

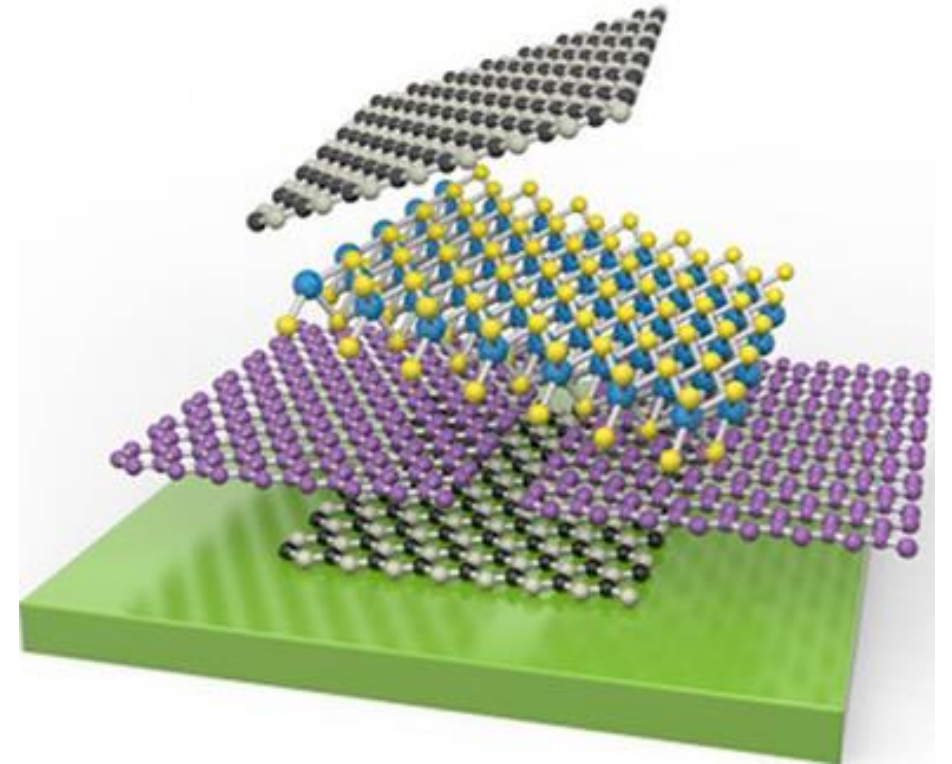
# Annual report

## 2<sup>nd</sup> year of PhD in Nanosciences

PhD Student: *Giulia Piccinini*

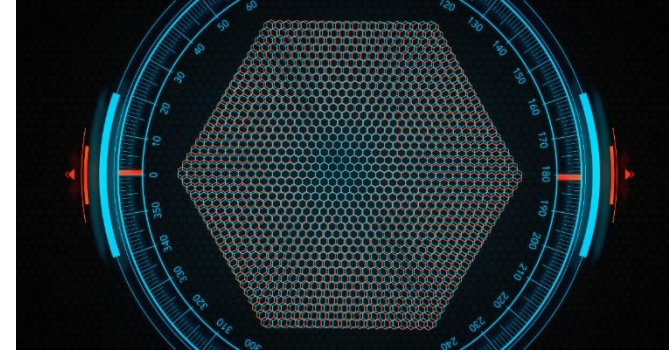
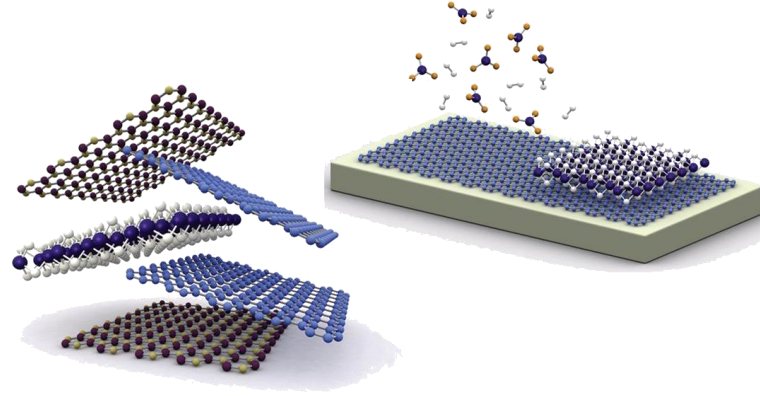
Internal Supervisor: *Luigi Rolandi*

External Supervisor: *Camilla Coletti*



# 2D materials van der Waals heterostructures

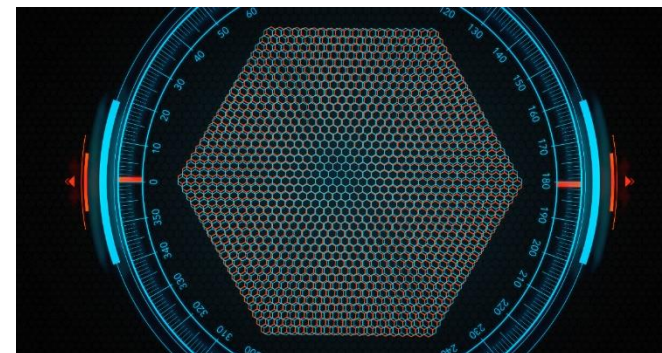
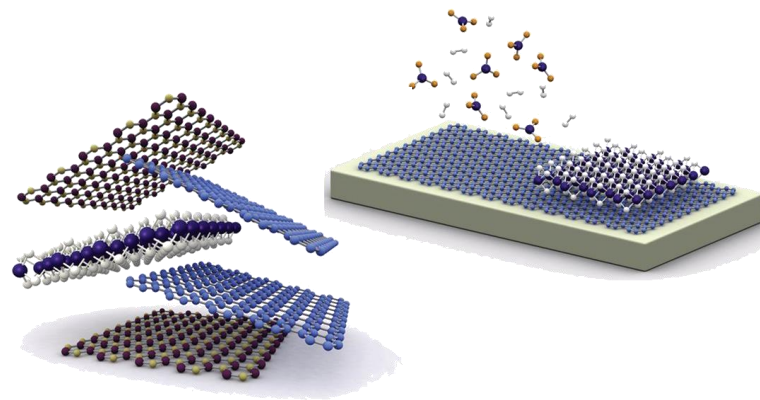
**Materials by design** by mixing and matching 2D crystals with different properties in one vertical stack → combinations with new functionalities



The **relative angle** between the individual elements changes the physics

# 2D materials van der Waals heterostructures

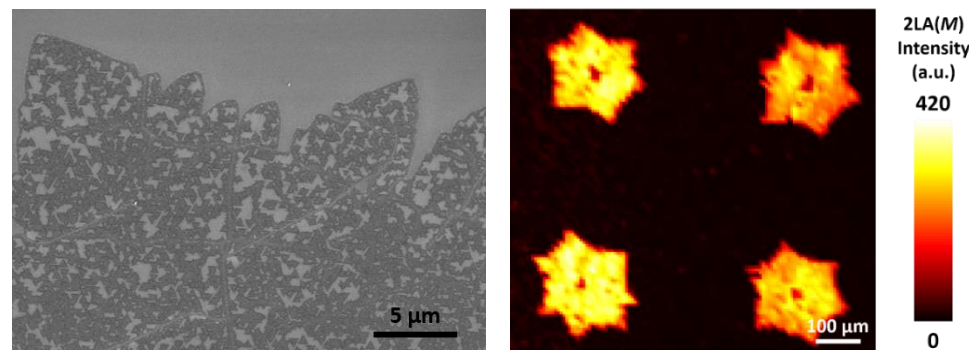
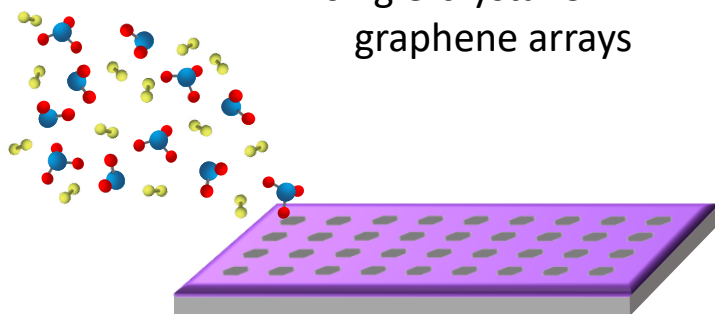
**Materials by design** by mixing and matching 2D crystals with different properties in one vertical stack → combinations with new functionalities



The **relative angle** between the individual elements changes the physics

## WS<sub>2</sub>/graphene heterostructure

Direct **synthesis** of monolayer WS<sub>2</sub> on single-crystal CVD graphene arrays



Structural and electrical **characterization** (doping, strain, electron and hole transport)

Collaborations:

- aging of WS<sub>2</sub>
- WS<sub>2</sub> optical dielectric function

### 2D Materials

#### PAPER

Optical dielectric function of two-dimensional WS<sub>2</sub> on epitaxial graphene

Michele Magnozzi<sup>1,2</sup>, Marzia Ferrera<sup>1,2</sup>, Giulia Piccinini<sup>1,2</sup>, Simona Pace<sup>1,2</sup>, Steven Forti<sup>1,2</sup>, Filippo Fabbri<sup>1,2</sup>, Camilla Coletti<sup>1,2</sup>, Francesco Bisio<sup>1,2</sup> and Maurizio Canepa<sup>1,2</sup>

THE JOURNAL OF  
PHYSICAL CHEMISTRY C

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Article

Edge Defects Promoted Oxidation of Monolayer WS<sub>2</sub> Synthesized on Epitaxial Graphene

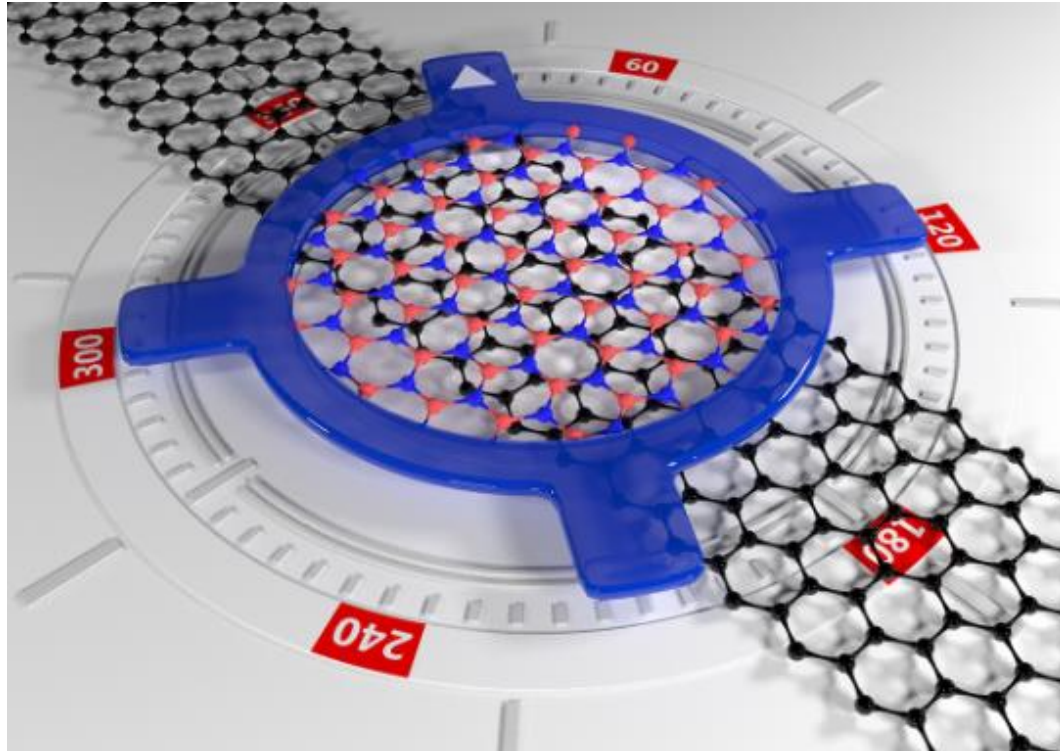
F. Fabbri,<sup>\*</sup> F. Dinelli, S. Forti, L. Sementa, S. Pace, G. Piccinini, A. Fortunelli, C. Coletti, and P. Pingue

Cite This: *J. Phys. Chem. C* 2020, 124, 9035–9044

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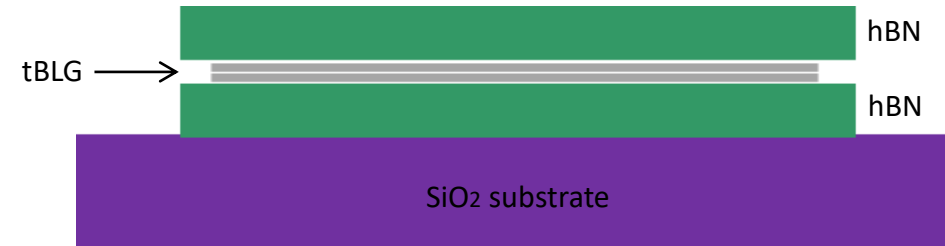


# Twisted bilayer graphene (tBLG) encapsulated in hBN



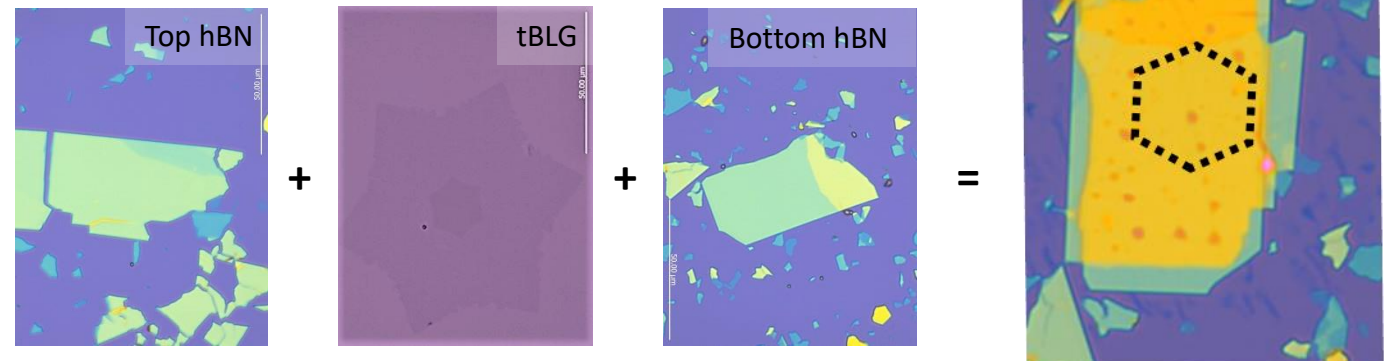
**Twist angle** → new degree of freedom induces several angle dependent properties in tBLG → vastly different electronic behavior that depends sensitively on the angle between the layers

**tBLG encapsulated in hBN** ← high mobility and fine gating

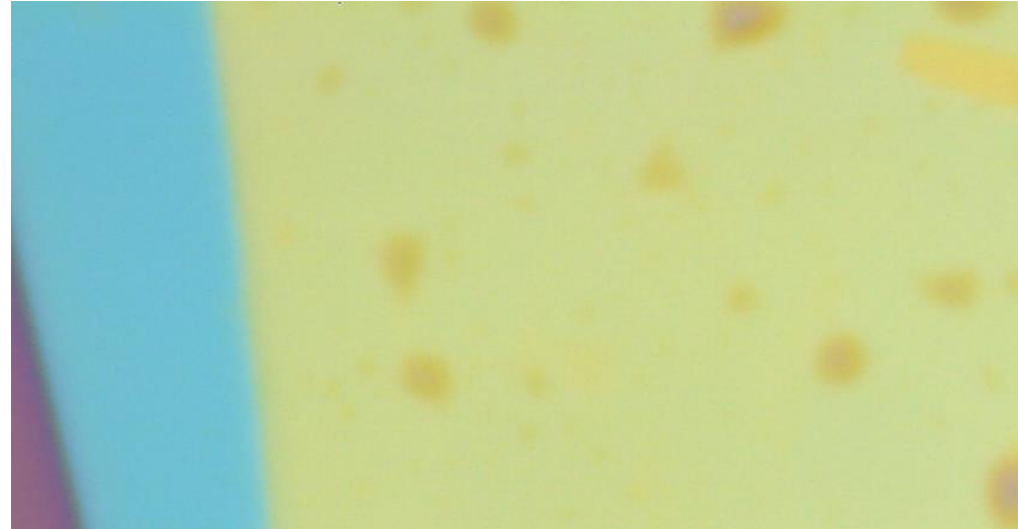
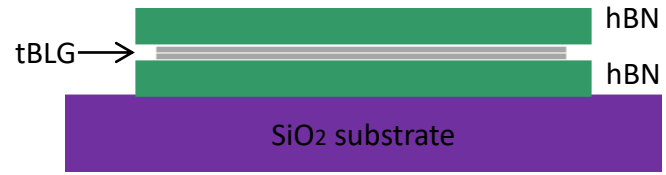


This year focus:

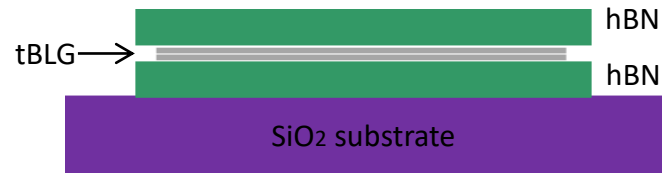
- ✓ Sample **characterization** and selection of the best possible area for device fabrication
- ✓ Development of skills in device **fabrication**
- ✓ Study of an **electrostatic model** to determine the charge density in the two graphene layers



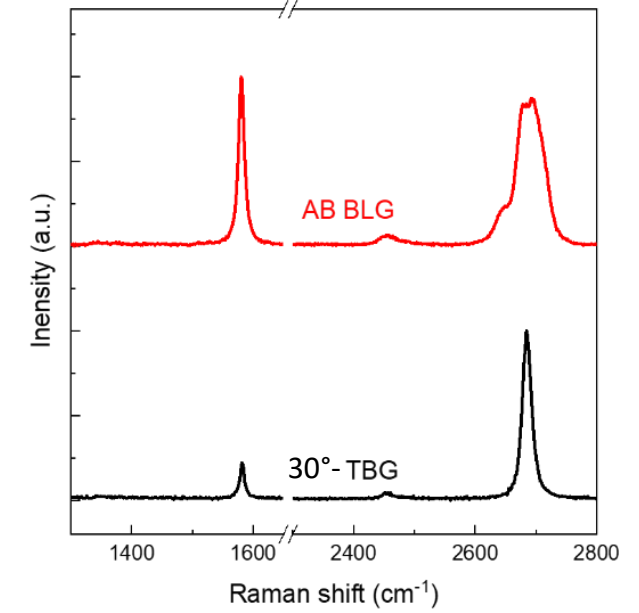
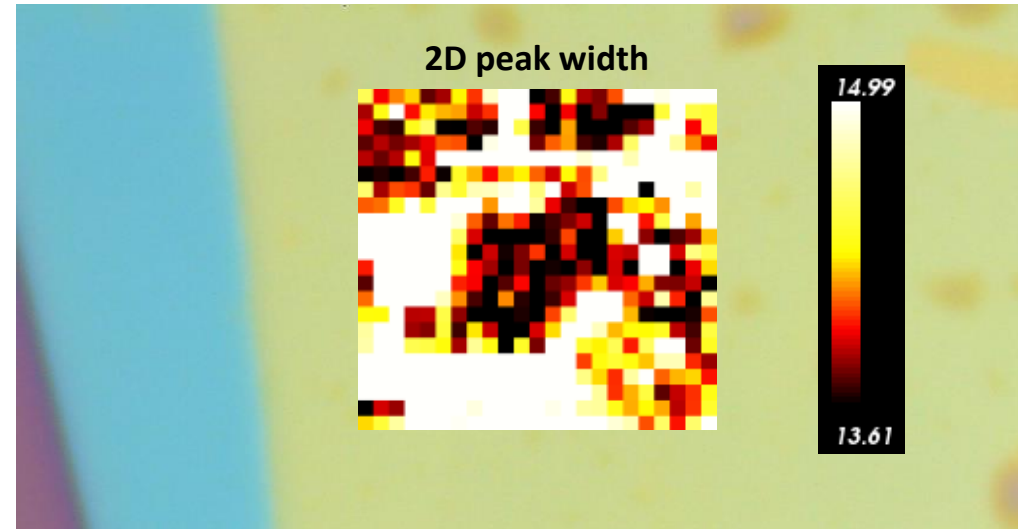
# Sample characterization and device fabrication



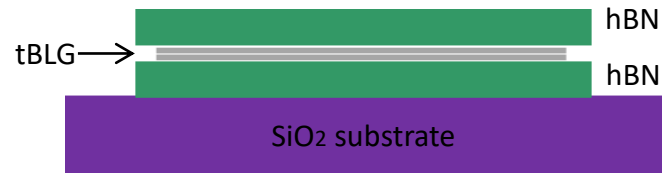
# Sample characterization and device fabrication



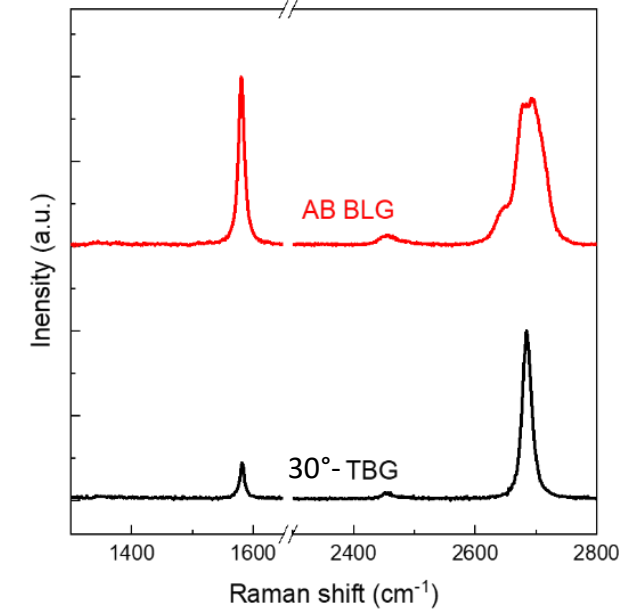
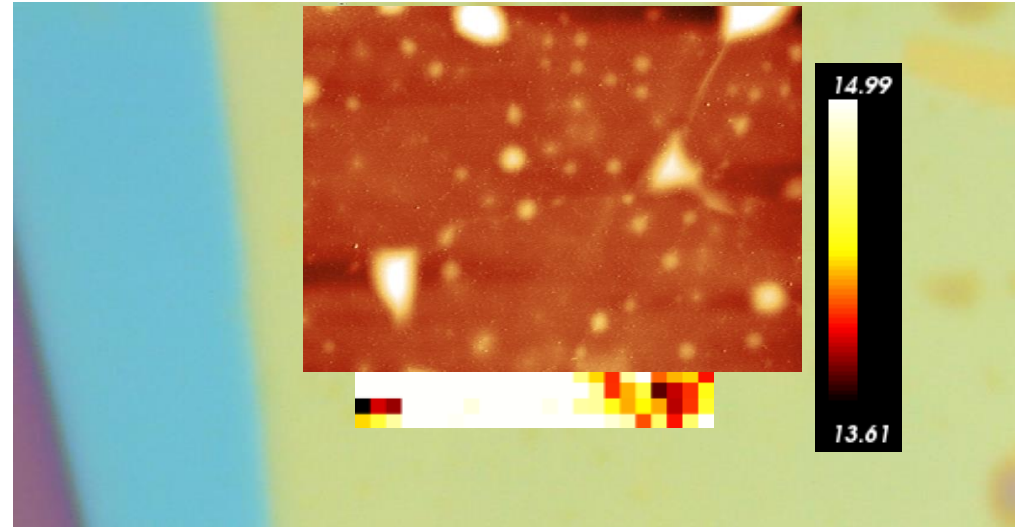
- Raman spectroscopy → check of the twist angle



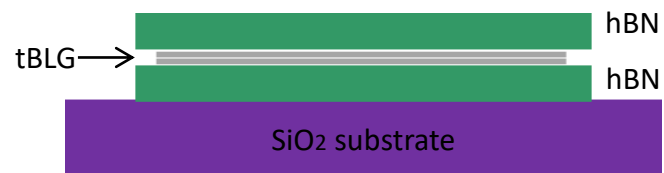
# Sample characterization and device fabrication



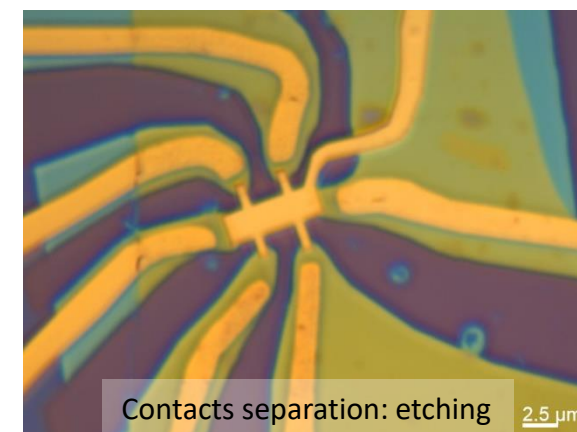
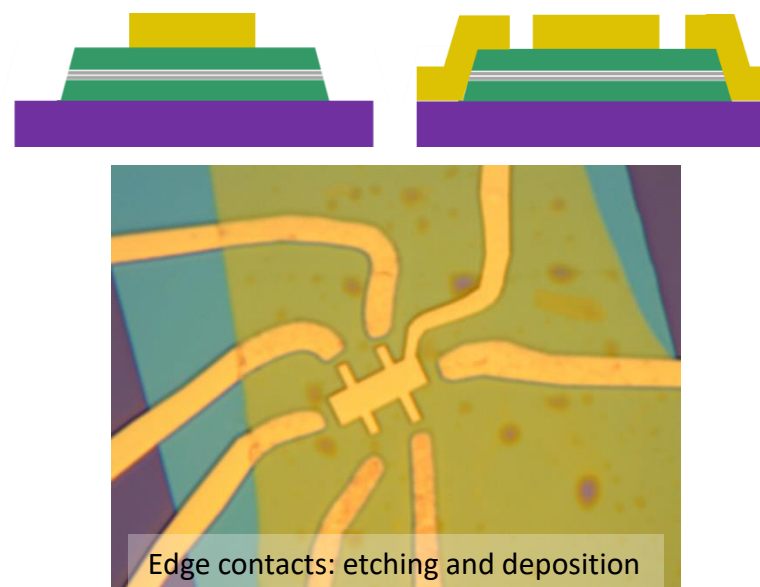
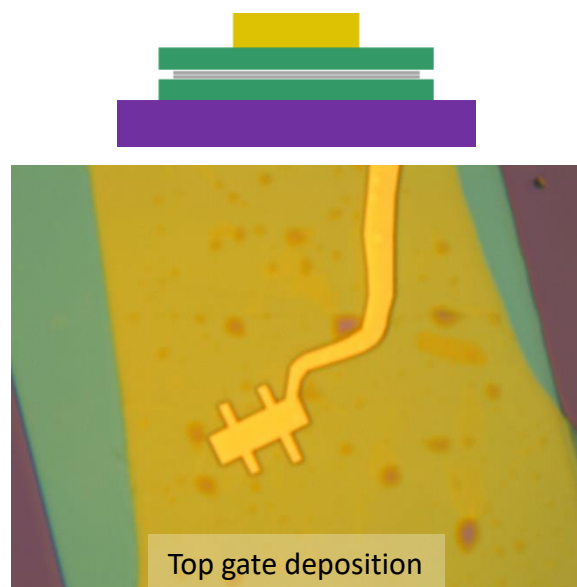
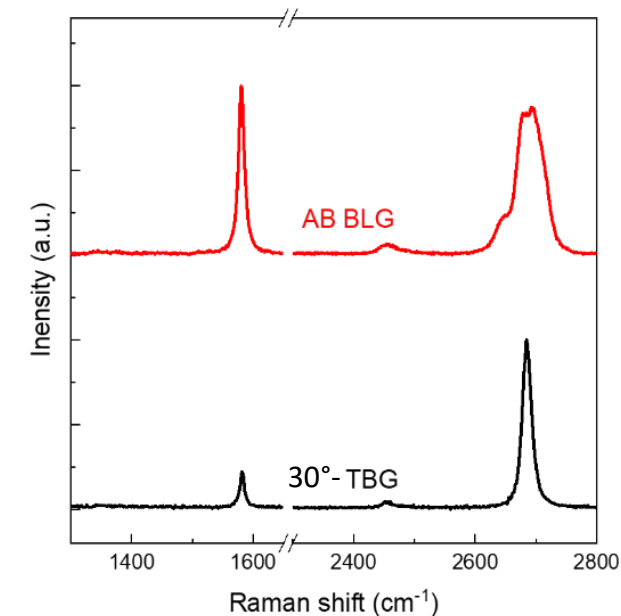
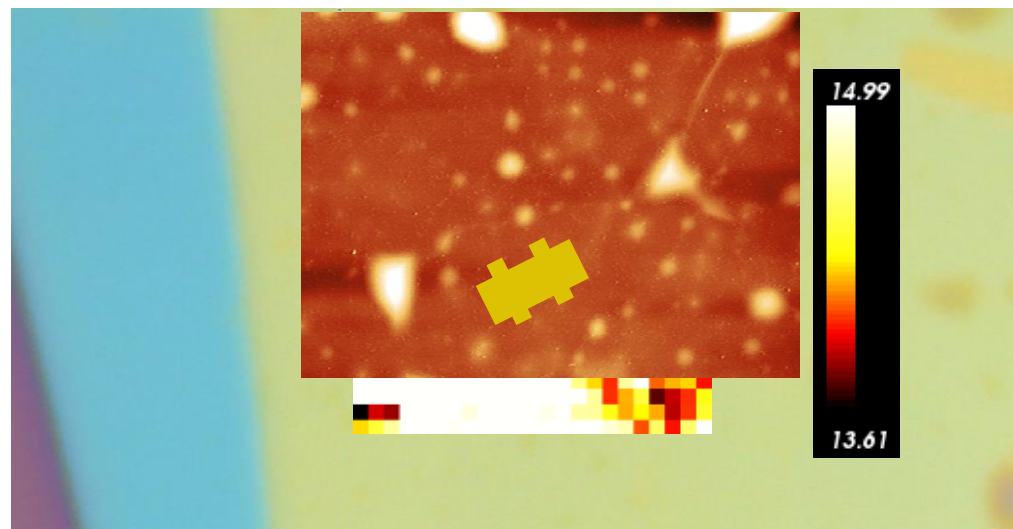
- Raman spectroscopy → check of the twist angle
- AFM → flat and clean area



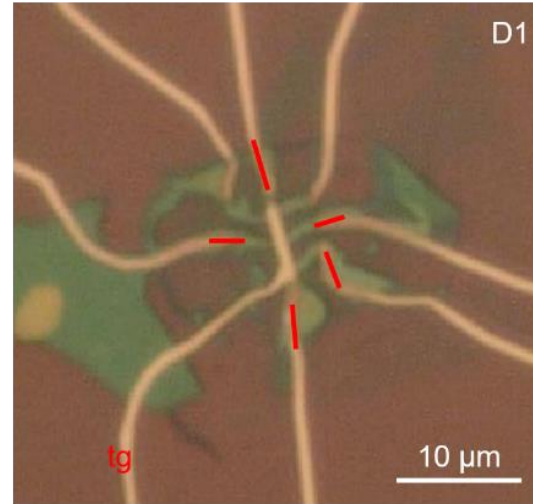
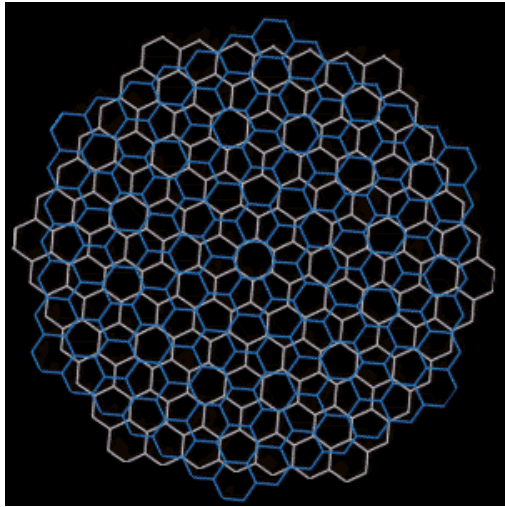
# Sample characterization and device fabrication



- Raman spectroscopy → check of the twist angle
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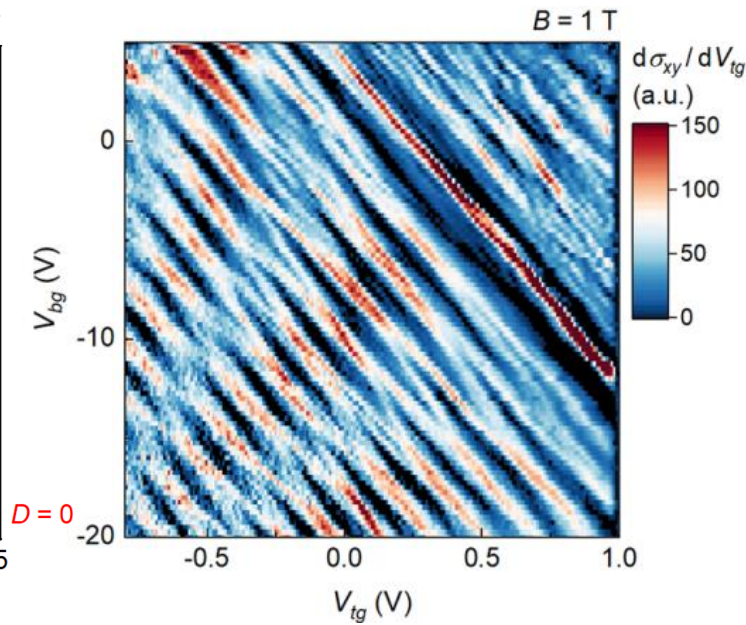
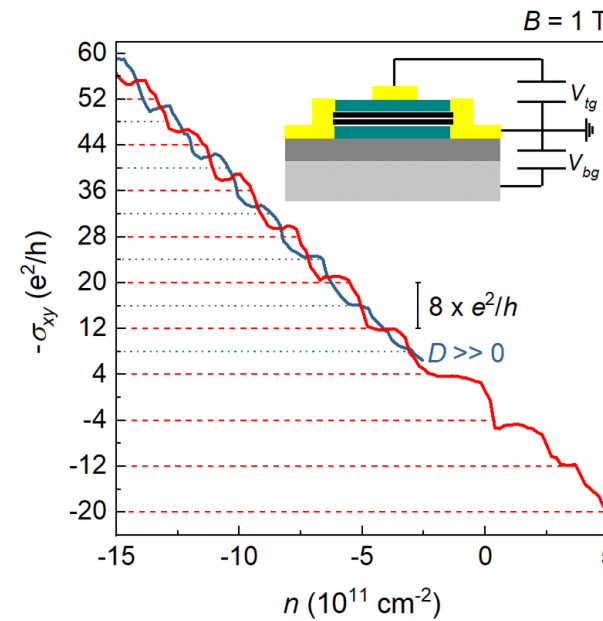
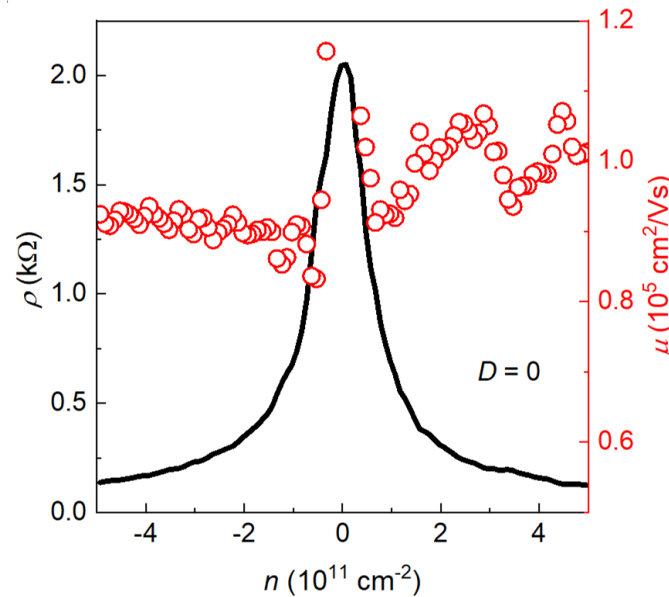


30°-twisted bilayer graphene from chemical vapor deposition (CVD):

- No need of a manual stacking process
- **Interlayer decoupling** → possibility to tune the charge density of the two layers independently

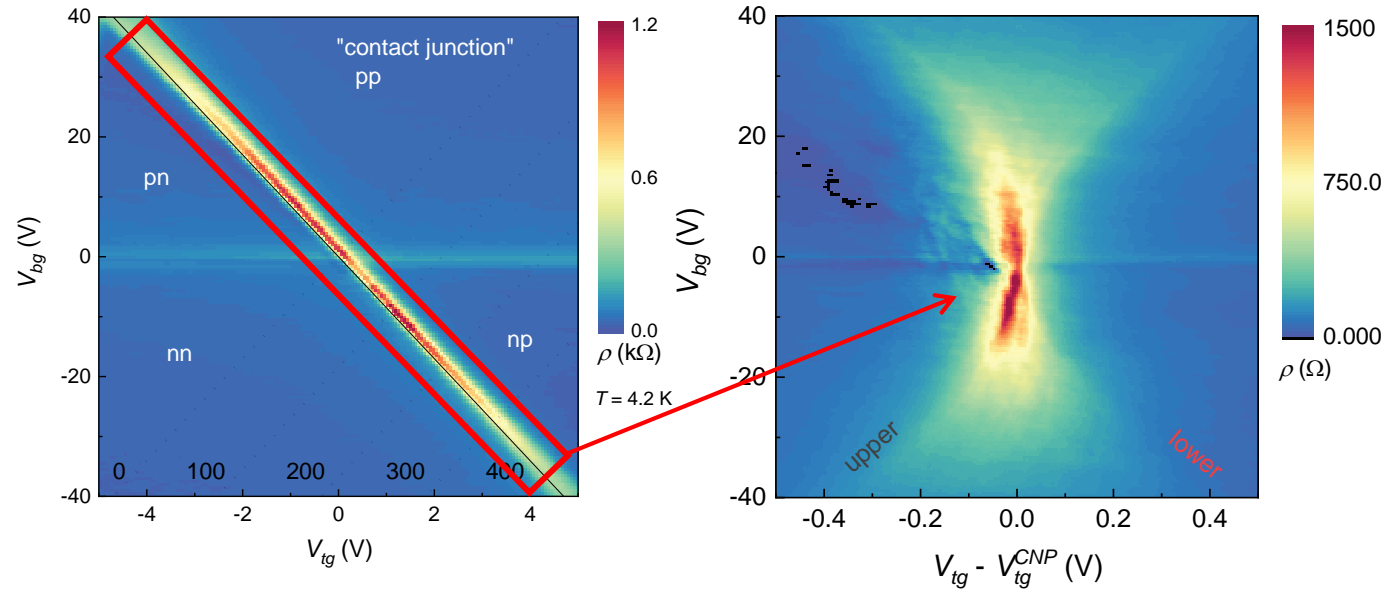
Low-T magnetotransport measurements:

- $\mu$  up to  $10^5 \text{ cm}^2/\text{Vs}$
- 30°-tBG behaves as **uncoupled** graphene layers  
← 8-fold degenerate quantum Hall states

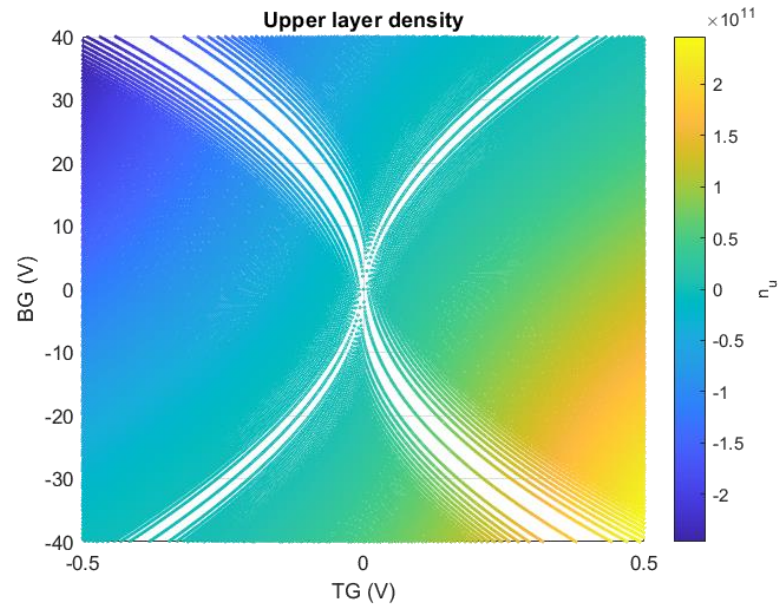
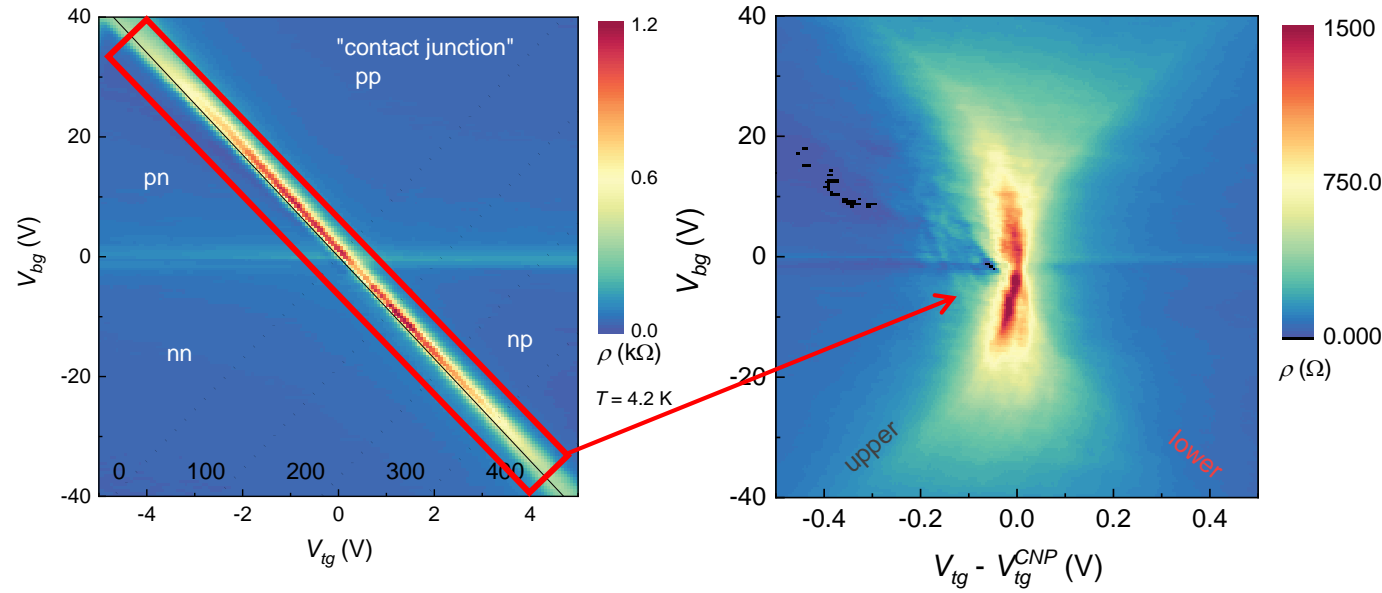


S. Pezzini *et al.*, Nano Lett., **5**, 3313–3319 (2020)

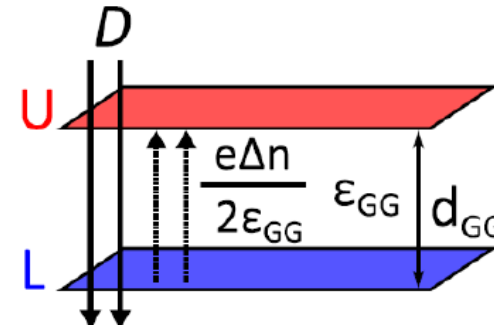
Possibility to control the **splitting** of the charge neutrality point



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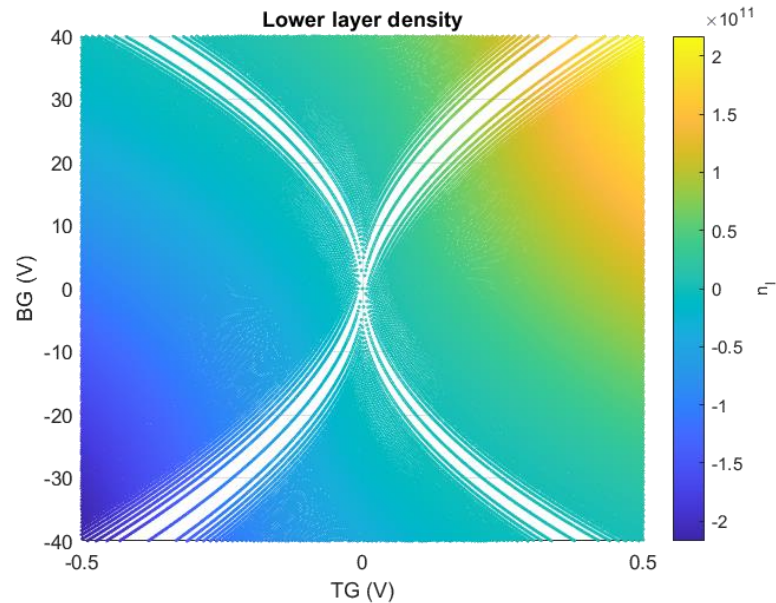
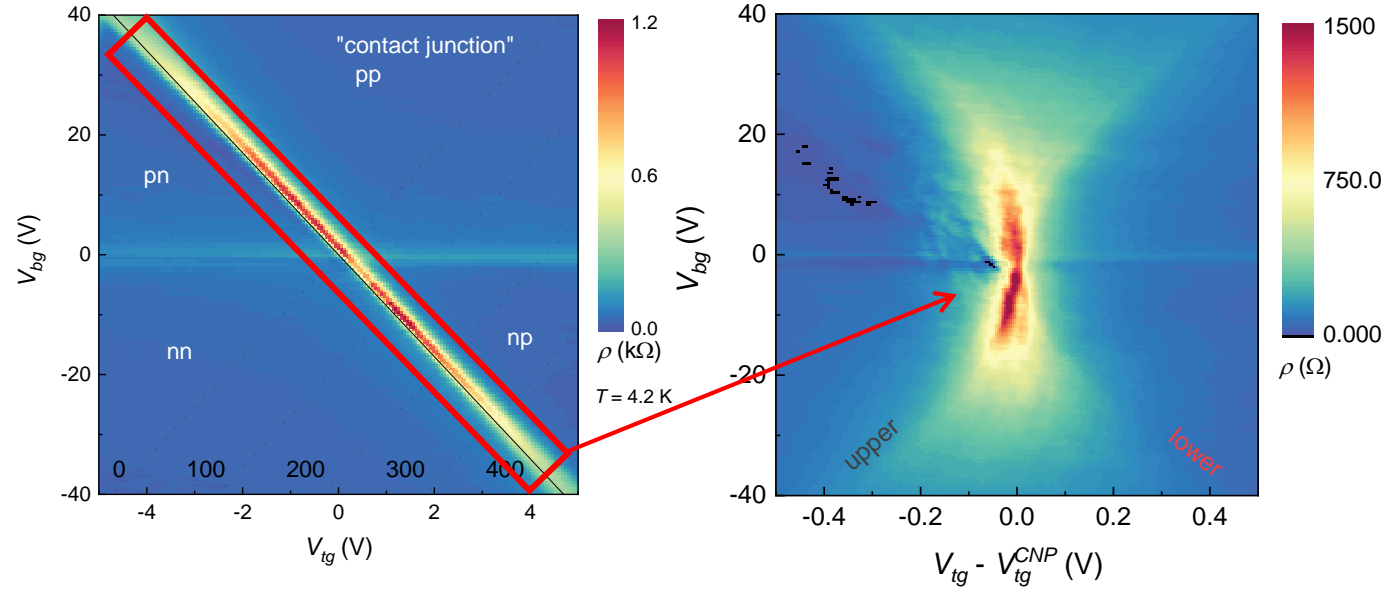
Electrostatic model



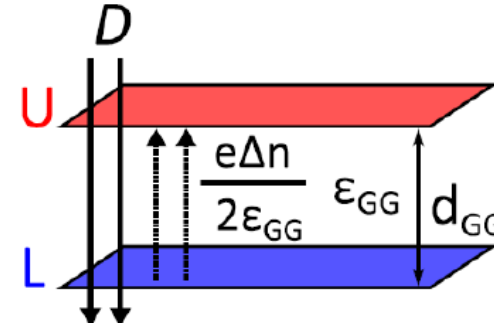
$D$  screened by the layer density imbalance as well as the inter-layer dielectric environment

$$C_{GG} \frac{(\mu_U - \mu_L)}{e} = D - e \frac{(n_U - n_L)}{2}$$

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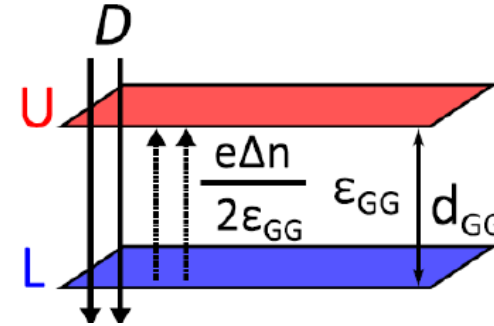
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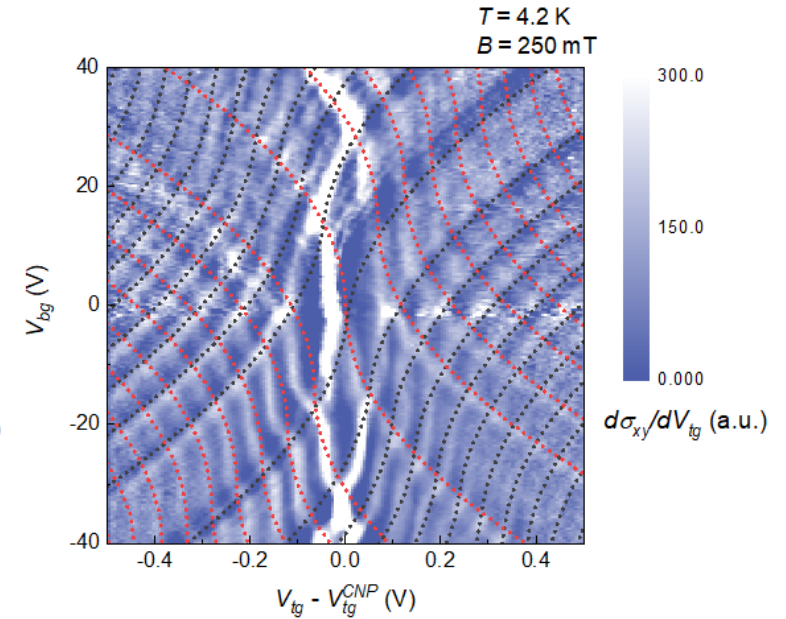
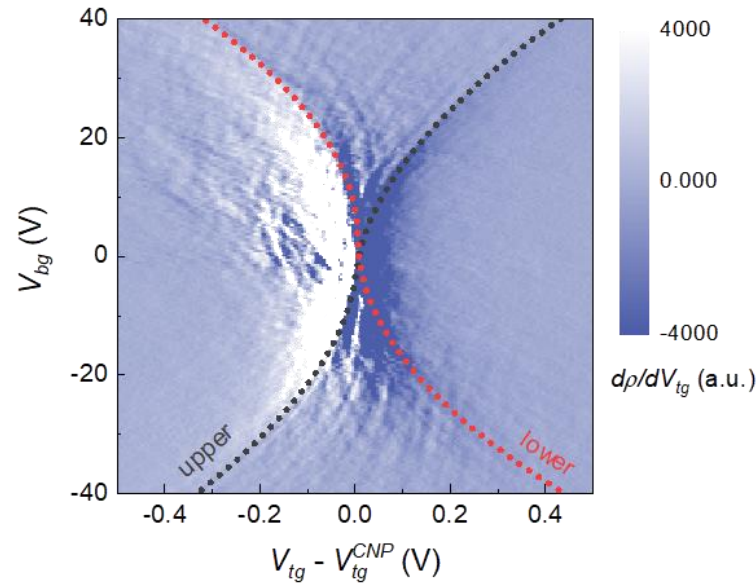
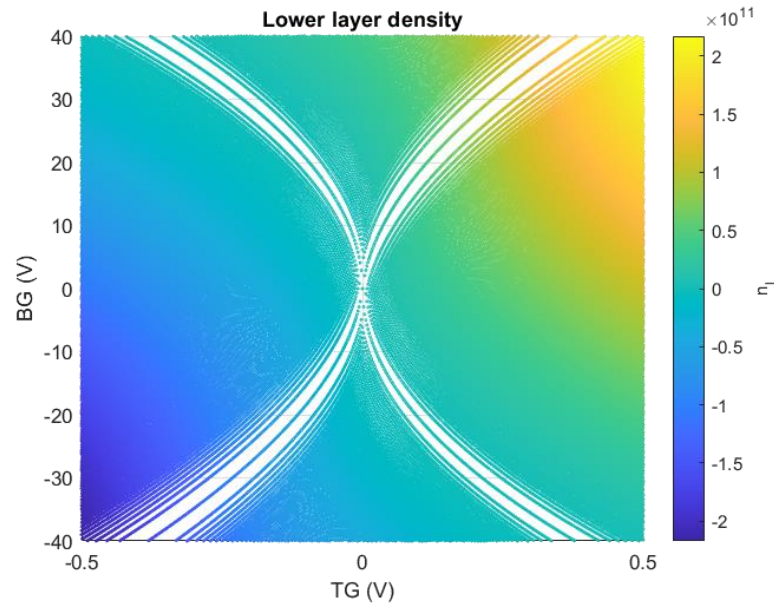
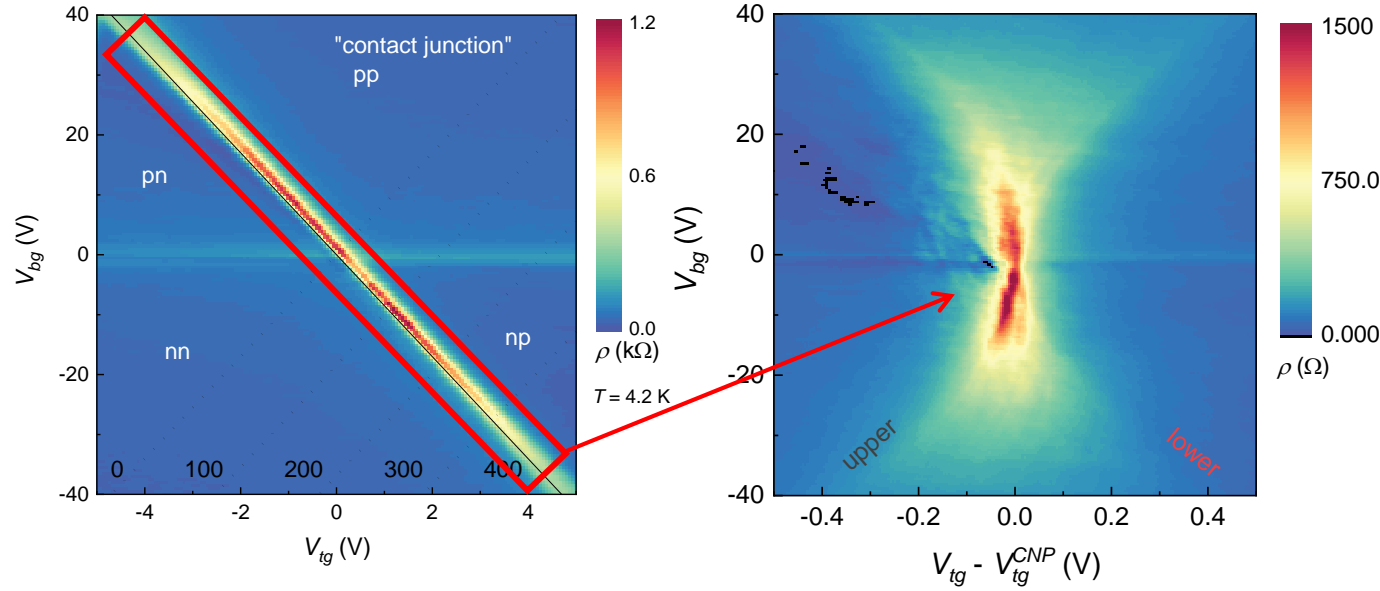
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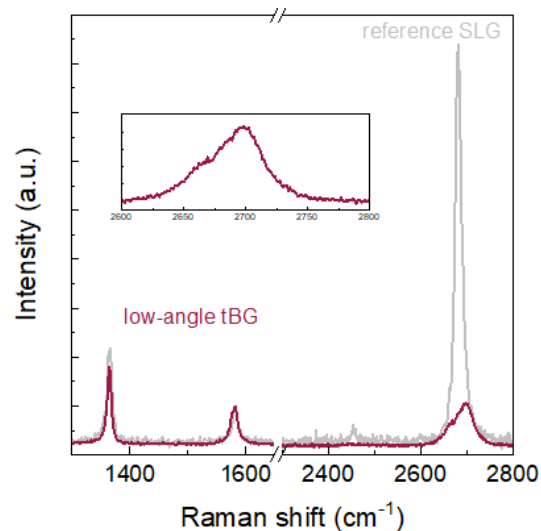
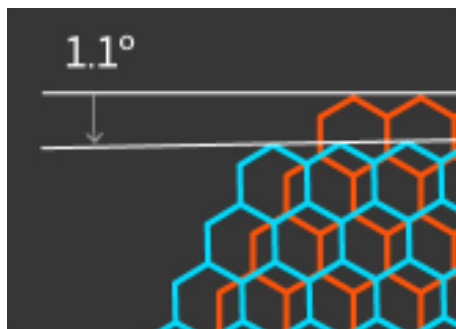
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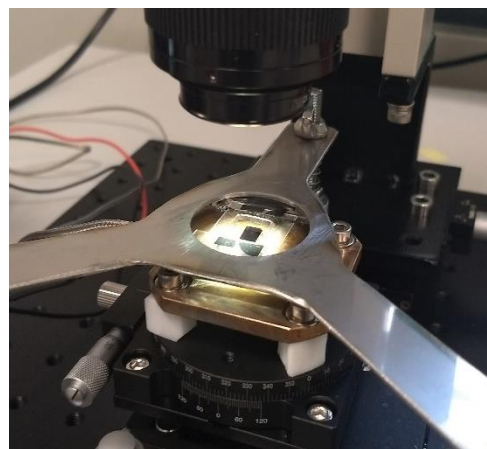
# Next steps

## ➤ hBN/1.1°-tBLG/hBN

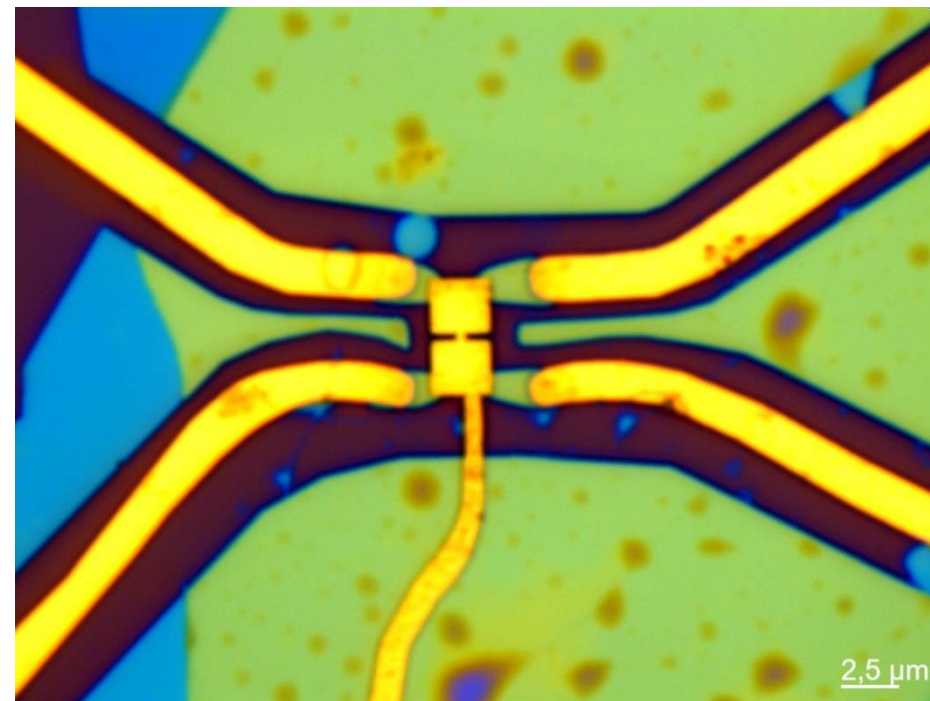
1.1°-tBLG → flat bands near zero Fermi energy, resulting in correlated insulating states at half-filling



tBLG: manual assembly from CVD graphene



## ➤ Constriction in hBN/30°-tBLG/hBN



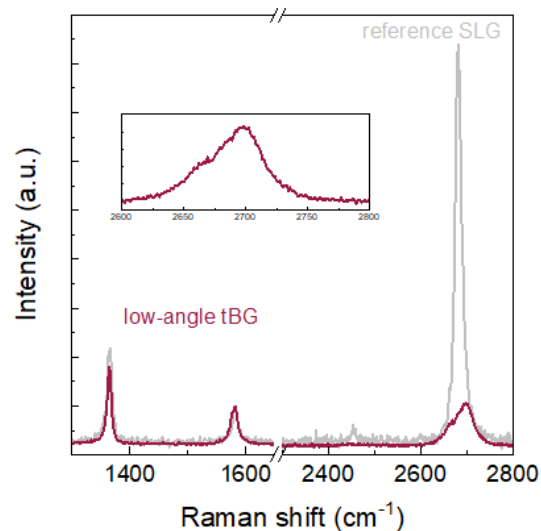
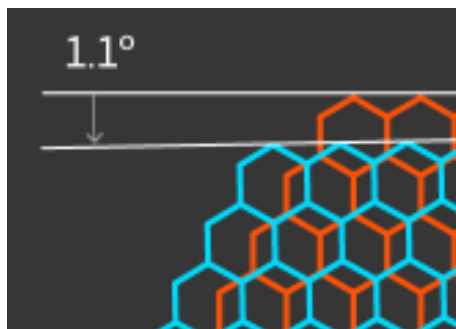
300 nm constriction in 30°-tBLG  
→ ready to be measured in order to observe the conductance quantization



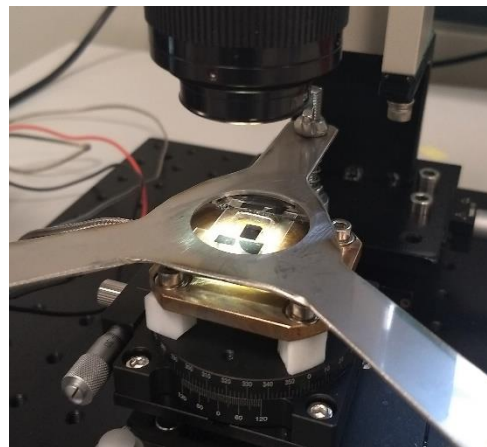
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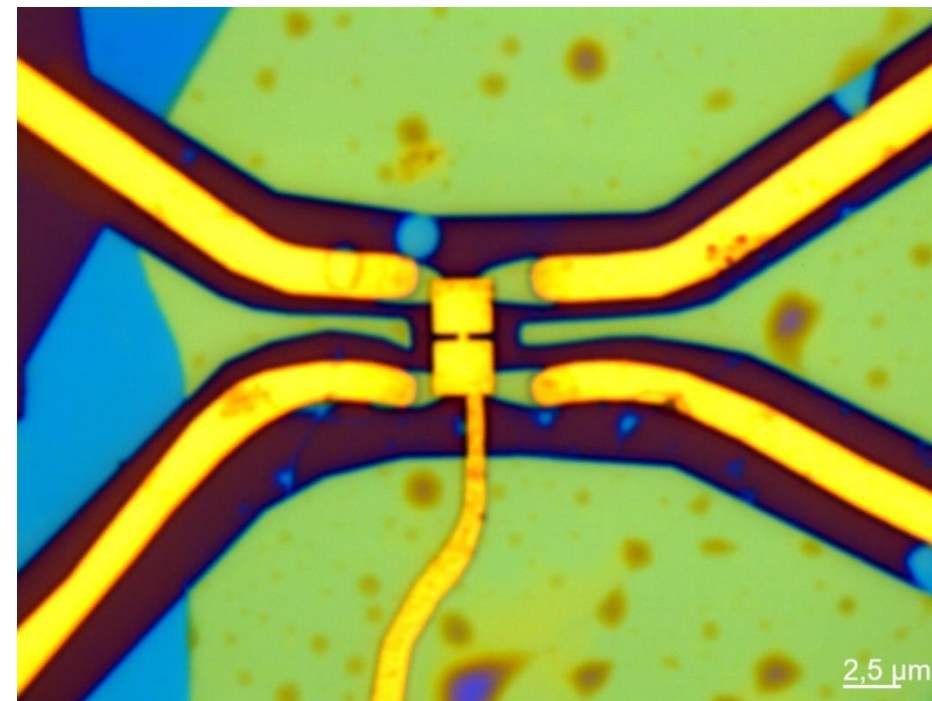
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tBLG: manual assembly from CVD graphene

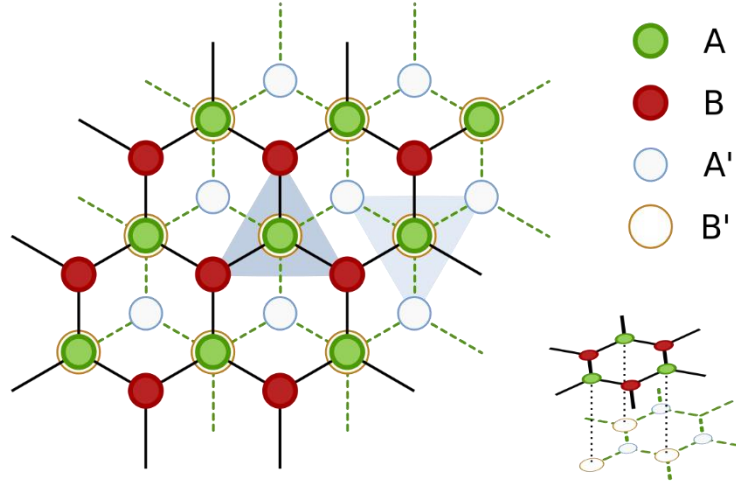


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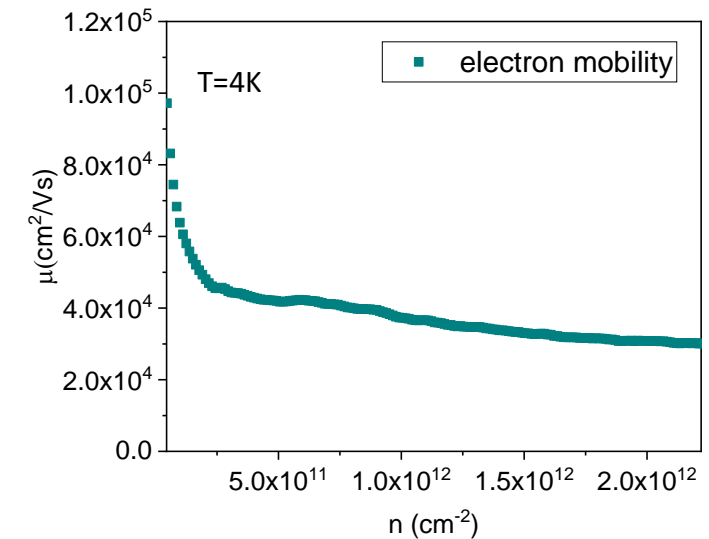
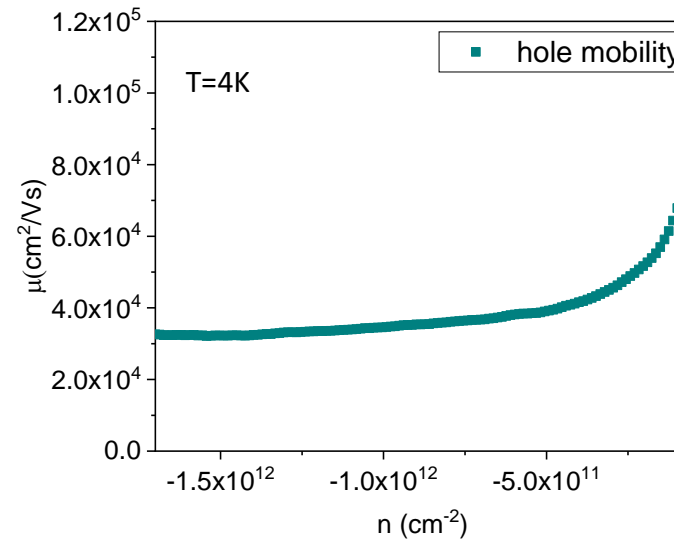
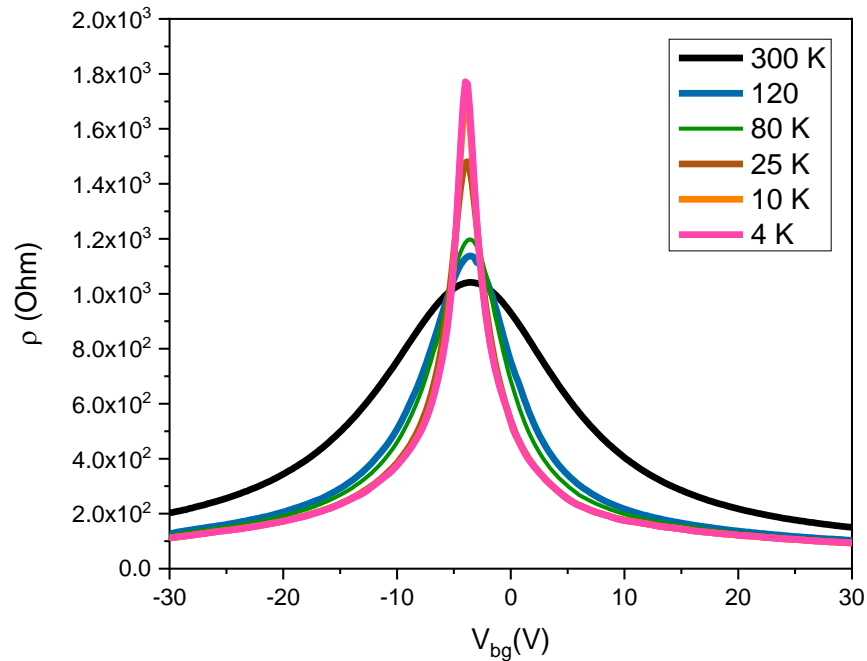
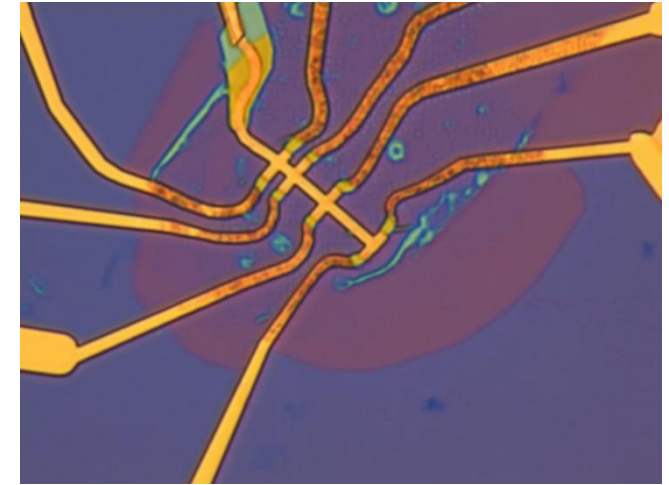


300 nm constriction in 30°-tBLG  
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**Training for magnetotransport measurements**



**Standard electrical characterization**  
on Bernal stacked BLG → resistivity  
curves as a function of the gate,  
mobility and charge density  
estimation



Training to be completed in the next few weeks!