

# JITCP Seminar

THE UNIVERSITY OF HONG KONG  
HKU-UCAS JOINT INSTITUTE OF THEORETICAL AND COMPUTATIONAL PHYSICS  
[Friday morning, 11:00 am, Zoom (online)]

## An Interorbital Pairing Interaction in $\text{KTaO}_3$

**Prof. Michael NORMAN**

*Argonne National Laboratory*

Recently, superconductivity has been discovered for the electron gas formed at the interface of  $\text{KTaO}_3$  with other oxides<sup>[1]</sup>,  $T_c$  being almost an order of magnitude larger than what is seen for  $\text{SrTiO}_3$ . The largest  $T_c$  is for  $\langle 111 \rangle$  interfaces, with  $T_c$  for  $\langle 110 \rangle$  interfaces about half of this, and that for  $\langle 001 \rangle$  interfaces either extremely small or non-existent. This points to the role of orbital degeneracy, the degeneracy of  $t_{2g}$  states being maximal for  $\langle 111 \rangle$ , and completely lifted for  $\langle 001 \rangle$  due to interface confinement. A theory that encompasses this effect is pairing via the transverse optic mode that leads to ferroelectricity in related perovskites, as to linear order this involves inter-orbital interactions (which in turn gives rise to a large Rashba effect that is strongly sensitive to orientation). In this talk, I will compare this theory to relevant data for  $\text{KTaO}_3$ , in particular the doping dependence of  $T_c$  and how  $T_c$  and thermodynamic and transport properties vary with interface orientation<sup>[2]</sup>.

[1]. C. Liu et al, Science 371, 716 (2021).

[2]. C. Liu et al, arXiv:2203.05867.

**Online Zoom Seminar**

**Friday, February 3, 2023, 11:00 am**

Meeting ID: 959 9261 0981

Password: 25600

<https://hku.zoom.us/j/95992610981?pwd=cDZLWIFKOC8vamFNWE9hMIZzTEpOZz09>

Host: Professor Gang CHEN, The University of Hong Kong

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Phone: 28592360, Fax: 25599152. Anyone interested is welcome to attend.