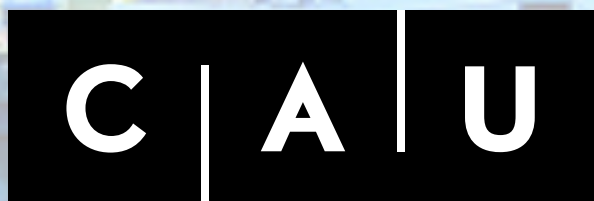


# Electron-phonon interactions

**Fabio Caruso**

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

Selb  
Summer School  
of the CRC 1242



Christian-Albrechts-Universität zu Kiel

<https://cs2t.de>



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Deutsche  
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German Research Foundation



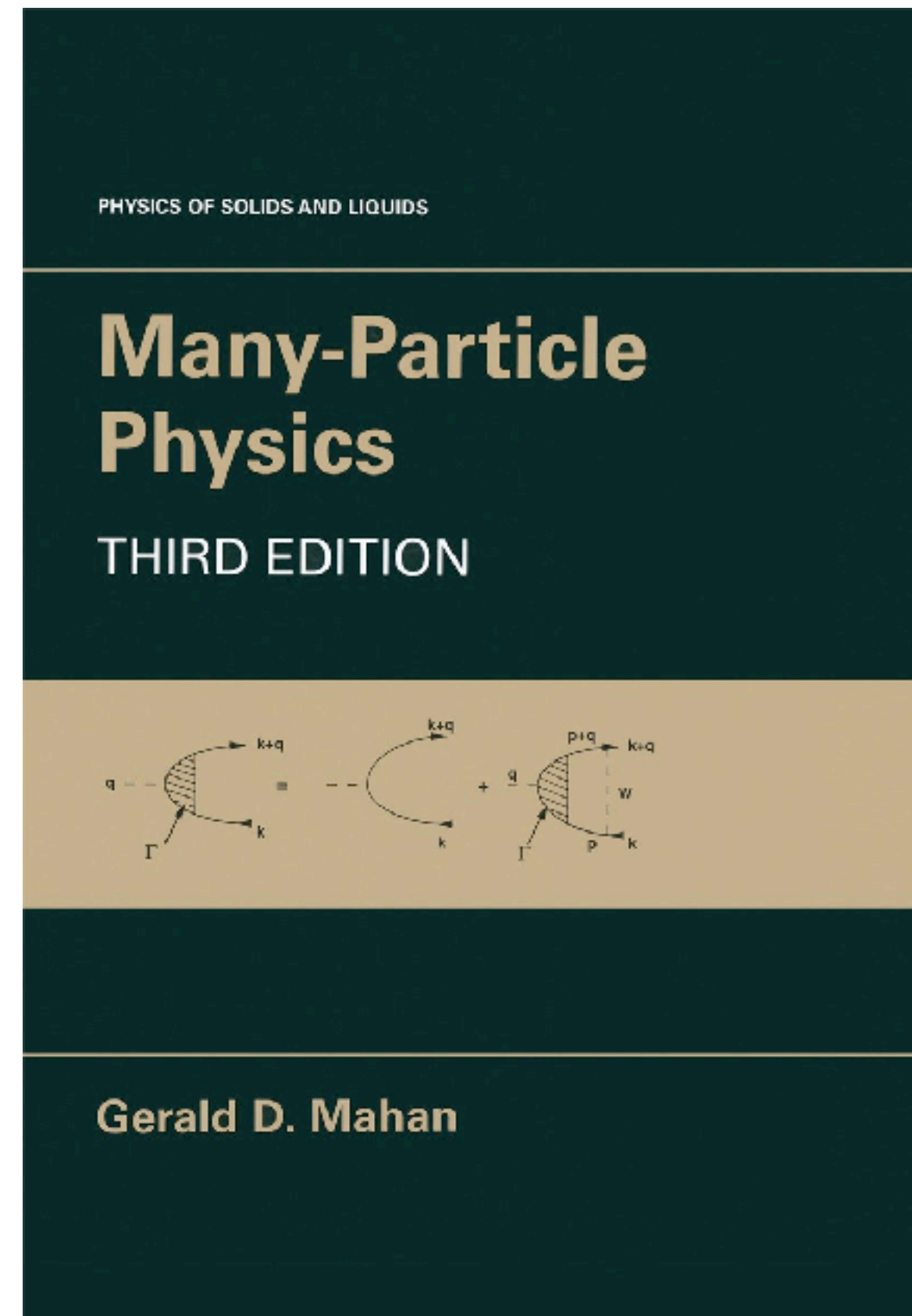
# Further readings

## Fundamentals



**J. M. Ziman,**  
Electrons and Phonons,  
Oxford University Press (1960)

## Many-body formalism



**G. D. Mahan,**  
Many-Particle Physics,  
Springer (2000)

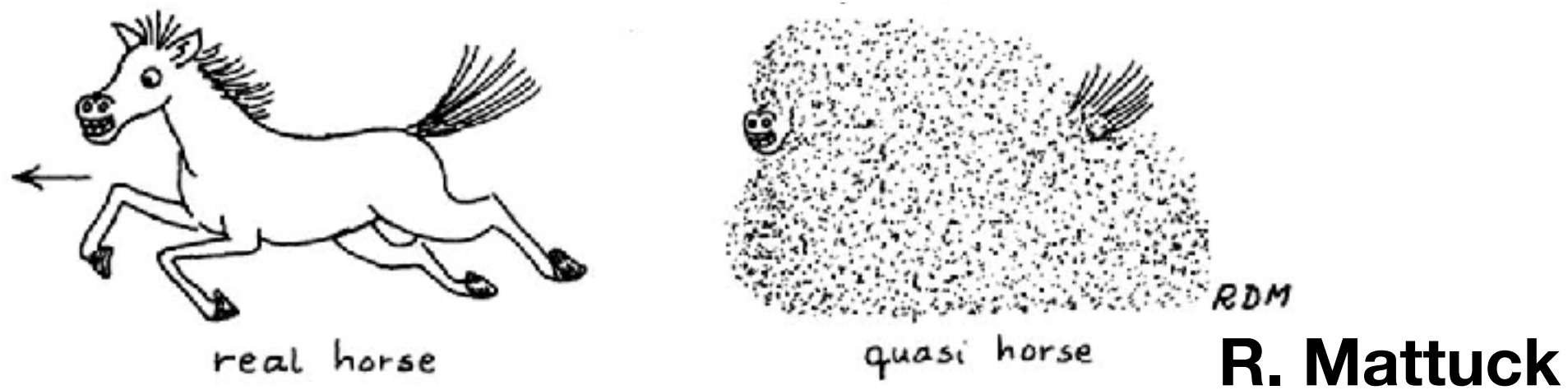
## Latest developments: Reviews

**F. Giustino,**  
Electron-phonon interactions from first principles  
Rev. Mod. Phys. **89**, 015003 (2017)

**C. Franchini et al.,**  
Polarons in Materials,  
Nat. Rev. Mater. **6**, 560 (2021)

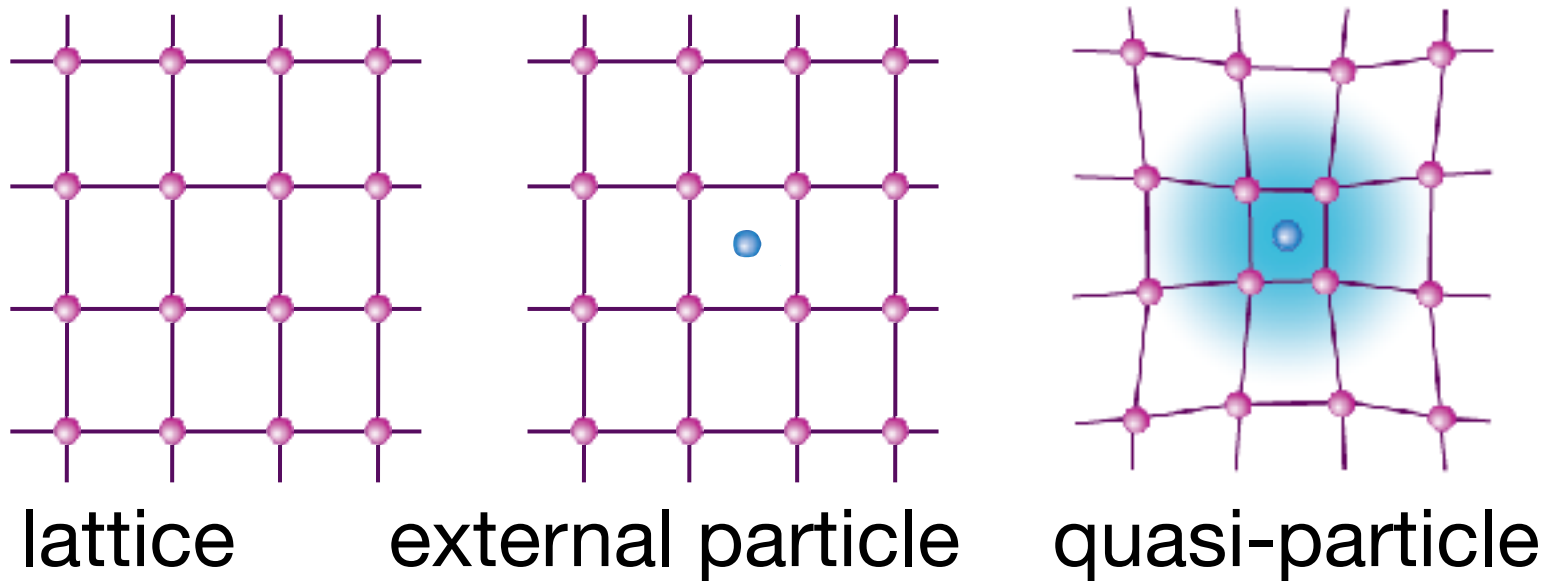


# Quasiparticles and phonons



L. Landau, Electron motion in crystal lattices,  
Phys. Z. Sowjetunion **3**, 664 (1933)

## Phonon assisted quasiparticles



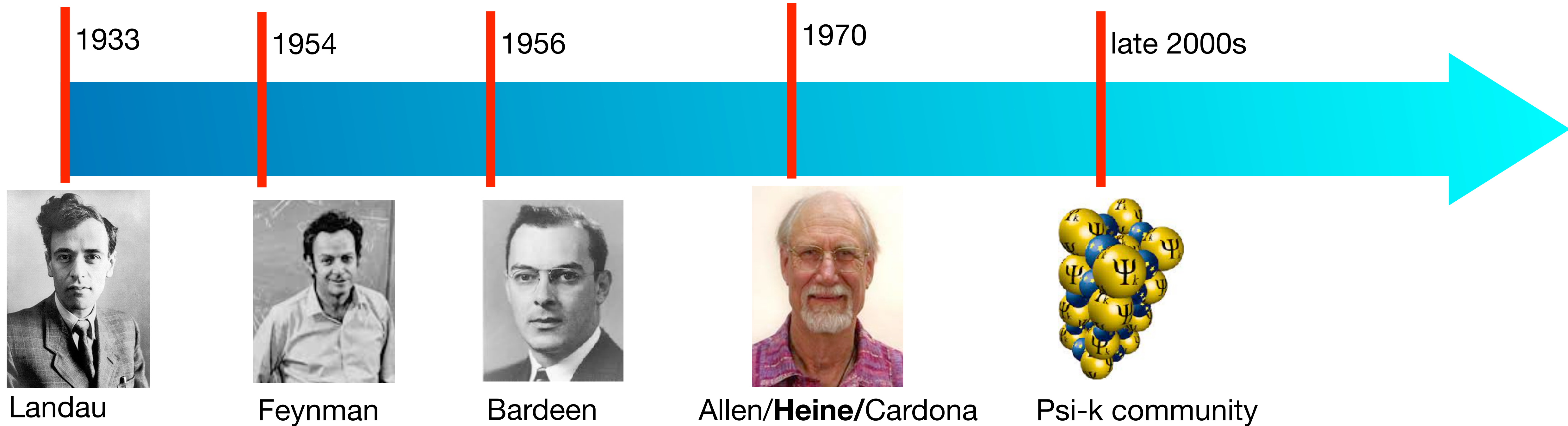
example:

electron (hole) +  
lattice distortion  
= **polarons**





# The timeline of the electron-phonon interaction



**(1933) Landau:** The polaron problem

**(1954) Feynman:** Exact solution of the polaron problem via a variational principle

**(1956) Bardeen-Cooper-Schrieffer:** BCS Theory of superconductivity

**(1970) Allen-Heine-Cardona:** Theory of the temperature dependence of the band structure

**(~2005) Psi-k community:** Ab-initio calculation of the electron-phonon interaction and many more



Year	Theoretical and computational models	Polaron properties
1933 (REF. <sup>6</sup> )	Dielectric theory: charge moving in a dielectric crystal	Auto-localization due to lattice deformation
1946–1948 (REFS <sup>4,306–308</sup> )	Self-consistent theory of a large polaron	Enhancement of effective mass
	Landau–Pekar model	Localization of the wavefunction
1950s <sup>7,8,85,86</sup>	Quantum-mechanical variational theory of large polarons	Effective mass, energy, mobility
	Fröhlich large polaron Hamiltonian (continuum approximation)	Intermediate electron–phonon interaction
1955–2017 (REFS <sup>11,12,93,161,162</sup> )	All-coupling continuum polaron theory	Energy, effective mass, mobility (large polaron)
	Feynman variational path-integral formalism	
1956 (REF. <sup>95</sup> ), 1980s <sup>94,96</sup>	Monte Carlo calculations	Large polaron ground-state energy
1958 (REFS <sup>309,310</sup> ), 1959 (REFS <sup>9,10</sup> )	Holstein small polaron theory	Small polaron conduction mechanism
	Holstein small polaron Hamiltonian (lattice approximation)	Effective mass, energy
1963–2000s <sup>87–89,311</sup>	Exact solution of the two-site Holstein polaron	Dynamical characteristics
1969 (REF. <sup>148</sup> ), 2000 (REFS <sup>149,150</sup> )	Emin–Holstein–Austin–Mott theory	Small polaron hopping
1980 (REF. <sup>146</sup> ), 1985 (REFS <sup>119,147</sup> )	Marcus theory	Polaron hopping
1994 (REF. <sup>101</sup> )	Exact diagonalization	Small polaron frequencies
1997 (REF. <sup>312</sup> )	Hartree–Fock	Small polaron density of states
1998–2000 (REFS <sup>58,59</sup> )	Diagrammatic Monte Carlo	Energy, effective mass, phonon distribution, spectral density
1999 (REF. <sup>157</sup> )	Random walk Monte Carlo	Dispersive transport and recombination
2001 (REF. <sup>104</sup> ), 2010 (REF. <sup>56</sup> )	Analytical variational approach (variational LDB many-polaron wavefunction) <sup>103</sup>	Many-polaron (large) optical conductivity
2001 (REF. <sup>60</sup> )	Path-integral Monte Carlo	Large polaron energy (2D and 3D)
1995 (REF. <sup>65</sup> ), 1997 (REF. <sup>66</sup> ), 2003 (REF. <sup>67</sup> )	Dynamical mean-field theory	Small polaron energy, mass, spectral and transport properties
2010 (REF. <sup>154</sup> ), 2018 (REF. <sup>155</sup> )	First-principles molecular dynamics of small polarons	Polaron configurations
2002 (REF. <sup>61</sup> ), 2006 (REF. <sup>166</sup> )	Hybrid functionals	Small polaron spin density
2006 (REF. <sup>92</sup> )	Analytical approximation for the Green’s function	Energy, mass, dispersion, spectral weight
2006 (REFS <sup>117,118</sup> ), 2009 (REF. <sup>313</sup> )	DFT+ <i>U</i>	Small polaron migration, DOS, bipolaron
2007–2010 (REFS <sup>68,69</sup> )	Multiscale modelling and kinetic Monte Carlo	Charge transport
2014 (REF. <sup>151</sup> )	Random phase approximation	Small energy and hopping
2009 (REF. <sup>62</sup> ), 2011 (REF. <sup>132</sup> )	Generalized Koopmans’ density functional	Small polarons states
2015 (REF. <sup>64</sup> )	Density-functional perturbation theory	Fröhlich electron–phonon vertex
2016 (REF. <sup>102</sup> )	Renormalization group (large polaron)	Energy, effective mass
2019 (REFS <sup>13,70</sup> )	Ab initio theory of polarons	Formation and excitation energies wavefunction (small and large polarons)

Compendium of theoretical works in the study of polarons

Electron-phonon coupling in condensed matter: a very active (and rapidly evolving) field of research

from C. Franchini et al.,Nat. Rev. Mater. 6, 560 (2021)



# The electron-phonon coupling (EPC) Hamiltonian: the basics

Electron in a solid:  $\psi_{\mathbf{k}}(\mathbf{r}) = u_{\mathbf{k}}(\mathbf{r})e^{i\mathbf{q}\mathbf{r}}$  (Bloch theorem)

Single particle Hamiltonian :  $\hat{h} = -\frac{\nabla^2}{2} + \hat{v}_{\text{eff}}(\{\mathbf{R}\})$  effective single-particle potential  
(e.g., the Kohn-Sham potential)

$\hat{v}_{\text{eff}}(\{\mathbf{R}_I\})$  a function of all the nuclear coordinates

In presence of a phonon  $\{\mathbf{R}_I\} \rightarrow \{\mathbf{R}_I + \mathbf{u}_I\}$  Taylor expansion for small displacements:

$$v_{\text{eff}}(\{\mathbf{R}_I + \mathbf{u}_I\}) = v_{\text{eff}}(\{\mathbf{R}_I\}) + \Delta^{(1)}v_{\text{eff}} + \Delta^{(2)}v_{\text{eff}} + \dots$$

## The electron-phonon interaction Hamiltonian

$$\Delta v_{\text{eff}} = \sum_I \left. \frac{\partial v_{\text{eff}}}{\partial u_I} \right|_{u=0} u_I$$

some algebra

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

Linear change of the electronic Hamiltonian  
due to a phonon perturbation

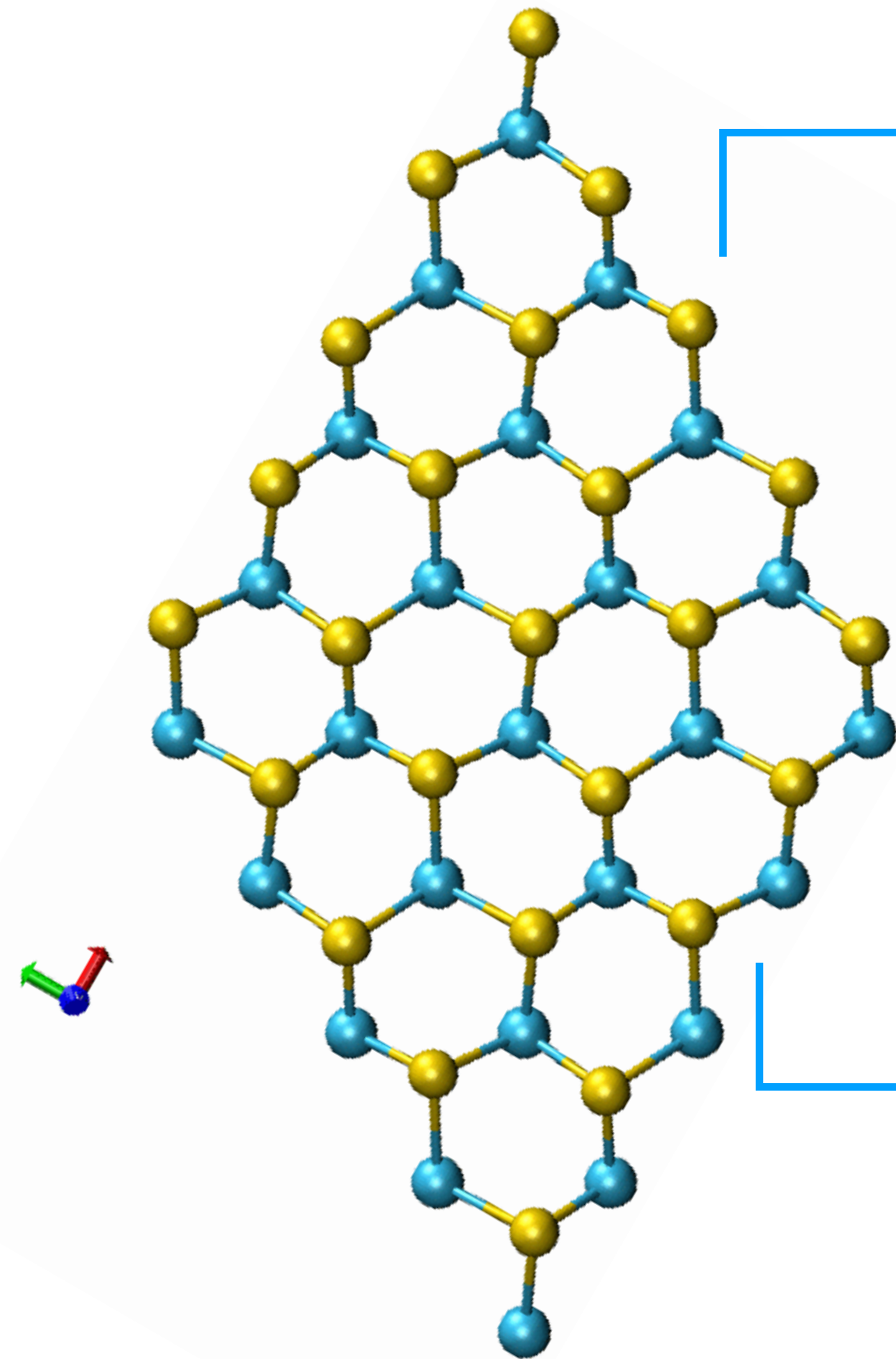
- EPC matrix element.  $g_{mn}^{\nu}(\mathbf{k}, \mathbf{q}) = \langle \psi_{m\mathbf{k}+\mathbf{q}} | \Delta v_{\text{eff}} | \psi_{n\mathbf{k}} \rangle$
- Phonon creation/annihilation operators  $\hat{a}_{\mathbf{q}\nu}^{\dagger}, \hat{a}_{\mathbf{q}\nu}$
- Electron creation/annihilation operators  $\hat{c}_{n\mathbf{k}}^{\dagger}, \hat{c}_{n\mathbf{k}}$

**Derivation:**

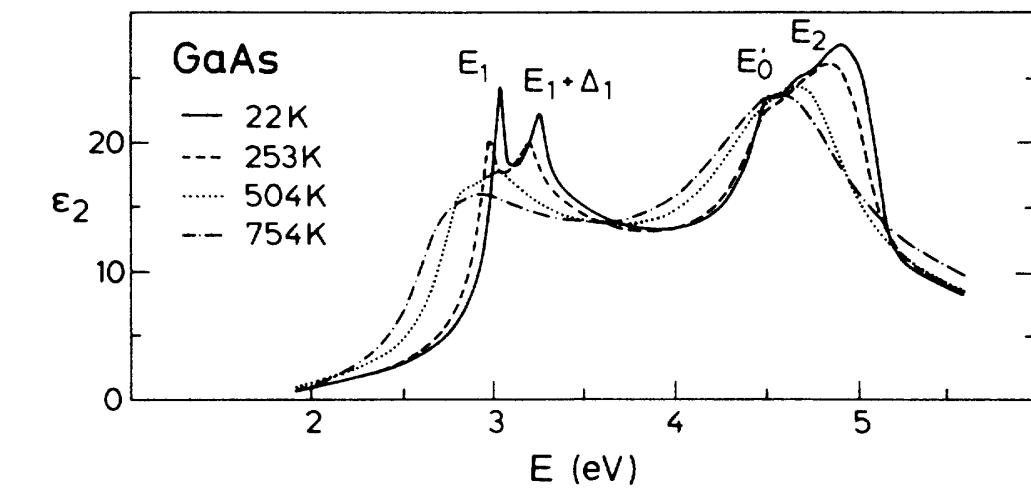
F. Giustino, Rev. Mod. Phys. **89**, 015003 (2017)



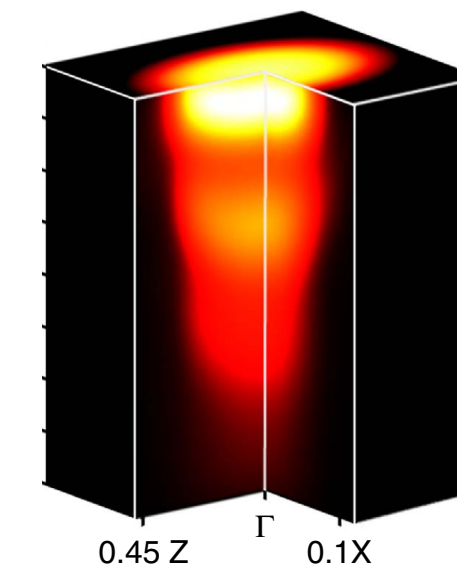
# Outline



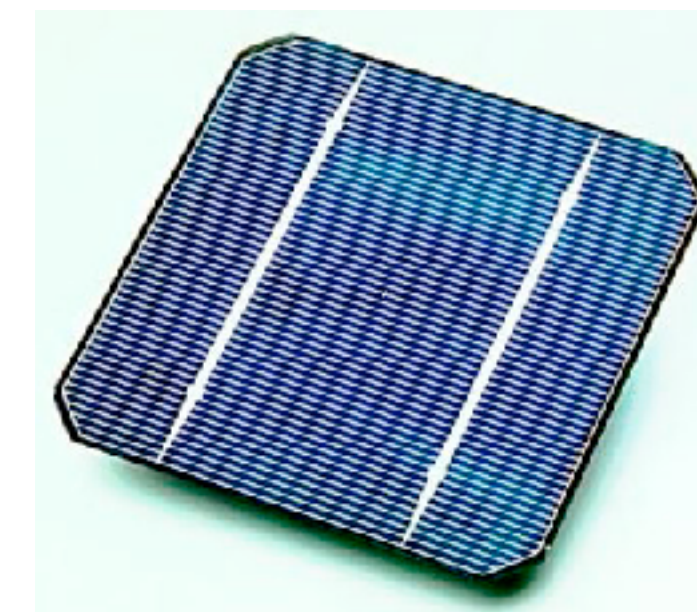
**The temperature dependence  
of the band structure**



**Polaronic satellites in  
angle-resolved photoemission  
spectroscopy (ARPES)**



**Phonon-assisted optical  
absorption in semiconductors**



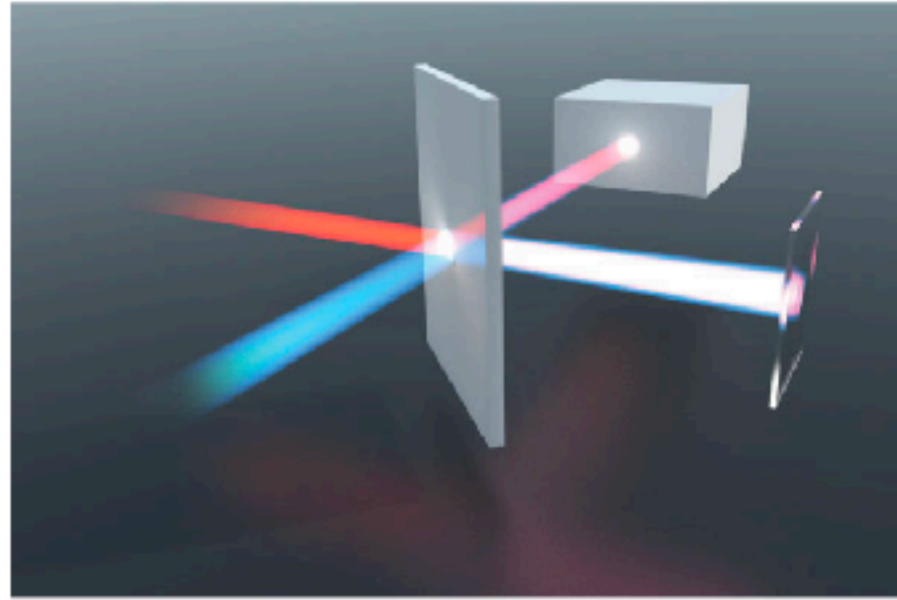


# Part 1

## The temperature dependence of the band structure

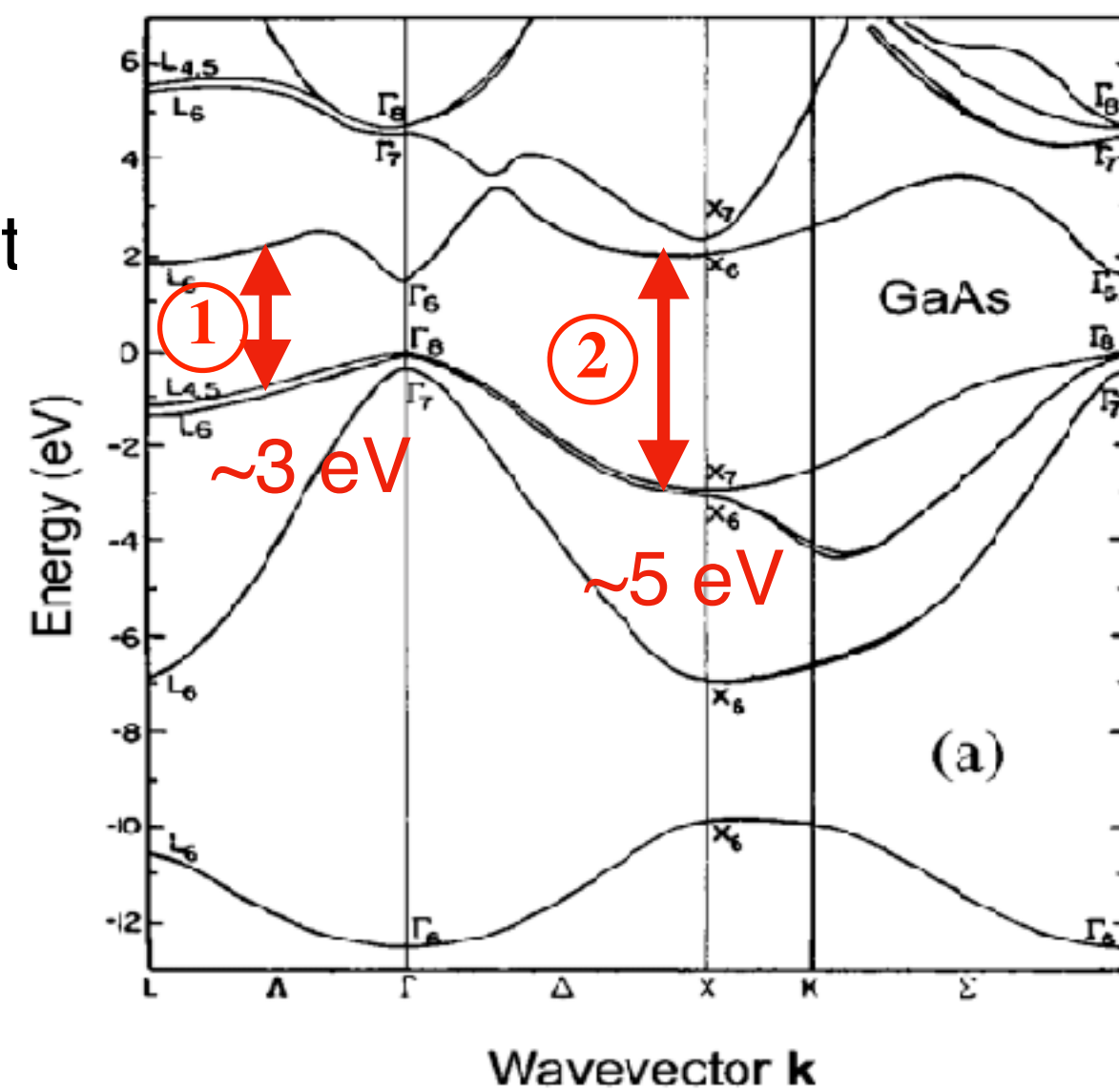
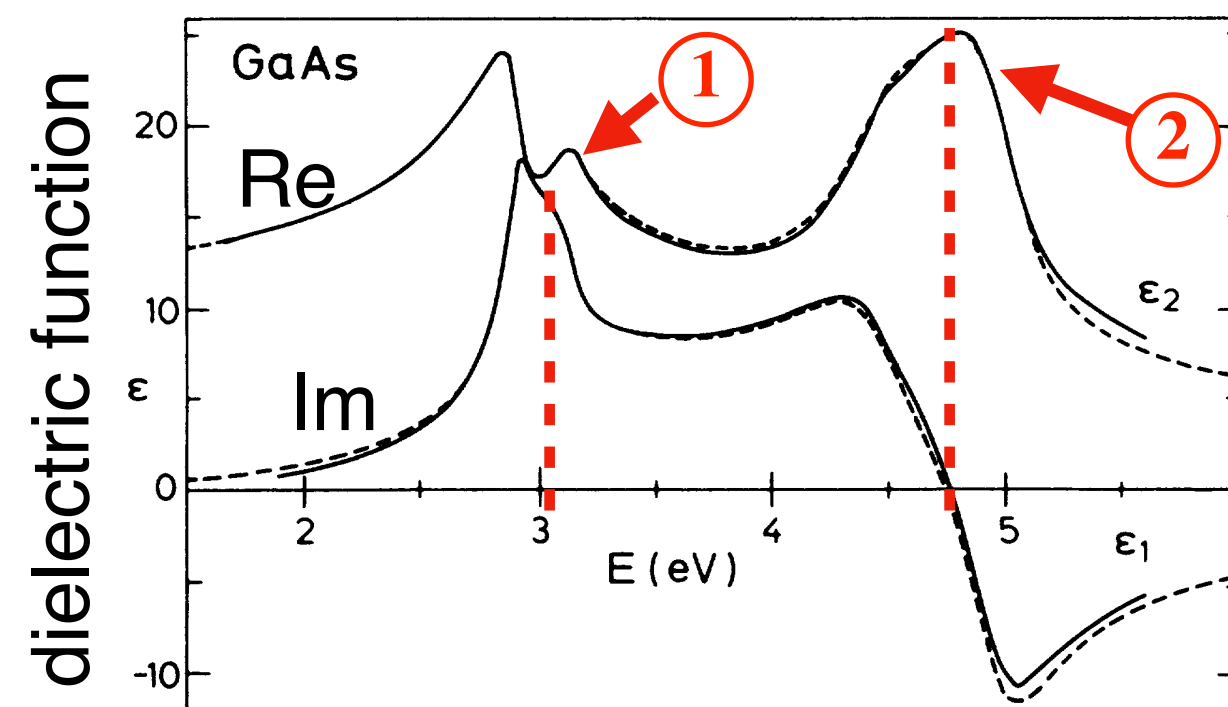


# Temperature-depedent of optical measurements of semiconductors

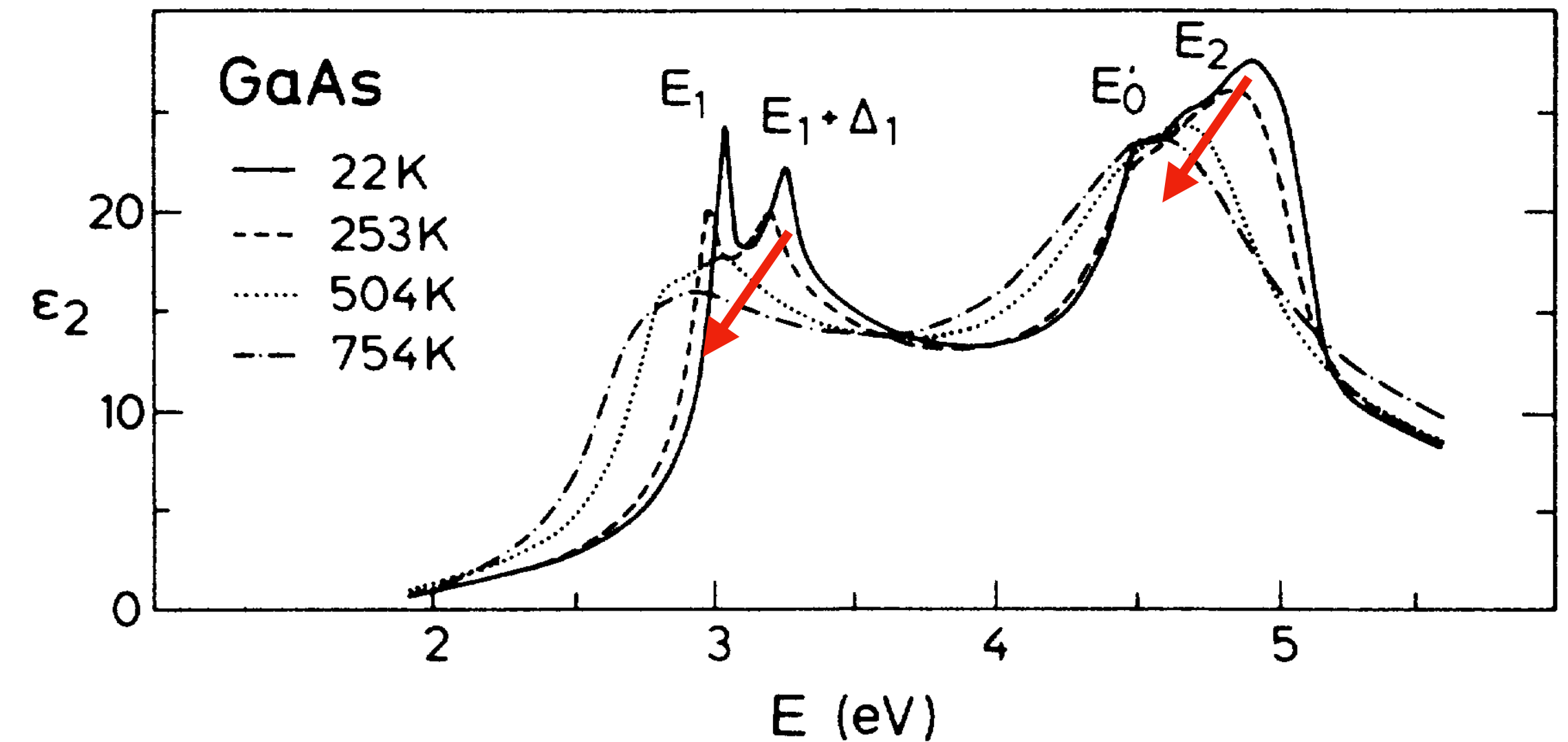


Signatures of electron-phonon coupling in optical measurements

**Dielectric function of GaAs**  
(from ellipsometry measurement)



**Temperature dependence of the dielectric function**



**Temperature dependence of the band structure**

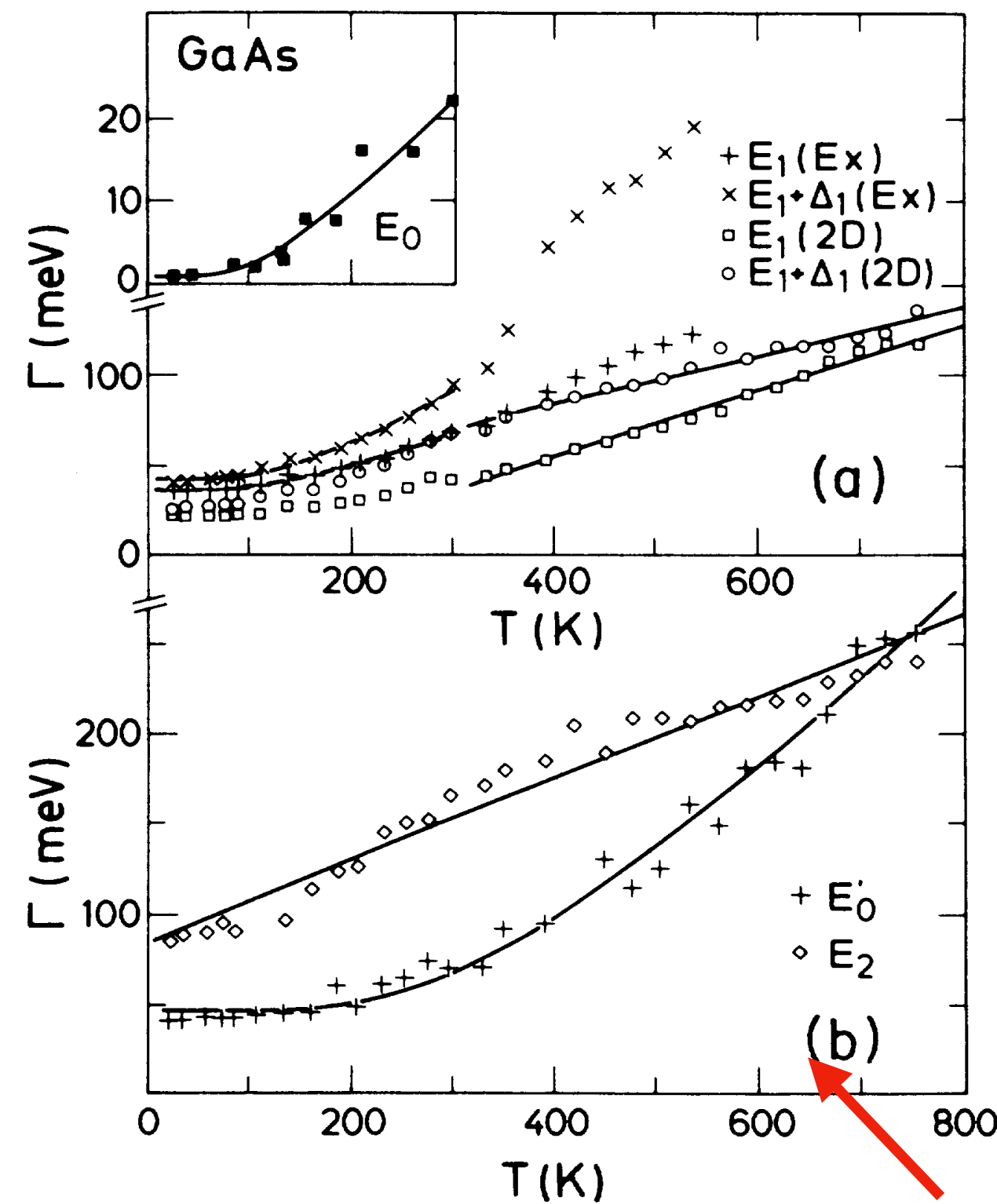
$$\text{Im } \epsilon(\omega) \sim \text{JDOS}(\omega) = N_k^{-1} \sum_{nm\mathbf{k}} \delta(\omega - (\epsilon_{n\mathbf{k}} - \epsilon_{m\mathbf{k}}))$$

peaks in  $\text{Im } \epsilon \rightarrow$  transitions from occupied to empty states



# Temperature-depedent of optical measurements of semiconductors

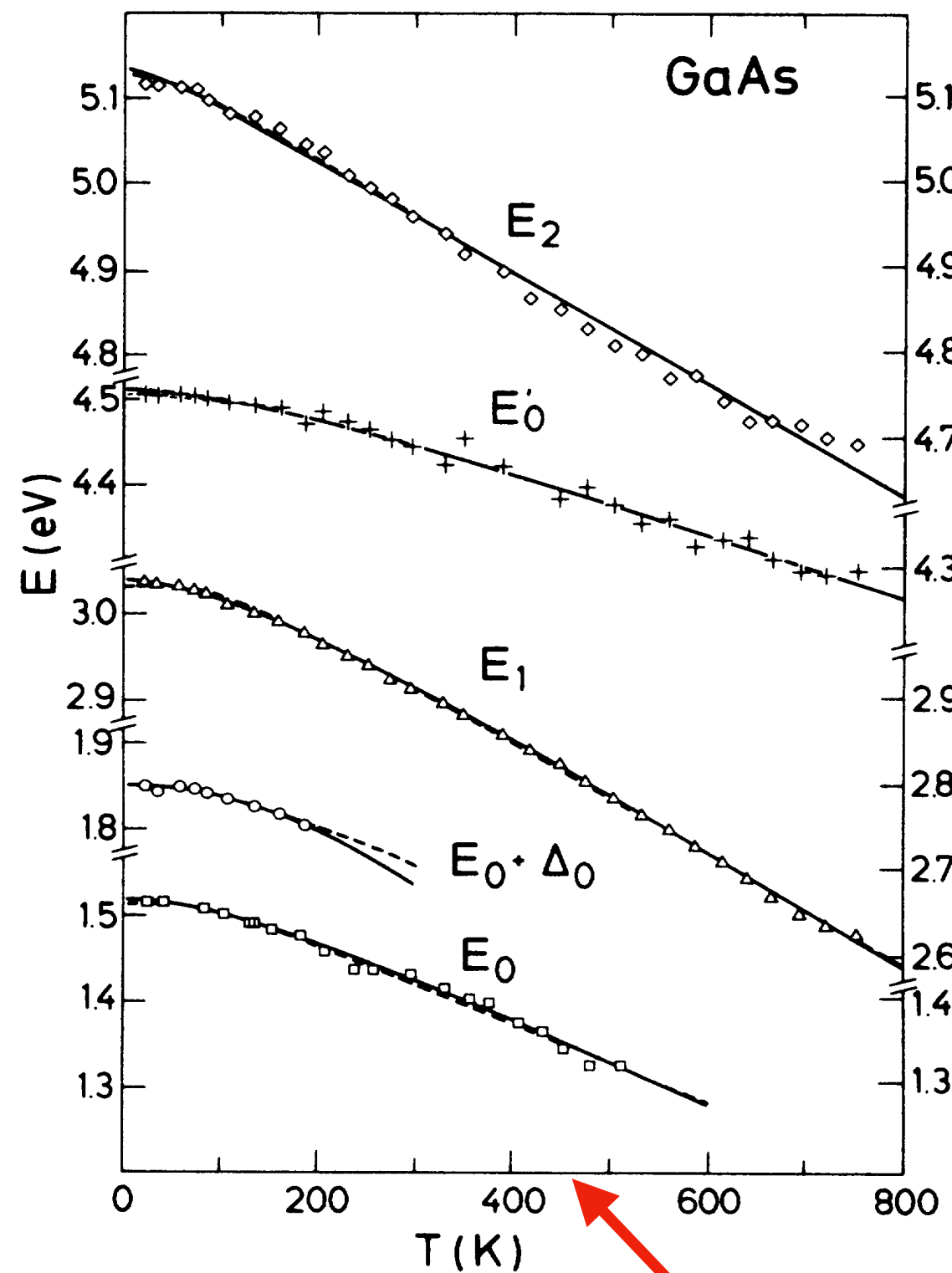
**Peak broadening**  
(lifetime)



Temperature  
dependence

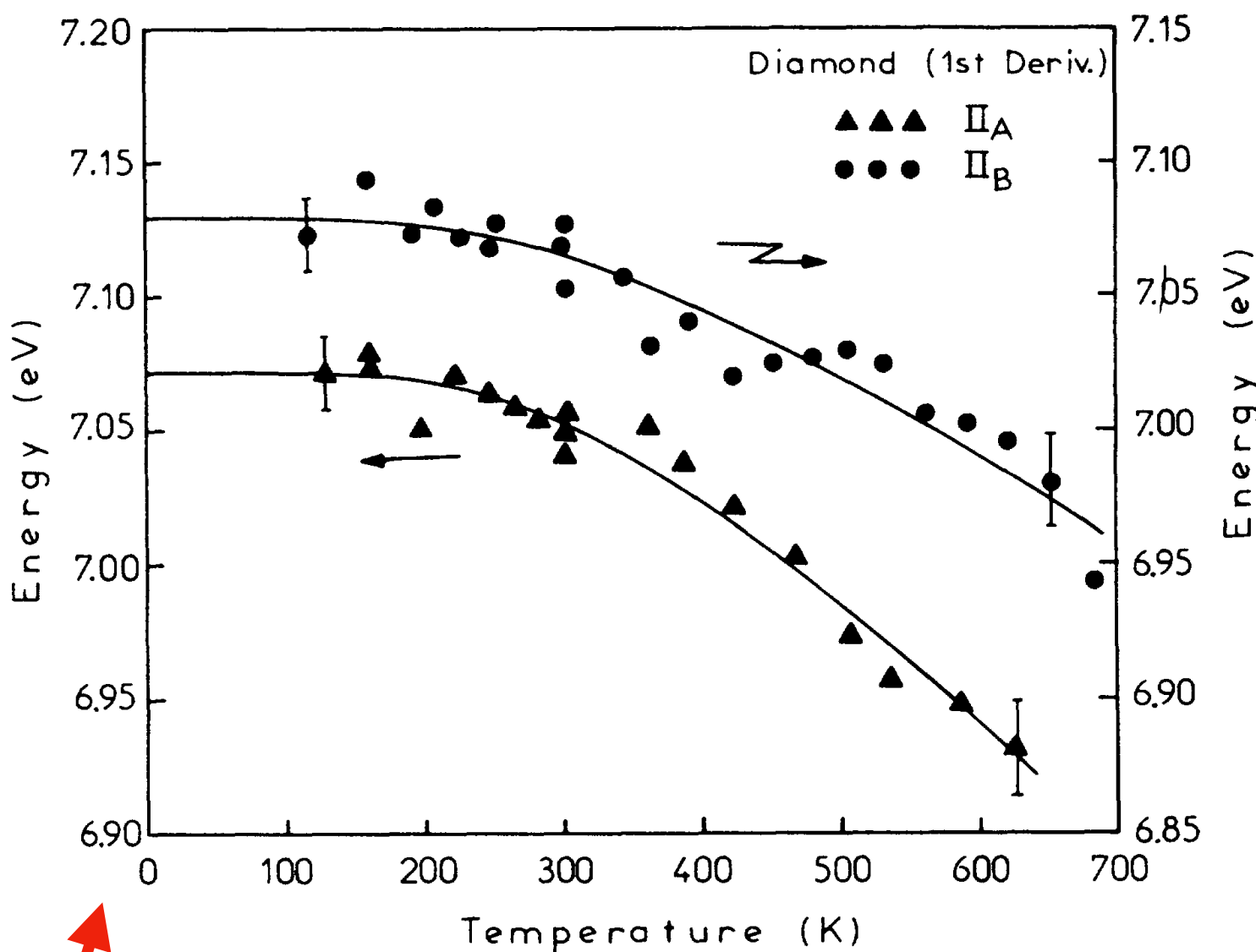
$$\Gamma(T) = \Gamma_1 + \frac{\Gamma_0}{e^{\Theta/T} - 1}$$

**Critical points**  
(peaks in the Joint DOS)



$$E(T) = E_B - a_B \left[ 1 + \frac{2}{e^{\Theta/T} - 1} \right]$$

**Fundamental gap**



Strong temperature dependent  
renormalization of the band structure

- **Not explained by the thermal expansion (TE):**  
Measured shifts  $\sim 0.2$  meV / K  
Expected shifts (from TE)  $\sim 0.004$  meV / K
- **Depends on T as the Bose Einstein distribution**

Electron-phonon interaction



# Perturbative treatment of the electron-phonon interaction: the Fan-Migdal term

$$\hat{H}_{e-ph} = \sum_I \left[ \frac{\partial v_{\text{eff}}}{u_I} \right]_{u=0} u_I$$

electrons

phonons

Hamiltonian:  $\hat{H} = \hat{H}_0 + \Delta\hat{H}$   
 Perturbation:  $\Delta\hat{H} \equiv \hat{H}_{e-ph}$

## Rayleigh-Schrödinger perturbation theory

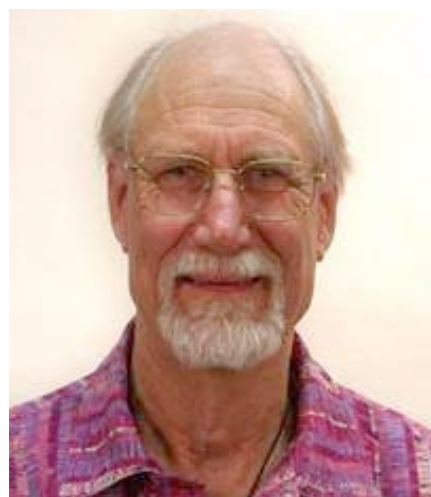
Perturbative expansion

$$\varepsilon_{n\mathbf{k}} = \varepsilon_{n\mathbf{k}}^{(0)} + \varepsilon_{n\mathbf{k}}^{(1)} + \varepsilon_{n\mathbf{k}}^{(2)} + \dots$$

$$\psi_{n\mathbf{k}} = \psi_{n\mathbf{k}}^{(0)} + \psi_{n\mathbf{k}}^{(1)} + \psi_{n\mathbf{k}}^{(2)} + \dots$$



Phil Allen



Volker Heine



Manuel Cardona

## Allen-Heine-Cardona theory

- Apply second-order perturbation-theory to the electrons
- Treat the phonons via a thermal average

First-order perturbation theory

$$\varepsilon_{n\mathbf{k}}^{(1)} = \langle \psi_{n\mathbf{k}}^{(0)} | \hat{H}_{e-ph} | \psi_{n\mathbf{k}}^{(0)} \rangle = 0 \quad \leftarrow \langle u_I \rangle_T = 0$$

$\langle u_I \rangle_T$  average displacement at temperature  $T$

Second-order perturbation theory

$$\varepsilon_{n\mathbf{k}}^{(2)} = \sum_{m \neq n} \sum_{\mathbf{q}} \frac{|\langle \psi_{m\mathbf{k}+\mathbf{q}}^{(0)} | \hat{H}_{e-ph} | \psi_{n\mathbf{k}}^{(0)} \rangle|^2}{\varepsilon_{n\mathbf{k}}^{(0)} - \varepsilon_{m\mathbf{k}+\mathbf{q}}^{(0)}} \quad \leftarrow \langle u_I^2 \rangle_T \neq 0$$

$\langle u_I^2 \rangle_T$  mean squared displacement

... some algebra:

$$\varepsilon_{n\mathbf{k}}^{\text{FM}} = \frac{1}{N_p} \sum_{\mathbf{q}\nu} \sum_{m \neq n} |g_{mn}^\nu(\mathbf{k}, \mathbf{q})|^2 \frac{2n_{\mathbf{q}\nu}(T) + 1}{\varepsilon_{n\mathbf{k}} - \varepsilon_{m\mathbf{k}+\mathbf{q}}}$$

## Fan-Migdal term

Phonon-assisted renormalization of the electron energy levels



# Perturbative treatment of the electron-phonon interaction: the Debye-Waller term

$$v_{\text{eff}}(\{R_I + u_I\}) = v_{\text{eff}}(\{R_I\}) + \Delta^{(1)}v_{\text{eff}} + \Delta^{(2)}v_{\text{eff}} + \dots$$

**Debye-Waller term**

quadratic change of  $v_{\text{eff}}$  treated  
at 1<sup>st</sup> order in perturbation theory

... also quadratic in the perturbation

linear change of  $v_{\text{eff}}$  treated  
at 2<sup>nd</sup> order in perturbation theory

quadratic dependence on the phonon  
displacement (the perturbation)

Fan-Migdal term

**Debye-Waller term**

$$\epsilon_{n\mathbf{k}}^{\text{DW}} = \langle \psi_{n\mathbf{k}}^{(0)} | \Delta^{(2)}v_{\text{eff}} | \psi_{n\mathbf{k}}^{(0)} \rangle$$

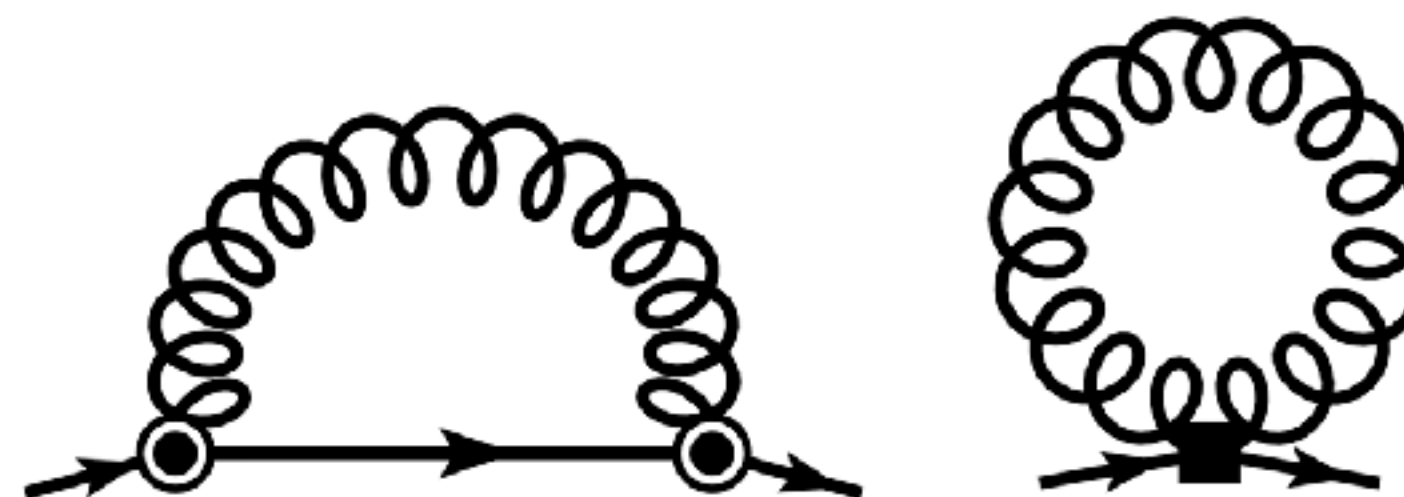
some algebra

$$\Delta\epsilon_{n\mathbf{k}}^{(2),\text{DW}} = \frac{1}{N_p} \sum_{\mathbf{q}\nu} \tilde{g}_{nn}^{\nu\nu}(\mathbf{k}, \mathbf{q}, -\mathbf{q})(2n_{\mathbf{q}\nu} + 1)$$

second-order

**Temperature dependence of the band  
structure in Allen-Heine-Cardona theory**

$$\Delta\epsilon_{n\mathbf{k}}^{\text{AHC}} = \Delta\epsilon_{n\mathbf{k}}^{\text{FM}}(T) + \Delta\epsilon_{n\mathbf{k}}^{\text{DW}}(T)$$





# Temperature-dependence of the AHC correction to the bands and zero-point motion renormalization

$$\Delta \varepsilon_{n\mathbf{k}}^{\text{AHC}} = \Delta \varepsilon_{n\mathbf{k}}^{\text{FM}}(T) + \Delta \varepsilon_{n\mathbf{k}}^{\text{DW}}(T)$$

$$\varepsilon_{n\mathbf{k}}^{\text{FM}} = \frac{1}{N_p} \sum_{\mathbf{q}\nu} \sum_{m \neq n} |g_{mn}^{\nu}(\mathbf{k}, \mathbf{q})|^2 \frac{2n_{\mathbf{q}\nu}(T) + 1}{\varepsilon_{n\mathbf{k}} - \varepsilon_{m\mathbf{k}+\mathbf{q}}}$$

$$\varepsilon_{n\mathbf{k}}^{\text{DW}} = \frac{1}{N_p} \sum_{\mathbf{q}\nu} \tilde{g}_{nn}^{\nu\nu}(\mathbf{k}, \mathbf{q}, -\mathbf{q})(2n_{\mathbf{q}\nu} + 1)$$

Consider a materials with only one  
vibrational frequency ( $n_{\mathbf{q}\nu}(T) \simeq n(T)$ ):

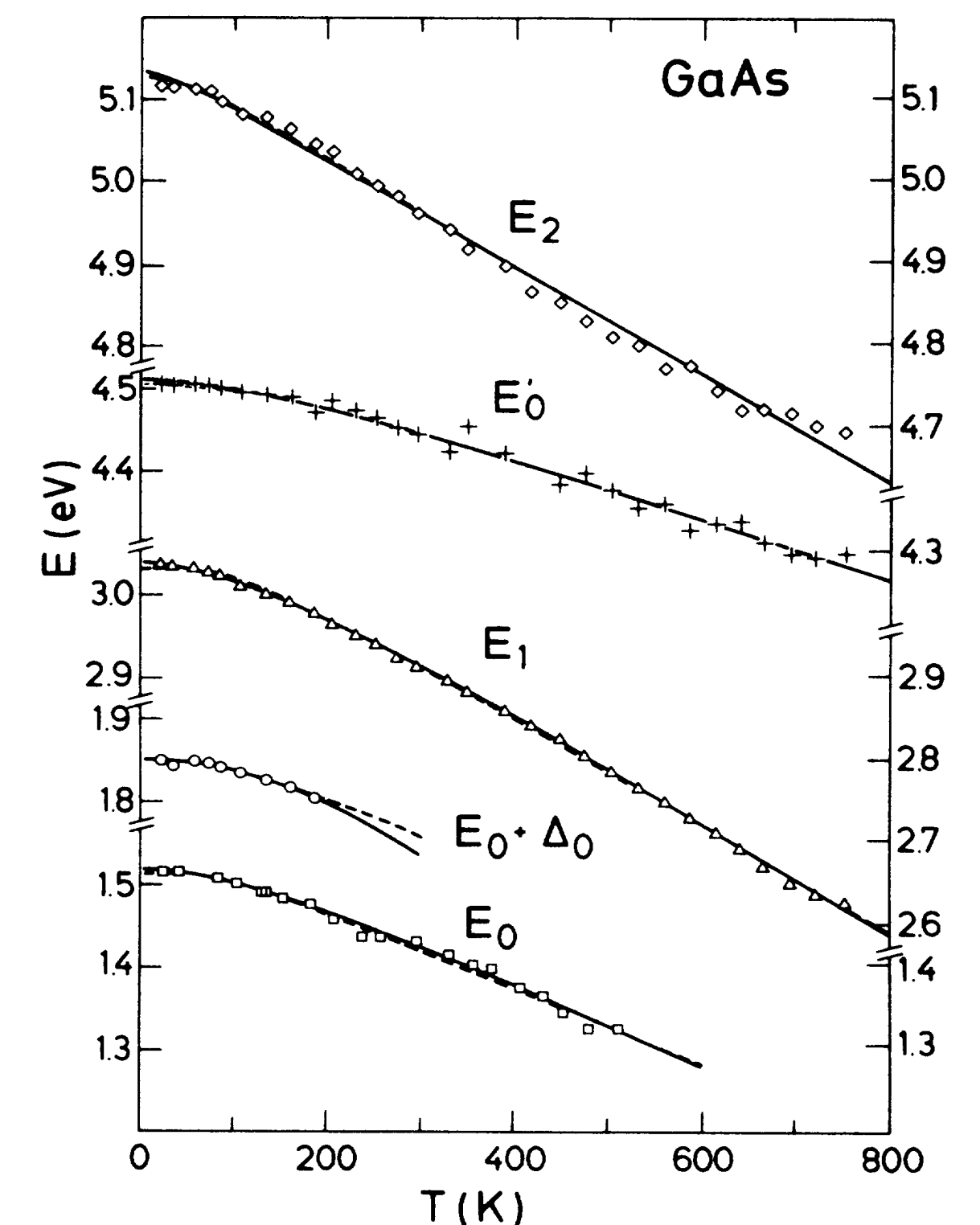
number of phonons at temperature  $T$

$$\varepsilon_{n\mathbf{k}}^{\text{FM}} = [2n(T) + 1] \frac{1}{N_p} \sum_{m \neq n} |g_{mn}^{\nu}(\mathbf{k}, \mathbf{q})|^2 \frac{1}{\varepsilon_{n\mathbf{k}} - \varepsilon_{m\mathbf{k}+\mathbf{q}}} = \alpha [2n(T) + 1]$$

① Fully captures the temperature-dependence of bands determined in experiments.

② At  $T=0$ ,  $n(T) = 0$  however  $\varepsilon_{n\mathbf{k}}^{\text{AHC}} \neq 0$   
Renormalization of the bands even in absence of phonons  
**Zero-point motion effect (purely quantum)**

$$E(T) = E_B - a_B \left[ 1 + \frac{2}{e^{\Theta/T} - 1} \right]$$



# The Allen-Heine-Cardona theory in ab-initio calculations

$$\Delta\epsilon_{n\mathbf{k}}^{\text{AHC}} = \Delta\epsilon_{n\mathbf{k}}^{\text{FM}}(T) + \Delta\epsilon_{n\mathbf{k}}^{\text{DW}}(T)$$

$$\epsilon_{n\mathbf{k}}^{\text{FM}} = \frac{1}{N_p} \sum_{\mathbf{q}\nu} \sum_{m \neq n} |g_{mn}^{\nu}(\mathbf{k}, \mathbf{q})|^2 \frac{2n_{\mathbf{q}\nu}(T) + 1}{\epsilon_{n\mathbf{k}} - \epsilon_{m\mathbf{k}+\mathbf{q}}}$$

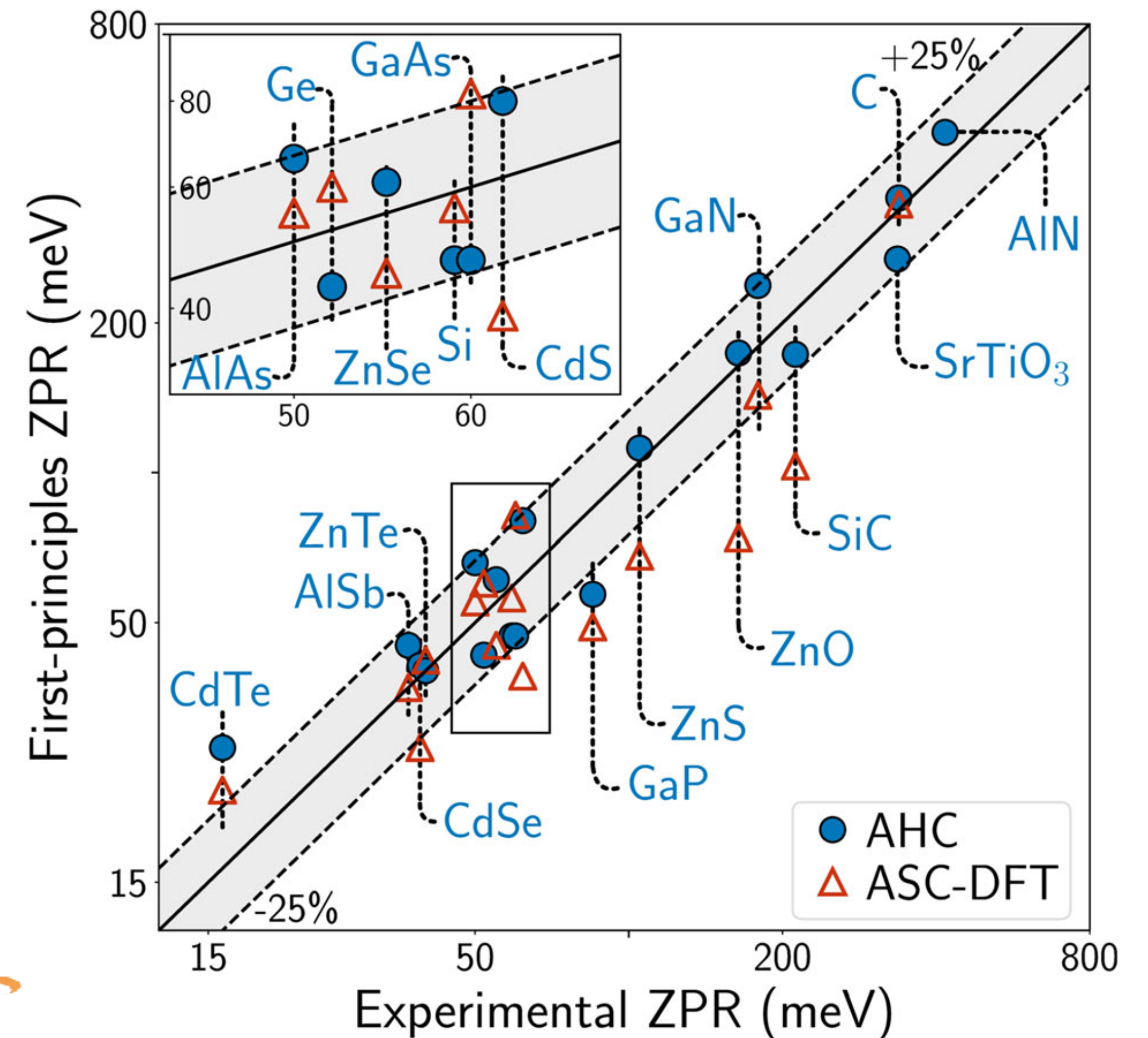
$$\epsilon_{n\mathbf{k}}^{\text{DW}} = \frac{1}{N_p} \sum_{\mathbf{q}\nu} \tilde{g}_{nn}^{\nu\nu}(\mathbf{k}, \mathbf{q}, -\mathbf{q})(2n_{\mathbf{q}\nu} + 1)$$

- $g_{mn}^{\nu}(\mathbf{k}, \mathbf{q})$ : electron-phonon matrix elements  $\rightarrow$  from DFPT
- $\epsilon_{n\mathbf{k}}$ : single particle energy  $\rightarrow$  from DFT
- $n_{\mathbf{q}\nu}(T) = [e^{\hbar\omega_{\mathbf{q}\nu}/k_B T} - 1]^{-1}$ : Bose-Einstein distribution

**Fully ab-initio have only "recently" become accessible**

- Calculations require very dense grids to sample the integrals over the Brillouin zone (denser than  $30 \times 30 \times 30$ )
- Interpolation using Maximally-localized Wannier function is required for  $g_{mn}^{\nu}(\mathbf{k}, \mathbf{q})$

**Available in many ab-initio codes:**





# Many-body perturbation theory (MPBT) of electron-phonon coupling

Consider a perturbation acting on the electron Hamiltonian :

$$\hat{H}^{el} = \hat{H}_0^{el} + \Delta \hat{V}$$

## Electron Green's function

$$G_{ij}(t_1, t_2) = -i\hbar^{-1} \langle \Psi | \hat{T} [\hat{\psi}_i(t_1) \hat{\psi}_j^\dagger(t_2)] | \Psi \rangle$$

$|\Psi\rangle$  : electron ground-state wave function  
 $\hat{\psi}^\dagger, \hat{\psi}$  : creation/annihilation operators  
 $\hat{T}$  : Wick's time-ordering operator

Consider a perturbation acting on the **lattice** Hamiltonian :

$$\hat{H}^{ph} = \hat{H}_0^{ph} + \Delta \hat{V}$$

## Phonon Green's function

$$D_{\alpha\beta}(t_1, t_2) = -i\hbar^{-1} \langle \Phi | \hat{T} \Delta \hat{\tau}_\alpha(t_1) \Delta \hat{\tau}_\beta(t_2) | \Phi \rangle$$

$|\Phi\rangle$  : **phonon** ground-state wave function  
 $\Delta \hat{\tau}_\alpha$  : displacement operator  
 $\hat{T}$  : Wick's time-ordering operator

**Direct access to physical properties (spectral function, observables, total energy, ect)**

Formally exact treatment of the perturbation

$G$ : the (exact) Green's function.  
 $G_0$ : the non-interacting Green's function.  
 $\Sigma$ : the electron self-energy

The Dyson equation

$$G = G_0 + G_0 \Sigma G$$



**coupled by the  
electron-phonon  
interactions**

Perturbative treatment of the phonon Green's function

$D$ : the (exact) **phonon** Green's function.  
 $D_0$ : the non-interacting **phonon** Green's function.  
 $\Pi^{(na)}$ : the non-adiabatic phonon self-energy

The Dyson equation

$$D = D_0 + D_0 \Pi^{(na)} D$$

# Exact self-consistent equations for the electron and phonon Green's functions

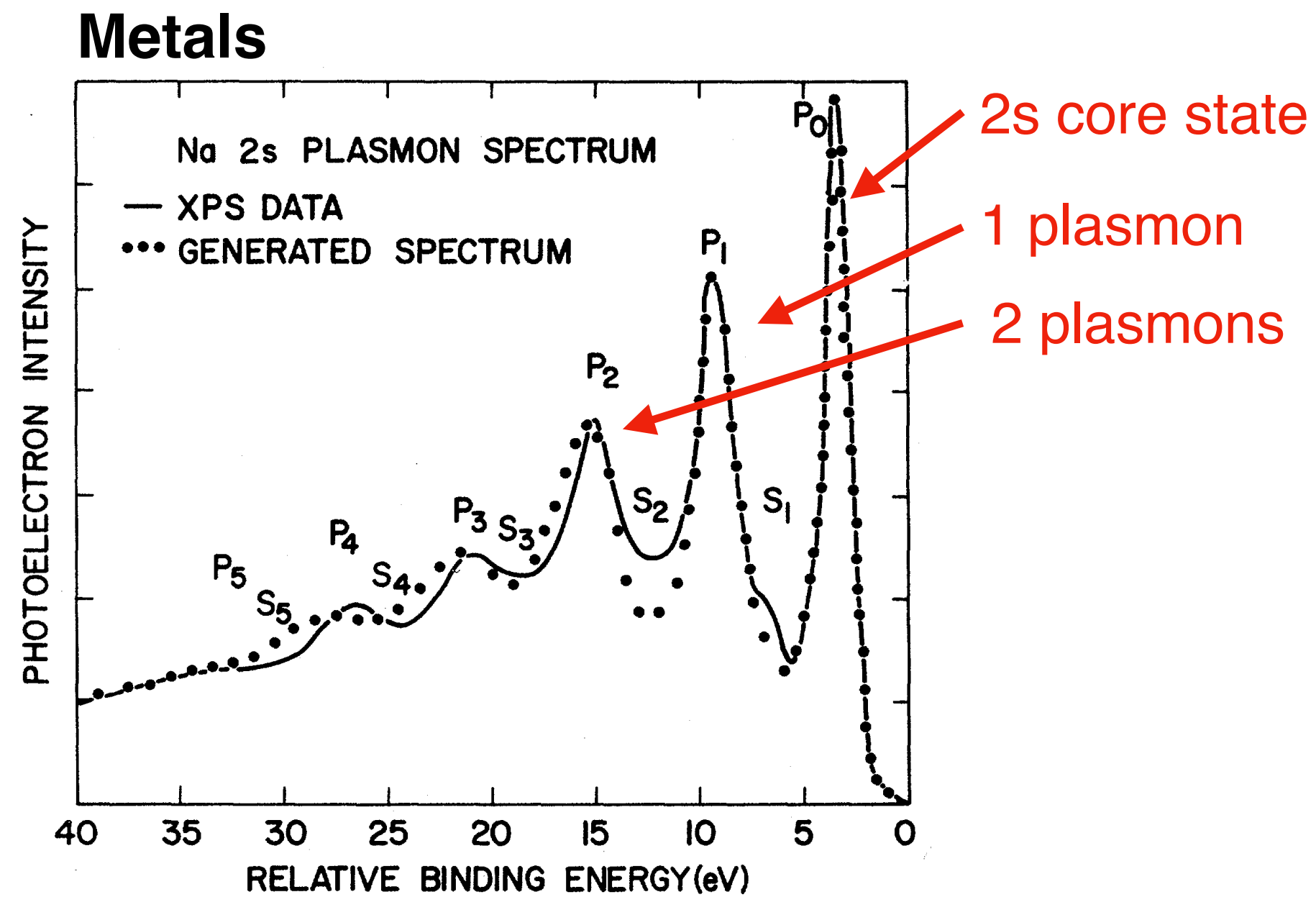
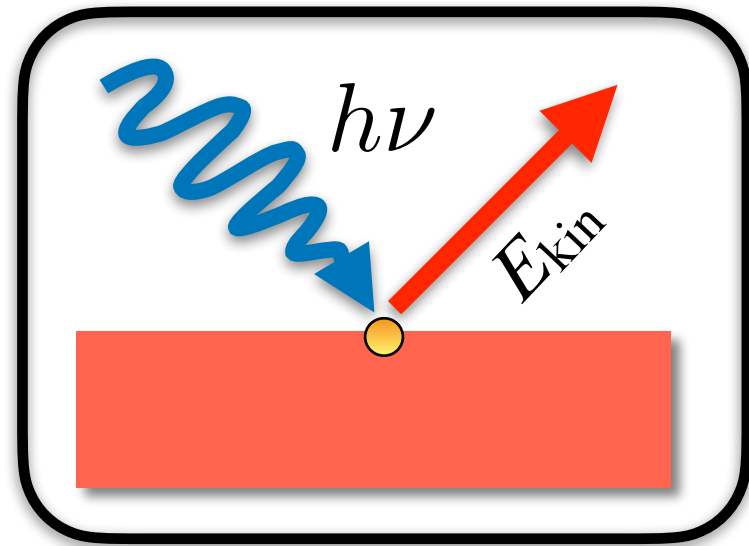
Description	Expression
Electronic charge density	$\langle \hat{n}_e(1) \rangle = -i\hbar \sum_{\sigma_1} G(11^+)$
Nuclear charge density	$\langle \hat{n}_n(\mathbf{r}t) \rangle = n_n^0(\mathbf{r}) - (i\hbar/2) \sum_{\kappa p, \alpha \alpha'} Z_\kappa \partial^2 \delta(\mathbf{r} - \boldsymbol{\tau}_{\kappa p}^0) / \partial r_\alpha \partial r_{\alpha'} D_{\kappa \alpha p, \kappa \alpha' p}(t^+ t)$
Total electrostatic potential	$V_{\text{tot}}(1) = \int d2 v(12) [\langle \hat{n}_e(2) \rangle + \langle \hat{n}_n(2) \rangle]$
Equation of motion, electrons	$[i\hbar \partial / \partial t_1 + (\hbar^2 / 2m_e) \nabla^2(1) - V_{\text{tot}}(1)] G(12) - \int d3 \Sigma(13) G(32) = \delta(12)$
Equation of motion, nuclei	$\sum_{\kappa'' \alpha'' p''} [M_\kappa \omega^2 \delta_{\kappa \alpha p, \kappa'' \alpha'' p''} - \Pi_{\kappa \alpha p, \kappa'' \alpha'' p''}(\omega)] D_{\kappa'' \alpha'' p'', \kappa' \alpha' p'}(\omega) = \delta_{\kappa \alpha p, \kappa' \alpha' p'}$
Electron self-energy	$\Sigma(12) = i\hbar \int d(34) G(13) \Gamma(324) [W_e(41^+) + W_{\text{ph}}(41^+)]$
Screened Coulomb, electrons	$W_e(12) = v(12) + \int d(34) v(13) P_e(34) W_e(42)$
Electronic polarization	$P_e(12) = -i\hbar \sum_{\sigma_1} \int d(34) G(13) G(41^+) \Gamma(342)$
Electronic dielectric matrix	$\epsilon_e(12) = \delta(12) - \int d(3) v(13) P_e(32)$
Vertex	$\Gamma(123) = \delta(12) \delta(13) + \int d(4567) [\delta \Sigma(12) / \delta G(45)] G(46) G(75) \Gamma(673)$
Screened Coulomb, nuclei	$W_{\text{ph}}(12) = \sum_{\kappa \alpha p, \kappa' \alpha' p'} \int d(34) \epsilon_e^{-1}(13) \nabla_{3, \alpha} V_\kappa(\mathbf{r}_3 - \boldsymbol{\tau}_{\kappa p}^0) \times D_{\kappa \alpha p, \kappa' \alpha' p'}(t_3 t_4) \epsilon_e^{-1}(24) \nabla_{4, \alpha'} V_{\kappa'}(\mathbf{r}_4 - \boldsymbol{\tau}_{\kappa' p'}^0)$
Phonon self-energy	$\Pi_{\kappa \alpha p, \kappa' \alpha' p'}(\omega) = \sum_{\kappa'' p''} Z_\kappa Z_{\kappa''} (\partial^2 / \partial r_\alpha \partial r_{\alpha'}) \times [\delta_{\kappa' p', \kappa'' p''} W_e(\mathbf{r}, \mathbf{r}', \omega) - \delta_{\kappa p, \kappa' p'} W_e(\mathbf{r}, \mathbf{r}', 0)]_{\mathbf{r}=\boldsymbol{\tau}_{\kappa p}^0, \mathbf{r}'=\boldsymbol{\tau}_{\kappa'' p''}^0}$



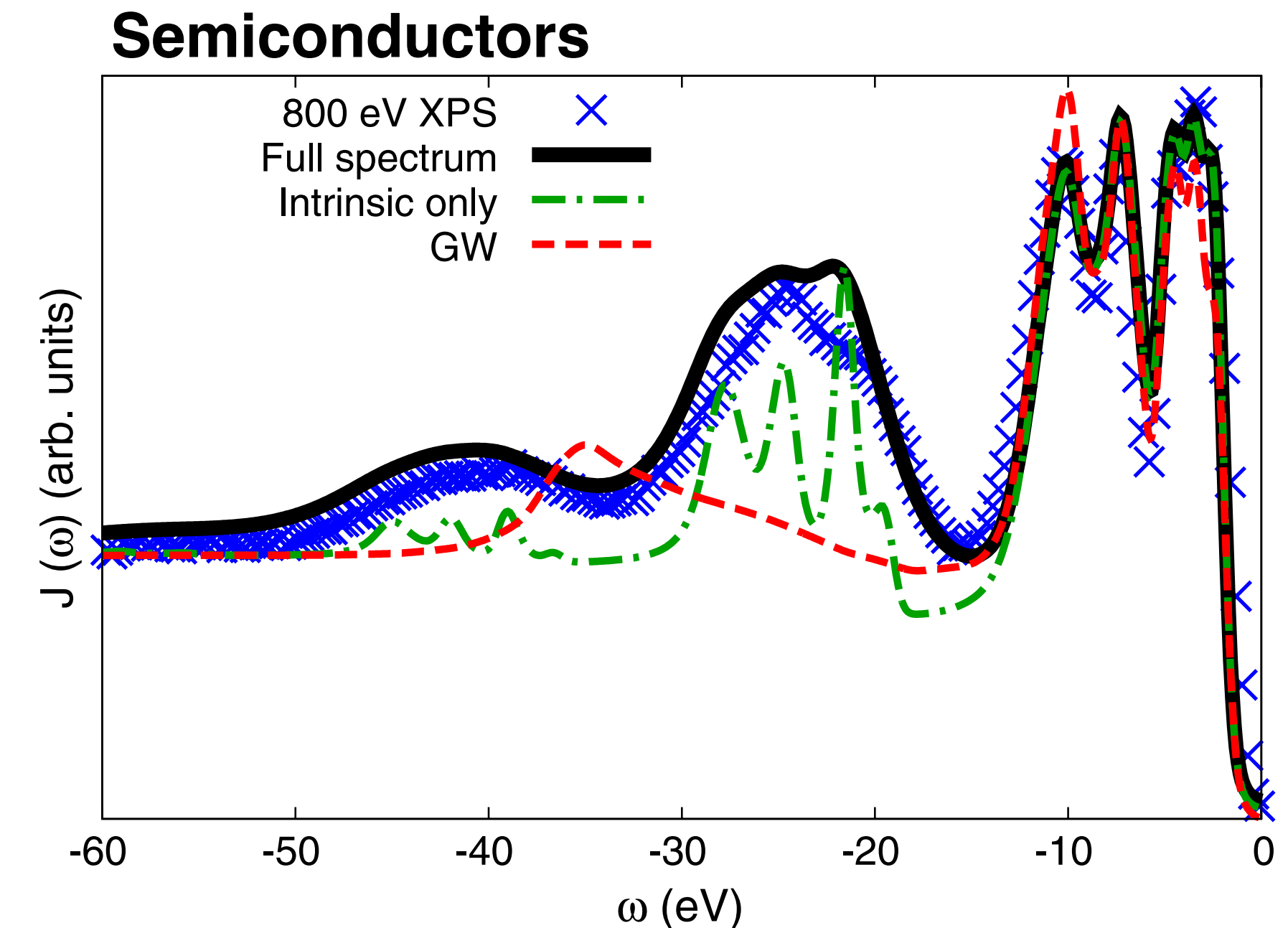
## **Part 2**

**Polaronic satellites in  
angle-resolved photoemission spectroscopy (ARPES)**

# Satellites in photoemission: a hallmark of electron-boson interaction



Pardee et al., Phys. Rev. B **11**, 3614 (1975)



Guzzo et al., Phys. Rev. Lett. **107**, 166401 (2011)

A strong stimulus for the development of (ab-initio) theories of the electron-boson interaction

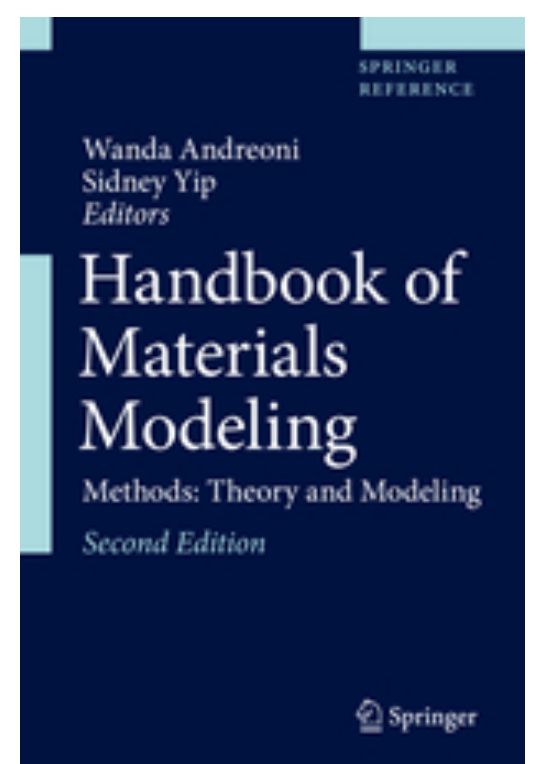
**Example:** the cumulant expansion approach

$$G_C = \text{---} + \text{---} + \text{---} + \text{---} + \text{---} + \dots$$

Cumulant representation of the spectral function

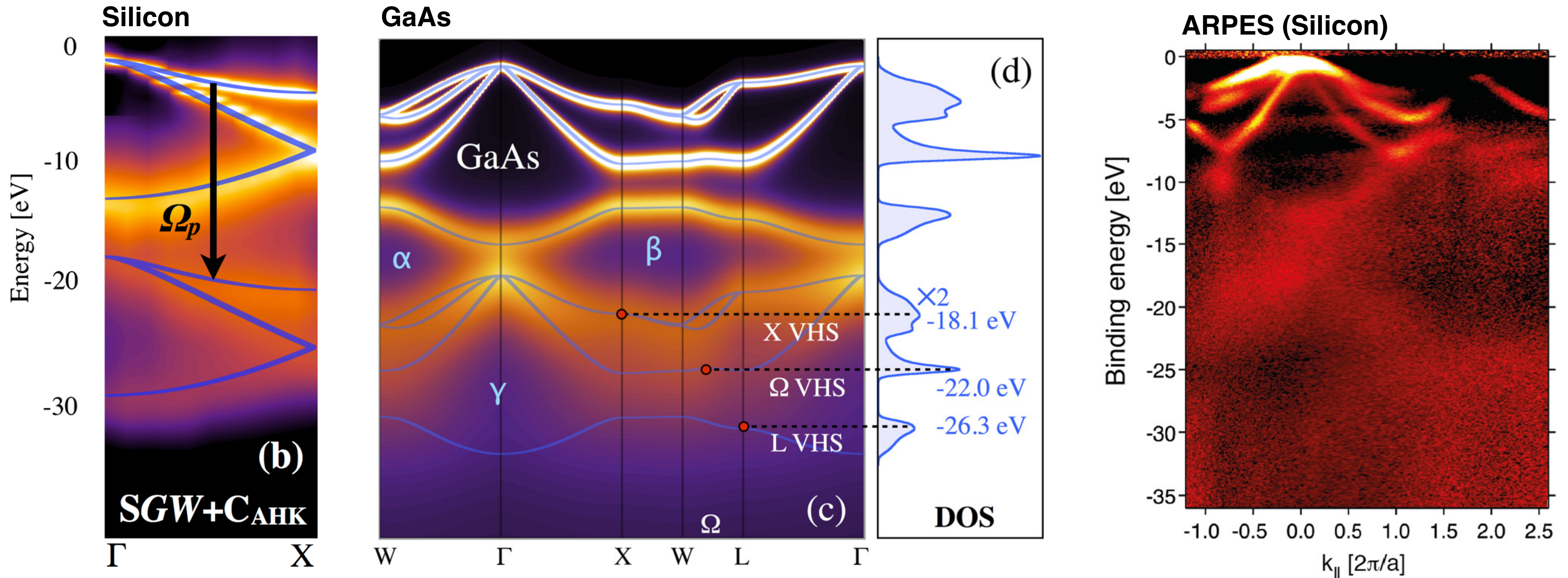
$$A(\mathbf{k}, \omega) = \sum_n e^{A_{n\mathbf{k}}^{S1}(\omega)} * A_{n\mathbf{k}}^{QP}(\omega)$$

Caruso, Verdi, Giustino,  
Handbook of Materials Modeling  
Springer (2018)





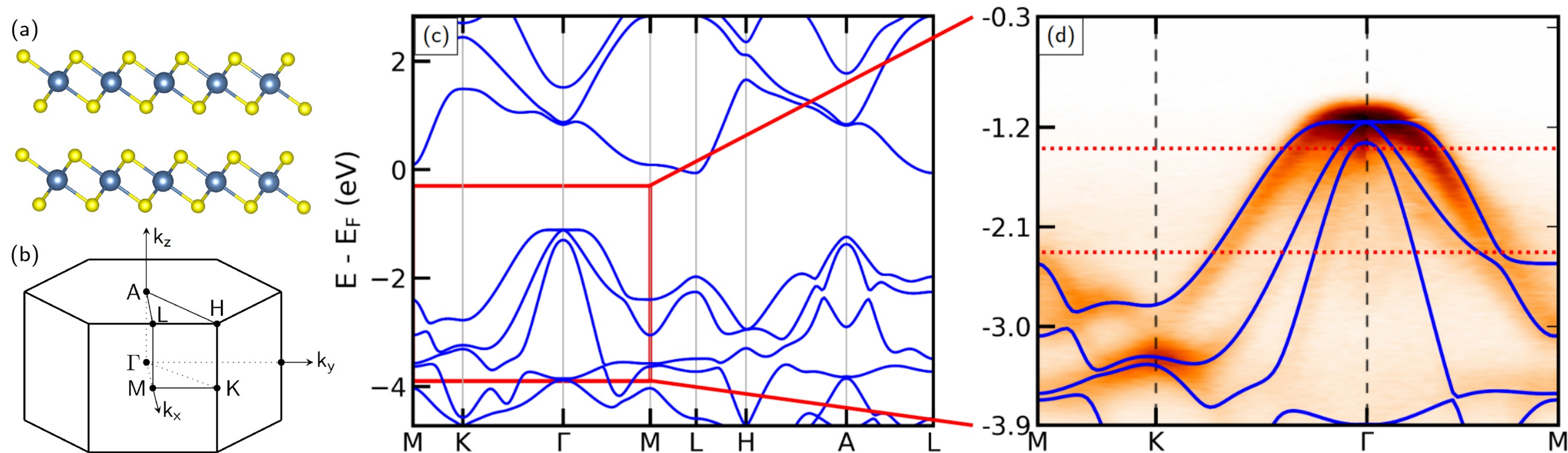
# Band structures of plasmonic polarons



Full replicas of the band structure due to the electron-plasmon interactions



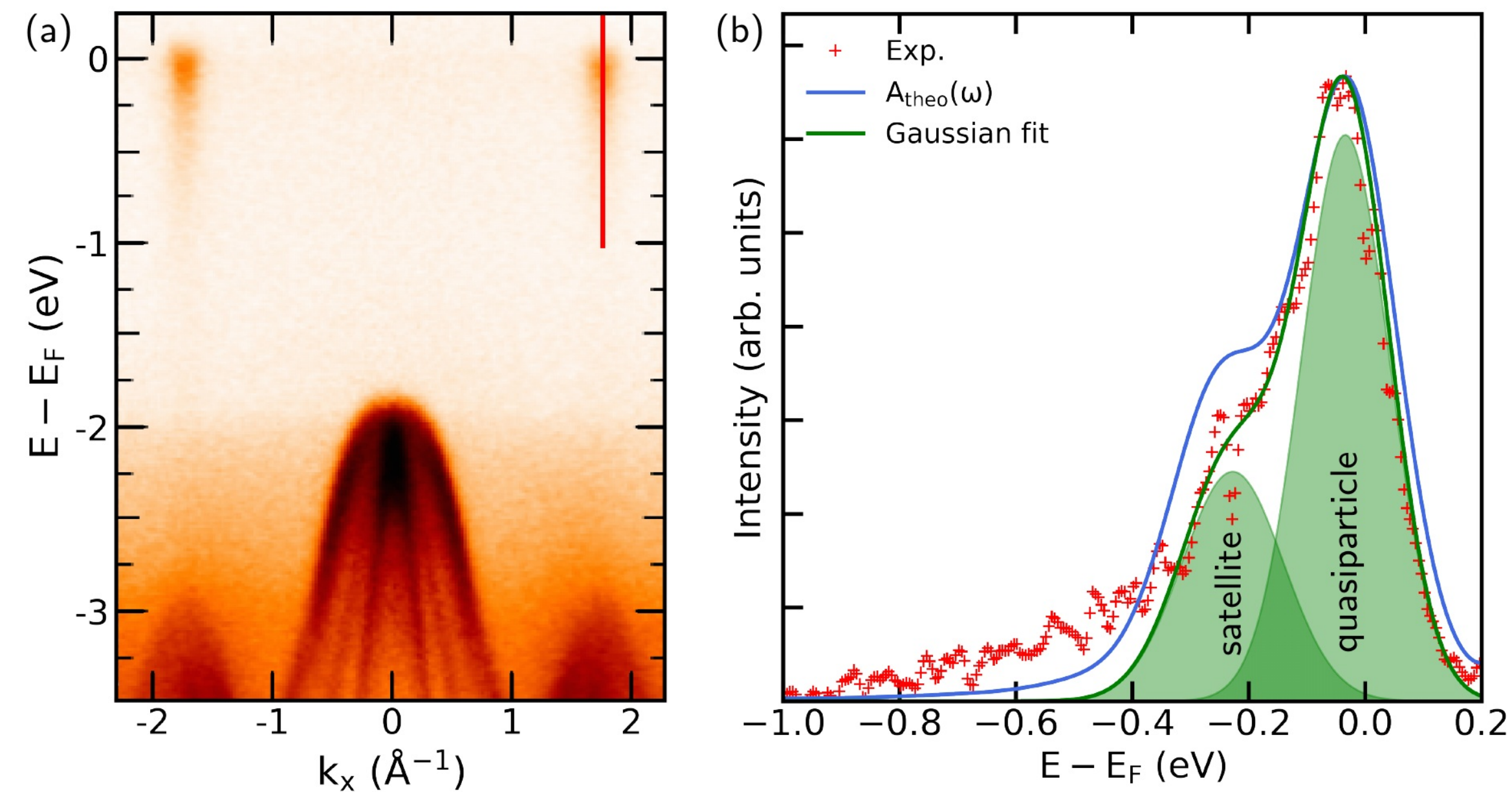
# Satellites due to the electron-plasmon coupling in highly-doped HfS2



Poster!!!

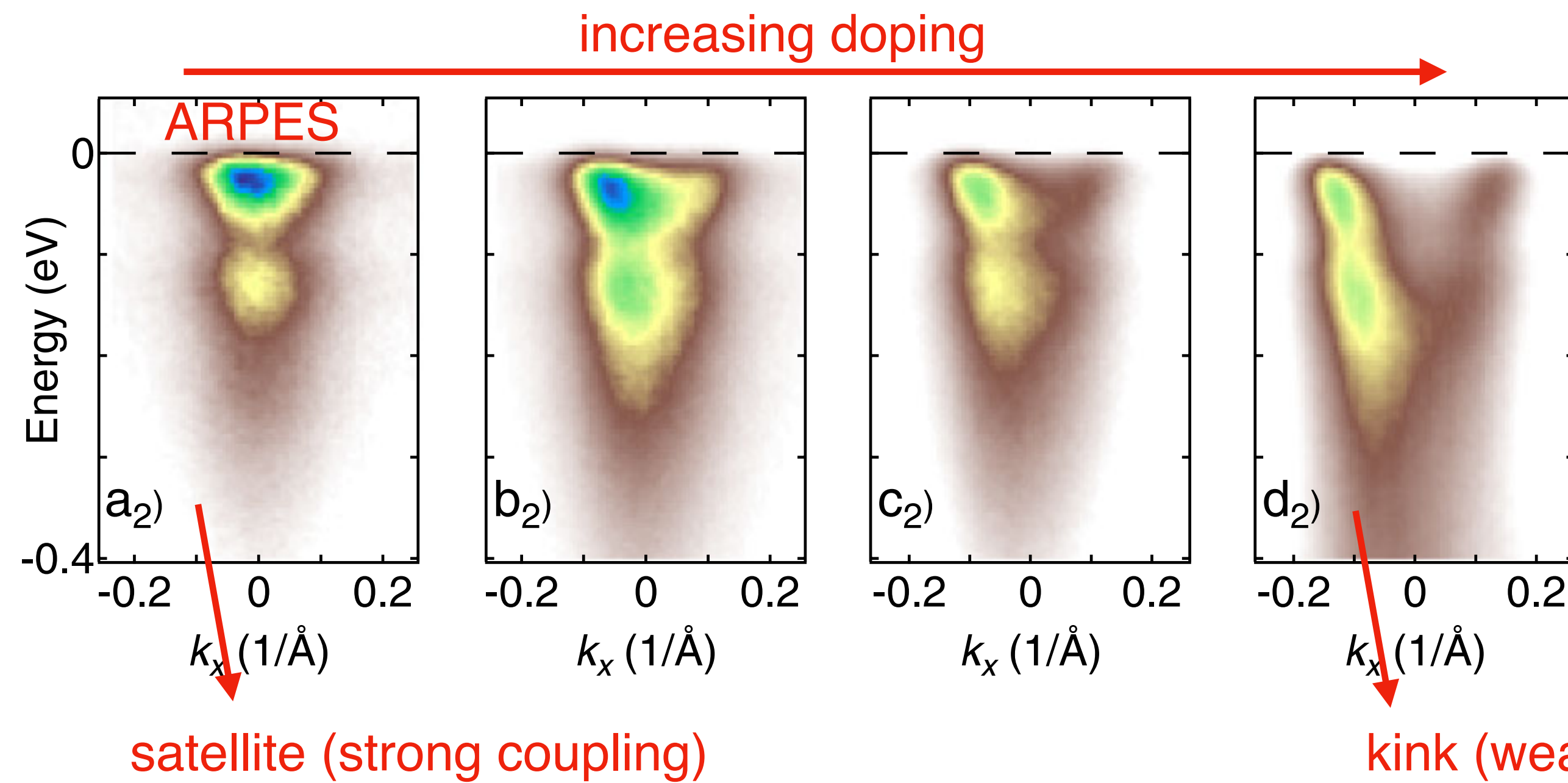


C. Emeis

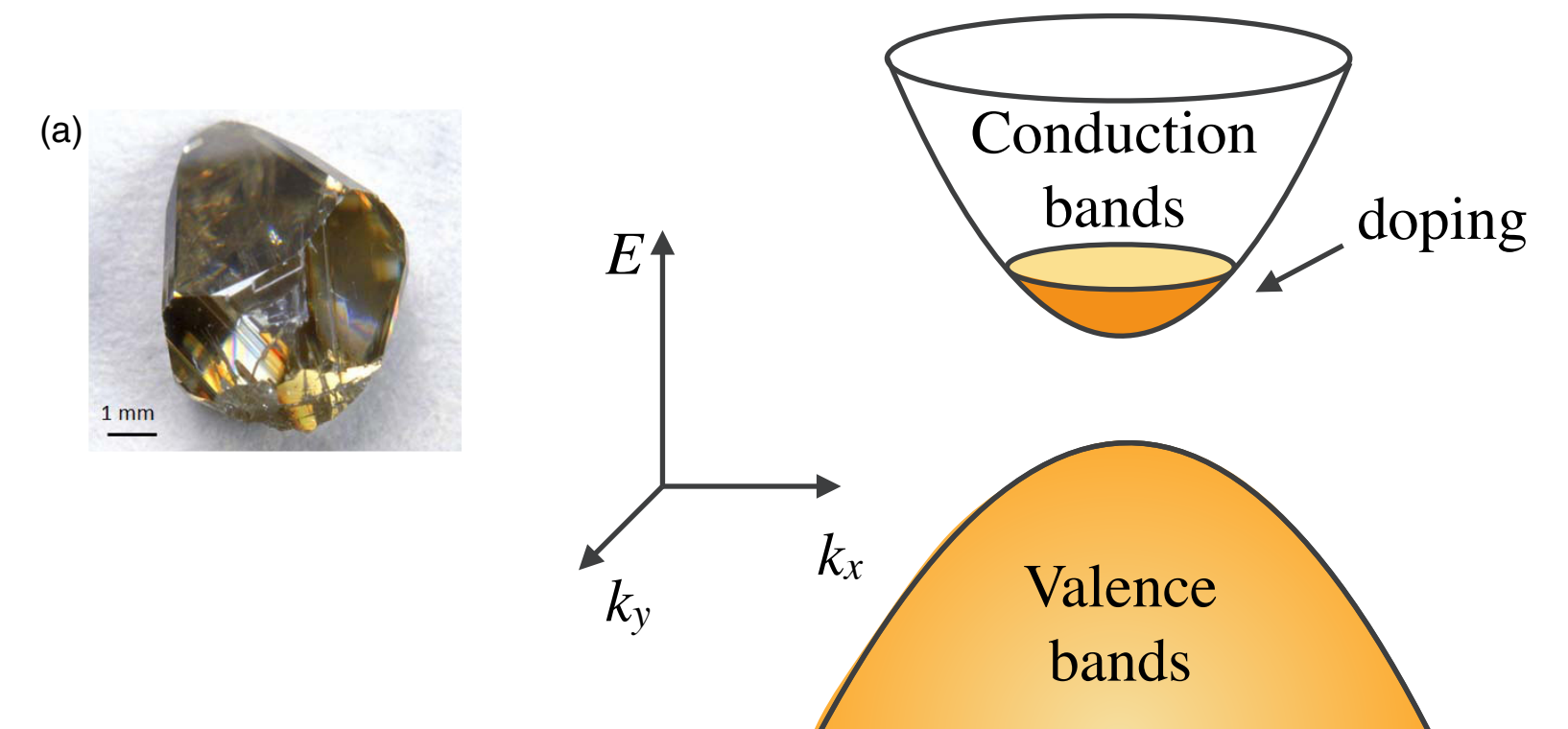




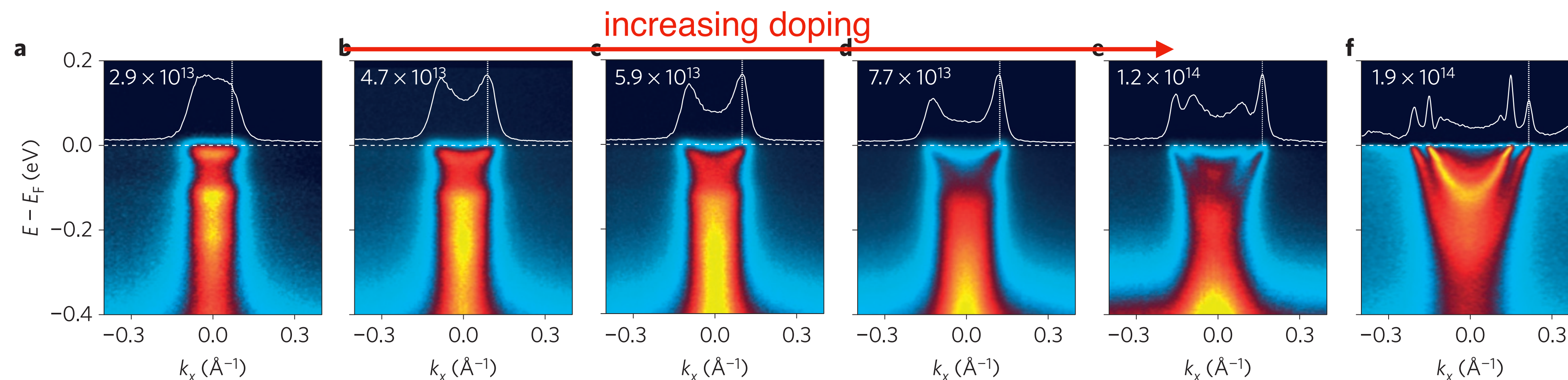
# Satellites due to the electron-phonon coupling: highly-doped polar semiconductors



Moser et al., Phys. Rev. Lett. **110**, 196403 (2013)

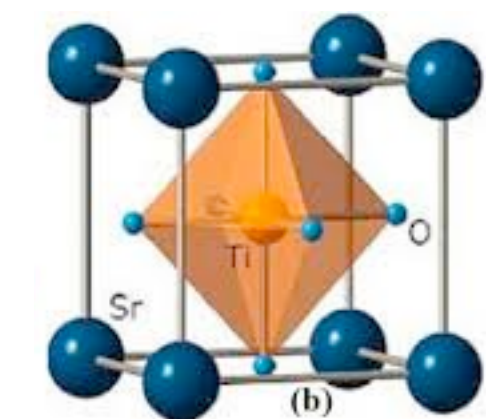


What is the origin of polaronic satellites?  
What is the influence of doping?



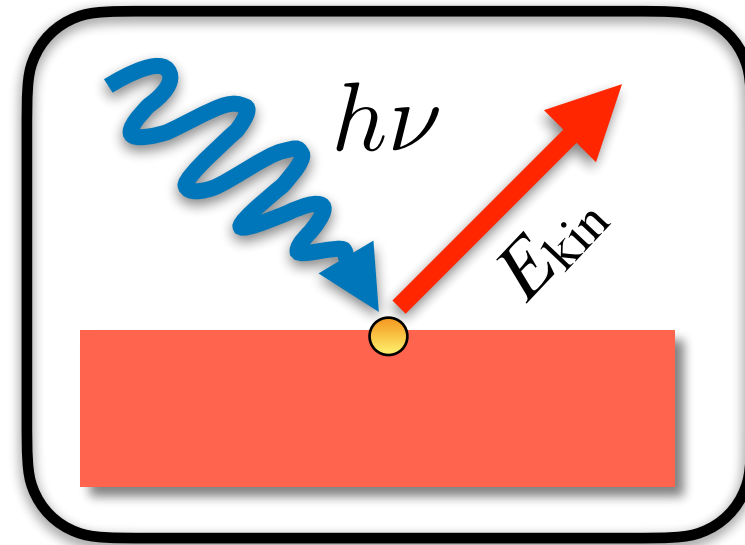
Wang et al., Nat. Mater. **15**, 835 (2016)

2D electron gas  
at the surface of SrTiO<sub>3</sub>



# First-principles theory of photoemission spectroscopy

photoemission spectroscopy



Photoelectron current (Fermi's golden rule):

$$J_{\mathbf{k}}(\omega) = \sum_s |\langle \Psi_{\mathbf{k},s} | \Delta | \Psi_i \rangle|^2 \delta(\omega - \varepsilon_{\mathbf{k}} + \varepsilon_s)$$

final state
perturbation
initial state
energy conservation

$$= \sum_{ij} \Delta_{\mathbf{k}j} A_{ji}(\varepsilon_{\mathbf{k}} - \omega) \Delta_{i\mathbf{k}} \quad [1] \text{ sudden approximation}$$

Spectral function

$$A(\mathbf{k}, \omega) = -\frac{1}{\pi} \sum_n \text{Im} G_{n\mathbf{k}}(\omega) = \frac{1}{\pi} \sum_n |\text{Im}[\omega - \varepsilon_{n\mathbf{k}} - \Sigma_{n\mathbf{k}}(\omega)]^{-1}|$$

Migdal (diagonal) approximation:

$$= \frac{1}{\pi} \sum_n |\text{Im}[\omega - \varepsilon_{n\mathbf{k}} - \Sigma_{n\mathbf{k}}(\omega)]^{-1}|$$

Electron-boson coupling self-energy (Fan-Migdal):

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

+

Cumulant expansion approach

$$A(\mathbf{k}, \omega) = \sum_n e^{A_{n\mathbf{k}}^{S1}(\omega)} * A_{n\mathbf{k}}^{\text{QP}}(\omega)$$

Phonons:  $\omega_{\mathbf{q}\nu}^{\text{b}} = \omega_{\mathbf{q}\nu}$

$$g_{mn\nu}^{\text{e-ph}}(\mathbf{k}, \mathbf{q}) = \langle \psi_{m\mathbf{k}+\mathbf{q}} | \partial_{\mathbf{q}\nu} V | \psi_{n\mathbf{k}} \rangle$$

C. Verdi, F. Giustino, Phys. Rev. Lett. **115**, 176401(2015)

Fröhlich (polar) coupling:

$$g_{mn\nu}^{\mathcal{L}}(\mathbf{k}, \mathbf{q}) \propto \sum_{\kappa} \frac{\mathbf{Z}_{\kappa}^* \cdot \mathbf{e}_{\kappa\nu}(\mathbf{q})}{(\mathbf{q} + \mathbf{G})}$$

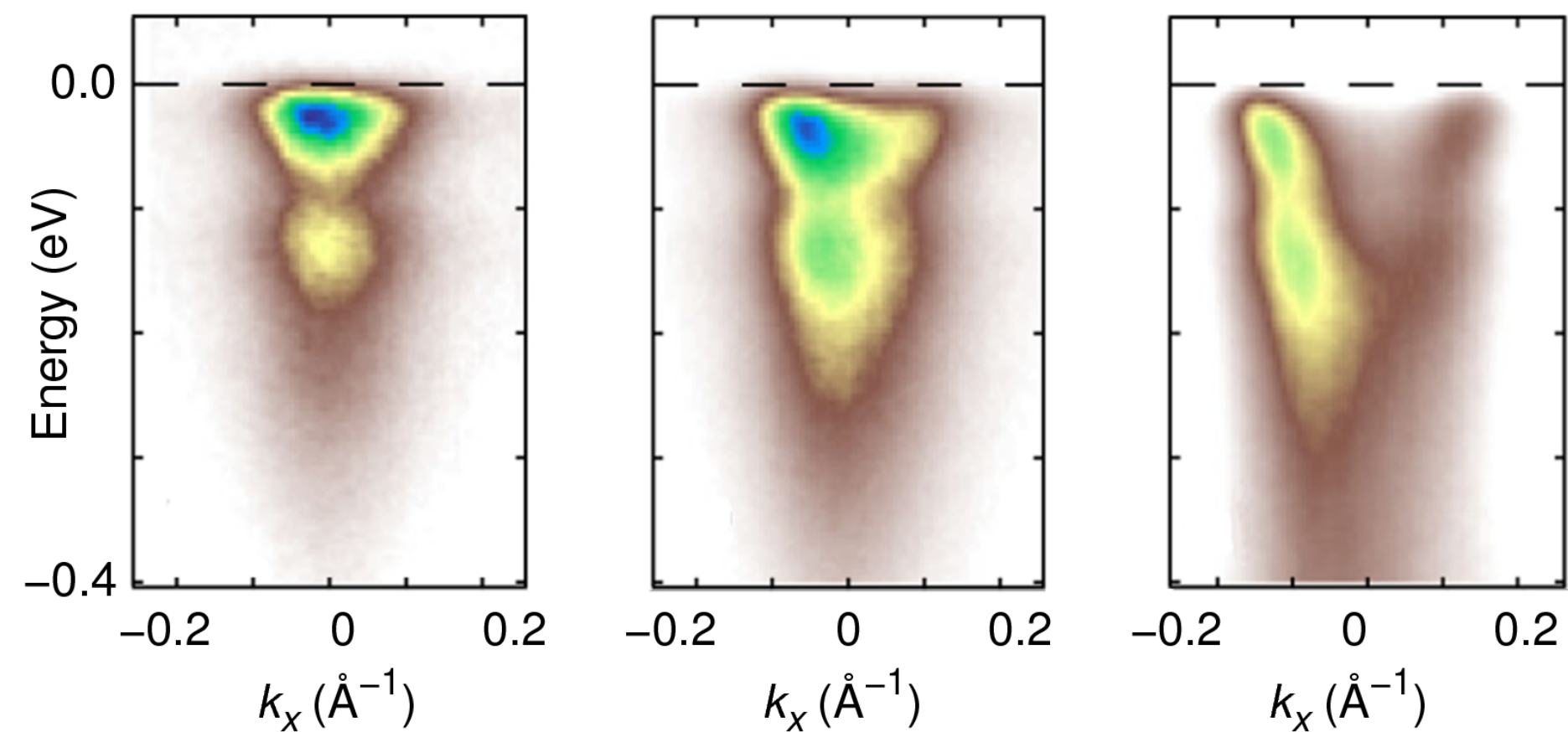


Electron-Phonon coupling with Wannier function (EPW)

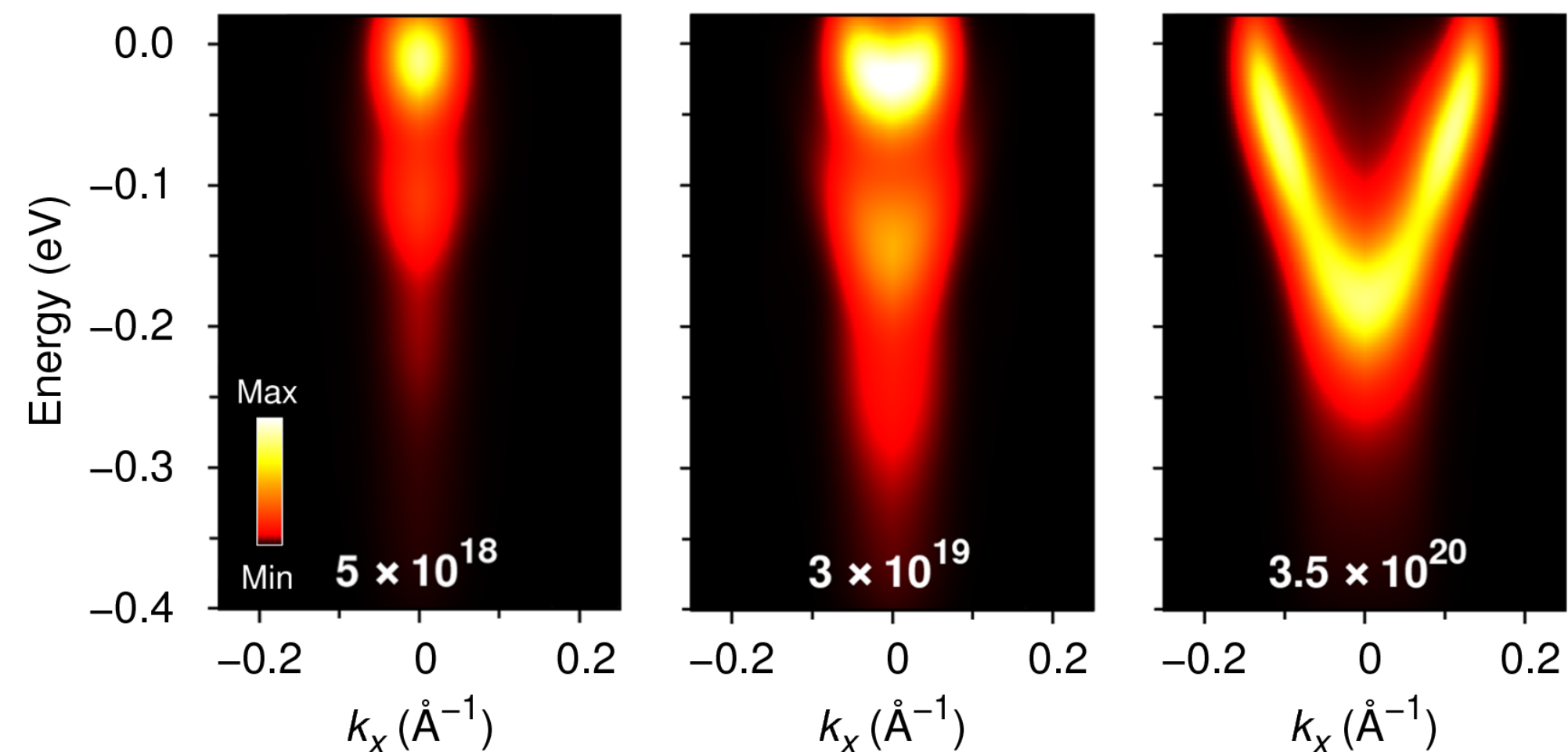


# Satellites due to the electron-phonon coupling: highly-doped polar semiconductors

ARPES measurements of highly-doped TiO<sub>2</sub>

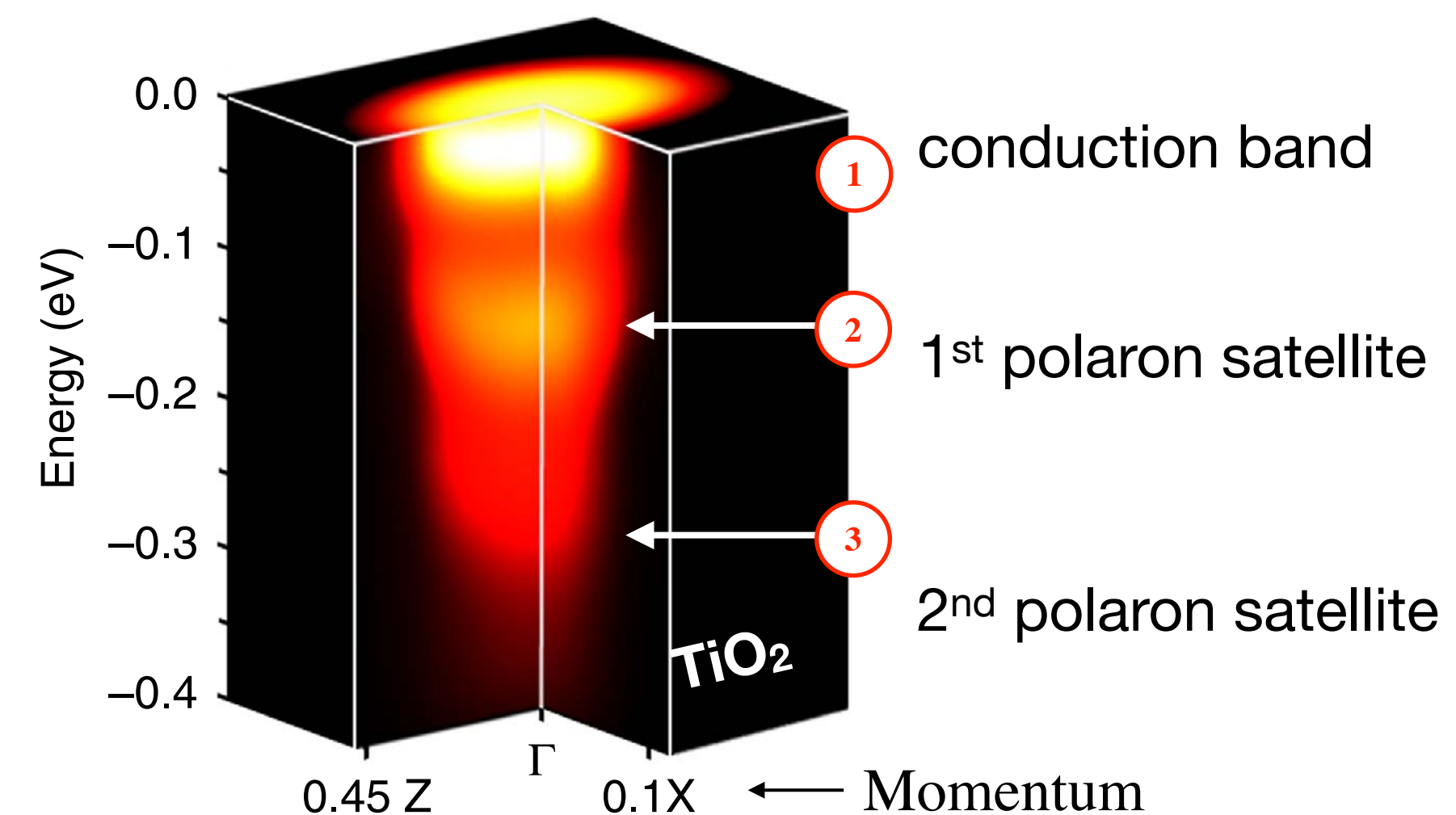


Spectral function including electron-phonon interactions:



Free carriers screen the electron-phonon interactions  
(progressively reduce the coupling at higher doping)

**Doping-induced polaronic to Fermi liquid transition**



**ARPES:** Moser et al., Phys. Rev. Lett. **110**, 196403 (2013)

**Theory:** Verdi, Caruso, Giustino, Nature Comm. **8**, 15769 (2017)

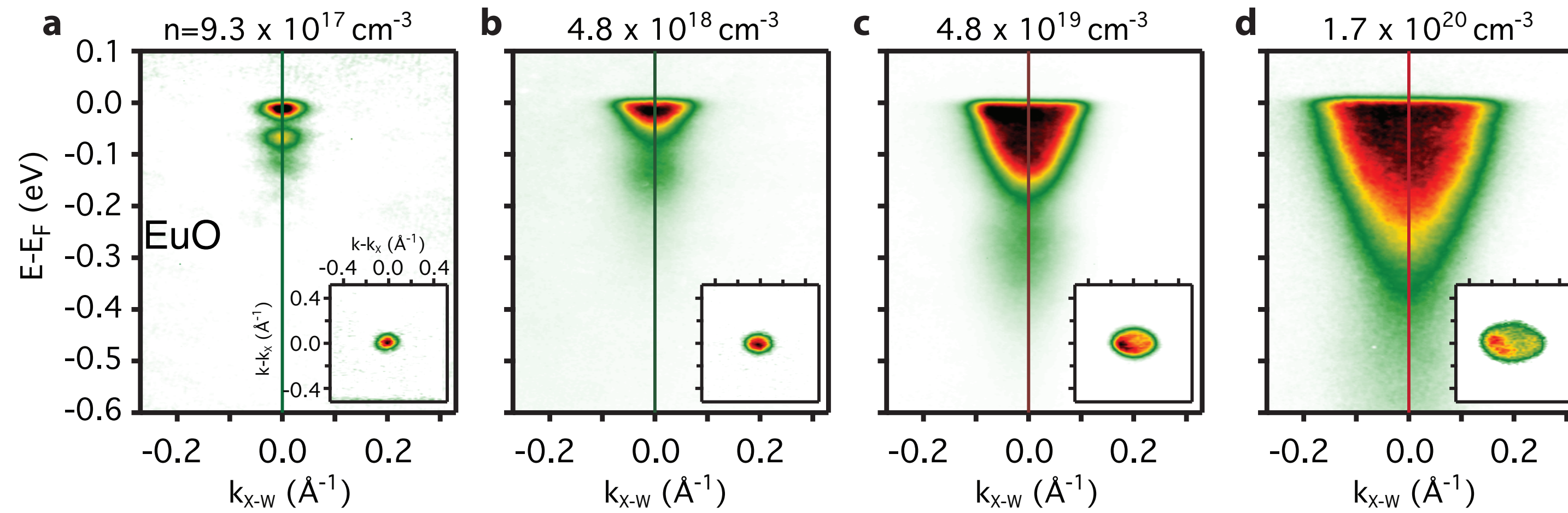


Carla Verdi

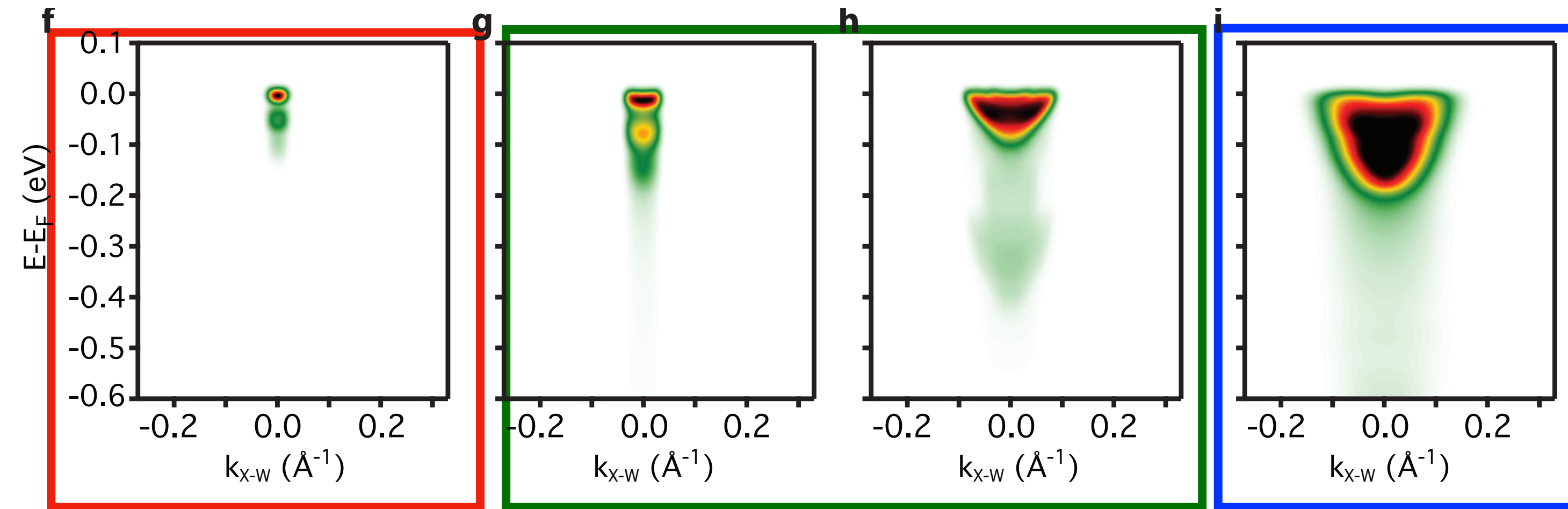


Feliciano  
Giustino

# Doping-induced crossover from lattice to plasmonic polarons



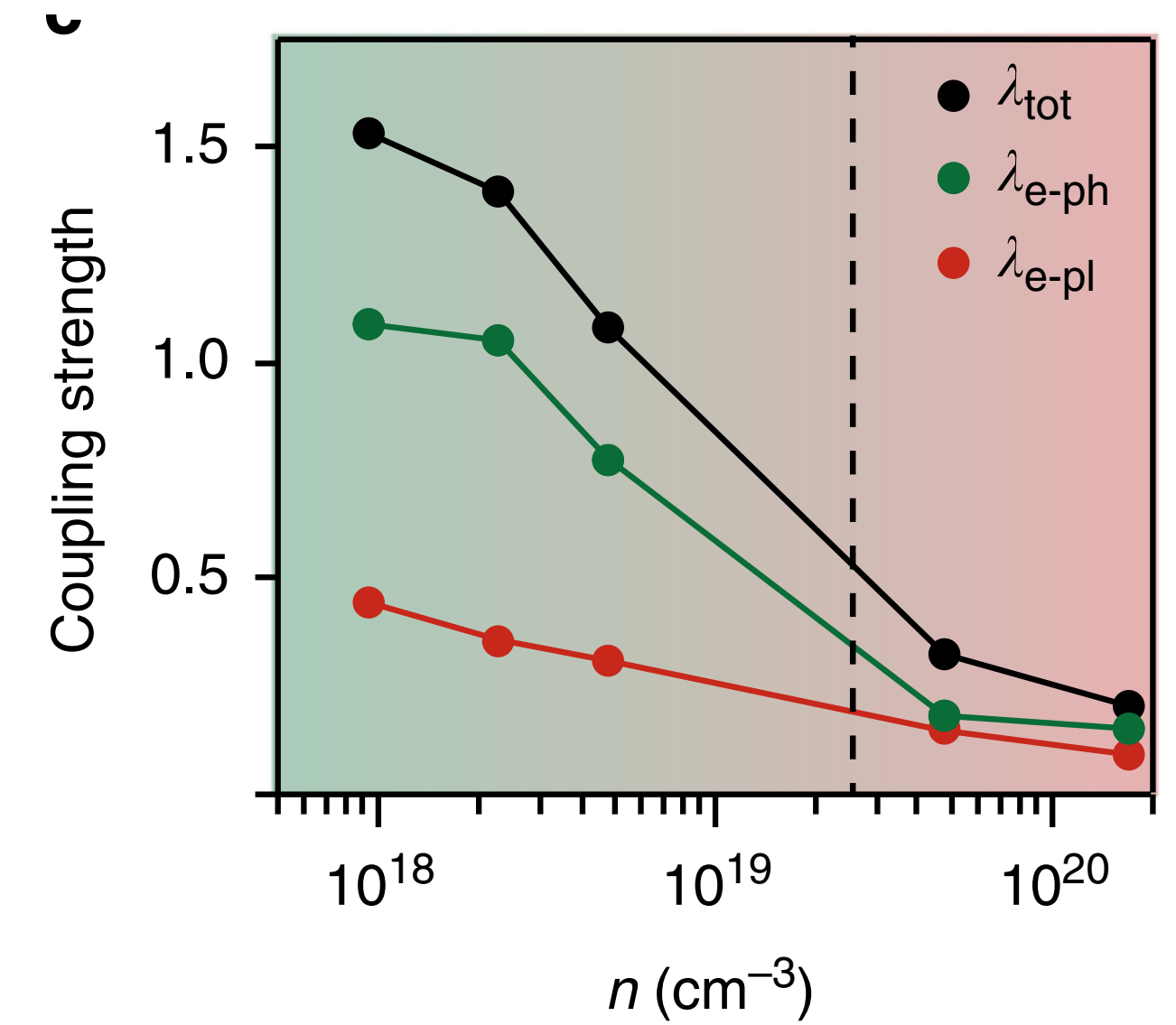
Spectral function with:  $\Sigma(\mathbf{k}, \omega) = \Sigma^{\text{eP}} + \Sigma^{\text{e-ph}}$  F. Caruso, F. Giustino, Phys. Rev. B **94**, 115208 (2016)



phonons

phonons + plasmons

plasmons

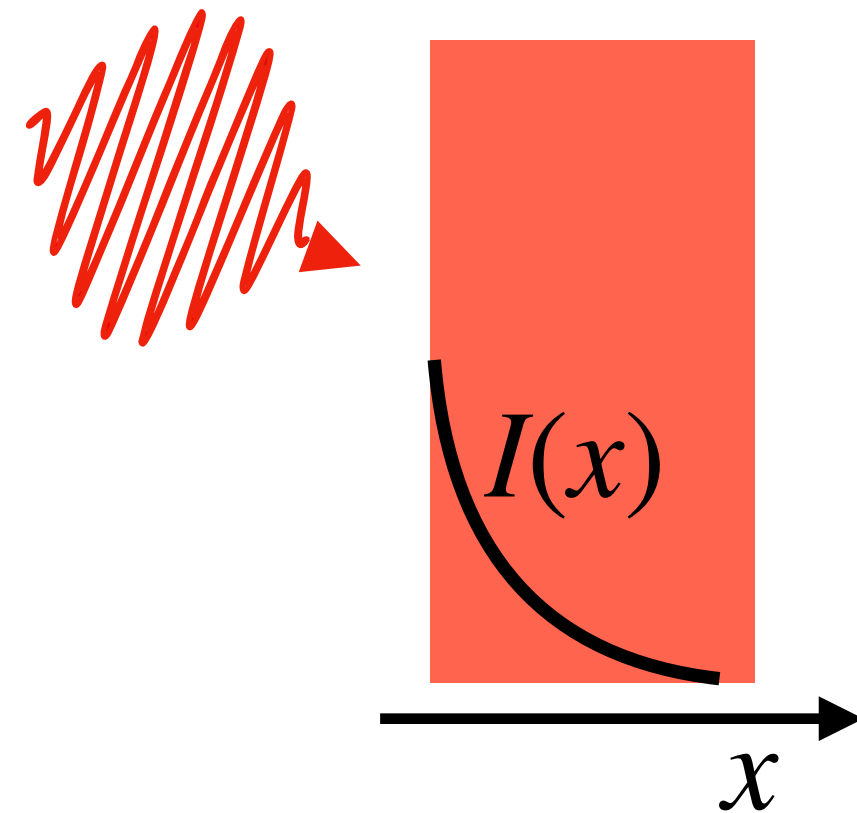




## **Part 3**

# **Phonon-assisted optical absorption in semiconductors**

# Optical absorption in semiconductors



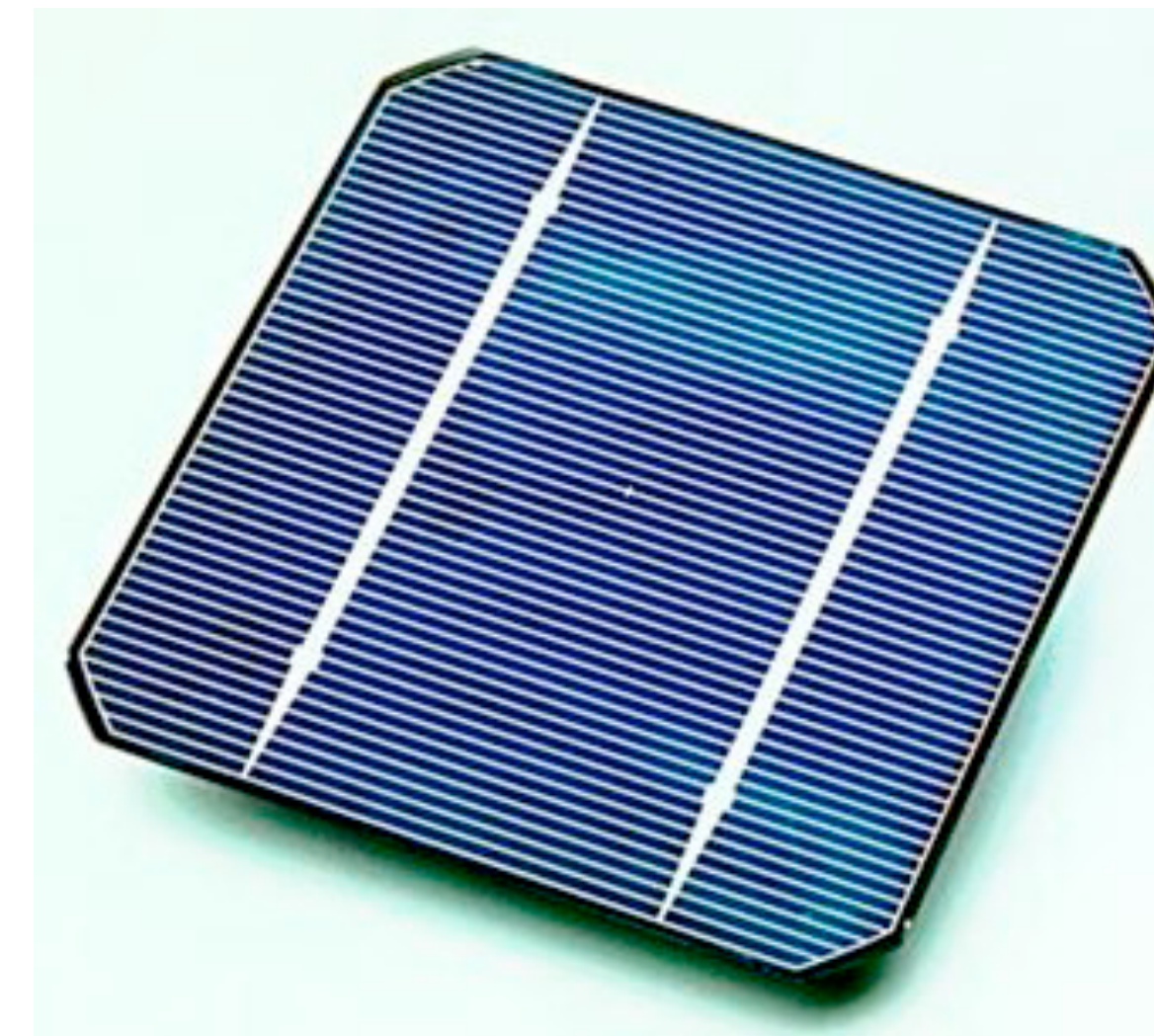
Intensity of radiation  
propagating through the sample

$$I(\omega, x) = I_0 e^{-\alpha(\omega)x}$$

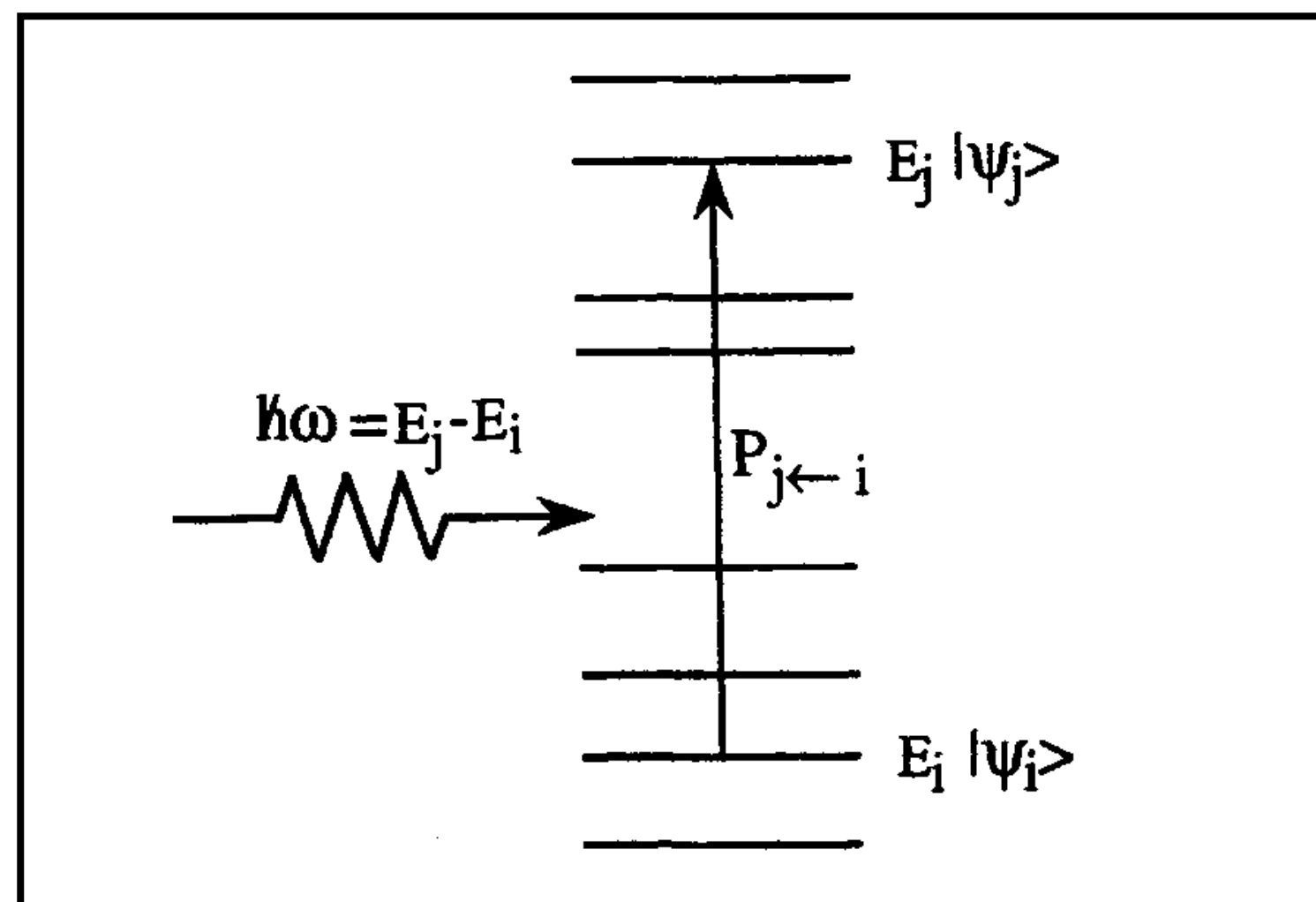
$\alpha$  : absorption coefficient

## Why is it important?

- powerful characterization technique
- fundamental principle underlying solar energy conversion



Quantum picture of the absorption process



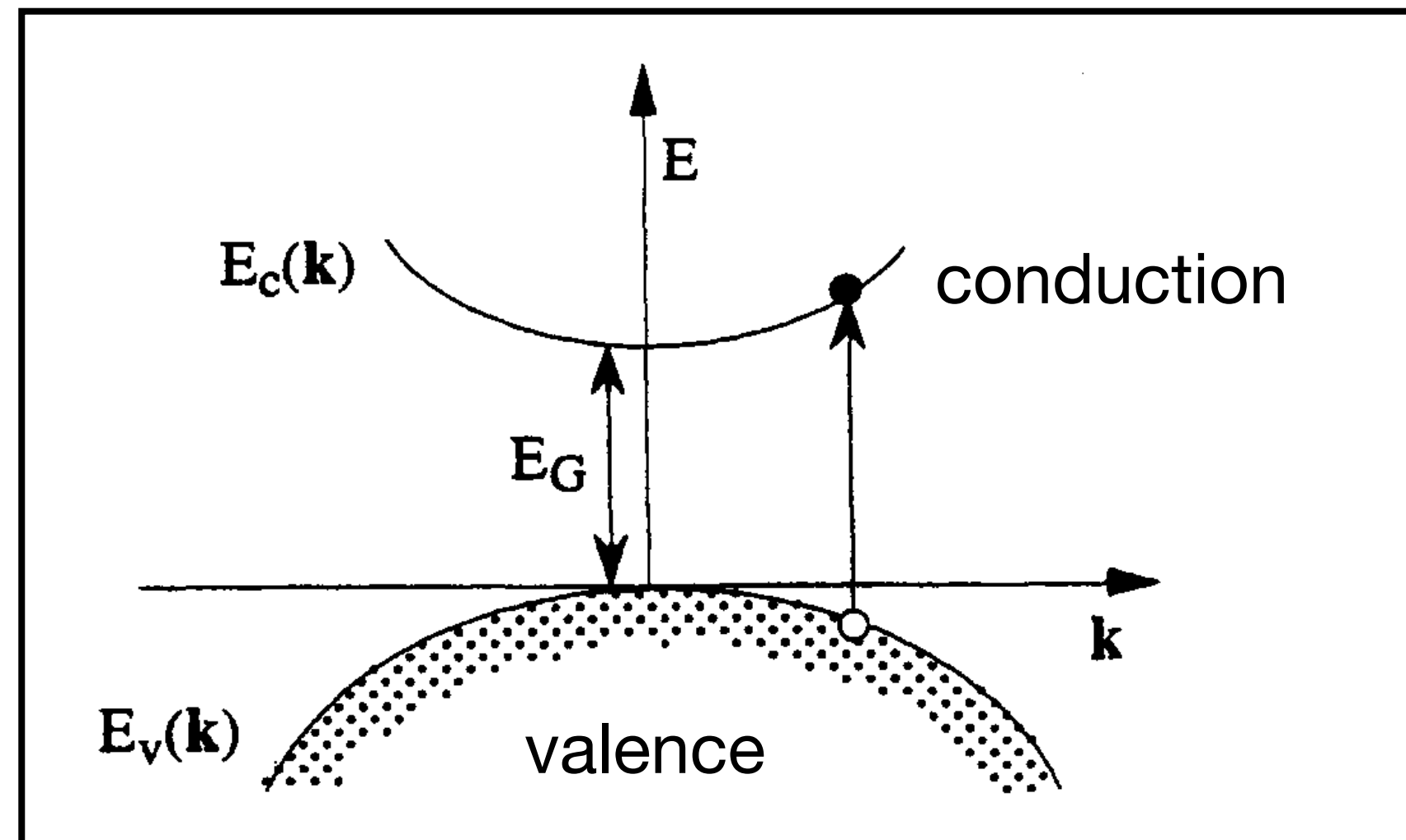
In this lecture:

**What is the role of phonons in the absorption of light in solids?**



# Phonon-assisted optical absorption in semiconductors

(direct) optical absorption



The absorption coefficient:

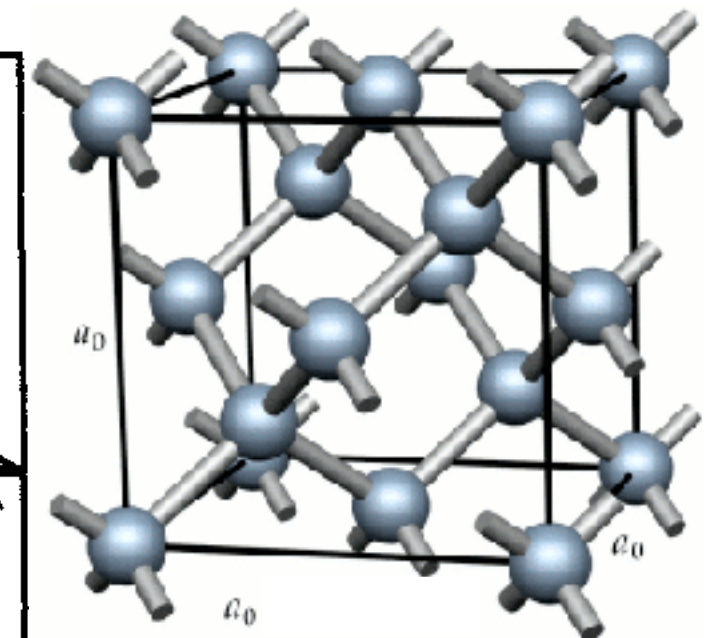
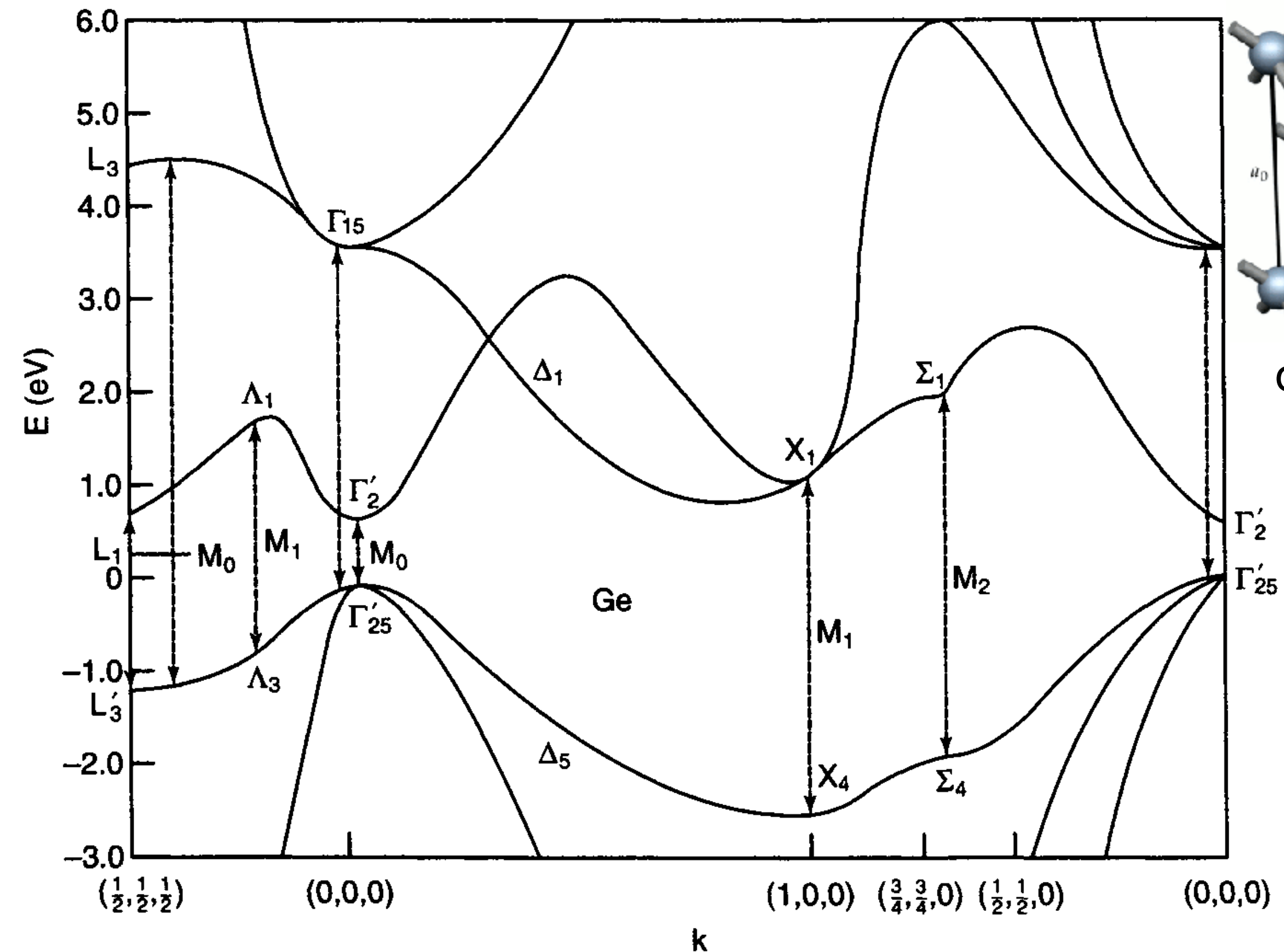
$$\alpha(\omega) = \frac{\omega}{c n(\omega)} \epsilon_2(\omega)$$

speed of light

refractive index

dielectric fn.

Band structure of Germanium



diamond-like structure

Brust et al., Phys. Rev. Lett **9**, 94 (1962)

# Phonon-assisted optical absorption in semiconductors

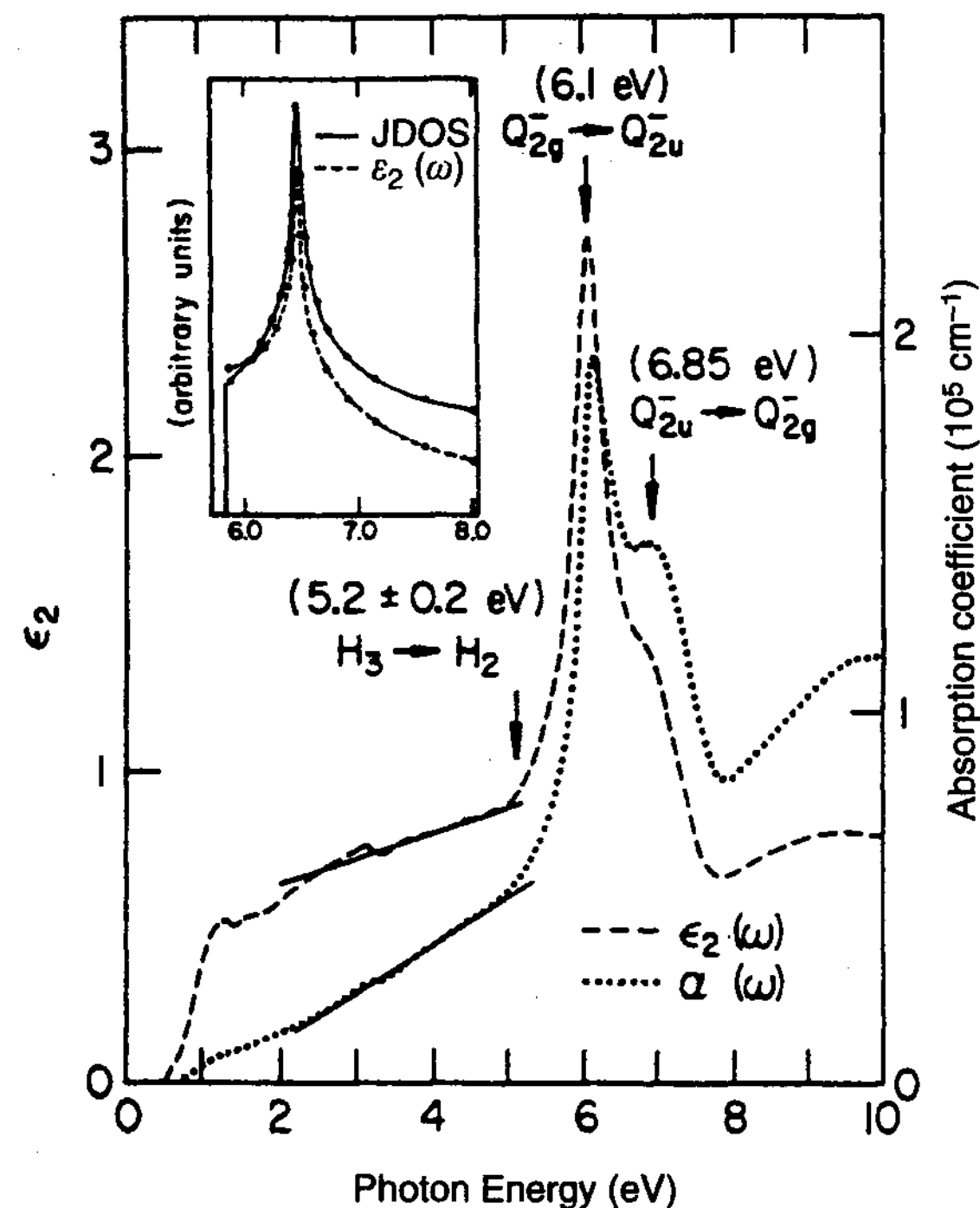
The absorption coefficient:

$$\alpha(\omega) = \frac{\omega}{c n(\omega)} \epsilon_2(\omega)$$

speed of light

refractive index

dielectric fn.



The dielectric function independent particle approximation (IPA):

$$\epsilon_2(\omega) = \frac{8\pi^2 e^2}{m^2 \omega^2} \frac{1}{V} \sum_{c,v} \sum_{\mathbf{k}} |\langle \psi_{c\mathbf{k}} | \mathbf{e} \cdot \mathbf{p} | \psi_{v\mathbf{k}} \rangle|^2 \delta(E_{c\mathbf{k}} - E_{v\mathbf{k}} - \hbar\omega)$$

matrix elements of the momentum operator

delta function for energy conservation

$\langle \psi_{c\mathbf{k}} | \mathbf{e} \cdot \mathbf{p} | \psi_{v\mathbf{k}} \rangle$  : typically a slowly varying function

The joint density of states:

$$J_{cv}(\omega) = \int_{B.Z.} \frac{d\mathbf{k}}{(2\pi)^3} \delta(E_{c\mathbf{k}} - E_{v\mathbf{k}} - \hbar\omega)$$



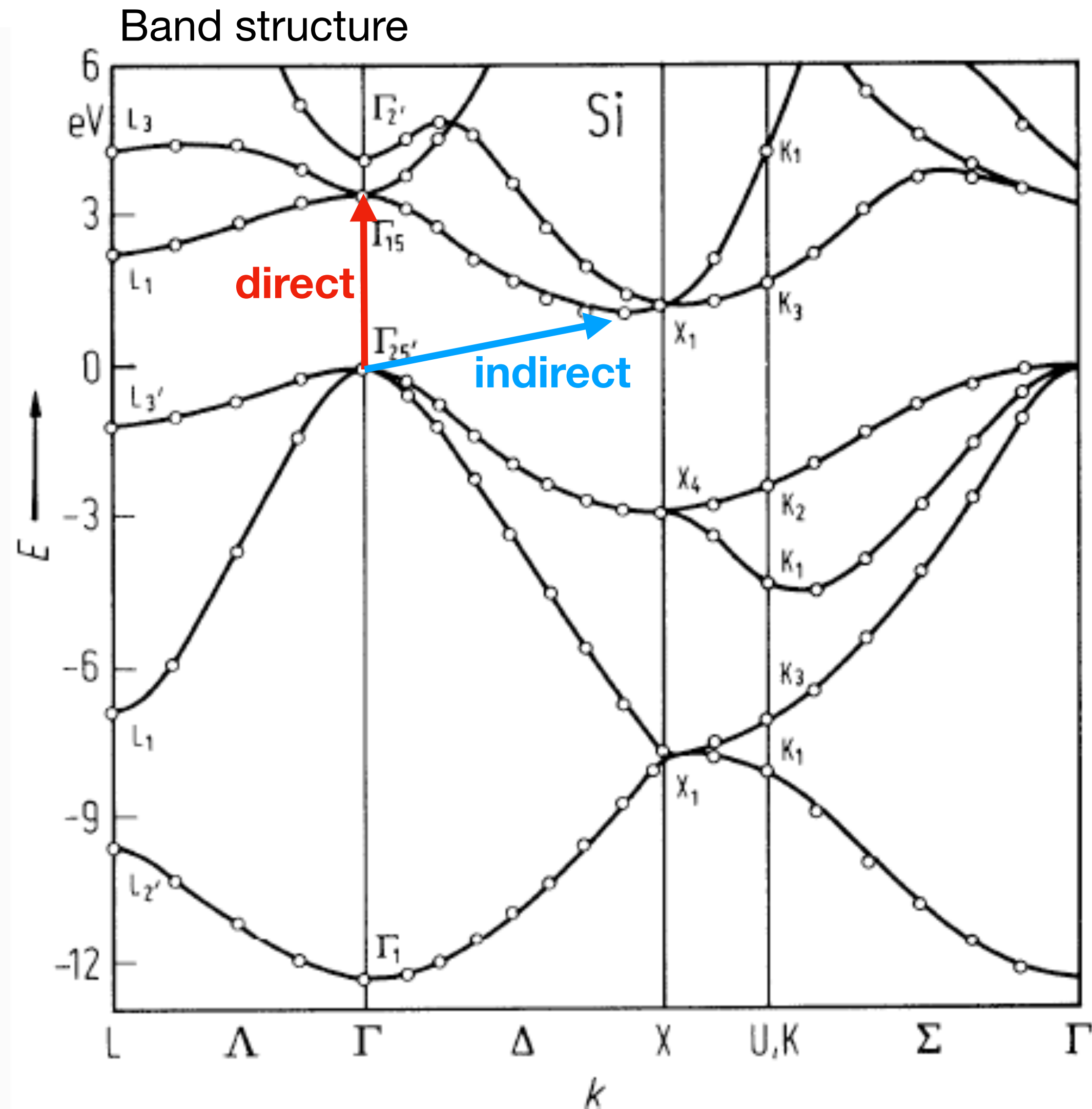
**1. Structures in the absorption spectrum arise from peaks in the joint DOS**

(exceptions: excitons, phonon assisted transitions)

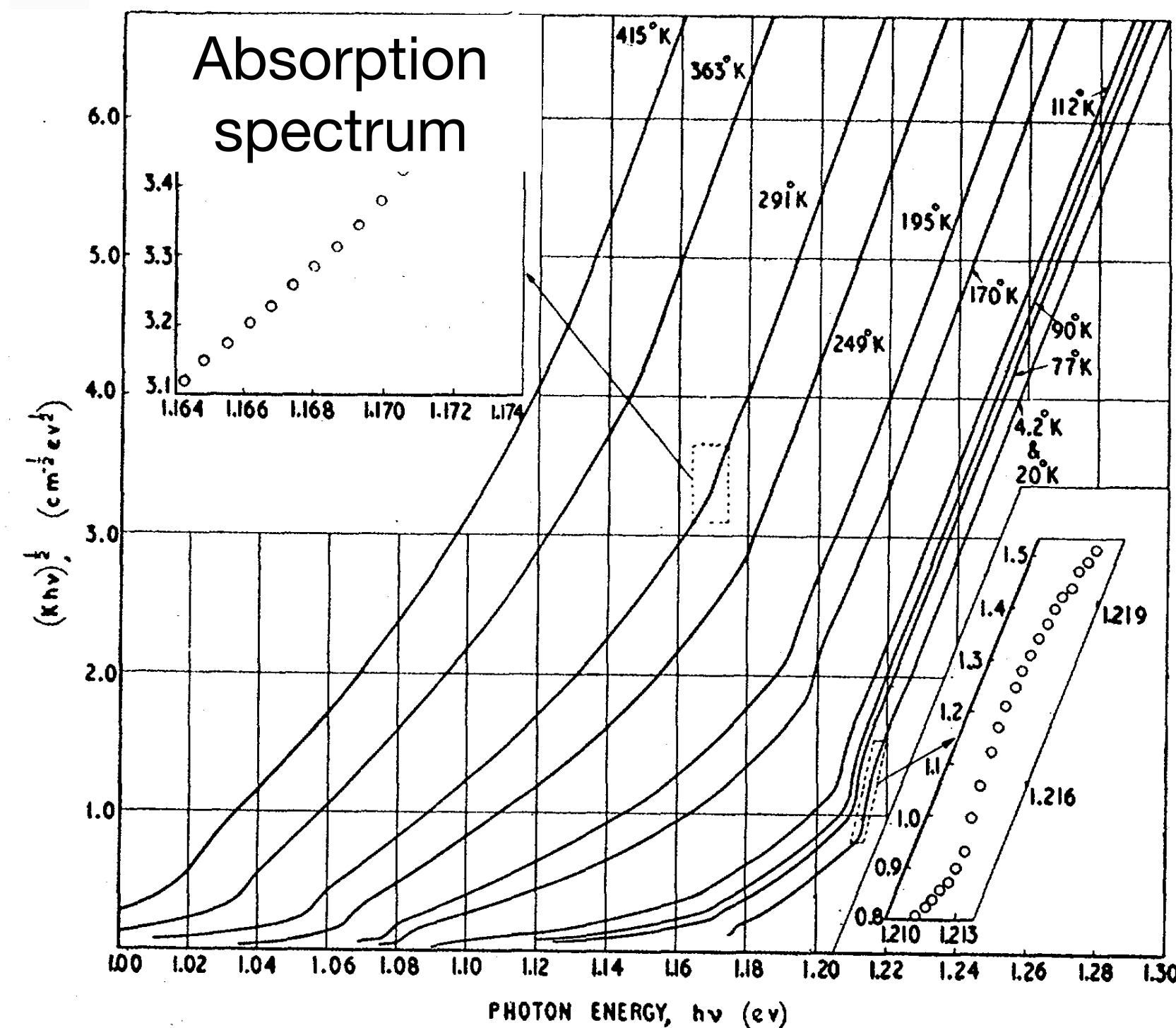
**2. No absorption for photon energies smaller than the band gap** (exceptions: excitons)



# Optical absorption in INDIRECT-gap semiconductors: silicon



Direct band gap: 3.5 eV = minimum energy for direct transitions  
Indirect band gap: 1.12 eV



Absorption of light occurs already for energy comparable with the indirect gap.

With strong temperature dependence (phonons?)

←  $1.0 < E < 1.3 \text{ eV}$

Due to momentum conservation: only possible if a phonon is absorbed or emitted in the absorption process

Phonon assisted optical absorption

# Phonon-assisted indirect optical absorption (emission)

## Two possible processes:

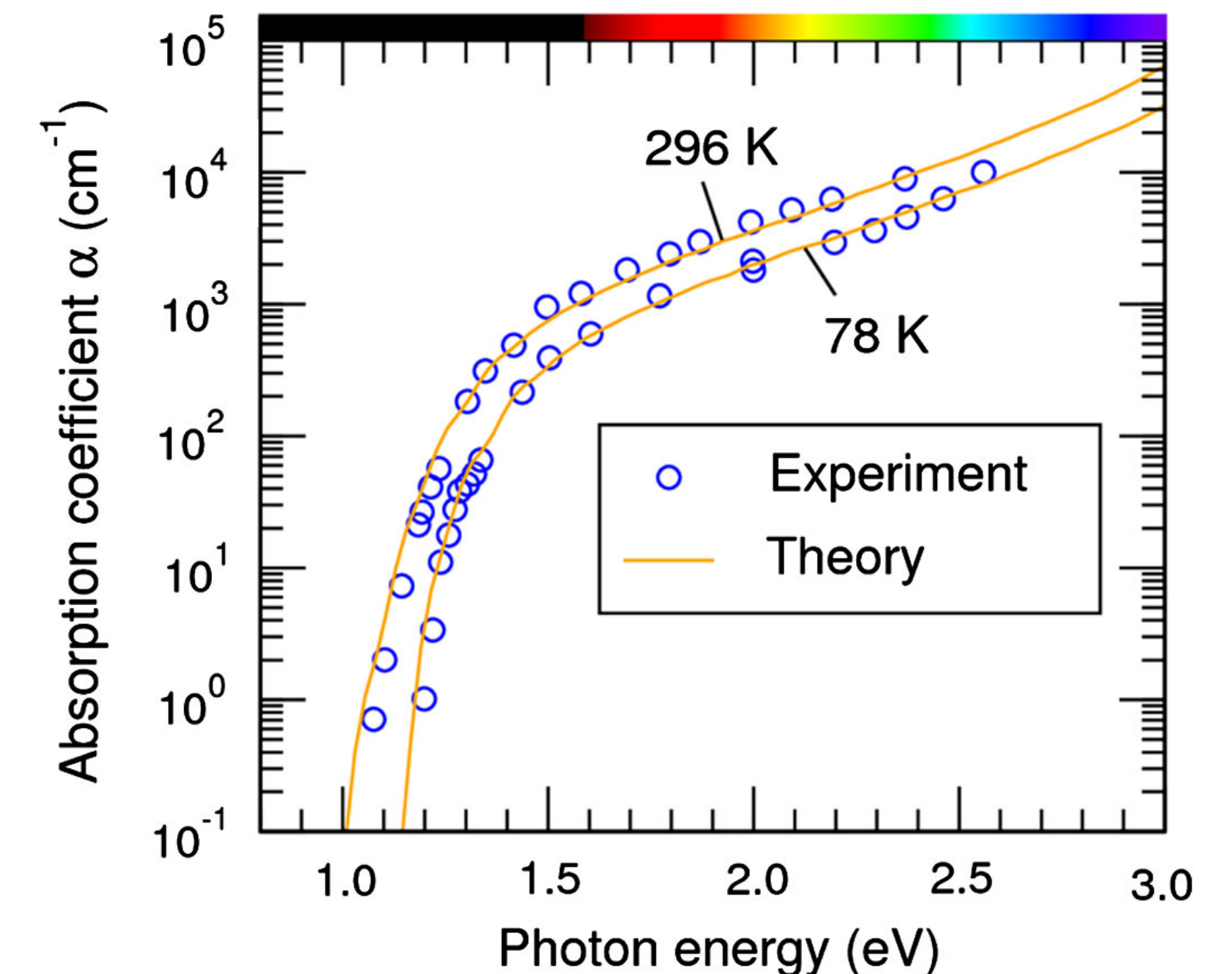
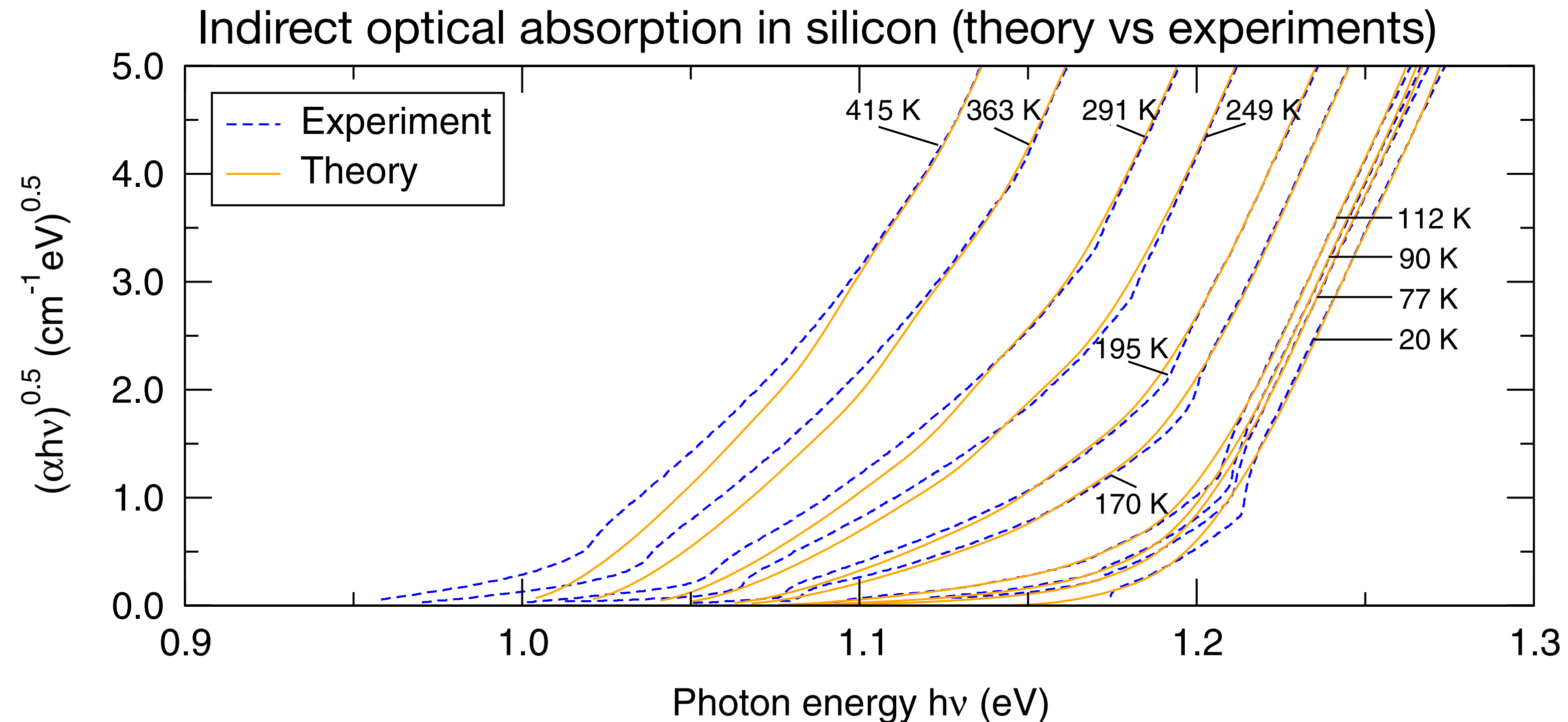
1. One photon absorbed (emitted) & one phonon is absorbed
2. One photon absorbed (emitted) & one phonon is emitted

## Theory: 2nd order Fermi golden rule + electron-phonon coupling

$$\alpha(\omega) = 2 \frac{4\pi^2 e^2}{\omega c n_r(\omega)} \frac{1}{V_{\text{cell}}} \frac{1}{N_k N_q} \sum_{\nu i j k q} |\boldsymbol{\lambda} \cdot (\mathbf{S}_1 + \mathbf{S}_2)|^2 \delta(\epsilon_{j,k+q} - \epsilon_{ik} - \hbar\omega \pm \hbar\omega_{\nu q})$$

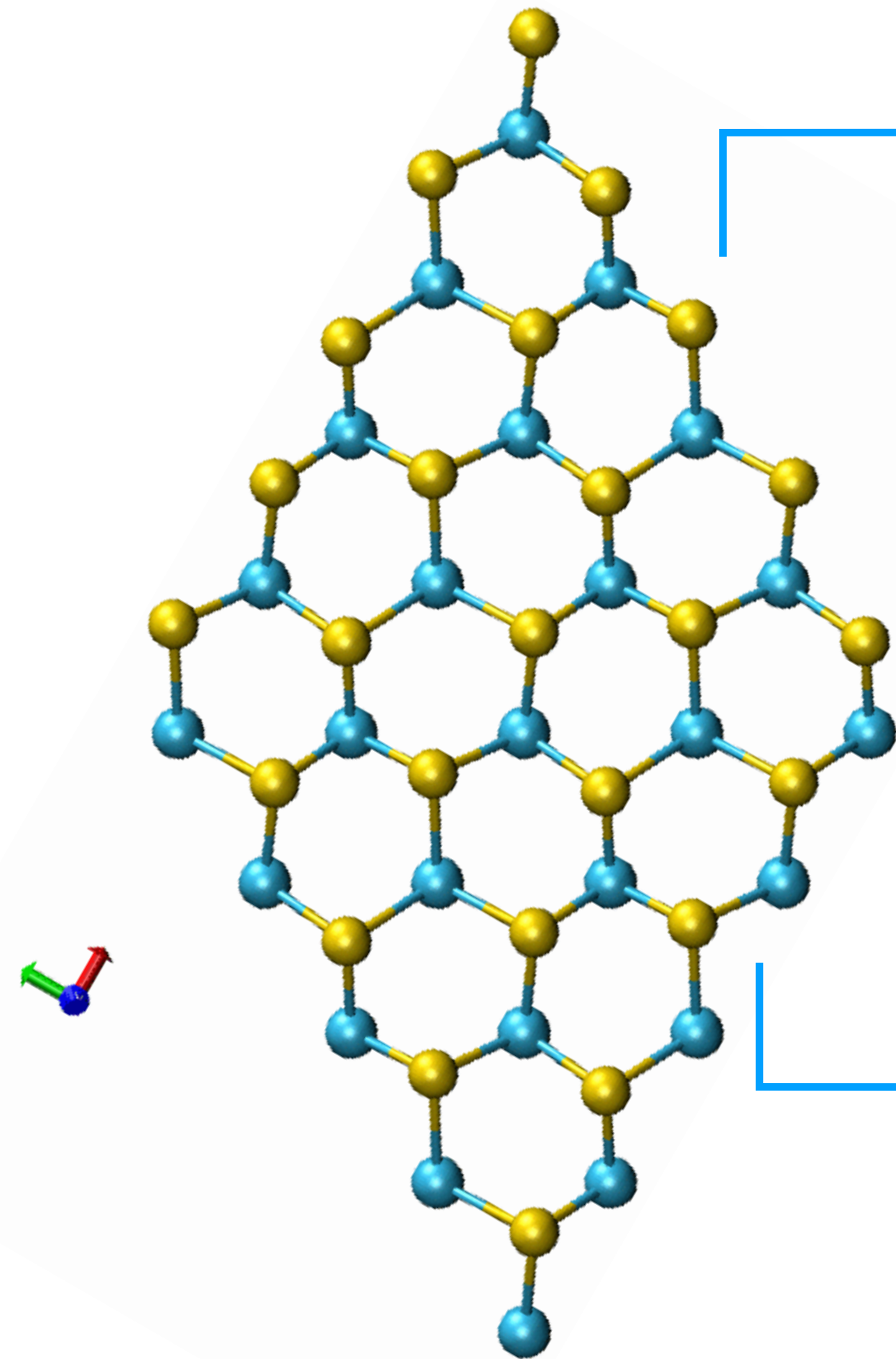
generalized matrix  
elements

delta function for  
energy conservation

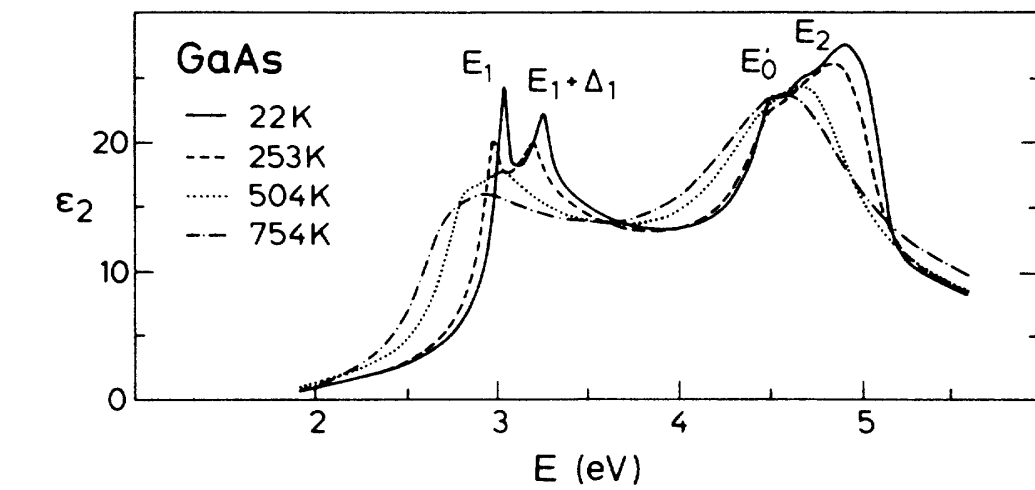




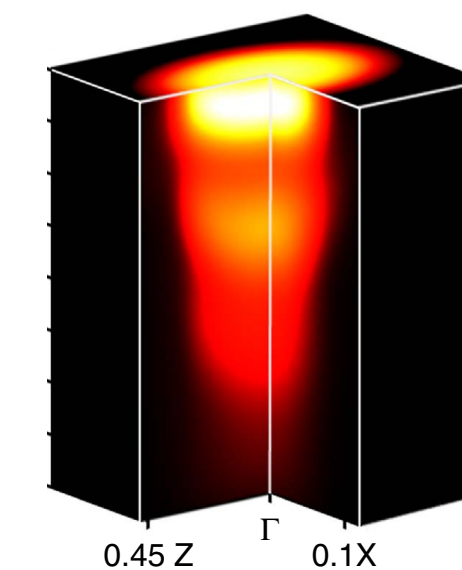
# Outline



The temperature dependence  
of the band structure



Polaronic satellites in  
angle-resolved photoemission  
spectroscopy (ARPES)



Phonon-assisted optical  
absorption in semiconductors

