

FROM WANNIER FUNCTIONS TO OPTICAL ABSORPTION

The changing of bodies into light, and light into bodies, is very conformable to the course of Nature, which seems delighted with transmutations.

-Isaac Newton

THIS LECTURE

- Properties of and uses for Wannier functions
- Optical absorption
 - Connecting measurements to quantum processes
 - An example: Photoemission from PbTe

FROM LAST TIME ...

$\psi_{n\vec{k}}(\vec{r} + \vec{R}) = e^{i\vec{k}\cdot\vec{R}}\psi_{n\vec{k}}(\vec{r})$ has the same \vec{k} periodicity as the $e^{i\vec{k}\cdot\vec{R}}$'s

\Rightarrow Expand $\psi_{n\vec{k}}(\vec{r})$ in a Fourier series in \vec{k} holding n, \vec{r} (temporarily) fixed:

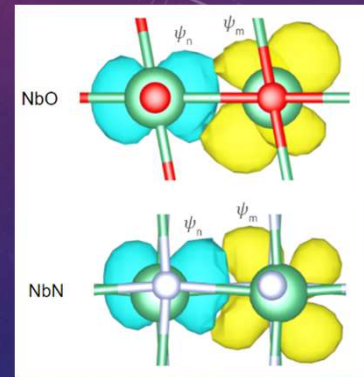
$$\psi_{n\vec{k}}(\cdot) = \sum_{\vec{R}} W_{n\vec{R}}(\cdot) e^{i\vec{k}\cdot\vec{R}}$$

$$W_{n\vec{R}}(\cdot) = \frac{1}{\Omega_{BZ}} \int_{BZ} d^3k e^{-i\vec{k}\cdot\vec{R}} \psi_{n\vec{k}}(\cdot); \quad \Omega_{BZ} = \int_{BZ} d^3k$$

Now, do separately for all n, \vec{r} to restore full dependencies:

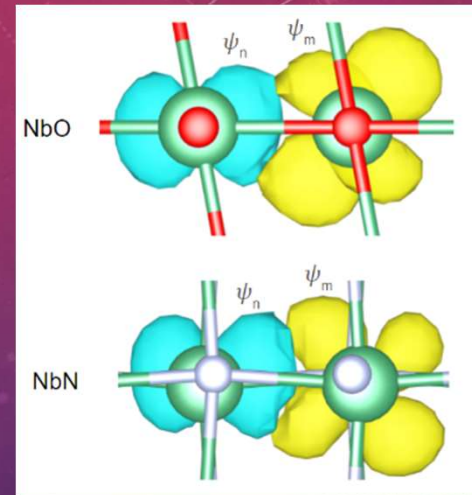
$\psi_{n\vec{k}}(\vec{r}) = \sum_{\vec{R}} W_{n\vec{R}}(\vec{r}) e^{i\vec{k}\cdot\vec{R}}$; $\Rightarrow W_{n\vec{R}}(\vec{r})$'s are a basis for the $\psi_{n\vec{k}}(\vec{r})$'s!

$W_{n\vec{R}}(\vec{r}) = \frac{1}{\Omega_{BZ}} \int_{BZ} d^3k e^{-i\vec{k}\cdot\vec{R}} \psi_{n\vec{k}}(\vec{r})$; Defines the $W_{n\vec{R}}(\vec{r})$'s



PROPERTIES OF WANNIER FUNCTIONS $W_n(\vec{r})$

$$W_{n\vec{R}}(\vec{r}) = \frac{1}{\Omega_{BZ}} \int d^3k e^{-i\vec{k}\cdot\vec{R}} \underbrace{\psi_{n\vec{k}}(\vec{r})}_{\psi_n, \psi_m}$$



- Using Bloch's theorem

$$W_{n\vec{R}}(\vec{r}) = \frac{1}{\Omega_{BZ}} \int d^3k e^{-i\vec{k}\cdot\vec{R}} e^{i\vec{k}\cdot\vec{r}} u_{n\vec{k}}(\vec{r}) = \frac{1}{\Omega_{BZ}} \int d^3k e^{i\vec{k}\cdot(\vec{r}-\vec{R})} u_{n\vec{k}}(\vec{r}-\vec{R})$$

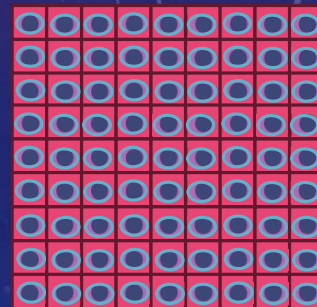
$$\equiv W_n(\vec{r}-\vec{R})$$

- Fourier analysis: **if** $\psi_{n\vec{k}}(\vec{r})$ is a smooth function of \vec{k} ,

$$W_{n\vec{R}}(\vec{r}) = W_n(\vec{r}-\vec{R}) \text{ decays rapidly with } \vec{R}$$

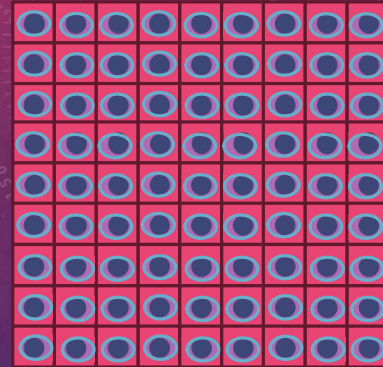
$\Rightarrow W_n(\vec{r})$ is well localized

$\bullet = W_{n\vec{R}}(\vec{r})$



MAXIMALLY LOCALIZED WANNIER FUNCTIONS (MLWFS)

$$W_{n\vec{R}}(\vec{r}) = \frac{1}{\Omega_{BZ}} \int d^3k e^{-i\vec{k}\cdot\vec{R}} \psi_{n\vec{k}}(\vec{r})$$



- $\psi_{n\vec{k}}(\vec{r})$ enters only as $|\psi_{n\vec{k}}(\vec{r})|^2$ and $\psi_{n\vec{k}}^*(\vec{r})\nabla^2\psi_{n\vec{k}}(\vec{r})$
⇒ phase is undetermined and varies randomly (not smoothly)
- Include adjustable compensatory phases $\psi_{n\vec{k}}(\vec{r}) \leftarrow e^{-i\phi_{n\vec{k}}} \psi_{n\vec{k}}(\vec{r})$
and optimize to “maximally localize” $W_n(\vec{r})$: $\min_{\phi_{n\vec{k}}} \langle W_n | r^2 | W_n \rangle$
- * Sometimes benefit by combining multiple bands, all handled by code
- * Sometimes need to play with initial “guess” for minimization

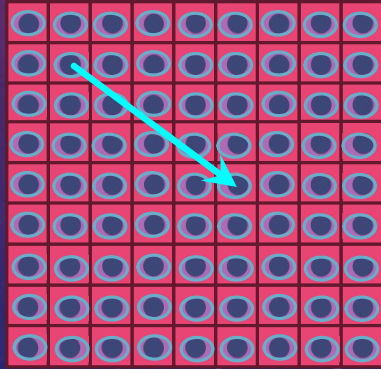
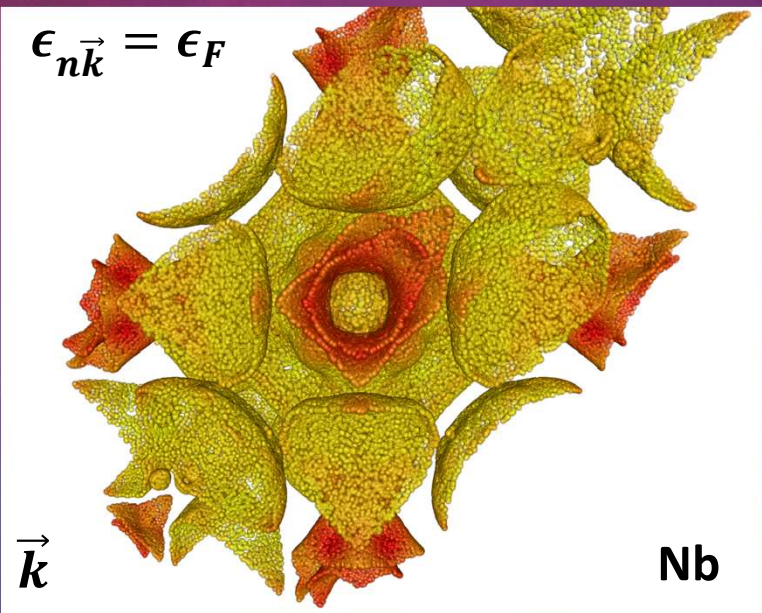
WANNIER-FUNCTION ACCELERATED BAND-STRUCTURES

- Once localized, $W_n(\vec{r})$ enable extremely rapid calculations from very sparse matrix:

$$\epsilon_{n\vec{k}} = \text{eig} \left\langle W_{n_1\vec{R}_1}(\vec{r}) \left| -\frac{1}{2} \nabla^2 + V_{sc}(\vec{r}) \right| W_{n_2\vec{R}_2}(\vec{r}) \right\rangle$$

- Dense sampling of k-space (10^9 k-points 😊!):

Depends only on $\vec{R}_2 - \vec{R}_1$



The background features a color gradient from red at the top to blue at the bottom. It is overlaid with faint, semi-transparent technical diagrams, including circular gauges with numerical scales (e.g., 140, 150, 160, 170, 180, 190, 200) and various circular patterns with arrows, suggesting a scientific or engineering context.

FROM MACROSCOPIC PROPERTIES TO
MICROSCOPIC PROCESSES:
OPTICAL ABSORPTION AS AN EXAMPLE

FROM OPTICAL CONSTANTS TO PHOTON ABSORPTION

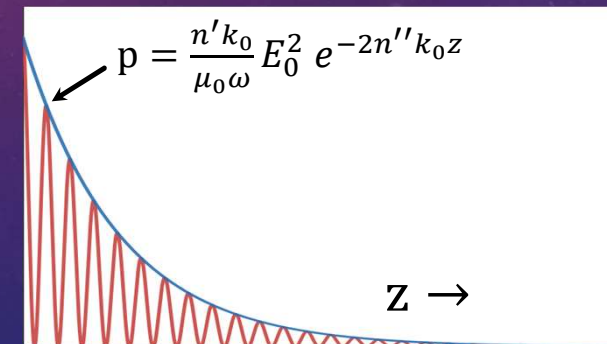
Relate optical constants to energy flow in the material

- $\epsilon = n^2 = (n' + i n'')^2 \Rightarrow \epsilon' = n'^2 - n''^2, \epsilon'' = 2n'n''$

- $\vec{E}(z) = \vec{E}_0 e^{i k z} = \vec{E}_0 e^{i(\omega/c_{\text{material}})z} = \vec{E}_0 e^{i n(\omega/c)z}$
 $= \vec{E}_0 e^{i n' k_0 z} e^{-n'' k_0 z}$

- power/area $p = \frac{k}{\mu_0 \omega} |\vec{E}|^2 = \frac{1}{2} \frac{n' k_0}{\mu_0 \omega} E_0^2 e^{-2n'' k_0 z}$
 (1/2 for time average)

- energy loss/volume $\frac{du}{dt} = \hbar \omega w, \quad w \equiv \frac{\text{adsorbed photons/time}}{\text{volume}}$



FROM OPTICAL CONSTANTS TO PHOTON ABSORPTION

$$P_{in} - P_{out} = \frac{dU}{dt}$$

$$p(z)A - p(z + \Delta z)A = \frac{du}{dt} (A \Delta z)$$

- $$\frac{du}{dt} = - \frac{p(z + \Delta z) - p(z)}{\Delta z} = - \frac{dp}{dz} \leftarrow \text{(continuity eq.)}$$

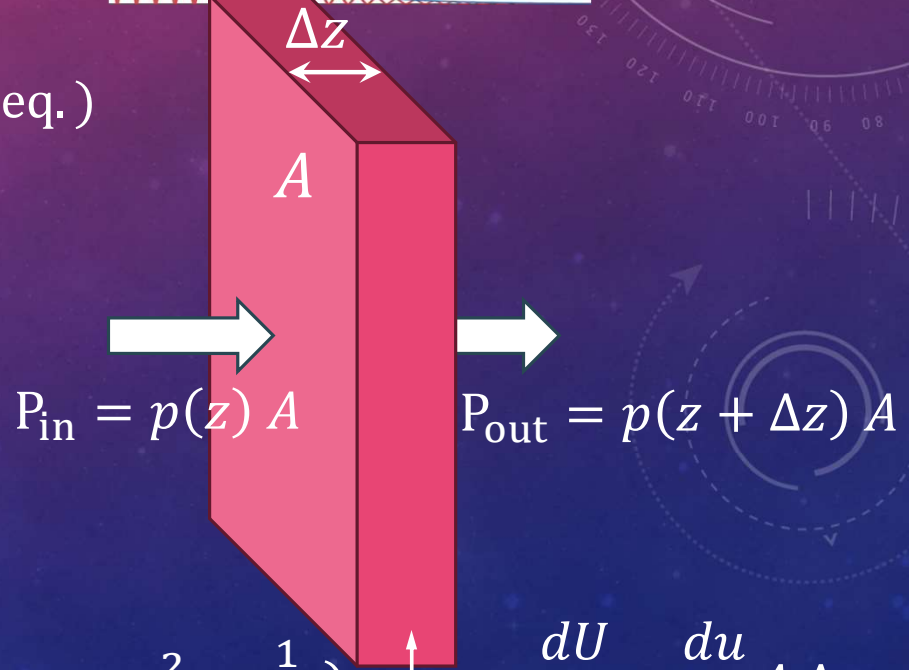
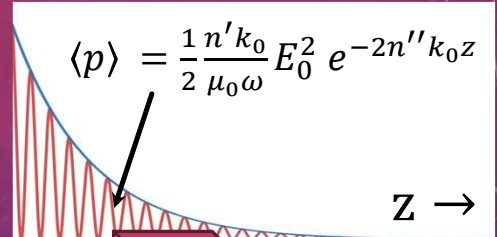
- $$\epsilon'' = 2n'n''$$

- $$p = \frac{n'k_0}{2\mu_0\omega} E_0^2 e^{-2n''k_0z}$$

- $$\frac{du}{dt} = \hbar\omega w$$

$$= - \frac{dp}{dz} = 2n''k_0 \cdot \frac{n'k_0}{2\mu_0\omega} E^2 = 2n'n'' \frac{k_0^2 E^2}{2\mu_0\omega}$$

- $$\Rightarrow \epsilon'' = 2n'n'' = \frac{2\hbar\mu_0\omega^2}{k_0^2} \frac{w}{E^2} = \frac{2\hbar}{\epsilon_0} \frac{w}{E^2} \left(\text{☺}! \right) \left(\frac{\mu_0\omega^2}{k^2} = \mu_0 c^2 = \frac{1}{\epsilon_0} \right) \frac{dU}{dt} = \frac{du}{dt} A \Delta z$$



FROM OPTICAL CONSTANTS TO PHOTON ABSORPTION

• $w \equiv \frac{\text{adsorbed photons/time}}{\text{volume}}$

standard quantum rate
for perturbation $\frac{e}{m} \vec{A} \cdot \vec{p}$

$$= \frac{1}{V} \underbrace{\sum_{fi}}_{\text{all transitions}} \underbrace{\delta(\epsilon_f - \epsilon_i - \hbar\omega)}_{\text{that conserve energy}} \underbrace{\{(1 - f_f)f_i - (1 - f_i)f_f\}}_{\text{forward and reverse processes must go from filled to empty state}} \underbrace{\frac{2\pi}{\hbar} \left| \langle f | \frac{e}{m} \vec{A} \cdot \vec{p} | i \rangle \right|^2}_{\substack{\frac{1}{4} \text{ for time and space averages} \\ \frac{1}{3} \text{ for orientation average}}}$$

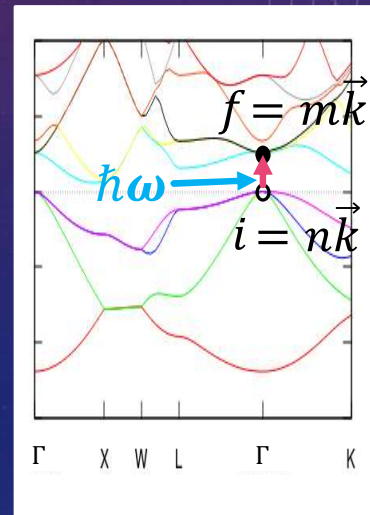
$$N_{\vec{k}} \langle \dots \rangle_{\vec{k}} = N_{\text{cell}} \langle \dots \rangle_{\vec{k}}$$

$$= \frac{1}{V} \sum_{\vec{k}} \sum_n \sum_m \delta(\epsilon_{m\vec{k}} - \epsilon_{n\vec{k}} - \hbar\omega) \{f_{n\vec{k}} - f_{m\vec{k}}\} \frac{2\pi e^2 A^2}{\hbar m^2} \frac{1}{4} \frac{1}{3} |\langle f | \vec{p} | i \rangle|^2$$

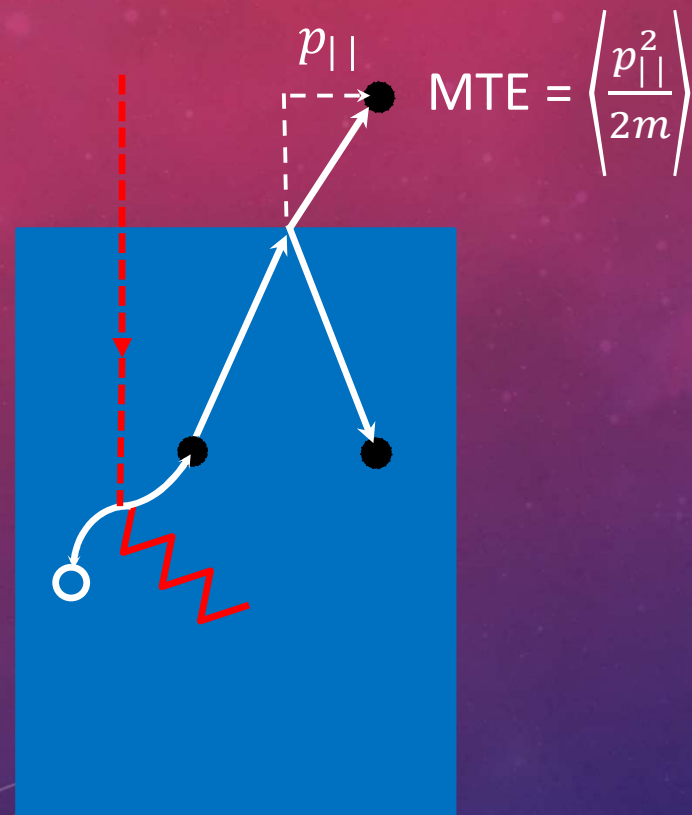
$$= \frac{\pi e^2 E^2}{6\hbar m^2 \omega^2} \frac{1}{V_{\text{cell}}} \int \frac{d^3k}{\Omega_{BZ}} 2 \sum_{nm} \delta(\epsilon_{m\vec{k}} - \epsilon_{n\vec{k}} - \hbar\omega) \{f_{n\vec{k}} - f_{m\vec{k}}\} |\langle f | \vec{p} | i \rangle|^2$$

for spin \uparrow, \downarrow

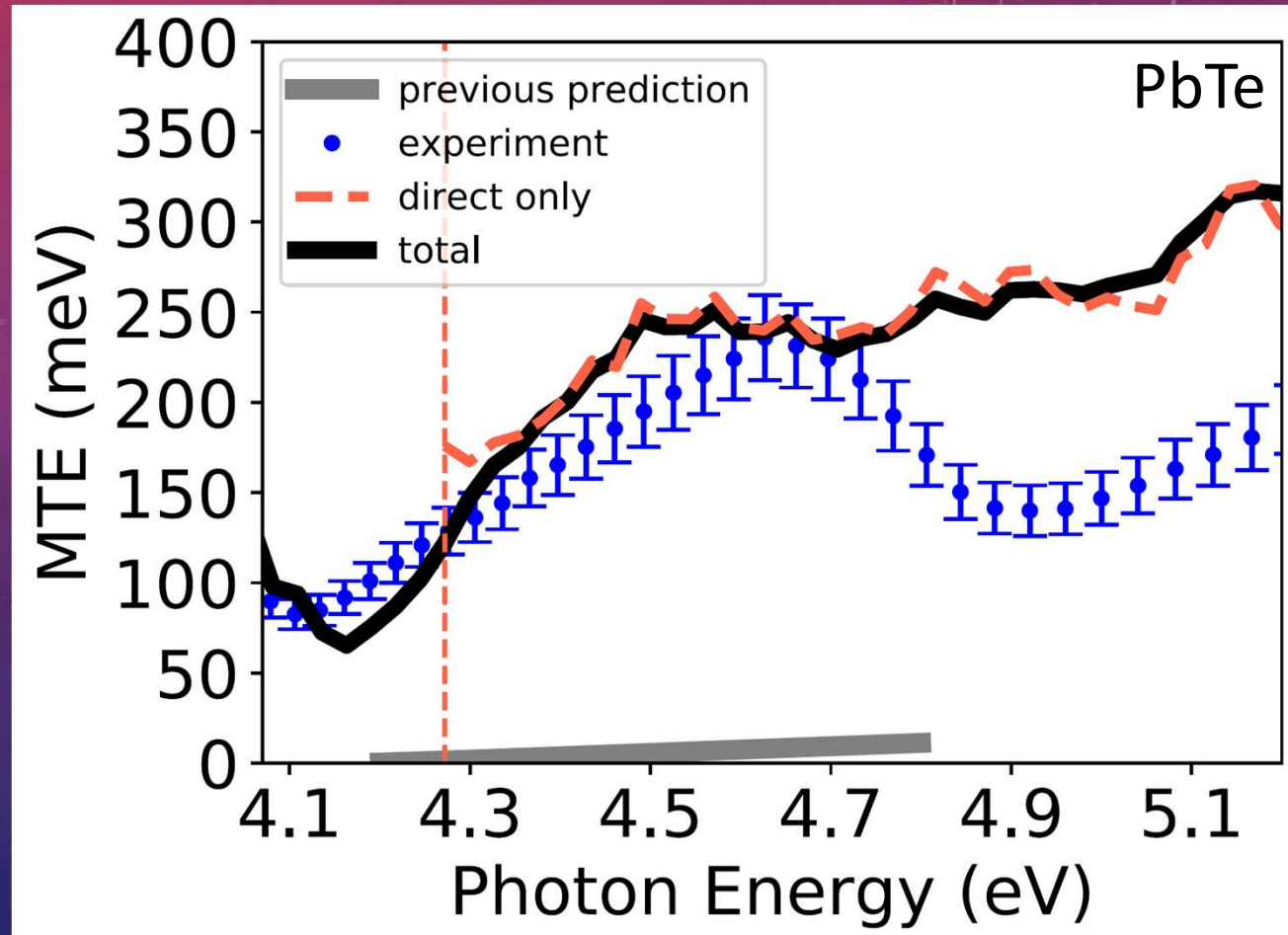
$$\Rightarrow \epsilon'' = \frac{2\hbar w}{\epsilon_0 E^2} = \frac{\pi e^2}{3\epsilon_0 m^2 \omega^2} \frac{1}{V_{\text{cell}}} \int \frac{2d^3k}{\Omega_{BZ}} \sum_{nm} \delta(\epsilon_{m\vec{k}} - \epsilon_{n\vec{k}} - \hbar\omega) \{f_{n\vec{k}} - f_{m\vec{k}}\} |\langle f | \vec{p} | i \rangle|^2$$



DISTRIBUTION OF PHOTOEMITTED ELECTRONS



Nangoi, ..., Arias, ..., PRB (201)
DOI: 10.1103/PhysRevB.104.115132





← Survey!!! 🤖

THANK YOU!

TAA2@CORNELL.EDU



--- LAST SLIDE ---
(BACKUPS BELOW)

FROM IMAGINARY PART TO ALL CONSTANTS

- Kramers-Kronig relation

$$\epsilon'(\omega) = \frac{1}{\pi} P \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \frac{\epsilon''(\omega')}{\omega' - \omega} d\omega'$$

- Index of refraction $(n' + in'') = \sqrt{\epsilon' + i\epsilon''}$

