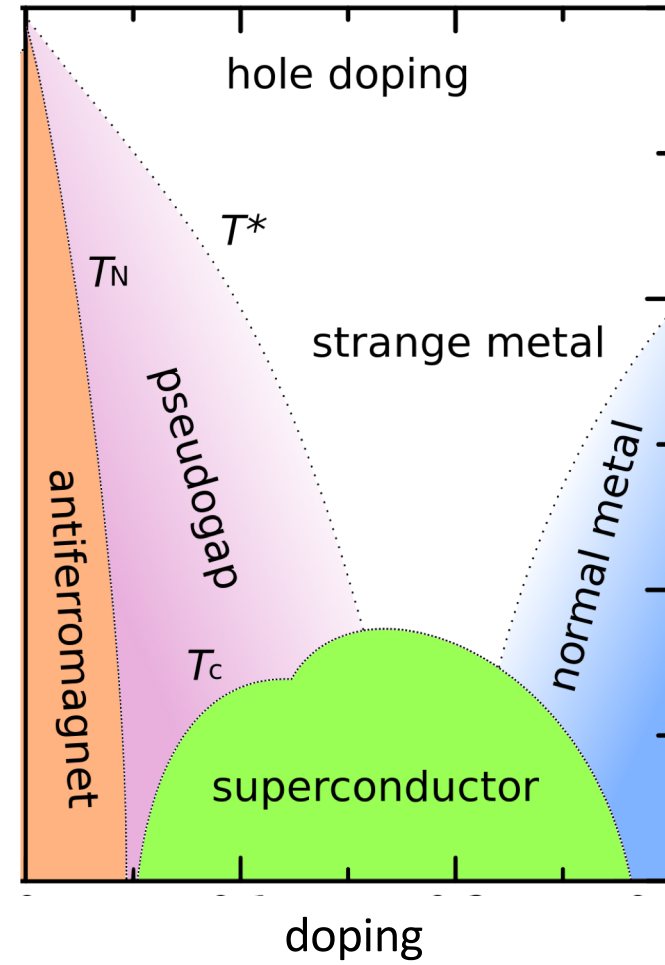
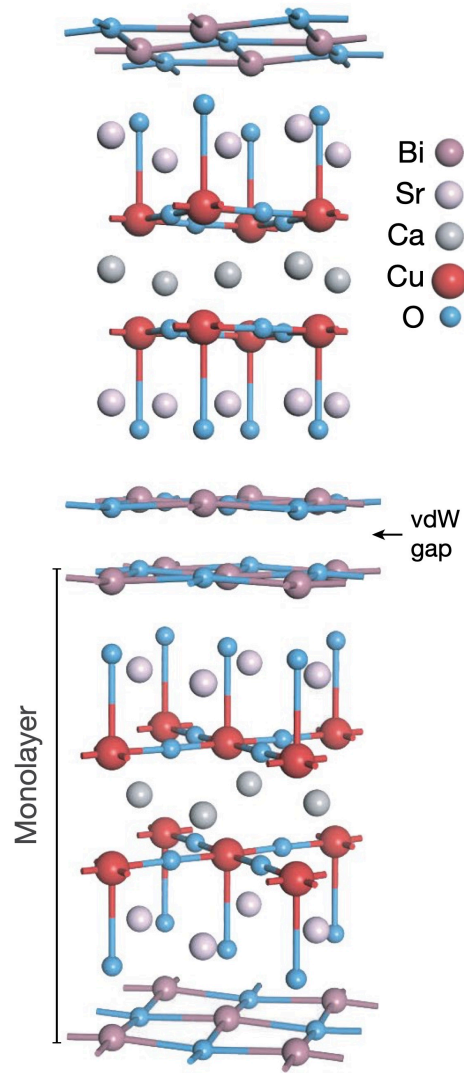


# Charge-transfer insulators in moiré materials

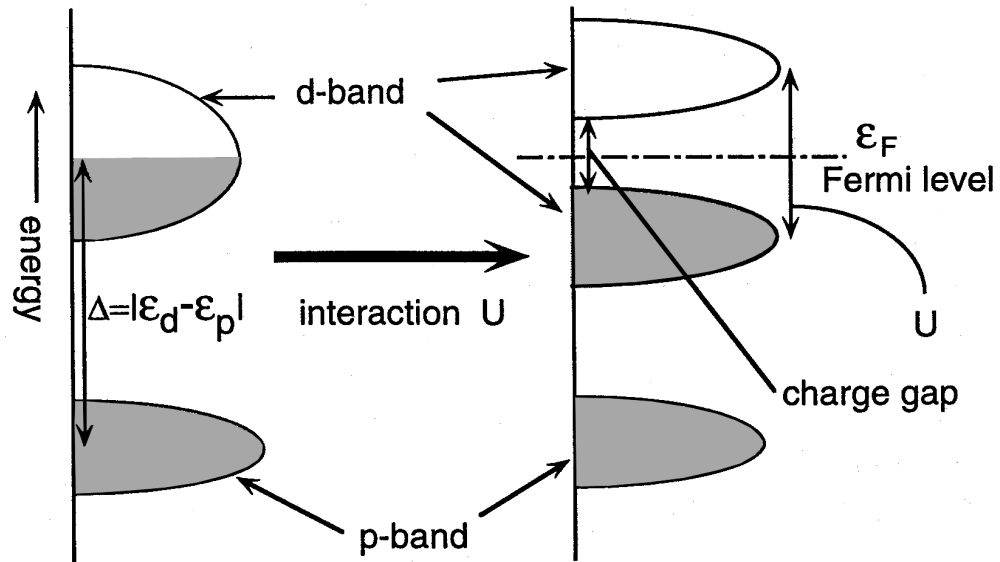
*Louk Rademaker*

Monday 17 July 2023, Zaanen-Fest in Leiden

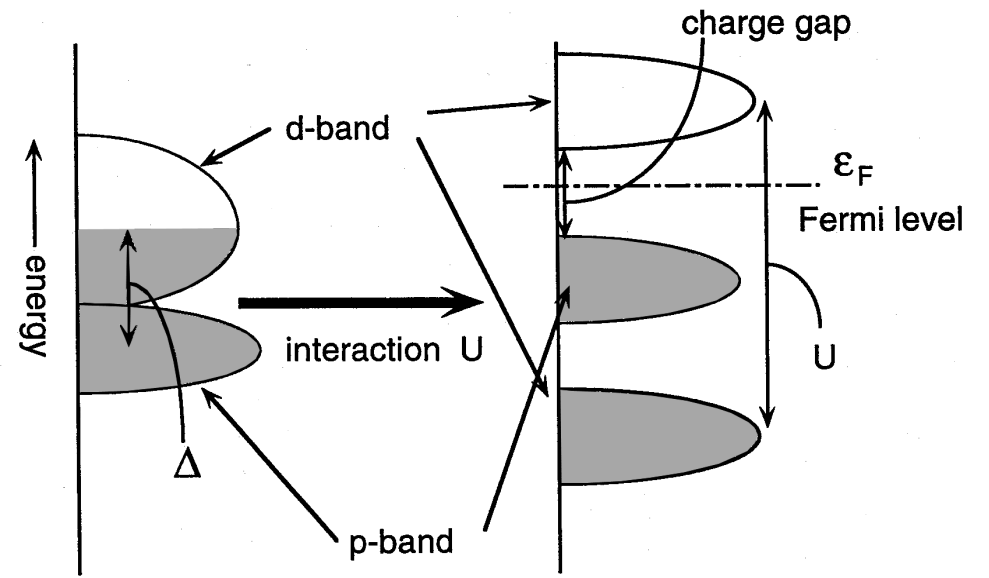
# Strong correlations!



# Charge-transfer insulation



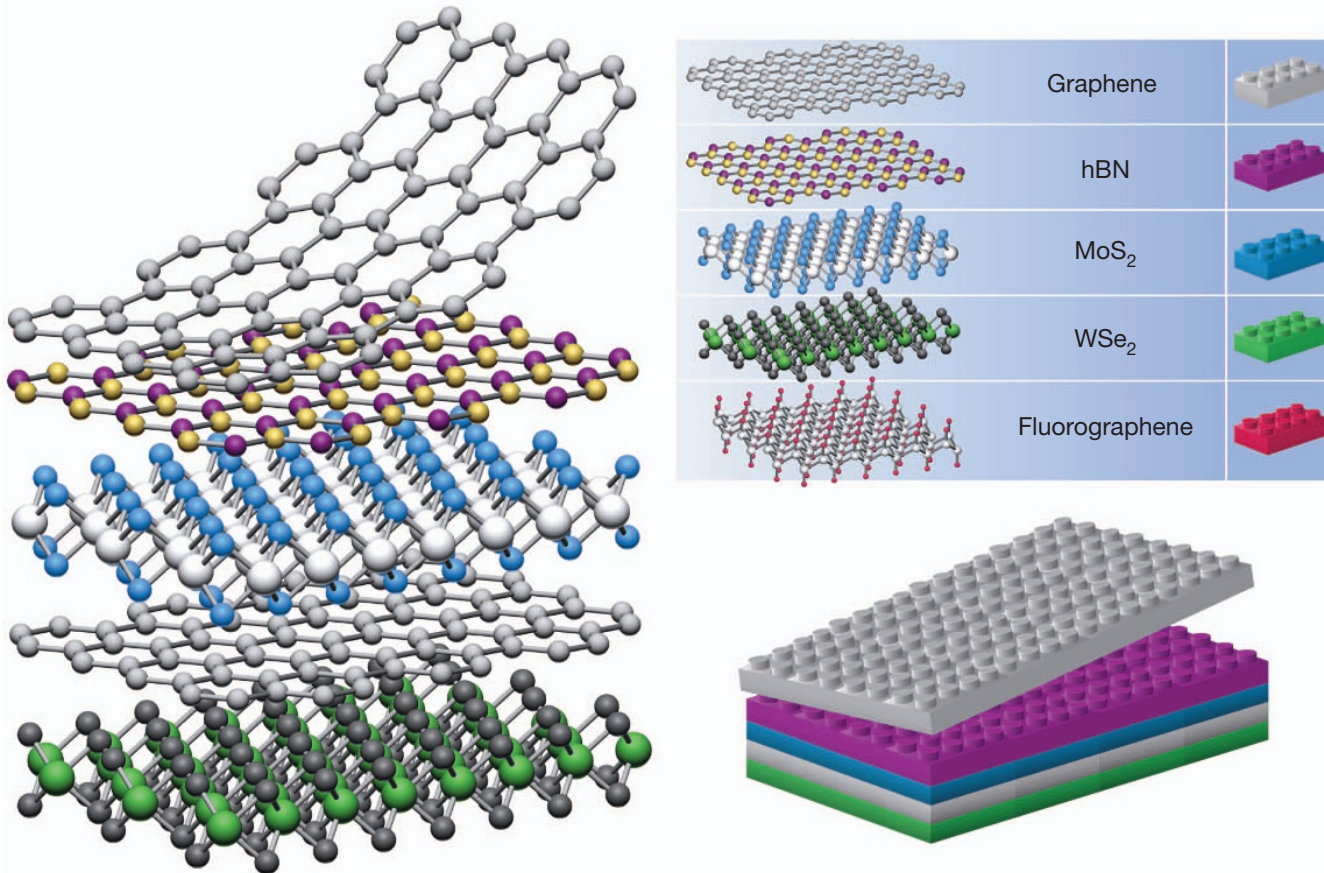
(a) Mott-Hubbard Insulator



(b) Charge Transfer Insulator

# Van der Waals – moiré materials

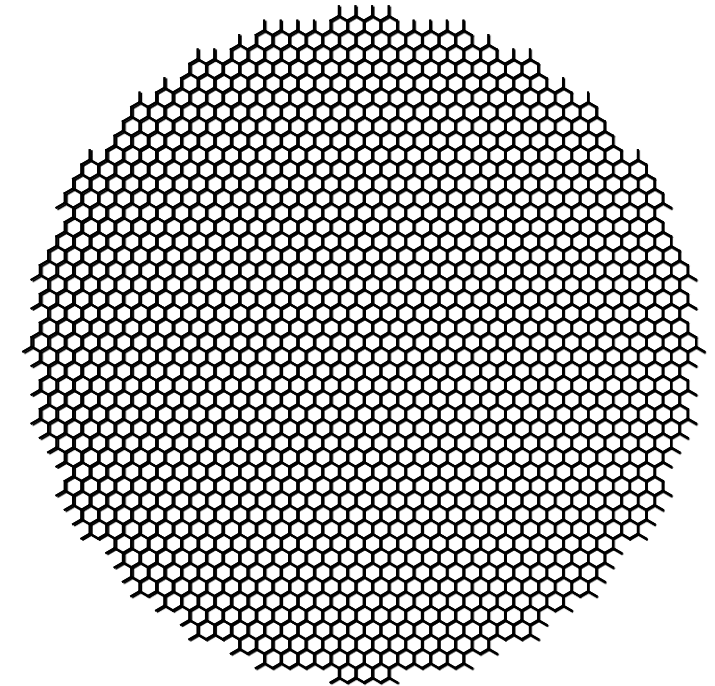
## Van der Waals heterostructures: Atomic 'LEGO'



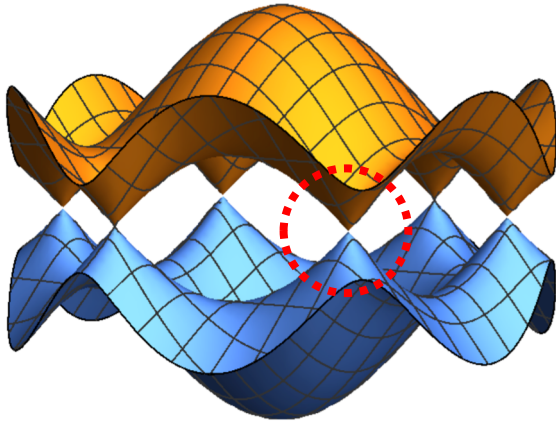
Ref: Geim Nature 2013

## Moiré pattern

*Twist or Lattice mismatch*



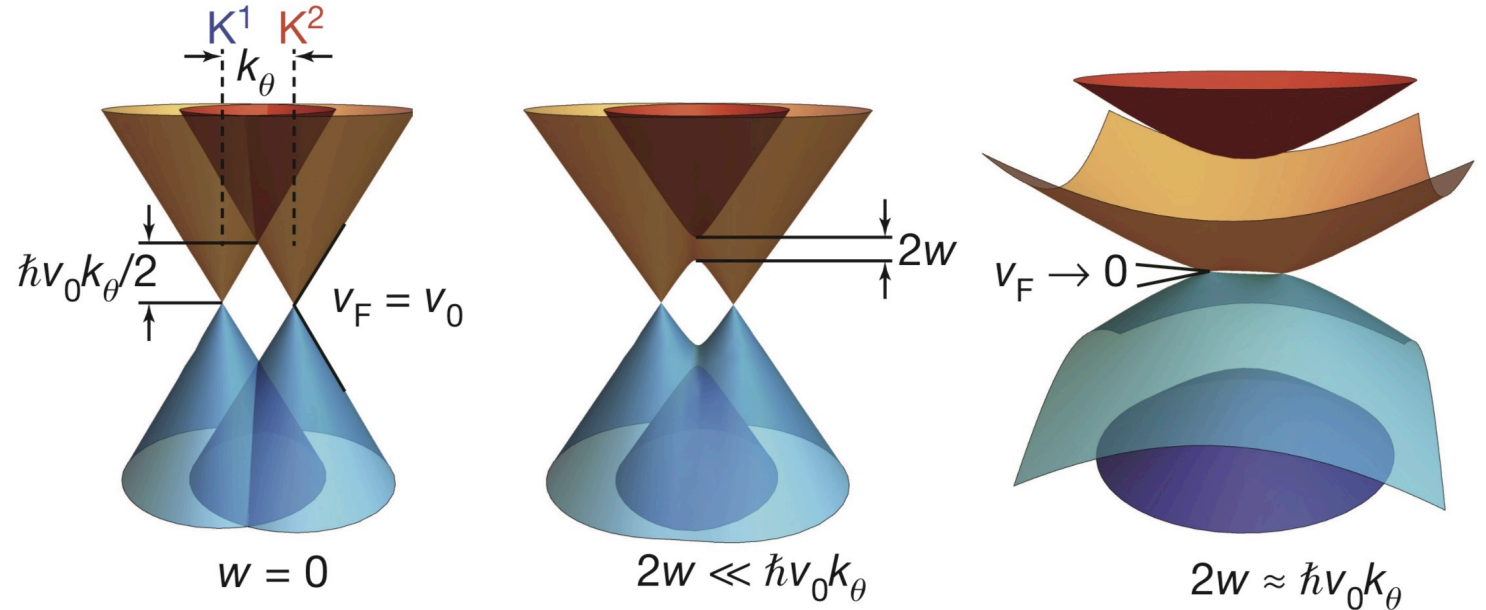
## Monolayer graphene



Dirac cone dispersion  
of massless electrons

$$H = v_F \vec{\sigma} \cdot \vec{k}$$

## Twisted Bilayer Graphene (tBG)



Dirac cones of each  
layer are close

+

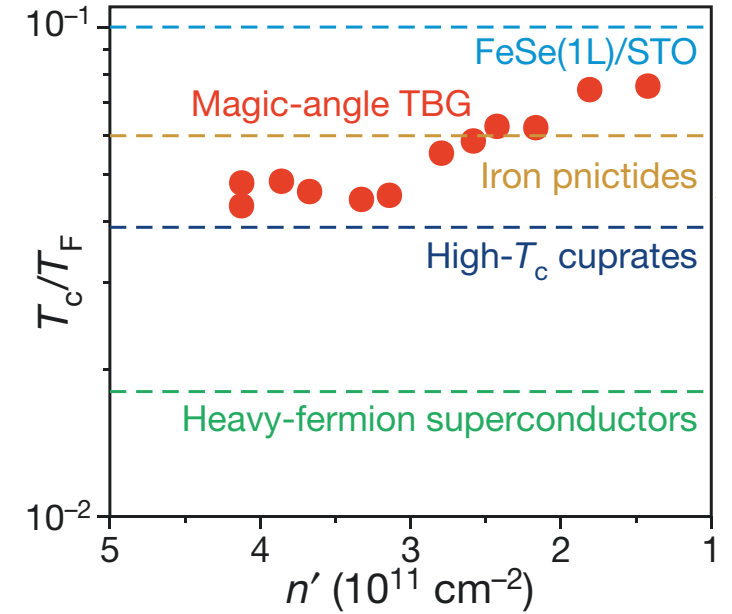
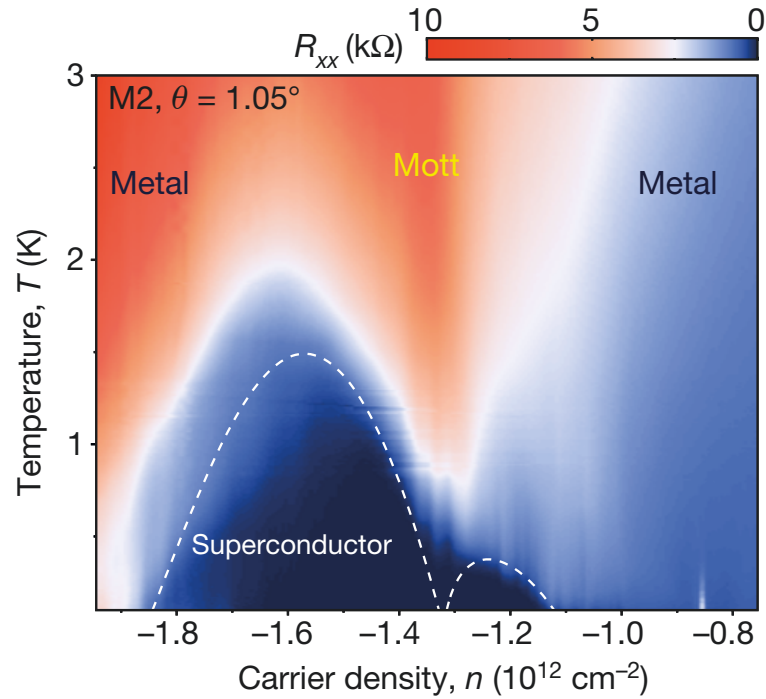
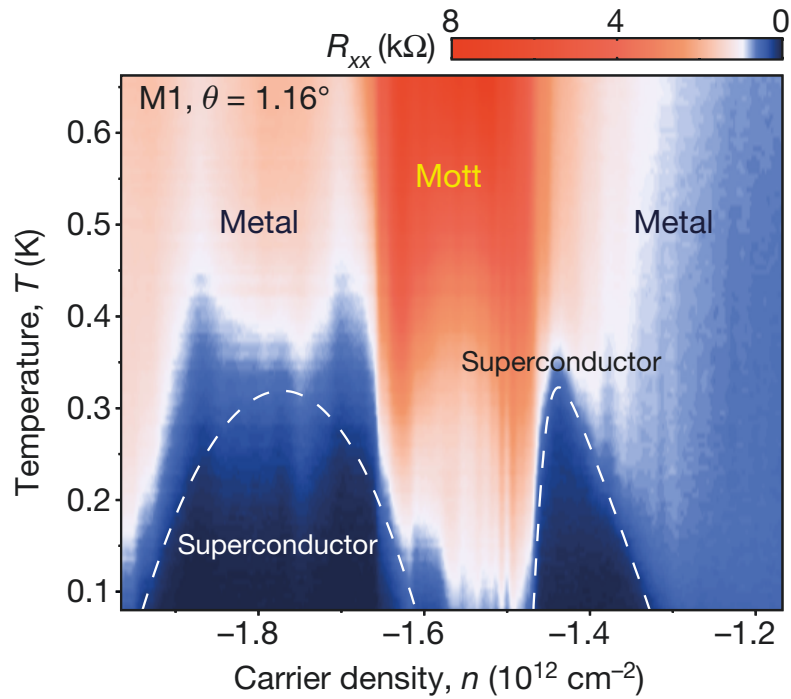
Interlayer  
hopping

=

Topological  
Flat bands

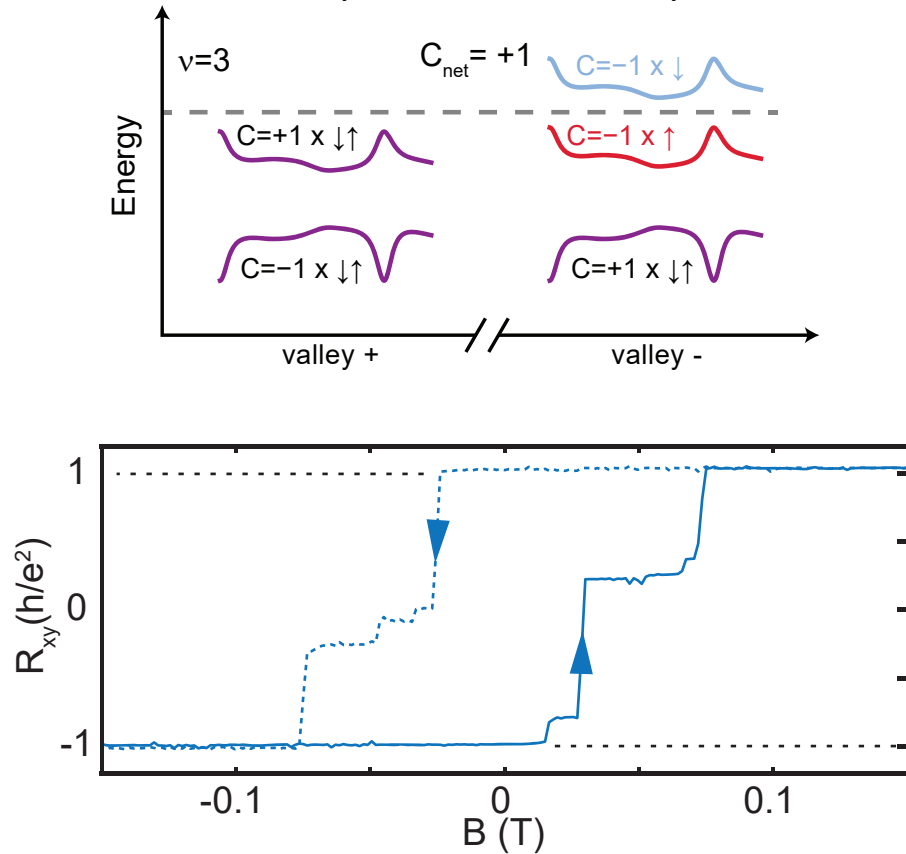
**'Magic Angle' tBG**

# Mott (?) insulators and (High T<sub>c</sub>) Superconductivity

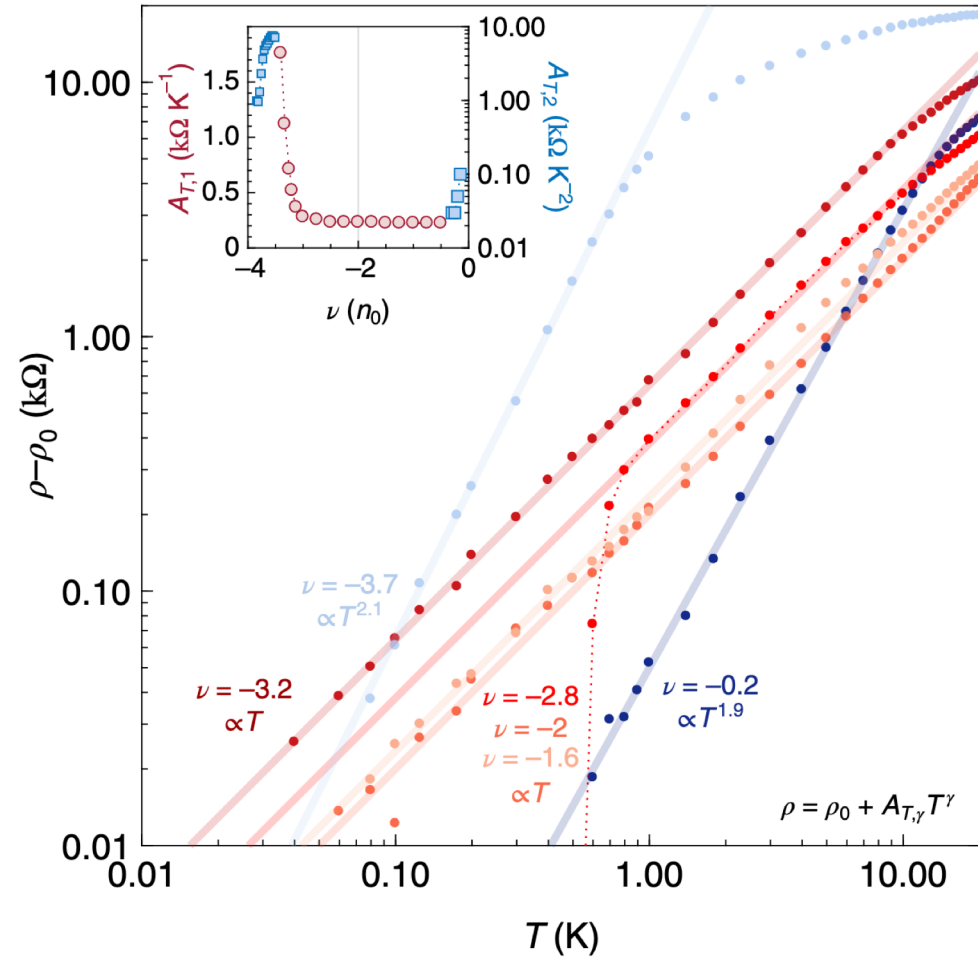


Ref: Cao Nature 2018

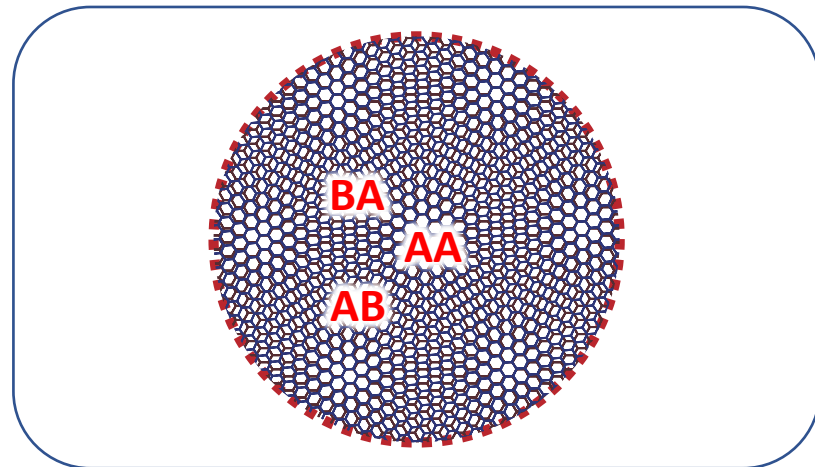
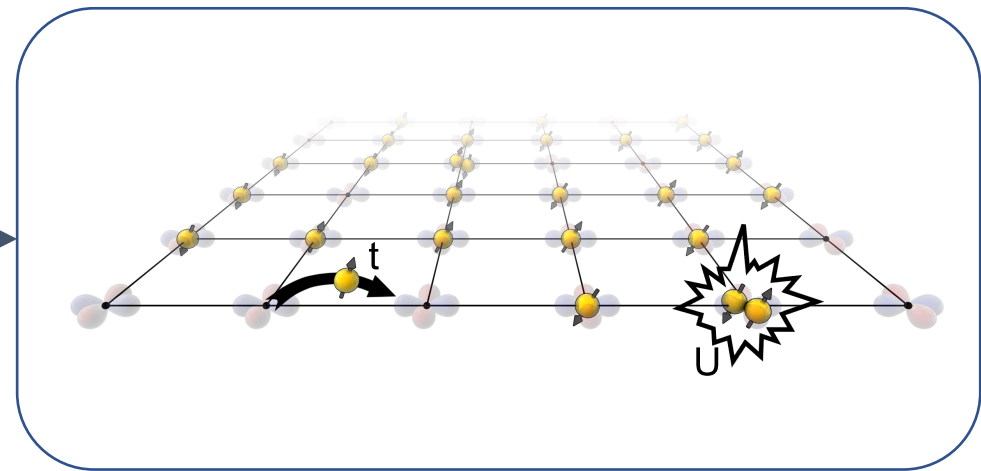
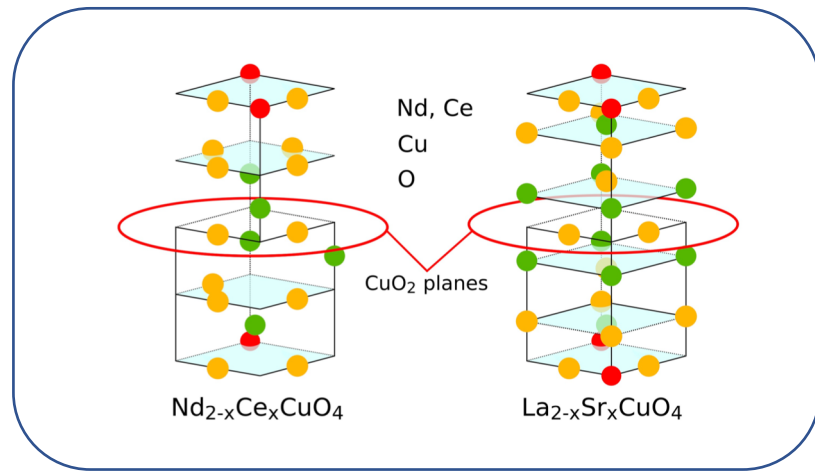
# Quantum Anomalous Hall effect



# Strange metal



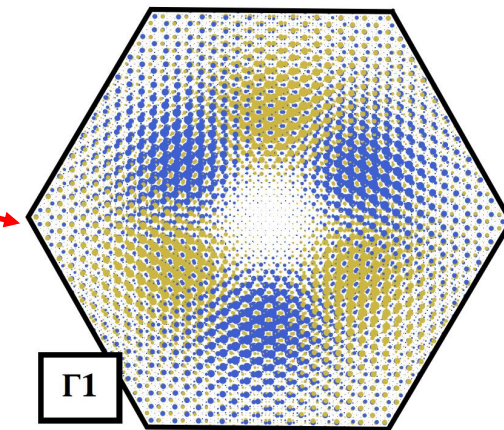
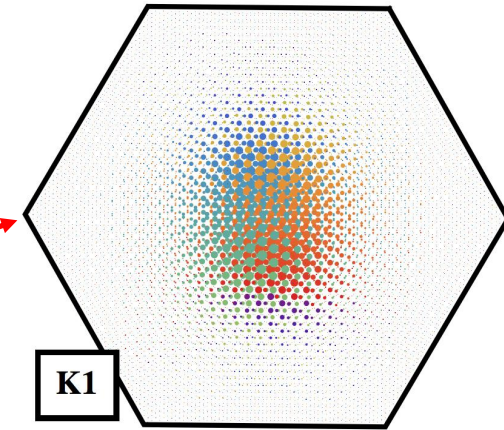
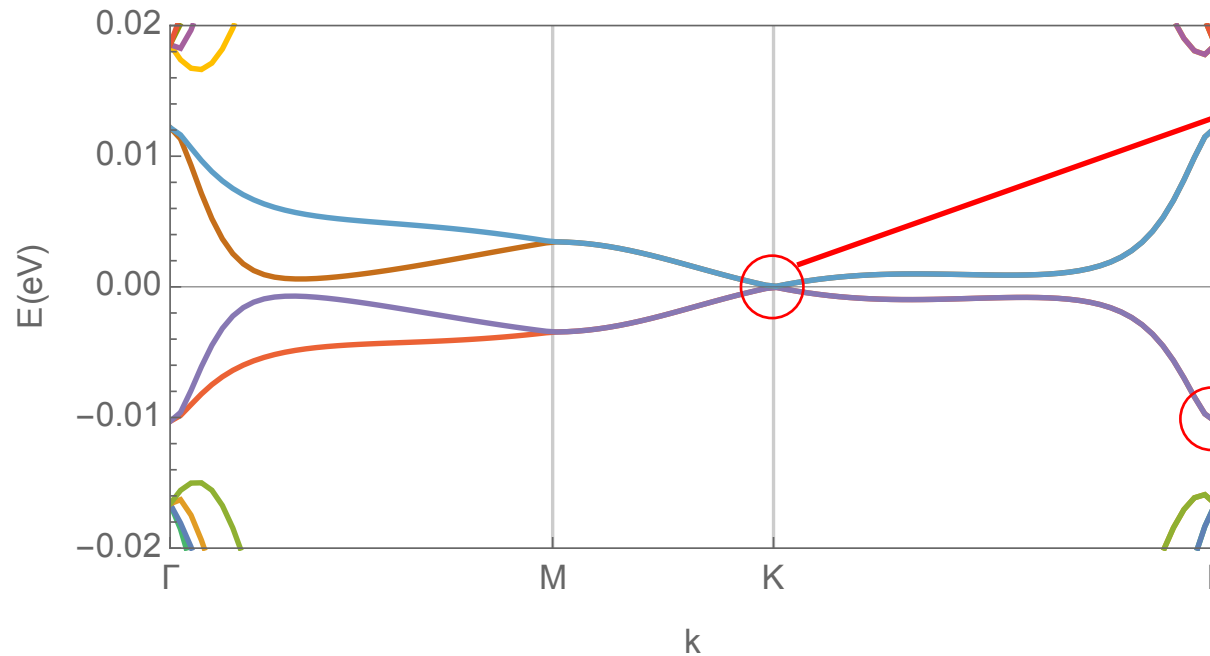
# Tight-binding picture of tBG?





# Multi-orbital picture

Density of states **at K** is peaked at **AA**

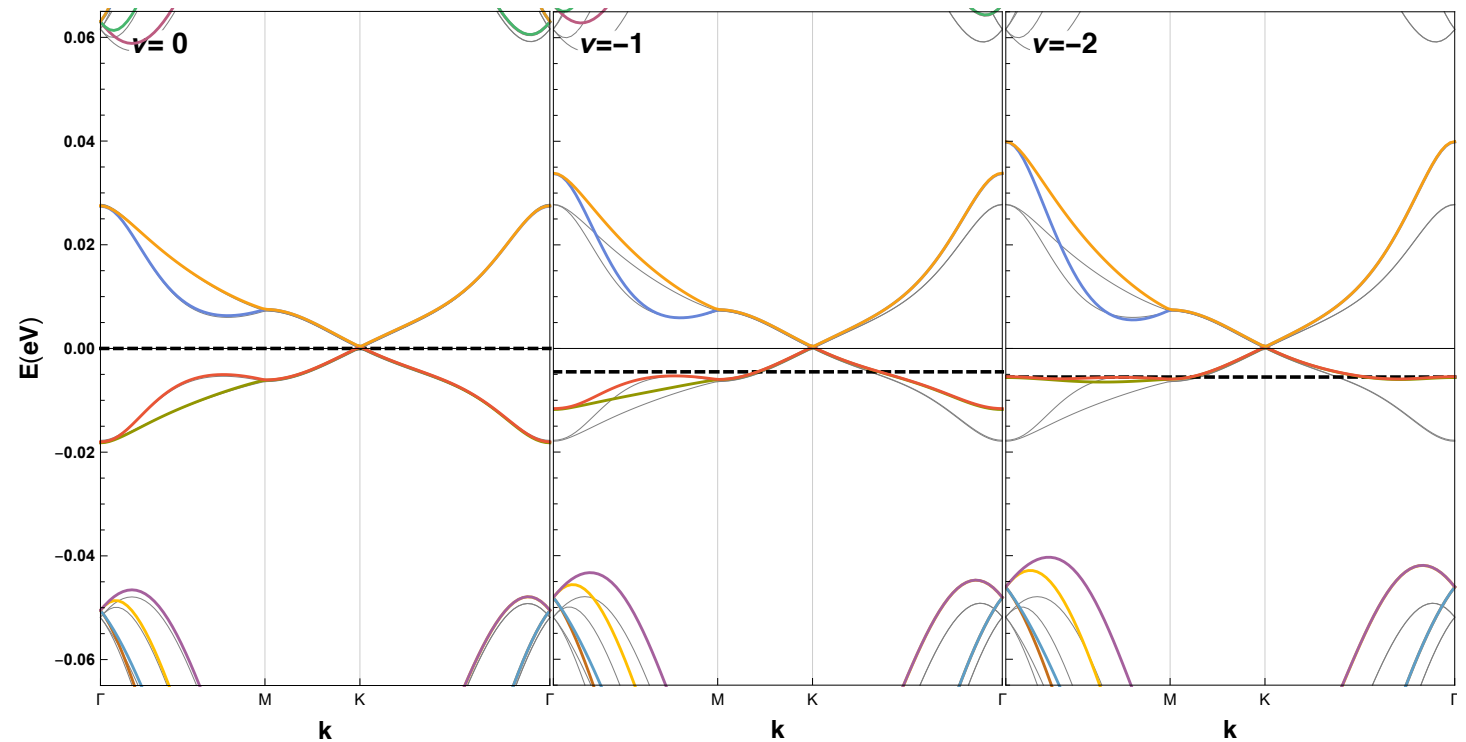
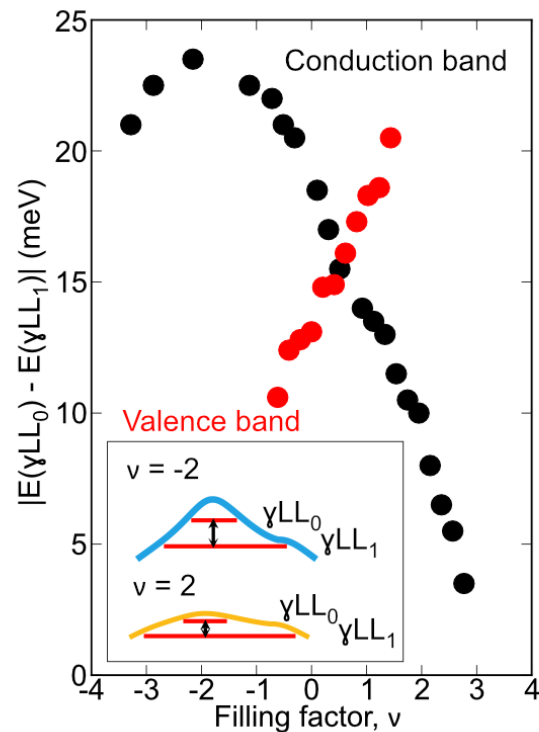


Density of states **at  $\Gamma$**  is peaked at **unit cell edge**

# Charge-transfer in tBG (weak coupling)

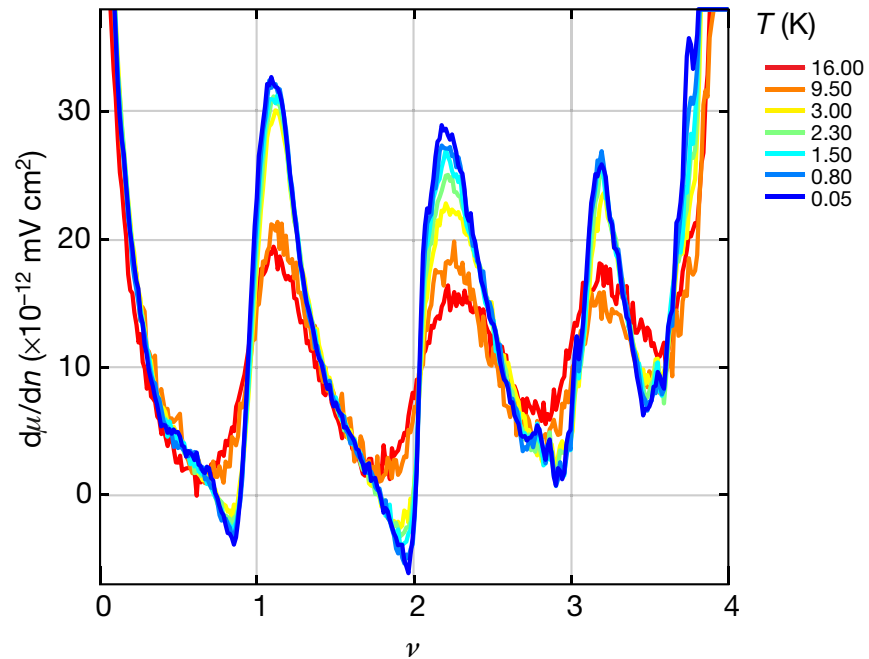
Need both **localized** (K, center) and **delocalized** ( $\Gamma$ , ring) orbitals to describe tBG

Hartree-Fock: **charge-transfer** causes reduction of effective bandwidth

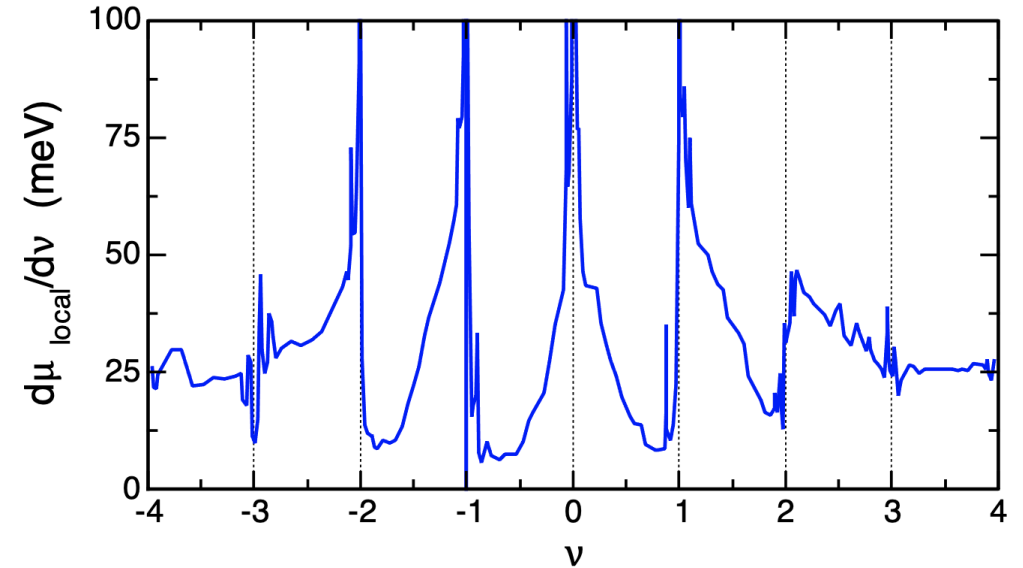


Ref: Rademaker, Mellado, PRB 2018; PRB 2019; Choi Nat Phys 2021

# Charge-transfer in tBG (strong coupling)



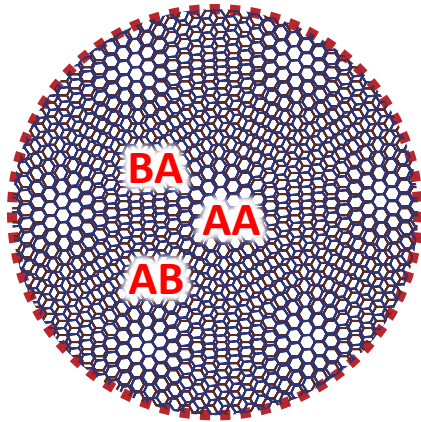
Experiments: **cascade** in inverse compressibility



Charge-transfer between localized and itinerant?  
“topological heavy Fermion”?

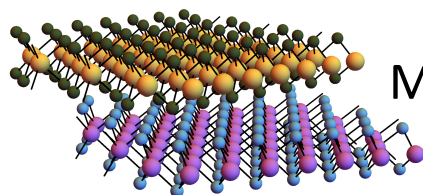
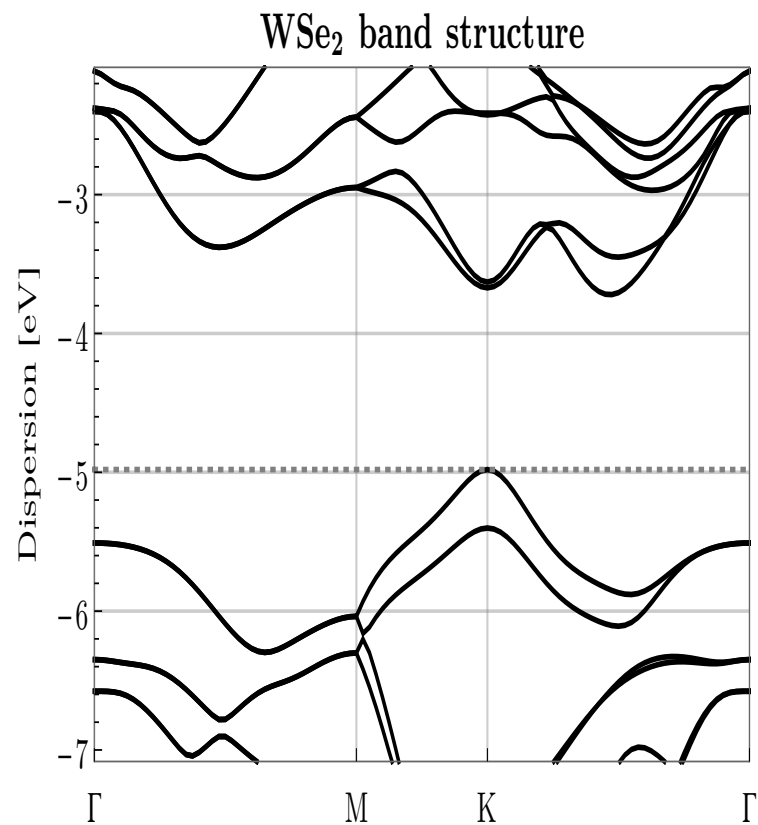
Ref: Song Bernevig PRL 2022; Datta Bascones 2301.13024; Zondiner Nature 2020

# Outlook in tBG

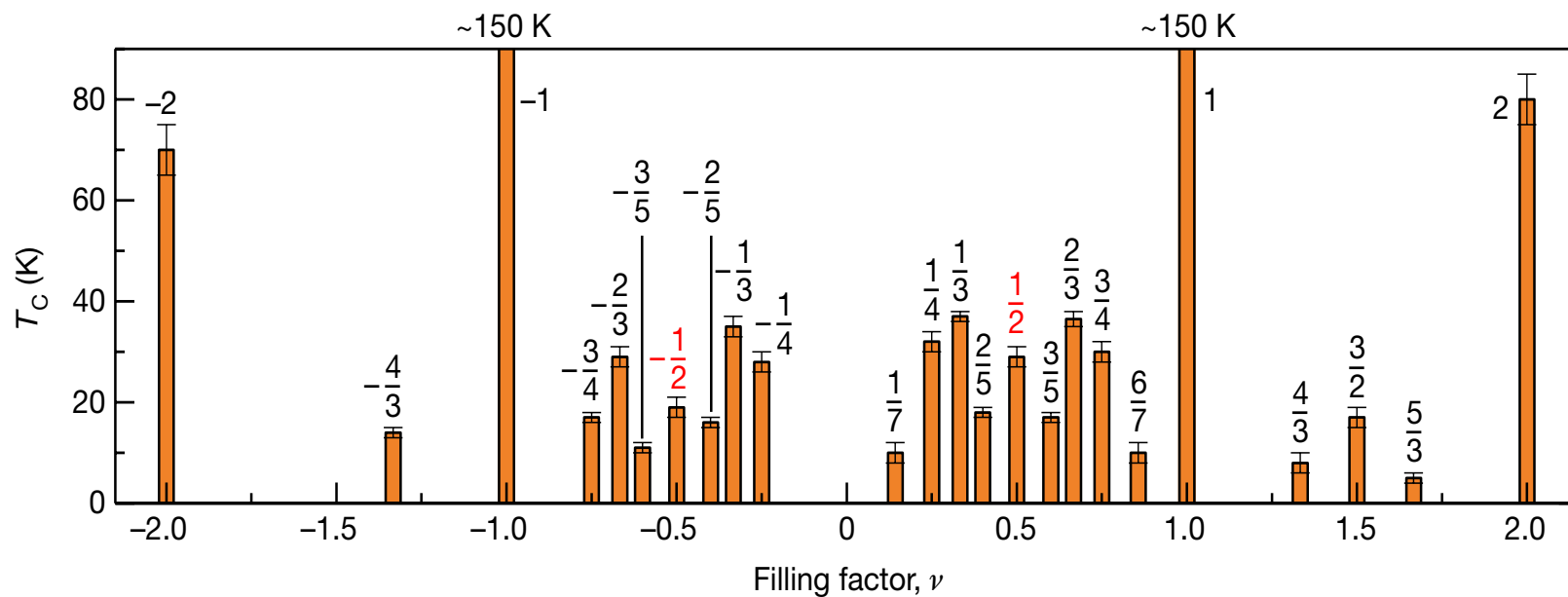


- Still debate on the **correct** effective tight-binding model
- Definitely **not** “**rigid band-shift**” model
- Need this to understand SC and strange metal
- Key role for **charge-transfer!**

# More moiré in TMDs



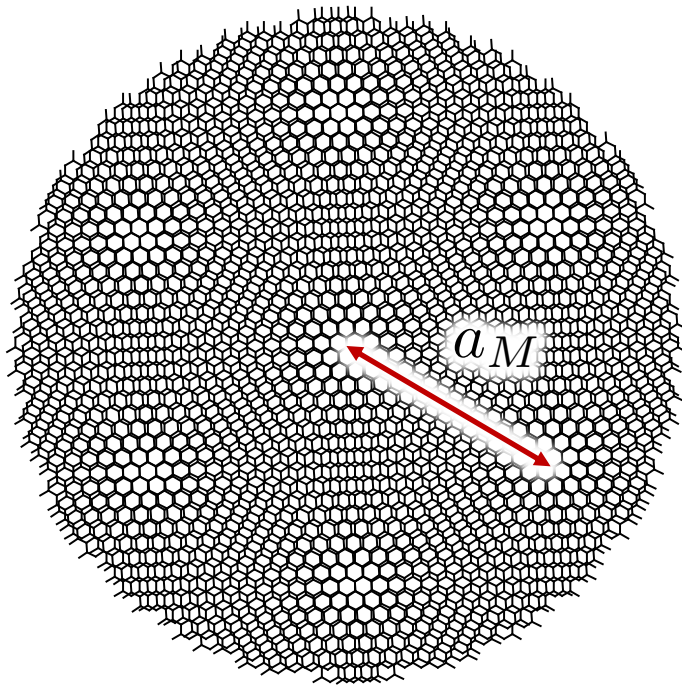
Moiré material from aligned **WS<sub>2</sub>/WSe<sub>2</sub>** “heterobilayers”



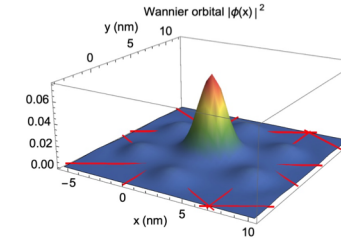
Ref: Rademaker PRB 2022; Xu Nature 2020

# Natural Strong Correlations

## Moiré unit cell

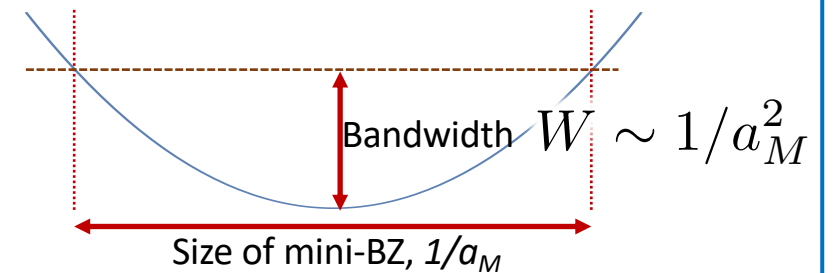


## Coulomb Interaction



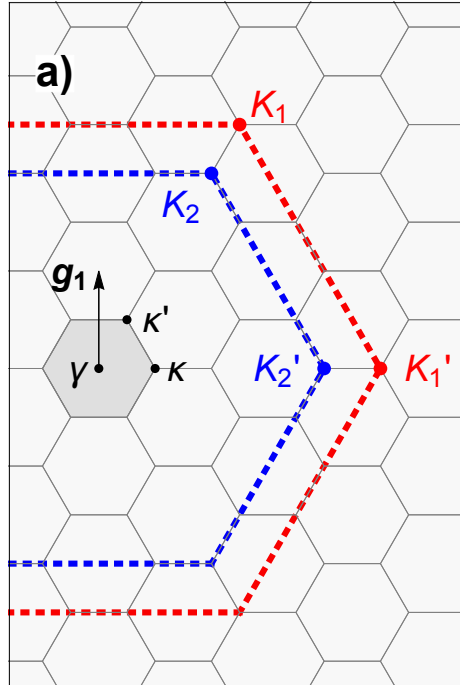
$$U \sim 1/a_M$$

## Effective bandwidth



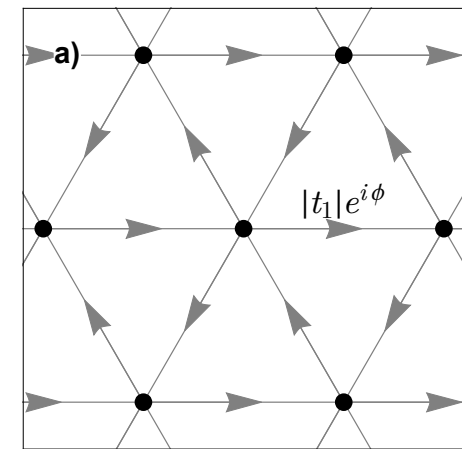
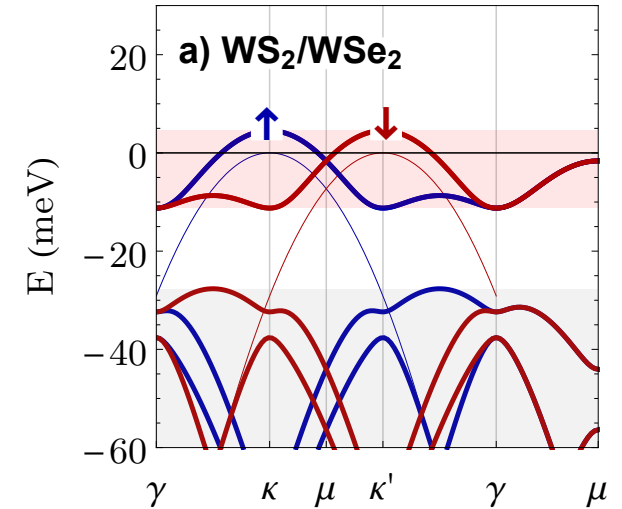
**Small** twist angle = **Large** Moiré unit cell = **Strong correlations**  $U/W \sim a_M$

# Simple effective model at K



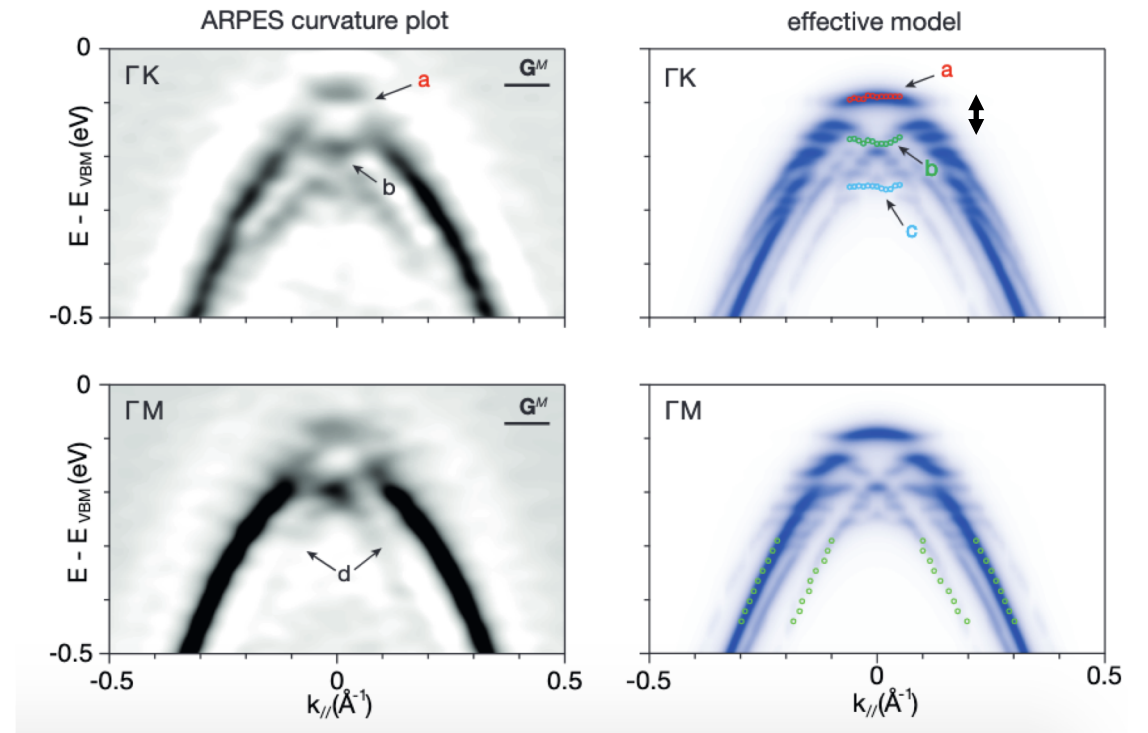
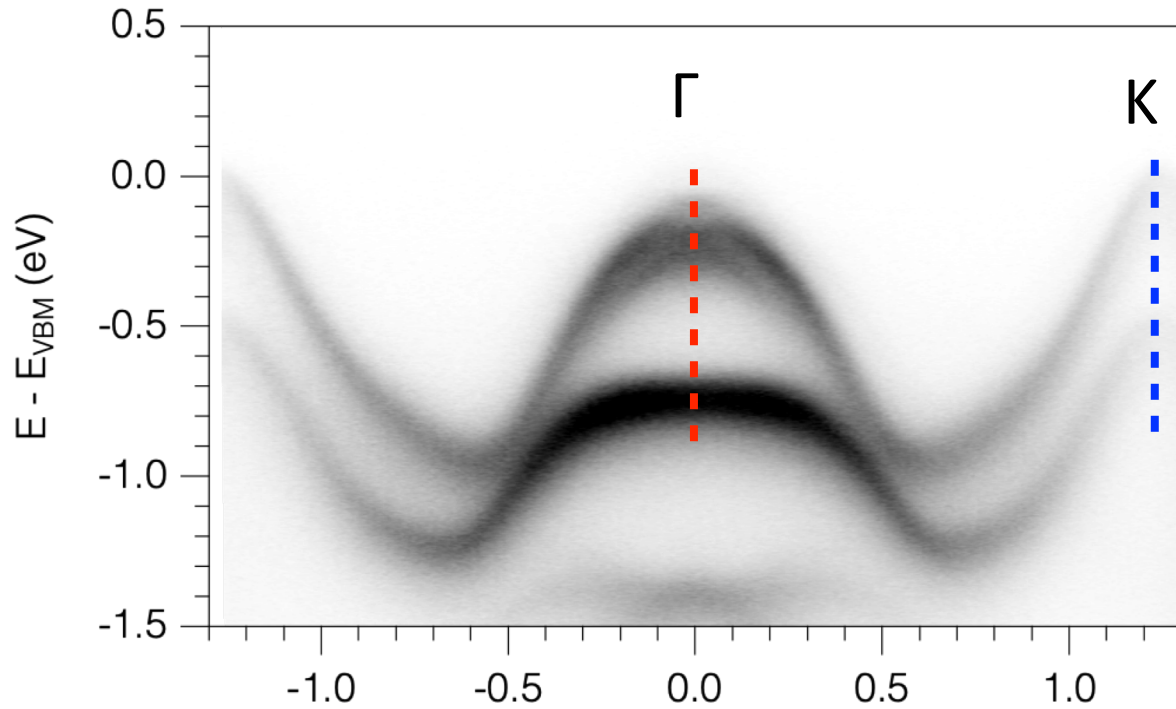
Hopping model on **triangular lattice** with **spin-orbit coupling**

$$H = t_1 \sum_{\langle ij \rangle \sigma} e^{i\phi \sigma^z \nu_{\langle ij \rangle}} c_{i\sigma}^\dagger c_{j\sigma}$$



# ARPES results on twisted bilayer WSe<sub>2</sub>

Moiré bands at  $\Gamma$  are more correlated but moiré bands at K are higher in energy

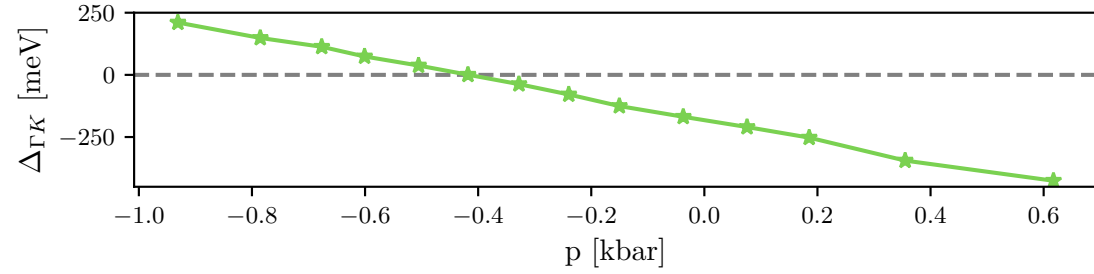
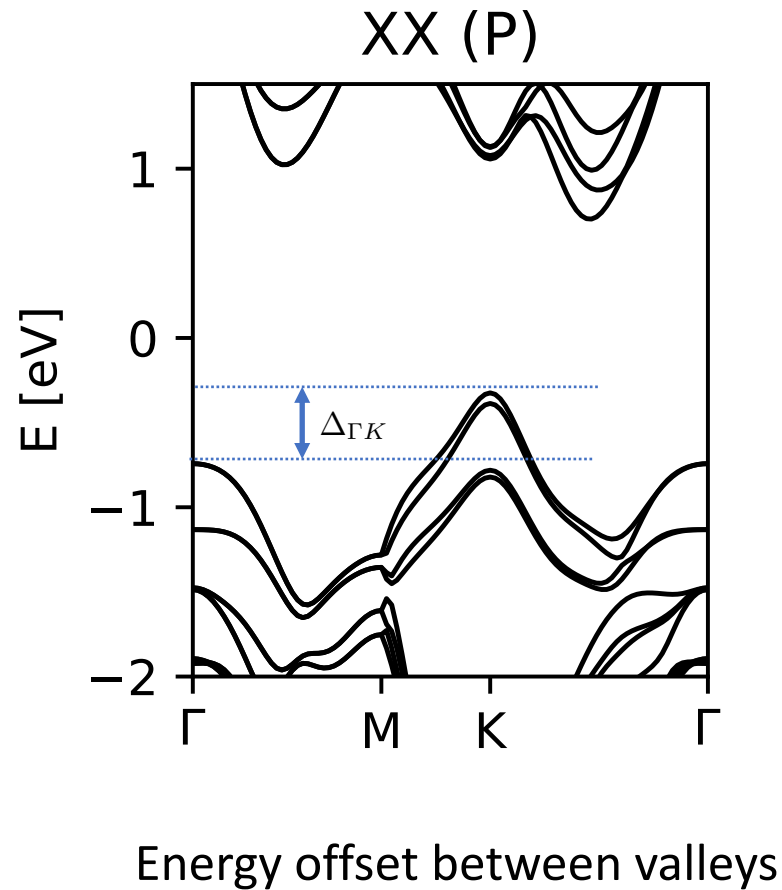


$V_0 = 40 - 60$  meV

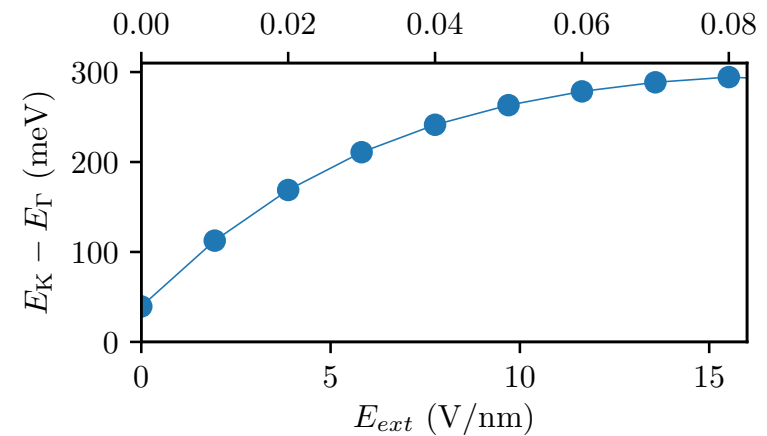
Ref: Gatti, Rademaker et al PRL 2023



# Idea: tune the valley charge-transfer

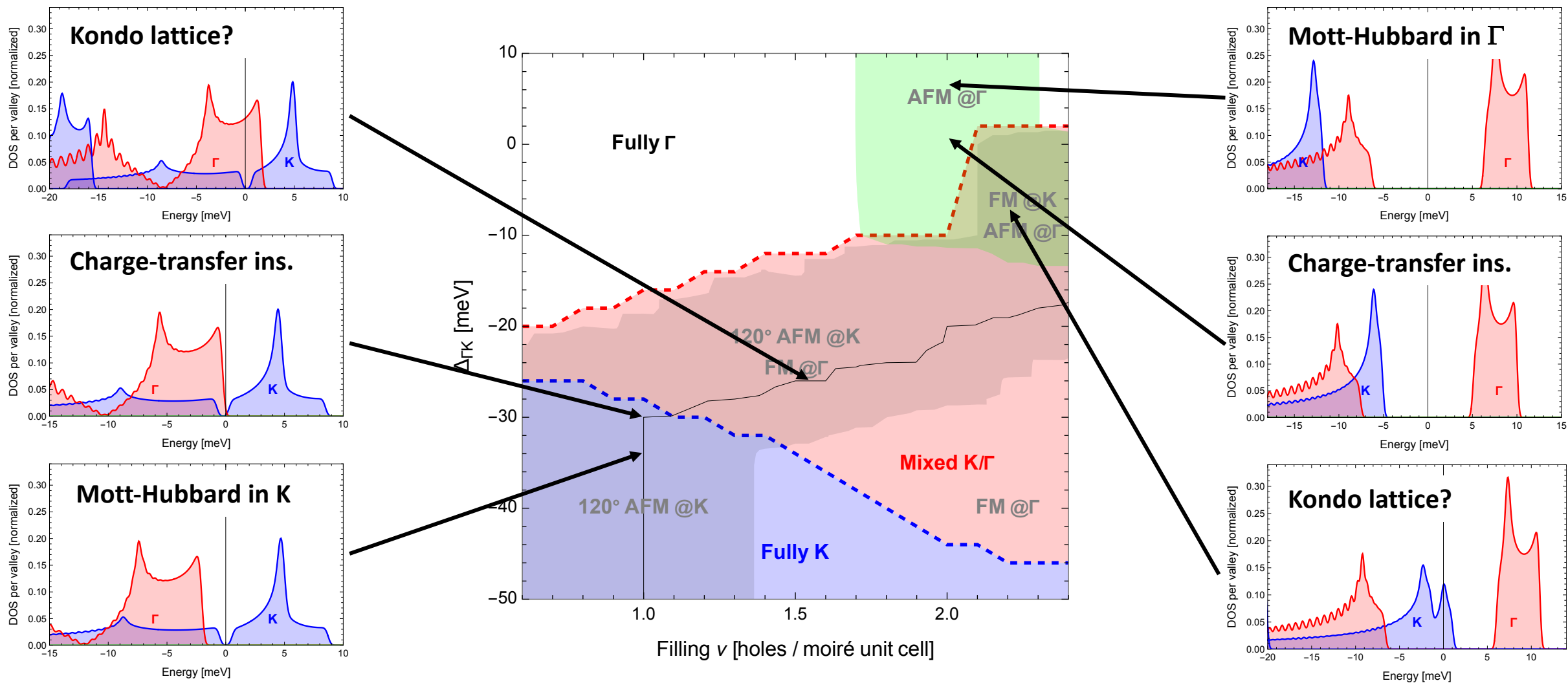


Pressure



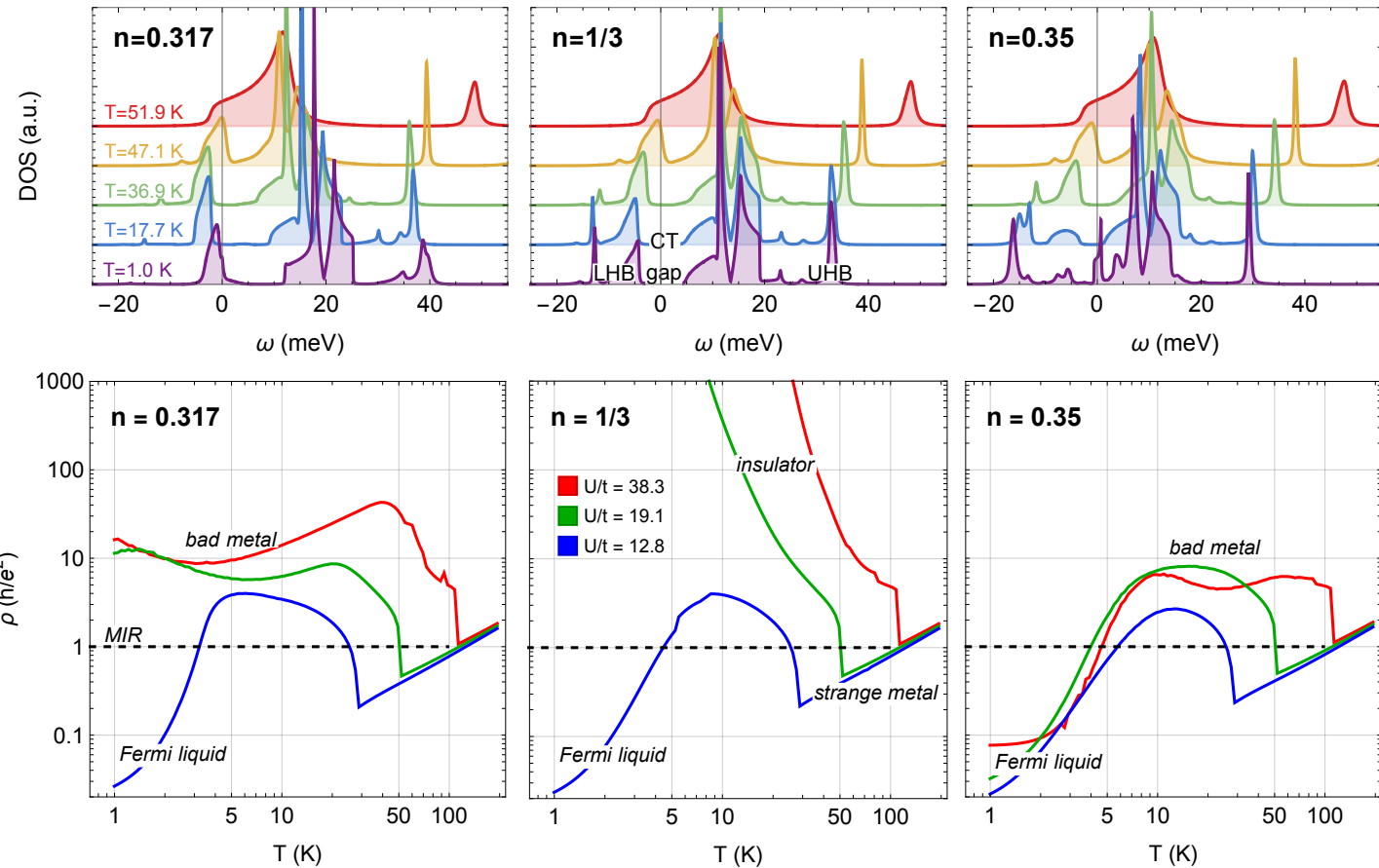
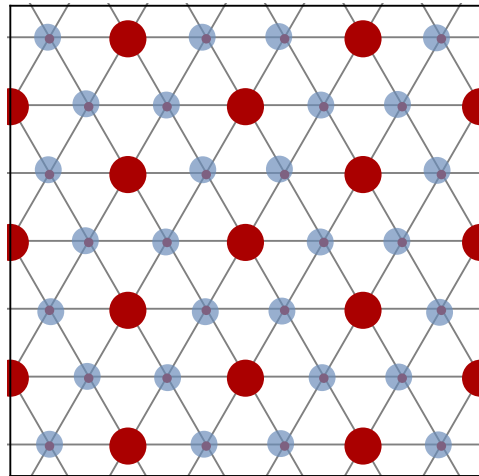
Electric field

# Mean field theory result: tuning valley charge-transfer



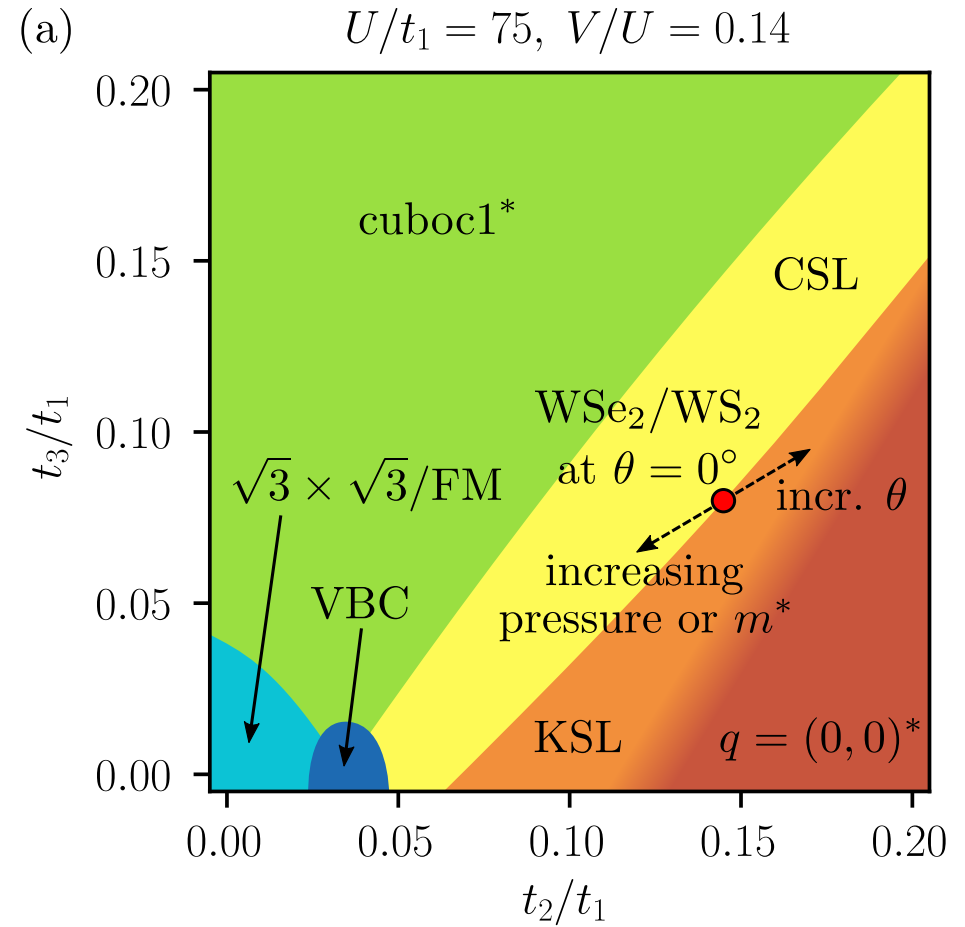
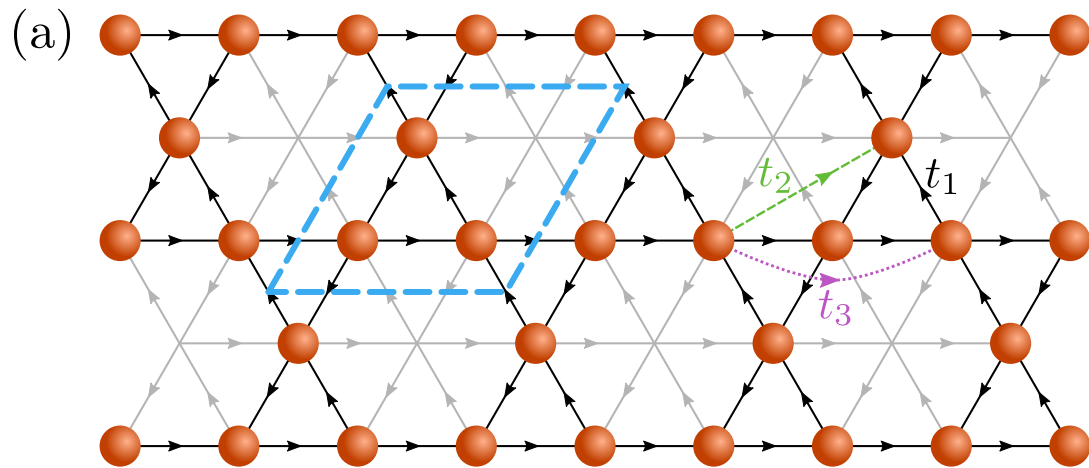
Ref: Brzezinska, Gibertini, Rademaker, arXiv:2023

# Charge-transfer Wigner crystals



Ref: Tsang, Tan, Dobrosavljevic, Rademaker; arXiv:2210.07926

# Chiral spin liquid



Ref: Motruk, Rossi, Abanin, Rademaker, PRR 2023

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Samiyeh Mahmoudian  
*Vlad Dobrosavljevic*

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Paula Mellado

## EPFL, Switzerland

Marta Brzezinska

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Julia Issing  
Simone Lisi  
*Felix Baumberger*  
*Alberto Morpurgo*

## Modena, Italy

*Marco Gibertini*

## Grenoble, France

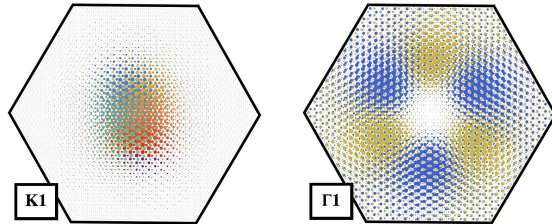
Simone Fratini

## L'Aquila, Italy

Sergio Ciuchi

# Conclusion: Tuning **Charge-Transfer** in **Moiré** Materials

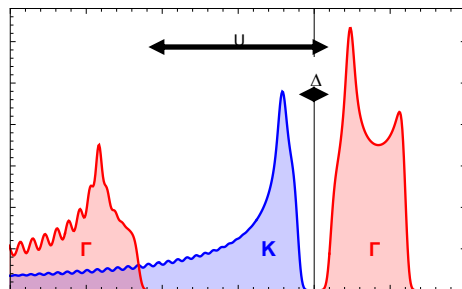
Moiré materials allow us to **surpass chemistry!**



*Twisted bilayer graphene:*

Charge-transfer between **localized** and **itinerant** electrons

*Rademaker, Mellado PRB 2018*

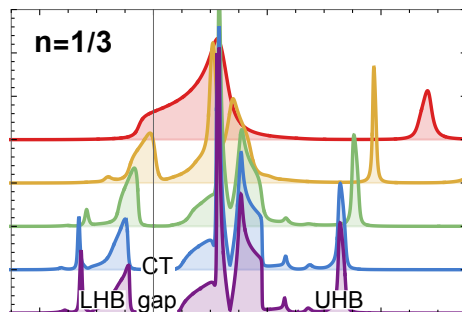


*TMD bilayers:*

Tunable charge-transfer between G and K valleys

*Gatti, Rademaker et al PRL 2023*

*Brzezinska, Gibertini, Rademaker, arXiv:2023*



Wigner-Mott charge transfer insulators

*Tsang, Tan, Dobrosavljevic, Rademaker; arXiv:2210.07926*