



## Multi junction concepts for photovoltaics and artificial photosynthesis:

Critical points of current and future high-performance solar energy conversion

**T. Hannappel**

Technische Universität Ilmenau,  
Dep. of Photovoltaics



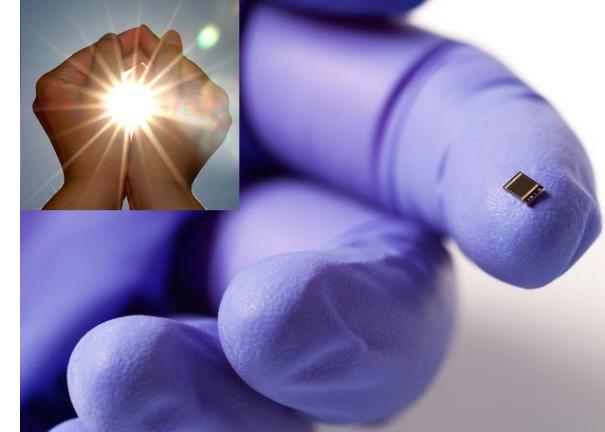
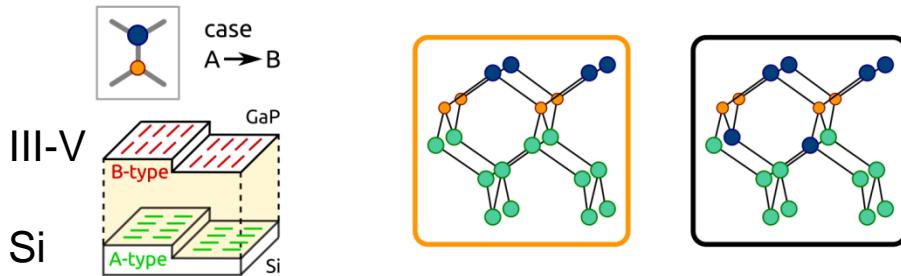
Fraunhofer  
ISE

 **ILMENAU** UNIVERSITY OF TECHNOLOGY 



Quelle: Chem. Soc. Rev. 38 (2009)





## 1. Record cell development

Fraunhofer  
ISE

Soitec

cea tech

Highest efficiencies for solar cells and solar H-production:

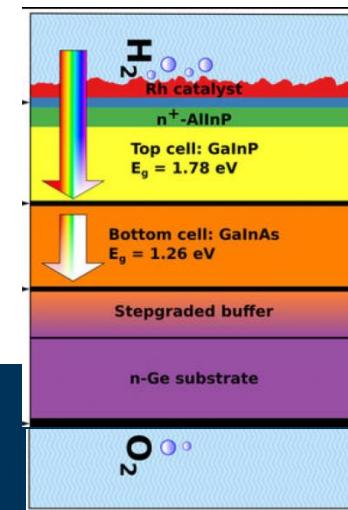
- 46 % in photovoltaics
- 14 % in direct solar-to-H-generation

HZB Helmholtz  
Zentrum Berlin

JCAP  
JOINT CENTER FOR  
ARTIFICIAL PHOTOSYNTHESIS

## 2. Interfaces, III-V and Si(100) – a highly attractive couple

- Atomic scale analysis and control of defect-free nucleation



# Critical points

## ➤ Physics:

3<sup>rd</sup> generation PV,  
only type demonstrated to exceed  
Shockley-Queisser limit

## ➤ Chemical physics:

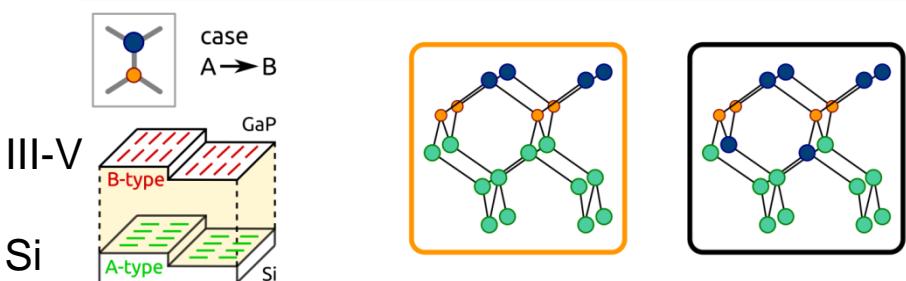
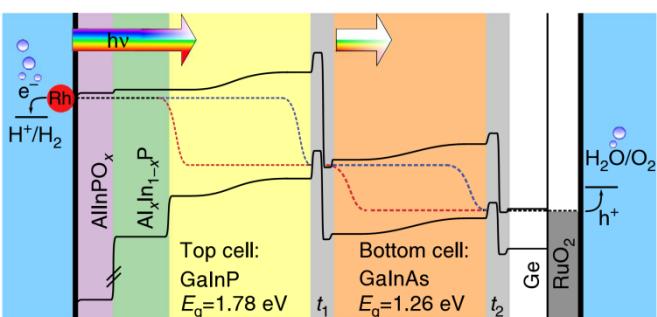
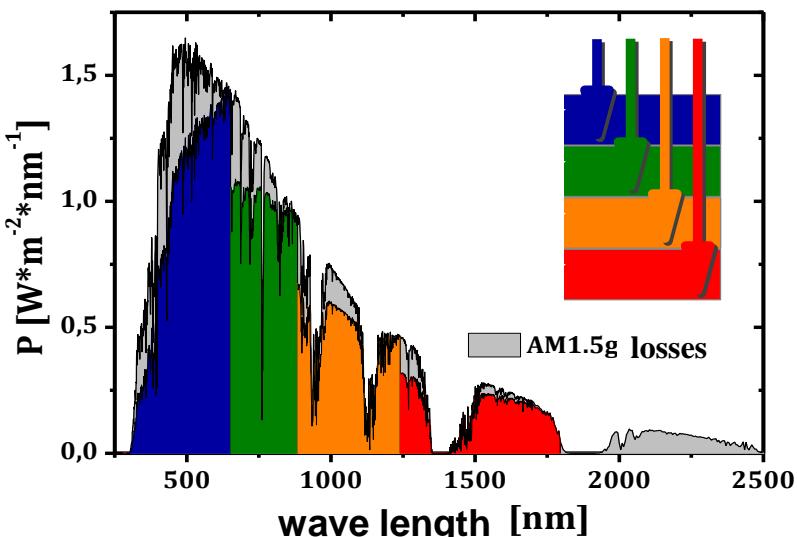
Maximizing chemical potentials,  
interfacial reactions

## ➤ Materials science:

Atomic scale control, III-V  
semiconductors

## ➤ Further aspects:

Optical management and more



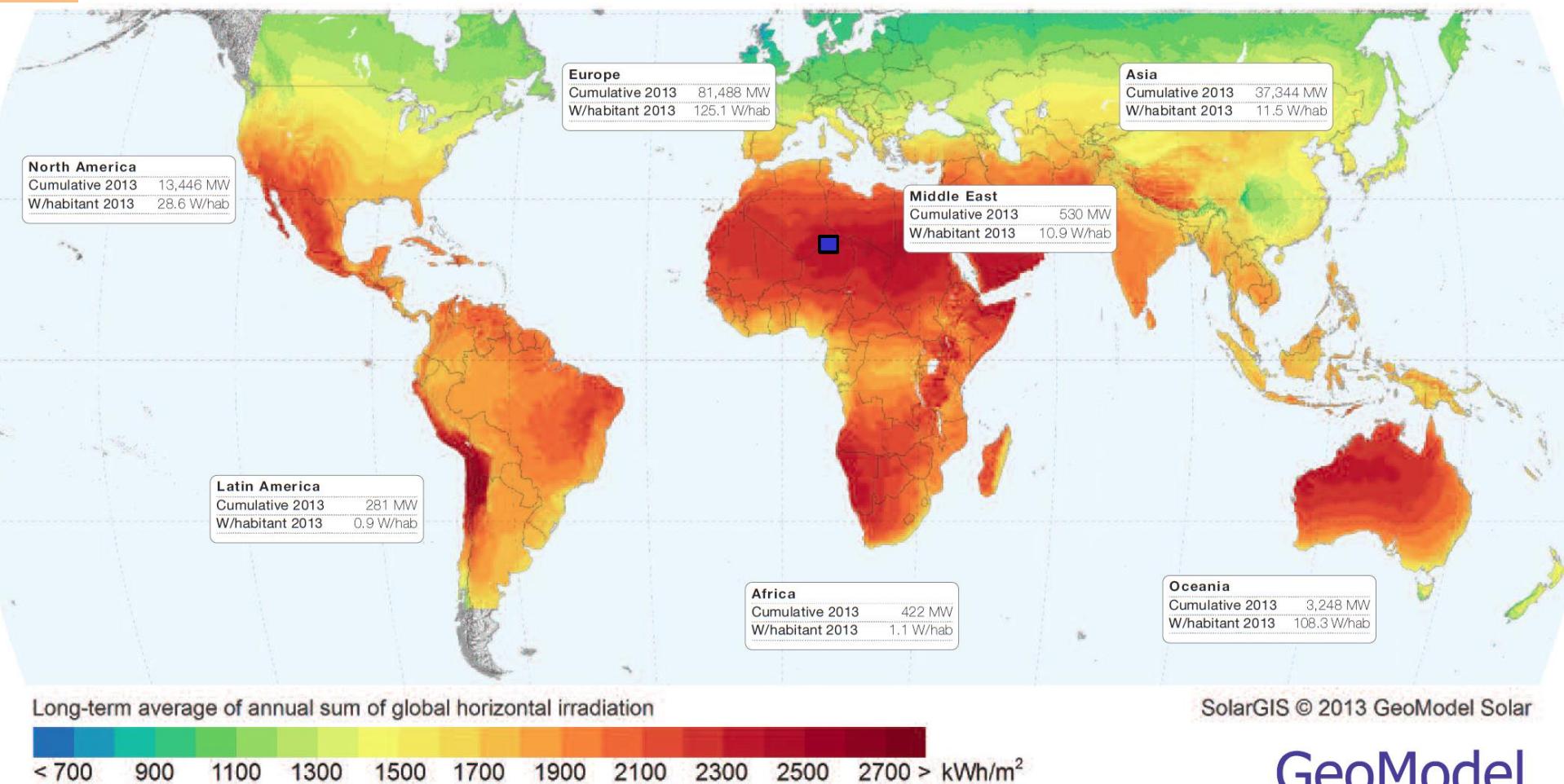
# Humanity's Top Ten Problems for next 50 Years

- 1. ENERGY**
- 2. WATER**
- 3. FOOD**
- 4. ENVIRONMENT**
- 5. POVERTY**
- 6. WAR**
- 7. DISEASE**
- 8. EDUCATION**
- 9. DEMOCRACY**
- 10. POPULATION**



Source: Prof. R.E. Smalley, "Our Energy Challenge", Columbia University, NYC, 23 September 2003

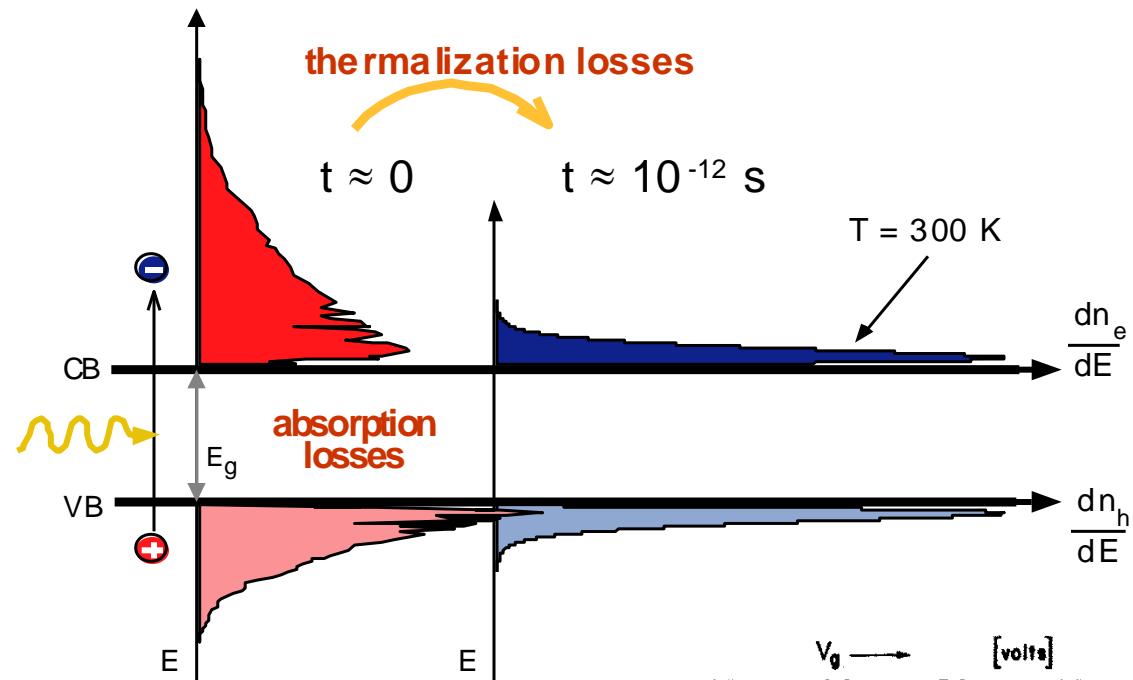
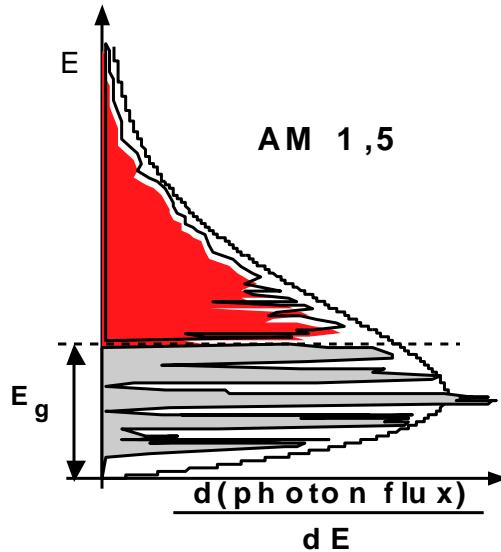
# Global PV regional installations per habitant



GeoModel  
S O L A R

Source: EPIA, European PV Industry Association

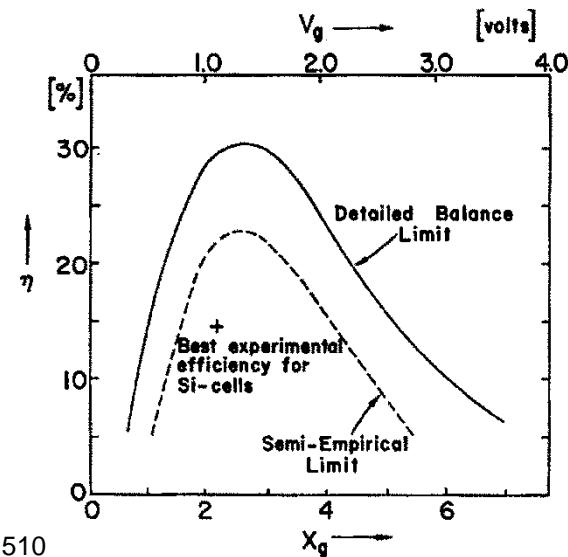
# Inherent losses in a single junction absorber



thermodynamic limits (radiative recombination only):

single junction  $\sim 30 \text{ (44)\%}$

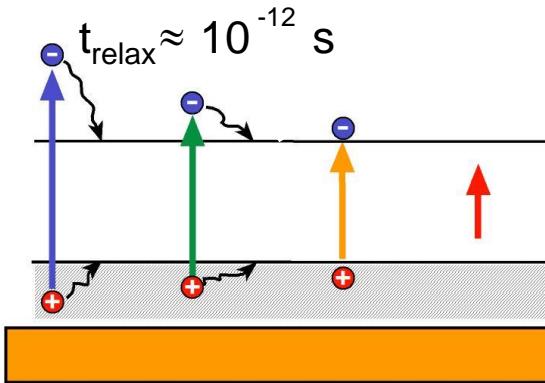
optimum system  $\sim 66 \text{ (86)\%}$



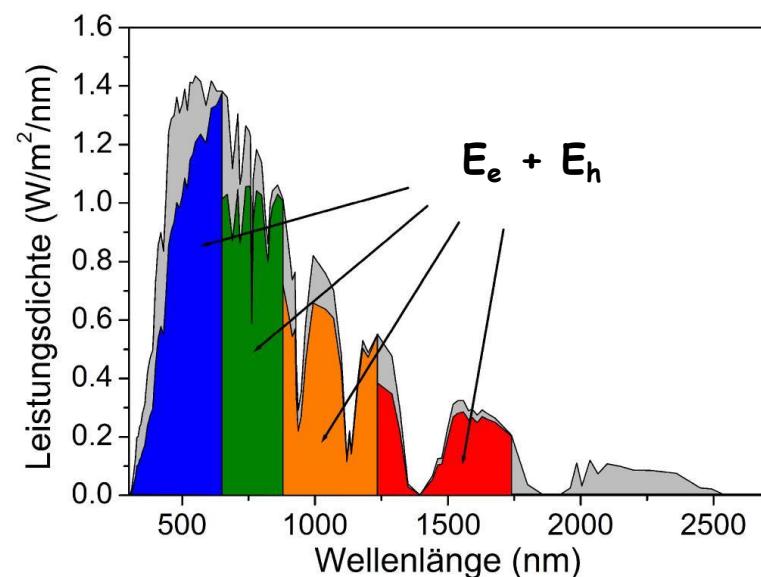
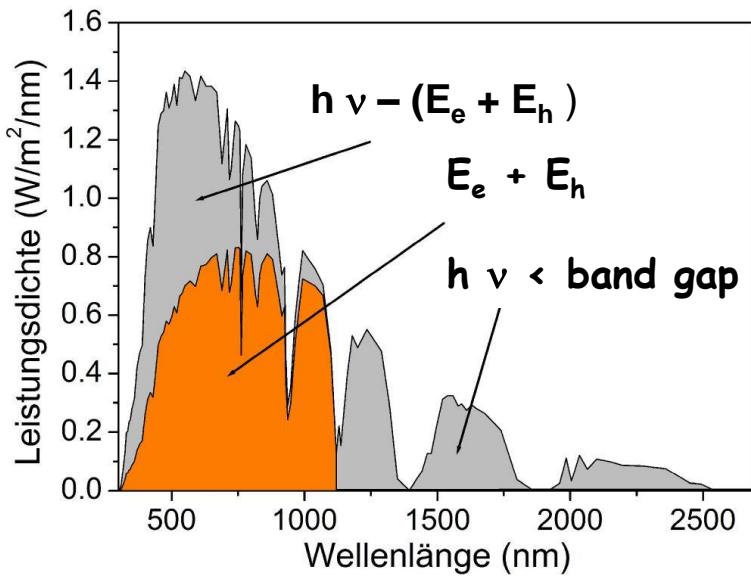
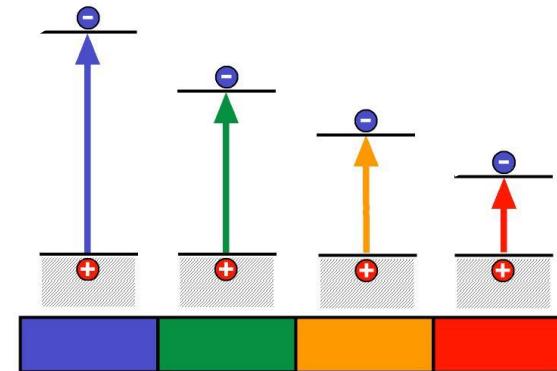
Shockley, Queisser, J. Appl. Phys. 32 (1961) 510

# Reducing losses: 3<sup>rd</sup> generation photovoltaics

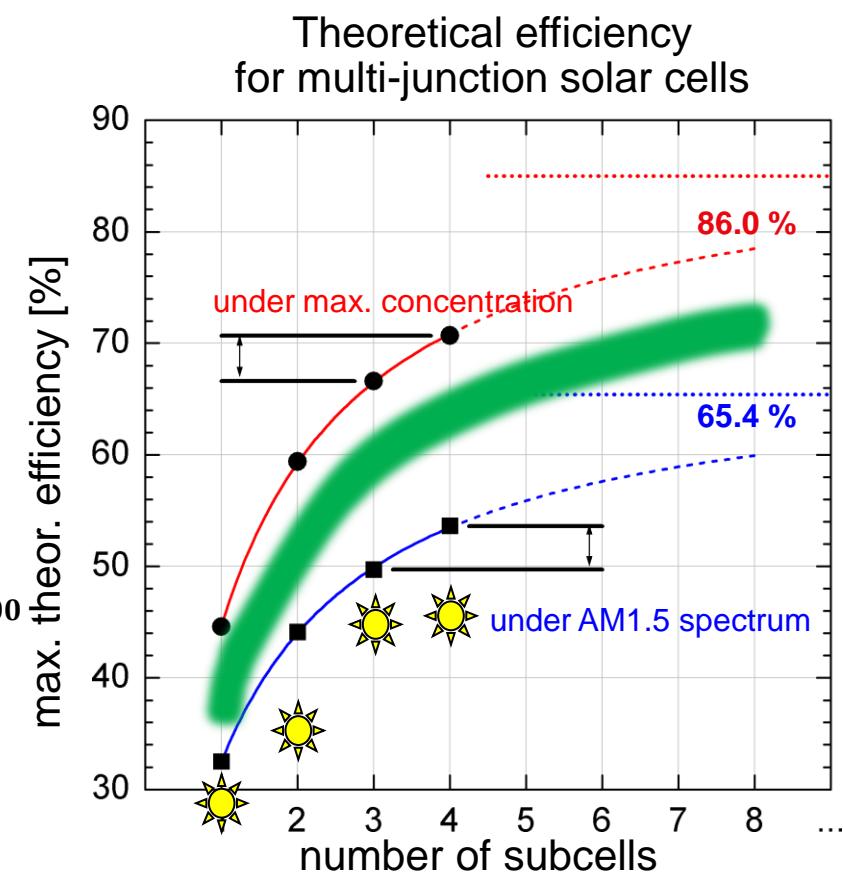
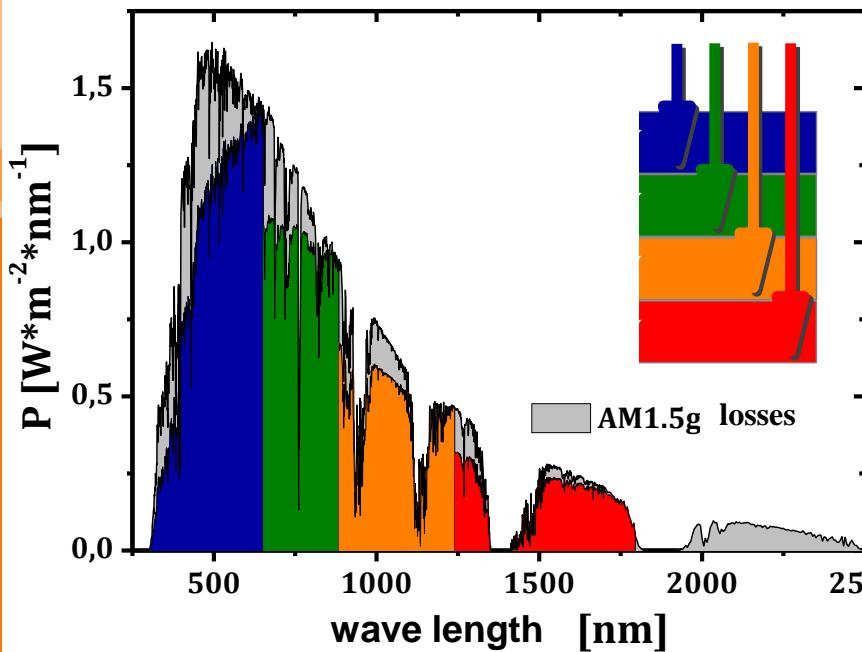
Single junction



Multi junction



# Theory: Multi junction solar cells & concentration C



## Concentration C

$$P_{sc} \propto I_L V_{OC} \propto C \ln C$$

$$\eta \propto \ln C$$

$$C_{\max} \approx 46200$$

$$V_{OC} = \frac{kT}{e} \ln \left( \frac{I_L}{I_0} + 1 \right)$$

C: sun concentration



**best values currently:**

1 junction: 29.1%

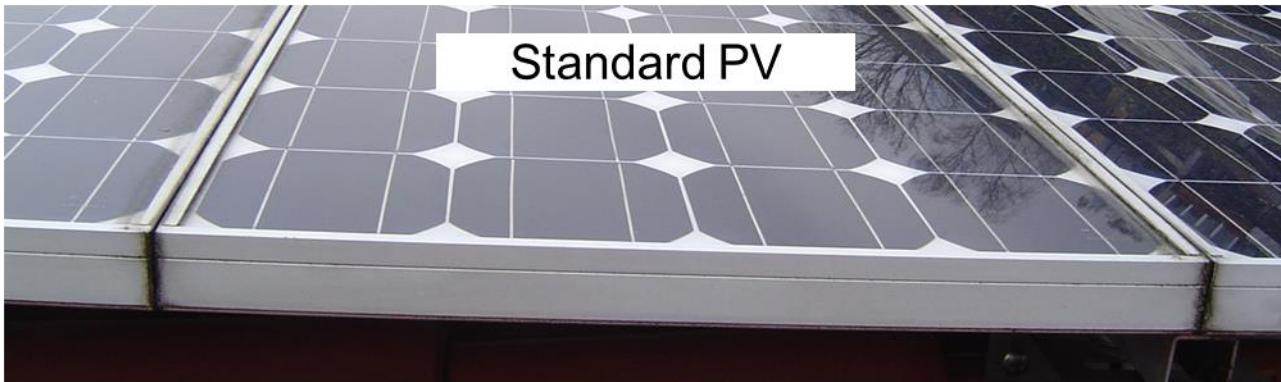
2 junction: 34.1%

3 junction: 44.4%

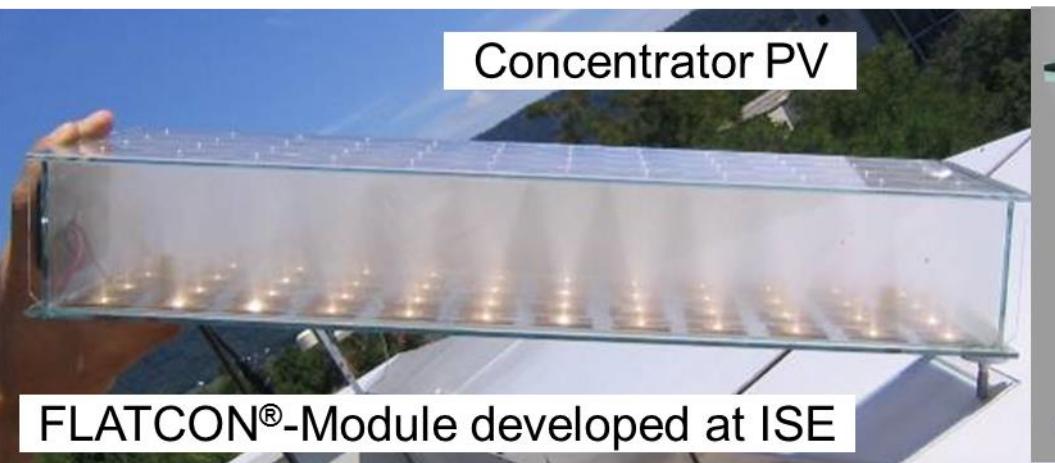
4 junction: 46.0%



# Photovoltaics: Standard PV / Concentrator PV



light collection  
and  
conversion  
is one unit

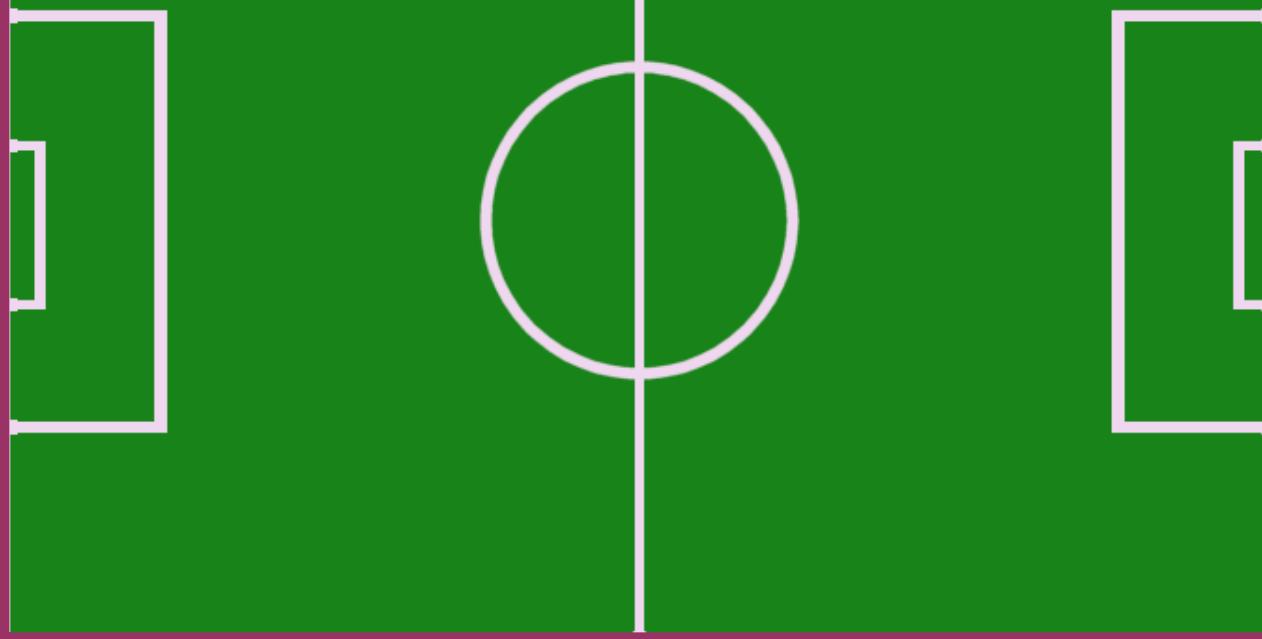


light collection  
**collection area**  
separated from  
light conversion  
**cell area**

**concentration factor = collection / cell area**

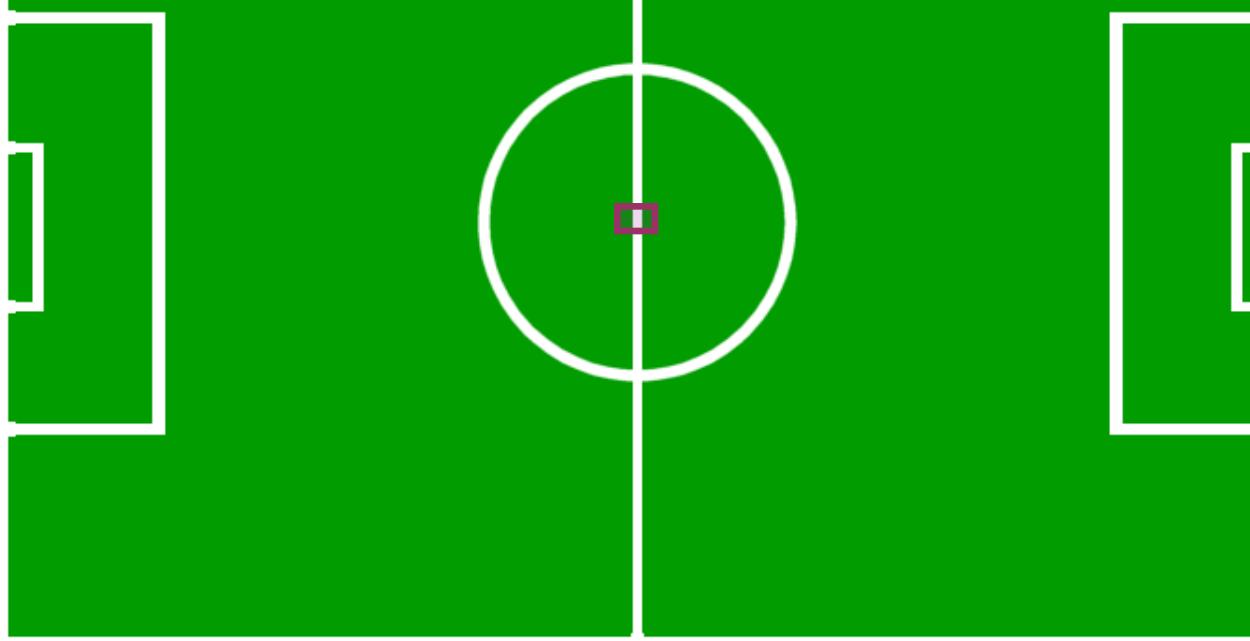


## solar cell area: flat plate



# Concentrator photovoltaics - solar cell area

**solar cell area: flat plate**



**area of concentrator SC at 500 suns, 2 x efficiency**





source: FhG ISE

# Soitec Solar, Touwsrivier, South Africa



Soitec

44 MWp capacity, projected in South Africa

# Concentrator Photovoltaic (CPV) – Largest HCPV-Installation Site: Golmud, China

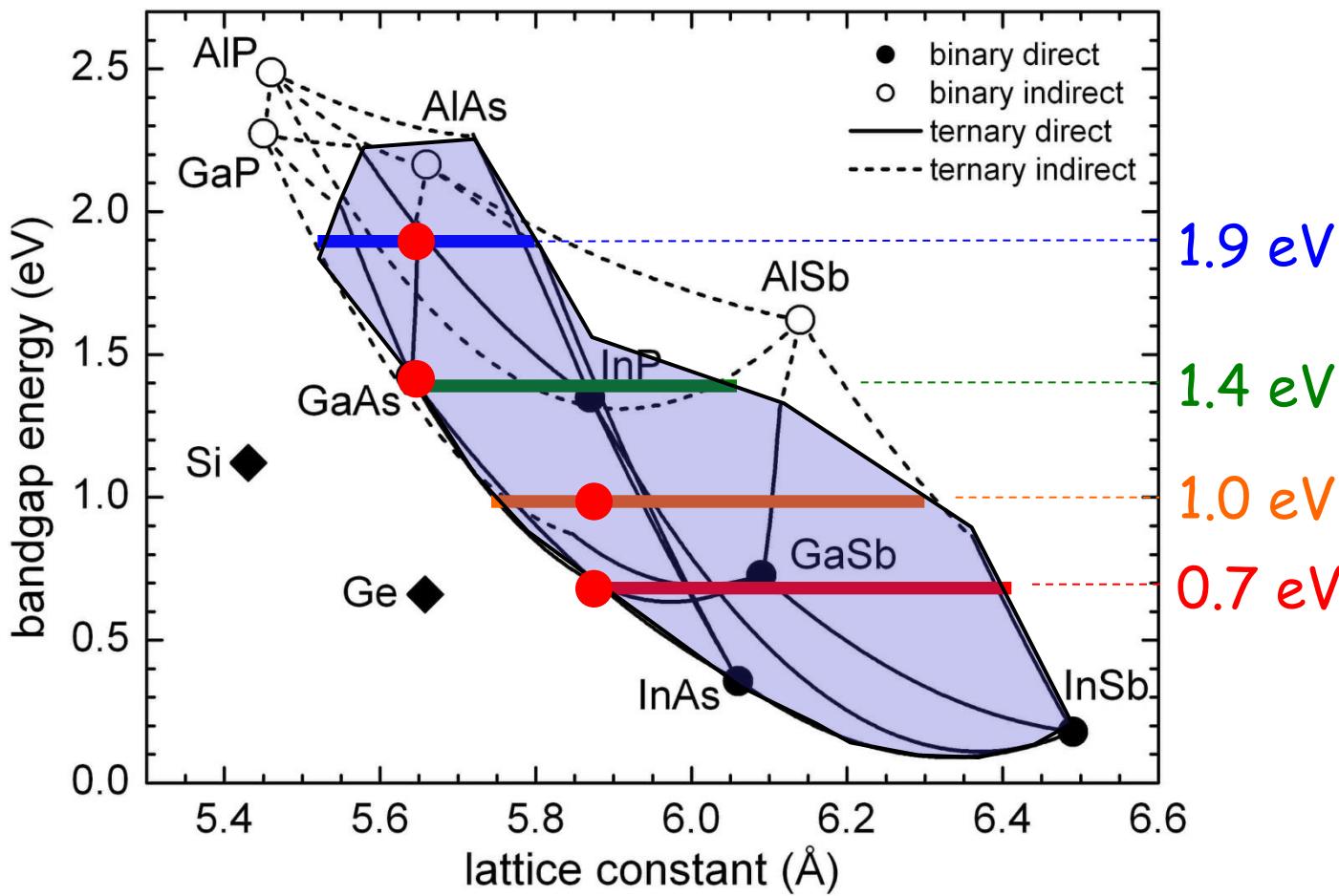


© Suncore

# Optimum bandgaps for a 4-junction solar cell – problem: lattice-mismatch causes defects



direct band gaps



# Solution: wafer bonding

Four-junction solar cell under concentrated sunlight via wafer bonding

$$\eta = 44.7 \%$$

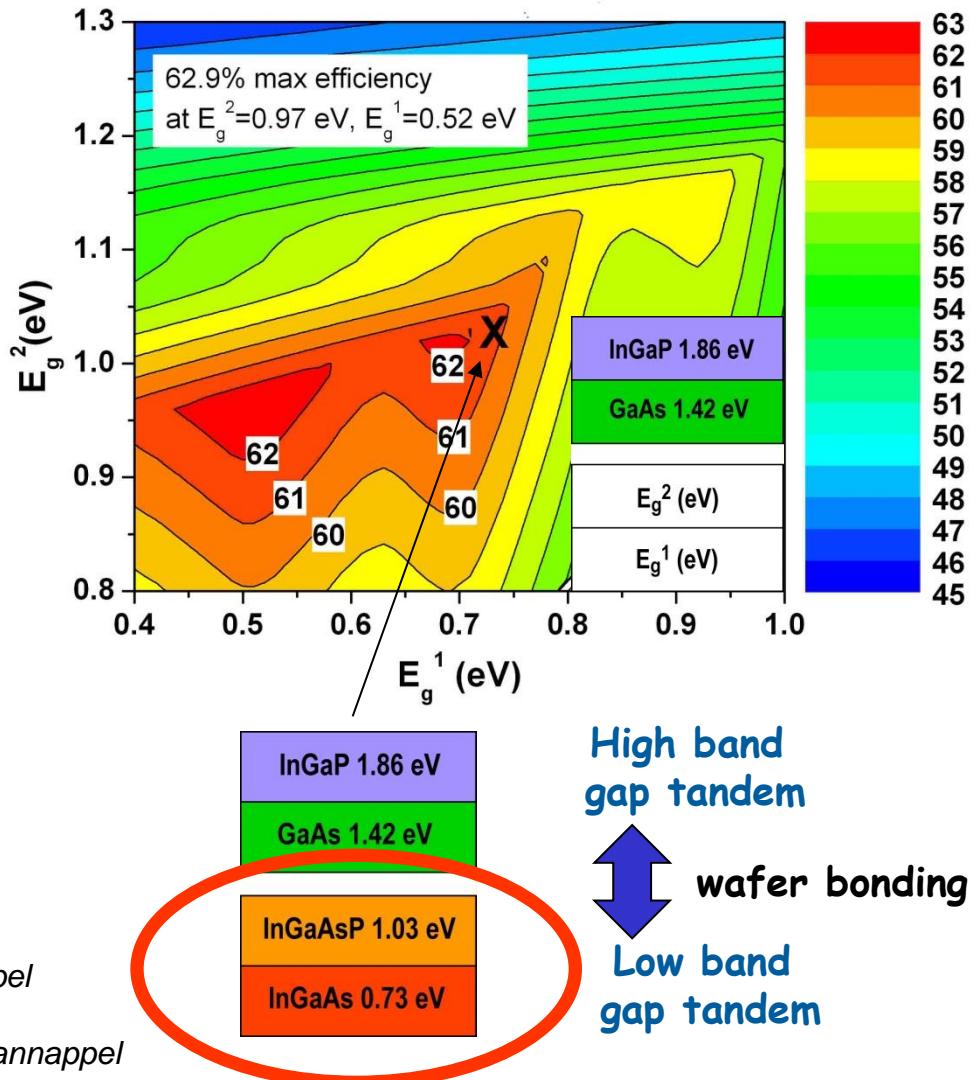
at 297 suns

F. Dimroth, M. Grave, ...,  
T. Hannappel, K. Schwarzburg,  
Prog. Photovolt: Res. Appl. 22 (2014) 277

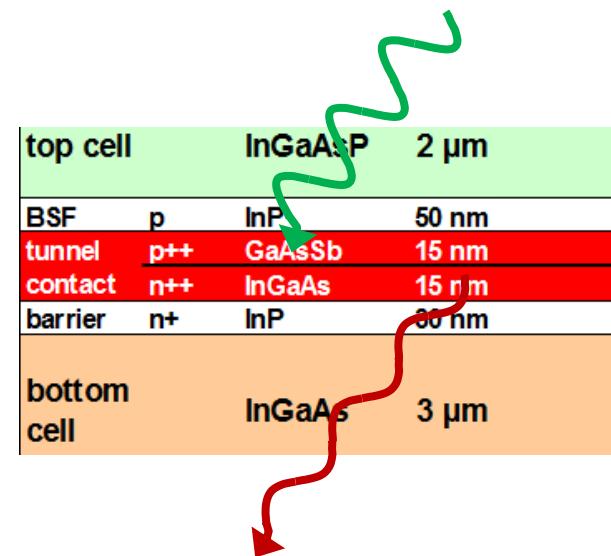
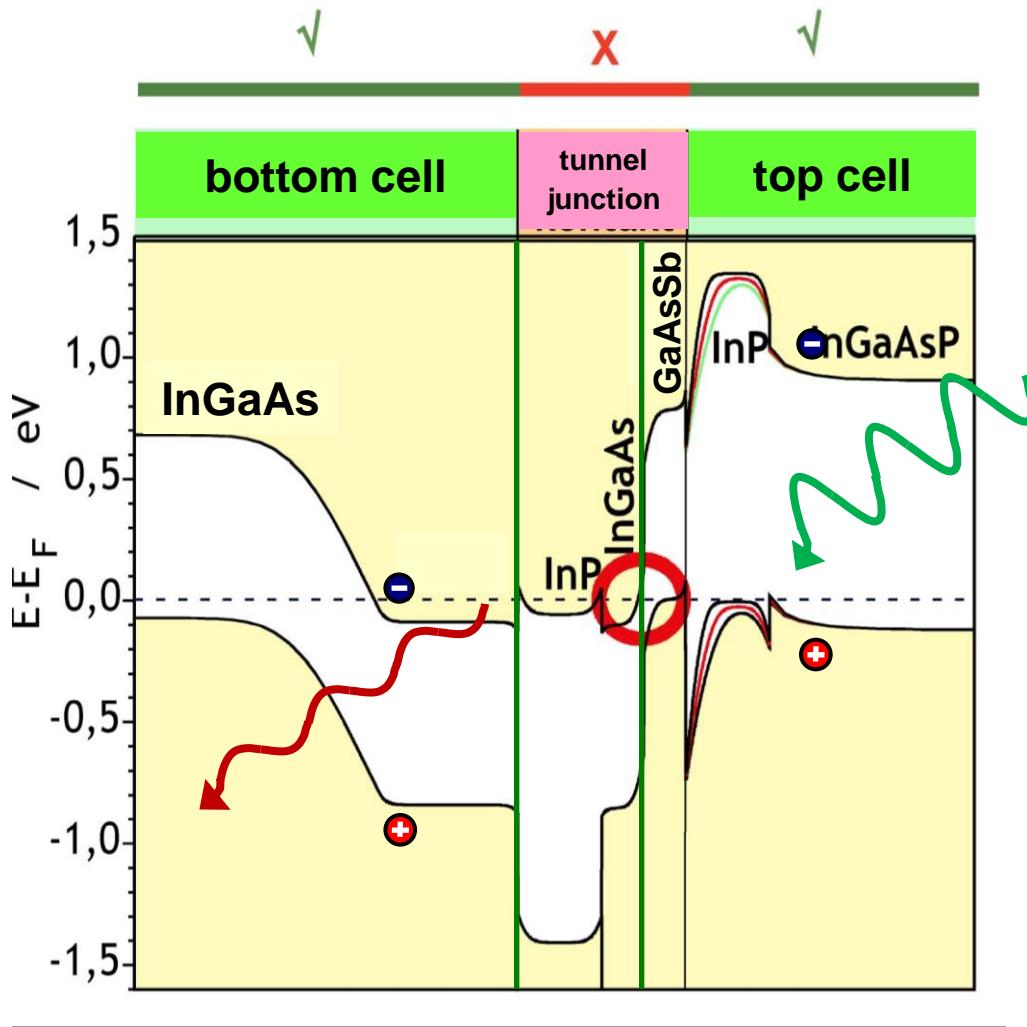


B.E. Saçol, U. Seidel, ..., K. Schwarzburg, T. Hannappel  
Chimia 61 (2007) 775

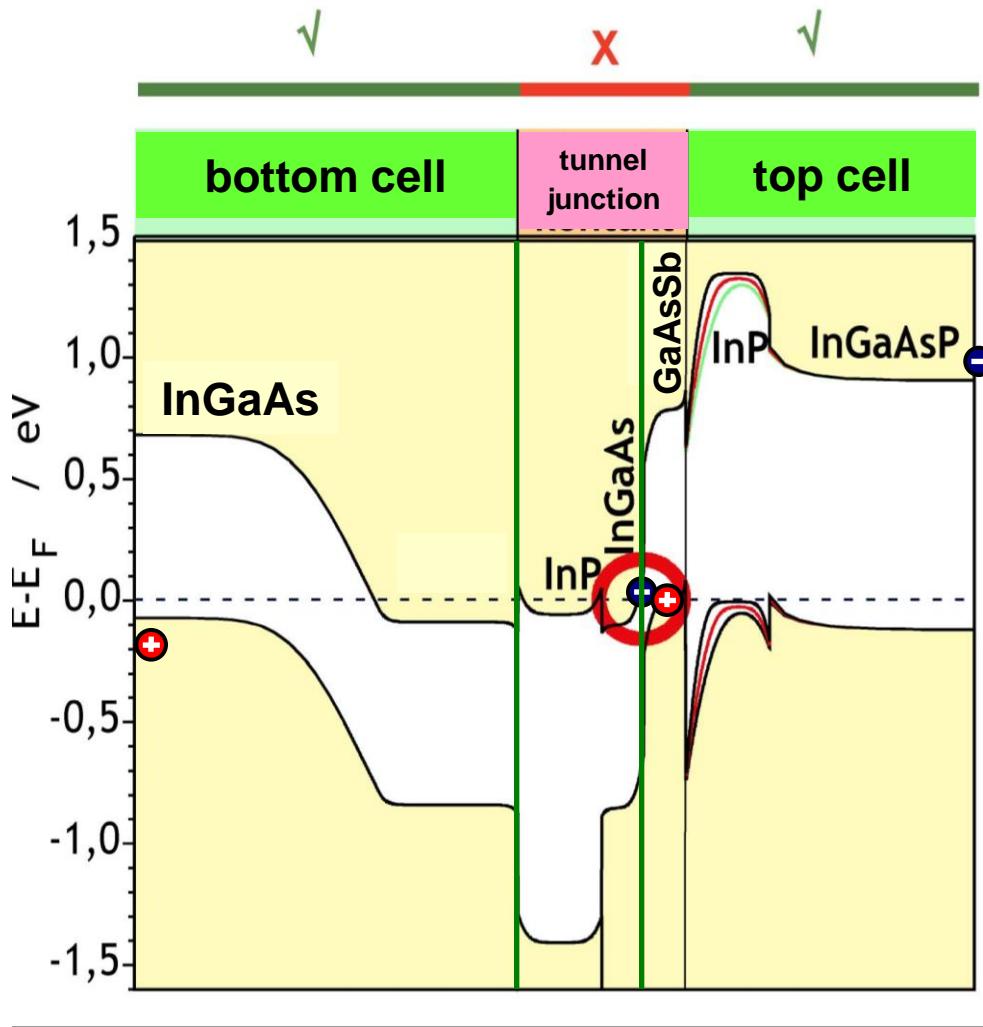
N. Szabo, B.E. Saçol, U. Seidel, K. Schwarzburg, T. Hannappel  
phys. stat. sol. – RRL 2 (2008) 254



# Tandem cell: tunnel junction, current matching, ...



# Tandem cell: tunnel junction, current matching, ...

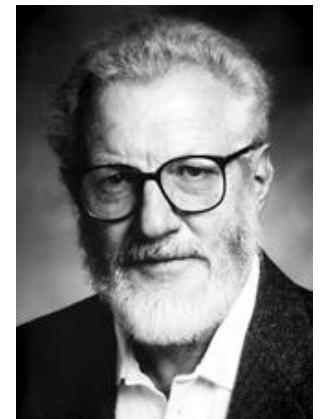


top cell		InGaAsP	2 μm
BSF	p	InP	50 nm
tunnel	p++	GaAsSb	15 nm
contact	n++	InGaAs	15 nm
barrier	n+	InP	30 nm
bottom cell		InGaAs	3 μm

# Interfaces

"Heterostructures, as I use the word here, may be defined as heterogeneous semiconductor structures built from two or more different semiconductors, in such a way that the transition region or interface between the different materials plays an essential role in any device action. Often, it may be said that *the interface is the device.*"

Herbert Krömer, German Physicist and Nobel laureate („For developing semiconductor heterostructures used in high-speed- and opto-electronics“), 2000

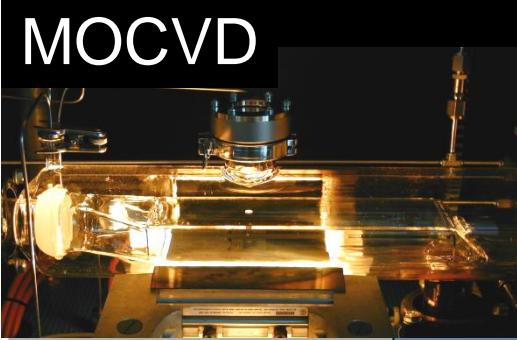


""God created solids,  
but surfaces were the work of the devil"

Wolfgang Ernst Pauli (\* 25. April 1900 in Wien; † 15. Dezember 1958 in Zürich), one of the most significant physicist of the 20th century and Nobel laureate.



# MOCVD

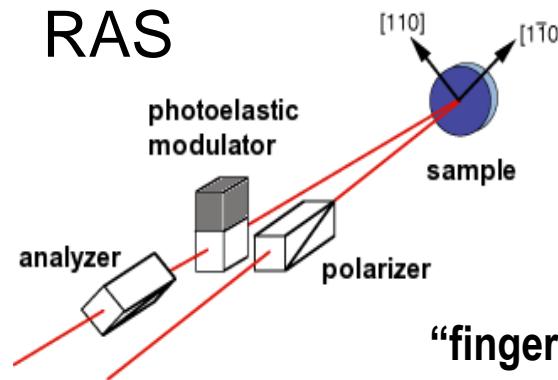


\*w/o contamination

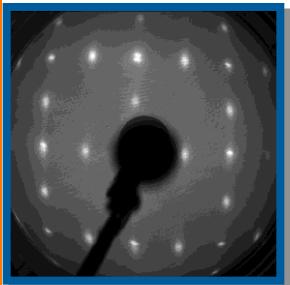
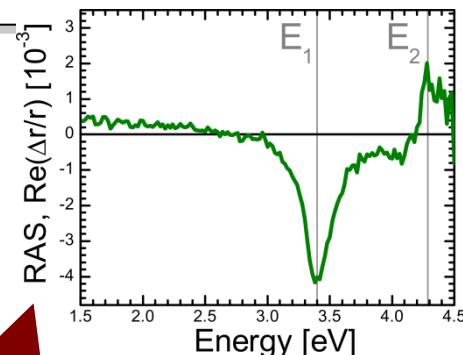
*in-situ*

transfer

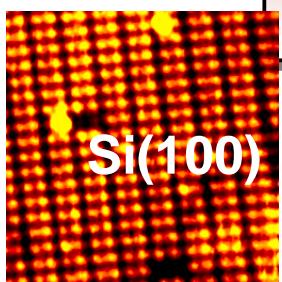
# RAS



"fingerprint"

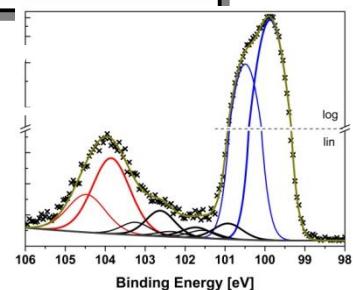


LEED

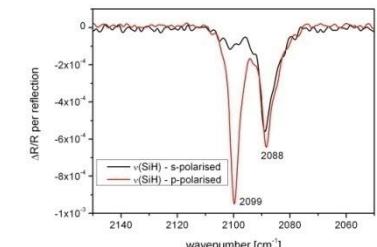


STM

UHV  
interface science



XPS



FTIR

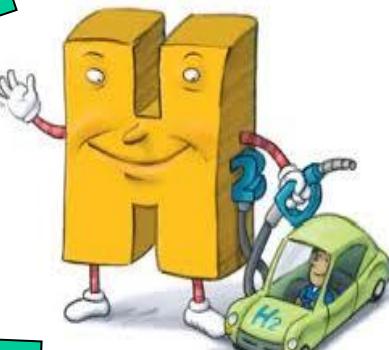
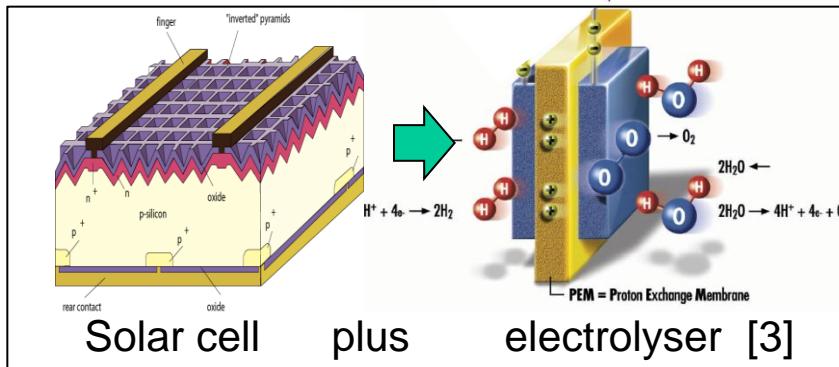
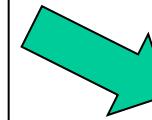
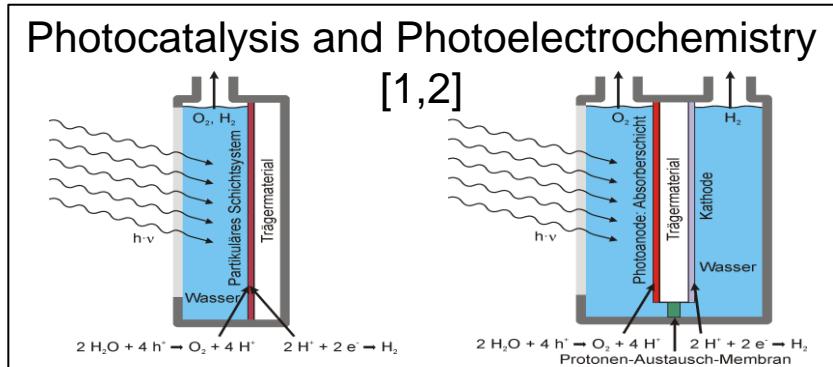
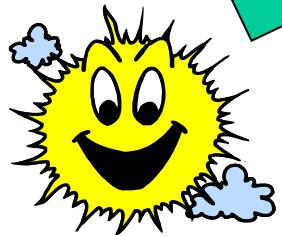
T. Hannappel et al.,  
Rev. Sci. Instr. 75 (2004) 01297  
German patent (1999) DE 19837851

Thomas  
Hannappel

Φ DPG



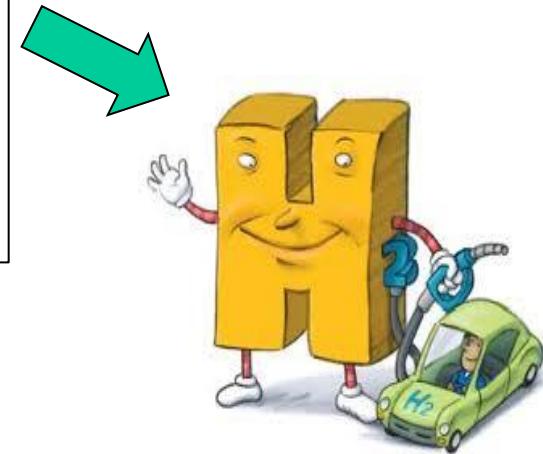
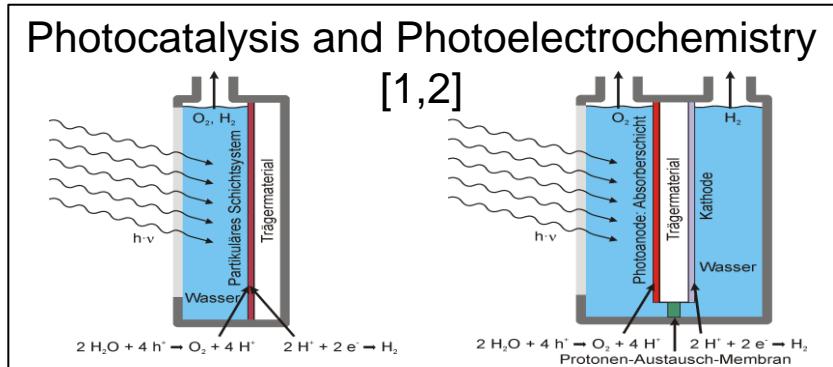
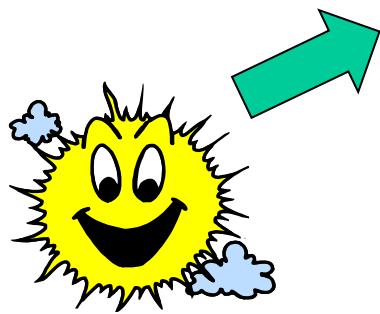
# Routes to generate solar fuels ( $\text{H}_2$ , methane, ...)



[1] Cook, ..., Nocera, *Chem. Rev.* **110** (2010), [2] May, ..., Hannappel, *Nature Comm.* (2015),  
[3] Luo, ...Grätzel, *Science* **345** (2014).



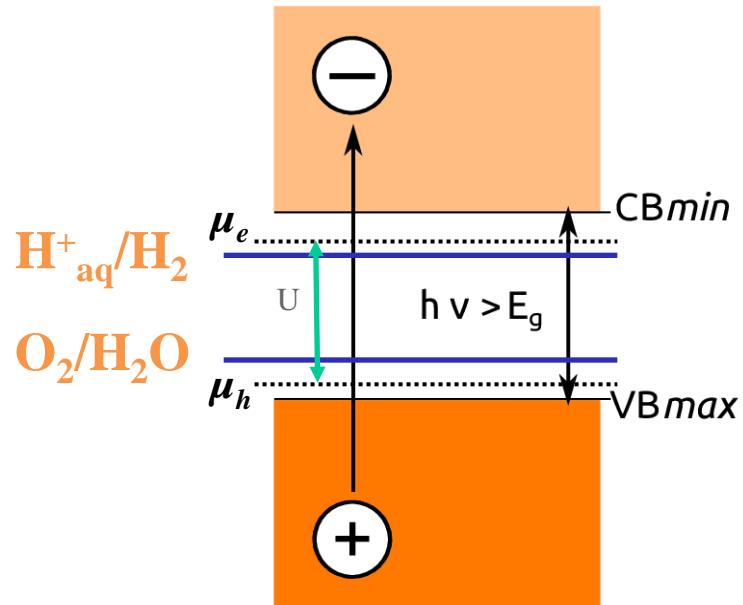
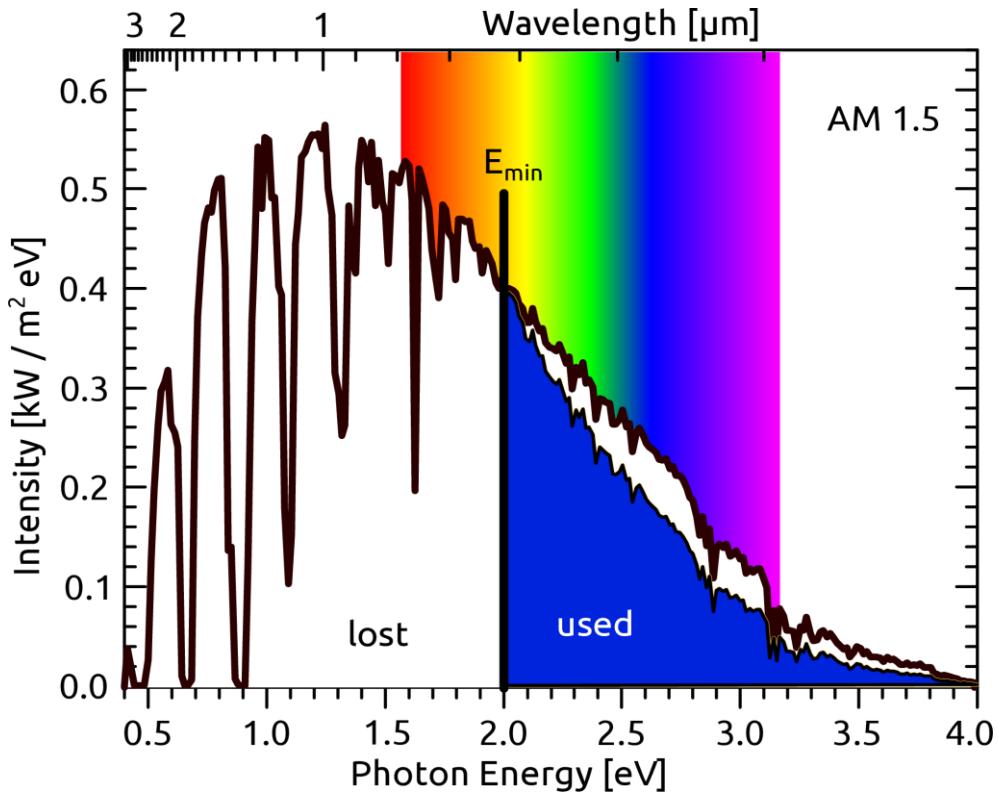
# Routes to generate solar fuels ( $H_2$ , methane, ...)



[1] Cook, ..., Nocera, *Chem. Rev.* **110** (2010), [2] May, ..., Hannappel, *Nature Comm.* (2015)

# Tandems for unassisted water photolysis

bias-free solar watersplitting needs energy gap  $> 2\text{eV}$



$$\mu_i = \mu_{i,0} + kT \ln \left( \frac{n_i}{N_i} \right)$$

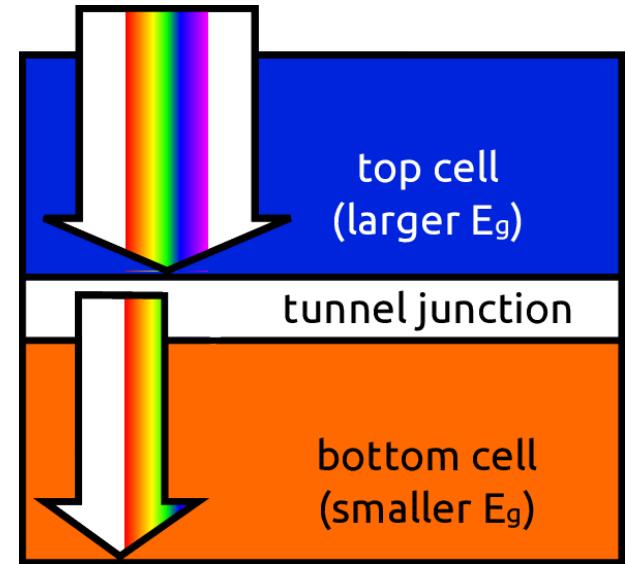
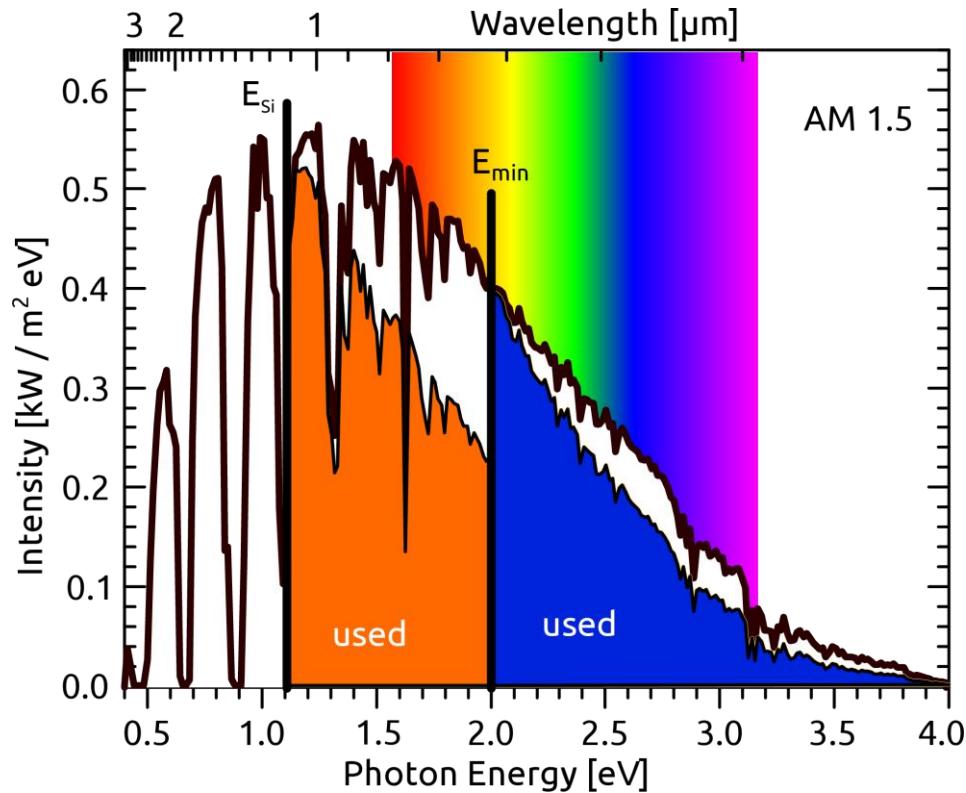
under illumination

$$\mu_e + \mu_h = \epsilon_{FC} - \epsilon_{FV}$$



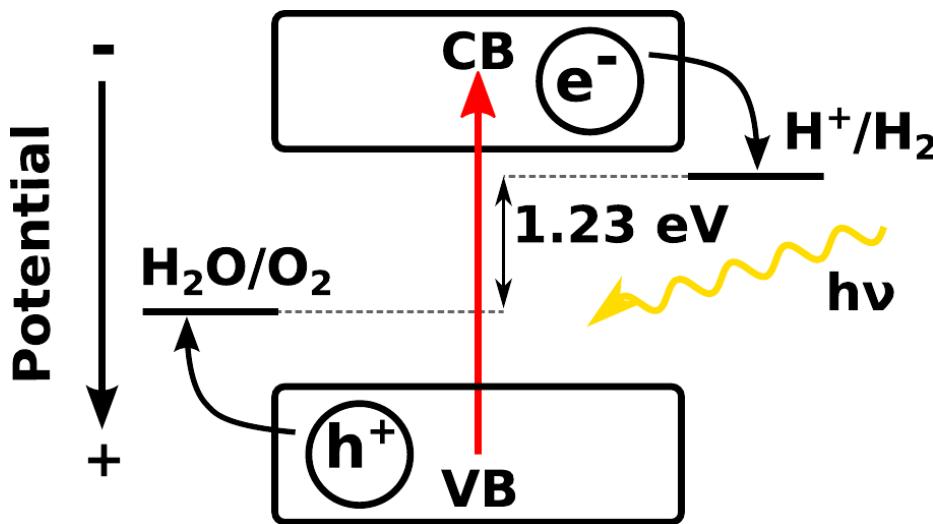
# Tandems for unassisted water photolysis

solar exploitation → tandem



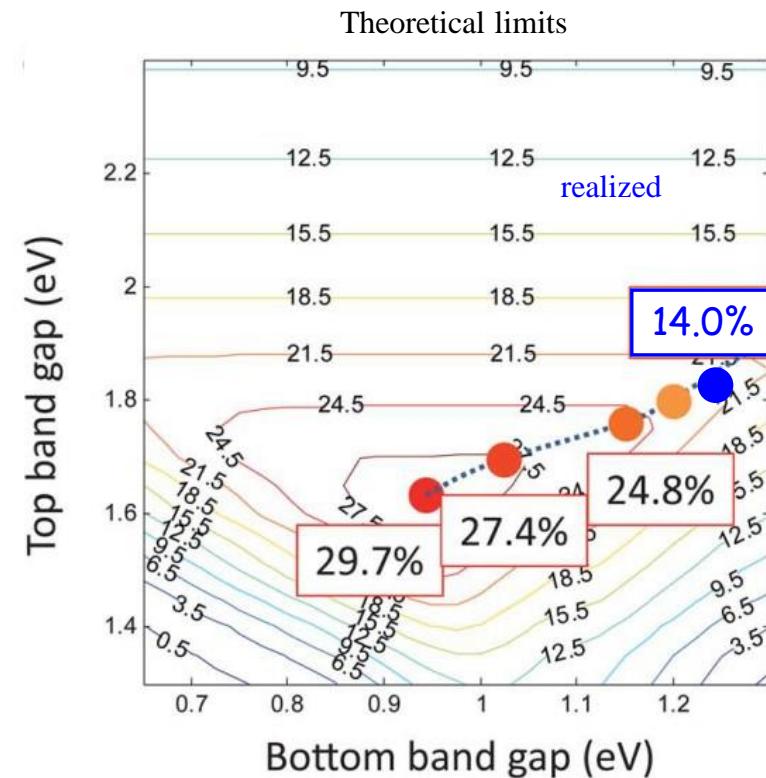
# Potential efficiencies of tandems for water-splitting

- Bias-free solar watersplitting requires band gap > ca. 2.2 eV
- Beyond that: maximisation of the current
- Tandems for efficiency optimum



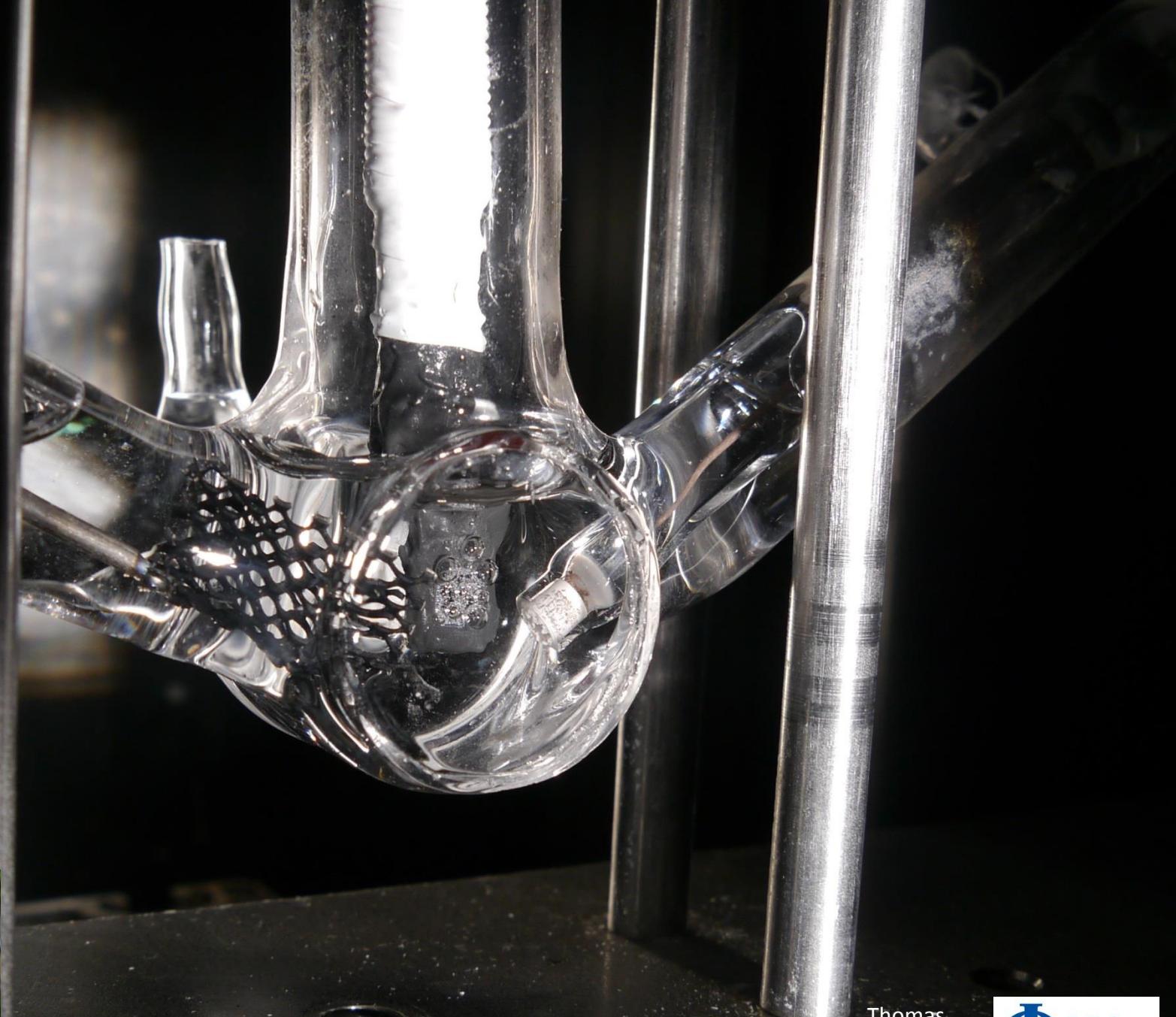
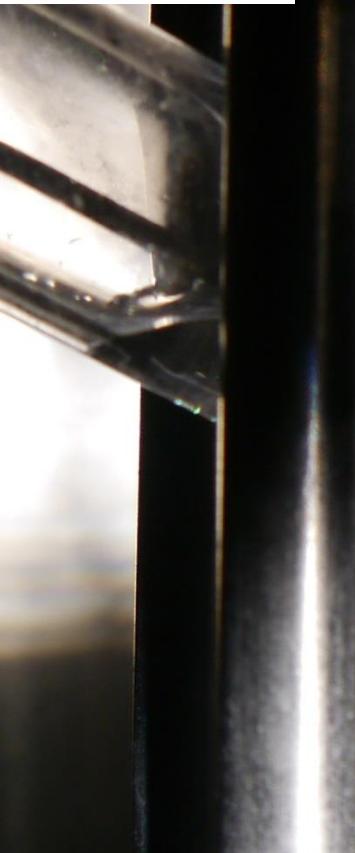
Solar to hydrogen

$$\eta = \frac{j \times 1.23 V}{P_{in}/A}$$



S. Hu et al. *Energy Environ. Sci.* 6:2984, 2013.

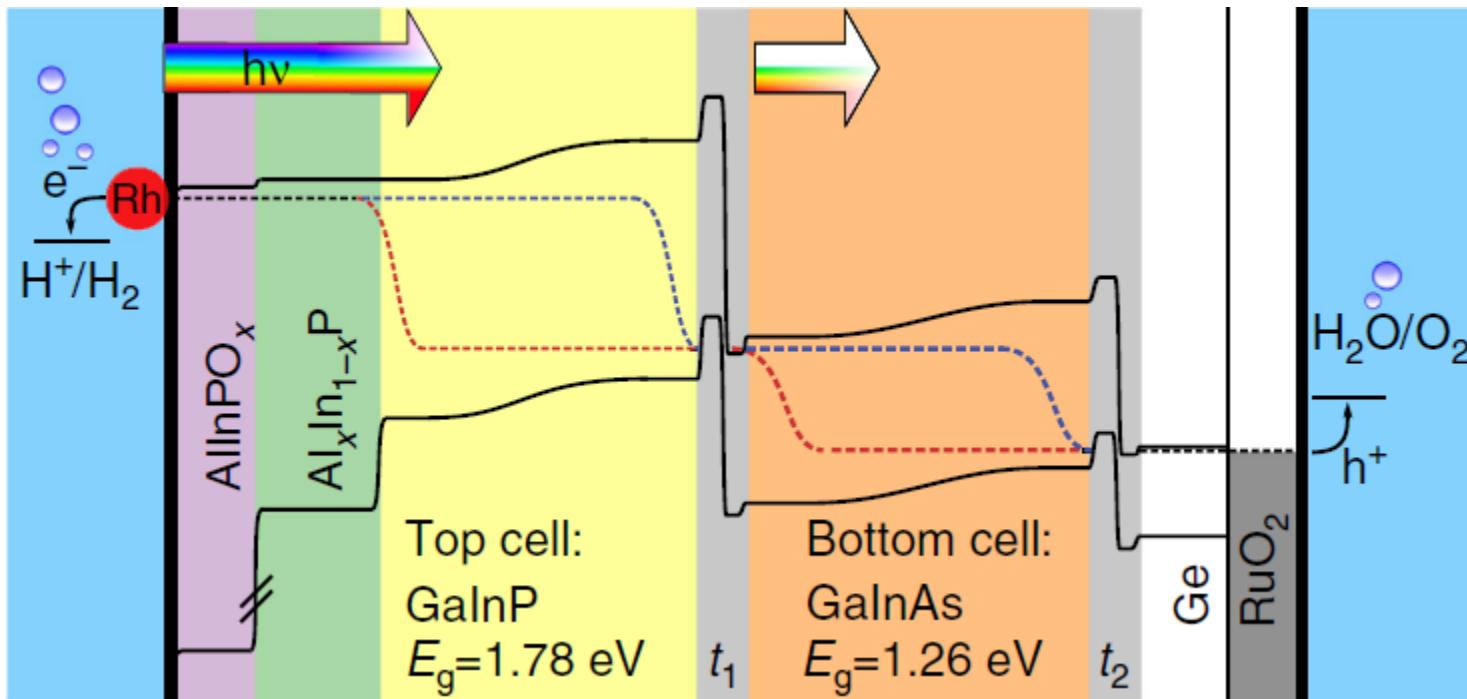




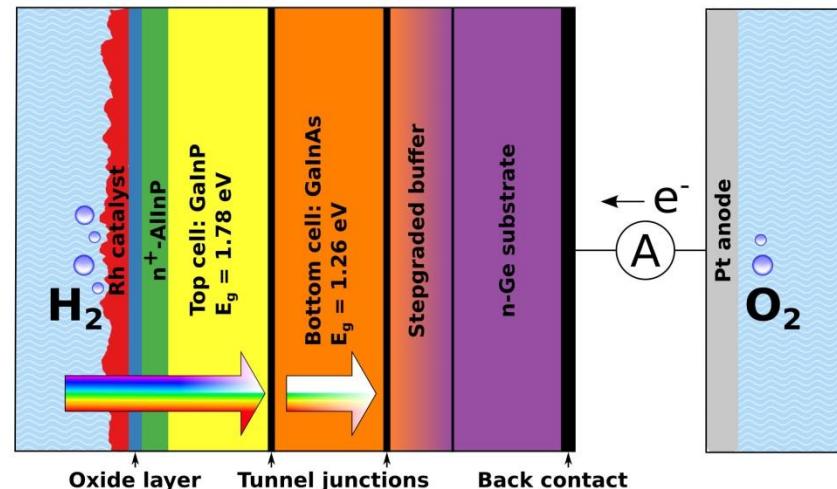
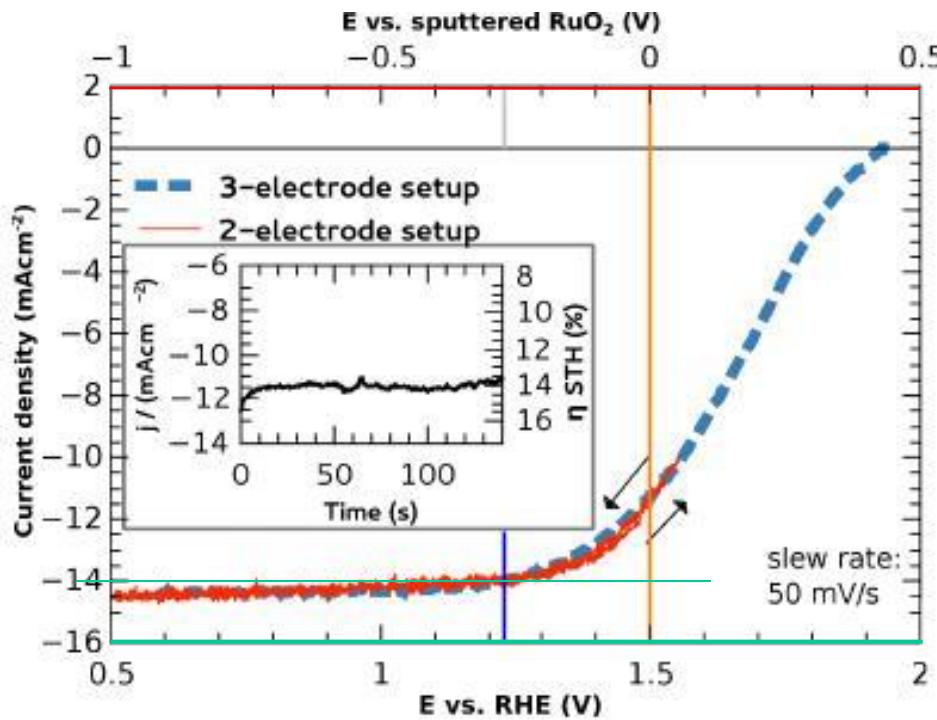
Thomas  
Hannappel



# Energy schematic of the tandem layer structure - under illumination



# Monolithic 14 % water splitting tandem



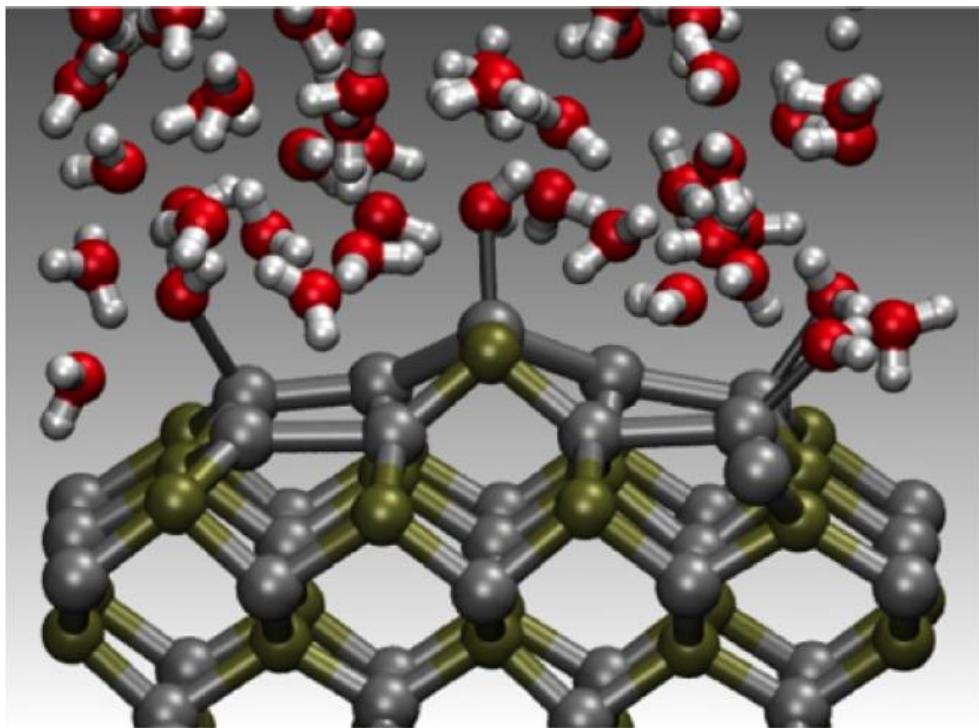
- In situ functionalization of a III-V tandem
- Rh electrocatalyst deposition & interface functionalization
  - 14 % STH in a bias-free setup under AM 1.5G



# Study of liquid-solid interface

## Theory + Experiment:

- Surface configuration impacts interaction with H<sub>2</sub>O
- Metal–oxide–metal bonds affects charge transfer dynamics [1,2].



M.M. May, PhD thesis

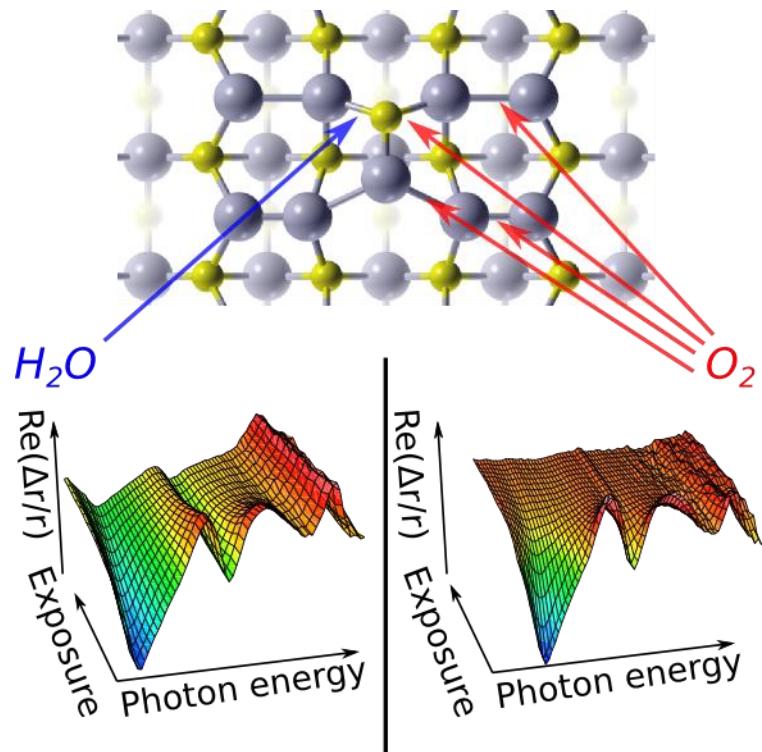
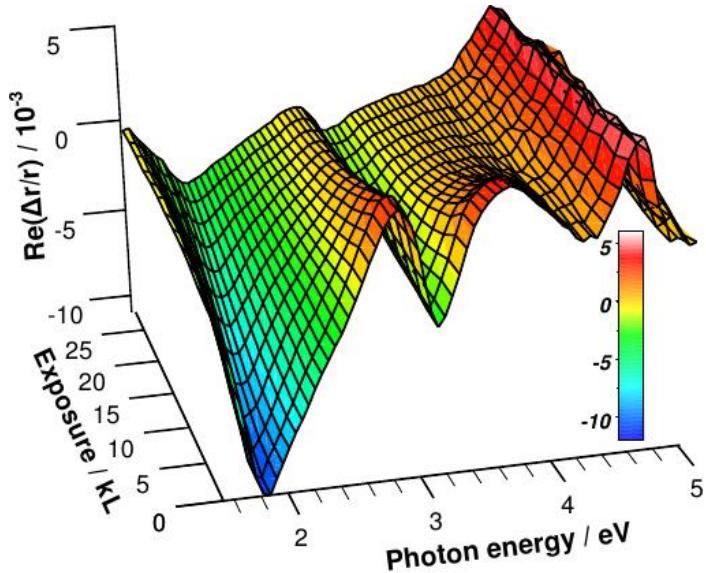
[1] Wood et al., *J. Phys. Chem. C* **118** (2014).

[2] Kaiser et al., *ChemPhysChem* **13** (2012).

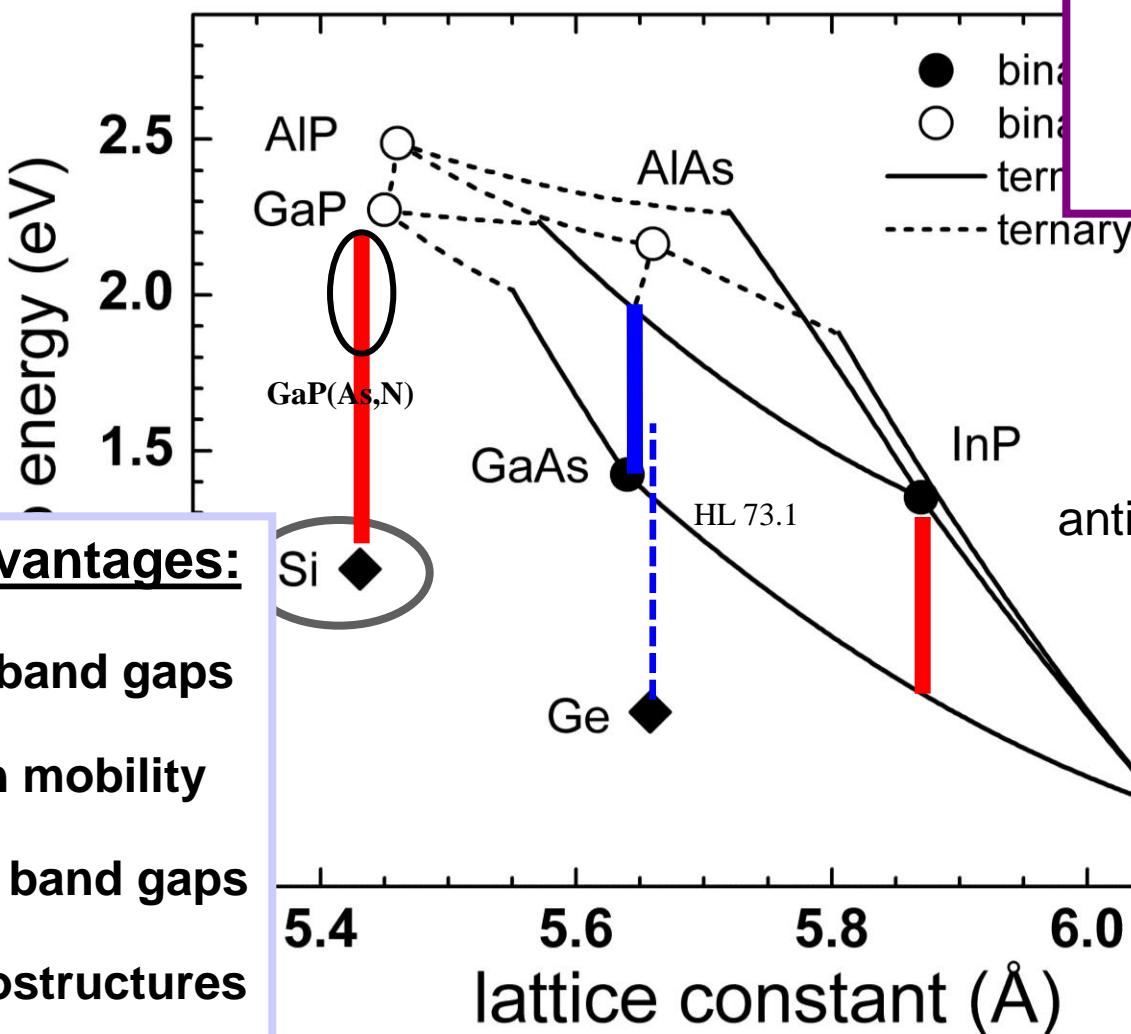


# $\text{H}_2\text{O}/\text{O}_2$ -adsorption on In-rich InP(100)

- In-rich InP(100) surfaces enable efficient & stable photocathodes [1]
- Exposure of well-defined InP(100) to water and oxygen
- In situ study of surface chemistry with RAS



# III-V semiconductor heteroepitaxy on Si(100): potentials and issues



## III-V on Si(100)

### Epitaxial challenges:

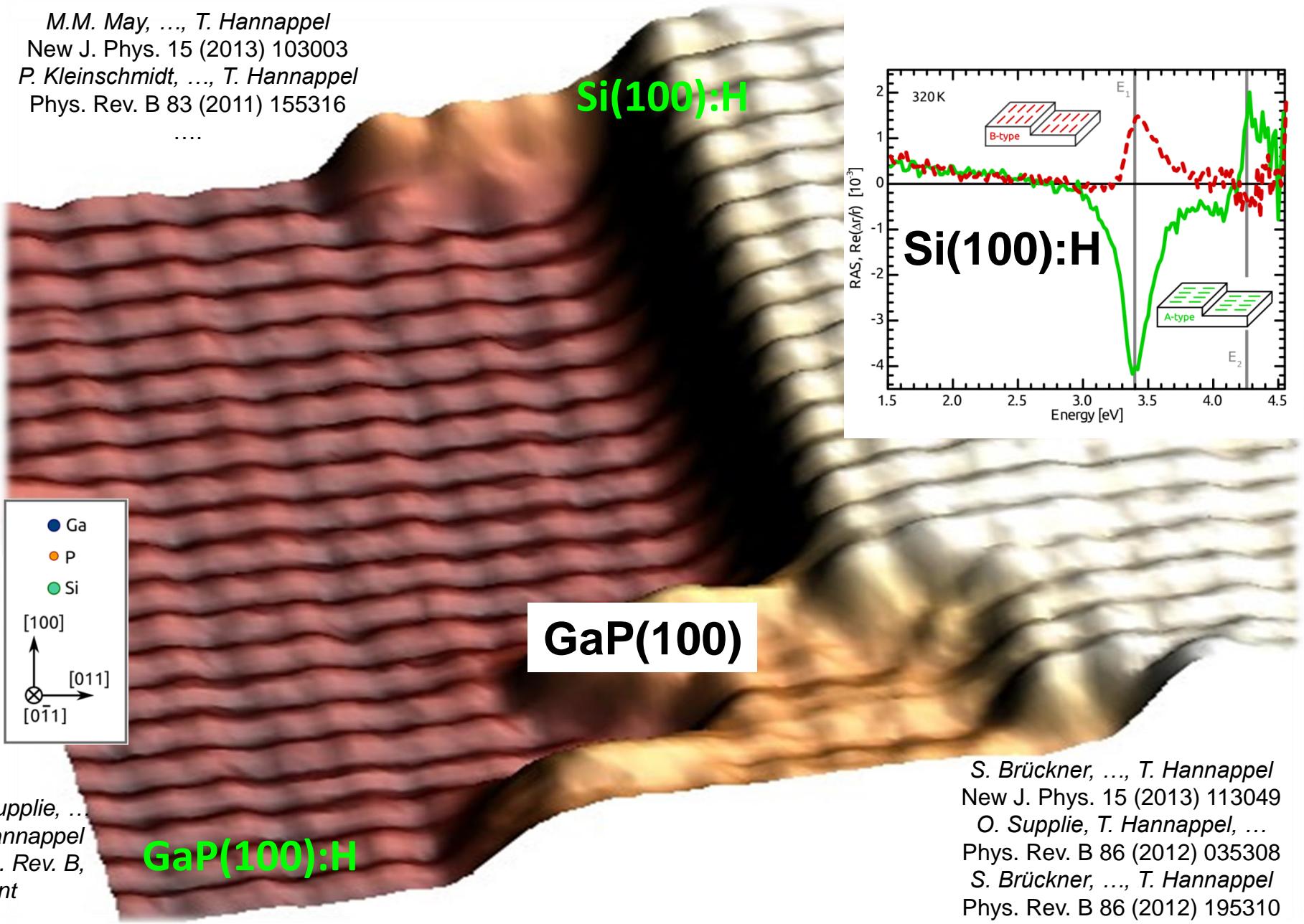
- lattice constants
- thermal expansion
- **polar on non-polar**

### Si(100) advantages:

- + mature technology
- + manufacturing cost
- + material quality
- + availability
- + substrate size
- + mechanical integrity
- + thermal conductivity
- + abundance
- + microelectronics

M.M. May, ..., T. Hannappel  
New J. Phys. 15 (2013) 103003  
P. Kleinschmidt, ..., T. Hannappel  
Phys. Rev. B 83 (2011) 155316

III-V  
Si



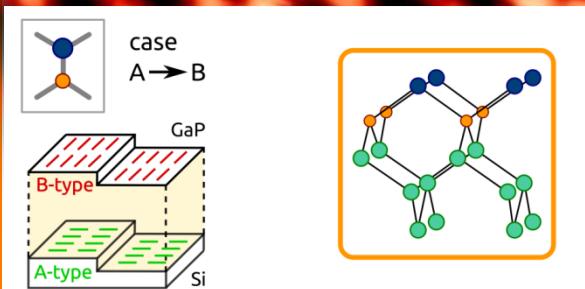
O. Supplie, ...  
T. Hannappel  
Phys. Rev. B,  
in print  
....

S. Brückner, ..., T. Hannappel  
New J. Phys. 15 (2013) 113049  
O. Supplie, T. Hannappel, ...  
Phys. Rev. B 86 (2012) 035308  
S. Brückner, ..., T. Hannappel  
Phys. Rev. B 86 (2012) 195310

M.M. May, ..., T. Hannappel  
New J. Phys. 15 (2013) 103003  
P. Kleinschmidt, ..., T. Hannappel  
Phys. Rev. B 83 (2011) 155316

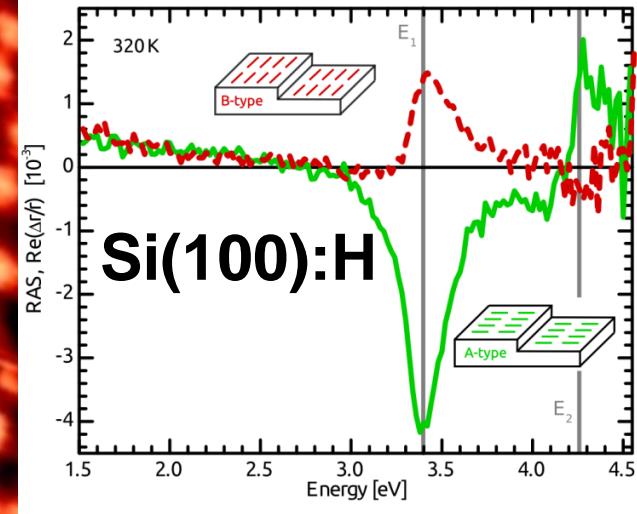
....

Si(100):H

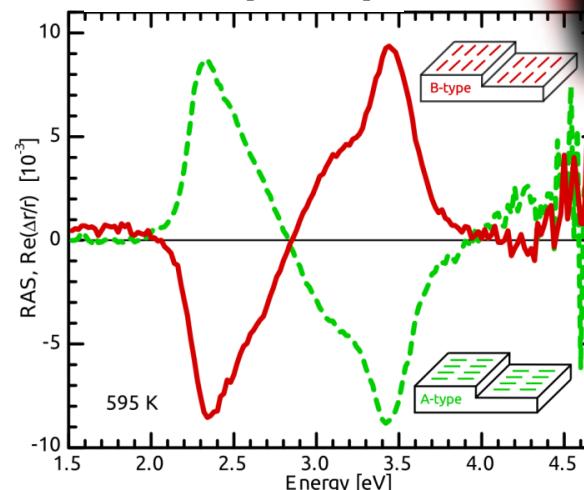


GaP(100):H

O. Supplie, ...  
T. Hannappel  
Phys. Rev. B,  
in print  
....



GaP(100)



S. Brückner, ..., T. Hannappel  
New J. Phys. 15 (2013) 113049  
O. Supplie, T. Hannappel, ...  
Phys. Rev. B 86 (2012) 035308  
S. Brückner, ..., T. Hannappel  
Phys. Rev. B 86 (2012) 195310

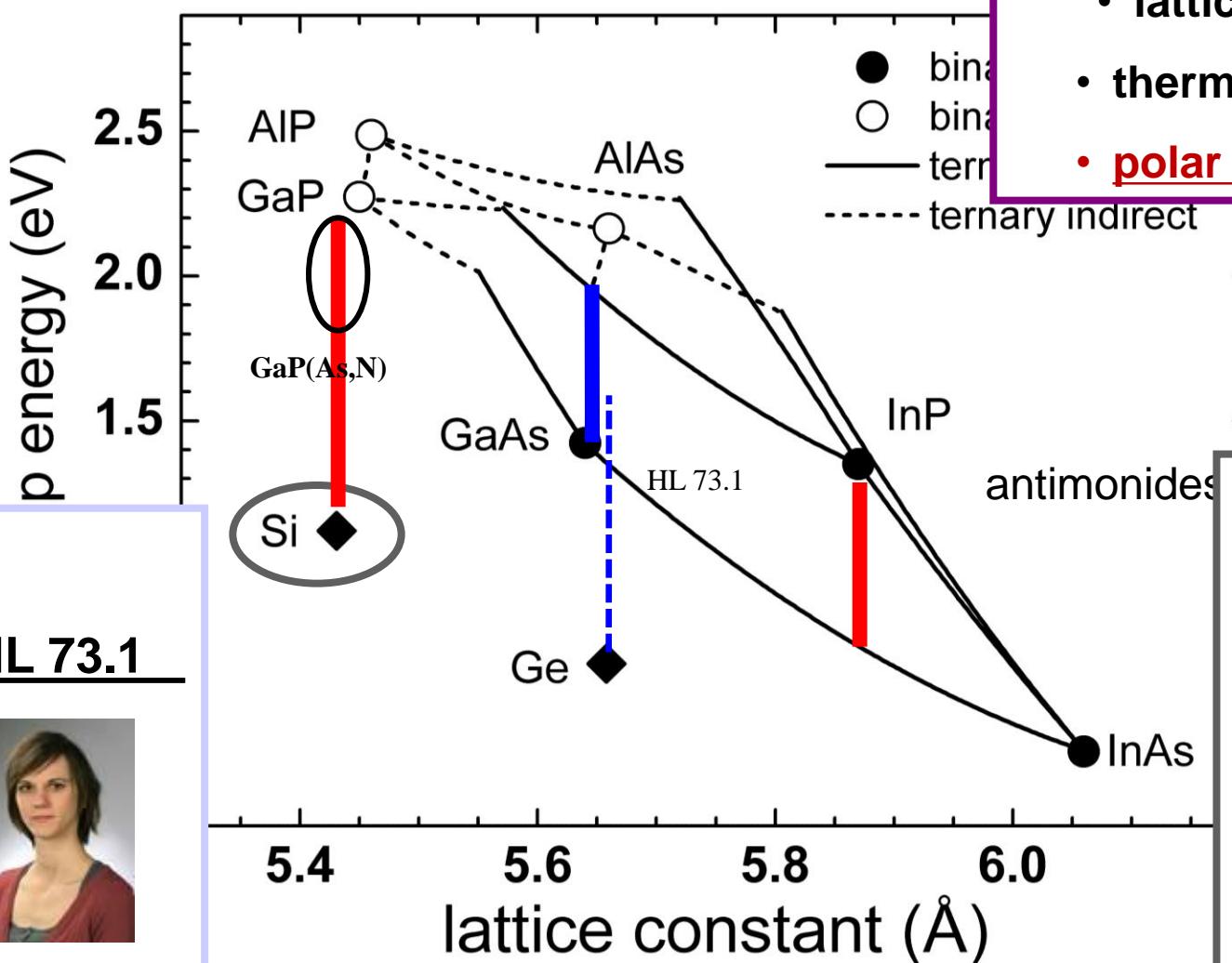


# III-V semiconductor heteroepitaxy on Si(100): potentials and issues

## III-V on Si(100)

### Epitaxial challenges:

- lattice constants
- thermal expansion
- **polar on non-polar**



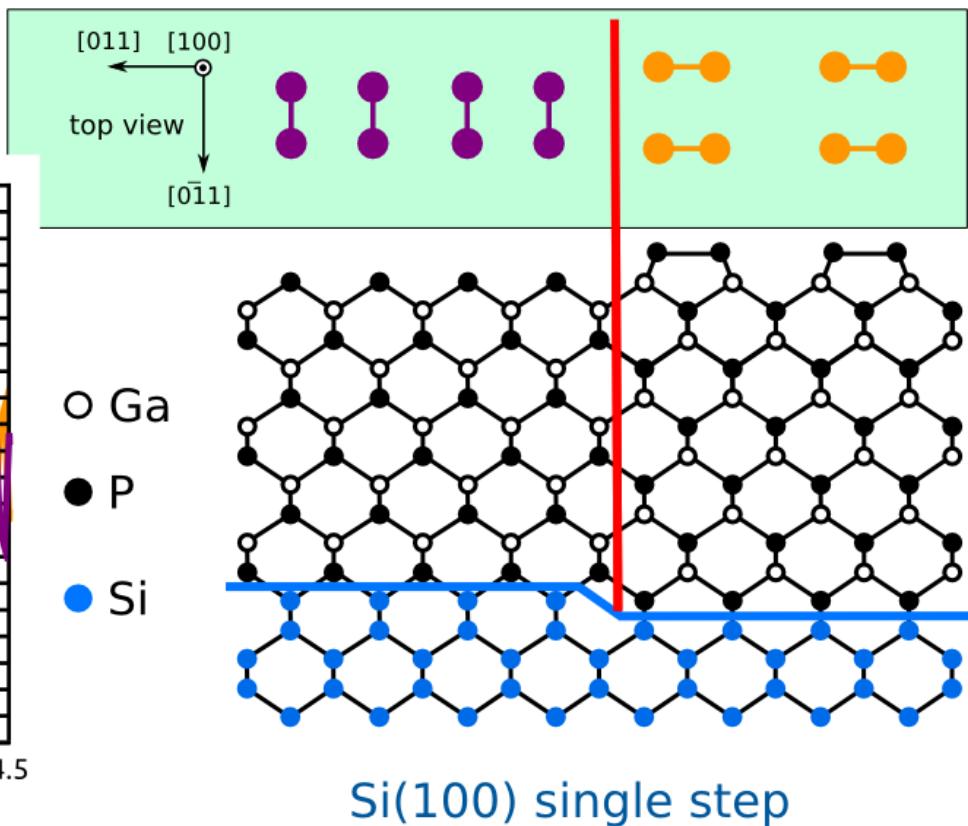
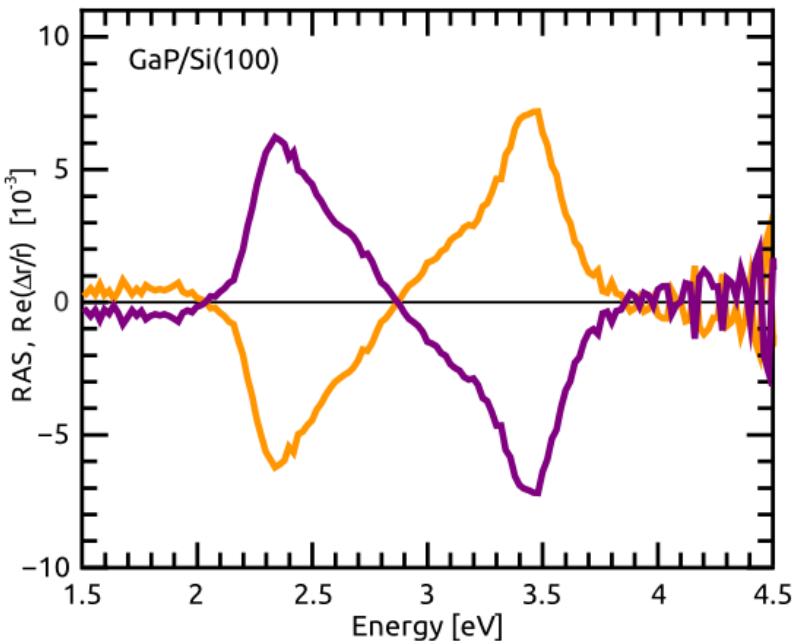
HL 73.1



HL 83.6



# *In situ* RAS: GaP/Si(100)

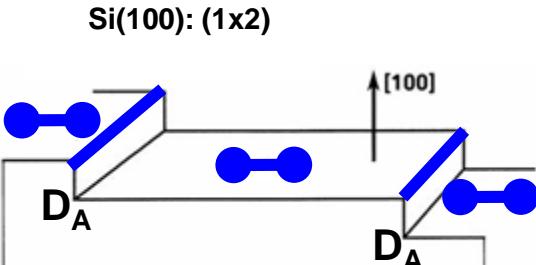
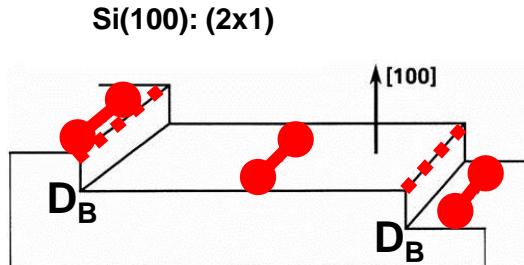
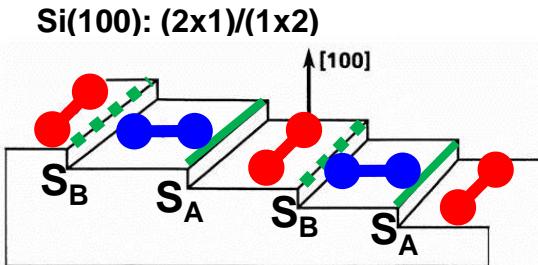


Döscher et al., *Appl. Phys. Lett.* **93** : 172110, 2008.  
Kroemer, *J. Cryst. Growth* **87** : 193, 1981.

Hahn, Schmidt et al., *Phys. Rev. B* **68** : 033311, 2003.  
Töben et al., *Surf. Sci.* **494** : 755, 2001.

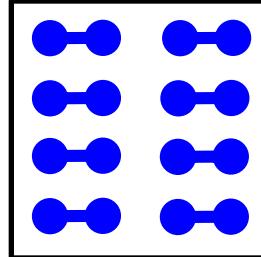
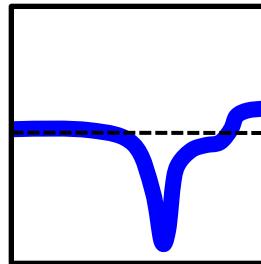


# Si(100): Influence of step type and domain ratio on RAS signal

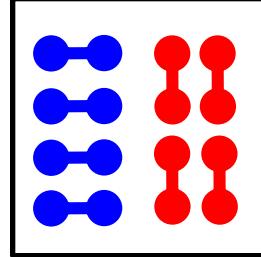
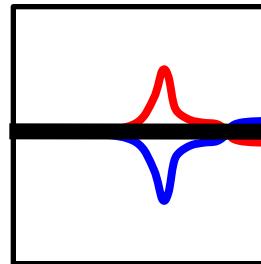


D.J. Chadi, Phys. Rev. Lett. 59 (1987) 1691

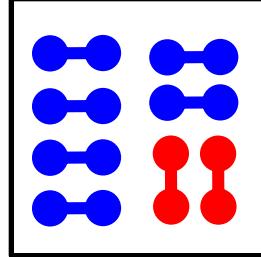
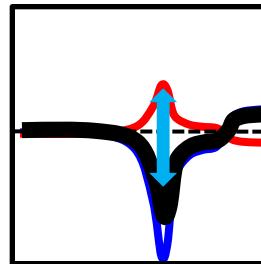
single domain  
(1x2)



two domain  
(2x1)/(1x2)

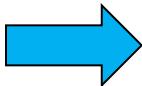


“unequal”  
domain ratio

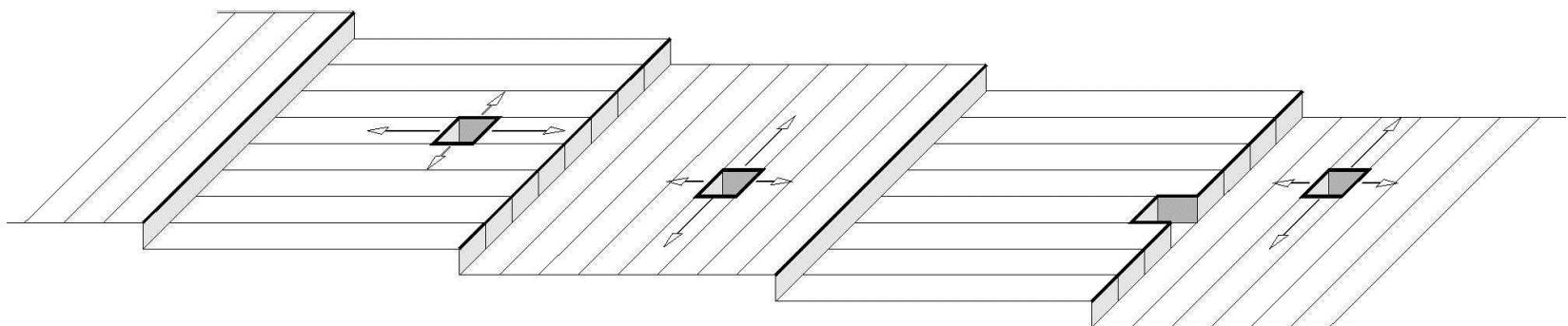
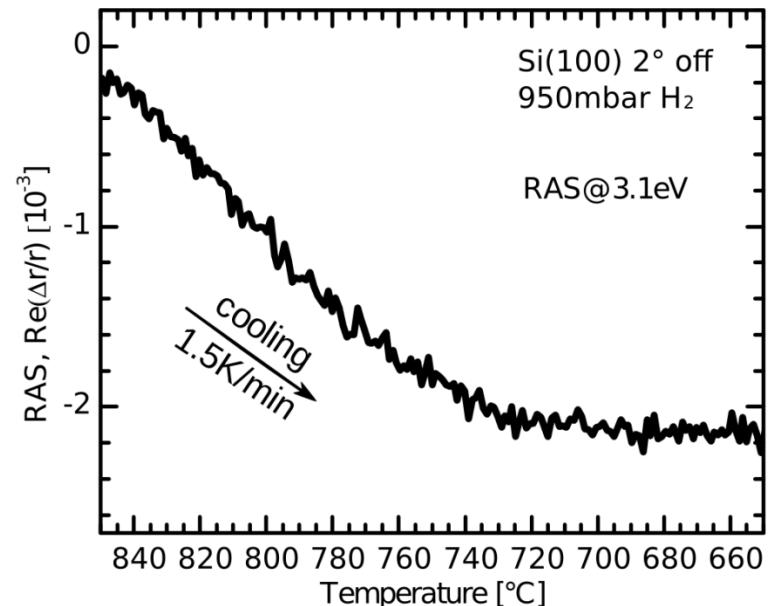
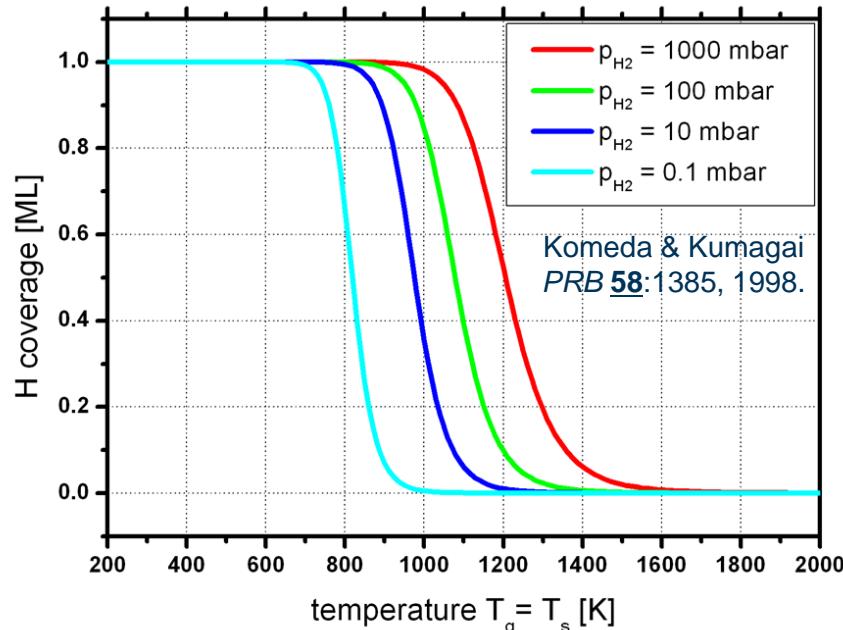


RAS at Si(100):H

$$\frac{\Delta r}{r} = 2 \frac{r_{[0\bar{1}1]} - r_{[011]}}{r_{[0\bar{1}1]} + r_{[011]}}$$



# Si(100) in H-ambient: $D_A$ steps

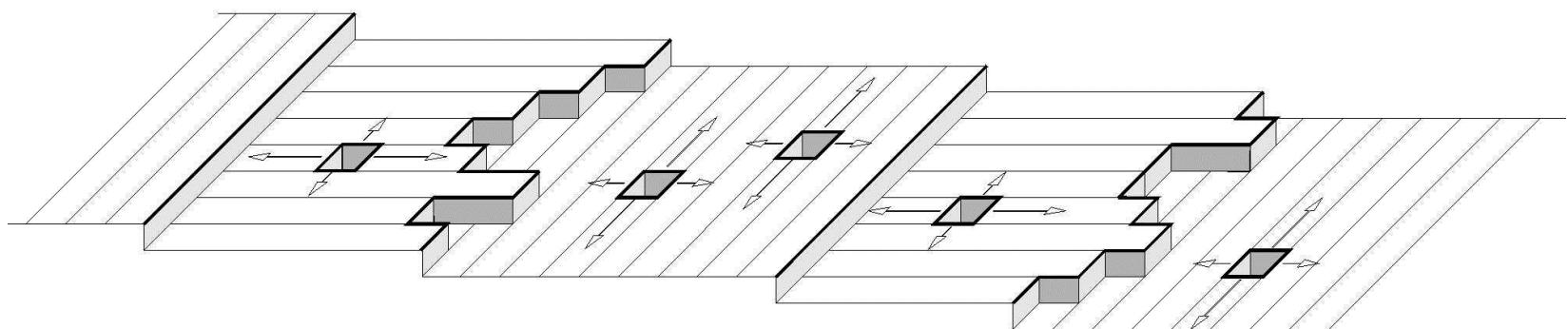
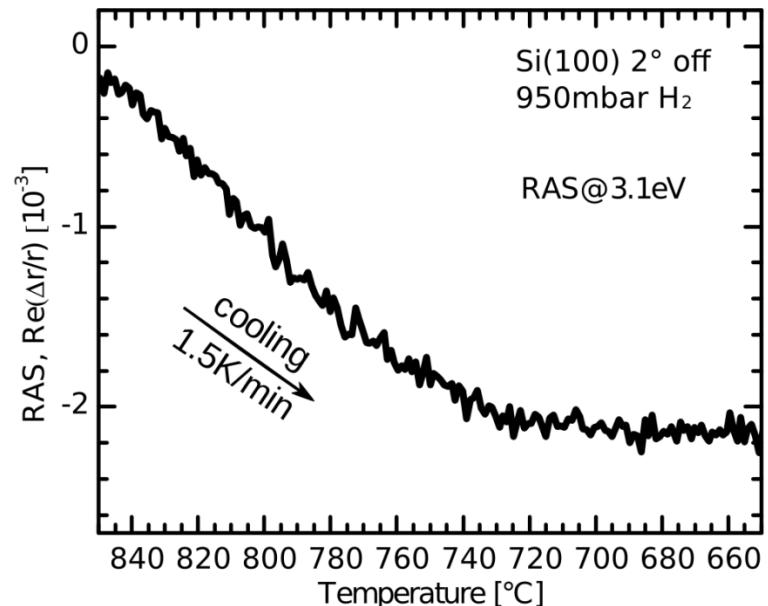
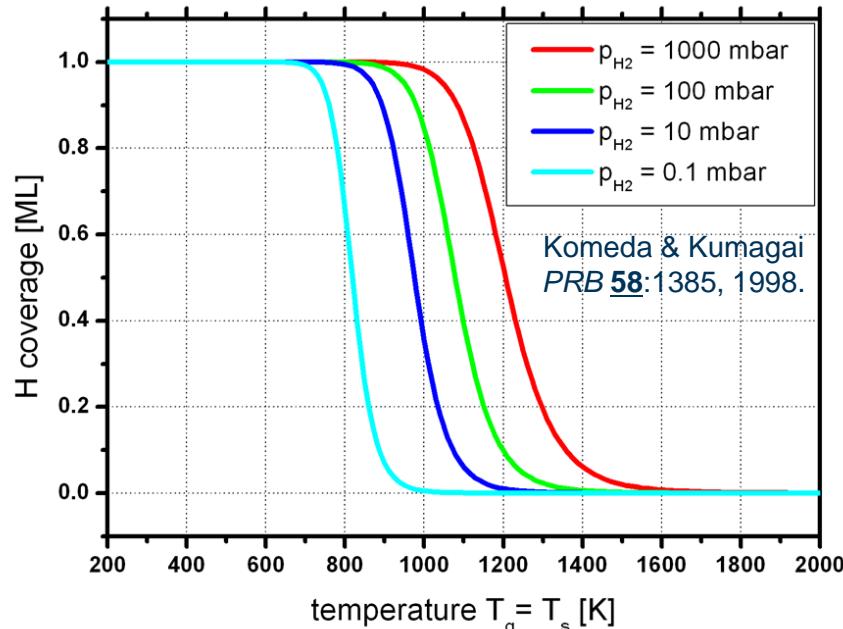


vacancy generation+ anisotropic diffusion+ annihilation at SB edges

Swartzentruber et al., *Surf. Sci.* **329** : 83, 1995 ; Bedrossian and Klitsner,, *Phys. Rev. Lett.* **68** : 646, 1992.



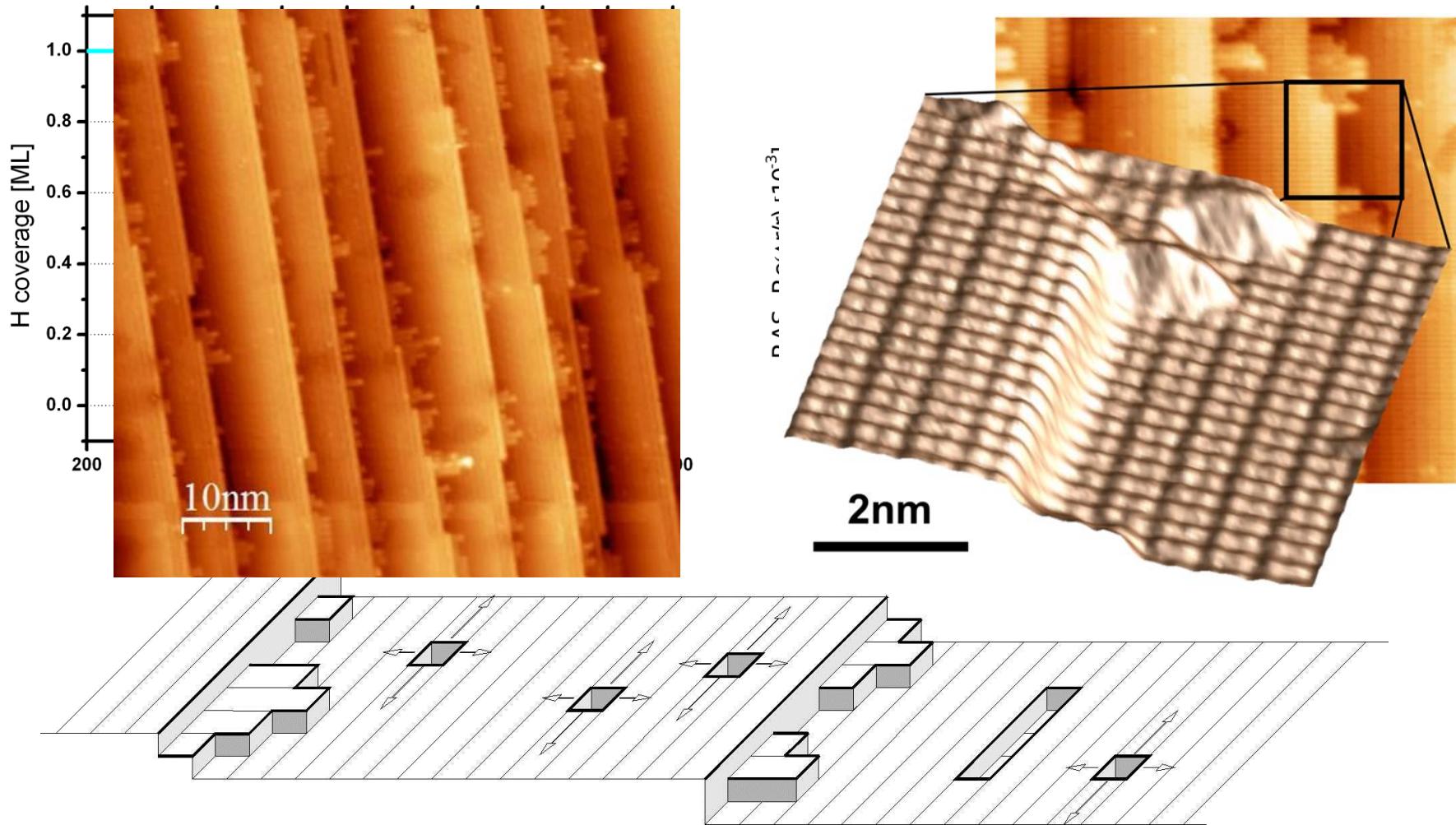
# Si(100) in H-ambient: $D_A$ steps



vacancy generation+ anisotropic diffusion+ annihilation at SB edges

Swartzentruber et al., *Surf. Sci.* **329** : 83, 1995 ; Bedrossian and Klitsner,, *Phys. Rev. Lett.* **68** : 646, 1992.

# Si(100) in H-ambient: D<sub>A</sub> steps

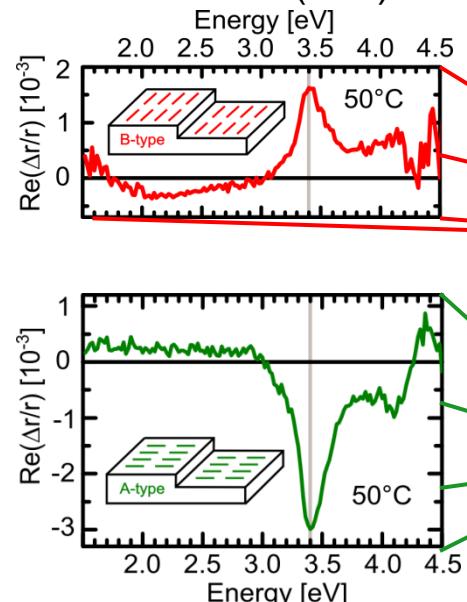


vacancy generation+ anisotropic diffusion+ annihilation at SB edges

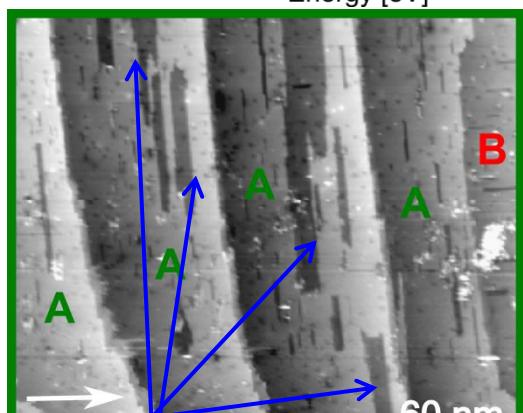
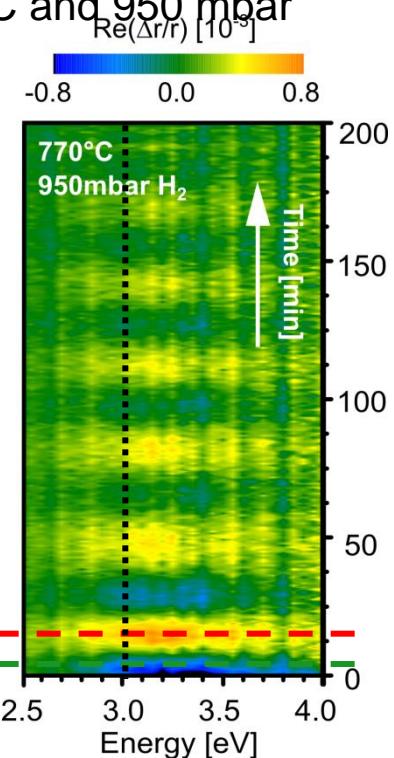
Swartzentruber et al., *Surf. Sci.* **329** : 83, 1995 ; Bedrossian and Klitsner,, *Phys. Rev. Lett.* **68** : 646, 1992.

# Observation of layer-by-layer removal

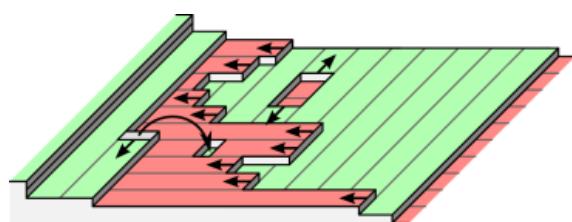
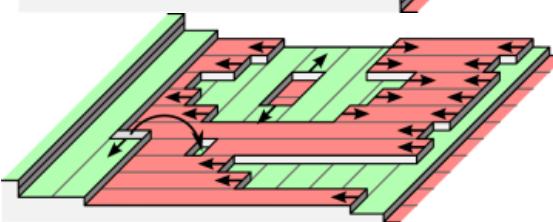
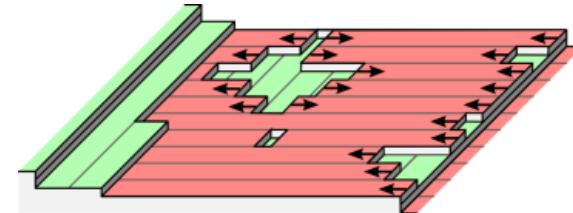
In situ RAS at Si(100)  $0.1^\circ \rightarrow [011]$ :



annealing at  $770^\circ\text{C}$  and 950 mbar



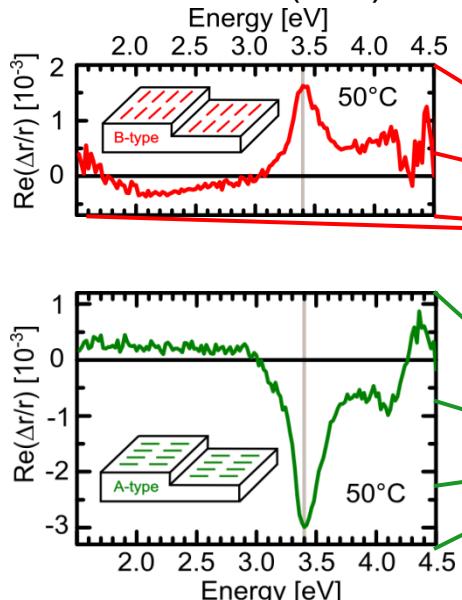
layer-by-layer removal



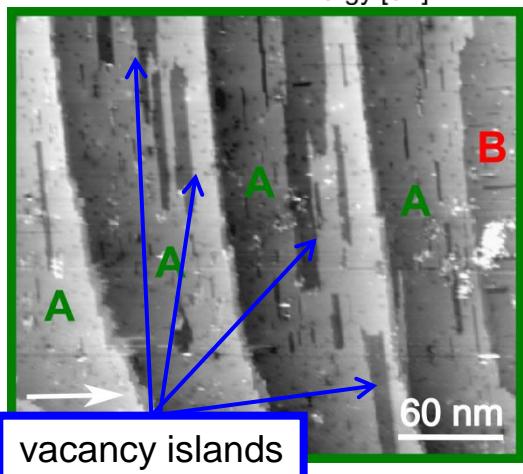
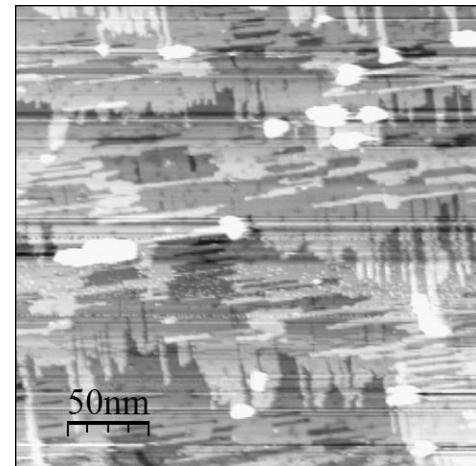
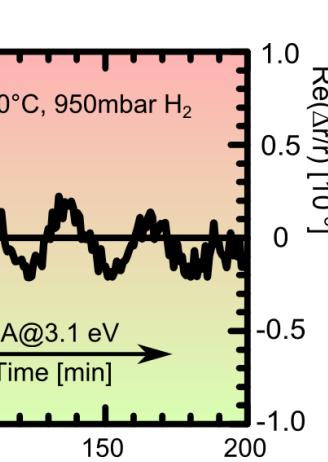
S. Brückner et al., *New J. Phys.*  
15 113049 (2013)

# Observation of layer-by-layer removal

In situ RAS at Si(100)  $0.1^\circ \rightarrow [011]$ :



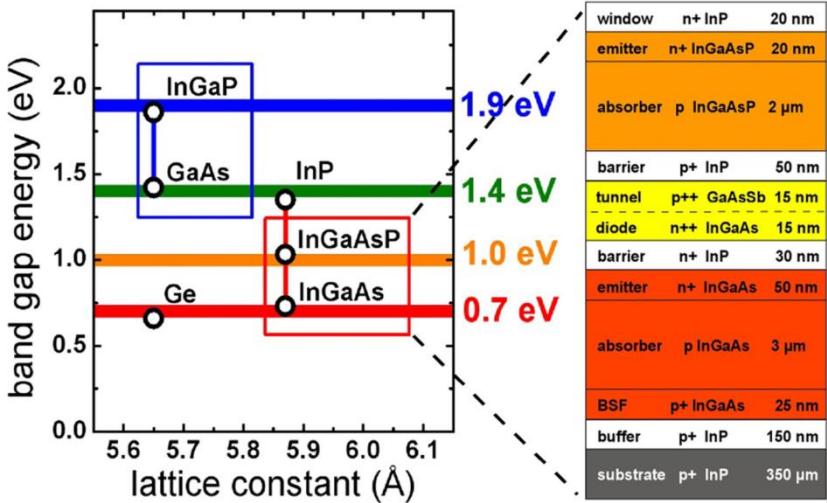
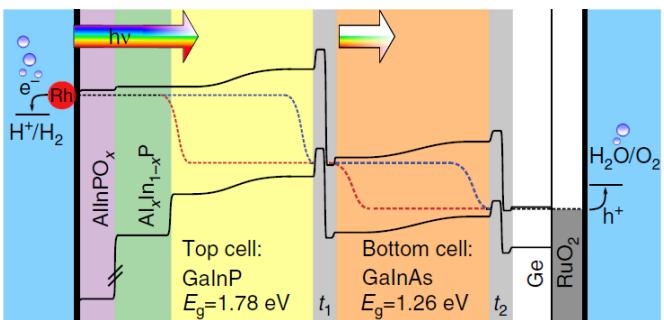
annealing at  $770^\circ$  C and 950 mbar



Oscillation = alternating formation of  
**A-** and **B-type** majority domains

- STM → nucleation of vacancies
  - anisotropic diffusion of vacancies alongside dimer rows  
→ elongated vacancy islands
  - removal of subjacent Si layer limited by size of vacancy island
- layer-by-layer removal

# Conclusion

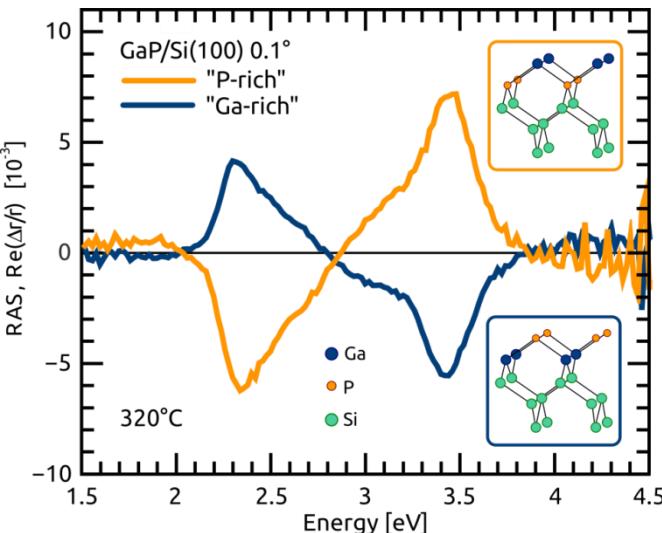


## 1. Record cell development:

- 46 % in PV, > 50 % accessible
- 14 % in direct solar H-generation,  
» stability, efficiency, catalysis, costs  
to be addressed

## 2. III-V on silicon (100)

- atomically abrupt interface
- P-Si bonds at interface



**TU Ilmenau:** Oliver Supplie, Matthias May, Peter Kleinschmidt, Sebastian Brückner, Christian Koppka, Henning Döscher, Weihong Zhao, Agnieszka Paszuk, Matthias Steidl, Antonio Müller, Philipp Sippel

**Uni Duisburg-Essen:** Werner Prost, F-J. Tegude

**Helmholtz-Zentrum Berlin:** Roel van de Krol, Rainer Eichberger, Klaus Schwarzburg, Christian Höhn

**Paul Drude Institut:**  
Frank Grosse,  
Alexandre Romanyuk



**Fraunhofer ISE:**  
Frank Dimroth, Andreas Bett



**Azur Space:**  
Thomas Bergunde, Kristof Möller



**CalTech:**  
Achim Lewerenz, Harry Atwater



**Aixtron SE:** Michael Heuken



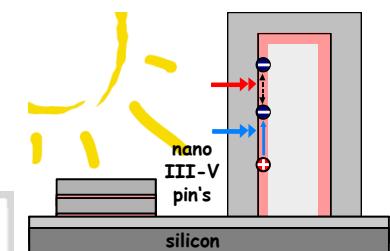
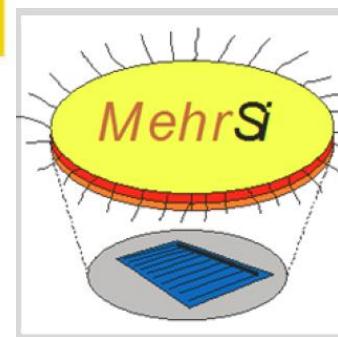
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DUISBURG  
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Offen im Denken

**HZB** Helmholtz  
Zentrum Berlin



Bundesministerium  
für Bildung  
und Forschung



**DFG**  
(HA3096/4-1)

**Thank you!**

