

# 2D Quantum Material Josephson Junctions (QMJJ)

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Dubbelman et al<sup>1,2</sup>

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20-08-2024

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<sup>3</sup>Material Mind Inc., Fremont, California

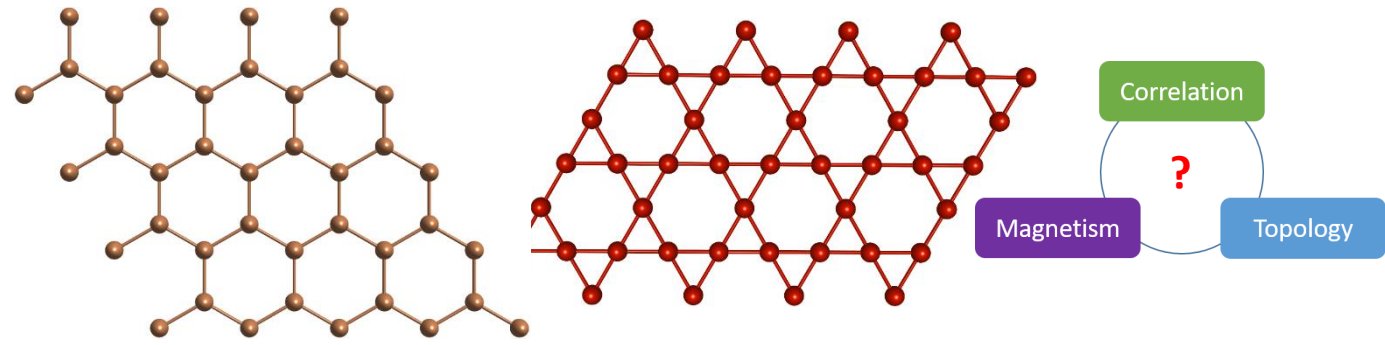
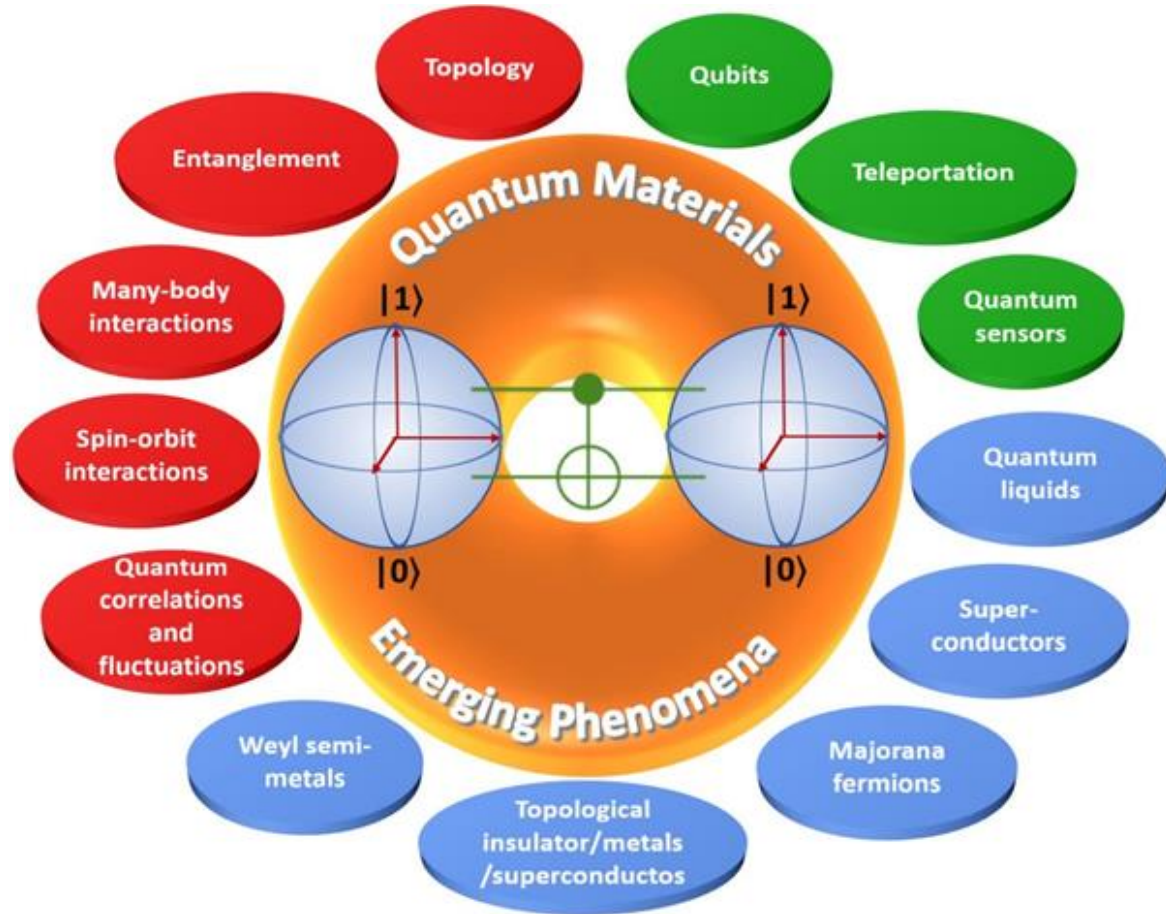
# Outline

- **Background 1: Quantum Materials** (Brief)
- **Background 2: Josephson Junctions (JJs)** (Brief)
  - The Josephson Effects
  - JJs critical to 21<sup>st</sup> century technologies
- **Main: Quantum material (QM) JJs** – the next generation JJ
  - Thesis: Use the inherent properties of the QM to modulate JJ behavior (and SC) in new and unexpected ways
    - Strongly correlated insulator (Mott Insulator) JJ – breathing Kagome
    - Nb<sub>3</sub>Cl<sub>8</sub>/Br<sub>8</sub>/I<sub>8</sub> and the field-free Josephson diode (*non-reciprocal* superconductivity)

# Background 1: Quantum Materials

# Quantum Materials

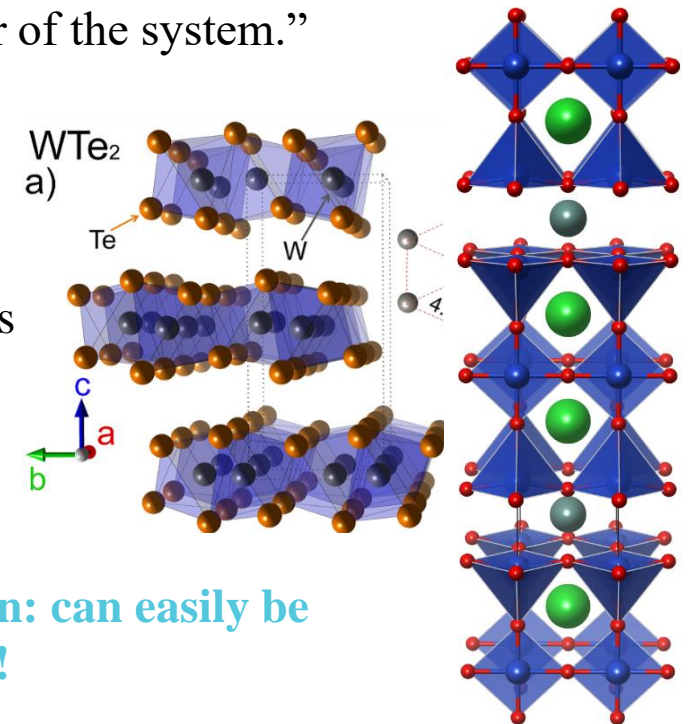
Rao, M. S. R., Bhallamudi, V. P., Hammel, C. P., Journal of Physics D: Applied, 51, 2020



“The simplest of definition might be that a quantum material is a material whose electronic or magnetic properties are not best described using classical particles or calculations that do not take into account the full character of the system.”

- Topological materials
- Spin liquids
- Quantum Ferroelectrics
- Quantum Magnetoelectrics
- Exotic magnets
- **Superconductors**
- Many more classes

• **2D ones are especially fun: can easily be made into quantum devices!**



YBa<sub>2</sub>Cu<sub>3</sub>O<sub>7-x</sub>  
(YBCO)

C. Z. Chen, et al, Phys. Rev. B. 98, 075430

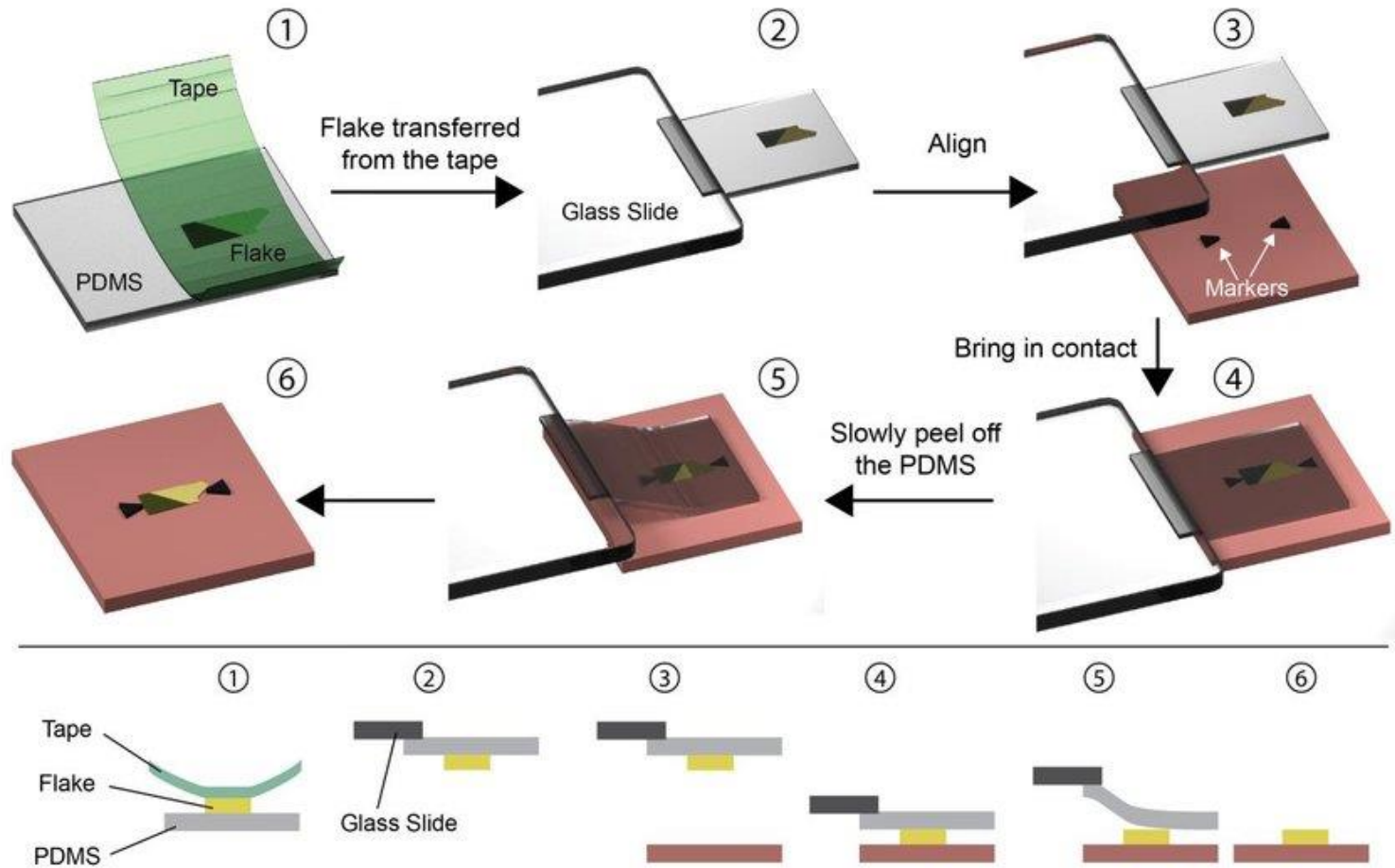
Y. Choi, et al, Nature Materials, 19, 974, 2020

Y. Wang, et al, Nature Physics, doi:10.1038/s41567-021-01190-7, 2021

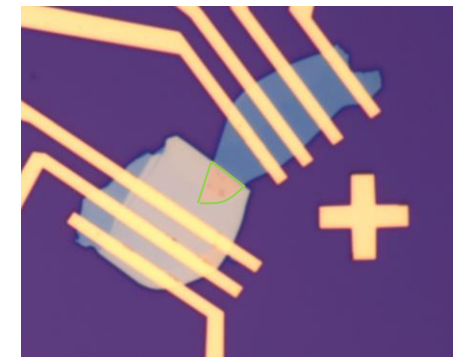
Y. Wang et al, Science Advances 9, 28, (2023)

Y. Wang et al, Nature Reviews Physics, 5, 635–658 (2023)

# 2D Quantum Materials can exfoliate/transfer



- Nearly layer by layer construction
  - 2D limit, finite size
- Can make novel heterostructures
  - Non-thermodynamic products
  - Access novel areas of materials phase space



# Background 2: Josephson Junctions (JJs)

# Brian Josephson and the "myth"

- 1962 – Brian Josephson (22 y/o) predicted that two superconductors separated by a thin insulating barrier would have a spontaneous DC current.
- Myth: Josephson's calculation was part of a HOMEWORK assignment of P.W. Anderson's (Nobel Laureate).

- The truth:

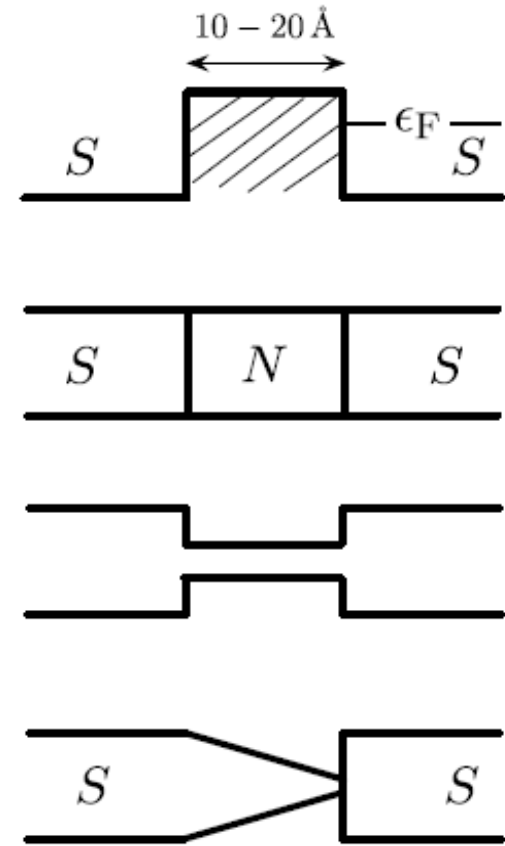
```
Date: Wed, 10 Jun 2009 09:43:54 +0100
From: Brian Josephson <bdj10@cam.ac.uk>
To: pjh@phys.ufl.edu
Subject: the Josephson myth
Dear Peter,
```

```
While browsing I came across your mention of the 'myth' that I discovered the effect because of a problem set by Anderson. Your correction is not completely correct either! It was Pippard, my supervisor, who drew my attention to Giaever's tunnelling expts. and his theory, which started me thinking (especially as to how one could get away without using coherence factors). Anderson on the other hand told me of the Cohen/Falicov/Phillips calculation involving a single superconductor when it came our in PRL, which gave me the idea of how to do the two-sc. case. Previously I had got the broken symmetry idea which was crucial from a number of papers including Anderson's pseudospin model, and also expounded in his lecture course which I went to.
```

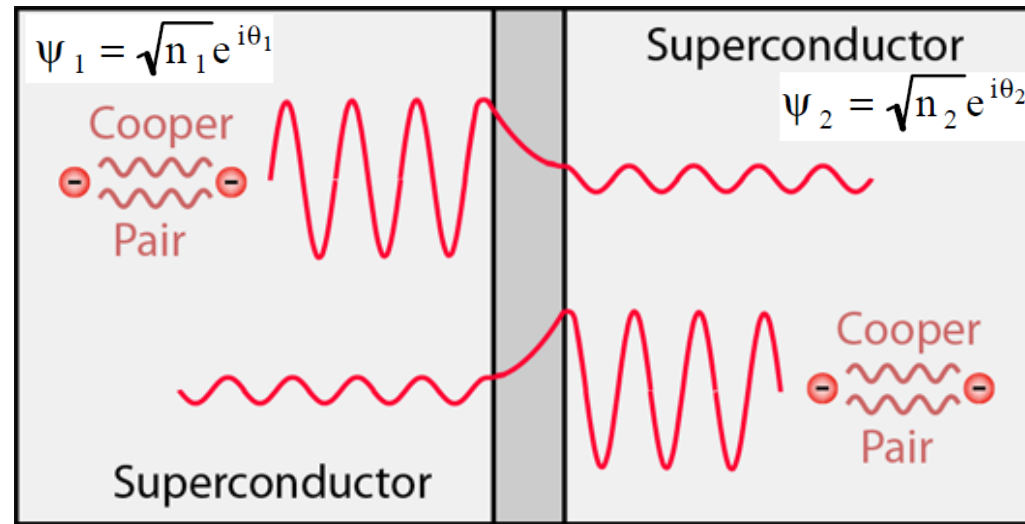
Best regards, Brian J.



# The Josephson Junction – Coherent wavefunctions



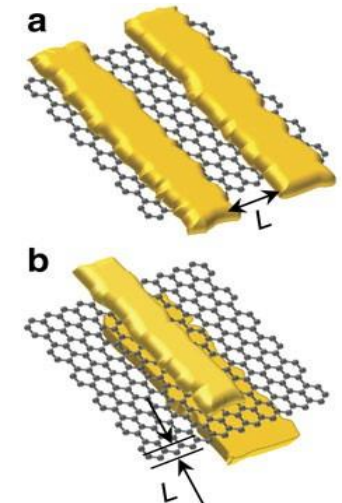
- Two superconductors connected via a “weak link”
- Typically a barrier material either Insulating or Normal Metallic



$$I = I_c \sin \Delta\phi \quad \text{dissipationless current}$$

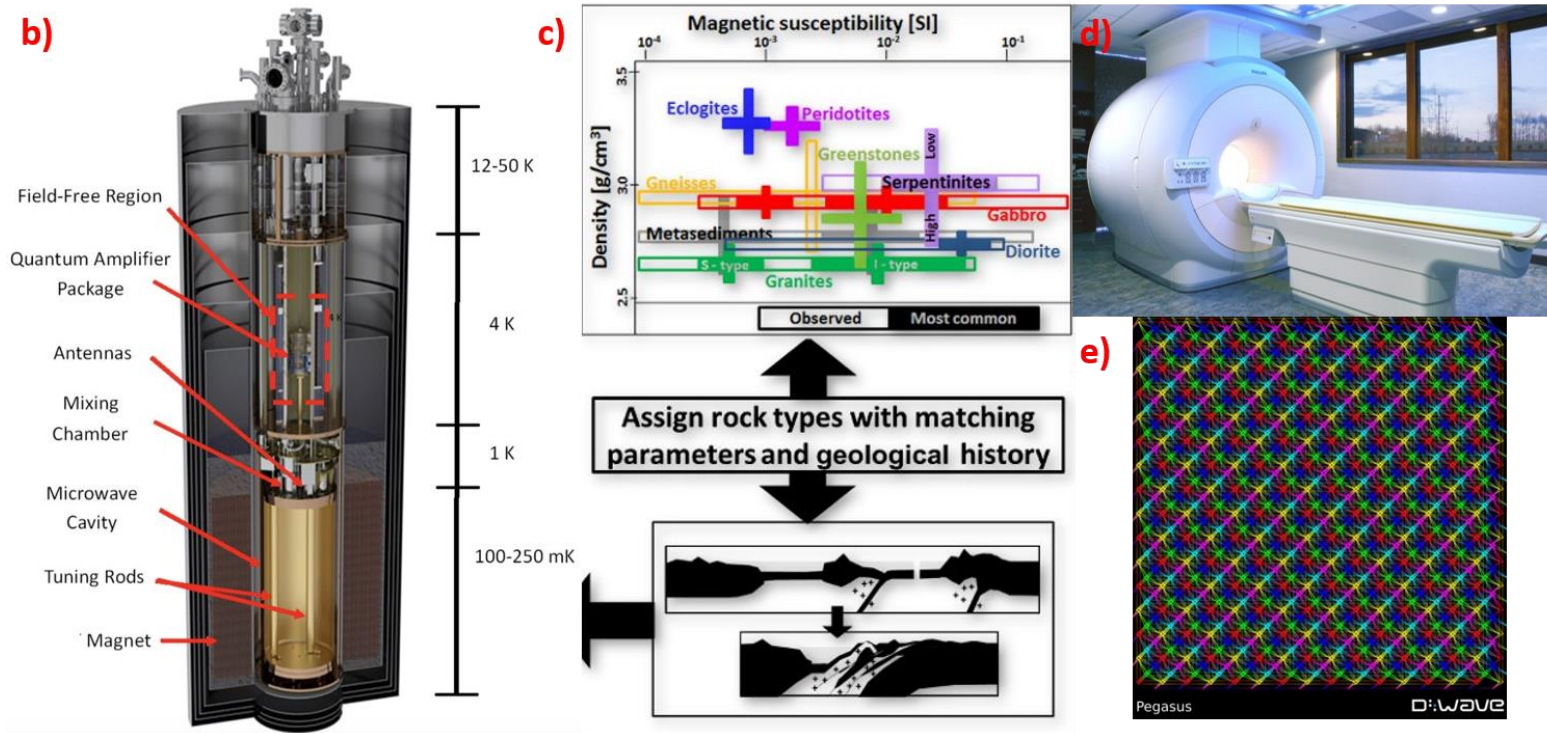
$$\frac{d}{dt} \Delta\phi = \frac{2eV}{\hbar} \quad \text{where } V \text{ is voltage across junction}$$

$$I(t) = I_c \sin(2eVt/\hbar) \quad (\text{ac Josephson effect})$$

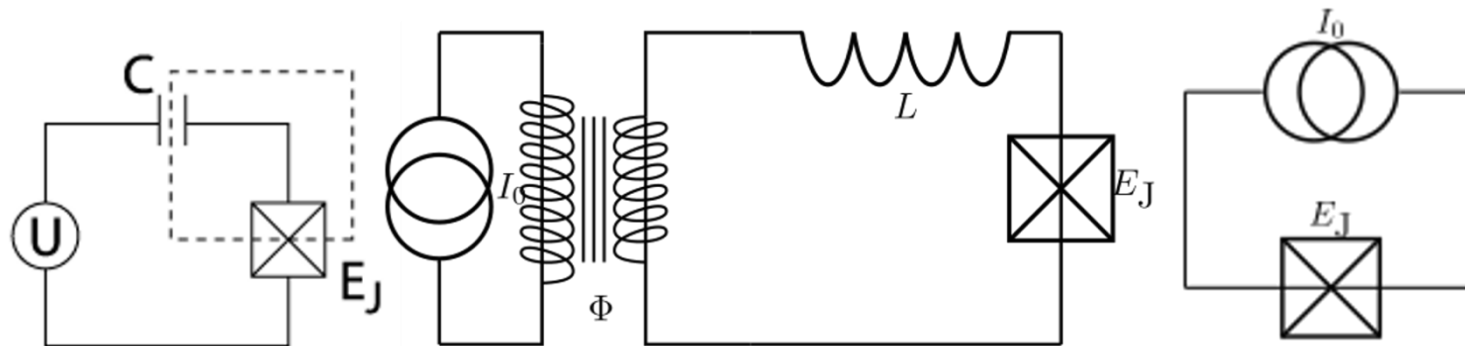


Top: planar JJ schematic Bottom: Vertical JJ schematic.

# JJs in modern technology – from sensors to computers



b) Schematic of ADMX (Axion **Dark Matter Experiment**) which uses a SQUID amplifier [5]. c,d) SQUID magnetometer used in **geological analysis and magnetic resonance imaging**. e.) D-Wave Pegasus 16 RSFQ Computer Chip with  $10^6$  **Josephson Junctions**.

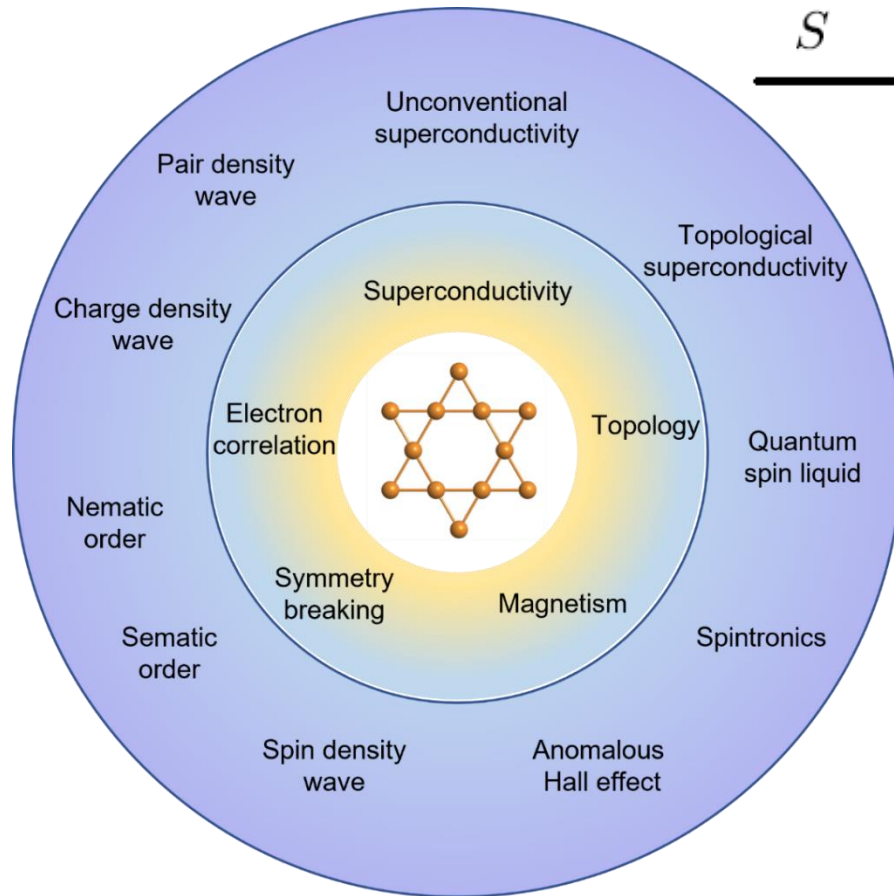


## Quantum Computing:

Al/AlO<sub>x</sub>/Al, Basic superconducting Qubit schematics. Left: Charge Qubit; Middle, Flux Qubit, Right, Phase Qubit, **All 3 utilize JJs in their design.**

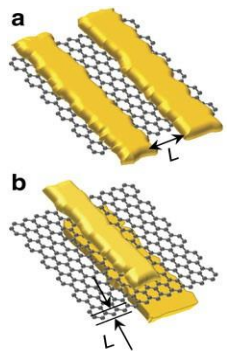
Main: Quantum material (QM) JJs – the next generation JJ

# Quantum Materials as the barrier in JJs (QMJJ)



**INTERFACE QM phenomena into superconductivity!**

- 1.) Topological materials
  - Berry curvature, spatially confined states
- 2.) Spin liquids
  - Magnetic frustration
- 3.) Certain Ferroelectrics
  - Polarization
- 4.) Certain Magnetoelectrics
  - Chern-Simons interaction
- 5.) Non-collinear magnets
  - Spatially varying local magnetic field
- 6.) ***Strongly correlated materials (not SC)***
  - ***Mott-Hubbard Insulators (MI)***
- Much much more



**Modulate the SC in ways we could only dream of in bulk!**

# Mott insulator

Kinetic Energy  $\propto$  hopping  $t$



double occupation  $U$

$$H = -t \sum_{l,\sigma} \left( c_{l,\sigma}^\dagger c_{l+1,\sigma} + c_{l+1,\sigma}^\dagger c_{l,\sigma} \right) + U \sum_l n_{l,\uparrow} n_{l,\downarrow}$$

## Hubbard model

Competition between electron delocalization and localization.

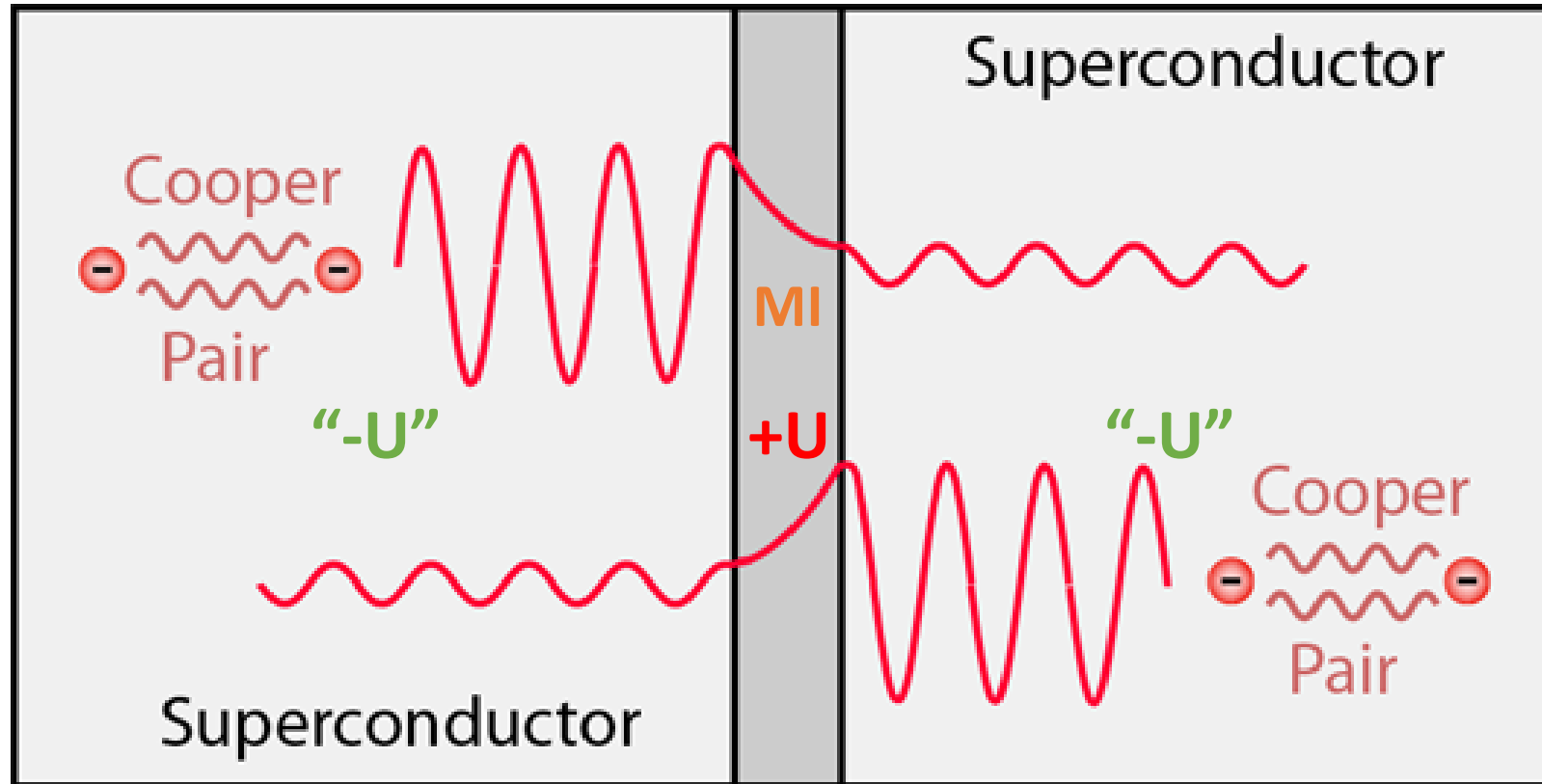
In ordinary metals  $t \gg U$ .

In certain substances the hopping amplitude is reduced by a reduced overlap between orbitals. In these cases we can have  $t \sim U$  and this competition can drive a transition to a localised state.

*Important note: the insulating state in this picture is not driven by magnetic ordering (common misconception). Magnetic ordering occurs at low temperatures but it is not the cause of the insulating state, neither dictates its energy scale.*

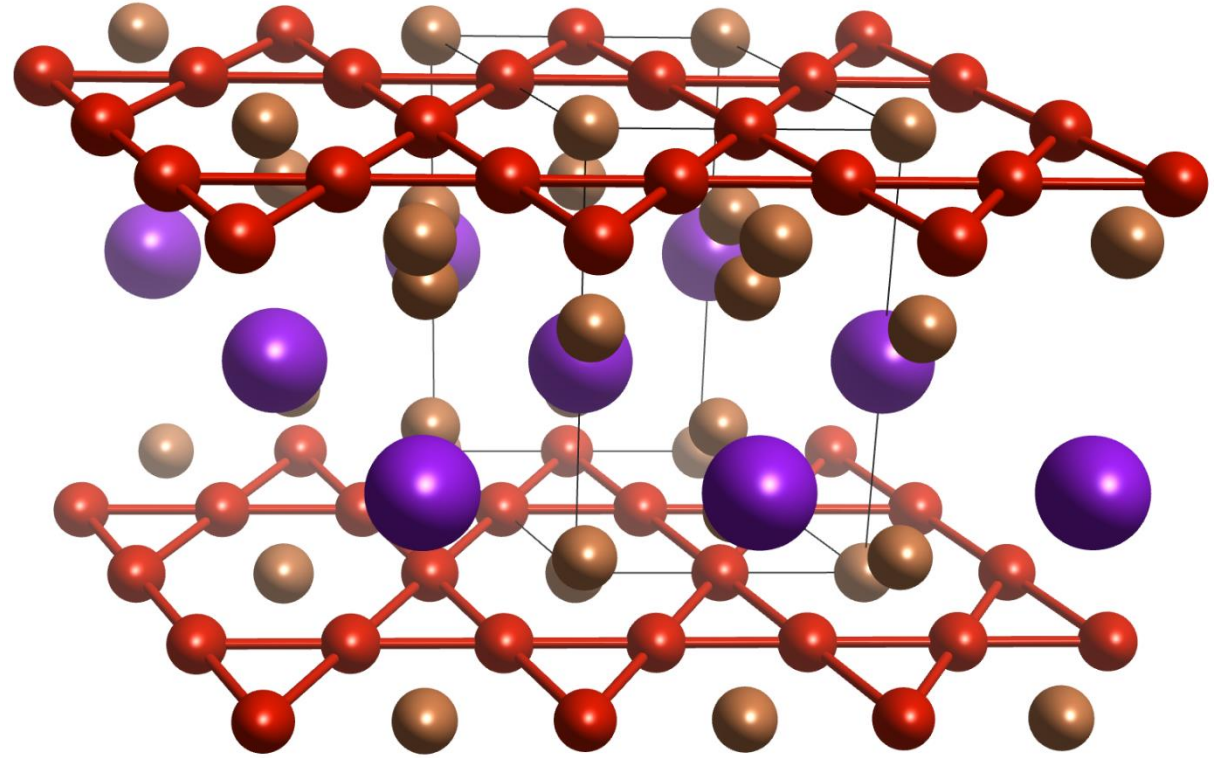
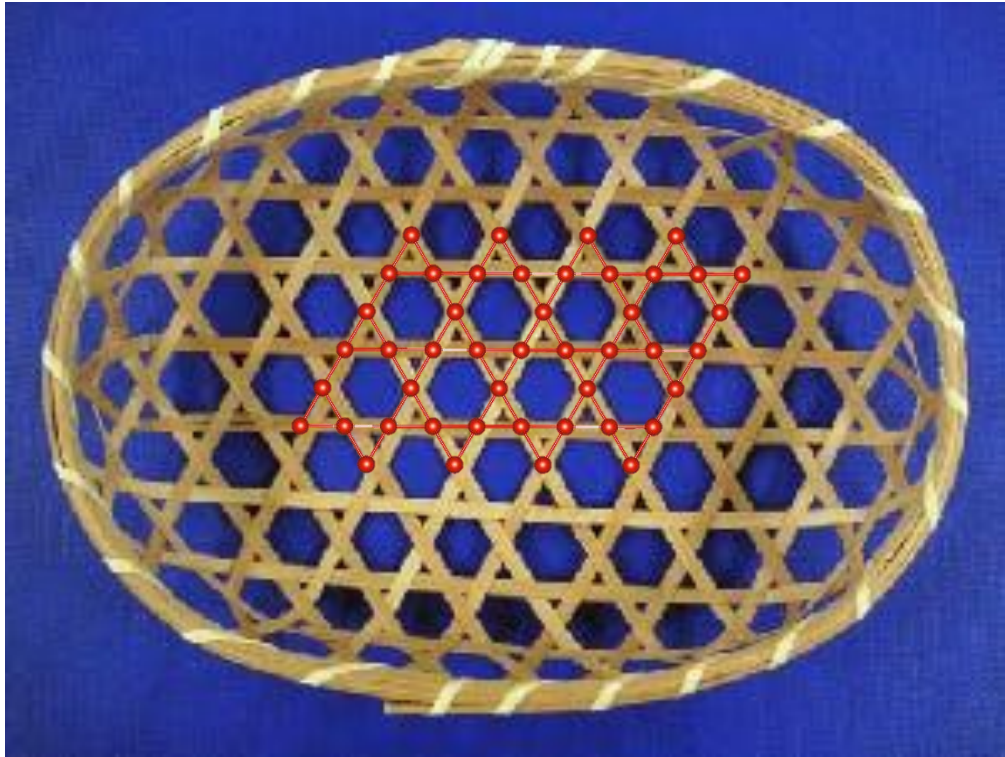


$S$	$MI$	$S$
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 what happens?


- Mean field, MI barrier is intrinsically antagonistic!
- Harder to couple than normal insulator (given same band gaps and thicknesses)
- BUT...inversion and time reversal symmetries can be broken...what happens then?

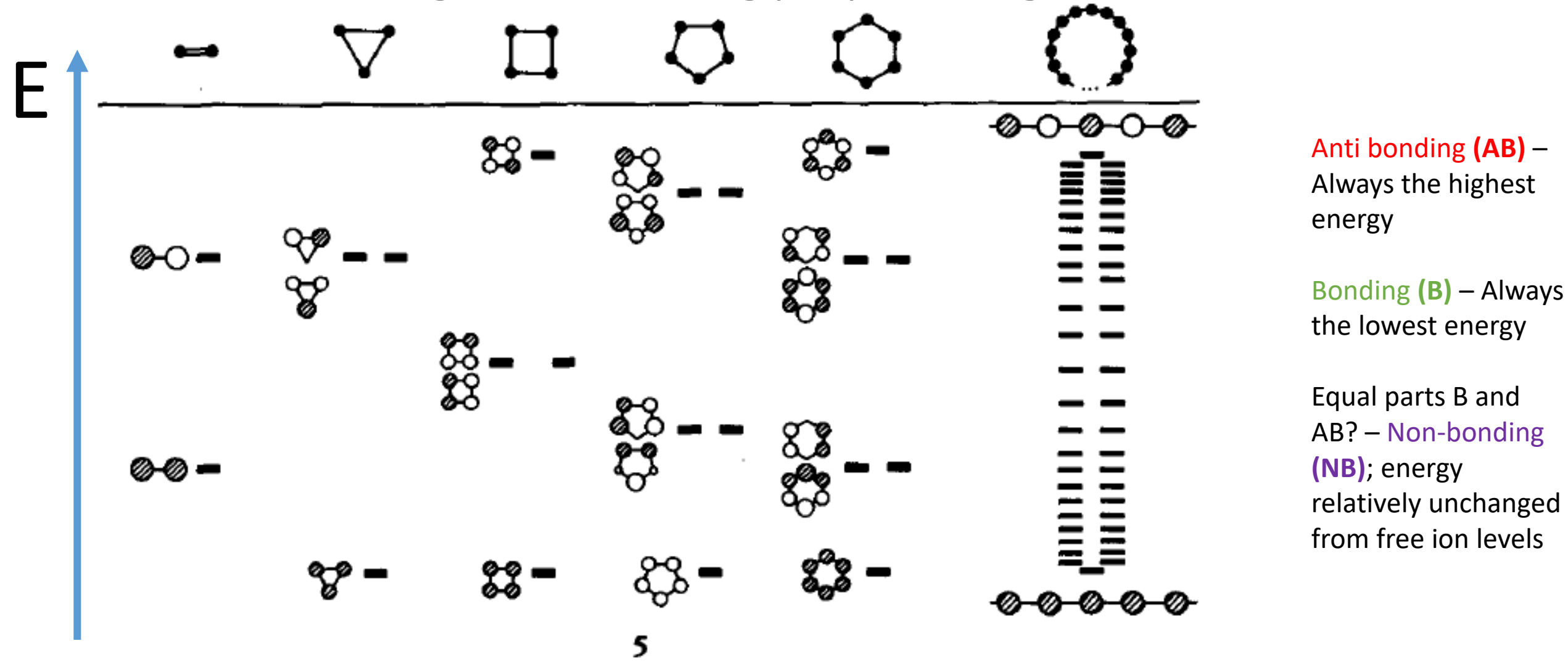
# So which QM-MI? Kagome – “in a basket...eyes”



$AV_3Sb_5$ , A = K, Cs, Rb

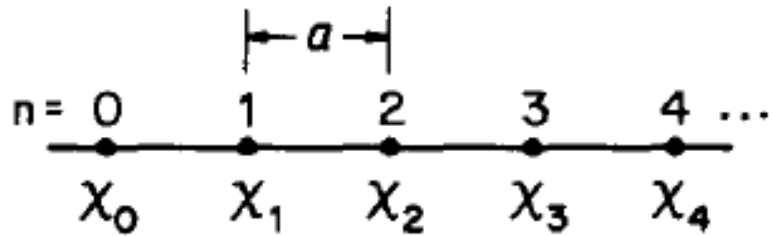
- Japanese Basket Weaving Pattern -> Real world solid state crystal structure
- “Trihexagonal Tiling” – **4 connected**: each vertex has 4 neighbours
- Hexagons + Triangles

# Recall bonding and energy splitting



A simple model: create “bands” by starting with monomers and adding units  
 “infinite” polymer: Atomic Orbitals -> Molecular Orbitals -> “bands”

# Quick refresher: A chain of hydrogens



$n$  is the hydrogen position,  $a$  is the unit cell size,  $\chi_0$ , etc. are the atomic orbitals of the atoms.

$$\psi_k = \sum_n e^{ikna} \chi_n$$

Bloch function representation of the overall wavefunction:  $\chi_n$  is the “basis set”

$$k=0 \quad \psi_0 = \sum_n e^0 \chi_n = \sum_n \chi_n$$

$$= \chi_0 + \chi_1 + \chi_2 + \chi_3 + \dots$$

What happens when  $k = 0$ ? Exponent dies

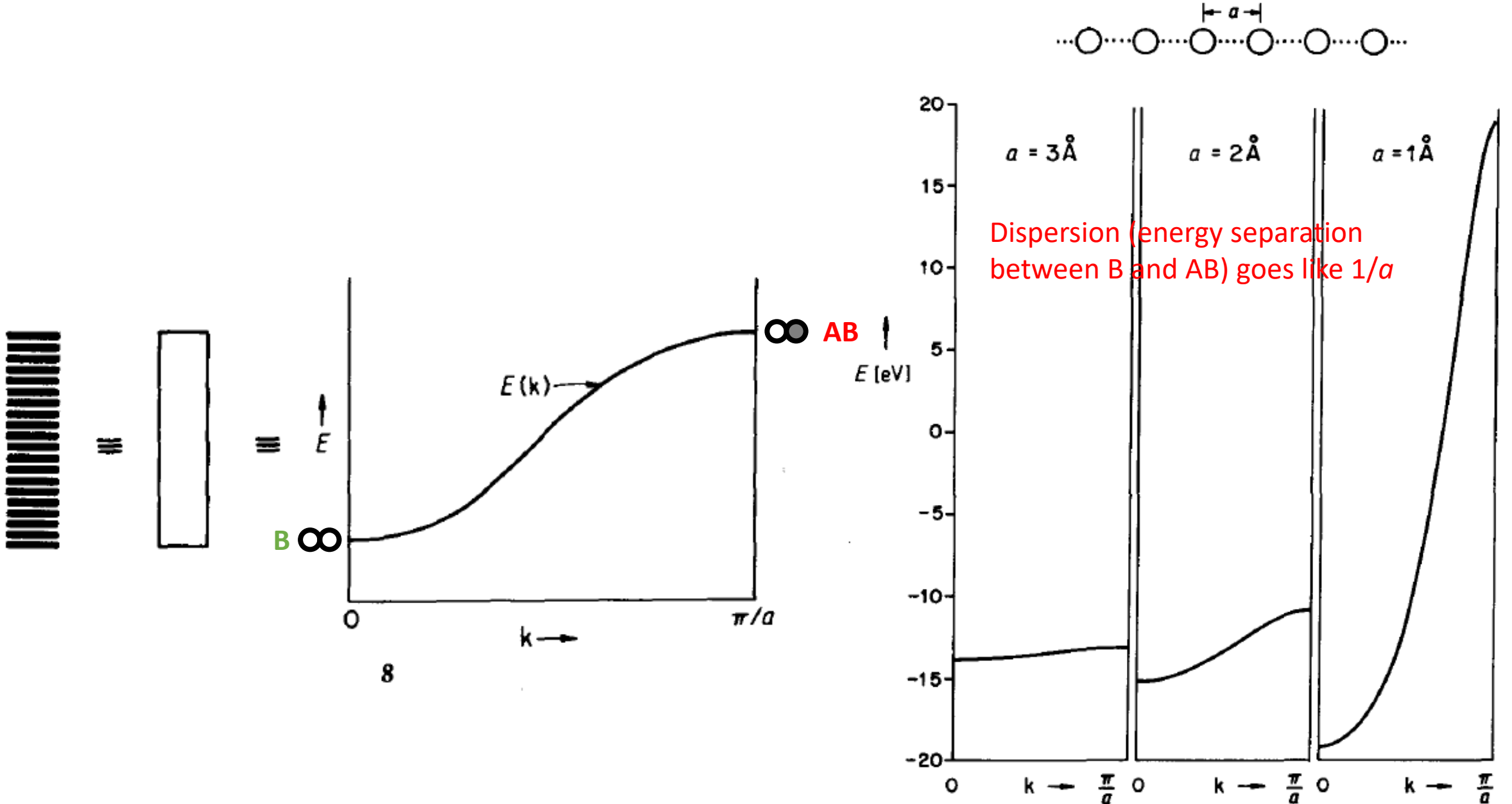
**Chemist: Same phase overlap...bonding, lowest energy**

$$k=\frac{\pi}{a} \quad \psi_{\frac{\pi}{a}} = \sum_n e^{\pi in} \chi_n = \sum_n (-1)^n \chi_n$$

$$= \chi_0 - \chi_1 + \chi_2 - \chi_3 + \dots$$

What happens when  $k = \pi/a$ ? alternating positive and negative

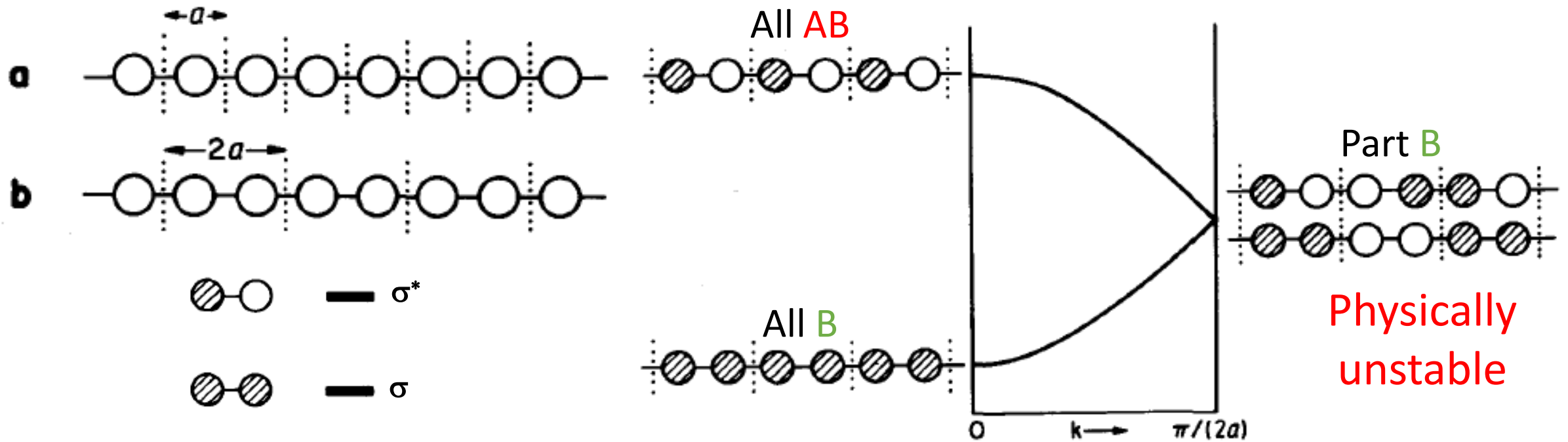
**Chemist: Out of phase...antibonding, highest energy**



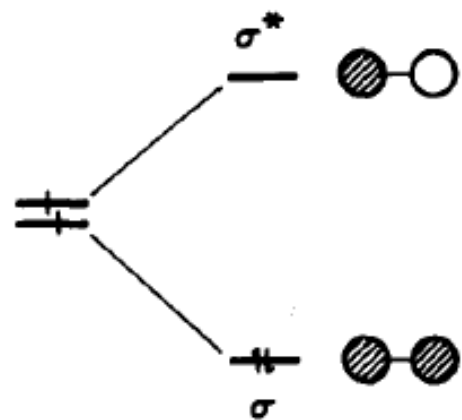
**Figure 1** The band structure of a chain of hydrogen atoms spaced 3, 2, and 1 Å apart. The energy of an isolated H atom is  $-13.6 \text{ eV}$ .

# What about more than 1 electronic unit in the unit cell?

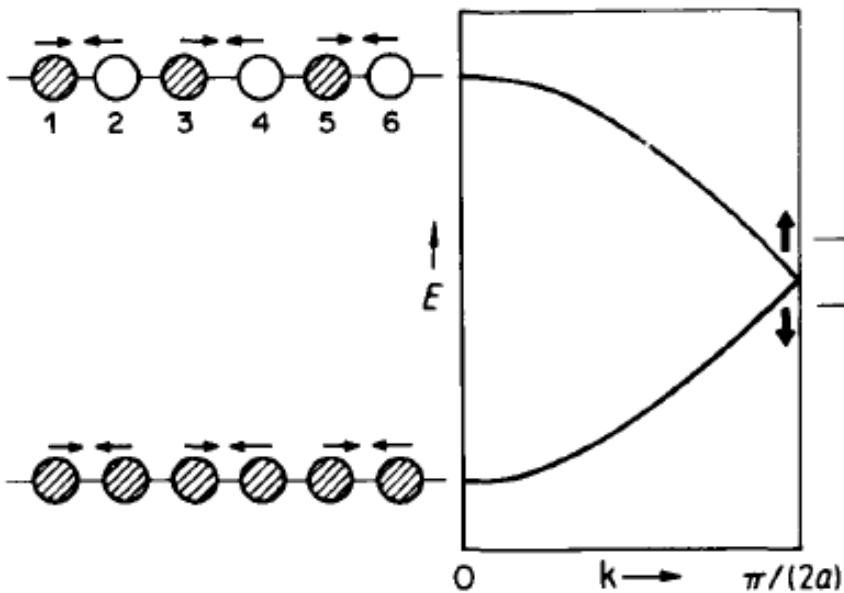
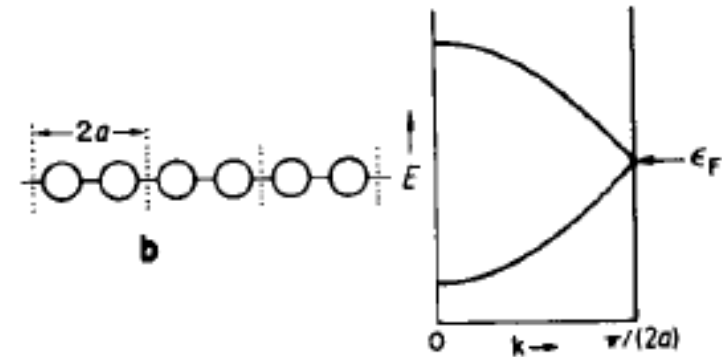
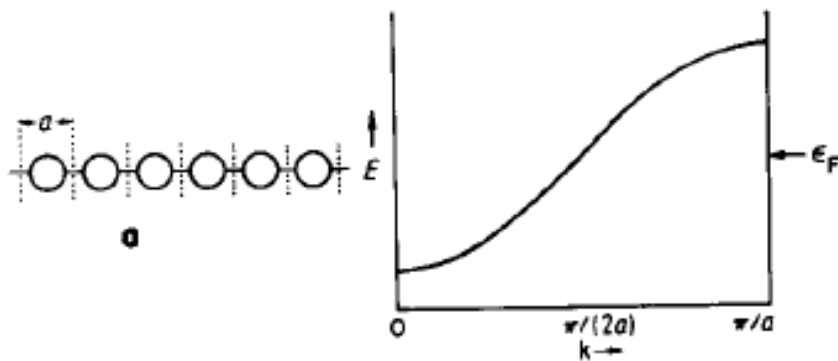
Consider a chain of hydrogen atoms again, but consider doubling the unit cell



# The Peierls Distortion

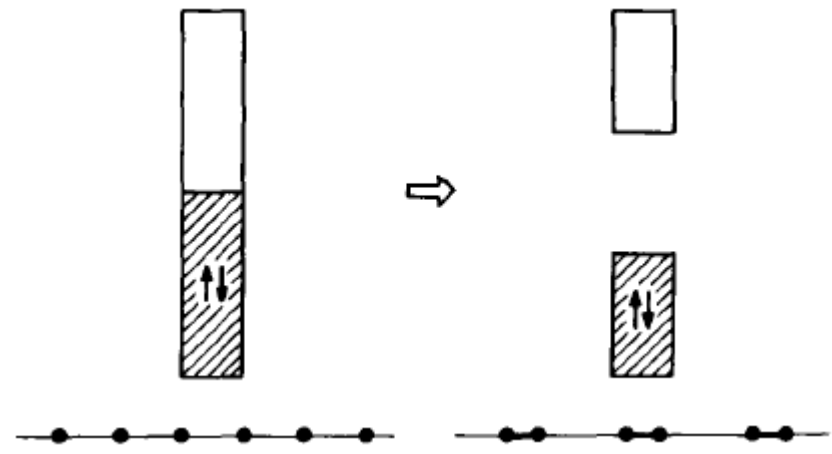
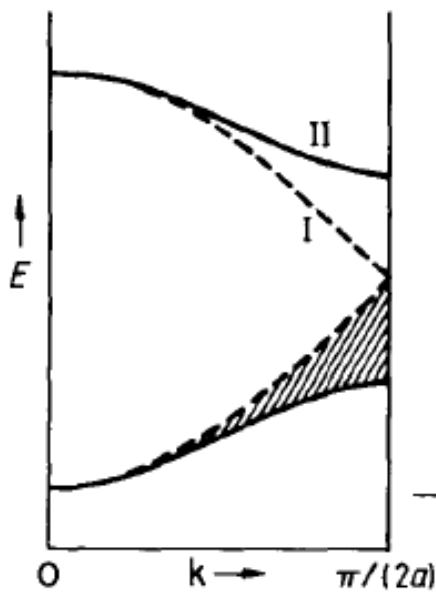
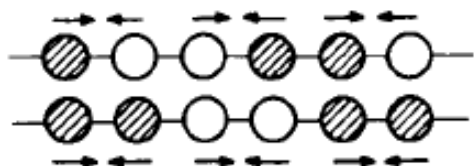


Things WANT to bond in solids...it lowers energy

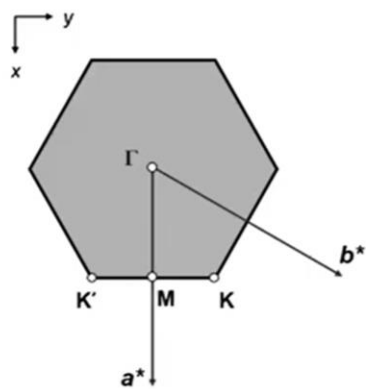


Part B-

Part B+



# Special Points in a 2D Hexagonal Lattice



label	coordinates
$\Gamma$	$0 a^* + 0 b^*$
$M$	$(1/2) a^* + 0 b^*$
$K$	$(1/3) a^* + (1/3) b^*$
$K'$	$(2/3) a^* - (1/3) b^*$

Consider a set of all  $p_z$ -orbitals  
(for now,  $p_x/p_y$  ignored)



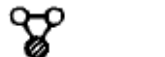
Choice of basis:

$\pi_2$



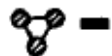
2x out-of-phase; 1 node,

$\pi_3$

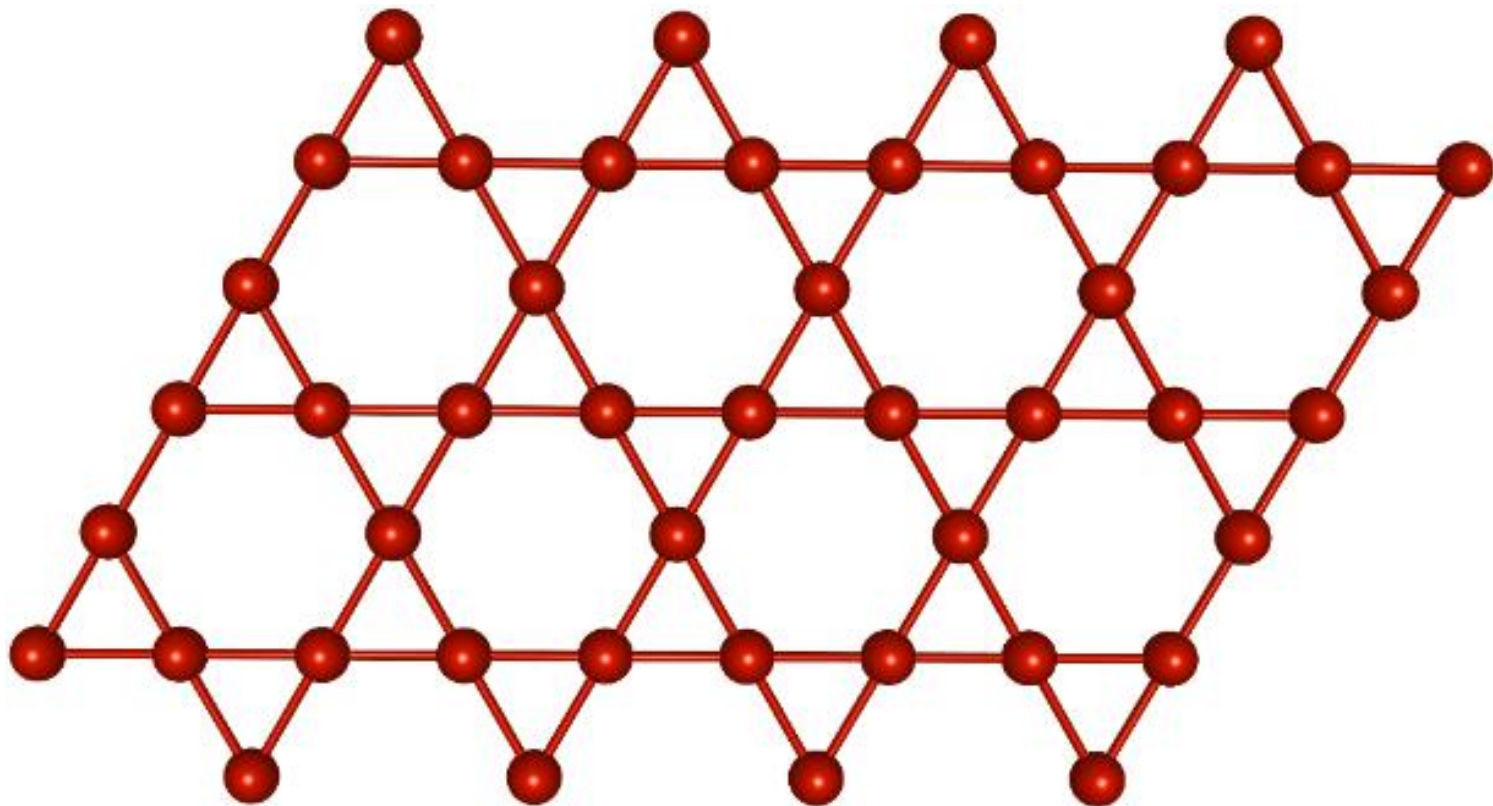


2x 50% in-phase; 1 out of phase

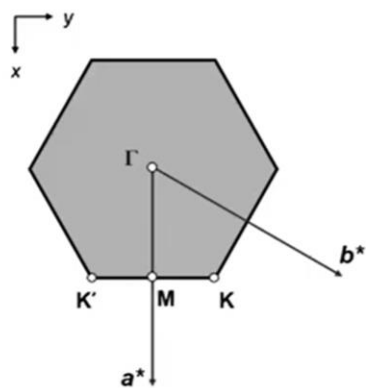
$\pi_1$



3x in-phase



# Special Points in a 2D Hexagonal Lattice

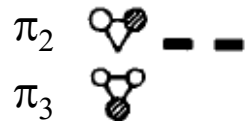


label	coordinates
$\Gamma$	$0 a^* + 0 b^*$
$M$	$(1/2) a^* + 0 b^*$
$K$	$(1/3) a^* + (1/3) b^*$
$K'$	$(2/3) a^* - (1/3) b^*$

Consider a set of all  $p_z$ -orbitals  
(for now,  $p_x/p_y$  ignored)



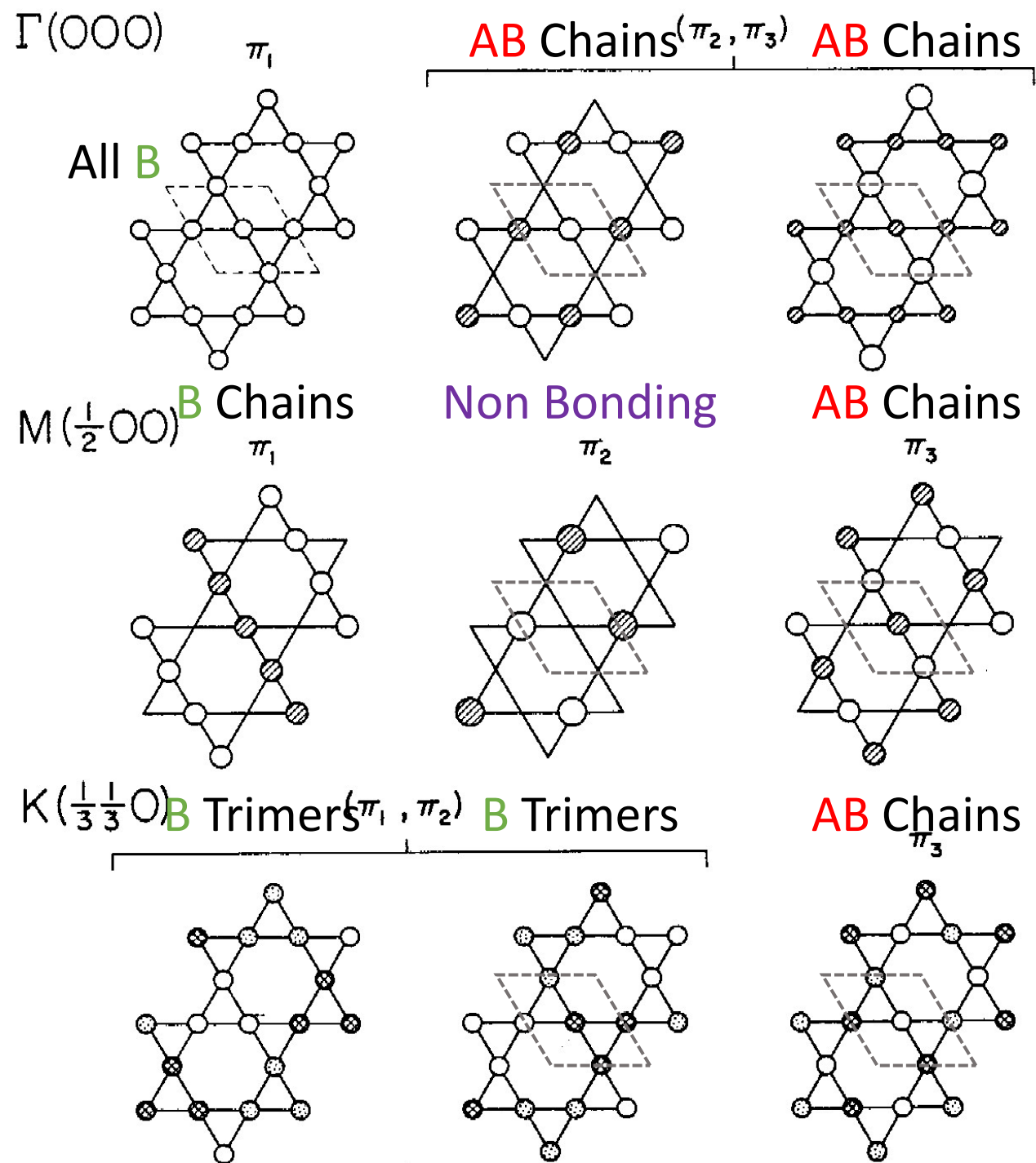
Choice of basis:



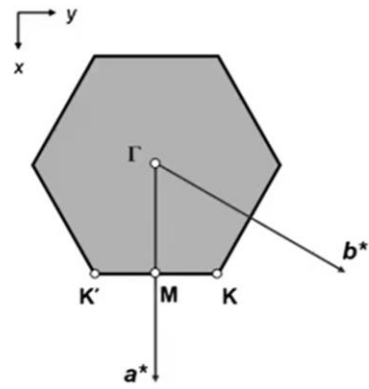
2x out-of-phase; 1 node,  
2x 50% in-phase; 1 out of phase



3x in-phase

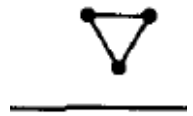


# Special Points in a 2D Hexagonal Lattice

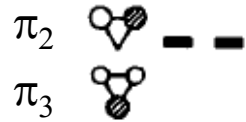


label	coordinates
$\Gamma$	$0 a^* + 0 b^*$
$M$	$(1/2) a^* + 0 b^*$
$K$	$(1/3) a^* + (1/3) b^*$
$K'$	$(2/3) a^* - (1/3) b^*$

Consider a set of all  $p_z$ -orbitals  
(for now,  $p_x/p_y$  ignored)



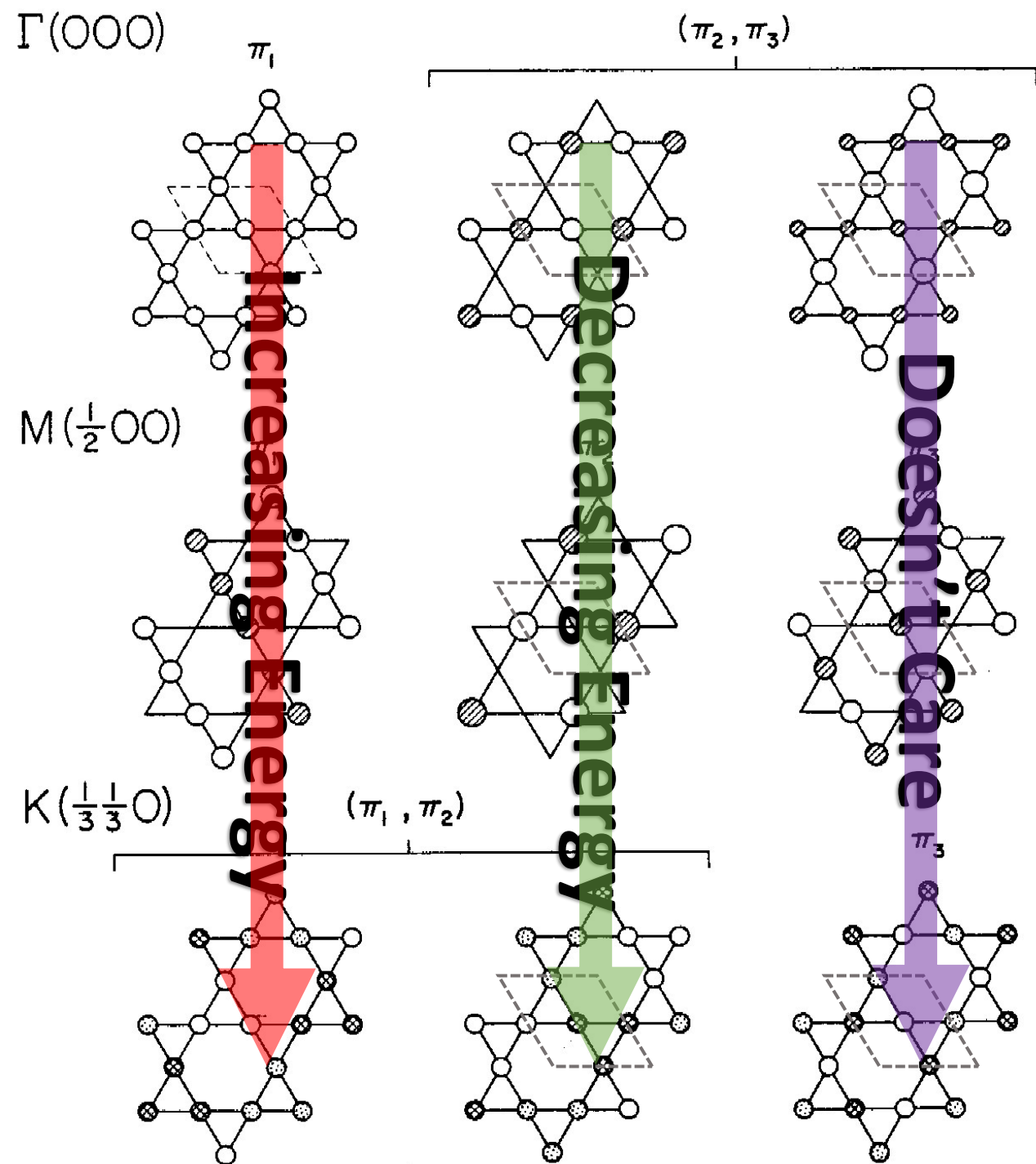
Choice of basis:



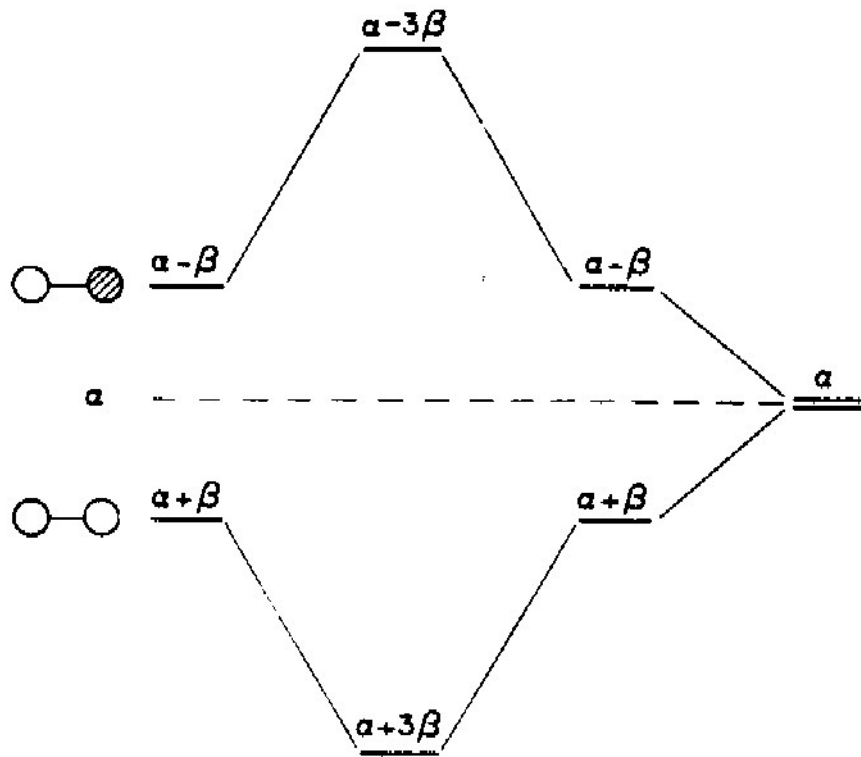
$\pi_2$  2x out-of-phase; 1 node,  
 $\pi_3$  2x 50% in-phase; 1 out of phase



$\pi_1$  3x in-phase

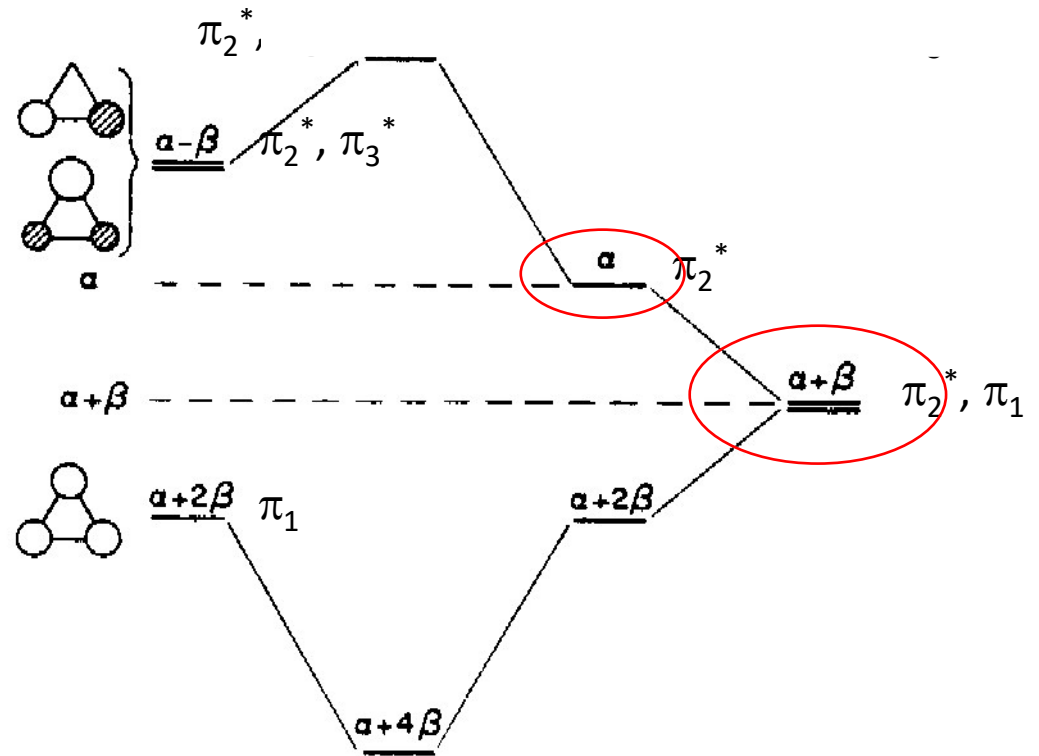


Graphite Net



Unit Cell     $\Gamma$     M    K

Kagomé Net

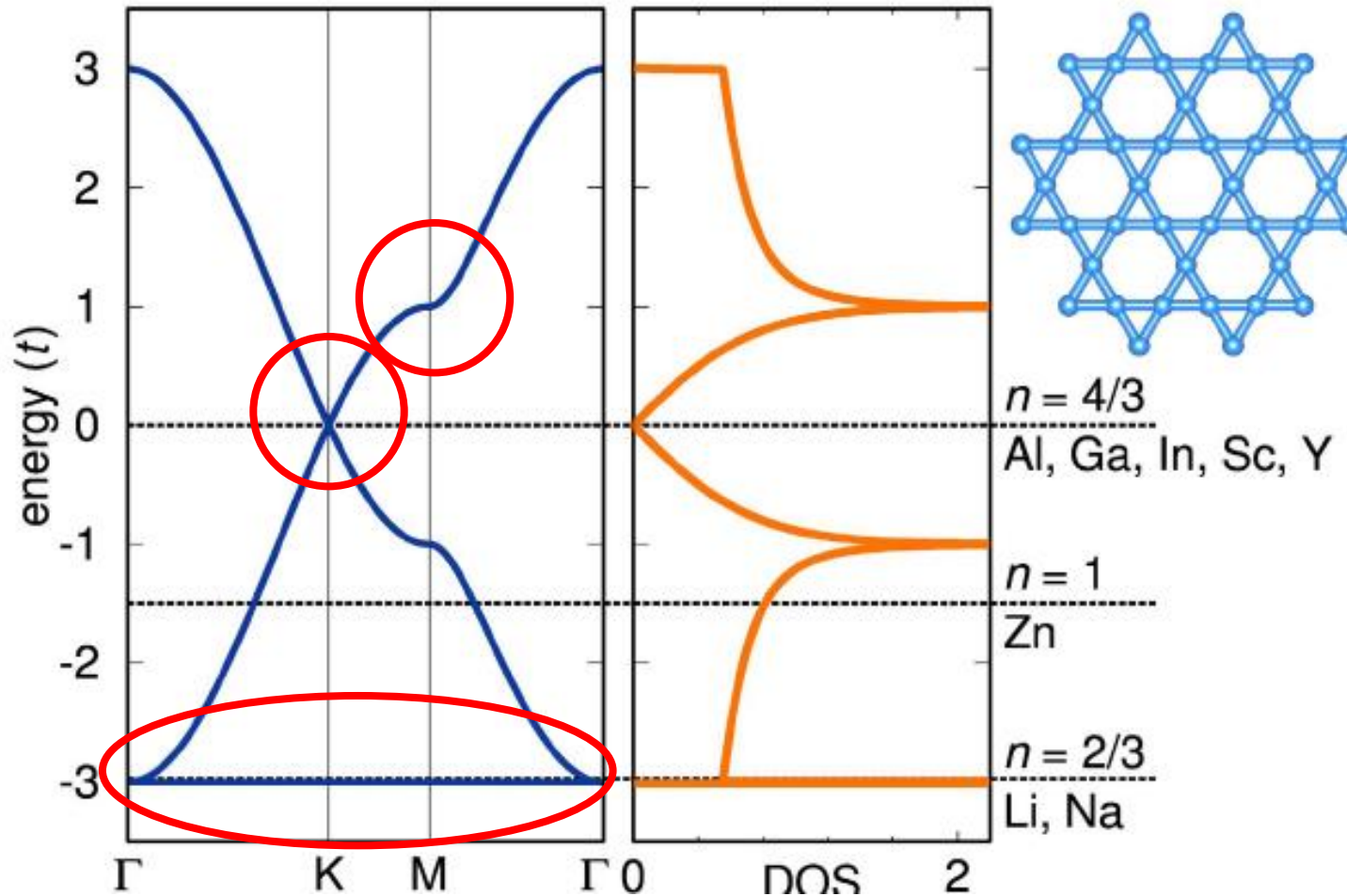


Unit Cell     $\Gamma$     M    K

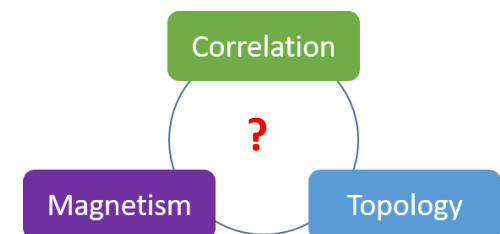
Atomic Orbitals  $\rightarrow$  Molecular Orbitals  $\rightarrow$  "bands"

All bands in atomic lattices come from interference...of orbitals

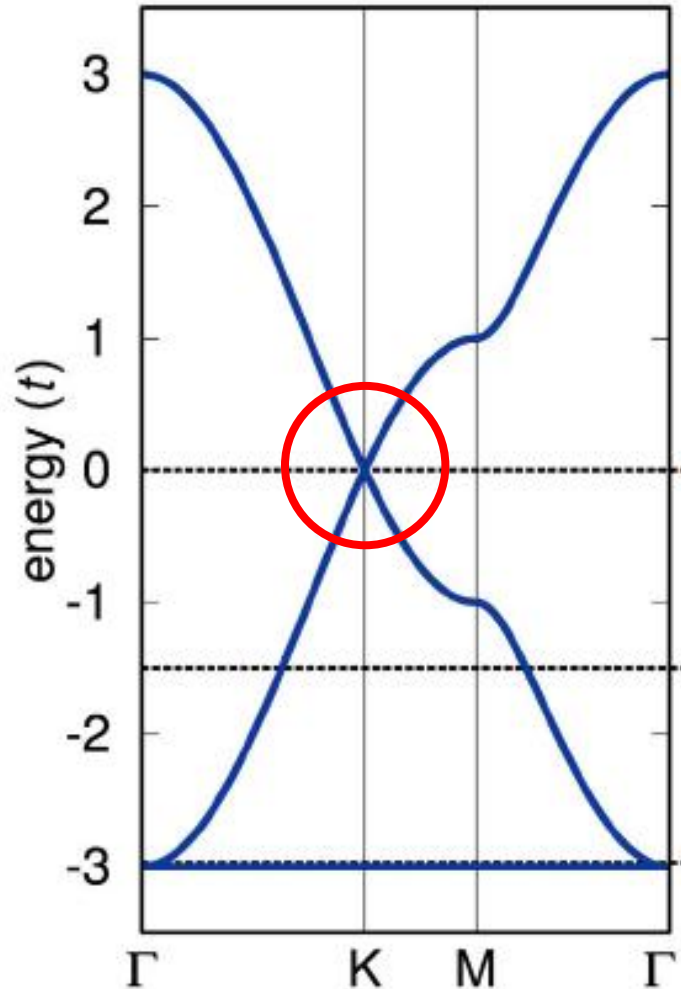
# Ideal Kagome Nets – close but not our MI



- Dirac Point at K and surface/edge states in SOC gap opening - **topology**
- Van Hove Singularities – **strong correlations**
- Flat Band – **strong correlations**



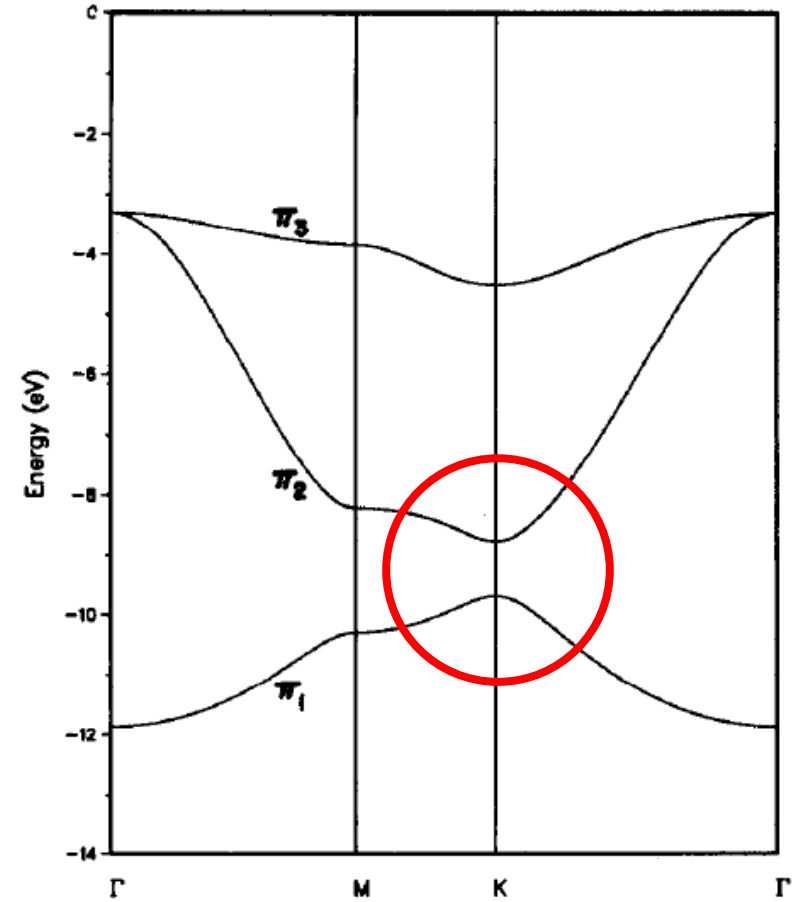
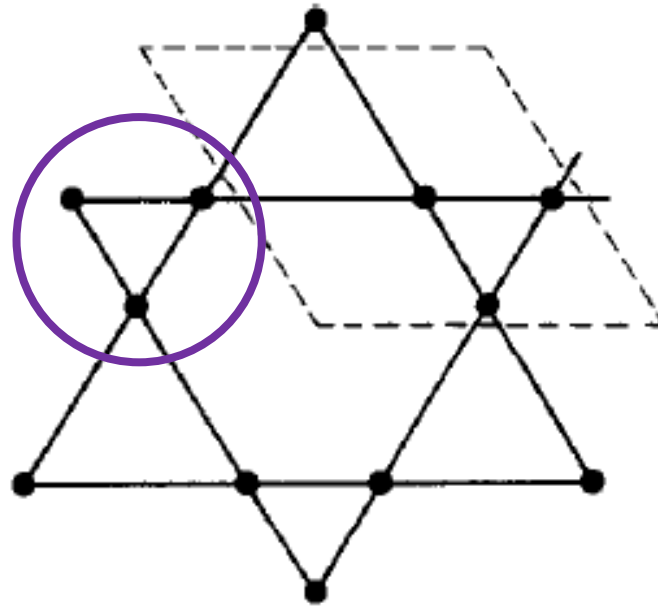
# Trigonal distortion: Kagome *insulator*



TRIGONAL  
DISTORTION

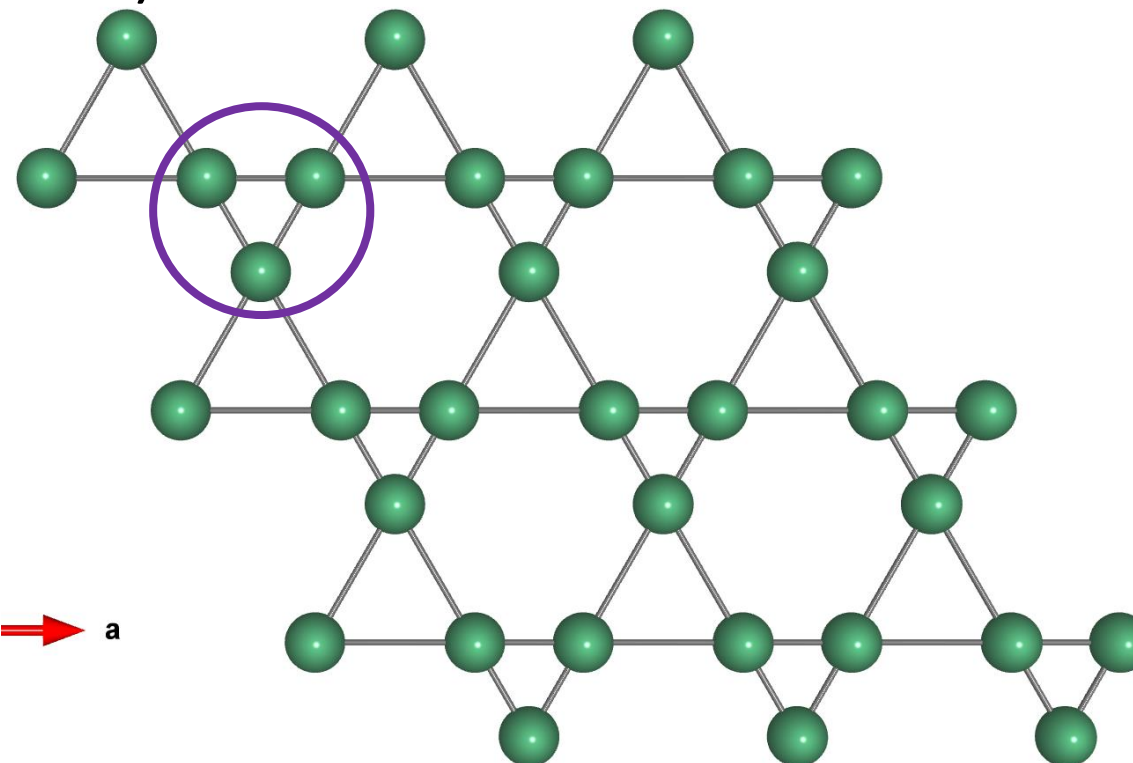
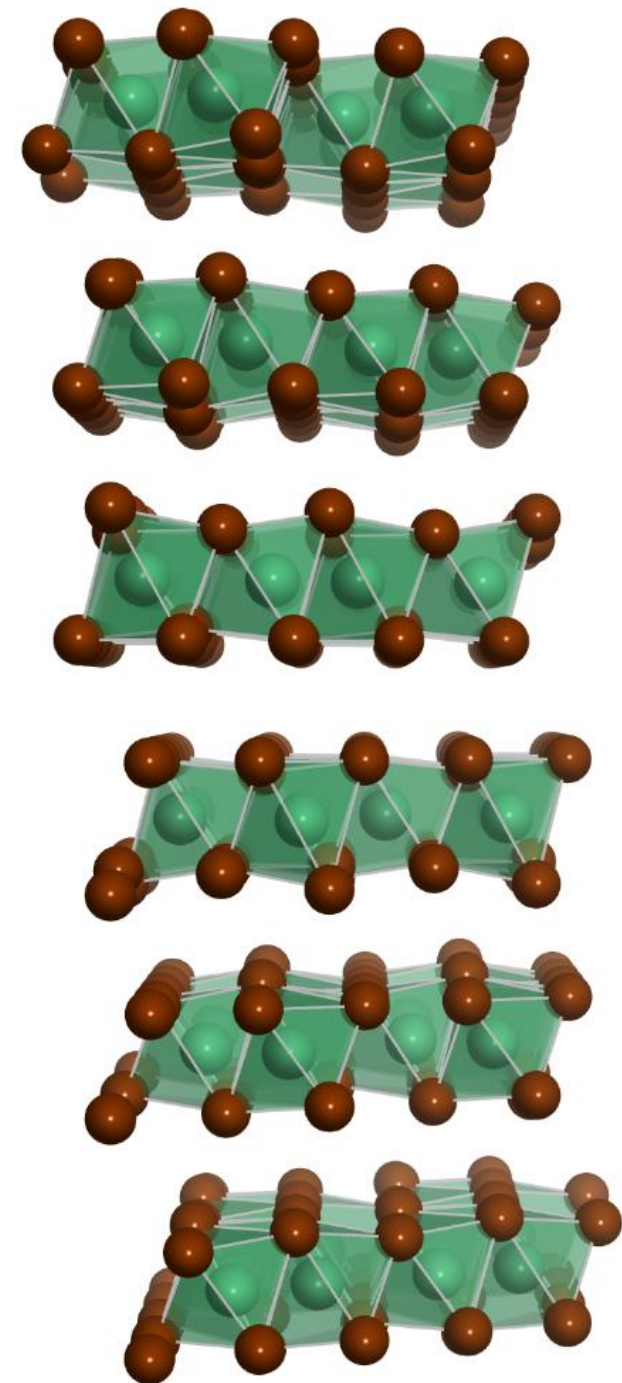


12



# QM of choice: $\text{Nb}_3\text{Cl}_8/\text{Br}_8/\text{I}_8$

- Kagome *Insulator* (Nb)
- Layered, van der Waals gap
- Trigonally distorted (“breathing mode”) Kagome Insulator
- AFMs in bulk (so far)



INORGANIC CHEMISTRY  
FRONTIERS



RESEARCH ARTICLE

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Cite this: *Inorg. Chem. Front.*, 2017,  
4, 481

Rearrangement of van der Waals stacking and  
formation of a singlet state at  $T = 90$  K in a  
cluster magnet†

John P. Shekellon,<sup>a,b</sup> Kemp W. Plumb,<sup>b</sup> Benjamin A. Trump,<sup>a,b</sup> Collin L. Broholm<sup>a,c,d</sup>  
and Tyrel M. McQueen<sup>a,b,c</sup>

Inorganic Chemistry

Article  
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Magnetic–Nonmagnetic Phase Transition with Interlayer Charge  
Disproportionation of  $\text{Nb}_3$  Trimers in the Cluster Compound  $\text{Nb}_3\text{Cl}_8$

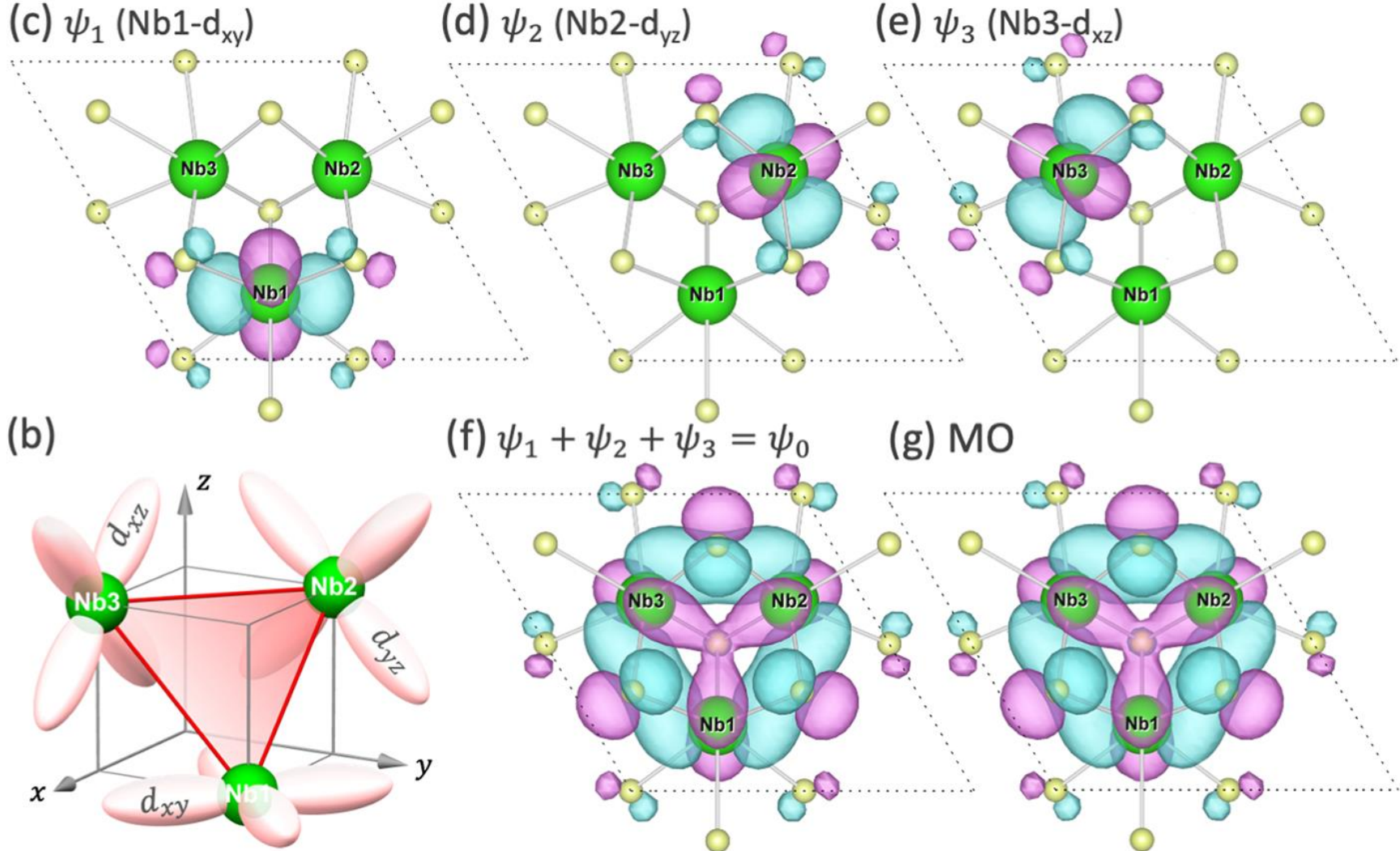
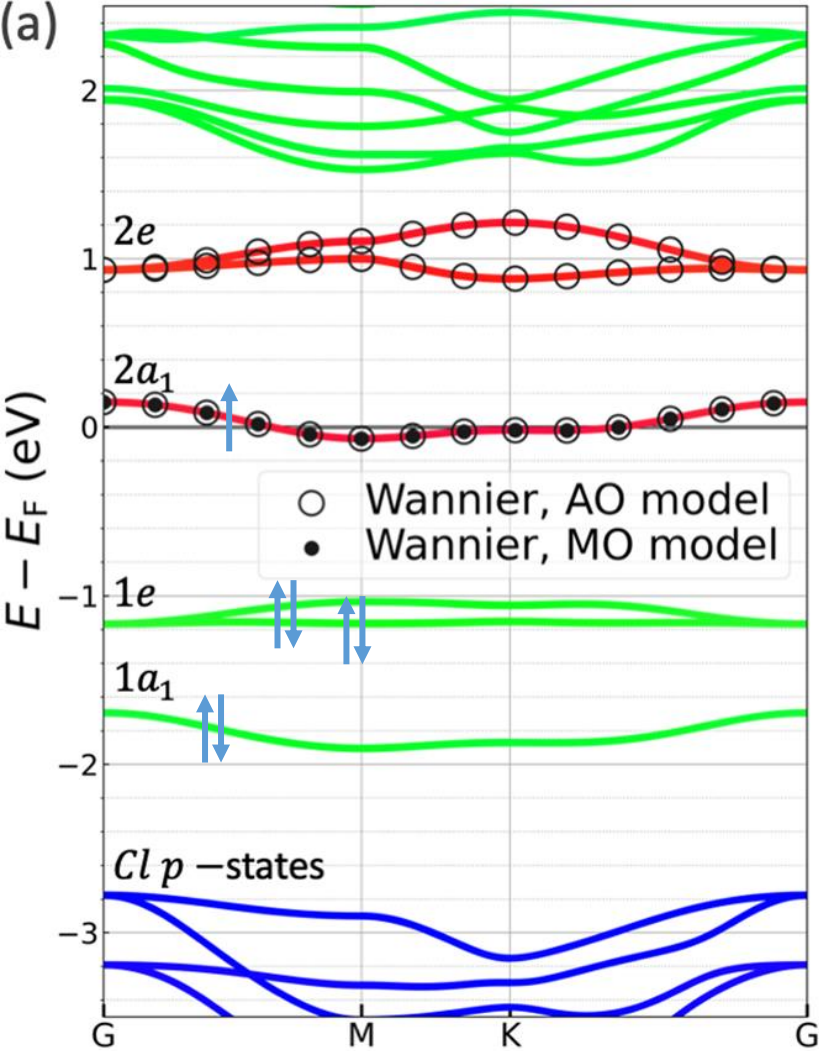
Yuya Haraguchi,<sup>a,†</sup> Chishiro Michioka,<sup>†</sup> Manabu Ishikawa,<sup>†,‡</sup> Yoshiaki Nakano,<sup>†,‡</sup> Hideki Yamochi,<sup>†,‡</sup>  
Hiroaki Ueda,<sup>†</sup> and Kazuyoshi Yoshimura<sup>†,§,¶</sup>

<sup>†</sup>Department of Chemistry, Graduate School of Science, Kyoto University, Kyoto 606-8502, Japan

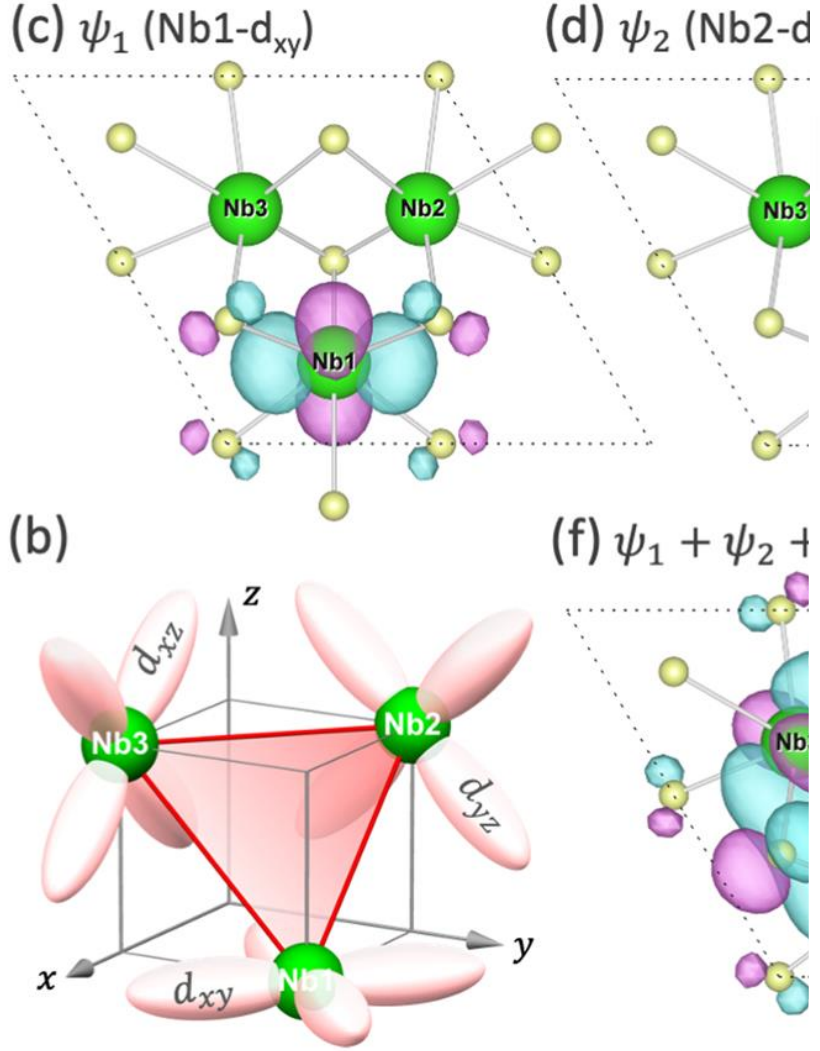
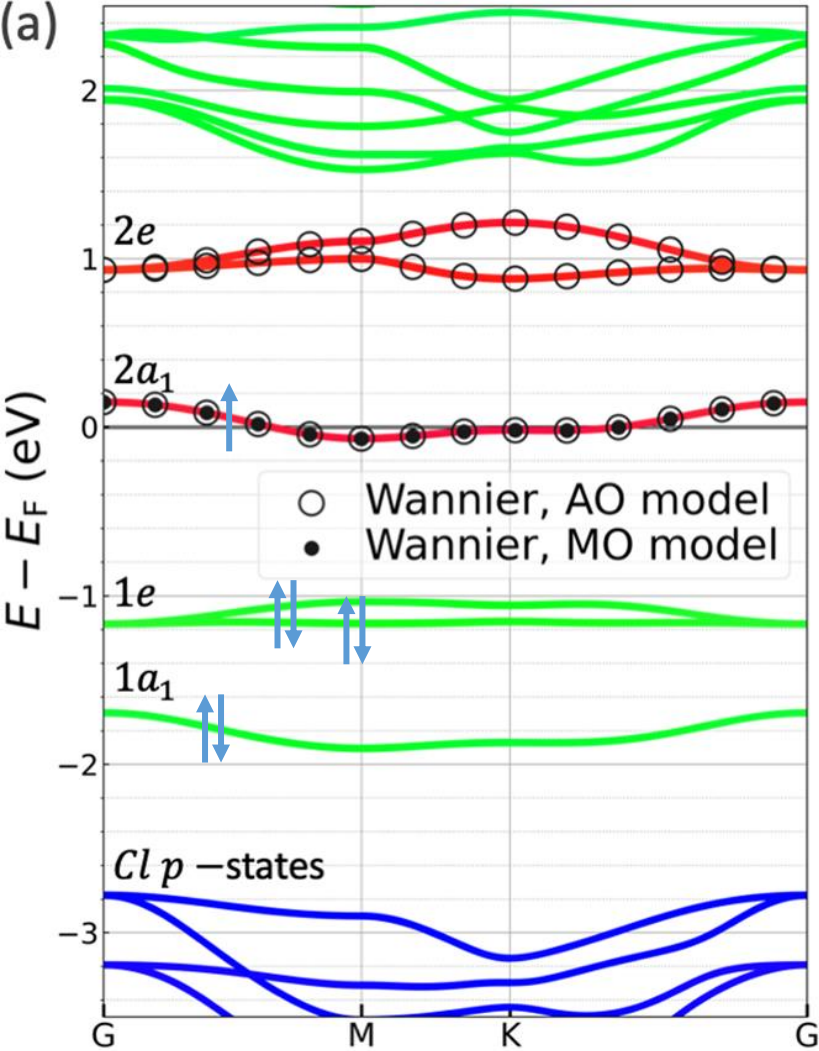
<sup>‡</sup>Research Center for Low Temperature and Materials Sciences and <sup>§</sup>Institute for Liberal Arts and Sciences, Kyoto University, Kyoto 606-8501, Japan

*Inorg. Chem. Front.*, 2017, 4, 481

*Inorg. Chem.* 2017, 56, 3483–3488



- Formally  $\text{Nb}_3\text{Cl}_8$ :  $8e^-(\text{Cl}) / 3 = 2.667+/\text{Nb}$
- $3^+$ ,  $3^+$ ,  $2^+$  oxidation states – Nb brings 5 electrons so
- $2e^- + 2e^- + 3e^- = 7e^-$  in 3d-p molecular orbitals



**FLATBAND**



- Formally  $\text{Nb}_3\text{Cl}_8$ :  $8e^-(\text{Cl}) / 3 = 2.667+/\text{Nb}$
- $3^+$ ,  $3^+$ ,  $2^+$  oxidation states – Nb brings 5 electrons at  $\text{Nb}^0$  so
- $2e^- + 2e^- + 3e^- = 7e^-$  in 4d-p molecular orbitals

# Nb<sub>3</sub>X<sub>8</sub> Series Expectation

## PERIODIC TABLE OF ELEMENTS

Chemical Group Block

PubChem

1 1.0080 <b>H</b> Hydrogen Nonmetal																	18 4.00260 <b>He</b> Helium Noble Gas									
3 7.0 <b>Li</b> Lithium Alkali Metal	4 9.012183 <b>Be</b> Beryllium Alkaline Earth Me...											5 10.81 <b>B</b> Boron Metalloid	6 12.011 <b>C</b> Carbon Nonmetal	7 14.007 <b>N</b> Nitrogen Nonmetal	8 15.999 <b>O</b> Oxygen Nonmetal	9 18.9984... <b>F</b> Fluorine Halogen	10 20.180 <b>Ne</b> Neon Noble Gas									
11 22.989... <b>Na</b> Sodium Alkali Metal	12 24.305 <b>Mg</b> Magnesium Alkaline Earth Me...											13 26.981... <b>Al</b> Aluminum Post-Transition M...	14 28.085 <b>Si</b> Silicon Metalloid	15 30.973... <b>P</b> Phosphorus Nonmetal	16 32.07 <b>S</b> Sulfur Nonmetal	17 35.4 <b>Cl</b> Chlorine Halogen	18 39.9 <b>Ar</b> Argon Noble Gas									
19 39.0983 <b>K</b> Potassium Alkali Metal	20 40.08 <b>Ca</b> Calcium Alkaline Earth Me...	21 44.95591 <b>Sc</b> Scandium Transition Metal	22 47.867 <b>Ti</b> Titanium Transition Metal	23 50.9415 <b>V</b> Vanadium Transition Metal	24 51.996 <b>Cr</b> Chromium Transition Metal	25 54.93804 <b>Mn</b> Manganese Transition Metal	26 55.84 <b>Fe</b> Iron Transition Metal	27 58.93319 <b>Co</b> Cobalt Transition Metal	28 58.693 <b>Ni</b> Nickel Transition Metal	29 63.55 <b>Cu</b> Copper Transition Metal	30 65.4 <b>Zn</b> Zinc Transition Metal	31 69.723 <b>Ga</b> Gallium Post-Transition M...	32 72.63 <b>Ge</b> Germanium Metalloid	33 74.92159 <b>As</b> Arsenic Metalloid	34 78.97 <b>Se</b> Selenium Nonmetal	35 79.9 <b>Br</b> Bromine Halogen	36 83.80 <b>Kr</b> Krypton Noble Gas									
37 85.468 <b>Rb</b> Rubidium Alkali Metal	38 87.62 <b>Sr</b> Strontium Alkaline Earth Me...	39 88.90584 <b>Y</b> Yttrium Transition Metal	40 91.22 <b>Zr</b> Zirconium Transition Metal	41 92.90637 <b>Nb</b> Niobium Transition Metal	42 95.95 <b>Mo</b> Molybdenum Transition Metal	43 96.90636 <b>Tc</b> Technetium Transition Metal	44 101.1 <b>Ru</b> Ruthenium Transition Metal	45 102.9055 <b>Rh</b> Rhodium Transition Metal	46 106.42 <b>Pd</b> Palladium Transition Metal	47 107.868 <b>Ag</b> Silver Transition Metal	48 112.41 <b>Cd</b> Cadmium Transition Metal	49 114.818 <b>In</b> Indium Post-Transition M...	50 118.71 <b>Sn</b> Tin Post-Transition M...	51 121.760 <b>Sb</b> Antimony Metalloid	52 127.6 <b>Te</b> Tellurium Metalloid	53 126.904... <b>I</b> Iodine Halogen	54 131.29 <b>Xe</b> Xenon Noble Gas									
55 132.90... <b>Cs</b> Cesium Alkali Metal	56 137.33 <b>Ba</b> Barium Alkaline Earth Me...											72 178.49 <b>Hf</b> Hafnium Transition Metal	73 180.9479 <b>Ta</b> Tantalum Transition Metal	74 183.84 <b>W</b> Tungsten Transition Metal	75 186.207 <b>Re</b> Rhenium Transition Metal	76 190.2 <b>Os</b> Osmium Transition Metal	77 192.22 <b>Ir</b> Iridium Transition Metal	78 195.08 <b>Pt</b> Platinum Transition Metal	79 196.96... <b>Au</b> Gold Transition Metal	80 200.59 <b>Hg</b> Mercury Transition Metal	81 204.383 <b>Tl</b> Thallium Post-Transition M...	82 207 <b>Pb</b> Lead Post-Transition M...	83 208.98... <b>Bi</b> Bismuth Post-Transition M...	84 208.98... <b>Po</b> Polonium Metalloid	85 209.98... <b>At</b> Astatine Halogen	86 222.01... <b>Rn</b> Radon Noble Gas
87 223.01... <b>Fr</b> Francium Alkali Metal	88 226.02... <b>Ra</b> Radium Alkaline Earth Me...											104 267.1... <b>Rf</b> Rutherfordium Transition Metal	105 268.1... <b>Db</b> Dubnium Transition Metal	106 269.1... <b>Sg</b> Seaborgium Transition Metal	107 270.1... <b>Bh</b> Bohrium Transition Metal	108 269.1... <b>Hs</b> Hassium Transition Metal	109 277.1... <b>Mt</b> Meitnerium Transition Metal	110 282.1... <b>Ds</b> Darmstadtium Transition Metal	111 282.1... <b>Rg</b> Roentgenium Transition Metal	112 286.1... <b>Cn</b> Copernicium Transition Metal	113 286.1... <b>Nh</b> Nihonium Post-Transition M...	114 290.1... <b>Fl</b> Flerovium Post-Transition M...	115 290.1... <b>Mc</b> Moscovium Post-Transition M...	116 293.2... <b>Lv</b> Livermorium Post-Transition M...	117 294.2... <b>Ts</b> Tennessine Halogen	118 295.2... <b>Og</b> Oganesson Noble Gas
		57 138.9055 <b>La</b> Lanthanum Lanthanide	58 140.116 <b>Ce</b> Cerium Lanthanide	59 140.90... <b>Pr</b> Praseodymium Lanthanide	60 144.24 <b>Nd</b> Neodymium Lanthanide	61 144.91... <b>Pm</b> Promethium Lanthanide	62 150.4 <b>Sm</b> Samarium Lanthanide	63 151.964 <b>Eu</b> Europium Lanthanide	64 157.2 <b>Gd</b> Gadolinium Lanthanide	65 158.92... <b>Tb</b> Terbium Lanthanide	66 162.500 <b>Dy</b> Dysprosium Lanthanide	67 164.93... <b>Ho</b> Holmium Lanthanide	68 167.26 <b>Er</b> Erbium Lanthanide	69 168.93... <b>Tm</b> Thulium Lanthanide	70 173.05 <b>Yb</b> Ytterbium Lanthanide	71 174.9668 <b>Lu</b> Lutetium Lanthanide										
		89 227.02... <b>Ac</b> Actinium Actinide	90 232.038 <b>Th</b> Thorium Actinide	91 231.03... <b>Pa</b> Protactinium Actinide	92 238.0289 <b>U</b> Uranium Actinide	93 237.04... <b>Np</b> Neptunium Actinide	94 244.06... <b>Pu</b> Plutonium Actinide	95 243.06... <b>Am</b> Americium Actinide	96 247.07... <b>Cm</b> Curium Actinide	97 247.07... <b>Bk</b> Berkelium Actinide	98 251.07... <b>Cf</b> Californium Actinide	99 252.0830 <b>Es</b> Einsteinium Actinide	100 257.0... <b>Fm</b> Fermium Actinide	101 258.0... <b>Md</b> Mendelevium Actinide	102 259.1... <b>No</b> Nobelium Actinide	103 266.1... <b>Lr</b> Lawrencium Actinide										

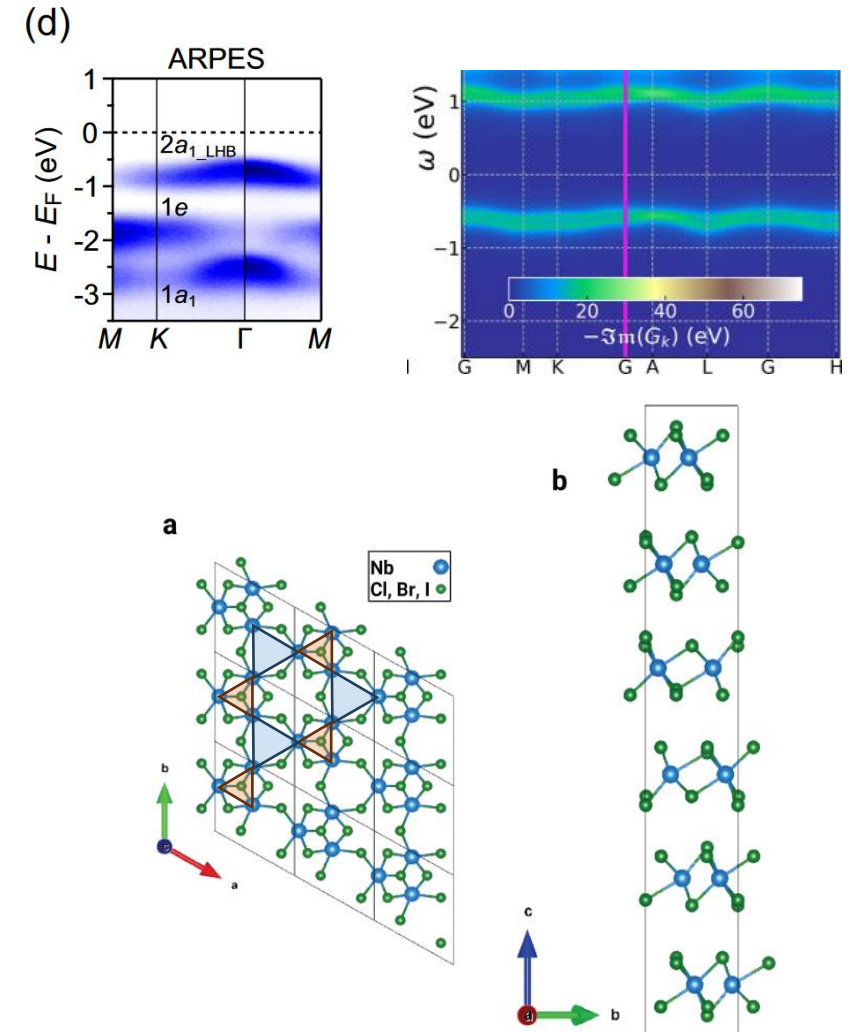
What happens to the “mott insulating” state as a function of F(not yet) -> Cl -> Br -> I?

Chemical expectations:

- Larger orbitals, increased overlap
- Increased band dispersion; less flat
- **Decreased magnitude of hubbard U, increased magnitude of hopping, t**
- *So maybe MI -> Trivial I*

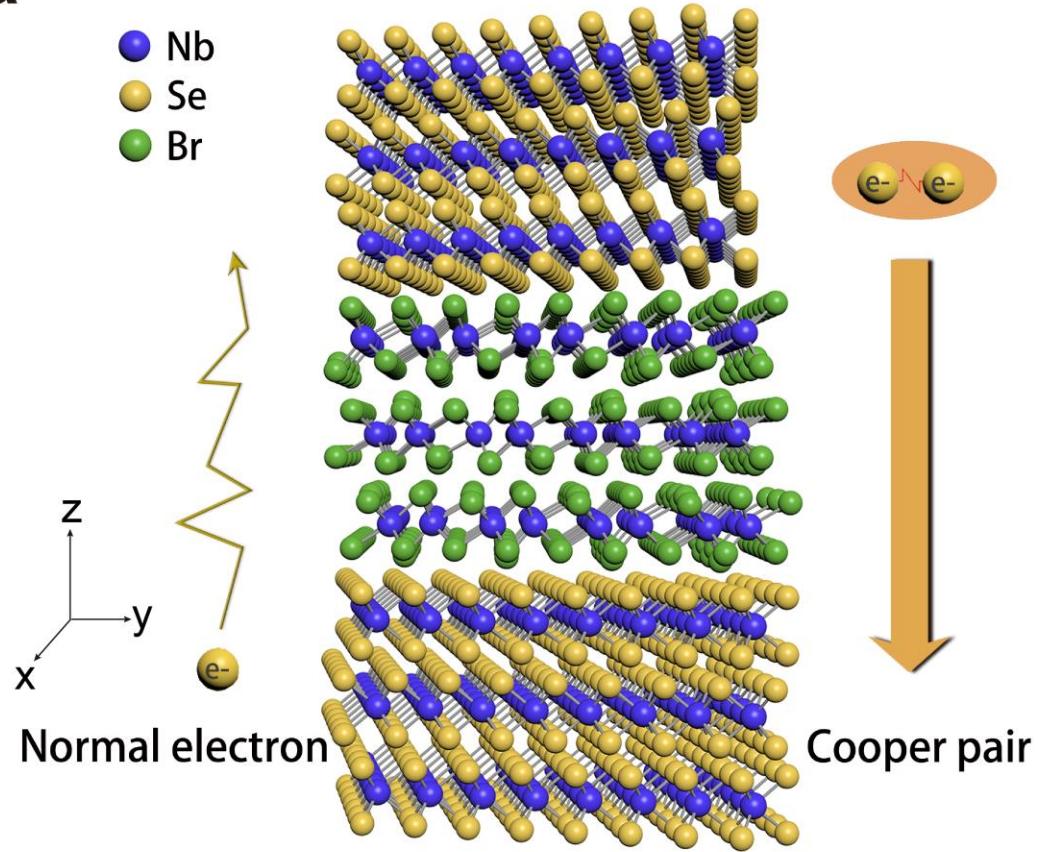
# Niobium Halides and their “Mottness”

- $\text{Nb}_3\text{Cl}_8$ 
  - Deep Mott Insulator ( $U \gg t$ )
- $\text{Nb}_3\text{Br}_8$ 
  - OK Mott Insulator ( $U > t$ )
- $\text{Nb}_3\text{I}_8$ 
  - Junky MI or trivial insulator ( $U \sim t$ )



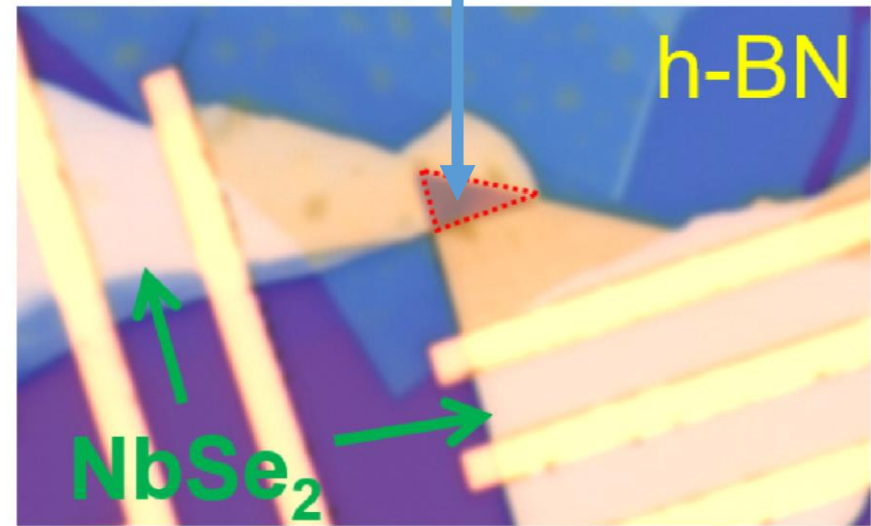
# Nb<sub>3</sub>Cl<sub>8</sub>/Br<sub>8</sub> QMJJs

a

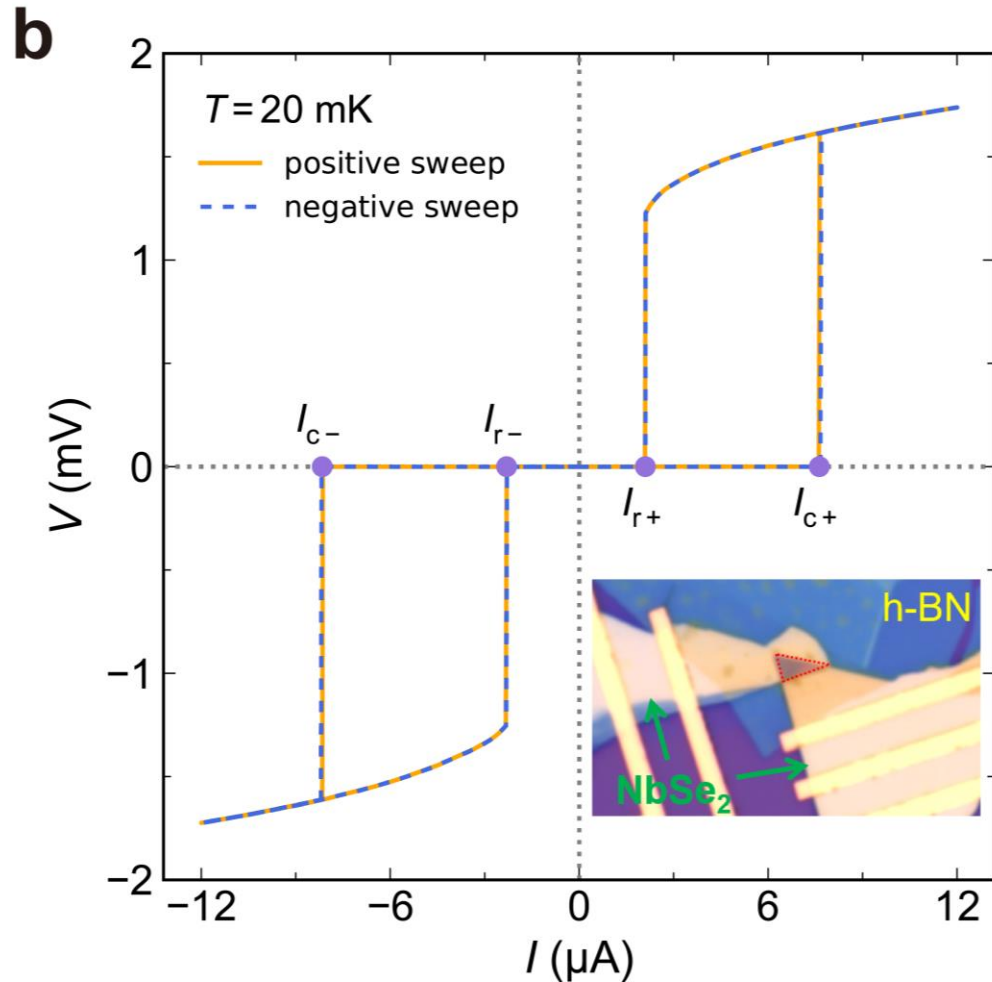


Breaking inversion symmetry: 3 (4,5) layer stack AND arbitrary twist angles of NbSe<sub>2</sub> layers

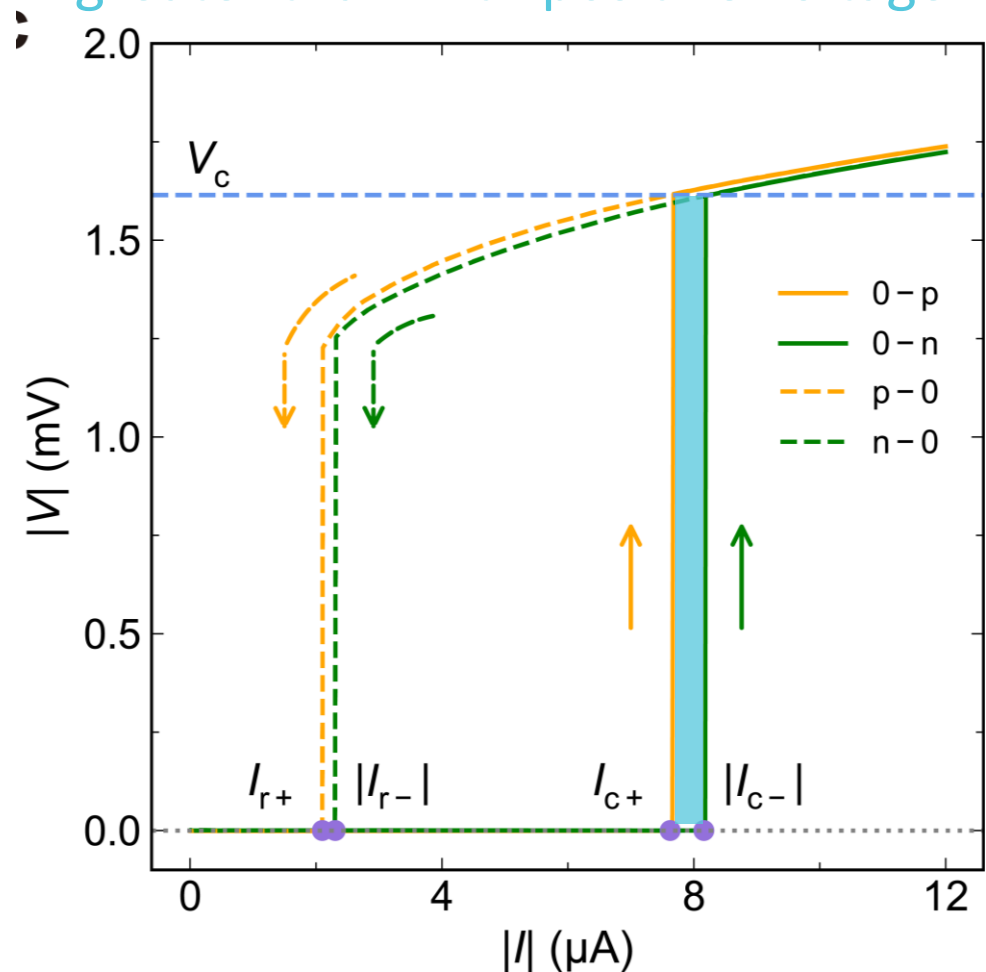
h-BN / Thick NbSe<sub>2</sub> / 3-layers Nb<sub>3</sub>Br<sub>8</sub> / Thick NbSe<sub>2</sub> / h-BN



# Nb<sub>3</sub>Br<sub>8</sub> Junction



Critical Current with negative voltage is greater than with positive voltage:  $\Delta I_c$

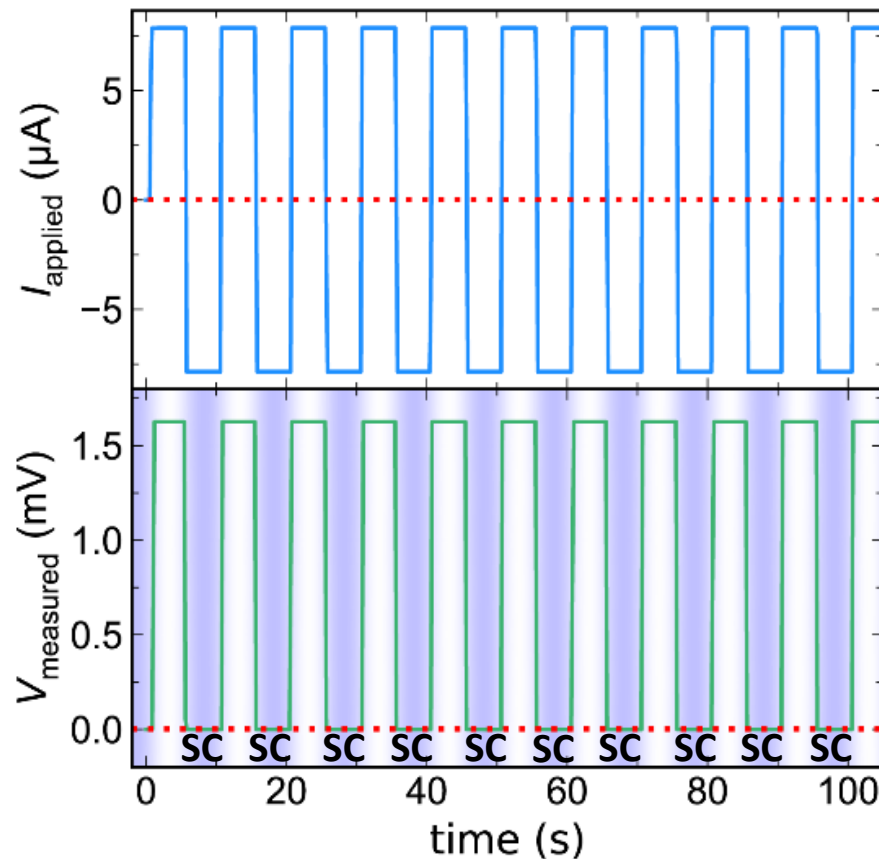


So...If  $I_{\text{applied}}$  is chosen carefully, Junction should SC in only one direction!

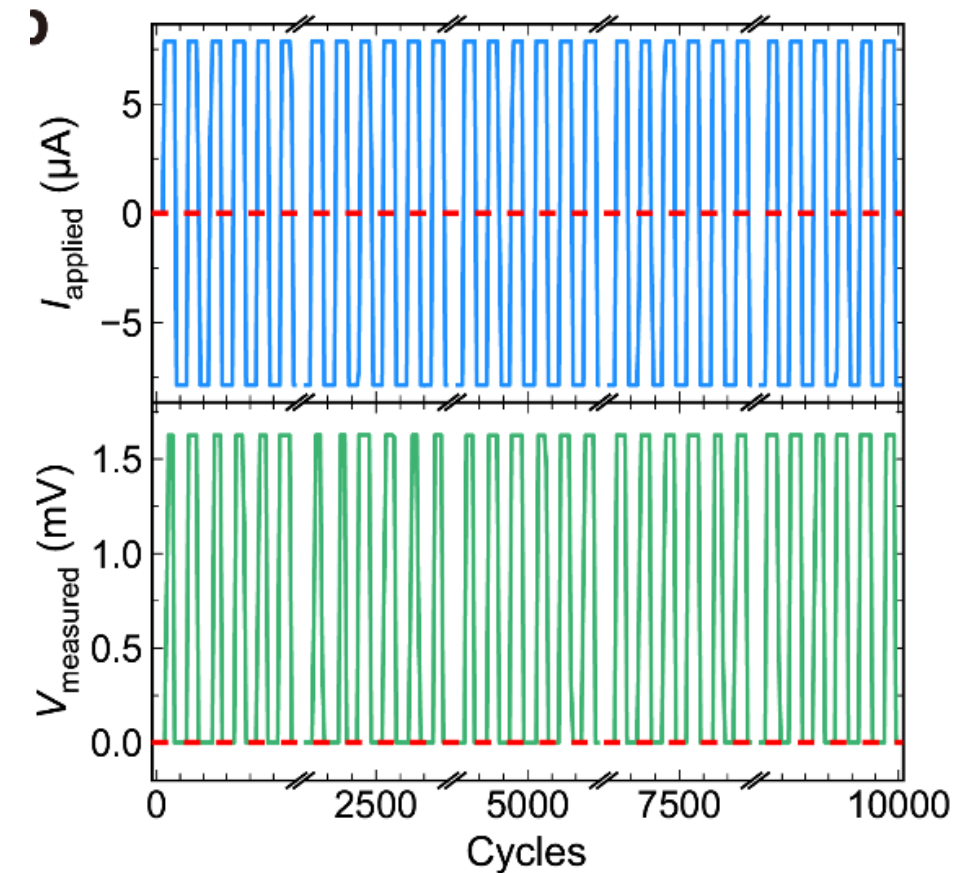
$I_{\text{applied}} = \pm 7.9$   
 $\mu\text{A}$ ; in between  
 $I_{c+}$  and  $|I_{c-}|$

$T = 20$  mK,  $B = 0$ ,  
 freq = 0.1 Hz

**Rectification**  
**Ratio  $> 10^4$**

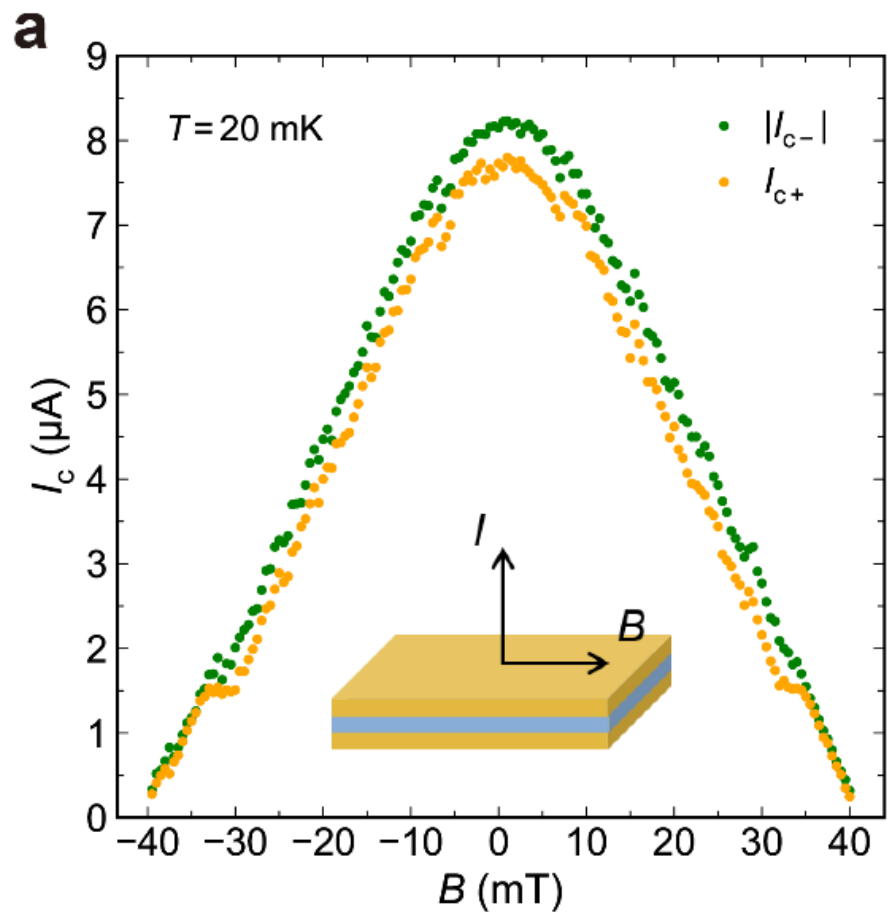


10,000 cycles, 0.5Hz, no punch through error



**Rectified half the excitation! Josephson DIODE**

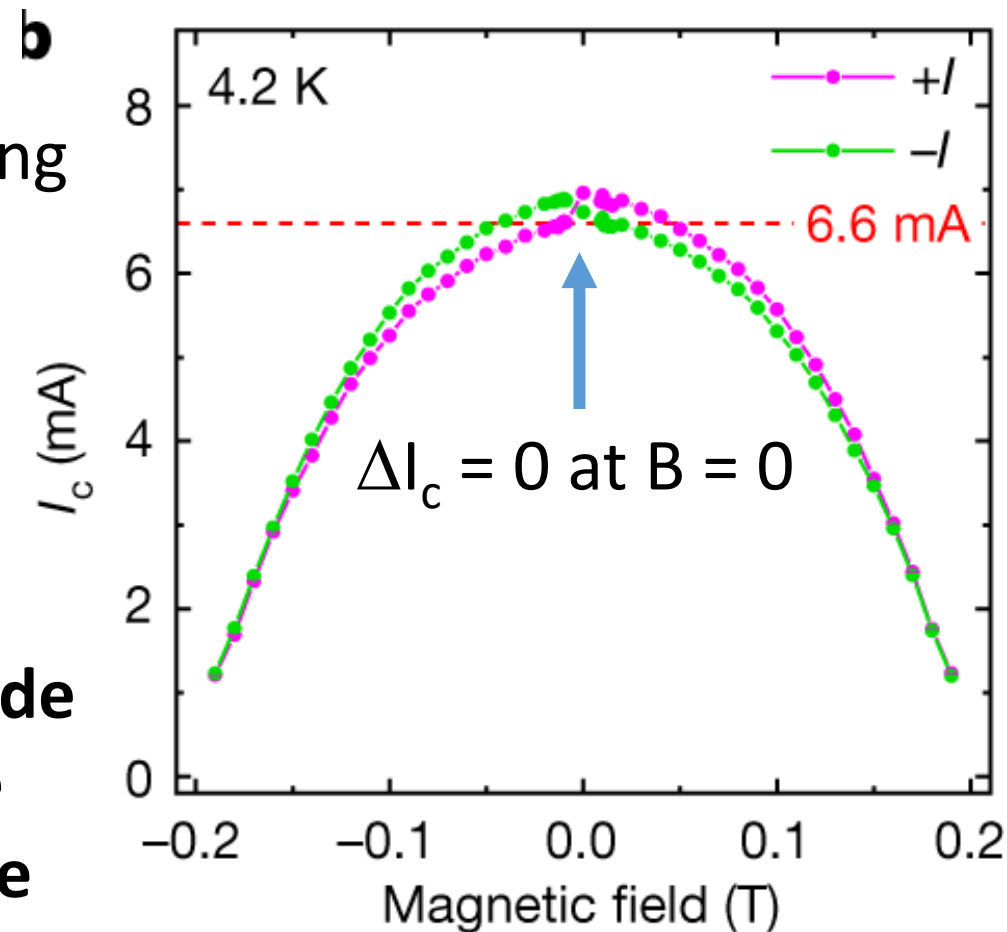
# Does it really work field-free ( $B = 0$ )?



Compare with the bulk superconducting diode effect from magnetochiral anisotropy:

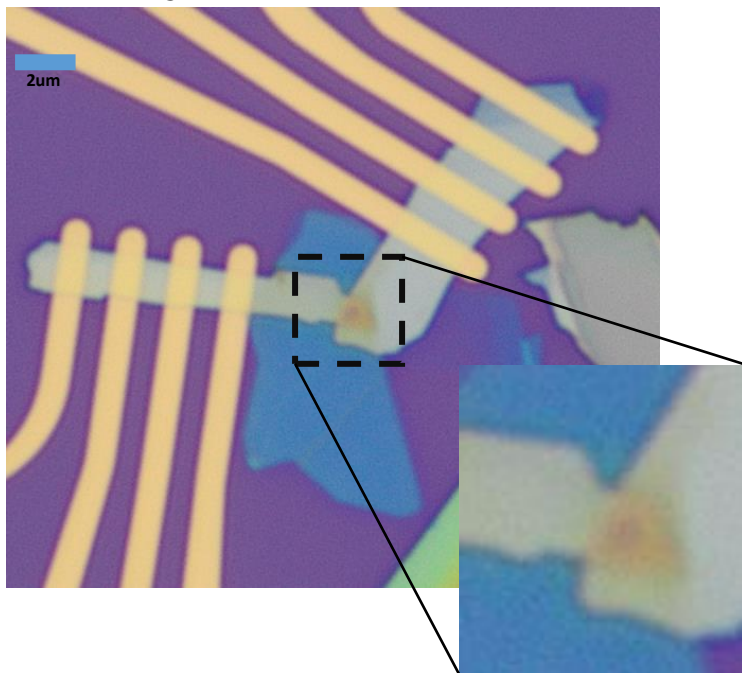
**The Josephson diode is NOT the same mechanism as the bulk SC diode**

**YES!  $\Delta I_c$  is non-zero at  $B = 0$**

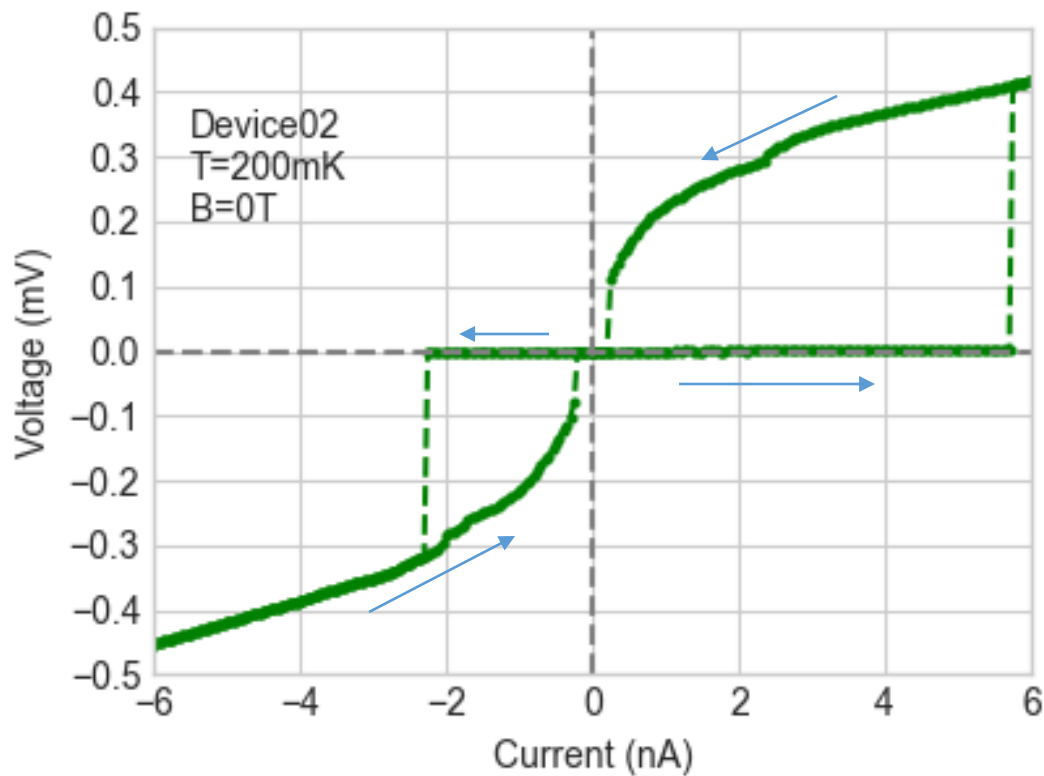


# What about $\text{Nb}_3\text{Cl}_8$ ?

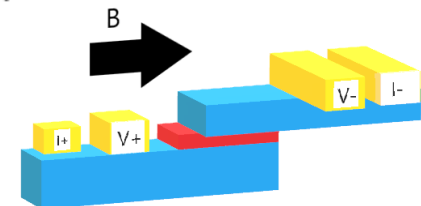
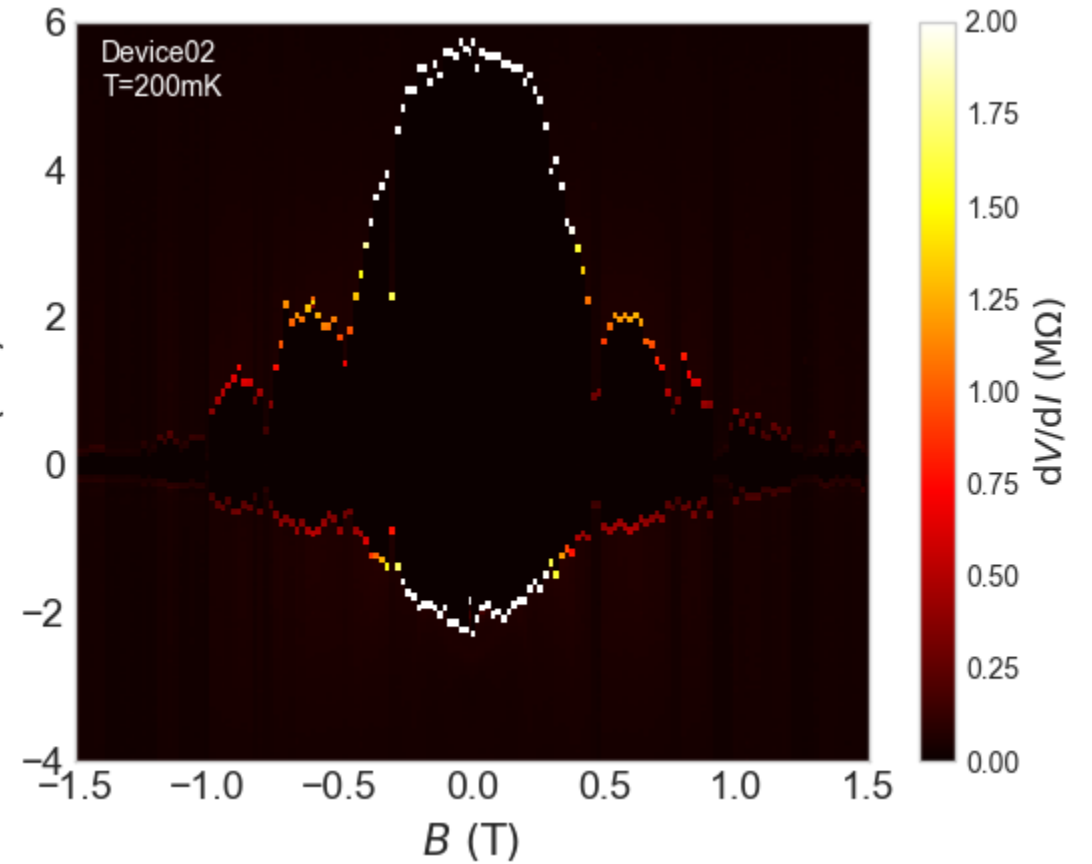
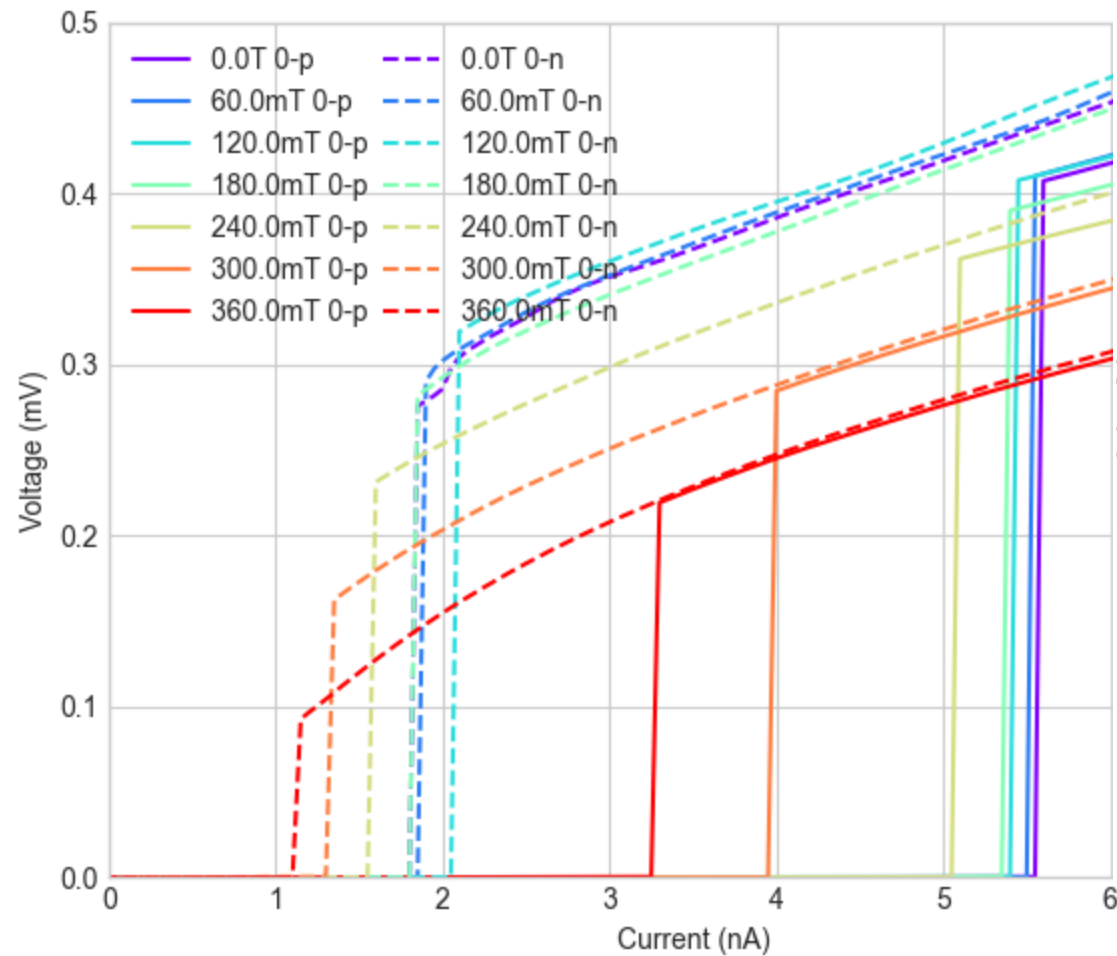
$$J_{c+} \approx 2 \text{ nA}/\mu\text{m}^2$$



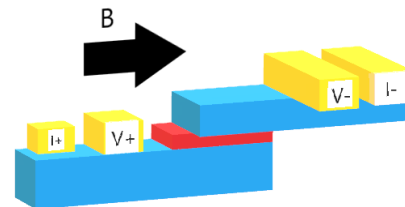
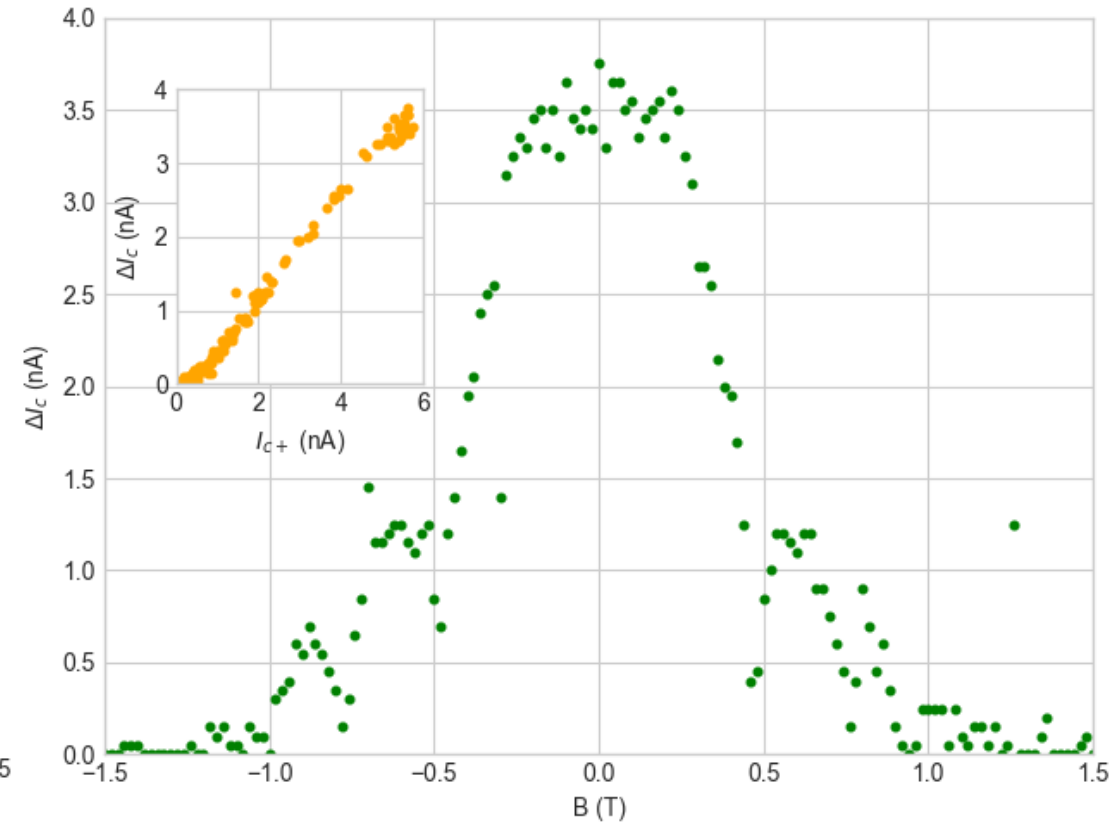
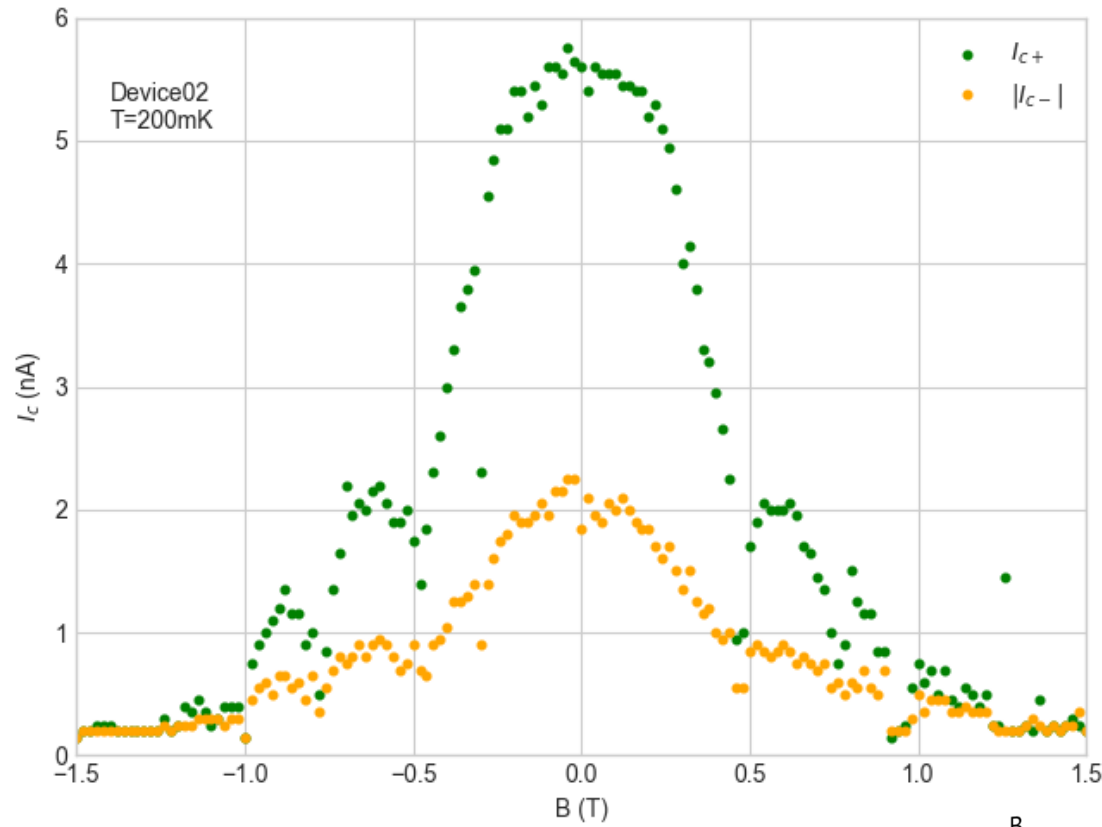
$$\Delta I_c = 3.45 \text{ nA}$$



# Field Dependence of Nb<sub>3</sub>Cl<sub>8</sub> Junction

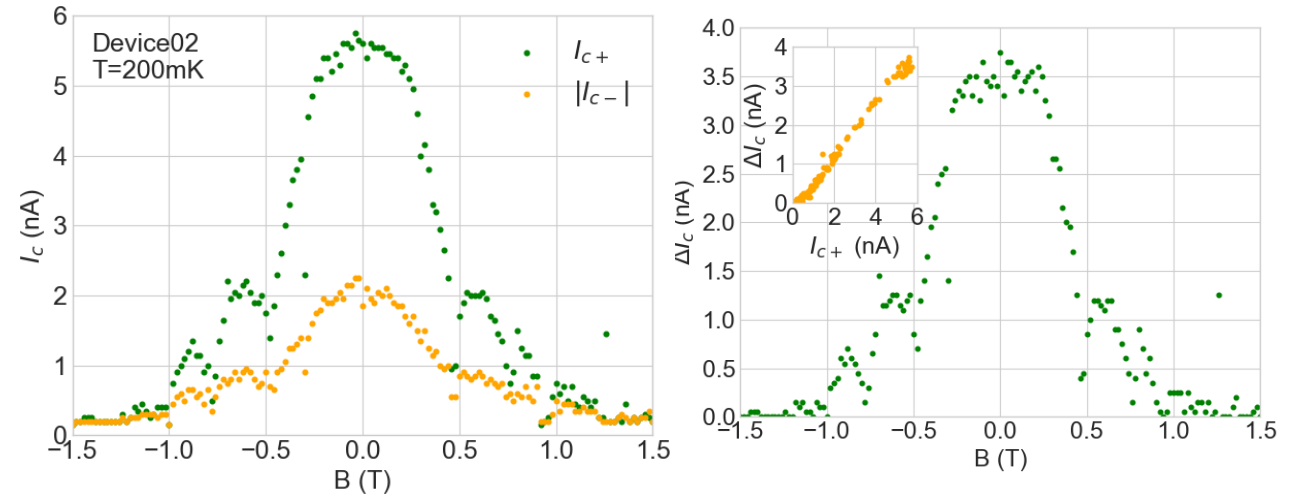


# Field Dependence of Nb<sub>3</sub>Cl<sub>8</sub> Junction

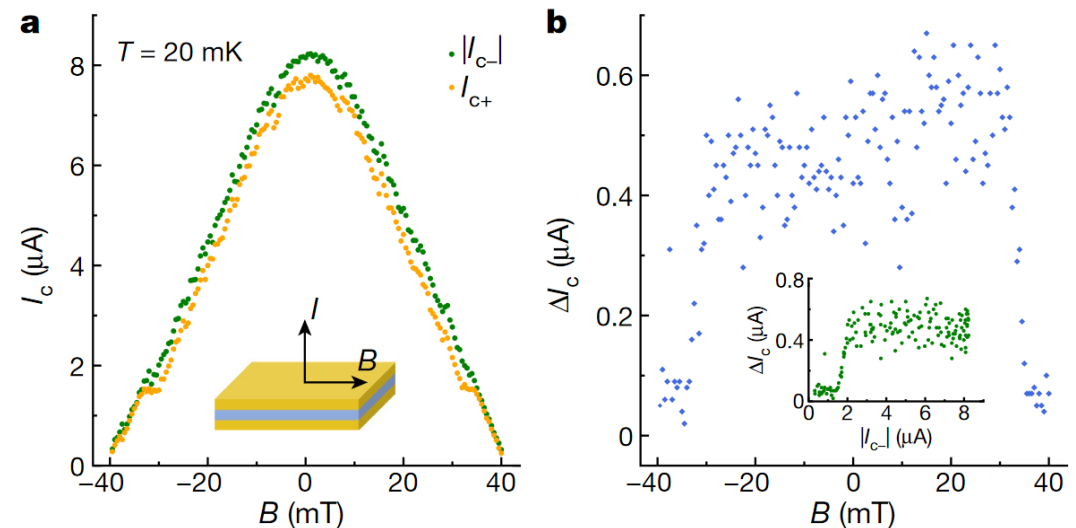


# Comparing Field Dependence of $\text{Nb}_3\text{Cl}_8$ & $\text{Nb}_3\text{Br}_8$

•  $\text{Nb}_3\text{Cl}_8$  →

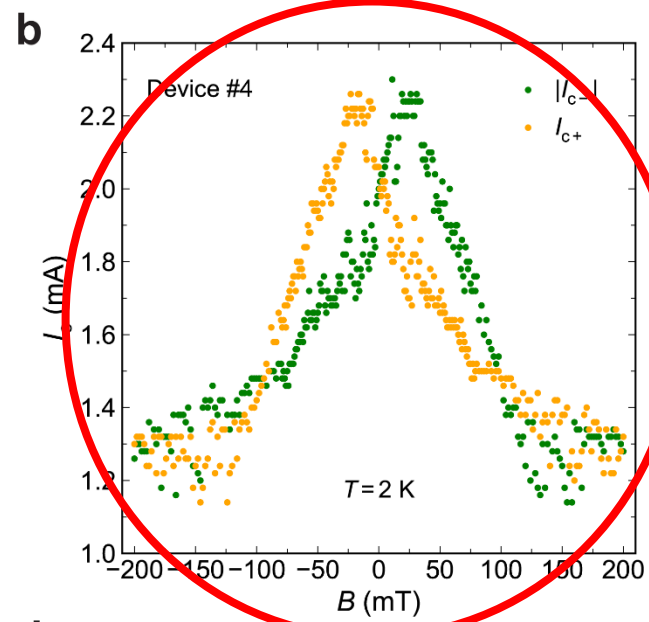
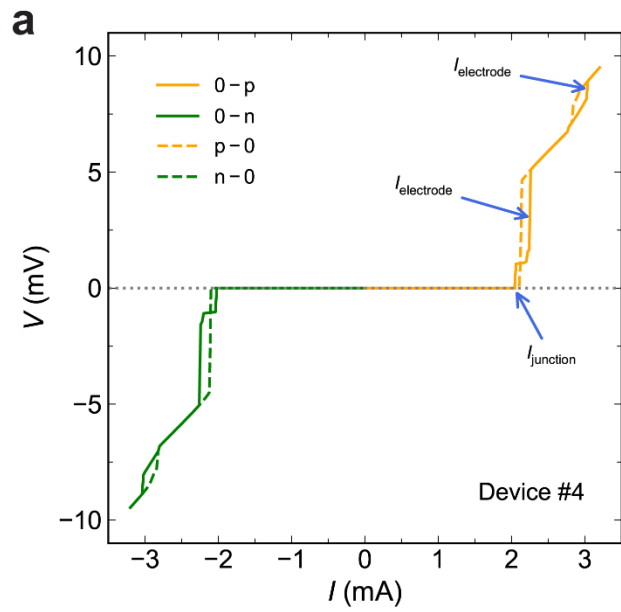


•  $\text{Nb}_3\text{Br}_8$  →

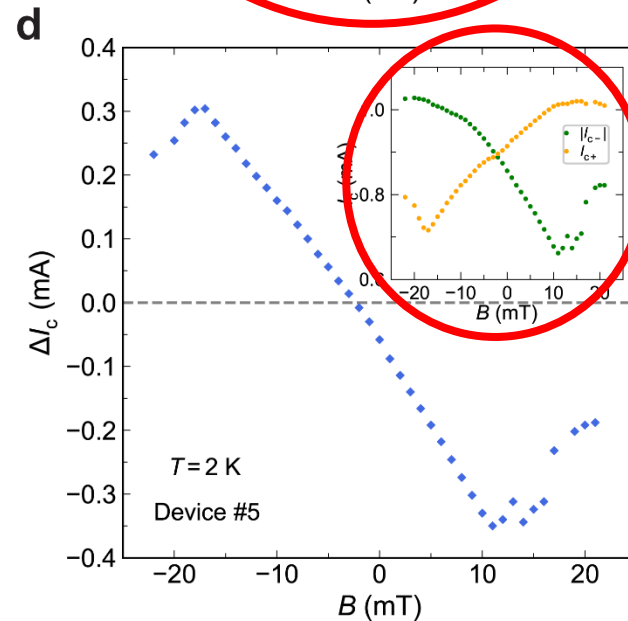
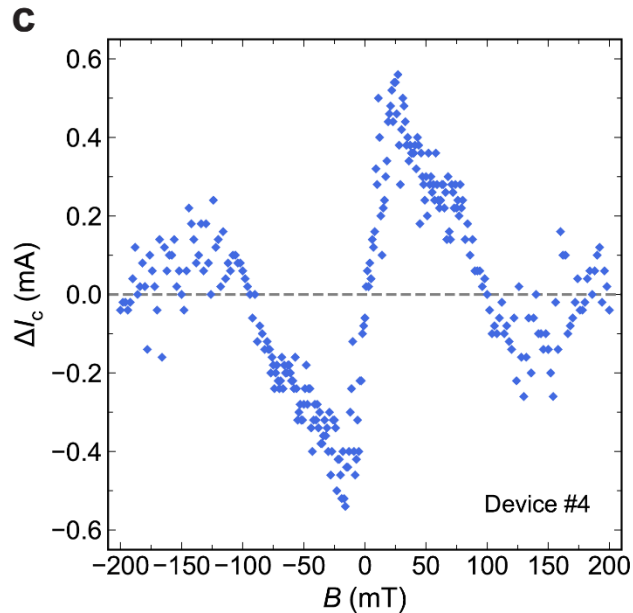


# Is it really the $\text{Nb}_3\text{Cl}_8\text{Br}_8$ barrier?

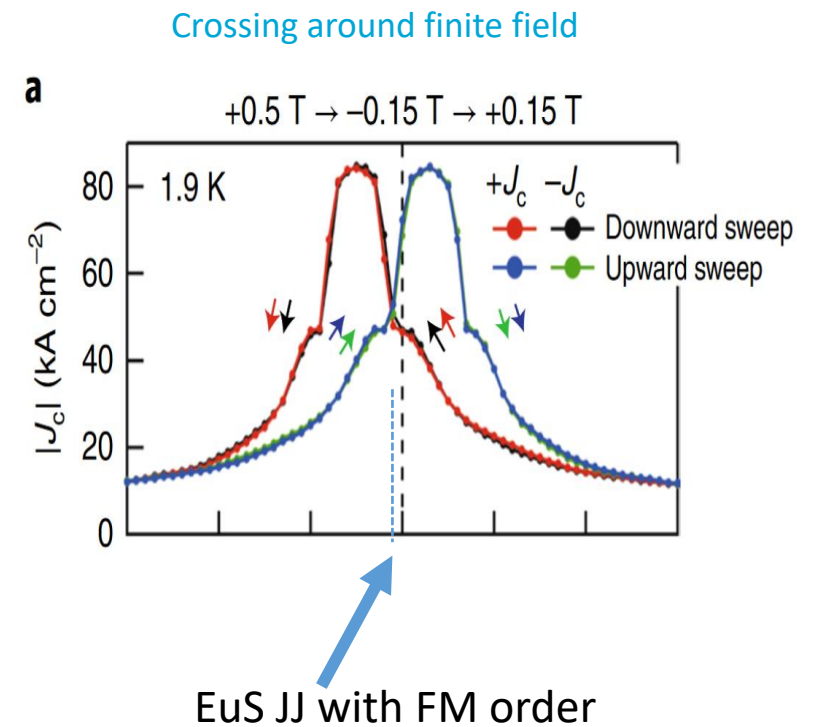
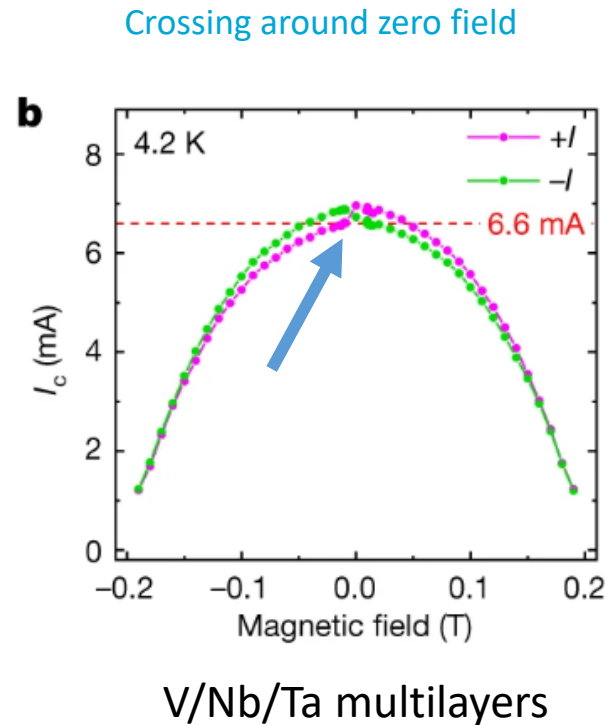
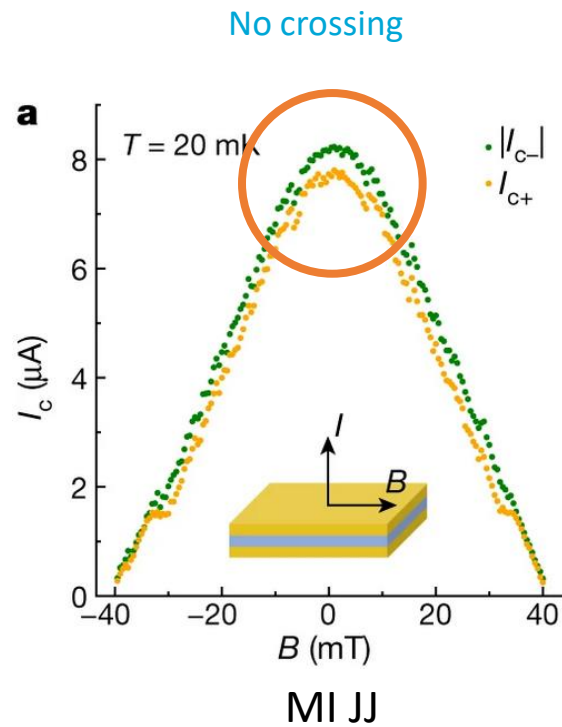
$\text{NbSe}_2/\text{NbSe}_2$



$\text{NbSe}_2/\text{FLG}/\text{NbSe}_2$



# Categorizing Superconducting Diode Effect Devices by Magnetic Field Response



- Wu, H., et.al. (2022). The field-free Josephson diode in a van der Waals heterostructure. *Nature*, 604(7907), Article 7907.
- Ando, F., et.al. (2020). Observation of superconducting diode effect. *Nature*, 584(7821), Article 7821.
- Narita, H., et.al. (2022). Field-free superconducting diode effect in noncentrosymmetric superconductor/ferromagnet multilayers. *Nature Nanotechnology*, 17(8), 823–828

# Nb<sub>3</sub>X<sub>8</sub> Series Josephson Diodes

## PERIODIC TABLE OF ELEMENTS

Chemical Group Block

PubChem

Atomic Number: 17, 35.45; Atomic Mass, u: ...

Name: Chlorine; Symbol: Cl; Chemical Group Block: Halogen

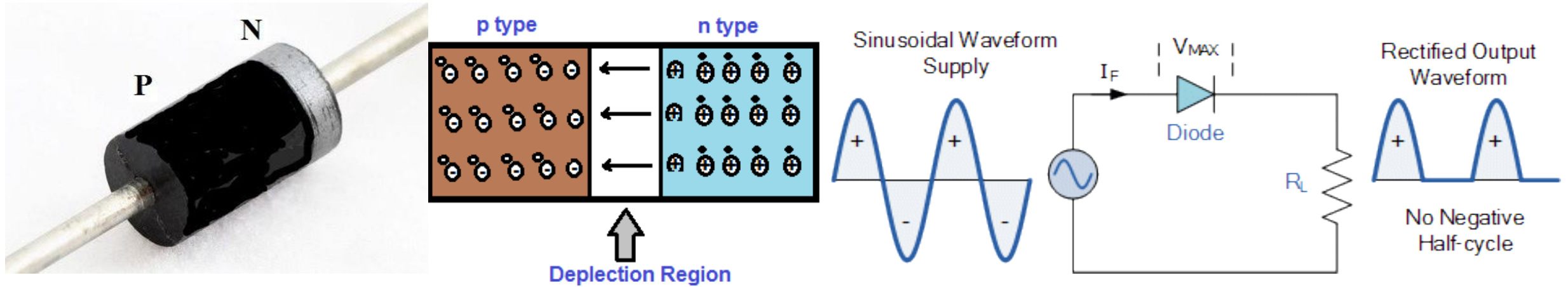
What happens to the Josephson Diode behaviour as a function of F (not yet) -> Cl -> Br -> I?

JD behavior got worse.

How does magnetism affect it? Clearly different than others (e.g. EuS, gated graphene, etc)

	Nb <sub>3</sub> Cl <sub>8</sub>	Nb <sub>3</sub> Br <sub>8</sub>	Nb <sub>3</sub> I <sub>8</sub>
JD Type	FF. Symm	FF. Symm	?
U/t (theory)	~40	~10	~2
J <sub>c</sub>	~2nA/μm <sup>2</sup>	~2μA/μm <sup>2</sup>	?
ΔI <sub>c</sub>	~3nA	~700nA	?
ΔI <sub>c</sub> /I <sub>c</sub> (%)	~45%	~10%	?

# Nonreciprocal (NR) Conduction in general



- Non-Reciprocal – forward and backward flows differ
  - ✓ Break inversion symmetry  $(x,y,z) \neq (-x, -y, -z)$
  - ✓ Then need a nonlinear response (E.g. p/n junction, MCA)
  - ✓ For a single crystalline system, break time-reversal symmetry (TRS) with **magnetic field** or spatial effect (i.e. **electronic correlation and dissipation**)
  - ✓ **Rectification (Diode Effect): very basic demonstration of non-reciprocity**

**NR - critical for many components (gyrators, isolators, circulators, active transistors, etc) - important for everything from wireless transmitters to quantum computing!**

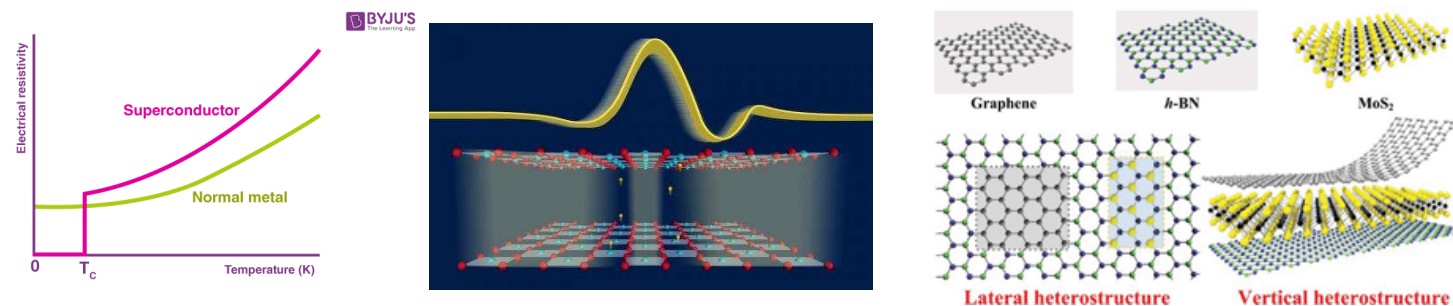
# Potential Benefits of Non-Reciprocal SC devices

Enables **superconducting non-reciprocal** circuits and components

*in analogy*

to **semiconducting non-reciprocal** circuits and components!

- ENERGY: Dramatic switching energy reduction
- SPEED: Old IBM studies; material possibilities up to **THz switching**
- SIZE: Quantum Materials, 2D JJs, few nm thick





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Research Highlight | Published: 27 May 2022

SUPERCONDUCTING ELECTRONICS

### A Josephson diode that v

Katharina Zeissler

Nature Electronics 5, 258 (2022) | Cite this article

161 Accesses | Metrics

THE TIMES

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## Superconductor breakthrough heralds faster computing

Tom Whipple, Science Editor

Thursday April 28 2022, 12:00am BST, The Times



SUMMARY News Blogs Twitter Wikipedia Reddit Dimensions citations

So far, Altmetric has seen 43 news stories from 39 outlets.



### 零磁场下的超导半导体：新物理和新器件的开端 知社会学圈49分钟前0跟贴

163.com, 17 May 2022

1911年, 荷兰物理学家卡默林·昂纳斯发现了超导性。正常传导中, 电子以单粒子的形式运动; 在超导体中, 它们成对运动, 不会损失任何电



### 物理學家們研發出了長久以來被認為不可能的超導電路

Yahoo! News, 15 May 2022

藉由將一種古典材料替換成具有獨特量子性質的材料, 科學家們已製造出一超導電路, 能夠達成長久以來被視為不可能的壯舉。這項由德國、荷蘭、以及美國的研究人員所帶來的發現, 翻轉了一世紀以來, 對於超導電路天性的看法, 以及如何能夠調整它們的電流於實際應用上。過往的侷限..

WE ARE FALLING WALLS WINNERS

WARE

# Engineering and Technology 2022

US Edition

Giulia Pacchioni

Materials 7, 337 (2022) | Cite this article

3 Altmetric | Metrics



DIY HEALTH GEAR POPSCI 150 MERCH

## ducting Breakthrough May Industry Dramatically

By Francisco Pires published

physicsworld

superconductivity

## This one-way superconductor could be a step toward eternal electricity

The material used in this first-of-a-kind superconductor could be energy-efficient.

BY RAHUL RAO | PUBLISHED APR 27, 2022 3:30 PM

SUPERCONI

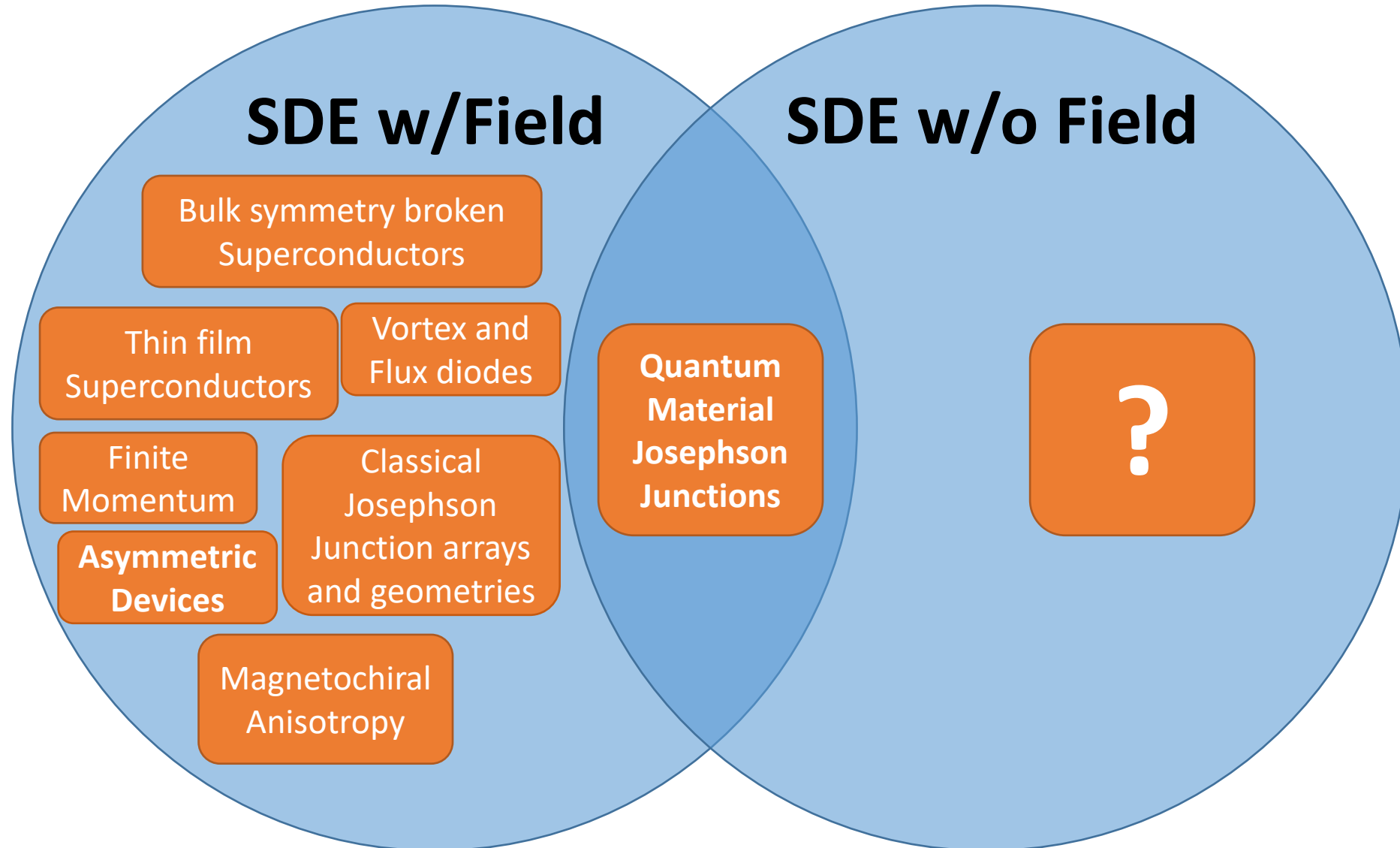
### Scientists unveil Josephson diode

04 May 2022



An international group of physicists has demonstrated that a very thin layer of quantum-mechanical material sandwiched between two pieces of superconductor can

# Superconducting Diode Effects



# Non-reciprocal superconductivity via QMJJs

- Explosion of realisations:
  - Topological Insulators
  - Dirac/Weyl Semimetals
  - 2DEGs
  - Twisted Graphene Heterostructures
  - Single atom scale JJs: Pb-Cr-Pb
  - Ferromagnetic JJs

State of the art:

Efficiencies > 50%

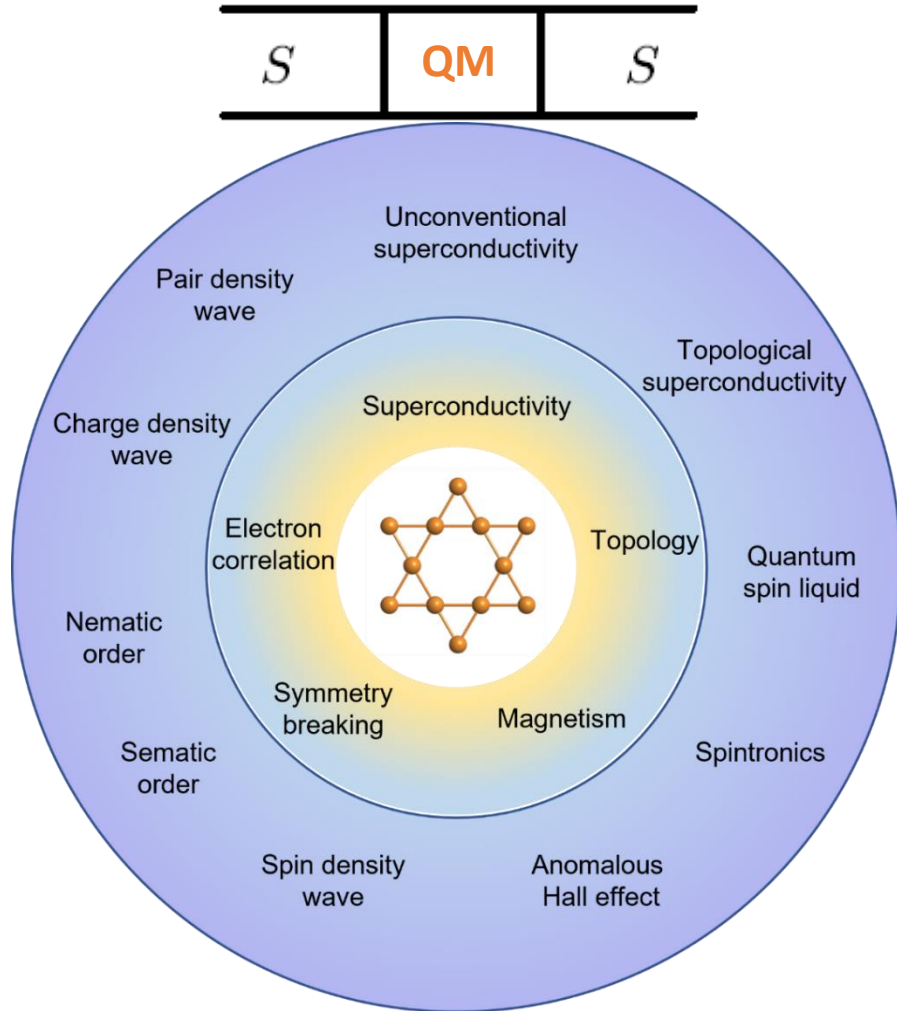
Working temperature > 77K

Switching speed > 100KHz

Scalability – Ongoing



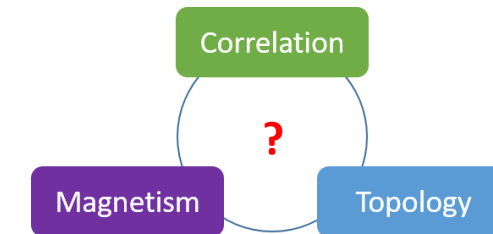
# QMJs moving forward



- 1.) Strongly correlated materials (not SC)
  - Mott-Hubbard Insulators
- 2.) Topological materials
  - Berry curvature, spatially confined states
- 3.) Spin liquids
  - Magnetic frustration
- 4.) Certain Ferroelectrics
  - Polarization
- 5.) Certain Magnetoelectrics
  - Chern-Simons interaction
- 6.) Non-collinear magnets
  - Spatially varying local magnetic field
- Much, much more

**Table 1 | Properties of Kagome materials**

Materials	Low Temperature Magnetism	Topological	Electron Correlation	Phase transitions
$AV_3Sb_5$ (A=Cs, K, Rb)	No long range order but TRSB reported <sup>78,119,120</sup>	Dirac semimetal <sup>32,62</sup>	Weak correlation <sup>84</sup> , e-e vHS <sup>62,63</sup> , flat band <sup>60</sup>	Structure distortion <sup>86,87</sup> , CDW <sup>69</sup> , PDW <sup>29</sup> , nematic/stripe orders <sup>28,73</sup> , SC <sup>30</sup>
$RMn_6Sn_6$	Ferrimagnetic: R=Tb, Dy, Ho, Er (conical magnetic order in R= Dy, Ho) <sup>185</sup> Antiferromagnetic: R= Tm <sup>185</sup> Antiferromagnetic, double-flat-spiral: R=Y, Sc, Lu, Er <sup>187–189</sup> Ferromagnetic: R=Li, Mg, Ca <sup>191,192</sup>	Chern phase: R=Tb <sup>35</sup> , Gd-Er <sup>202</sup> , proposed for R=Y <sup>204</sup>  Dirac cone in $YMn_6Sn_6$ <sup>204</sup>	flat band and vHS reported in $YMn_6Sn_6$	Magnetic transitions
$RMn_6Ge_6$	Ferromagnetic: R=Nd, Sm <sup>179</sup> Antiferromagnetic: R=Dy-Yb, Sc, Y, Lu, Gd <sup>177,193</sup>	Not reported	Not clear	Magnetic transition
$RFe_6Sn_6, RFe_6Ge_6$ R=Dy-Yb, Sc, Y, Lu	Mostly antiferromagnetic <sup>177,178</sup>	Not reported	Not clear	Magnetic transitions
$RV_6Sn_6$	Non-magnetic: R= Y <sup>194</sup> Weak paramagnetic: R=Sc <sup>195</sup> R=Gd: weak, field dependent magnetism <sup>194</sup>	Dirac cone in R=Gd, Ho <sup>201,202</sup>	vHS in R=Gd, Ho <sup>201,202</sup>	Structural and CDW transitions in $ScV_6Sn_6$ <sup>195</sup> Magnetic transition in $GdV_6Sn_6$ <sup>194</sup>
$MoCo_6Ge_6$ $Yb_{0.5}Co_3Ge_3$	Paramagnet <sup>196</sup> Weak magnetism, possible magnetic transition around 20 K <sup>41,42</sup>	Not reported Not reported	Not clear Not clear	Structural transition <sup>196</sup> Structural transition <sup>42</sup>
$Nb_3X_8$ (X=Cl, Br, I)	X=Cl, Br, paramagnetic to nonmagnetic transition (bulk crystal) <sup>37</sup> Thin film: not clear	Not reported	Strong correlation Flat band <sup>40,223,228</sup> Mott insulator <sup>39,40</sup>	Structural and magnetic transition
FeGe FeSn CoSn	Antiferromagnetic <sup>230</sup> Antiferromagnetic <sup>15</sup> Paramagnetic <sup>16</sup>	Not reported Dirac cone <sup>15</sup> Dirac cone <sup>16</sup>	vHS <sup>230</sup> Flat band <sup>15</sup> Flat band <sup>16,17</sup>	FeGe <sup>230</sup> : Structural, CDW and magnetic transitions
$Mn_3Ge, Mn_3Sn$	Chiral antiferromagnetic <sup>20,22</sup>	Weyl semimetal <sup>21</sup>	Not clear	Magnetic transition
$Co_3Sn_2S_2$	Ferromagnetic <sup>14</sup>	Weyl semimetal <sup>13,14</sup>	Flat band <sup>235</sup>	Magnetic transition
$Fe_3Sn_2$	Noncollinear ferromagnetic, skyrmion <sup>18,19</sup>	Massive Dirac point <sup>236</sup>	Flat band <sup>237</sup>	Magnetic transition
$RT_3X_2$	Mostly weak magnetism <sup>213–215,233,238,239</sup>	Dirac cone proposed <sup>214,234</sup>	Flat band, vHS proposed <sup>214,234</sup>	SC in many compounds, e.g. $LaRu_3Si_2$ <sup>213,240</sup> , $LaIr_3Ga_2$ <sup>214</sup> , $YRu_3Si_2$ <sup>215</sup> , $LaRh_3B_2$ <sup>239</sup> , $CeRh_3B_2$ <sup>239</sup>

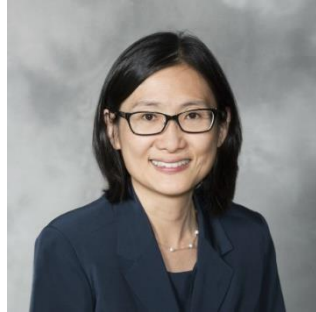


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