



Mohammed V university , Faculty of sciences Rabat  
**L**aboratoire de **Matière C**ondensés et  
**S**ciences **I**nterdisciplinaires

# Density Functional Theory:

## Theoretical concept and application

**Pr: ZAARI Halima**

**8th Biennial African School of Fundamental  
Physics and Applications (ASP 2024)**

## Team-work:



- Solar Energy
- Solar Material
- Energy Storage
- Magnetic, Optical and Electronic Materials
- Wind Energy
- Hydrogen and storage
- Energy Efficiency
- Energy Harvesting
- Computational and modeling materials and applications
- 2D-Materials
- Nanostructure and nanomaterials
- Smart Grids
- Complex Systems
- Complex Fluid in Microfluidic
- Networks and Traffic
- Laser
- Spectroscopy
- Medicinal plant chemistry
- Software engineering
- Quantum cryptography
- Thermal and energy efficiency
- Physics of Surface and interface

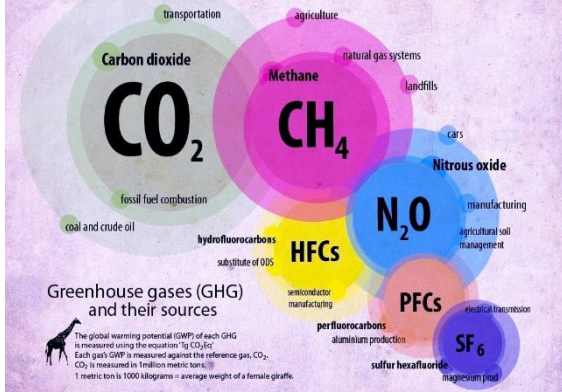


# Density Functional Theory:

Theoretical concept and application



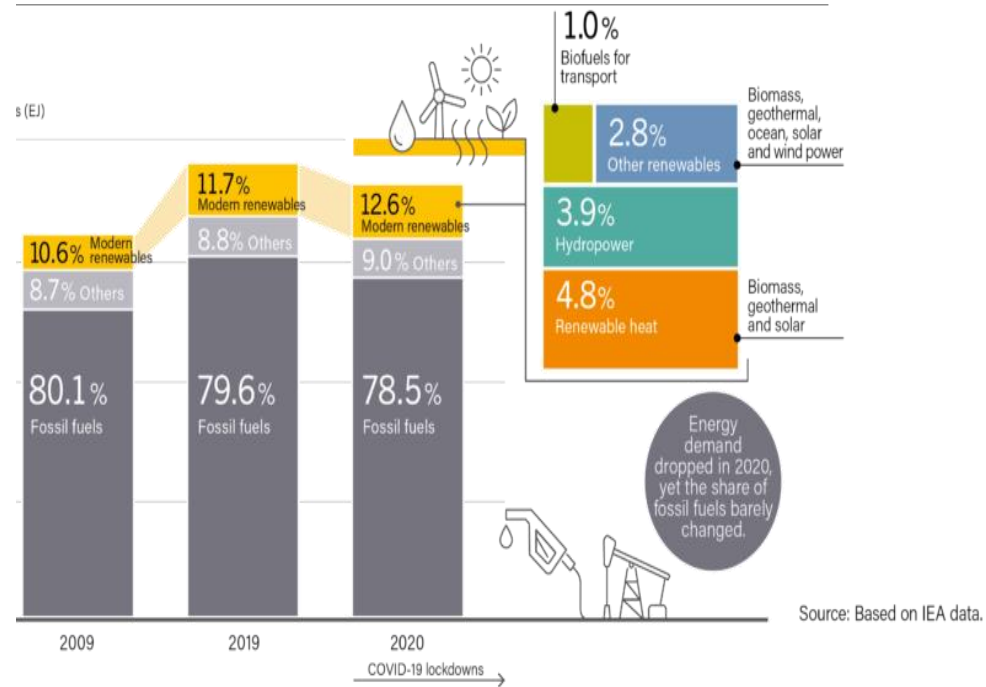
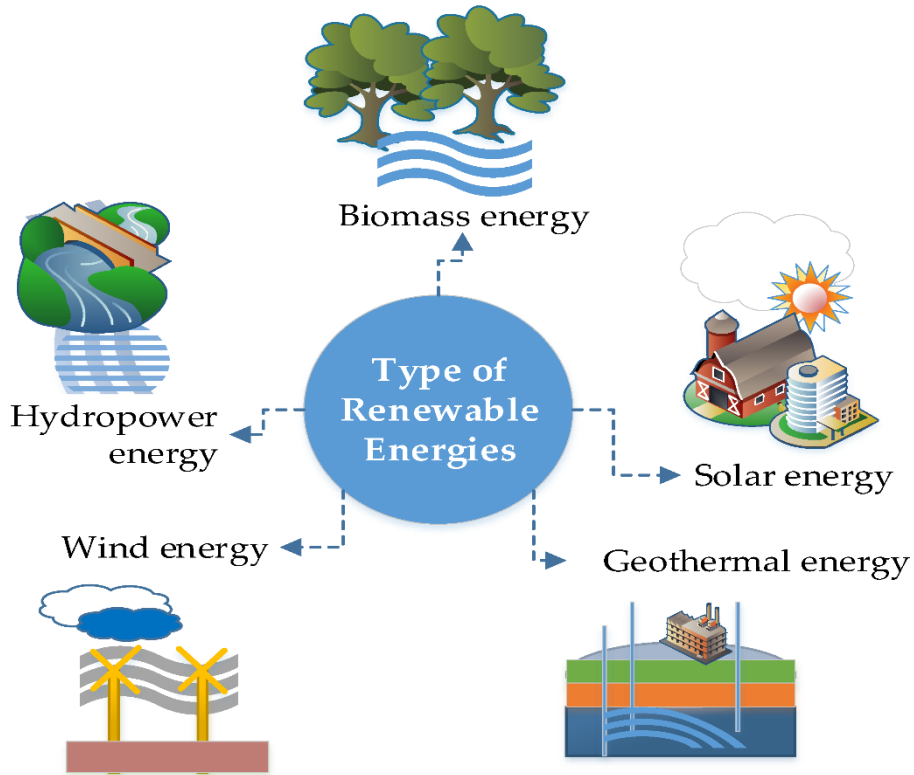
# Problems



Role of science in solving these problems??

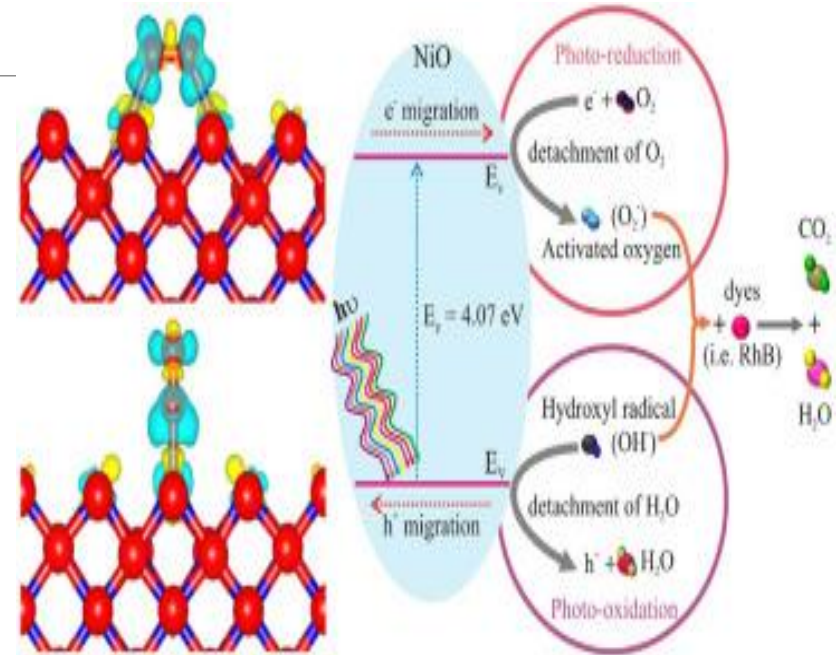
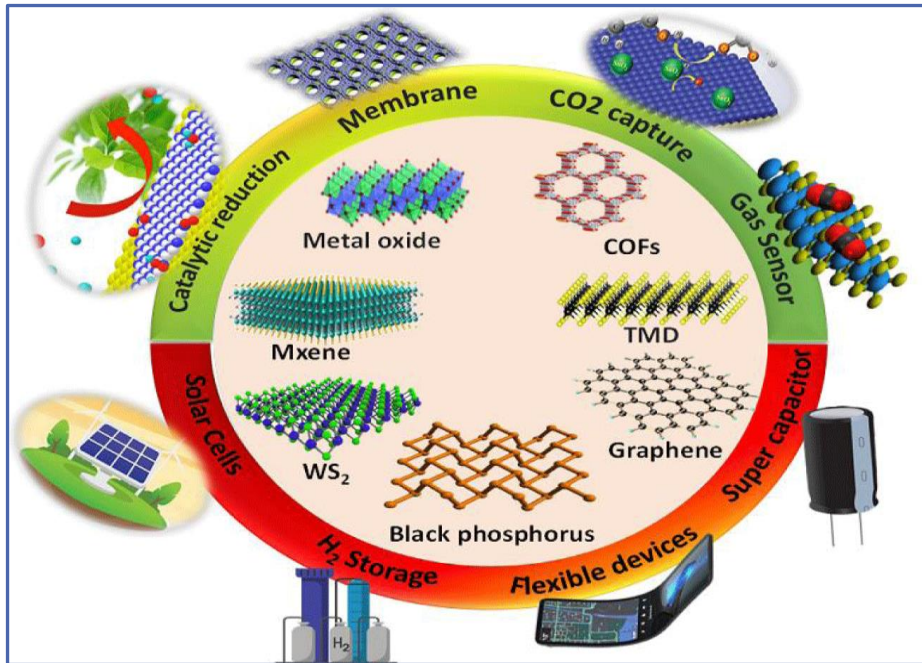


# Solution: **Renewable Energy**



**Share of Modern Renewable Energy 2009, 2019 and 2020**

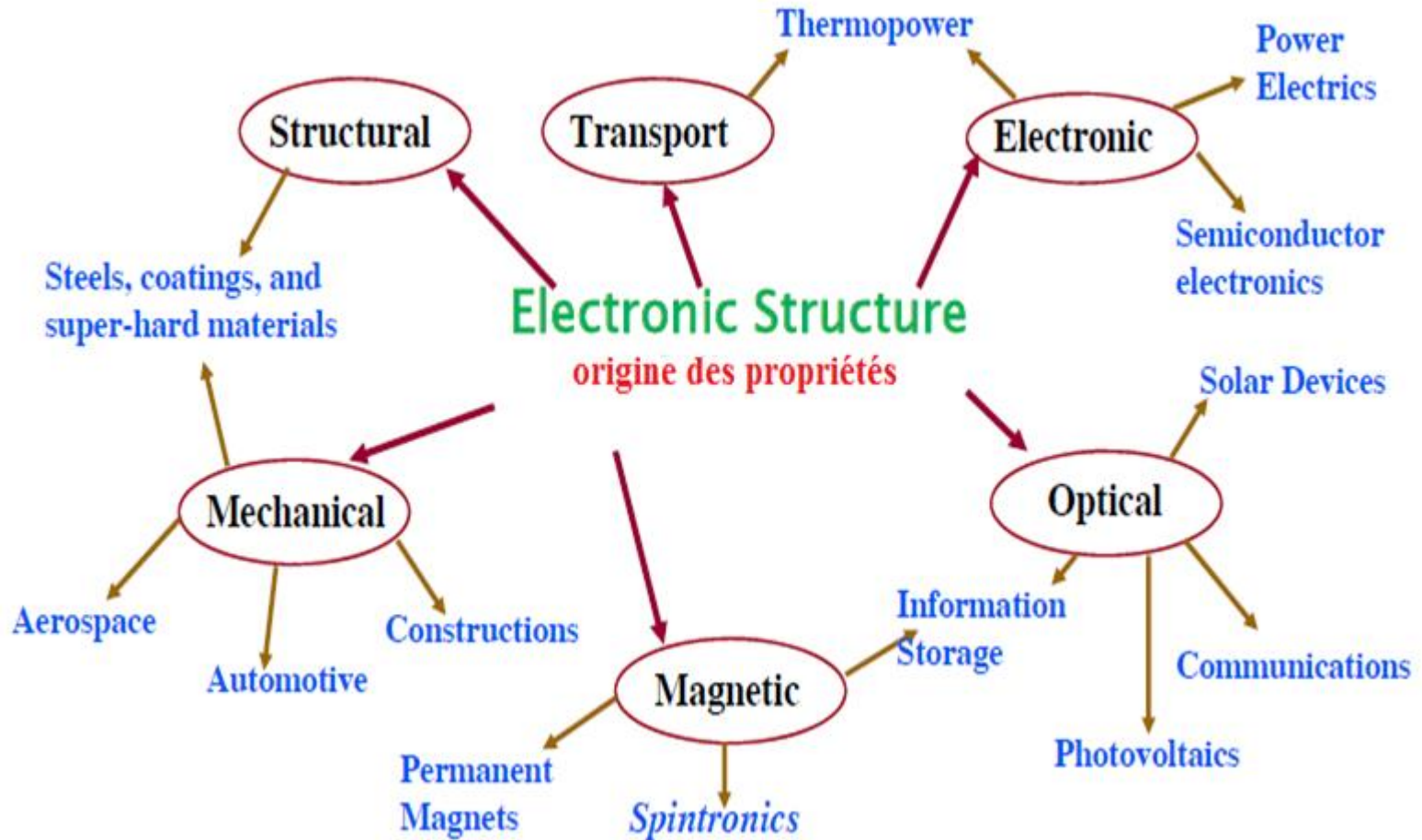
# Solution: Materials sciences



Semi-conductor, insulator, metals Magnetic, or non magnetic...

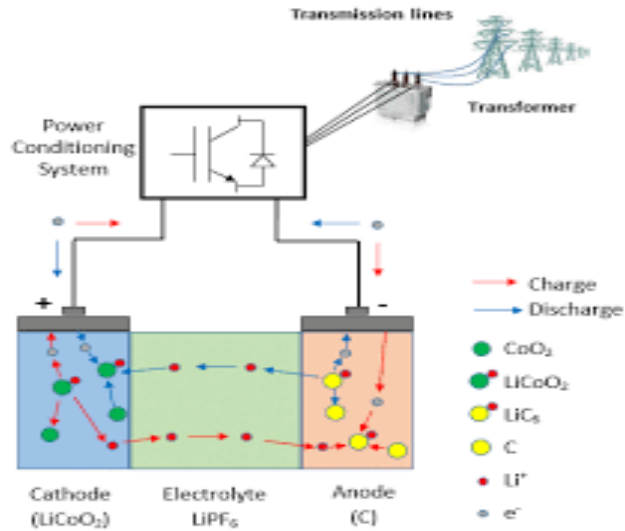


# Solution: Materials sciences

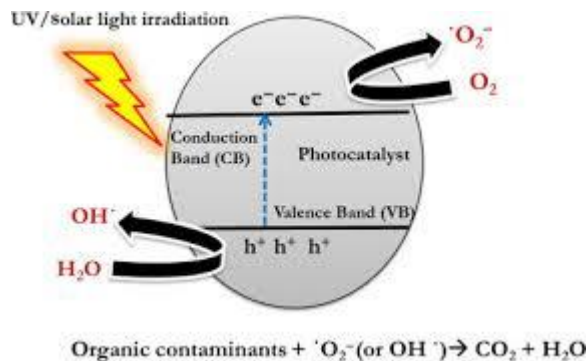


# Material sciences : Application

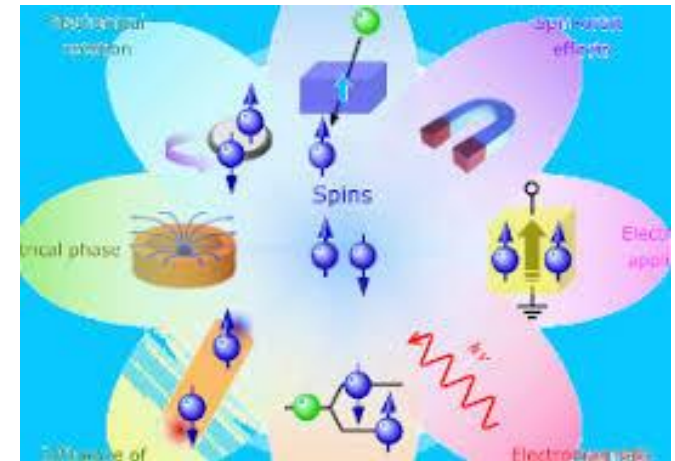
## Battery or Energy storage



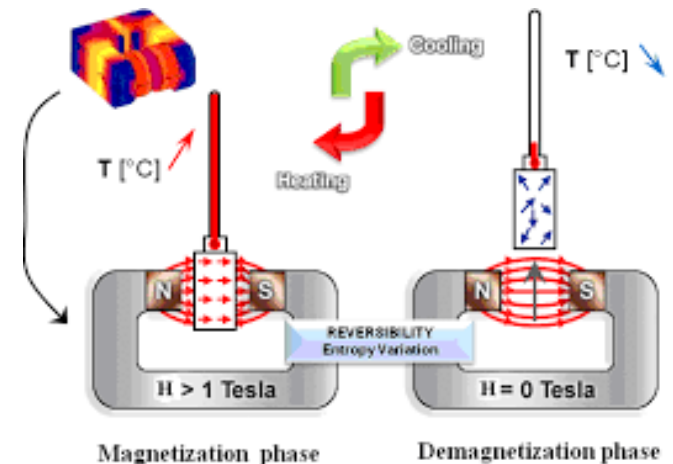
## Photocatalysis-Photovoltaic



## Spintronic

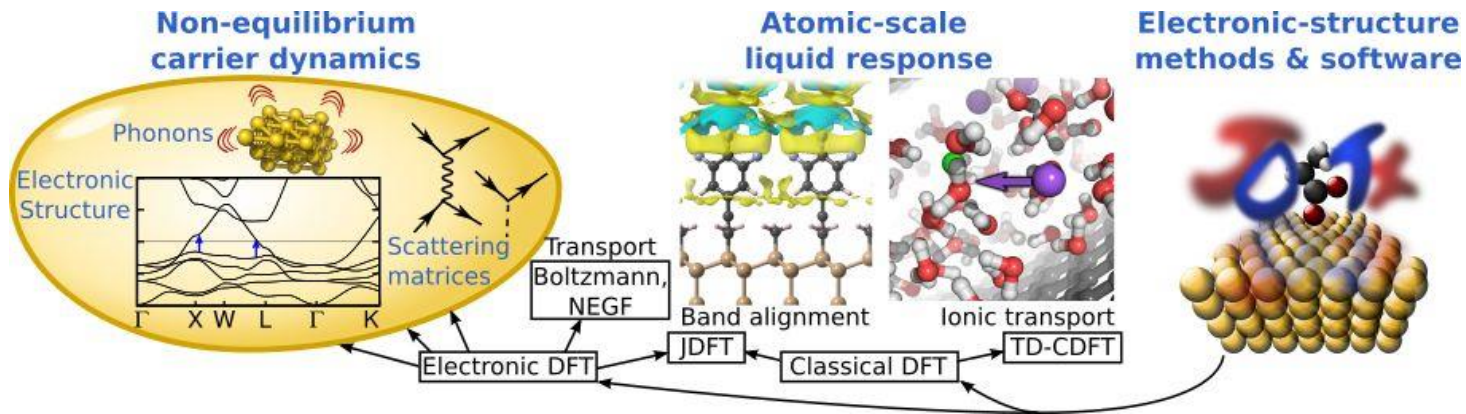
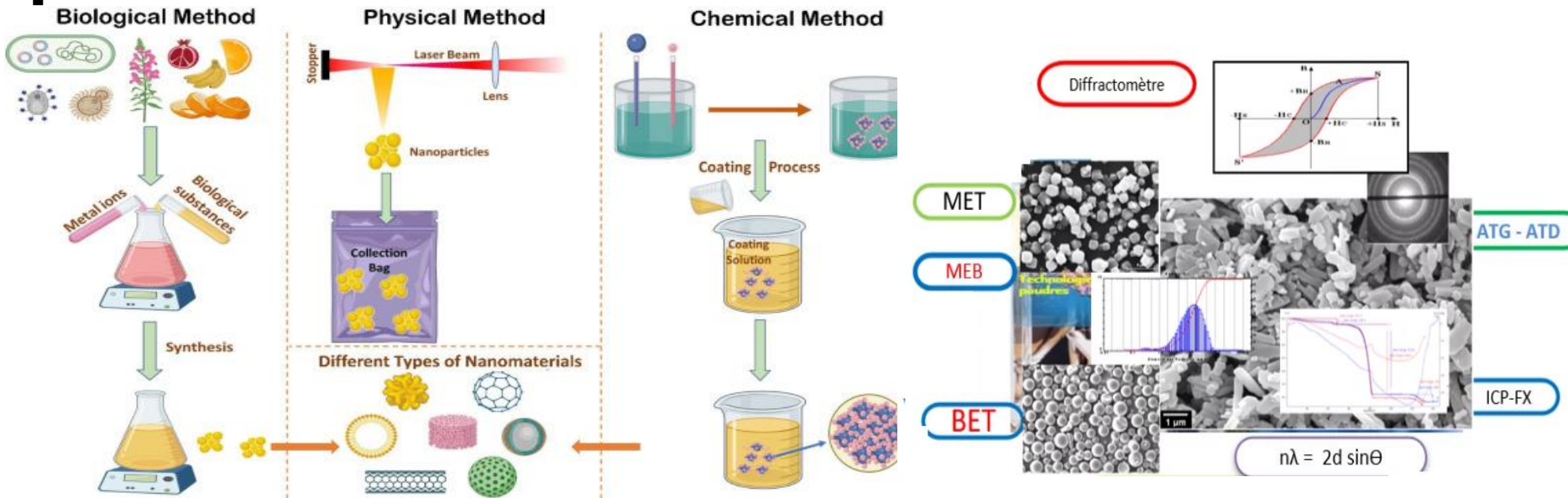


## Magnetocaloric Effect





# Experimental or Theoretical approach



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## **2. Theoretical approach**

# How to predict the physical properties without experience??



Background??

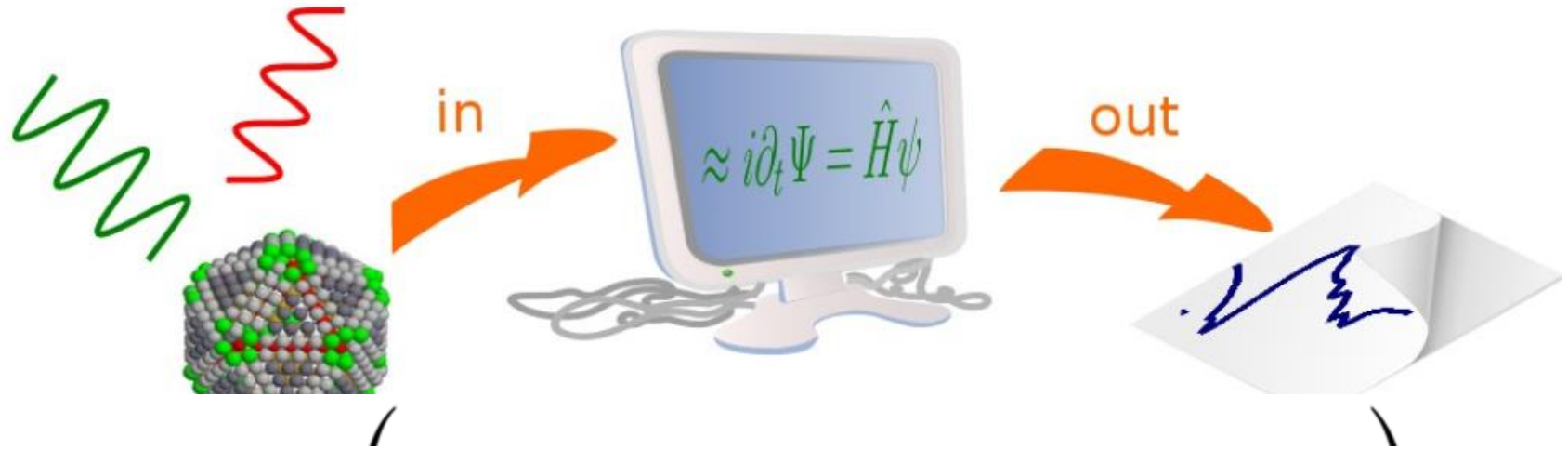
Model??

Simulation, analysis  
Input : lattice  
parameter , atomic  
positions ...

Physical concept:  
Quantum mechanic  
Solide state  
Schrodinguer  
equation

Decribe the physical properties:  
optical , transport , magnetic ...

# Density Functional Theory

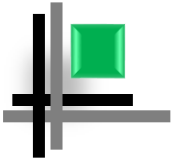


$$\hat{H}\psi = \sum_n \left( -\frac{\nabla_n^2}{2} + V_{\text{ext}}(\mathbf{r}_n) + \sum_{m>n} \frac{1}{|\mathbf{r}_n - \mathbf{r}_m|} \right) \psi = E\psi$$

$$\hat{T}_e = \sum_n -\frac{\nabla_n^2}{2}$$

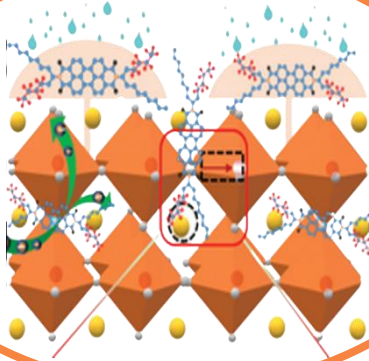
$$\hat{V}_{ee} = \sum_n \sum_{m>n} \frac{1}{|\mathbf{r}_n - \mathbf{r}_m|}$$



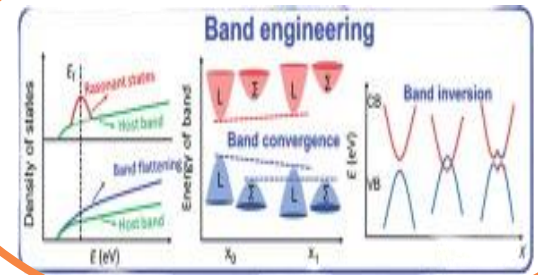


# Methodology

✓ Electronic properties

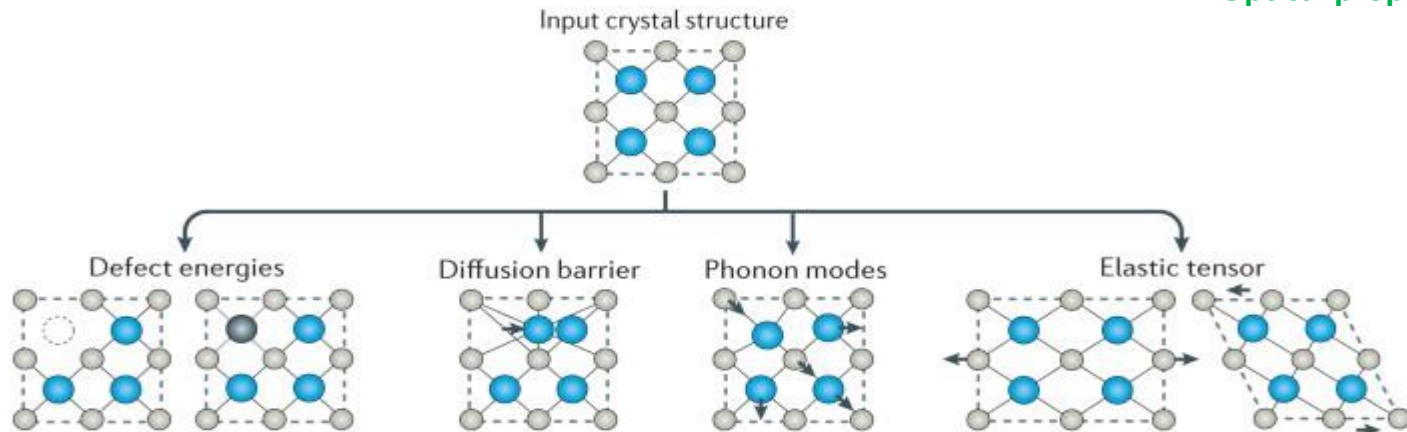


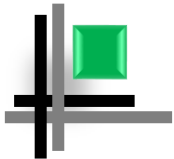
First principles calculations



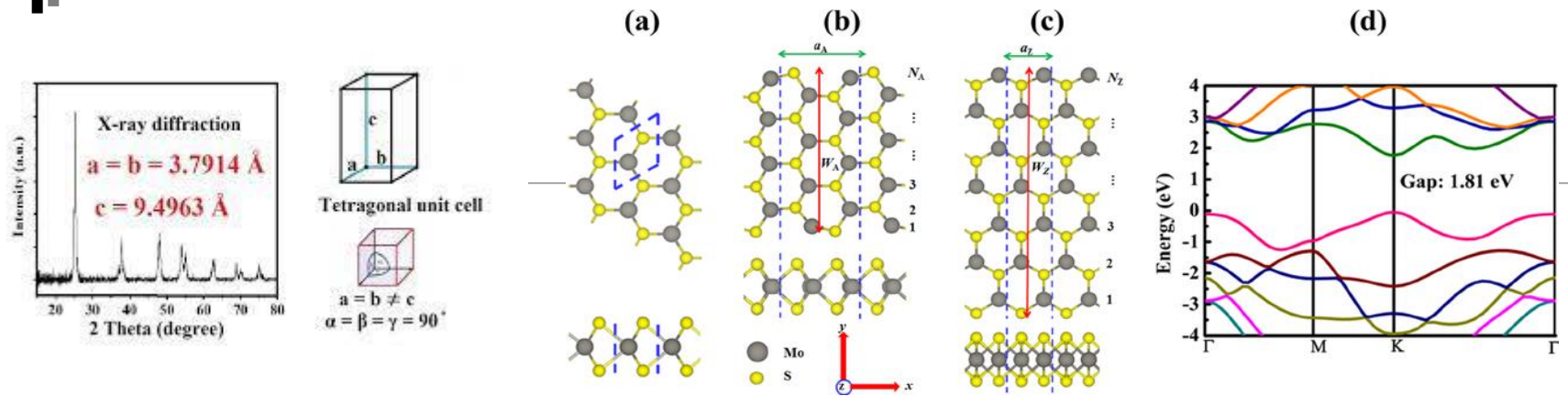
✓ Dynamical properties

✓ Optical properties





# Which parameter we need in DFT?



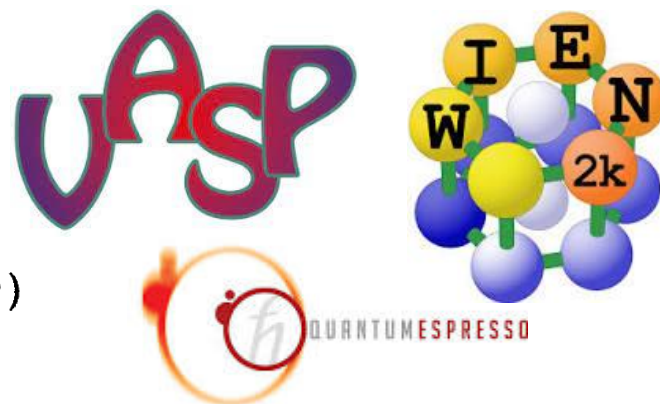
\*the choice of Exchange-correlation (XC) functional :LDA or GGA

\*wave function (e.g. Gaussian basis functions,

plane wave expansion) and the formalism like pseudopotential or Full potential

$$\rho(r) = \sum_i |\psi_i(r)|^2$$

$$\left[ \frac{-\hbar^2}{2m} \nabla^2 + V_{\text{ion}}(\mathbf{r}) + V_H(\mathbf{r}) + V_{XC}(\mathbf{r}) \right] \psi_i(\mathbf{r}) = \epsilon_i \psi_i(\mathbf{r})$$

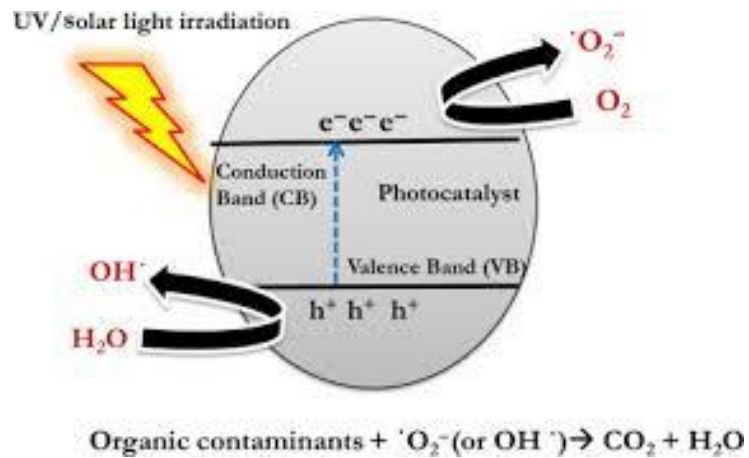


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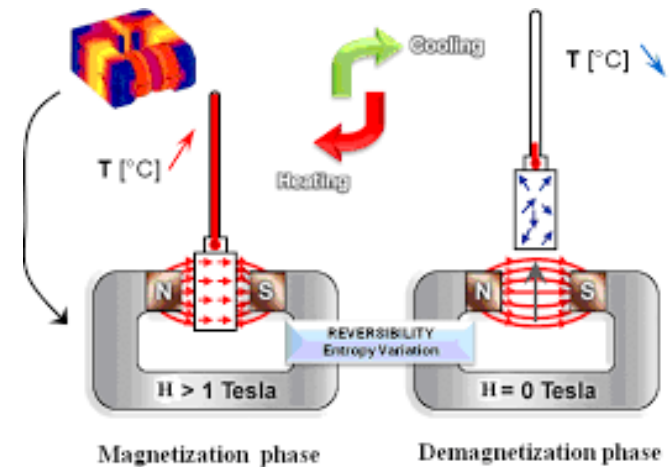
# 3. Application:

# Material sciences : Application

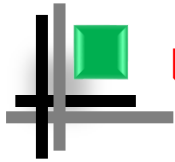
## 1. Photovoltaic and photocatalysis



## 2. Magnetocaloric Effect







# Photocatalysis-Photovoltaic

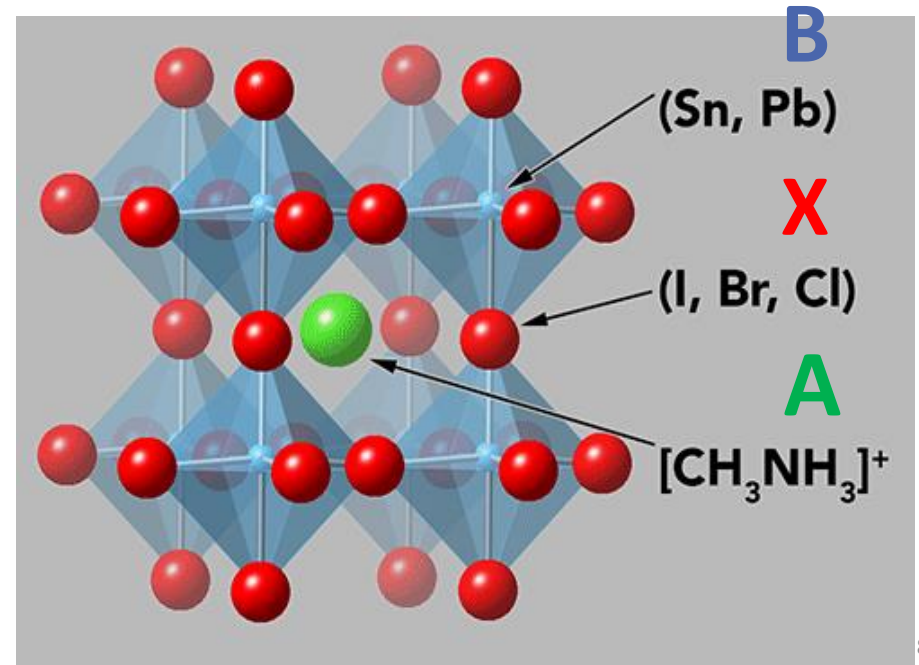
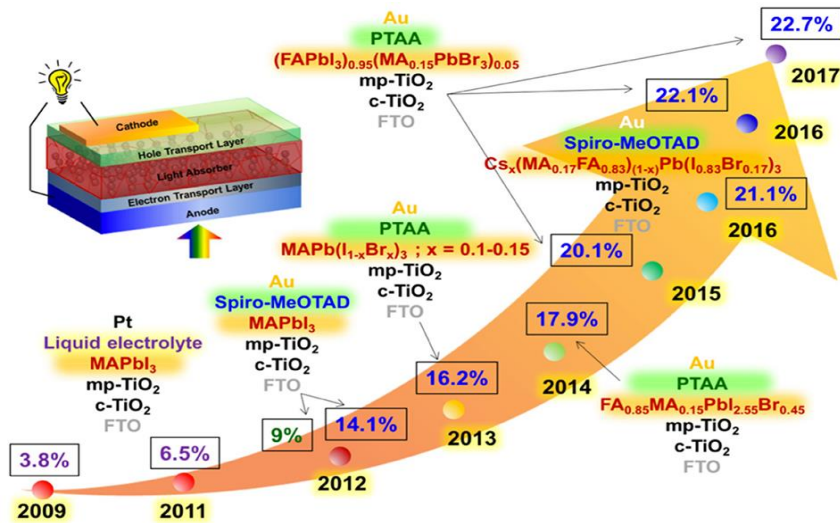
## Hybrid perovskite

General formula  $ABX_3$

A: Organic cation (MA(CH<sub>3</sub>NH<sub>3</sub>))

B: Metal (Pb, Sn, Ge)

X: Halide (I, Br, Cl)



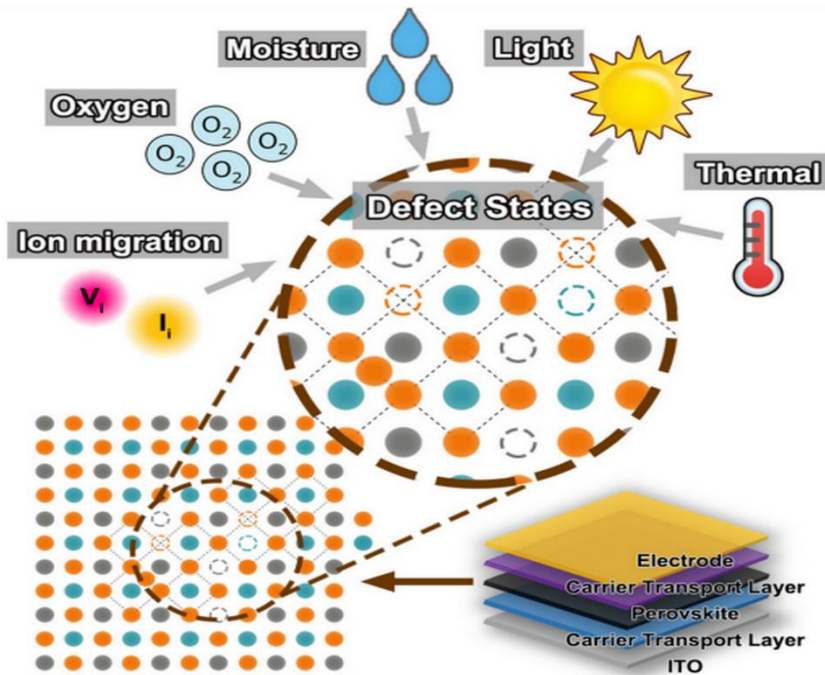


# Photocatalysis-Photovoltaic

## Potential Problems

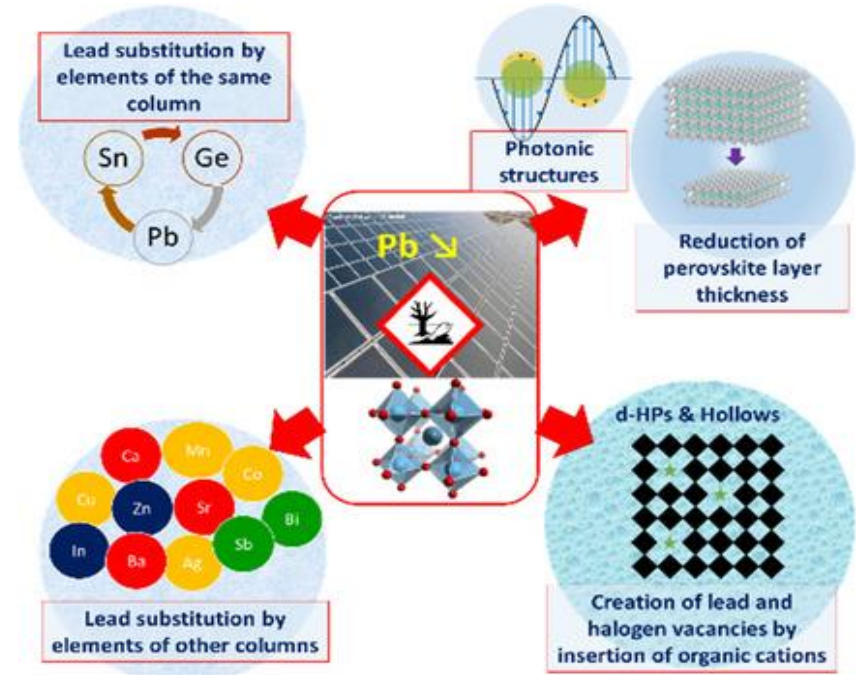
- **Stability**

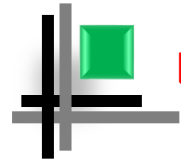
- The perovskite is not stable



- **Toxicity**

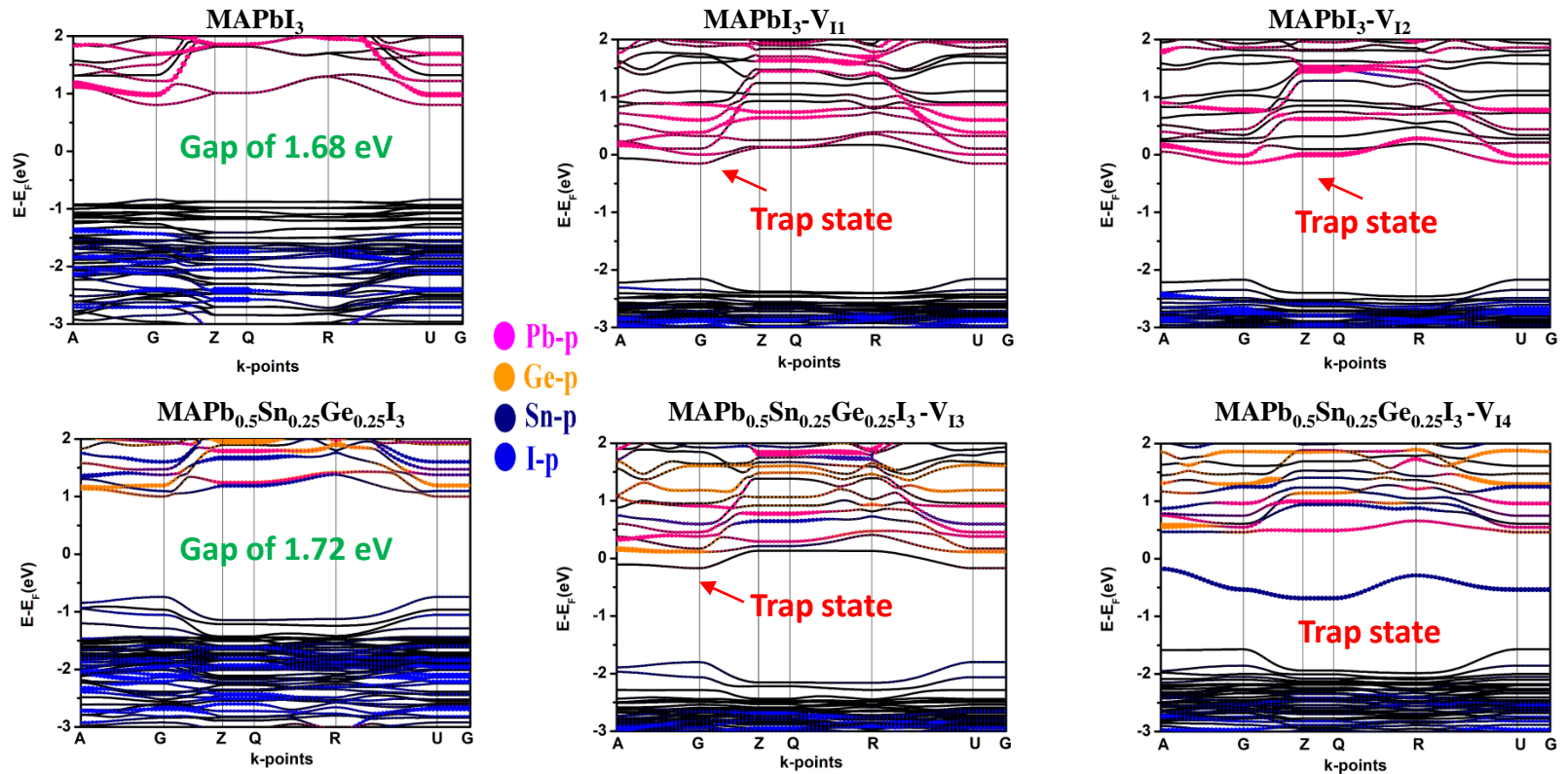
- By eliminating the toxicity we lose in efficiency



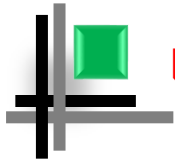


## Photocatalysis-Photovoltaic

How can we mitigate the iodine vacant site ?



Band structure of  $\text{MAPbI}_3$  and  $\text{MAPb}_{0.5}\text{Sn}_{0.25}\text{Ge}_{0.25}\text{I}_3$  in the pure and defective phase

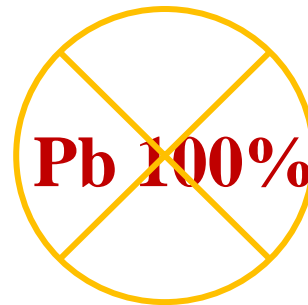


## ☐ Photocatalysis-Photovoltaic

### Interaction of water molecule with the hybride perovskite

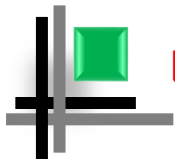
Sites	Calculated Adsorption energy (eV)	
	MAPbI <sub>3</sub>	MAPb <sub>0.5</sub> Sn <sub>0.25</sub> Ge <sub>0.25</sub> I <sub>3</sub>
CH <sub>3</sub>	-0.40	-0.19
NH <sub>3</sub>	-0.70	-0.70
I	-0.24	-0.14
Pb	-0.56	-0.54
Ge	----	-0.48
Pb(V <sub>11</sub> or V <sub>13</sub> )	-0.54	-0.50
Pb(V <sub>12</sub> or V <sub>14</sub> )	-0.49	-0.44

**Pb(50%)Sn(25%)Sn(25%)**



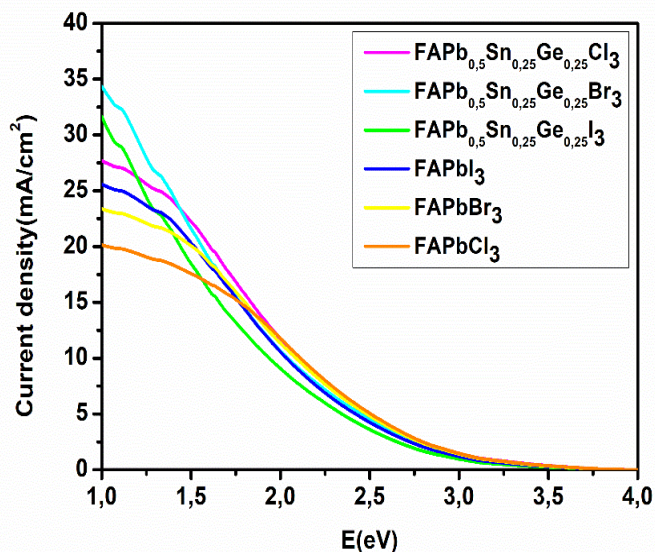
- ✓ Enhancement of stability
- ✓ Reduction of toxicity





## Photocatalysis-Photovoltaic

### Power conversion efficiency



Short-circuit current density of FAPbX<sub>3</sub>  
and FAPb<sub>0.5</sub>Sn<sub>0.25</sub>Ge<sub>0.25</sub>X<sub>3</sub>.

- Power conversion efficiency:

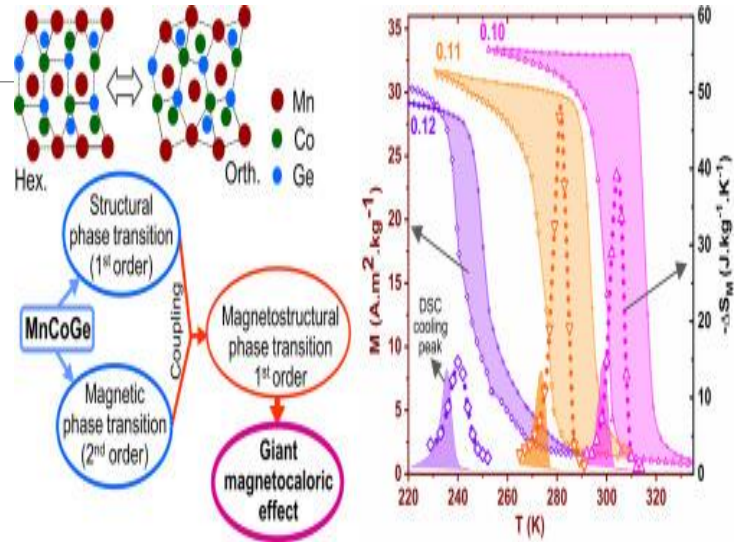
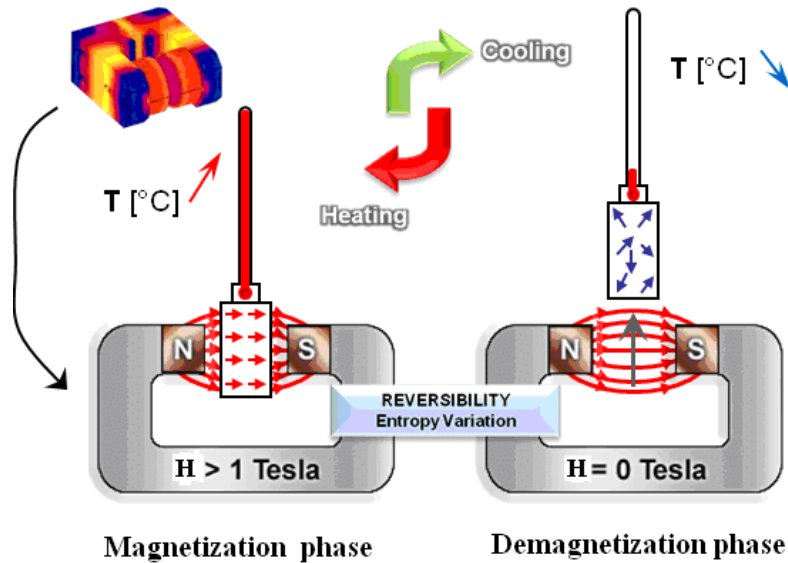
$$\eta = \frac{V_{oc} \times J_{sc} \times FF}{P_{in}} \times 100$$

The calculated bandgap  $E_g$ , short-circuit current density  $J_{sc}$ , open circuit voltage  $V_{oc}$  and power conversion efficiency  $\eta$  of FAPb<sub>0.5</sub>Sn<sub>0.25</sub>Ge<sub>0.25</sub>X<sub>3</sub> structures.

Compounds	$E_g$	$V_{oc}$		$J_{sc}$	$\eta$ %	
		$E_{loss}(0.7 \text{ eV})$	$E_{loss}(0.5 \text{ eV})$		$E_{loss}(0.7 \text{ eV})$	$E_{loss}(0.5 \text{ eV})$
FAPb <sub>0.5</sub> Sn <sub>0.25</sub> Ge <sub>0.25</sub> I <sub>3</sub>	0.98	0.28	0.48	31.5	6.17	12
FAPb <sub>0.5</sub> Sn <sub>0.25</sub> Ge <sub>0.25</sub> Br	1.22	0.52	0.72	29	12	17.5
<sup>3</sup> FAPb <sub>0.5</sub> Sn <sub>0.25</sub> Ge <sub>0.25</sub> Cl	1.7	1	1.2	18	15.8	19.3
<sup>3</sup> FAPbI <sub>3</sub>	1.5	0.8	1	20.3	14	17.8
FAPbBr <sub>3</sub>	1.67	0.97	1.17	17.3	14.6	18
FAPbCl <sub>3</sub>	2.14	1.44	1.64	9.6	12.5	14.3

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# Magnetocaloric effect: multiferroic system



- **Criterion:**

Large magnetic moment,  
Large entropy change  
Reduced change in  $\Delta T$

$$\Delta S_{mag} = \int_{H_1}^{H_2} \left( \frac{\partial H}{\partial T} \right)_H dH$$

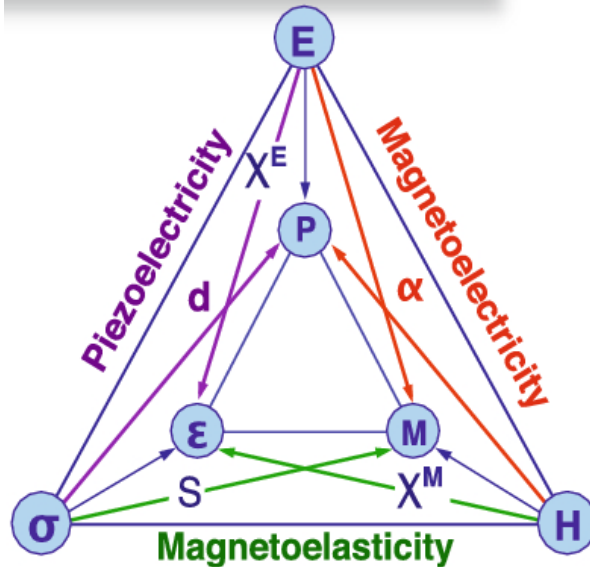
$$\Delta T_{ad} = -T \frac{\Delta S_{mag}}{C_m}$$

$$q = - \int_{T_1}^{T_2} \Delta S_{mag}(T) dT$$

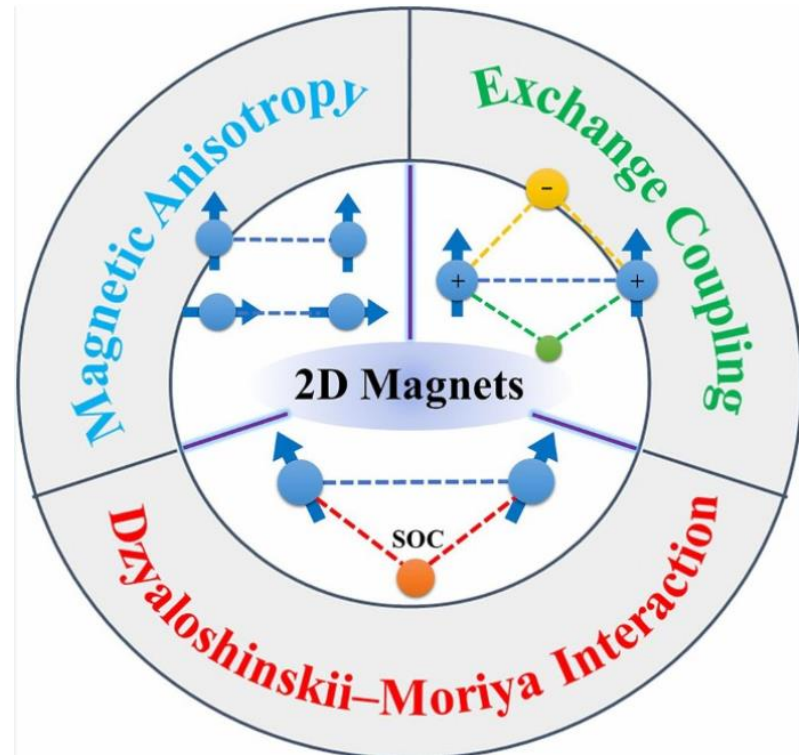
$$\begin{cases} RCP(S) = \Delta S_{max} \cdot \delta T_{mi-hauteur} \\ RCP(T) = \Delta T_{max} \cdot \delta T_{mi-hauteur} \end{cases}$$

## Magnetocaloric effect:

## Multiferroic Systems:

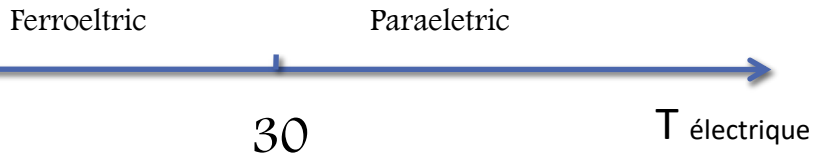
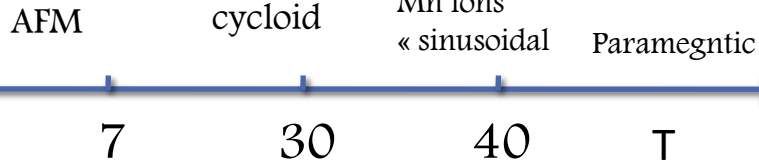
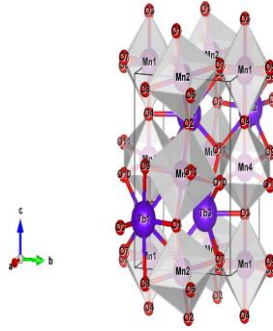


Feibig, *J. Phys. D* **38**, R123 (2005)  
Eerenstein, *et al.*, *Nature* **442**, 759 (2006)  
Ramesh & Spaldin, *Nature Mater.* **6**, 21 (2006)  
Cheong & Mostovoy, *Nature Mater.* **6**, 13 (2006)

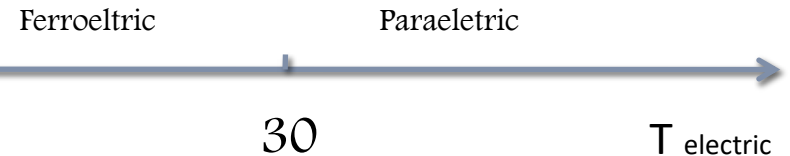
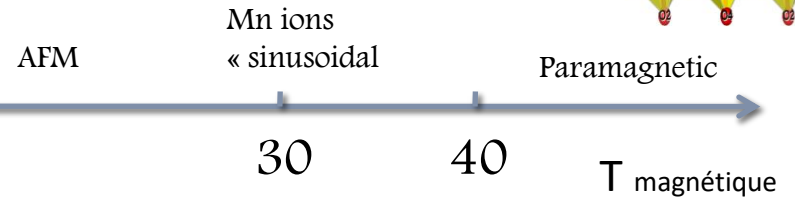
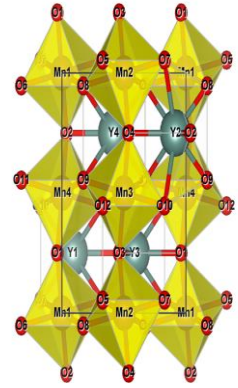


Hamiltonian :  $H = -J.S_i.S_j - h....$

# Magnetocaloric effect: multiferroic system

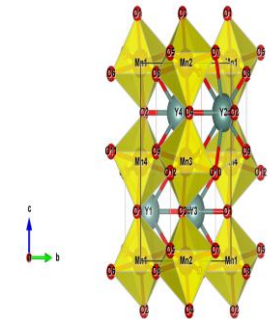
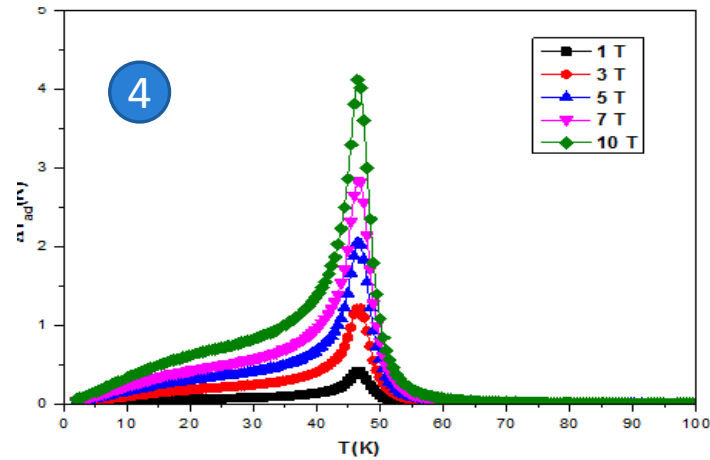
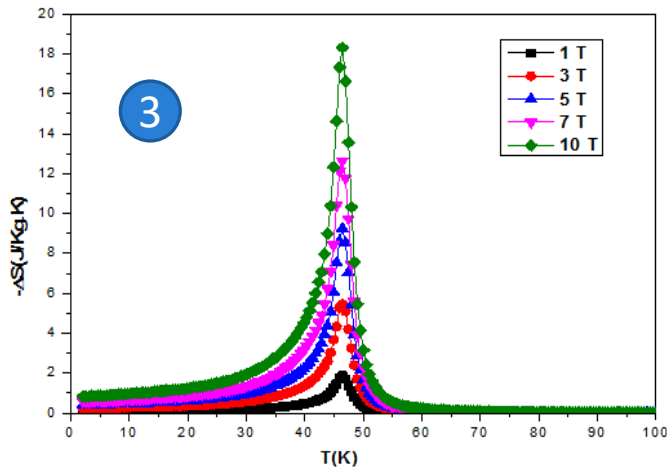
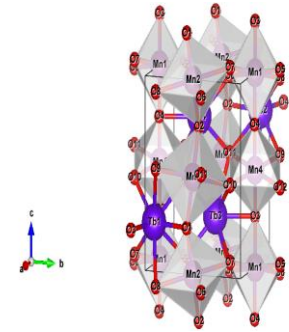
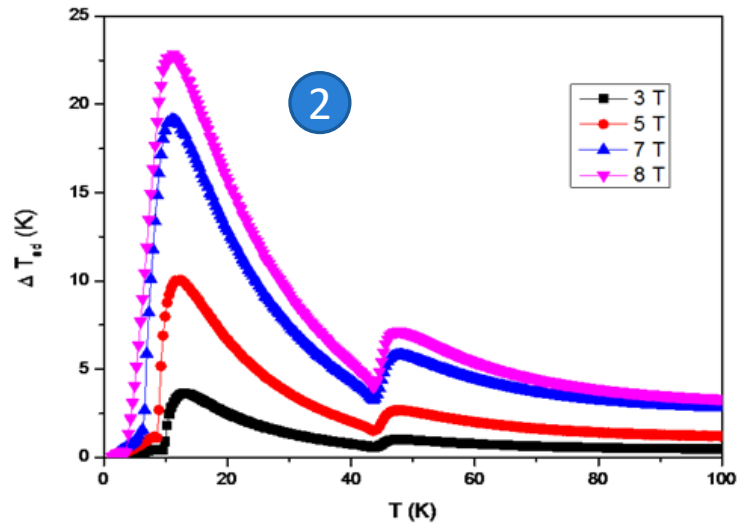
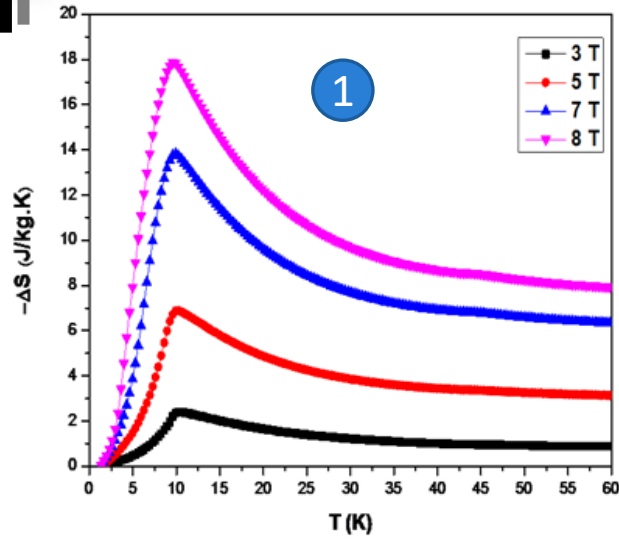


$$P \approx 700-800 \mu\text{C}/\text{m}^2$$



$$P \approx 250 \mu\text{C}/\text{m}^2$$

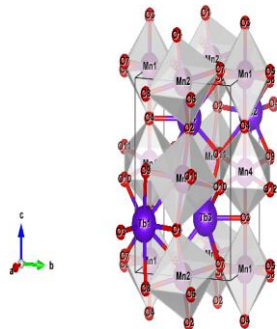
# Multiferroic system: Magnetocaloric properties





# Multiferroic system: Magnetocaloric properties

TbMnO<sub>3</sub>



$$E_g = 0.56 \text{ meV}$$

$$T_N = 10 \text{ K}$$

$$T_N = 44.6 \text{ K}$$

$$H = 7 \text{ T}$$

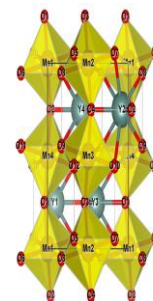
$$-\Delta S = 13.74 \text{ J/Kg.K}$$

$$\Delta T_{ad} = 18.75 \text{ K}$$

$$RCP = 420.71 \text{ J/Kg}$$

Theoretical result

YMnO<sub>3</sub>



$$E_g = 0.59 \text{ meV}$$

$$T_N = 46 \text{ K}$$

$$H = 7 \text{ T}$$

$$-\Delta S = 12.64 \text{ J/Kg.K}$$

$$\Delta T_{ad} = 2.80 \text{ K}$$

$$RCP = 80 \text{ J/Kg}$$

Experimental result

$$E_g = 0.5 \text{ meV}$$

TbMnO<sub>3</sub>

$$T_1 = 42 \text{ K}$$

$$T_2 = 27 \text{ K}$$

$$T_3 = 7 \text{ K}$$

$$-\Delta S = 18 \text{ J/Kg.K}$$

$$RCP = 390.7 \text{ J/Kg}$$

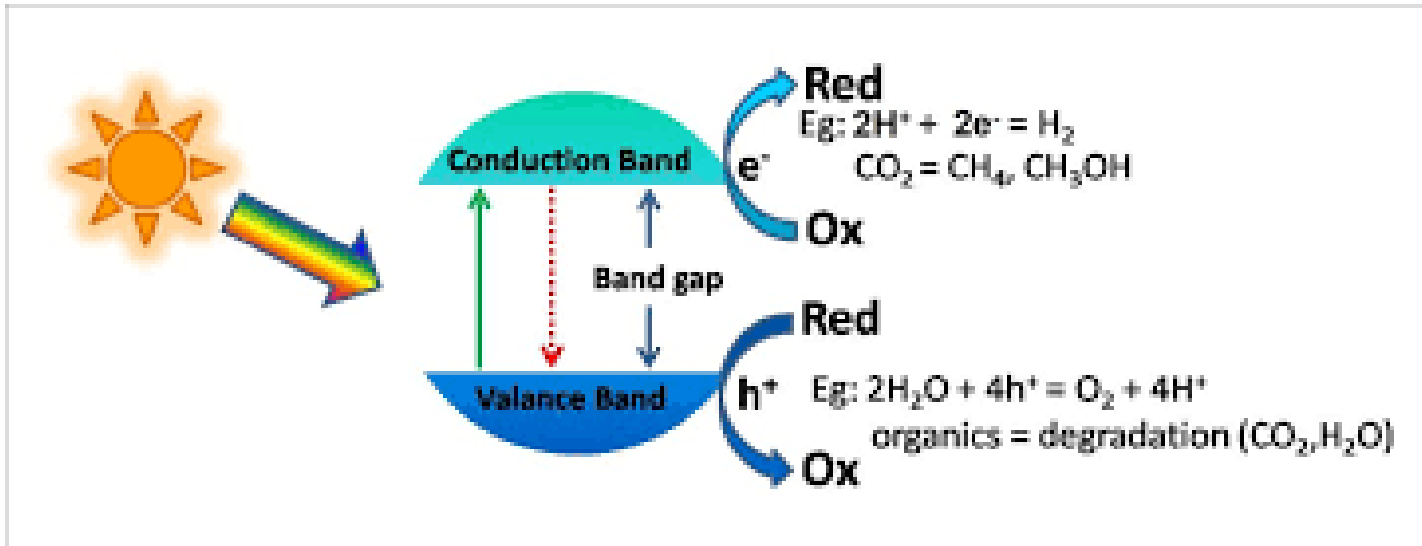
YMnO<sub>3</sub>

$$T_1 = 42 \text{ K}$$

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# Photocatalysis



- Step 1: Absorption of a photon with energy greater than 1.23 eV.
- Step 2: Excitation of electrons and holes and separating them to migrate to the surface.
- Step 3: The adsorbed species (water) are reduced and oxidized by electrons and holes.

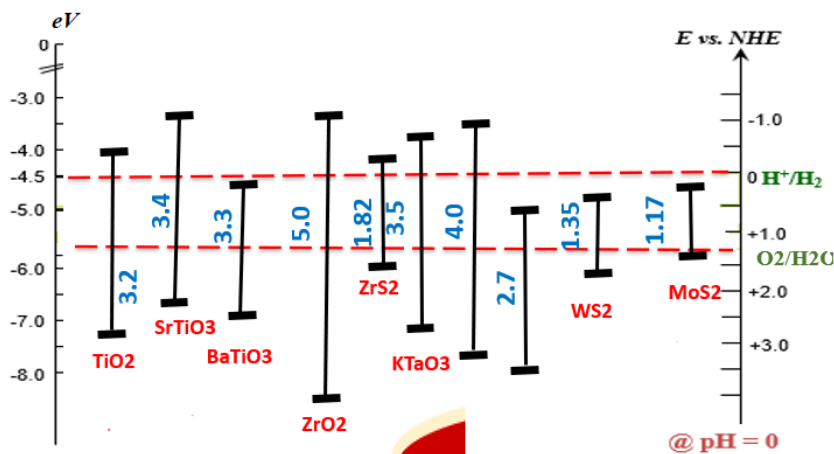
# Selection criteria for the choice of catalyst materials

- The valence and conduction band edge were computing by the following equation:

$$E_{CB}^0 = \chi(S) - E^0 - \frac{1}{2}E_g \quad (1),$$

$$E_{VB}^0 = E_{CB}^0 + E_g \quad (2)$$

How to choose catalyst materials?



Dynamical and chemical stability

Band gap  
(1.9~ 3.5 eV)

Abundance

High absorption

Efficiency

**Oxide materials**

# Selection criteria for the choice of catalyst materials



Oxide with large band gap

$E_g = 3 \sim 3.6$   
eV

Absorption in UV

Reduce  $E_g$

+

Move to visible range

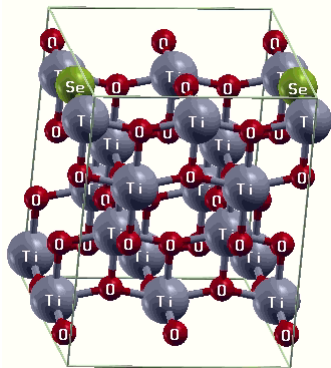
doping

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Li	Be											Ne																																																																																									
11	12											18																																																																																									
Na	Mg											Ar																																																																																									
19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31	32	33	34	35	36																																																																																				
K	Ca	Sc	Ti	V	Cr	Mn	Fe	Co	Ni	Cu	Zn	Ga	Ge	As	Se	Br	Kr																																																																																				
37	38	39	Zr	Nb	Mo	Tc	Ru	Rh	Pd	Ag	Cd	In	Sn	Sb	Te	I	Xe																																																																																				
55	56	57	Hf	Ta	W	Re	Os	Ir	Pt	Au	Hg	Tl	Pb	Bi	Po	At	Rn																																																																																				
87	88	89	Rf	Db	Sg	Bh	Hs	Mt	Ds	Rg	Cn	Nh	Fl	Mc	Lv	Ts	Og																																																																																				
<table border="1"> <tr> <td>58</td> <td>59</td> <td>60</td> <td>61</td> <td>62</td> <td>63</td> <td>64</td> <td>65</td> <td>66</td> <td>67</td> <td>68</td> <td>69</td> <td>70</td> <td>71</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Ce</td> <td>Pr</td> <td>Nd</td> <td>Pm</td> <td>Sm</td> <td>Eu</td> <td>Gd</td> <td>Tb</td> <td>Dy</td> <td>Ho</td> <td>Er</td> <td>Tm</td> <td>Yb</td> <td>Lu</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Cerium</td> <td>Praseod...</td> <td>Neody...</td> <td>Prometh...</td> <td>Samarium</td> <td>Europium</td> <td>Gadolin...</td> <td>Terbium</td> <td>Dyspros...</td> <td>Holmium</td> <td>Erbium</td> <td>Thulium</td> <td>Ytterbium</td> <td>Lutetium</td> </tr> <tr> <td>90</td> <td>91</td> <td>92</td> <td>93</td> <td>94</td> <td>95</td> <td>96</td> <td>97</td> <td>98</td> <td>99</td> <td>100</td> <td>101</td> <td>102</td> <td>103</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Th</td> <td>Pa</td> <td>U</td> <td>Np</td> <td>Pu</td> <td>Am</td> <td>Cm</td> <td>Bk</td> <td>Cf</td> <td>Es</td> <td>Fm</td> <td>Md</td> <td>No</td> <td>Lr</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Thorium</td> <td>Protacti...</td> <td>Uranium</td> <td>Neptun...</td> <td>Plutonium</td> <td>Americi...</td> <td>Curium</td> <td>Berkelium</td> <td>Californ...</td> <td>Einstein...</td> <td>Fermium</td> <td>Mendele...</td> <td>Nobelium</td> <td>Lavrenc...</td> </tr> </table>																		58	59	60	61	62	63	64	65	66	67	68	69	70	71	Ce	Pr	Nd	Pm	Sm	Eu	Gd	Tb	Dy	Ho	Er	Tm	Yb	Lu	Cerium	Praseod...	Neody...	Prometh...	Samarium	Europium	Gadolin...	Terbium	Dyspros...	Holmium	Erbium	Thulium	Ytterbium	Lutetium	90	91	92	93	94	95	96	97	98	99	100	101	102	103	Th	Pa	U	Np	Pu	Am	Cm	Bk	Cf	Es	Fm	Md	No	Lr	Thorium	Protacti...	Uranium	Neptun...	Plutonium	Americi...	Curium	Berkelium	Californ...	Einstein...	Fermium	Mendele...	Nobelium	Lavrenc...
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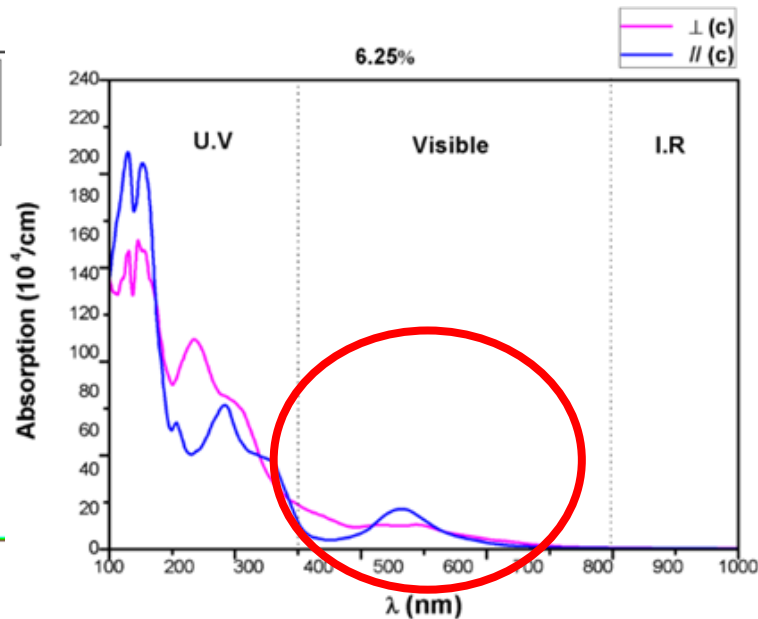
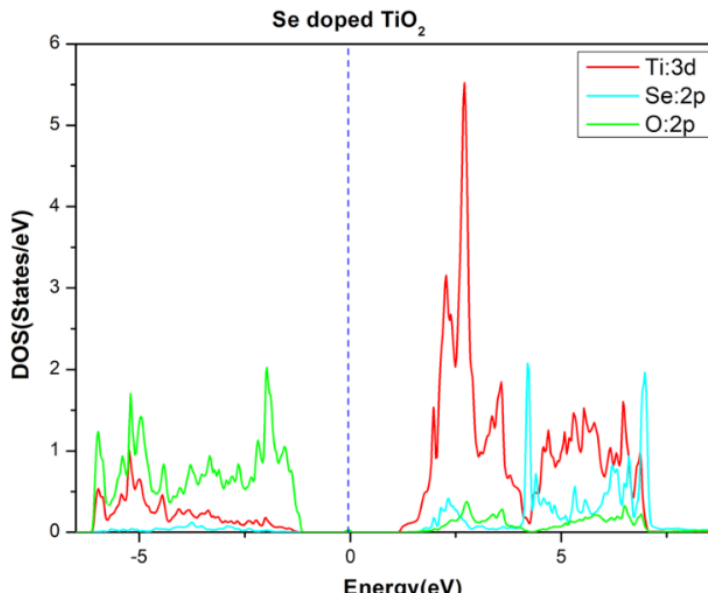
- Study the effect of monodoping and co-doping on stability, electronic, optical and photocatalytic properties.
- Control the bandgap by elements of group IV, V and chalcogens.
- Study the effect of Redox shift and its relationship with pH.

# Optical properties and Photocatalysis

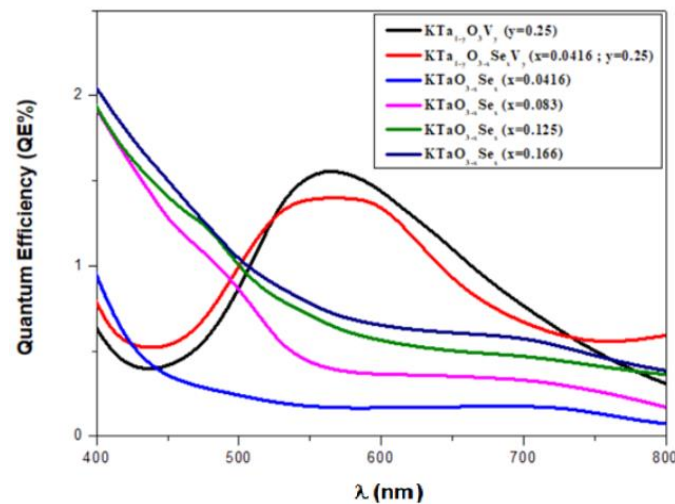
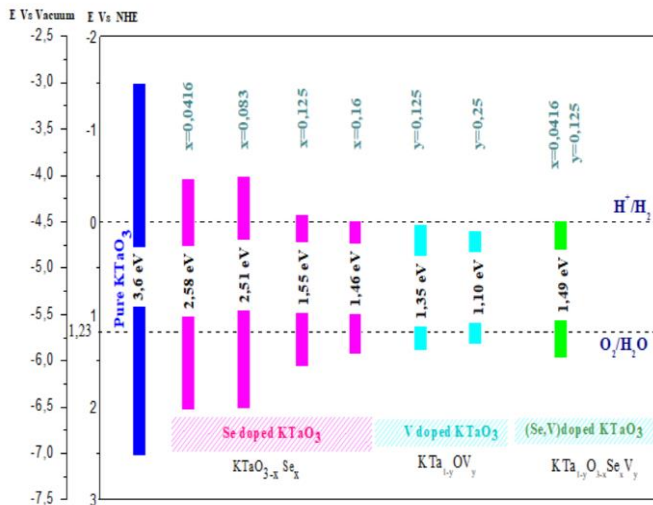
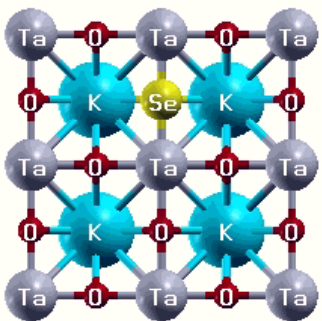
TiO<sub>2</sub> doped with Se



E<sub>g</sub> = 1.70 eV



KTaO<sub>3</sub> E<sub>g</sub> = 3eV





**Density Functionnel Theory :DFT??**  
**More details**

---

# Density Functionnel Theory

## Schoedinger's Equation

$$\left( -\frac{\hbar^2}{2m} \nabla^2 + V \right) \Psi(R_i, r_i) = \varepsilon \cdot \Psi(R_i, r_i)$$

Kinetic Energy

Potential Energy

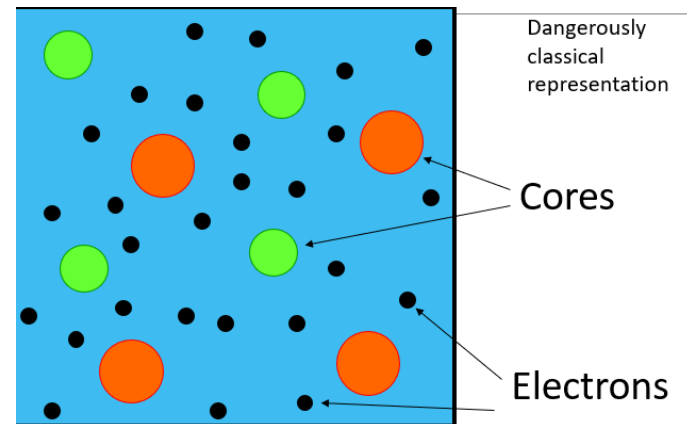
Coulombic interaction  
External Fields

Wave function

Energy levels

Hamiltonian operator

Very Complex many body Problem !!  
(Because everything interacts)



## First approximations

---

- Adiabatic (or Born-Openheimer)
  - Electrons are much lighter, and faster
  - Decoupling in the wave function

$$\Psi(R_i, r_i) = \theta(R_i) \cdot \phi(r_i)$$

- Nuclei are treated classically
  - They go in the external potential

# Density Functionnel Theory

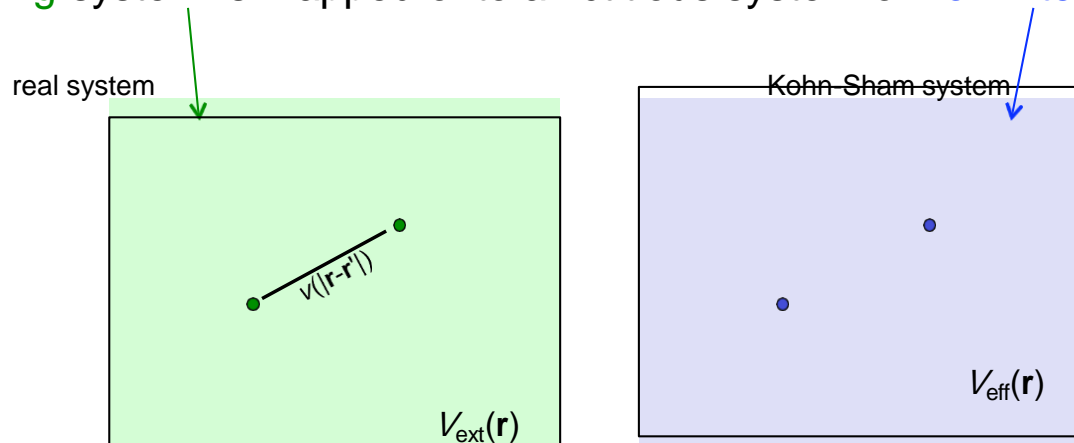
Density-functional theory based on **Hohenberg-Kohn theorem** (1964):

**First statement:** one-to-one correspondence  $\rho_0 \Leftrightarrow v_{\text{ext}}$

**Second statement:** variational principle for ground-state energy:  $E[\rho_0] \leq E[\rho]$

**Kohn-Sham formalism** (1965 – 50 year anniversary!):

**Interacting** system is mapped onto a fictitious system of **non-interacting** electrons.



$$\rho_0(\mathbf{r}) = \rho_0(\mathbf{r})$$

# Density Functionnel Theory

Non interacting electrons: Same Density

=> Back to wave functions, but simpler this time (a lot more though)

$$(KS1) \quad \left( -\frac{\hbar}{2m} \nabla^2 + V_{eff} \right) \varphi_i(\mathbf{r}) = \varepsilon_i \cdot \varphi_i(\mathbf{r})$$

$$(KS2) \quad V_{eff}(\mathbf{r}) = V(\mathbf{r}) + \int \frac{\rho(\mathbf{r}')}{|\mathbf{r} - \mathbf{r}'|} d\mathbf{r}' + \mu_{xc}[\rho](\mathbf{r})$$

$$(KS3) \quad \rho(\mathbf{r}) = \sum_i |\varphi_i(\mathbf{r})|^2$$

N K.S. equations

(ONE particle in a box really)

Exchange correlation potential





# Density Functionnel Theory :DFT??

## The exchange and correlation energy functional

- **LDA:** The xc energy density of the inhomogeneous system in  $\mathbf{r}$  is locally approximated with that of a homogeneous electron gas with density  $n(\mathbf{r})$

$$E_{xc}^{LDA} = \int d\mathbf{r} n(\mathbf{r}) \varepsilon_{xc}^{HEG}(n(\mathbf{r}))$$

- **GGA:** include the dependence on the gradient of the density

$$E_{xc}^{GGA} = \int d\mathbf{r} n(\mathbf{r}) \varepsilon_{xc}(n(\mathbf{r}), \nabla n(\mathbf{r})) = \int d\mathbf{r} n(\mathbf{r}) \varepsilon_{xc}^{HEG}(n(\mathbf{r})) F_{xc}(n(\mathbf{r}), \nabla n(\mathbf{r}))$$

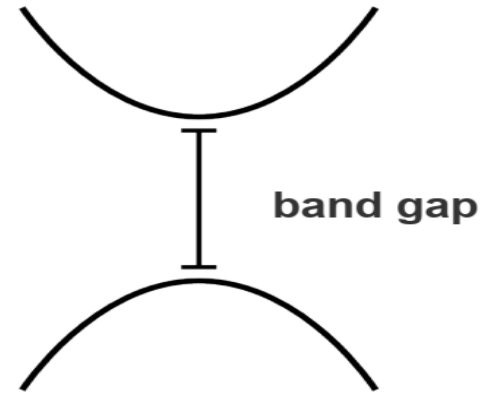
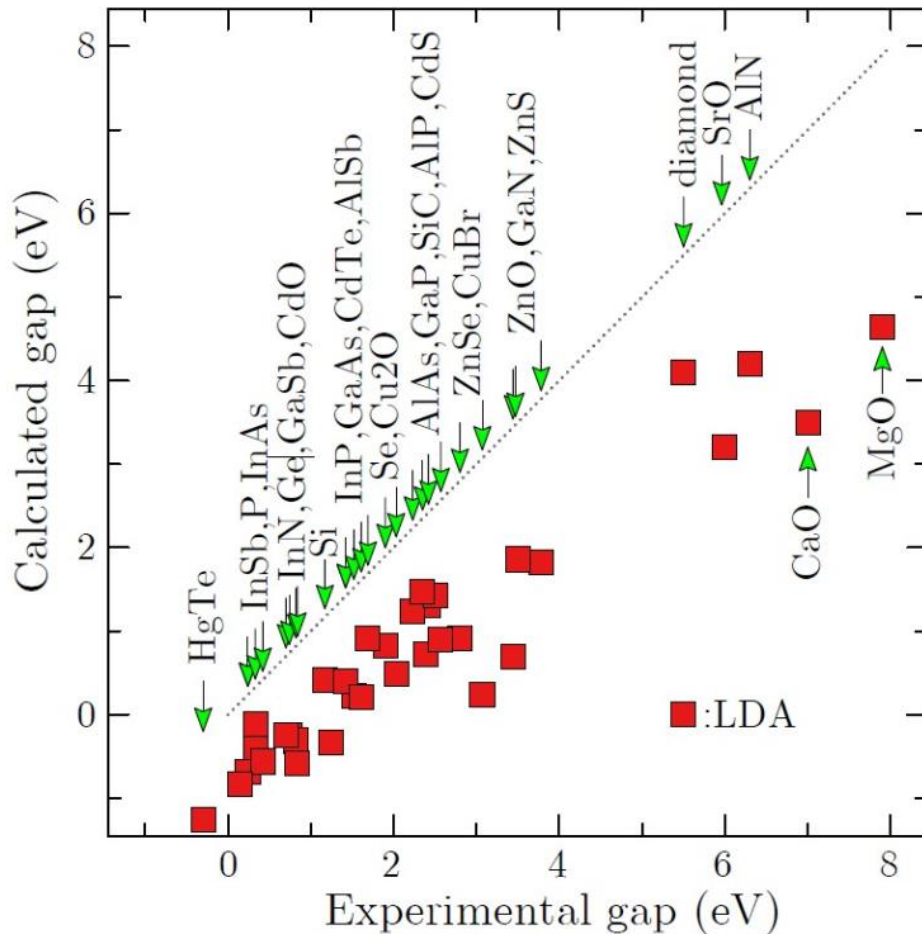
- **Meta-GGA:** include the dependency on the laplacian of the density and kinetic energy density

$$E_{xc}^{mGGA} = \int d\mathbf{r} n(\mathbf{r}) \varepsilon_{xc}(n(\mathbf{r}), \nabla n(\mathbf{r}), \nabla^2 n(\mathbf{r}), \tau) \quad \tau = \frac{1}{2} \sum_i |\nabla \psi_i(\mathbf{r})|^2$$

- **Hybrid functionals:** include a fraction of Fock exchange

$$E_{xc}^{hyb} = (1 - a_0) E_x^{DFT} + a_0 E_x^{HF} + E_c^{DFT}$$

# Failure or success of DFT?



**Band gap problem!**



# Solution : corrective approach

## DFT

Kohn-Sham Equations

$$H_0(r)\varphi_{KS}(r) + v_{xc}(r)\varphi_{KS}(r) = \epsilon_{KS}\varphi_{KS}(r)$$

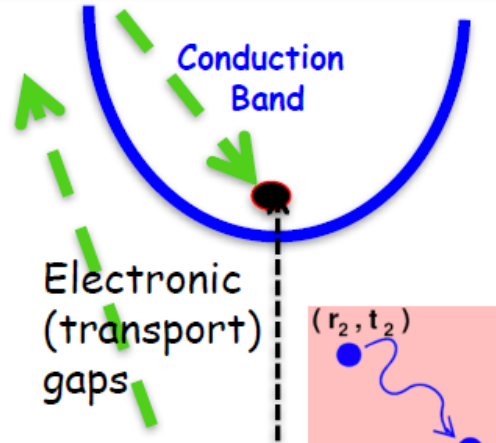


Ground-state properties  
KS gaps underestimate  
the real QP ones



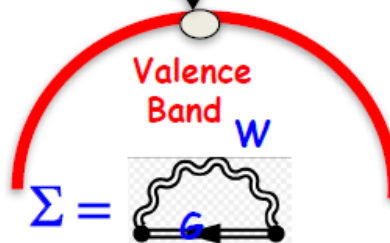
## GW method

$$\epsilon_i^{QP} \approx \epsilon_i^{KS} + \langle \varphi_i^{KS} | \Sigma(\epsilon_{nk}^{KS}) - V_{xc} | \varphi_i^{KS} \rangle$$



PES, IPES, ARPES, STS

Quasi-particle  
Bandstructures



## Bethe-Salpeter Equation (BSE)

$$[H_{el} + H_{hole} + H_{el-hole}]A_\lambda = E_\lambda A_\lambda$$

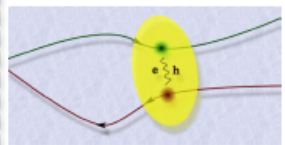
$$Abs(\omega) \propto \sum_\lambda \left| \sum_{vc} A_\lambda^{(vc)} \langle v|D|c \rangle \right|^2 \delta(E_\lambda - \omega)$$

ABSORPTION,  
REFLECTIVITY, EELS,...

Optical  
Gaps,  
spectra

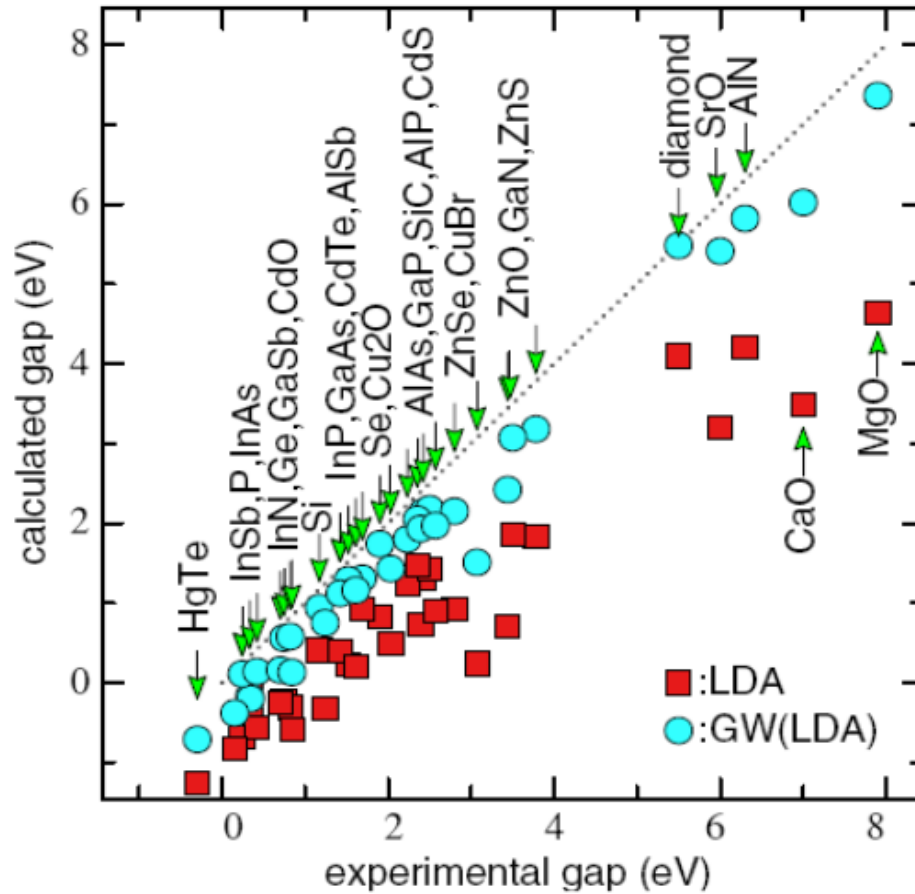
Valence Band

$A_\lambda$  = excitonic eigenfunctions  
 $E_\lambda$  = excitonic Eigenvalues



# Solution : corrective approach

## GW approximation gets good band gap



after van Schilfgaarde *et al* PRL **96** 226402 (2008)

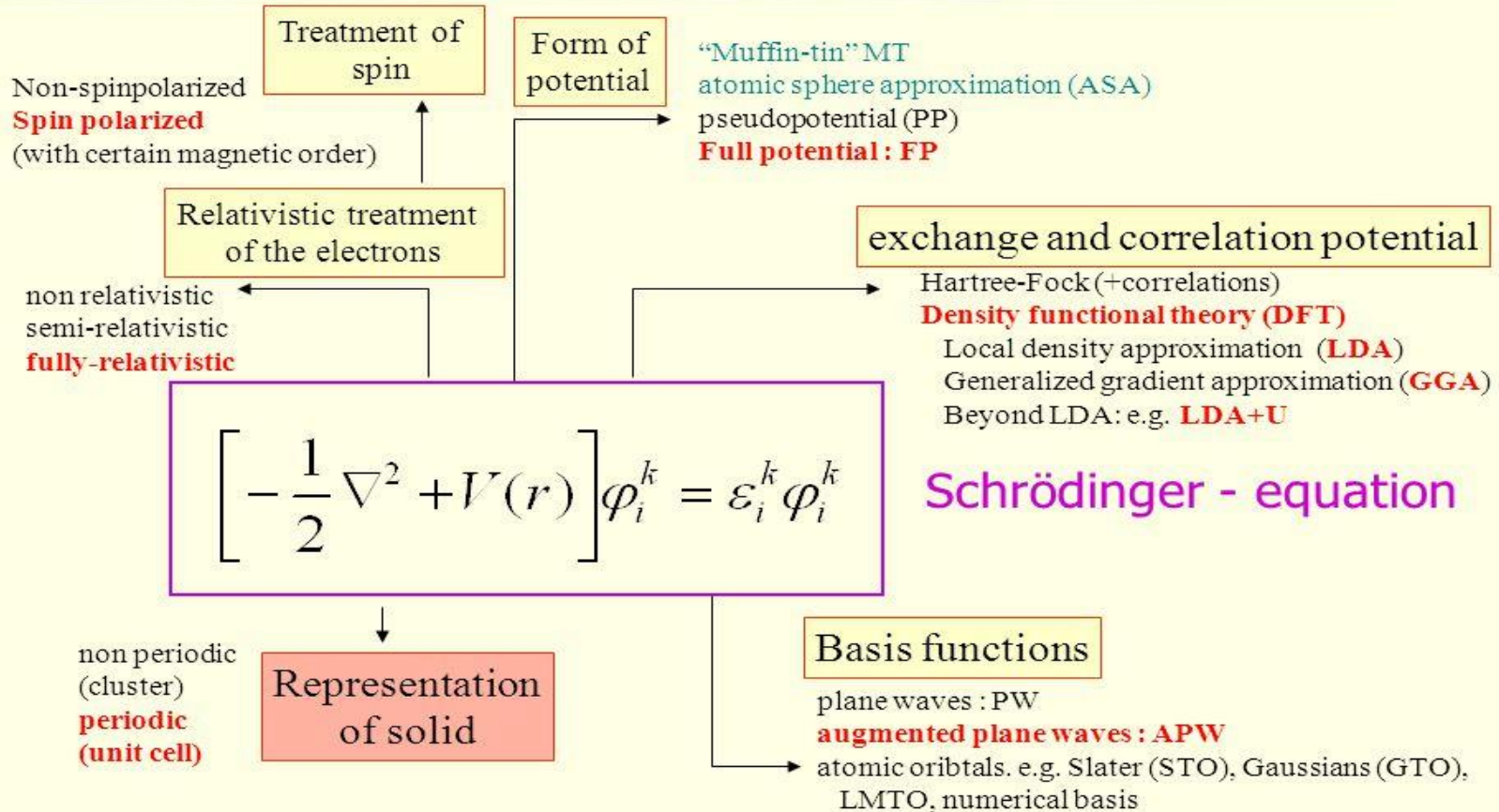
No more a band gap problem !



# Density Functionnel Theory :DFT??

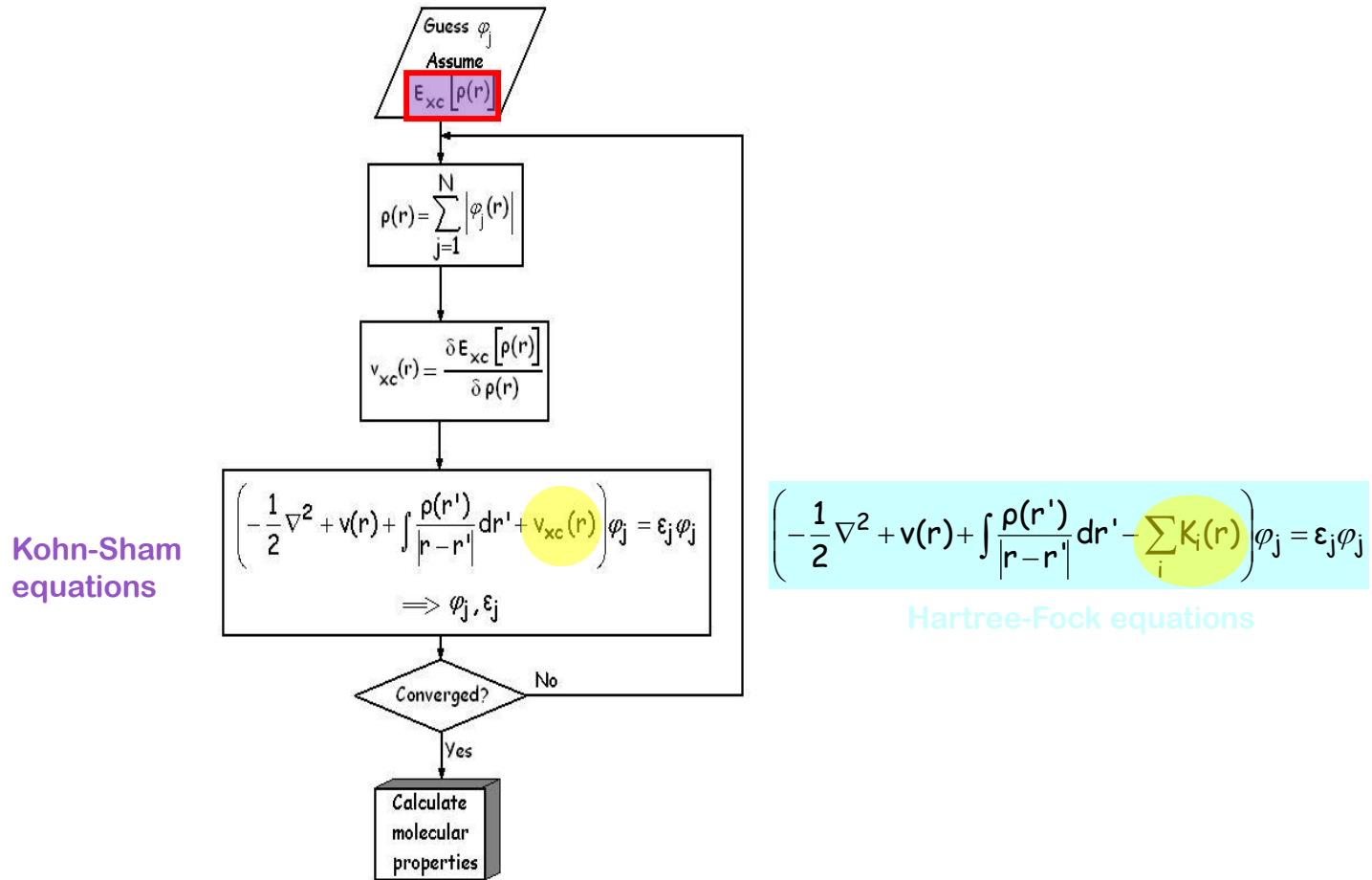


## Concepts when solving Schrödingers-equation



# Density Functionnel Theory :DFT??

## Kohn-Sham Formalism





# Density Functionnel Theory :DFT??

## Pseudopotential ↔ (F)LAPW+lo

### Plane-wave pseudopotentials

- Pseudopotentials ...
- ... enable usage of plane-wave basis.
- Basis set mathematically simple!!
  - simple coding,
  - easy to use.
- Basis set complete.
- Pseudization of wave functions.
- Localized states difficult to treat (oxides, *d* states, *f* states).
- No explicit treatment of core states (Frozen-core approximation).

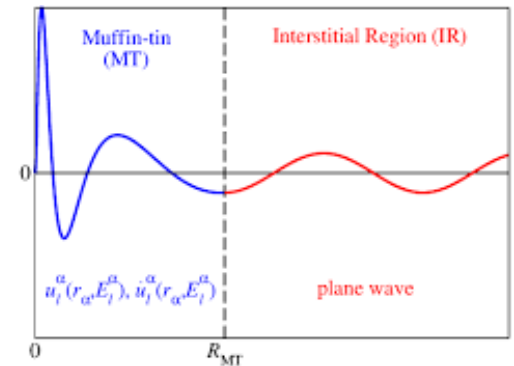
### (F)LAPW+lo

Full all-electron potential used  
Augmented plane waves.

Complicated basis set!!  
→ complex codes,  
→ more difficult to use.

Basis can be incomplete or become overcomplete.

- *True* all-electron wave functions.
- Localized states efficiently treated (oxides, *d* states, *f* states).
- Explicit treatment of core states.



# Conclusion

**2D /bulk system:**  
Structure, lattice parameter  
...

**Formalism :** Full potential  
**Approximation:** GGA, LDA,  
LDA+U...

Experimental result:



Theoretical results

Comparer les resultas theorique et experimental  
Chercher une interpretation physique des resultas



**Thank you for your attention**

# DFT: Summary

The ground state energy depends only on the electronic density (H.K.)

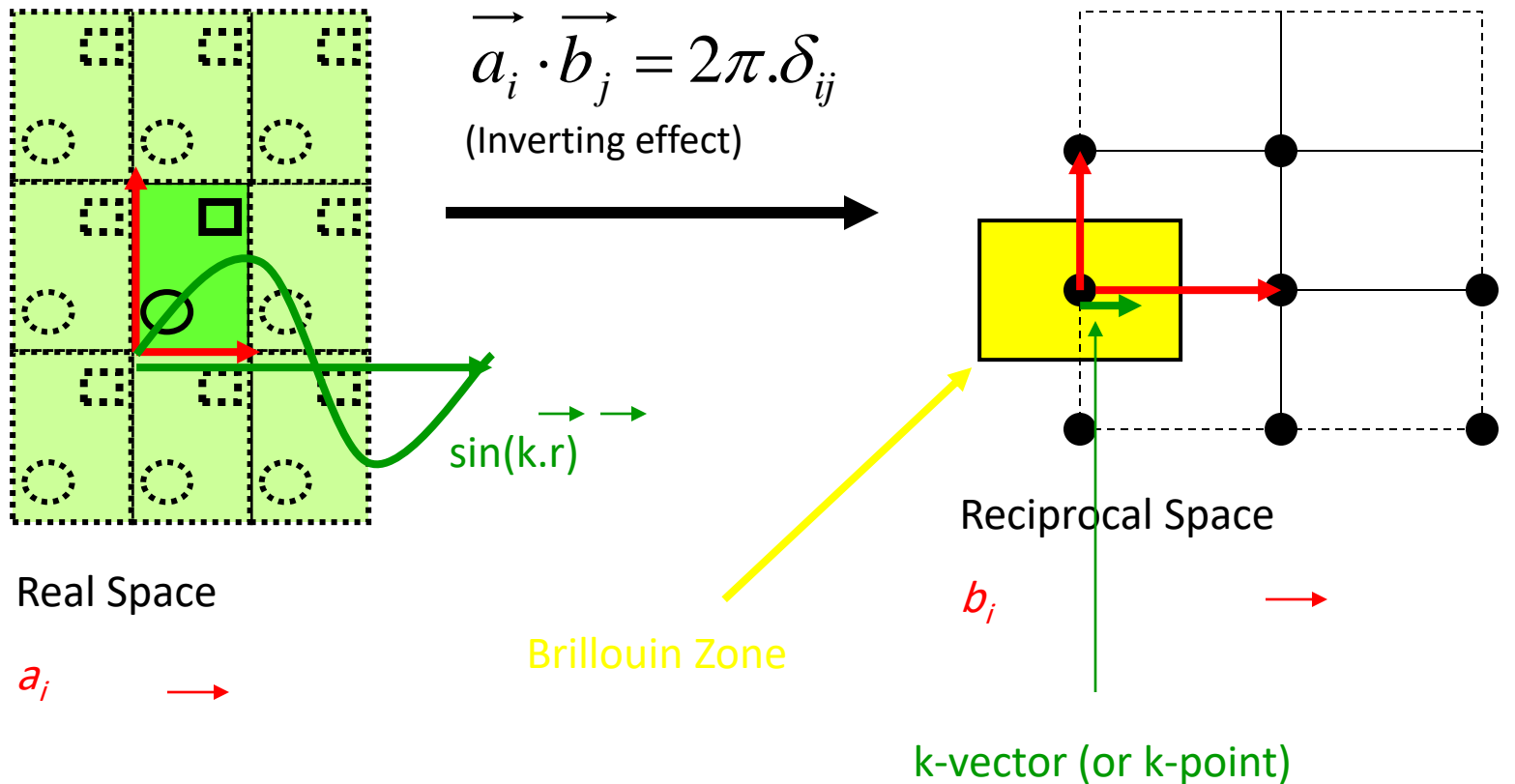
One can formally replace the SE for the system by a set of SE for non-interacting electrons (K.S.)

Everything hard is dumped into  $E_{xc}$

Simplistic approximations of  $E_{xc}$  work !

LDA or GGA

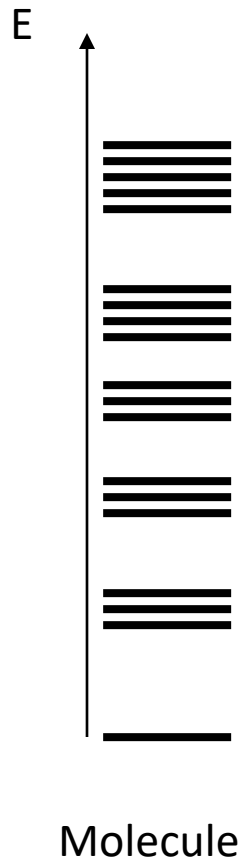
# Reciprocal space



See X-Ray diffraction for instance

Also, Fourier transform and Bloch theorem

# Band structure



Energy levels  
(eigenvalues of SE)

