# Dislocation network structures in 2D bilayer system

Shuyang DAI

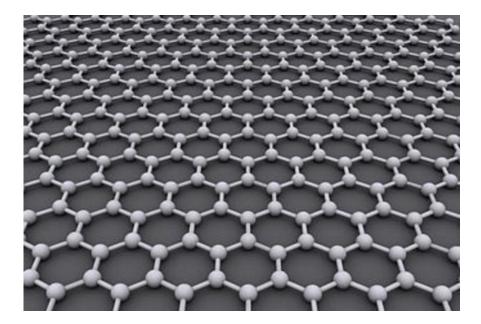
School of Mathematics and Statistics Wuhan University

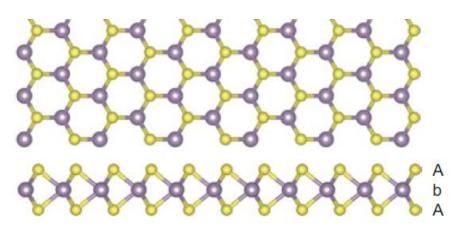
Joint work with: Prof. Yang XIANG, HKUST Prof. David SROLOVITZ, UPENN



## **Low-dimensional materials**

 2D Monolayer materials: graphene, hexagonal boron nitride (hBN), transition-metal dichalcogenides (e.g., MoS<sub>2</sub>), ...



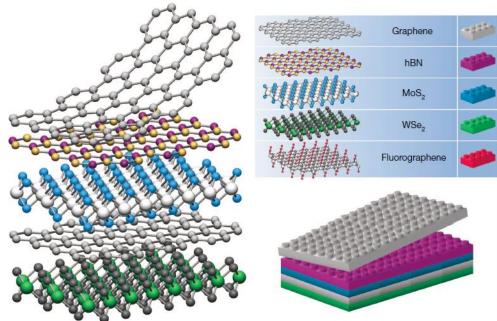




• Monolayer materials: graphene, hBN, MoS2, ...

van der Waals (vdW) interaction

Bilayers: identical layers w/ or w/o a twist or different layers → tunable electronic behavior



[A. K. Geim et. al. Nature, (2013)]



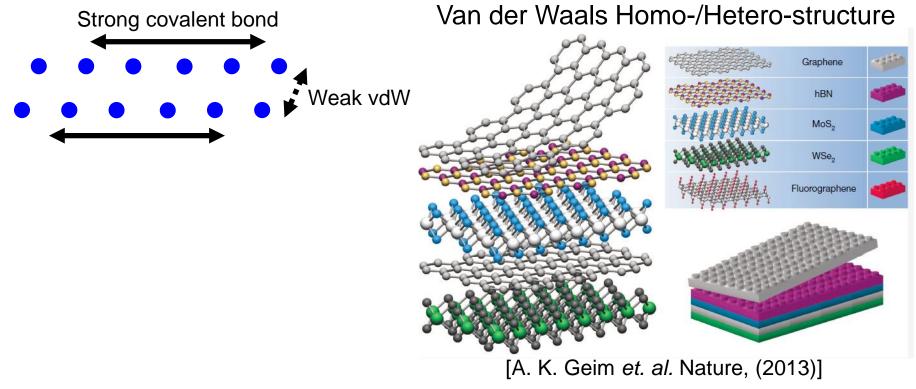
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#### Van der Waals Homo-/Hetero-structure

• Monolayer materials: graphene, hBN, MoS2, ...

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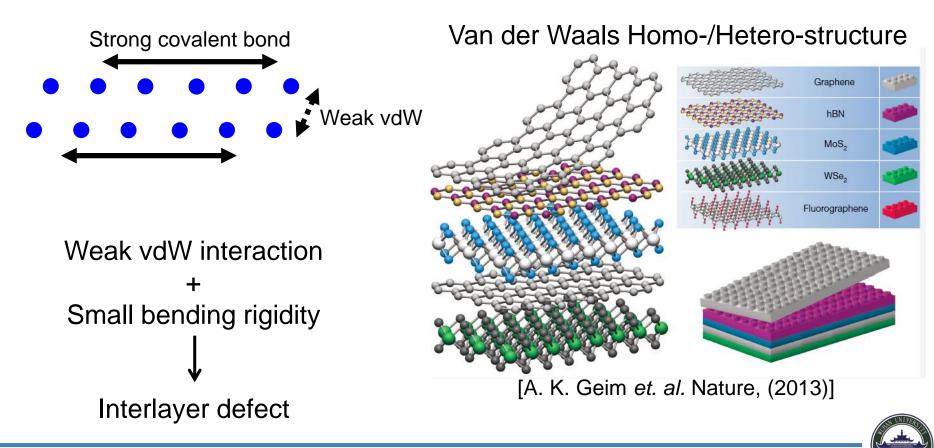




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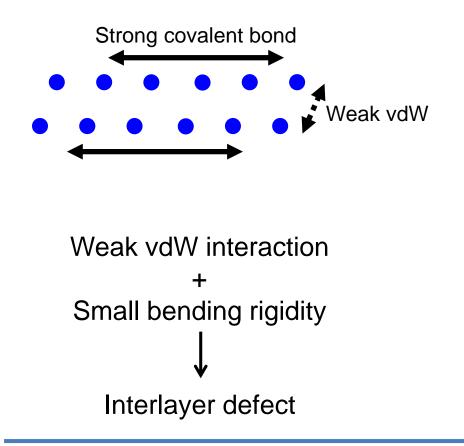
Bilayers: identical layers w/ or w/o a twist or different layers → tunable electronic behavior

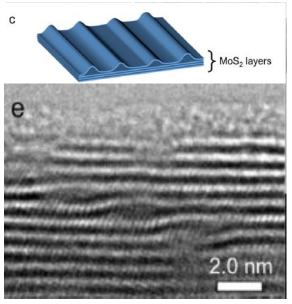


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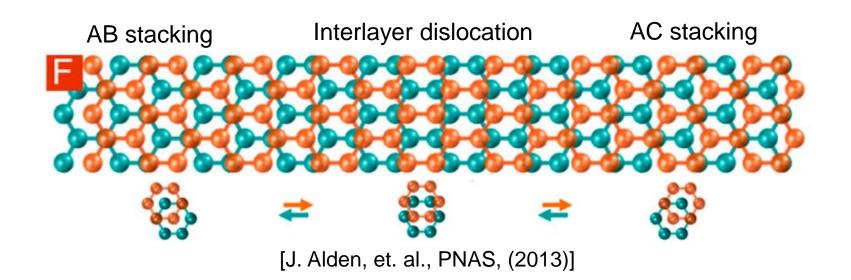




[A. Kushima et al., Nano Lett., (2015)]



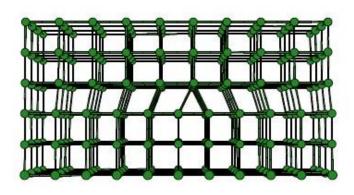
Interlayer defects: Shift top layer w.r.t. bottom layer



Interlayer dislocation: line defects that separate regions with different shifts

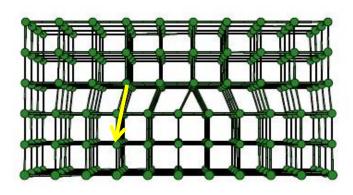


Interlayer defects: Shift top layer w.r.t. bottom layer



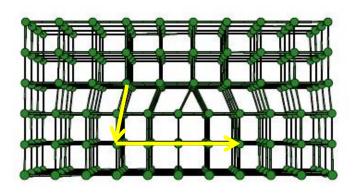


Interlayer defects: Shift top layer w.r.t. bottom layer



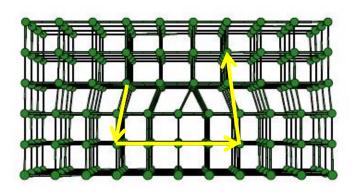


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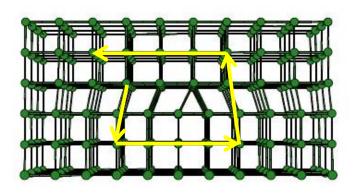


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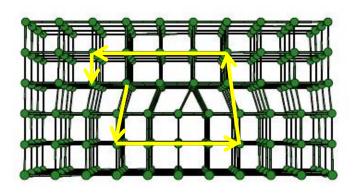


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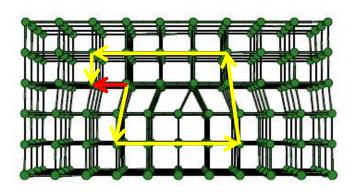


Interlayer defects: Shift top layer w.r.t. bottom layer





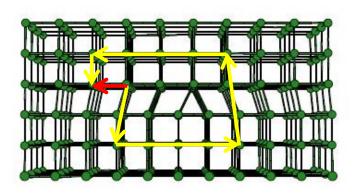
Interlayer defects: Shift top layer w.r.t. bottom layer



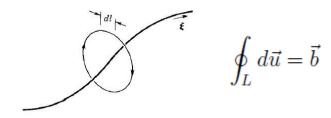


Interlayer defects: Shift top layer w.r.t. bottom layer

**Dislocation:** 



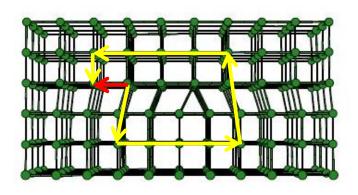
Burgers vector  $\vec{b}$ : characterize the dislocation



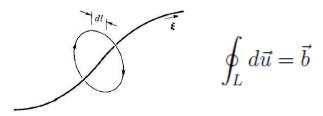


Interlayer defects: Shift top layer w.r.t. bottom layer

**Dislocation:** 



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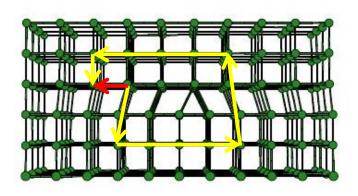


Dislocation energy  $\propto \vec{b}^2$ 

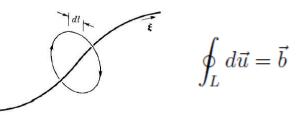


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**Dislocation:** 



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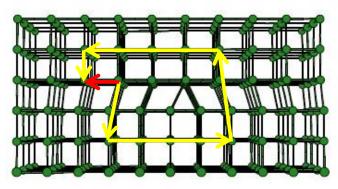
Dislocation energy  $\propto \vec{b}^2$ 

Angle between  $\vec{\xi}$  and  $\vec{b}$  determines the type of dislocation: edge (90°), screw (0°), or mixed (0°~90°)



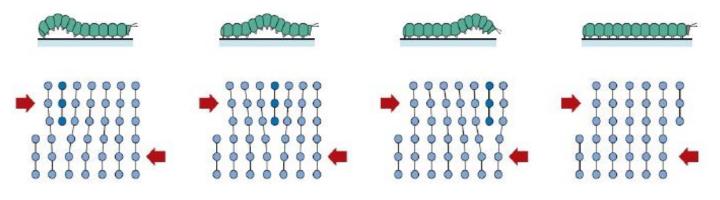
Interlayer defects: Shift top layer w.r.t. bottom layer

#### **Dislocation:**



Dislocations are main carriers of plastic deformation

Glide motion – Dislocation moves in response to a shear stress applied in a direction perpendicular to its line



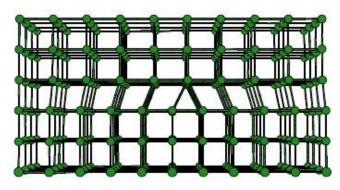
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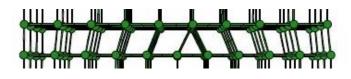
Interlayer defects: Shift top layer w.r.t. bottom layer

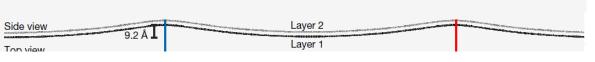
#### **Dislocation:**



#### Dislocations are main carriers of plastic deformation

#### Dislocation in 2D structure:



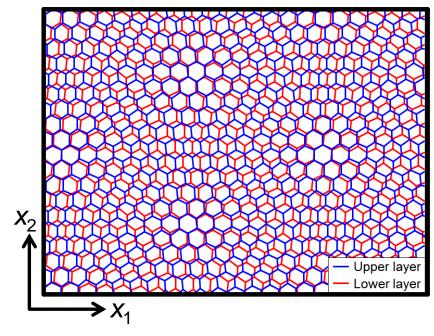


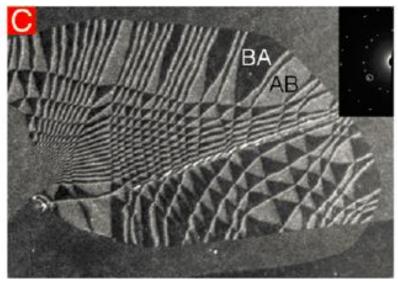
[B. Butz, et. al., Nature, (2014)]



#### Interlayer defects: rotate top layer w.r.t. bottom layer (twist)

Moiré pattern



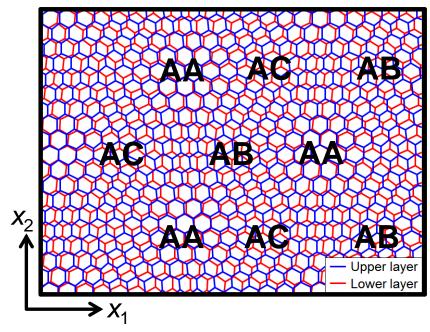


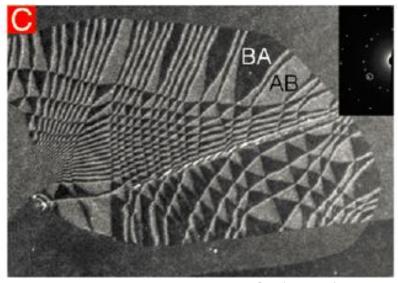
[J. Alden, et. al., PNAS, (2013)]



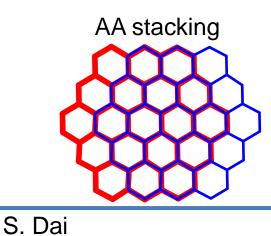
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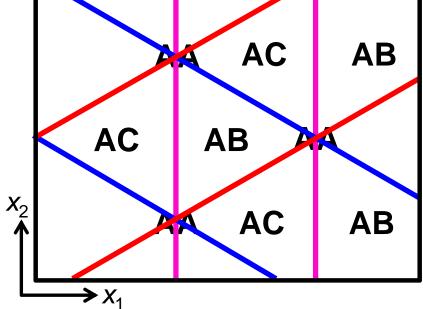
[J. Alden, et. al., PNAS, (2013)]

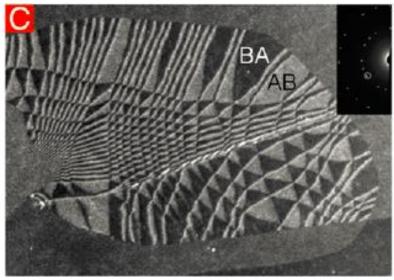




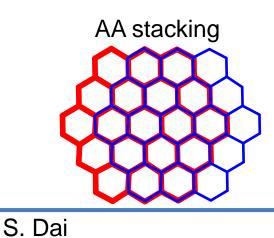
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[J. Alden, et. al., PNAS, (2013)]

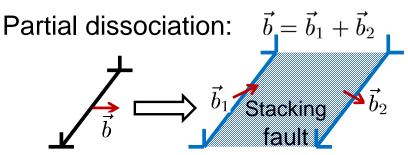


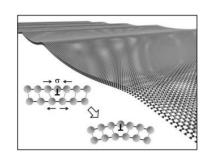
Twisted bilayer: Interlayer dislocation network

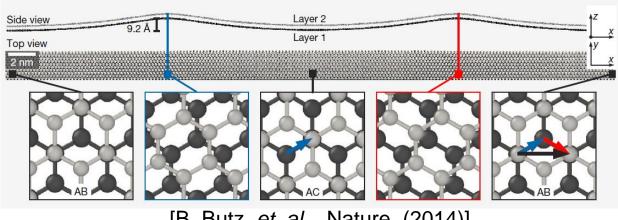


# Why multiscale

#### **Bilayer structure: local relaxation + bending**







[B. Butz, et. al., Nature, (2014)]

Intralayer: strong chemical bond – elastic sheet

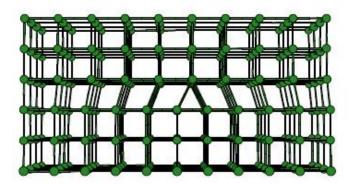
Interlayer: weak vdW interaction – atomistic information

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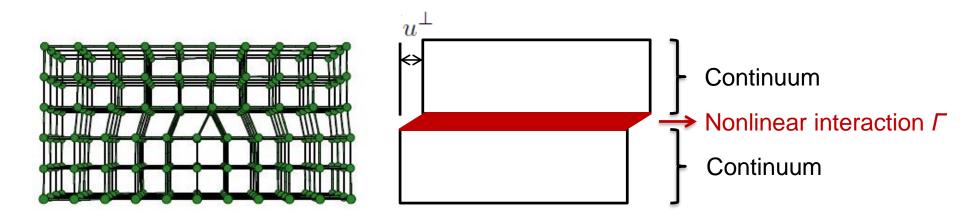
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- Multiscale

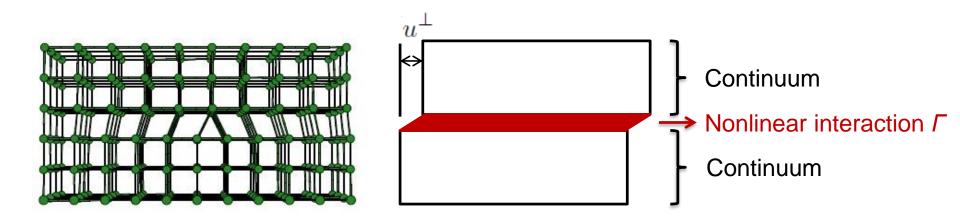








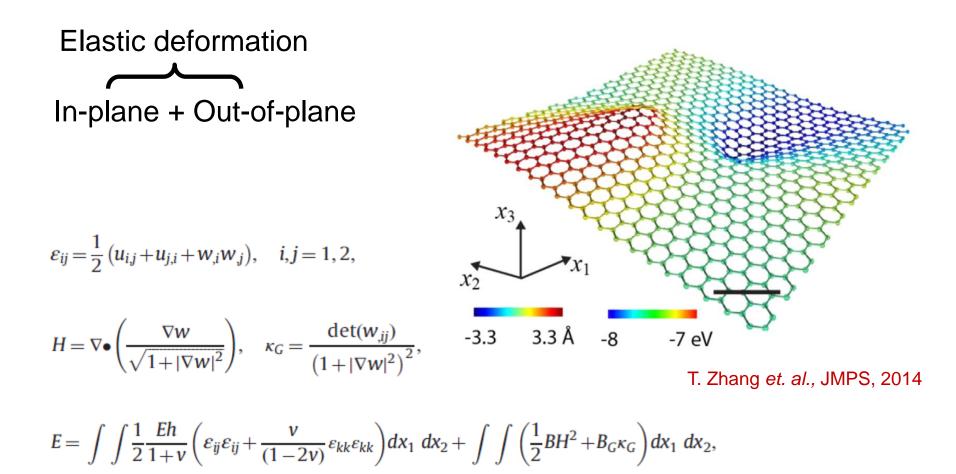




• Total energy: 
$$E = E_{\text{elastic}} + E_{\text{misfit}}$$
  
 $E_{\text{elastic}} = \frac{1}{2} \int \sigma_{13}(x) u^{\perp}(x) dx$   
 $E_{\text{misfit}} = \int \Gamma(u^{\perp}(x)) dx$ 

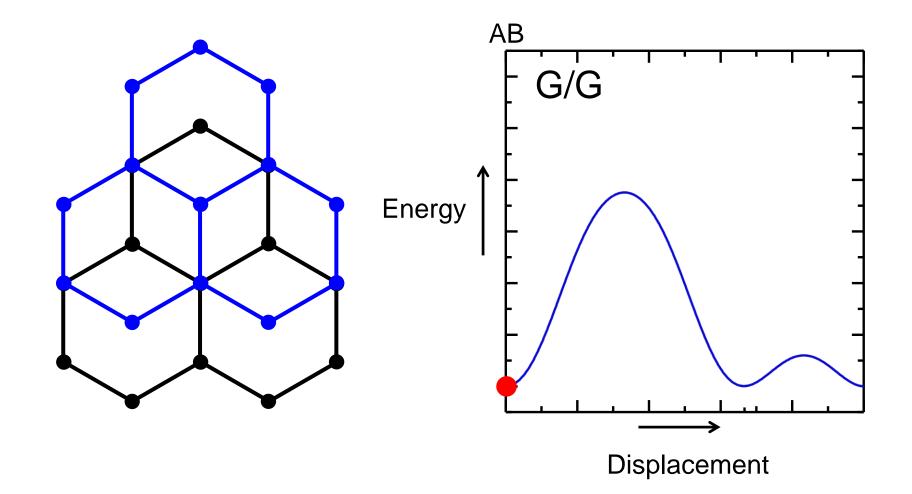
- E<sub>elastic</sub>: Continuum level
- E<sub>misfit</sub>: First-principle
- Equilibrium dislocation distribution:

## **Elastic contribution (Intralayer)**

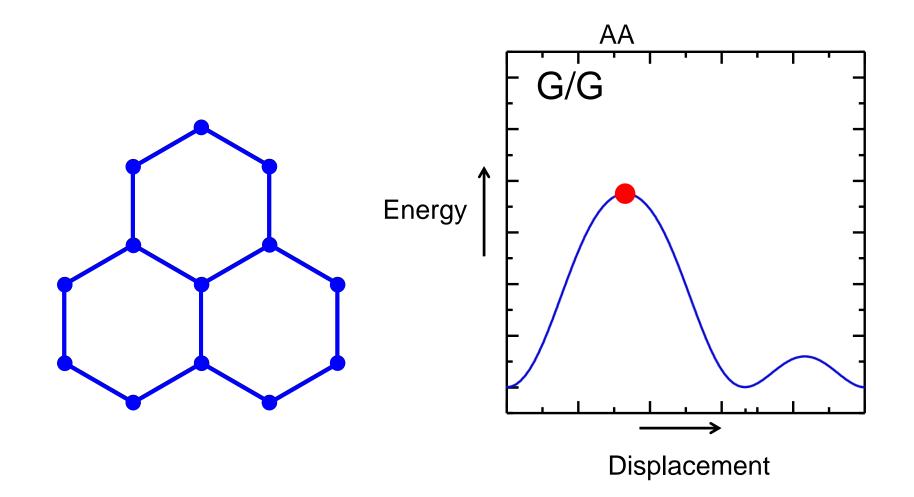




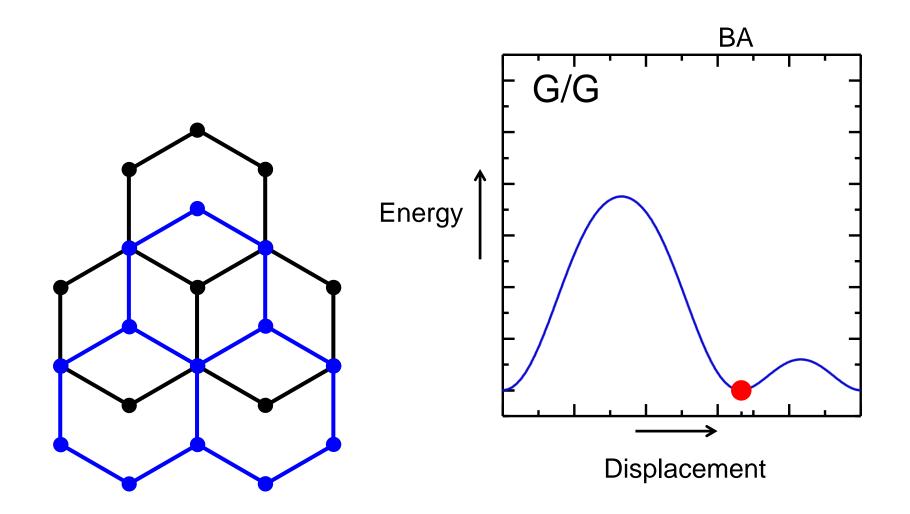
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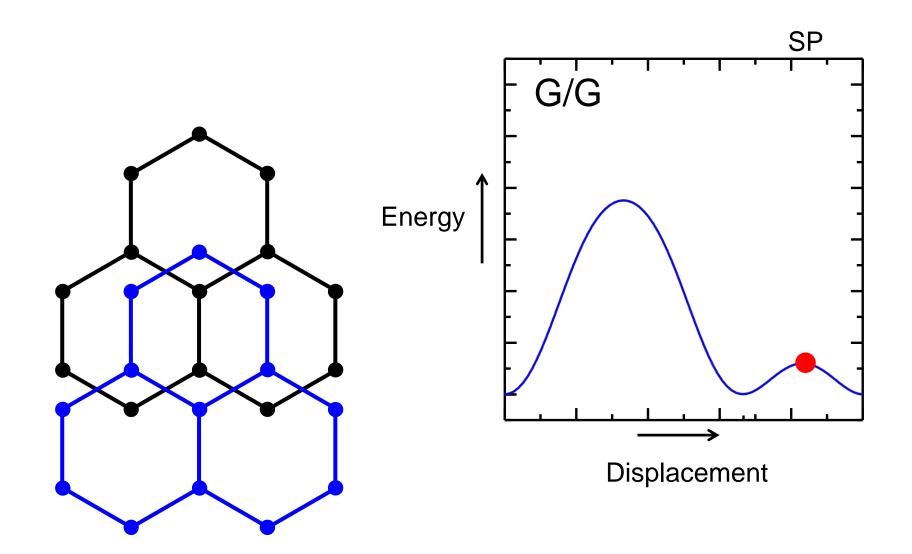




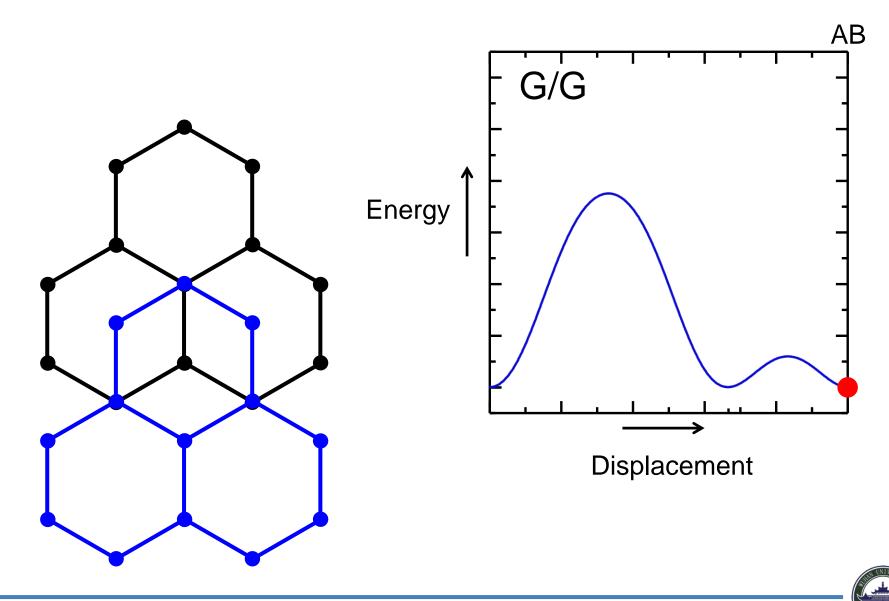






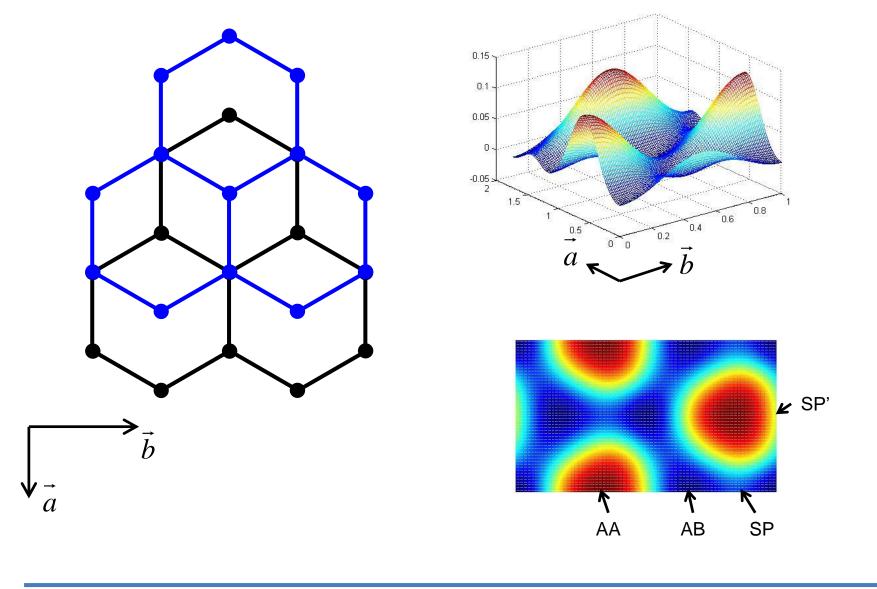






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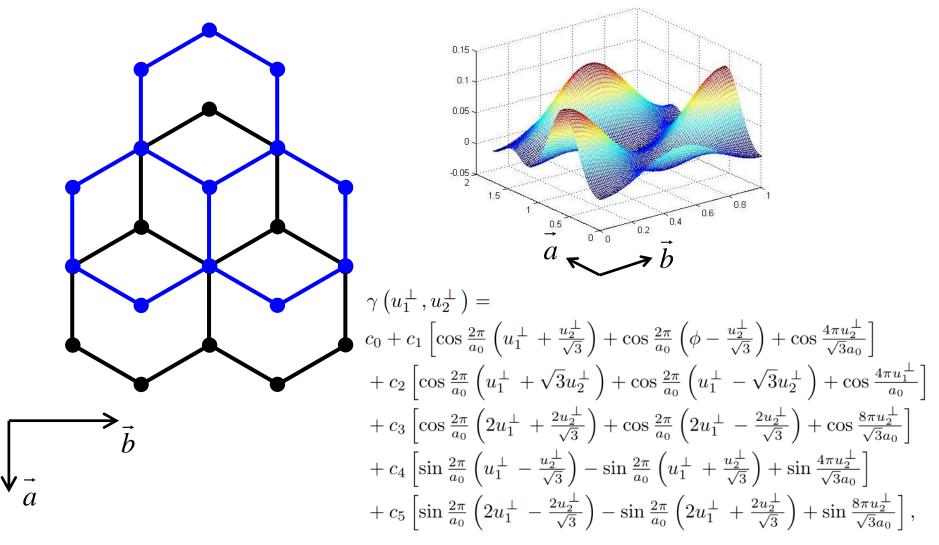


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#### 2D Generalized Stacking Fault Energy (GSFE)

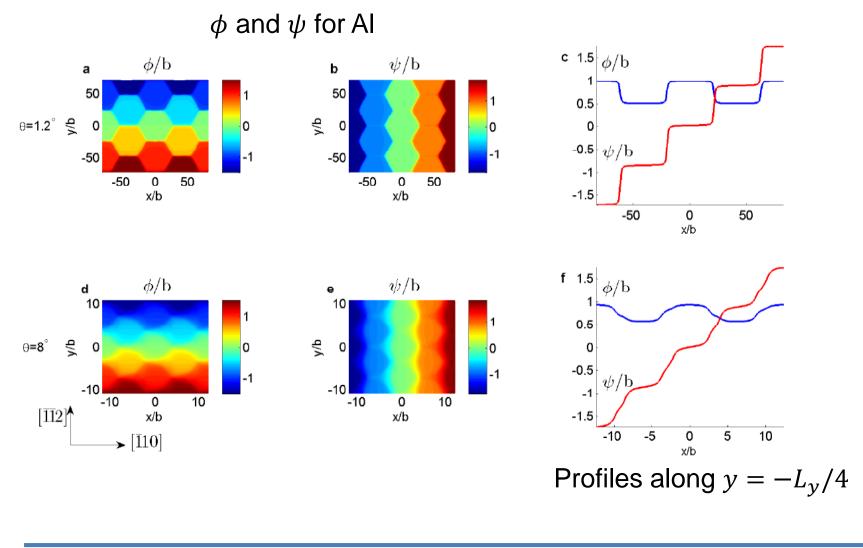




## **Applied to twist Grain Boundaries**

[Dai et. al., Acta Mat., 2013]

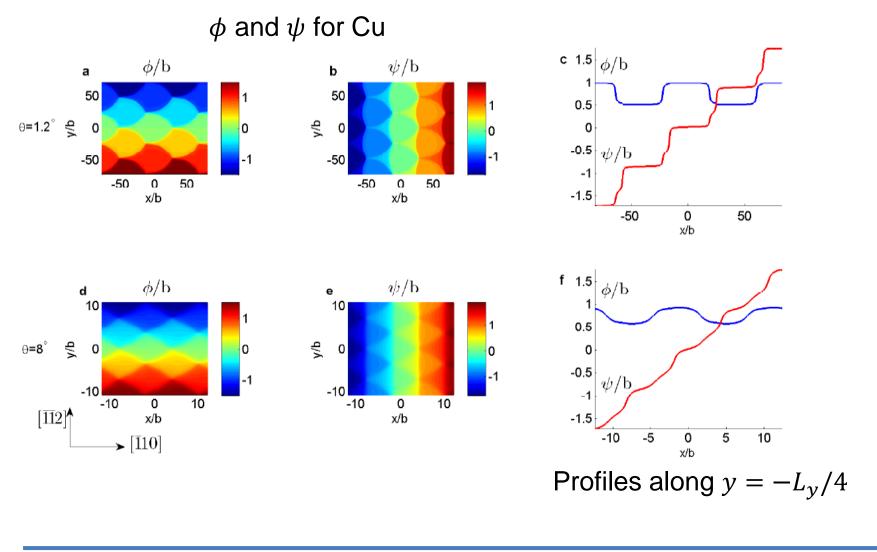
11



## **Applied to twist Grain Boundaries**

[Dai et. al., Acta Mat., 2013]

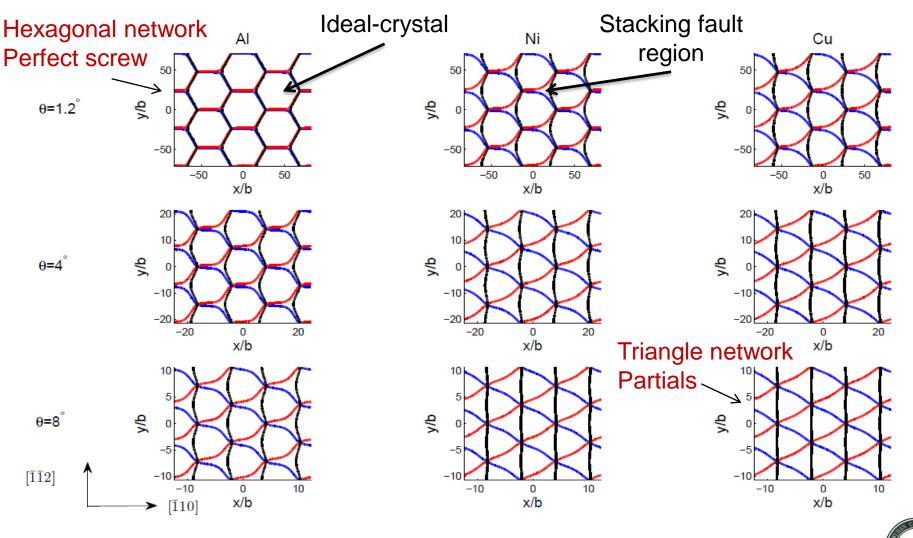
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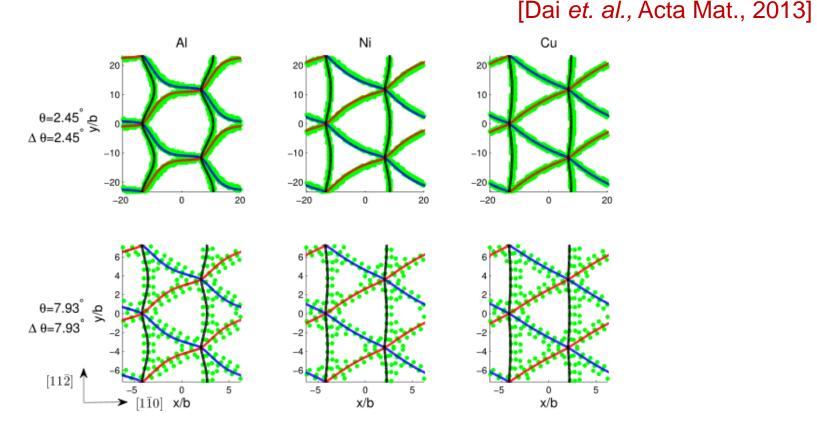
#### **Applied to twist Grain Boundaries**

[Dai et. al., Acta Mat., 2013]

11



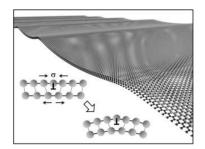
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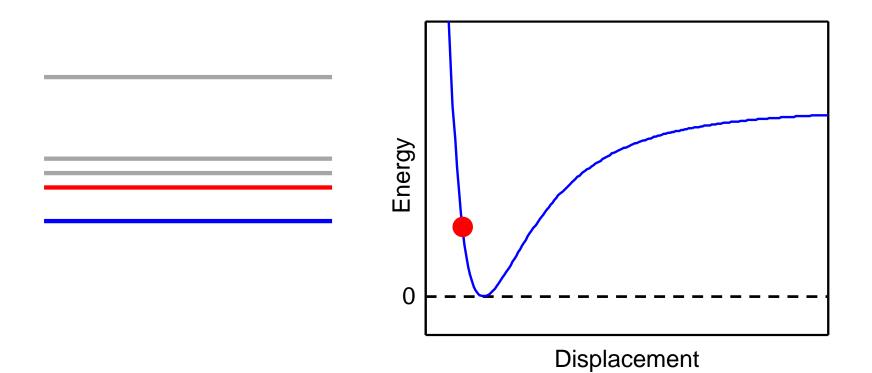
Green dots: atoms within dislocation cores obtained in molecular simulation.

Solid curves: dislocation network obtained in our model.

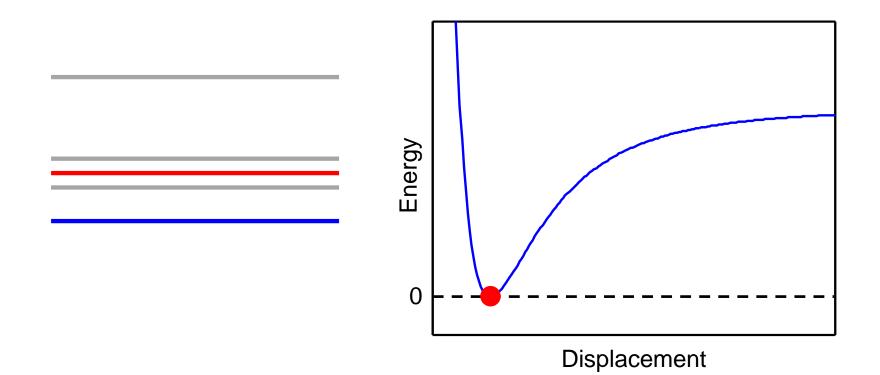






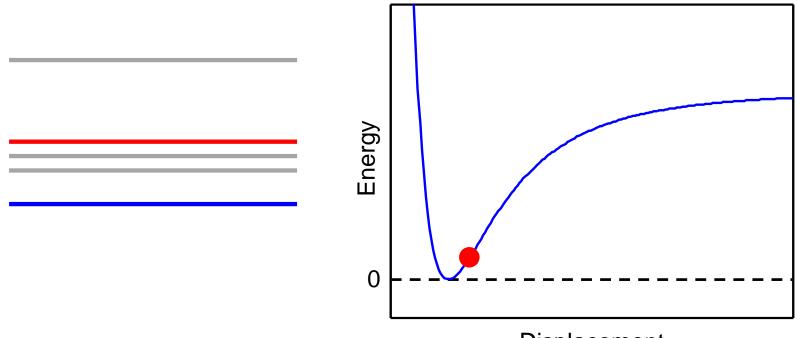






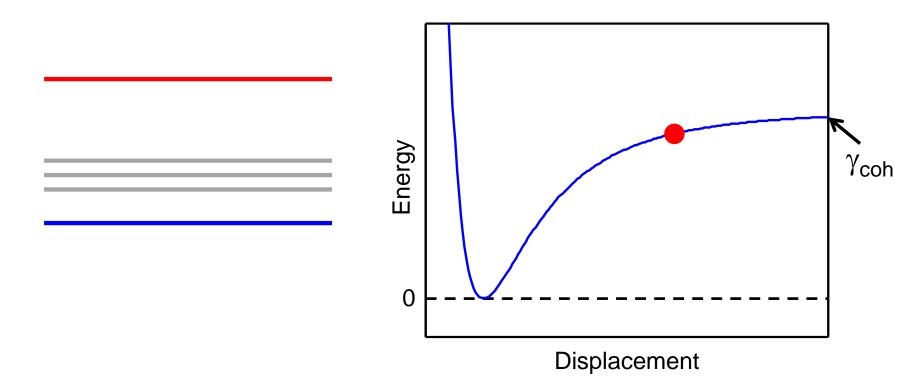


Interlayer separation effect



Displacement







#### 3D Generalized Stacking Fault Energy (3D GSFE)

 $\Gamma(u_1^{\perp}, u_2^{\perp}, \delta) = A \exp\left(-\alpha\delta\right) - B\left(\frac{d}{\delta}\right)^4 + \gamma_{\rm coh}, \quad \delta \text{ is the interlayer spacing}$ 

from Morse-potential

convergence to long-range vdW interaction

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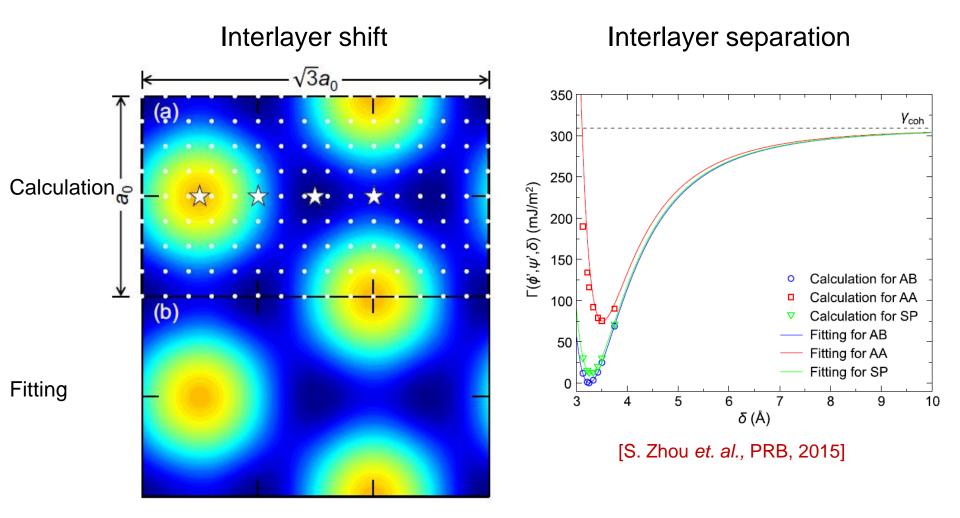
 $\Gamma$  should satisfies:

• 
$$\Gamma(u_1^{\perp}, u_2^{\perp}, \delta = d(u_1^{\perp}, u_2^{\perp})) = \gamma(u_1^{\perp}, u_2^{\perp}),$$
  
 $\frac{\partial \Gamma(u_1^{\perp}, u_2^{\perp}, \delta)}{\partial \delta}\Big|_{\delta = d(u_1^{\perp}, u_2^{\perp})} = 0,$ 
•  $\frac{\partial^2 \Gamma(u_1^{\perp}, u_2^{\perp}, \delta)}{\partial \delta^2}\Big|_{\delta = d(u_1^{\perp}, u_2^{\perp})} = \frac{C_{nn}(u_1^{\perp}, u_2^{\perp})}{d(u_1^{\perp}, u_2^{\perp})} \equiv \kappa(u_1^{\perp}, u_2^{\perp})$  additional condition related to elastic modulus
$$\alpha = \left\{ - [\kappa d^2 - 20(\gamma - \gamma_{\text{coh}})] + \sqrt{[\kappa d^2 - 20(\gamma - \gamma_{\text{coh}})]^2 + 64\kappa d^2(\gamma - \gamma_{\text{coh}})} \right\}$$
Expressions for  $\alpha$ ,  $A$ , and  $B$ 

$$A = [4(\gamma - \gamma_{\text{coh}}) \exp(\alpha d)]/(4 - \alpha d),$$

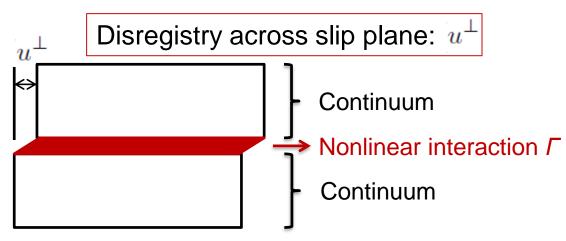
$$B = [\alpha d(\gamma - \gamma_{\text{coh}})]/(4 - \alpha d).$$

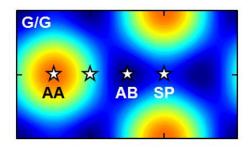
#### 3D Generalized Stacking Fault Energy (3D GSFE)

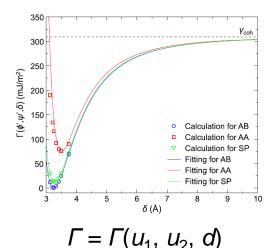




#### **Generalized Peierls-Nabarro model + 3D GSFE**







- *E*<sub>elastic</sub>: Continuum level
- E<sub>misfit</sub>: First-principle

• Total energy:  $E = E_{\text{elastic}} + E_{\text{misfit}}$ 

• Equilibrium dislocation distribution:  $\frac{\partial E}{\partial u^{\perp}} = 0$ 



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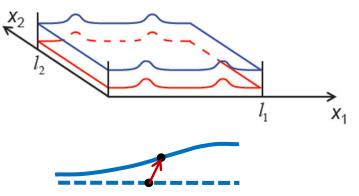
 $E_{\text{elastic}} = \frac{1}{2} \int \sigma_{13}(x) u^{\perp}(x) dx$ 

 $E_{\text{misfit}} = \int \Gamma\left(u^{\perp}(x)\right) dx$ 

### Variables

Displacements

- Upper (+):  $(u_{1+}(x_1,x_2), u_{2+}(x_1,x_2), f_+(x_1,x_2))$
- Lower (-):  $(u_{1-}(x_1,x_2), u_{2-}(x_1,x_2), f_{-}(x_1,x_2))$



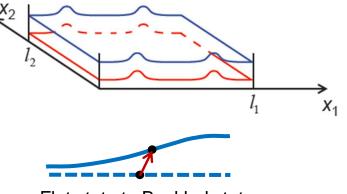
Flat state to Buckled state



### Variables

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Flat state to Buckled state

### **Total energy functional**

Like in the Peierls-Nabarro model for dislocations, we write the total energy as the sum of the elastic energy (due to the elastic deformation) and misfit energy (due to the interactions between layers)

$$\begin{split} E_{\text{total}} &= E_{\text{elas}} + E_{\text{misfit}} = E_{\text{elas}+} + E_{\text{elas}-} + E_{\text{misfit}} \\ \text{Elastic energy} & \left\{ \begin{array}{l} E_{\text{strain}\pm} = \frac{1}{2} \int C_{ijkl} \varepsilon_{ij} \varepsilon_{kl} dx_1 dx_2 \\ E_{\text{bend}\pm} = \frac{1}{2} \int \left(\kappa H^2 + \kappa_G K\right) dx_1 dx_2, \end{array} \right. \end{split}$$
  
Misfit energy  $E_{\text{misfit}} = \int \Gamma \left(u_1^{\perp}, u_2^{\perp}, f^{\perp}\right) dx_1 dx_2, \end{split}$ 

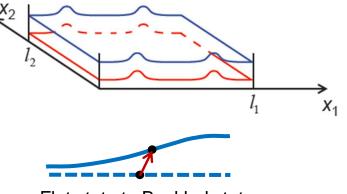


### Variables

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**Displacements** 

- Upper (+):  $(u_{1+}(x_1,x_2), u_{2+}(x_1,x_2), f_+(x_1,x_2))$
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Flat state to Buckled state

### **Total energy functional**

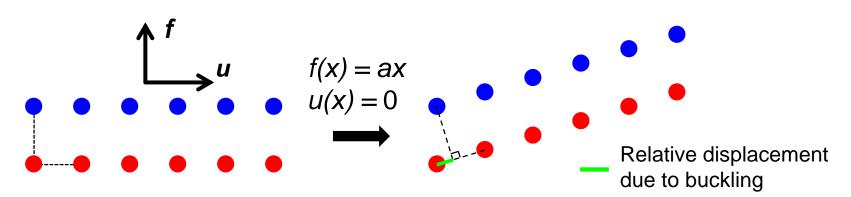
Like in the Peierls-Nabarro model for dislocations, we write the total energy as the sum of the elastic energy (due to the elastic deformation) and misfit energy (due to the interactions between layers)

$$E_{\text{total}} = E_{\text{elas}} + E_{\text{misfit}} = E_{\text{elas}+} + E_{\text{elas}-} + E_{\text{misfit}}$$
Elastic energy
$$\begin{cases}
E_{\text{strain}\pm} = \frac{1}{2} \int C_{ijkl} \varepsilon_{ij} \varepsilon_{kl} dx_1 dx_2 \\
E_{\text{bend}\pm} = \frac{1}{2} \int (\kappa H^2 + \kappa_G K) dx_1 dx_2, \\
\text{Misfit energy} \quad E_{\text{misfit}} = \int \Gamma (u_1^{\perp}, u_2^{\perp}, f^{\perp}) dx_1 dx_2, \\
\text{Relative displacements}
\end{cases}$$



### **Relative Displacement**

- 1. Buckling change the local coordinate system
- 2. The deformation of the neutral plane is approximated by the average of the displacements of the upper layer and the lower layer



Relative displacements between layers:

$$\begin{aligned} u_1^{\perp} &= (\varepsilon_{11+}^0 - \varepsilon_{11-}^0) x_1 + u_{1+} - u_{1-} + \frac{1}{2} (\frac{\partial f_+}{\partial x_1} + \frac{\partial f_-}{\partial x_1}) (d + f_+ - f_-) \\ u_2^{\perp} &= (\varepsilon_{22+}^0 - \varepsilon_{22-}^0) x_2 + u_{2+} - u_{2-} + \frac{1}{2} (\frac{\partial f_+}{\partial x_2} + \frac{\partial f_-}{\partial x_2}) (d + f_+ - f_-) \\ f^{\perp} &= f_+ - f_- \end{aligned}$$



### **Equilibrium structure:**

The equilibrium equations:

$$\begin{split} \frac{\delta E_{\text{total}}}{\delta u_{i\pm}} &= -\frac{1}{2} C_{ijkl\pm} \Big[ \frac{\partial^2 u_{k\pm}}{\partial x_l \partial x_j} + \frac{\partial^2 u_{l\pm}}{\partial x_k \partial x_j} + \frac{\partial}{\partial x_j} (\frac{\partial f_{\pm}}{\partial x_k} \frac{\partial f_{\pm}}{\partial x_l}) \Big] \pm \frac{\partial \Gamma}{\partial u_i^{\perp}} = 0, \\ \frac{\delta E_{\text{total}}}{\delta f_{\pm}} &= -C_{ijkl\pm} \frac{\partial}{\partial x_i} \Big[ \frac{\partial f_{\pm}}{\partial x_j} \Big( \varepsilon_{kl}^0 + \frac{1}{2} (\frac{\partial u_{k\pm}}{\partial x_l} + \frac{\partial u_{l\pm}}{\partial x_l}) + \frac{1}{2} \frac{\partial f_{\pm}}{\partial x_k} \frac{\partial f_{\pm}}{\partial x_l} \Big) \Big] + \kappa \Delta^2 f_{\pm} \\ &- \frac{1}{2} \frac{\partial^2 \Gamma}{\partial u_i^{\perp} \partial u_j^{\perp}} \frac{\partial u_j^{\perp}}{\partial x_i} (d + f_{+} - f_{-}) \pm \frac{\partial \Gamma}{\partial u_i^{\perp}} \frac{\partial f_{\mp}}{\partial x_i} \pm \frac{\partial \Gamma}{\partial f^{\perp}} = 0. \end{split}$$

Numerically, the minimum energy state can be found by iterating

$$\frac{\partial u_{i\pm}}{\partial t} = -\frac{\delta E_{\text{total}}}{\delta u_{i\pm}}$$
$$\frac{\partial f_{\pm}}{\partial t} = -\frac{\delta E_{\text{total}}}{\delta f_{\pm}}$$

until the energy does not change (to numerical precision)

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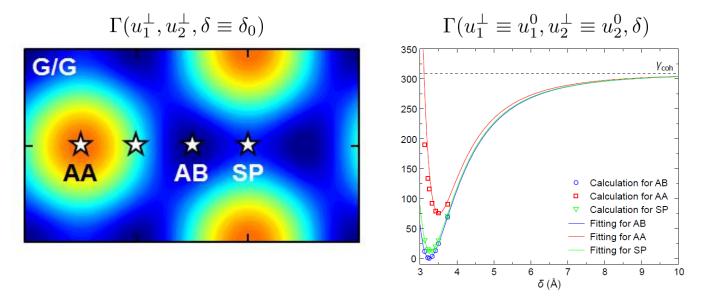
### Inputs: Applied to bilayer graphene (BLG)

1. Elastic constants and bending rigidity [S. Chen et. al., PRB, (2011)]

Elastic modulus:  $C_{11} = 312.45 \text{J/m}^2$ ;  $C_{12} = 91.65 \text{J/m}^2$ ;  $C_{44} = 110.4 \text{J/m}^2$ . Bending rigidity:  $\kappa = 22.08 \times 10^{-20} \text{J}$ 

2. 3D Generalized Stacking-Fault Energy (3D GSFE): calculated based on ACFDT-RPA [S. Zhou *et. al.*, PRB, (2015)]

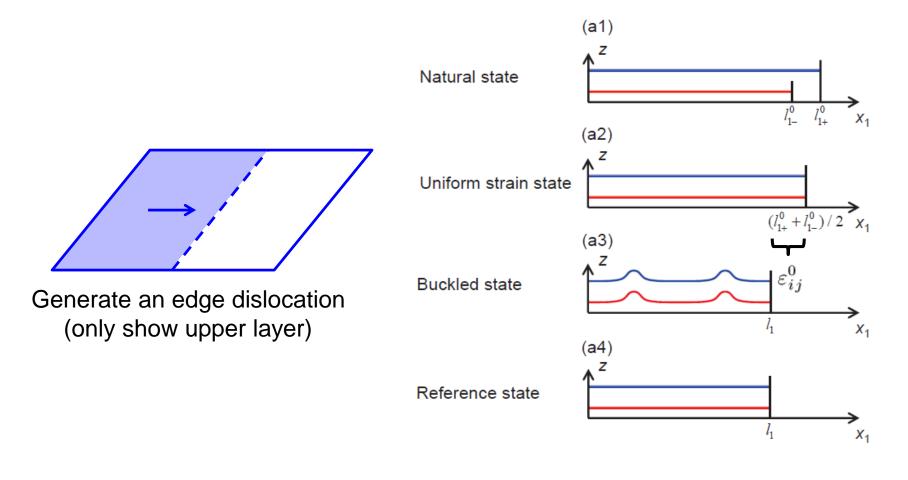
$$\Gamma(u_1^{\perp}, u_2^{\perp}, \delta) = A \exp\left(-\alpha\delta\right) - B\left(\frac{d}{\delta}\right)^4 + \gamma_{\rm coh},$$





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### Edge dislocation:

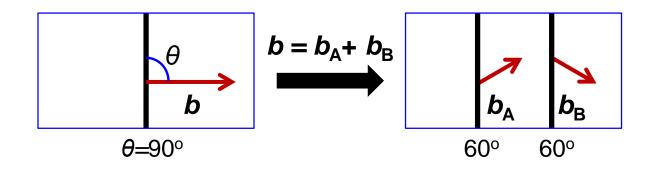


Define pre-existed strains:

$$\varepsilon_{ii\pm}^0 = (l_i - l_{i\pm}^0)/l_i \ (i = 1, 2)$$



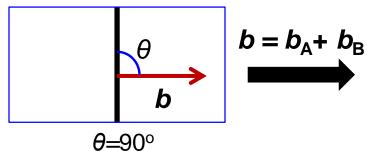
### Edge dislocation:

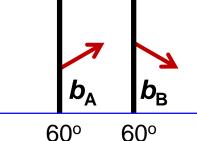




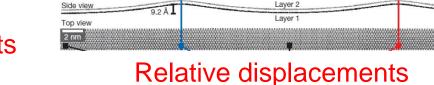
Edge dislocation: - breaks into 2 partial dislocation

- agrees with MD results (dashed curves)





Out-of-plane displacements (Bilayer shape)



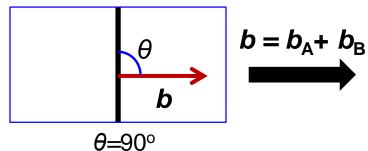
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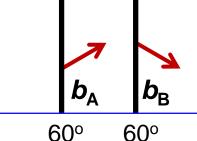
 $\int_{-1}^{0} \int_{-1}^{0} \int_{-1}^{0$ 



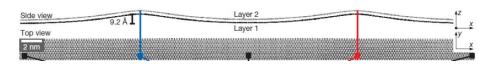
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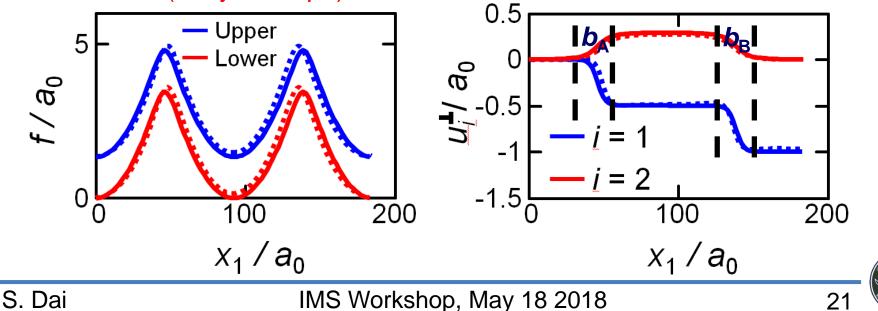




Out-of-plane displacements (Bilayer shape)

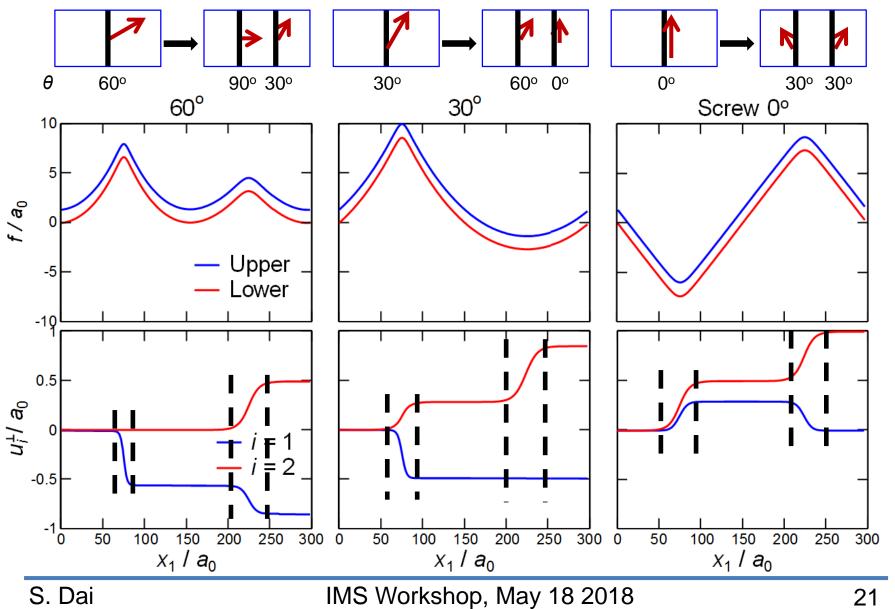


**Relative displacements** 



# Interlayer dislocation in BLG

General dislocations: Structural features



### **Core properties of partial dislocation:**

Туре	Edge 90°	Mixed 60°	Mixed 30°	Screw 0°
Width (nm)	1.5 ( <mark>7.2</mark> )	2.4 ( <mark>6.3</mark> )	3.7 ( <mark>5.3</mark> )	4.5 ( <mark>4.5</mark> )
Energy (×10 <sup>-10</sup> J)	0.318	0.508	0.905	1.081

**Red**: Core width in flat configuration ( $f_+ = f_- = 0$ )

- Buckled bilayer: Core width and energy ↑ as edge component ↓
- Flat bilayer: Core width ↓ as edge component ↓

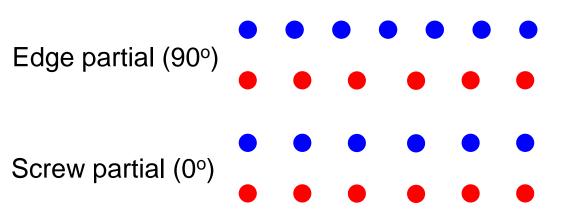


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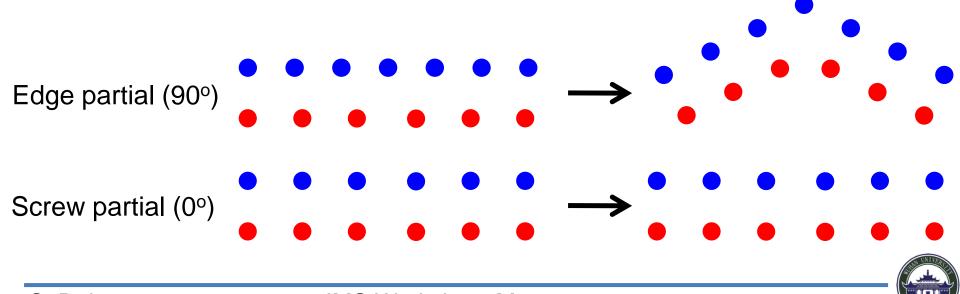


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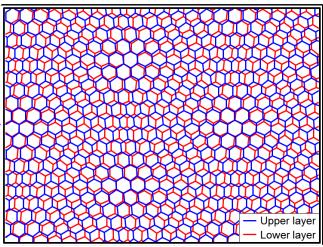
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Counterclockwise twist

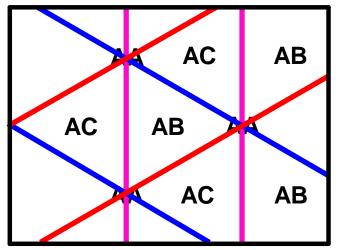


Substructures in twisted BLG:

- AB/AC stacking
- Partial dislocation
- AA stacking (intersection of dislocations)



Counterclockwise twist

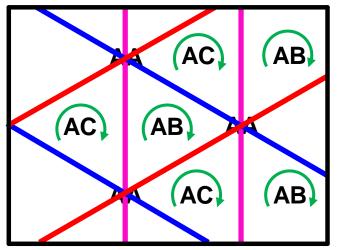


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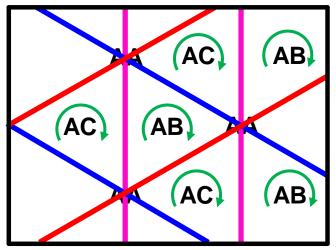


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Counterclockwise twist



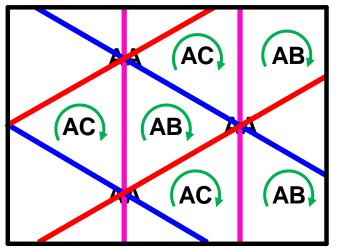
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Question: How AA stacking relax?



Counterclockwise twist



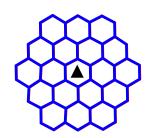
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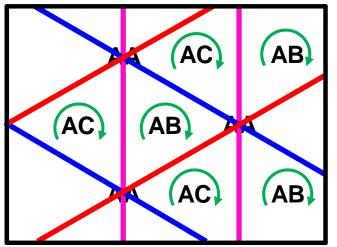
Consider a toy configuration:



Fixed to AA state



Counterclockwise twist

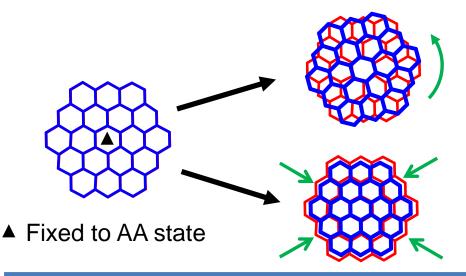


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- AB/AC stacking
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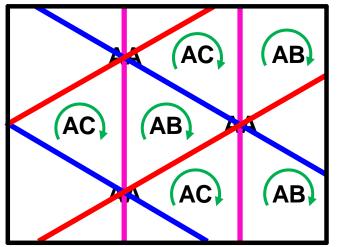
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Counterclockwise twist

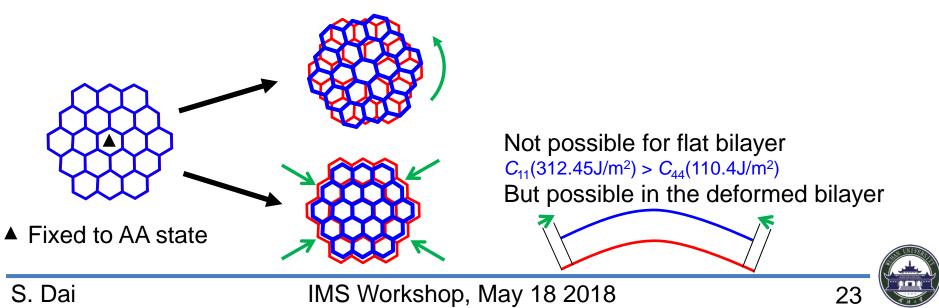


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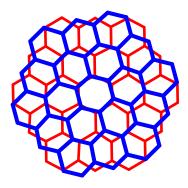
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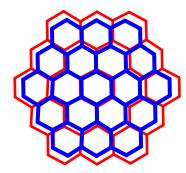


Initial guess: bilayer is flat  $\rightarrow$  Case A Initial guess: bilayer is buckled a little at AA stacking  $\rightarrow$  Case B

Case A

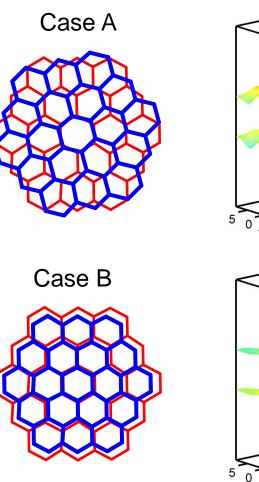


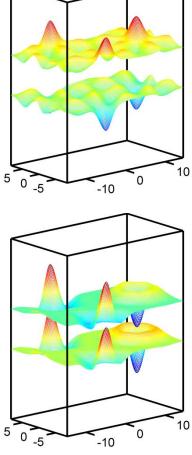
Case B





Initial guess: bilayer is flat  $\rightarrow$  Case A Initial guess: bilayer is buckled a little at AA stacking  $\rightarrow$  Case B





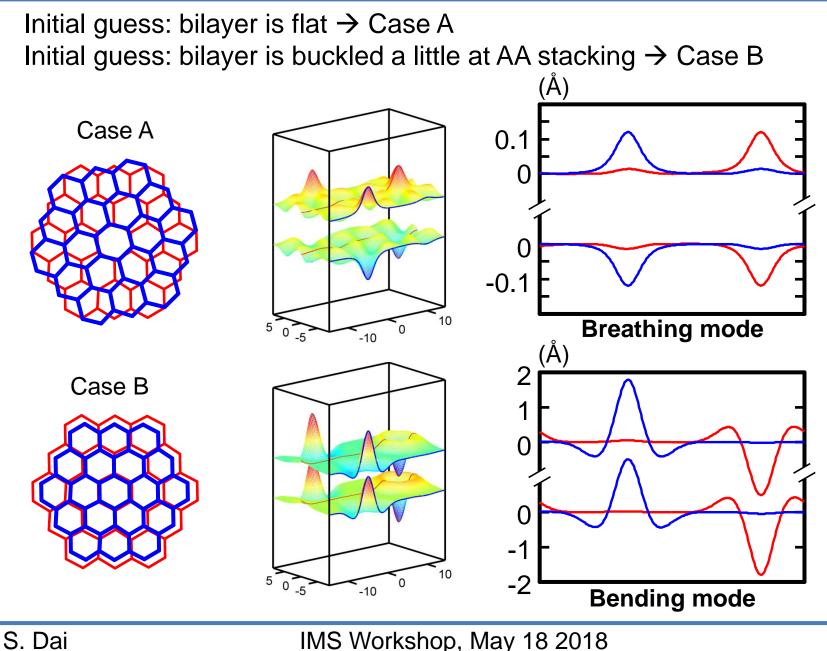


Initial guess: bilayer is flat  $\rightarrow$  Case A Initial guess: bilayer is buckled a little at AA stacking  $\rightarrow$  Case B (Å) Case A 0.1 С 0 -0.1 10 5 0\_5 0 -10 (Å) 2 Case B С 0 -1 10 5 -2 0\_5 0 -10



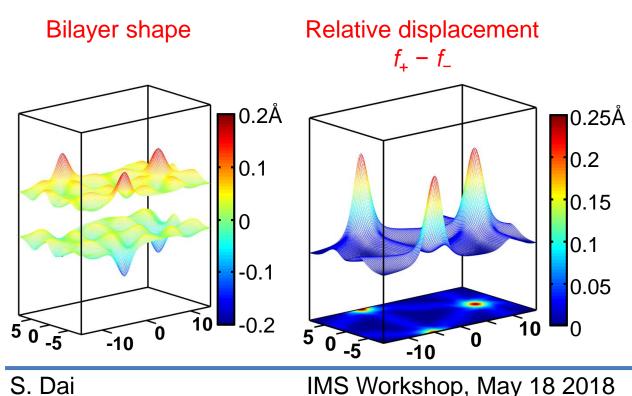
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### Breathing mode:

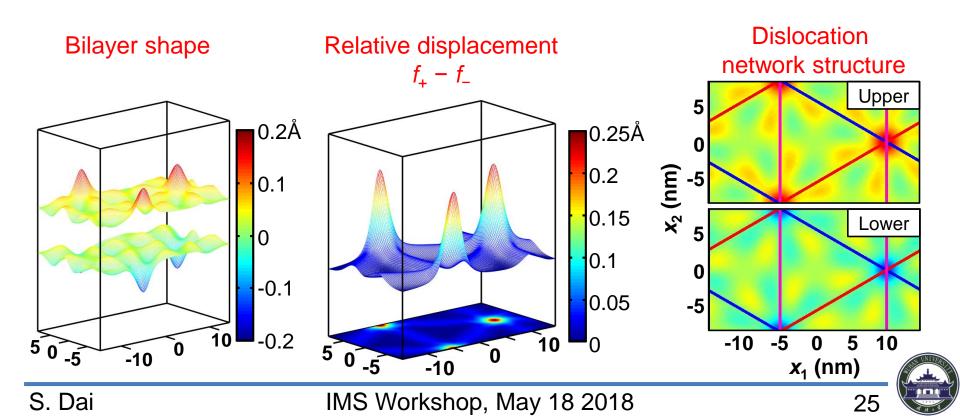
• At AA stacking, two layers buckles to different direction



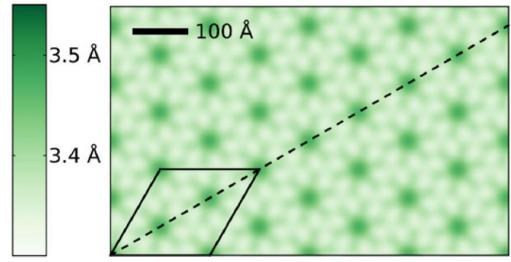


#### Breathing mode:

- At AA stacking, two layers buckles to different direction
- 3 sets of partial dislocations.
- Dislocations intersect at AA stacking with maximum buckling height.



Breathing mode: compare with MD (for free standing tBLG)

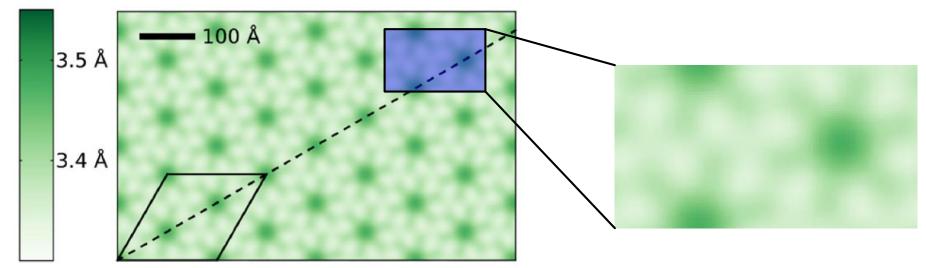


Upper layer out-of-plane displacement

- MD: [van Wijk et al. 2D Materials, 2015]
  - $\theta = 1.2^{\circ}$
  - Intralayer: REBO
  - Interlayer: registry dependent potential



Breathing mode: compare with MD (for free standing tBLG)

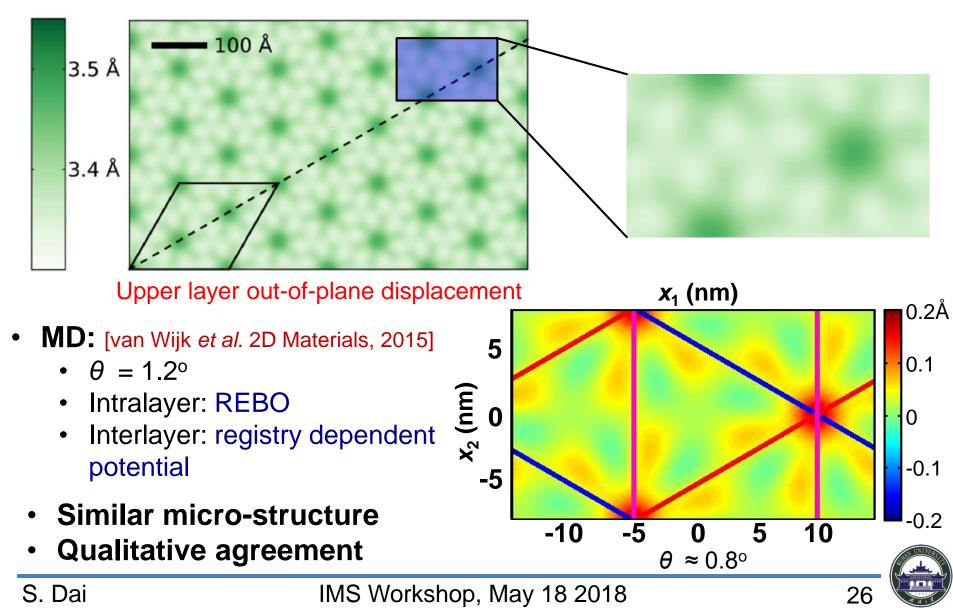


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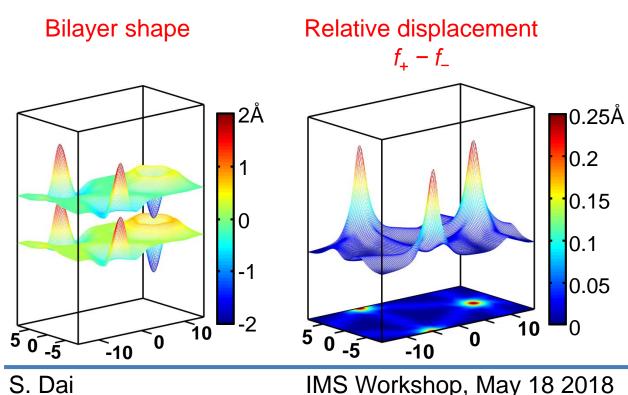


Breathing mode: compare with MD (for free standing tBLG)



#### Bending mode:

• Two layers buckles to same direction  $\rightarrow$  bulges

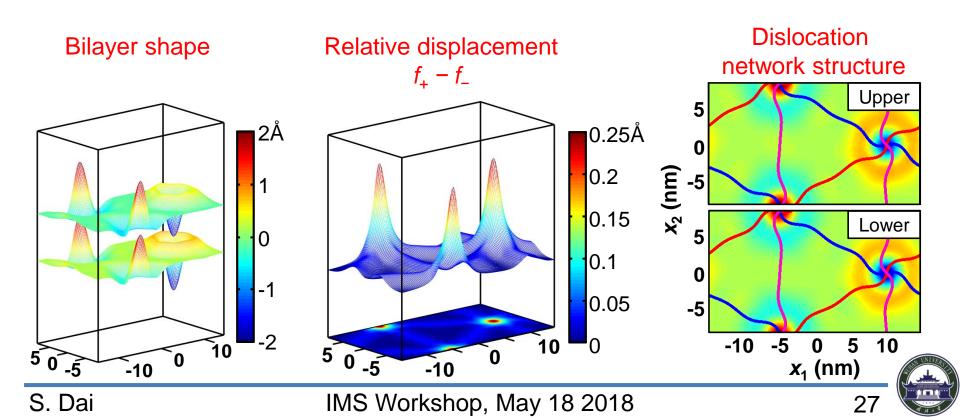






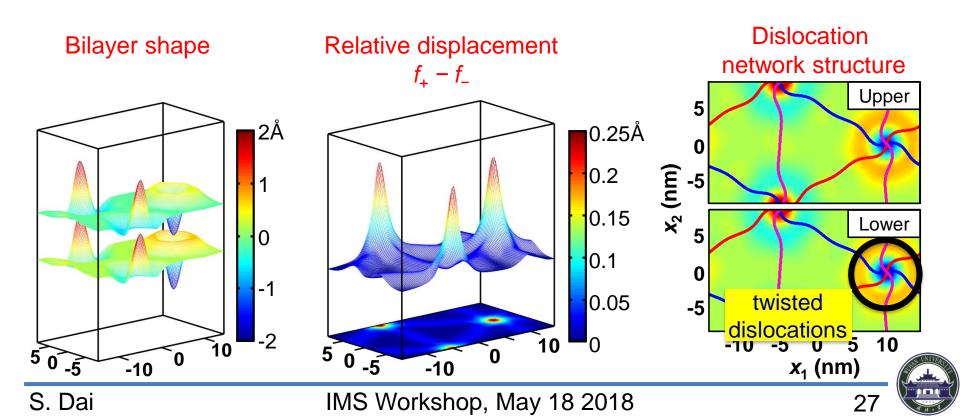
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- Two layers buckles to same direction  $\rightarrow$  bulges
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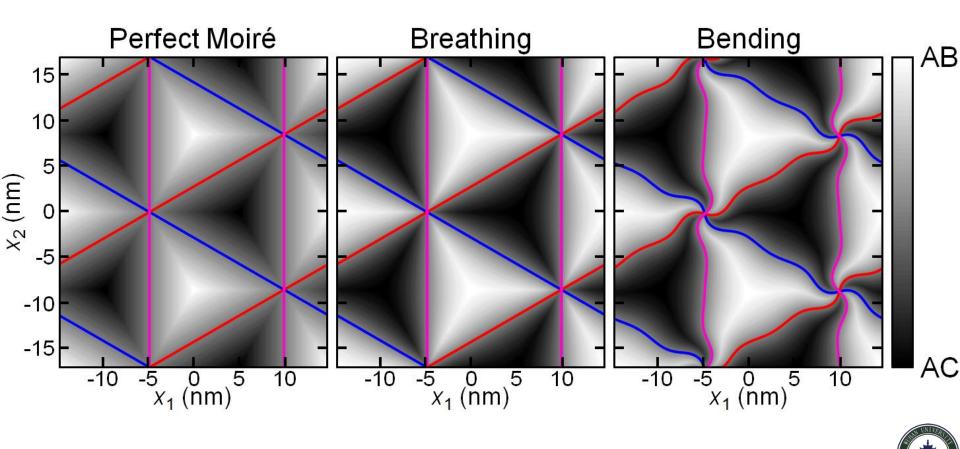


#### Bending mode:

- Two layers buckles to same direction  $\rightarrow$  bulges
- 3 sets of partial dislocations.
- Dislocations intersect at AA stacking with maximum buckling height.
- Dislocation twists: clockwise/counterclockwise for upper/lower bulge

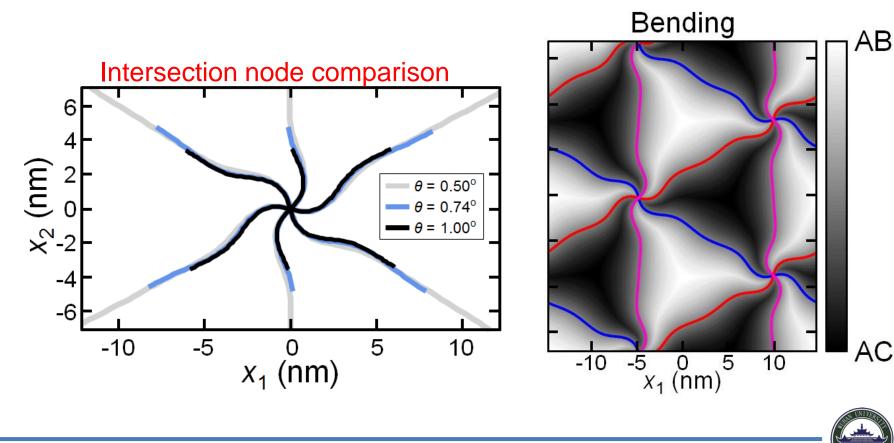


Perfect Moiré: small well-stacked domain, straight dislocations Breathing mode: large well-stacked domain, straight dislocations Bending mode: large well-stacked domain, spiral dislocations



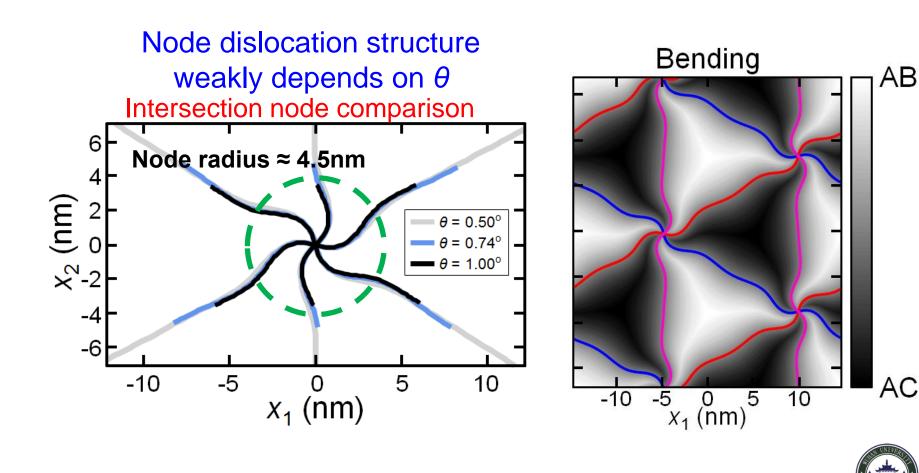
IMS Workshop, May 18 2018

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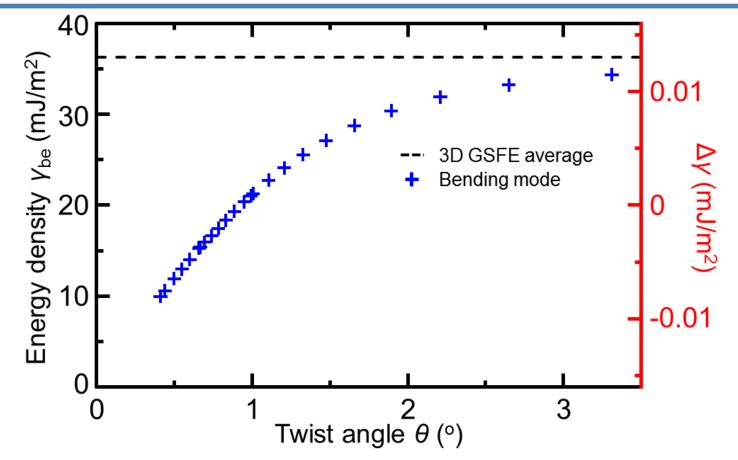
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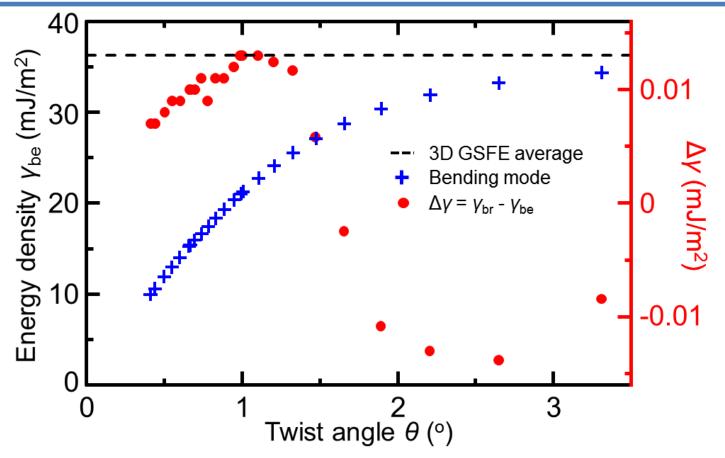
#### **Energy of twisted BLG**



• Energy approaches to a constant value (Perfect Moiré, no relaxation)



# **Energy of twisted BLG**



- Energy approaches to a constant value (Perfect Moiré, no relaxation)
- Bending mode is stable for small  $\theta$
- Breathing mode is stable when  $\theta$  gets larger.
- $\theta_c \approx 1.6^\circ \approx a_0/(2r)$ , *r* is radius of node  $\rightarrow$  Two nodes start to overlap

#### Conclusions

- Multiscale model to describe the deformation of bilayer system
- Applied to bilayer graphene: accurate description of interlayer defects:
  - Single Dislocation
    - 1. Edge component leads to buckling
    - 2. Buckling reduces the core size and the energy
  - Interlayer Twist

Breathing mode vs. Bending mode ( $\theta$  dependence)

#### General approach for defects in multilayer systems

