

Developments in **Ultrafast Electron Microscopy**

Claus Ropers

Solids and Nanostructures: Selected Challenges

- Emergence and control of correlated states of matter
- Energy transfer and redistribution among different degrees of freedom
- Pathways in structural and magnetic transformations

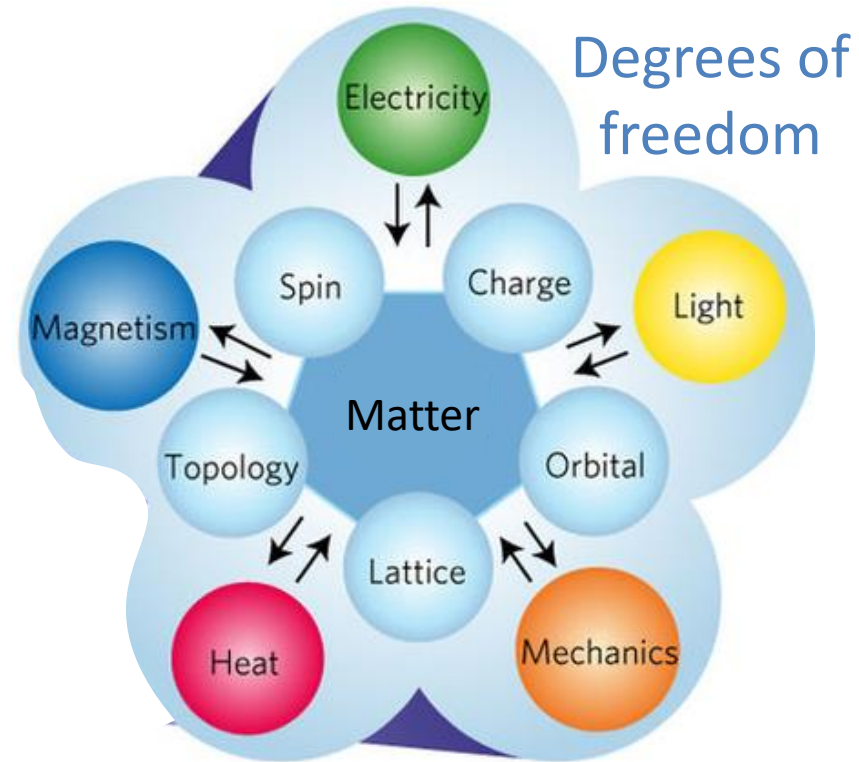
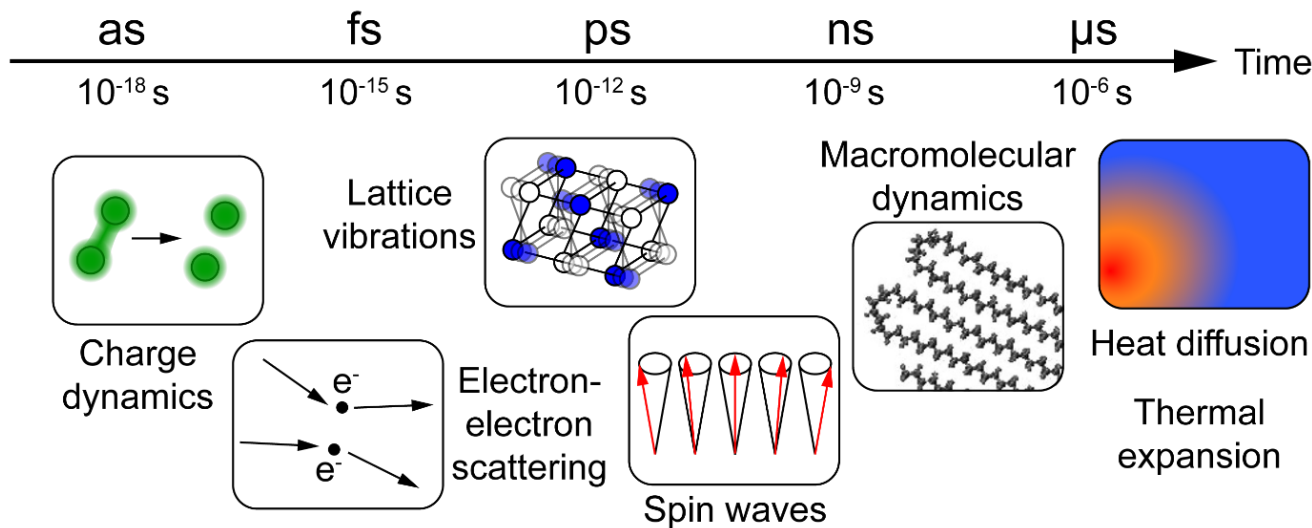
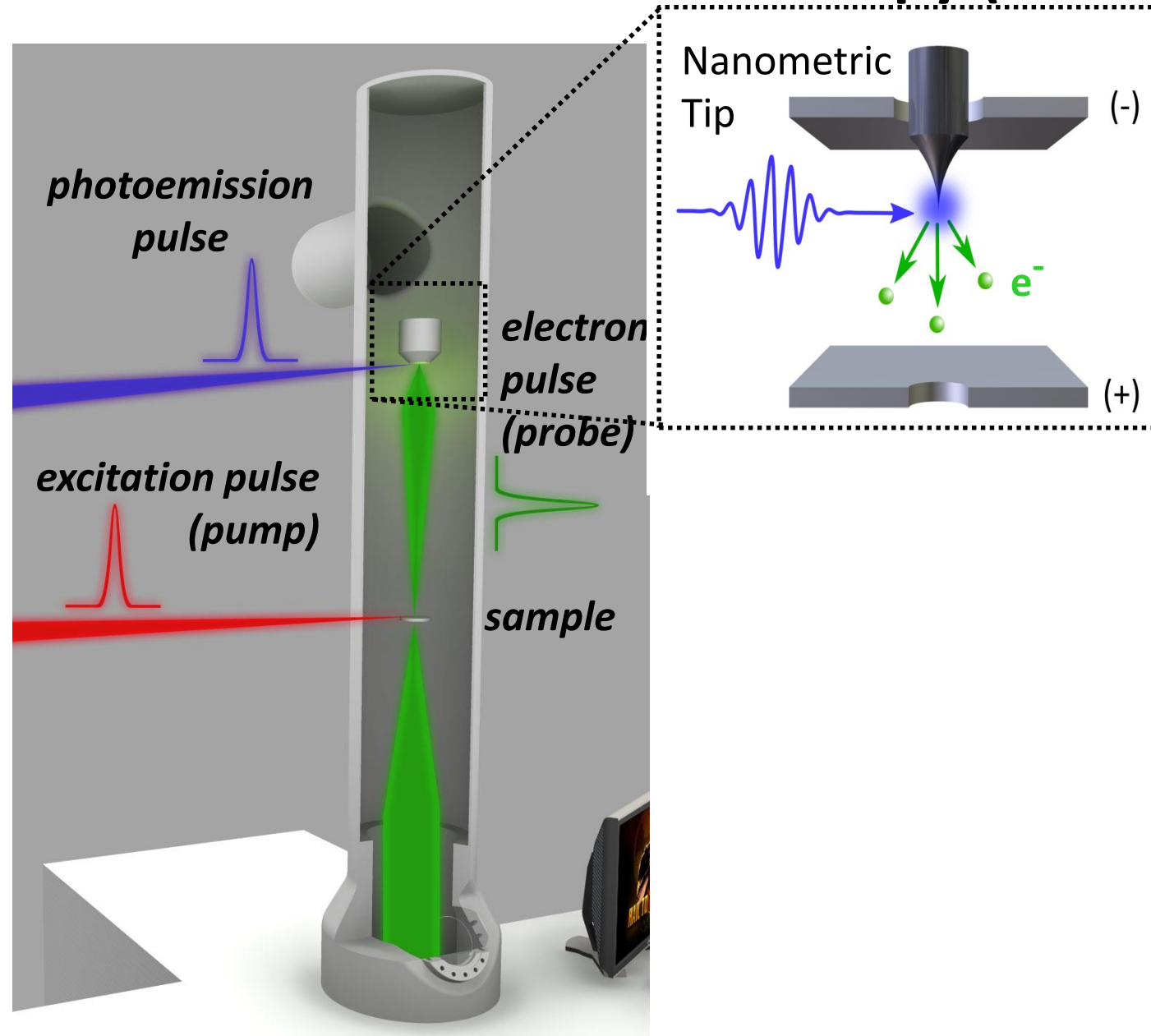


Fig. adapted from: Tokura et al., Nat. Phys. (2017)

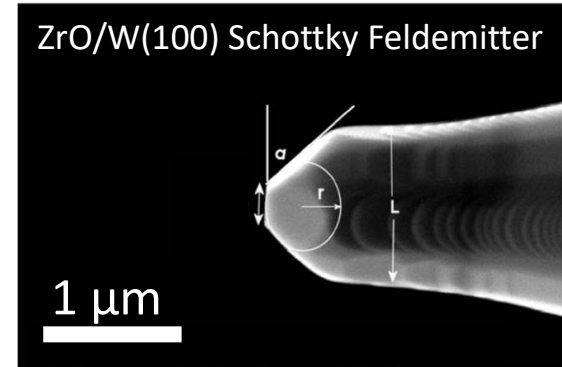
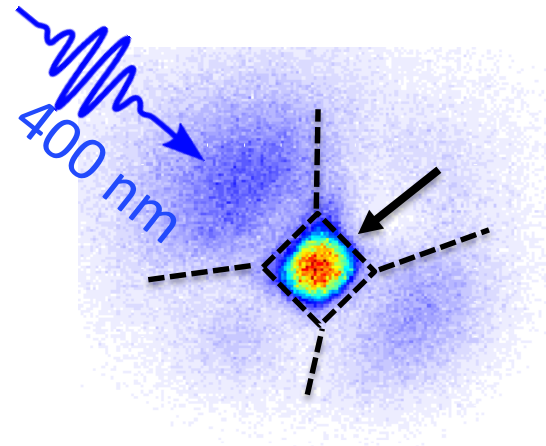
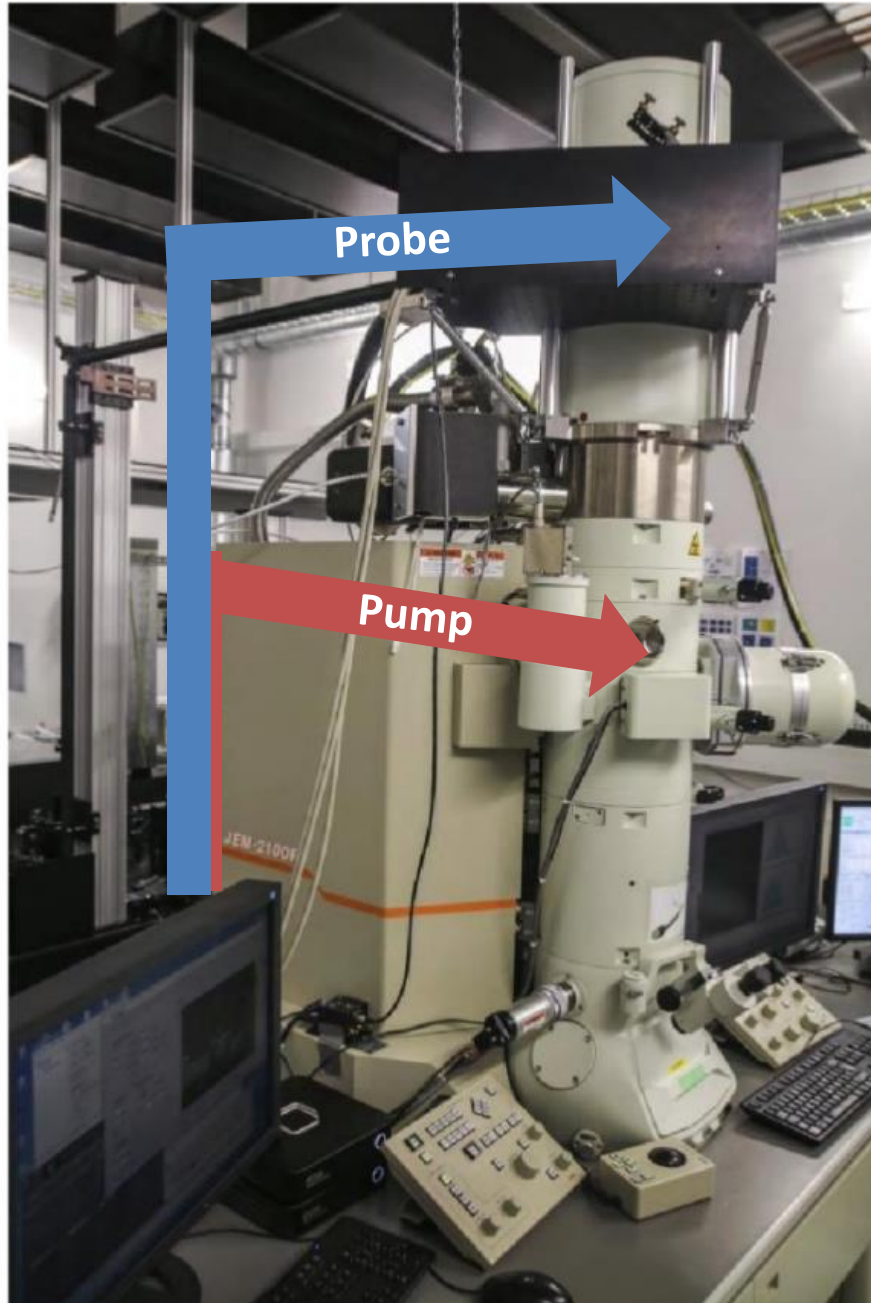
Ultrafast transmission electron microscopy (UTEM)



Nanocathodes:

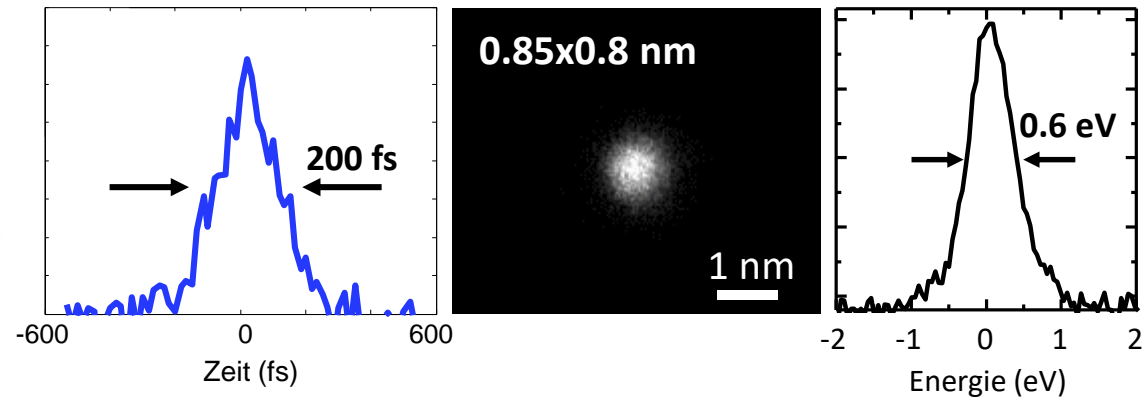
- High coherence
- Large extraction fields
- Short electron pulses

Ultrafast transmission electron microscope (UTEM)



Liu et al., J. Vac. Sci. Tech. (2010).

Temporal/spatial/spectral electron pulse properties



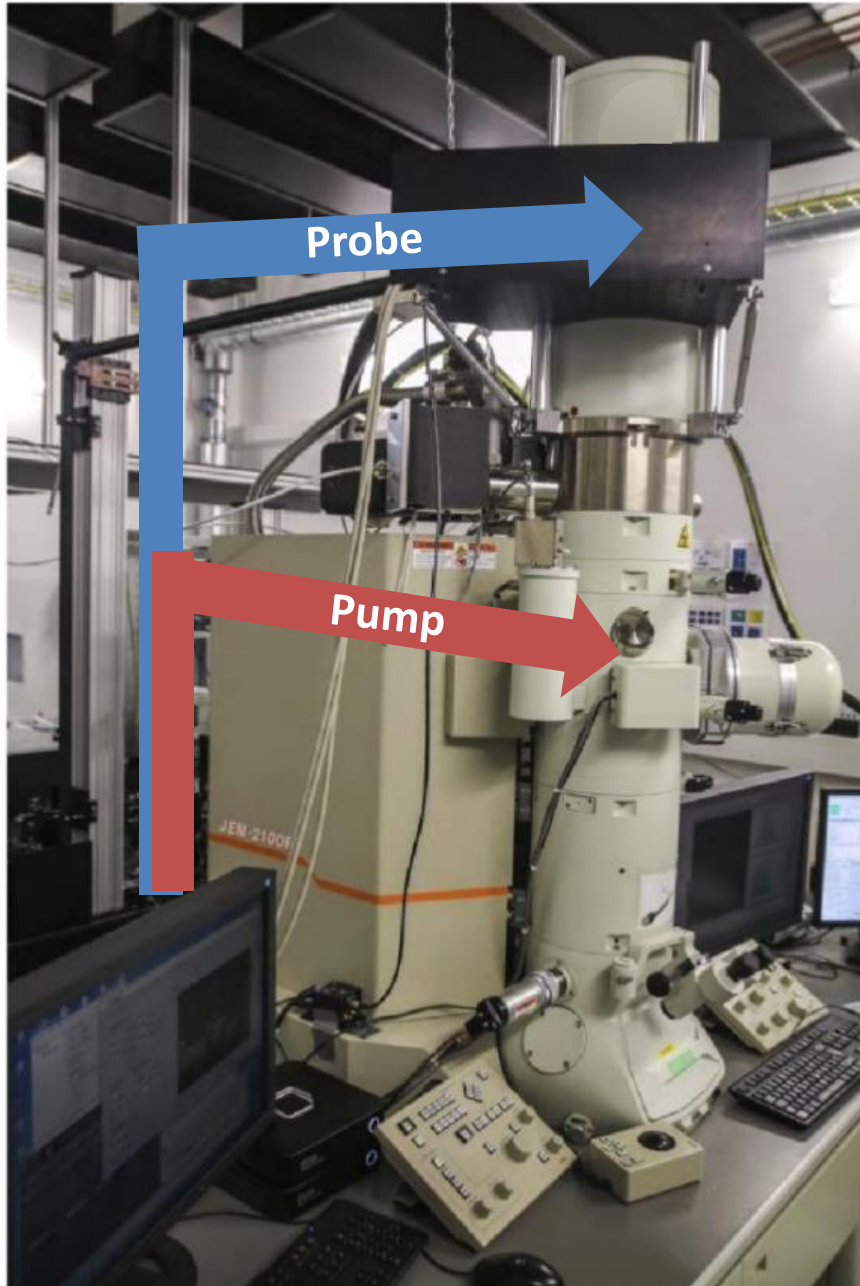
→ rms-Emittance: $\varepsilon = 2 \text{ pm} \cdot \text{rad}$ (m. Apertur)

→ Peak Brilliance: $1.75 \cdot 10^{13} \text{ A/m}^2\text{sr}$

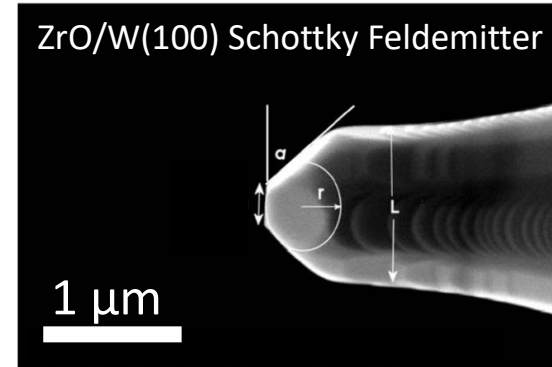
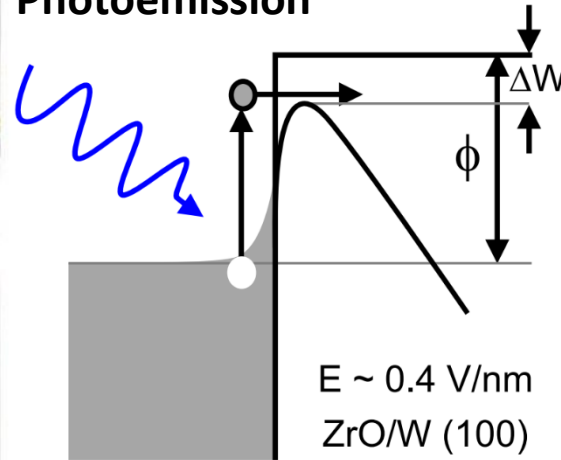
A. Feist *et al.*, Nature 521, 200 (2015)

A. Feist *et al.*, Ultramicroscopy (2017)

Ultrafast transmission electron microscopy (UTEM)

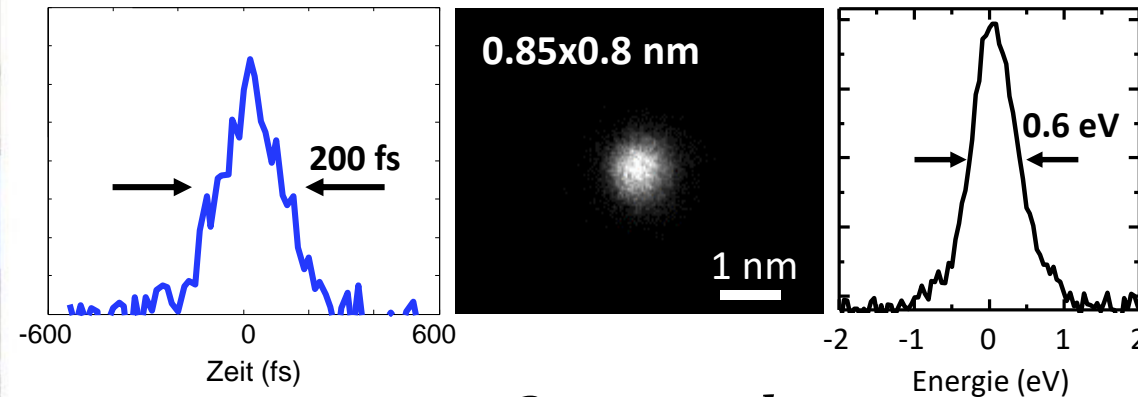


Photoemission



Liu et al., J. Vac. Sci Tech. (2010).

Temporal/spatial/spectral electron pulse properties



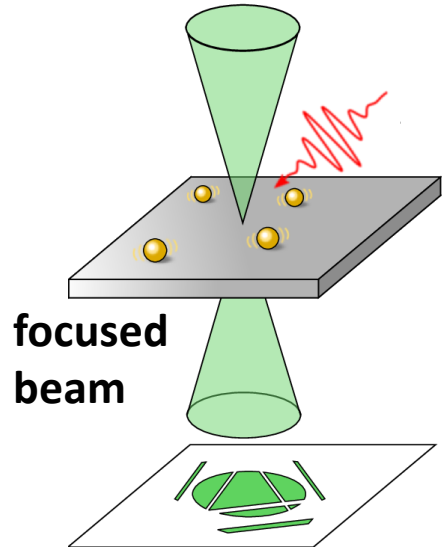
→ rms-Emittance: $\epsilon = 2 \text{ pm} \cdot \text{rad}$ (apertured)

→ Peak brightness: $1.75 \cdot 10^{13} \text{ A/m}^2\text{sr}$

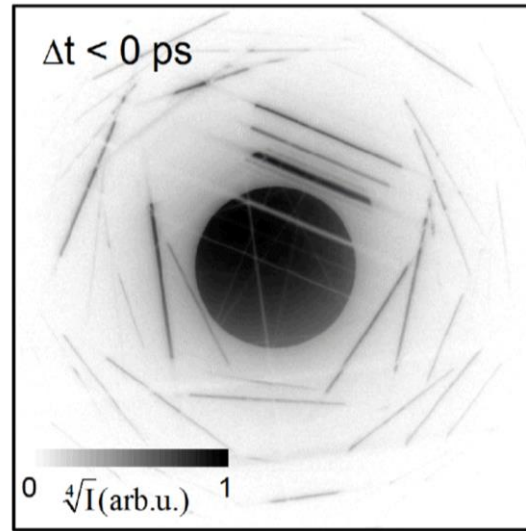
B. Cook *et al.* Ultramicroscopy **109**, pp. 403-412 (2009)

A. Feist *et al.*, Ultramicroscopy (2017)

Ultrafast transmission electron microscopy (UTEM)

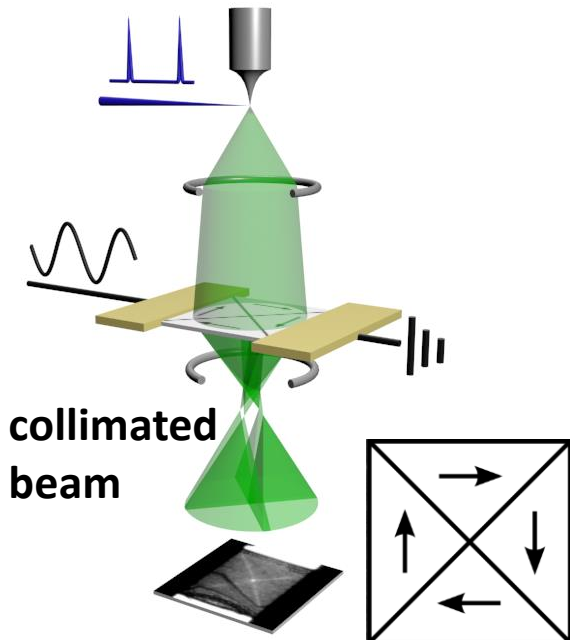
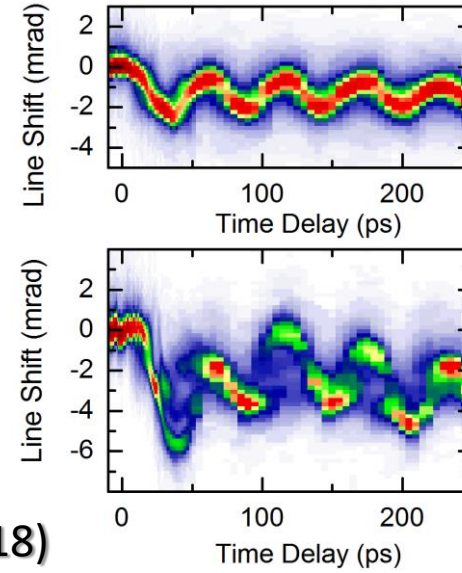


focused
beam

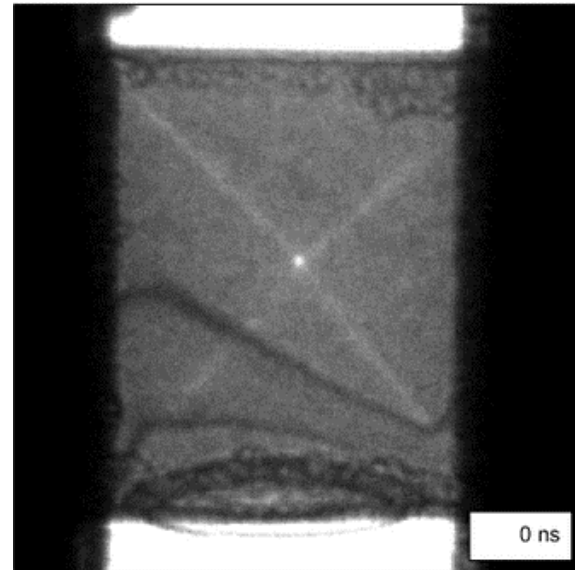


A. Feist et al., Struct. Dyn. (2018)

Structural dynamics



collimated
beam

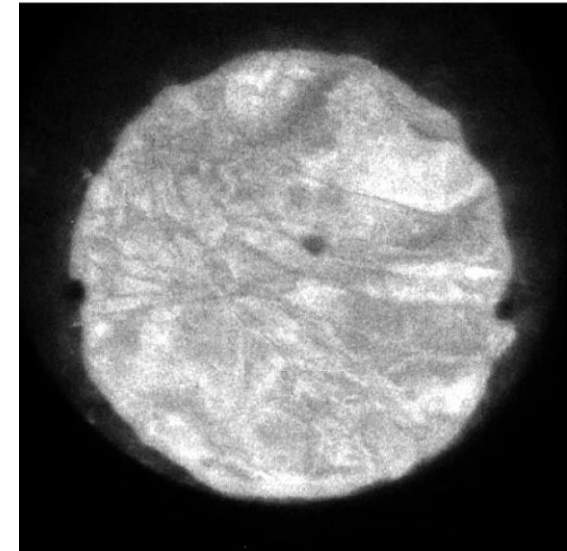


Magnetization Dynamics

M. Möller *et al.*,
Comms. Phys. (2019)
Phys. Rev. Res. (2022)

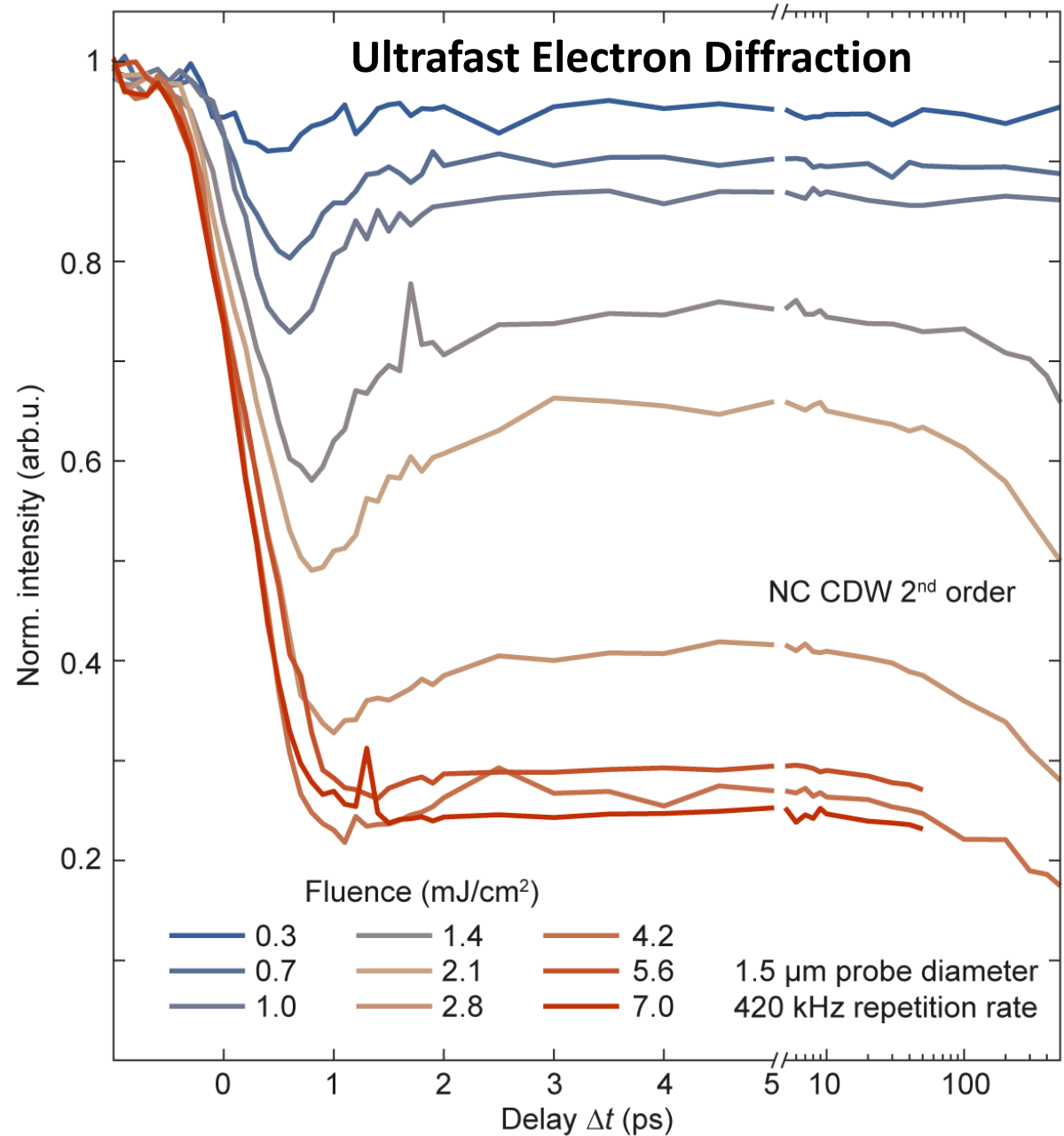
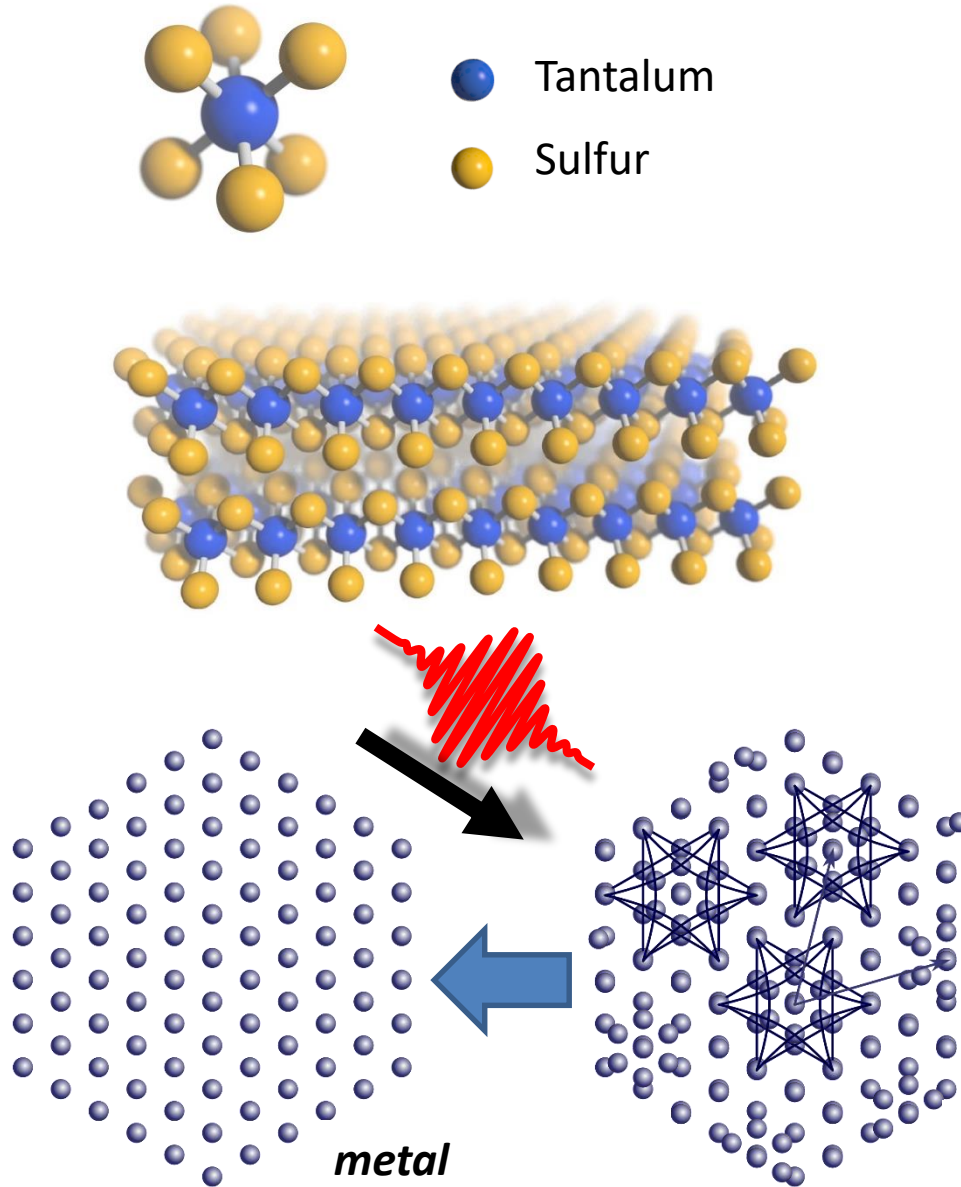
Phase transitions

P=90.0mW

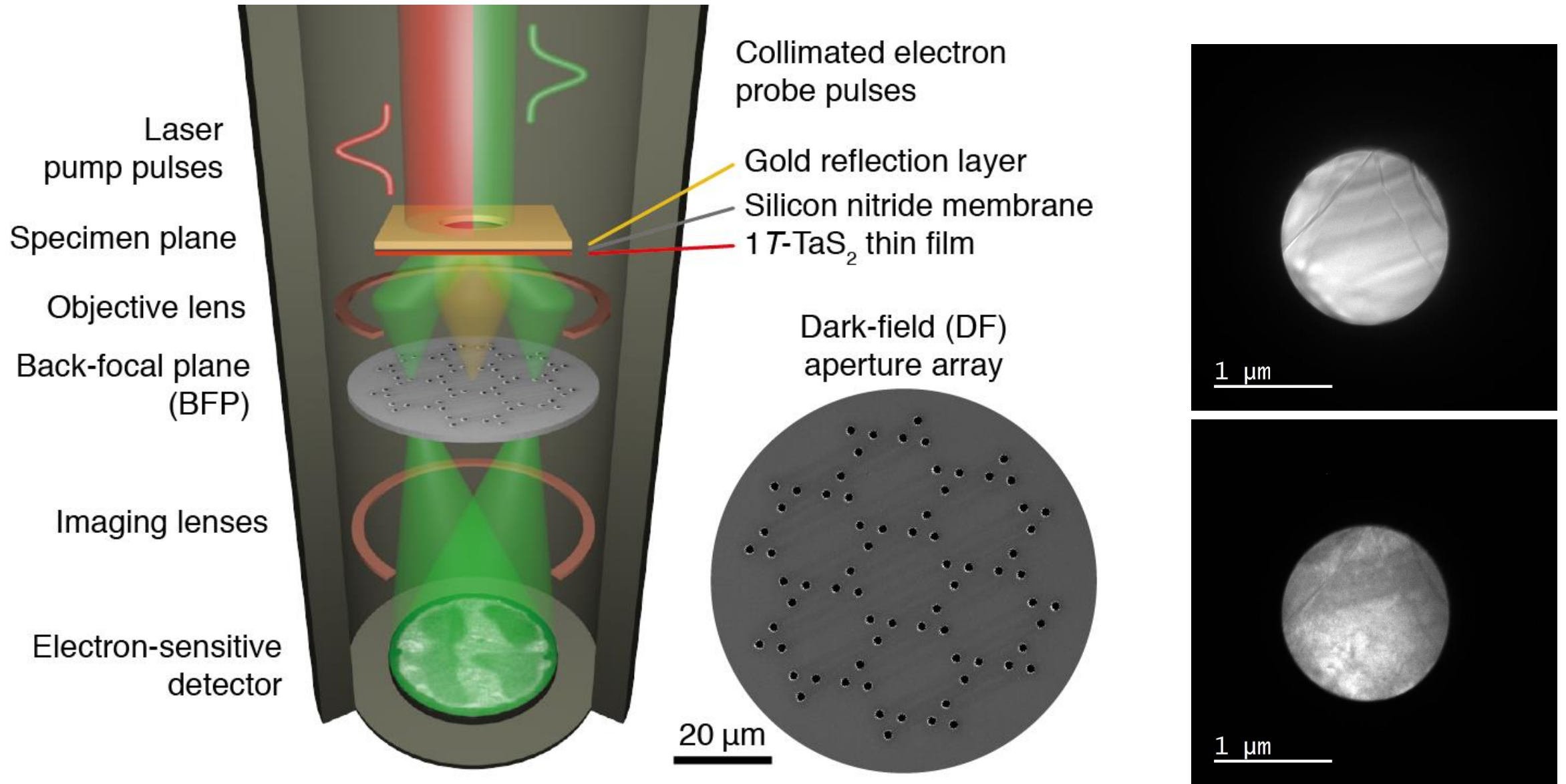


Th. Danz et al.,
Science (2021)

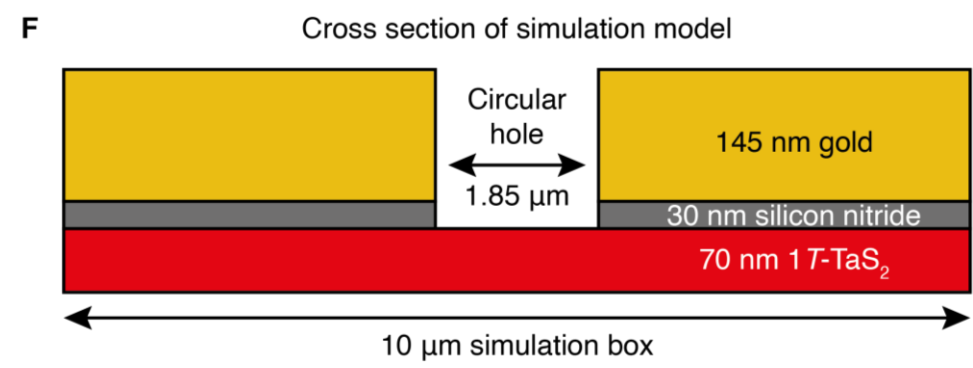
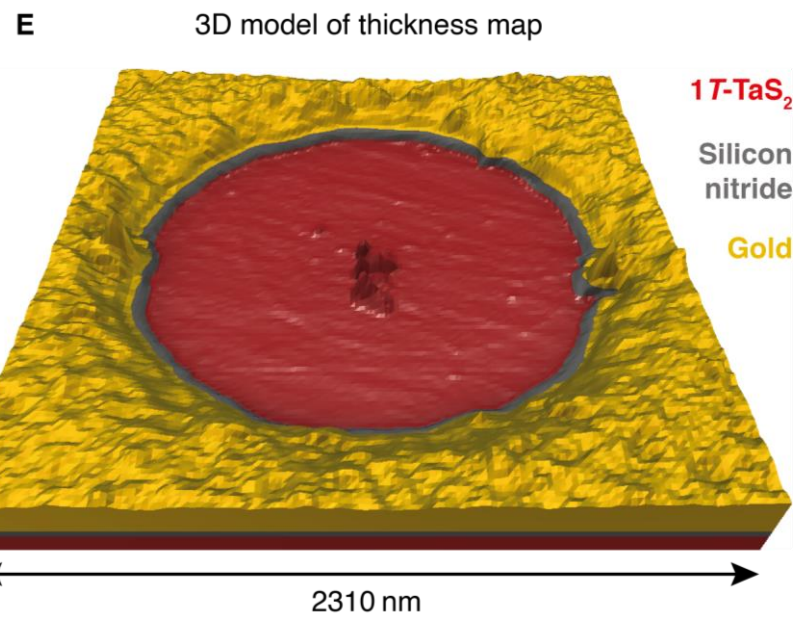
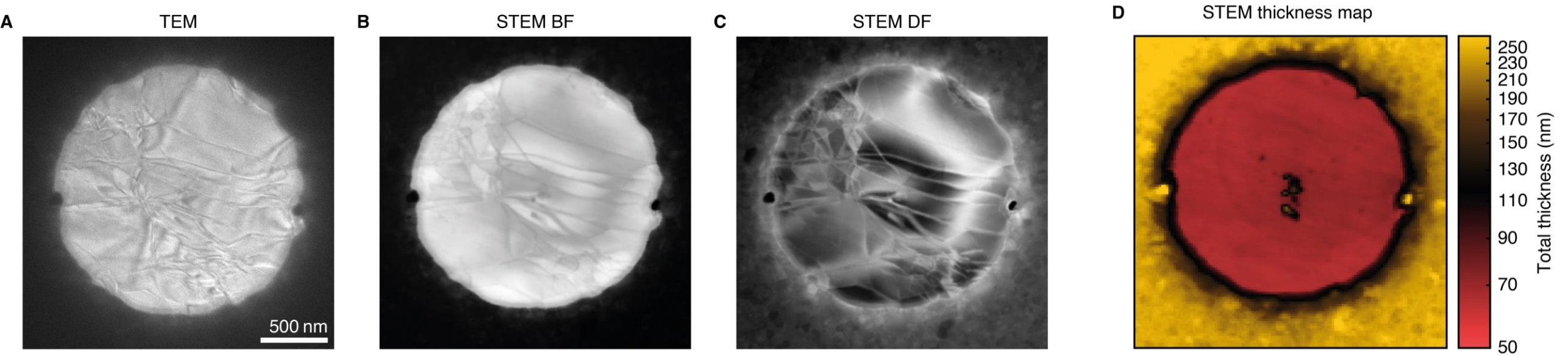
Ultrafast Imaging of a Metal-Insulator Transition



Ultrafast dark-field imaging



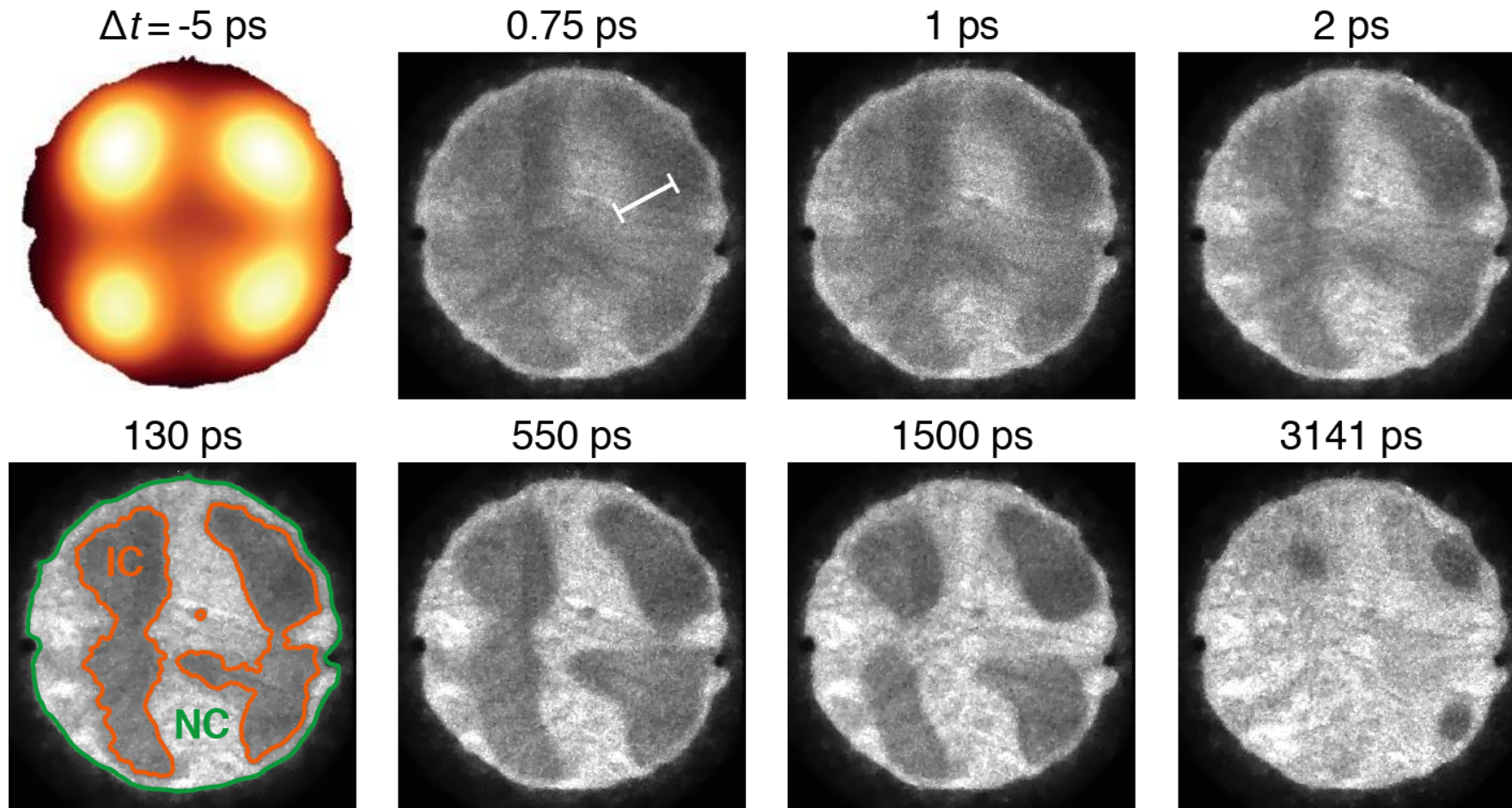
1T-TaS₂ sample design



Th. Danz, T. Domröse, C. Ropers, *Science* **371.6527** (2021): 371-374.

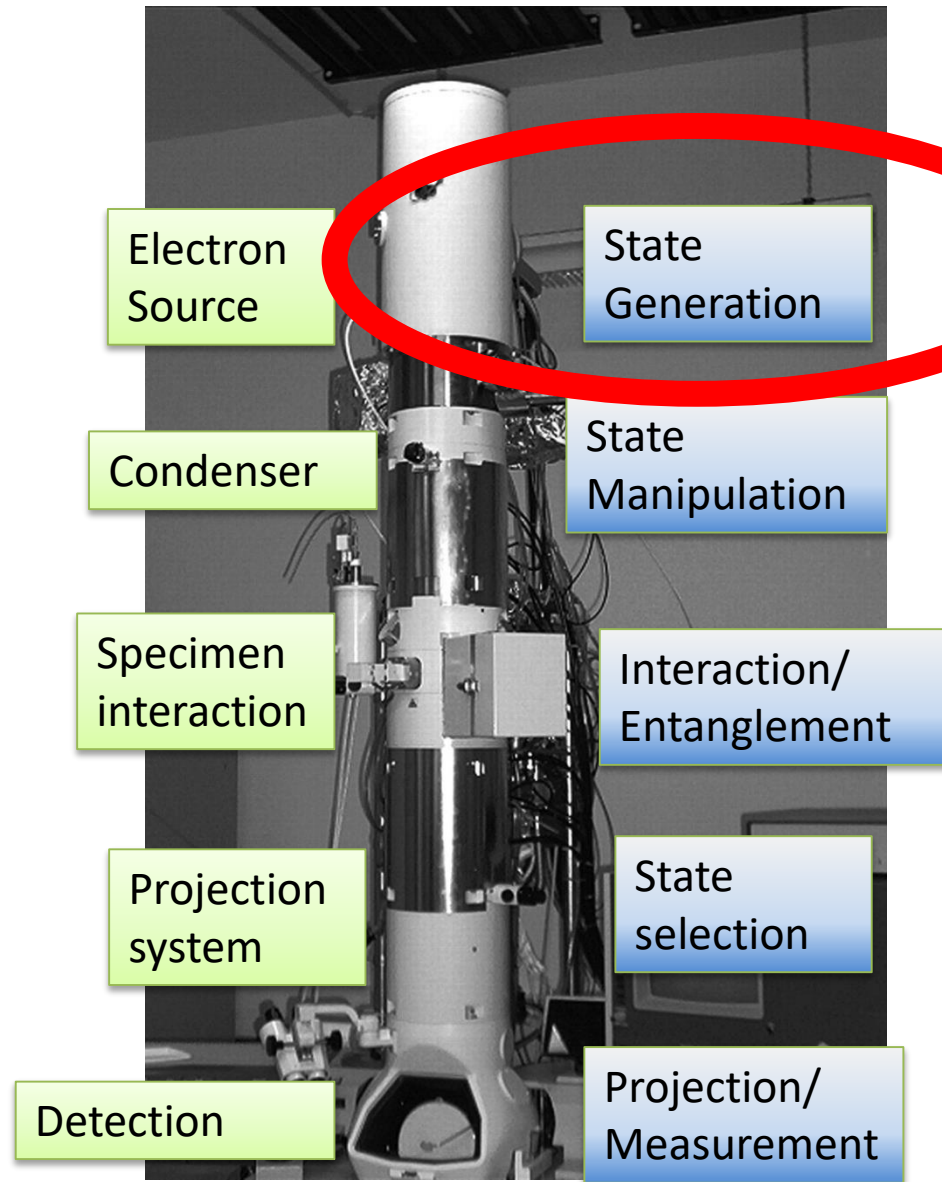
Sample: K. Rossnagel (Kiel)

Ultrafast charge-density wave dynamics in 1T-TaS₂



- Rapid out-of-plane carrier transport
- Formation of phase boundaries
- Relaxation governed by thermal diffusion
- Study of phase transition at hundreds of kHz

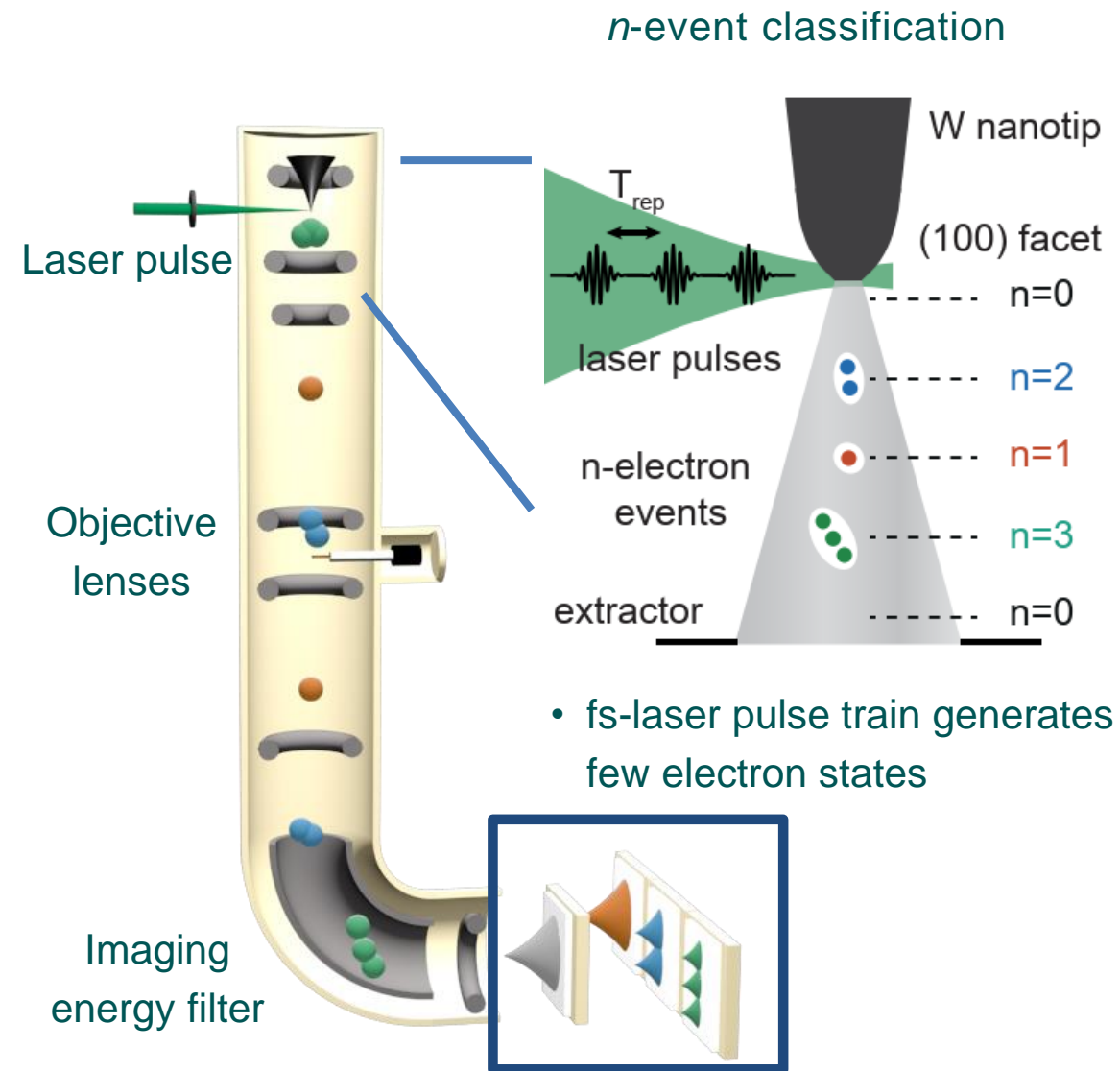
Quantum probing in electron microscopy



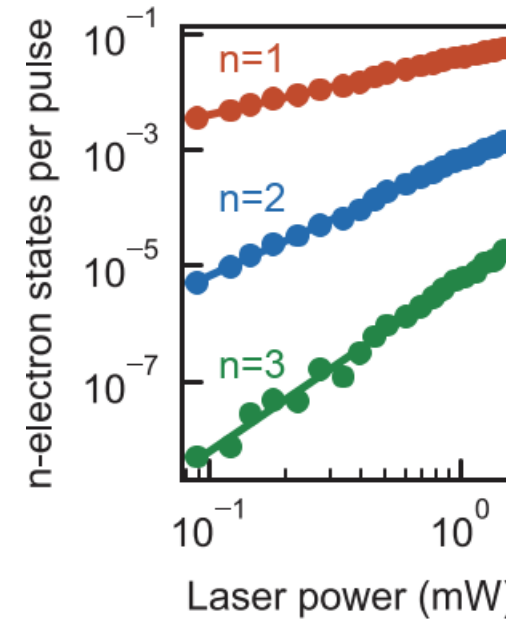
Want to develop strategies to **prepare, manipulate and characterize** the **quantum state** of electron pulses for novel measurement schemes

->Develop a „Quantum Optics“ framework for electron microscopy

Counting electrons for each pulse



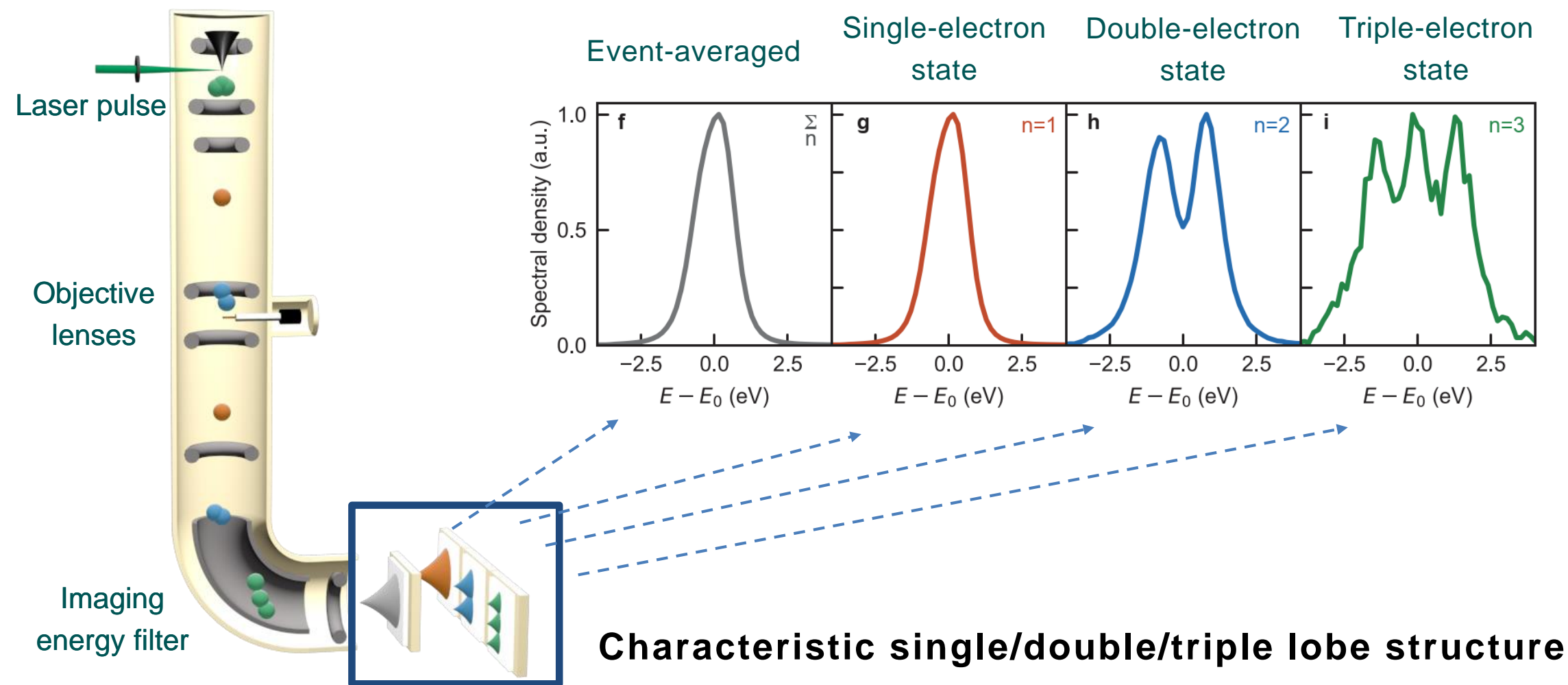
R. Haindl et al., arXiv:2209.12300 (2022)



- We observe considerable antibunching.
- Poisson statistics: $P_n = r_n \frac{P_1^n}{n!}$ with $r_n = 1$
- In the measurement: $r_{n=2} = 0.85$, $r_{n=3} = 0.57$

see also: S. Keramati et al., Phys. Rev. Lett. 127, 180602 (2021)

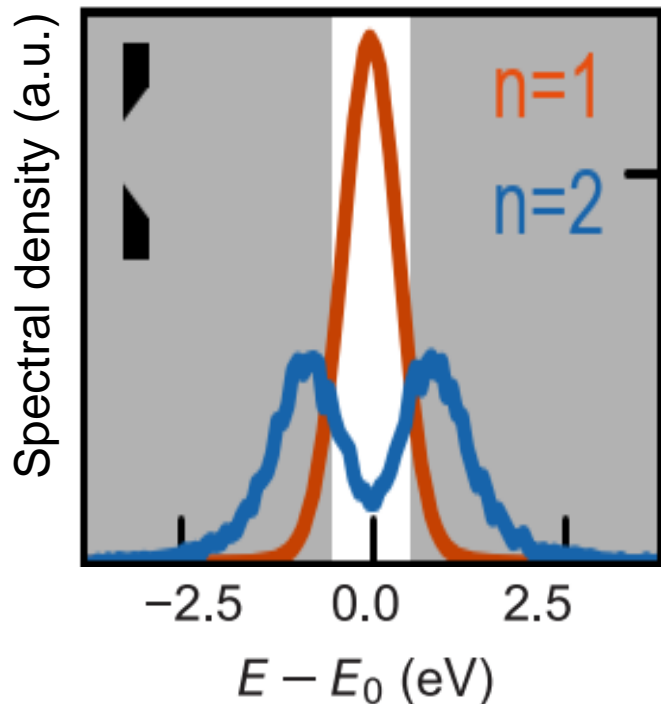
Electron number-state spectra



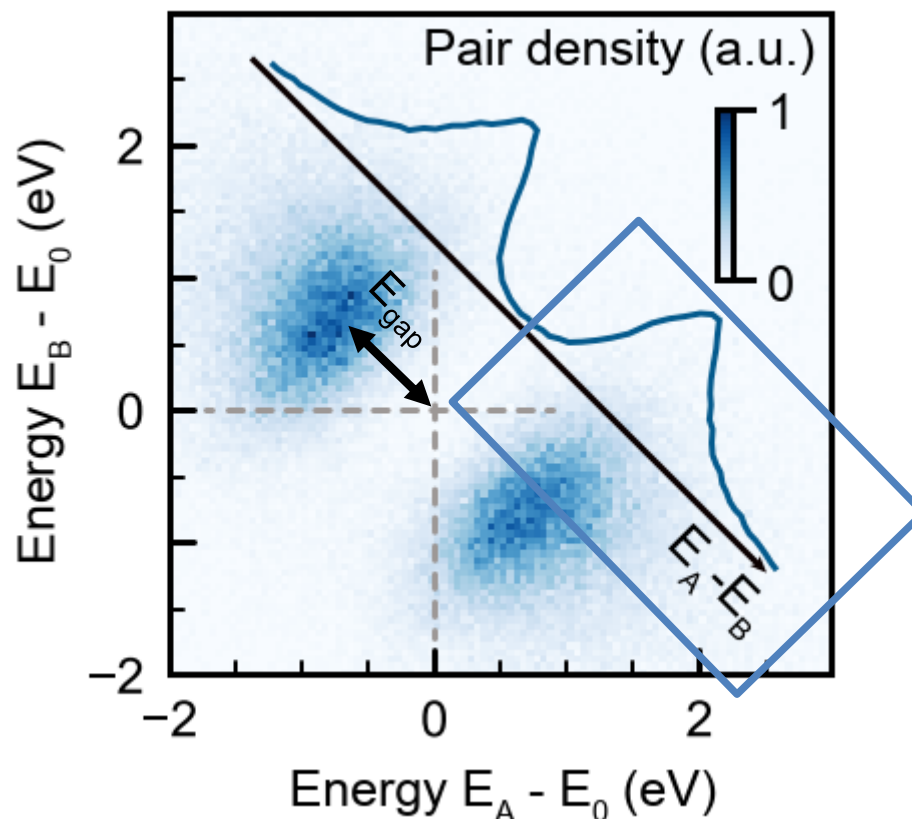
R. Haindl et al., arXiv:2209.12300 (2022)

Two-electron energy correlation

$n=2$ Spectrum

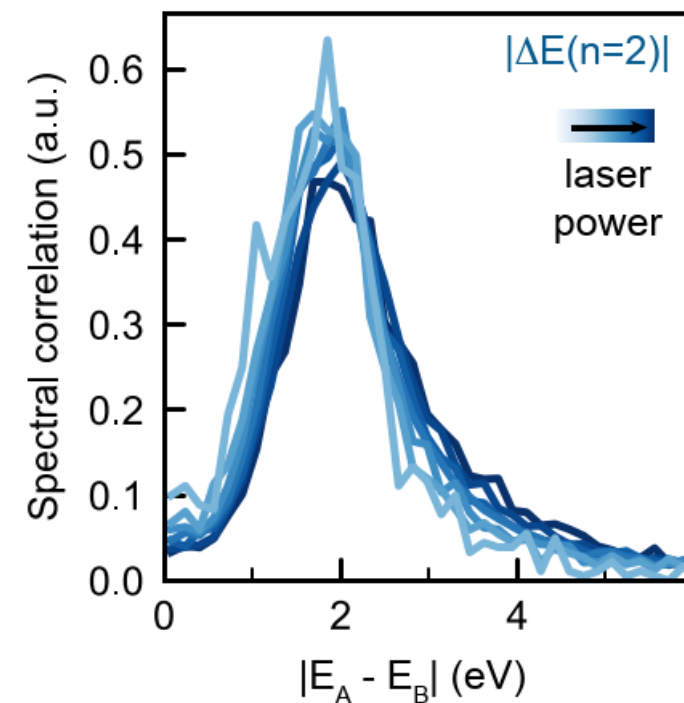


Electron pair distribution



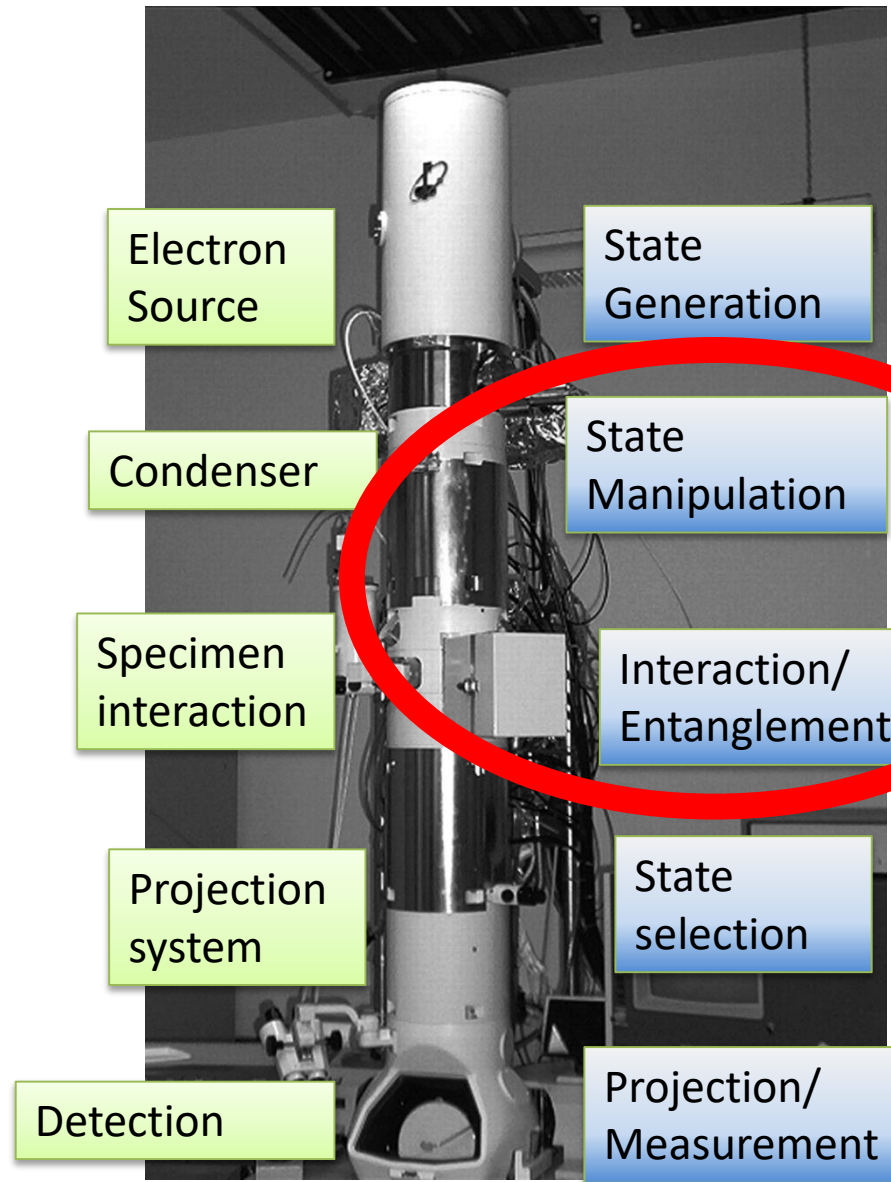
- Correlation gap of 1.7 eV
- Energy antibunching

Two-electron correlation function



- Independent of laser power
- **Strongly Coulomb-correlated two-electron states**

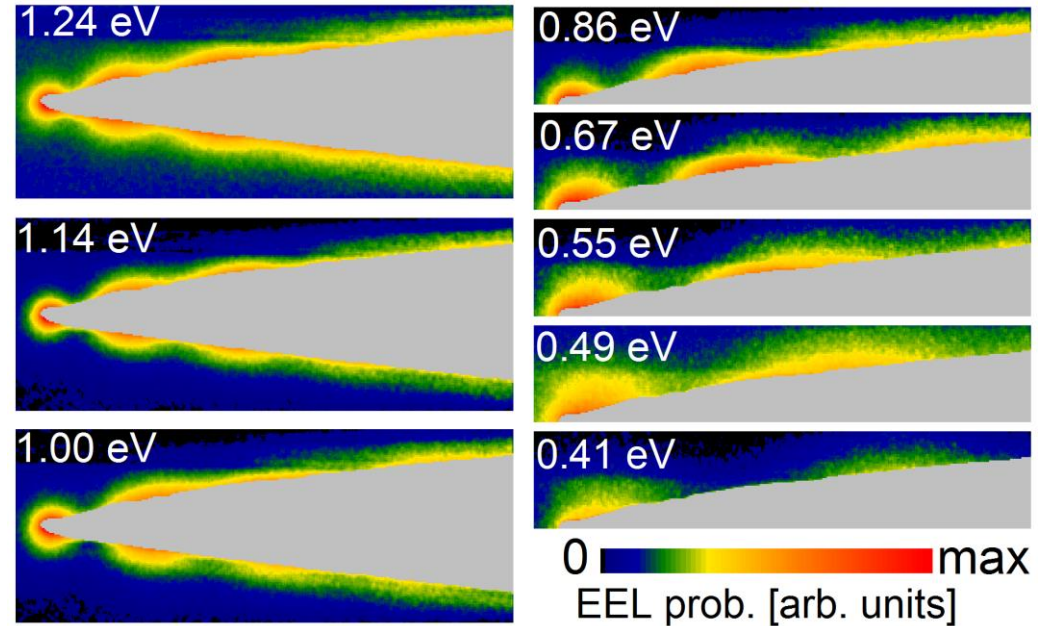
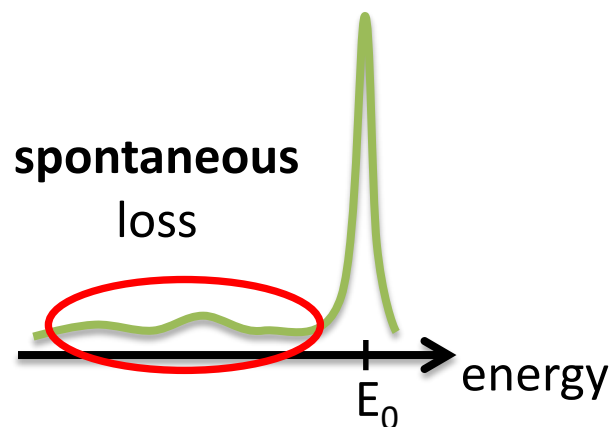
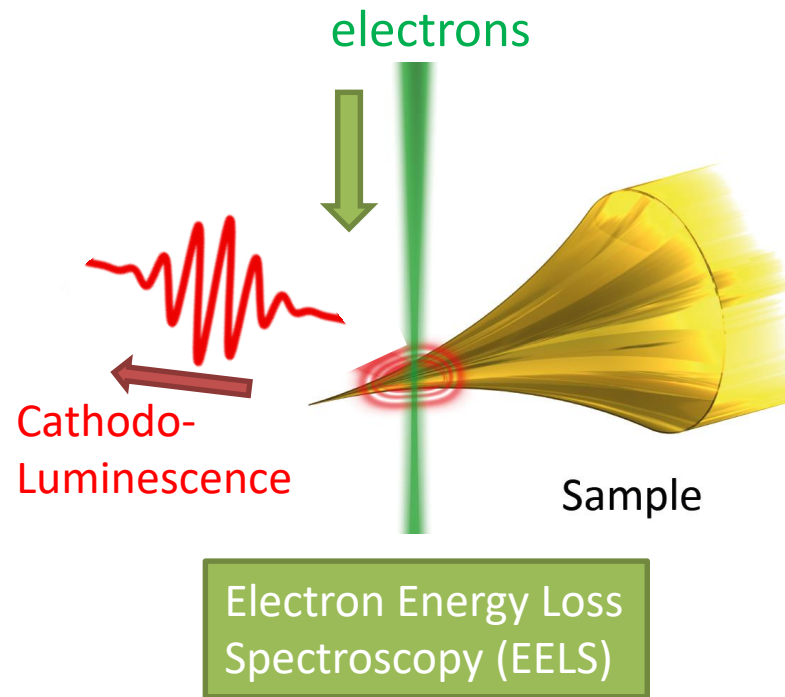
Quantum probing in electron microscopy



Want to develop strategies to **prepare, manipulate and characterize** the **quantum state** of electron pulses for novel measurement schemes

->Develop a „Quantum Optics“ framework for electron microscopy

Interaction of fast electrons with optical near fields



Real-space imaging of nanotip plasmons

B. Schröder *et al.*, Phys. Rev. B (2015)

Literature:

Feist *et al.*, Nature (2015)

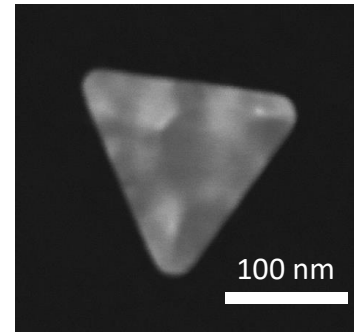
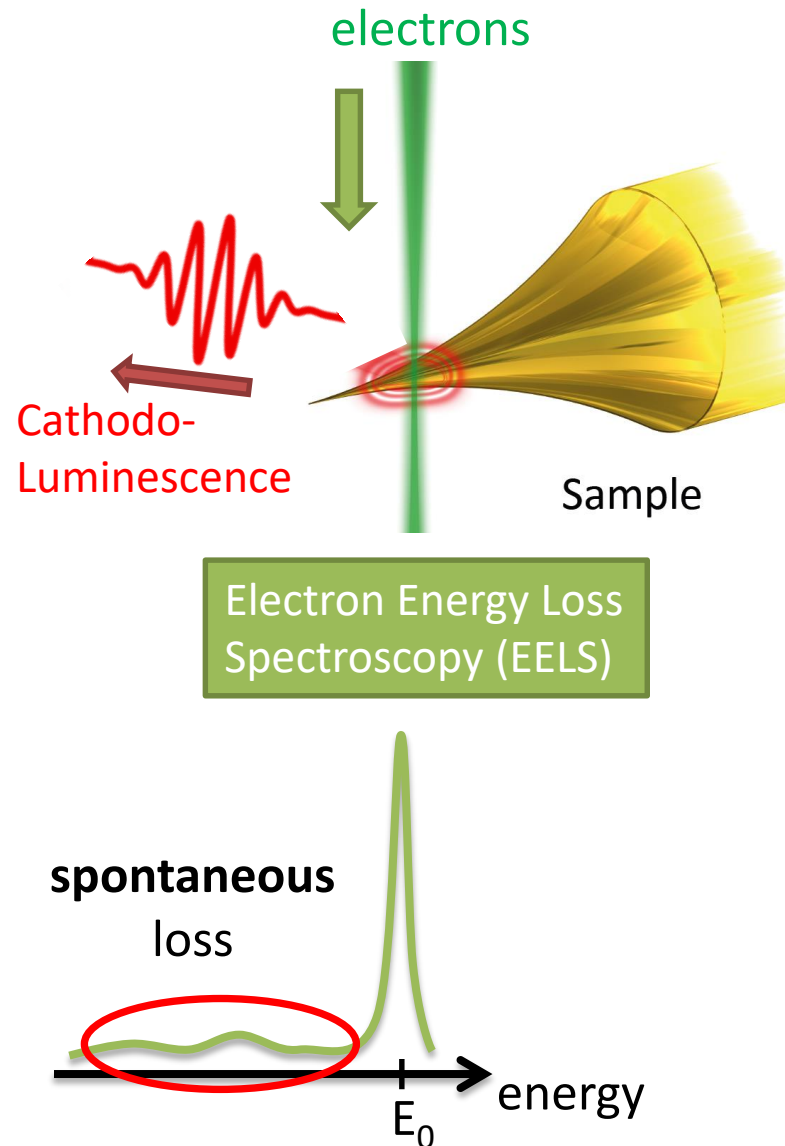
Barwick *et al.*, Nature (2009)

A. Howie, Inst. Phys. Conf. Ser. 161, 311 (1999)

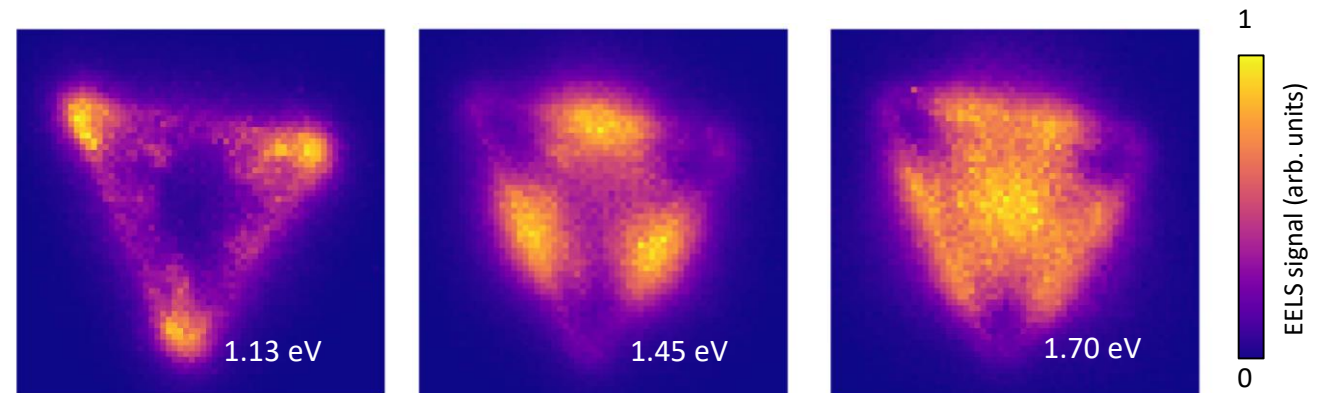
F.J. García de Abajo *et al.*, Nano Lett. (2010)

S.T. Park *et al.*, NJP (2010)

Interaction of fast electrons with optical near fields



Energy-filtered EELS maps



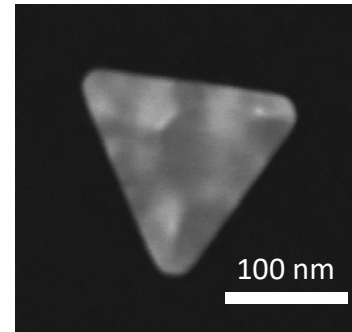
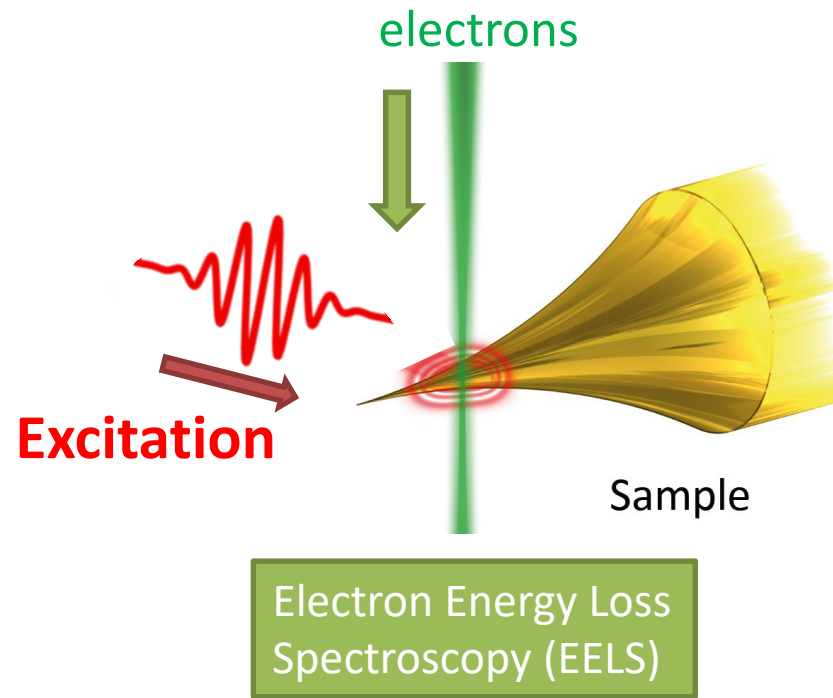
$$\Gamma_{EELS}(\omega) = \frac{e}{\pi \hbar \omega} \int dt \operatorname{Re} \{ e^{-i\omega t} \mathbf{v} \cdot \mathbf{E}^{ind}[\mathbf{r}_e(t), \omega] \}$$

loss probability

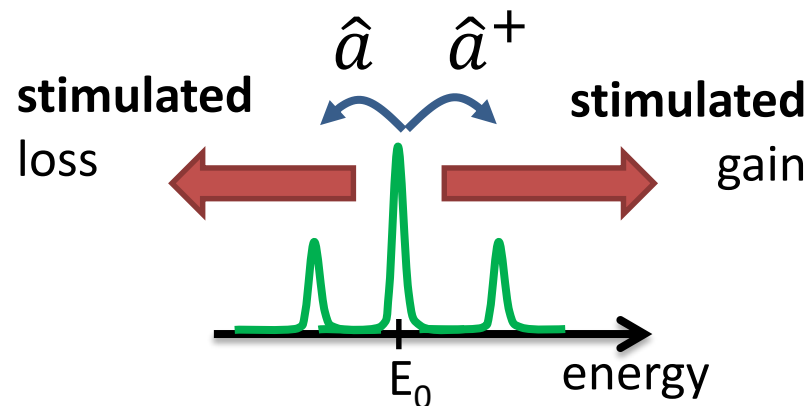
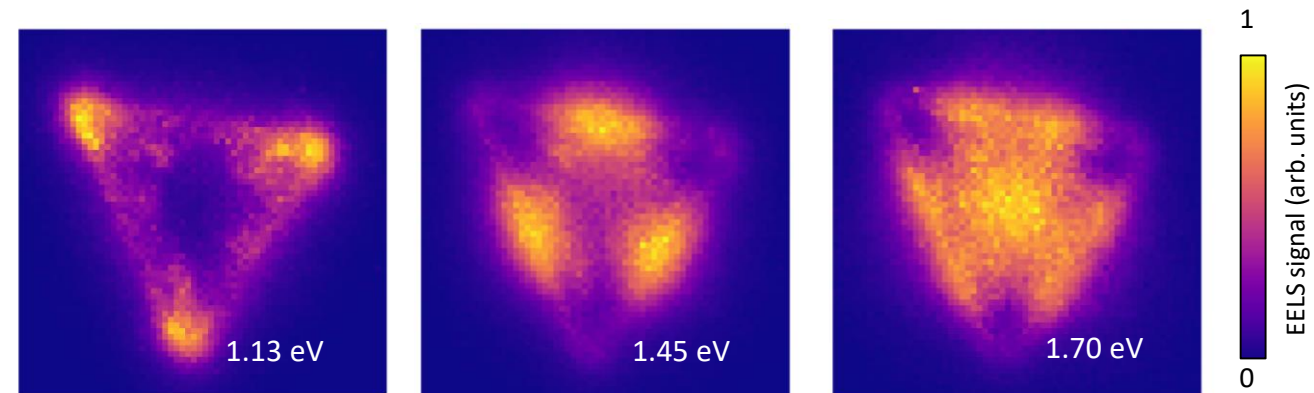
self-induced E-field

See e.g.: F. J. Garcia de Abajo, Rev. Mod. Phys. 82, 209 (2010)

Interaction of fast electrons with optical near fields



Energy-filtered EELS maps



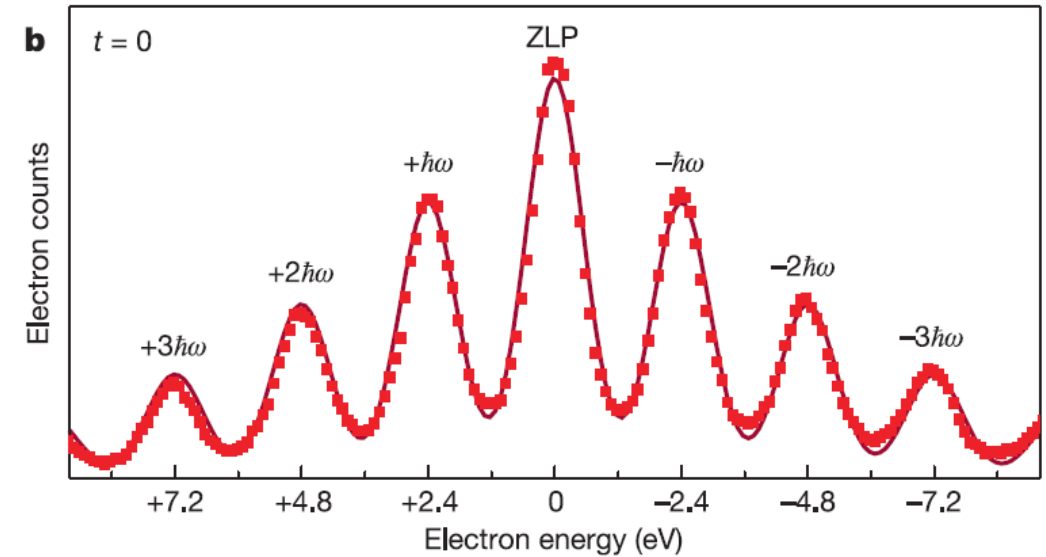
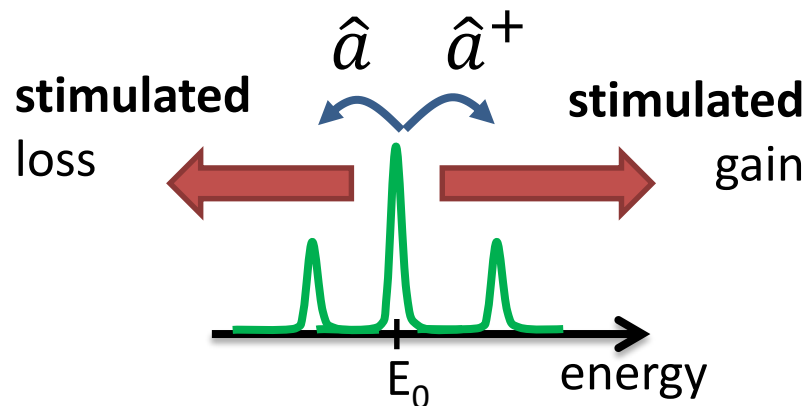
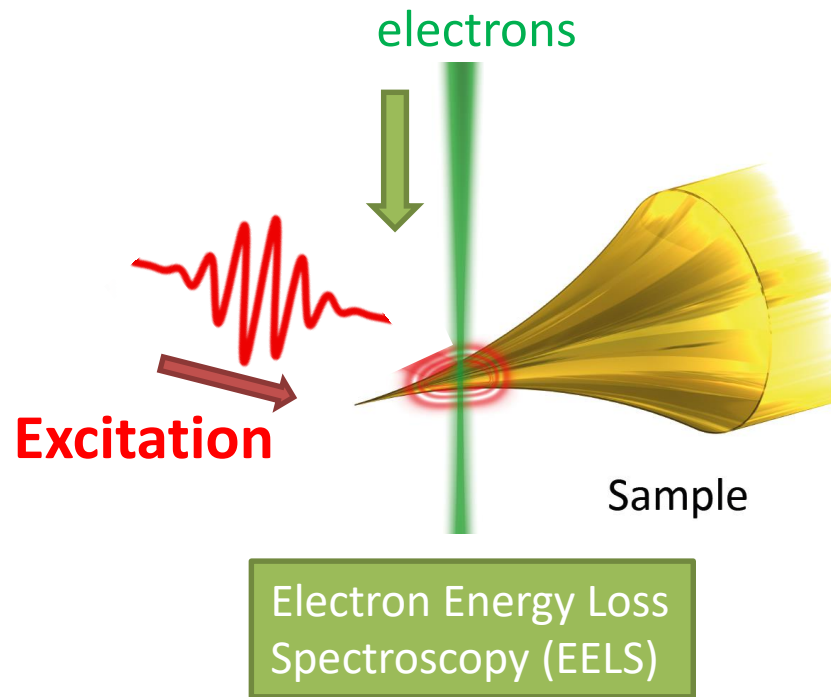
$$\Gamma_{EELS}(\omega) = \frac{e}{\pi\hbar\omega} \int dt \operatorname{Re}\{e^{-i\omega t} \mathbf{v} \cdot \mathbf{E}^{ind}[\mathbf{r}_e(t), \omega]\}$$

loss probability

self-induced E-field

See e.g.: F. J. Garcia de Abajo, Rev. Mod. Phys. 82, 209 (2010)

Interaction of fast electrons with optical near fields



B. Barwick *et al.*, Nature (2009)

Photon-induced near-field electron microscopy (PINEM)

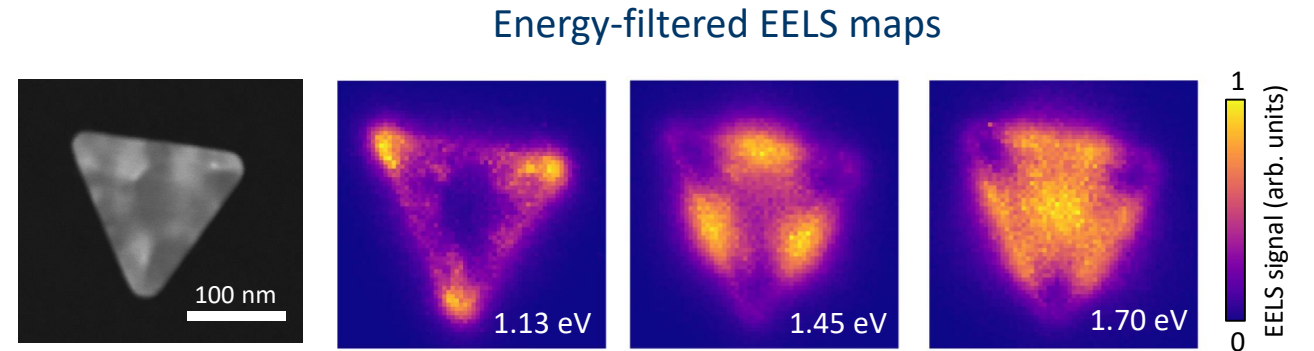
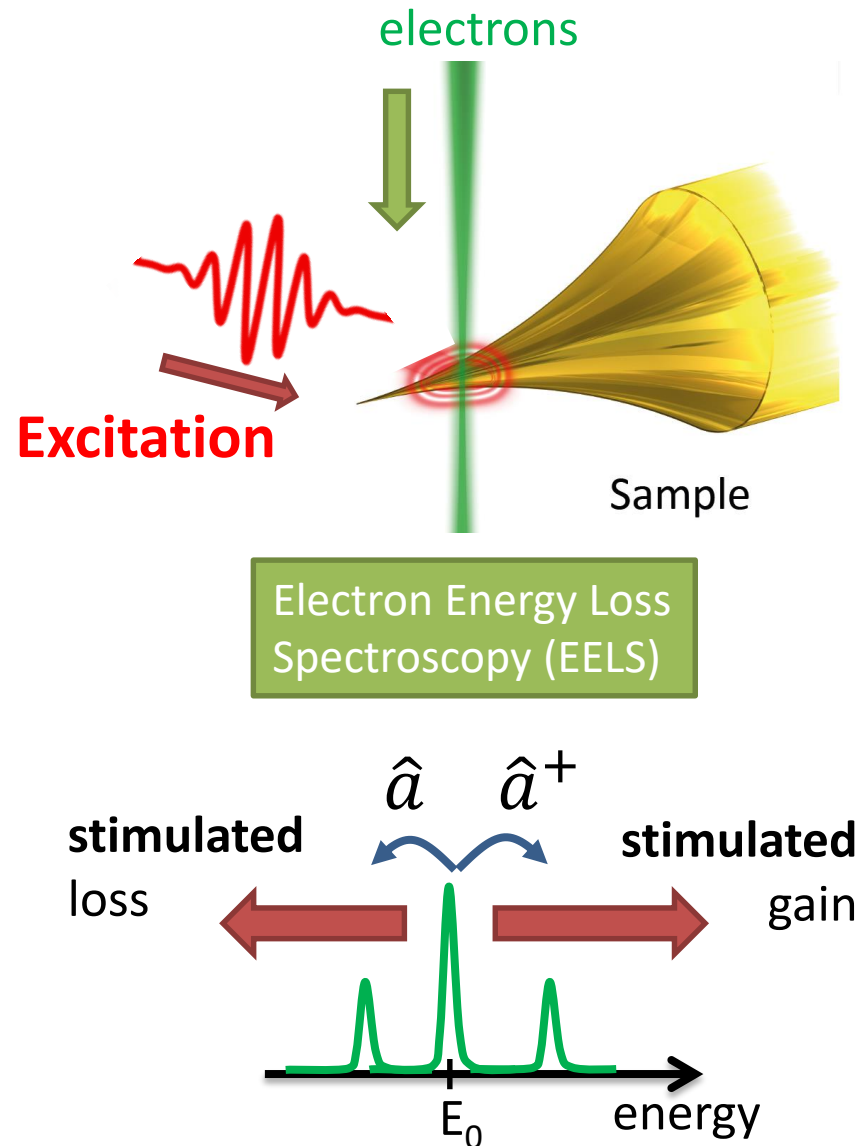
$$\Gamma(\omega) = \frac{e}{\pi\hbar\omega} \int dt \operatorname{Re}\{e^{-i\omega t} \mathbf{v} \cdot \mathbf{E}^{\text{ext}}[r_e(t), \omega]\}$$

Loss/gain probability

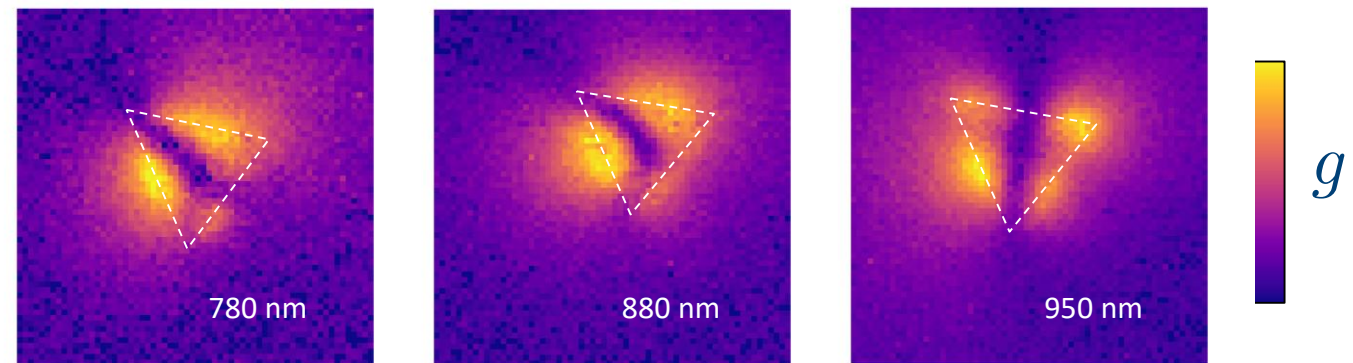
external E-field

See e.g.: F. J. Garcia de Abajo, Rev. Mod. Phys. 82, 209 (2010)

Interaction of fast electrons with optical near fields

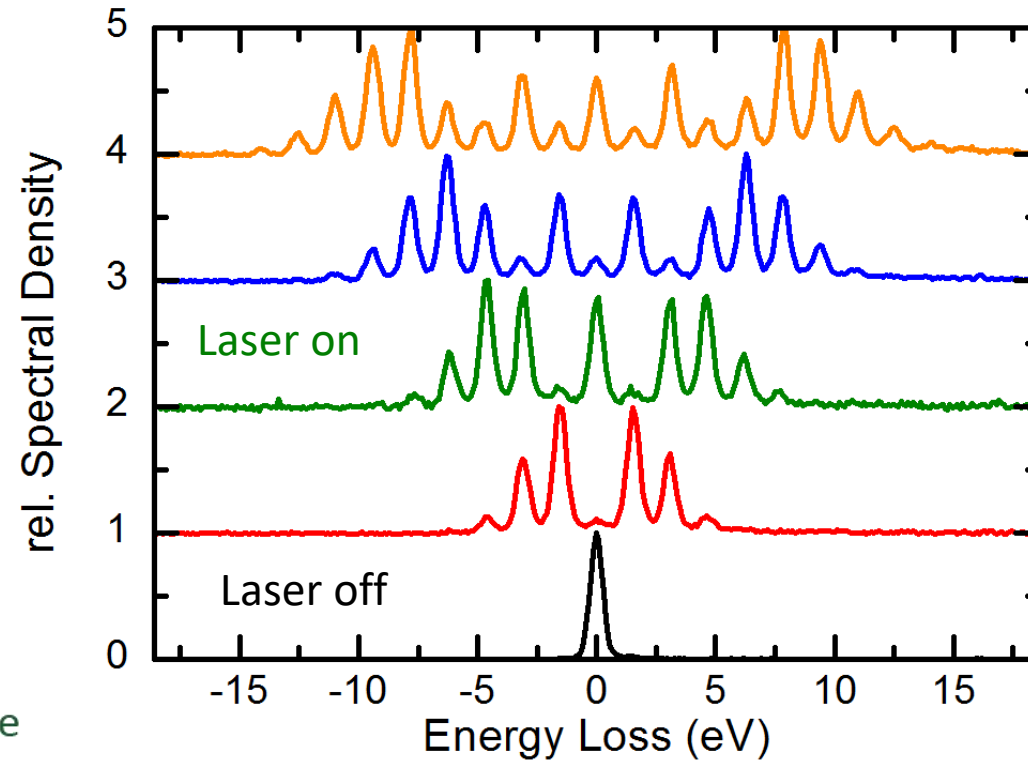
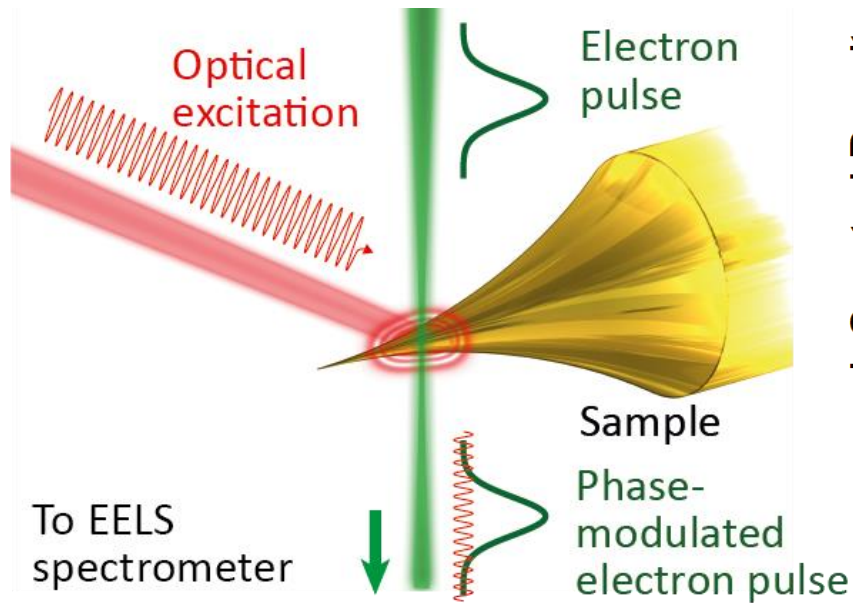


Laser-induced Near-field maps for different laser wavelengths



PINEM probes specific modes for incident frequency and polarization

Interaction of fast electrons with optical near fields



A. Feist *et al.*, Nature **521**, 200-203 (2015)

Literature:

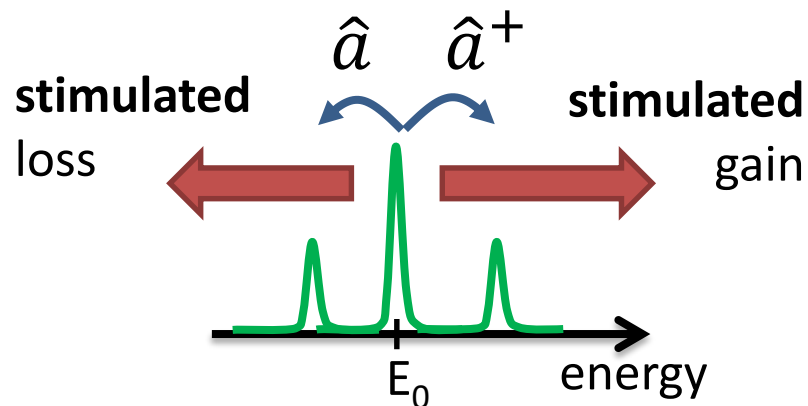
Feist *et al.*, Nature (2015)

B. Barwick *et al.*, Nature (2009)

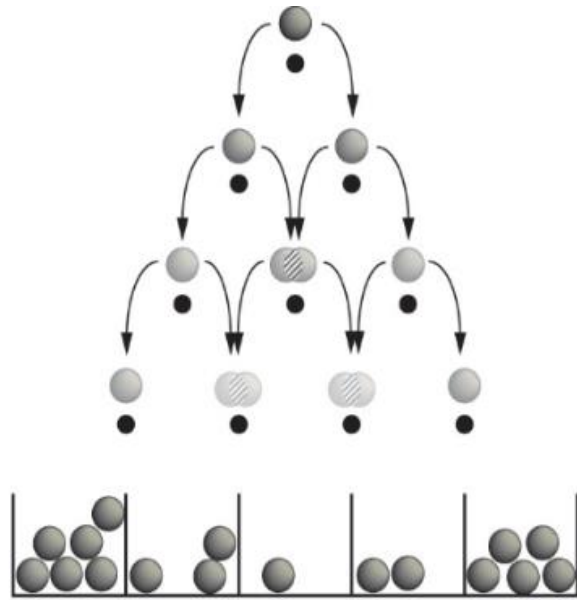
A. Howie, Inst. Phys. Conf. Ser. 161, 311 (1999)

F.J. García de Abajo *et al.*, Nano Lett. (2010)

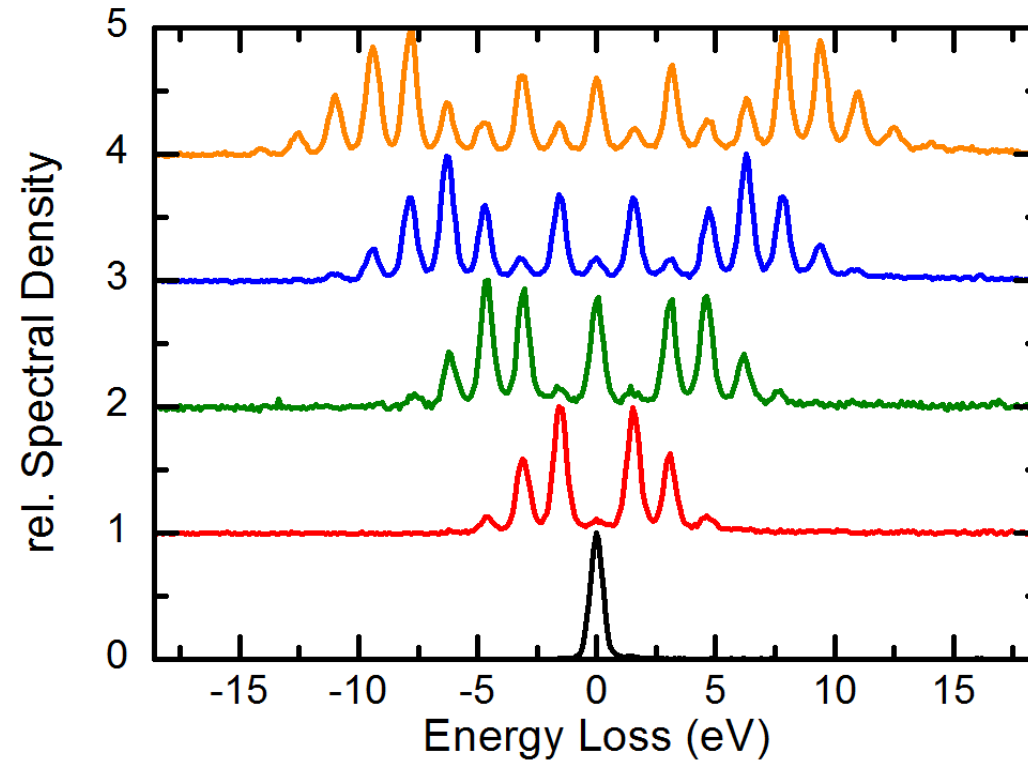
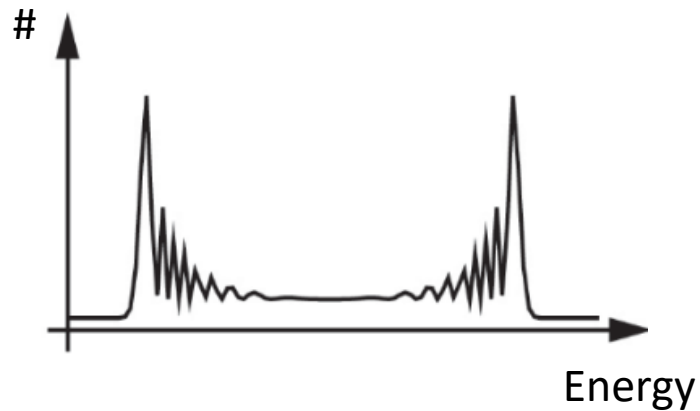
S.T. Park *et al.*, NJP (2010)



Equivalent to a continuous-time quantum walk



$$\hat{S} = \exp(g_0 \hat{a}^\dagger \hat{b} - h.c.)$$



A. Feist *et al.*, Nature **521**, 200-203 (2015)

Literature:

Feist *et al.*, Nature (2015)

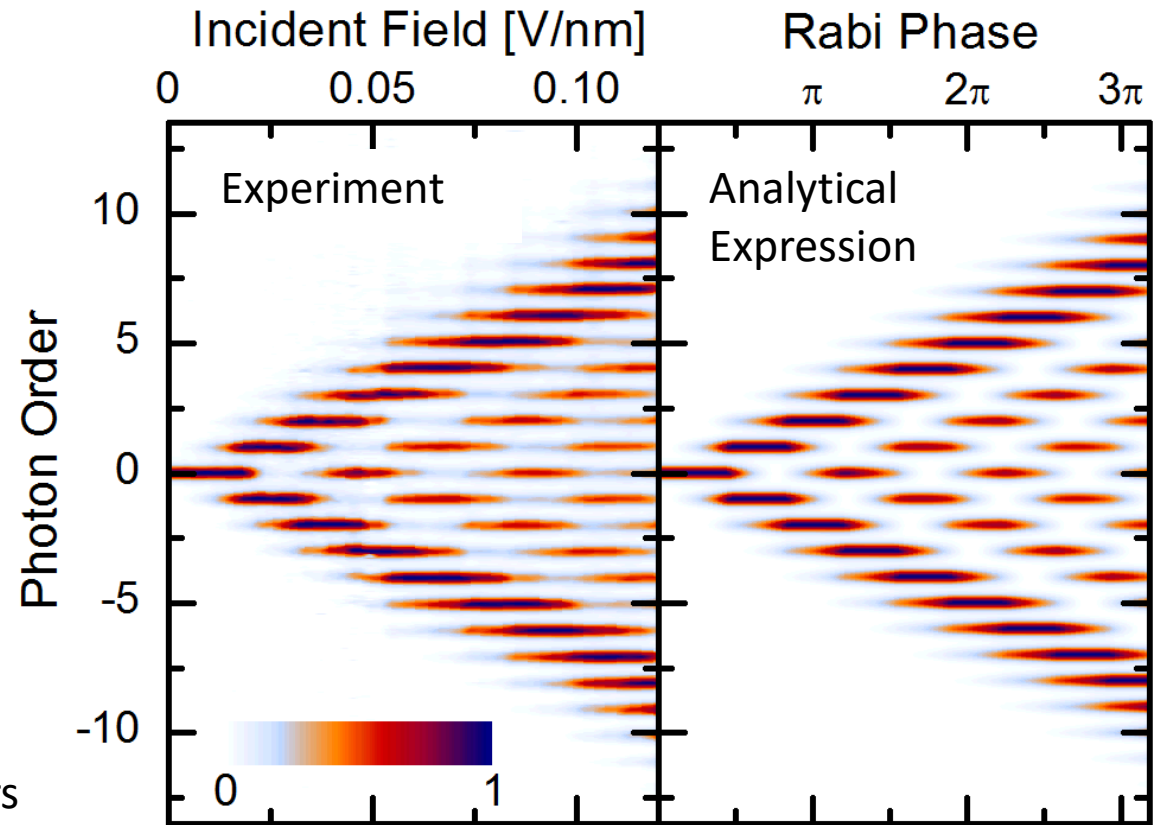
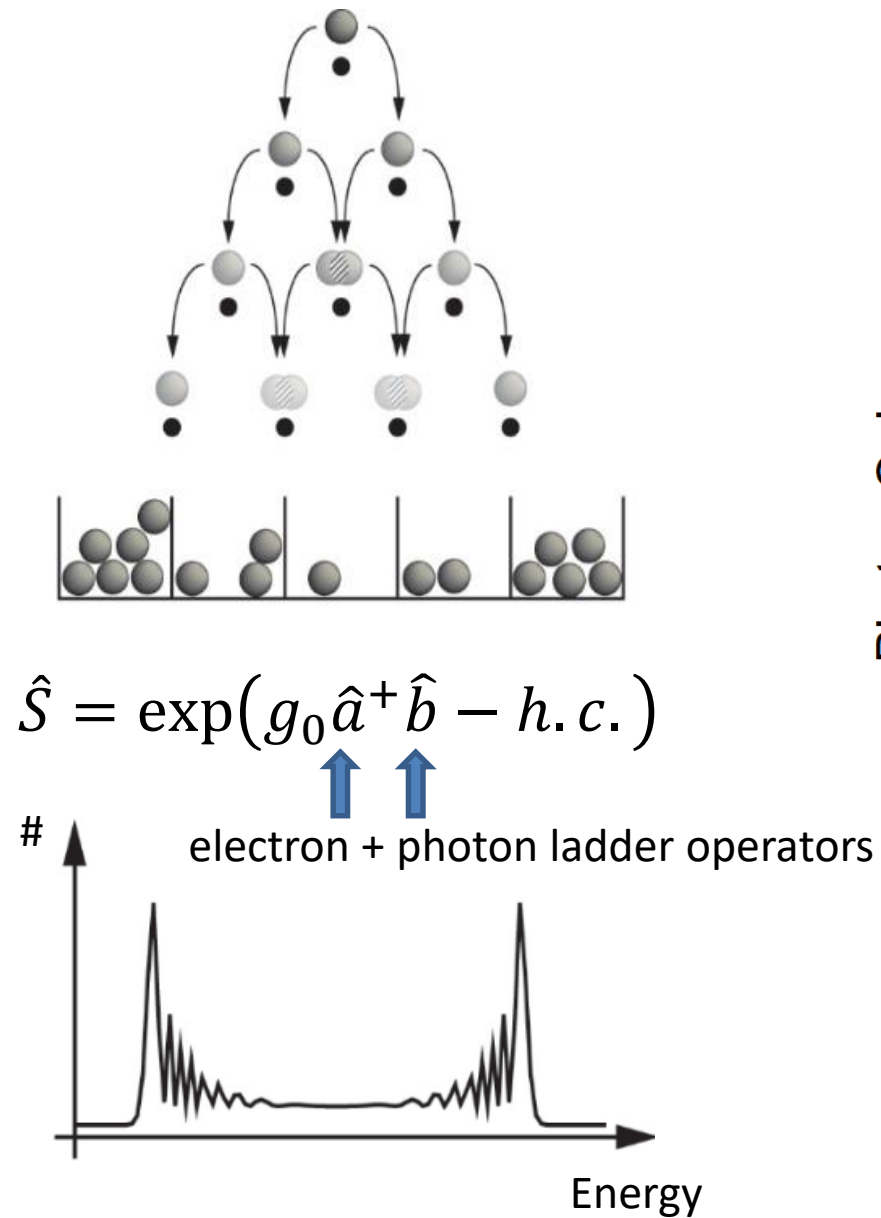
B. Barwick *et al.*, Nature (2009)

A. Howie, Inst. Phys. Conf. Ser. 161, 311 (1999)

F.J. García de Abajo *et al.*, Nano Lett. (2010)

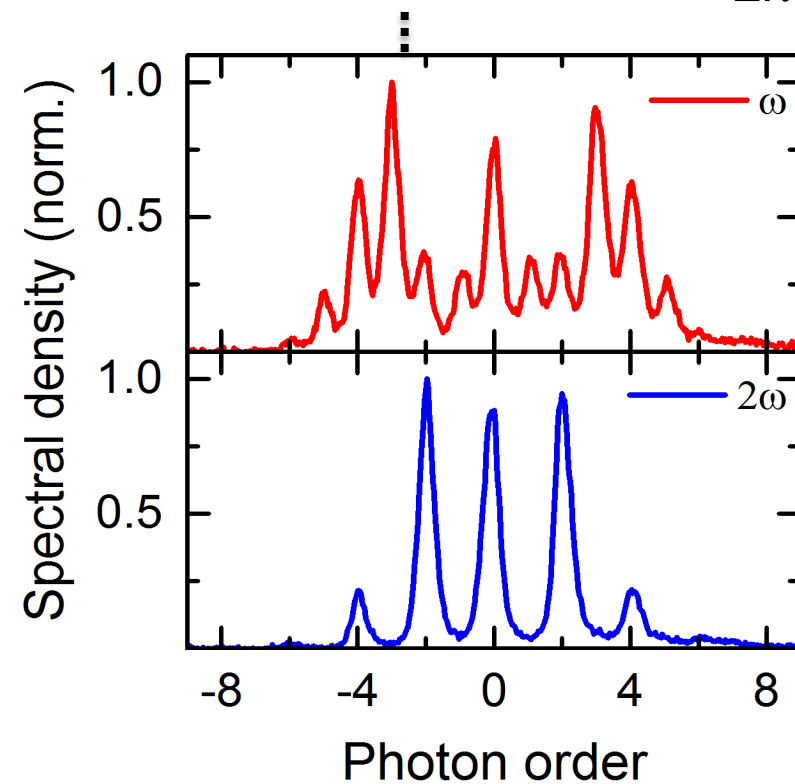
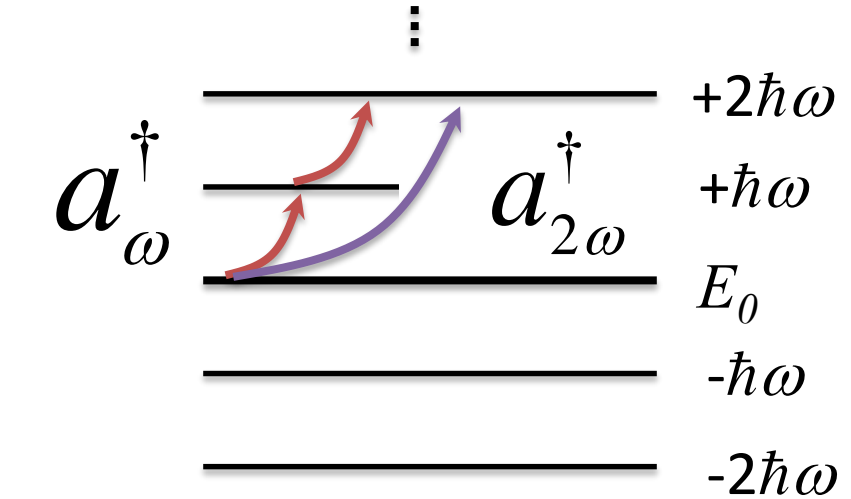
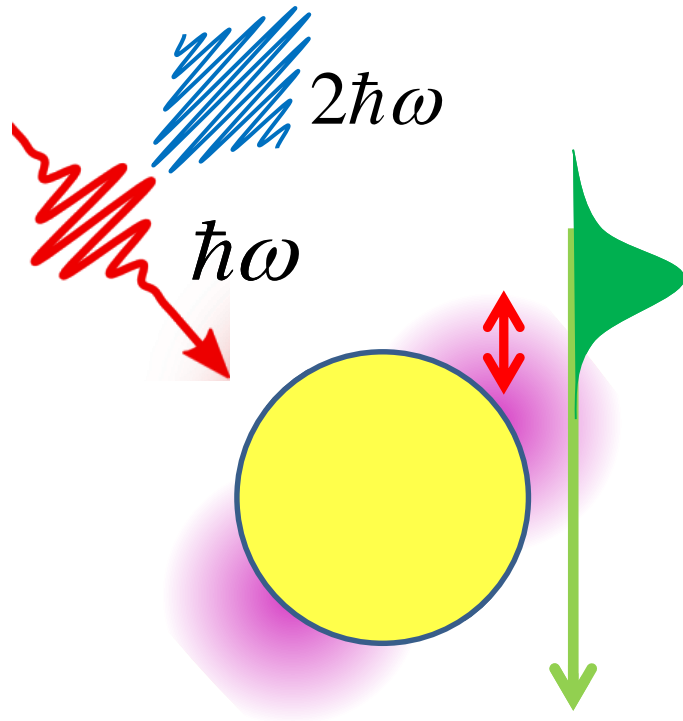
S.T. Park *et al.*, NJP (2010)

Equivalent to a continuous-time quantum walk

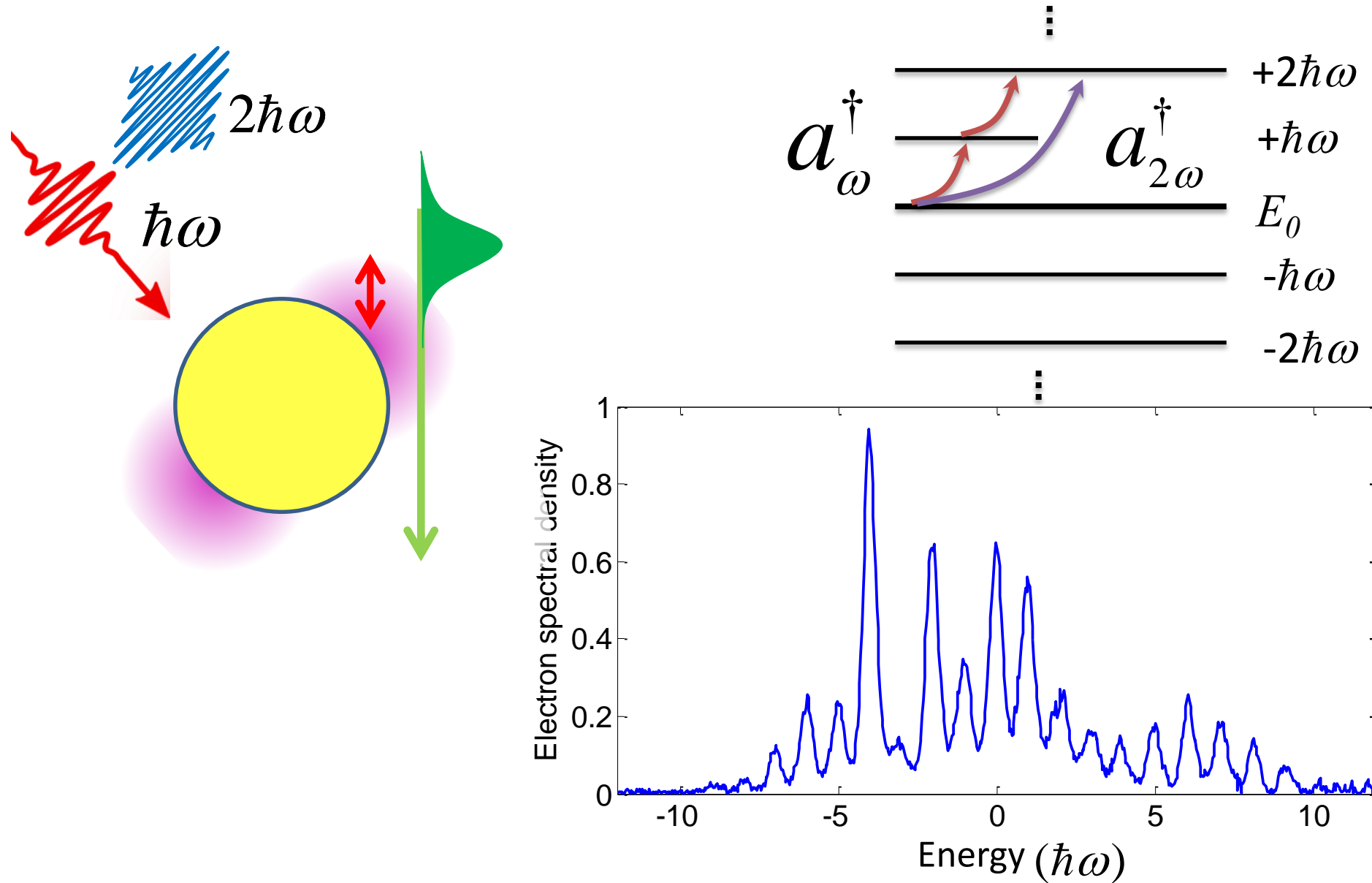


A. Feist *et al.*, Nature **521**, 200-203 (2015)

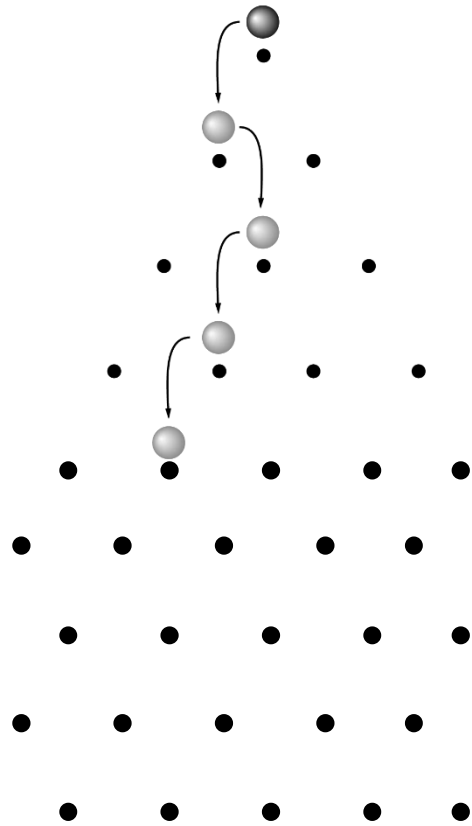
Two-colour coherent state control



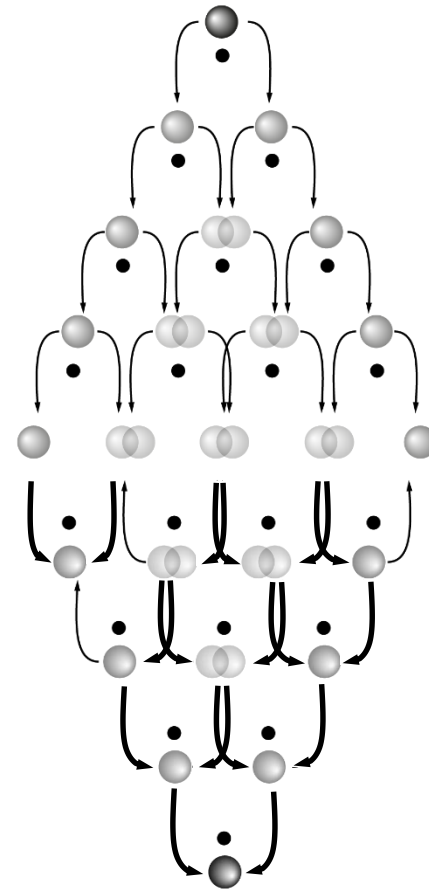
Two-colour coherent state control



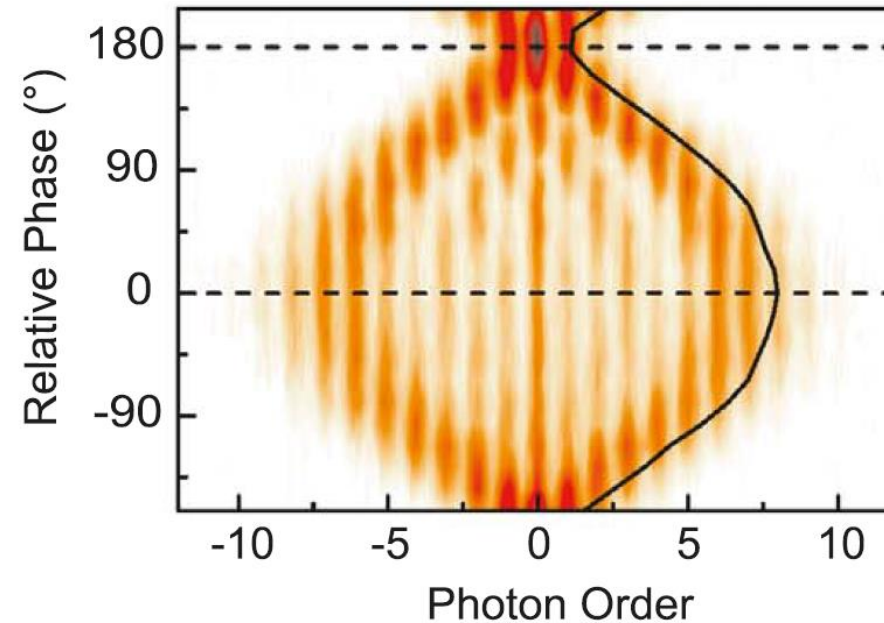
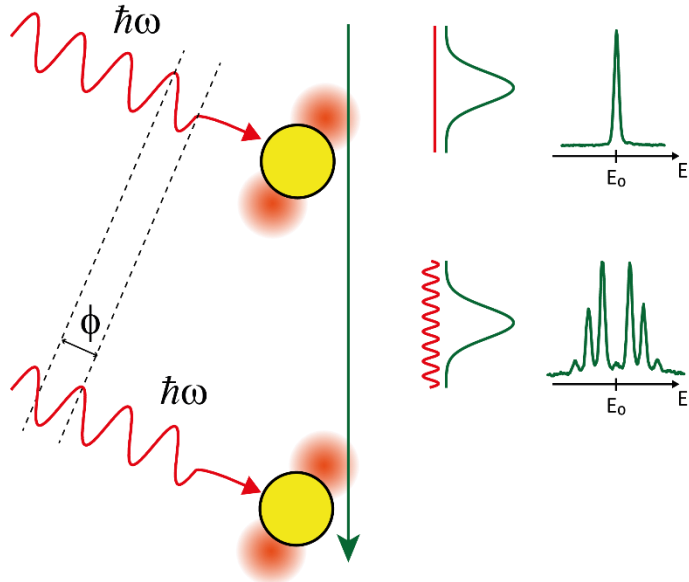
Two sequential Galton boards



?

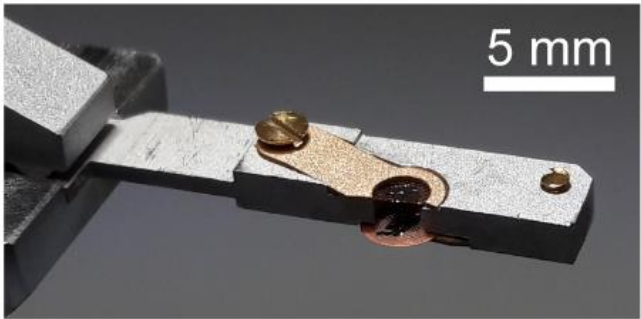
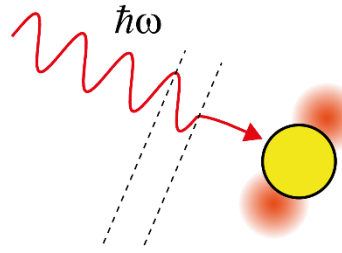


Ramsey-type double interaction

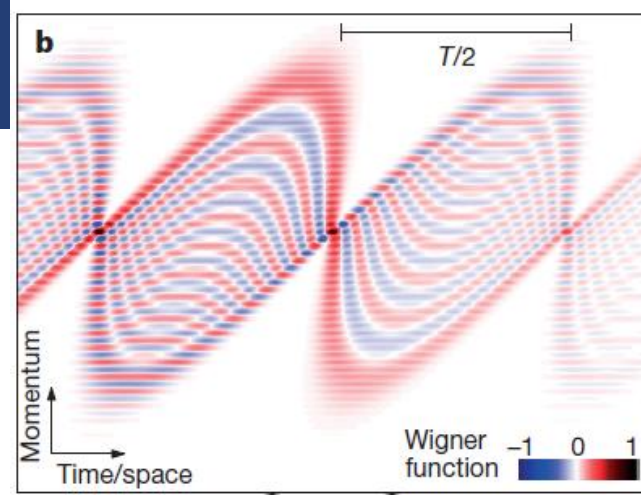
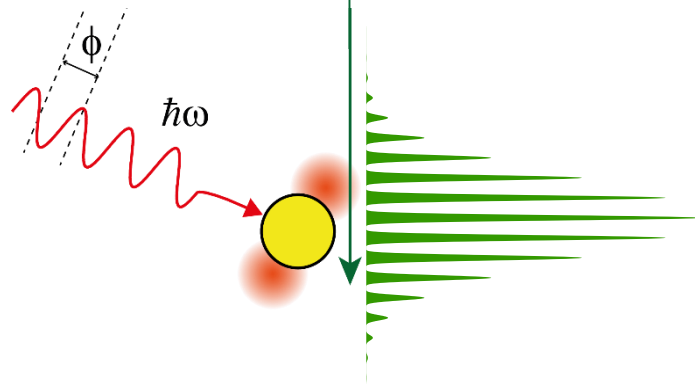


- Single interaction: phase modulation along the pulse
- quantum coherent control of free electron momentum states

Attosecond bunching

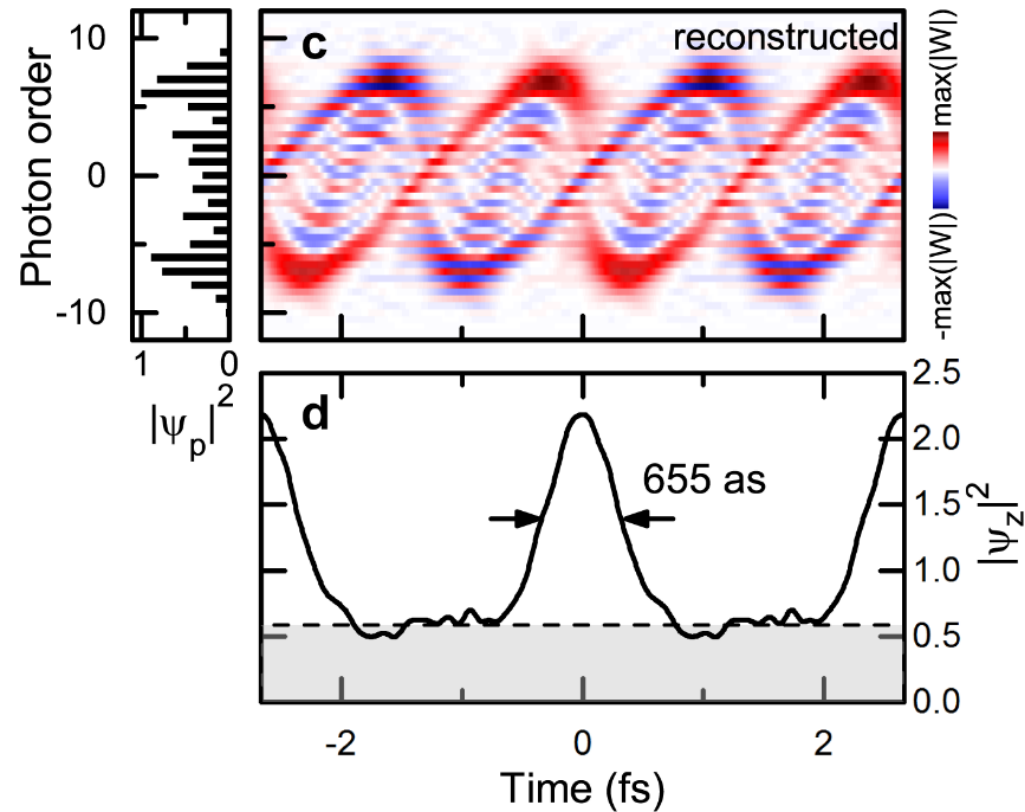


2 mm



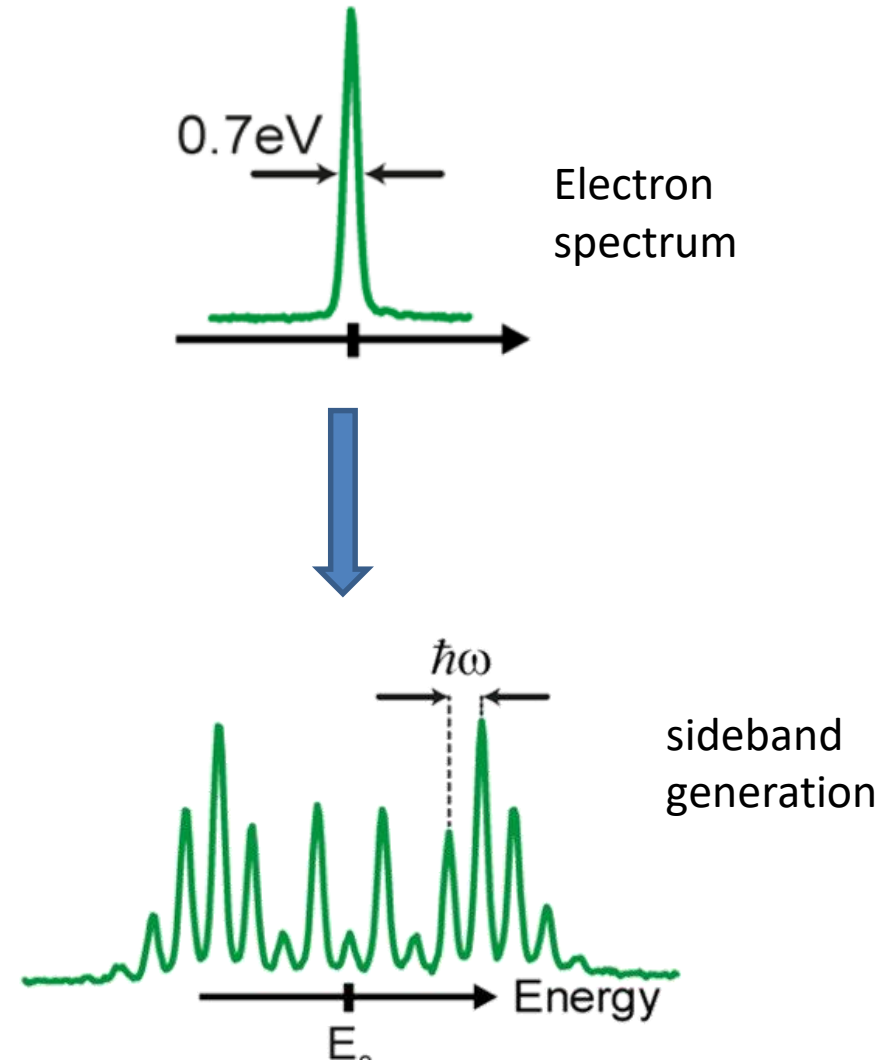
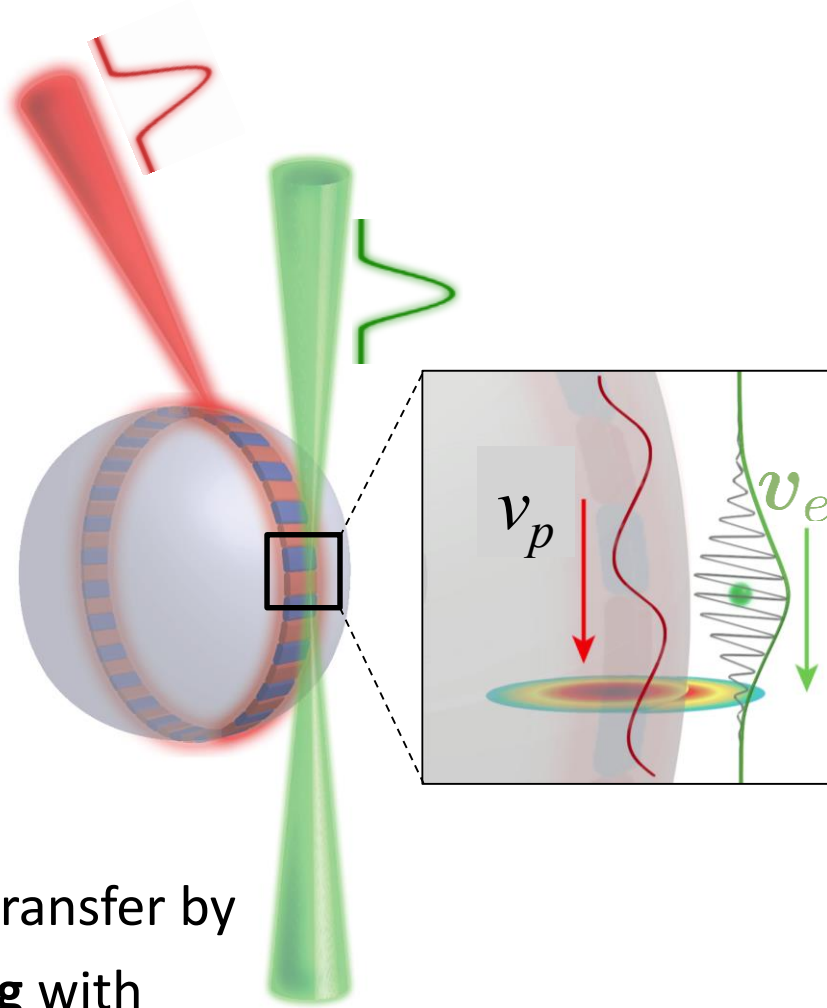
simulated

Wigner function reconstruction



K. E. Priebe *et al.*, Nat. Phot. (2017)

Phase-matched interaction in whispering gallery mode resonators

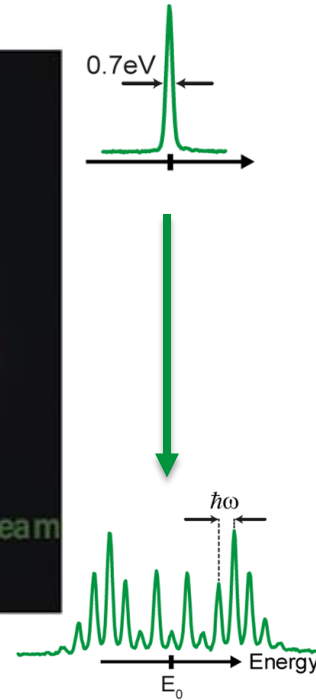
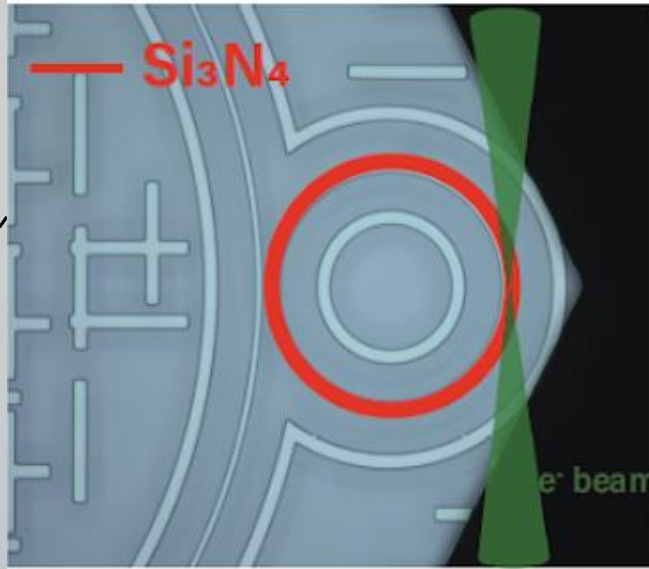
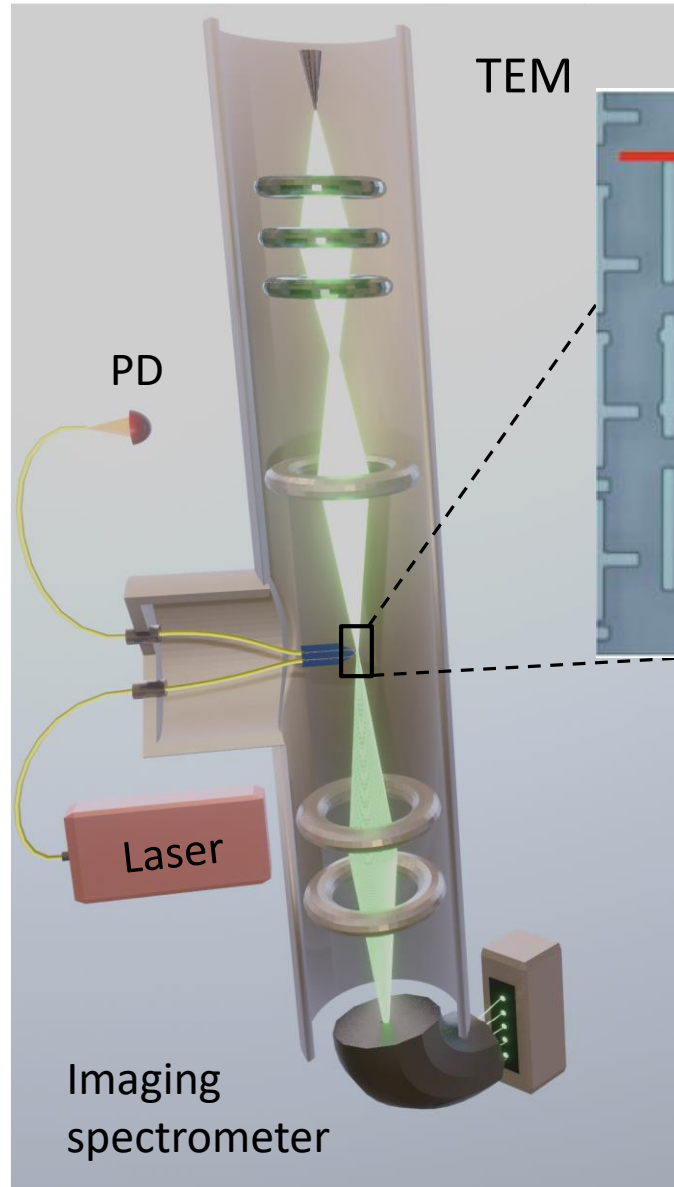


efficient energy transfer by
velocity matching with
whispering-gallery modes (WGM)

O. Kfir *et al.*, *Nature* (2020).

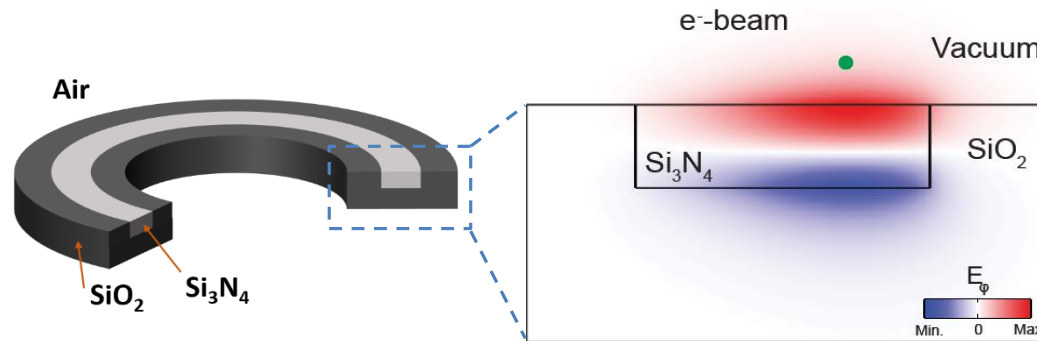
- Temporal structuring
- Ultrafast beam modulation

Electron-light interaction at high-Q resonators



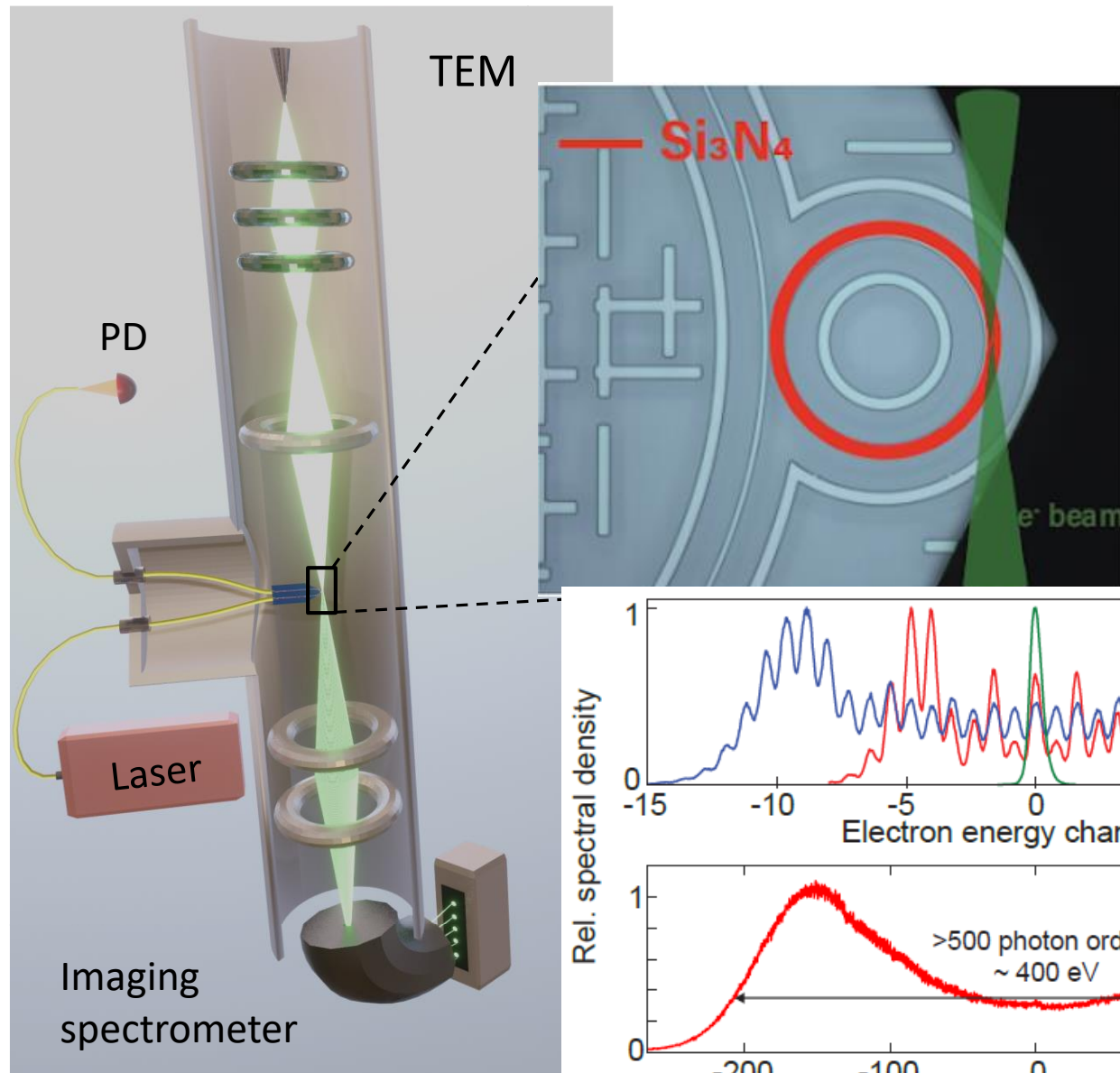
Chip-based high-Q Microresonators

- Resonators designed & fabricated by Kippenberg group at EPFL
- Air-cladded Si_3N_4 microresonator in SiO_2
- Fiber coupled
- high Q-factor $> 6 \cdot 10^5$



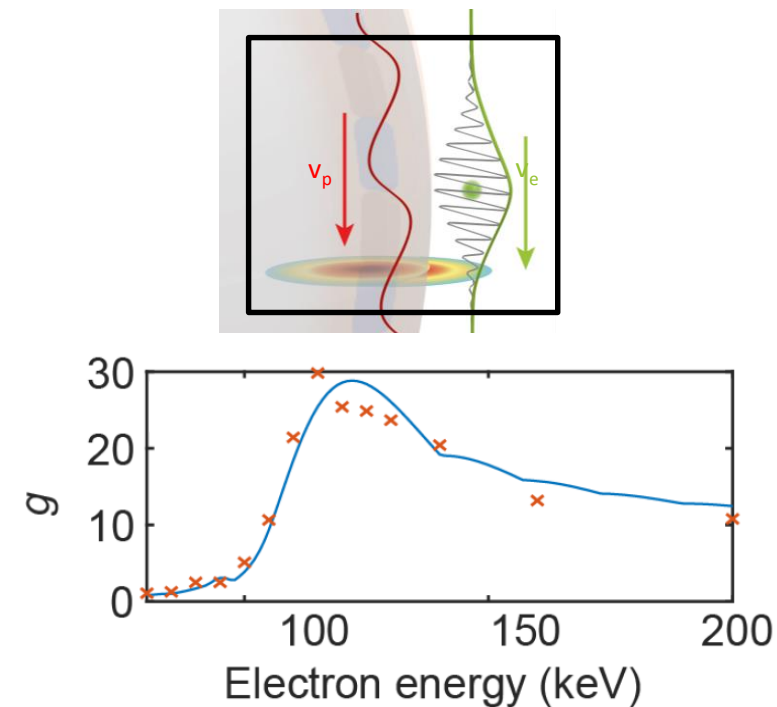
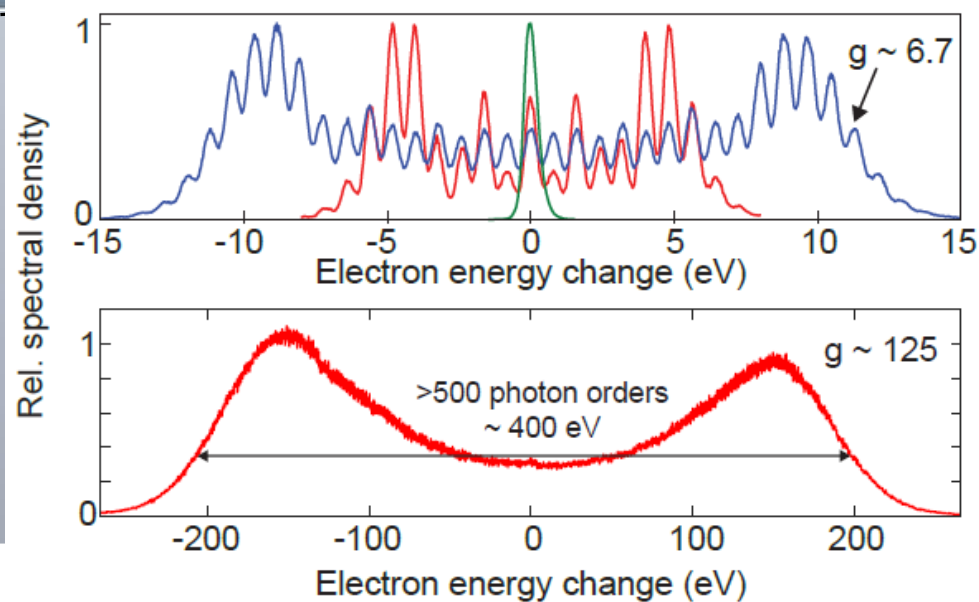
J.-W. Henke *et al.* *Nature* **600**, 653–658 (2021)

Electron-light interaction at high-Q resonators



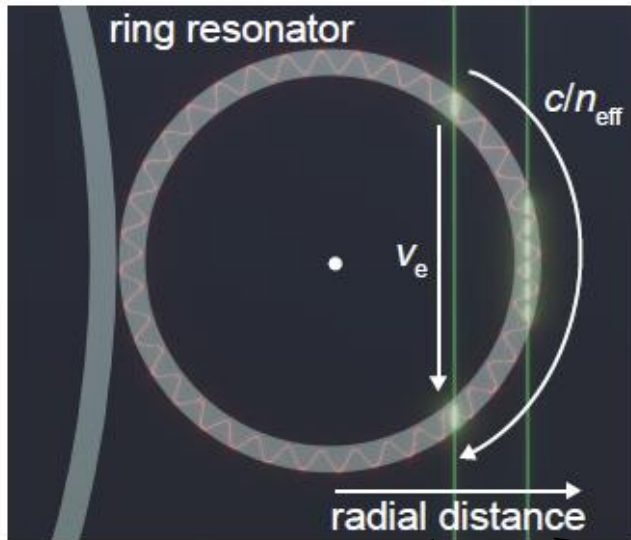
continuous wave laser tuned to resonance

- $g \sim 125$ (~ 500 photon sidebands) for $P_{\text{bus}} = 38$ mW sideband population:
- hybrid electron-photon quantum technology
- transferring concepts to state-of-the-art TEMs



Ramsey-type interference at resonator

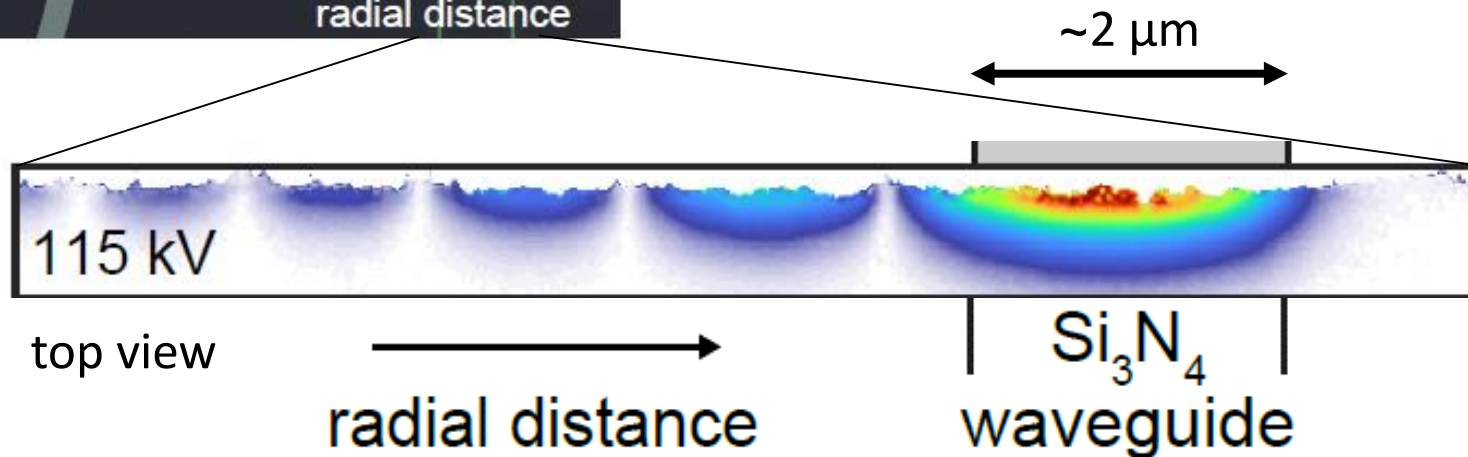
side view



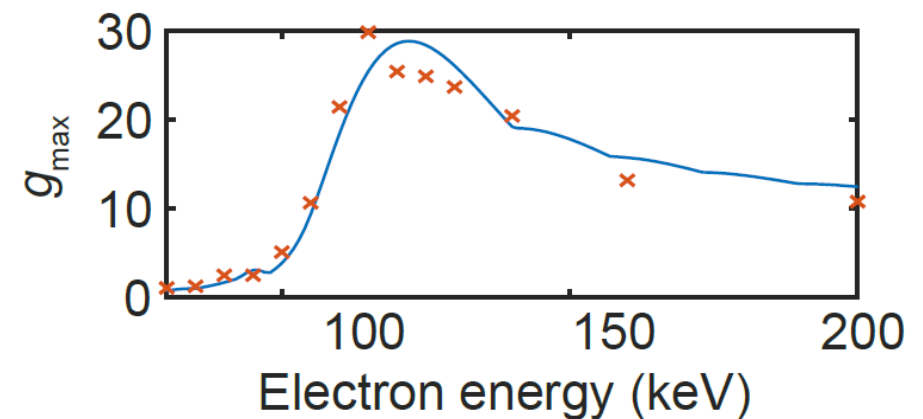
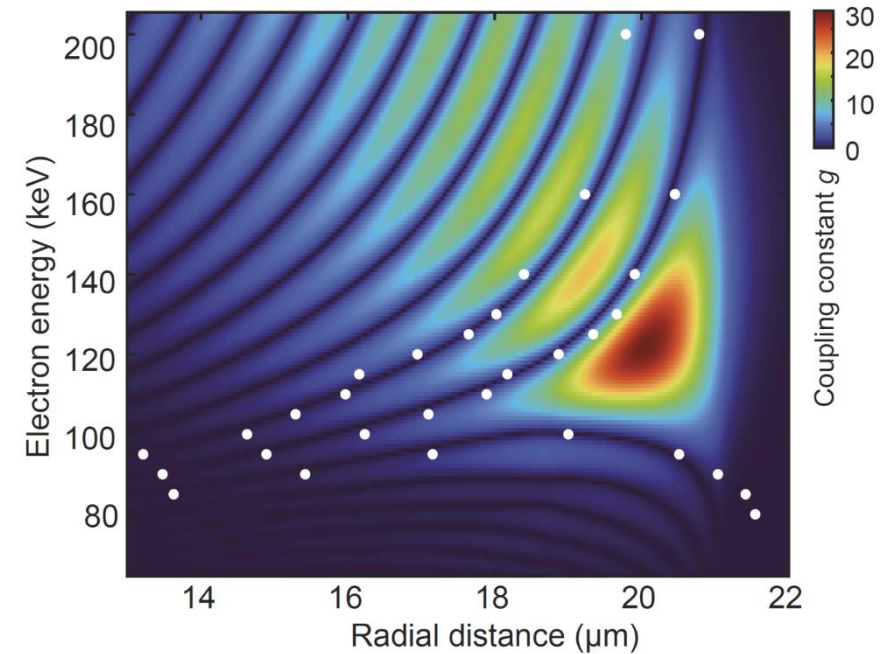
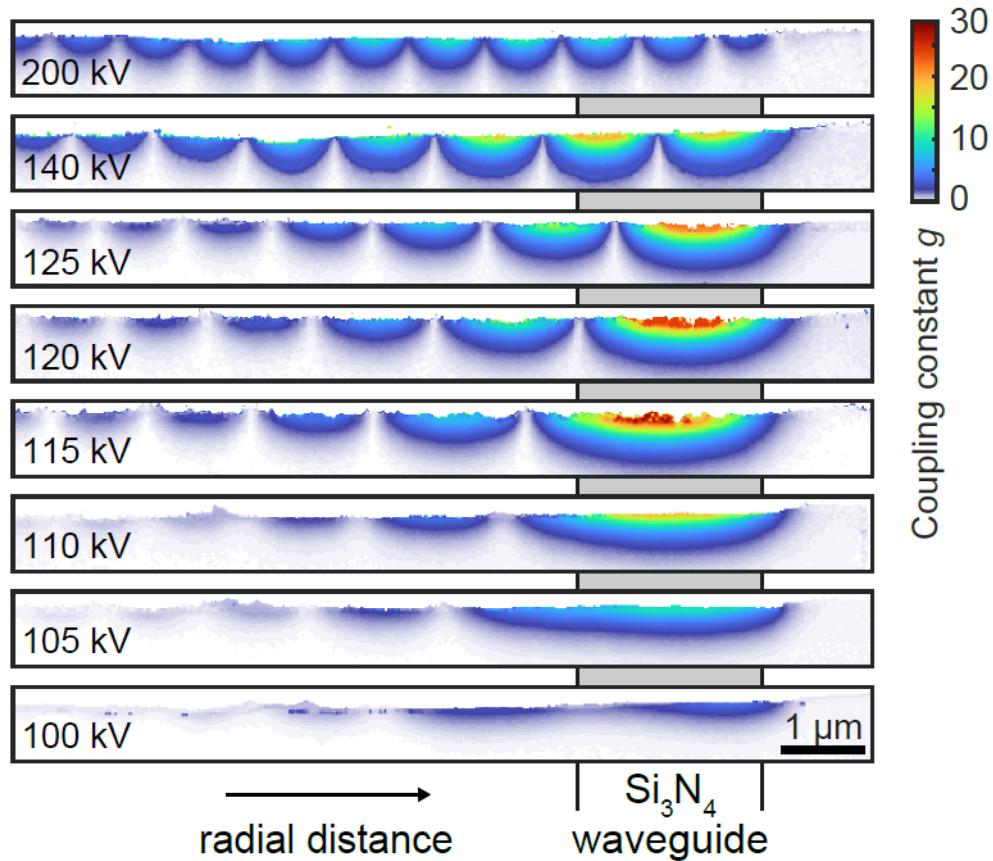
quantitative PINEM of larger area

two distinct regions:

- co-propagation with waveguide
→ efficient phase matching
- double interaction with resonator mode
→ Ramsey-type interference & spatial interference pattern

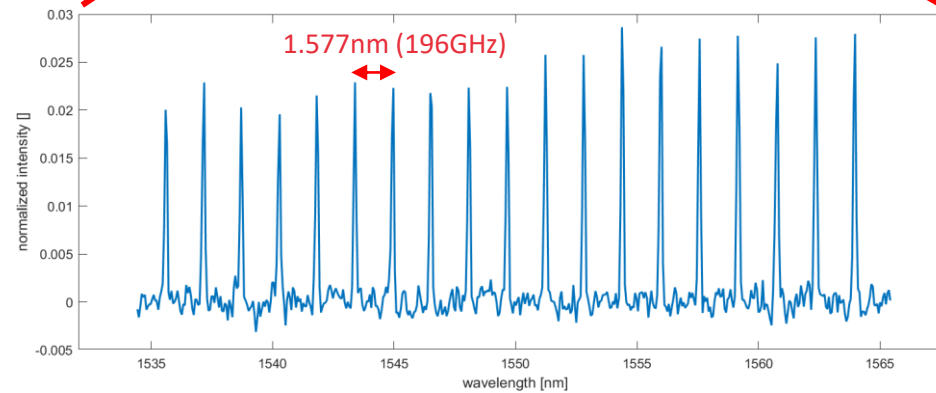
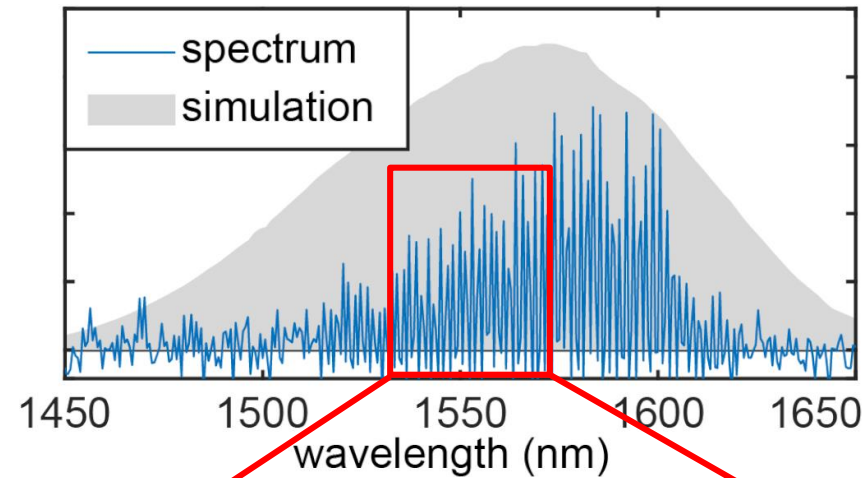
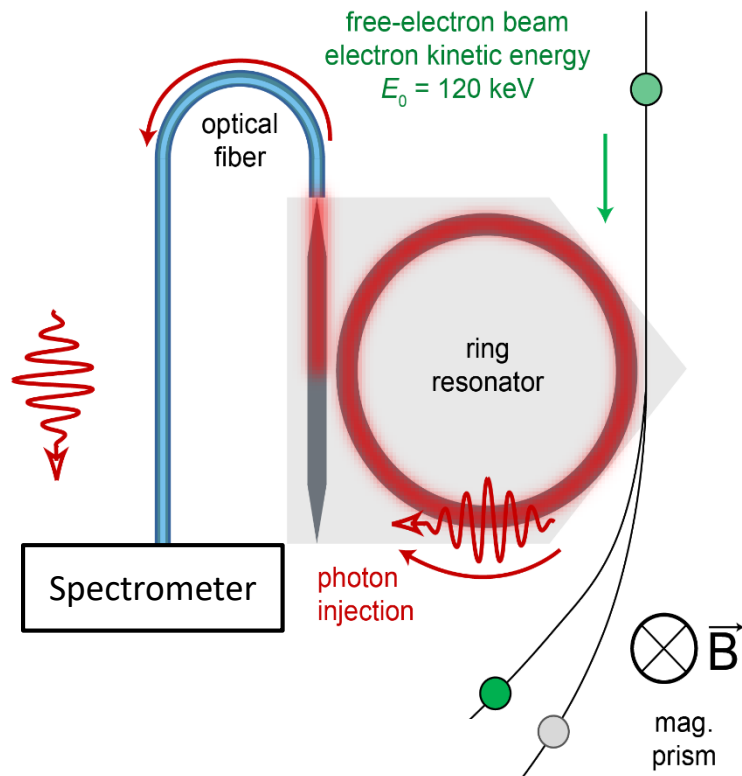


Electron energy dependent phase matching



- PINEM for varying the electron energy between 80-200 keV
- visualization of velocity phase matching
- good agreement with numerical simulations

Coupling to an empty cavity: Spontaneous photon generation



Free spectral range: 194 GHz (design)

Spectrum limited by

- detector
- coupling of resonator

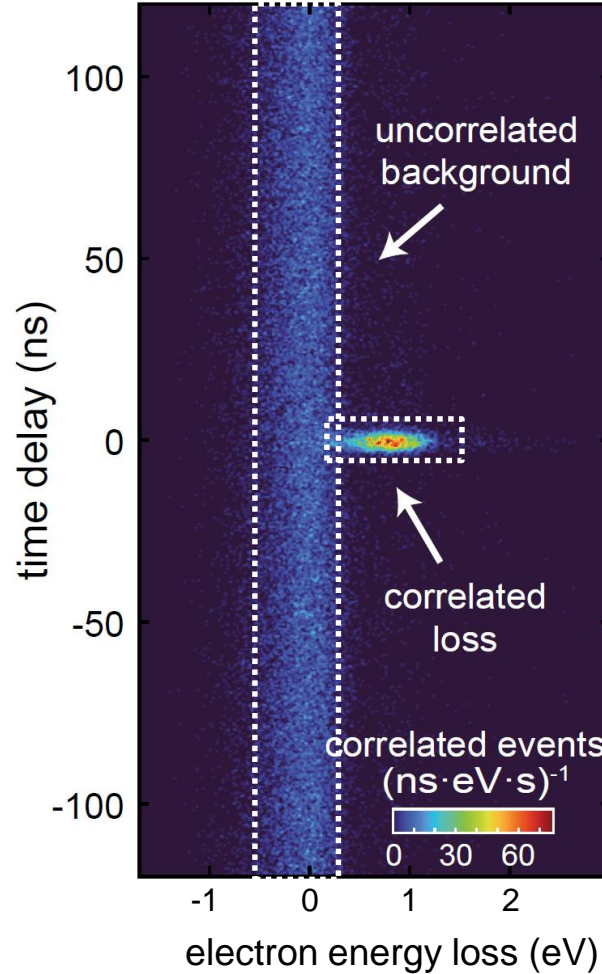
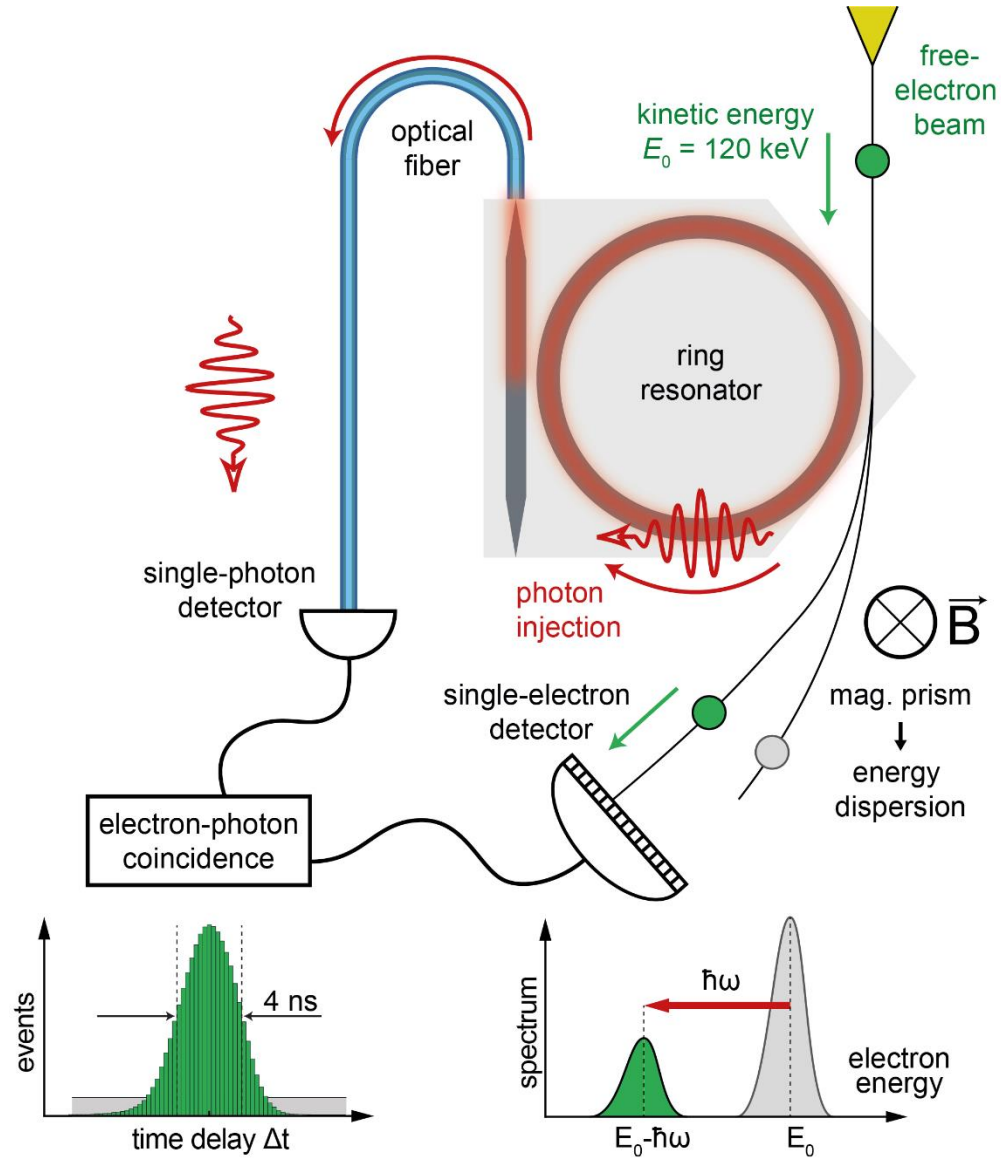
A. Feist *et al.*, Science (2022)

Coincidence measurements:

see also D. Jannis *et al.*, Appl. Sci. (2021)

D. Varkentina *et al.*, Sci Adv. (2022)

Electron-photon pair state



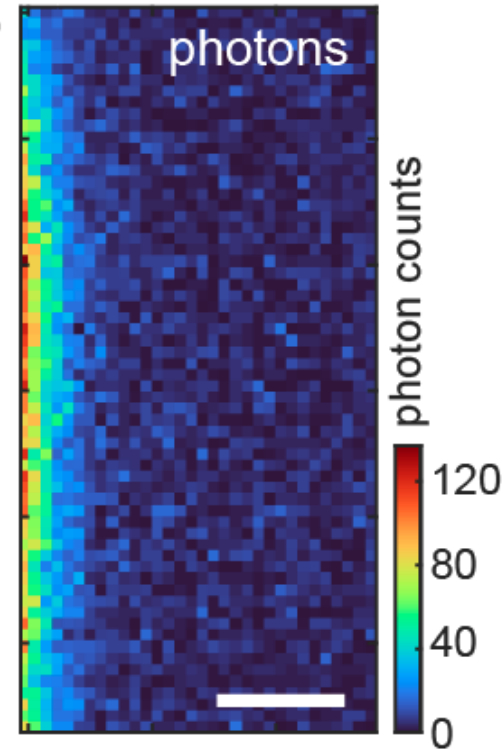
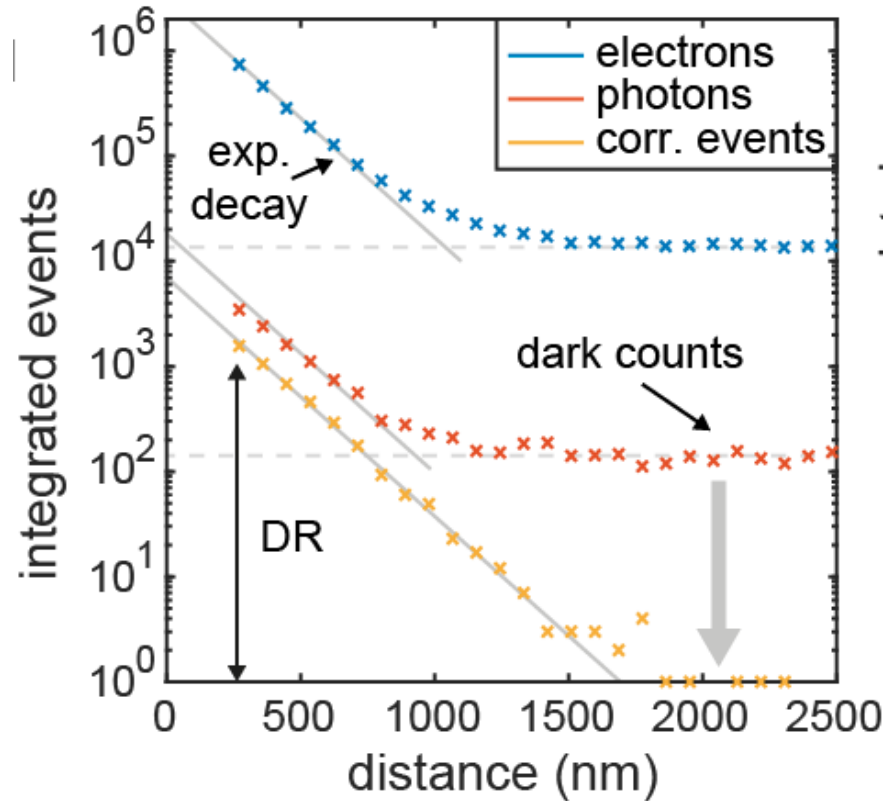
two distinct features

- uncorrelated background
 $|E_0, 0\rangle$ Initial state
- photon correlated electron energy loss peak
 $|E_0 - \hbar\omega, 1\rangle$ Single photon generation

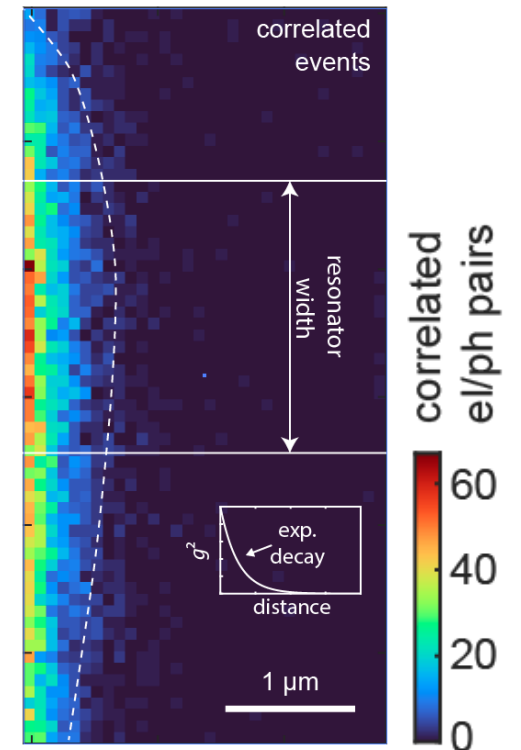
→ **unique identification of correlated electron-photon pairs**

- **Correlation-enhanced imaging and spectroscopy**
- **Heralded Single Photon Generation**
- **Strong indication for entanglement**

Contrast enhancement by coincidence gating



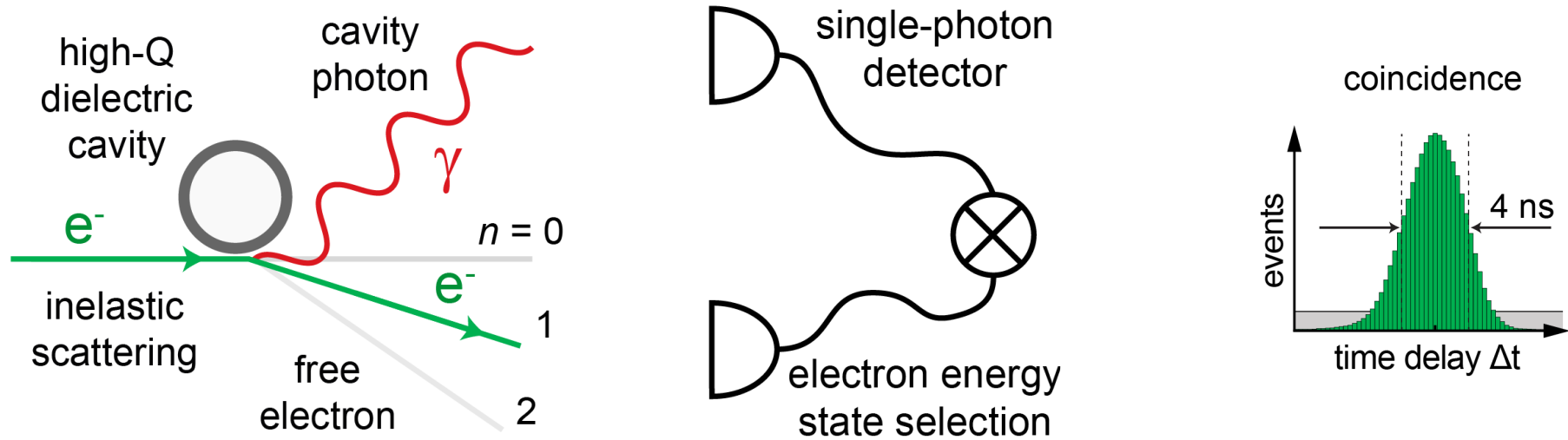
||



- imaging the resonator mode with loss scattered electrons, generated photons and correlated events

→ **two orders of magnitude contrast enhancement by coincidence gating**

Electron-photon pair-state preparation



initial state

$$|E_0\rangle|0\rangle_\omega$$

entangled state

$$\sum_n c_n |E_0 - n\hbar\omega\rangle|n\rangle_\omega$$

projection

$$|E\rangle\langle E|$$

pair state

$$|E_0 - \hbar\omega\rangle|1\rangle_\omega$$

Ultrafast TEM

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Till Domröse
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Thank you for
your attention!

