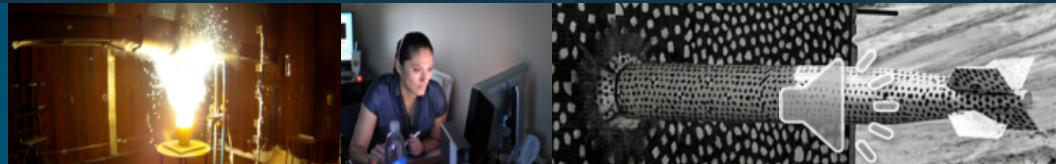




# Heavy Ion Irradiation Effects on MoS<sub>2</sub> Memtransistors



**Christopher M. Smyth<sup>1\*</sup>**, John M. Cain<sup>1</sup>, Eric Lang<sup>1</sup>, Nathan J. Madden<sup>1</sup>, Khalid Hattar<sup>1</sup>, Xiaodong Yan<sup>2</sup>, Jiangtan Yuan<sup>2</sup>, Matthew Bland<sup>2</sup>, Taisuke Ohta<sup>1</sup>, Vinod K. Sangwan<sup>2</sup>, Mark C. Hersam<sup>2,3</sup>, Stanley S. Chou<sup>1</sup>, Tzu-Ming Lu<sup>1</sup>

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<sup>2</sup>*Department of Materials Science and Engineering,  
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EQ20.23.01

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## Background and Motivation

- Relevant radiation environments
- Radiation tolerance of TMDs
- Why is the MoS<sub>2</sub> memtransistor interesting?



## Heavy Ion Irradiation Effects

- MoS<sub>2</sub> physical properties vs radiation fluence
  - Chemistry
  - Defect density and morphology
- Memtransistor behavior vs radiation fluence

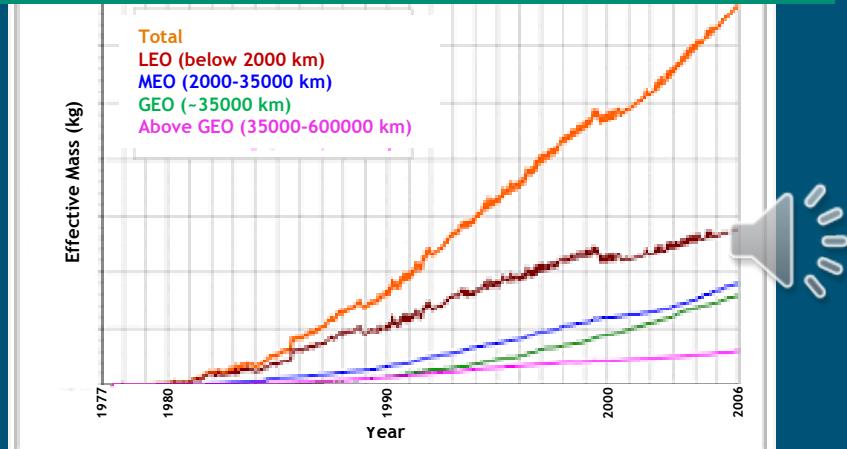
## Background and Motivation



Why do we need radiation tolerant electronics now more than ever?

- Increasing satellite launch rate
- Invigorated global interest in interplanetary exploration

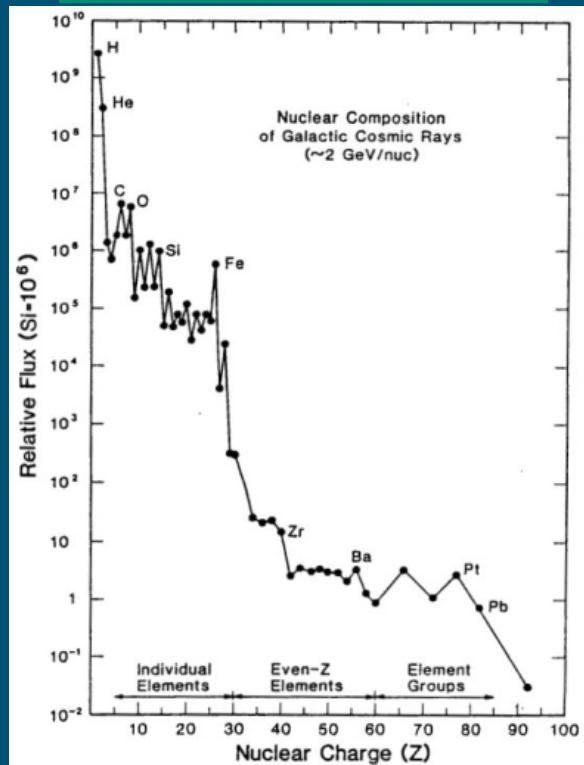
Monthly Effective Mass of Objects in Earth Orbit by Region



Spacecraft Trajectory for Manned Lunar Landing



Applicable Space Environments

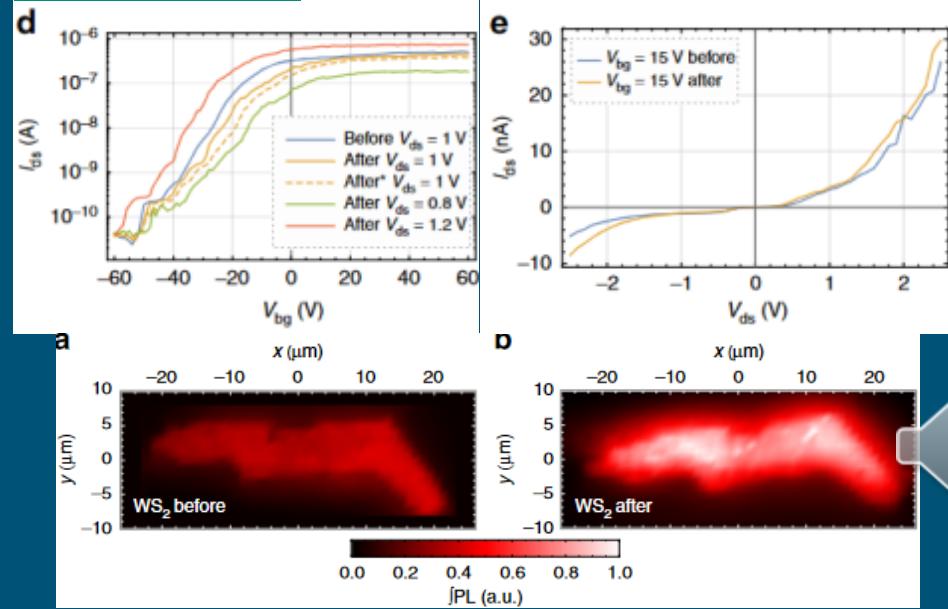


R. A. Mewaldt, Adv. Space. Res. 1994, 14, 10, 737-747

Desired properties of radiation tolerant electronics:

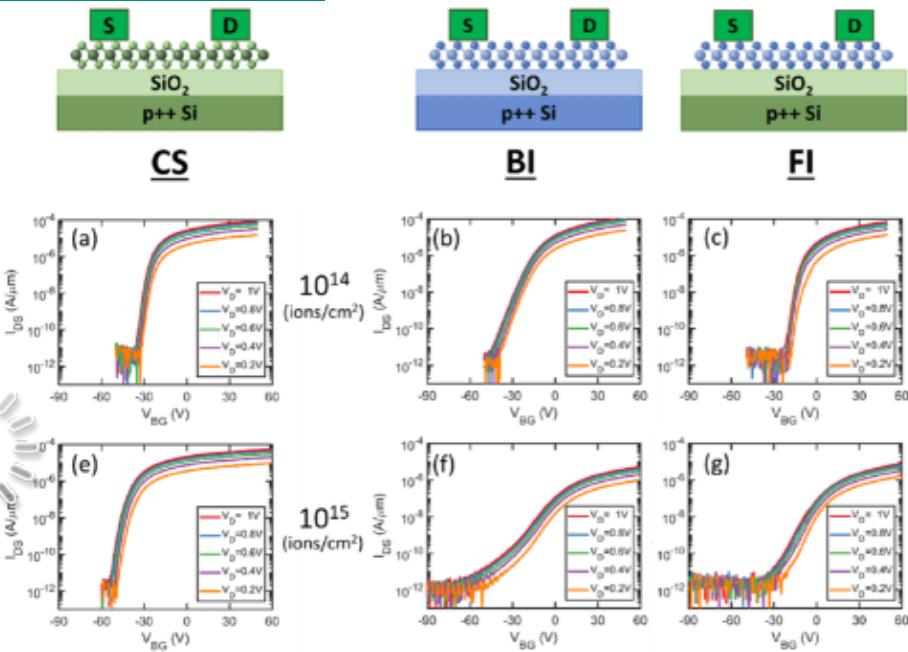
- Reliable, high endurance, low power, SEU-

## **$\gamma$ -Ray Irradiation**



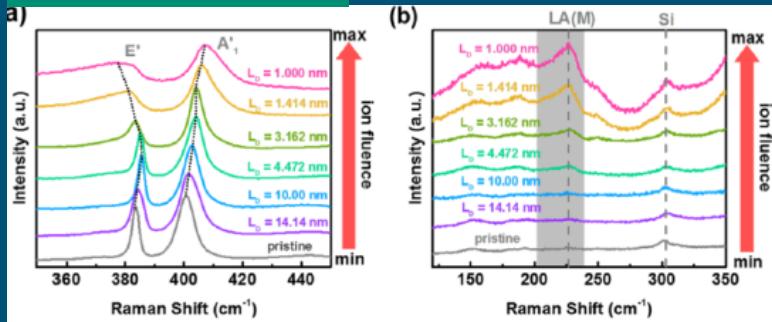
T. Vogl et al., Nat. Commun. 2019, 10, 1202

## Light Ion Irradiation



A. J. Arnold et al., ACS Appl. Mater. Interfaces 2019, 11, 8391-8399

## Heavy Ion Irradiation



Z. He et al., ACS Appl. Mater. Interfaces 2018, 10, 42524-42533

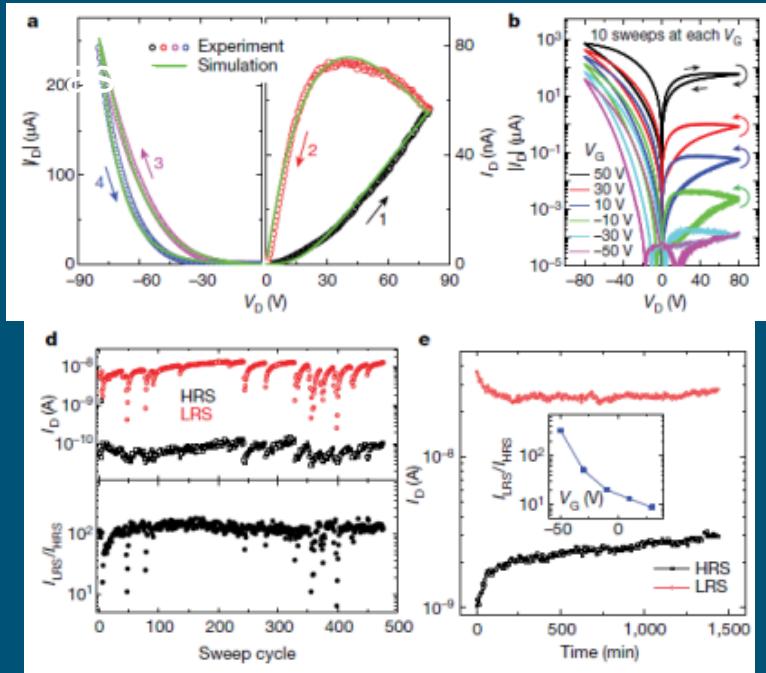
TMDs are promising for logic applications under energetic photon and light ion irradiation

## What about device performance under swift heavy ion irradiation?

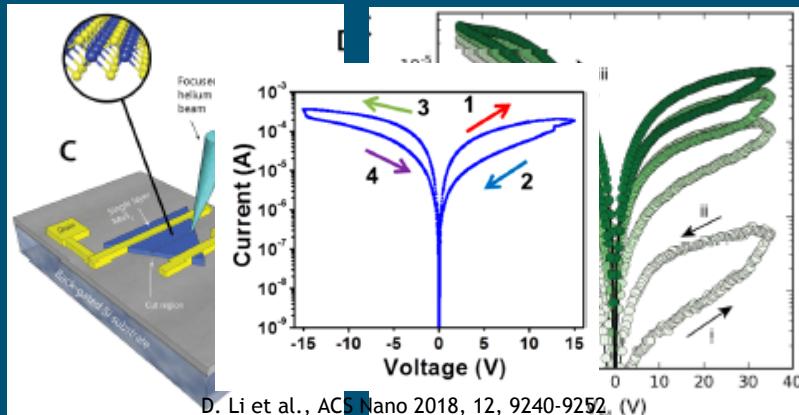
# Why Study the Radiation Tolerance of the MoS<sub>2</sub> Memtransistor



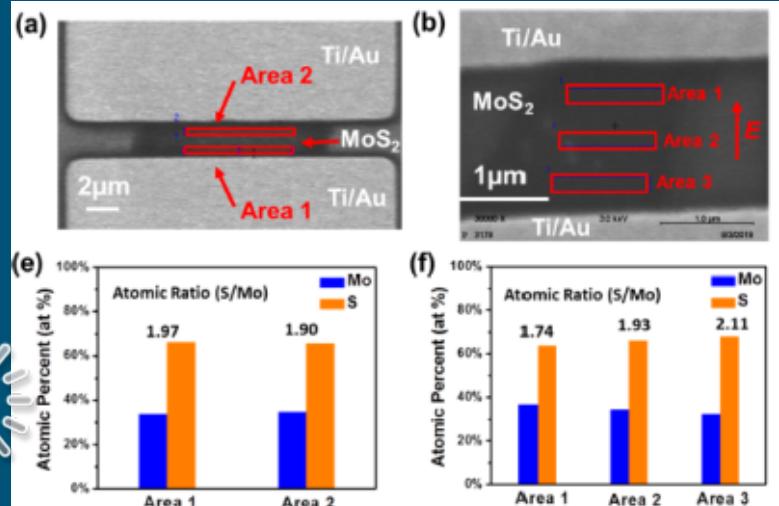
## MoS<sub>2</sub> Memory Devices



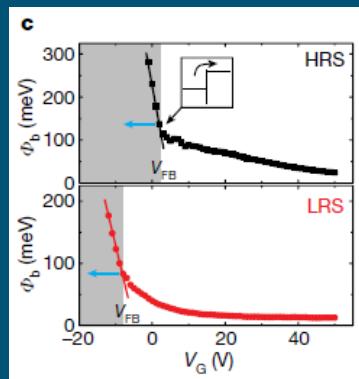
V. K. Sangwan et al., Nature 2018, 554, 500-504



## Memristive Behavior based on Defect-Mediated Switching



D. Li et al., ACS Nano 2018, 12, 9240-9252



V. K. Sangwan et al., Nature Nanotechnol. 2015, 10, 403-406

Is the defect-reliant MoS<sub>2</sub> memtransistor inherently radiation tolerant?



## Background and Motivation

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## Heavy Ion Irradiation Effects

- MoS<sub>2</sub> physical properties vs radiation fluence
  - Chemistry
  - Defect density and morphology
- Memtransistor behavior vs radiation fluence

# Experiment Details: Ex-situ Irradiation of MoS<sub>2</sub> Devices and Films



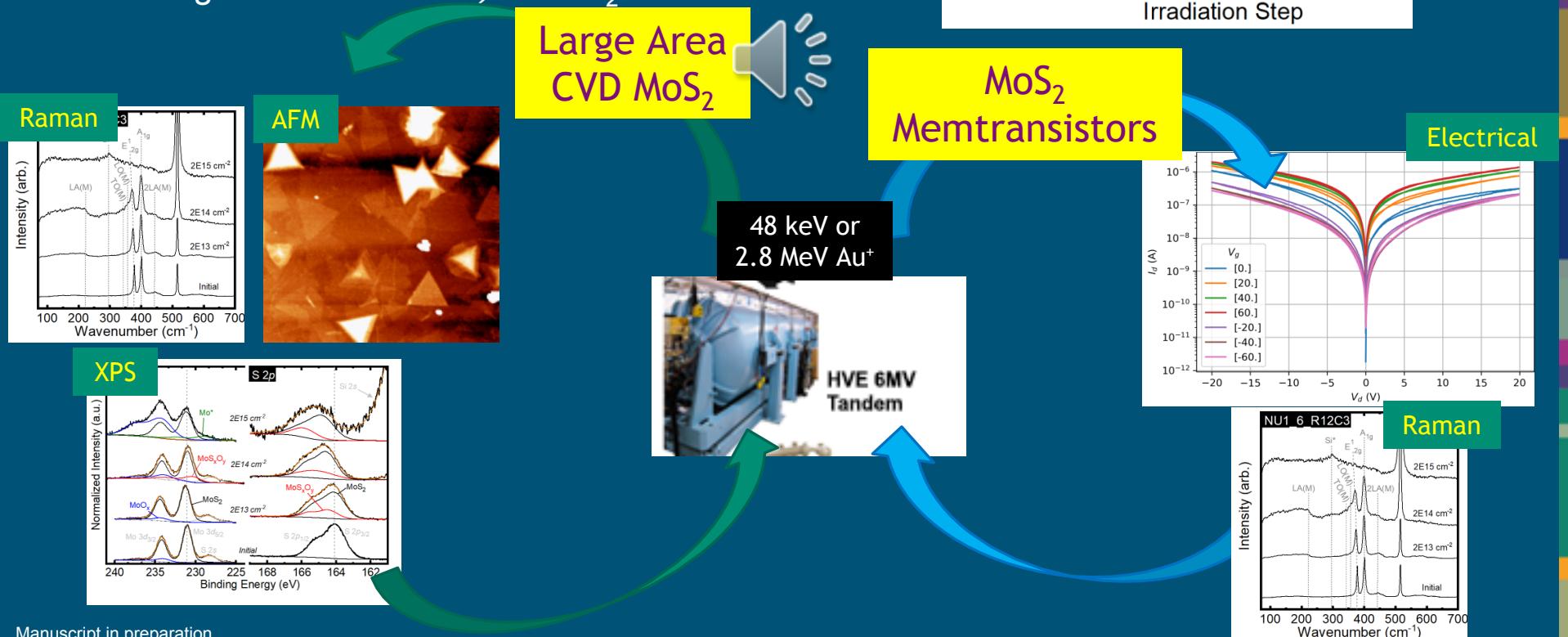
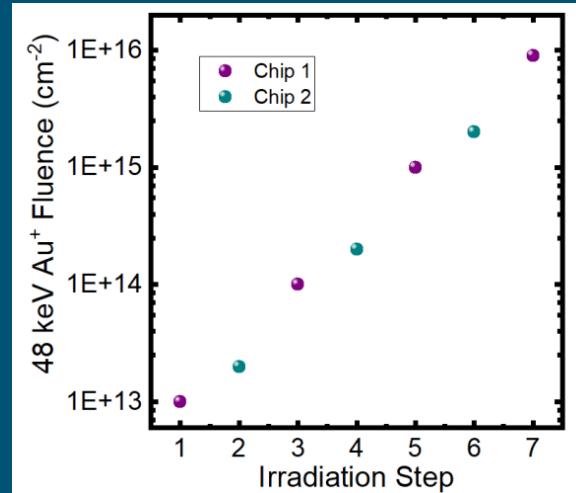
keV - MeV Au<sup>+</sup> used for all irradiations in this work

## Device Irradiation:

- 2× array of back gated memtransistors
- Device *and* back gate irradiated

## Large Area MoS<sub>2</sub> Irradiation

- 2× large area CVD MoS<sub>2</sub> on SiO<sub>2</sub>/Si



# Etching and Oxidation of MoS<sub>2</sub> Induced by Au<sup>+</sup> Irradiation

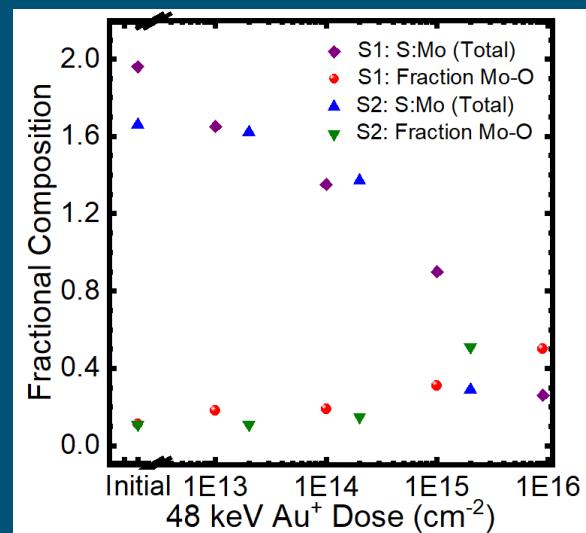
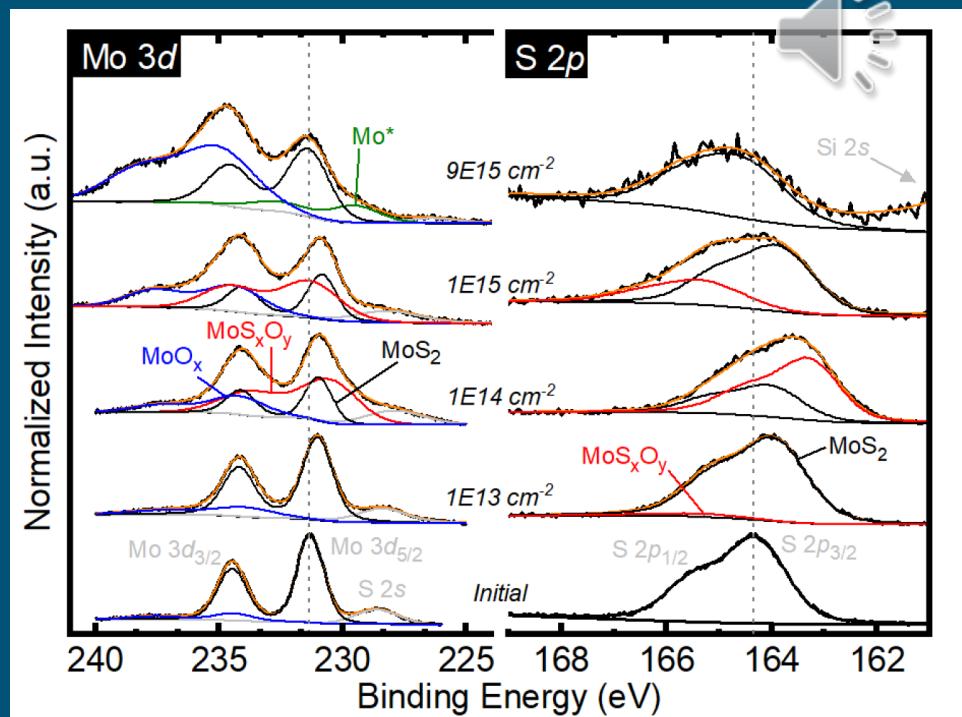


## Initial MoS<sub>2</sub> chemistry:

- ~1.9 S:Mo ratio
- Nominal MoO<sub>x</sub> concentration for polycrystalline CVD MoS<sub>2</sub>

## 48 keV Au<sup>+</sup> irradiation:

- Mo, S sputtering occurs
  - 43% decrease in Mo 3d intensity after 2E15 cm<sup>-2</sup> Au<sup>+</sup>
  - 92% decrease in S 2p intensity after 2E15 cm<sup>-2</sup> Au<sup>+</sup>
- MoO<sub>x</sub> concentration increases from 10% to 50% after 2E15 cm<sup>-2</sup> Au<sup>+</sup>



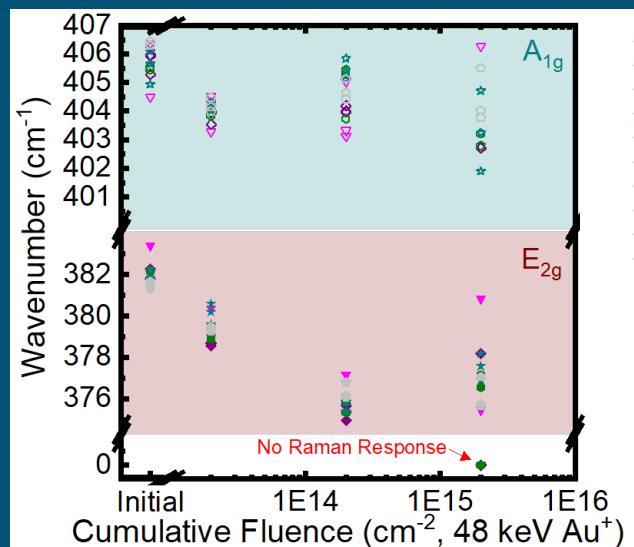
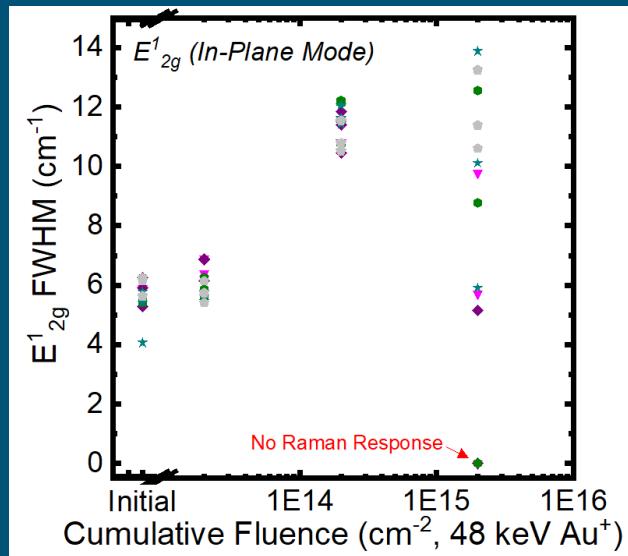
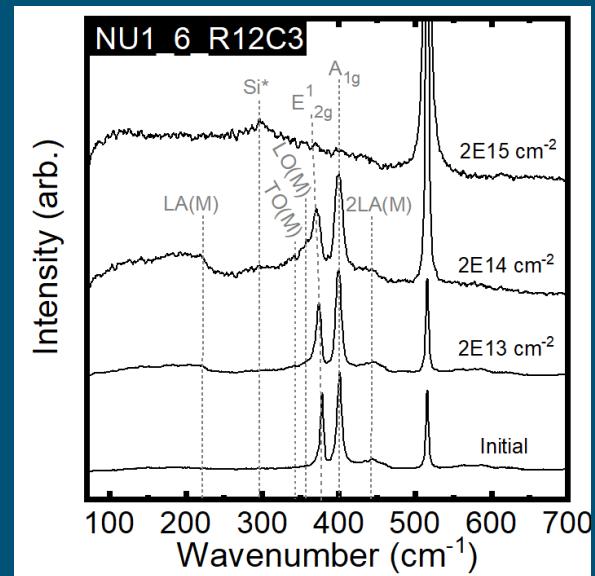
# Increased Disorder and Point Defect Density in $\text{Au}^+$ Irradiated $\text{MoS}_2$



Irradiation-induced tensile strain in  $\text{MoS}_2$ :  $E_{2g}^1$  and  $A_{1g}$  red shift after  $2\text{E}13 \text{ cm}^{-2} \text{ Au}^+$

Significant increase in defect density at higher  $\text{Au}^+$  fluences

- $\sim 2\times$  increase in  $E_{2g}^1$  (in-plane mode) FWHM
- Complete loss of Raman response in some  $\text{MoS}_2$  regions



# Atomic Scale Defects in MoS<sub>2</sub> Induced by 2.8 MeV Au<sup>+</sup>

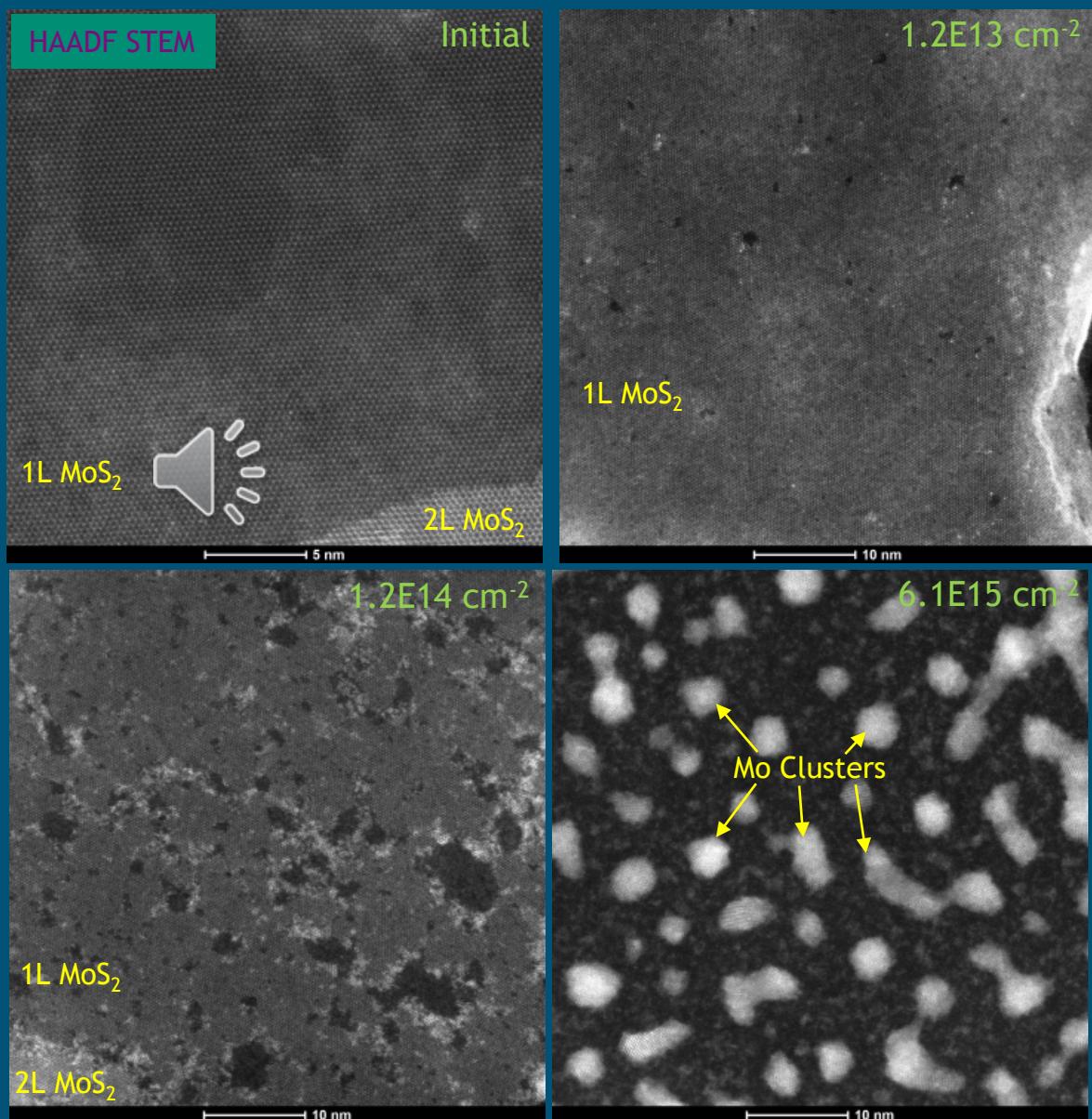


What we did: Irradiated CVD MoS<sub>2</sub> on a lacey carbon grid with 2.8 MeV Au<sup>+</sup>

Multi-atom defects generated in MoS<sub>2</sub> by Au<sup>+</sup> irradiation

S:Mo sputtering rate ratio  $\approx 4.7$  under 10<sup>4</sup>-10<sup>8</sup> eV Au<sup>+</sup> irradiation

Mo sputtering rate under Au<sup>+</sup> irradiation is 10<sup>4</sup> higher than under H<sup>+</sup> or  $\alpha$  particle irradiation





## Background and Motivation

- Relevant radiation environments
- Radiation tolerance of TMDs
- Why is the MoS<sub>2</sub> memtransistor interesting?



## Heavy Ion Irradiation Effects

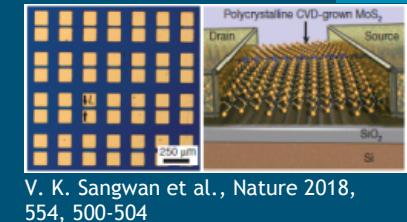
- MoS<sub>2</sub> physical properties vs radiation fluence
  - Chemistry
  - Defect density and morphology
- Memtransistor behavior vs radiation fluence

# Resistance Switching Collapse in Heavy Ion Irradiated Memtransistors



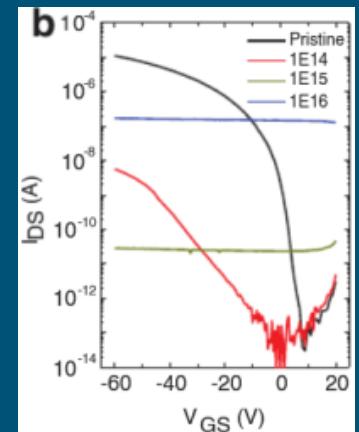
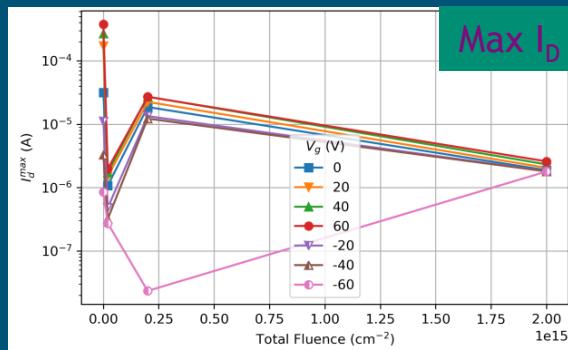
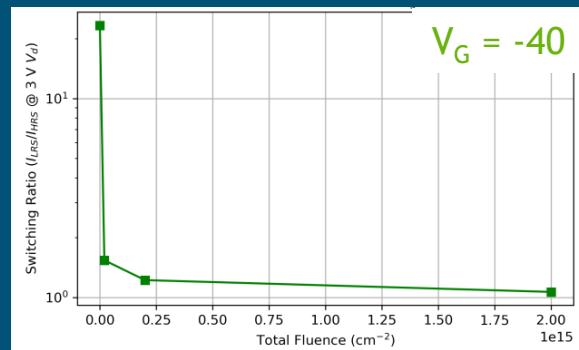
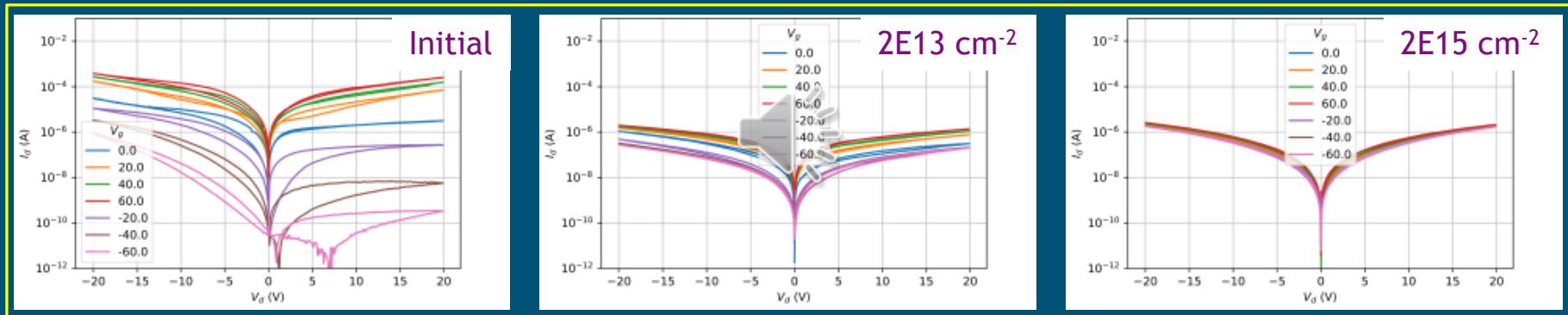
Initial memtransistor behavior:  $10^1$ - $10^2$  resistance ratio, gateable  $I_D$  range over  $10^5$   $\text{Au}^+$  irradiation:

- Causes collapse of resistance switching and gateability
- $I_D$  increase with increasing  $\text{Au}^+$  fluence due to variable hopping conduction\*



V. K. Sangwan et al., Nature 2018, 554, 500-504

$\text{MoS}_2$   
300 nm  $\text{SiO}_2$  / Si



\*M. G. Stanford et al., Adv. Funct. Mater. 2017, 27, 1702829

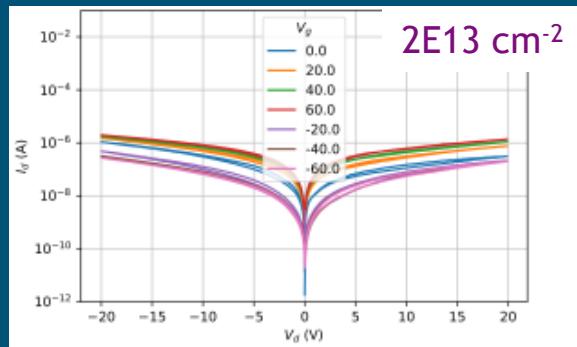
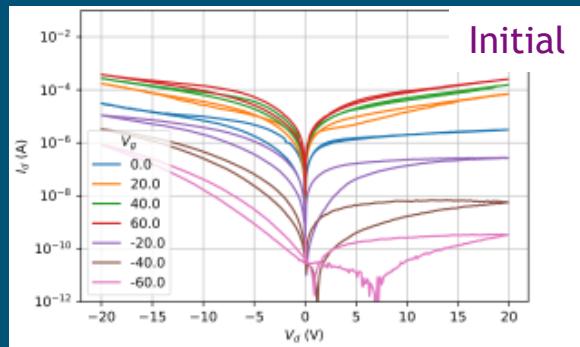
# Conclusions



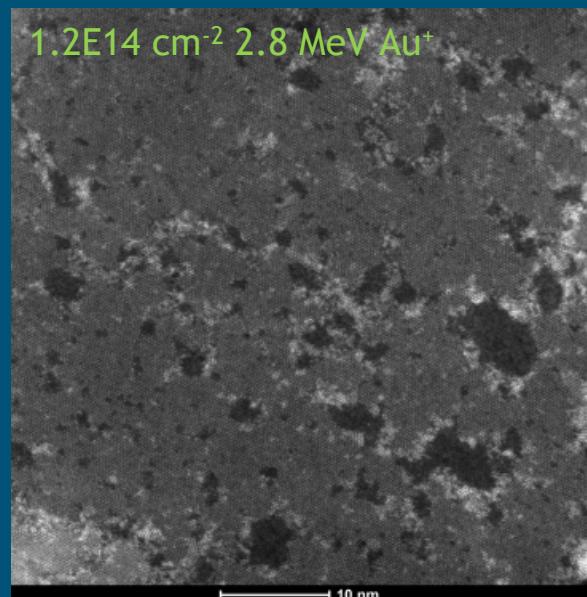
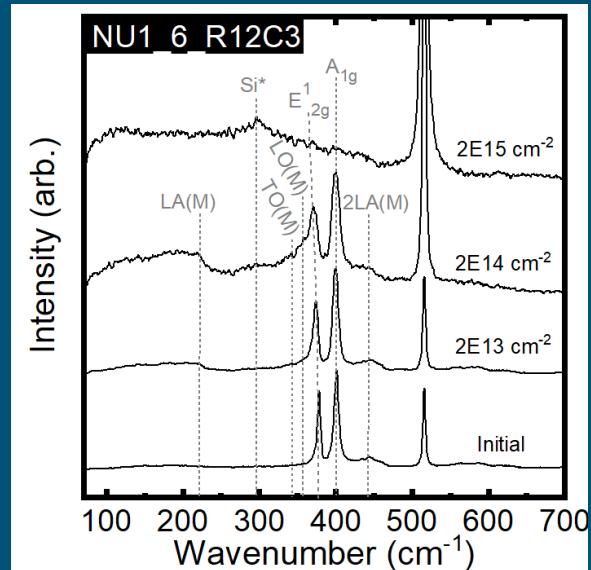
## Au<sup>+</sup> irradiation in the keV – MeV energy range:

- Creates Mo and S vacancies and larger holes in 1L MoS<sub>2</sub>
- Significant sputtering, oxidation, and reduction in S:Mo ratio occurs

Memtransistor behavior persists through an unusually high heavy ion fluence of 2E13 cm<sup>-2</sup>, which is effectively 200 years worth of galactic cosmic rays\*. This highlights the potential for the MoS<sub>2</sub> memtransistor to be highly reliable over extended missions beyond low earth orbit



\*when scaled based on active device area in MoS<sub>2</sub> memtransistor versus active device area in a single commercial logic device





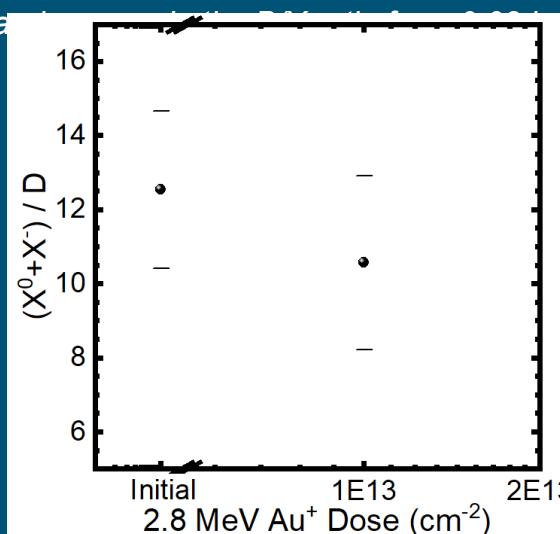
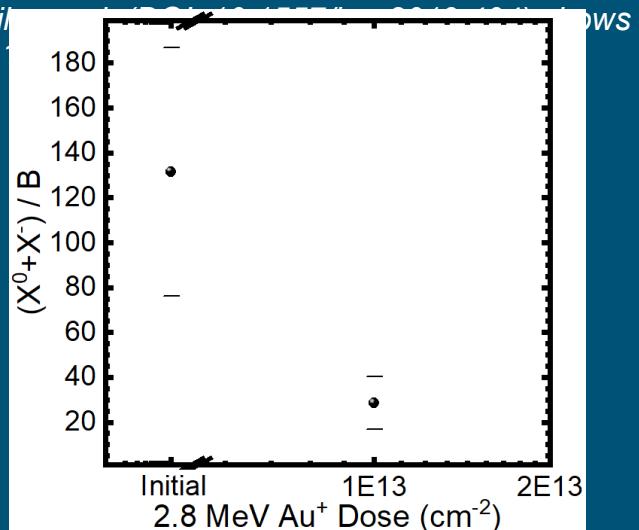
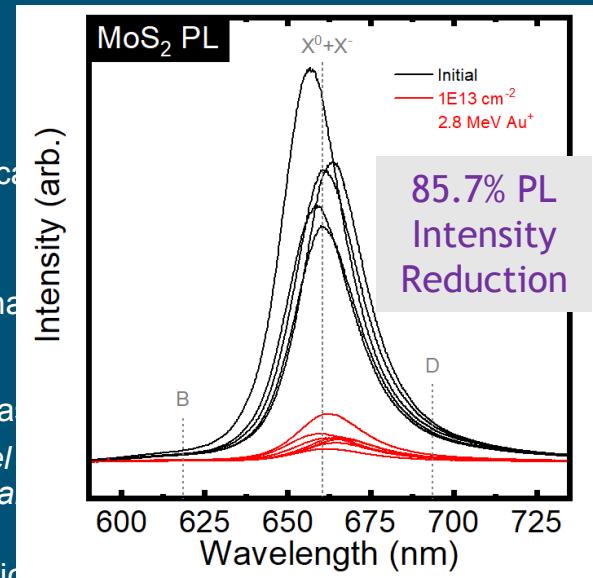
# Supporting Information

# Supporting Information: Photoluminescence vs Au<sup>+</sup> Fluence



## PL Argument:

- Nano Research 2018, 11 (8): 4123-4132
  - Increase in X peak can indicate an increase in sulfur vacancies
  - Increase in X peak often corresponds with decreased B peak, which indicates the higher energy spin orbit valence band
  - B peak decreases with increasing sulfur vacancy concentration
  - Lower energy D peak corresponds with sulfur vacancy-induced recombination
- Our samples:
  - X peak decreases by 85.7%, B peak decreases by 46.5%, D peak decreases by 46.5%
  - *Nearly simultaneous decrease in X and D points to a signature of Frenkel and S removal instead of preferential S vacancy creation, which could make the decrease in the B peak / increase in the D peak*
  - Comparatively smaller decrease in B peak than X and D peaks could indicate a reduction in disorder
  - Very small ~0.02-0.07 eV shift of all peaks after irradiation
  - *Other similar plots show a decrease in X/B ratio from 0.52 after 1E13 to 0.5 after 2E13*

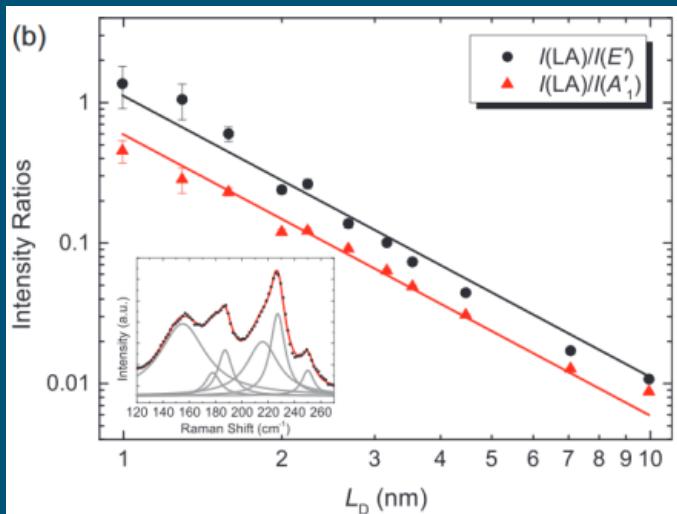


VD MoS<sub>2</sub> to

# Increased Disorder and Point Defect Density in $\text{Au}^+$ Irradiated $\text{MoS}_2$

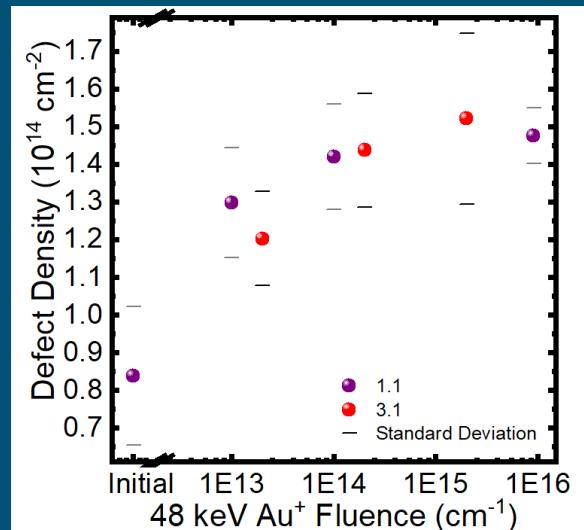
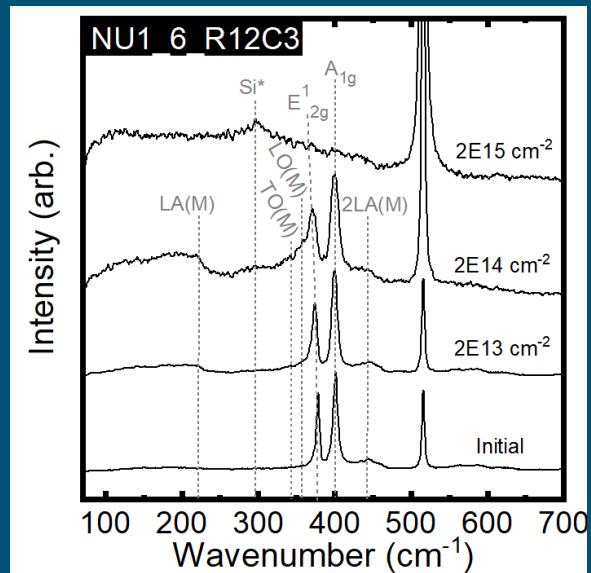


Point defect concentration in  $\text{MoS}_2$  can be extracted using an empirical relationship based on the  $\text{LA}(\text{M}) : \text{A}_{1g}$  or  $\text{LA}(\text{M}) : \text{E}^1_{2g}$  intensity ratio



S. Mignuzzi et al., Phys. Rev. B 2015, 91, 195411

$$\frac{I(\text{LA})}{I(\text{A}_{1g})} = \frac{C(\text{A}_{1g})}{L_D^2}$$



$\text{I}(\text{LA})/\text{I}(\text{A}_{1g})$  ratio indicates  $2\times$  increase in  $\text{MoS}_2$  point defect density after irradiating with  $2\text{E}15 \text{ cm}^{-2}$   $48 \text{ keV} \text{ Au}^+$

The Raman-extracted defect density conflicts with XPS results, which indicate significant S sputtering and disordering

# In-Situ SAED during 2.8 MeV Au<sup>+</sup> Irradiation of MoS<sub>2</sub>



## In-Situ Irradiation and SAED

Initial

1.2E14 cm<sup>-2</sup>

8.7E14 cm<sup>-2</sup>

# In-situ Irradiation and TEM Experiment Details

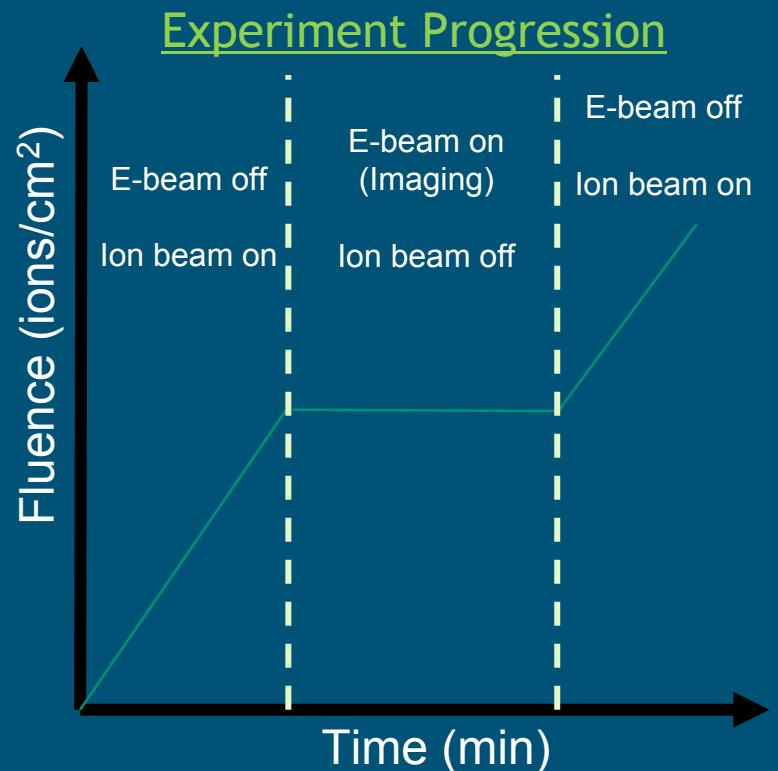


## Ion beam conditions

- 2.8 MeV Au<sup>4+</sup>
- 0.03 cm<sup>2</sup>

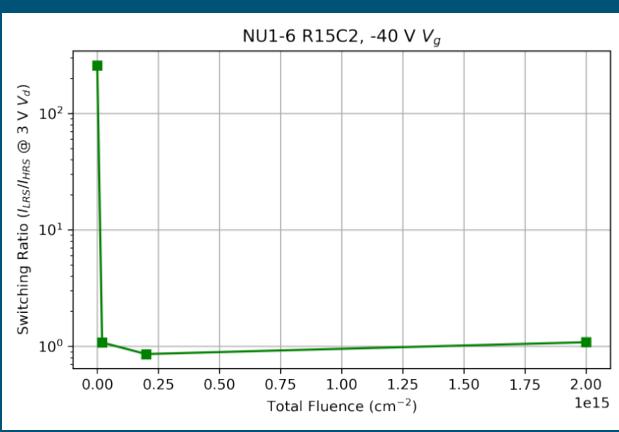
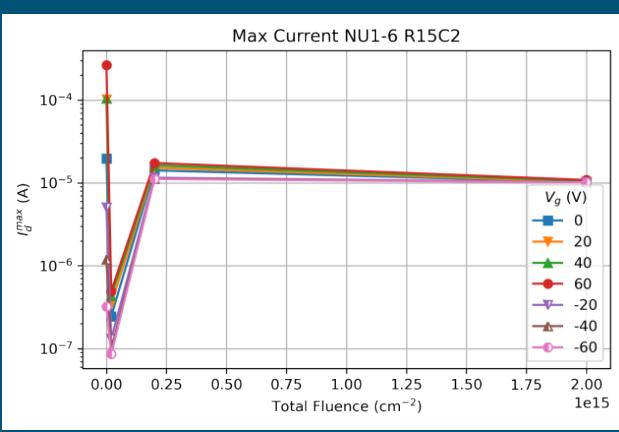
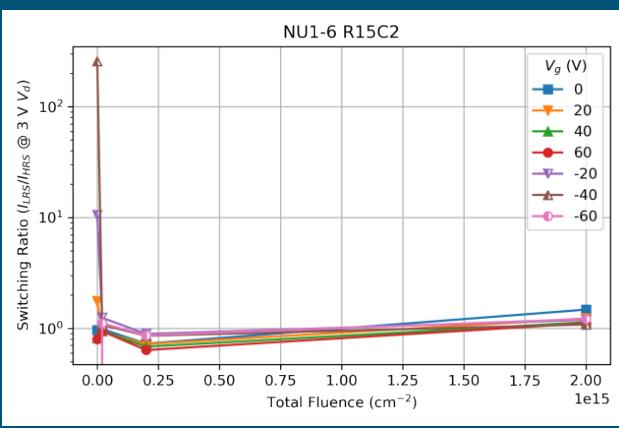
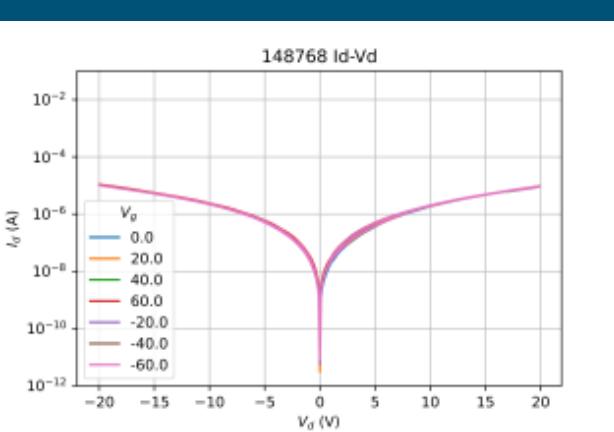
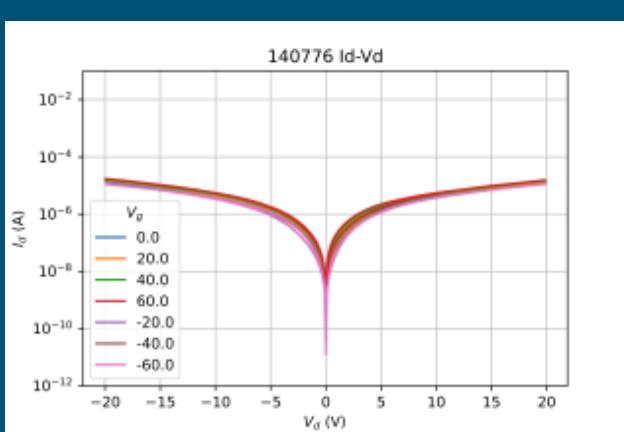
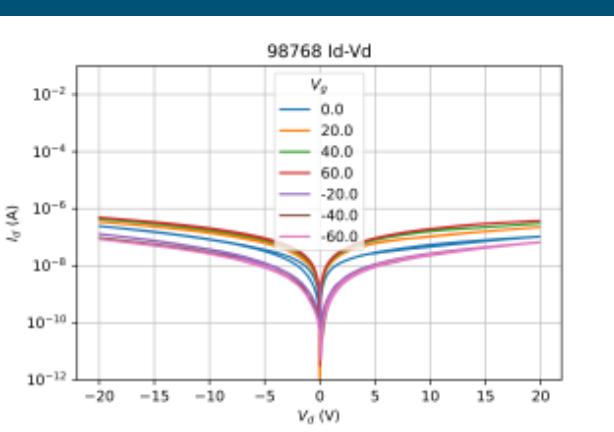
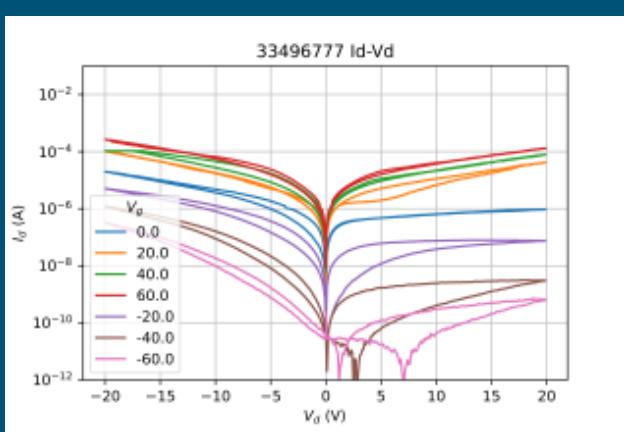
## TEM conditions

- $T_x = 30.4^\circ$ ,  $T_y = 0^\circ$
- SAED taken at 60 cm
- Magnification of Images: 40kx
- Electron beam blanked during irradiation
- TEM image and SAED took ~3 minutes each step

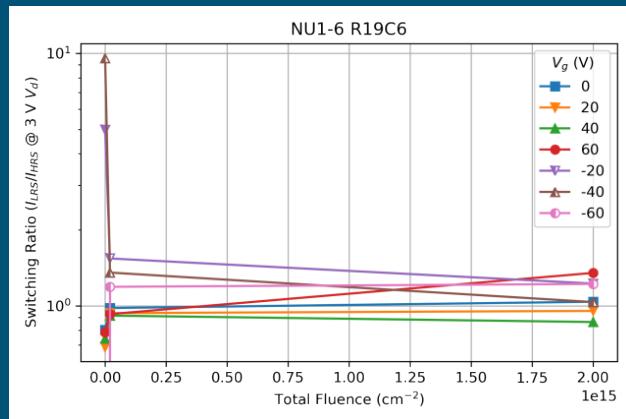
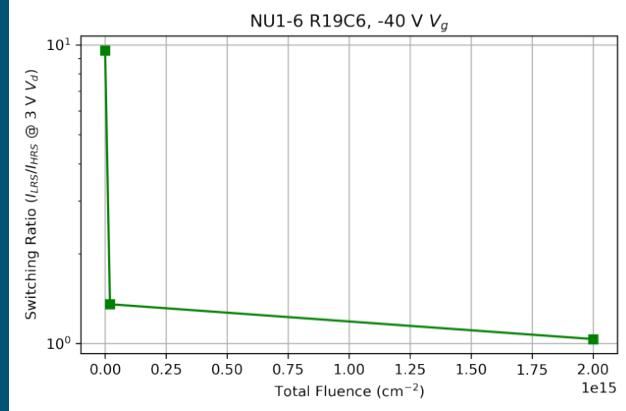
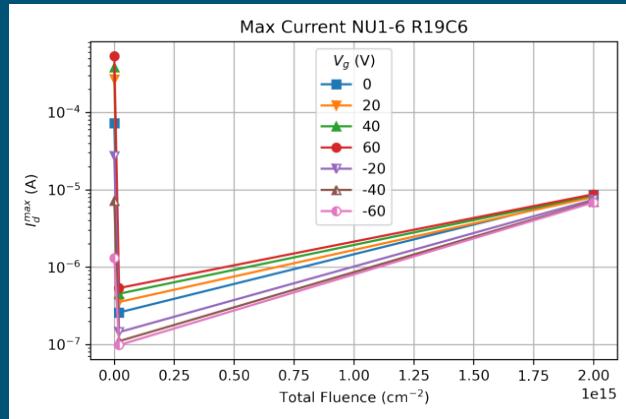
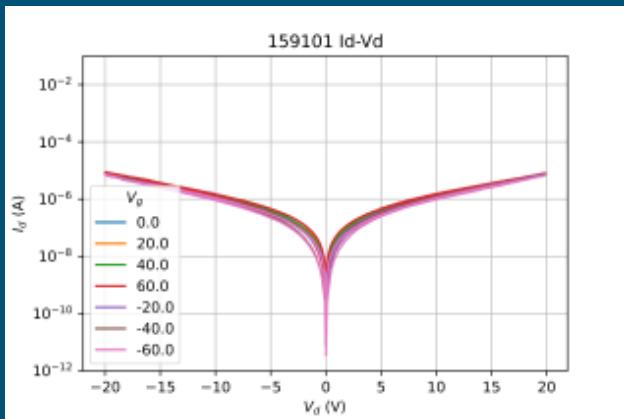
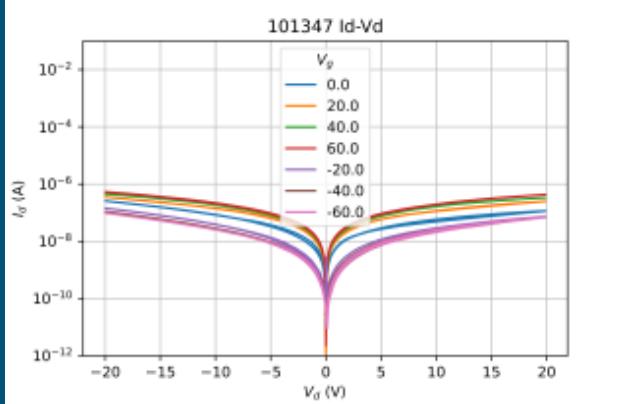
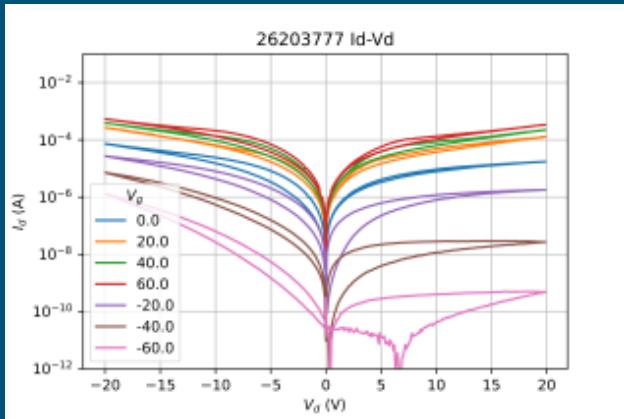


Elapsed Time (min)	Current Start (nA)	Current End (nA)	Estimated Fluence (ions/cm <sup>2</sup> )	Set Number
10	4.0	4.1	$1.25 \times 10^{14}$	1
20	2.6	2.5	$2.5 \times 10^{14}$	2
30	2.6	2.8	$3.74 \times 10^{14}$	3
40	2.8	2.8	$4.99 \times 10^{14}$	4
70	2.8	2.8	$8.74 \times 10^{14}$	5

# Ion Irradiation Effects on Device Performance: R15C2



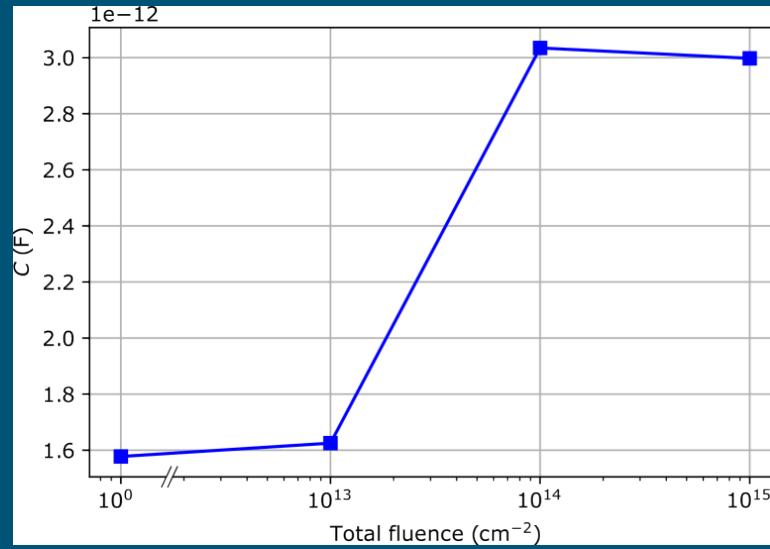
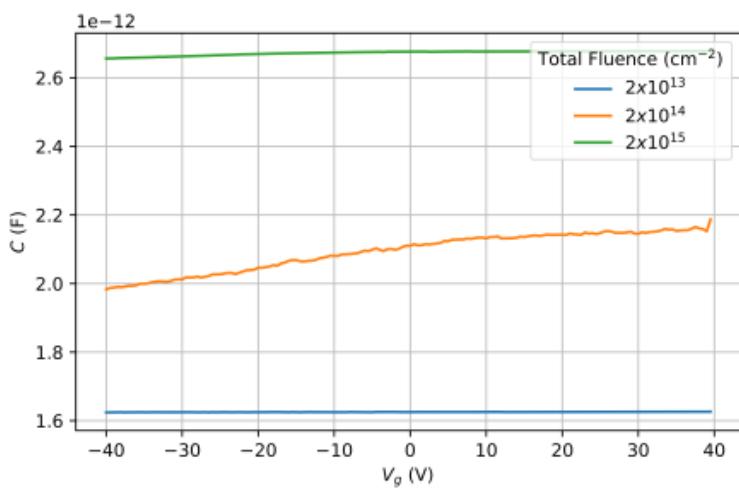
# Ion Irradiation Effects on Device Performance: R19C6



## Ion Irradiation Effects on Capacitance: NU1-3



asf





## Background and Motivation

- Radiation tolerance of TMDs
- Why is the MoS<sub>2</sub> memtransistor interesting?

## Heavy Ion Irradiation Effects

- Memtransistor behavior vs radiation fluence
- MoS<sub>2</sub> physical properties vs radiation fluence

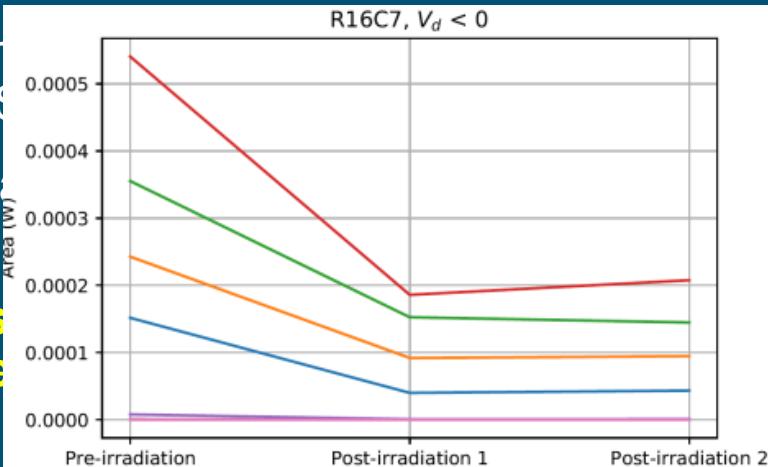
## Laser Irradiation Effects

- Persistent memtransistive behavior after laser irradiation
- Differences in defects created by laser and ion irradiation

# Persistent Resistance Switching after Laser Irradiation: A Control Experiment



Car  
MoS<sub>2</sub>  
Wh  
nm  
Las  
effe

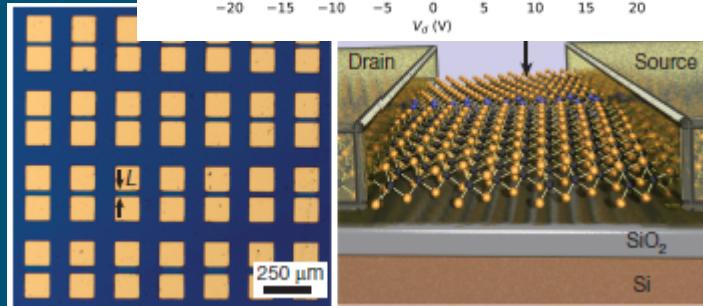
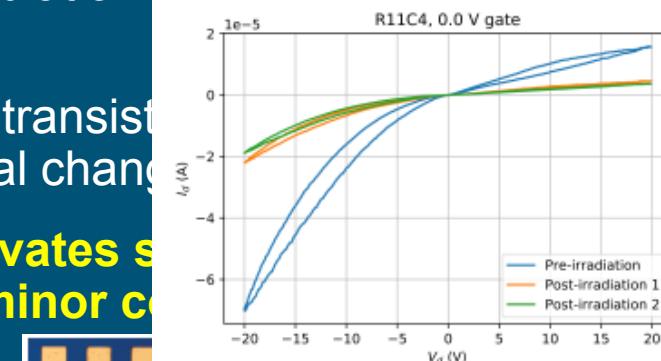


$I_d$ - $V_d$  vs  $V_g$  as a function of  $Au^+$  fluence (one representative device)

Scatter plot: switching ratio vs  $Au^+$  fluence

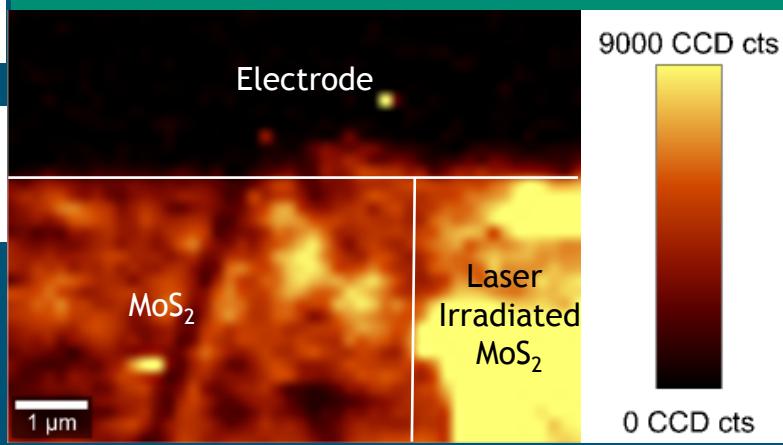
Scatter plot: Absolute HRS and LRS vs  $Au^+$  fluence

radiation from ion irradiation on the  
transistor  
al change  
iates s  
minor c



V. K. Sangwan et al., Nature 2018, 554, 500-504

MoS<sub>2</sub> Photoluminescence: Increased defect concentration and passivation



# Optical Response and Defects of Laser Exposed MoS<sub>2</sub>



Sulfur vacancies generated by laser irradiation: blue shift and intensification of E<sub>2g</sub> and A<sub>g</sub> modes

Increase in PL intensity in laser irradiated region indicates laser irradiation catalyzes vacancy passivation (consistent with previous reports)

**Laser irradiation generates and passivates sulfur vacancies in MoS<sub>2</sub>, effect on memristor behavior is minor compared to A**

