

Predoc School on  
Ultracold Fermions

# Fermions in Optical Lattices



8-9 October 2018  
Joseph H Thywissen  
University of Toronto



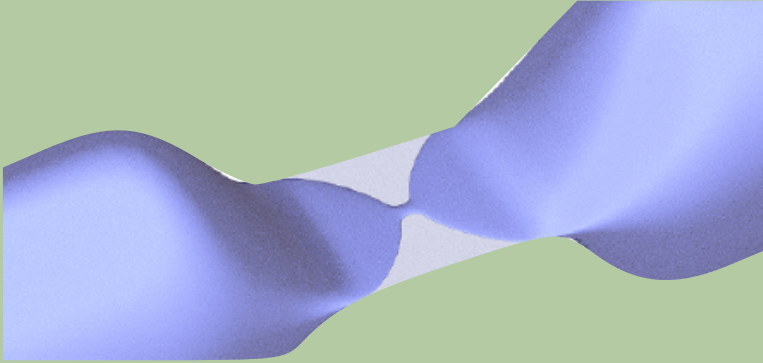
# Transport phenomenology

- Metal
- Superconductor
- Insulator
- Quantum Hall State
- ...

*A tool for discovery:*



# channel



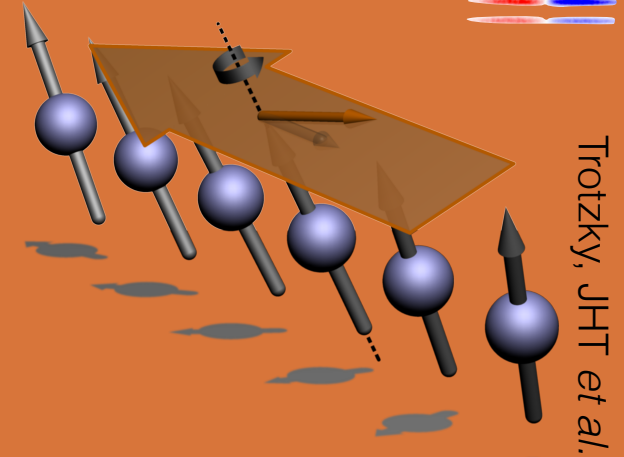
eg: EHTZ; EPFL; NIST/JQI

see review by Brantut, Esslinger, et al.  
*J Phys. Condens. Mat.* (2017)

# trap

(especially: spin transport)

MIT  
Cambridge  
Rice  
Toronto  
LENS  
LKB  
....



Roati, Zwierlein *et al.*

Trotzky, JHT *et al.*

# disorder

eg: MBL

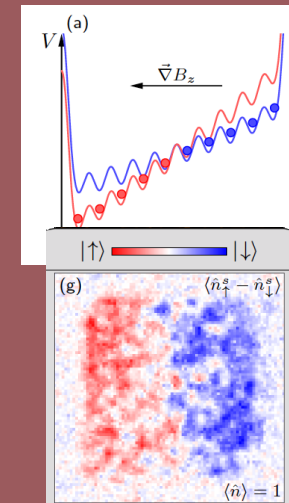


Gross, Bloch, *et al.*

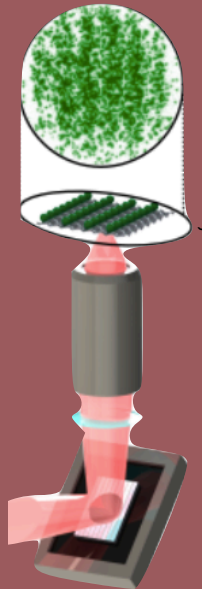
Palaiseau  
LENS  
UIUC  
Munich  
...

# lattice

LENS  
ETHZ  
UIUC  
Munich  
MIT  
Princeton  
Toronto  
....



Zwierlein *et al.*



Schauss, Bakr *et al.*

How do electrons move through materials?

$$\frac{\text{Response}}{\text{Force}} = \text{Conductivity}$$



millennium of physics

“motion  
requires effort”

$$v \propto F$$

inertia

$$\frac{dv}{dt} \propto F$$

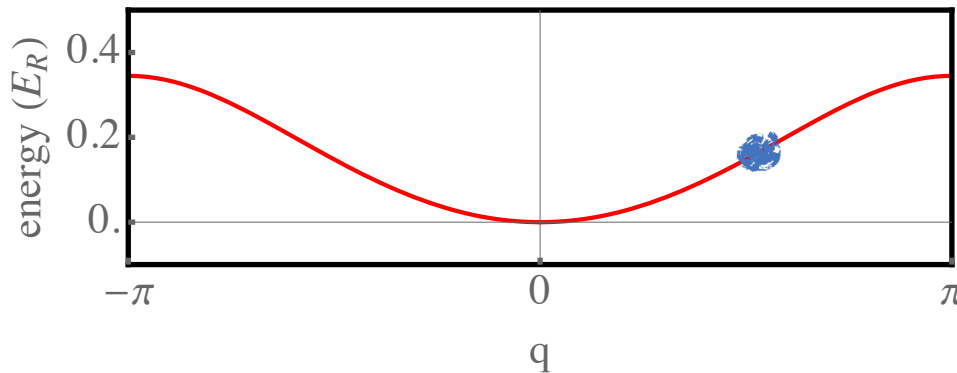
open systems

*$v=0$  preferred  
dissipation*

Galilean invariance

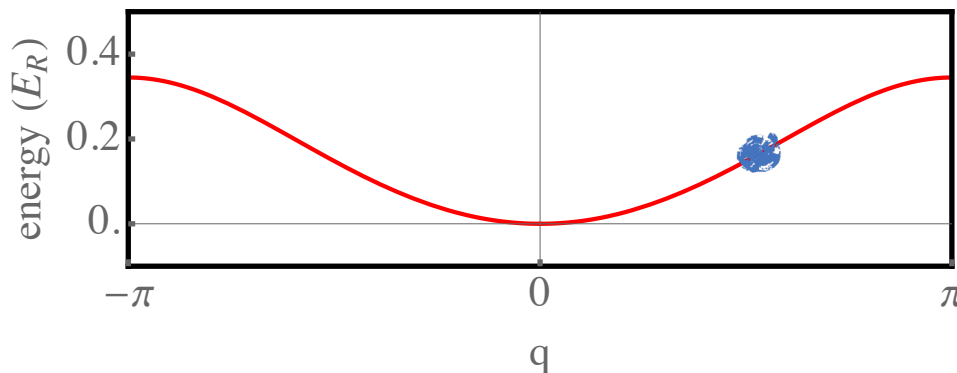
# “F=ma” in a lattice?

A weak external force changes quasi-momentum  $q$ .



$$q(t) = q(0) + (Fa_L/\hbar)t$$

...which is periodic:



“Bloch oscillations”

$$\omega_B = Fa_L/\hbar$$

# Wave packet dynamics

For a wave packet localised in  $q$ ,  
displacement occurs at group velocity,

$$v = \frac{a_L}{\hbar} \frac{\partial}{\partial q} \mathcal{E}_\alpha(q)$$

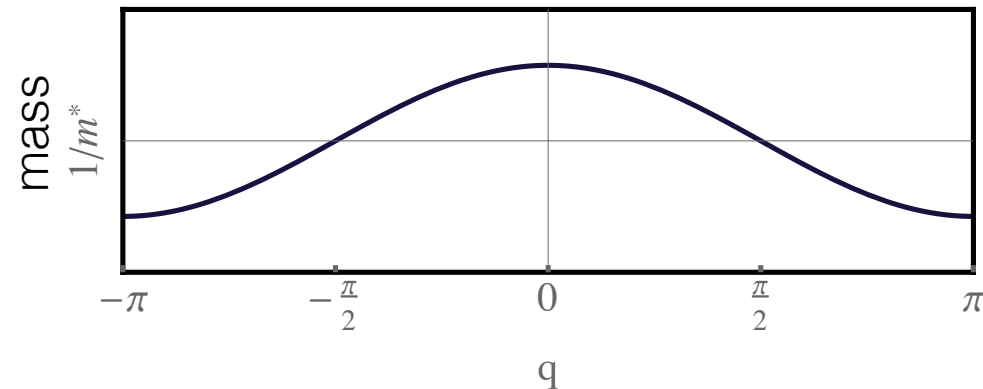
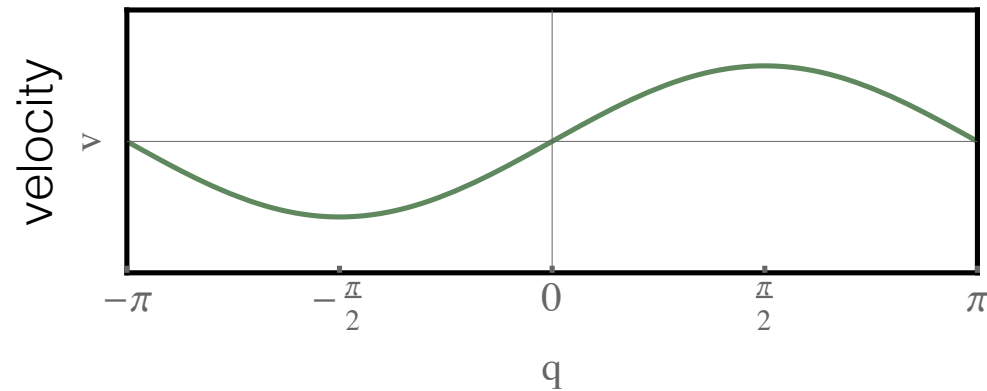
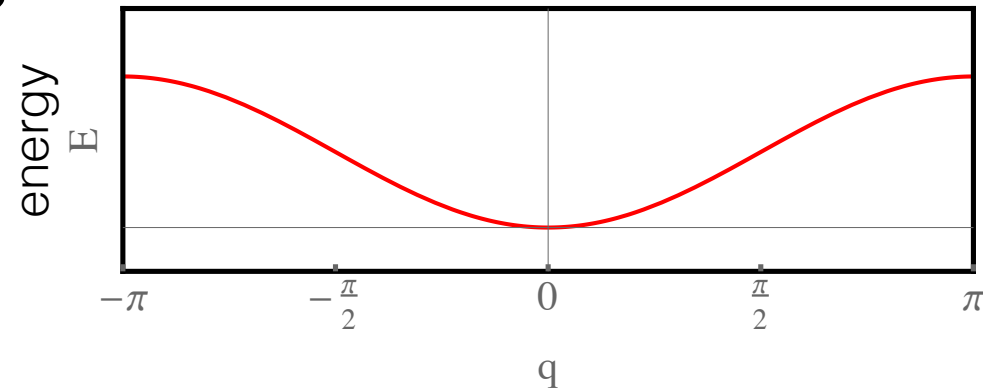
acceleration:

$$a = \frac{dv}{dt} = \frac{\partial v}{\partial q} \frac{dq}{dt} \equiv \frac{F}{m^*}$$

gives effective mass,

$$\frac{1}{m_\alpha^*(q)} = \frac{a_L^2}{\hbar^2} \frac{\partial^2}{\partial q^2} \mathcal{E}_\alpha(q)$$

band  $\alpha$ , wave-packet at  $q$



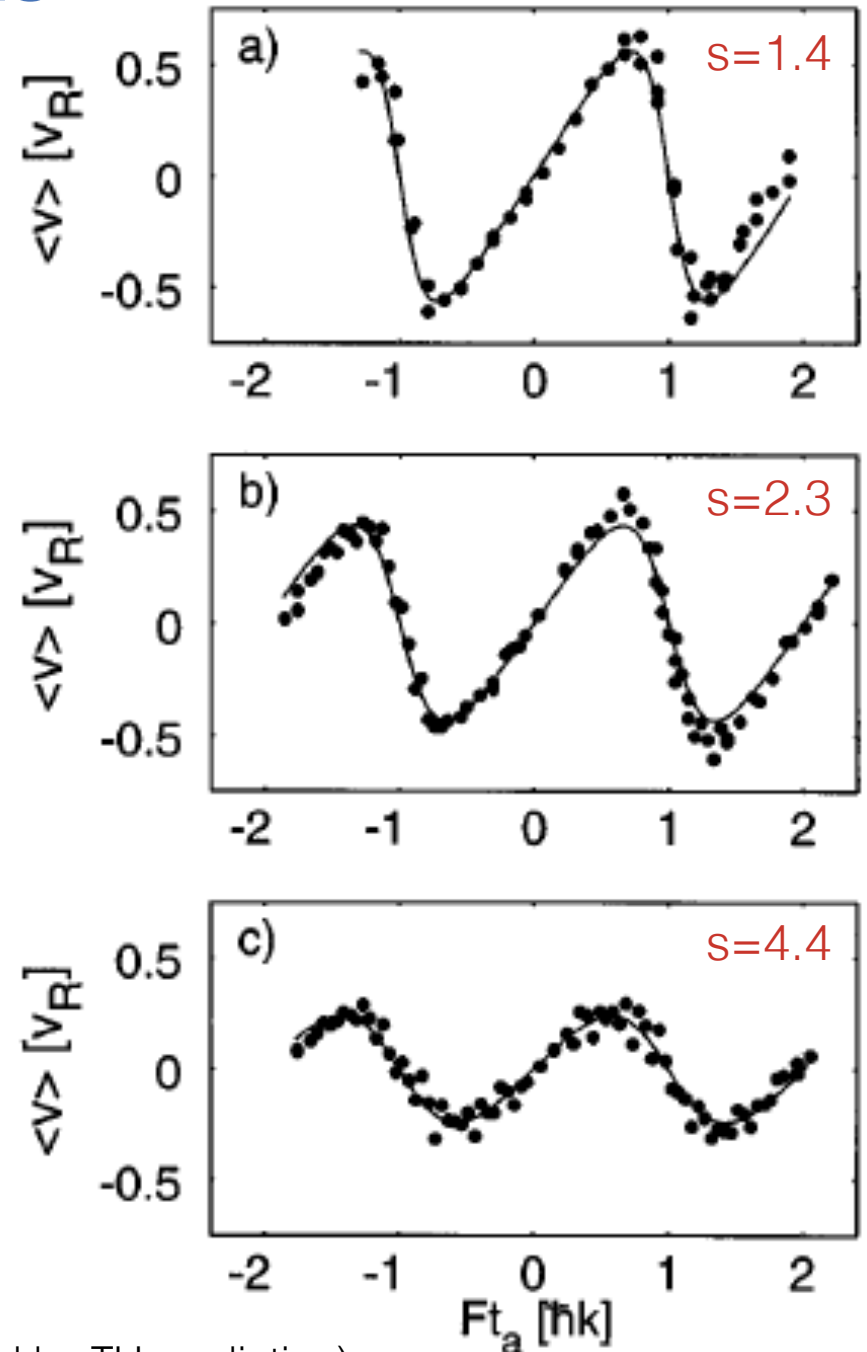
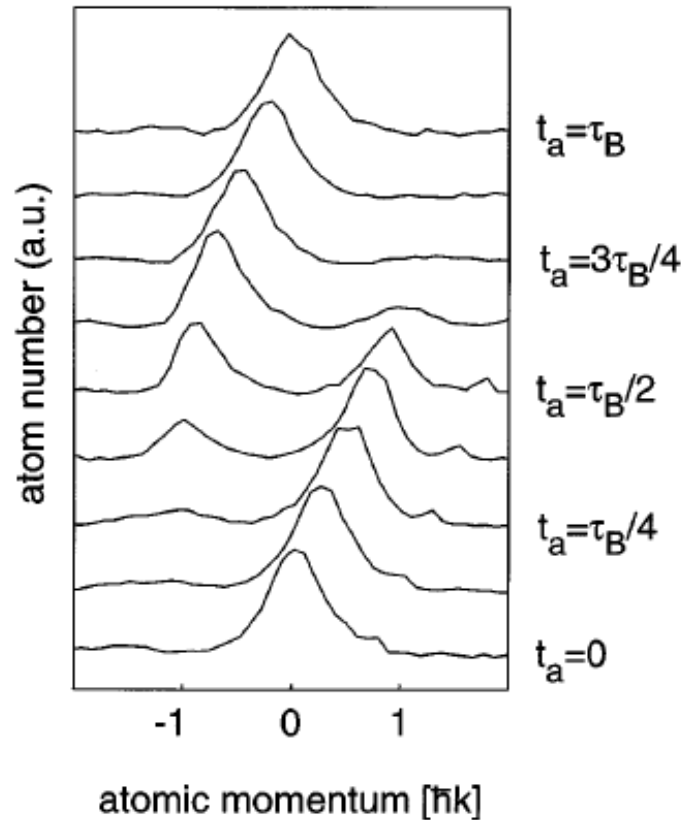
# Observation of Bloch oscillations

C. Salomon et al., *PRL* **76**, 4508 (1996)

-Cs in 852nm standing wave  
-Time-of-flight imaging

$$\tau_B = \frac{2\hbar k_L}{|F|}$$

$\sim 8 \text{ ms}$



Bloch period  $\sim 600$  fs in semiconductor superlattices (observed by THz radiation)

**Never observed in natural crystal (Bloch time longer than defect sc. time)**



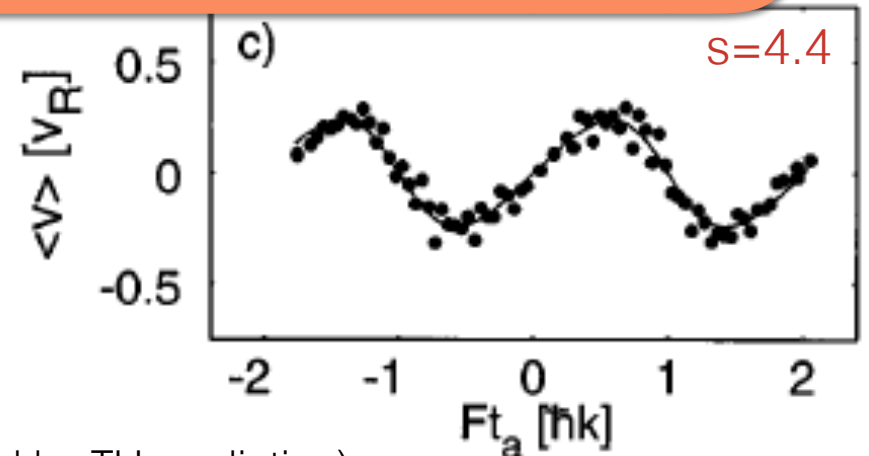
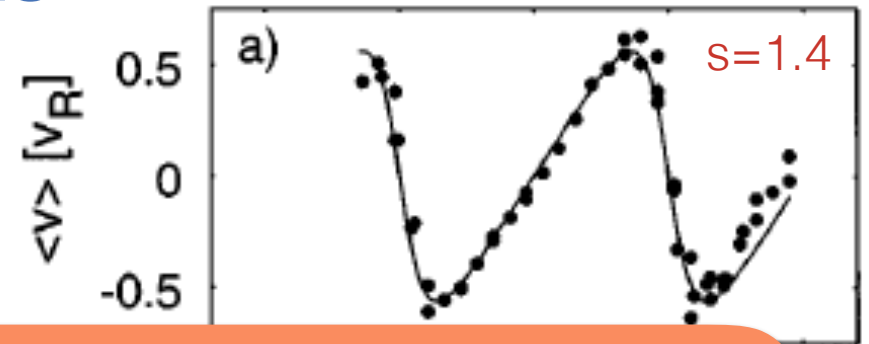
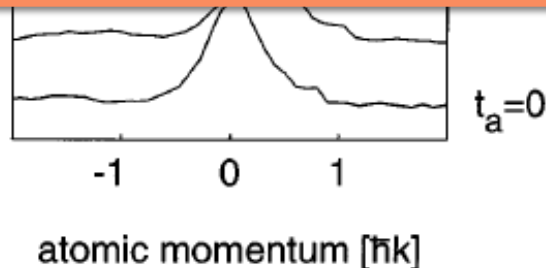
# Observation of Bloch oscillations

C. Salomon et al., *PRL* **76**, 4508 (1996)

-Cs in 852nm standing wave  
-Time-of-flight imaging

$\tau_B =$   
 $\sim$

- Lattice already breaks Galilean invariance, making  $v=0$  “special”
- Lattice alone does not cause dissipation

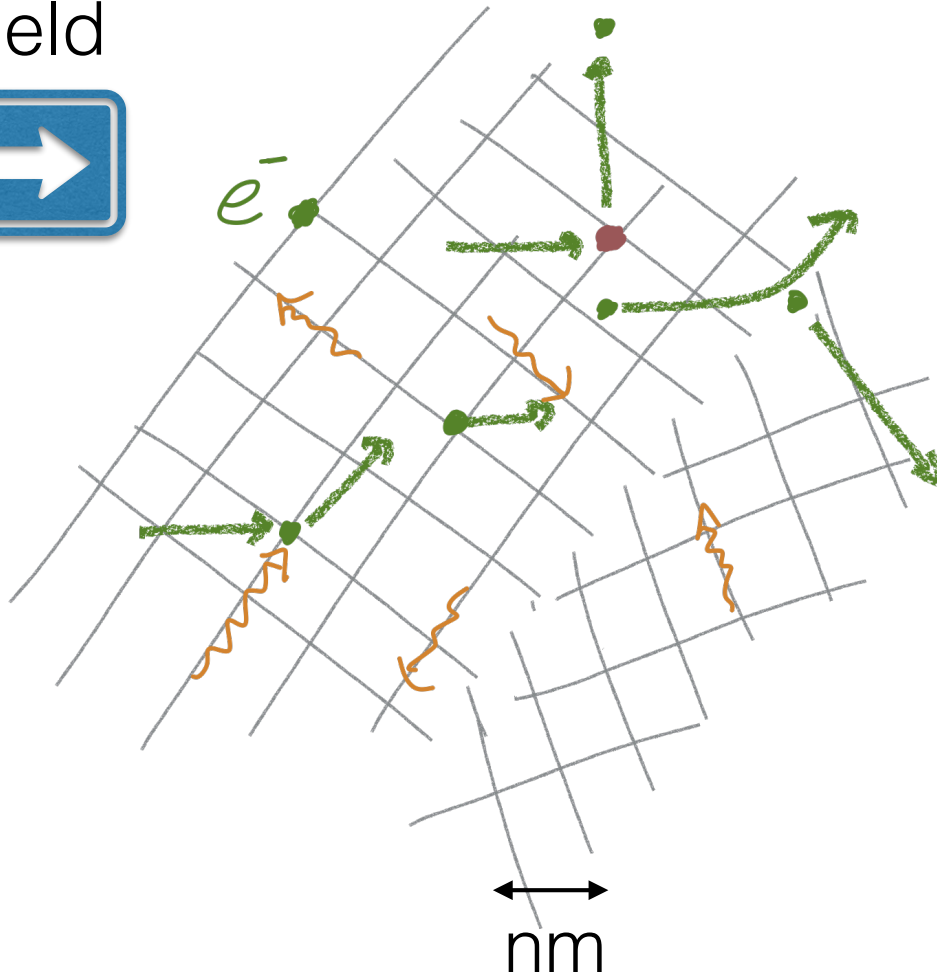
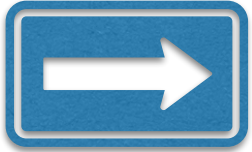


Bloch period  $\sim 600$  fs in semiconductor superlattices (observed by THz radiation)

**Never observed in natural crystal (Bloch time longer than defect sc. time)**

# electron transport in a metal

E field



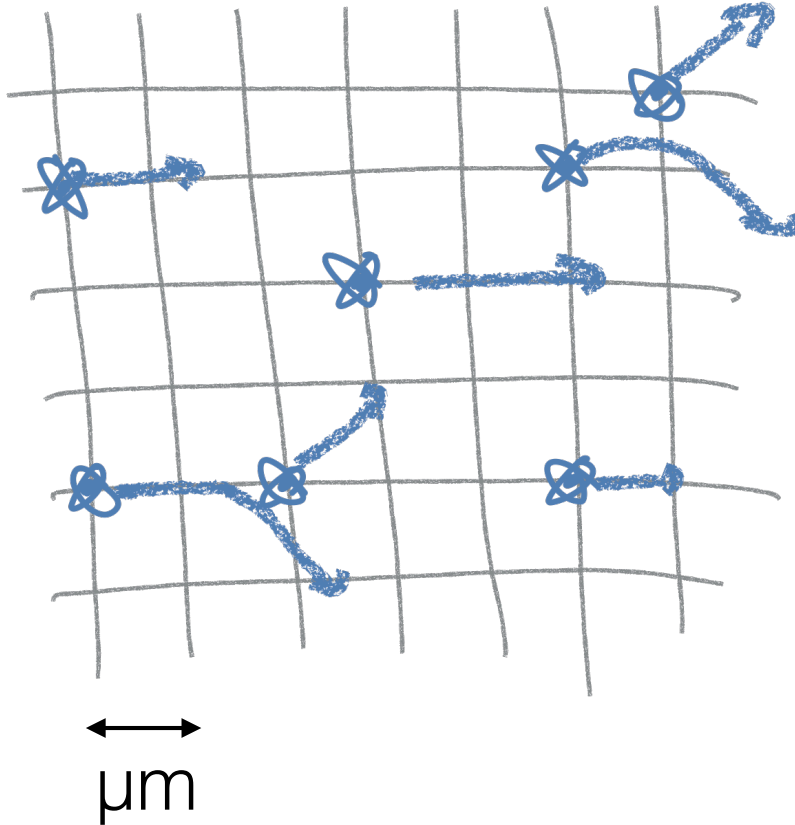
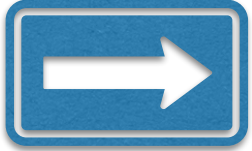
- electron
- ~> phonon
- impurity
- # lattice

**Resistivity** from

- ★ **impurities**
- ★ **phonons**
- ★ lattice dislocations
- ★ particle scattering

# conductivity of atoms in an optical lattice

Force



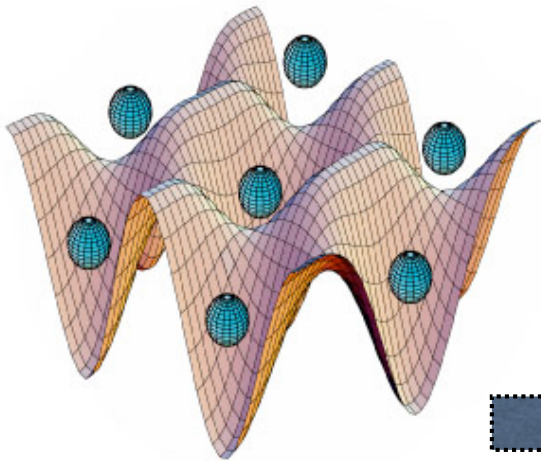
a “perfect” crystal:  
-no defects, impurities  
-inflexible: no phonons

## Resistivity?

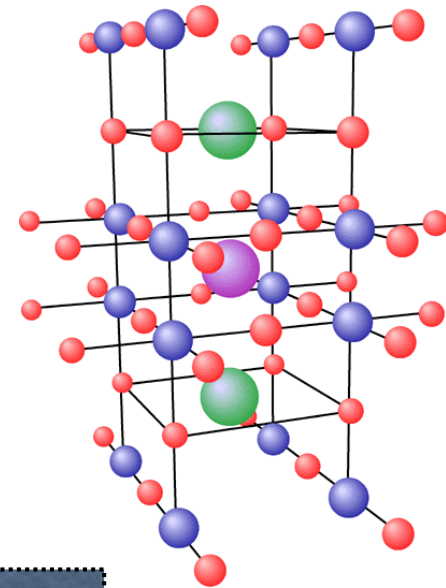
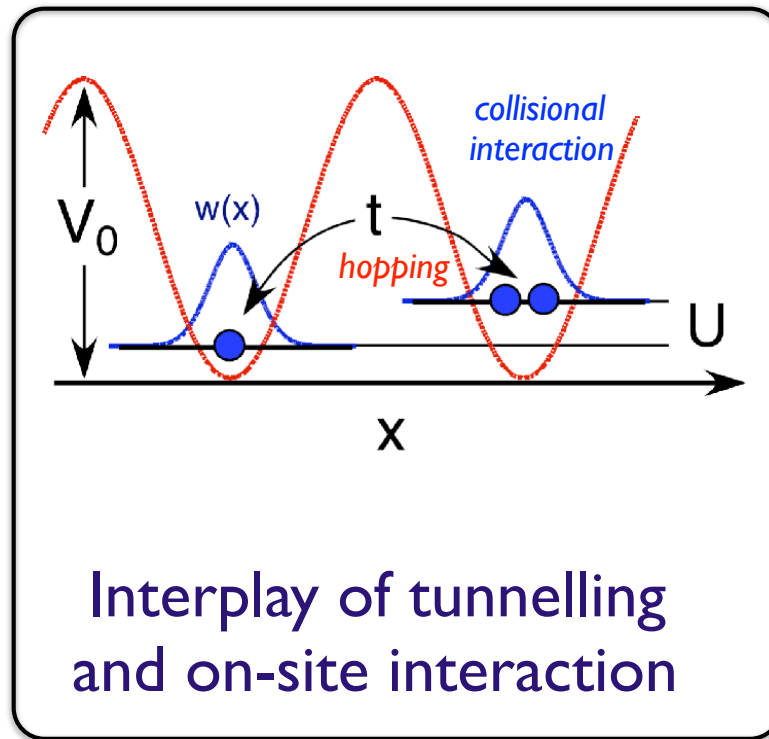
- ★ ~~impurities~~
- ★ ~~phonons~~
- ★ ~~lattice dislocations~~
- ★ **particle scattering**

# The Hubbard model

$$\hat{H}_{\text{HM}} = -t \sum_{\langle j, \ell \rangle, \sigma} \hat{c}_{j\sigma}^\dagger \hat{c}_{\ell\sigma} + U \sum_{\ell} \hat{n}_{\ell\uparrow} \hat{n}_{\ell\downarrow}$$



**Atoms:** counter-propagating laser beams produce a sinusoidal potential



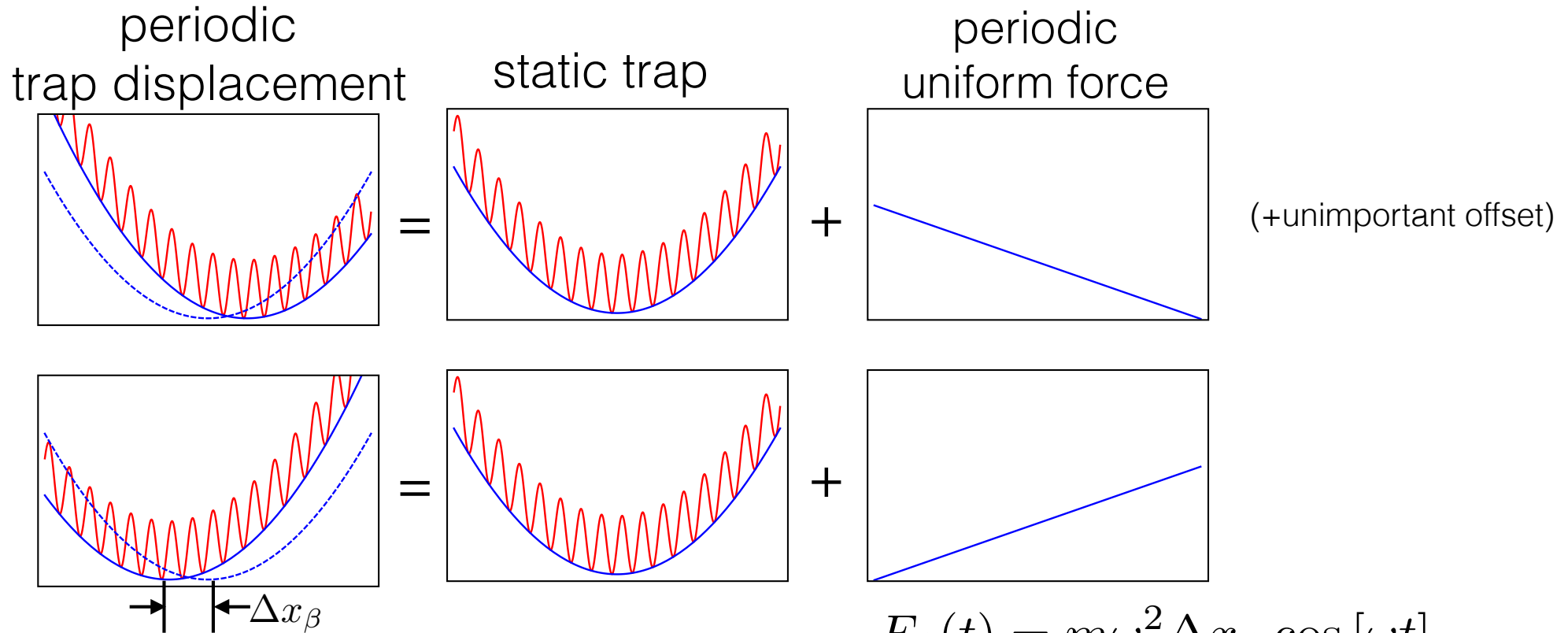
**Electrons:**  
ionic lattice

*Neglects phonons, dislocations, and impurities, extended  $w(x)$ , ...*



# AC conductivity of atoms in a lattice

Proposal: Zhigang Wu, E. Taylor, E. Zaremba, *EPL* **110**, 26002 (2015)



$$F_\beta(t) = m\omega_0^2 \Delta x_\beta \cos[\omega t]$$

$$= F_\beta(\omega) e^{-i\omega t} + \text{c.c.}$$

$$F_\beta(\omega) = m\omega_0^2 \Delta x_\beta / 2$$

*Related work:*

A. Tokuno and T. Giamarchi, *PRL* **106**, 205301 (2011)

Zhigang Wu and E. Zaremba, *Annals of Physics* **342**, 214 (2014)

# time-dependent gauge field

The applied force  $F_\beta(\omega) = m\omega_0^2 \Delta x_\beta / 2$

can be seen as a spatially uniform gauge field

$$A(\omega) = m\omega_0^2 \Delta x_\beta / 2i\omega \quad (\text{so that } F = -\partial_t A = i\omega A)$$

which **writes time-varying phase onto hopping**

$$\hat{H}_x = -t_0 \sum_j e^{i\lambda} \hat{c}_j^\dagger \hat{c}_{j+1} + \text{h.c} \quad \text{where } \lambda(t) = a_L A(t) / \hbar$$

*Pierls phase*

Linear response:  $\lambda \ll 1$  (no Bloch oscillations)

# Linear response: *no Bloch oscillations*

Bloch oscillations: wave packet group velocity oscillates at

$$\omega_B = a_L F / \hbar$$

for a static force. For a periodic force, w.p. displacement is

$$\sim \sin [(\omega_B / \omega) \sin \omega t]$$

But we are looking for a response at the **drive frequency** (and no other frequency). This can only be true for

$$\omega_B \ll \omega \quad \text{or} \quad F \ll \hbar \omega / a_L \quad \text{or} \quad \lambda \ll 1$$

- No Bloch oscillations
- No modification of tunnelling in Floquet picture
- Small Pierls phases

# Linear response: *no Bloch oscillations*

Bloch oscill

for a static

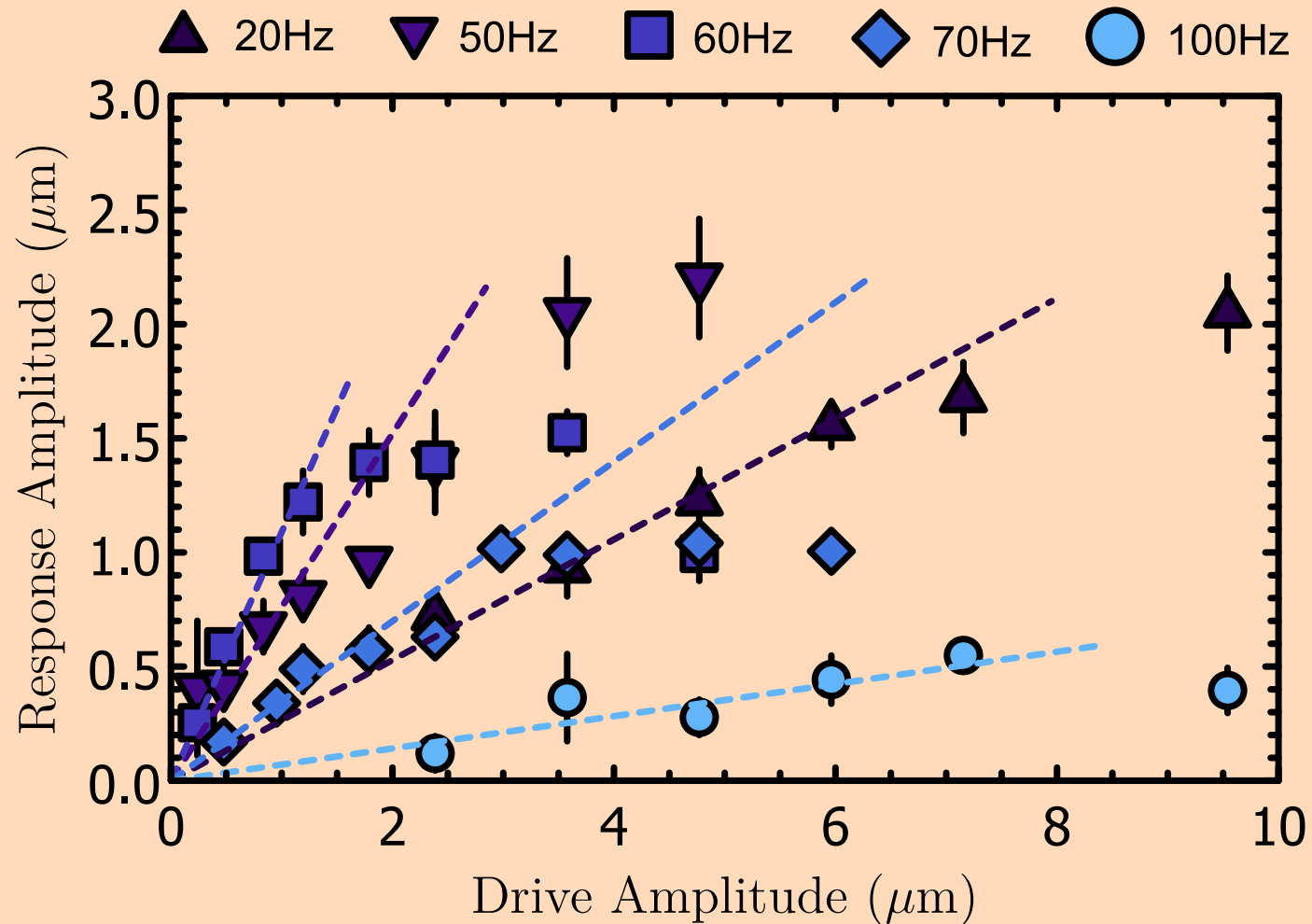
But we are  
(and no other

$\omega_F$

-No

-No

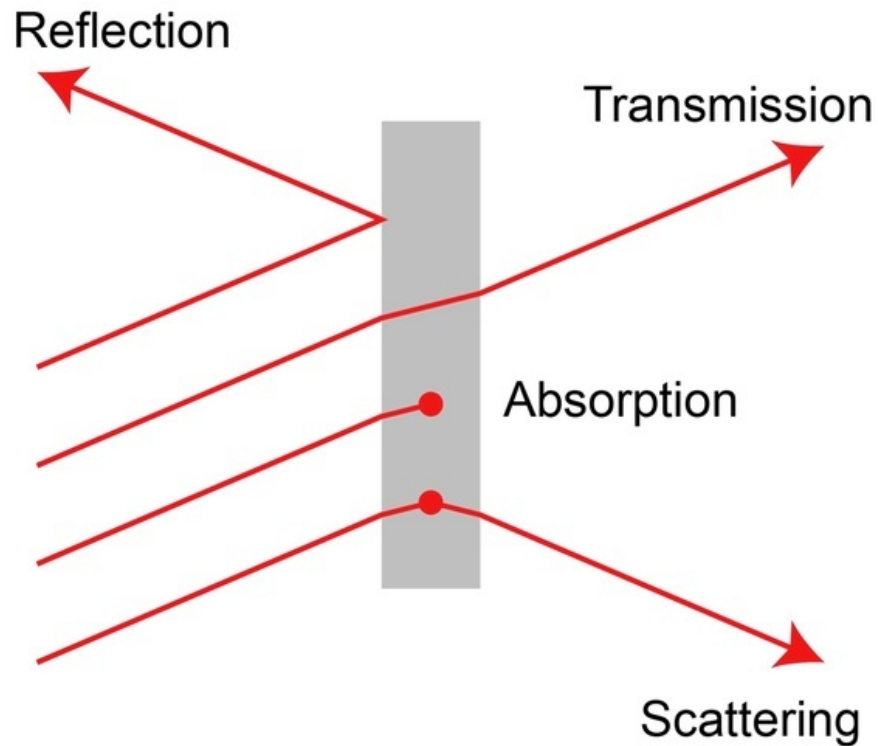
-Small Pierls phases





# Optical conductivity

Conductivity without connection to external reservoirs



Relevant frequencies:  
1 THz -  $10^3$  THz

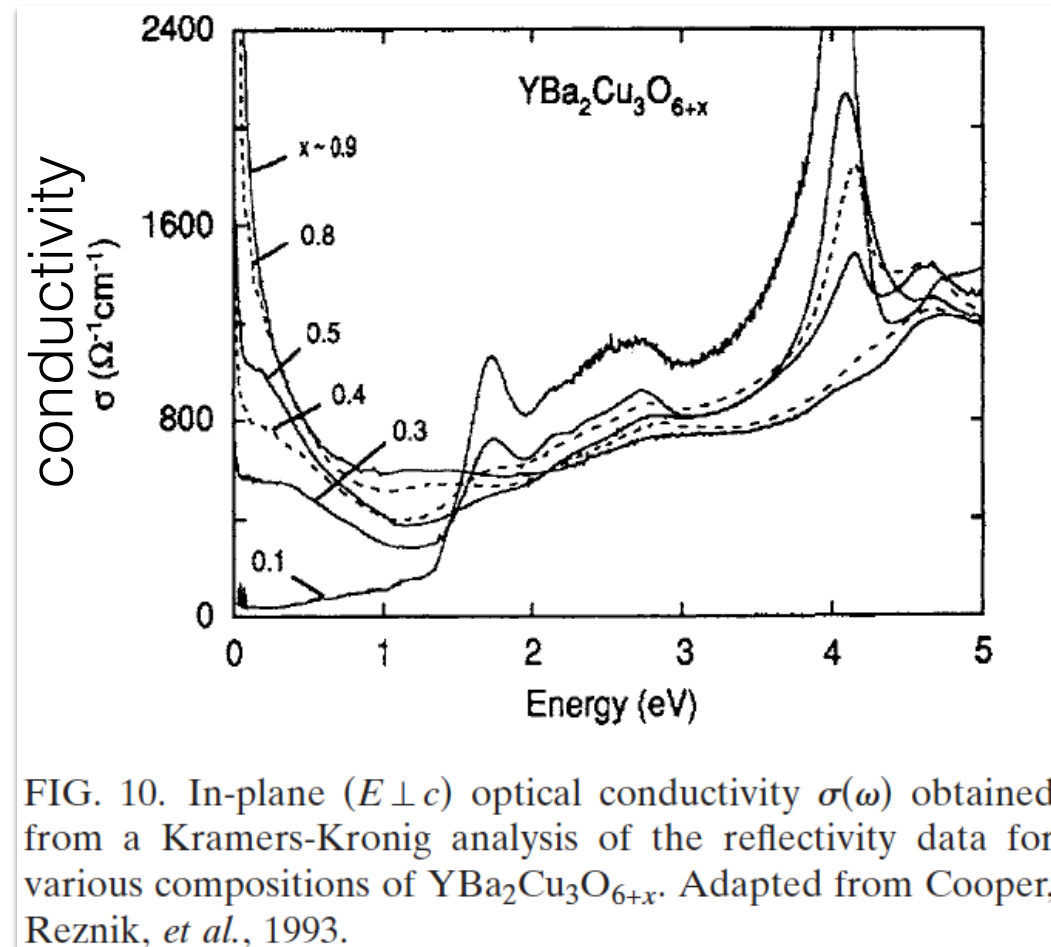
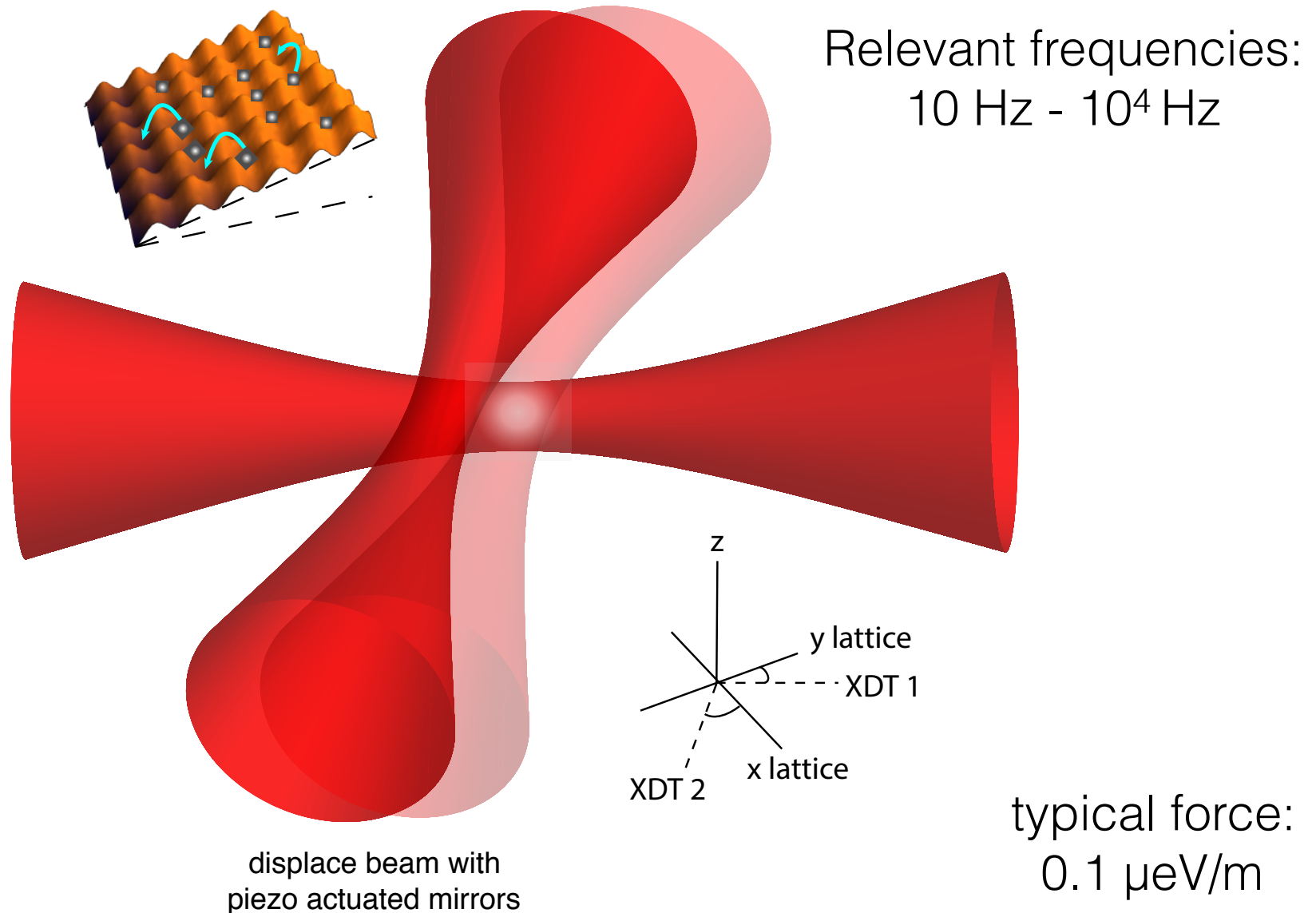


FIG. 10. In-plane ( $E \perp c$ ) optical conductivity  $\sigma(\omega)$  obtained from a Kramers-Kronig analysis of the reflectivity data for various compositions of  $\text{YBa}_2\text{Cu}_3\text{O}_{6+x}$ . Adapted from Cooper, Reznik, *et al.*, 1993.

# ac (“optical”) conductivity for atoms

*Implementation:*

**1. Apply force with moving optical tweezers**



# ac (“optical”) conductivity for atoms

*Implementation:*

- 1. Apply force with moving optical tweezers**
- 2. Measure response with in-situ fluorescence**

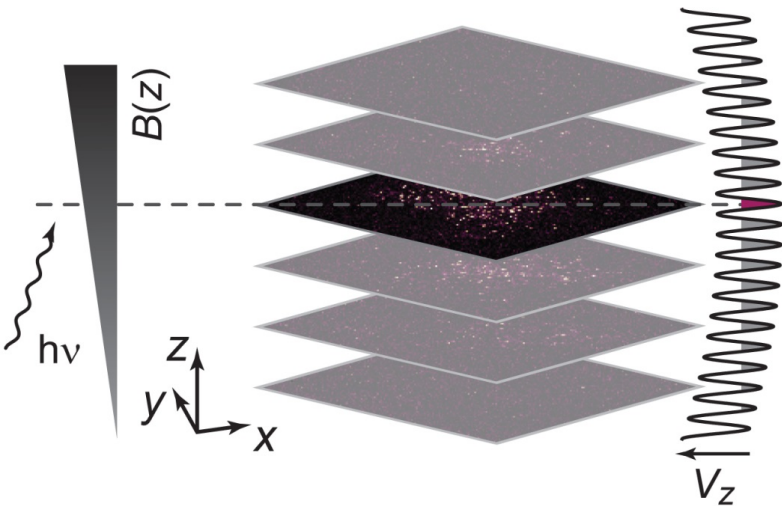
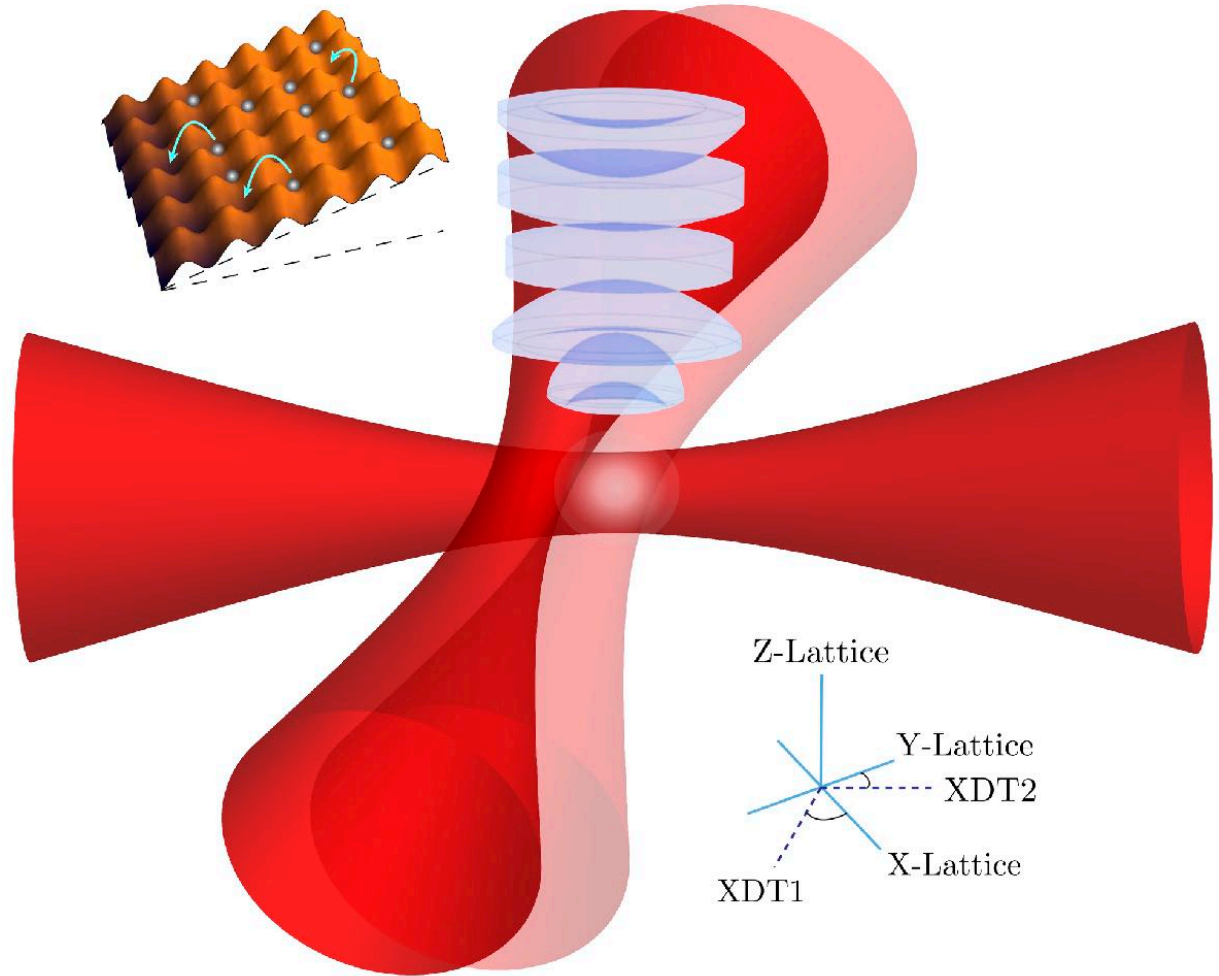


Image 4 central xy planes

Drive and observe in xy plane only.

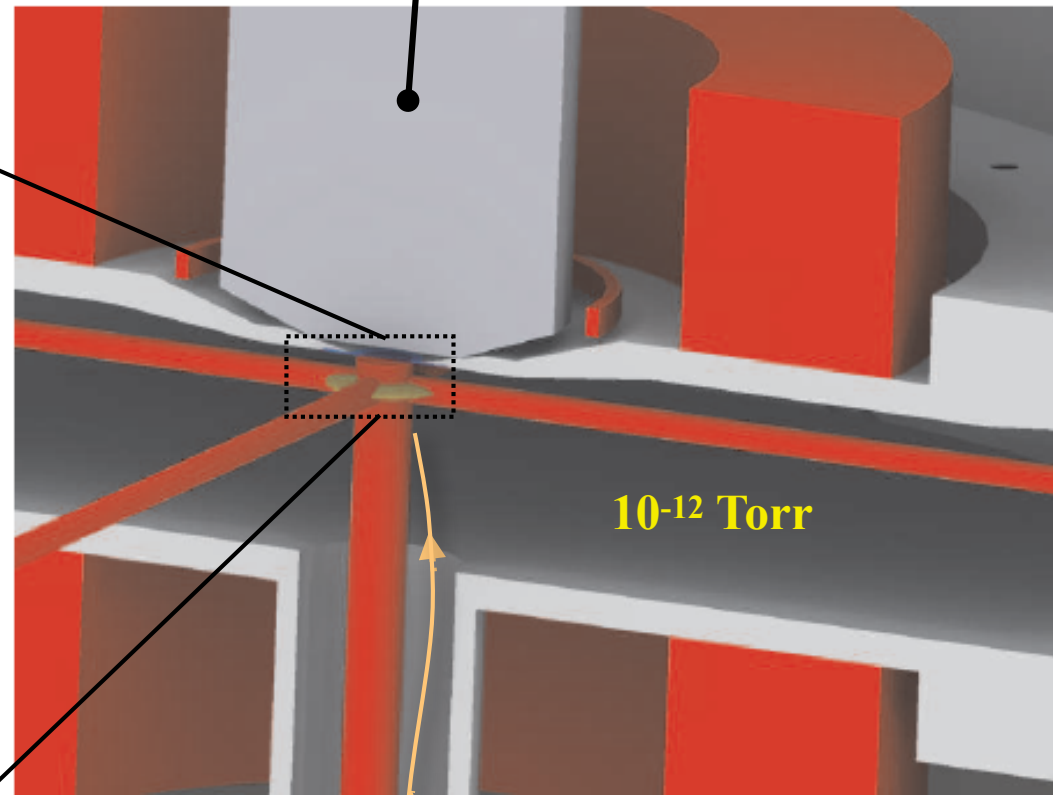
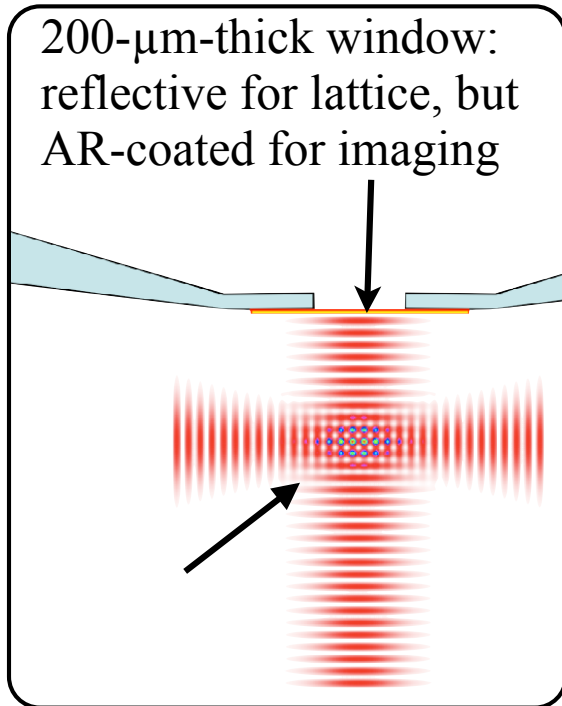


in-situ imaging of atoms in lattices: Chicago, Hamburg, Harvard, Kyoto, MIT, Munich, PSU, Princeton, Strathclyde, Tokyo, Zurich, ...

# High-resolution in-situ probe

0.8 NA objective  
3.1 mm WD  
 $\lambda = 770$  nm design

200- $\mu\text{m}$ -thick window:  
reflective for lattice, but  
AR-coated for imaging



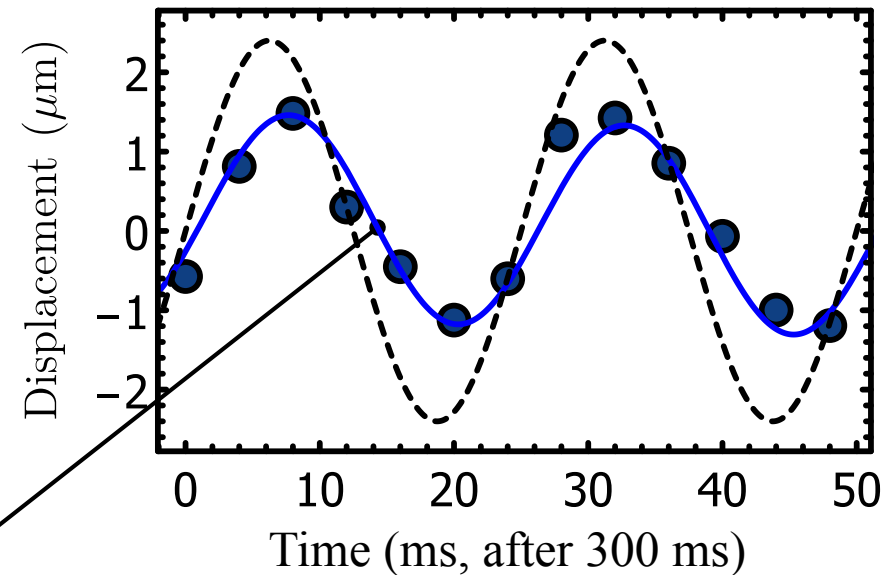
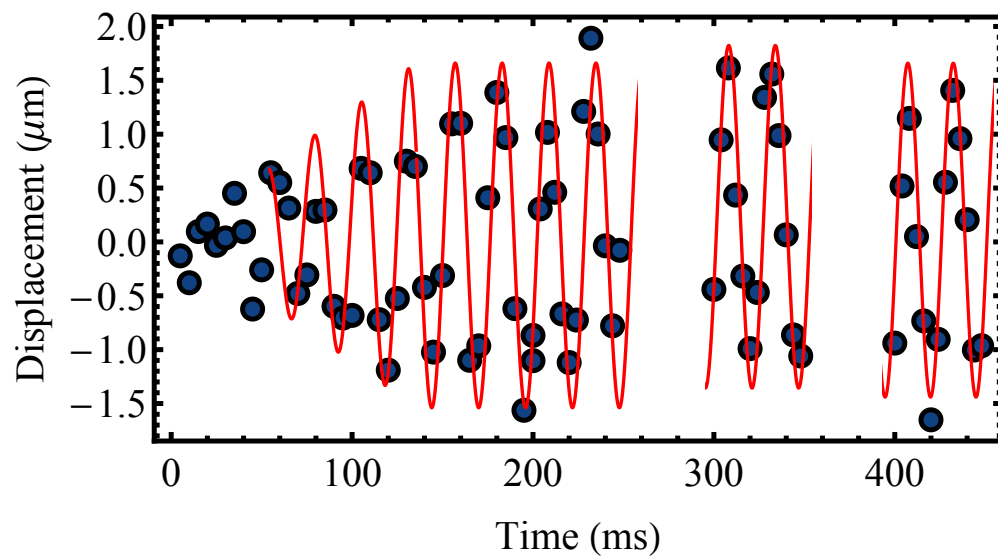
1053.6 nm  
optical lattice  
( $d=527$  nm  
period)

**$10^{-12}$  Torr**

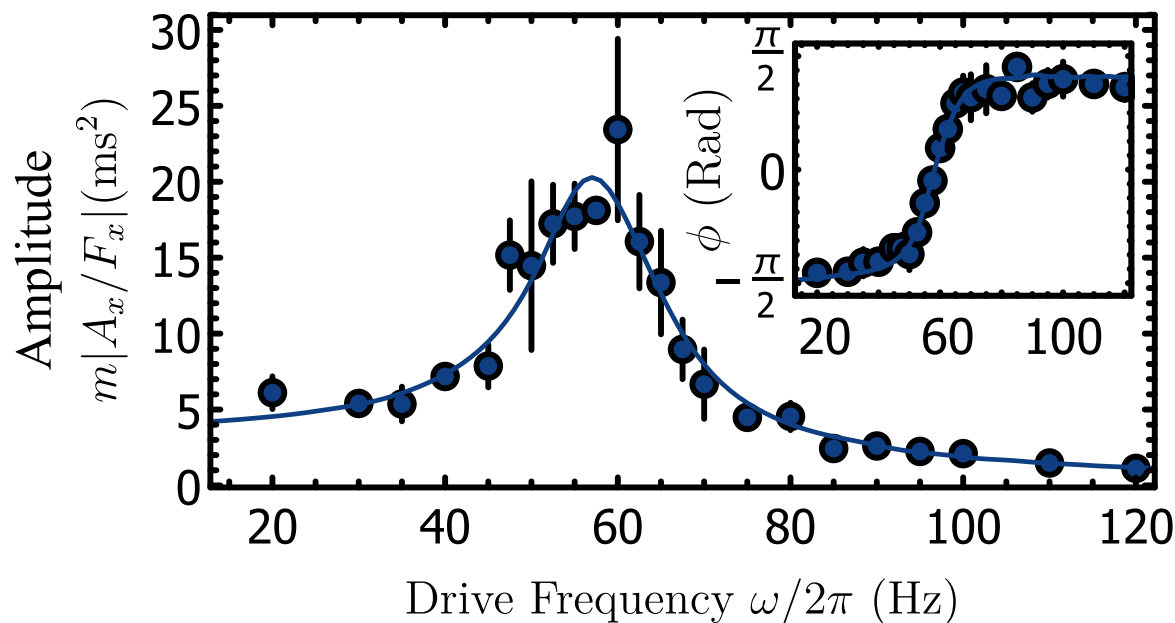
Atoms transported  
into lattice plane  
from MOT chamber

*in-situ imaging of atoms in lattices:* Chicago, Hamburg, Harvard, Kyoto, MIT,  
Munich, PSU, Princeton, Strathclyde, Tokyo, Zurich, ...

# Response: Centre-of-mass displacement

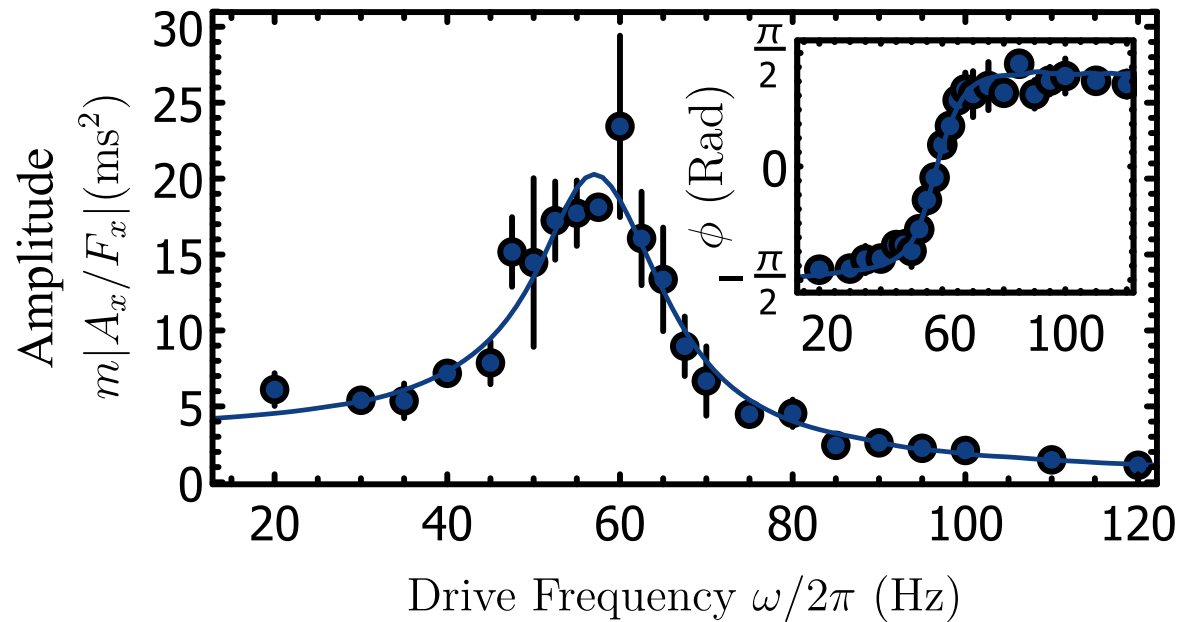


Fit steady-state response to  $R_\alpha(t) = A_\alpha \cos[\omega t - \phi_\alpha]$



Repeat for each drive frequency

# Response: Total particle current



c.m. motion reveals the **total current**:

$$\langle \hat{J}_\alpha(t) \rangle = Nd \langle \hat{R}_\alpha \rangle / dt$$

For a single-frequency response,

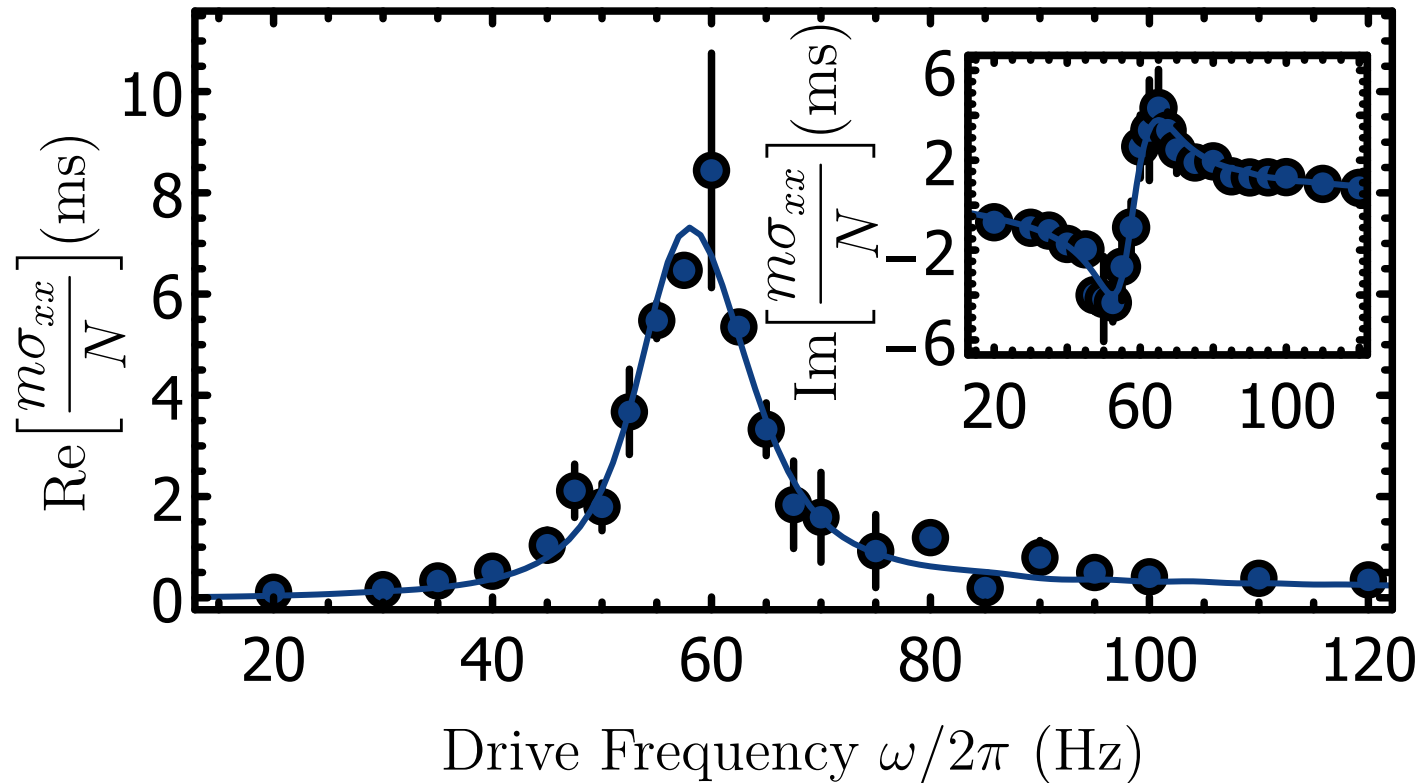
$$\langle \hat{J}_\alpha(t) \rangle = J_\alpha(\omega) e^{-i\omega t} + \text{c.c.}$$

$$J_\alpha(\omega) = \frac{N\omega A_\alpha e^{i\phi_\alpha}}{2i}$$

Now that we have force & current, use Ohm's Law:

$$J_{\alpha}(\omega) = \sigma_{\alpha\beta}(\omega) F_{\beta}(\omega)$$

Wu, Taylor, Zaremba, *EPL* (2015)



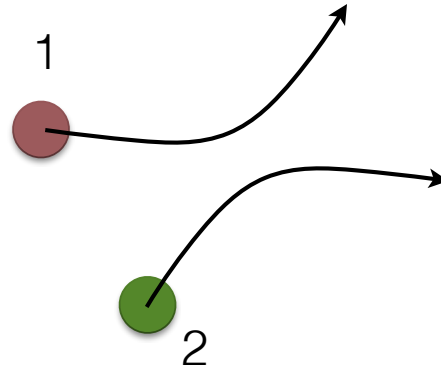
**Conductivity!**

- “Optical” conductivity: intrinsically AC technique
- Global (not local):  $J$  is the sum of all currents
- Exact relation (no local density approx, etc.)
- Direct measurement of conductivity (no model requ'd)

current, conductivity, and sum rules



# Collisions & Galilean invariance



**Total current conserved?**

$$\vec{J} = \vec{v}_1 + \vec{v}_2$$

Free space

Total momentum conserved

$$\vec{P} = \vec{p}_1 + \vec{p}_2$$

Quadratic dispersion:

$$\vec{v} = \vec{p}/m$$

thus  $\vec{J}$  **conserved**.

Lattice

Quasi-momentum conserved

$$\vec{Q} = \vec{q}_1 + \vec{q}_2$$

Tight binding dispersion:

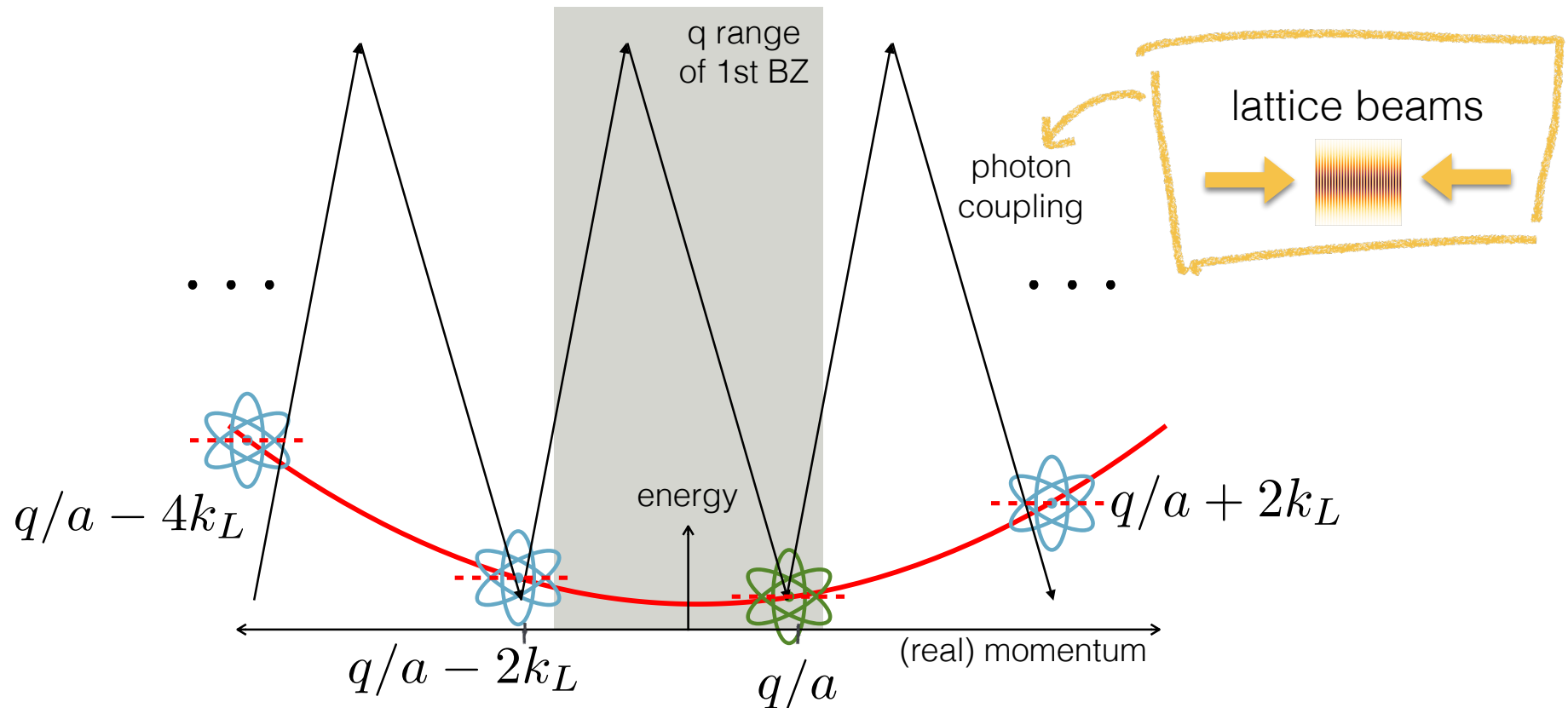
$$v_x = \frac{2t_0 a_L}{\hbar} \sin(q_x a)$$

now  $\vec{J}$  **not conserved**.

Dispersion relation is for atom+photon quasiparticles:

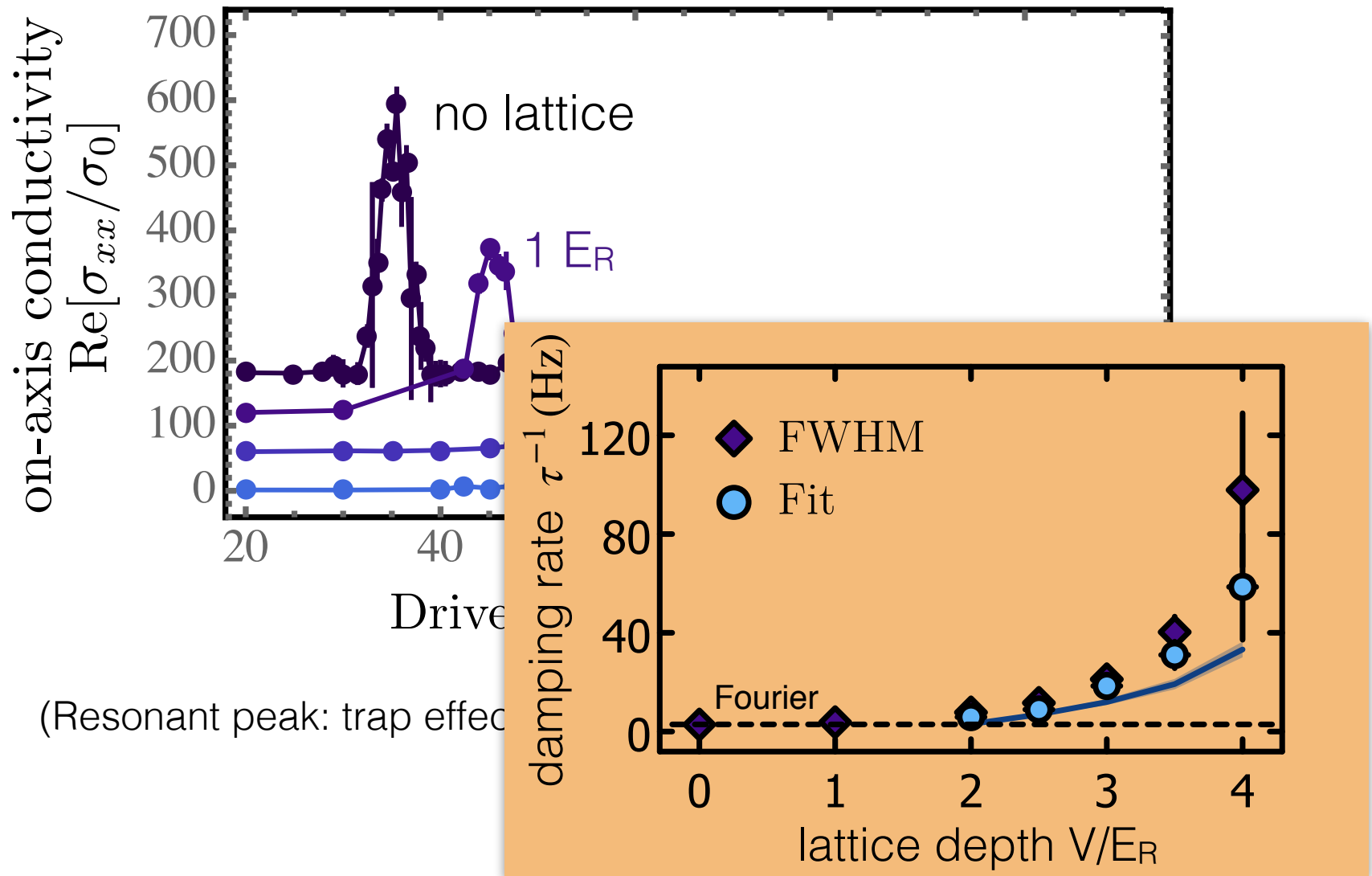
Bloch eigenstate  $\mathbf{q}$  is

$$|\psi\rangle = c_0 |\text{atom} \xrightarrow{q}\rangle + c_{+1} |\text{atom} \xrightarrow{q+2k_L}\rangle + c_{-1} |\text{atom} \xleftarrow{q-2k_L}\rangle + c_{+2} |\text{atom} \dots\rangle$$



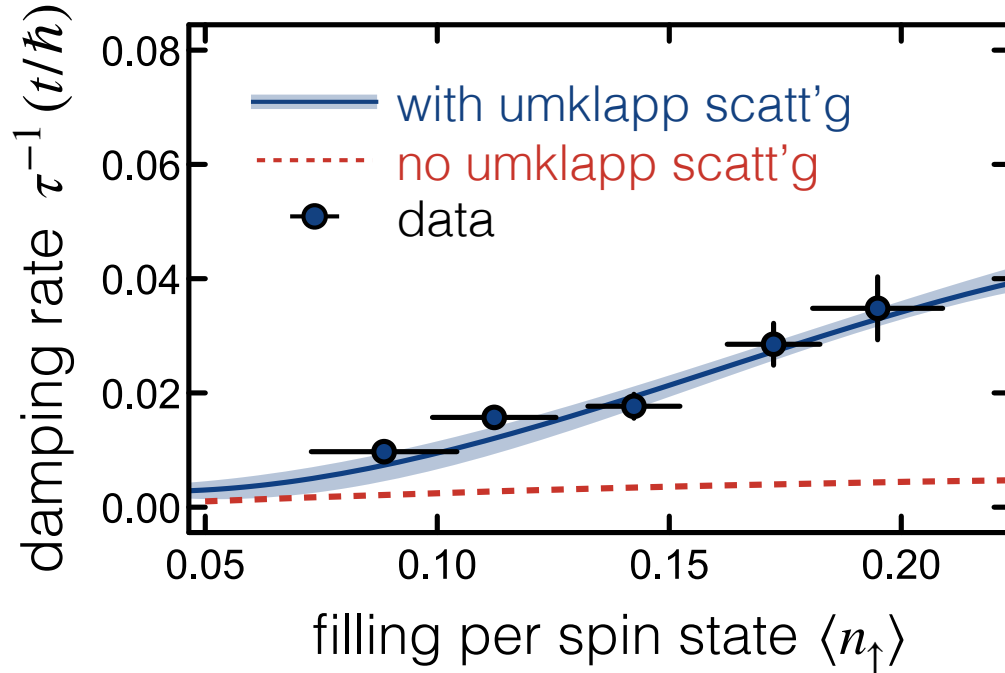
***Conserving total  $q$  in a collision does not conserve atomic momentum (and thus not particle current).***

Current damping requires breaking of Galilean invariance, accomplished here by the lattice.



# Umklapp scattering

*Bragg reflection of colliding pair off lattice*



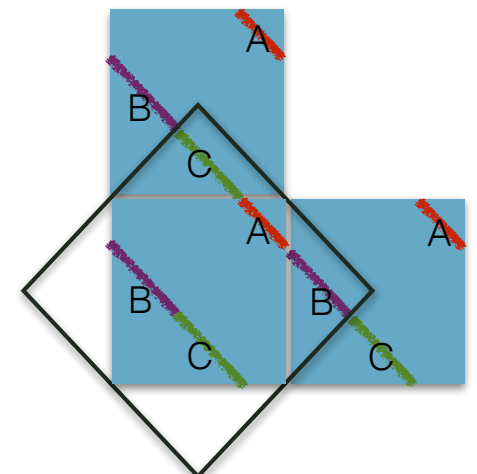
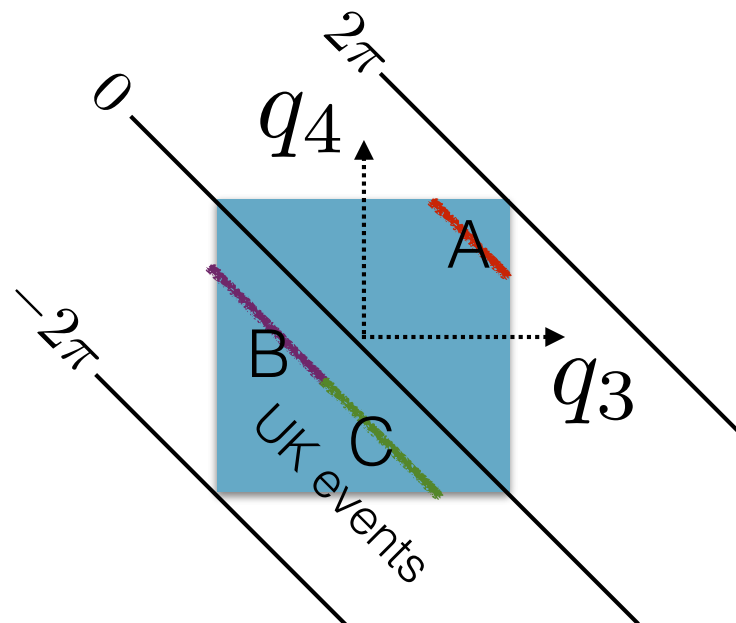
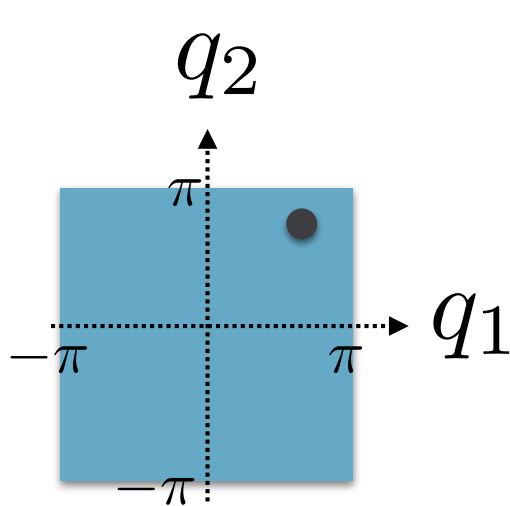
umklapp events:

$$q_1 + q_2 = q_3 + q_4 \pm 2\pi$$

strict q conservation:

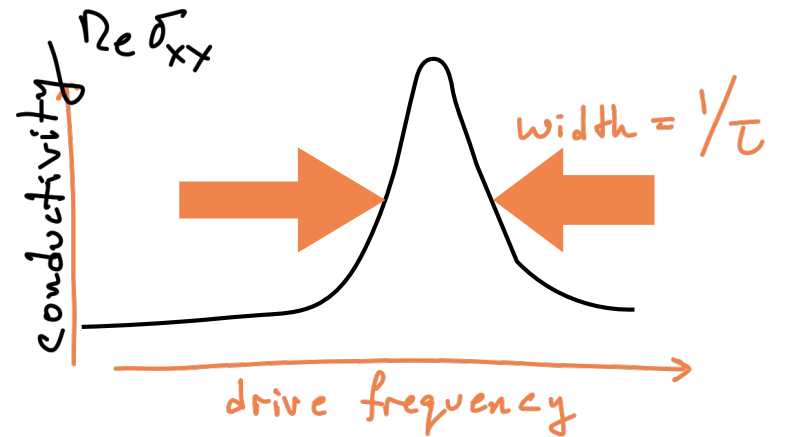
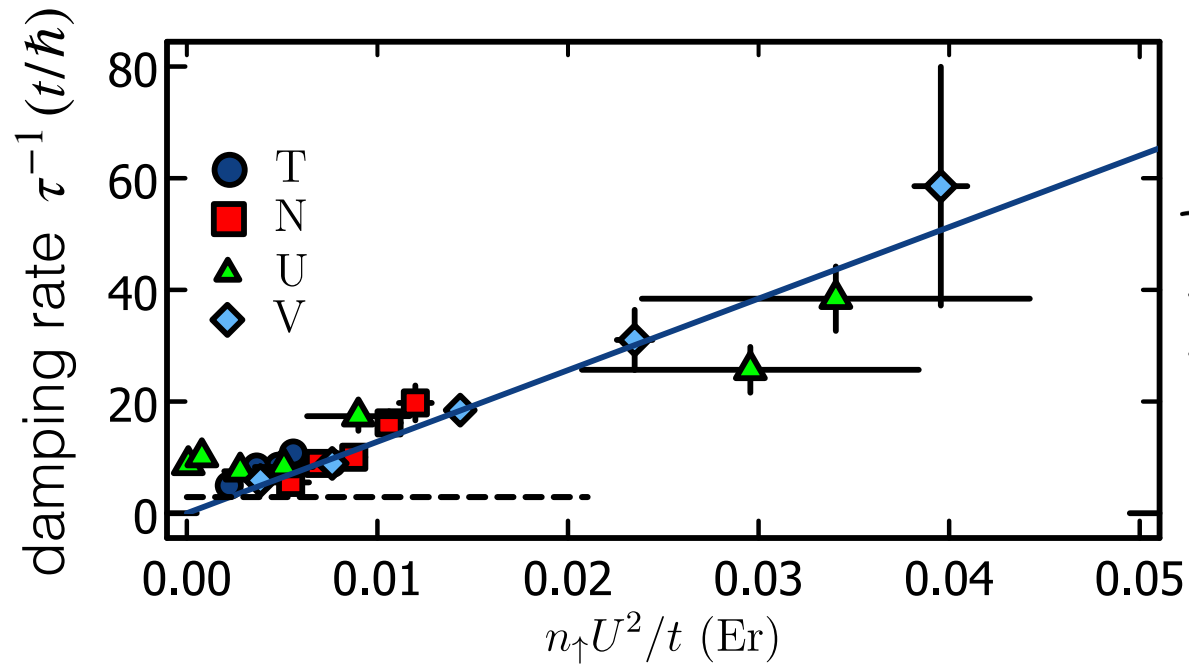
$$q_1 + q_2 = q_3 + q_4$$

[discussion: A. Abrikosov; A. Rosch; ... ]



“scattering to next BZ”

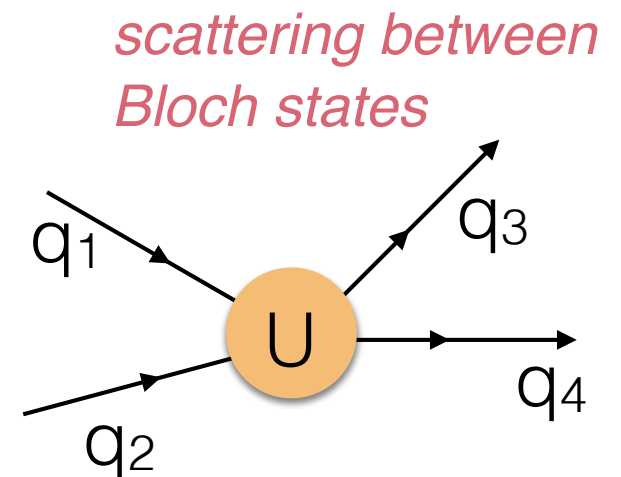
# Transport time



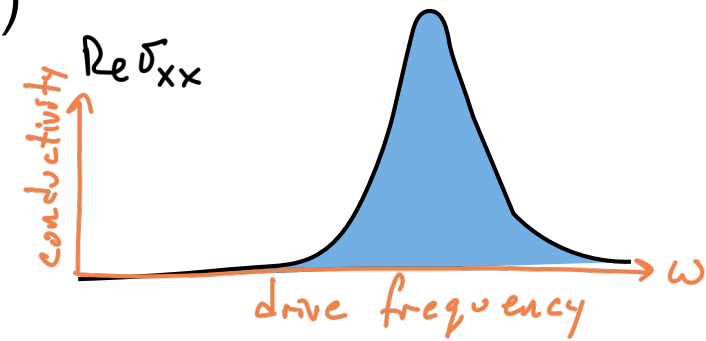
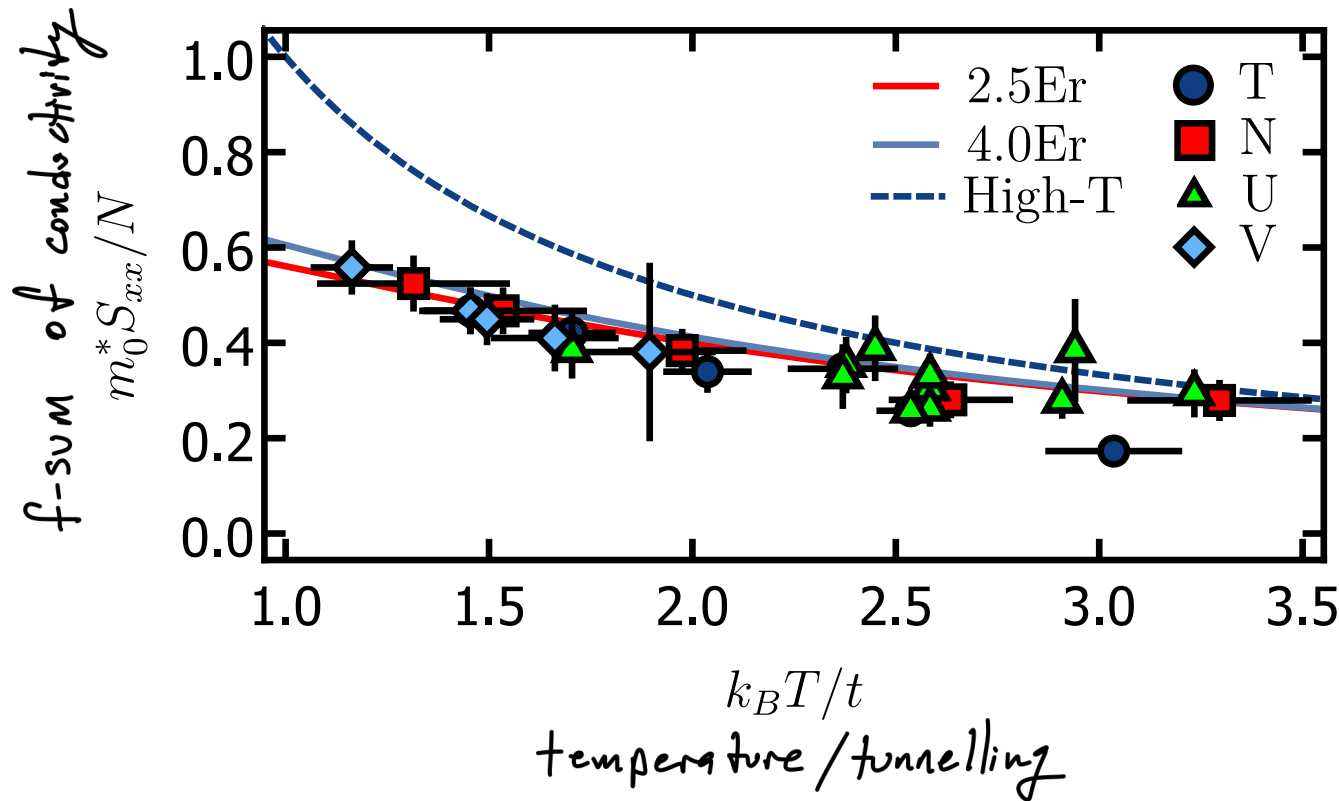
Recall that in quasimomentum basis,

$$\hat{H}_U = \frac{U}{M} \sum_{q_1, q_2, q_3} \hat{c}_{q_4 \uparrow}^\dagger \hat{c}_{q_3 \downarrow}^\dagger \hat{c}_{q_2 \downarrow} \hat{c}_{q_1 \uparrow}$$

and thus cross-section scales as  $U^2$



# f-sum (kinetic energy)



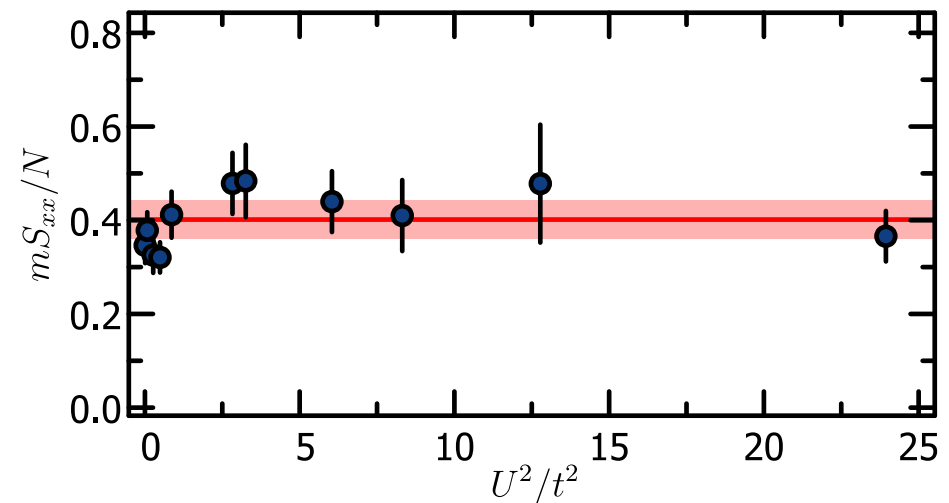
data collapse to KE:

$$\frac{m S_{xx}^{\text{TB}}}{N} = \frac{m}{m_{xx}^*(0)} \frac{I_1(2\beta t_0)}{I_0(2\beta t_0)}$$

independent of  $U$

Hubbard model, TB limit:

$$S_{xx} = -\frac{a_L^2}{\hbar^2} \langle \hat{H}_{0x} \rangle = -\frac{a_L^2}{\hbar^2} \frac{E_K}{d}$$



# Summary, Topic 4

- Finite conductivity in a perfect crystal arises from **atom-atom collisions with broken Galilean invariance**.
- **Umklapp** collisions, in which a lattice photon is absorbed, dominates resistivity
- A frequency **sum rule** connects dynamics to thermodynamics, and is independent of trap and interactions
- Frontiers: crossing a phase transition, artificial gauge fields, stronger interactions, ...



# Research team

**Rhys Anderson**

Kenneth Jackson

Scott Smale

Matthew Taylor

**Vijin Venu**

**Peihang Xu** 许培航

Ben Olsen (->Yale/NUS)

**Fudong Wang** 汪福东 (->南方科技大学)

Stefan Trotzky (->Metamaterials Halifax)

Dave McKay (->IBM Watson)

Alma Bardon (->Morgan Solar)

Scott Beattie (->NRC Ottawa)

Fabian Böttcher (visit from Stuttgart)

Theory Collaborations

**Frédéric Chevy (LKB/ENS)**

Tilman Enss (Heidelberg)

Ana Maria Rey (JILA)

Edward Taylor (Toronto)

Zhenhua Yu 俞振华 (中山大学)

Shizhong Zhang 张世忠 (HKU)

**Ph.D. and Postdoctoral position available!**



Department of Physics  
University of Toronto



Canadian Institute  
for Advanced Research



NSERC

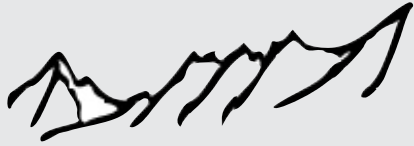


AFOSR



ARO





# Fermions in Optical Lattices

- ✓\* Introduction
- ✓\* Fermions, statistics, & exchange
- ✓\* Matter waves in crystals of light
- ✓\* The Hubbard model
- ✓\* Transport

Thank you for your  
attention and questions!