

# The Bethe-Salpeter Equation

Lucia Reining (using also material of Francesco Sottile)

Palaiseau Theoretical Spectroscopy Group & Friends



# The Bethe-Salpeter Equation

- From linear response TDDFT to TD-GFT
- Approximations to the BSE
- BSE in practice
- Examples and notes

# The Bethe-Salpeter Equation

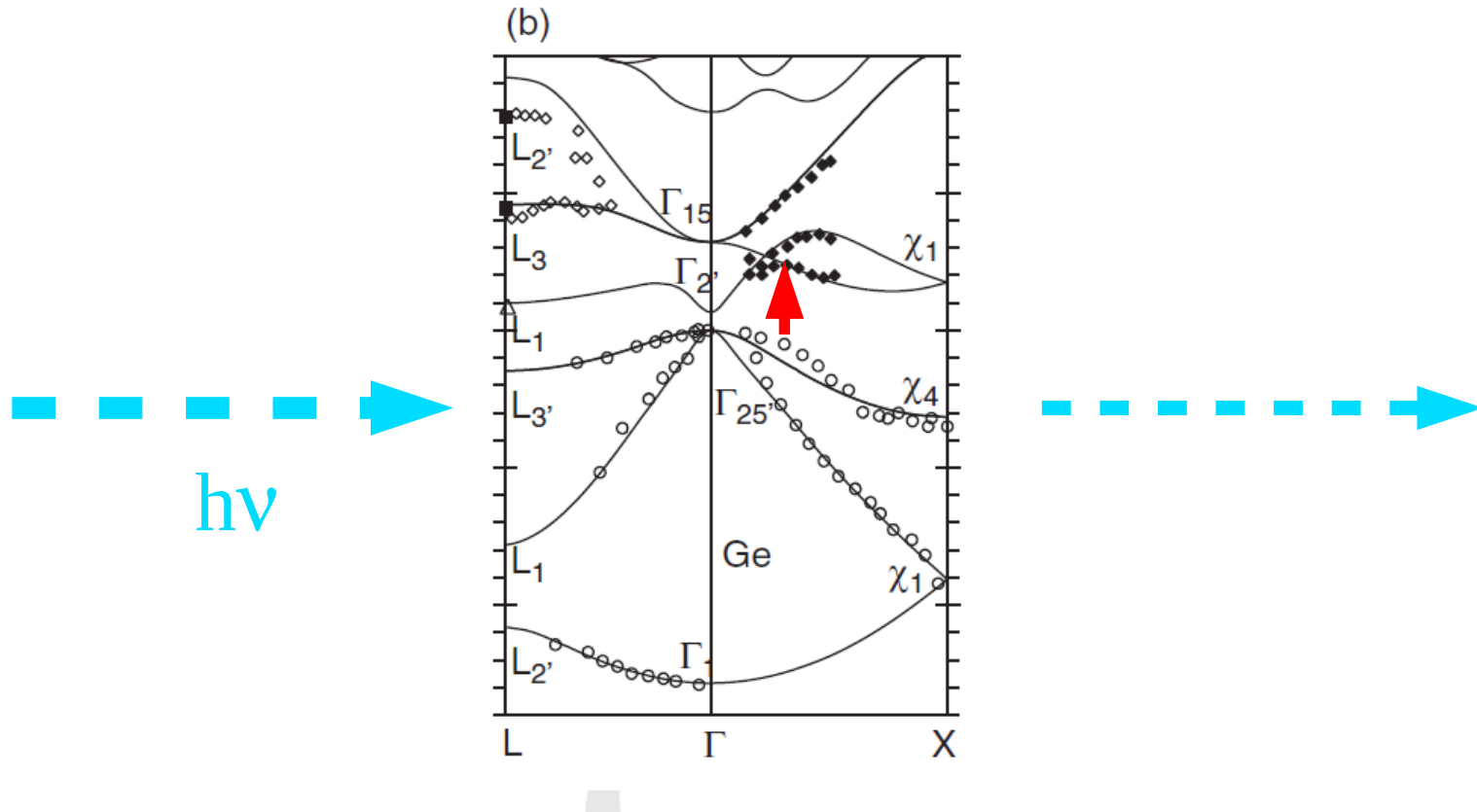
→ From linear response TDDFT to TD-GFT

→ Approximations to the BSE

→ BSE in practice

→ Examples and notes

Absorption: measuring electron-hole pairs  $\rightarrow$  2-body GF





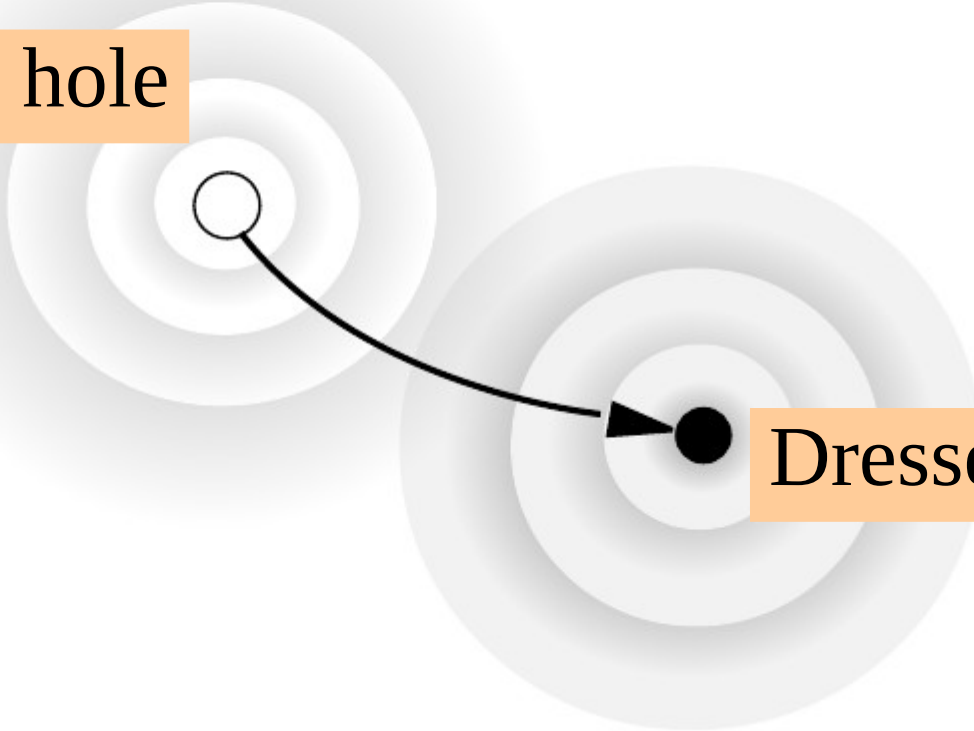
$$\left( -\frac{\nabla^2}{2} + v_{\text{ext}}(\mathbf{r}) + v_H(\mathbf{r}) + v_{\text{xc}}(\mathbf{r}) \right) \varphi_i(\mathbf{r}) = \varepsilon_i \varphi_i(\mathbf{r})$$

$$\left( -\frac{\nabla^2}{2} + v_{\text{ext}}(\mathbf{r}) + v_H(\mathbf{r}) \right) \varphi_i(\mathbf{r}; \omega) + \int d\mathbf{r}' \Sigma_{\text{xc}}(\mathbf{r}, \mathbf{r}'; \omega) \varphi_i(\mathbf{r}'; \omega) = \varepsilon_i(\omega) \varphi_i(\mathbf{r}; \omega)$$



$$L_0 = GG$$

Dressed hole



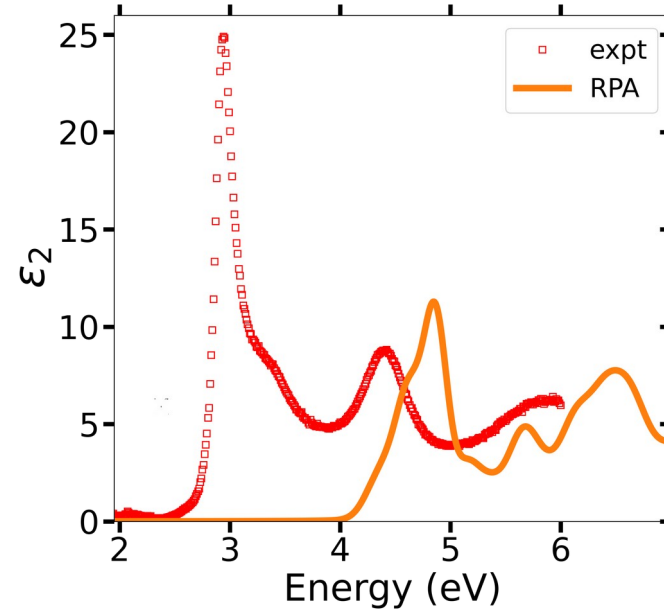
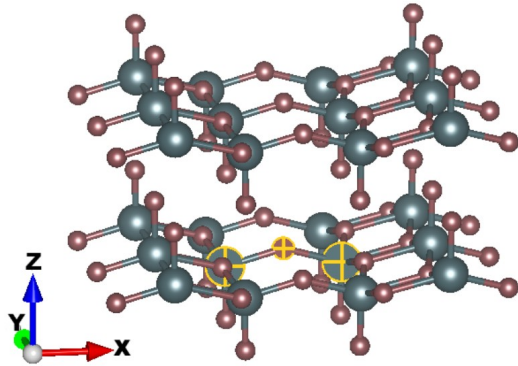
Dressed electron

# Optical absorption in the aux. system of electrons and holes (indep.)



Chaire Énergies Durables  
École polytechnique - EDF

$V_2O_5$ : a layered bulk material



— GW-RPA

... Exp

Vitaly Gorelov

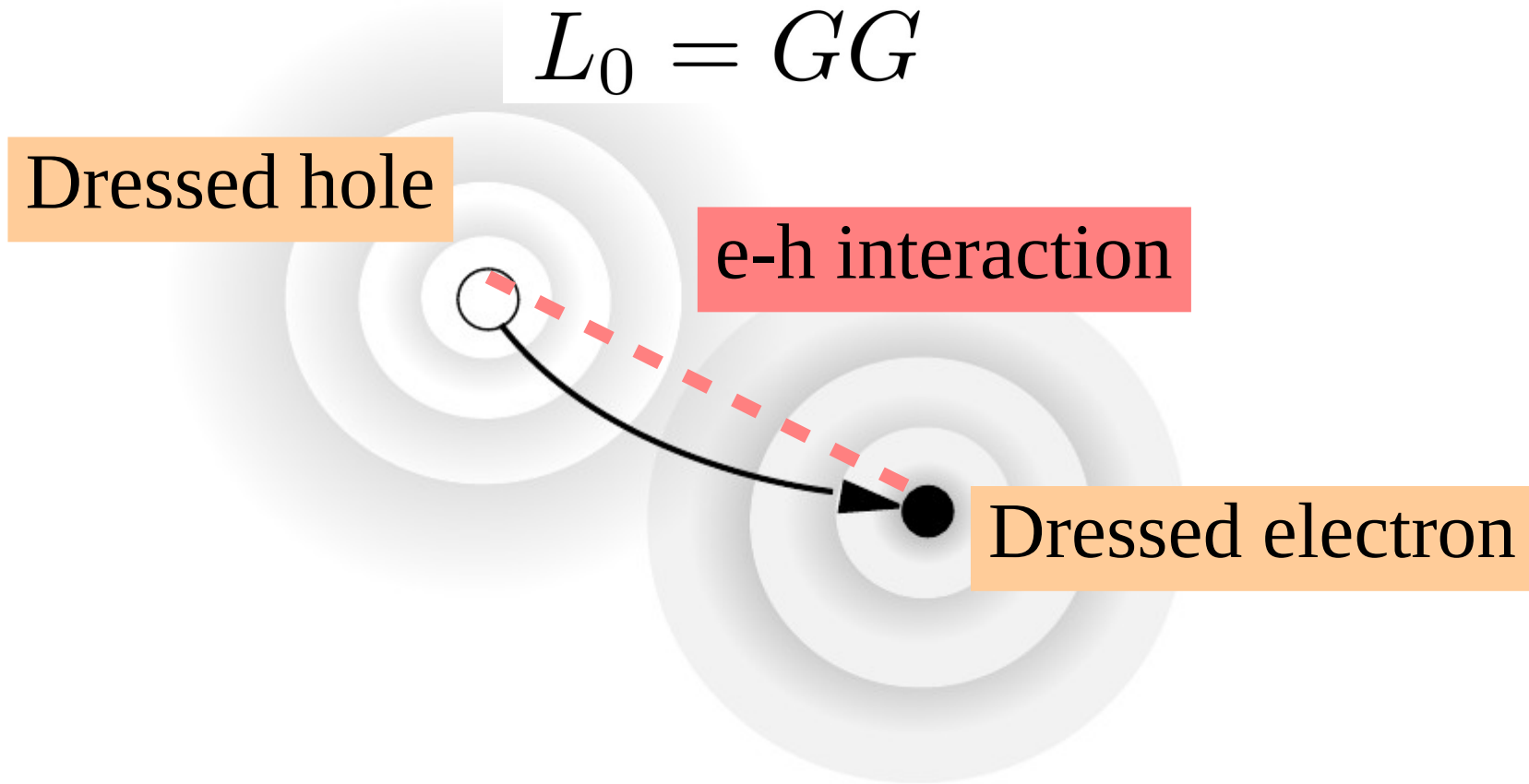
Reining, Feneberg, Goldhahn, Schleife, Lambrecht, Gatti  
*npj comp mat* (2022)

$$L_0 = GG$$

Dressed hole

e-h interaction

Dressed electron



$$\chi = \frac{\delta n}{\delta v_{\text{ext}}} = \frac{\delta n}{\delta v_{\text{tot}}} \frac{(\delta v_{\text{ext}} + \delta v_{\text{H}} + \delta v_{\text{xc}})}{\delta v_{\text{ext}}}$$

$$\chi = \chi^0 + \left( \frac{\delta v_{\text{H}} + \delta v_{\text{xc}}}{\delta n} \right) \frac{\delta n}{\delta v_{\text{ext}}} = \chi^0 + \chi^0 (v_{\text{c}} + f_{\text{xc}}) \chi$$

$$\chi = \frac{\delta n}{\delta v_{\text{ext}}} = \frac{\delta n}{\delta v_{\text{tot}}} \frac{(\delta v_{\text{ext}} + \delta v_{\text{H}} + \delta v_{\text{xc}})}{\delta v_{\text{ext}}}$$

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$$\chi = \frac{\delta n}{\delta v_{\text{ext}}} = \frac{\delta n}{\delta v_{\text{tot}}} \frac{(\delta v_{\text{ext}} + \delta v_{\text{H}} + \delta \Sigma_{\text{xc}})}{\delta n} \frac{\delta n}{\delta v_{\text{ext}}}$$

$$L = \frac{\delta G}{\delta v_{\text{ext}}} = \frac{\delta G}{\delta v_{\text{tot}}} \frac{(\delta v_{\text{ext}} + \delta v_{\text{H}} + \delta \Sigma_{\text{xc}})}{\delta G} \frac{\delta G}{\delta v_{\text{ext}}}$$

$$L_0 \equiv GG$$

$$\chi = \frac{\delta n}{\delta v_{\text{ext}}} = \frac{\delta n}{\delta v_{\text{tot}}} \frac{(\delta v_{\text{ext}} + \delta v_{\text{H}} + \delta v_{\text{xc}})}{\delta v_{\text{ext}}}$$

$$\chi = \chi^0 + \left( \frac{\delta v_{\text{H}} + \delta v_{\text{xc}}}{\delta n} \right) \frac{\delta n}{\delta v_{\text{ext}}} = \chi^0 + \chi^0 (v_c + f_{\text{xc}}) \chi$$

$$\chi = \frac{\delta n}{\delta v_{\text{ext}}} = \frac{\delta n}{\delta v_{\text{tot}}} \frac{(\delta v_{\text{ext}} + \delta v_{\text{H}} + \delta \Sigma_{\text{xc}})}{\delta n} \frac{\delta n}{\delta v_{\text{ext}}}$$

$$L = \frac{\delta G}{\delta v_{\text{ext}}} = \frac{\delta G}{\delta v_{\text{tot}}} \frac{(\delta v_{\text{ext}} + \delta v_{\text{H}} + \delta \Sigma_{\text{xc}})}{\delta G} \frac{\delta G}{\delta v_{\text{ext}}}$$

$$L_0 \equiv GG$$

$$L = L_0 + L_0 \left( -iv_c + \frac{\delta \Sigma_{\text{xc}}}{\delta G} \right) L \quad \text{BSE}$$



Bethe-Salpeter Equation

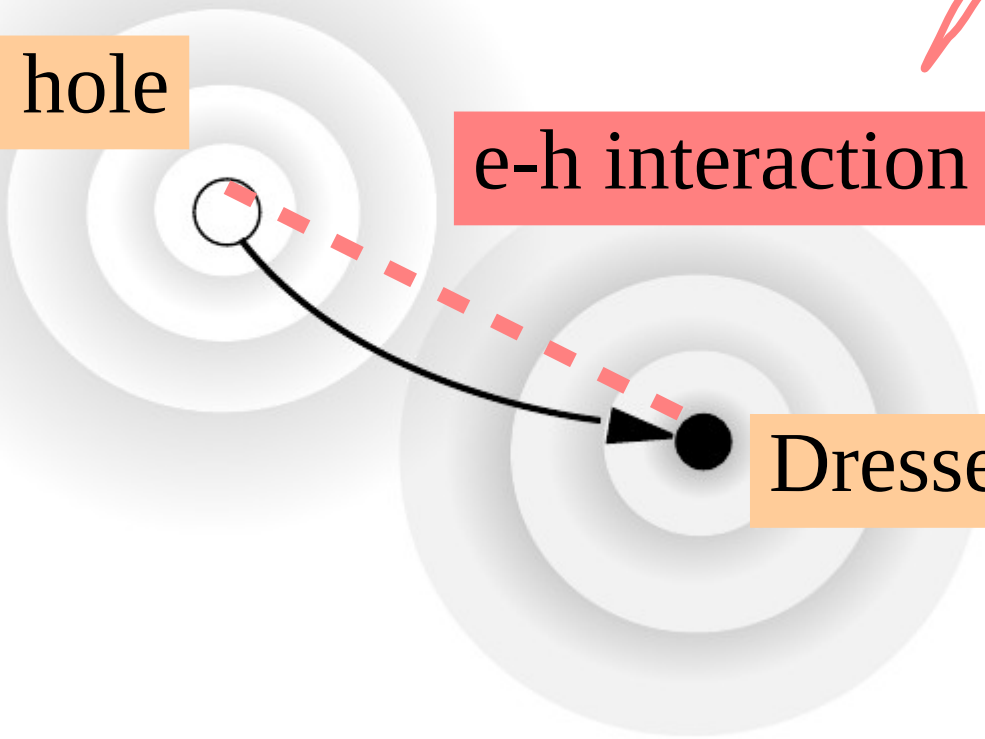
$$L = L_0 + L_0 \frac{\delta(v_H + \Sigma_{xc})}{\delta G} L$$

$$L_0 = GG$$

Dressed hole

e-h interaction

Dressed electron



## Bethe-Salpeter Equation

$$L(1234) = L^0(1234) + L^0(1256) \left[ v(57) \delta(56) \delta(78) + \frac{\delta \Sigma(56)}{\delta G(78)} \right] L(7834)$$

## Comparison with Linear Response quantities

$$\chi(12) = \frac{\delta n(1)}{\delta V_{ext}(2)}$$

$$L(1234) = \frac{\delta G(12)}{\delta \tilde{V}_{ext}(34)}$$

## Comparison with Linear Response quantities

$$\chi(12) = \frac{\delta n(1)}{\delta V_{\text{ext}}(2)}$$

$$L(1133) = \frac{\delta G(11)}{\delta \tilde{V}_{\text{ext}}(33)}$$

## Comparison with Linear Response quantities

$$\chi(12) = \frac{\delta n(1)}{\delta V_{\text{ext}}(2)}$$

$$-i L(1133) = \frac{\delta n(1)}{\delta V_{\text{ext}}(3)}$$

$$n(\mathbf{r}, t) = -iG(\mathbf{r}, \mathbf{r}, t, t^+)$$

## Comparison with Linear Response quantities

$$\chi(12) = \frac{\delta n(1)}{\delta V_{ext}(2)}$$

$$-iL(1133) = \frac{\delta n(1)}{\delta V_{ext}(3)}$$

## Bethe-Salpeter Equation

$$L(1234) = L^0(1234) + L^0(1256) \left[ v(57)\delta(56)\delta(78) + \frac{\delta\Sigma(56)}{\delta G(78)} \right] L(7834)$$

### Comparison with Linear Response quantities

$$\chi(12) = \frac{\delta n(1)}{\delta V_{ext}(2)}$$

$\delta n(1)$

**Have to solve 4 point equation, then take a part!**

### Bethe-Salpeter Equation

$$L(1234) = L^0(1234) + L^0(1256) \left[ v(57) \delta(56) \delta(78) + \frac{\delta \Sigma(56)}{\delta G(78)} \right] L(7834)$$

We have the (4-point)  
Bethe-Salpeter equation.  
And now ?



# The Bethe-Salpeter Equation

→ From linear response TDDFT to TD-GFT

→ Approximations to the BSE

→ BSE in practice

→ Examples and notes

# Approximations

First point: Choosing  $\Sigma$

$$L(1234) = L^0(1234) + L^0(1256) \left[ v(57)\delta(56)\delta(78) + \frac{\delta\Sigma(56)}{\delta G(78)} \right] L(7834)$$

Hartree-Fock:  $\Sigma_{\mathbf{x}}(1, 2) = iG(1, 2)v_c(2, 1^+)$

$$n(\mathbf{r}, t) = -iG(\mathbf{r}, \mathbf{r}, t, t^+)$$

$$\rho(\mathbf{r}, \mathbf{r}') = -iG(\mathbf{r}, t, \mathbf{r}', t^+)$$

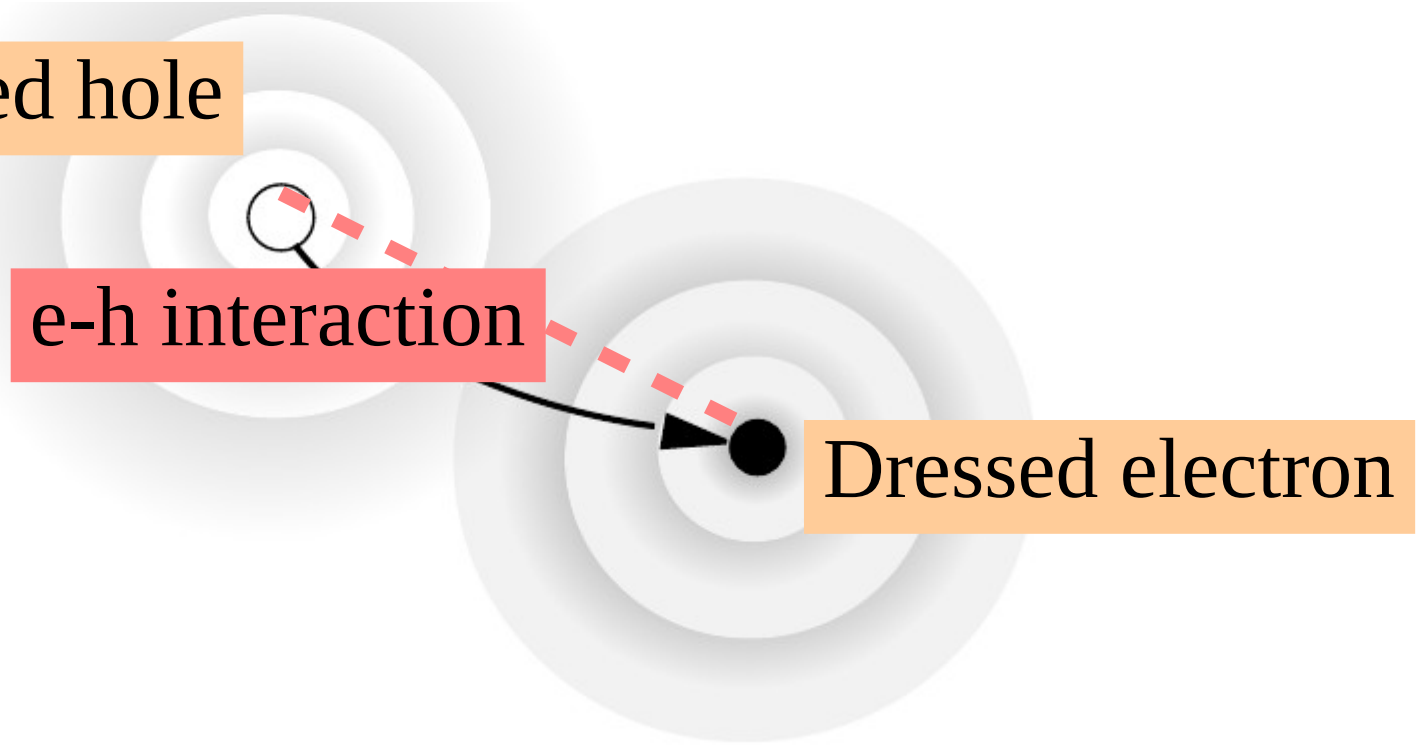
→ Linear response: Bethe-Salpeter equation

$$L = L_0 + L_0 \left( -iv_c + \frac{\delta \Sigma_{xc}}{\delta G} \right) L$$

Dressed hole

e-h interaction

Dressed electron



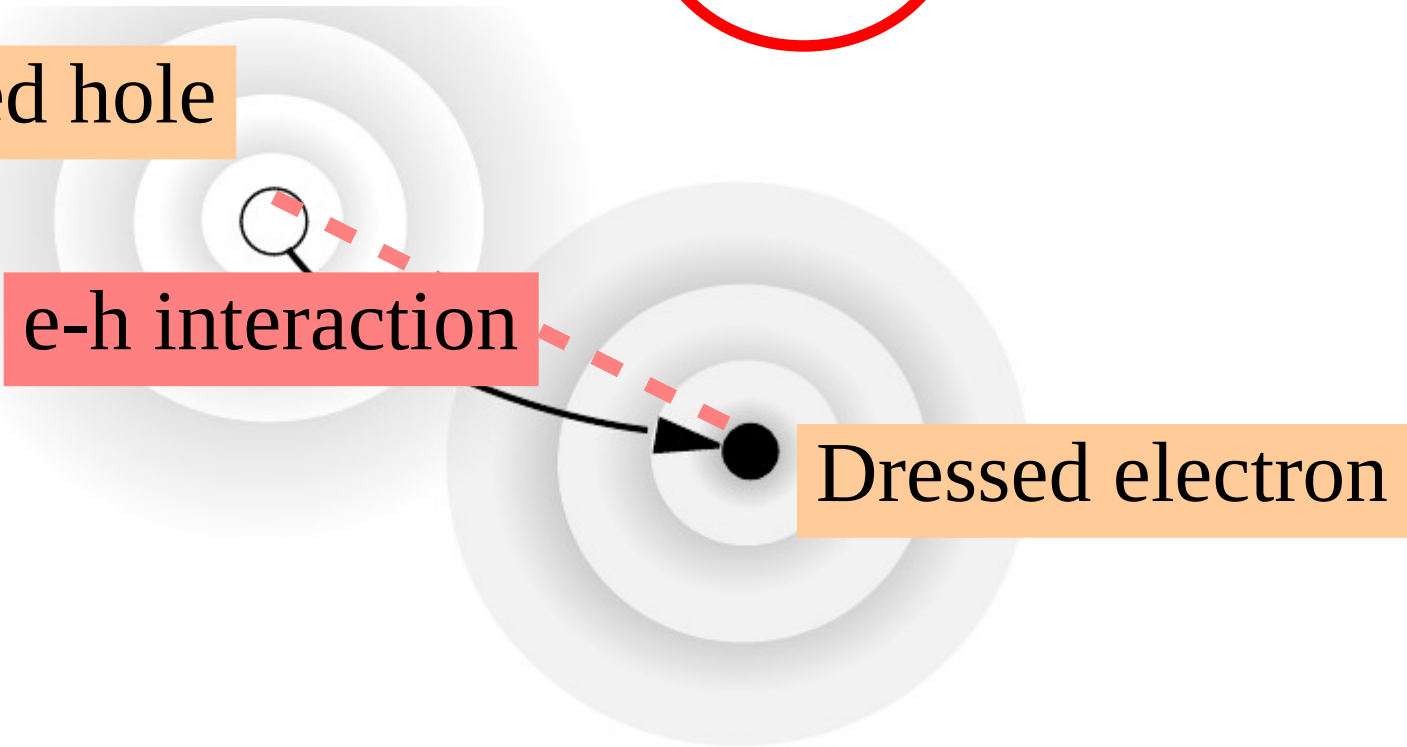
→ Linear response: Bethe-Salpeter equation

$$L = L_0 + L_0 \left( -iv_c + \frac{\delta \Sigma_{xc}}{\delta G} \right) L$$

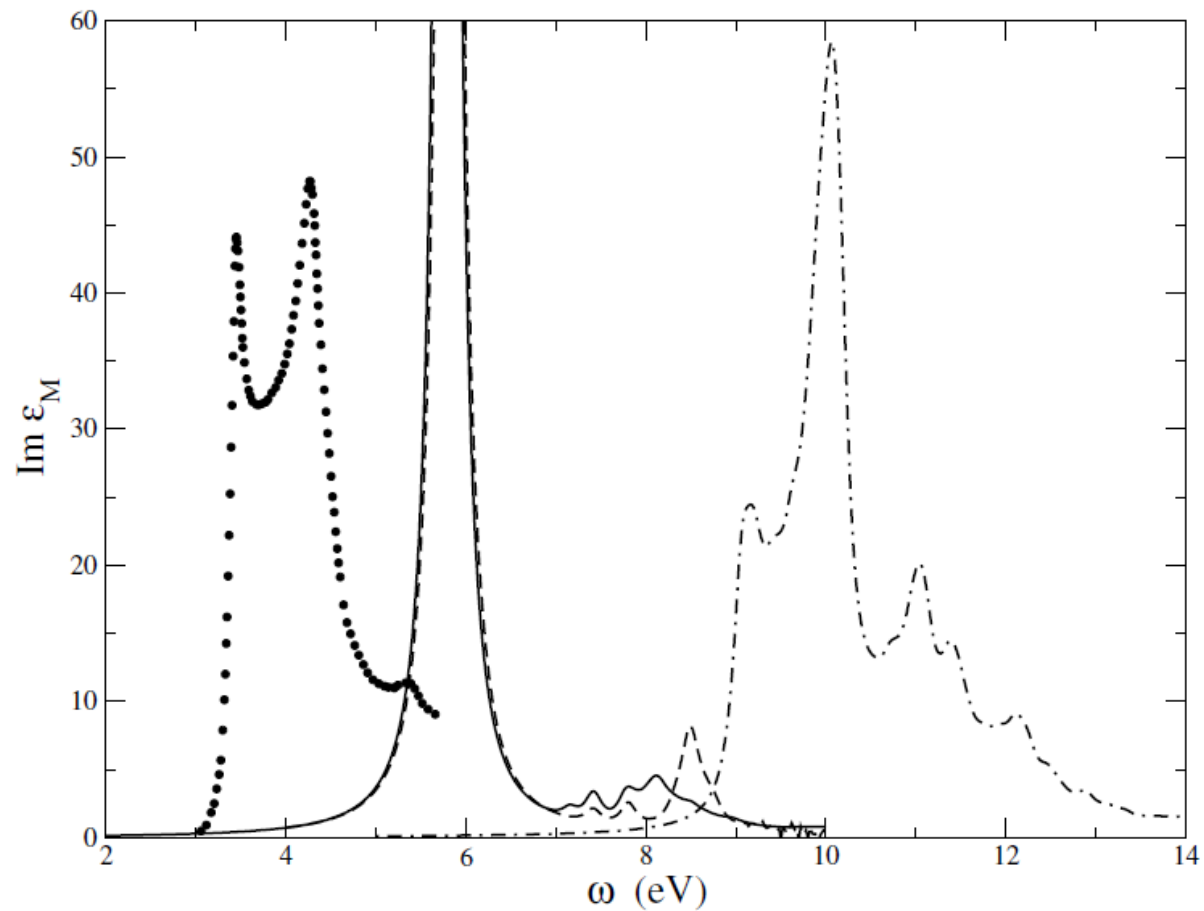
Dressed hole

e-h interaction

Dressed electron



# Silicon: TD-HF



Bruneval, Sottile, Olevano, Reining, J. Chem. Phys. 124, 144113 (2006)

# Approximations

First point: Choosing  $\Sigma$

$$L(1234) = L^0(1234) + L^0(1256) \left[ v(57) \delta(56) \delta(78) + \frac{\delta \Sigma(56)}{\delta G(78)} \right] L(7834)$$

Screened Coulomb term

$$\Sigma^{\text{GW}}(1, 2) = iG(12)W(21)$$

$\Rightarrow$  **Standard Bethe-Salpeter equation**  
**(Time-Dependent Screened Hartree-Fock)**

$$L = GG + GG [v - W] L$$

$$\Rightarrow \text{Approx. } \frac{\delta W}{\delta G} = 0$$

$W$  instantaneous  $\rightarrow$  static

Bethe-Salpeter Equation

$$L = L_0 + L_0 \frac{\delta(v_H + \Sigma_{xc})}{\delta G} L$$

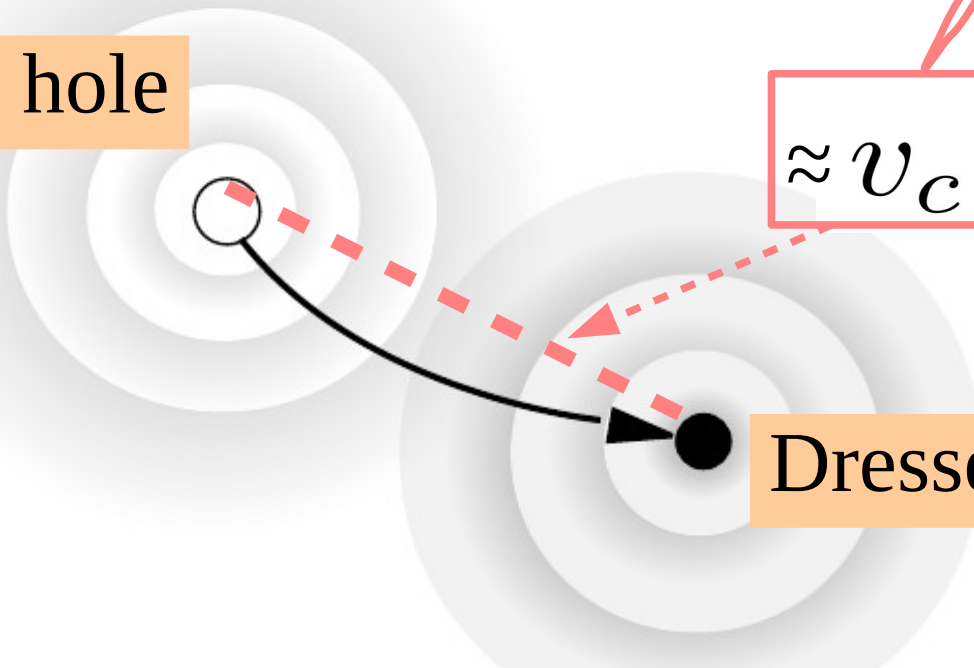
$$L_0 = GG$$

Dressed hole

$$\approx v_c - W$$

Dressed electron

Can be seen as auxiliary system with effective interaction





Bethe-Salpeter Equation

$$L = L_0 + L_0 \frac{\delta(v_H + \Sigma_{xc})}{\delta G} L$$

$$L_0 = GG$$

Dressed hole

$$\approx v_c - W$$

Dressed electron

Hanke & Sham, Phys. Rev. Lett. 43, 387 (1979)

Strinati, Nuovo Cimento 11, 1 (1988)

Onida, et al., Phys. Rev. Lett. 75, 818 (1995)

Albrecht, Onida, Reining Phys. Rev. B 55, 10278 (1997); Albrecht et al. PRL 80, 4510 (1998)

Benedict, Shirley, Bohn, PRL 80, 4514 (1998)

Rohlfing & Louie, PRL 80, 3320 (1998); PRL 81, 2312 (1998)

# The Bethe-Salpeter Equation

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→ Approximations to the BSE

→ BSE in practice

→ Examples and notes

## In practice (for electron-hole BSE)

$$L(1234, \omega) = L^0(1234, \omega) + L^0(1256, \omega)K(5678)L(7834, \omega)$$

$$L_{(n_1 n_2)}^{(n_3 n_4)}(\omega) = L_{(n_1 n_2)}^0(n_3 n_4)(\omega) + L_{(n_1 n_2)}^0(n_5 n_6)(\omega)K_{(n_5 n_6)}^{(n_7 n_8)}L_{(n_7 n_8)}^{(n_3 n_4)}(\omega)$$

We work in transition space...

$$\begin{aligned} L(1234, \omega) &\Rightarrow L_{(n_1 n_2)}^{(n_3 n_4)}(\omega) = \\ &= \int d(1234) L(1234, \omega) \phi_{n_1}(1) \phi_{n_2}^*(2) \phi_{n_3}(3) \phi_{n_4}^*(4) = \ll L \gg \end{aligned}$$

Clever choice of the basis  $\phi_n$

Mixing of transitions

## The Excitonic Hamiltonian

$$L_{(n_1 n_2)}^{(n_3 n_4)}(\omega) = [(E_{n_2} - E_{n_1} - \omega)\delta_{n_1 n_3}\delta_{n_2 n_4} + \langle\langle v \rangle\rangle - \langle\langle W \rangle\rangle]^{-1}$$

$$L_{(n_1 n_2)}^{(n_3 n_4)}(\omega) = \frac{1}{H^{exc} - \omega}$$

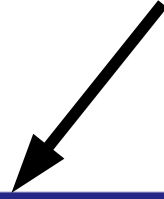
$$H^{exc} = (E_{n_2} - E_{n_1})\delta_{n_1 n_3}\delta_{n_2 n_4} + \langle\langle v \rangle\rangle - \langle\langle W \rangle\rangle$$

## Resonant vs Coupling

$$n_1, n_2, n_3, n_4 = v, c \quad (\mathbf{k})$$

$$H^{reso} = (E_c - E_v)\delta_{w'c'} + \langle\langle v \rangle\rangle - \langle\langle W \rangle\rangle$$

(or inverting)



BSE - creating and diagonalizing a (big) matrix

$$\Rightarrow H_{(vc)(v'c')}^{\text{exc}} A_{\lambda}^{(v'c')} = E_{\lambda}^{\text{exc}} A_{\lambda}^{(vc)}$$

$$\Rightarrow L_{(vc)}^{(v'c')}(\omega) = \sum_{\lambda} \frac{A_{\lambda}^{(vc)} A_{\lambda}^{*(v'c')}}{\omega - E_{\lambda}^{\text{exc}} + i\eta}$$

## Spectrum in BSE (only resonant)

$$\text{Abs}^{\text{BSE}}(\omega) = \text{Im} \langle L(\omega) \rangle = \sum_{\lambda} \left| \sum_{vc} A_{\lambda}^{(vc)} \langle c|D|v \rangle \right|^2 \delta(\omega - E_{\lambda}^{\text{exc}})$$

$$\text{Abs}^{\text{IP-RPA}}(\omega) = \text{Im} \langle \chi^0(\omega) \rangle = \sum_{vc} |\langle c|D|v \rangle|^2 \delta(\omega - (\epsilon_c - \epsilon_v))$$

# BSE in practice

## Standard Approximations for BSE

- Ground-state
  - pseudopotential
  - $V_{xc}$  local density approximation
- Quasi-particle Many-Body Theory
  - GW approximation for  $\Sigma$
  - $W$  rpa, plasmon-pole model
  - $\psi_{\text{GW}} = \phi_{\text{KS}}$
- Bethe-Salpeter equation
  - $\frac{\delta W}{\delta G} = 0$
  - $W$  rpa, static
  - only resonant term

# The Bethe-Salpeter Equation

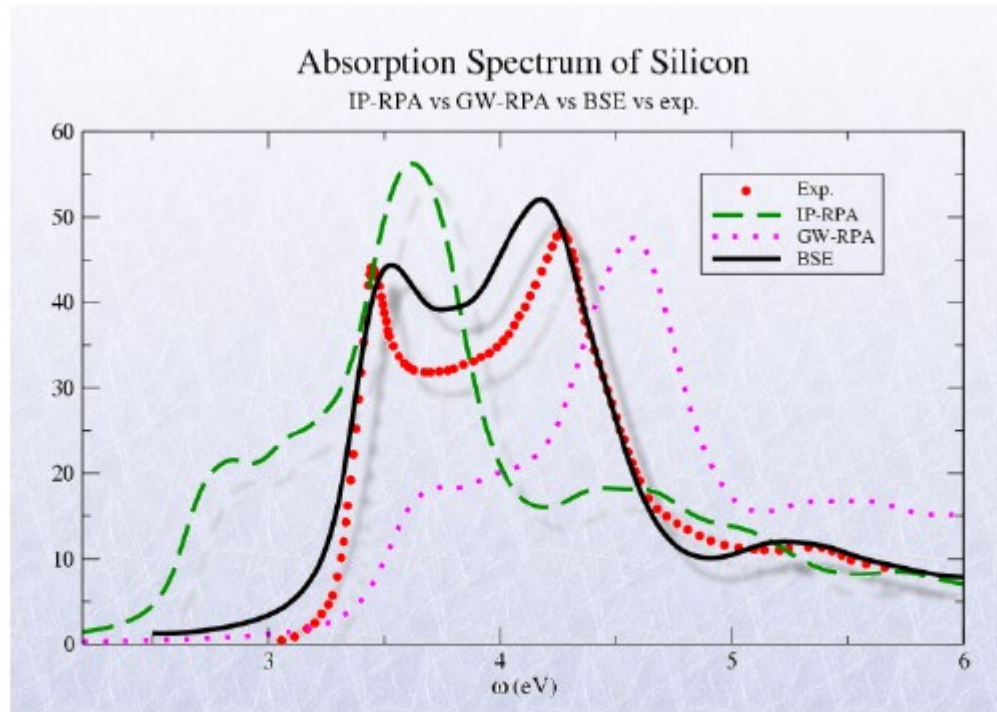
→ From linear response TDDFT to TD-GFT

→ Approximations to the BSE

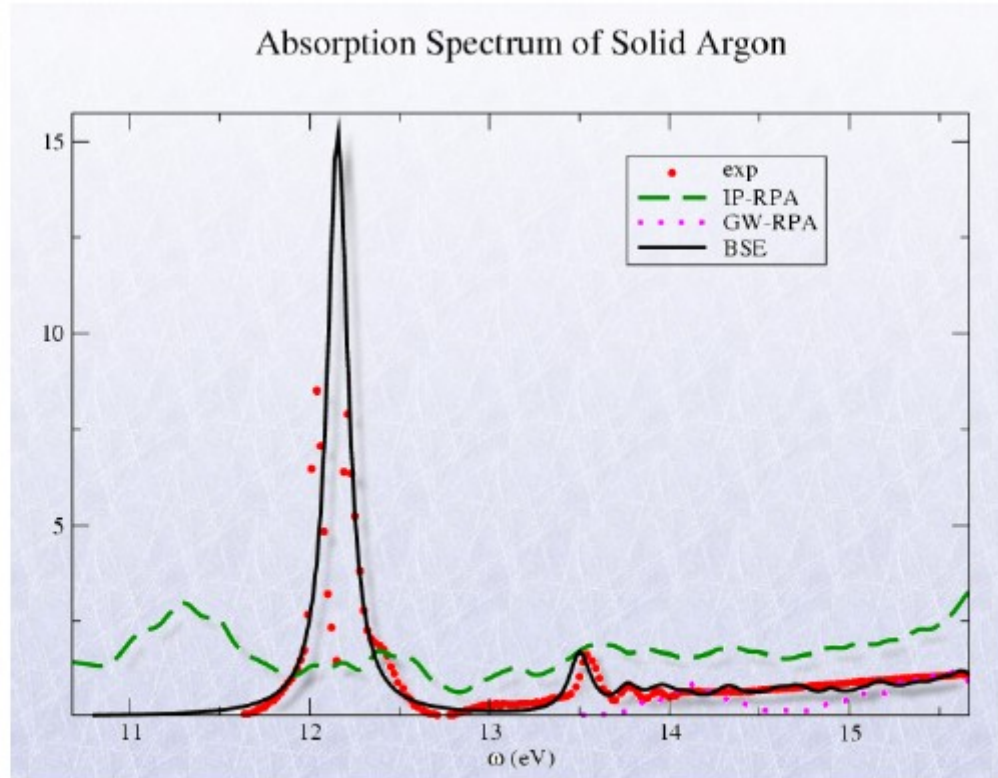
→ BSE in practice


→ Examples and notes





 Albrecht *et al.*, PRL 80, 4510 (1998)



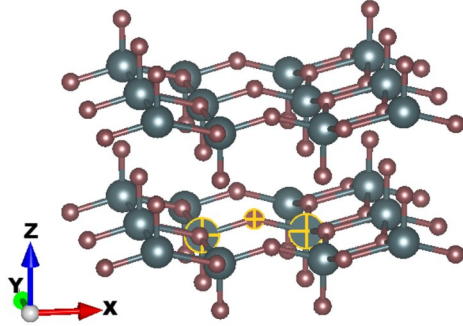
 Sottile, Marsili, *et al.*, PRB (2007).

# State-of-the-art Bethe-Salpeter

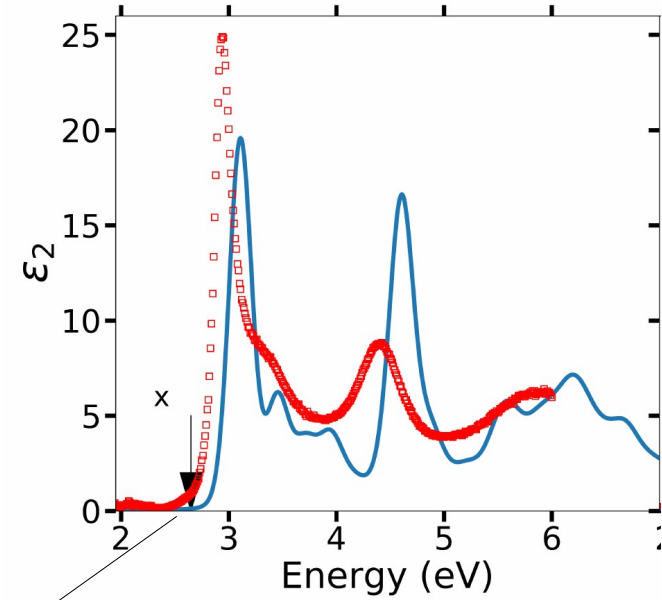
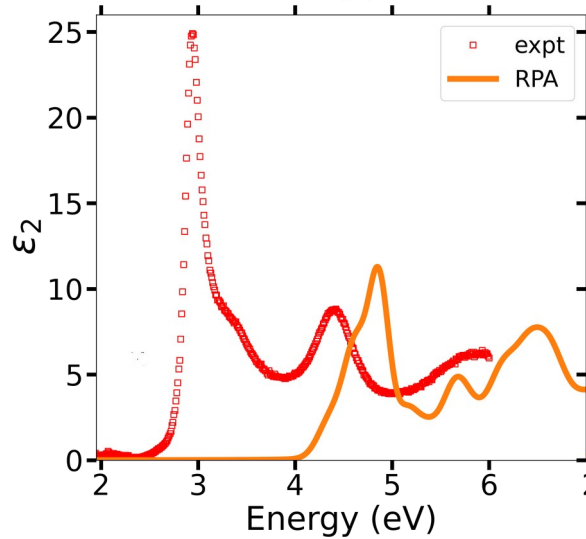


Chaire Énergies Durables  
École polytechnique - EDF

$V_2O_5$ : a layered bulk material



(a)



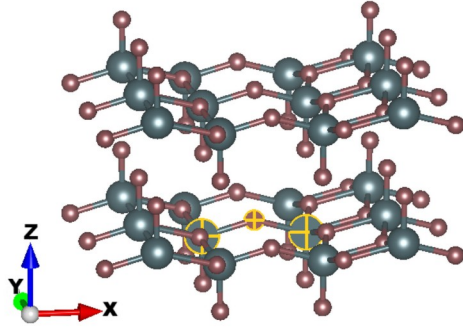
Dark exciton

Vitaly Gorelov et al.,  
*npj comp mat* (2022)

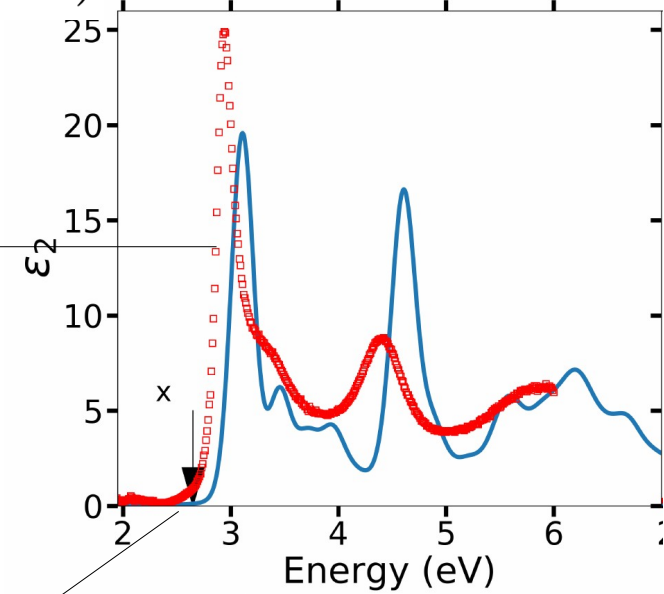
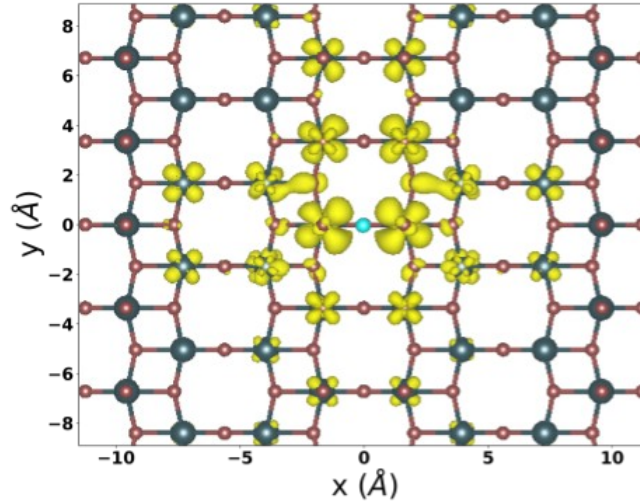
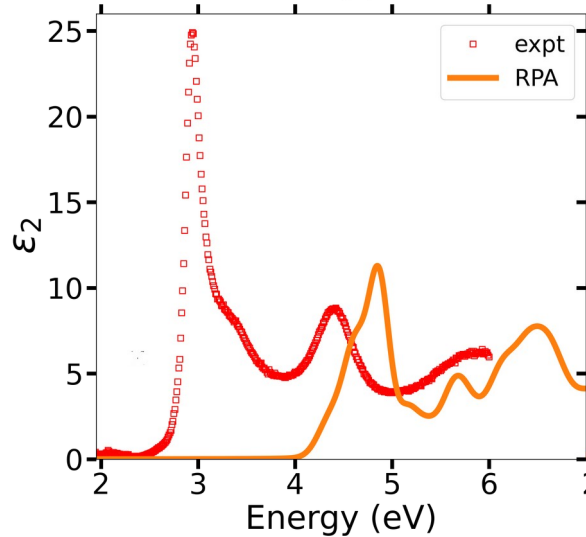
# State-of-the-art Bethe-Salpeter



$V_2O_5$ : a layered bulk material  $H_{exc} \Psi_\lambda(\mathbf{r}_h, \mathbf{r}_e) = E_\lambda \Psi_\lambda(\mathbf{r}_h, \mathbf{r}_e)$



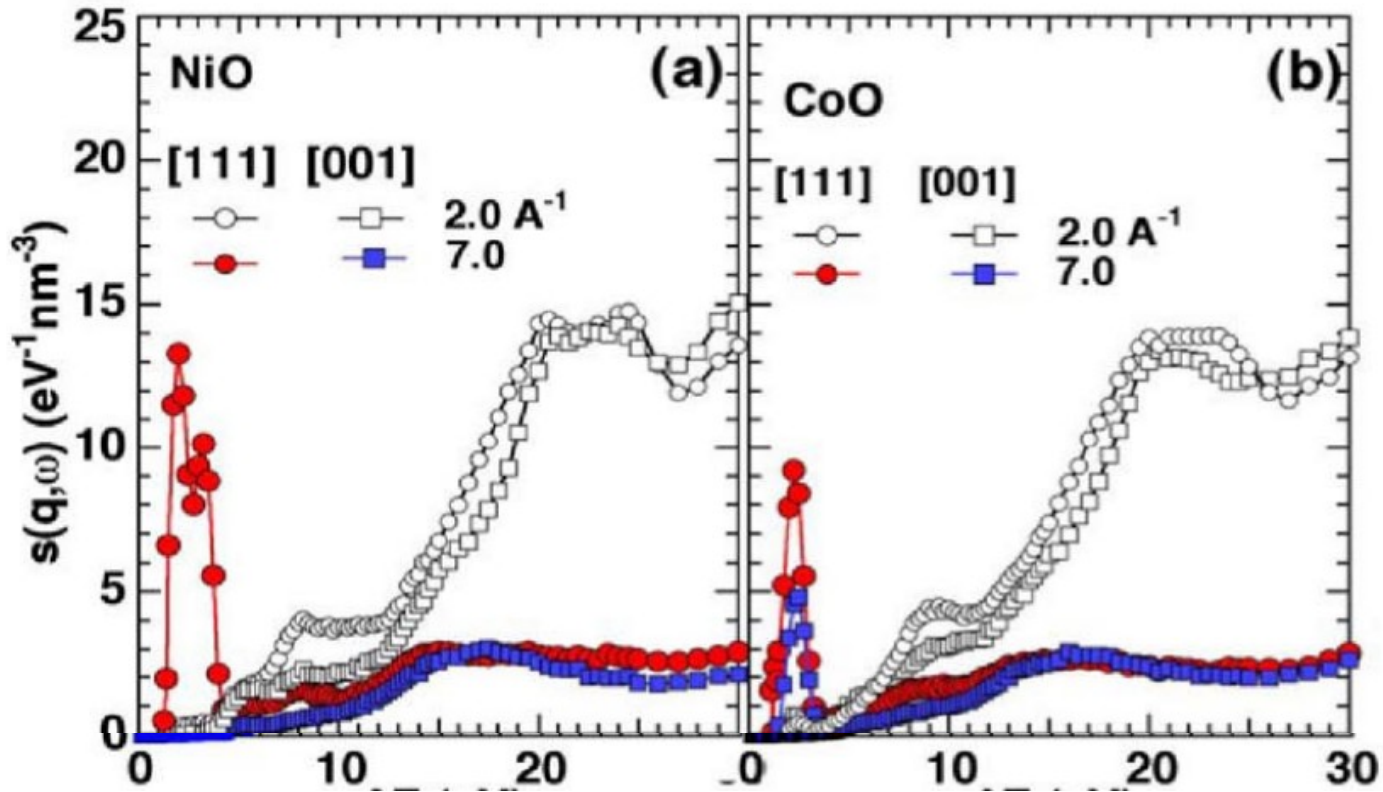
(a)



Dark exciton

Vitaly Gorelov et al.,  
*npj comp mat* (2022)

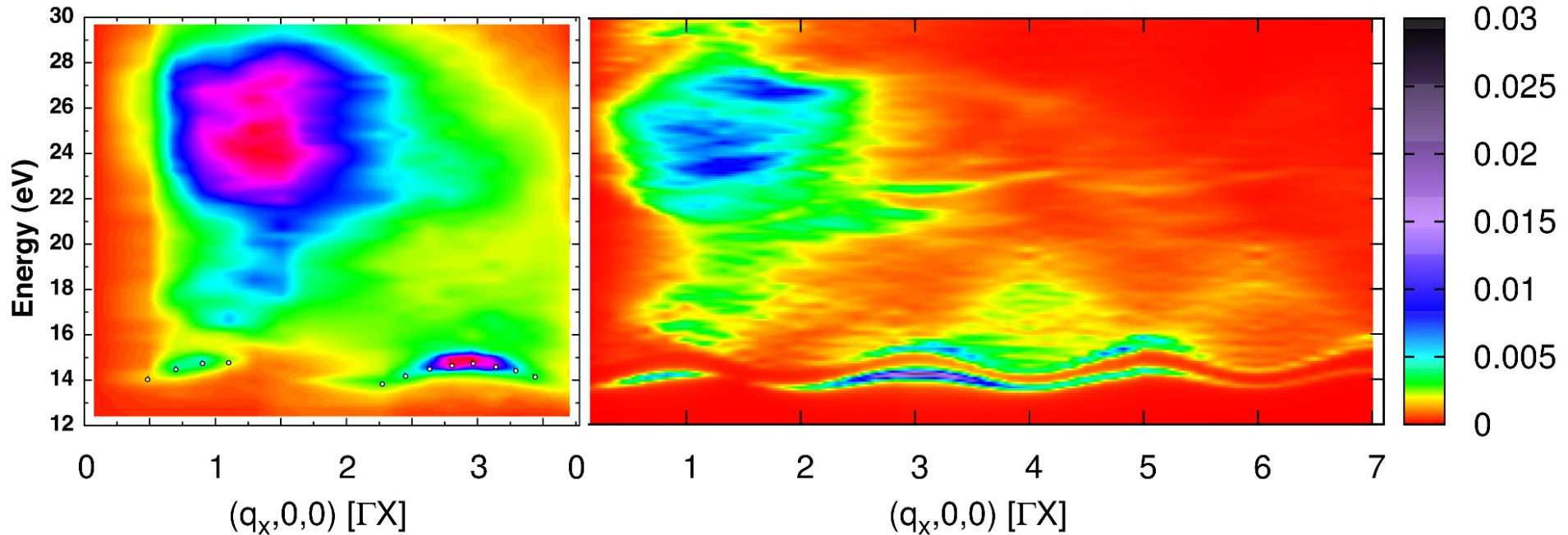
Excitons are important also at  $q$  different from 0!



Larson et al., Phys. Rev. Lett. 99:026401, 2007



# Exciton dispersion in LiF



*M. Gatti and F. Sottile, Phys. Rev. B 88, 155113*

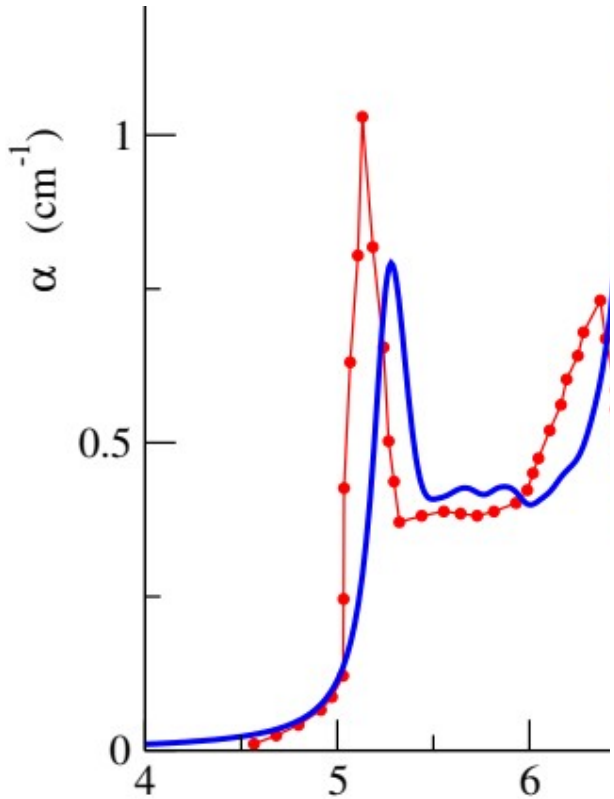
*Exp. P. Abbamonte et al., Proc. Natl. Acad. Sci. USA 105, 12159 (2008).*

$$n(\mathbf{r}, t) = \int d\mathbf{r}' dt' \chi(\mathbf{r}, \mathbf{r}', t - t') v_{\text{ext}}(\mathbf{r}', t')$$

Full microscopic response needed for charge dynamics

Igor Reshetnyak, Matteo Gatti, Francesco Sottile, and Lucia Reining,  
Phys. Rev. Research 1, 032010(R) (2019)

# Use this to study charge dynamics in silver chloride, AgCl



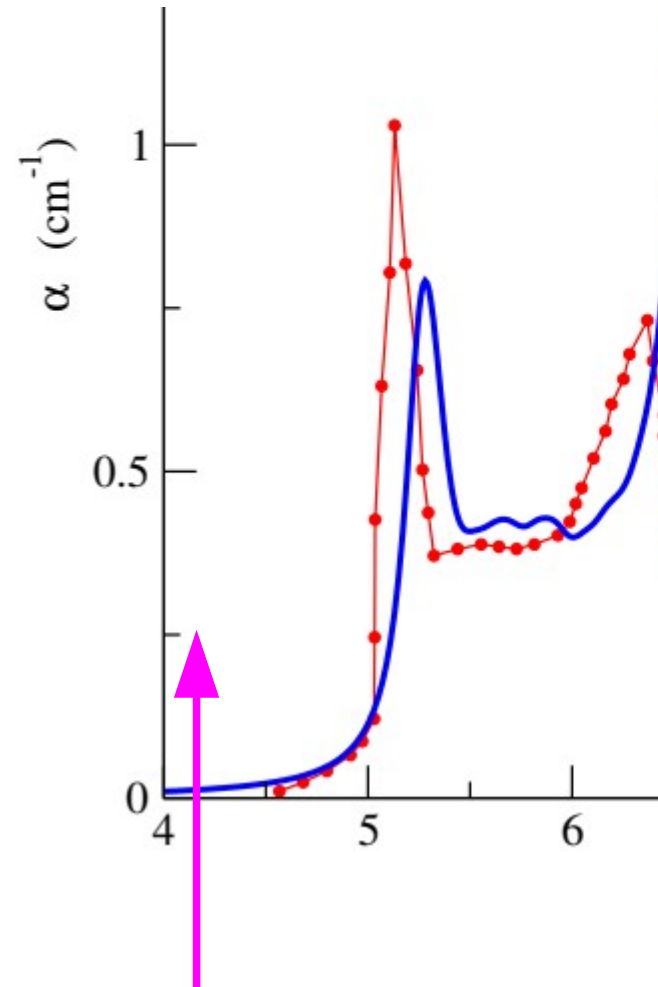
Arnaud Lorin, Matteo Gatti, Lucia Reining, Francesco Sottile, PRB



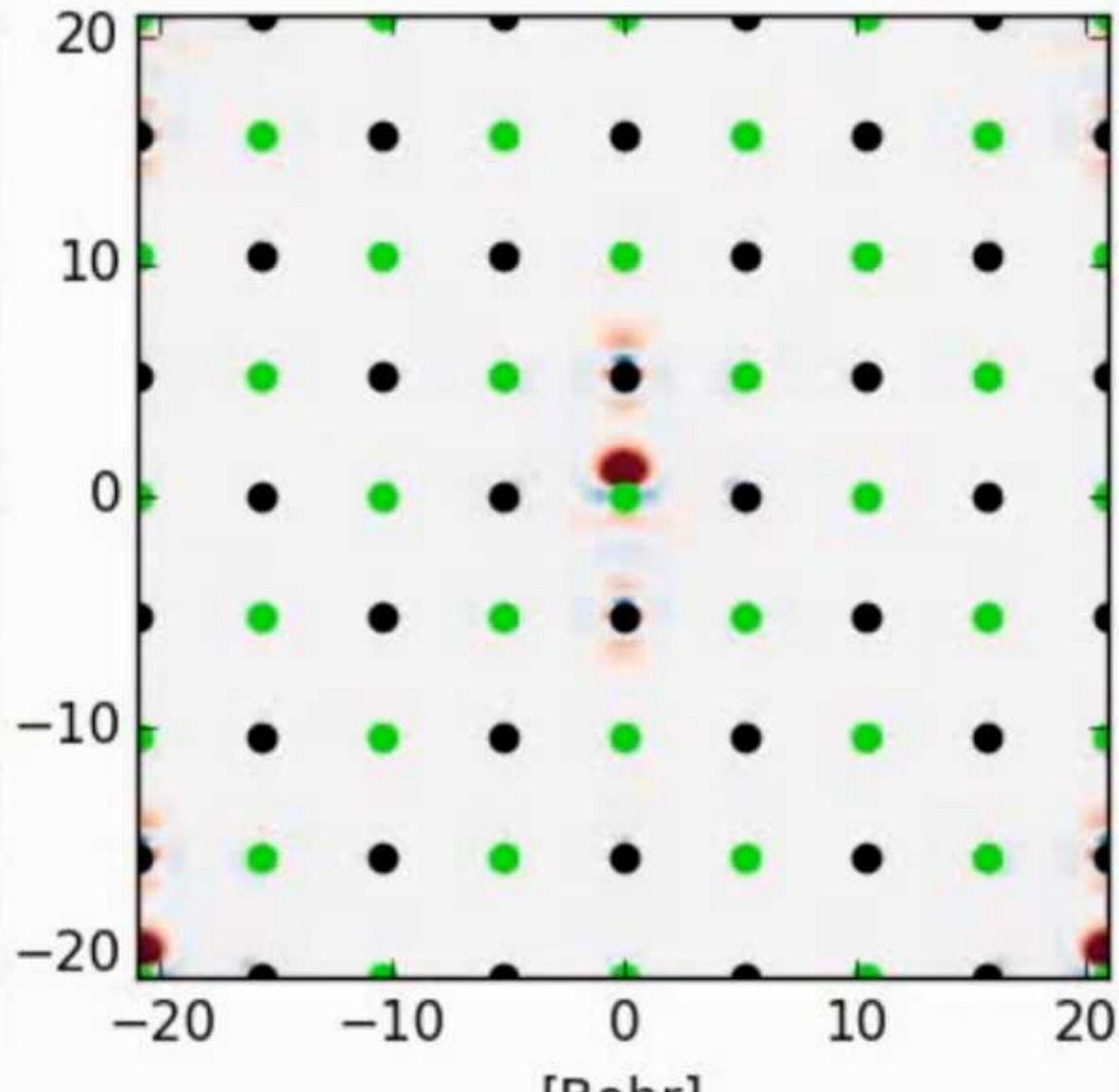
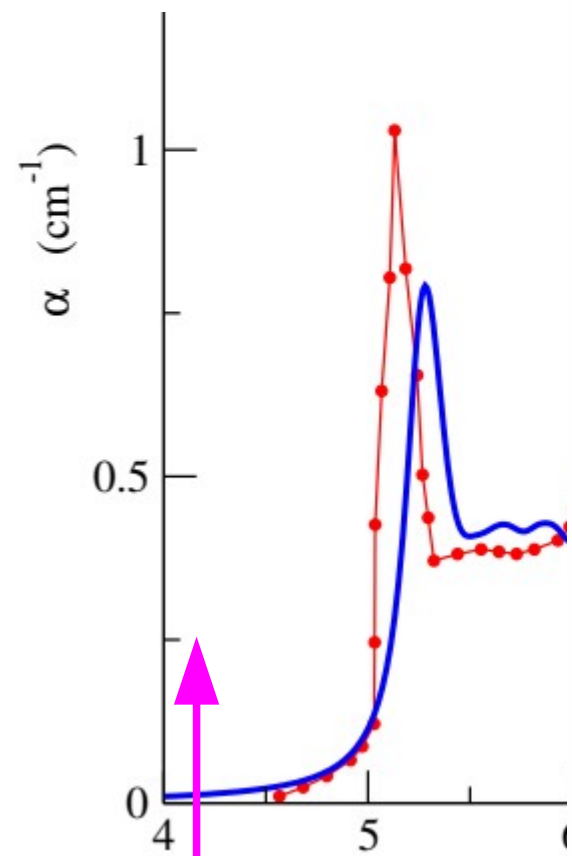
Exp: M. Yanagihara, Y. Kondo, H. Kanzaki,  
J. Phys. Soc. Jpn. 52, 4397 (1983)



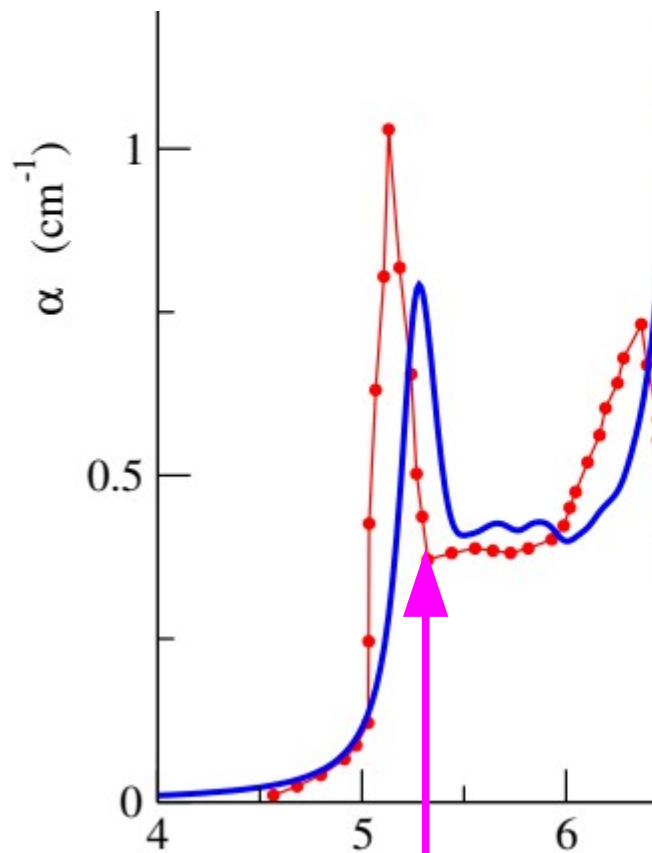
Frequency in gap:



Frequency in gap:

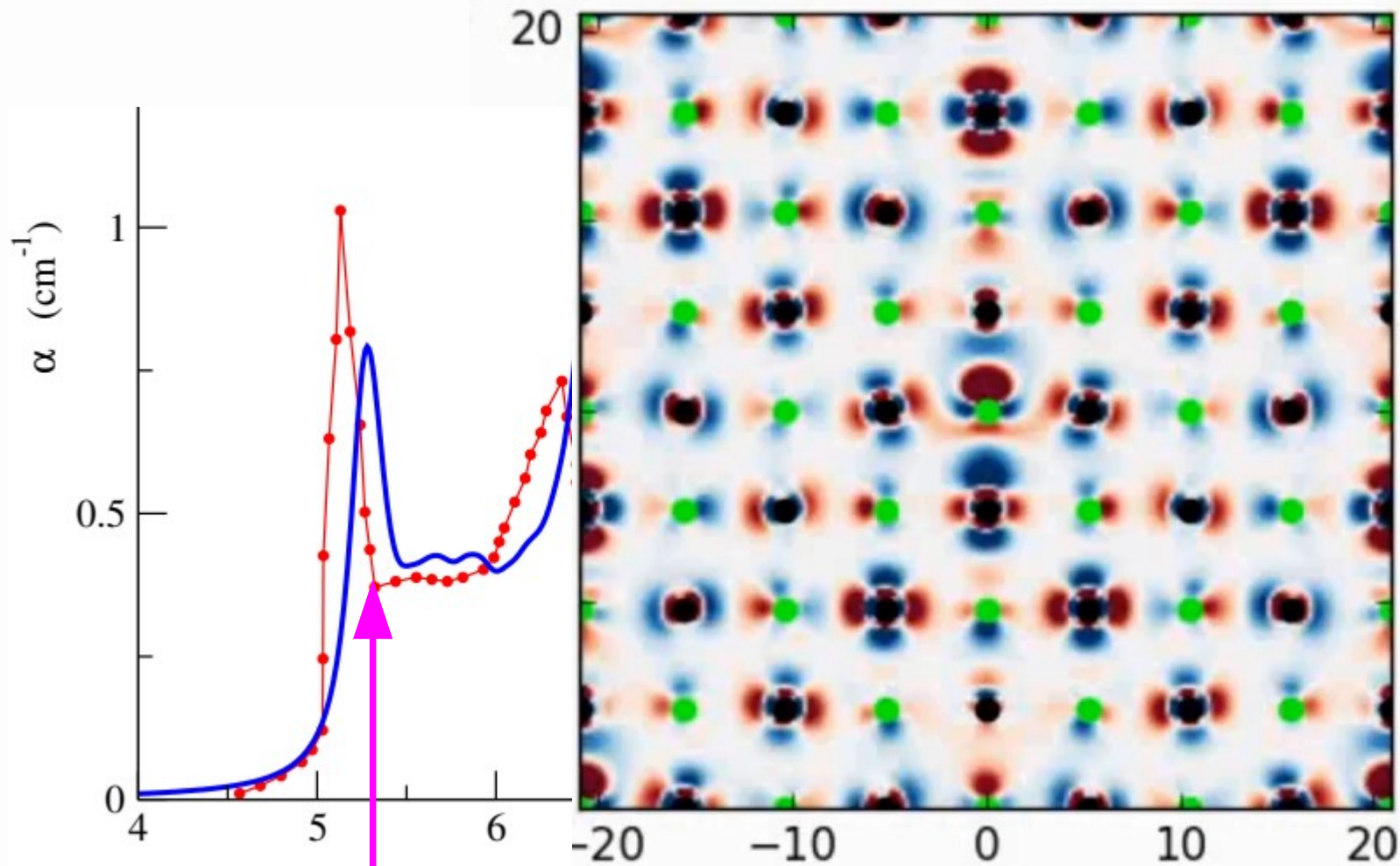


Frequency on exciton:



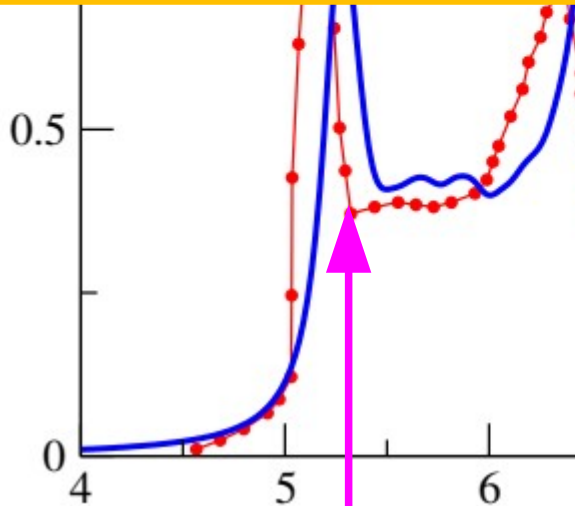
Frequency on exciton:

t= 0.000 fs



Frequency on exciton:

→ More than beautiful pictures:  
Charge dynamics for photovoltaics, photocatalysis & more

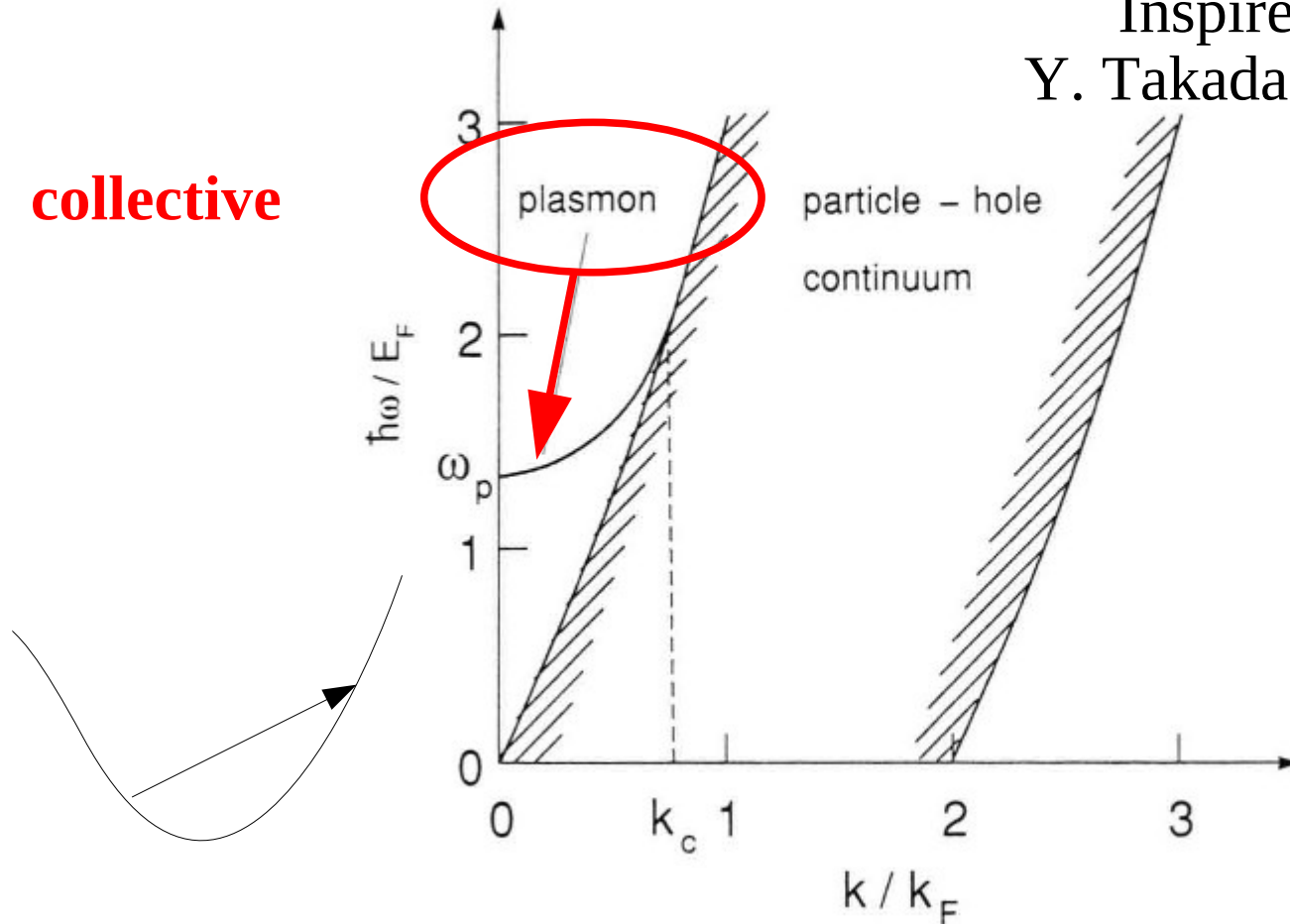


# Excitations in the low-density homogeneous electron gas

Inspired by:  
Y. Takada, PRB 94, 245106 (2016)

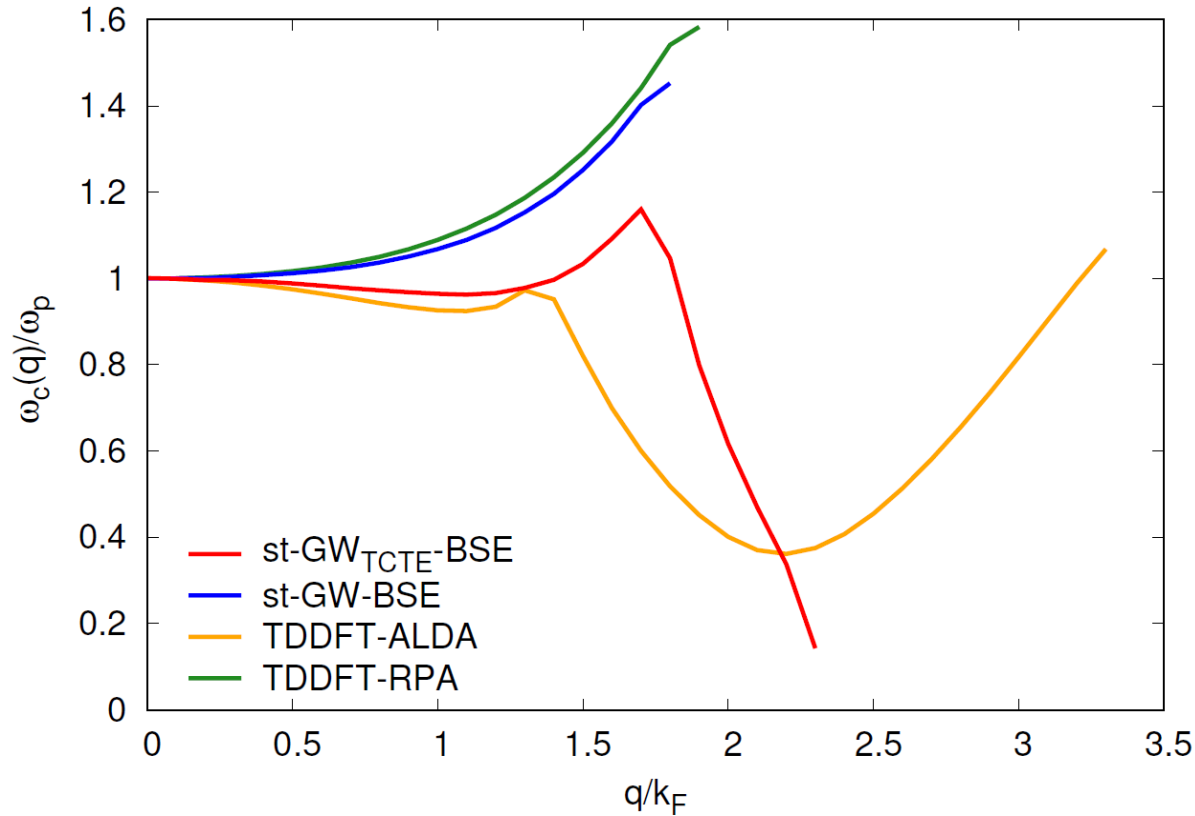
**collective**

Poles in  $\chi$



from K. Sturm, "Dynamic Structure Factor: an Introduction", Zeitschrift für Naturforschung A (1993)

Collective modes:  $\text{Re } \epsilon(q, \omega_c(q)) = 0$



# The Bethe-Salpeter Equation

- From linear response TDDFT to TD-GFT  
*To tell the truth, very similar!*
- Approximations to the BSE  
*Mostly GW-derived and instantaneous*
- BSE in practice  
*Mostly in form of e-h hamiltonian*
- Examples: optical and loss spectra, full response,  
*meets limits when short distance & time physics*



## Suggested Reading

Strinati, G., “Application of the Green’s function method to the study of the optical-properties of semiconductors,” *Rivista del Nuovo Cimento* 11, 1, 1988. *Pedagogical review of the theoretical framework underlying today’s Bethe–Salpeter calculations. Derivation of the main equations and link to spectroscopy.*

Rohlfing & Louie, “Electron-hole excitations and optical spectra from first principles”, *Phys. Rev. B* 62, 4927 (2000). *Good overview of BSE in practice as we still mostly do it today.*

Onida, G., Reining, L., and Rubio, A., “Electronic excitations: density-functional versus many-body Greens-function approaches,” *Rev. Mod. Phys.* 74, 601, 2002. *Review of ab initio calculations of electronic excitations with accent on optical properties and a comparison between Bethe–Salpeter and TDDFT*

R.M. Martin, L. Reining, D.M. Ceperley, “Interacting Electrons: Theory and Computational Approaches, Cambridge May 2016  
*Quite recent book containing many-body perturbation theory, DMFT and QMC*