



## A lateral heterojunction device as a tool to study perovskite-based solar cells

Davide Regaldo, Pilar Lopez-Varo, Nitin Mallik, Javid Hajhemati, Vincent Dufoulon, Guillaume Vidon, Stefania Cacovich, J Alvarez, Jean Baptiste Puel, Philip Schulz, et al.

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## A Lateral Heterojunction Device as a Tool to Study Perovskite-Based Solar Cells

### Scope of the work

Study the perovskite (PSK) properties on top of different substrates:

- Surface work function (WF);
- Defect and ion properties;

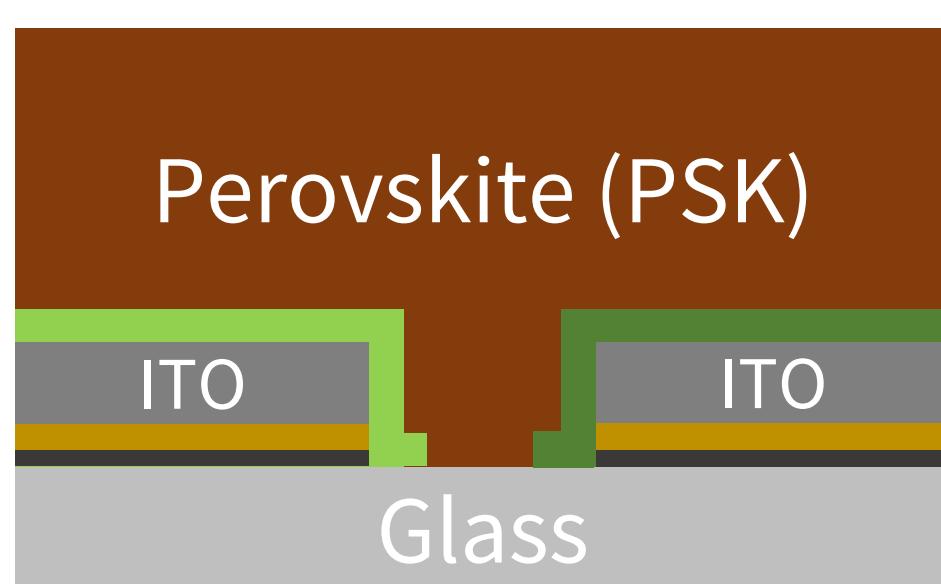
Previous knowledge:

Perovskite WF dependence on the substrate WF



ACS Energy Lett. 2019, 4, 1–7  
S. P. Dunfield et al., (2021).

Cross section view



Previous device allowed to fix an upper limit of the doping density in the PSK layer:

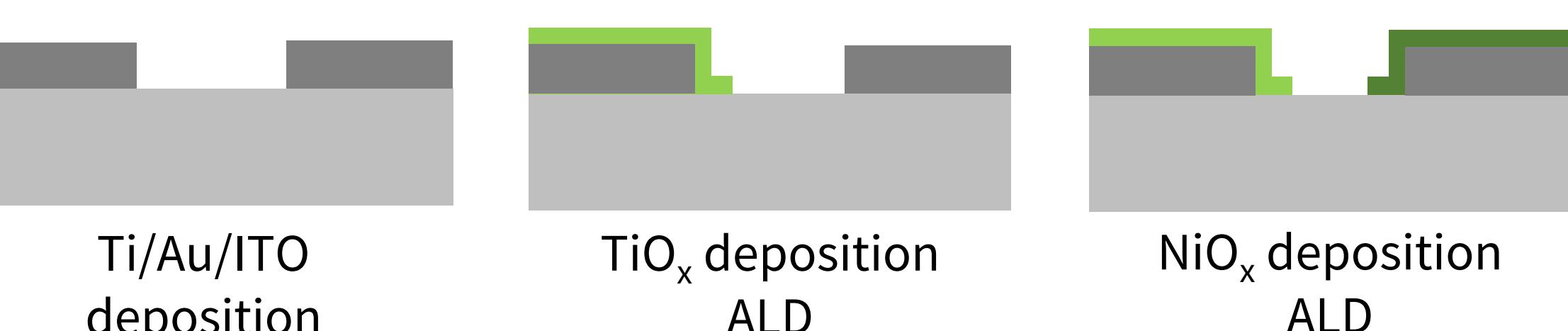
$$N_{\text{dop}} \leq 10^{12} \text{ cm}^{-3}$$

### LHJ structure and fabrication

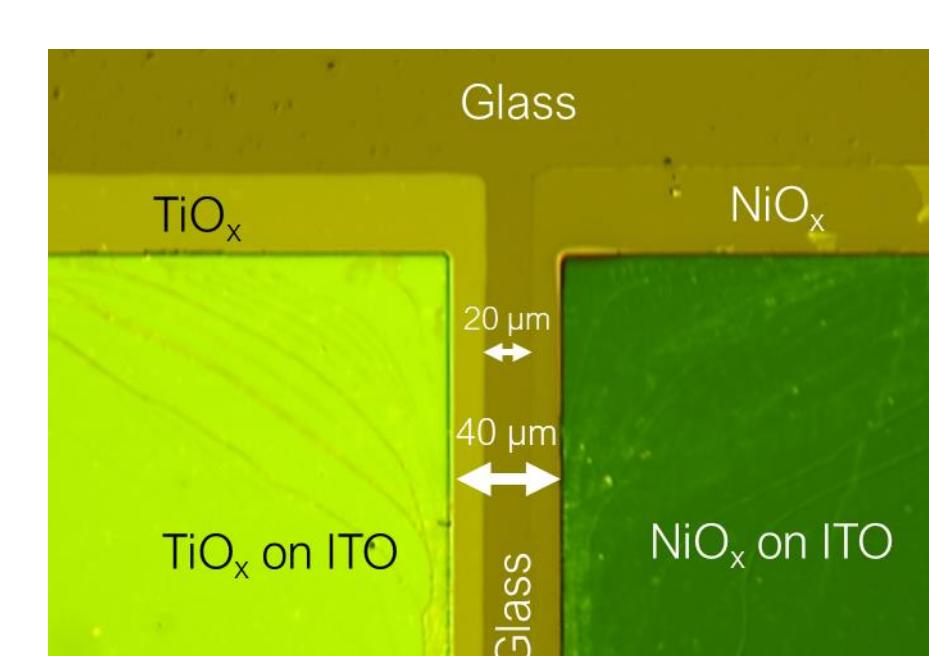
3 photolithography steps to deposit:

- Contact layer: Ti (adhesion to glass) / Au (high conductivity) / ITO (PSK protection);
- Electron transport layer: TiO<sub>x</sub>;
- Hole transport layer: NiO<sub>x</sub>.

Cross section view

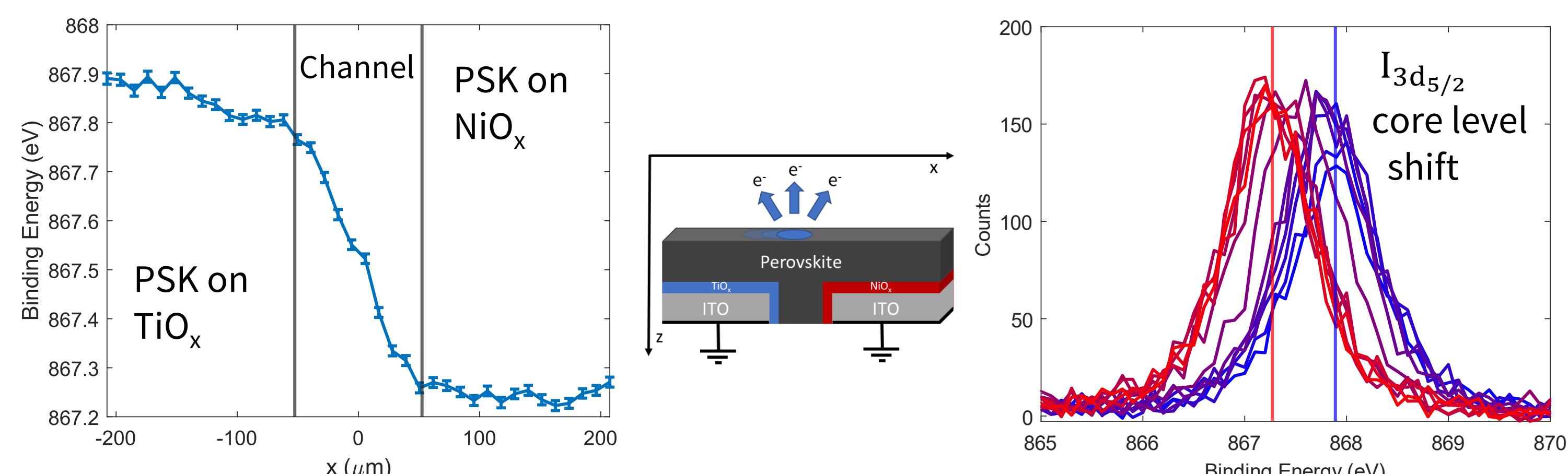


Top view  
(optical microscope image)

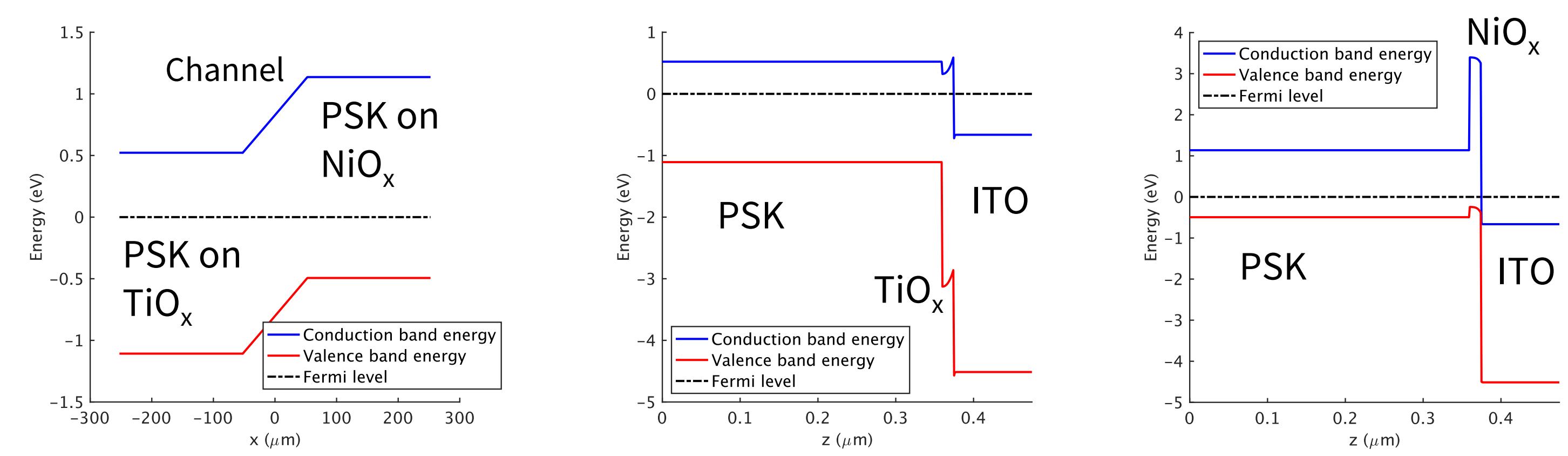


### XPS equilibrium characterization

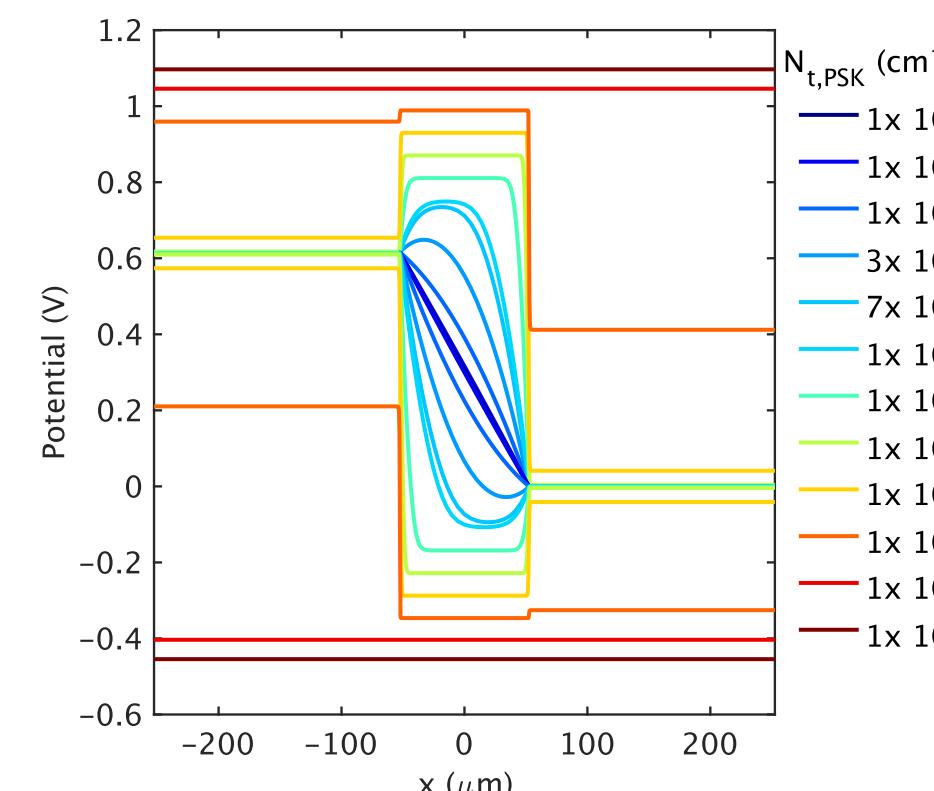
The scan of the X-ray electron collection area (with 10 μm diameter) along the PSK surface, from the TiO<sub>x</sub> to the NiO<sub>x</sub> side revealed an iodine core level shift of 650 meV, in agreement with the WF difference between the TiO<sub>x</sub> and the NiO<sub>x</sub> surface.



Drift-Diffusion model: band diagrams for intrinsic perovskite



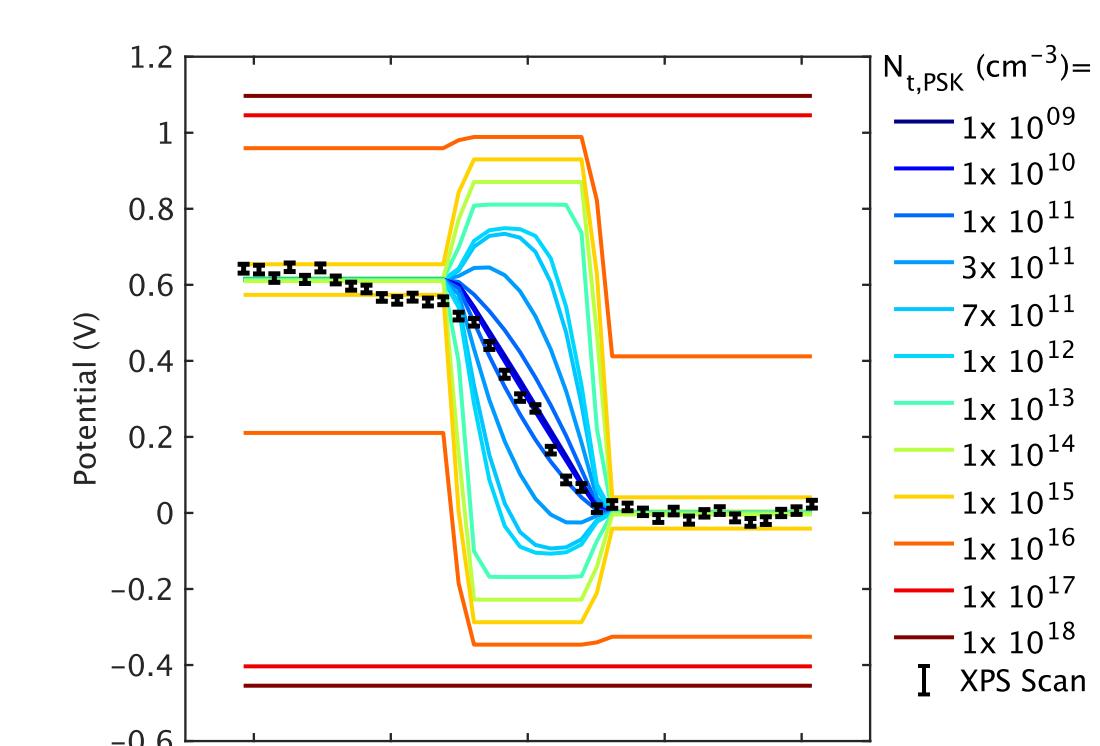
Actual Potential



Surface Potential as a function of PSK doping density

Conclusion:  
 $N_{\text{dop}} \leq 10^{11} \text{ cm}^{-3}$

Convolution with 10 μm spot size

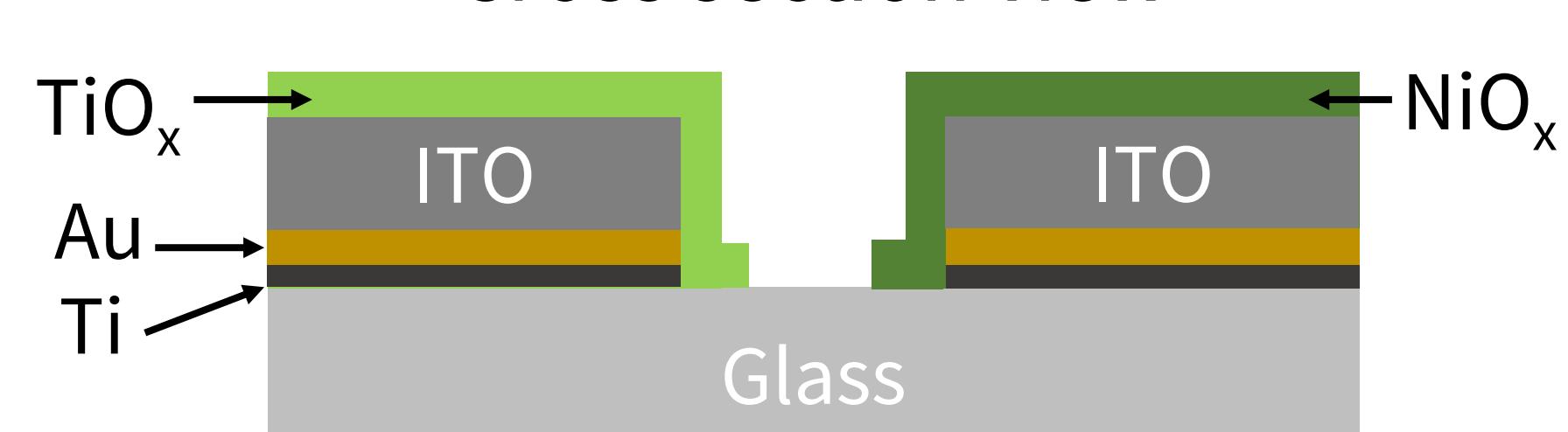


### KPFM substrate characterization

Work functions (KPFM)

|                  |                        |
|------------------|------------------------|
| ITO              | 4.95 eV                |
| NiO <sub>x</sub> | $\geq 5.10 \text{ eV}$ |
| TiO <sub>x</sub> | $\leq 4.50 \text{ eV}$ |

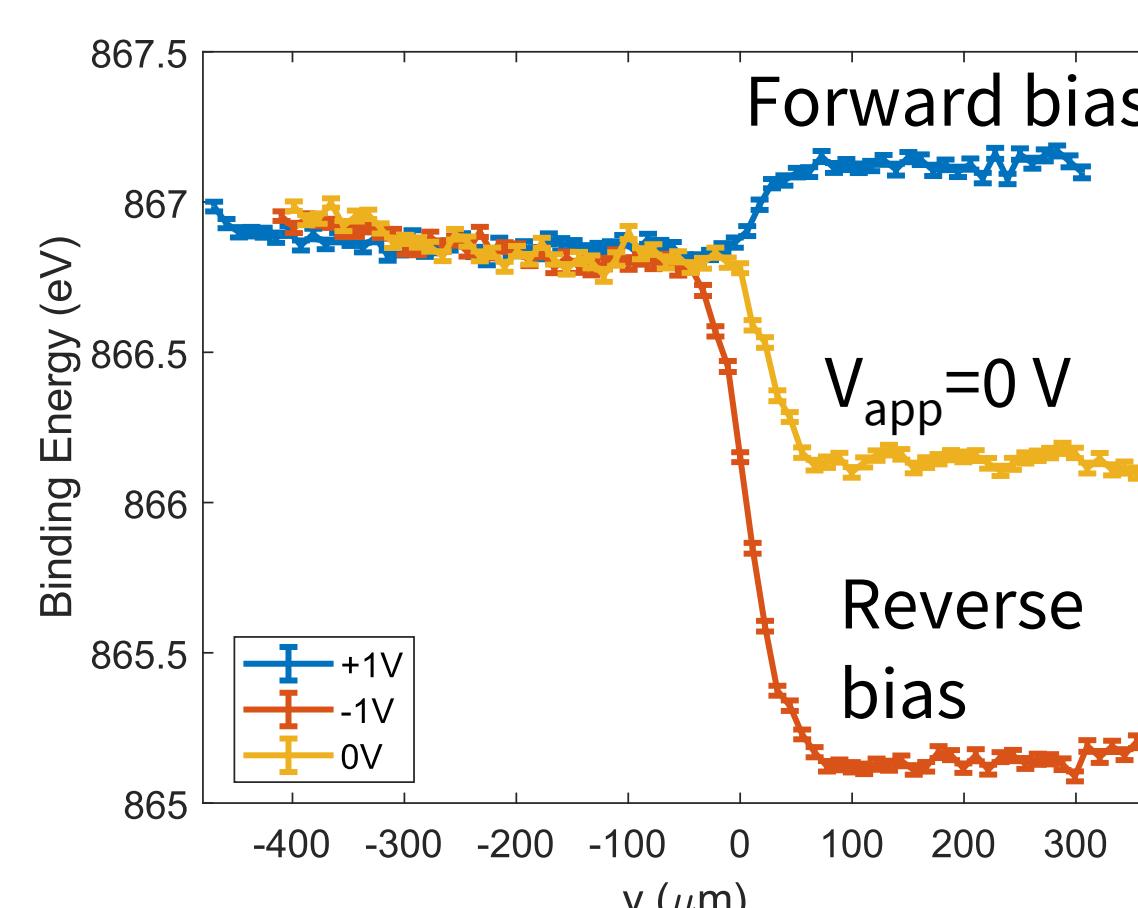
Cross section view



$$\Delta_{WF} = WF_{NiO_x} - WF_{TiO_x} \geq 0.6 \text{ eV}$$

### XPS under Light and Voltage bias

Scan in the « dark »

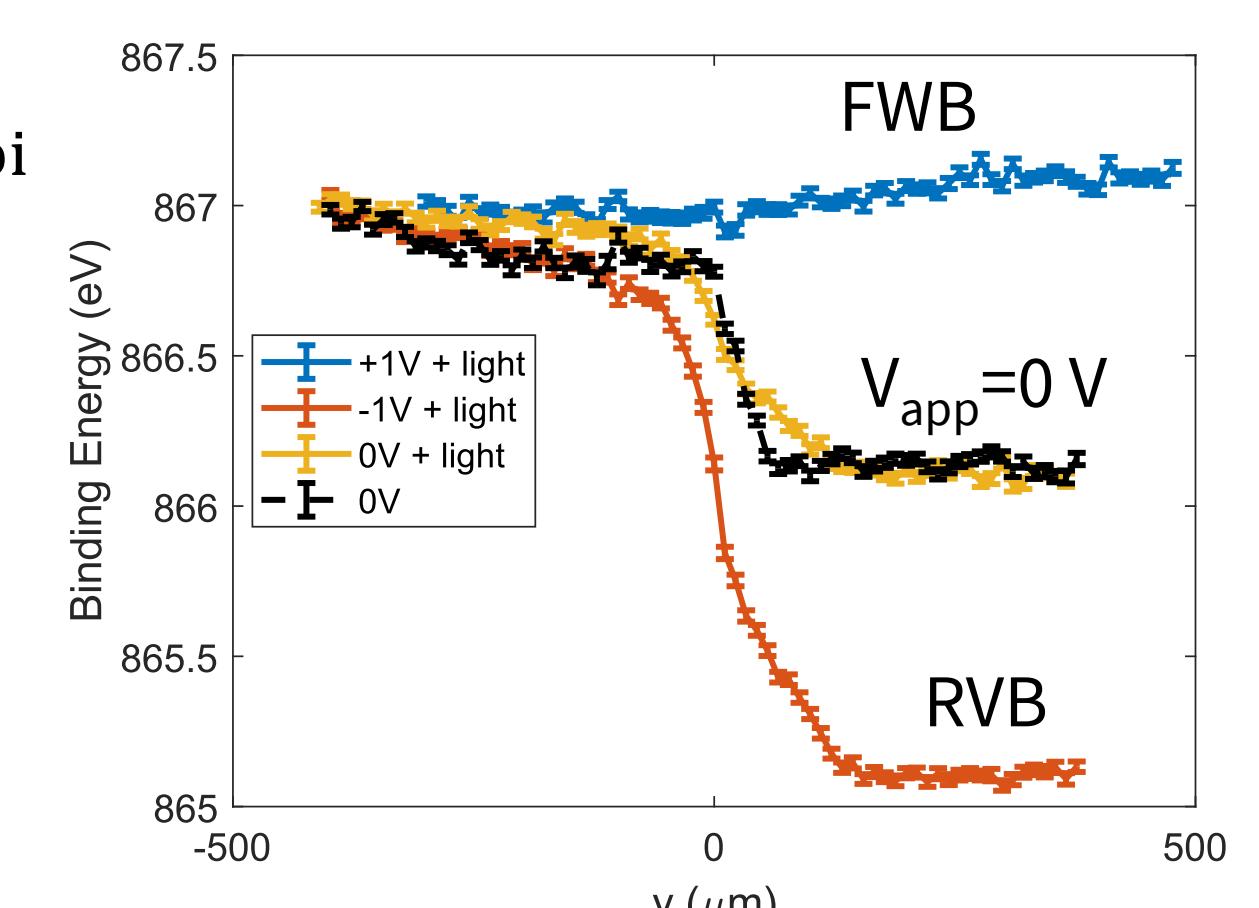


The applied voltage modifies V<sub>bi</sub>:

$$RVB: V_{bi} - V_{app} = 0.7 + 1 = 1.7 \text{ V}$$

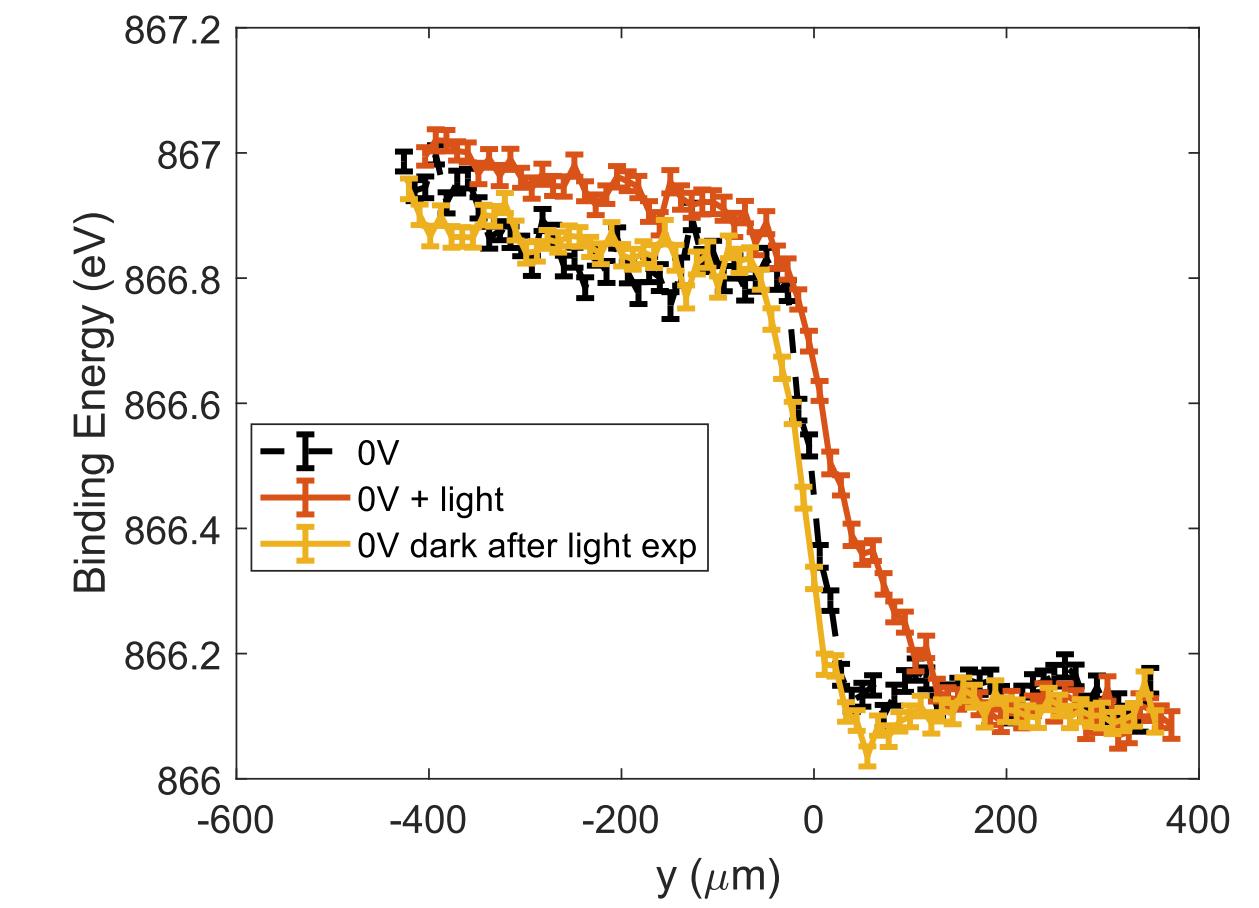
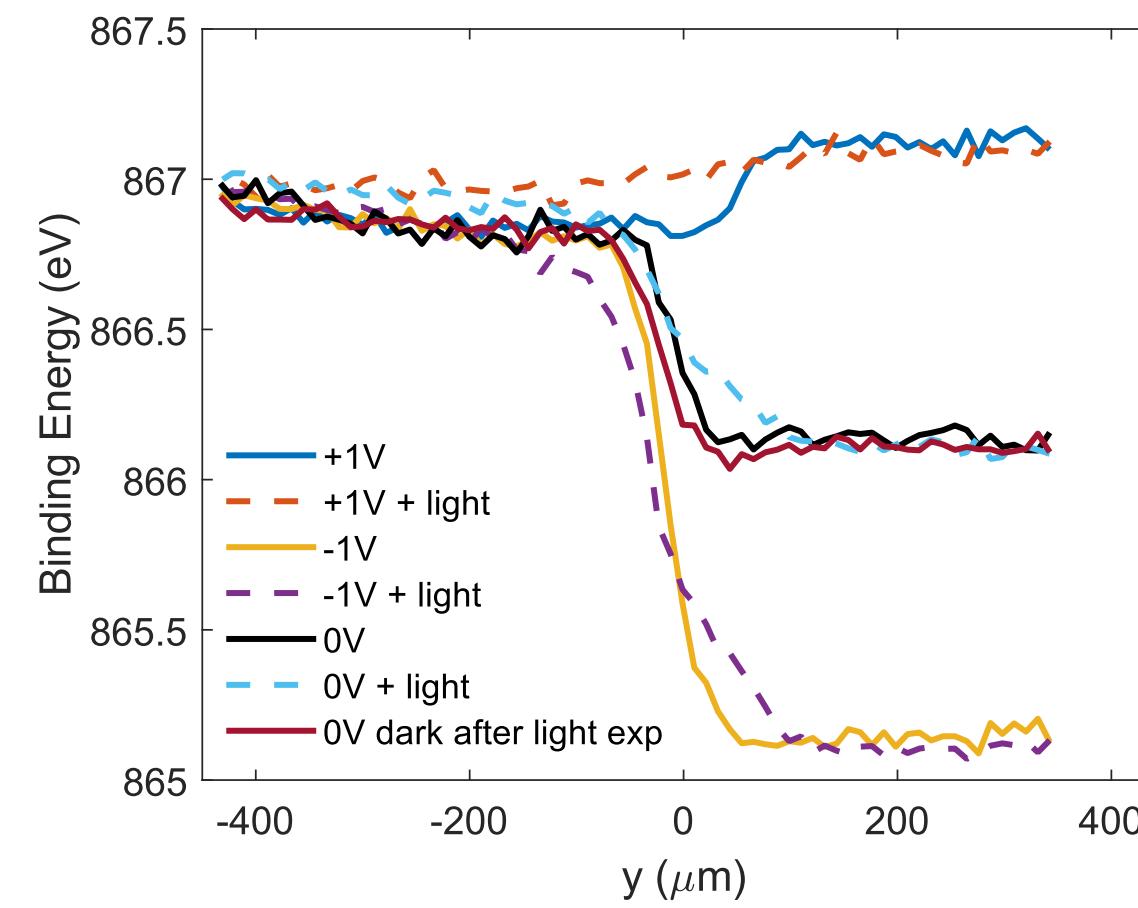
$$FWB: V_{bi} - V_{app} = 0.7 - 1 = -0.3 \text{ V}$$

Scan under illumination



No hysteresis in the dark 0V scan, after applying light.

The full dataset  
➡



## CONCLUSIONS

NiO<sub>x</sub> and TiO<sub>x</sub> - based LHJ device: various PSK channels created between the two contacts (lengths ranging from 10 to 100 μm). Double cation perovskite spin coated on the LHJ: the selective contacts under the PSK determine the potential drop in the PSK ( $V_{bi}$ ) which can be modulated by an applied bias. PSK doping density measured  $\leq 10^{11} \text{ cm}^{-3}$ .

Dunfield et al., Carrier gradients and the role of charge selective contacts in lateral heterojunction all back contact perovskite solar cells, Cell Reports Physical Science 2, 100520.

Regaldo, D et al., On the equilibrium electrostatic potential and light-induced charge redistribution in halide perovskite structures. Prog Photovolt Res Appl. 2022; 1-9.