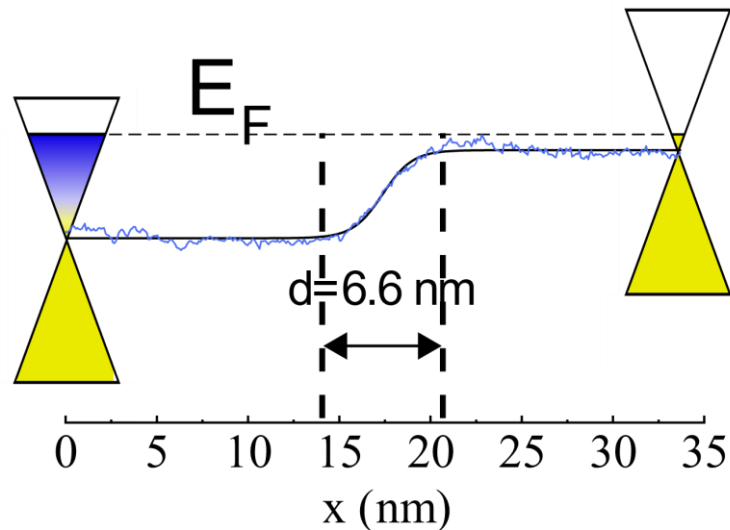
3D STM topography,  
color map:  $dI/dV$  at  $-0.3$  V



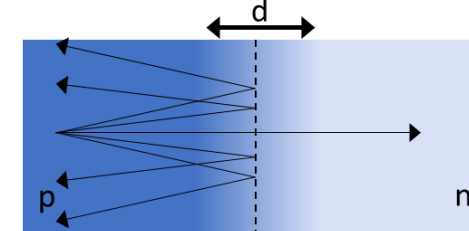
Spectroscopy on both sides of the junction



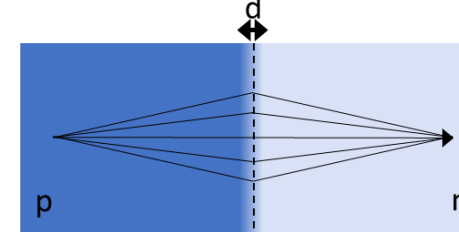
Linescan of  $dI/dV$  map through the junction



Smooth junction  $d > \lambda_F$



Sharp junction  $d < \lambda_F$

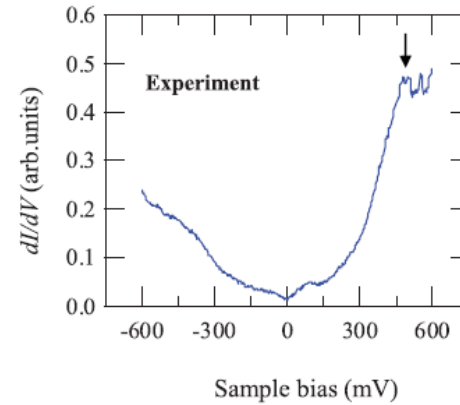
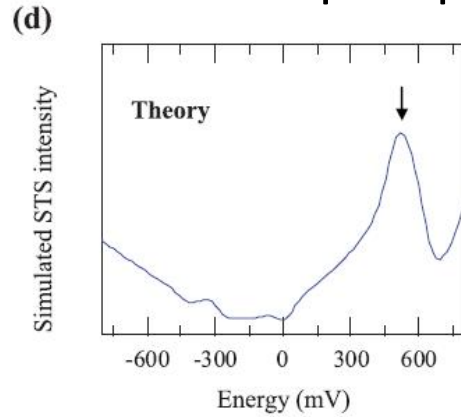
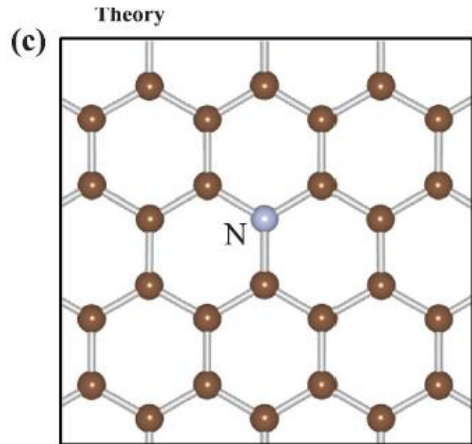


Sharp junction,  
for  $d < 20$  nm



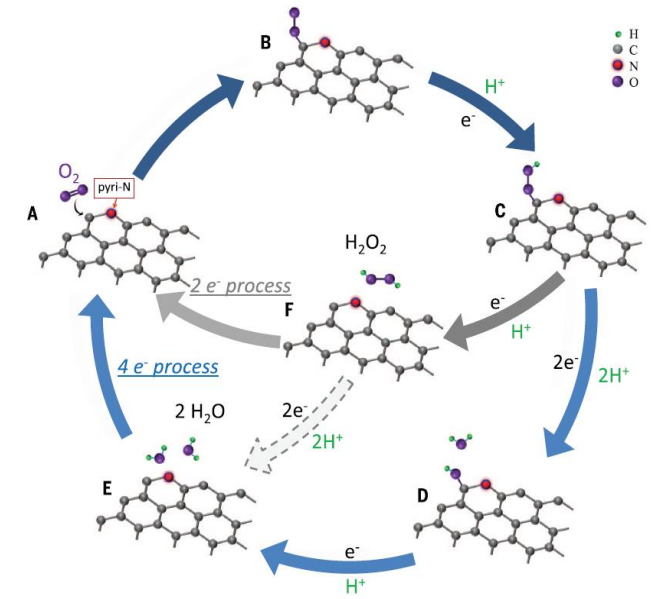
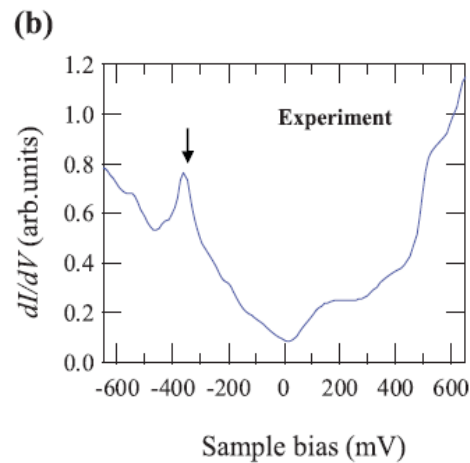
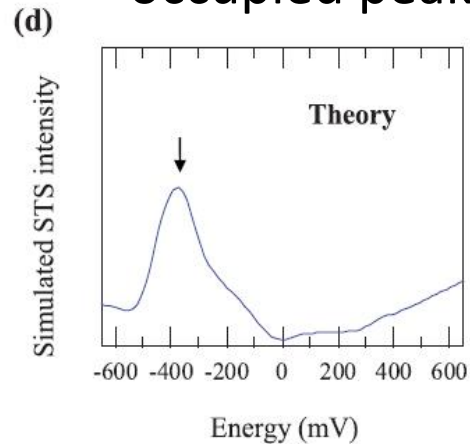
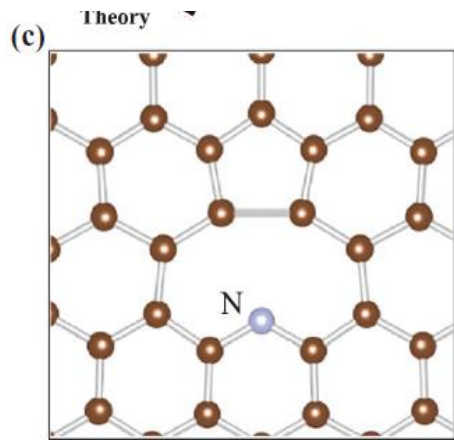
# Localized state for chemical activity

Graphitic N:  
unoccupied peak **Lewis acid**



Occupied state on pyridine  
⇒ Lewis base  
⇒ active site for oxygen reduction reaction

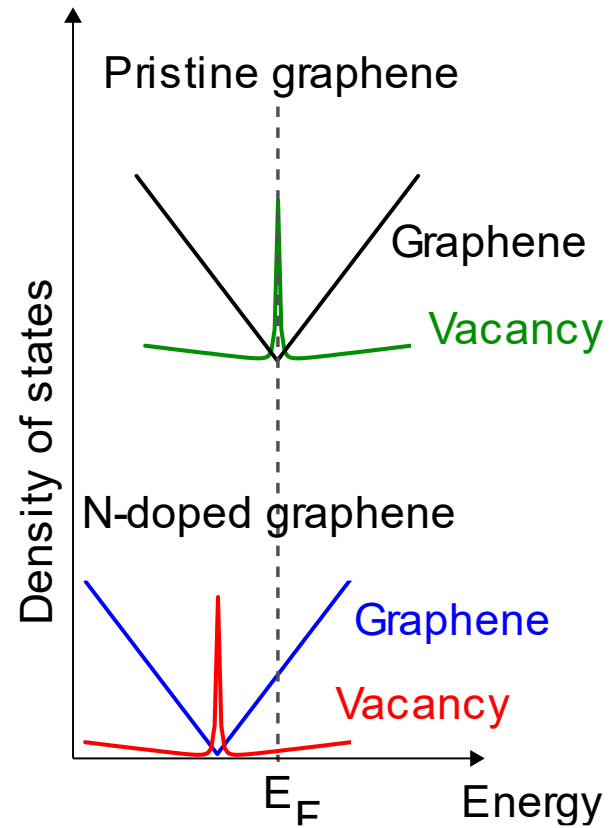
Pyridinic N:  
occupied peak **Lewis base**



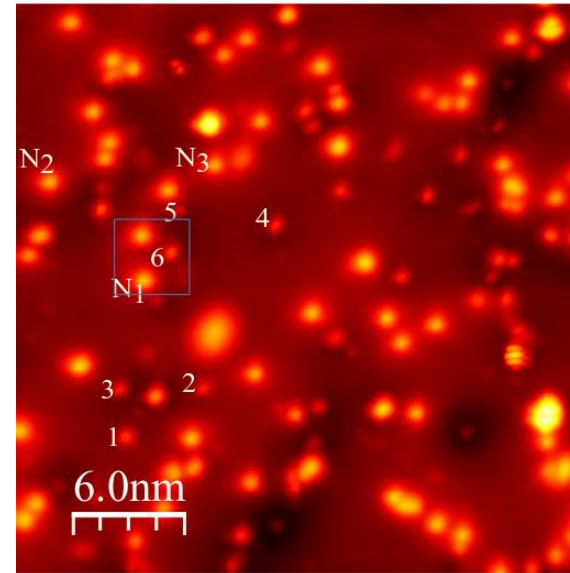
D. Guo et al., Science 351, 361 (2016)



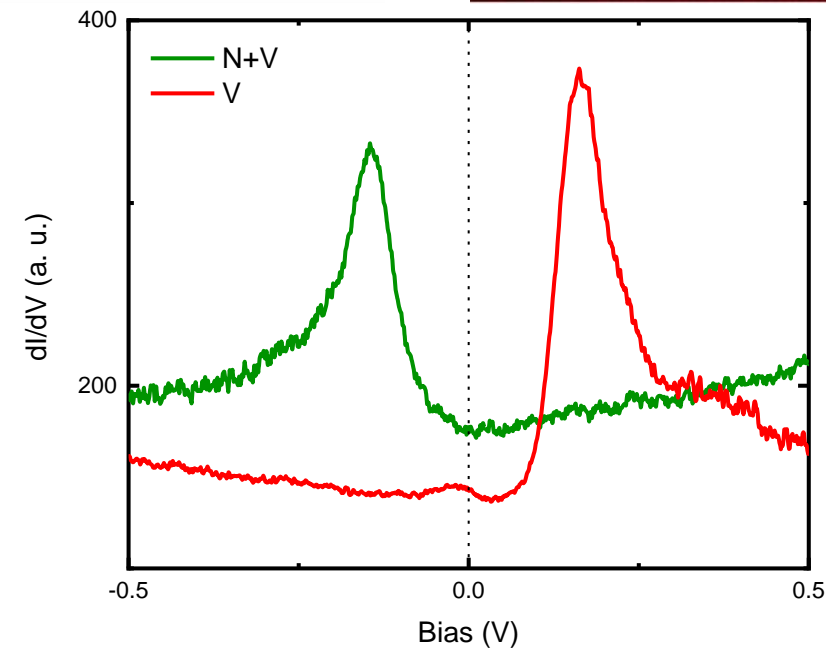
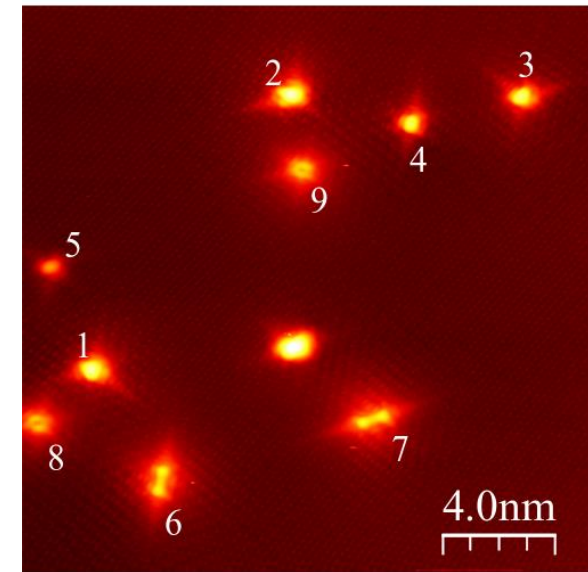
# Defect engineering: combining vacancies and nitrogen



Vacancies + N in HOPG



Vacancies in HOPG

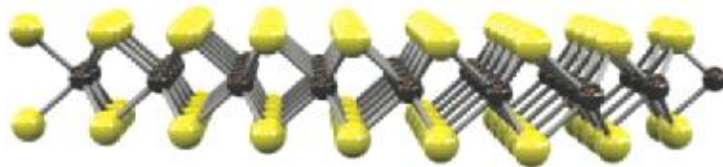


# Outline

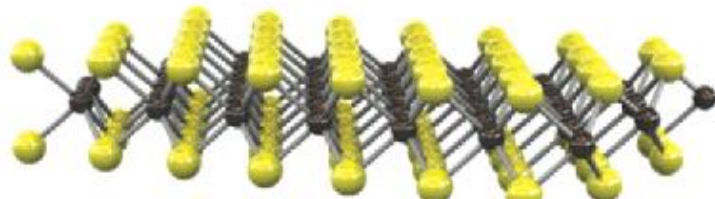
- Introduction
- Nitrogen doping of graphene
- Charge density waves in Transition Metal Dichalcogenides

# Transition Metal Dichalcogenides (TMD)

										$MX_2$ → X: chalcogen								
										M: transition metal								
1 H hydrogen	2												13	14	15	16	17	18 He helium
3 Li lithium	4 Be beryllium											5 B boron	6 C carbon	7 N nitrogen	8 O oxygen	9 F fluorine	10 Ne neon	
11 Na sodium	12 Mg magnesium	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13 Al aluminium	14 Si silicon	15 P phosphorus	16 S sulphur	17 Cl chlorine	18 Ar argon	
19 K potassium	20 Ca calcium	21 Sc scandium	22 Ti titanium	23 V vanadium	24 Cr chromium	25 Mn manganese	26 Fe iron	27 Co cobalt	28 Ni nickel	29 Cu copper	30 Zn zinc	31 Ga galium	32 Ge germanium	33 As arsenic	34 Se selenium	35 Br bromine	36 Kr krypton	
37 Rb rubidium	38 Sr strontium	39 Y yttrium	40 Zr zirconium	41 Nb niobium	42 Mo molybdenum	43 Tc technetium	44 Ru ruthenium	45 Rh rhodium	46 Pd palladium	47 Ag silver	48 Cd cadmium	49 In indium	50 Sn tin	51 Sb antimony	52 Te tellurium	53 I iodine	54 Xe xenon	
55 Cs caesium	56 Ba barium	57-71	72 Hf hafnium	73 Ta tantalum	74 W tungsten	75 Re rhenium	76 Os osmium	77 Ir iridium	78 Pt platinum	79 Au gold	80 Hg mercury	81 Tl thallium	82 Pb lead	83 Bi bismuth	84 Po polonium	85 At astatine	86 Rn radon	
87 Fr francium	88 Ra radium	89-103																



Formal charge:  $M^{4+}$ ,  $X^{2-}$

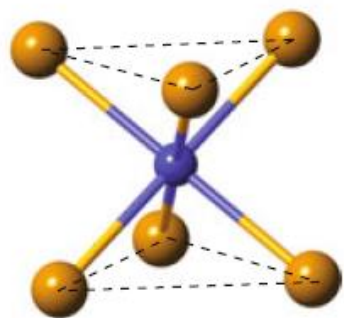


Electronic configuration:

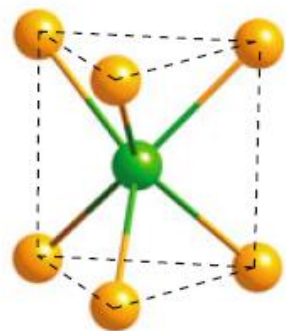
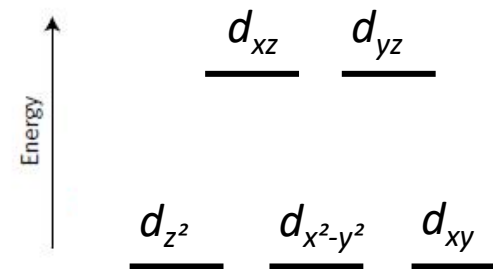
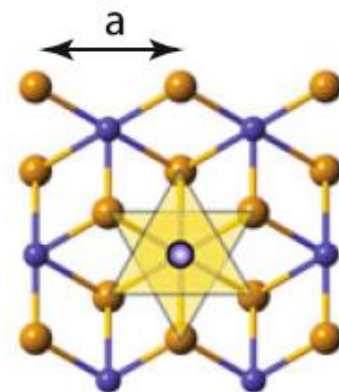
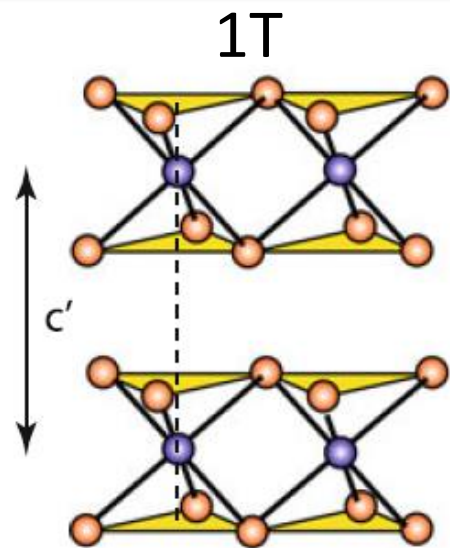
Chalcogen:  $ns^2, np^6$  ( $n=3,4,5$  for  $X=S, Se, Te$ )

Transition metal:  $d^n$ , with  $n=0, 1, 2, 3$  for group 4, 5, 6, 7

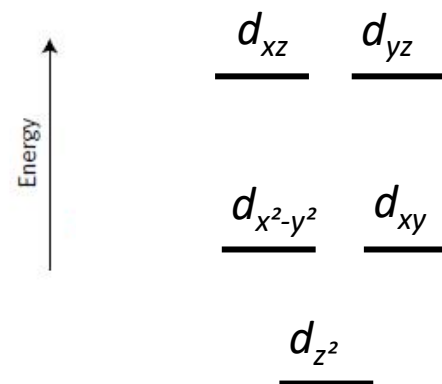
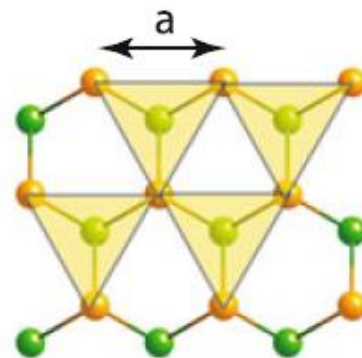
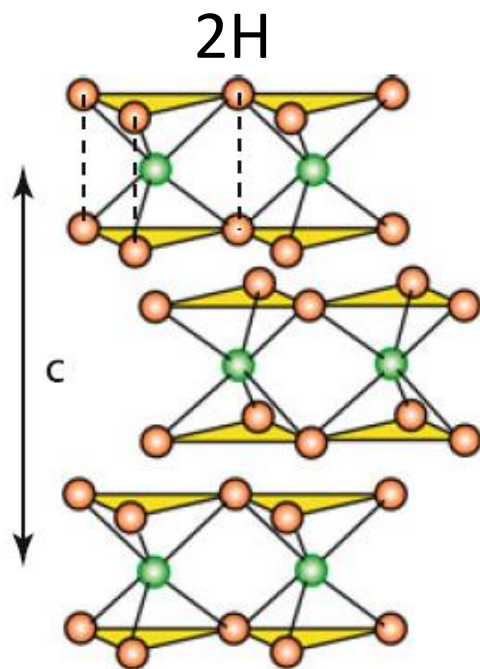
# T and H polymorphs of TMDs



Octahedral

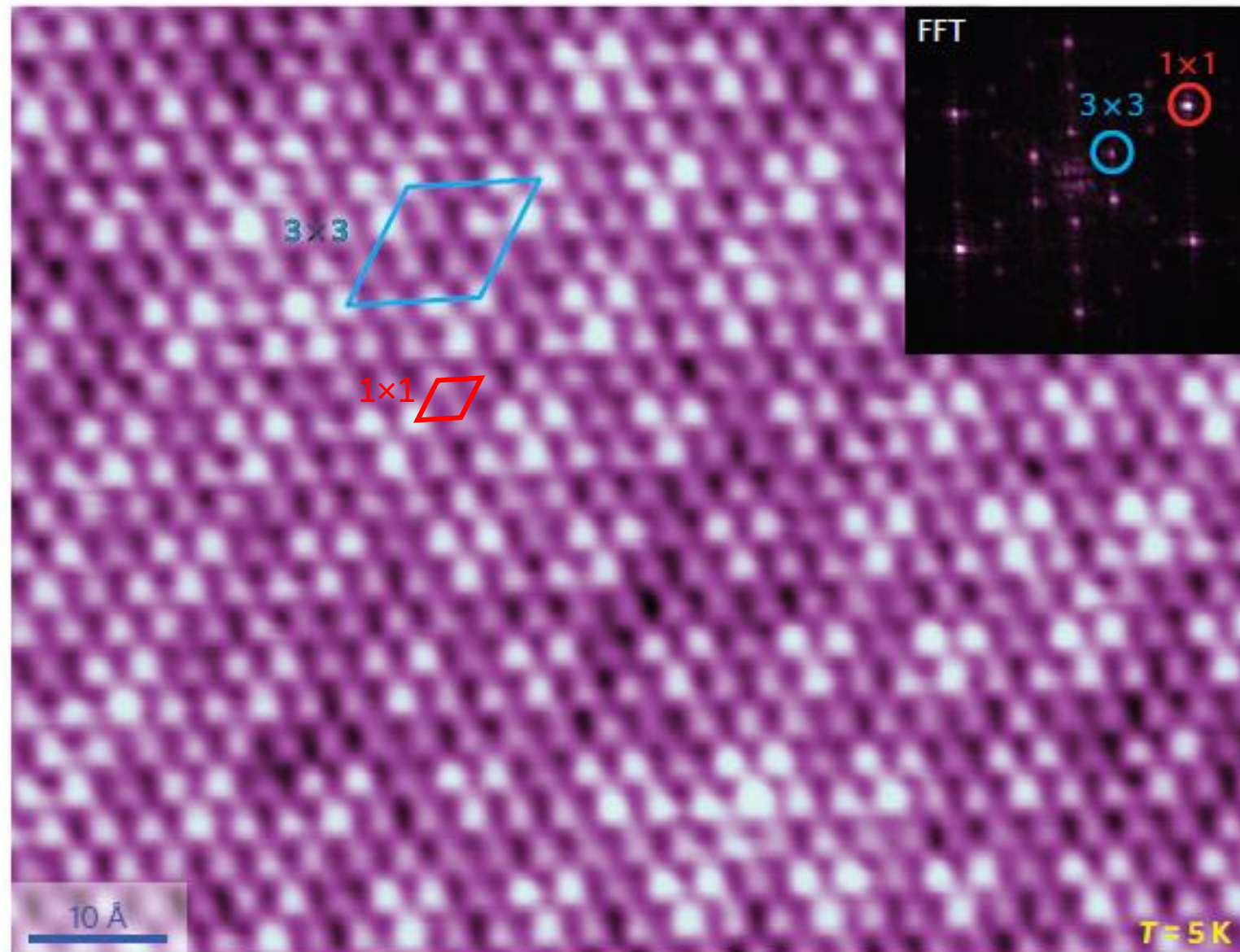


Trigonal prismatic



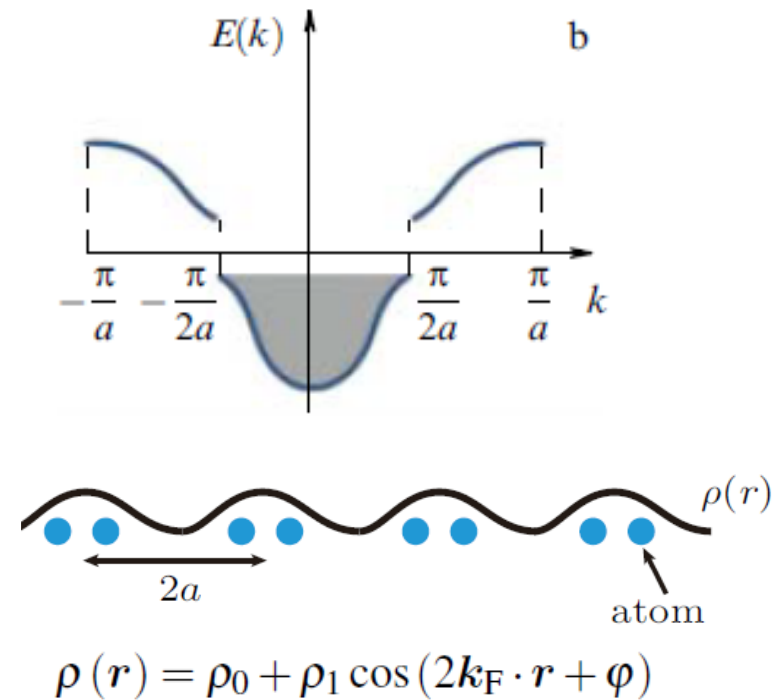
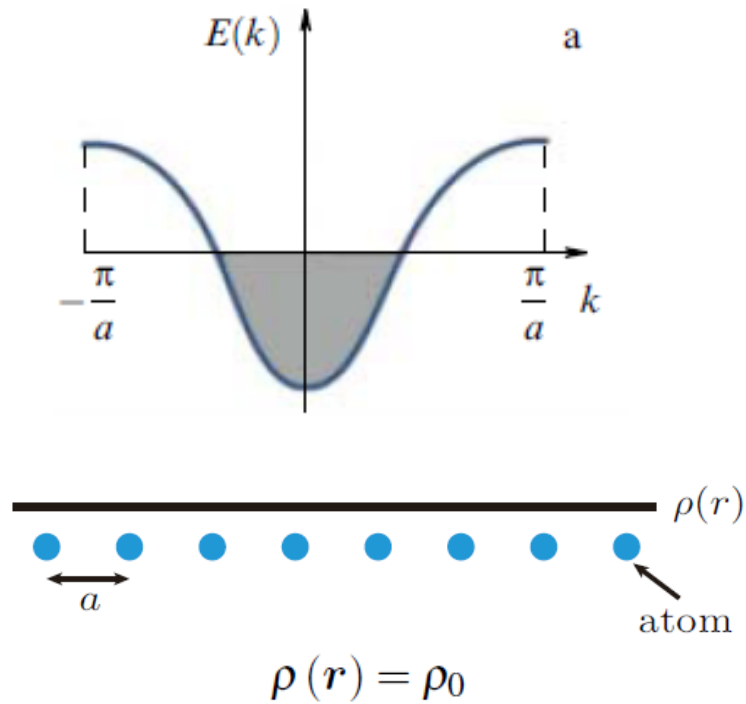


# Charge density waves in metallic TMDs





# Charge density waves, Peierls transition

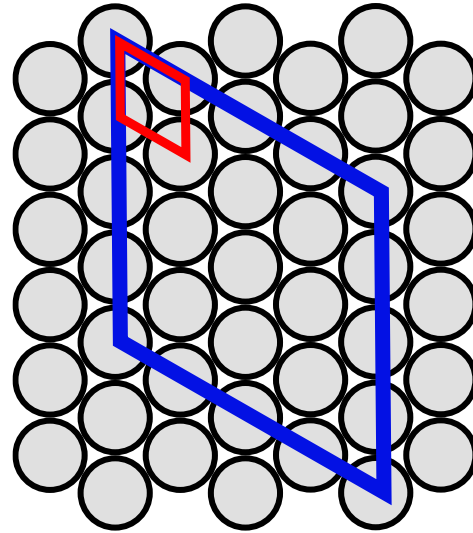
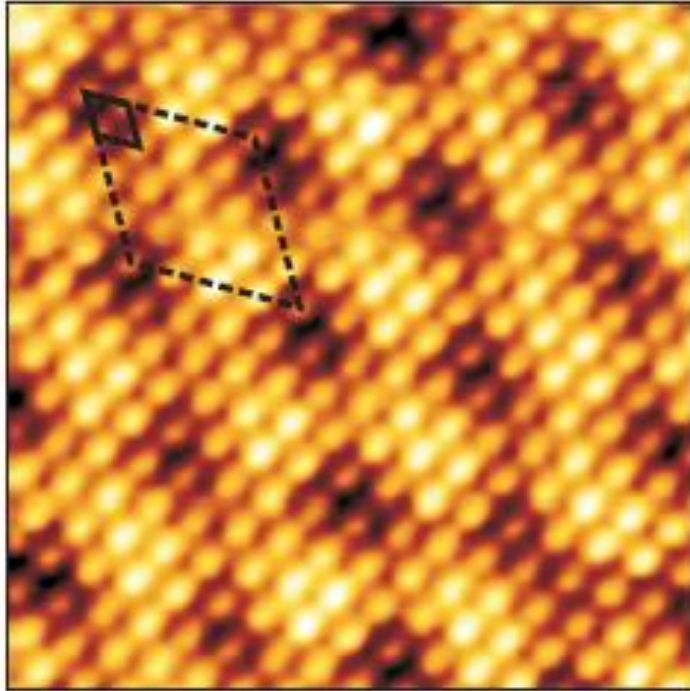


Gain in electronic energy from the lowering of occupied electronic states

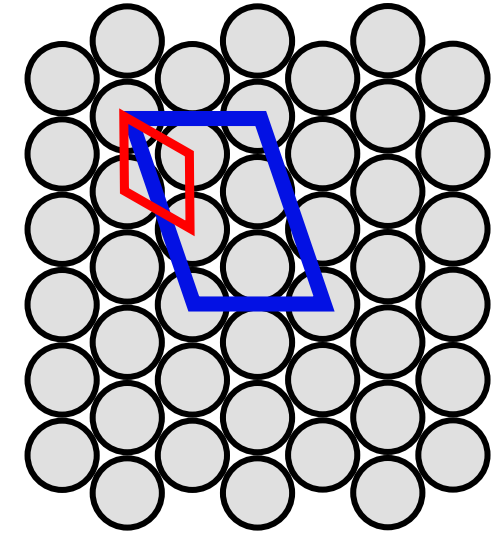
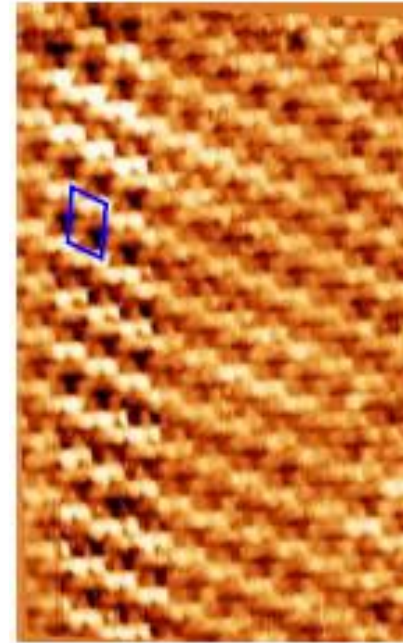
But elastic energy cost

# Bulk vs monolayer CDW in $VSe_2$

Bulk  $VSe_2$  4x4 CDW



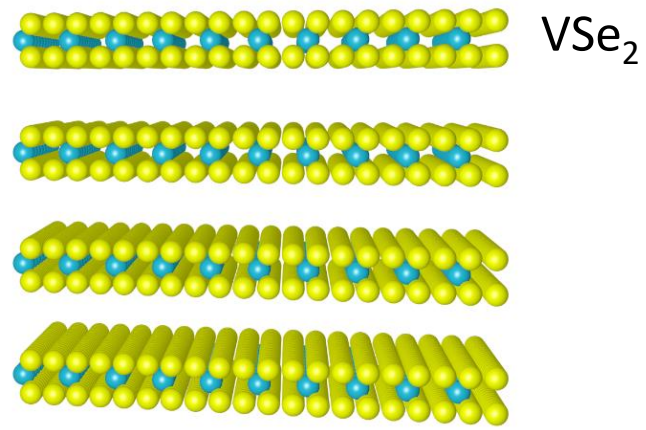
Monolayer  $VSe_2$   $\sqrt{3} \times \sqrt{7}$  CDW



W. Jolie *et al.*, PRB **99**, 115417 (2019)

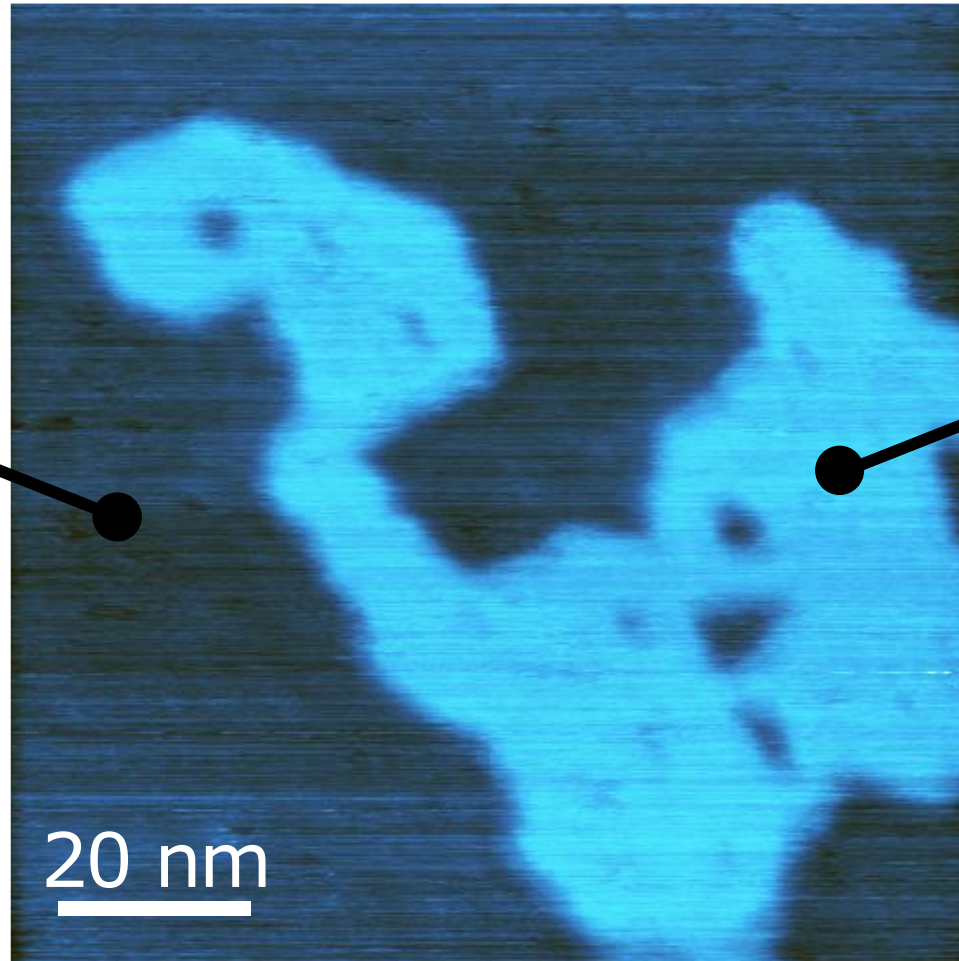
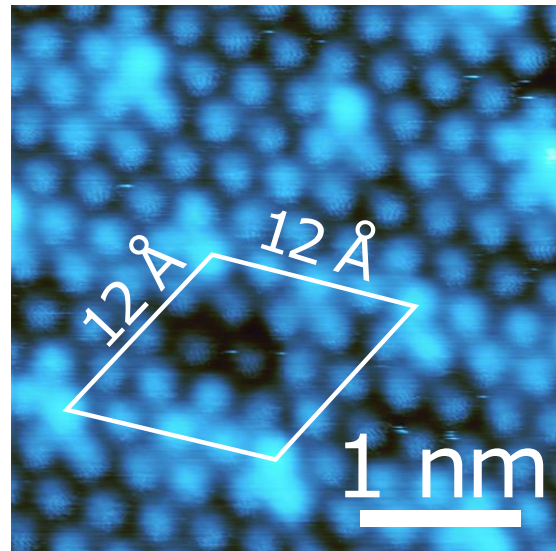
P. Chen *et al.*, PRL **121**, 196402 (2018)

# Alkali intercalation: Na intercalated bulk $\text{VSe}_2$

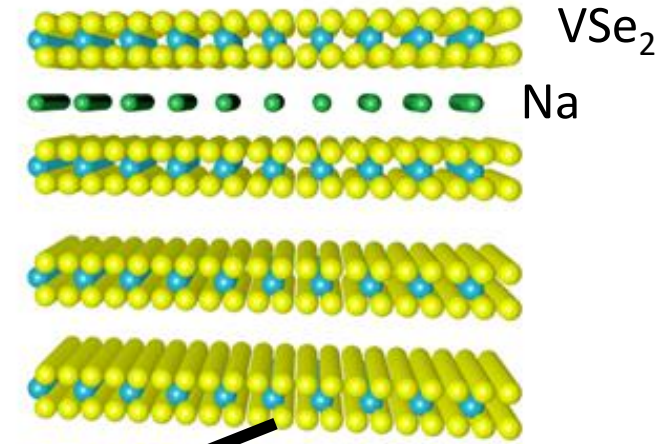


$\text{VSe}_2$

4x4 CDW



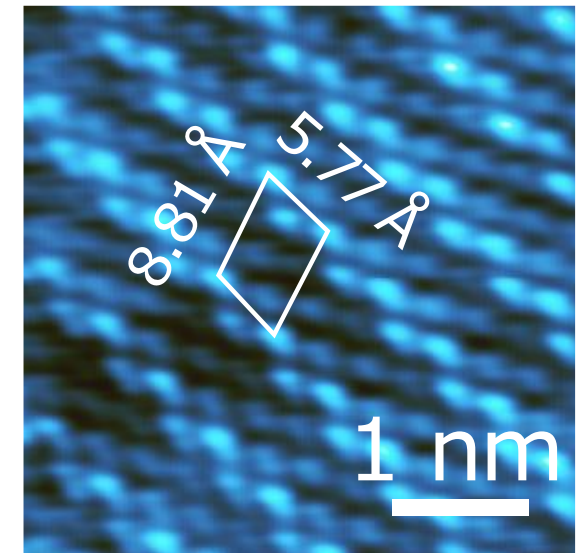
1 V, 20 pA



$\text{VSe}_2$

Na

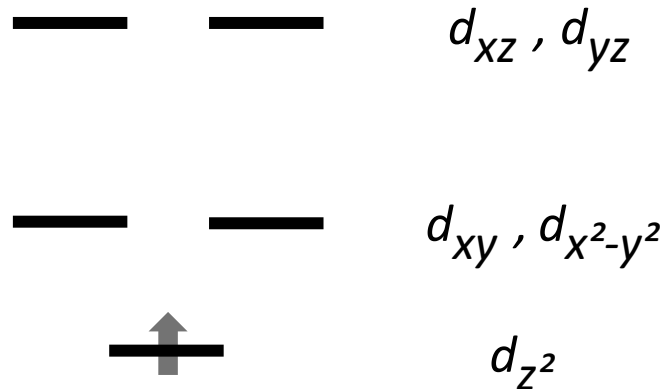
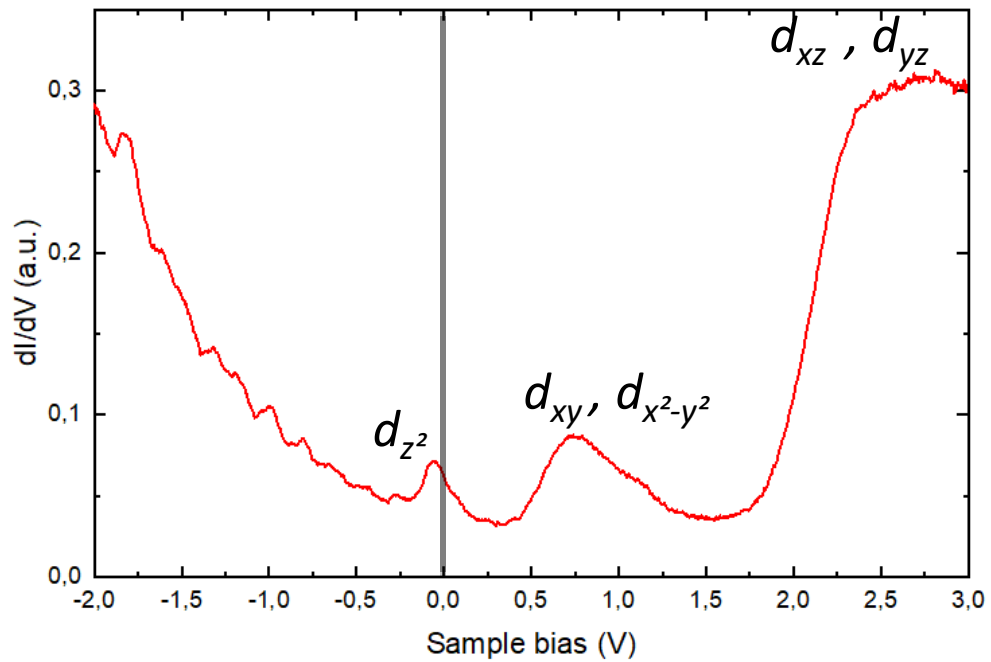
$\sqrt{3} \times \sqrt{7}$  CDW



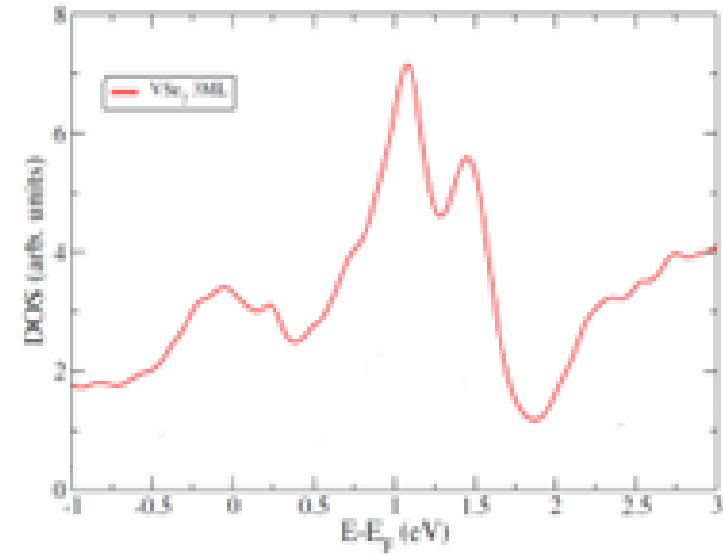


# Spectroscopy of 1T- VSe<sub>2</sub>

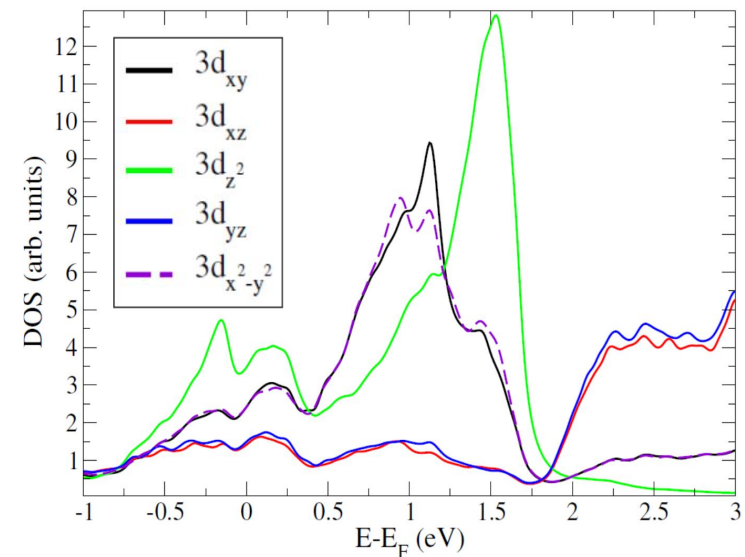
Experimental dI/dV spectrum



Calculated DOS

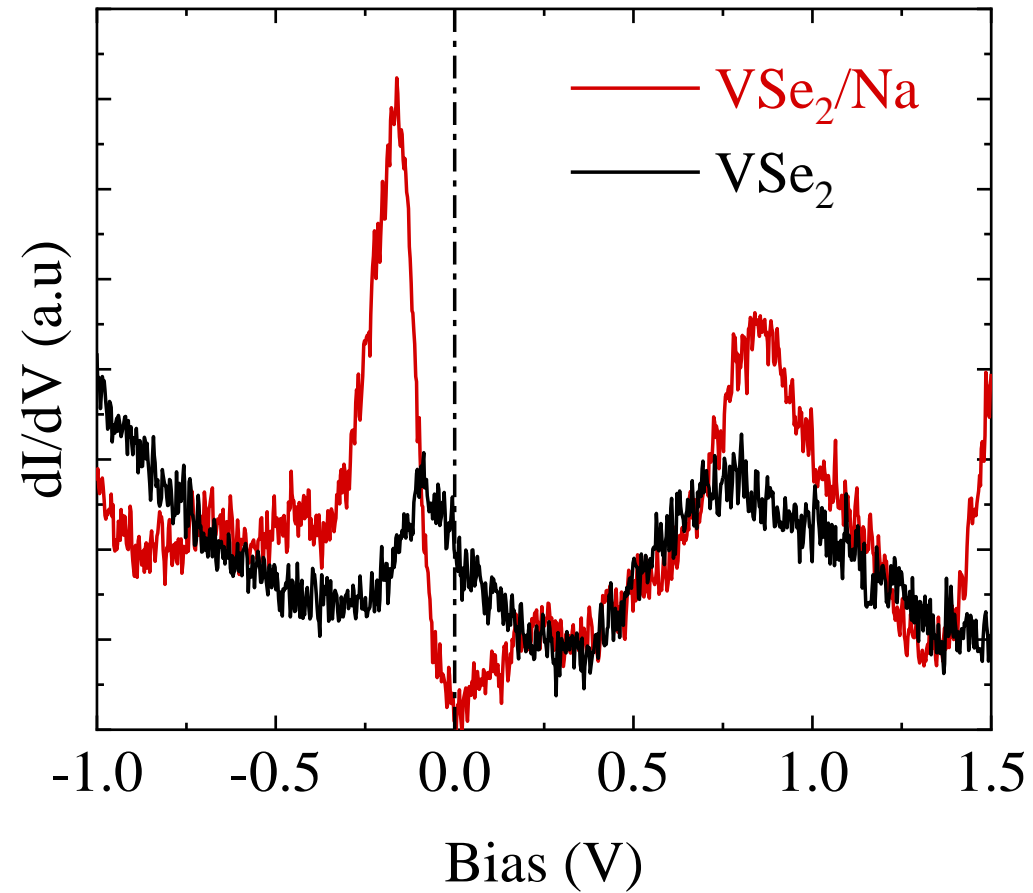


Calculated PDOS

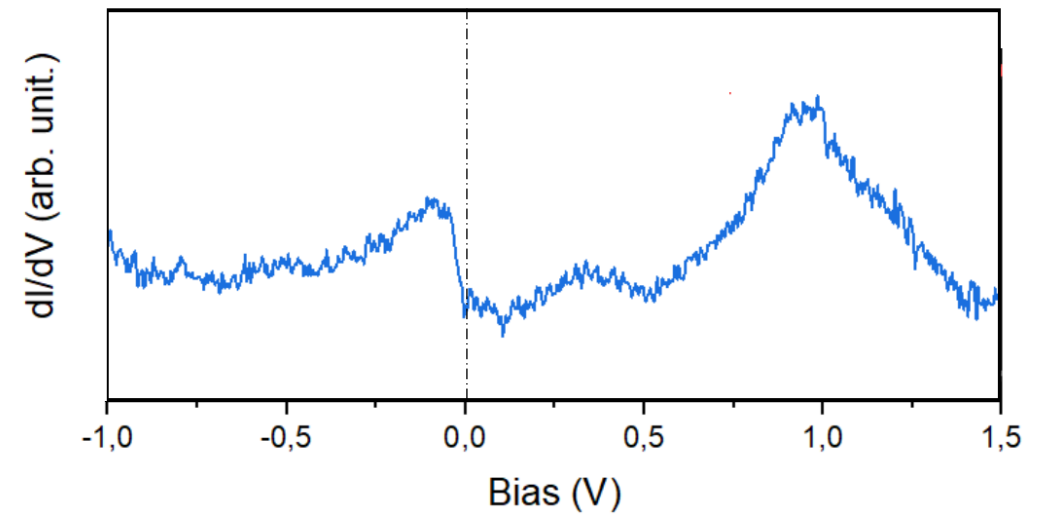


# Alkali intercalation: Na intercalated bulk $\text{VSe}_2$

STS on Na intercalated and non-intercalated  $\text{VSe}_2$

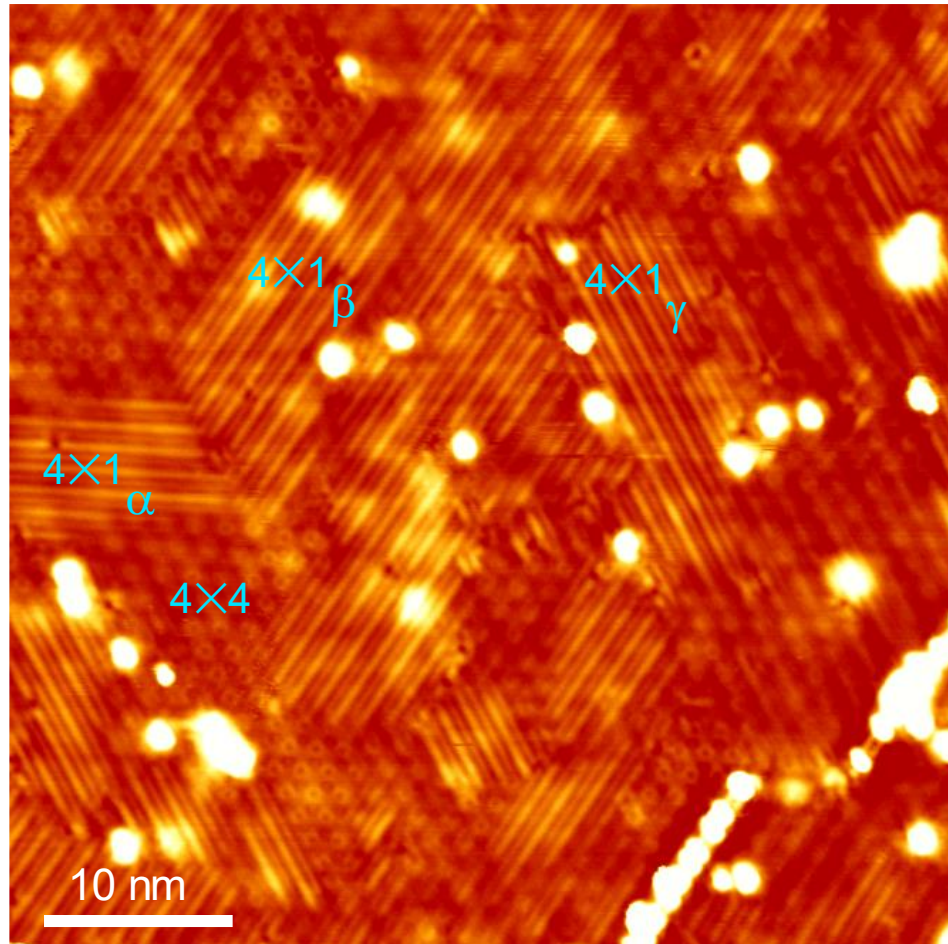


STS on  $\text{VSe}_2$  monolayer

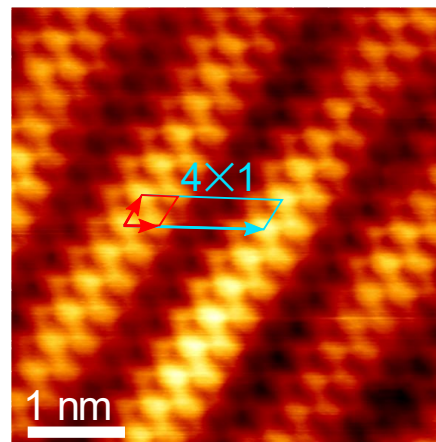
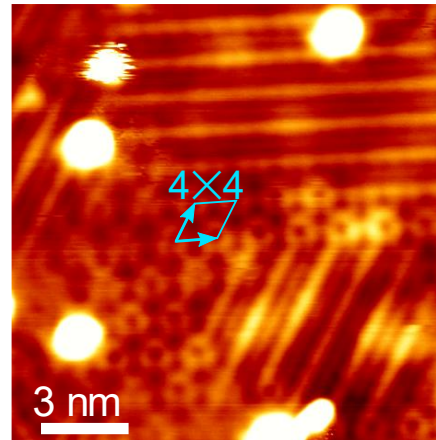


# Coexisting multiple CDW in VTe<sub>2</sub> monolayer

VTe<sub>2</sub> monolayer on graphene bilayer

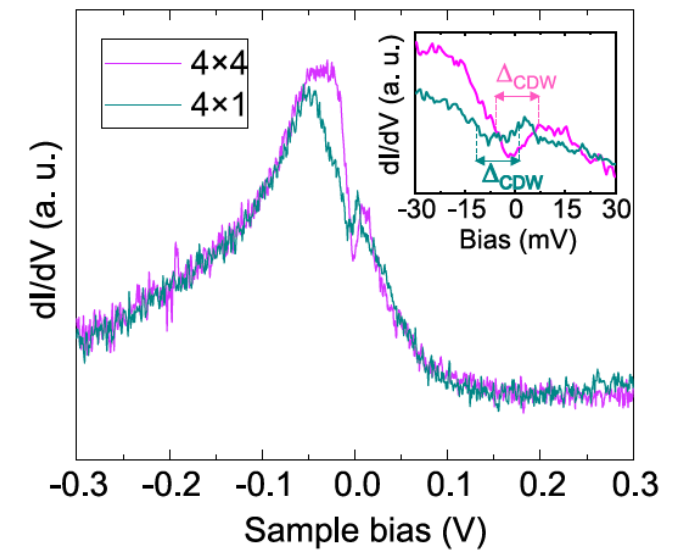


0.5 V, 100 pA



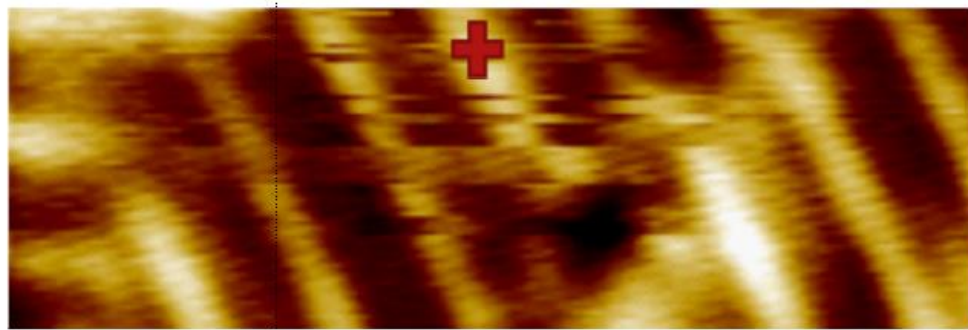
0.15 V, 20 pA

dI/dV spectroscopy

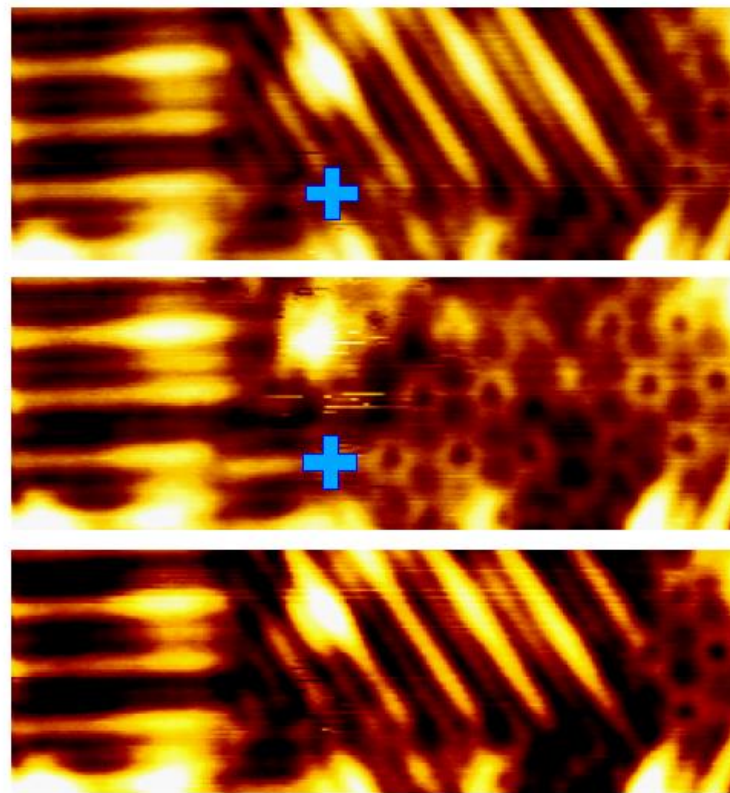
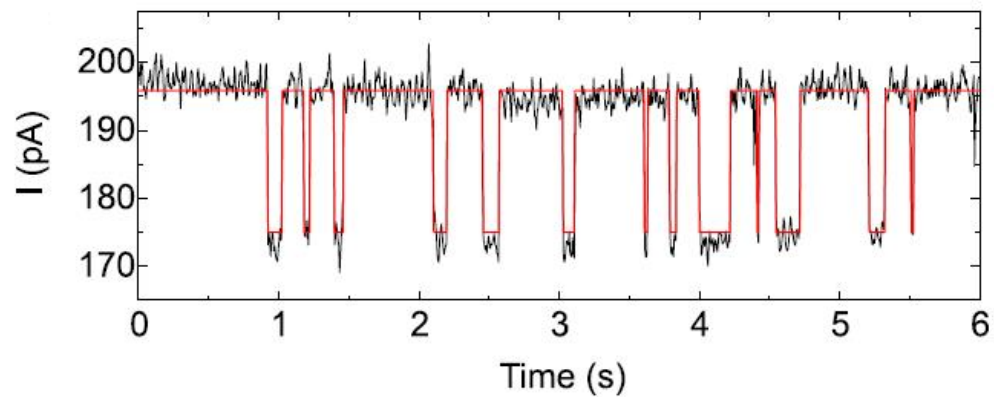




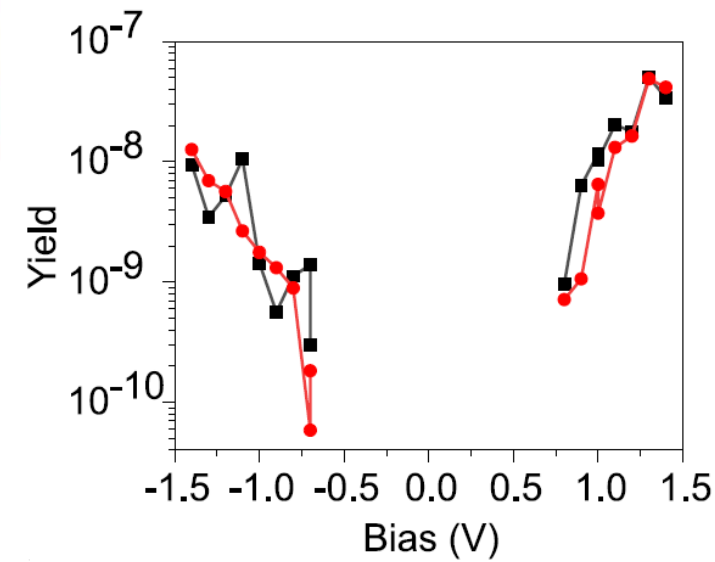
# CDW phase switching induced by STM tip



0.8 V, 200 pA

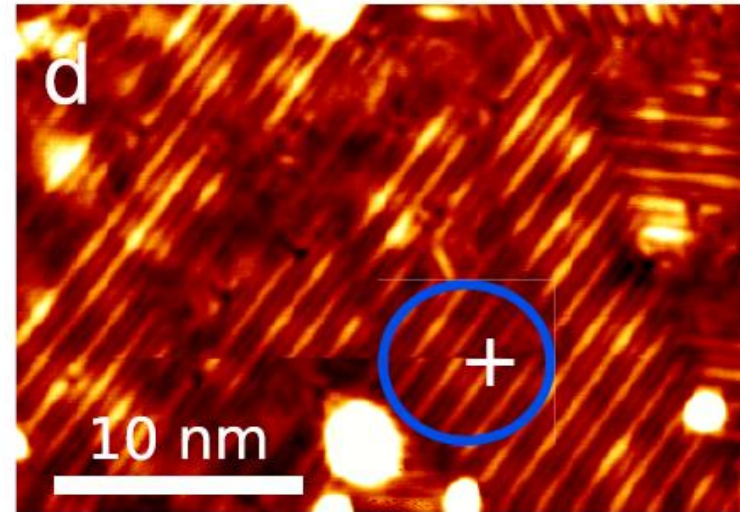
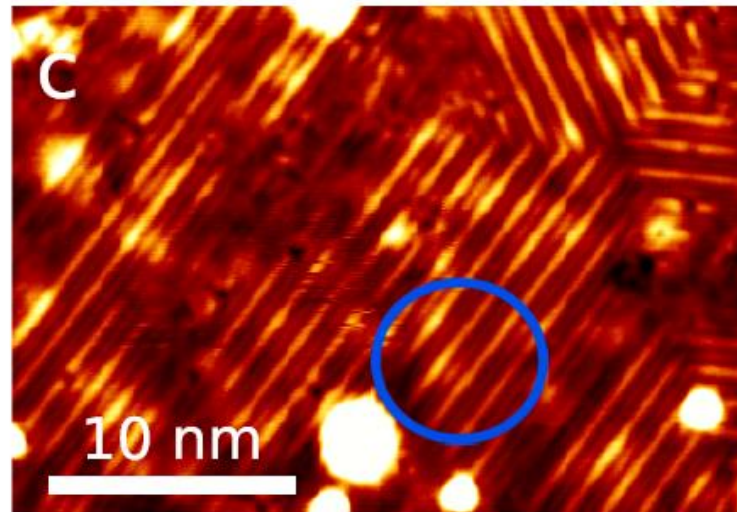
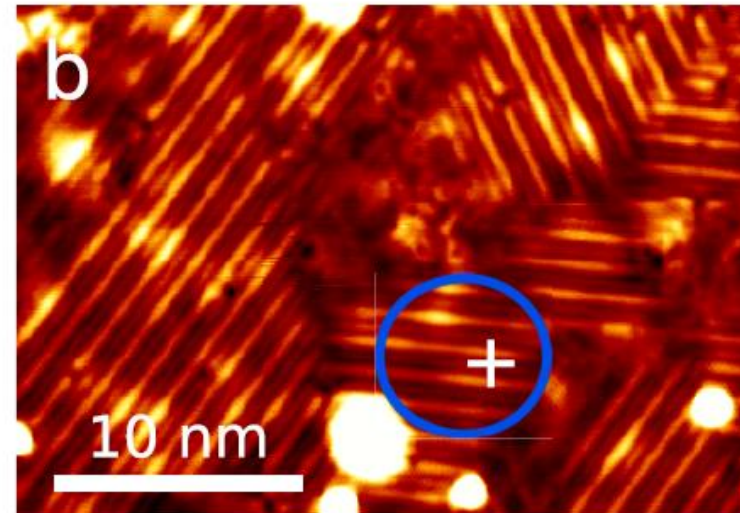
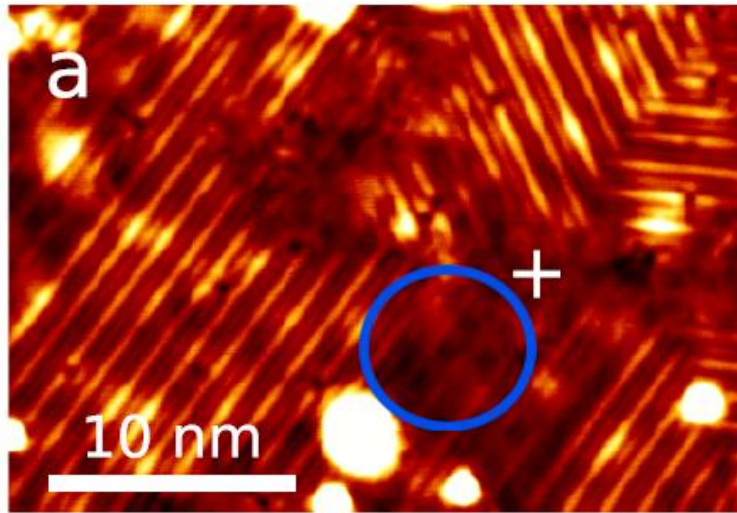


0.5 V, 100 pA



# Visualisation of Elementary excitations: phase switch, rotation, sliding

4x4  $\rightarrow$  4x1



Rotation

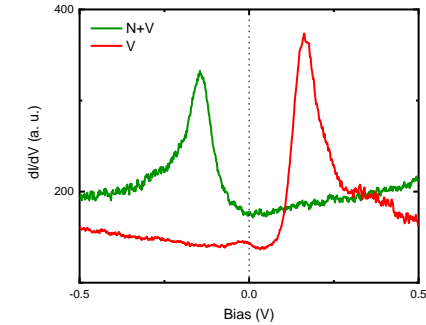
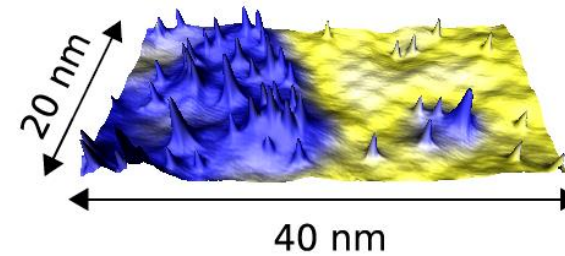
Sliding



# Conclusions

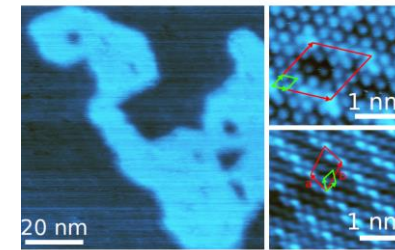
## Point defects in graphene:

- Dopants for band engineering
- Localized states for chemical activity



## Charge density waves in TMDs:

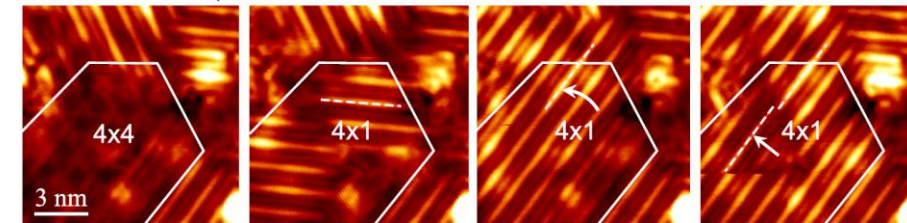
- Intercalants for doping, decoupling
- Local excitation for extended CDW phase switching



CDW phase switch

CDW rotation

CDW translation



Mastering defects opens fascinating routes toward applications of 2D materials in electronics, sensors, optics, catalysis...

# Acknowledgements



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Frédéric Joucken



Fundings





GDR NANOSCIENCES  
EN CHAMP PROCHE  
SOUS ULTRA VIDE

# École d'été 2024

7-11 octobre 2024

Nanosciences et Microscopies champ proche sous ultra-vidé



<https://www.nanosciences-spm-uhv.com>

- ➔ la microscopie à effet tunnel (STM) et ses dérivées (STM-photon et STM sous champ magnétique)
- ➔ les différentes spectroscopies STS ( $I(V)$ ,  $I(Z)$ , imagerie  $dI/dV$ , ...) qui y sont associées
- ➔ la microscopie à force atomique en mode non contact (nc-AFM)
- ➔ la nanosonde de Kelvin (KPFM) et les différentes spectroscopies de force ( $\Delta f(V)$ ,  $\Delta f(z)$ , EFM,...) qui y sont associées