

Light-control of quantum solids

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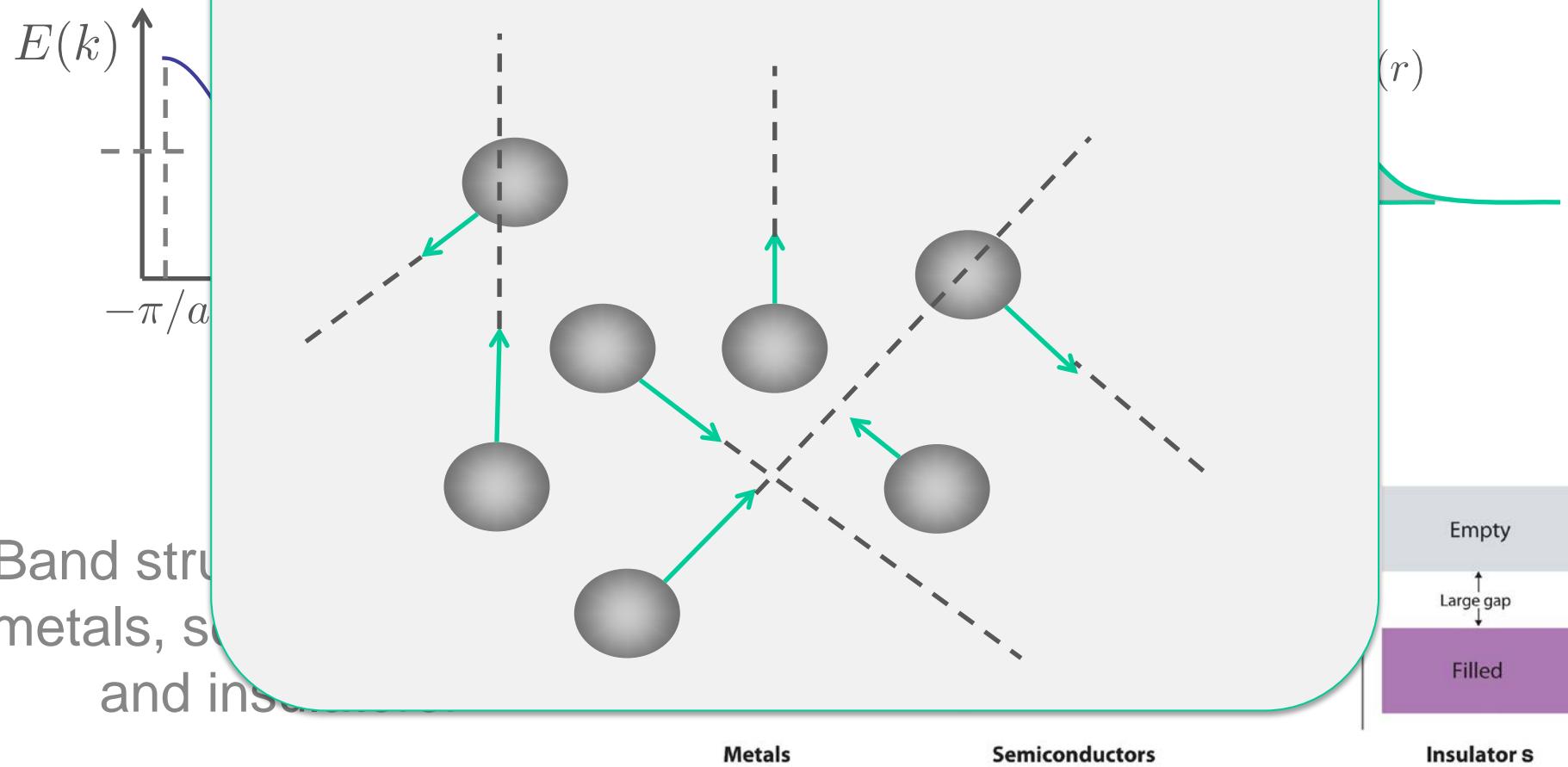
*Department of Physics
University of Oxford*

Conventional view of a solid

Many particles
freely moving

weak effective interactions

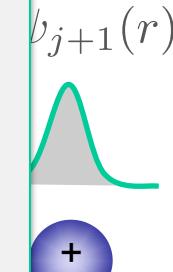
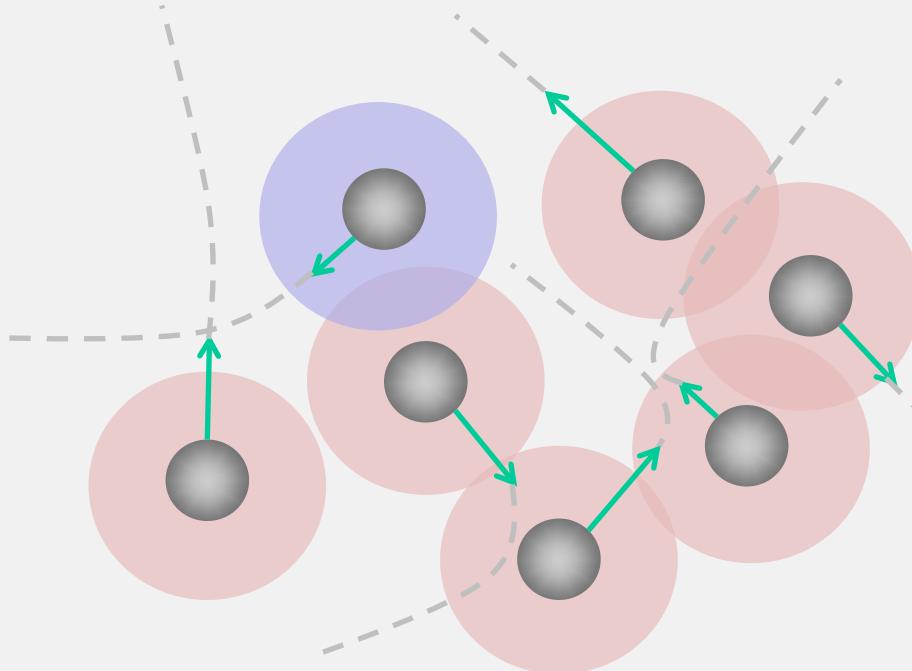
can extrapolate *en masse* behaviour from one particle



Strong correlations

This picture fails for materials like transition metal oxides, which are Mott insulators. The reason is:

"core-like" small
configurations
Mott insulators

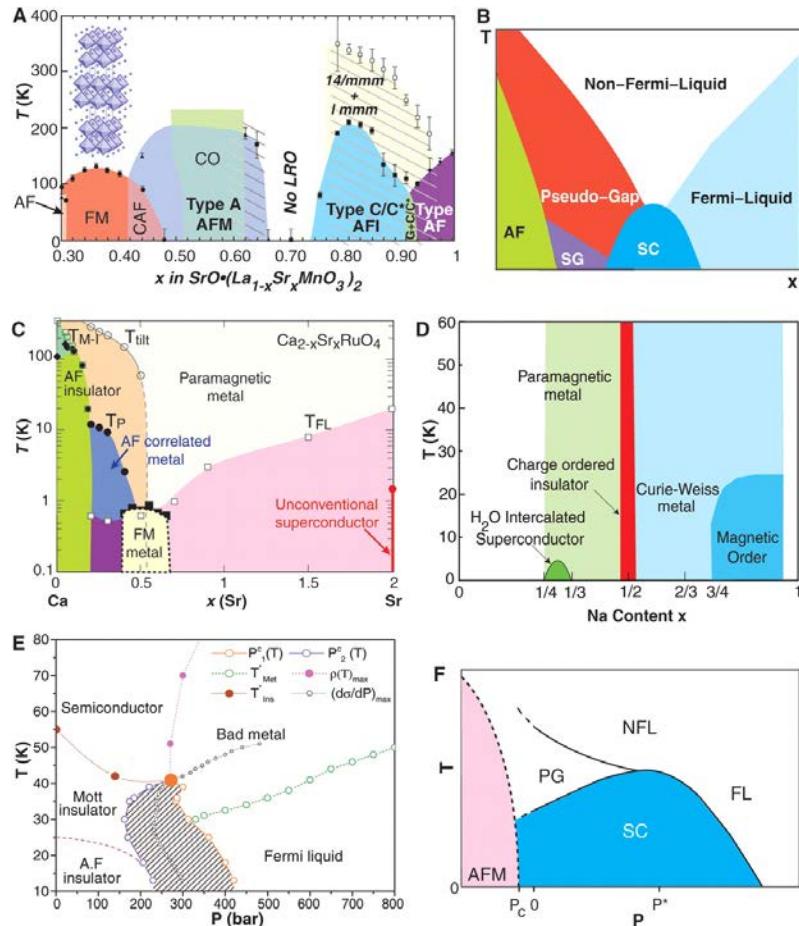


strong effective interactions

- particles do not move independently

Big consequences

Materials with strong correlations possess a wide variety of competing phases with different and unconventional properties:



Metal-insulator transitions

Colossal magnetoresistance

High-temperature superconductivity

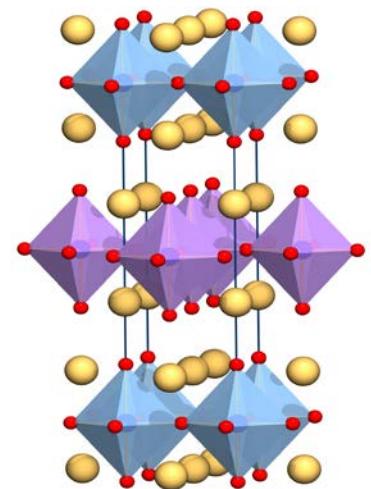
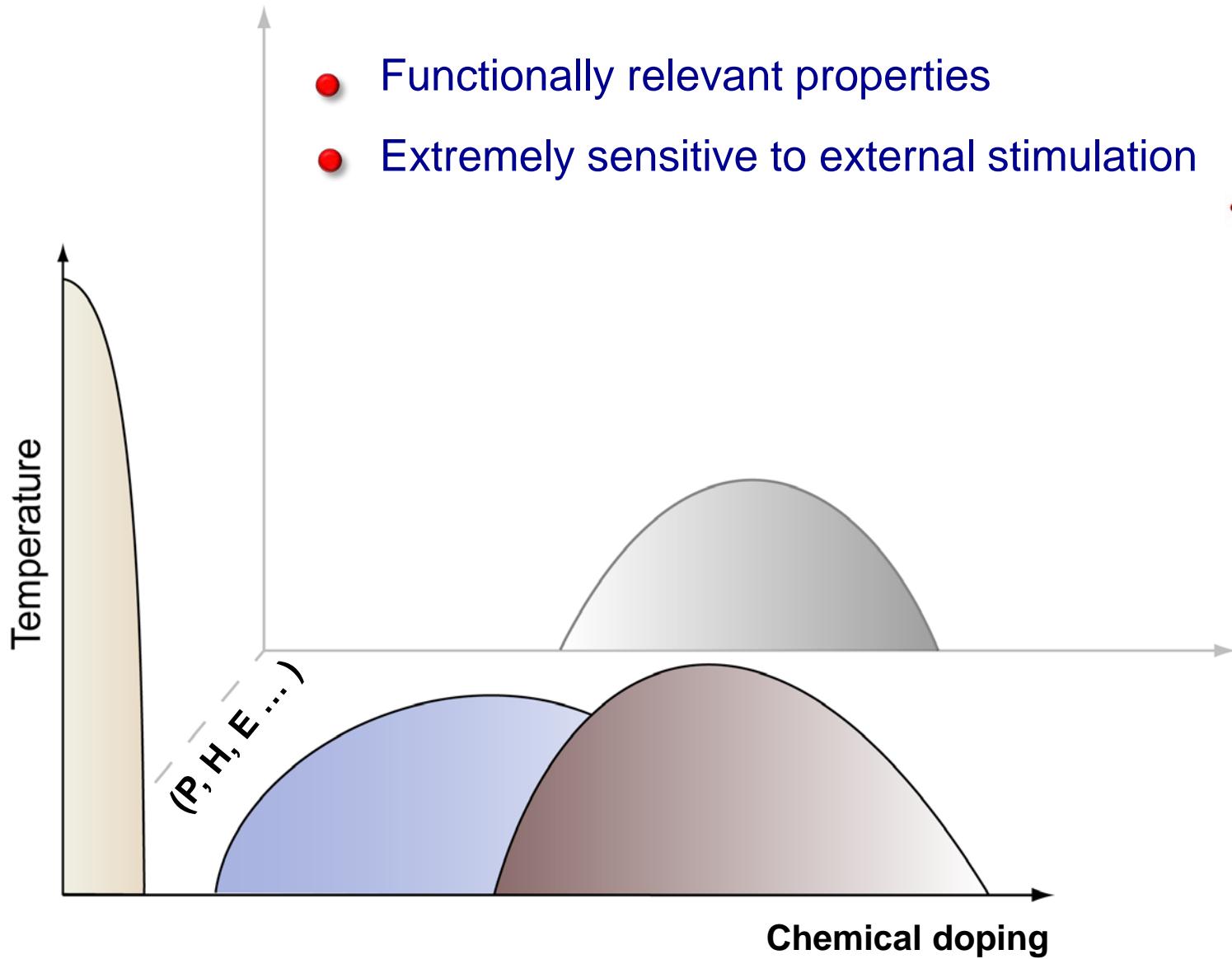
Complex materials

Strong correlations produce **collective giant responses** to **small** external perturbations.

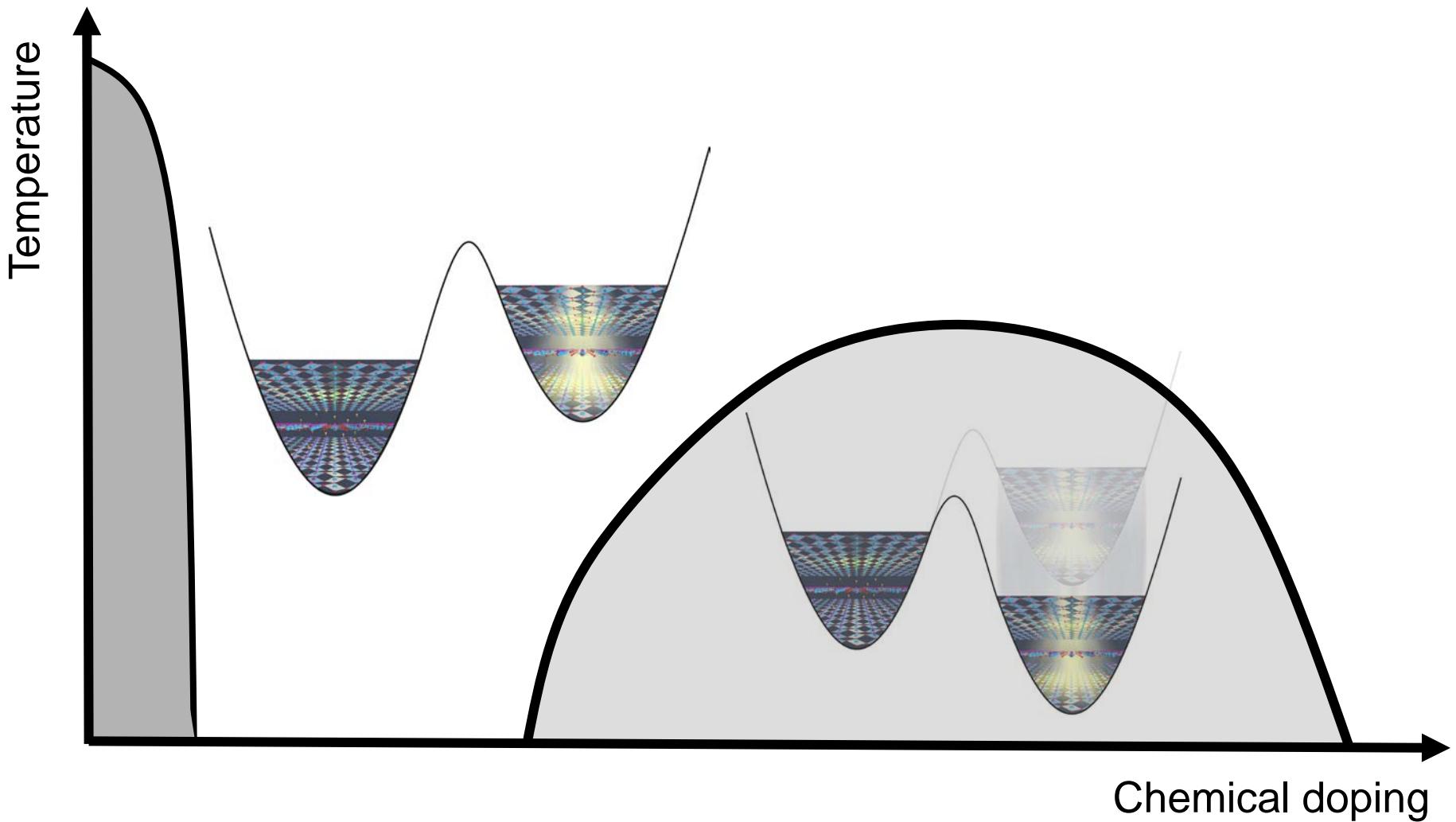
Such responses are often *functionally* relevant.

Our goal is to **CONTROL** materials, induce these phenomena at higher temperatures or modulate amplify their responses

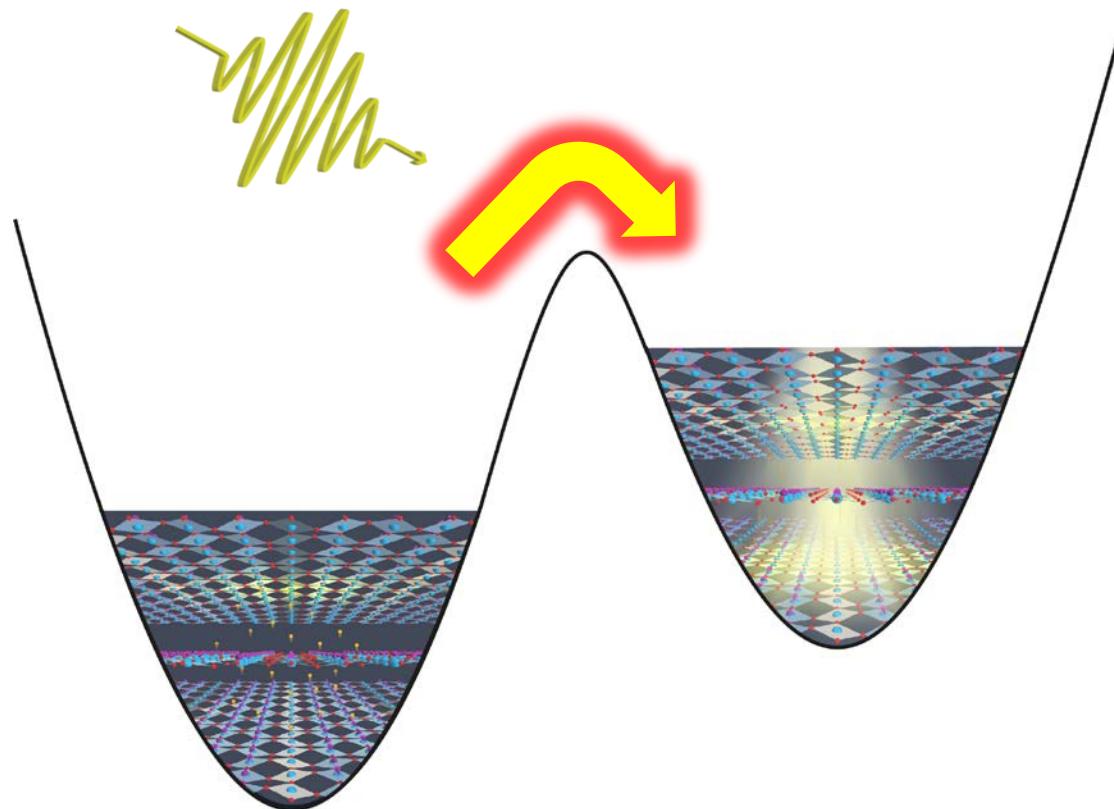
Complex solids: many competing phases



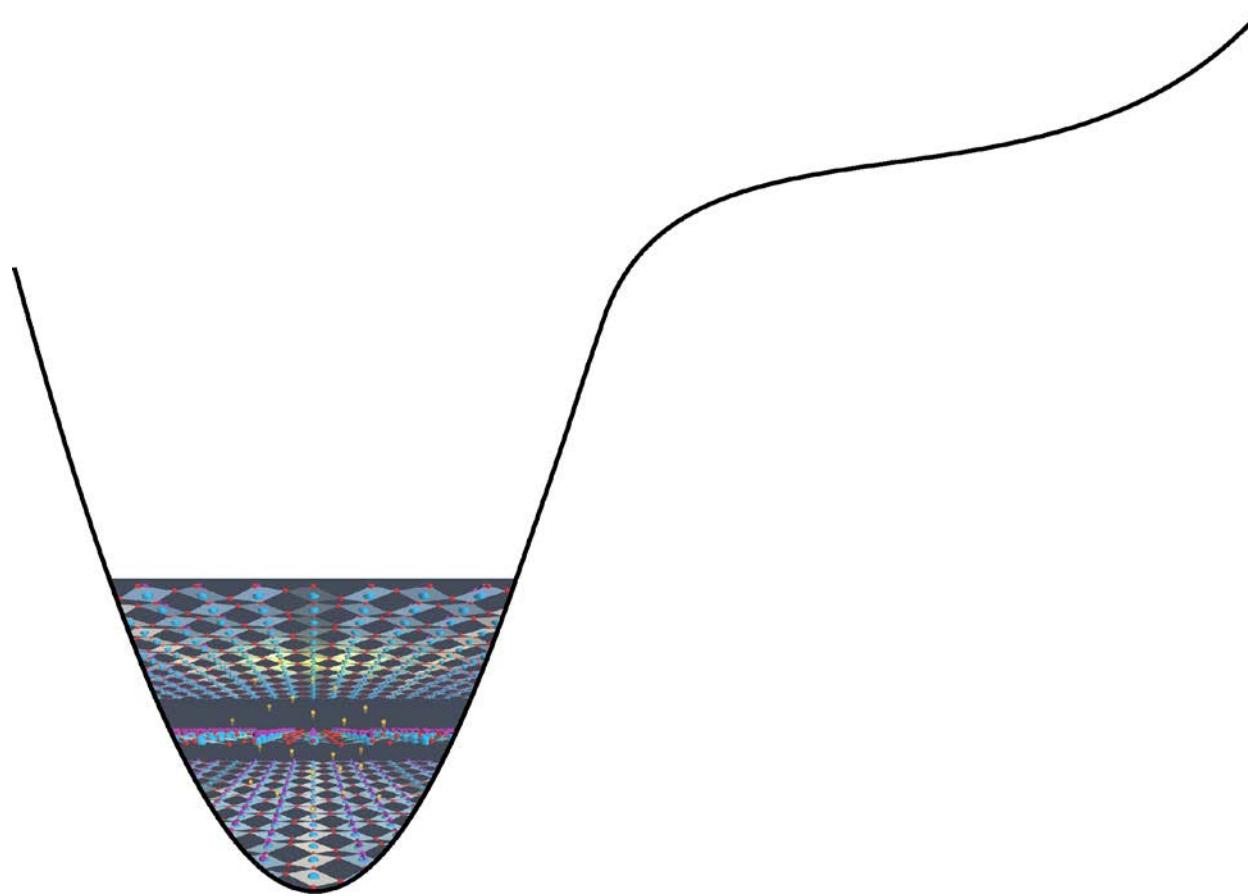
Ground states and hidden phases



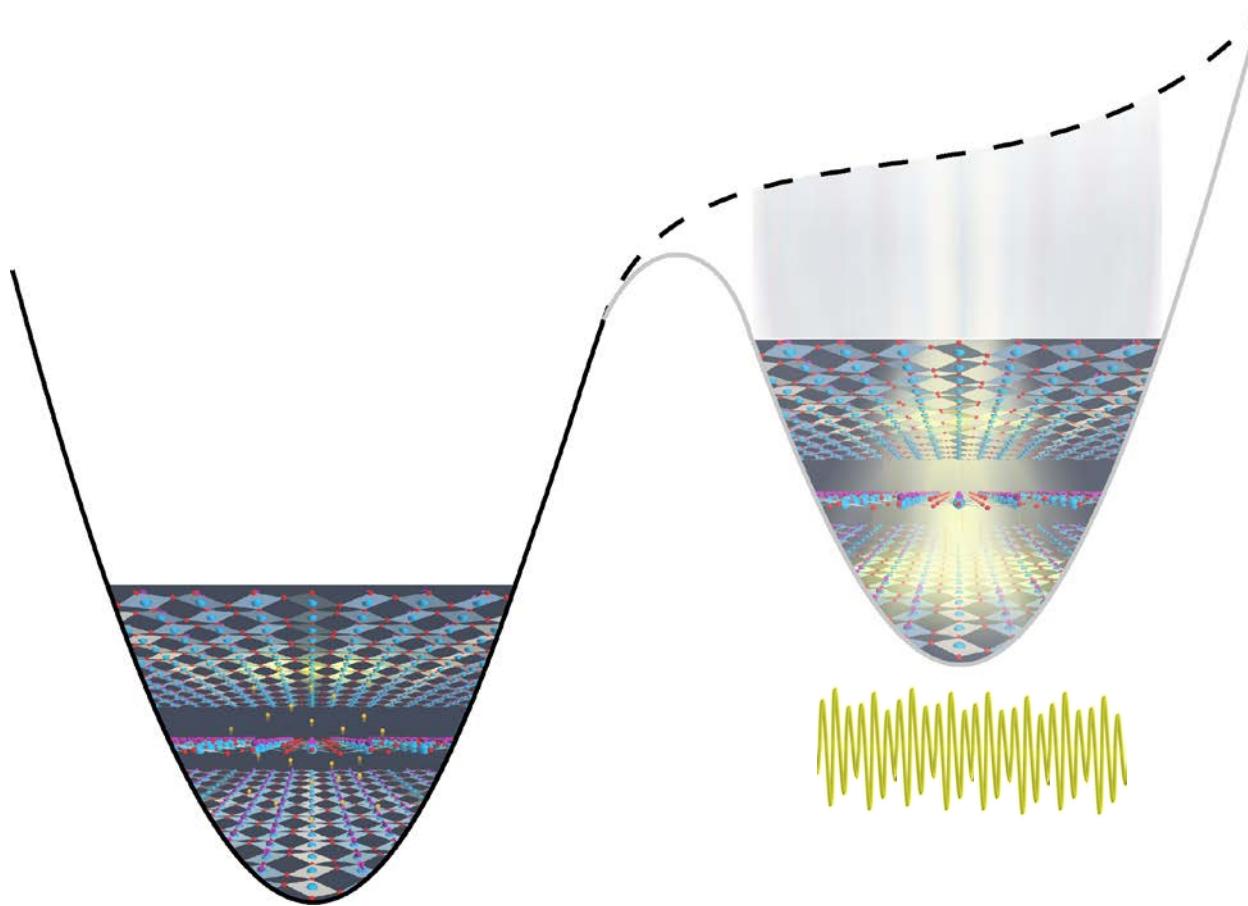
Dynamical control (1): switching into hidden phases



Dynamical control (2): creating new order by driving

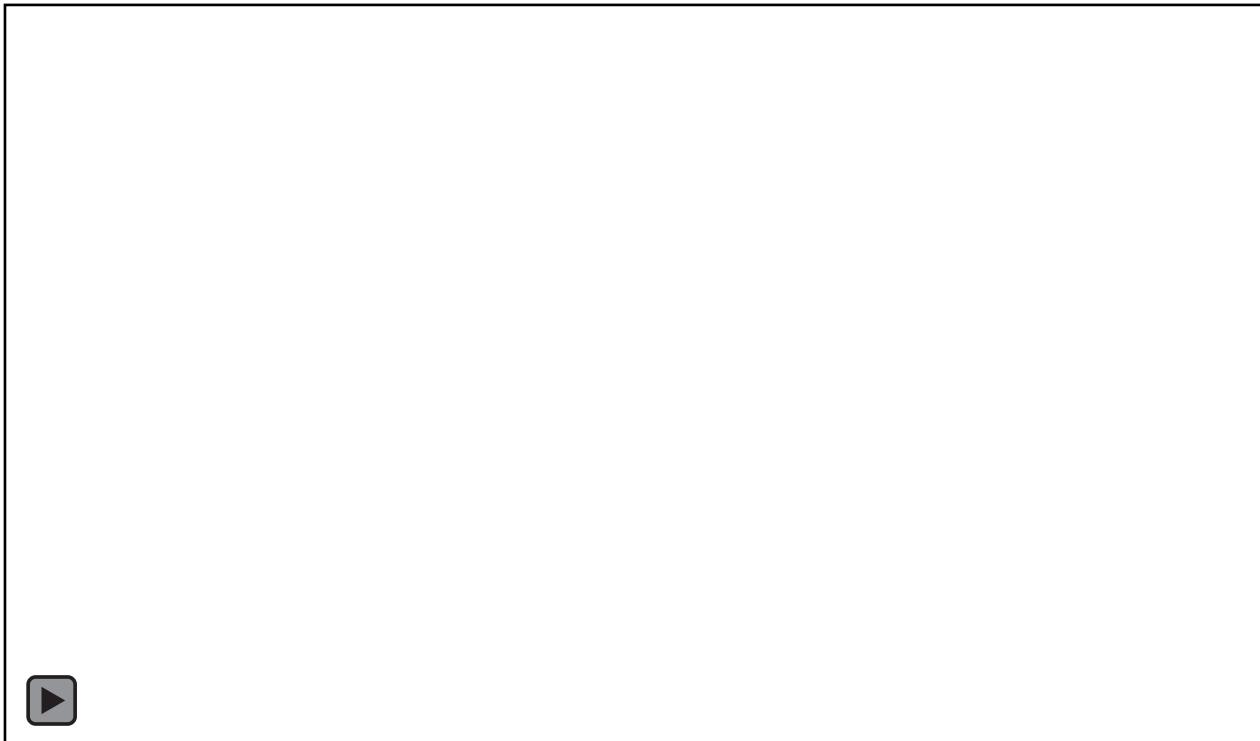


Dynamical control (2): creating new order by driving



Periodically driven systems ARE different

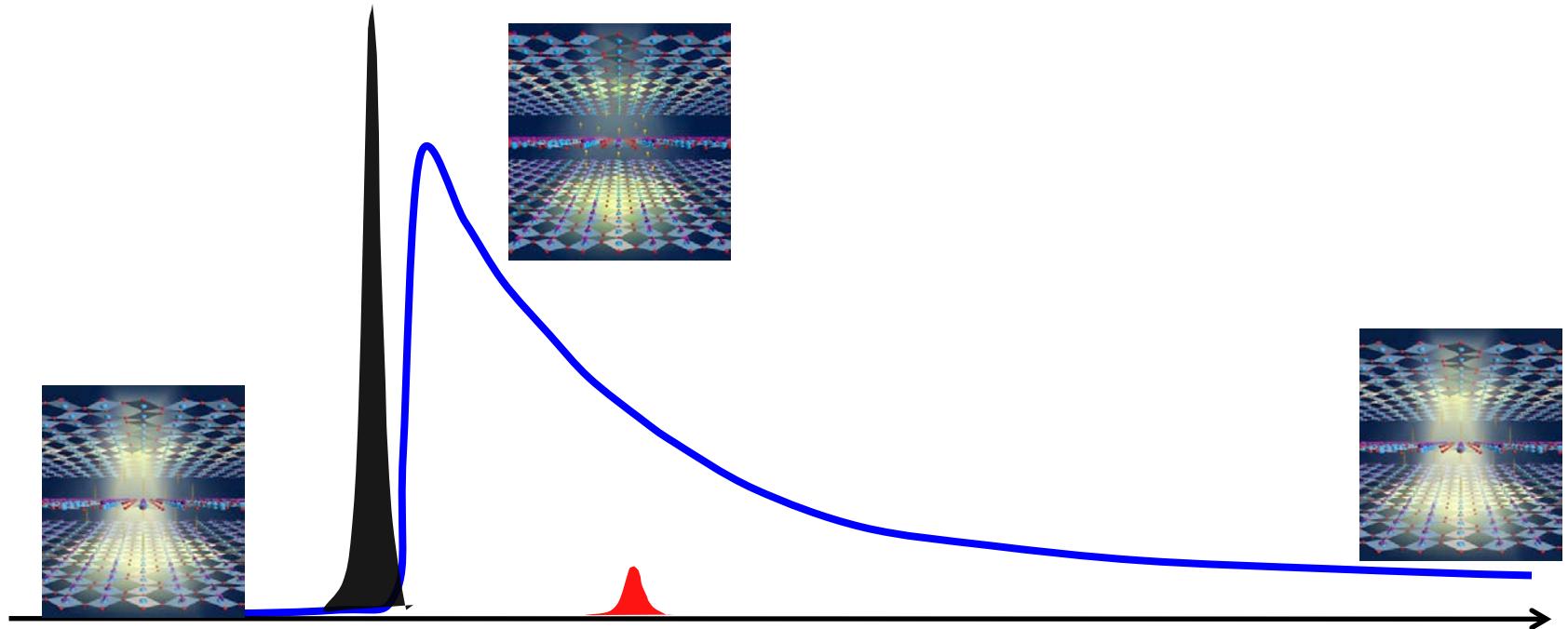
Driven systems often exhibit new regions of stability. A famous example – take a pendulum and vibrate its pivot point:



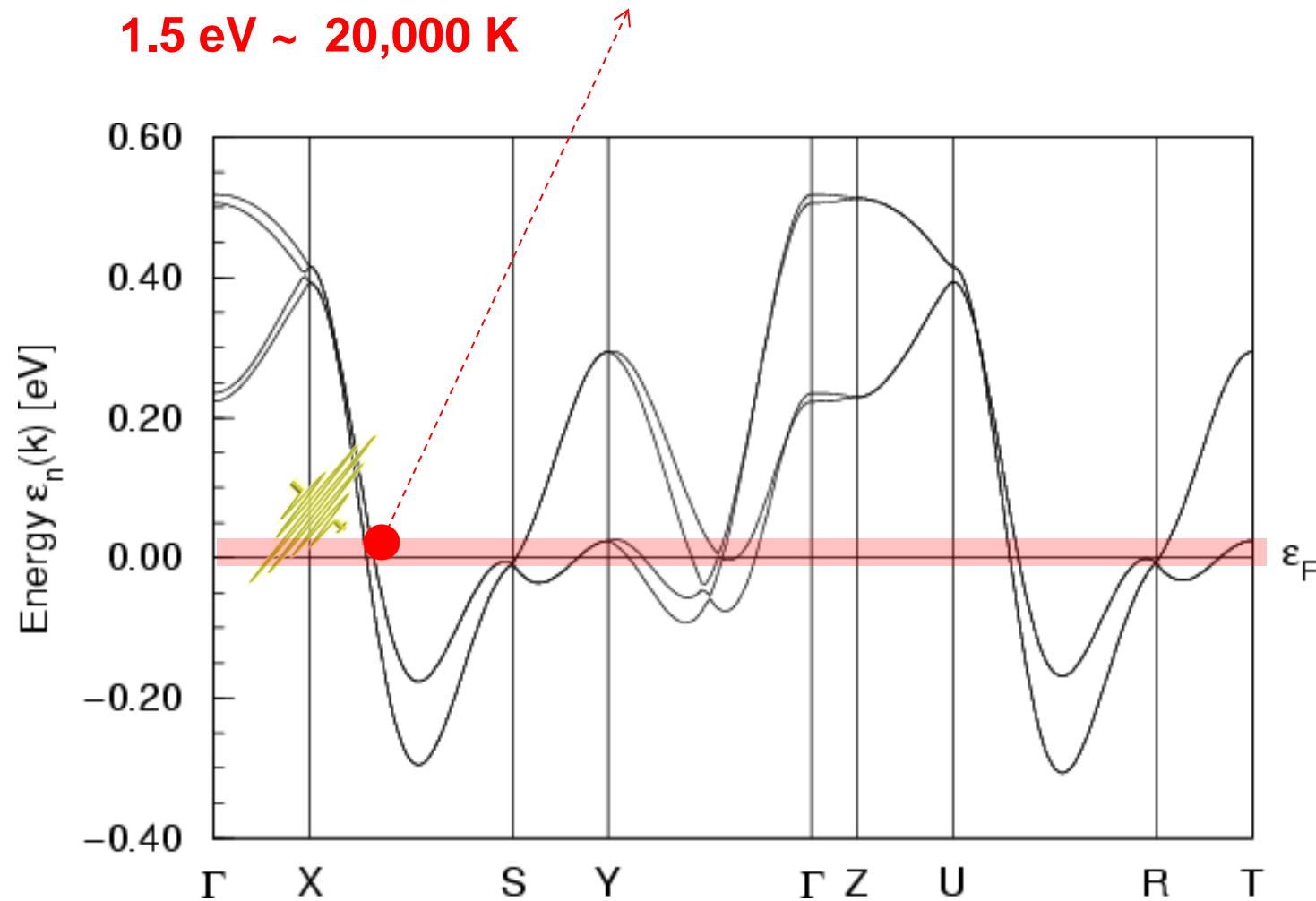
P.L. Kapitza, "Dynamic stability of a pendulum with an oscillating point of suspension,"
Zh. Eksp. Teor. Fiz. 21, 588 (1951)

L.D. Landau and E.M. Lifschitz *Mechanics* (Pergamon, Oxford 1976)

Dynamical phenomena: experiments



Stay away from visible light !



High energy scales

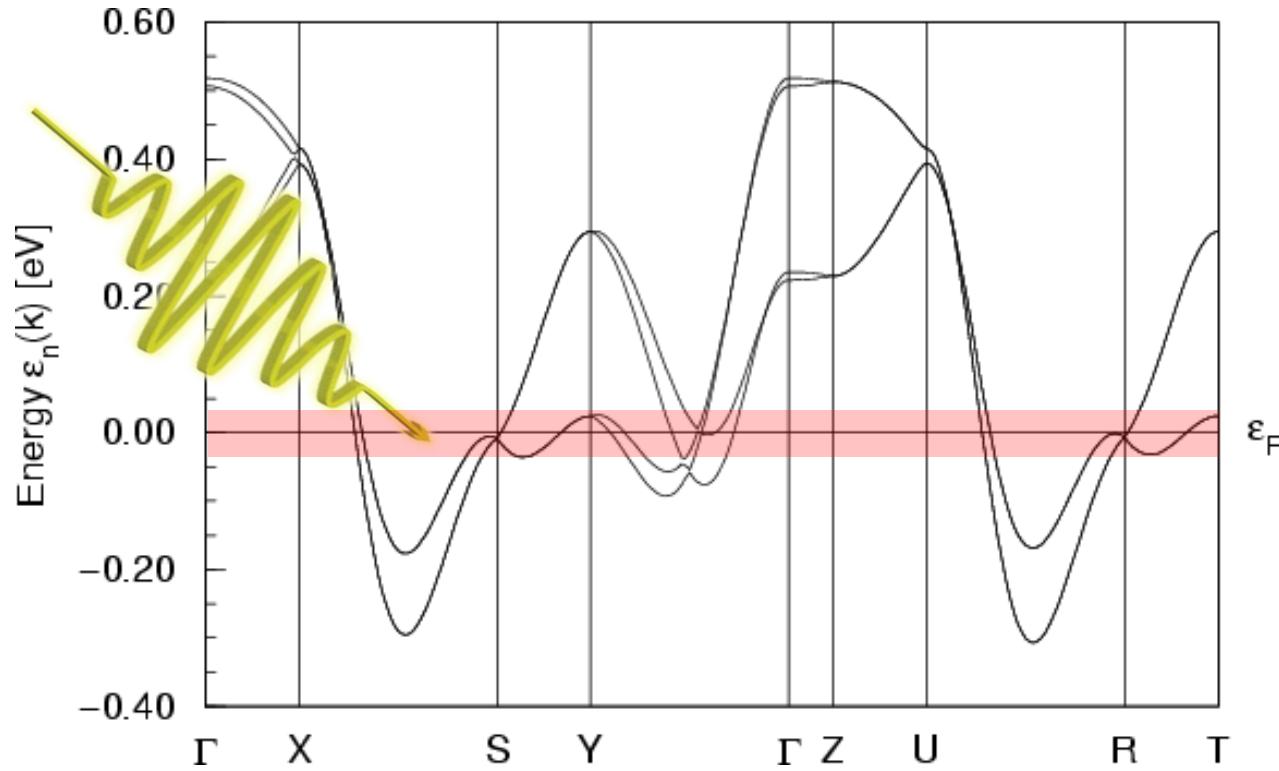
Incoherent

Entropy

Control at THz frequencies: natural energy scales



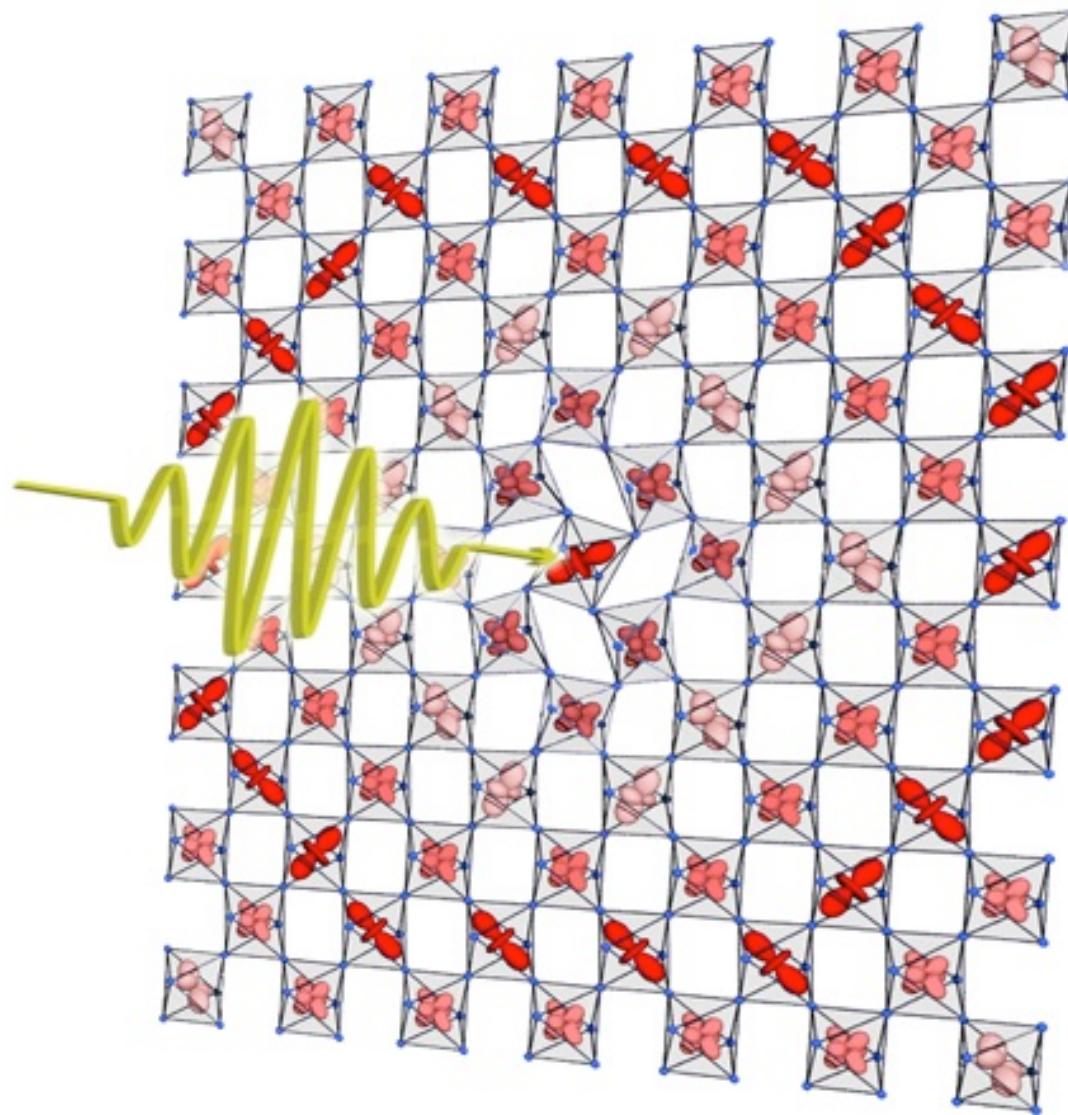
1 THz ~ 50 K ~ 4 meV



Low energy scales

Long coherence times

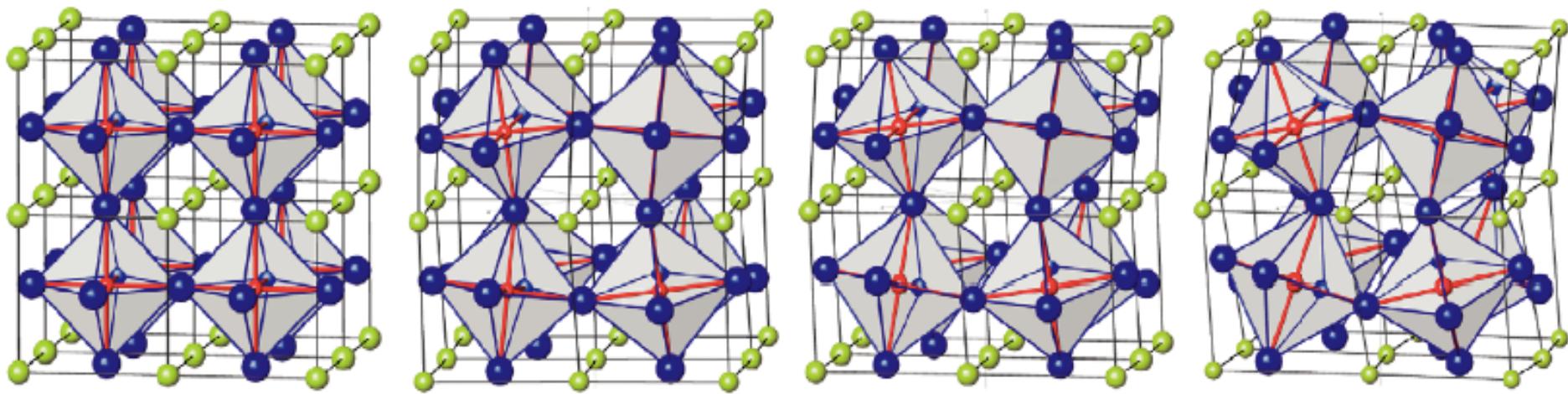
Coherent control of the lattice



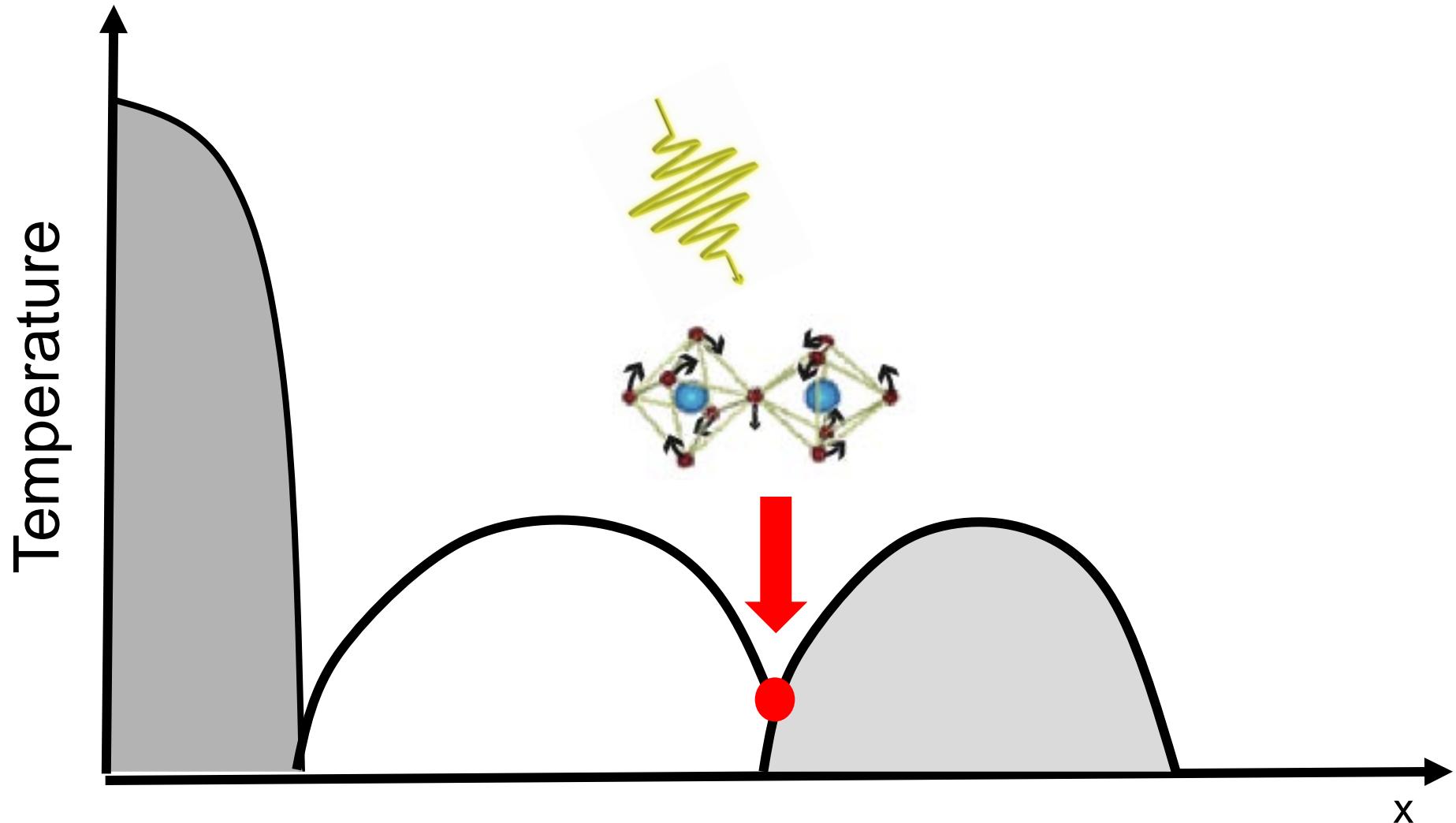
Why? e.g. controlling bond angles in oxides

Metal

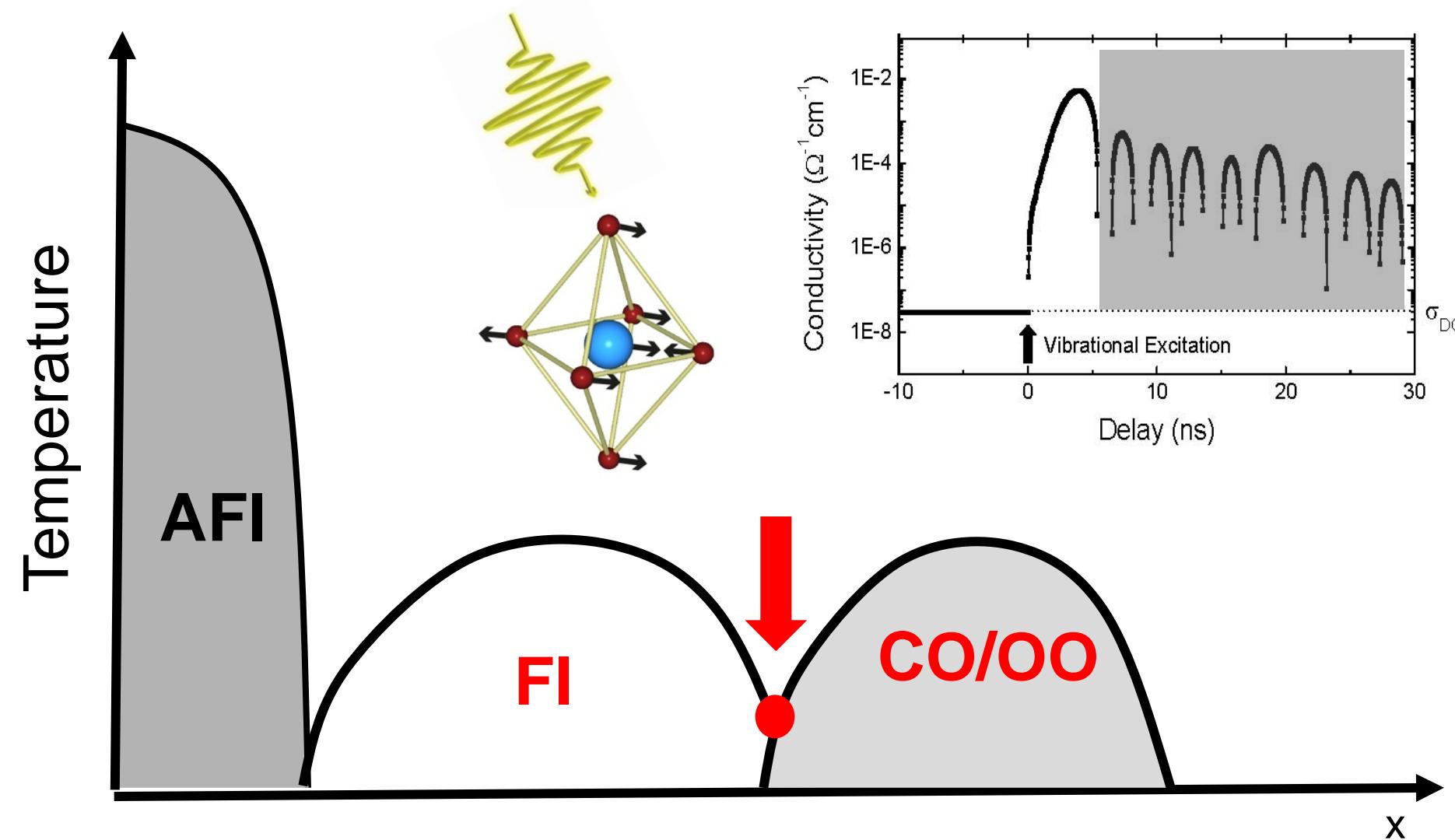
Insulator



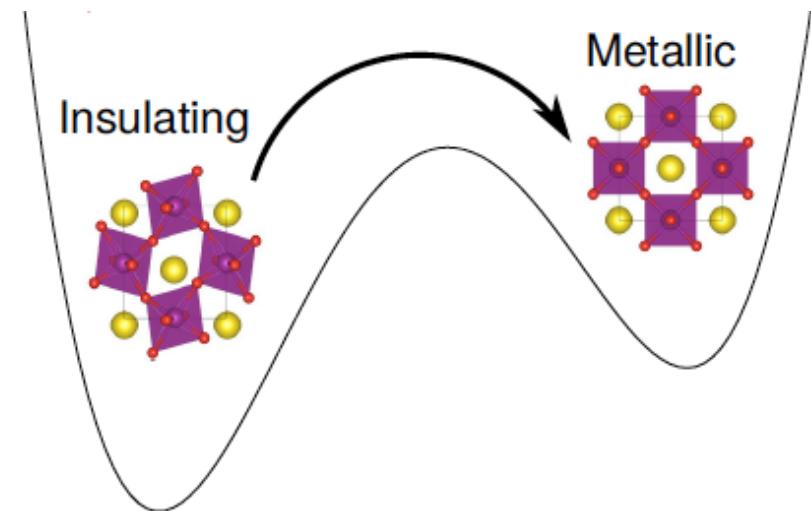
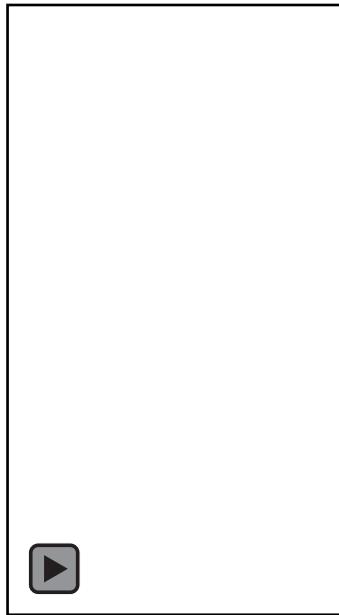
Can I control a bond angle with light



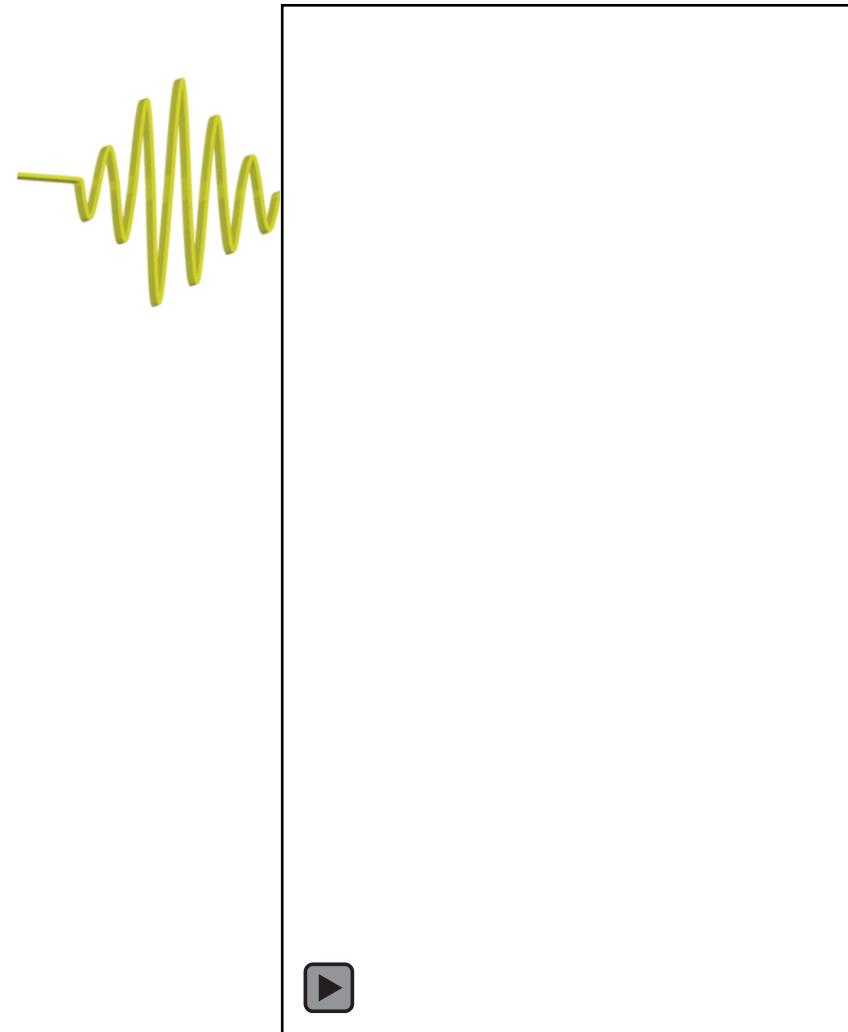
$\text{Pr}_{0.7}\text{Ca}_{0.3}\text{MnO}_3$: Phonon Driven I-M Transition



How can optical excitation displace the crystal bond angles?

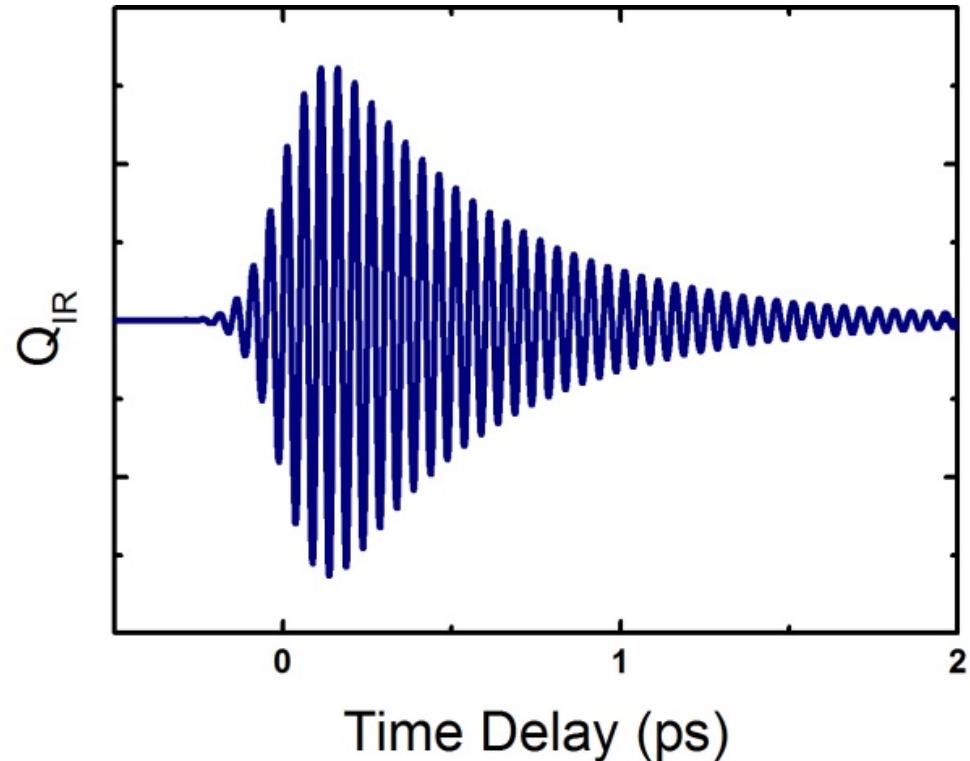


Linear response: no average displacement



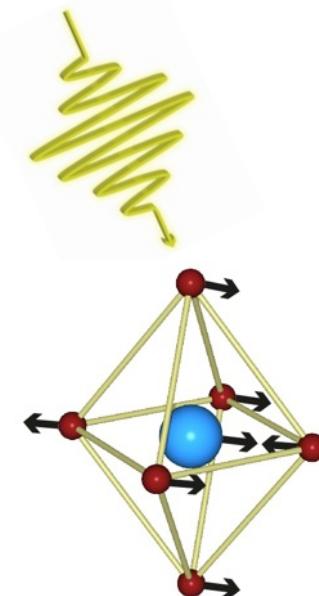
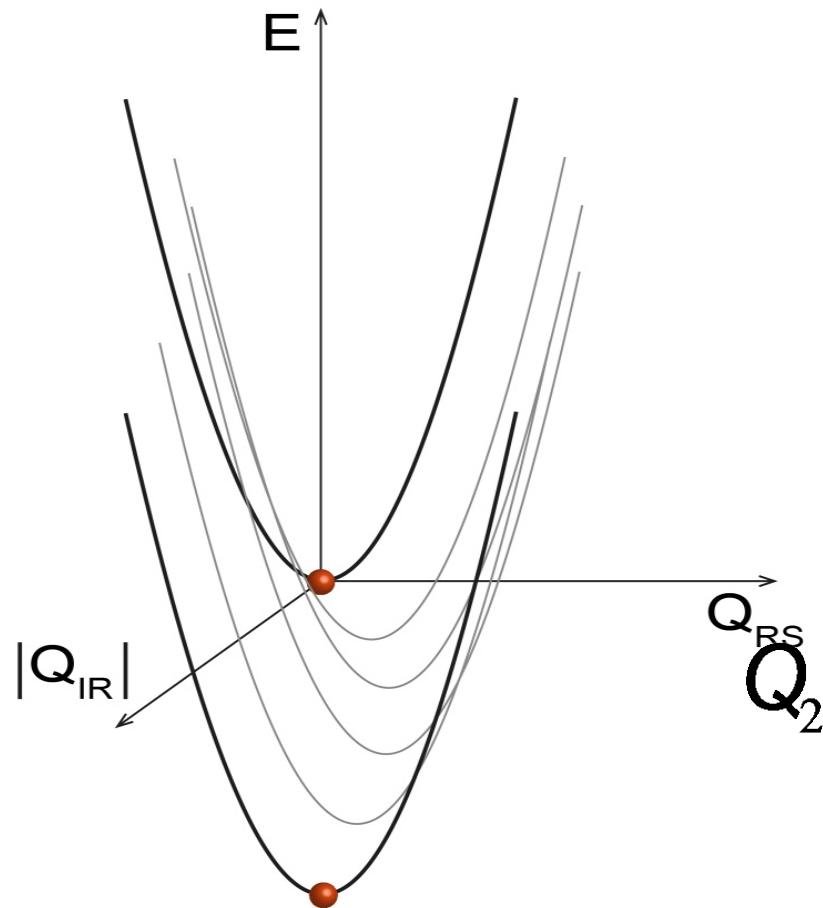
$$V = \frac{1}{2} \mu_{IR} \omega_{IR}^2 Q_{IR}^2$$

$$\ddot{Q}_{IR} + 2\gamma \dot{Q}_{IR} + \omega_{IR}^2 Q_{IR} = A \exp(i\omega t)$$



Anharmonic coupling to a second mode

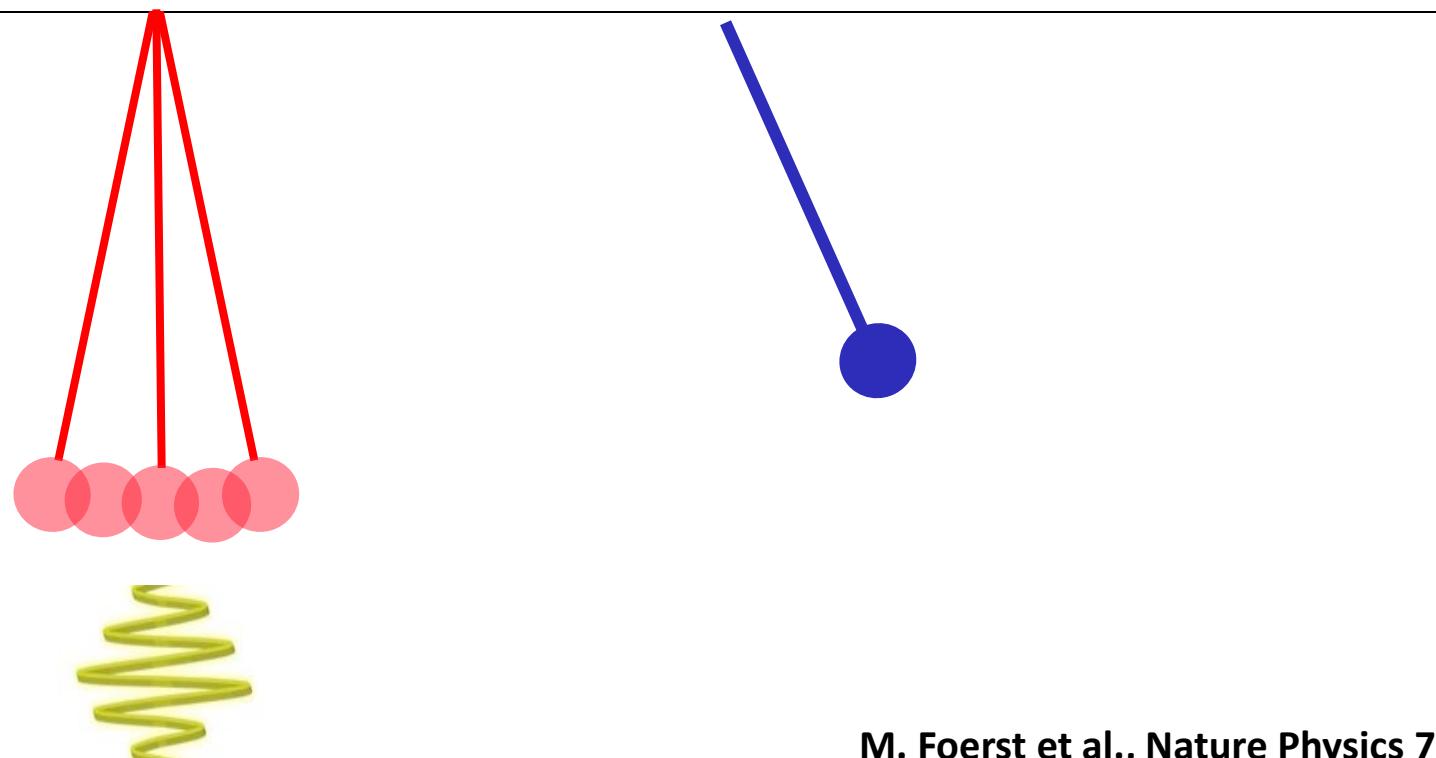
$$V = \frac{1}{2} \mu_{IR} \omega_{IR}^2 Q_{IR}^2 + N A Q_{IR}^2 Q_2$$

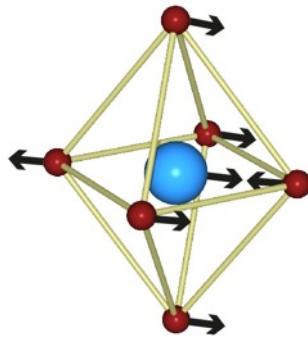


Equations of Motion: Two coupled oscillators

$$(\ddot{Q}_{IR} + 2\gamma \dot{Q}_{IR} + \omega_{IR}^2 Q_{IR}) = A \exp(i\omega t)$$

$$(\ddot{Q}_2 + 2\gamma \dot{Q}_2 + \omega_2^2 Q_2) = B Q_{IR}^2$$





Q_{IR} of B_{1u} symmetry

As in: $Pr_{0.7}Ca_{0.3}MnO_3$

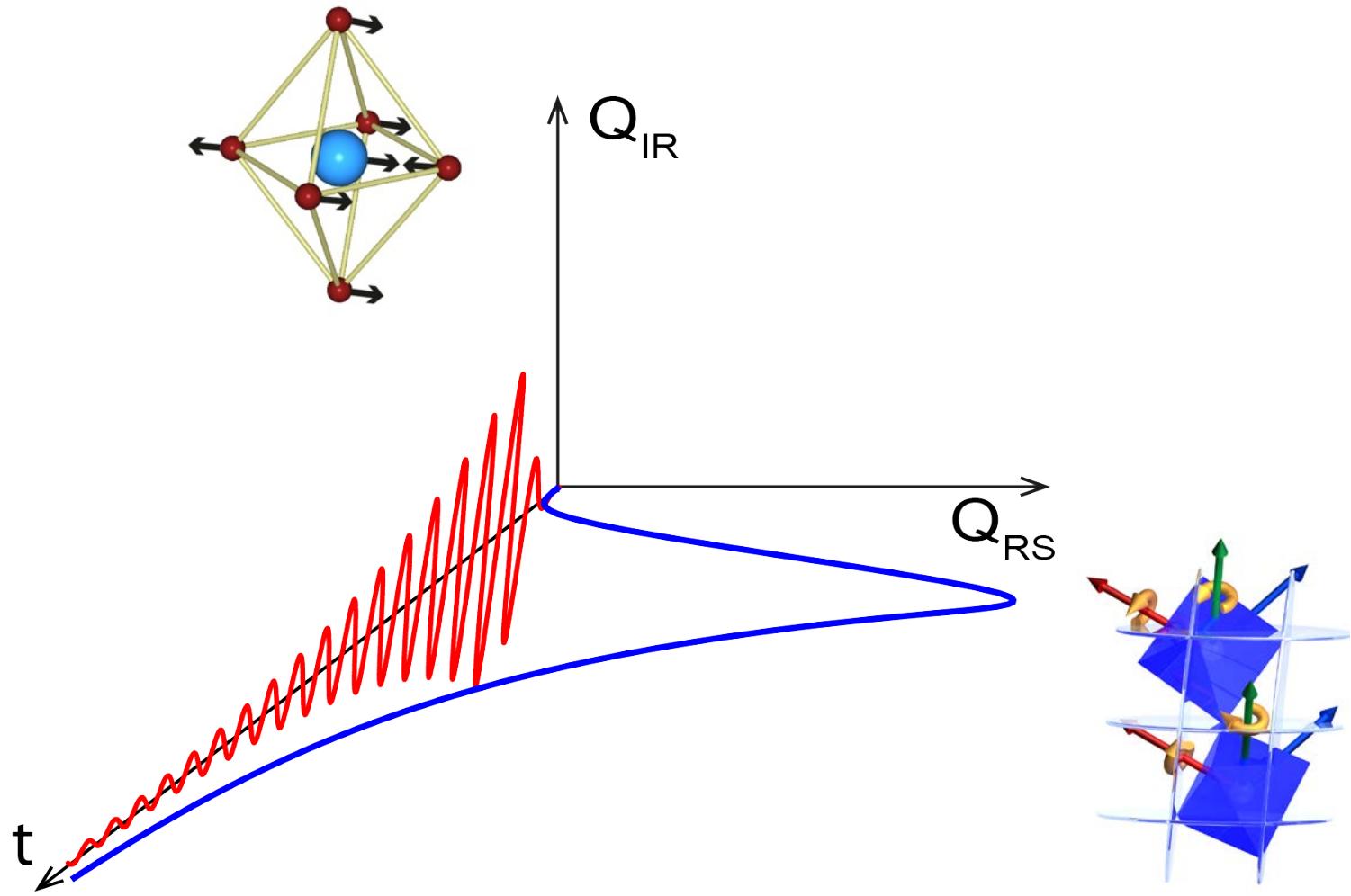
$La_{1.5}Ca_{0.5}MnO_4$

$YBa_2Cu_3O_{6+x}$

$$Q_{IR}^2 Q_2 \neq 0$$

only if Q_2 is a Raman mode of A_g symmetry

Rectified stretching leads to bending

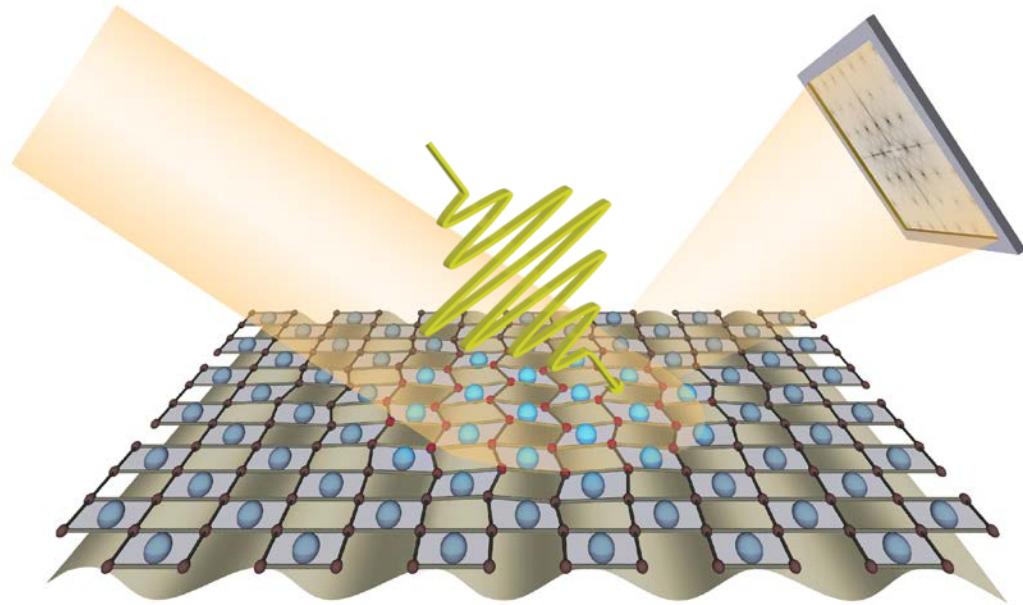
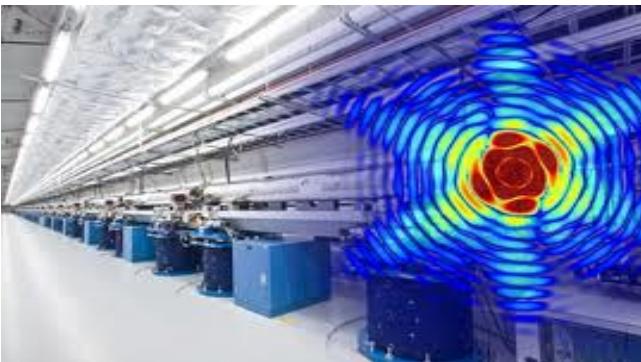


Is this true ?

Is there a nonzero average displacement ?

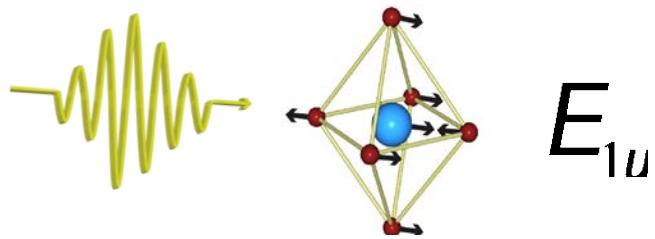
How far are the atoms being displaced ?

THz pump - Ultrafast x-ray diffraction probe

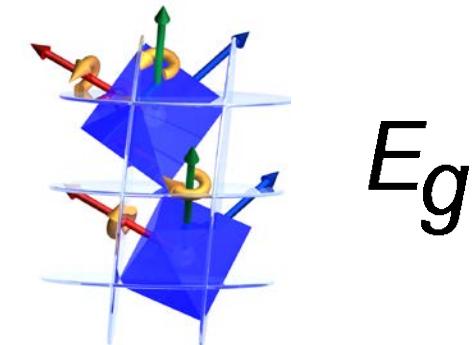


Femtosecond x-rays: quantify displacement

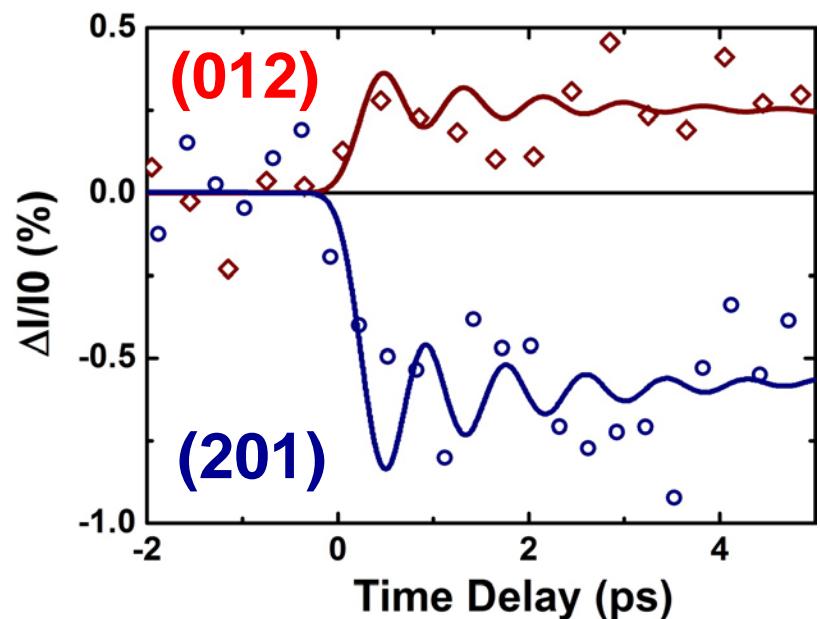
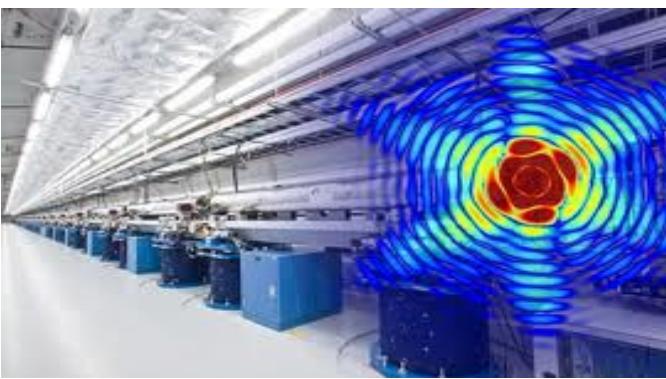
Mid-IR pump (E_{1u} mode)



Displacive field (E_g mode)

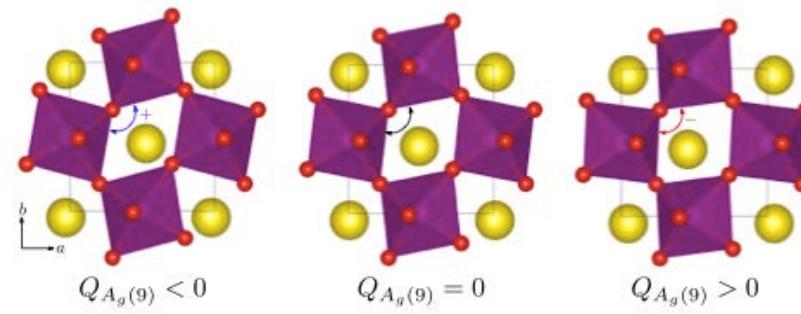
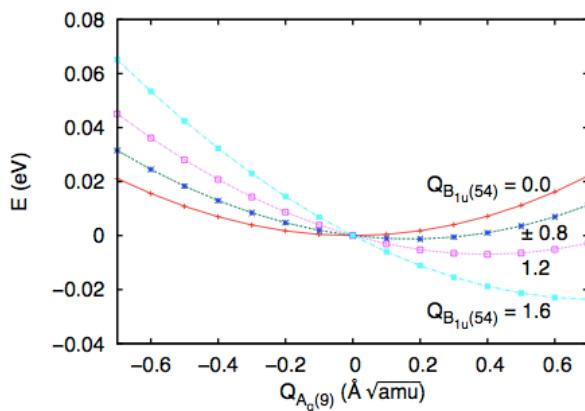


X-ray probe

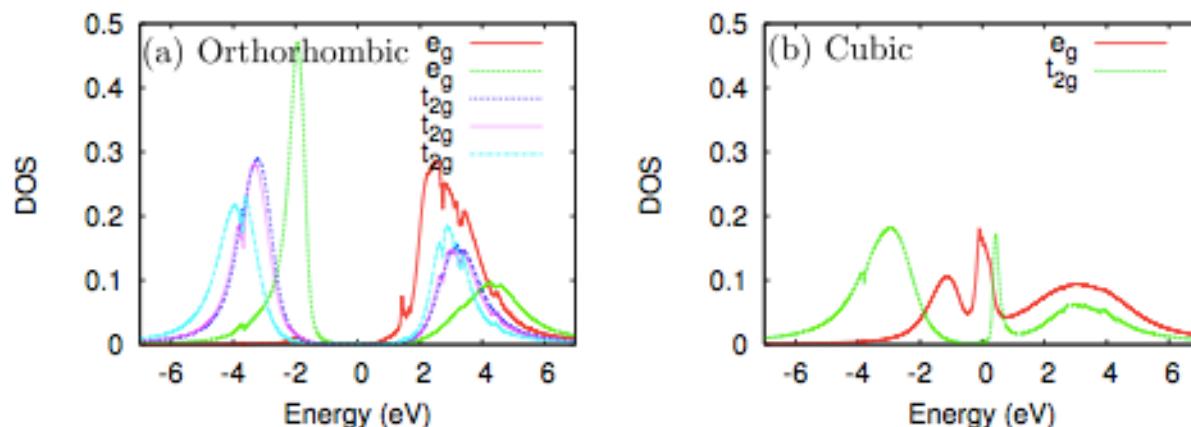


Theory: octahedral rotations make a metal

Frozen Phonon



Electronic Structure in the distorted state \rightarrow metallic

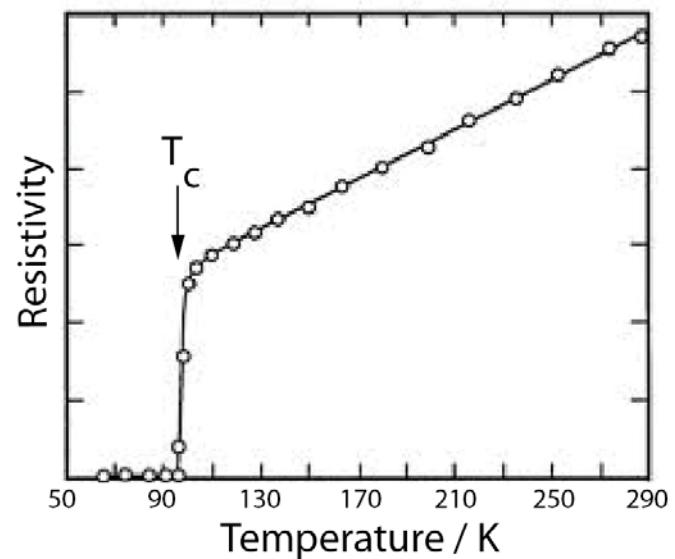
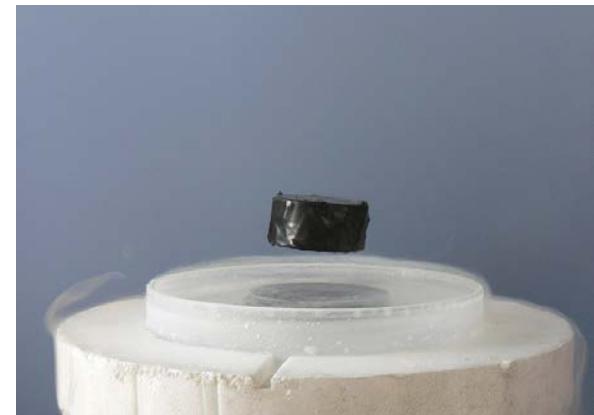
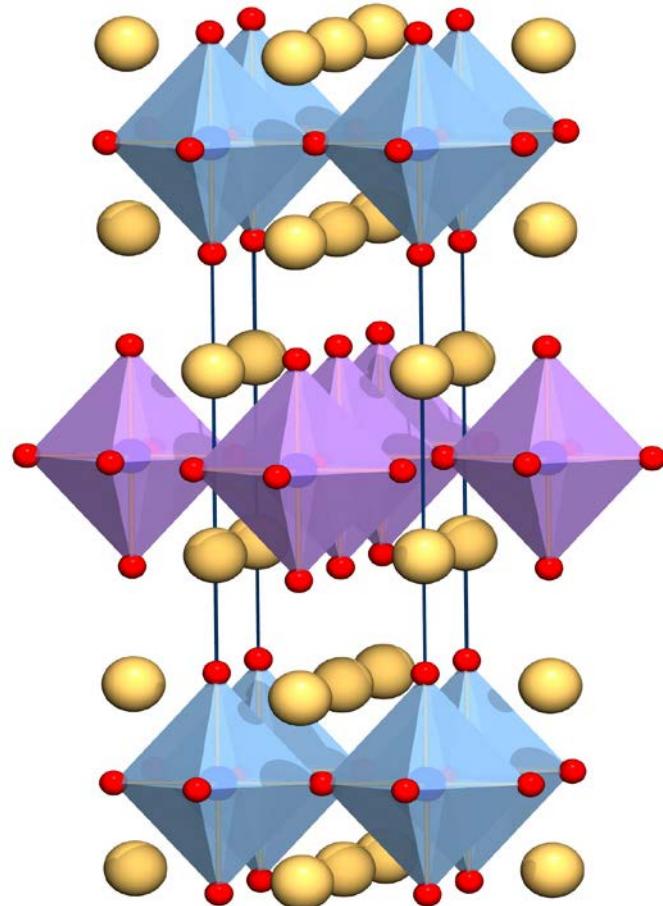


What else can I control ?

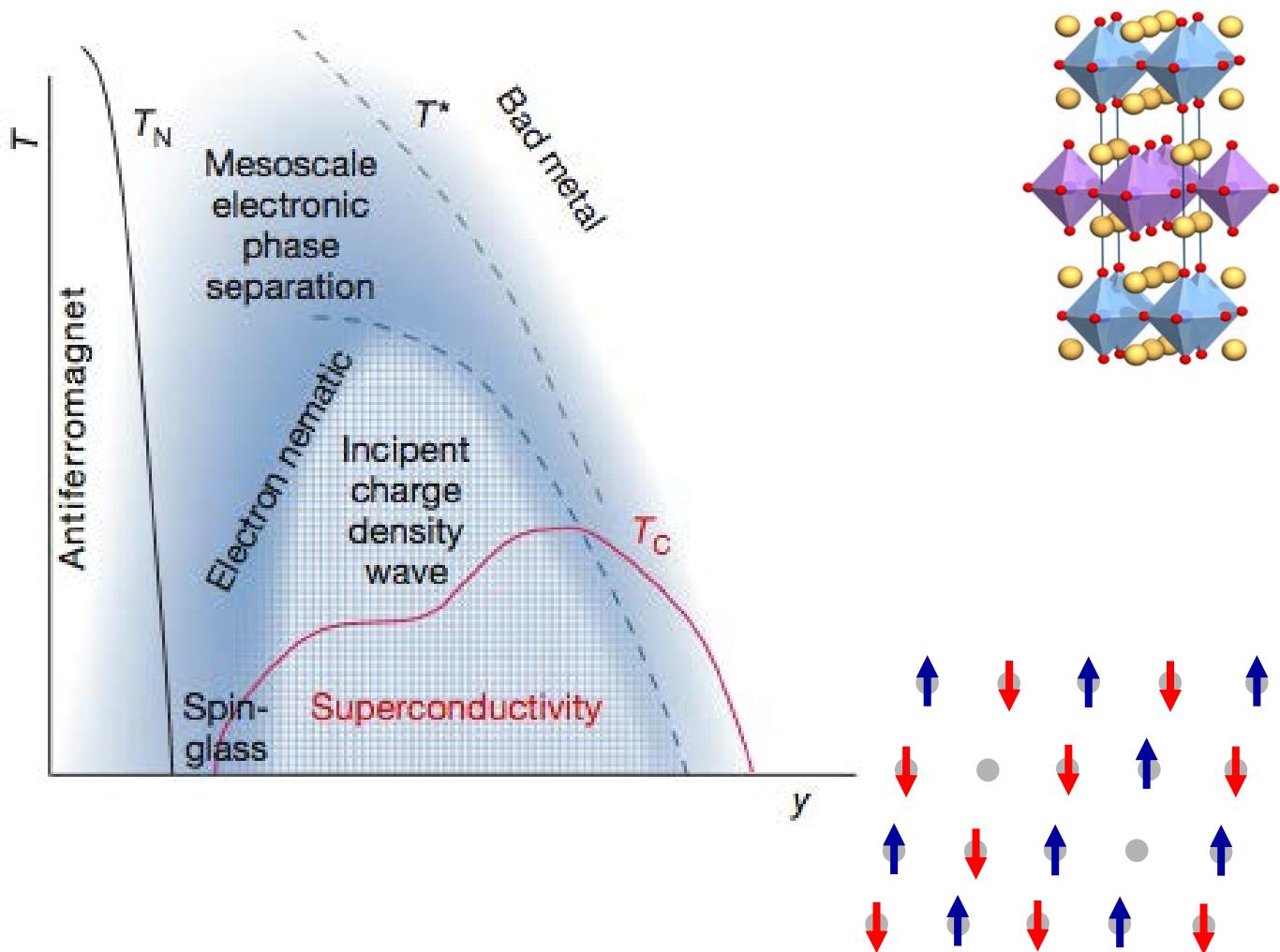
High Temperature Cuprate Superconductivity

mpsd

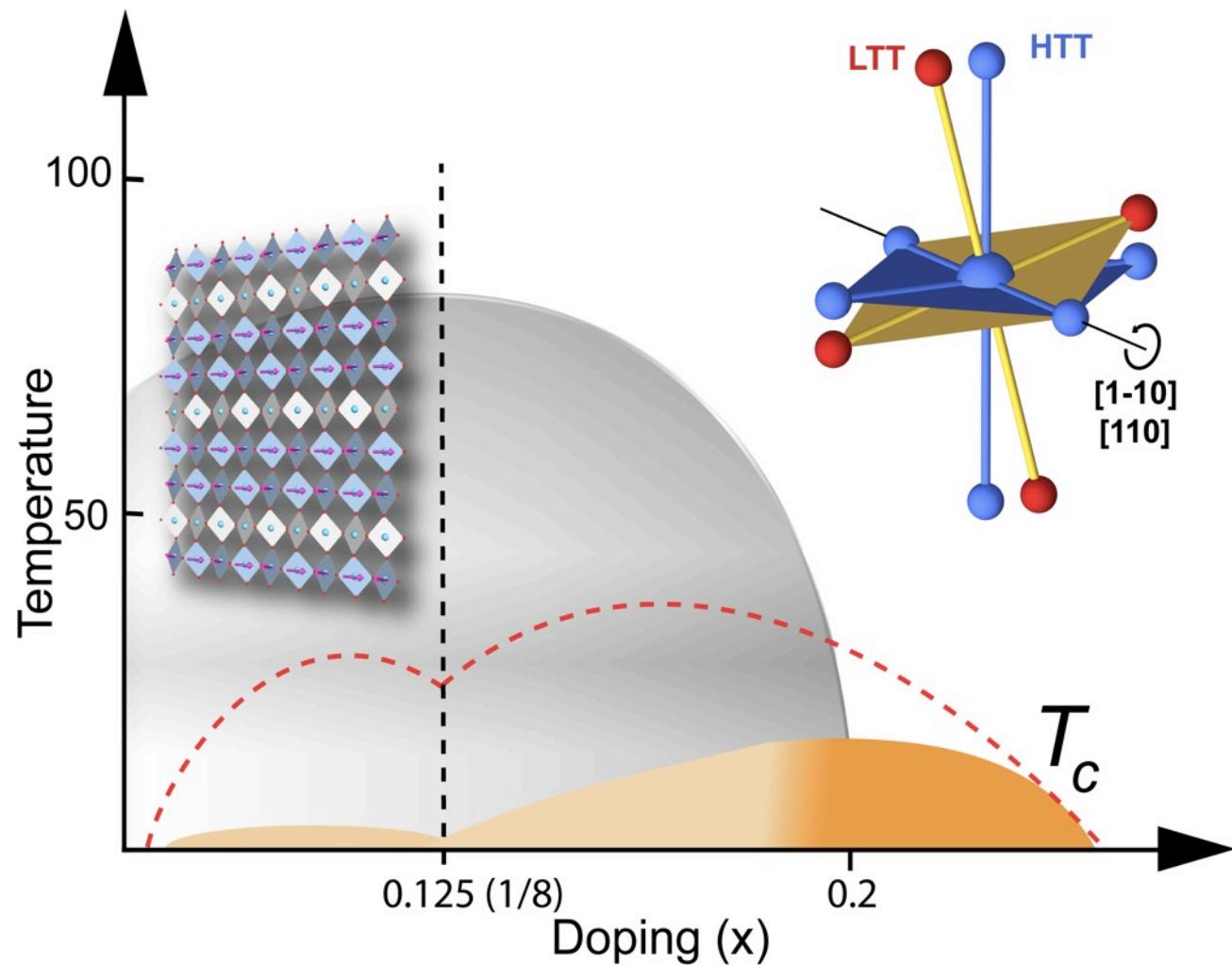
Below a critical temperature T_c resistivity vanishes



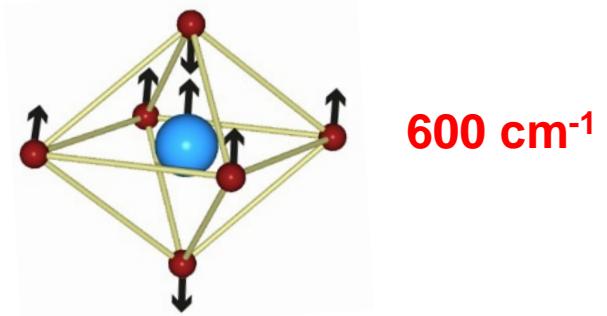
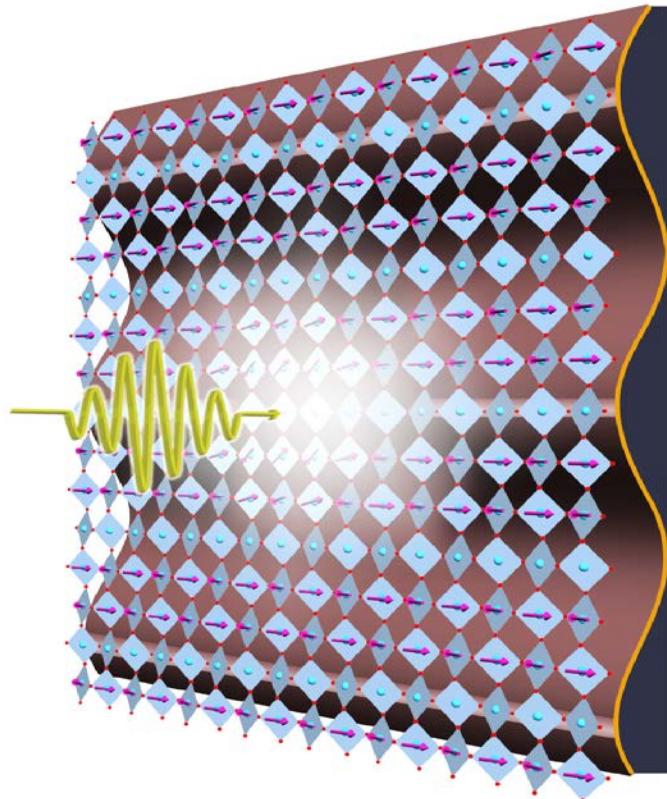
Competing orders can quench T_c



Eu:LSCO_{1/8} stripe charge order



Excitation of in plane Cu-O stretch

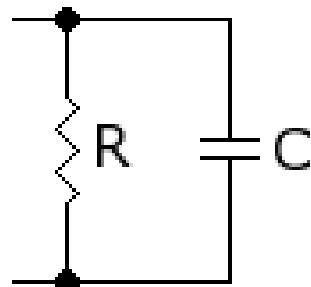
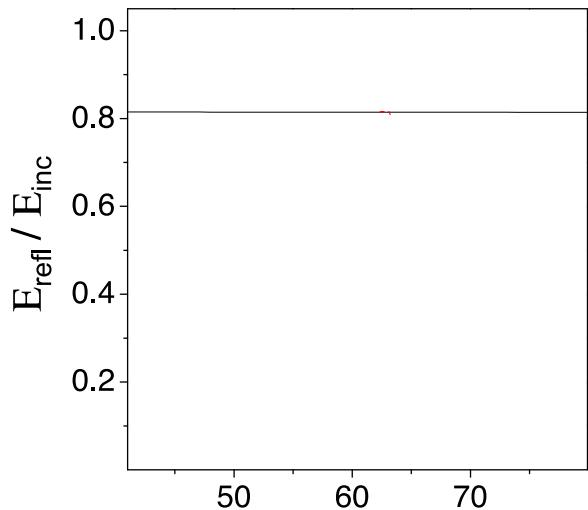


**16 μm wavelength
 μJ pulses
MV/cm fields**

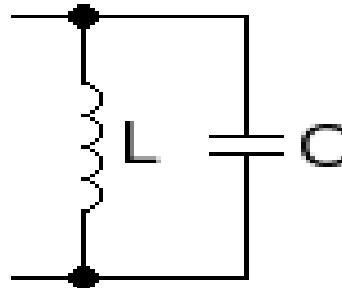
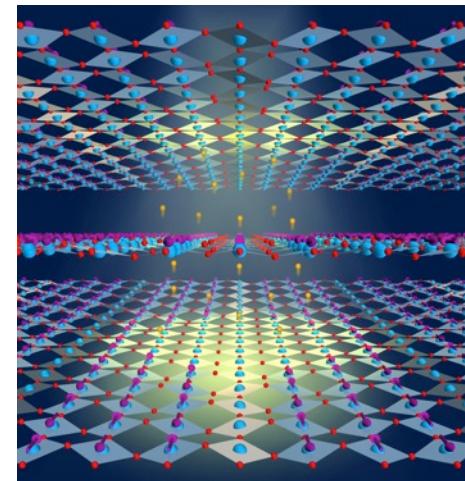
Probing the transient state

How do I recognize a transient superconductor ?

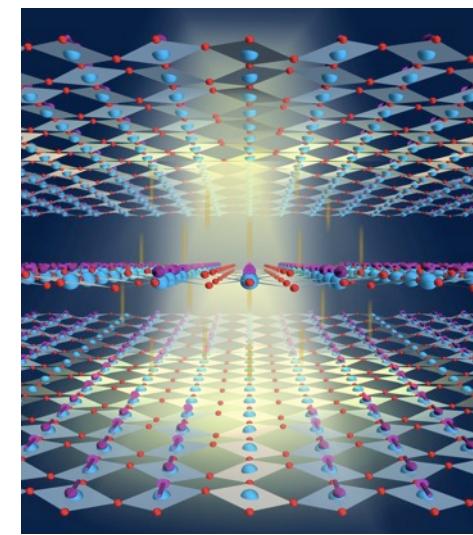
Josephson Plasmon



$T > T_c$



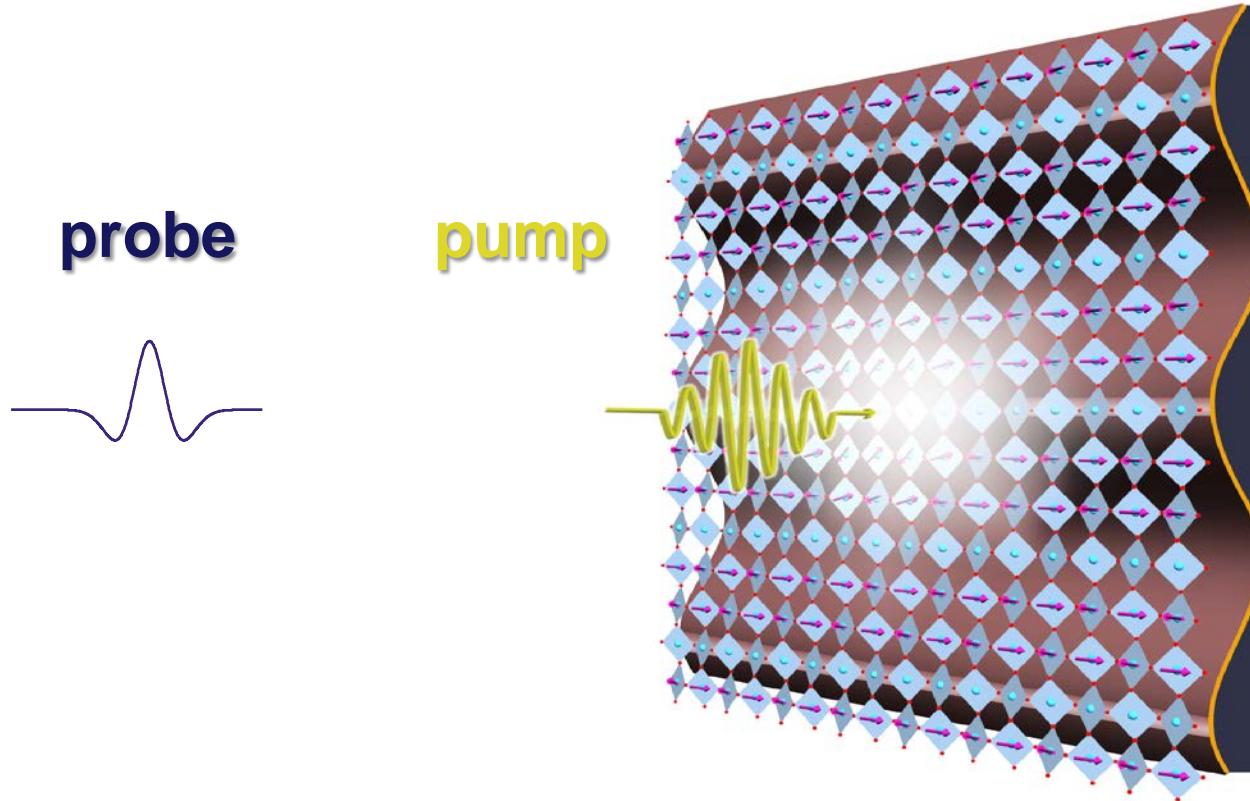
$T < T_c$



Kresin and Morawitz PRB (1988)

van der Marel and A. A. Tsvetkov Czech. J. Phys. (1996)

Mid-IR pump / THz Probe Spectroscopy



A light Induced Josephson plasma edge

Equilibrium LSCO

Superconducting (eq.)

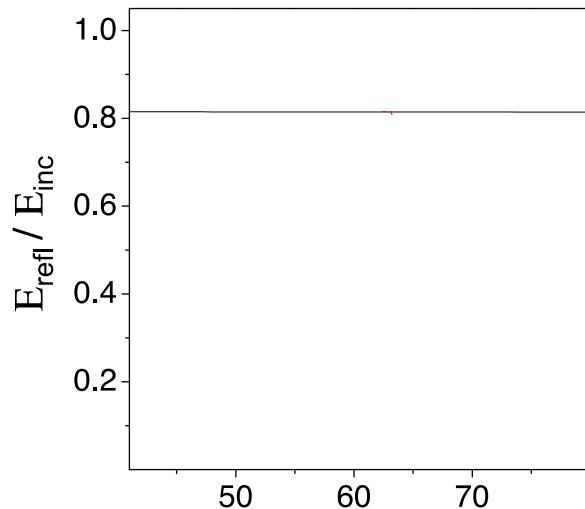
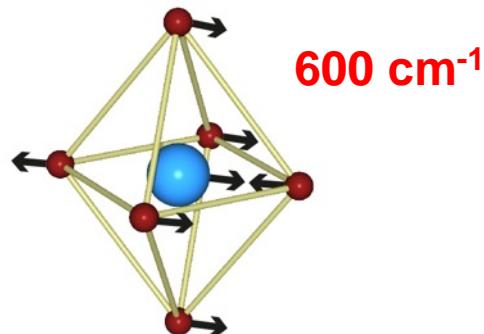
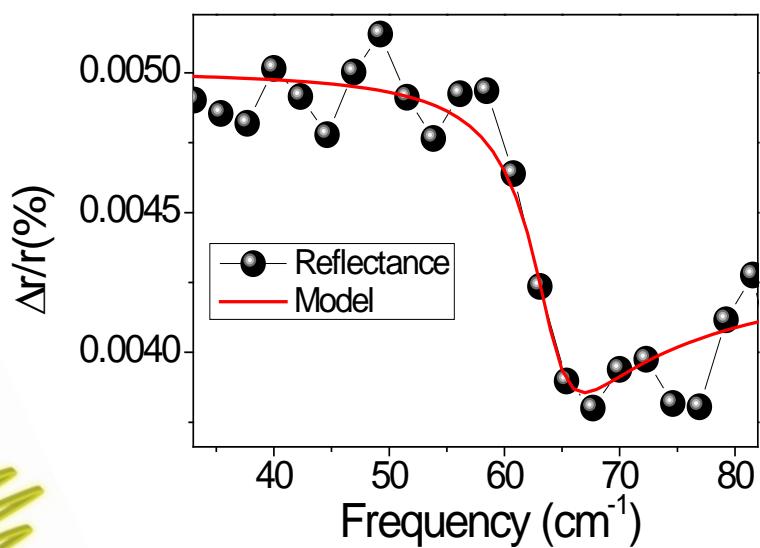


Photo-induced LESCO

Superconducting (non eq.)



600 cm^{-1}

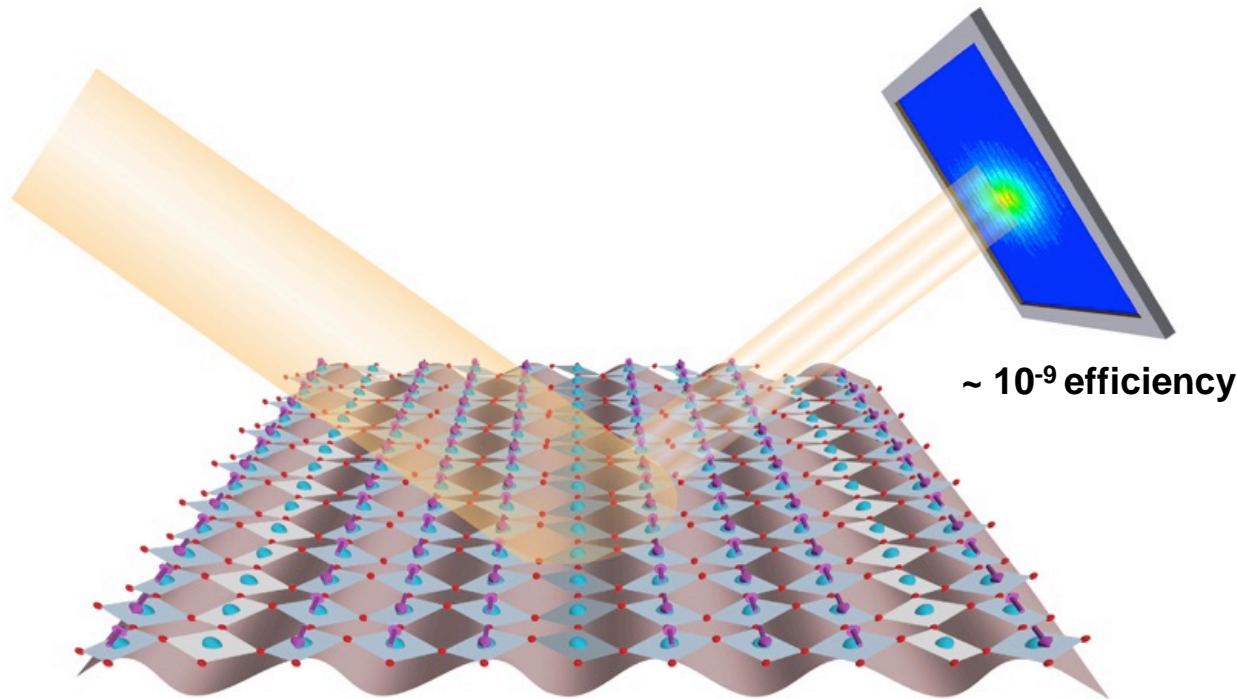
Am I melting charge stripes with light ?

Charge stripes are seen by soft x-ray scattering

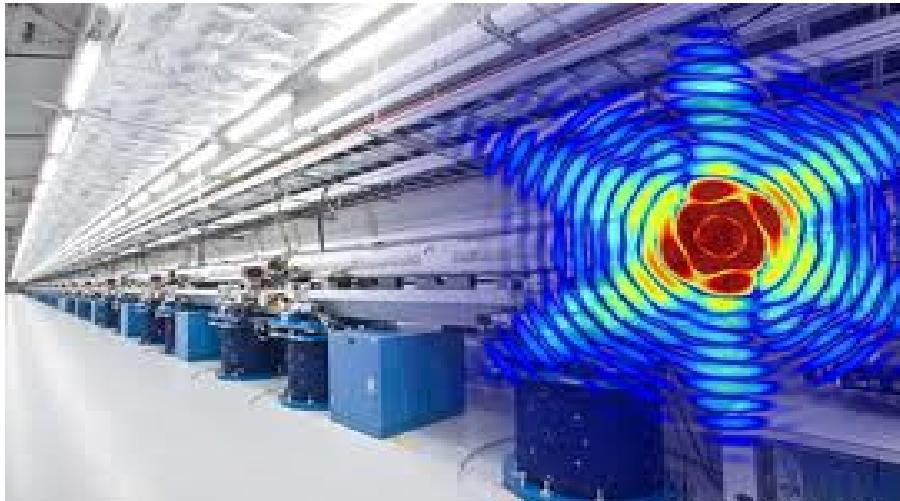


O Kedge

(0.25, 0, 0.65)

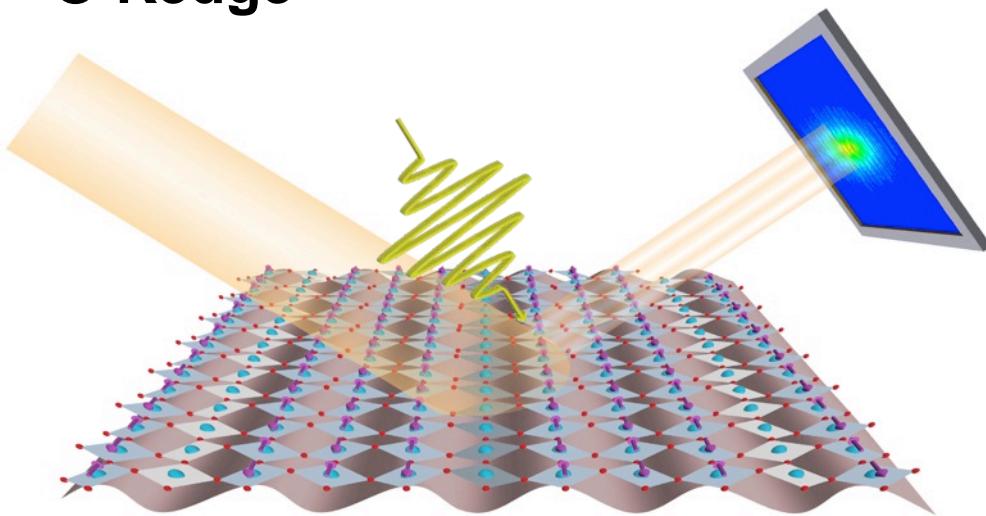


Ultrafast soft X-ray diffraction

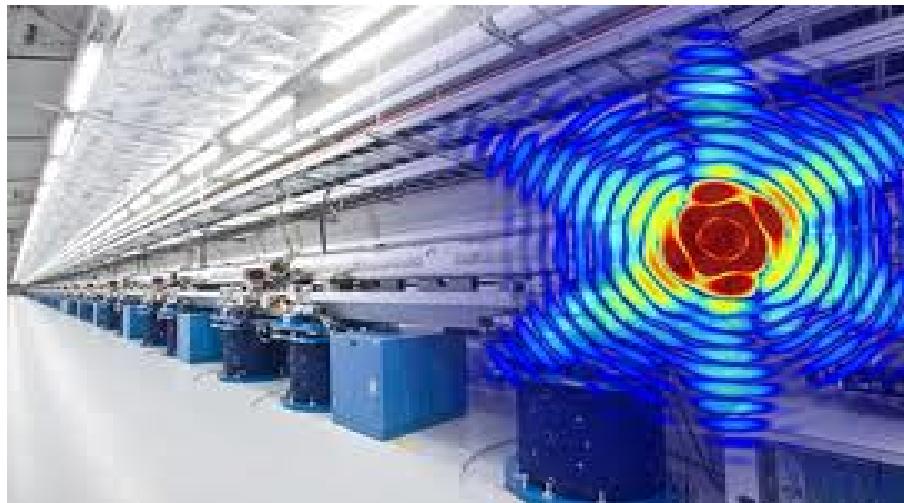


O Kedge

(0.25, 0, 0.65)

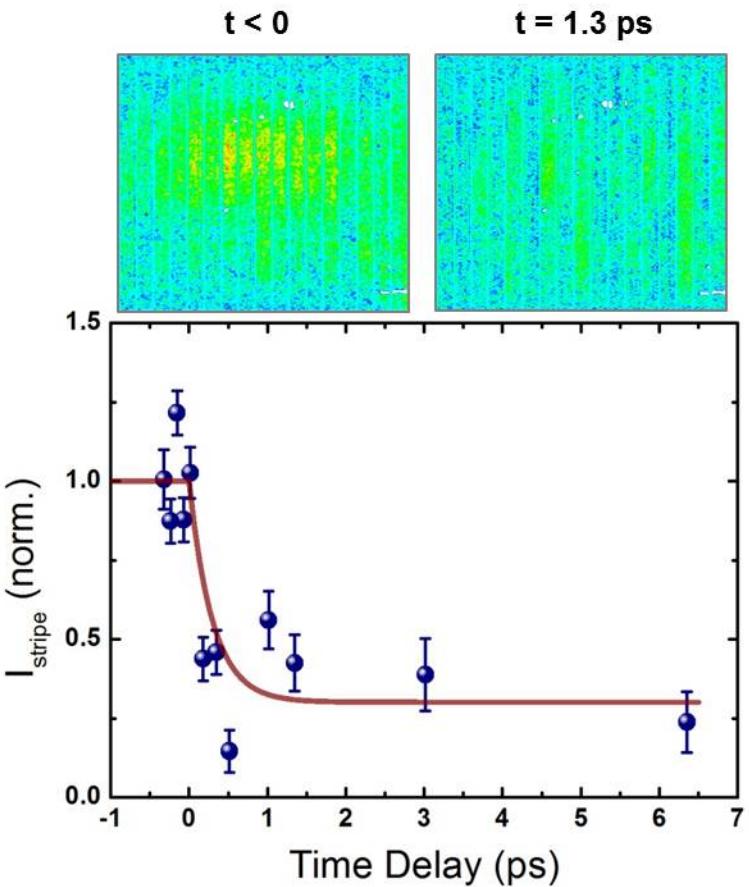
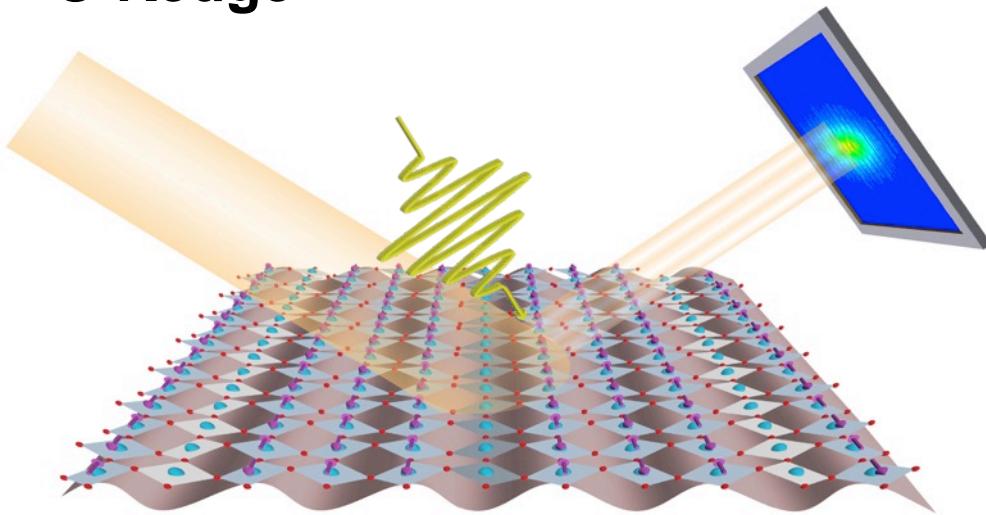


Ultrafast soft X-ray diffraction



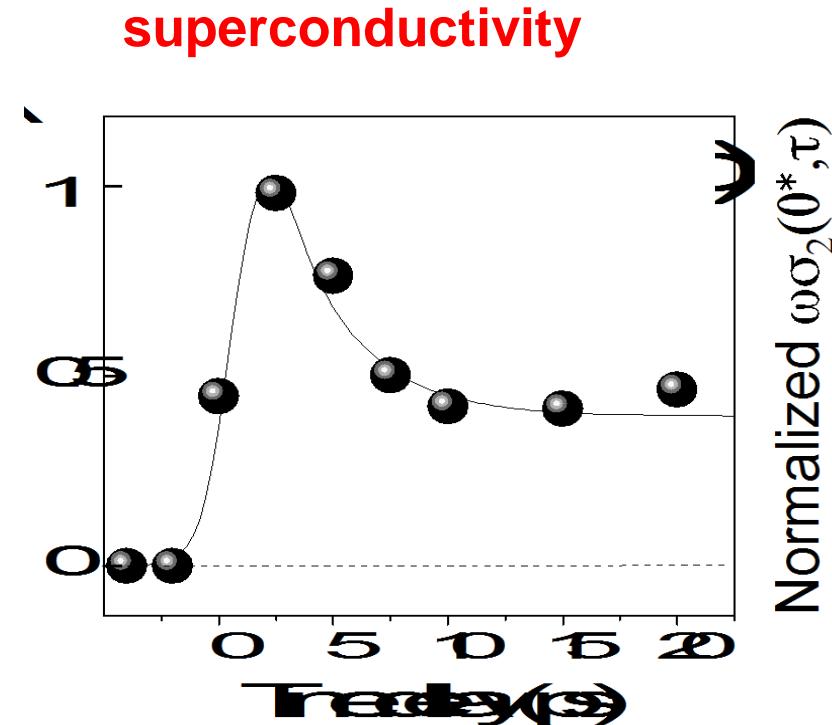
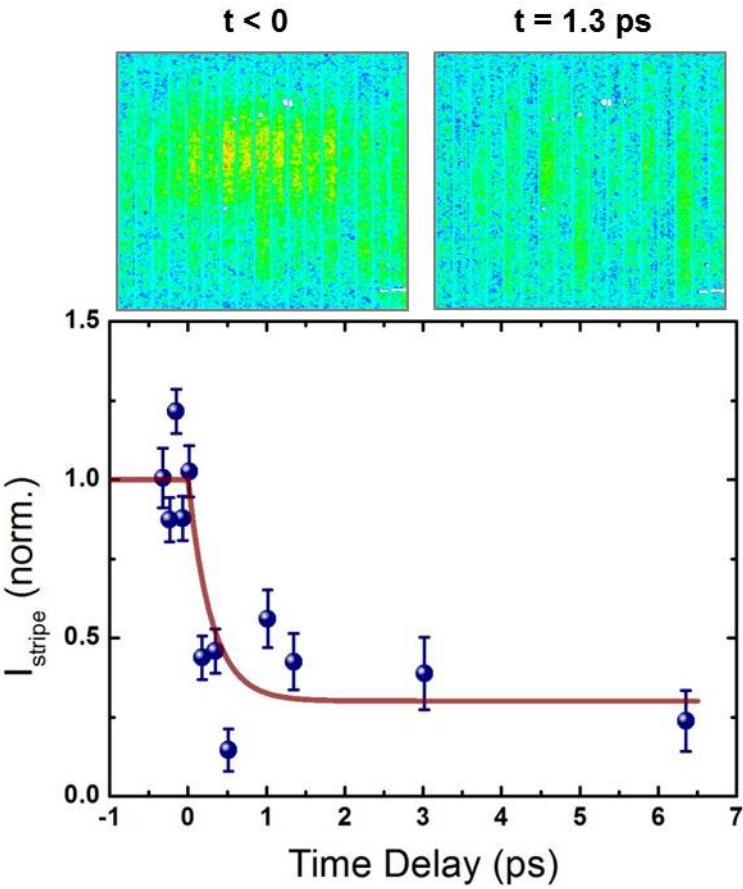
O Kedge

(0.25, 0, 0.65)



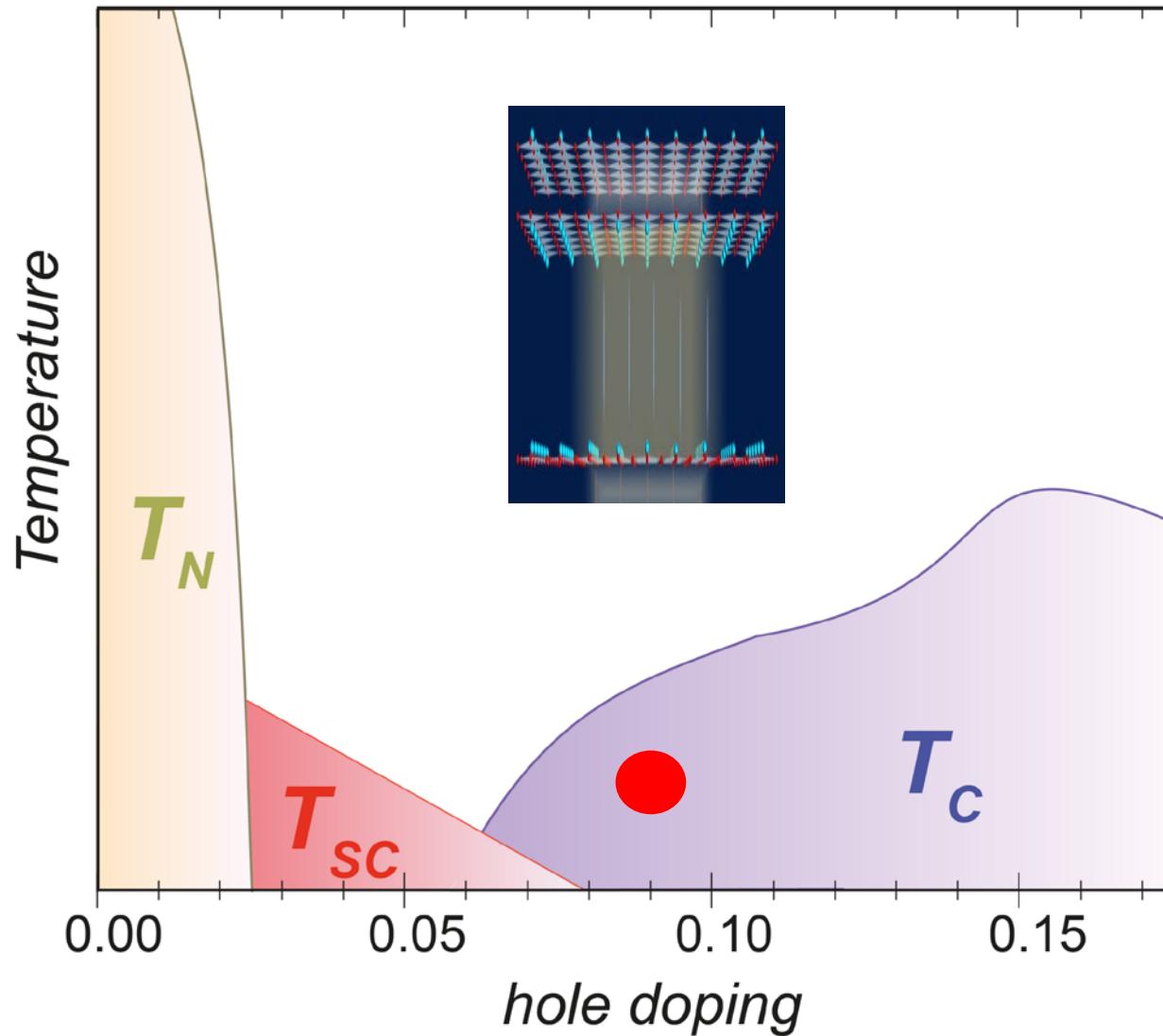
Charge stripe melting - superconductivity

- Charge Stripes melt concomitantly with the formation of the SC

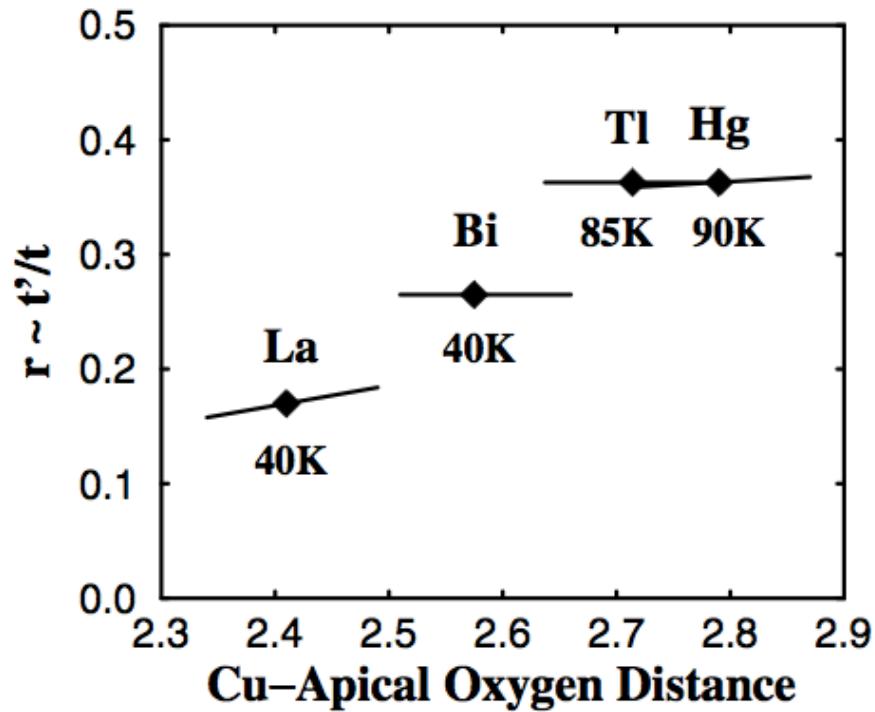
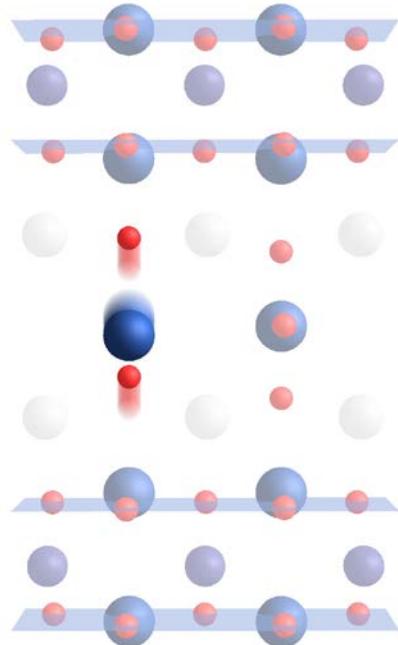


Can I do this in other cuprates ?

Bilayer cuprates: YBCO



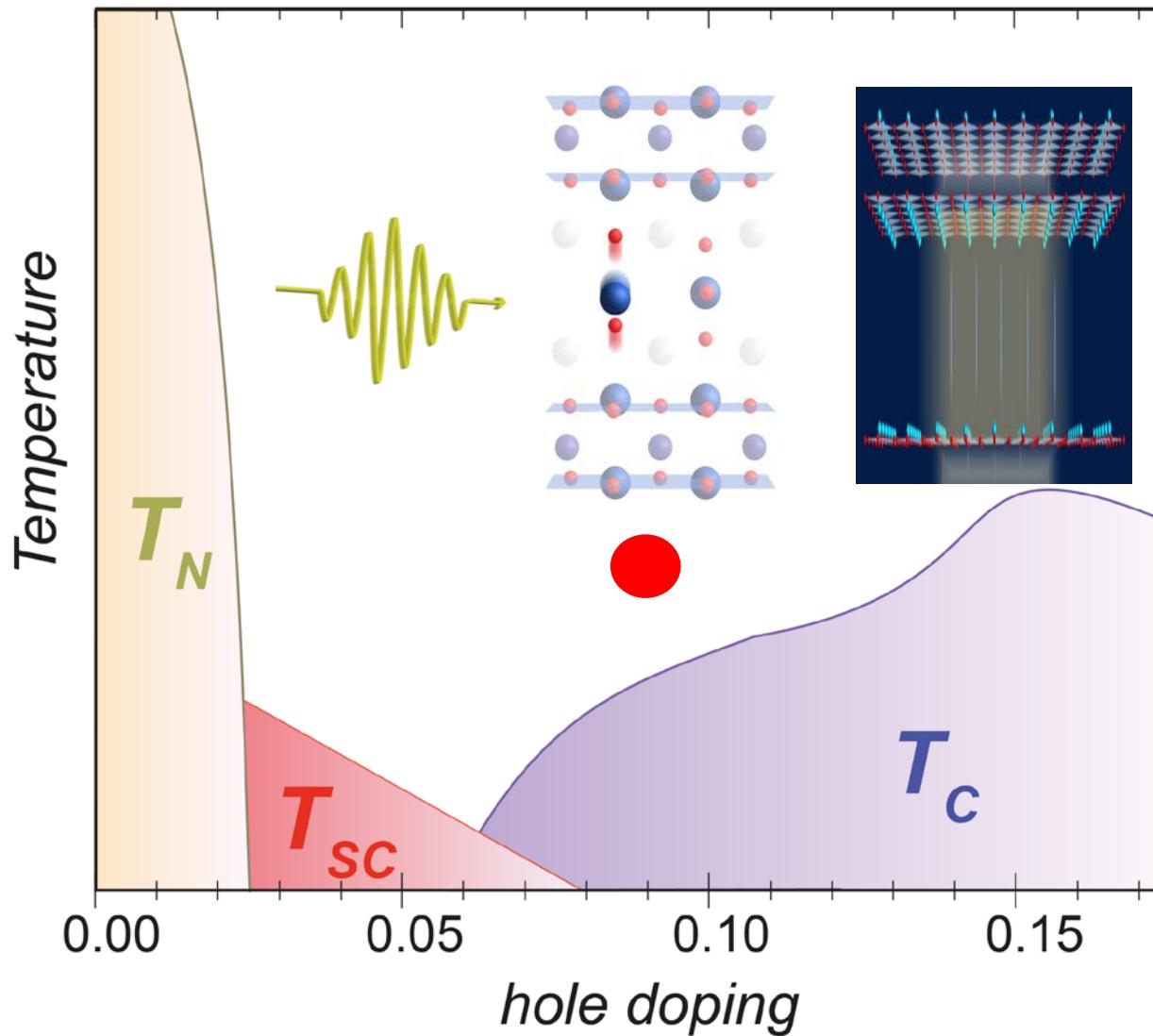
Apical oxygen correlates with T_c at equilibrium



E. Pavarini et al., *PRL* 87, 047003 (2001)

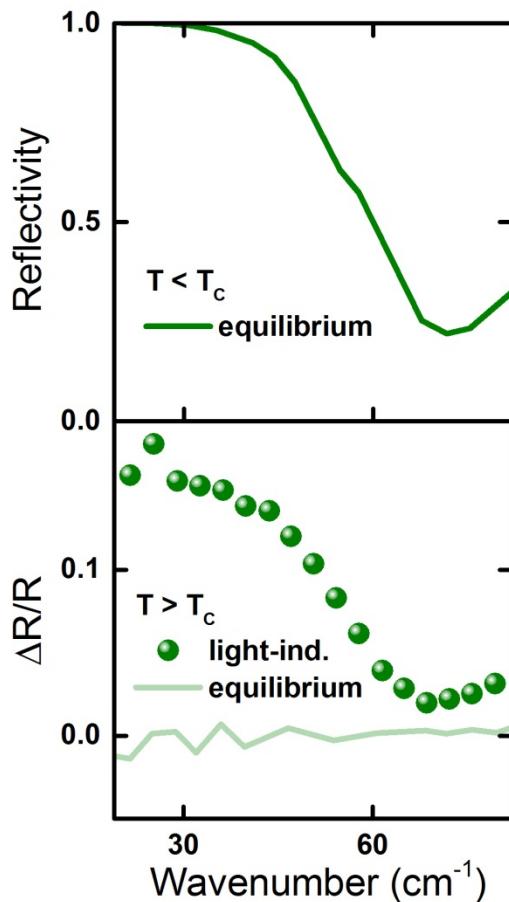
C. Weber et al. *Phys. Rev. B* 82, 125107 (2010).

Can I induce coherence above T_c ?

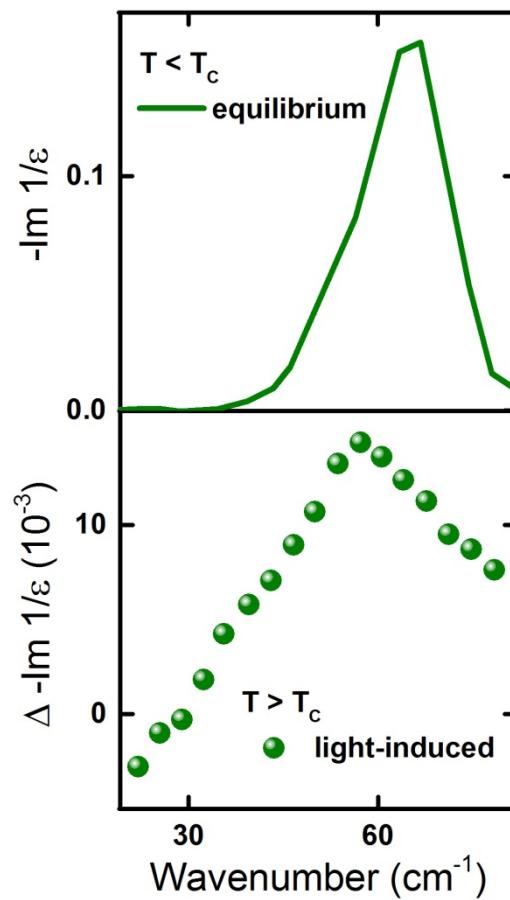


Light induced Josephson Coupling – 2 X Tc

Plasma edge



$\epsilon_1(\omega_{\text{JPR}}) = 0$

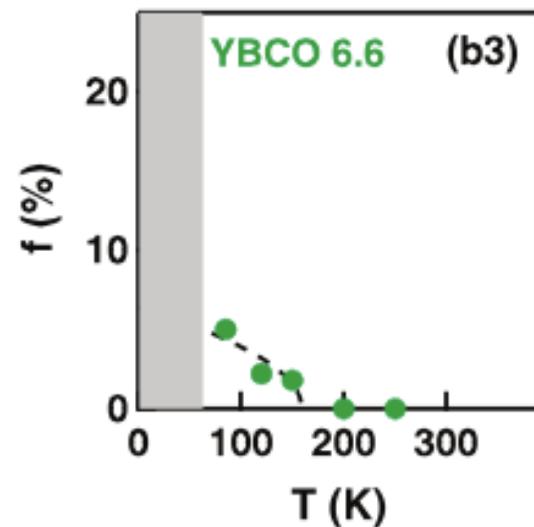
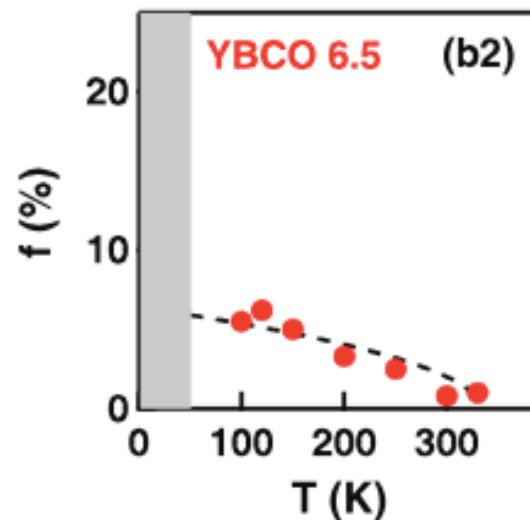
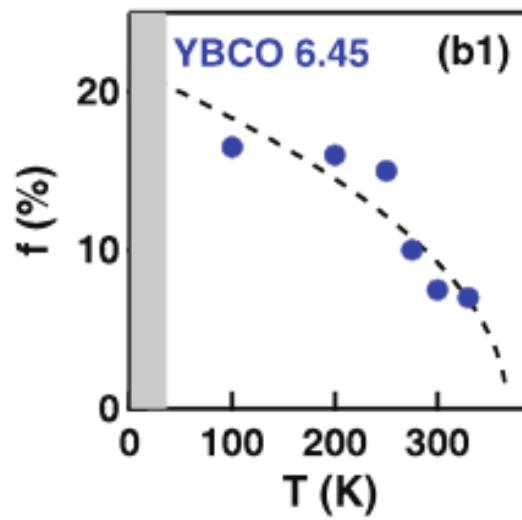


YBCO_{6.6} – 100 K

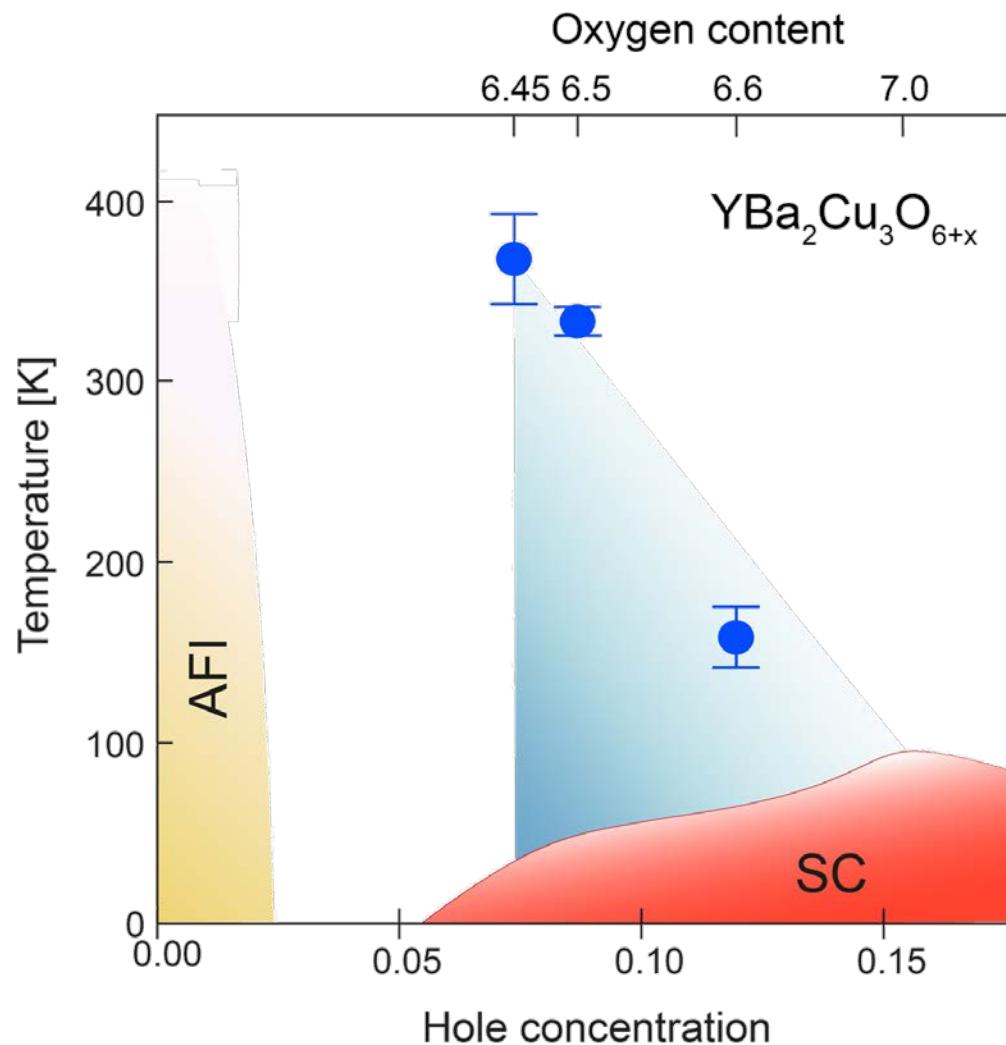
Equilibrium $T < T_c$

Light induced $T > T_c$

Surprise..... Up to room temperature

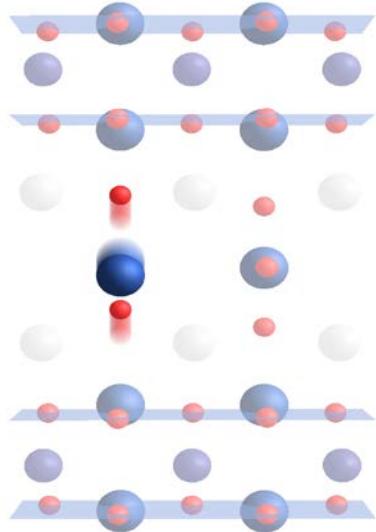


Throughout the pseudogap phase



What is the lattice doing ?

Nonlinear Phononics: YBCO

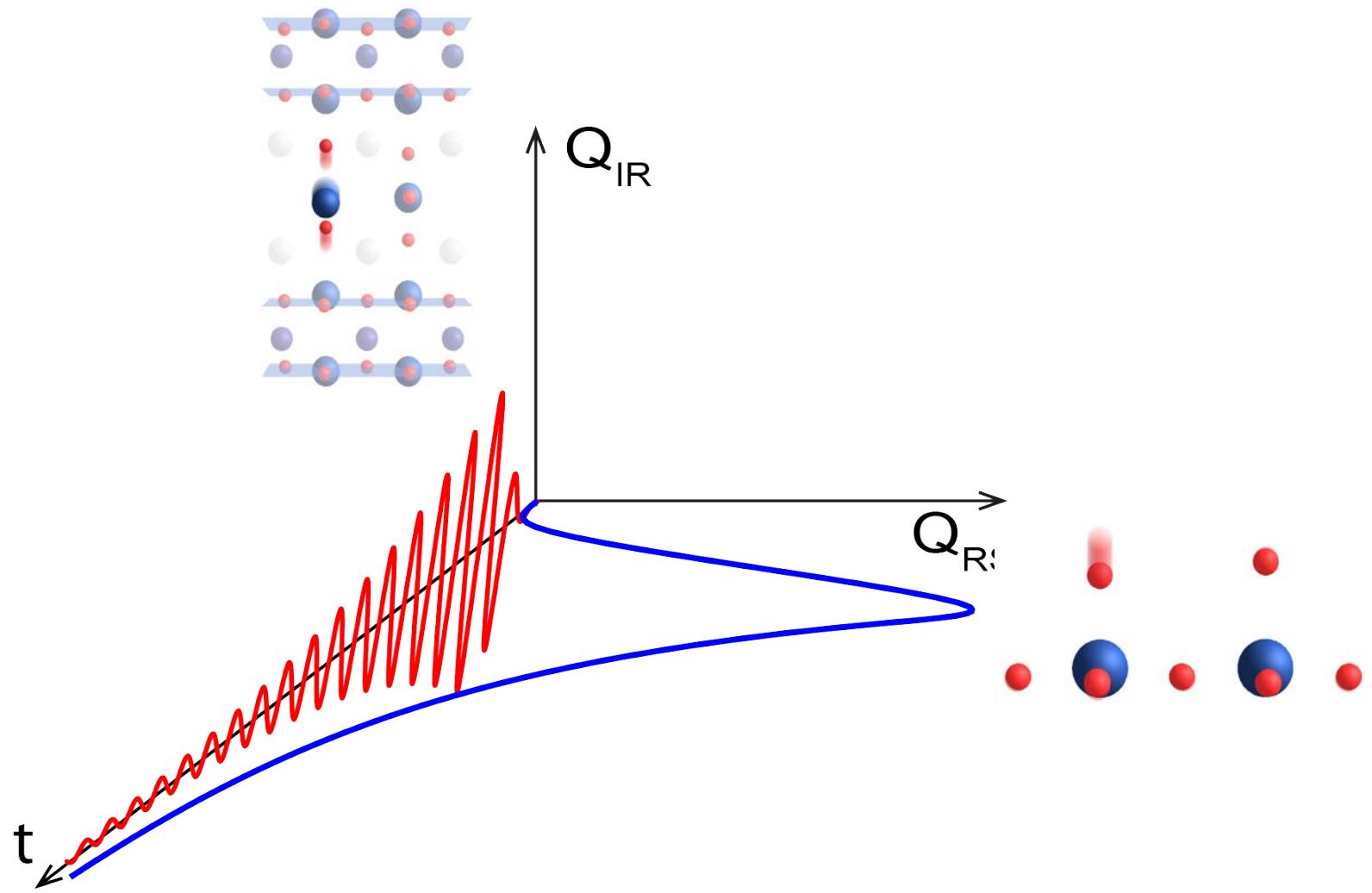


Q_{IR} of B_{1u} symmetry

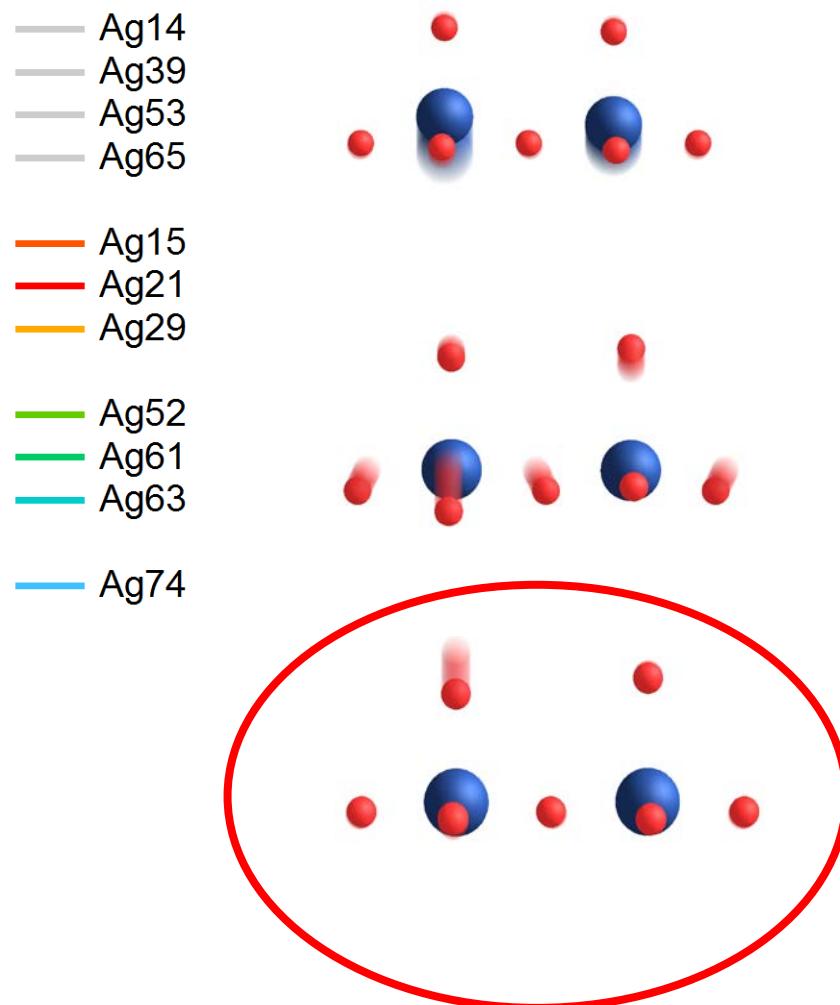
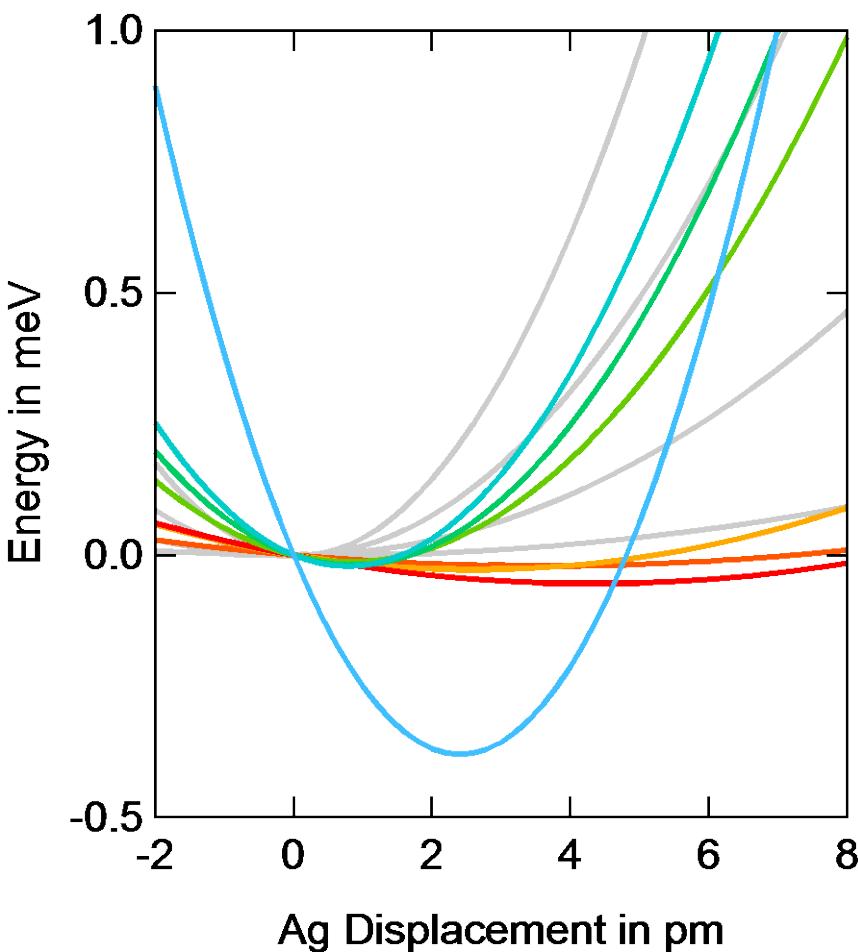
$$Q_{IR}^2 Q_2 \neq 0$$

only if Q_2 is a Raman mode of A_g symmetry

Excite B_{1u} and displace along A_g

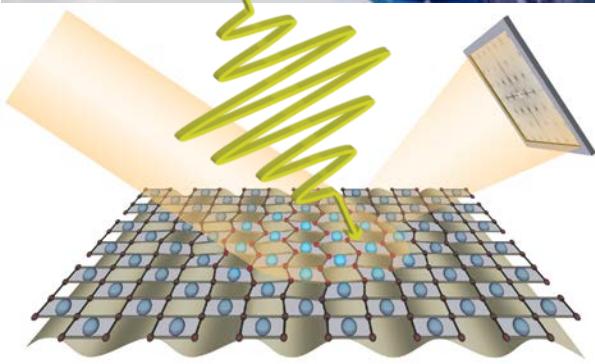
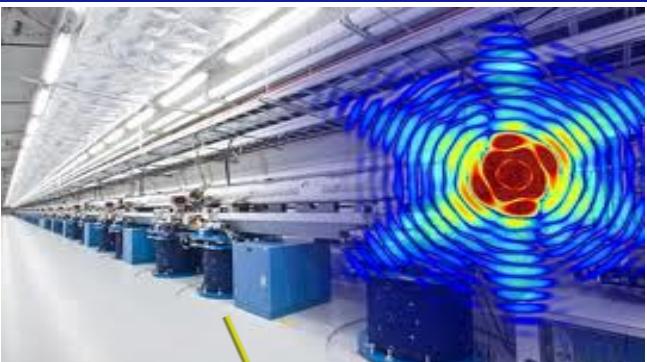


Doped YBCO: 11 A_g Raman modes

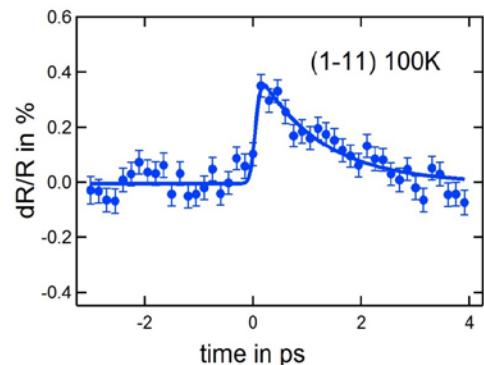


Only three Ag modes are coupled strongly with B1u

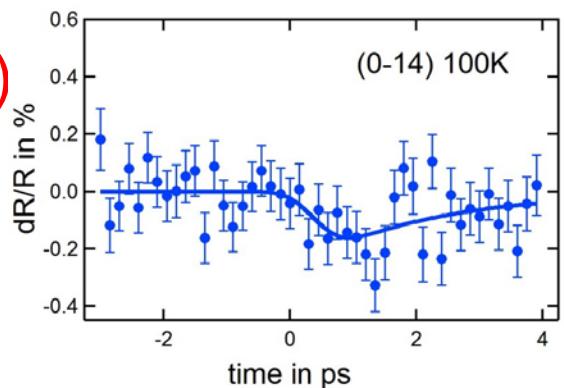
Femtosecond X-ray Scattering



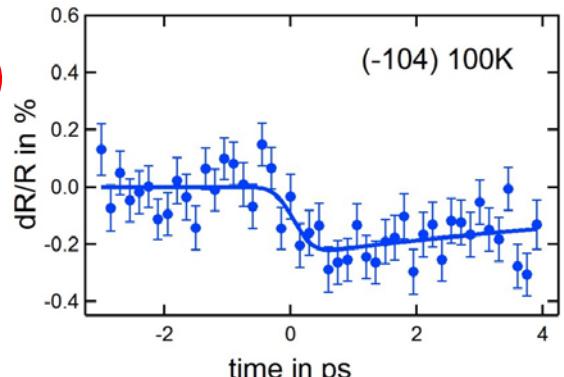
(-1,1,1)



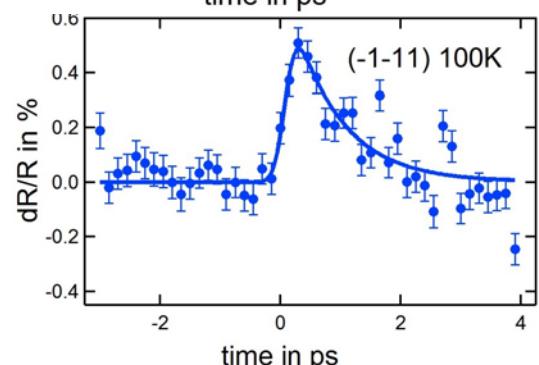
(0,-1,4)



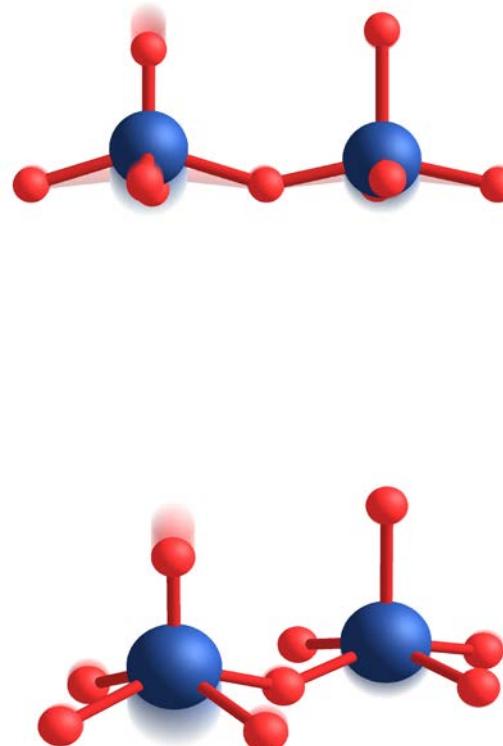
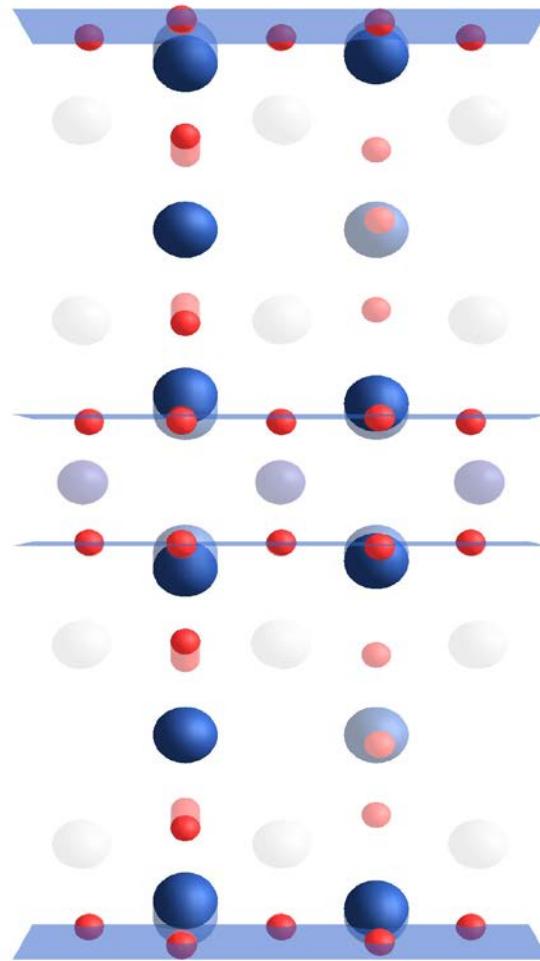
(-1,0,4)



(1,-1,1)

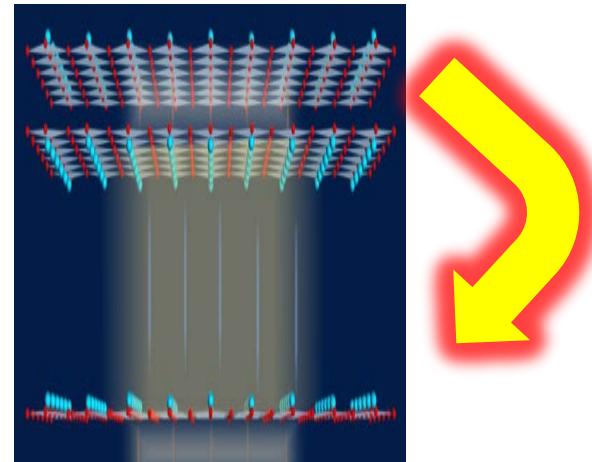
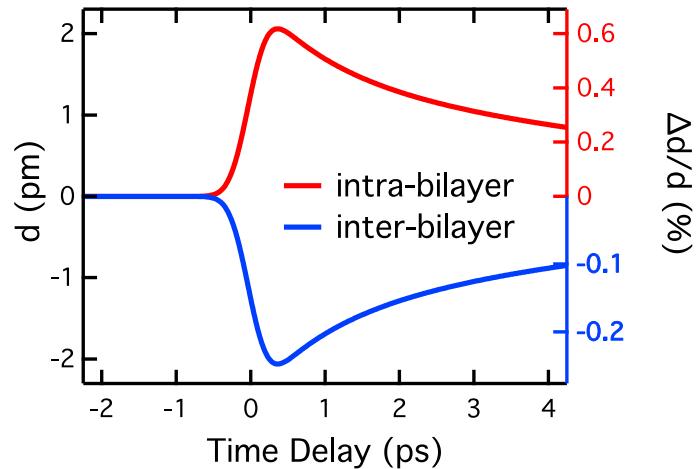
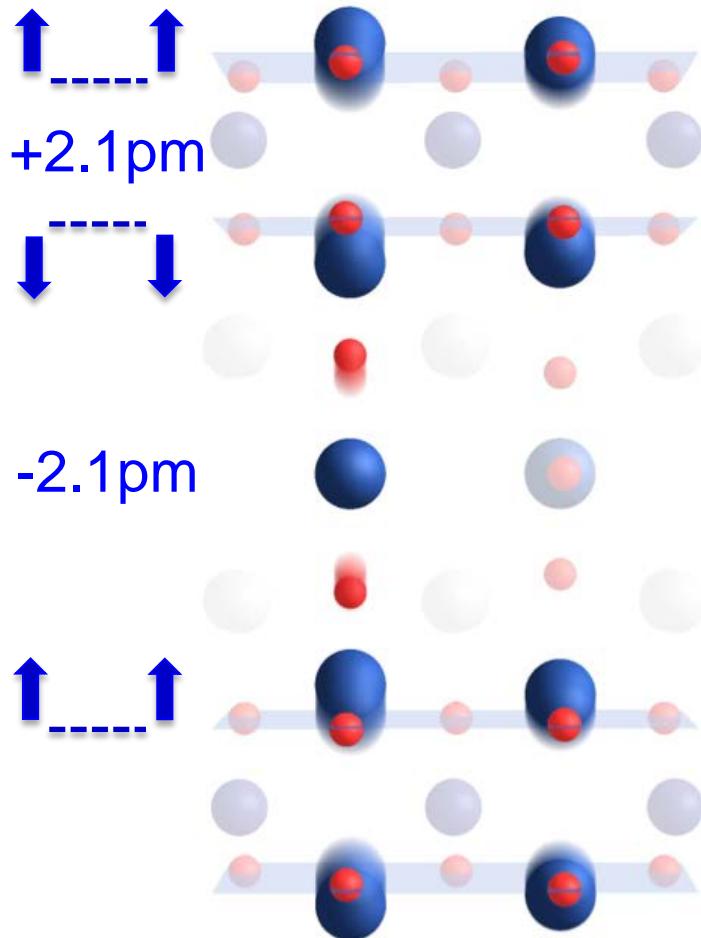


A new, transient crystal structure

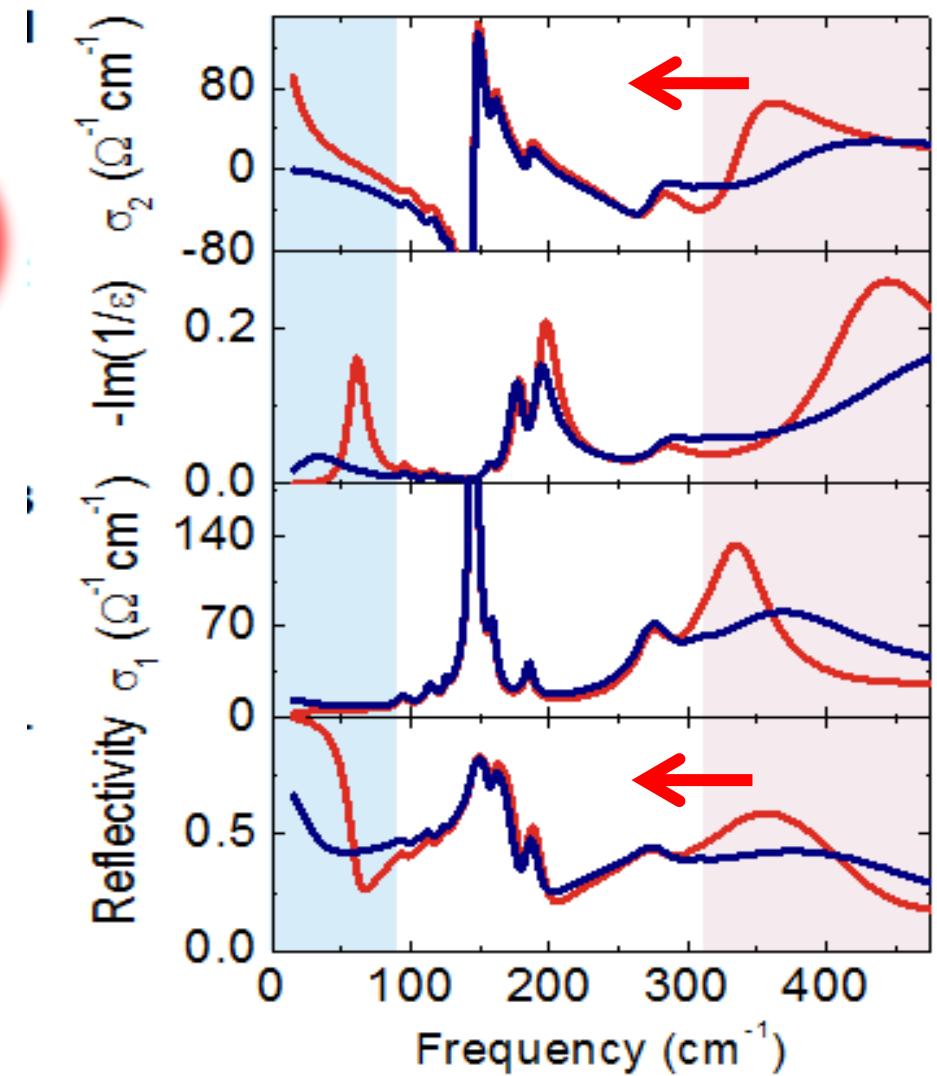
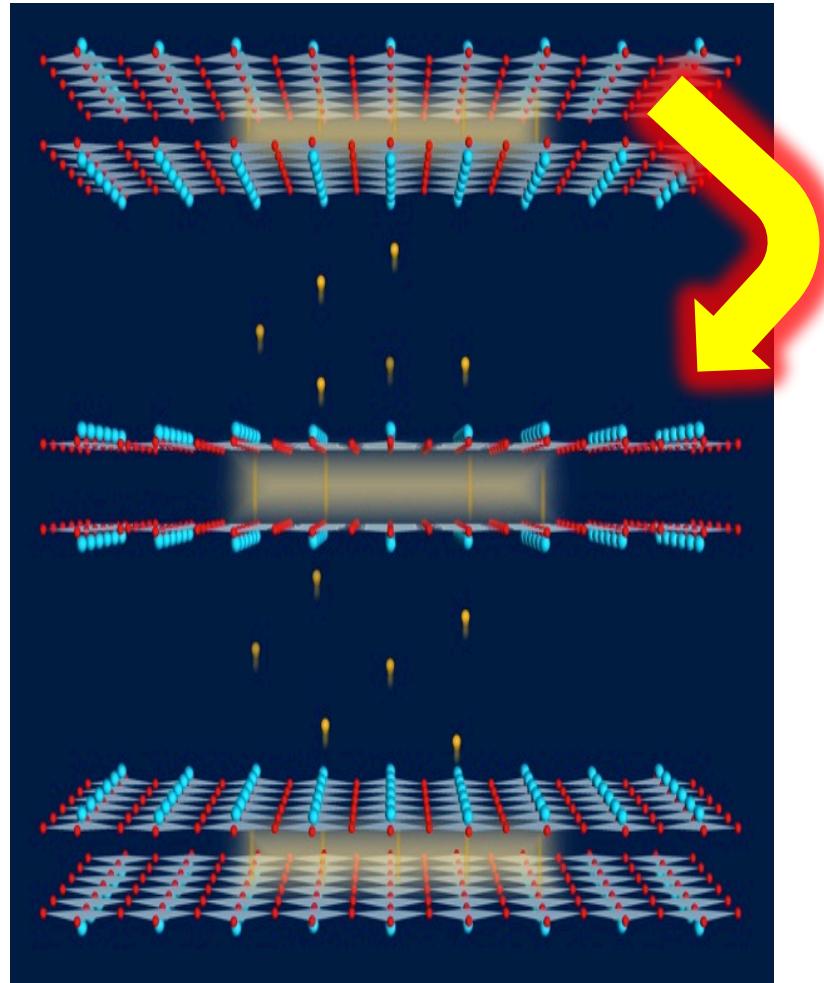


**Is this the structure of a room temperature
superconductor ?**

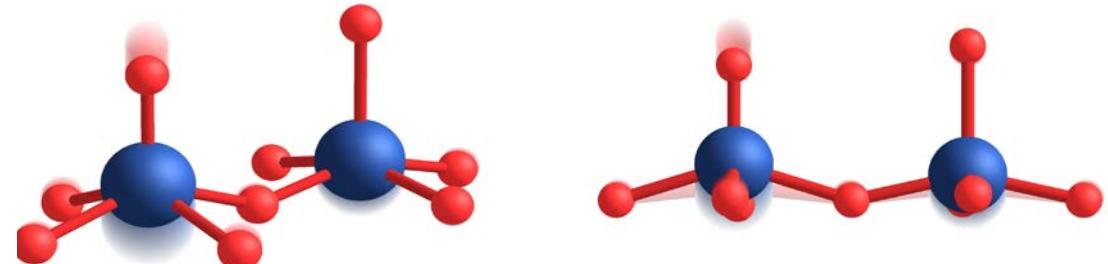
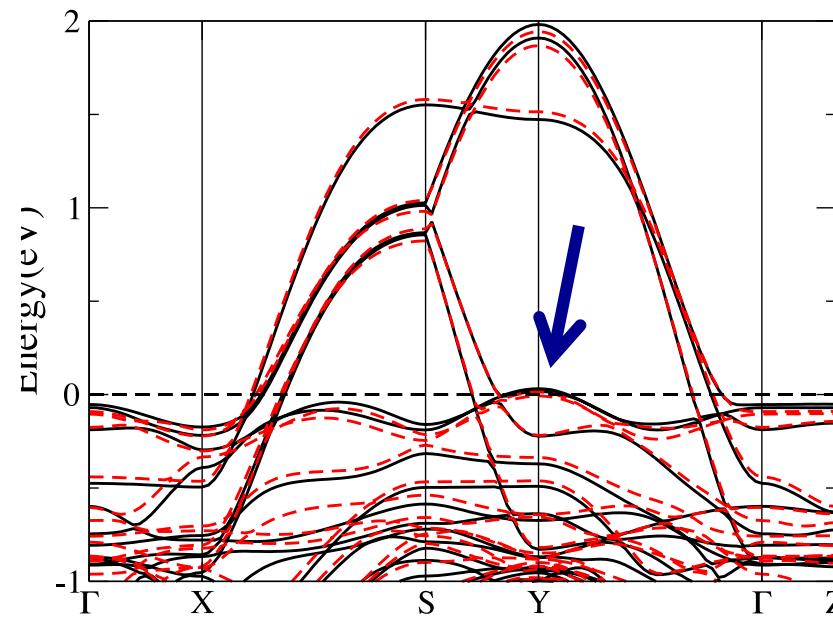
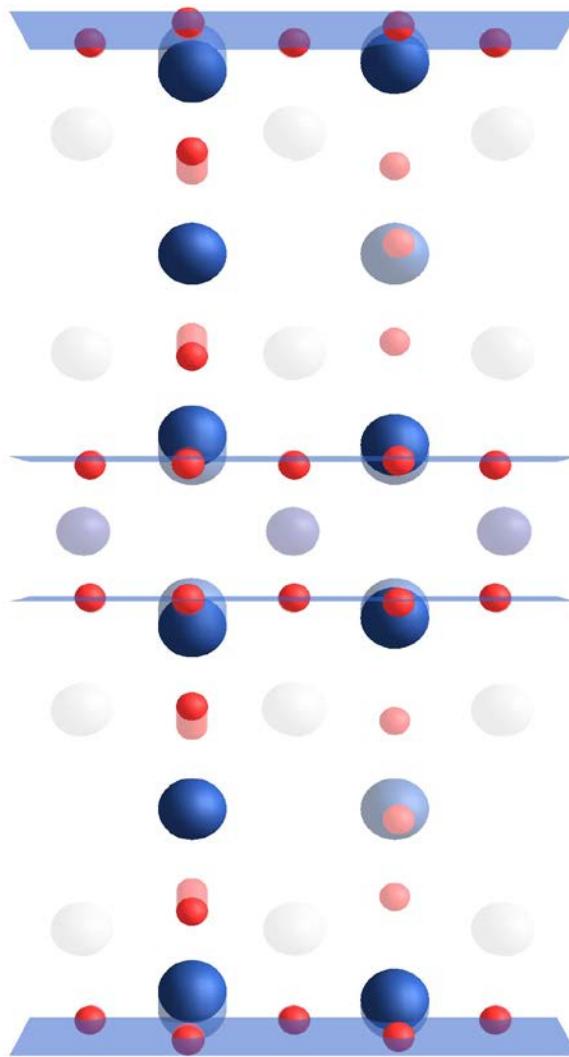
1) Staggered motion of the planes



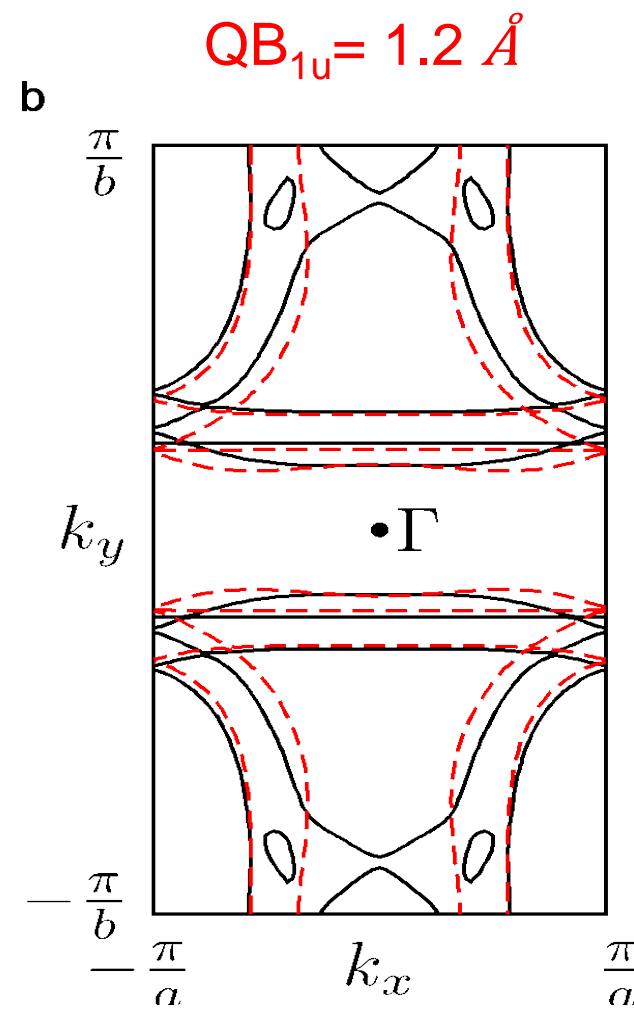
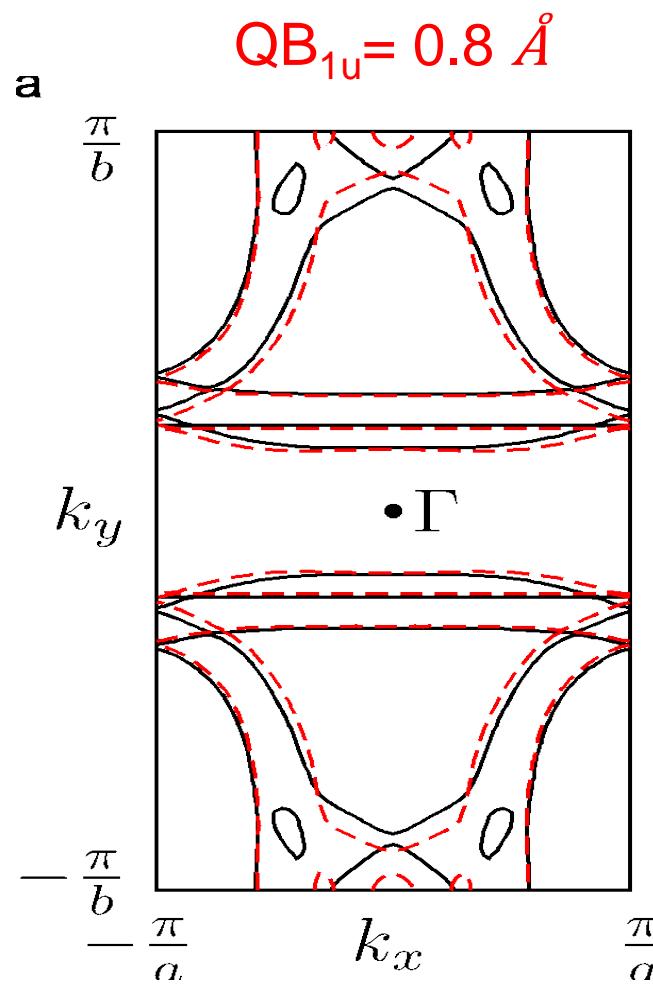
Spectral weight from high frequency



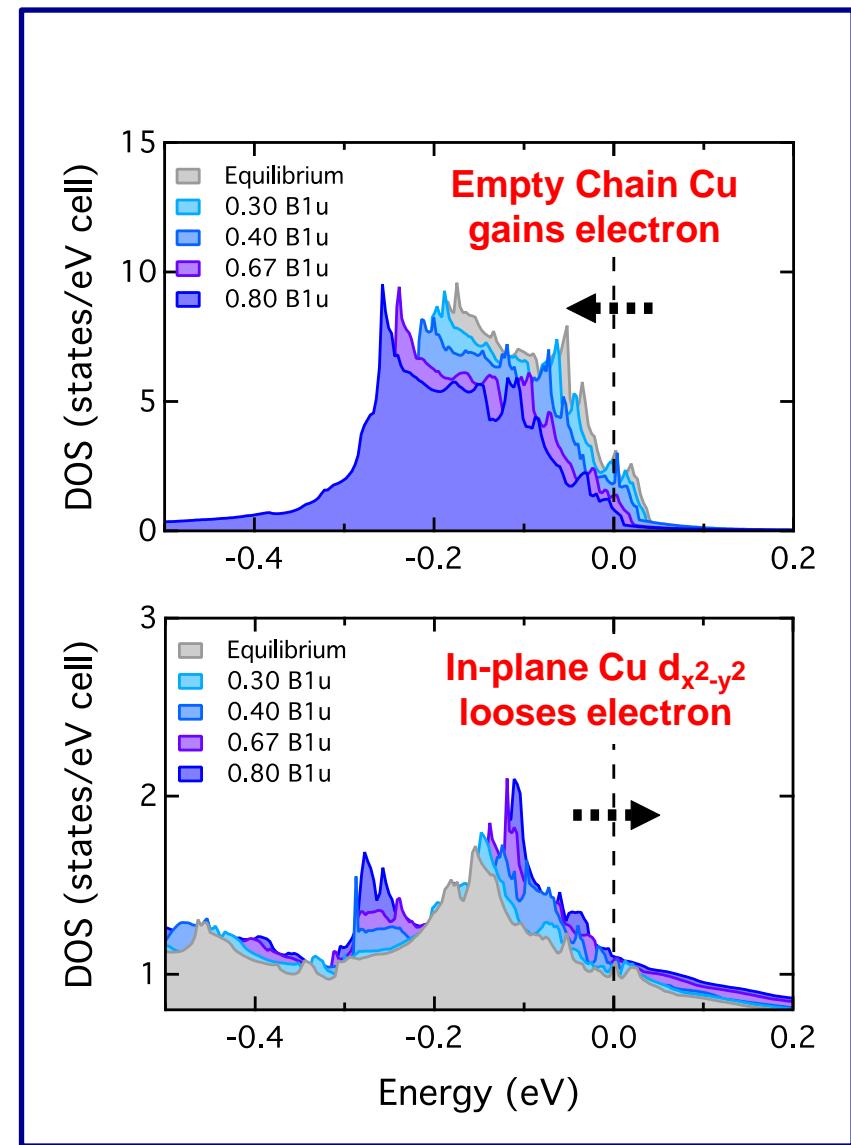
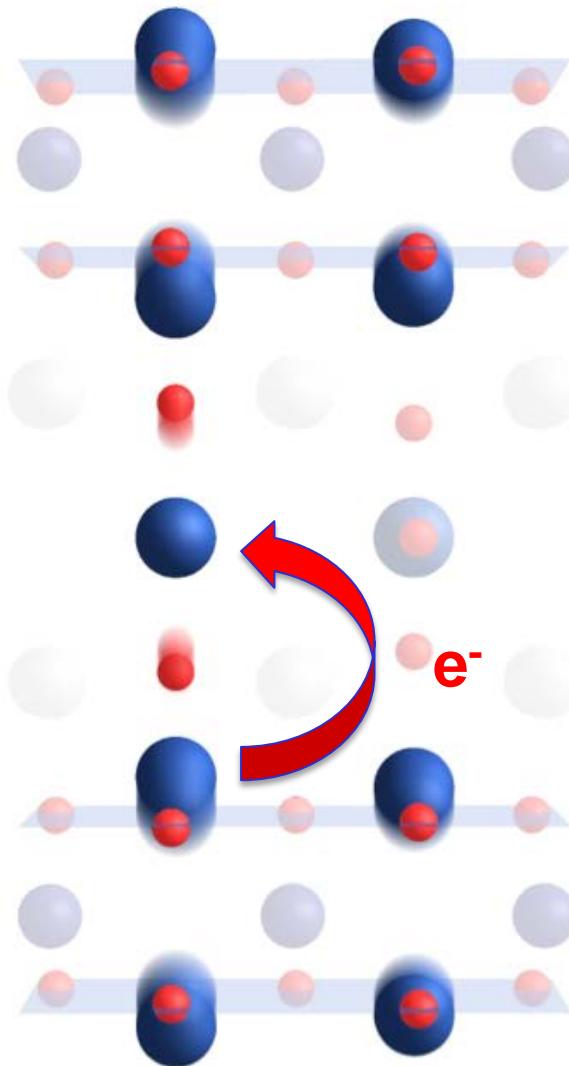
2) Empty chain band moves down in energy



3) A “cleaner” LDA electronic structure

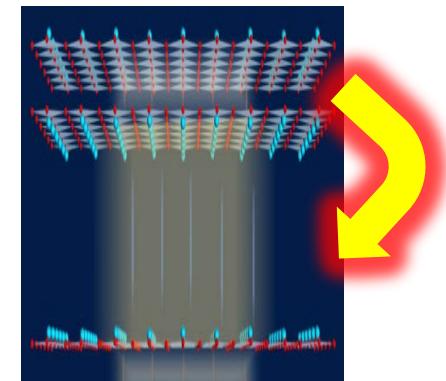


3) Charge transfer from the planes to the chains

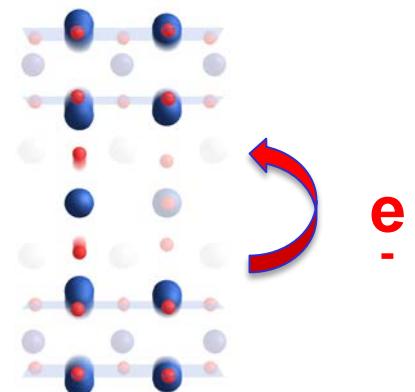


Summary: three good things

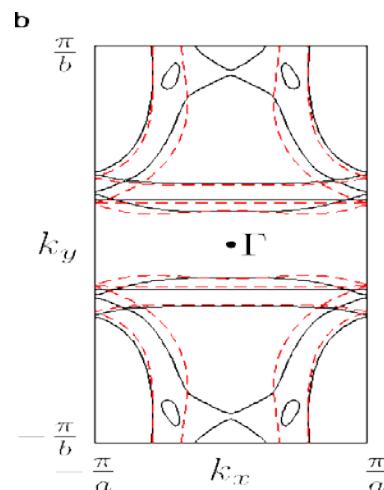
1) Staggered motion of the layers



2) Charge transfer from to chains

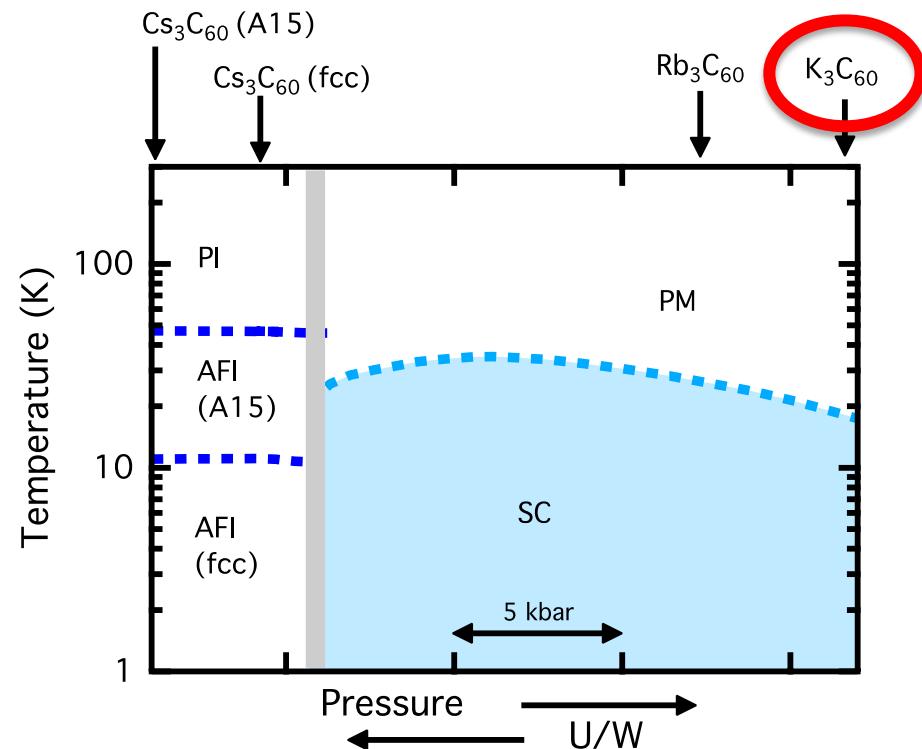
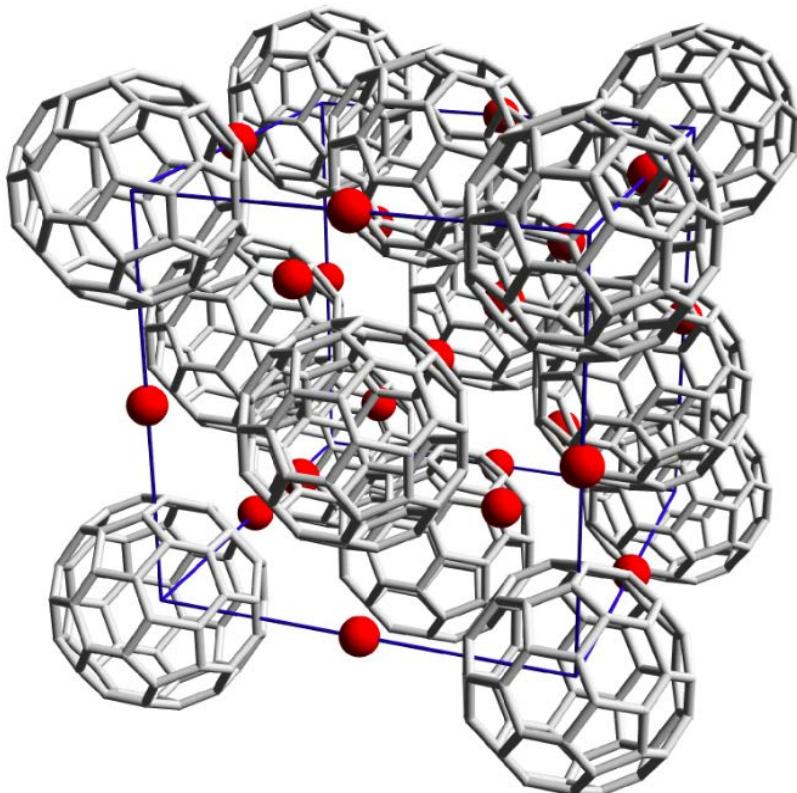


3) dx^2-y^2 Fermi surface



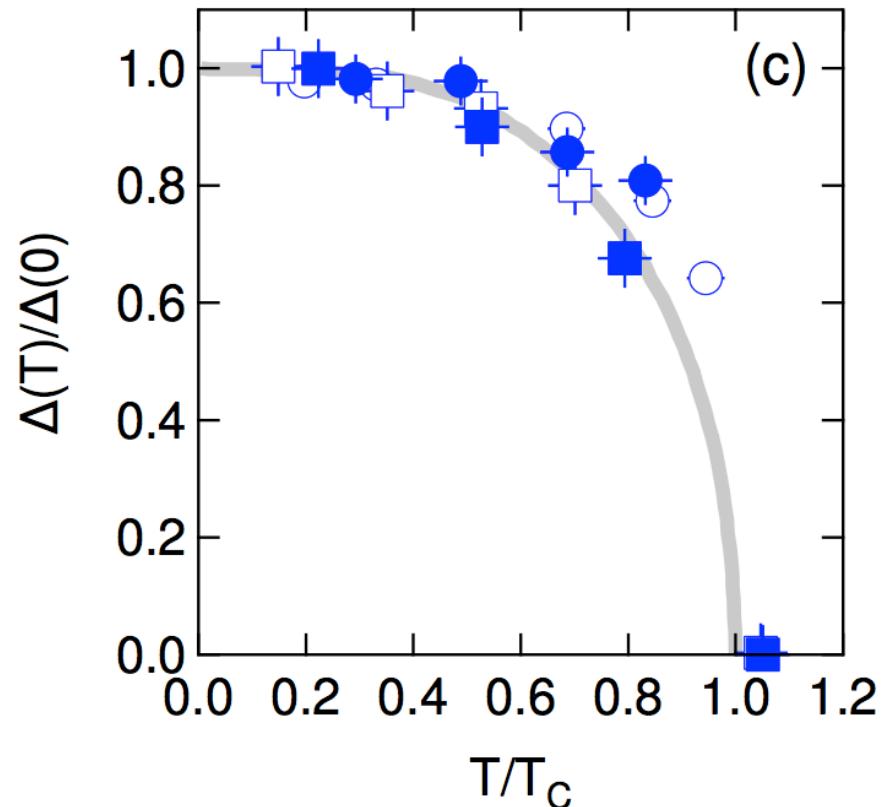
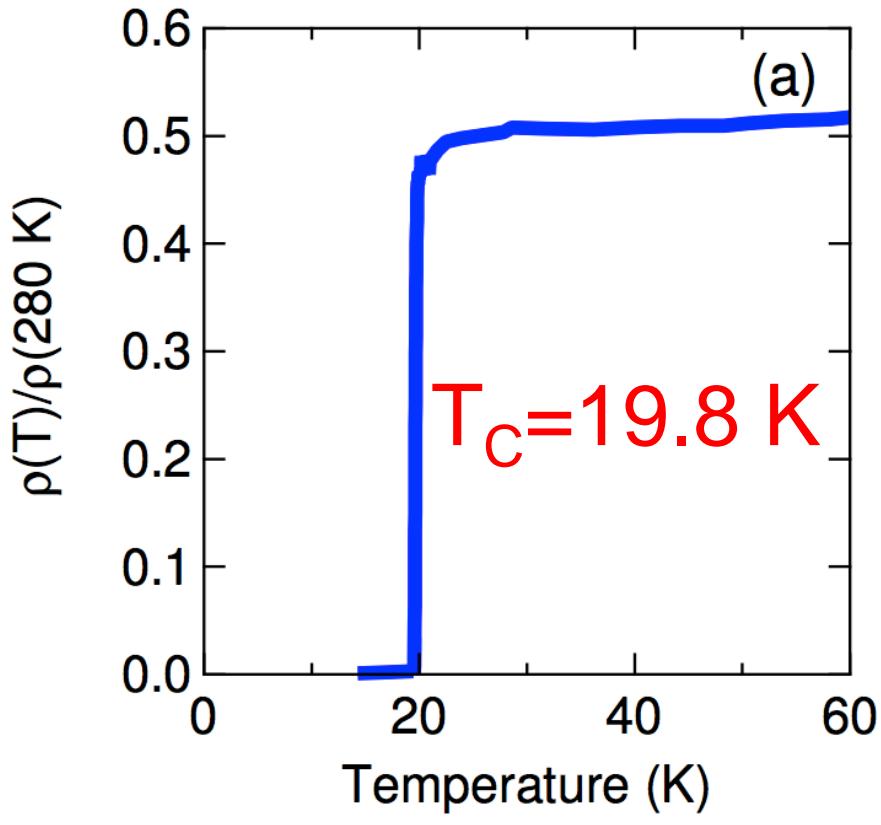
**Is this a phenomenon specific to cuprates
or is it more general ?**

K_3C_{60} : a 20 K superconductor



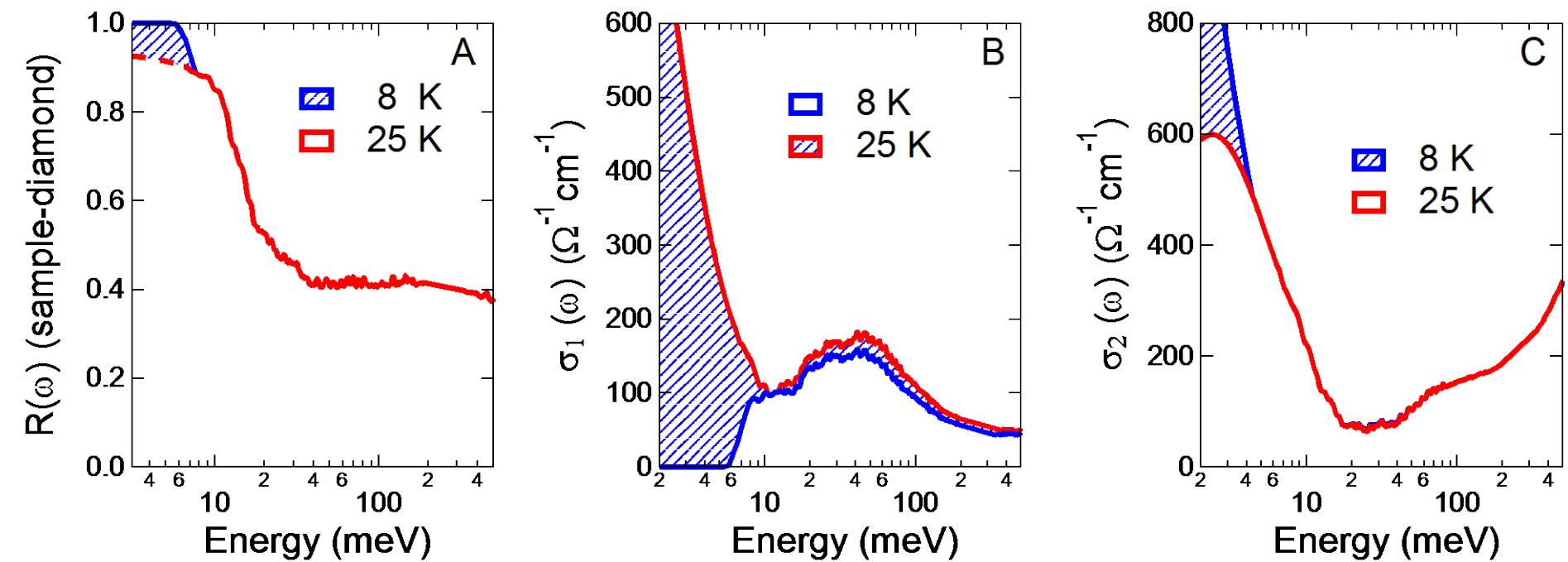
- Organic molecular solid
- High T_c (20 K)
- 3D electronic structure

Equilibrium Superconductivity in K_3C_{60}



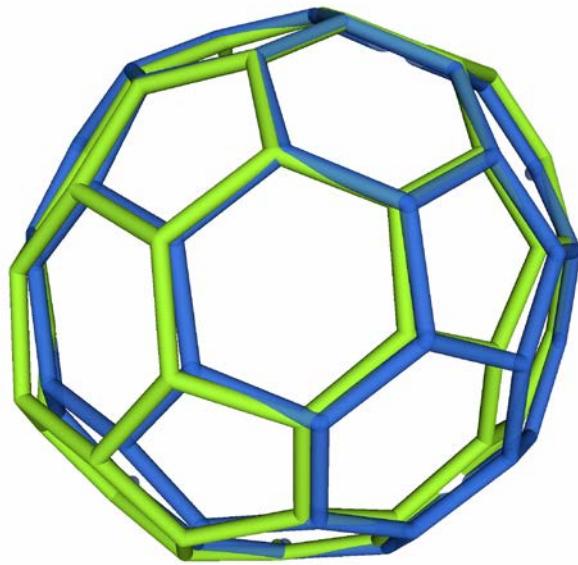
From literature data, MM PhD thesis

Equilibrium Superconducting Transition

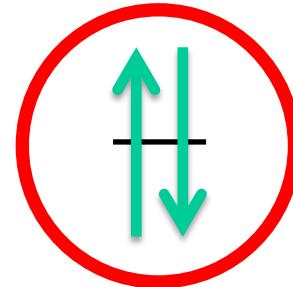


- Increase in $R(\omega)$
- Gap opening in $\sigma_1(\omega)$
- Increase in $\sigma_2(\omega)$

Pairing Interaction in K_3C_{60}

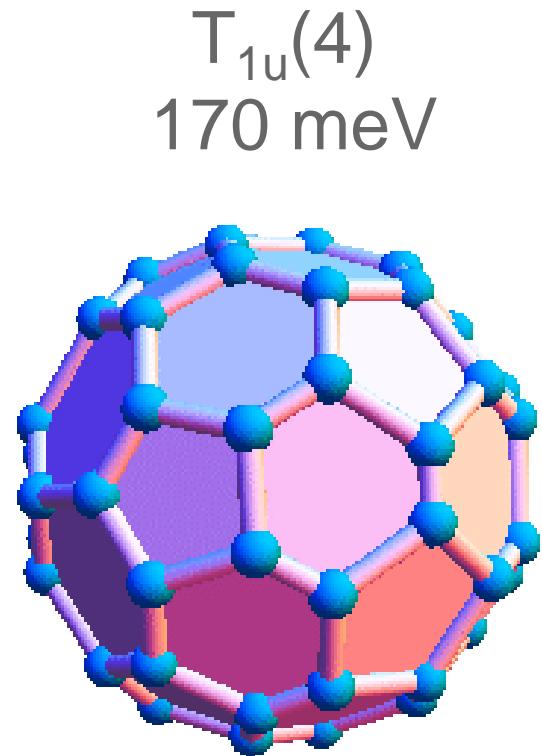


— H_g mode (JT distortion)
— Undistorted

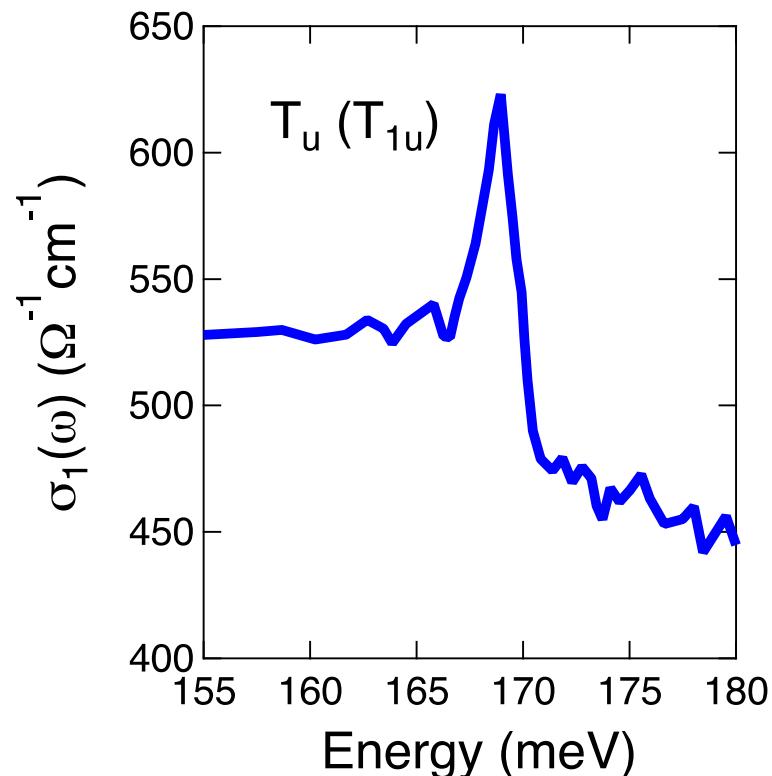


“On ball” vibrations plus correlations favor local pairing

Vibrational pump



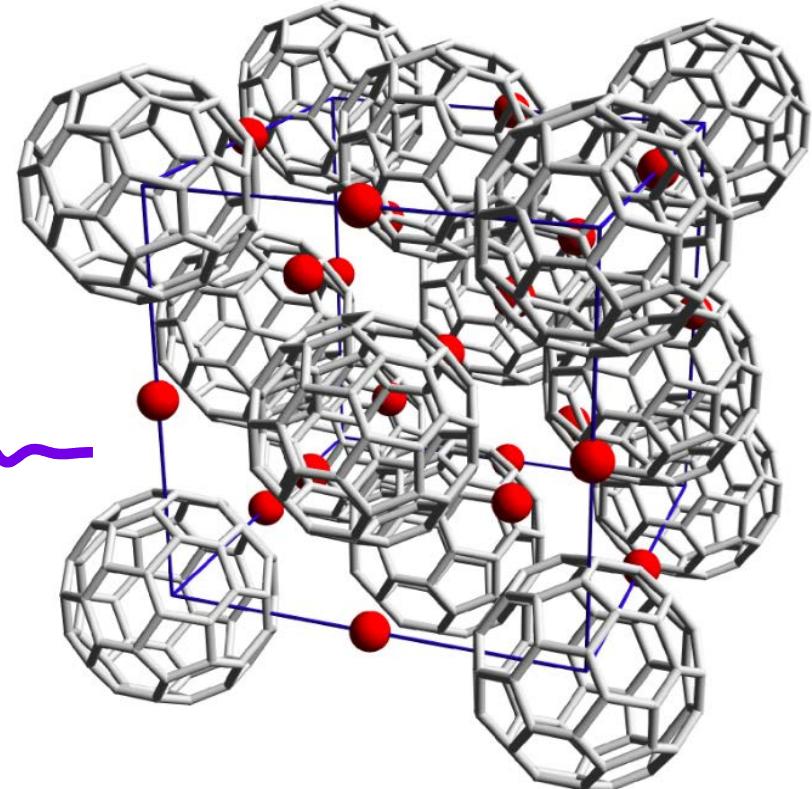
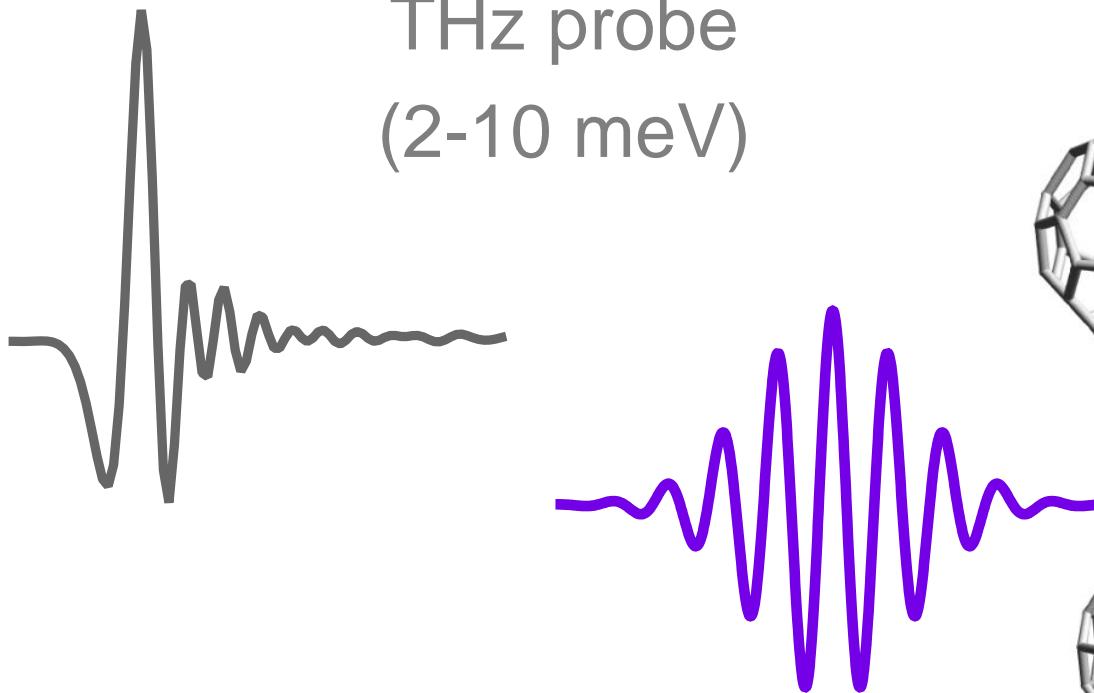
MIR pump 170 meV (7.3 μm)



Iwasa et al. PRB 51, 3678 (1995)

Vibrational pump THz probe in K_3C_{60}

THz probe
(2-10 meV)

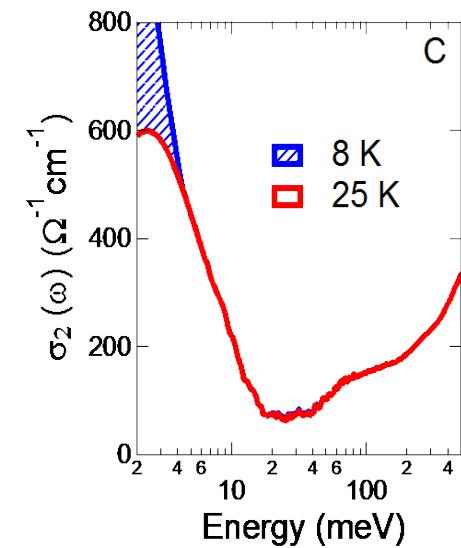
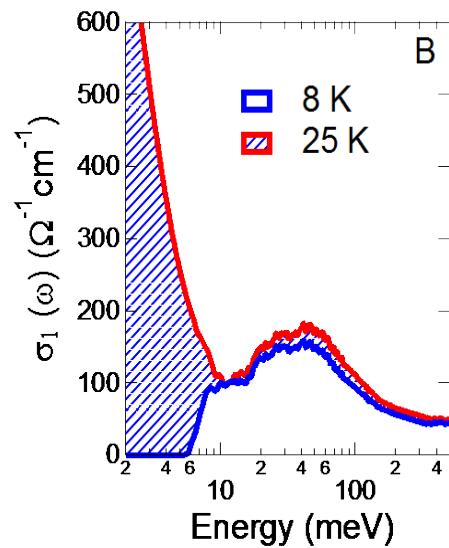
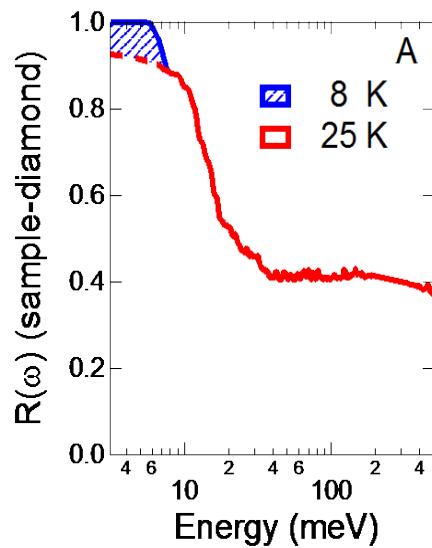


MIR pump 170 meV (7.3 μ m)

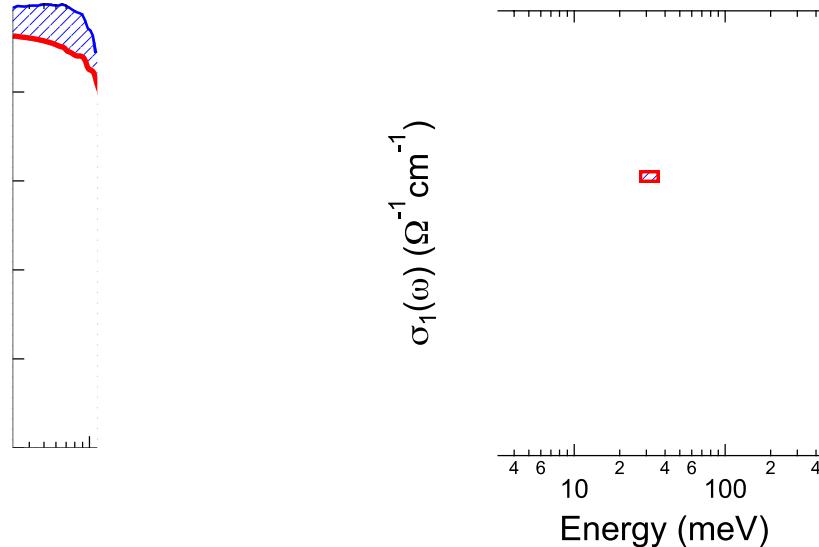
Striking similarity with the low temperature SC

mpsd

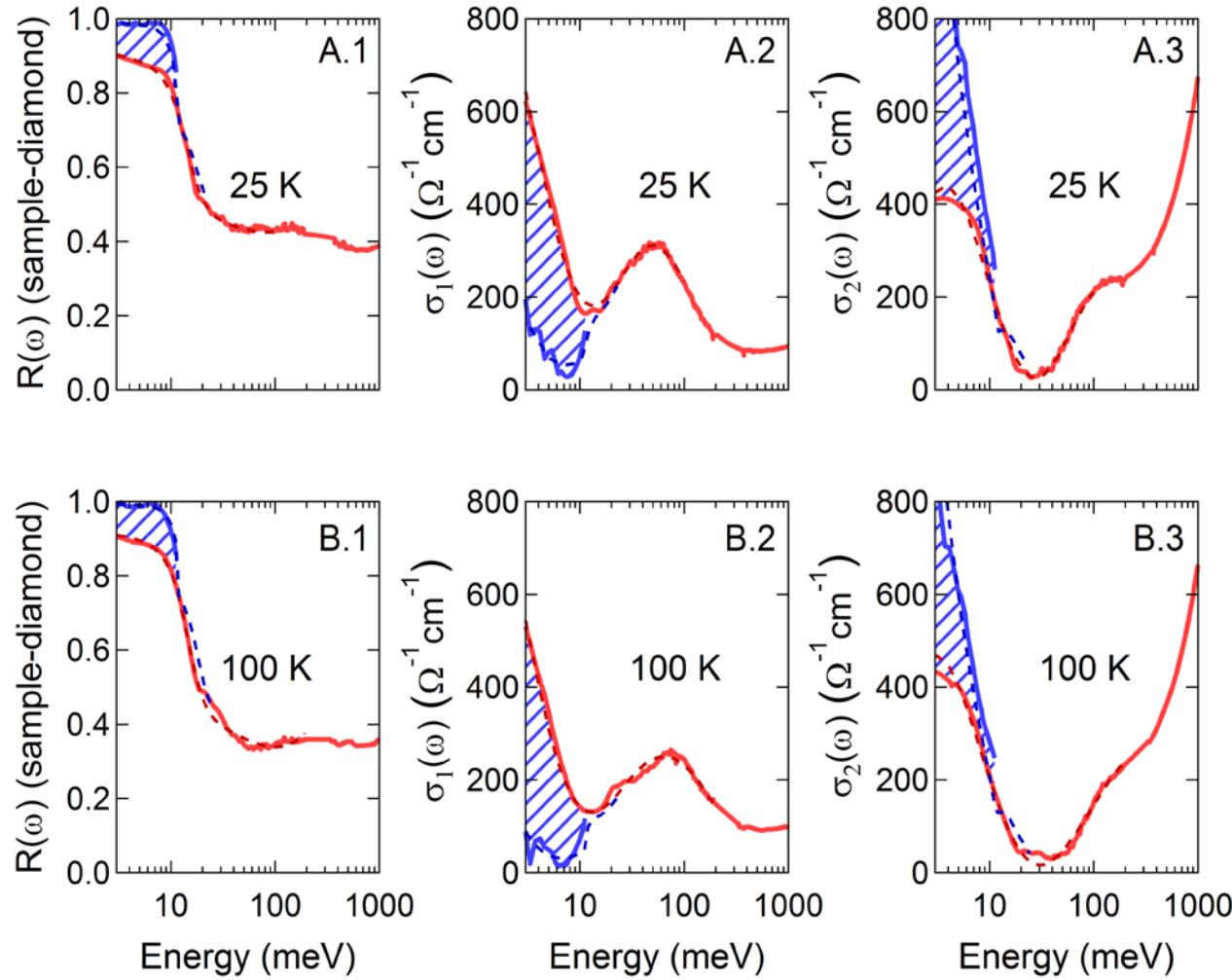
Cooling



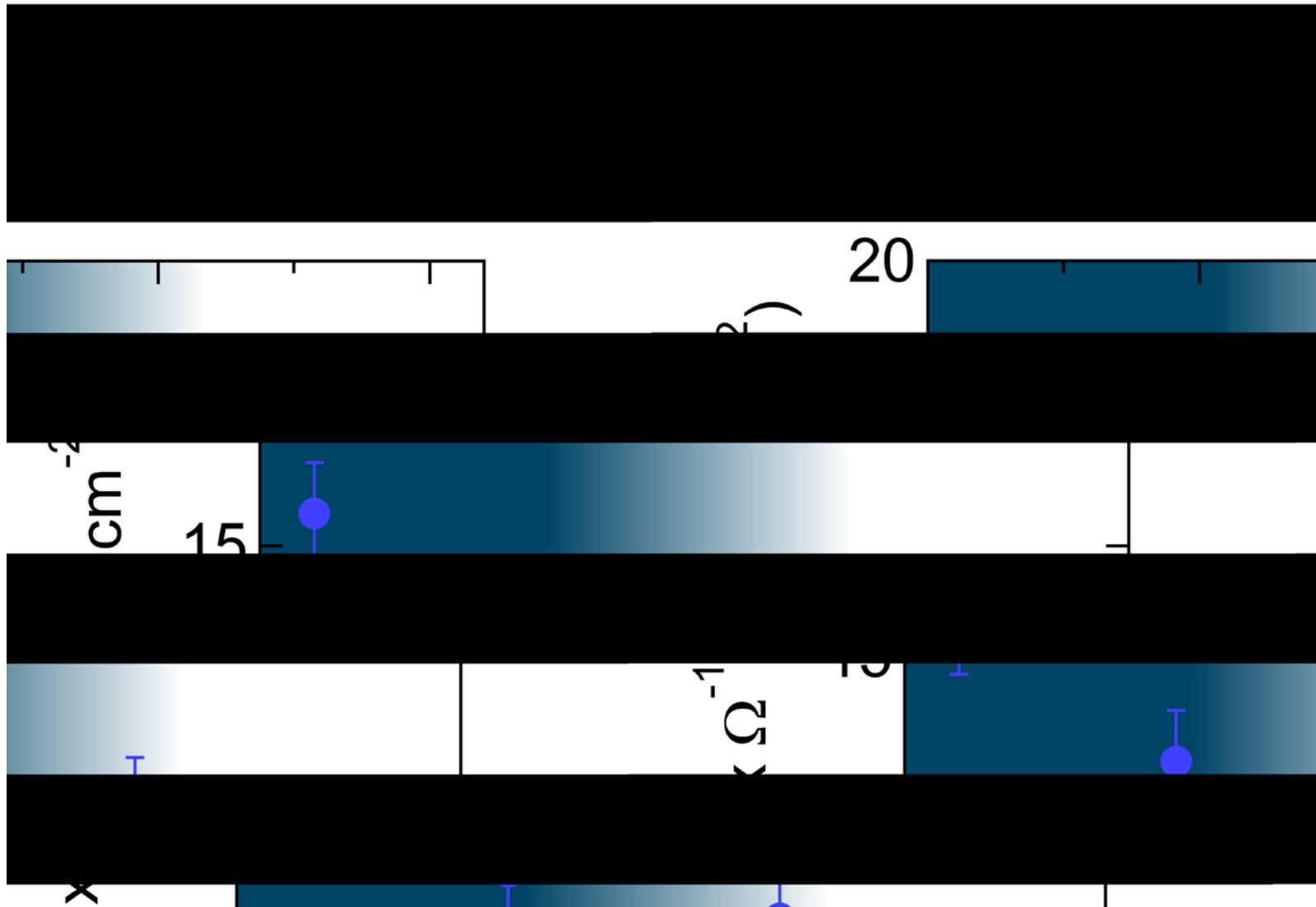
Light-induced
T=25 K



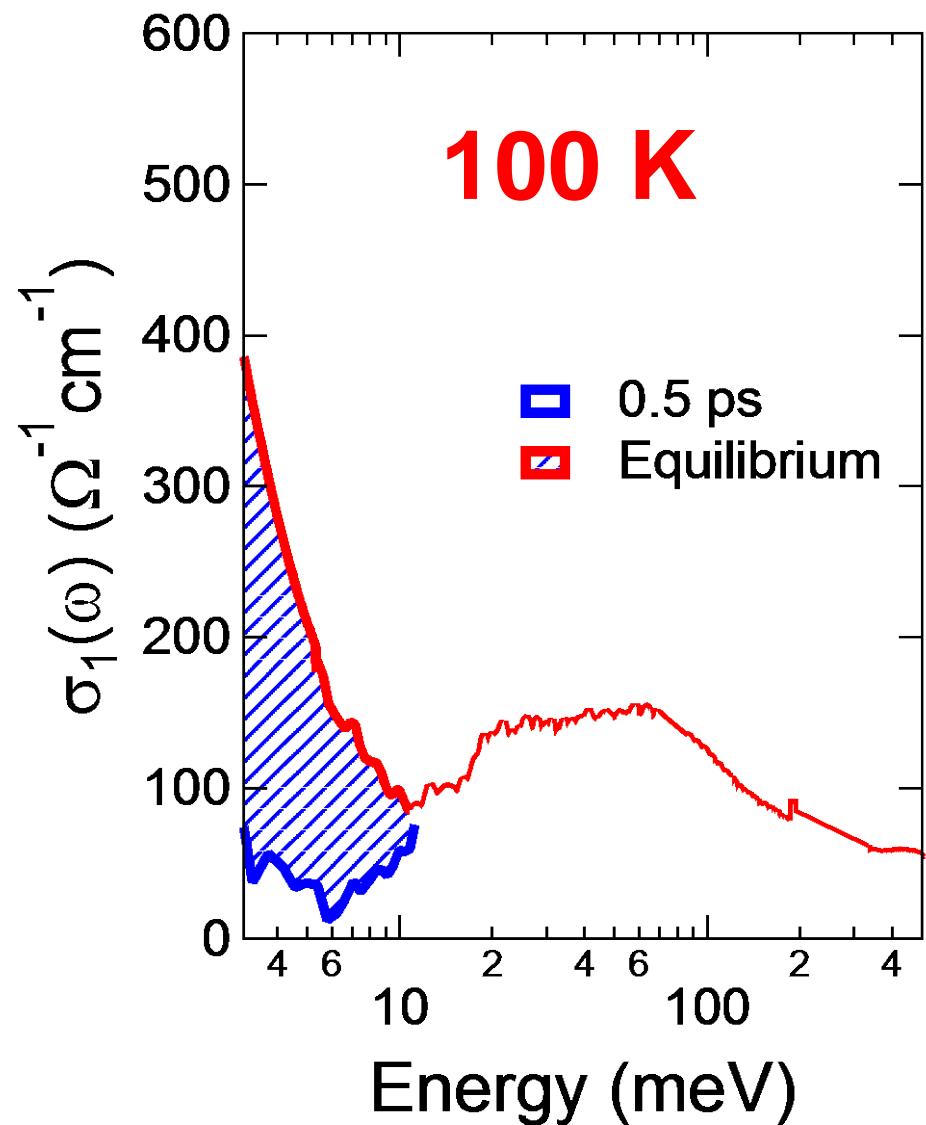
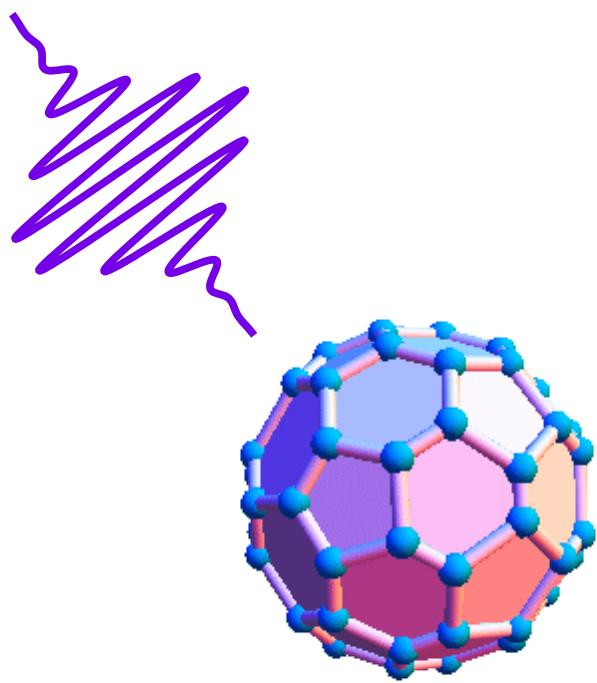
Temperature dependence



Crossover at \sim 10 times T_c

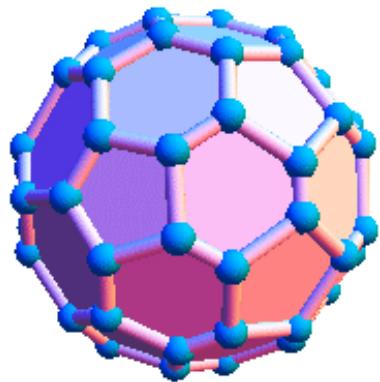


K_3C_{60} : Stimulated superconductivity ?

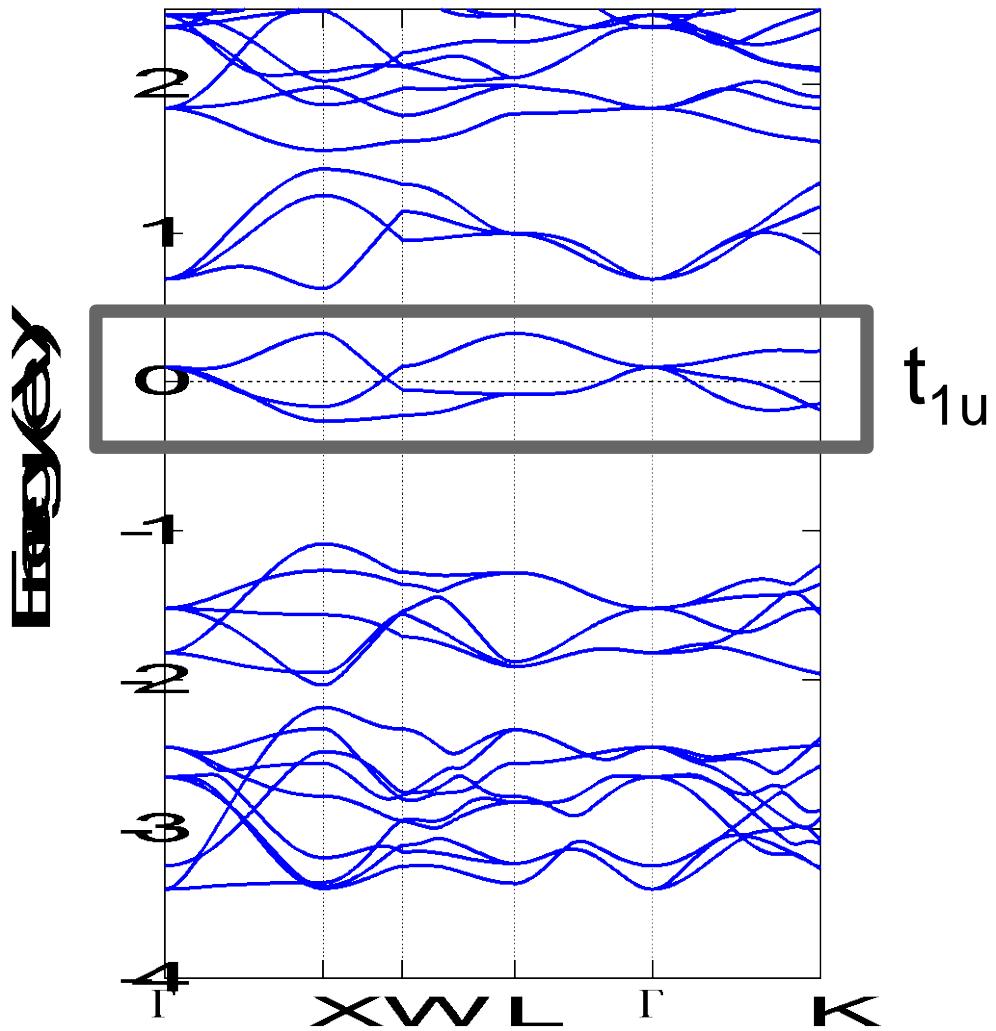


What is going on?

T_{1u} vibration: no linear e-ph coupling



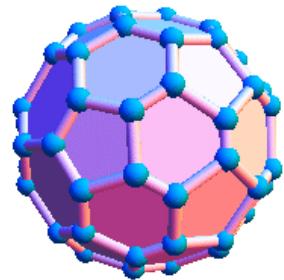
$T_{1u}(4)$
 1370 cm^{-1}



Nonlinear Coupling to Jahn Teller Phonon

$$Q^2_{T1u} Q_{Hg}$$

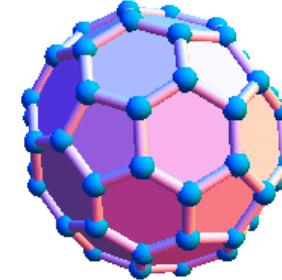
T_{1u}^2



$T_{1u}(4)$
 1370 cm^{-1}

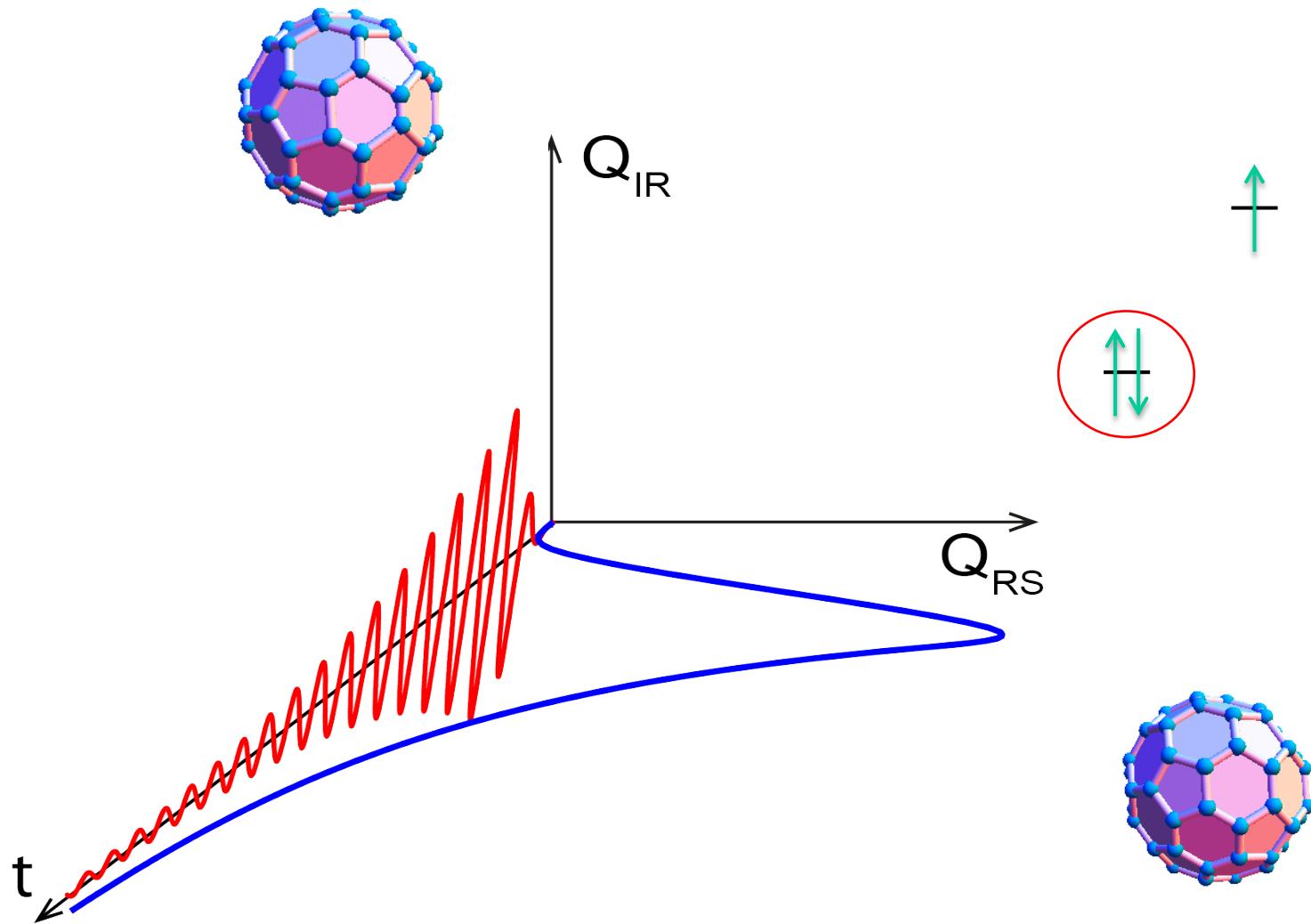


H_g



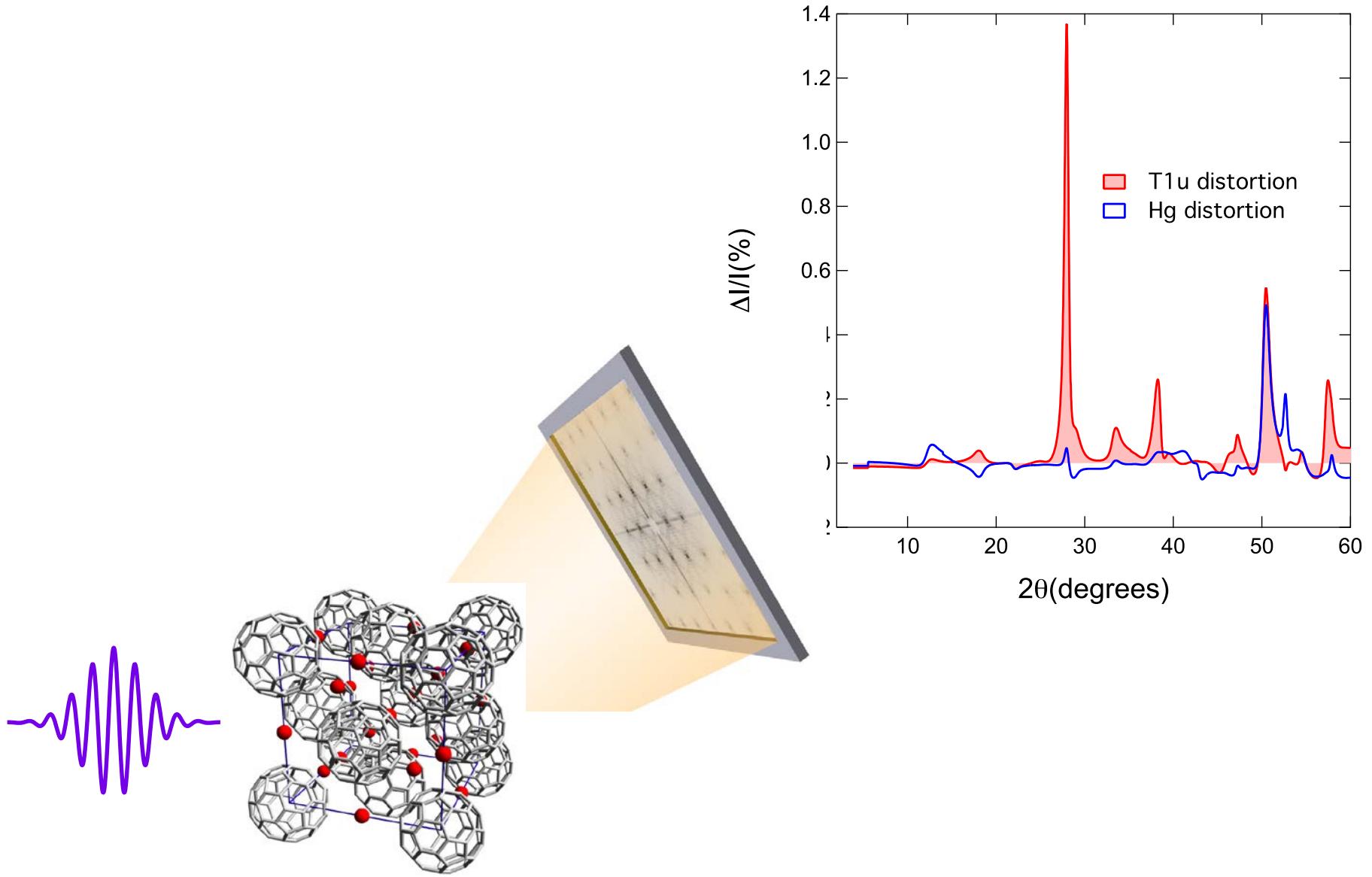
$H_g(1)$
 261 cm^{-1}

Dynamical enhancement of pairing ?



Or something else.....

Our new LCLS proposal



People



Matteo Mitrano



Roman Mankowski



Wanzheng Hu



Alice Cantaluppi



Daniele Nicoletti



Stefan Kaiser



Alaska Subedi



Cassi Hunt

Theory

Stephen Clark
Dieter Jaksch
Oxford

A. Georges
Paris

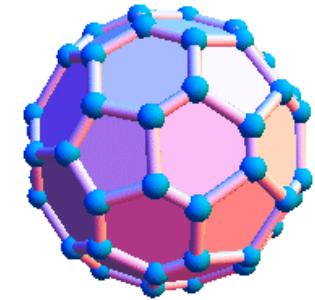
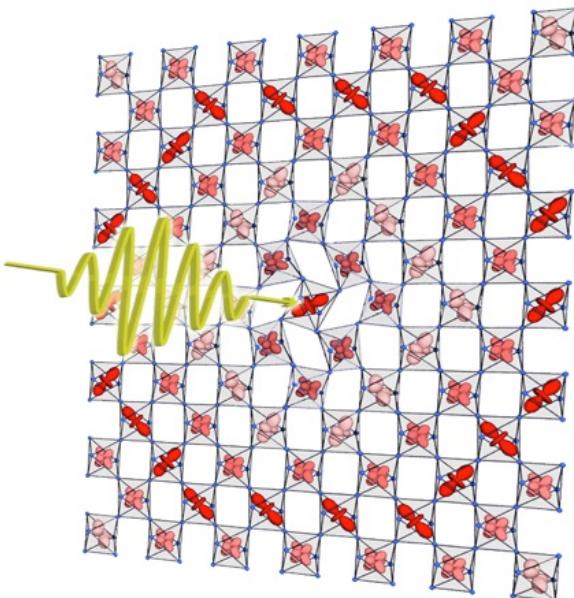
Samples

B. Keimer
Stuttgart

G. Gu
Brookhaven

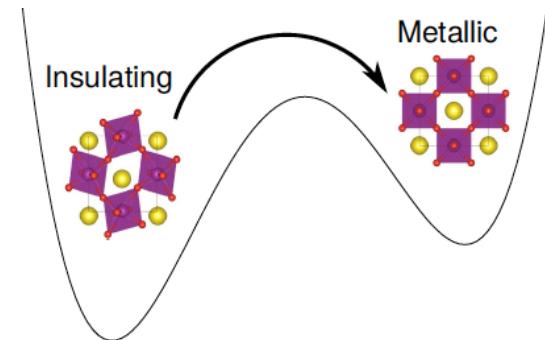
H. Takagi
Stuttgart

Controlling solids with light

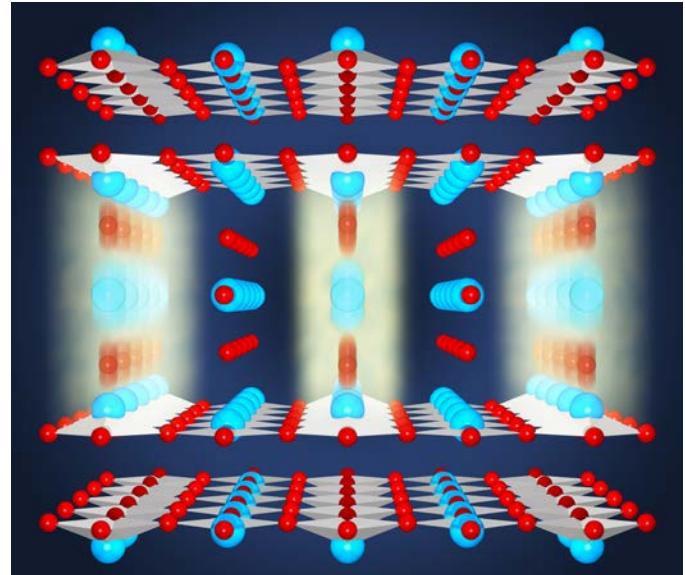


Non-equilibrium order

Driving competing orders



Dynamical materials discovery



Non-equilibrium superconductivity

