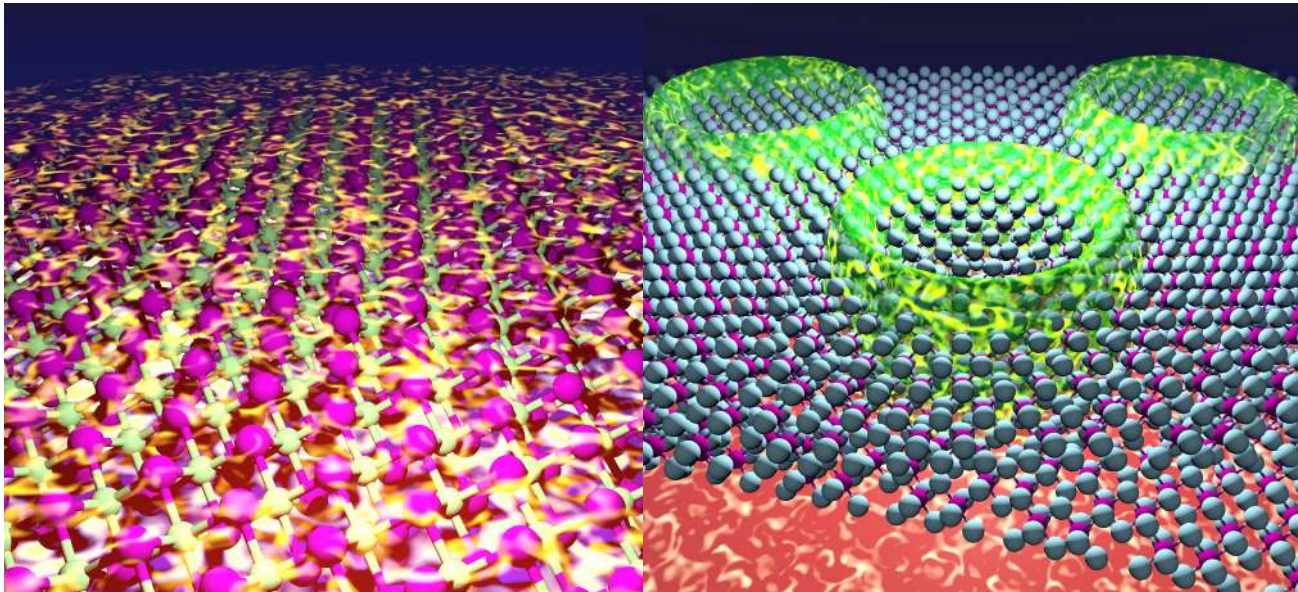


# Artificial van der Waals multiferroics with twisted two-dimensional materials

Jose Lado

*Department of Applied Physics, Aalto University, Finland*



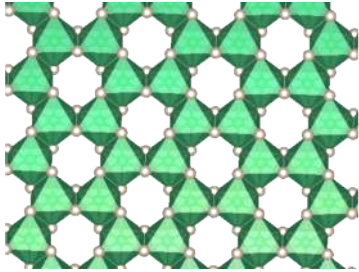
2D Materials 9 (2), 025010 (2022)

2D Materials 10 (2), 025026 (2023)

CMD30, Novel 2D magnetic materials and heterostructures, Milan, Italy, September 7<sup>th</sup> 2023

# Van der Waals magnetic materials

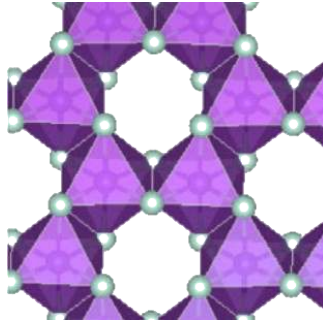
**Ferromagnet,  
antiferromagnets**



$\text{CrI}_3$ ,  $\text{CrCl}_3$ ,  $\text{CrBr}_3$

*Nature* 546, 270–273 (2017)

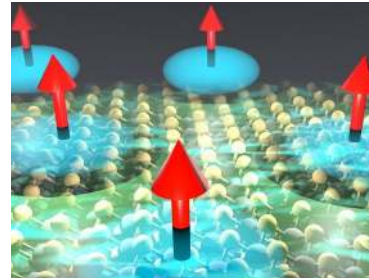
**(proximal)  
Quantum  
spin-liquids**



$\text{RuCl}_3$ , 1T-TaS<sub>2</sub>

*Nature Physics* 17, 1154–1161 (2021)

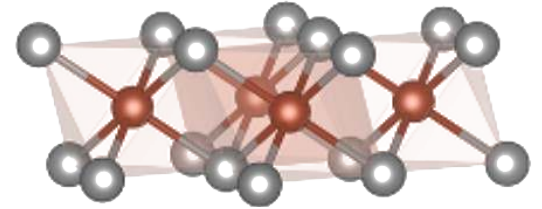
**Heavy-fermion  
Kondo insulators**



1T-TaS<sub>2</sub>/1H-TaS<sub>2</sub>

*Nature* 599, 582–586 (2021)

**Multiferroics**



$\text{NiI}_2$

*Nature* 602, 601–605 (2022)

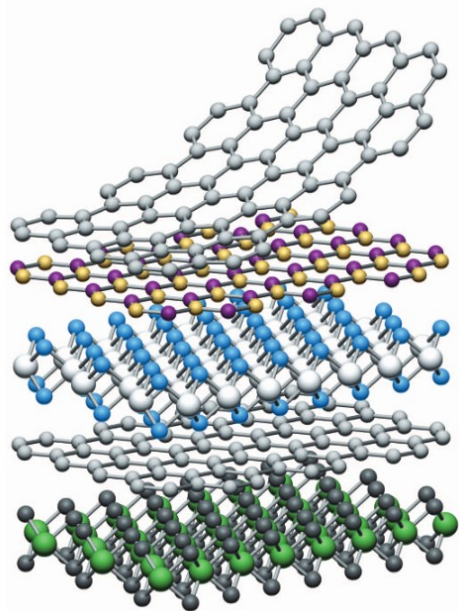
Break time-reversal

Do not break time-reversal

Break time-reversal  
and inversion symmetry

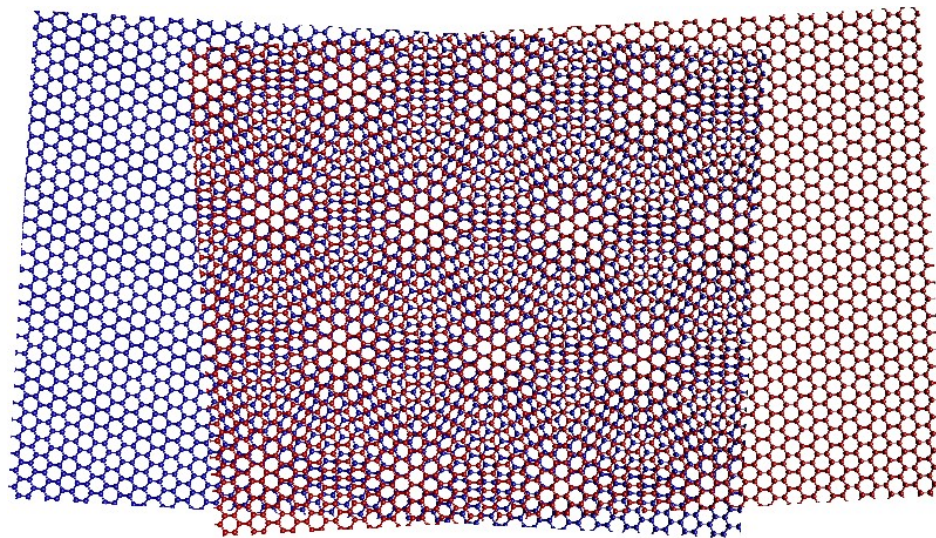
# The flexibility of two-dimensional materials

**They can be stacked**



*Nature* 499, 419–425 (2013)

**They can be rotated**

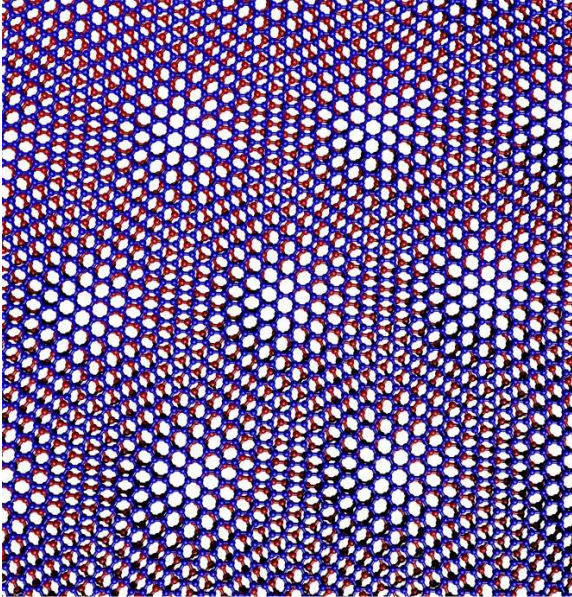


*Science* 361, 6403, 690-693 (2018)

**These are unique features of two-dimensional materials**

# The flexibility of twist engineering

## Twisted bilayer graphene

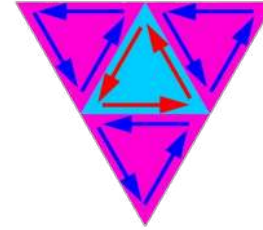


## Superconductivity

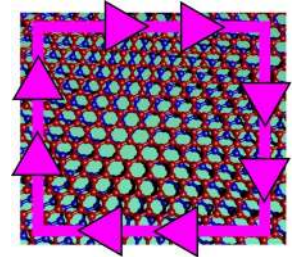


*Nature* 556, 43–50 (2018)

## Topological networks Chern insulators

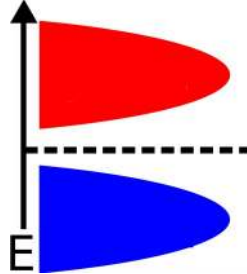


*Nano Lett.* 18, 11, 6725–6730 (2018)



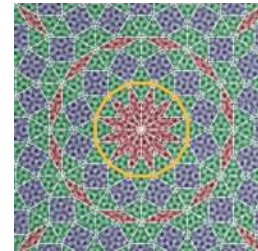
*Science* 365, 605–608 (2019)

## Correlated insulators



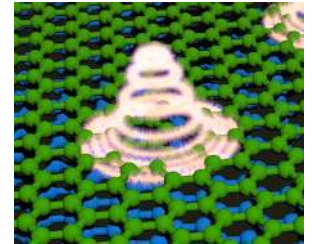
*Nature* 556, 80–84 (2018)

## Quasicrystalline physics



*Science* 361, 782–786 (2018)

## Fractional Chern insulators

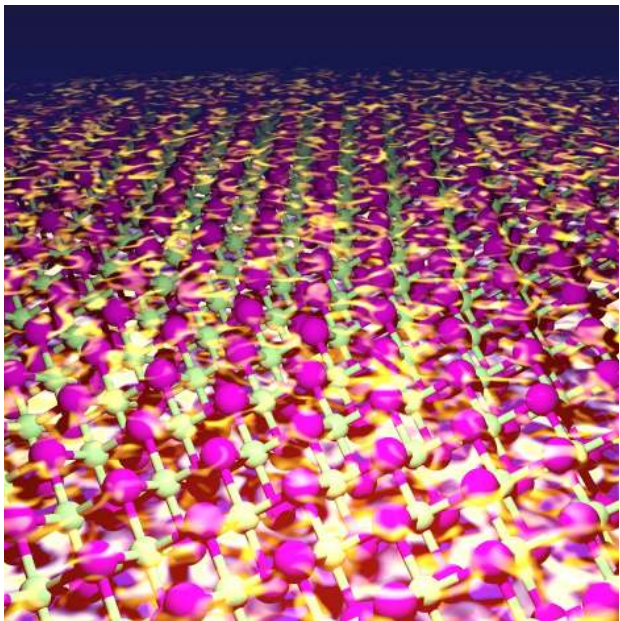


*Nature* 600, 439–443 (2021)

***Twisted van der Waals multilayers provide a powerful platform for emergent phenomena***

# Two strategies for multiferroicity in van der Waals materials

## Multiferroic monolayer $\text{NiI}_2$

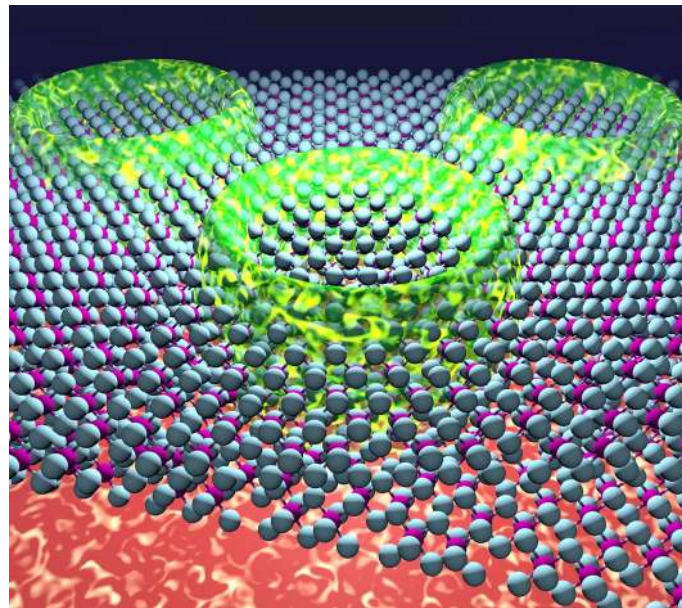


*2D Materials 9 (2), 025010 (2022)*

Adolfo Fumega

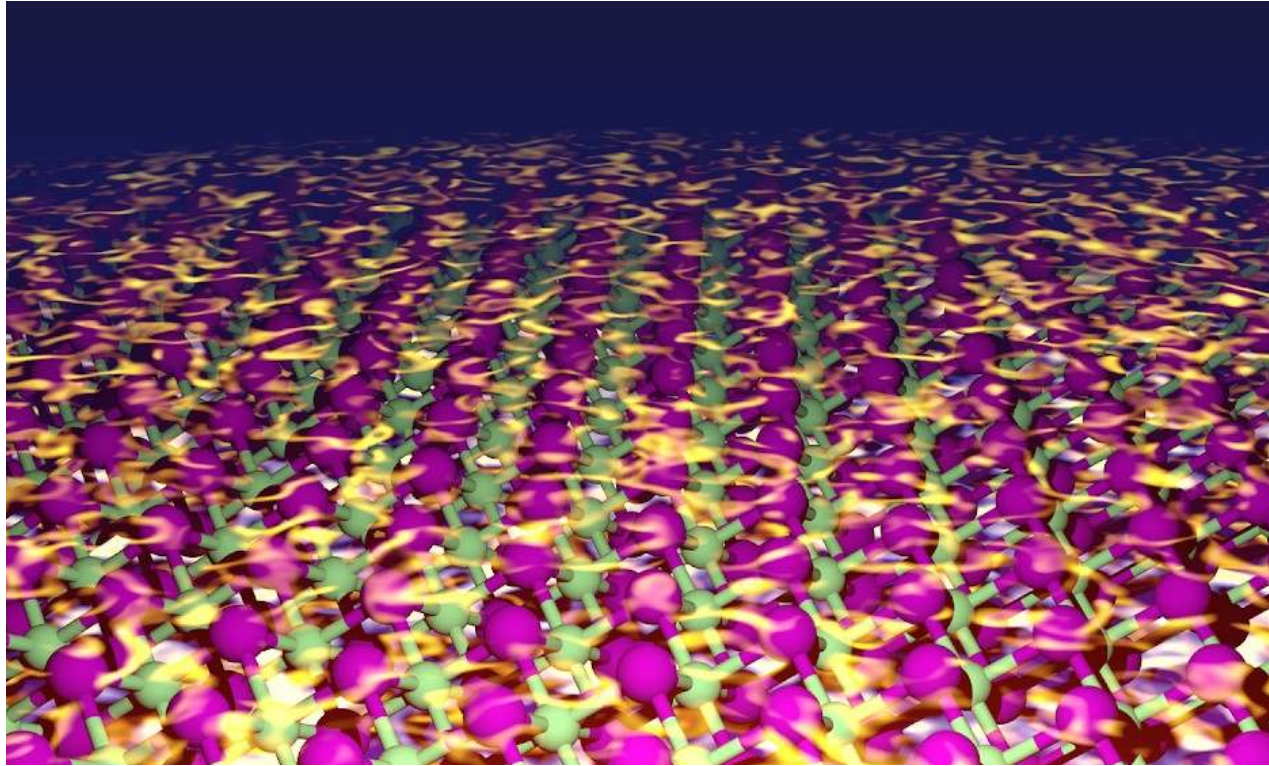


## Artificial multiferroics via twist engineering with $\text{CrBr}_3$ bilayers



*2D Materials 10 (2), 025026 (2023)*

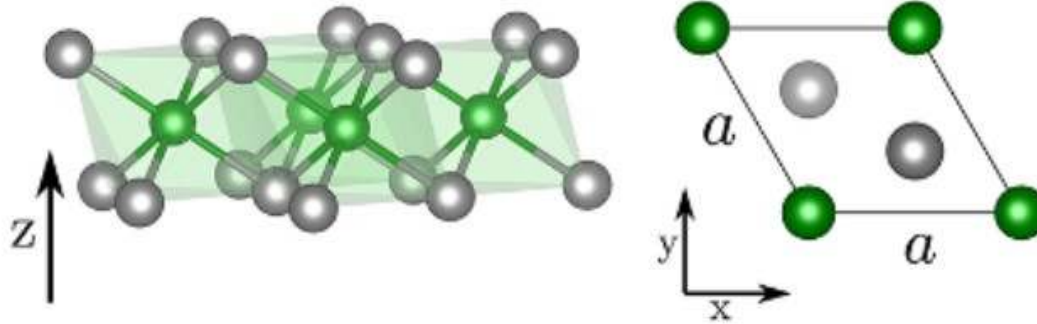
# The origin of multiferroic order in $\text{NiI}_2$



*2D Materials 9 (2), 025010 (2022)*

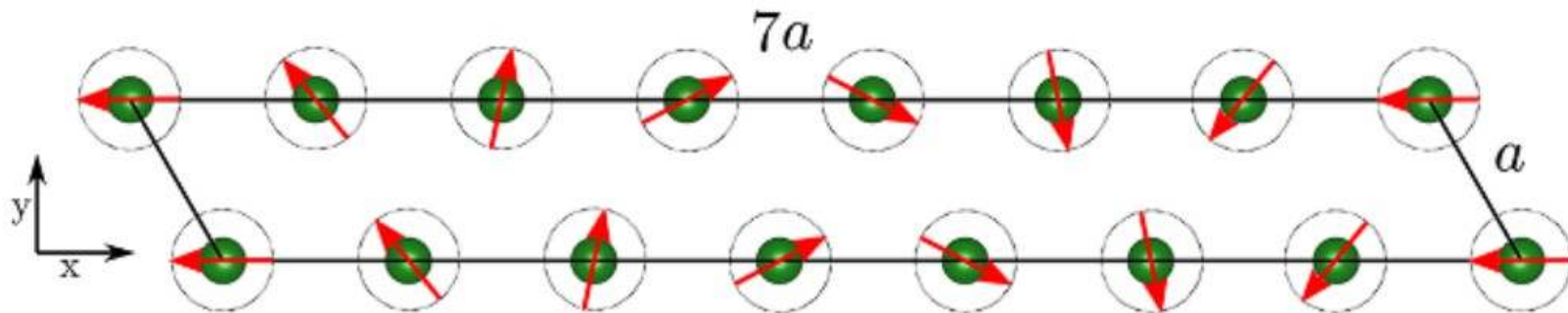
# Monolayer $\text{NiI}_2$

Structure



Magnetic structure

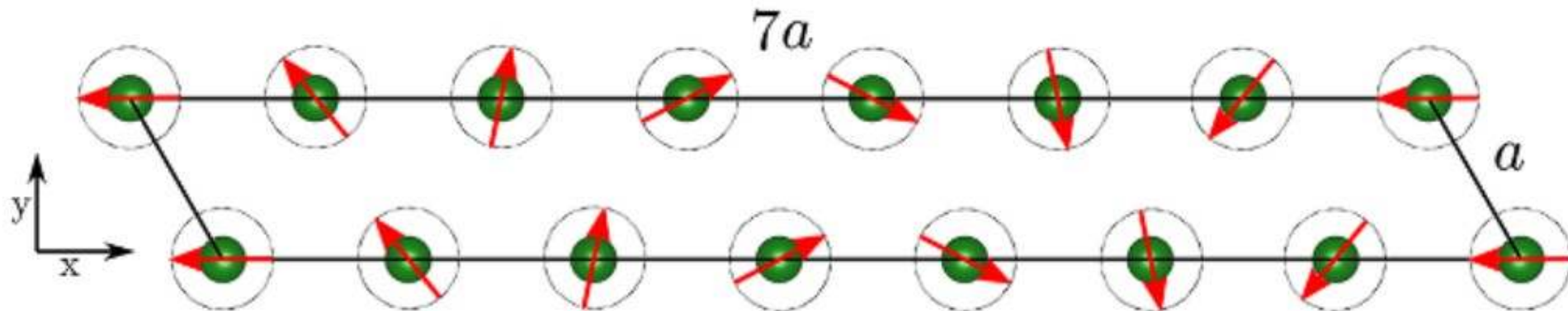
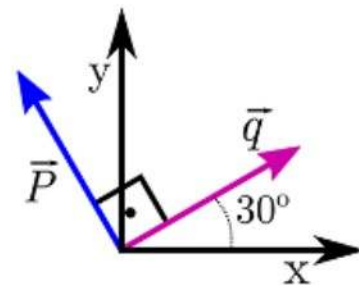
*Nature* 602, 601–605 (2022)



# The origin of ferroelectricity in $\text{NiI}_2$

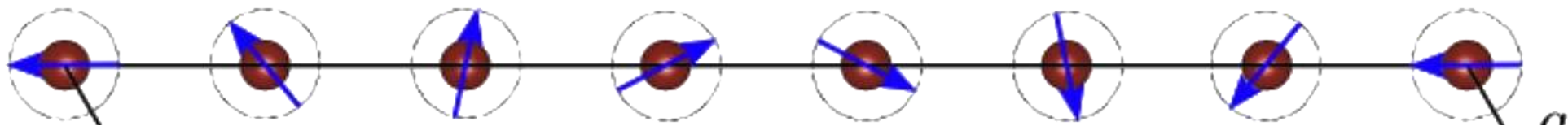
Magnetically driven ferroelectric order  $\mathbf{P} = \xi \mathbf{q} \times \mathbf{e},$

$$\mathbf{M}(\mathbf{r}) = e^{i(\mathbf{e} \cdot \mathbf{S})(\mathbf{q} \cdot (\mathbf{r} - \mathbf{r}_0))} \mathbf{M}(\mathbf{r}_0)$$



The emergence of non-collinear order is the driving of ferroelectricity

# The origin of ferroelectricity in $\text{NiI}_2$



$$\mathbf{P} = \xi \mathbf{q} \times \mathbf{e}$$

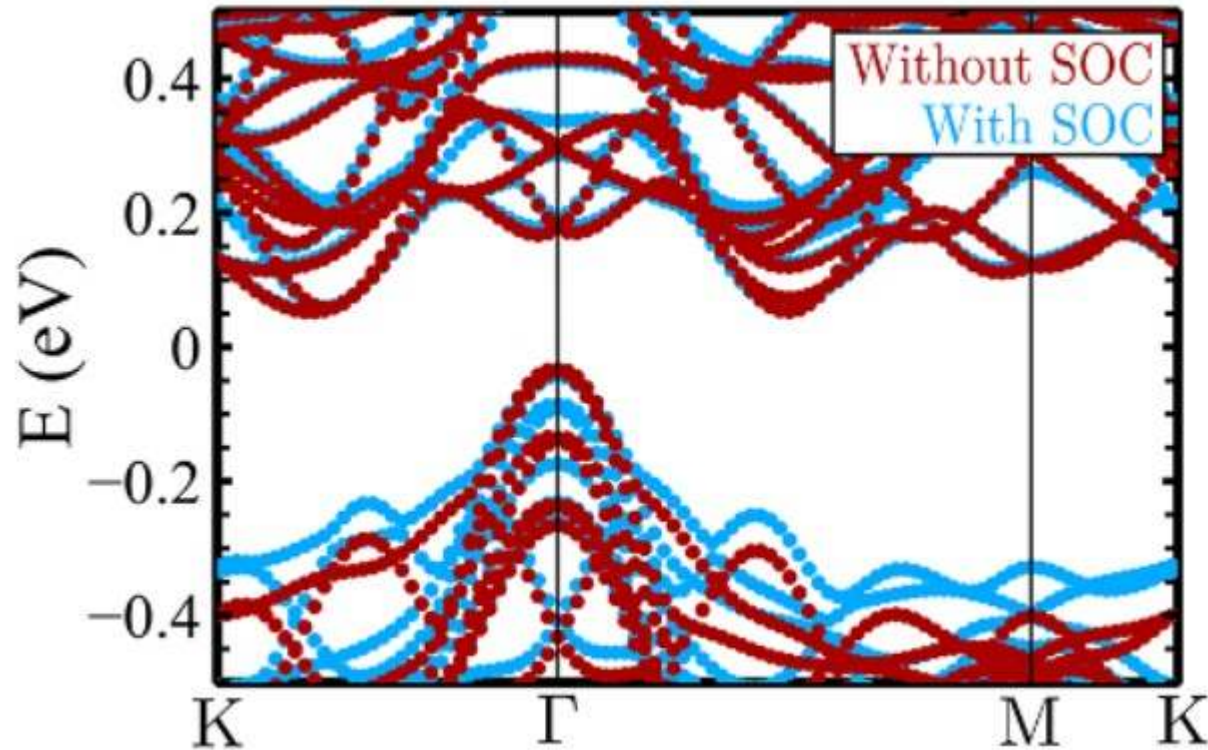
Electric polarization

SOC driven

Wavevector of the spin spiral

Spin rotation axis

# The impact of spin-orbit coupling in the electronic structure



*Spin-orbit coupling introduces corrections of 100 meV close to the Fermi level*

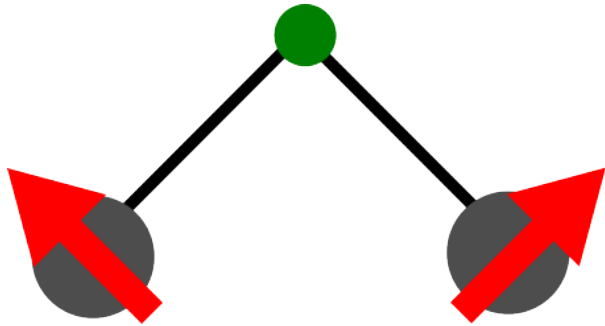
There is a major role of the halide close to the Fermi level

# The impact of spin-orbit coupling in magnetic ordering

In the presence of spin-orbit coupling, new terms can appear in the Hamiltonian

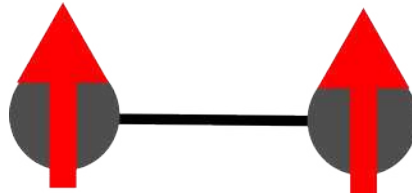
Antisymmetric exchange

$$(\mathbf{r}_{ik} \times \mathbf{r}_{kj}) \cdot \vec{S}_i \times \vec{S}_j$$



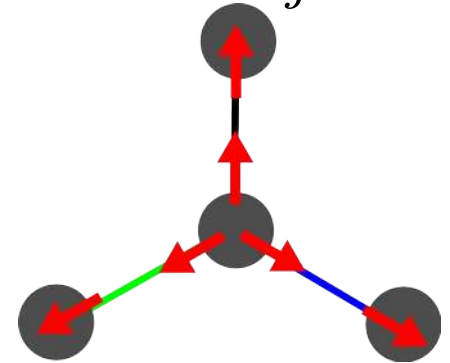
Anisotropic exchange

$$S_i^z S_j^z$$



Kitaev interaction

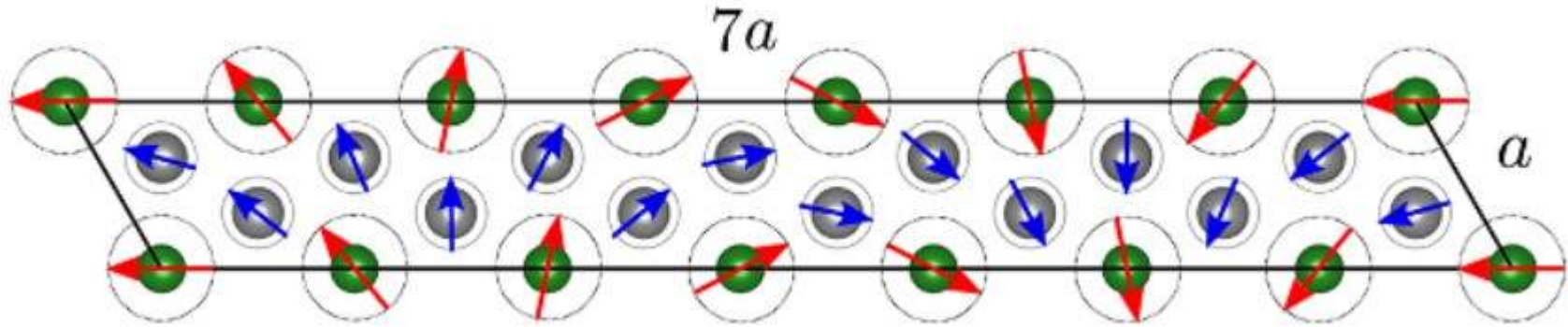
$$S_i^{\alpha(i)} S_j^{\alpha(j)}$$



*In  $\text{NiI}_2$ , the non-collinear order is promoted by isotropic exchange*

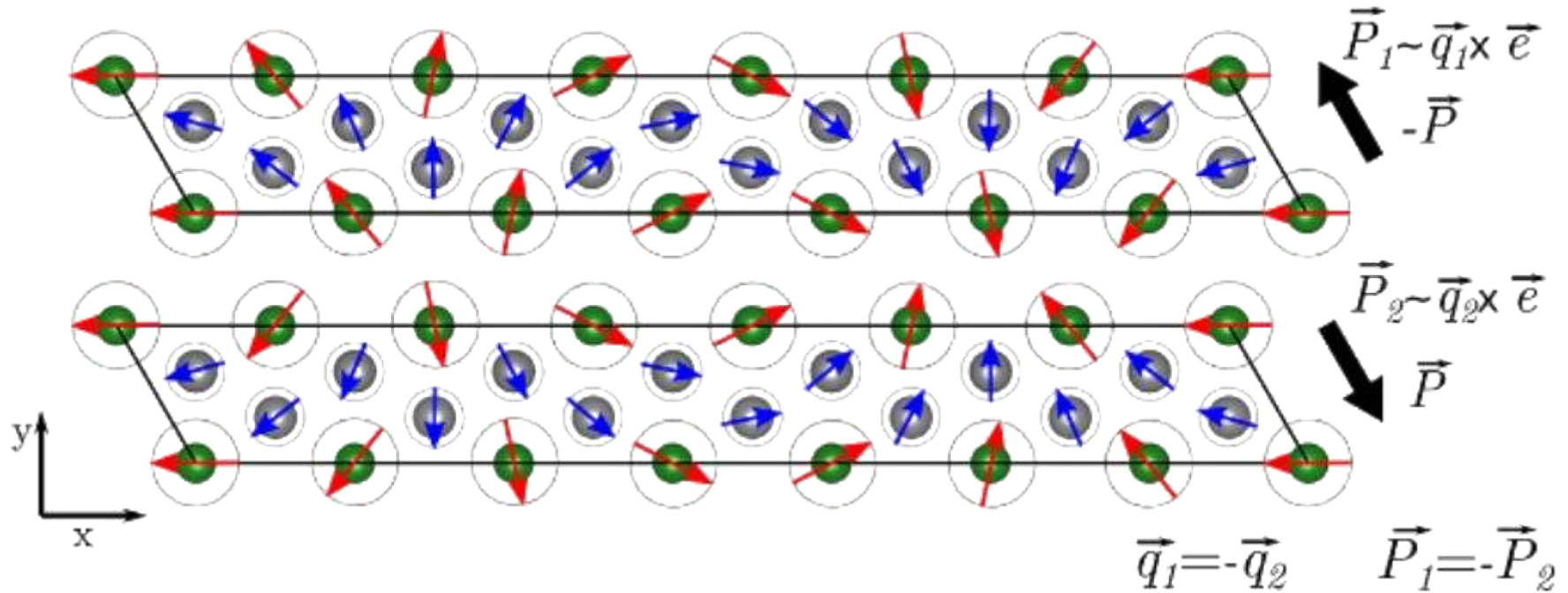
*In  $\text{NiI}_2$ , the ferroelectricity is created by inverse antisymmetric exchange*

# The interplay between magnetism and halide electronic structure



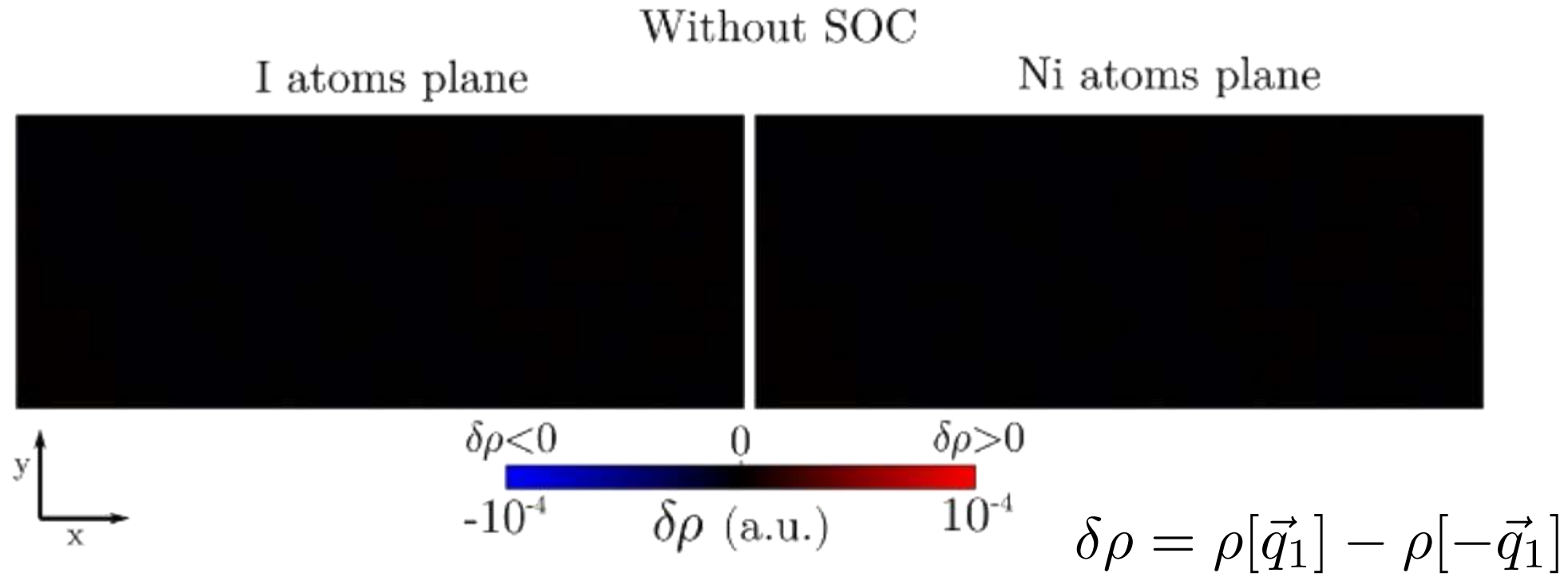
**Magnetism not only appears in Ni, but a sizable value merges also in I**

# Ferroelectric correction to the electronic density



We will examine the ferroelectric density correction  $\delta\rho = \rho[\vec{q}_1] - \rho[-\vec{q}_1]$

# Ferroelectric correction to the electronic density



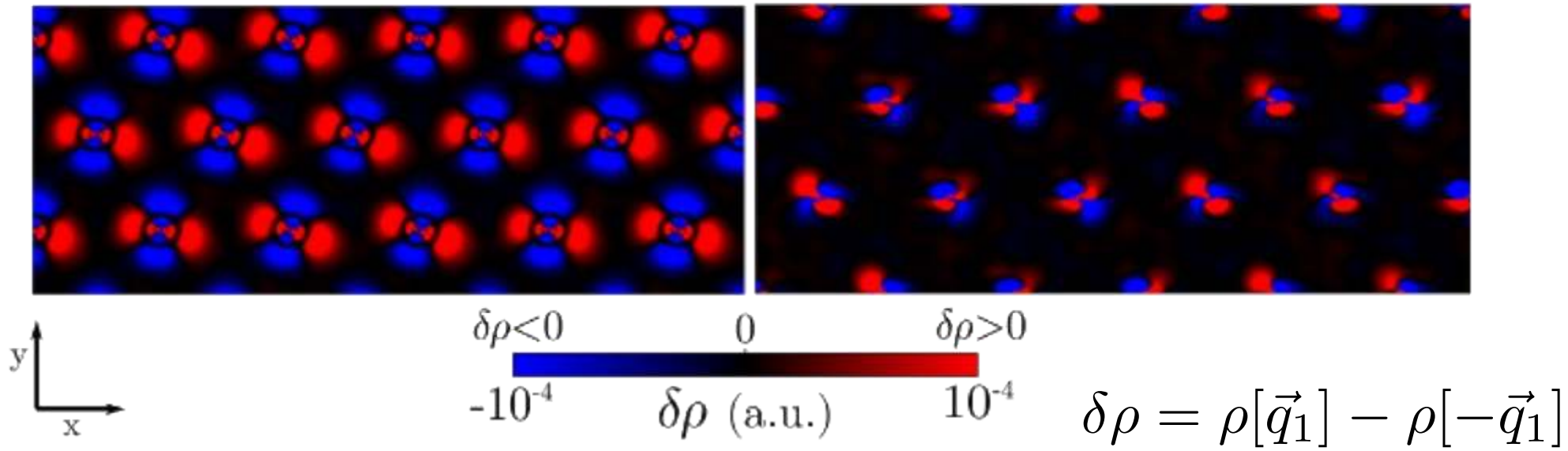
In the absence of SOC, no ferroelectric density appears

# Ferroelectric correction to the electronic density

With SOC

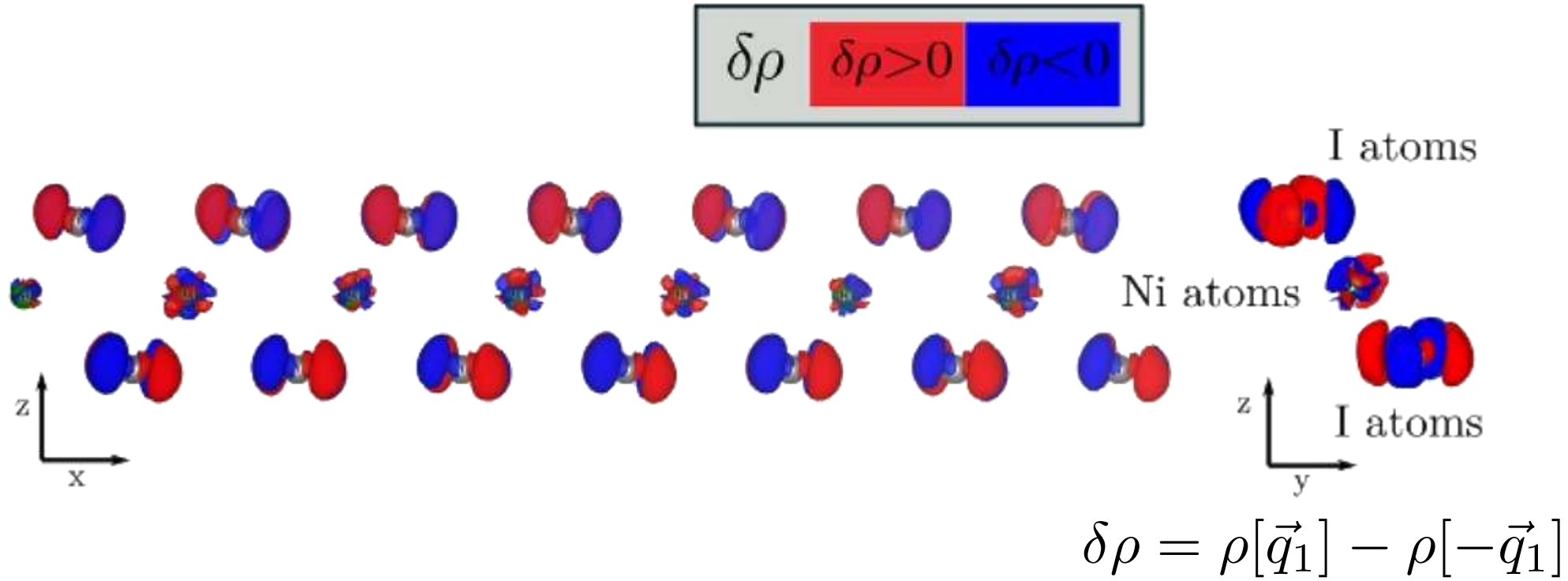
I atoms plane

Ni atoms plane



In the presence of SOC, a ferroelectric density appears both in Ni and I

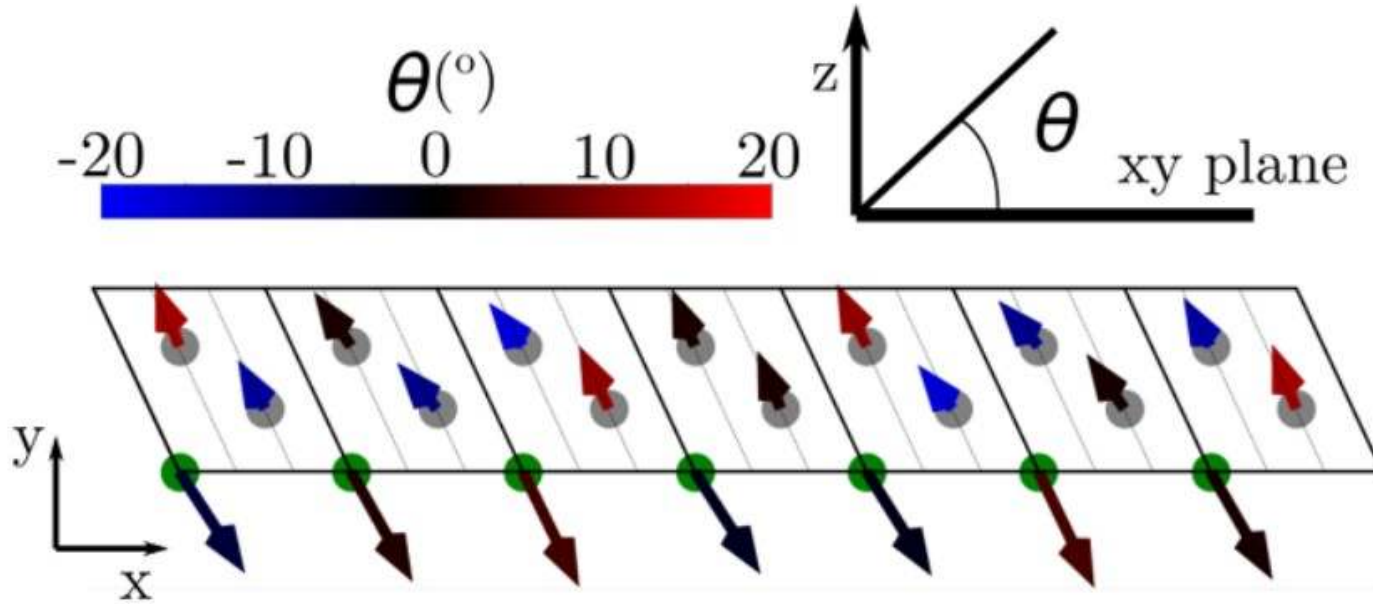
# Ferroelectric correction to the electronic density



The ferroelectric density has comparable magnitudes in Ni and I

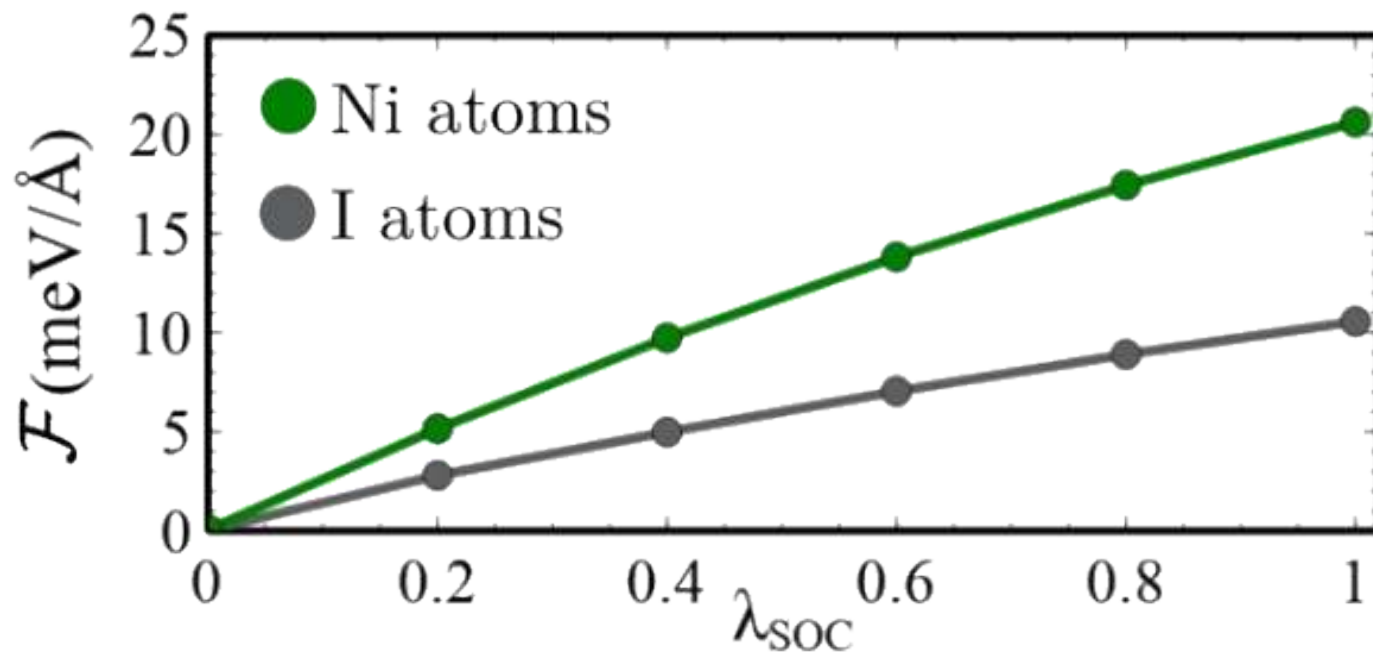
# The ferroelectric force

$$\mathcal{F}_\alpha = \frac{1}{2}(\mathbf{F}_\alpha[\mathbf{q}_1] - \mathbf{F}_\alpha[\mathbf{q}_2]),$$



The forces between the two magnetic configuration account for the ferroelectric displacement

# The ferroelectric force



$$\mathcal{H} = \mathcal{H}_0 + \lambda_{\text{SOC}} \mathcal{H}_{\text{SOC}},$$

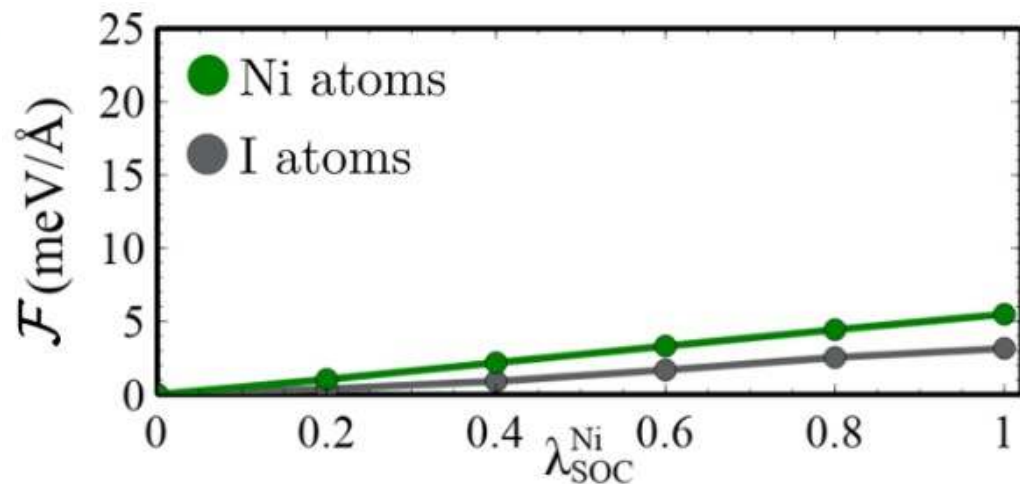
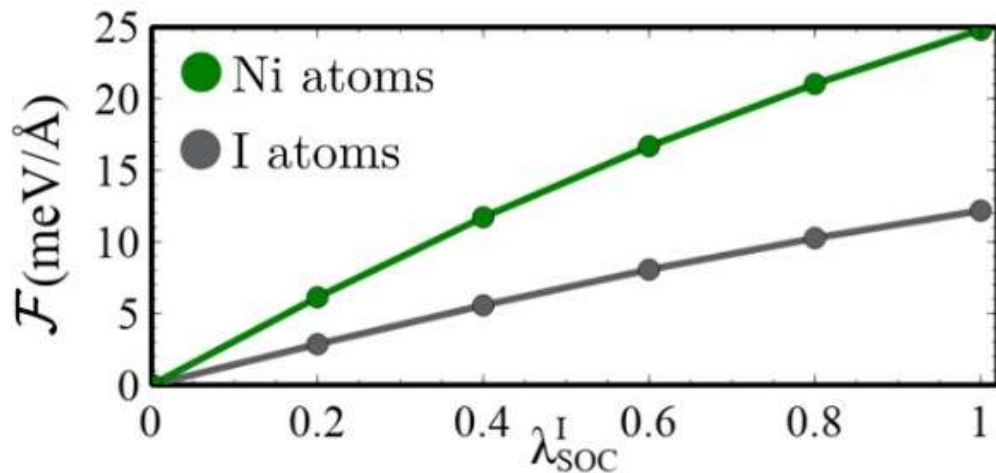
$$\mathcal{F}_{\text{Ni}} = \langle |\mathcal{F}_{\alpha}| \rangle_{\text{Ni}}$$

$$\mathcal{F}_{\text{I}} = \langle |\mathcal{F}_{\alpha}| \rangle_{\text{I}}$$

Both Ni and I contribute to the atomic displacement associated with ferroelectricity

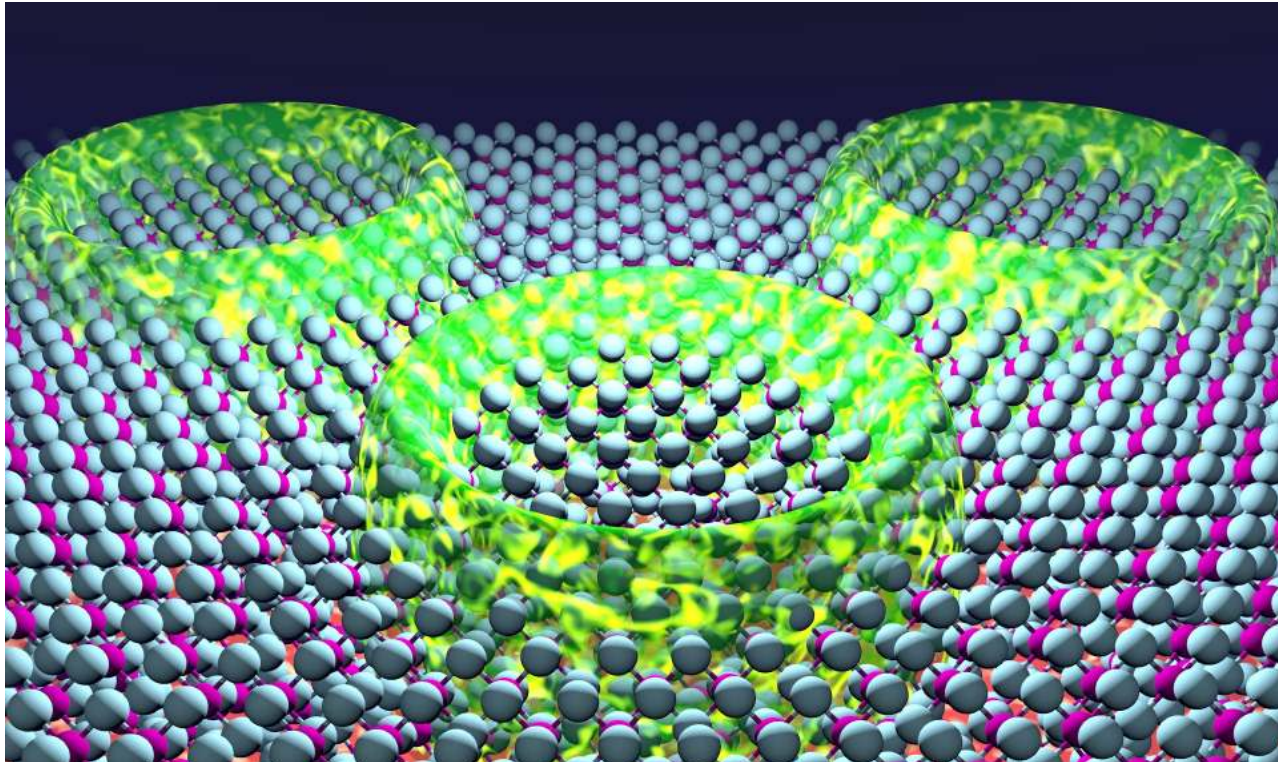
# The ferroelectric force

$$\mathcal{H} = \mathcal{H}_0 + \lambda_{\text{SOC}}^{\text{Ni}} \mathcal{H}_{\text{SOC}}^{\text{Ni}} + \lambda_{\text{SOC}}^{\text{I}} \mathcal{H}_{\text{SOC}}^{\text{I}},$$



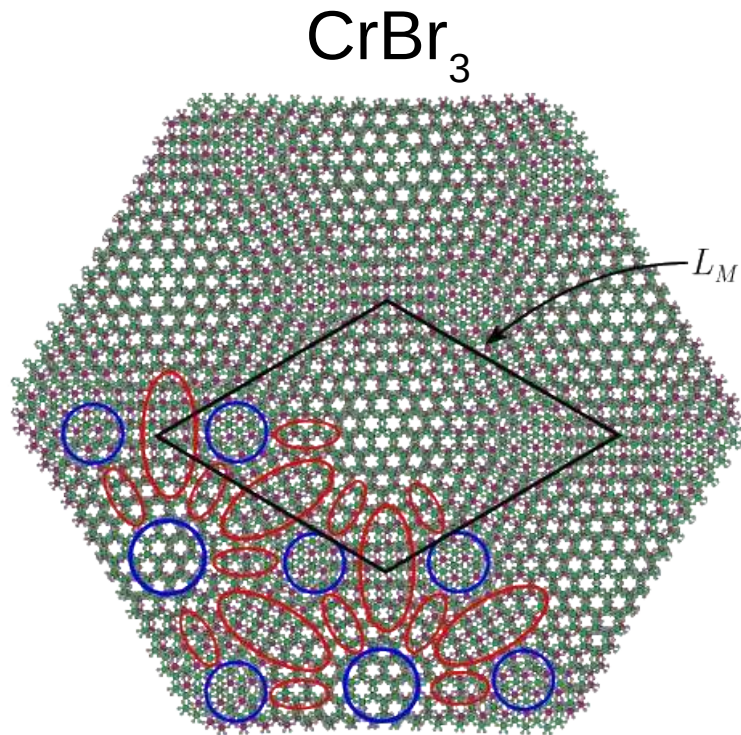
*The dominant contribution to the ferroelectric force comes from I*

# Engineering artificial multiferroics with twisted van der Waals materials



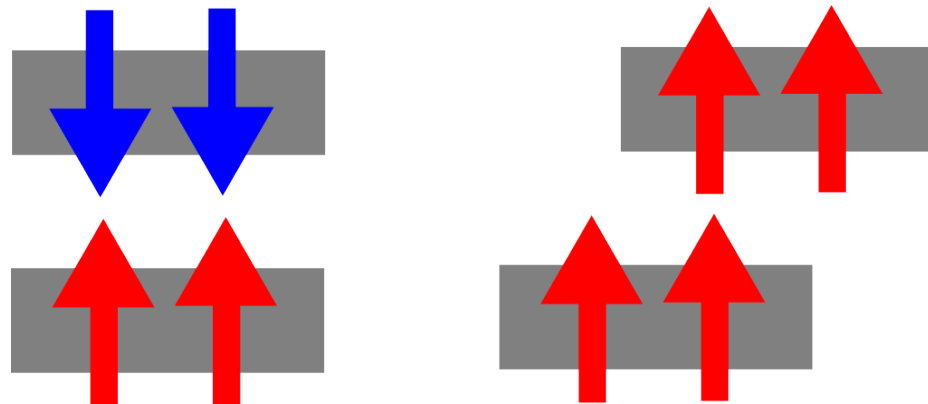
*2D Materials 10 025026 (2023)*

# Twisted 2D trihalides



Bilayer Stacking

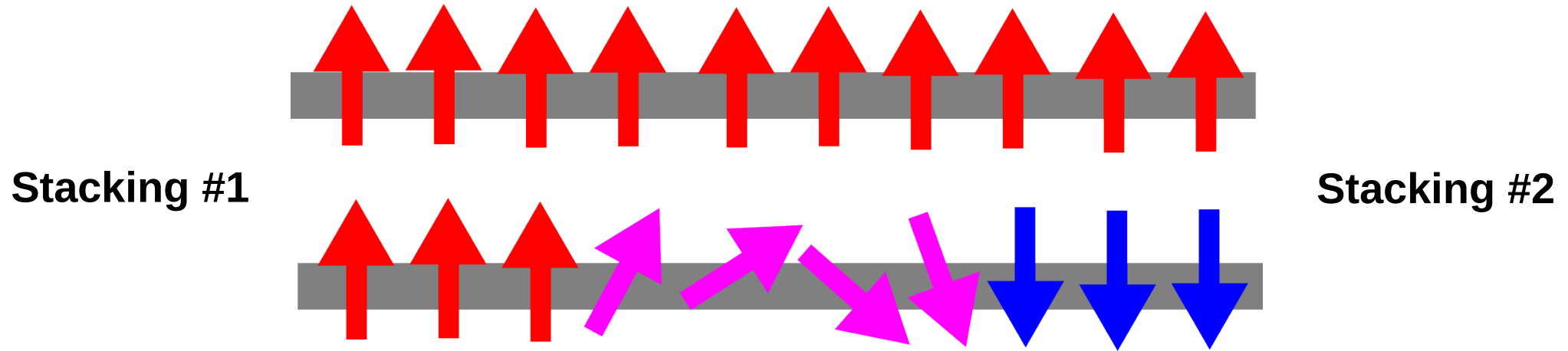
|     |              |
|-----|--------------|
| (M) | Monoclinic   |
| (R) | Rhombohedral |



The local stacking determines  
the coupling between layers

Nature Nanotechnology 17, 143–147 (2022)

# Non-collinear magnetism at domain walls



**Mixed FE/AF domains**

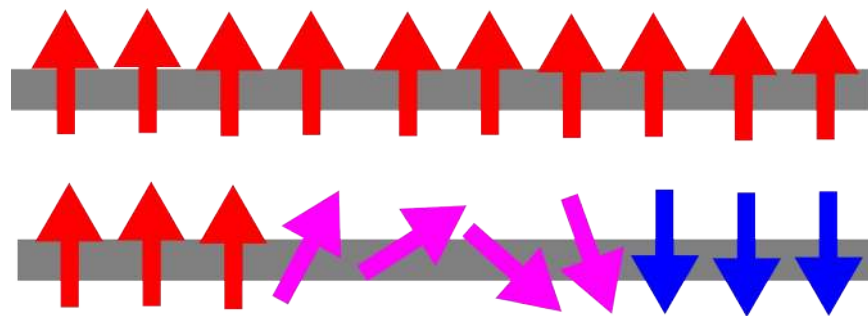
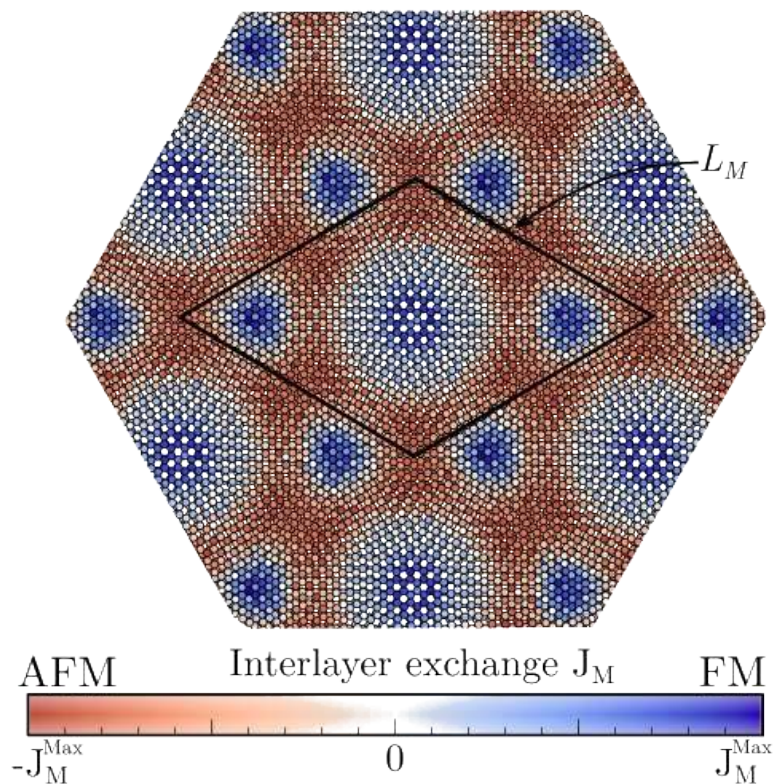
**Non-collinear magnetism**

Nature Nanotechnology 17, 143–147 (2022)

arXiv:2204.01636

# Twisted 2D magnetic materials

Non-collinear magnetism and multiferroic order appear due to the moire



$$\mathbf{P} = \xi \mathbf{q} \times \mathbf{e}$$

Electric  
polarization

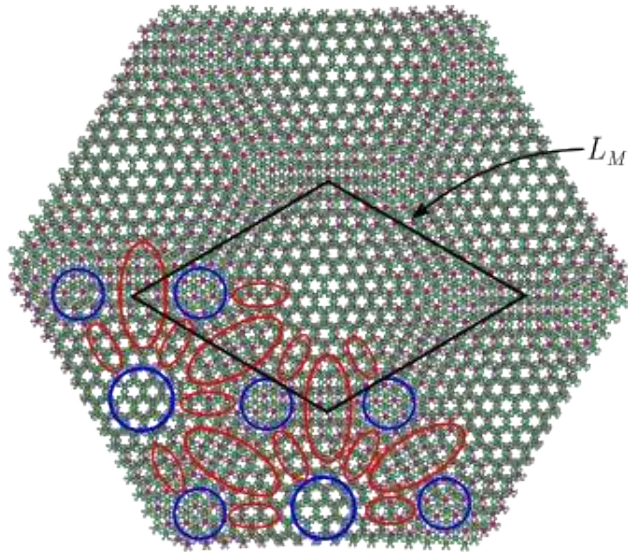
SOC driven

Spin rotation axis

Wavevector of the spin spiral

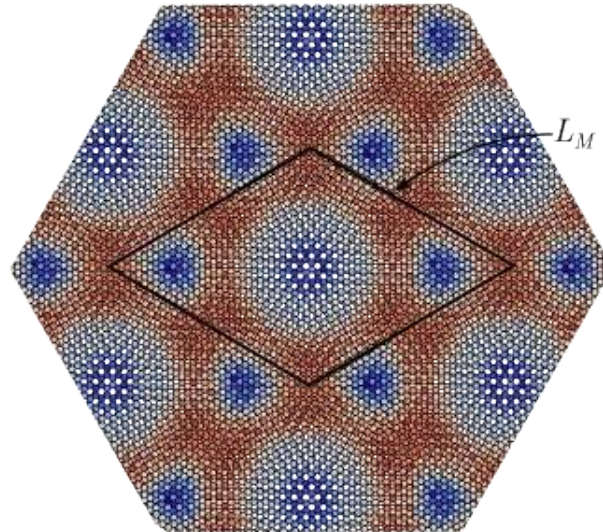
# Stacking, magnetic order and electric polarization

Structure



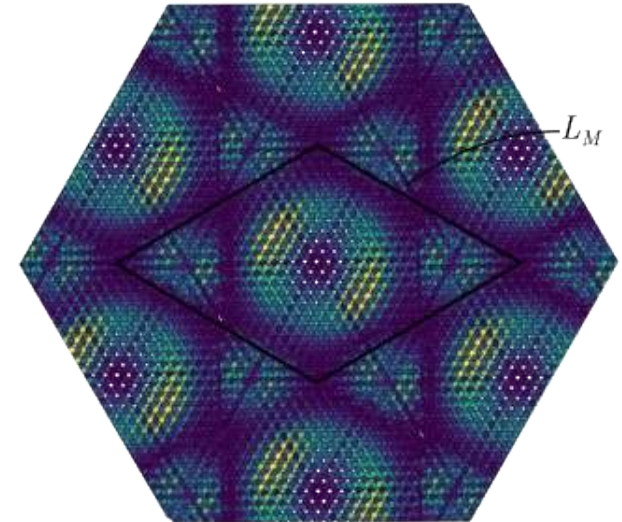
Bilayer Stacking  $\left\{ \begin{array}{l} \textcircled{M} \text{ Monoclinic} \\ \textcircled{R} \text{ Rhombohedral} \end{array} \right.$

Magnetic order



AFM Interlayer exchange  $J_M$  FM  
 $-J_M^{\text{Max}}$  0  $J_M^{\text{Max}}$

Ferroelectric order

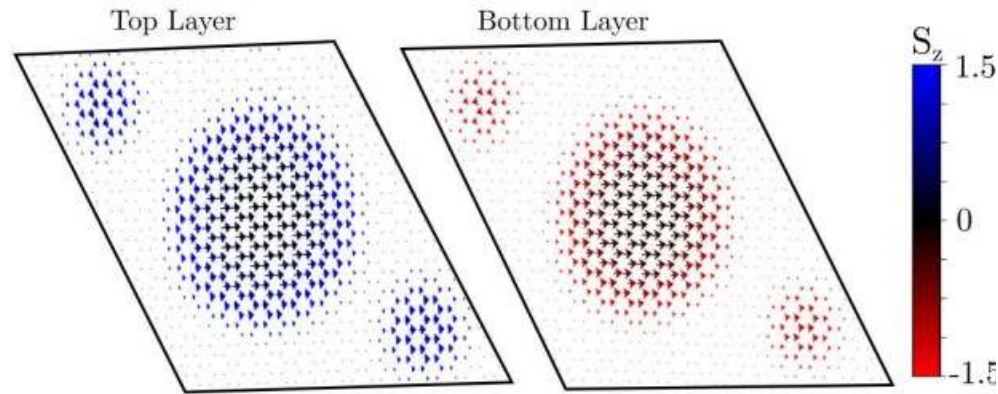


Electric Polarization  
0  $P^{\text{Max}}$

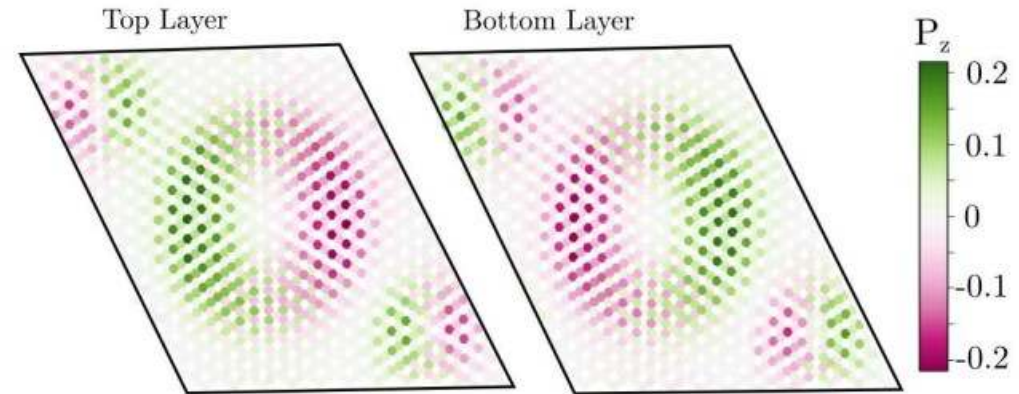
Stacking, magnetic structure and ferroelectric order are correlated

# Magnetization and ferroelectricity

**Magnetization**

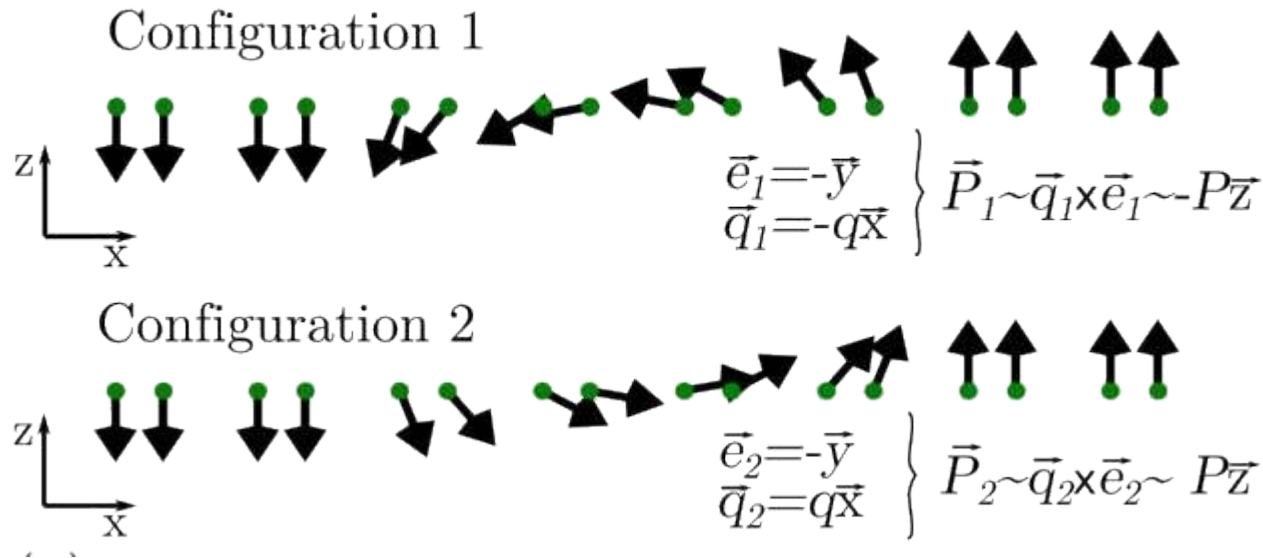


**Ferroelectric order**



**The ferroelectric order appear at the domain walls between magnetic domains**

# Tracking the emergence of ferroelectricity



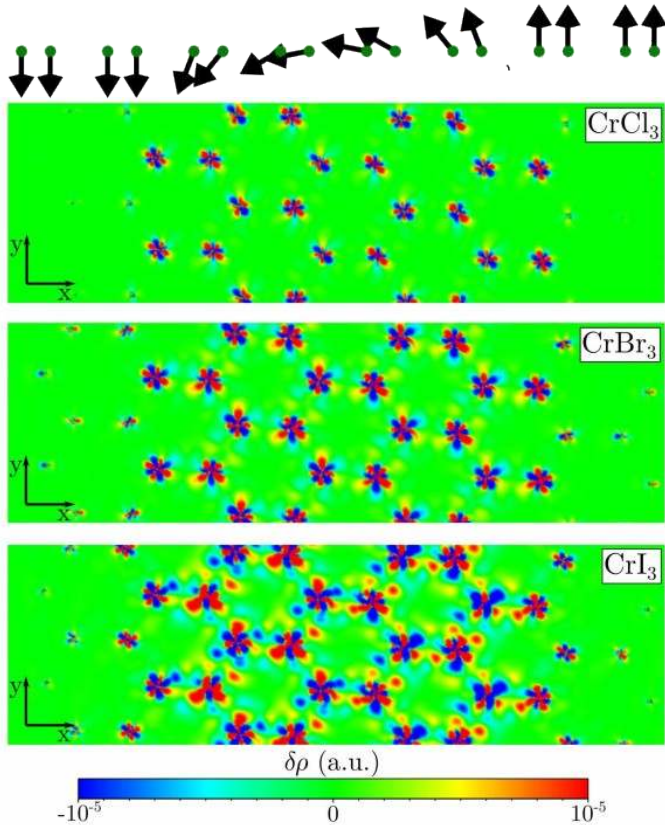
**Ferroelectric electronic density**

$$\delta\rho = \rho[\mathbf{q}_1] - \rho[\mathbf{q}_2]$$

**Ferroelectric force**

$$\mathcal{F}_\alpha = \frac{1}{2}(\mathbf{F}_\alpha[\mathbf{q}_1] - \mathbf{F}_\alpha[\mathbf{q}_2]),$$

# The ferroelectric electronic correction



**Ferroelectric electronic density**

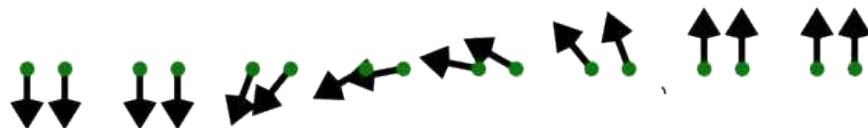
$$\delta\rho = \rho[\mathbf{q}_1] - \rho[\mathbf{q}_2]$$

The ferroelectric electronic correction emerges in the region with non-collinear magnetization

*It becomes stronger the heavier the halide*

# The ferroelectric force

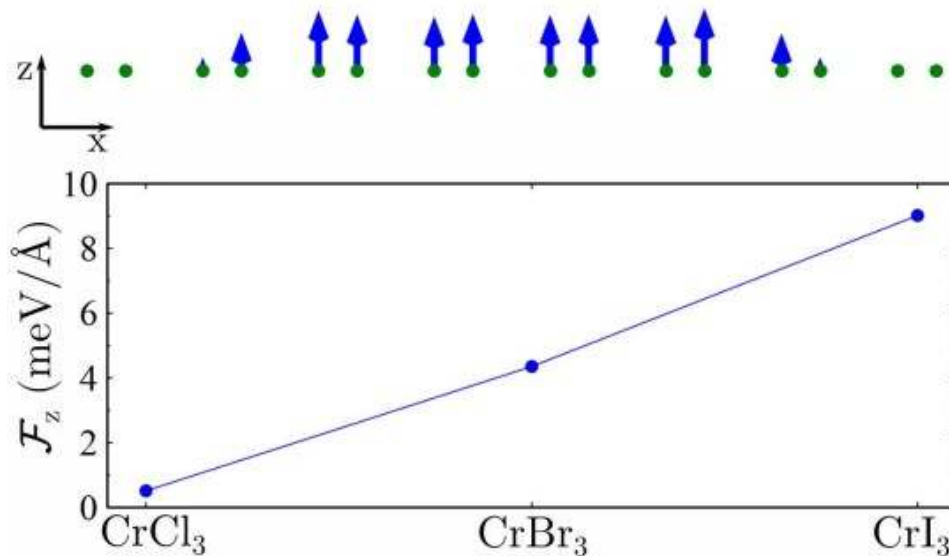
Magnetic configuration



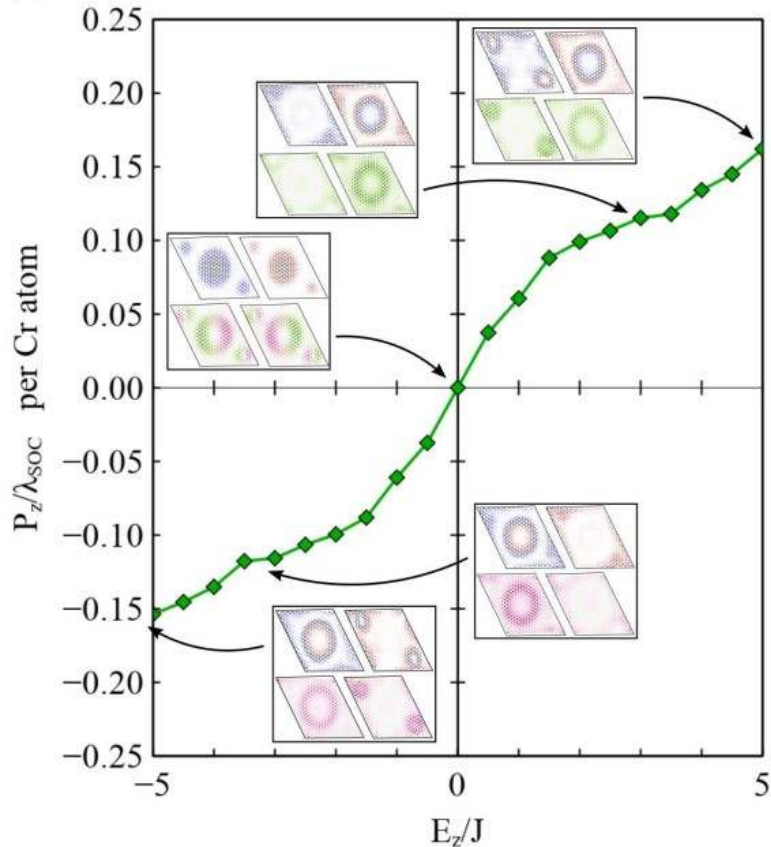
Ferroelectric force

$$\mathcal{F}_\alpha = \frac{1}{2}(\mathbf{F}_\alpha[\mathbf{q}_1] - \mathbf{F}_\alpha[\mathbf{q}_2]),$$

The ferroelectric force becomes  
Stronger for heavier halides



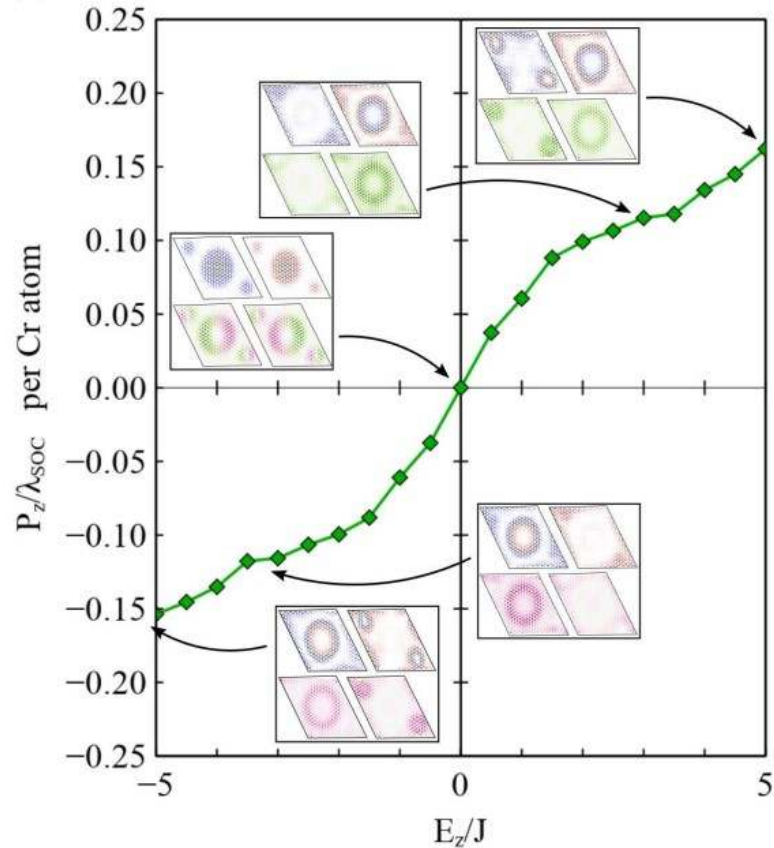
# Electrically controllable skyrmions in twisted magnets



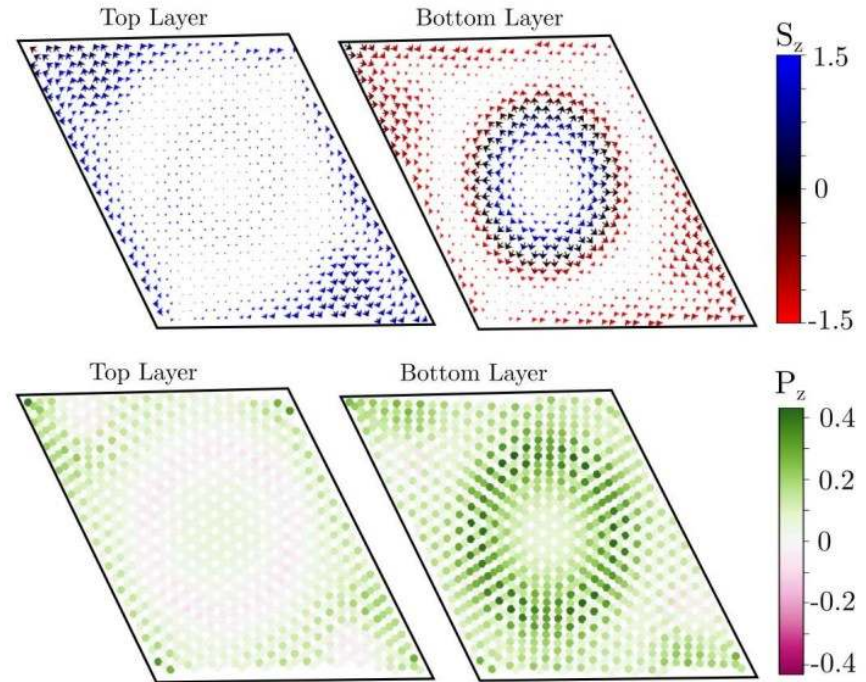
The electric polarization directly couples to an out-of plane electric field

$$\mathcal{H}_E = \frac{1}{2} \sum_{ij} \mathbf{E} \cdot \mathbf{P}_{ij}.$$

# Electrically controllable skyrmions in twisted magnets

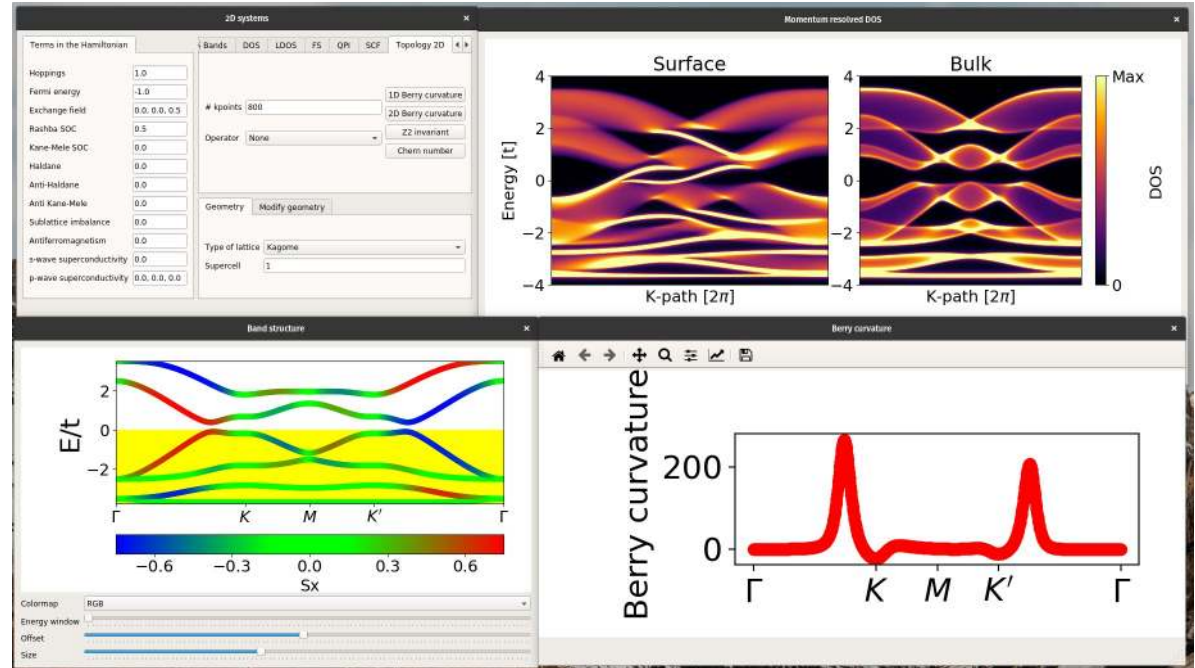
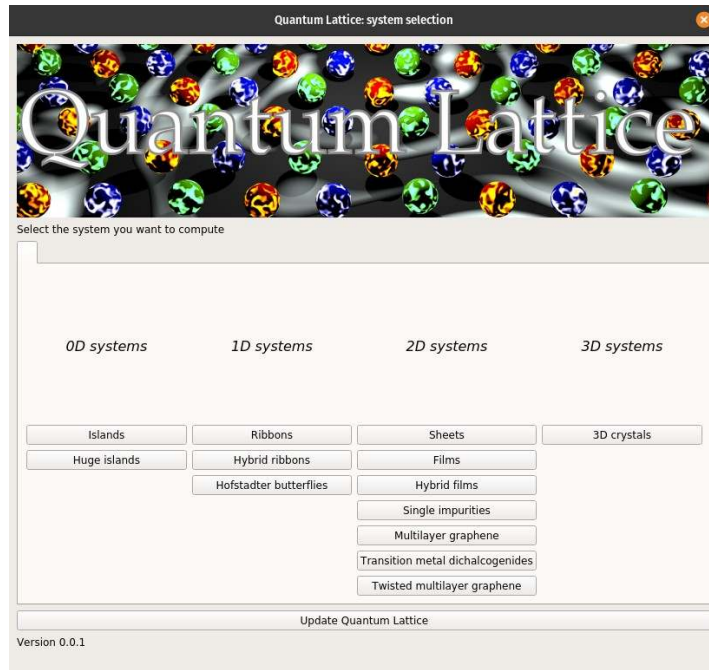


## Skyrmions at finite interlayer bias



Open-source software for  
magnetic and electronic  
properties

# Quantum Lattice: A user interface to compute electronic properties

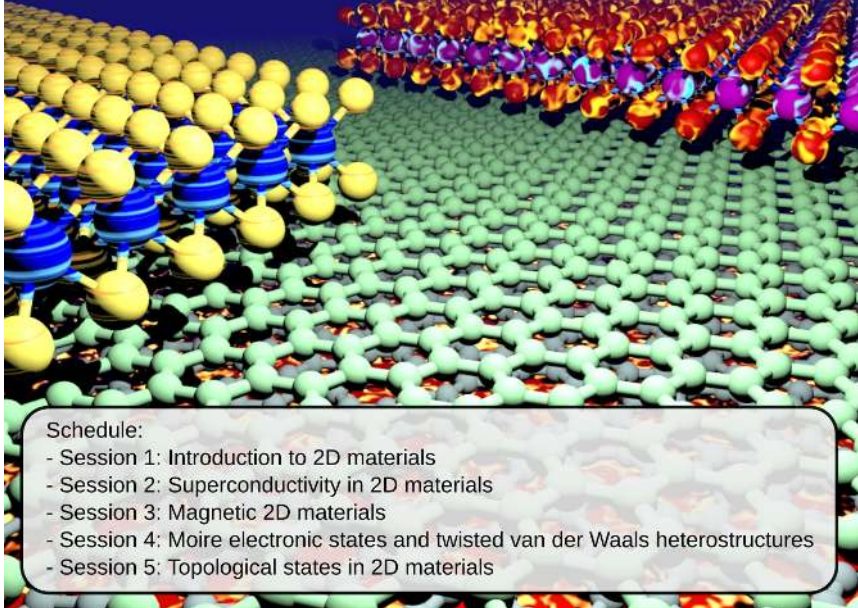


**Quantum Lattice:** open source interactive interface for tight binding modeling

<https://github.com/joselado/quantum-lattice>

# Quantum matter in van der Waals materials school

University of Jyväskylä 31st Jyväskylä Summer School  
Emergent quantum matter in  
artificial two-dimensional materials  
August 8<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup> 2022



Schedule:

- Session 1: Introduction to 2D materials
- Session 2: Superconductivity in 2D materials
- Session 3: Magnetic 2D materials
- Session 4: Moire electronic states and twisted van der Waals heterostructures
- Session 5: Topological states in 2D materials

**Recordings available at**

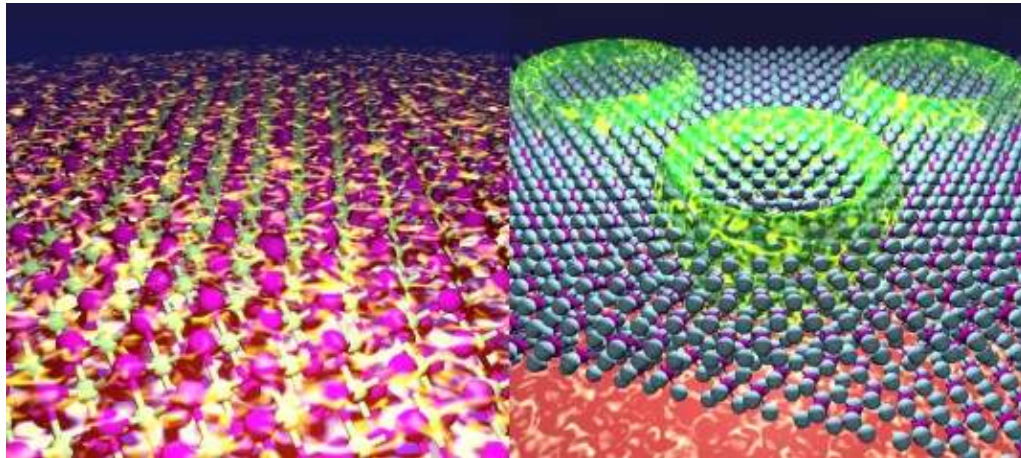


<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCgnB-4CcqRQnvTi7P0cUakQ>

- Session 1: Introduction to 2D materials
- Session 2: Superconductivity in 2D materials
- Session 3: Magnetic 2D materials
- Session 4: Moire electronic states and twisted van der Waals heterostructures
- Session 5: Topological states in 2D materials

# Take home

Van der Waals materials provide a platform to realize tunable multiferroic order



*2D Materials* 9 (2), 025010 (2022)  
*2D Materials* 10 (2), 025026 (2023)

## Thank you

Funding from

