

# Electron-phonon interactions and ultrafast dynamics

**Fabio Caruso**

August 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2023

Selb  
Summer School  
of the CRC 1242

**C | A | U**

Christian-Albrechts-Universität zu Kiel

<https://cs2t.de>

**C | S<sup>2</sup> | T**

Computational  
Solid-State  
Theory group



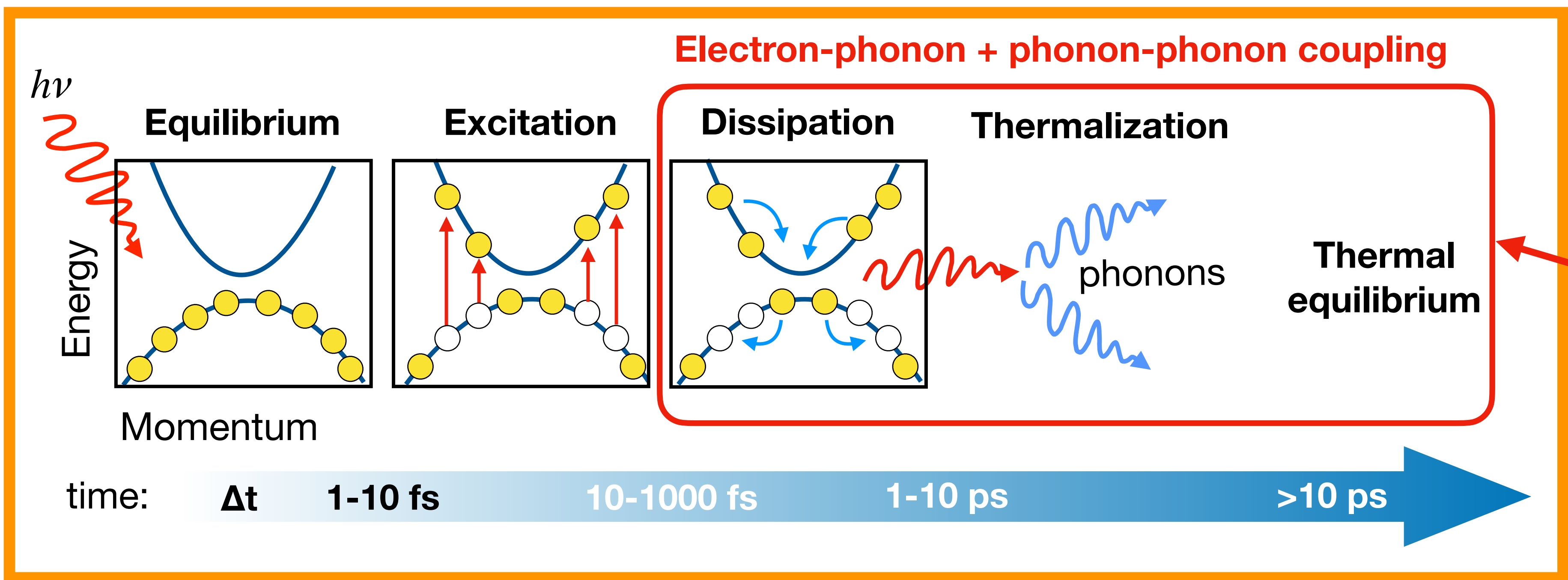
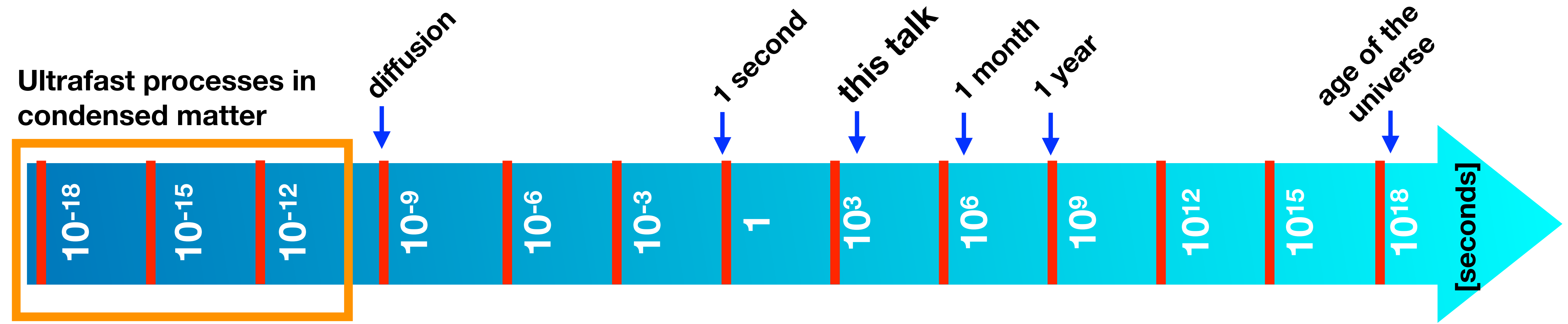
Funded by

**DFG**

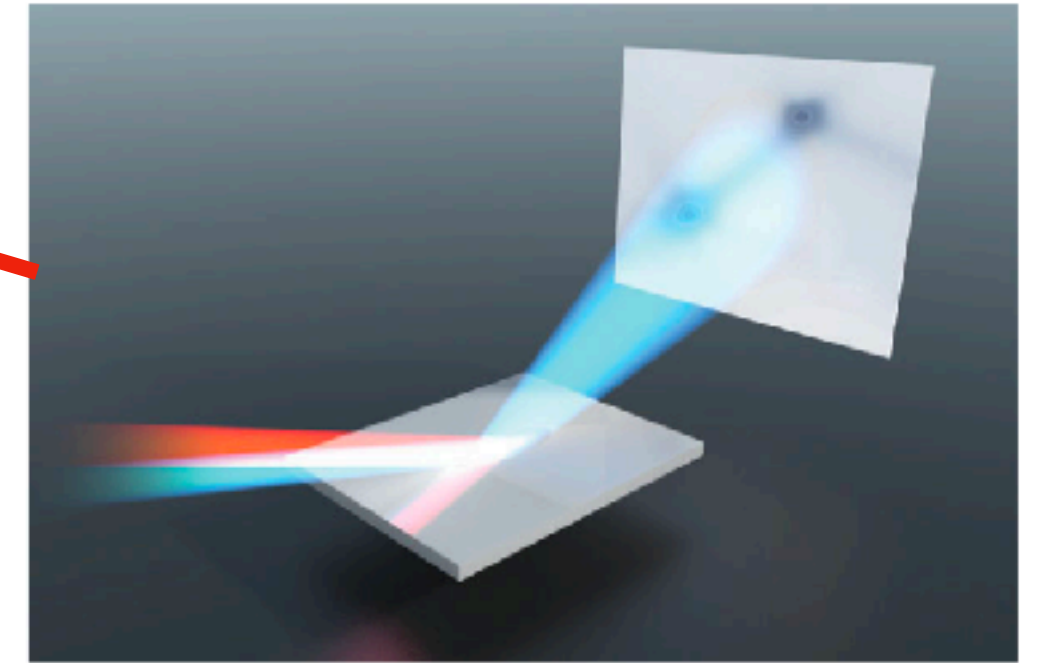
Deutsche  
Forschungsgemeinschaft  
German Research Foundation



# What's the time (scale)?

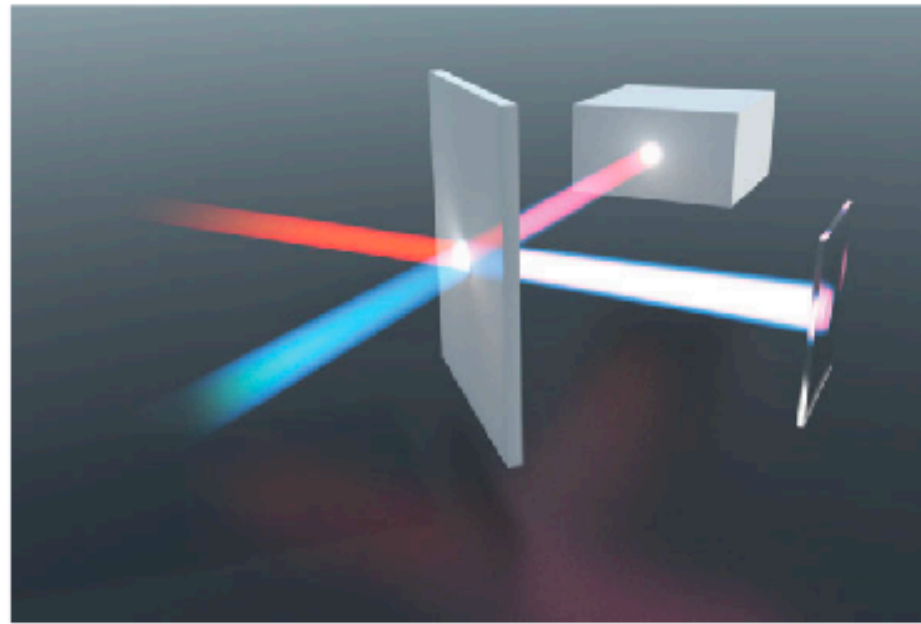


directly accessible from ultrafast diffraction



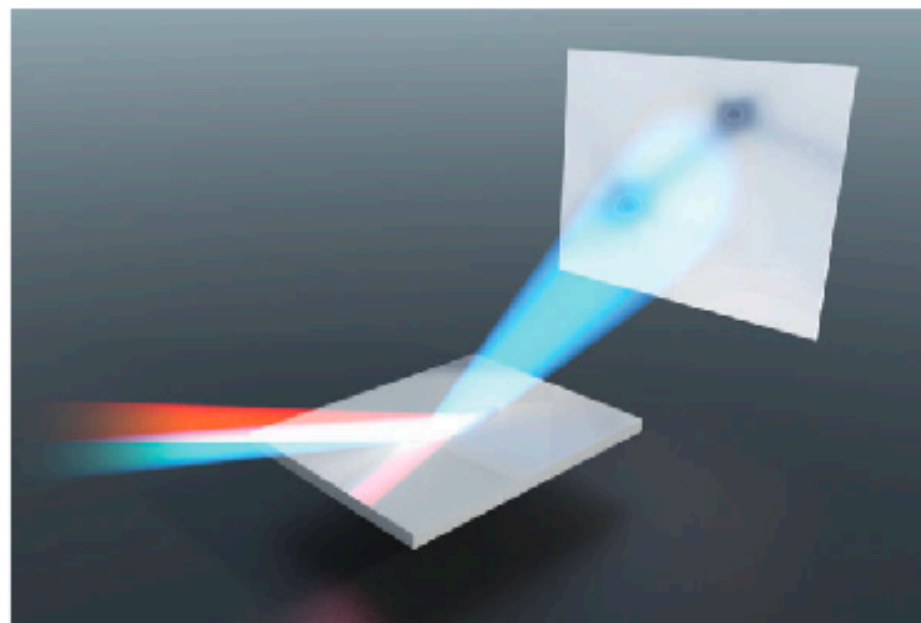


# Ultrafast dynamics: a new frontier of condensed-matter research



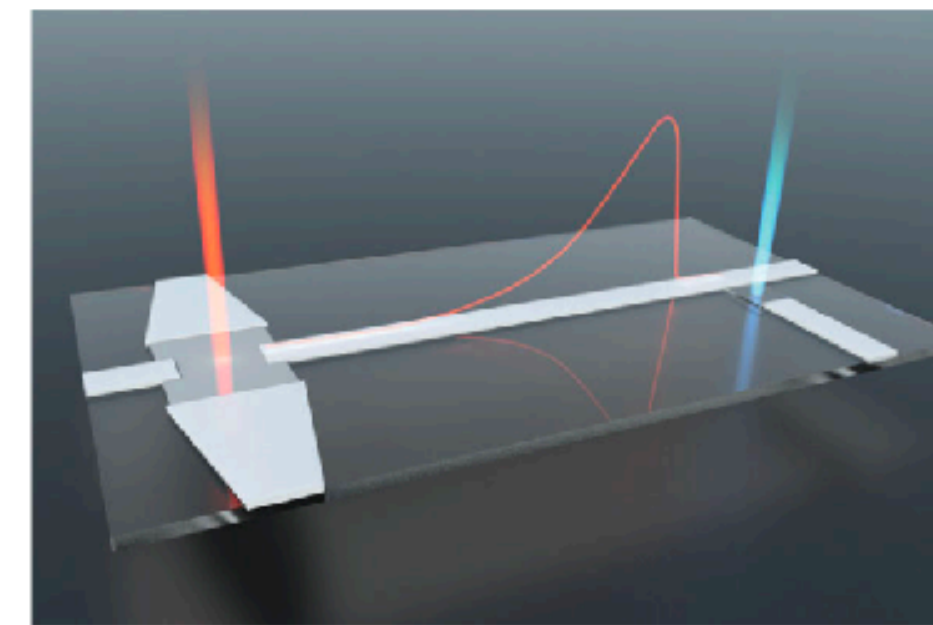
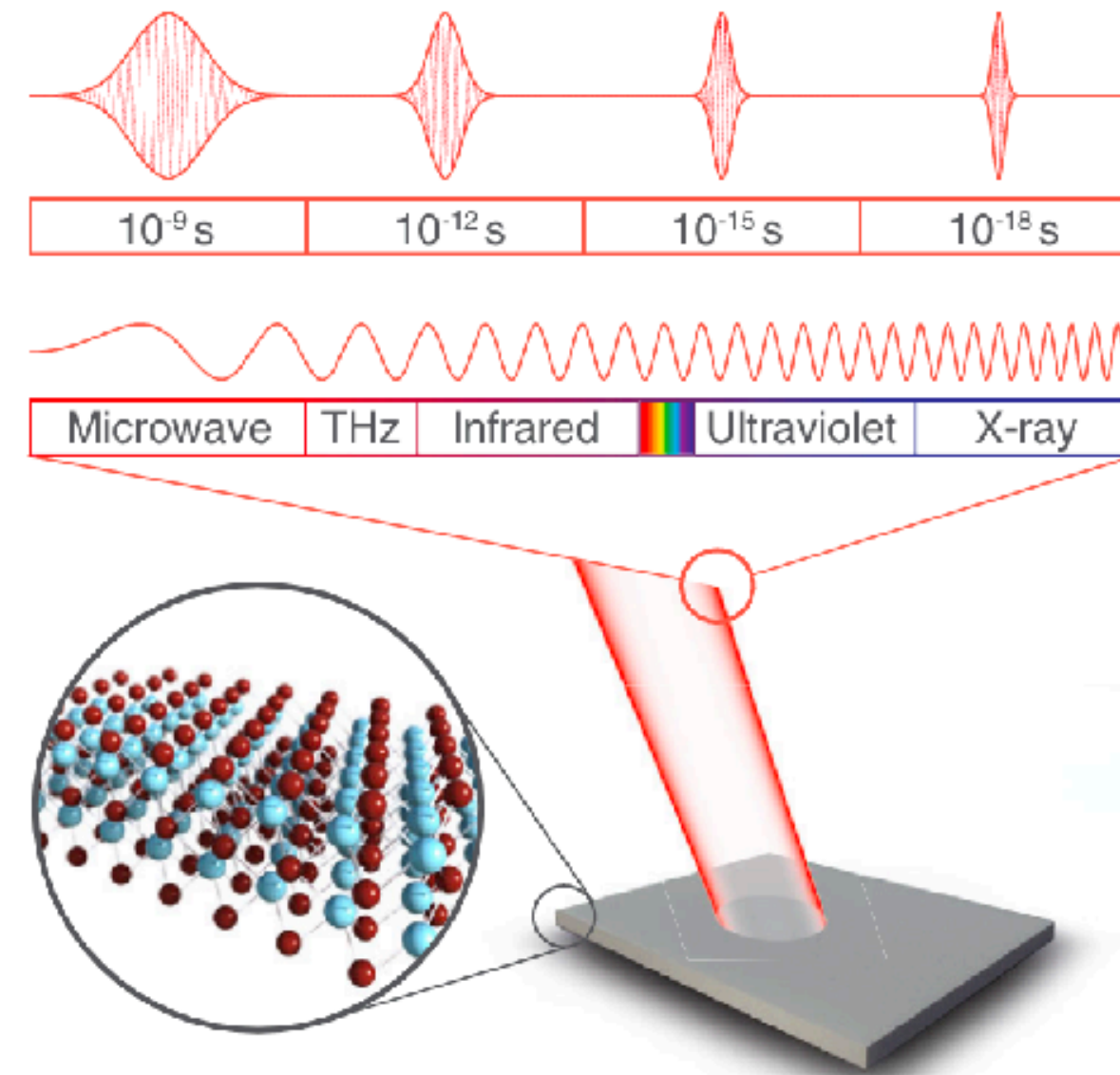
## Optical probes

- Probes dielectric properties
- Flexible in implementation (spectral range, detection scheme, environment)
- fs time resolution



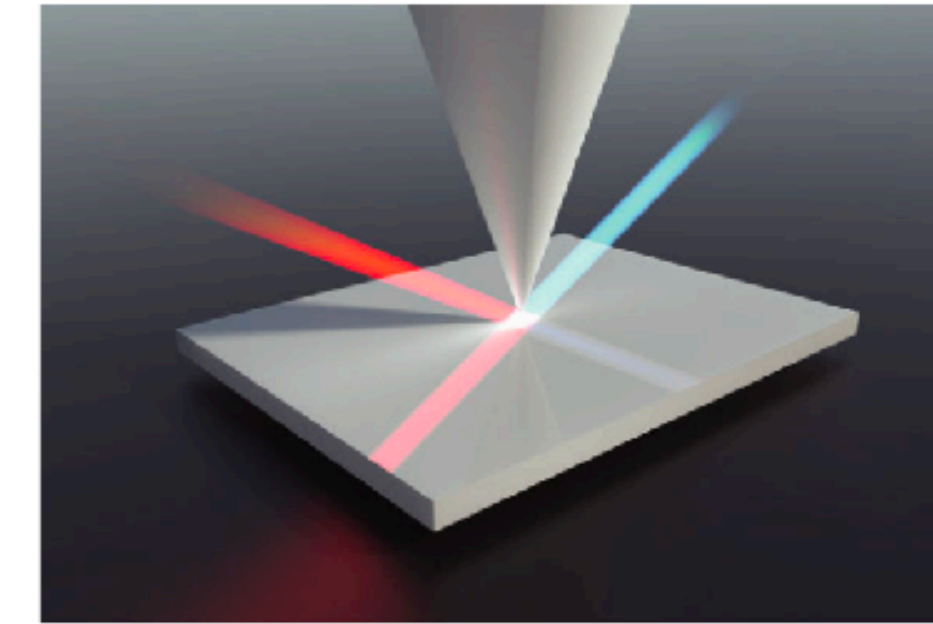
## Scattering probes

- Probes structural dynamics and dynamics of electronic degrees of freedom at elemental resonances
- Access to dispersion relations via finite momentum transfer
- fs time resolution



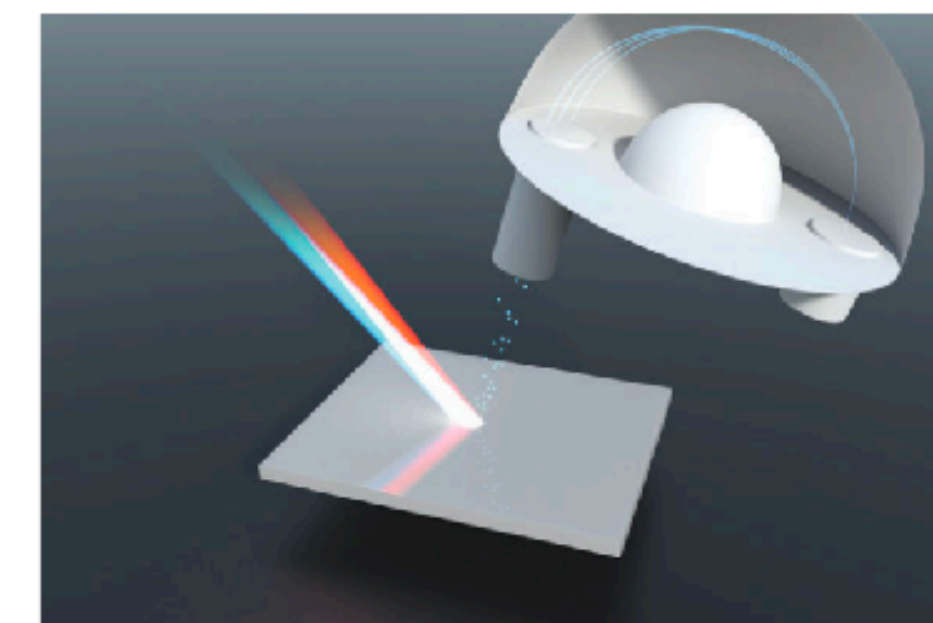
## Transport

- Probes transient photoconductivity
- Integrates well into microstructured devices
- Sub-ps time resolution



## Scanning probes

- Probes optical constants in near-field (SNOM) or tunneling currents (STM)
- fs time resolution
- nm spatial resolution



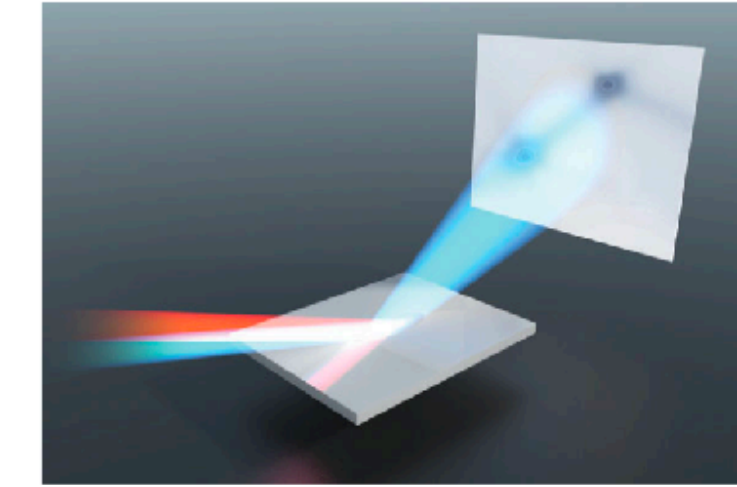
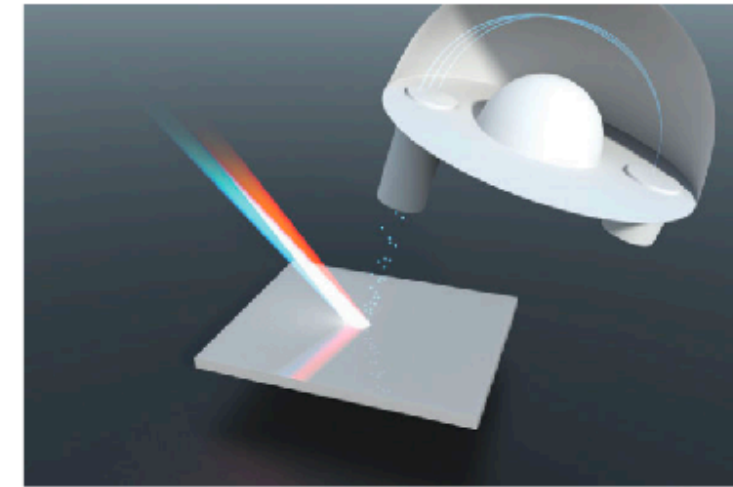
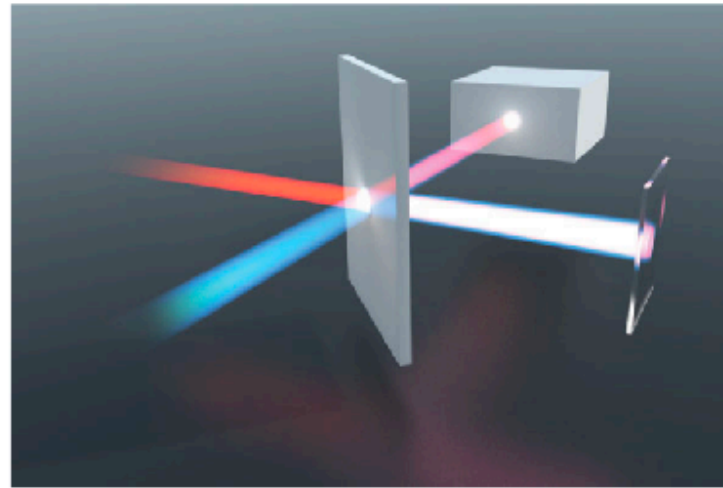
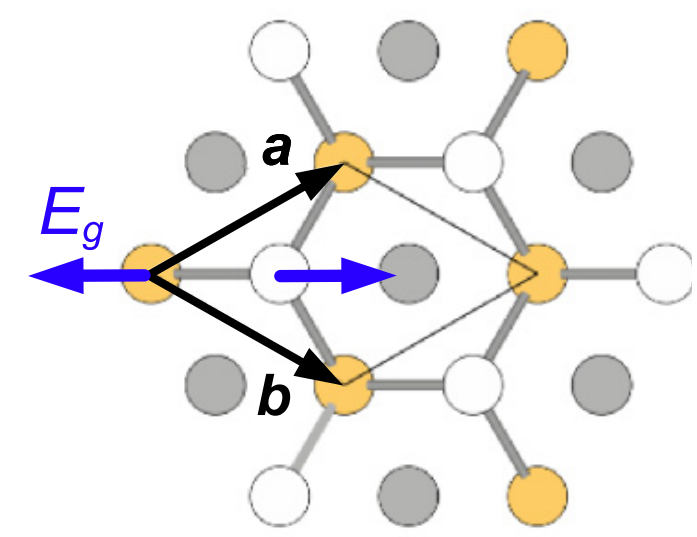
## ARPES

- Probes time- and momentum-resolved carrier dynamics, and the evolution of electronic spectral functions
- Direct probe of electronic temperature
- Tunability of energy vs. time resolution (down to ~15 meV, ~30 fs)

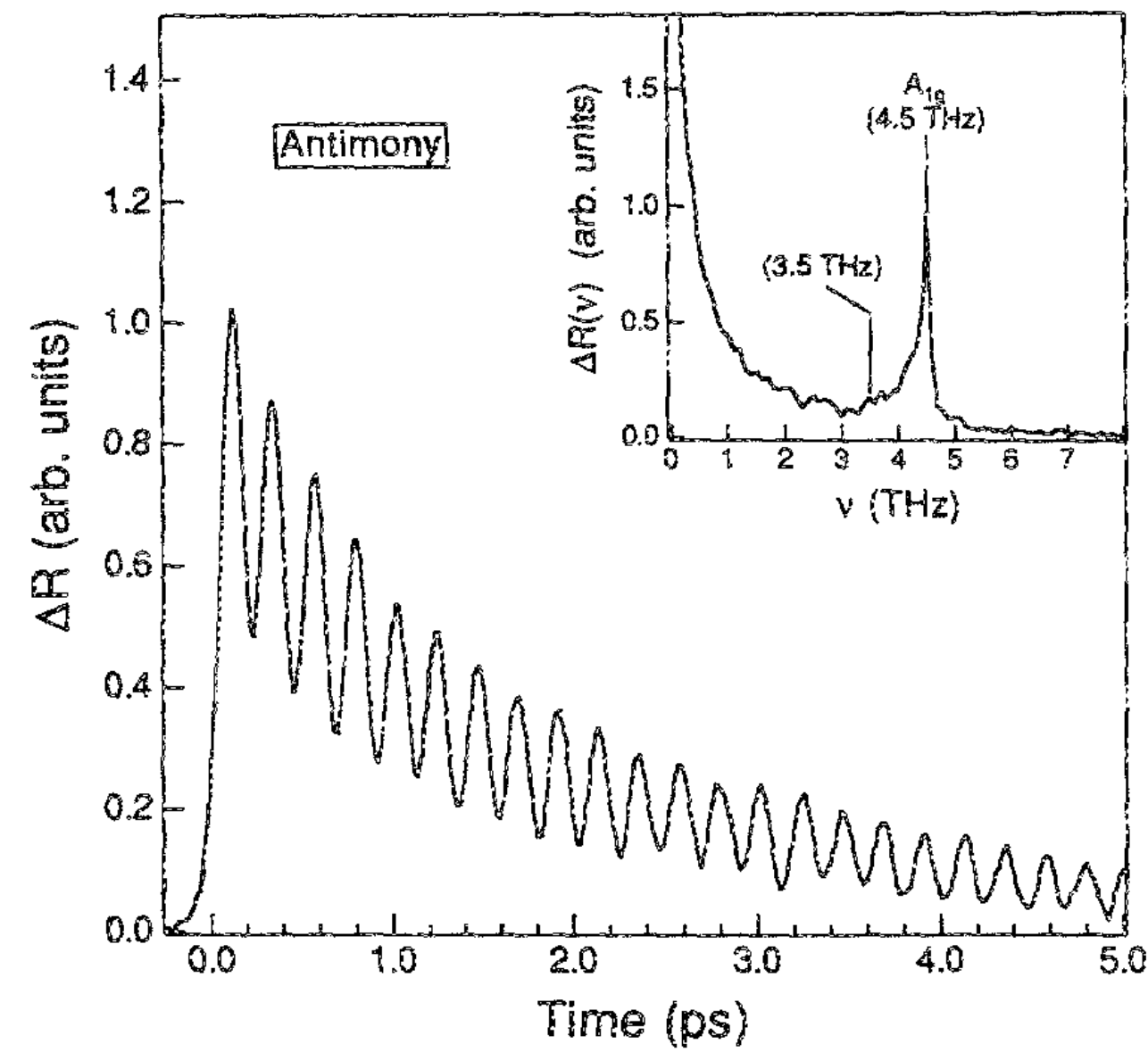


# Coherent phonons in experiments: the example of antimony

## Antimony (Sb)

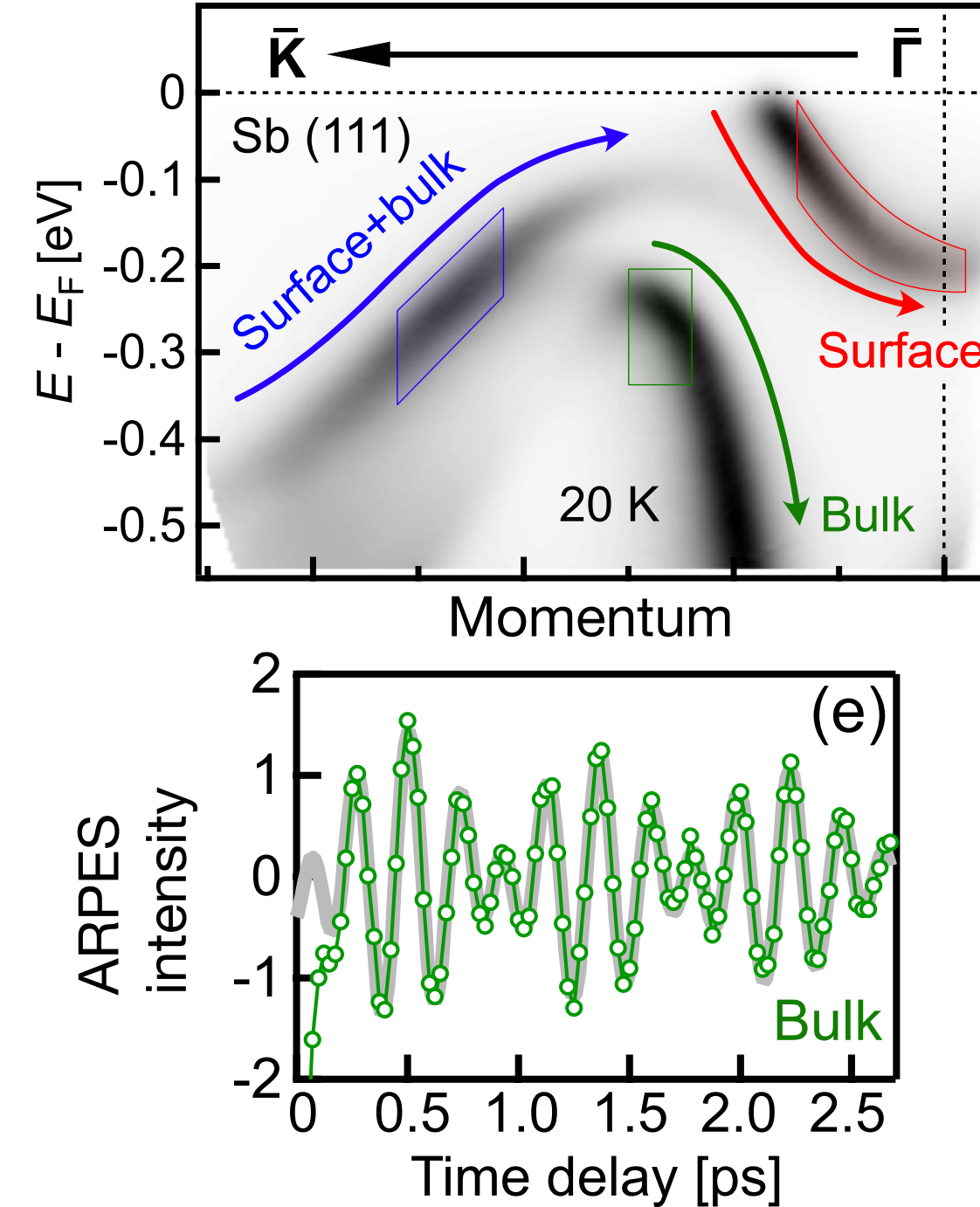


## Transient Reflectivity



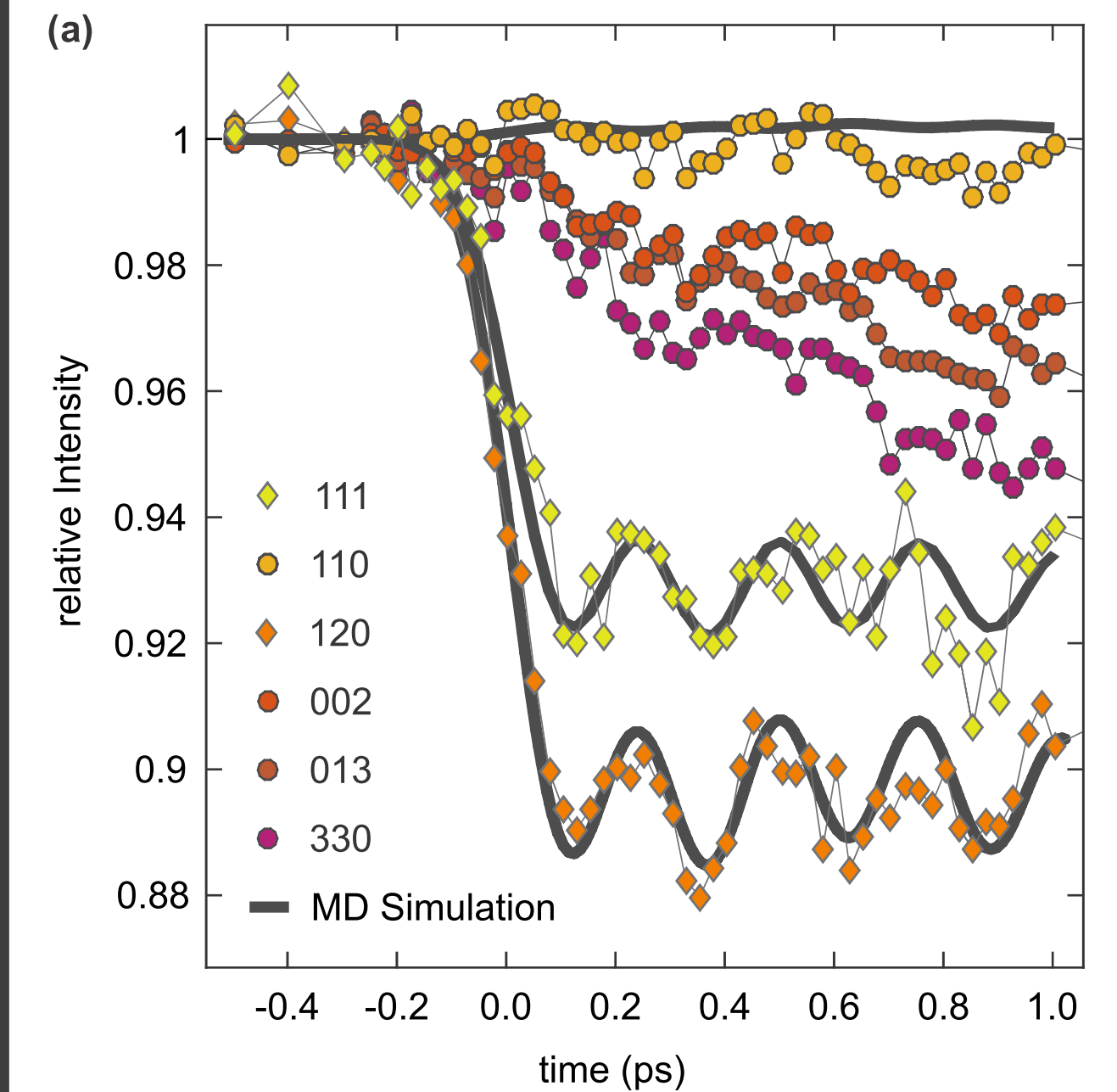
Cheng et al,  
Appl. Phys. Lett. **57**, 1004 (1990)

## Pump-probe ARPES

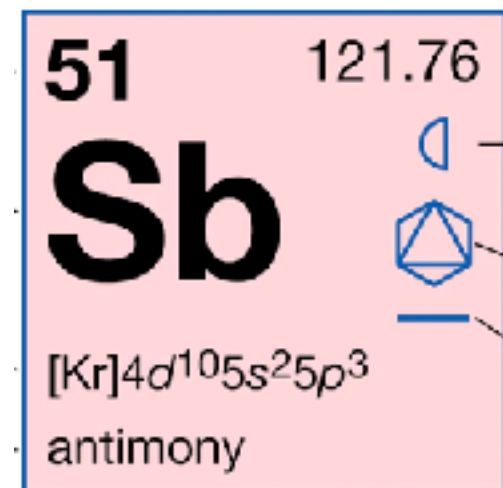


Sakamoto et al,  
Phys. Rev. B **105**, L161107 (2022)

## Ultrafast Diffraction



Waldecker, Ernstorfer, et al,  
Phys. Rev. B **95**, 054302 (2017)

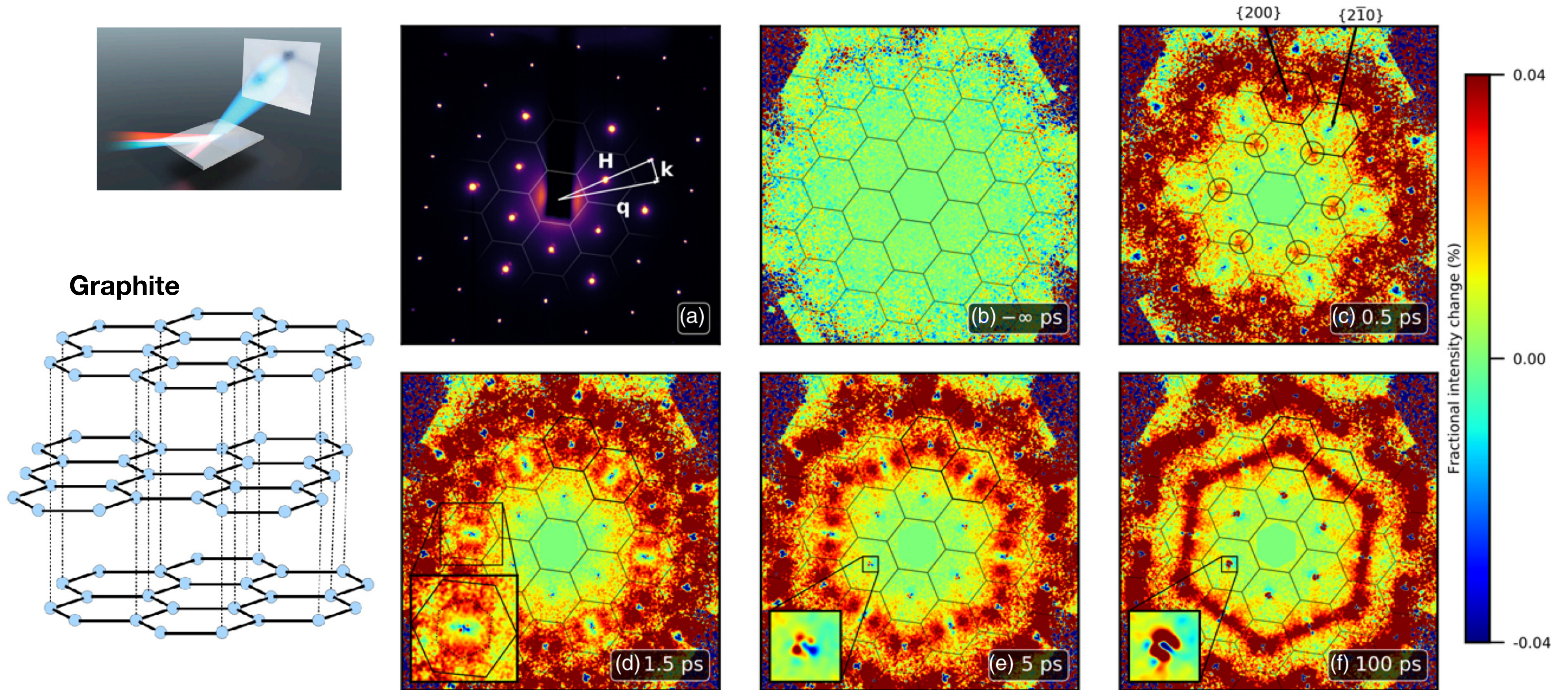




# Incoherent phonons in diffraction experiments: the case of graphite

Ultrafast diffraction as a probe to non-equilibrium phonon population

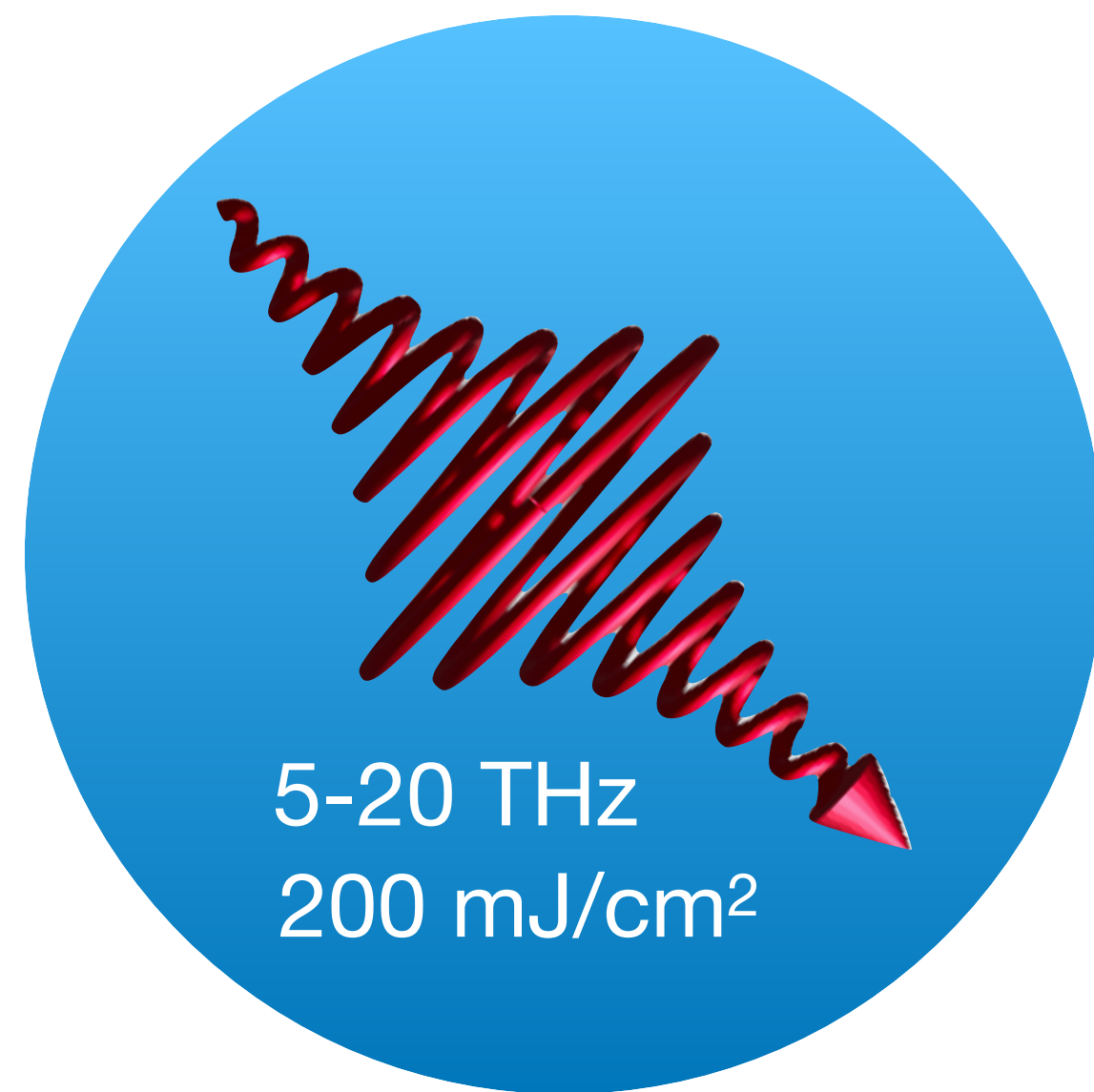
$$n_{\mathbf{q}\nu}(t) \neq n_{\mathbf{q}\nu}^{\text{BE}} = [e^{\hbar\omega_{\mathbf{q}\nu}/k_{\text{B}}T} - 1]^{-1}$$





# Tailoring quasiparticle interactions on subpicosecond timescales

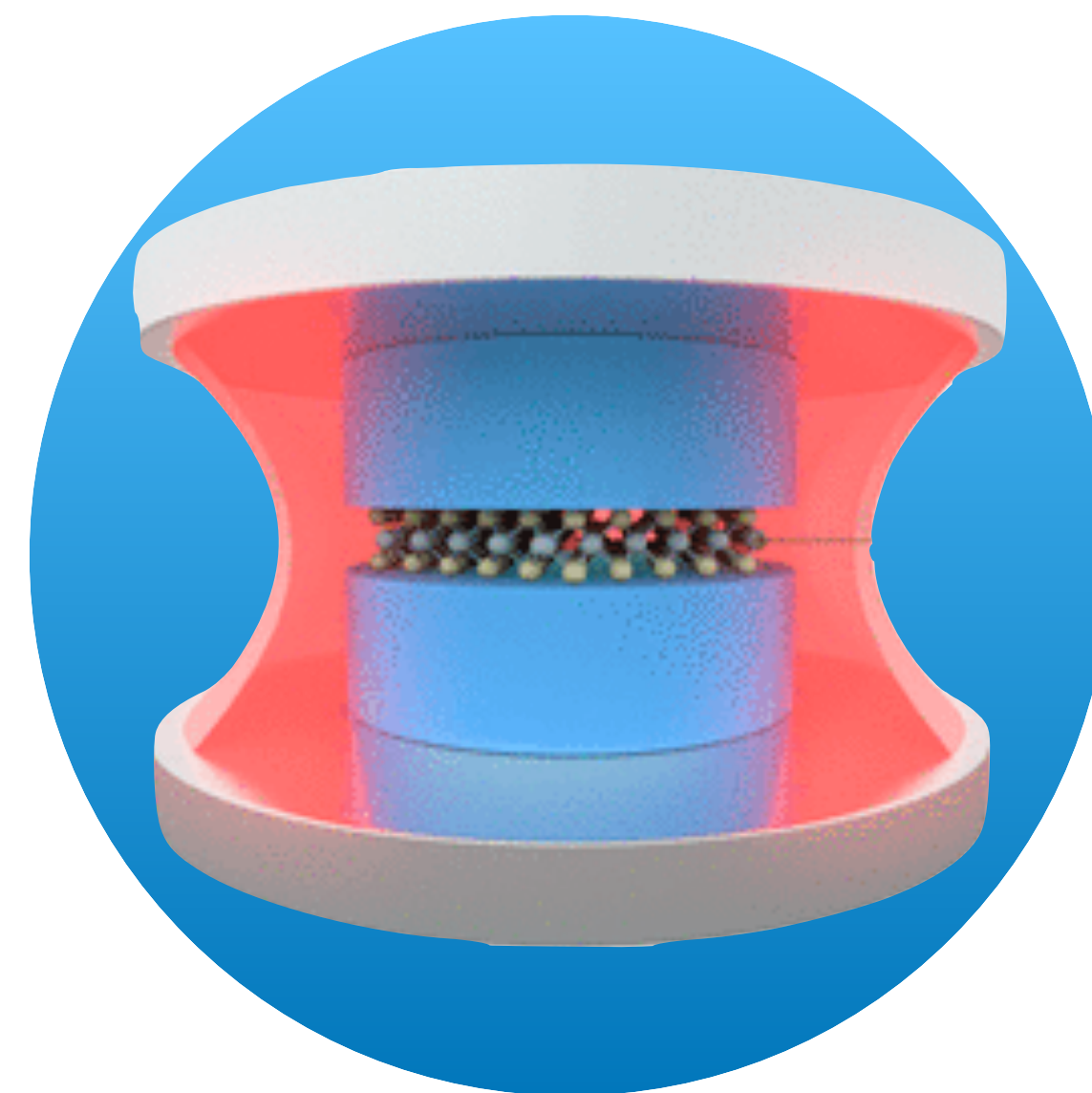
## Intense THz pulses



**Reversal of Ferroelectric polarization in LiNbO<sub>3</sub>**

Mankowsky, Cavalleri et al.,  
Phys. Rev. Lett. **118**, 197601 (2017)

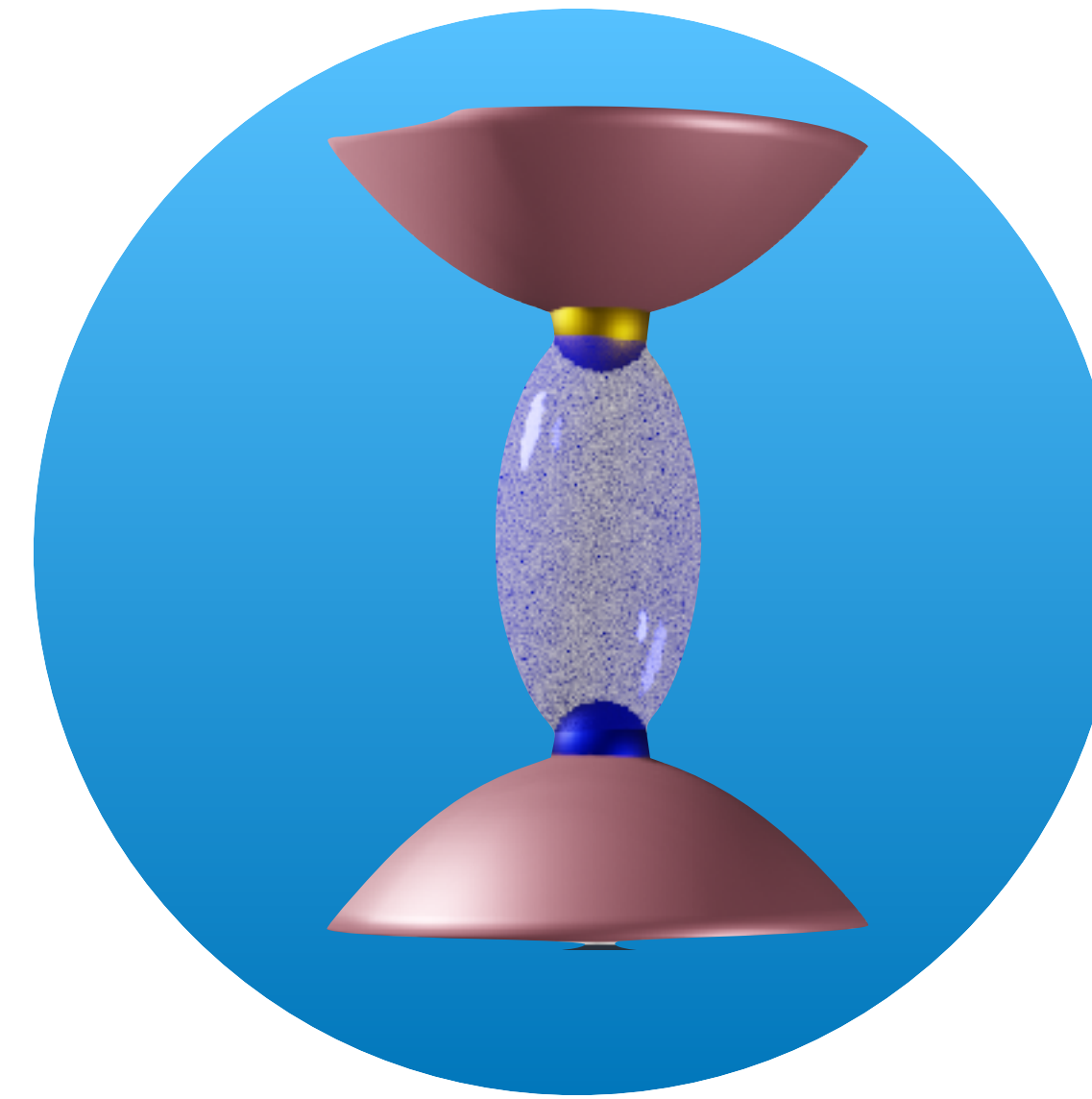
## Cavity QED & Polaritons



**Tunable phonon polaritons for hBN embedded in a optical micro-cavity**

Barra-Burrillo, Hillenbrand et al.,  
Nature Commun. **12**, 6206 (2021)

## Optical excitations



**Ultrafast lattice distortion during exciton formation in perovskites**

Seiler, Ernstorfer et al.,  
ACS Nano **17**, 1979 (2023)

## coming soon:





# Open challenges in ab-initio theory of light-driven structural control

1. Ab-initio description of excitation, dynamics, dissipation of the lattice
2. Novel paradigms for structural control require new theories
3. Many-body interactions and quasiparticle excitations in light-driven solids

$$i\hbar\partial_t\Psi = \hat{H}\Psi$$

4. Develop open-access algorithms suitable for modern HPC infrastructure
5. Go FAIR: Findability, Accessibility, Interoperability, and Reuse of time-dependent data

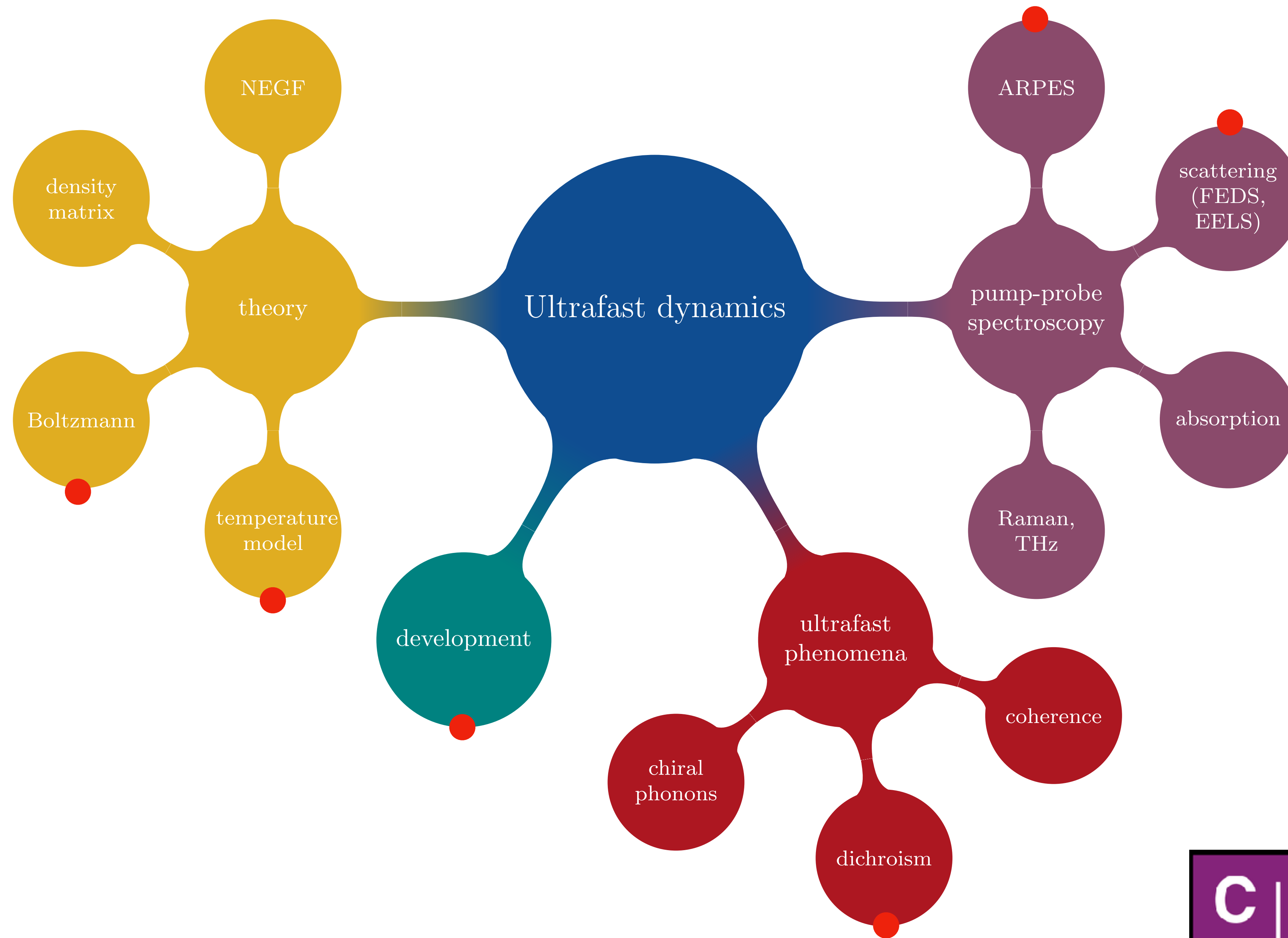
... require efforts from an entire community!

- Scheffler, Draxl, et al, Nature **604**, 635 (2022)
- Schlavin et al., Appl. Phys. Rev. **9**, 011312 (2022)
- de la Torre, et al. Rev Mod. Phys. (2021)
- Disa et al., Nat. Phys. **17**,1087 (2021)
- Basov et al., Nat. Mater **16**, 1077 (2017)
- ... and many more





# Challenges in ab-initio theory of ultrafast dynamics





# Workflow for ultrafast dynamics simulations

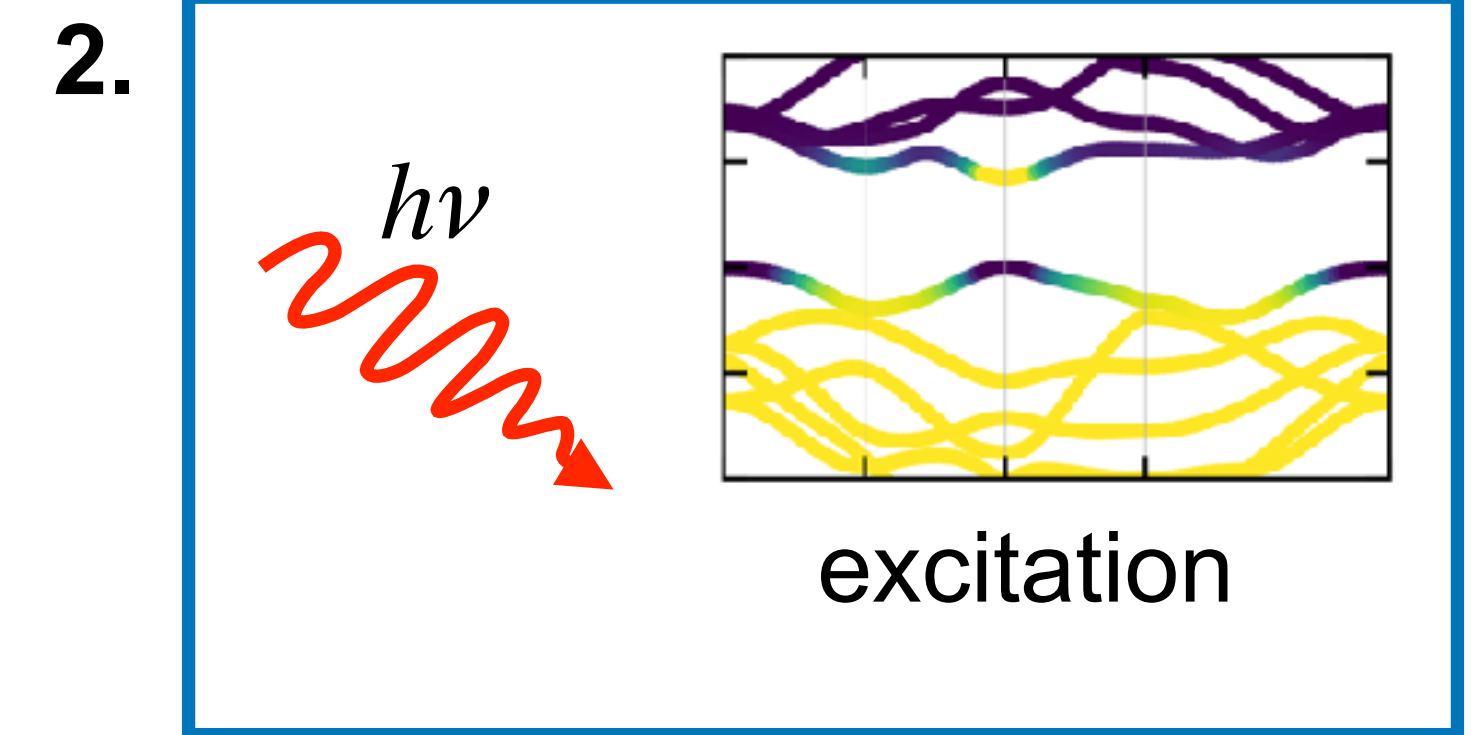
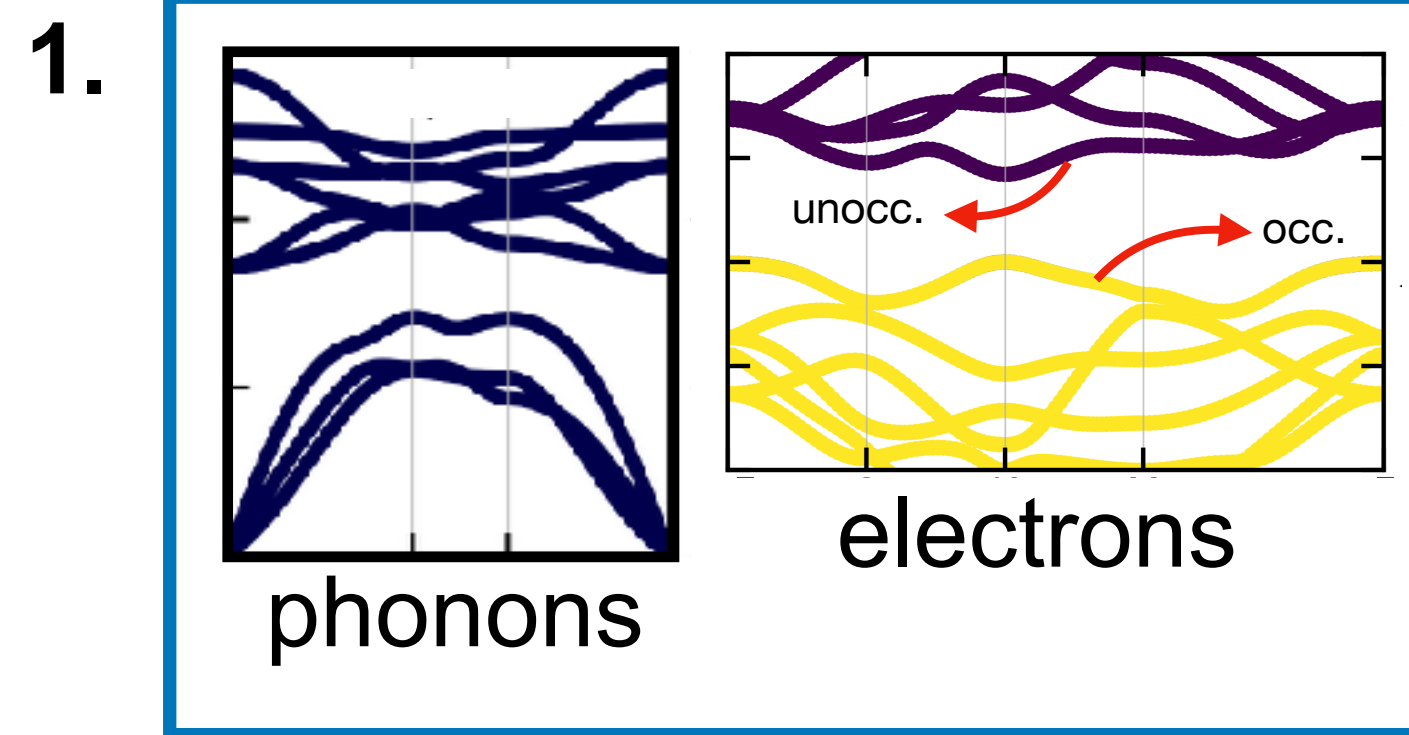
1. Band structure (DFT)  
Phonon dispersion (DFPT)

2. Model coupling to light pulse  
(or excited state Ansatz)




3. Time propagation

4. Transient many-body effects  
and emergent phenomena

5. Theoretical spectroscopy:  
tr-ARPES, Raman, scattering



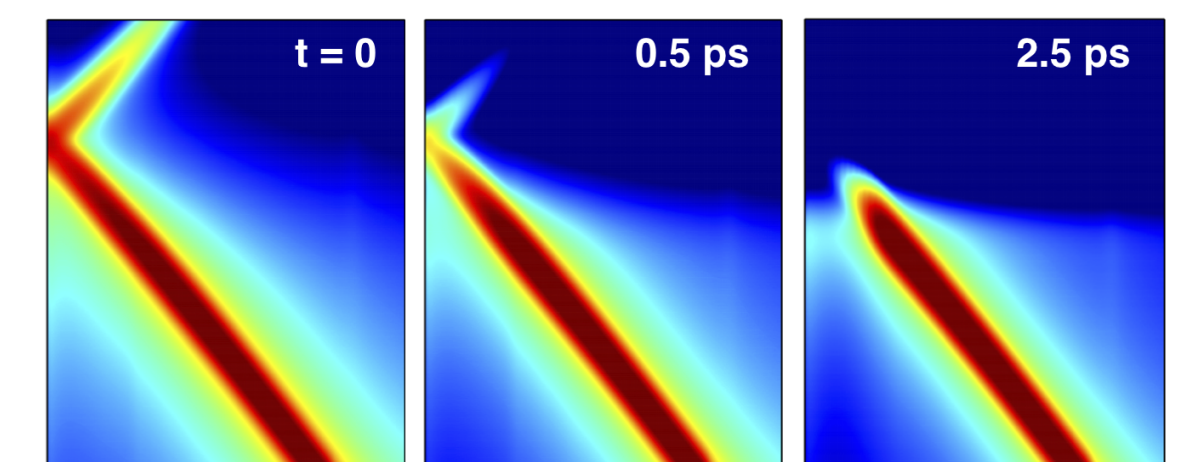
3.

two-temperature model	<b>time-dependent Boltzmann equation</b>	non-equilibrium Green's functions
		

4. Many-body perturbation  
theory and Green's  
functions

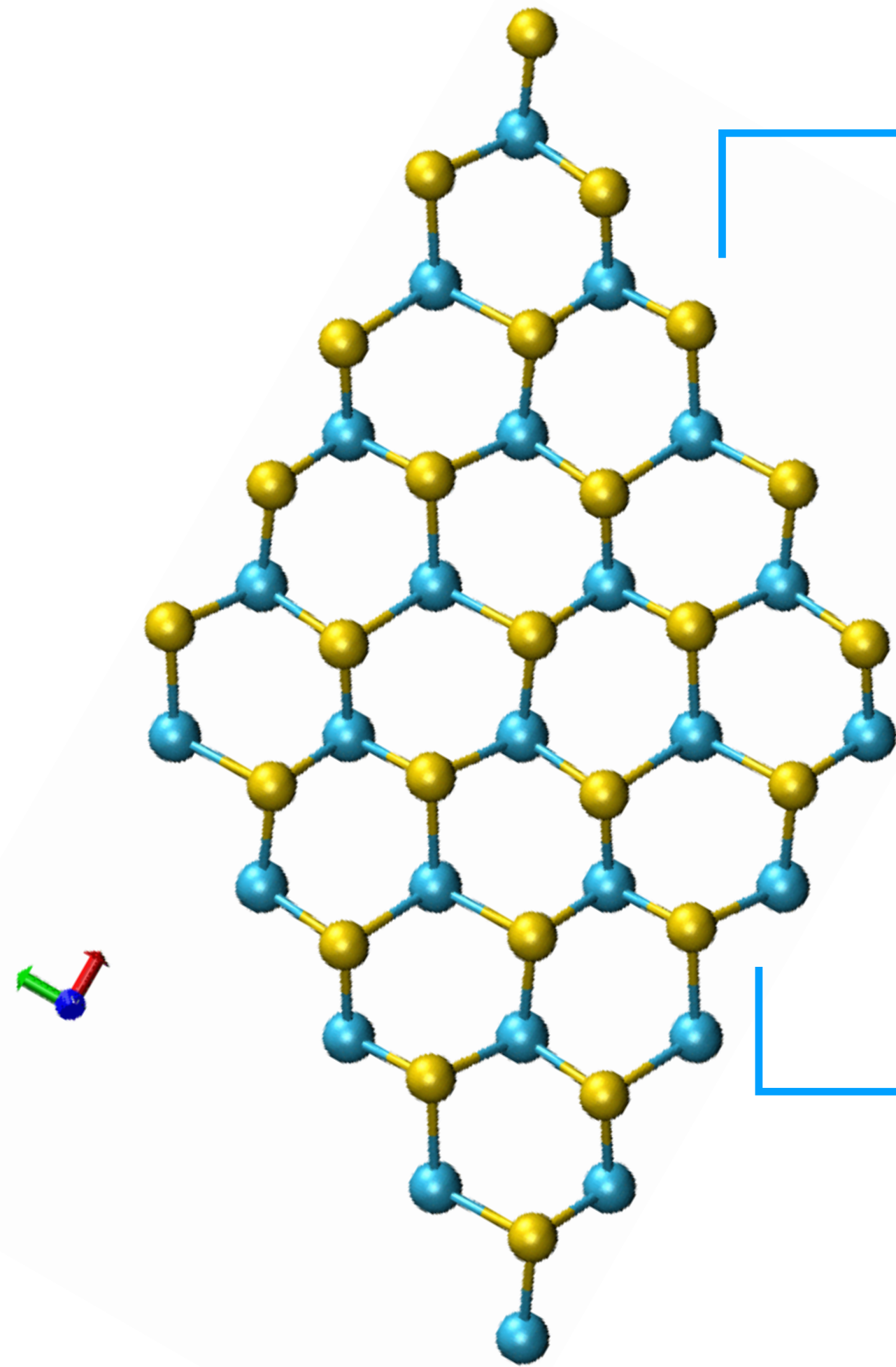
$$G(1, 2) = -i \langle \Psi_0 | \hat{T} \hat{\psi}(1) \hat{\psi}^\dagger(2) | \Psi_0 \rangle$$

5. tr-ARPES





# Outline



**The two-temperature model**

**The time-dependent Boltzmann equation**

**Ultrafast dynamics in 2D materials**



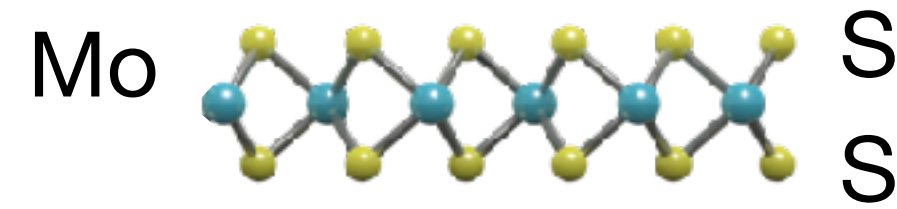
# Part 1

## The two-temperature model (TTM)



# Phonons at equilibrium: monolayer MoS<sub>2</sub>

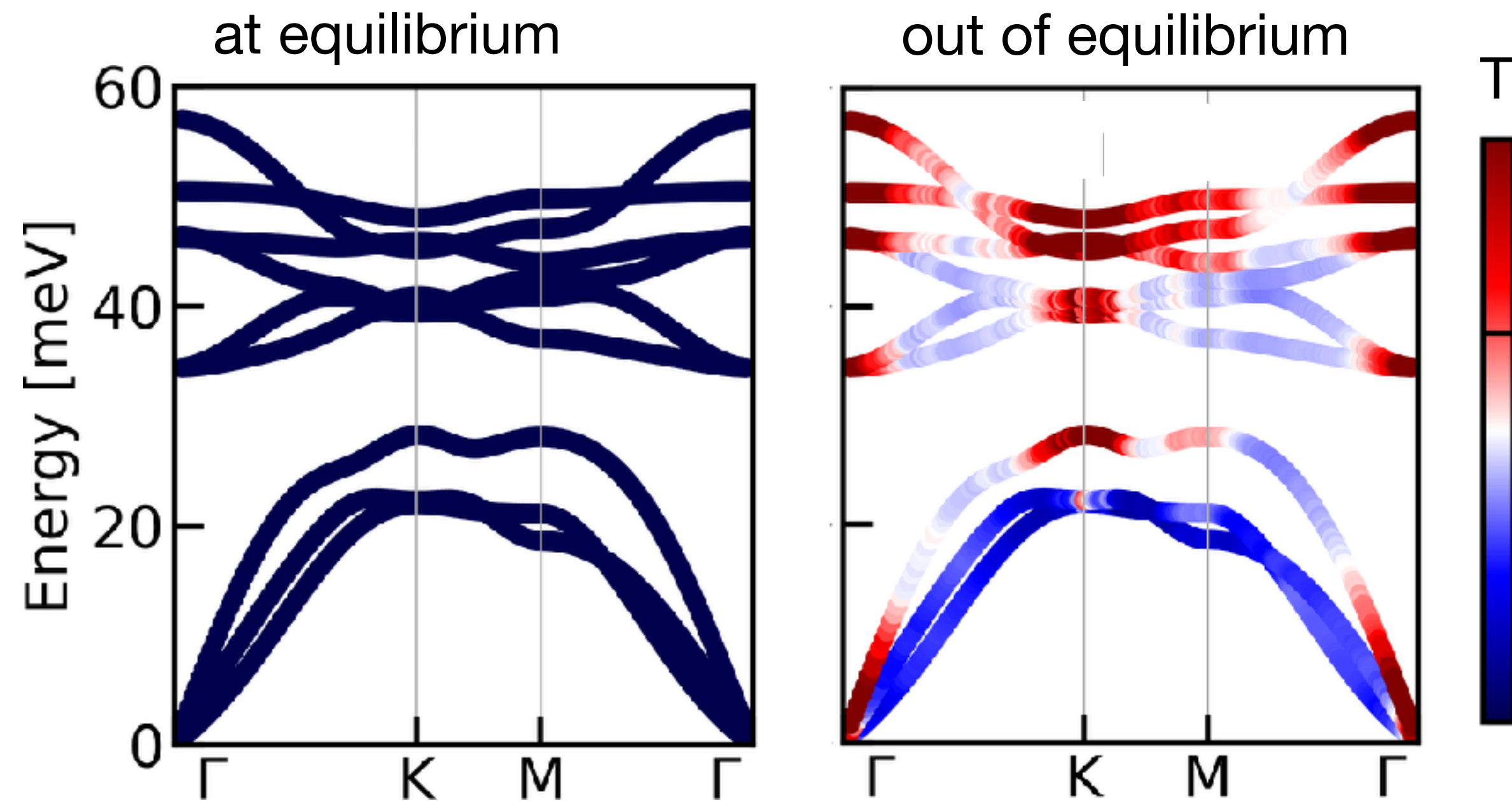
## Monolayer MoS<sub>2</sub>



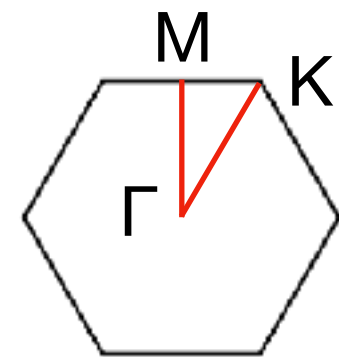
Bose-Einstein statistics:  $n_{\mathbf{q}\nu}^0(T) = \left[ e^{\hbar\omega_{\mathbf{q}\nu}/k_B T} - 1 \right]^{-1}$

Vibrational temperature:  $T_{\mathbf{q}\nu}(t) = \hbar\omega_{\mathbf{q}\nu} \{ k_B \ln[1 + n_{\mathbf{q}\nu}(t)] \}^{-1}$

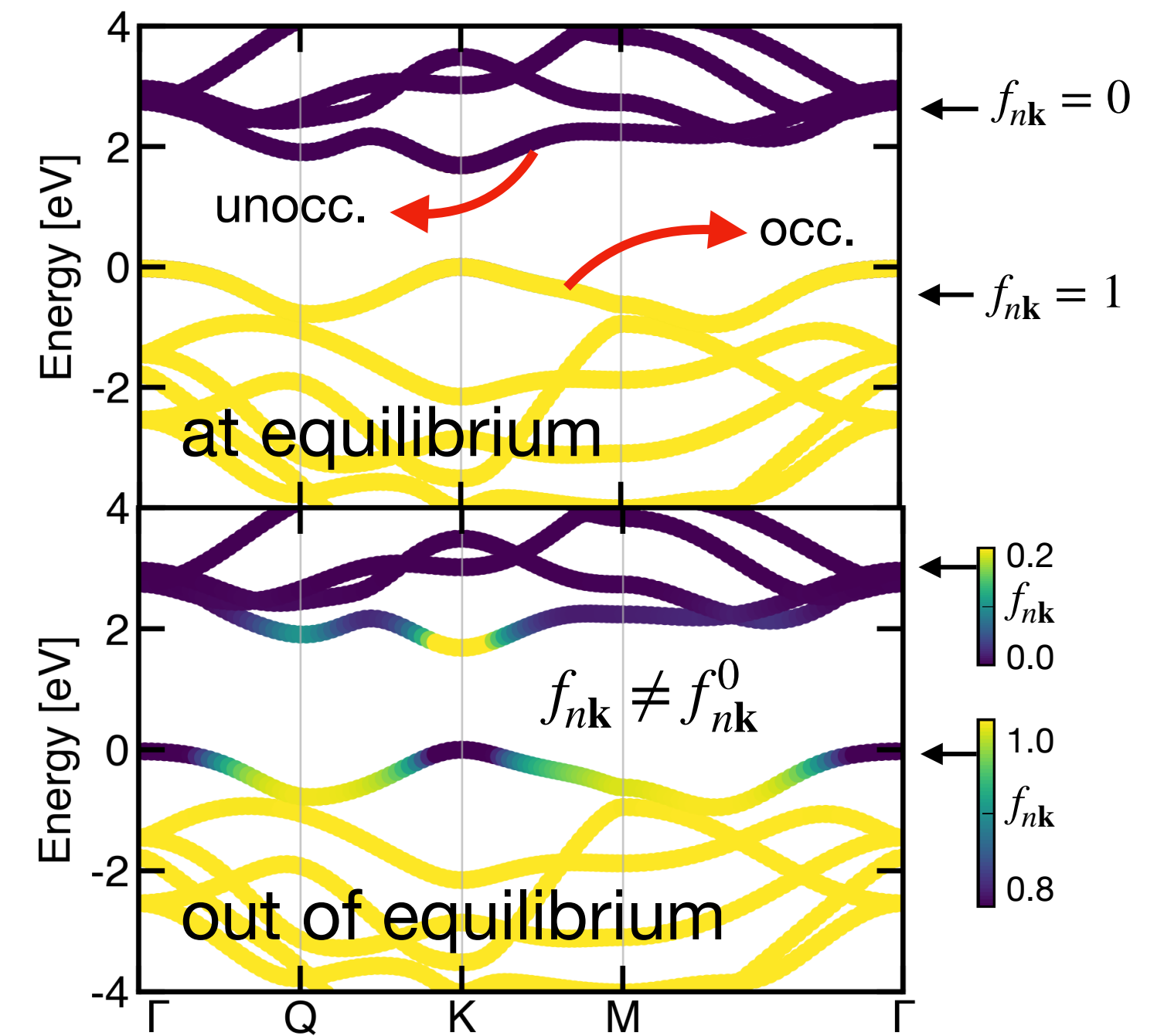
## Phonons



from density functional  
perturbation theory



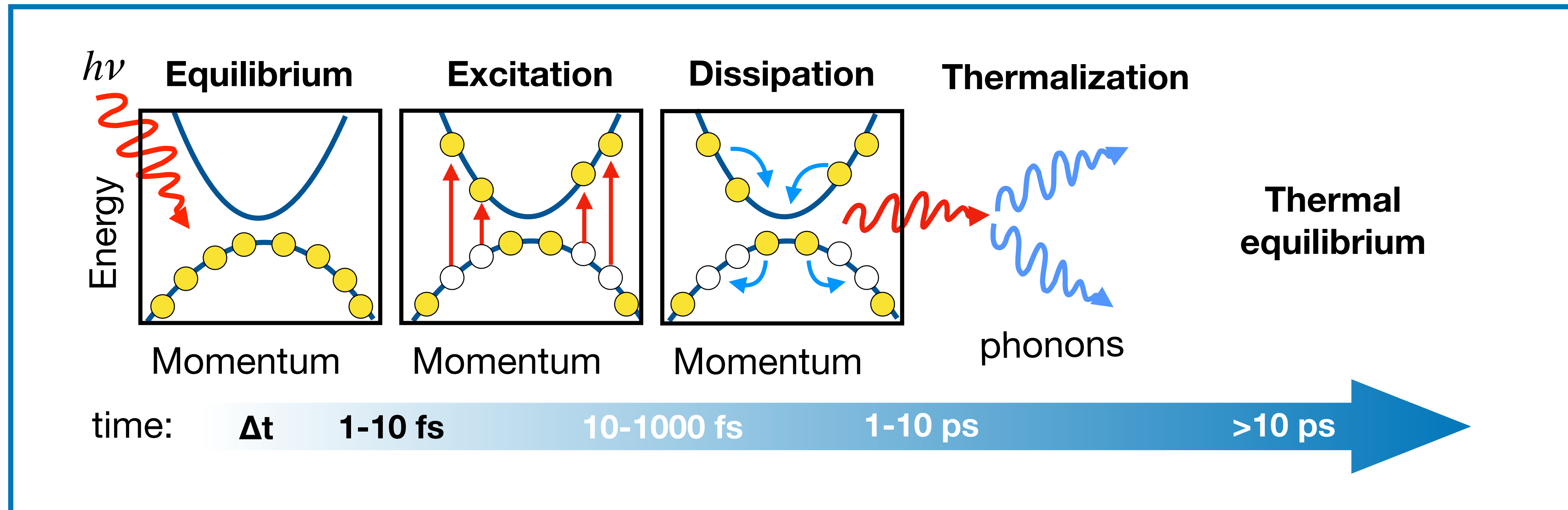
## Electrons





# Coupled dynamics of electrons and phonons

The coupled electron-phonon dynamics is triggered by a disturbance of equilibrium (e.g., absorption of light at THz or UV frequencies)

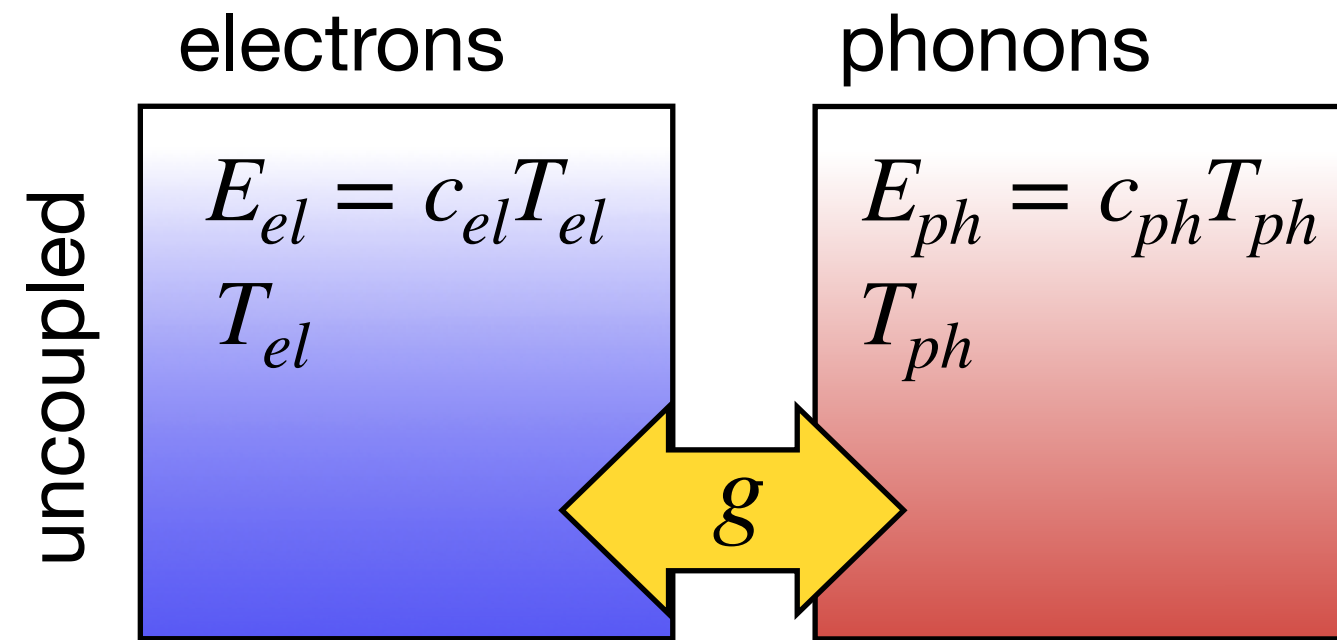


**Fundamental interactions restore a regime of thermal equilibrium:**

- Electron-electron interactions (5-50 fs)
- Electron-phonon interactions (50-500 fs)
- Phonon-phonon interactions (0.5 - 200 ps)
- Radiative recombination (1 ns)
- In magnetic materials: spin-phonon



# Thermalization of electrons and lattice from the two-temperature model (TTM)



## electrons and phonons as two thermal baths

① Dynamics as a thermalization of 2 thermal baths:

$$\frac{\Delta E_{el}}{\Delta t} = g_{el}(T_{ph} - T_{el}) \quad \frac{\Delta E_{ph}}{\Delta t} = g_{ph}(T_{el} - T_{ph})$$

② Energy conservation:  $\Delta E_{el} = -\Delta E_{ph} \rightarrow g_{el} = g_{ph}$

## Two-temperature model

③

$$c_{el} \frac{\Delta T_{el}}{\Delta t} = g(T_{ph} - T_{el})$$

infinitesimal time step

$$c_{ph} \frac{\Delta T_{ph}}{\Delta t} = g(T_{el} - T_{ph})$$

④

$$c_{el} \frac{\partial T_{el}}{\partial t} = g(T_{ph} - T_{el}) + S(t)$$

$$c_{ph} \frac{\partial T_{ph}}{\partial t} = g(T_{el} - T_{ph})$$

**TTM:** coupled first-order differential equation for the temperature of the electrons and lattice

**driving term (coupling to light)**

All quantities available from first principles (parameter-free)

### Electron heat capacity

$$C_{el}(T) = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} d\varepsilon D_{el}(\varepsilon) \varepsilon \frac{\partial f(\mu, \varepsilon, T_{el})}{\partial T_{el}}$$

### Phonon heat capacity

$$C_{ph}(T) = \int_0^{\infty} d(\hbar\omega) D_{ph}(\omega) \hbar\omega \frac{\partial n(\omega, T_{ph})}{\partial T_{ph}}$$

### Coupling constant

$$g = \frac{\pi k_B}{\hbar D_{el}(\varepsilon_F)} \lambda \langle \omega^2 \rangle \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} d\varepsilon D_{el}^2(\varepsilon) \left( -\frac{\partial f(\mu, \varepsilon, T_{el})}{\partial \varepsilon} \right)$$

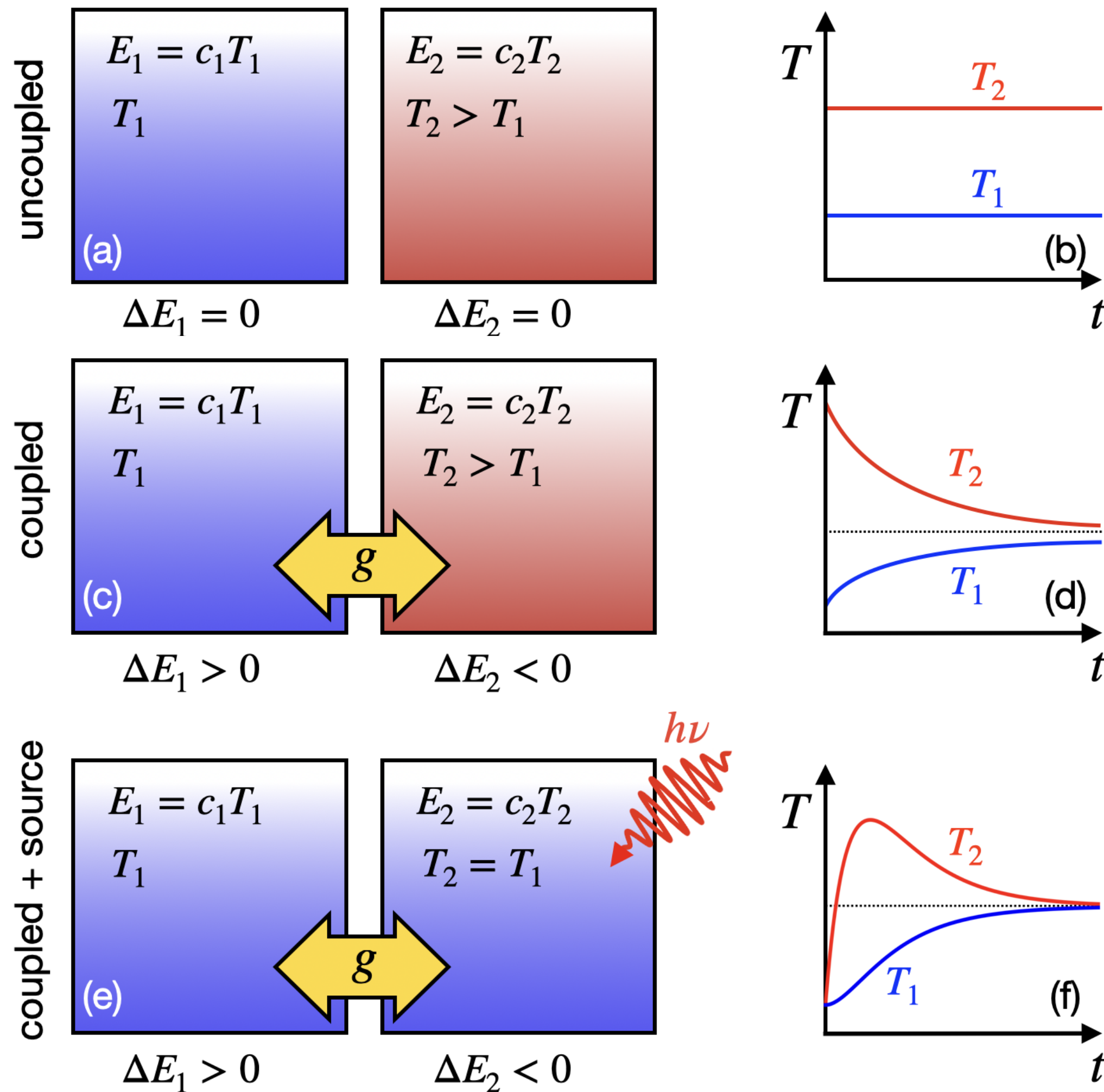


# Thermalization of electrons and lattice from the two-temperature model

## Two-temperature model (TTM)

$$c_{el} \frac{\partial T_{el}}{\partial t} = g(T_{ph} - T_{el}) + S(t)$$

$$c_{ph} \frac{\partial T_{ph}}{\partial t} = g(T_{el} - T_{ph})$$

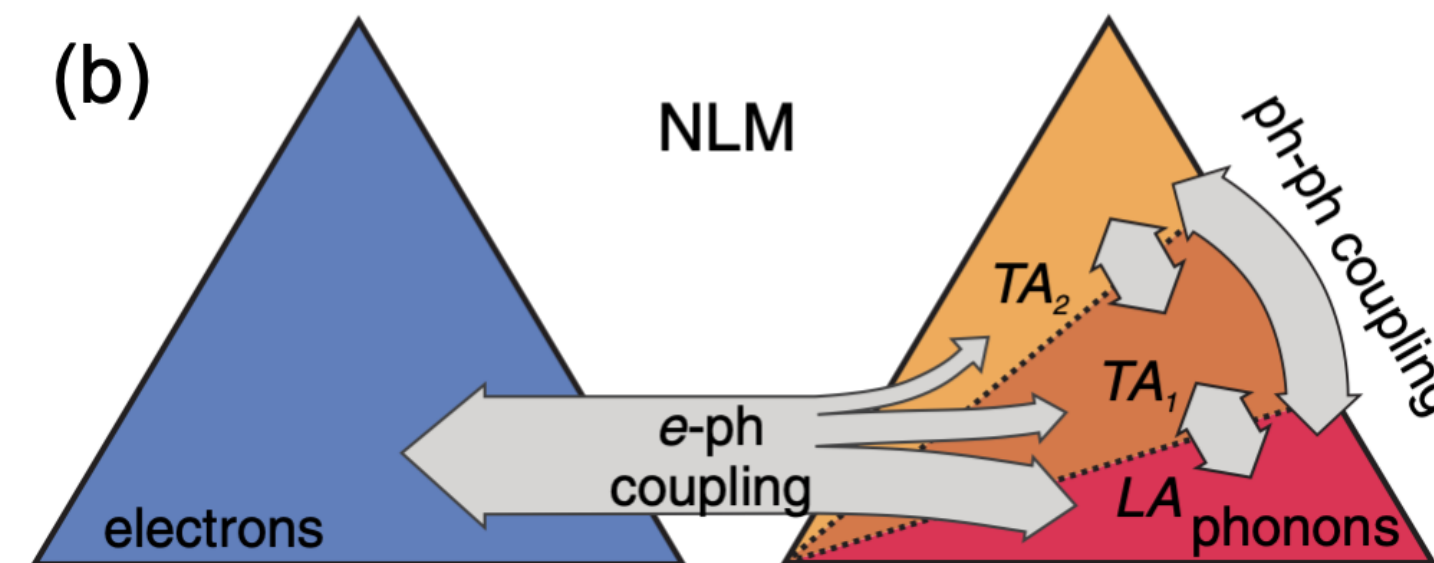


## Limitations:

- Non-equilibrium states characterized by a single temperature
- The electron subsystem is at thermal equilibrium:  
 $T_{el} \rightarrow f_{n\mathbf{k}}(T_{el}) = [e^{(\varepsilon_{n\mathbf{k}} - \mu)/k_B T_{el}} + 1]^{-1}$
- The phonon subsystem is at thermal equilibrium:  
 $T_{ph} \rightarrow n_{q\nu}(T_{ph}) = [e^{(\hbar\omega_{q\nu})/k_B T_{ph}} - 1]^{-1}$
- Only applicable to metals

## Generalizations:

1. Non-thermal lattice model (NLM)

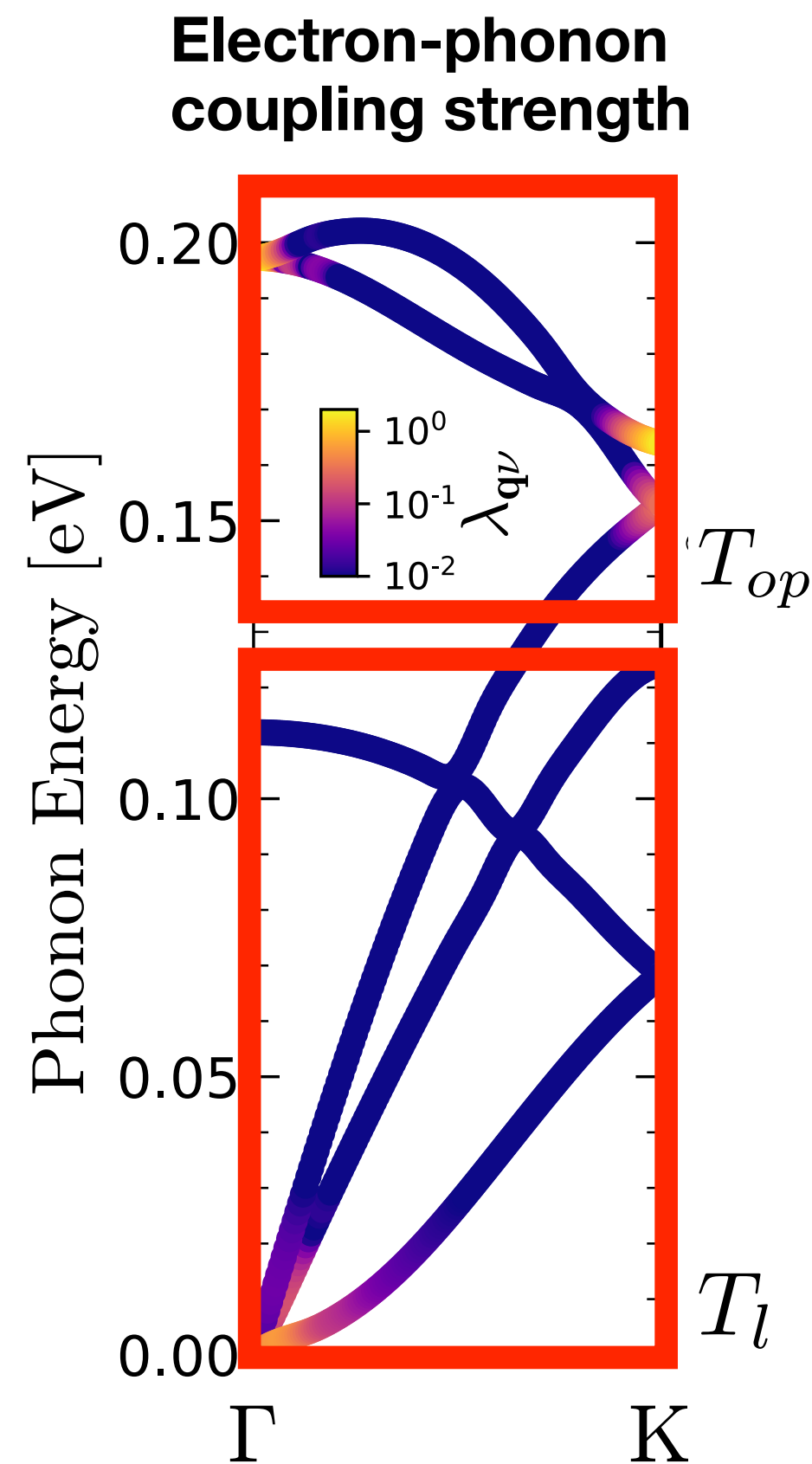
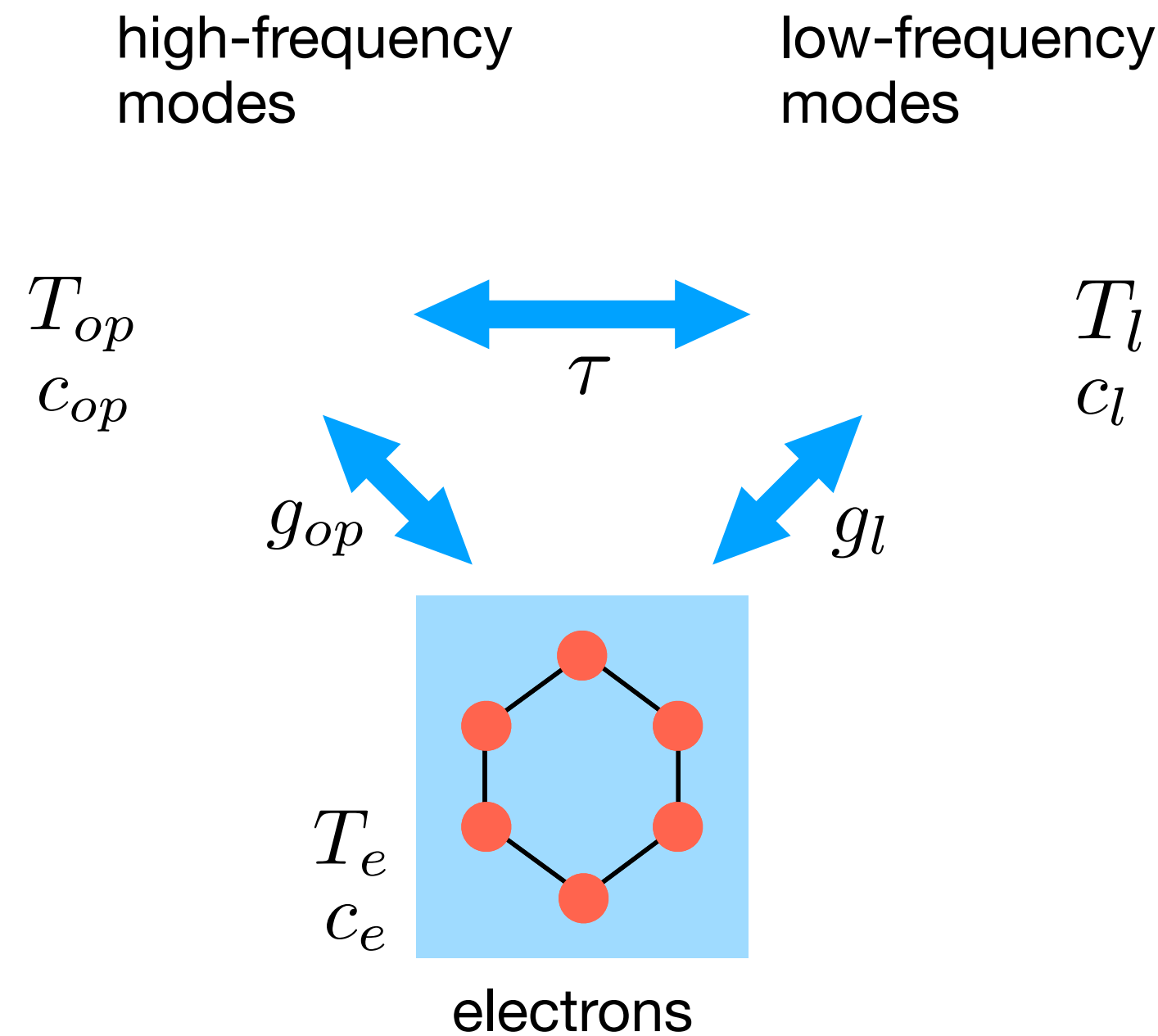


2. Distinct Fermi levels for electrons and holes (suitable for semiconductors)

L. Waldecker, R. Bertoni, R. Ernstorfer, J. Vorberger, Phys. Rev. X **6**, 021003 (2016)



# Ultrafast dynamics in graphene via the three-temperature model



$$\frac{dT_e}{dt} = \frac{I(t)}{\beta c_e} - \frac{g_{op}}{c_e} (T_e - T_{op}) - \frac{g_l}{c_e} (T_e - T_l)$$

$$\frac{dT_{op}}{dt} = \frac{g_{op}}{c_{op}} (T_e - T_{op}) - \frac{T_{op} - T_l}{\tau}$$

$$\frac{dT_l}{dt} = \frac{g_l}{c_l} (T_e - T_l) + \frac{c_{op}}{c_l} \frac{T_{op} - T_l}{\tau}$$

**All parameters available from first principles**

- $I(t)$  pump (fluence/energy/duration)
- $g_{op} \quad g_l$  electron-phonon coupling to optical/acoustic phonons
- $c_e \quad c_l \quad c_{op}$  heat capacity of electrons and phonons
- $\tau$  anharmonic coupling rate (from exp.)
- $\beta$  pump energy density

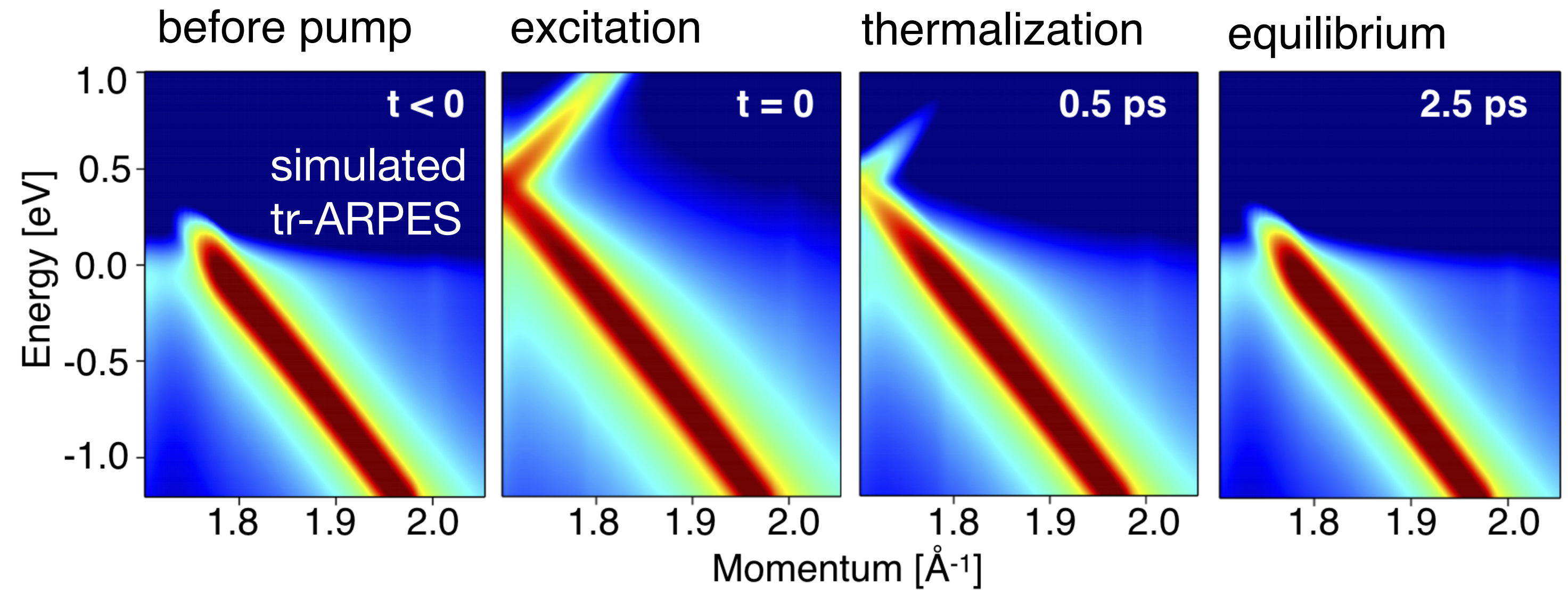
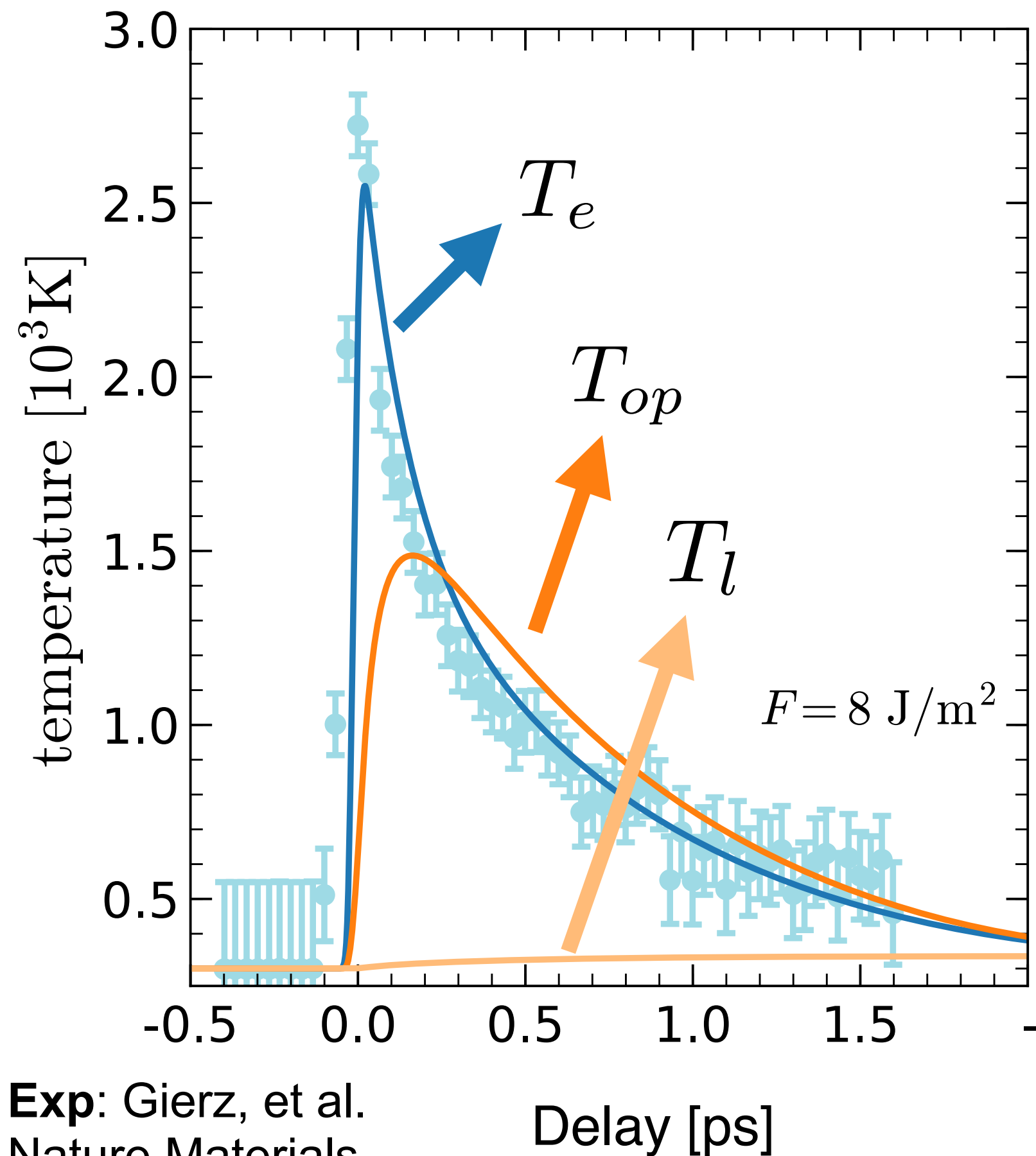
$T_e \quad T_{op} \quad T_l$  temperatures (electrons, optical/acoustic phonons)

**Parameter**



# Non-thermal lattice models and ultrafast dynamics in graphene

Calculated vs measured electronic temperature



## 1. Electron phonon coupling self-energy

$$\Sigma_{n\mathbf{k}}^{\text{e-ph}}(\omega) = \int \frac{d\mathbf{q}}{\Omega_{\text{BZ}}} \sum_{m\nu} |g_{m\nu}^{\text{e-ph}}(\mathbf{k}, \mathbf{q})|^2 \left[ \frac{n_{\mathbf{q}\nu} + f_{m\mathbf{k}+\mathbf{q}}}{\omega - \varepsilon_{m\mathbf{k}+\mathbf{q}} + \omega_{\mathbf{q}\nu} - i\eta} + \frac{n_{\mathbf{q}\nu} + 1 - f_{m\mathbf{k}+\mathbf{q}}}{\omega - \varepsilon_{m\mathbf{k}+\mathbf{q}} - \omega_{\mathbf{q}\nu} - i\eta} \right]$$

Bose / Fermi occupations

## 2. Spectral function:

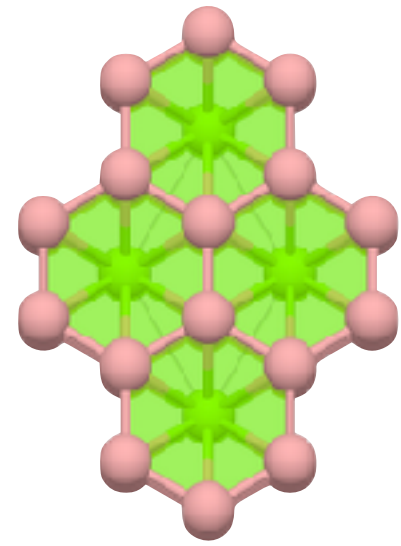
$$A_{n\mathbf{k}}(\omega, T) = \frac{1}{\pi} \frac{|\text{Im} \Sigma_{n\mathbf{k}}^{\text{e-ph}}(\omega)|}{[\omega - \varepsilon_{n\mathbf{k}} - \text{Re} \Sigma_{n\mathbf{k}}^{\text{e-ph}}(\omega)]^2 + [\text{Im} \Sigma_{n\mathbf{k}}^{\text{e-ph}}(\omega)]^2}$$

Exp: Gierz, et al.  
Nature Materials,  
12, 1119 (2013)

FC, D. Novko, C. Draxl, Phys. Rev. B 101 035128 (2020)

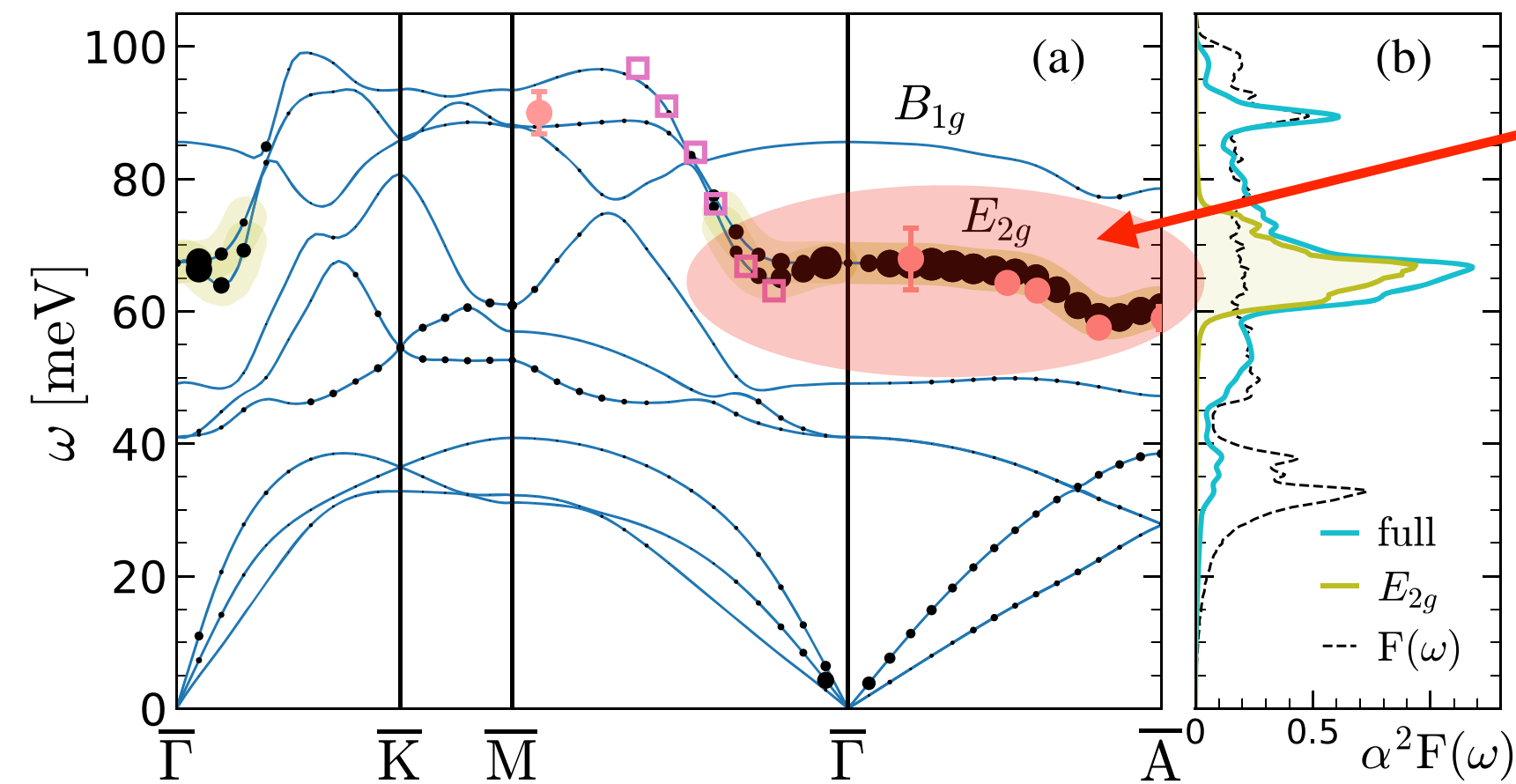
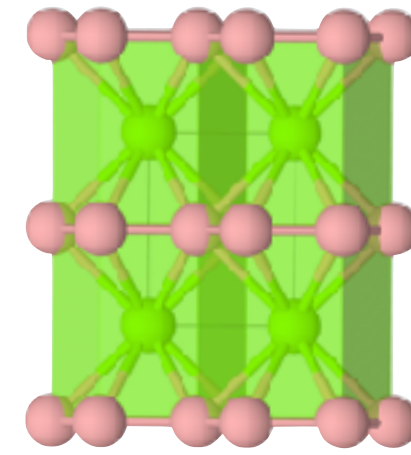


# Transient phonon softening (Kohn anomaly) in MgB<sub>2</sub>

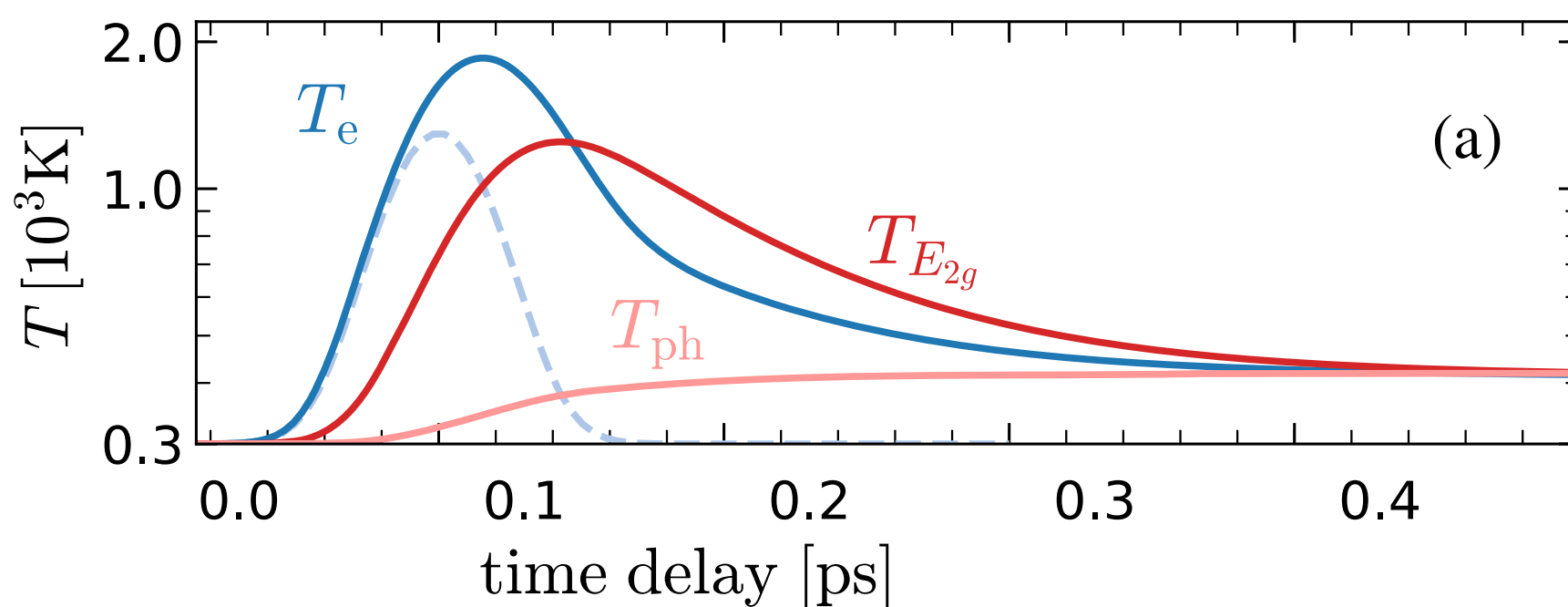


## Facts about MgB<sub>2</sub>

- Metal with hexagonal crystal structure
- BCS superconductor ( $T_c = 39$  K)
- Highest known  $T_c$  for BCS superconductivity
- Strongly coupled  $E_{2g}$  modes



Kohn anomaly



$$\Omega_{E_{2g}}^2 = \omega_{E_{2g}}^2 + 2\omega_{E_{2g}} \bar{\Pi}(\Omega_{E_{2g}}; \{T\}),$$

"dressed" phonon frequency

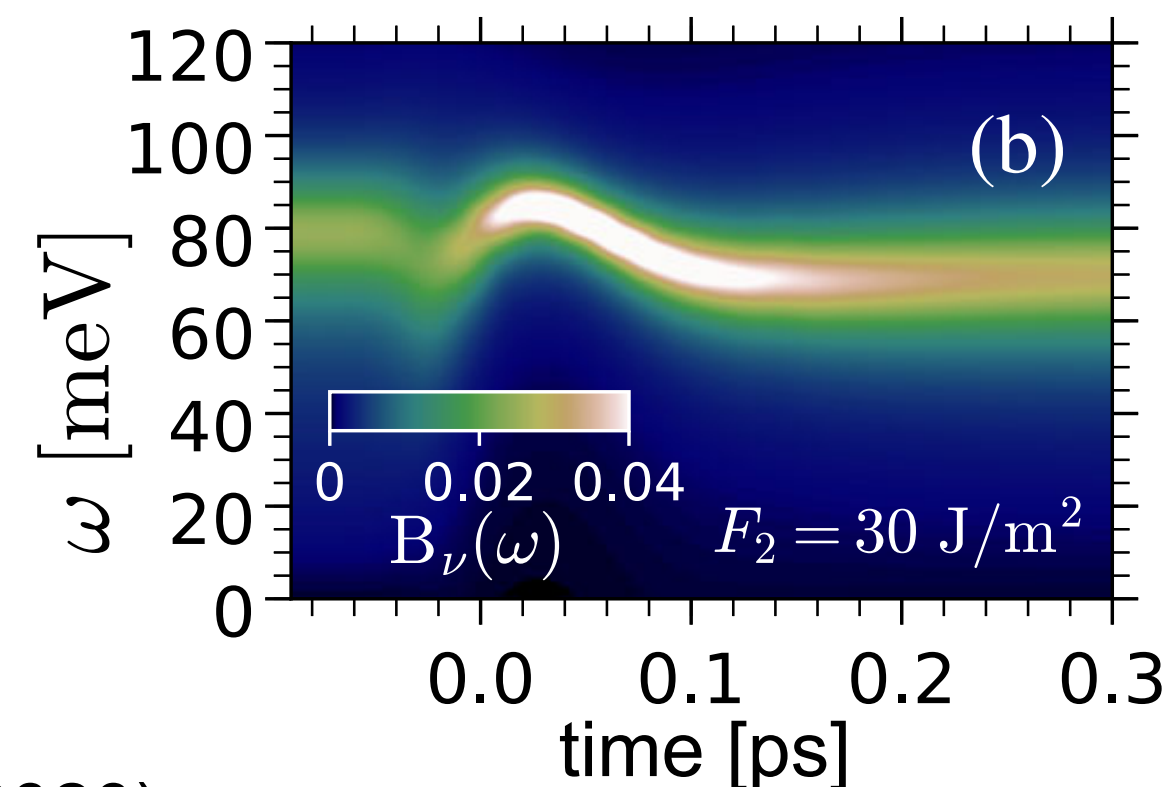
bare phonon frequency

phonon self-energy

## Phonon spectral function

$$A_{q\nu}(\omega) = \pi^{-1} \text{Im} \left[ \frac{2\omega_{q\nu}}{\omega^2 - \omega_{q\nu}^2 - 2\omega_{q\nu} \Pi_{q\nu}^{\text{NA}}(\omega)} \right]$$

## Phonon spectral function @ $\Gamma$



Transient change of the  $E_{2g}$  phonon frequency due to the EPI: "transient Kohn anomaly"



## Part 2

### The time-dependent Boltzmann equation



# Coupled electron-phonon dynamics beyond the non-thermal lattice models

## Ab-initio description of ultrafast processes

Nonequilibrium Green's functions (& DMFT)  
Time-dependent density-function theory  
Time-dependent Boltzmann equation  
Quantum Master equation  
Molecular dynamics / Path integrals  
Non-thermal lattice models

### Check-list:

- Electron / phonon dynamics
- Electron-phonon coupling
- Full momentum resolution

## Time-dependent Boltzmann equation (TDBE)



distribution  
function

collision integral

$$\frac{df}{dt} = \Gamma_{\text{collisions}}$$

+ other terms  
(fields, etc.)

(In a gas:)

Equilibrium is  
re-established  
via collisions

### Books:

Ziman, Electrons and phonons, Oxford University Press (1960)  
Hang, Jauho, Quantum Kinetics in Transport and Optics of Semiconductors, Springer (1996)  
Bonitz, Quantum Kinetic Theory (1998)

### Charge and thermal Transport:

Poncé, Li, Reichard, Giustino, Rep. Prog. Phys. 83, 036501 (2019)  
Li, Carrete, Katcho, Mingo, Comp. Phys. Comm. 185, 1747 (2014)  
Mizokami, Togo, Tanaka Phys. Rev. B 97, 224306, (2018)  
Chaput, Phys. Rev. Lett 110, 265506 (2013)  
Togo, Chaput, Tanaka, Phys. Rev. B 91, 094306 (2015)

### Ultrafast dynamics:

Sadasivam, Chan, Darancet, Phys. Rev. Lett. 119, 136602 (2017)  
Bernardi, Eur. Phys. J. B 89, 239 (2016)  
Jhalani, Zhou, Bernardi, Nano Letters 17, 5012 (2017)  
FC, J. Phys. Chem. Lett. 12, 1274 (2021)



# Time-dependent Boltzmann equation

**Key assumption:** Electronic and vibrational excitations are described via the corresponding distribution functions

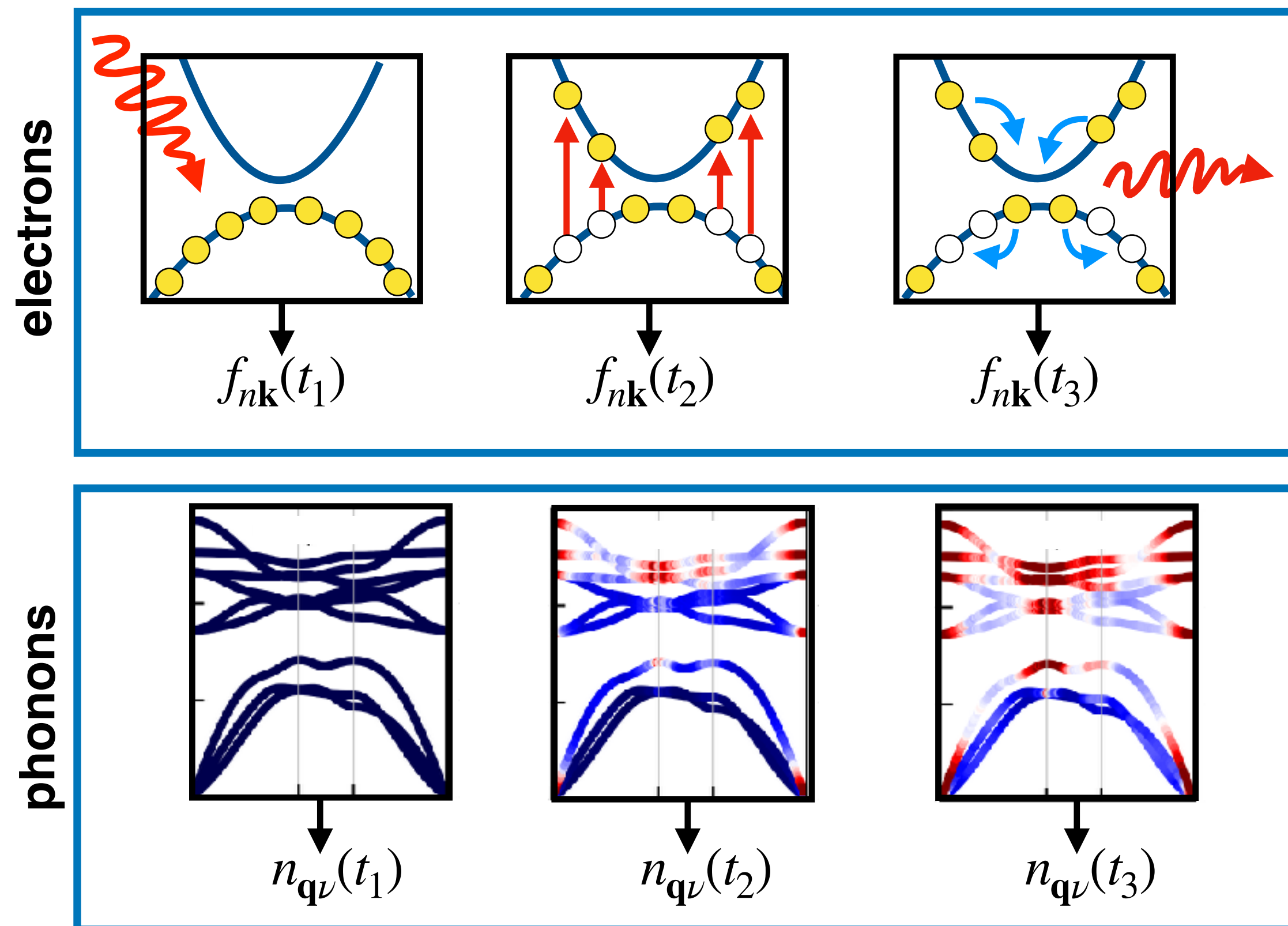
**Thermal equilibrium**

Bose-Einstein statistics:  $n_{q\nu}^{\text{eq}} = [e^{\hbar\omega_{q\nu}/k_B T} - 1]^{-1}$

Fermi-Dirac statistics:  $f_{n\mathbf{k}}^{\text{eq}} = [e^{(\varepsilon_{n\mathbf{k}} - \mu)/k_B T} + 1]^{-1}$

**Out of equilibrium**

$n_{q\nu} \neq n_{q\nu}^{\text{eq}}$  and/or  $f_{n\mathbf{k}} \neq f_{n\mathbf{k}}^{\text{eq}}$



Rate of change of  $n_{q\nu}$  and  $f_{n\mathbf{k}}$  from the TDBE

$$\frac{\partial f_{n\mathbf{k}}}{\partial t} = I_{n\mathbf{k}}^{\text{e-ph}}[f, n] + I_{n\mathbf{k}}^{\text{light}}[f] + I_{n\mathbf{k}}^{\text{e-e}}[f]$$

$$\frac{\partial n_{q\nu}}{\partial t} = I_{q\nu}^{\text{e-ph}}[f, n] + I_{q\nu}^{\text{ph-ph}}[n]$$

- solved via Euler or Runge-Kutta algorithms.
- scattering rates are obtained ab initio

$I[f, n]$  collision integral



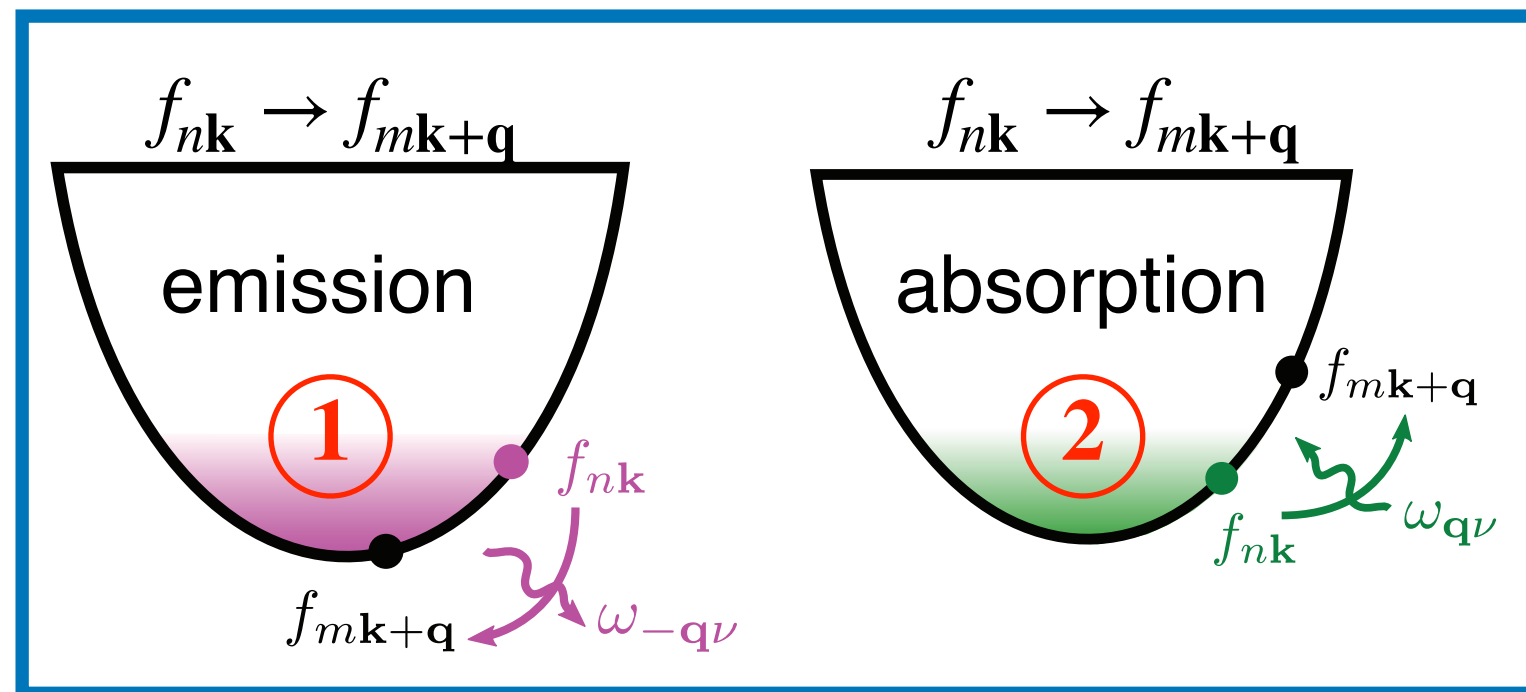
# Collision integrals due to the electron-phonon interactions

Electron-phonon interaction

$$\hat{H}_{\text{eph}} = N_p^{-\frac{1}{2}} \sum_{mn\mathbf{k}} \sum_{\mathbf{q}\nu} g_{mn}^\nu(\mathbf{k}, \mathbf{q}) \hat{c}_{m\mathbf{k}+\mathbf{q}}^\dagger \hat{c}_{n\mathbf{k}} [\hat{a}_{\mathbf{q}\nu} + \hat{a}_{-\mathbf{q}\nu}^\dagger]$$

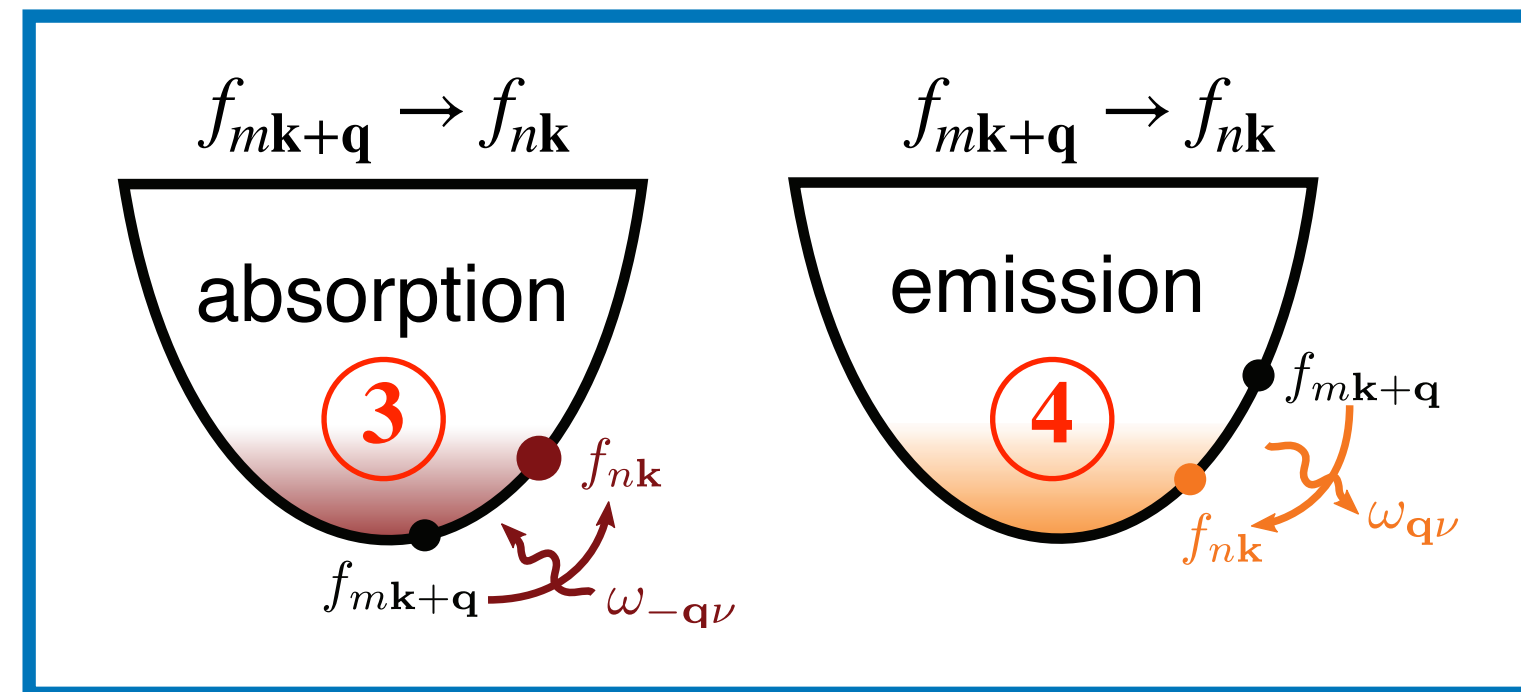
Electron-phonon coupling matrix elements

$$g_{nm}^\nu(\mathbf{k}, \mathbf{q}) = \langle \psi_{m\mathbf{k}+\mathbf{q}} | \Delta_{\mathbf{q}\nu} V_{\text{KS}} | \psi_{n\mathbf{k}} \rangle$$



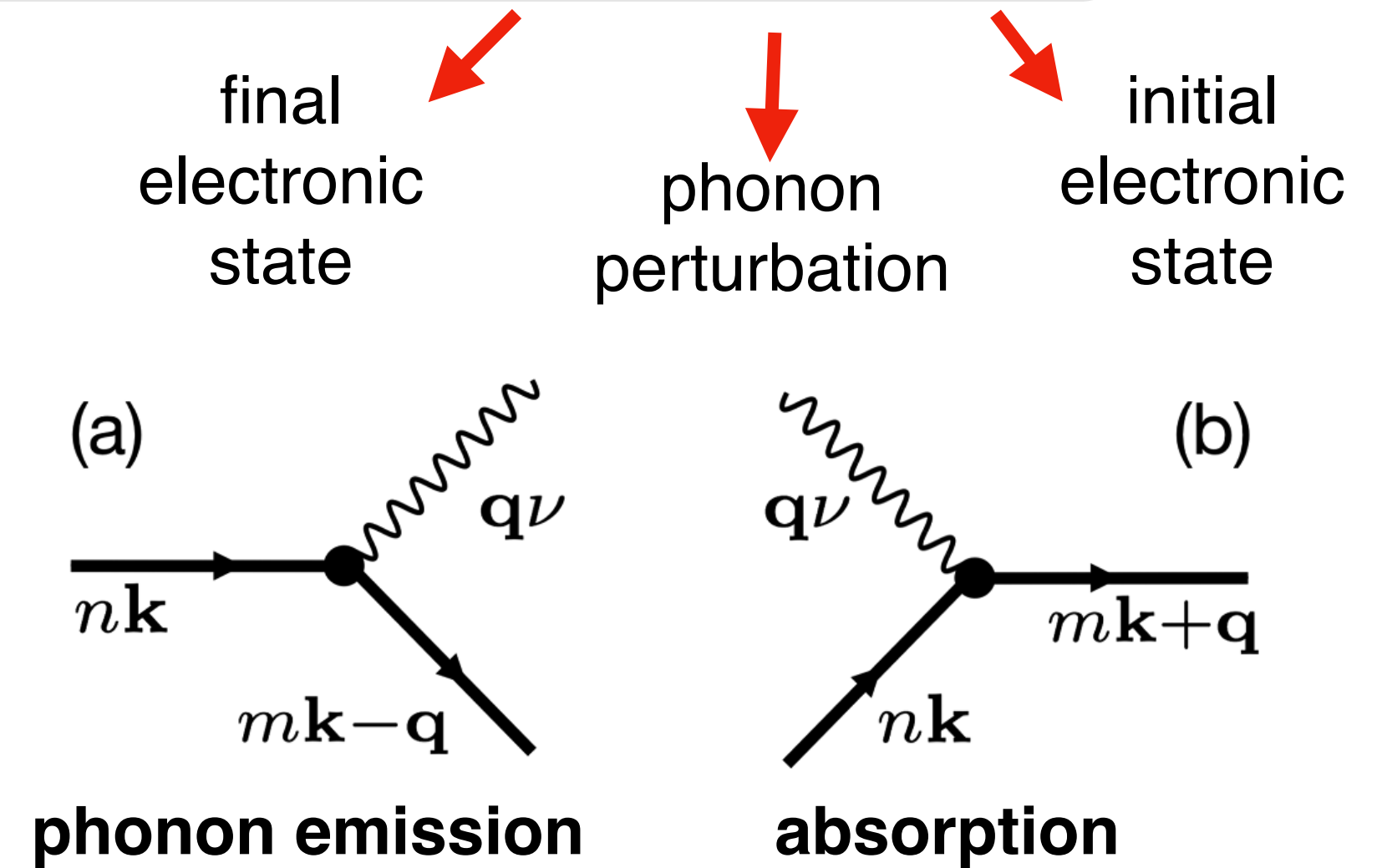
scattering out of  $f_{n\mathbf{k}}$

rate of scattering out:  $\Gamma_{n\mathbf{k}}^{\text{out}}$



scattering into  $f_{n\mathbf{k}}$

rate of scattering out:  $\Gamma_{n\mathbf{k}}^{\text{in}}$



The total scattering rate due to the electron-phonon coupling:  $\Gamma_{n\mathbf{k}}^{\text{eph}} = \Gamma_{n\mathbf{k}}^{\text{out}} + \Gamma_{n\mathbf{k}}^{\text{in}}$

At thermal equilibrium:  $\Gamma_{n\mathbf{k}}^{\text{out}} = -\Gamma_{n\mathbf{k}}^{\text{in}} \rightarrow \Gamma_{n\mathbf{k}}^{\text{eph}} = 0$

Collision integrals from Fermi-golden rule

$$\Gamma_{i \rightarrow f} = \frac{2\pi}{\hbar} |\langle f | \hat{V} | i \rangle|^2 \delta(E_f^{\text{tot}} - E_i^{\text{tot}})$$

# Collision integrals due to the electron-phonon interactions

Fermi-golden rule:

$$\Gamma_{i \rightarrow f} = \frac{2\pi}{\hbar} |\langle f | \hat{H}_{eph} | i \rangle|^2 \delta(E_f^{\text{tot}} - E_i^{\text{tot}})$$

$$|i\rangle = |\Psi_i\rangle |\chi_i\rangle$$

① matrix elements:  $\langle f | \hat{H}_{eph} | i \rangle = N_p^{-\frac{1}{2}} \sum_{nmv} \sum_{\mathbf{kq}} g_{mn}^{\nu}(\mathbf{k}, \mathbf{q}) \langle \Psi_f | \hat{c}_{m\mathbf{k}+\mathbf{q}}^{\dagger} \hat{c}_{n\mathbf{k}} | \Psi_i \rangle \langle \chi_f | \hat{a}_{\mathbf{q}v} + \hat{a}_{-\mathbf{q}v}^{\dagger} | \chi_i \rangle$

② energy difference:  $E_i^{\text{tot}} - E_f^{\text{tot}} = \varepsilon_{n\mathbf{k}} + \hbar\omega_{\mathbf{q}v} - \varepsilon_{m\mathbf{k}+\mathbf{q}}$

Scattering from  $\psi_{n\mathbf{k}}$  to  $\psi_{m\mathbf{k}+\mathbf{q}}$  via emission of a phonon  $\omega_{\mathbf{q}v}$

transition rate from Fermi-Golden rule:

$$\Gamma_{n\mathbf{k} \rightarrow m\mathbf{k}+\mathbf{q}} = \frac{2\pi}{\hbar} |g_{nm}^{\nu}(\mathbf{k}, \mathbf{q})|^2 f_{n\mathbf{k}} (1 - f_{m\mathbf{k}+\mathbf{q}}) \delta(\varepsilon_{n\mathbf{k}} - \varepsilon_{m\mathbf{k}+\mathbf{q}} - \hbar\omega_{\mathbf{q}v})$$

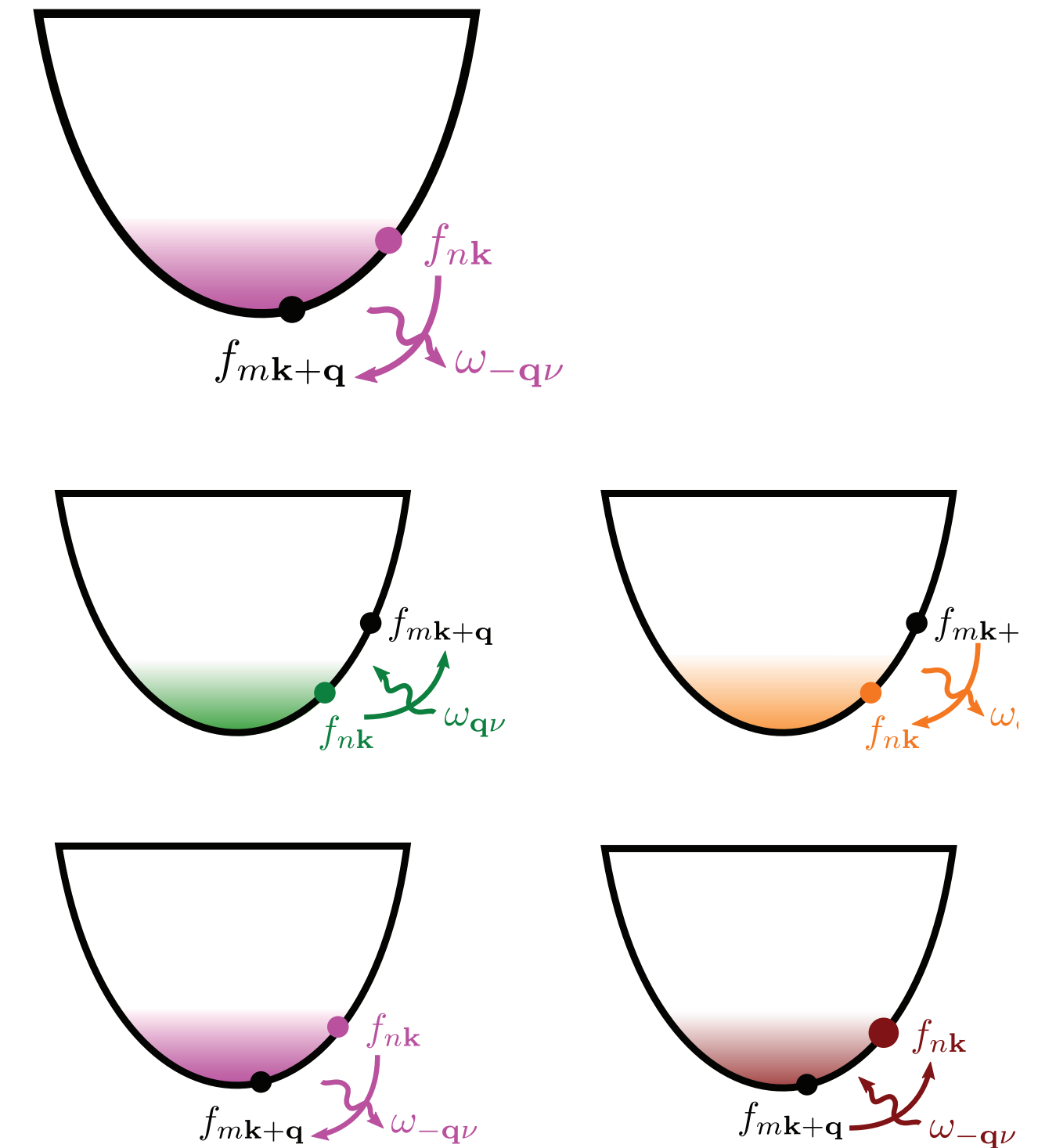
Collision integral due to the EPI

$$\Gamma_{n\mathbf{k}}^{\text{e-ph}} = \frac{2\pi}{\hbar} \sum_{m\mathbf{q}v} |g_{nm}^{\nu}(\mathbf{k}, \mathbf{q})|^2 \left[ \begin{aligned} & -f_{n\mathbf{k}}(1 - f_{m\mathbf{k}+\mathbf{q}}) \delta(\varepsilon_{n\mathbf{k}} - \varepsilon_{m\mathbf{k}+\mathbf{q}} - \hbar\omega_{\mathbf{q}v}) \\ & -f_{n\mathbf{k}}(1 - f_{m\mathbf{k}+\mathbf{q}}) \delta(\varepsilon_{n\mathbf{k}} - \varepsilon_{m\mathbf{k}+\mathbf{q}} + \hbar\omega_{\mathbf{q}v}) \\ & + (1 - f_{n\mathbf{k}}) f_{m\mathbf{k}+\mathbf{q}} \delta(\varepsilon_{n\mathbf{k}} - \varepsilon_{m\mathbf{k}+\mathbf{q}} - \hbar\omega_{\mathbf{q}v}) \\ & + (1 - f_{n\mathbf{k}}) f_{m\mathbf{k}+\mathbf{q}} \delta(\varepsilon_{n\mathbf{k}} - \varepsilon_{m\mathbf{k}+\mathbf{q}} + \hbar\omega_{\mathbf{q}v}) \end{aligned} \right]$$

TDBE:

$$\frac{\partial f_{n\mathbf{k}}}{\partial t} = \Gamma_{n\mathbf{k}}^{\text{e-ph}}[f, n] + \Gamma_{n\mathbf{k}}^{\text{light}}[f] + \Gamma_{n\mathbf{k}}^{\text{e-e}}[f]$$

$$\frac{\partial n_{\mathbf{q}v}}{\partial t} = \Gamma_{\mathbf{q}v}^{\text{e-ph}}[f, n] + \Gamma_{\mathbf{q}v}^{\text{ph-ph}}[n]$$





# Numerical implementation

① Real time propagation (Heun or Runge Kutta algorithm)  $\frac{\partial f}{\partial t} = \Gamma_{\text{collisions}}$  Euler:  $f(t + \Delta t) = f(t) + \Gamma_{\text{collisions}}\Delta t$

② Electron and phonon energies ( $\varepsilon_{n\mathbf{k}}$  and  $\hbar\omega_{\mathbf{q}\nu}$ ) from DFT and DFPT.

- Spin-orbit coupling effects included
- Norm-conserving Vanderbilt (ONCV) pseudopotential
- Band structure are fixed,  $\varepsilon_{n\mathbf{k}}$  and  $\omega_{\mathbf{q}\nu}$  are time-independent (weakly perturbed system)



③ Ultra-dense k- and q-point meshes (maximally-localized Wannier functions)

- in 2D materials  $120 \times 120 \times 1$  up to  $200 \times 200 \times 1$

WANNIER90

④ Electron-phonon and phonon-phonon coupling matrix elements from first principles



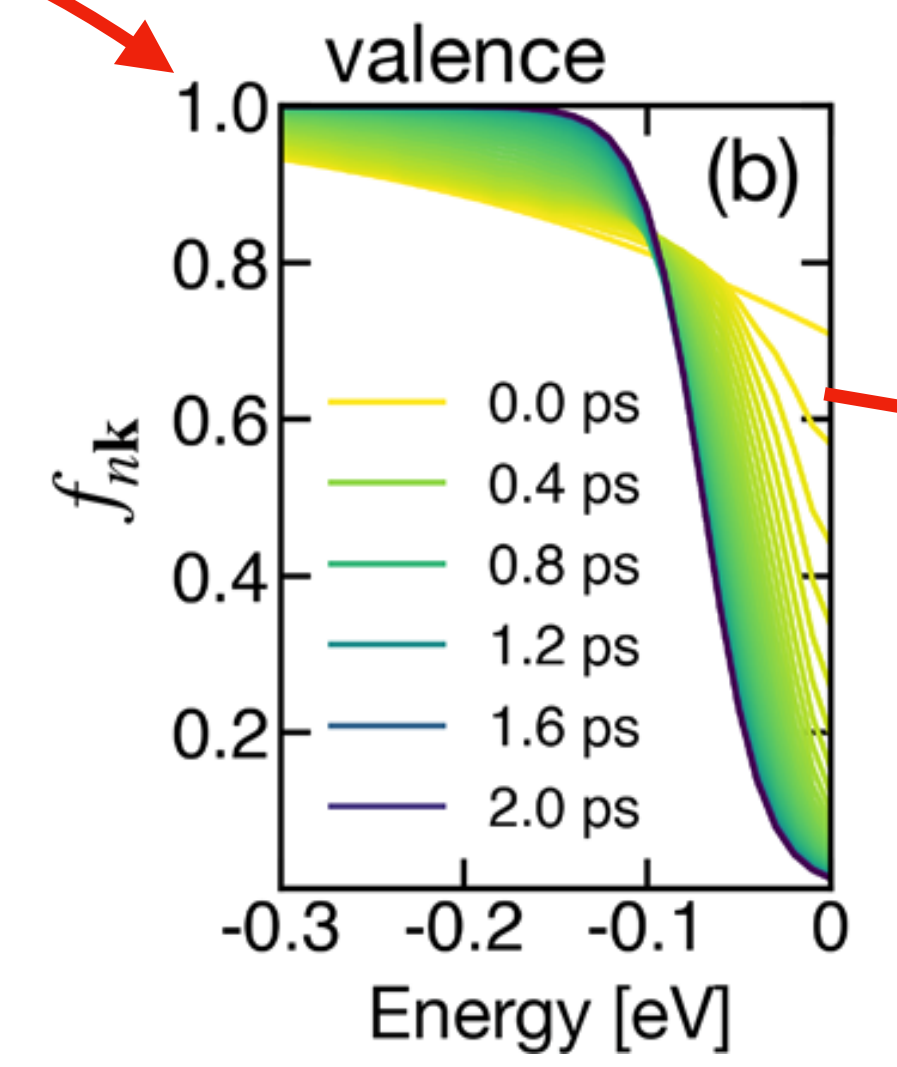
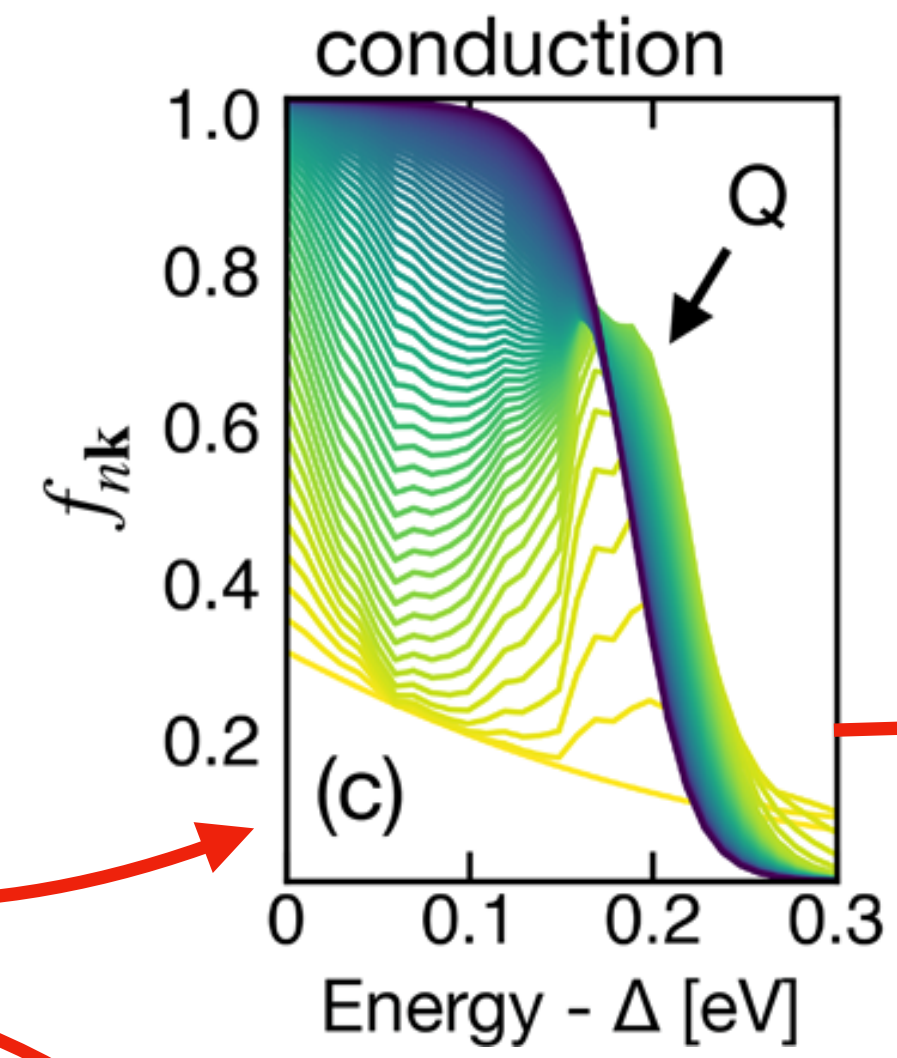
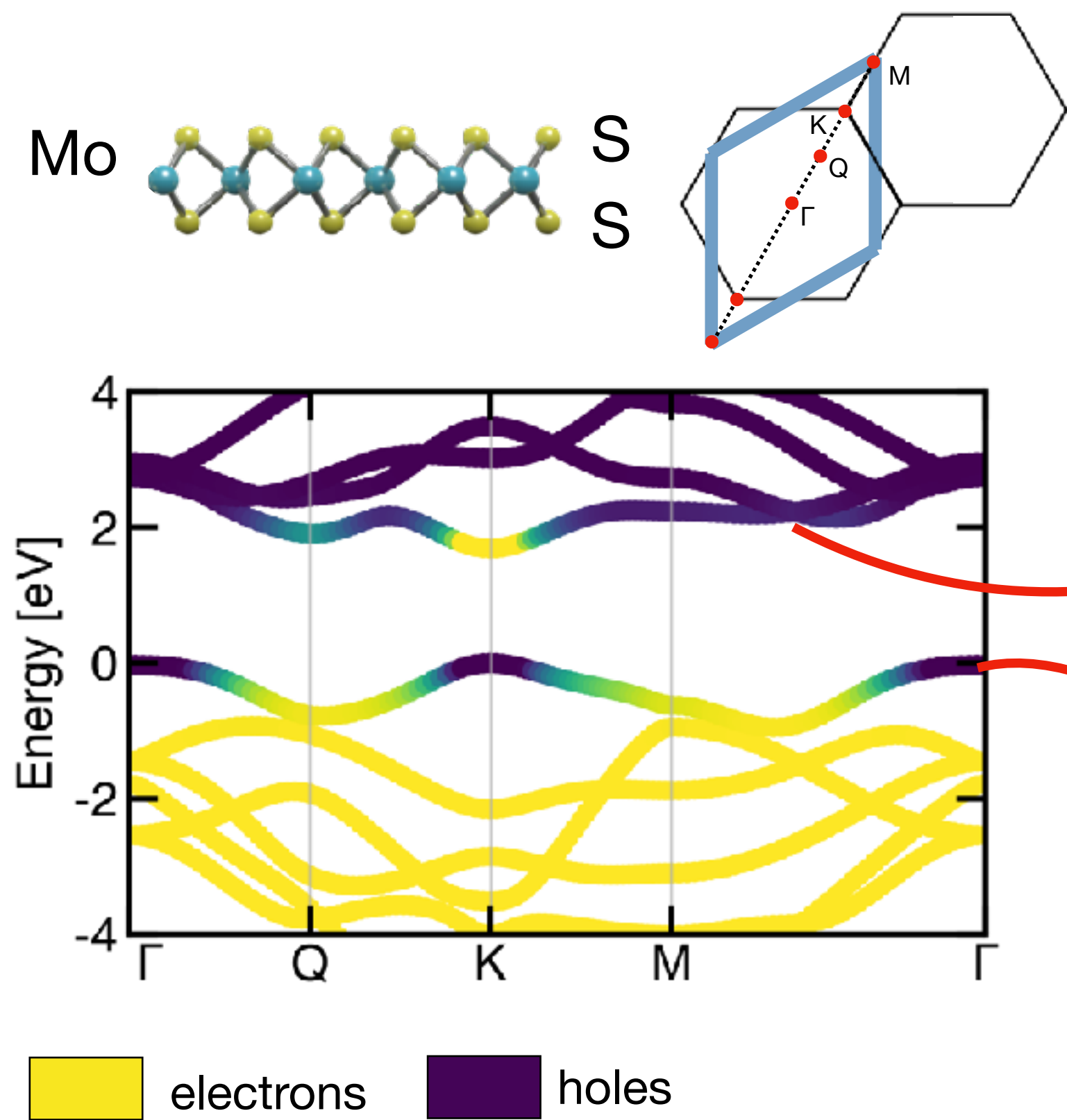
⑤ Implemented in EPW by Yiming Pan (check out his poster!)

## Part 3

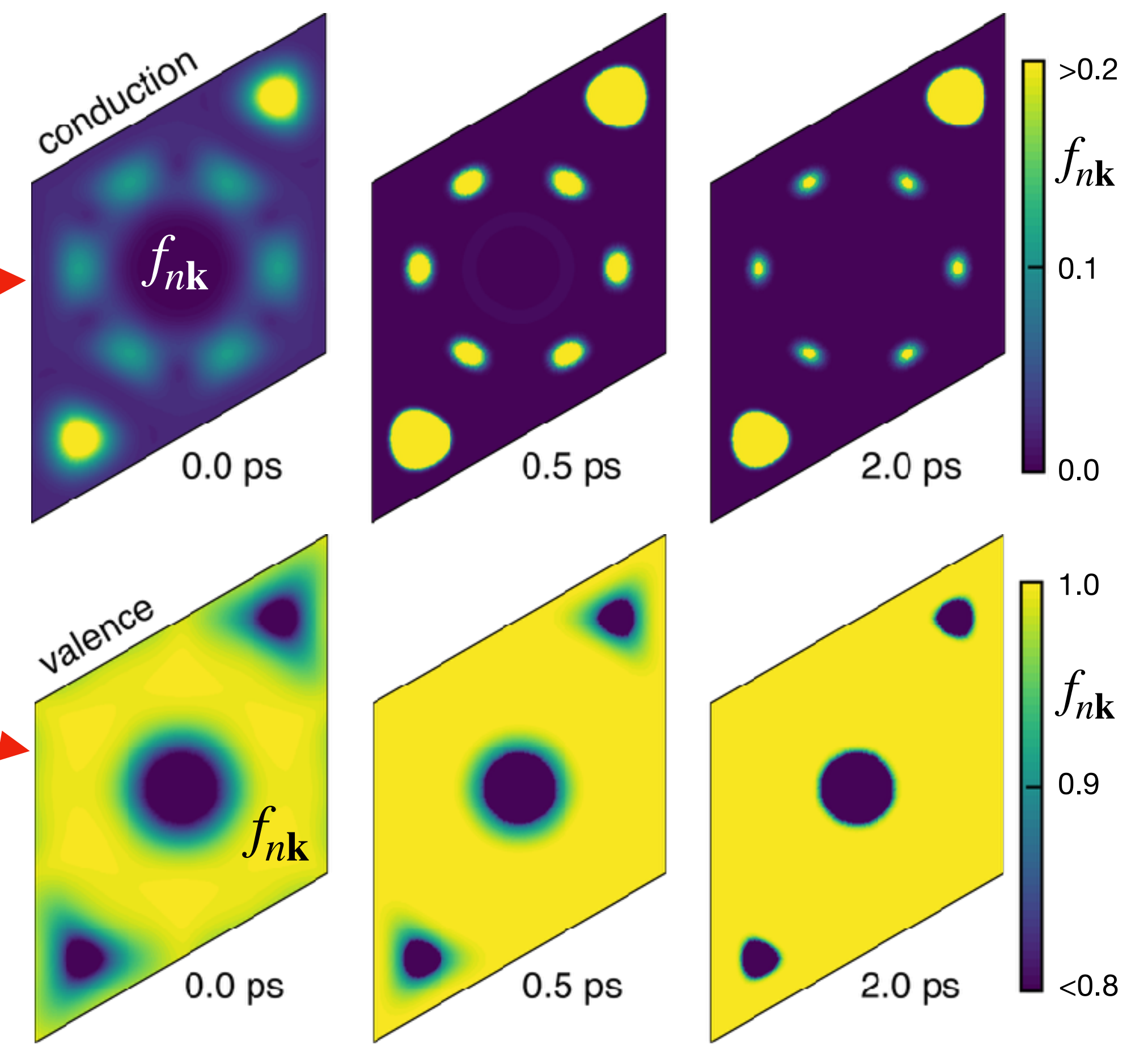
**Ultrafast phonon dynamics 2D and van-der-Waals materials**



# Nonequilibrium ELECTRON dynamics in monolayer MoS<sub>2</sub>



## Electron and hole dynamics with momentum resolution



Estimated timescales for electron relaxation:  $< 2$  ps

Experiments from (\*) (fs-electron diffraction):  $1.7 \pm 0.3$  ps

(\*) Mannebach et al., Nano Lett. 15, 6889 (2015)

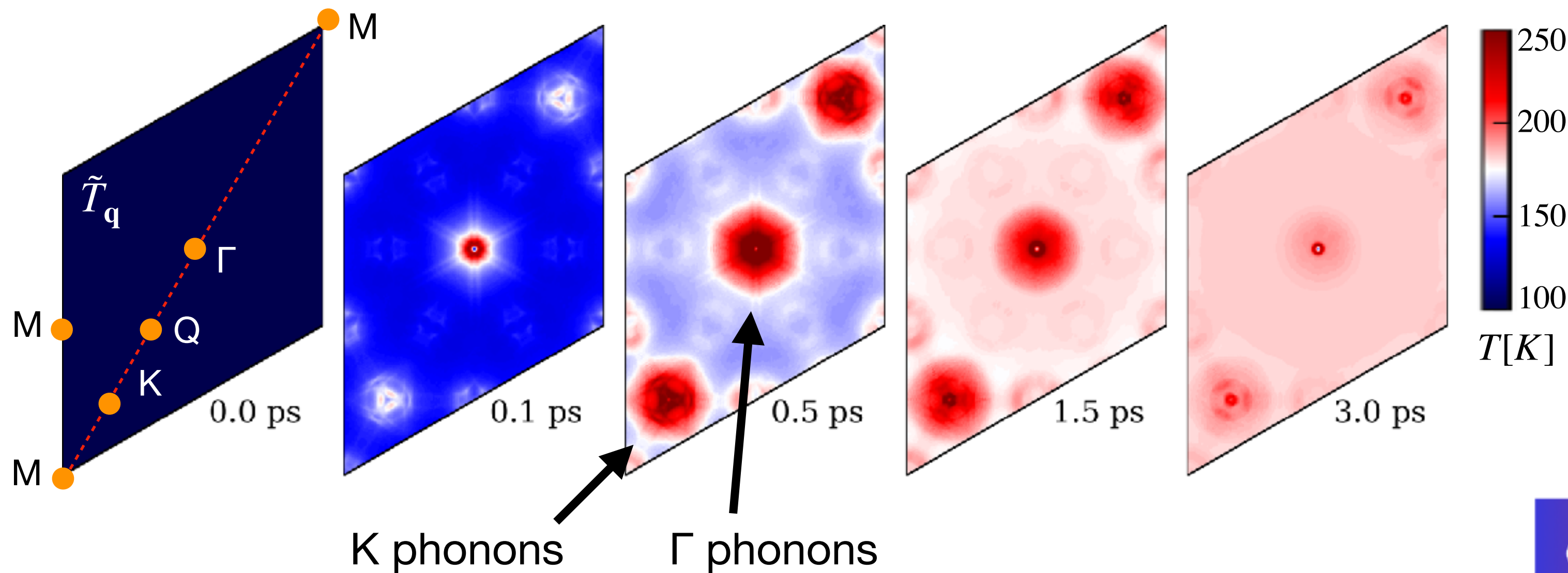
F. Caruso, J. Phys. Chem. Lett. **12**, 1274 (2021)

$$\frac{\partial f_{n\mathbf{k}}}{\partial t} = I_{n\mathbf{k}}^{e-ph}[f, n]$$



# Nonequilibrium PHONON dynamics in monolayer MoS<sub>2</sub>

## Phonon TEMPERATURE in the Brillouin zone

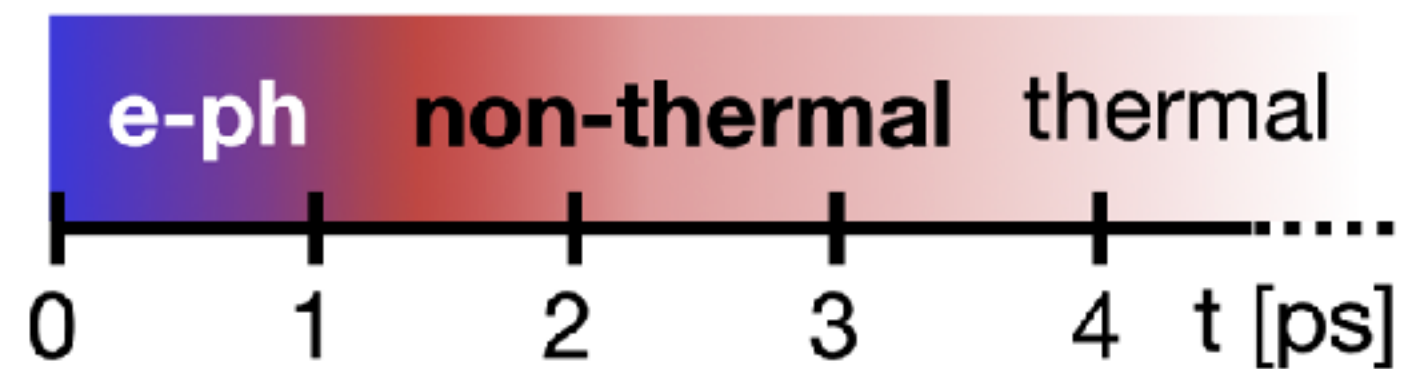


Phonon temperature

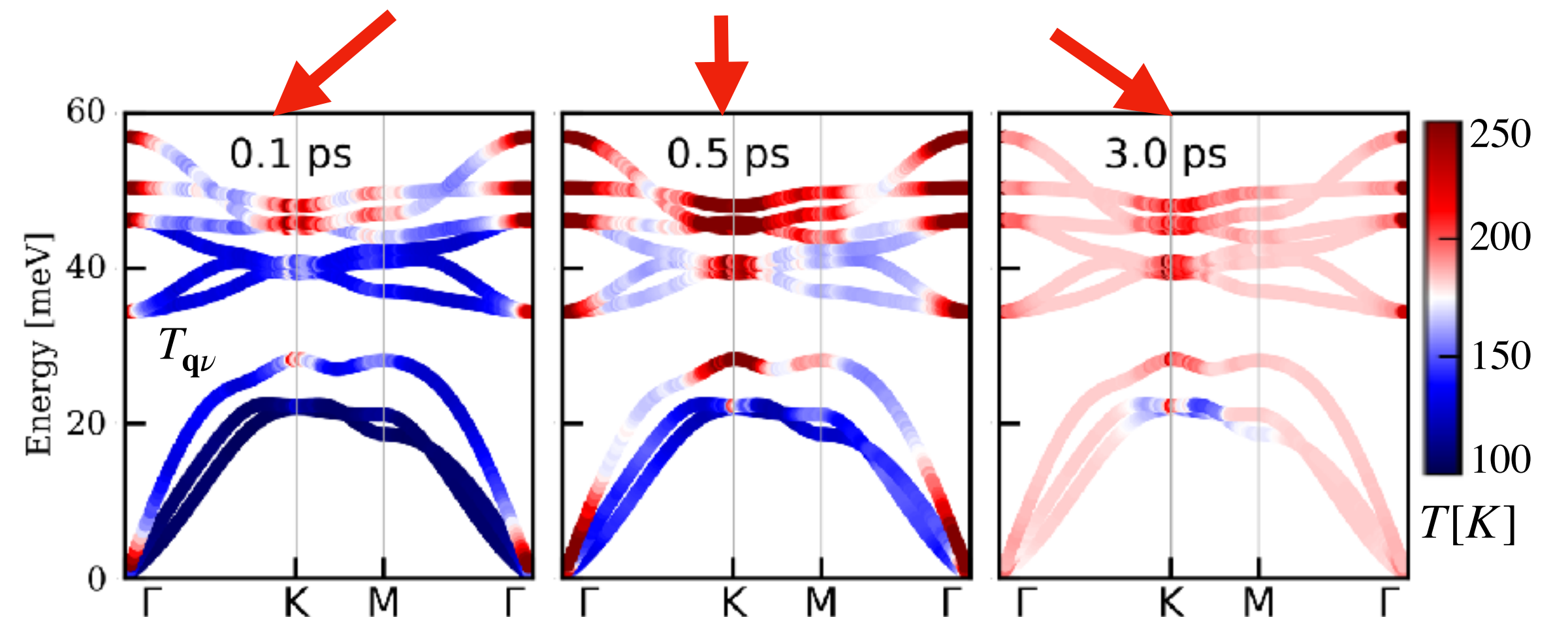
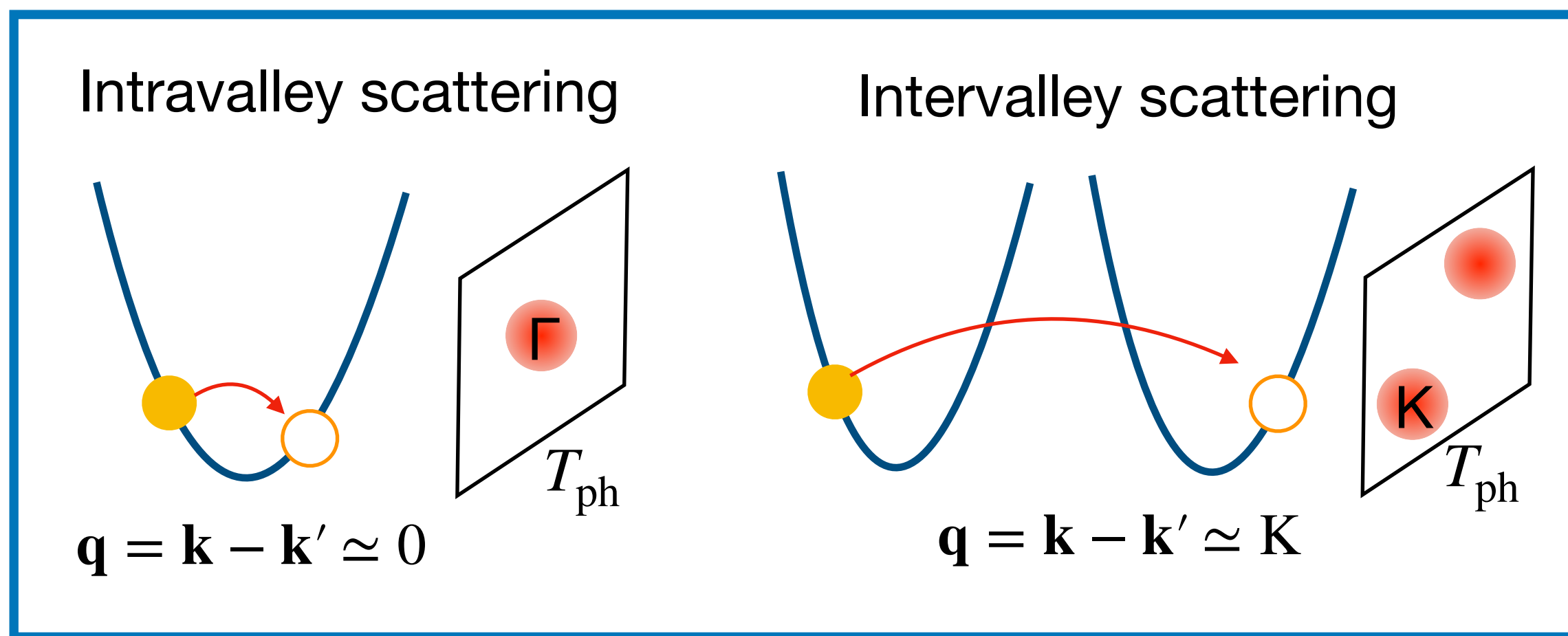
$$T_{\mathbf{q}\nu} = \hbar\omega_{\mathbf{q}\nu} [k_B \ln(1 + n_{\mathbf{q}\nu})]^{-1}$$

(averaged for all phonon polarizations)

$$T_{\mathbf{q}\nu} \neq \text{const} \rightarrow n_{\mathbf{q}\nu} \neq n_{\mathbf{q}\nu}^{\text{eq}}$$



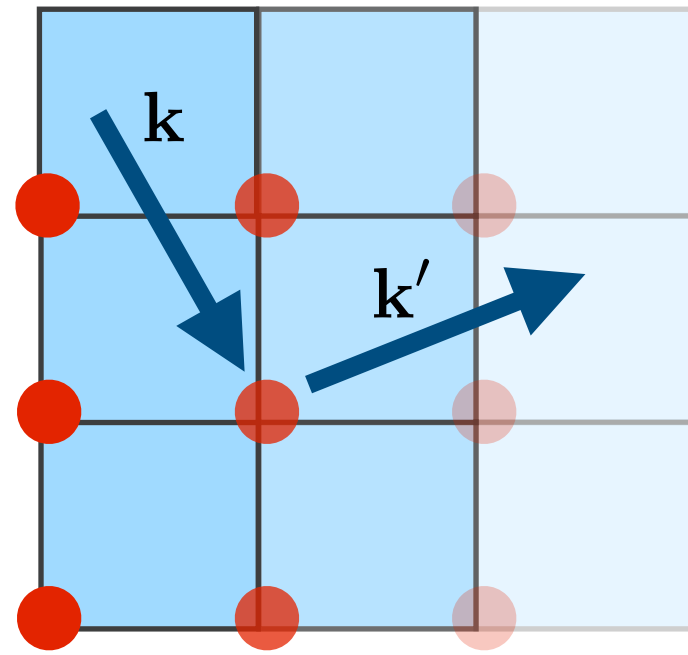
## Momentum selectivity in the phonon emission:





# A crash course in the theory diffraction

**Static lattice  
(1 atom per cell)**



Bragg's law:

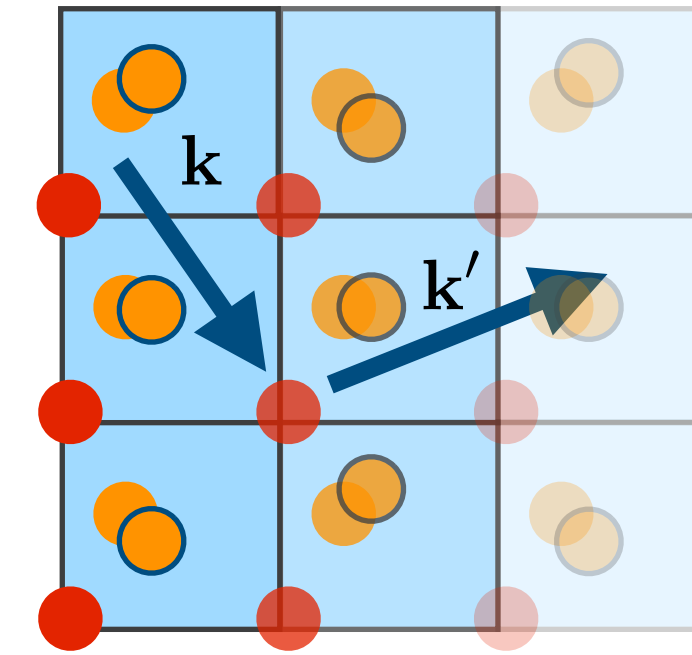
$$A(\mathbf{q}) = \sum_p^{N_p} f_0 \exp [i\mathbf{q} \cdot \mathbf{R}_p]$$

amplitude

Scattering  
cross section

Lattice  
vector

**Vibrating lattice  
(>1 atom per cell)**



$$I(\mathbf{Q}, \tau) = I_0(\mathbf{Q}, \tau) + I_1(\mathbf{Q}, \tau) + \dots$$

Zero-phonon

One-phonon

Zero-phonon term:

$$\langle I_0(\mathbf{S}) \rangle_T = N_p^2 |f_0|^2 \exp(-2W_T) \delta_{\mathbf{S}, \mathbf{G}}$$

One-phonon term:

$$\langle I_1(\mathbf{S}, E) \rangle_T = |f_0|^2 \exp(-2W_T) \frac{\hbar^2 N_p}{2M_\kappa} \sum_{\mathbf{q}\nu} \left[ \sum_{\alpha\alpha'} S_\alpha S_{\alpha'} e^{i\mathbf{q}\cdot\mathbf{r}_{\kappa\alpha}}(\mathbf{q}) e^{i\mathbf{q}\cdot\mathbf{r}_{\kappa\alpha'}}(\mathbf{q}) \right] \frac{1}{\hbar\omega_{\mathbf{q}\nu}} \quad (16)$$

$$\times [\delta(\mathbf{S} + \mathbf{q}) n_{\mathbf{q}\nu, T} \delta(E + \hbar\omega_{\mathbf{q}\nu}) + \delta(\mathbf{S} - \mathbf{q}) (n_{\mathbf{q}\nu, T} + 1) \delta(E - \hbar\omega_{\mathbf{q}\nu})].$$

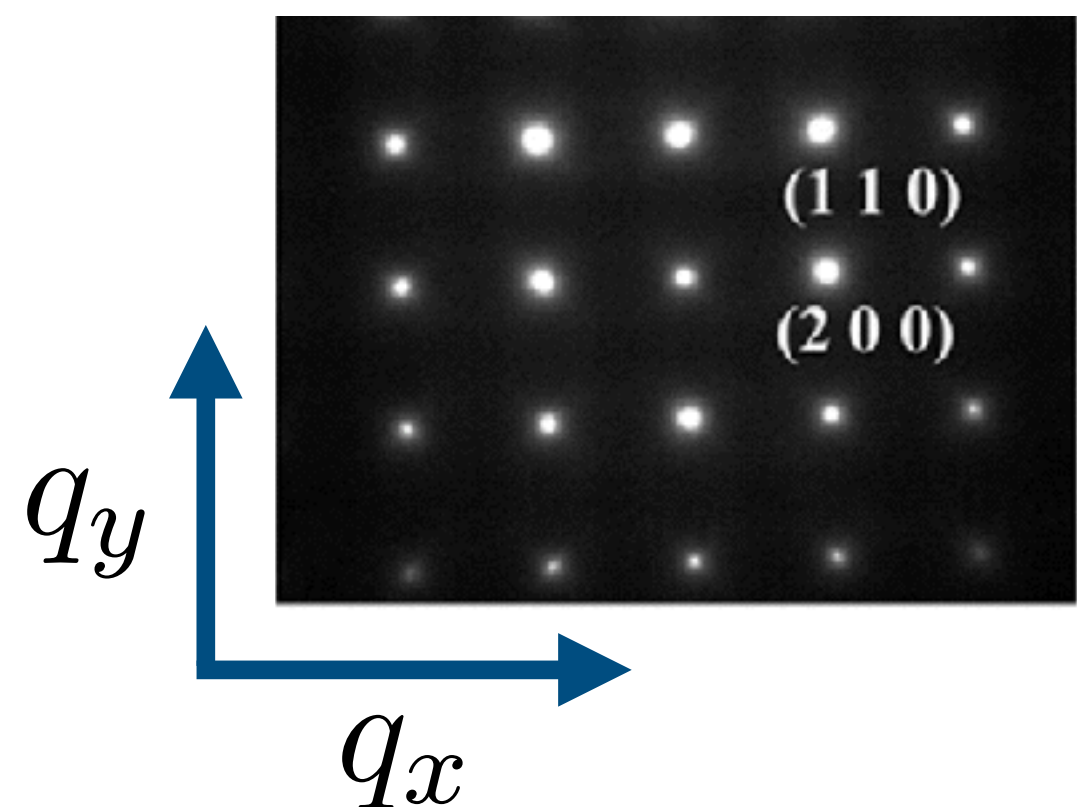
phonon occupation  
(available from the TDBE)

Scattering intensity for  
a perfect lattice:

$$I(\mathbf{q}) = |A(\mathbf{q})|^2 \simeq \delta_{\mathbf{q}, \mathbf{G}}$$

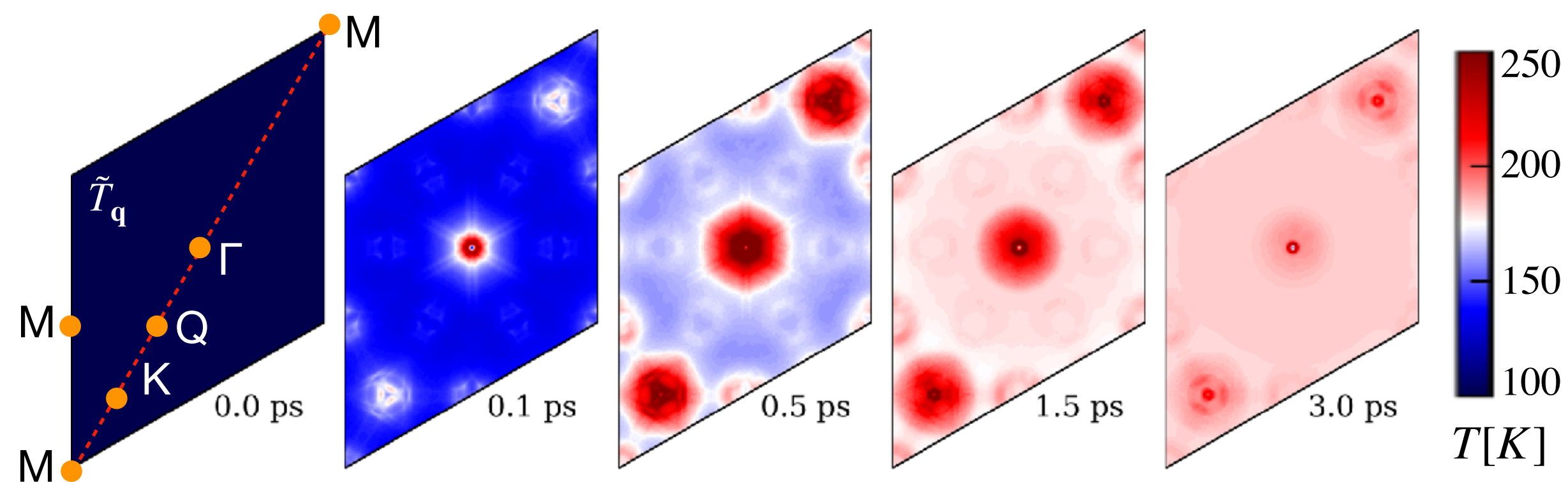
Reciprocal lattice  
vector

example: Cubic lattice

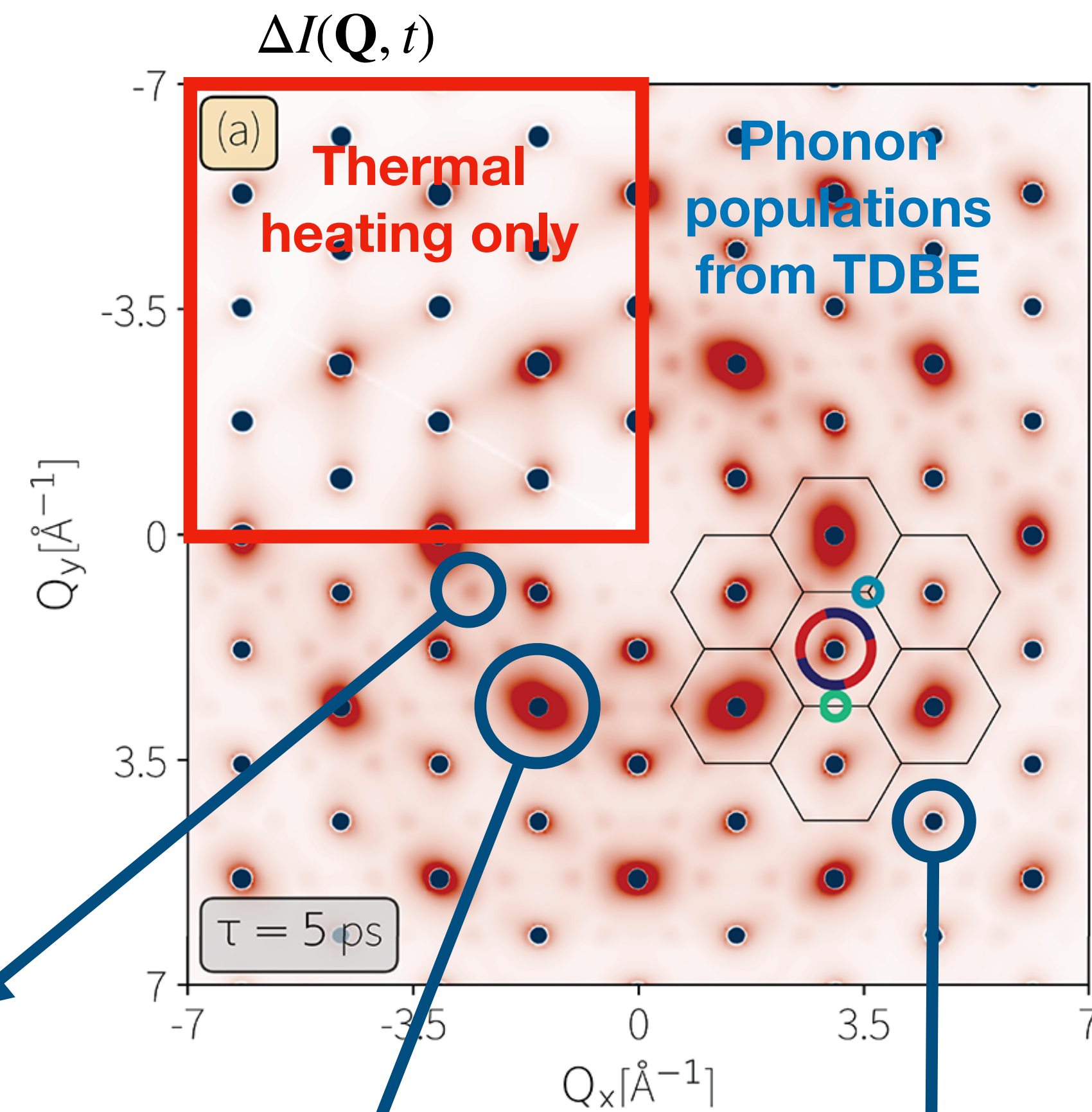


# Recipe for ab-initio simulation of UEDS intensities

**Step 1:** Obtain the non-equilibrium phonon population from the TDBE



**Simulated UEDS for monolayer MoS<sub>2</sub>**



**Step 2:** Evaluate the structure factor for the instantaneous phonon population



$$I(\mathbf{Q}, \tau) = I_0(\mathbf{Q}, \tau) + I_1(\mathbf{Q}, \tau) + \dots$$

M. Zacharias, et al.,  
 Phys. Rev. Lett. **127**, 207401 (2021)  
 Phys. Rev. B **104**, 205109 (2021)

Zero-phonon

One-phonon

**Step 3:** Subtract the initial structure factor

Intensity difference:

$$\Delta I(\mathbf{Q}, t) = I(\mathbf{Q}, t) - I(\mathbf{Q}, t = 0)$$

phonons out of equilibrium

thermal heating

Debye-Waller effect



# Direct view of phonon dynamics in MoS<sub>2</sub> monolayer

## Experiments

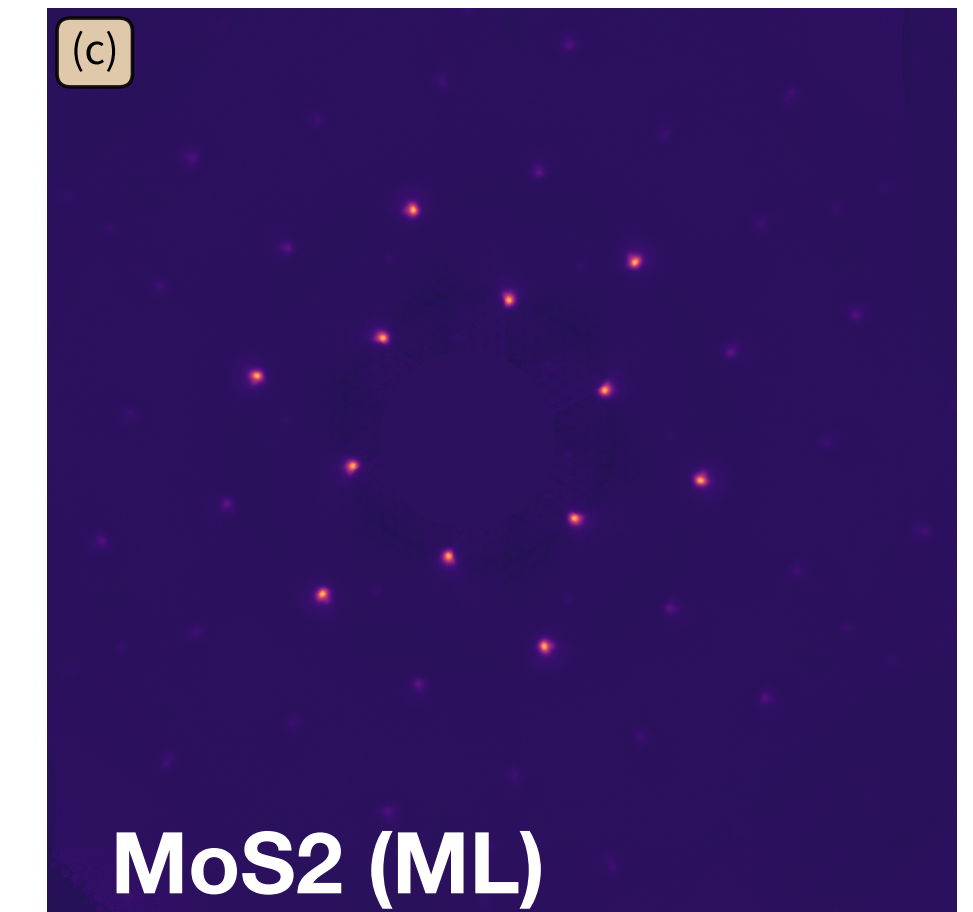
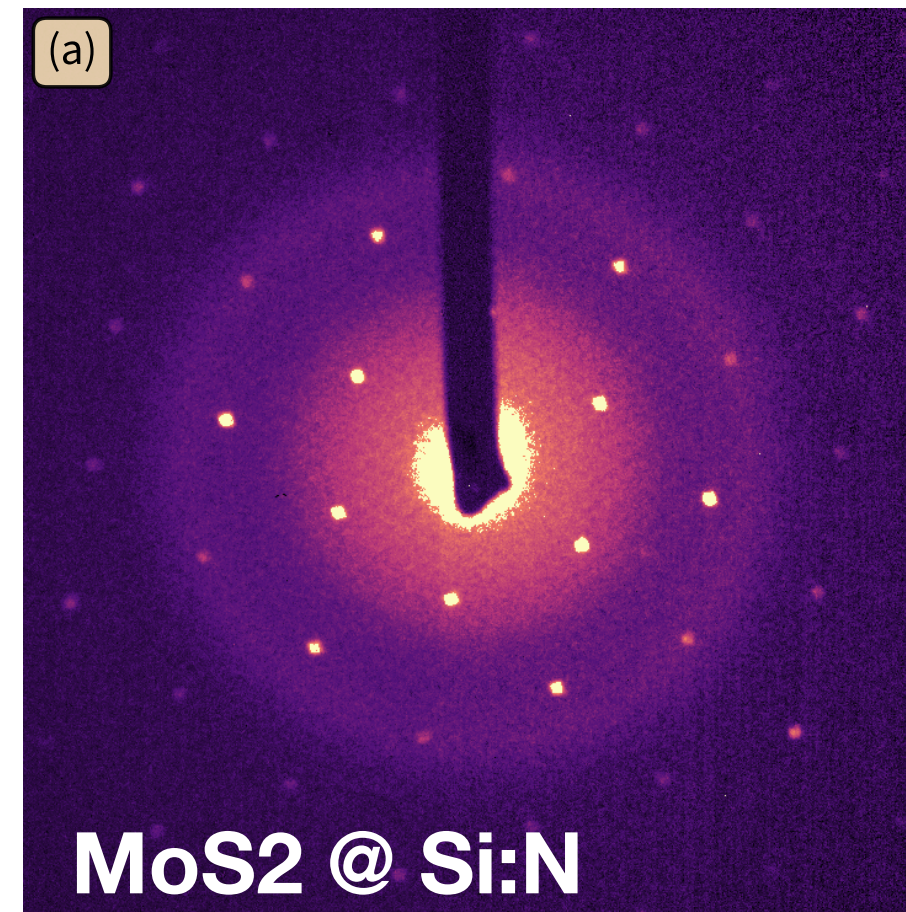


Tristan Britt

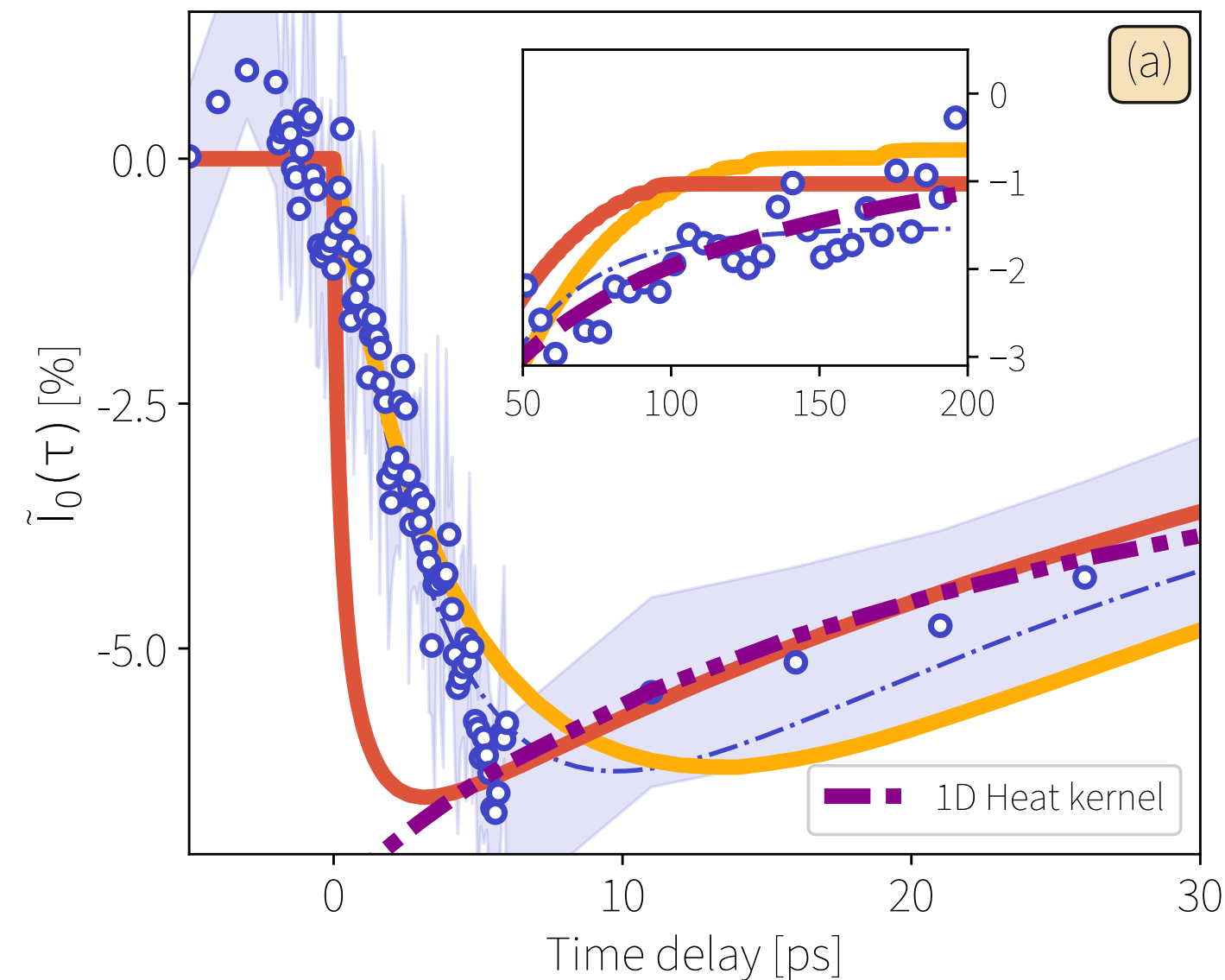


Bradley Siwick

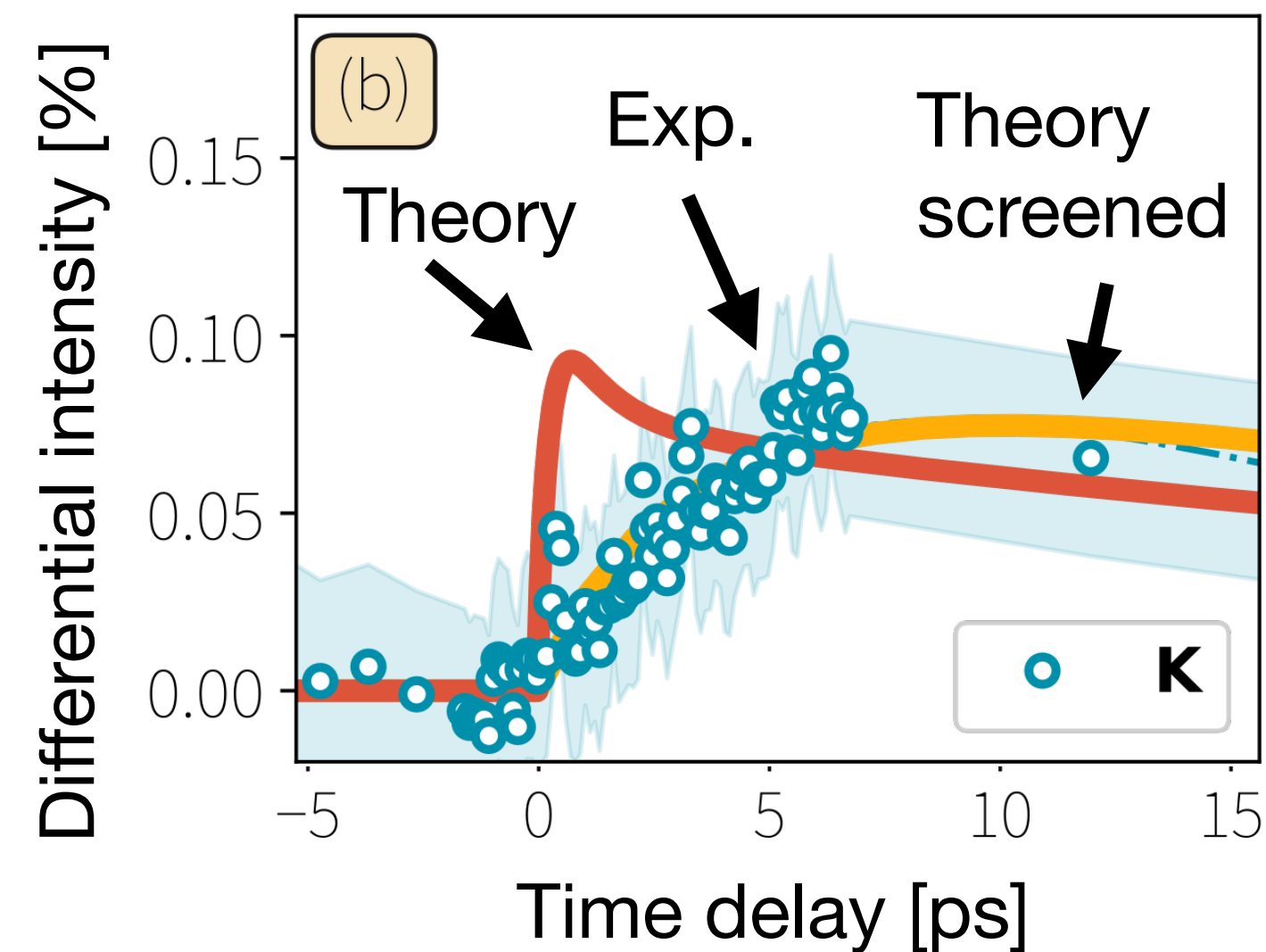
(McGill University)



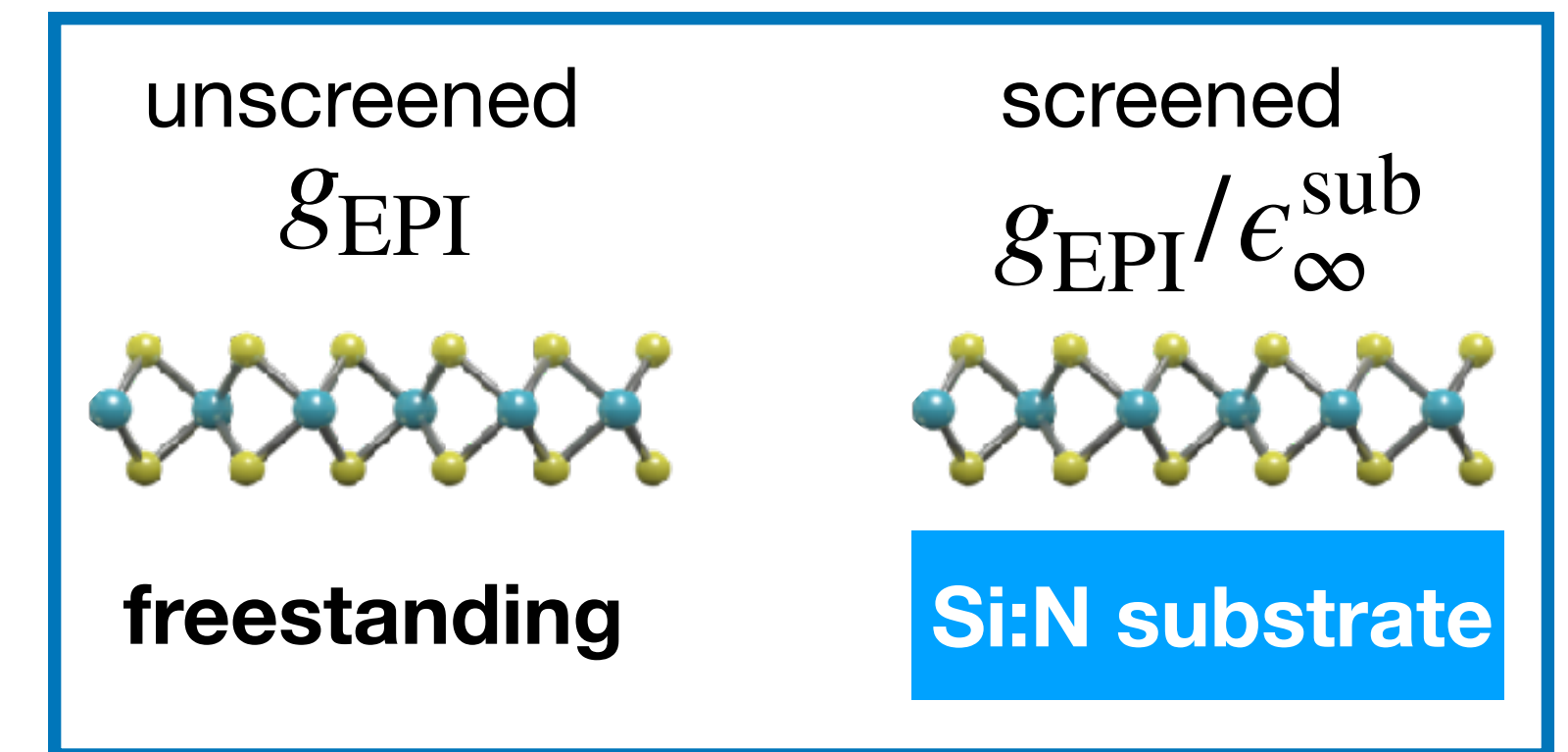
## Bragg peak dynamics (Debye Waller effect)



## Diffuse scattering at K

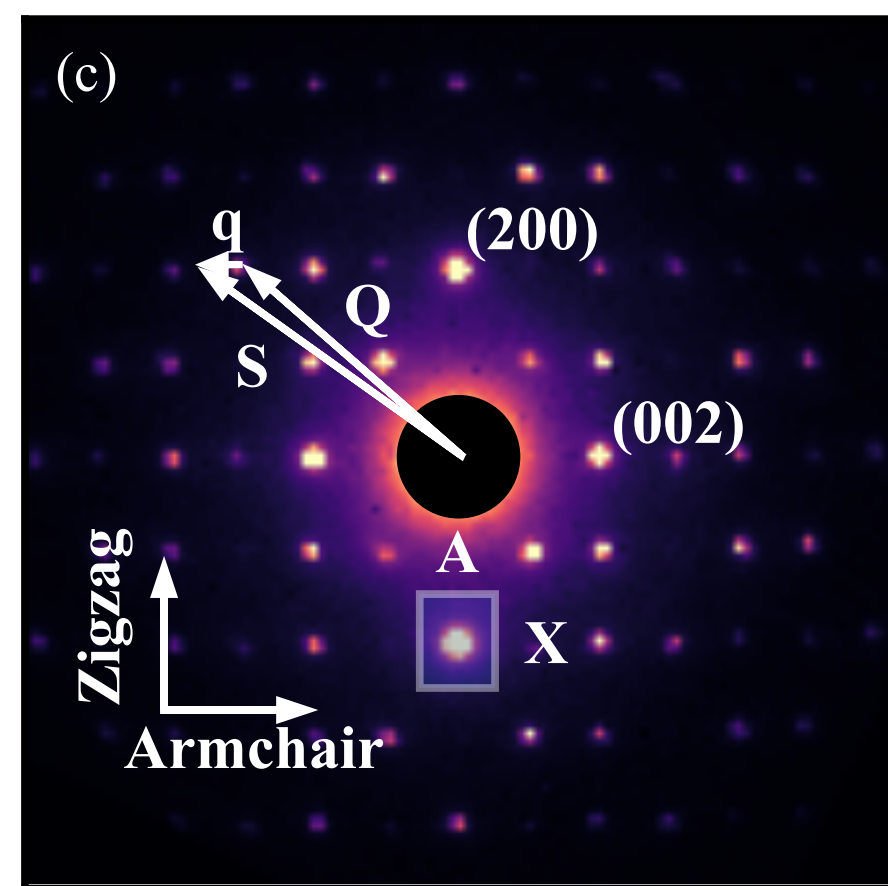
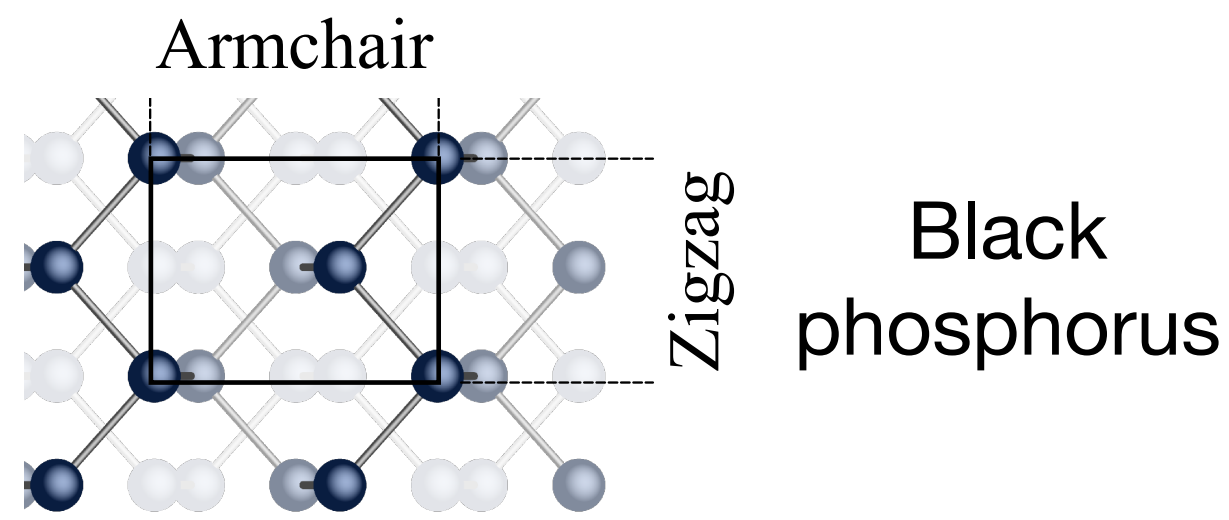


## Measured energy transfer to the lattice: ~7 times slower than theory.

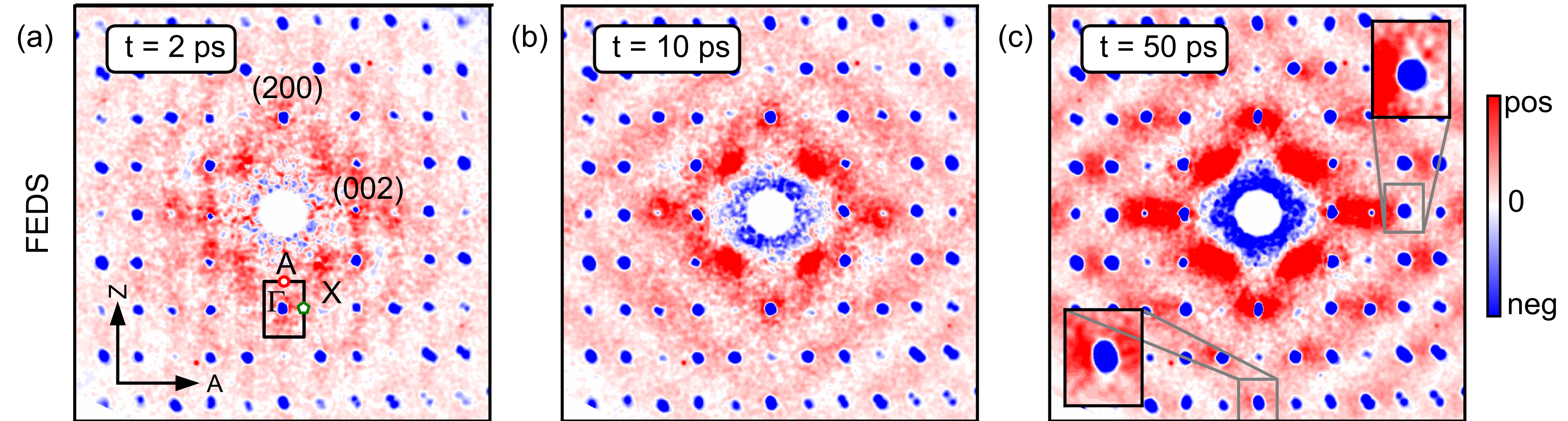




# Ultrafast electron diffuse scattering: black Phosphorus



## Experiment



## Experiments: FHI Berlin



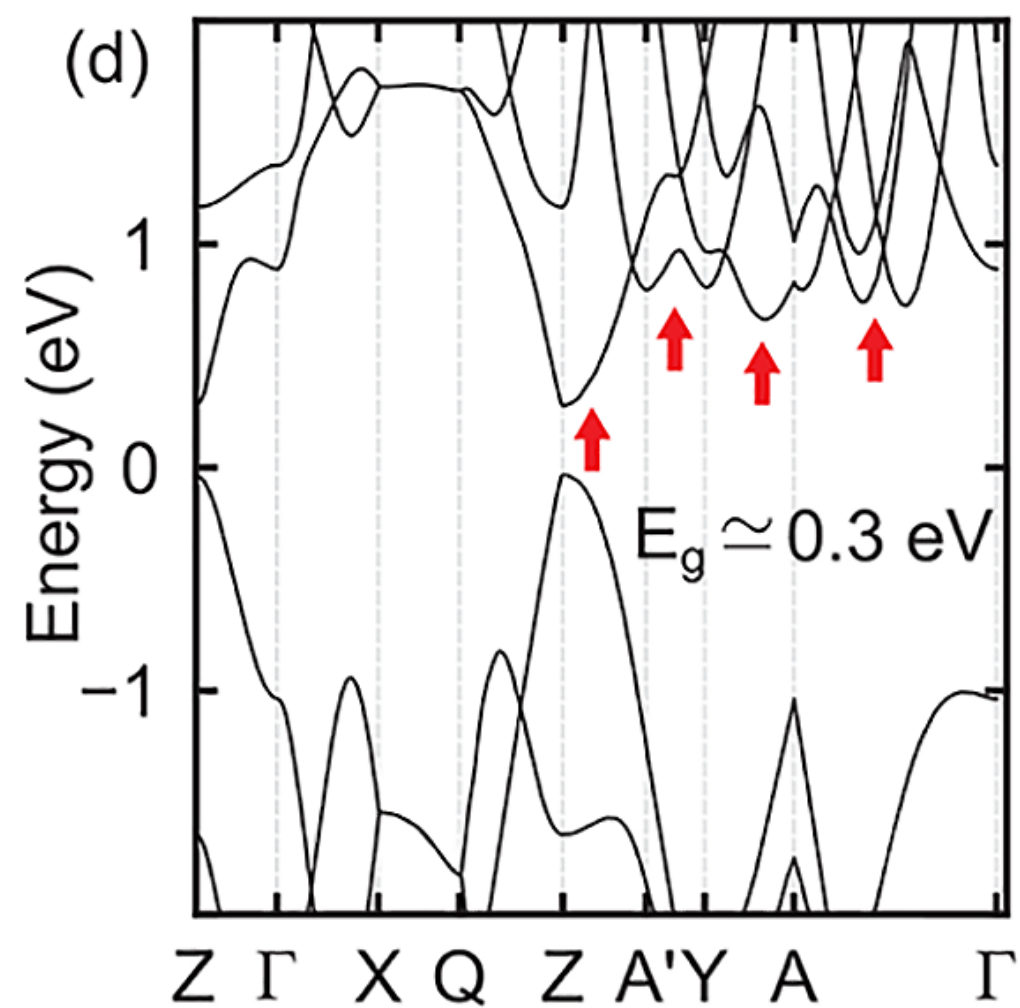
Helene  
Seiler



Ralph  
Ernstorfer

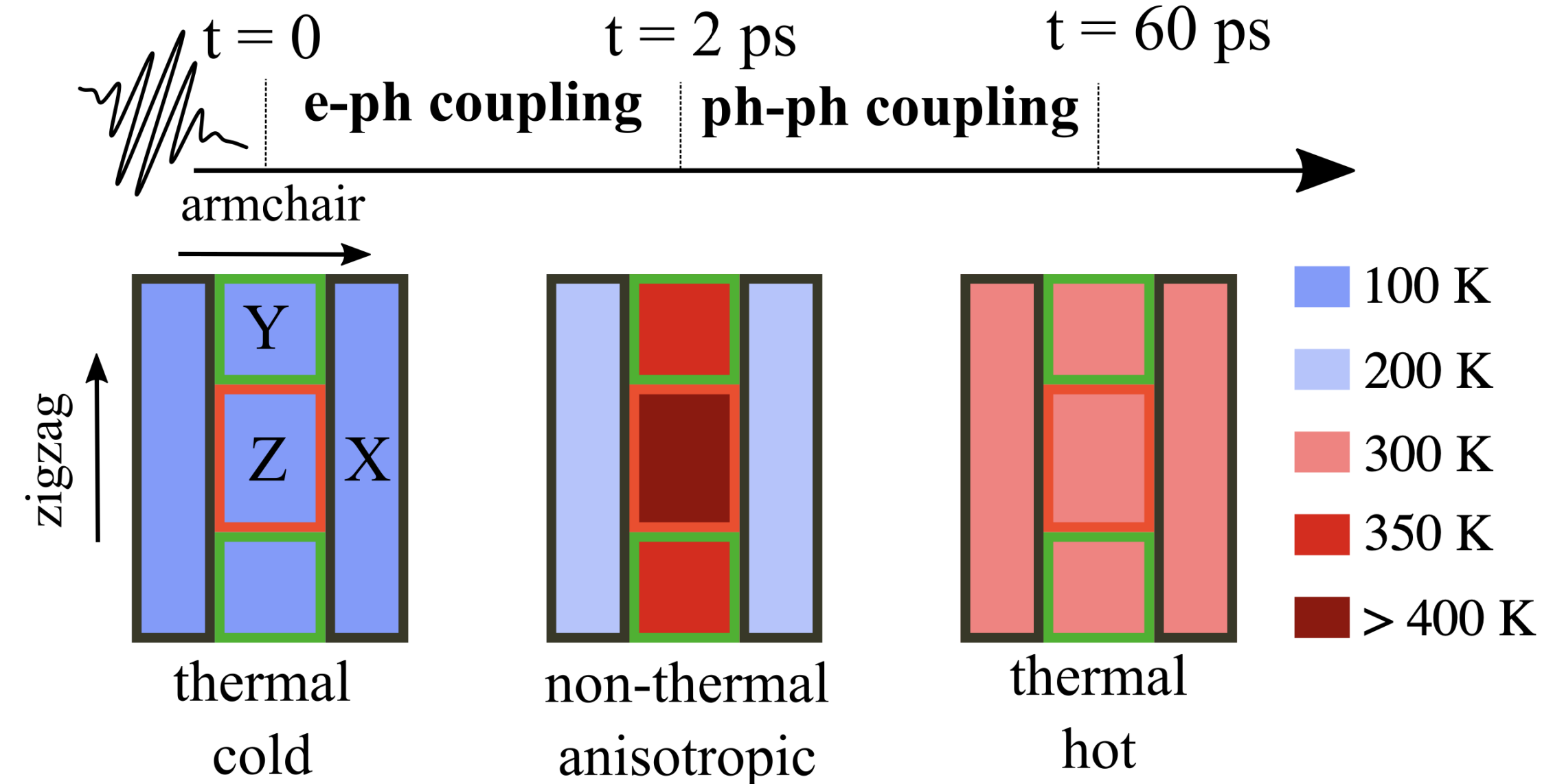
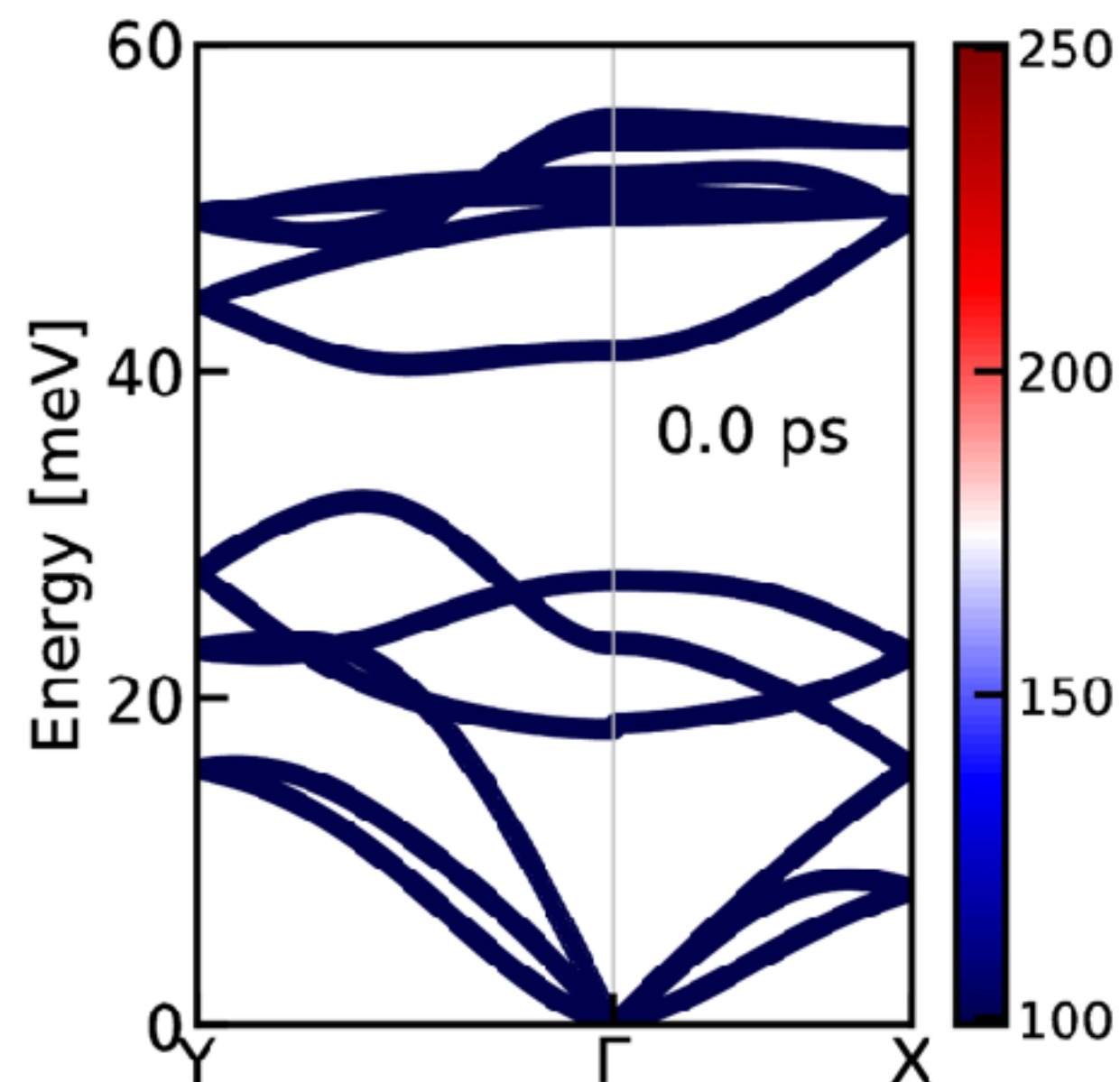
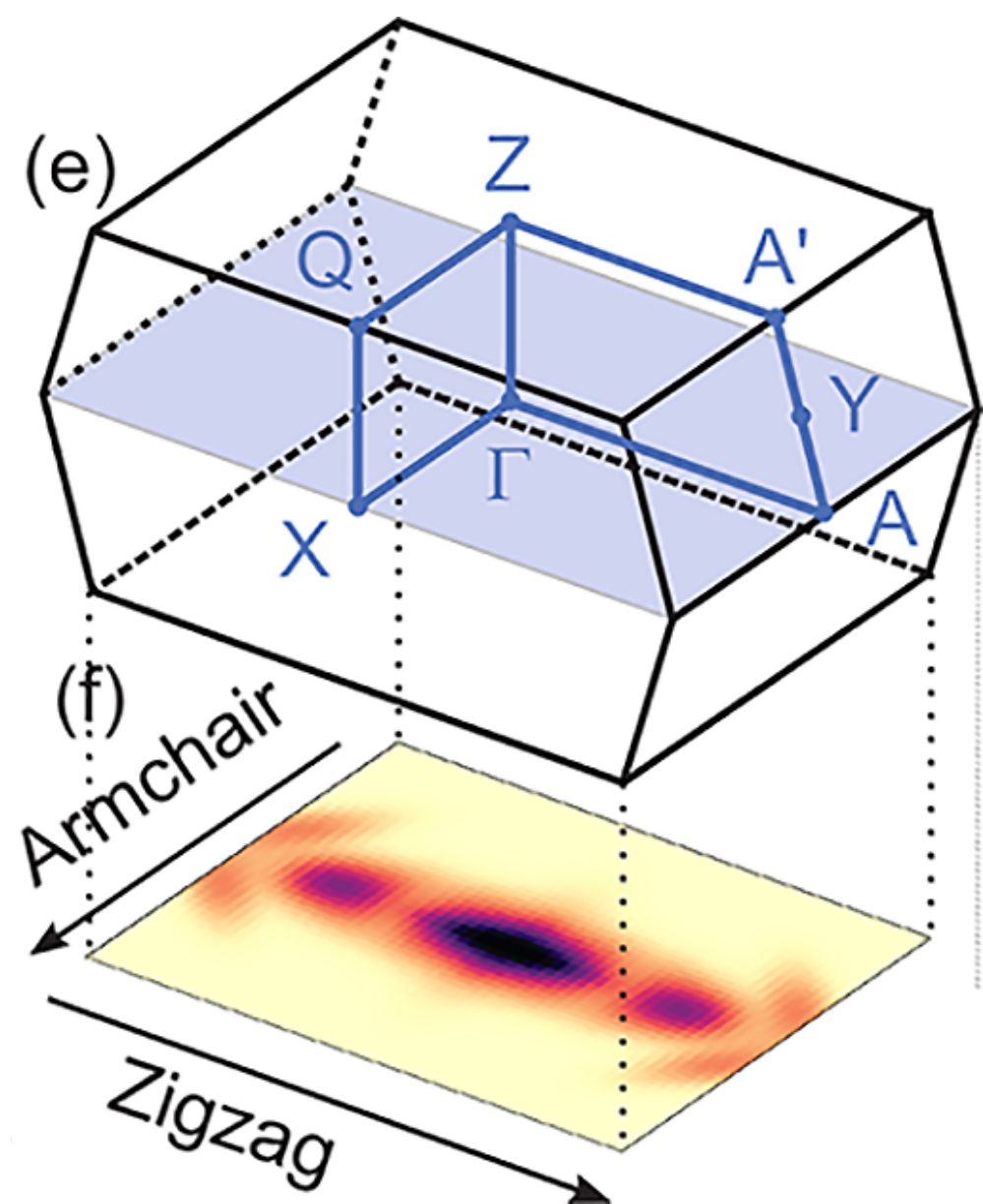
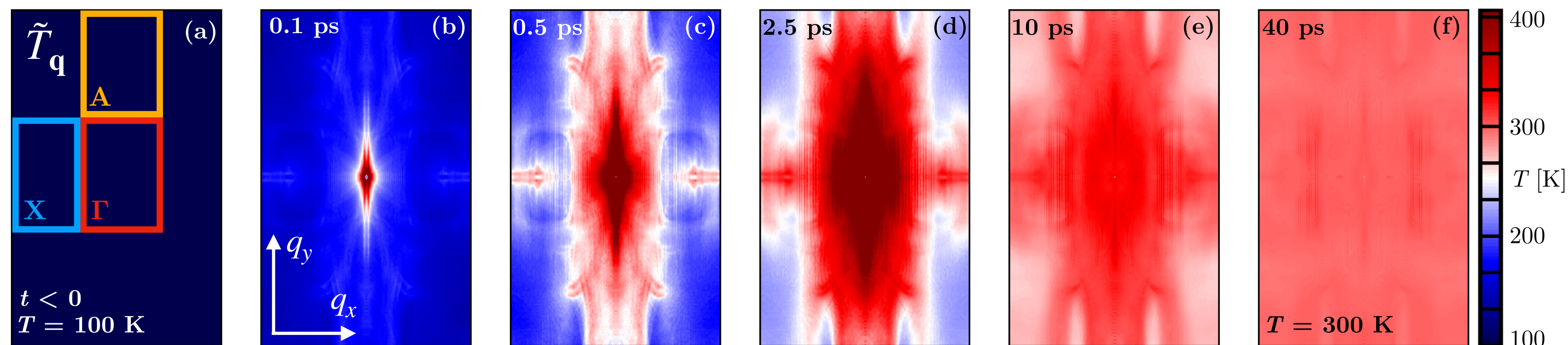


# Non-equilibrium lattice dynamics in bP from first-principles



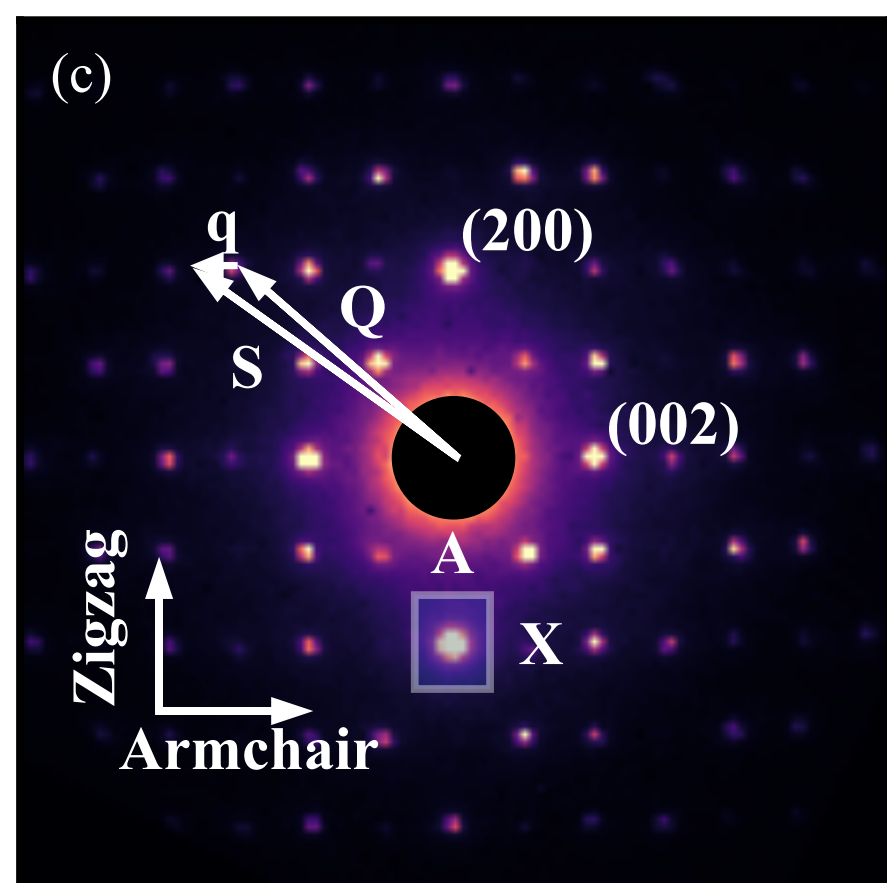
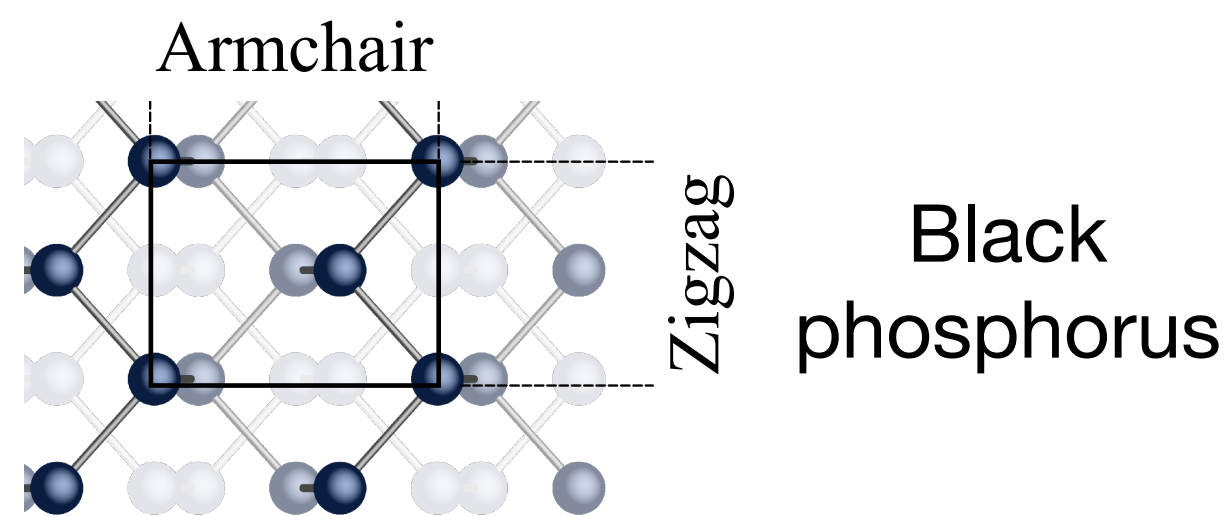
$$\frac{\partial n_{\mathbf{q}\nu}}{\partial t} = I_{\mathbf{q}\nu}^{\text{e-ph}}[f, n] + I_{\mathbf{q}\nu}^{\text{ph-ph}}[n]$$

**Effective vibrational temperature**





# Ultrafast electron diffuse scattering: black Phosphorus



Experiments: FHI Berlin

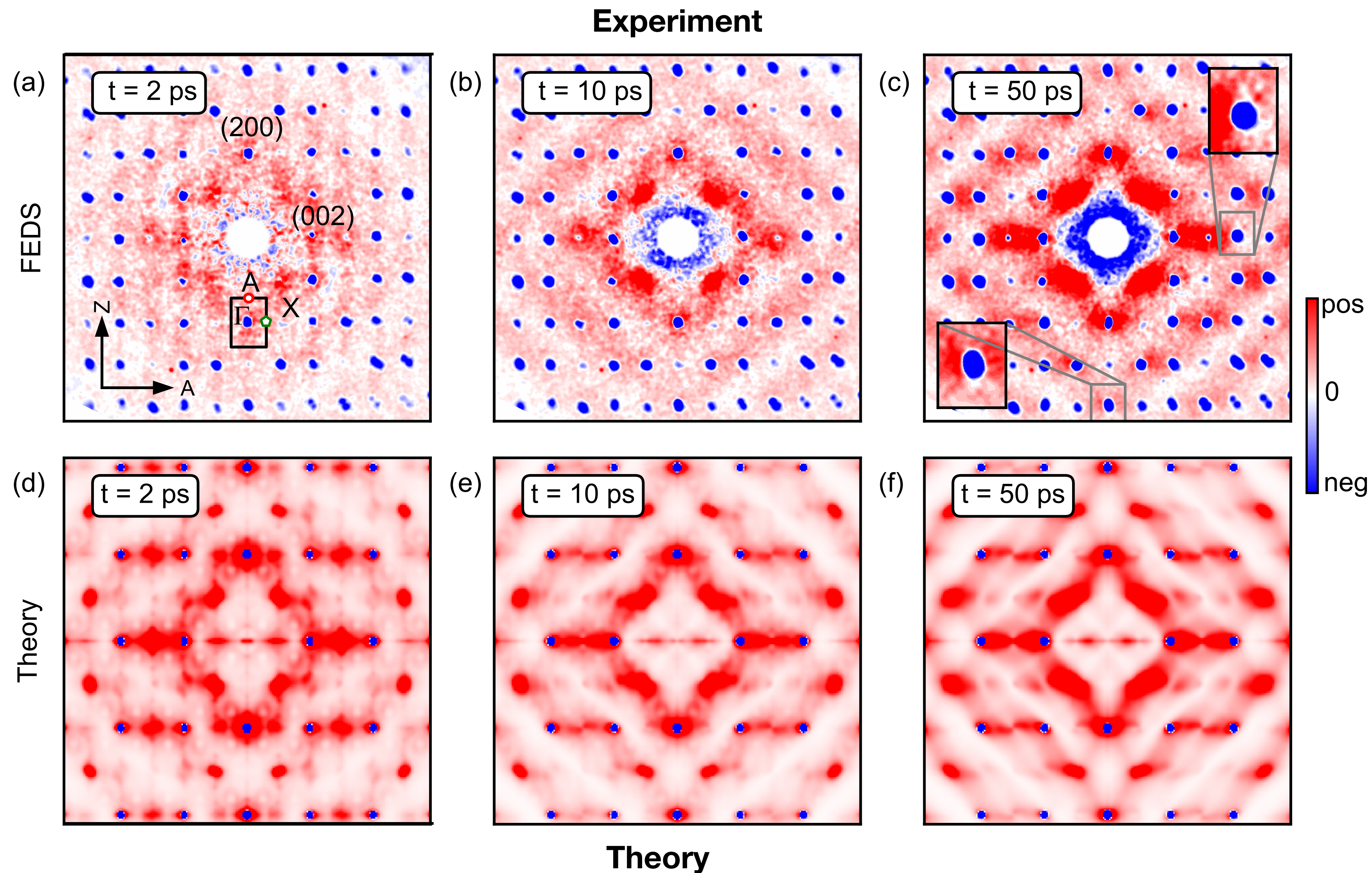


Helene  
Seiler



Ralph  
Ernstorfer

H. Seiler et al., Nano Lett. **21**, 6171 (2021)





## Part 4

### Vibrational dichroism of chiral valley phonons

# Valley selective circular dichroism in TMDs and chiral valley excitons

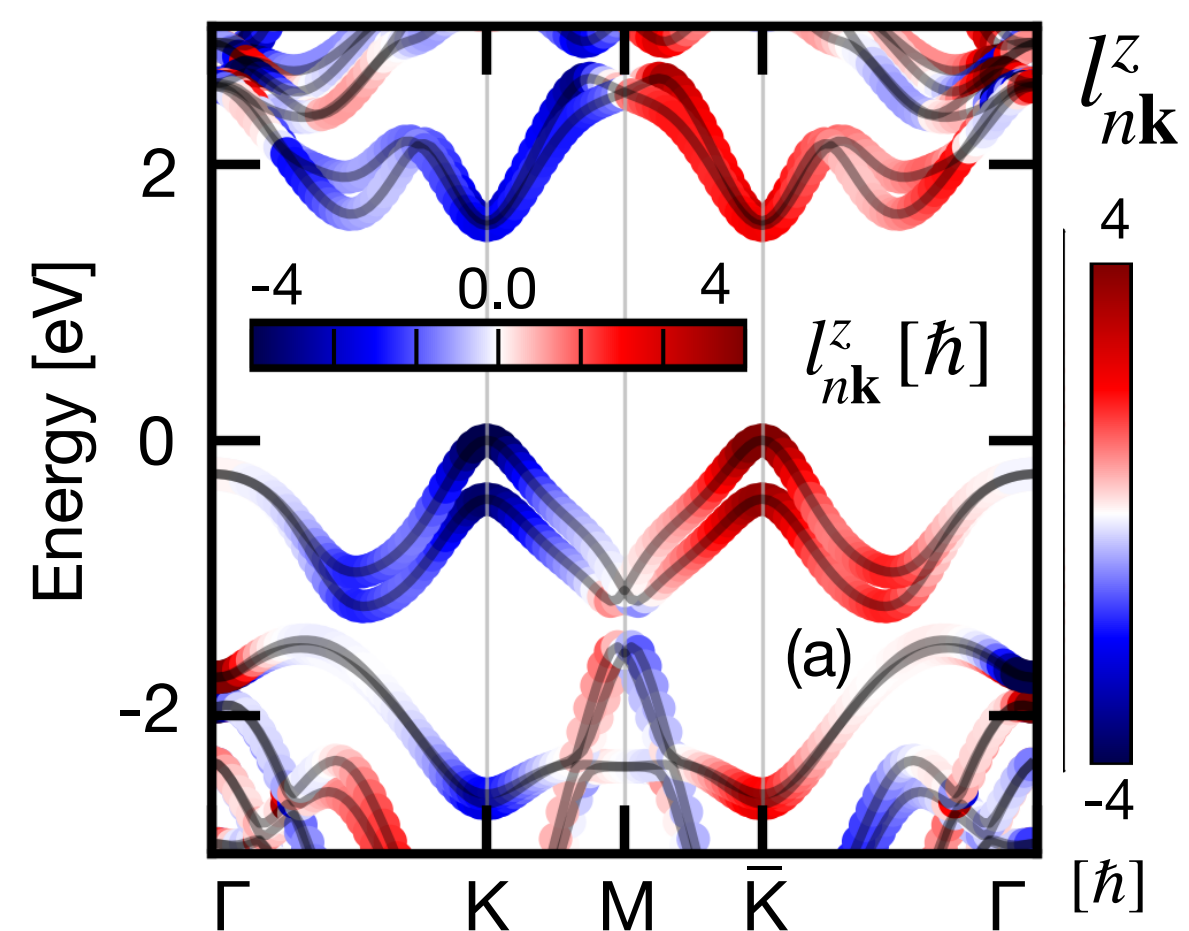
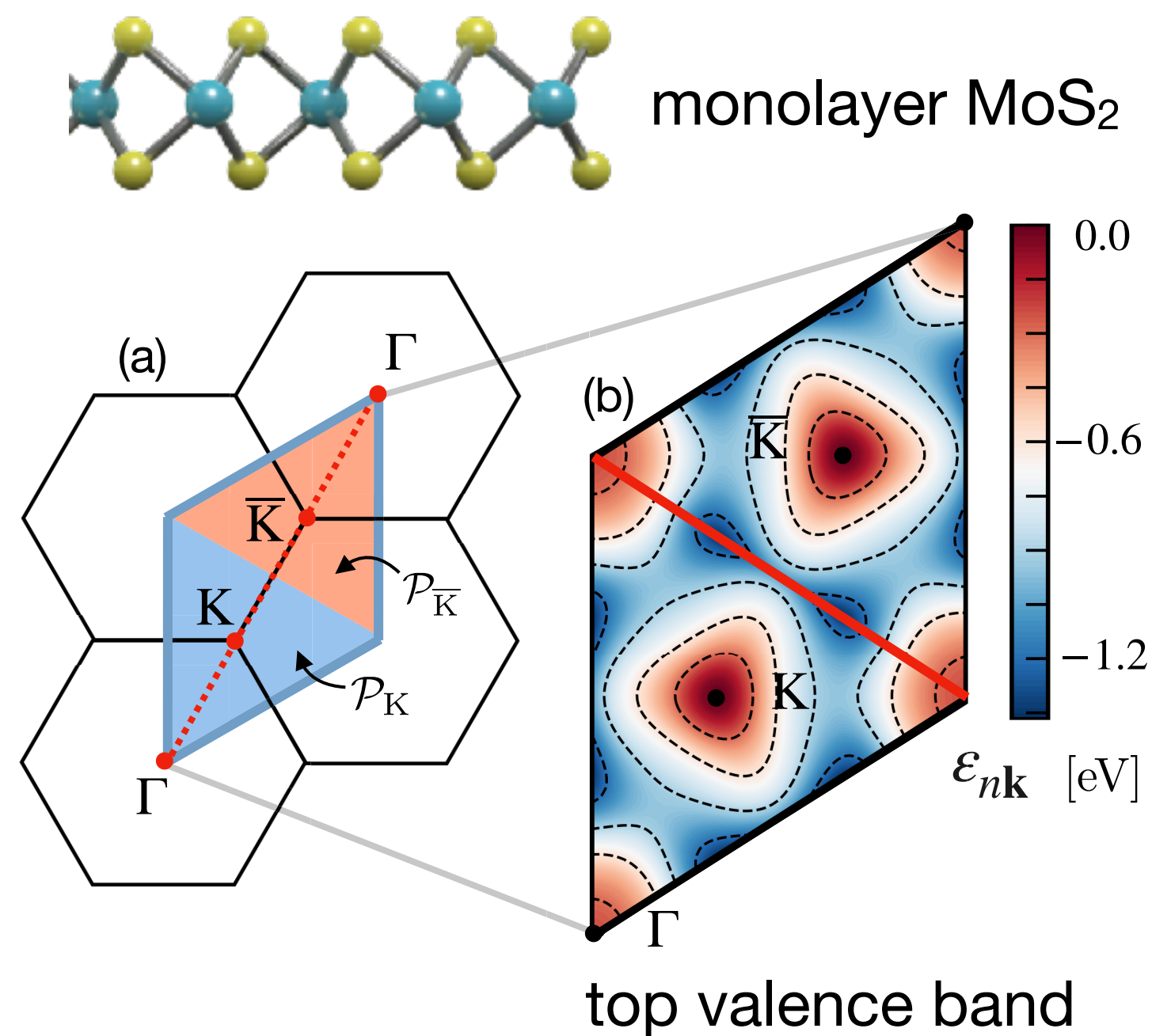
Orbital angular momentum (OAM):

$$\mathbf{l} = \mathbf{r} \times \mathbf{p}$$

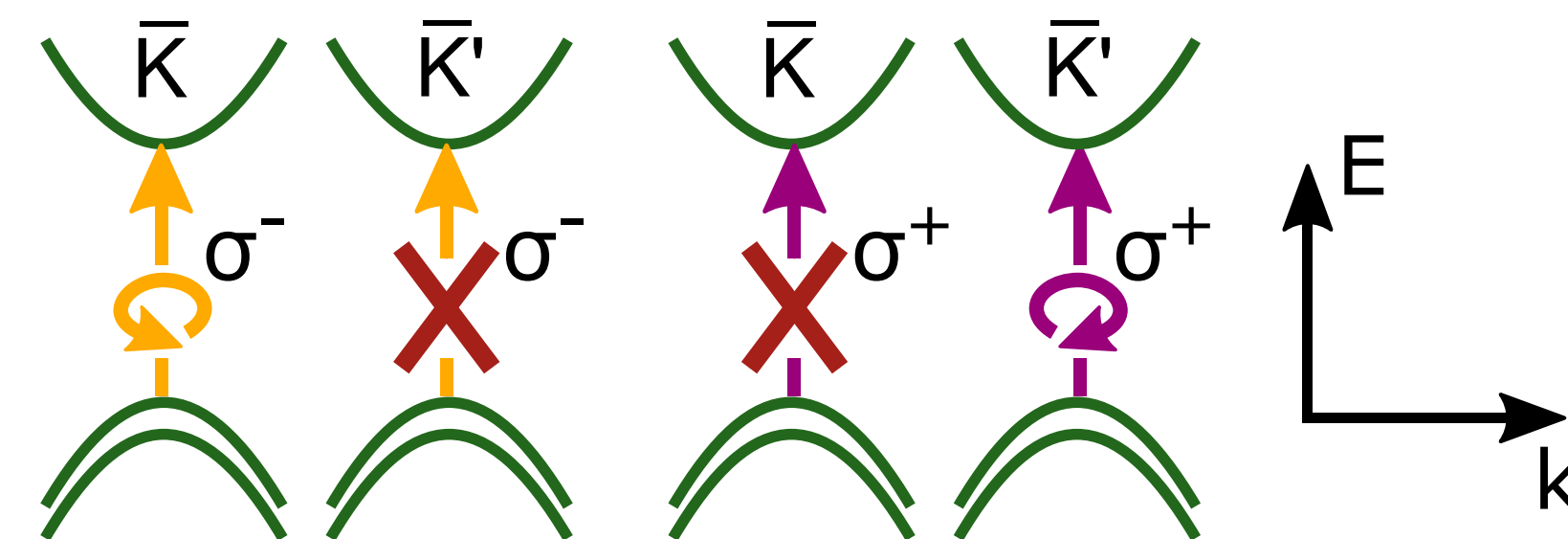
$$l_{nk}^z = \frac{2\hbar}{m_e} \sum_{m \neq n} \frac{\text{Im} [M_{nm}^x M_{mn}^y]}{\epsilon_{mk} - \epsilon_{nk}}$$

Modern theory of OAM:

Thonhauser et al., Phys. Rev. Lett. (2005)



Valley-selective circular dichroism

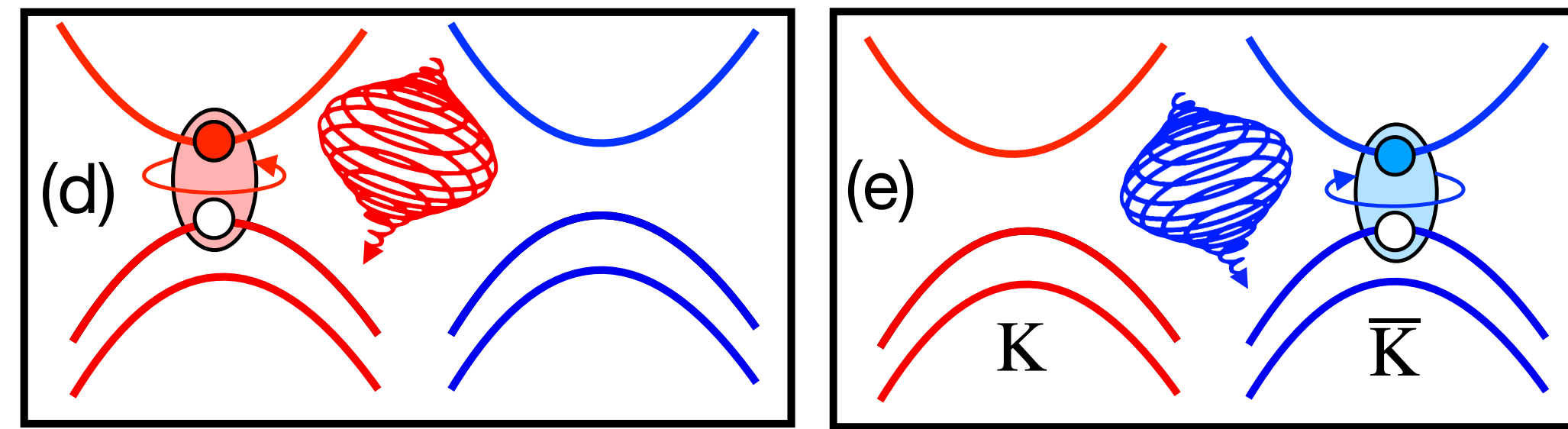
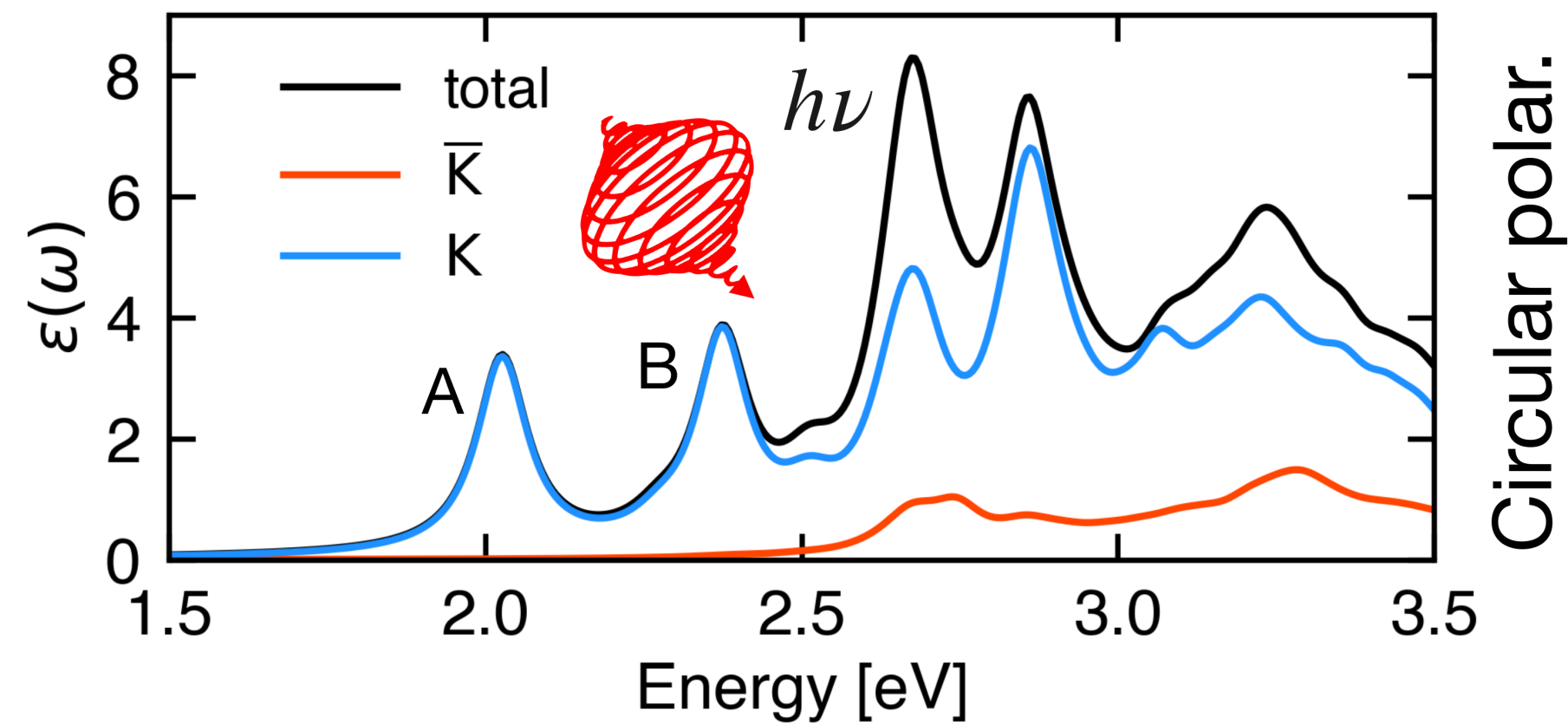


Yao, Xiao, Niu, Phys. Rev. B 77, 235406 (2008)

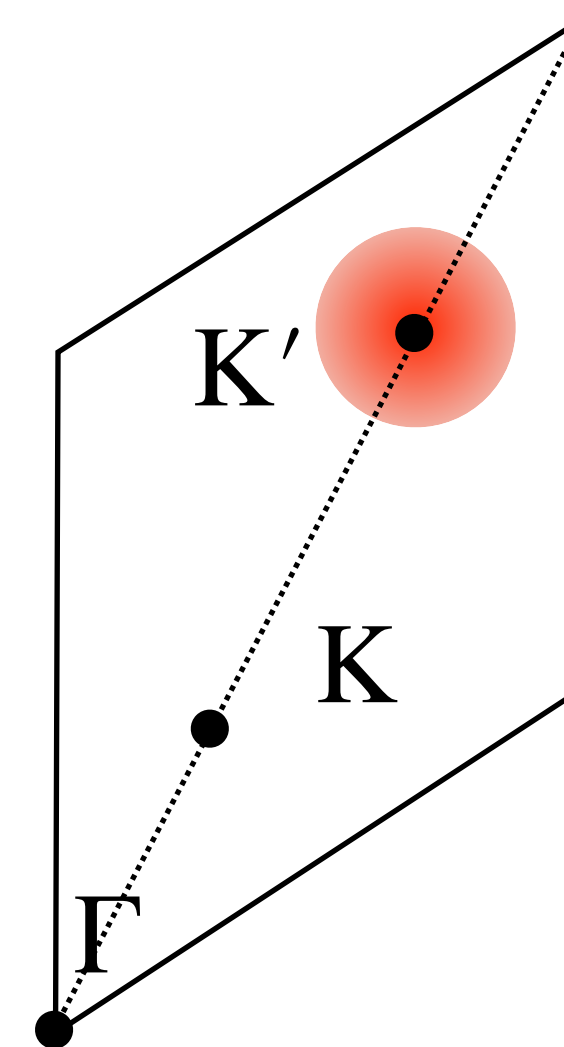
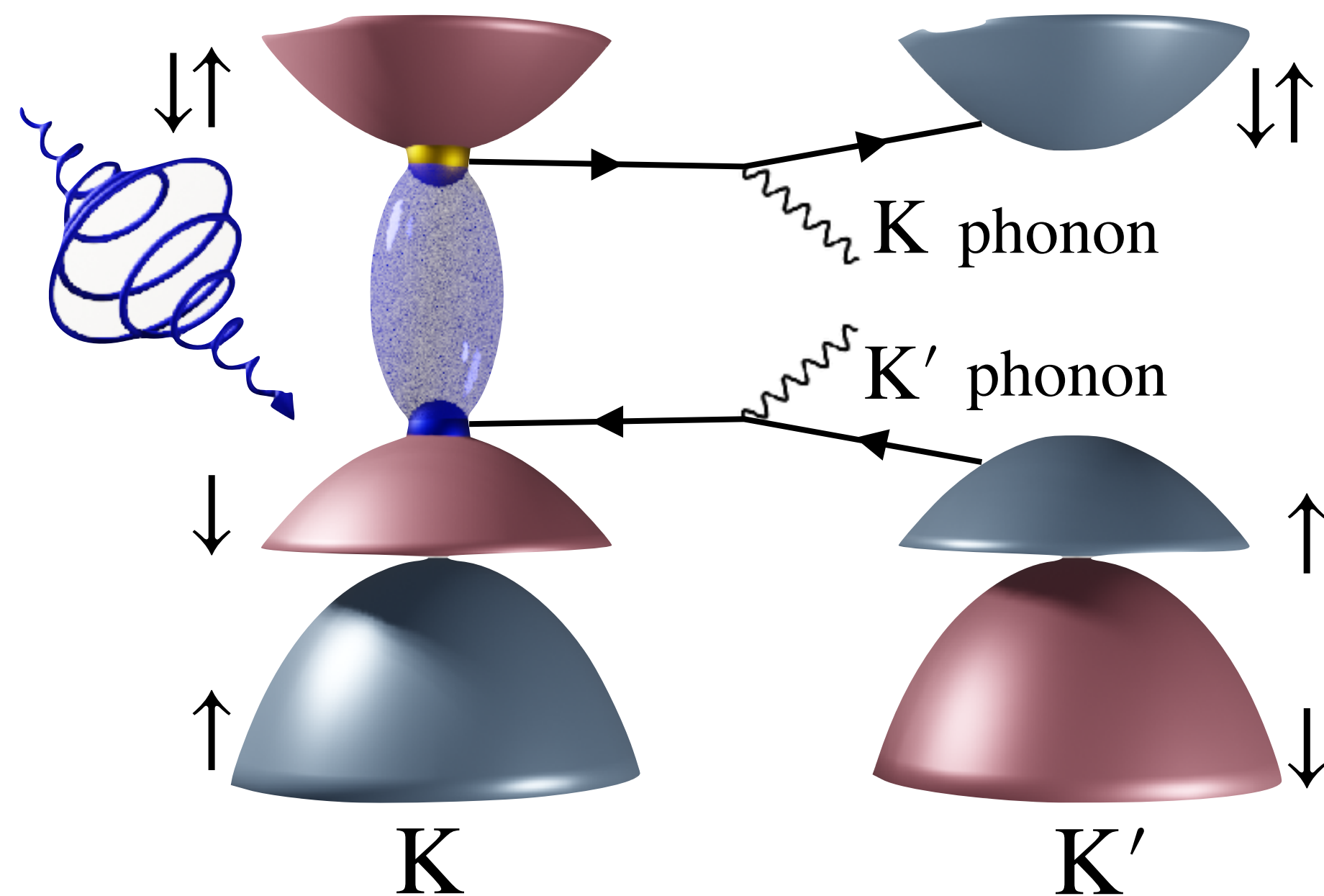


# Valley selective circular dichroism in TMDs and chiral valley excitons

## Ab-initio theory of chiral valley excitons:



F. Caruso et al., J. Phys. Chem Lett. **13**, 5894 (2022)



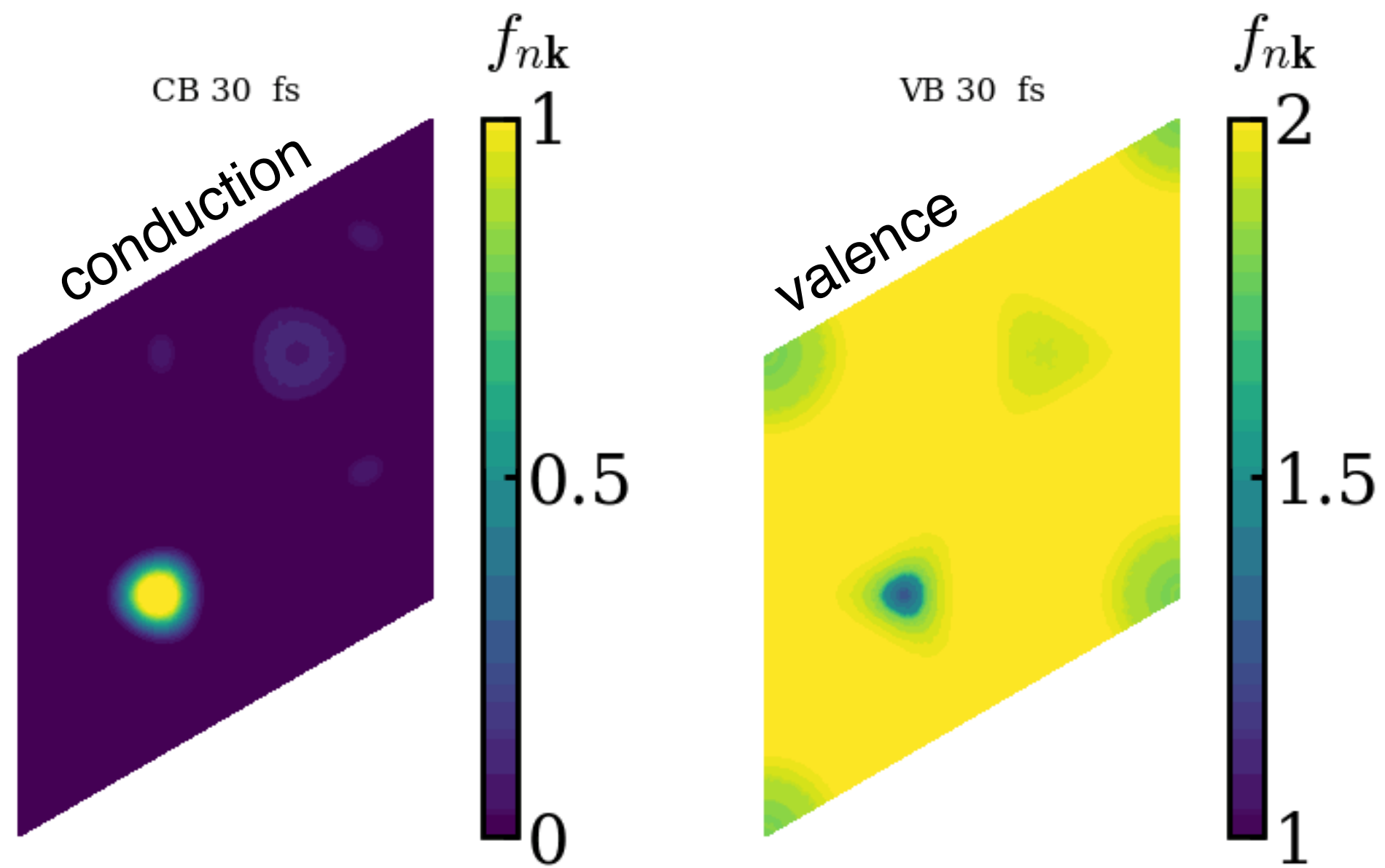
**Q1: How is the lattice dynamics influenced by valley selective circular dichroism**

**Q2: Can we extend valleytronics paradigm to vibrational excitations of the lattice?**

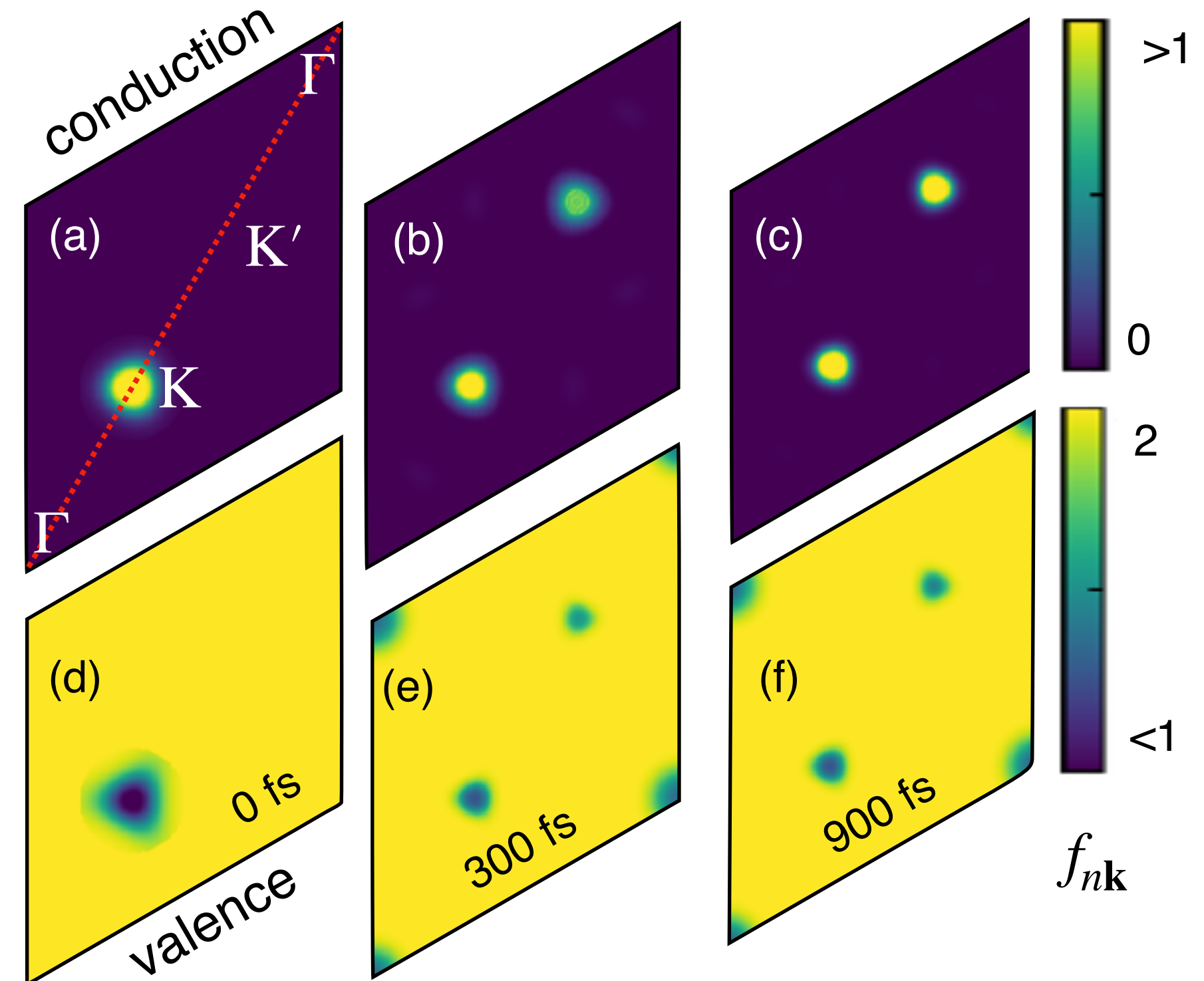
# Electron dynamics: ultrafast valley depolarization

Ultrafast electron dynamics from the TDBE

$$\frac{\partial f_{n\mathbf{k}}}{\partial t} = I_{n\mathbf{k}}^{\text{e-ph}}[f, n]$$



Starting point:  
valley-polarized electron excitation

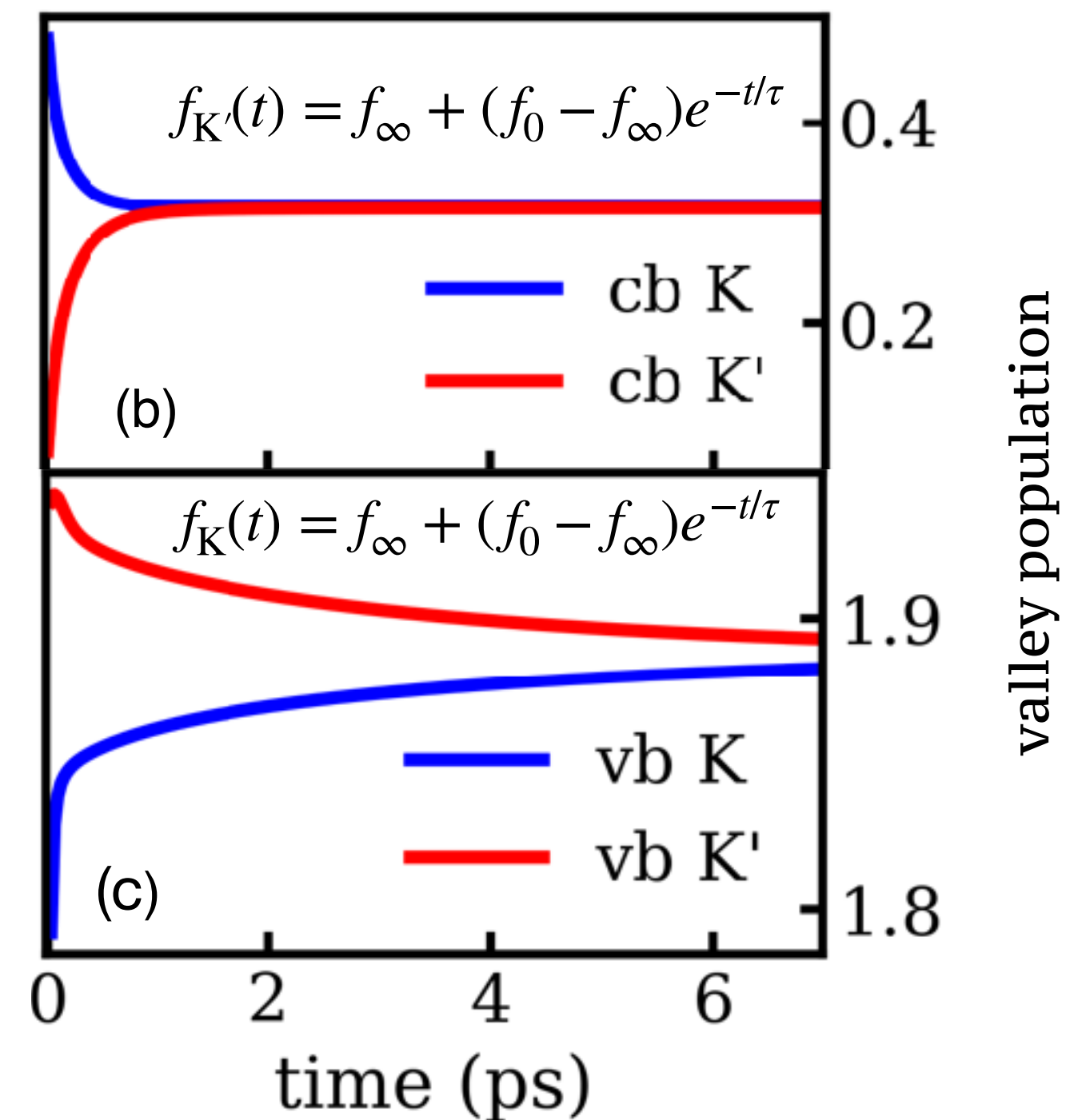
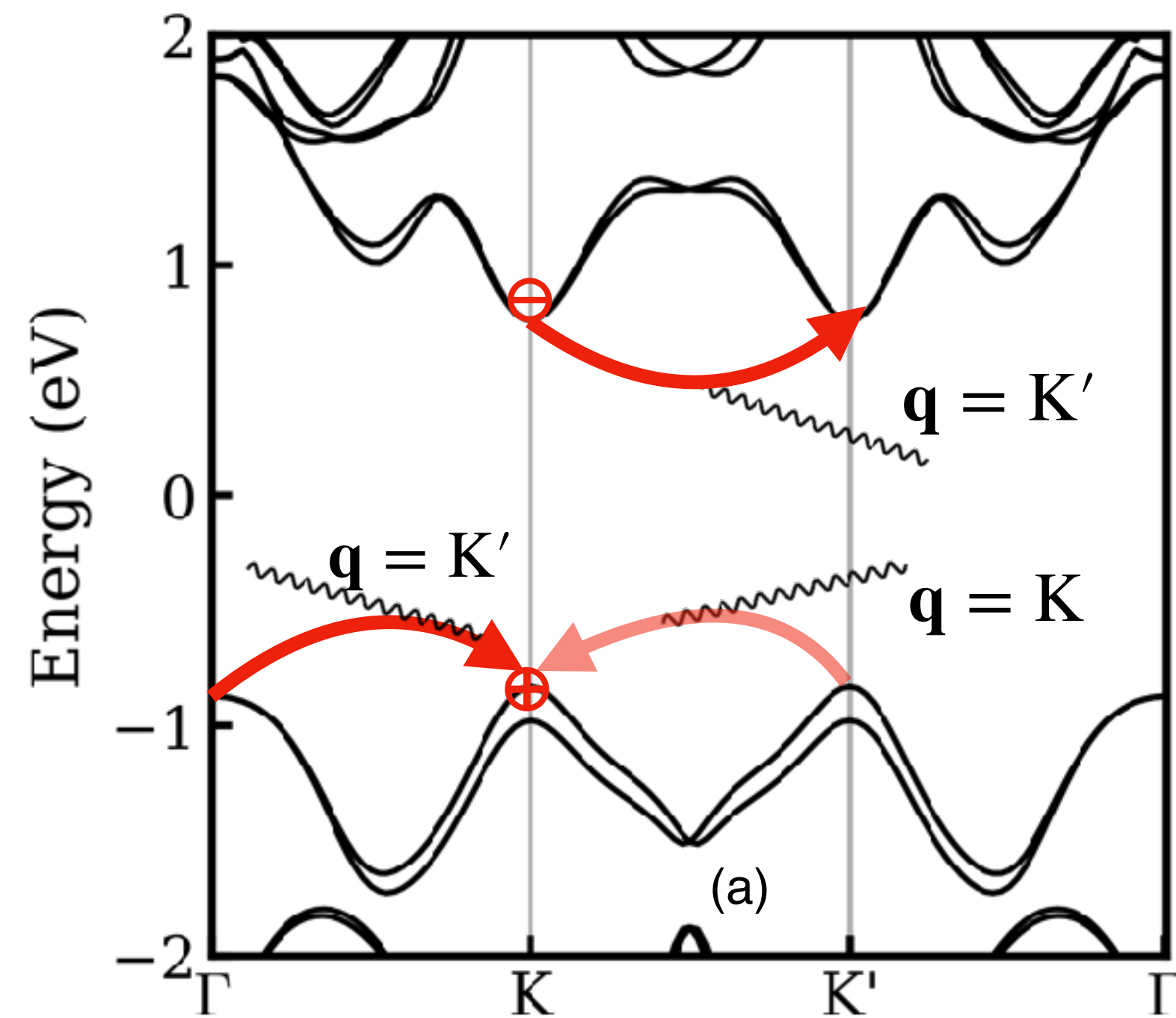


- Ultrafast valley depolarization dynamics
- Different timescales for valence and conduction band



# Electron dynamics: ultrafast valley depolarization

- Valley depolarization of photoexcited carriers
  - conduction bands: fast K-K' intervalley scattering, the decaying time is 150 fs
  - valence bands:  $\Gamma$ -K and K to K', the decaying time is 2 ps
  - Results consistent with other calculations and experiments:



A. Molina-Sánchez, D. Sangalli, et al.,  
Nano Letters 2017, 17, 4549

H. Beyer, G. Rohde, et al., Phys. Rev.  
Lett. 2019, 123, 236802

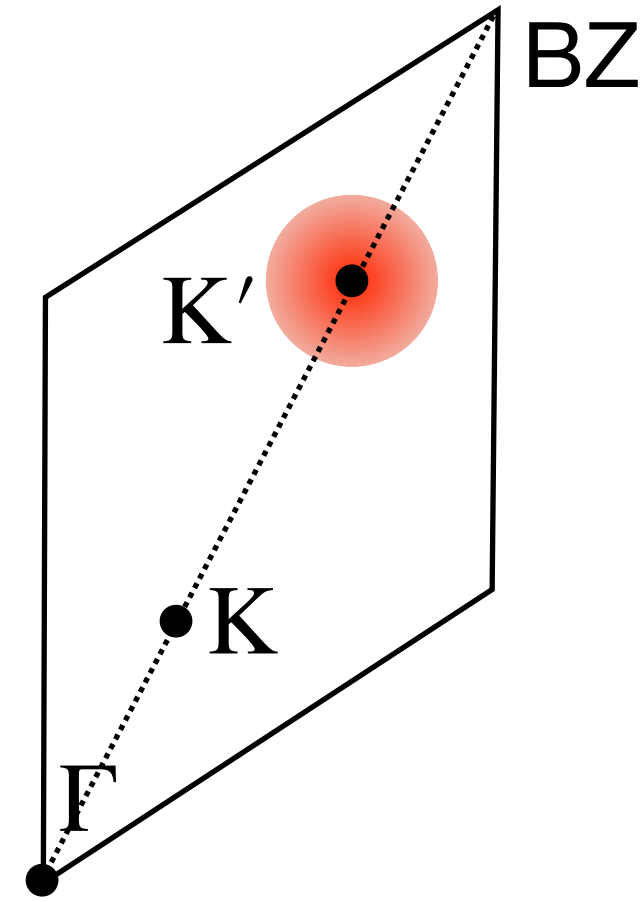
S. Dal Conte, F. Bottegoni, et al.,  
Phys. Rev B 2015, 92, 235425

# Phonon dynamics: excitation of chiral valley phonons

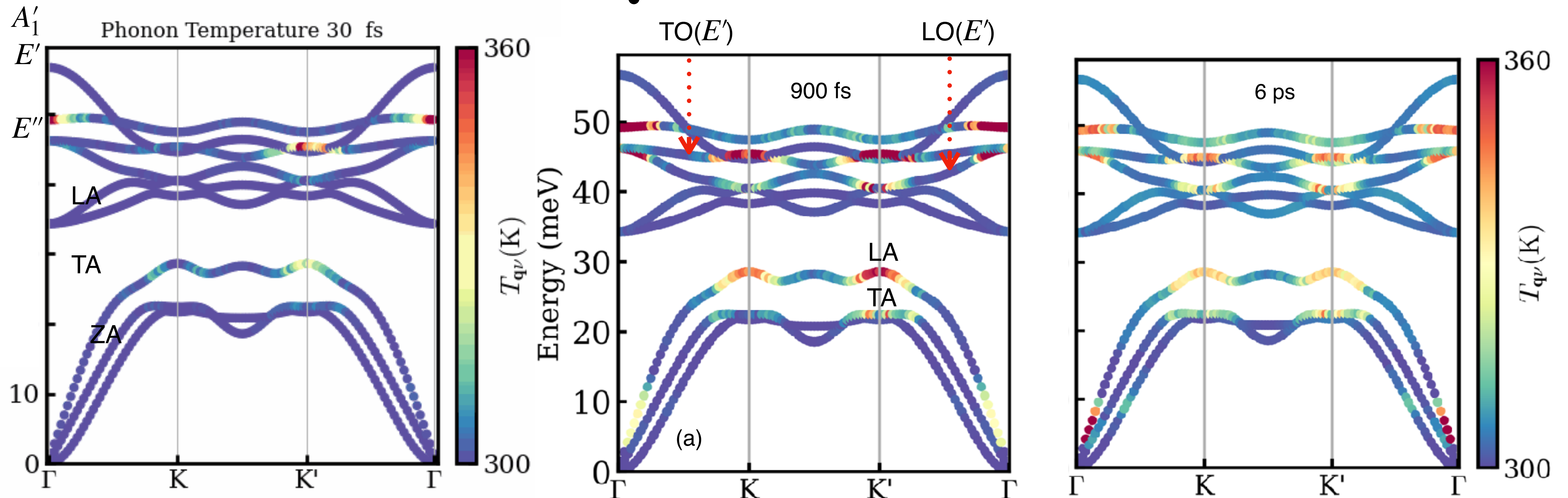
## Phonon TEMPERATURE in the Brillouin zone

$$T_{q\nu} = \hbar\omega_{q\nu} [k_B \ln(1 + n_{q\nu})]^{-1}$$

(averaged for all phonon polarizations)



population imbalance between phonons at the K and -K high-symmetry points



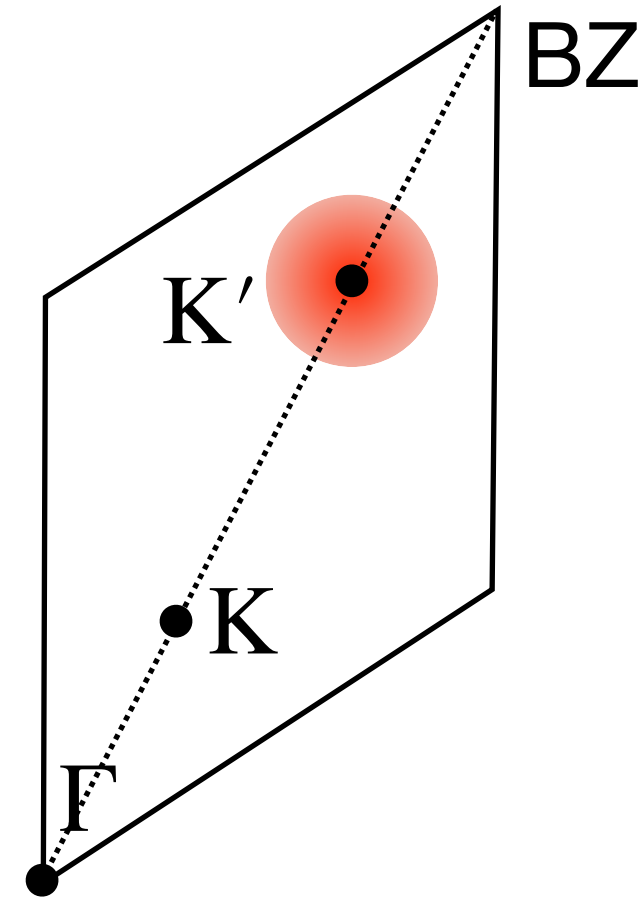


# Phonon dynamics: excitation of chiral valley phonons

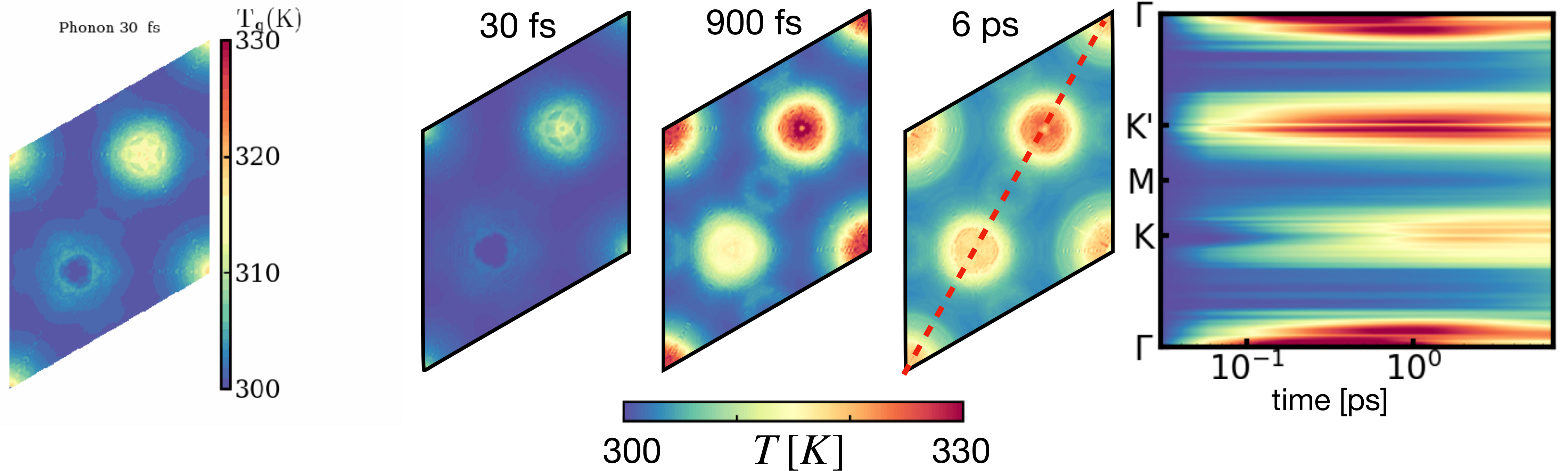
## Phonon TEMPERATURE in the Brillouin zone

$$T_{q\nu} = \hbar\omega_{q\nu} [k_B \ln(1 + n_{q\nu})]^{-1}$$

(averaged for all phonon polarizations)

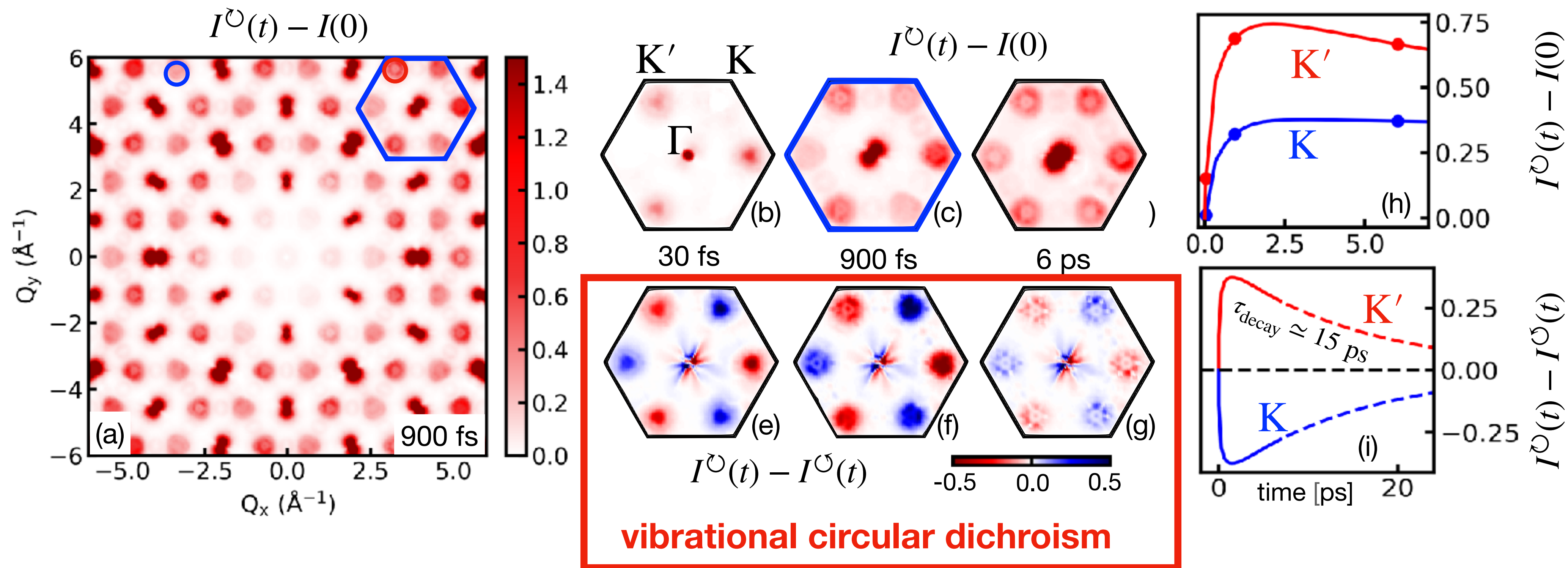


population imbalance between phonons at the K and -K high-symmetry points



# Fingerprints of vibrational dichroism in ultrafast diffraction experiments

## Ultrafast electron diffuse scattering signal (simulations)



$I^{\circ}(t) - I(0)$  : **transient diffraction intensity**  
(change relative to equilibrium)

$I^{\circ}(t) - I^{\circ}(t)$  : **dichroic diffraction intensity**  
(changes by switching polarization)

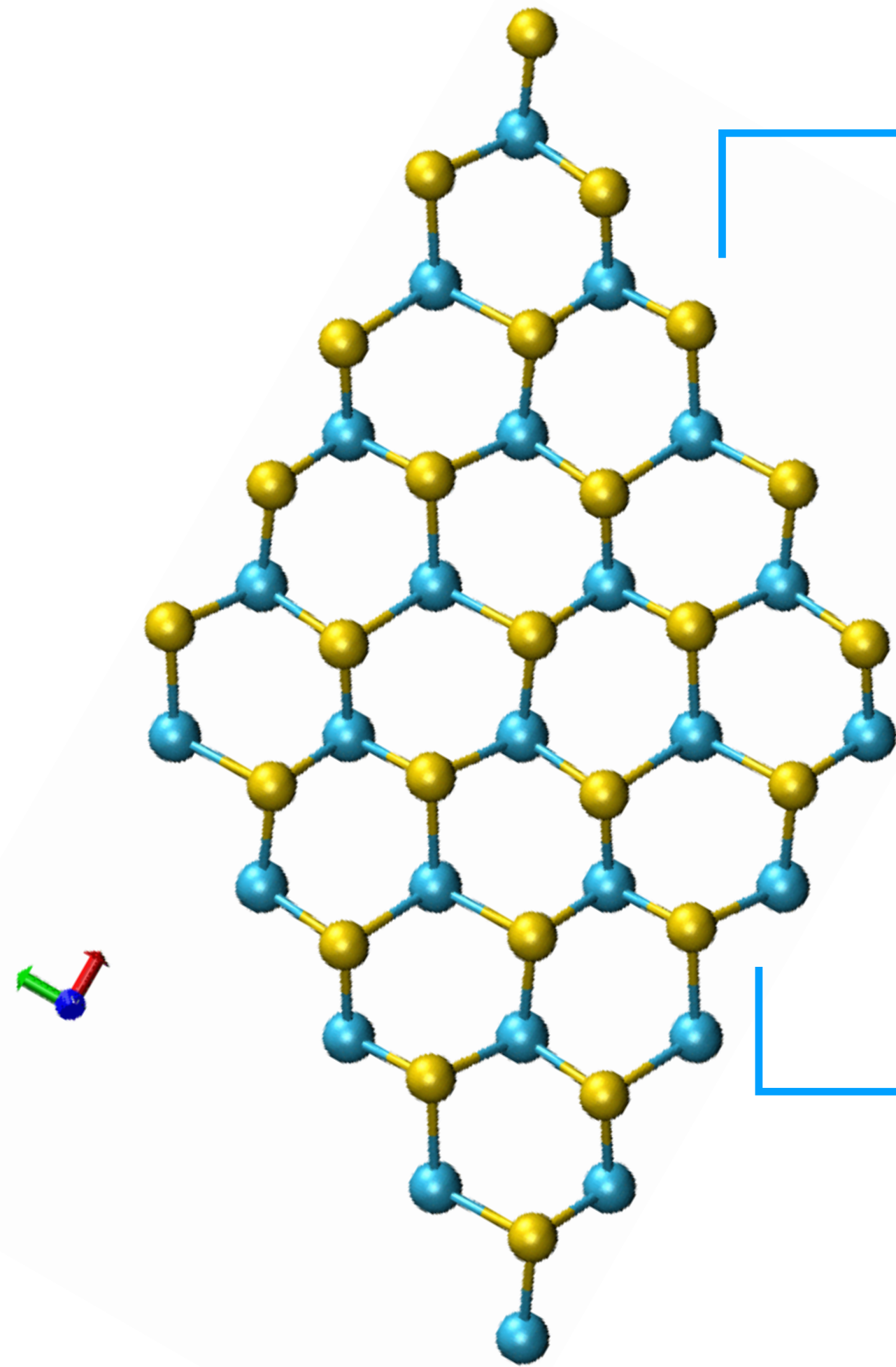
### Take-home message:

Vibrational dichroism persisting for tens of picoseconds.

Phonon valleytronics?



# Outline



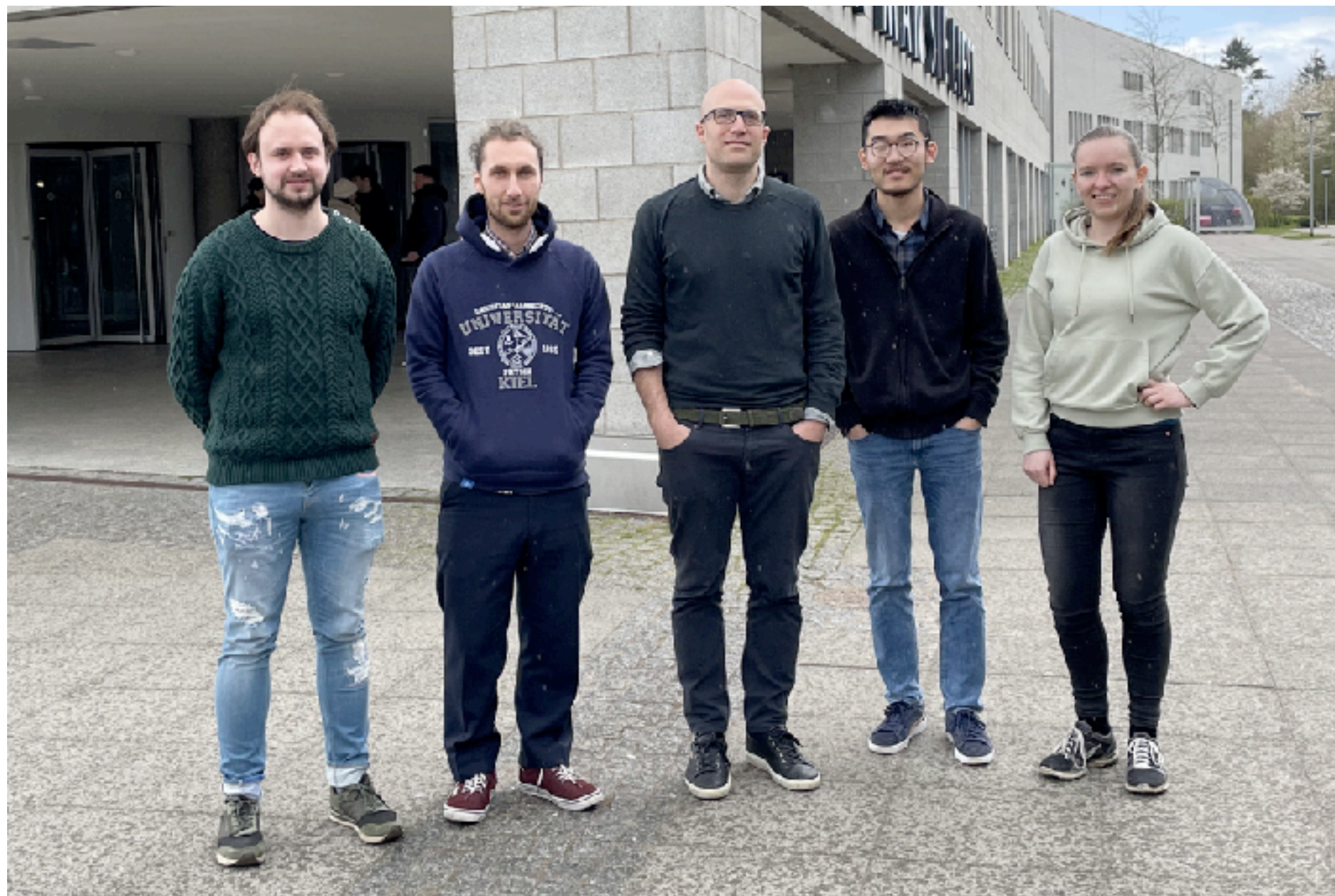
**The two-temperature model**

**The time-dependent Boltzmann equation**

**Ultrafast dynamics in 2D materials**



# Acknowledgements



## CS2T group @ Uni. Kiel:

- Philipp Lauwen
- Christoph Emeis
- Yiming Pan
- Melina Seidel

## EXPERIMENTS:

- Helene Seiler (FHI Berlin)
- Ralph Ernstorfer (FHI Berlin)
- Tristan Britt (McGill, Montreal)
- Bradley Siwick (McGill, Montreal)
- Sanjoy Mahata
- Kai Rosnagel (Uni Kiel)
- Michael Bauer (Uni Kiel)

## CODES:

### EPW:

S. Poncé et al.,  
Comp. Phys. Comm. (2017)

### Quantum Espresso:

P. Giannozzi et al., J. Phys.: Condens.  
Matter 29, 465901 (2017)

**Wannier90:** G. Pizzi et al., J. Phys. Cond.  
Matter 32, 165902 (2020)

### ShengBTE:

W. Li et al., Comp. Phys. Comm.  
185, 1747 (2014)



## THEORY:

- Marios Zacharias (Uni Rennes)
- Dino Novko (IoP, Zagreb)
- Ignacio Gonzales-Oliva (HU Berlin)
- Maximilian Schebek (HU Berlin)
- Pasquale Pavone (HU Berlin)
- Claudia Draxl (HU Berlin)



mail: [caruso@physik.uni-kiel.de](mailto:caruso@physik.uni-kiel.de)  
web: [cs2t.de](http://cs2t.de)