

Novel materials for energy applications: insight by ab-initio ground and excited state methods



Maurizia Palumbo

Condensed Matter Theory Group
University of Rome "Tor Vergata"

**SIF Annual Conference
14-18 September 2020**



Motivations & goals

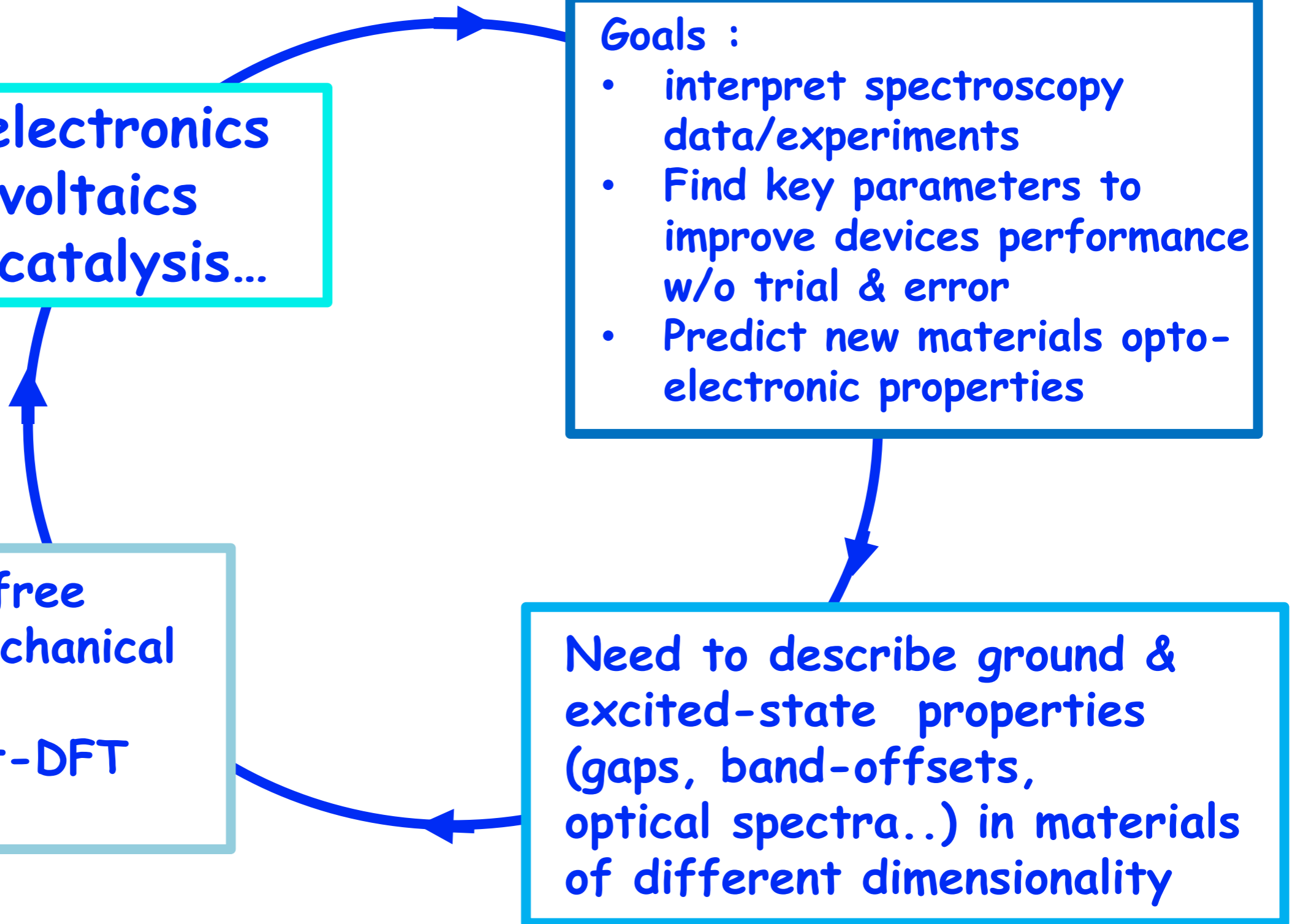
Opto-electronics
Photo-voltaics
Photo-catalysis...

Goals :

- interpret spectroscopy data/experiments
- Find key parameters to improve devices performance w/o trial & error
- Predict new materials opto-electronic properties

Parameter-free
quantum-mechanical
theories
DFT + post-DFT
(MBPT)

Need to describe ground & excited-state properties (gaps, band-offsets, optical spectra..) in materials of different dimensionality

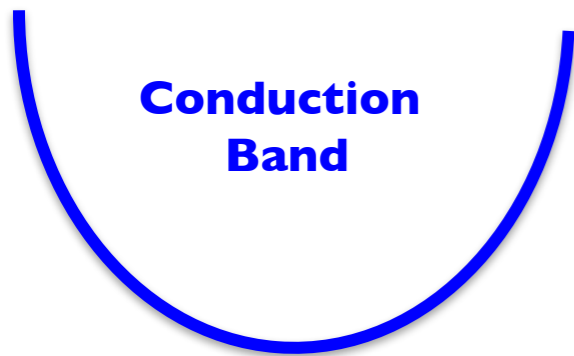


DFT and post-DFT (MBPT) simulations

DFT

Kohn-Sham Equations

$$H_0(r)\varphi_{KS}(r) + v_{xc}(r)\varphi_{KS}(r) = \epsilon_{KS}\varphi_{KS}(r)$$



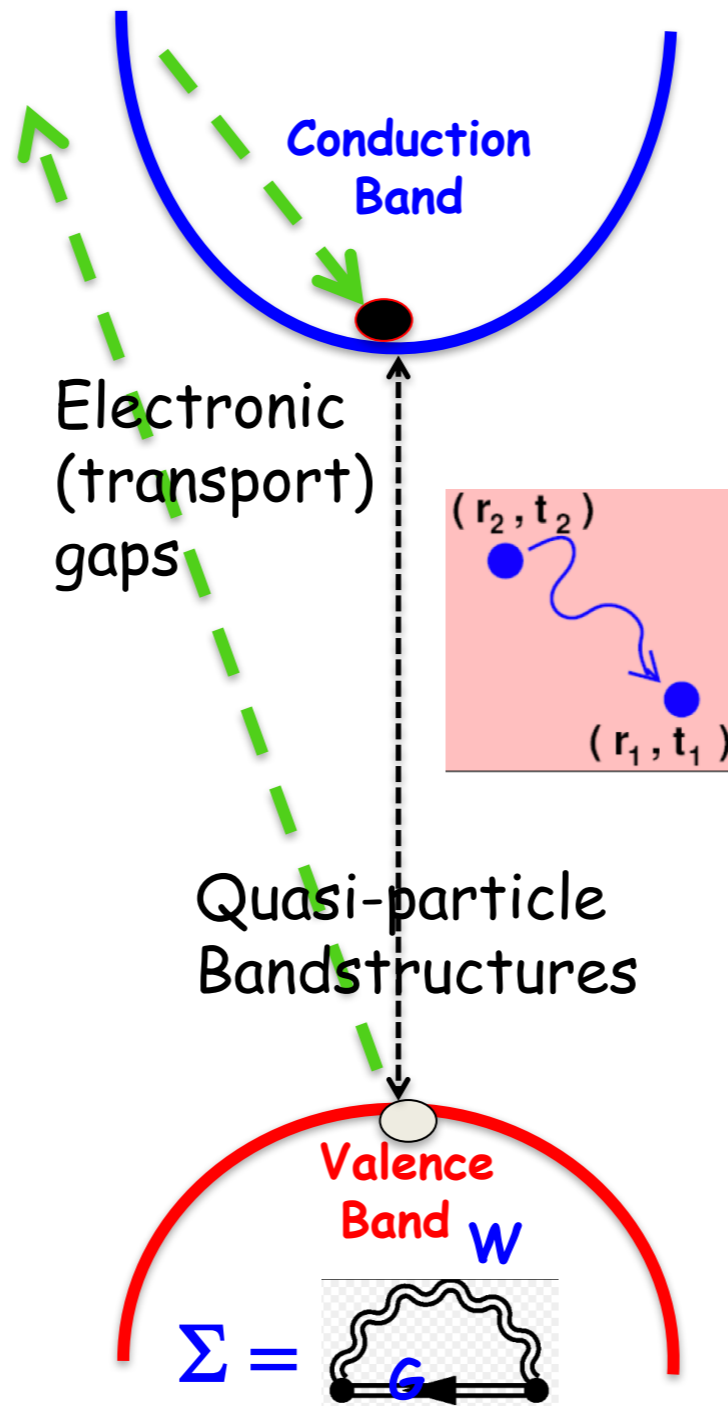
Ground-state properties
KS gaps underestimate
the real QP ones



GW method

$$\epsilon_i^{QP} \approx \epsilon_i^{KS} + \langle \varphi_i^{KS} | \Sigma(\epsilon_{nk}^{KS}) - V_{xc} | \varphi_i^{KS} \rangle$$

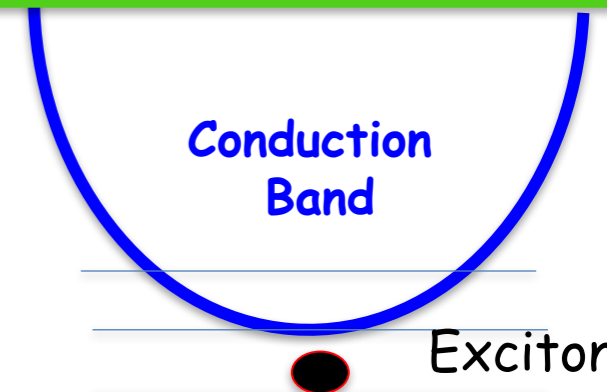
(One-shot G_0W_0 or e-GW)



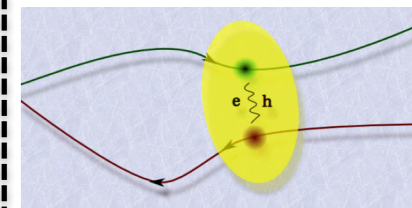
Bethe-Salpeter Equation (BSE)

$$[H_{el} + H_{hole} + H_{el-hole}]A_\lambda = E_\lambda A_\lambda$$

$$Abs(\omega) \propto \sum_\lambda \left| \sum_{vc} A_\lambda^{(vc)} \langle v|D|c \rangle \right|^2 \delta(E_\lambda - \omega)$$



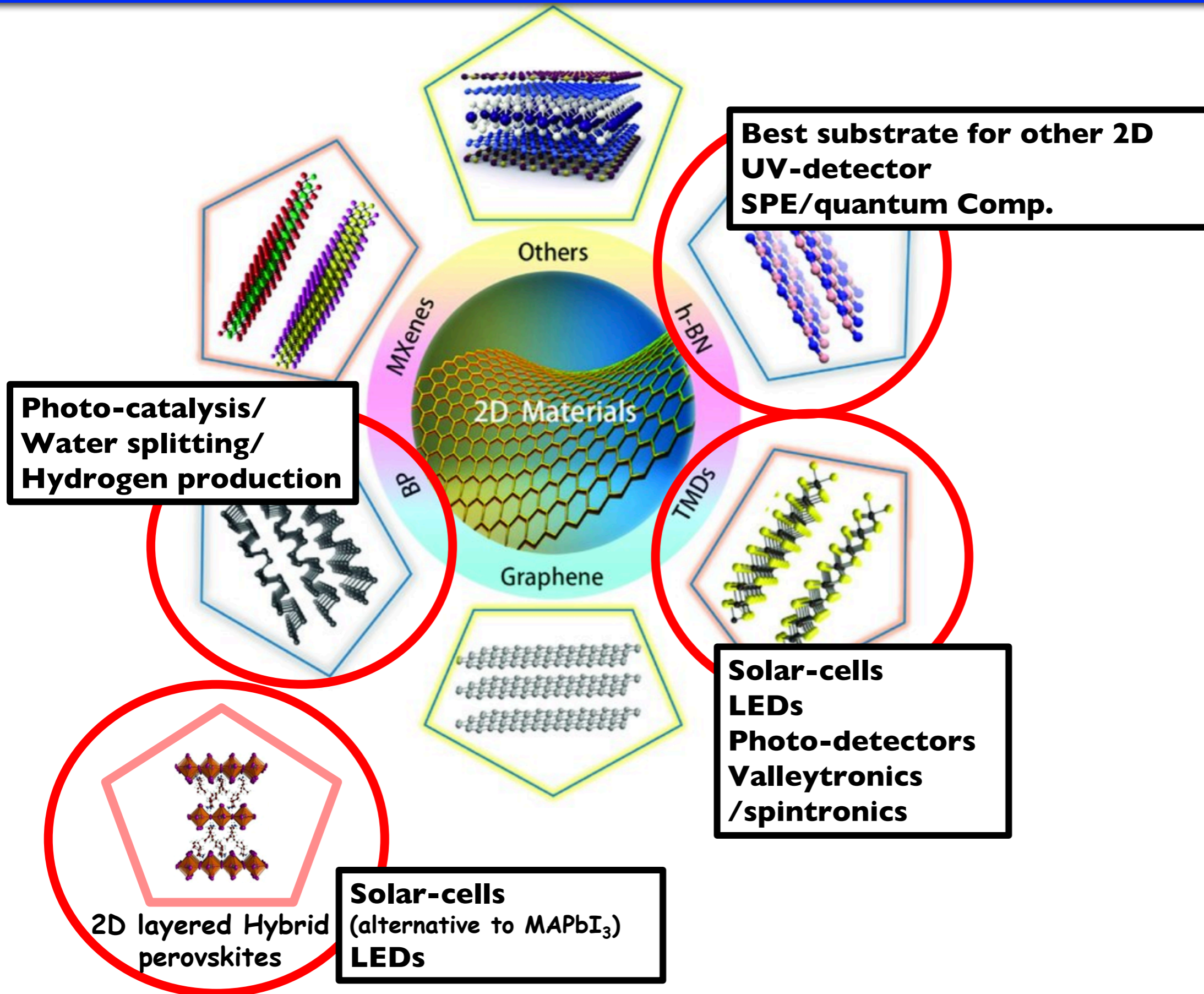
Optical Gaps,
spectra



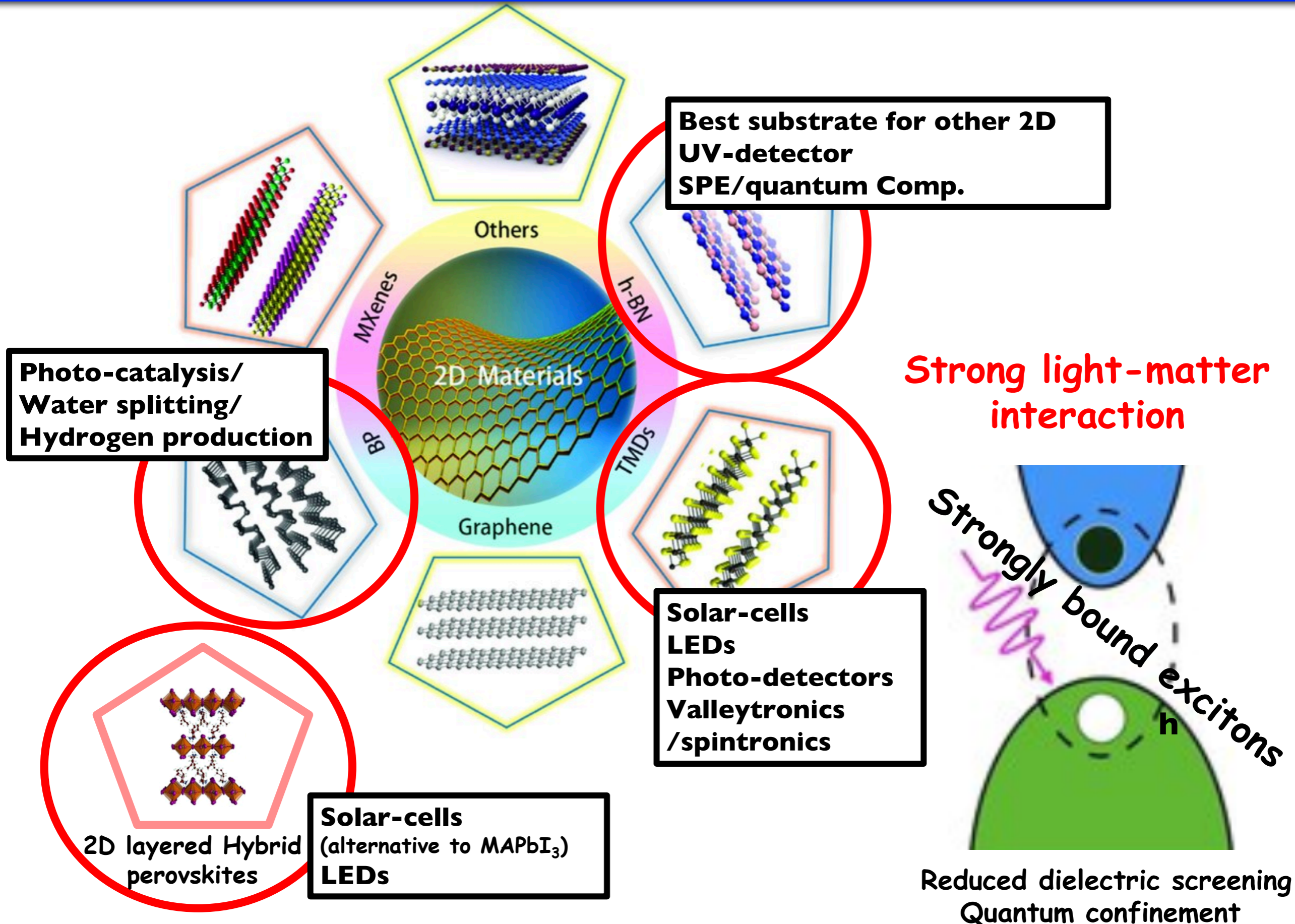
A_λ = excitonic eigenfunctions
 E_λ = excitonic Eigenvalues

Computational cost increases

Which Novel Materials? 2D/vdW/layered



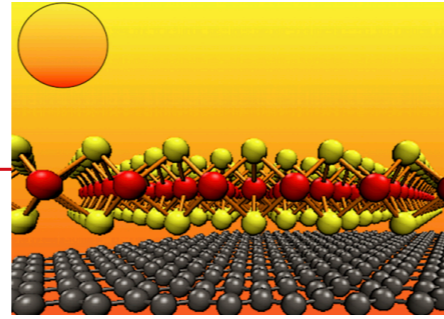
Which Novel Materials? 2D/vdW/layered



Group VI Transition Metal Dichalcogenides

NANO LETTERS

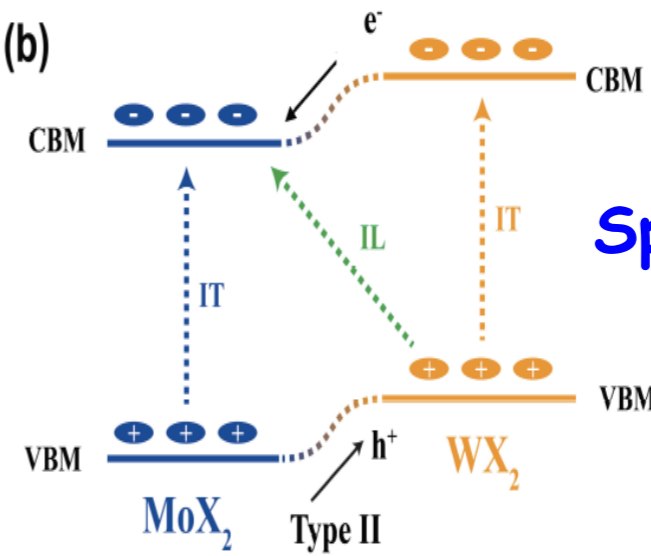
2013



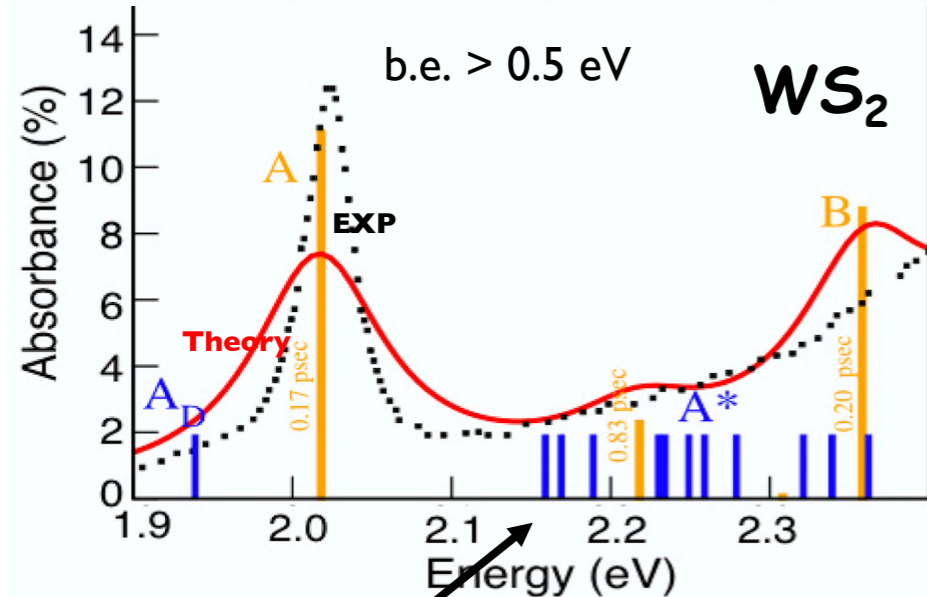
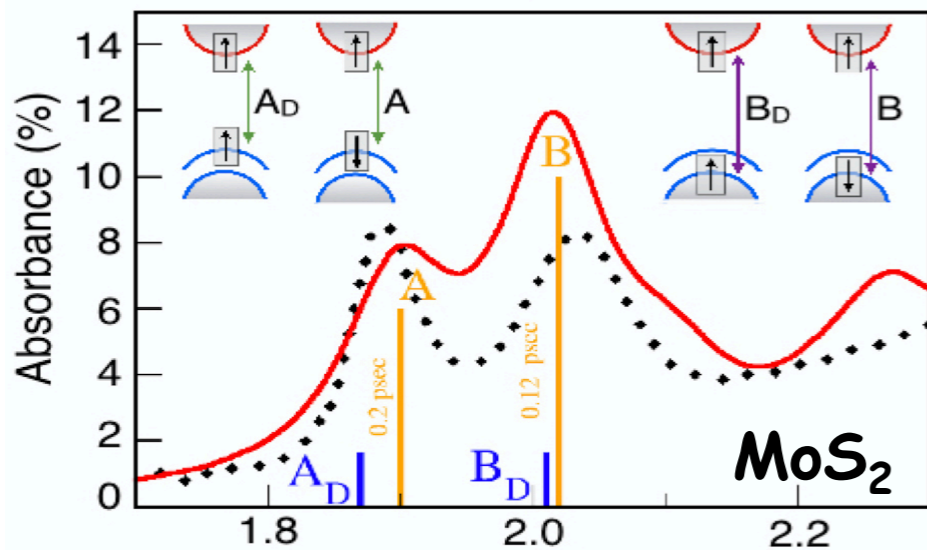
Extraordinary Sunlight Absorption and One Nanometer Thick Photovoltaics Using Two-Dimensional Monolayer Materials

Marco Bernardi,[†] Maurizia Palummo,^{†,‡} and Jeffrey C. Grossman^{*,†}

(b)



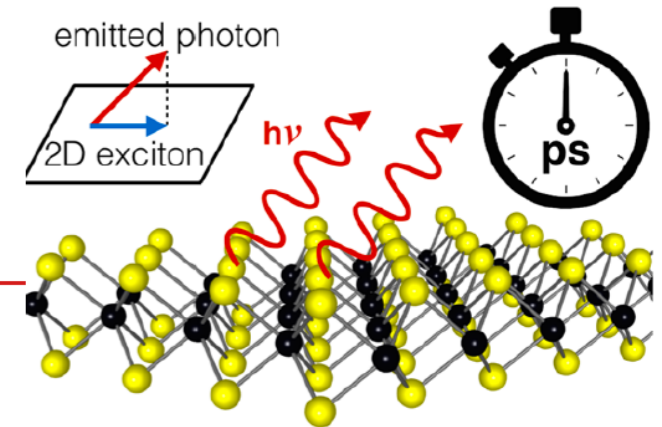
Inter-Layer
Spatially indirect
excitons



Excitons fine structure

NANO LETTERS

2015



Exciton Radiative Lifetimes in Two-Dimensional Transition Metal Dichalcogenides

Maurizia Palummo,[†] Marco Bernardi,[‡] and Jeffrey C. Grossman^{*,§}

$$\tau_S(0)^{-1} = \frac{8\pi e^2 E_S(0) \mu_S^2}{\hbar^2 c A_{uc}}$$

$$\langle \tau_S \rangle = \tau_S(0) \frac{3}{4} \left(\frac{E_S(0)^2}{2M_S c^2} \right)^{-1} k_B T$$

A_D order of ms

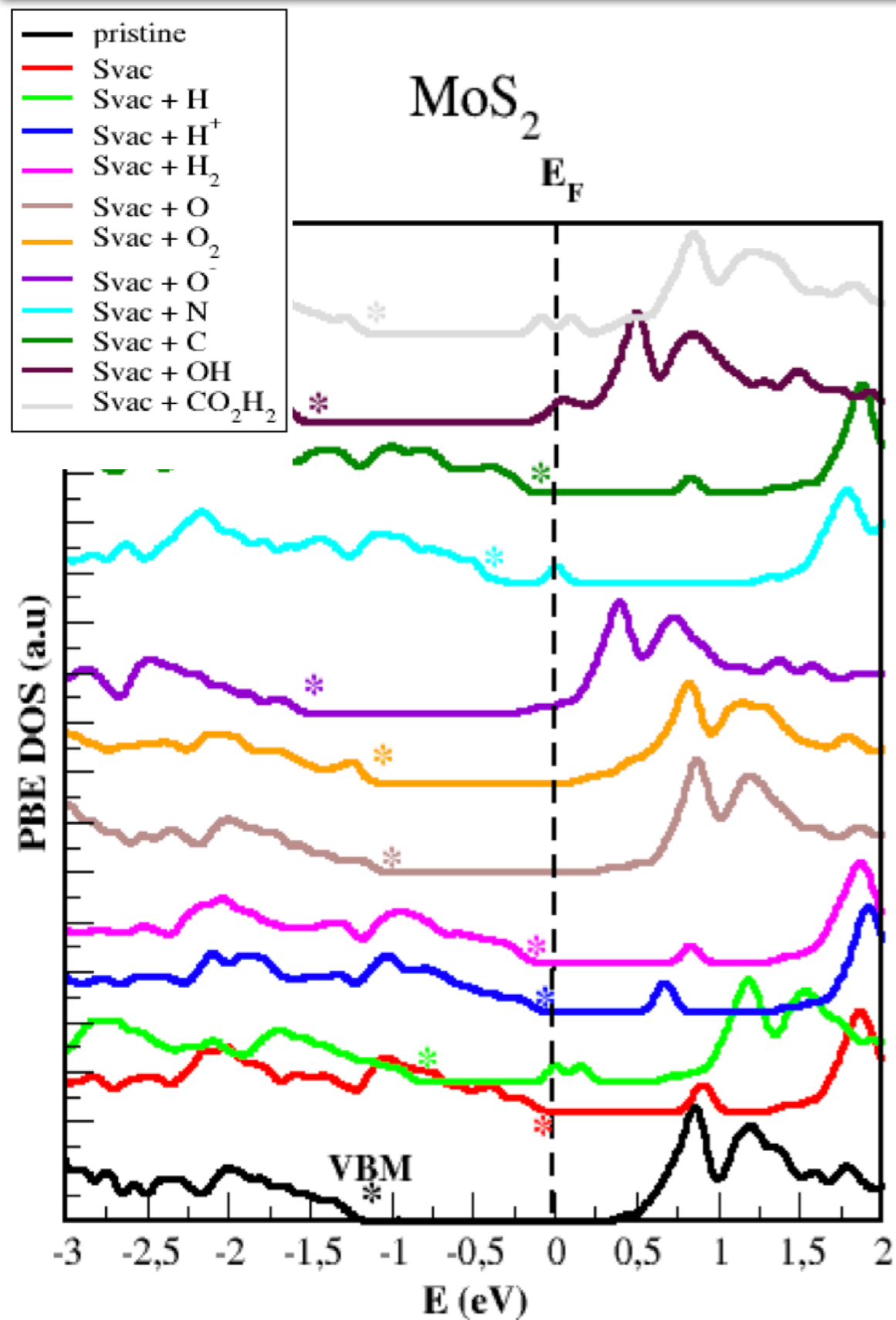
A 0.1-0.2 ps

A few ps at 4K

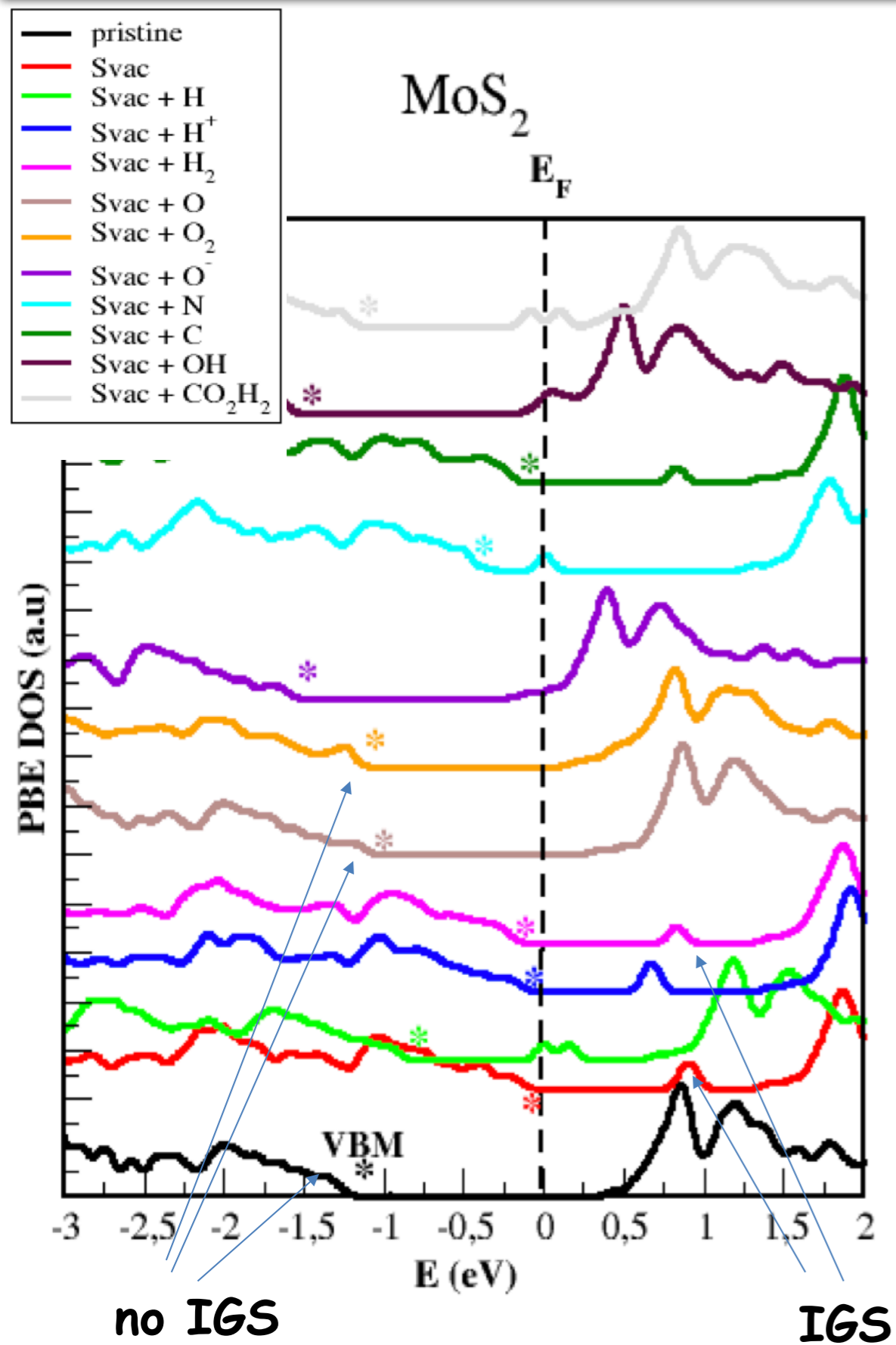
few ns at RT

IL excitons have much longer radiative lifetimes

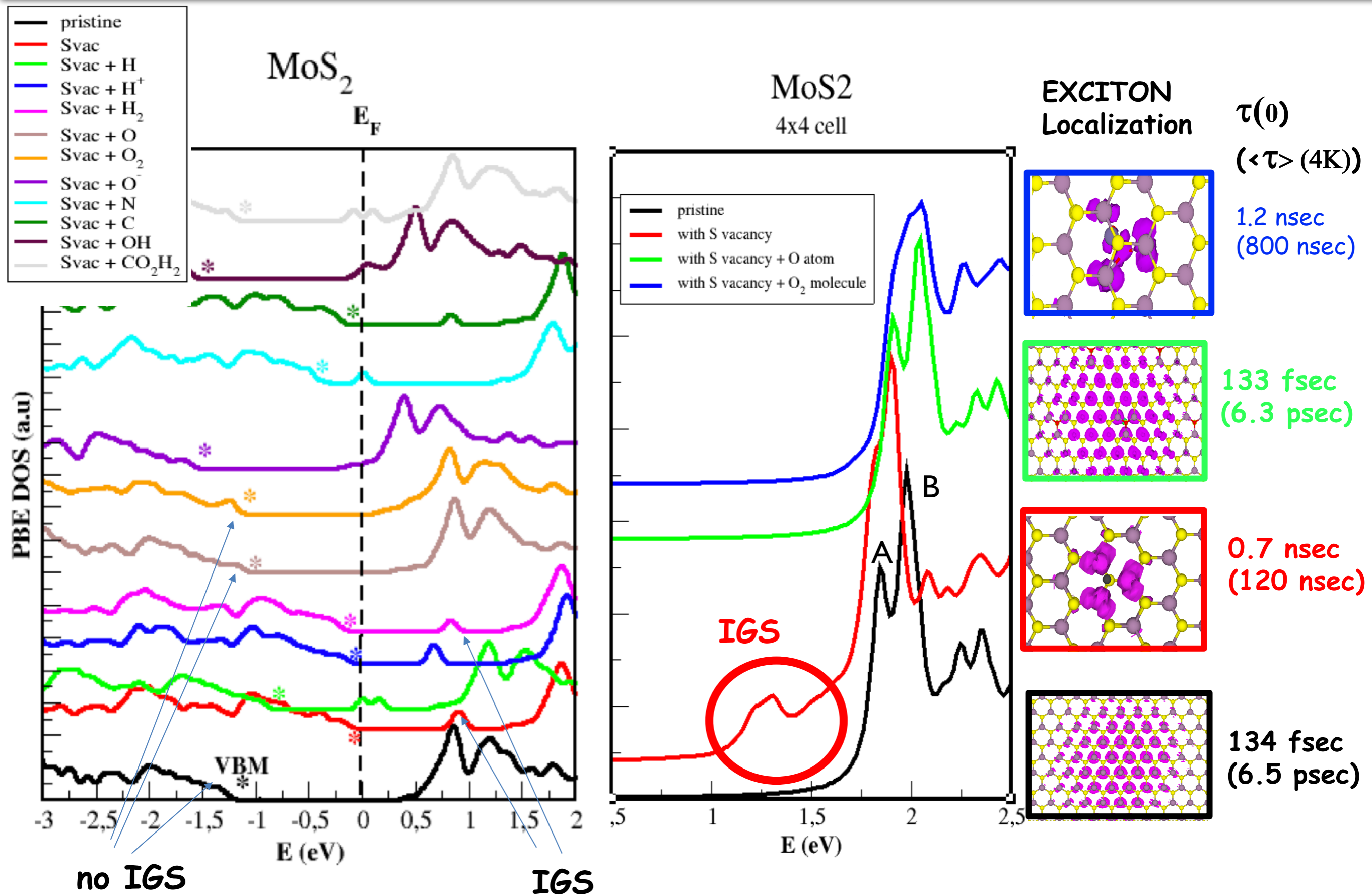
Modulation of the electronic and optical properties of MoS₂-1L by defects/dopants



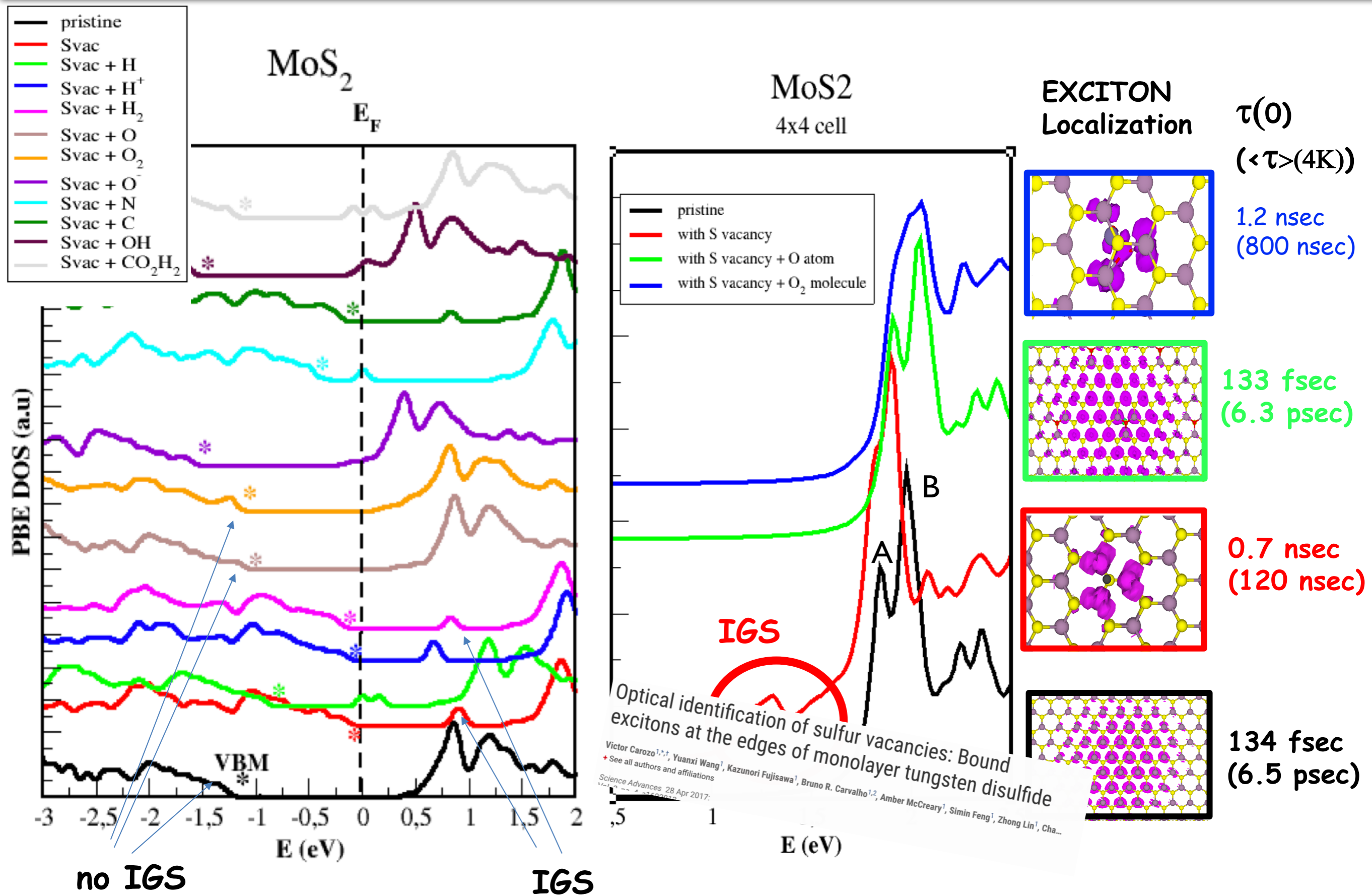
Modulation of the electronic and optical properties of MoS₂-1L by defects/dopants



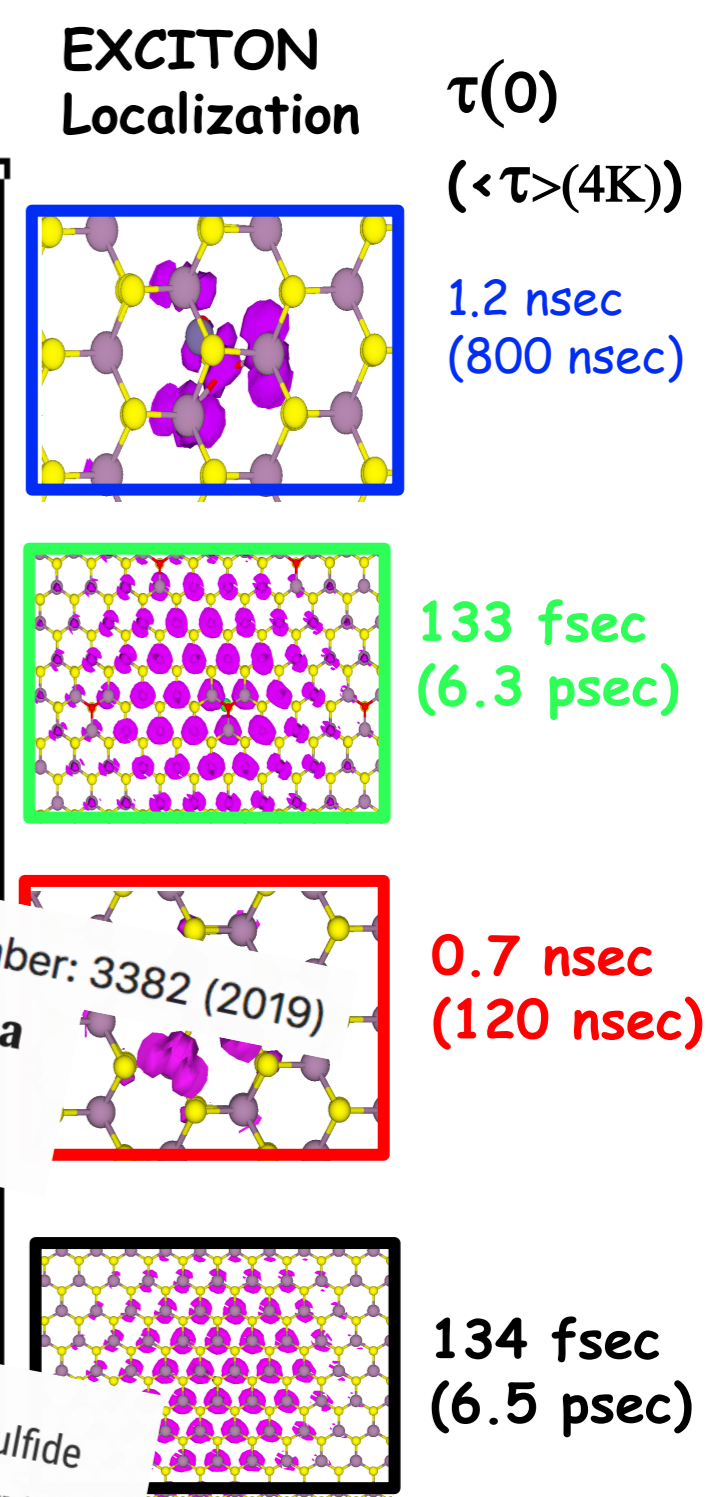
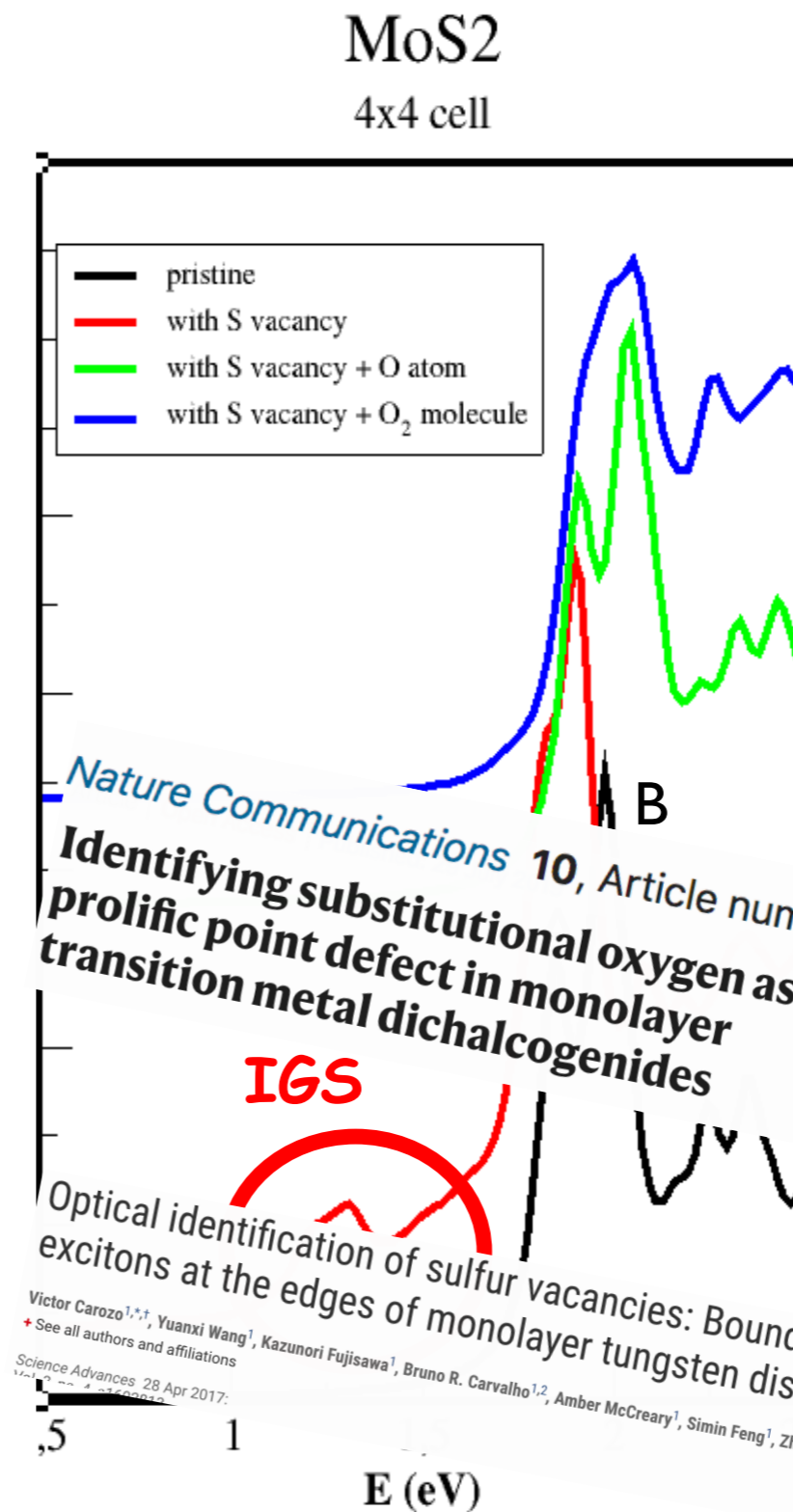
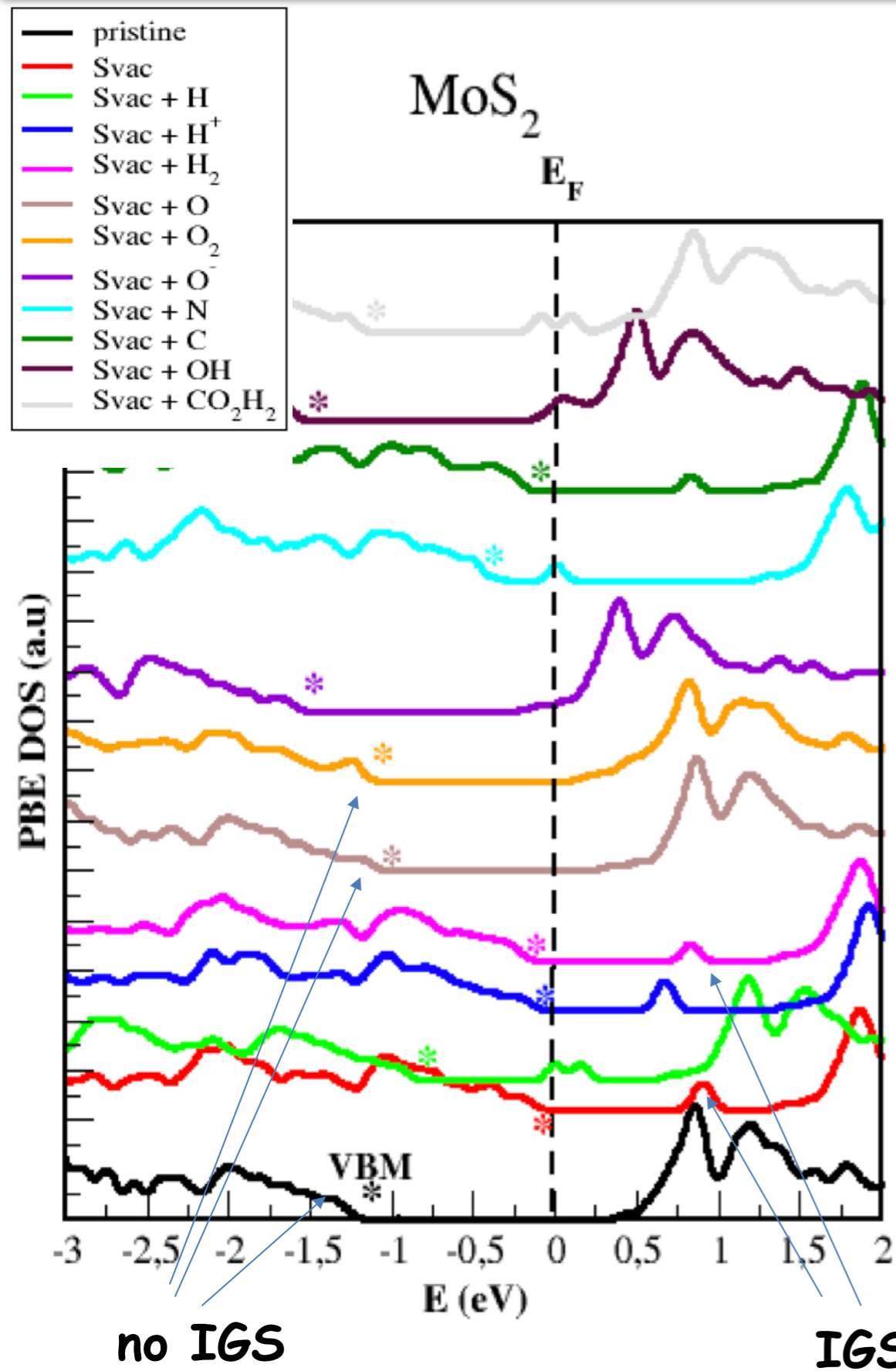
Modulation of the electronic and optical properties of MoS₂-1L by defects/dopants



Modulation of the electronic and optical properties of MoS₂-1L by defects/dopants



Modulation of the electronic and optical properties of MoS₂-1L by defects/dopants

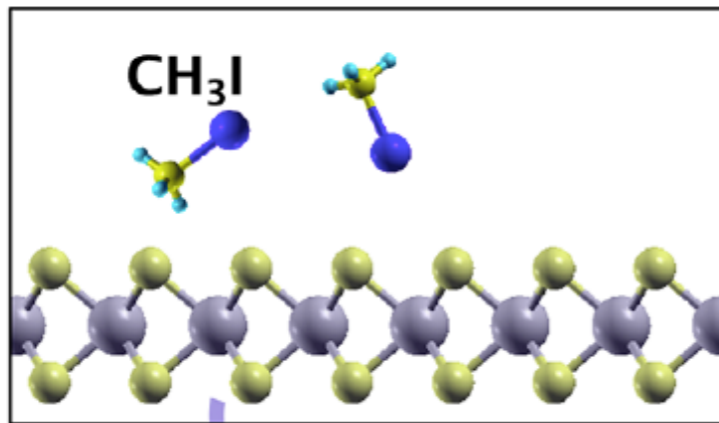


Tayloring the electronic and optical properties of MS_2 by covalent molecular functionalization

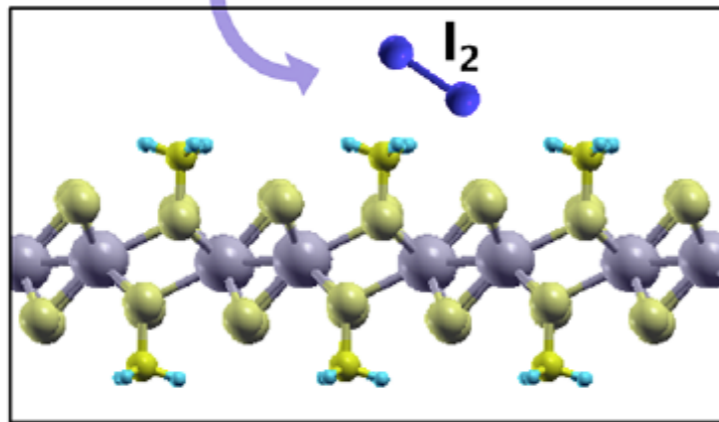
Methyl-iodine precursors allow covalent functionalization of pristine hexagonal MS_2 $M = Mo, W$

D. Voiry et al Nat chem 2015

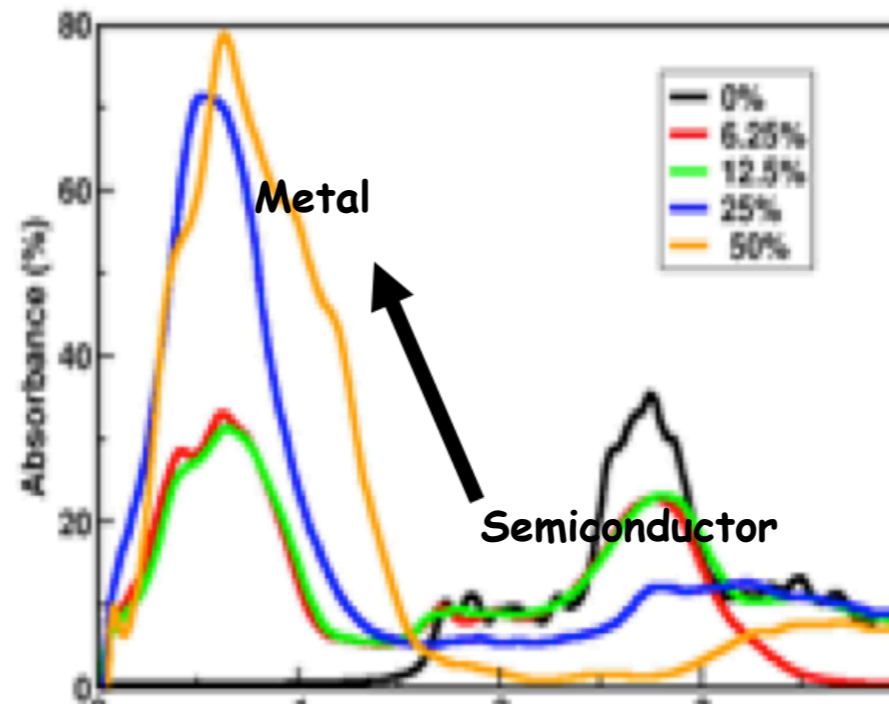
2H
Hexagonal



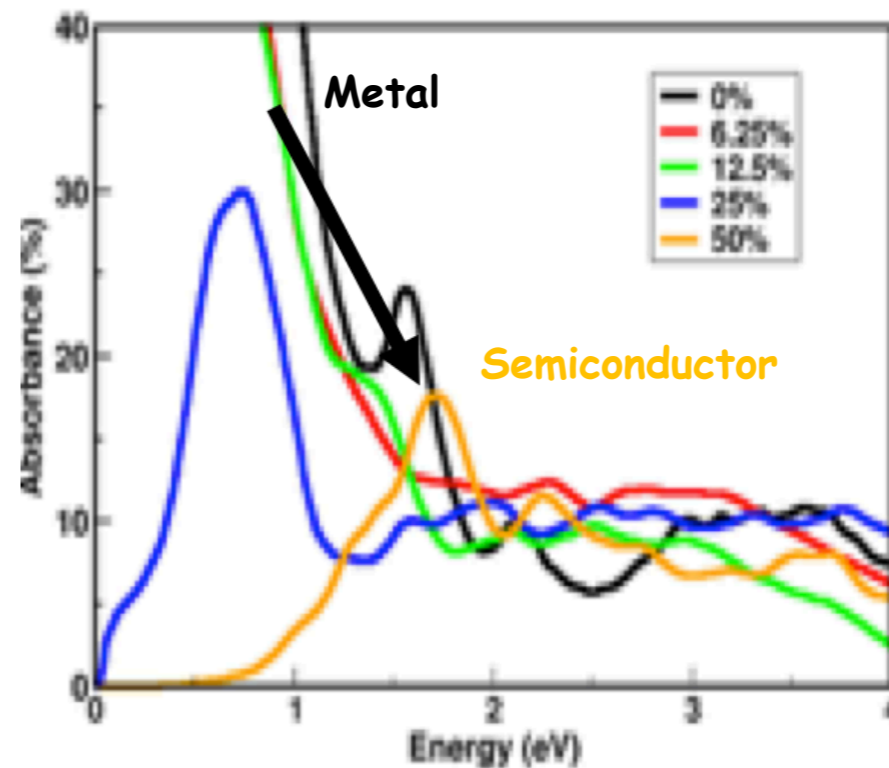
T'
Tegragonal-
distorted



It can induces the stabilization of the pristine T' phase which is very interesting for QSH effects / TI properties/ Excitons condensation

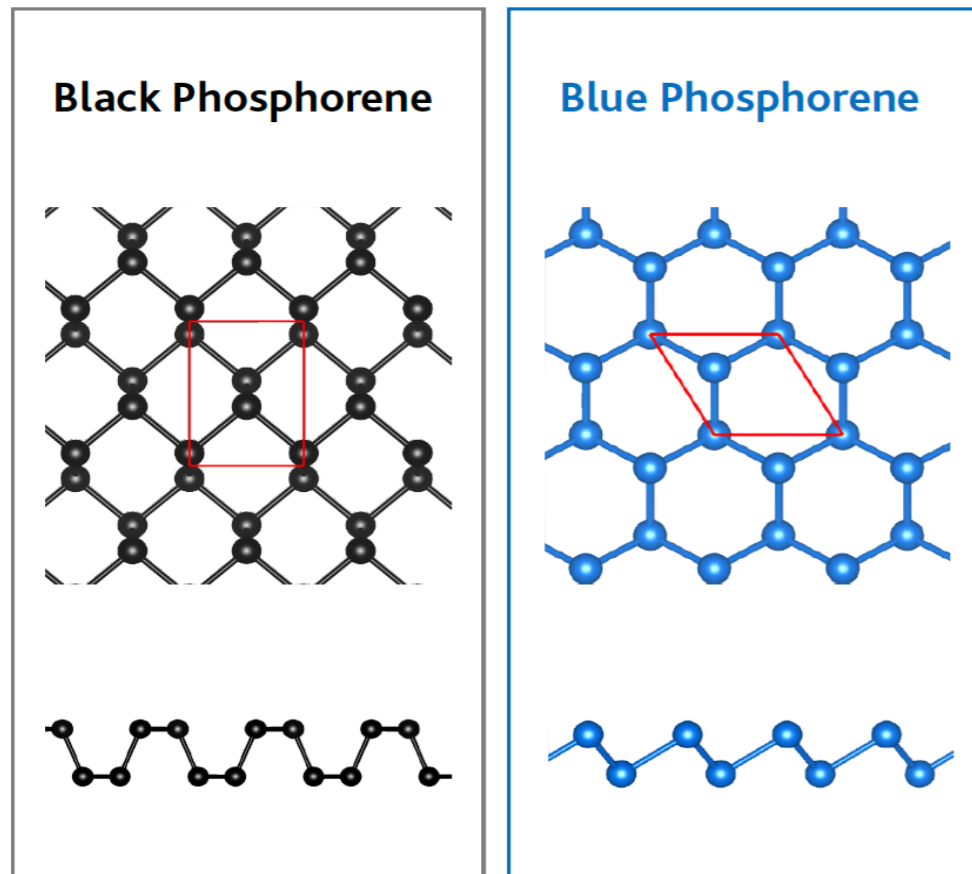


MoS₂-2H
Hexagonal

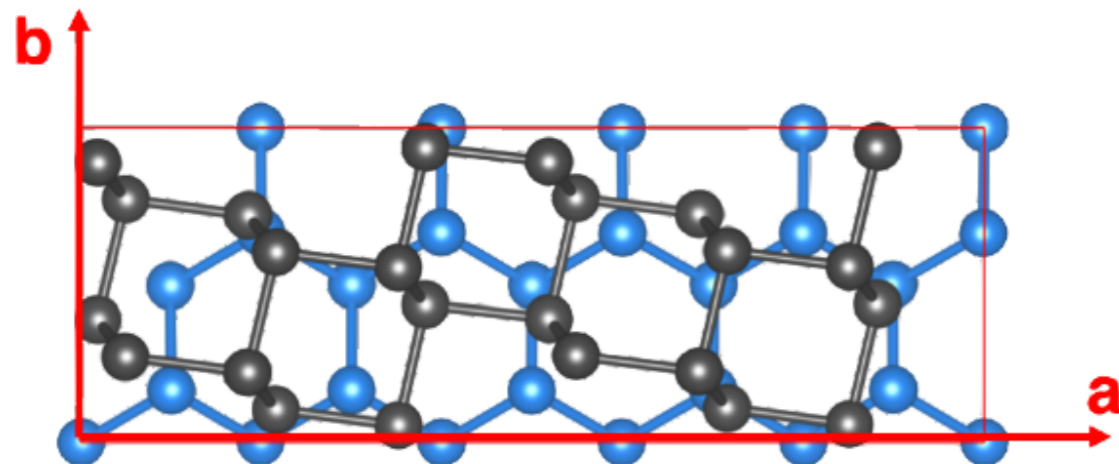


MoS₂ -T'
Tegragonal-
distorted

Spatially indirect excitons in Black/Blue phosphorene bilayer

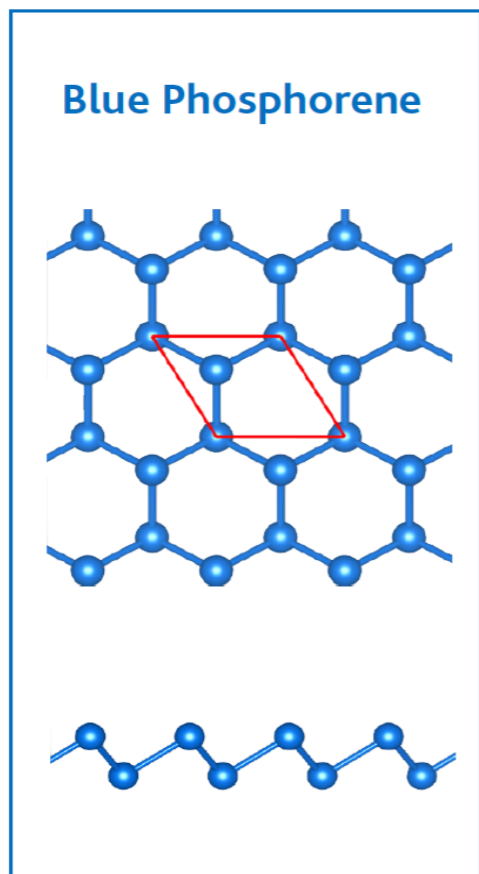
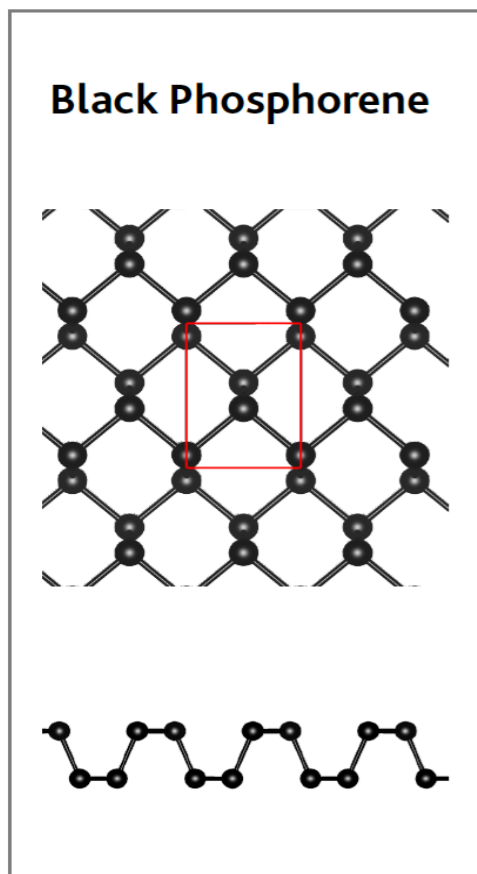


Direct gap $GoWo$ 2.1 eV Indirect gap $GoWo$ 3.45 eV
Main Optical peak 1.6 eV Main Optical peak 3.0 eV



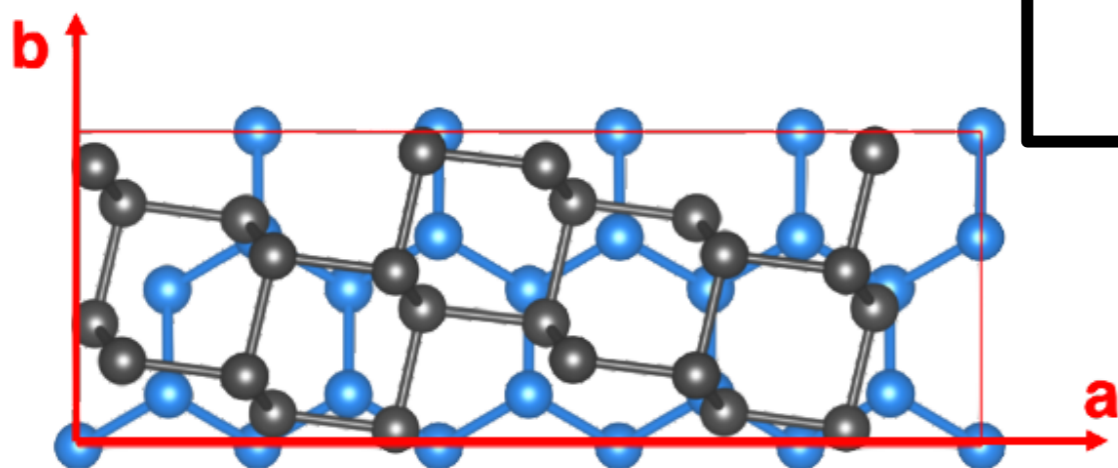
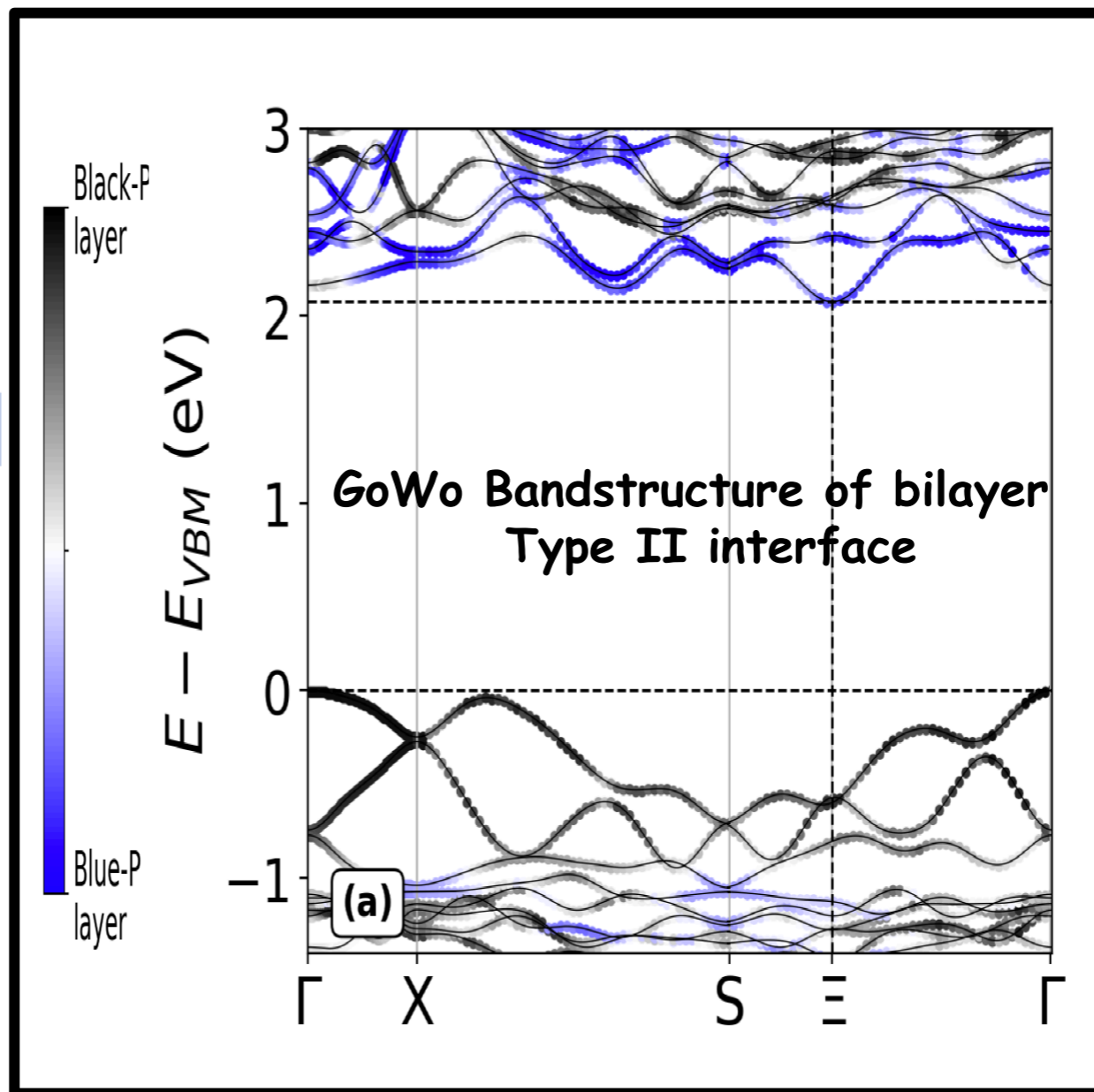
Bilayer is stable Negative cohesive energy
Almost zero Strain ($< 1\%$)

Spatially indirect excitons in Black/Blue phosphorene bilayer



Direct gap GoWo 2.1 eV
Main Optical peak 1.6 eV

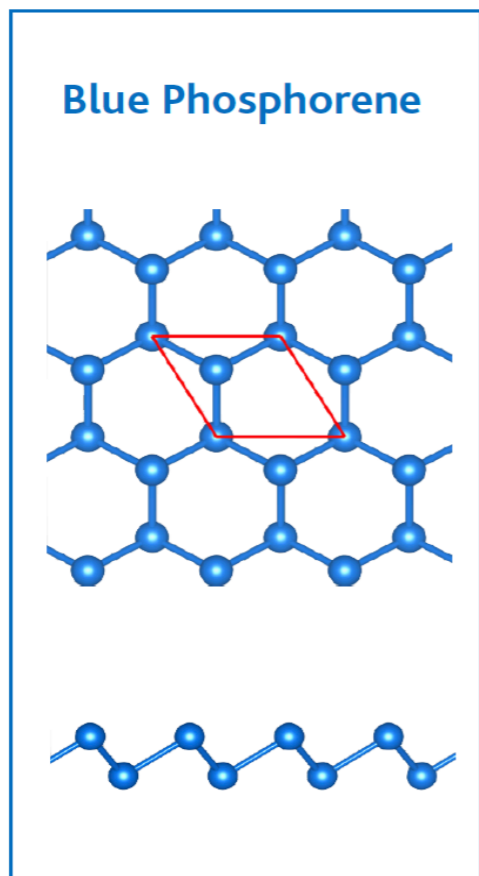
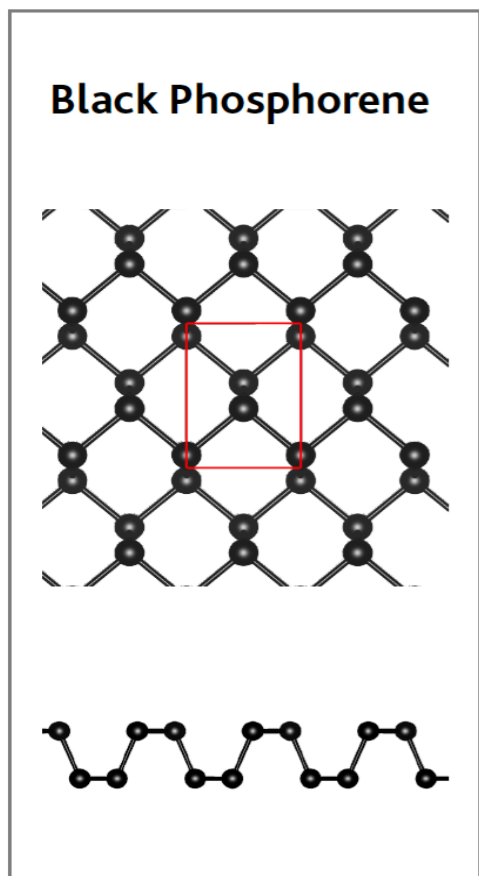
Indirect gap GoWo 3.45 eV
Main Optical peak 3.0 eV



**Bilayer with strain
Indirect gap**

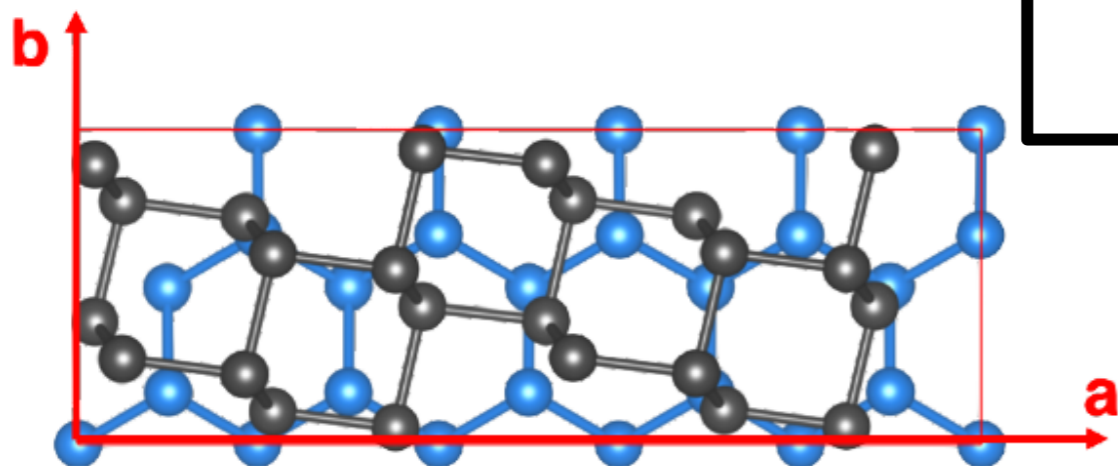
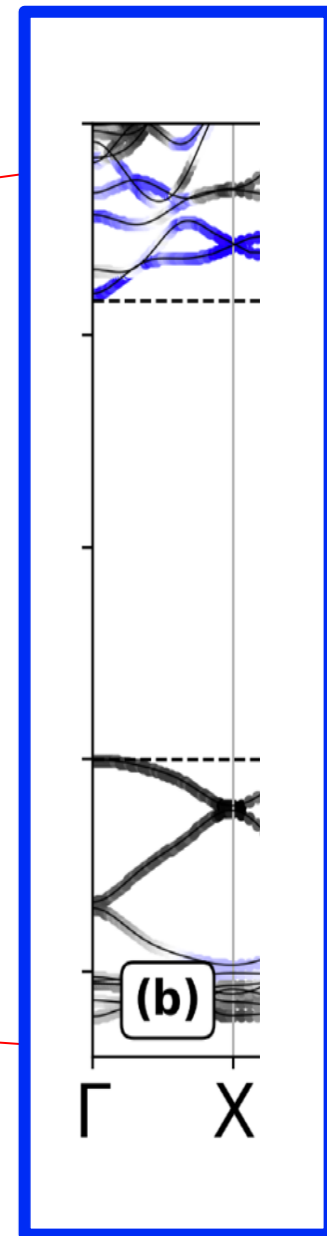
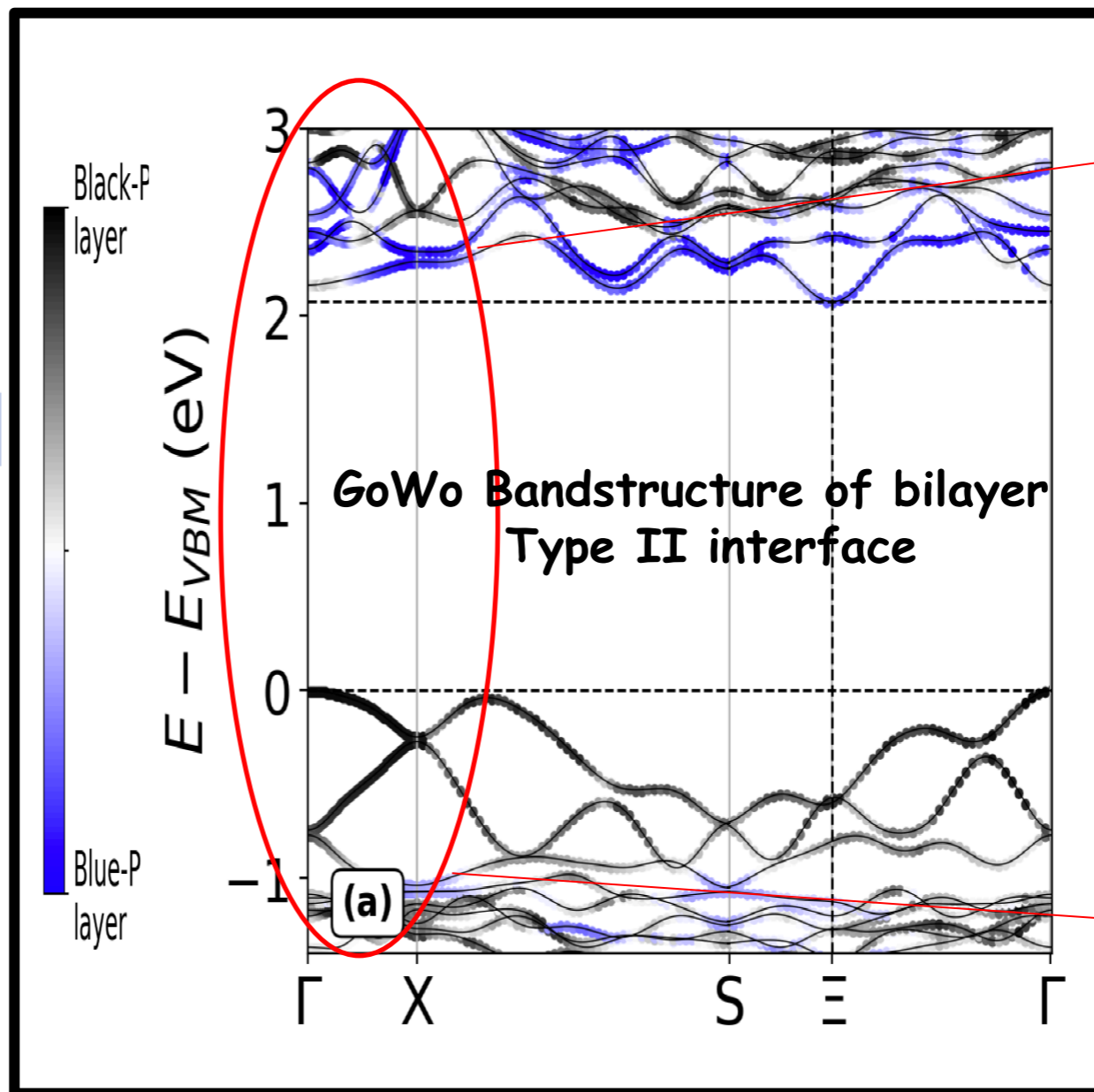
Bilayer is stable Negative cohesive energy
Almost zero Strain (< 1%)

Spatially indirect excitons in Black/Blue phosphorene bilayer



Direct gap GoWo 2.1 eV
Main Optical peak 1.6 eV

Indirect gap GoWo 3.45 eV
Main Optical peak 3.0 eV

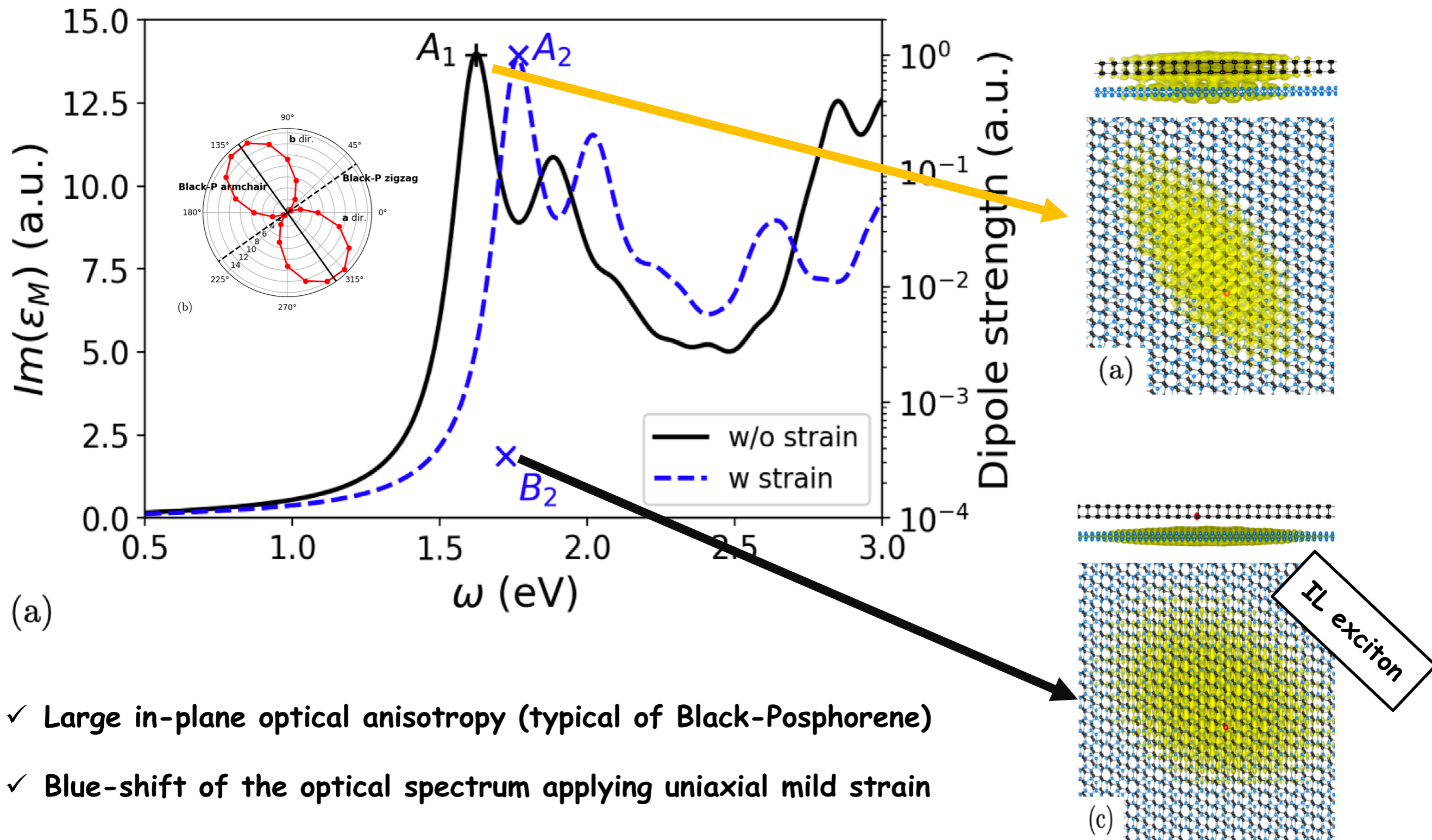


Bilayer is stable Negative cohesive energy
Almost zero Strain (< 1%)

**Bilayer with strain
Indirect gap**

**Bilayer with 2% uniaxial strain along a
Direct gap**

Spatially indirect excitons in Black/Blue phosphorene bilayer



- ✓ Large in-plane optical anisotropy (typical of Black-Phosphorene)
- ✓ Blue-shift of the optical spectrum applying uniaxial mild strain
- ✓ Spatially indirect exciton with very low oscillator strength (longer lifetime)

Excitons Engineering by changing stacking and twisting angle: the case of BN bilayer

Unconventional superconductivity in magic-angle graphene superlattices

Yuan Cao , Valla Fatemi, Shiang Fang, Kenji Watanabe, Takashi Taniguchi, Efthimos Kaxiras & Pablo Jarillo-Herrero 

Nature **556**, 43–50(2018) | [Cite this article](#)

Excitons Engineering by changing stacking and twisting angle: the case of BN bilayer

Unconventional superconductivity in magic-angle graphene superlattices

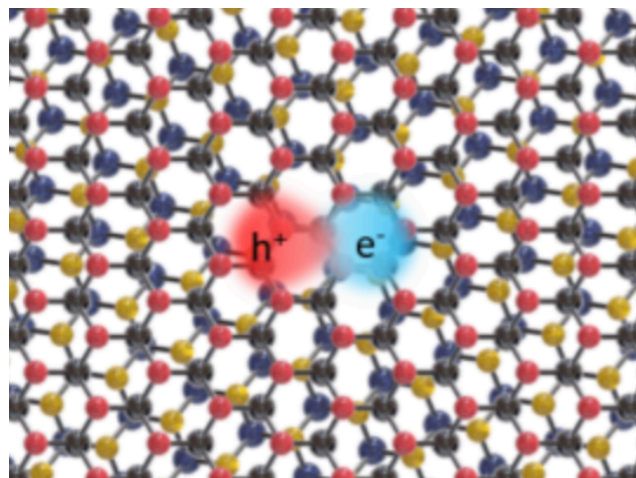
Letter | Published: 25 February 2019

Evidence for moiré excitons in van der Waals heterostructures

Kha Tran, Galan Moody, Fengcheng Wu, Xiaobo Lu, Junho Choi, Kyoungwan Kim, Amritesh Rai, Daniel A. Sanchez, Jiamin Quan, Akshay Singh, Jacob Embley, André Zepeda, Marshall Campbell, Travis Autry, Takashi Taniguchi, Kenji Watanabe, Nanshu Lu, Sanjay K. Banerjee, Kevin L. Silverman, Suenne Kim, Emanuel Tutuc, Li Yang, Allan H. MacDonald & Xiaoqin Li

Nature 567, 71–75(2019) | Cite this article

TWENTRONICS



Moiré excitons

- > 1400 works on google sch.
in the last 2 years

Excitons Engineering by changing stacking and twisting angle: the case of BN bilayer

Unconventional superconductivity in magic-angle graphene superlattices

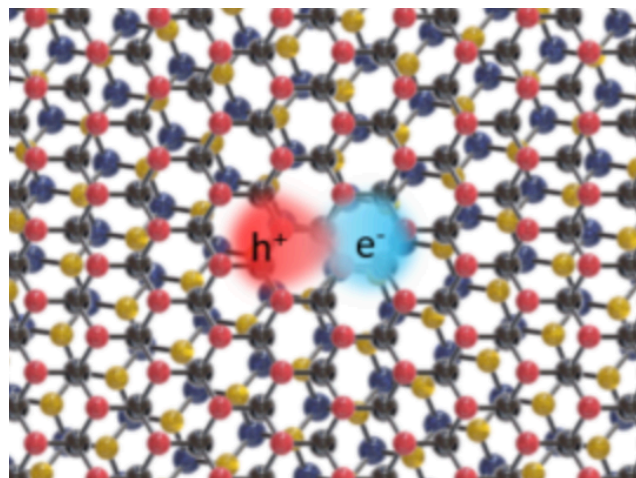
Letter | Published: 25 February 2019

Evidence for moiré excitons in van der Waals heterostructures

Kha Tran, Galan Moody, Fengcheng Wu, Xiaobo Lu, Junho Choi, Kyoungwan Kim, Amritesh R., Daniel A. Sanchez, Jiamin Quan, Akshay Singh, Jacob Embley, André Zepeda, Marshall Campbell, Travis Autry, Takashi Taniguchi, Kenji Watanabe, Nanshu Lu, Sanjay K. Banerjee, Kevin L. Silverman, Suenne Kim, Emanuel Tutuc, Li Yang, Allan H. MacDonald & Xiaoqin Li

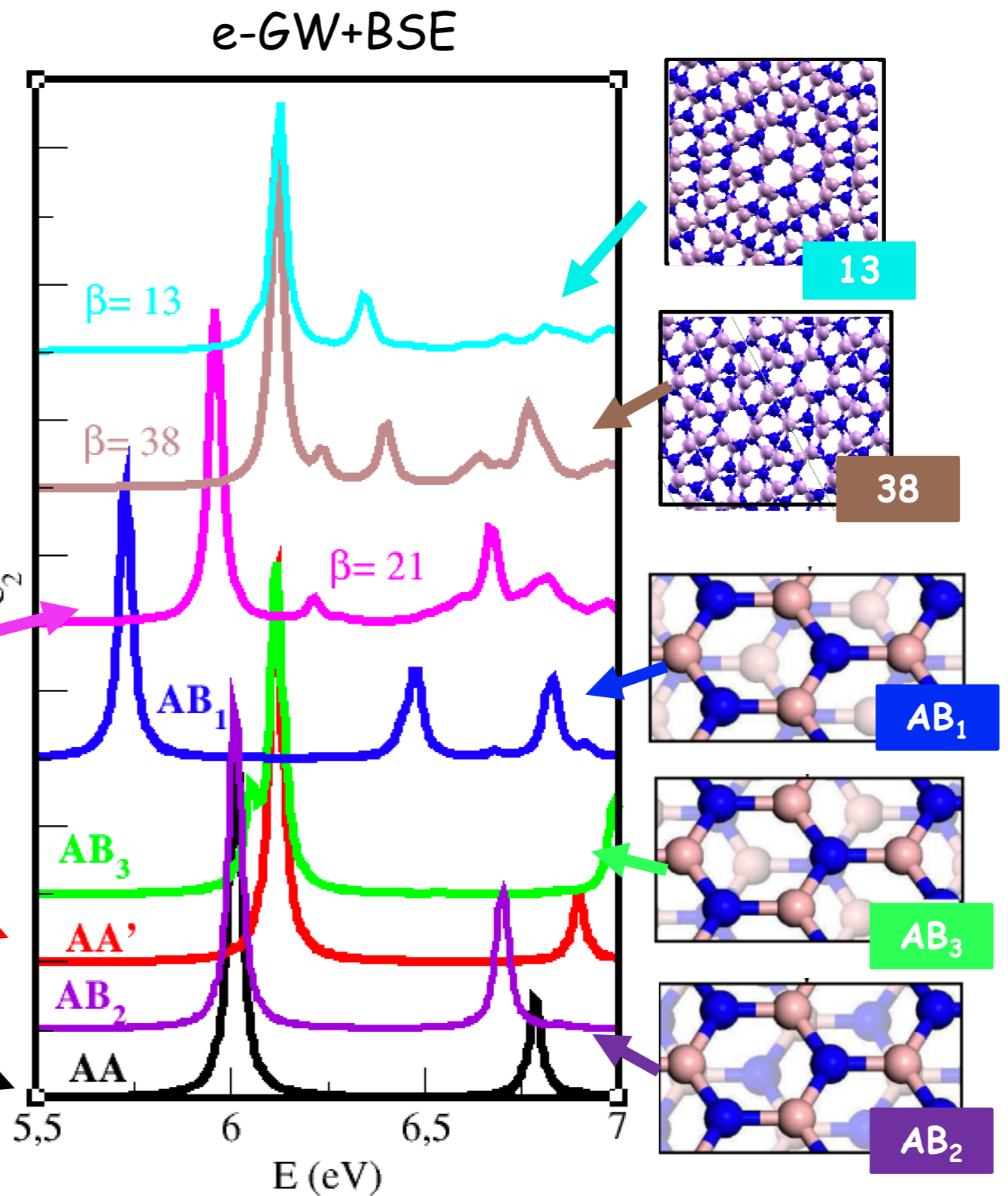
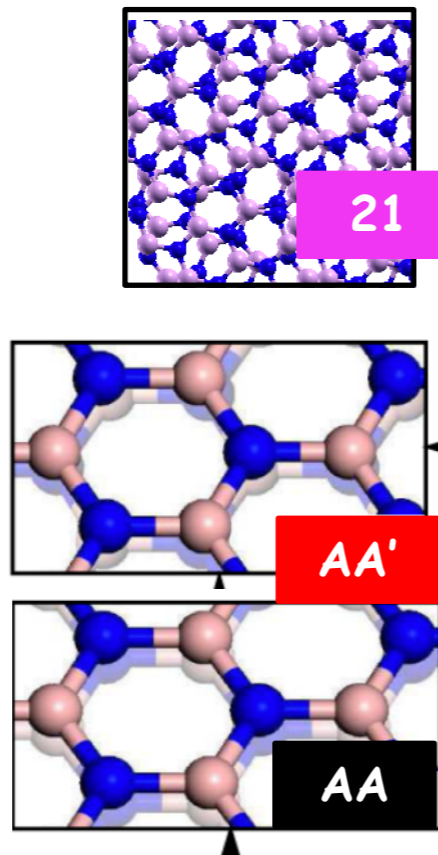
Nature 567, 71–75 (2019) | Cite this article

TWINTRONICS



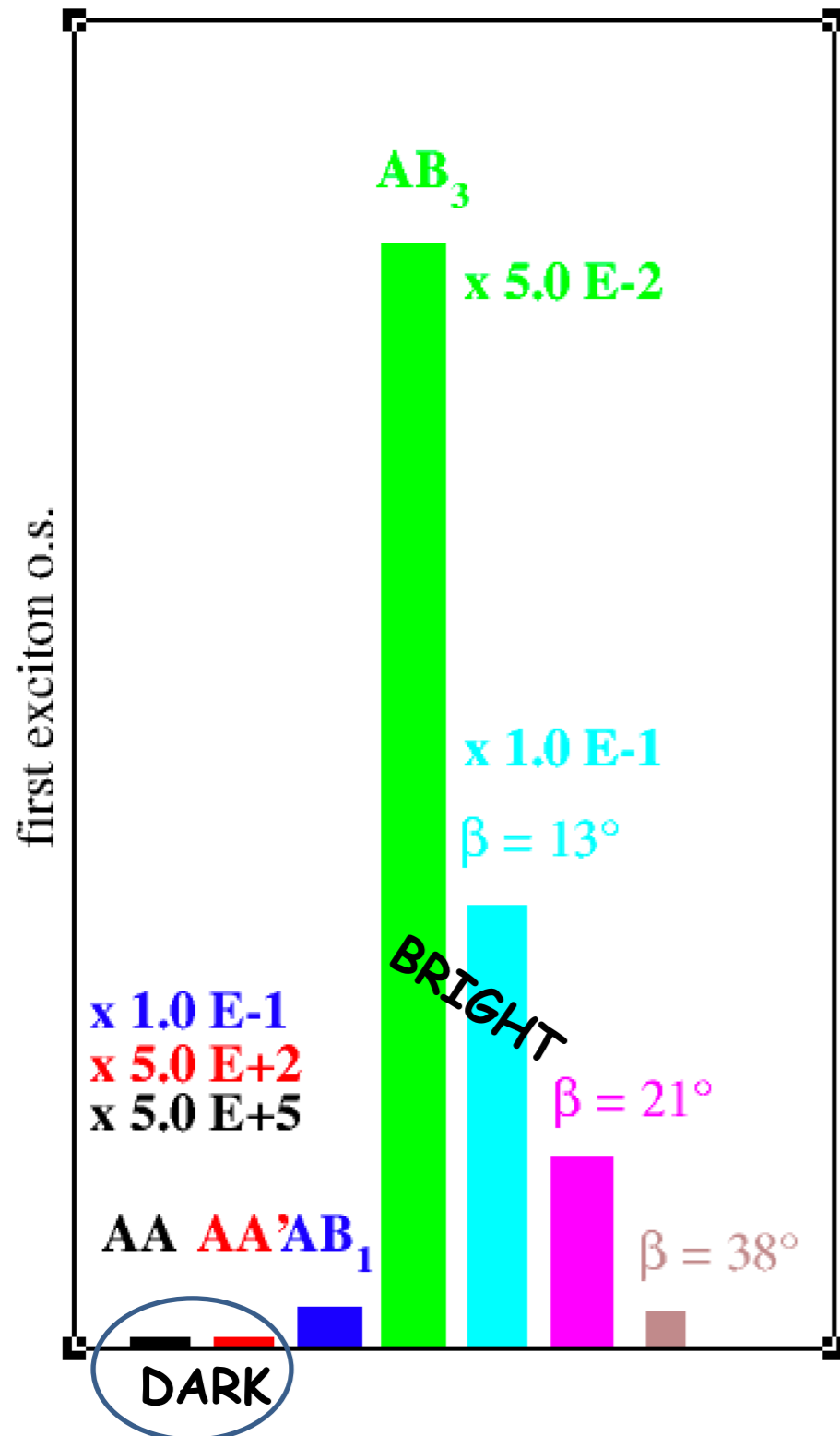
Moiré excitons

> 1400 works on google sch. in the last 2 years



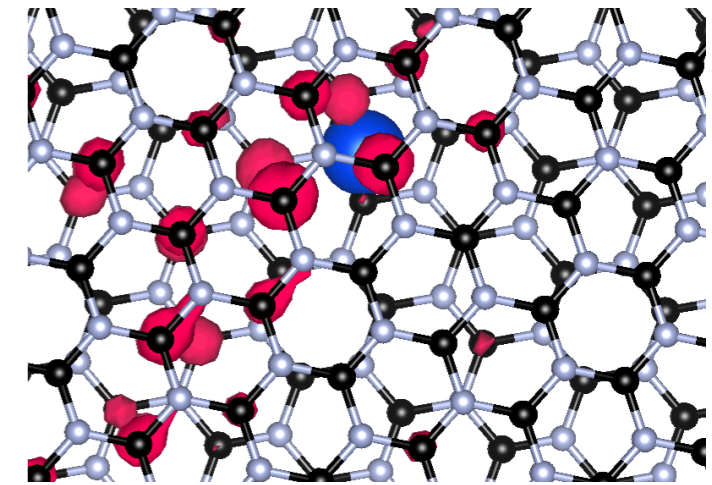
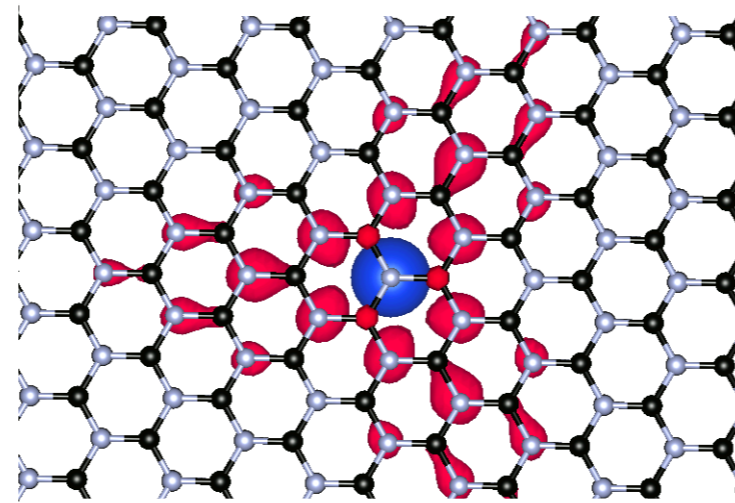
Twisting : from Dark to bright exciton

Exciton spatial distribution

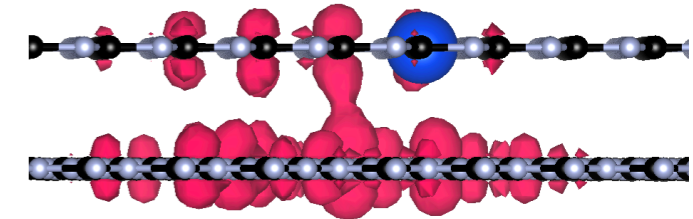
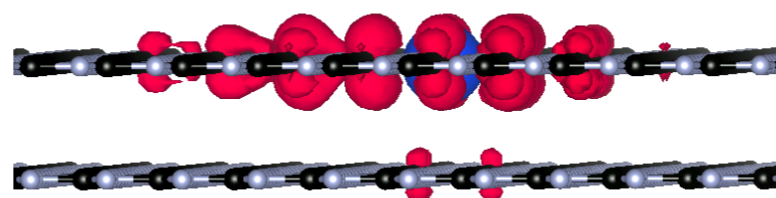


AA' stacking

Moire
 $\beta = 13^\circ$



TOP VIEWS



SIDE VIEWS

2D layered hybrid halide perovskites: BA_2PbI_4 and $BA_2MAPb_2I_7$

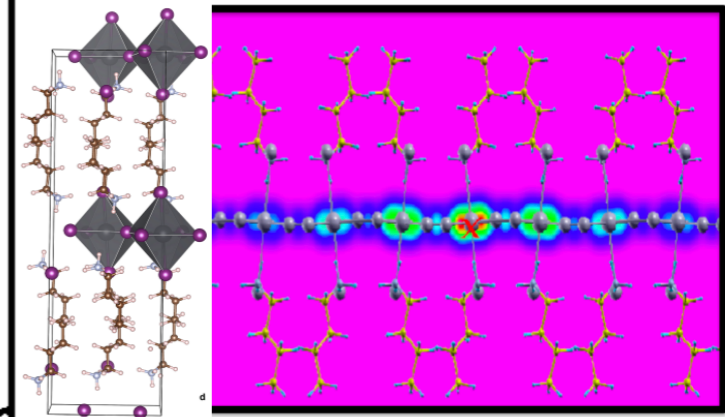
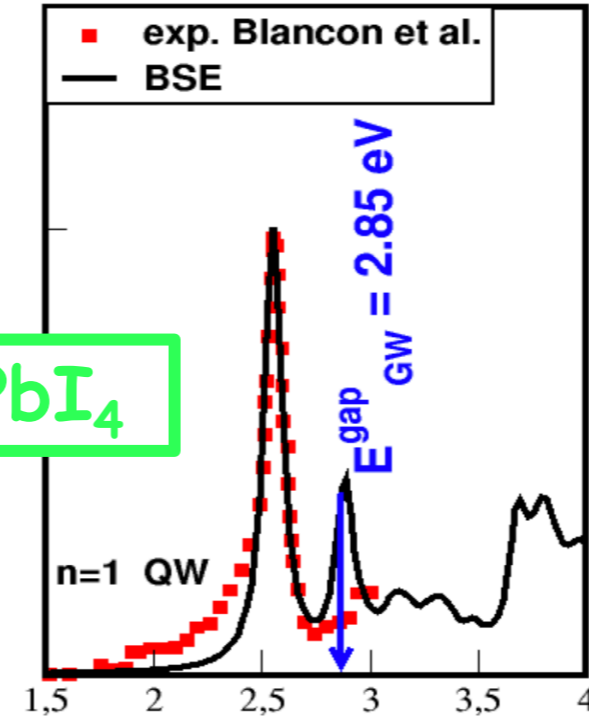
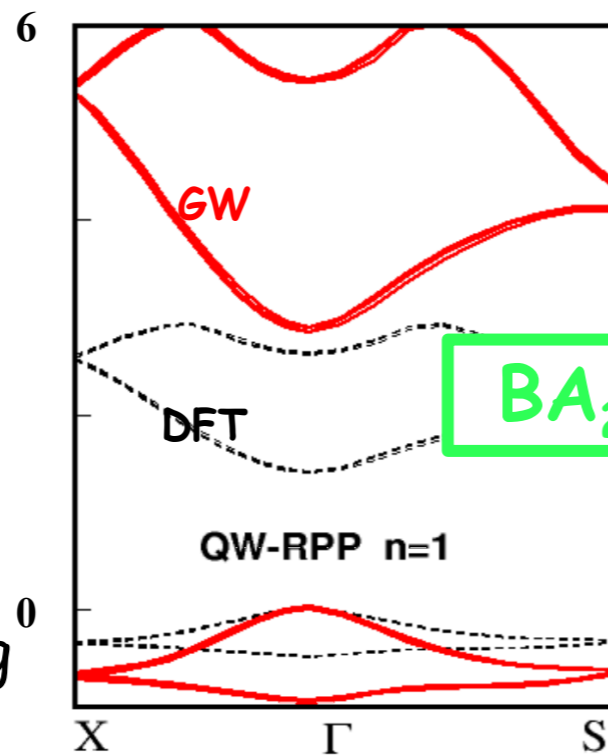
✓ Large band-gap renormalization due to correlation effects

✓ Large Rashba splitting ($\alpha = 1 \text{ eV \AA}$) for $BA_2MAPb_2I_7$

✓ Strongly bound excitons

✓ e-h spatial distribution only in the inorganic layers and more laterally delocalized in n=2

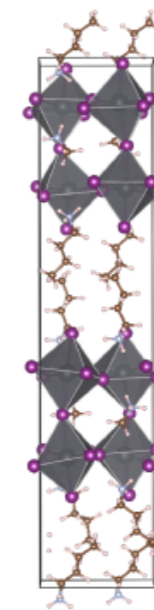
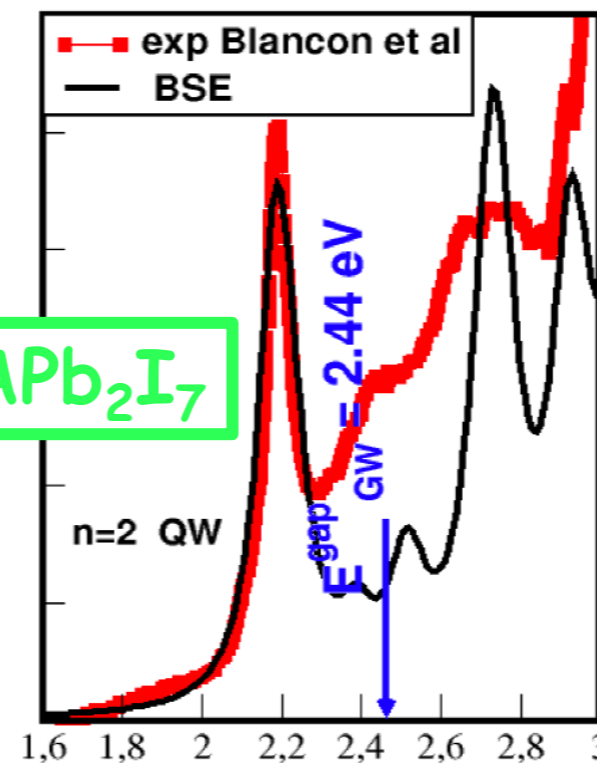
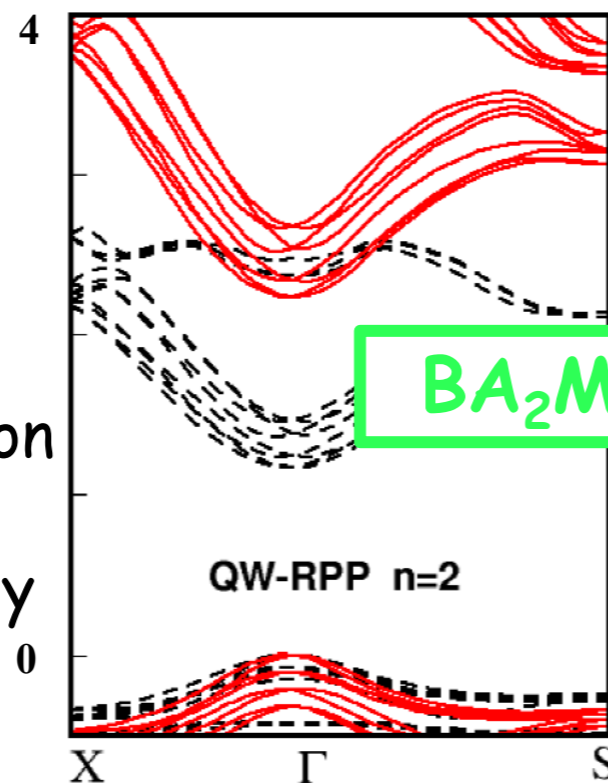
Theo. b.e. 300 meV



Dou et Science, 2015

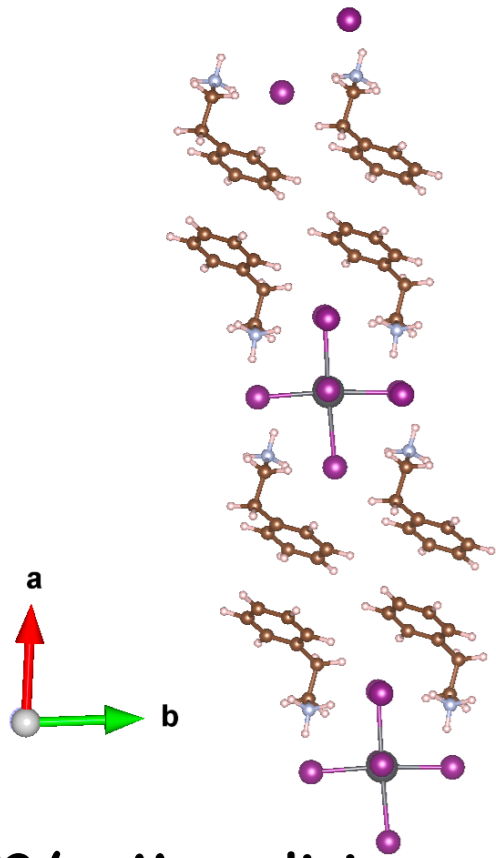
Exciton spatial distribution fixing hole positon

Theo b.e. 260 meV



Soumpos et al Chem. Mater., 2016

2D layered hybrid halide perovskites: PEA_2PbI_4



C2/m Monoclinic

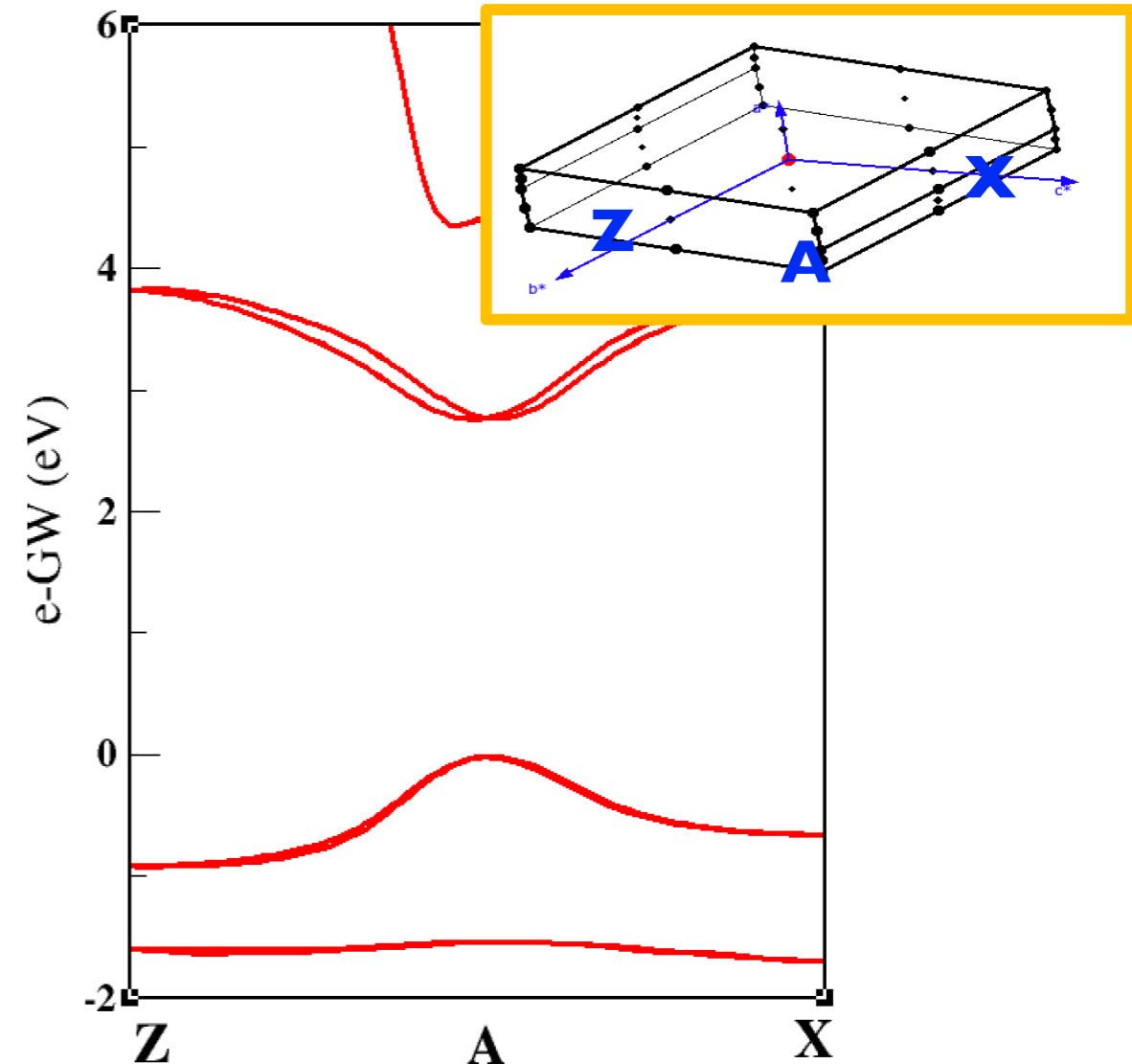
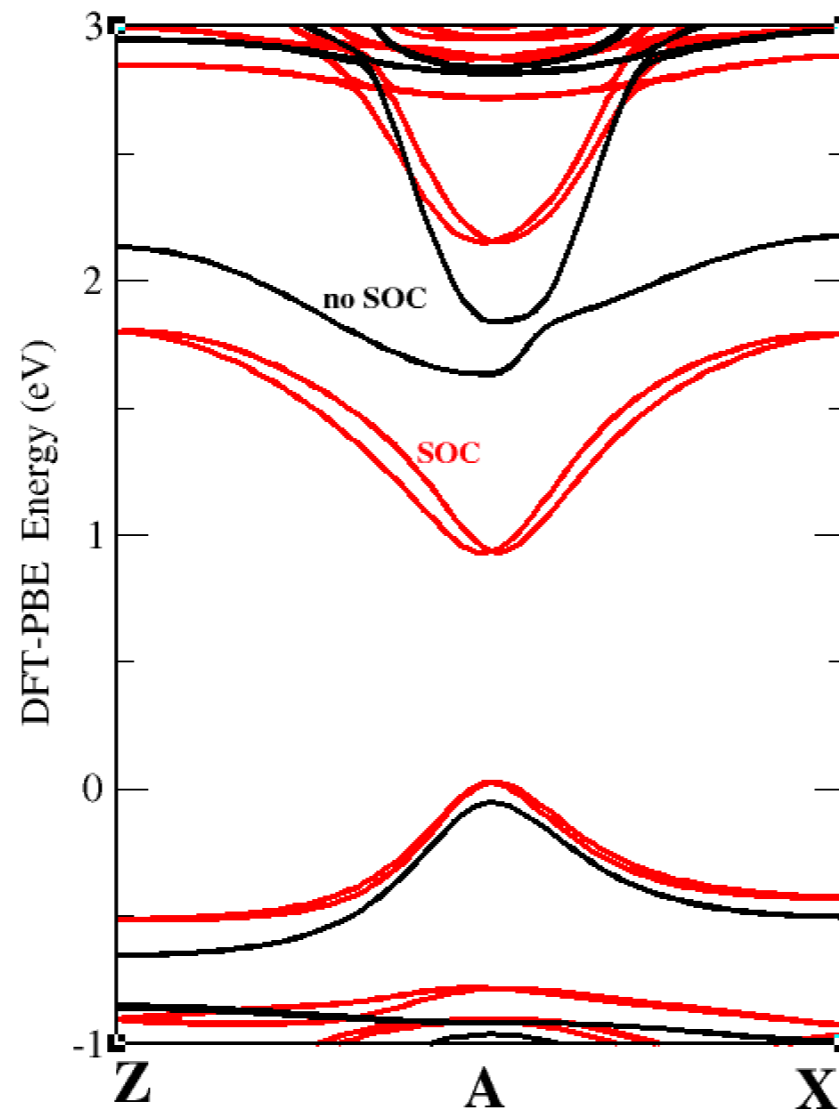
J. Calabrese

JACS 1991

&

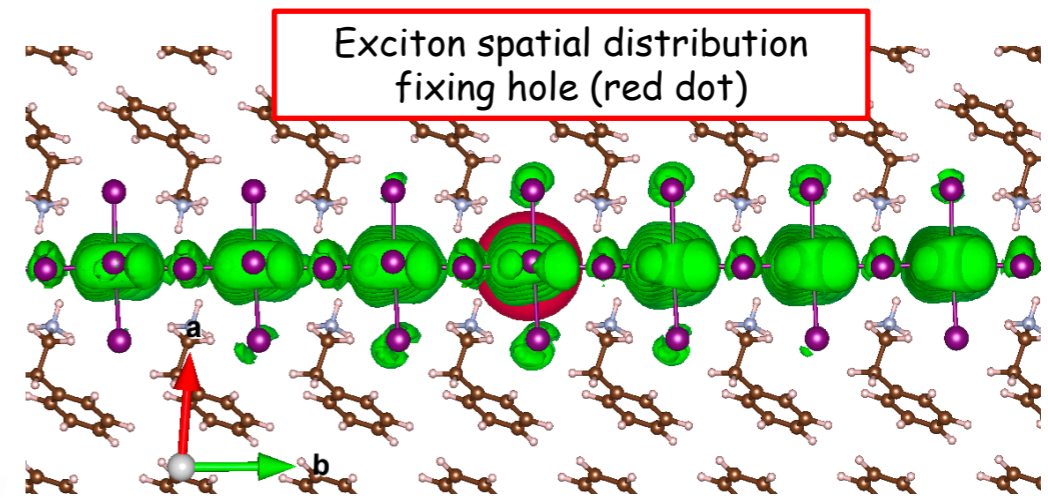
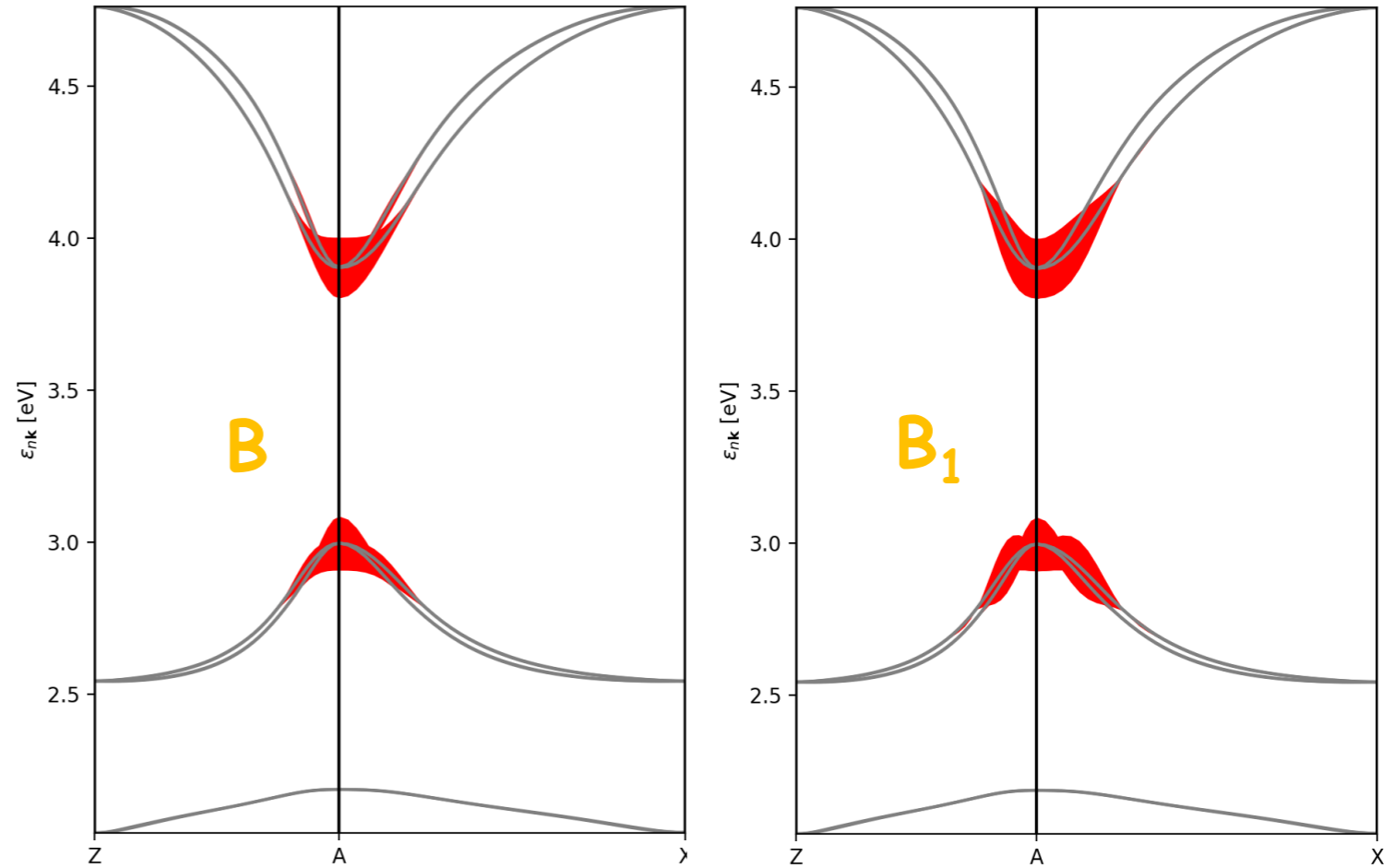
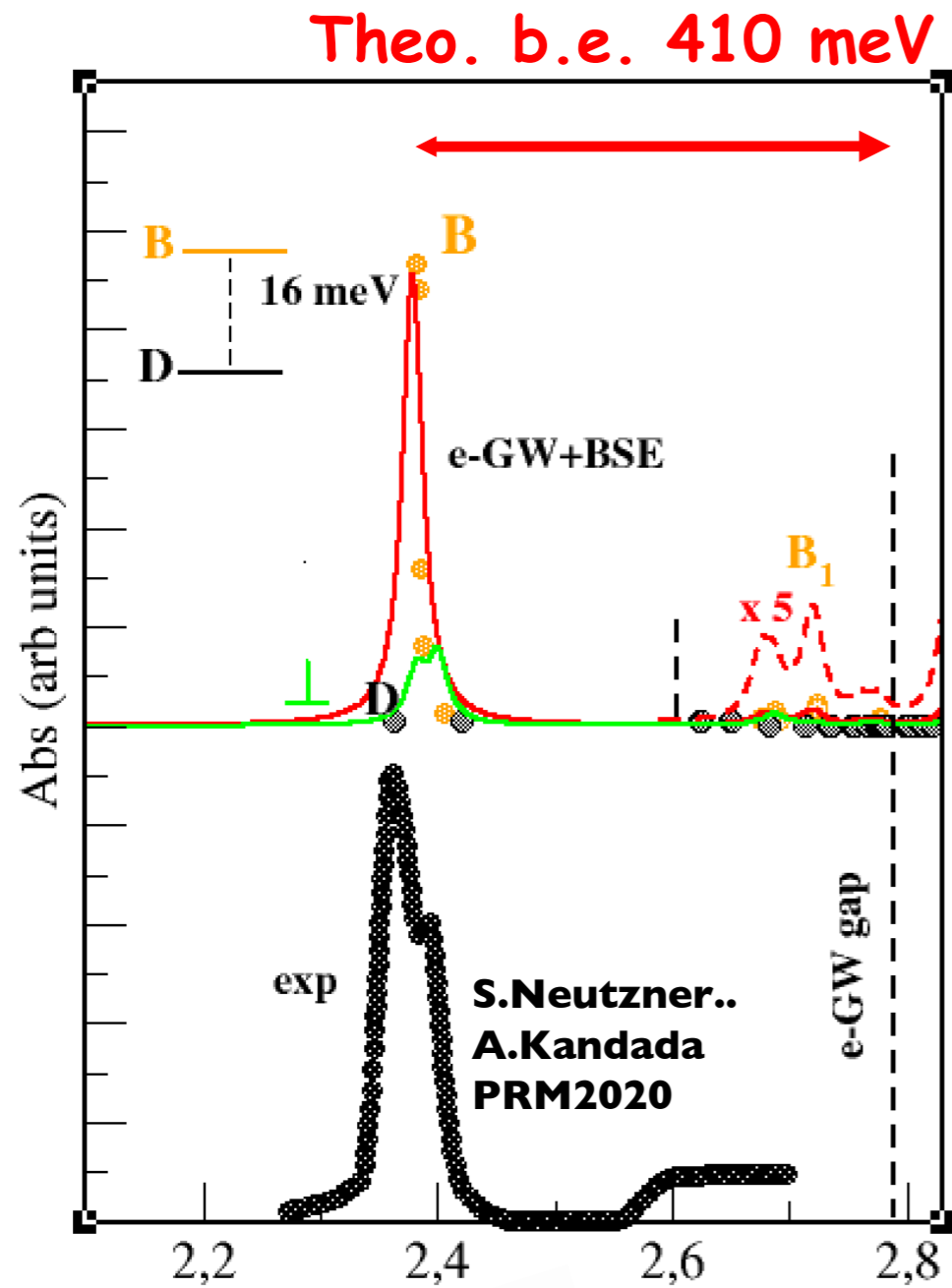
F. Thouin et al

Nat Mat 2019



- ✓ **Valence** : p of I + s of Pb, **Conduction**: p of Pb (from pDOS not shown)
- ✓ **Strong influence of SOC** both in VB & CB
- ✓ **e-GW gap (with SOC)** > about 1.5 eV of DFT-KS (with SOC)

2D layered hybrid halide perovskites: PEA_2PbI_4



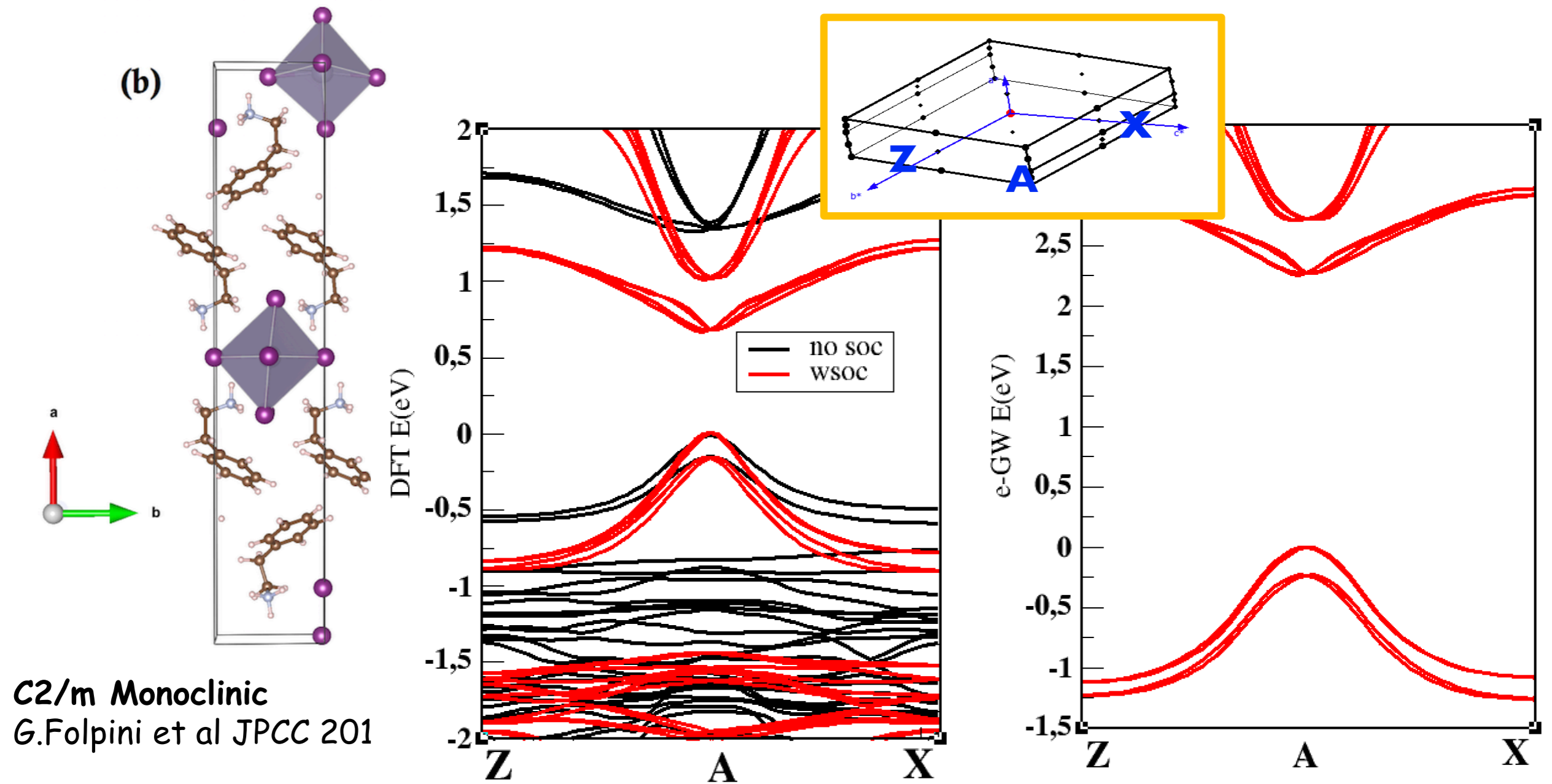
Science Advances 07 Feb 2020:
Bright magnetic dipole radiation from two-dimensional
lead-halide perovskites

ACS Photonics 2018, 5, 10, 4179–4185
Tunable Out-of-Plane Excitons in 2D Single-Crystal Perovskites

Ryan A. DeCrescent¹, Naveen R. Venkatesan², Clayton J. Li³, Xinhong Du⁴, Michael L. Chabimyc², Rashid Zia³ and Rhys M. Kennard², Xie Zhang², Wen...

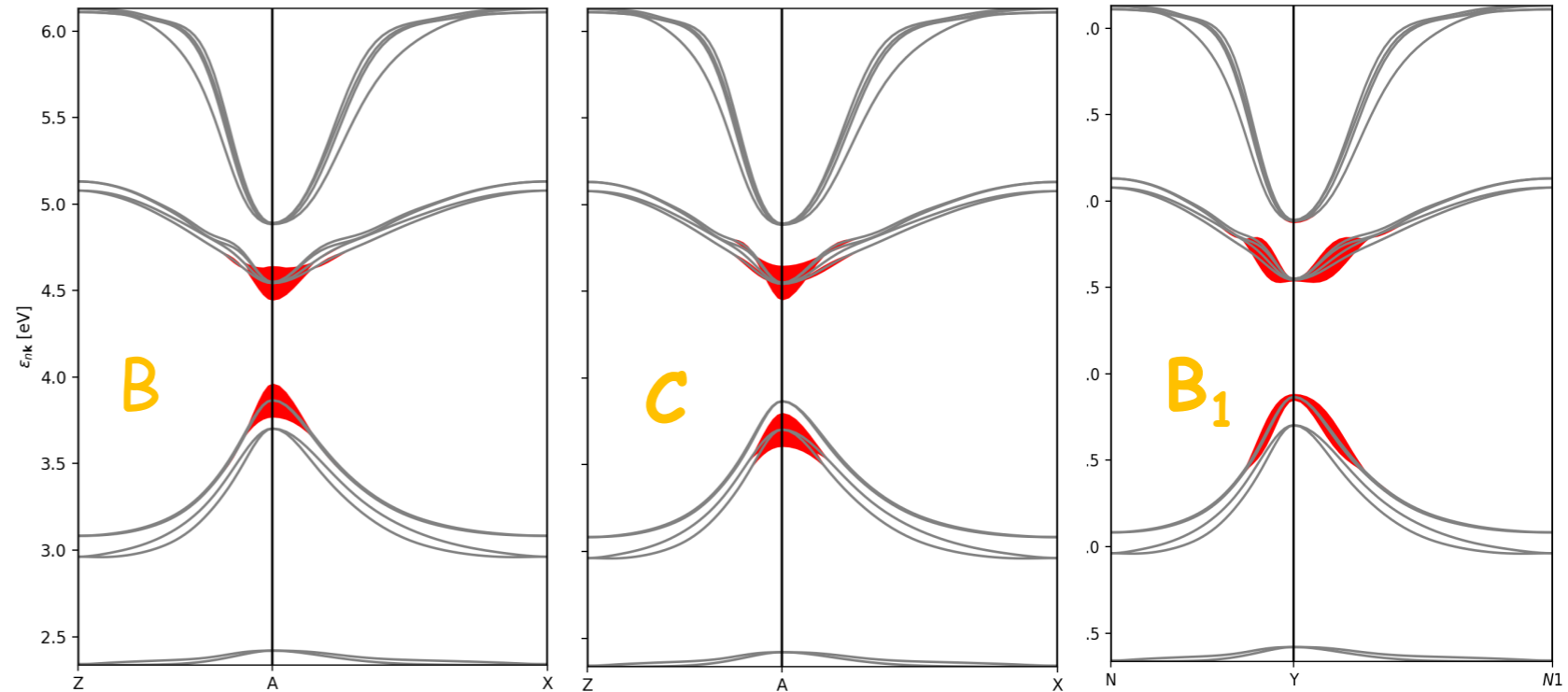
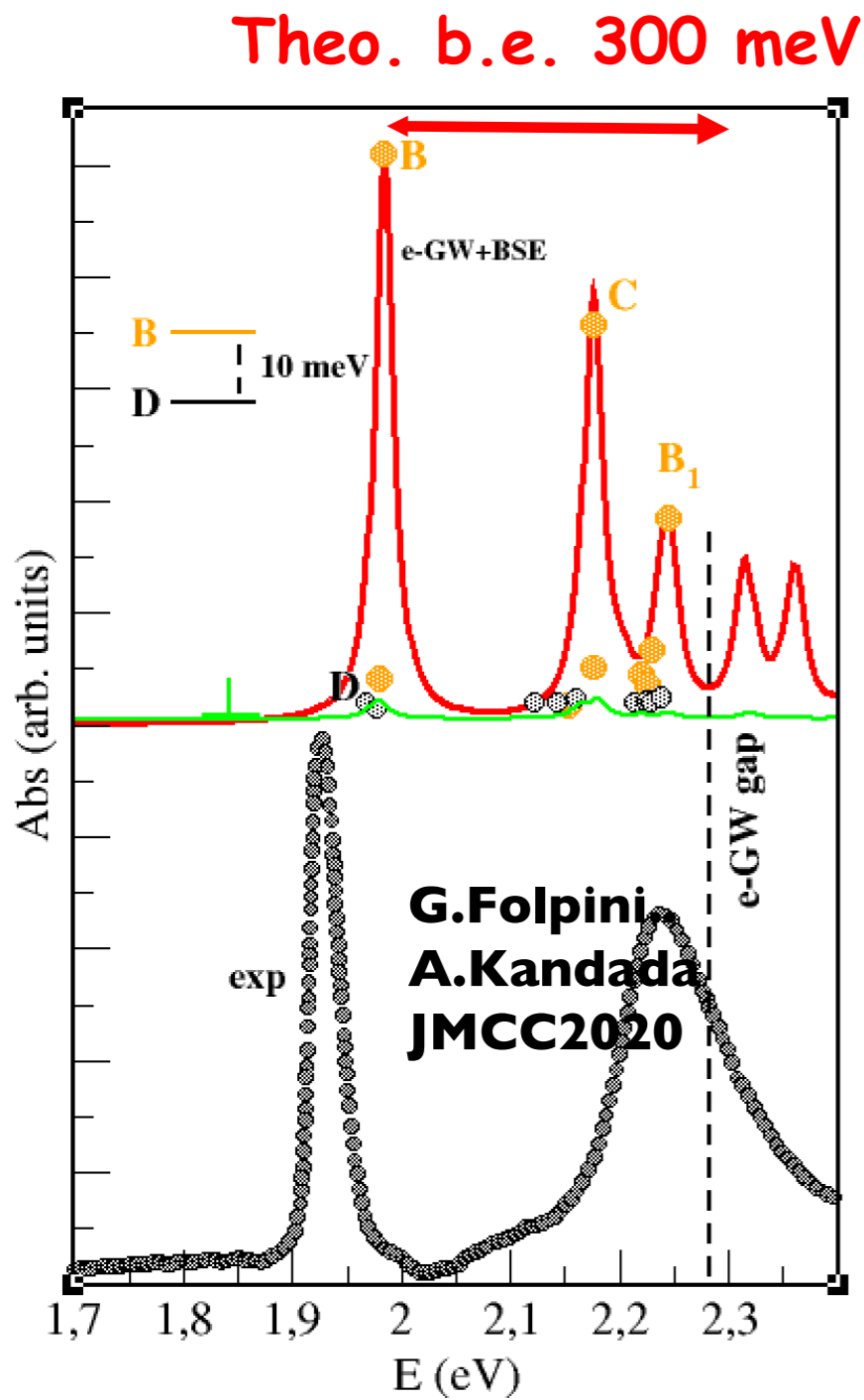
Strong out-of-plane exciton

2D layered hybrid halide perovskites: PEA_2SnI_4



- ✓ **Valence** : p of I, **Conduction** : p of Sn (from pDOS not shown)
- ✓ Splittings due to SOC < than for the case of Pb
- ✓ e-GW gap (with SOC) >> DFT-KS (with SOC)

2D layered hybrid halide perovskites: PEA_2SnI_4



COMMUNICATION

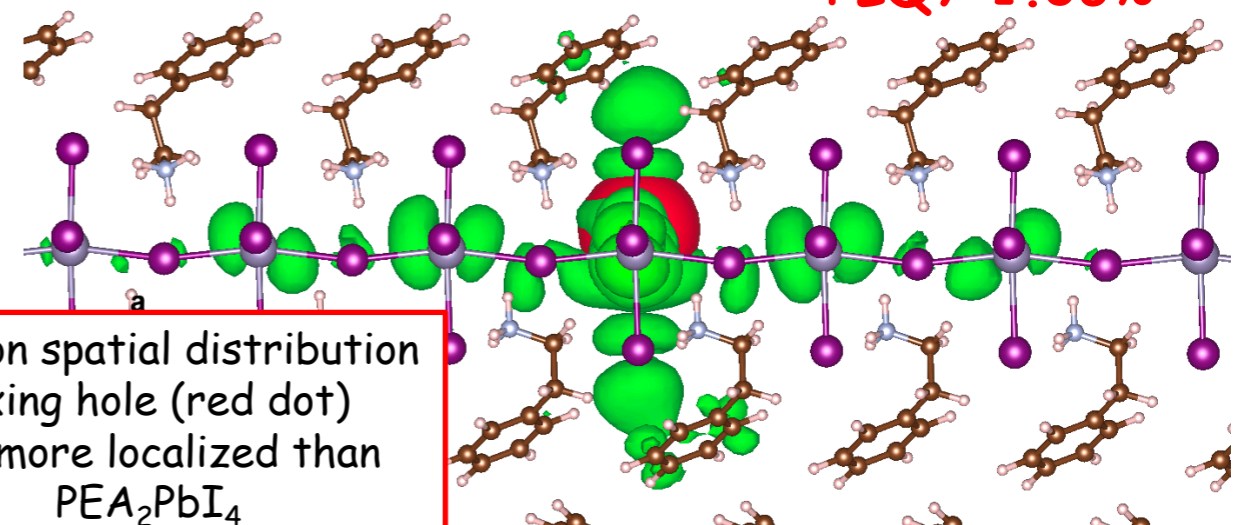
Sargent group

ADVANCED
SCIENCE

www.advancedscience.com

High Color Purity Lead-Free Perovskite Light-Emitting
Diodes via Sn Stabilization

PLQY 1.36%



out-of-plane exciton < of PEA_2PbI_4

G. Folpini , M.Palumbo, .. G. Giorgi A. Kandada in preparation

Conclusions

With a lot of HPC resources and a lot of patience to converge GW+BSE results, useful info regarding quasi-particles and excitons in layered/2D materials can be obtained

But there are 2 lacking important ingredients in what I have shown

EXCITON-phonon

Theory of phonon-assisted luminescence in solids: Application to hexagonal boron nitride

E. Cannuccia, B. Monserrat, and C. Attaccalite
Phys. Rev. B **99**, 081109(R) – Published 8 February 2019

Exciton-Phonon Coupling in the Ultraviolet Absorption and Emission Spectra of Bulk Hexagonal Boron Nitride

Fulvio Paleari, Henrique P. C. Miranda, Alejandro Molina-Sánchez, and Ludger Wirtz
Phys. Rev. Lett. **122**, 187401 – Published 7 May 2019

Exciton-Phonon Interaction and Relaxation Times from First Principles

Hsiao-Yi Chen, Davide Sangalli, and Marco Bernardi
Phys. Rev. Lett. **125**, 107401 – Published 31 August 2020

EXCITON dynamics - non-equilibrium Green functions approach

Nonequilibrium optical properties in semiconductors from first principles: A combined theoretical and experimental study of bulk silicon

Davide Sangalli, Stefano Dal Conte, Cristian Manzoni, Giulio Cer
Phys. Rev. B **93**, 195205 – Published 13 May 2016

First-principles approach to excitons in time-resolved and angle-resolved photoemission spectra

E. Perfetto, D. Sangalli, A. Marini, and G. Stefanucci
Phys. Rev. B **94**, 245303 – Published 6 December 2016

[RETURN TO ISSUE](#) | [LETTER](#) | [NEXT >](#)

Ab Initio Calculations of Ultrashort Carrier Dynamics in Two-Dimensional Materials: Valley Depolarization in Single-Layer WSe₂

Alejandro Molina-Sánchez^{*†}, Davide Sangalli[‡], Ludger Wirtz[†], and Andrea Marini[‡]

Many-body perturbation theory calculations using the yambo code

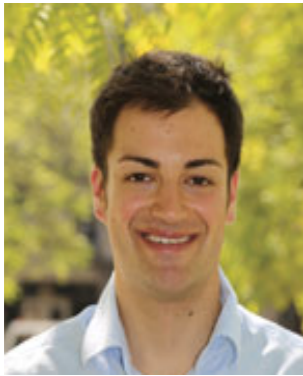
D Sangalli^{1,16}, A Ferretti^{2,16}, H Miranda³, C Attaccalite^{4,16}, I Marri², E Cannuccia^{5,6}, P Melo^{7,16}, M Marsili⁸, F Paleari⁹, A Marrazzo¹⁰, G Prandini¹⁰, P Bonfà¹¹, M O Atambo^{2,12}, F Affinito¹¹, M Palumbo^{5,16}, A Molina-Sánchez¹³, C Hogan^{5,14,16}, M Grüning^{15,16}, D Varsano^{2,16} and A Marini^{1,16} – [Hide full author list](#)

Published 29 May 2019 • © 2019 IOP Publishing Ltd

[Journal of Physics: Condensed Matter, Volume 31, Number 32](#)



Thanks to



M. Bernardi
CIT USA



J.C. Grossman
MIT USA



G. Cicero
PoliTo



M. ReFiorentin
IIT-PoliTo



G. Giorgi
Univ. Perugia



K. Yamashita
Tokyo University



ISCRA-B/C initiatives for CPU time at Cineca

**THANK YOU FOR
ATTENTION!**

