

?What are the physics questions?

- **charge transfer:**

- how much charge moves?
- how far?
- into what orbitals?
- causing what lattice relaxations?

- **order parameter transfer:**

- penetration depth
- domain walls between different kinds of order

- **“new” phenomena:**

- interface spin/charge/orbital/sc order
- Parkin question: room temp SC?

- **dynamics:**

- linear + nonlinear response
- control=>?devices



Theoretical Techniques

- **Basic problem: need to solve spatially inhomogeneous correlated electron system—but even homogeneous systems are notoriously difficult to treat**

1 dimension: numerics; exact solutions

D>1: mean field approximations:

- *Hartree (LDA (+U))

- *Dynamical mean field



The (theoretical) methods

- **Band theory (and LDA +U)**
 - charge density
 - lattice distortions
 - ground state phase diagram
- **Hartree Fock**
 - charge distribution
 - phase diagram
- **Many body methods (Must treat multiplet interactions)**
 - Spectral functions
 - phase diagram
 - dynamics

**Opportunity (challenge) to theory:
new system--what can be predicted?**



Density Functional Theory

Basic Theorem (Hohenberg and Kohn): \exists functional Φ of electron density $n(\mathbf{r})$: minimized at physical density; value at minimum gives ground state energy

$$\Phi[\{n(\mathbf{r})\}] = \Phi_{univ}[\{n(\mathbf{r})\}] + \int (d\mathbf{r}) V_{lattice}(\mathbf{r})n(\mathbf{r})$$

Useful because:

***Have uncontrolled (but apparently good) approximations to Φ**

***Have efficient way to carry out minimization**

LDA+U: Further approximation: add Hartree interaction to LDA energy (and subtract double-counting term)



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Density functional theory: II

**LDA (+U) probably not reliable
for phase diagram, excitations
(esp near density 1/cell)**

**LDA (+U) probably is reliable
for charge density, basic
hybridization effects (esp away
from density 1/cell)**



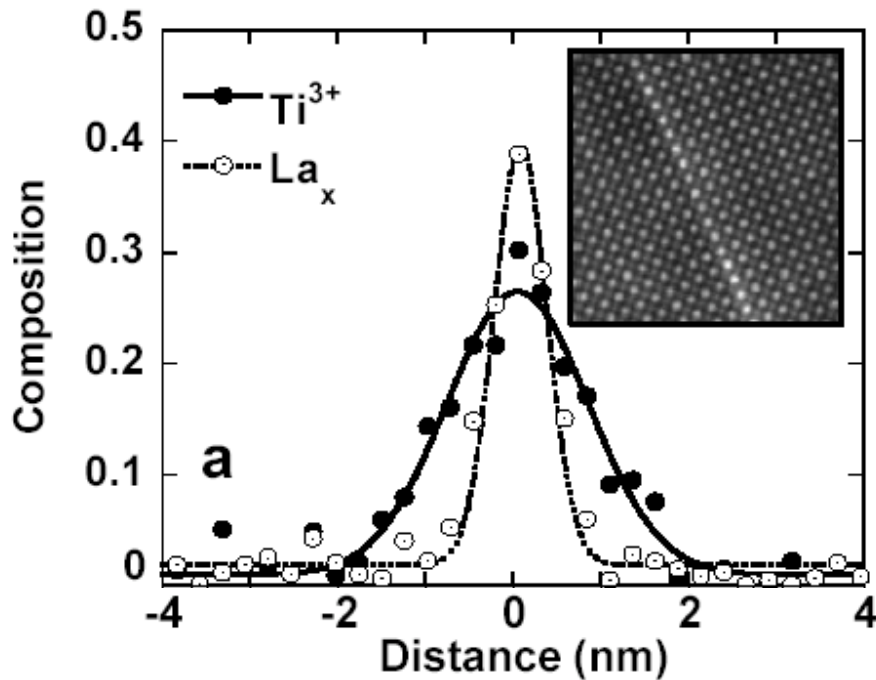
Reasonable goal:

Use DFT to define Hamiltonian to
study with many-body methods



Charge Profile=>Lattice distortions

- =>dipole layer
- =>? Large coulomb forces on atoms
- =>?Structural distortions+screening



Ohtomo et al 2002



Lattice affects density profile density profile affects lattice

Particular issue: SrTiO_3 --nearly ferroelectric=>

Long distance, low T: $\epsilon > 10^3$

?But on the scale of a lattice constant?



General issue

Proximity to interface breaks symmetry.

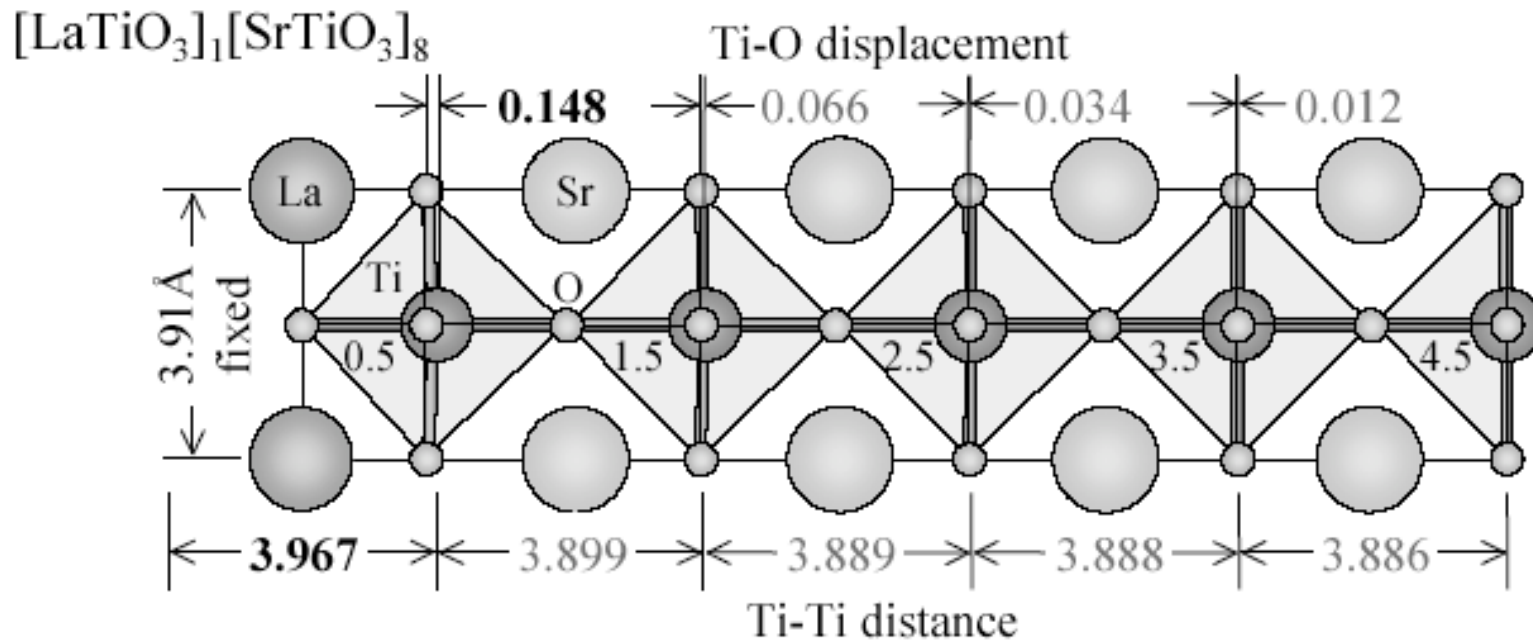
- **level splitting.**
- **Changes in hopping.**



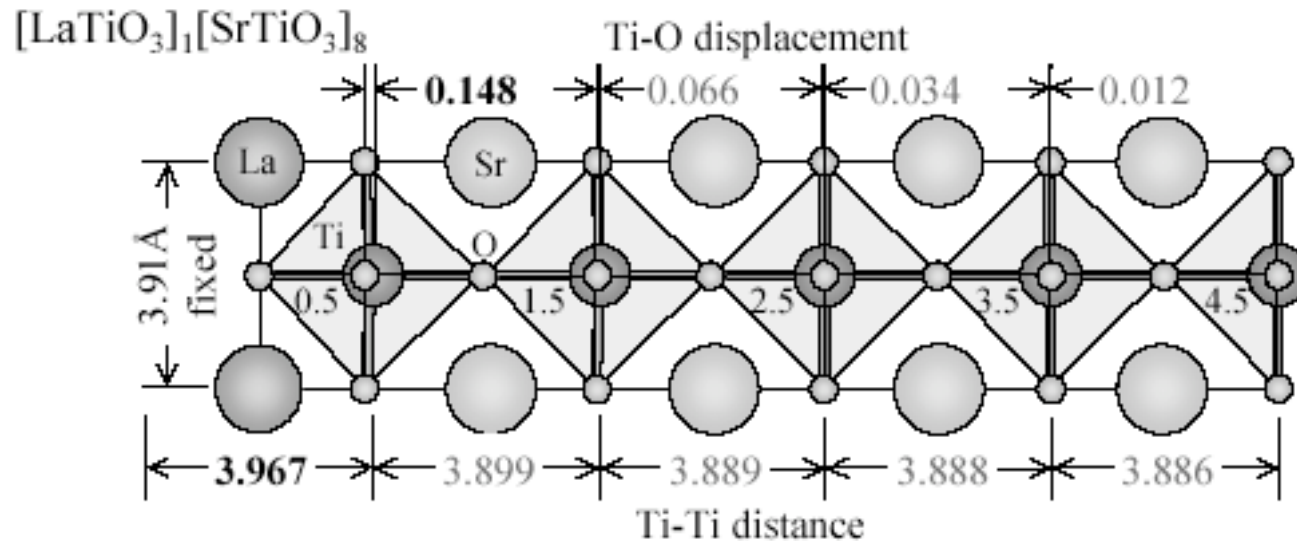
Example: 1(La)/8(Sr) Heterostructure

L(S)DA +U (VASP; $U=5\text{eV}$; $J=0.64\text{eV}$)

Relax atoms (perpendicular to plane)



Key Results



- **Relaxation negligible in far region**
- **Near La layer: substantial distortion**
 - “Near La” octahedra: Ferroelectric distortion
 - Change in z-direction Ti-Ti bond lengths
 - Note in-plane O moved out of alignment

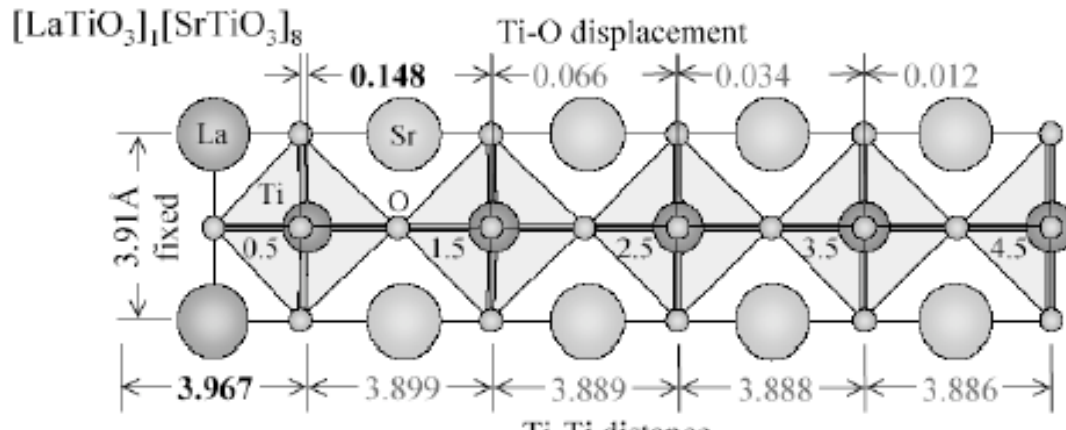


Electron density: how to understand results of band calculation??

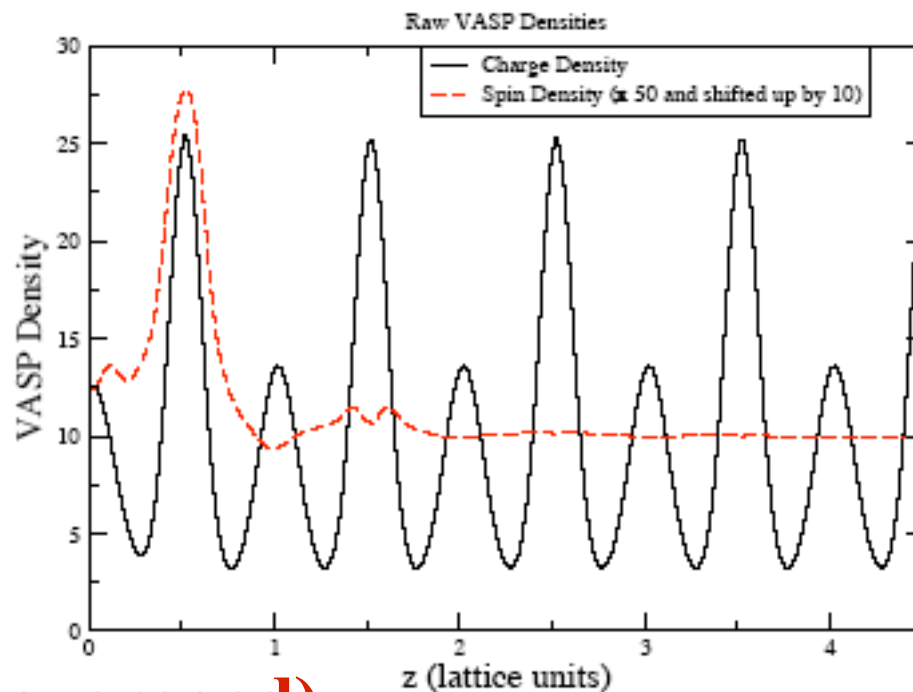
- **Output: atomic positions, charge density, too many bands to interpret**
- **charge density: includes some filled bands (those not treated as part of atomic core)
=>interpretation unclear**
- **alternative: all electron. Draw sphere around Ti. Result depends on radius of sphere.**



LDA+U: 1/8 heterostructure



Unrelaxed Structure



(xy averaged)

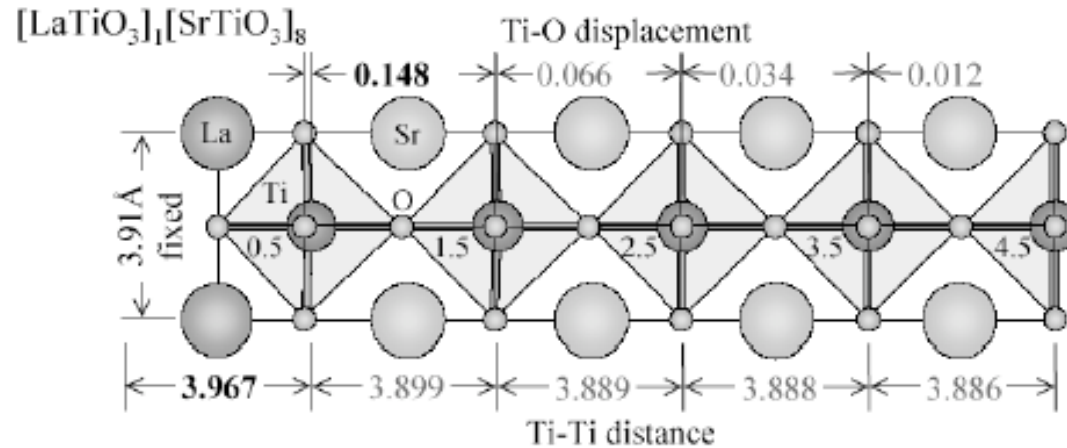
*Charge near Ti, O

*Spin near Ti

*Spin decays fast



Interpret results: II

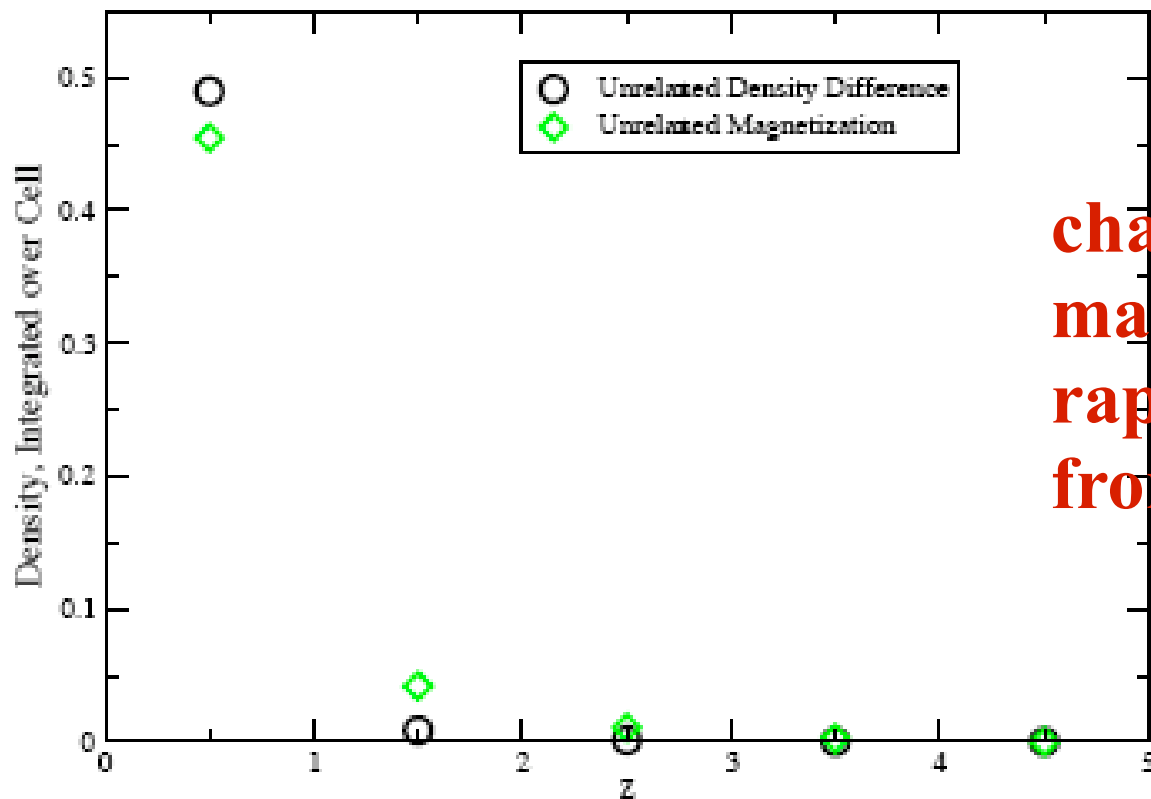


- **Spin density easy to interpret: centered on Ti.**
- **Charge density: average over unit cell (boundary=midpoint of Ti-Ti bond)**
- **Measure charge density difference from central (farthest from La) layer.**



Charge and magnetization density unrelaxed heterostructure

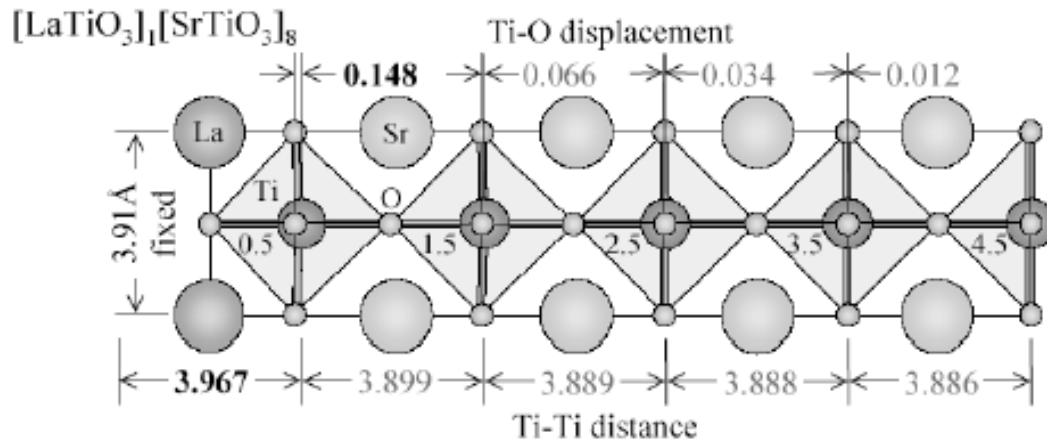
Charge and Magnetization Densities
Integrated over unit cell



**charge and
magnetization agree:
rapid decay away
from La layer**



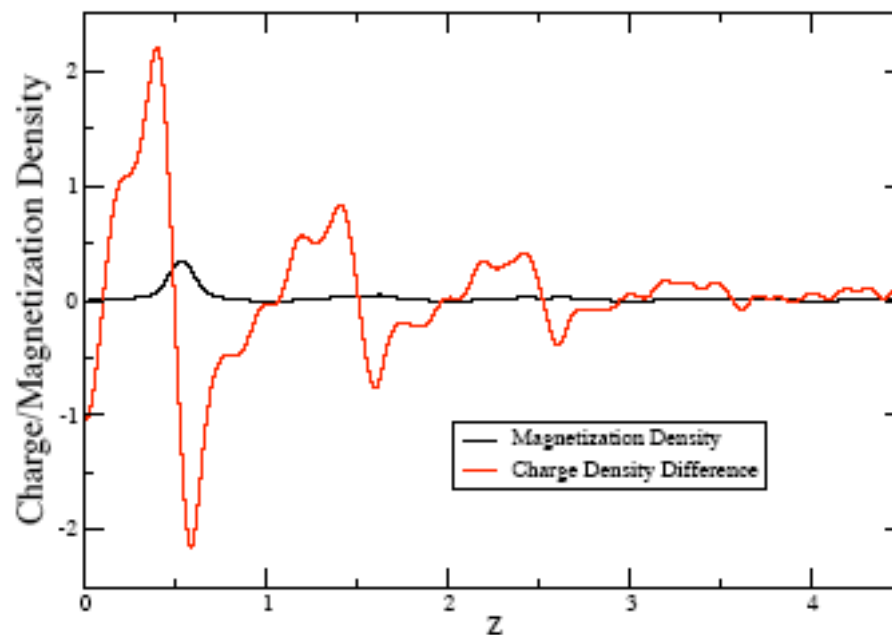
Relaxed structure:



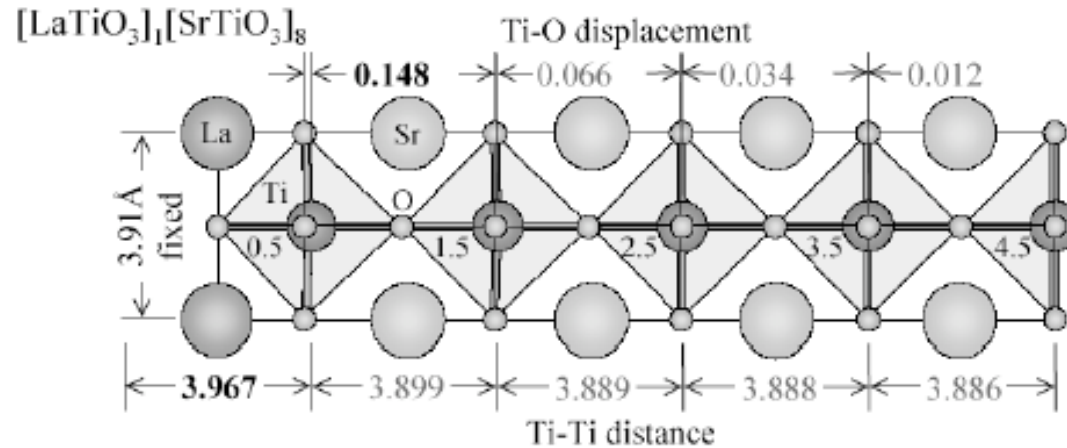
Change in charge density extends away from La plane

Change associated with atomic motion

Question: which part comes from the “conduction” bands?



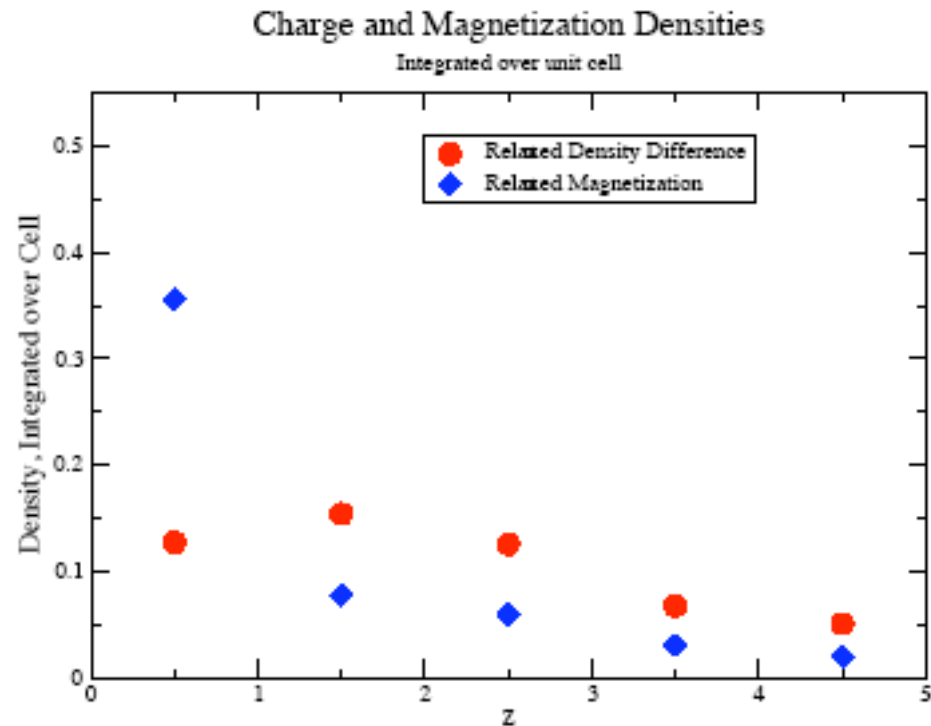
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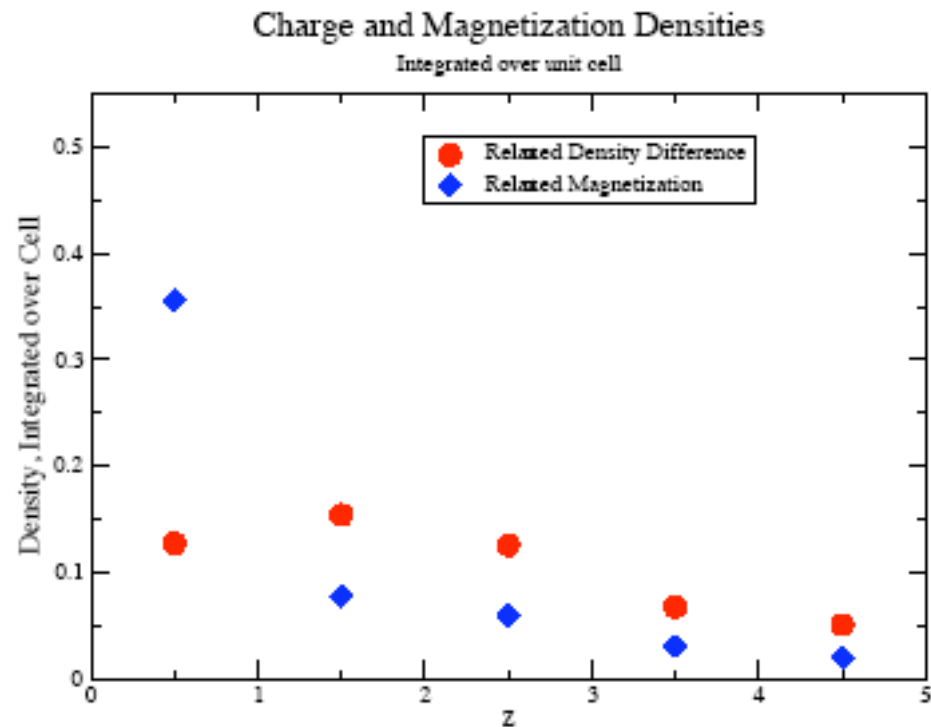
Average over unit cell



**Magnetization (\Leftrightarrow conduction band charge):
initial sharp drop; then slow decay \Rightarrow scale
dependent dielectric constant**



Average over unit cell



Note! charge density varies much less dramatically than magnetization. ‘Bound charge’ compensates for free charge.

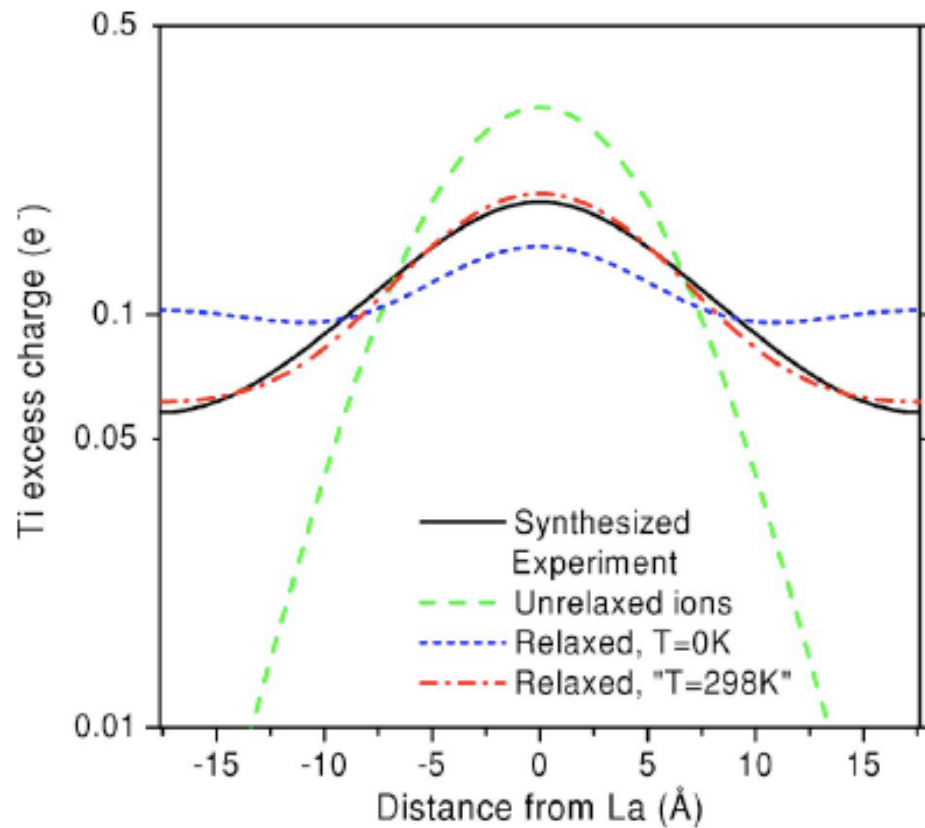


Slightly different result

PHYSICAL REVIEW B 73, 195403 (2006)

Lattice-polarization effects on electron-gas charge densities in ionic superlattices

D. R. Hamann,^{1,2,3} D. A. Muller,⁴ and H. Y. Hwang^{5,6}



GGA + .65Å sphere
around Ti



Compare to model system calculations

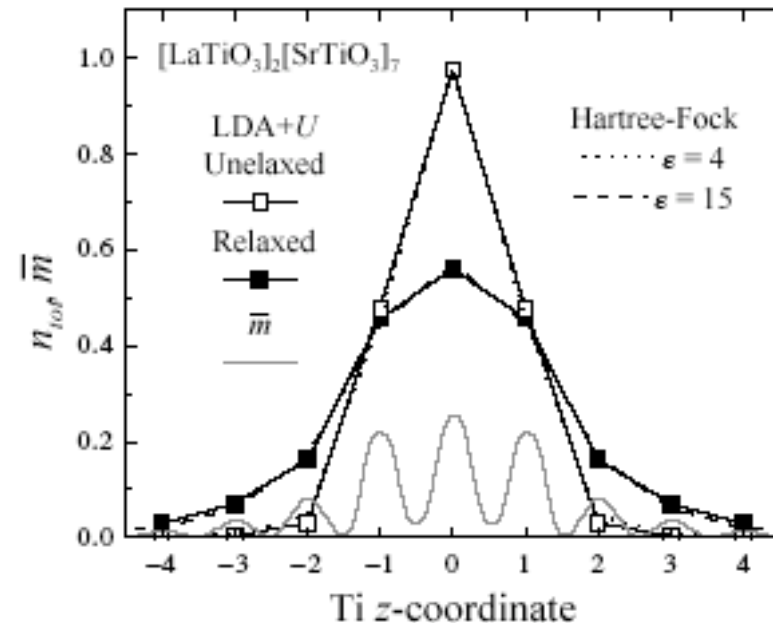
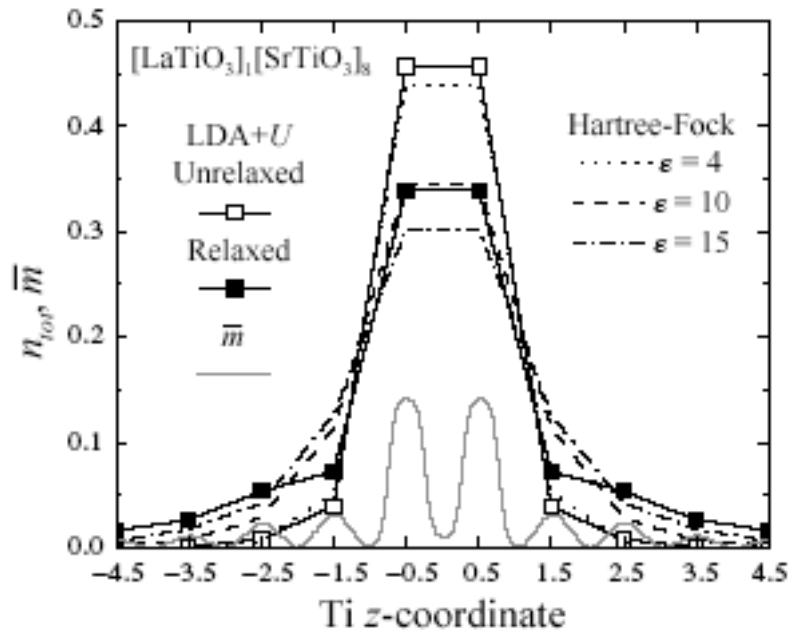
tight binding + self consistent potential

$$- \sum_{ijab\sigma} t_{ij}^{ab} d_{i,a,\sigma}^\dagger d_{j,b,\sigma}$$

$$V(R_i) = - \sum_j \frac{e^2}{\epsilon |\vec{R}_i - \vec{R}_j^A|} + \sum_{j\sigma} \frac{e^2 \langle n_{j\sigma} \rangle}{\epsilon |\vec{R}_i - \vec{R}_j|}$$



Compare model and LDA+U charge densities



Unrelaxed structure: very well fit by $\epsilon = 4$

Relaxed: short length scale $\epsilon = 15$ --but note slow decay in "far" region



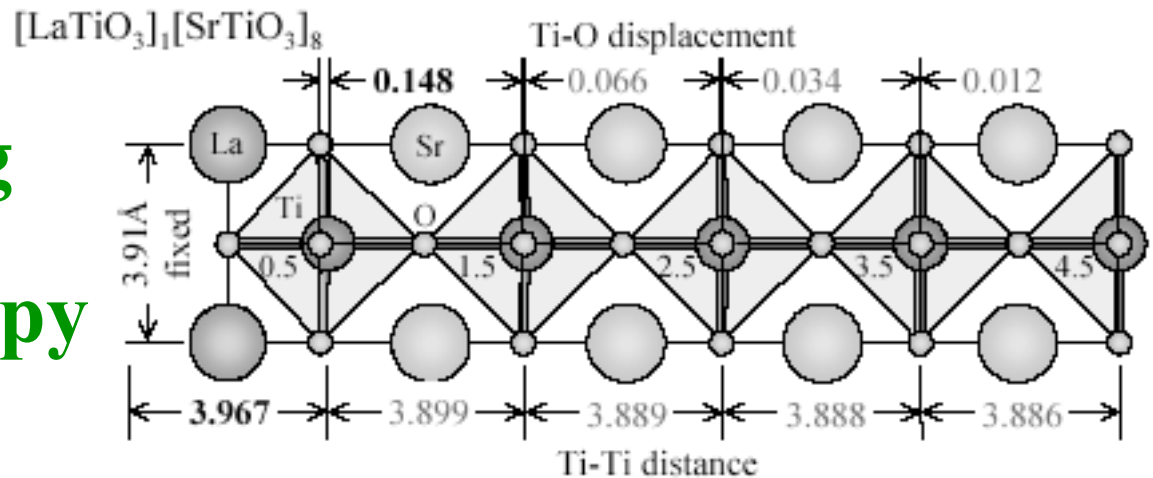
Message: for charge density profile

- **Lattice model +dielectric constant is reasonable approximation.**
- **Lattice relaxation modelled by $\epsilon=15$ in STO; smaller in other materials.**
- **Very small, long ranged charge density “tail” missed by this approx.**



Other effects on electronic physics

- t_{2g} level splitting
- hopping anisotropy



One La Layer: (parameters in eV)

	$t_{xy}^{x,y}$	t_{xz}^x	t_{xz}^z	ϵ_{xy}	ϵ_{xz}
z_l	– 0.5	– 0.5	–0.5 0.5	– 0.5	– 0.5
1 R	– 0.53	– 0.46	0.44 0.57	– 0.23	– 0.19
1 U	– 0.55	– 0.55	0.56 0.51	– 0.27	– 0.36

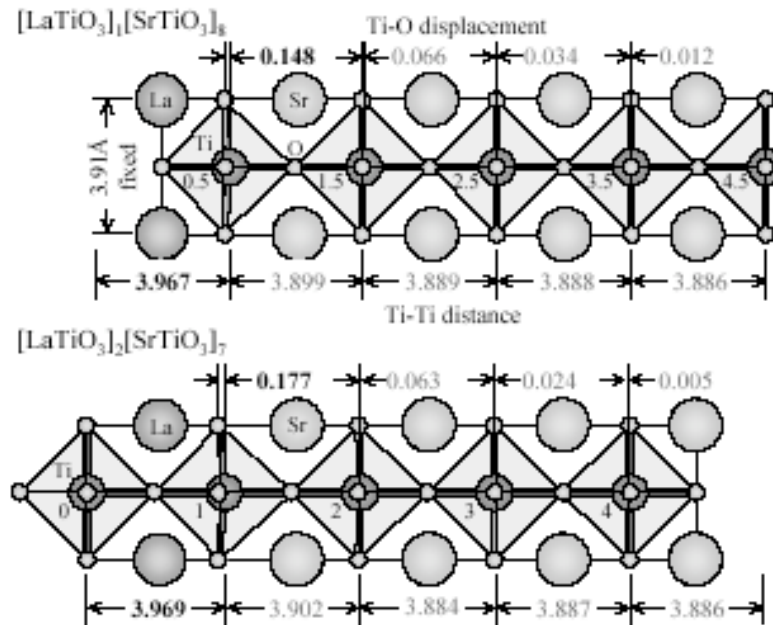
Modest hopping anisotropy

Very small crystal field splitting



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Two La layers: larger effects on hopping



Note: xy-plane hopping of xz/yz orbital decreased

	$t_{xy}^{x,y}$		t_{xz}^x		t_{xz}^z		ϵ_{xy}		ϵ_{xz}	
z_l	-	0.5	-	0.5	-0.5	0.5	-	0.5	-	0.5
1 R	-	0.53	-	0.46	0.44	0.57	-	0.23	-	0.19
1 U	-	0.55	-	0.55	0.56	0.51	-	0.27	-	0.36
z_l	0	1	0	1	0	1	0	1	0	1
2 R	0.63	0.53	0.63	0.38	0.47	0.58	0.66	0.06	0.66	-0.07
2 U	0.63	0.55	0.63	0.5	0.59	0.51	0.66	0.27	0.66	0.36

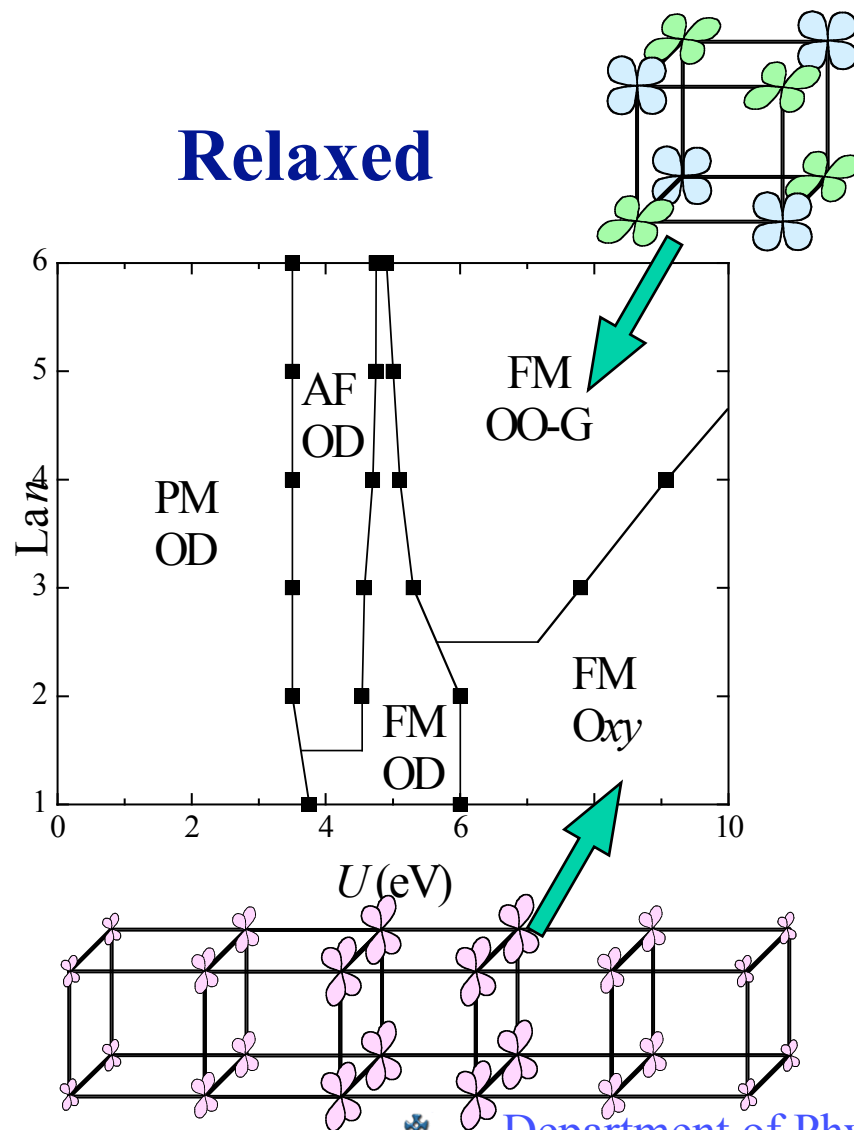
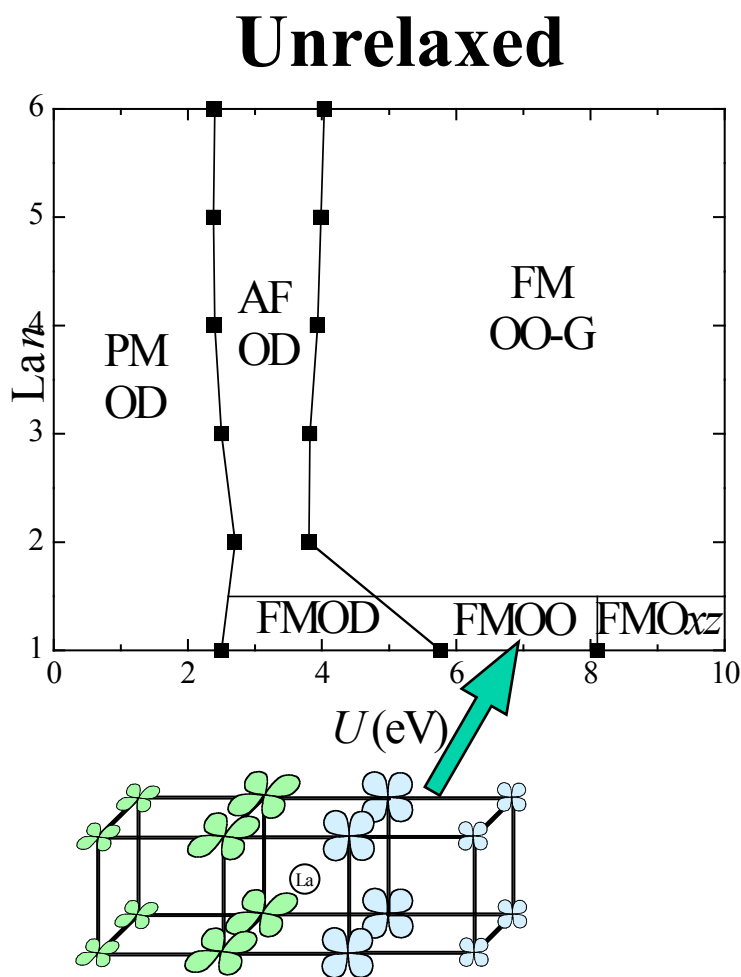


Message: anisotropies

- **Crystal field splitting small (0.1-0.2eV)**
- **Big changes: bond lengths, angles**
- **=>Changes in hopping.**
- **Largest effect: reduction of in-plane hopping of out of plane orbitals, dxz,dyz**



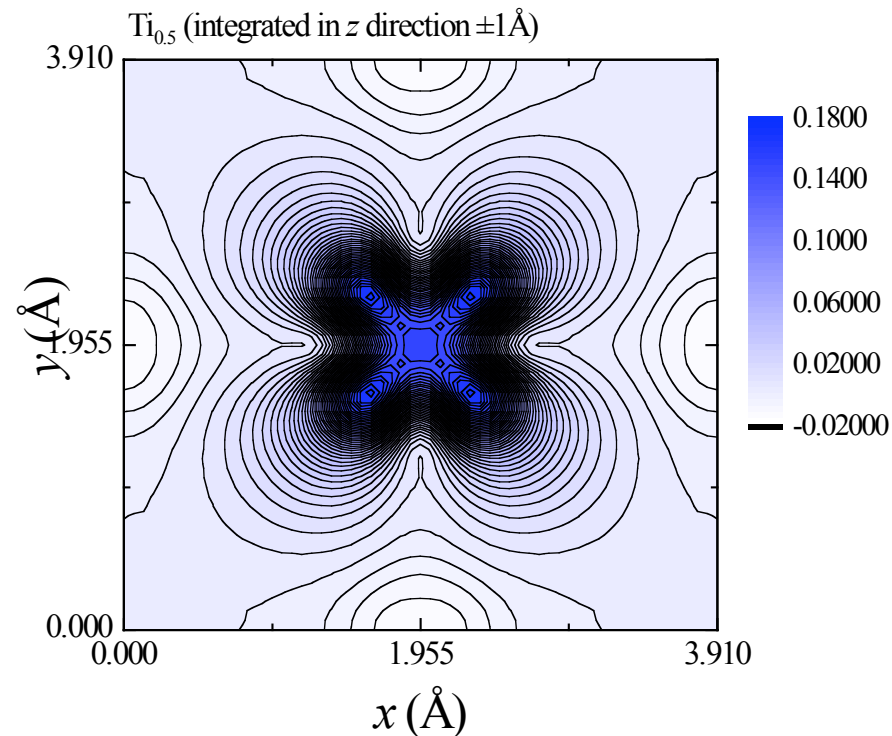
Effect on phase diagram: new phase



LDA+U: relaxed Structure

Oxy Order

**z-integrated
Magnetization
density: near
La; 1 layer
structure**



**Pentcheva PRL 07:
LDA+U => 2 sublattice charge ordering**



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Summary: insulator-insulator interfaces

- **0.5 electron at interface, distributed among several layers or subbands=>far from Mott density**
- **Substantial atomic motions**
- **Simple dielectric model of screening reasonable (misses only weak, long-distance “tails” of charge distribution)**
- **Main effect of symmetry-breaking: reduction of hopping amplitudes**
- **Predictions (Hartree-Fock; LDA+U): ferromagnetic, ferro-orbital and charge ordering.**



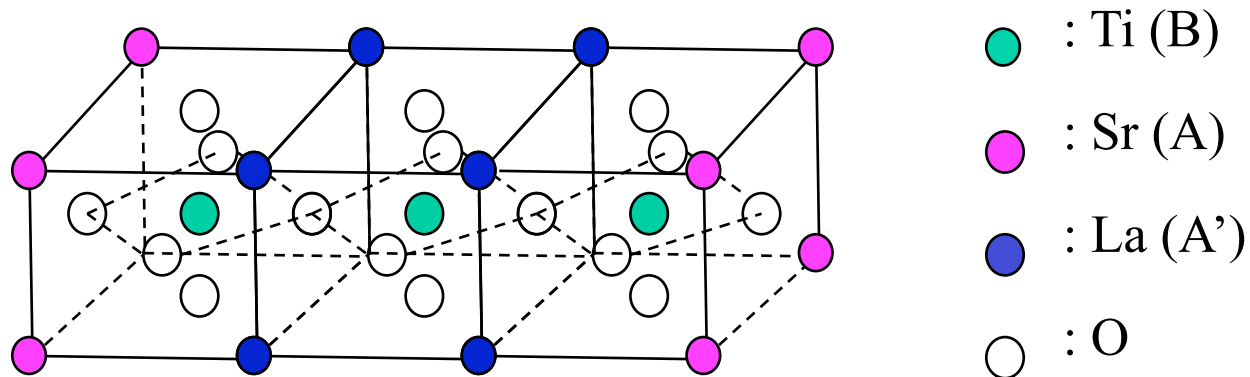
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- **Main effect of symmetry-breaking: reduction of hopping amplitudes**
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?Are the predictions right?



$(AA')BO_3(001)$ Superlattice ($LaTiO_3/SrTiO_3$)



Lattice Model:

- *Define heterostructure: charge +1 at La site 0 at Sr
- *Electrons: move among B (Ti) sites
- *Charge distribution: discrete Poisson equation
- *?many body physics on correlated B site?



Interactions:

- **Long ranged coulomb: Hartree=>self consistent on-site potential**

$$V(R_i) = - \sum_j \frac{e^2}{\epsilon |\vec{R}_i - \vec{R}_j^A|} + \sum_{j,\sigma} \frac{e^2 \langle n_{j,\sigma} \rangle}{\epsilon |\vec{R}_i - \vec{R}_j|}$$

- **On site: Hartree**

$$\Sigma(r, r'; \omega) \rightarrow [\Sigma_{Hartree}(r) + V(r)] \delta(r - r')$$

- **or dynamical mean field**

$$\Sigma(r, r', \omega) \rightarrow [\Sigma_{DMFT}(r, \omega) + V(r)] \delta(r - r')$$



Dynamical Mean Field I

Metzner/Vollhardt; Mueller Hartmann [KOTLIAR](#)

- **Many-body theory=>exists functional F of self energy**

$$F[\{\Sigma(r, r', \omega)\}] = F_{univ}[\{\Sigma(r, r', \omega)\}] \\ + Tr [\ln (G_0^{-1}(r, r', \omega) - \Sigma(r, r', \omega))]$$

extremized at correct self energy and from which ALL RESPONSE FUNCTIONS can be extracted.

- **Kotliar: there exists tractable and ?accurate? approximation**

$$\Sigma(r, r', \omega) \rightarrow \Sigma(r, r, \omega)$$

and 'convenient' procedure for doing minimization



Dynamical Mean Field: II

$$F[\{\Sigma(r, r', \omega)\}] \rightarrow \sum_{r_i} F_{approx}[\{\Sigma(r_i, \omega)\}] \\ + Tr [\ln (G_0^{-1}(r, r', \omega) - \Sigma(r, \omega))]$$

- **F_{approx}** : functional of one function of frequency \Leftrightarrow
“quantum impurity (QI) model” (one for each lattice site)



Dynamical Mean Field: II

$$F[\{\Sigma(r, r', \omega)\}] \rightarrow \sum_{r_i} F_{approx}[\{\Sigma(r_i, \omega)\}] \\ + Tr [\ln (G_0^{-1}(r, r', \omega) - \Sigma(r, \omega))]$$

- **F_{approx}** : functional of one function of frequency \Leftrightarrow
“quantum impurity (QI) model” (one for each lattice site)
- **Extremum condition: self consistency equation**

$$\frac{\delta F_{approx}}{\delta \Sigma(r, \omega)} \equiv G_{QI}(r, \omega) = [G_0^{-1}(r, r', \omega) - \Sigma(r, \omega)]_{r \rightarrow r'}^{-1}$$



Dynamical Mean Field: II

$$F[\{\Sigma(r, r', \omega)\}] \rightarrow \sum_{r_i} F_{approx}[\{\Sigma(r_i, \omega)\}] \\ + Tr [\ln (G_0^{-1}(r, r', \omega) - \Sigma(r, \omega))]$$

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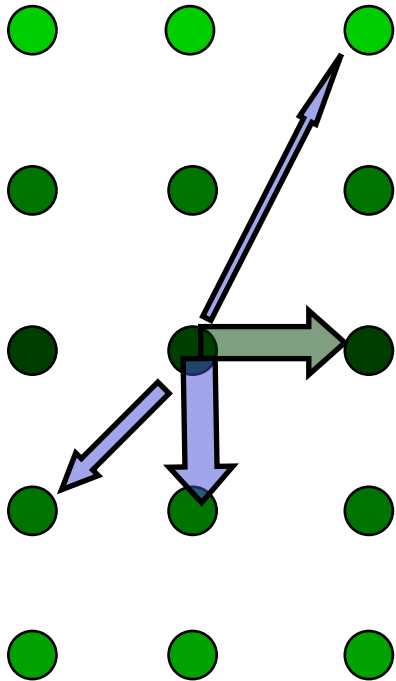
$$\frac{\delta F_{approx}}{\delta \Sigma(r, \omega)} \equiv G_{QI}(r, \omega) = [G_0^{-1}(r, r', \omega) - \Sigma(r, \omega)]_{r \rightarrow r'}^{-1}$$

‘Quantum Impurity Model’: 0+1 d field theory tractable (marginally) by numerical simulation (quantum monte carlo)



Dynamical Mean Field III

$$\frac{\delta F_{approx}}{\delta \Sigma(r, \omega)} \equiv G_{QI}(r, \omega) = [G_0^{-1}(r, r', \omega) - \Sigma(r, \omega)]_{r \rightarrow r'}^{-1}$$



Self-consistent embedding interp:
 F_{approx} == 'free energy' of
'impurity' coupled to 'bath'
determined by nearby sites
(couplings fixed by band structure).
Extremum condition \Leftrightarrow
consistency between 'bath' and self
energy on each site.



Dynamical Mean Field for Heterostructure: General Remarks

Variables:

transverse coordinate z

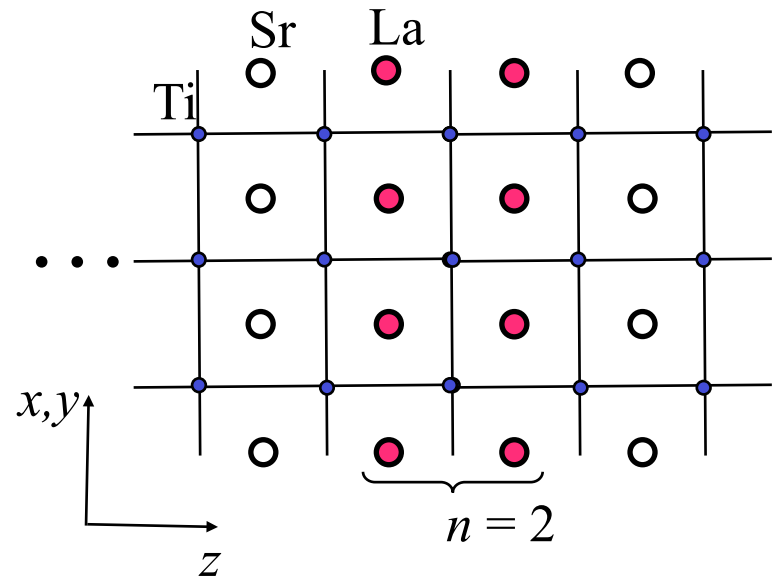
in-plane (xy) wavevector k

Easier case: in-plane translation
invariance (FM, layer AF)

$$G \rightarrow G(k, z, z'; w)$$

Harder: in-plane AF:

$$G \rightarrow G(k, k+Q; z, z'; w)$$



DMFT Formalism

In-plane translational invariance

$$G_z^{imp}(\omega) = \int \frac{d^2 k_{\parallel}}{(2\pi)^2} G_{zz}^{latt}(k_{\parallel}, \omega)$$

$$\hat{G}_{zz}^{latt}(k_{\parallel}, \omega) = \begin{bmatrix} \alpha_1 & t & & & \\ t & \alpha_2 & t & & \\ & t & \ddots & & \\ & & & \ddots & t \\ & & & t & \alpha_N \end{bmatrix}^{-1}$$

**Layers coupled.
must solve 1 impurity
model for each layer
and self-consistently
obtain charge density**

$$a_z = \omega + \mu - \varepsilon_{k_{\parallel}} - V_z - \Sigma_z(\omega)$$

$\varepsilon_{k_{\parallel}}$: in - plane dispersion

V_z : potential from long - ranged Coulomb

N : total layer #



DMFT Formalism

In-plane antiferromagnetism

$$G_{zA(B)}^{imp}(\omega) = \int \frac{d^2 k_{\parallel}}{(2\pi)^2} G_{zA(B),zA(B)}^{latt}(k_{\parallel}, \omega)$$

$$\hat{G}_{zz'}^{latt}(k_{\parallel}, \omega) = \begin{bmatrix} \alpha_{1A} & t & & & -\varepsilon_{k_{\parallel}} & & & & \\ t & \alpha_{2A} & t & & & -\varepsilon_{k_{\parallel}} & & & \\ & t & \ddots & t & & & \ddots & & \\ & & & t & \alpha_{NA} & & & & -\varepsilon_{k_{\parallel}} \\ \hline -\varepsilon_{k_{\parallel}} & & & & \alpha_{1B} & t & & & \\ & -\varepsilon_{k_{\parallel}} & & & t & \alpha_{2B} & t & & \\ & & \ddots & & & t & \ddots & t & \\ & & & -\varepsilon_{k_{\parallel}} & & & t & \alpha_{NB} & \end{bmatrix}^{-1}$$

2 sublattice Neel: must solve 2 impurity models for each layer. Also matrix inversion non-trivial (basis which diagonalizes layer dep on k,w and layer)

$$a_{zA(B)} = \omega + \mu - V_z - \Sigma_{zA(B)}(\omega)$$



Final complication many orbitals=> need full (Slater-Kanamori) interaction

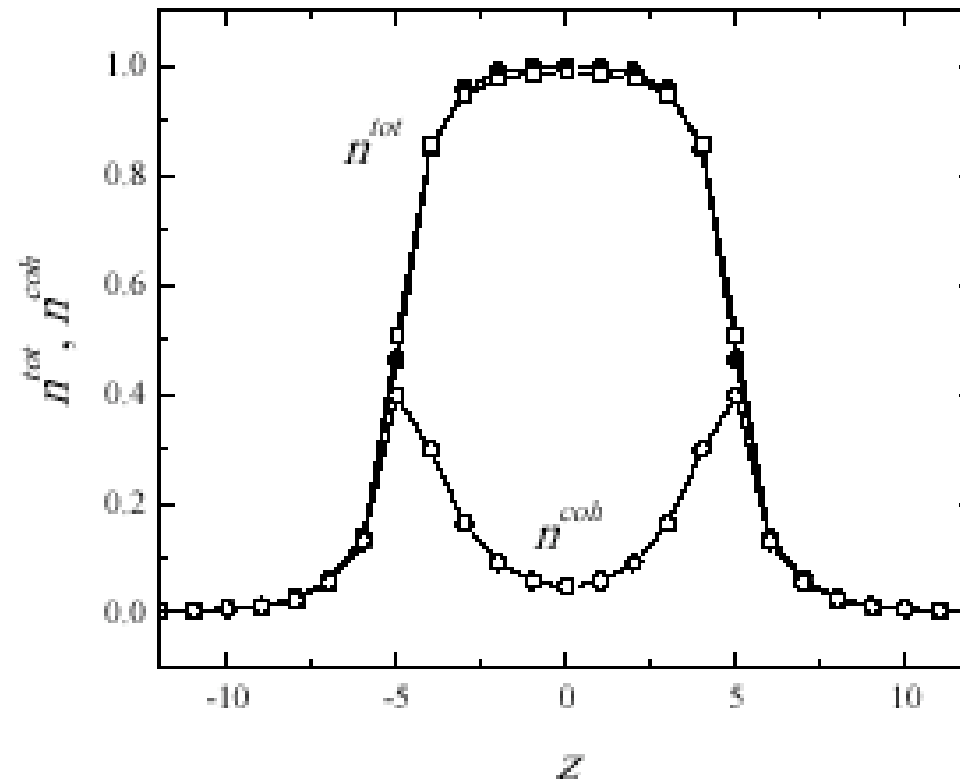
$$\begin{aligned} H_{int} = & U \sum_a n_{ja\uparrow} n_{ja\downarrow} + (U' - J) \sum_{a>b,\sigma} n_{ja\sigma} n_{jb\sigma} \\ & + U' \sum_{a\neq b} n_{ja\uparrow} n_{jb\downarrow} + J \sum_{a\neq b} d_{ja\uparrow}^\dagger d_{jb\uparrow} d_{jb\downarrow}^\dagger d_{ja\downarrow} \\ & + J' \sum_{a\neq b} d_{ja\uparrow}^\dagger d_{ja\downarrow}^\dagger d_{jb\downarrow} d_{jb\uparrow} \end{aligned}$$

Computational expense $\sim 2^{\text{orbital}}$

Methods now in hand to treat this.



Density profile independent of method used to compute it (within reason)

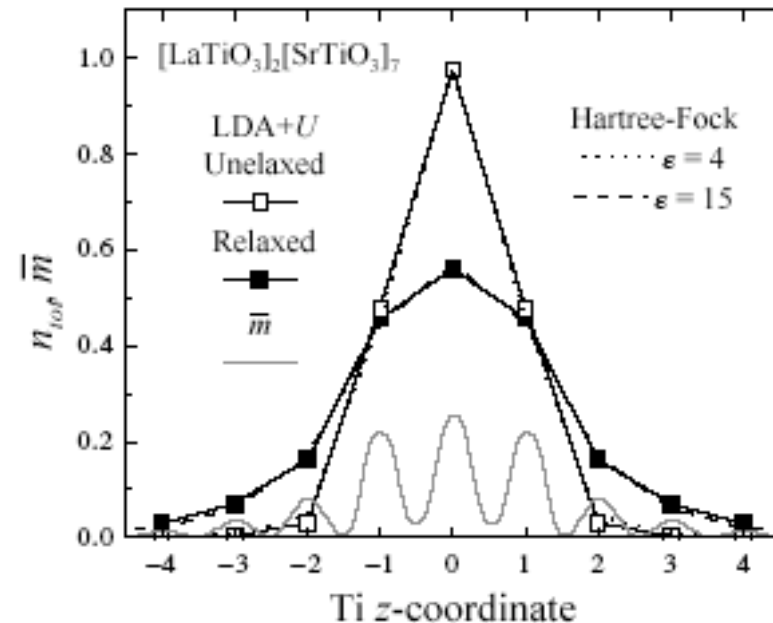
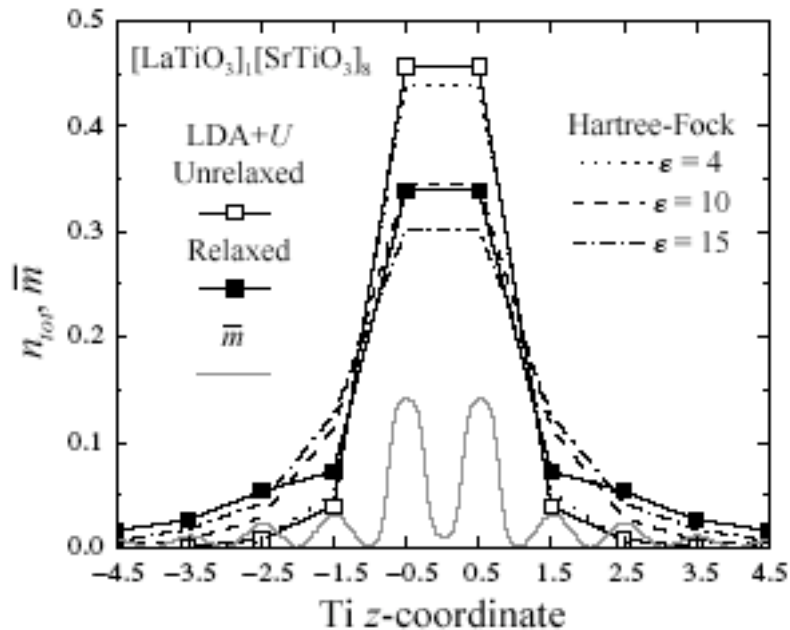


- Hartree-Fock
- DMFT



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Compare model and LDA+U charge densities



Unrelaxed structure: very well fit by $\epsilon = 4$

Relaxed: short length scale $\epsilon = 15$ --but note slow decay in "far" region



Charge profile:
~3 unit cell wide ‘metallic edge’

Examine edge excitations in more detail

**Important object: layer resolved spectral function
(observable in principle in photoemission)**

$$A(z, z; k, \omega) = \lim_{z' \rightarrow z} \frac{1}{\pi} \text{Im} G(z, z'; k, \omega)$$



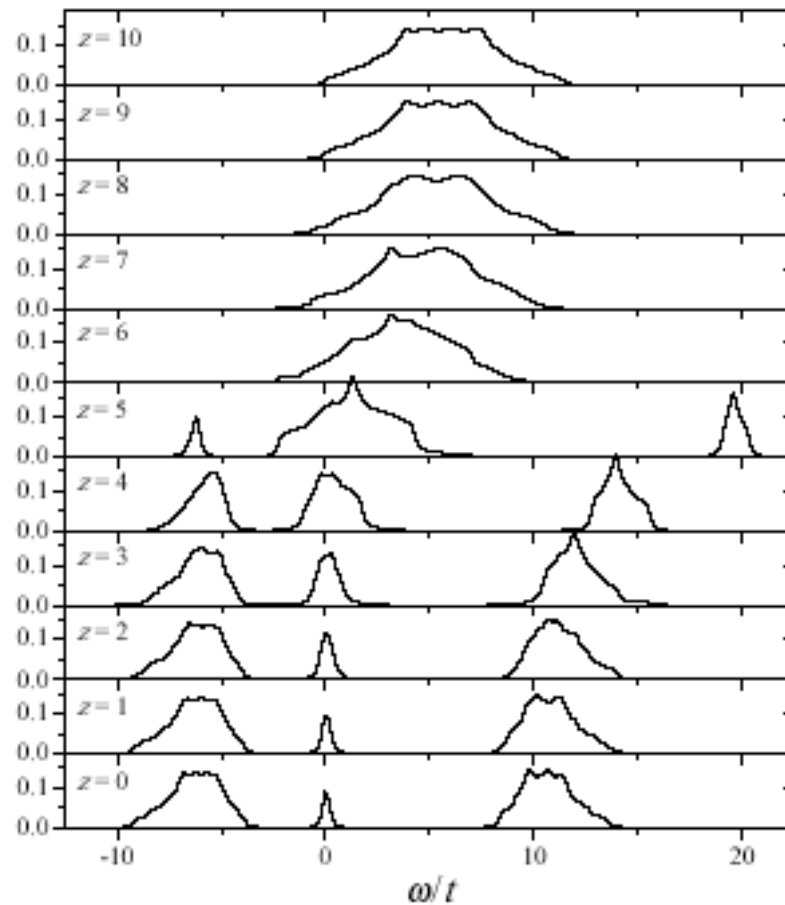
Layer Spectral Function

n=10 layer Hubbard heterostructure
 $U=16t > U_c \sim 14.7t$



Layer Spectral Function

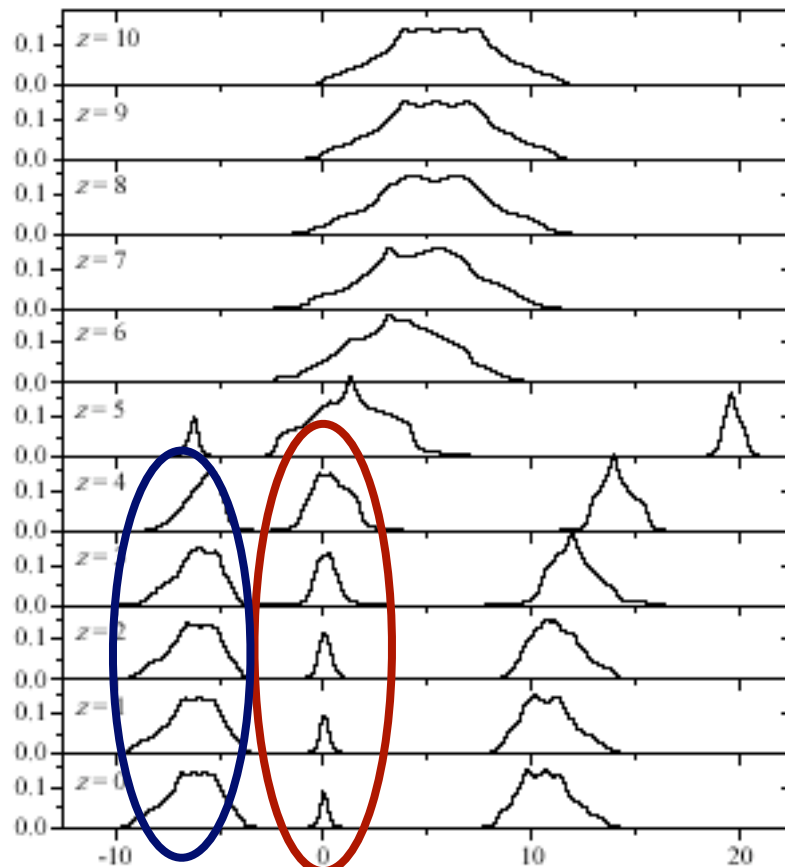
n=10 layer Hubbard heterostructure
 $U=16t > U_c \sim 14.7t$



Layer Spectral Function

n=10 layer Hubbard heterostructure

$$U=16t > U_c \sim 14.7t$$



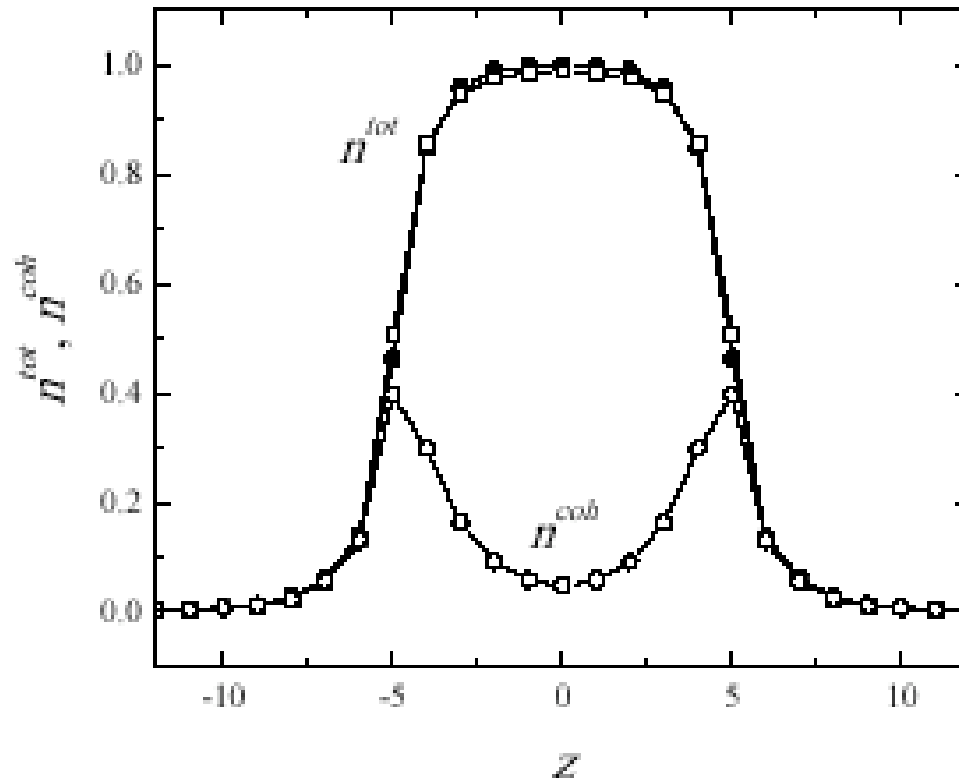
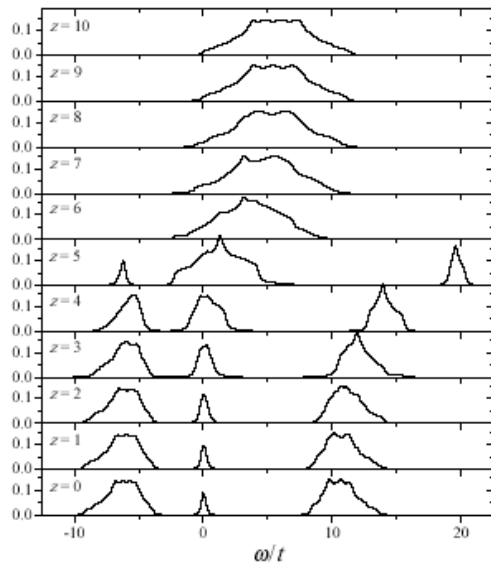
Lower
Hubbard band **Coherent**
quasiparticle

Note: spectrum in intermediate region is not exactly superposition of spectral of Mott and band insulators



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Density profile independent of method used to compute it (within reason)



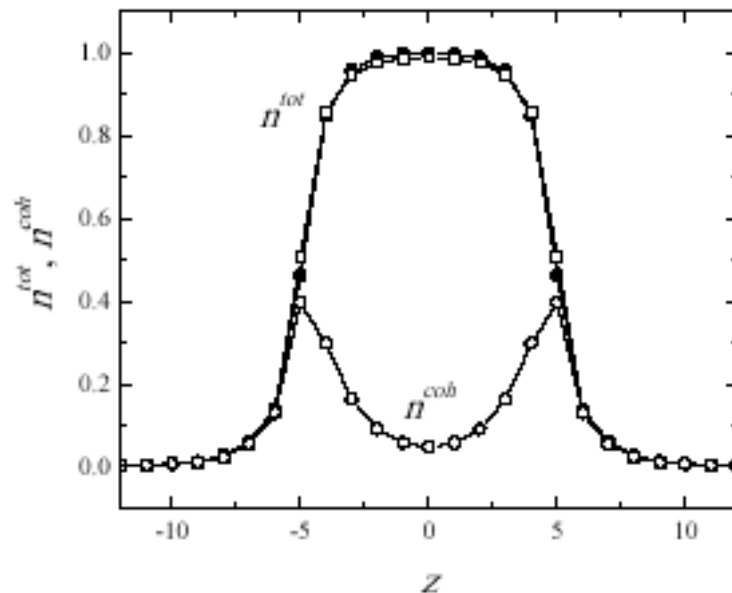
- Hartree-Fock
- DMFT



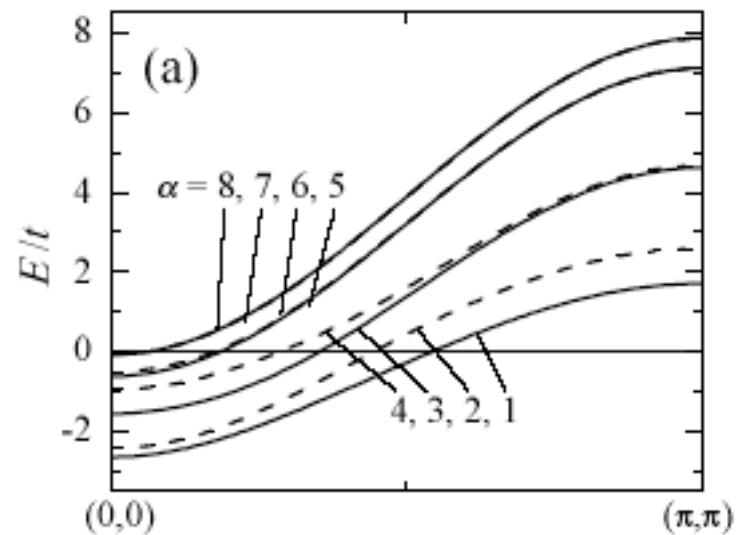
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Edge states: closer study

Coherent particles:
concentrated near edge



coherent quasiparticle
bands



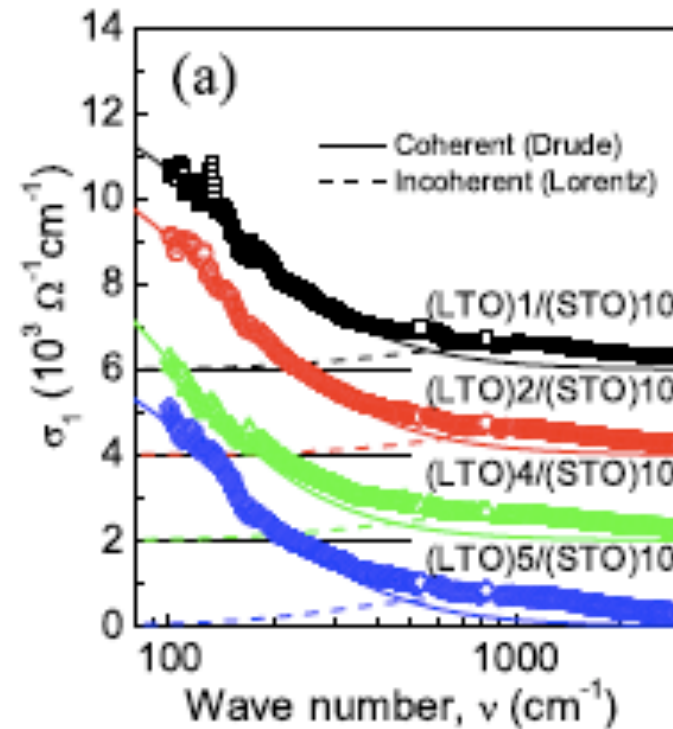
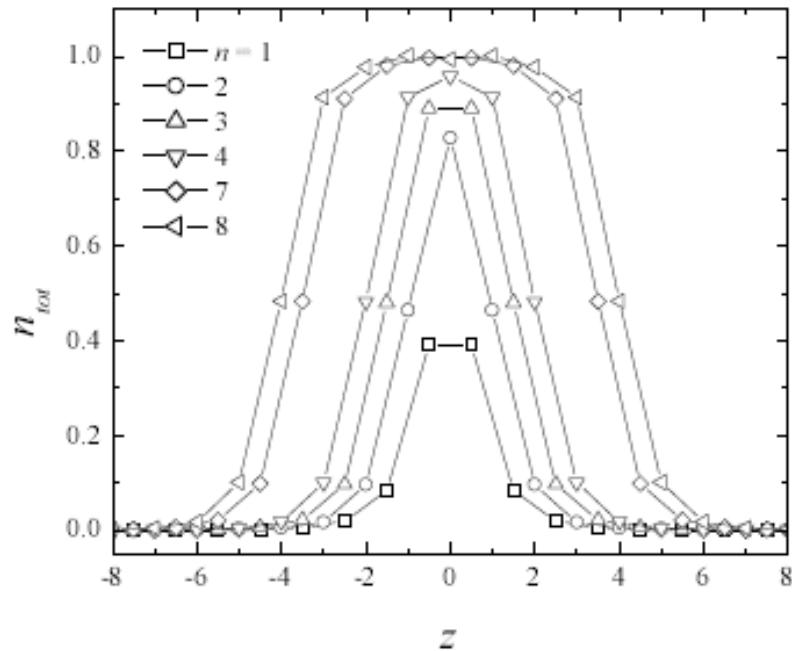
moderately correlated
(Z or $m^*/m \sim 2-3$)

Metallic behavior only from coherent qp



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3 unit cell edge



Calculation:
#layers < 5, conductivity \sim #La
#layers > 5, cond \sim # interfaces

Expt: cond indep #La, #int



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Summary: 'Hubbard' Mott insulator/ band insulator heterostructures

- ~ 3 unit cell wide transition region
- supports metallic behavior
- 'metallic edge' moderately correlated
- **Question: does 'edge' support new magnetic (or superconducting?) behavior**
- **expt, theory not (yet?) consistent**

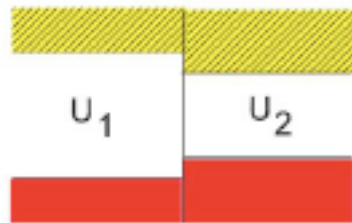
See Okamoto/Millis Phys. Rev. B72, 235108 (2005)



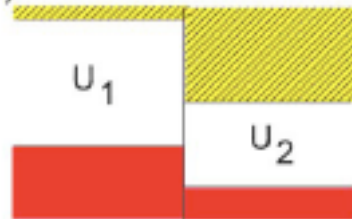
Lee/McDonald: Mott-Mott structures

Possible band alignments

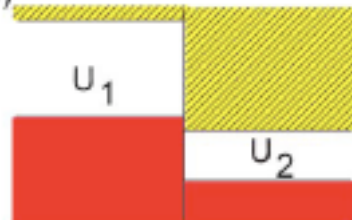
(a)



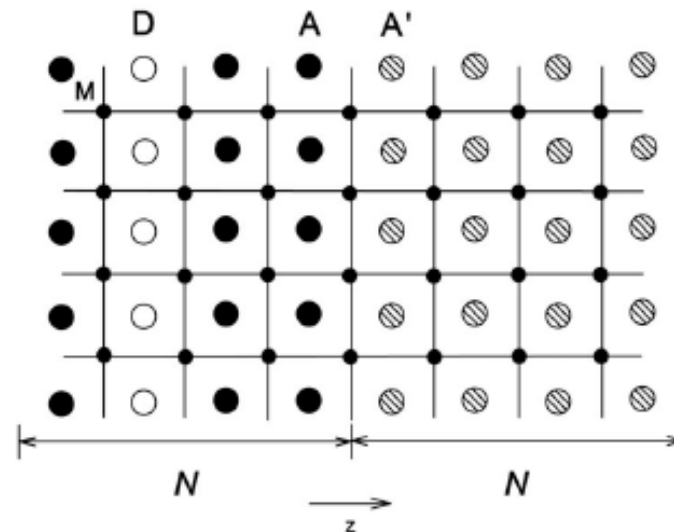
(b)



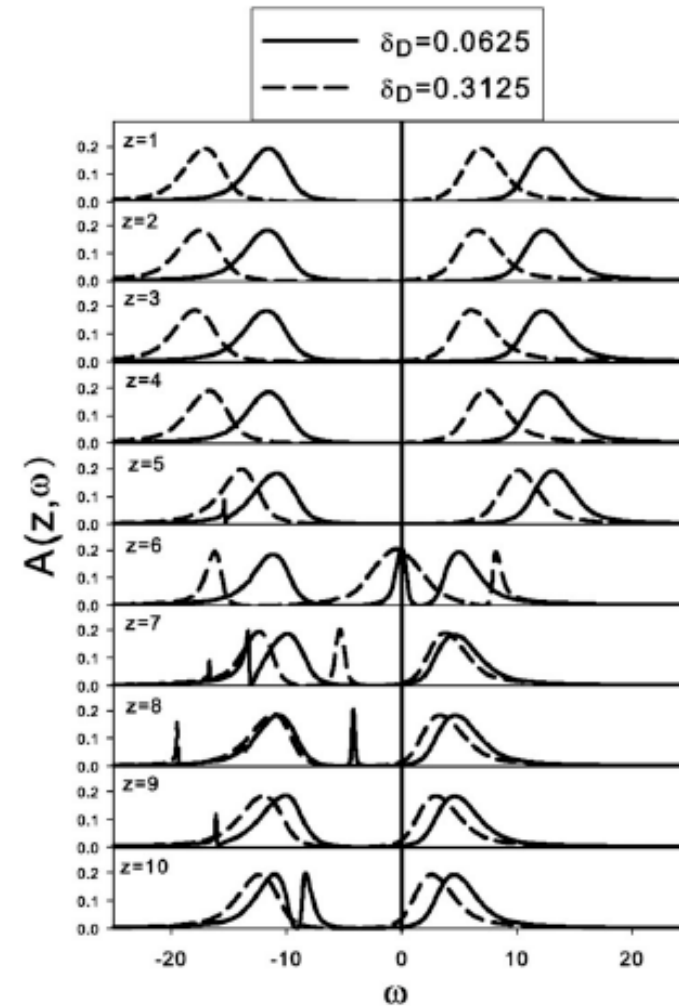
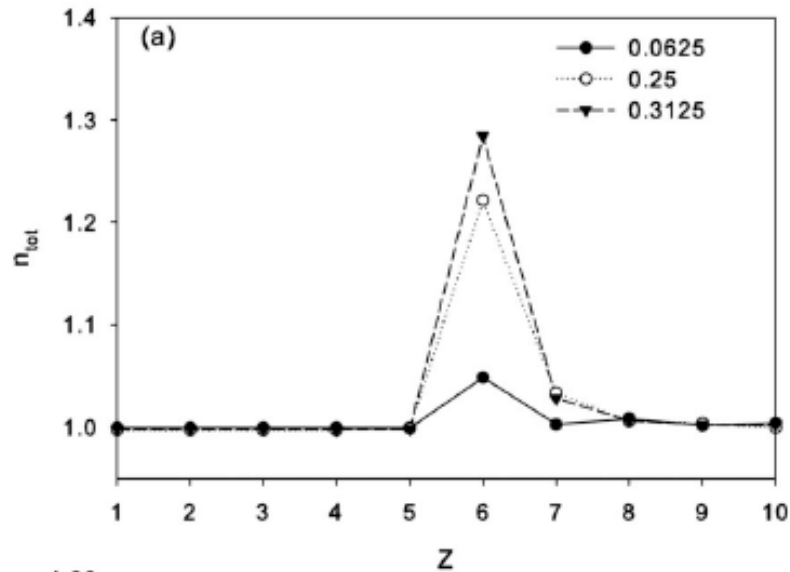
(c)



they study: type (a)
with row of dopants in 1



Results



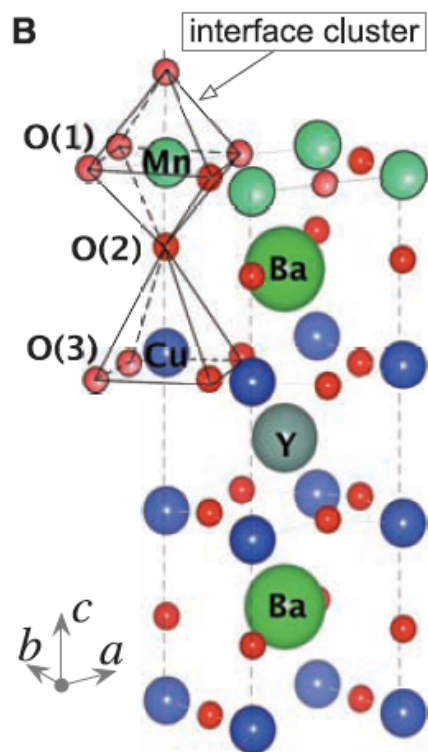
Lightly doped state on small gap side of interface



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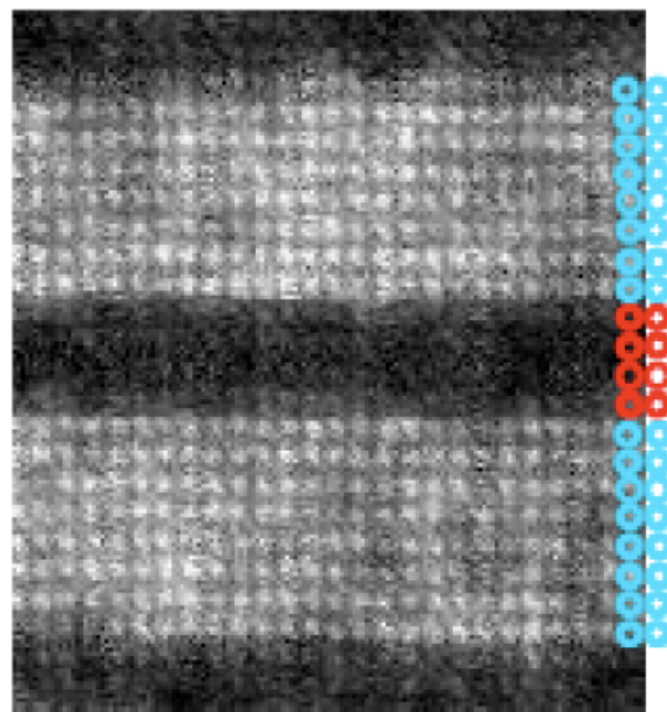
Competing orders

LaMnO₃/YBa₂Cu₃O₇



Chakhalian 06

(LaMnO₃)₈/(SrMnO₃)₄

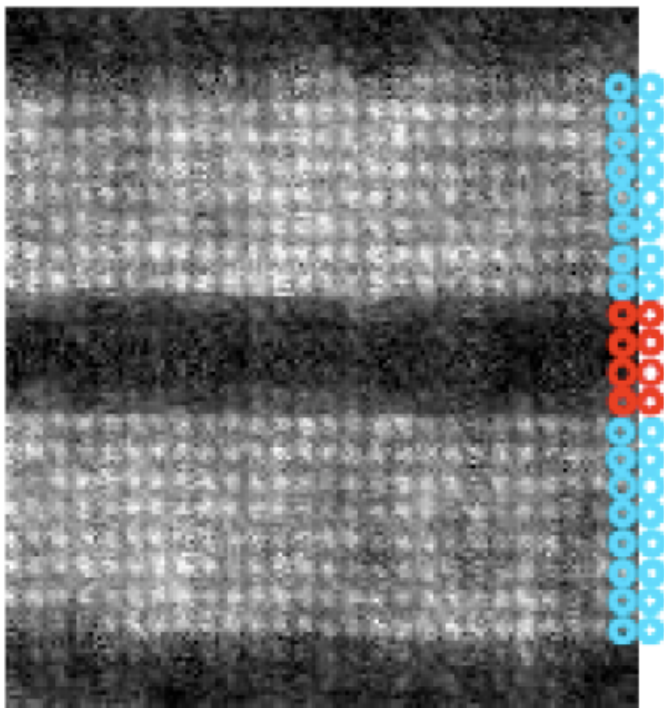


Bhattacharya...Eckstein 08



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Easier case



Homometallic. Physics basically understood

**LaMnO₃: 1 mobile electron/site;
orbital order;
A-type AF (layered FM)**

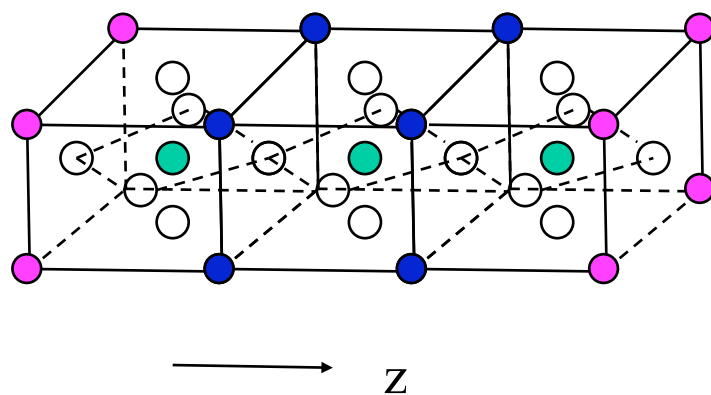
**SrMnO₃: no mobile electrons;
no orbital order;
G-type AF (3d Neel)**

=>2 kinds of order to play with

Bhattacharya...Eckstein 08



Magnetic physics: each Mn has $S=3/2$ “core spin”



- : Mn
- : Sr
- : La
- : O

**Layer (m,n)=
m La n Sr
(here (2,1))**

Interaction: “double-exchange”

$$H = - \sum_{i\delta a b \sigma} t^{ab}(\delta) \left(d_{i+\delta a \sigma}^\dagger d_{i b \sigma} + H.c. \right) + J \sum_i \vec{S}_i \cdot \left(d_{i a \alpha}^\dagger \sigma_{\alpha, \beta} d_{i a \beta} \right)$$

+ potential from La/Sr and $n(\mathbf{r})$ as before.

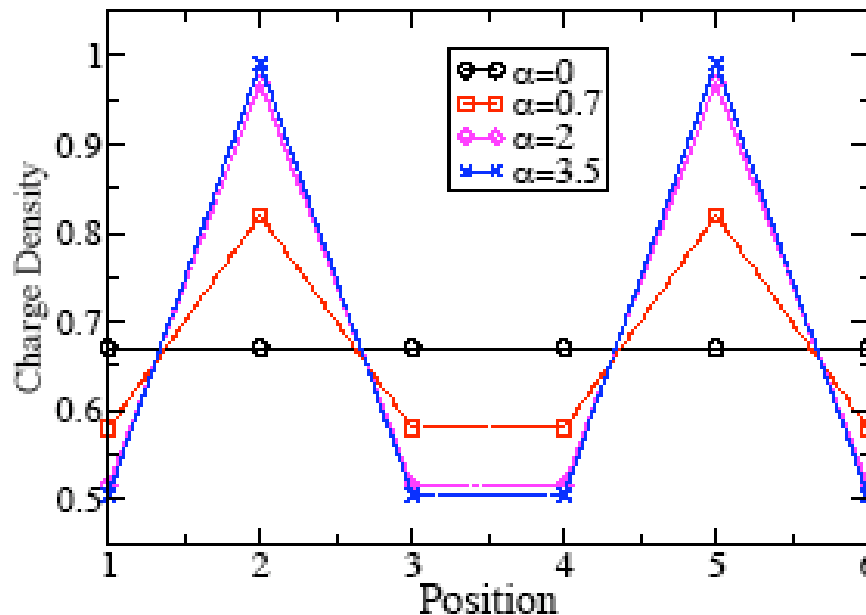


Key physics: binding of charge to La layers

Parameter: ratio of coulomb
interaction to hopping (for
physical a , bandwidth=3.6eV)

$$\alpha = \frac{e^2}{\epsilon a t} \approx \frac{10}{\epsilon}$$

(2 La, 1 Sr)



$\alpha \geq 2$ Complete binding of charge to near-La layers

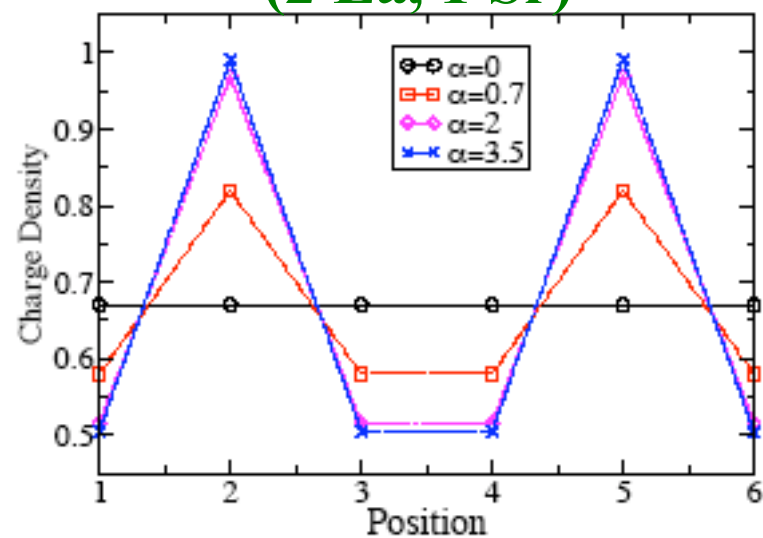


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Near T_c : 2 magnetic phases:

(2 La, 1 Sr)

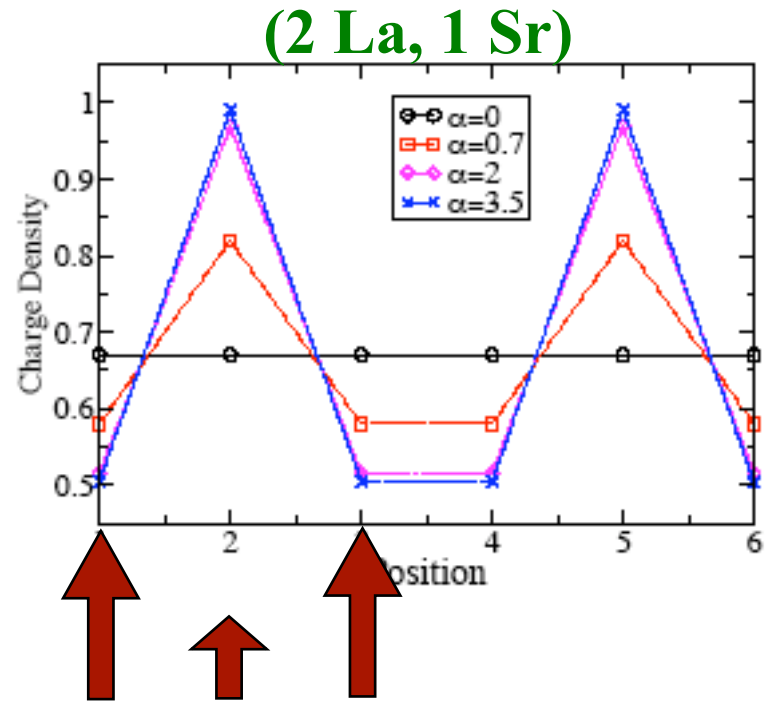
Layer (1,2)				
	$T_c(t)$	n_A	n_B	$m_A : m_B$
$\alpha = 0.7$	0.105	0.206	0.09	1.68 :1
$\alpha = 3.5$	0.103	0.249	0.009	6.27:1
Layer (2,1)				
$\alpha = 0.7$	0.085	0.29	0.41	5.66:1
$\alpha = 3.5$	0.101	0.25	0.5	-9.45:1



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**Weaker binding ($\alpha < 2$):
ferromagnet (FM)**

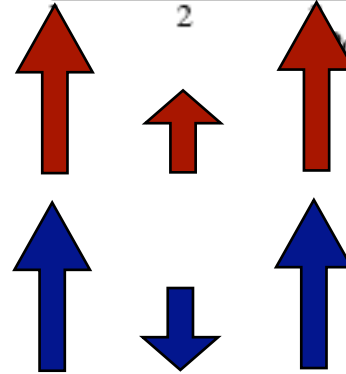
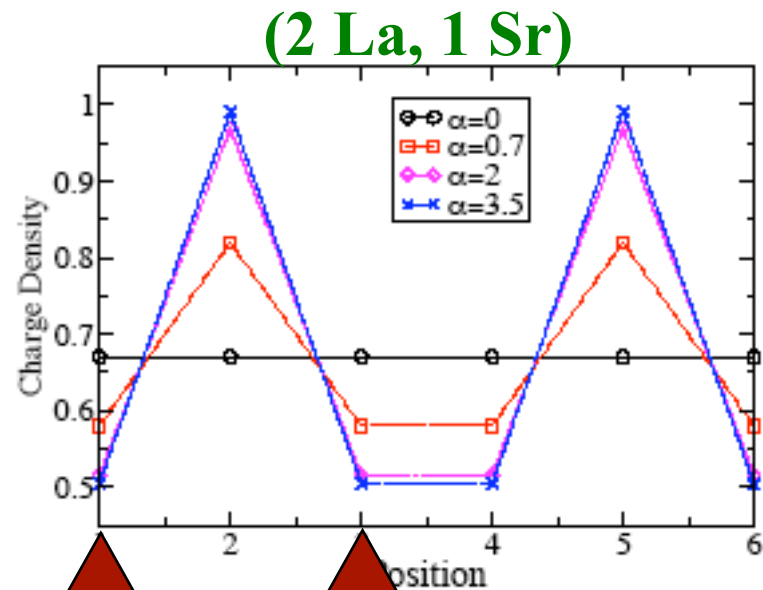


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**Weaker binding ($\alpha < 2$):
ferromagnet (FM)**

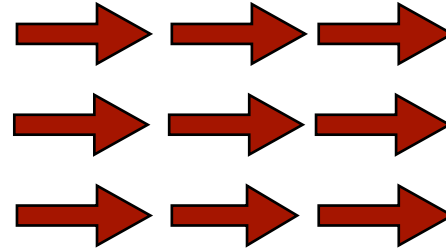
**Stronger binding ($\alpha > 2$):
layer-ferromagnet (LFM)**



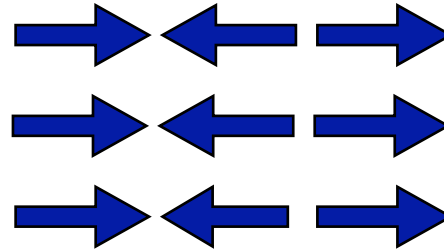
More generally: 3 solutions

La La

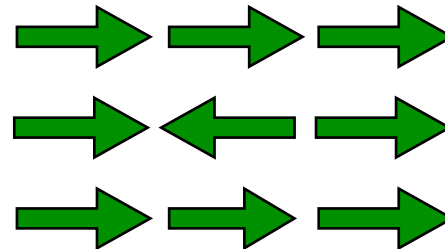
***Ferromagnetic**



***‘Layer Ferro’**

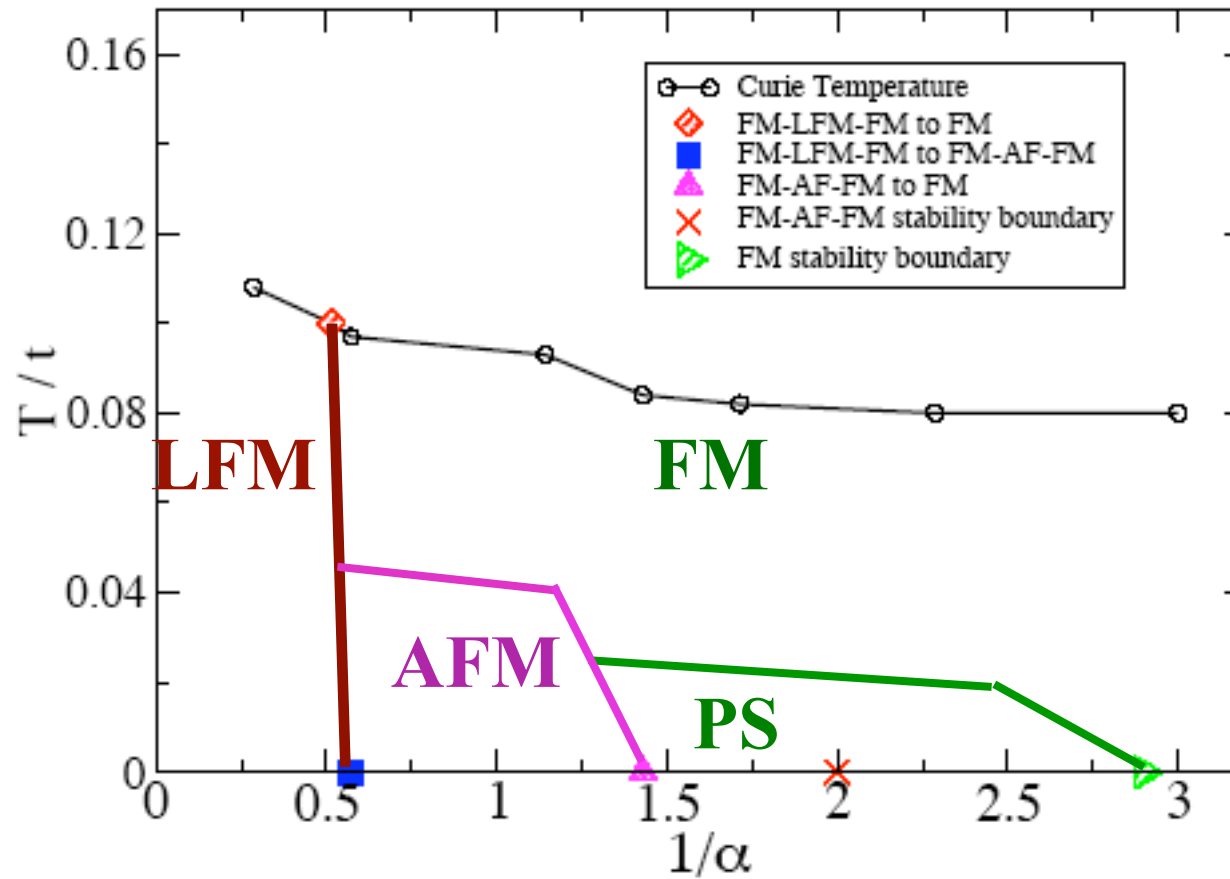


***AF Core**



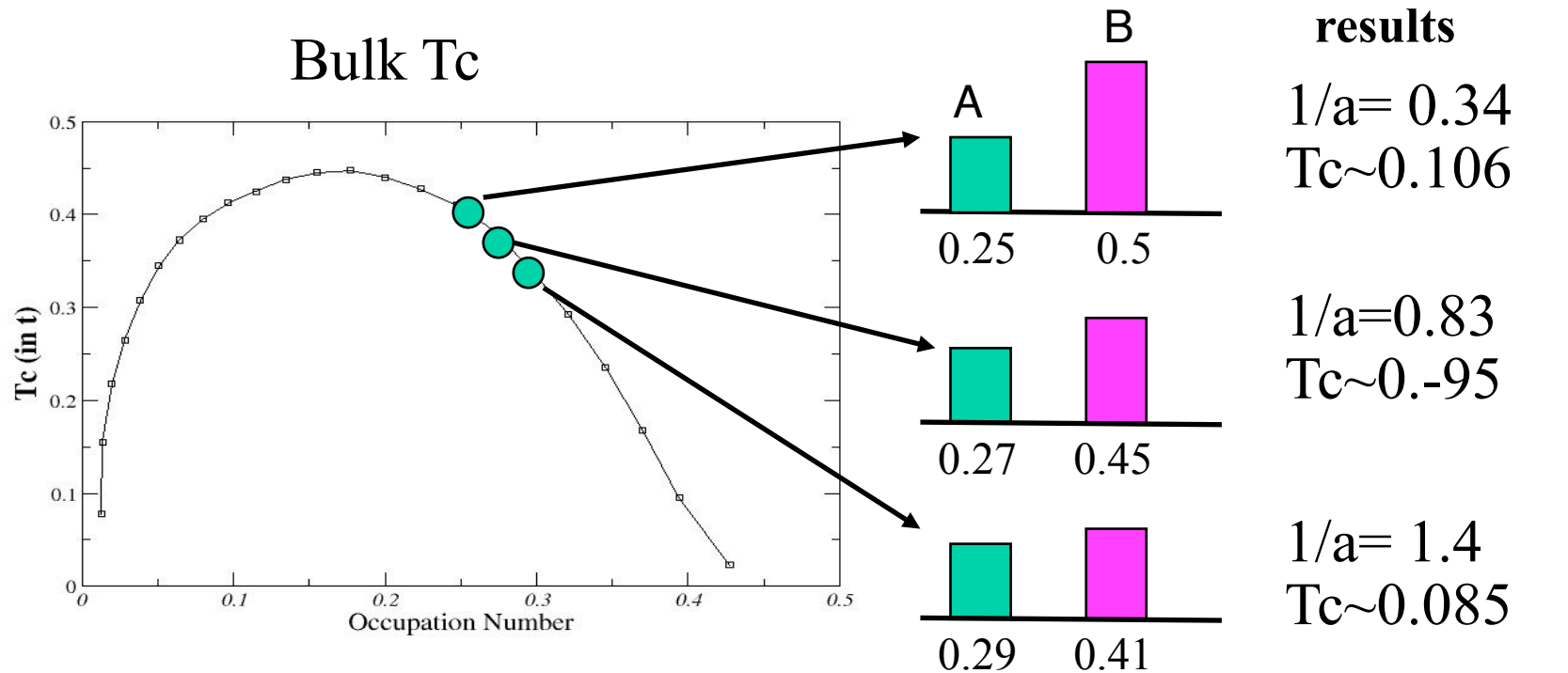
Calculated Phase Diagram: (label by order on central layer)

(2,1) Manganite Heterostructure



Tc vs Bulk Tc

(note: for relevant J, 2D and 3D bulk almost identical)



!! dependence of Tc on **a** understood from bulk phase diagram.

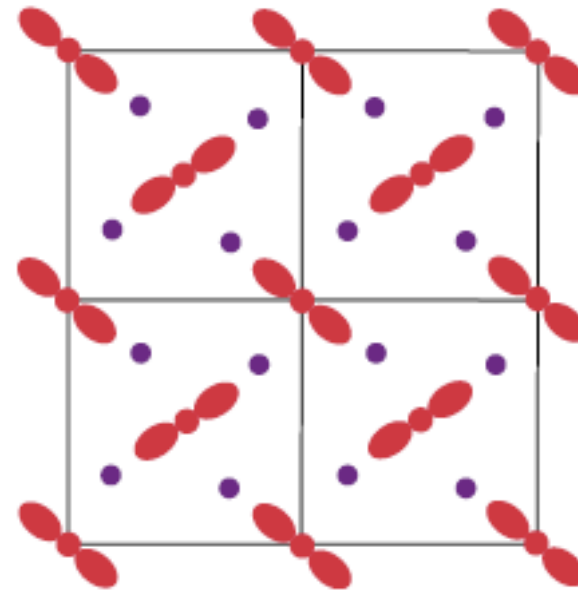
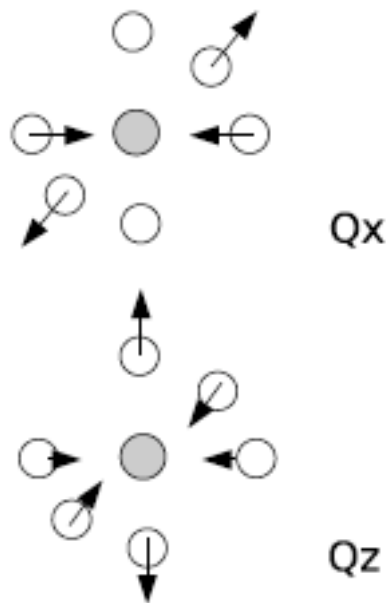
B site: almost completely full – almost no contribution to Tc.

density at A site determines Tc!



Real manganites: cooperative orbital (Jahn Teller) order

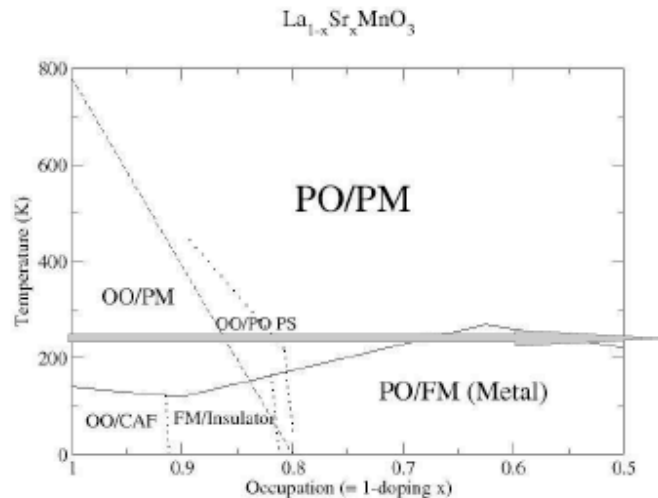
Local volume-preserving
lattice distortions



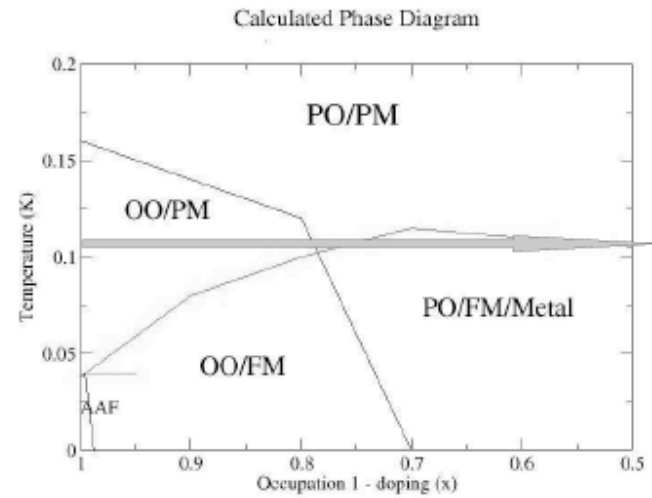
Each O is shared between 2
Mn, so distortion on one site
propagates to others

Calculation vs Expt: bulk

Expt



Calc

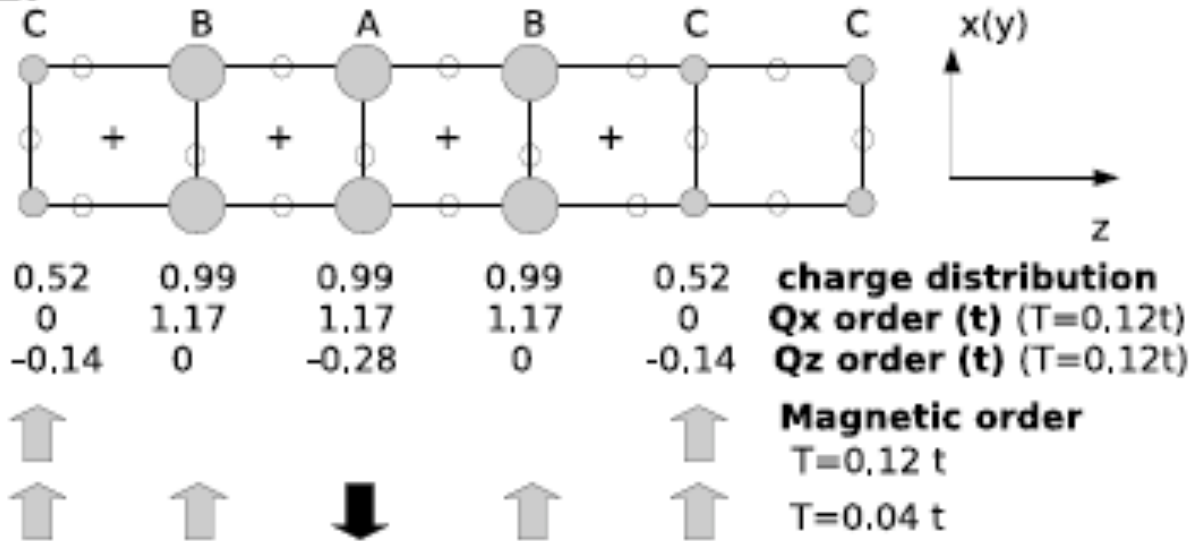


Calculation underestimates OO T_c
Overestimates doping regime of orbital order
Overestimates magnetic T_c



Superlattice: model calculations

L4S1:



Result: “Chungwei’s rules”

- **Charge distribution determined by screening; essentially independent of electronic phase**
- **Orbital order only weakly coupled between layers; determined by bulk behavior at layer density**
- **Layers are ferromagnetically coupled unless density >0.95**
- **In plane conductivity: each layer has conductivity equal to bulk conductivity appropriate to its density; layers add in parallel**

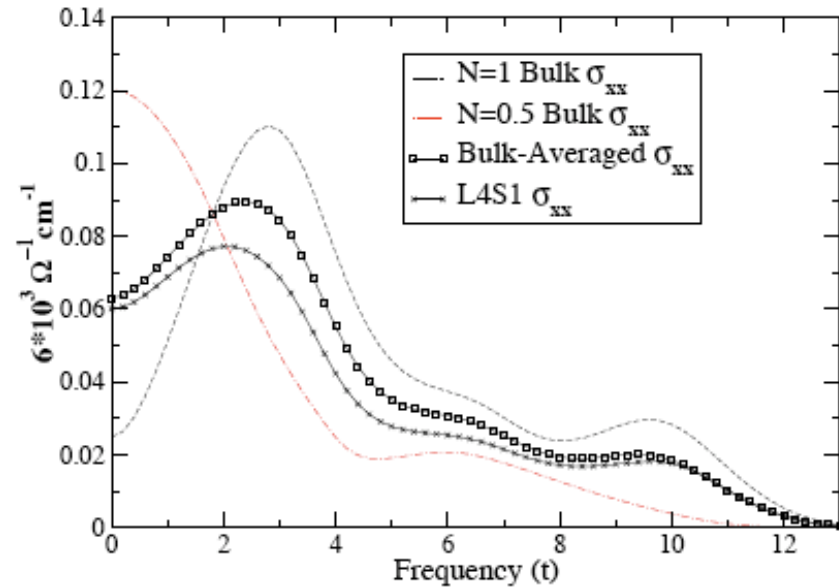
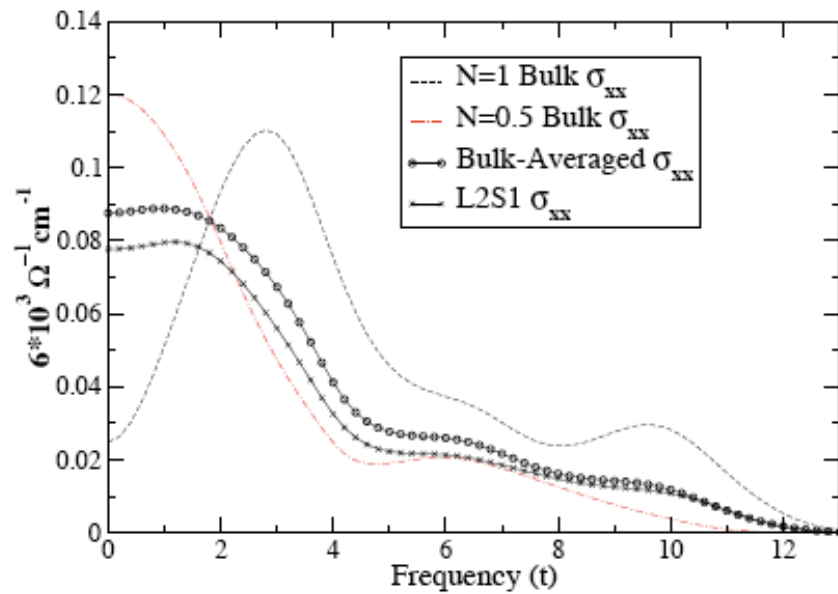


Bulk vs averaged DL conductivity

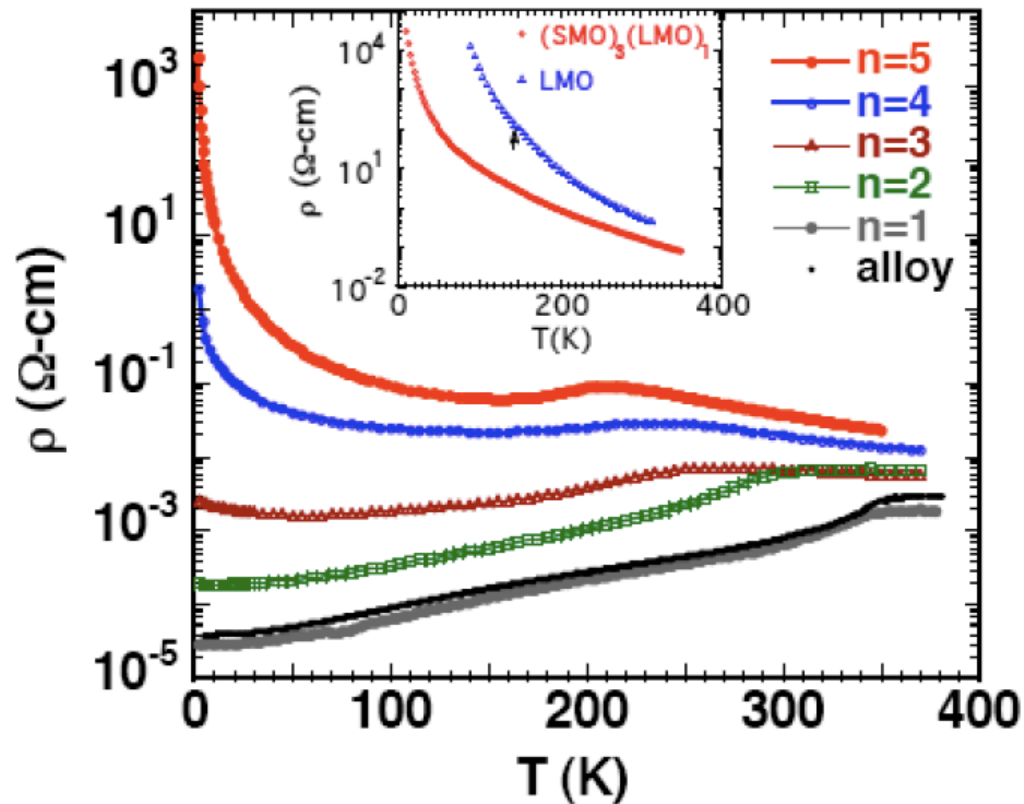
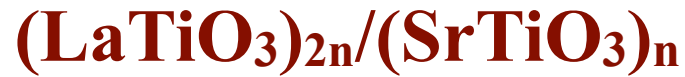
α	0.3	0.09	0.3	0.09	0.3	0.09
$\bar{\sigma}_{xx}^{bulk}$	0.083	0.115	0.064	0.093	0.58	0.082
σ_{xx}^{SL}	0.077	0.105	0.067	0.093	0.6	0.081
SL	L2S1	L2S1	L3S1	L3S1	L4S1	L4S1



Optical conductivities also average



Not consistent with experiment



Theory: $\rho \sim n$

Expt: $\text{Log}[\rho]$
changes fast with n

Waruswithana et al (UIUC)



Summary

Homometallic superlattices: all you really need to know is the charge density profile and the bulk phase diagram

Agreement bet. expt and theory not (yet) great



What the field needs now

- **Identify “hydrogen atom” of heterostructures:**
Simple enough to create and study; rich enough to reveal new properties **Not found in bulk of either constituent**
- **Undertake systematic comparisons:**
 - materials processing \Leftrightarrow properties
 - growth \Leftrightarrow defects
 - control (gating) \Leftrightarrow properties
 - experiment \Leftrightarrow theory

