

June 14th, 2023

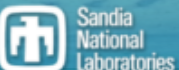
# $\delta$ -layer tunnel junctions in semiconductors for charge sensing

Juan P. Mendez and Denis Mamaluy

Sandia National Laboratories, Albuquerque, New Mexico, USA

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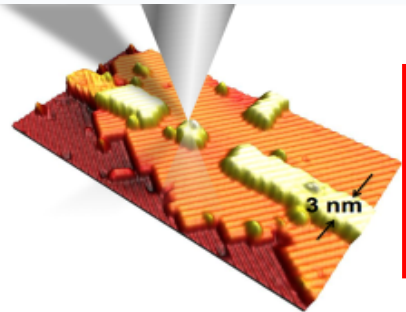
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# Atomic Precision Advanced Manufacturing (APAM)

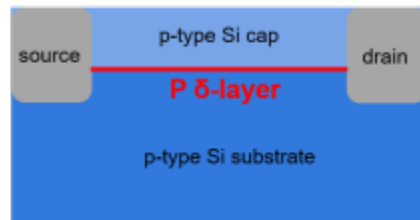


## APAM

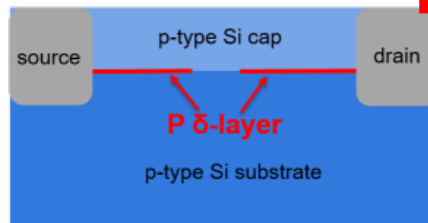


STM = Scanning Tunneling Microscope

## APAM devices



Si: P  $\delta$ -layer wire



Si: P  $\delta$ -layer Tunnel Junction

## APAM Applications

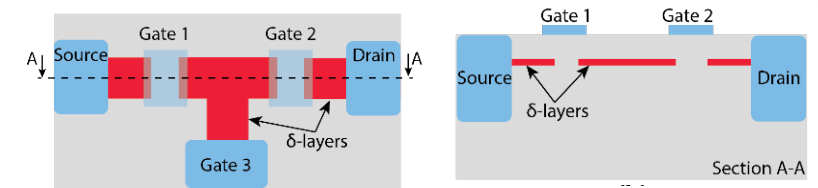
### Beyond Moore Computing

NANO LETTERS

pubs.acs.org/NanoLett

Monolithic Three-Dimensional Tuning of an Atomically Defined Silicon Tunnel Junction

Matthew B. Donnelly,<sup>\*</sup> Joris G. Keizer, Yousun Chung, and Michelle Y. Simmons



$\delta$ -layer tunnel junction FET

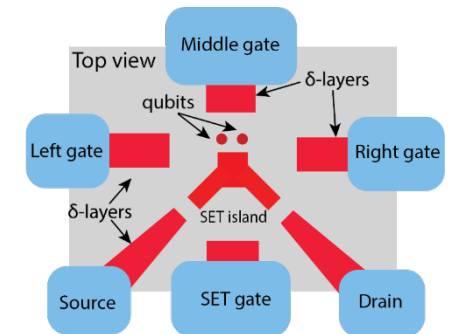
### Quantum Computing

LETTER

<https://doi.org/10.1038/v41586-019-1381-2>

A two-qubit gate between phosphorus donor electrons in silicon

Y. He<sup>1,2</sup>, S. K. Gorman<sup>1,2</sup>, D. Keith<sup>1</sup>, L. Krantz<sup>1</sup>, J. G. Keizer<sup>1</sup> & M. Y. Simmons<sup>1\*</sup>

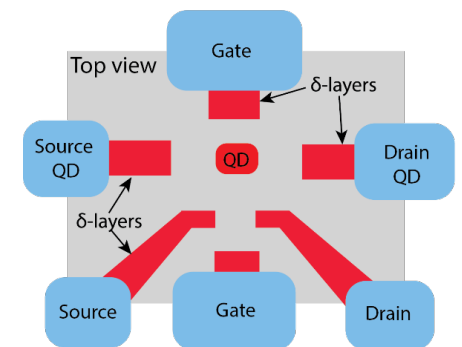


### Novel quantum sensing

APPLIED PHYSICS LETTERS **104**, 113111 (2014)

Single-charge detection by an atomic precision tunnel junction

M. G. House,<sup>a)</sup> E. Peretz, J. G. Keizer, S. J. Hile, and M. Y. Simmons<sup>b)</sup>  
Centre for Quantum Computation and Communication Technology, University of New South Wales, Sydney, NSW 2052, Australia





# \*Our computational approach for free electrons:

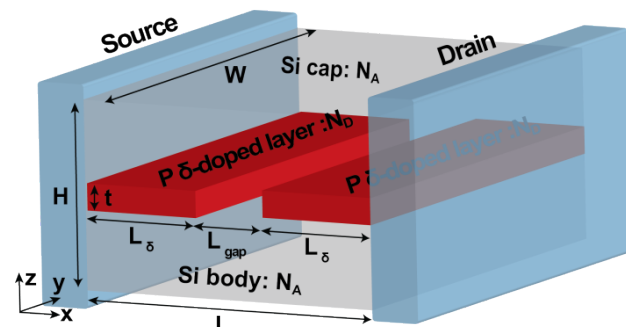
- Charge self-consistent NEGF implemented via Contact Block Reduction method scales linearly with the simulation volume  $O(V)$
- Electron-electron interaction via DFT-LDA exchange-correlation
- Real-space scattering on discrete impurities
- Inelastic scattering via Matthiessen's rule and mobility models
- Kinetic energy term: the effective mass tensor

This approach allows to accurately represent all *open-system electron properties*: the current, current spectrum, transmission, LDOS.

\*D. Mamaluy, J.P. Mendez *et al. Commun Phys* 4, 205 (2021)  
J.P. Mendez, D. Mamaluy, *Sci Rep* 12, 16397 (2022)



# Prior simulations and confirmations



communications  
physics

ARTICLE

<https://doi.org/10.1038/s42005-021-00705-1>

OPEN

## Revealing quantum effects in highly conductive $\delta$ -layer systems

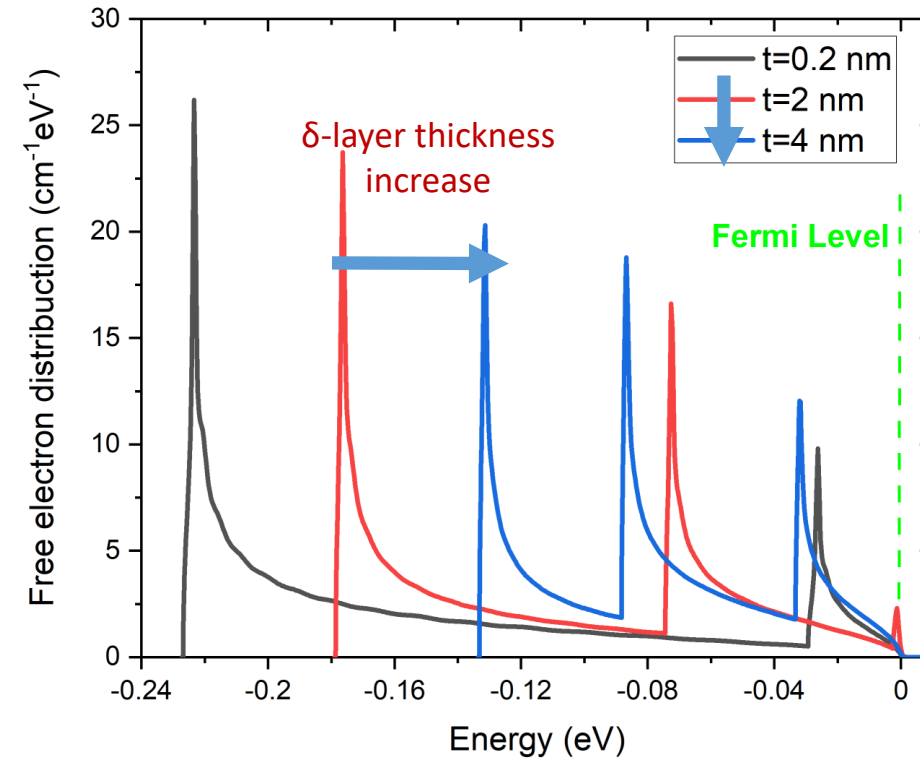
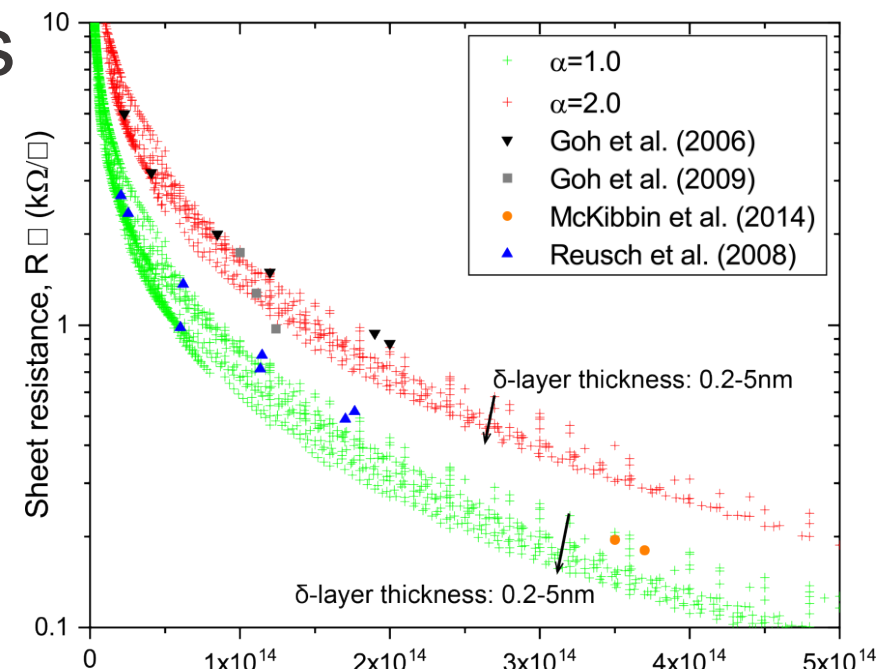
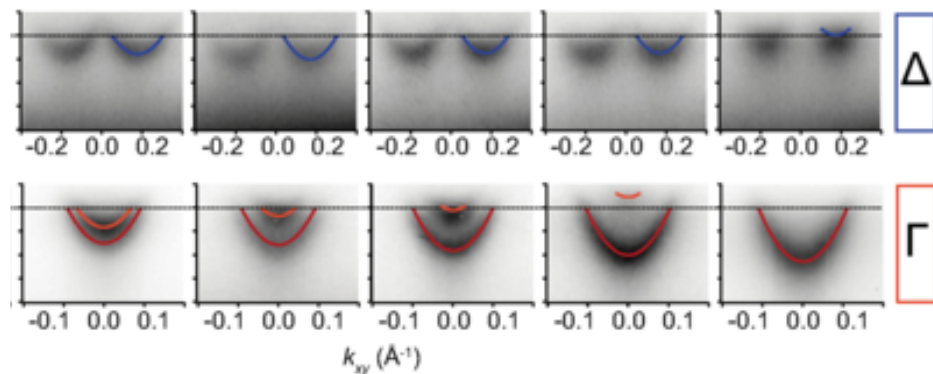
Denis Mamaluy<sup>1</sup>, Juan P. Mendez<sup>1</sup>, Xujiao Gao<sup>1</sup> & Shashank Misra<sup>1</sup>

PHYSICAL REVIEW B 101, 121402(R) (2020)

Rapid Communications

### Observation and origin of the $\Delta$ manifold in Si:P $\delta$ layers

Ann Julie Holt,<sup>1</sup> Sanjoy K. Mahatha,<sup>1</sup> Raluca-Maria Stan,<sup>1</sup> Frode S. Strand,<sup>2</sup> Thomas Nyborg,<sup>2</sup> Davide Curcio,<sup>1</sup> Alex K. Schenk,<sup>2</sup> Simon P. Cooil,<sup>2,3</sup> Marco Bianchi,<sup>1</sup> Justin W. Wells,<sup>2</sup> Philip Hofmann,<sup>1</sup> and Jill A. Miwa<sup>1,\*</sup>



# Predictive quantum transport simulations



light-scattering is much less important than the to other model relaxation effects in the contacts [6].

NEG *Effective mass approaches are not predictive.*  $1 m_e$ <sup>[54,55]</sup>

and At the 5nm scale a heterostructure does not only estimates the form a new device but a new composite material the experimental tunneling resistances. Most effective mass

models are limited in terms of capturing all the band minima at different  $k$ -points. We show in Figure 2a that there are several  $\Gamma$  and  $\Delta$  band minima at different  $k$ -points, with a notable non-parabolicity of the bands at higher  $k$ . As a result, effective

mass models will tend to underestimate the density of states in the leads, leading to an overestimation of the tunneling

resistance composite material with new bandgaps, structure

$R_T$  is masses that cannot be predicted by bulk effective modeling (orange line)

using mass approaches. Atomistic basis sets are critically The over-

estimating the conduction band. Effective mass models can be importance

of use tuned to specific atomistic representations but electronic

dispersion and 3D potential profile in which excellent agree-

ment is achieved. Our results highlight the limitations of

using single-band theories such as WKB and effective mass

theory to model electron tunneling transport in highly doped

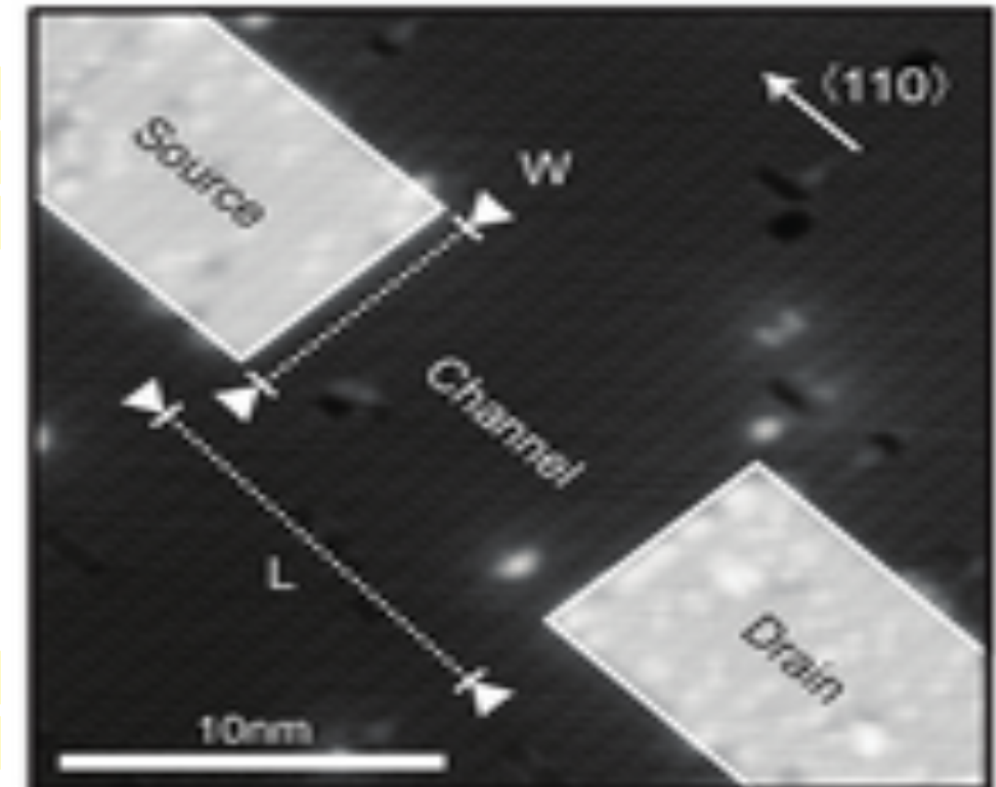
## ADVANCED FUNCTIONAL MATERIALS

Research Article | [Open Access](#) | [CC](#) [BY](#) [NC](#) [ND](#)

### Multi-Scale Modeling of Tunneling in Nanoscale Atomically Precise Si:P Tunnel Junctions

Matthew B. Donnelly✉, Mushita M. Munia, Joris G. Keizer, Yousun Chung, A. M. Saffat-Ee Huq, Edyta N. Osika, Yu-Ling Hsueh, Rajib Rahman, Michelle Y. Simmons✉

First published: 08 March 2023 | <https://doi.org/10.1002/adfm.202214011>



# Simulations of modern GAA NSFETs with tight-binding codes are still too expensive

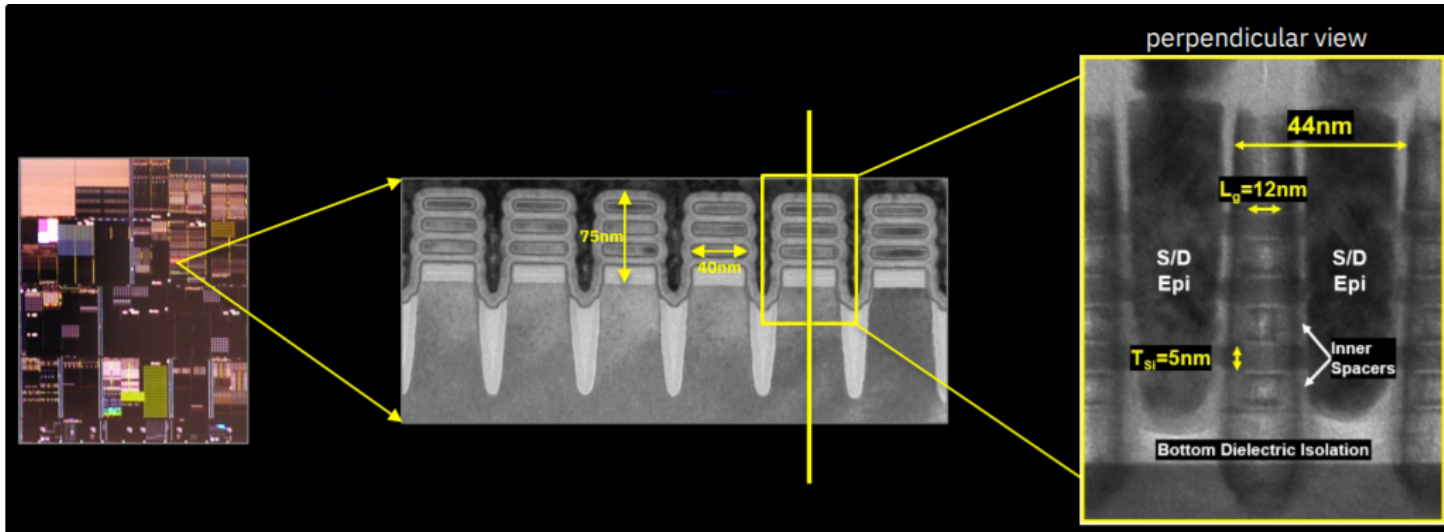


## SILVACO/NEMO5 scaling

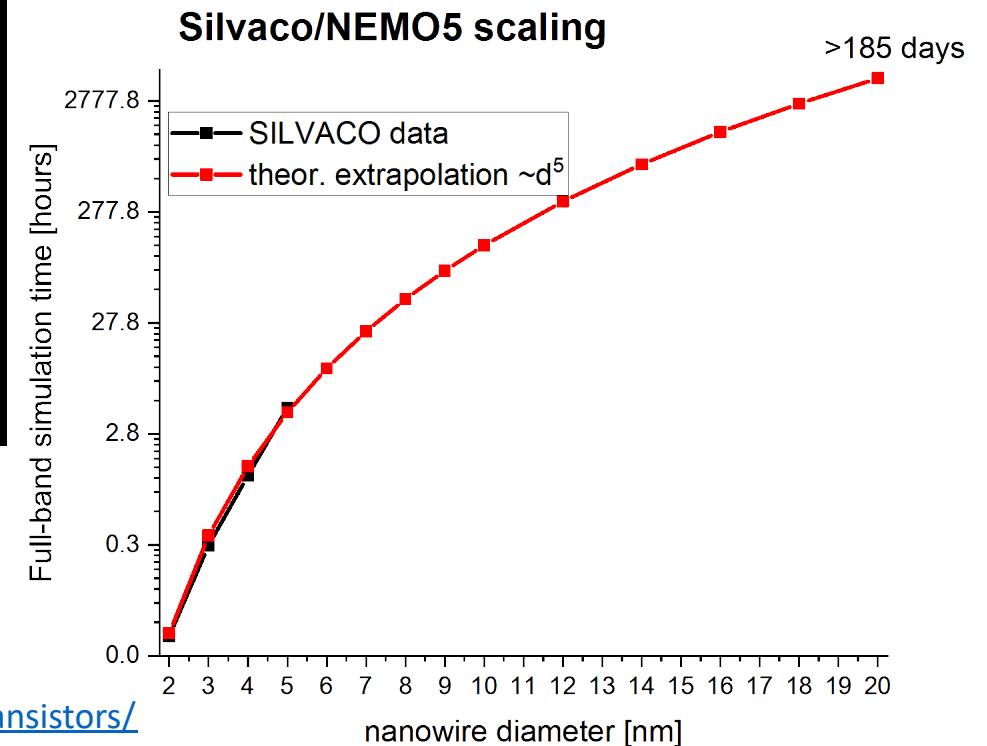
IBM, Intel and Samsung  
partnership\*

Source: "Quantum Transport Simulation at Atomistic  
Accuracy of a Nanowire FET",

Journal for Process and Device Engineers, Volume 32,  
Number 8, August 2022, SILVACO

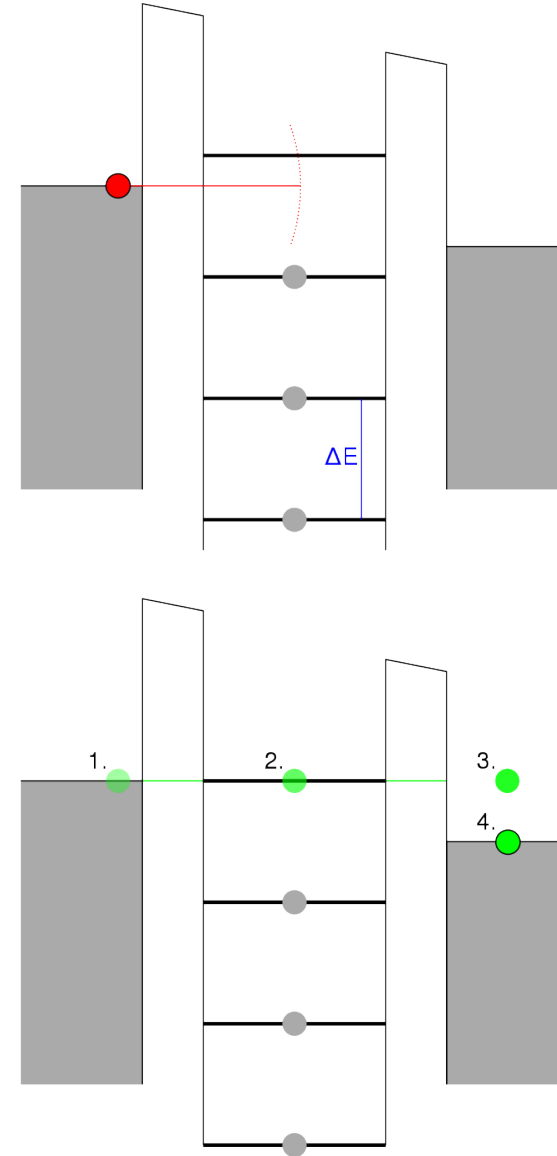
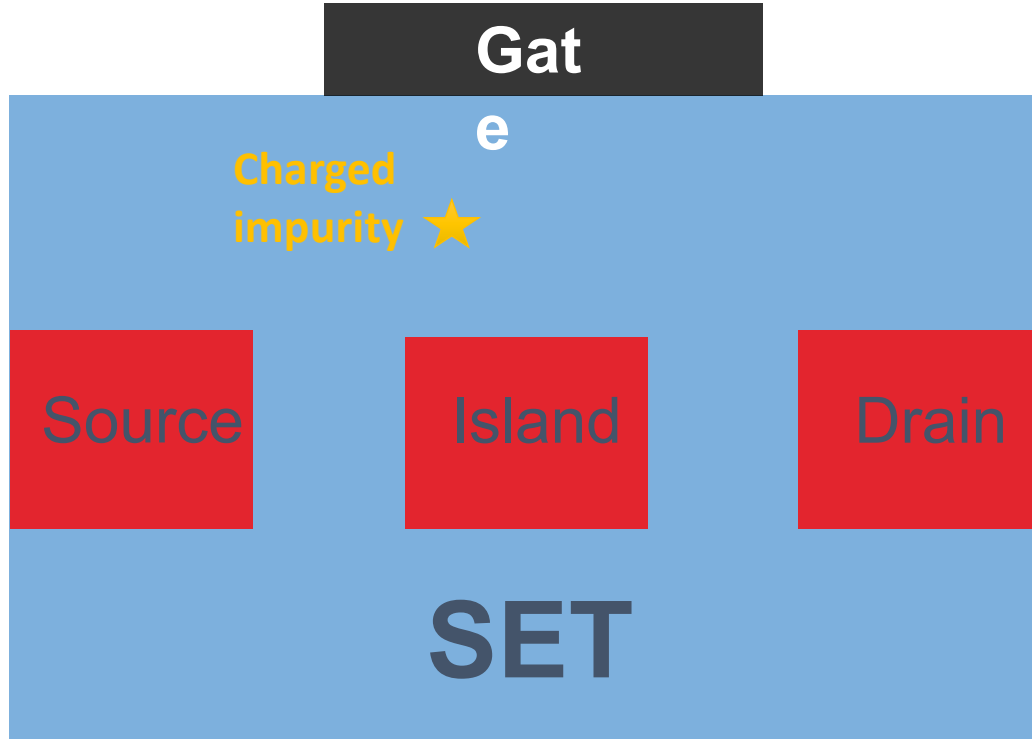


Required simulation volume:  $\sim 70\text{nm} \times 50\text{nm} \times 30\text{nm}$

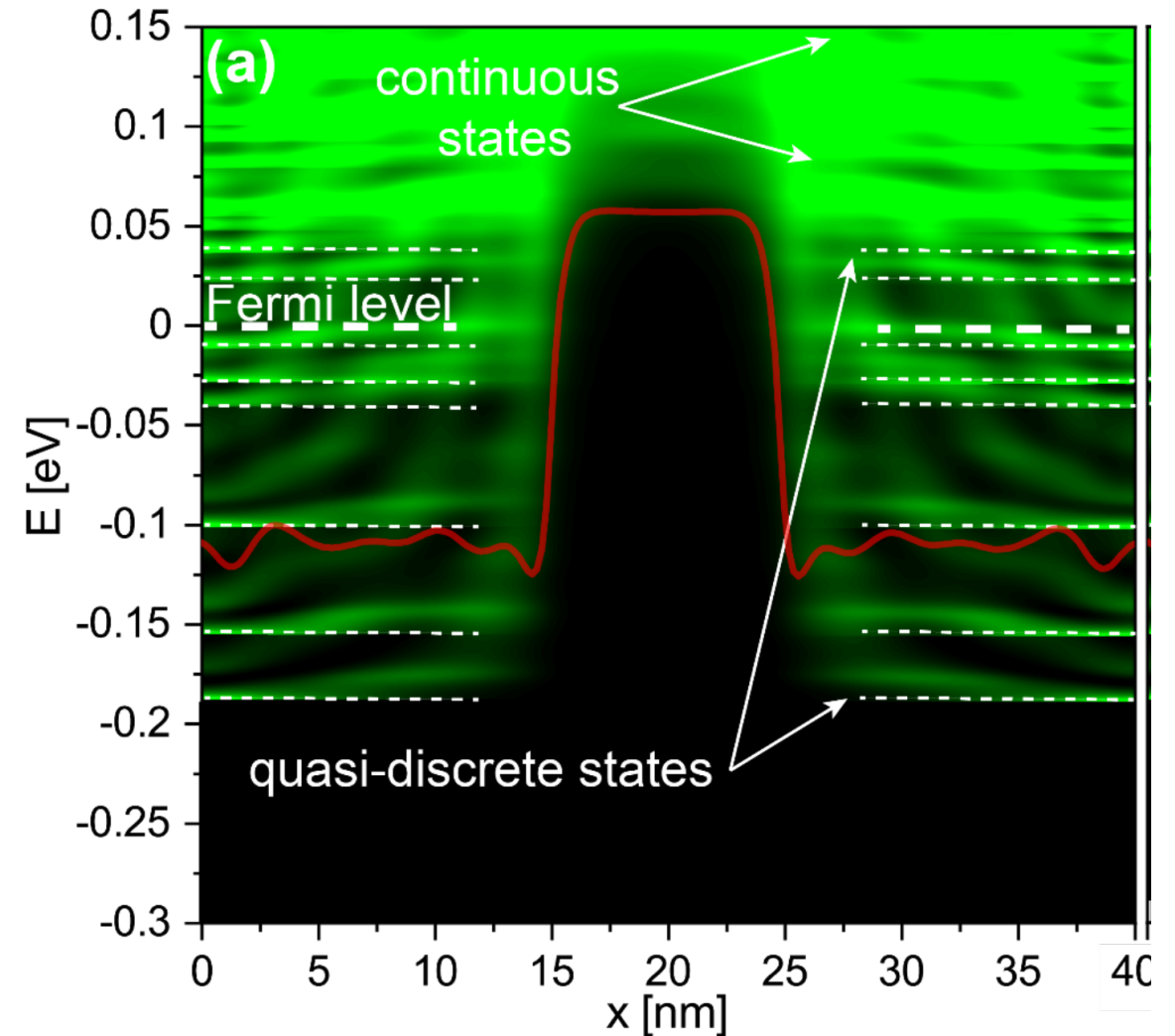
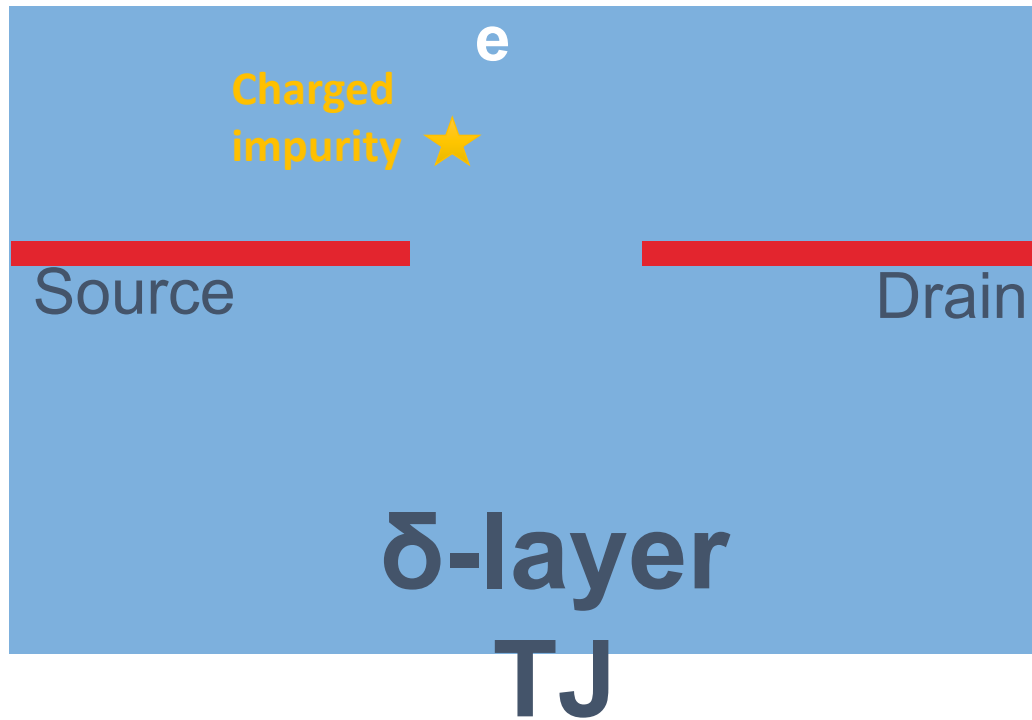


\* <https://www.hpcwire.com/2021/05/06/ibm-research-debuts-2nm-test-chip-with-50-billion-transistors/>

# Charge sensing with SETs

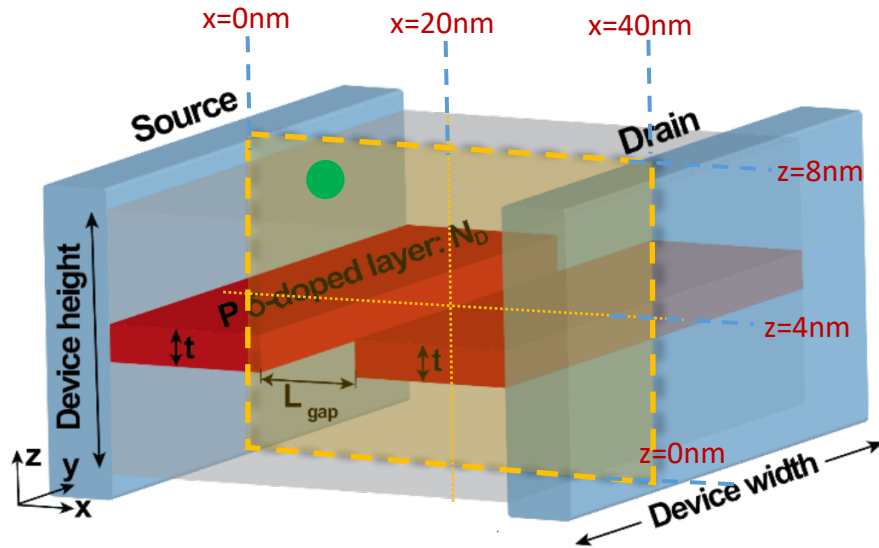


# |Charge sensing with $\delta$ -layer tunnel junction

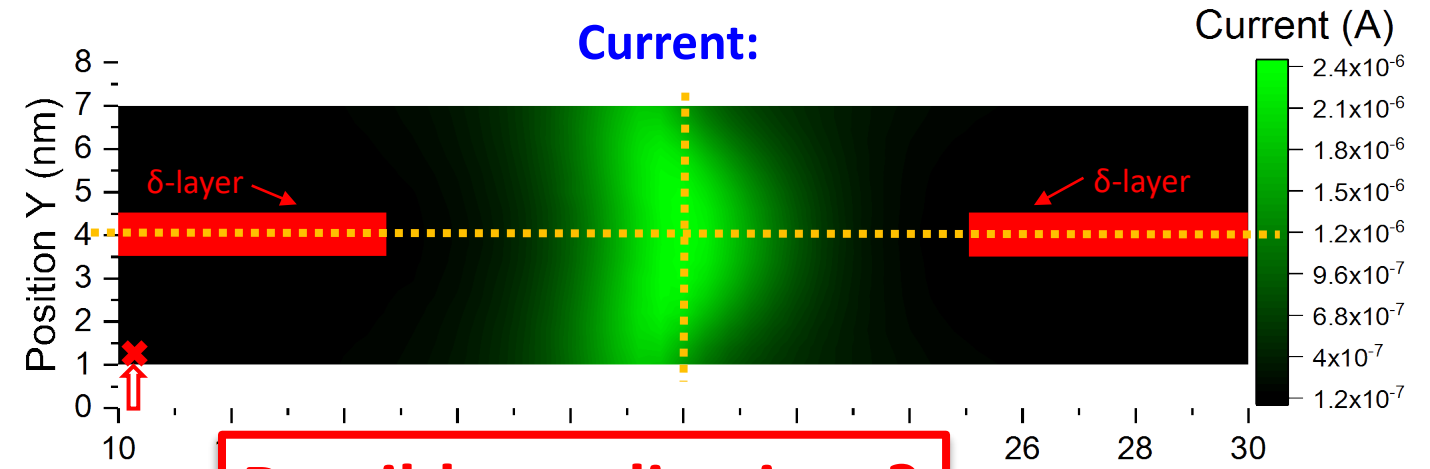




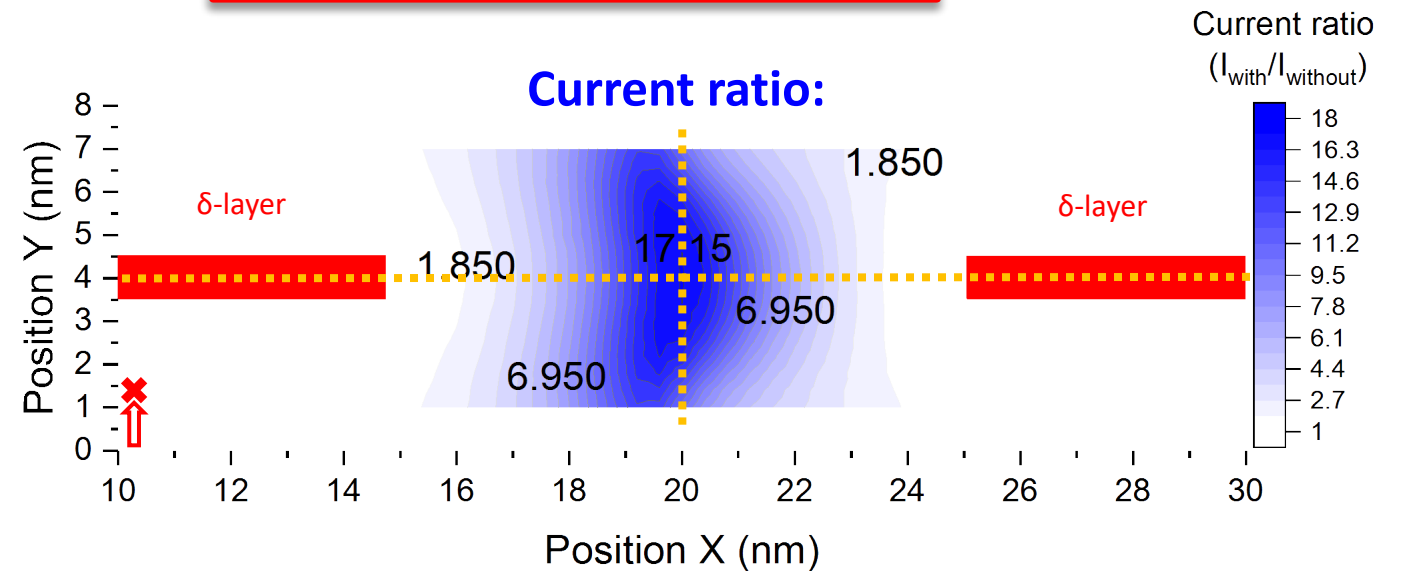
# $\delta$ -layer TJs are ultrasensitive to charges!



Applied voltage: 100mV  
HPC Cluster: SOLO  
~ 700 simulations



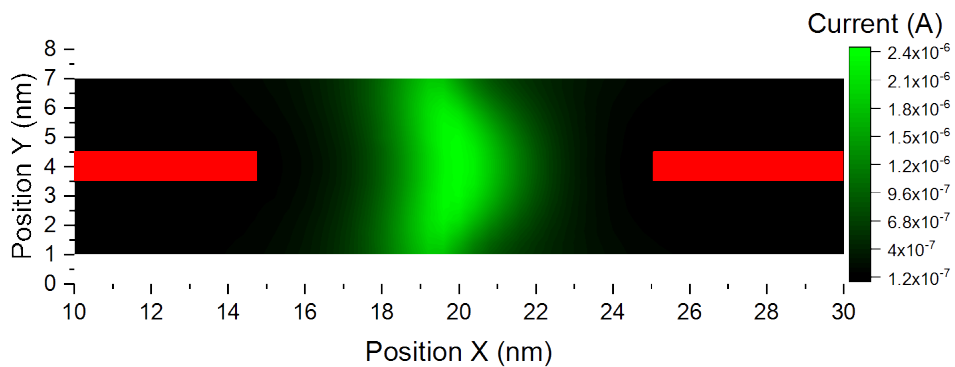
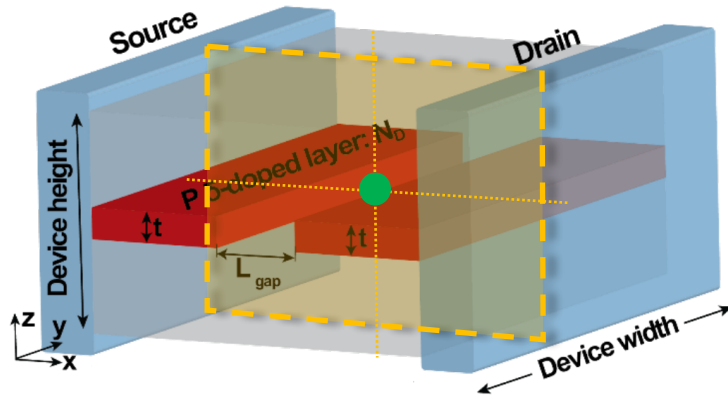
**Possible applications?**



# $\delta$ -layer TJs are ultrasensitive to charges!

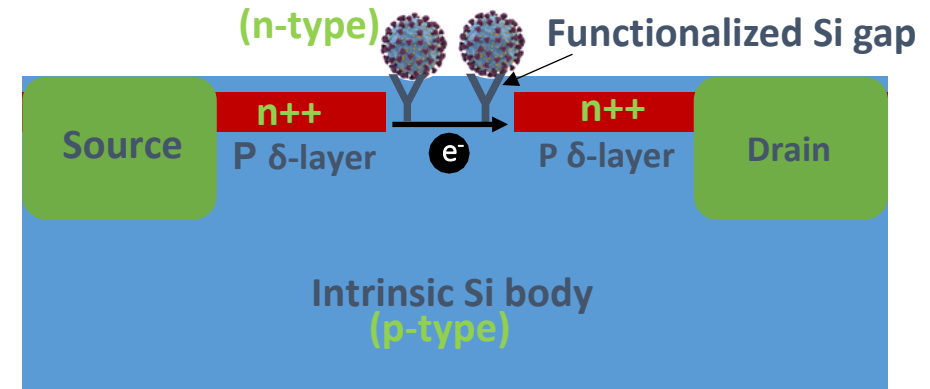


## Ultrasensitive device...

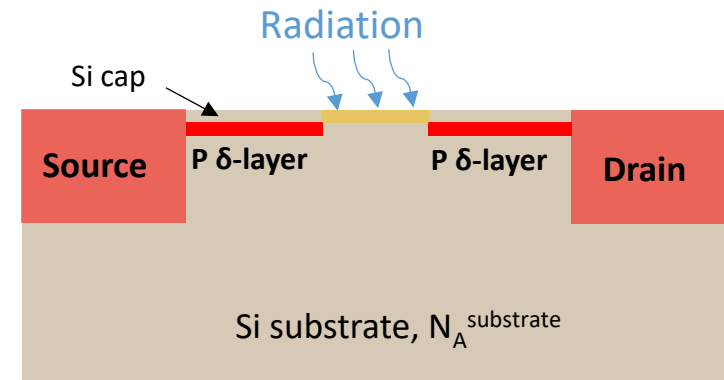


## Quantum FET-based sensors

- Chemical/Biological detection



- Charge Sensing at Room Temperature



# Conclusions

- 1) Highly-conducting highly-confined systems **require** an open-system treatment (e.g. NEGF) to correctly represent the number of occupied states, LDOS and current.
- 2) Kinetic energy operator with the effective mass tensor enables truly predictive *transport* simulations in silicon.
- 3) Quantum charge sensing is possible with extremely simple (“inverse-SET”) structures, that are just  $\delta$ -layer Tunnel Junctions. The effect is due to the conduction band quantization

