

Ultrafast Spectroscopy

Some Applications

Lázaro Padilha

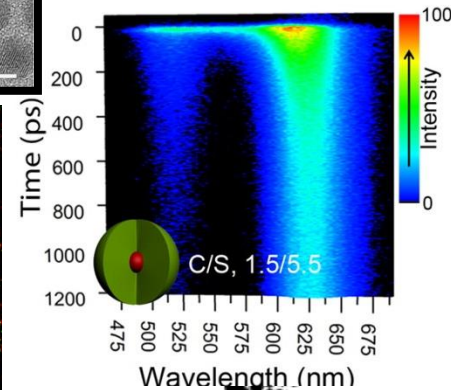
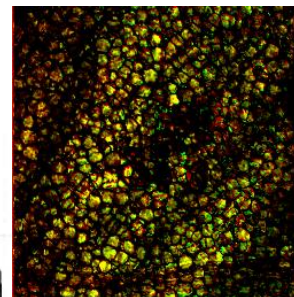
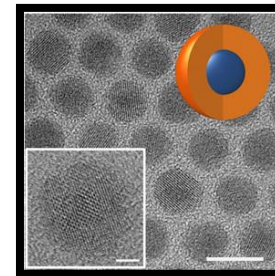
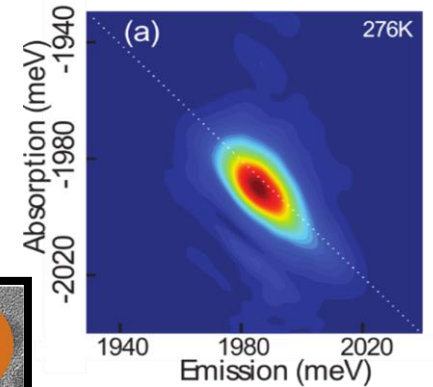
DEQ – IFGW – UNICAMP

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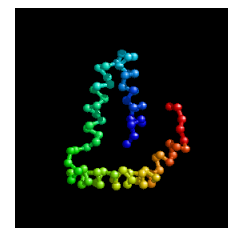
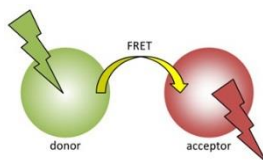
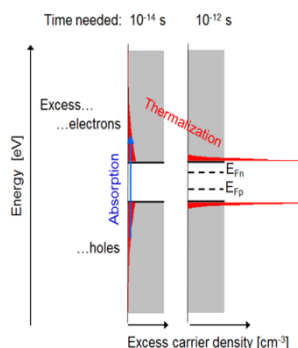
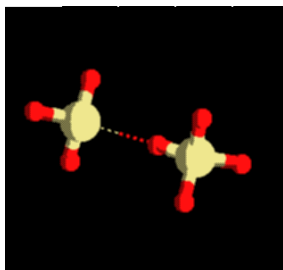
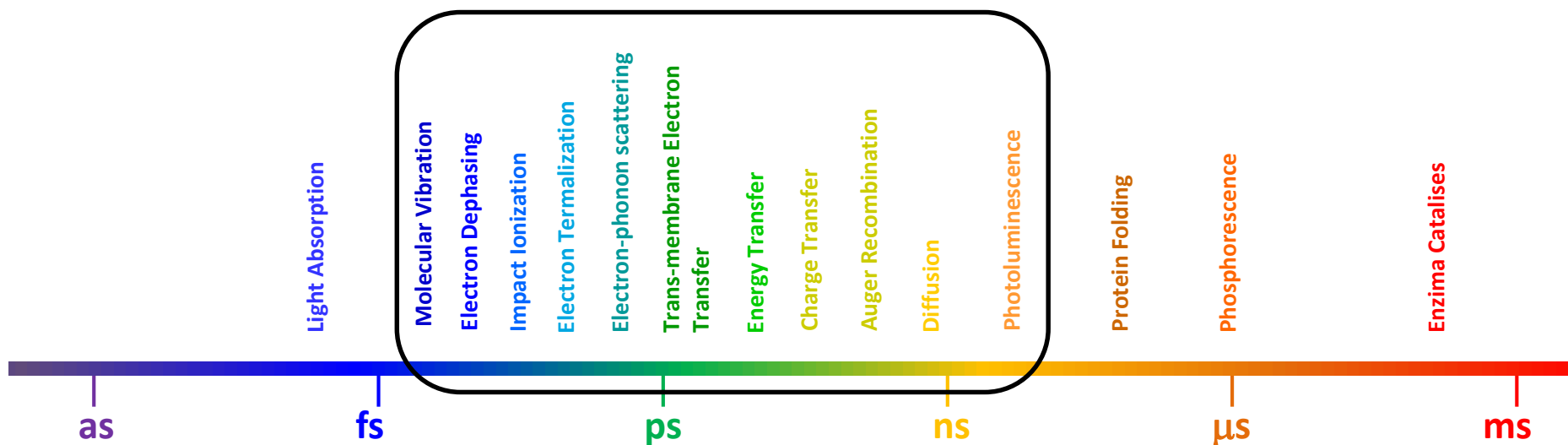
XV Jorge Andre Swieca

School on Nonlinear and

Quantum Optics



Time scale for natural occurring phenomena



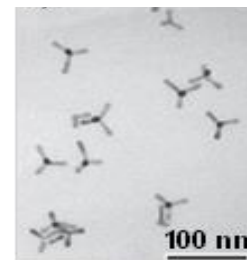
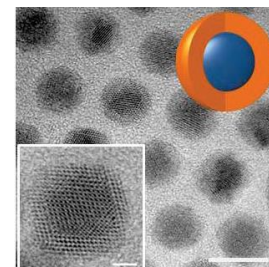
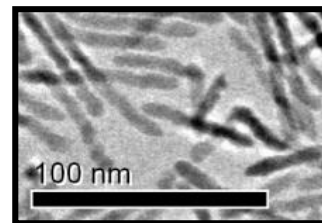
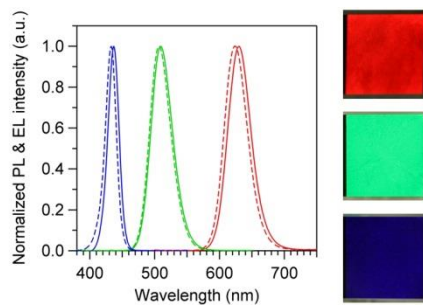
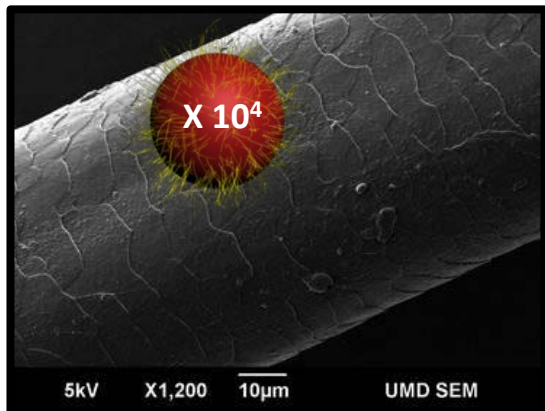
To measure those fast processes we need something even faster

Contribution of Femtosecond Laser Spectroscopy to the Development of Advanced Optoelectronic Nanomaterials

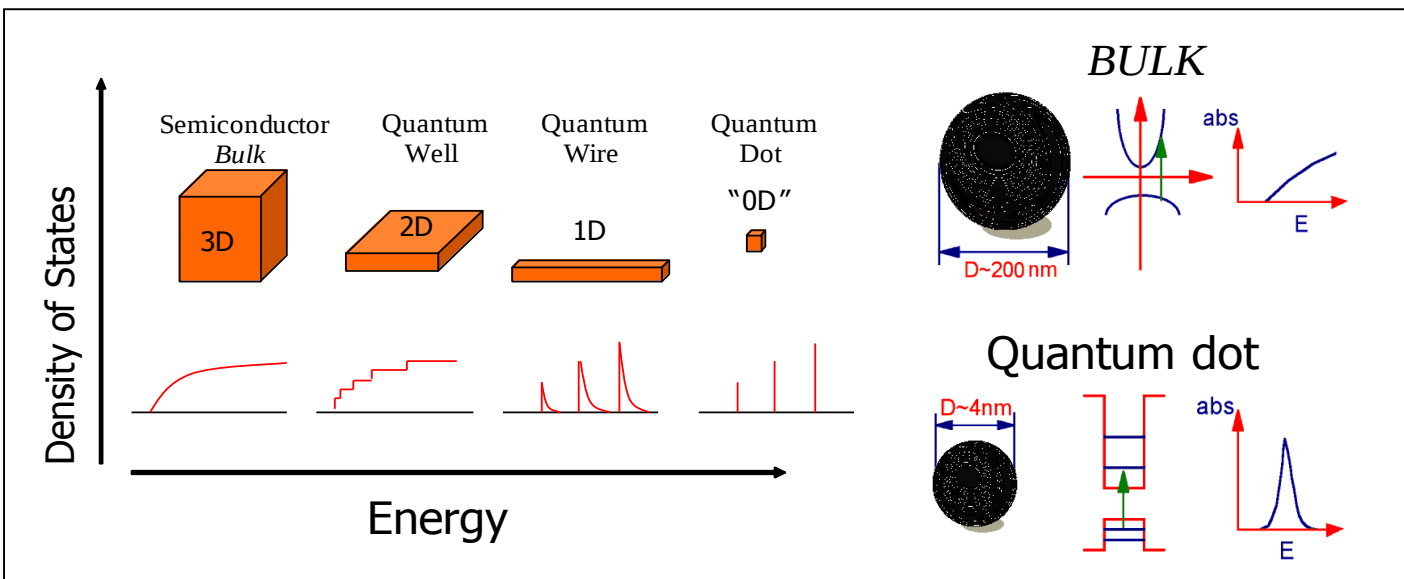
Chi-Hung Chuang and Clemens Burda*

Center for Chemical Dynamics and Nanomaterials Research, Department of Chemistry, Case Western Reserve University, 10900 Euclid Avenue, Cleveland, Ohio 44106, United States

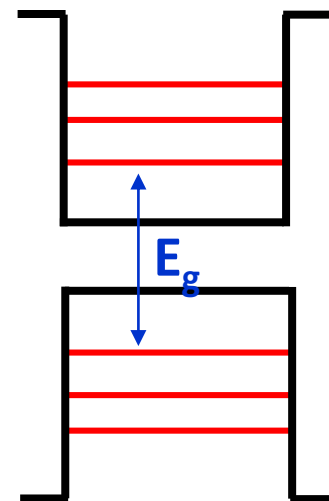
Semiconductor Colloidal Nanomaterials



Semiconductor Colloidal Nanomaterials



Lets think on the
potential well
problem



$$E_g = E_g^{Bulk} + \frac{\hbar^2 \xi_{nl}^2}{2m^* R^2}$$

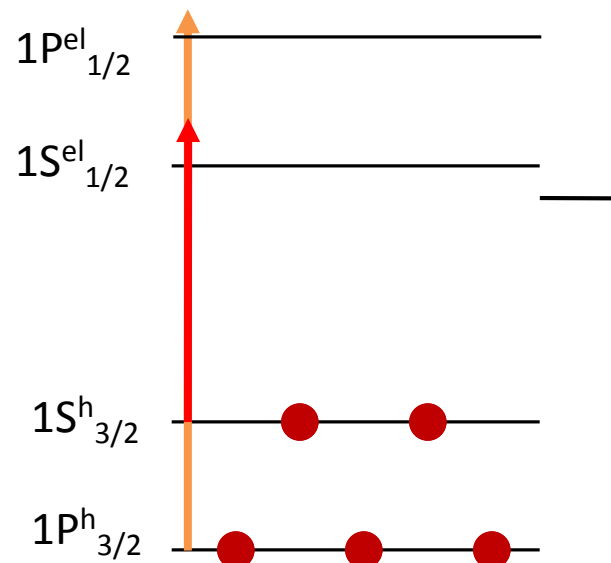
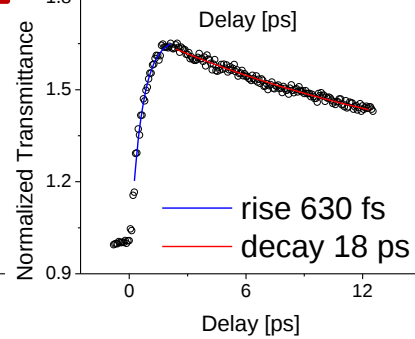
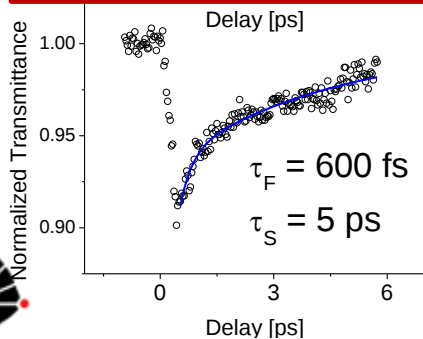
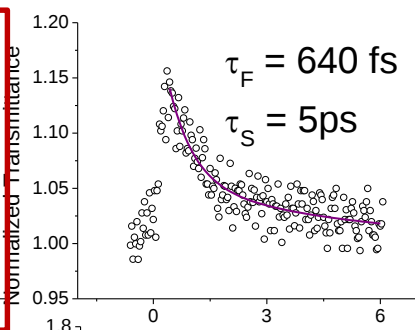
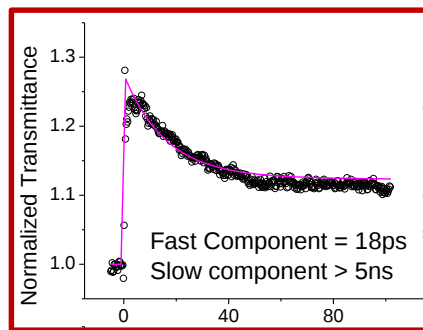
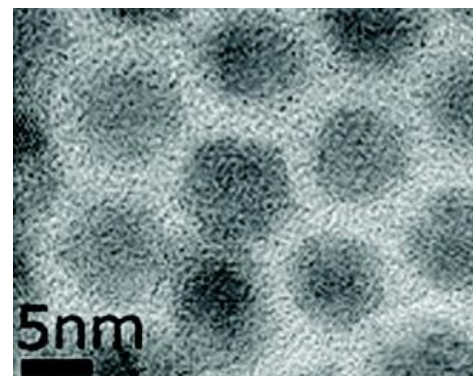
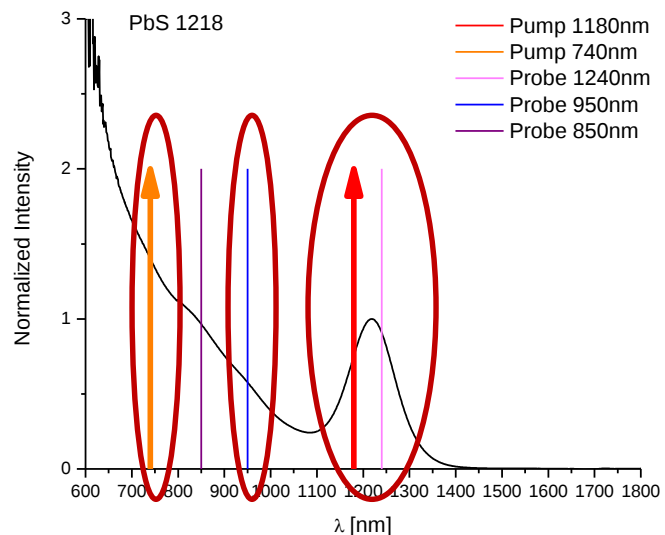
Changing the size, the band gap and intraband transition energies are tuned



Semiconductor Colloidal Nanomaterials

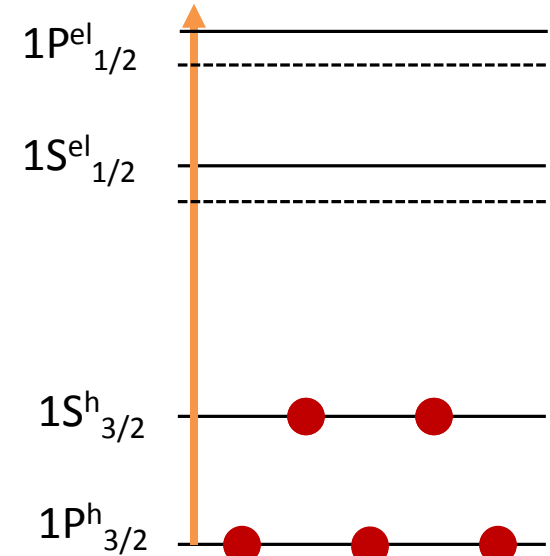
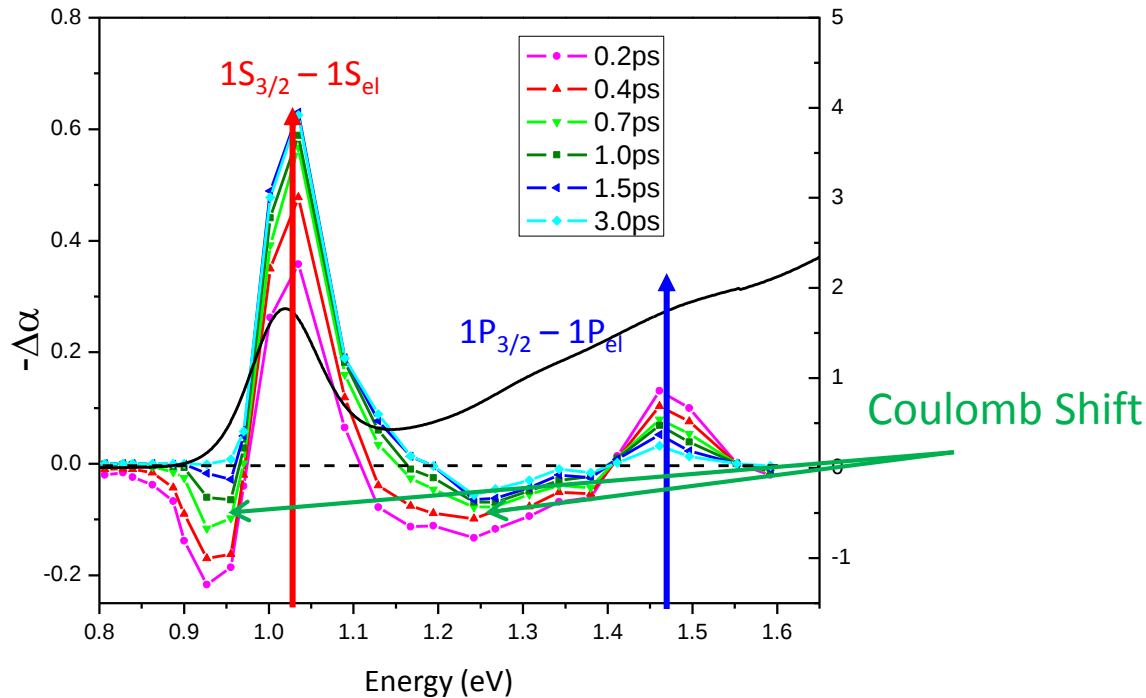
- Broad absorption
- Narrow emission (< 35 nm)
- Color tunability
- High PL QY (> 80 %)
- Solution processibility
- Momentum conservation requirements are relaxed ($\Delta x \Delta p \geq \hbar/2$)
- Possible phonon bottleneck due to relatively large intraband state spacing
- Stronger Coulomb interaction due to low dimensionality

Carrier Dynamics in PbS Quantum Dots - TA



Nootz et.al. PRB 2011

Carrier Dynamics in PbS Quantum Dots - TA

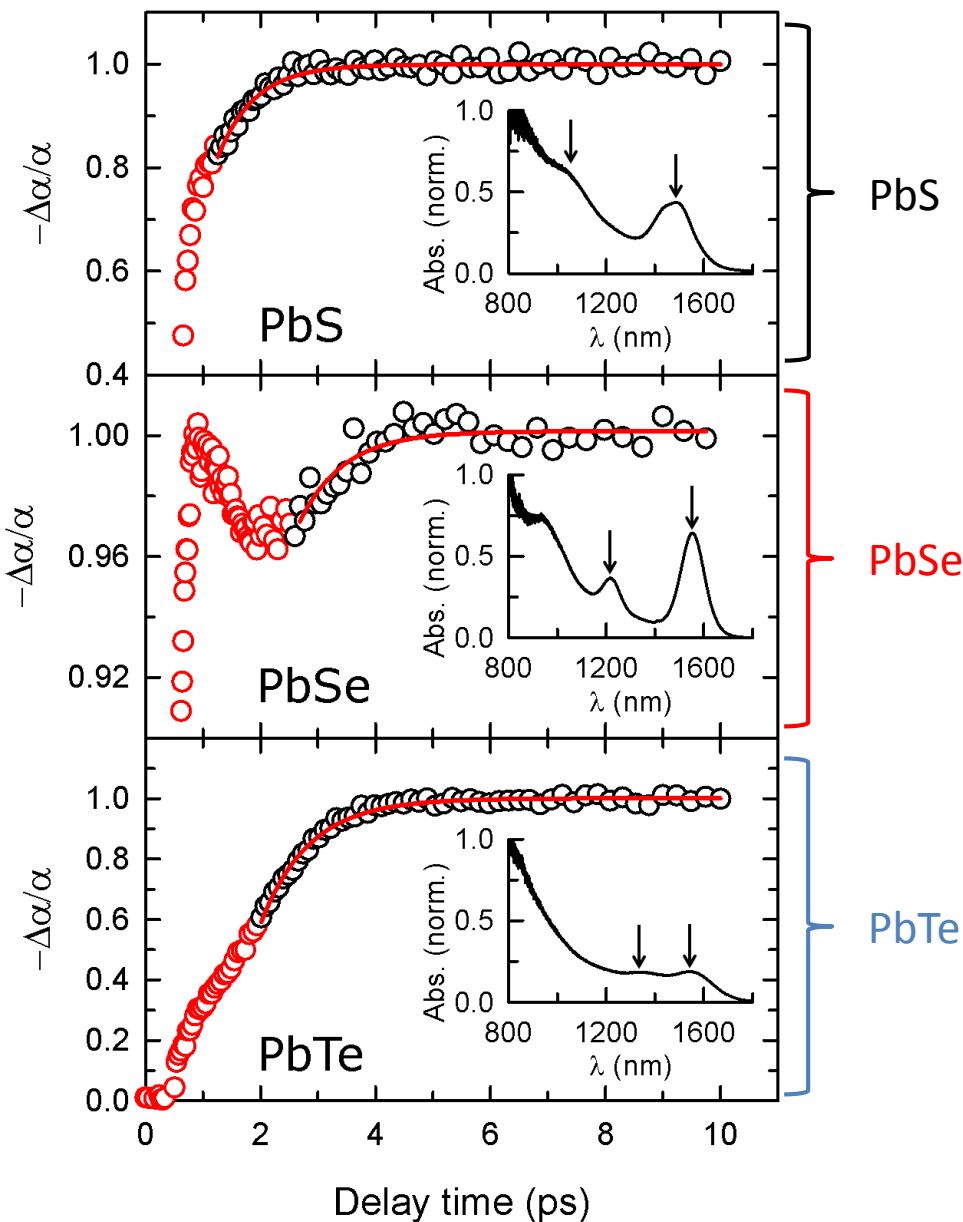


1. Electrons rapidly populates 1P level
2. Slowly, they decay to the 1S level
3. Exciton-exciton interaction generates Coulomb shift which decreases effective energy level

We can only understand the entire dynamics because we used multiple probe wavelengths

Nootz et.al. PRB 2011

Transient Absorption – Intraband Cooling



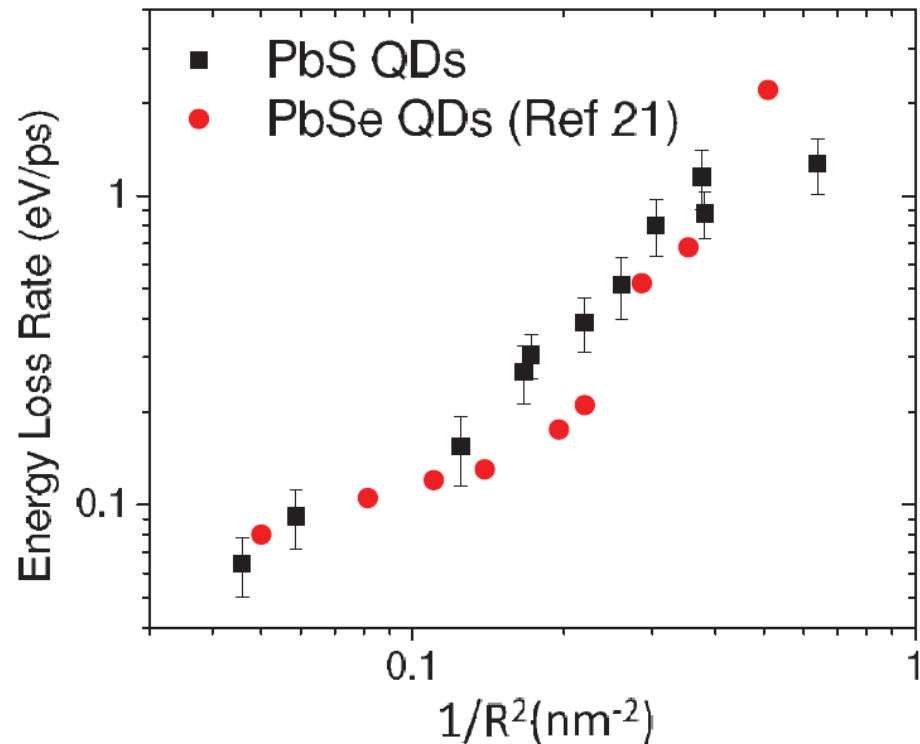
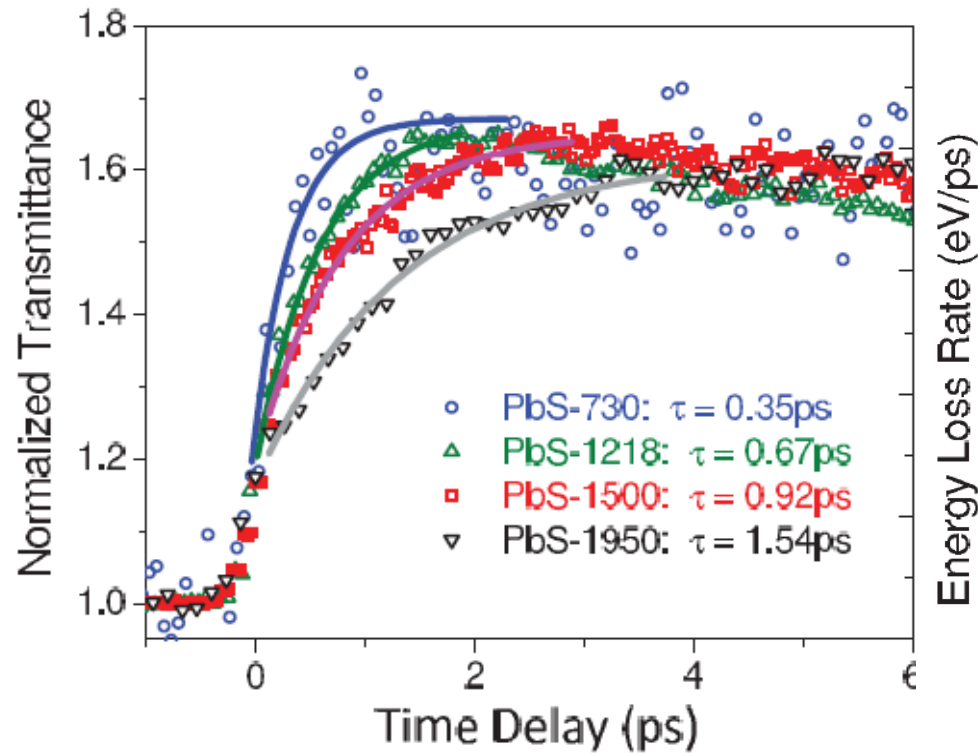
$$2 k_{cool_{PbSe}} \approx k_{cool_{PbS}}$$

$$2 k_{cool_{PbTe}} \approx k_{cool_{PbSe}}$$

$$k_{cool_{PbS}} > k_{cool_{PbSe}} > k_{cool_{PbTe}}$$

Transient Absorption – Intraband Cooling

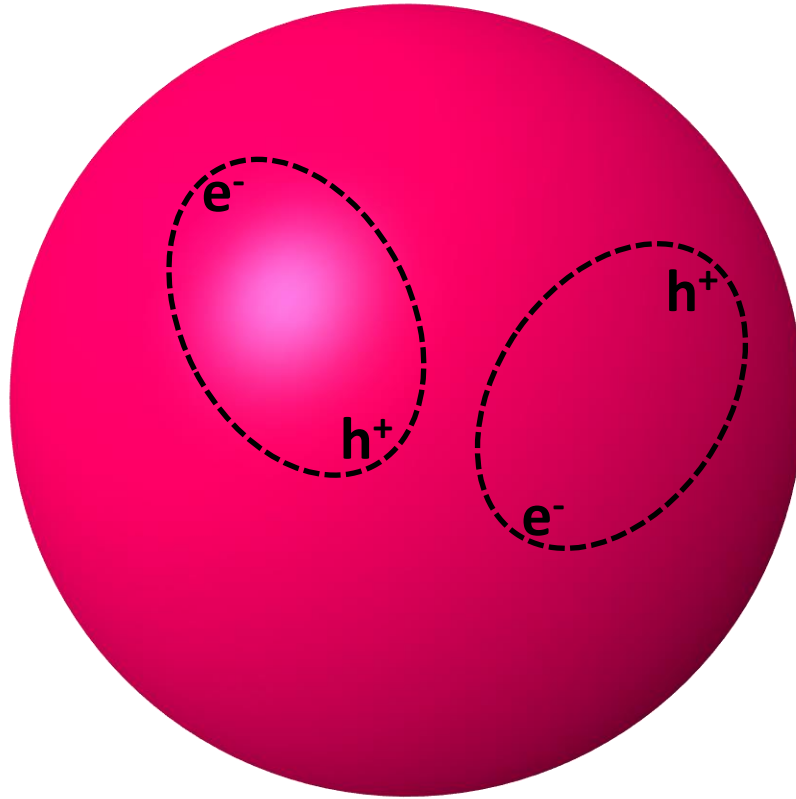
QD Size Dependence – 1S Population



No bottleneck, the smaller the QD the faster the intraband cooling

PbS and PbSe have similar cooling rate – But note that PbS is faster

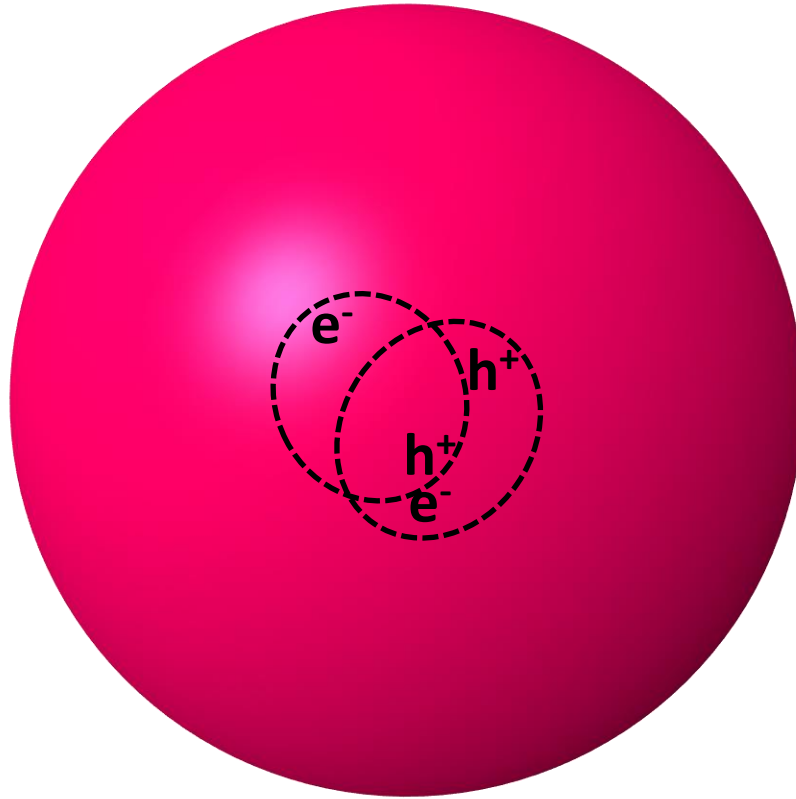
Multi-Exciton Interactions



$$E_g = E_g^{Bulk} + \frac{\hbar^2 \xi_{nl}^2}{2m^* R^2}$$

$$U_{Coulomb} \propto \frac{1}{R}$$

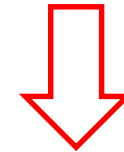
Multi-Exciton Interactions



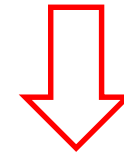
$$U_{\text{Coulomb}} \propto \frac{1}{R}$$

$$E_g = E_g^{\text{Bulk}} + \frac{\hbar^2 \xi_{nl}^2}{2m^* R^2}$$

Excitons are too close to each other

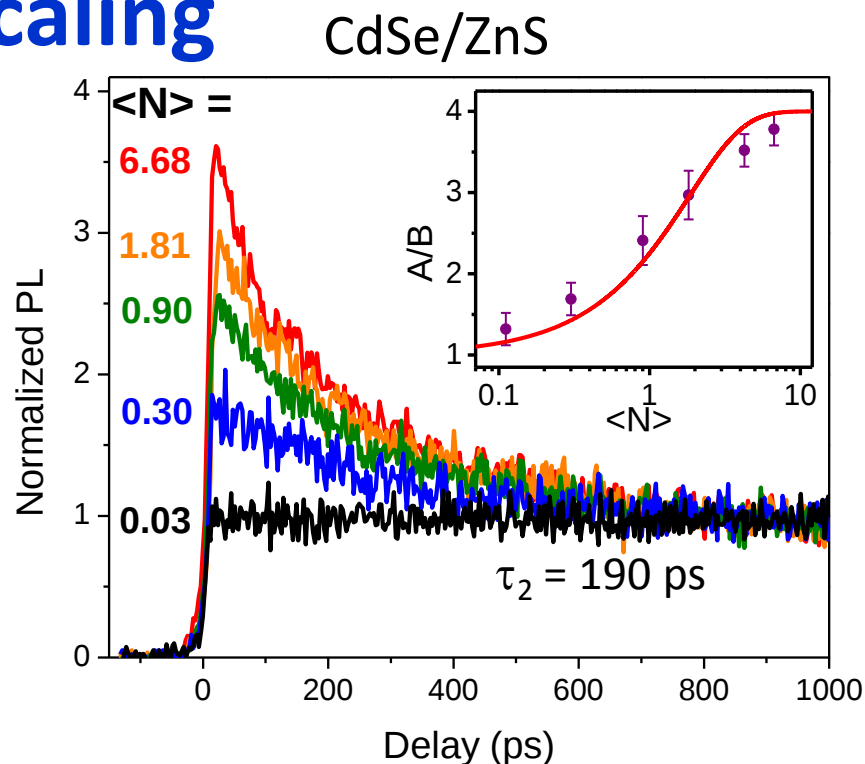


Multi-excitons strongly interact - Coulomb

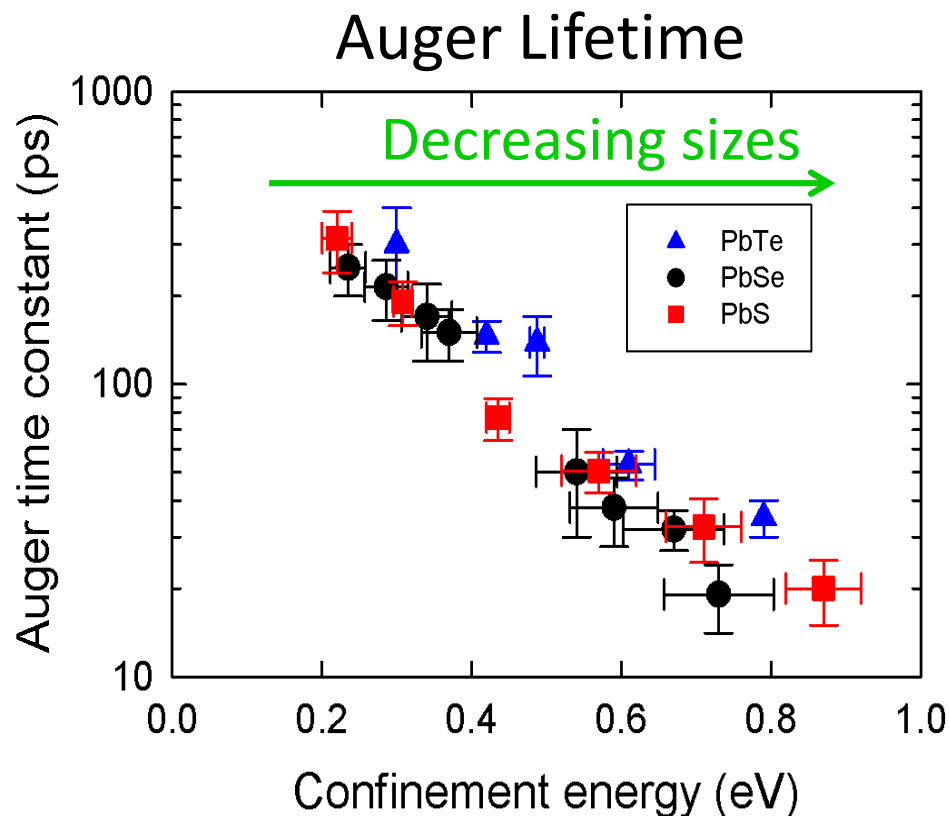


Auger Type of Interaction

Auger Recombination – QD Volume Scaling



Padilha et.al. Nano Lett. 2013

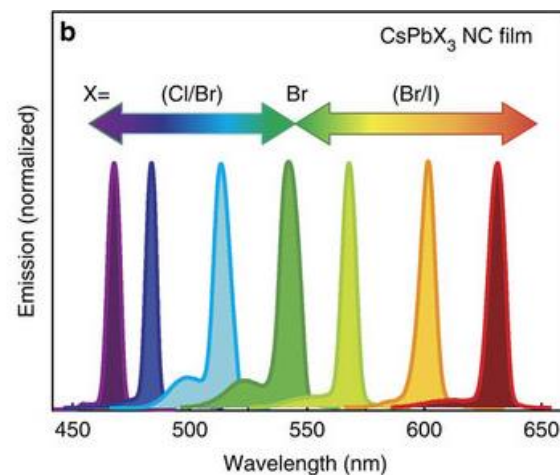
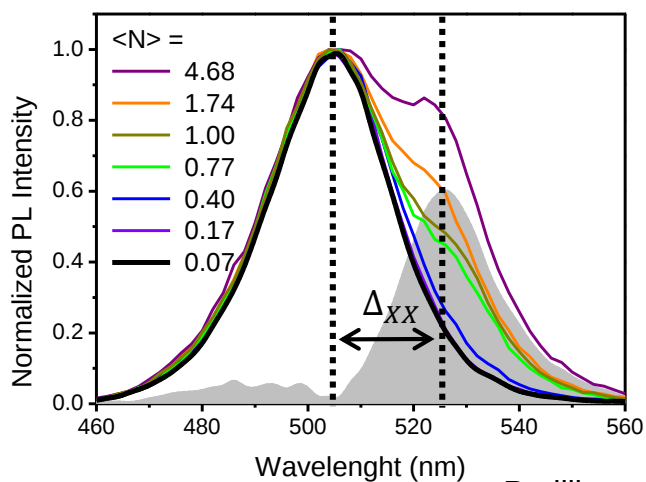
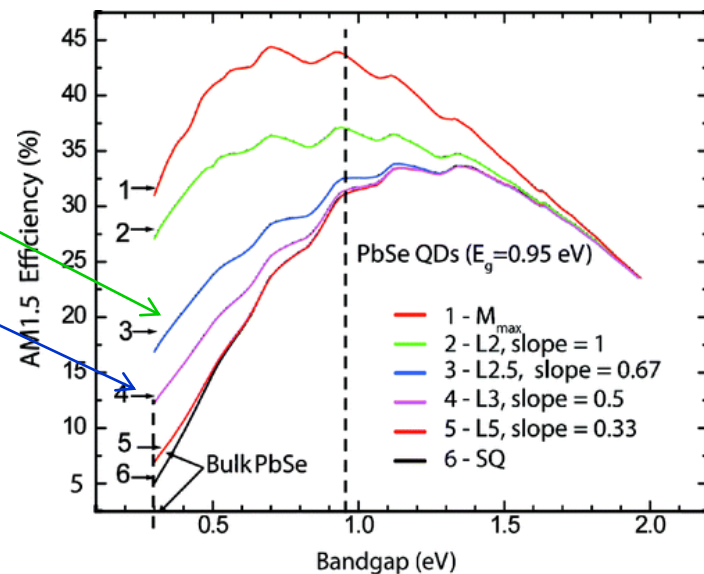
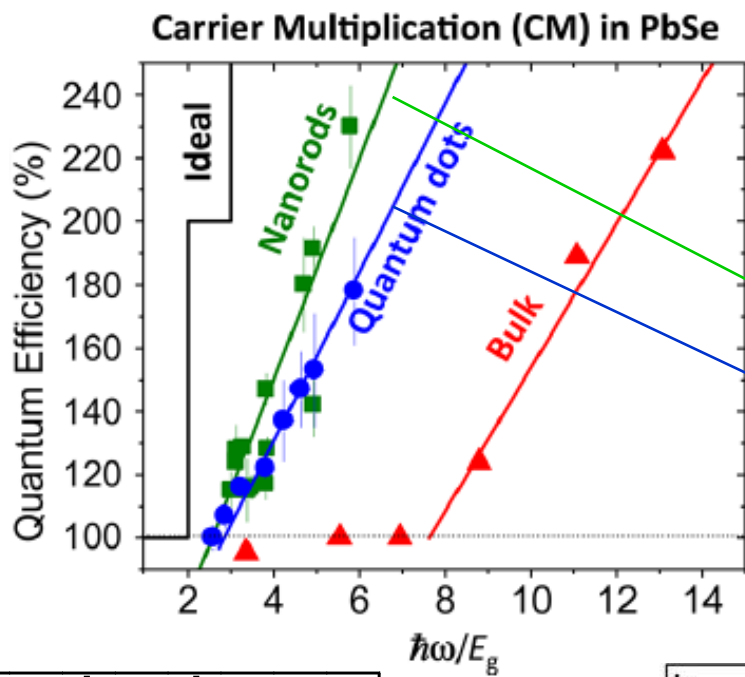
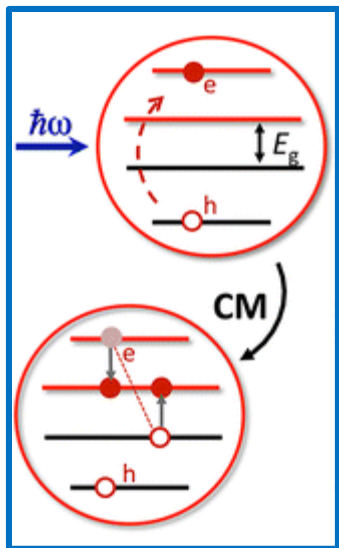


Padilha et.al. Acc. Chem. Res. 2013

Coulomb interaction enhances with quantum confinement

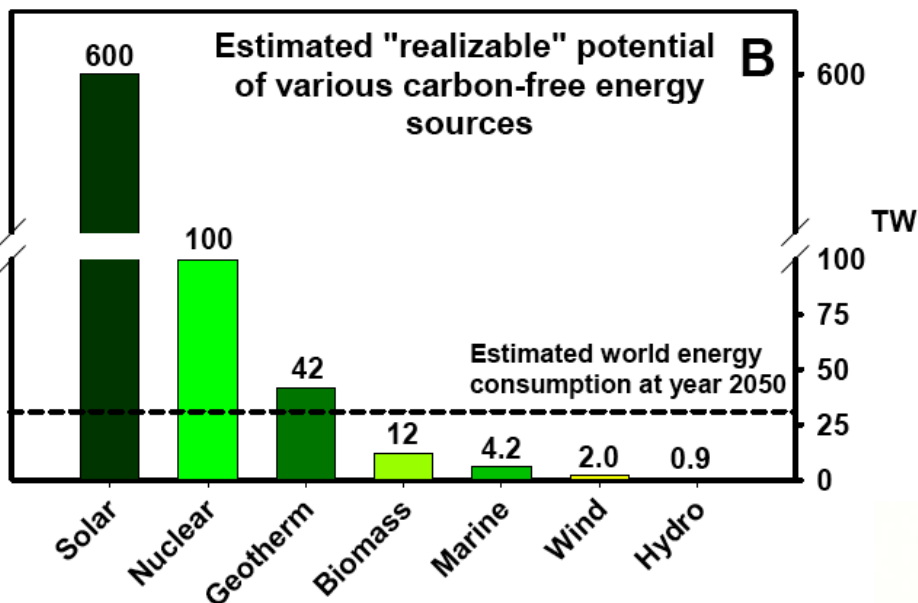
It is nearly material independent, and only depends on the degree of confinement (volume)

Coulomb Interaction – Good or Bad?



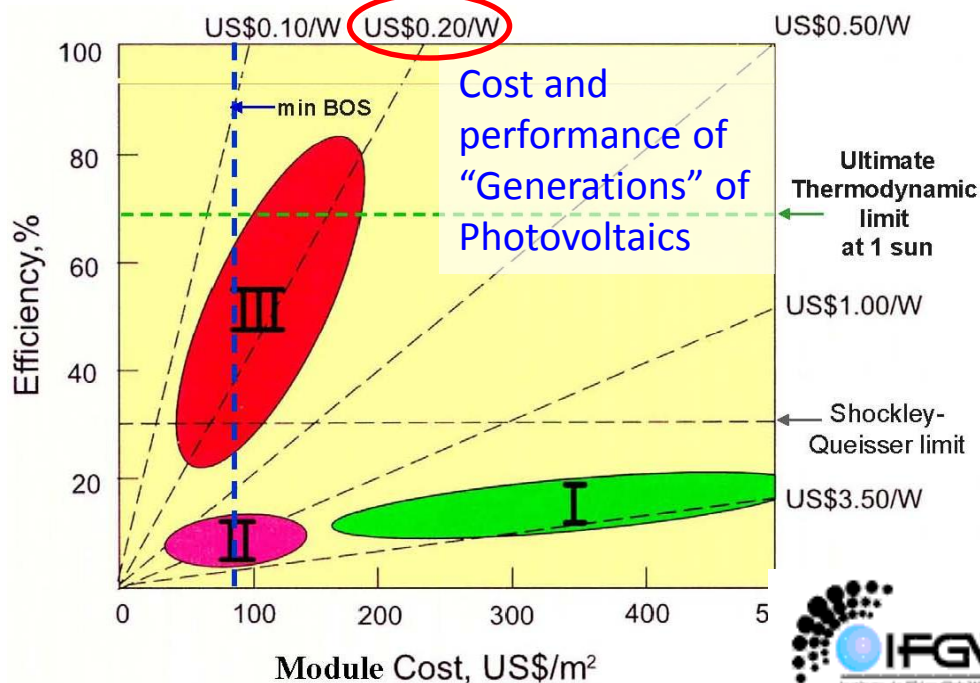
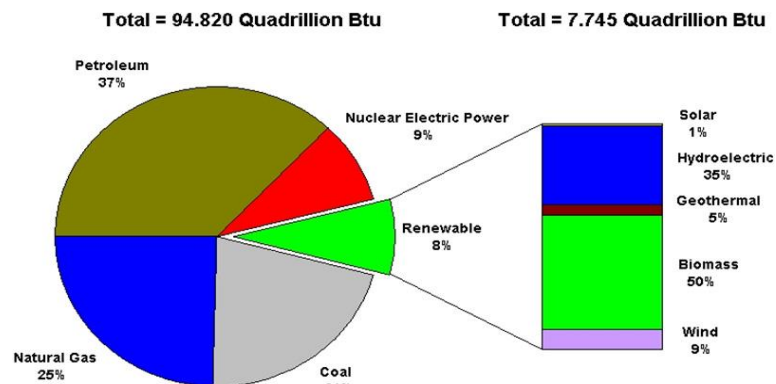
Padilha et al., Acc. Chem. Res., (2013)
Yakunin, et.al., Nat. Comm. (2015)

Energy: Crisis and Solutions

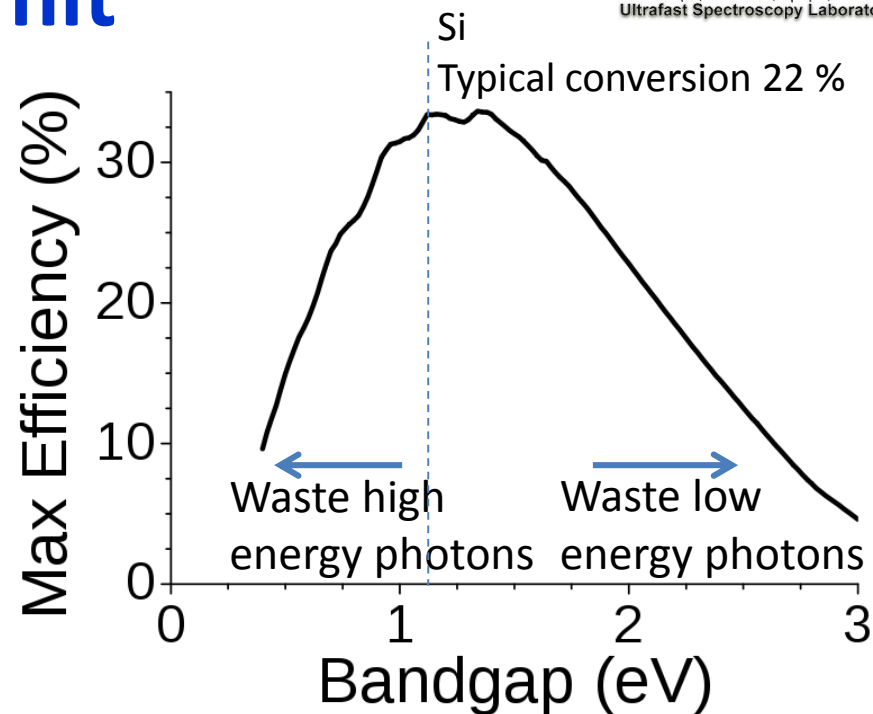
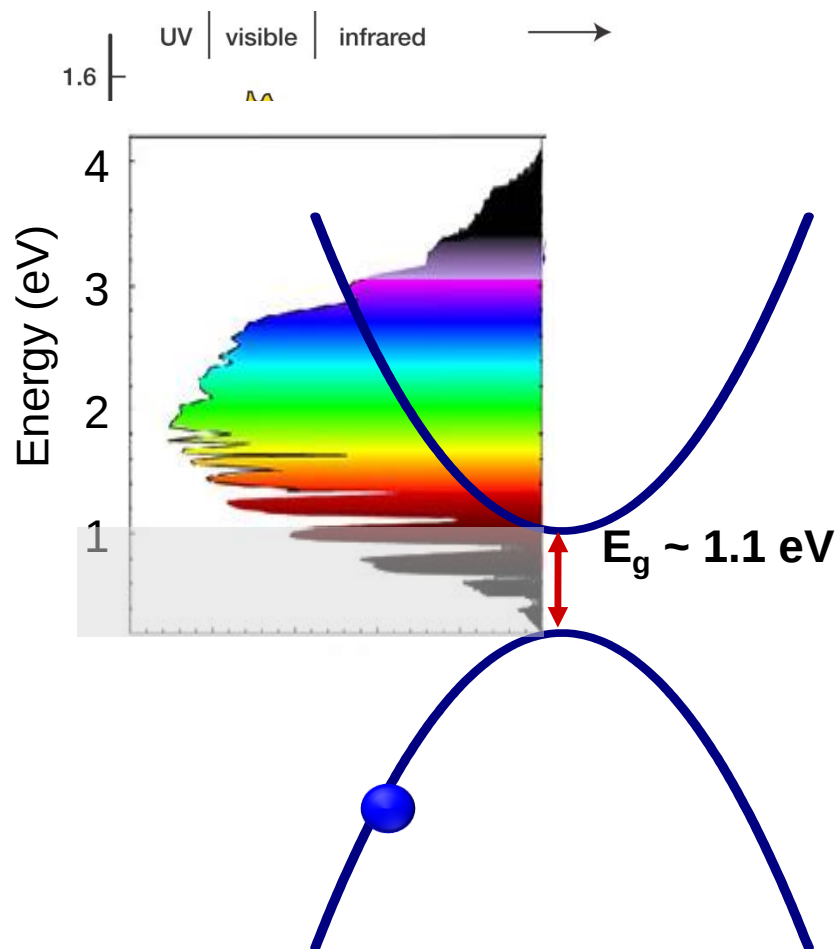


Solar has the most overall potential of all "carbon-free" energy sources, but is a tiny piece of the current energy puzzle due mainly to cost.

Current US energy consumption



The Shockley-Queisser Limit

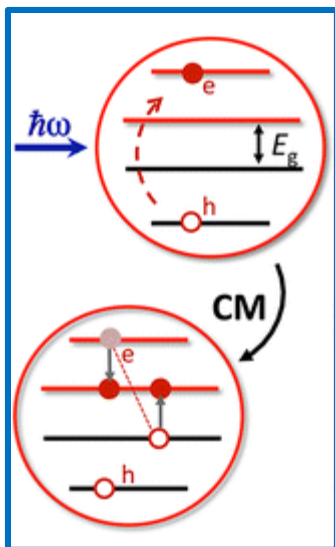


Generation III – make better use of the high and low energy photons

Generation III PV's – Paradigm Shift

One way is to make better use of the high energy photons

Carrier multiplication



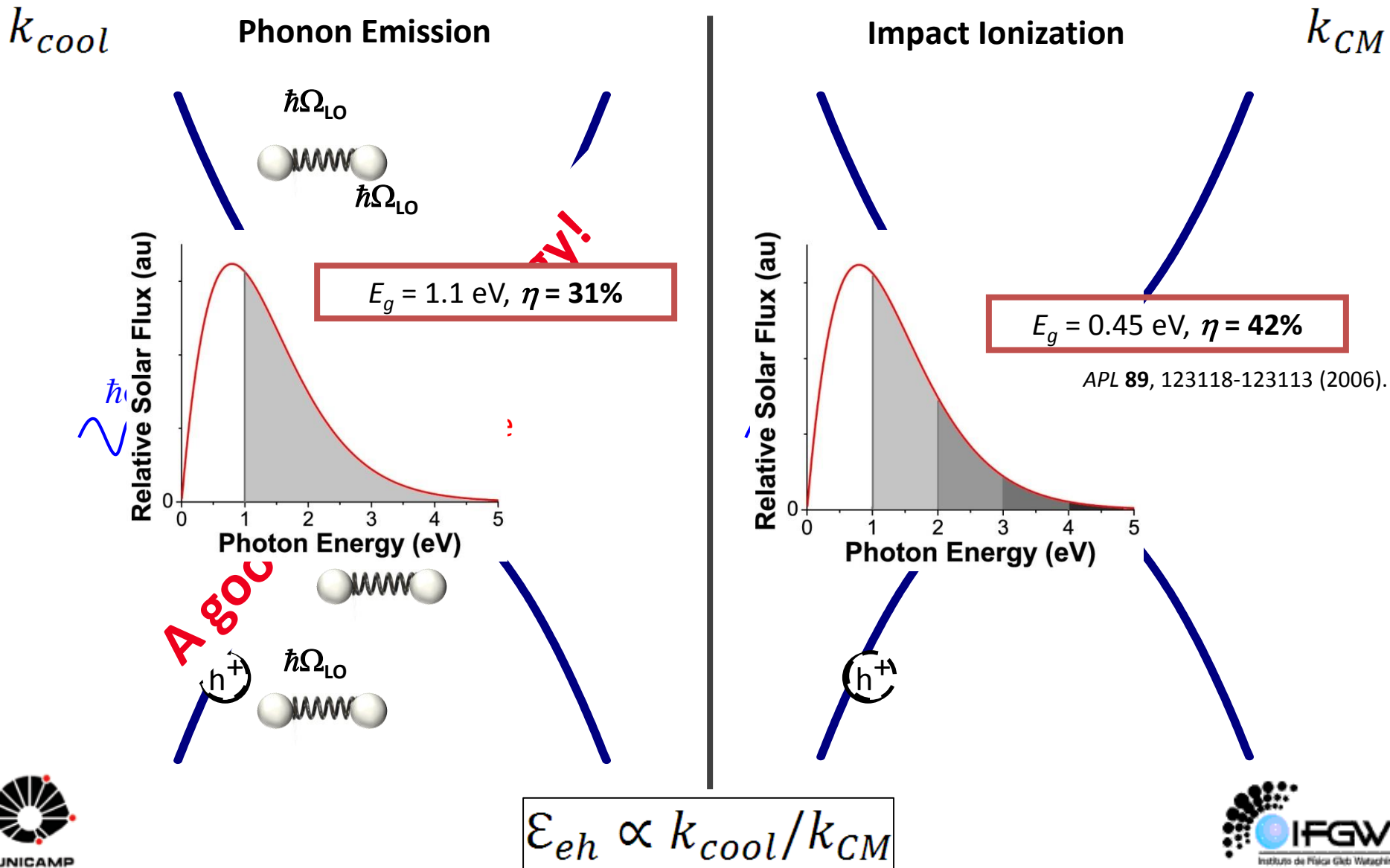
Highly excited carrier decay to the band edge by transferring the energy to a second electron on the valence band, creating a second exciton.

Coulomb interaction – same as Auger recombination.

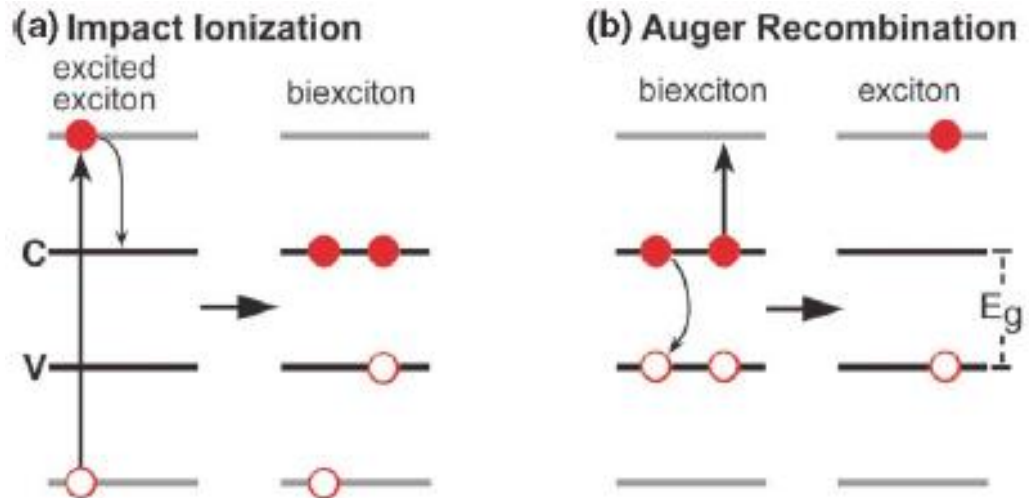
Increases photocurrent but keep V_{oc} constant

Padilha et al., Acc. Chem. Res., (2013)

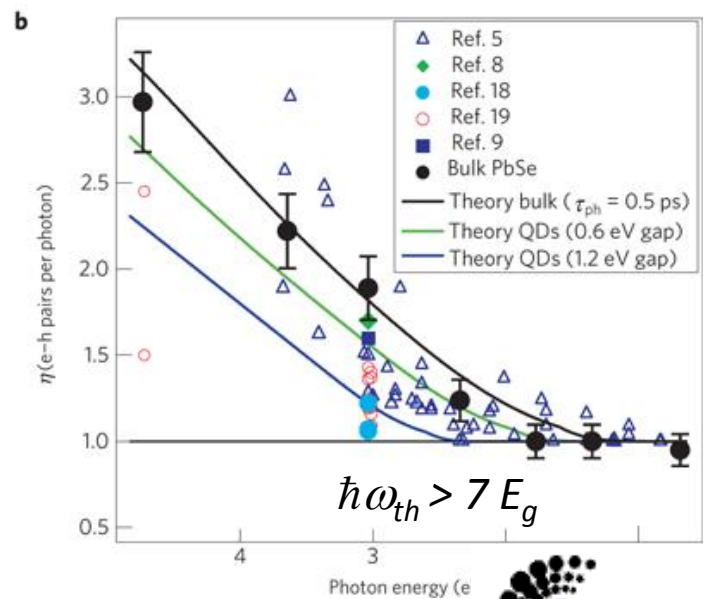
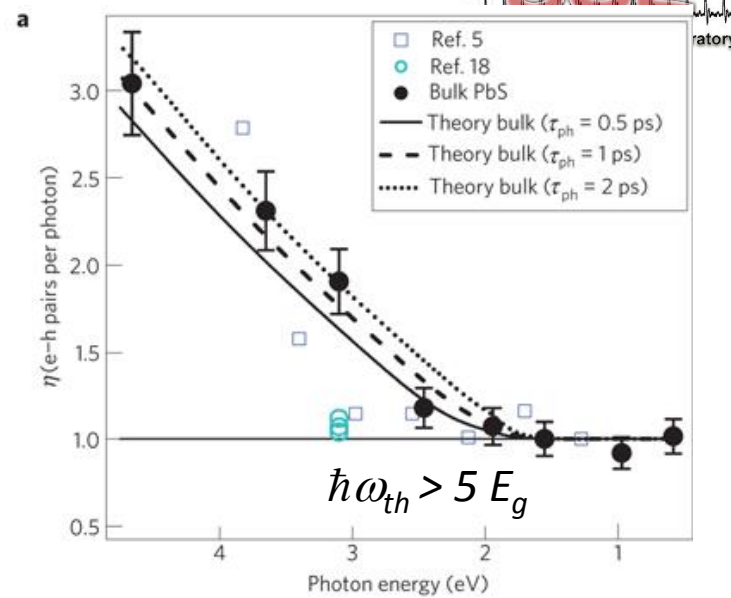
Two Competing Processes



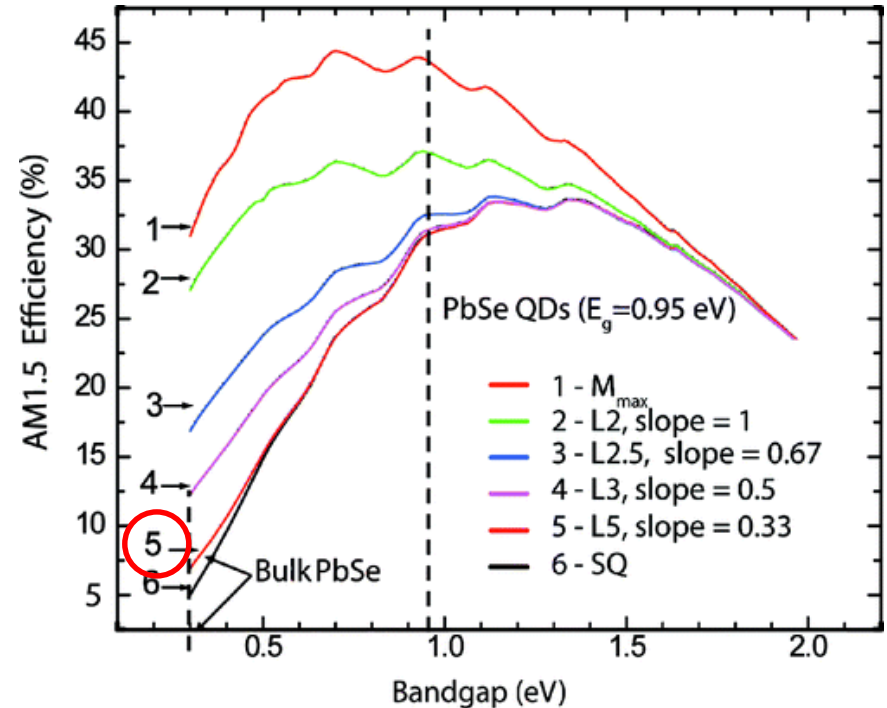
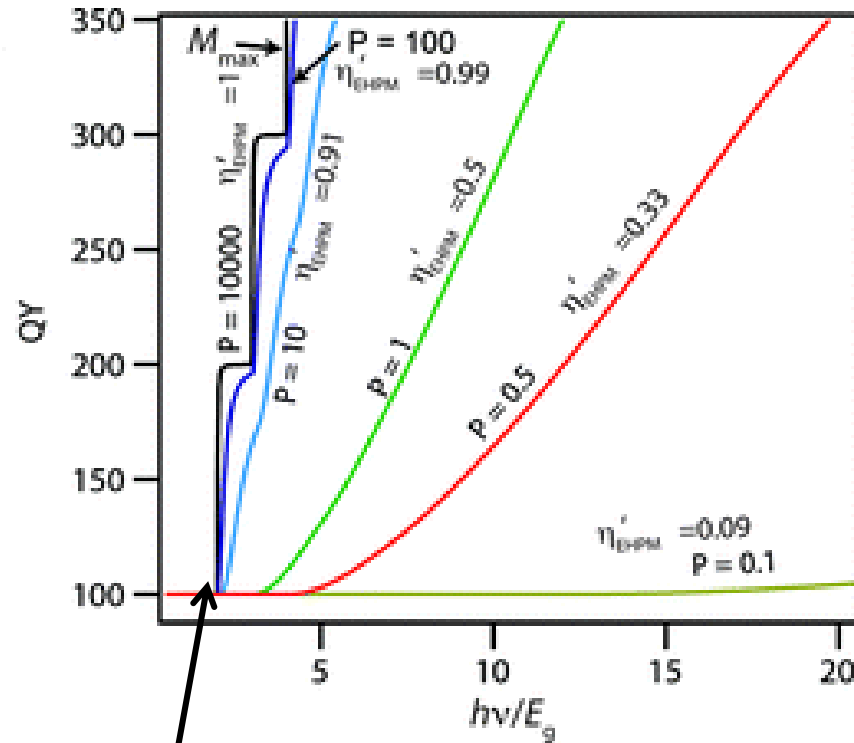
Carrier Multiplication



- In bulk it is a result of Impact Ionization – quite inefficient
- Limiting factors in bulk:
 - Energy and momentum conservation
 - Fast competing intraband relaxation processes



PV Efficiency vs CM Efficiency



Ideal case $\hbar\omega_{th} = 2 E_g$

$$\varepsilon_{eh} = \left(\frac{dQY}{d\hbar\omega} \right)^{-1}$$

$$\eta_{eh} = \frac{E_g}{\varepsilon_{eh}}$$

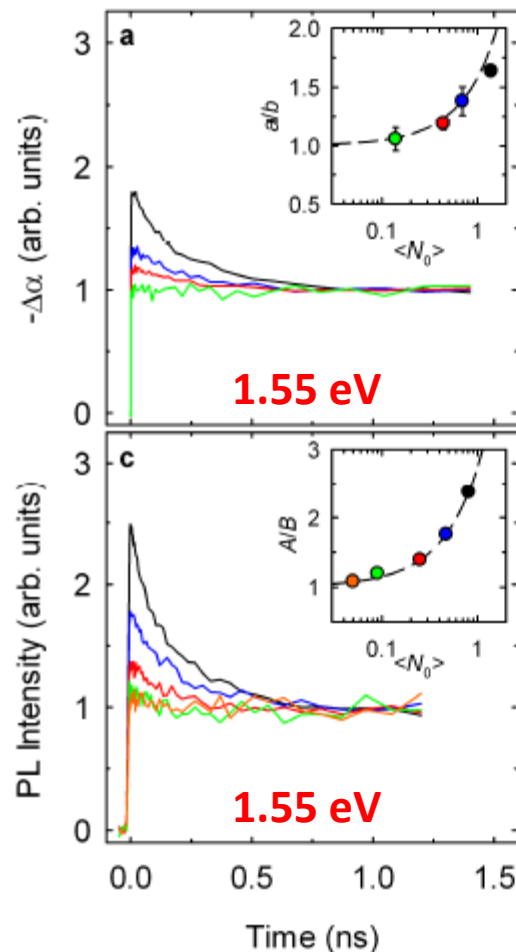
- It only makes a difference on solar power conversion efficiency near the theoretical limit!
- For bulk it is really far from working!
- How about nanomaterials?

Beard et.al. Nano Lett., 10, 3019–3027 (2010)

Measuring Carrier Multiplication in Nanoparticles

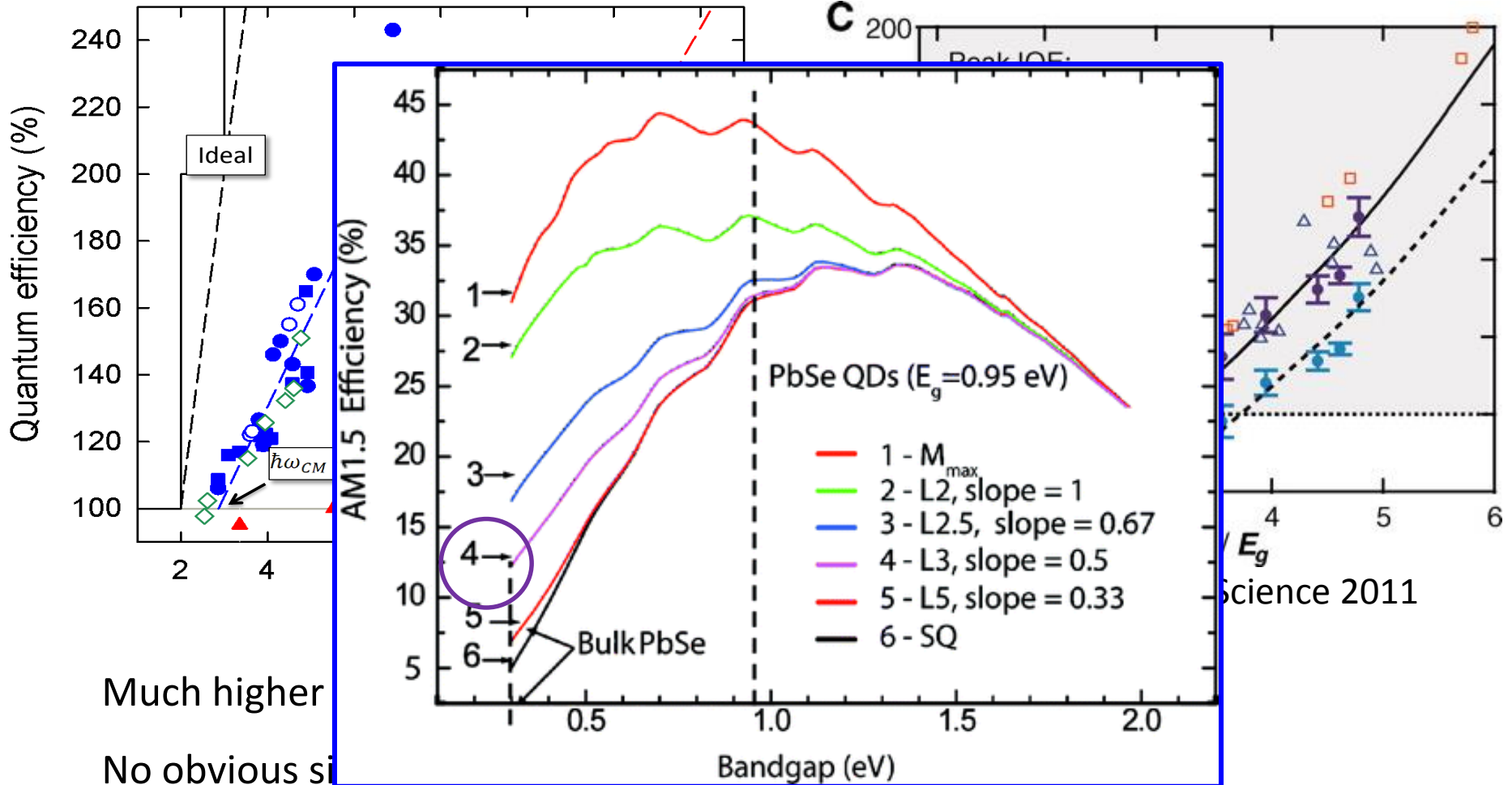
Multi-exciton signature is obtained from **Auger decay** from transient absorption (TA) or transient PL (trPL)

PbS QDs $E_g = 0.71$ eV



- Choose $\hbar\omega$ so that no CM is possible $\Delta\alpha \propto N$
- Use TA or trPL to measure Auger lifetimes $QY = A/B$
- Verify that the population follow a Poisson Distribution $PL \propto N_e N_h$
- Once the baseline study is done, we change to spectral regions where CM is possible and repeat the experiment. $QY = (A/B+2)/3$

How Good is it in QDs?



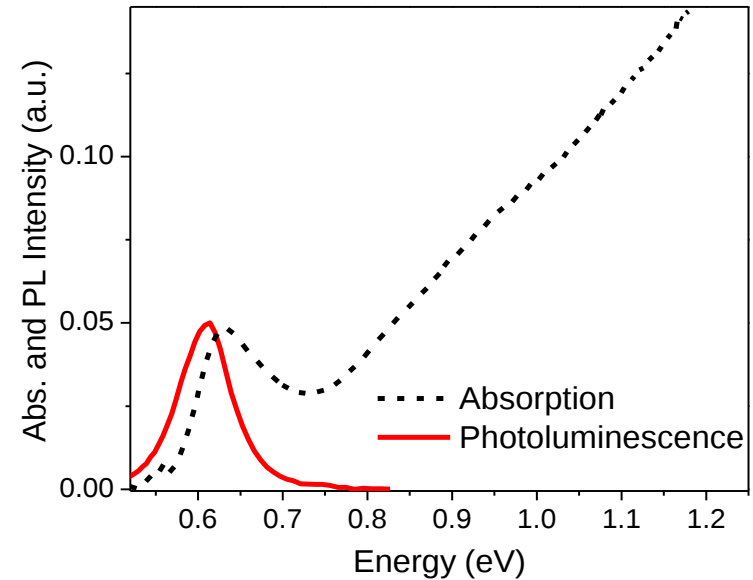
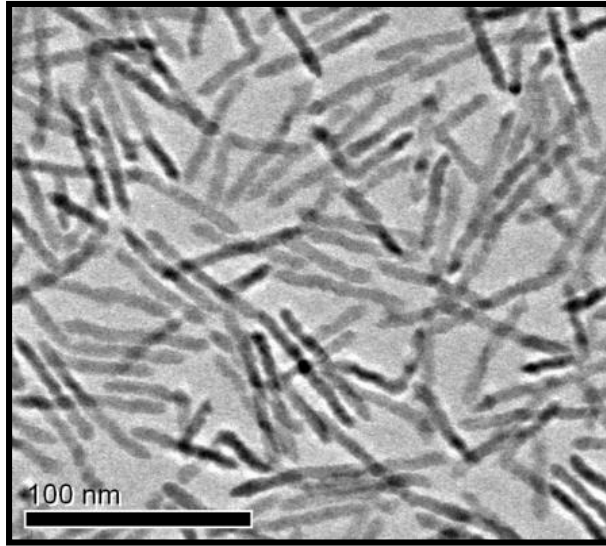
Much higher

No obvious si

However, still too far from the ideal

Next step: understand the physical mechanism for CM in nanomaterials

Shape Effect: From QDs to NRs



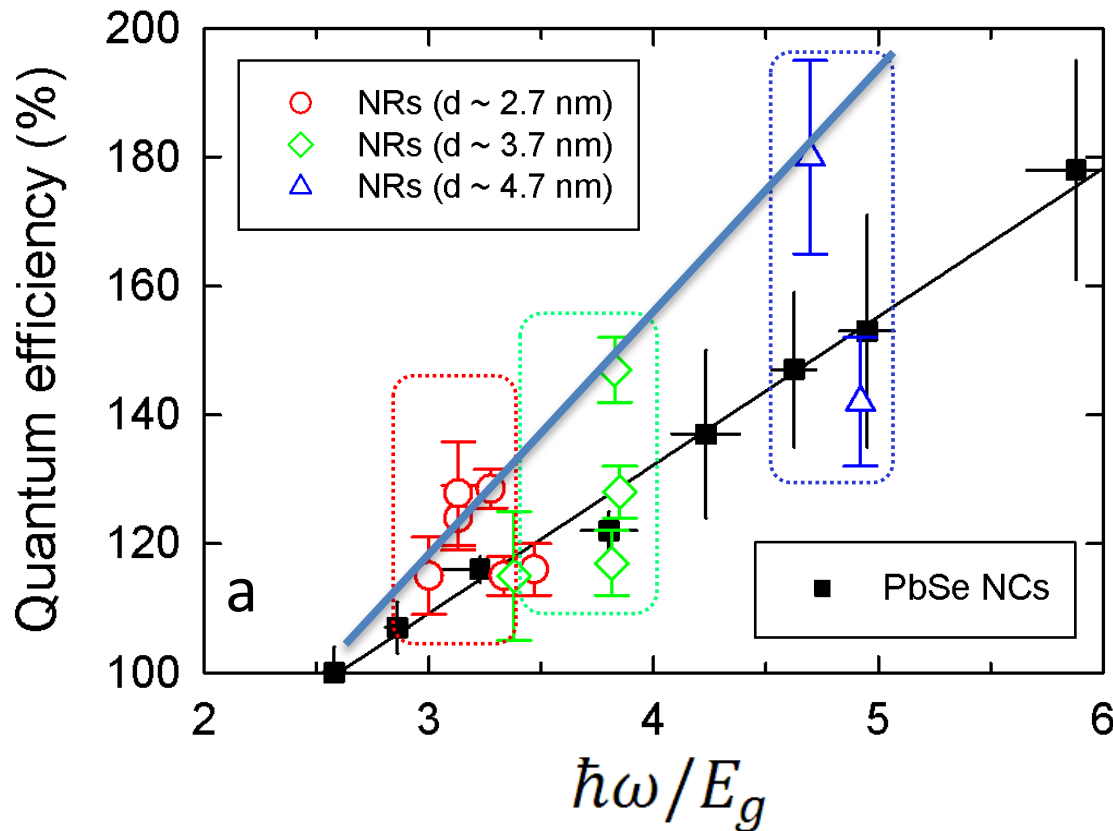
Length barely influences on the absorption and PL peak positions.

Excitons are confined in a 3D volume

Auger Recombination - Bimolecular



However, is the Coulomb Interaction the Same



CM may be higher, the same or even smaller for NRs than for QDs

Are Auger and CM rates really connected in this case?

Bimolecular type Auger recombination.



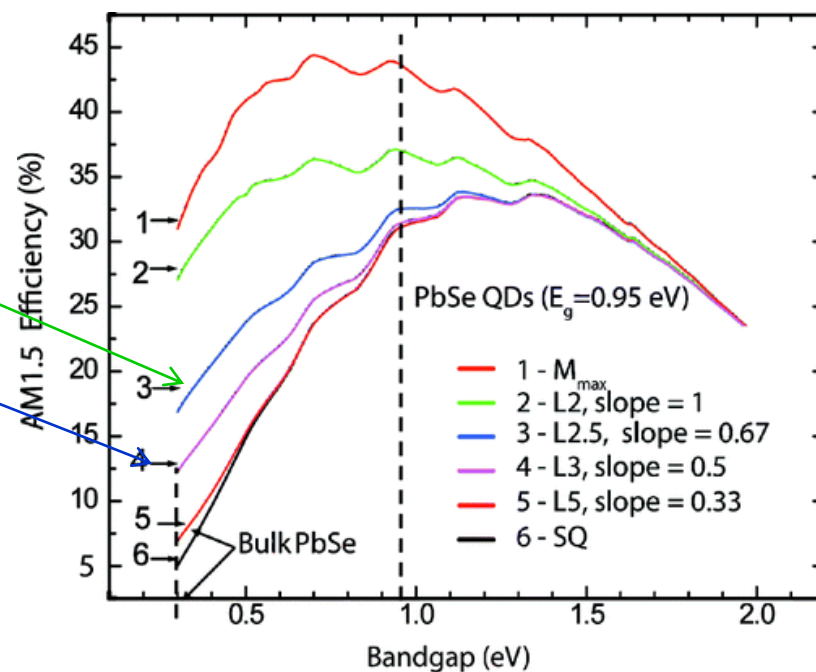
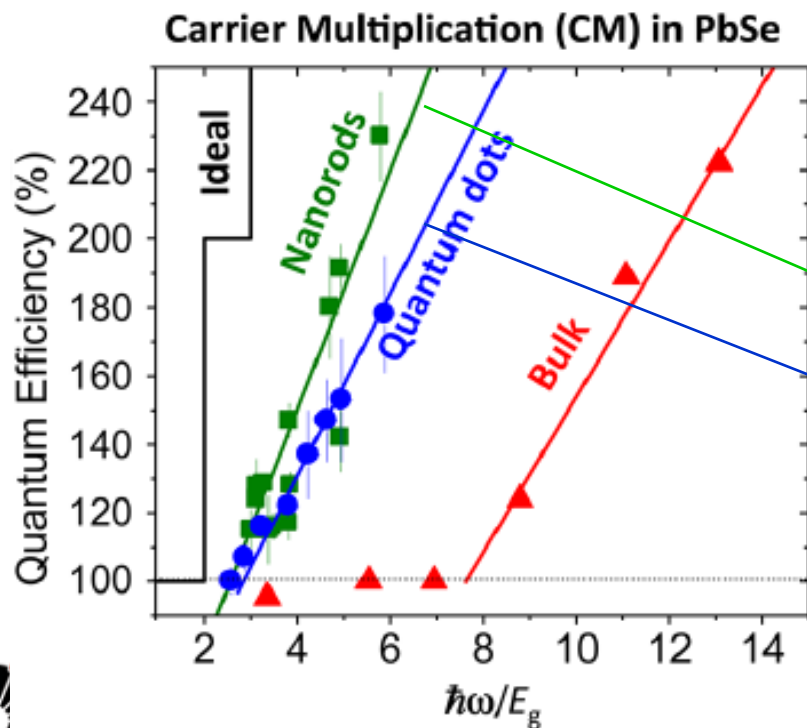
Effective Auger rate for the "Exciton Volume"

However, is the Coulomb Interaction the Same

Enhanced Coulomb interaction enhances CM in NRs, but bimolecular Auger recombination slows down this process.

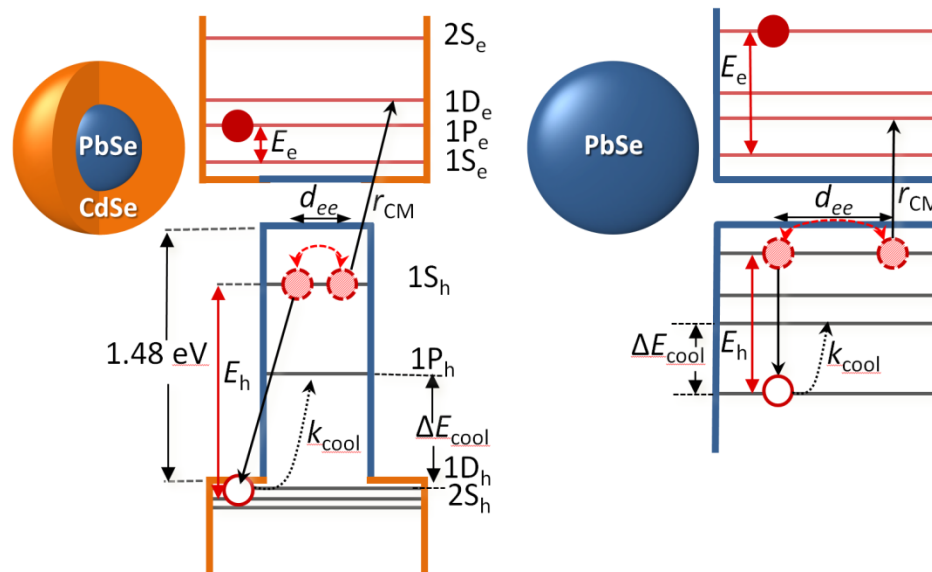
Elongated structure – if aligned, less hopping is necessary – better transport

Next new promising candidate for nanomaterial based solar cell.

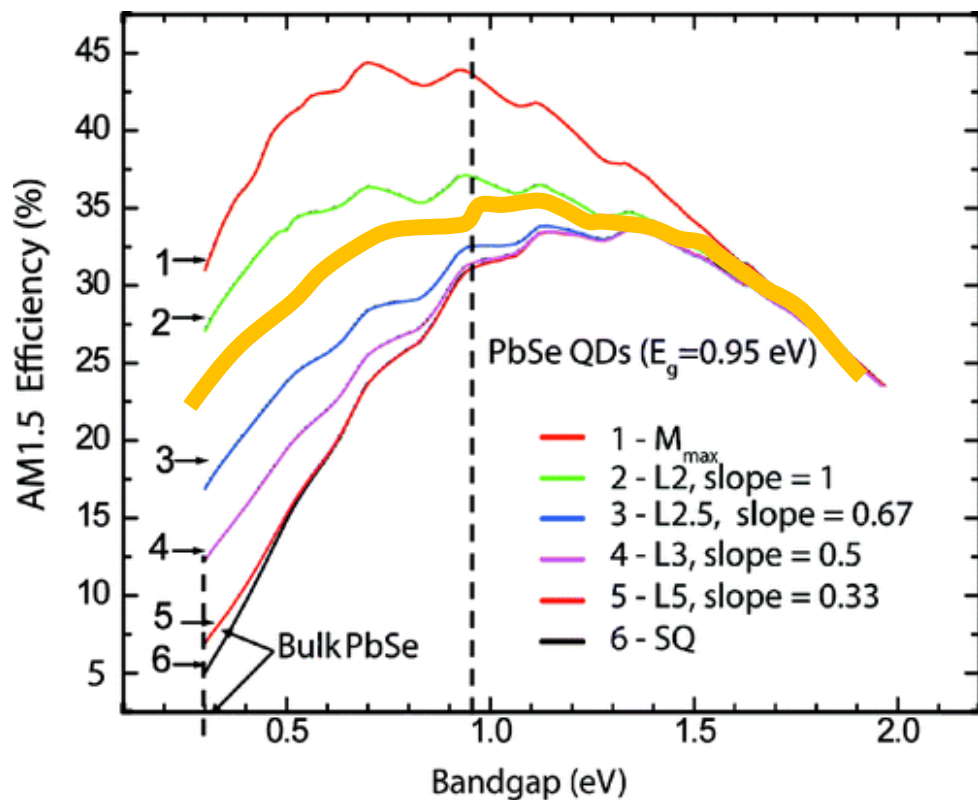
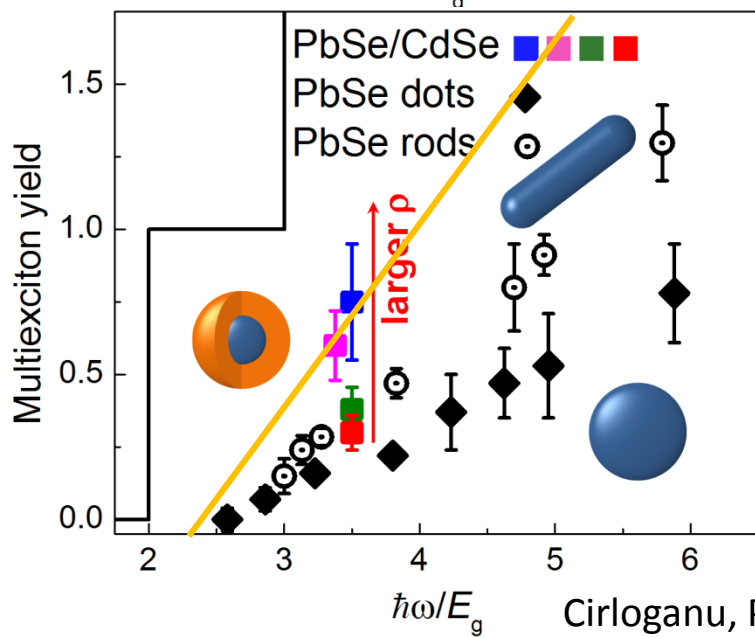
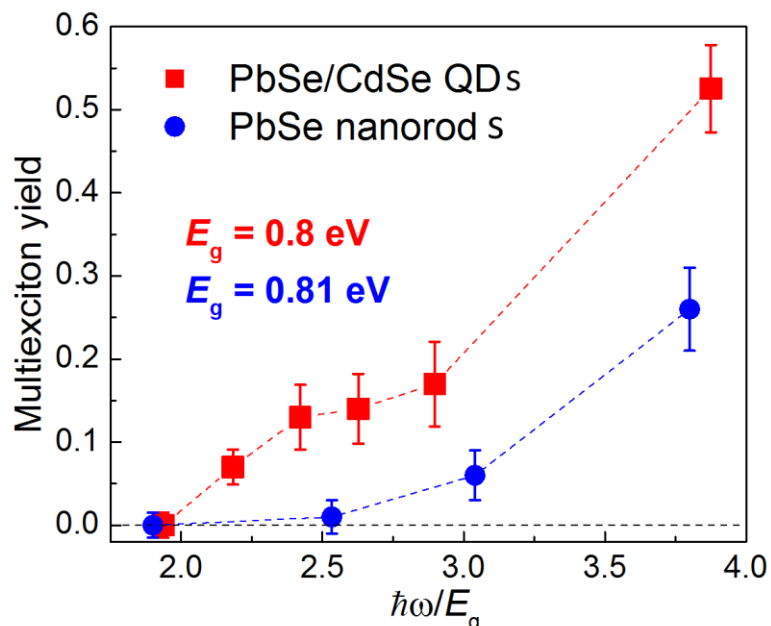


Engineering Quasi-Type-II Heterostructures

Increase CM efficiency by slowing down intraband cooling



Engineering Quasi-Type-II Heterostructures



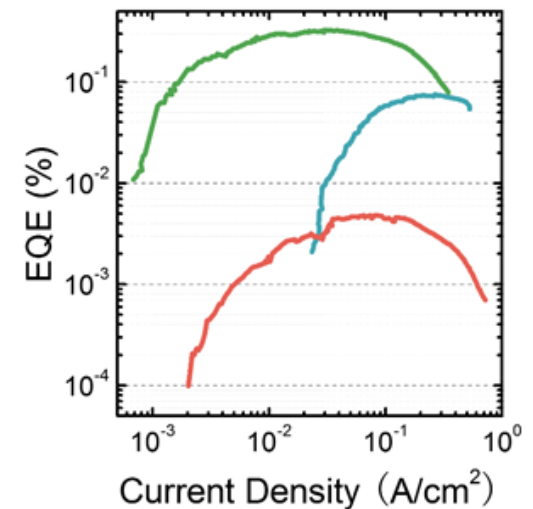
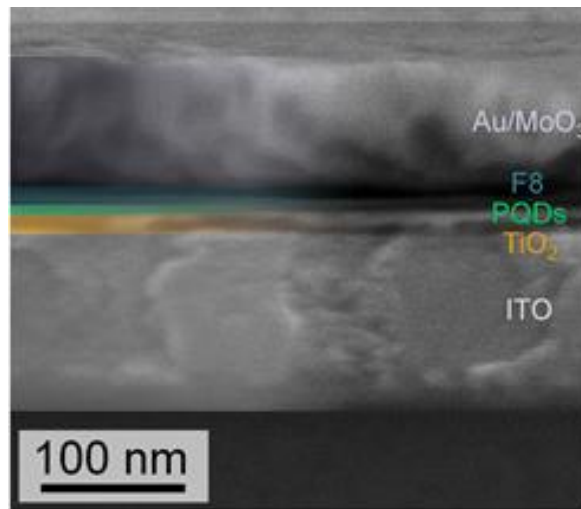
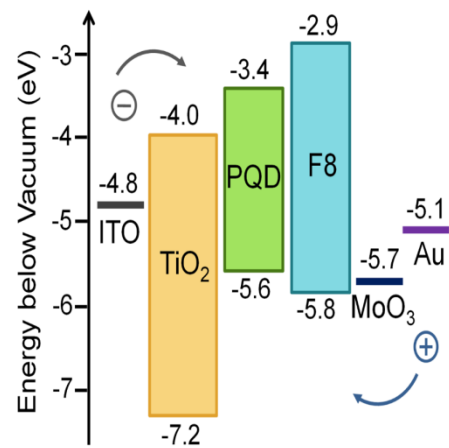
We have shown advances, but there is still a long way to go

Cesium Lead Halide Perovskite QDs

Perovskite based solar cell has the best increasing slope on efficiency out of any new solar cell technology – great electronic transport properties

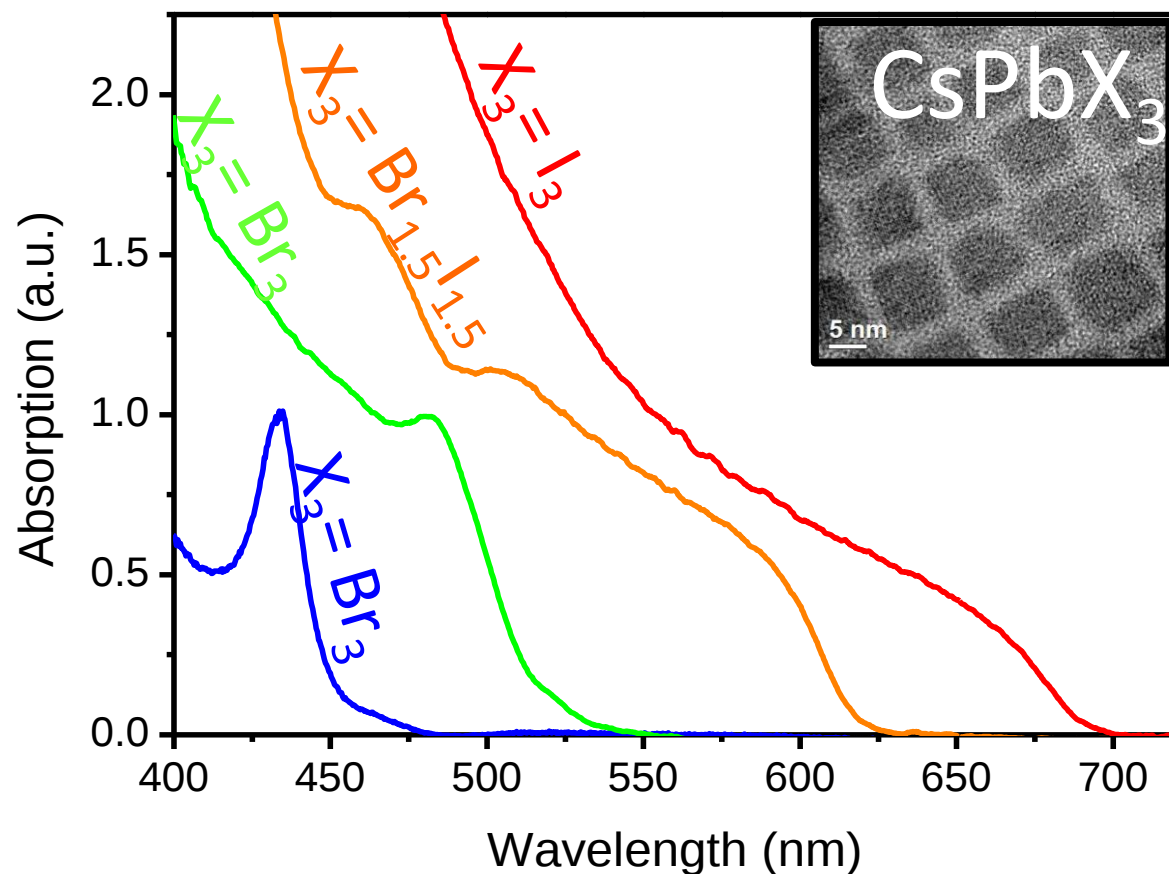
Kovalenko's group shows that Cesium Lead Halide Perovskite QDs can be tuned thorough the entire visible spectrum with high emission QY and narrow band.

Nevertheless, efficiency for LED's are way below what was hoped for.



Cesium Lead Halide Perovskite QDs

Several bromide and iodide samples with volume changing by over one order of magnitude

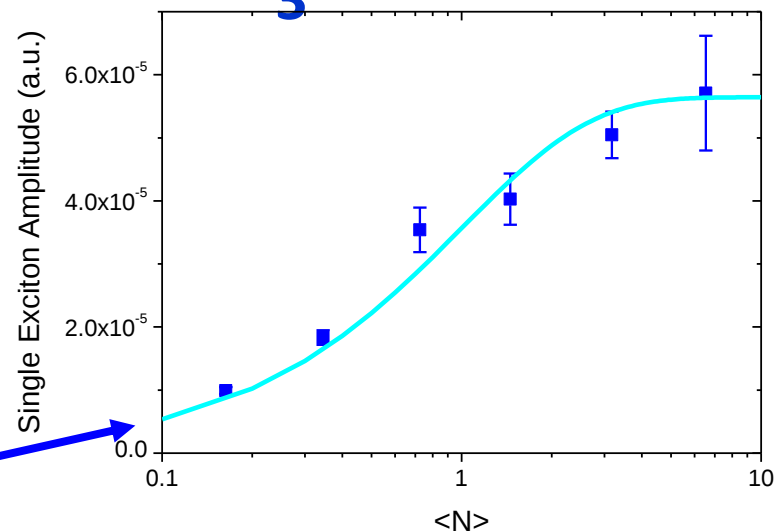
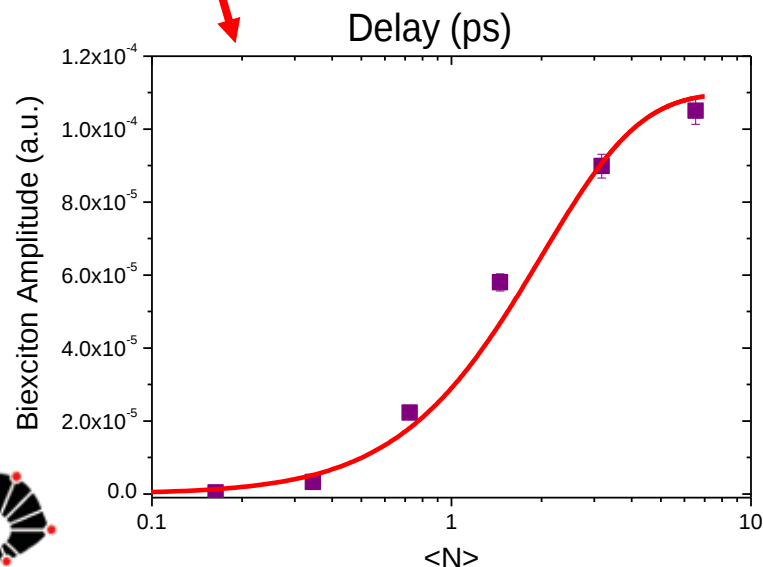
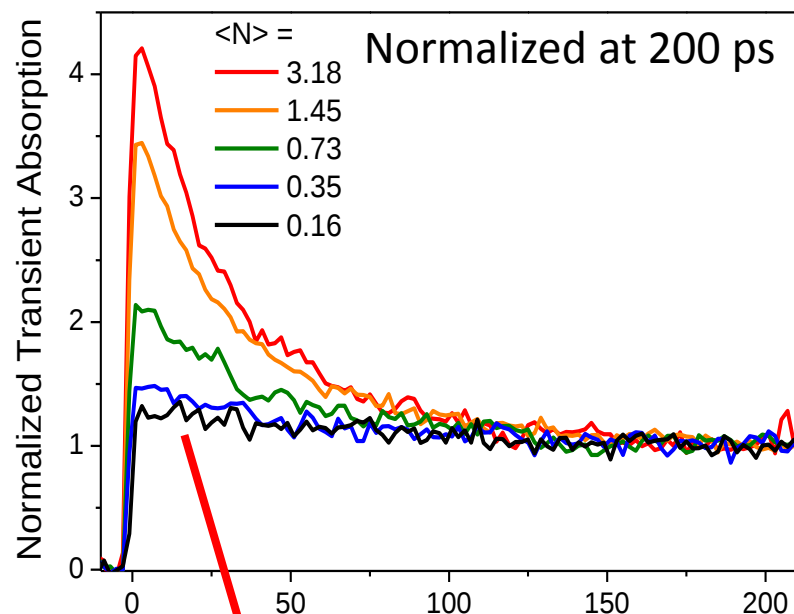


Absorption band gap
varying from

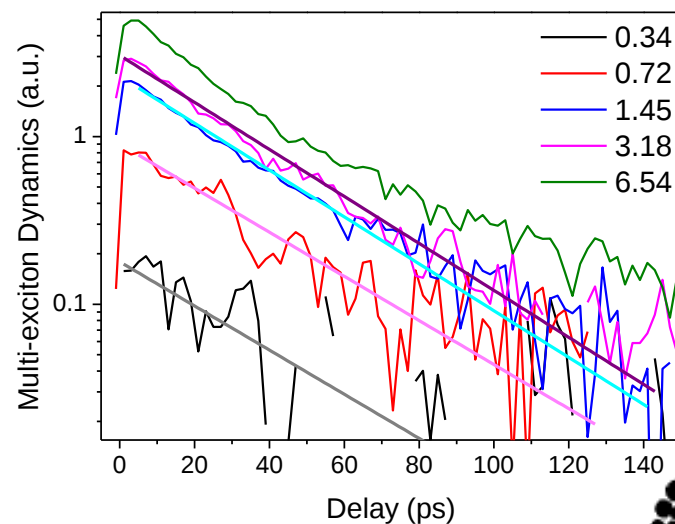
Bromide:
434 nm to 508 nm

Iodide:
640 nm to 685 nm

Transient Absorption – CsPbBr₃

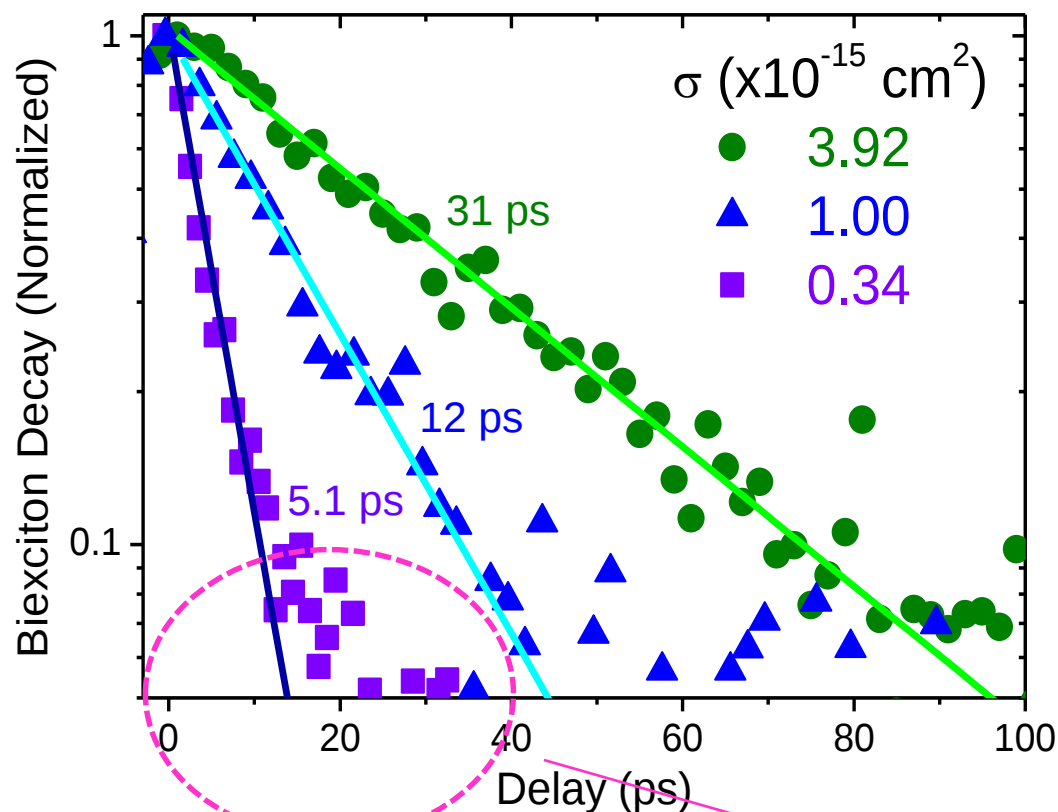


After subtracting the normalized low energy scan, all is left is a fast single decay of about 31 ps



Castaneda et.al. Submitted 2016

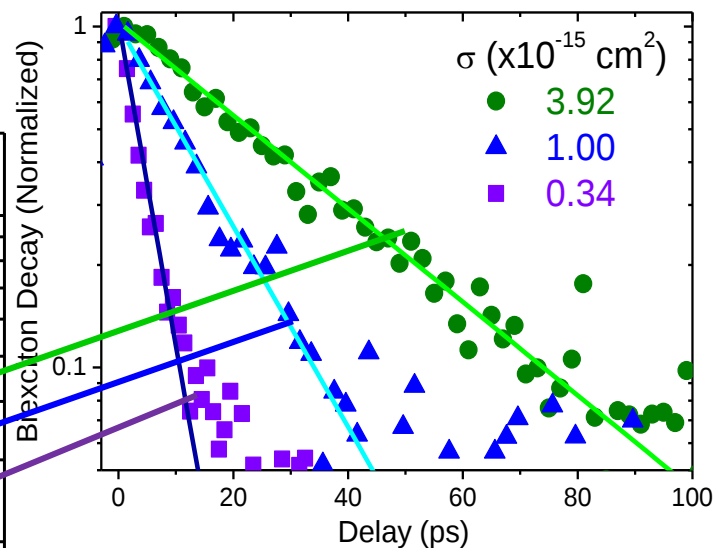
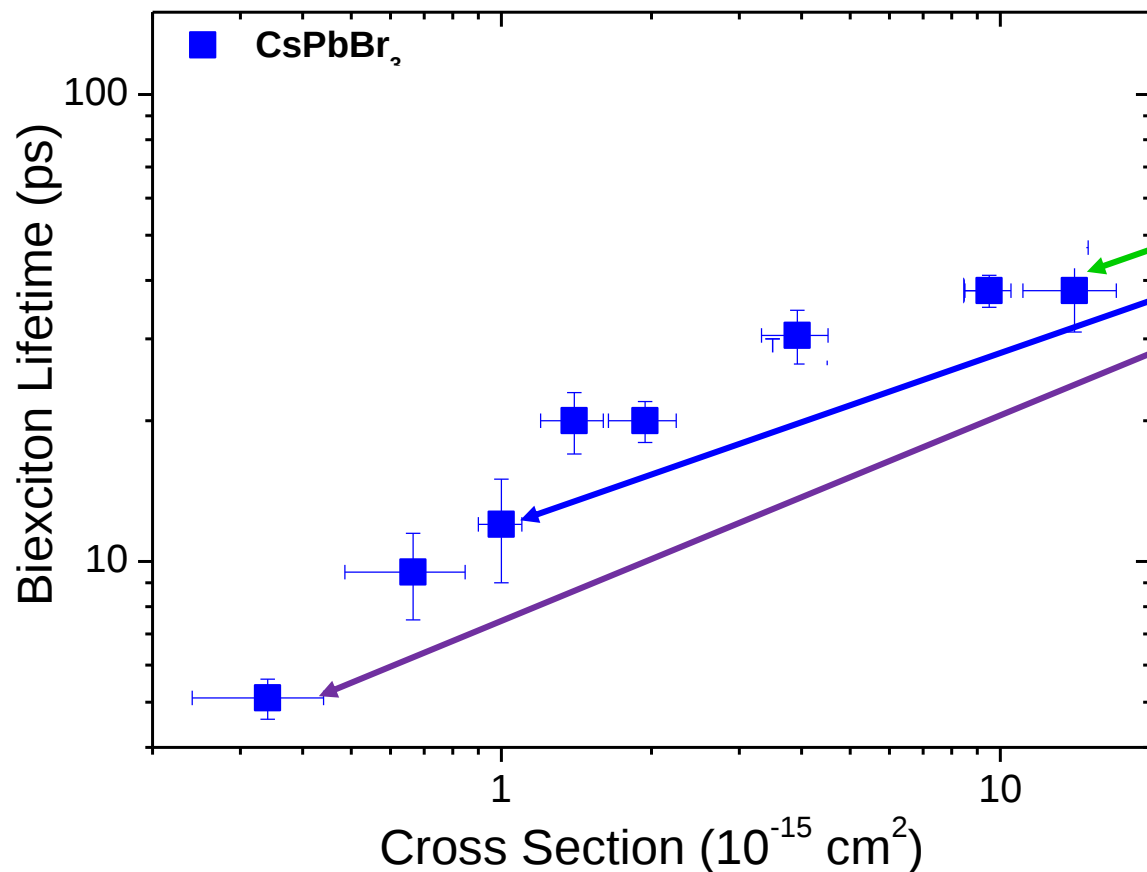
Transient Absorption – CsPbBr₃



Measuring the biexciton lifetime we observe that:

- 1) For cross section above $\sim 2 \times 10^{-15} \text{ cm}^2$ the size dependence of the lifetime is sublinear
- 2) For smaller sizes, the dependence becomes linear!
- 3) Trion might be present, but it is not responsible for more than about 10% of the signal!

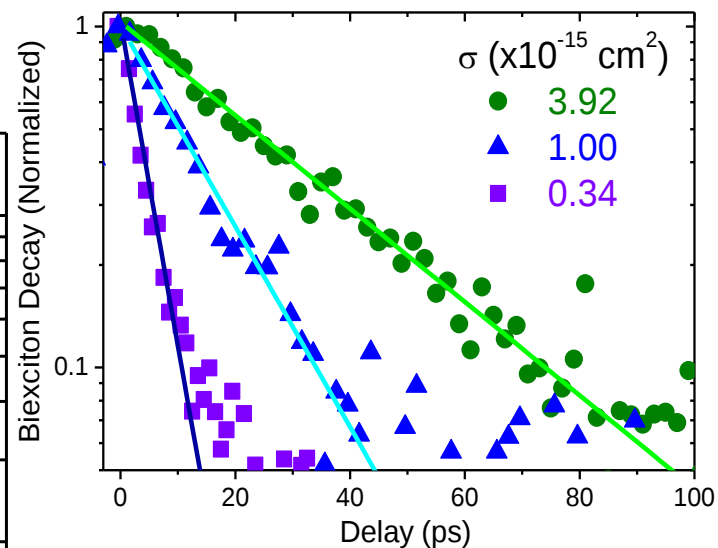
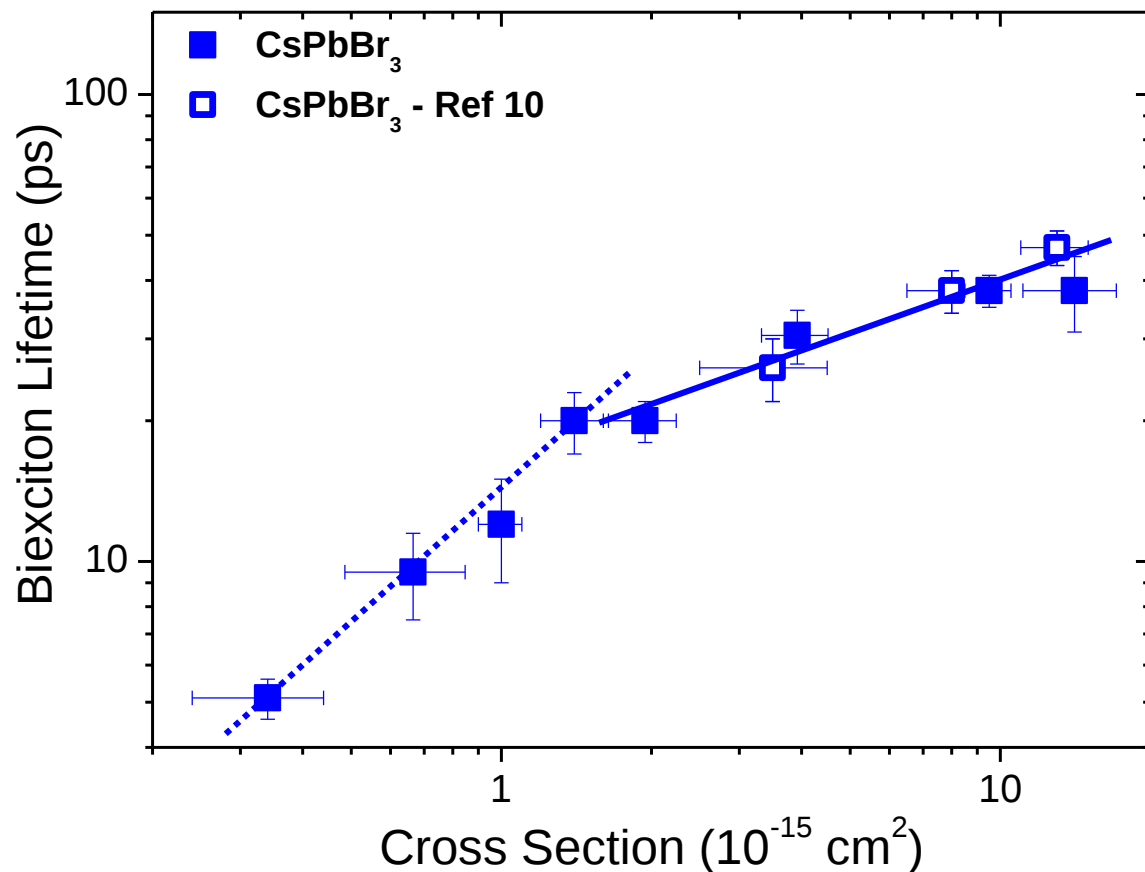
Transient Absorption – CsPbBr₃



There is a clear change in slope for the size dependence of the biexciton lifetime

Good agreement between current and literature data

Transient Absorption – CsPbBr₃

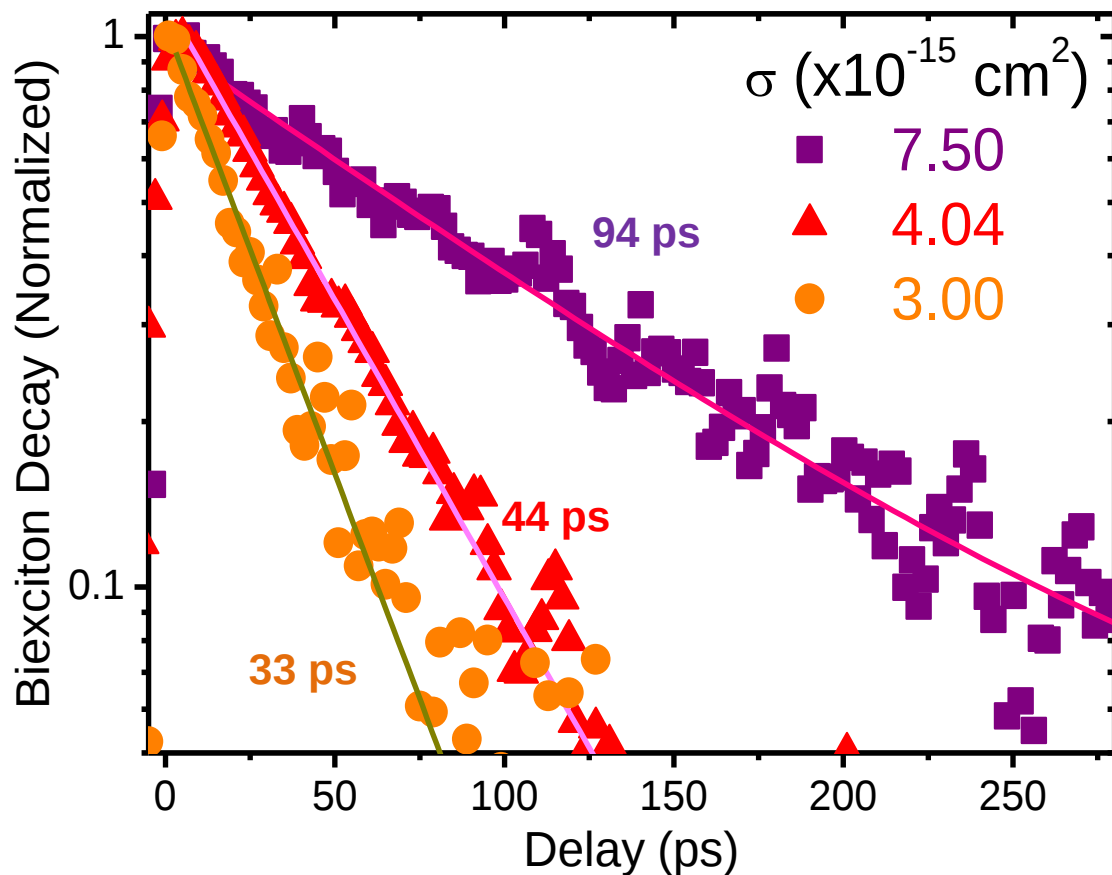


Dotted line is the power dependence fit for the 4 smallest PQDs and has a slope of 0.93

Full line is the power dependence fit for the largest PQDs and has a slope of 0.38

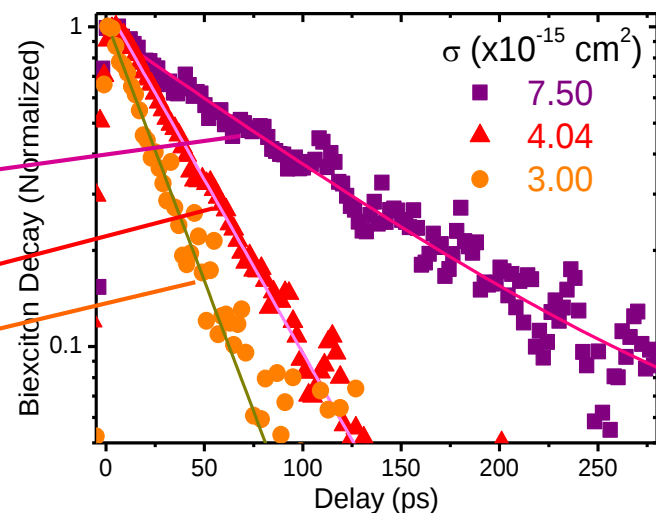
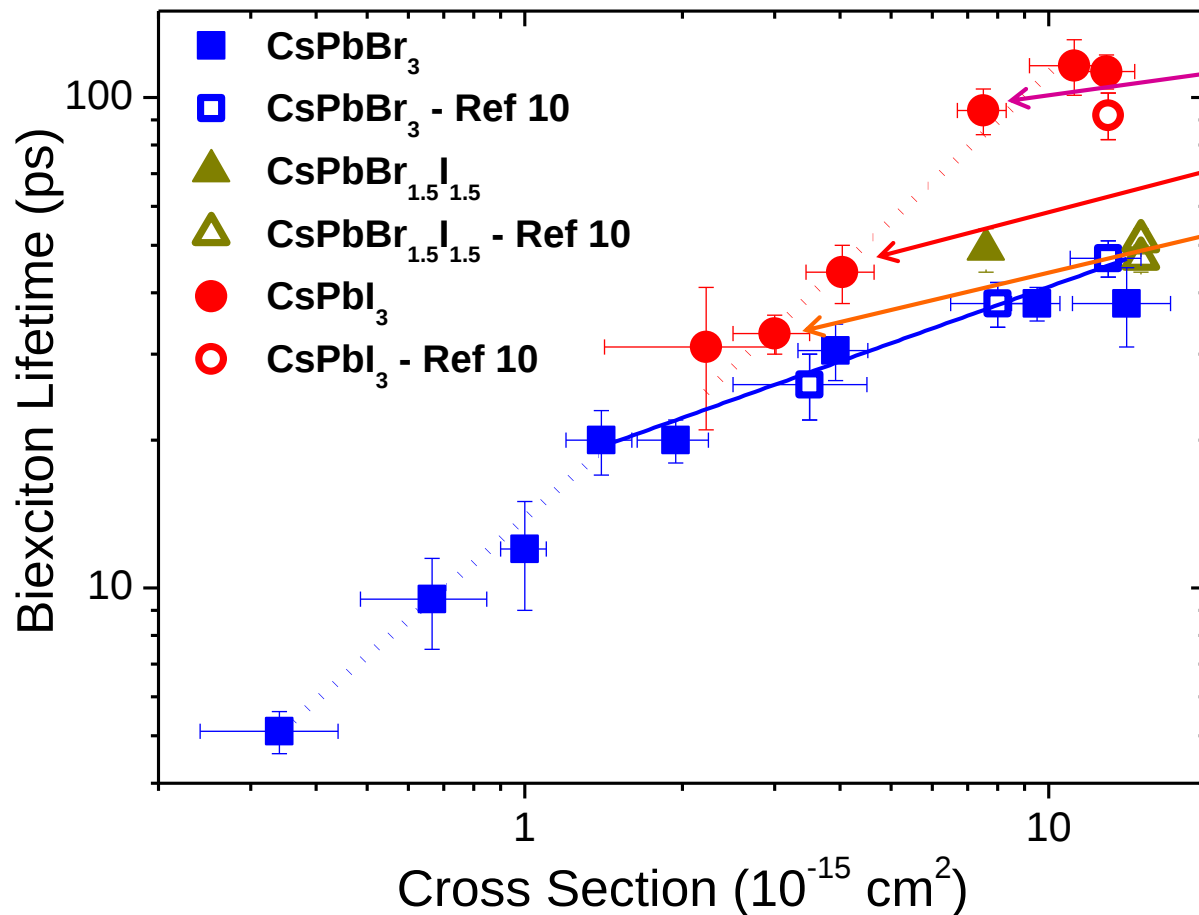
¹⁰ Makarov et.al. Nano Lett. 2016

Transient Absorption – CsPbI₃



We observe strong size dependence even for large PQDs.

Transient Absorption – CsPbI_3

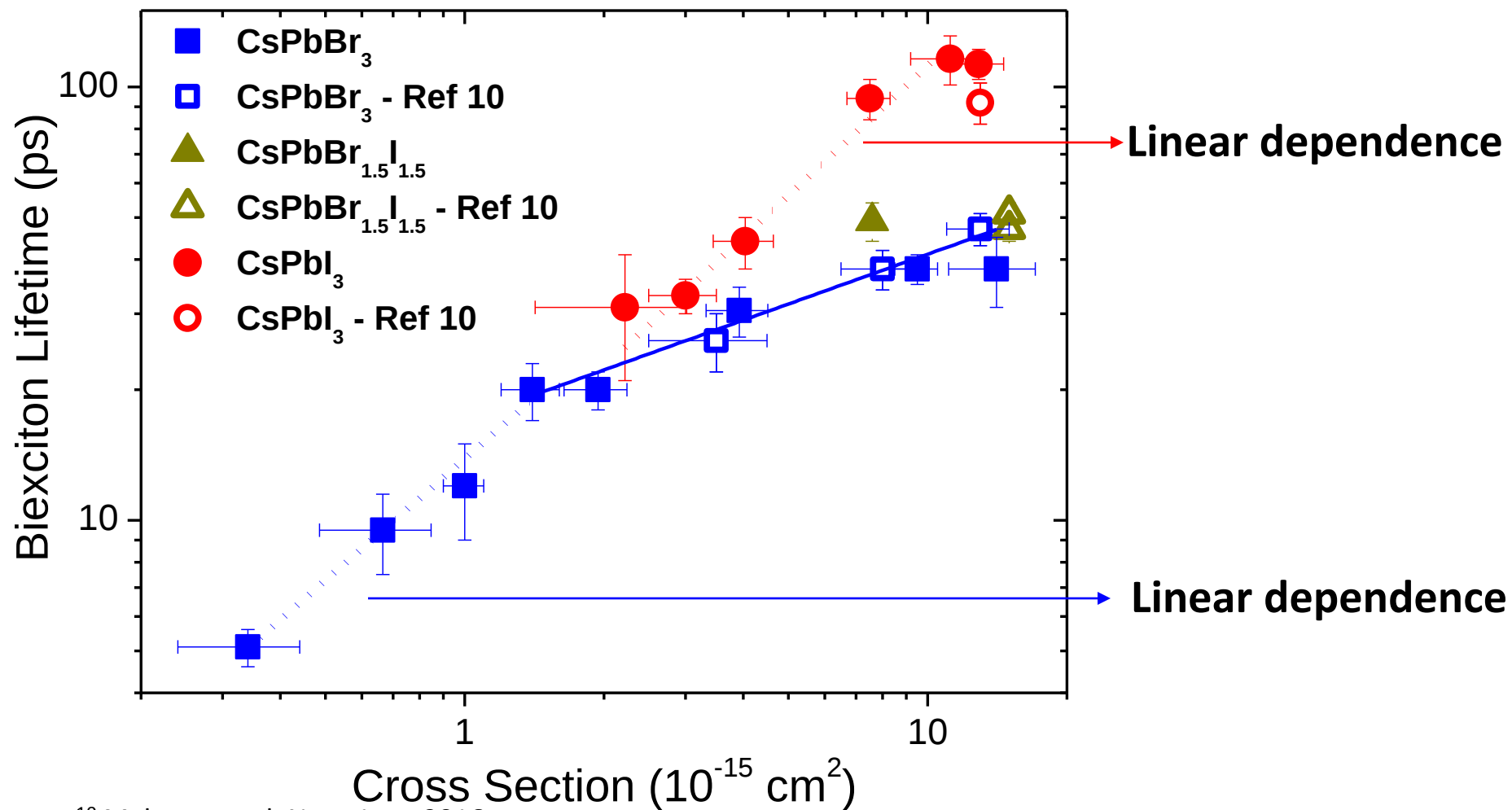


Slope for the iodide sample is near 1, indicating linear dependence.

Good agreement between current and literature data

¹⁰ Makarov et.al. Nano Lett. 2016

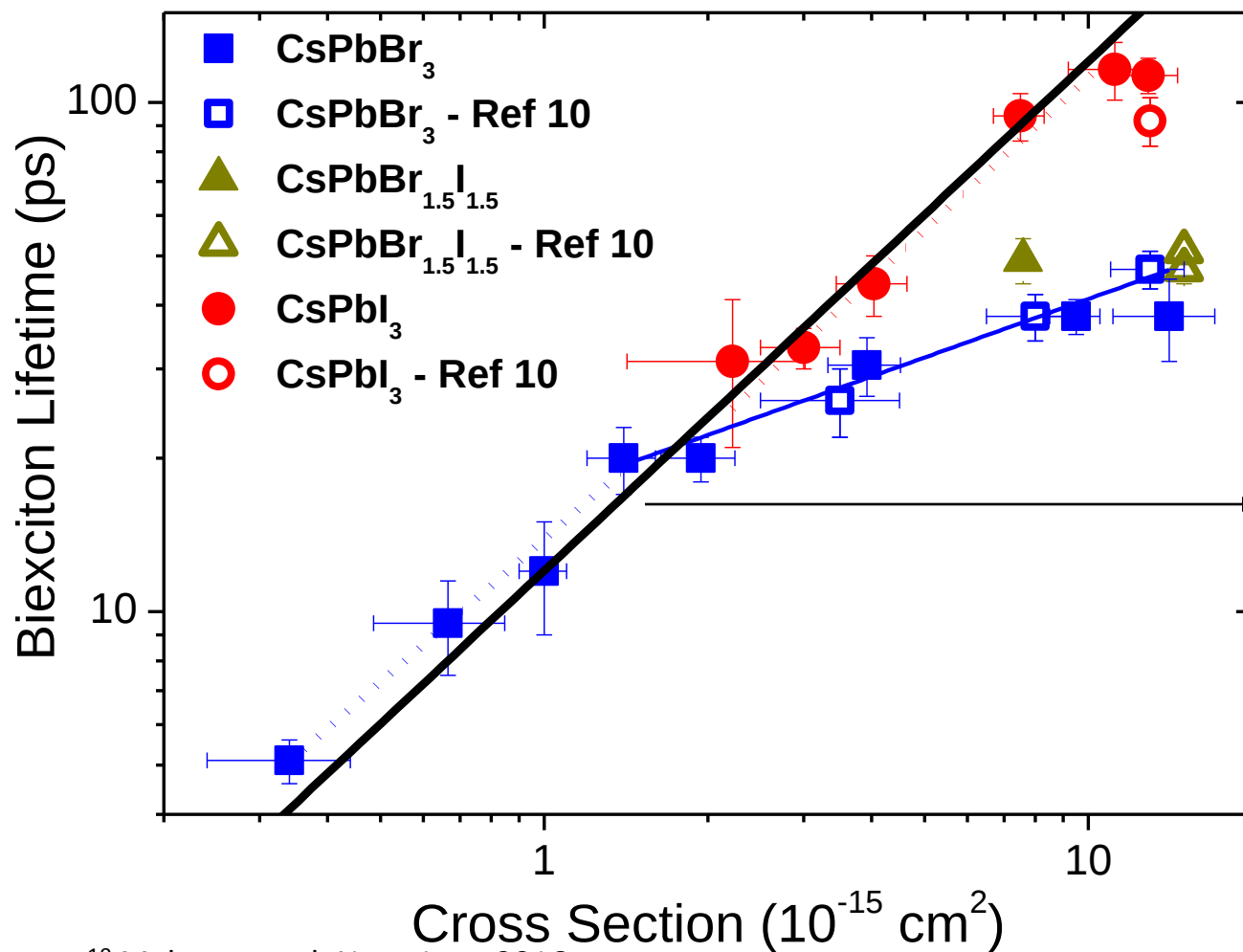
Perovskite – Biexciton Lifetime Summary



¹⁰ Makarov et.al. Nano Lett. 2016

Castaneda et.al. Submitted 2016

Perovskite – Biexciton Lifetime Summary

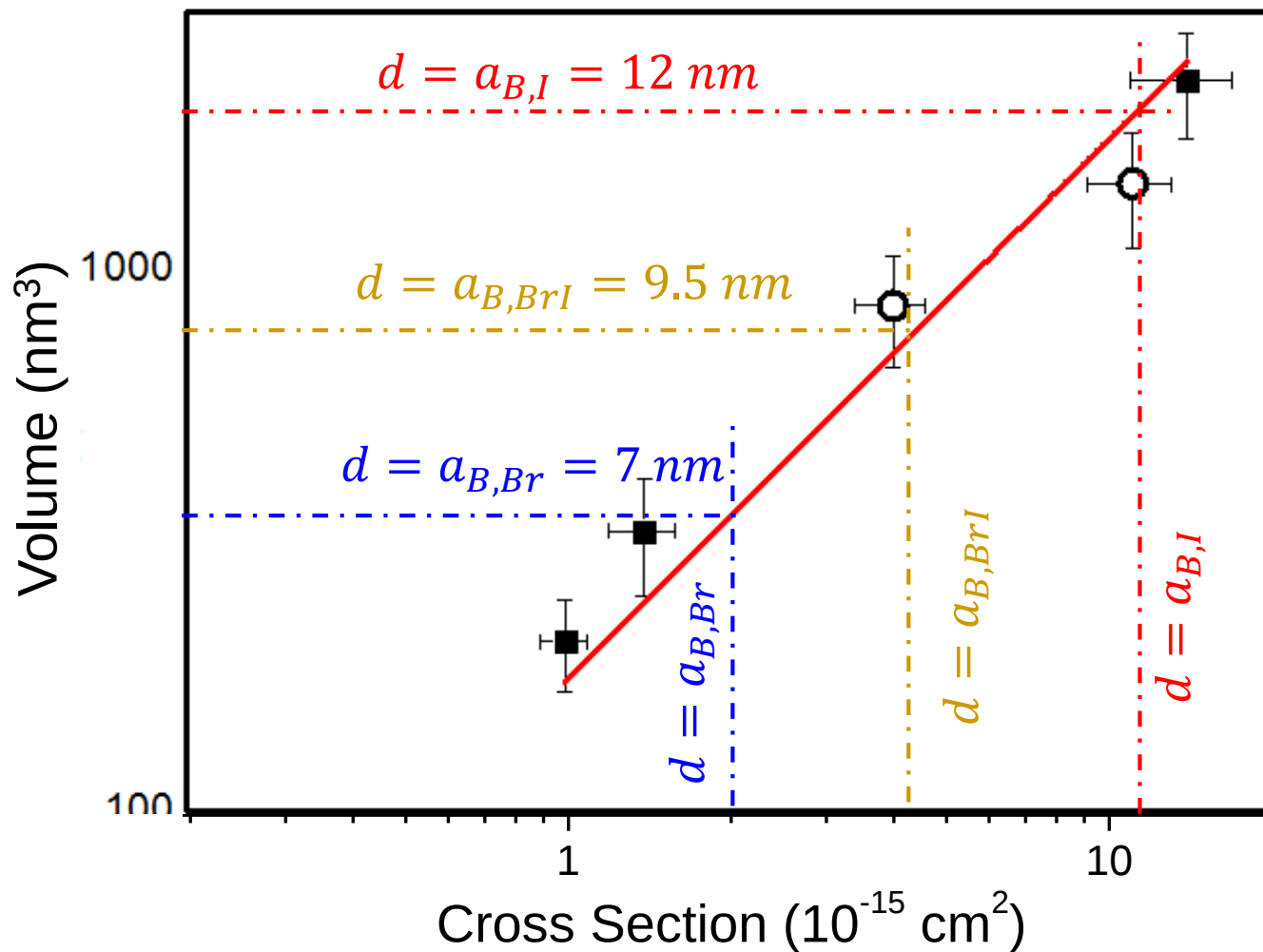


Single linear fit can accommodate all the data for iodine and small bromide

¹⁰ Makarov et.al. Nano Lett. 2016

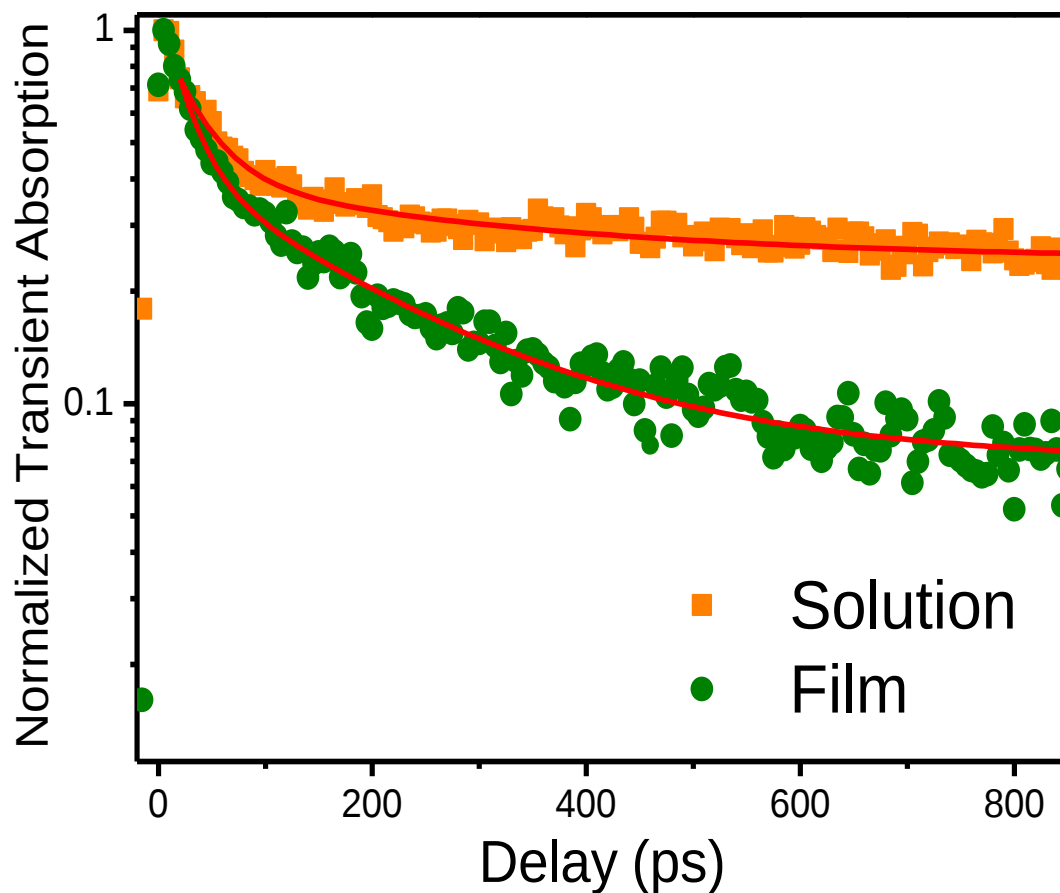
Castaneda et.al. Submitted 2016

Perovskite – Biexciton Lifetime Summary



Data suggest that the break of the volume scaling occurs for PQDs larger than the Exciton Bohr radius

Influence of Trion



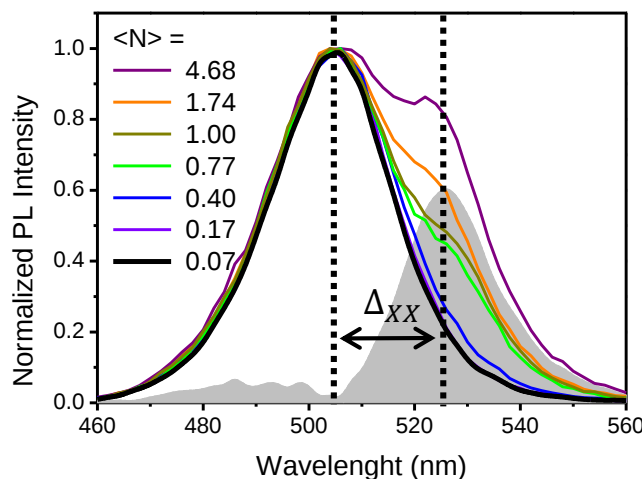
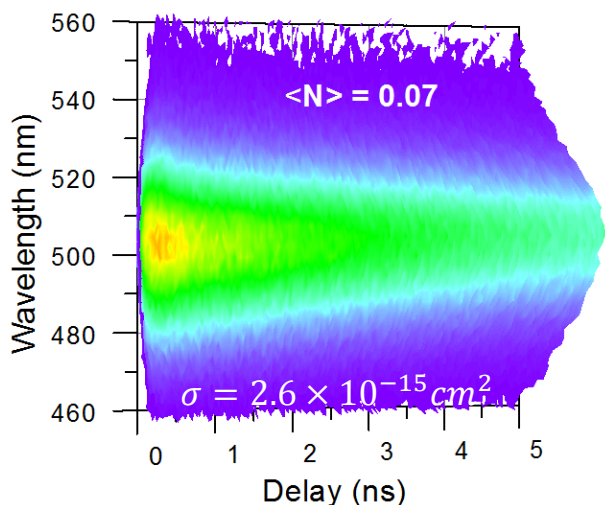
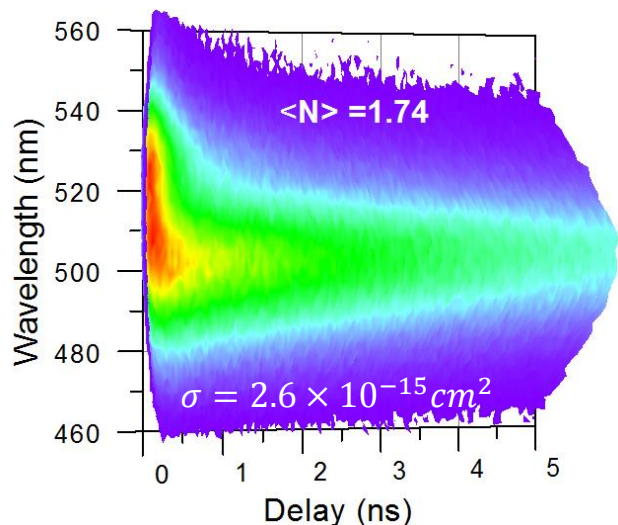
Trion is also very fast in PQDs

$$QY^* = \frac{2\tau_{X^*}}{\tau_X} QY$$

Assuming PL lifetime ~ 6 ns and
QY of about 50%

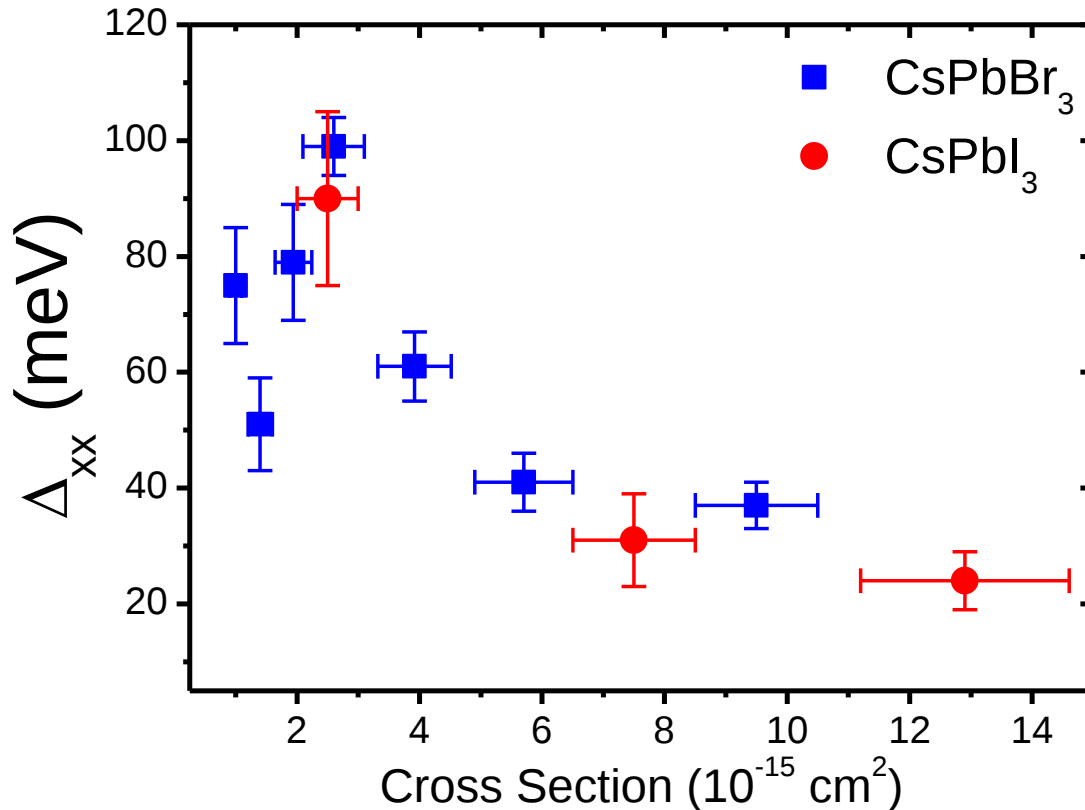
$$QY^* \cong 3\%$$

Biexciton Binding Energy



To quantify the shift we analyze the evolution of the low energy shoulder as the pump intensity increases

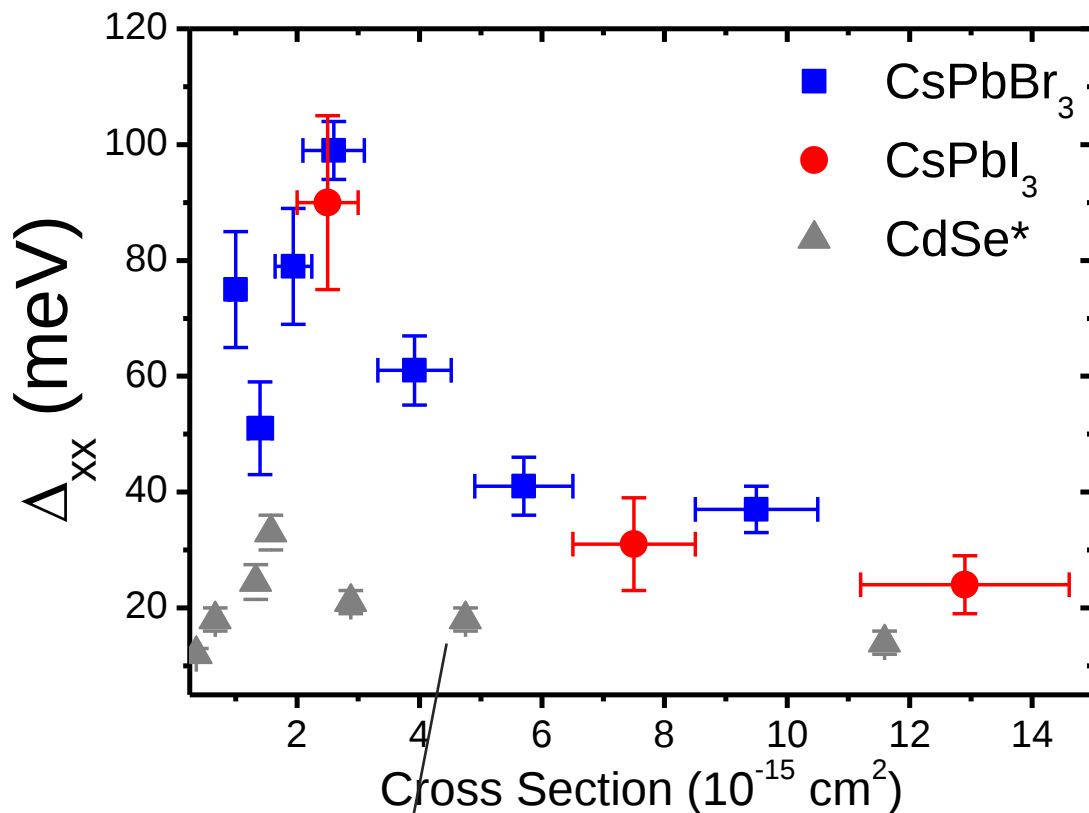
Biexciton Binding Energy



Mostly the binding energy increases as the QD is made smaller.

For very small bromide samples, this energy appears to start to decrease.

Biexciton Binding Energy



Similar behavior has been previously observed for CdSe QDs.

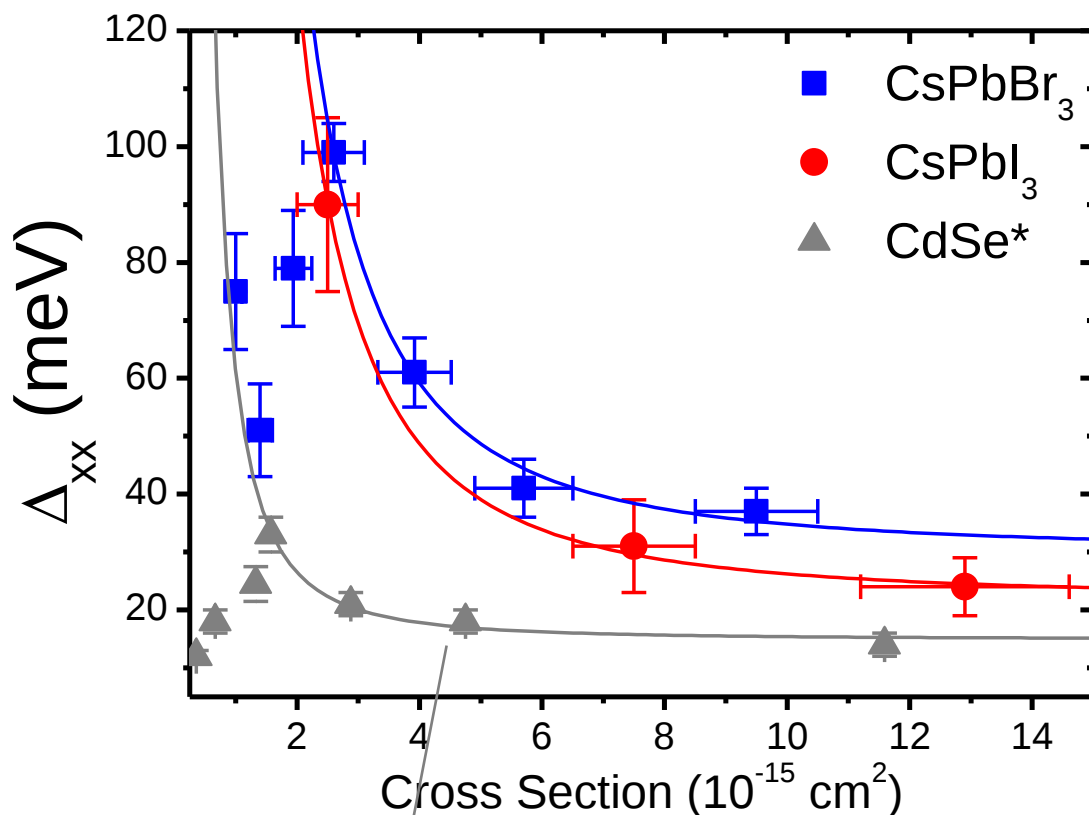
Binding energy is about 3x stronger in PQDs – Stronger Coulomb interaction!

Electron-electron and hole-hole Coulomb repulsion in small QDs could lead to such behavior.

Literature data for CdSe QDs

*Achermann et.al. PRB 2003

Biexciton Binding Energy



Literature data for CdSe QDs

Exciton binding energy in bromide perovskite (bulk) is nearly 40 meV, in iodide (bulk) it is 23 meV and in CdSe (bulk) is ~ 15 meV.

The data suggest that, at the limit for the very large PQDs, the **biexciton binding energy** is comparable to the **exciton binding energy in bulk**: Bromide (30 meV) and Iodide (21 meV)

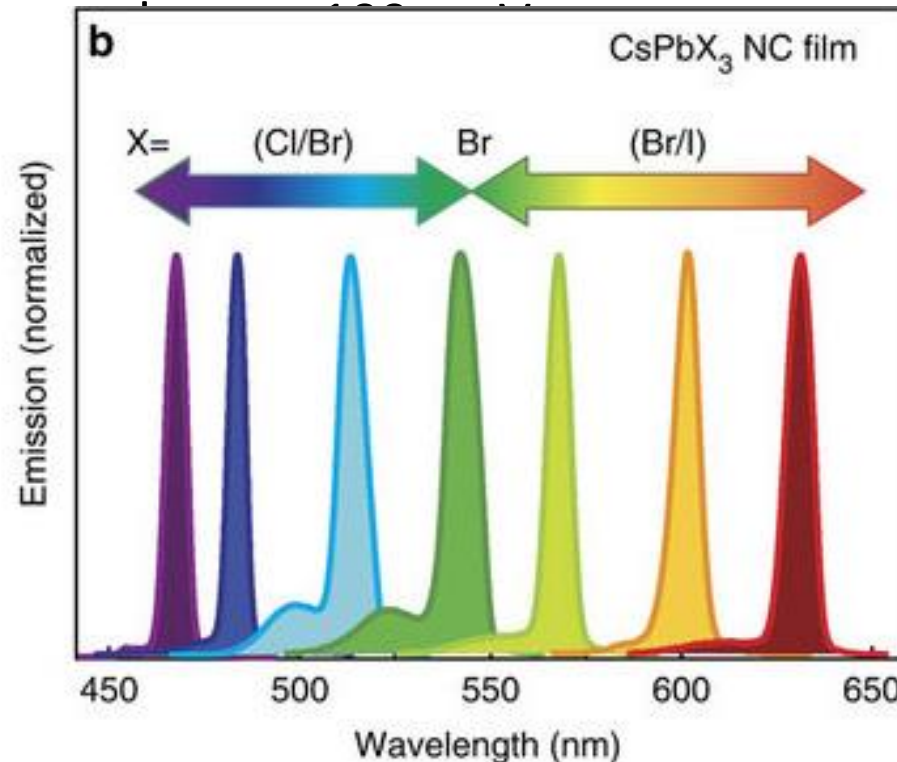
*Achermann et.al. PRB 2003

Conclusions and Perspectives

Very strong Coulomb interaction in PQDs – “Effective Volume” much smaller than the real volume.

Biexciton binding energy ca

Very fast multi-exciton inte
and further material develo

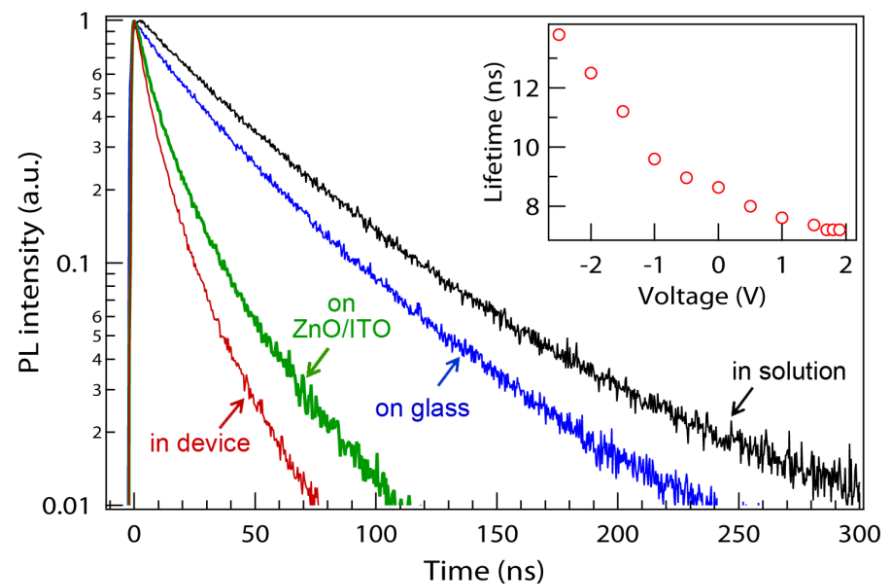
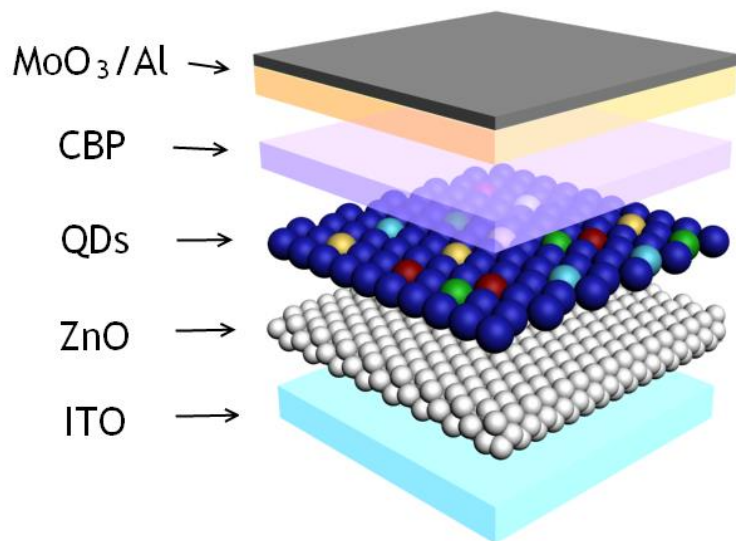


Applications

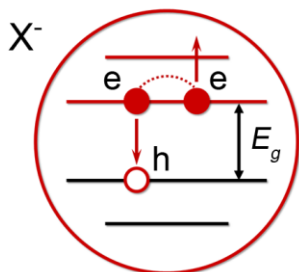
Yakunin, et.al., Nat. Comm. (2015)

Auger Recombination – A villain of QD based LED

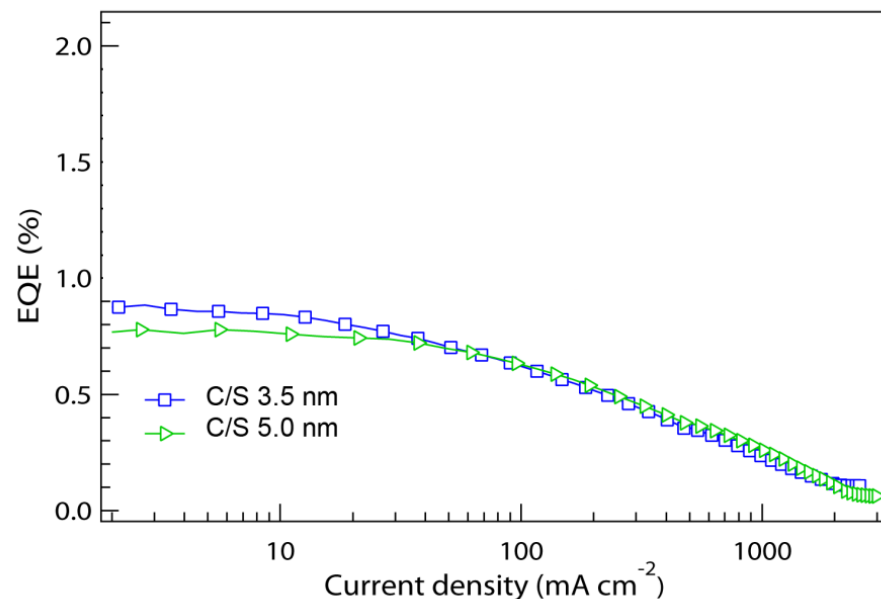
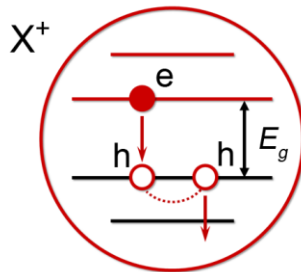
Device structure



a Auger recombination
in the presence of extra electron

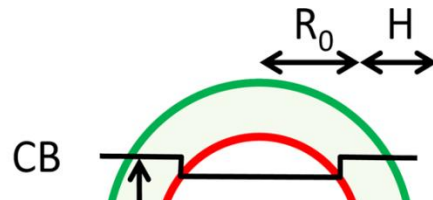
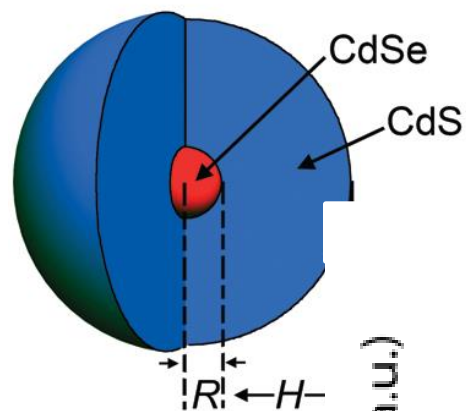


b Auger recombination
in the presence of extra hole



Bae, et.al, Nat. Comm. 2013

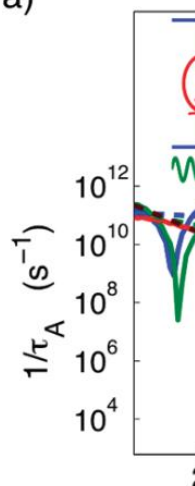
Ways to reduce Auger efficiency



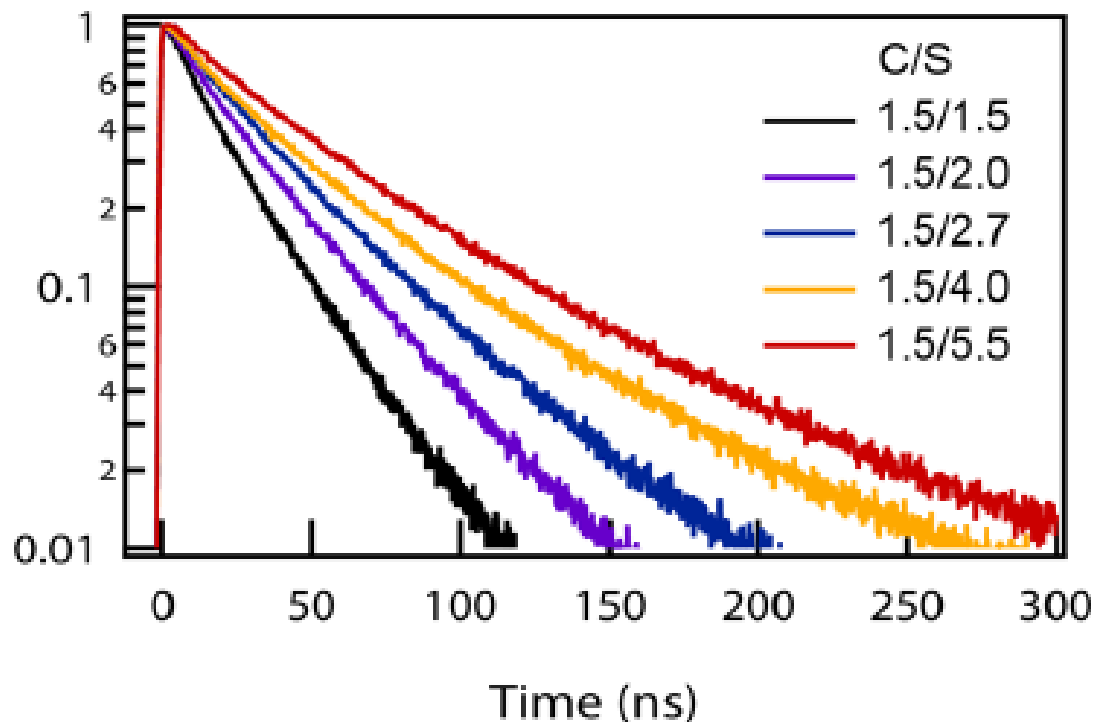
Core:
CdSe

Shell: CdS

a)



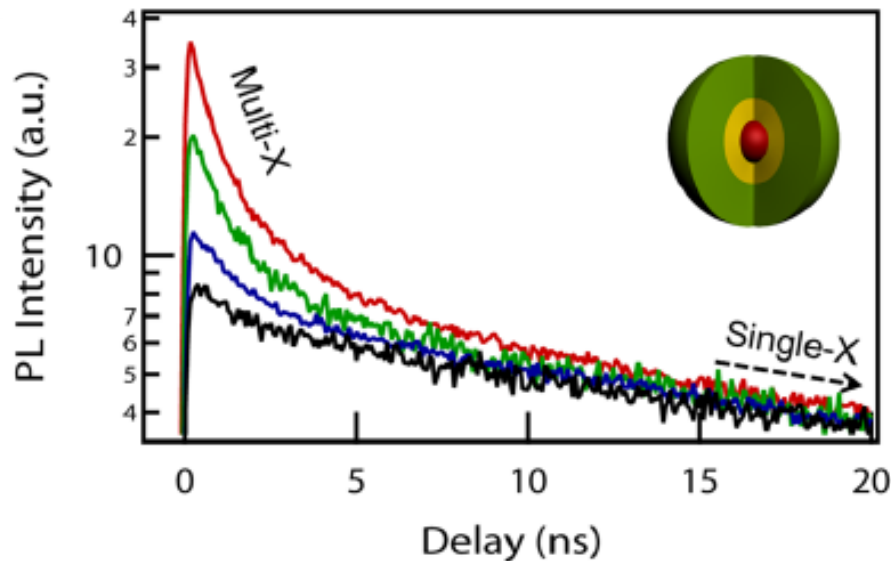
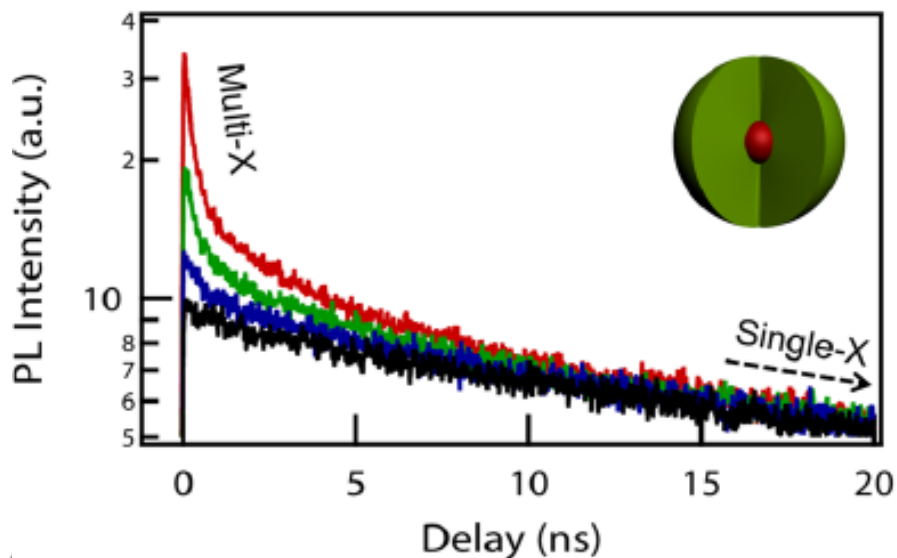
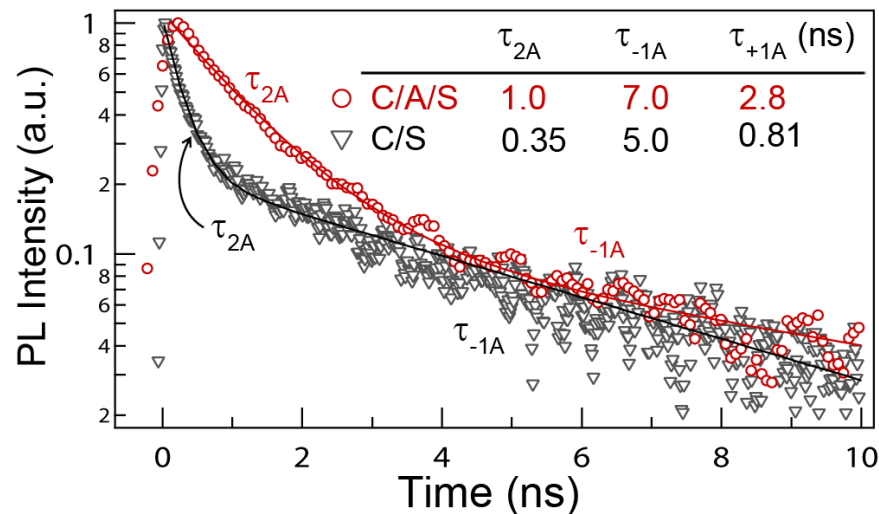
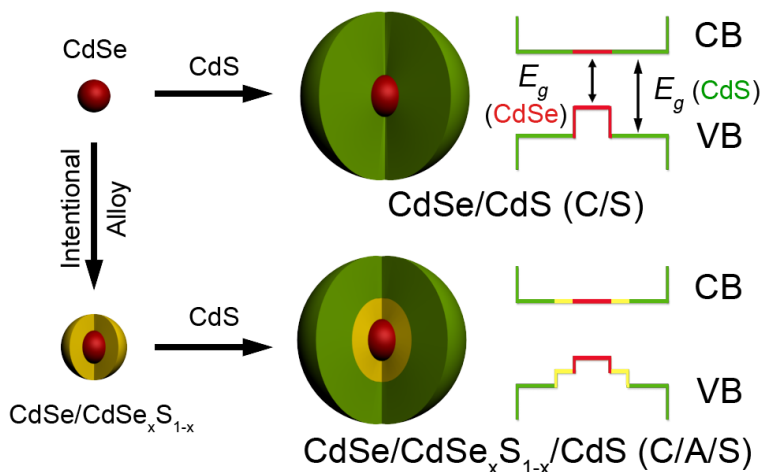
PL Intensity (a.u.)



Concentration width, Δn , (nm)

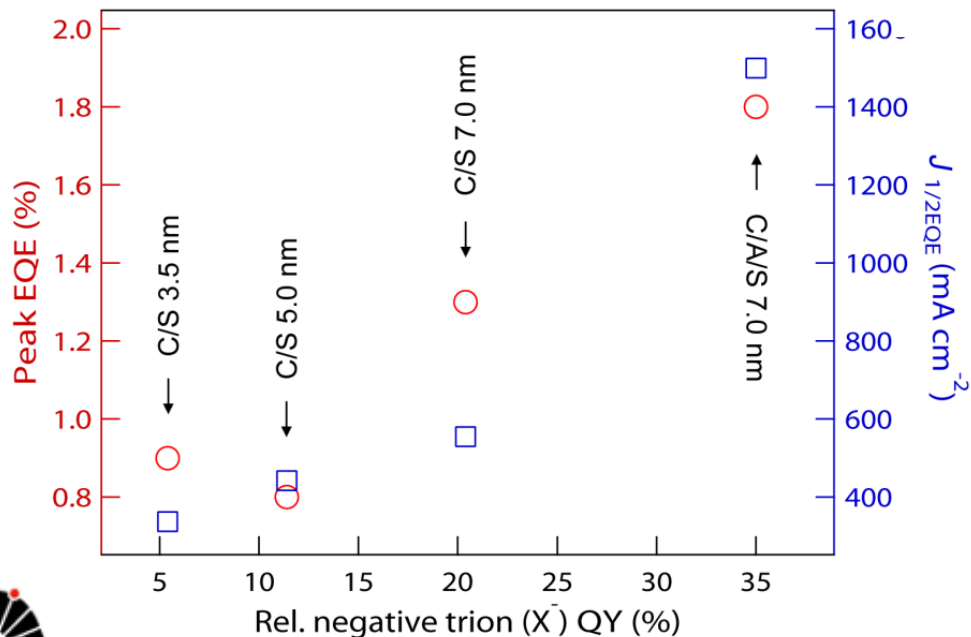
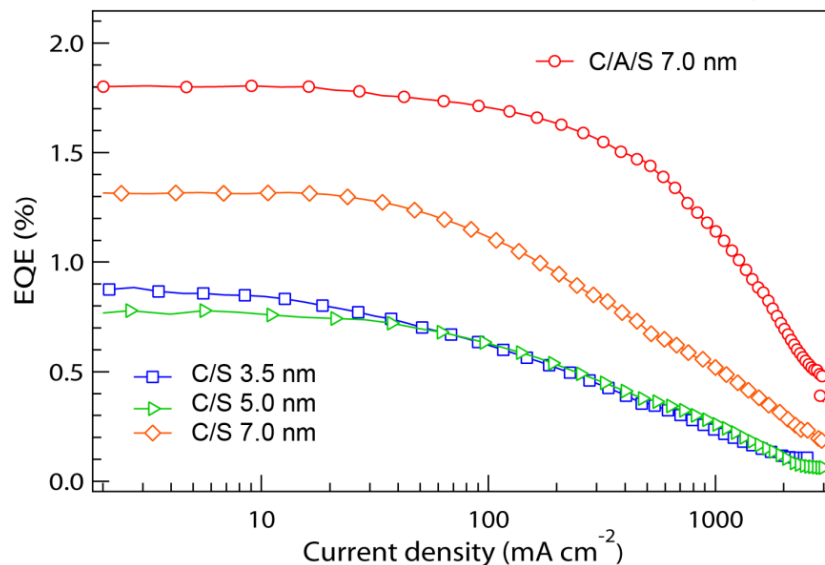
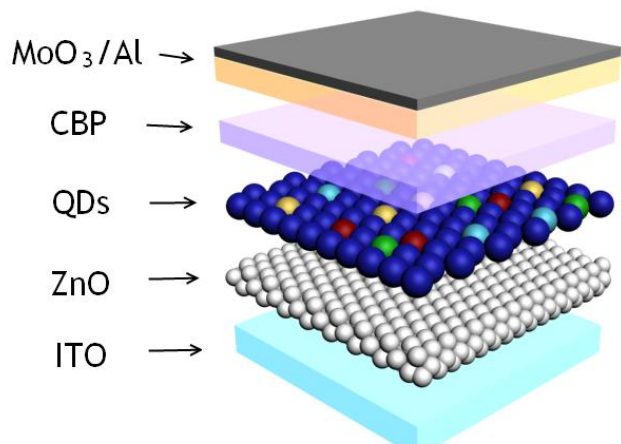
George E. Cragg *et al.*, *Nano Lett.* **2010**, *10*, 313.

Smoother Interface, Slower Auger



QD based LED

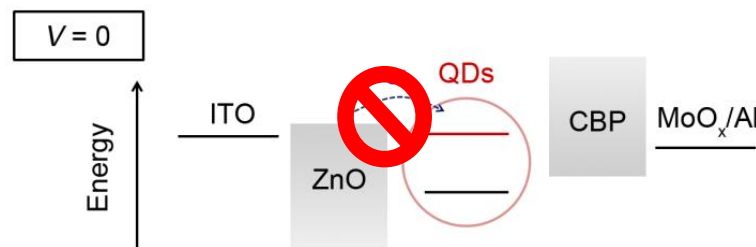
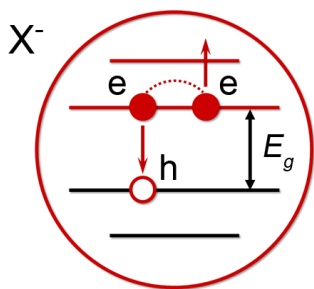
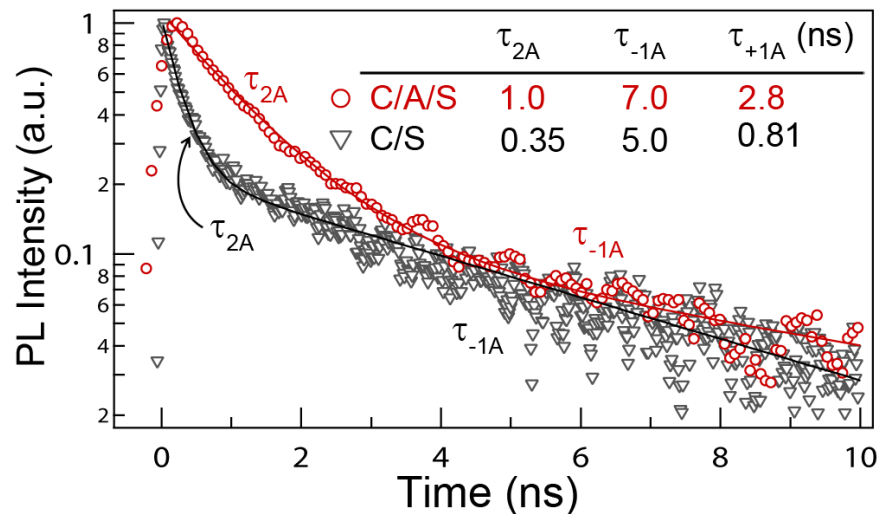
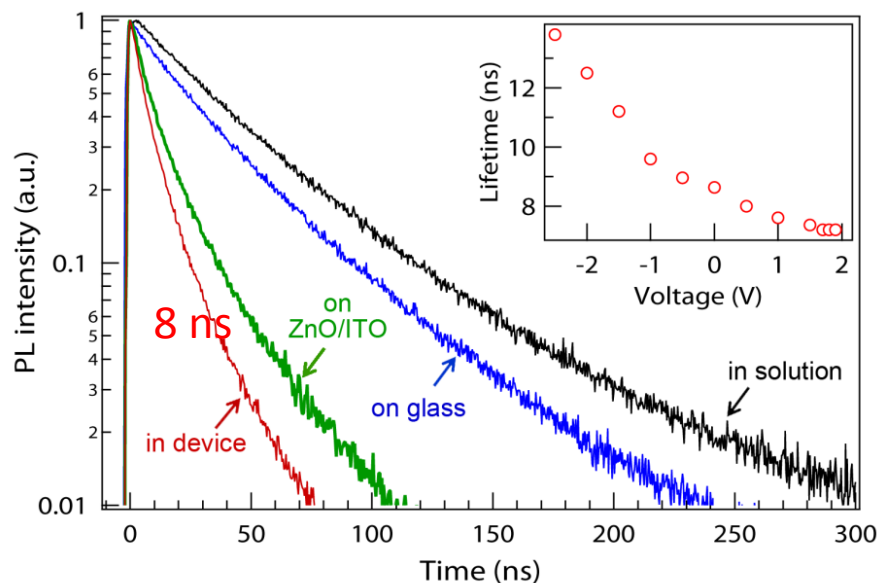
Device structure



Slower Auger results in higher peak EQE and roll-off current

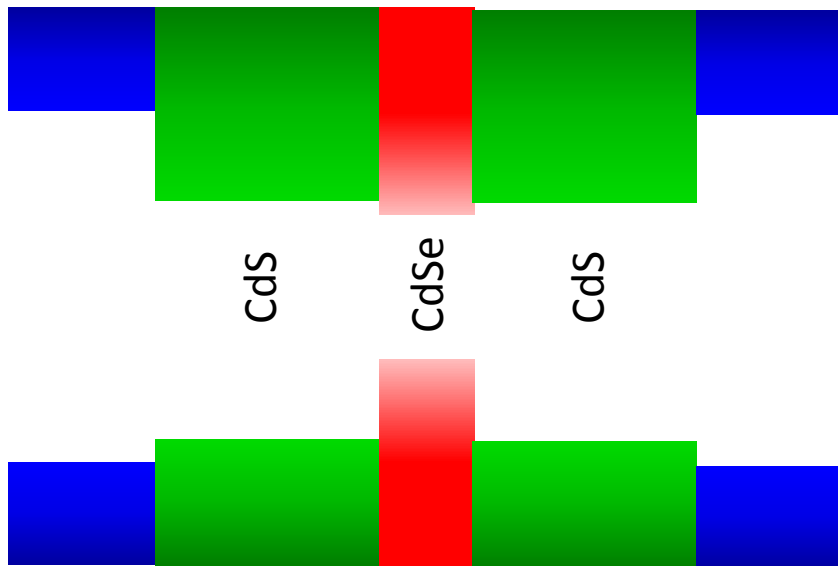
Bae et. al. Nature Comm 2013

QD based LED



QD based LED

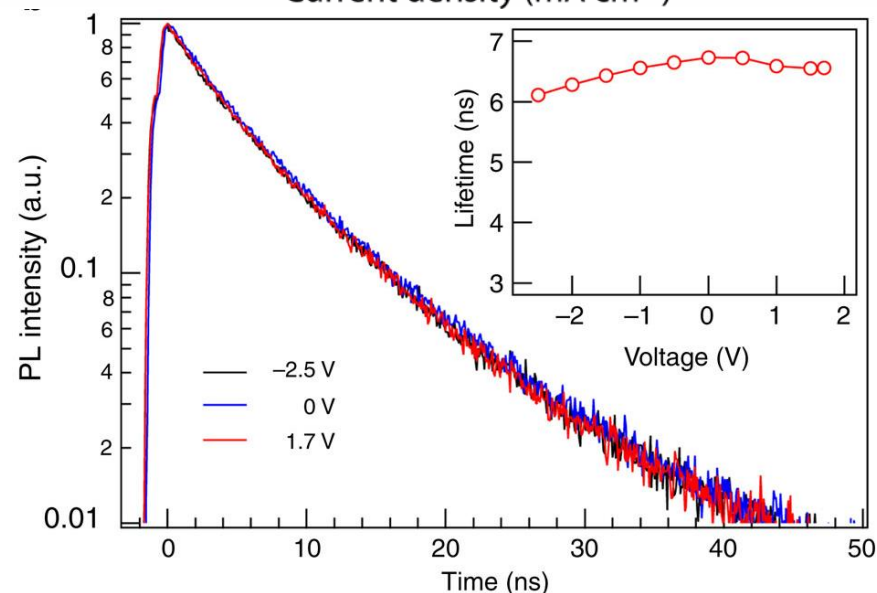
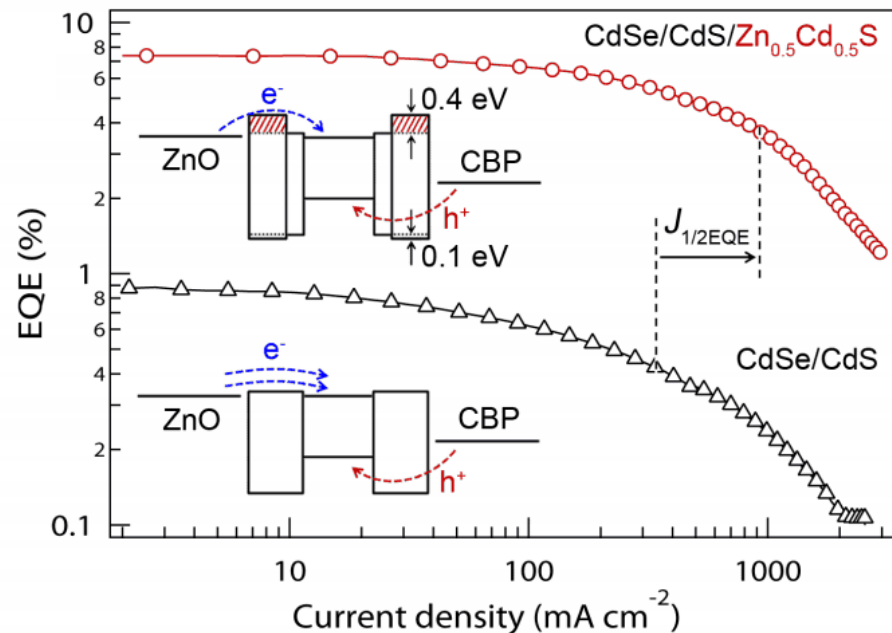
Using an extra CdZnS shell



Maximum EQE increases by one order of magnitude

Roll-off current increases

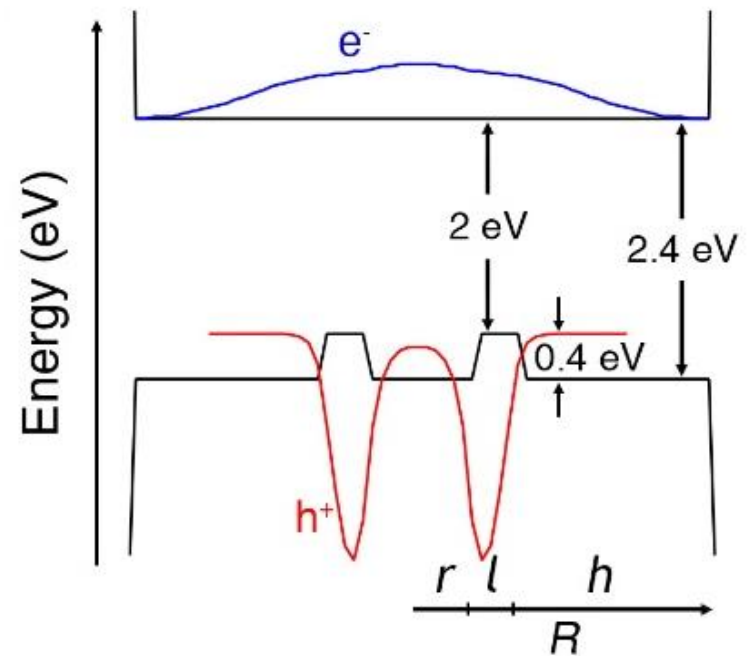
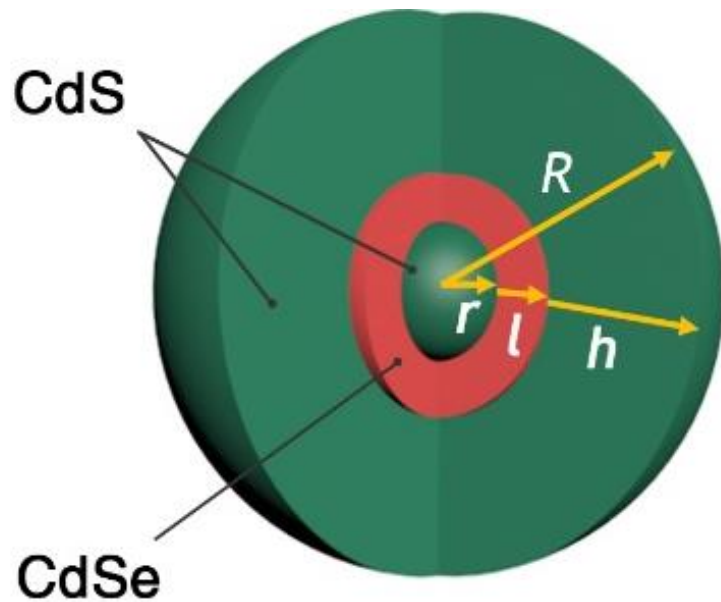
PL is nearly independent on the bias



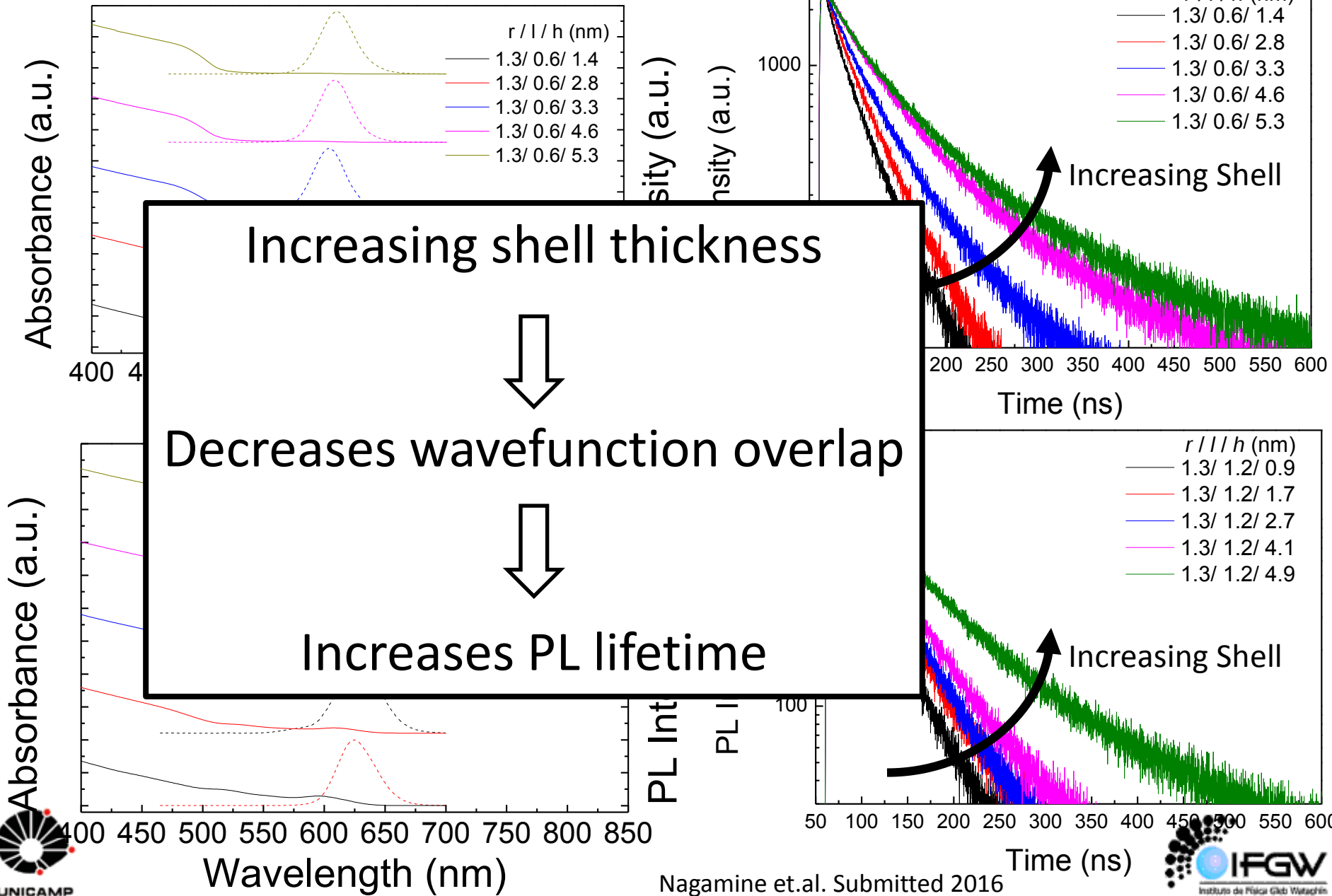
Bae et. al. Nature Comm 2013

Controlling the Interaction at the Band-Edge

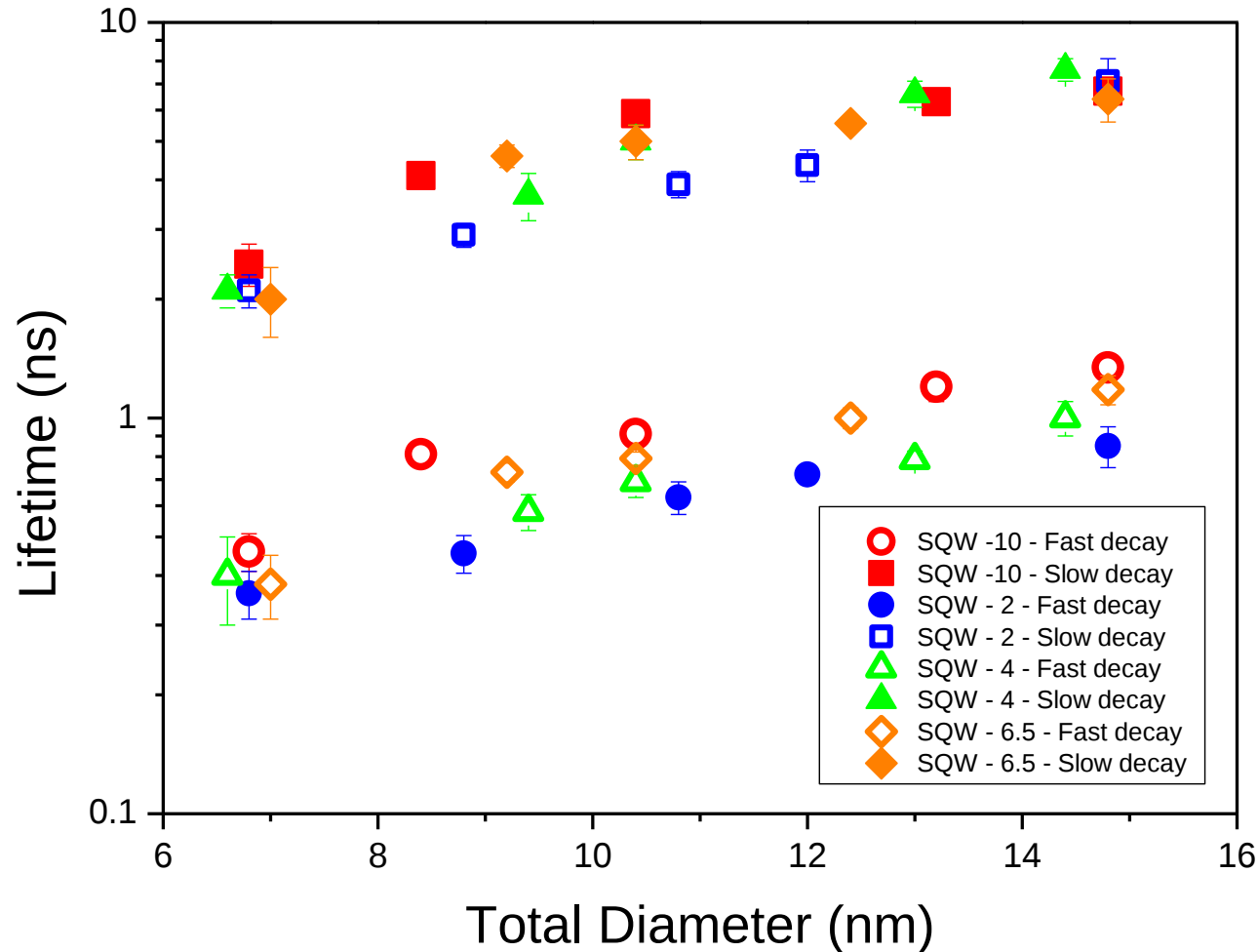
CdS/CdSe/CdS heterostructure (seed/SQW/shell)



Initial Characterization



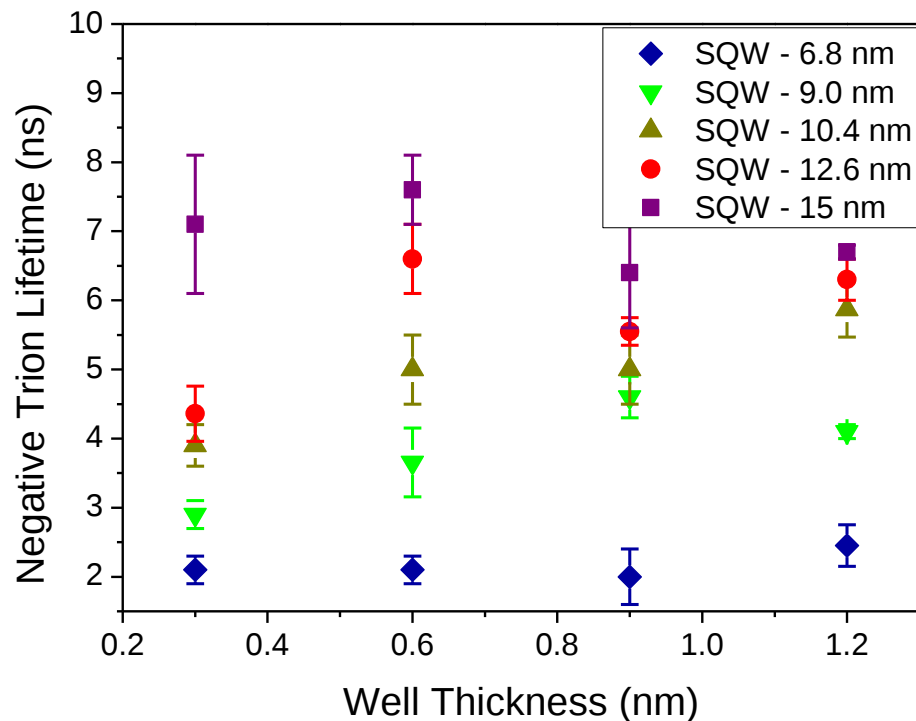
Comparing Different Well and Shell Sizes



Fast decay → **positive trion** is strongly dependent on the well thickness.

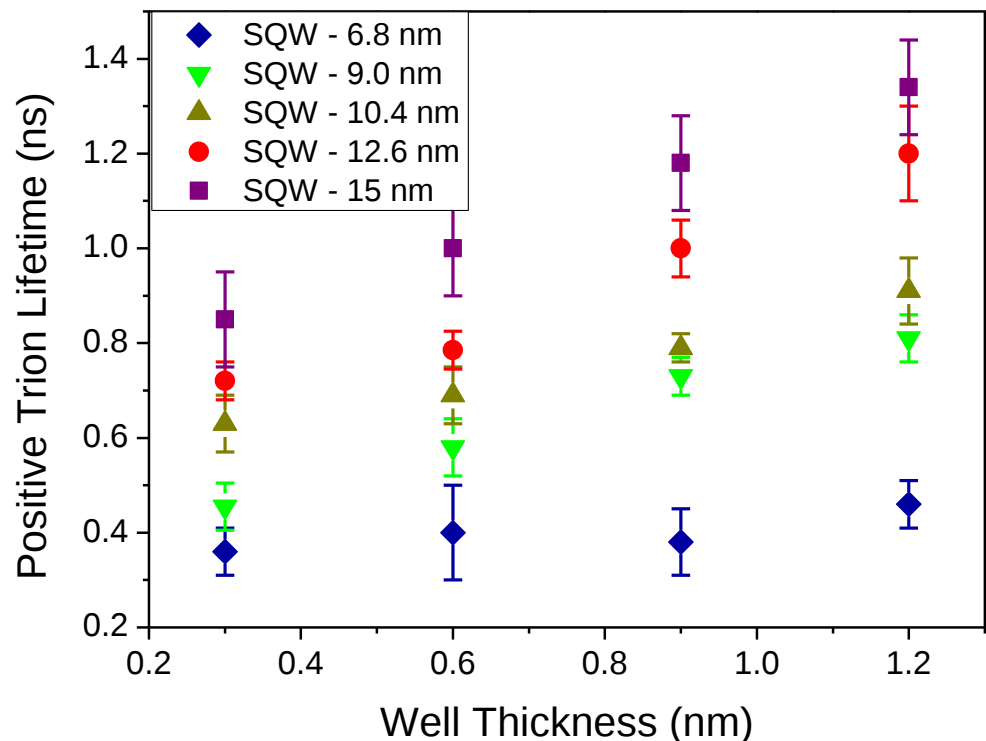
Slow decay → **negative trion**, it weakly depends on the well thickness.

Comparing Different Well and Shell Sizes

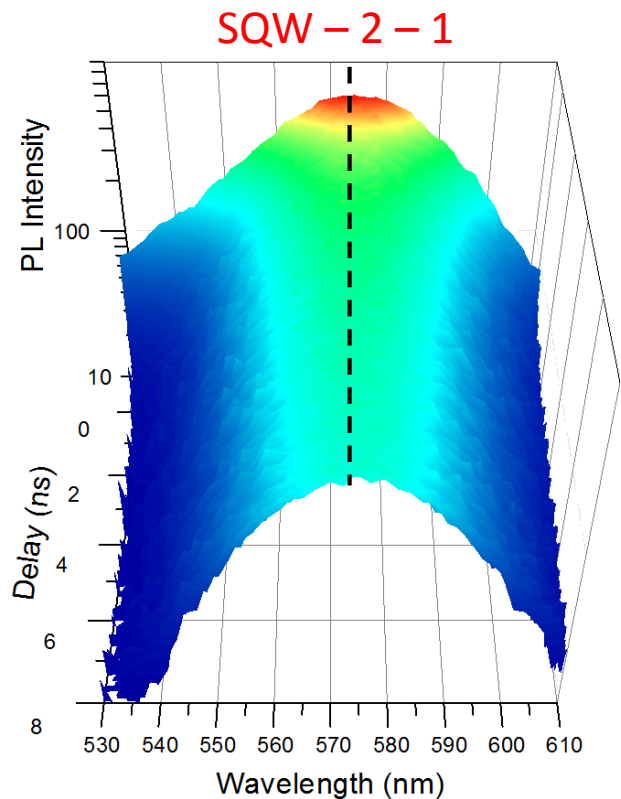


For the smaller SQW, it is possible that the positive trion is limited by the machine response

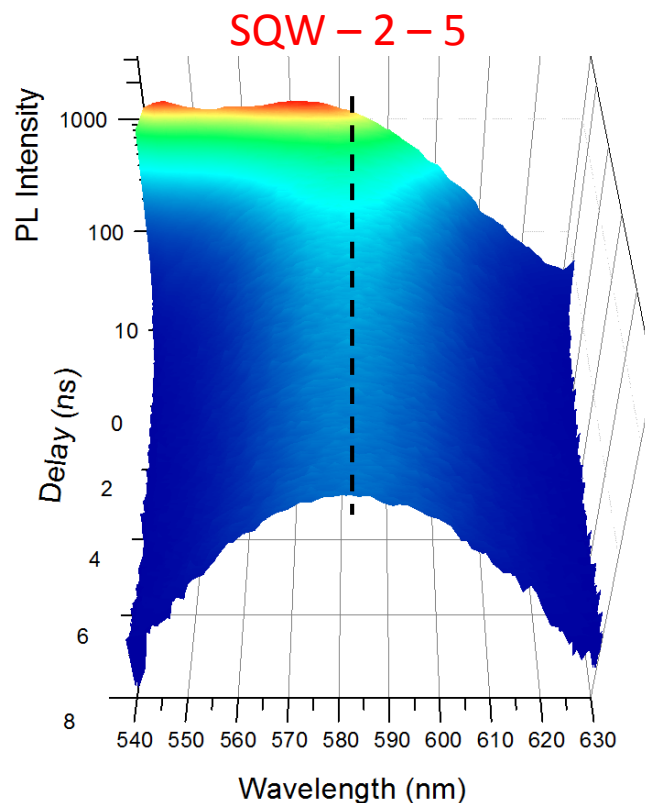
For samples with similar volume, negative trion lifetime weakly varies



Time and Spectral Resolved PL SQW 2



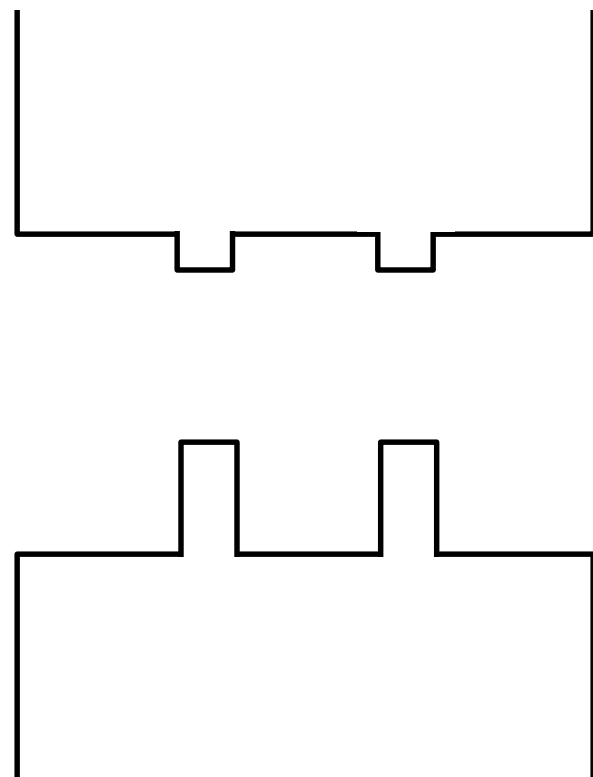
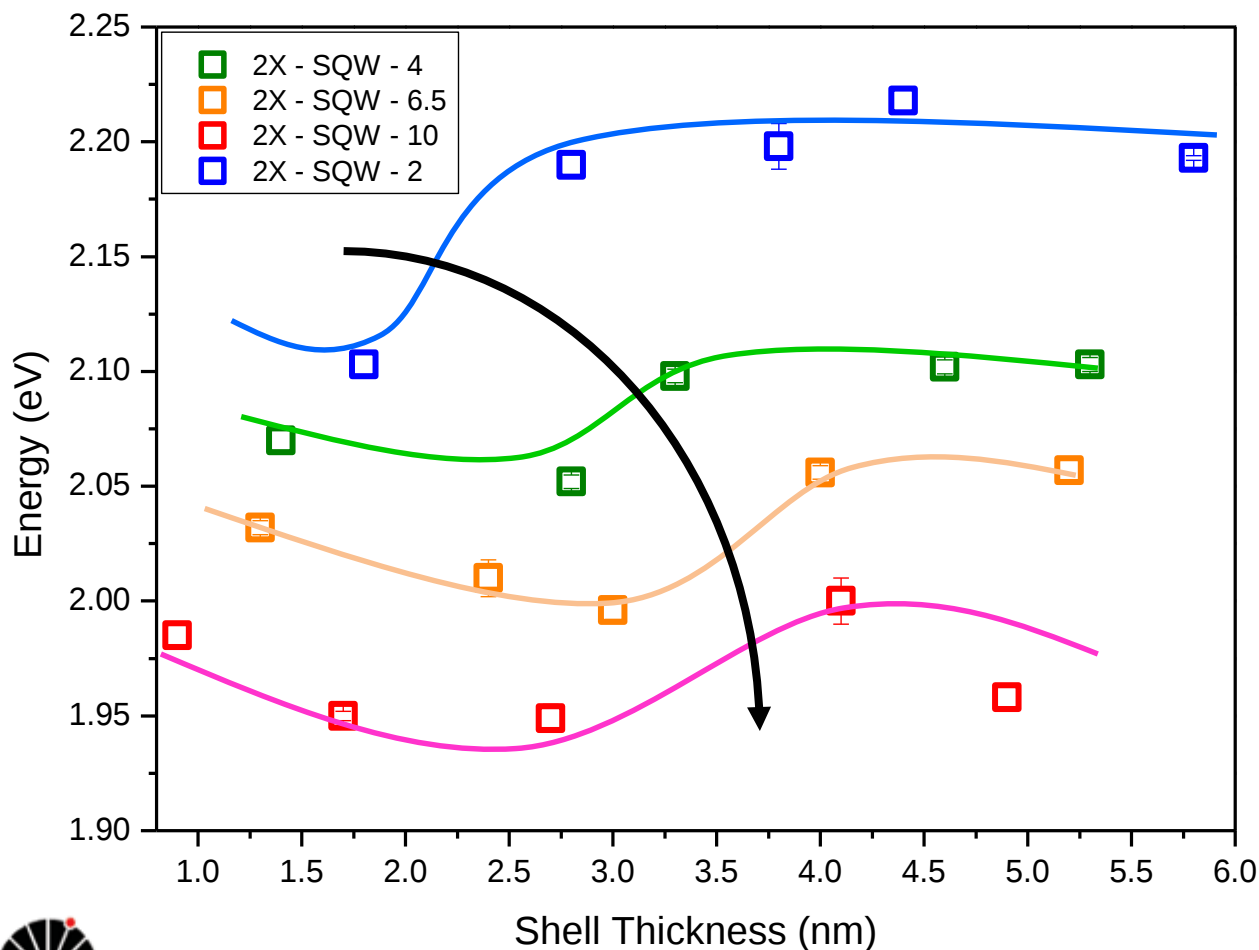
Initially, PL is shifted to low energy – red-shifted



Initially, PL is shifted to high energy – blue-shift

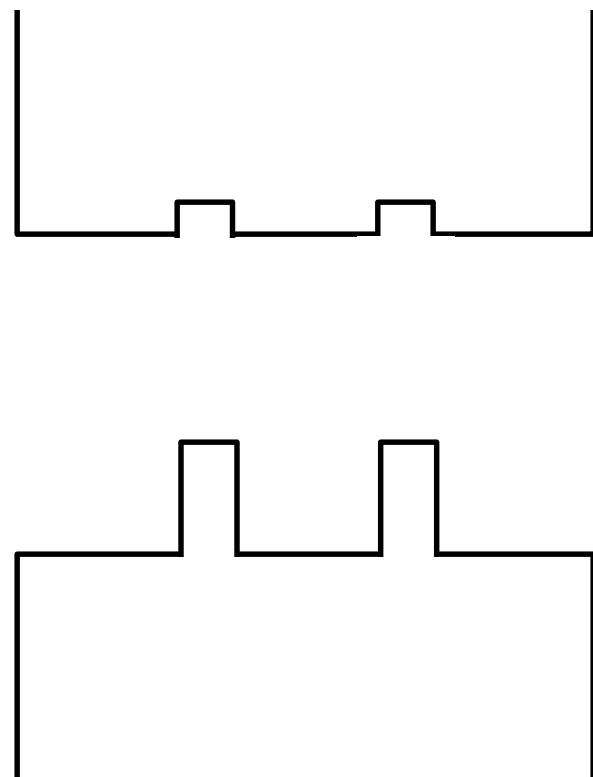
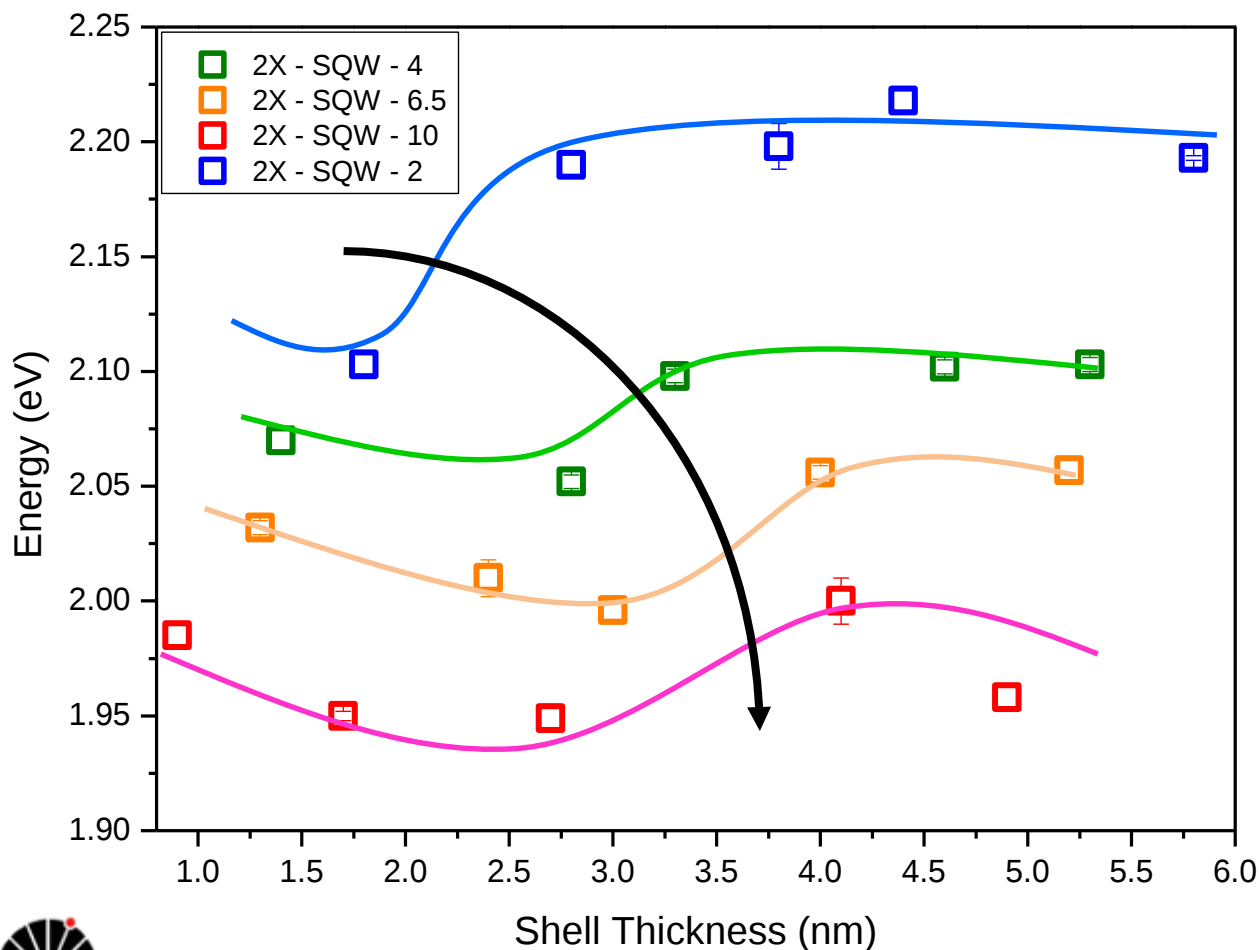
Going from Type-I to Type-II?

Looking only on the biexciton energy we can clearly see that there is a sudden increase as the shell gets thicker. Note also that for the thinner the well, the thinner the shell needs to be in order to have the energy shift.

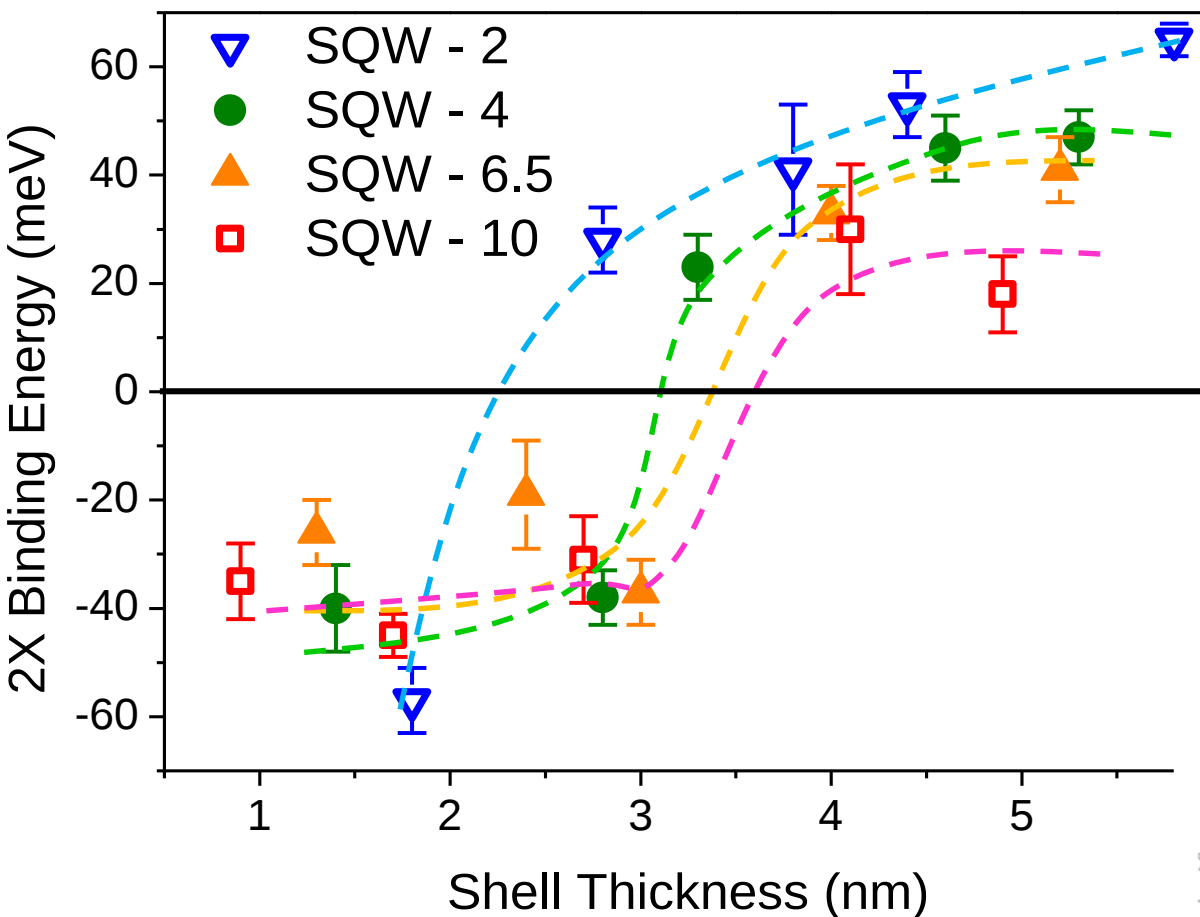


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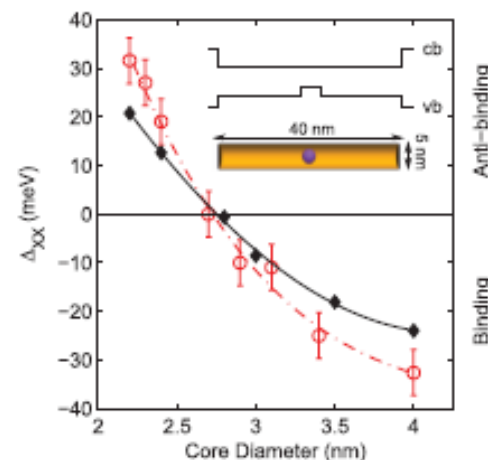
Going from Type-I to Type-II?



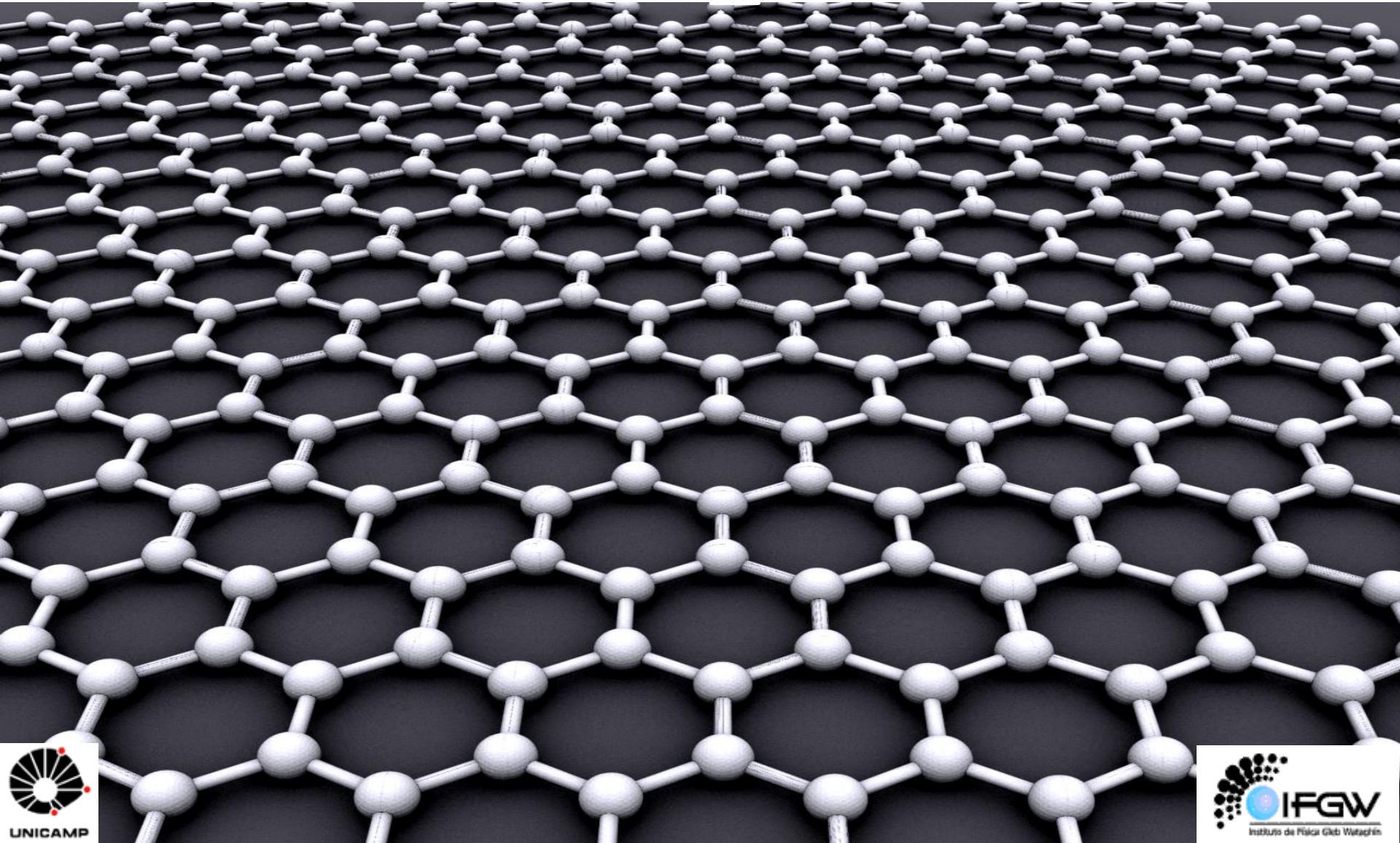
Sharp change from type-I to type-II

Binding energy changes from an anti-binding to a binding regime as the shell thickness increase.

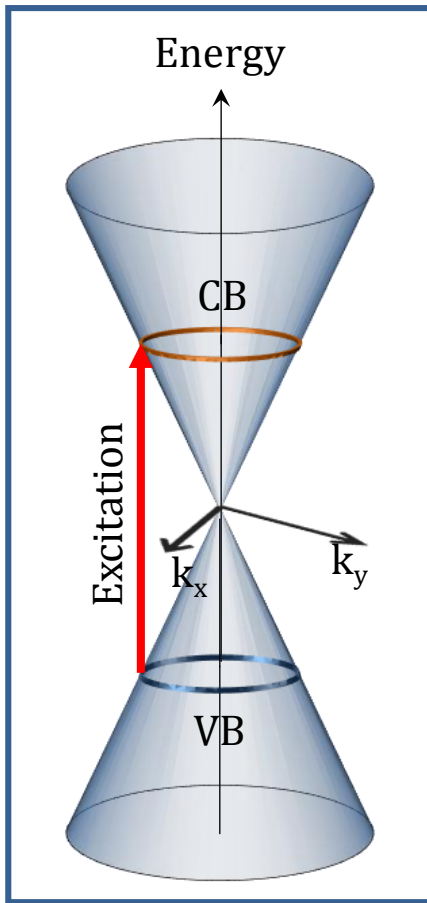
This behavior has already been observed in structures such as dot-in-rod and g-QDs, however, our data shows a **STEP-like** transition.



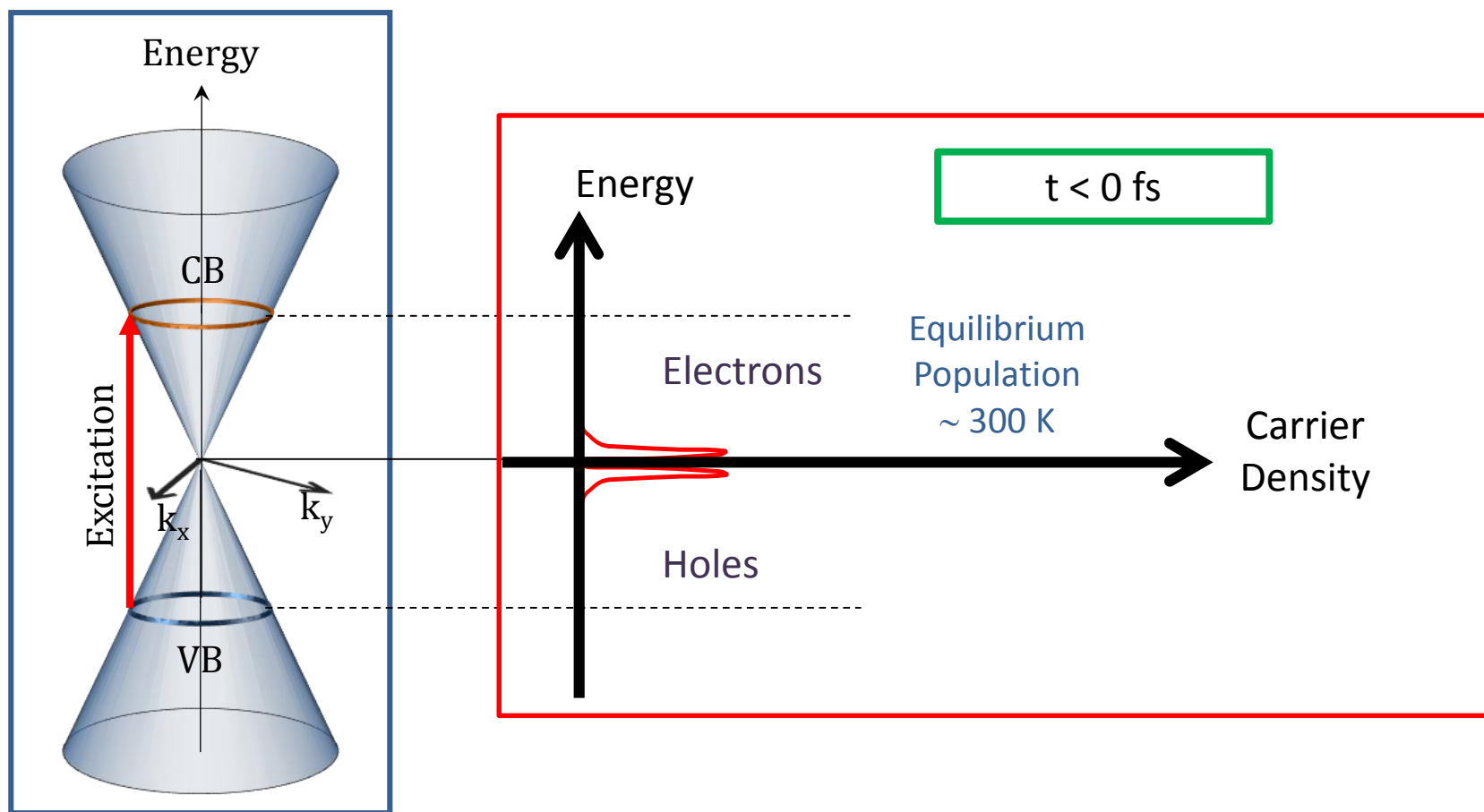
Mapping the Ultrafast Dynamics in Graphene Monolayer



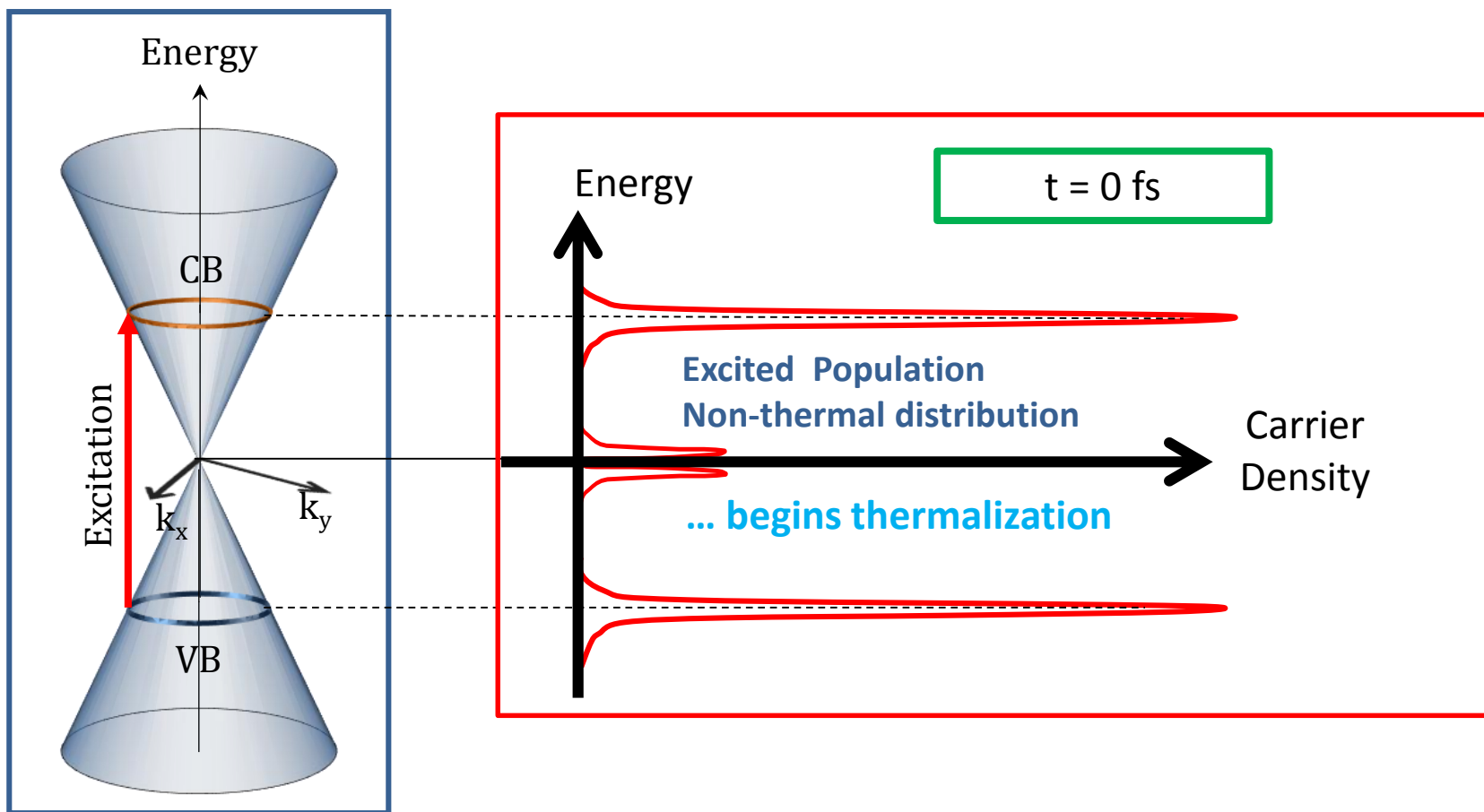
Mapping the Ultrafast Dynamics in Graphene Monolayer



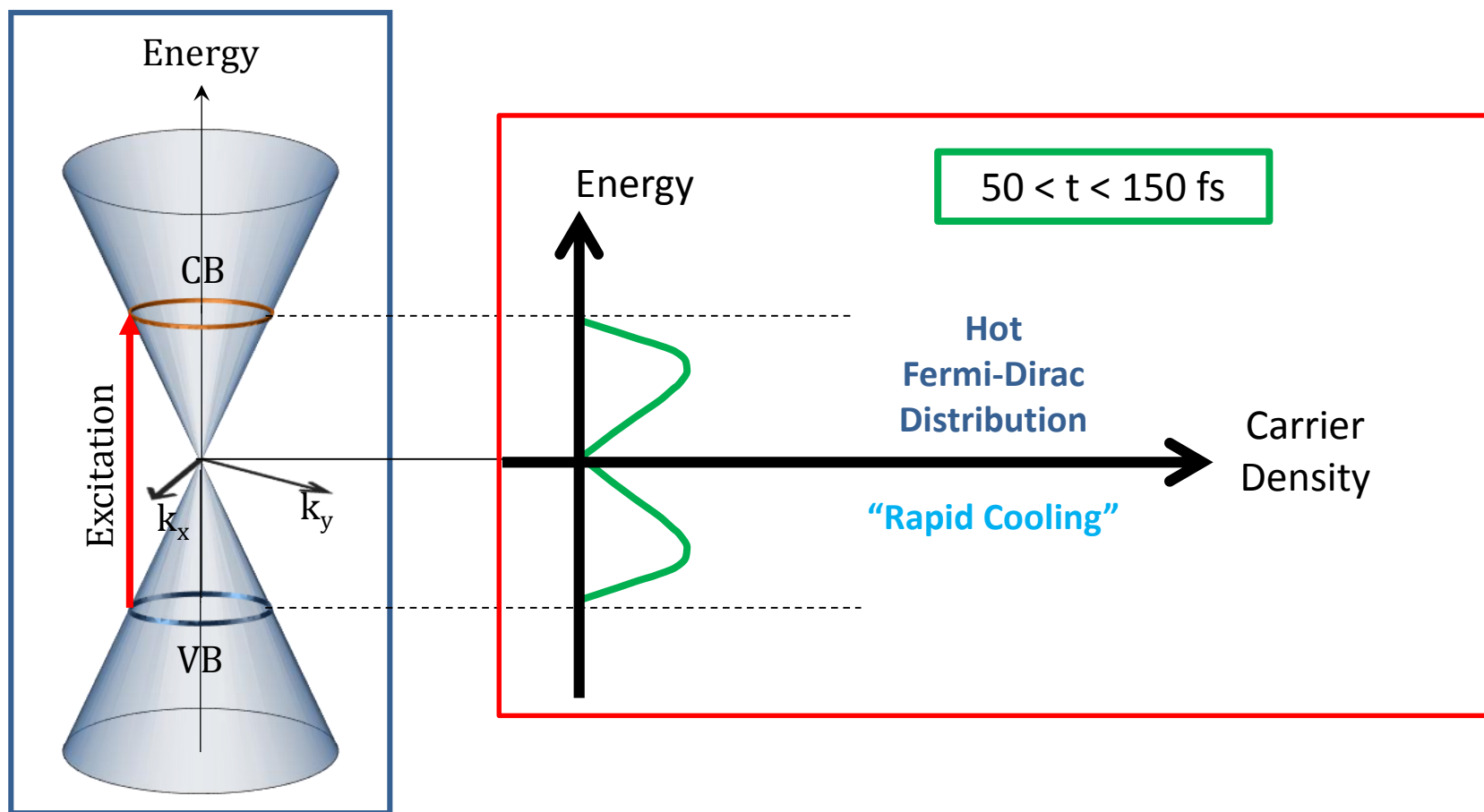
Mapping the Ultrafast Dynamics in Graphene Monolayer



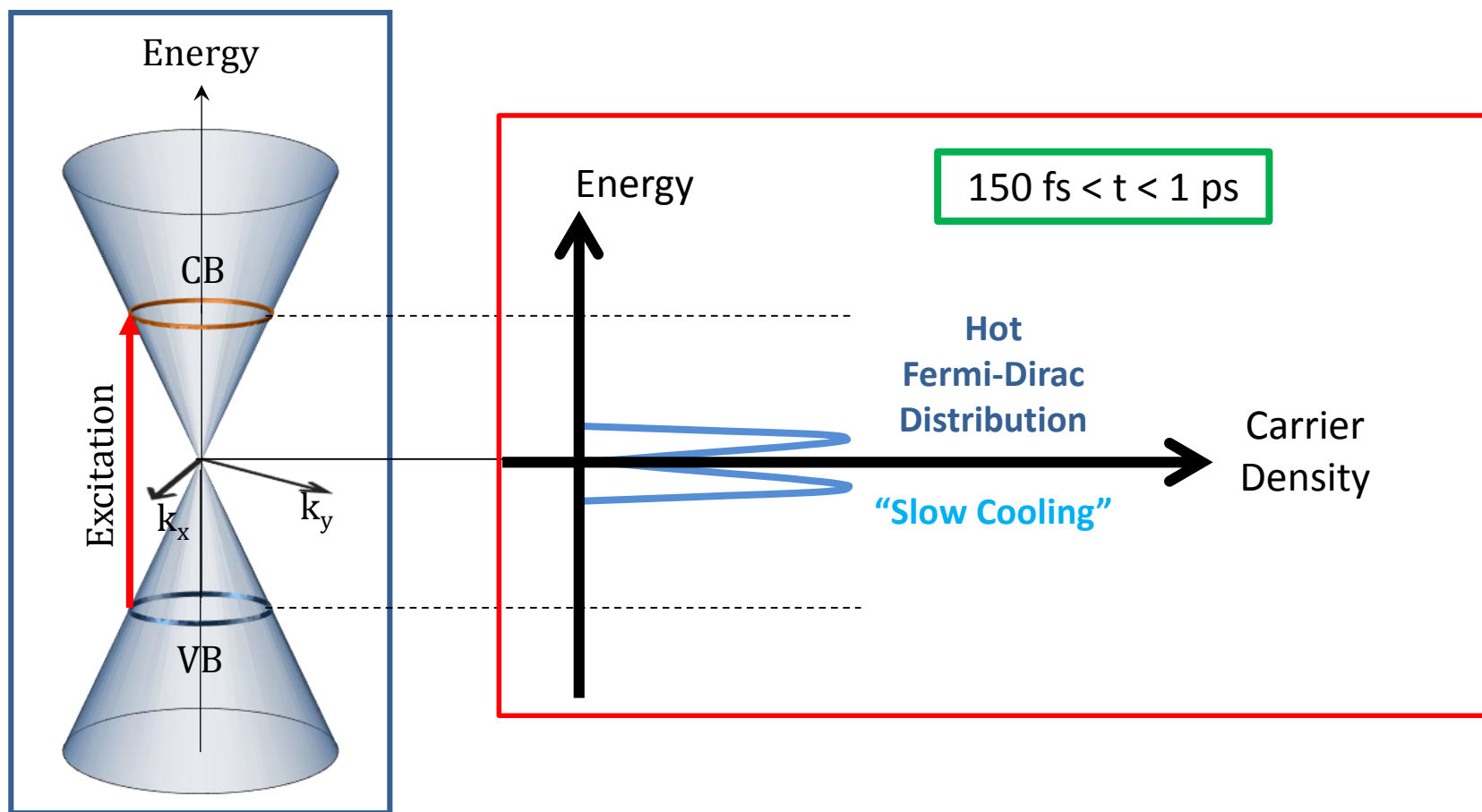
Mapping the Ultrafast Dynamics in Graphene Monolayer



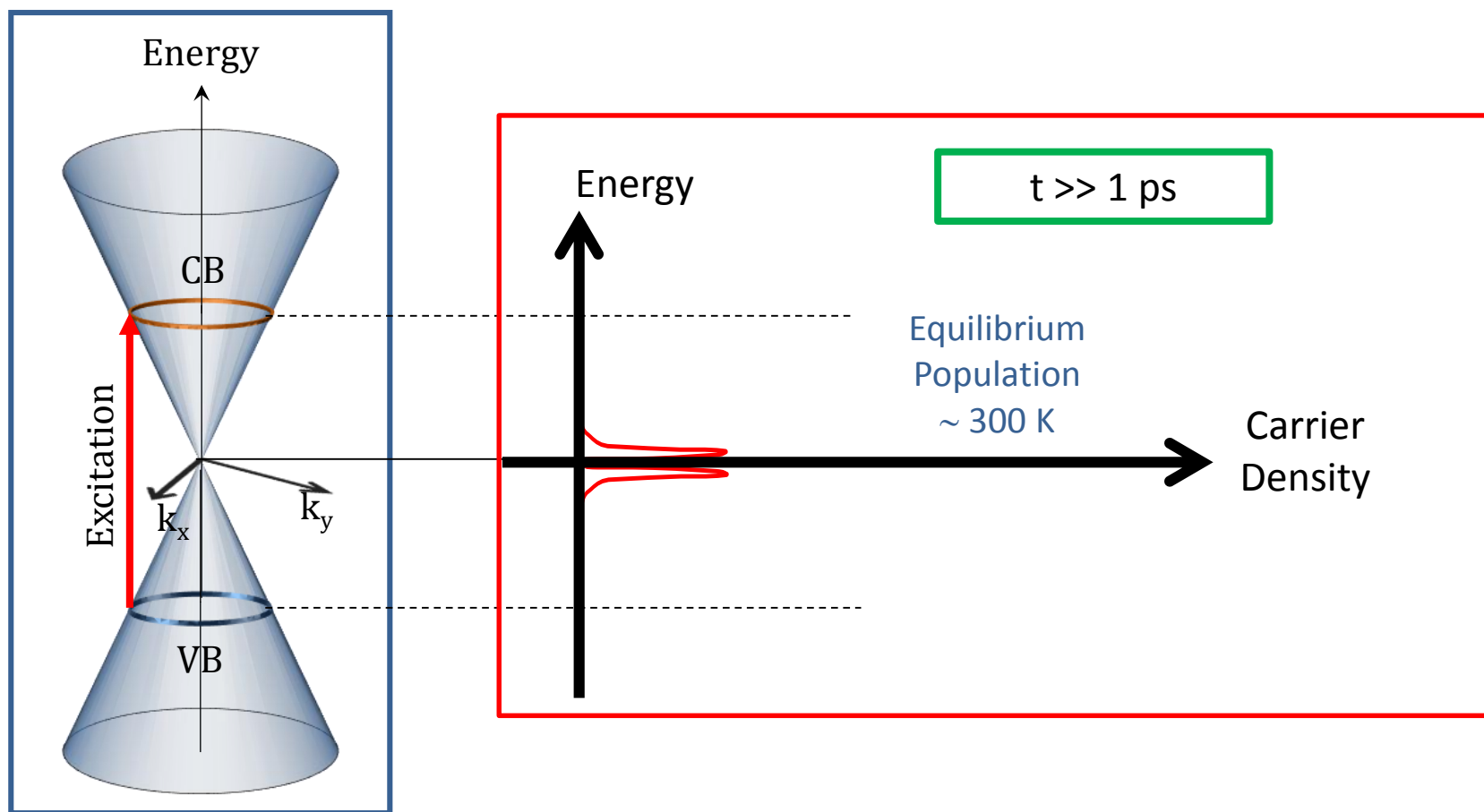
Mapping the Ultrafast Dynamics in Graphene Monolayer



Mapping the Ultrafast Dynamics in Graphene Monolayer

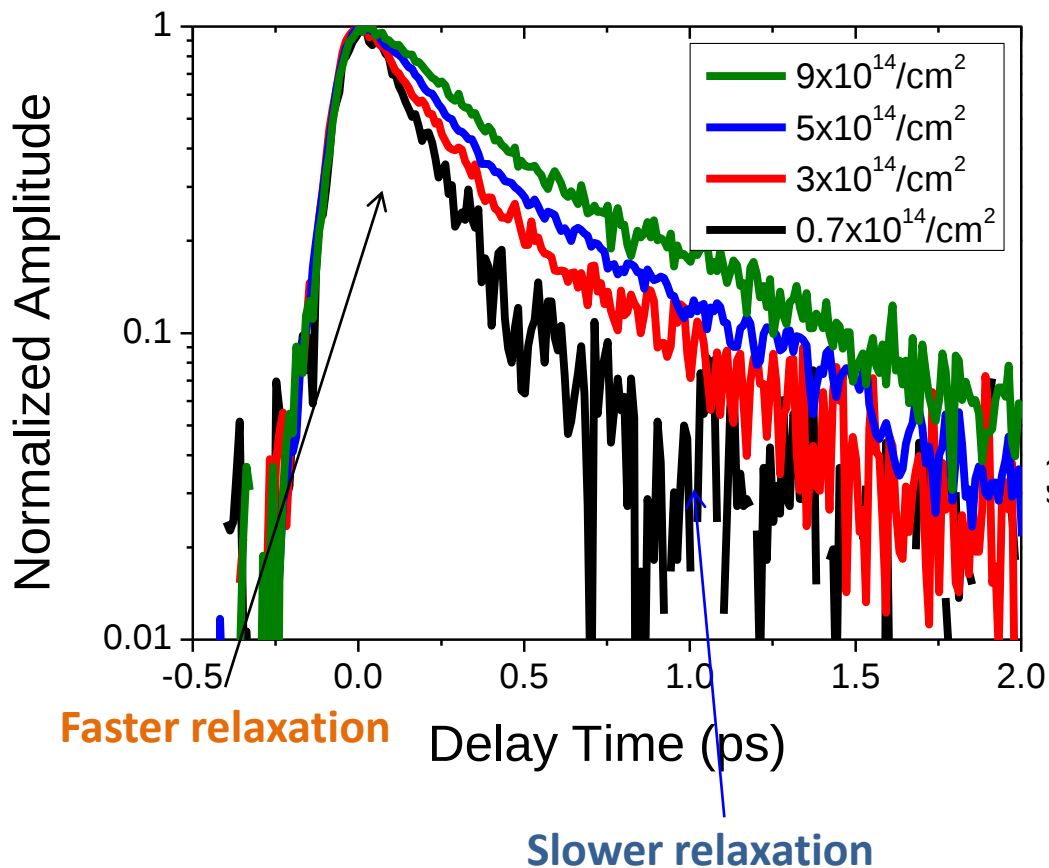


Mapping the Ultrafast Dynamics in Graphene Monolayer

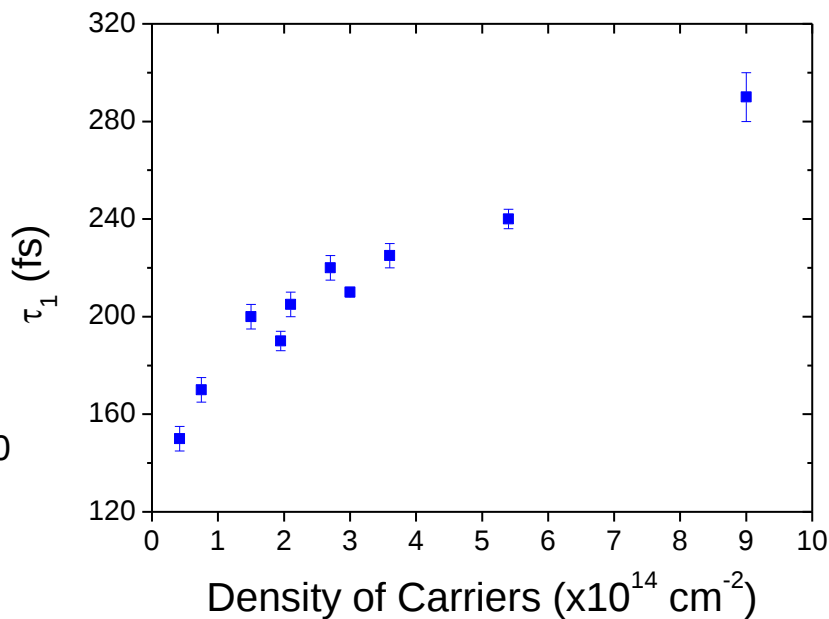


Mapping the Ultrafast Dynamics in Graphene Monolayer – Pump Dependence

At 1.55 eV

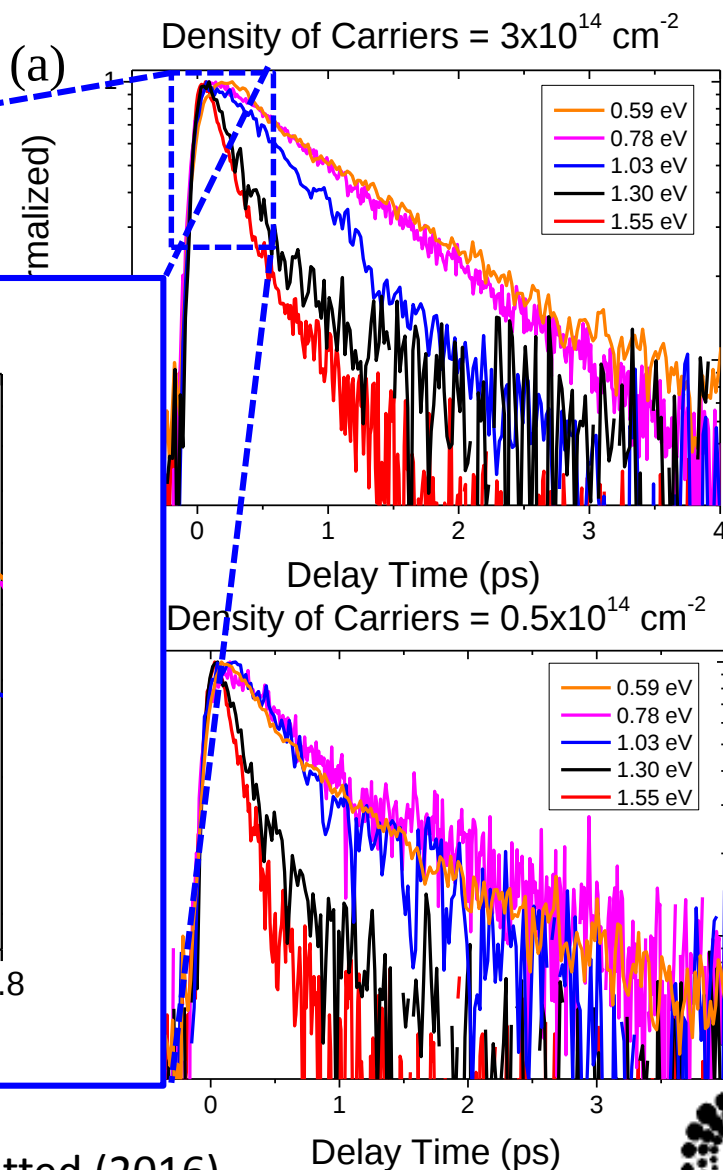
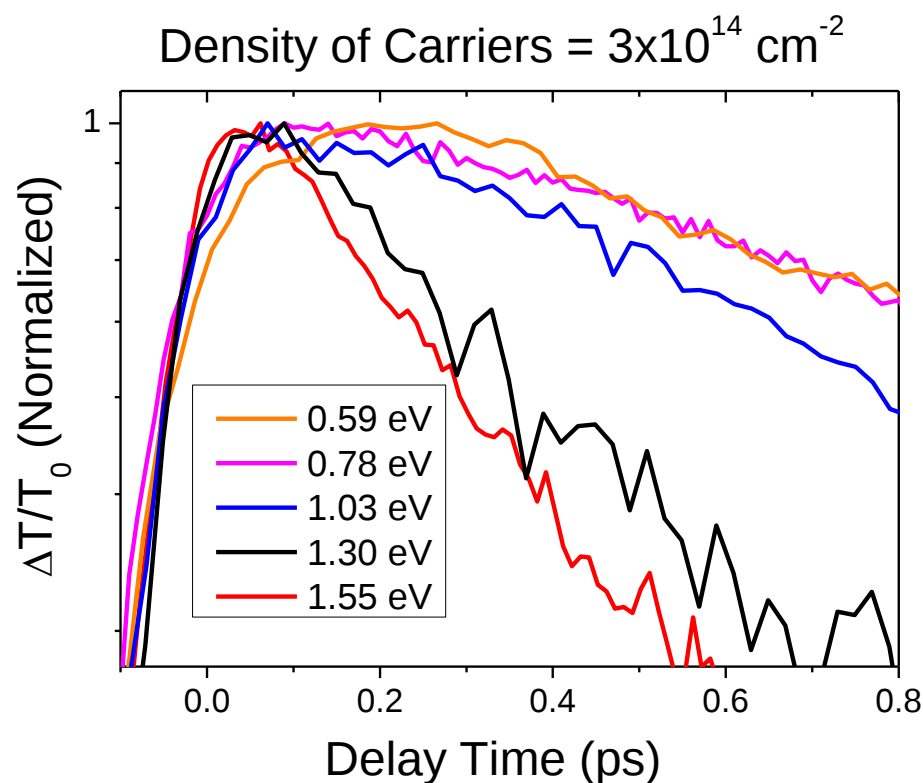


Slow decay is constant ~ 1 ps



Mapping the Ultrafast Dynamics in Graphene Monolayer – Probe Dependence

Ultrafast carrier dynamics were studied at several electron energy levels. **Optical pump at 1.55 eV.**



Mapping the Ultrafast Dynamics in Graphene Monolayer – Summary

At high energy probe - two decay processes

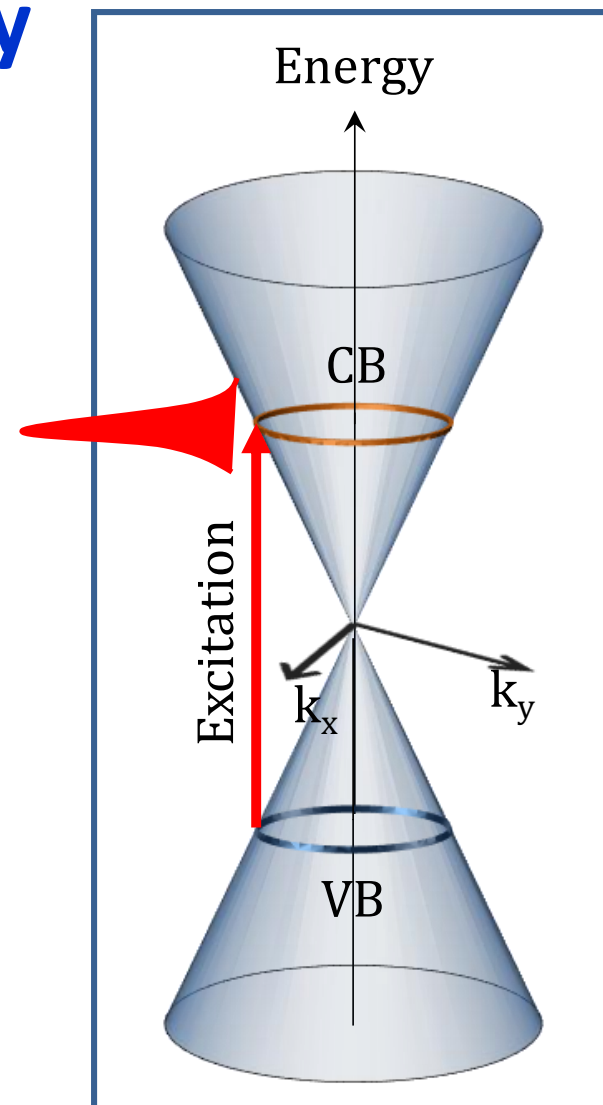
Fast decay – cooling of hot Fermi-Dirac distribution (optical phonons)

Slow decay – carrier-optical phonon decay (acoustic phonon)

At low energy probe – only slow decay

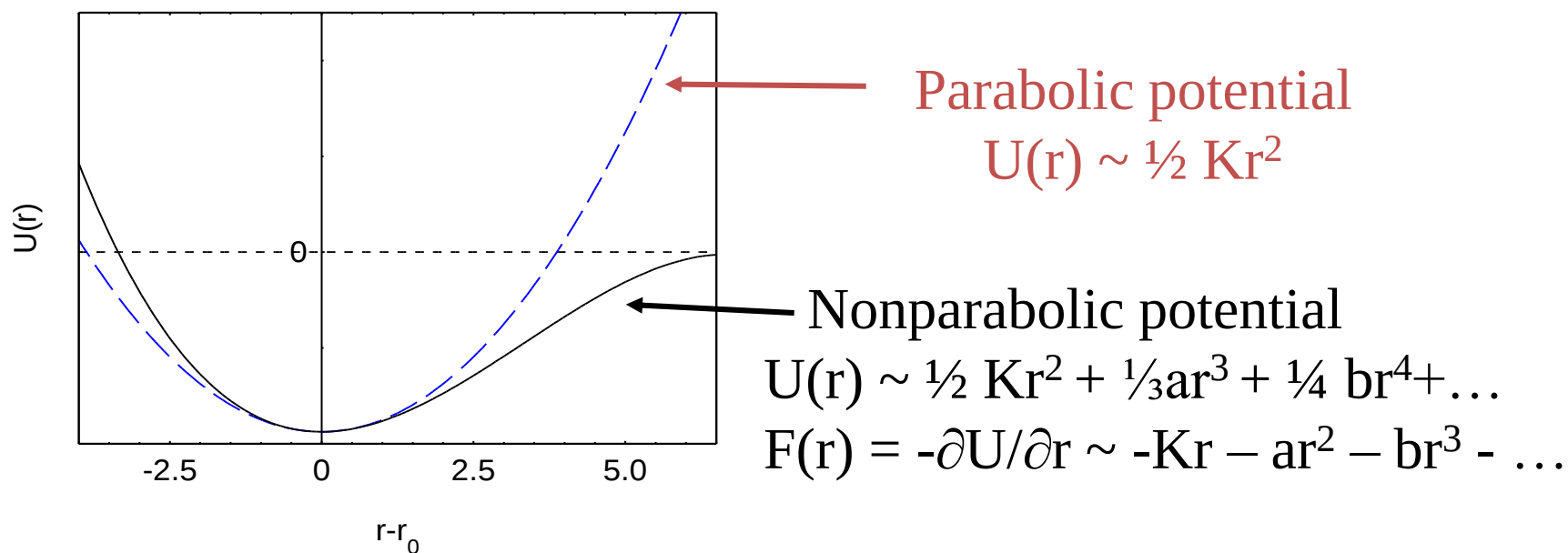
Slow growth of the TA signal at low probe energy – populates after fast decay

State saturation goes from $2.06 \times 10^{14} \text{ cm}^{-2}$ at 1.55 eV down to $0.54 \times 10^{14} \text{ cm}^{-2}$ at 0.59 eV



Going from Ultrafast to Nonlinear Spectroscopy

In real materials, electrons don't sit in parabolic potentials!

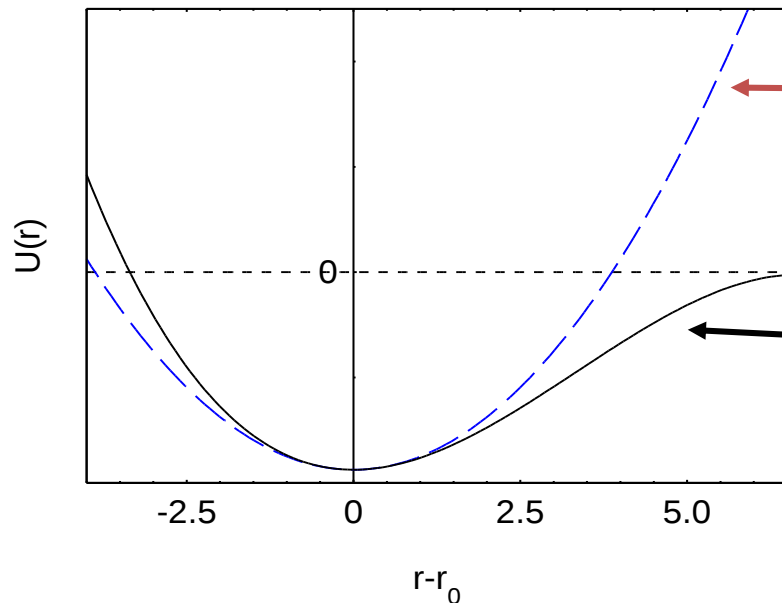


Leads to *nonlinear* dependence of P on E:

$$P(E) = \epsilon_0 \left(\chi^{(1)} E + \chi^{(2)} E^2 + \chi^{(3)} E^3 + \dots \right)$$

Going from Ultrafast to Nonlinear Spectroscopy

In real materials, electrons don't sit in parabolic potentials!



Parabolic potential
 $U(r) \sim \frac{1}{2} Kr^2$

Nonparabolic potential
 $U(r) \sim \frac{1}{2} Kr^2 + \frac{1}{3} ar^3 + \frac{1}{4} br^4 + \dots$
 $F(r) = -\partial U / \partial r \sim -Kr - ar^2 - br^3 - \dots$

$\chi^{(3)}$ is lowest order nonlinearity
for symmetric potential

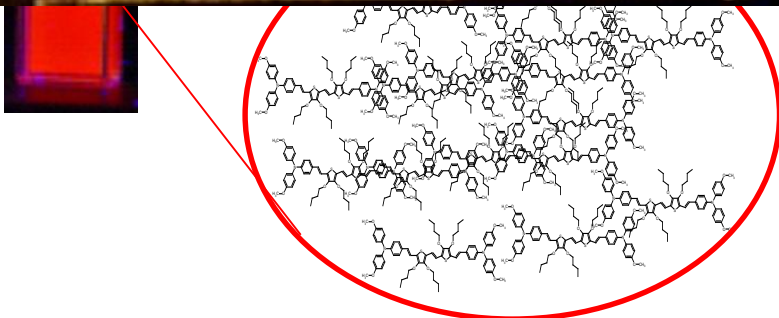
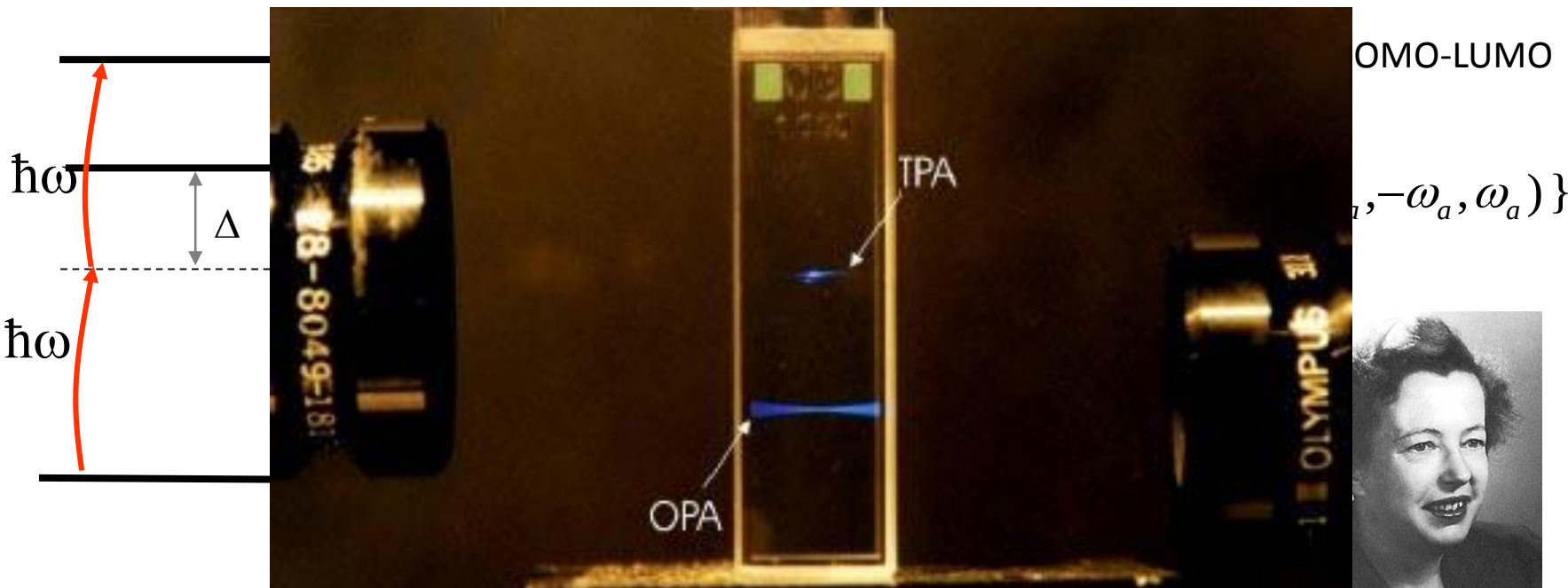
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Going from Ultrafast to Nonlinear Spectroscopy

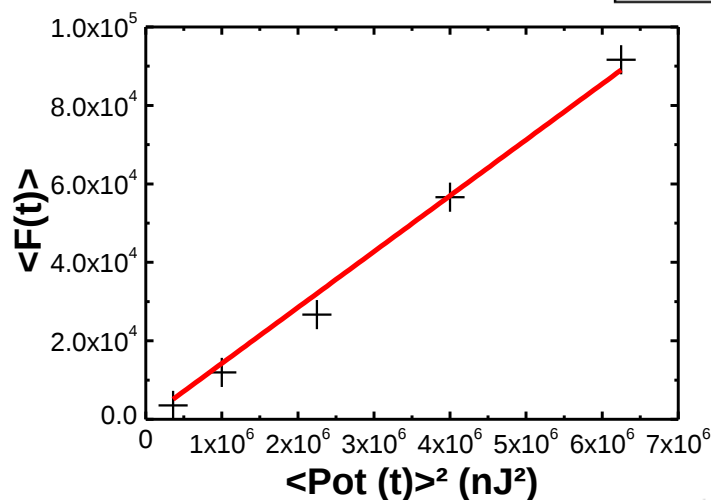
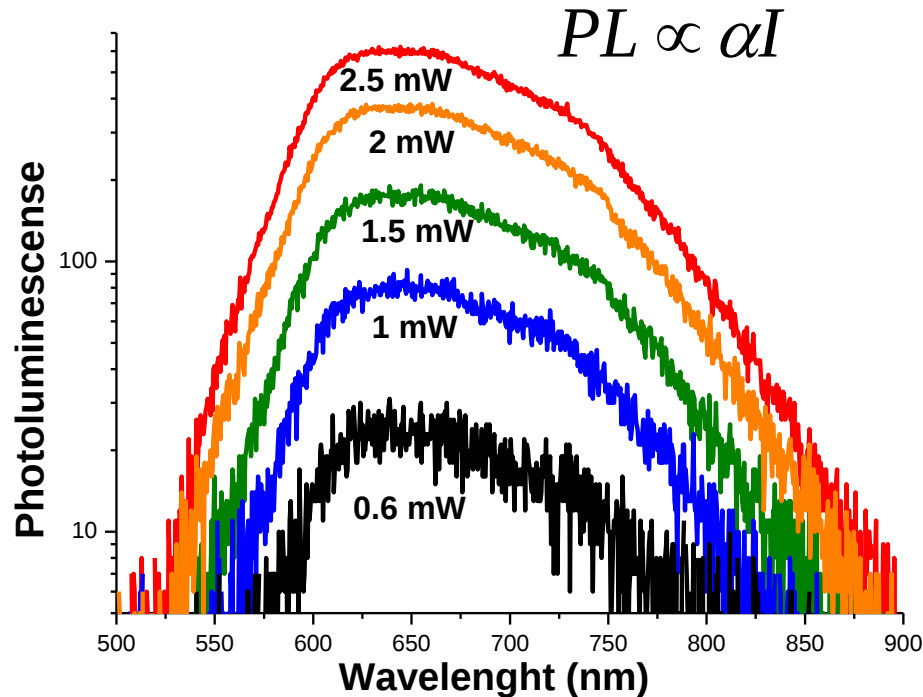
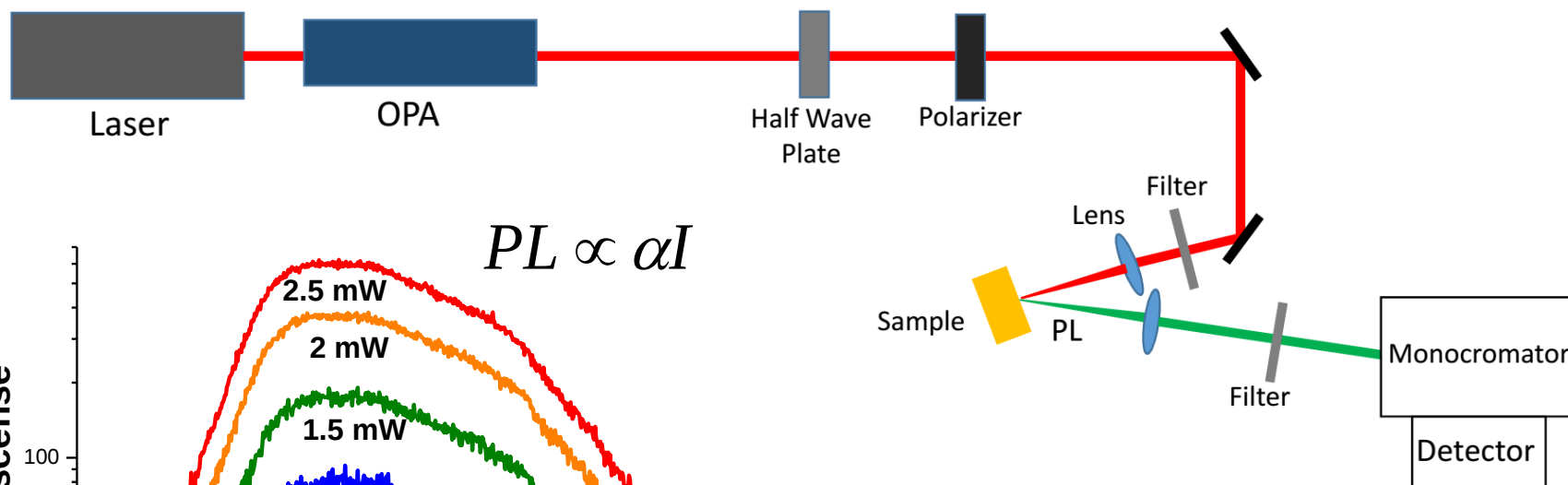
$$\alpha(I) = \alpha_0 + \alpha_2 I$$

$\chi^{(3)}$ process - instantaneous



Maria Goeppert-Mayer

Two-photon excited fluorescence



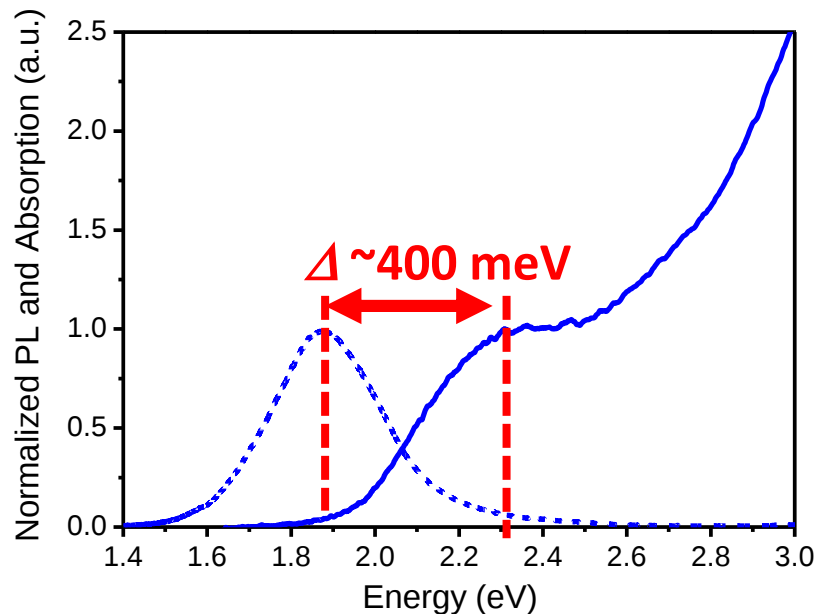
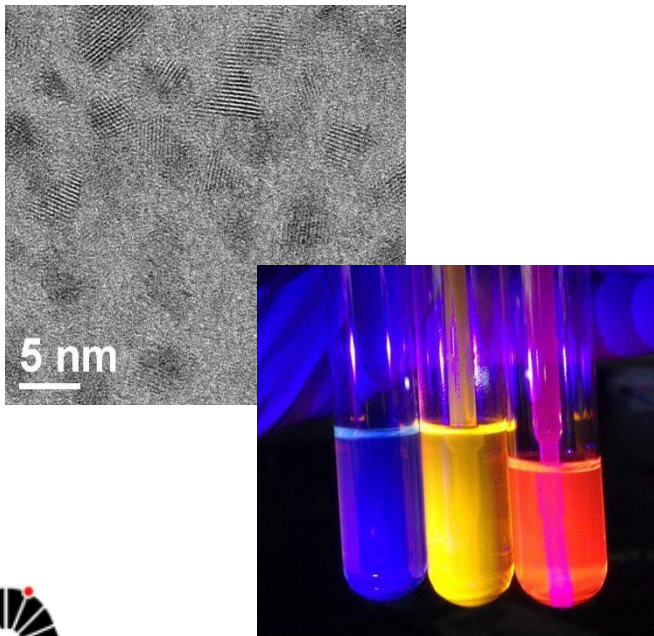
CuInS₂ QDs

Band gap going from visible to near infra-red (500 – 1200 nm)

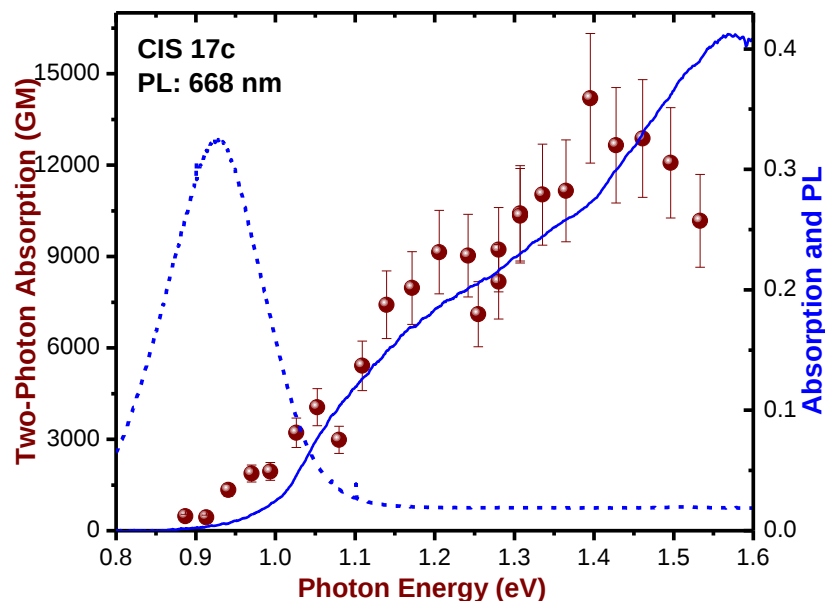
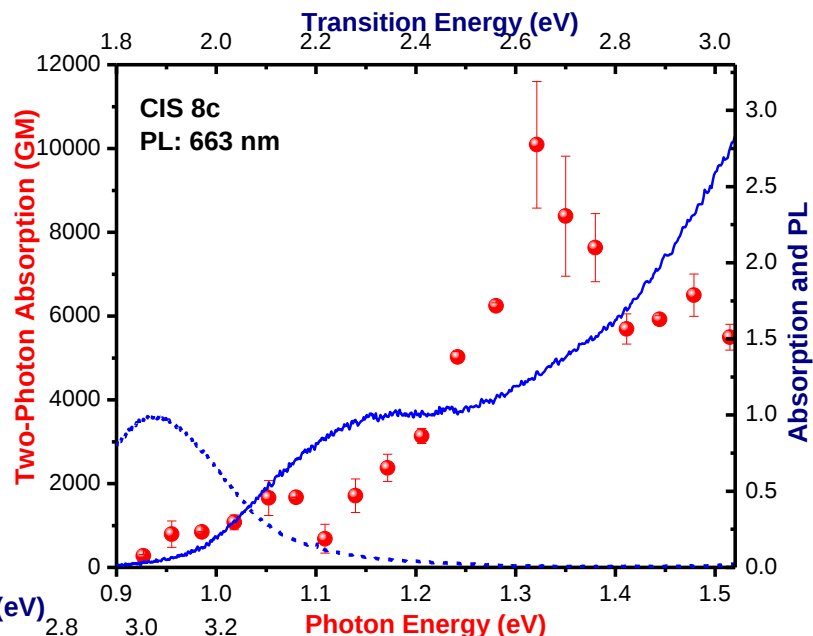
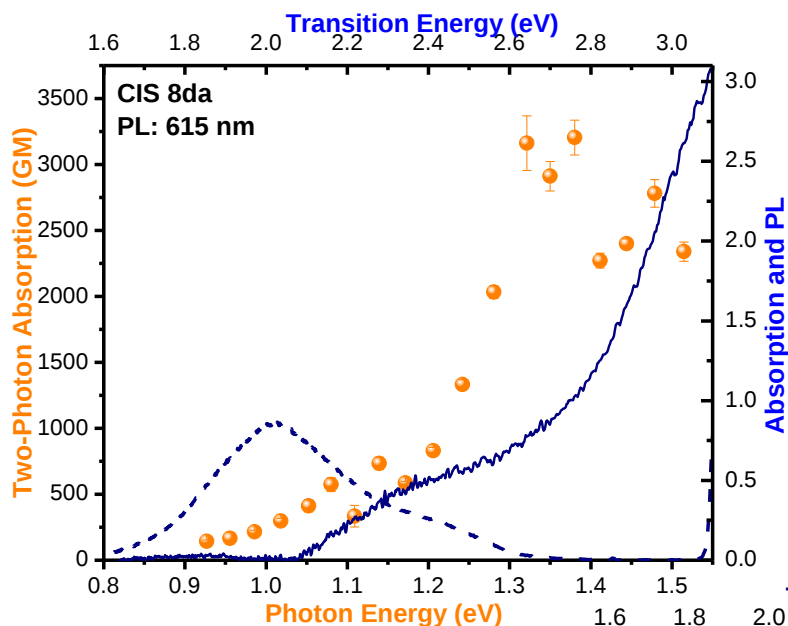
Low toxicity due to the absence of carcinogenic heavy metals

Unusually large Stoke Shift

Highly desirable for technological applications: next generation of photovoltaics, and fluorescent label for biological imaging



2PA in CuInS_2 QDs



Size dependent 2PA

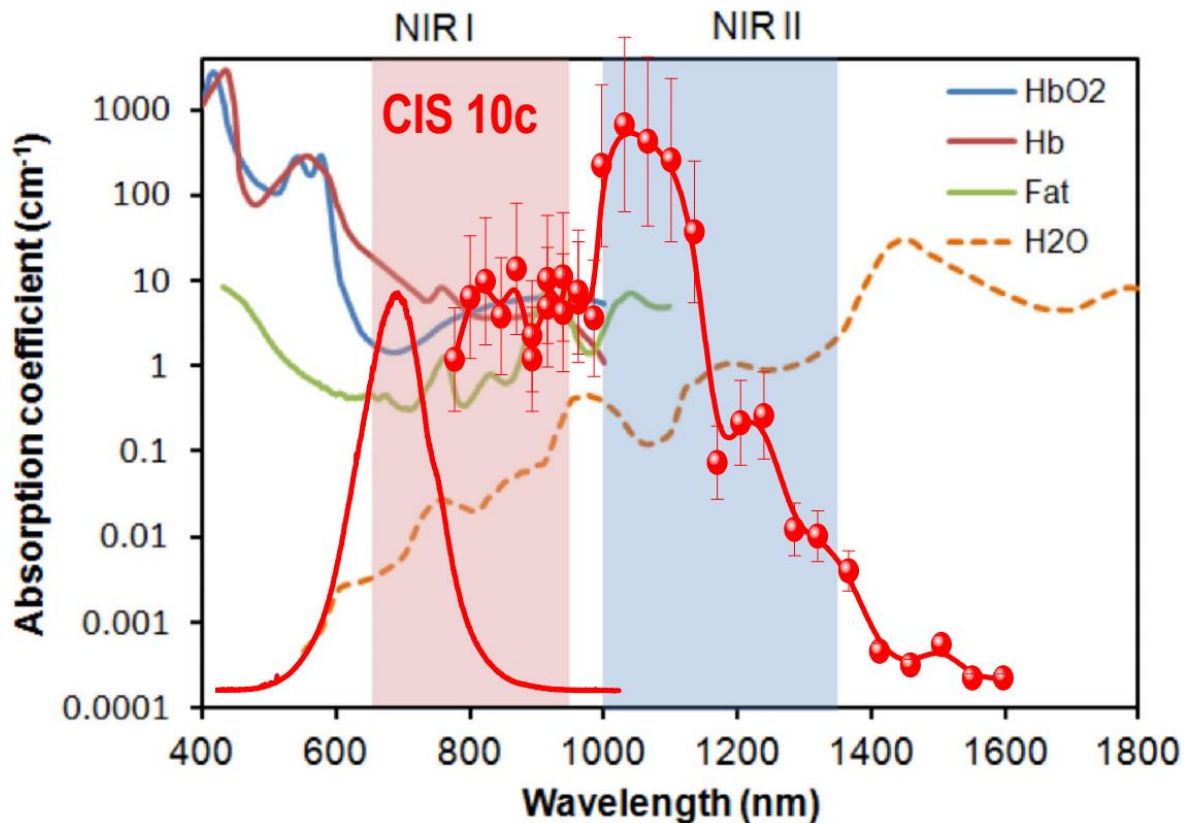
2PA cross-section as large as 15,000 GM

2PA in CuInS_2 QDs - Application

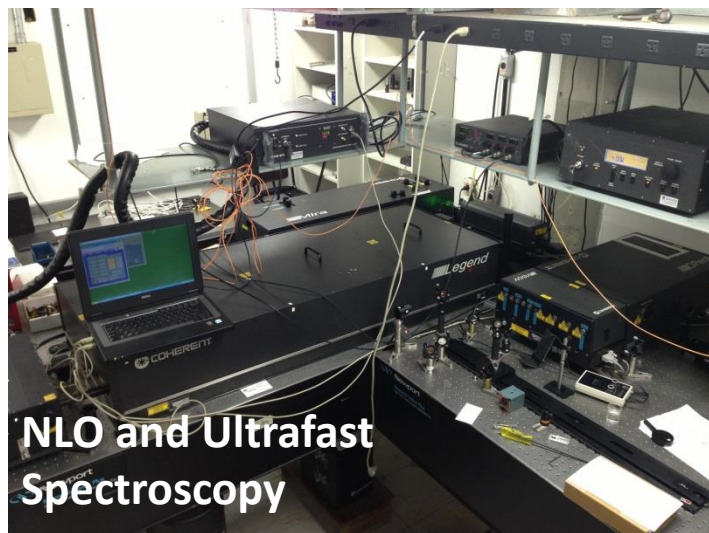
Large stoke shift avoid reabsorption

PL can be tuned to the first bio-window for transparency

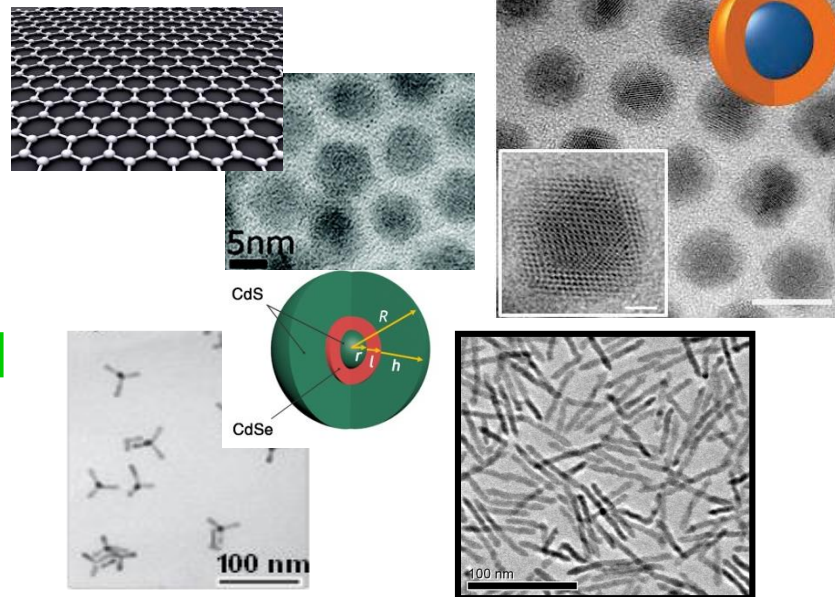
2PA can be tuned to the second bio-window for transparency



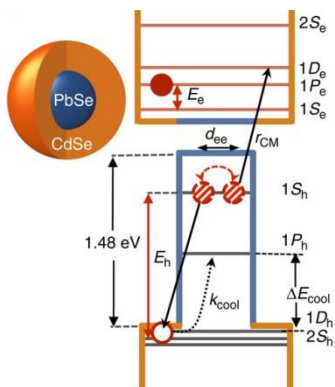
Finally...



Engineered Nanomaterials

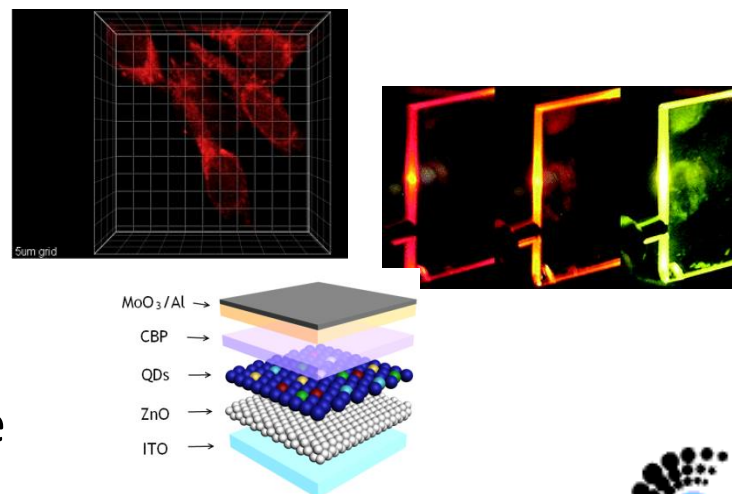


Novel Physical Phenomena



Controlled Coulomb Interaction;
Bimolecular Auger Recombination;
Intraband hole-blockage

Novel Applications



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