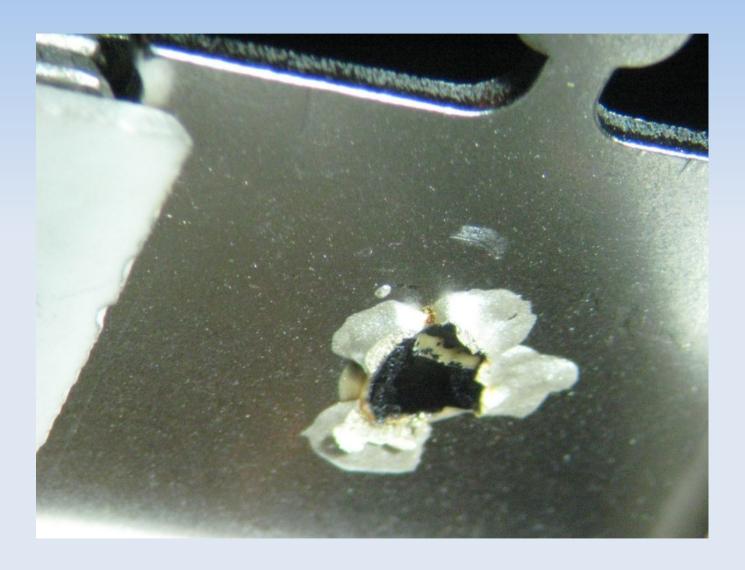
# Surface Analysis of Ca<sub>3</sub>Ru<sub>2</sub>O<sub>7</sub>







M. Menhart, U. Diebold, M. Schmid

#### Introduction

 Project work and introduction for the diploma thesis on surface science

 Original aim: surface analysis of the Ruddlesden-Popper perovskites:

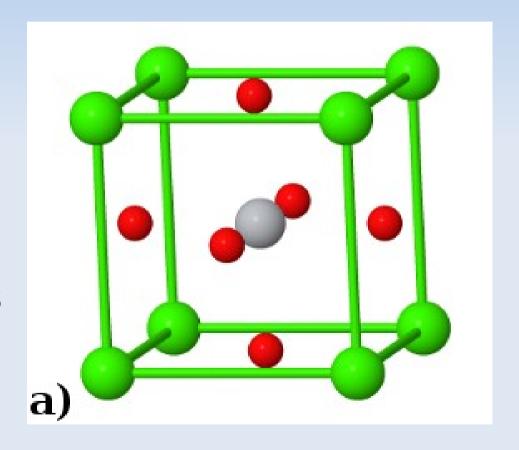
 $(Sr_{1-x}Ca_x)Ru_2O_7$ x ranging from 0 to 1

 Reduced to analysis of Ca<sub>3</sub>Ru<sub>2</sub>O<sub>7</sub>



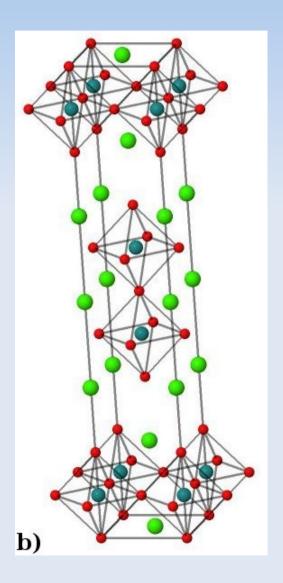
#### **Basic Perovskite Structure**

- Perovskite: CaTiO<sub>3</sub>
- ABX<sub>3</sub> Structure
  - A: white, B: green, X: red
- Wide range in physical properties
- Variety of applications



#### Ruddlesden-Popper Series

- $\bullet$  A<sub>n-1</sub> A '<sub>2</sub> B<sub>n</sub> X<sub>3n+1</sub>
  - n: layers of octahedra in the perovskite stack
- Consists of perovskite layes and rock salt type layers
- Our Samples: A<sub>3</sub>B<sub>2</sub>X<sub>7</sub>
  - A: green, B: blue, X: red



## Sample preparation

- Very reaktive surface
- Usual sample preparation methods (sputtering, annealing) don't work

a)

- Cleaving in UHV and scanning immediatley afterwards
  - Glueing the sample to the sample holder
  - Glueing a stub on top of the sample
  - Knocking off the stub

## Glueing

- Glues
  - Epo-Tek H77
  - Epo-Tek H21D silver glue
- Difficulties:
  - Position on the sample holder
  - Catching the stubs
  - Conductivity
  - Hardness of the glue





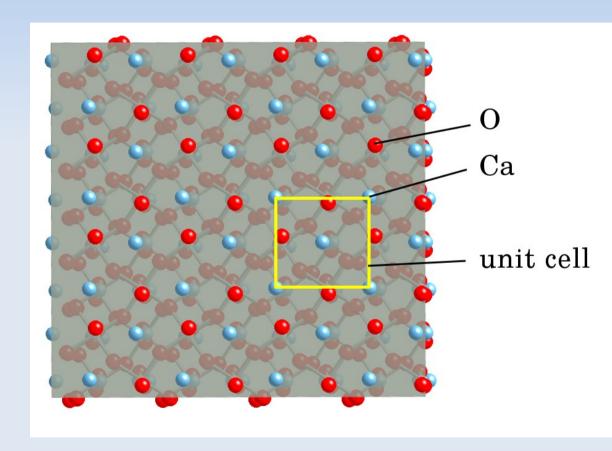


## Glueing Approaches

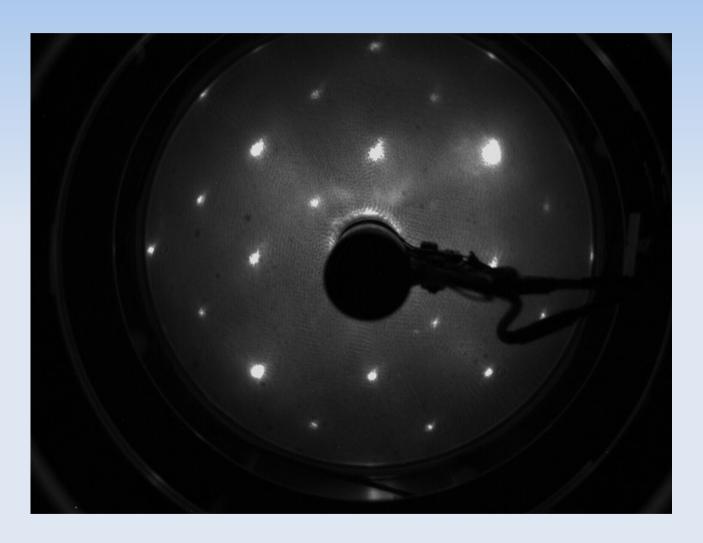
- H77, silver glue contacts on the sides
  - Time consuming (3 curing steps)
  - Conductivity no reliable
- H77, roughen sample holder with center punch
  - Conductivity no reliable
- Only silver glue
  - Hardness not garanteed
- Silver glue between sample and sampleholder
  H77 between sample and stub

#### Ca<sub>3</sub>Ru<sub>2</sub>O<sub>7</sub> lattice

- Reconstructed
  Ca<sub>3</sub>Ru<sub>2</sub>O<sub>7</sub> lattice
  (Data: Yoshida et al., PRB, 72(5):054412)
- Virtually cleaved with CrystalMaker
- Square lattice



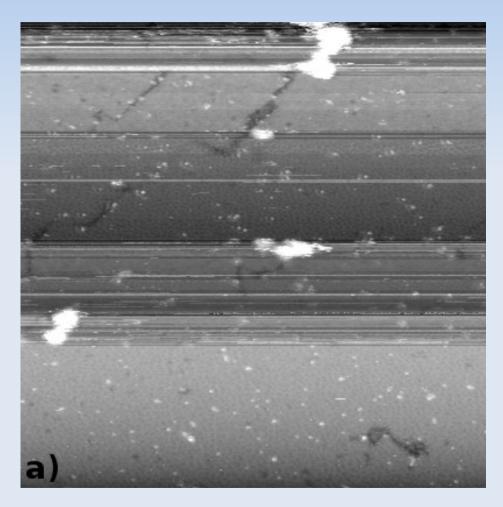
# LEED of Ca<sub>3</sub>Ru<sub>2</sub>O<sub>7</sub>



LEED confirmed the square lattice

## STM of Ca<sub>3</sub>Ru<sub>2</sub>O<sub>7</sub>

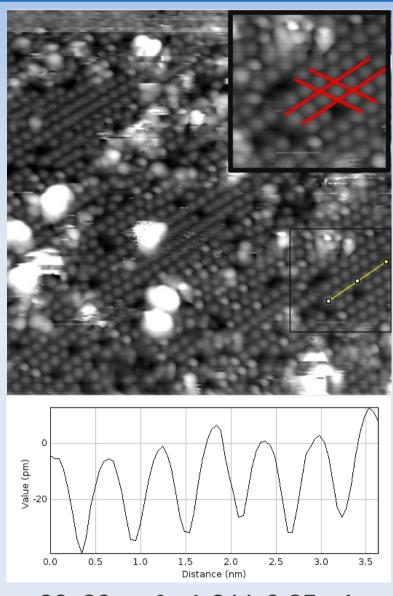
- Wide flat areas
- Cracks
- Bright features
  - Seem to increase over time
- Very difficult to obtain good STM images
  - Unstable tip
  - Fast surface contamination



100x100 nm<sup>2</sup>, -1.2 V, 0.1 nA

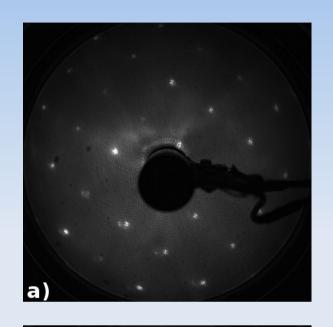
#### **Atomic Resolution**

- Large bright features
- Voids
- Lattice of 0.58 nm in one direction, 0.66 nm and an angle of 120° between
  - No square lattice
  - Adsorbate

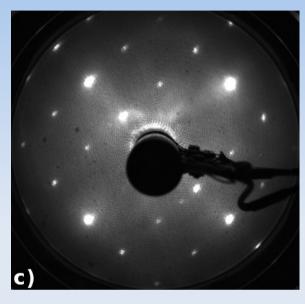


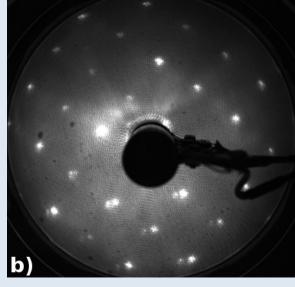
20x20 nm<sup>2</sup>, -1.2 V, 0.35 nA

# Dosing of CO<sub>2</sub> and O<sub>2</sub> - LEED



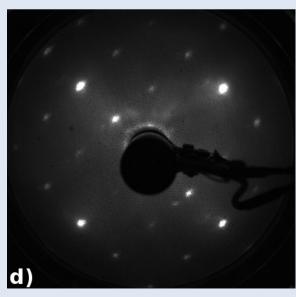
100 eV 90 eV undosed



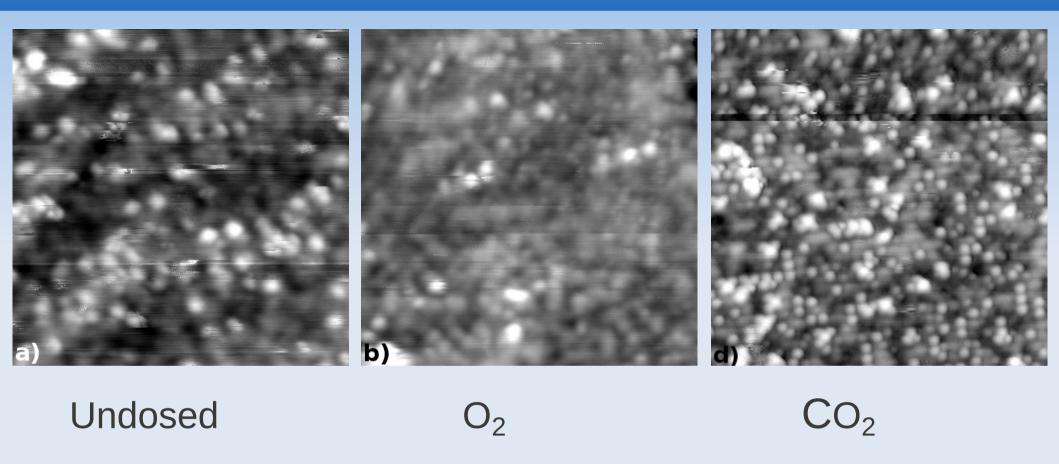


 $100 \, \text{eV}$   $90 \, \text{eV}$   $CO_2$   $O_2$  dosed

No difference



# Dosing of CO<sub>2</sub> and O<sub>2</sub> - STM



- Difficult to compare
- No obvious effect

# Thank you