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CONN CENTER FOR RENEWABLE  
ENERGY RESEARCH

**Phosphorene under exotic conditions - in search for  
pathways to novel materials and physics**

Gamini Sumanasekera

*Department of Physics, University of Louisville*

# Acknowledgements

- **Dr. Jacek Jasinski**
- **Prof. Ming Yu**
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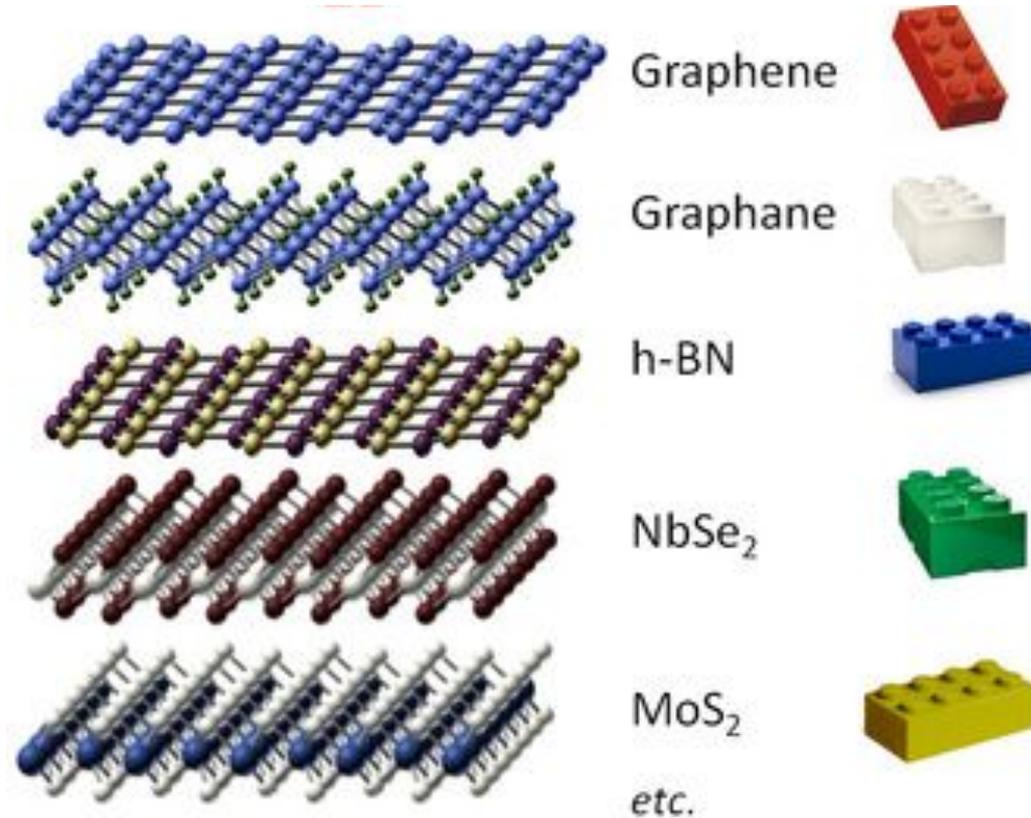
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF  
**ENERGY**

Office of  
Science

**Materials Sciences and Engineering (MSE) Division**

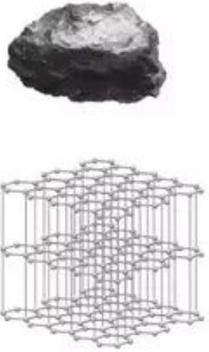
Synthesis and Processing Science Program & EPSCoR Program

# 2D Materials

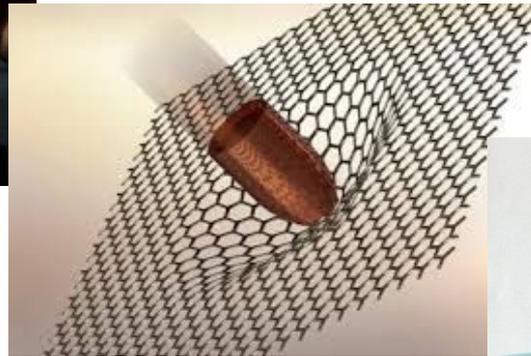
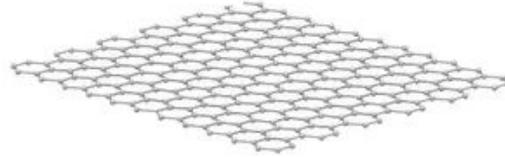


# 2D Materials - Graphene

graphite



graphene



The Nobel Prize in Physics 2010  
Andre Geim, Konstantin Novoselov

The Nobel Prize in Physics 2010

Andre Geim

Konstantin Novoselov



Photo: Sergeon, Wikimedia Commons

Andre Geim

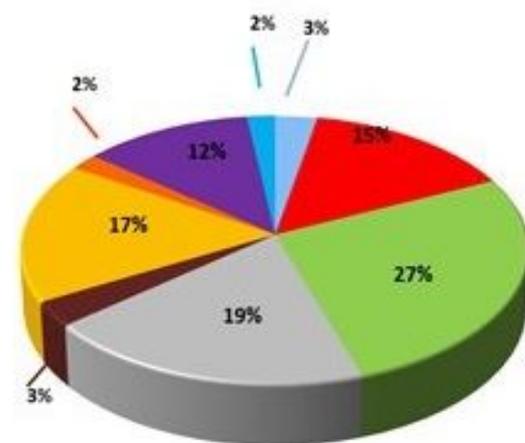


Photo: University of Manchester, UK

Konstantin  
Novoselov

The Nobel Prize in Physics 2010 was awarded jointly to Andre Geim and Konstantin Novoselov "for groundbreaking experiments regarding the two-dimensional material graphene"

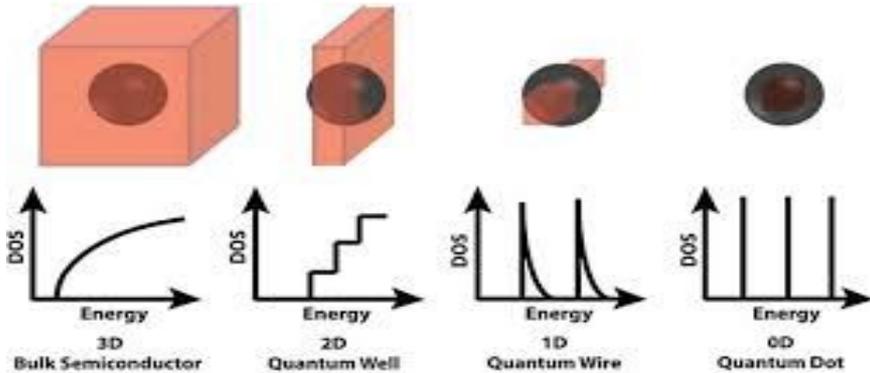
# Applications of Graphene



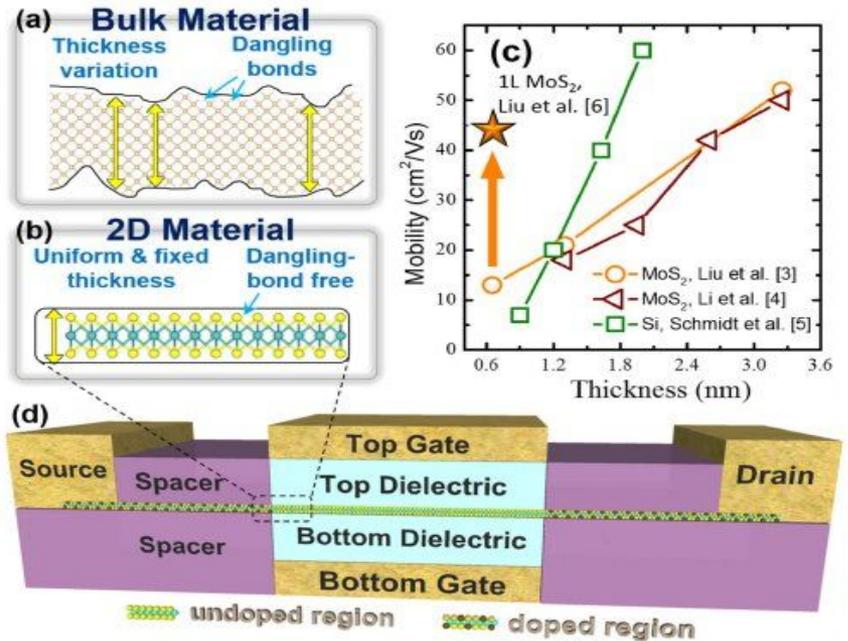
- Healthcare
- Aerospace & defence
- Electronics, optoelectronics and semi-conductors
- Energy Storage
- Automotive
- Plastics, composites
- sensors
- coating, packaging and paints
- telecommunications

# Why 2D Materials?

## Quantum Size Effects

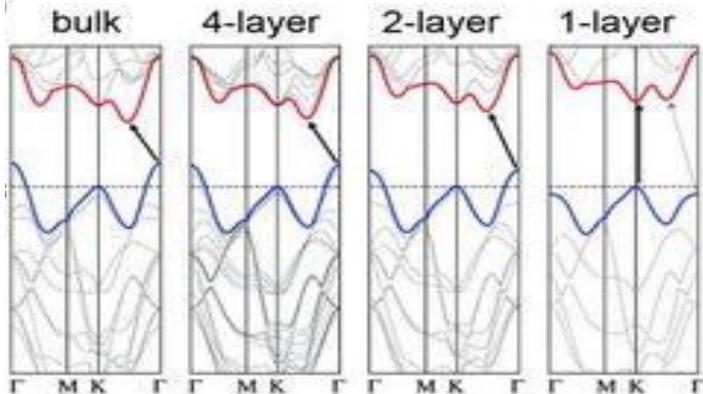
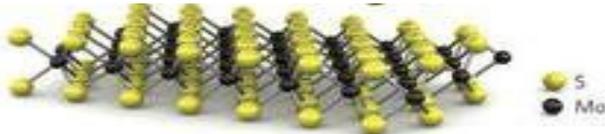


## Sharp Interfaces & Interesting Physics



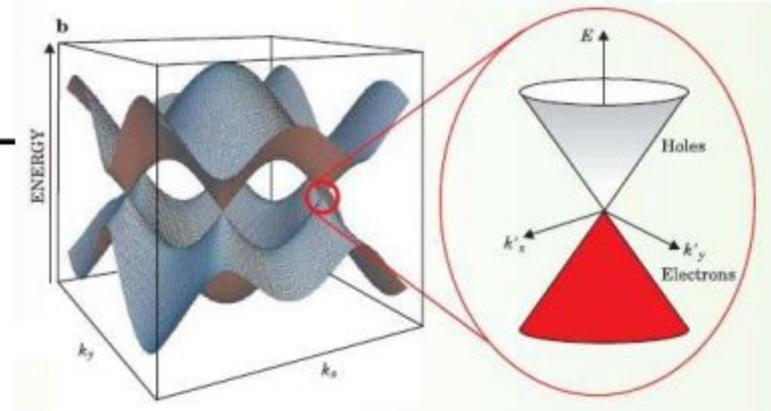
Cao et al., *IEEE Transactions on Electron Devices*, 62, 3459-3469 (2015)

## Ease of Band Structure Tuning

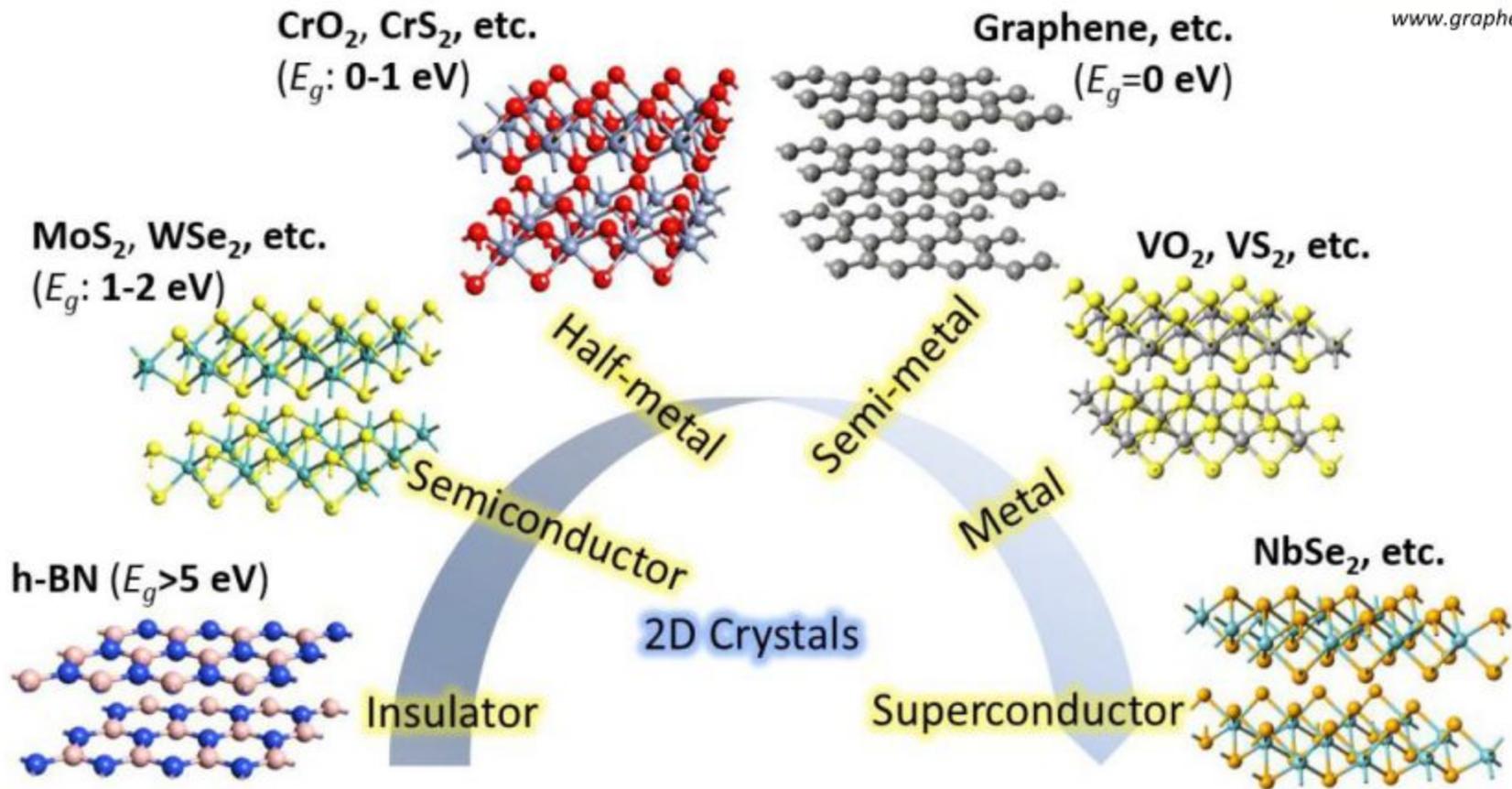


# 2D Materials

2D materials have been the focus of extensive research since the discovery of graphene in 2004

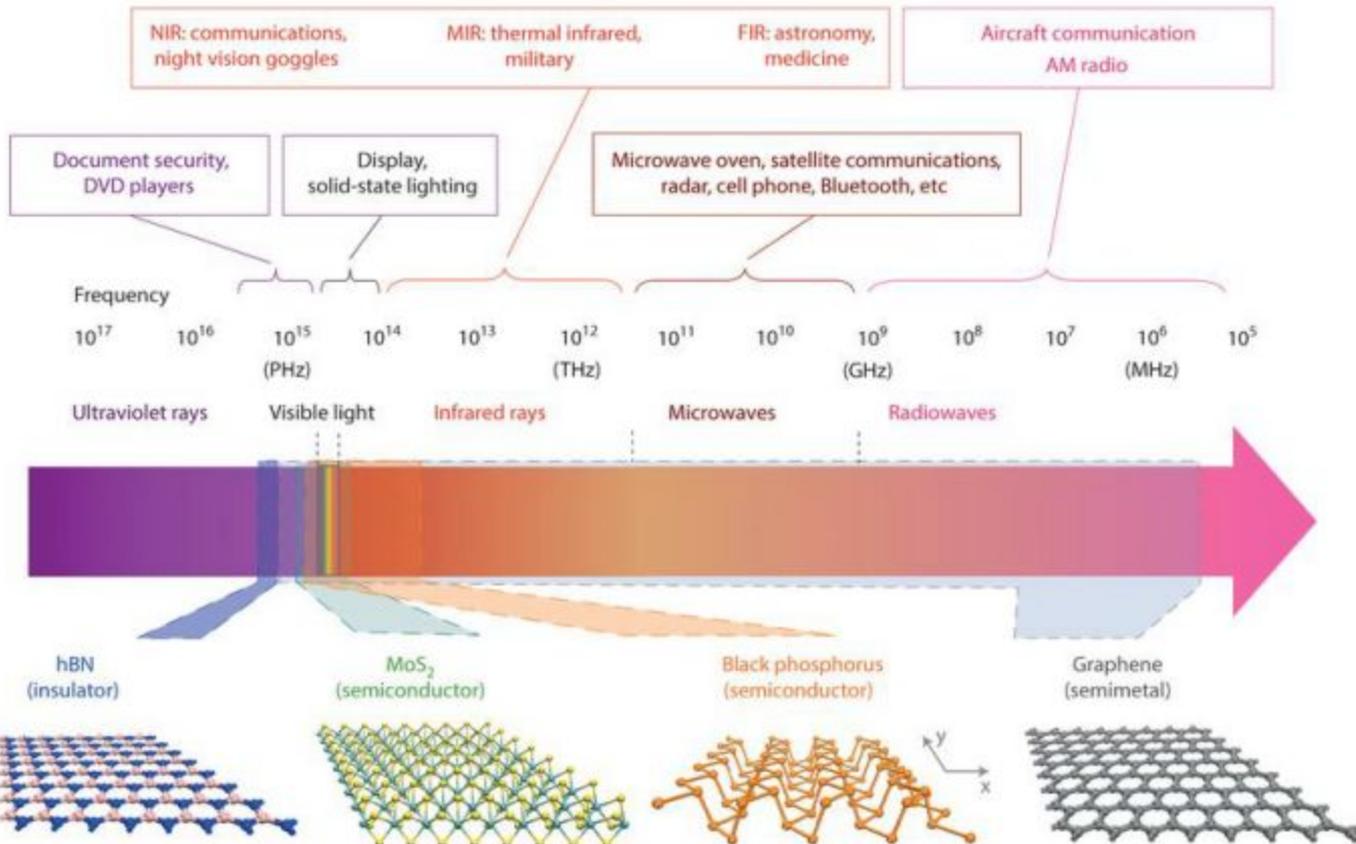


[www.graphenea.com](http://www.graphenea.com)



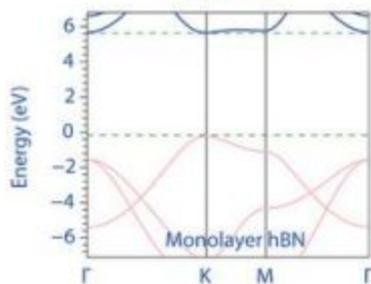
# Optical Applications

a



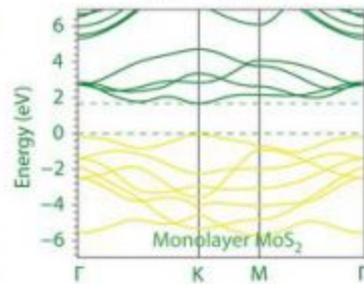
b

hBN: ~6 eV



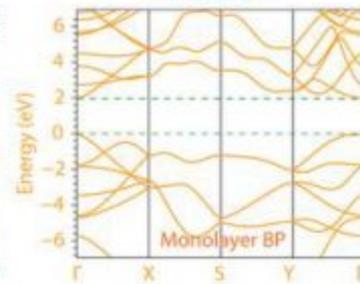
c

TMDC: ~1.0–2.5 eV



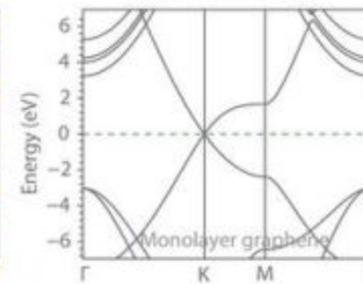
d

BP: 0.3–2 eV

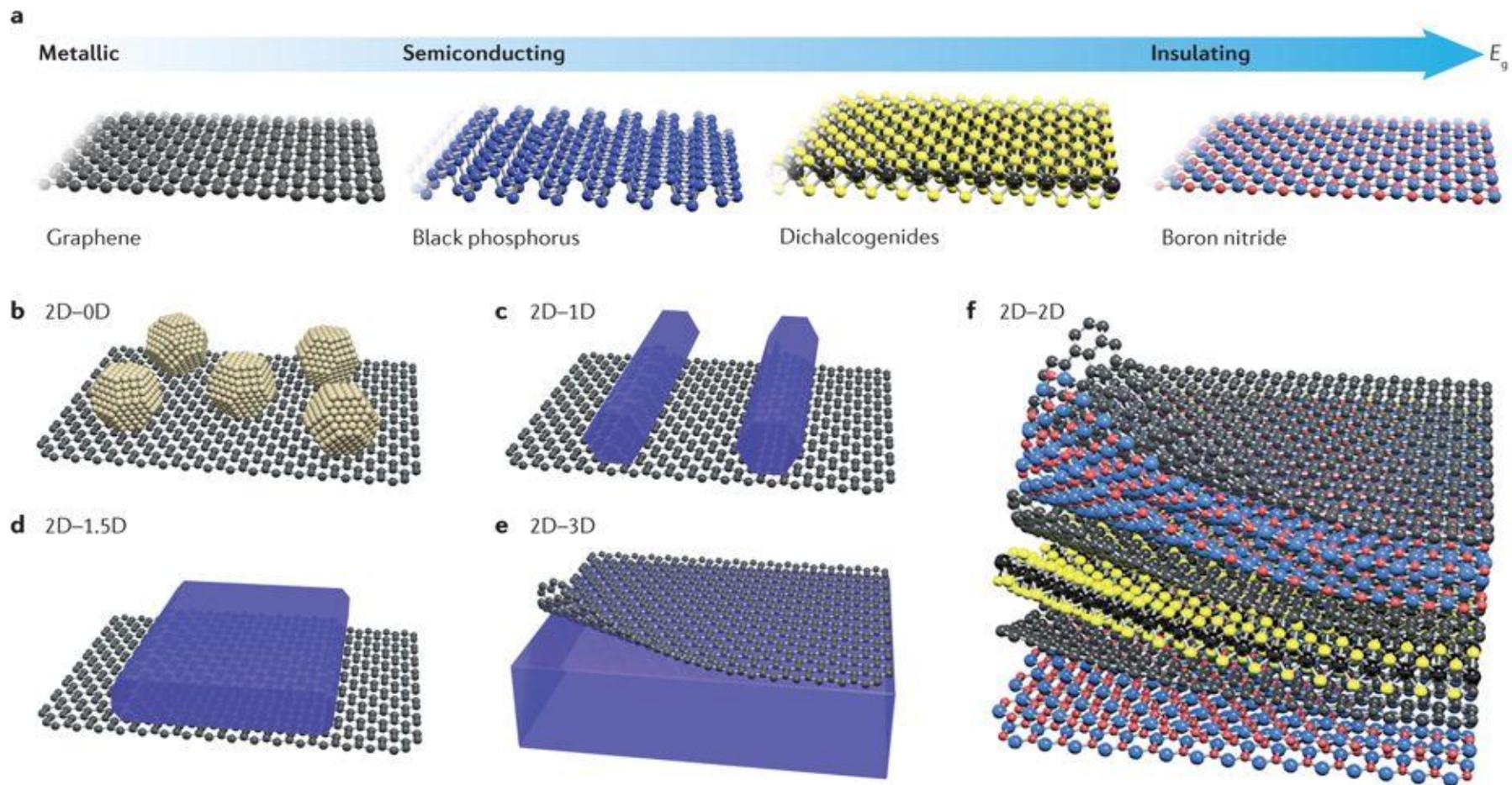


e

Graphene: zero-gap



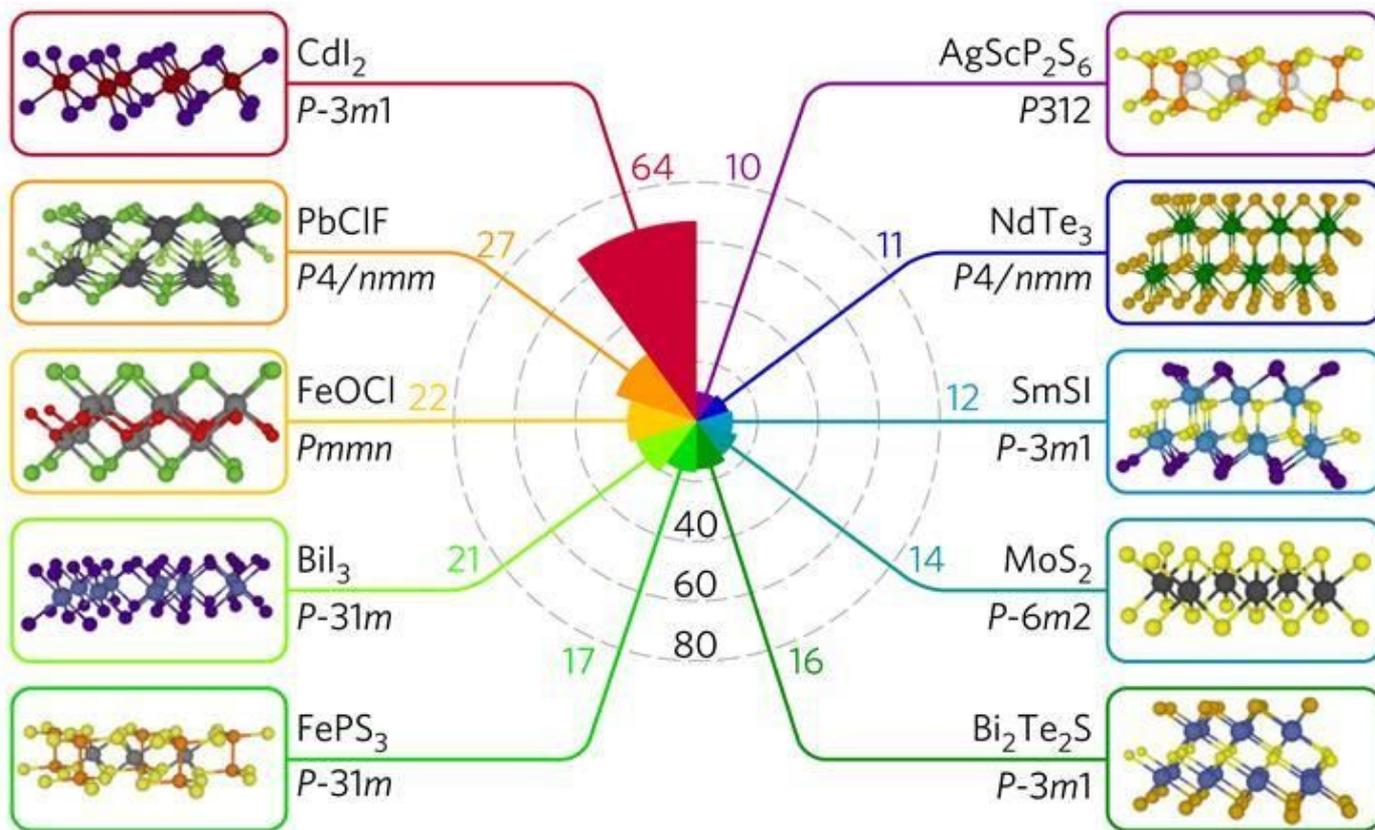
# 2D Materials as Building Blocks



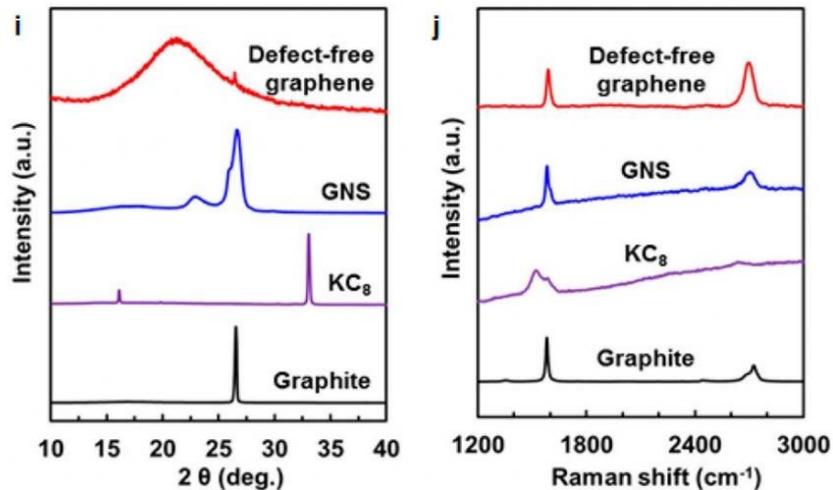
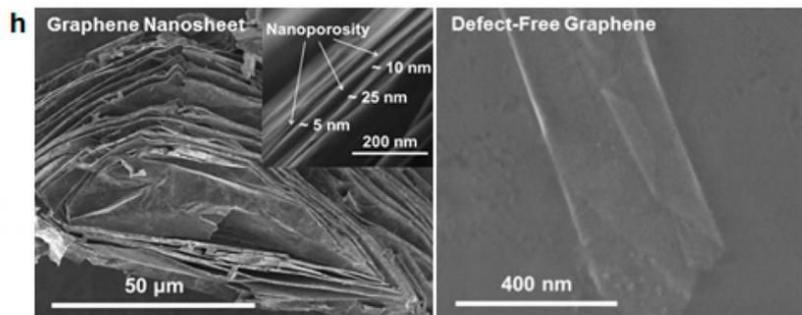
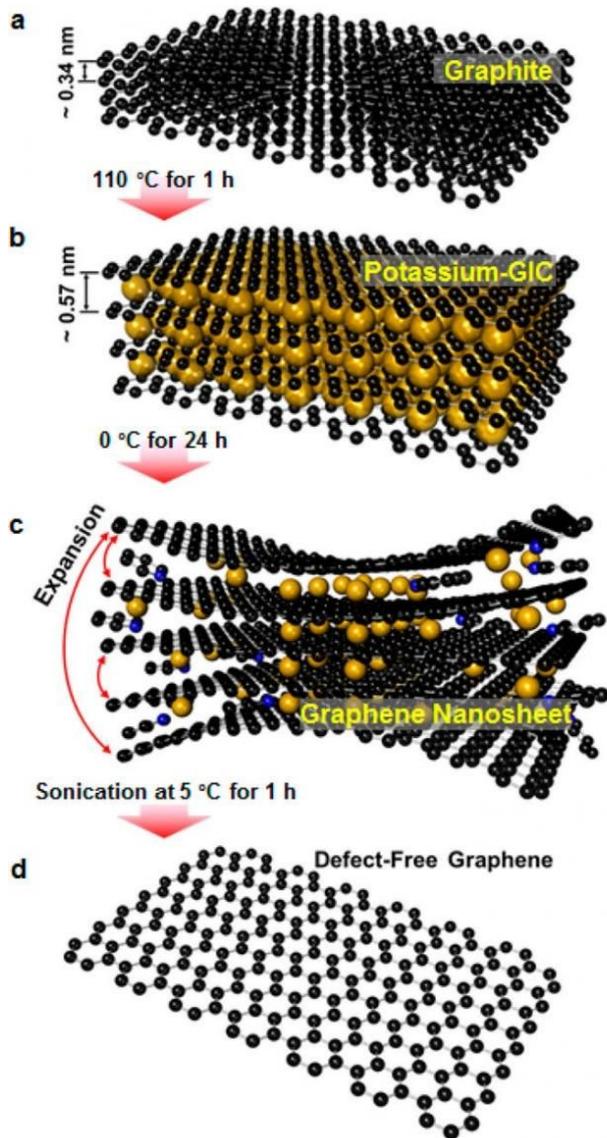
# From 3D to 2D Layered Materials

3D layered compounds can be exfoliated. Ultimately, it should be possible to slough an atomic layer from such materials.

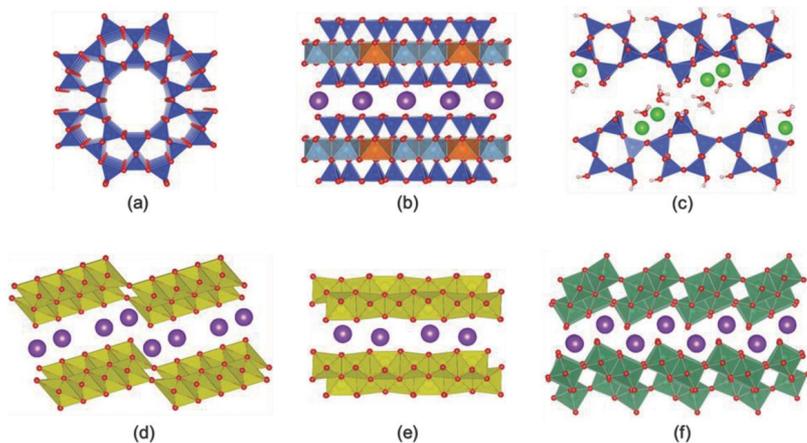
## The most common 2D structural prototypes



# Exfoliation of Layered Materials



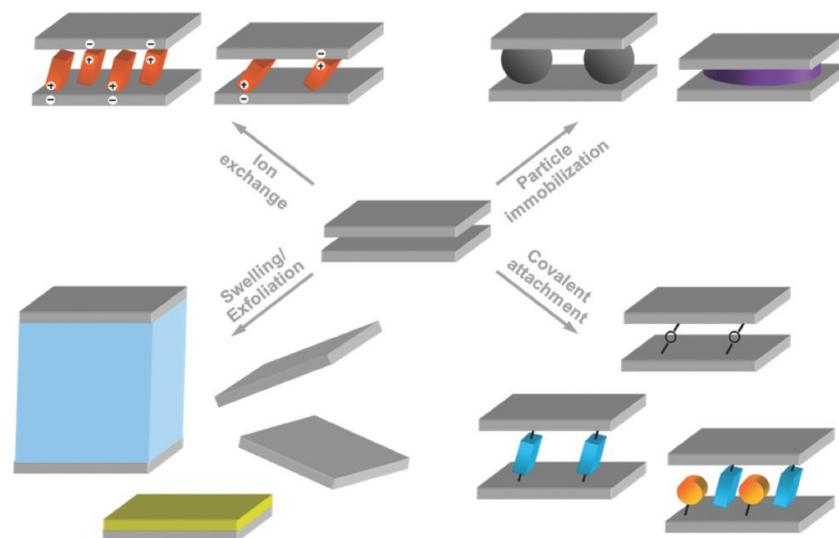
# Intercalation of Layered Materials



## Schematic structures of typical layered inorganic solids and zeolite.

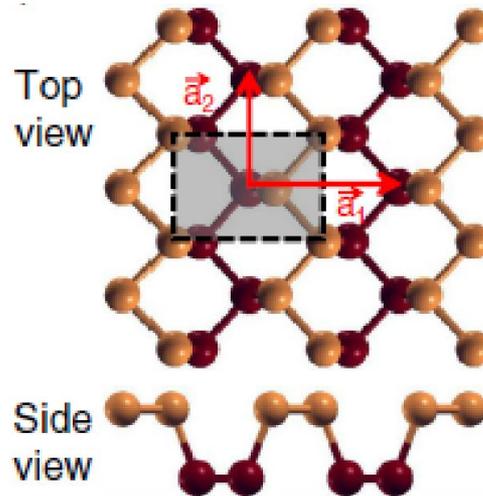
Color coding: blue = Si, red = O, pale blue = Al, orange = Mg, purple = K, green = Na, pink = H, yellow = Ti, dark green = Nb. a) TON-type zeolite showing open micropores. b) A smectite clay, montmorillonite. Pillared layered clays having open micropores can be designed, for example, by replacing original inorganic cations with bulky organic molecules. c) A layered silicate, octosilicate ( $\text{Na}_2\text{Si}_8\text{O}_{17} \cdot n\text{H}_2\text{O}$ ). The surface silanol group ( $\text{SiOH}$ ) is visible. d) A layered titanate,  $\text{K}_2\text{Ti}_4\text{O}_9$ . e) A lepidocrocite-type layered titanate,  $\text{K}_{0.8}\text{Ti}_{1.73}\text{Li}_{0.27}\text{O}_4$ . Li, which replaces a part of Ti, is invisible. f) A layered niobate,  $\text{K}_4\text{Nb}_6\text{O}_{17}$ .

Overview of guest species intercalation into the interlayer space of layered materials via physical or chemical attachments.

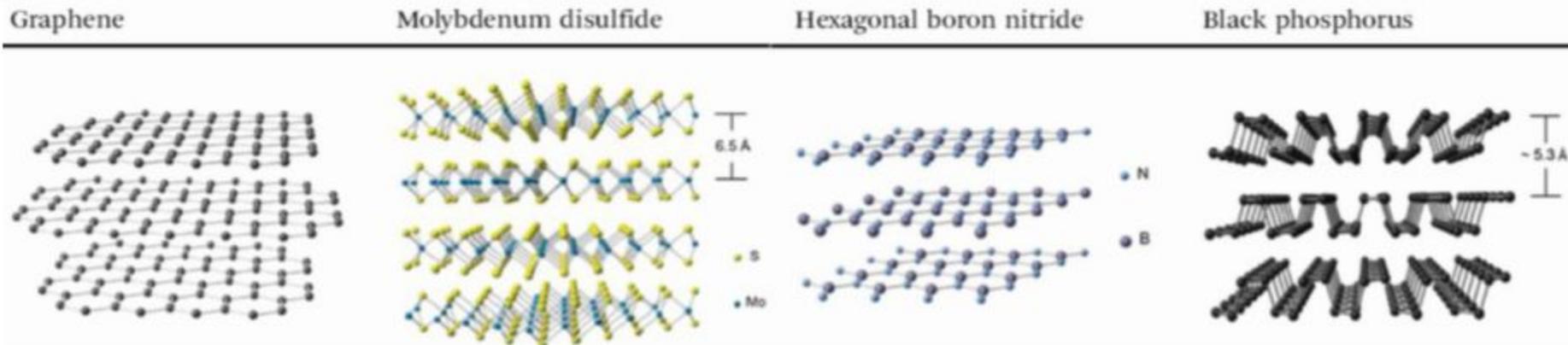


# Phosphorene

## Black Phosphorene

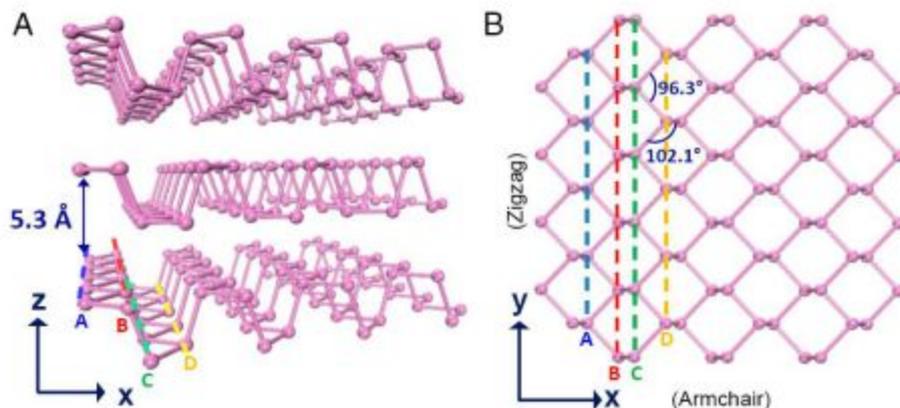


# Phosphorene – What's So Special?



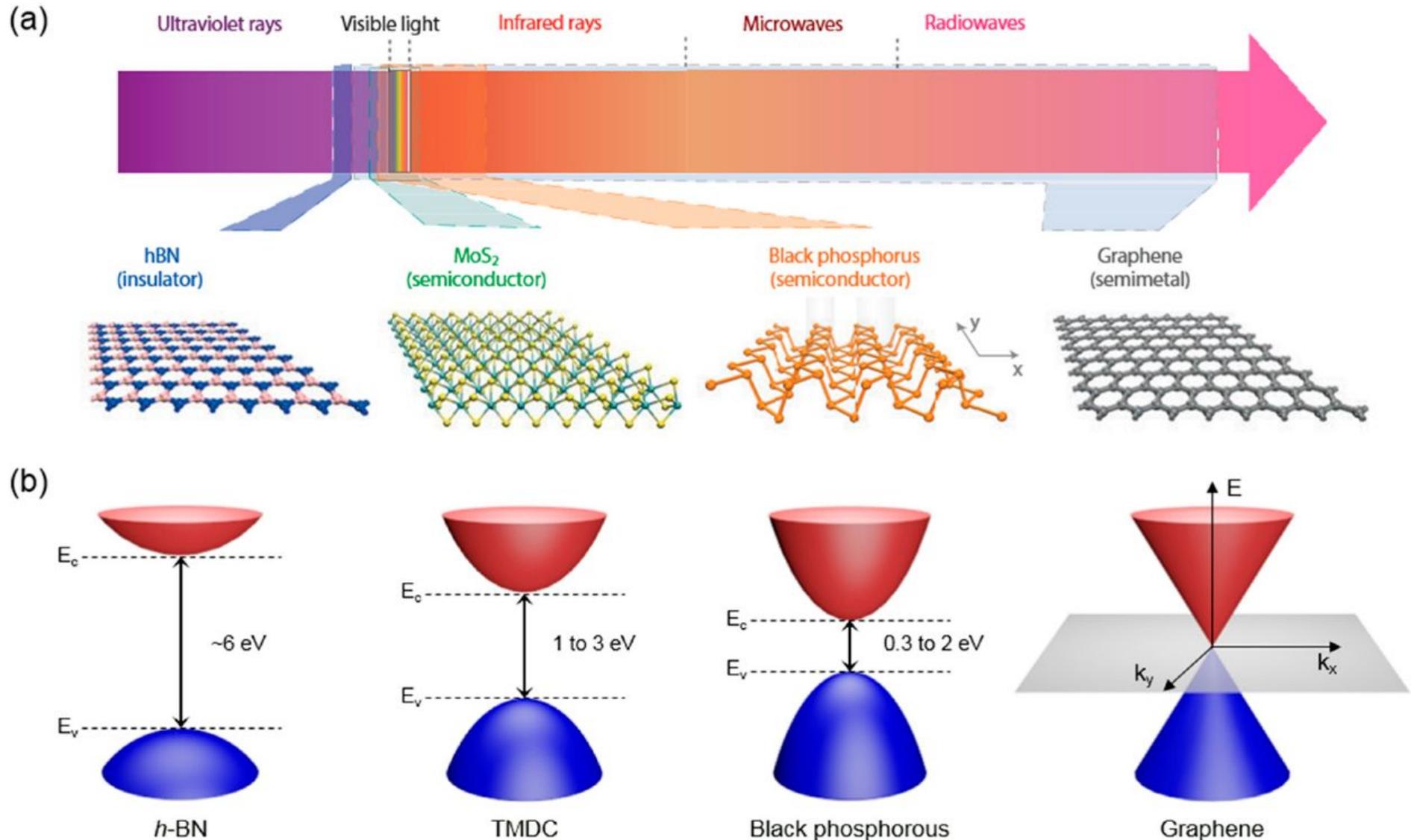
Du et al., *J. Mater. Chem. C*, 2015, 3, 8760–8775

- Like graphene, phosphorene is a **monolayer of a single element (black phosphorous)**
  - Other elemental 2D materials (silicene, germanene, stanine) need substrate
- However, not flat but has a **puckered layer structure**
- It shows a strong **in-plane anisotropy**
- key properties
  - tunable bandgap
  - in-plane anisotropy
  - high carrier mobility



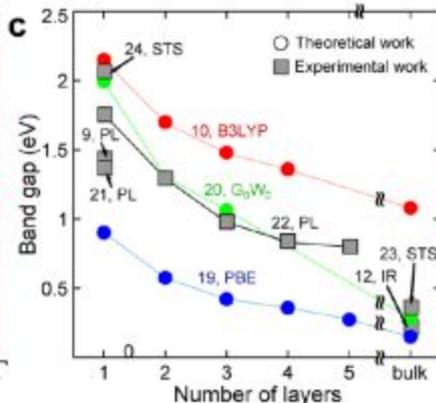
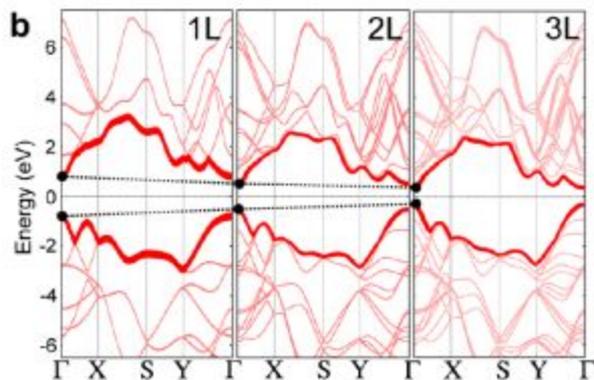
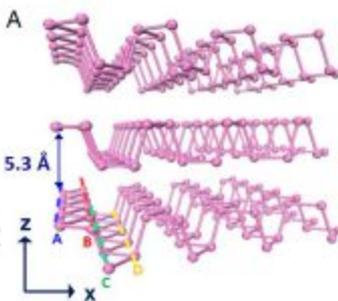
Ling et al., *PNAS* 112, 4523–4530 (2015).

# Bandgaps of 2D Materials

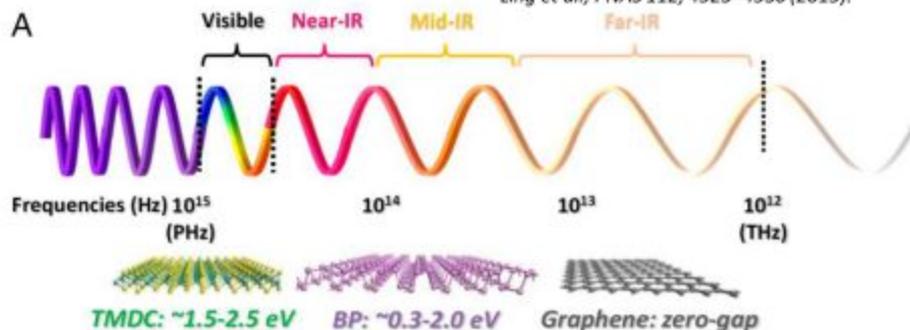


# Bandgap Tunability

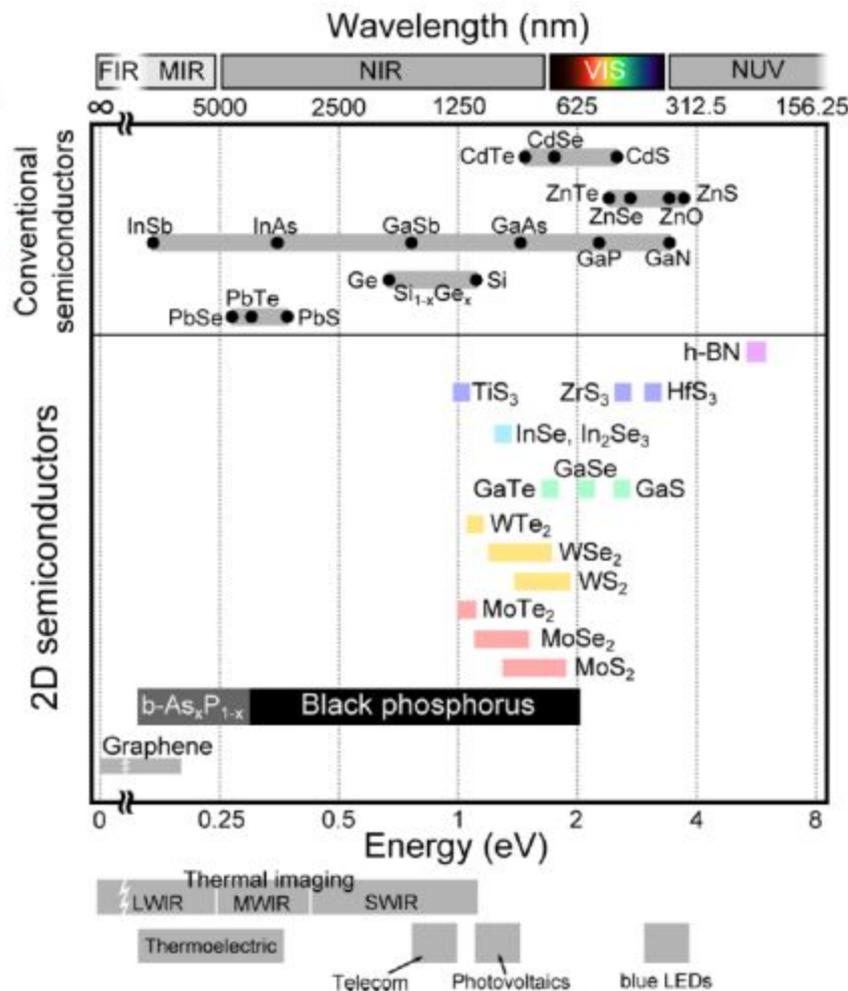
- The key characteristic of phosphorene is its highly tunable bandgap, between 0.3 eV and 2 eV for different number of layers
  - Unlike MoS<sub>2</sub> phosphorene has direct bandgap even for multilayers



Ling et al., PNAS 112, 4523–4530 (2015).

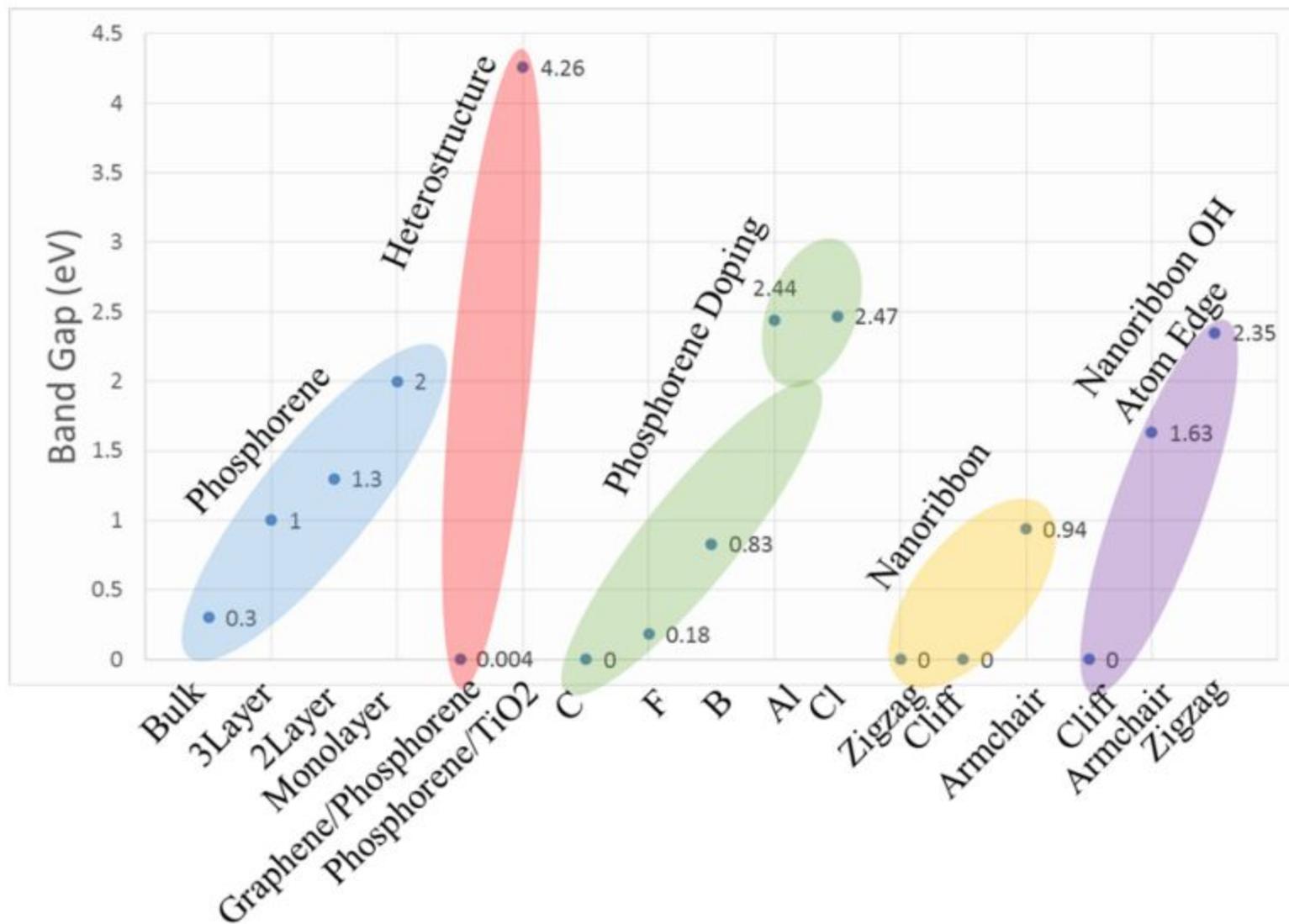


Ling et al., PNAS 112, 4523–4530 (2015).

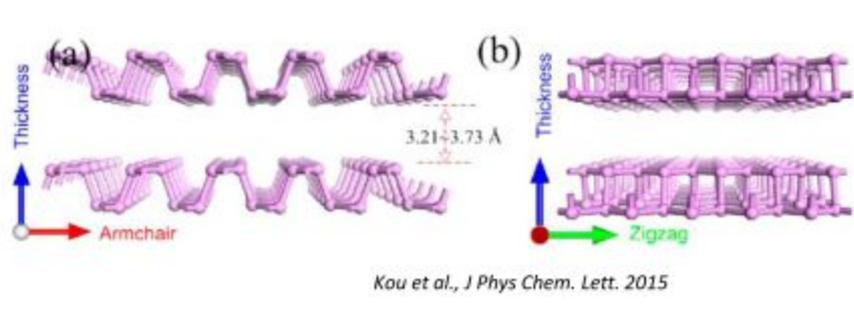


Castellanos-Gomez, J. Phys. Chem. Lett. 2015, 6, 4280–4291

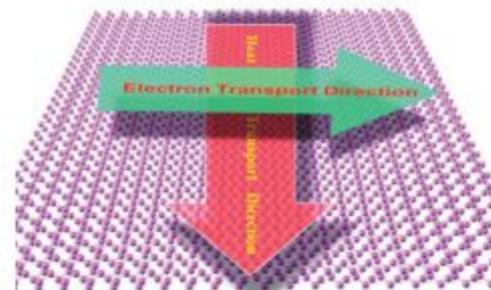
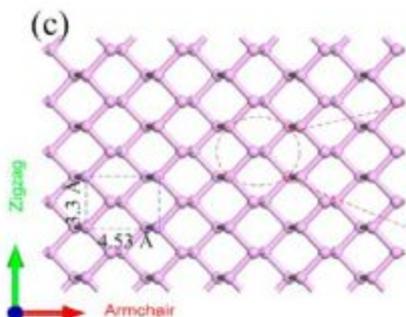
# Bandgap Tunability – Other Factors



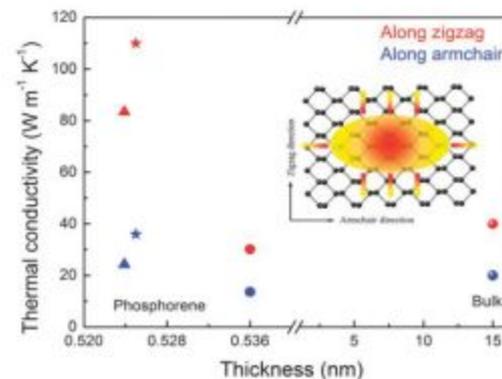
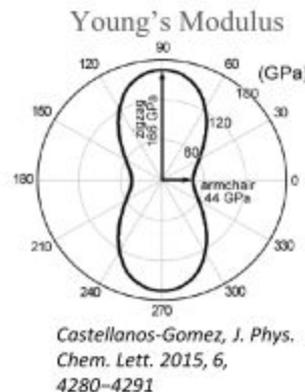
# In-Plane Anisotropy



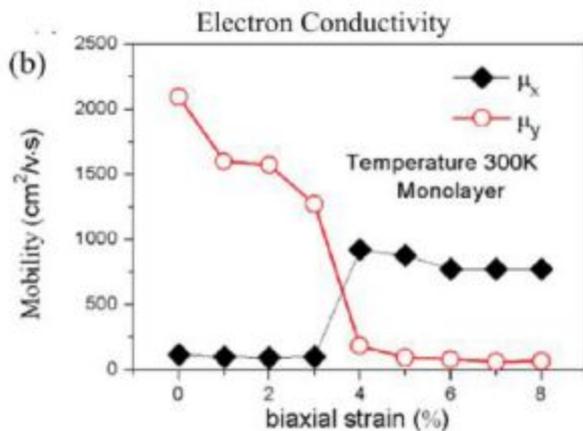
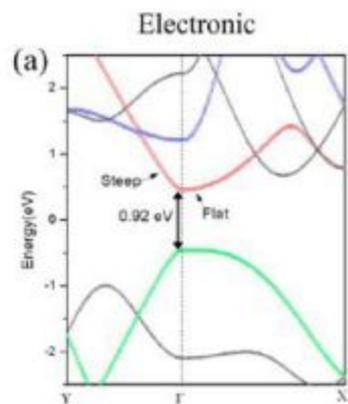
Kou et al., *J Phys Chem. Lett.* 2015



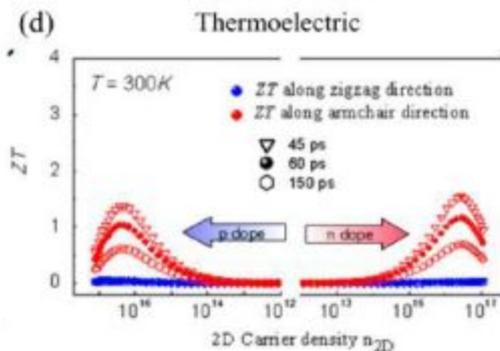
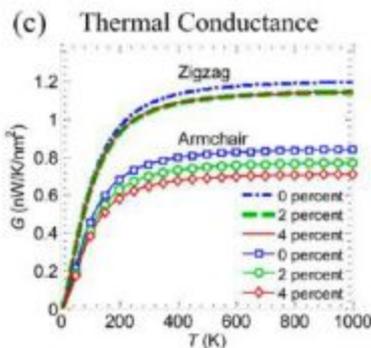
Strong Intrinsic anisotropy is shown in many properties of phosphorene (electronic structure, optical, electrical, mechanical, transport, thermoelectric, etc.).



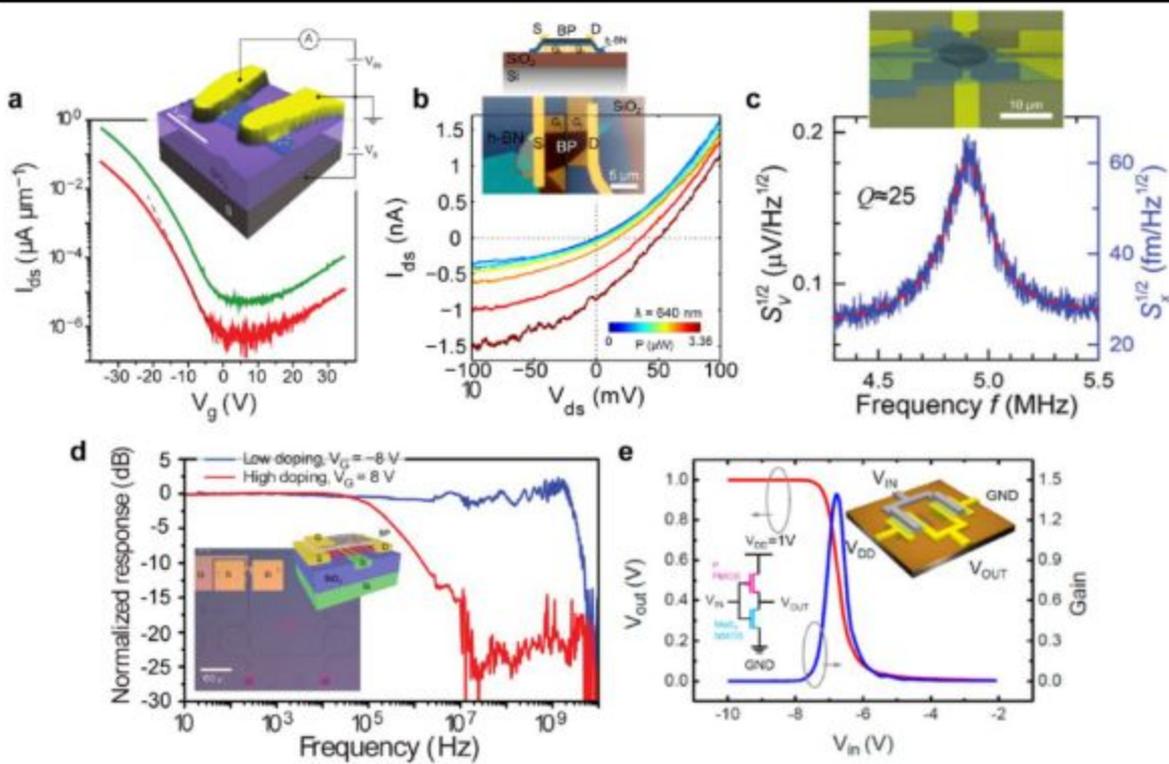
Du et al., *J. Mater. Chem. C*, 2015, 3, 8760-8775



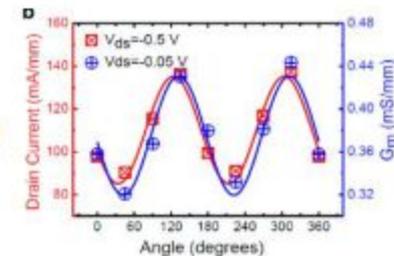
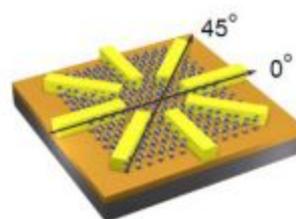
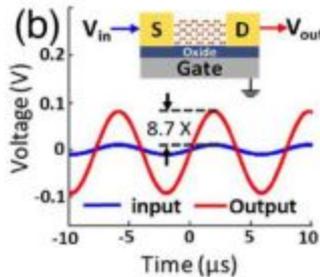
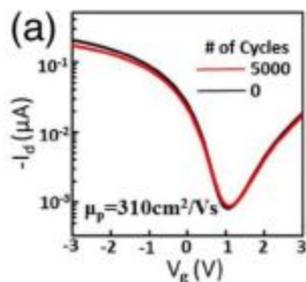
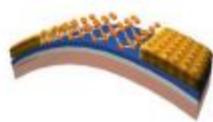
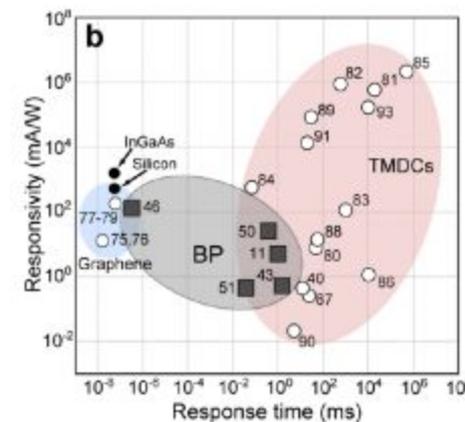
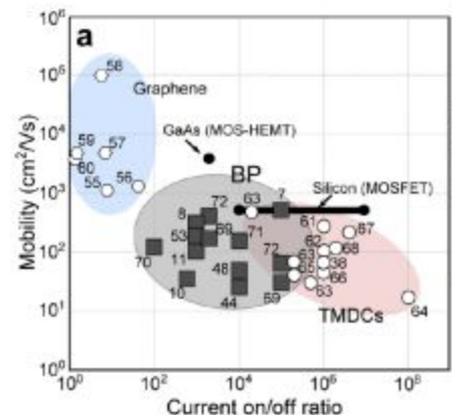
Kou et al., *J. Phys. Chem. Lett.* 2015, 6, 2794-2805



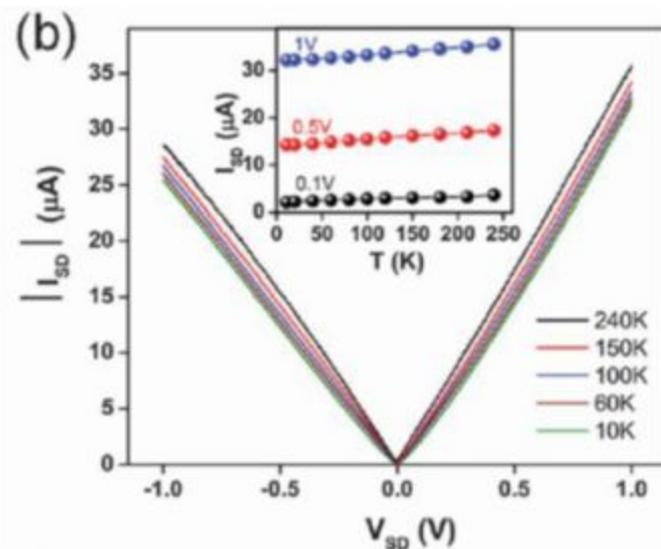
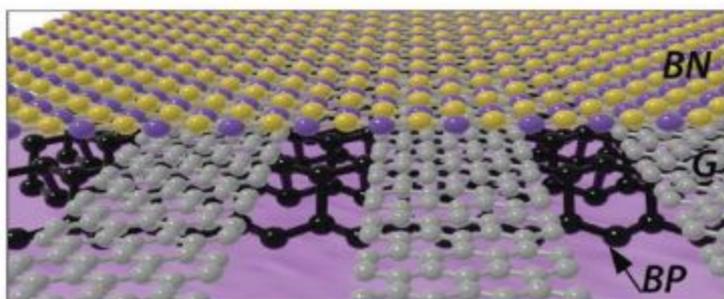
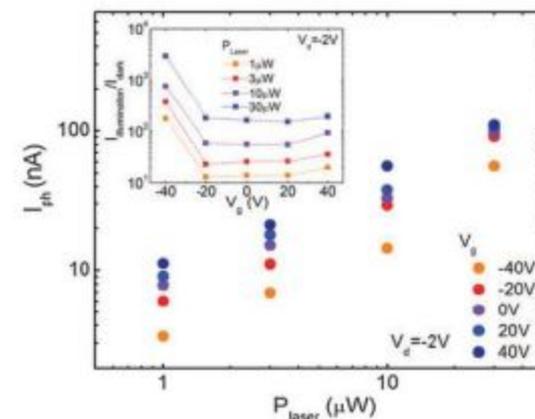
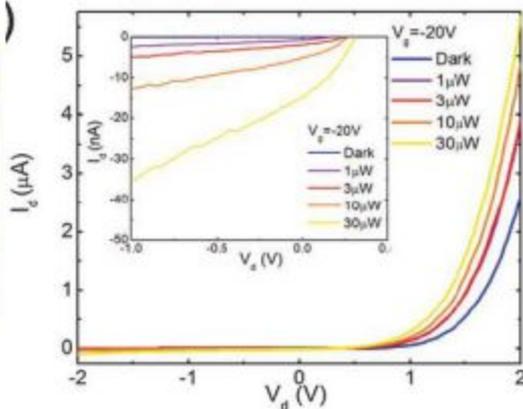
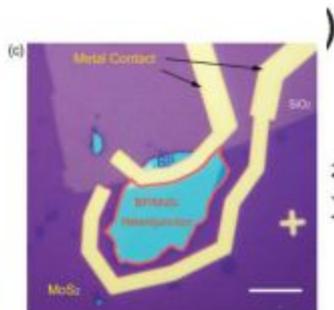
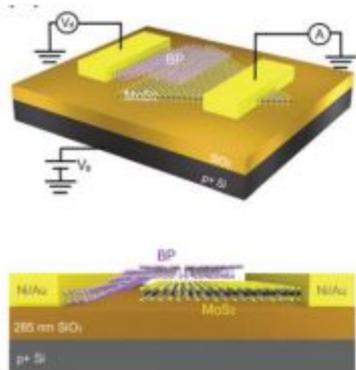
# Phosphorene Nanoelectronic Devices



Castellanos-Gomez, *J. Phys. Chem. Lett.* 2015, 6, 4280–4291

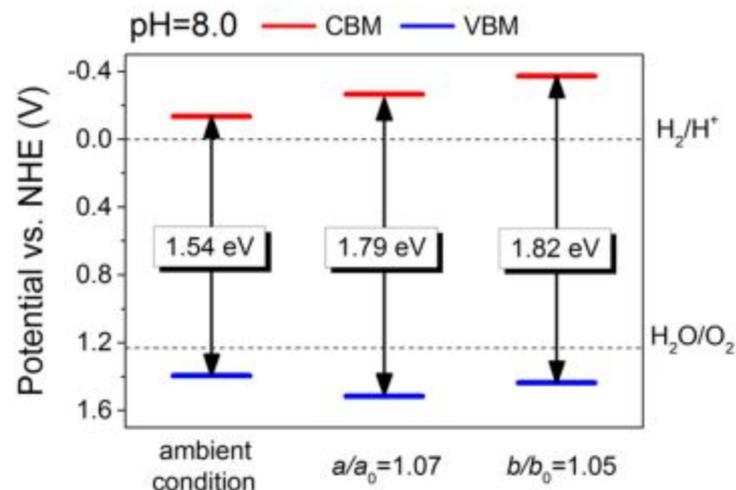


# Phosphorene Heterostructure Devices



# Phosphorene for Photocatalytic Applications

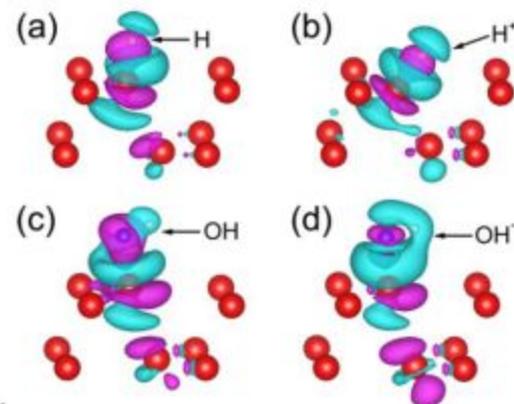
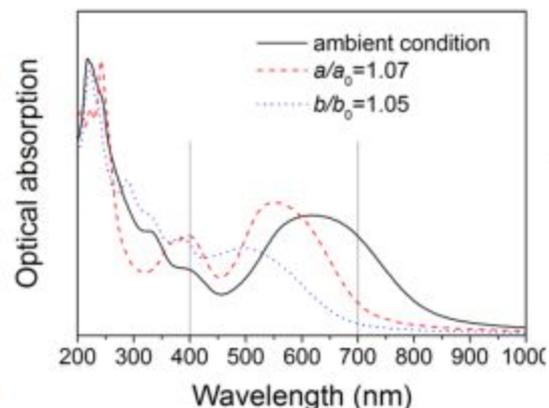
- Recent DFT work proposed **strain-engineered phosphorene as a photocatalyst for water splitting and hydrogen production**
- Phosphorene lattice is unstable under compression strains and could be crashed however shows good stability under tensile strains. Tunable band gap from 1.54 eV at ambient condition to 1.82 eV under tensile strains
- Appropriate band gaps and band edge alignments demonstrate the potential of phosphorene as efficient photocatalyst for visible light water splitting
- Negative splitting energy of absorbed H<sub>2</sub>O indicates the water splitting on phosphorene is energy favorable both without and with strains



$$E_{\text{splitting}}^{\text{OH}} = E_{\text{OH}/\text{phosphorene}} + E_{\text{H}} - E_{\text{H}_2\text{O}/\text{phosphorene}}$$

Table 3. Calculated Driving Force of the Splitting of Water Molecule on Phosphorene

$E_{\text{splitting}}^{\text{M}}$ (eV)	strain free	$a/a_0 = 1.07$	$b/b_0 = 1.05$
$E_{\text{splitting}}^{\text{H}^+}$	-4.183	-4.204	-4.278
$E_{\text{splitting}}^{\text{OH}^-}$	-0.704	-1.042	-0.918
$E_{\text{splitting}}^{\text{H}}$	-2.225	-2.470	-2.254
$E_{\text{splitting}}^{\text{OH}}$	-2.458	-2.612	-2.575



# Challenge: Fabrication

## ❑ Fabrication methods for phosphorene

### ✓ Mechanically Exfoliation

- high quality material for research
- not scalable for industrial applications

### ✓ Liquid-Phase Exfoliation

- cheap and scalable method
- material quality might not be high enough for certain electronic or optical applications

### ✓ Pulsed Laser Deposition

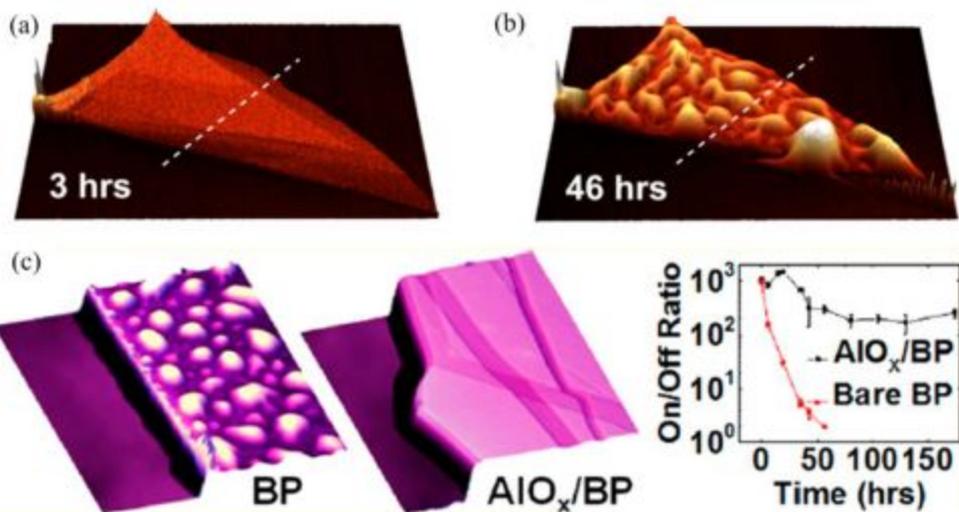
- can be scaled up
- samples show lack of crystallinity and poor electrical properties

## ❑ A large-area synthesis method for crystalline phosphorene is needed

	phosphorene			graphene			TMDC	
	fabrication successful	reference		fabrication successful	reference		fabrication successful	reference
			top-down					
cleavage with tape	✓	9, 10		✓	14		✓	14, 16
liquid-phase exfoliation	✓	64, 65		✓	56, 62		✓	62, 63
lithiation	×			✓	66		✓	66, 67
plasma-assisted fabrication	✓	60		✓	58		✓	59
			bottom-up					
CVD growth	×			✓	69, 72		✓	70, 71
hydrothermal synthesis	×			✓	75		✓	76

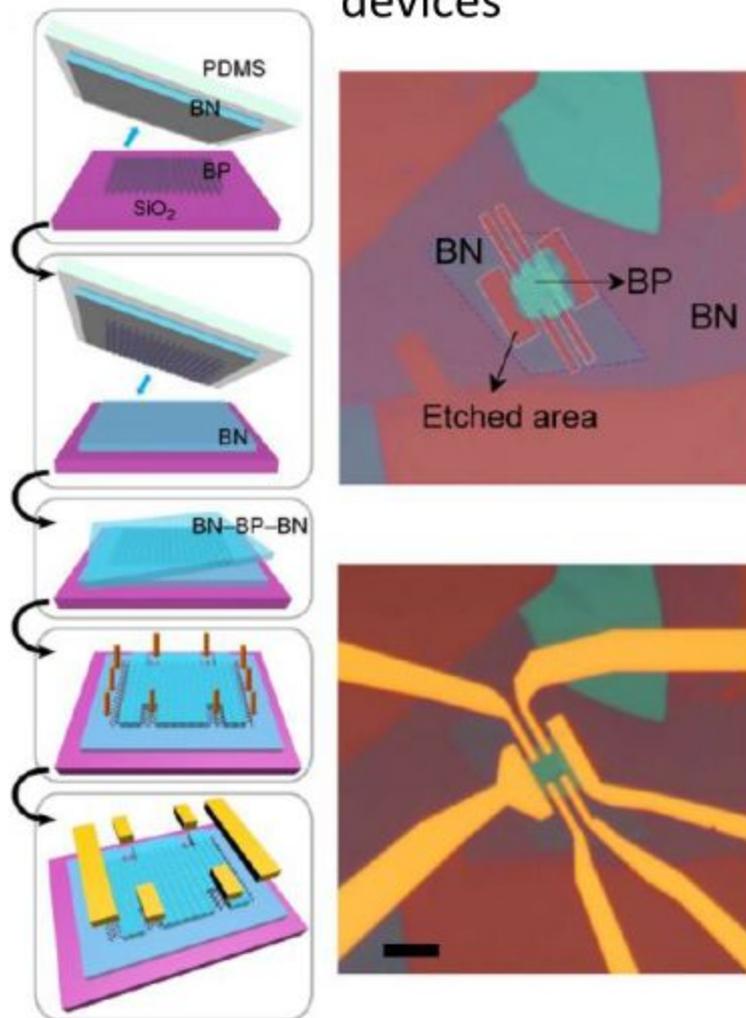
# Challenge : Environment-induced degradation and protective encapsulation

Degradation of phosphorene and protective encapsulation of BP FET with  $\text{AlO}_x$  overlayer



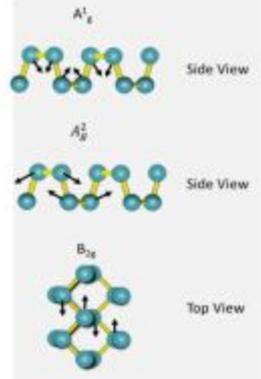
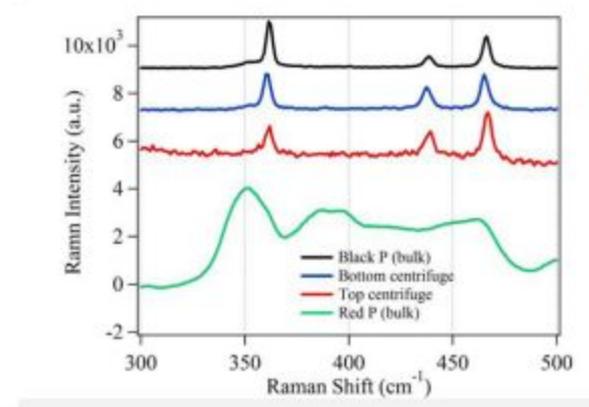
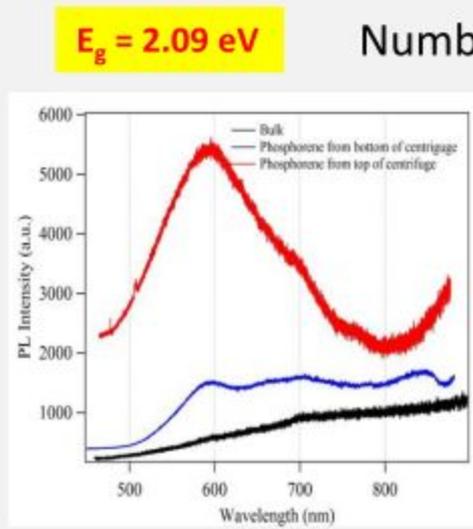
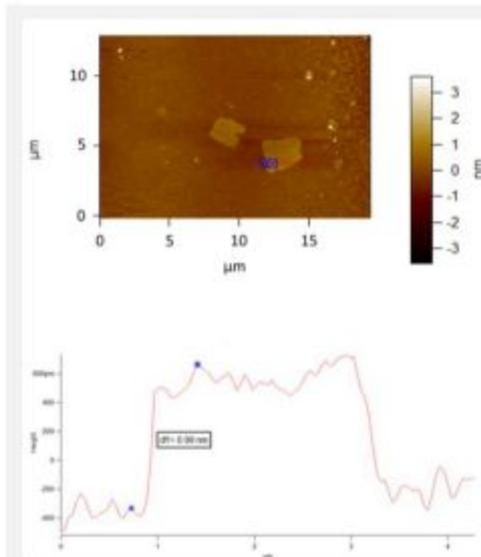
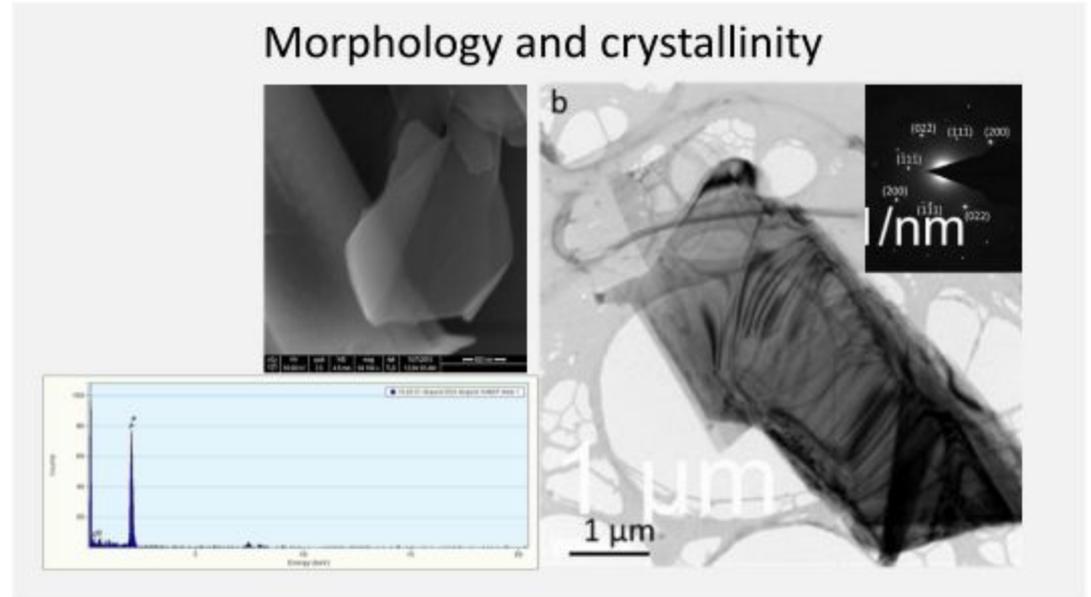
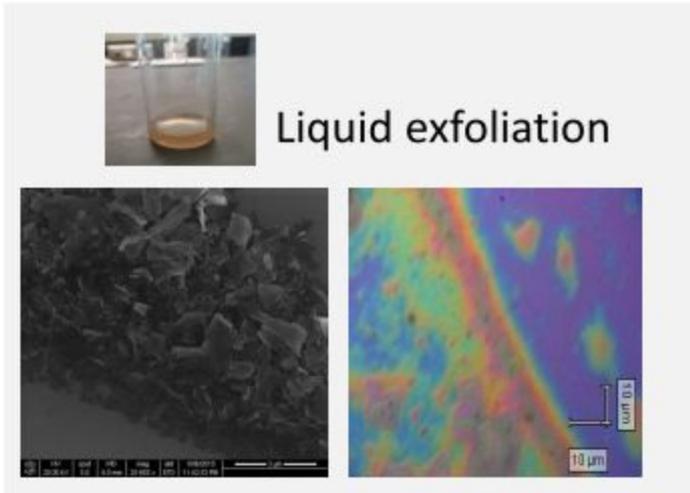
Kou et al., J. Phys. Chem. Lett. 2015, 6, 2794–2805

Sandwiching between h-BN flakes to fabricate high quality encapsulated devices

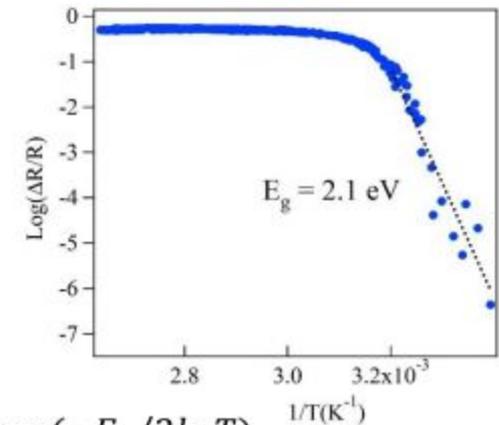
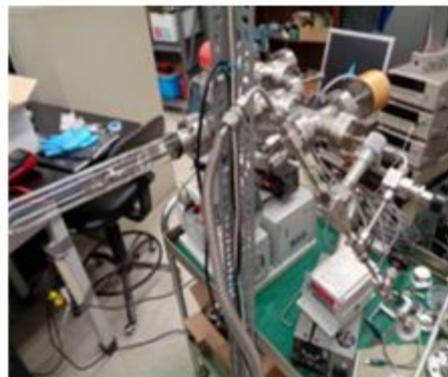
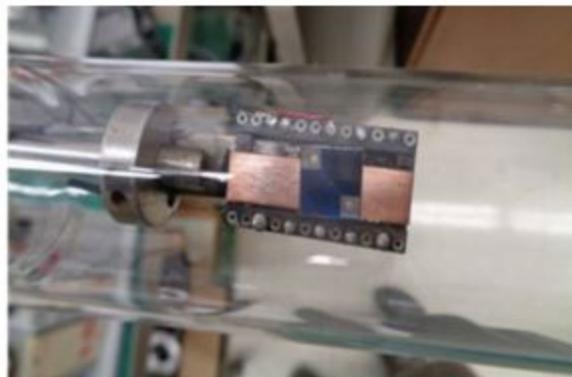
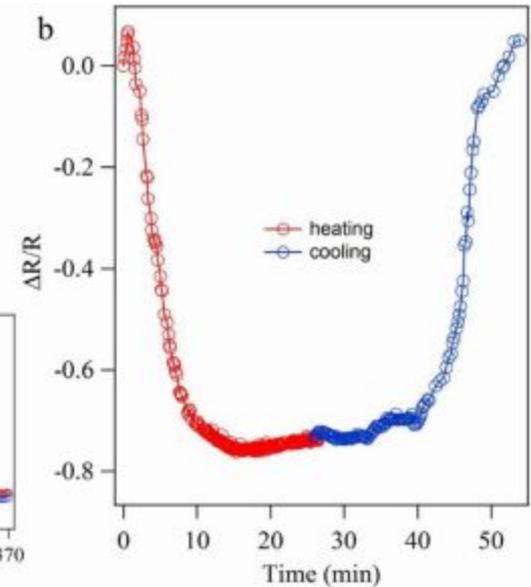
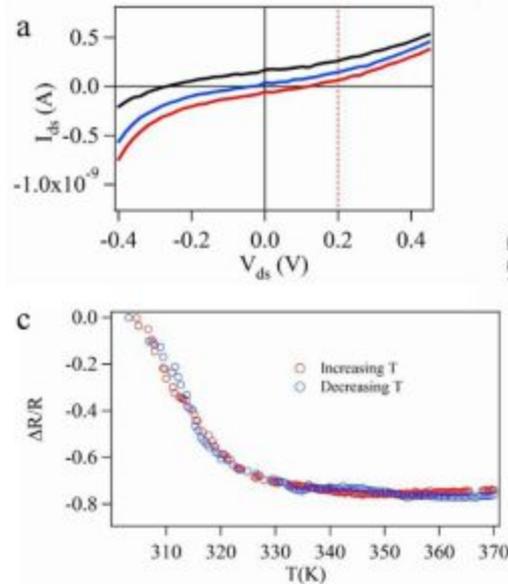
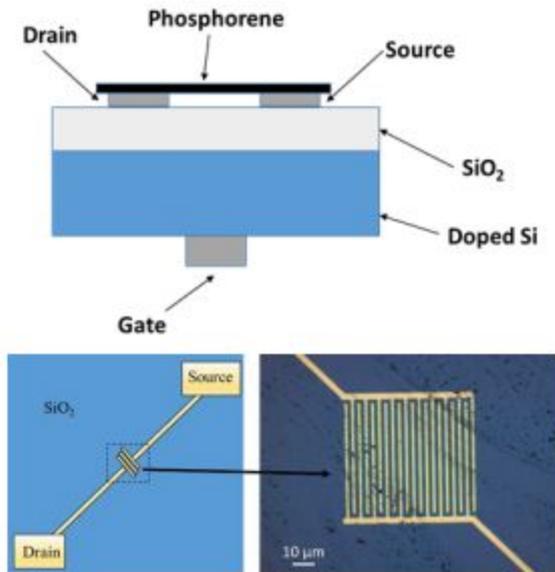


Castellanos-Gomez, J. Phys. Chem. Lett. 2015, 6, 4280–4291

# Fabrication and Characterization



# Transport Properties

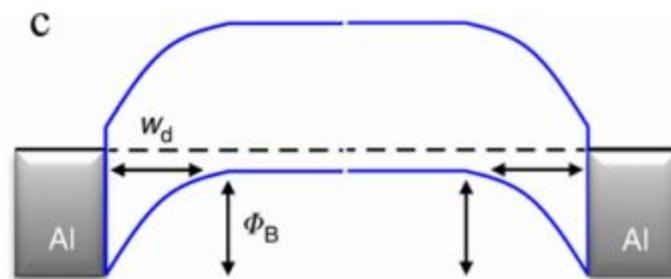
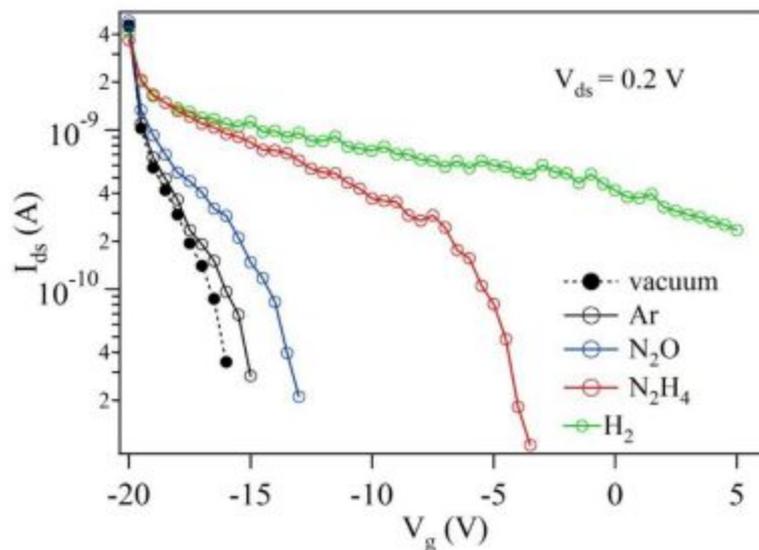
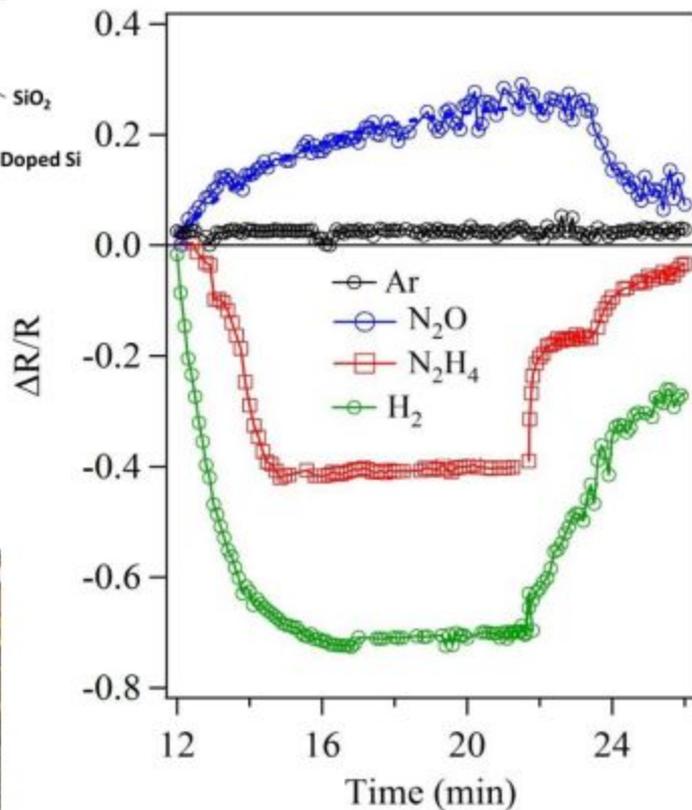
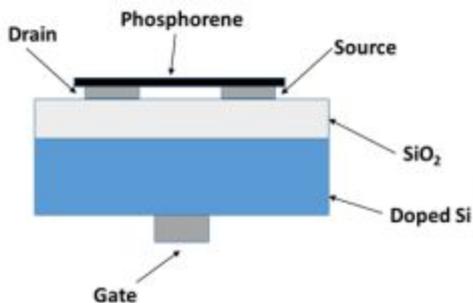


$$n \propto \exp(-E_g/2k_bT)$$

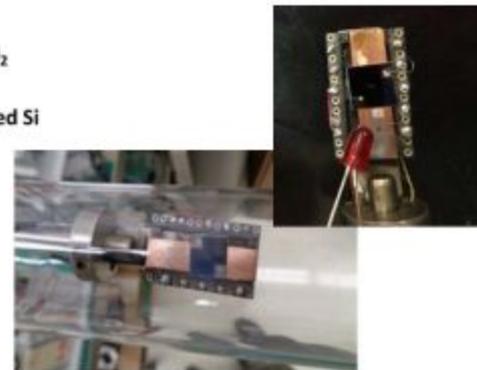
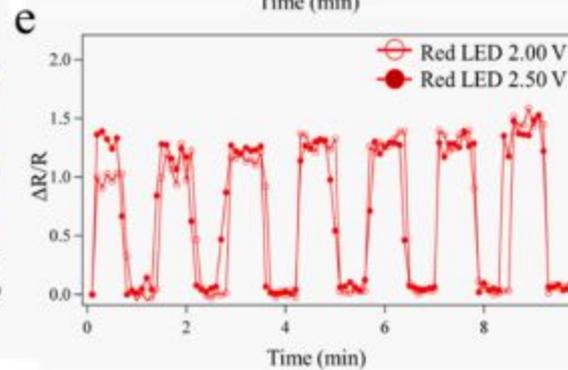
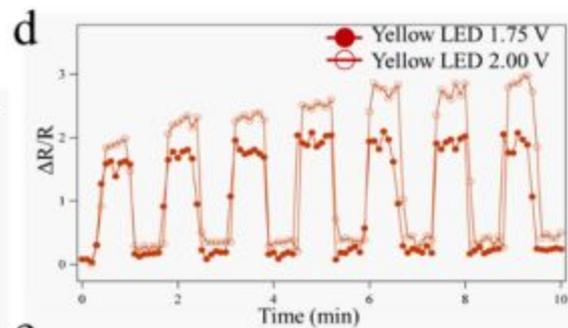
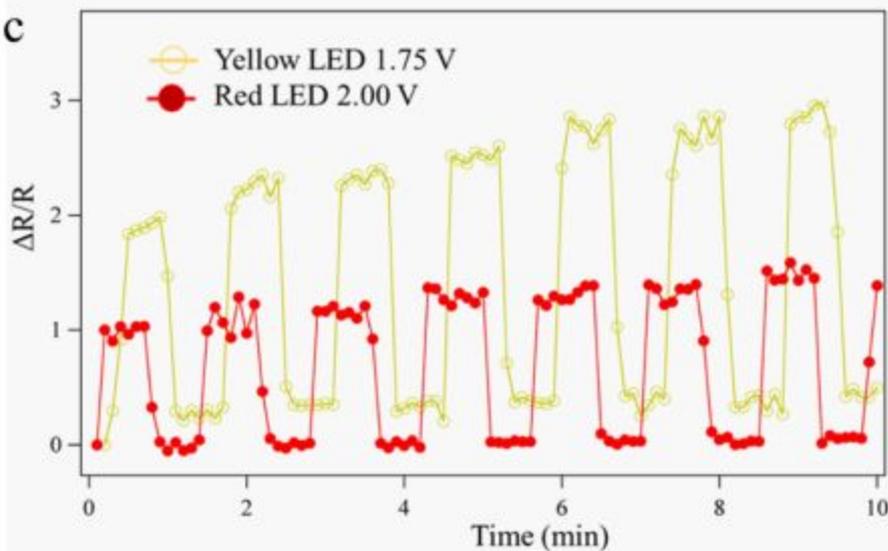
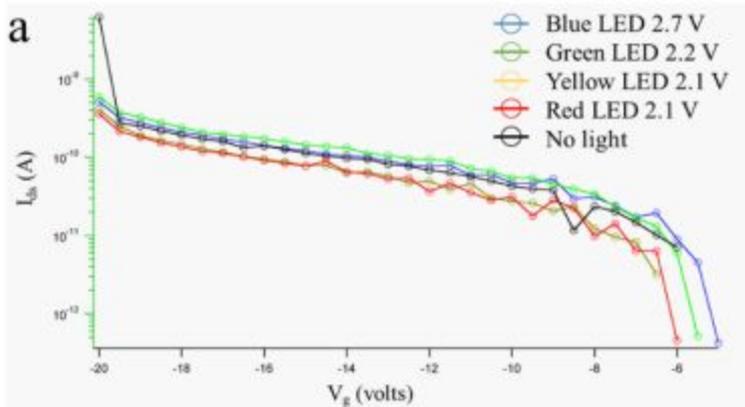
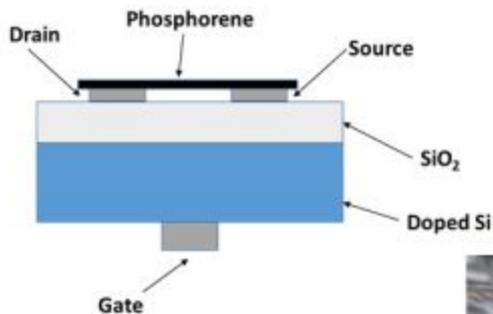
$$\downarrow$$

$$R \propto \exp(E_g/2k_bT)$$

# In-situ Exposure to Different Gases

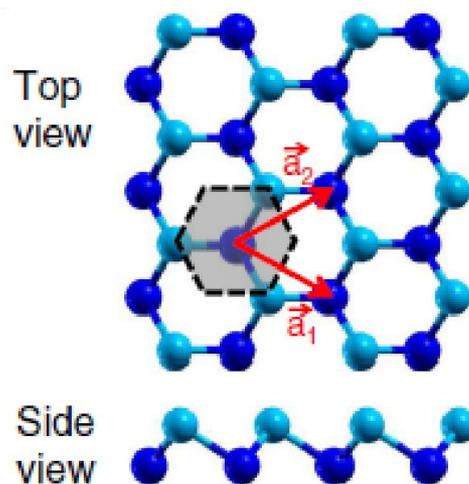


# Photo-Response



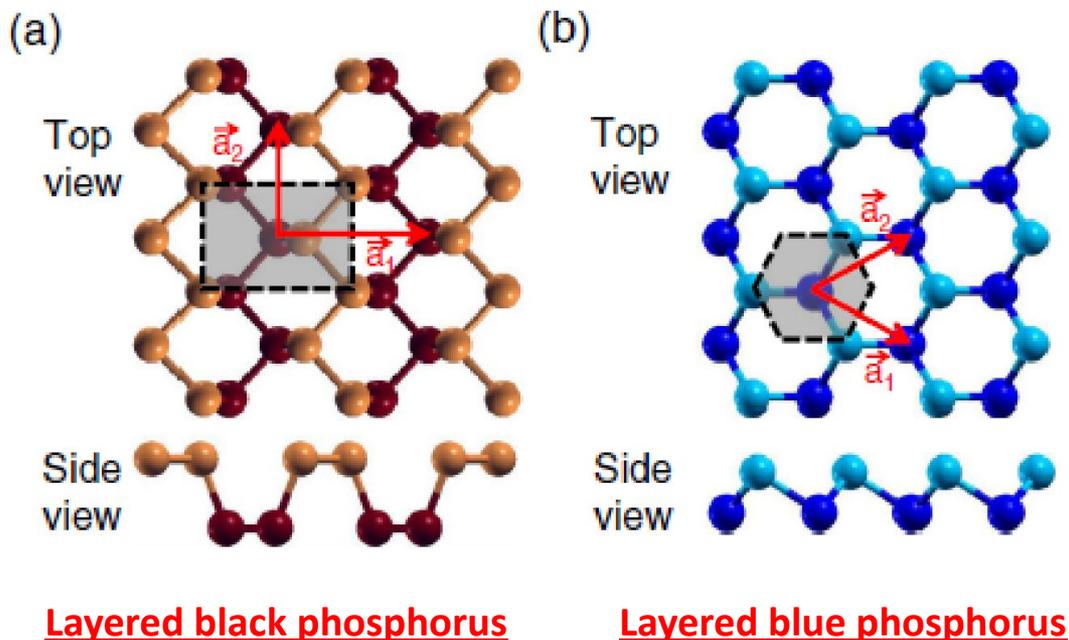
# Phosphorene

## Blue Phosphorene



# Theoretical Prediction of Layered Blue Phosphorus

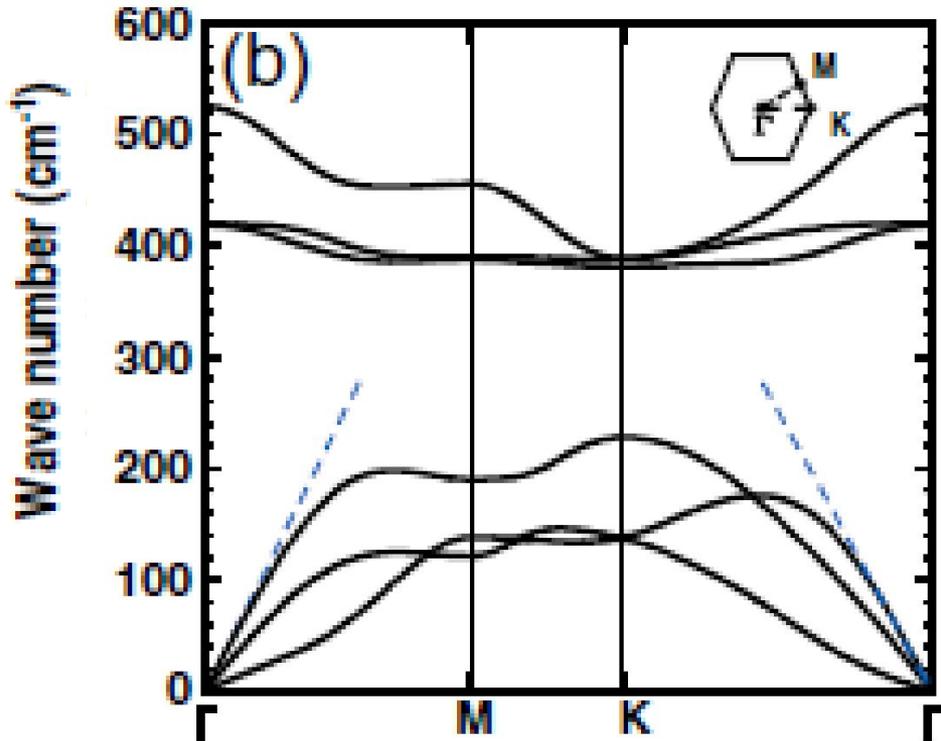
Zhen Zhu and David Tománek, *PRL*, 112, 176802 (2014)



## ➤ Structural properties

- ✓ Space group of R-3m
- ✓ Layers of six-membered rings linked in trans-decalin (zigzag puckering)
- ✓ AB hexagonal stacking with interlayer distance of  $\sim 5.63 \text{ \AA}$
- ✓ Nearly as stable as black phosphorene ( $\sim 1 \text{ meV/atom}$  difference)

Zhen Zhu and David Tománek, PRL, 112, 176802 (2014)

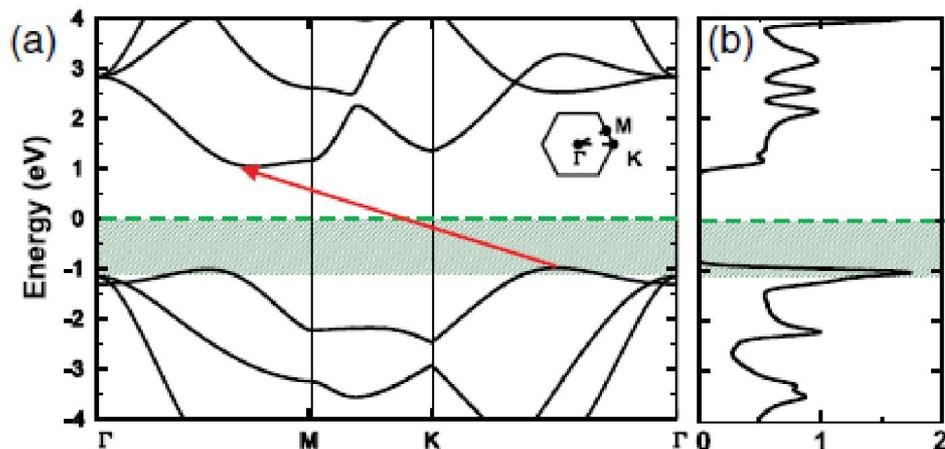


Vibrational band structure of a monolayer of blue phosphorus

## ➤ Vibration spectrum properties

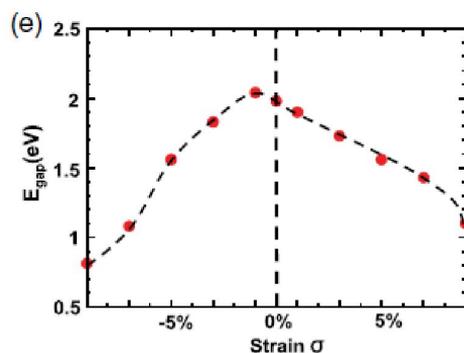
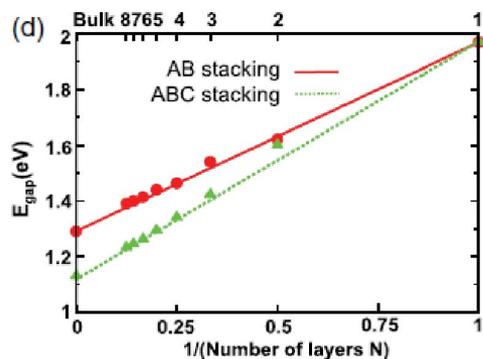
- ✓ Nearly isotropic in-plane elastic response
- ✓ High in-plane rigidity of free-standing monolayer ( $D=0.84$  eV)
- ✓ High speed of sound ( $v_s= 7.7$  km/s) and in-plane stiffness
- ✓ High vibration frequencies of optical modes at  $\Gamma$  point ( $420$   $\text{cm}^{-1}$  and  $520$   $\text{cm}^{-1}$ )

Zhen Zhu and David Tománek, *PRL*, 112, 176802 (2014)



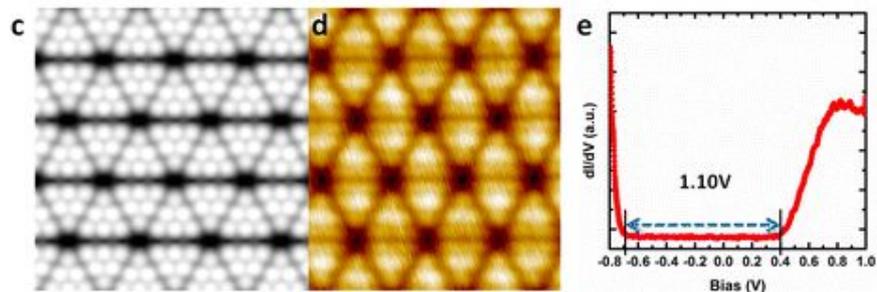
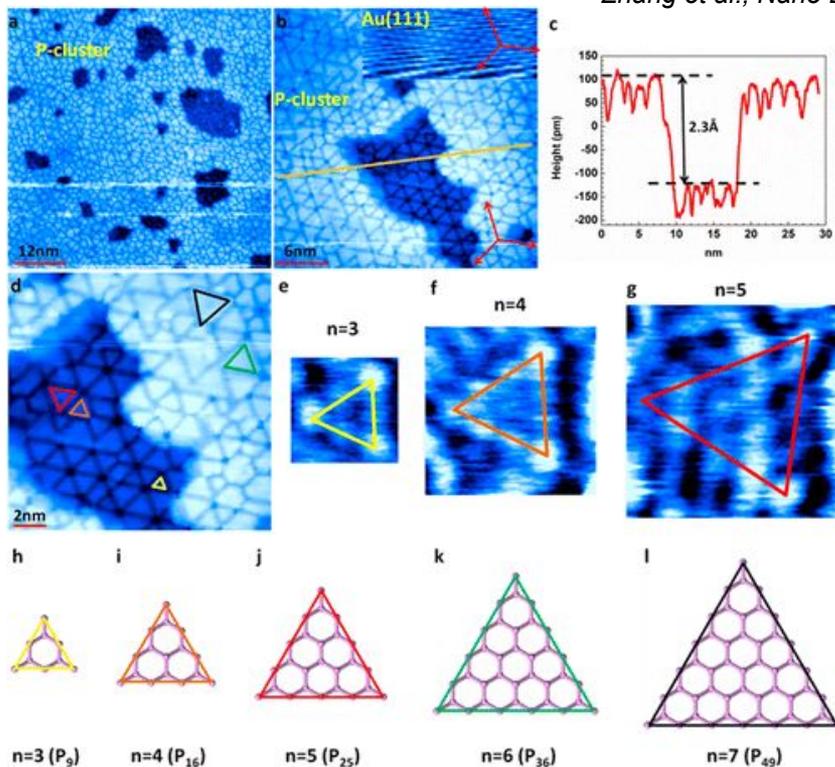
## ➤ Unique electronic properties

- ✓ Wide indirect wide band gap
- ✓ Layered-dependent tunable bandgap:  $\sim 2$  eV at monolayer and  $\sim 1.4$  eV (AB stacking) at bulk.
- ✓ Semiconducting-semimetal transition under in-layer strain
- ✓ Possible high carrier mobility
- ✓ A promising candidate as a BCS-superconductor after proper intercalation with some alkali metals such as Li, Na, and K
- ✓ Exhibit the charge-density-wave (CDW) phase due to periodic distortion of the atomic lattice in this layered 2D material under proper intercalation and high pressure.

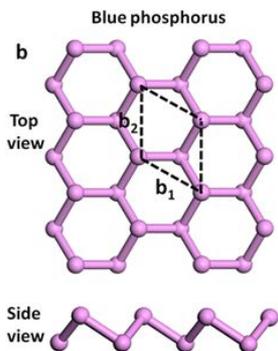
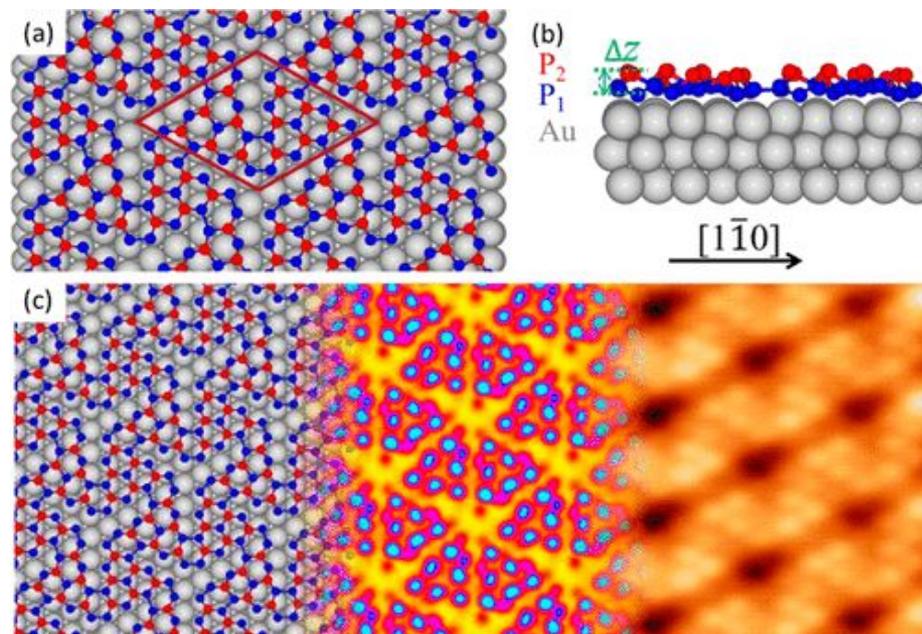


# Epitaxial Single Layer Blue Phosphorene

Zhang et al., *Nano Lett.*, 2016, 16 (8), pp 4903–4908

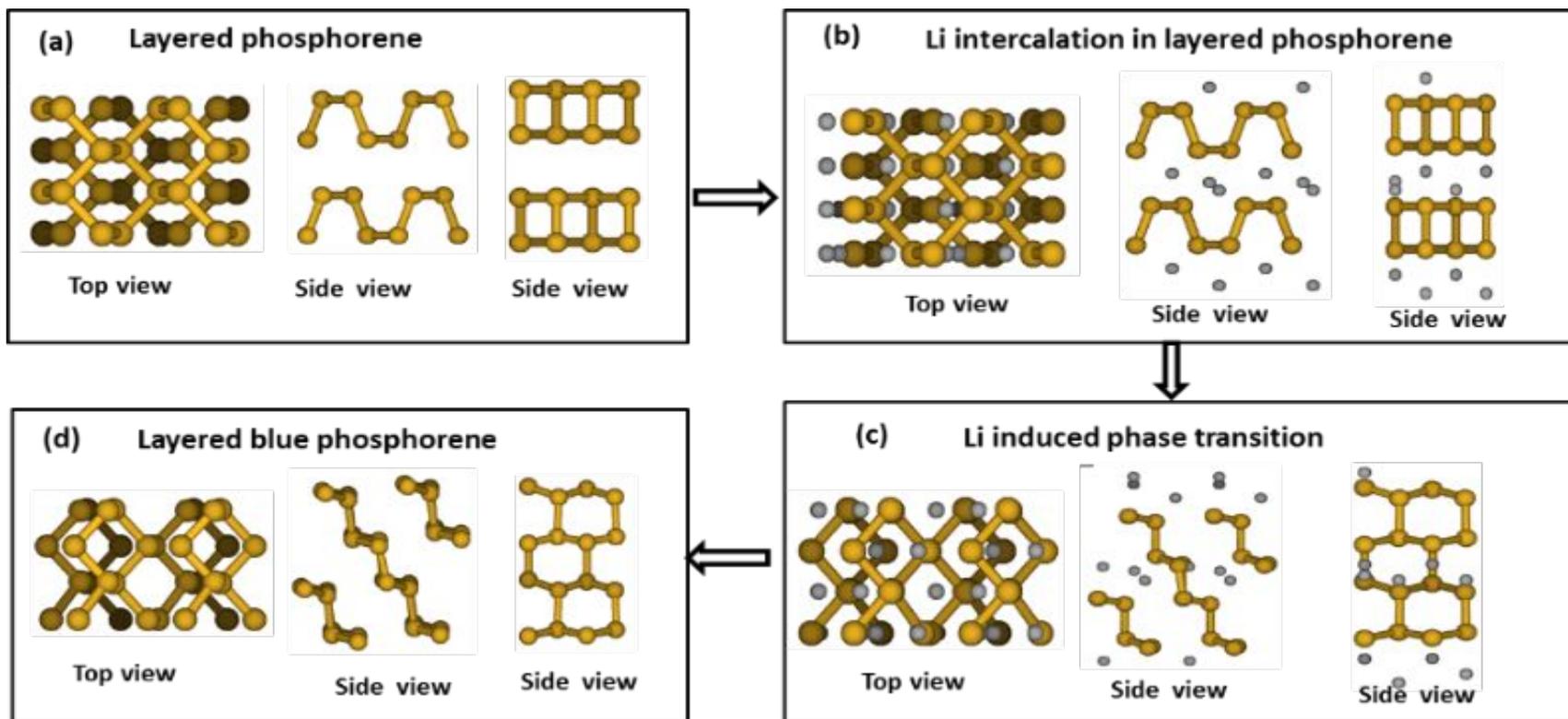


Zhunag et al., *ACS Nano*, 2018, 12 (5), pp 5059–5065



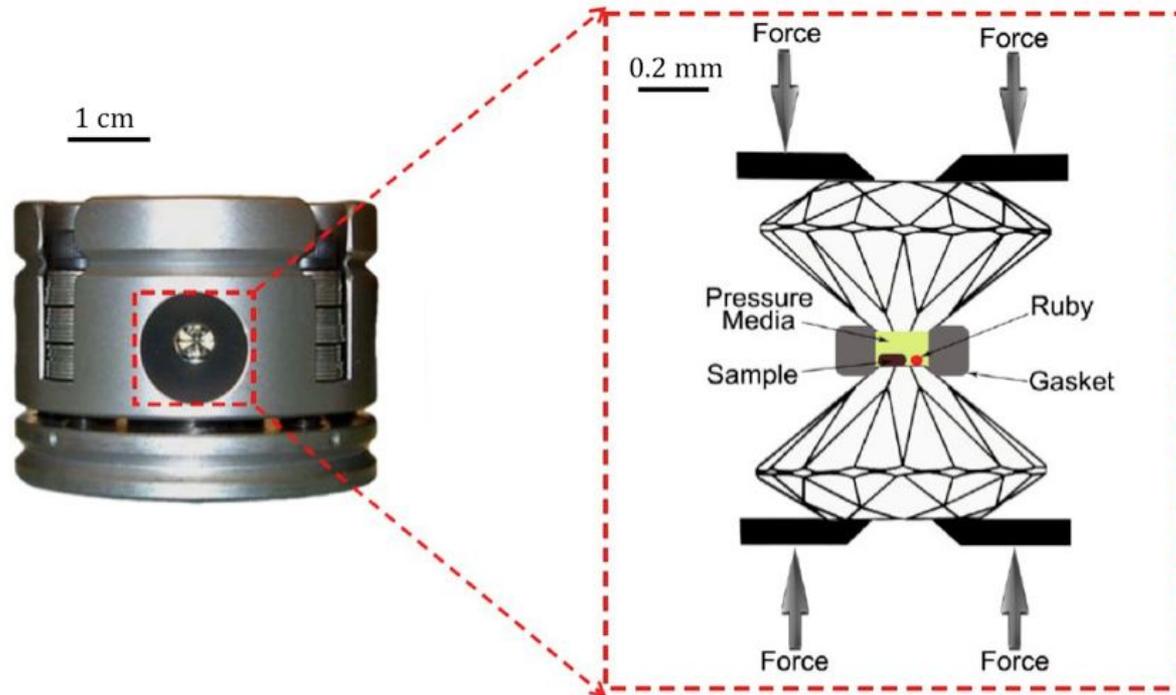
# A New Pathway for Synthesis of Layered Blue Phosphorus from Black Phosphorus by Li Intercalation

➤ Preliminary study by Congyan Zhang and Ming Yu, Dept. of Phys. and Astronomy, UofL (2018)



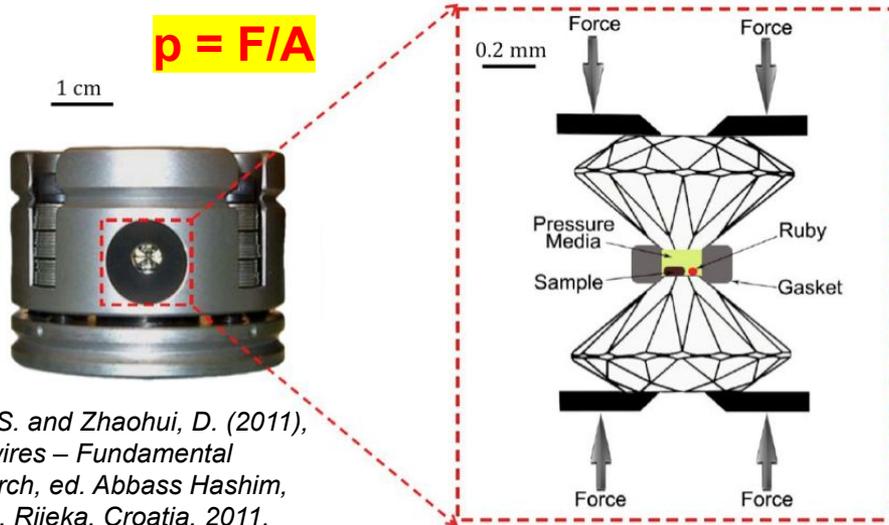
(a) layered black phosphorene; (b) Li intercalation in the layered black phosphorene; (c) Li induced structural phase transition during the relaxation; and (d) layered blue phosphorene after Li removal, respectively. The arrows show the direction of the flow of the transition induced by the Li intercalation.

# High Pressure Experiments

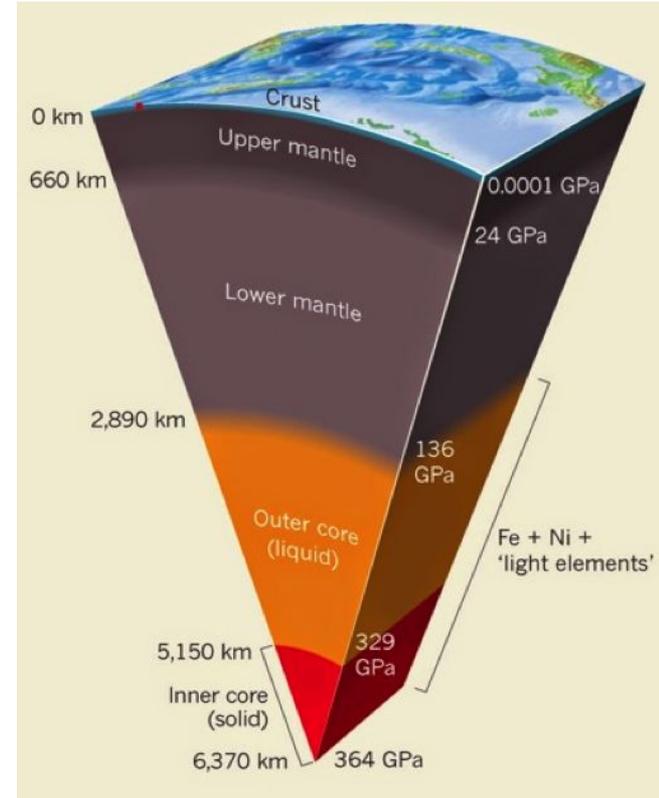


Yang, S. and Zhaohui, D. (2011) Novel pressure-induced structural transformations of inorganic nanowires, in "Nanowires – Fundamental Research", ed. Abbass Hashim, InTech, Rijeka, Croatia.

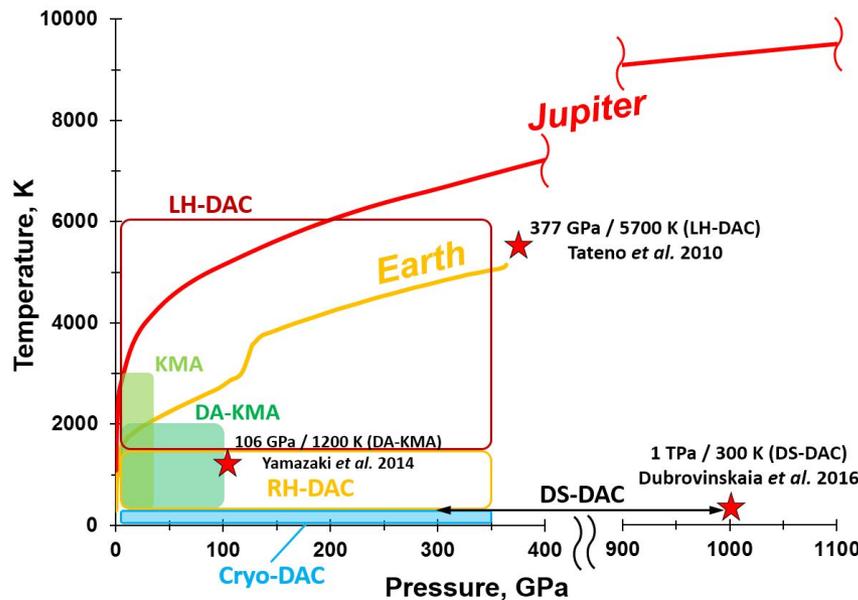
# Diamond Anvil Cell (DAC)



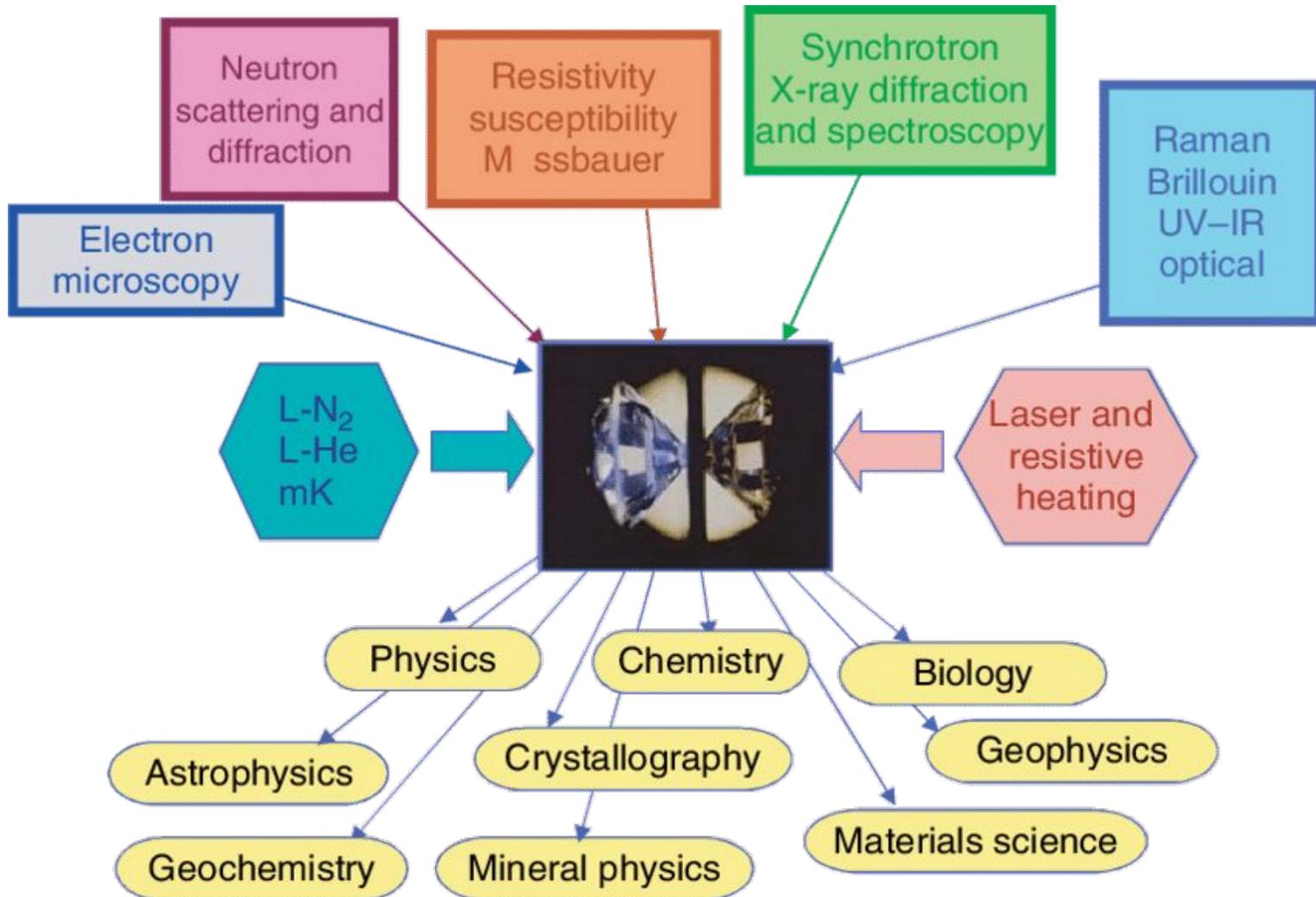
Yang, S. and Zhaohui, D. (2011), *Nanowires – Fundamental Research*, ed. Abbass Hashim, InTech, Rijeka, Croatia, 2011.



T.S.Duffy, *Nature*, 479, 480-481 (2011).

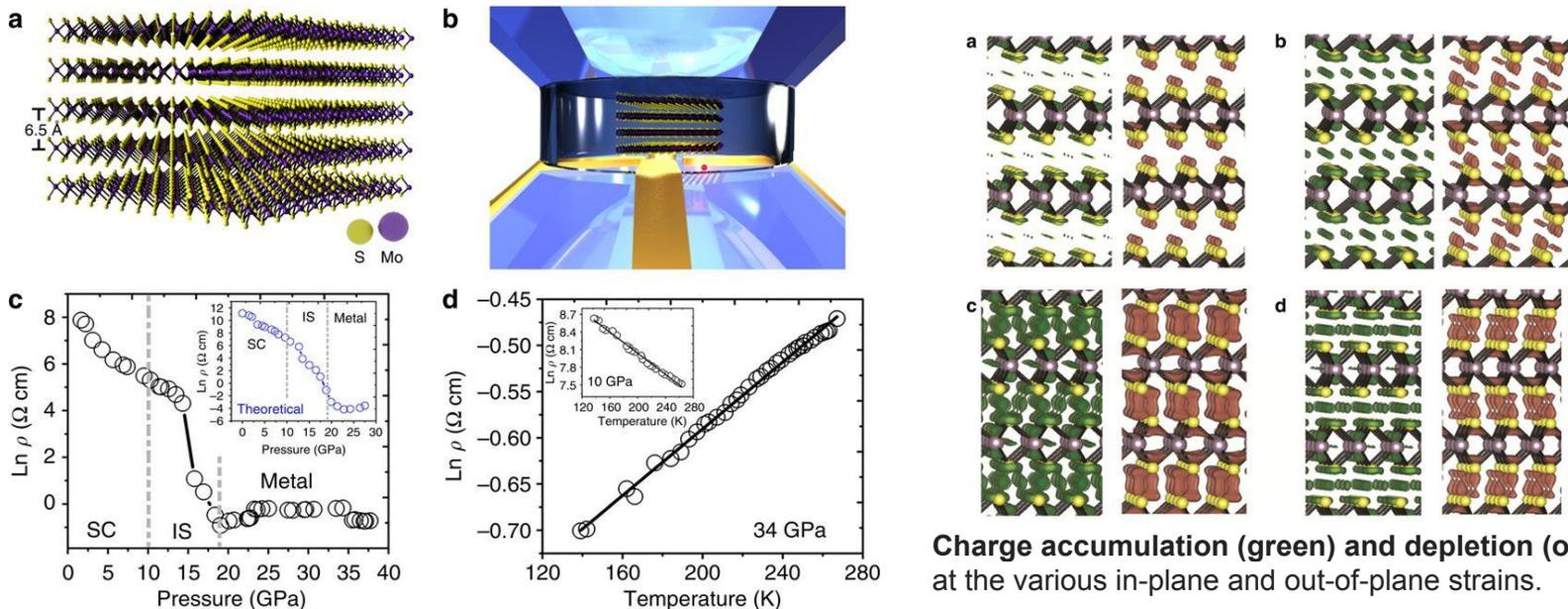


# High Pressure Experiments in DAC

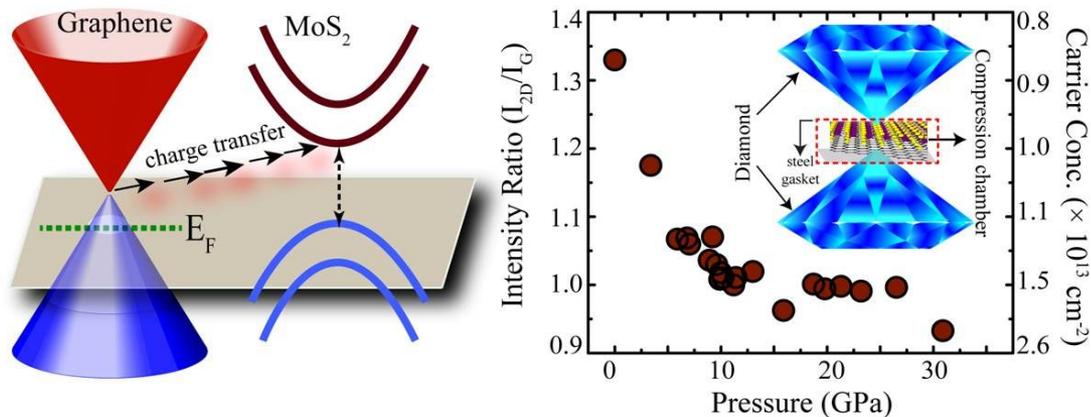


# DAC Studies of 2D Materials

Nayak et al, Nature Comm. 5, 3731 (2014)

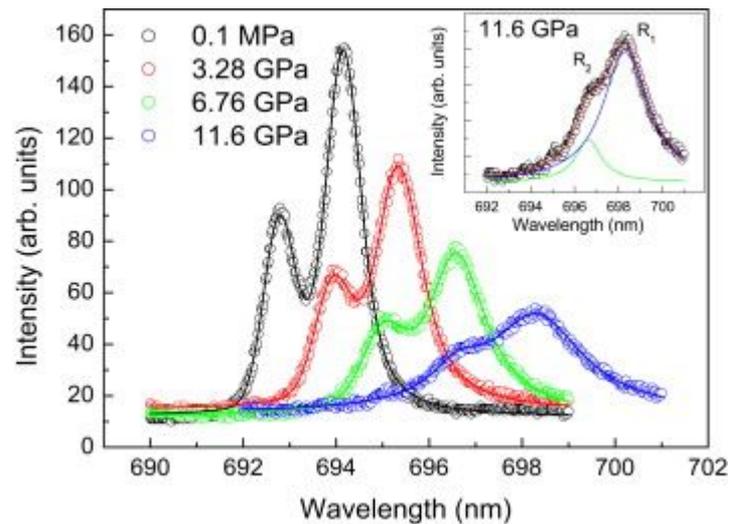
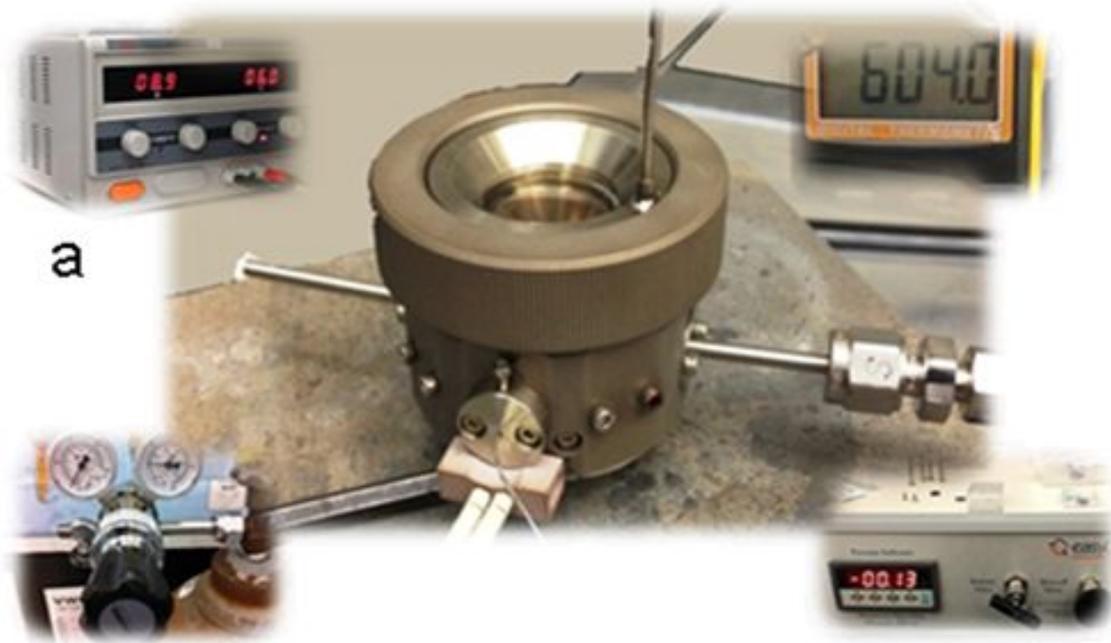


<http://hpstar.ac.cn/contents/27/5300.html>

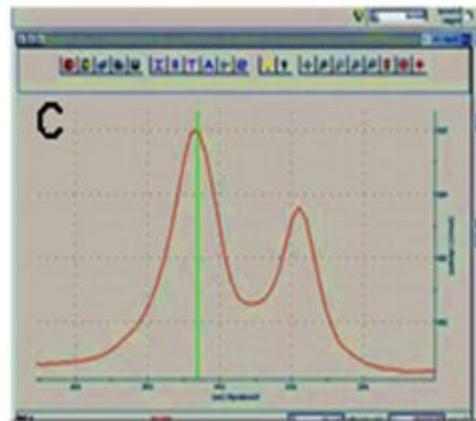
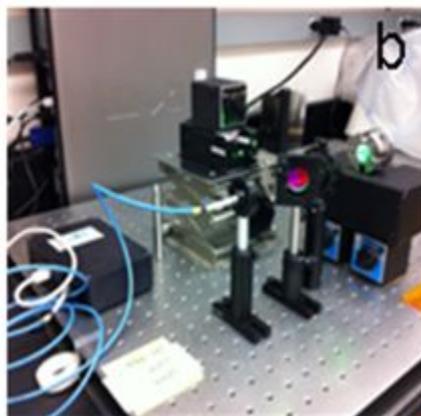


Tuning the carrier mobility and conductivity of heterostructured monolayer graphene and 2H-MoS<sub>2</sub>

# DAC - Experimental Setup

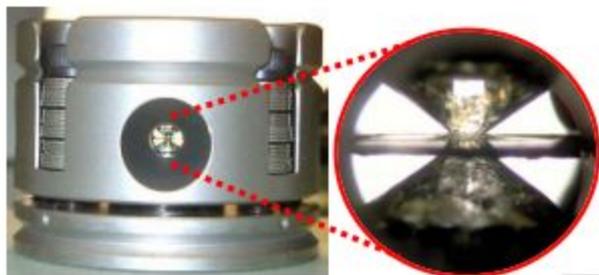


M.-S. Jeong et al., *Current Applied Physics* 13, 1774 (2013)

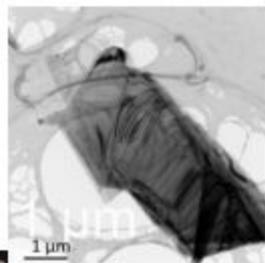


# High Pressure Optical Study

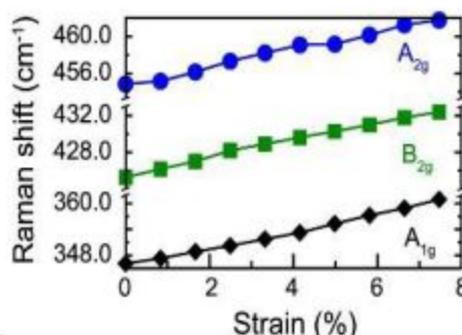
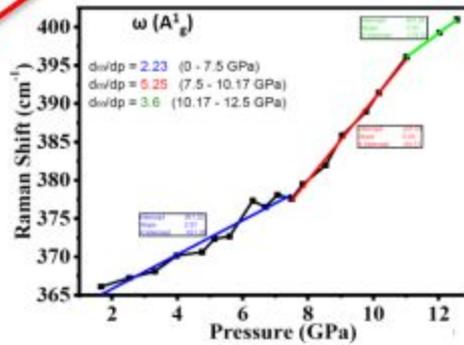
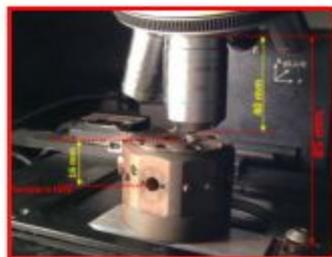
## Diamond Anvil Cell (DAC)



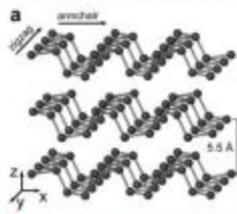
DAC: Pressure  $\rightarrow$  15 GPa,  
Temperature  $\rightarrow$  1000 °C



modified optics for *in-situ* high  
pressure PL/Raman studies



Nanotechnology, 2015, 26, 075701.

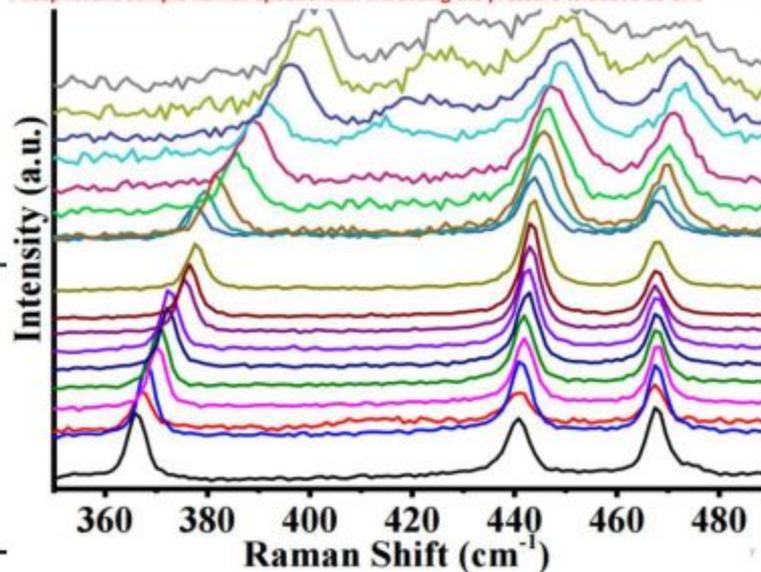


$A_{1g}$

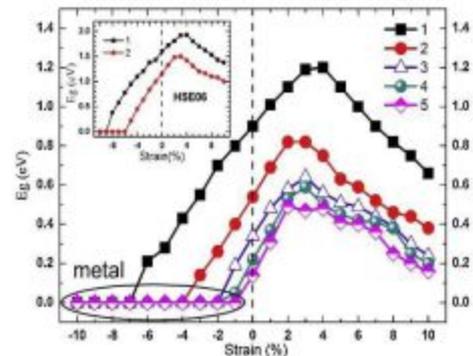
$B_{2g}$

$A_{2g}$

Phosphorene sample Raman spectra with increasing the pressure to above 10 GPa

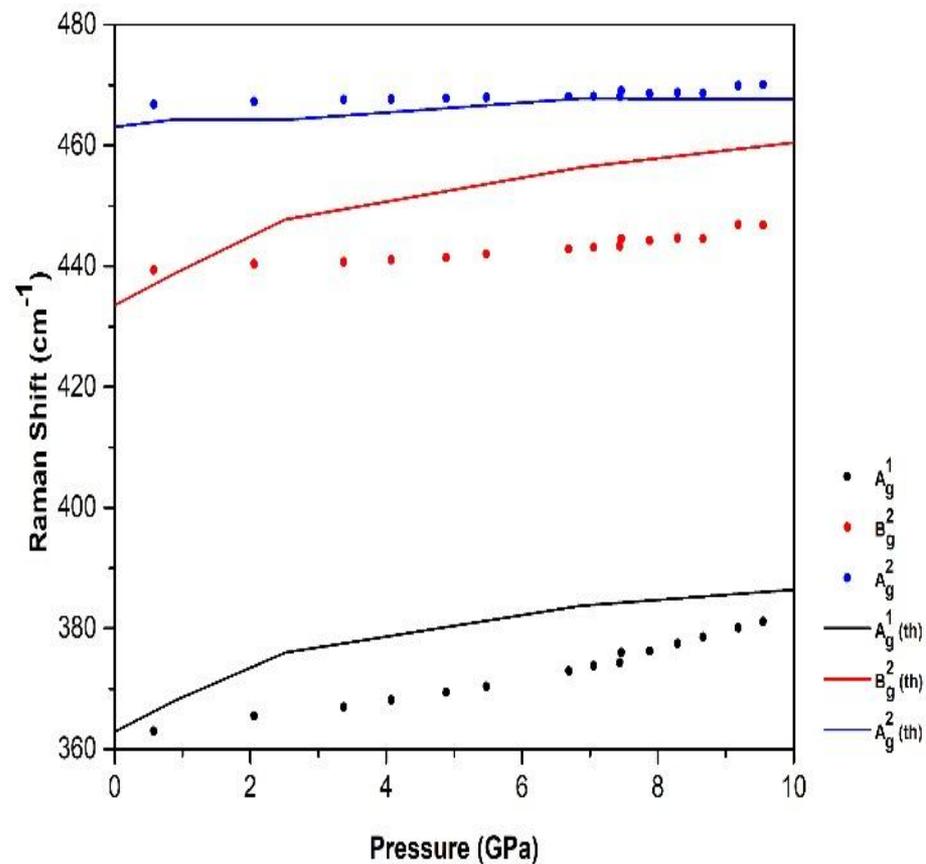
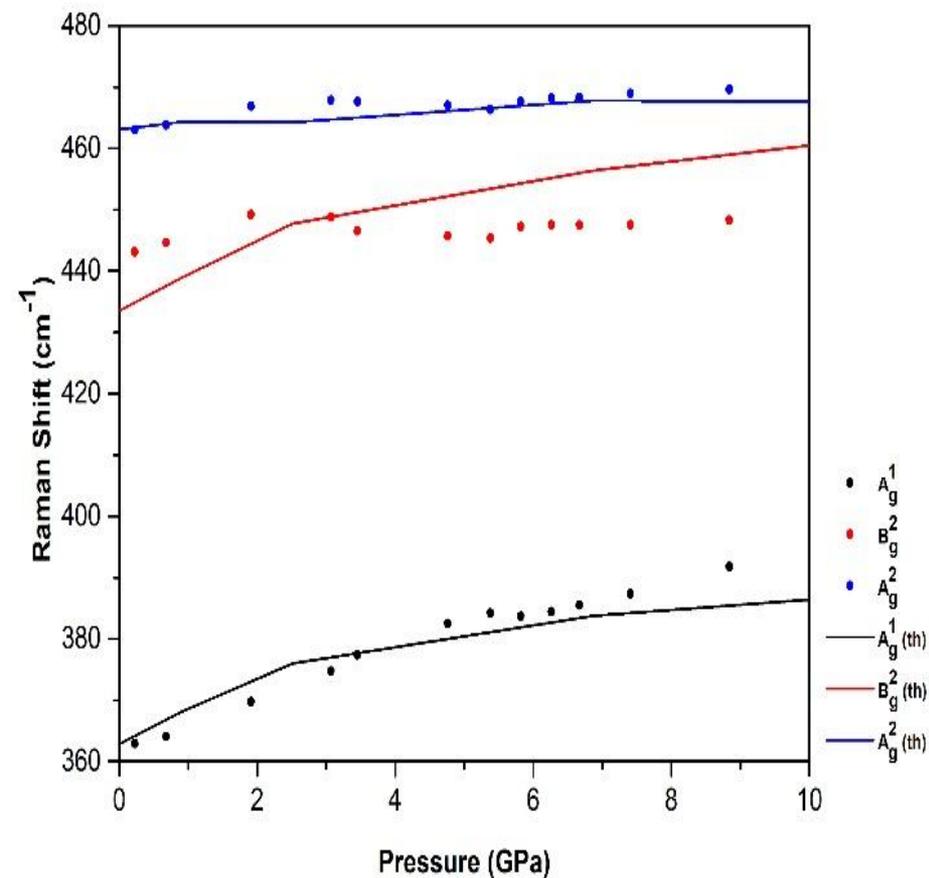


- 45 bar
- 47.25 bar
- 49.26 bar
- 51 bar
- 53 bar
- 54 bar
- 55.12 bar
- 57 bar
- 58 bar
- 59 bar
- 60.11 bar
- 61 bar
- 62.82 bar
- 64.10 bar
- 66 bar
- 67 bar
- 69.23 bar
- 71.86 bar
- 73.23 bar

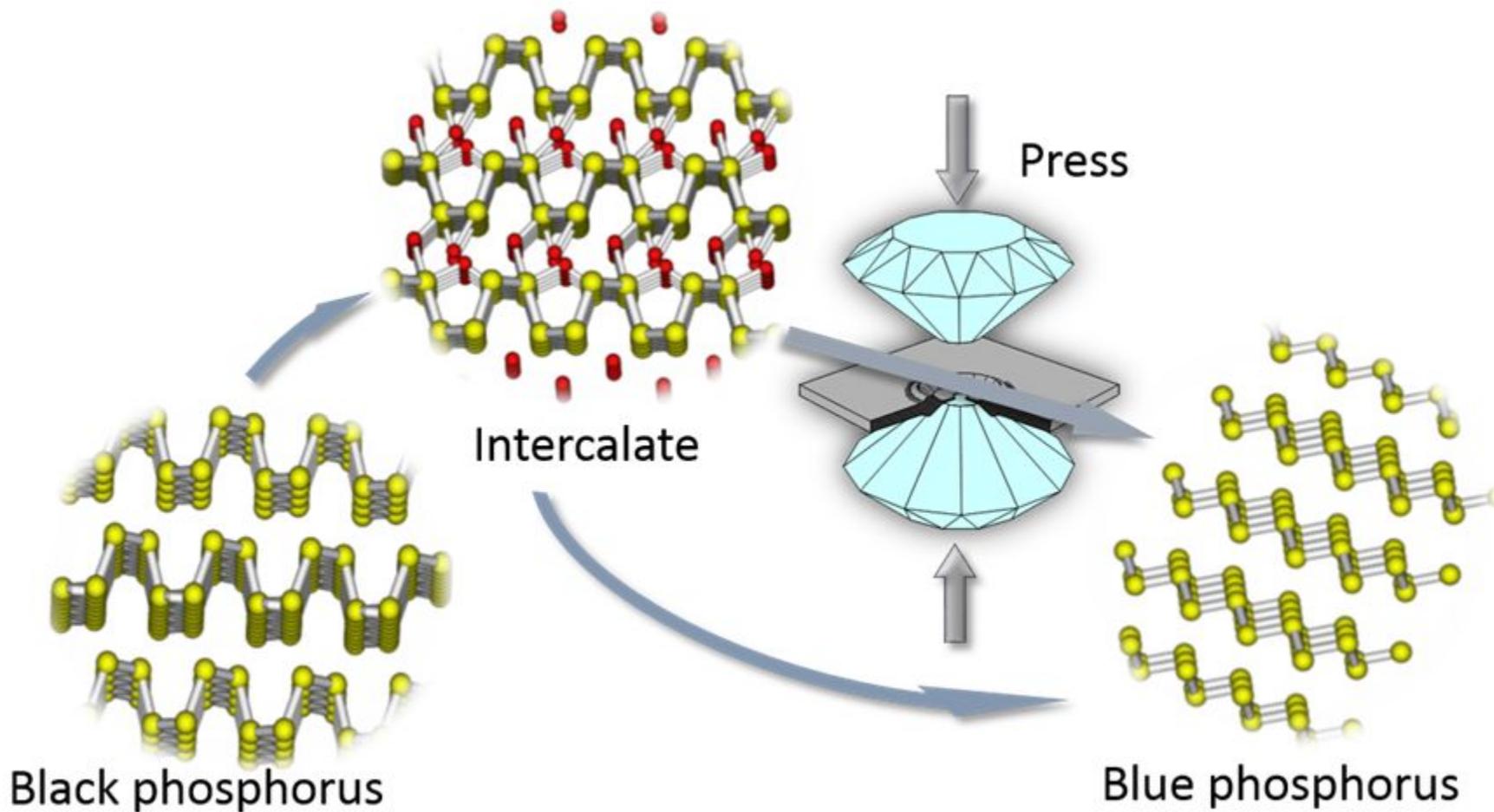


Chem. Phys. Lett., 2015, 622, 109.

# Theory Meets Experiment



# Summary



**Thank You**