Akshay Murthy

Education

2015–2020 PhD Materials Science and Engineering,

Northwestern University, Evanston, IL.

GPA: 3.90/4.00

Thesis: "Probing static and dynamic phenomena in two-dimensionally confined systems" Certificate: Management for Scientists and Engineers, Kellogg School of Management

Advisor: Professor Vinayak P. Dravid

2012–2015 BS Materials Science and Engineering,

University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, Champaign, IL.

GPA: 3.96/4.00

Experience

Fermi National Accelerator Laboratory (FNAL).

2022-Present Quantum Associate Scientist

2021–2022 Postdoctoral Research Associate

- o Investigated the role of two level systems in quantum devices using advanced microscopy techniques
- Acquired an understanding of chemical constituents present at interfaces in quantum systems through surface spectroscopy and spectrometry methods
- Collaborated with scientists at FNAL, Northwestern University, Ames Laboratory, and Rigetti Computing within the Superconducting Materials and Systems National Quantum Initiative center to advance understanding of loss mechanisms in superconducting gubits

ASM America.

2020–2021 Senior Process Engineer

- Designed and conducted a variety of process engineering experiments centered around atomic layer deposition of high-K dielectric thin films
- Analyzed data and generated internal and external technical reports to address challenging engineering problems that customers were facing

Publications (25 Published Peer-Reviewed Articles)

- 2022 Murthy, A. A.; Das, P. M.; Ribet, S. M.; Kopas, C.; Lee, J.; Reagor, M. J.; Zhou, L.; Kramer, M. J.; Hersam, M. C.; Checchin, M.; Grassellino, A.; dos Reis, R.; Dravid, V. P.; Romanenko, A., Developing a Chemical and Structural Understanding of the Surface Oxide in a Niobium Superconducting Qubit. arXiv preprint arXiv:2203.08710.
- 2022 **Murthy, A. A.;** Lee, J.; Kopas, C.; Reagor, M. J.; McFadden, A. P.; Pappas, D. P.; Checchin, M.; Grassellino, A.; Romanenko, A., TOF-SIMS analysis of decoherence sources in superconducting qubits. *App. Phys. Lett.* 120 (4), **2022**, 044002.
- 2022 Stanev, T. K.; Liu, P.; Zeng, H.; Lenferink, E. J.; Murthy, A. A.; Speiser, N.; Watanabe, K.; Taniguchi, T.; Dravid, V. P.; Stern, N. P., Direct Patterning of Optoelectronic Nanostructures using Encapsulated Layered Transition Metal Dichalcogenides. ACS App. Mater. Interfaces, 14 (20), 2022, 23775–23784.
- 2021 Lee, J. Y.; Sung, Z; **Murthy, A. A.**; Kopas, C.; Reagor, M; Grassellino, A.; Romanenko, A., Discovery of Nb hydride precipitates in superconducting qubits. arXiv preprint arXiv:2108.10385.
- 2021 Murthy, A. A.*; Ribet, S. M.*; Roth, E. W.; dos Reis, R.; Dravid, V. P., Imaging Hard-Soft Interfaces in Low-Dimensional Nanocomposites with Electron Microscopy. [invited review - Materials Today] 50, 2021, 100-115.

- 2021 Murthy, A. A.; Stanev, T. K.; Ribet, S. M.; Watanabe, K.; Taniguchi, T.; Stern, N. P.; dos Reis, R.; Dravid, V. P., Spatial Mapping of Electrostatic Fields across 2D Heterostructures. *Nano Lett.*. 21 (17), 2021, 7131-7137.
- 2021 Amsterdam, S. H.; Stanev, T. K; Wang, L.; Zhou, Q.; Irgen-Gioro, S.; Padgaonkar, S.; Murthy, A. A.; Sangwan, V. K.; Dravid, V.P.; Weiss, E. A.; Darancet, P.; Chan, M. K. Y.; Hersam, M. C.; Stern, N. P.; Marks, T. J., Mechanistic Investigation of Molybdenum Disulfide Defect Photoluminescence Quenching by Adsorbed Metallophthalocyanines. J. Am. Chem. Soc. 143 (41), 2021, 17153-17161.
- 2021 Dereshgi, S. A.; Larciprete, M. C.; Centini, M.; **Murthy, A. A.**; Tang, K.; Wu, J.; Dravid, V. P.; Aydin, K., Tuning of Optical Phonons in α -MoO₃–VO₂ Multilayers *ACS App. Mater. Interfaces*, 13 (41), **2021**, 48981-48987.
- 2021 LaMountain, T.; Nelson, J.; Lenferink, E. J.; Amsterdam, S. H.; Murthy, A. A.; Marks, T. J.; Dravid, V.P.; Hersam, M. C.; Stern, N. P., Valley-selective Optical Stark Effect of Exciton-Polaritons in a Monolayer Semiconductor. Nat. Commun. 12 (1), 2021, 1-7.
- DiStefano, J. G.; **Murthy, A. A.**; Lescott, C. J.; dos Reis, R.; Li, Y.; Dravid, V.P., Structural defects in transition metal dichalcogenide core-shell architectures. *App. Phys. Lett.* 118 (22), **2021**, 223103.
- DiStefano, J. G.; Murthy, A. A.; Hao, S.; dos Reis, R.; Wolverton, C.; Dravid, V.P., Au@MoS₂@WS₂ Topology of Transition Metal Dichalcogenides: The Case of the Core-Shell Architecture.[invited review Nanoscale] 12 (47), 2020, 23897-23919.
- 2020 Murthy, A. A.; Stanev, T. K.; dos Reis, R.; Hao, S.; Wolverton, C.; Stern, N. P.; Dravid, V. P., Direct Visualization of Electric Field induced Structural Dynamics in Monolayer Transition Metal Dichalcogenides. ACS Nano, 14 (2), 2020, 1569-1576.
- 2020 DiStefano, J. G.; Murthy, A. A.; Lescott, C. J.; dos Reis, R.; Li, Y.; Dravid, V.P., Au@MoS2@WS2 Core-Shell Architectures: Combining Vapor Phase and Solution-Based Approaches. J. Phys. Chem. C 124 (4), 2020, 2627-2633.
- 2020 Dereshgi, S. A.; Folland, T. G.; **Murthy, A. A.**; Song, X.; Tanriover, I.; Dravid, V. P.; Caldwell, J. D.; Aydin, K., Lithography-Free, Planar IR Polarization Filters and Converters via Biaxial Phonons in α -MoO₃ Flakes Integrated into Fabry-Perot Cavities *Nat. Commun.*, 11 (1), **2020**, 1-9.
- 2020 Wei, C.; Dereshgi, S. A.; Song, X.; **Murthy, A. A.**; Dravid, V. P.; Aydin, K.; Cao, T., Polarization Reflector/Color Filter at Visible Frequencies via Anisotropic α-MoO₃. *Adv. Opt. Mater.*, **2020**, 2000088.
- 2019 Li, Y.; **Murthy, A. A.**; DiStefano, J. G.; Jung, H. J.; Palacios, E.; Hao, S.; Wolverton, C.; Aydin, K.; Chen, X.; Dravid, V.P., MoS₂-capped Cu_xS Nanocrystals: A New Route for Broadband Photodetection with Transition Metal Dichalcogenides. *Mater. Horiz.* 6 (3), **2019**, 587-594.
- 2019 Murthy, A. A.*; Yasaei, P.*; Xu, Y.; dos Reis, R.; Shekhawat, G. S.; Dravid, V. P., Spatial Mapping of Hot-Spots across Interfaces in Monolayer Transition Metal Dichalcogenides. *Adv. Mater.*, **2019**, 31, 1808244.
- 2018 Li, Y.; Moy, E. C.; Murthy, A. A.; Hao, S.; Cain, J. D.; Hanson, E. D.; DiStefano, J. G.; Chae, W. H.; Li, Q.; Wolverton, C.; Chen, X.; Dravid, V. P., Large-Scale Fabrication of Multilayer MoS₂ Ribbons and Their Thermal Conductivity Study via Temperature-Dependent Raman spectroscopy. Adv. Funct. Mater. 28 (13), 2018, 1704863.
- 2018 Murthy, A. A.; Stanev, T. K.; Cain, J. D.; Hao, S.; Wolverton, C.; Stern, N. P.; Dravid, V. P., Intrinsic transport in 2D heterostructures mediated through h-BN tunneling contacts. *Nano Lett.*. 18 (5), 2018, 2990-2998.
- 2018 Murthy, A. A.*; Li, Y.*; Palacios, E.; Li, Q.; Hao, S.; Wolverton, C.; Aydin, K.; Chen, X.; Dravid, V.P., Optically active 1D MoS2 nano-belts. *ACS App. Mater. Interfaces.* 10 (8), **2018**, 6799-6804.
- 2018 Li, Y.; Hao, S.; DiStefano, J. G.; Murthy, A. A.; Hanson, E. D.; Xu, Y.; Wolverton, C.; Chen, X.; Dravid, V.P., Site-Specific Positioning and Patterning of MoS₂ Monolayers The Role of Au Seeding. ACS Nano 12 (9), 2018, 8970-8976.
- 2018 Li, Y.; Majewski, M. B.; Islam, S. M.; Murthy, A. A.; DiStefano, J. G.; Hanson, E. D.; Li, Q.; Kanatzidis, M. G.; Wasielewski, M. R.; Chen, X.; Dravid, V. P., Morphological Engineering of Winged Au@MoS₂ Heterostructures for Electrocatalytic Hydrogen Evolution. *Nano Lett.* 18 (11), 2018, 7104-7110.

- 2018 DiStefano, J. G.; Li, Y.; Jung, H. J.; Hao, S.; **Murthy, A. A.**; Zhang, X.; Wolverton, C.; Dravid, V.P., Nanoparticle@MoS₂ Core-Shell Architecture: Role of the Core Material. *Chem. Mater.* 30 (14), **2018**, 4675-4682.
- 2018 Islam, S. M., Sangwan, V. K., Li, Y., Kang, J., Zhang, X., He, Y., Zhao, J., Murthy, A. A., Ma, S., Dravid, V. P., Hersam, M. C., Kanatzidis, M. G., Abrupt Thermal Shock of (NH₄)₂Mo₃S₁₃ Leads to Ultrafast Synthesis of Porous Ensembles of MoS₂ Nanocrystals for High Gain Photodetectors. ACS App. Mater. Interfaces 10 (44), 2018, 38193-38200.
- 2017 Chae, W. H.; Cain, J. D.; Hanson, E. D.; **Murthy, A. A.**; Dravid, V. P., Substrate-Induced Strain and Charge Doping in CVD-Grown Monolayer MoS₂. *App. Phys. Lett.* 111 (14) **2017**: 143106.
- 2017 Li, Y.; DiStefano, J. G.; Murthy, A. A.; Cain, J. D.; Hanson, E. D.; Hao, S.; Li, Q.; Castro, F. C.; Chen, X.; Dravid, V. P., Plasmon-Induced Interfacial Charge-Transfer Transition in Au@MoS₂ Heterostructures for Superior Plasmonic Photodetectors. ACS Nano 11 (10), 2017, 10321-10329.
- 2017 Hanson, E. D.; Lajaunie, L.; Hao, S.; Myers, B. D.; Shi, F.; **Murthy, A. A.**; Wolverton, C.; Arenal, R.; Dravid, V. P., Systematic Study of Oxygen Vacancy Tunable Transport Properties of Few-Layer MoO_{3-x} Enabled by Vapor-Based Synthesis. *Adv. Funct. Mater.* 27 (17), **2017**.
- 2016 Li, Y.; Cain, J. D.; Hanson, E. D.; Murthy, A. A.; Hao, S.; Shi, F.; Li, Q.; Wolverton, C.; Chen, X.; Dravid, V. P., Au@MoS₂ Core-Shell Heterostructures with Strong Light-Matter Interactions. *Nano Lett.* 16 (12), 2016, 7696-7702.
 - * denotes equal contribution.

Selected Presentations

- 2021 **Murthy, A. A.;** Checchin, M.; Grassellino, A.; Romanenko, A., Probing Sources of Decoherence at Interfaces in Superconducting Qubit Systems. *MRS talk (EQ18.05)*, Fall 2021, Boston, MA.
- 2020 **Murthy, A. A.;** Understanding Power Dissipation Across Interfaces in 2D Material Systems. *Hilliard Symposium*, May 2020, Evanston, IL, *1st Place Winner*.
- 2019 Murthy, A. A.; Yasaei, P.; Xu, Y.; dos Reis, R.; Shekhawat, G. S.; Dravid, V. P., Power dissipation across Interfaces in Monolayer Transition Metal Dichalcogenides. *MRS talk (QN03.01)*, Spring 2019, Phoenix, AZ.
- 2017 **Murthy, A. A.;** Cain, J. D.; Stanev, T. K.; Stern, N. P.; Dravid, V. P., Spatial and Dimensional Confinement: The Case of 2D Chalcogenide Heterostructures. *MRS talk (NT04.02)*, Fall 2017, Boston, MA.

Leadership

2016–2020 Dravid research group lab safety designate.

Ensured that safe laboratory protocols were followed by 40+ graduate students, post-doctoral researchers, and research scientists across 7 laboratories

2017–2020 Graduate research mentor.

Mentored and managed 4 undergraduate students in various facets of experimental design and best practices for conducting academic research

Science Outreach

2021–2022 Materials Research Society, Early Career Subcommittee Volunteer.

Helped organize "Meet the New Faculty Candidates" event giving current graduate students and postdoctoral researchers seeking faculty positions the opportunity to speak directly with faculty, recruiters, and department chairs. Also helped organize and prepare a manuscript aimed to help faculty applicants better understand the application review process based on survey responses from both applicants and faculty members.

- 2017–2020 Materials Science Alliance for Inclusive Community (MatSAIC) seminar organizer.

 Promoted inclusion and diversity in graduate study within STEM through quarterly seminar series. Invited 6 professors from a wide variety of backgrounds across the country to give talks about their personal career experience.
- 2017–2020 Science in your Community Center (SICC) Volunteer.

 Guided underrepresented 6th-8th grade students from Evanston's Fifth Ward through monthly science/engineering challenges.
- 2016–2020 NUANCE Outreach Volunteer.

Conducted numerous instrument demonstrations for several events throughout the year including: Career Day for Girls, "Take Our Daughters & Sons to Work Day", various high school and college lab tours

Awards and Honors

2019 Microscopy & Microanalysis Student Scholar Award.

Award given to outstanding papers at the Microscopy & Microanalysis meeting

2018 Ryan Fellowship.

Fellowship supporting graduate students dedicated to the exploration of nanoscale science and to advancing this knowledge into practical applications of benefit to society

Teaching

Spring 2019 MSE 360, Teaching Assistant, Northwestern University.

Taught undergraduate students the fundamentals of transmission electron microscopy and scanning electron microscopy through hands-on lab sessions

Fall 2017 MSE 190, Teaching Assistant, Northwestern University.

Taught undergraduate students the fundamentals of various characterization instrumentation through lab sessions and grading lab reports

Certificate

2019 Management for Scientists and Engineers, Kellogg School of Management.

Certificate program taught by Kellogg faculty that equips promising post-candidacy doctoral students with the necessary business and leadership skills to succeed in academia and industry.

References

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