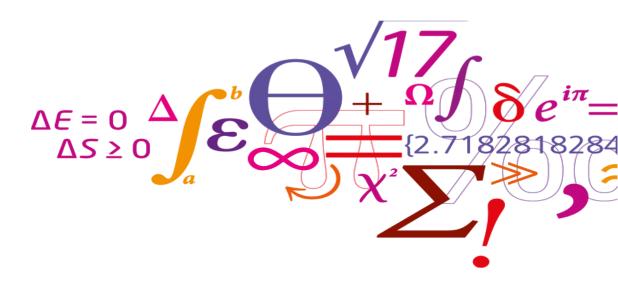


# **Quantun Materials:** An introduction

**Yunzhong Chen** 

Department of Energy Conversion and Storage, Technical University of Denmark



**DTU Energy** Department of Energy Conversion and Storage

### Outline

- 1. What are quantum materials
- 2. Materials and synthesis
- 3. Emergent functions at the interface between two oxide insulators

### What are quantum materials?



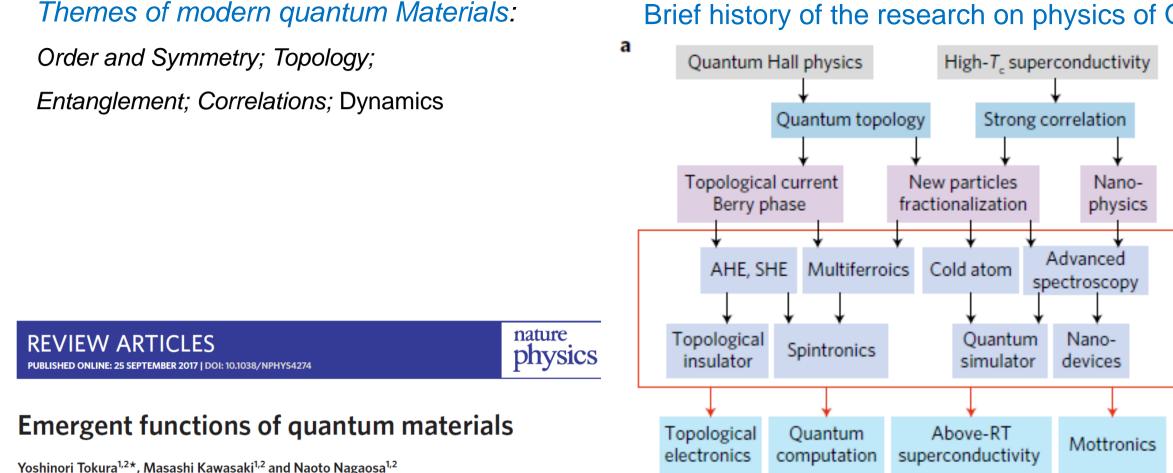
1980s

1990s

Present

Future

Quantum materials (QM) are solids with exotic physical properties, arising from the quantum mechanical properties of their constituent electrons; such materials have great scientific and/or technological potential.



#### Brief history of the research on physics of QM



# The rise of quantum materials

Nature Physics. 12, 105, 2016

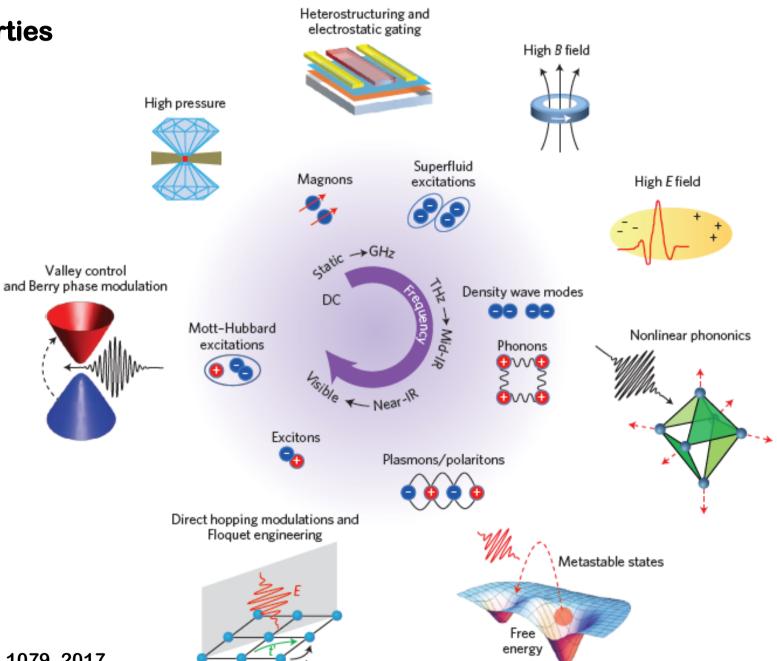
Emergent phenomena are common in condensed matter. Their study now extends beyond strongly correlated electron systems, giving rise to the broader concept of quantum materials.

□ Magnetism

. . . .

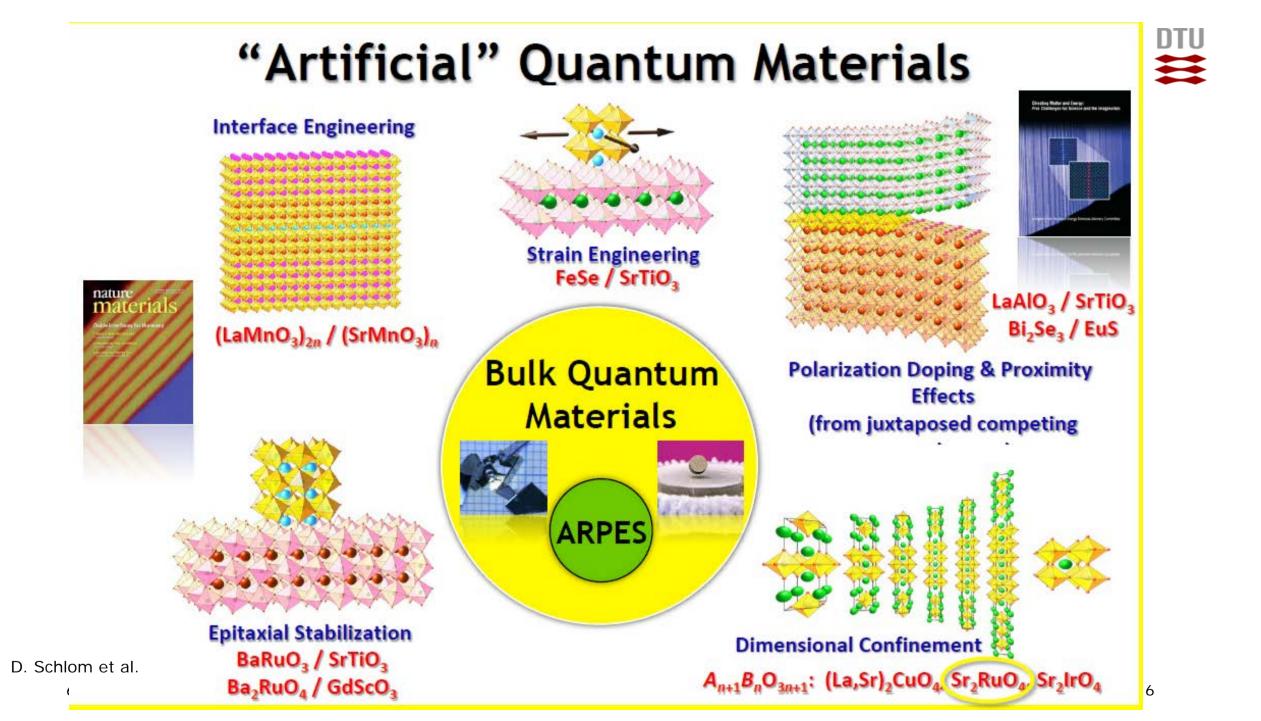
- □ High temperature superconductors
- Topological Insulators
- Oxide heterostructures
- Van der Waals heterostructures
- Monolayer "transition-metal dichalcogenides"

#### The trend: on-demand properties



DTU

Basov et al. Nature Material, 16, 1079, 2017





### **My Reseach**

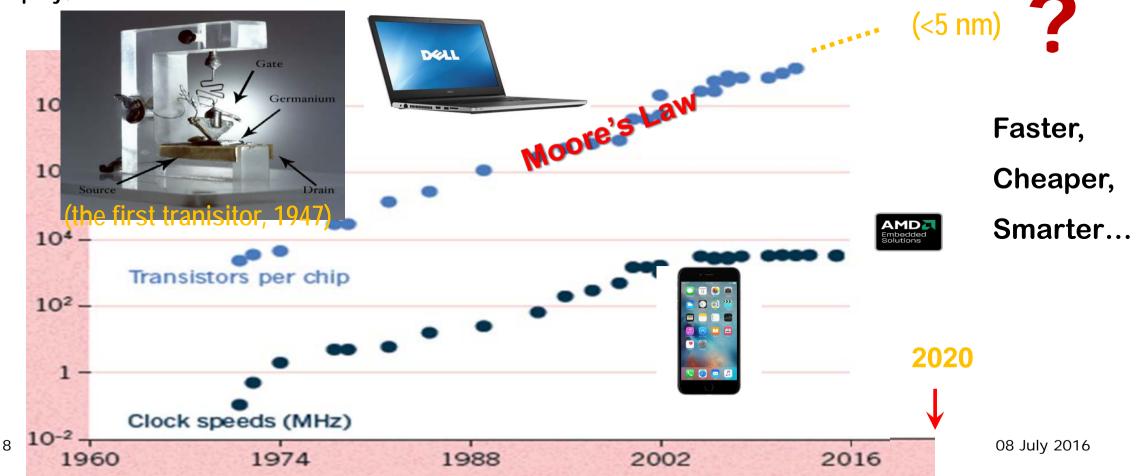
- Conducting Oxide Interfaces for Electronics
- Conducting Oxide Interfaces for Ionics and Electrocatalysts

### MORETHAN Nature, 530, 145, 2016

## **Two Key Challenges of Current Semiconductor Technology**

#### 1. Material limit of Si is going to be meet

What will happen when continued scaling is no longer possible with silicon because quantum effects have come into play.





### **Beyond CMOS : Emergent Research Device Materials**

Marked in 2007 edition of The International Technology Roadmap for Semiconductors



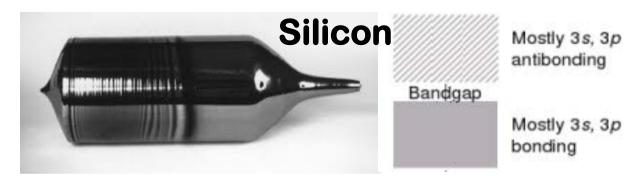
To develop a new generation of devices based on new physical principles ...

# **1. Oxide Electronics Emerge**



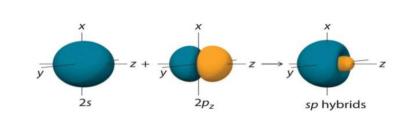
### 1.1 Why Oxides, compared to Si?

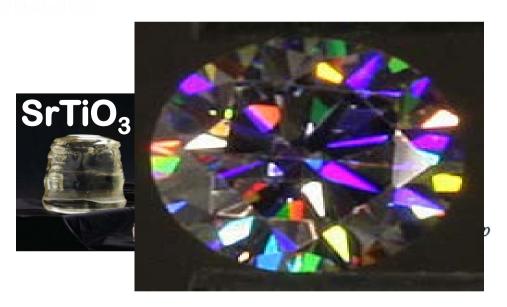
a. Rich Physics due to correlated electrons;

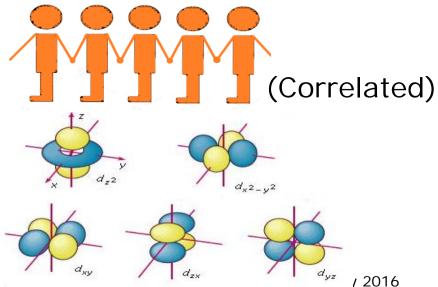


Electrons

Orbitals

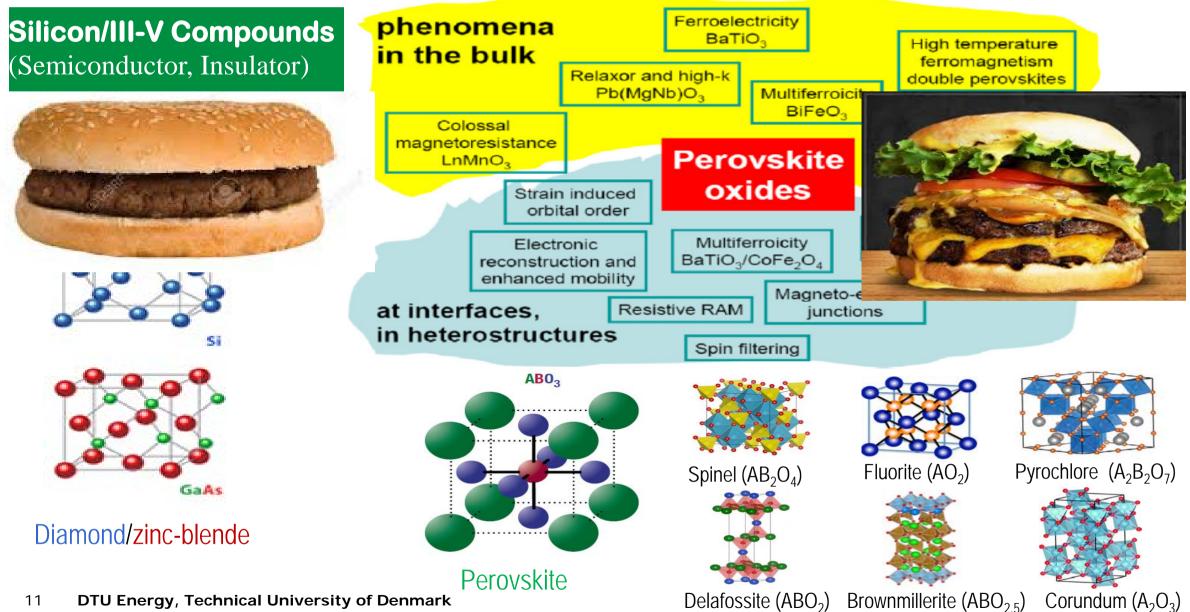






### **b. Multi-functions in compatible structures;**

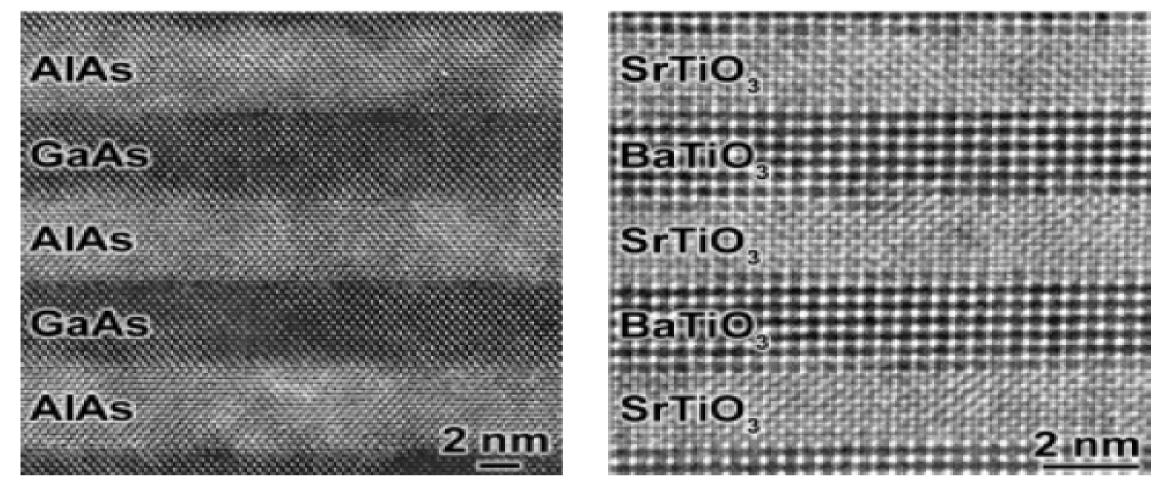




#### C. Technology progress in oxide thin film growth



#### In the past two decades



D. G. Scholm et al. J. Am. Ceram. Soc. 91, 24298(2008)

# **Build up your own superlattice**





2272 perovskite oxides

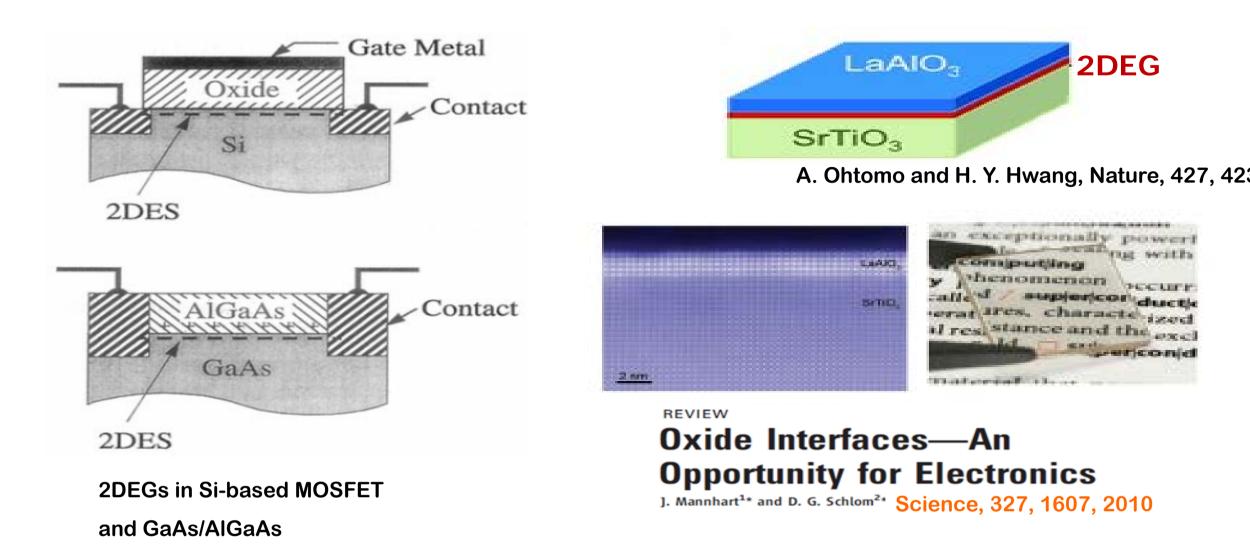
(out of 2454 materials with perovskite structure)



Lego version of an oxide superlattice structure

### **1.2 Conducting Interface is the device**



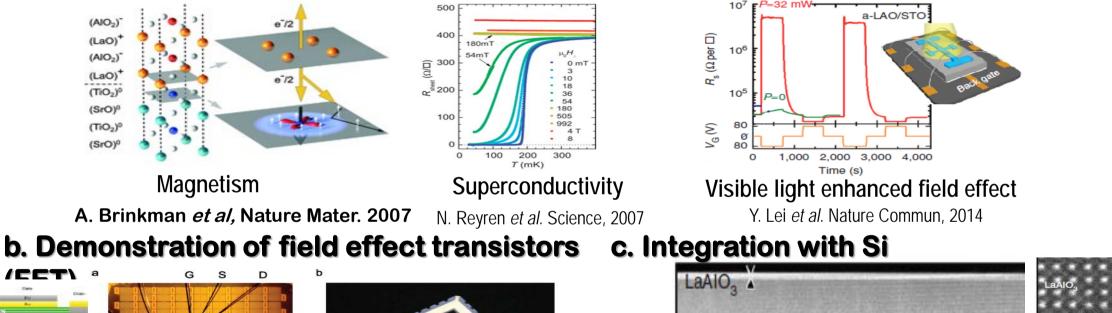


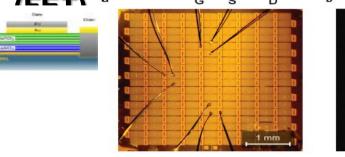
### **1.3 Oxide Interface remains in its infancy**

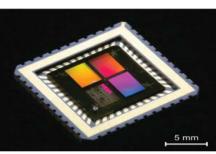
# DTU

#### a. Novel physical properties and phenomena

Ferromagnetism, Superconductivity, metal-insulator transitions, large spin-orbital coupling...

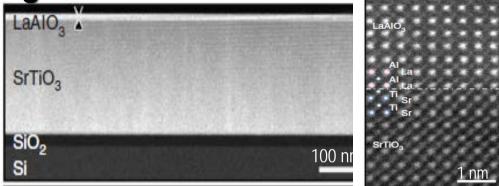






Photograph of an array of LAO/STO FET and a chip carrying 700 000 FETs.

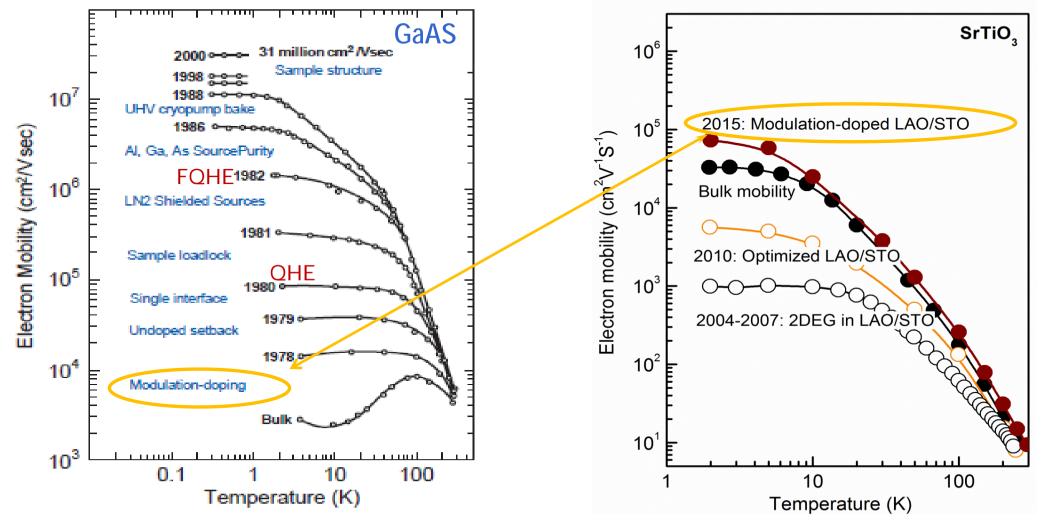
R. Jany *et al. Adv. Mater. Interfaces* 1, 1300031 (2014)
 DTU Energy, Technical University of Denmark



LAO/STO heterointerface on Si.

J.W. Park et al. Nature Commun. 1:94 ,1096 (2010)

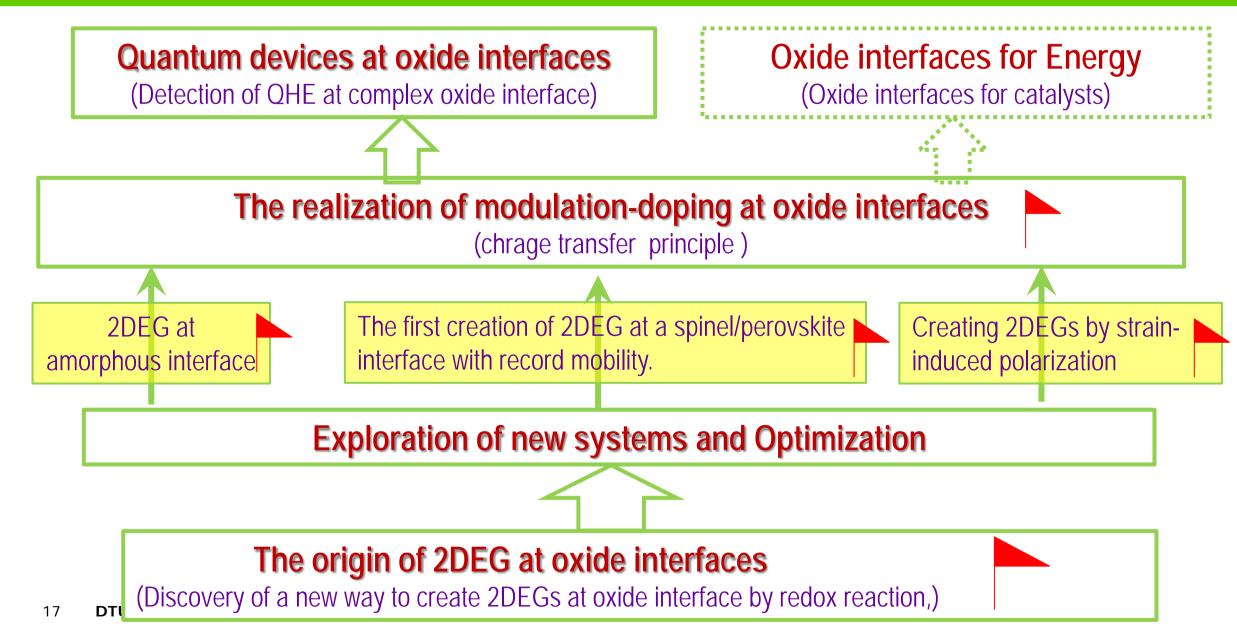
### One of the key challenges: improveing the cleanness of the interface.



History of improvements in the mobility of 2DEG in GaAs-AIGaAs heterostructure.

Mobility History of 2DEG in LAO/STO heterostructure

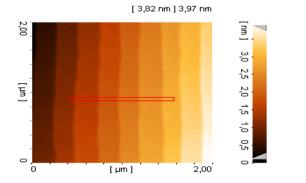
### **1.4 DTU's contributions**

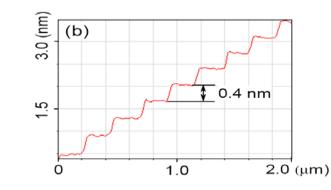


### **Experimental** Oxide Thin Film growth with atomical control at DTU Energy



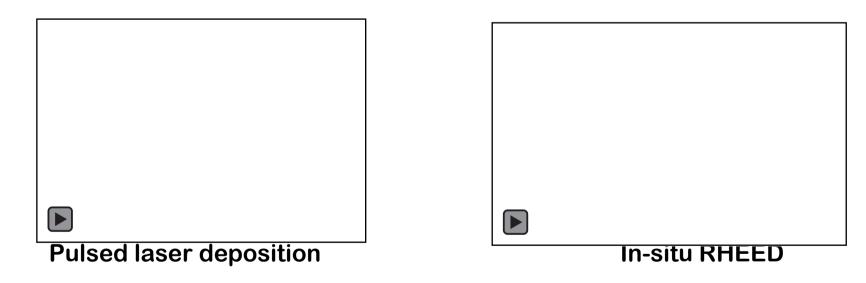
#### a. Atomically flat substrates





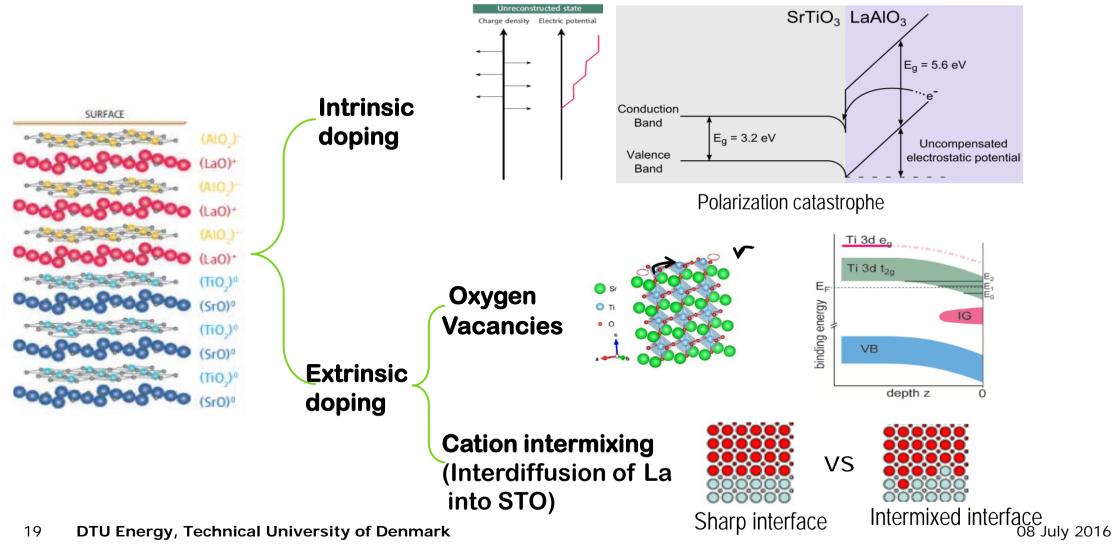
Regular flat terrace surface with terrace height of one unit cell (0.39 nm).

#### b. Atomically In-situ control during film growth (PLD-RHEED)



# 2. Creation of oxide 2DEG by redox reaction

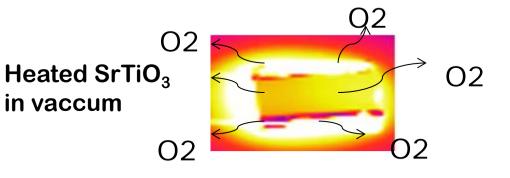
### 2.1 10-year debates on the origin of 2DEG at LAO/STO interface

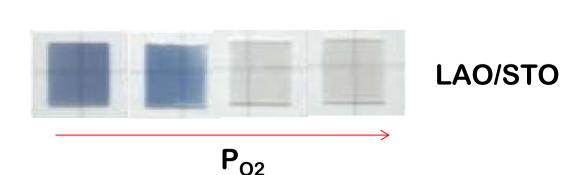


### The key is to identify the right origin of the defects.

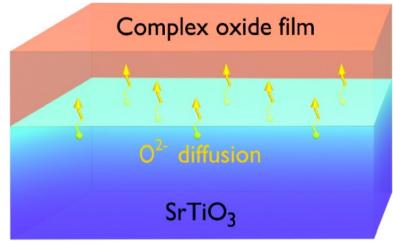


# a. Oxide heterostructures are often grown at high temperatures, where ions exchange introduces the complexity

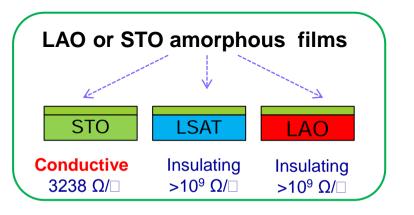




### **b. Our finding: Room temperature redox reaction at oxide interfaces**



(No polarity, no thermal-induced oxygen conduction, no intermixing)



Y. Z. Chen et al. Nano letters 11, 3774 (2011)

08 July 2016

### All perovskite ABO<sub>3</sub>/SrTiO<sub>3</sub> interfaces fit in Redox reactions regime

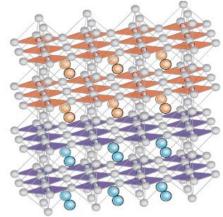


ABO <sub>3</sub> ABO <sub>3</sub> A powerful to design oxide																				
H	H <sup>1</sup> Periodic Table of the Elements													© www.elementsdatabase.com 2 He						
Li <sup>3</sup>	Li <sup>3</sup> Be <sup>4</sup> 2DEG (ABO <sub>3</sub> /SrTiO <sub>3</sub> )												C 6	N <sup>7</sup>	08	9 F	10 Ne			
11 Na													Si	15 P	16 S	CI	18 Ar			
19 K	Ca <sup>20</sup>	21 Sc	22 Ti	V <sup>23</sup>	Cr <sup>24</sup>	25 Mn	26 Fe	27 Co	28 Ni	29 Cu	30 Zn	31 Ga	32 Ge	33 As	34 Se	35 Br	36 Kr			
37 Rb	38 Sr	39 Y	40 Zr	41 Nb	42 Mo	43 Tc	44 Ru	45 Rh	46 Pd	47 Ag	48 Cd	49 In	50 Sn	51 Sb	Te <sup>52</sup>	53 	Xe Xe			
55 Cs	56 Ba	57 La	72 Hf	73 Ta	74 W	75 Re	76 Os	77 Ir	78 Pt	79 Au	80 Hg	81 TI	82 Pb	83 Bi	84 Po	85 At	86 Rn			
87 Fr	<sup>88</sup> Ra	89 Ac	104 Unq	105 Unp	106 Unh	107 Uns	108 Uno	109 Une												
DTU Energy, Lantha- 57 58 59 60 61 62 63 64 65 66 67 68 69 70 71 Lu													0	8 July 2016						

### 2. Materials of oxide 2DEGs

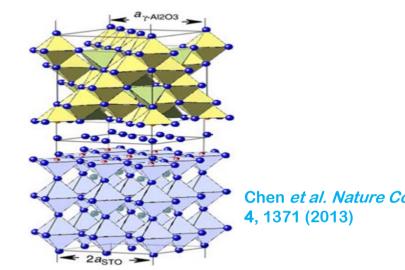
#### **1.** Polar oxide interfaces;

2. Nonpolar interfaces;



**Ohtomo & Hwang** Nature, 427, 423 (2004)

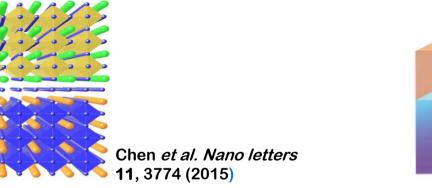
LaAIO3/SrTiO3



Chen et al. Nature Commun.

#### Gamma-Al2O3/SrTiO3

**3. Disordered structure** 



CaZrO3/SrTiO3 DTU Energy, Technical University of Denmark

# SrTiO<sub>3</sub>

Chen et al. Nano letters 11, 3774 (2011)

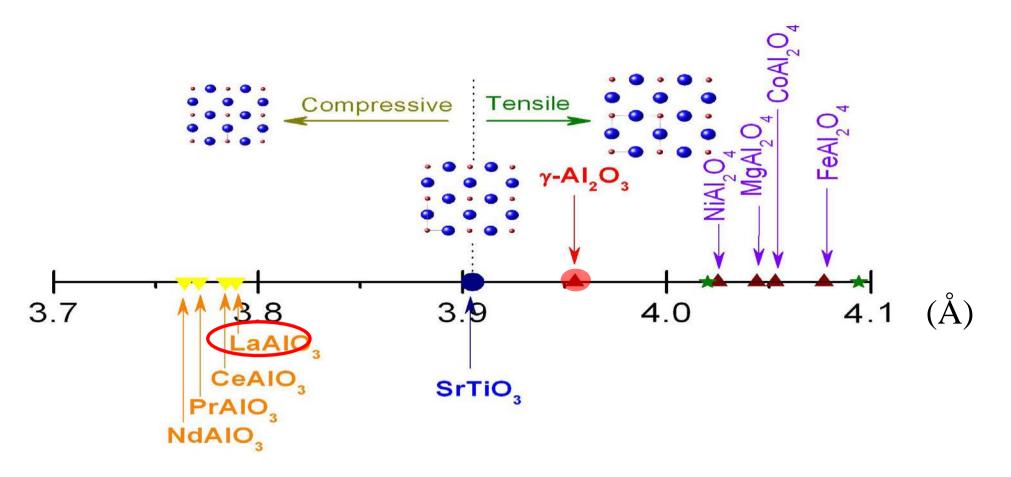
#### Amorphous-LaAIO3/SrTiO3

Complex oxide film

# 2 The outperform any others) a 2DEG at GAO/STO interfaces (a system outperform any others) and 5DEG at GAO/STO interfaces (a system ontberlorm any others) and 5DEC at GAO/STO interfaces (a system ontberlorm any others) at GAO/STO interfaces (a system ont

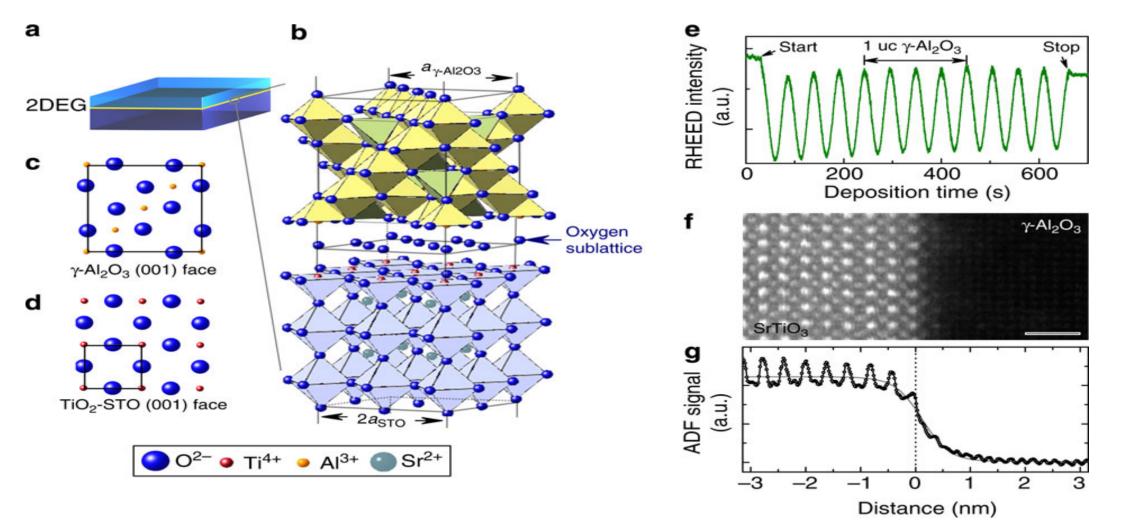
#### 2.1 Why Alumina (Al<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub>)?

- Al-based oxides satisfy the criteria for interface redox reaction
- For Al-based oxides, gamma- $Al_2O_3$  matchs perfectly with STO.



# A heretofore unexplored heterointerface between two oxide insulators of Spinel $\gamma$ -Al<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub> and Perovskite SrTiO<sub>3</sub>





Y. Z. Chen et al. Nature Communications, 4:1371, 2394 (2013)

A short note:



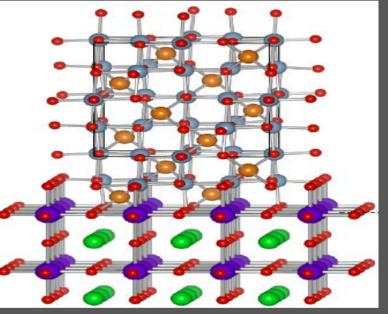
### Our $\gamma$ -Al<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub>/SrTiO<sub>3</sub>

- 1. New system with perfect lattice match; Perovskite/spinel rather than perovskite-type in
- 2. Clear 2D character; not quasi-2DEG any more.
- 3. Highest mobilities;
- 4. Common and cheap materials (without La)

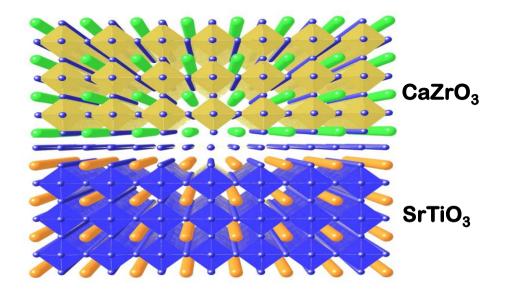
#### OXIDE INTERFACES

# Mismatched lattices patched up

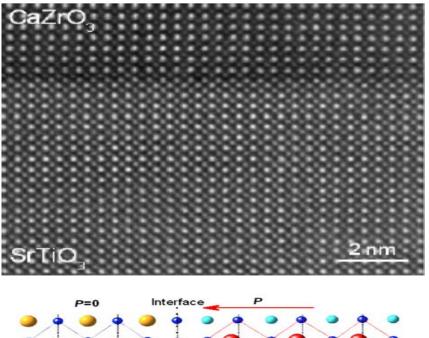
NATURE CHEMISTRY | VOL 8 | APRIL 2016 | www.nature.com/naturechemistry

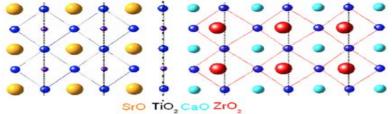


Example 2: 2DEG by Strain-induced Polarization in nonpolar oxide interfaces Use proven principle to create 2DEGs at oxide interfaces.



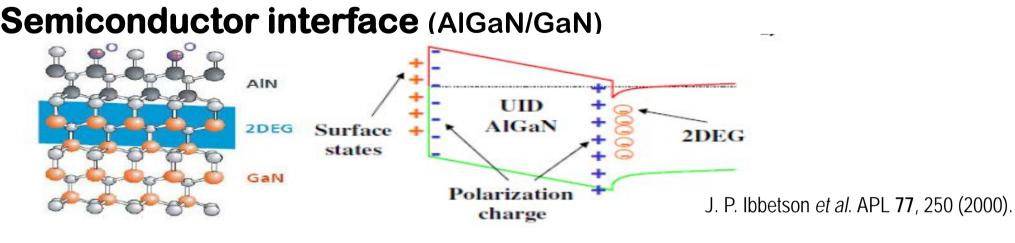
Y. Z. Chen et al. Nano Lett. 15, 1849 (2015)





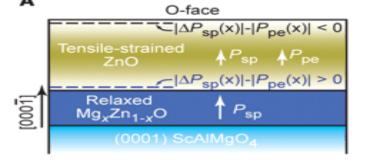
Polarization near the interface.

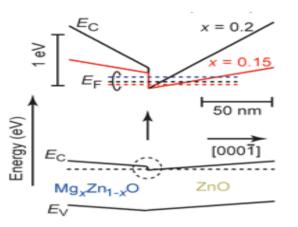


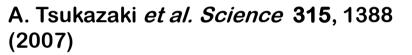


### a. Semiconductor interface (AlGaN/GaN)

### b. ZnO/MgZnO interface





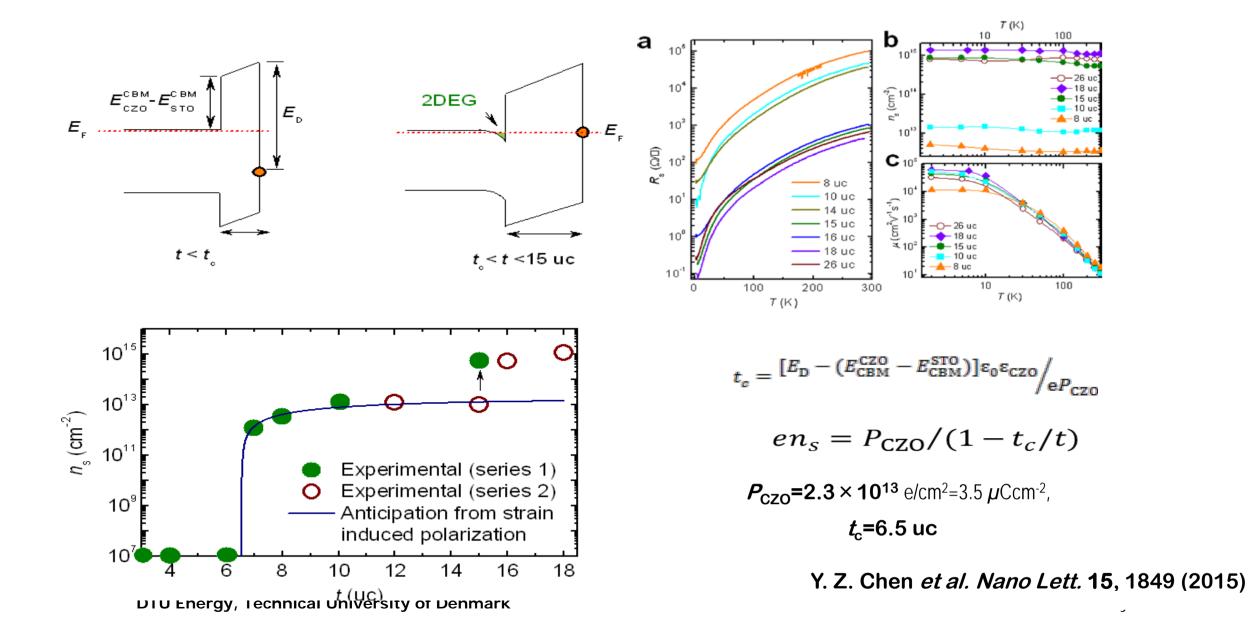


### c. Complex oxide interface: CZO/STO

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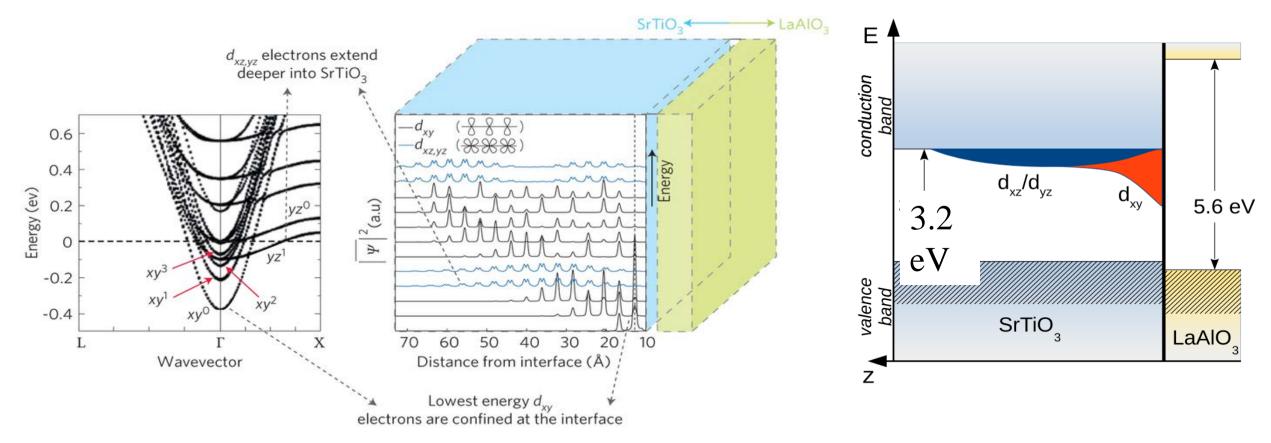
### **Polarization effect dominates the interface conduction of CaZrO<sub>3</sub>/STO**





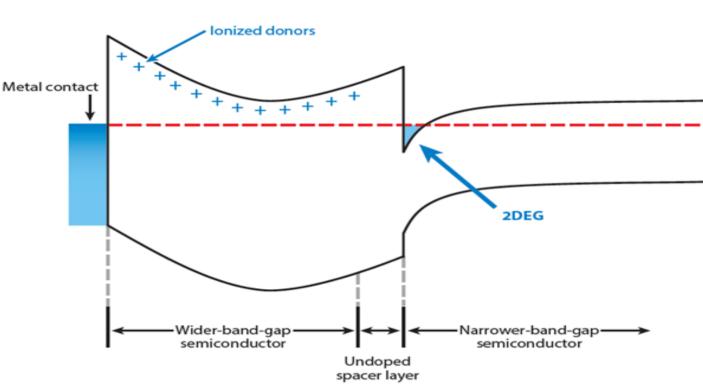
# 3. Modulation-doping at oxide interface

#### A common problem for STO 2DEL



M. Gabay & J-M Triscone. *Nature Phys.* 9, 610 (2013).

## How to further increase the electron mobility of complex oxide interface?



#### Modulation doping in semiconductors

#### No mobility gains at oxide interfaces!

S. Stemmer, S. J. Allen, Ann. Rev. Mater. Res. 44, 151 (2014)

DTU Energy, Technical University of Denmark

#### **Semiconductor Interfaces**

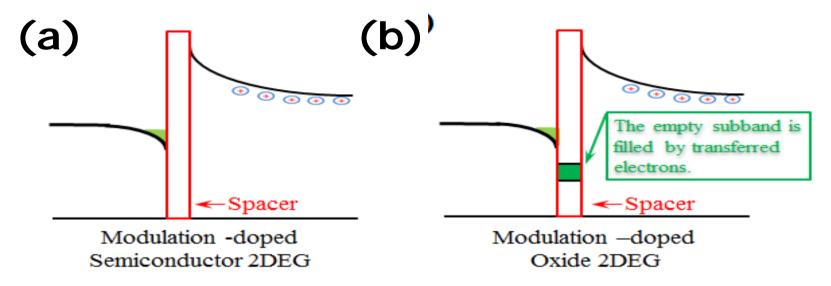


### **Complex Oxide Interfaces**



### Strategy: Use an electron sink to trap the heavy/slow electrons. $\frac{10}{2}$



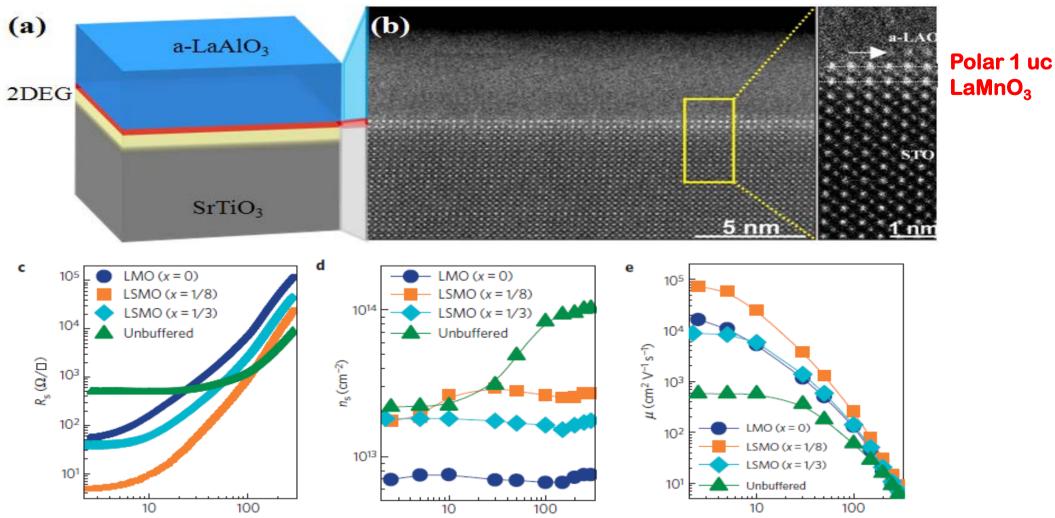


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## A single unit cell buffered oxide interface:

The first effective modulationg doping at complex oxide interfaces.



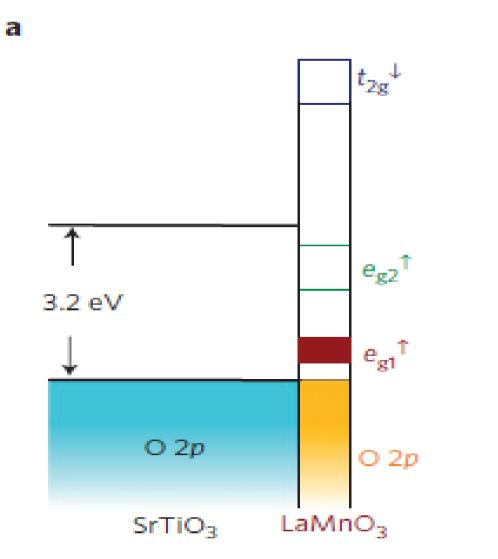


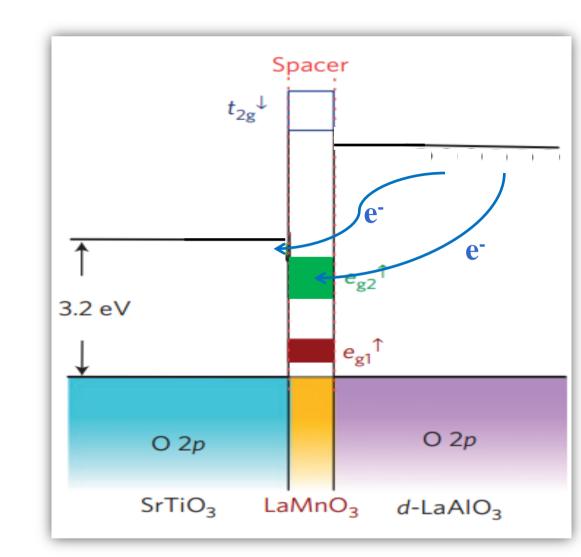
Engineered *d*-LAO/STO samples exhibit a strongly suppressed  $n_s$  and Mobility typically is higher than 10 000 cm<sup>2</sup>V<sup>-1</sup>s<sup>-1</sup> at 2 K (current record,  $\mu$ =73000 cm<sup>2</sup>V<sup>-1</sup>s<sup>-1</sup>).

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### Charge transfer induced modulation doping.







Y. Z. Chen et al. *Nature Mater.* 14(8), 801-806 (2015).

### Impact: The observation of Quantum Hall effect at complex oxide interfaces

70

-30

└10

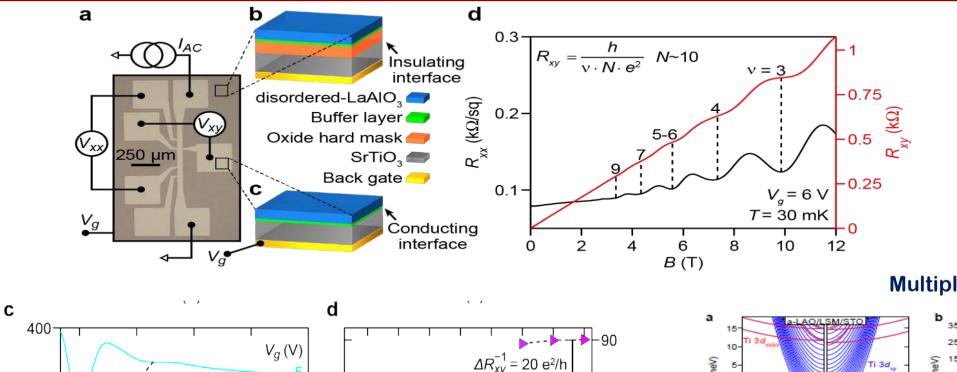
10

 $\Delta R_{xy}^{-1} = 10 \text{ e}^{2/\text{h}}$ 

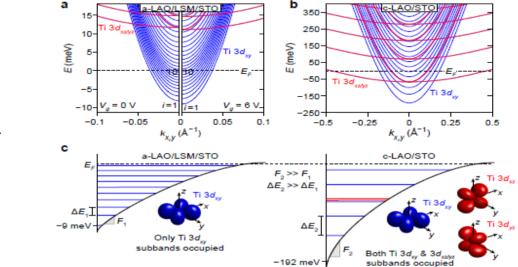
6

8

(e<sup>2</sup>/h)







DTU Energy, Technical University of Denmark

0.3

-2

-4

0

2

 $V_{q}(V)$ 

4

0.25

0.2

 $1/B(T^{-1})$ 

0.15

200

Λ

-200

-400

0.1

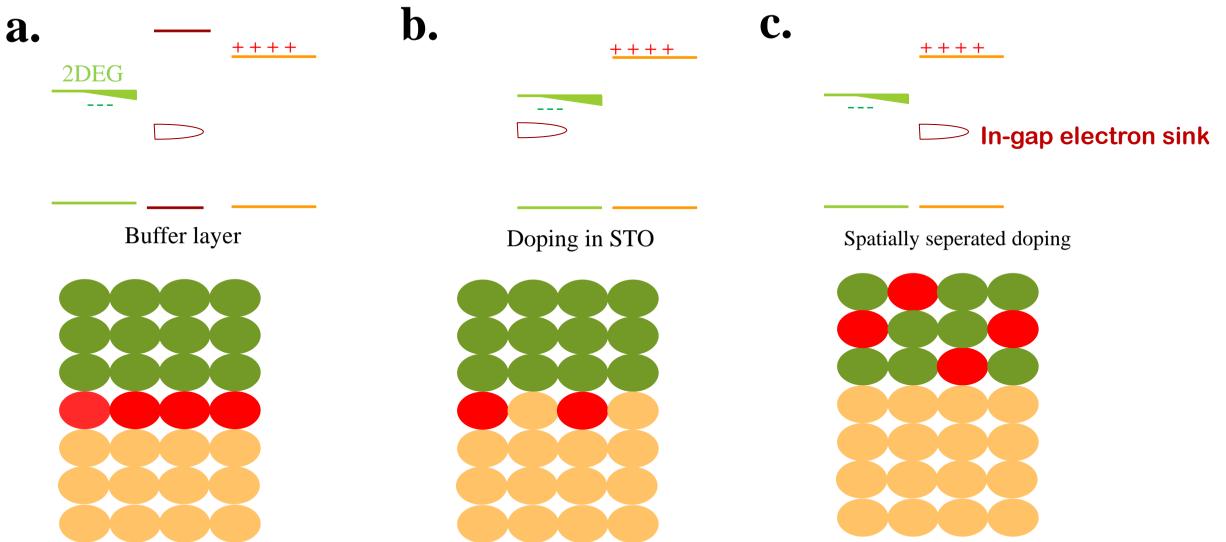
 $\Delta R_{\chi\chi}~(\Omega/{
m sq})$ 

F. Trier, Y. Z. Chen et al. Phys. Rev. Lett. (2016)

### 4. Other research:

### 4.1 Three ways to modulation doping

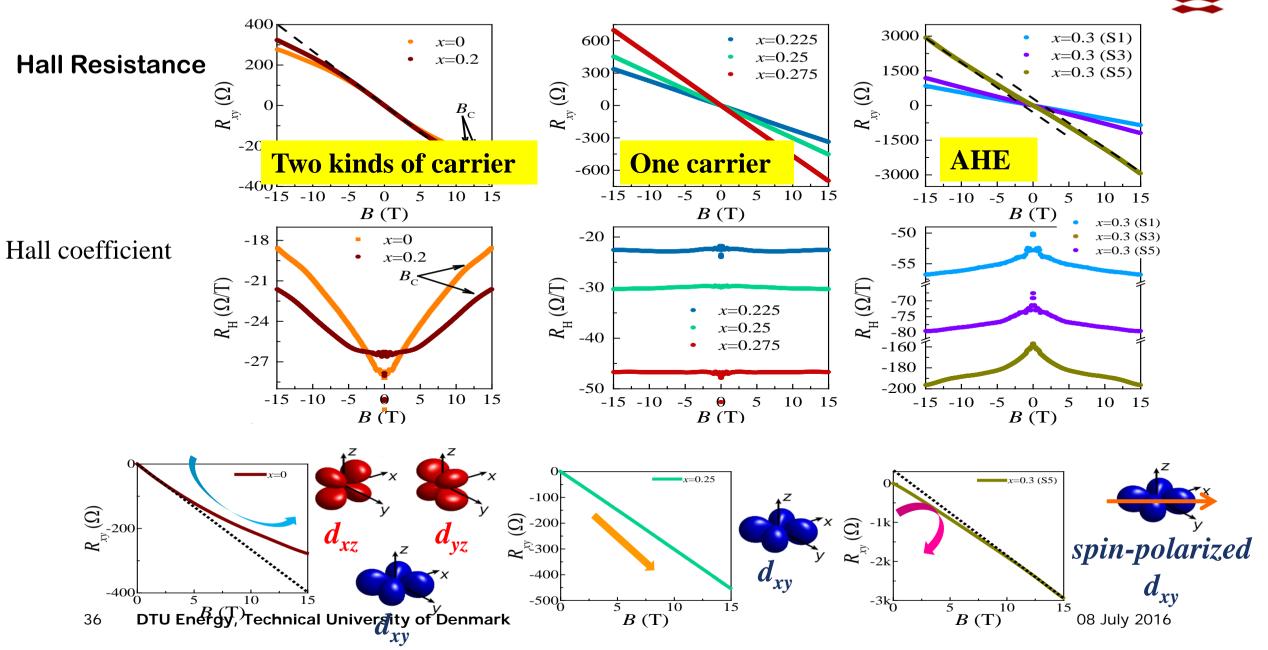


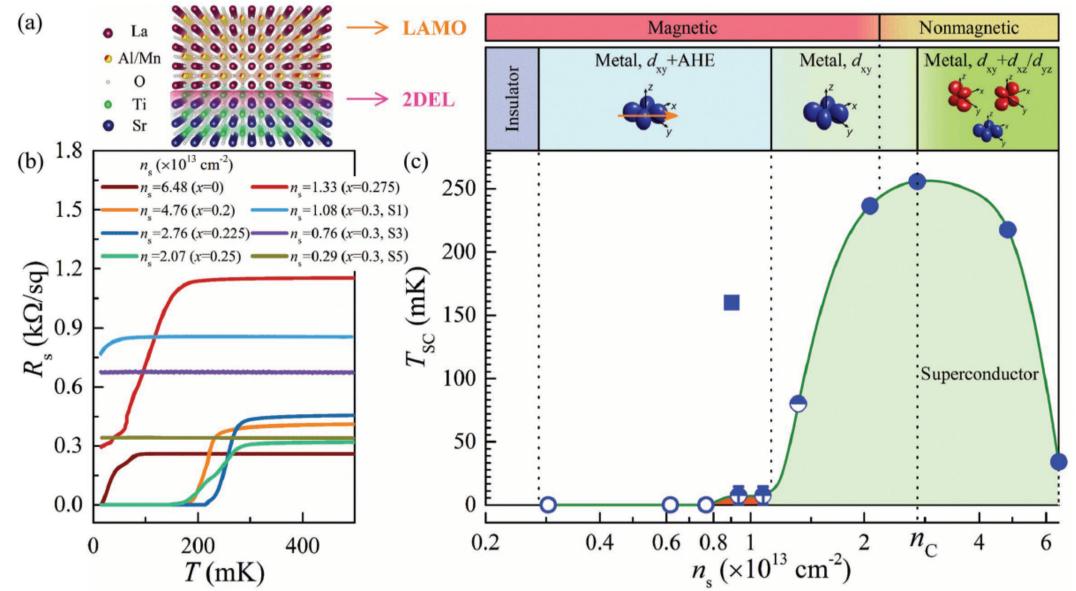


#### Magnetically diluted oxide interface

### **Transport Properties**

DTU



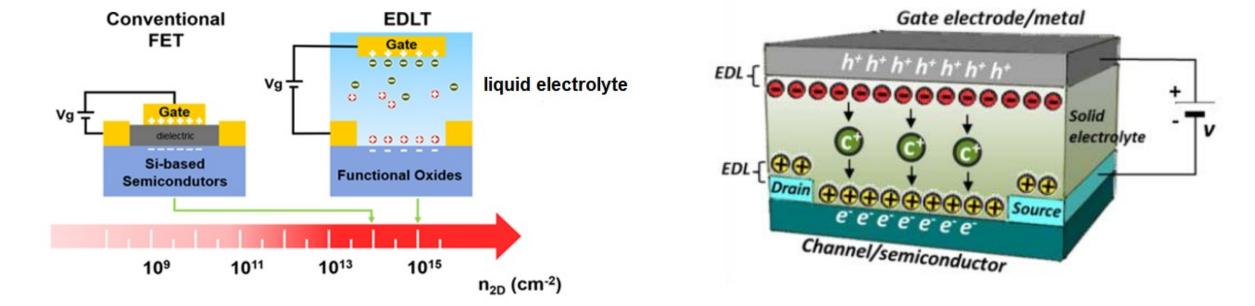


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Gan et al. Adv. Mater. 2019

#### 38 DTU Energy, Technical University of Denmark

# 4.3 ionic gating



### Moving from liquid electrolyte to solid electrolyte

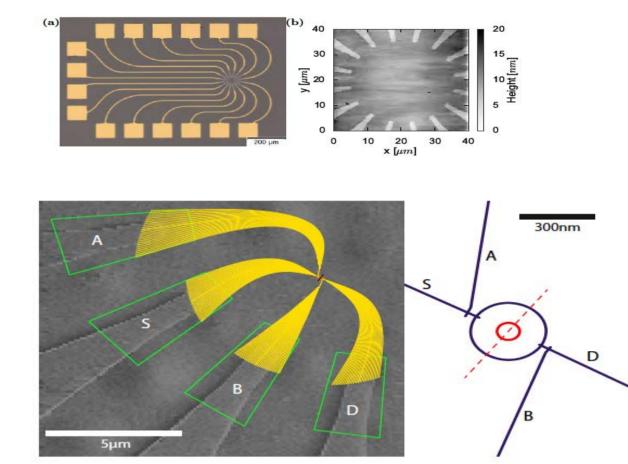
W. Niu et al. Nano Lett. 17, 6878-6885 (2017)

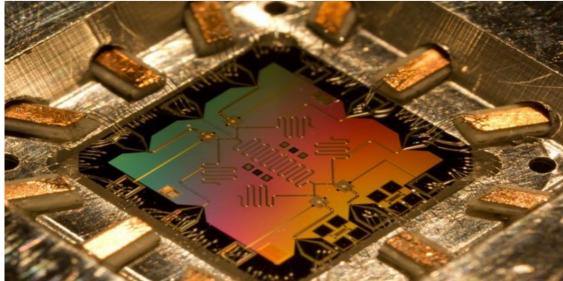


# 5. Perspective on Future Applications



### 5.1 Quantum devices with strongly-correlated electrons at oxide interfaces.



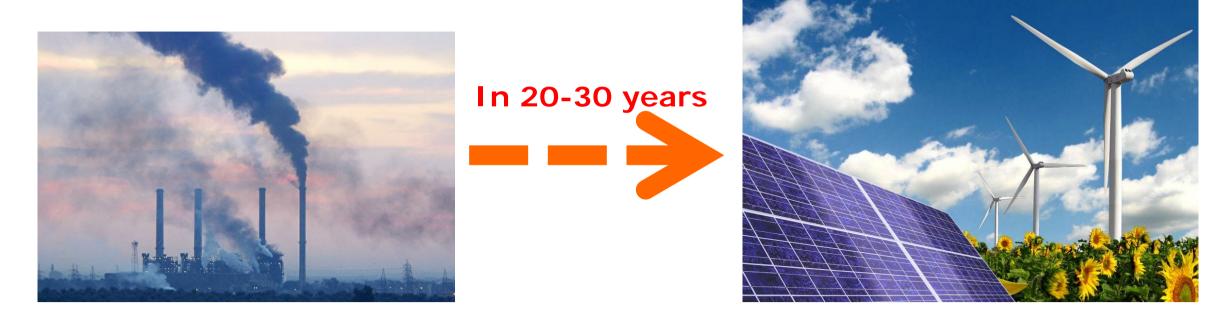


IBM's quantum processor

#### Merlin V. Soosten et al.



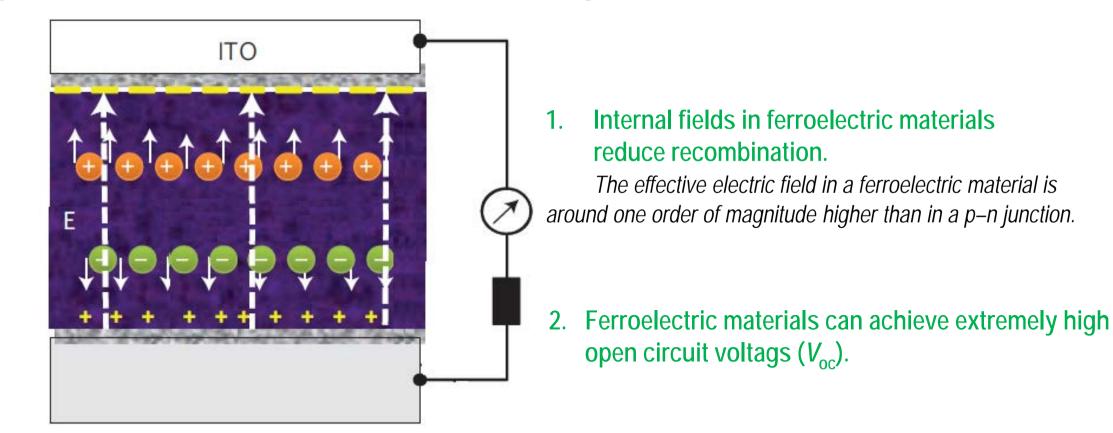
# 5.2 It is time to think big!



How to cope with the intermittency of renewable energy sources?

### Emerging technology: Ferroelectric solar cells

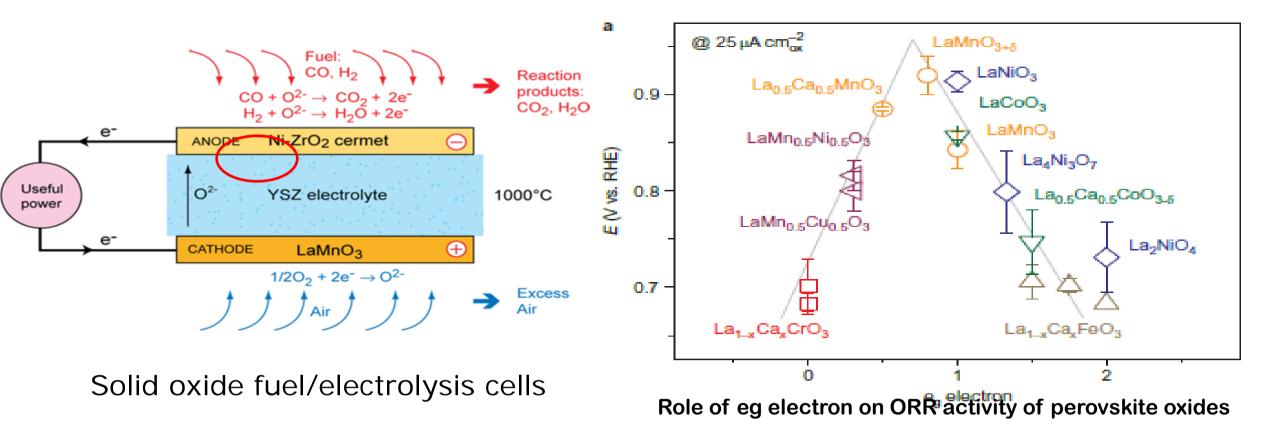
### Key benefits of Ferroelectric light absorber





### 5.2 Artificial oxide interfaces as electrocatalysts

The search for highly active and abundant transition-metal-oxide catalysts to replace platinum.



# ADVANCED MATERIALS INTERFACES

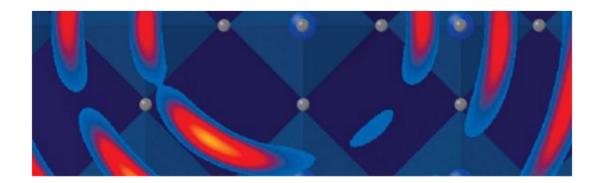
#### **PROGRESS REPORT**

Perovskite Oxide Interfaces

### Progress and Perspectives of Atomically Engineered Perovskite Oxide Interfaces for Electronics and Electrocatalysts

### Yunzhong Chen\* and Robert J. Green\*

scientists working on a variety of problems at the frontiers of physics, materials science and engineering. The properties of these systems are uniquely defined by quantum mechanical effects that remain manifest at high temperatures and macroscopic length scales.



#### https://www.nature.com/collections/ydsxkf vwws/



# Thank you.

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