

# Breakdown of semiclassical description of thermoelectricity in twisted bilayer graphene

Bhaskar Ghawri<sup>1</sup>, Phanibhusan S Mahapatra<sup>1</sup>, Manjari Garg<sup>2</sup>, Shinjan Mandal<sup>1</sup>, Saisab Bhowmik<sup>2</sup>, Aditya Jayaraman<sup>1</sup>, Radhika Soni<sup>2</sup>, HR Krishnamurthy<sup>1</sup>, Manish Jain<sup>1</sup>, Sumilan Banerjee<sup>1</sup>, U Chandni<sup>2</sup> & Arindam Ghosh<sup>1</sup>

<sup>1</sup> Department of Physics, IISc, Bangalore

<sup>2</sup> Department of Instrumentation and Applied Physics, IISc, Bangalore

NIMS: Takashi Taniguchi & Kenji Watanabe



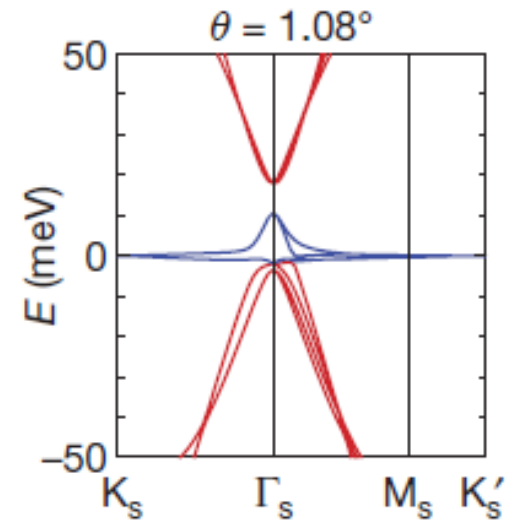
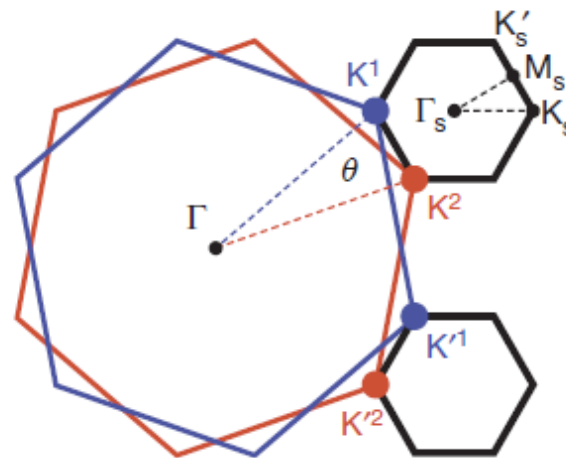
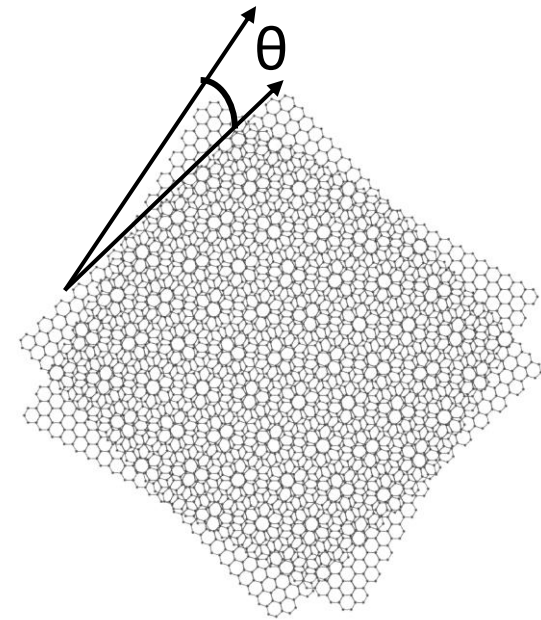
Quantum Materials and Devices Group  
Department of Physics, IISc



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Department of Science & Technology  
Government of India

# Twisting two graphene layers



Cao *et al.*, *Nature* 556, 80–84 (2018)

Flat band condition at  $\theta_{magic} \approx 1.1^\circ$

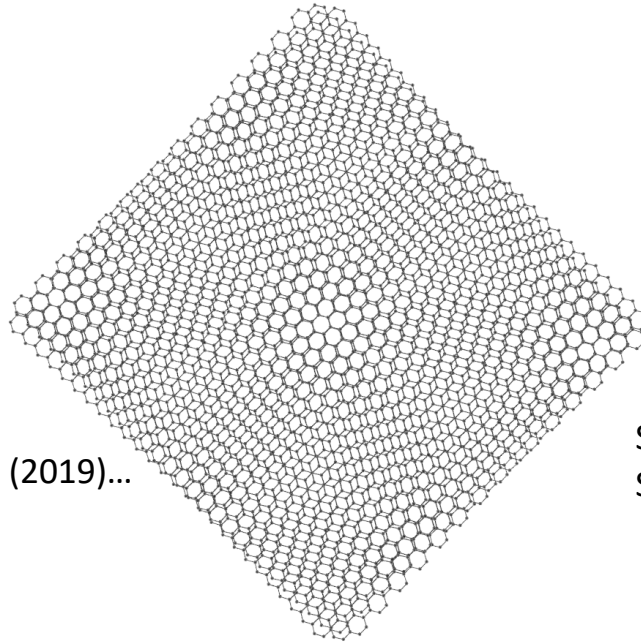
Bistritzer & MacDonald, *PNAS* 108, 12233–12237 (2011).

# The magic of moiré graphene

Superconductivity

Cao *et al.*, *Nature* 556, 80–84 (2018)

Lu *et al.*, *Nature* 574, 653–657 (2019).....



Correlated insulators ←

Cao *et al.*, *Nature* 556, 80–84 (2018)

Yankowitz *et al.*, *Science* 363, 1059–1064 (2019)...



→ Magnetism

Sharpe *et al.*, *Science* 365, 605–608 (2019)

Serlin *et al.*, *Science* 367, 900–903 (2019)...



Topological phases

Nuckolls *et al.*, *Nature* 588, 610–615 (2020)

Wu *et al.*, *Nat. materials* 20, 488–494 (2021) .....

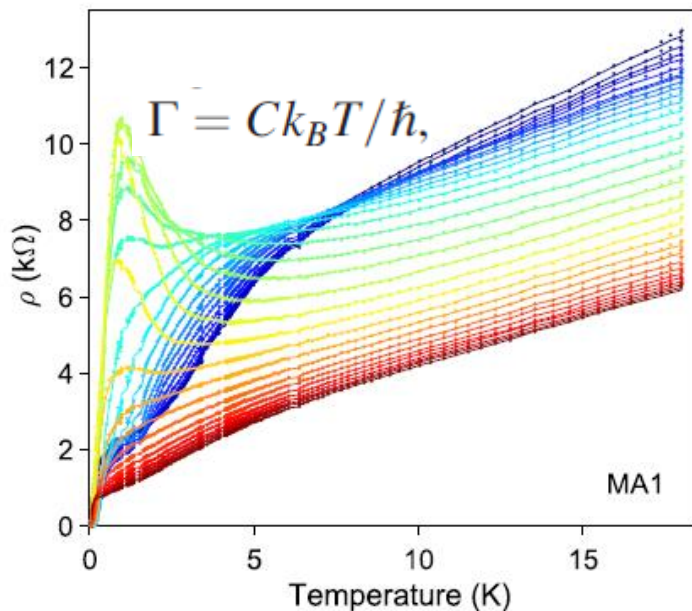
# Open Questions

- Nature of Superconductivity
- **Non-Fermi Liquid behaviour ?**

## Linear Resistance-Temperature in twisted bilayer graphene

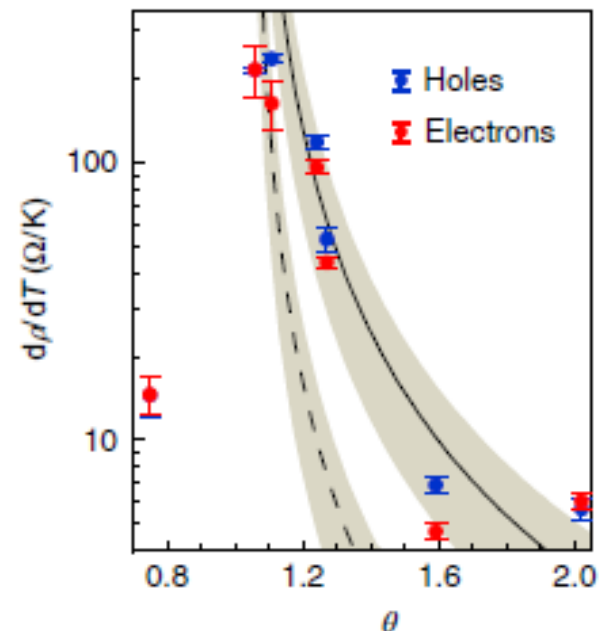


Possible non-Fermi Liquid behaviour



Cao *et al.* PRL 124, 076801 (2020)

Electron-phonon coupling

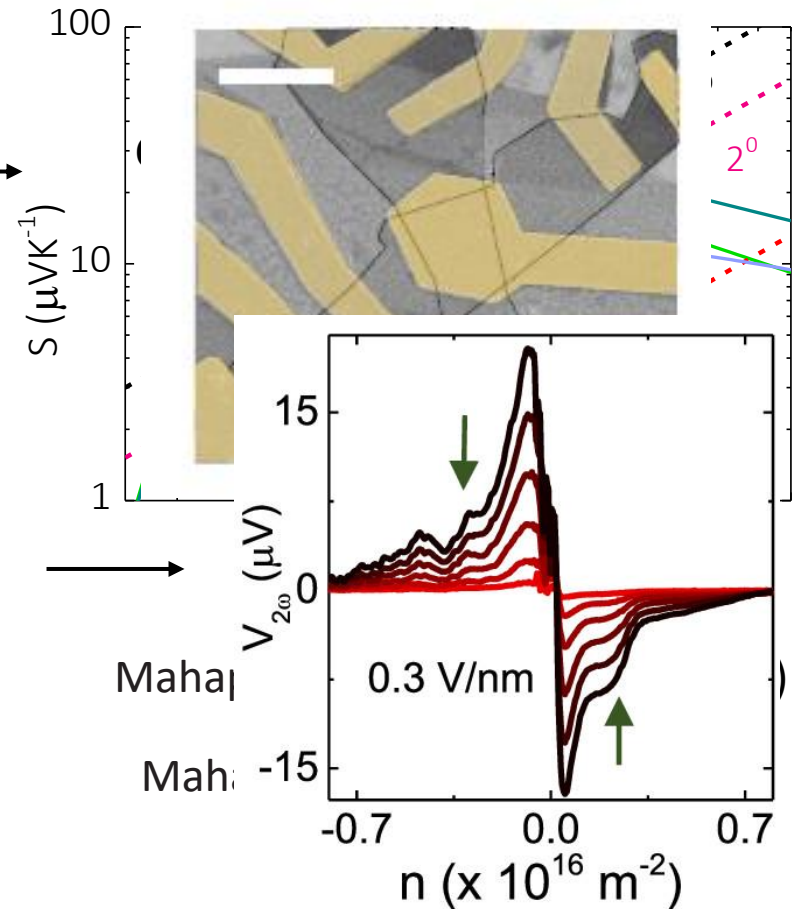


Polshyn *et al.* Nature Physics (2019)

# Combining Thermoelectricity with conductivity

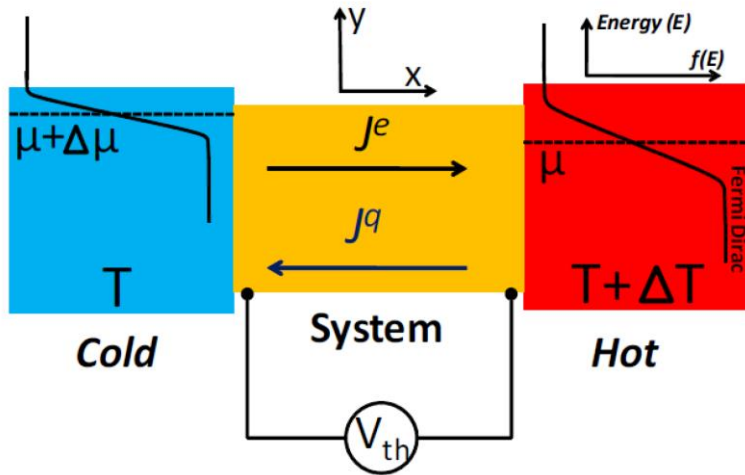
## Why thermopower ?

- Nature of interlayer coupling
- Low energy structures in density of states
- Strong correlation effects



Jayaraman et al. Nano Lett. (2021)

# Thermoelectricity and Seebeck effect



Charge and Heat current equation:

$$\Delta\mu/e = RI + S\Delta T$$

$$Q = \Pi I - K\Delta T$$

Sivan et al. Phys. Rev. B **33**, 551 (1986)

## Mott Relation

$$S_{\text{Mott}} = \frac{\pi^2 k_B^2 T}{3|e|} \left. \frac{d \ln R(E)}{dE} \right|_{E_F}$$

Seebeck Coefficient,  $S = \frac{\Delta V}{\Delta T} = S_{\text{ph}} + S_{\text{d}}$

$$S_{\text{ph}} : f[\phi(q), n(q)]$$

e-ph coupling

$$\frac{1}{\exp\left(\frac{\hbar\omega}{k_B T}\right) - 1}$$

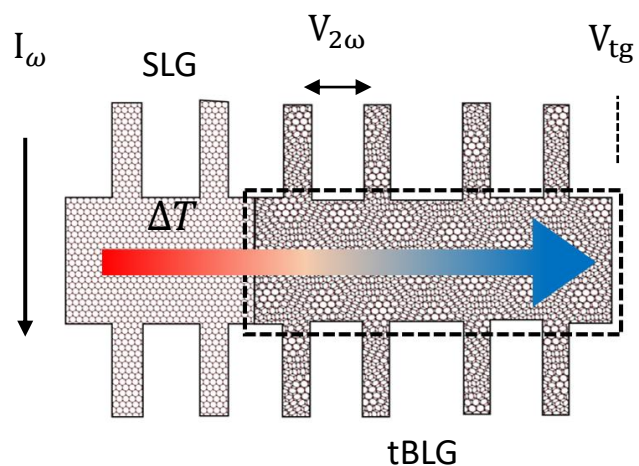
$$S_{\text{Mott}} = \frac{\pi^2 k_B^2 T}{3|e|} \left[ \frac{1}{R} \frac{dR}{dV_{\text{tg}}} \frac{dV_{\text{tg}}}{dn} \frac{dn}{dE} \right]_{E_F}$$

Experiment

Density of states/  
Electronic dispersion

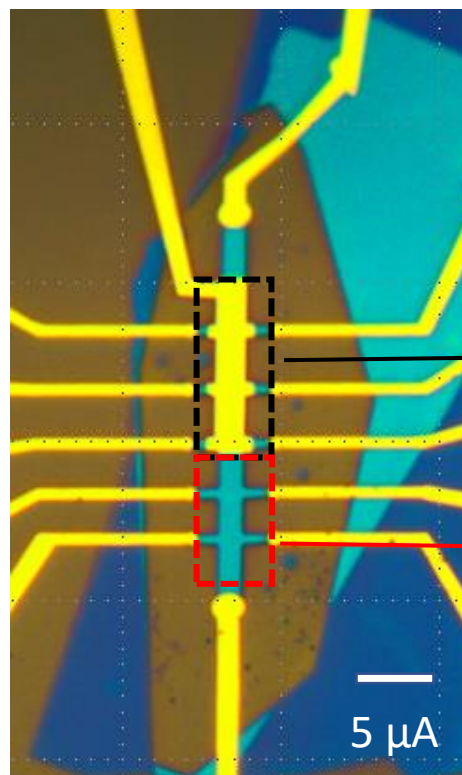
# Thermopower in twisted bilayer graphene

- Correlation effects close to magic angle



$V_{2\omega} \rightarrow$  sign of charge carriers

$V_{2\omega} \propto P \rightarrow (\Delta T \ll T)$

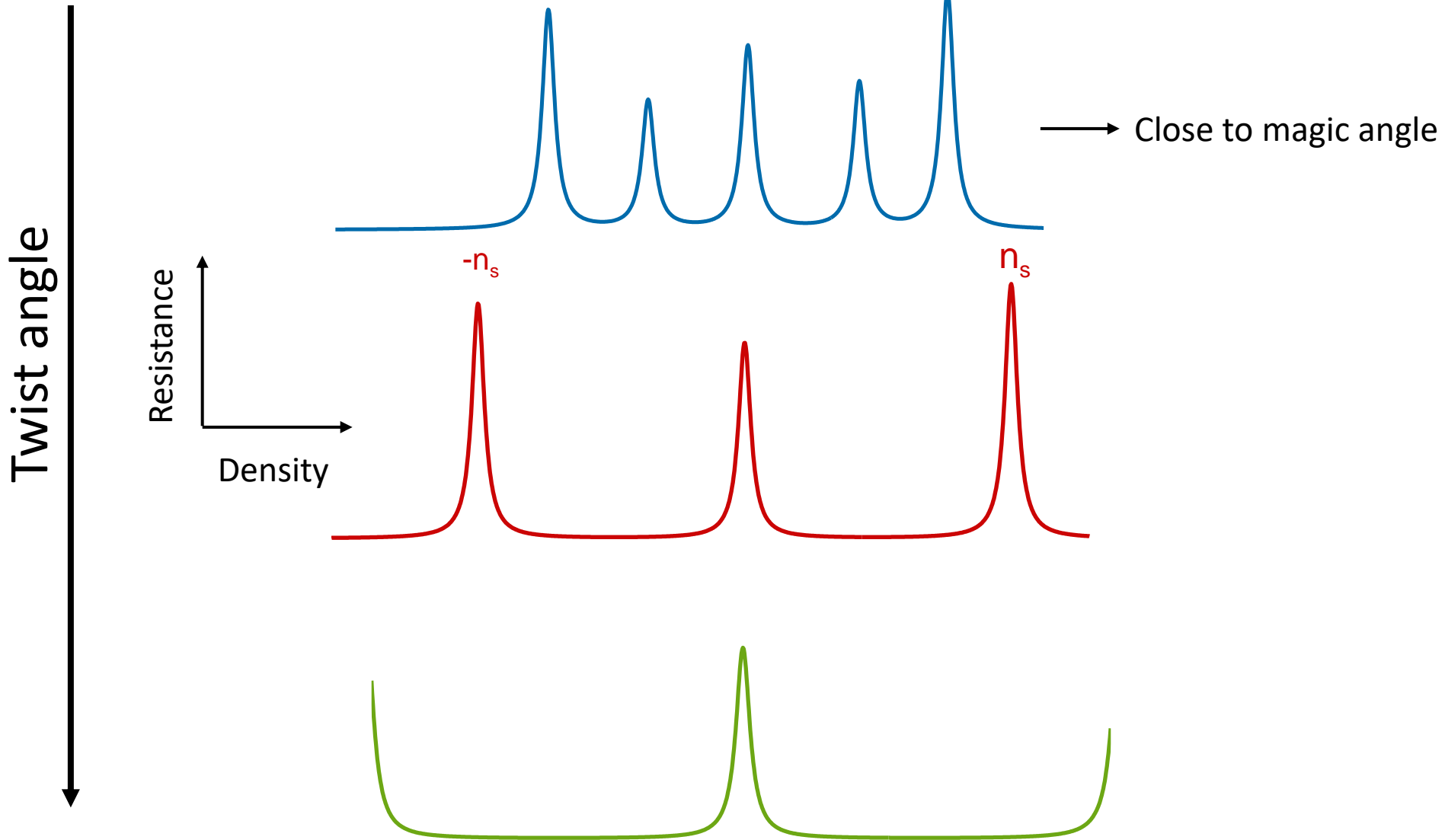


Twisted bilayer graphene  
(top and back gated)

Single layer graphene  
(heater)

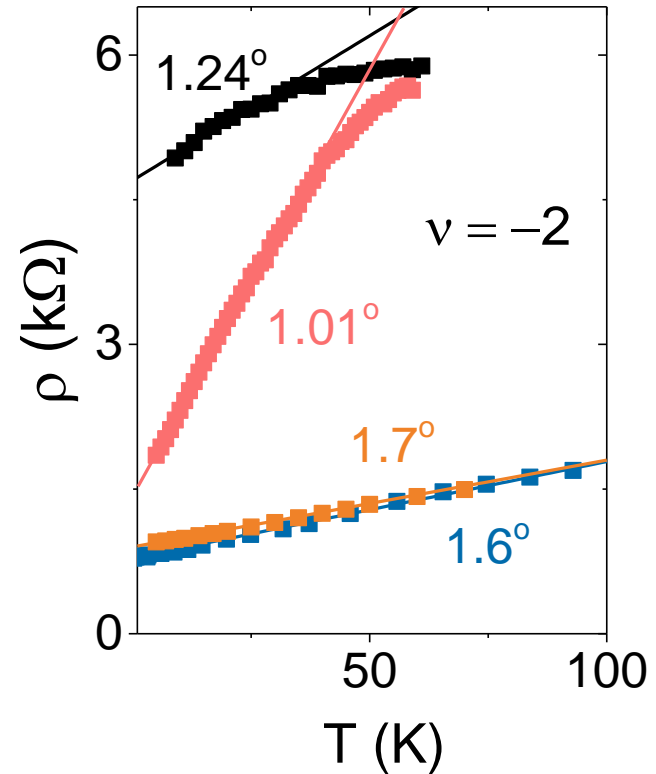
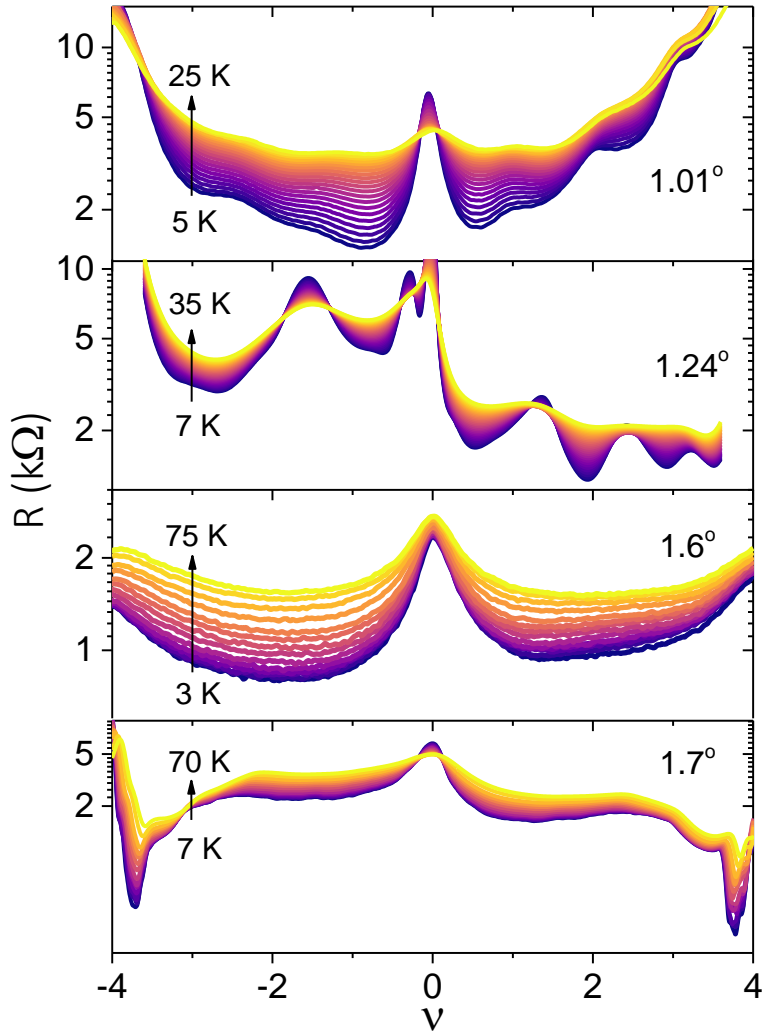
5  $\mu\text{m}$

# Finding the right twist angle



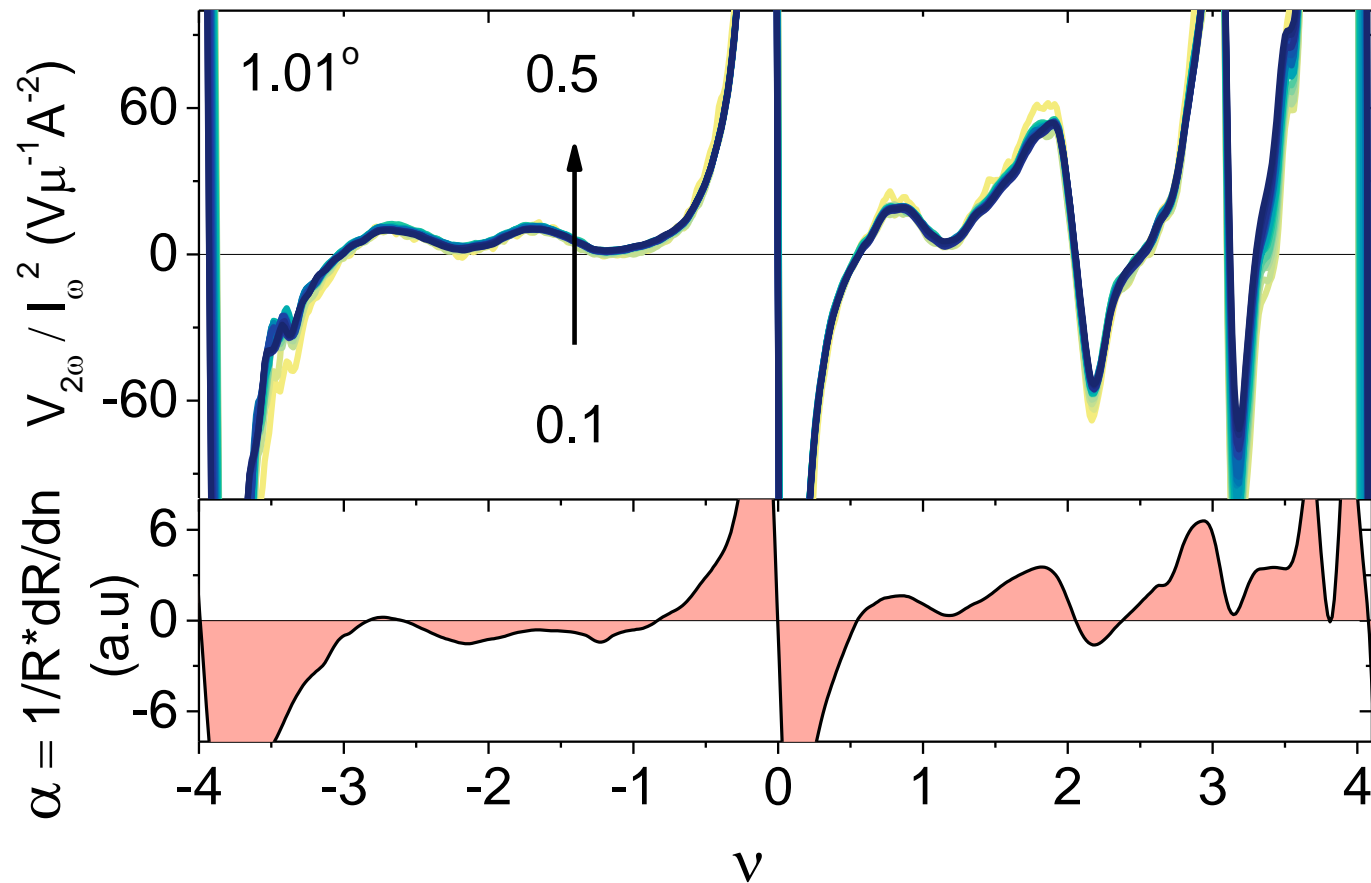


# Electrical transport: Temperature dependence of resistance



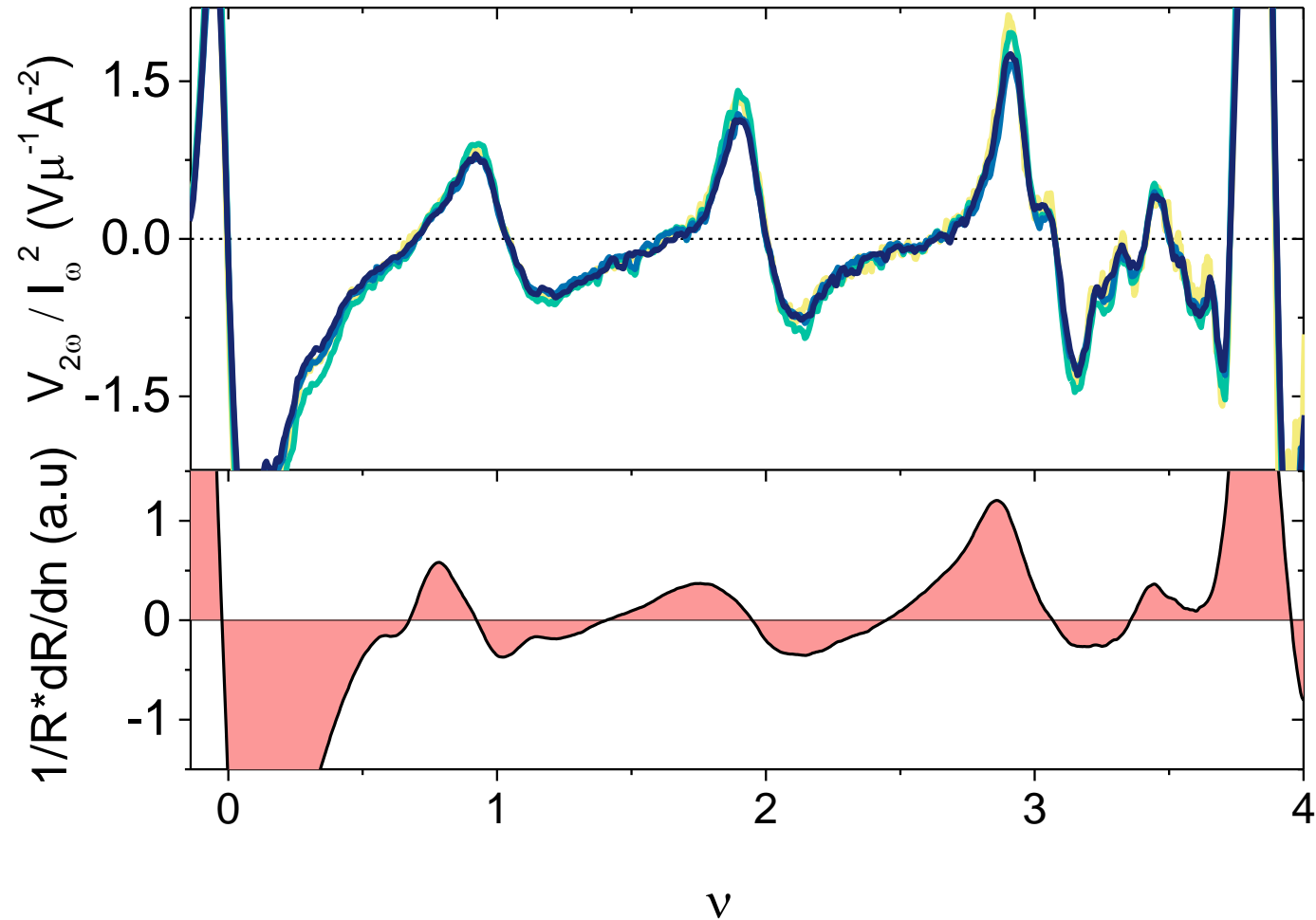
- Linear R-T for all devices at low T

# Thermopower in twisted bilayer graphene $\theta = 1.01^\circ$

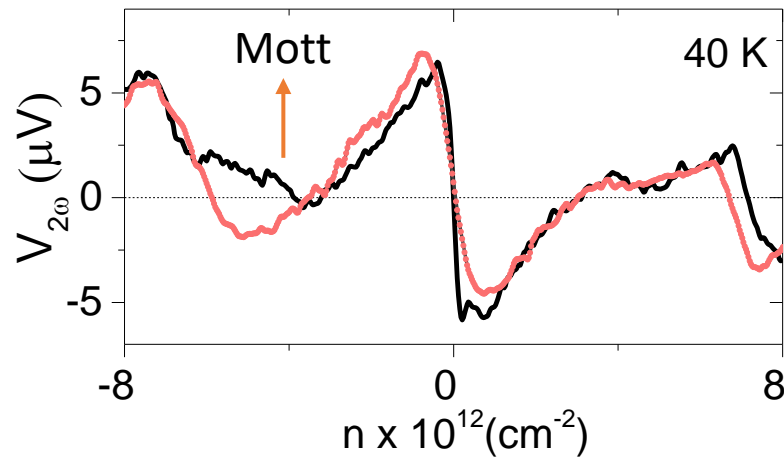


- Qualitative correspondence in the oscillations and sign reversals of the measured  $V_{2\omega}$  and  $\alpha$ .
- Quantitative estimation of the deviation of the measured thermopower from that expected from the semiclassical model not possible.

# Thermopower in twisted bilayer graphene $\theta = 1.16^\circ$



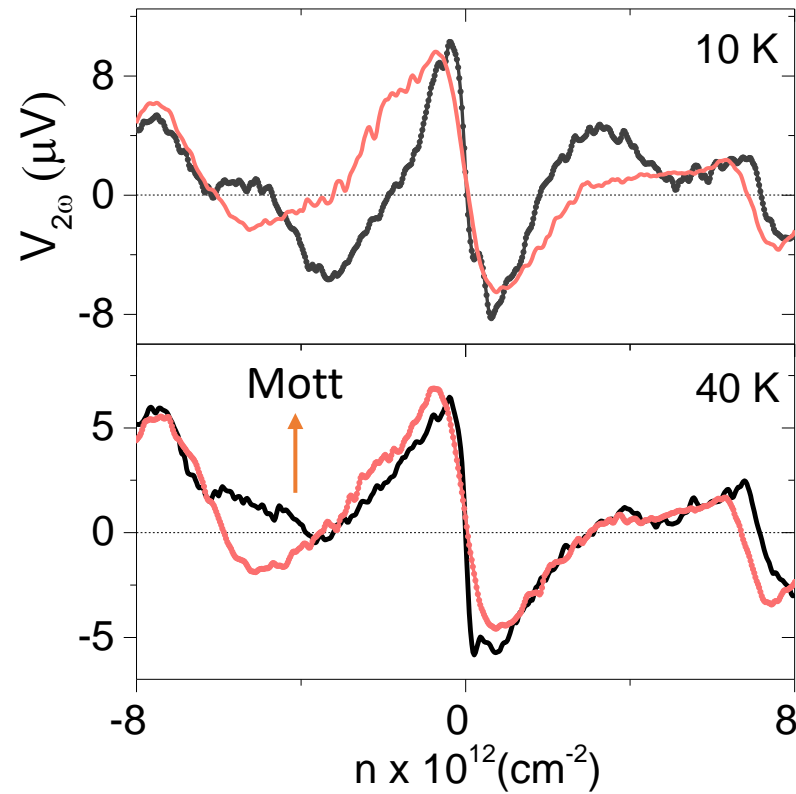
# Thermopower in twisted bilayer graphene $\theta = 1.6^\circ$



Density of states calculation by  
Shinjan and Prof. Manish Jain

# Thermopower in twisted bilayer graphene $\theta = 1.6^\circ$

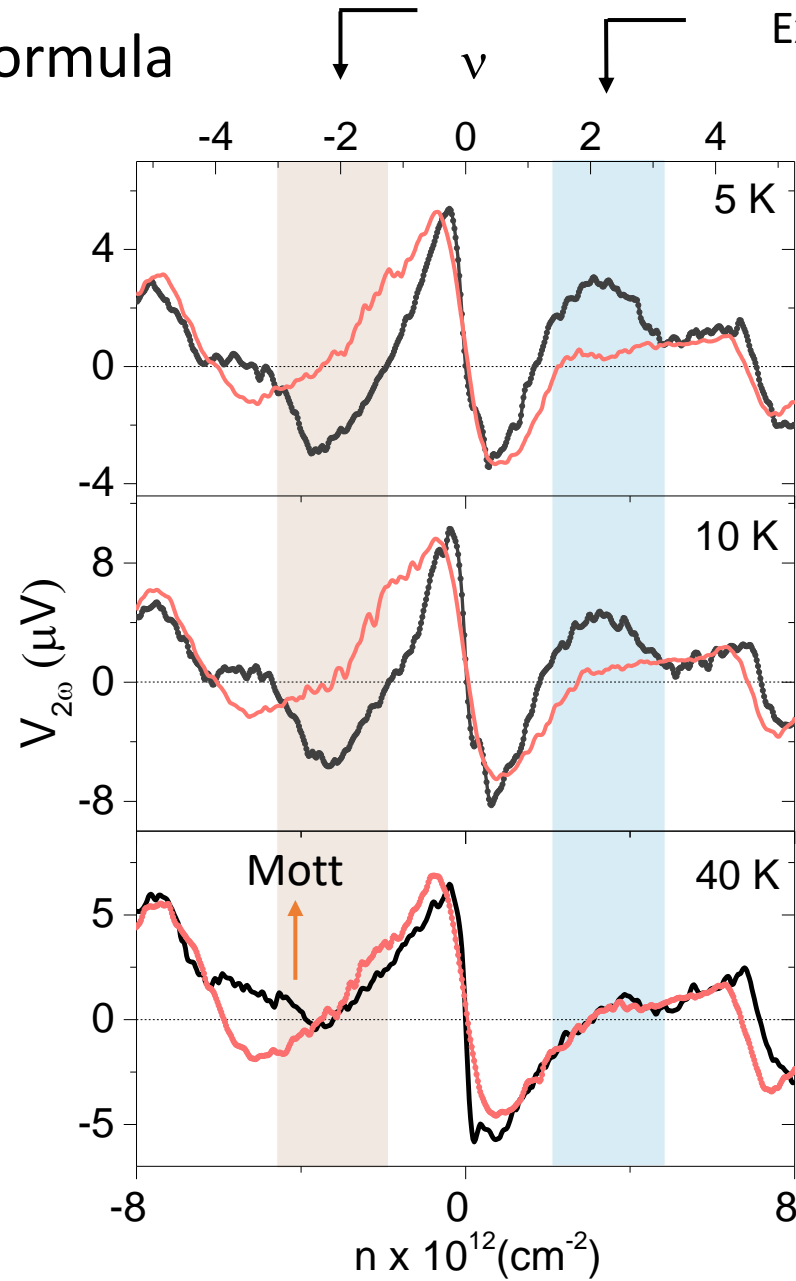
Violation of Mott formula



Density of states calculation by  
Shinjan and Prof. Manish Jain

# Thermopower in twisted bilayer graphene $\theta = 1.6^\circ$

Violation of Mott formula  $\nu$  Excess thermopower

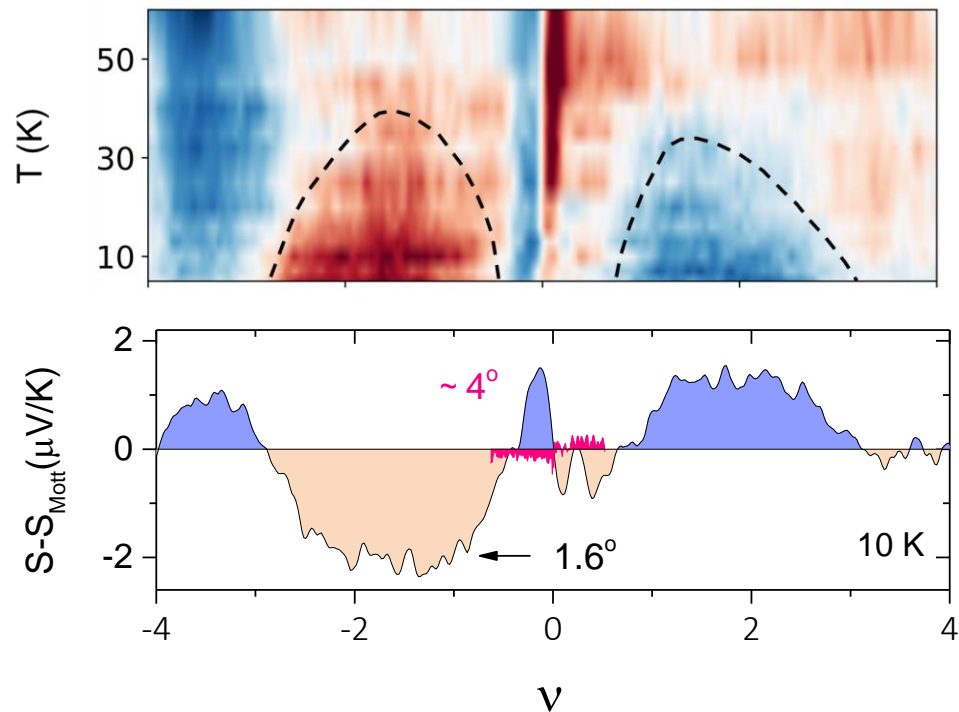
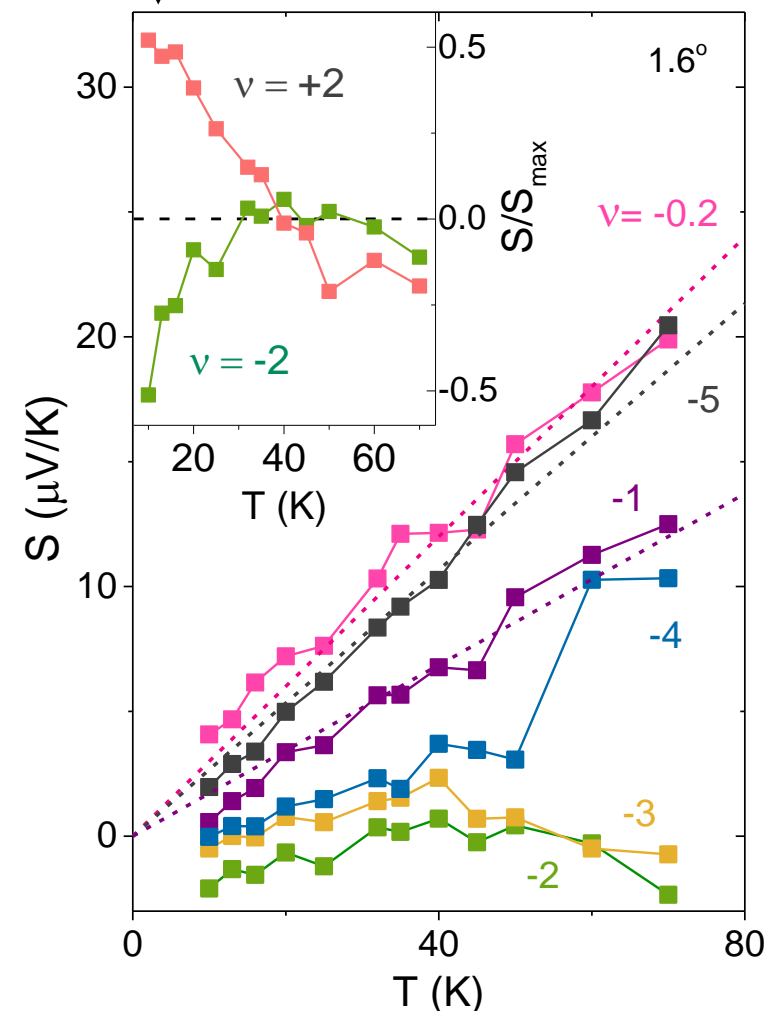


# Thermopower in twisted bilayer graphene $\theta = 1.6^\circ$

## Violation of Mott formula

Non vanishing thermopower

$(S - S_{\text{Mott}}) / S_{\text{max}}$  -0.5 0.0 0.5

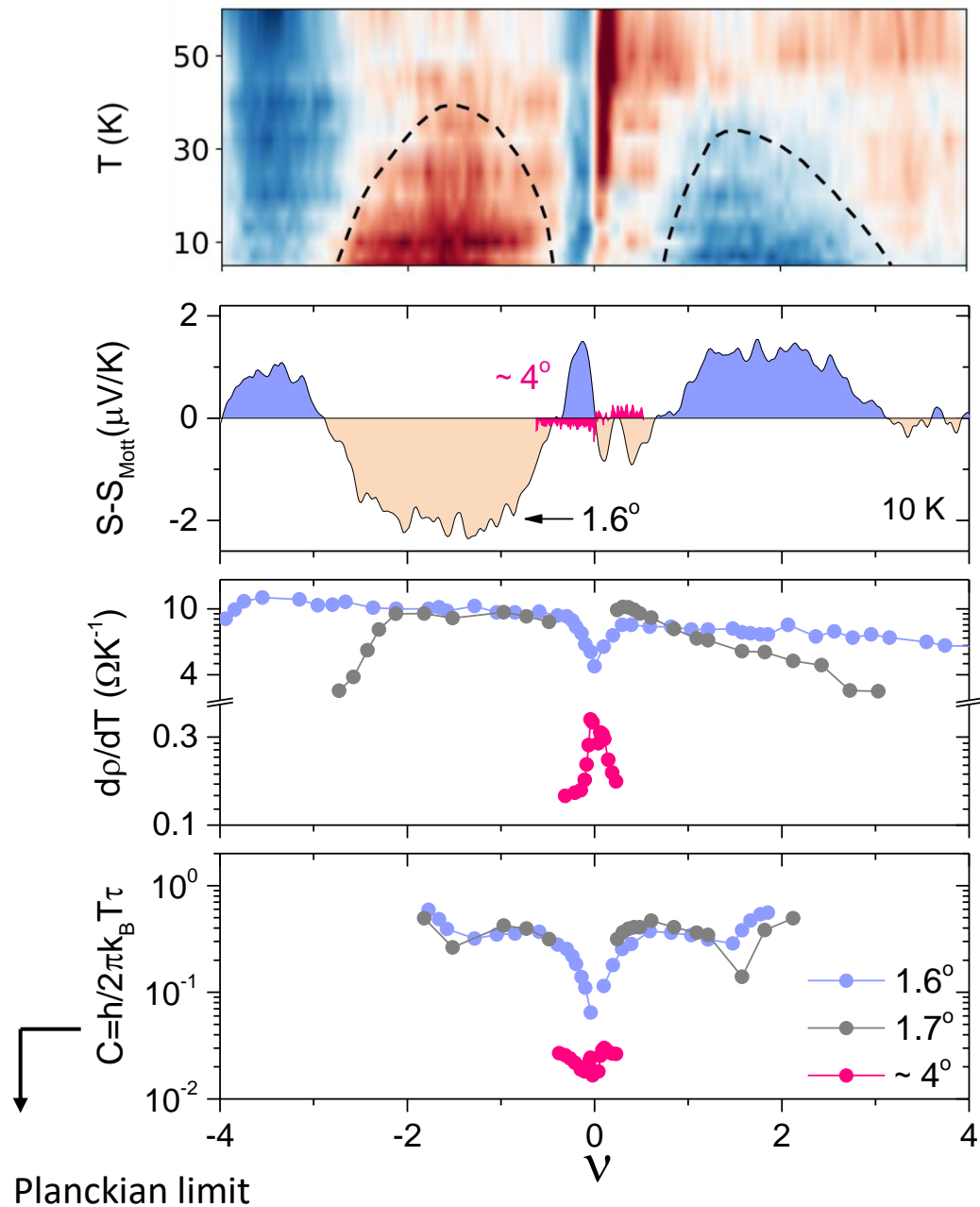
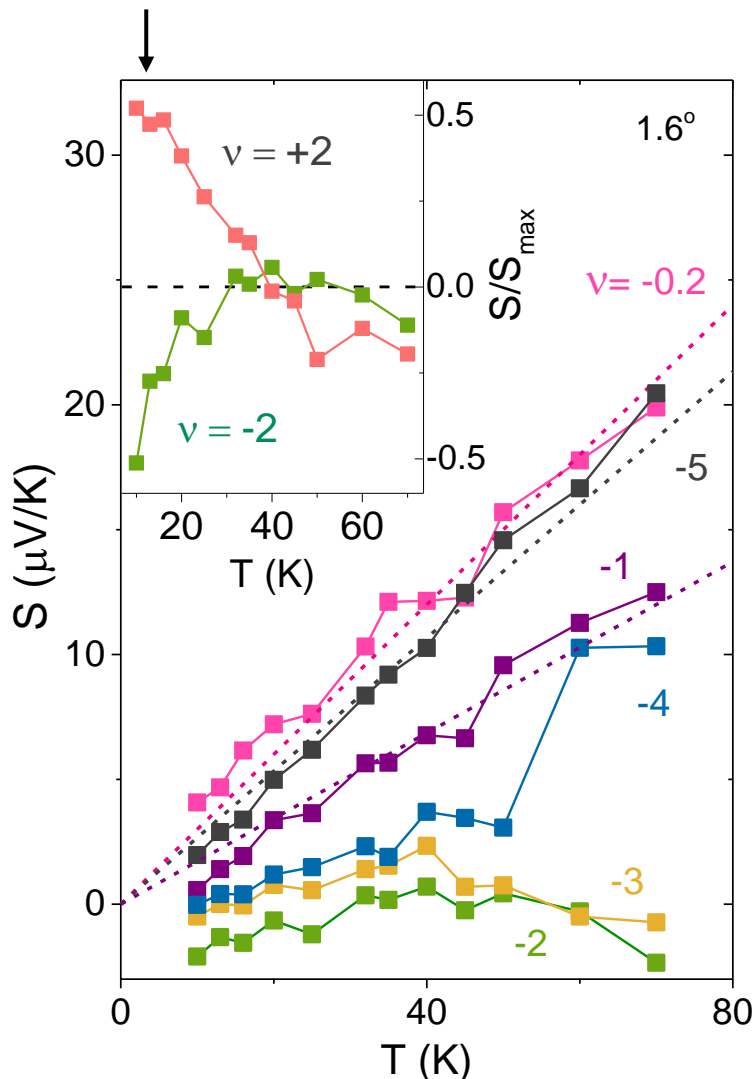


# Thermopower in twisted bilayer graphene $\theta = 1.6^\circ$

## Violation of Mott formula

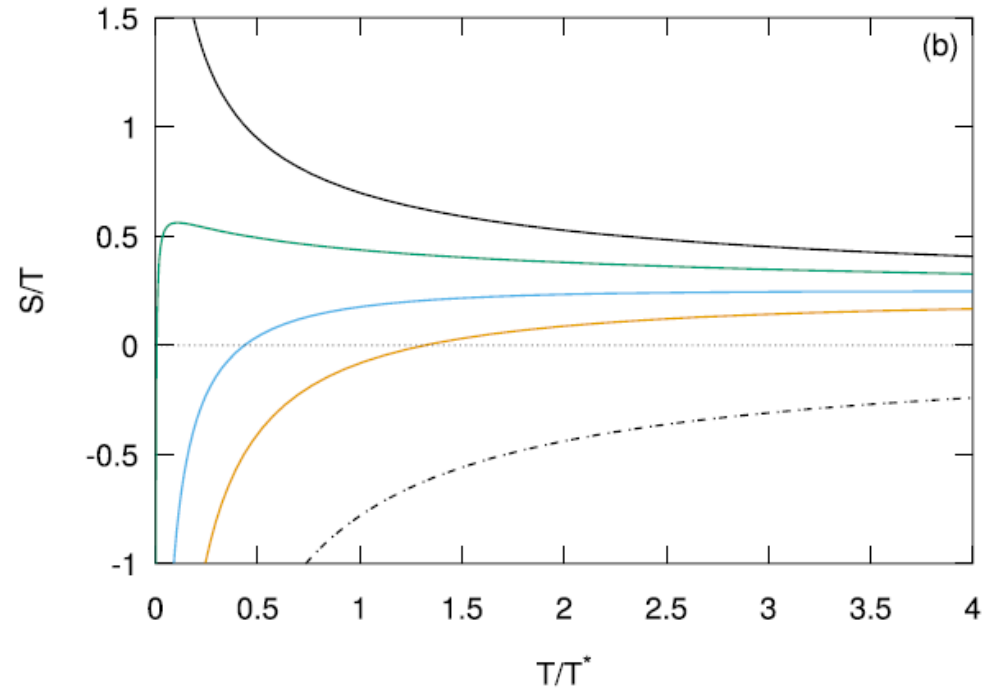
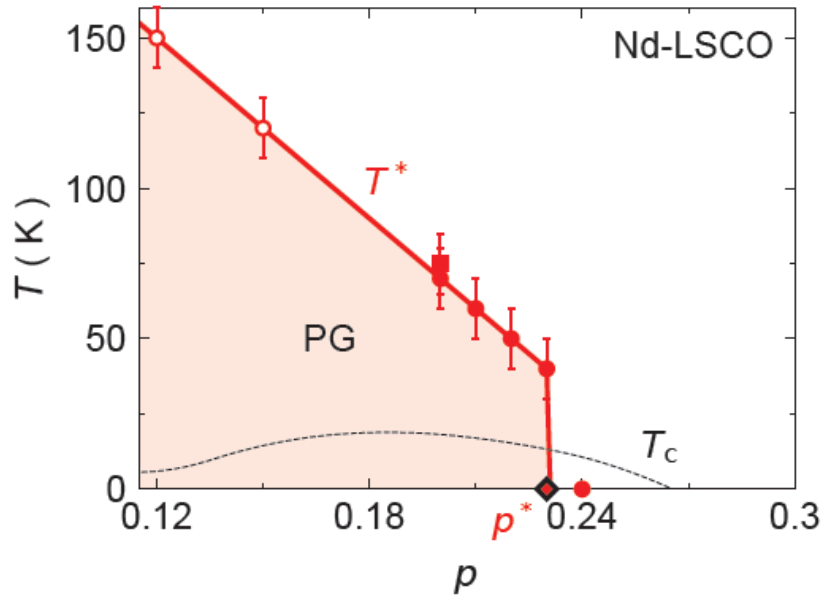
$(S - S_{\text{Mott}})/S_{\text{max}}$  -0.5 0.0 0.5

Non vanishing thermopower

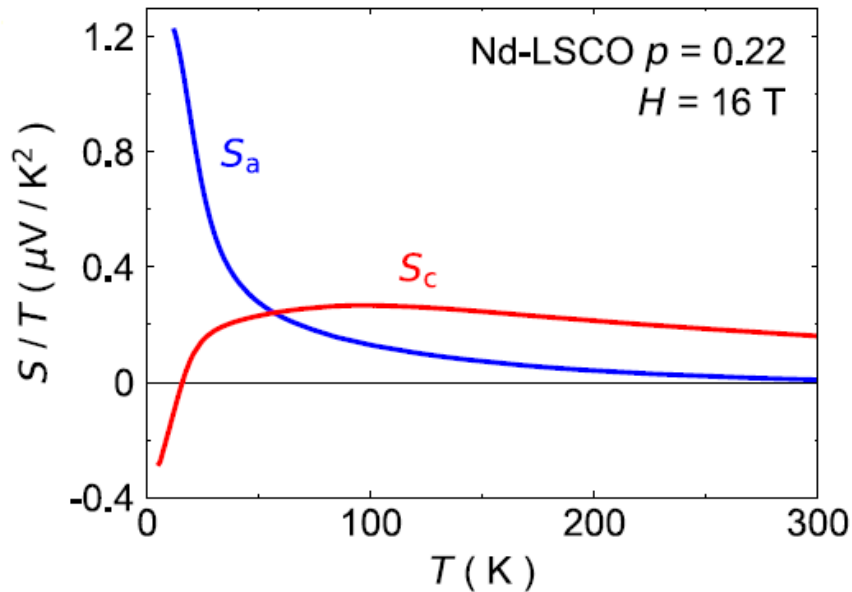




# Skewed non-Fermi liquids



Georges et al. Phys. Rev. Research 3, 043132 (2021)



Gourgout et al. Phys. Rev. X 12, 011037 (2022)

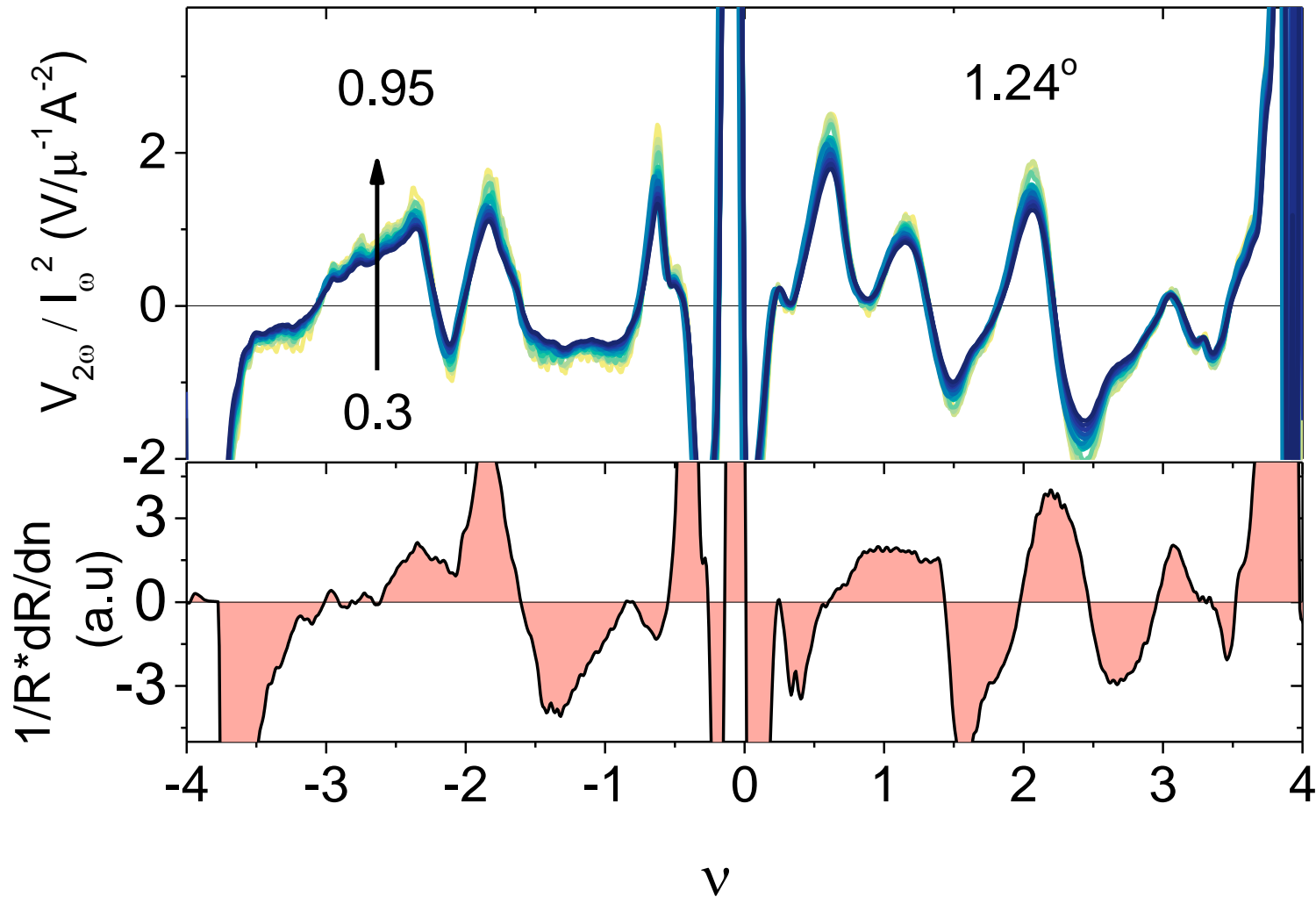
# Summary

- Thermopower can be used as an effective probe to study diverse phenomenology in twisted bilayer graphene.
- Violation of Mott formula near half filling close to magic angle.
- Possibility of non-Fermi Liquid behaviour

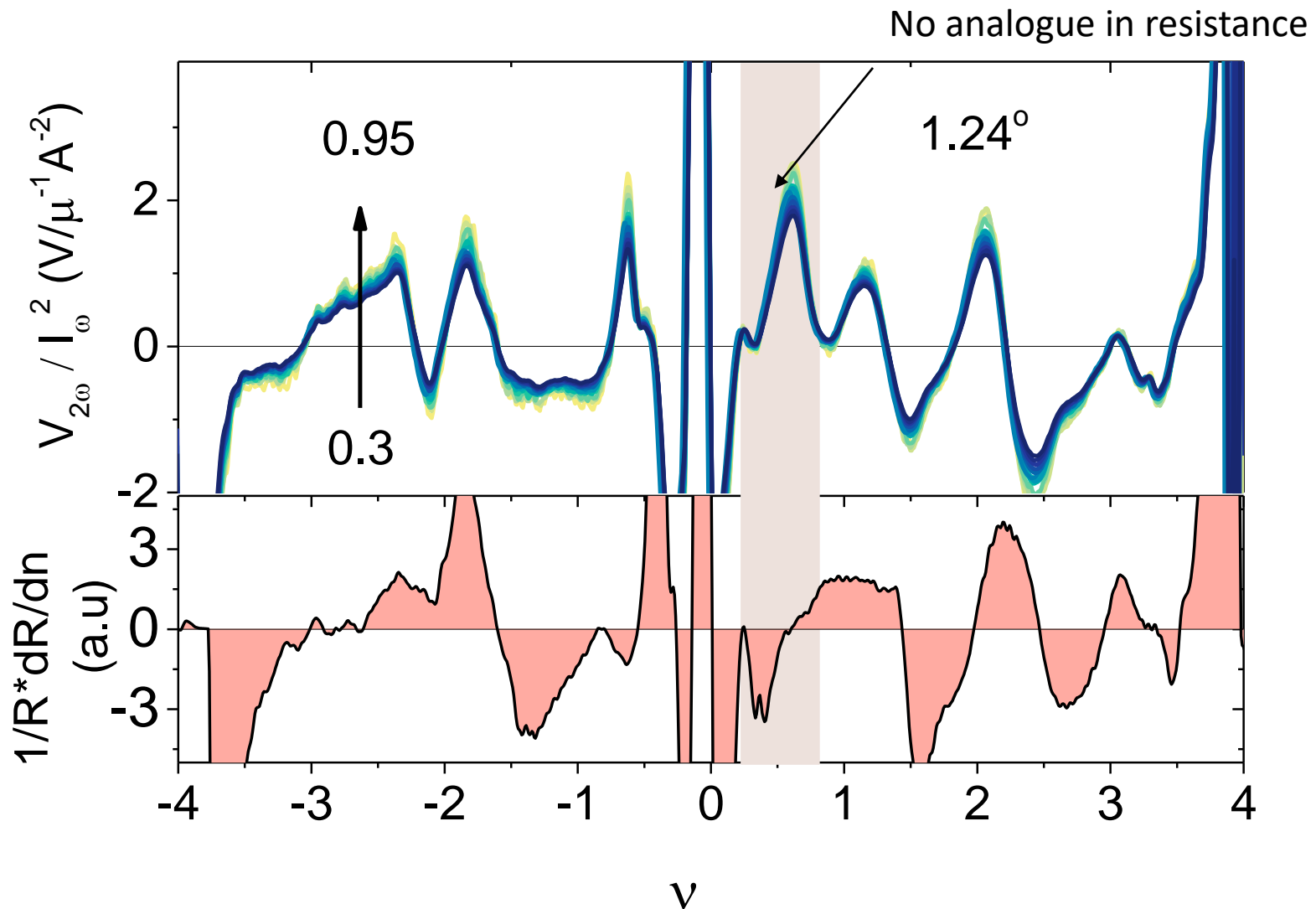


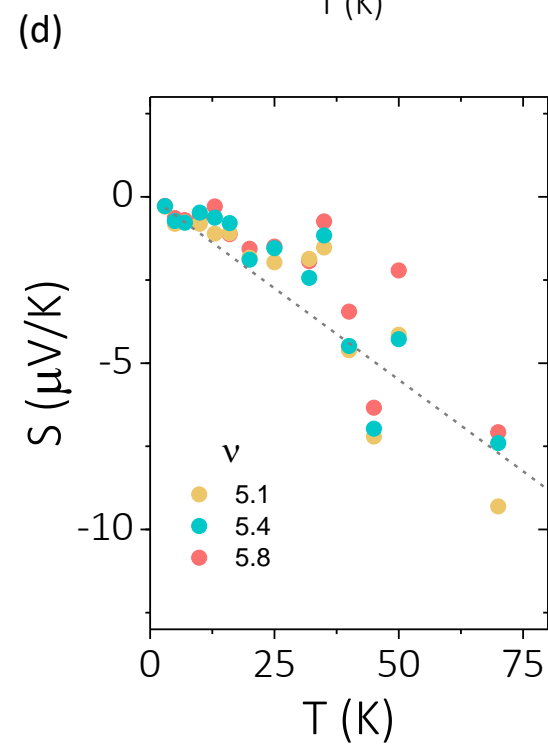
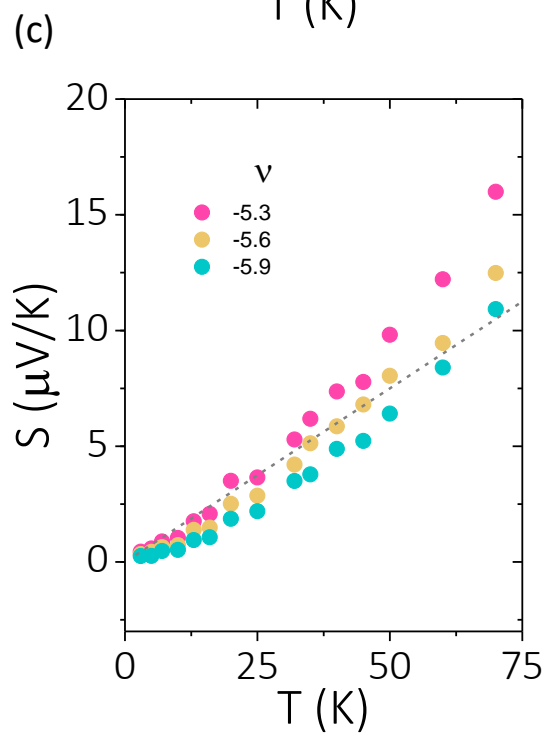
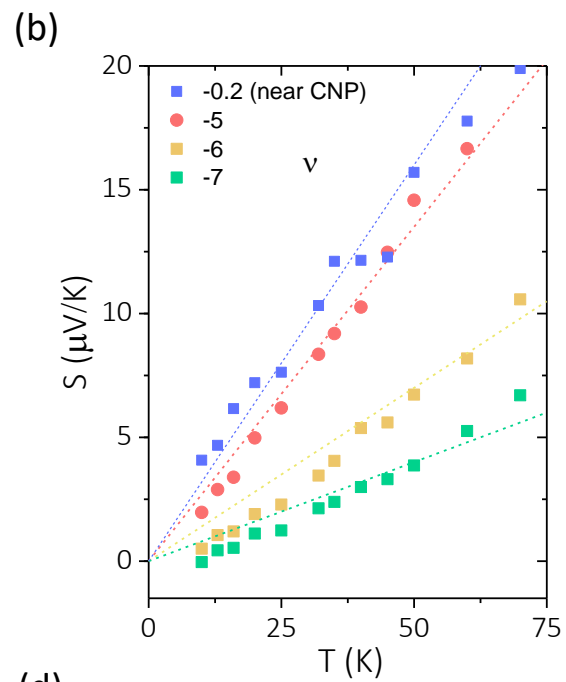
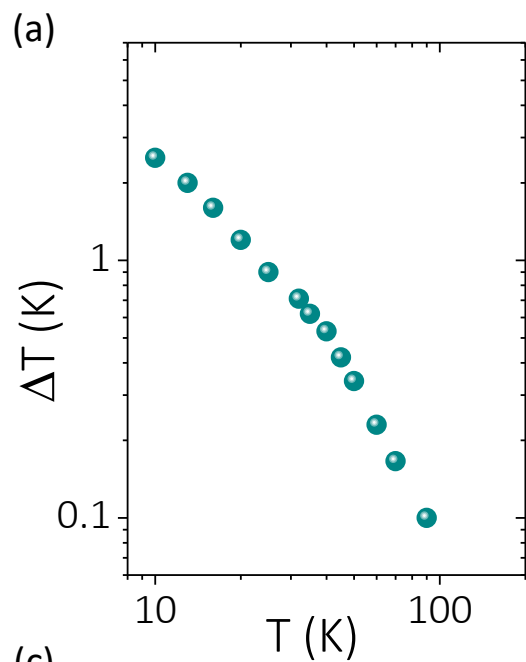
*Thank you*

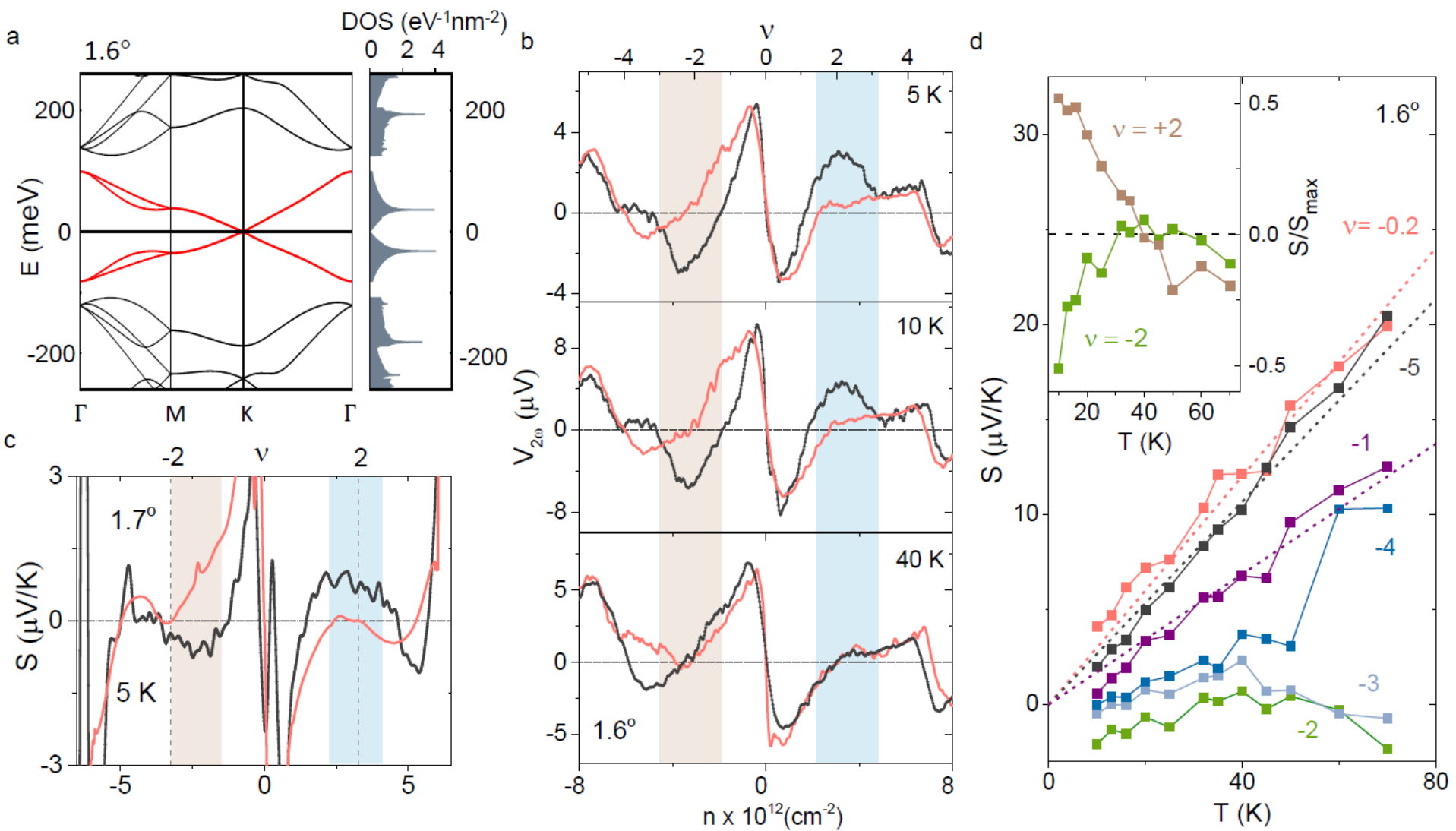
# Thermopower in twisted bilayer graphene $\theta = 1.24^\circ$



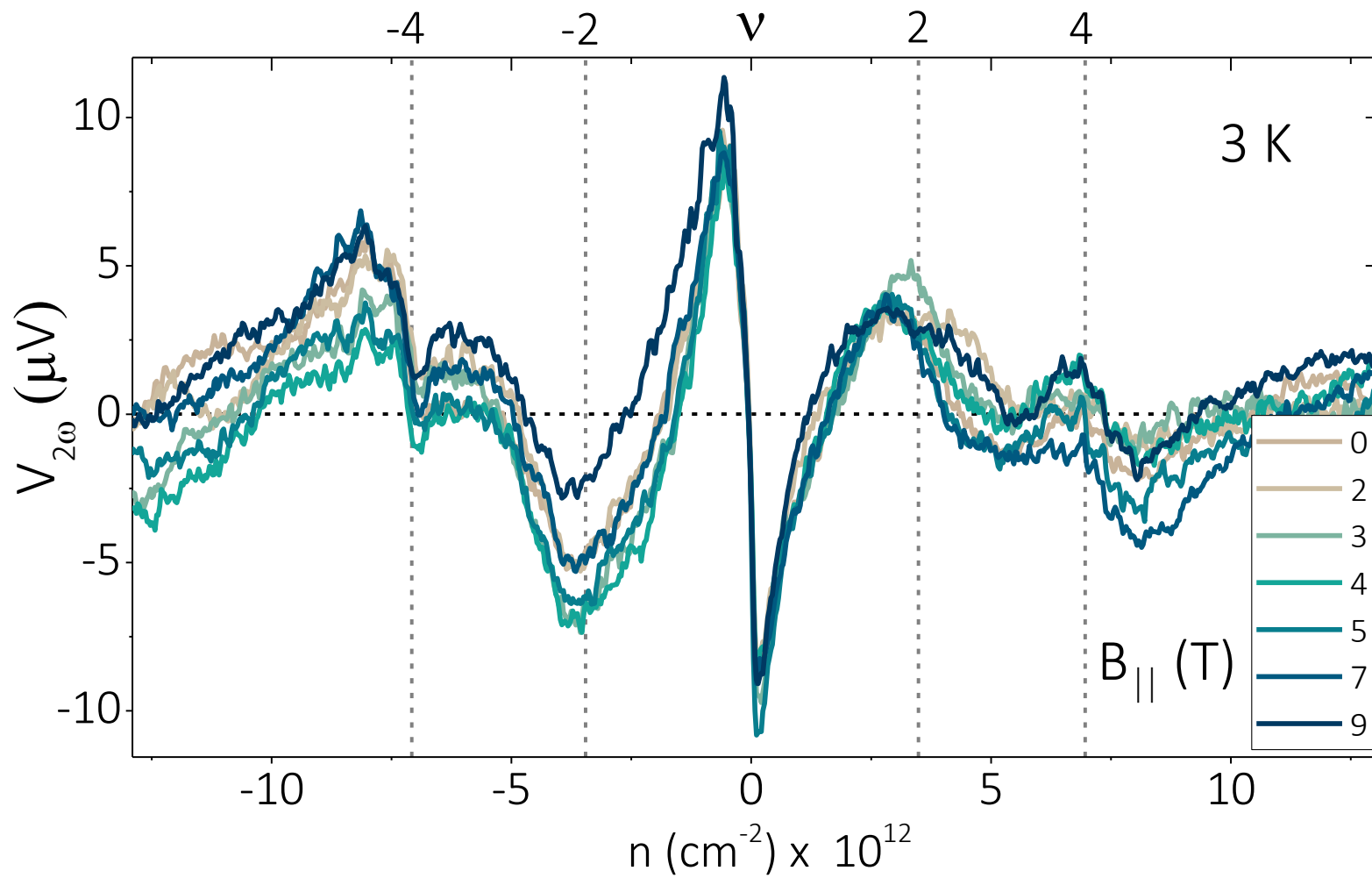
# Thermopower in twisted bilayer graphene $\theta = 1.24^\circ$





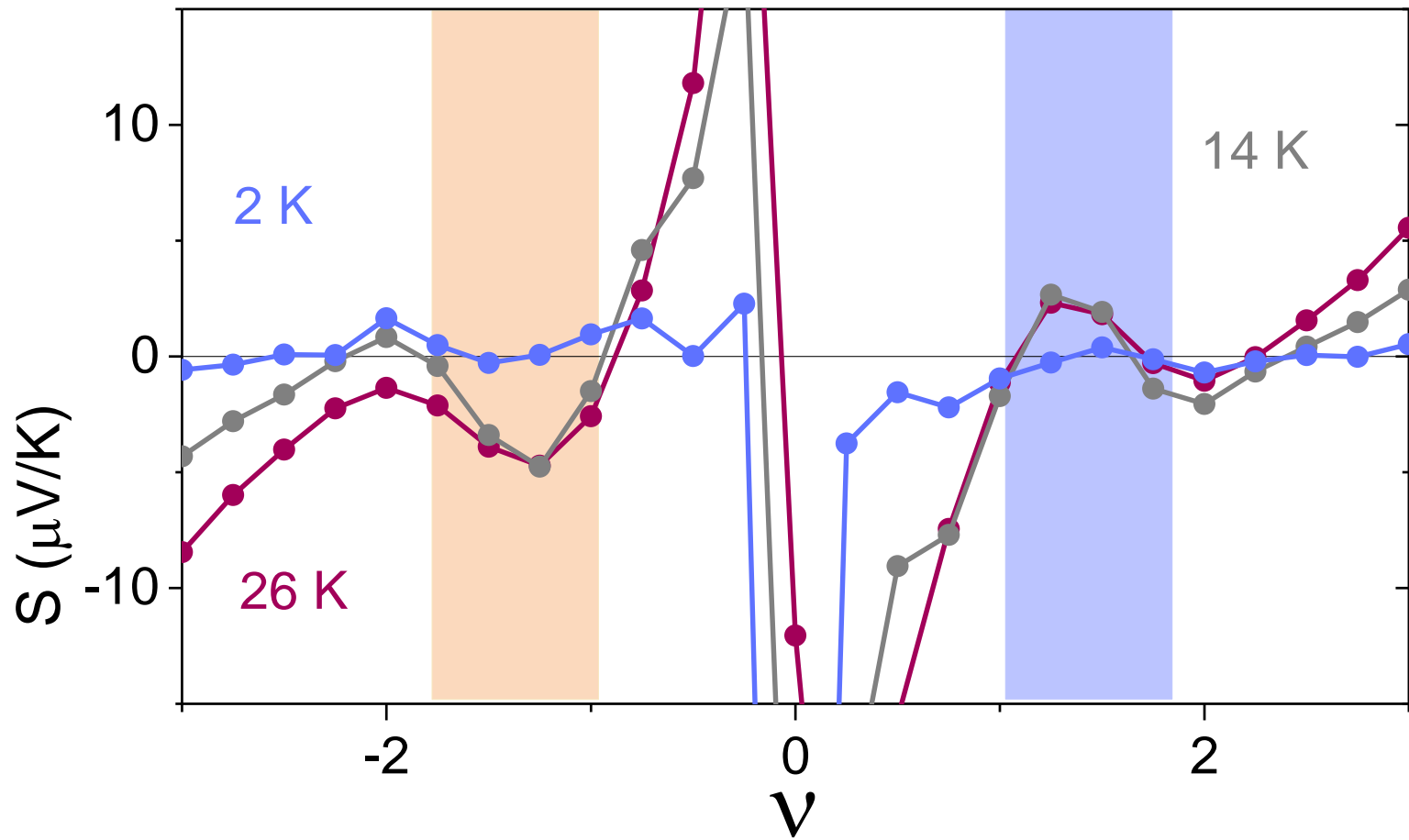


# Magnetic field dependence





# DMFT calculation



# DMFT calculation

