

Amsterdam Summer Workshop on Low-D Quantum
Condensed Matter 2015

Ultrafast Switching to a Stable Hidden Quantum State in an Electronic Crystal

Dragan Mihailovic

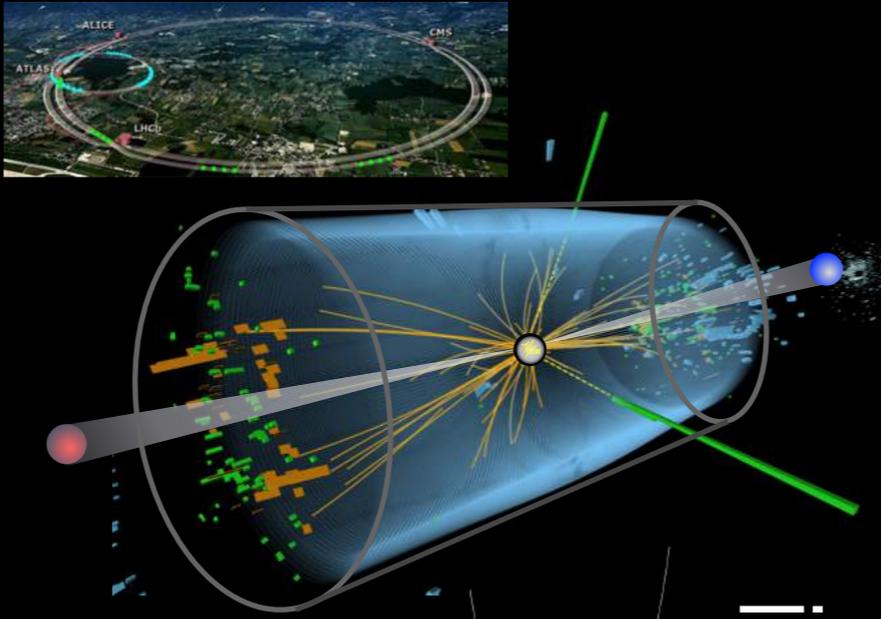
*Jozef Stefan Institute, Ljubljana, Slovenia
Nanocenter - Center of Excellence for Nanoscience and Nanotechnology
University of Ljubljana, Dept. of Physics
Jožef Stefan International Postgraduate School*



Transitions...in time



Stock market crashes



Elementary particle collisions



The Big Bang - hidden universes

The

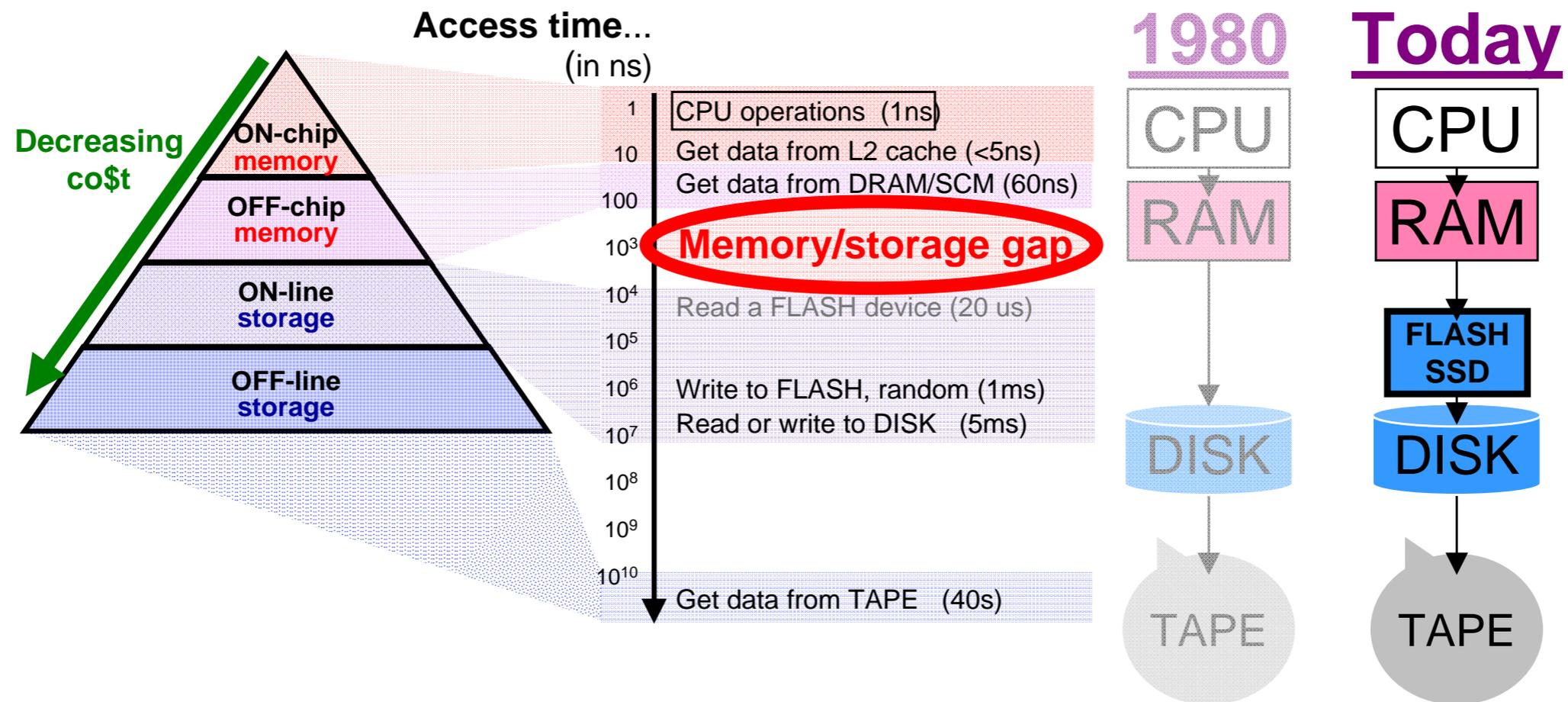


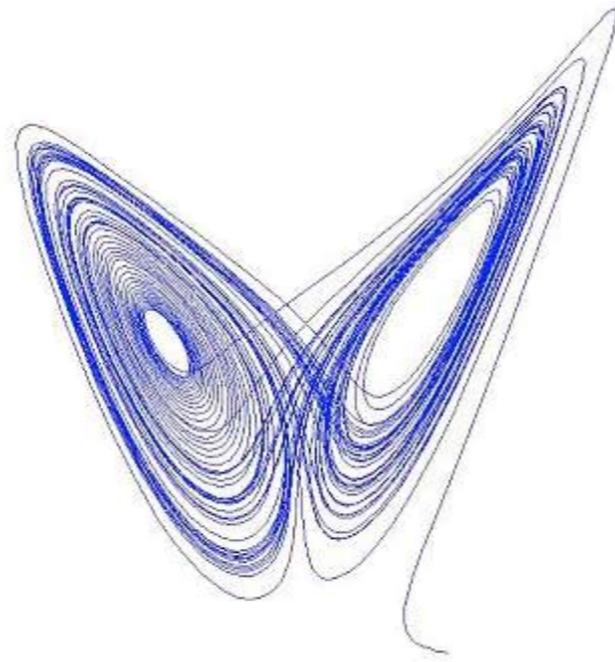
challenge

G. W. Burr, IBM, 2013

Storage Class Memory

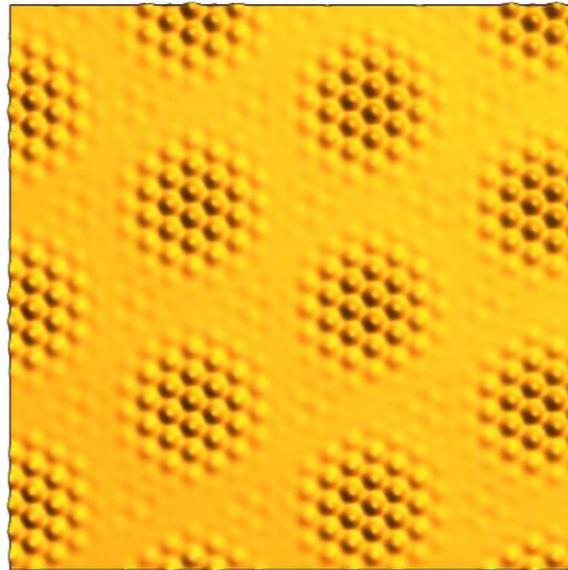
Problem (& opportunity): The access-time gap between memory & storage





- Our aim is to investigate trajectories of systems through symmetry-breaking transitions under nonequilibrium conditions, in real time.

Why CDWs?



CDW in 1T-TaS₂

John Bardeen: CDWs are macroscopic quantum states



EPL, 97 (2012) 57011

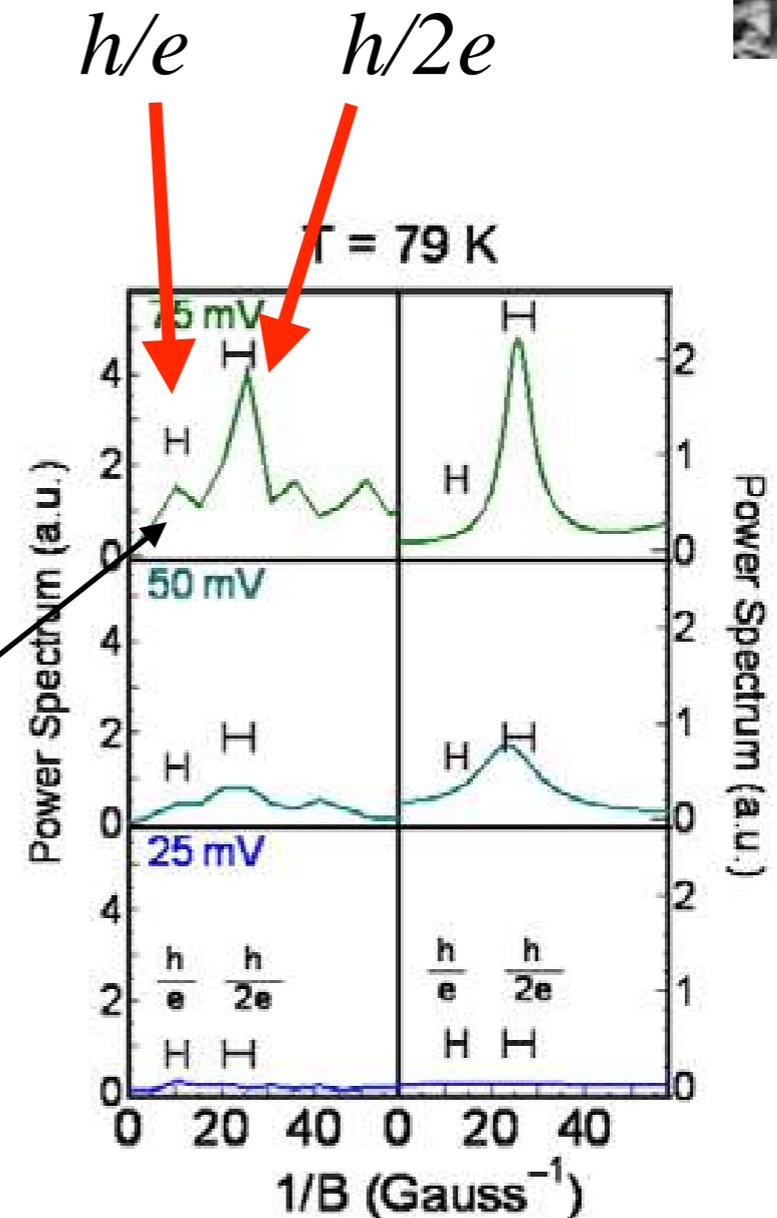
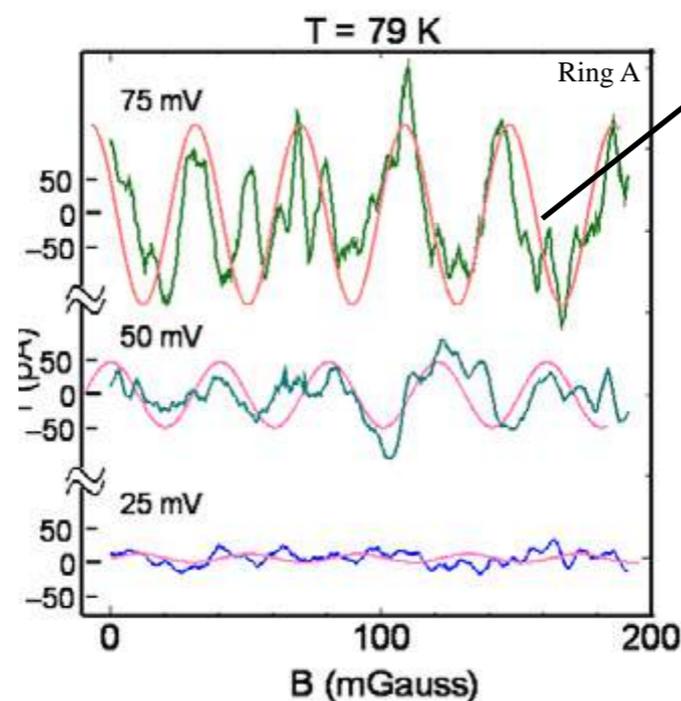
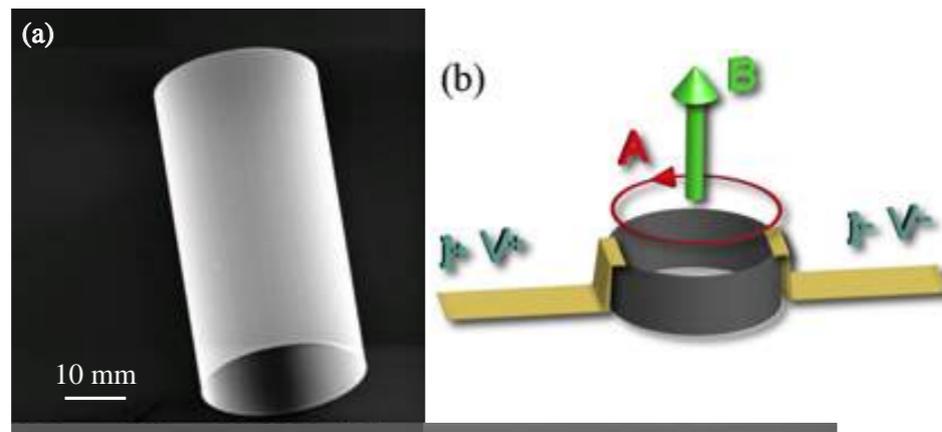
doi: 10.1209/0295-5075/97/57011

Aharonov-Bohm effect in charge-density wave loops with inherent temporal current switching

M. TSUBOTA¹, K. INAGAKI^{1,2}, T. MATSUURA¹ and S. TANDA^{1,2}



S. Tanda



Optical experiments: (at JSI)

Ljupka Stojchevska



Igor Vaskivskyi



Tomaz Mertelj



Jan Gospodaric
Primož Kusar
Roman Yusupov



Current switching experiments

Ian Mihailovic
(IJS, FE-Uni-Lj)



Samples+

I. Fisher (Stanford)



P. Sutar (JSI)

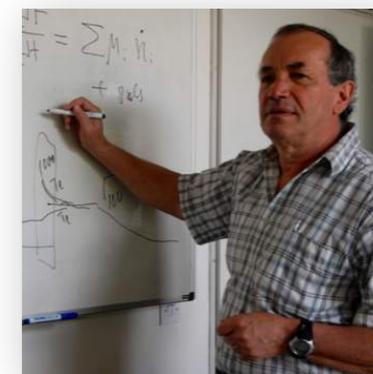


Lithography:
D.Svetin (JSI)



Theory

Serguei Brazovskii
(Univ. Paris Sud Orsay)



Time resolved ARPES

Patrick Kirchman
ZX Shen (Stanford)



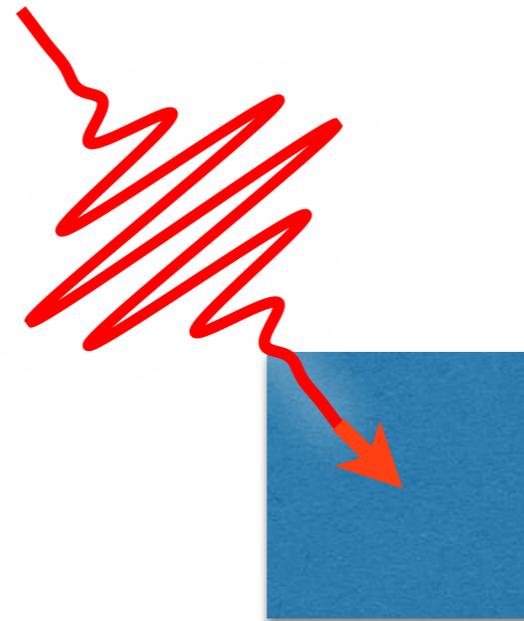
Destruction of Superconductivity by Laser Light

L. R. Testardi

Bell Telephone Laboratories, Murray Hill, New Jersey 07974

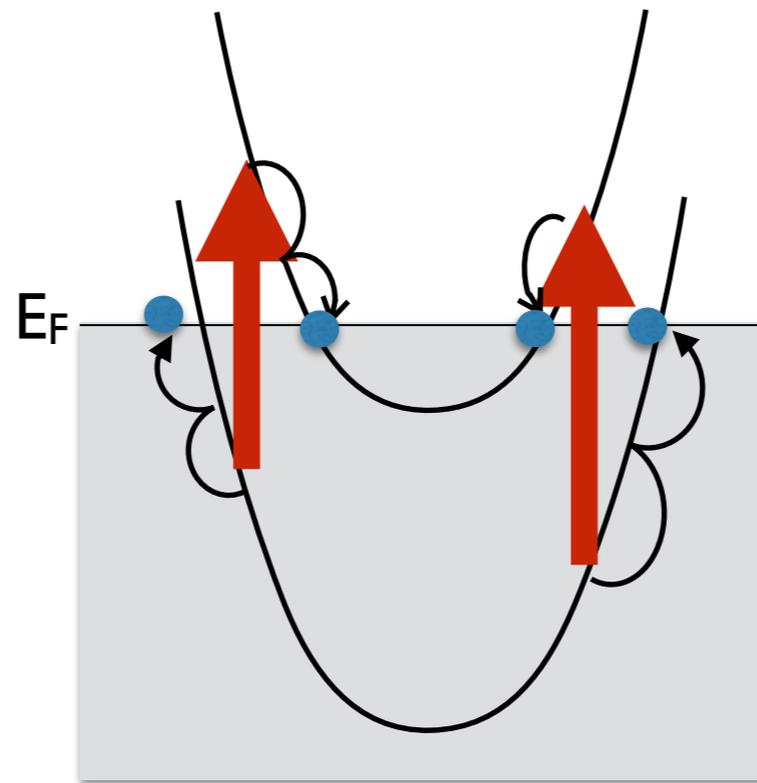
(Received 27 January 1971)

Superconductivity is destroyed by laser light in Pb films of thickness comparable to the optical penetration depth δ and less than the superconducting coherence length ξ . Thermal effects, which have been independently determined, cannot account for this. For films of thickness greater than δ and ξ , only the thermal effect is observed. In a proposed explanation it is shown that the electron gas may be heated from 3 to 18 °K above the lattice temperature by the light absorption in these experiments.



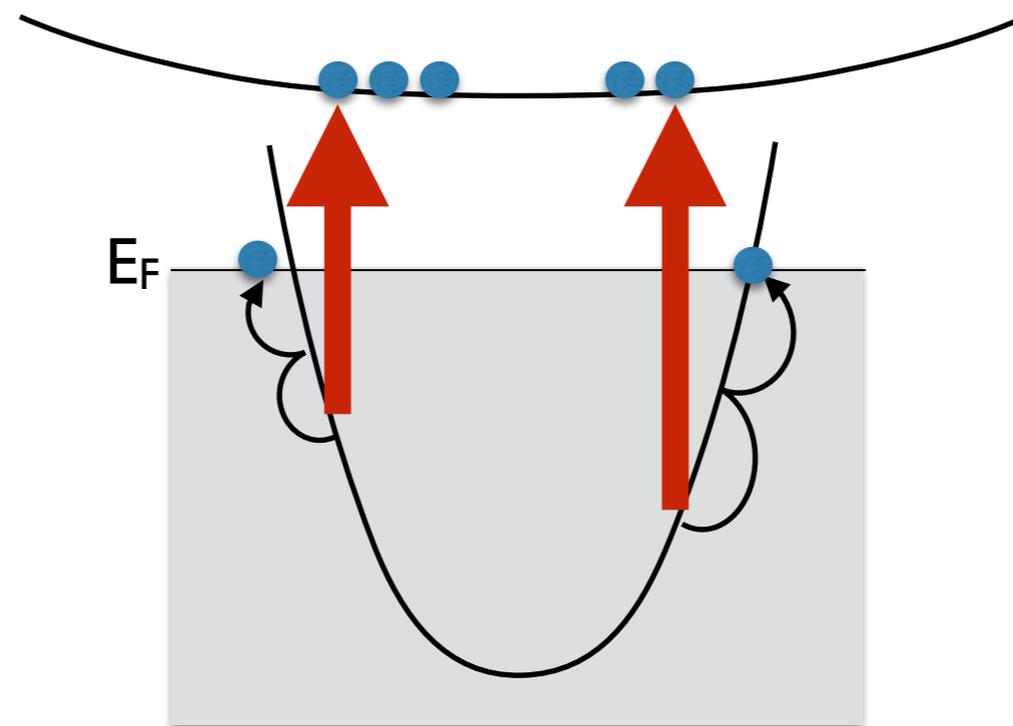
heat.

The electron relaxation process



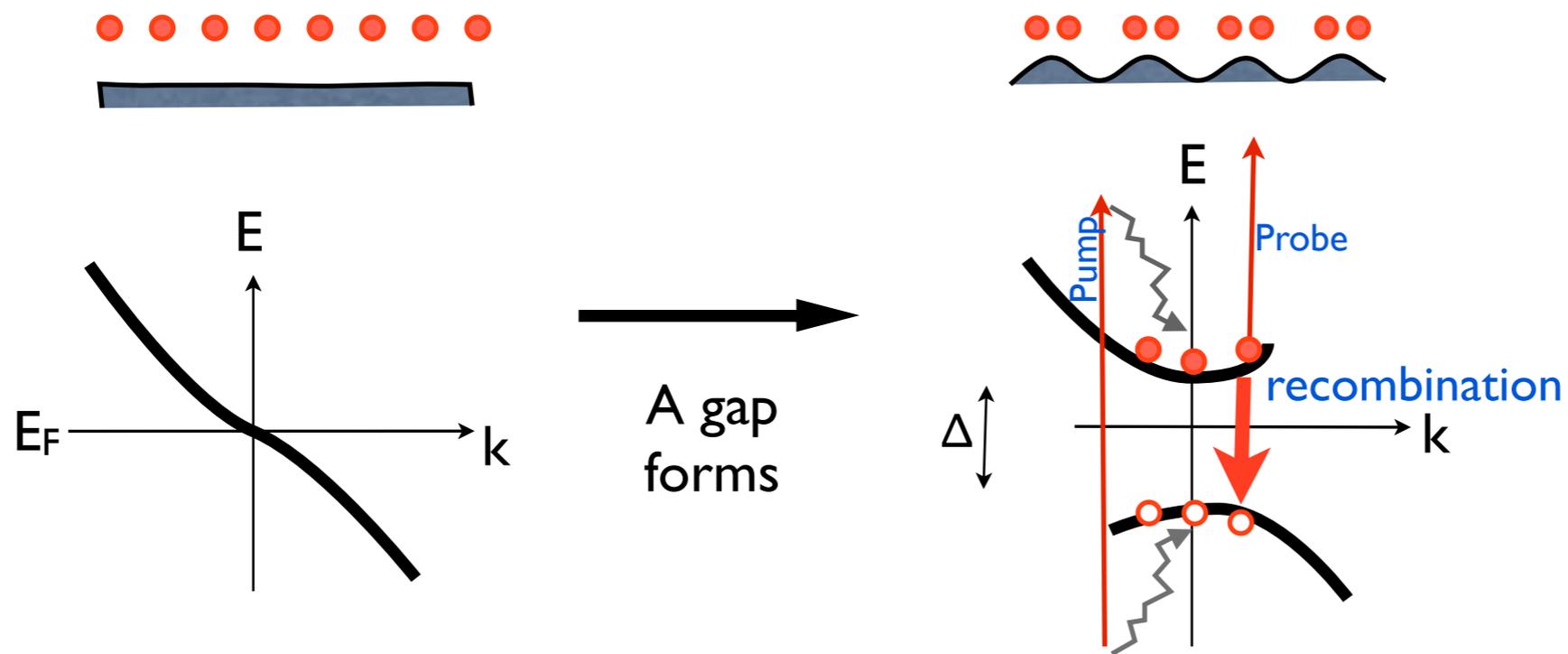
Just heating ($T_e^* = T_L^* = \dots$).
No doping.

The importance of *e-h* asymmetry for reaching photoinduced hidden states

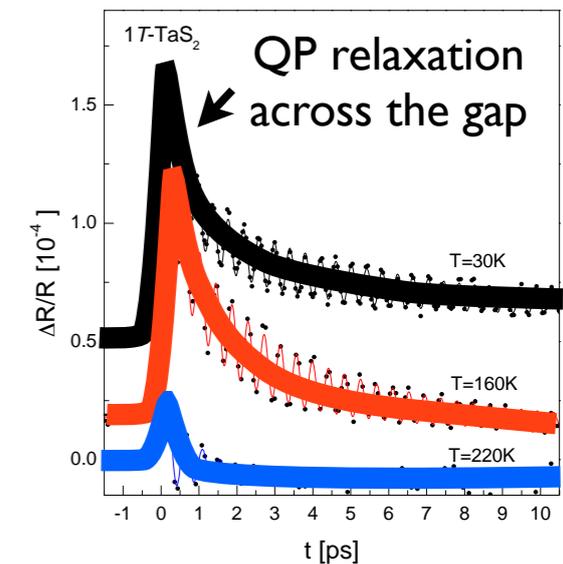


The observable elementary excitations with femtosecond spectroscopy

1. Quasiparticle (fermionic) excitations (detect the presence of a gap)



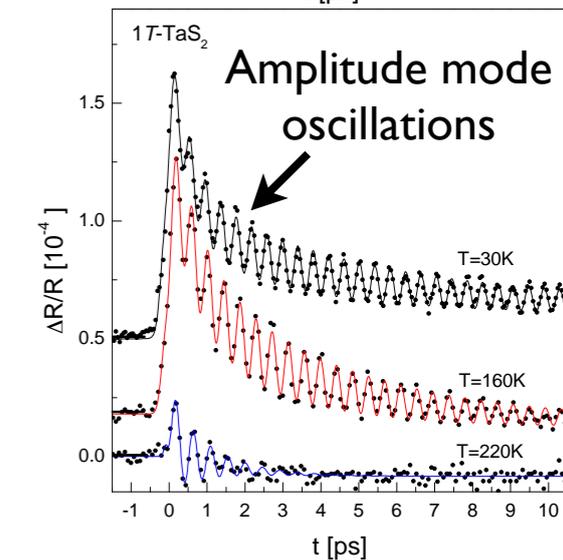
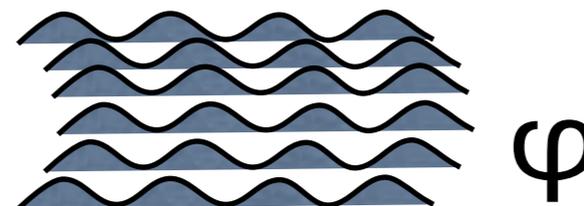
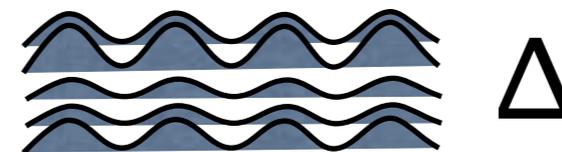
EXAMPLE:



2. Collective mode (bosonic) excitations

The amplitude and phase modes

$$\Psi = \Delta e^{i\varphi}$$



Demsar et al., PRL **83**, 800 (1999).
 Demсар, J., et al, PRB **66**, (2002).
 Demсар, et al., PRB **82**, 4918 (1999).
 Kusar et al, PRL **101**, 227001 (2008)
 Yusupov et al., PRL **101**, 246402 (2008).



Leibnitz

**A theory should be more
simple than the observations
it is trying to describe.**

(It should have fewer parameters)

The non-linear energy functional

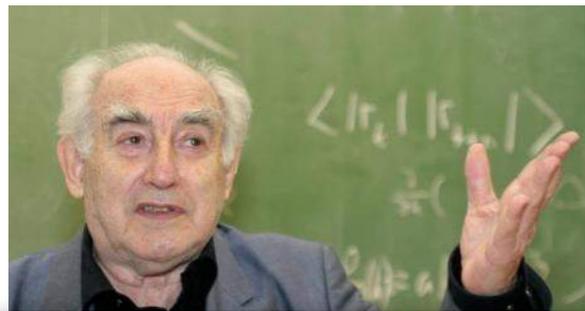


The Landau non-linear energy functional originally written to describe a structural phase transition:

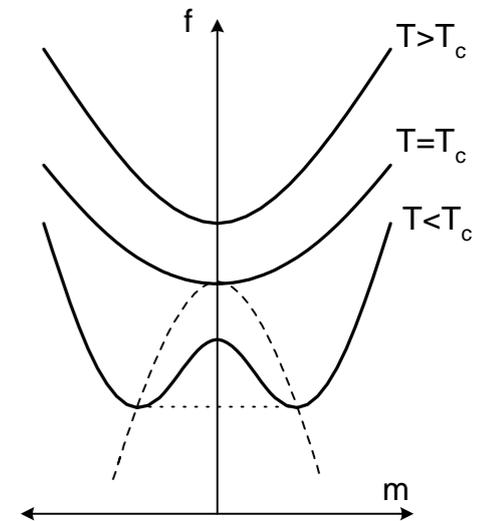
$$F = \alpha\Psi^2 + \beta\Psi^4 + H\Psi \quad \text{where} \quad \alpha = \alpha_0(T - T_c)$$

The Ginzburg-Landau equation for a superconductor:

$$F = F_0 + \alpha|\psi|^2 + \frac{\beta}{2}|\psi|^4 + \frac{1}{2m}|(-i\hbar\nabla - 2e\mathbf{A})\psi|^2 + \frac{|\mathbf{B}|^2}{2\mu_0}$$



Complex order parameter
 $\Psi = \Delta e^{i\phi}$

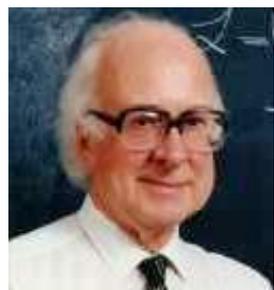


BROKEN SYMMETRIES AND THE MASSES OF GAUGE BOSONS

Peter W. Higgs

Tait Institute of Mathematical Physics, University of Edinburgh, Edinburgh, Scotland

(Received 31 August 1964)



Lagrangian density, includes K.E.

$$L(\varphi) = \partial_\mu \varphi^* \partial^\mu \varphi - \alpha \varphi^* \varphi - \frac{\beta}{2} |\varphi^* \varphi|^2$$

Topology of cosmic domains and strings

T W B Kibble

Blackett Laboratory, Imperial College, Prince Consort Road, London



2. The phase transition

Although our discussion will be quite general, for illustrative purposes it is convenient to have a specific example in mind. Let us consider an N -component real scalar field ϕ with a Lagrangian invariant under the orthogonal group $O(N)$, and coupled in the usual way to $\frac{1}{2}N(N-1)$ vector fields represented by an antisymmetric matrix $B_{\mu\nu}$. We can take

$$L = \frac{1}{2}(D_\mu \phi)^2 - \frac{1}{8}g^2(\phi^2 - \eta^2)^2 + \frac{1}{8}\text{Tr}(B_{\mu\nu}B^{\mu\nu}) \quad (1)$$

with

$$D_\mu \phi = \partial_\mu \phi - eB_\mu \phi$$

$$B_{\mu\nu} = \partial_\nu B_\mu - \partial_\mu B_\nu + e[B_\mu, B_\nu].$$



Time-dependent GL equation

Serguei Brazovskii, 2010

The energy of the system can be described in terms of a time-dependent Ginzburg-Landau functional[†]:

$$F = \alpha \Psi^2 + \beta \Psi^4 + H \Psi$$

where instead of the usual temperature dependence $(T - T_c)$, the *first* term is time-dependent:

$$\alpha = \left[1 - \frac{T_e(t, \mathbf{r})}{T_c} \right]$$

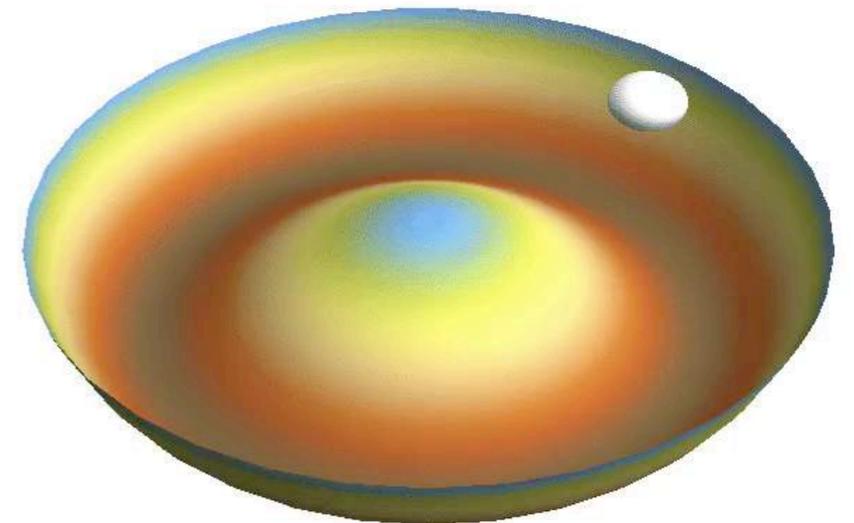
“Ergodicity”

The equation of motion is obtained via the Euler-Lagrange theorem :

$$\frac{1}{\omega_0^2} \frac{\partial^2}{\partial t^2} A + \frac{\alpha}{\omega_0} \frac{\partial}{\partial t} A - (1 - \eta) A + A^3 - \xi^2 \frac{\partial^2}{\partial z^2} A = 0$$

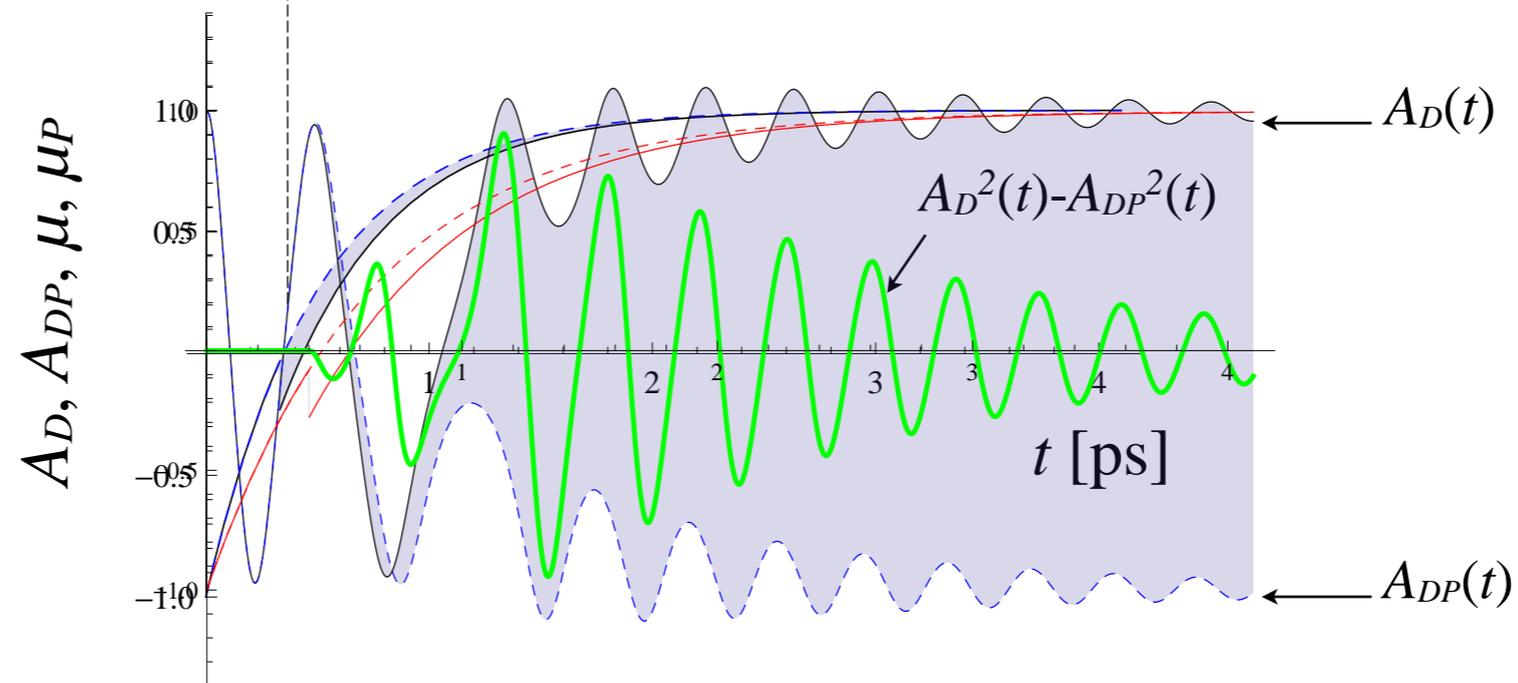
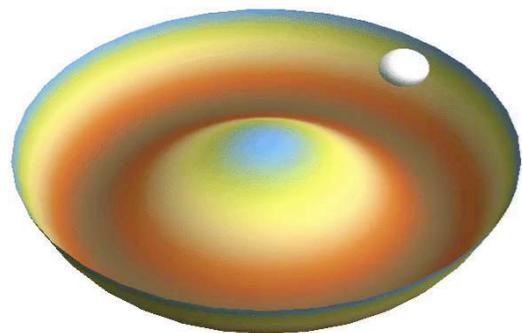
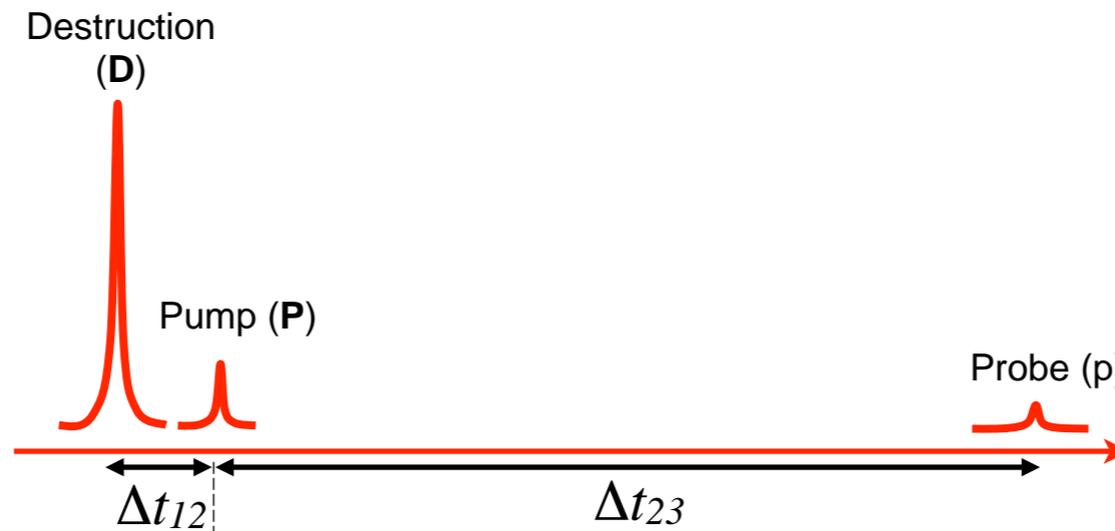
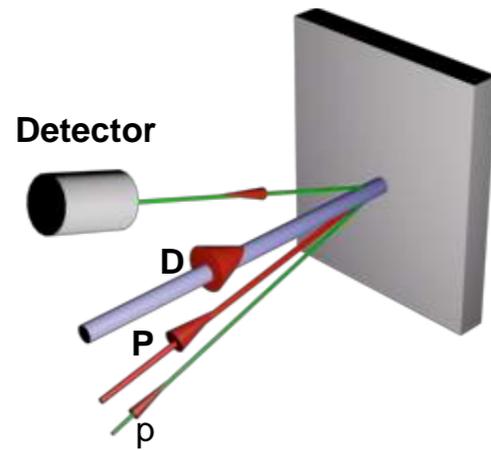
The order parameter, $\psi(t) = A(t)e^{i\phi(t)}$

[†] Phase fluctuations are assumed to be slow.



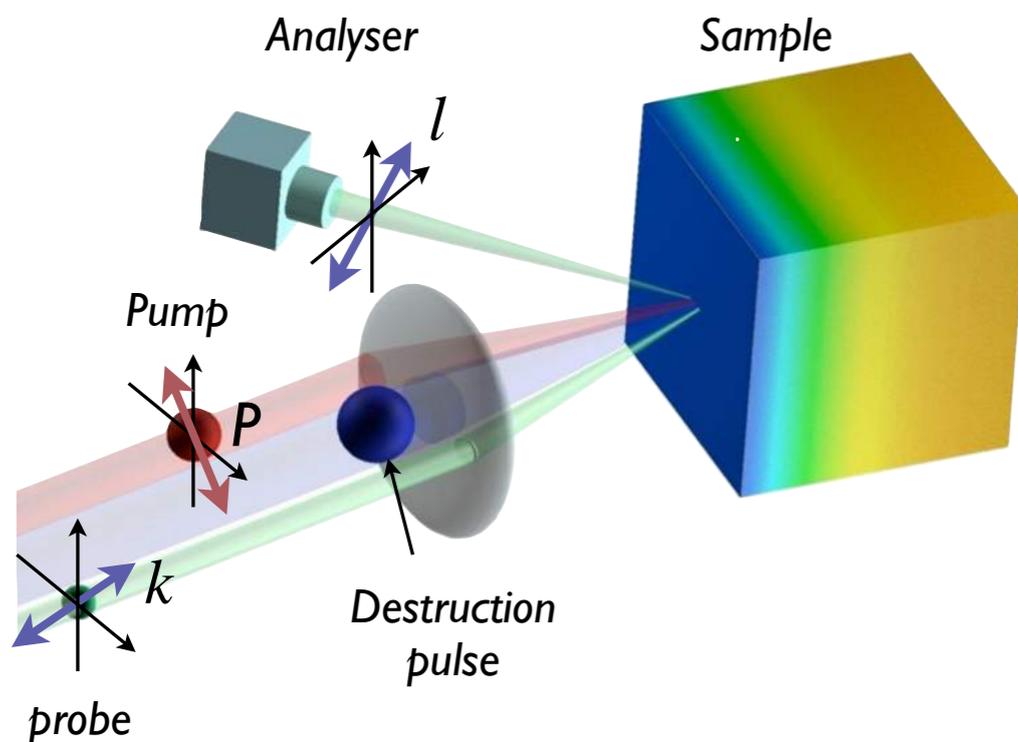
Yusupov, R. *et al.* Coherent dynamics of macroscopic electronic order through a symmetry breaking transition. *Nat Phys* **6**, 681–684 (2010).

The predicted optical response of the collective mode

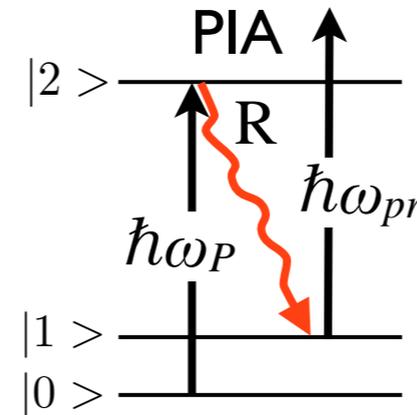


The reflectivity, $\Delta R(t) \propto \left(\frac{\partial R}{\partial \epsilon} \right) \Delta \epsilon \propto \int [A_{DP}^2(t, \mathbf{r}, \Delta t_{12}) - A_D^2(t, \mathbf{r})] e^{-z/\lambda} d^3 \mathbf{r}$.

The response of the probe in all-optical experiments



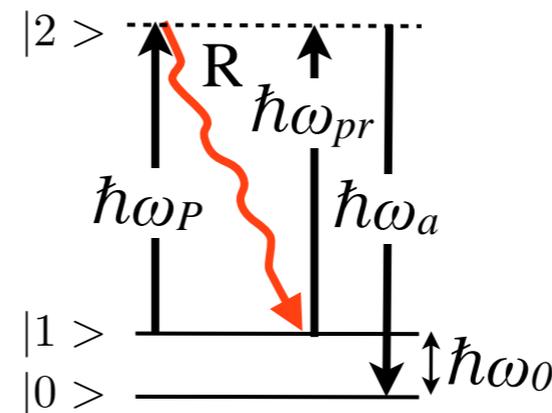
1. Photoinduced absorption (PIA):



The polarisation selection rules are determined by the dielectric tensor

1. Kabanov, V., Demsar, J., Podobnik, B. & Mihailovic, D. *Phys Rev B* **59**, 1497–1506 (1999).
2. Dvorsek, D. *et al.* *Phys Rev B* **66**, 020510 (2002).
3. Mihailovic, D., *et al.*, *J Phys-Condens Mat* **25**, 404206 (2013).

2. Coherent Raman-like (CRS) process:

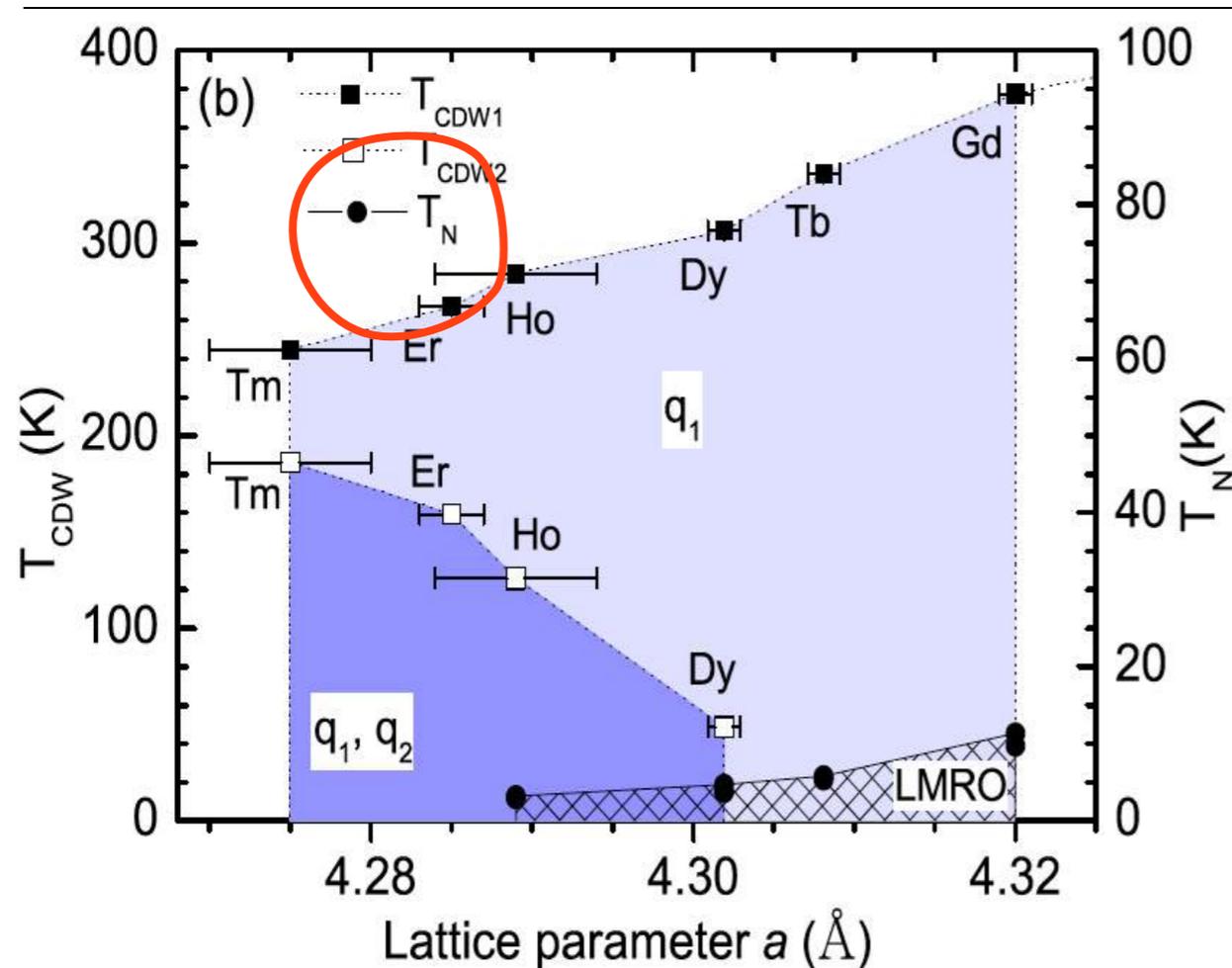


The polarisation selection rules are governed by the Raman tensor χ_{kl}

1. Garrett, G., Albrecht, T., WHITAKER, J. & Merlin, R. *Phys Rev Lett* **77**, 3661–3664 (1996).
2. Stevens, T. E., Kuhl, J. & Merlin, R. *Phys Rev B* **65**, 144304 (2002).

CRS and PIA probe processes can be distinguished by polarisation selection rules

CDWs: the tri-tellurides

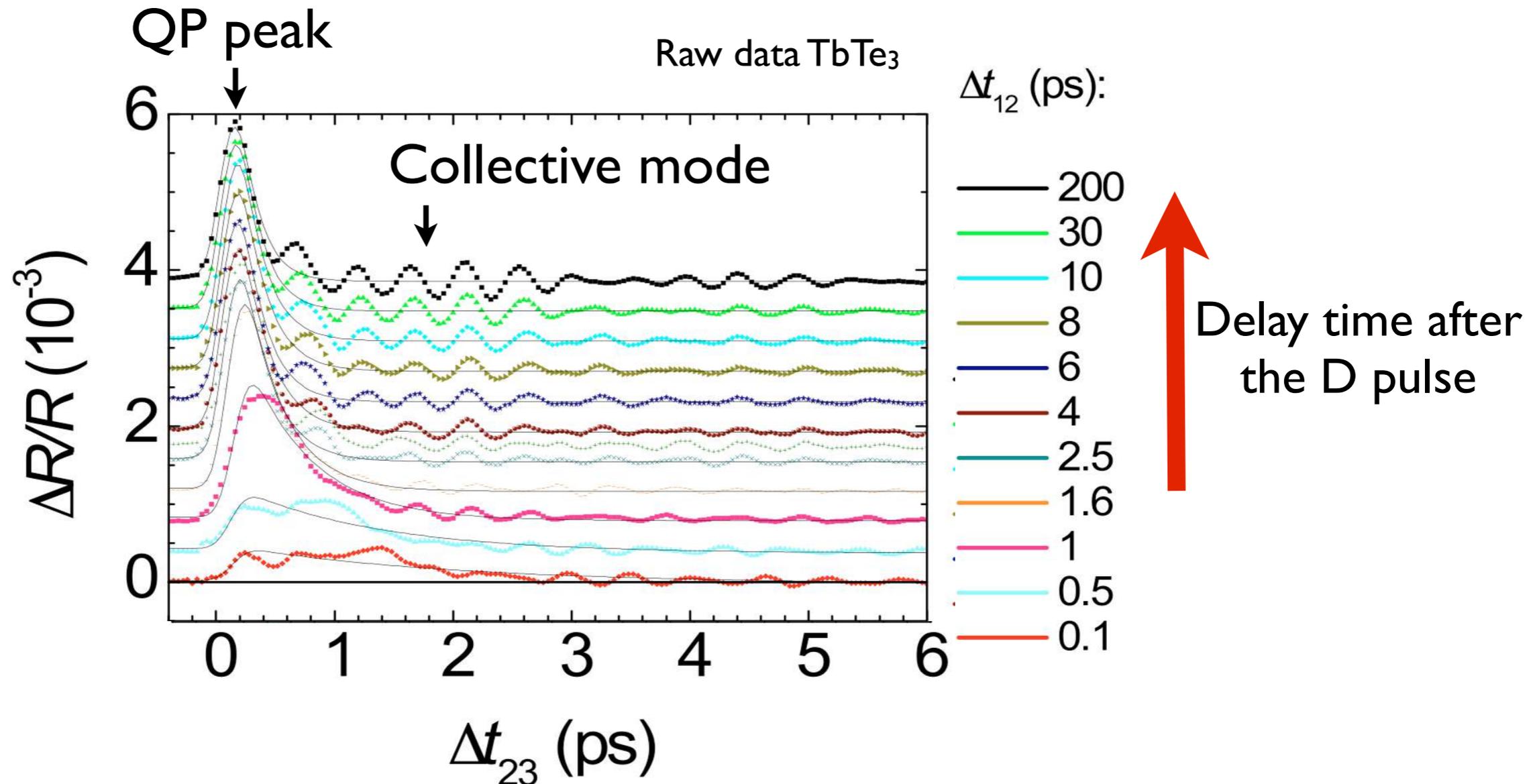


- The tritellurides are layered, quasi 2-dimensional metals with an orthorhombic (pseudo-tetragonal) crystal structure $Cmca$ (D_{2h})
- They exhibit a purely electronically driven 2nd order incommensurate **CDW** transition at $T_{cl} = 230\sim 330K$
- An **AFM** state exists at low T_N , some compounds exhibit another transition at low T_{c2} .
- A **Superconducting** transition exists with $T_c = 3.5 K$ under a pressure of 75 kbar.

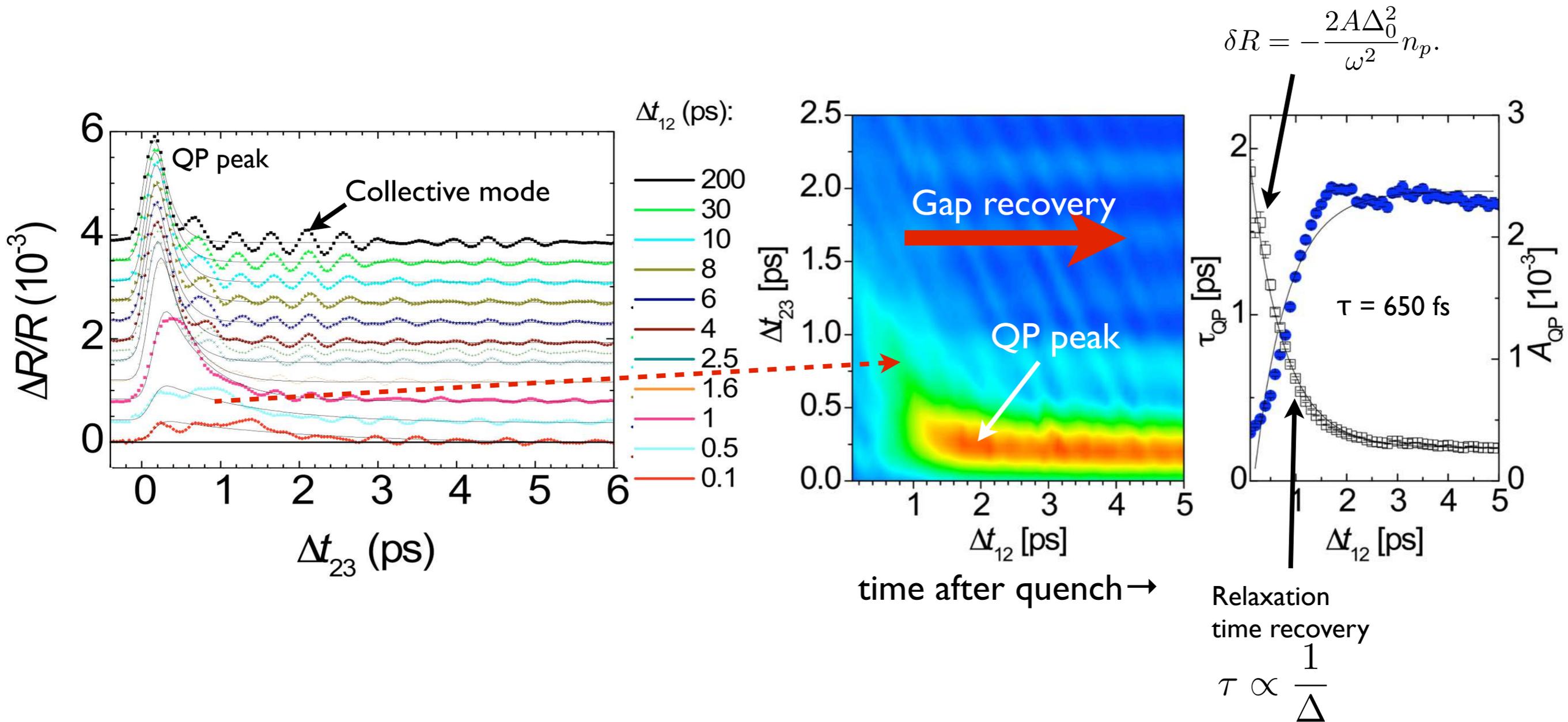
Yusupov, R. V., Mertelj, T., Chu, J. H., Fisher, I. R. & Mihailovic, D. Single-Particle and Collective Mode Couplings Associated with 1-and 2-Directional Electronic Ordering in Metallic RTe_3 ($R=Ho, Dy, Tb$). **101**, 246402 (2008).

DiMasi '94,'95, Fisher '05,'08

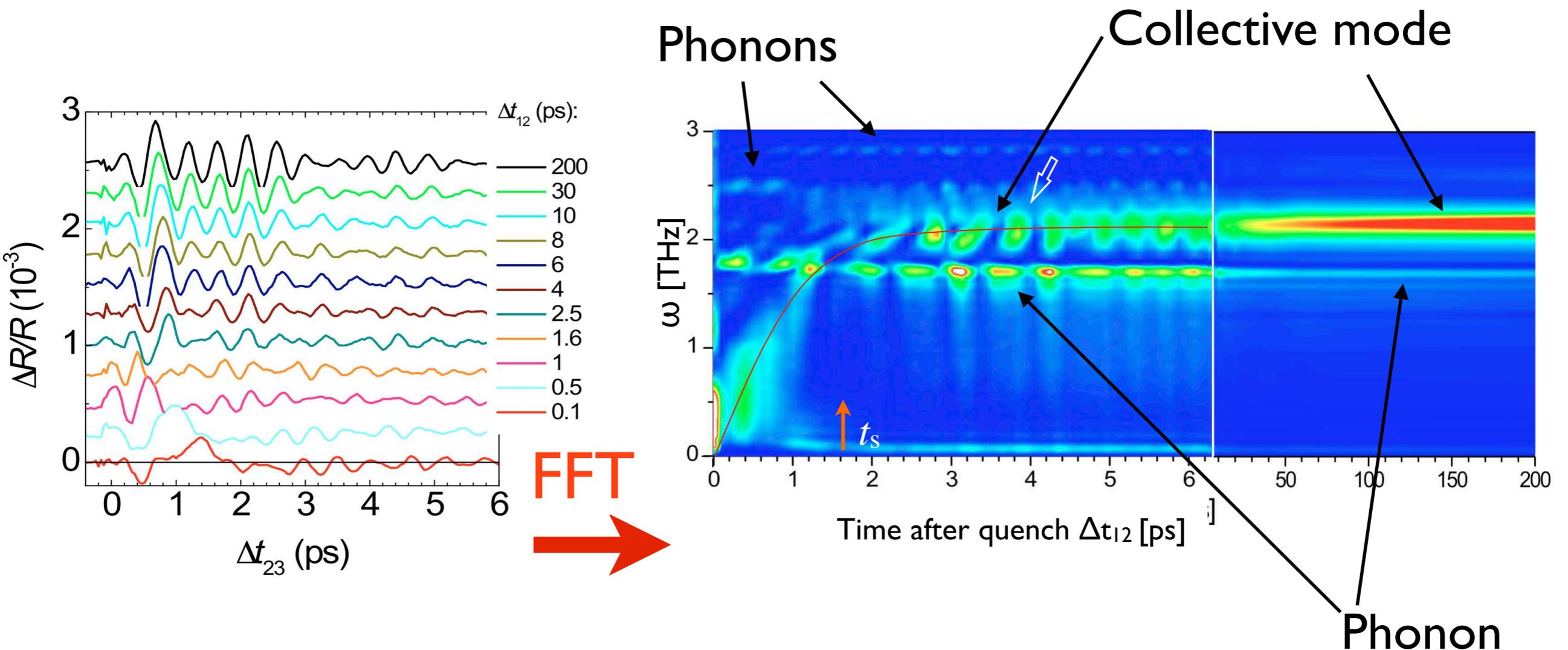
The transient reflectivity $\Delta R/R$ after a quench at $\Delta t_{12}=0$ in TbTe_3



Quasi-particle (Fermion) evolution through t_c : gap recovery



The collective mode (boson) spectrum as a function of time after quench



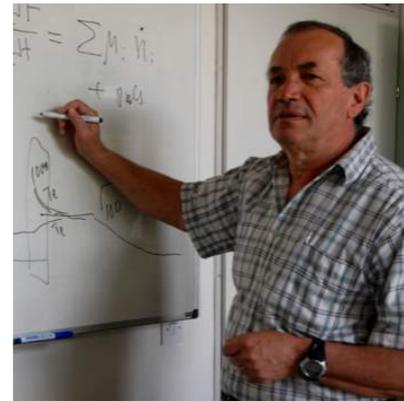
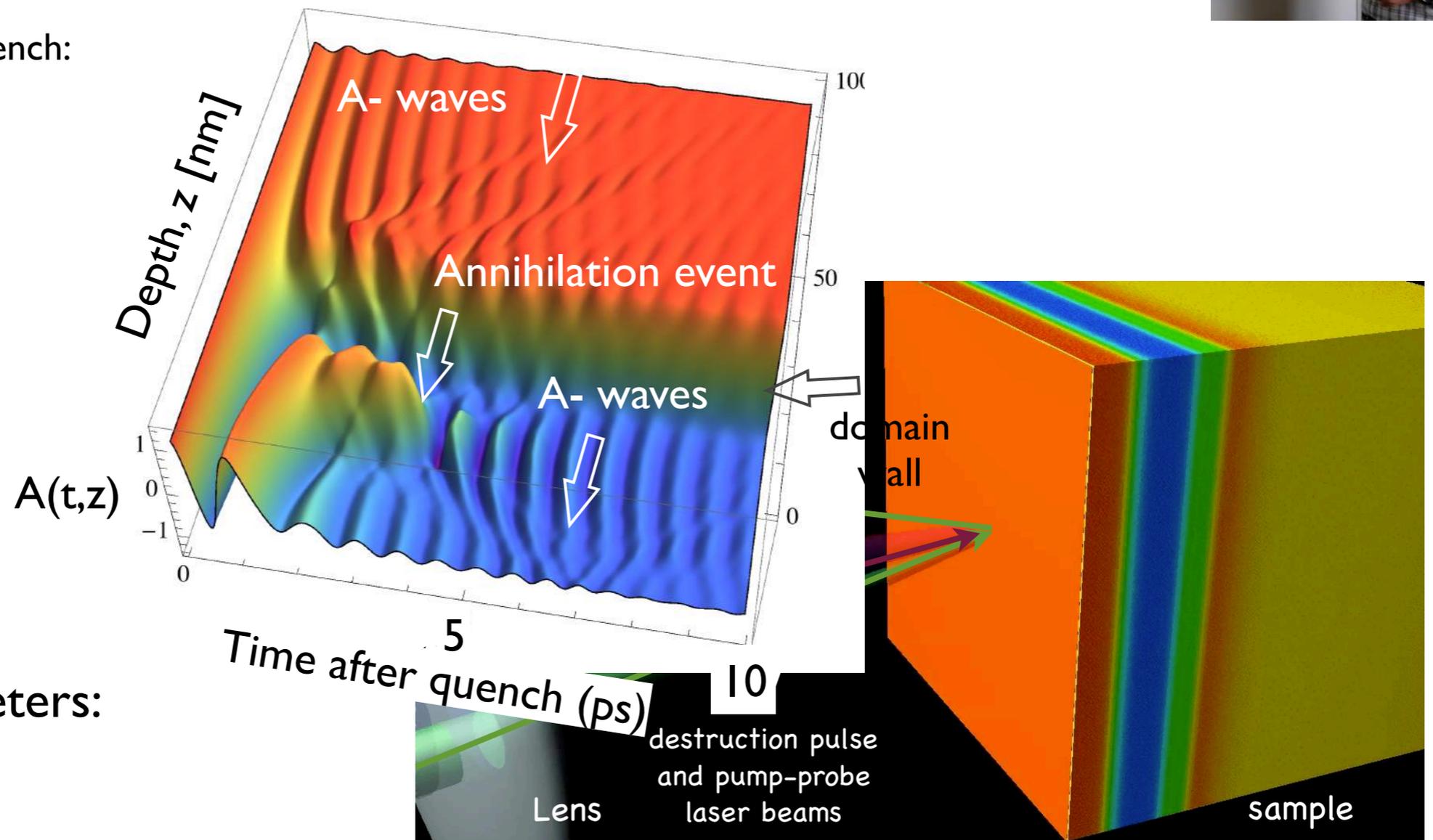
The most obvious feature:
oscillations of intensity of the collective mode

Order parameter calculation for an inhomogeneous system

The eq. of motion:

$$\frac{1}{\omega_0^2} \frac{\partial^2}{\partial t^2} A + \frac{\alpha}{\omega_0} \frac{\partial}{\partial t} A - (1 - \eta) A + A^3 - \xi^2 \frac{\partial^2}{\partial z^2} A = 0$$

Calculated $A(z,t)$ after quench:



Experimental parameters:

$$\tau_{QP} = 650 \text{ fs}$$

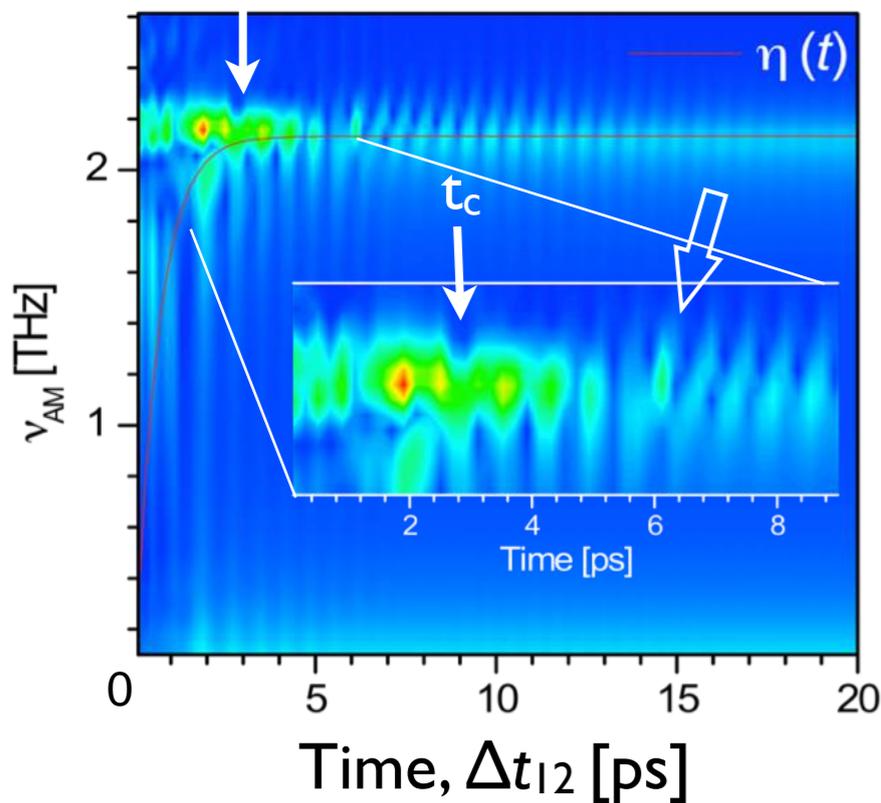
$$\omega_0/2\pi = 2.18 \text{ THz}$$

$$\eta = 2$$

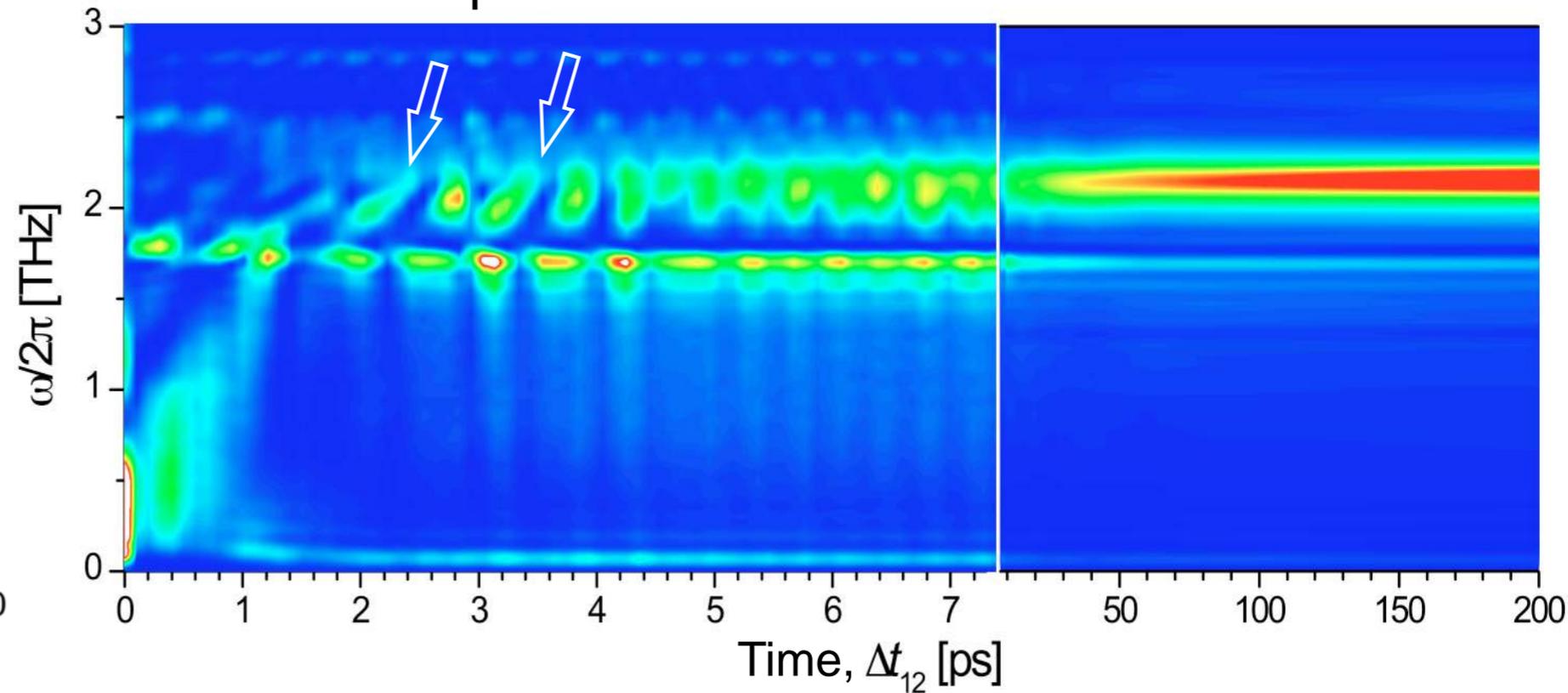
$$\alpha = 0.1$$

Order parameter dynamics: theory vs. experiment

Theory



Experiment



Theory predictions:

- Oscillations of Δ or $|\Psi|$
- Critical slowing down
(Collective mode softening)
- Domain annihilation
- Ψ field (Higgs) waves

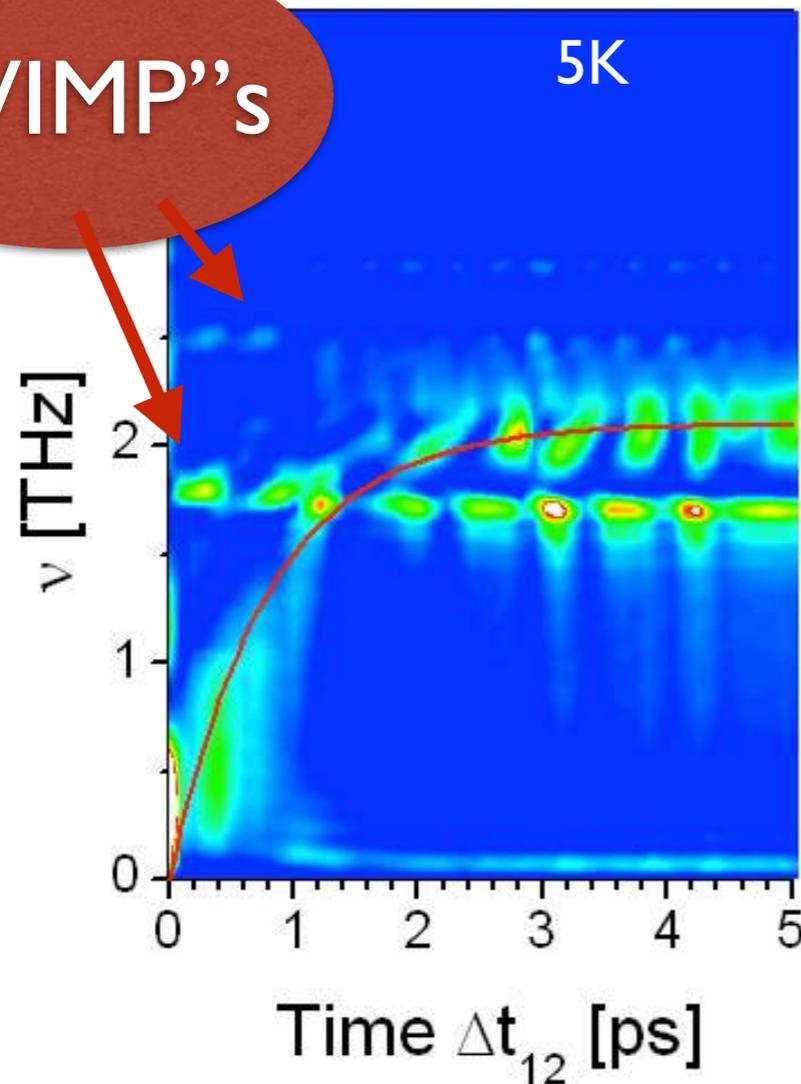
Experimental observations

- Intensity oscillations
- Softening of ω
- Distortions in ω -t spectra

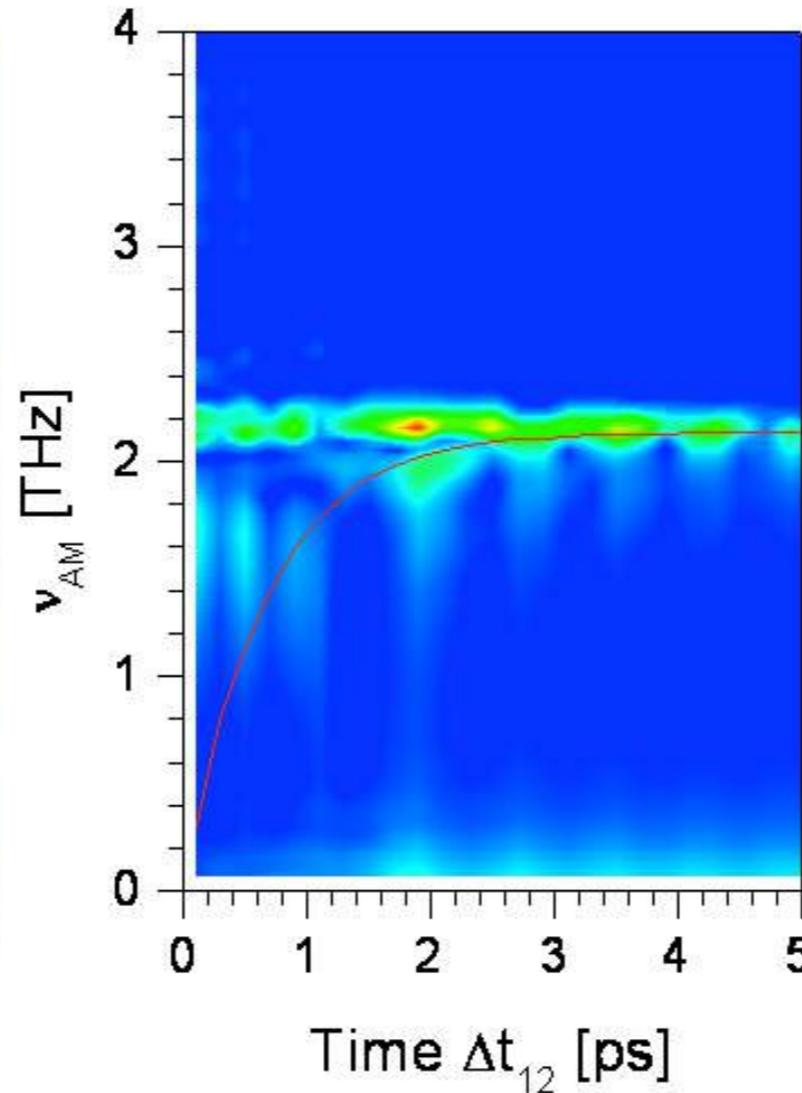
Critical dynamics near t_c .

Pre-transition behaviour: non-ergodic processes

Experimental data



Theory

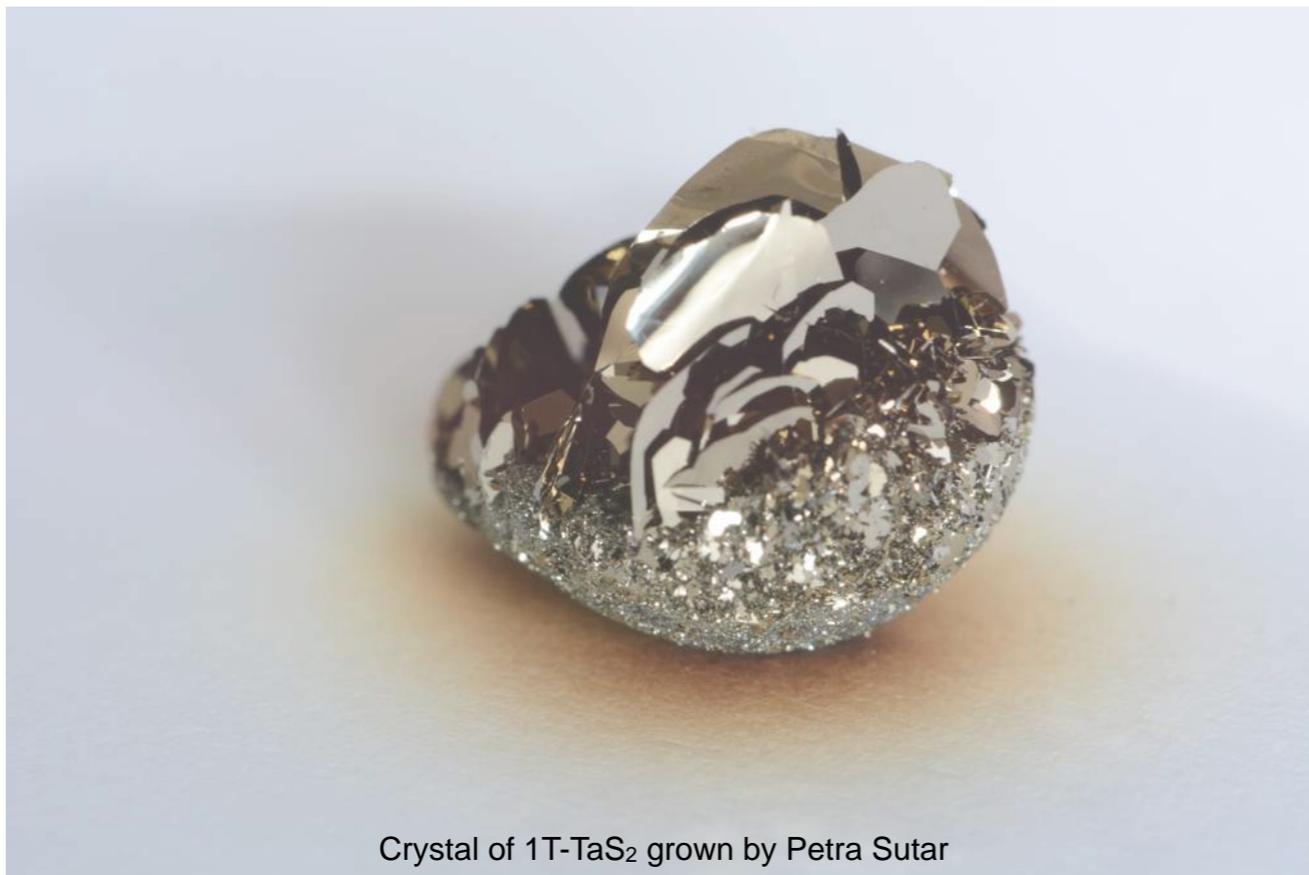


Phonons: WIMPs from previous eons

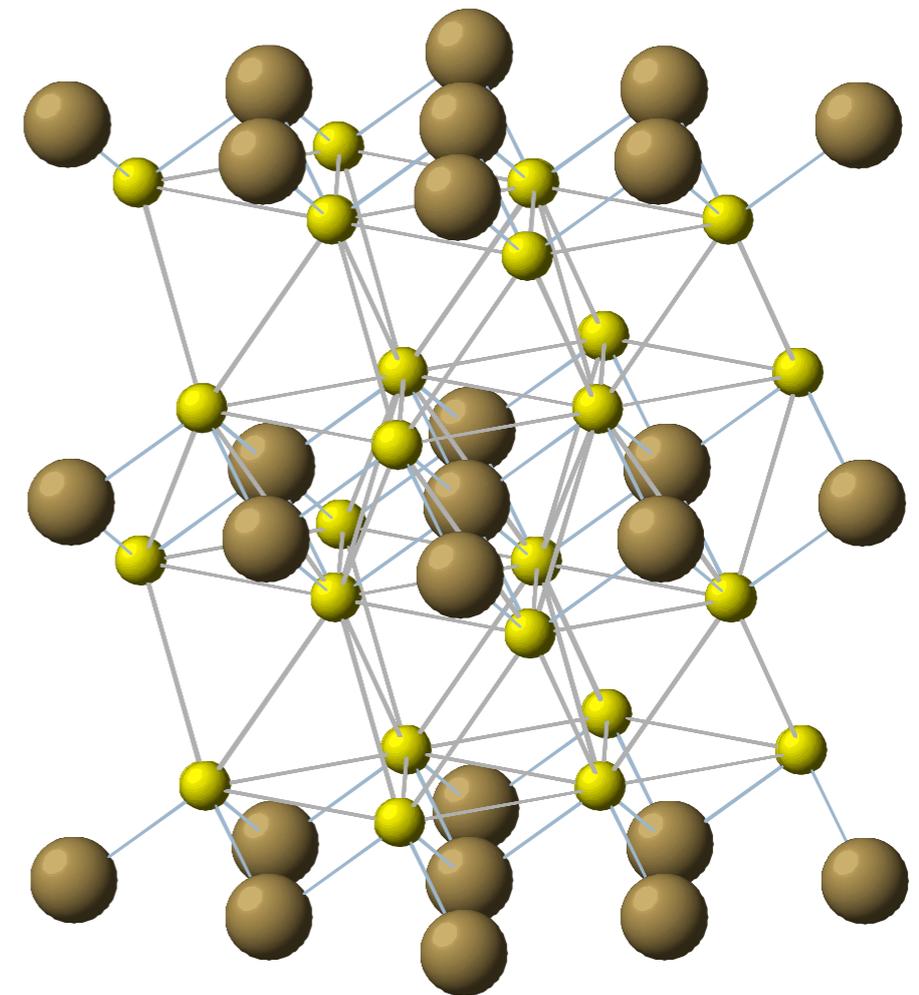
“By analogy with the PM, dark matter excitations may be thought of as remnant excitations from before *the SBT* (the Big Bang).”

Mihailovic, D., Mertelj, T., Kabanov, V. V. & Brazovskii, S. Coherent topological defect dynamics and collective modes in superconductors and electronic crystals. *J Phys-Condens Mat* **25**, 404206 (2013). (Invited paper by T.W.Kibble)

The trajectory to a hidden state in $1T\text{-TaS}_2$



Crystal of $1T\text{-TaS}_2$ grown by Petra Sutar



$1T\text{-TaS}_2$

What is a hidden state?



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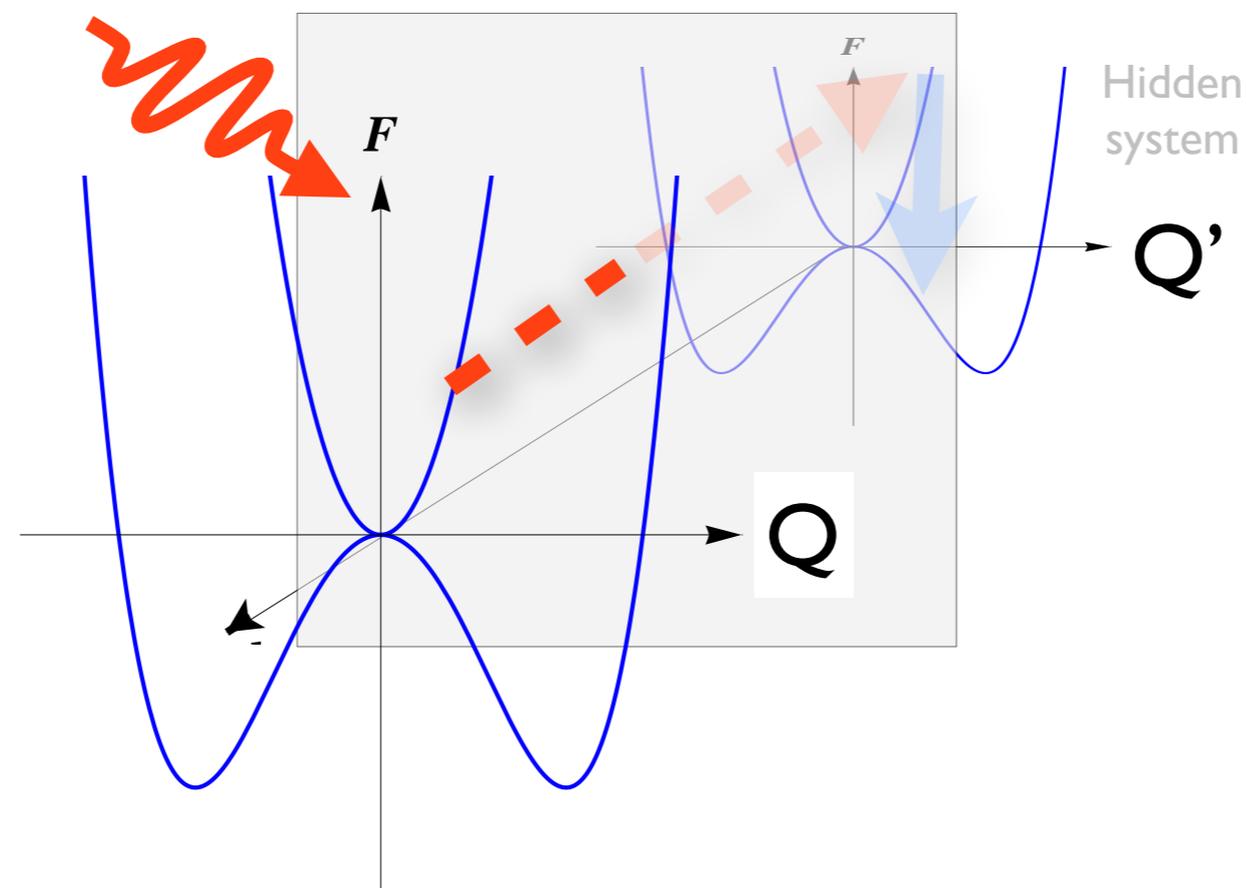
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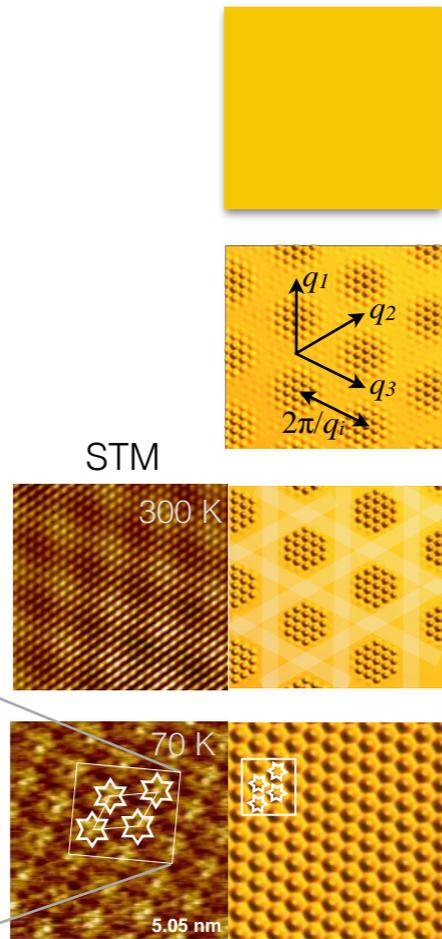
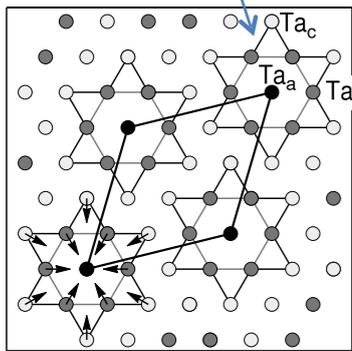
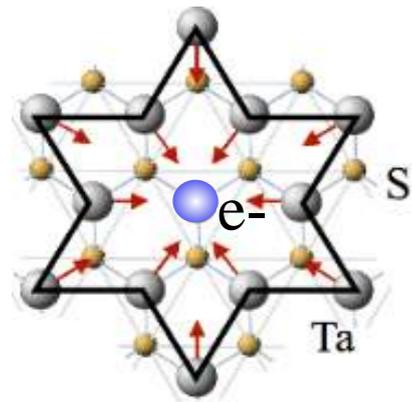
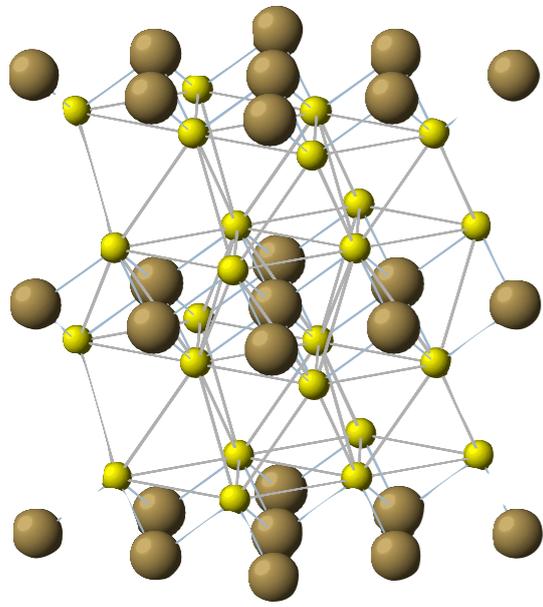
Hidden states of matter

From Wikipedia, the free encyclopedia

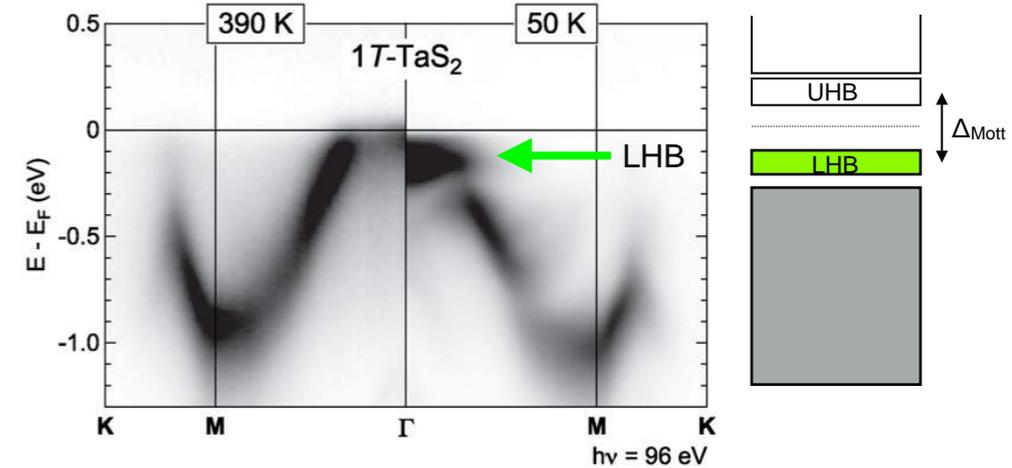
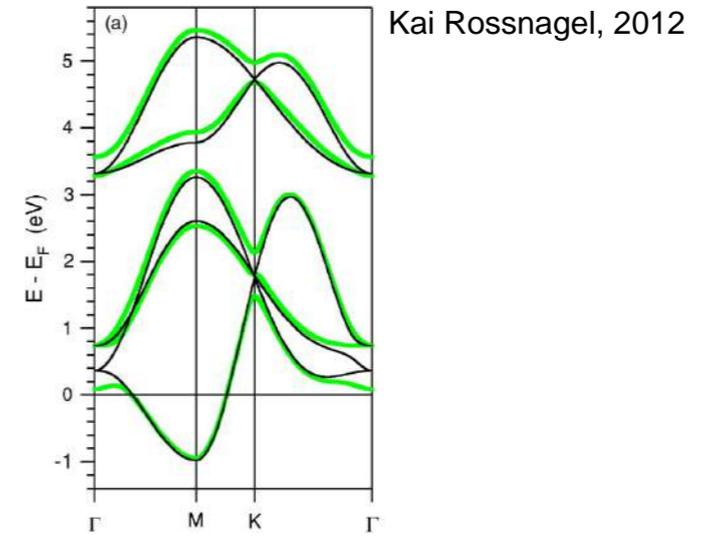
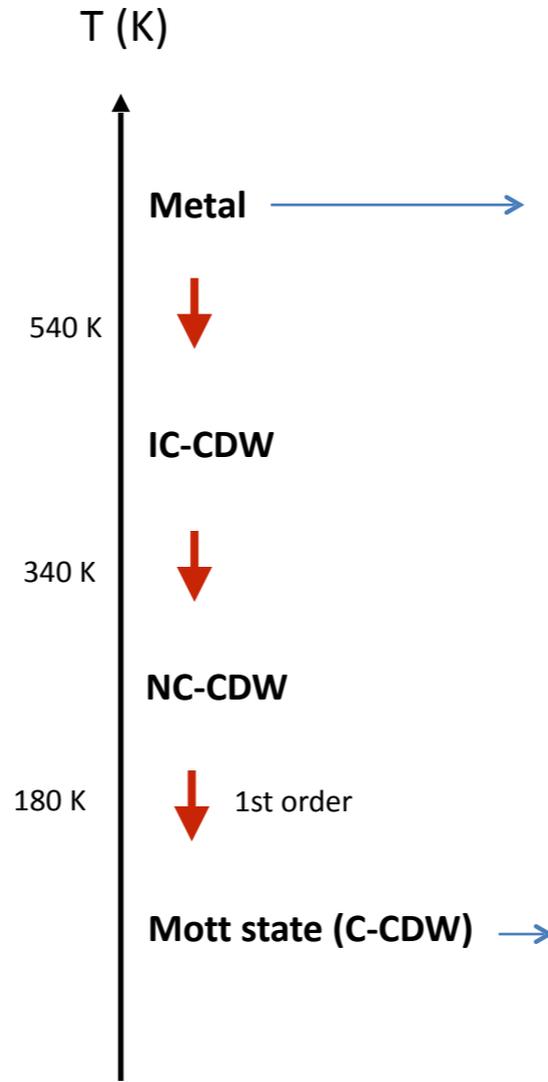
A **hidden state of matter** is a *state of matter* which cannot be reached under *ergodic* conditions, and is therefore distinct from known thermodynamic phases of the material.^[1] Examples exist in condensed matter systems, and are typically reached by the non-ergodic conditions created through laser photo excitation.^{[2][3]} Short-lived hidden states of matter have also been reported in crystals using lasers. Recently a persistent hidden state was discovered in a crystal of **Tantalum(IV) sulfide** (TaS_2), where the state is stable for days at low temperatures.^[4] A hidden state of matter is not to be confused with hidden order, which exists in equilibrium, but is not immediately



CDWs in 1T-TaS₂

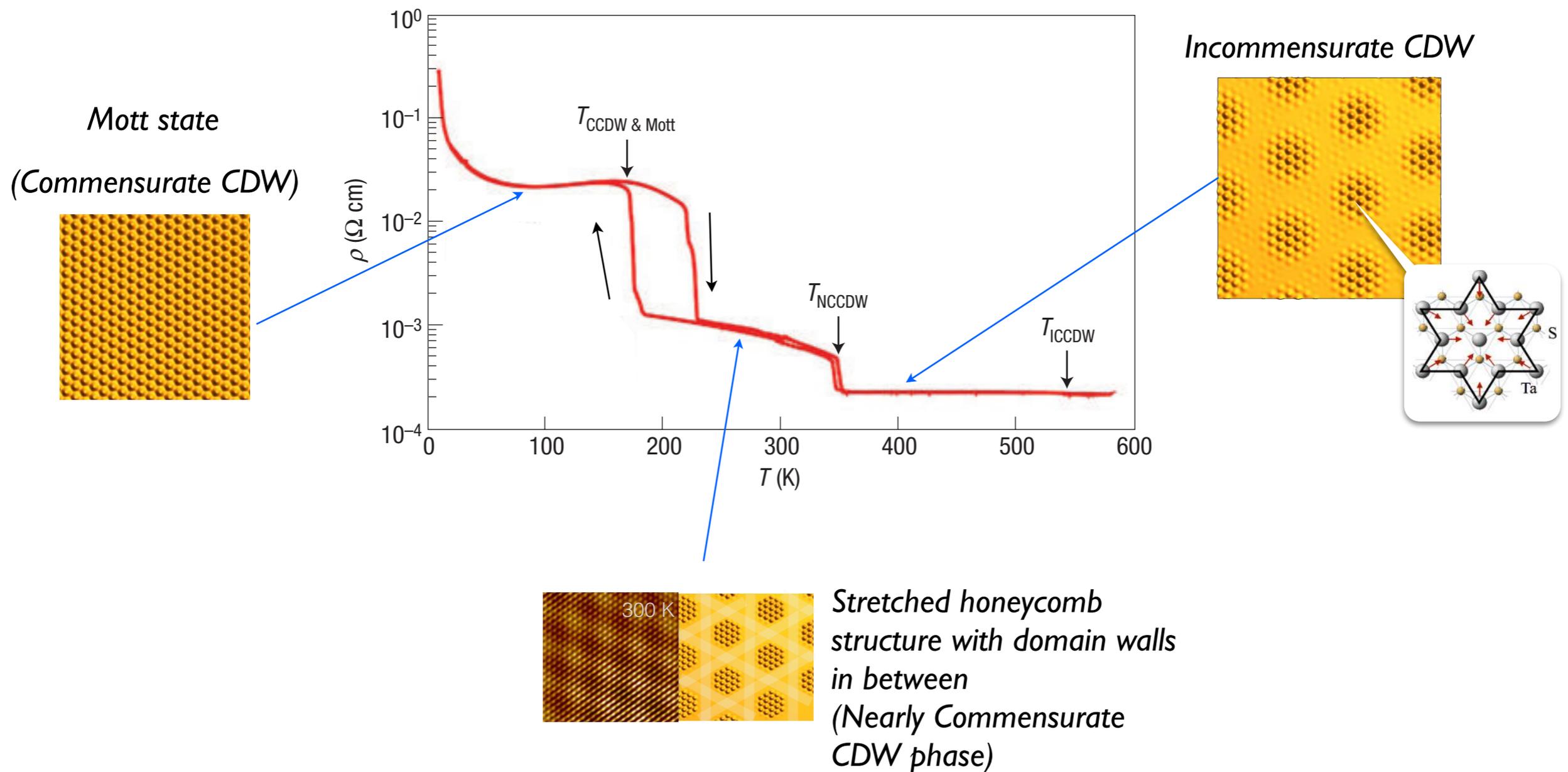


I.Vaskivskiy, 2015 (unpub)



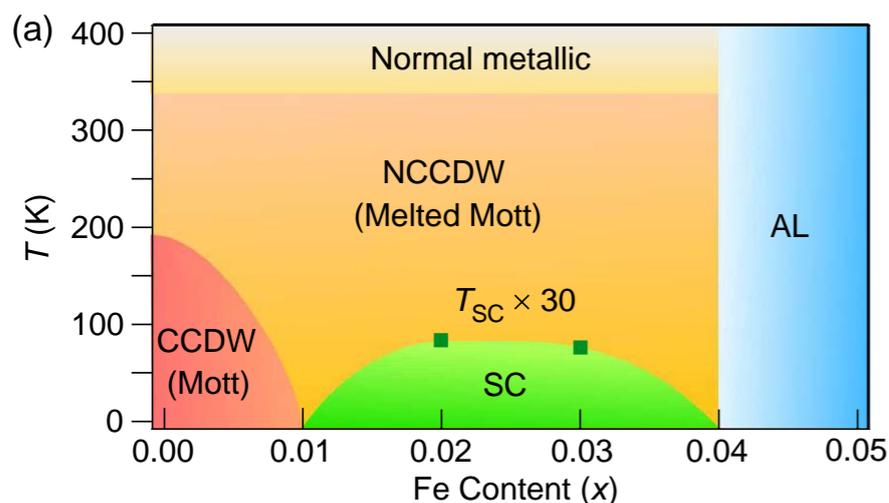
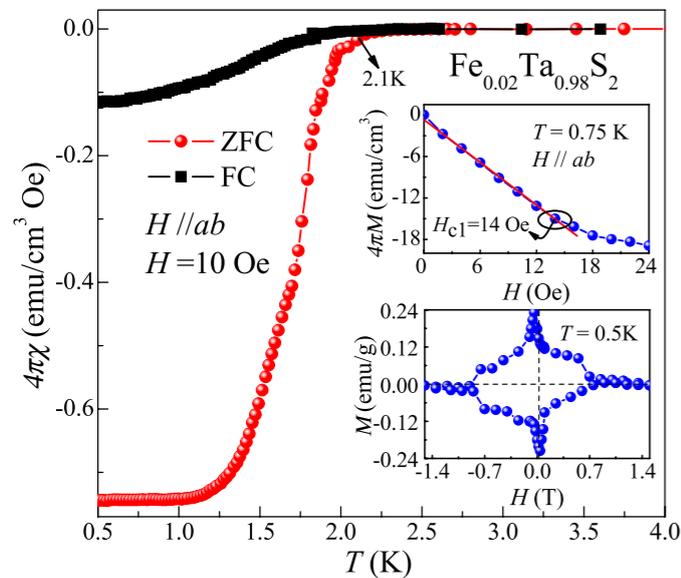
A system with competing Coulomb, Fermi surface instability and lattice strain

Resistivity of $1T\text{-TaS}_2$ under equilibrium conditions



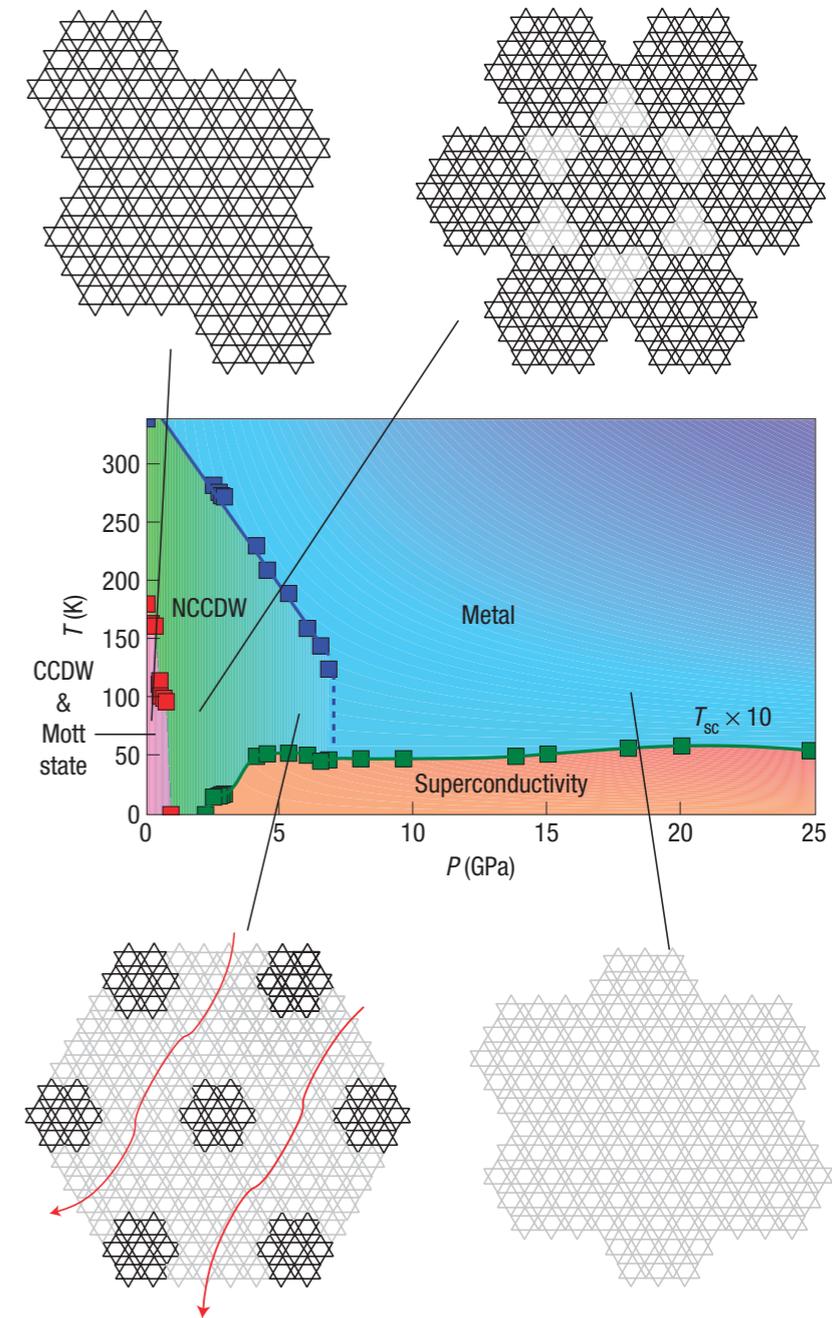
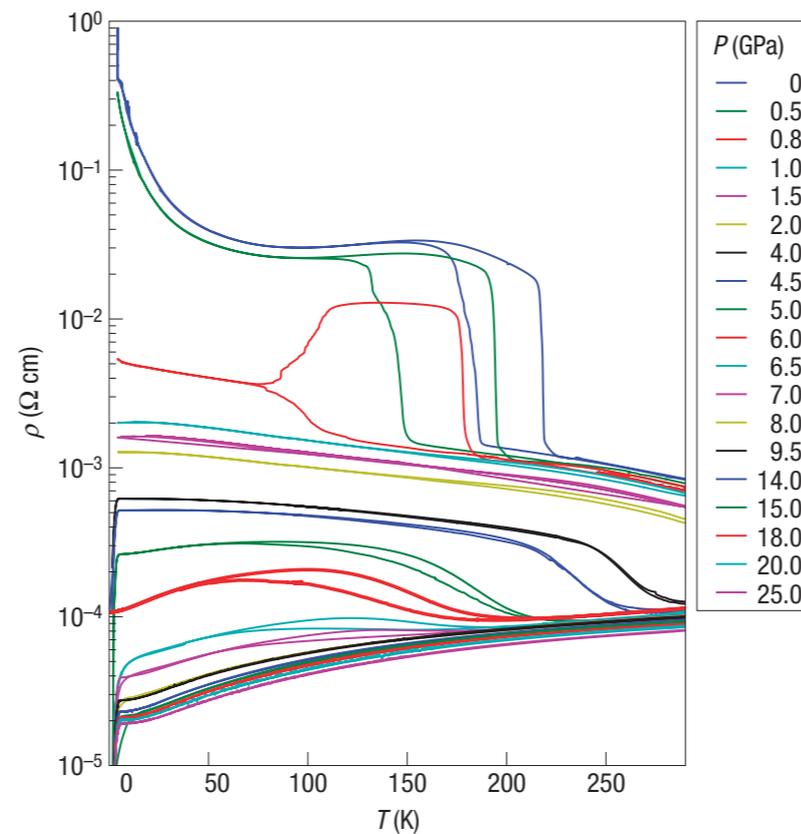
Competing orders in 1T-TaS₂: Superconductivity under pressure, or Fe, or Se doping.

Fe doping:



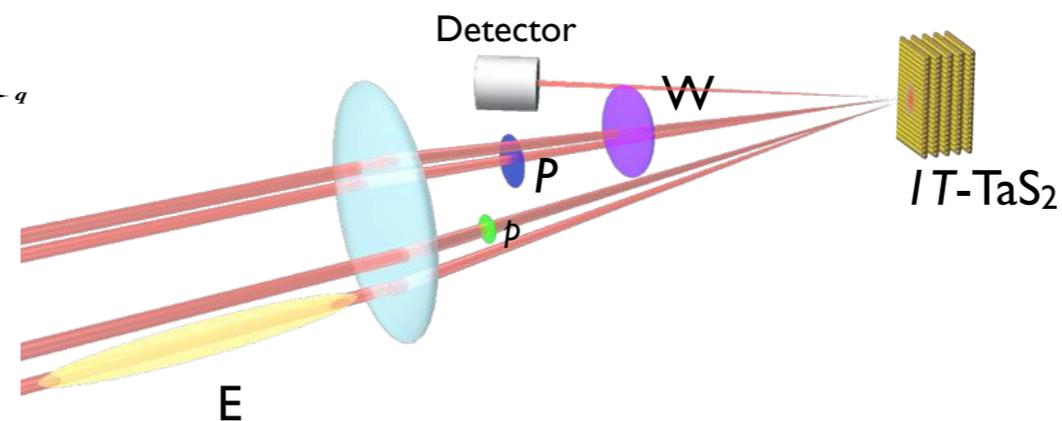
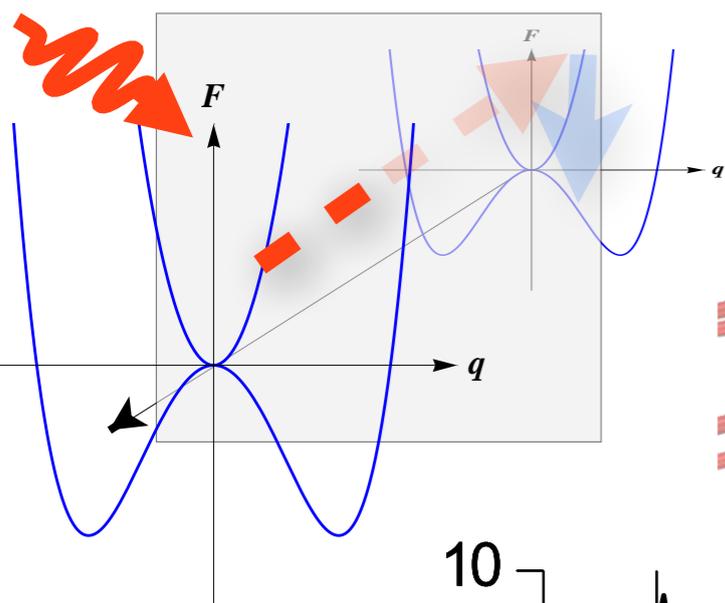
Li et al. EPL 2012

Pressure:



Sipos et al (Nat.Mat. 2008)

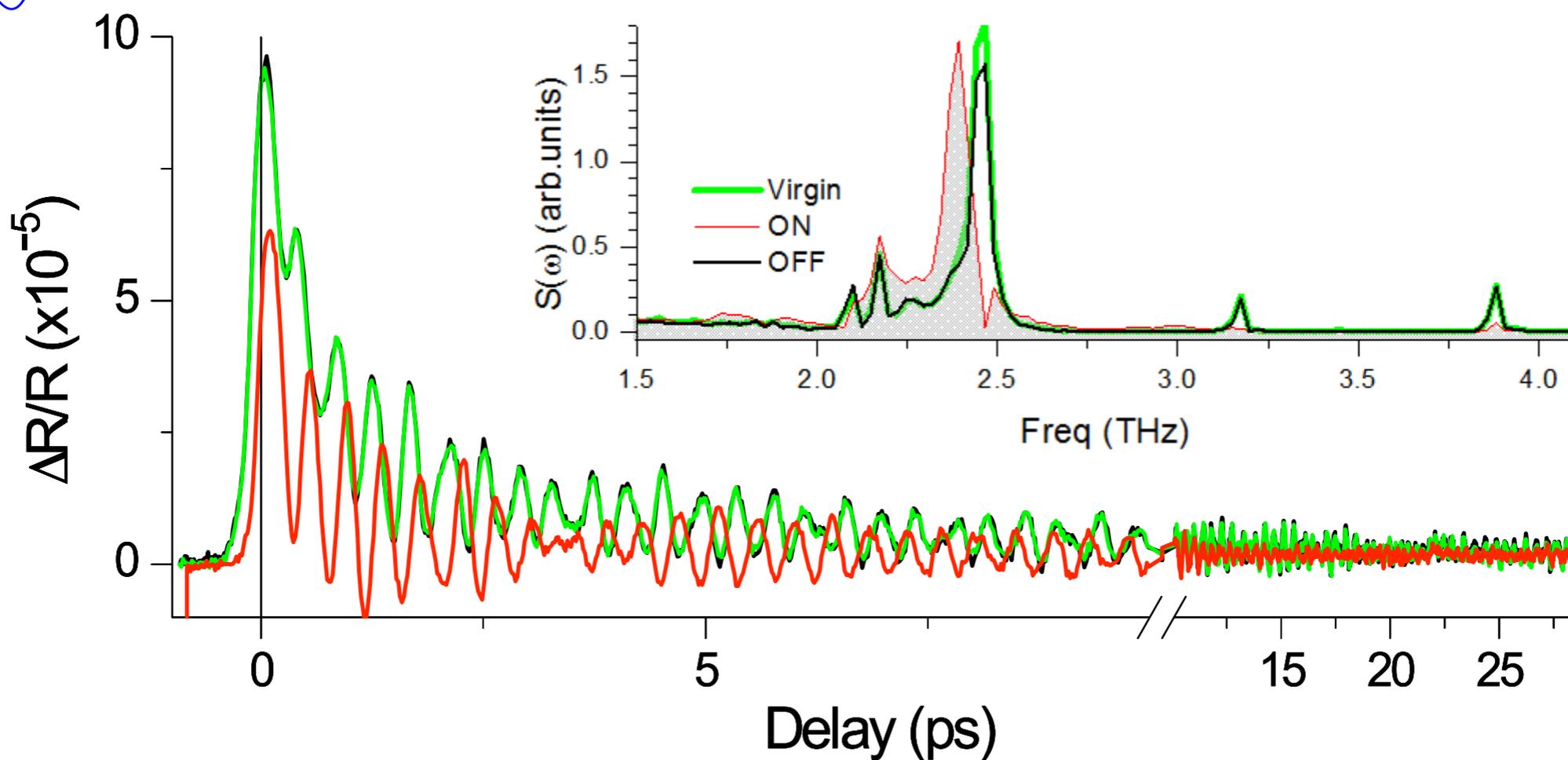
IT-TaS₂: Collective mode switching



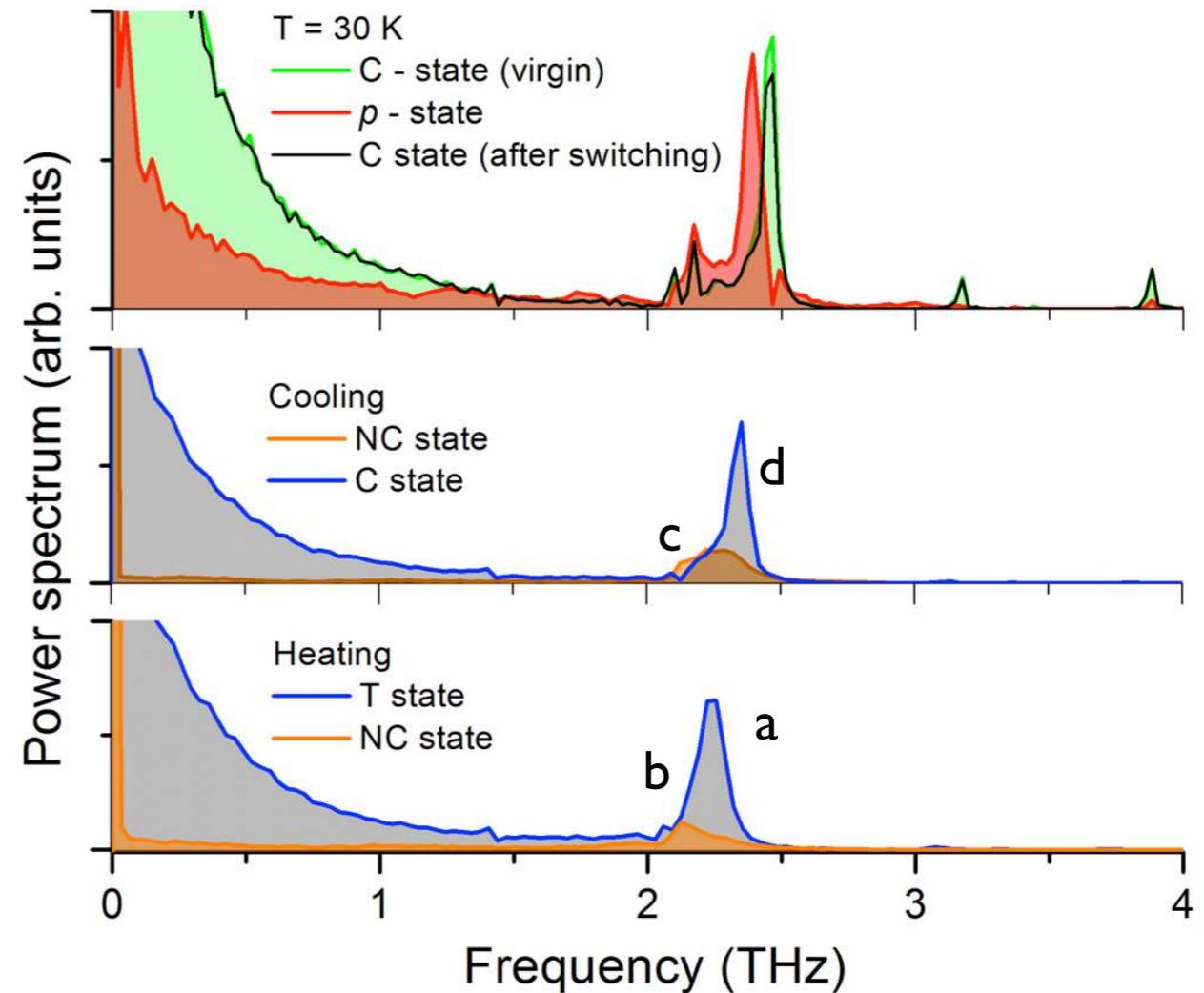
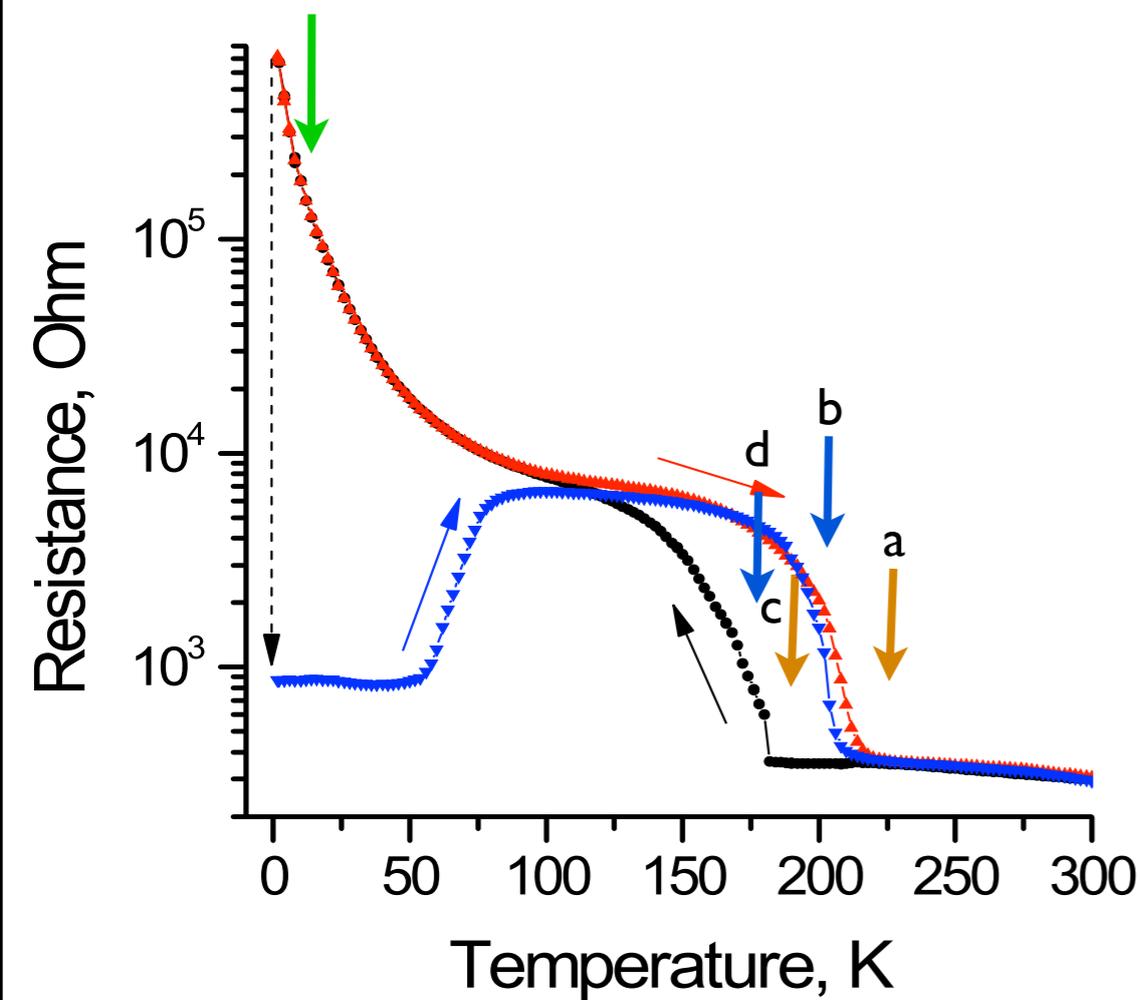
W = 50 fs "write"
E = 50 ps "erase"
P = "pump" (50 fs)
p = "probe" (50 fs)



Ljupka Stojchevska



Is the hidden state spectrum similar to any known equilibrium state?

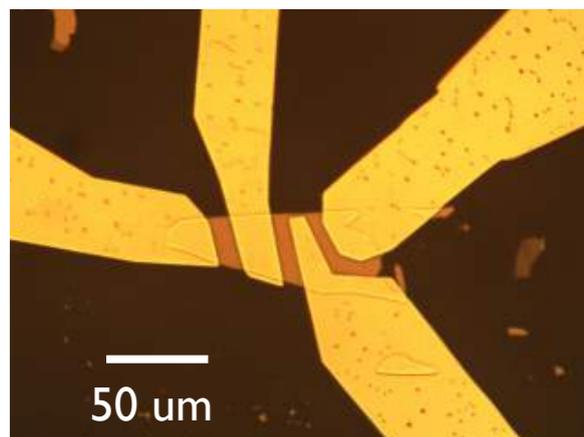


No!

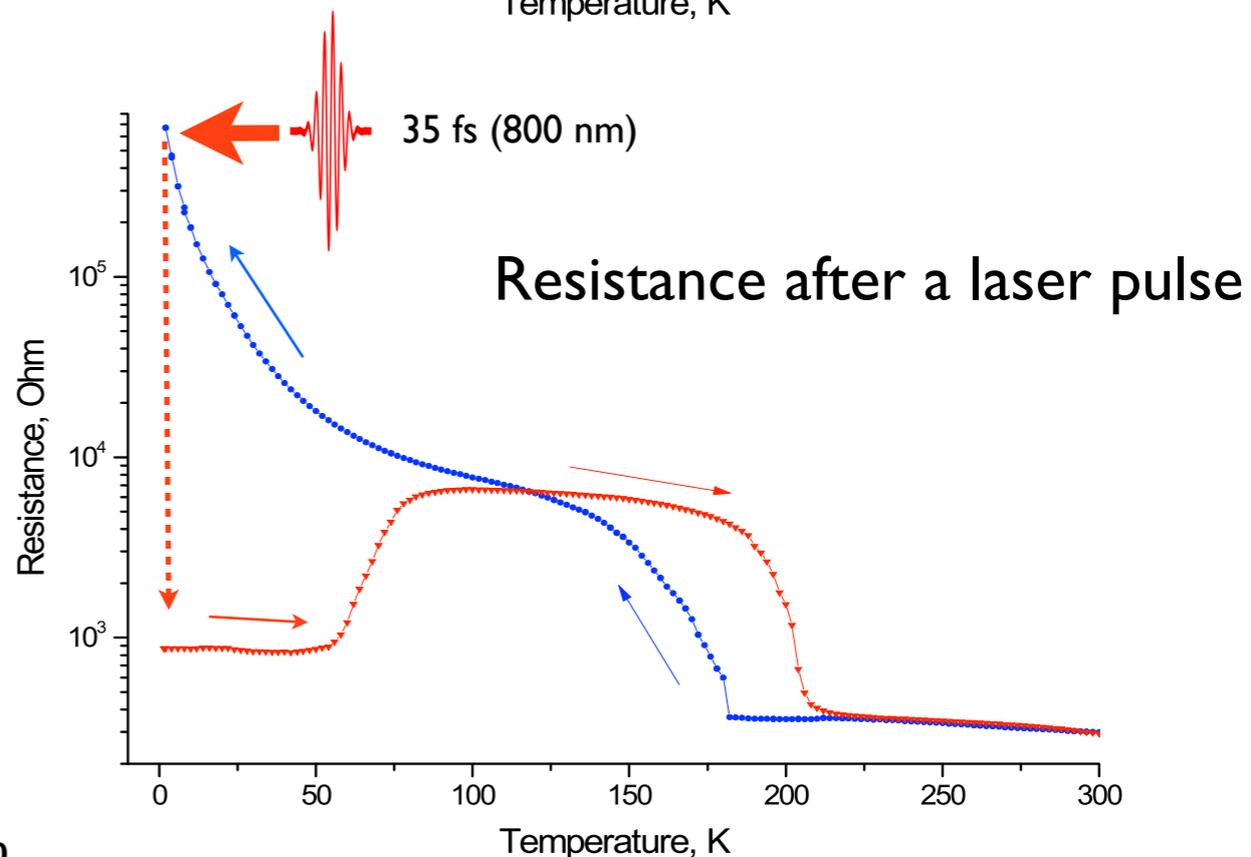
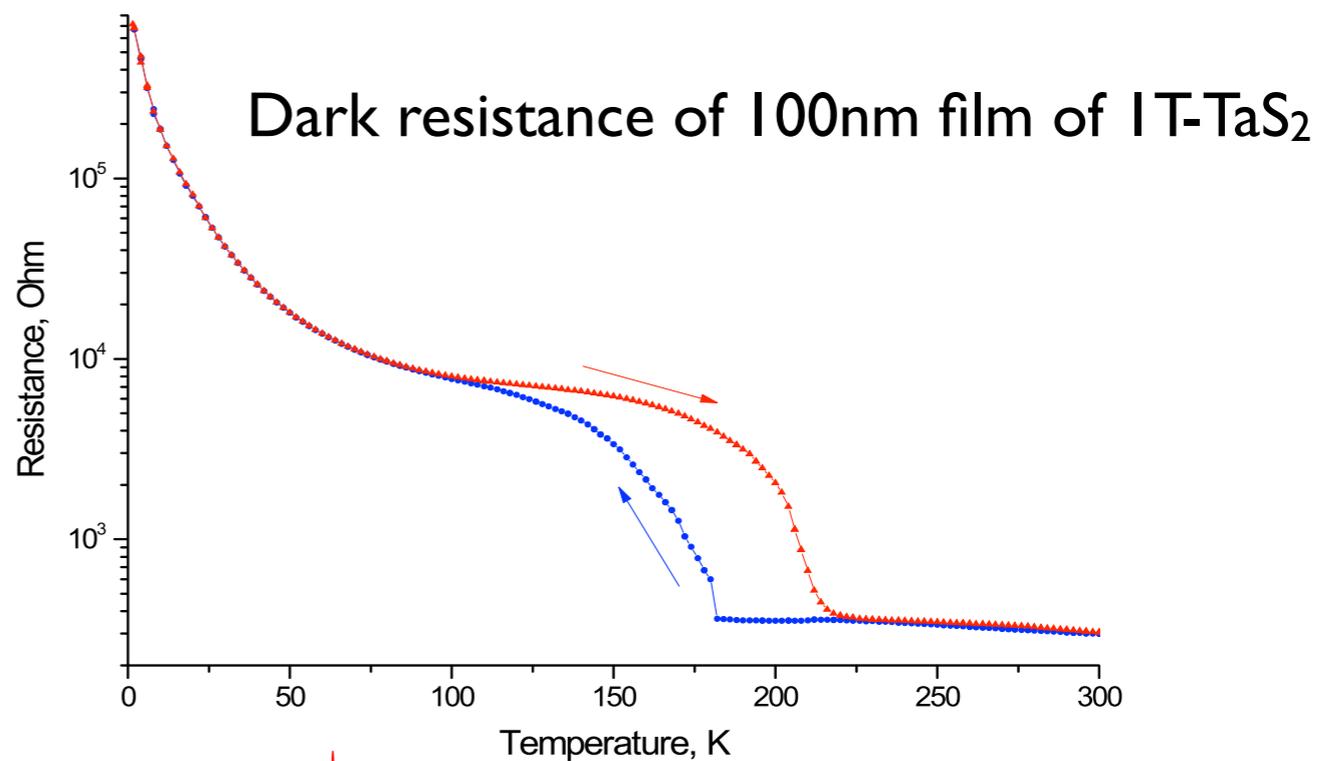
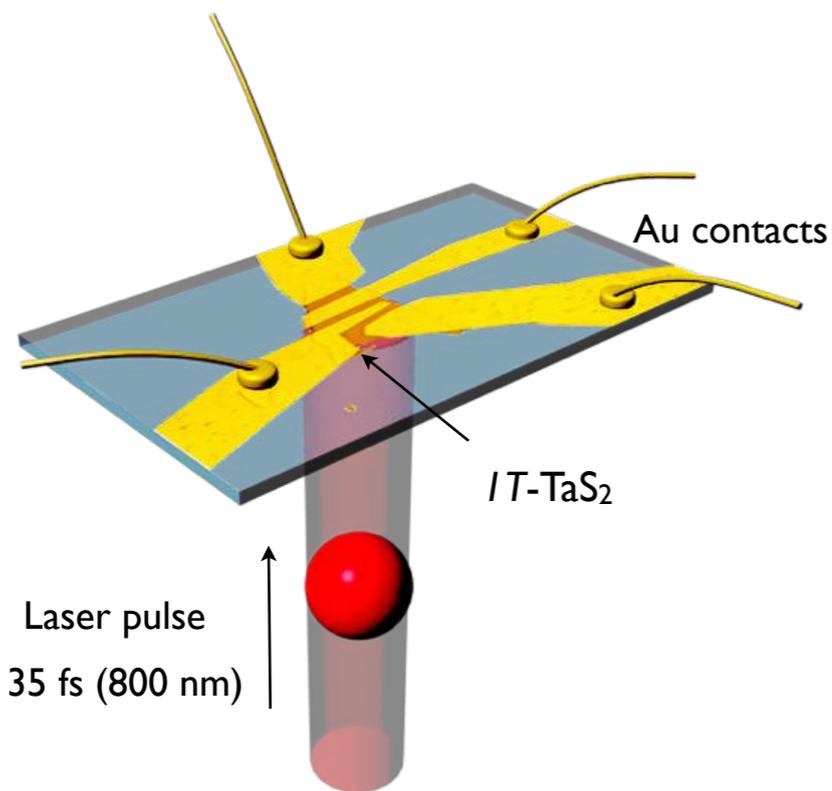
Switching to a hidden state in $1T\text{-TaS}_2$: Resistance change after a (single) 35 fs pulse



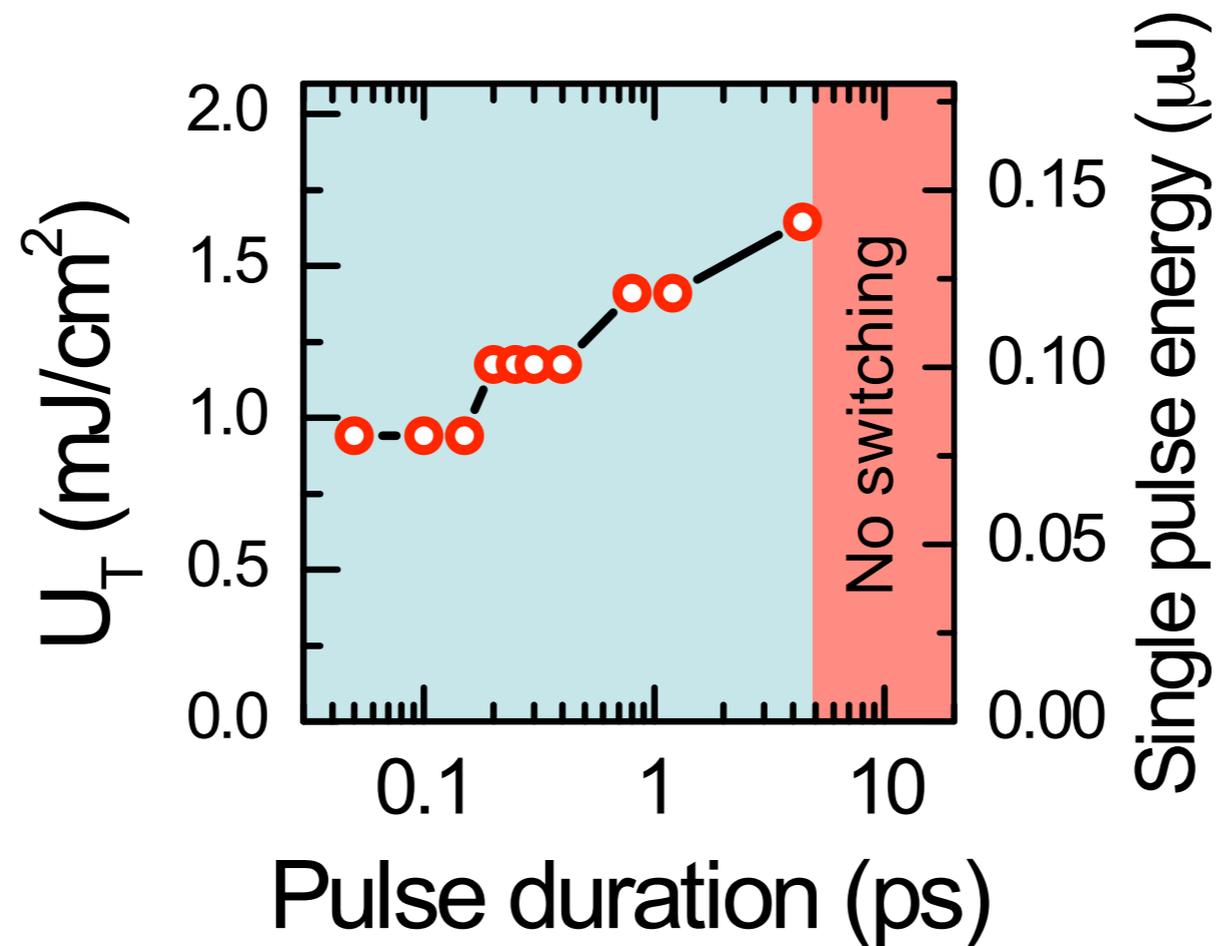
Igor Vaskivskyi



$1T\text{-TaS}_2$ single crystal, ~ 100 nm thick.
Au contacts by laser lithography (LPKF LDI).



Switching only occurs for
short pulses $\tau_L < 4$ ps

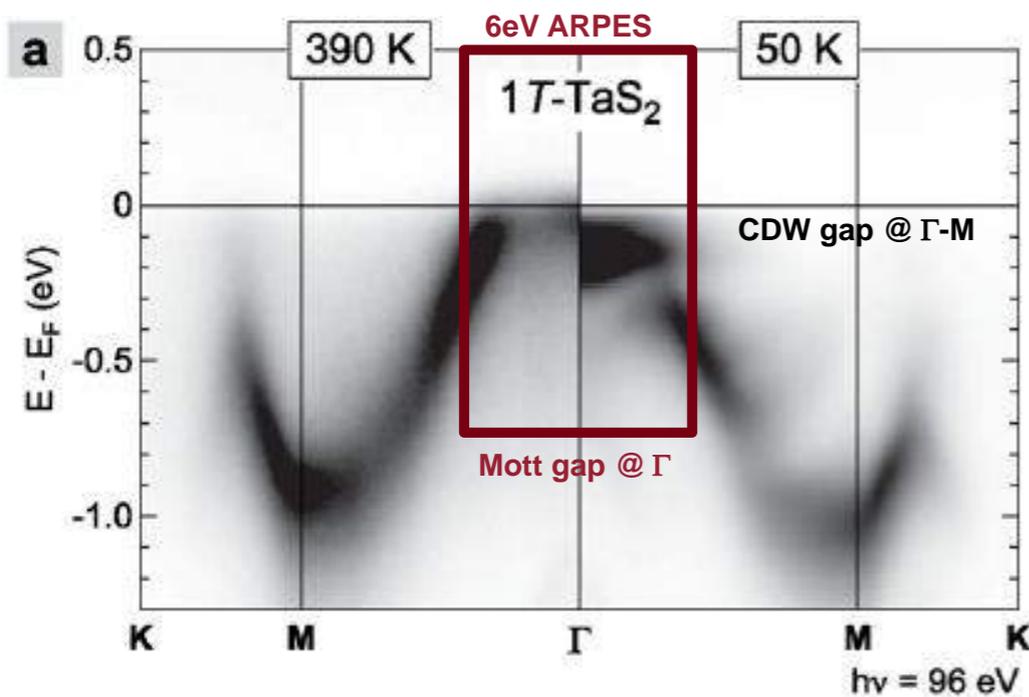


Switching in ARPES



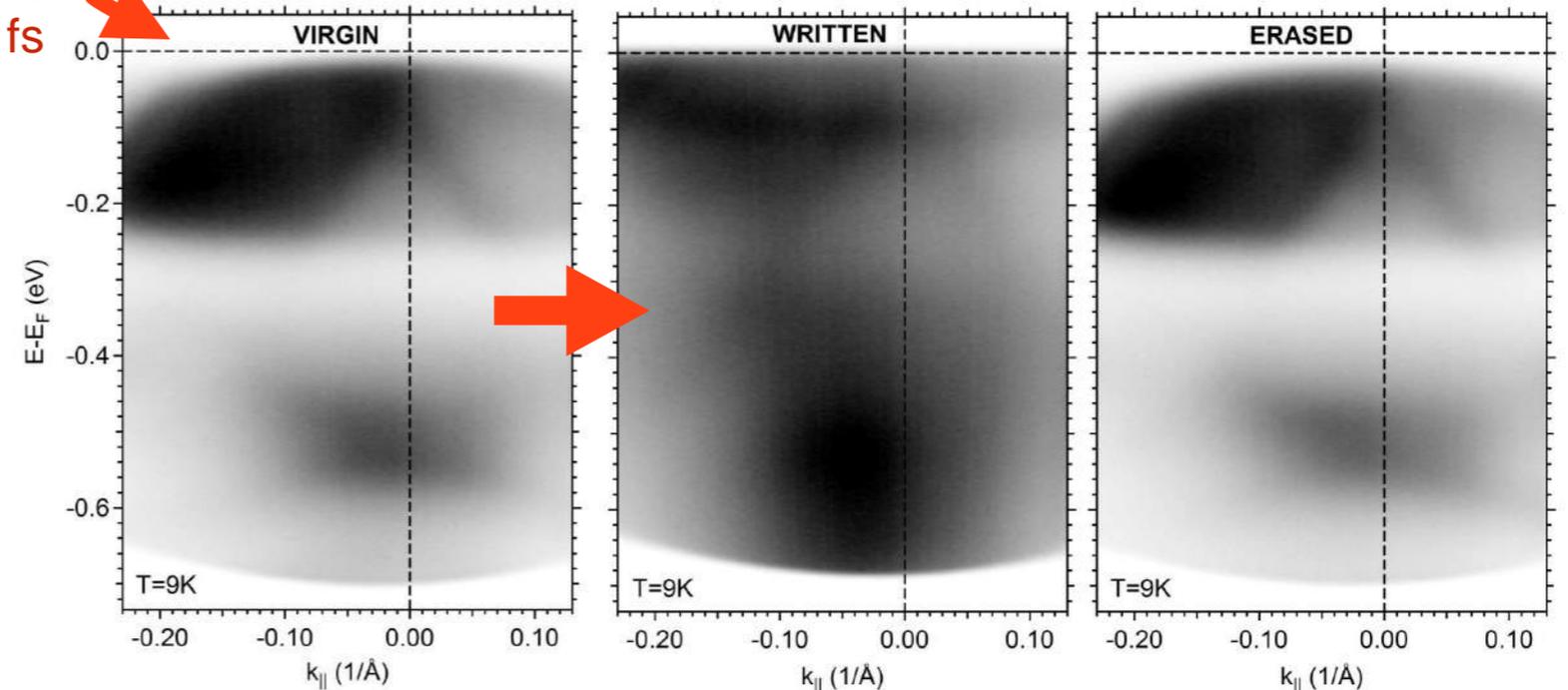
Patrick Kirchmann

“Normal” ARPES:



Low Temperature ARPES of Switched 1T-TaS₂
Overview

SLAC



Mott-gapped
“VIRGIN” C-state

H-state WRITE: single
>2mJ/cm² pulse changes

C-state ERASE: multiple
~1μJ/cm² pulses or



Landau theory of the CDWs in 1T-TaS₂

McMillan, PRB 1975



The Landau free energy: $F = F_1 + F_2 + F_3$.

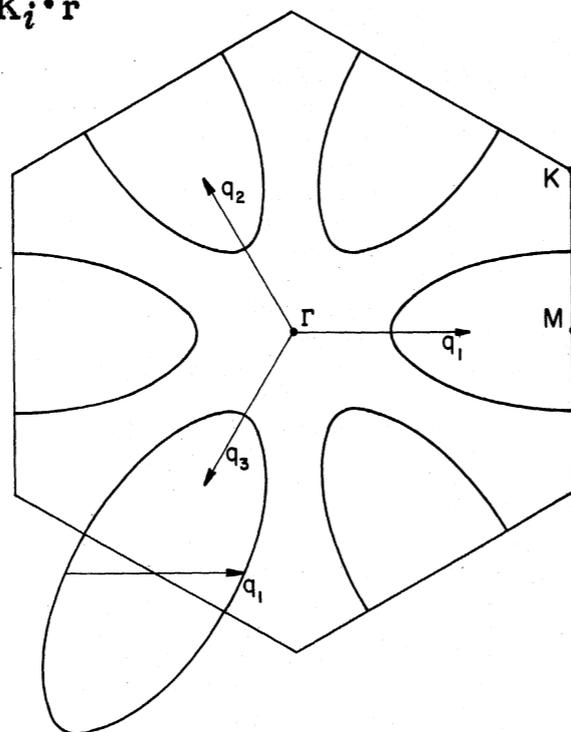
The order parameter (the charge density):

$$\rho(\vec{r}) = \rho_0(\vec{r})[1 + \alpha(\vec{r})]$$

Where $\alpha(\vec{r}) = \text{Re}[\psi_1(\vec{r}) + \psi_2(\vec{r}) + \psi_3(\vec{r})]$

$$F_1 = \int d^2r [a(\vec{r})\alpha^2 - b(\vec{r})\alpha^3 + c(\vec{r})\alpha^4 + d(\vec{r})(|\psi_1\psi_2|^2 + |\psi_2\psi_3|^2 + |\psi_3\psi_1|^2)]$$

$$c(\vec{r}) = c_0 + c_1 \sum_i e^{i\vec{k}_i \cdot \vec{r}}$$



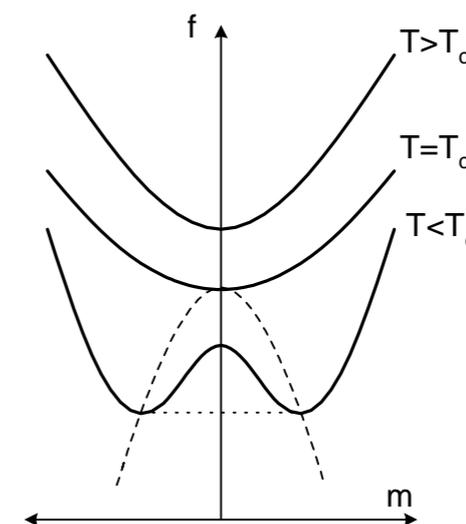
The Fermi Surface of 1T-TaS₂ in the undistorted phase

Impurity potential $F_2 = \int d^2r U(\vec{r})\rho_0(\vec{r})\alpha(\vec{r})$

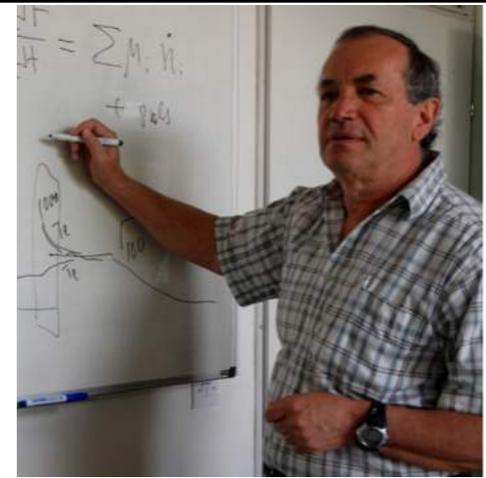
Gradient terms: $F_3 = \int d^2r \left[e(\vec{r}) \sum_i |(\vec{q}_i \cdot \vec{\nabla} - iq_i^2)\psi_i|^2 + f(\vec{r}) \sum_i |\vec{q}_i \times \vec{\nabla} \psi_i|^2 \right]$,

where

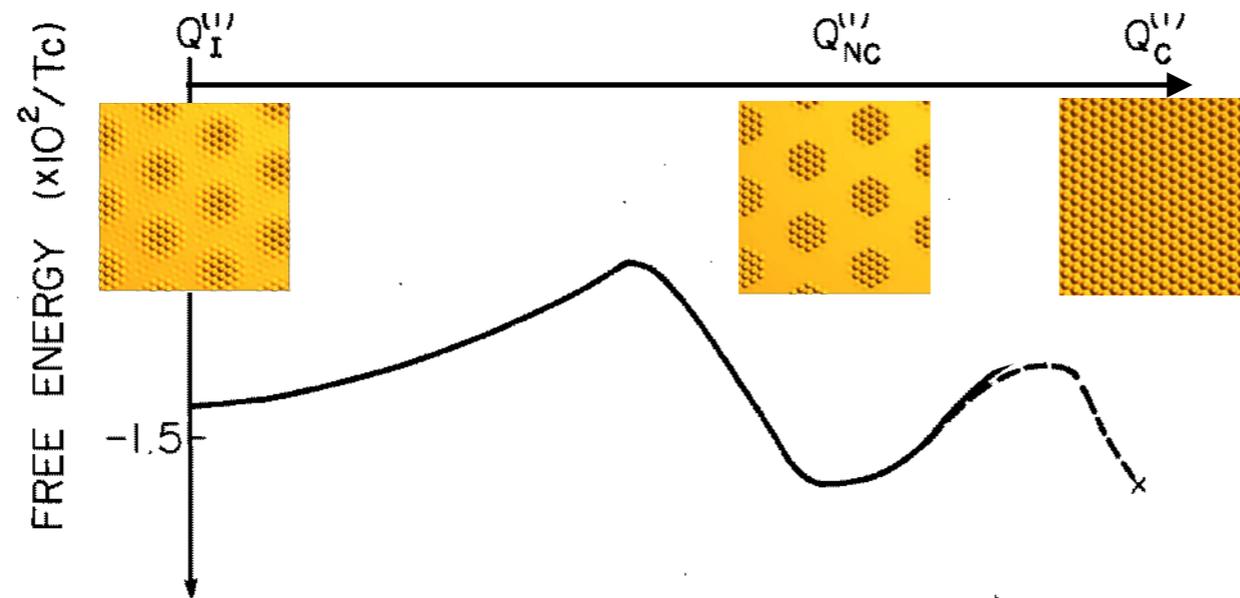
$$|\vec{q}_1| = |\vec{q}_2| = |\vec{q}_3| = 2\pi/\lambda,$$



The free energy of $1T$ -TaS₂ with domain walls (the NC state)

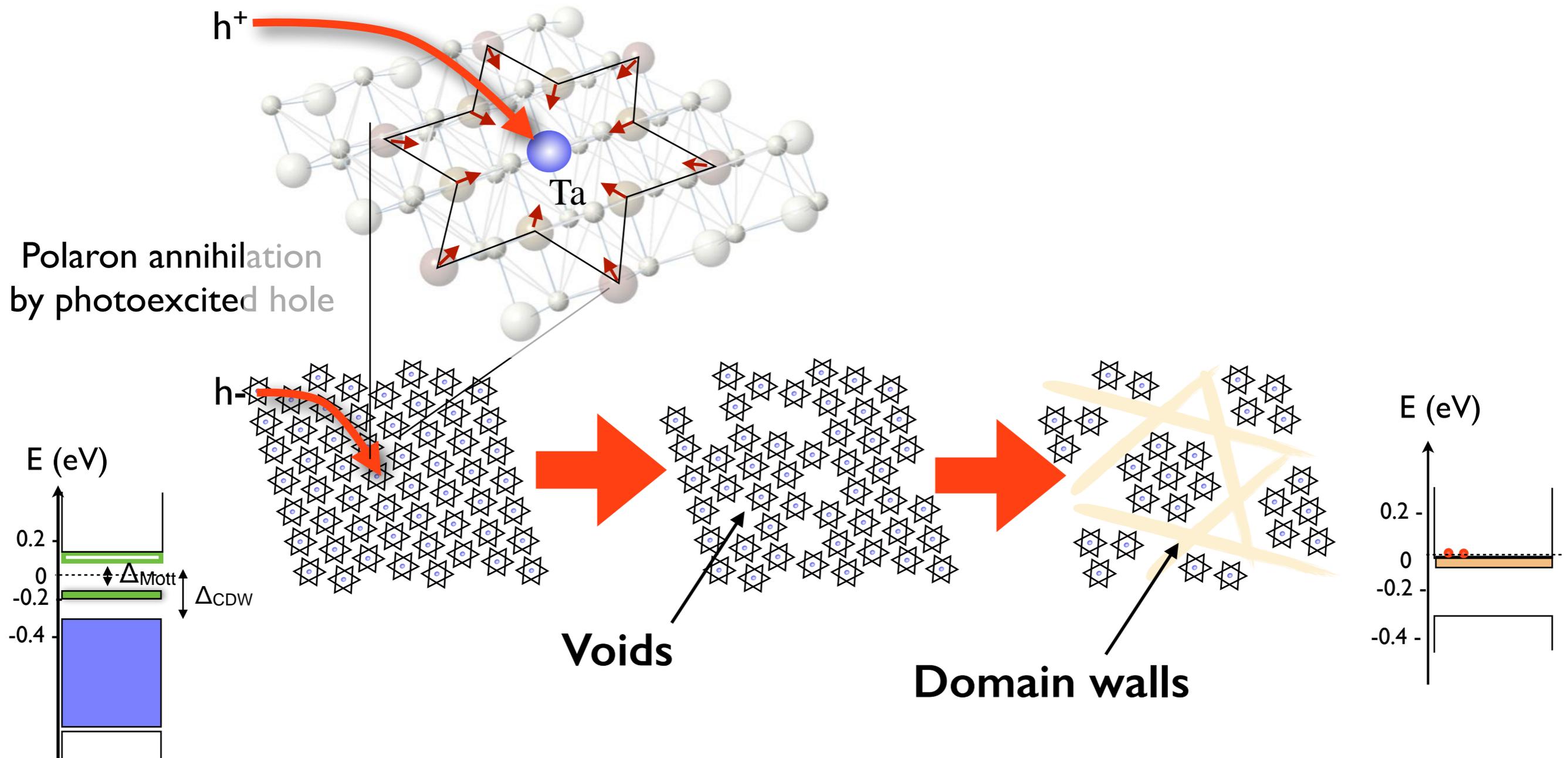


Free energy: $F_c(n_c) = E_{DW} \underbrace{(C_0|n_c| + C_1|n_c|e^{-1/(\xi|n_c|)})}_{\text{C - IC transition (MacMillan, 1975)}} - \underbrace{C_2\xi n_c^2}_{\text{Intersection of DW}} + \underbrace{C_4\xi^3 n_c^4}_{\text{Repulsion between DW crossings}}$



Microscopic mechanism: Photo''doping'' and subsequent ordering of voids

The photo- hole annihilates a polaron, creating a void.



Macroscopic quantum tunneling?

Condition for MQT:

The potential must change faster than the system can tunnel

Timescales:

The charge rearrangement in the H state occurs on a timescale:

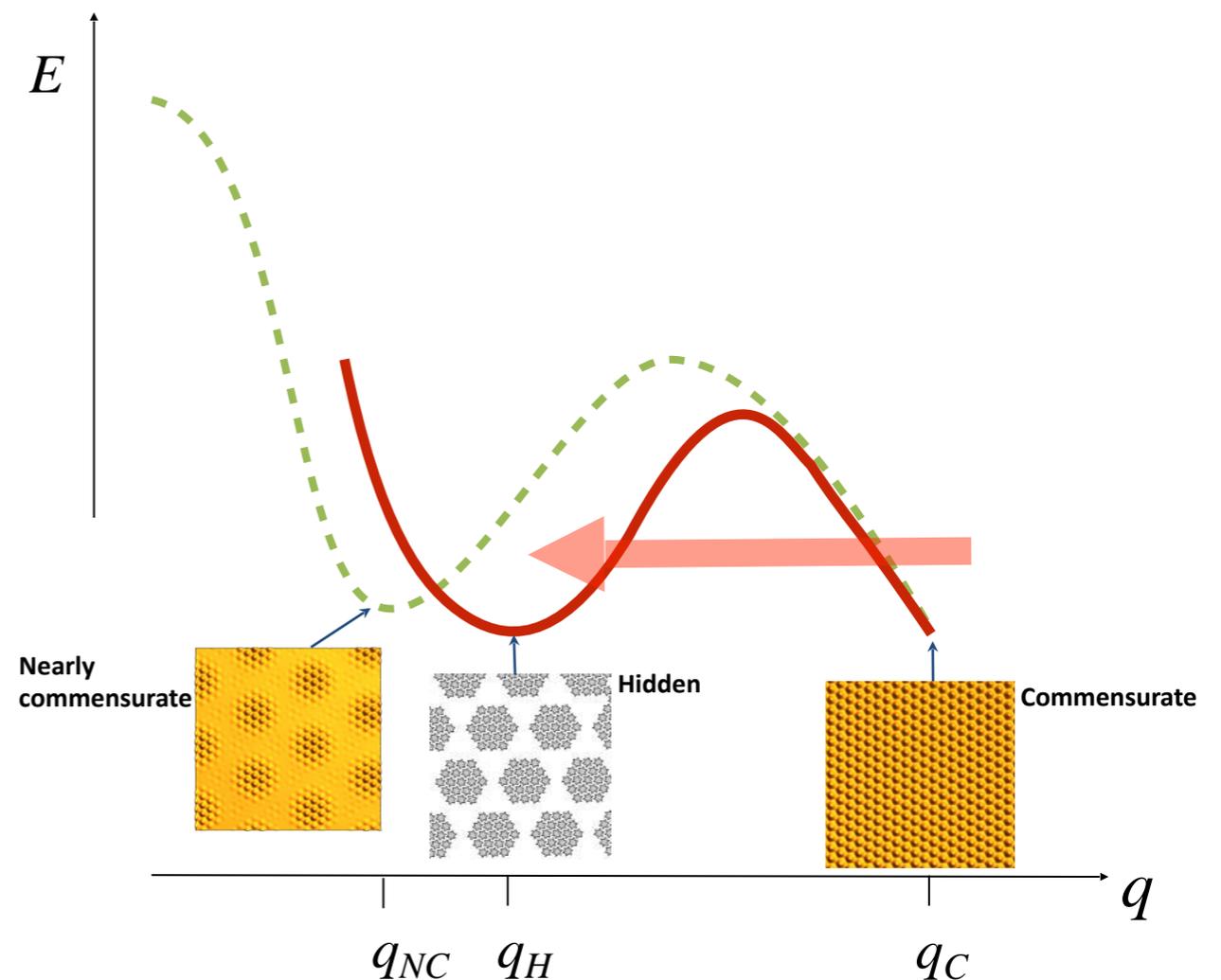
$$t_{charge} \sim \hbar/E_{Mott} \simeq 13\text{fs}$$

The polaron-forming ions reach new equilibrium positions on a timescale:

$$t_{ions} \leq \frac{1}{4}T_{AM} \simeq 110\text{fs}$$

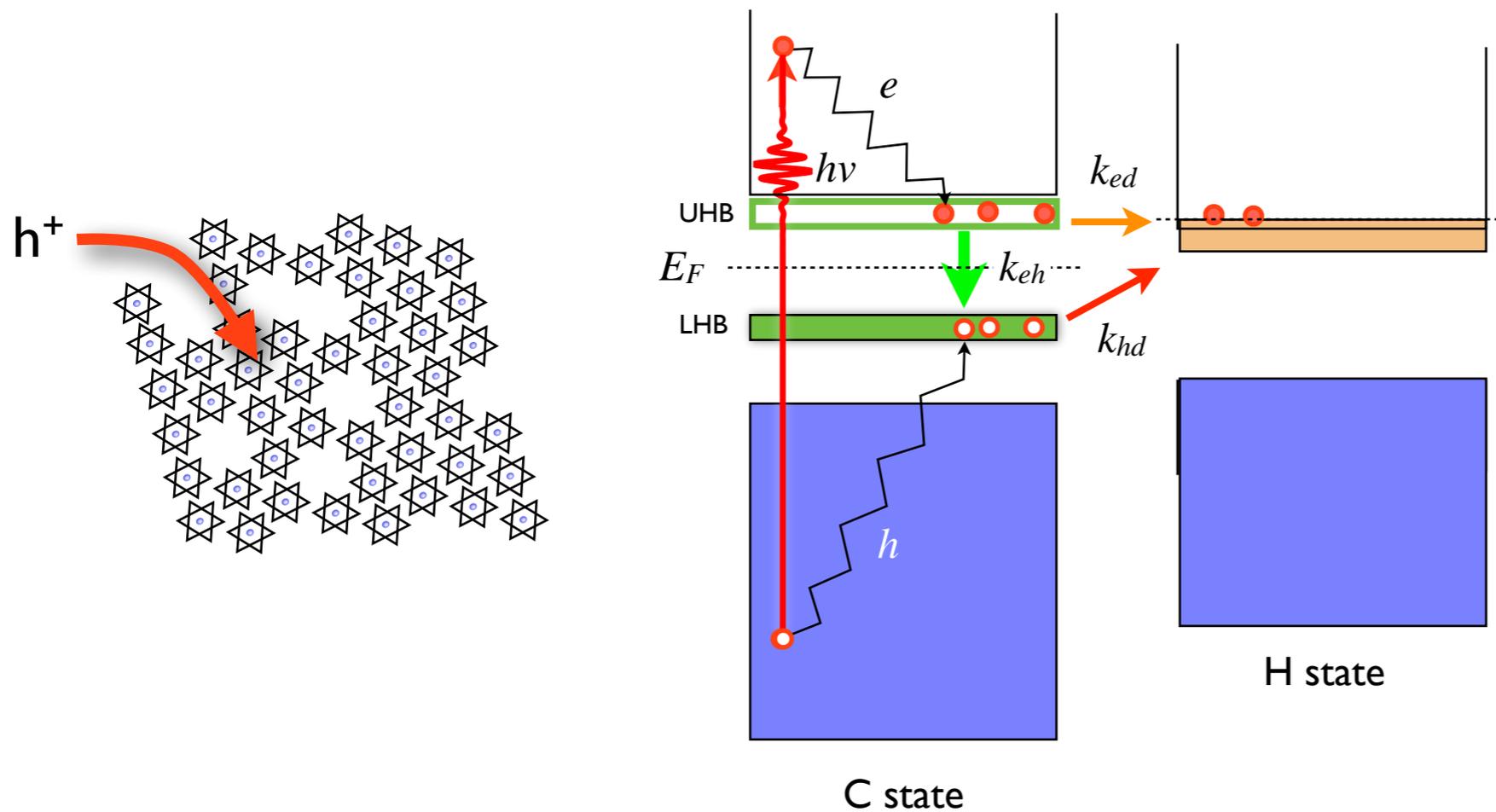
Tunneling time:

$$t_{tunneling} \sim O(1)T_{AM} \simeq 500\text{fs}$$

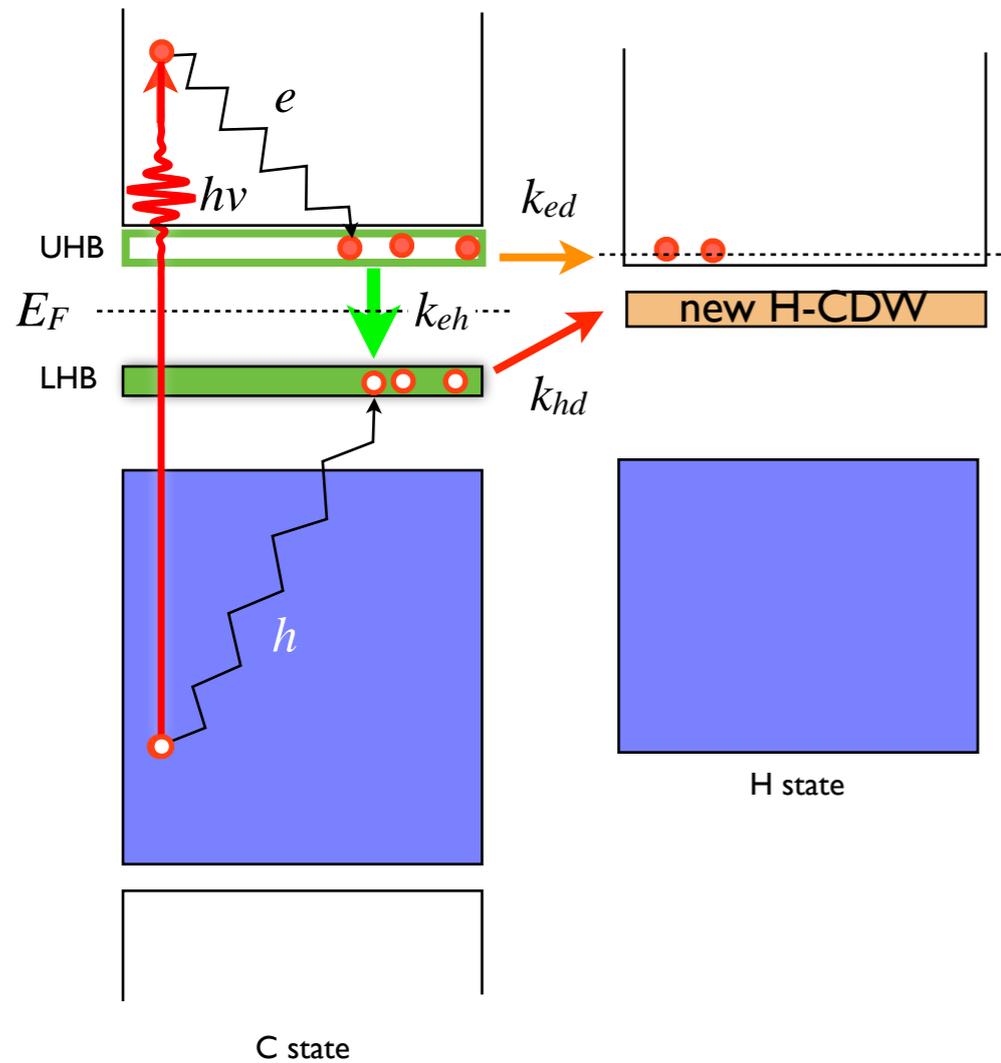
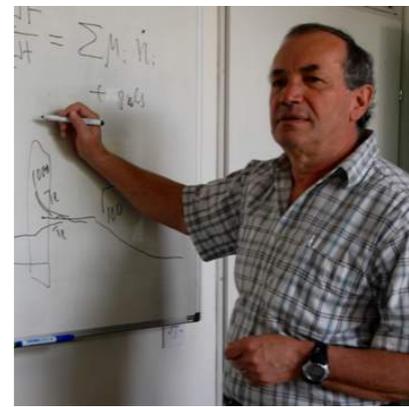


Conclusion: the MQT condition is fulfilled

Kinetics cannot be described in a rigid band approximation



Electron and hole relaxation kinetics beyond the rigid band approximation: photodoping in terms of a time-dependent shift of the chemical potential



The kinetic equations for the electrons and holes:

$$\frac{dn_h}{dt} = -k_{eh}n_en_h(\mu_e + \mu_h) - k_{hd}n_h(\mu_h - \mu_d) + P(t)$$

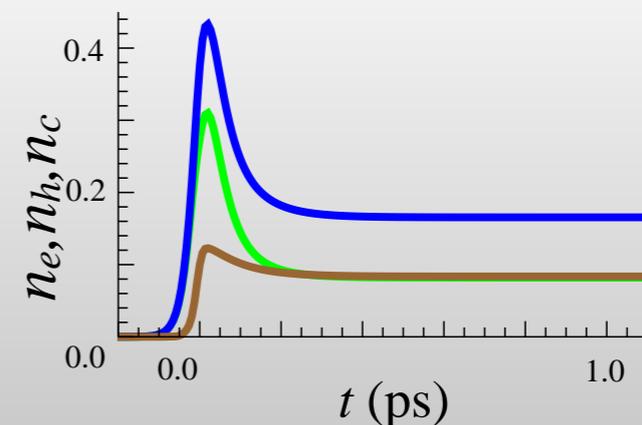
$$\frac{dn_e}{dt} = -k_{eh}n_en_h(\mu_e + \mu_h) - k_{ed}n_e(\mu_e + \mu_d) + P(t)$$

μ_i are time-dependent, and $P(t)$ is the laser pulse

Subject to conservation of charge

$$n_e - n_h = n_v - n_i = n_d.$$

Numerical solution:



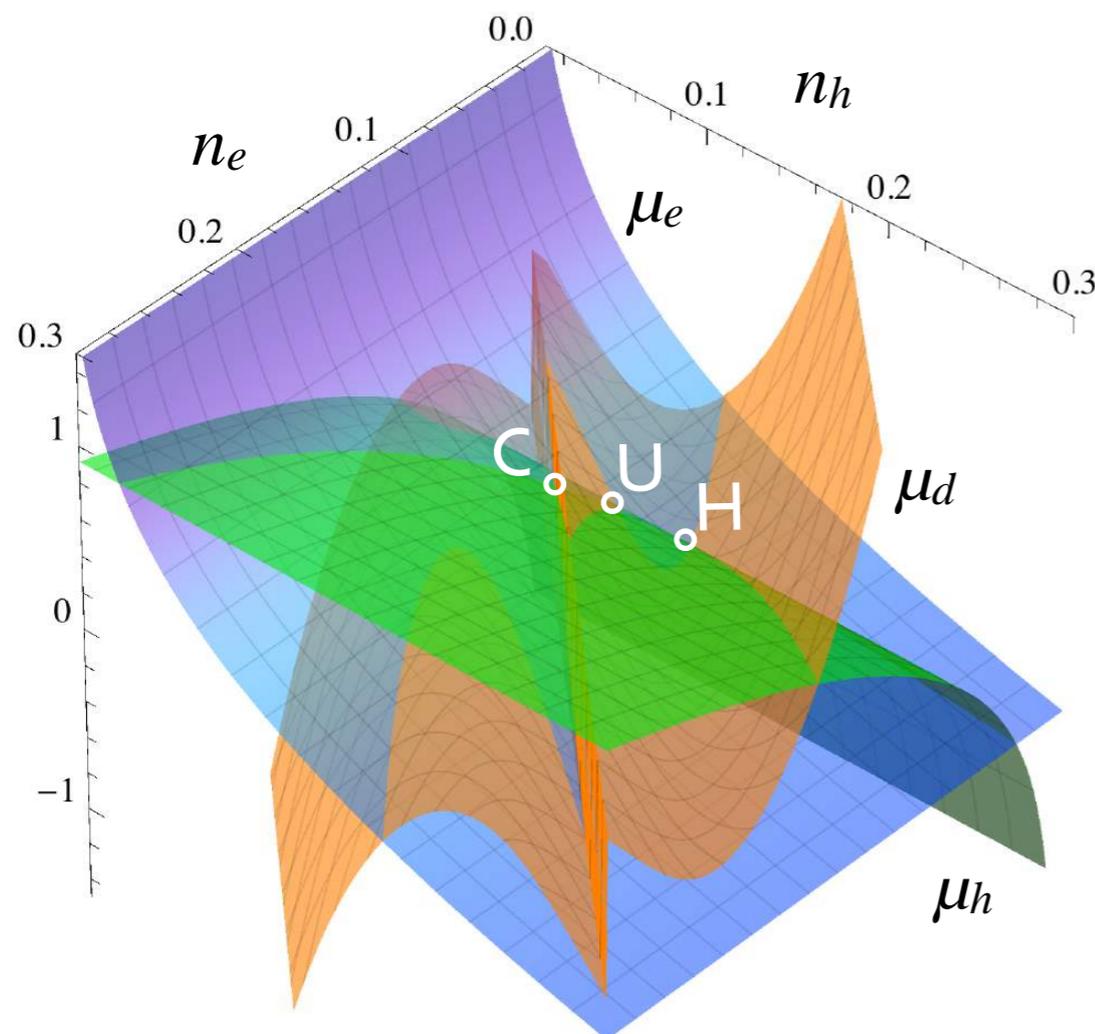
Chemical potential surfaces

The chemical potentials: $\mu_i = \frac{\partial F_i(n_i)}{\partial n_i}$

for electrons, holes: $\mu_{e,h}(n) = \Delta_{e,h} + k_B T \ln(e^{n_{e,h}/(k_B T N_{e,h})} - 1)$

for the condensate:

$$\mu_c(n_c) = E_{DW} \left(C_1 \left(1 + \frac{1}{\xi |n_c|} \right) e^{-1/(\xi |n_c|)} + C_0 - 2C_2 \xi |n_c| + 4C_4 (\xi |n_c|)^3 \right) \text{sign}(n_c)$$



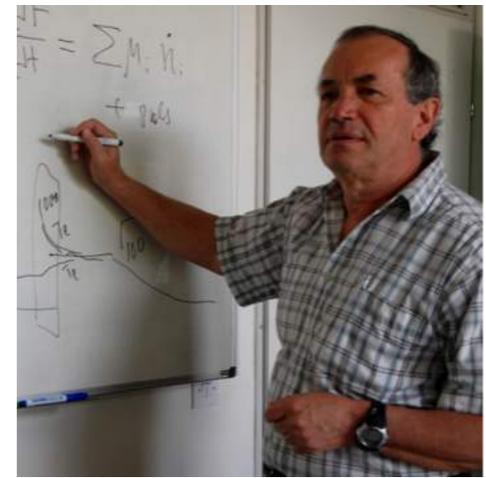
The system is stable in equilibrium when:

$$\mu_e = \mu_h = \mu_c,$$

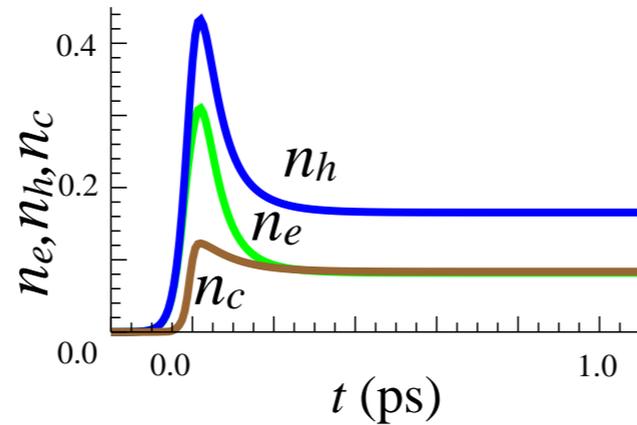
where $n_c = n_h - n_e$

Calculated trajectory

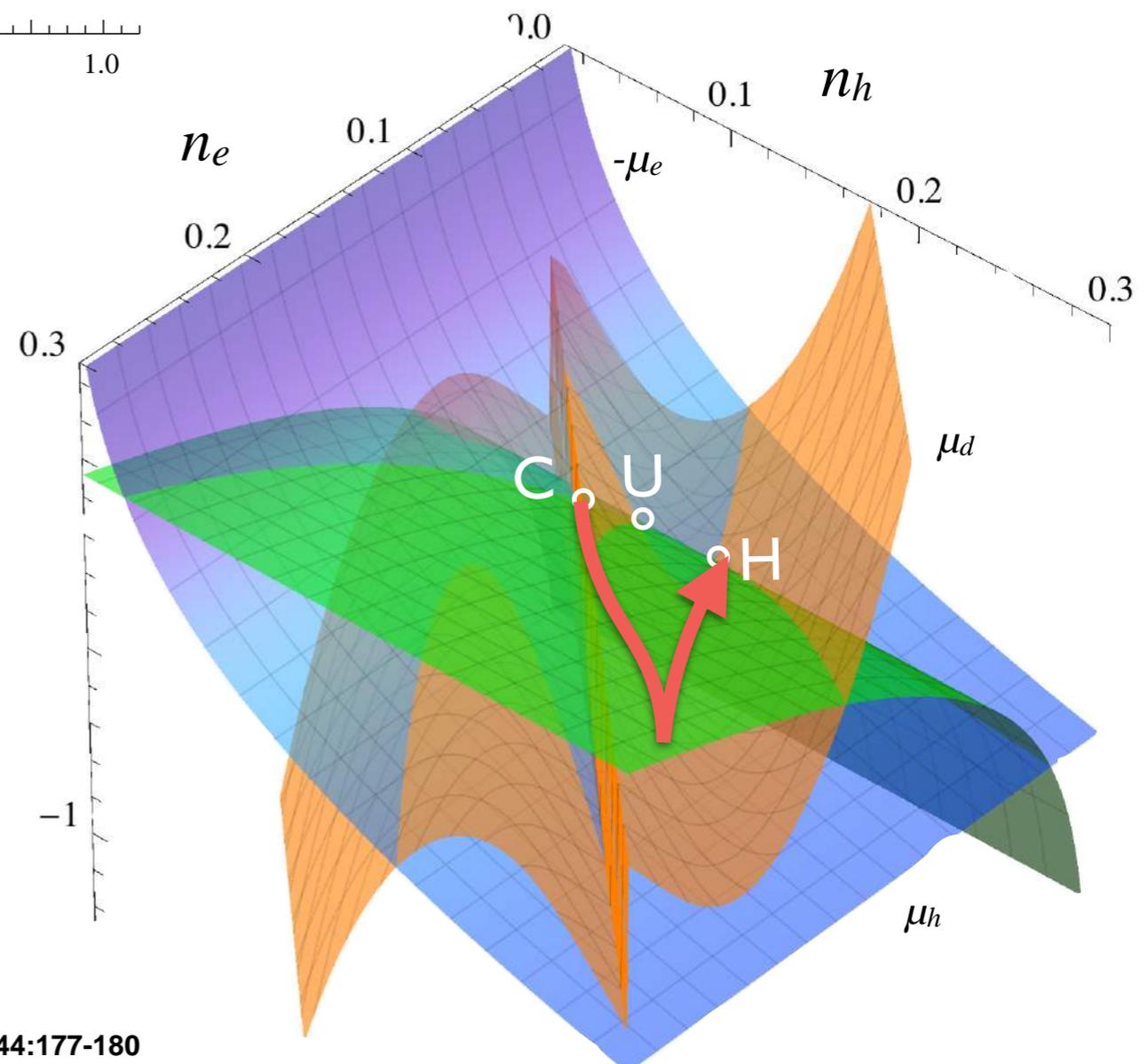
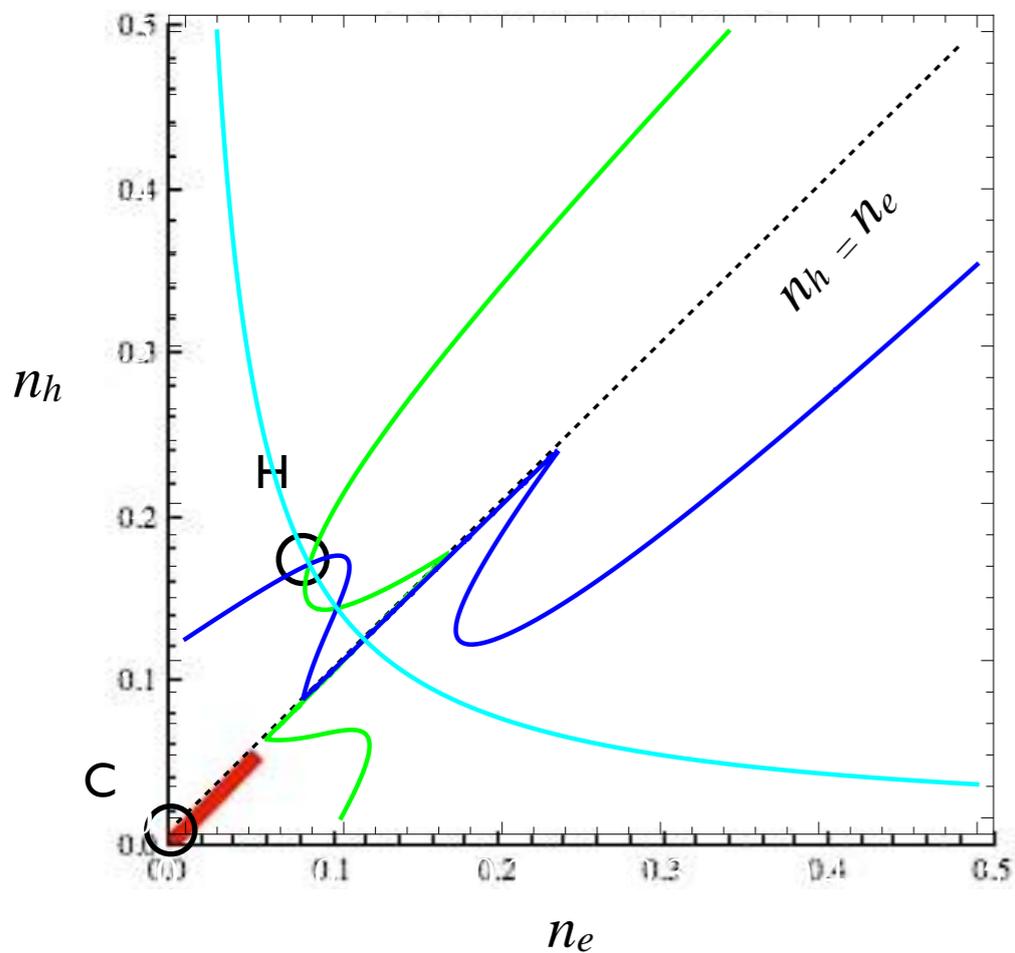
Laser pulse energy above threshold ($U_W > U_T$):



The time evolution of n_e and n_h :

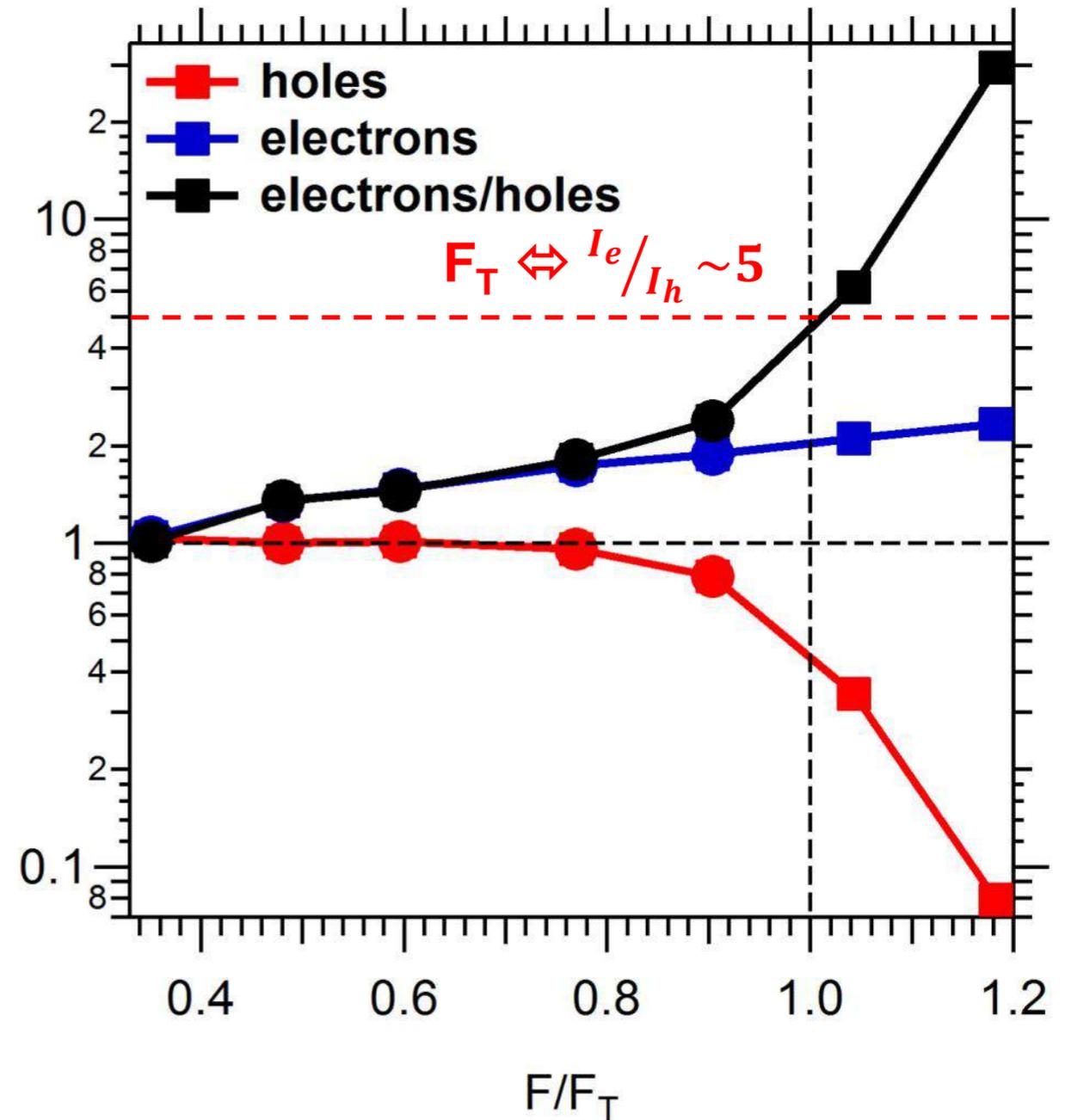
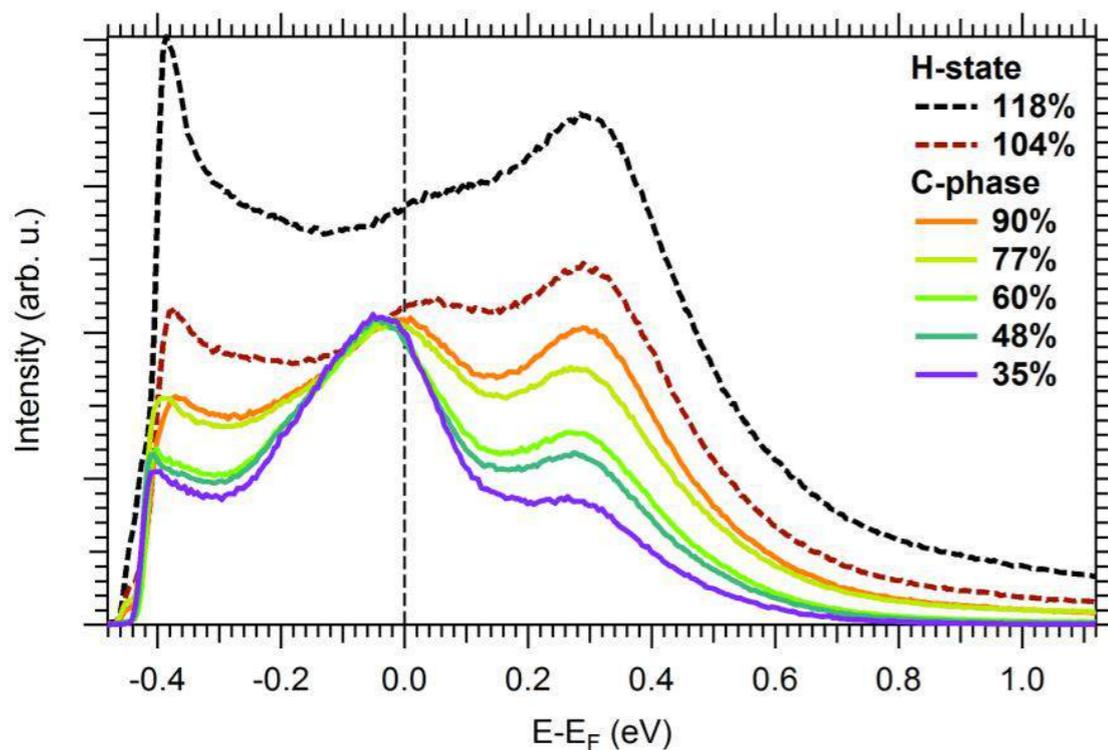
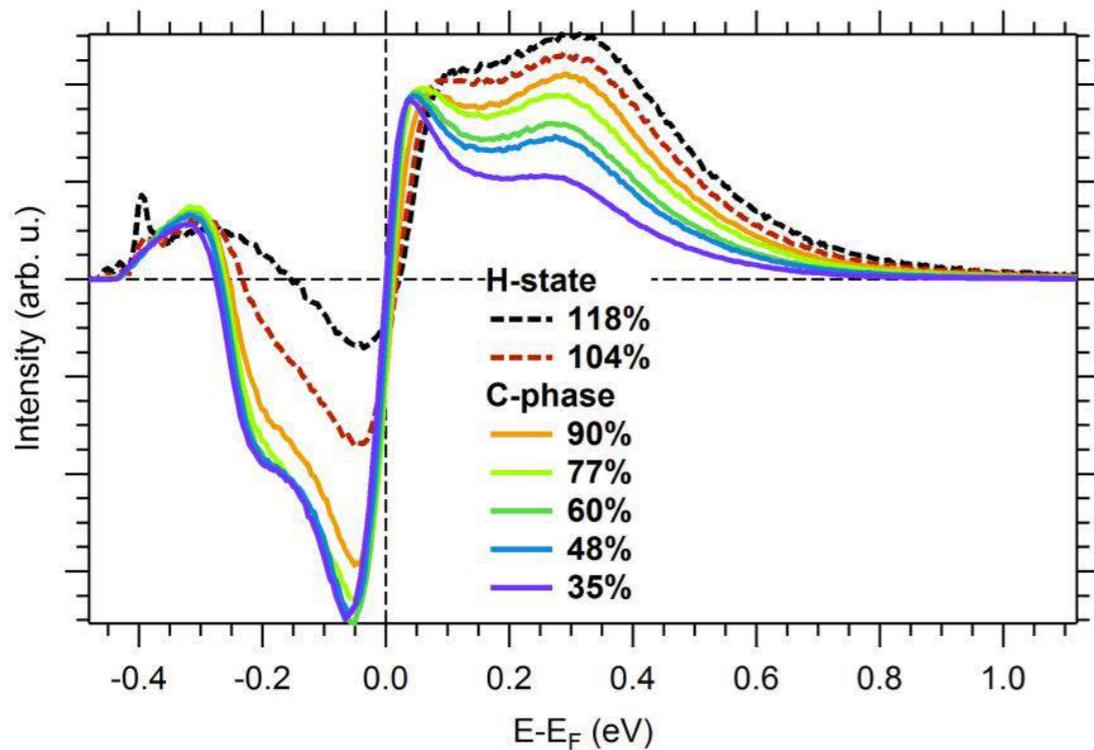


System trajectory (parametric plot)



e-h Imbalance

C-Phase Near Threshold / H-State above Threshold



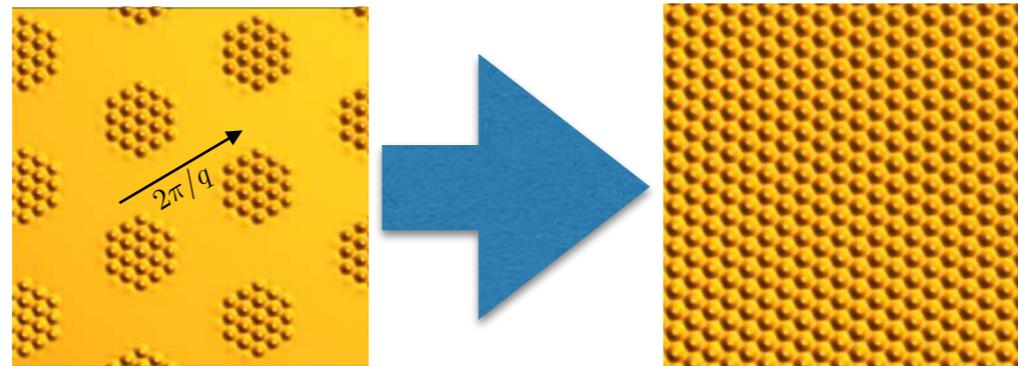
trARPES suggest that e-h imbalance drives switching

k-number conservation: A topological protection mechanism

The modulation
wave vector

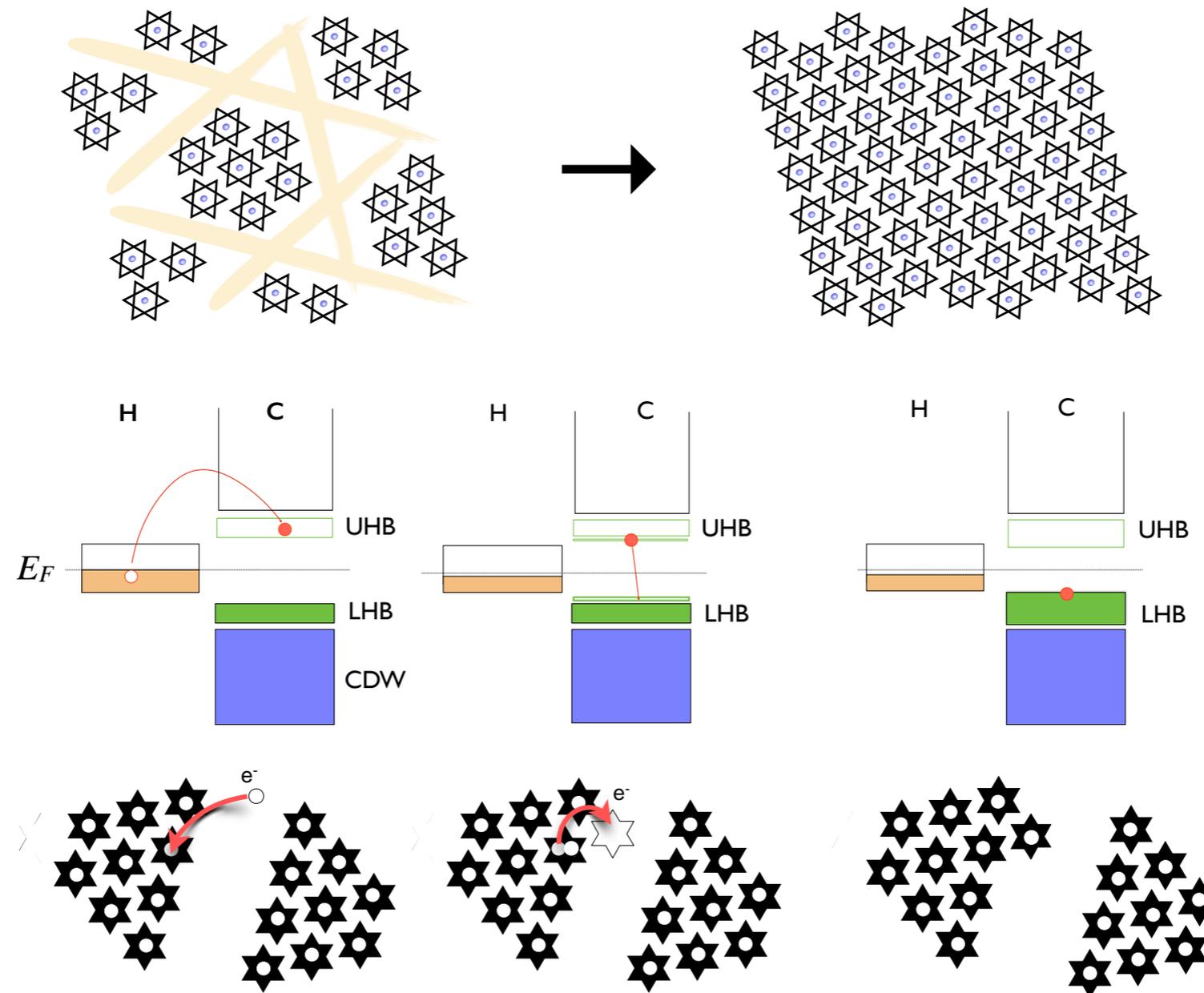
$$\delta q = n/\pi$$

n is the number of
void sites

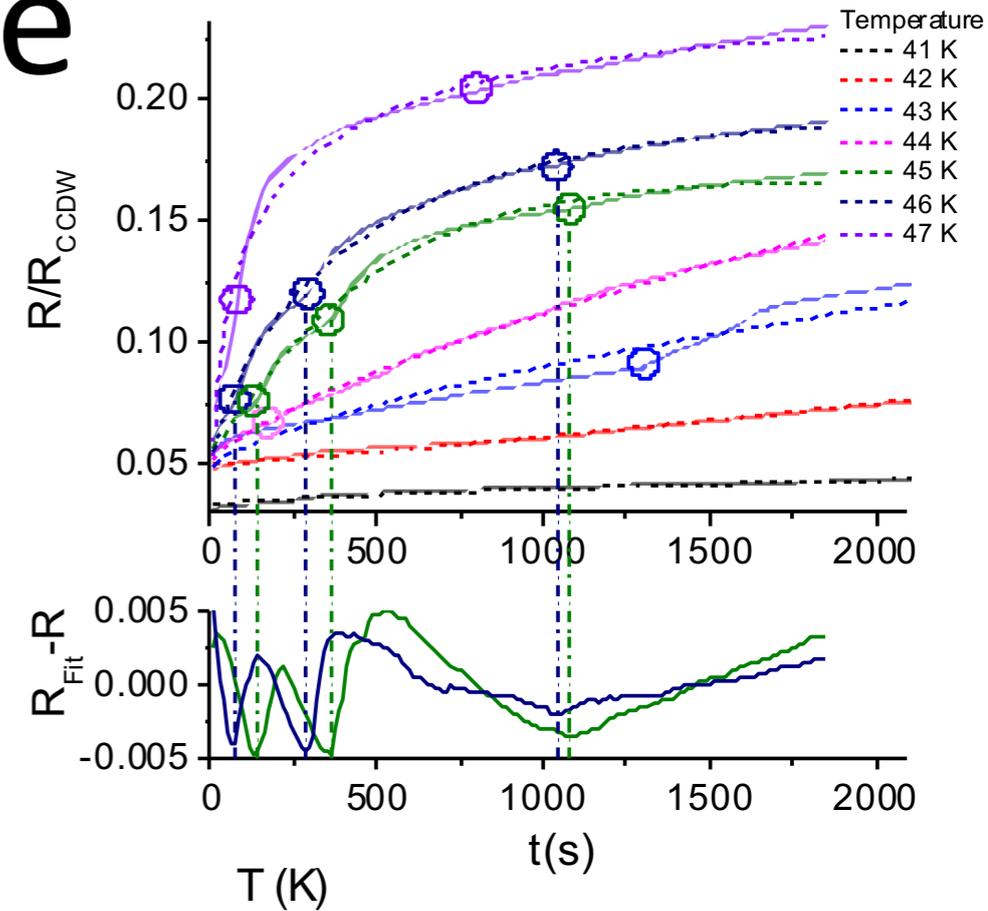
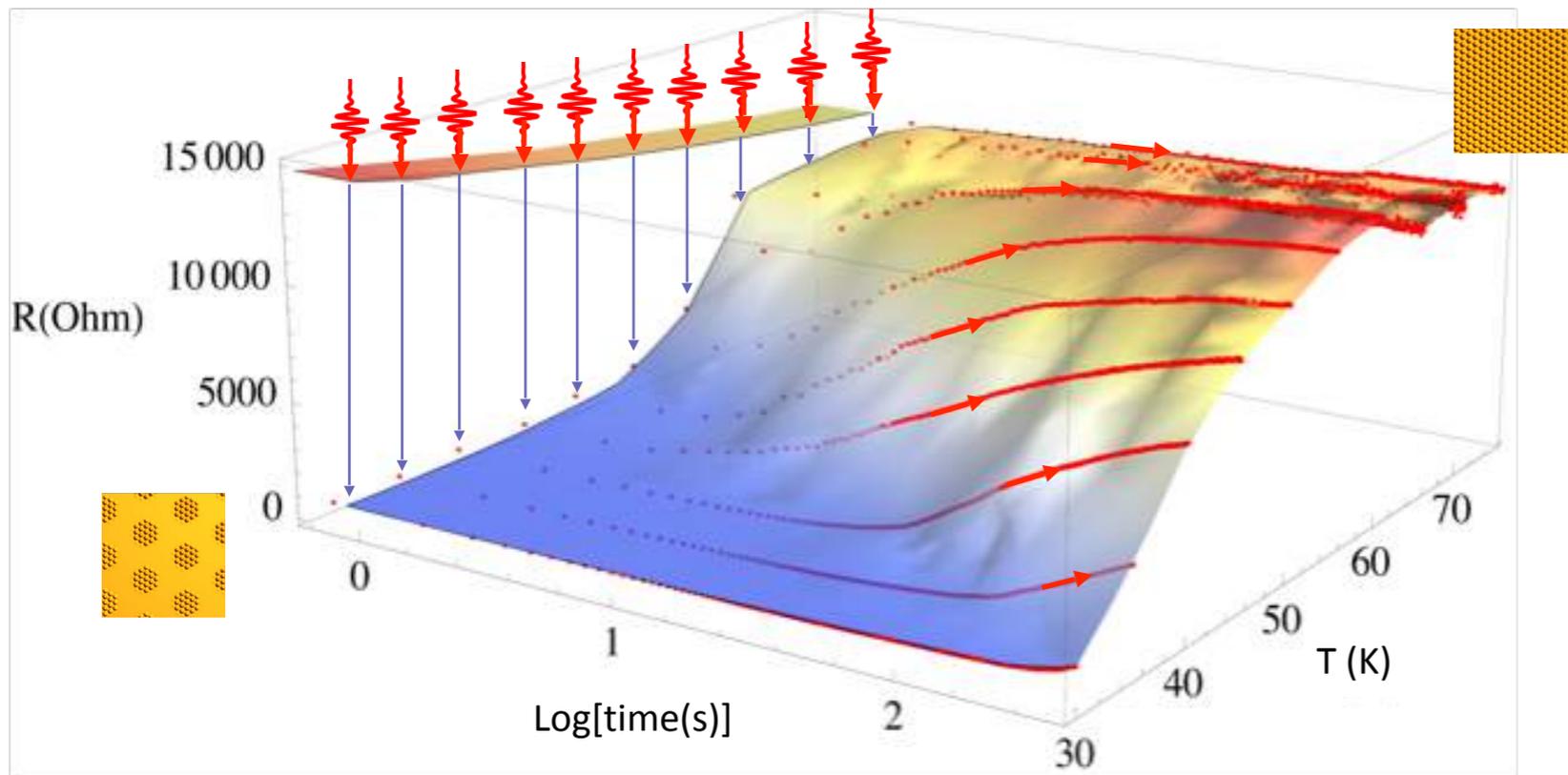


The H and C states are topologically distinct

The relaxation mechanism (microscopic)

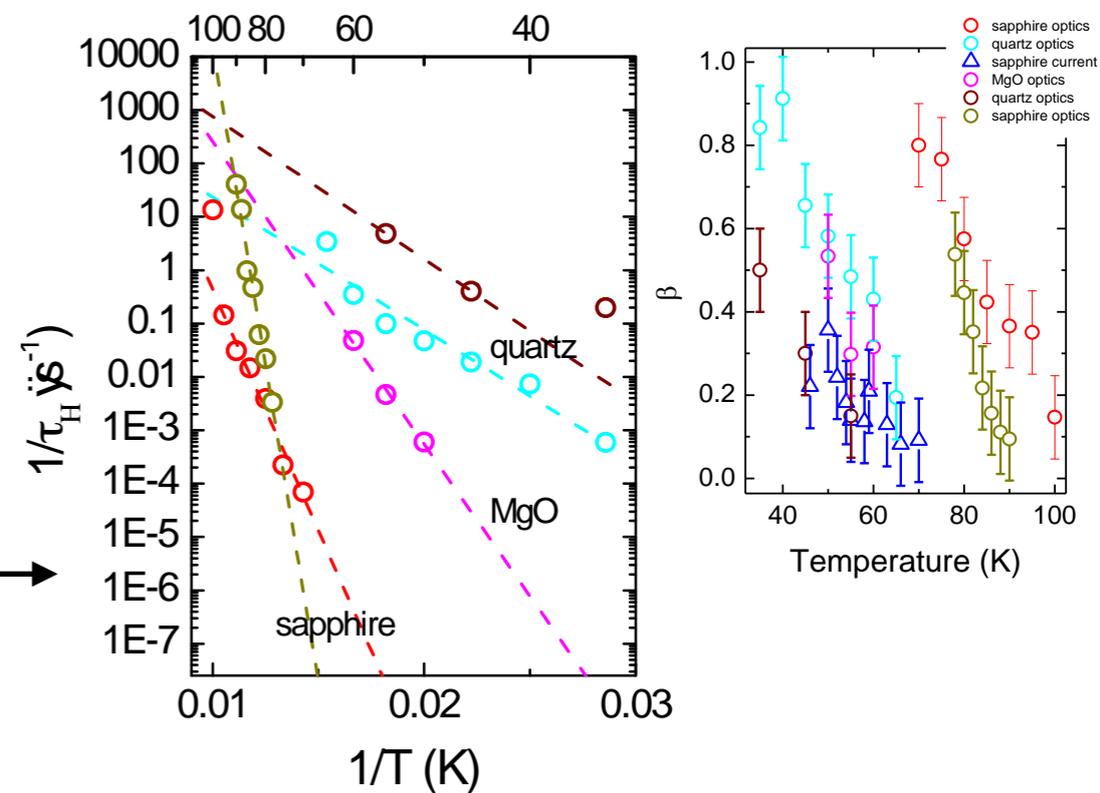


Relaxation of the H state



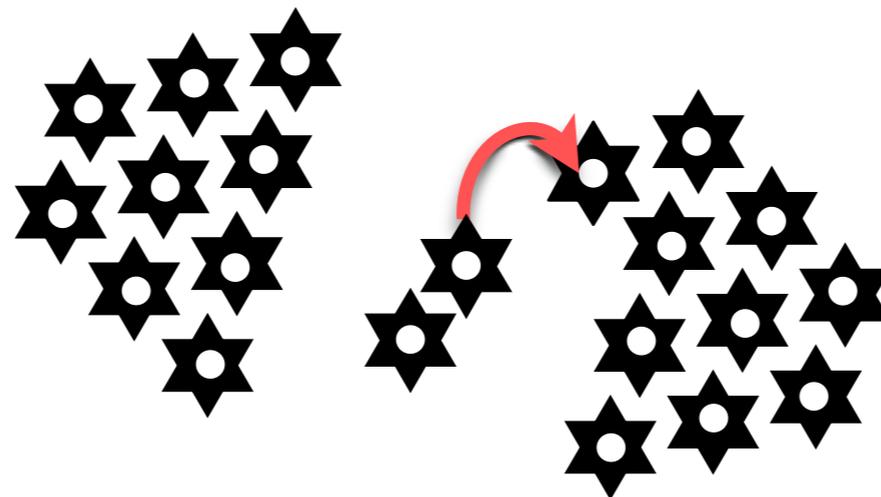
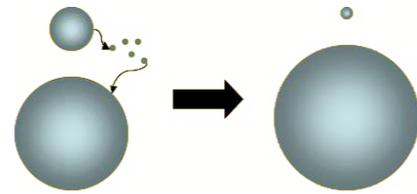
$$R = R_0 [1 - \exp(-(t/\tau_H)^\beta)]$$

At low T ($<10\text{K}$) the lifetime is longer than the age of the Universe \longrightarrow

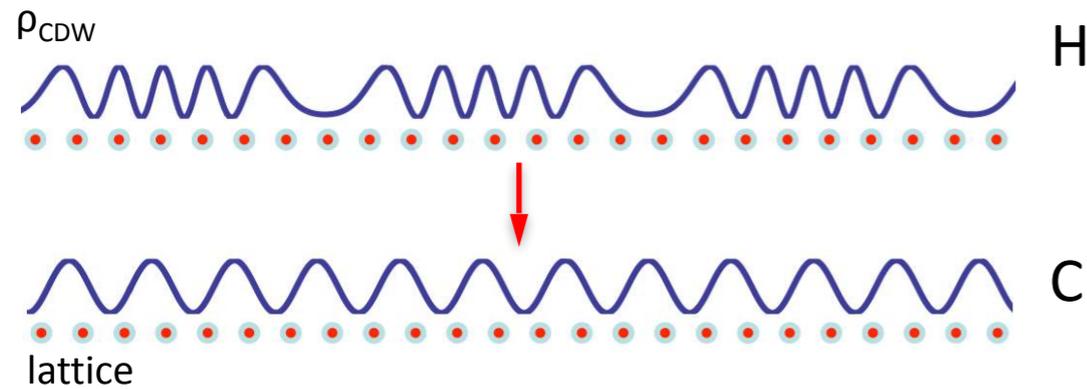
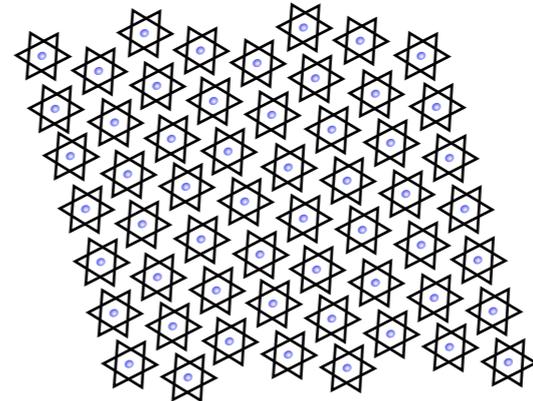
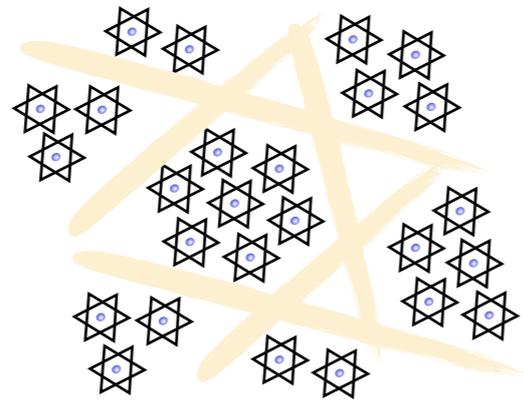


Relaxation $H \rightarrow C$ (2).

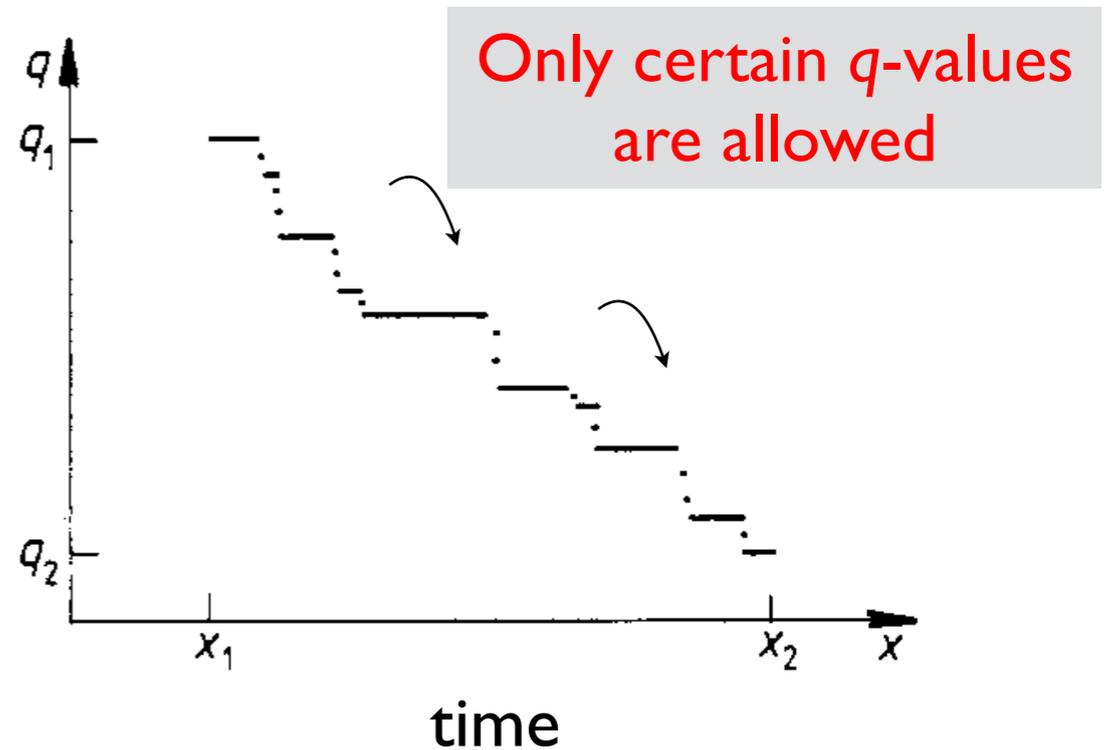
Ostwald ripening



Incommensurate \rightarrow commensurate Relaxation (3)



A devil's staircase



Kontorova and Frenkel model (1938):

$$H = \int \left[\frac{1}{2} \left(\frac{d\varphi}{dn} - \delta \right)^2 + V(1 - \cos p\varphi) \right] dn$$

x_n is the position of the n th atom:

$$x_n = nb + \frac{b}{2\pi} \varphi_n$$

In the continuum limit: $\varphi_n - \varphi_{n-1} = d\varphi/dn$



SUPERCONDUCTING TECHNOLOGY ASSESSMENT



National Security Agency
Office of Corporate Assessments

AUGUST 2005

Published online, 242 pages

Recent industry trends clearly establish that design tradeoffs between power, clock and metrology have brought CMOS to the limits of its scalability....

...Alternatives to CMOS must therefore be found.

Memory challenges:
High speed
Low energy dissipation
Low temperature operation

...Cryogenic RAM has been **the most neglected superconductor technology** and therefore needs the most development...



Home ▶ Research Programs ▶ C3

Cryogenic Computing Complexity (C3) (2015)

IEEE TRANSACTIONS ON APPLIED SUPERCONDUCTIVITY, VOL. 23, NO. 3, JUNE 2013

1701610

Energy-Efficient Superconducting Computing—Power Budgets and Requirements

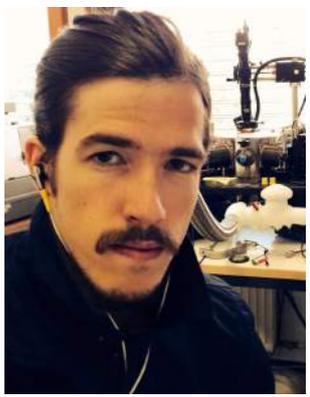
D. Scott Holmes, *Senior Member, IEEE*, Andrew L. Ripple, and Marc A. Manheimer



Is it possible to rapidly
switch to a H state by
charge injection?

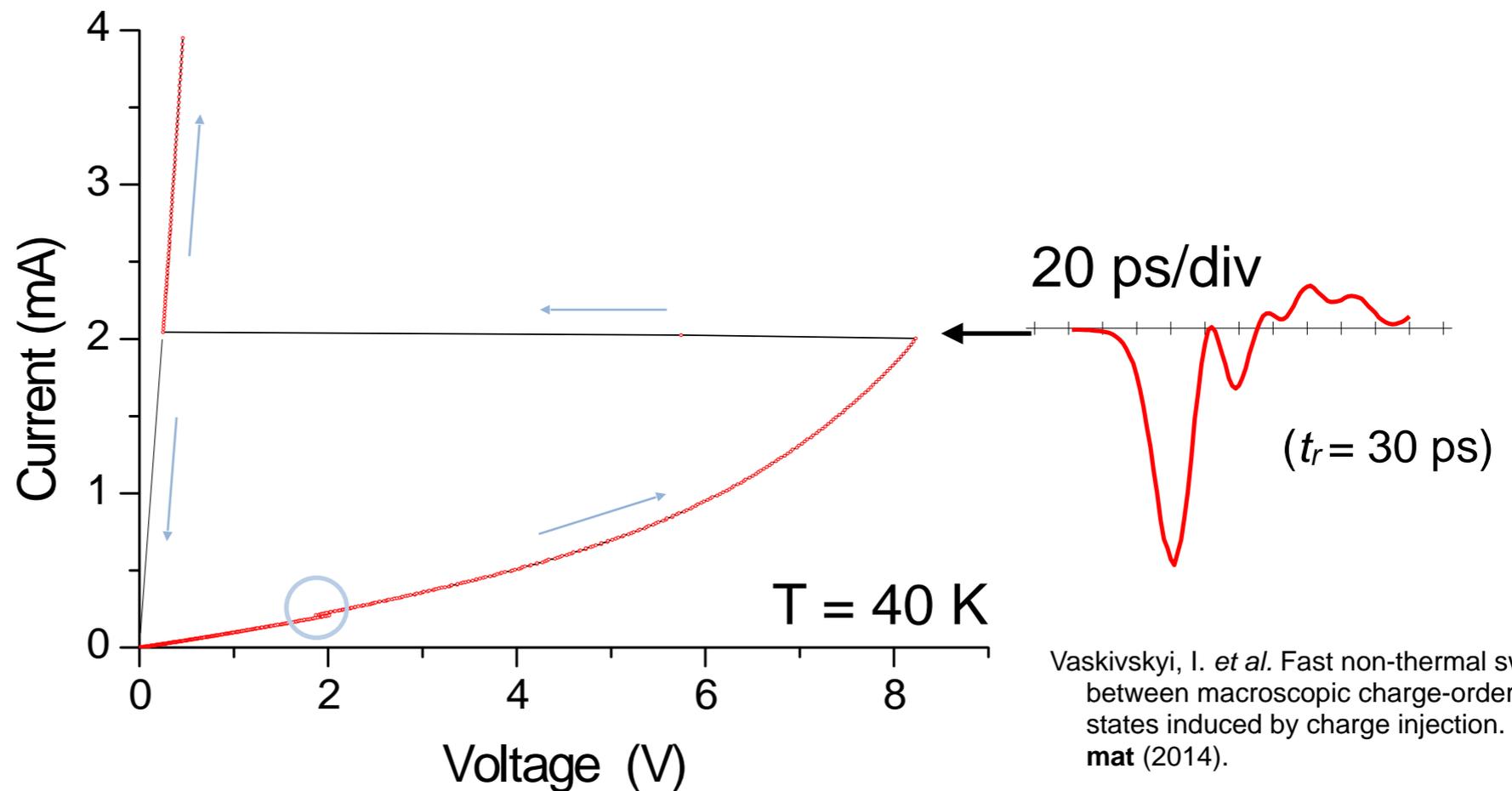
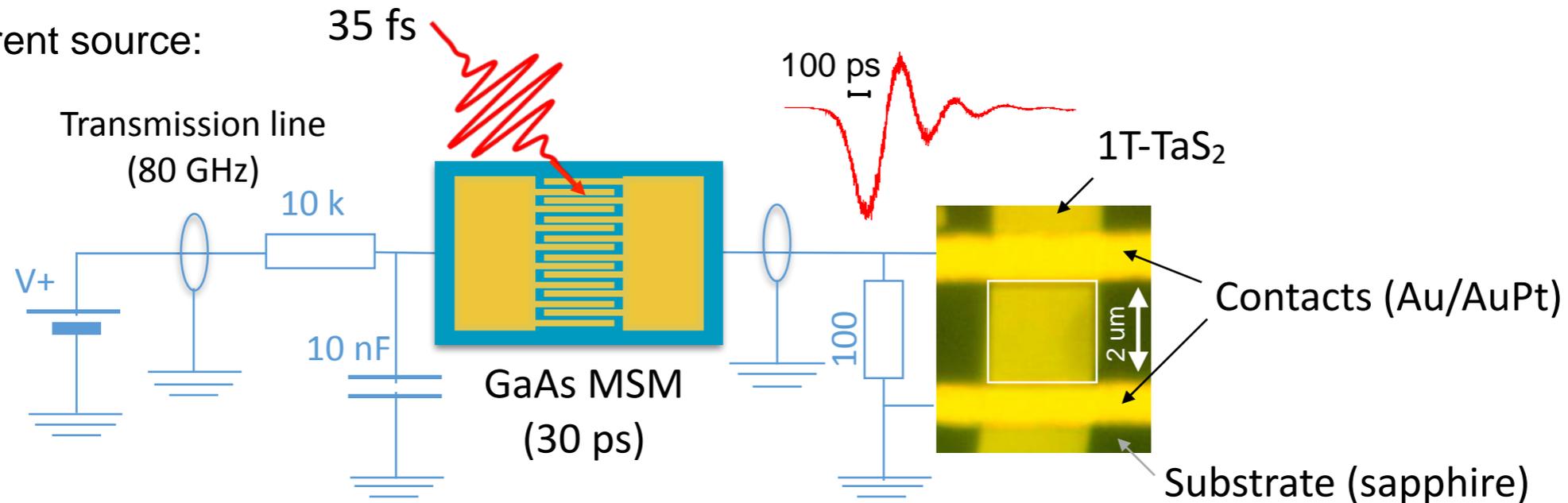
(It could be useful)

Switching to the H state using an ultrafast current source



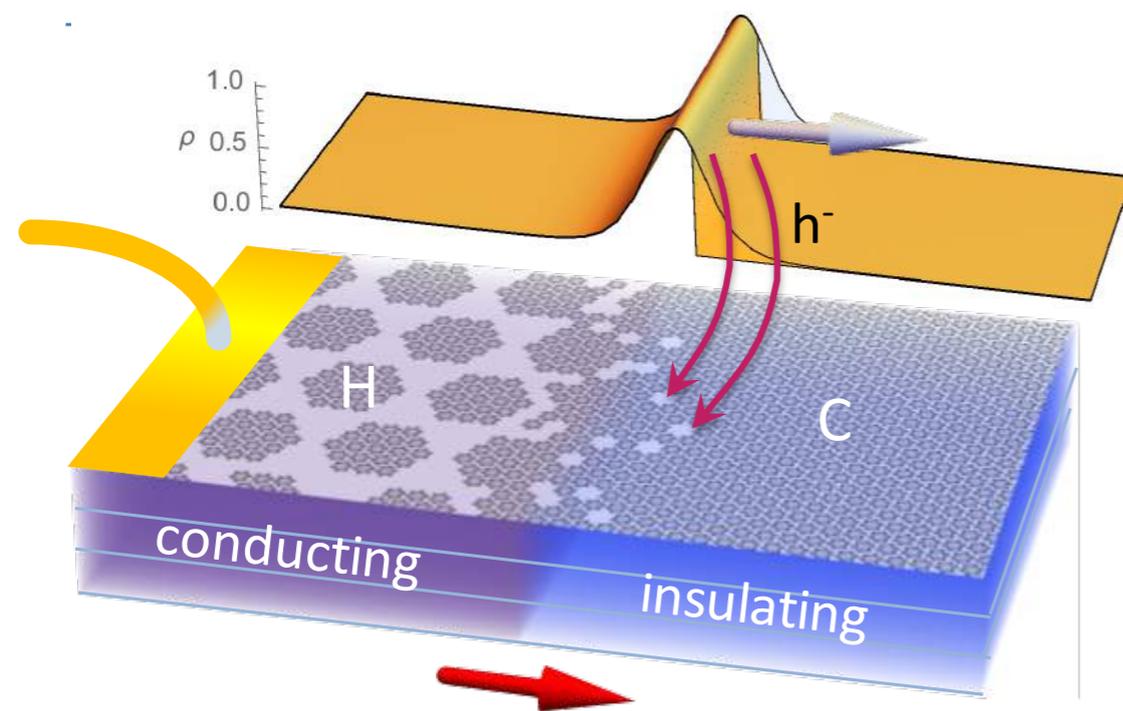
Ian Mihailovic

Pulsed current source:



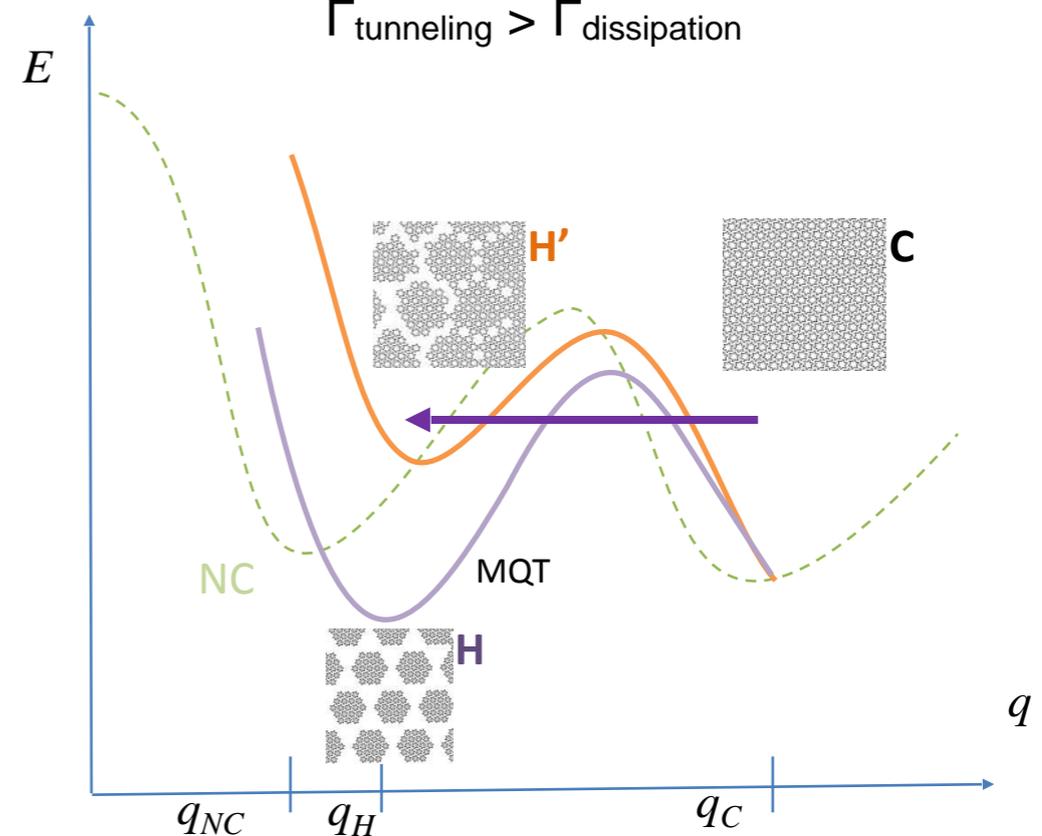
Vaskivskyi, I. *et al.* Fast non-thermal switching between macroscopic charge-ordered quantum states induced by charge injection. *arXiv cond-mat* (2014).

Macroscopic Quantum Tunneling with current injection?



Leggett's MQT criterion (1980):

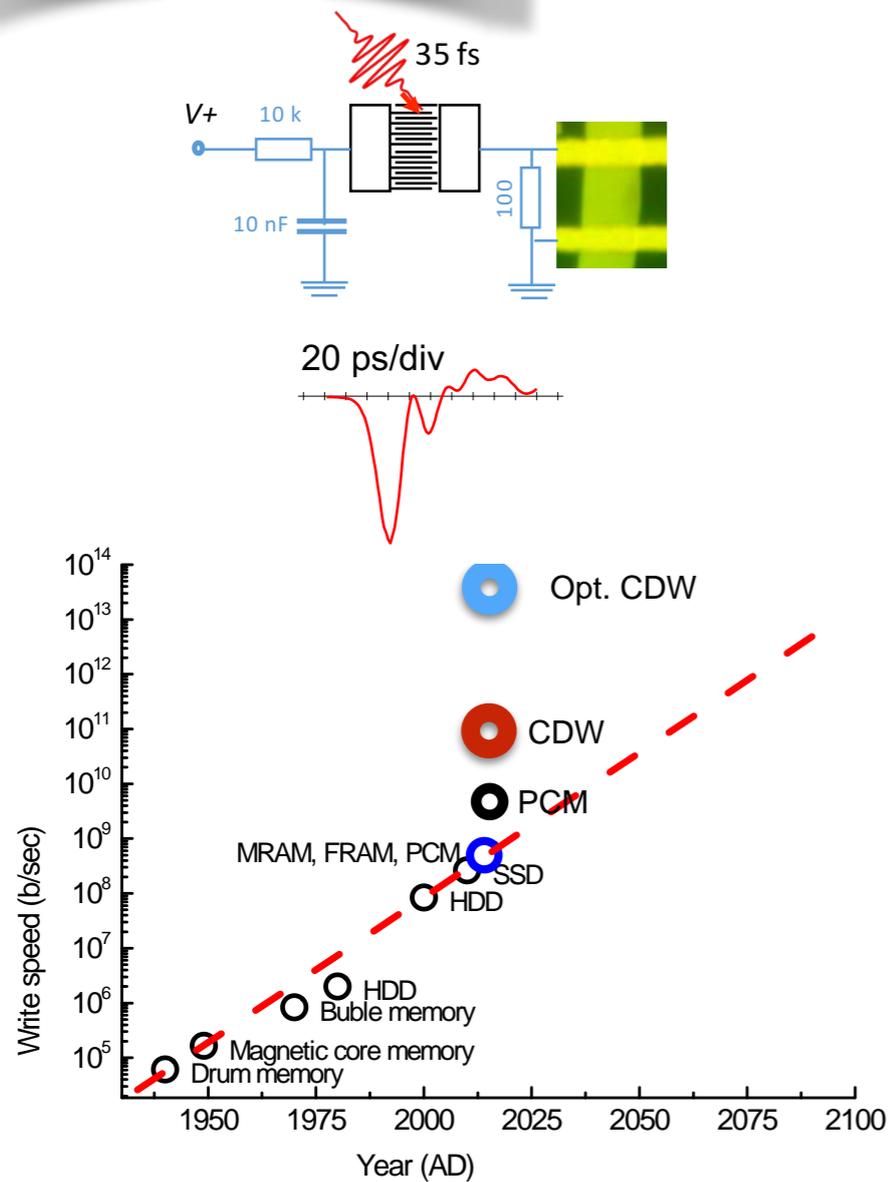
$$\Gamma_{\text{tunneling}} > \Gamma_{\text{dissipation}}$$



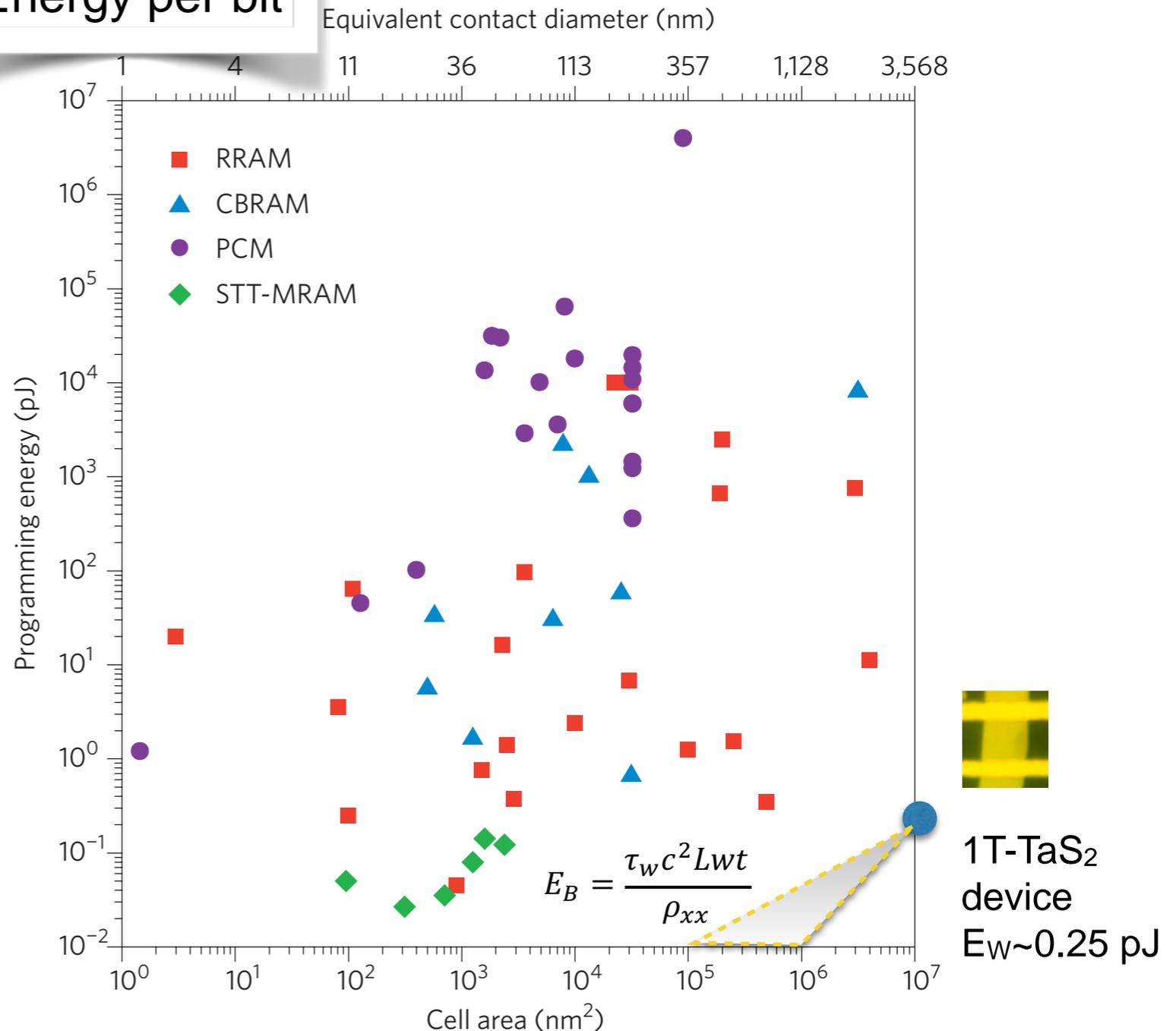
The state is spatially and temporally inhomogeneous

CDW memory performance

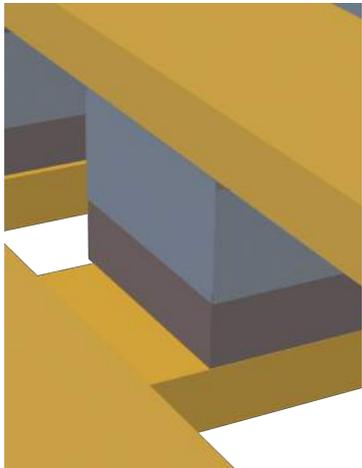
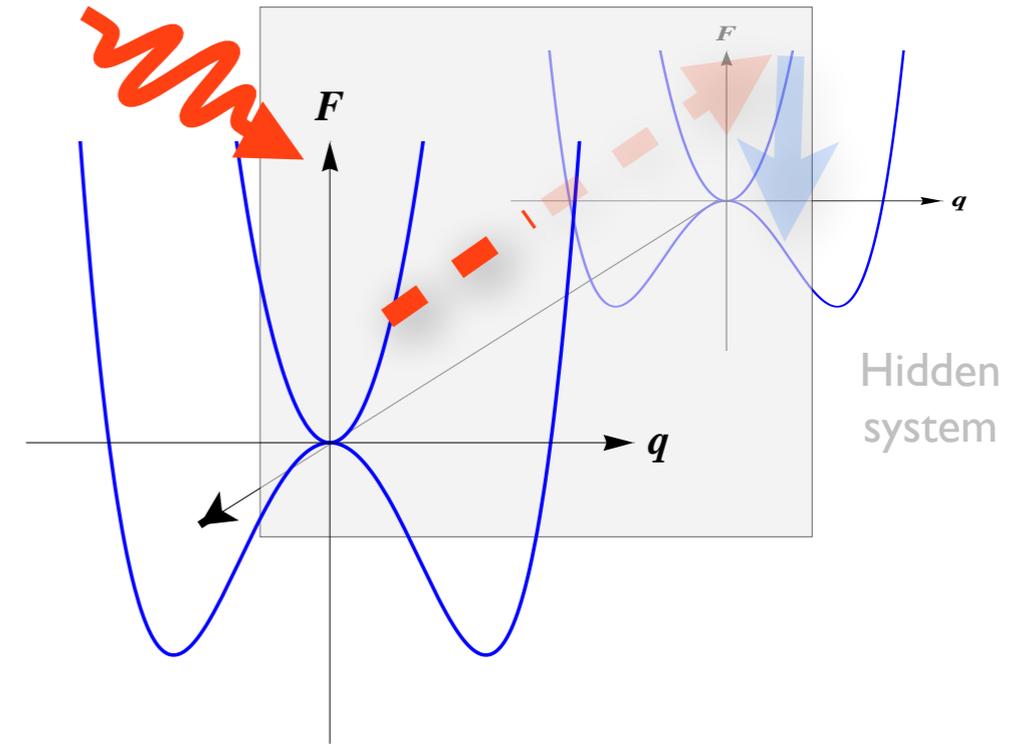
Switching speed



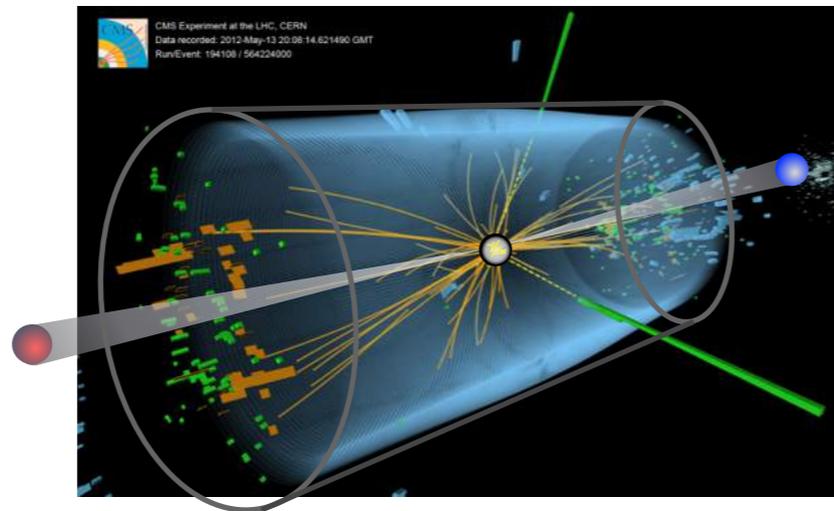
Energy per bit



The significance of hidden states of matter



Devices



New elementary particles under non-ergodic conditions (different beam energies)



Hidden universes?