

Abstract Submitted  
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**Non-local piezoresponse in 3 u.c.  $\text{LaAlO}_3/\text{SrTiO}_3$**  MENGCHEN HUANG, FENG BI, University of Pittsburgh, CHUNGWUNG BARK, SANGWOO RYU, CHANGBEOM EOM, University of Wisconsin, JEREMY LEVY, University of Pittsburgh — Nanoscale control of the metal-insulator transition in 3 unit cell (u.c.)  $\text{LaAlO}_3/\text{SrTiO}_3$  heterostructures can be achieved by the conducting AFM lithography,<sup>1</sup> however the mechanism behind this transition is still not well understood. One proposed mechanism invokes ionic transport through the  $\text{LaAlO}_3$  layer.<sup>2</sup> We have performed a variety of local and non-local piezoforce measurements on 3 u.c.  $\text{LaAlO}_3/\text{SrTiO}_3$  heterostructures. The existence and nature of the non-local piezoelectric effect places strong constraints on the origin of the piezoelectric response. This work is supported by NSF DMR-1104191.

<sup>1</sup>C. Cen, S. Thiel, G. Hammerl, C. W. Schneider, K. E. Andersen, C. S. Hellberg, J. Mannhart, and J. Levy, *Nat. Mater.* **7**, 2136 (2008)

<sup>2</sup>A. Kumar, S. Jesse, A. Gruverman, C. B. Eom, S.V.Kalinin, unpublished

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