

2021 Virtual School on
Electron-Phonon Physics and the EPW code

June 14-18 2021



U.S. DEPARTMENT OF
ENERGY

TACC

Lecture Fri.6

The Special Displacement Method

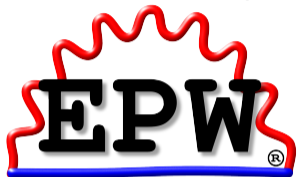
Marios Zacharias

Department of Mechanical and Materials Science Engineering
Cyprus University of Technology

- Nonperturbative approaches to electron-phonon coupling
- From the stochastic framework to deterministic
- The special displacement method (SDM):
 1. Theory
 2. Implementation and structure of the ZG code
 3. Applications

Codes for perturbative and nonperturbative calculations

Calculation of temperature-dependent properties using, e.g.:



$g_{mn,\nu}(\mathbf{k}, \mathbf{q})$ from DFPT
in the unit-cell



Displaced nuclei
in large supercells;
 $g_{mn,\nu}(\mathbf{k}, \mathbf{q})$ is
not explicitly evaluated

Nonperturbative Approaches - Literature I

Common goal is to evaluate the observable \mathcal{O} at finite temperature T :

$$\langle \mathcal{O} \rangle_T = \frac{1}{Z} \text{Tr} \left[\exp(-\beta_T H) \mathcal{O} \right] \Rightarrow \Gamma_{\alpha \rightarrow \beta}(\omega, T) = \frac{1}{Z} \sum_n \exp(-E_{\alpha n} / k_B T) \Gamma_{\alpha n \rightarrow \beta}(\omega)$$

Sum over nuclear states
↓ Partition function Boltzmann factor

Path Integral Molecular Dynamics (PIMD):

- F. Della Sala, R. Rousseau, A. Görling, D. Marx, [Phys. Rev. Lett. 92, 183401 \(2004\)](#)
- R. Ramírez, P. C. Herrero, E. R. Hernández, [Phys. Rev. B 73, 245202 \(2006\)](#)
- A. Kundu, M. Govoni, H. Yang, M. Ceriotti, F. Gygi, G. Galli, [arXiv:2104.11065](#)

Molecular Dynamics (MD):

- A. Franceschetti [Phys. Rev. B 76, 161301\(R\) \(2007\)](#)
- R. Ramírez, P. C. Herrero, R. E. Hernández, M. Cardona, [Phys. Rev. B 77, 045210 \(2008\)](#)
- M. Zacharias, M. Scheffler, C. Carbogno, [Phys. Rev. B 102, 045126 \(2020\)](#)

Nonperturbative Approaches - Literature II

Importance Sampling Monte Carlo (ISMC):

- C. E. Patrick, F. Giustino, [Nat. Commun. 4, 2006 \(2013\)](#)
- B. Monserrat, R. J. Needs, and C. J. Pickard, [J. Chem. Phys. 141, 134113 \(2014\)](#)
- M. Zacharias, C. E. Patrick, F. Giustino, [Phys. Rev. Lett. 115, 177401 \(2015\)](#)

Quantum Monte Carlo (QMC):

- R. J. Hunt, B. Monserrat, V. Zólyomi, N. D. Drummond, [Phys. Rev. B 101, 205115 \(2020\)](#)
- V. Gorelov, D. M. Ceperley, M. Holzmann, C. Pierleoni, [J. Chem. Phys. 153, 234117 \(2020\)](#)

Thermal Lines (TL):

- B. Monserrat, [Phys. Rev. B 93, 014302 \(2016\)](#)
- B. Monserrat, [Phys. Rev. B 93, 100301\(R\) \(2016\)](#)

Special Displacement Method (SDM):

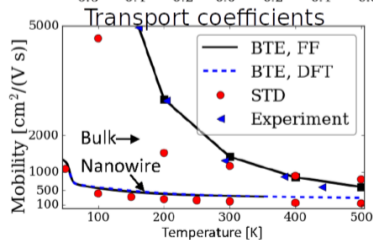
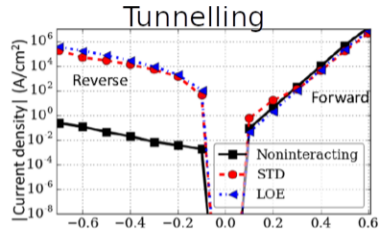
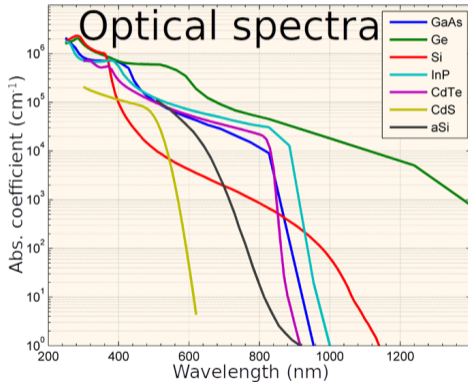
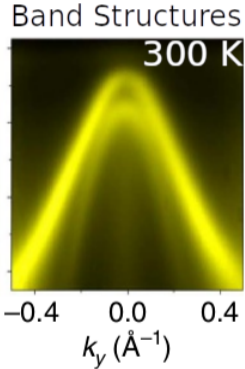
- M. Zacharias, F. Giustino, [Phys. Rev. B 94, 075125 \(2016\)](#)
- F. Karsai, M. Engel, E. Flage-Larsen, G. Kresse, [New J. Phys. 20 123008 \(2018\)](#)
- M. Zacharias, F. Giustino, [Phys. Rev. Research 2, 013357 \(2020\)](#)

Other supercell approaches: Finite Differences (FD):

- R. B. Capaz, C. D. Spataru, P. Tangney, M. L. Cohen, S. G. Louie, [Phys. Rev. Lett. 94, 036801 \(2005\)](#)
- G. Antonius, S. Poncé, P. Boulanger, M. Côté, X. Gonze, [Phys. Rev. Lett. 112, 215501 \(2014\)](#)
- B. Monserrat, [J. Phys.: Condens. Matter 30, 083001 \(2018\)](#)

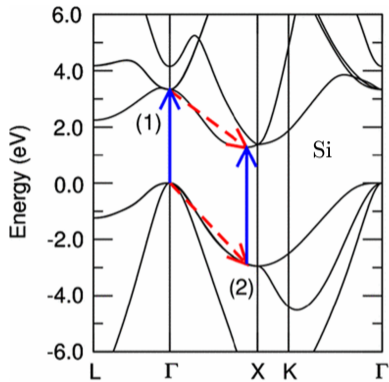
Nonperturbative Approaches - Literature III

All nonperturbative approaches can be upgraded to evaluate any property written as a **Fermi-Golden Rule**, e.g.:

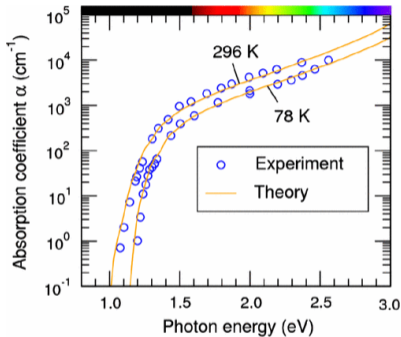


Refs: pveducation.org, P. Chen *et al.* *Nat. Commun.* 6, 8943 (2015), T. Gunst *et al.* *Phys. Rev. B* 96, 161404(R) (2017)

Phonon-assisted optical spectra



J. Noffsinger, E. Kioupakis, C. G. Van de Walle, S. G. Louie, M. L. Cohen, *Phys. Rev. Lett.* 108, 167402 (2012)



Phonon-assisted transition rate in the [Hall-Bardeen-Blat](#) (HBB) theory:

$$\Gamma_{v \rightarrow c}(\omega) \propto \sum_{\nu} \left| \sum_{n \neq c} \frac{p_{vn} g_{nc, \nu}}{\epsilon_n - \epsilon_v - \hbar\omega} + \sum_{n \neq v} \frac{g_{vn, \nu} p_{nc}}{\epsilon_n - \epsilon_v \pm \hbar\omega_{\nu}} \right|^2 \delta(\epsilon_c - \epsilon_v \pm \hbar\omega_{\nu} - \hbar\omega)$$

Temperature-dependent band structures

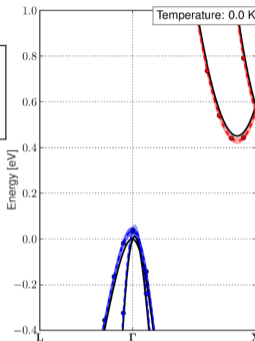
Temperature-dependence of the energy levels in the [Allen-Heine](#) theory:

$$\Delta\varepsilon_c(T) = \sum_{\nu} \left[\sum_{n \neq c} \frac{|g_{cn\nu}|^2}{\varepsilon_c - \varepsilon_n} + h_{c\nu\nu} \right] (2n_{\nu,T} + 1)$$

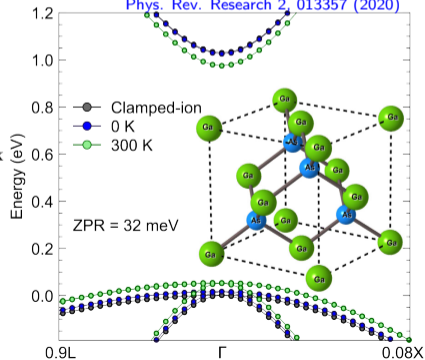
Perturbative first-principles applications:

- A. Marini, [PRL 101, 106405 \(2008\)](#)
- F. Giustino *et al.*, [PRL 105, 265501 \(2010\)](#)
- E. Cannuccia *et al.*, [PRL 107, 255501 \(2011\)](#)
- X. Gonze *et al.*, [Ann. Phys. 523, 168 \(2011\)](#)
- H. Kawai, *et al.*, [PRB 89, 085202 \(2014\)](#)
- G. Antonius, *et al.*, [PRL 112, 215501 \(2014\)](#)
- S. Ponc e *et al.*, [PRB 90, 214304 \(2014\)](#)
- A. Molina-S anchez, *et al.*, [PRB 93, 155435 \(2016\)](#)
- J. P. Nery, *et al.*, [PRB 97, 115145 \(2018\)](#)
- A. Miglio, *et al.*, [npj CM 6, 167 \(2020\)](#)

S. Ponc e *et al.*, [J. Chem. Phys. 143, 102813 \(2015\)](#)



M. Zacharias, F. Giustino,
[Phys. Rev. Research 2, 013357 \(2020\)](#)



Williams-Lax Theory

1. Herzberg-Teller rate as the starting point:

$$\Gamma_{\alpha n \rightarrow \beta}(\omega) = \sum_m \frac{2\pi}{\hbar} |\langle \chi_{\alpha n} | P_{\alpha\beta}^x | \chi_{\beta m} \rangle|^2 \delta(E_{\beta m} - E_{\alpha n} - \hbar\omega)$$

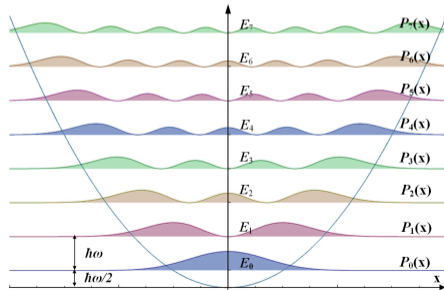
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2. Semiclassical approximation: replace $E_{\beta m}$ with the adiabatic potential energy surface E_{β}^x :

$$\Gamma_{\alpha n \rightarrow \beta}^{(\text{SC})}(\omega) = \frac{2\pi}{\hbar} \langle \chi_{\alpha n} | |P_{\alpha\beta}^x|^2 \delta(E_{\beta}^x - E_{\alpha}^x - \hbar\omega) | \chi_{\alpha n} \rangle$$



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3. Thermal average, Harmonic approximation, and Mehler's formula:

$$\Gamma_{0 \rightarrow \beta}^{(\text{SC})}(\omega; T) = \prod_{\nu} \int dx_{\nu} \frac{\exp(-x_{\nu}^2/2\sigma_{\nu,T}^2)}{\sqrt{2\pi}\sigma_{\nu,T}} |P_{0\beta}^x|^2 \delta(E_{\beta}^x - E_0^x - \hbar\omega)$$

with $\sigma_{\nu,T}^2 = (2n_{\nu,T} + 1) l_{\nu}^2$.

- F. E. Williams, [Phys. Rev. 82, 281 \(1951\)](#)
- M. Lax, [J. Chem. Phys. 20, 1752 \(1952\)](#)
- C. E. Patrick, F. Giustino, [Nat. Commun. 4, 2006 \(2013\)](#)
- C. E. Patrick, F. Giustino, [J. Phys. Condens. Matter 26, 365503 \(2014\)](#)
- M. Zacharias, [DPhil Thesis](#), University of Oxford (2017)

Williams-Lax Theory

4. We make contact with DFT and write for the potential energy surface:

$$\lim_{N_e \rightarrow \infty} E_\beta^x - E_0^x = \varepsilon_c^x - \varepsilon_v^x$$

- M. Zacharias, C. E. Patrick, F. Giustino, [Phys. Rev. Lett. 115, 177401 \(2015\)](#)
- M. Zacharias, F. Giustino, [Phys. Rev. B 94, 075125 \(2016\)](#)

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5. Imaginary part of the dielectric function at finite T :

$$\epsilon_2^{\text{SC}}(\omega; T) = \prod_\nu \int dx_\nu \frac{\exp(-x_\nu^2/2\sigma_{\nu,T}^2)}{\sqrt{2\pi\sigma_{\nu,T}^2}} \epsilon_2^x(\omega)$$

and in the independent-particle picture:

$$\epsilon_2^x(\omega) \propto \frac{1}{\omega^2} \sum_{cv} |p_{cv}^x|^2 \delta(\varepsilon_c^x - \varepsilon_v^x - \hbar\omega)$$

- M. Zacharias, C. E. Patrick, F. Giustino, [Phys. Rev. Lett. 115, 177401 \(2015\)](#)
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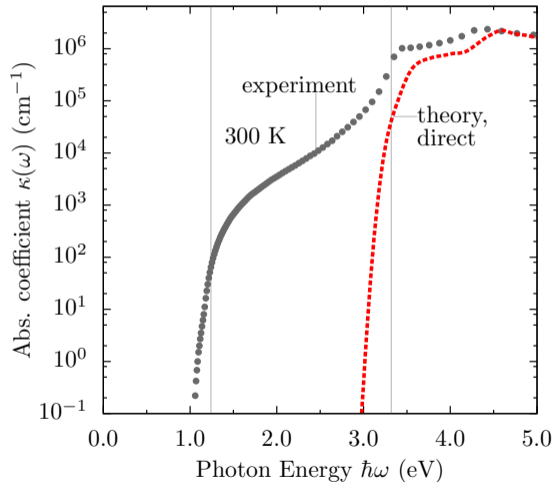
$$\epsilon_2^x(\omega) \propto \frac{1}{\omega^2} \sum_{cv} |p_{cv}^x|^2 \delta(\varepsilon_c^x - \varepsilon_v^x - \hbar\omega)$$

Interpretation: Weighted average of the spectra calculated with the nuclei fixed in a variety of configurations.

- M. Zacharias, C. E. Patrick, F. Giustino, [Phys. Rev. Lett. 115, 177401 \(2015\)](#)
- M. Zacharias, F. Giustino, [Phys. Rev. B 94, 075125 \(2016\)](#)

Silicon optical absorption in the Williams-Lax theory

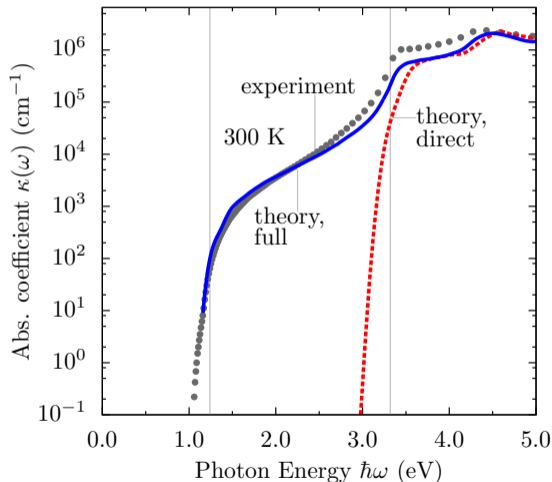
DFT-LDA calculations with nuclei at equilibrium



M. Zacharias, C. E. Patrick, F. Giustino, [Phys. Rev. Lett. 115, 177401 \(2015\)](#)

Silicon optical absorption in the Williams-Lax theory

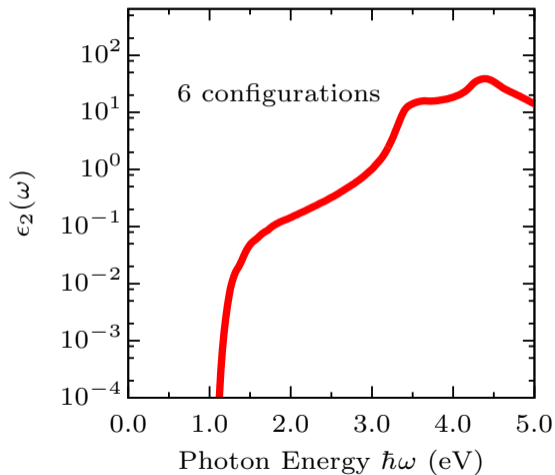
DFT-LDA calculations + quantum nuclear effects, Method: ISMC ($8 \times 8 \times 8$ supercell)



M. Zacharias, C. E. Patrick, F. Giustino, *Phys. Rev. Lett.* **115**, 177401 (2015)

Convergence test with configurational sampling

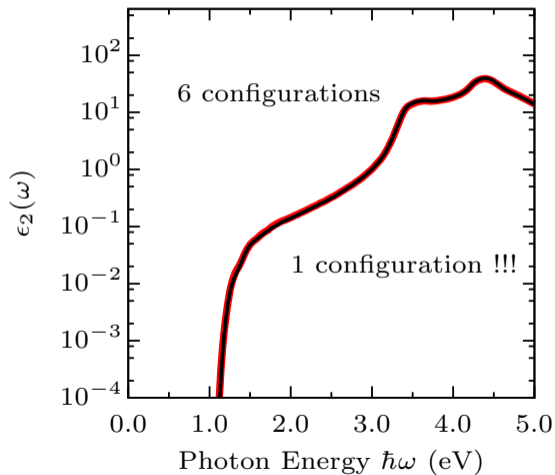
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Convergence test with configurational sampling

DFT-LDA calculations + quantum nuclear effects, Method: ISMC ($8 \times 8 \times 8$ supercell)



M. Zacharias, C. E. Patrick, F. Giustino, [Phys. Rev. Lett. 115, 177401 \(2015\)](#)

The special displacement method (SDM) and ZG displacements

Original observation for Zacharias-Giustino (ZG) displacements $\Delta\tau^{\text{ZG}}$:

1. Exact Williams-Lax (WL) dielectric function:

$$\epsilon_2^{\text{WL}}(\omega; T) = \epsilon_2(\omega) + \frac{1}{2} \sum_{\nu} \frac{\partial^2 \epsilon_2^x(\omega)}{\partial x_{\nu}^2} \sigma_{\nu, T}^2 + \mathcal{O}(\sigma^4)$$

2. One configuration:

$$\epsilon_2^{\text{ZG}}(\omega; T) = \epsilon_2(\omega) + \frac{1}{2} \sum_{\nu\mu} S_{\nu} S_{\mu} \frac{\partial^2 \epsilon_2^x(\omega)}{\partial x_{\nu} \partial x_{\mu}} \sigma_{\nu, T} \sigma_{\mu, T} + \mathcal{O}(\sigma^4)$$

Special set of signs:

$$\{S_{\nu}\} = \{+ - + - + - \dots\}$$

$$S_{\nu} = (-1)^{\nu-1}$$

3. We can prove:

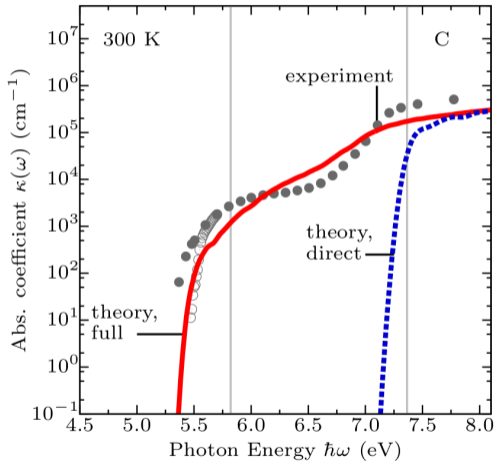
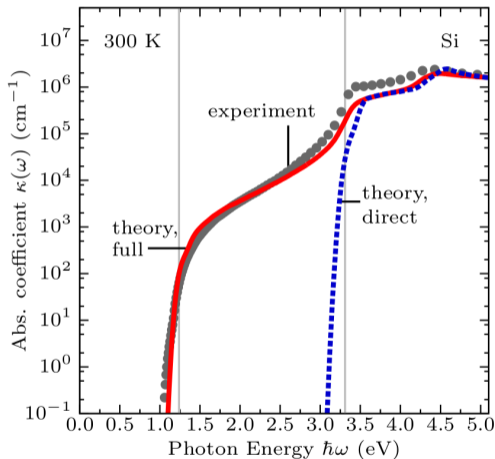
$$\lim_{N_p \rightarrow \infty} \epsilon_2^{\text{ZG}}(\omega; T) = \epsilon_2^{\text{WL}}(\omega; T)$$

$$\text{if } \Delta\tau_{\kappa\alpha}^{\text{ZG}} = (M_p/M_{\kappa})^{\frac{1}{2}} \sum_{\nu} S_{\nu} e_{\kappa\alpha, \nu} \sigma_{\nu, T}$$

M. Zacharias, F. Giustino, [Phys. Rev. B 94, 075125 \(2016\)](#)

Silicon and diamond absorption spectra with SDM

DFT-LDA calculations + quantum nuclear effects, Method: SDM ($8 \times 8 \times 8$ supercell)



M. Zacharias, F. Giustino, *Phys. Rev. B* 94, 075125 (2016)

Relations connecting Nonperturbative and Perturbative methods

- Optical spectra:

$$\frac{\partial^2 \epsilon_2^x}{\partial x_\nu^2} \propto \frac{2}{l_\nu^2} \frac{1}{\omega^2} \sum_{cv} \left| \sum_n' \left[\frac{p_{cn} g_{nv\nu}}{\epsilon_\nu - \epsilon_n} + \frac{g_{cn\nu} p_{nv}}{\epsilon_c - \epsilon_n} \right] \right|^2 \delta(\epsilon_c - \epsilon_\nu - \hbar\omega)$$

- Temperature-dependent band structures:

$$\frac{\partial^2 \epsilon_c^x}{\partial x_\nu^2} = \frac{2}{l_\nu^2} \left[\sum_n' \frac{|g_{cn\nu}|^2}{\epsilon_c - \epsilon_n} + h_{c\nu\nu} \right],$$

Nonperturbative methods:

1. miss $\hbar\omega_\nu$ in the denominator and $\delta()$ (ok if $\hbar\omega_\nu \ll \epsilon_g$)
2. capture all coefficients $\frac{\partial^{2n} \epsilon_2^x}{\partial x_\nu^{2n}}$; thus *electron-multi-phonon* interactions
3. includes off-diagonal Debye-Waller contribution

Reciprocal space formulation of SDM

SDM: Gives the set of atomic displacements (ZG displacements) that best incorporate the effect of electron-phonon coupling in ab-initio nonperturbative calculations:

$$\Delta \tau_{p\kappa}^{\text{ZG}} = \left[\frac{M_p}{N_p M_\kappa} \right]^{\frac{1}{2}} 2 \sum_{\mathbf{q} \in \mathcal{B}, \nu} S_{\mathbf{q}\nu} \operatorname{Re} \left[e^{i\mathbf{q} \cdot \mathbf{R}_p} \mathbf{e}_{\kappa, \nu}(\mathbf{q}) \right] \sigma_{\mathbf{q}\nu, T}$$

where

- $\sigma_{\mathbf{q}\nu, T}^2 = (2n_{\mathbf{q}\nu, T} + 1)\hbar / (2M_p \omega_{\mathbf{q}\nu})$ with $n_{\mathbf{q}\nu, T} = [\exp(\hbar\omega_{\mathbf{q}\nu} / k_B T) - 1]^{-1}$
- $\omega_{\mathbf{q}\nu} \rightarrow$ phonon frequencies
- $\mathbf{e}_{\kappa, \nu}(\mathbf{q}) \rightarrow$ phonon polarization vectors
- $S_{\mathbf{q}\nu} \rightarrow$ signs of normal coordinates (see later)

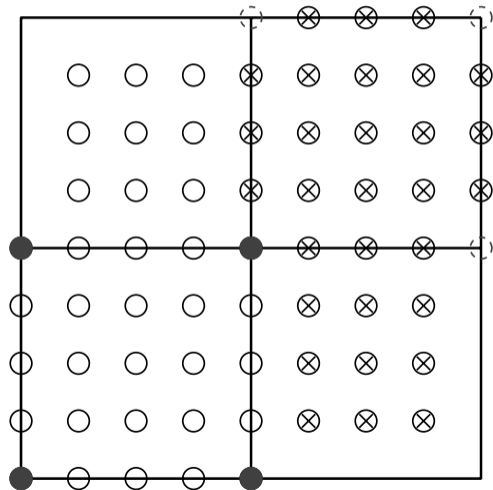
This equation is implemented in the ZG.x code (see tutorial Fri.6.Zacharias.pdf).

M. Zacharias, F. Giustino, [Phys. Rev. Research 2, 013357 \(2020\)](#)

Partitioning of q -points into sets \mathcal{A} , \mathcal{B} , and \mathcal{C}

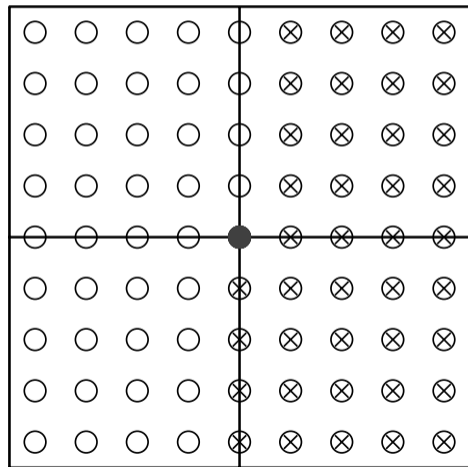
$8 \times 8 \times 1$ q -grid

● $q \in \mathcal{A}$, ○ $q \in \mathcal{B}$, ⊗ $q \in \mathcal{C}$

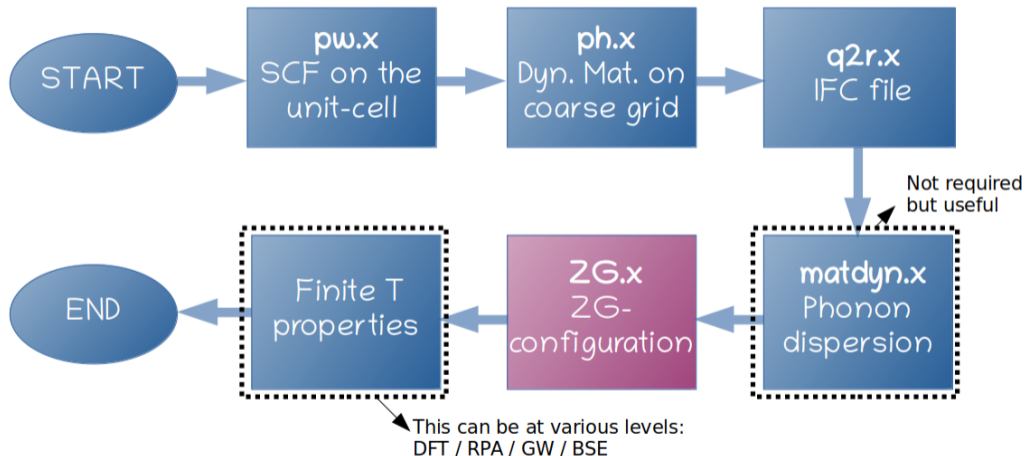


$9 \times 9 \times 1$ q -grid

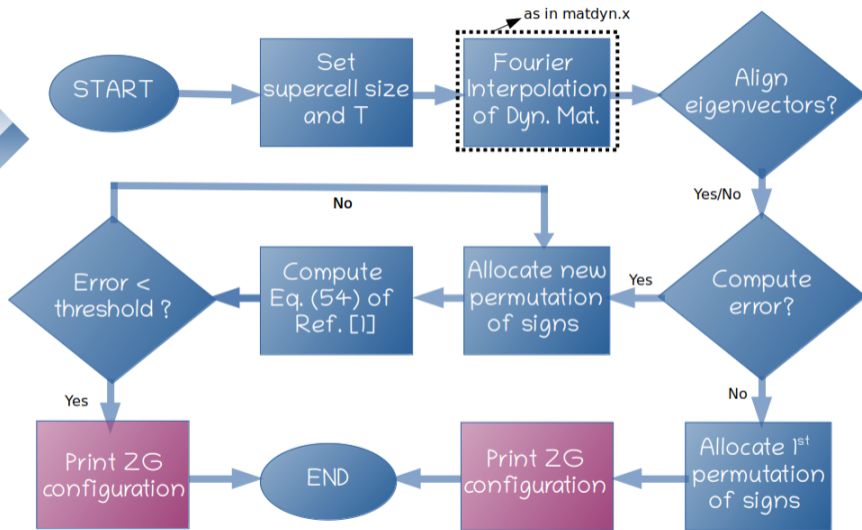
● $q \in \mathcal{A}$, ○ $q \in \mathcal{B}$, ⊗ $q \in \mathcal{C}$



Flowchart for ab-initio calculations with ZG configurations



Flowchart for ZG.x



Ref. [1]: M. Zacharias, F. Giustino, *Phys. Rev. Research* 2, 013357 (2020)

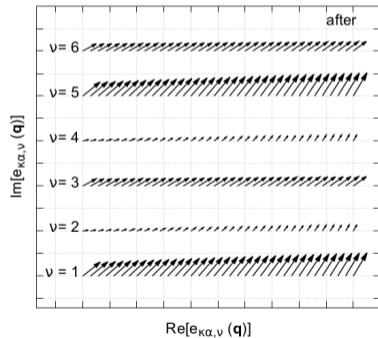
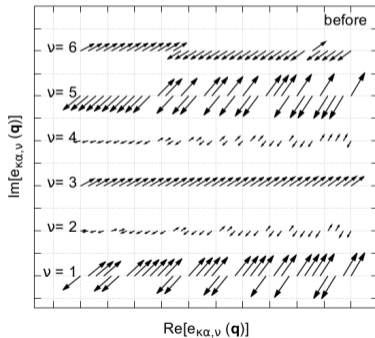
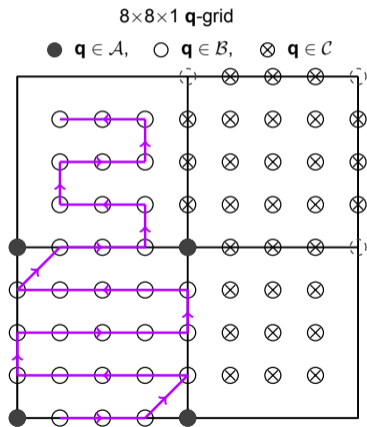
Smooth gauge of $e_{\kappa,\nu}(\mathbf{q})$ along a path in reciprocal space

Apply a smooth gauge by setting: `synch = .true.`

We apply the transformation:

$$e'_{\kappa\alpha,\nu}(\mathbf{q} + \Delta\mathbf{q}) = \sum_{\nu'} U_{\nu\nu'} e_{\kappa\alpha,\nu'}(\mathbf{q} + \Delta\mathbf{q}),$$

so that $e_{\kappa\alpha,\nu}(\mathbf{q})$ and $e_{\kappa\alpha,\nu}(\mathbf{q} + \Delta\mathbf{q})$ are as similar as possible.



Compute and minimize the function $E(\{S_{\mathbf{q}\nu}\}, T)$

Find the best ZG displacements for a given *supercell* size and *temperature* by setting `compute_error = .true.`, `error_thresh = 0.05` so that the function:

$$E(\{S_{\mathbf{q}\nu}\}, T) = \sum_{\substack{\kappa\alpha \\ \kappa'\alpha'}} \frac{\left| \sum_{\substack{\mathbf{q} \in \mathcal{B} \\ \nu < \nu'}} \Re[e_{\kappa\alpha, \nu}^*(\mathbf{q}) e_{\kappa'\alpha', \nu'}(\mathbf{q})] \sigma_{\mathbf{q}\nu, T} \sigma_{\mathbf{q}\nu', T} S_{\mathbf{q}\nu} S_{\mathbf{q}\nu'} \right|}{\left| \sum_{\substack{\mathbf{q} \in \mathcal{B} \\ \nu}} \Re[e_{\kappa\alpha, \nu}^*(\mathbf{q}) e_{\kappa'\alpha', \nu}(\mathbf{q})] \sigma_{\mathbf{q}\nu, T}^2 \right|}$$

is lower than `error_thresh` based on the choice of $\{S_{\mathbf{q}\nu}\}$.

All quantities in $E(\{S_{\mathbf{q}\nu}\})$ can be computed from DFPT;

no extra DFT calculations are required to find the optimum ZG configuration.

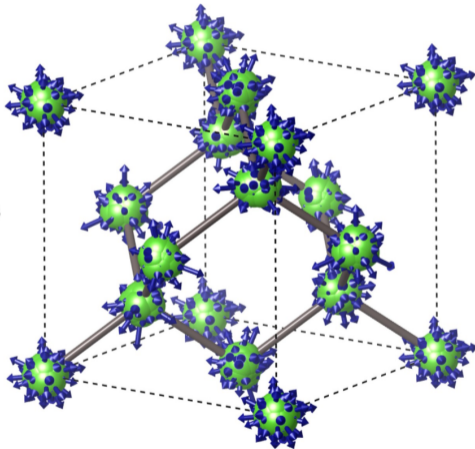
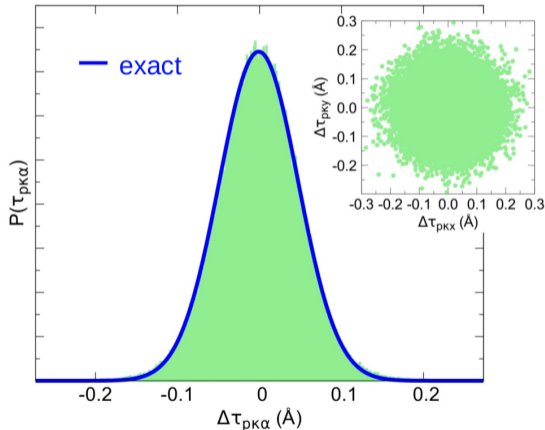
Example input file for ZG.x (similar structure to matdyn.x)

```
--  
  &input  
  flfrc='si.444.fc',  
  asr='simple', amass(1)=28.0855, atm_zg(1) = 'Si',  
  T = 0.00,  
  dim1 = 5, dim2 = 5, dim3 = 5  
  synch = .true.,  
  compute_error = .true., error_thresh = 0.05, niters = 30000  
  incl_qA = .false.  
/
```

More details about the input flags are available in the file `tuto_Fri6_flags.pdf` which can be found, together with the tutorial, in `Fri.6.Zacharias.tar`.

Physical meaning of minimizing $E(\{S_{q\nu}\}, T)$

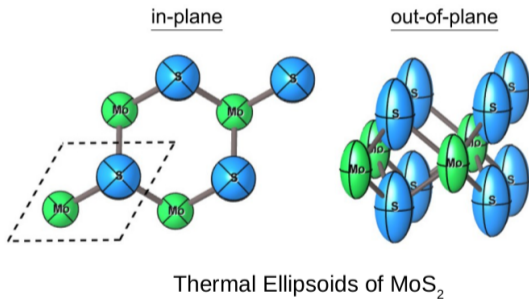
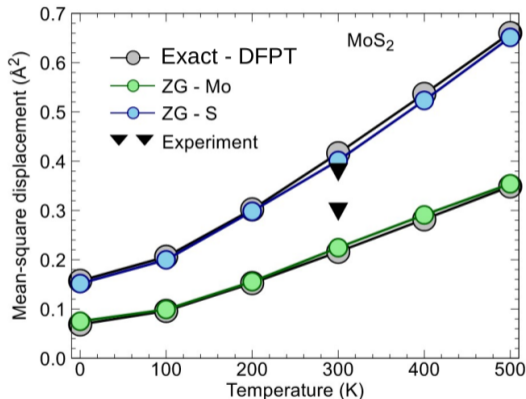
Gives the correct quantum mechanical probability distribution of nuclei displacements and the anisotropic displacement tensor / thermal ellipsoids.



M. Zacharias, F. Giustino, [Phys. Rev. Research 2, 013357 \(2020\)](#)

Physical meaning of minimizing $E(\{S_{q\nu}\}, T)$

Gives the correct quantum mechanical probability distribution of nuclei displacements and the anisotropic displacement tensor / thermal ellipsoids.

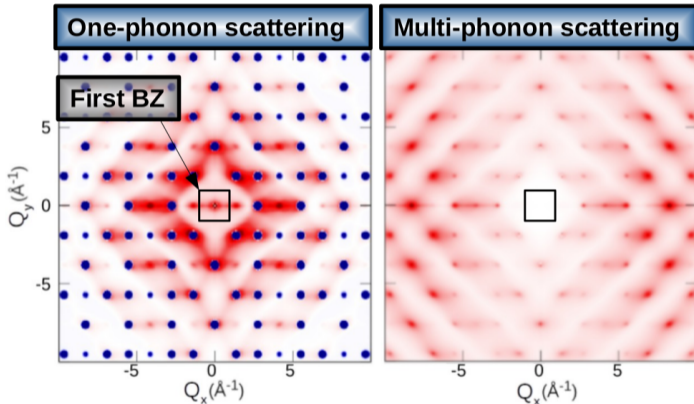
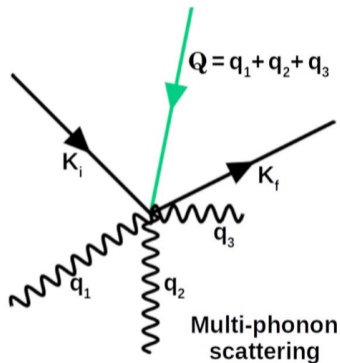


M. Zacharias, F. Giustino, [Phys. Rev. Research 2, 013357 \(2020\)](#)

Physical meaning of minimizing $E(\{S_{q\nu}\}, T)$

ZG displacements give the best collection of scatterers that best reproduce *phonon-induced inelastic scattering patterns*:

Black Phosphorus

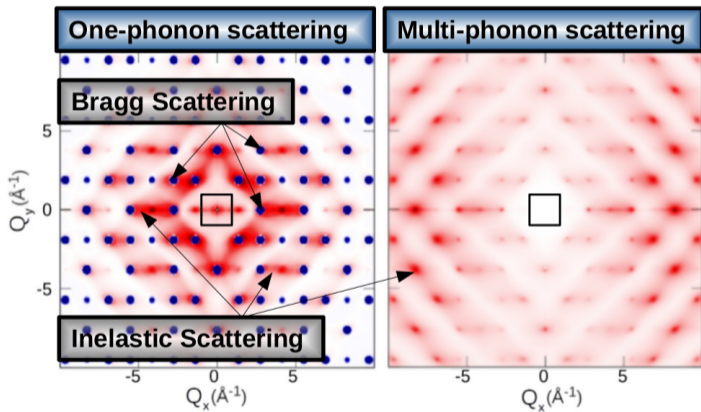
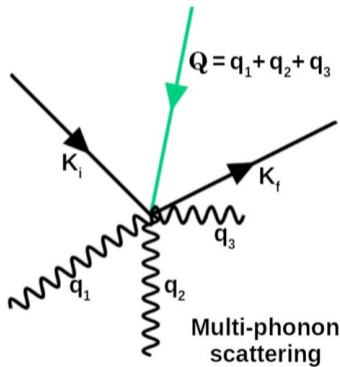


M. Zacharias, H. Seiler, F. Caruso, D. Zahn, F. Giustino, P. Kelires, R. Ernstorfer, [arXiv:2103.10108](https://arxiv.org/abs/2103.10108), (2021)

M. Zacharias, H. Seiler, F. Caruso, D. Zahn, F. Giustino, P. Kelires, R. Ernstorfer, [arXiv:2104.07900](https://arxiv.org/abs/2104.07900), (2021)

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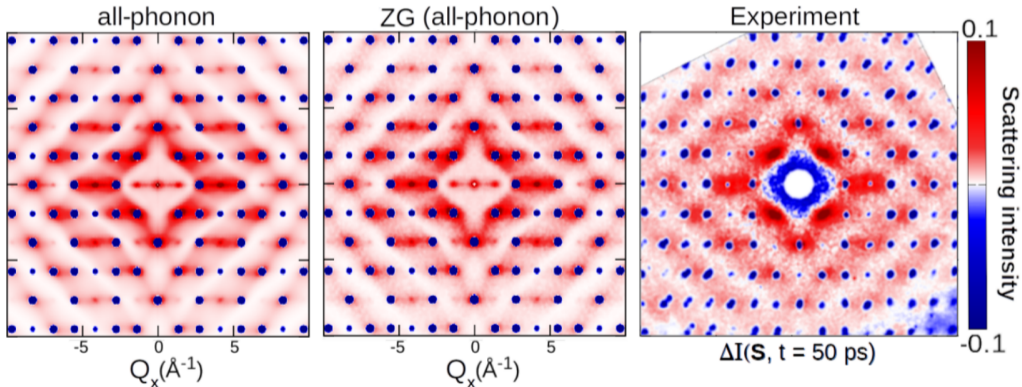
M. Zacharias, H. Seiler, F. Caruso, D. Zahn, F. Giustino, P. Kelires, R. Ernstorfer, [arXiv:2103.10108](https://arxiv.org/abs/2103.10108), (2021)

M. Zacharias, H. Seiler, F. Caruso, D. Zahn, F. Giustino, P. Kelires, R. Ernstorfer, [arXiv:2104.07900](https://arxiv.org/abs/2104.07900), (2021)

Physical meaning of minimizing $E(\{S_{q\nu}\}, T)$

ZG displacements give the best collection of scatterers that best reproduce

phonon-induced inelastic scattering patterns: $I_{ZG}(\mathbf{Q}, T) = \left| \sum_{p\kappa} f_{\kappa}(\mathbf{Q}) e^{i\mathbf{Q} \cdot [\mathbf{R}_p + \boldsymbol{\tau}_{\kappa} + \Delta\boldsymbol{\tau}_{p\kappa}^{ZG}]} \right|^2$



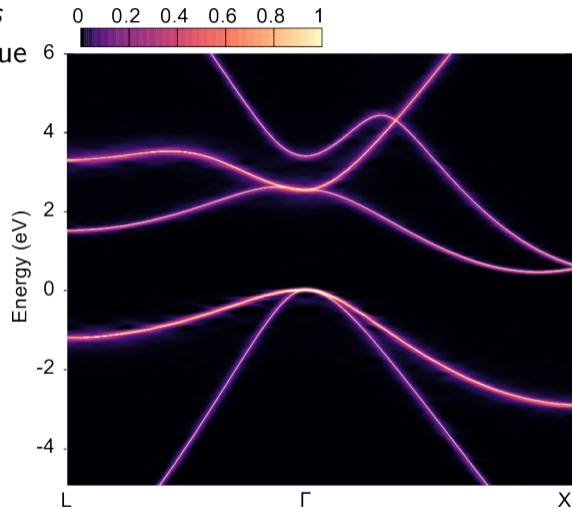
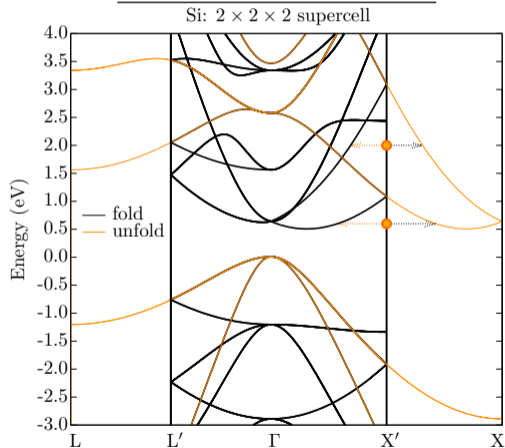
We will show how to calculate diffraction maps using `ZG.x` and `disca.x` (see tutorial exercise4).

M. Zacharias, H. Seiler, F. Caruso, D. Zahn, F. Giustino, P. Kelires, R. Ernstorfer, [arXiv:2103.10108](https://arxiv.org/abs/2103.10108), (2021)

M. Zacharias, H. Seiler, F. Caruso, D. Zahn, F. Giustino, P. Kelires, R. Ernstorfer, [arXiv:2104.07900](https://arxiv.org/abs/2104.07900), (2021)

Applications of SDM

Temperature-dependent band structures
with the band structure unfolding technique



V. Popescu, A. Zunger, [Phys. Rev. B 85, 085201 \(2012\)](#) M. Zacharias, F. Giustino, [Phys. Rev. Res. 2, 013357 \(2020\)](#)

Applications of SDM

Temperature-dependent band structures with the band structure unfolding technique

Goal is to evaluate the electron spectral function:

$$A_{\mathbf{k}}(\varepsilon; T) = \sum_{m\mathbf{K}} P_{m\mathbf{K},\mathbf{k}}(T) \delta[\varepsilon - \varepsilon_{m\mathbf{K}}(T)],$$

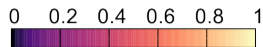
where $P_{m\mathbf{K},\mathbf{k}}(T)$ are temperature-dependent spectral weights evaluated as:

$$P_{m\mathbf{K},\mathbf{k}}(T) = \sum_{\mathbf{g}} |c_{m\mathbf{K}}^{\text{ZG}}(\mathbf{g} + \mathbf{k} - \mathbf{K}; T)|^2.$$

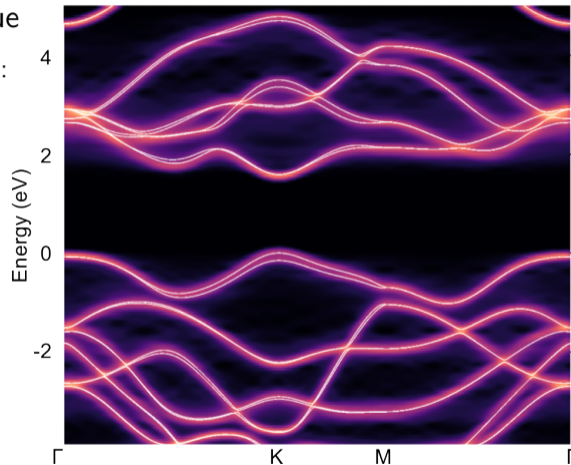
This is implemented in `bands_unfold.x` for NC, US, and PAW pseudopotentials.
(see tutorial exercise2)

V. Popescu, A. Zunger, *Phys. Rev. B* **85**, 085201 (2012)

P. V. C. Medeiros, S. Stafström, J. Björk,
Phys. Rev. B **89**, 041407(R) (2014)



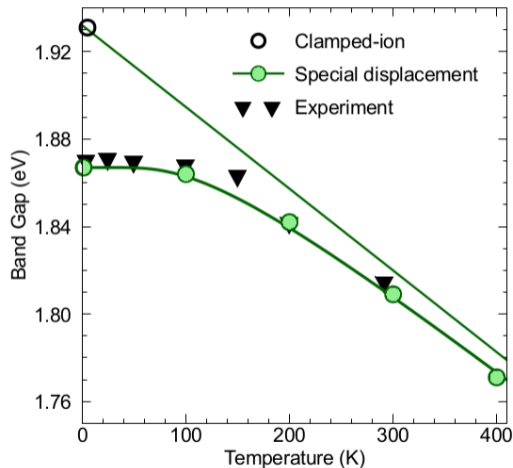
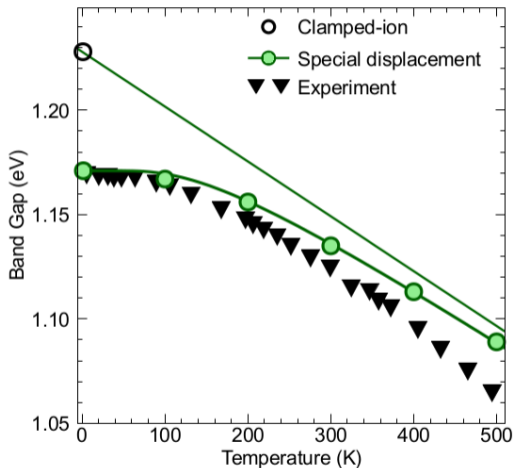
MoS₂



M. Zacharias, F. Giustino, *Phys. Rev. Res.* **2**, 013357 (2020)

Applications of SDM

Temperature dependent band gaps of **Si** (ZPR = 57 meV) and **MoS₂** (ZPR = 65 meV).

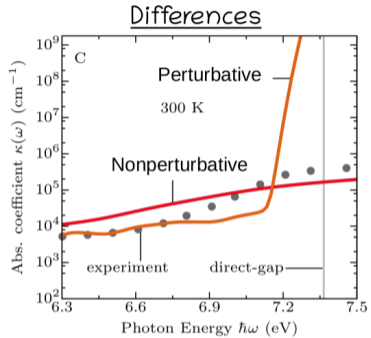
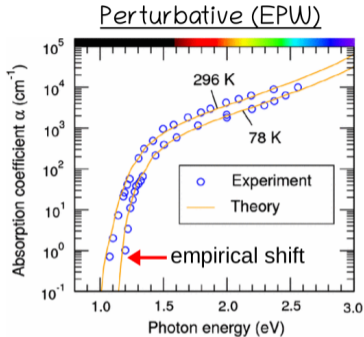
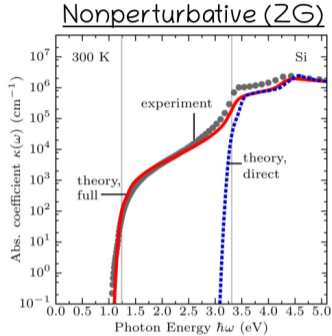


M. Zacharias, F. Giustino, [Phys. Rev. Res. 2, 013357 \(2020\)](#)

Things to have in mind when applying SDM via ZG.x:

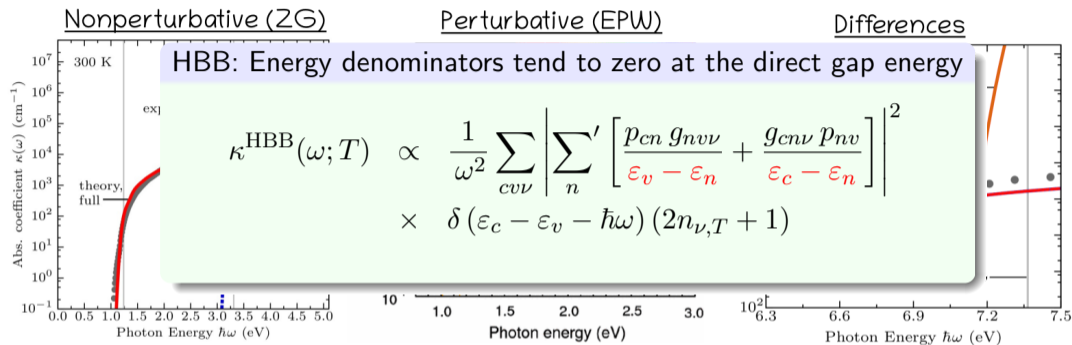
- Make sure that the phonon dispersion is correct. For *anharmonic materials* one can upgrade the IFC file using the methods:
 - O. Hellman *et al.*, [Phys. Rev. B 84, 180301\(R\) \(2011\)](#)
 - I. Errea *et al.*, [Phys. Rev. B 89, 064302 \(2014\)](#)
- **q**-grid for phonons should not be necessarily the same with the supercell size. Use a coarse **q**-grid and generate any size of ZG configurations.
- Achieve convergence of the T -dependent observable with the supercell size.
- Make sure [error_thresh](#) is small (< 0.1).
- Check the anisotropic displacement tensor data at the end of the output [ZG_configuration.dat](#) (as in exercise1).

Final remark: Nonperturbative vs Perturbative



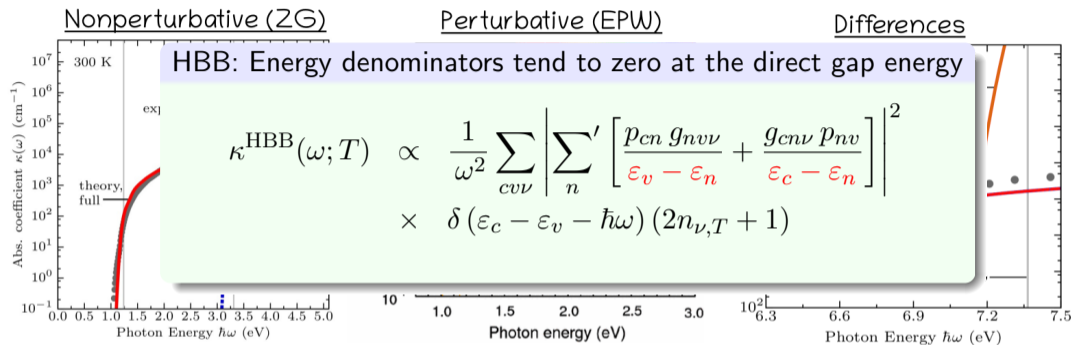
To learn calculating optical spectra using the ZG configuration see exercise3.

Final remark: Nonperturbative vs Perturbative



To learn calculating optical spectra using the ZG configuration see exercise3.

Final remark: Nonperturbative vs Perturbative



- ZG gives the full spectrum → all terms in perturbation theory: ✓
 $\kappa^{\text{ZG}}(\omega; T) = \kappa^{\text{HBB}}(\omega; T) + \text{direct absorp.} + \text{higher ph. assisted processes} + \text{mix terms} + \text{band gap renorm.}$
- Straightforward to implement on top of any electronic structure code. ✓
- ZG requires supercells → EPW elegance of unit-cell calculations. ✗
- ZG misses non-adiabatic (e.g. ph. frequencies in the denominators) and dynamical effects. ✗

To learn calculating optical spectra using the ZG configuration see exercise3.