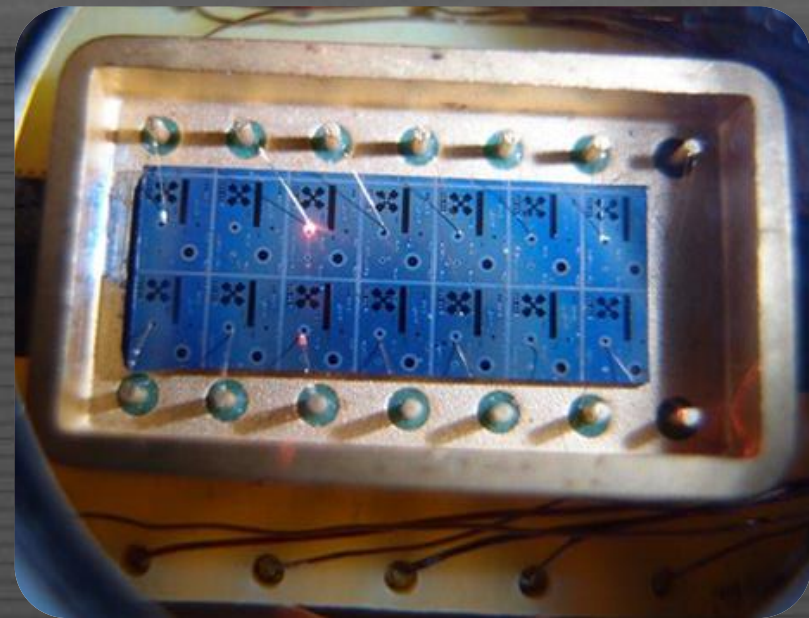


# Optical and Electrical Manipulation of Polariton Condensates on a Chip

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Pavlos G. Savvidis  
University of Crete, FORTH-IESL

*Maratea*  
*02.09.13*

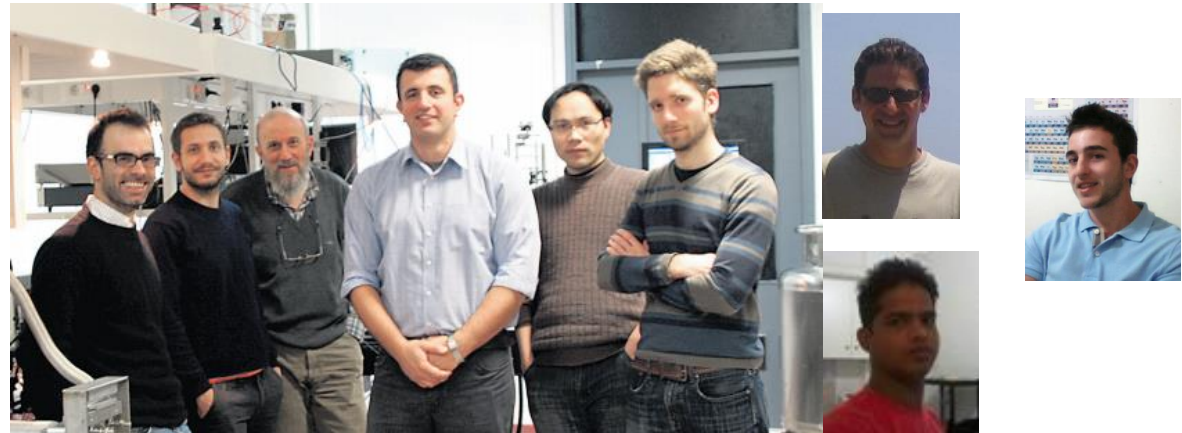


# Acknowledgements

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G. Tosi  
P. Cristofolini



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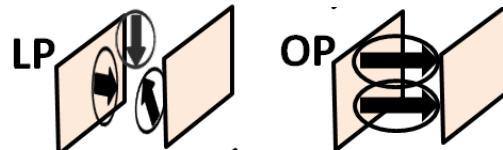
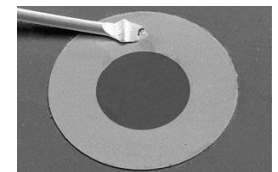
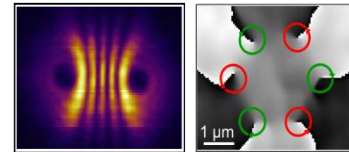
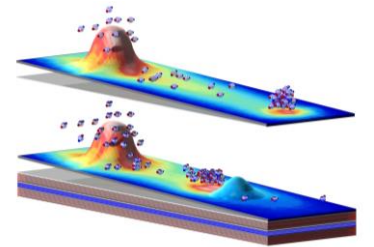
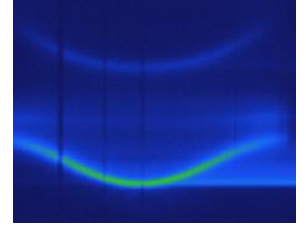
P. Lagoudakis  
A. Kavokin  
A. Askitopoulos



T. Liew

# Outline

- New generation of semiconductor lasers operating in the so called strong light-matter coupling regime
- Electrical and optical manipulation of polariton condensates on a chip
  - polariton condensate transistor
  - interactions between independent condensates
  - electrical control of polariton condensate
- Dipolaritons: dipole oriented polaritons
  - control of quantum tunneling
  - enhance nonlinearities



# The History of Semiconductor Lasers

The concept of the semiconductor laser diode proposed by Basov in 1959

N. G. Basov, B. M. Vul and M. Popov  
Soviet JETP, 37(1959)



First GaAs *laser diode* demonstrated by Robert N. Hall in 1962.



Pulsed operation at liquid nitrogen temperatures (77 K)

Bulk



Electronic confinement in heterostructures

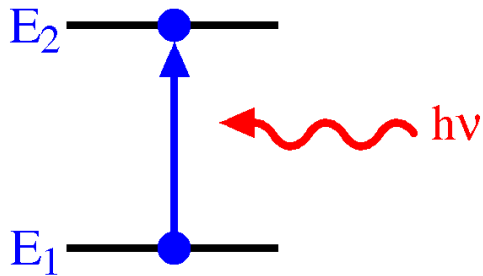
In 1970, Zhores Alferov, Izuo Hayashi and Morton Panish independently developed CW laser diodes at room temperature

- the laser disc player, introduced in 1978, was the first successful consumer product to include a laser

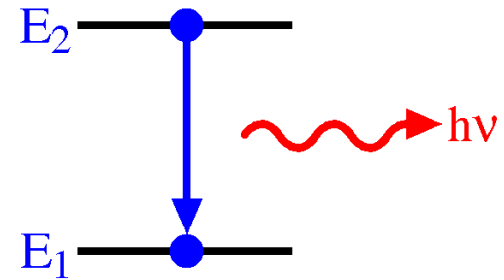


# Fundamental Optical Processes Involved in Operation of Semiconductor Lasers

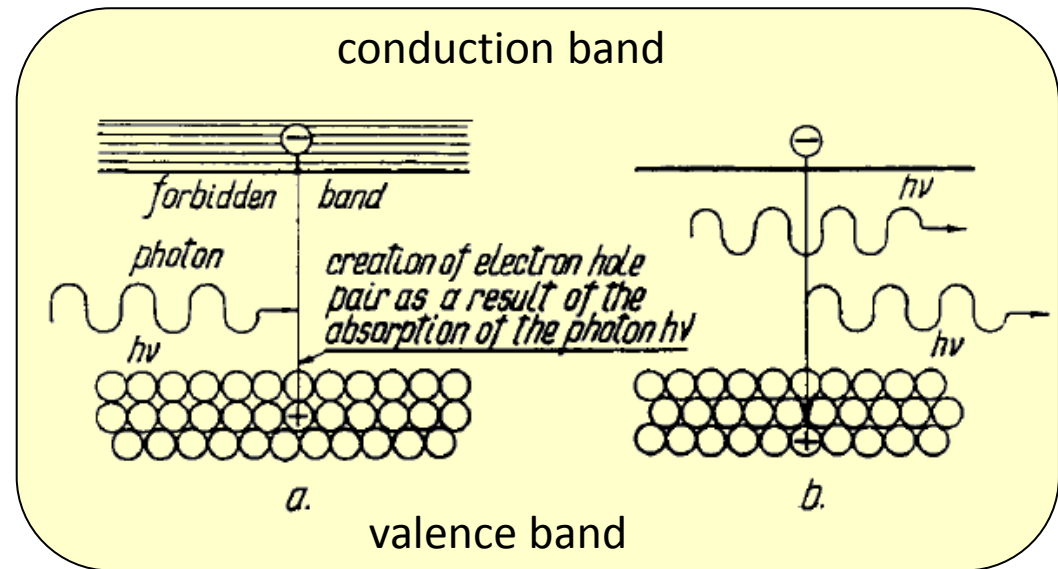
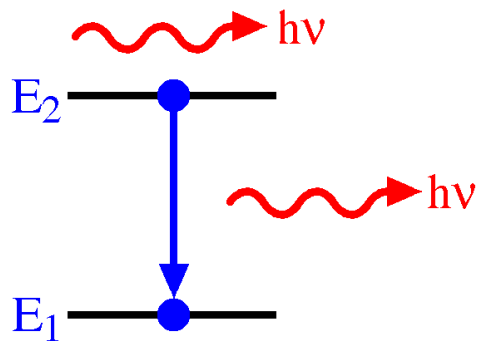
Absorption



Spontaneous emission



Stimulated Emission

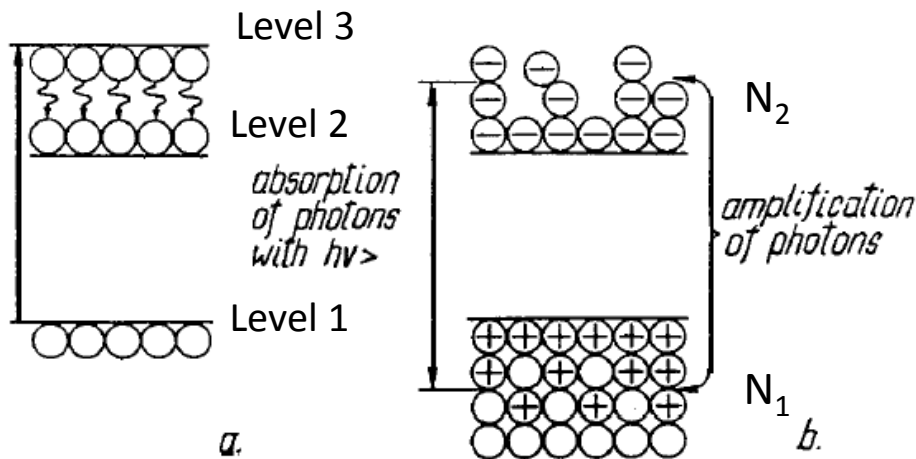


**Semiconductors**

# Negative Temperature & Population Inversion Lasing

To achieve non-equilibrium conditions, an indirect method of populating the excited state must be used.

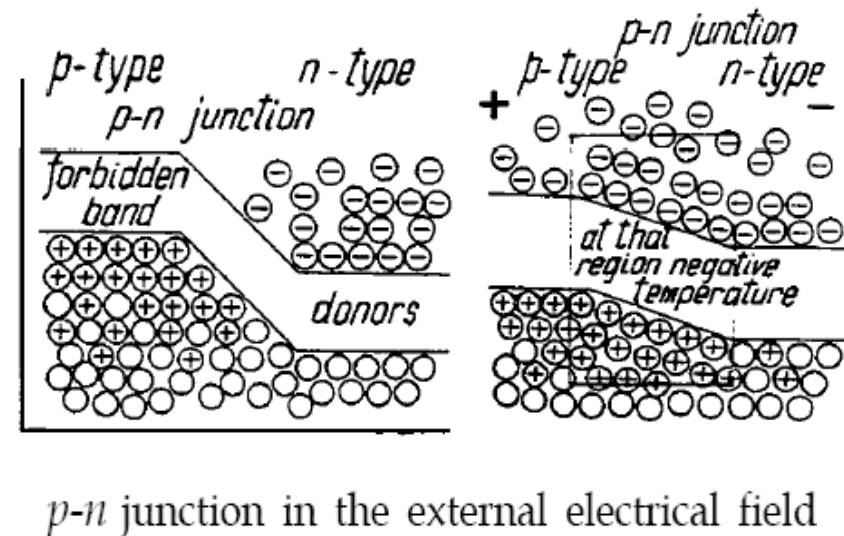
## Three-level laser energy diagram



Atoms

Semiconductors

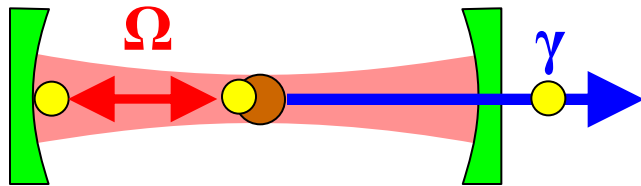
## Basov Nobel Lecture



- Population inversion when  $(N_2 > N_1) \rightarrow$  optical amplification at the frequency  $\omega_{21}$
- At least half the population of atoms must be excited from the ground state  
- to get population inversion laser medium must be very strongly pumped

**This makes three-level lasers rather inefficient.**

# Weak Coupling Regime



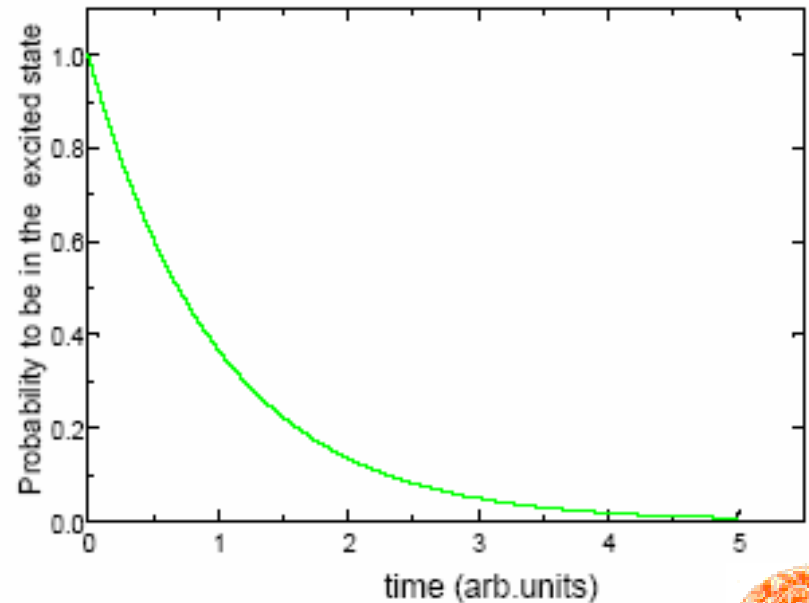
$\gamma$ : loss channel (e.g. imperfect mirror)

$\Omega$  coupling strength between optical transition of the material and the resonance photon mode

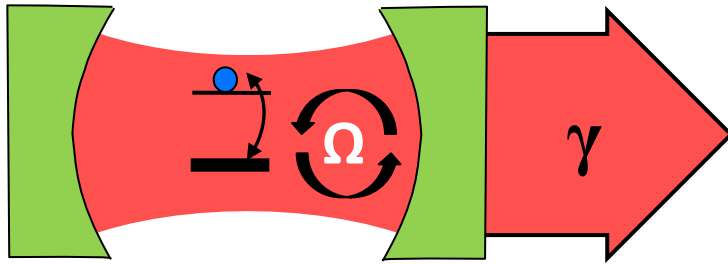
**Weak Coupling Regime ( $\gamma \gg \Omega$ ) :**

emitted photon leaves the resonator (after some reflections) no reabsorption

⇒ Spontaneous Emission is irreversible



# Strong Coupling Regime



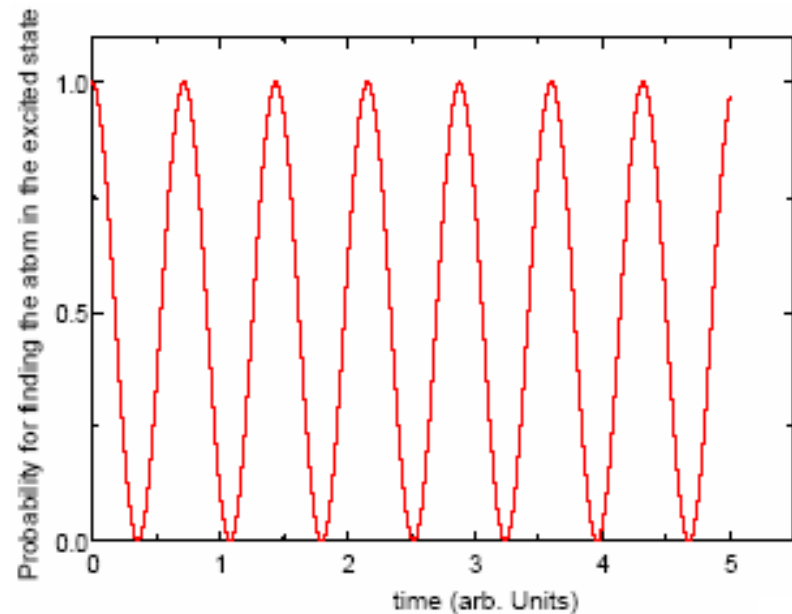
$\gamma$ : loss channel

$\Omega$  coupling strength between optical transition of the material and the resonance photon mode

**Strong Coupling Regime ( $\Omega \gg \gamma$ ) :**

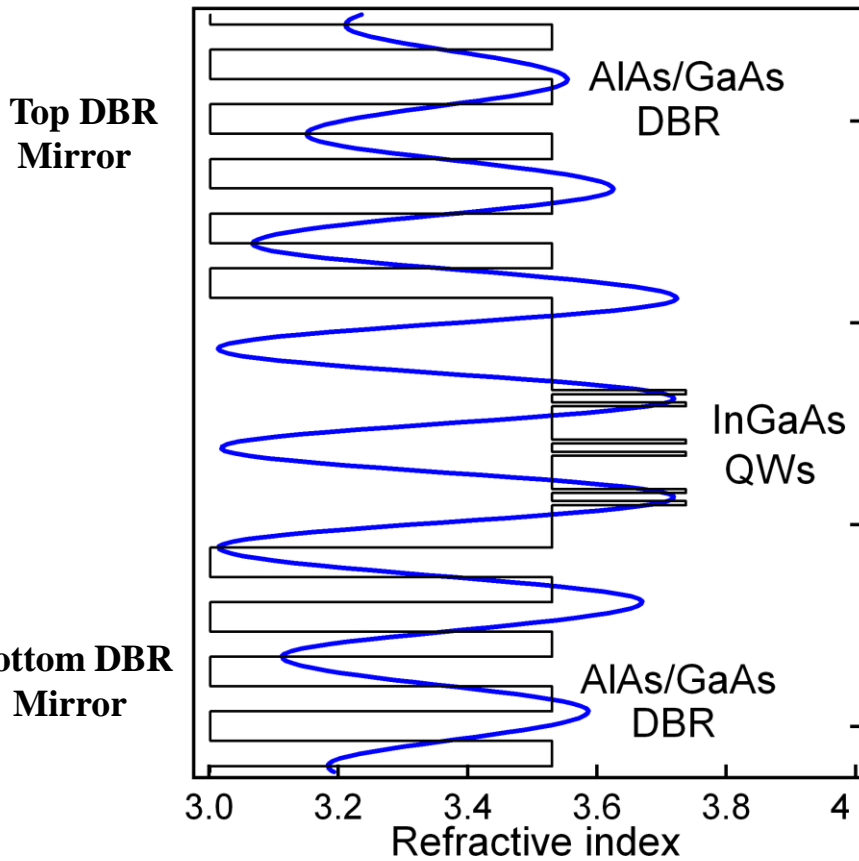
emitted photon will be reabsorbed before it leaves the cavity

$\Rightarrow$  **Spontaneous Emission is a reversible process**

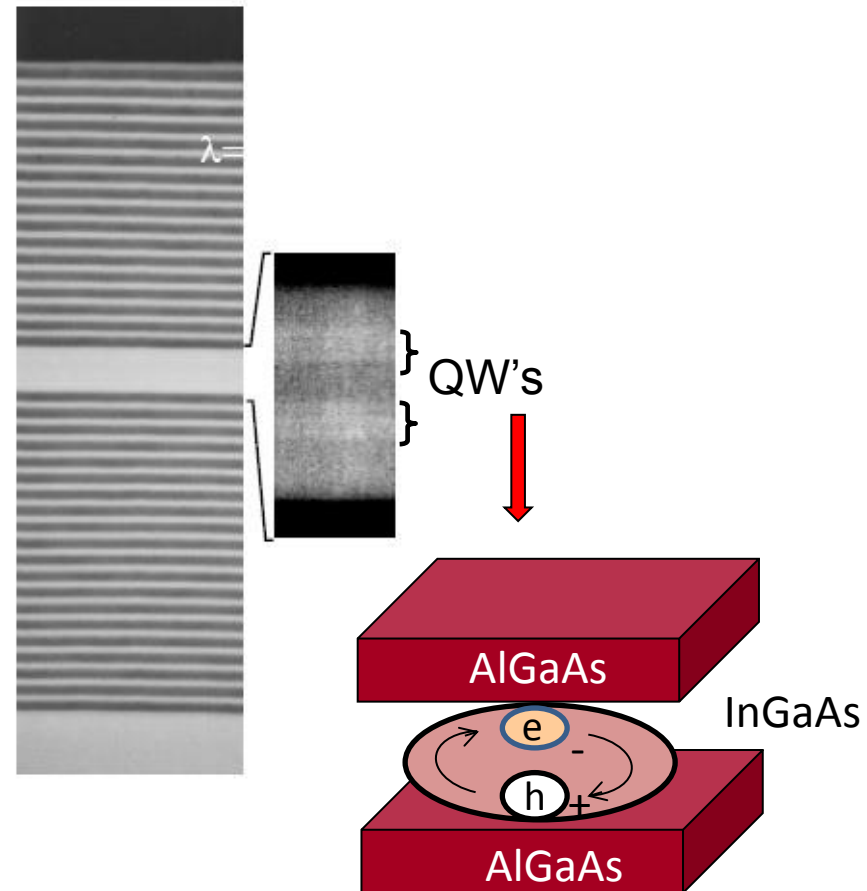




# Monolithic Semiconductor Microcavity



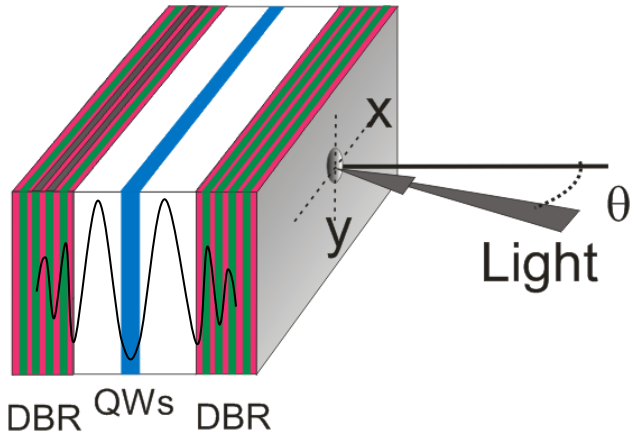
• QWs placed at the E-field maxima



• Combine electronic and photonic confinement in the same structure



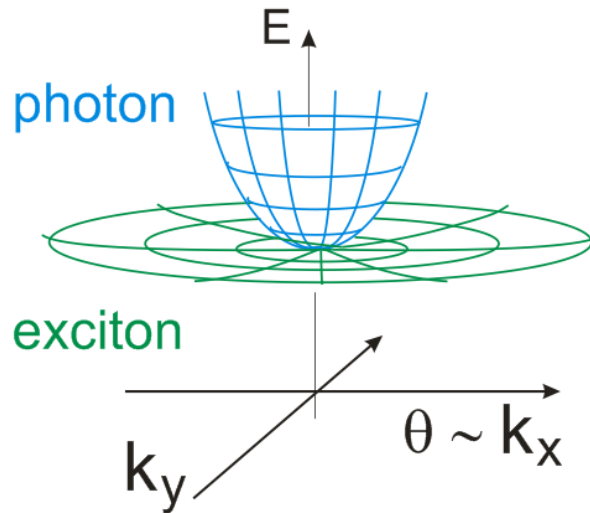
# Strong Coupling Regime in Semiconductor Microcavity



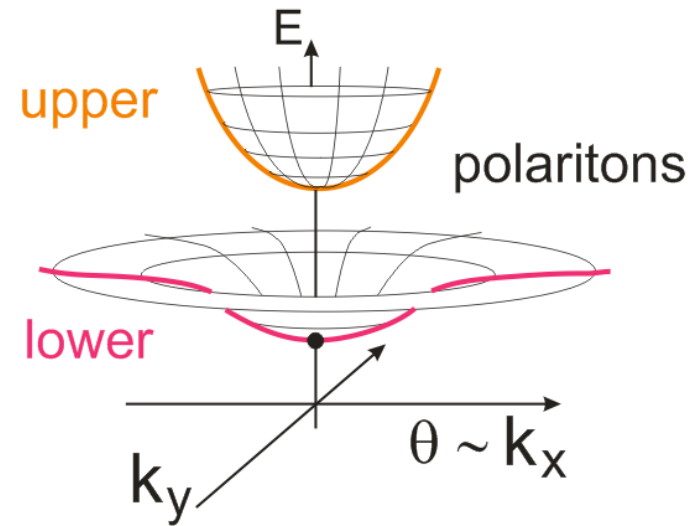
- Strongly modified dispersion relations  
reduced density of states near  $k_{//}=0$
- small polariton mass  $m_{pol} \approx 10^{-4}m_e$
- strong non-linearities  $\rightarrow \chi^3$  (exciton component)

$$E_{photon} = \frac{\hbar c}{n_c} \sqrt{\left(\frac{2\pi}{L_c}\right)^2 + k_{//}^2}$$

$$E_{ex}(k_{//}) = E(0) + \frac{\hbar^2 k_{//}^2}{2M_{exciton}}$$



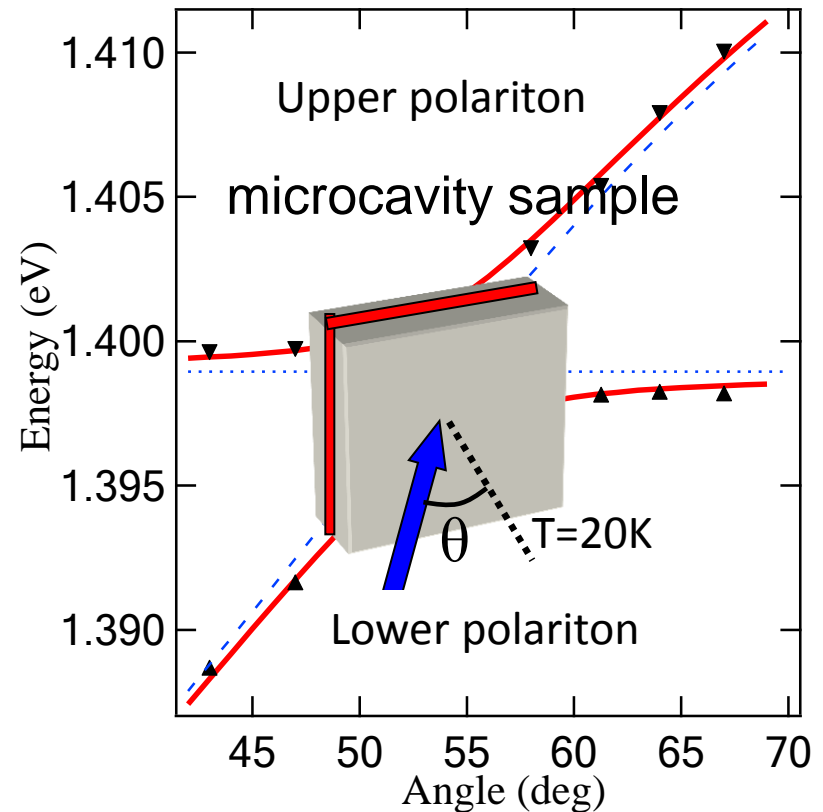
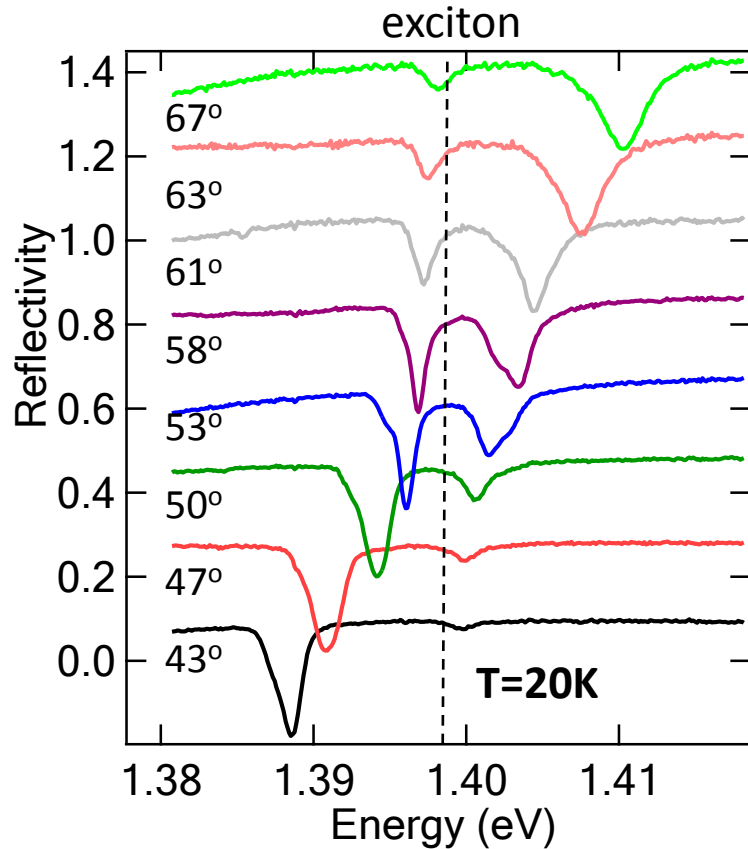
## Strong Coupling Regime



C. Weisbuch et al., Phys. Rev. Lett. 69, 3314 (1992)



# Polariton Dispersions in the strong coupling regime



- reflectivity probes allowed states in the system
- characteristic anticrossing behaviour with Rabi splitting of 4.8meV

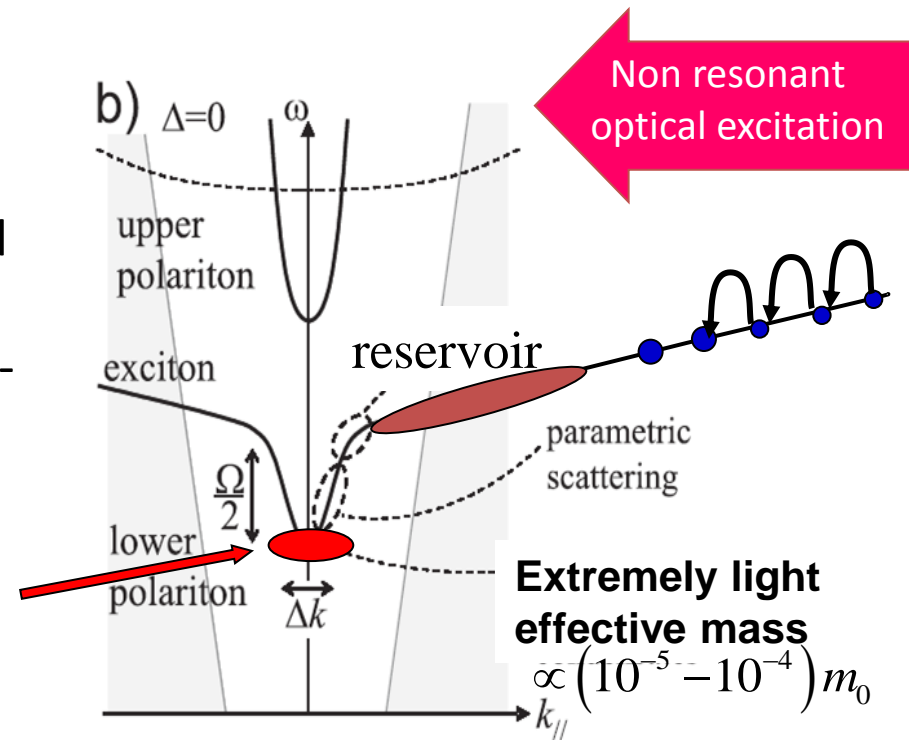


# Bose-Condensation and Concept of Polariton Lasing

Imamoglu et al., PRA 53, 4250 (1996)

Bosonic character of cavity polaritons could be used to create an exciton-polariton condensate that would emit coherent laser-like light.

**Polariton condensate**



Polaritons accumulate in the lowest energy state by bosonic final state stimulation.

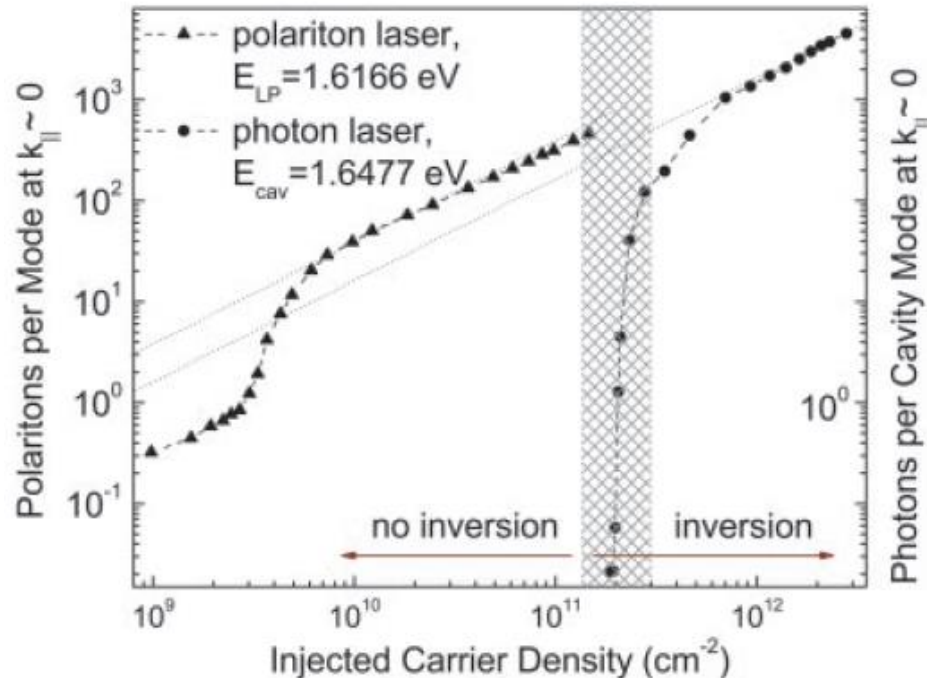
The coherence of the condensate builds up from an incoherent equilibrium reservoir and the BEC phase transition takes place.

**The condensate emits spontaneously coherent light without necessity for population inversion**



# New Physics & Applications

- Strong-coupling provides a new insight into a number of very interesting fundamental physical processes and applications



Polaritons are Bosons



- Bose condensation
- stimulated scattering

## Polariton vs Photon Laser

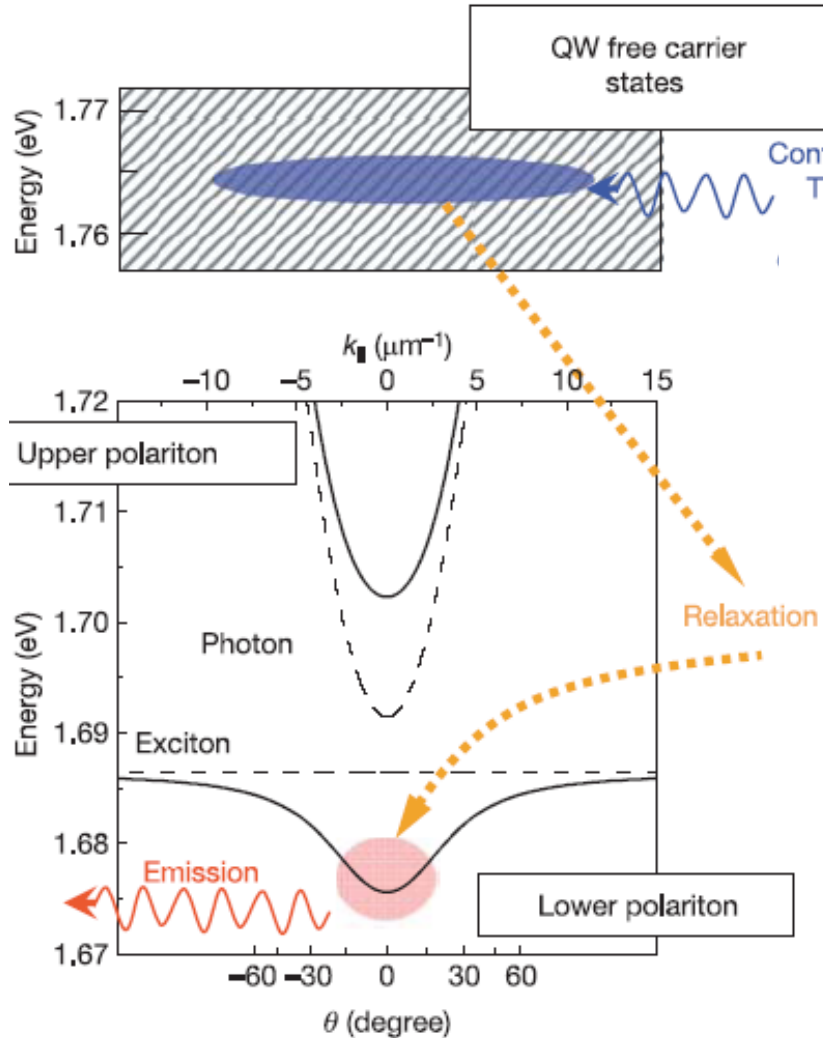
Deng, et al. Natl. Acad. Sci. 15318 (2003)

- ultralow threshold polariton lasers
- all optical switches, transistors and amplifiers

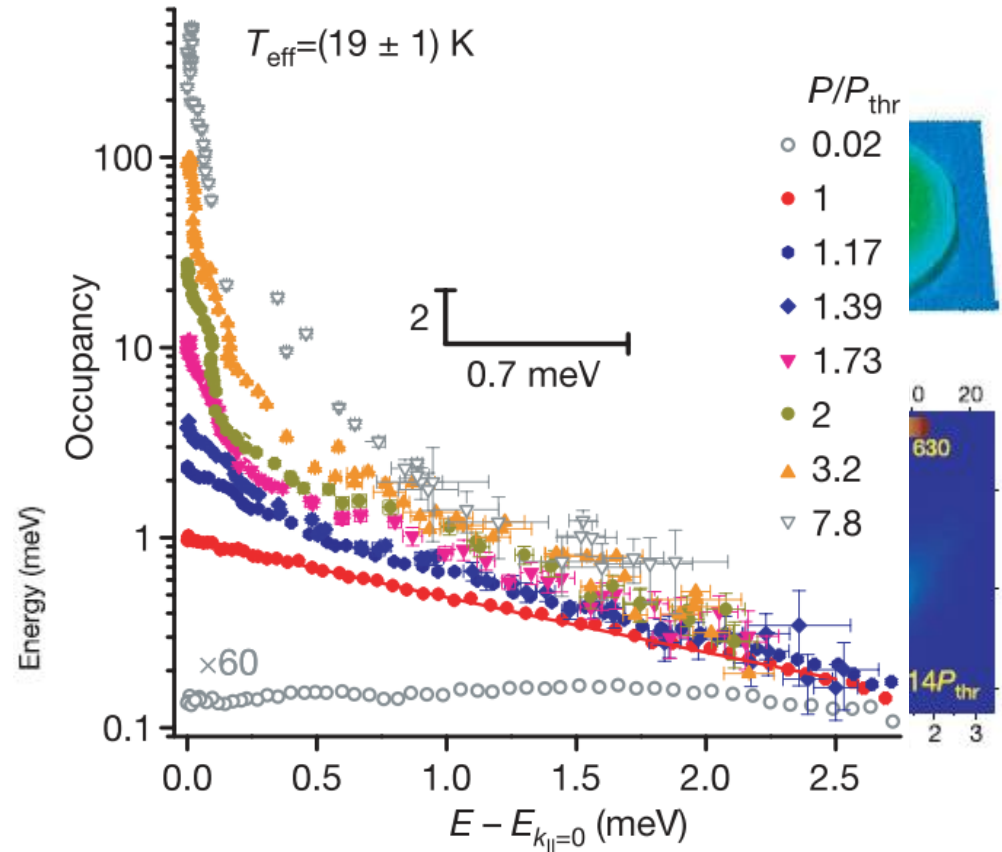


# Polariton Condensation in CdTe/CdMnTe MC

*J. Kasprzak et al. Nature 443, 409 (2006)*

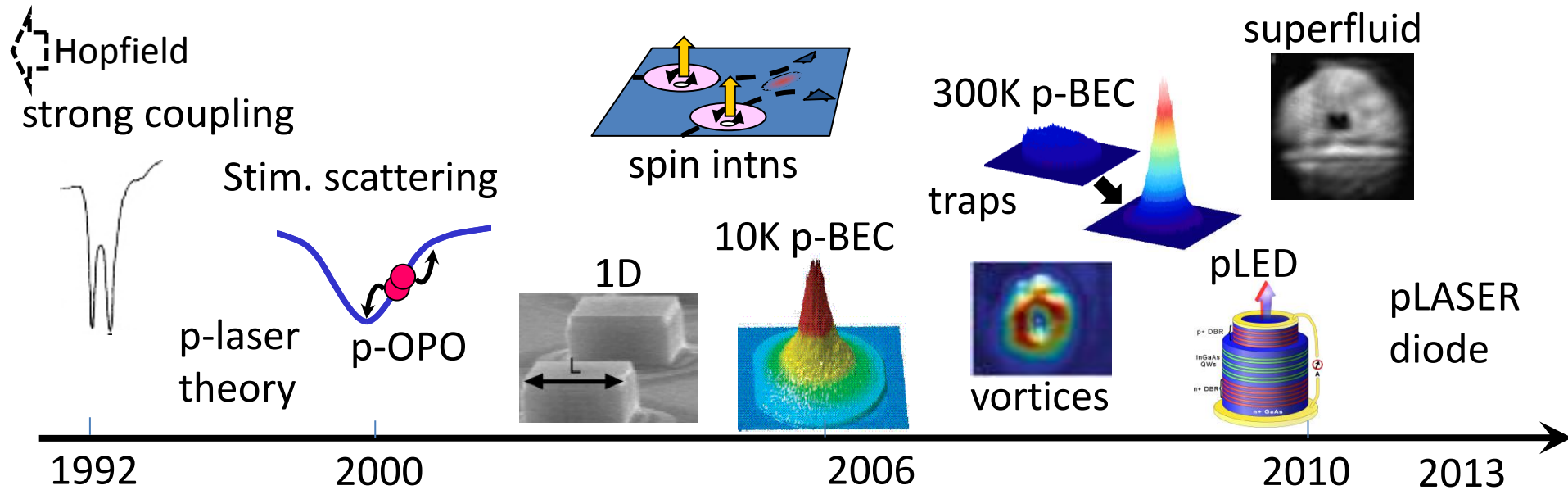


Narrowing of the momentum distribution



- polaritons  $10^9$  times lighter than Rubidium atoms
- observation of polariton BEC at cryogenic temperature is possible

# Polaritonics



## From a device perspective:

- Near speed of light lateral transport
- Light effective mass
- Condensate regime readily available on a chip even at RT

**New directions:** electrically driven polariton devices

# **Polariton based Devices**

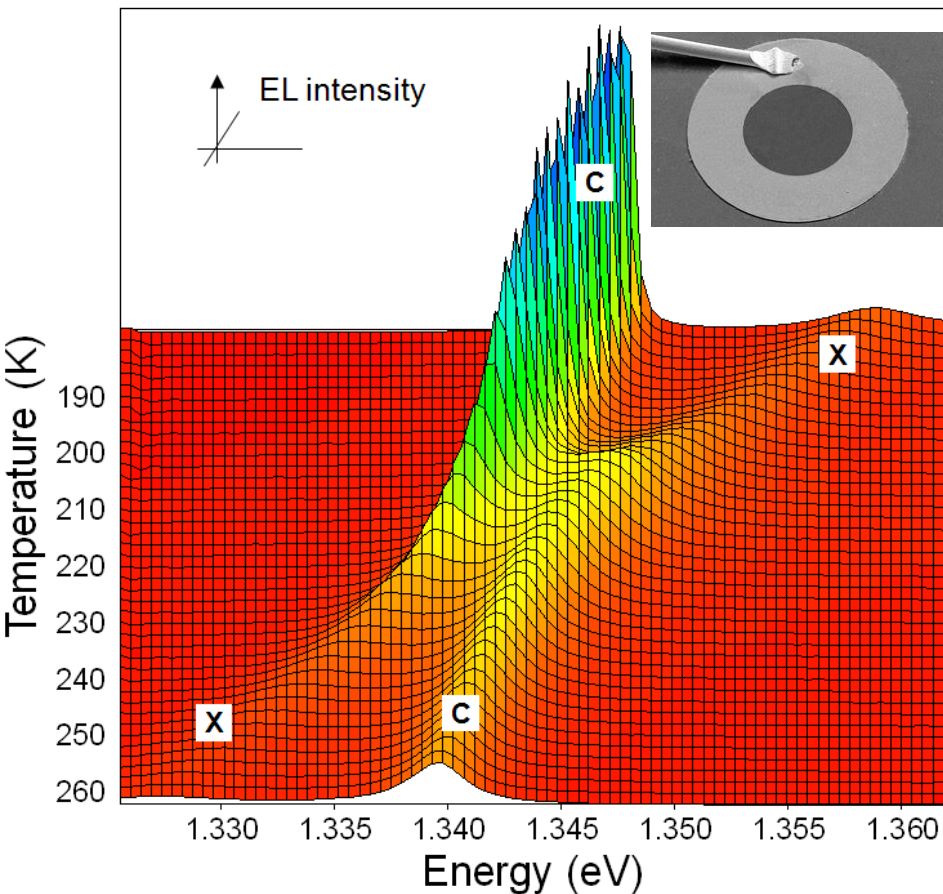
## **“Polaritonics”**



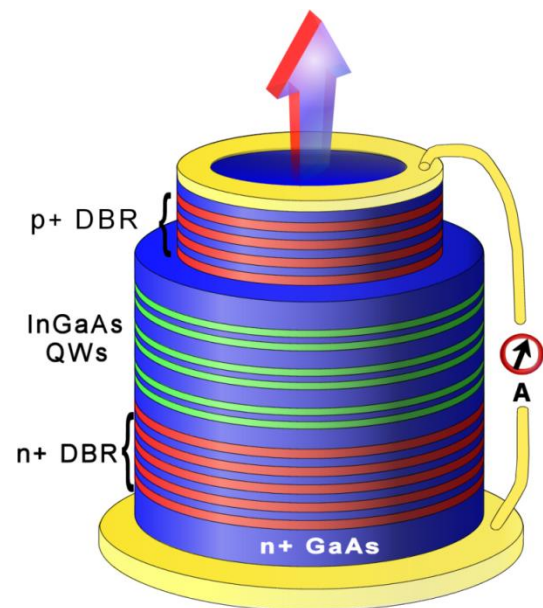


# Room temperature Polariton LED

Emission collected normal to the device



- Clear anticrossing observed
- Direct emission from exciton polariton states



- Rabi splitting of 4.4 meV at 219 K

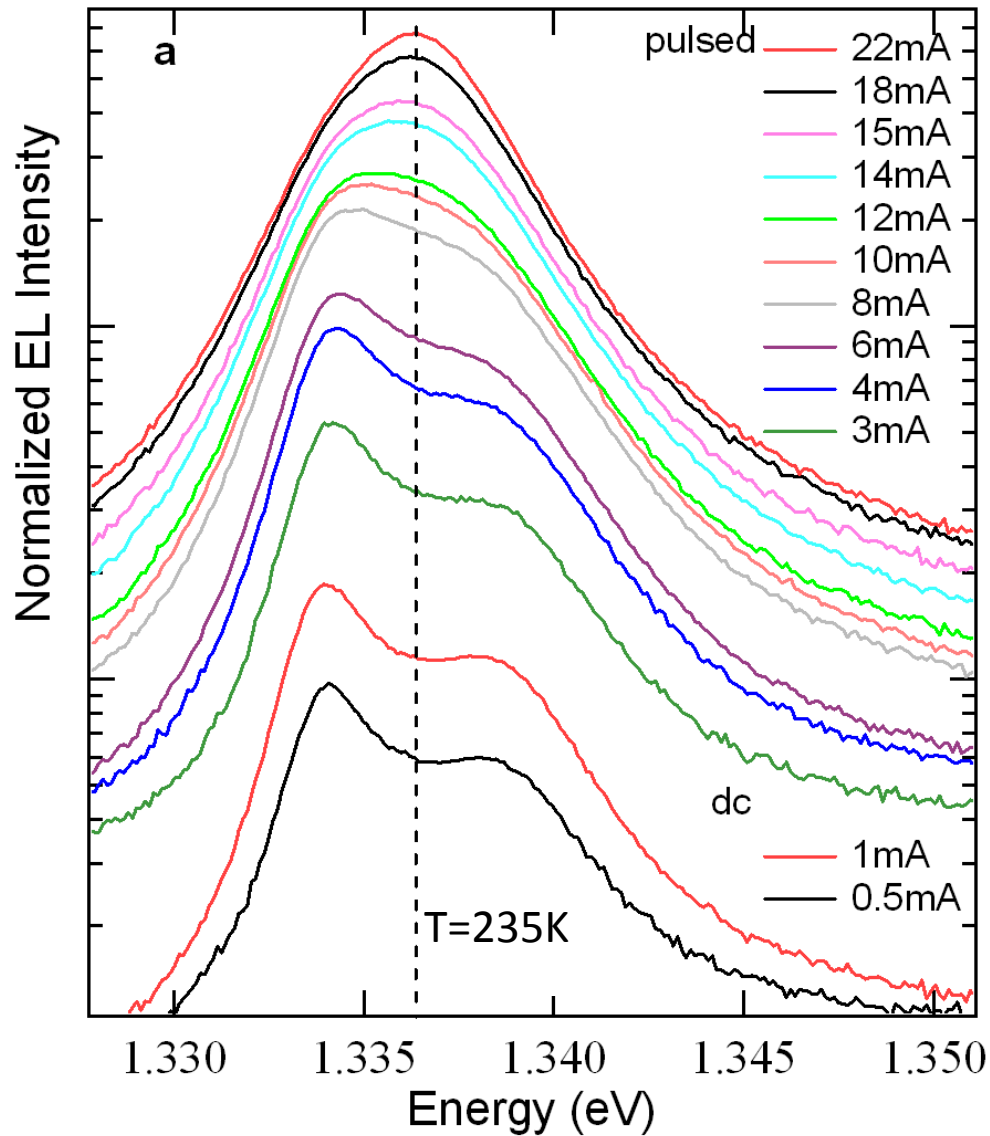
Transport driven device

S. Tsintzos *et al.*, *Nature* 453, 372 (2008)

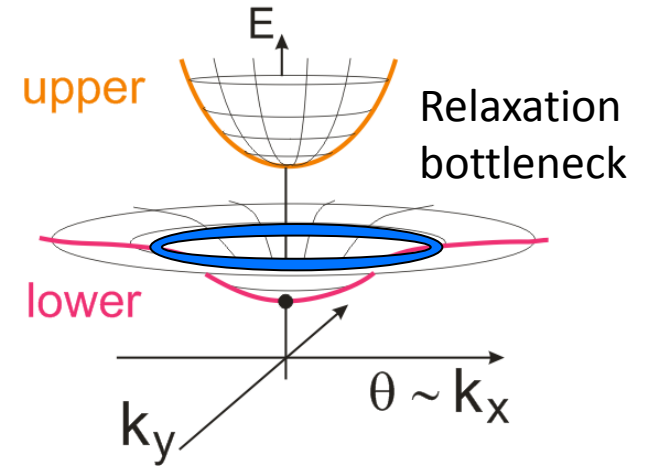
N. Pelekanos



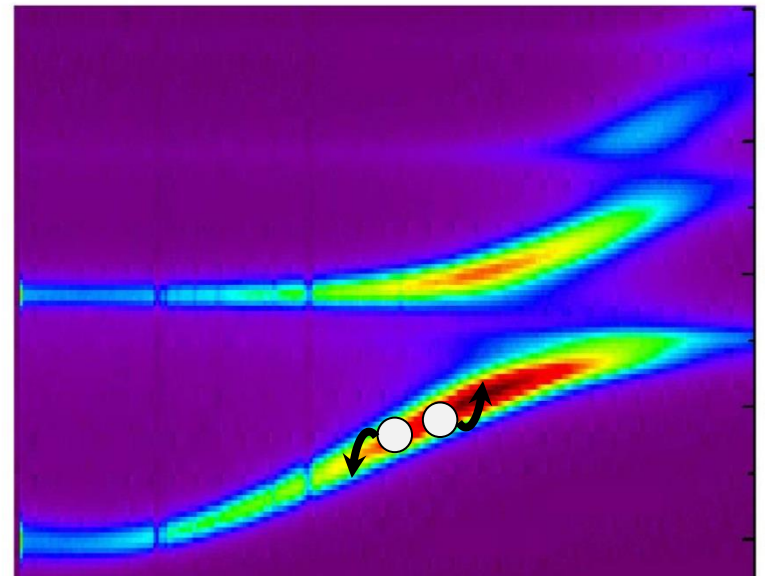
# Collapse of Strong Coupling Regime at High Densities



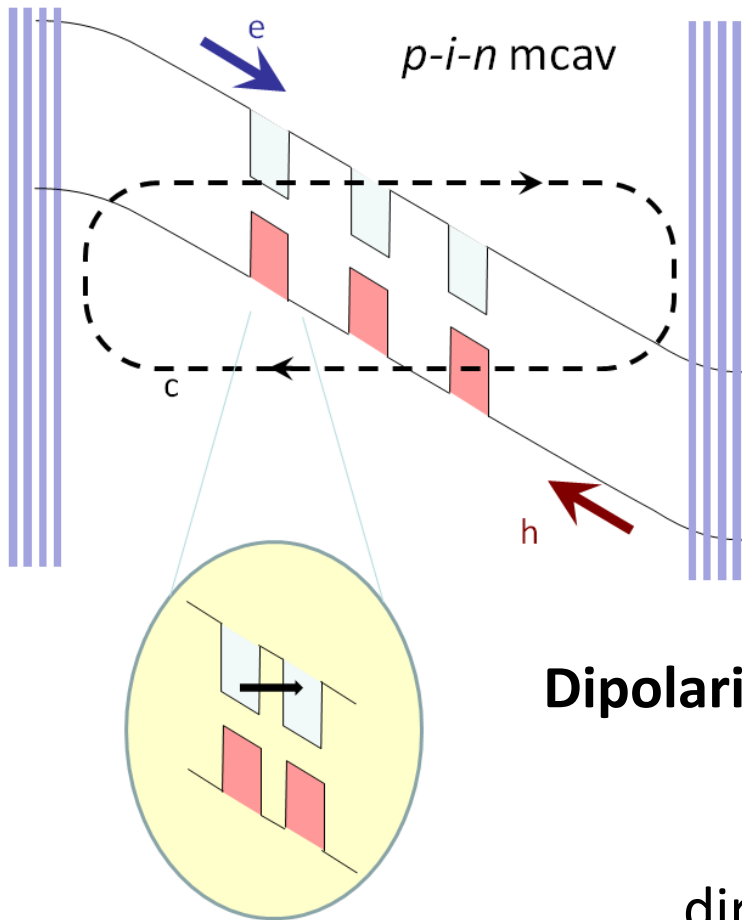
- Injection density at 22mA  $\sim 10^{10}$  pol/cm<sup>2</sup>



**Relaxation on lower branch governed by polariton-polariton interactions (dipole-dipole)**



# Electrically pumped polariton lasers



## new challenges:

- strong coupling in high finesse doped microcavities structures
- injection bypassing relaxation bottleneck
- control of polariton dispersions and scatterings

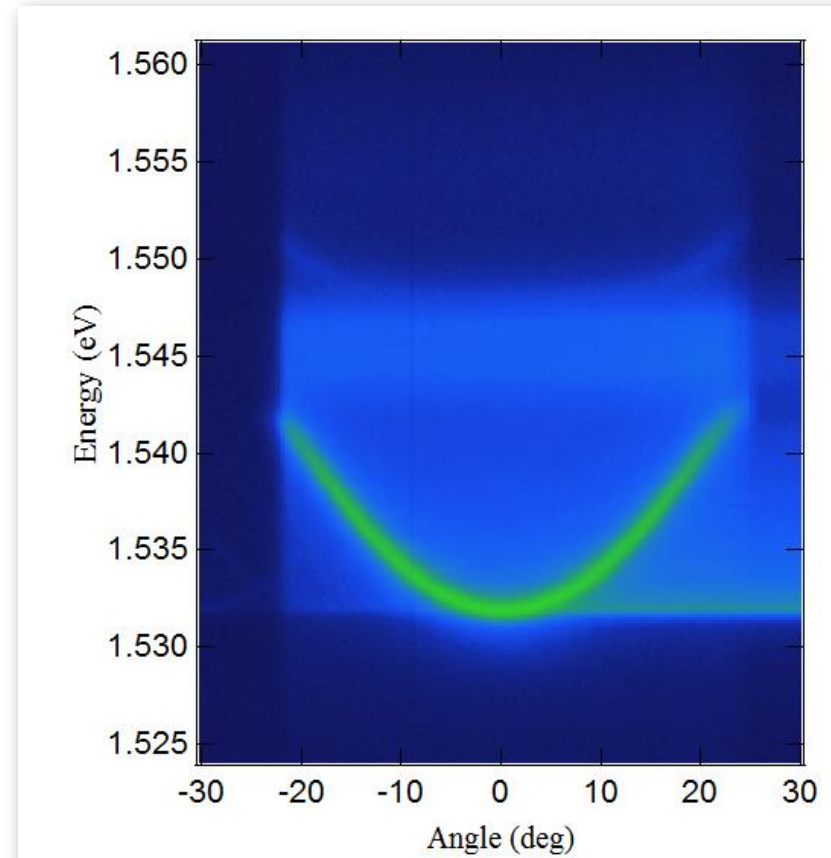
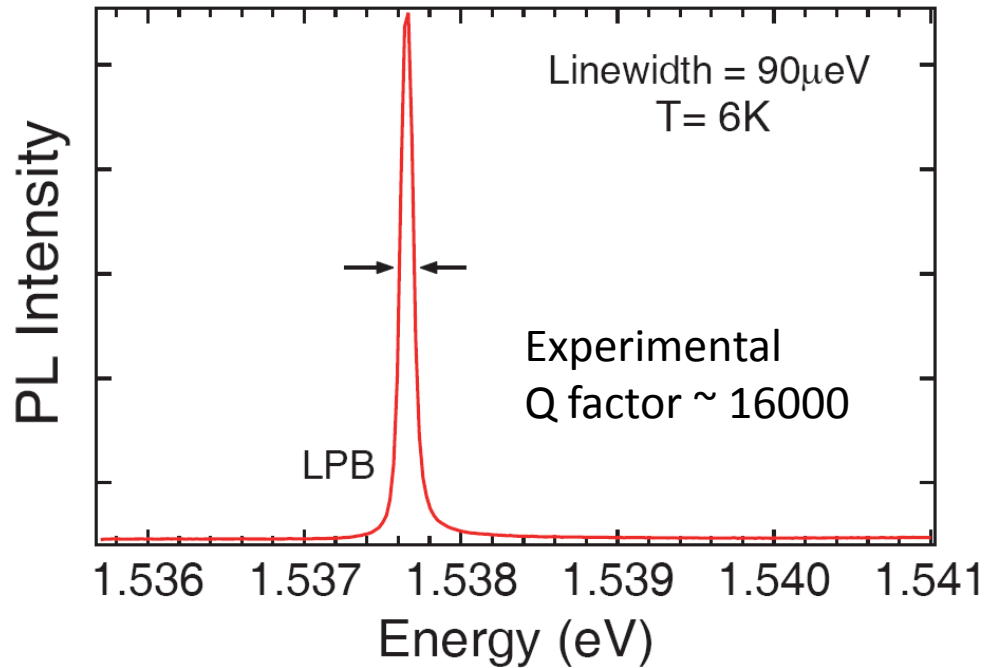
**Dipolariton approach:** weakly-coupled double quantum wells



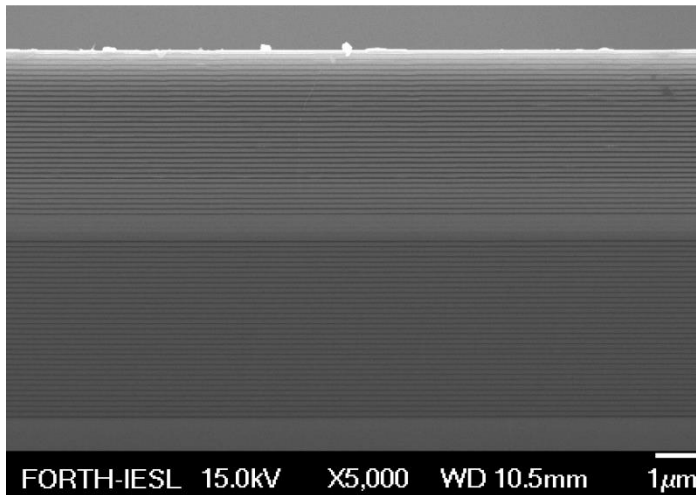
direct control of polariton dipole

$$H_{PP}^{eff} = \frac{1}{2} \sum_{k,k',q} \frac{a_B^2}{A} \underbrace{V_{k,k',q}^{PP}} \hat{p}_{k+q}^+ \hat{p}_{k'-q}^+ \hat{p}_k \hat{p}_{k'} \quad \text{dipole-dipole}$$

# High finesse GaAs microcavity

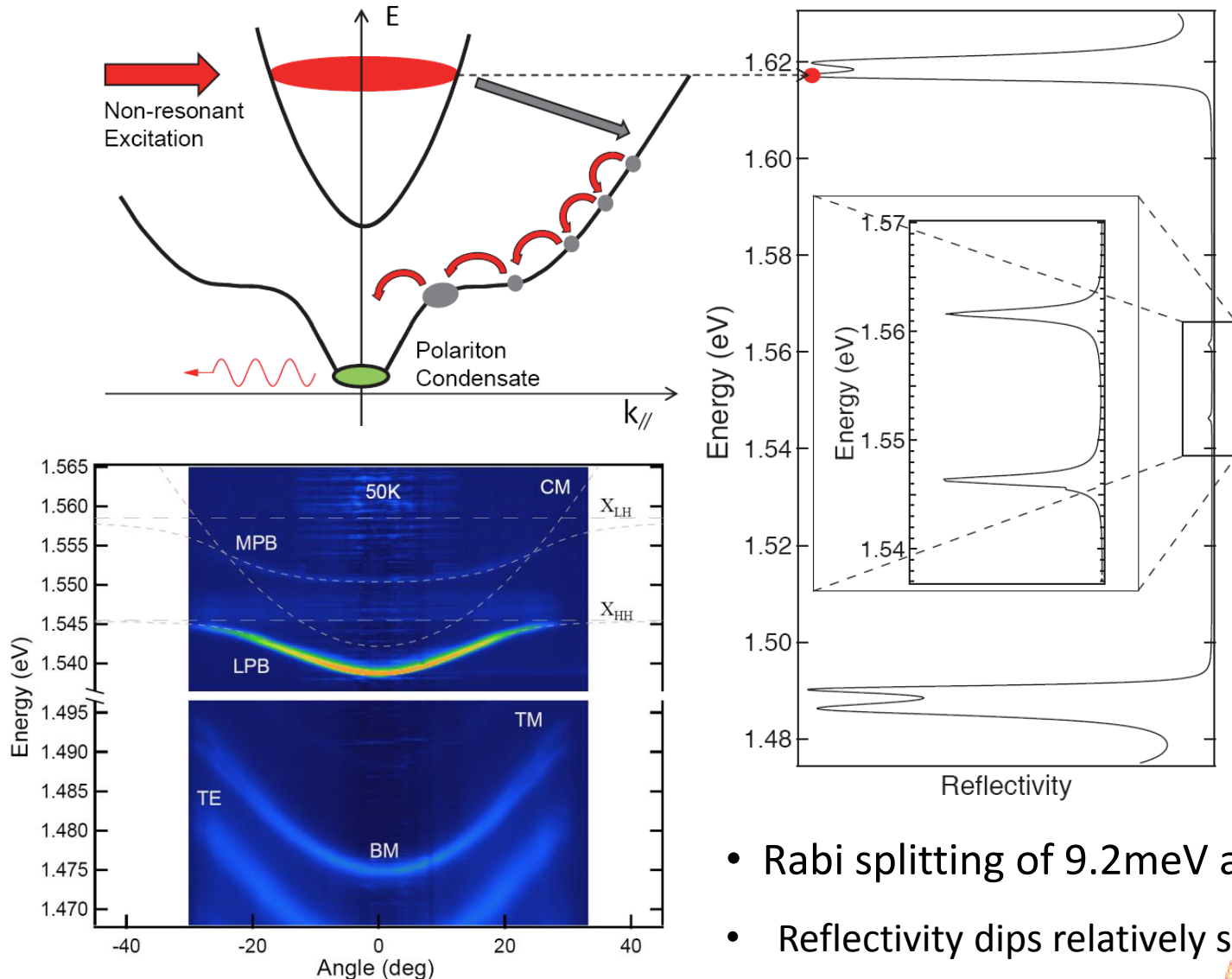


Modeled Q factor  $\sim 20000$





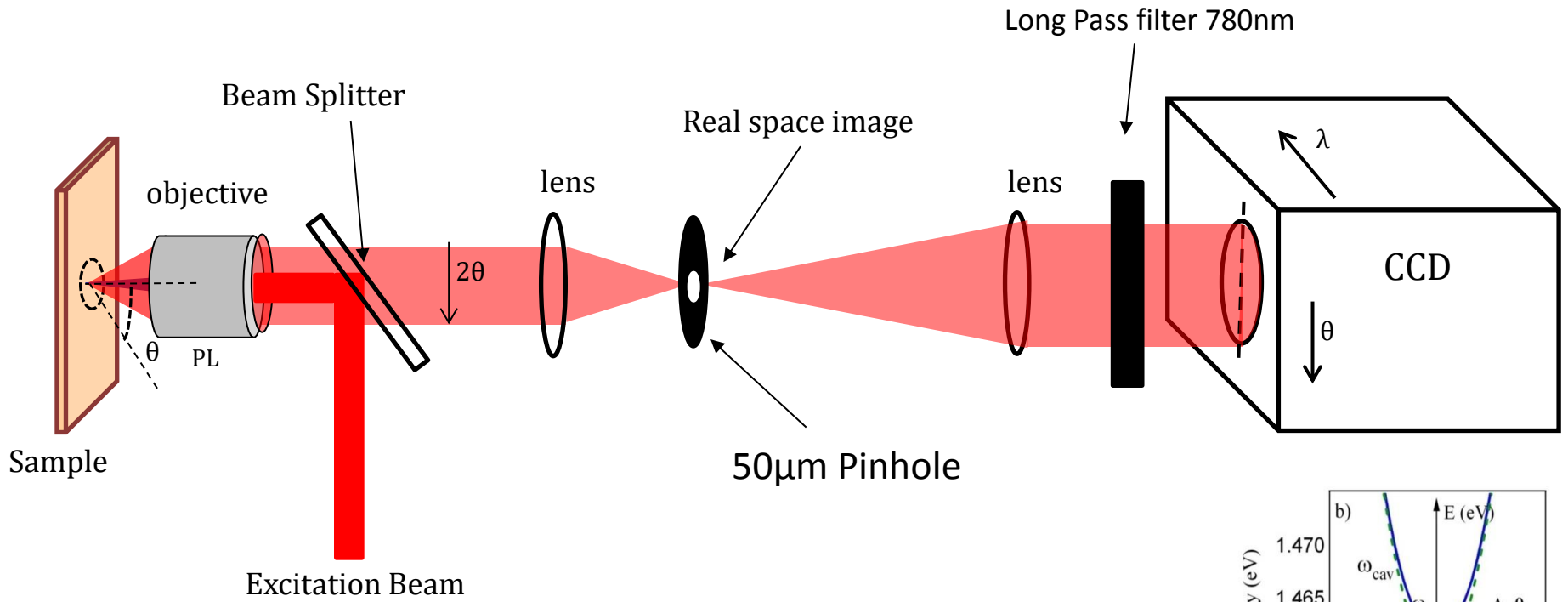
# Non-resonant optical excitation



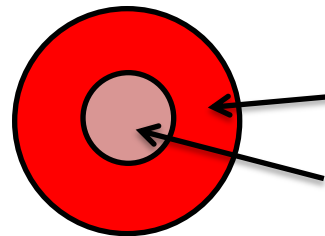
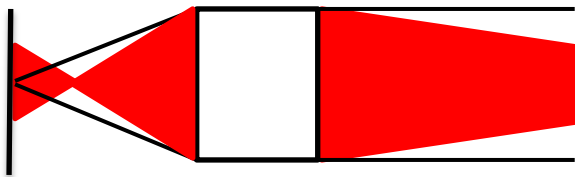
- Rabi splitting of 9.2meV at 50K
- Reflectivity dips relatively small



# PL imaging Setup

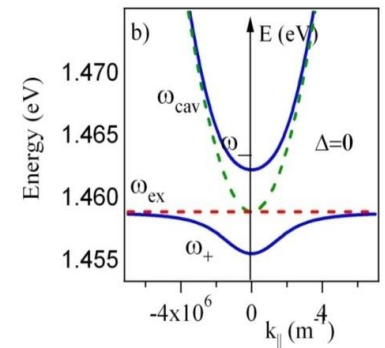


Collection of light from a very small part of excited area



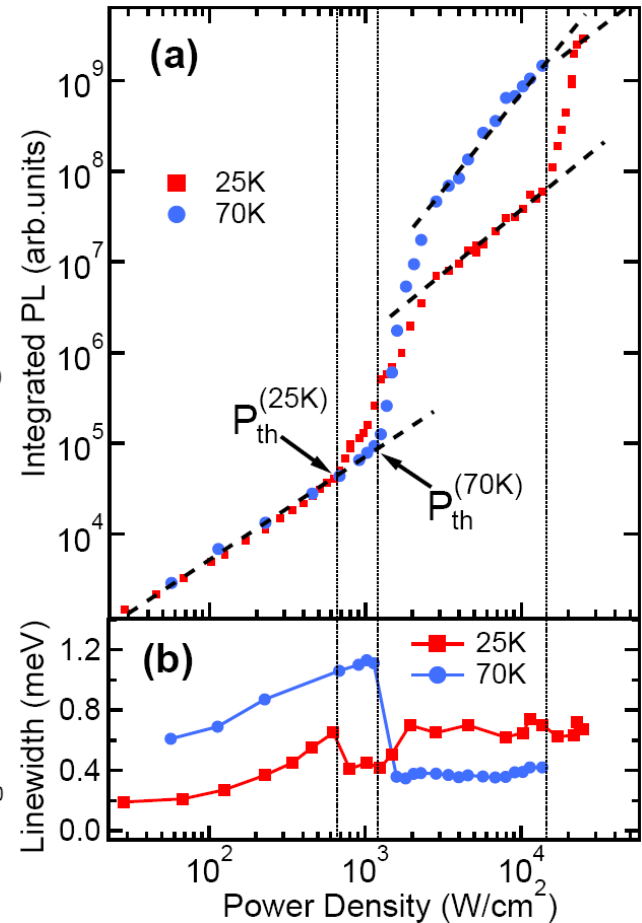
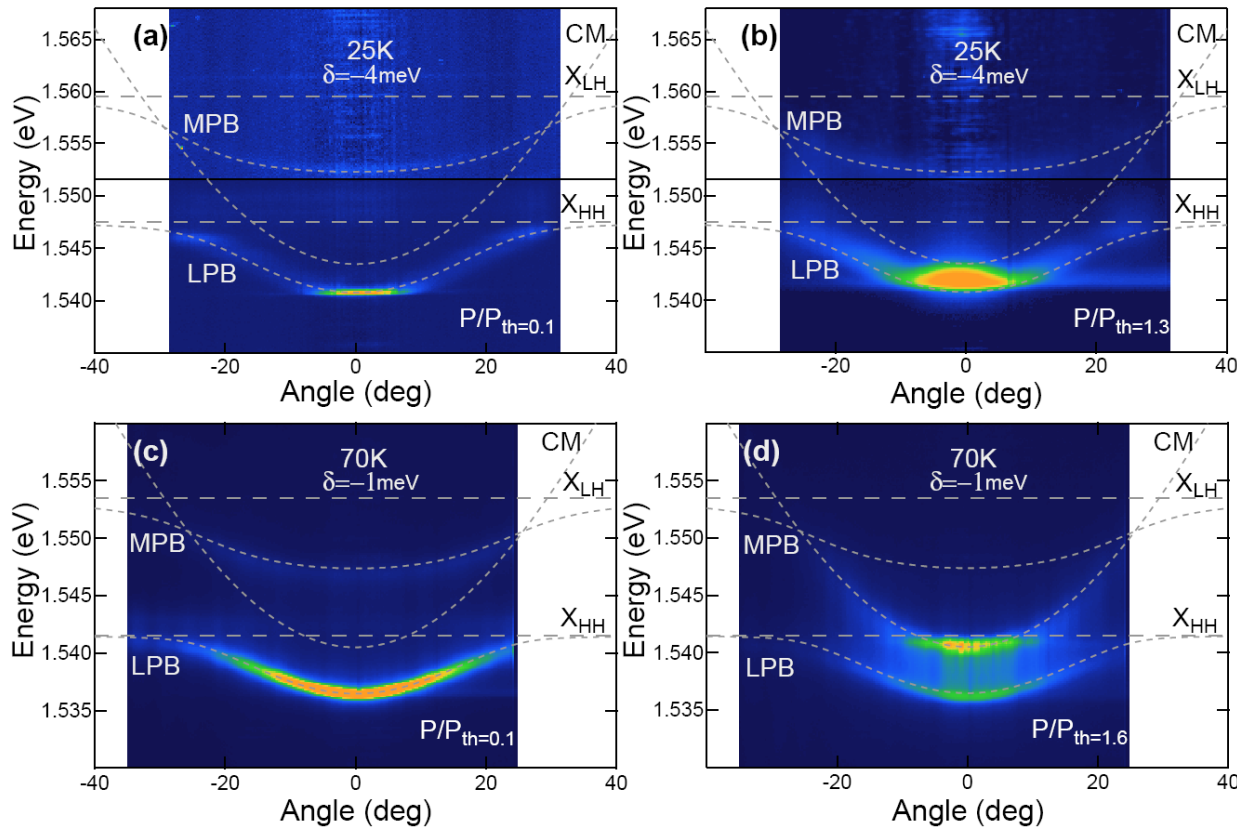
Excitation spot  $\sim 40\mu\text{m}$

Collection spot  $\sim 5\mu\text{m}$



# GaAs Polariton Laser 25K vs 70K

- Nonresonant optical pumping above stopband



- Lowest Threshold at 25K  $\sim 6.5 \text{ mW}$  strong coupling  
at 70K  $\sim 13 \text{ mW}$  weak coupling
- Lasing threshold only **doubles** between polariton laser at 25K and photon laser at 70K

# Rabi Splitting vs Density

$$\Omega = \sqrt{4V^2 - (\gamma_X - \gamma_C)^2}$$

$$\hbar V = \hbar \sqrt{\frac{1 + \sqrt{R}}{\sqrt{R}} \frac{c\Gamma_0}{n_{cav} L_{eff}}}$$

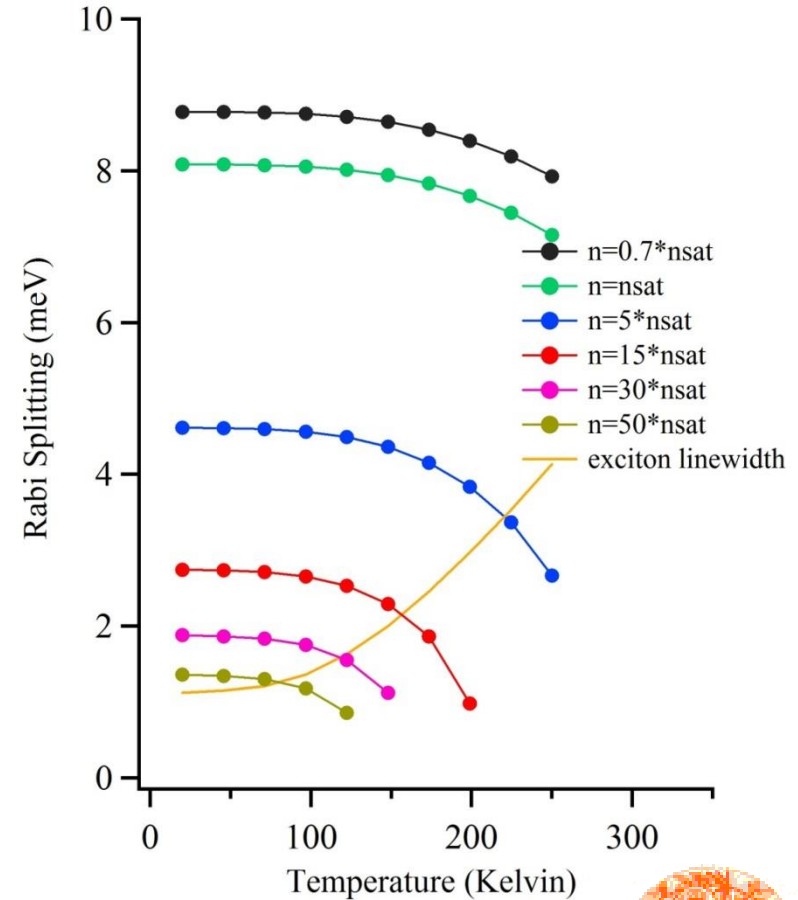
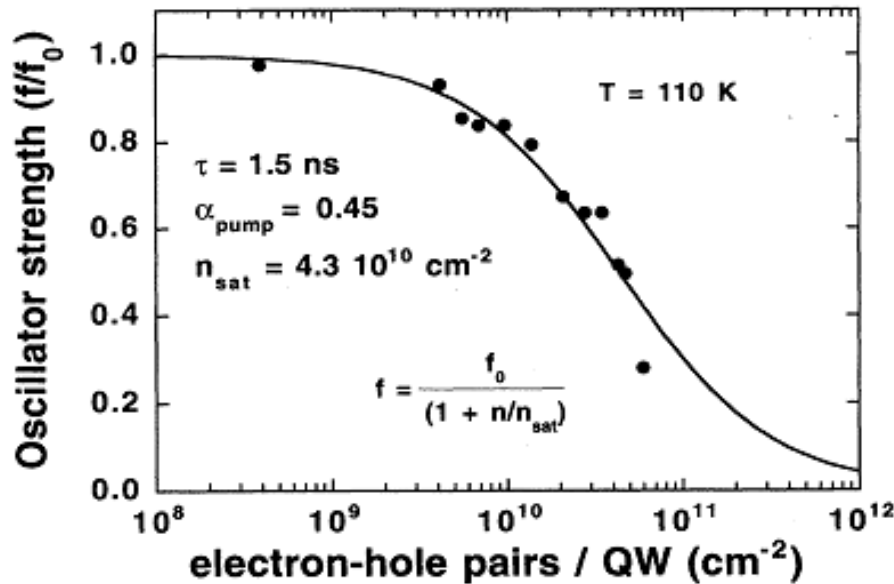
$$\Gamma_0 = \frac{e^2}{4\epsilon_0 n_{cav} m_0 c S} f$$

$$f = \frac{f_0}{1 + \frac{n}{n_{sat}}}$$

$f$  : exciton oscillator strength

$n$  : carrier density

$n_{sat}$  : saturation density



(PRB, M. Ilegems)



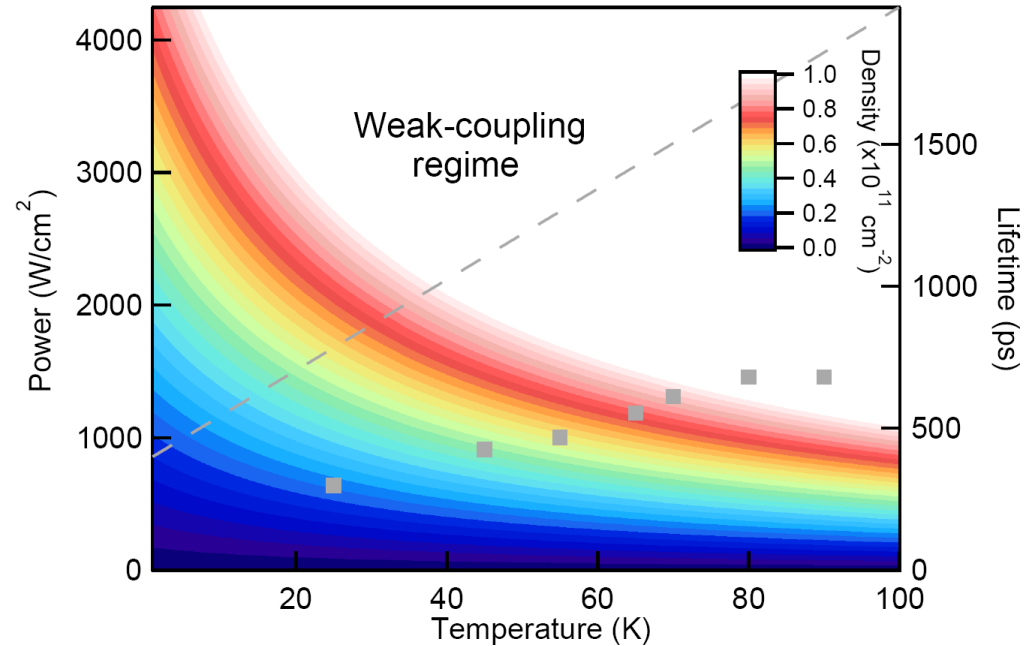
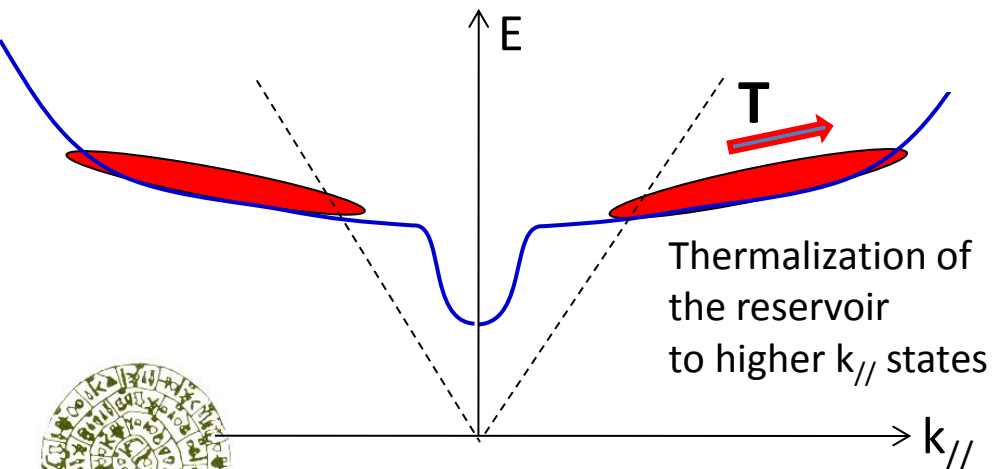
# Crossover from Strong to Weak coupling Lasing

$$\frac{dN}{dt} = g - \frac{N}{\tau} \Rightarrow N = g \cdot \tau \quad (\text{steady state})$$

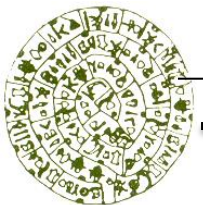
↑  
pump

Exciton lifetime  $\tau$  increases with temperature  
(PRB M.Gurioli, V. Savona)

- For same pumping rate carrier density increases dramatically with increasing T



P. Tsotsis et al., New Jour. of Physics **14**, 023060 (2012)



# Polaritonic Circuits

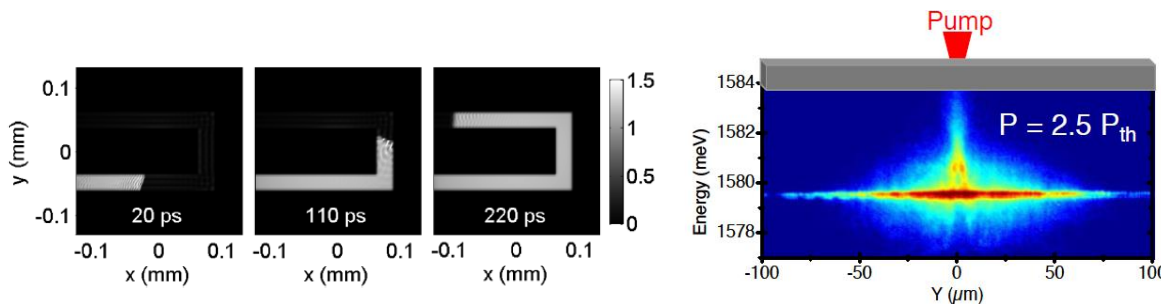
In the future, charged carriers have to be replaced by information carriers that do not suffer from scattering, capacitance and resistivity effects

**Approach:** Polaritons being hybrid photonic and electronic states offer natural bridge between these two systems

Excitonic component allows them to interact strongly giving rise to the nonlinear functionality enjoyed by electrons

Photonic component restricts their dephasing allowing them to carry information with minimal data loss and high speed

Macroscopic quantum properties of polariton condensates make them ideal candidates for use in quantum information devices and all optical circuits

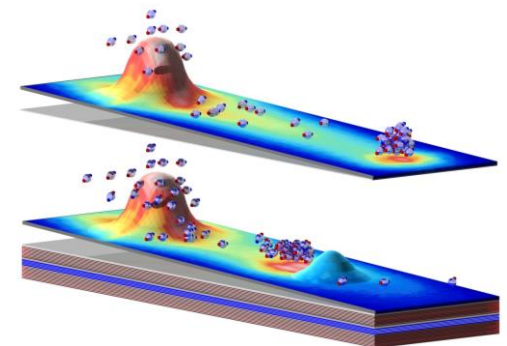


Liew PRL **101**, 016402 (2008)

Wertz, Nature Phys **6**, 860 (2010)

Amo et al., Nature Phot. **4**, 361 (2010).

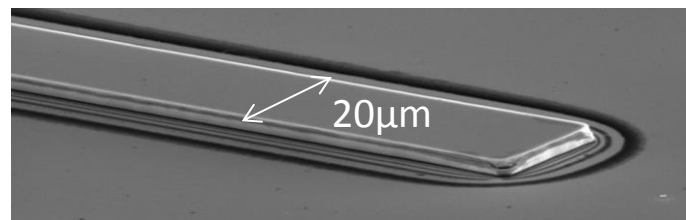
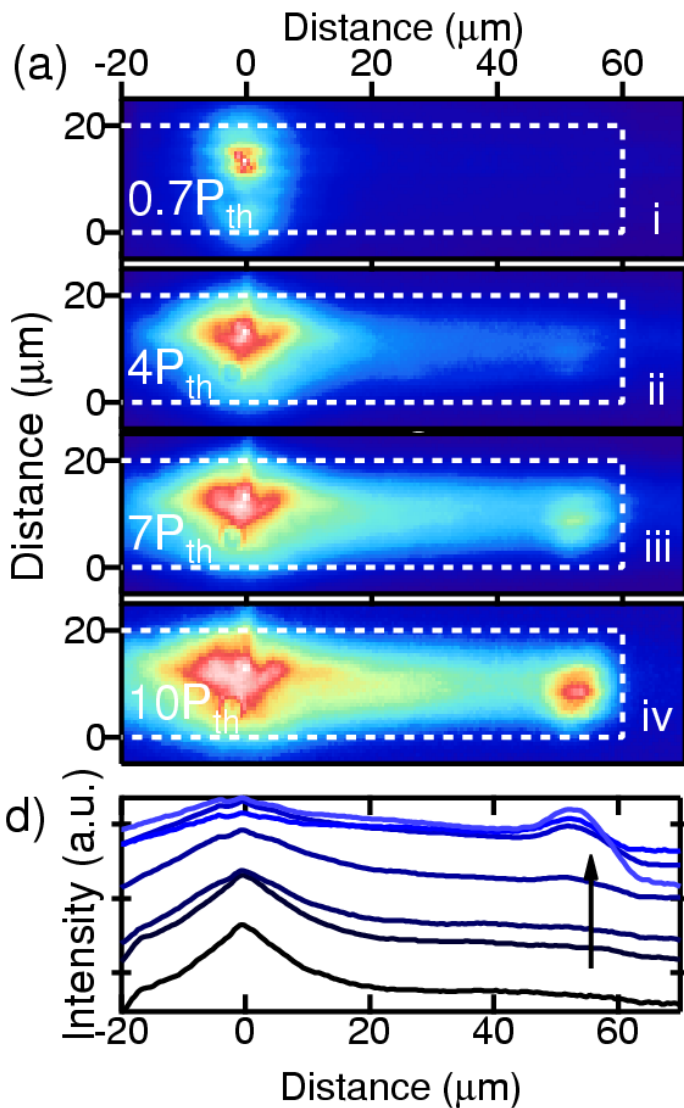
Ballarini et al., Nat Comm. **4**, 1778 (2013).



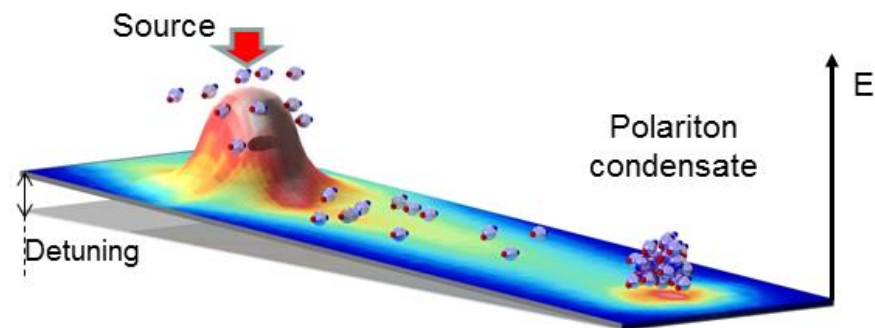
Gao, Phys. Rev. B **85**, 235102 (2012)



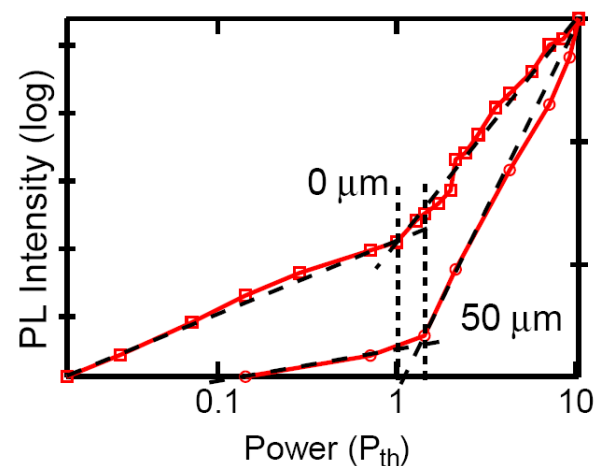
# Generating Polariton Condensate Flow



Only top DBR is etched



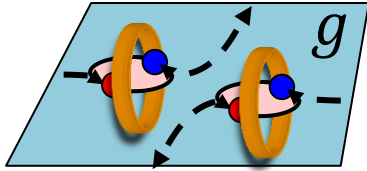
- Polariton condensate forming at the ridge end



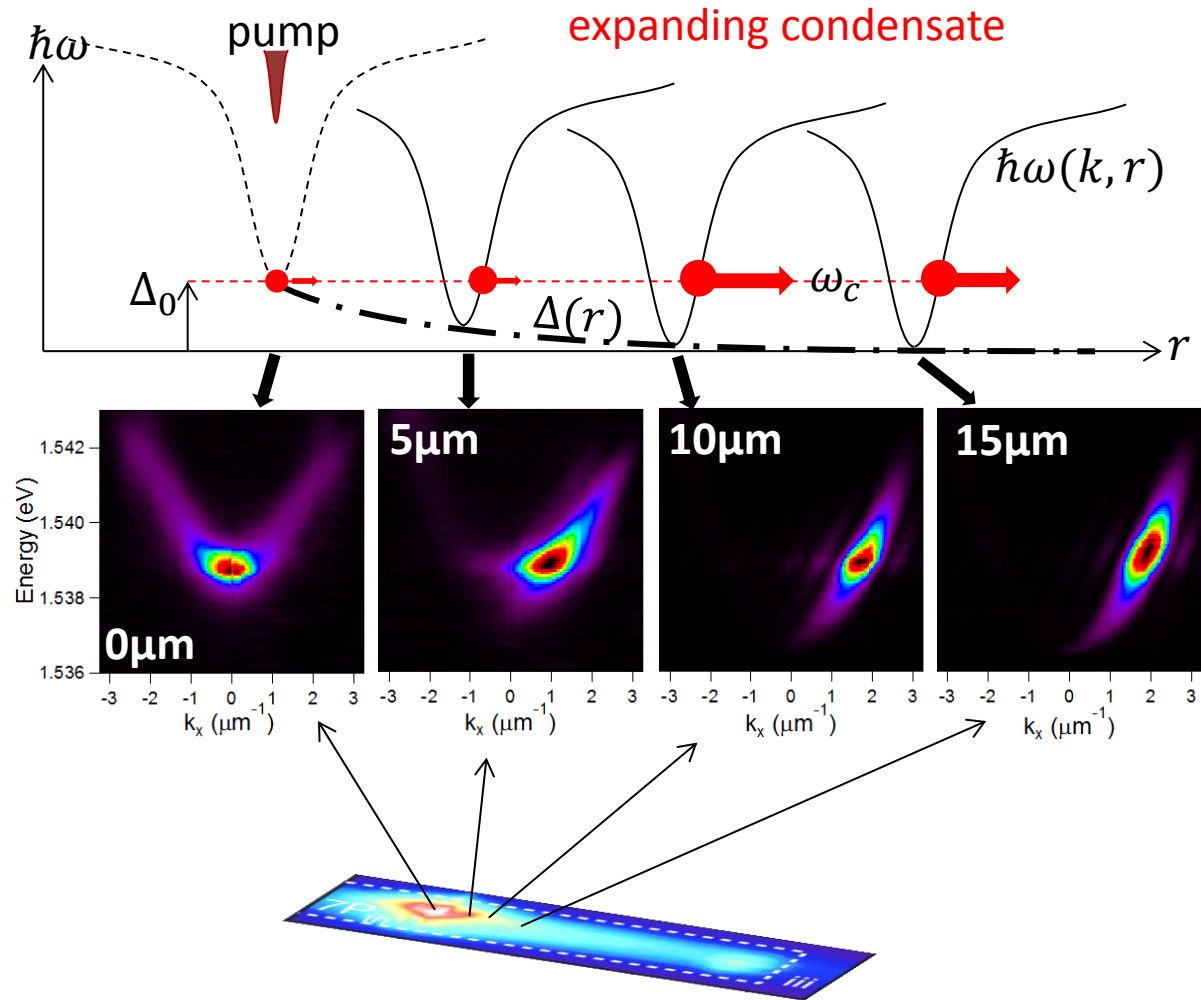
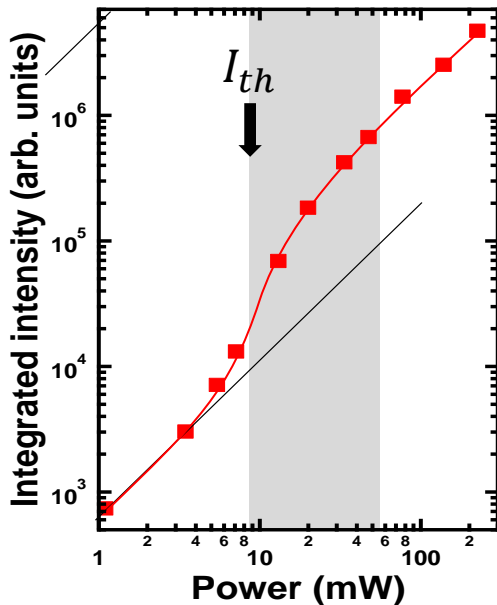
- Local pump induced blueshift and lateral confinement forces polariton flow along the ridge



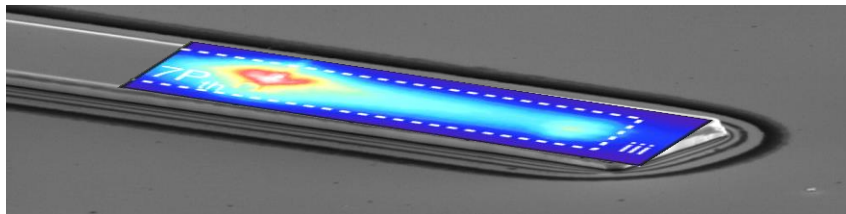
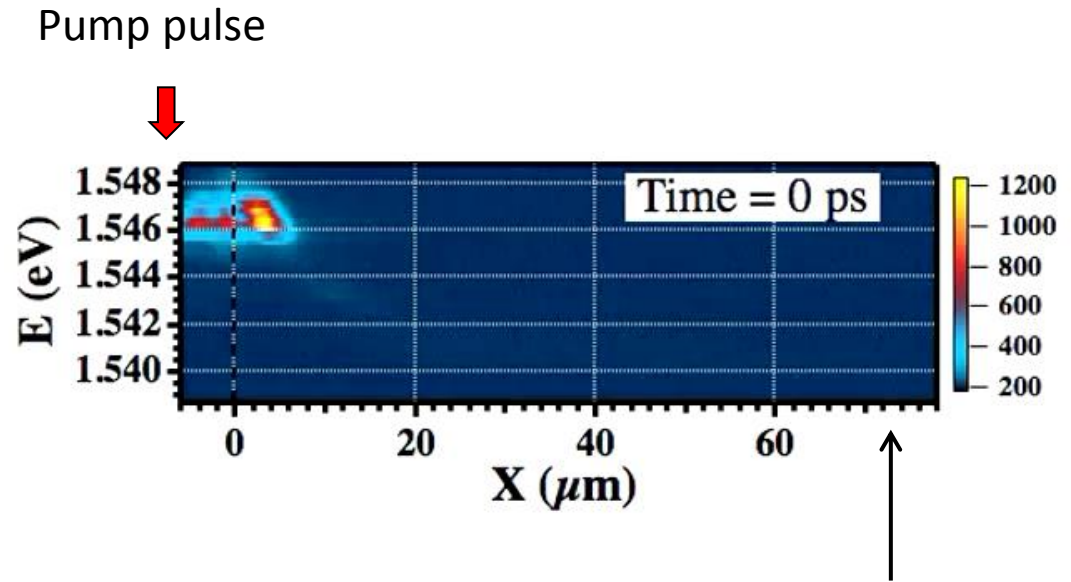
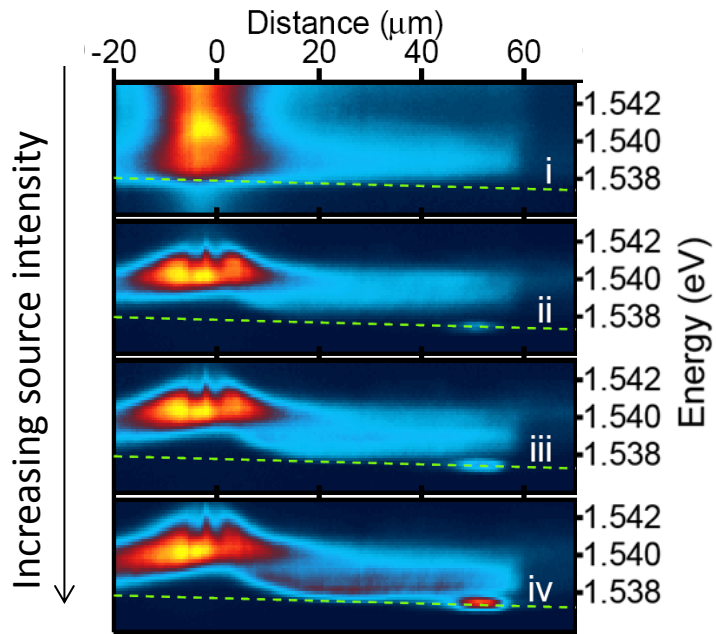
# Ballistic Condensate Ejection



- blue shift at pump  
 $V_{max} = g|\psi|^2$
- polaritons expand along the ridge



# Polariton Condensate Dynamics



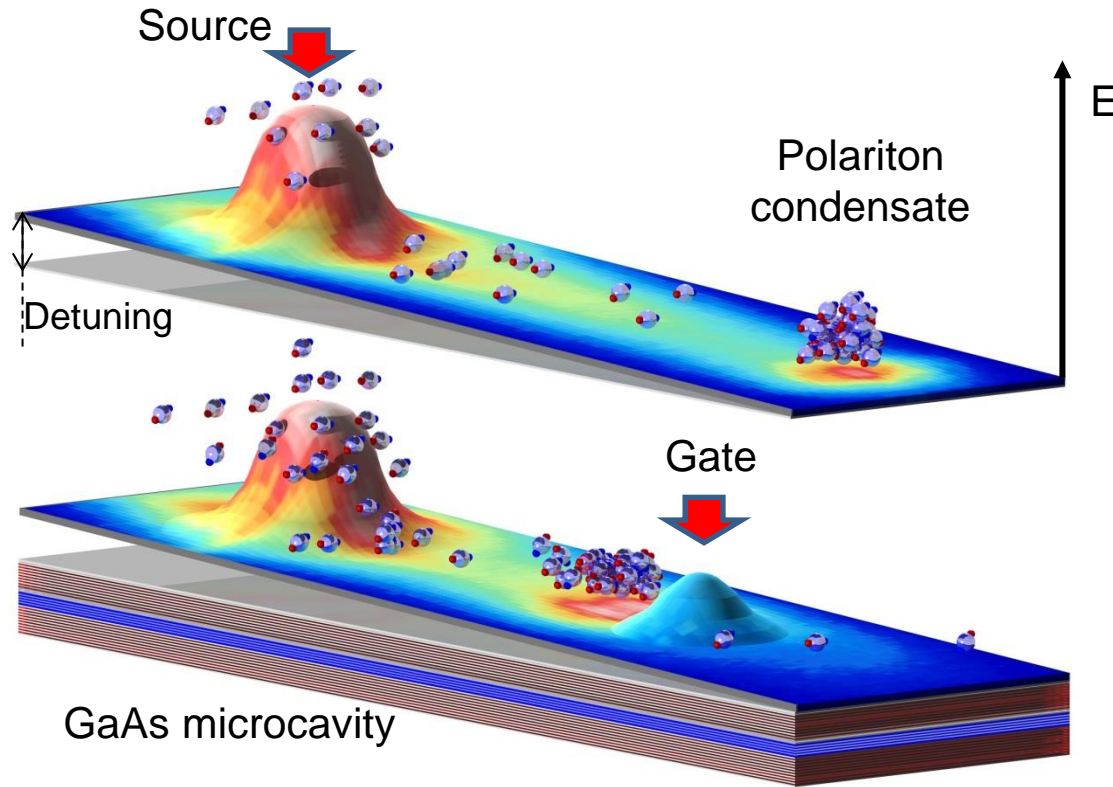
Build-up of polariton condensate at ridge end

Anton et al., Appl. Phys. Lett. 101, 261116 (2012)

- Polaritons flow and relax in the direction of negative detuning
- Condensate forming at the ridge end



# Polariton Condensate Transistor Switch

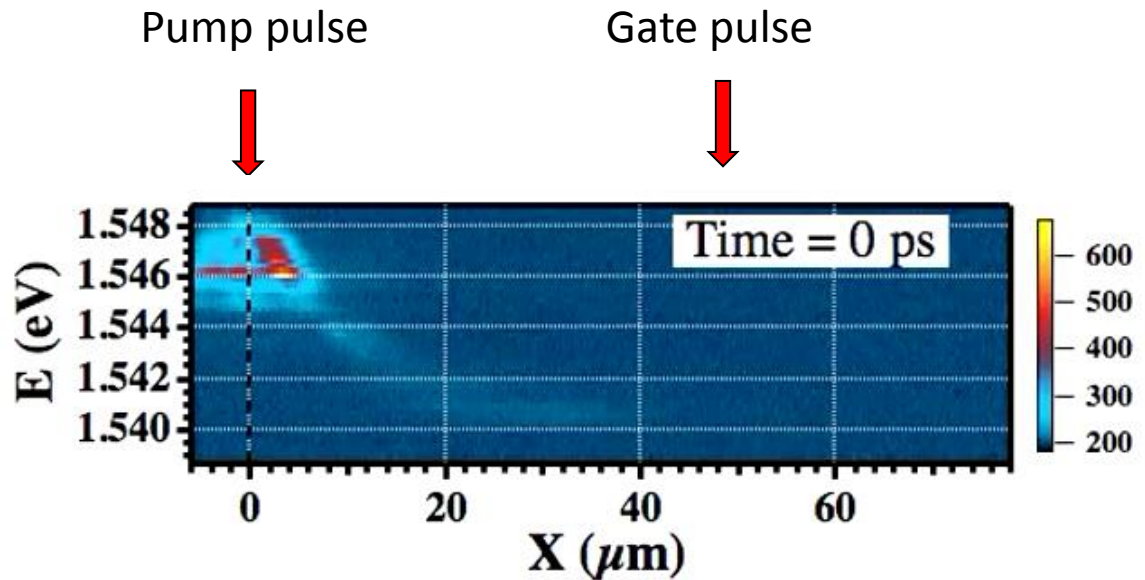
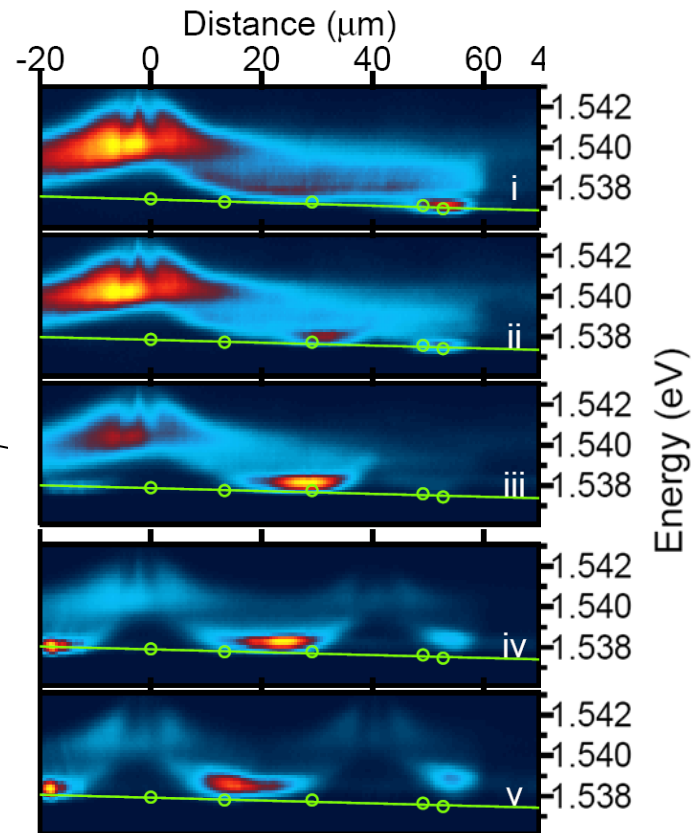


- Polariton propagation is controlled using a second weaker beam that gates the polariton flux by modifying the energy landscape

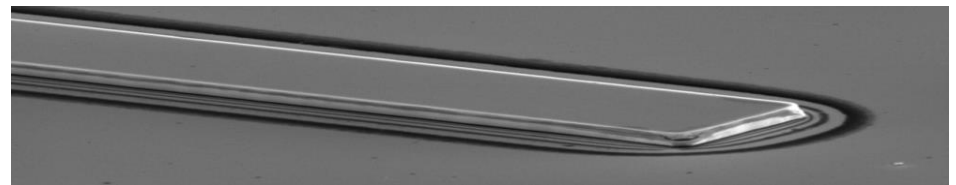
Gao, Phys. Rev. B **85**, 235102 (2012)



# Gating Polariton Condensate Flow

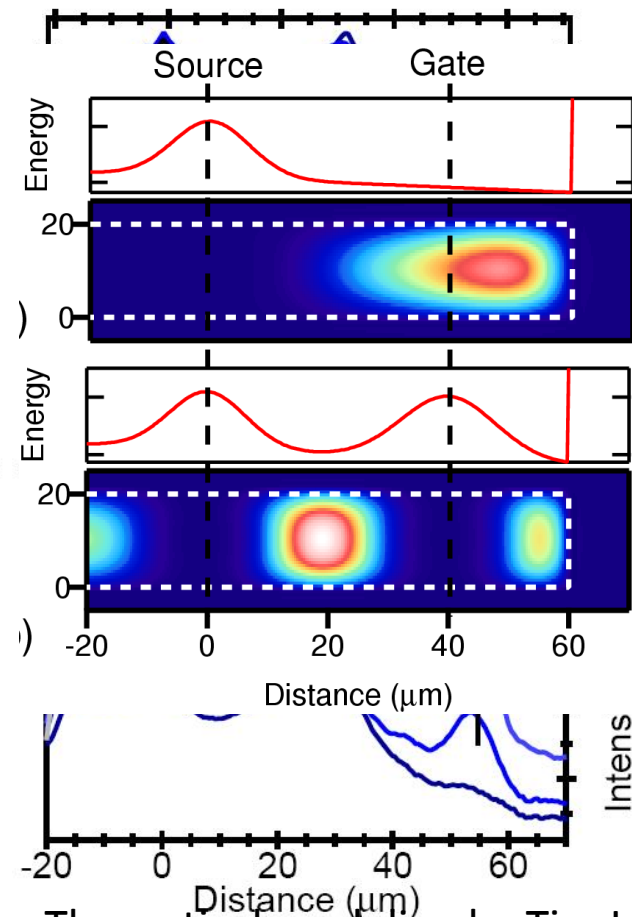
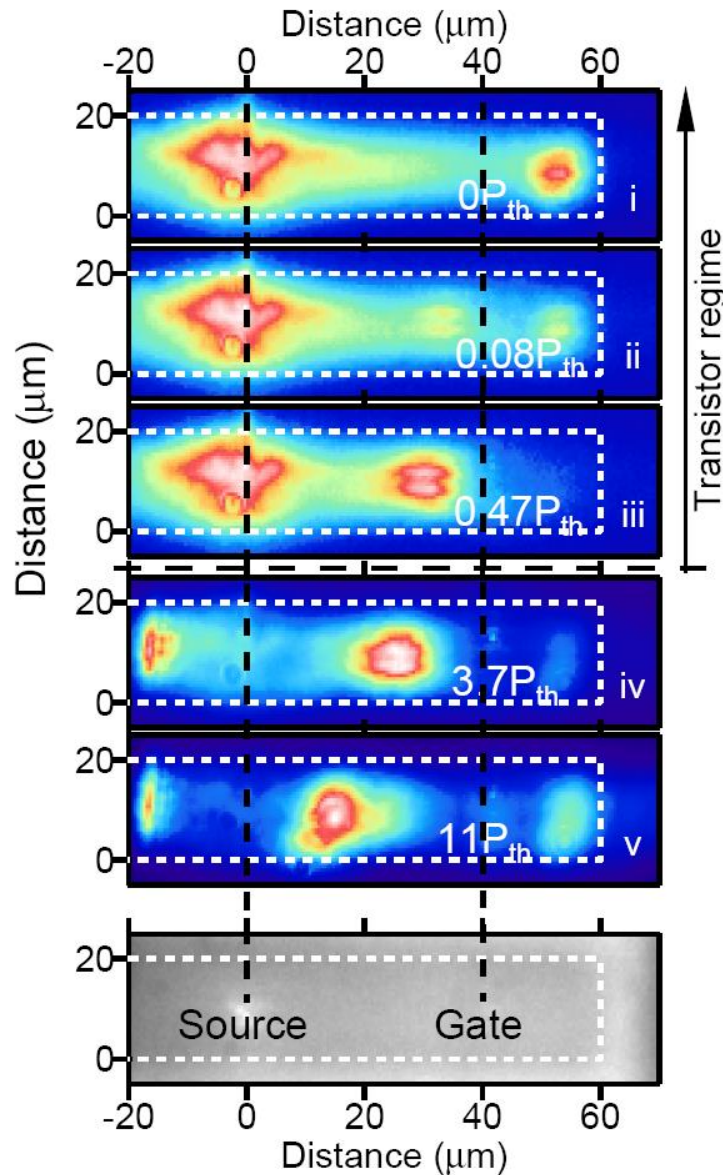


90% gating of the polariton condensate flow



- Gate beam power 20 times weaker than source
- Second condensate appears between source and gate at higher gate powers

# Gating Polariton Condensate Flow



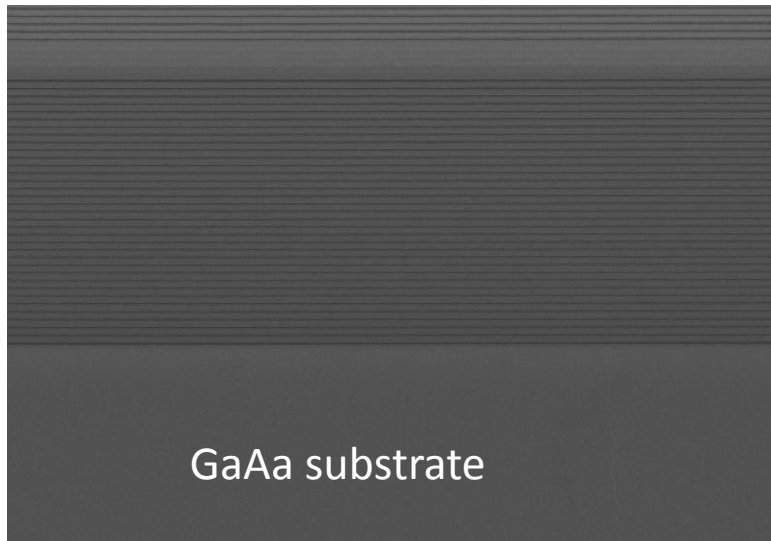
Theoretical modeling by Tim Liew

- gating efficiency up to 90% is demonstrated

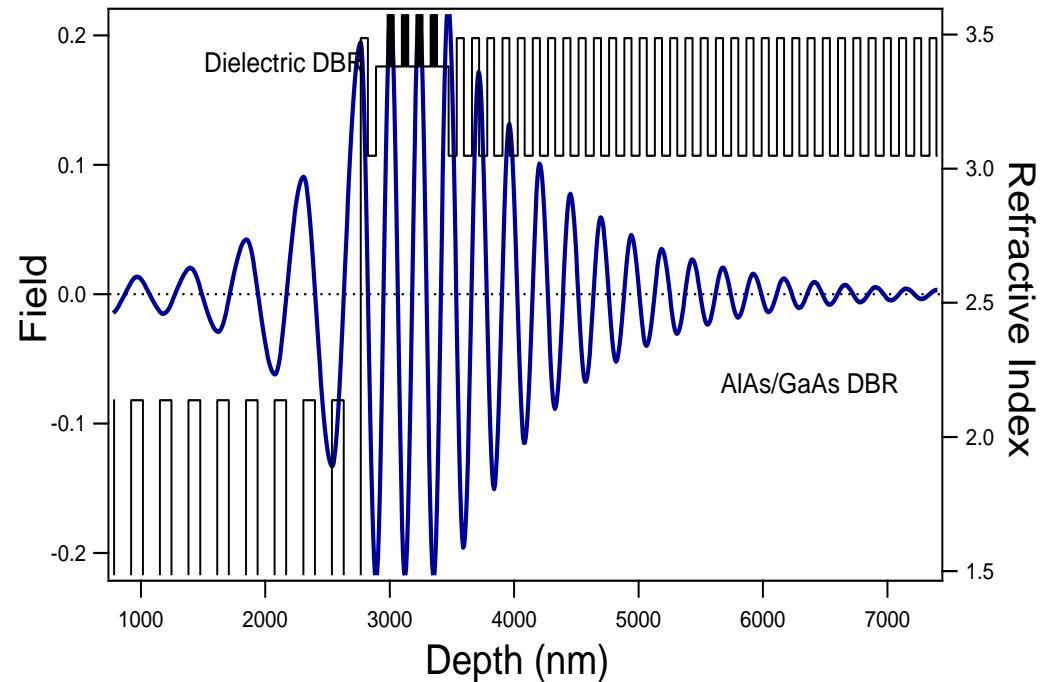


# High Q hybrid GaAs/dielectric microcavity

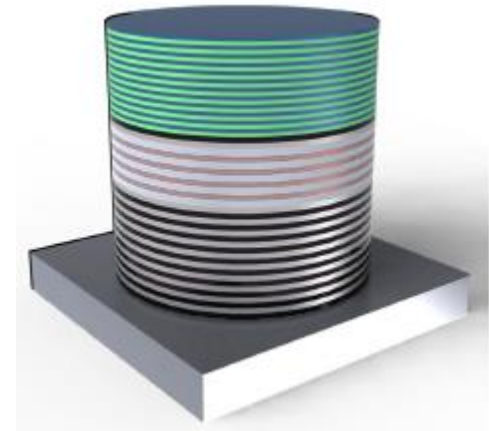
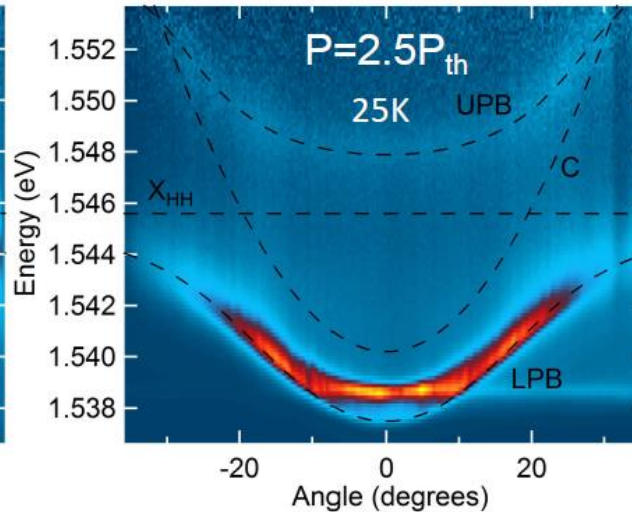
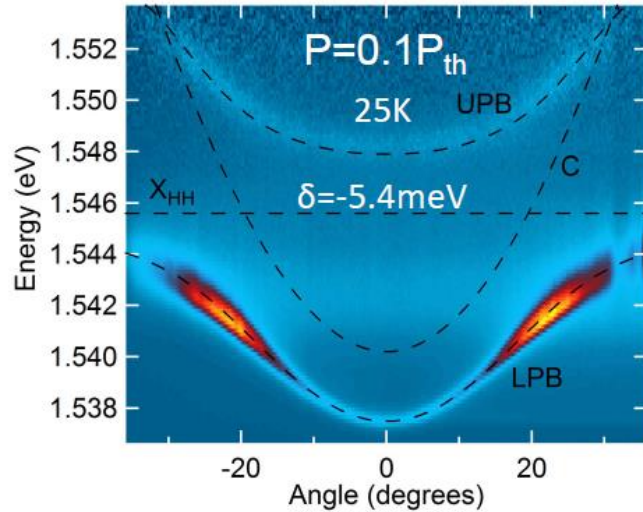
- Dielectric DBR mirrors in hybrid microcavity
- Allows precise control of electrical contact close to the cavity



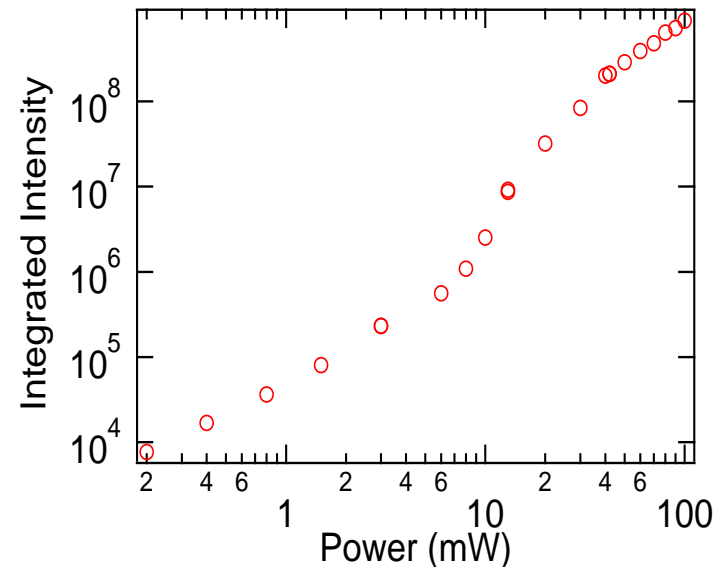
Half microcavity structure



# Polariton Lasing in Hybrid Microcavities



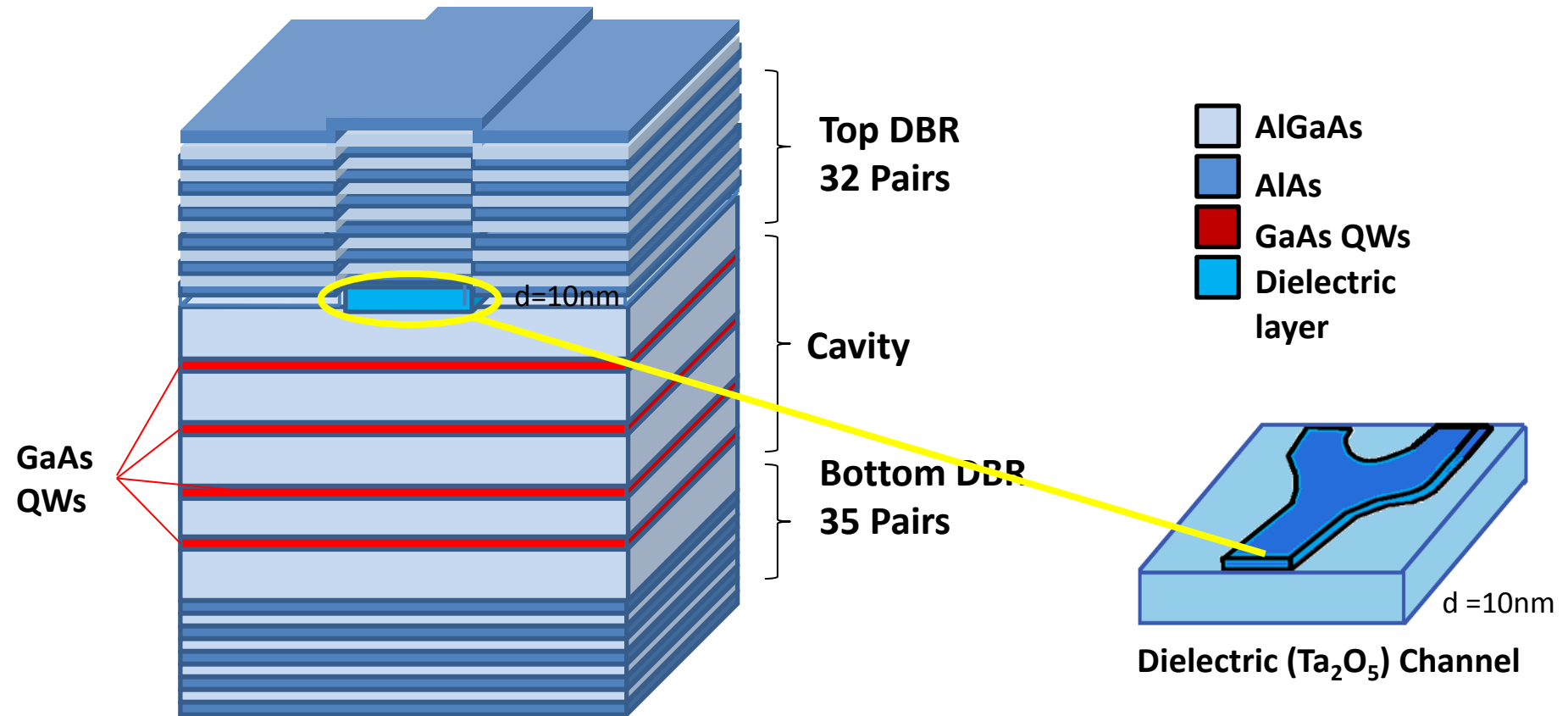
- Observation of the formation of a polariton condensate
- Contacts can be easily deposited close to the cavity region





# Writing Polariton Circuits with dielectric Channels

- Dielectric DBR mirrors in hybrid microcavity
- polariton confinement in dielectric channels
- Allows precise control of electrical contact close to the cavity



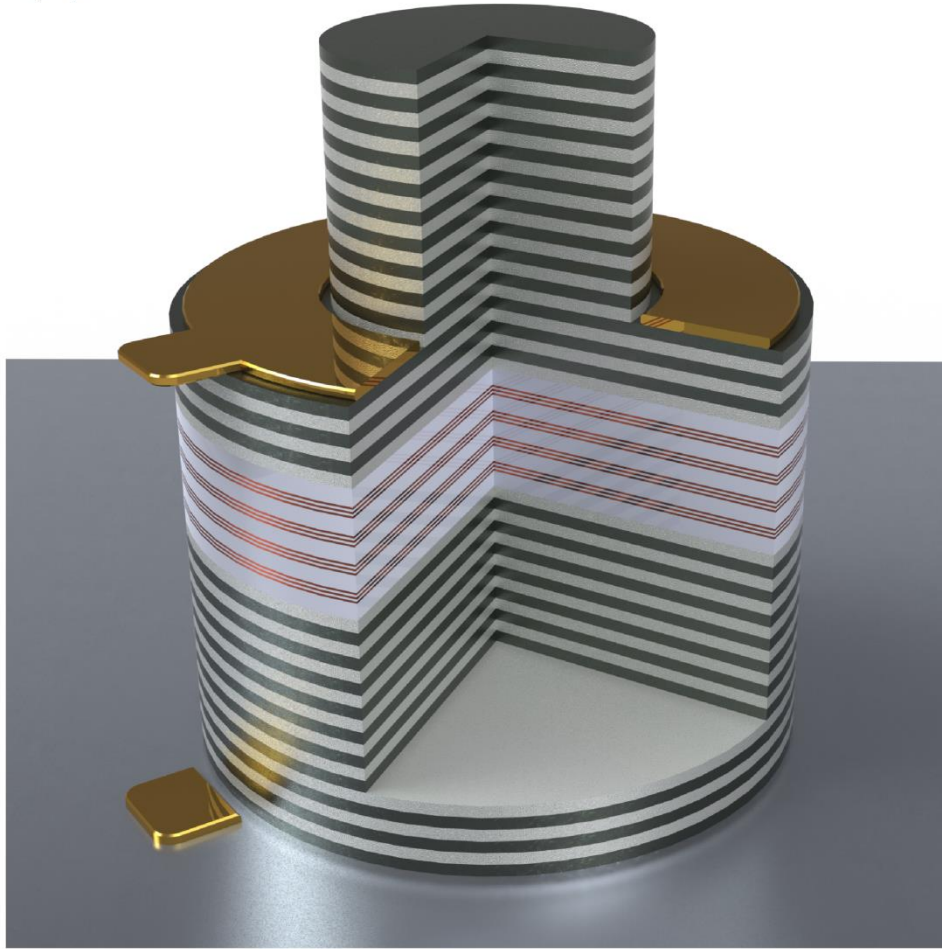
# Electrical and optical control of polariton condensates

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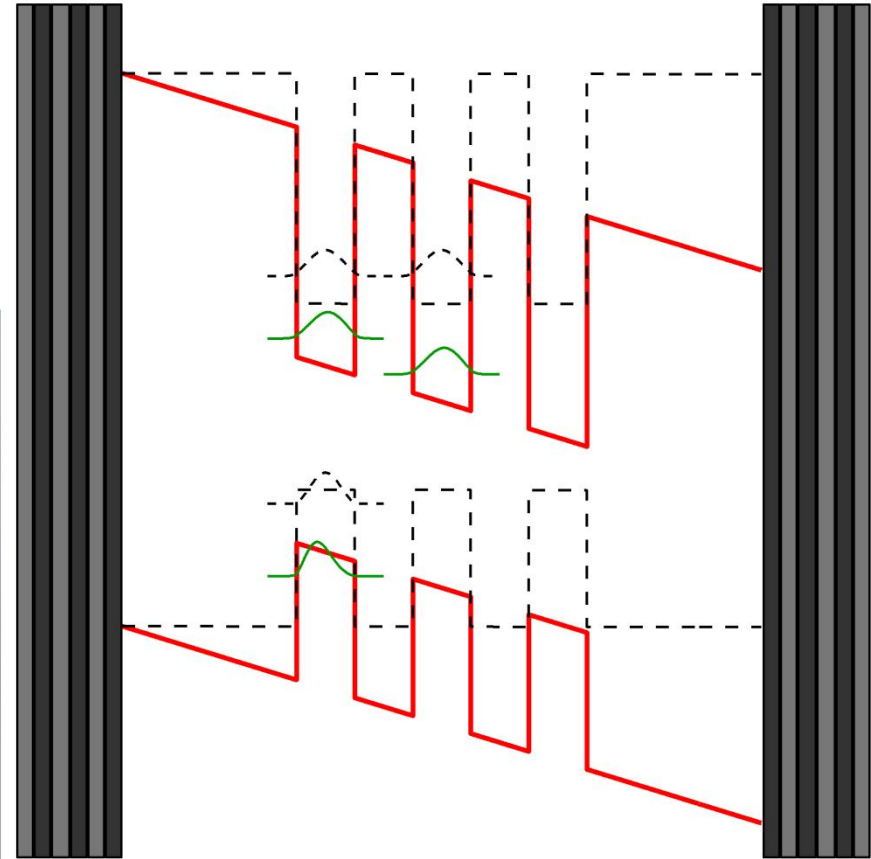
Is electric gating of transistor feasible ?

# Electrical control of a polariton condensate

(a)



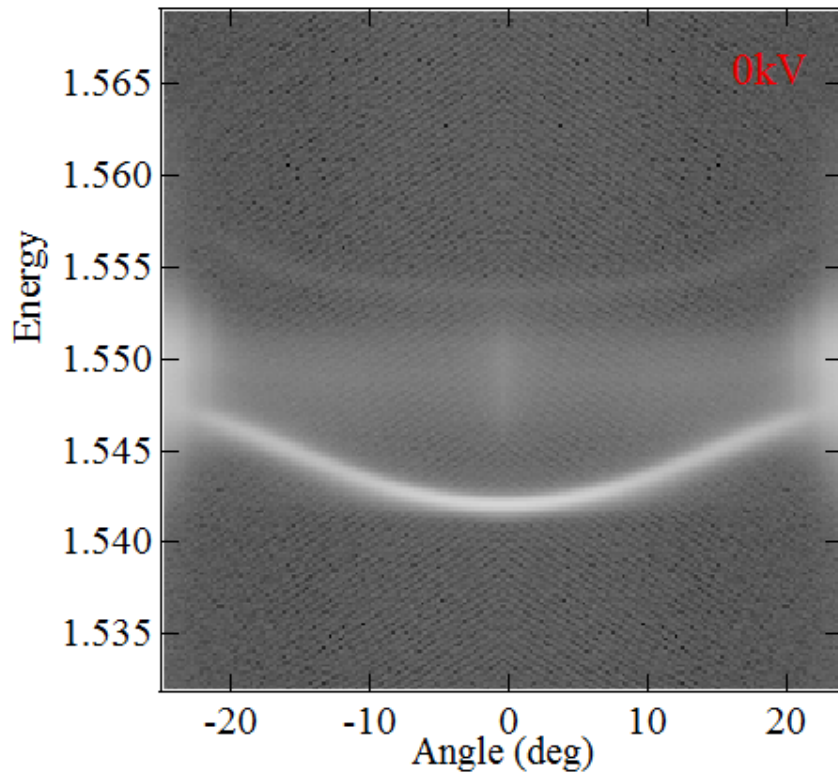
(b)



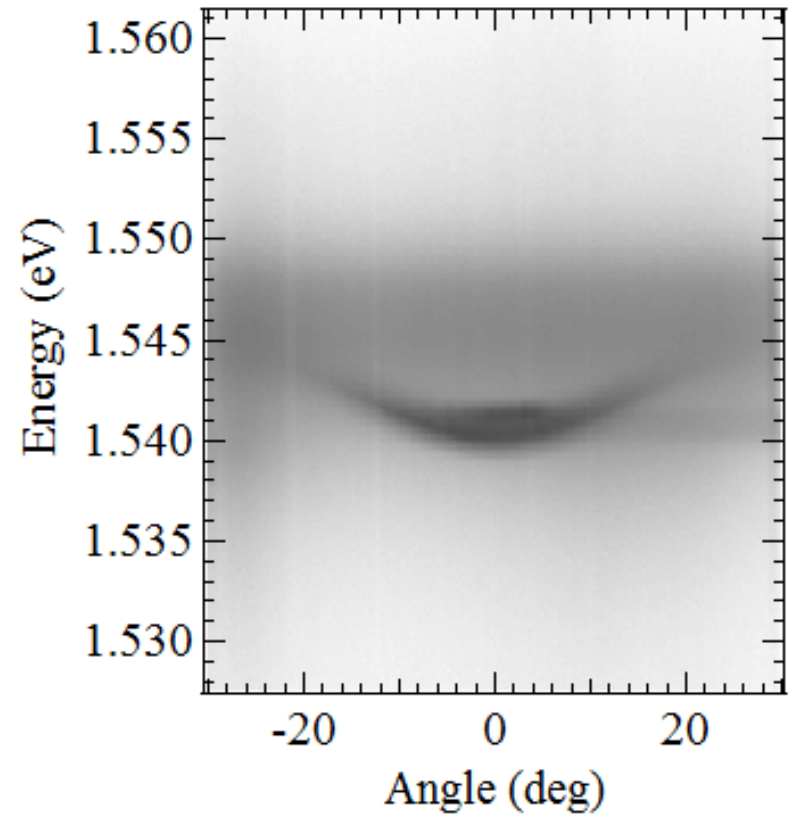
- AlGaAs/GaAs quantum wells- 10nm well , 10nm barrier

# Linear and non-linear regimes

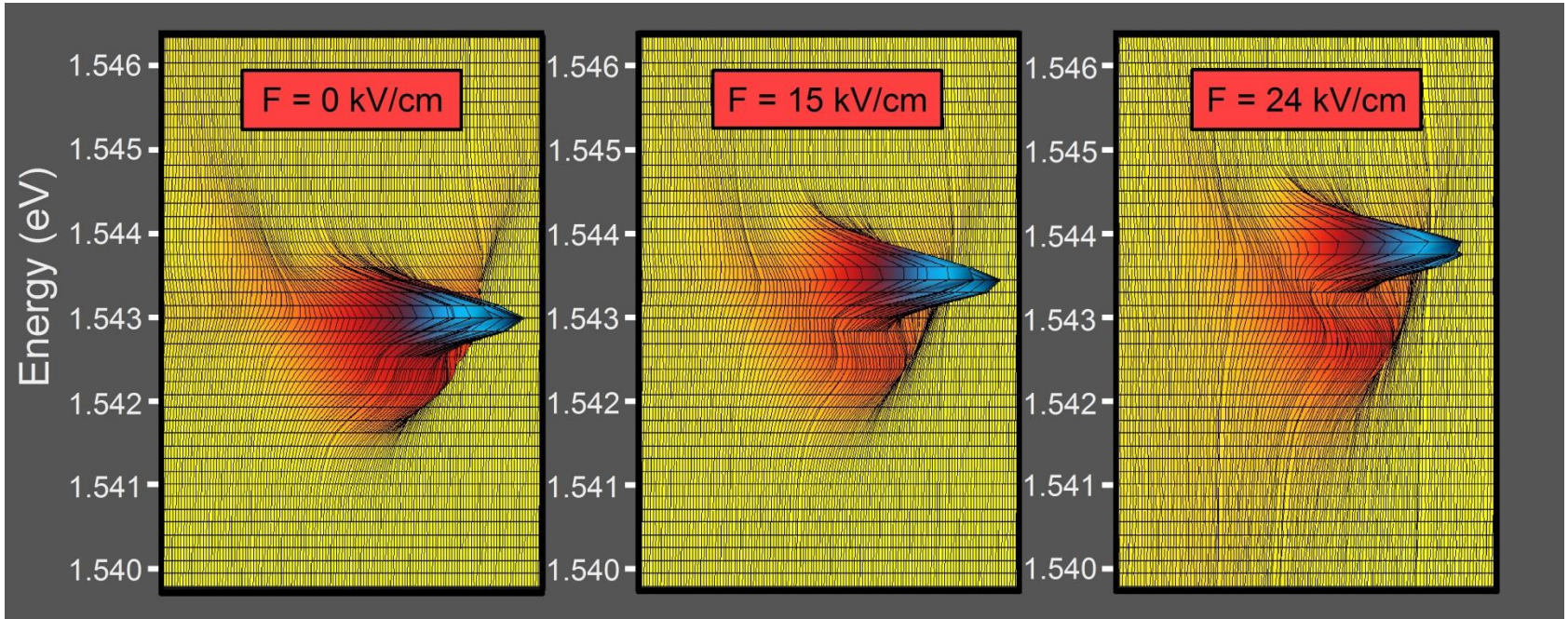
Below Threshold



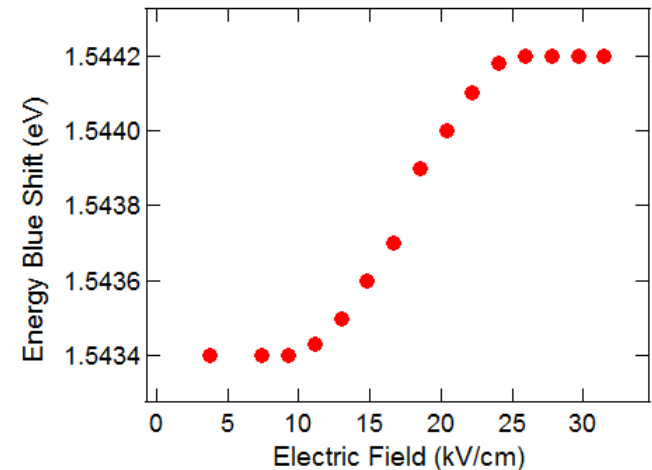
Above Threshold



# Non-linear regime



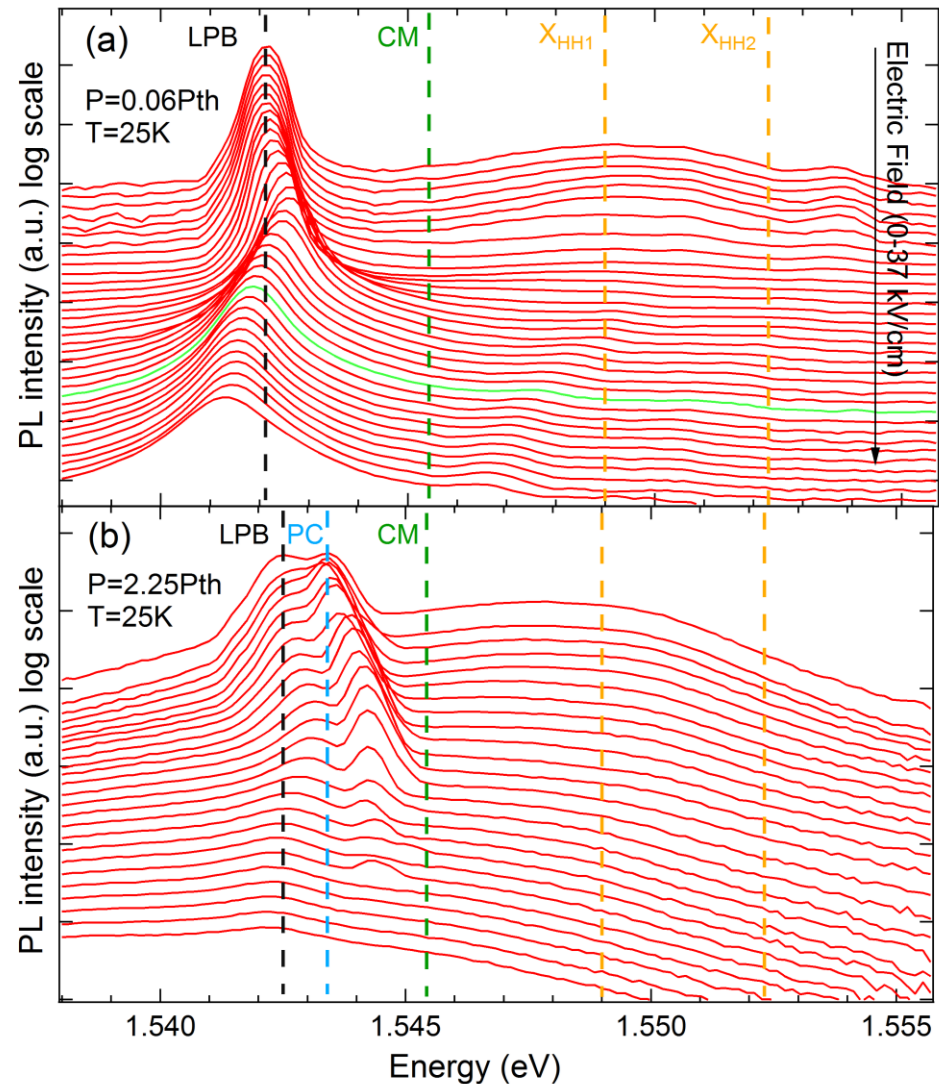
- Blueshift 0.8meV
- Larger Rabi splitting should allow larger tuning





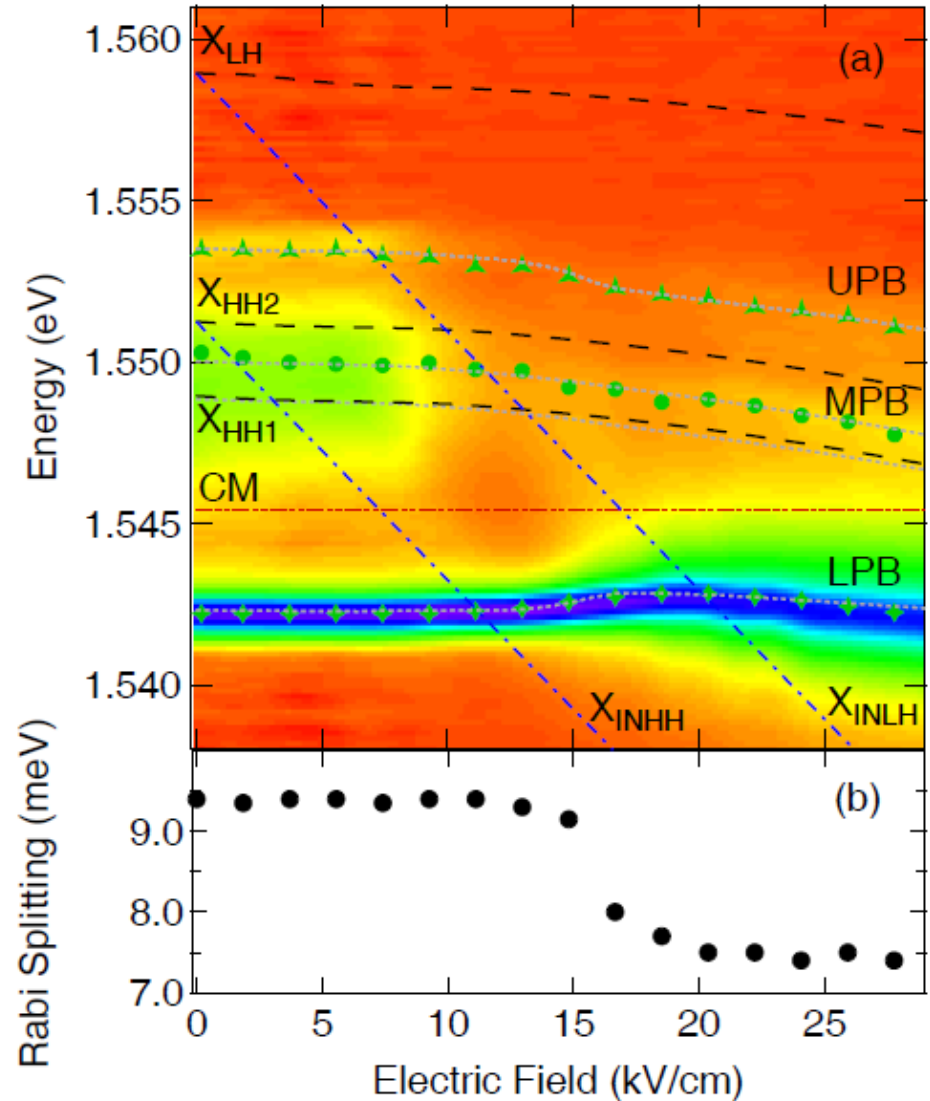
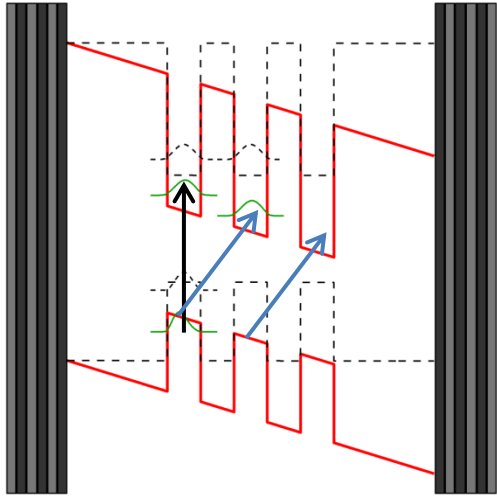
# Linear and non-linear regimes

- Linear regime
  - Small fields-blueshift
  - Large fields-redshift
- Non-linear regime
  - Small fields- blueshift
  - Large fields- Emission quenching
- Interpretation
  - Reduction in oscillator strength
  - Quantum confined Stark Effect
  - Contribution of indirect exciton



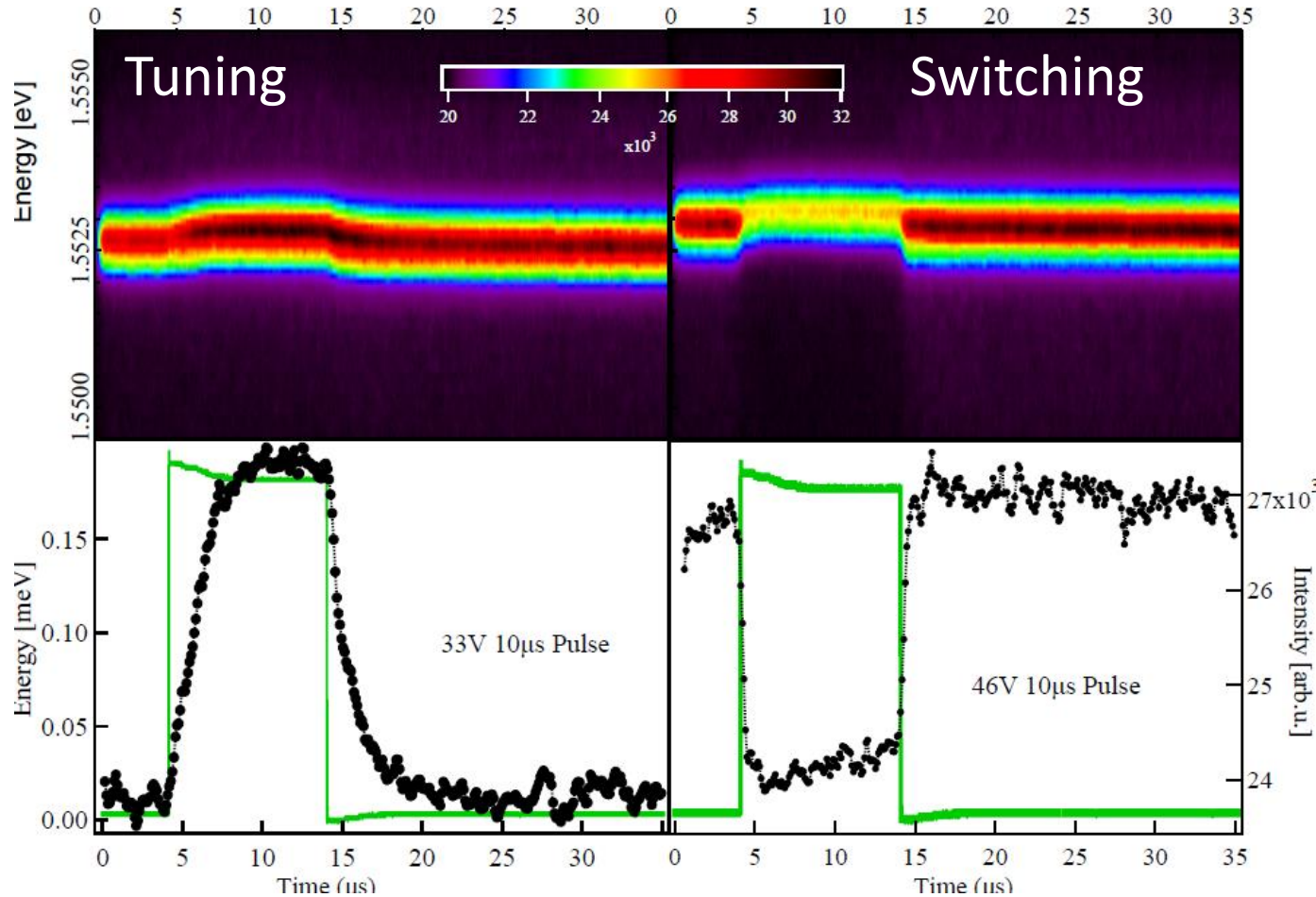
# Linear Regime

- Origin of blueshift under investigation
  - Indirect exciton





# Dynamical Response



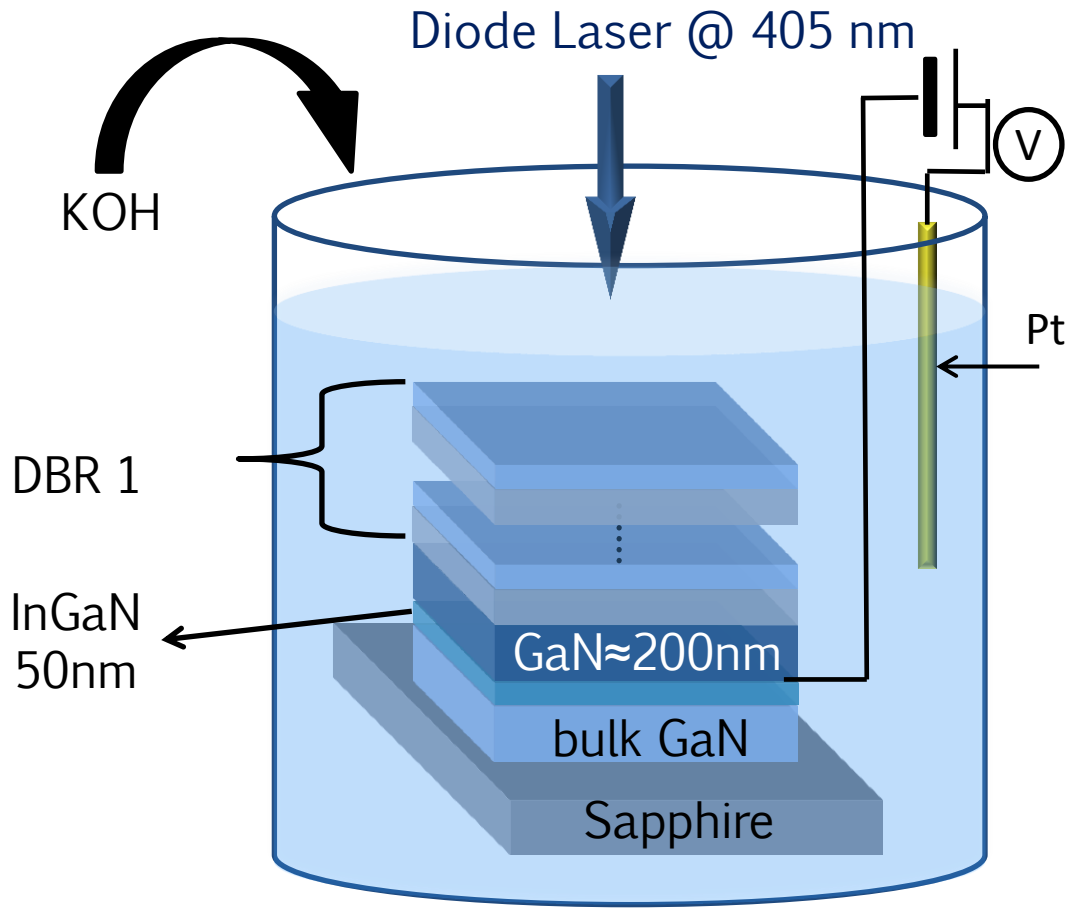
In collaboration  
with Southampton  
P. G. Lagoudakis

- Different modulation regimes are possible
- Voltage dependent response may indicate screening effects

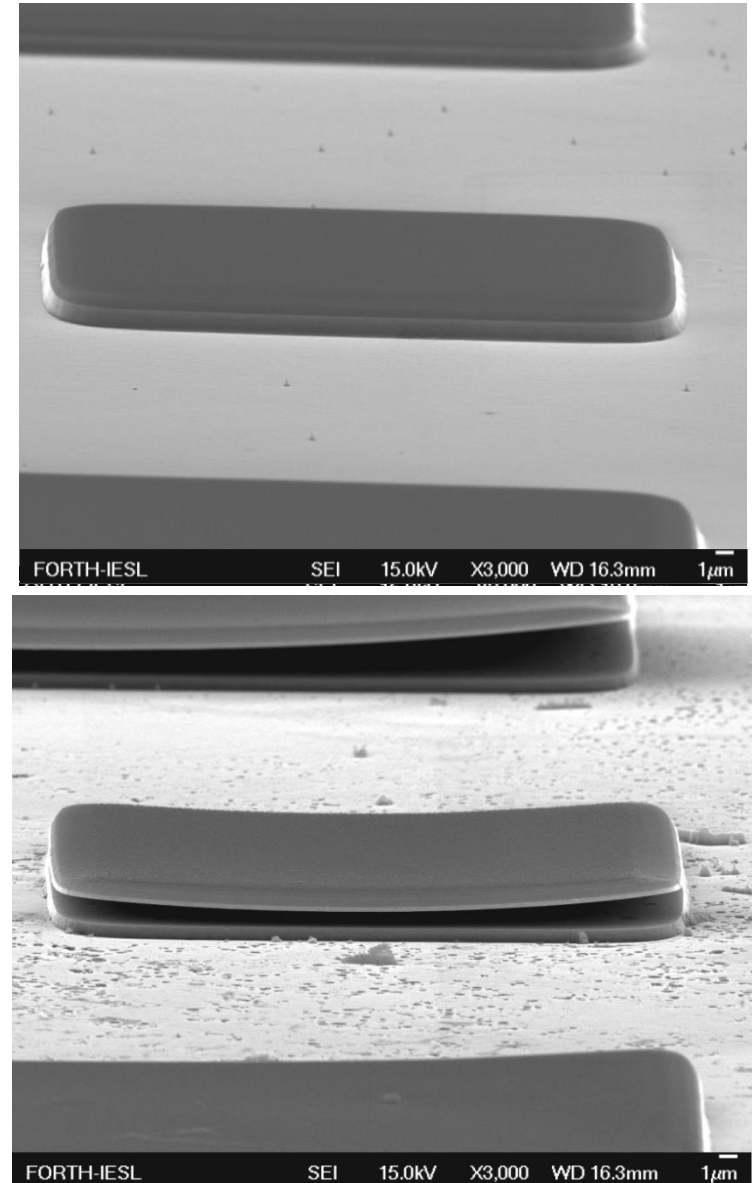
# **Polariton Lasing in GaN At room temperature**

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# All-Dielectric mirror GaN microcavity

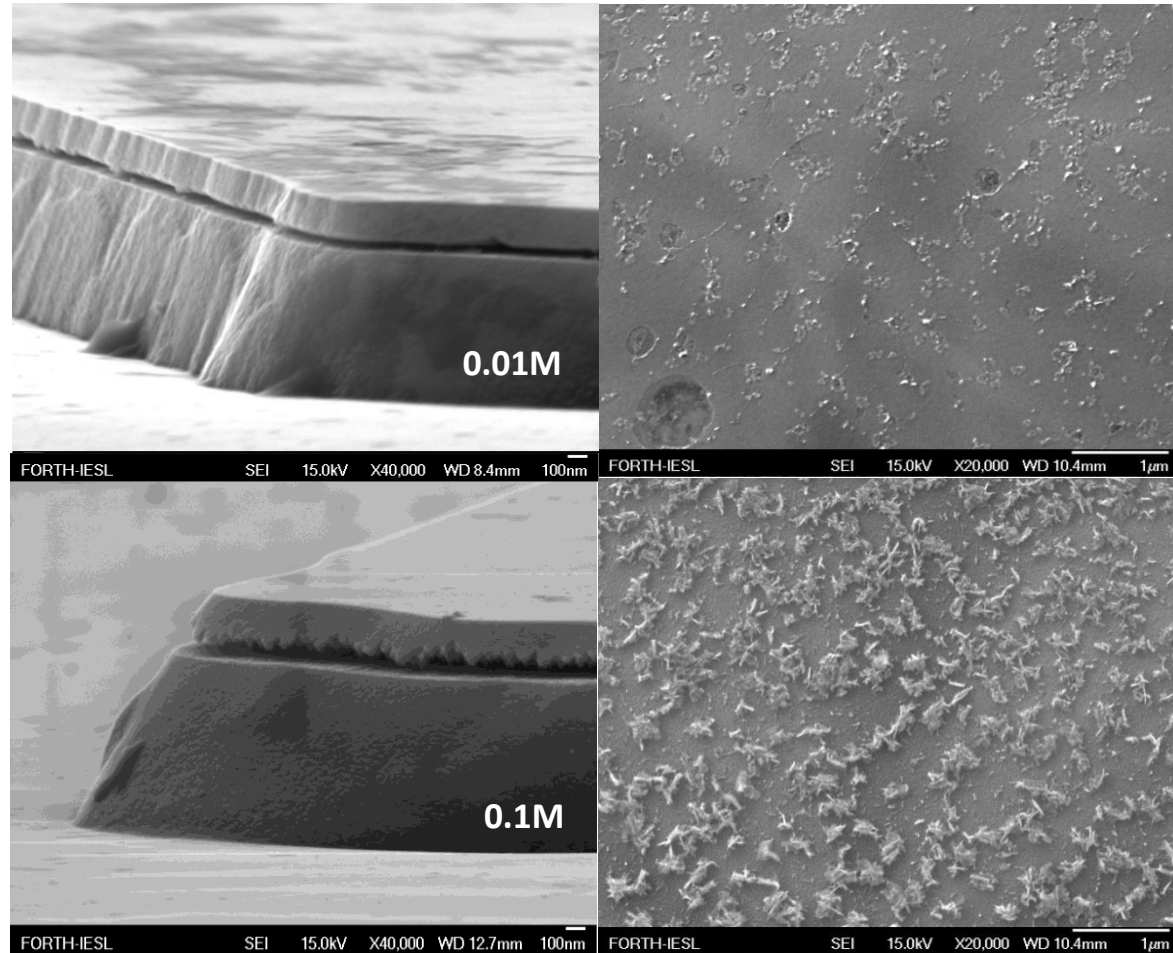
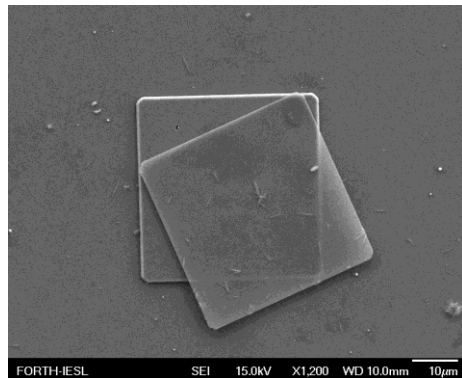
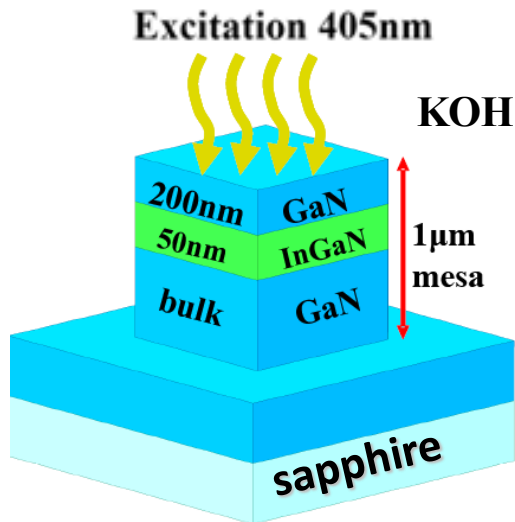


Mesa formation by  
Reactive Ion Etching ( $40\mu\text{m} \times 40\mu\text{m} \times 1\mu\text{m}$ )



# Freestanding GaN membranes by Lateral Etching of InGaN

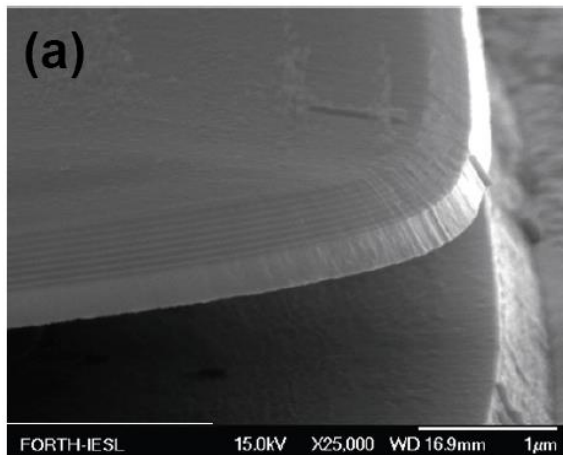
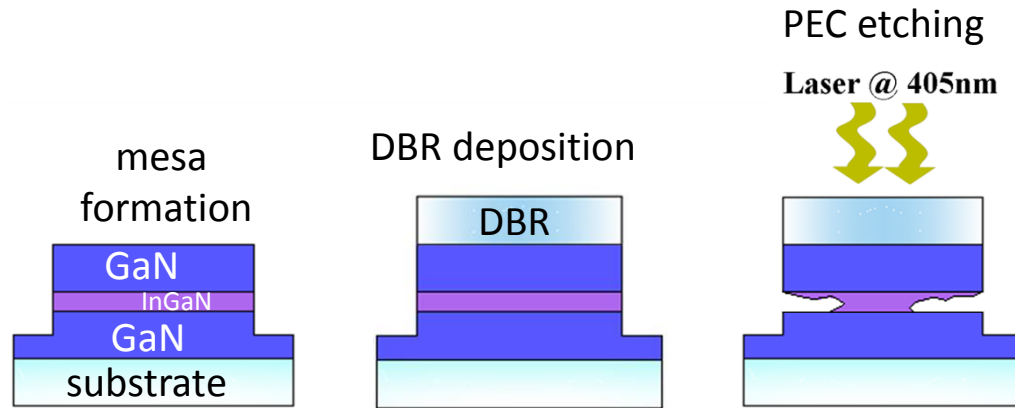
- Optical quality GaN membranes



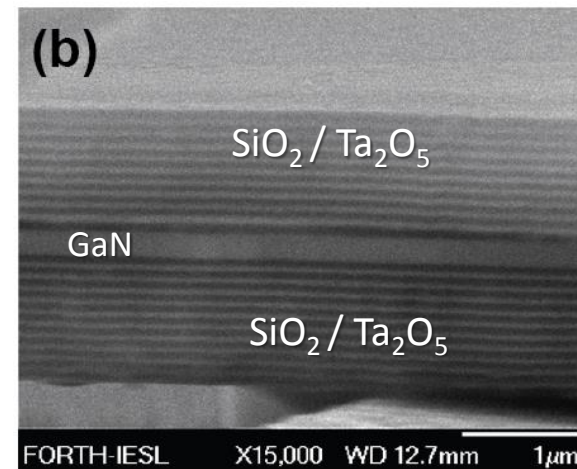
Trichas et. al, APL **94**,173505 (2009)  
Trichas *et al.* APL **98**, 221101 (2011)



# Bragg Luminescence in All Dielectric Microcavity

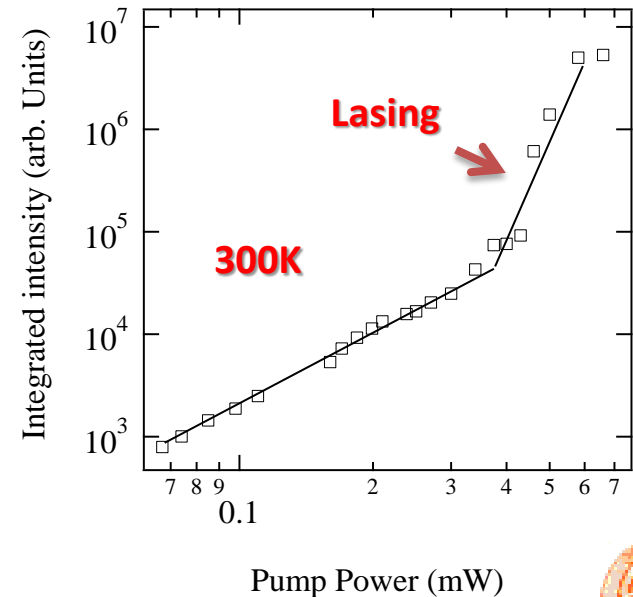
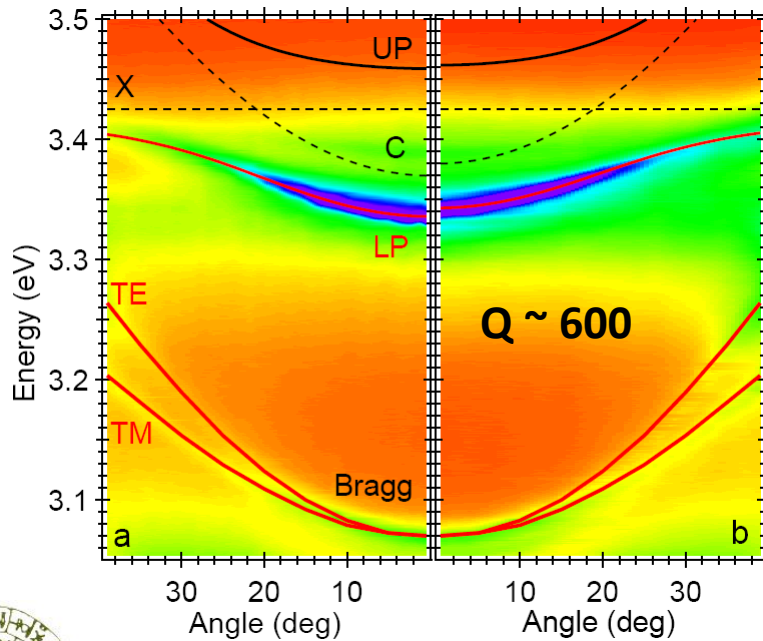
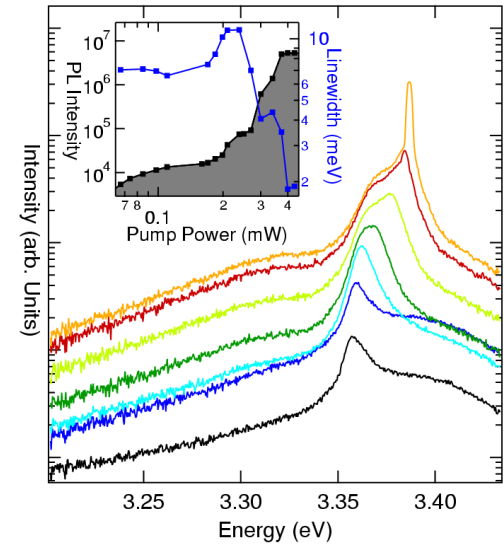
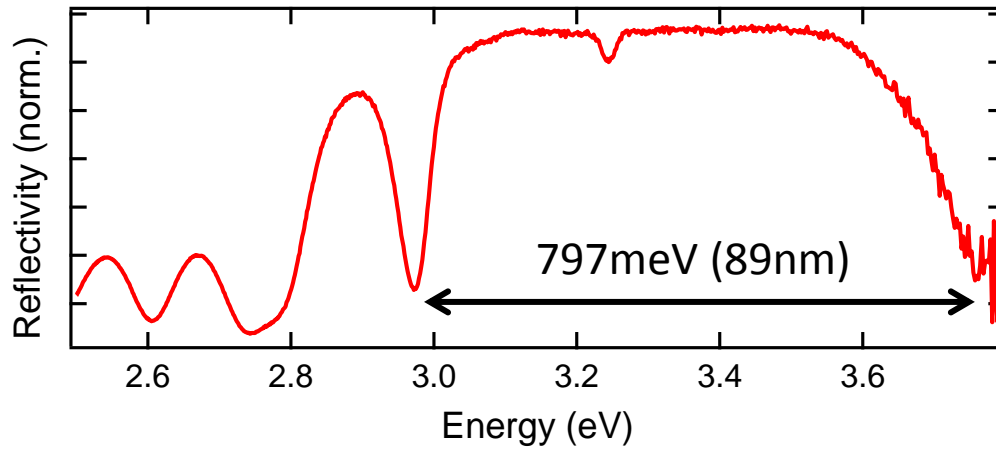


SEM of the free standing GaN membrane/DBR



E. Trichas, Appl. Phys. Lett. 98, 221101 (2011)

# Room temperature GaN based polariton laser



Appl. Phys. Lett. 102, 101113 (2013)



FORTH

Microelectronics Research Group

Univ. of Crete



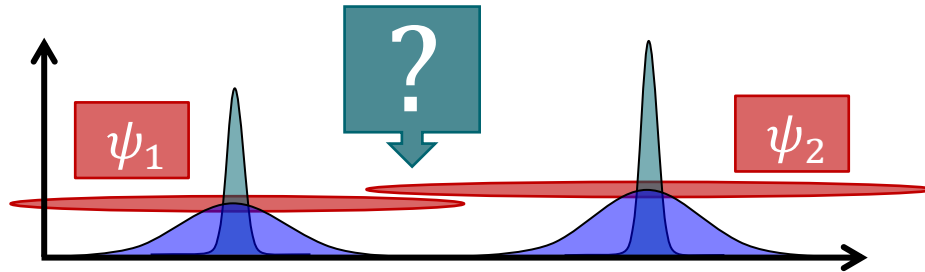



# Interacting polariton condensates

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# Phase Locked Condensates



Mode Locking  


$$\psi = \sqrt{\rho} \cdot e^{-i\left(\frac{Et}{\hbar} + \varphi\right)}$$

Phase Locking  


$$\theta = (E_2 - E_1)t/\hbar \rightarrow 0$$

$$\ddot{\theta} + 2\alpha\dot{\theta} = 4\tilde{g}J\frac{\alpha}{\sigma}\sin(\theta)$$

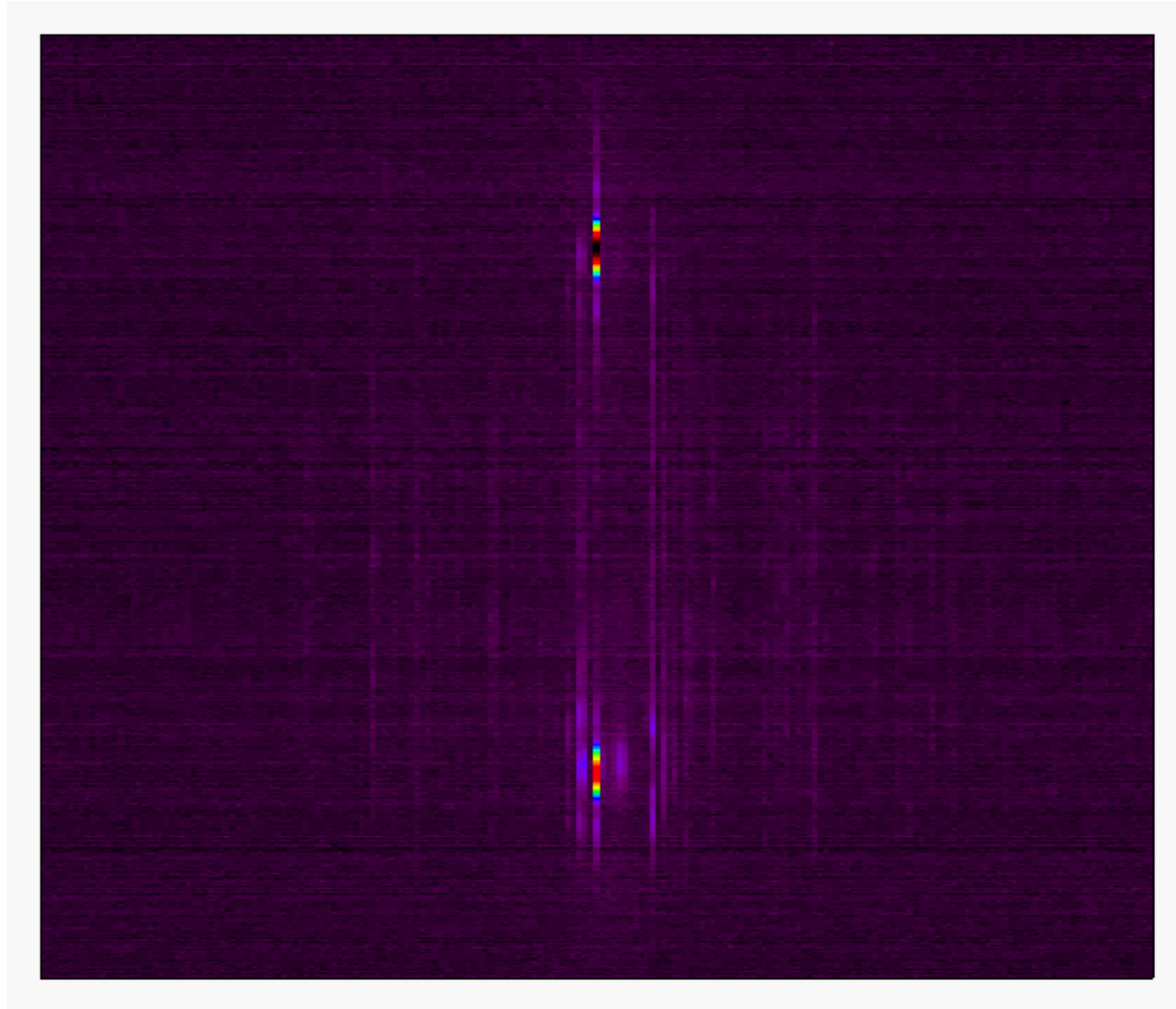
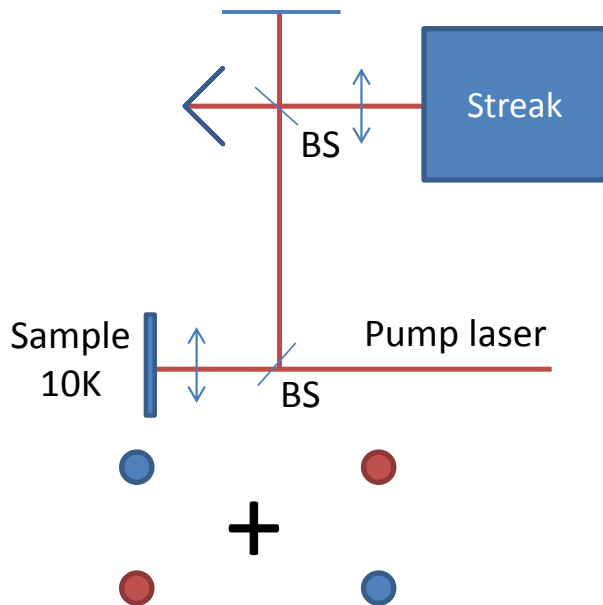
Damped Pendulum

Trapping Transition: PRL **110**, 186403 (2013)

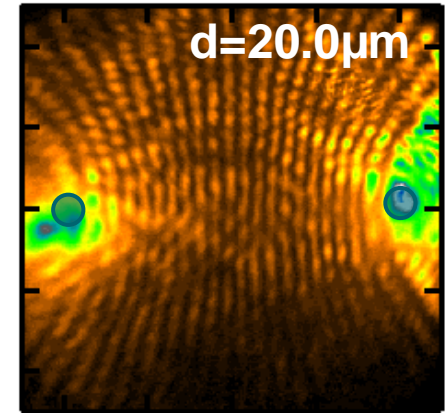
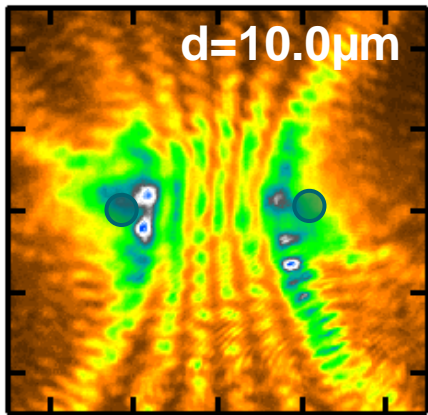
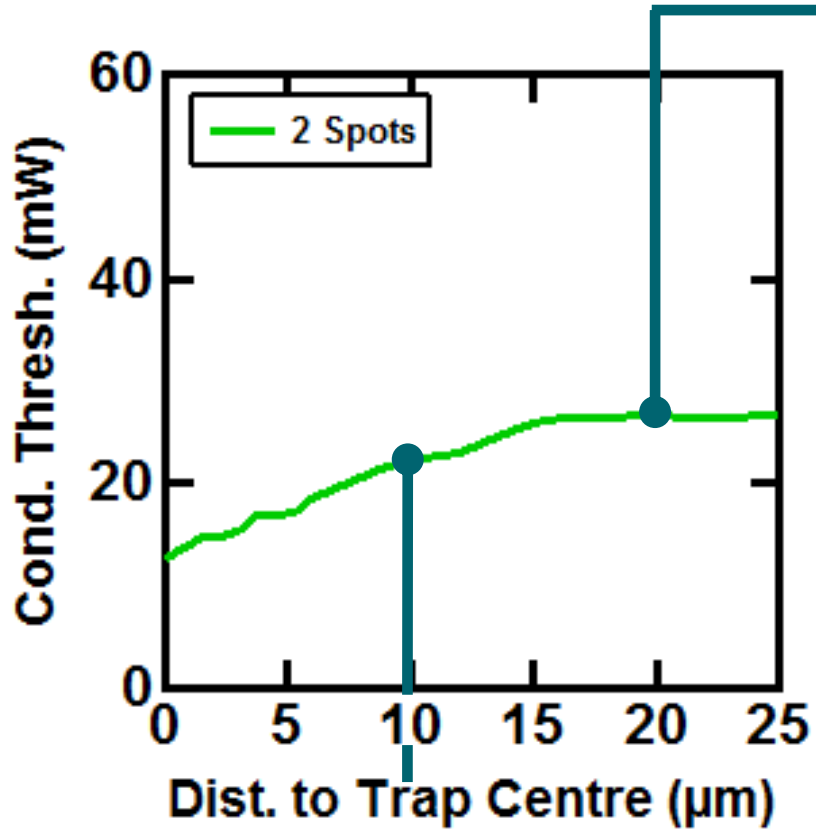
# Buildup of Coherence and Phase Locking

Time resolved measurement & interferometry

Pulsed excitation, interference of one condensate with the other

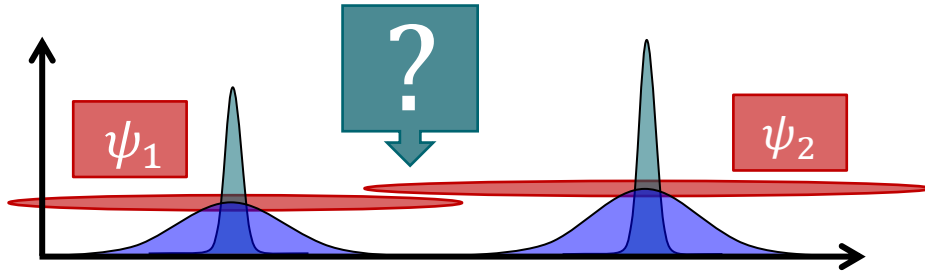


# N = 2: Cooperative Effect

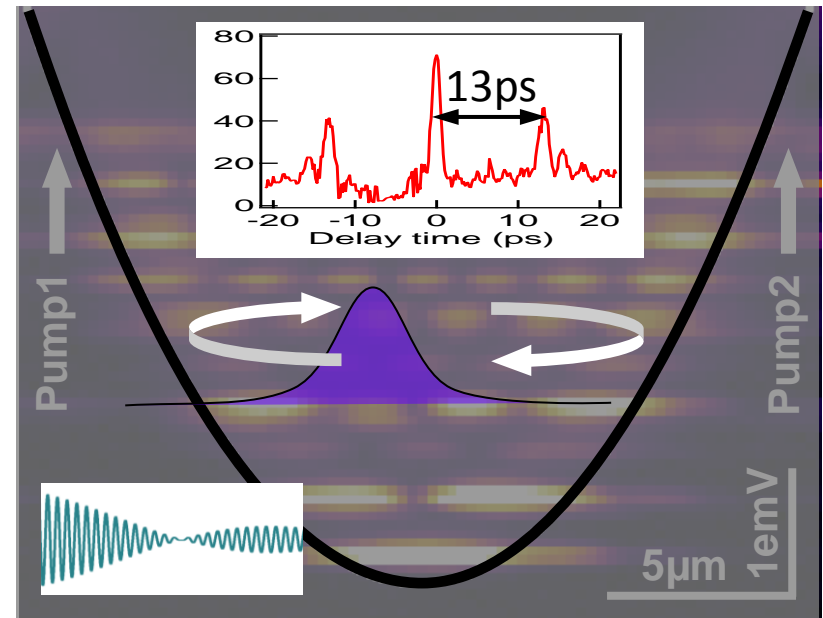
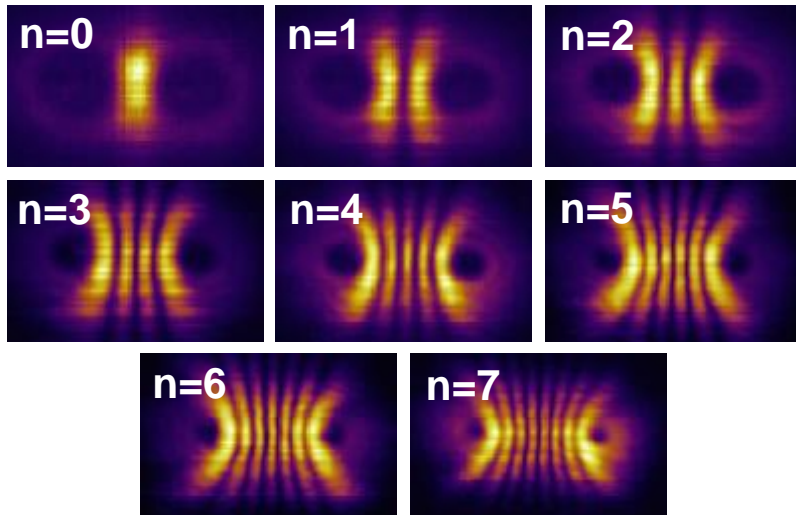


Lower Threshold  
Smaller ejection wavevector  
Larger Interference fringes

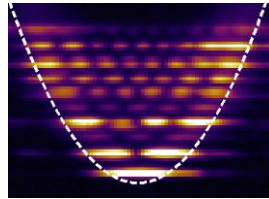
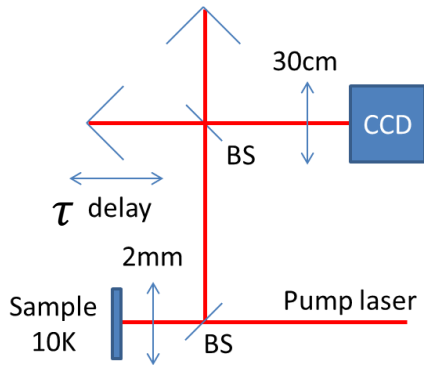
# N=2: 2D Quantum Oscillator



$$\psi = \sqrt{\rho} \cdot e^{-\frac{iEt}{\hbar} + \varphi}$$



# Condensate dynamics

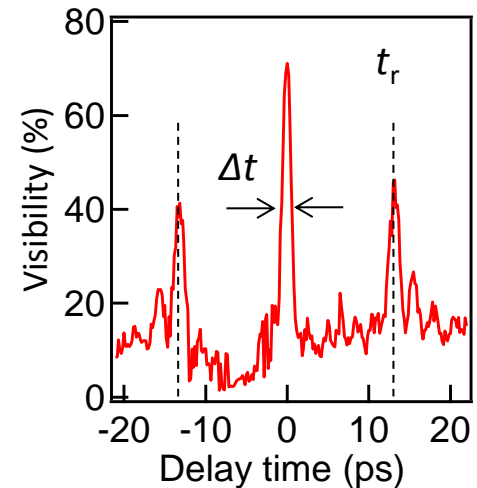
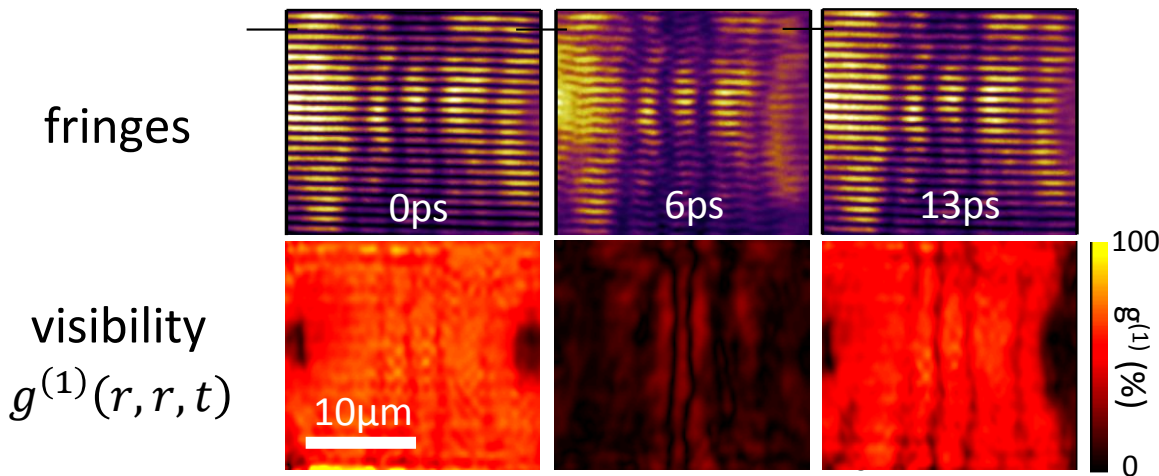


$$t_r = h/E$$

- modelocking condensates

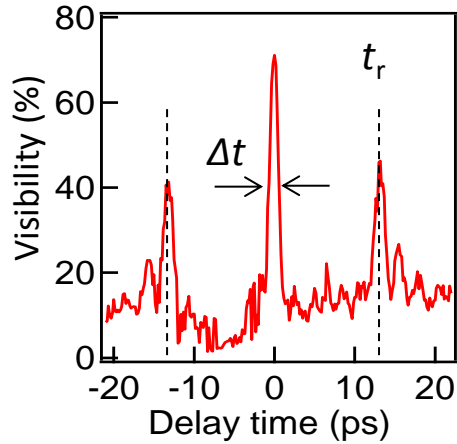
nonlinear optics

cf: ultrafast lasers, supercontinuum generation



- self-interference every round trip time (exact match)
- all the simple harmonic oscillator levels are phase coherent

# Tuneable oscillator

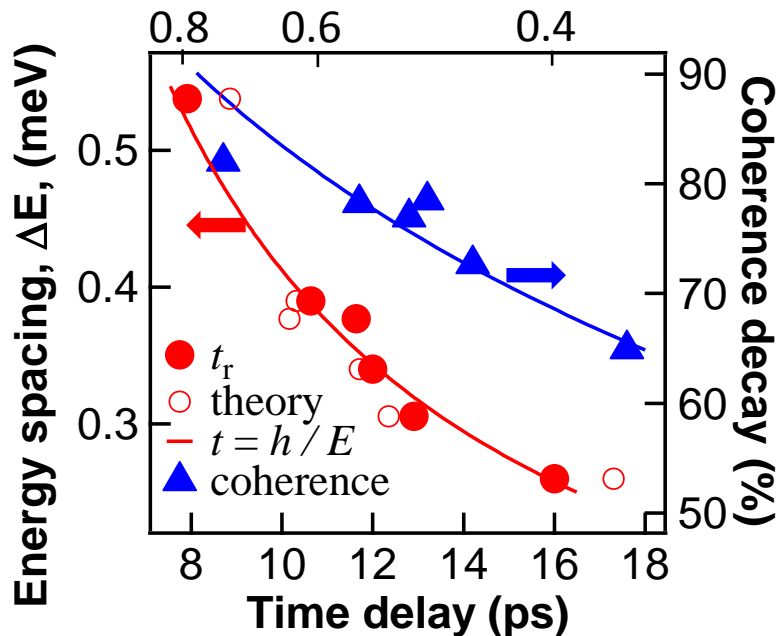


temporal width  $\Delta t \simeq t_r/n_{SHO}$

set by number of SHO states ( $n_{SHO}=10$ )

$$t_r = \pi L \sqrt{\frac{m^*}{2(g|\psi|^2 + \hbar R_R N)}}$$

## Wavepacket frequency (THz)



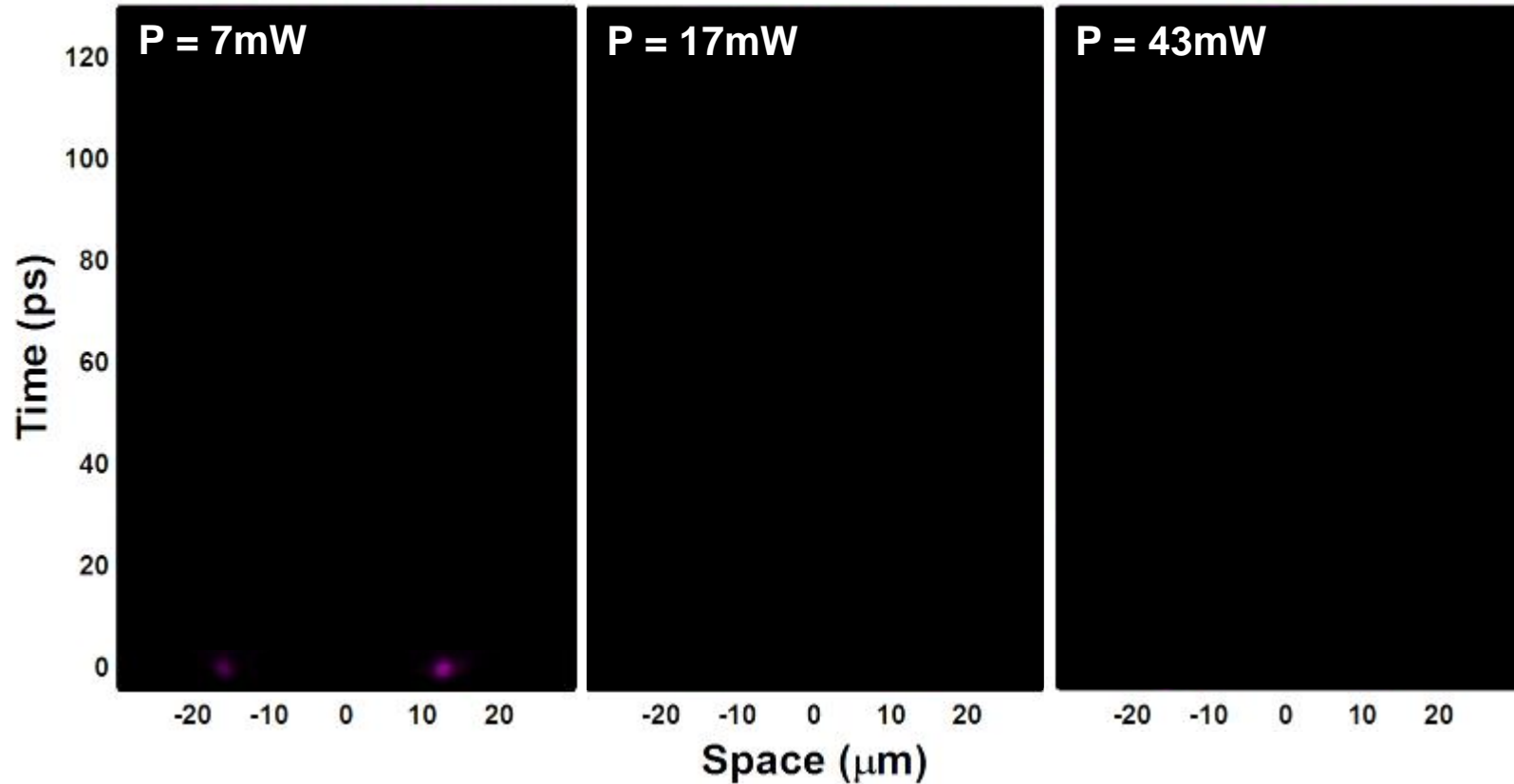
wavepacket revival is not perfect  
decays over 40ps

due to coherent wavepacket

- dispersion (SHO spacings)
- decay
- dephasing
- diffusion



# N=2: Ultrafast dynamics



Interference of  
Condensates

Dark  
Wavepacket

Bright  
Wavepacket

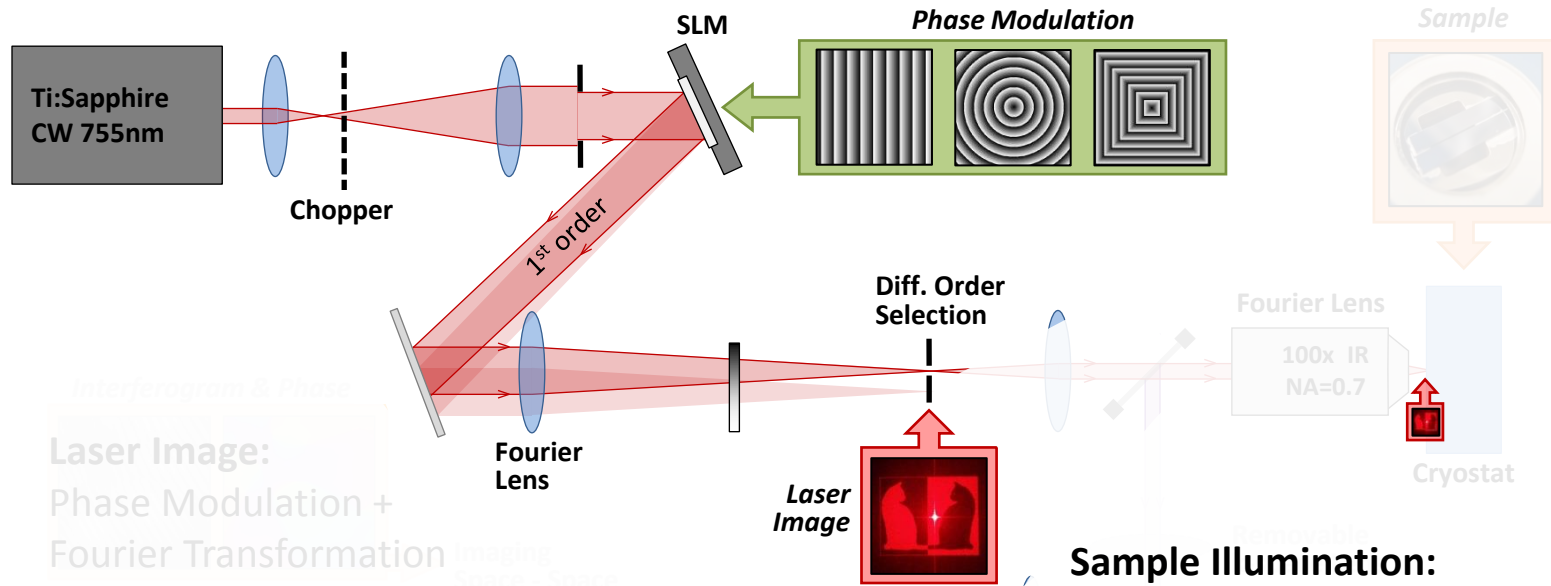
Time resolved phase locking of polariton cond. In prep.

*Multi-spot Excitation: N=2*

# Multiple spot excitation

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# Setup



Interferogram & Phase

**Laser Image:**  
Phase Modulation +  
Fourier Transformation

Imaging  
Space - Space

Dispersion Space -  
Energy

Spectrometer

CCD

Phase Reference  
Arm, magnified

Photoluminescence  
805nm

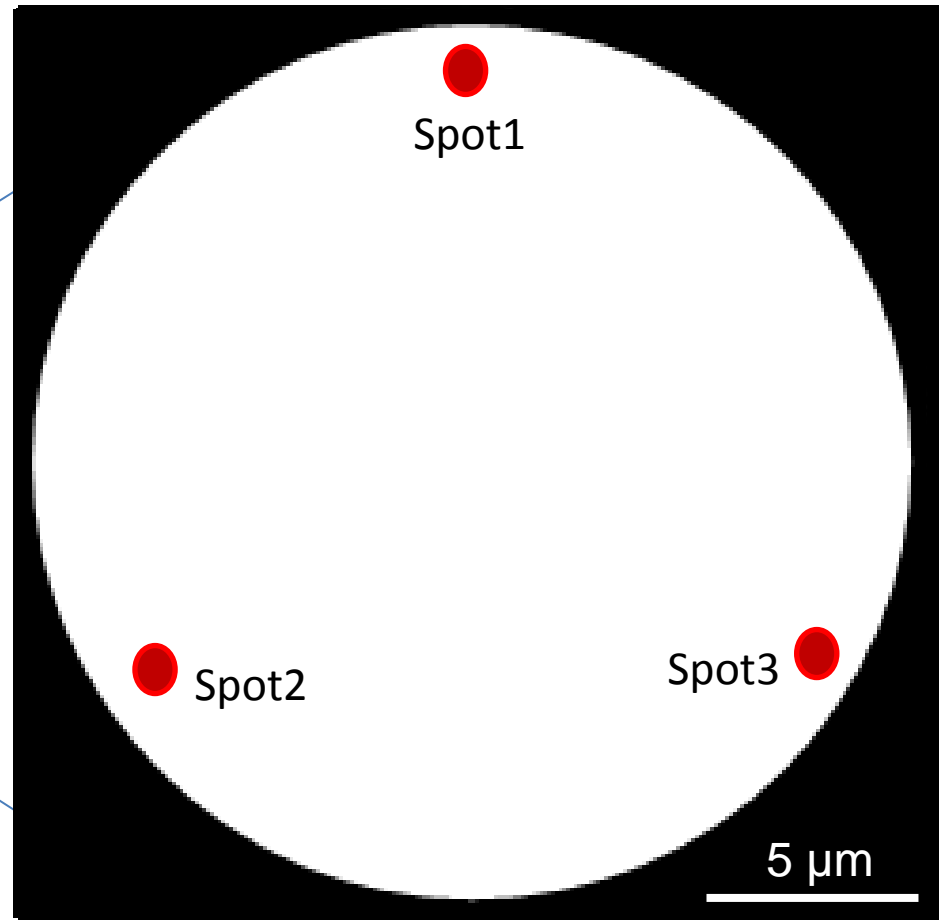
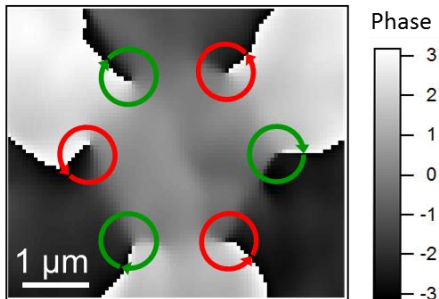
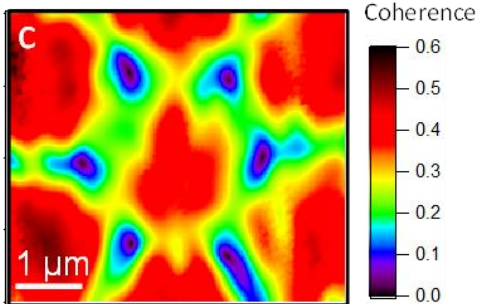
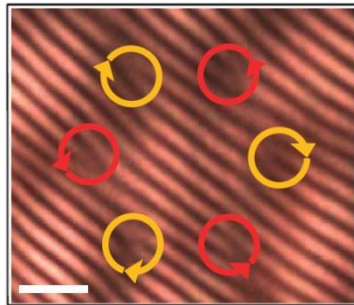
**Sample Illumination:**  
4x Telescope +  
50x Microscope Objective

Variable  
Density  
Filter

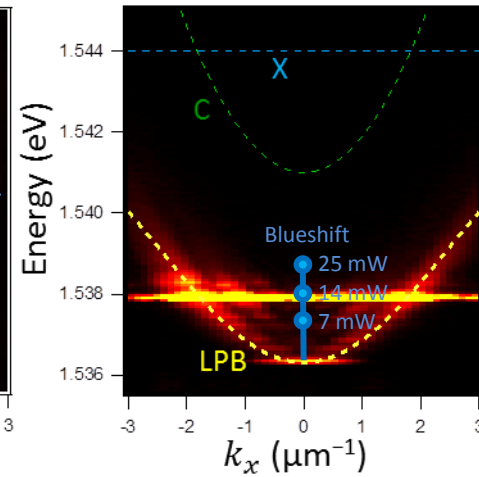
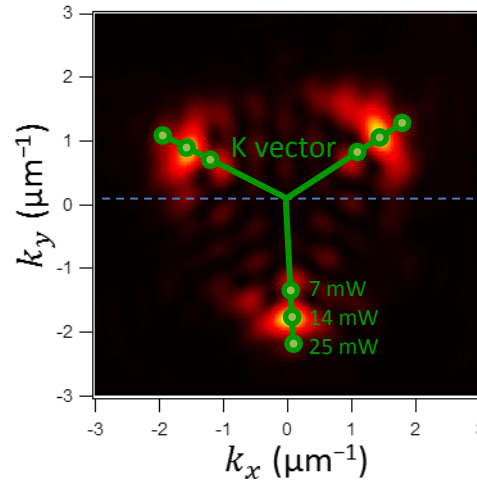
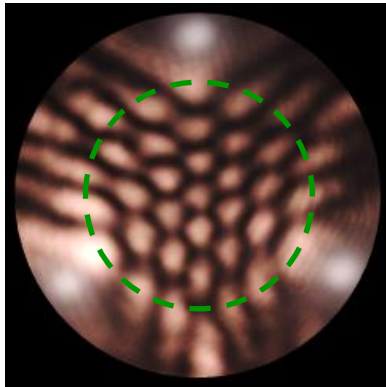
**Real & k-space  
Interferometry**

# Vortex lattices

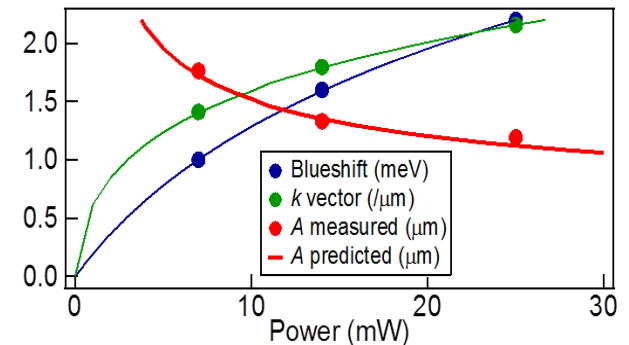
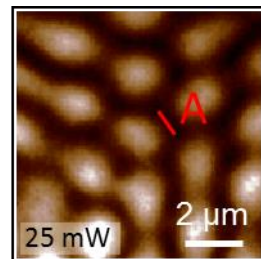
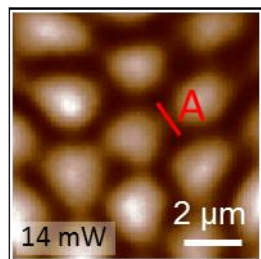
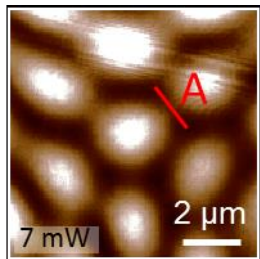
- honeycomb lattice of up to 100 vortices and anti-vortices



# Stretching the lattice

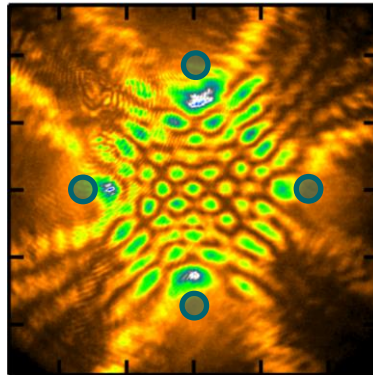
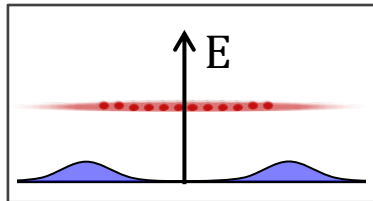


- Vortices formed by a linear superposition of 3 waves outflowing from each spot.
- Average distance between neighbouring vortices:  $A = 4\pi/(3k\sqrt{3})$
- Outflow momentum dependent on power:  $k(r) = K[\omega_c - \Delta(r)]$



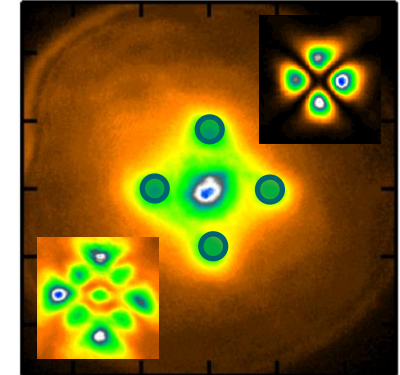
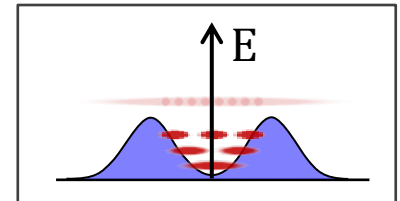
# Phase Transition

**Phase Locked**  
Pumps far apart



<-->

**Trapped**  
Pumps Close Together



**Single Energy**

**Physics:**

Vortex Lattice

Q. Oscillator

**Condensation:**

At pump

Centre

***Condensation Threshold?***

*Trapping Transition:* PRL **110**, 186403 (2013)

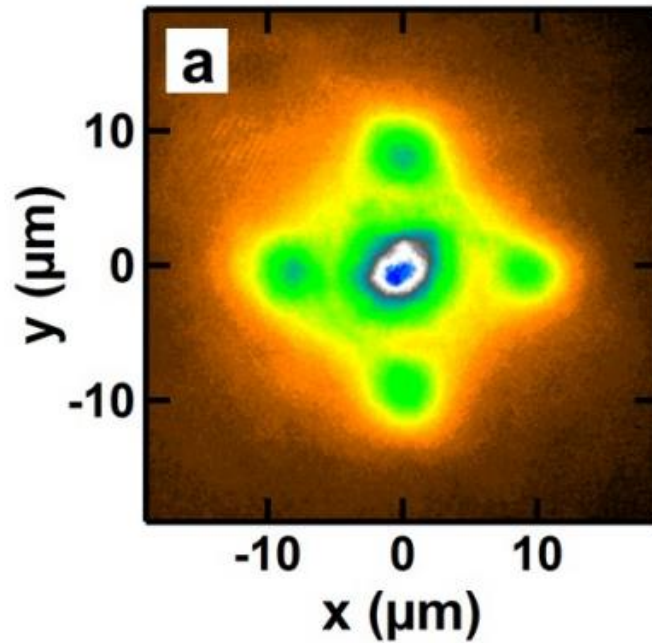
*Vortex Lattice:* Nature Comm. **3**, 1243 (2012)



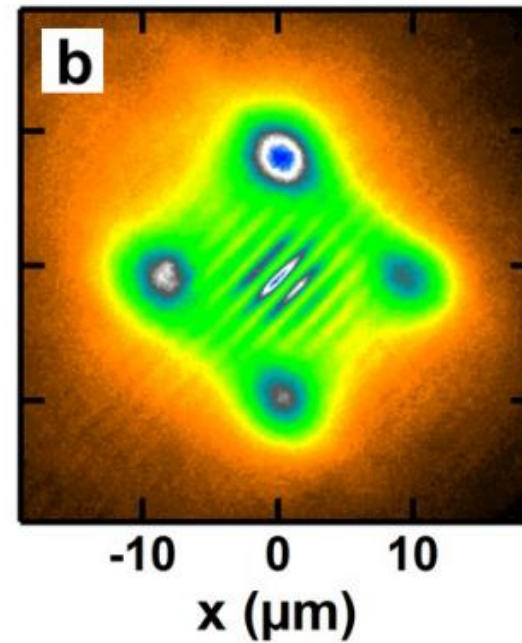
# Condensation Threshold

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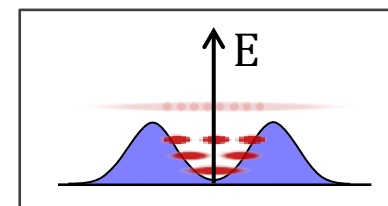
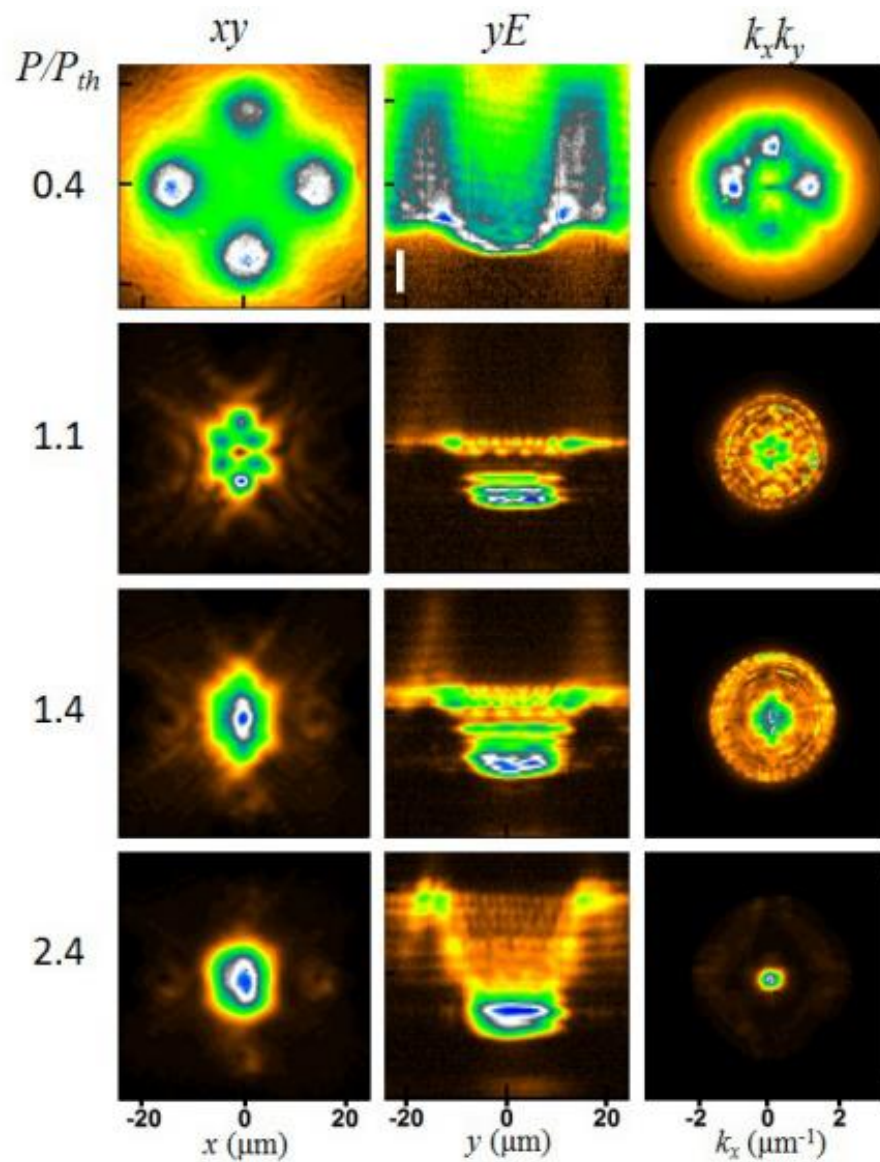
Below Threshold



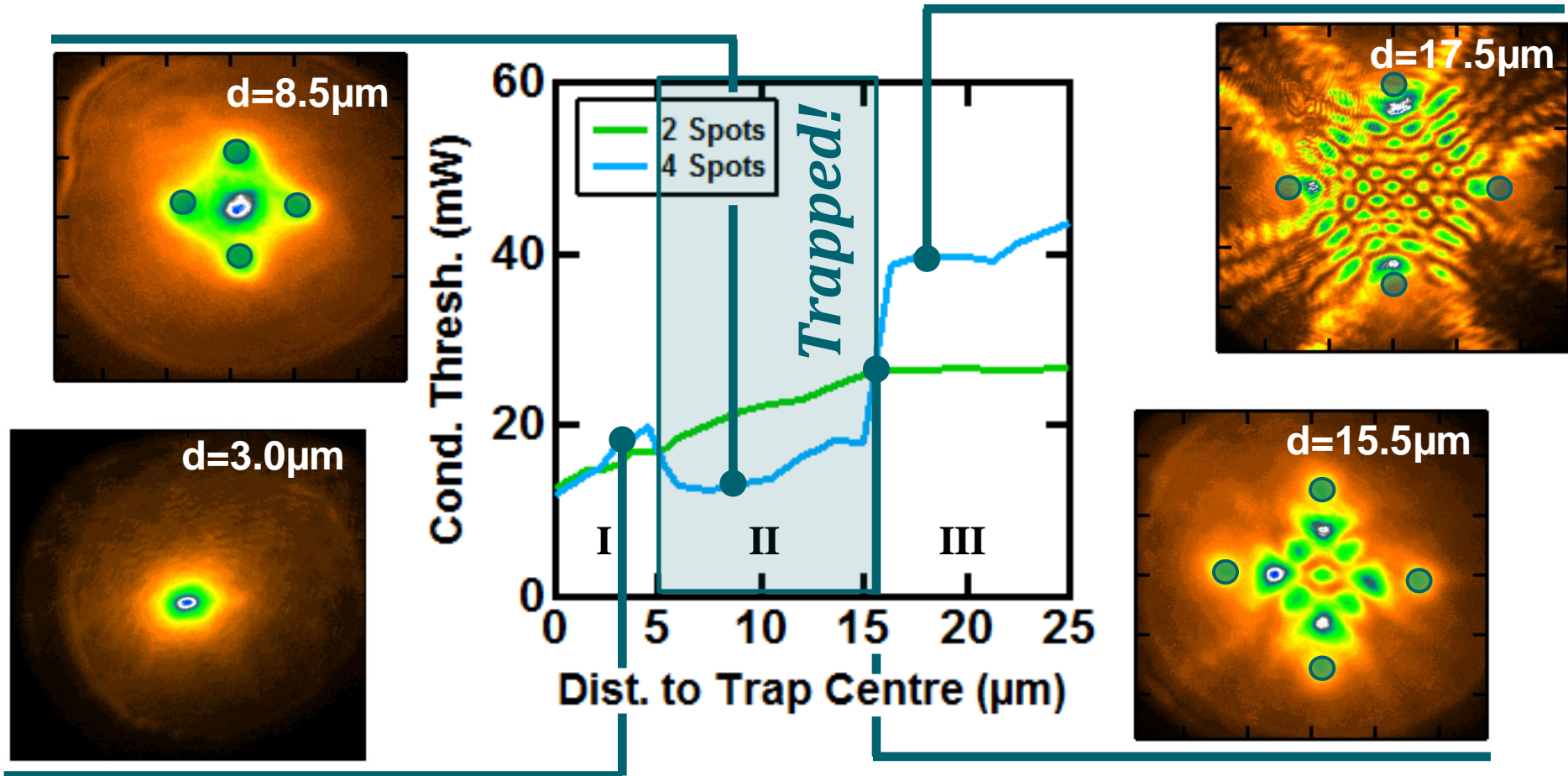
Above Threshold



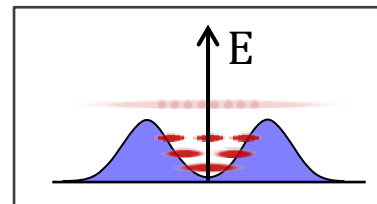
# $N \geq 4$ : Opt. Trapped Condensates



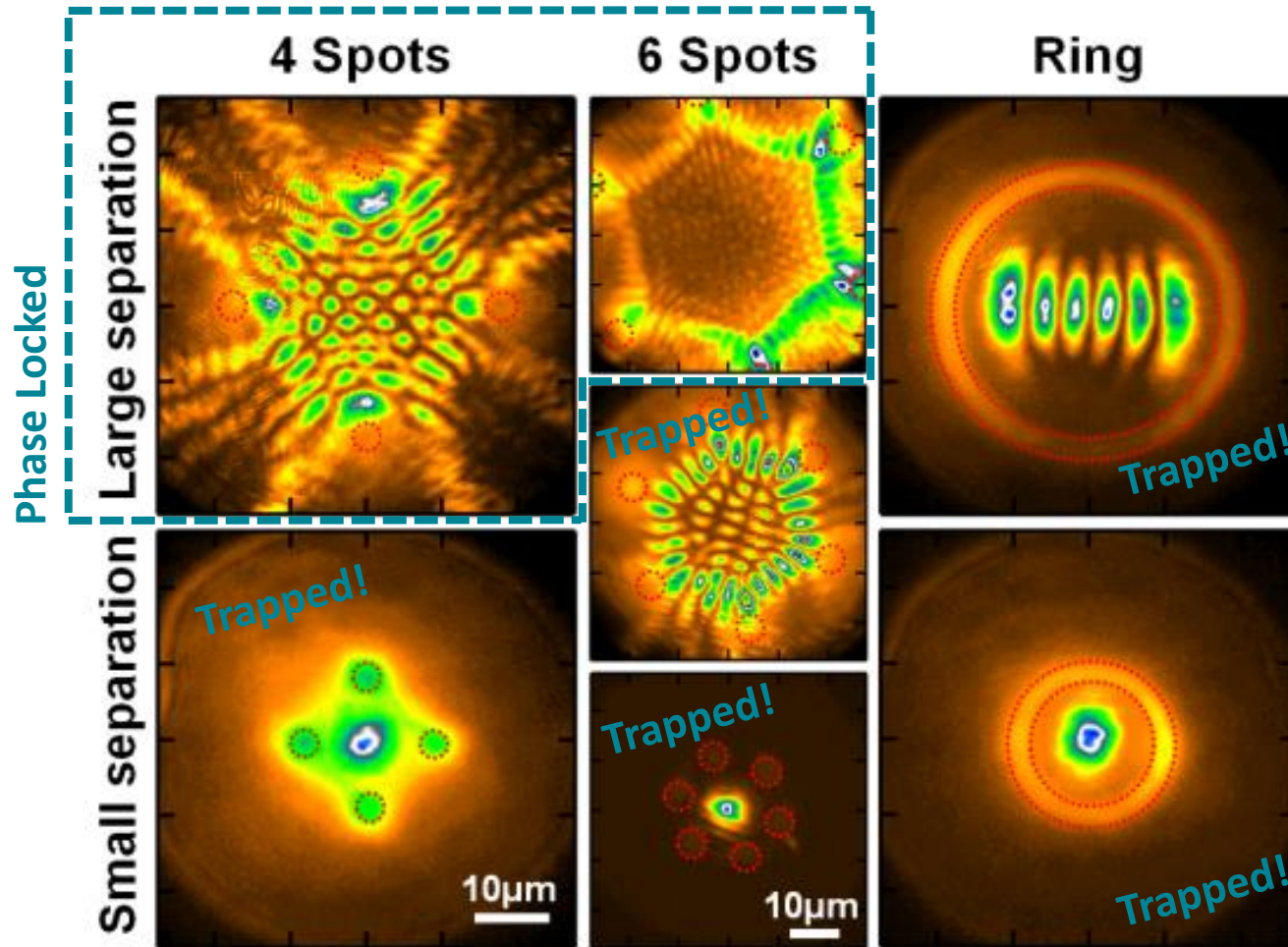
# N = 4: Optical Trapping



Trapping Transition: PRL **110**, 186403 (2013)



# $N = 4, 6, 8, \dots$

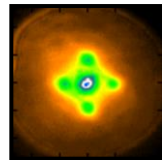
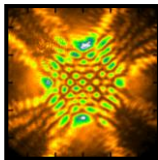
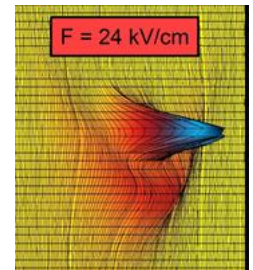
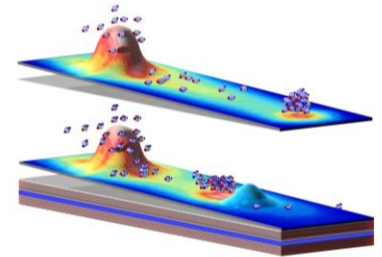
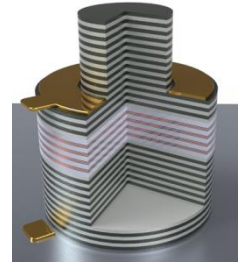


Trapping Transition: PRL **110**, 186403 (2013)



# Summary

- Low threshold polariton lasing at 25K
- Electrical and optical manipulation of polariton condensates
  - propagation of polariton condensates in waveguides
  - polariton condensate transistor
  - electric field tuning of the polariton condensate energy.
- Interactions between condensates in confining potentials
  - polariton condensate pendulum
  - phase locked vs trapped polariton condensates



Thank you



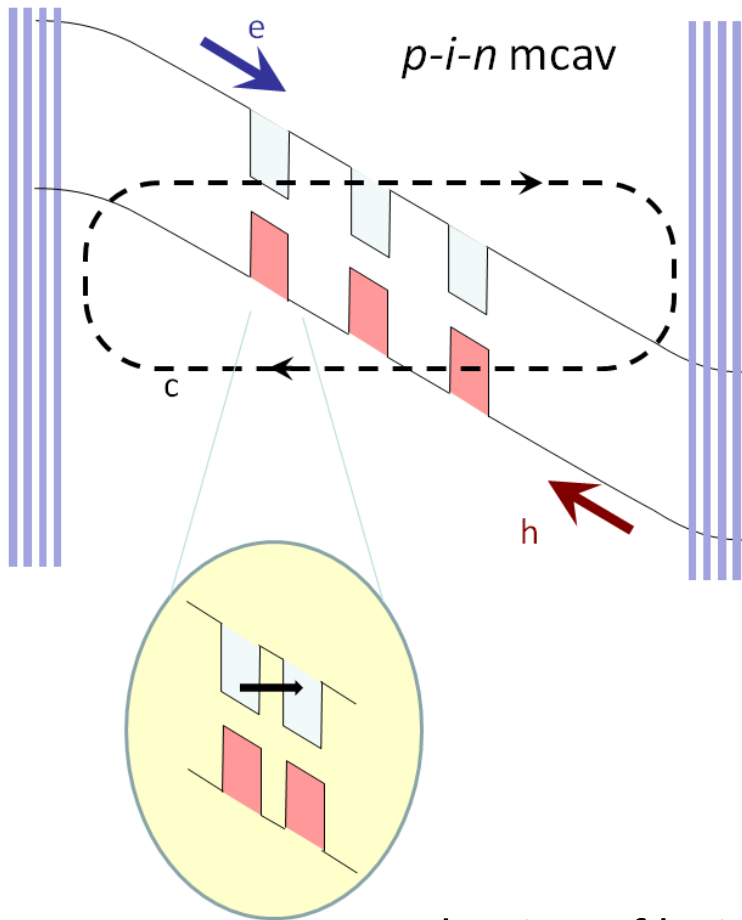
# Dipole Oriented Polaritons

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**Oriented polaritons in strongly-coupled  
asymmetric DQW microcavities**



# Indirect polaritons: Dipolaritons



**Dipolariton approach:**  
weakly-coupled double quantum wells

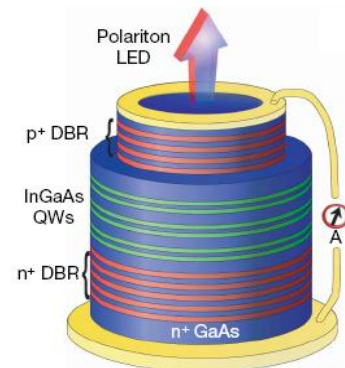


direct control of polariton dipole

$$H_{PP}^{eff} = \frac{1}{2} \sum_{k,k',q} \frac{a_B^2}{A} V_{k,k',q}^{PP} \hat{p}_{k+q}^+ \hat{p}_{k'-q}^+ \hat{p}_k \hat{p}_{k'}$$

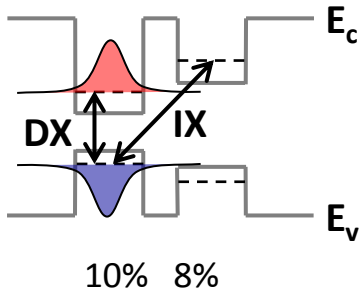
dipole-dipole

- reduction of lasing threshold
- electrically-pumped polariton lasers and BECs

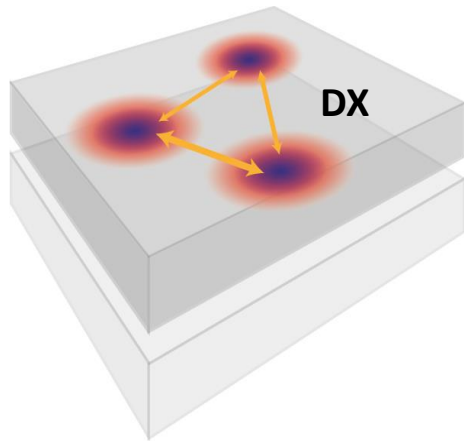
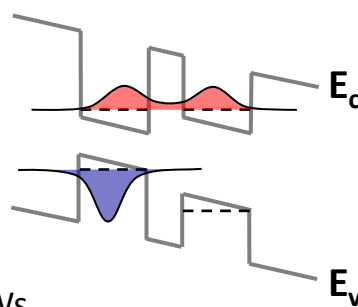


# Dipolaritons

electron levels  
off resonance

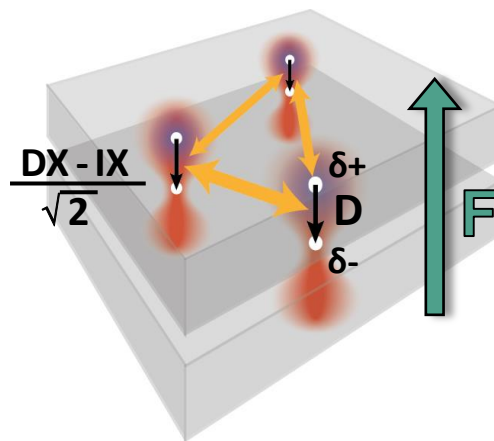


electron levels  
at resonance



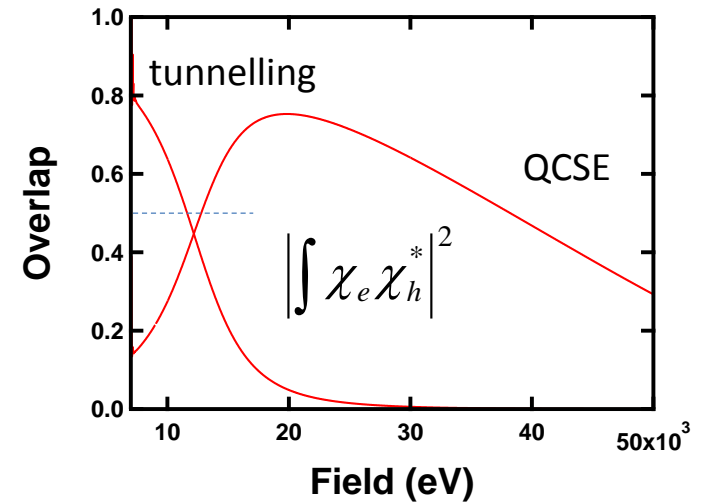
“tunnelling off”

direct excitons DX

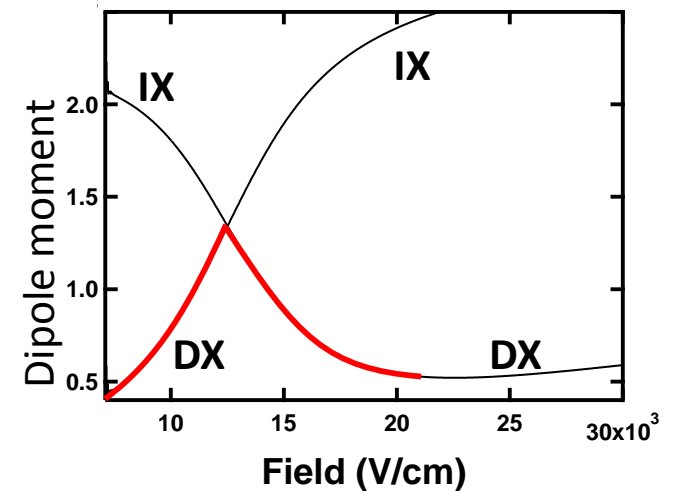


“tunnelling on”

mixed excitons  $DX \pm IX$ ,  
static dipole moment

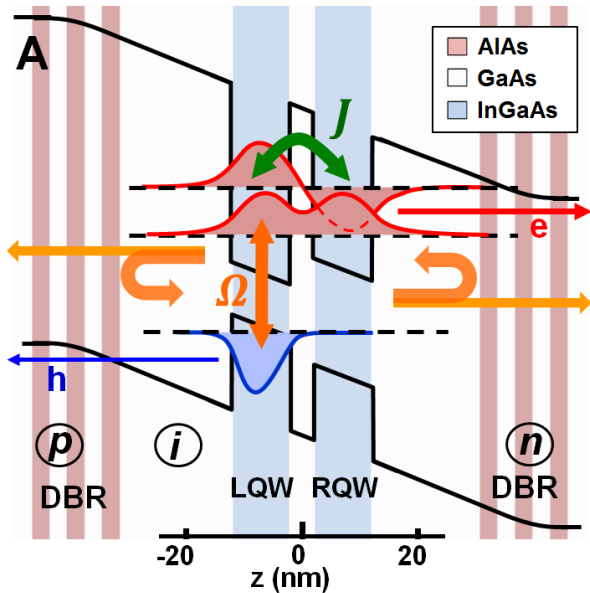


Oscillator strength is kept



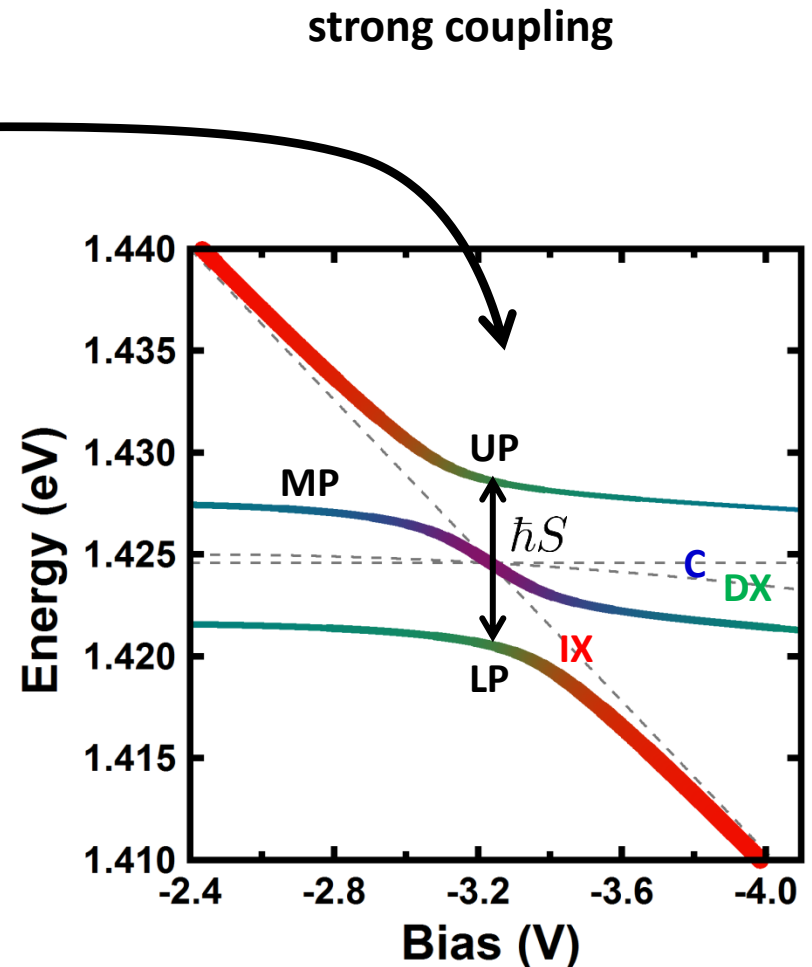
Strong dipole moment

# Dipolaritons



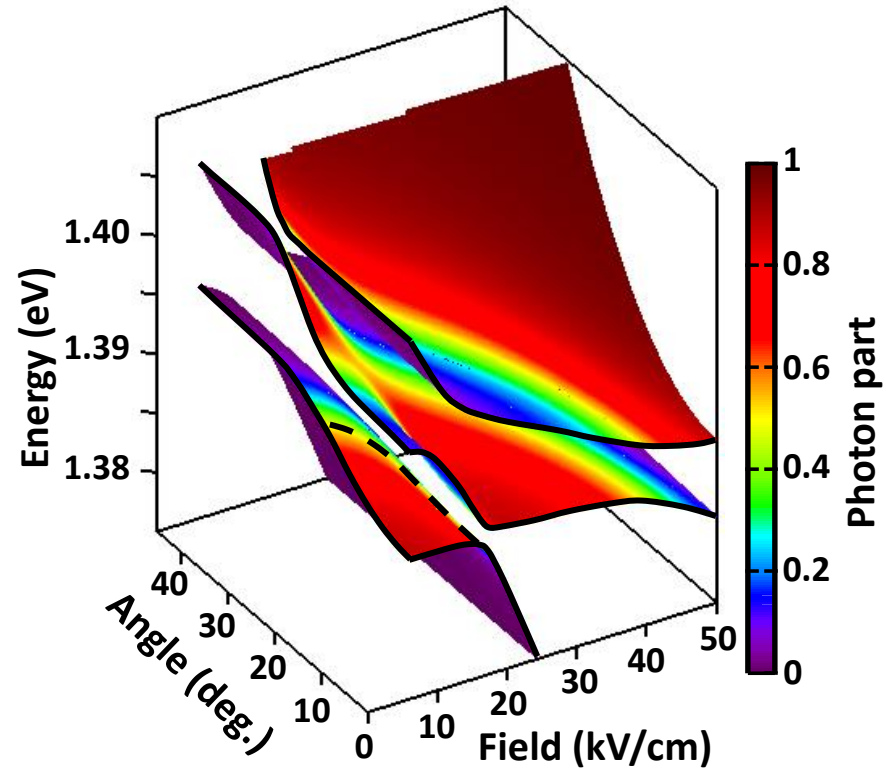
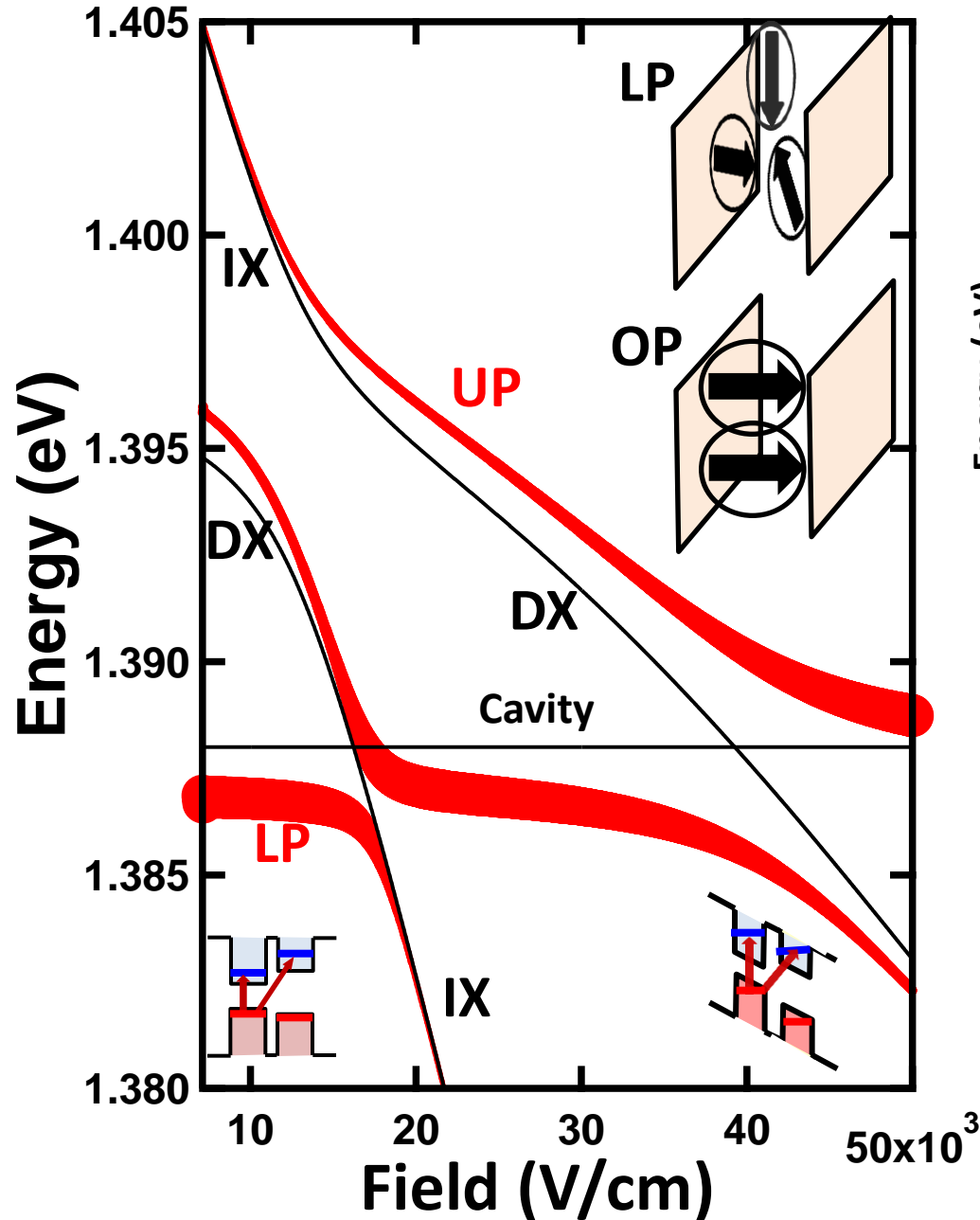
Combining tunnel coupling ( $J$ ) and Rabi splitting ( $\Omega$ )

$$H = \begin{pmatrix} E_C & \Omega/2 & 0 \\ \Omega/2 & E_{DX} & J/2 \\ 0 & J/2 & E_{IX} \end{pmatrix}$$



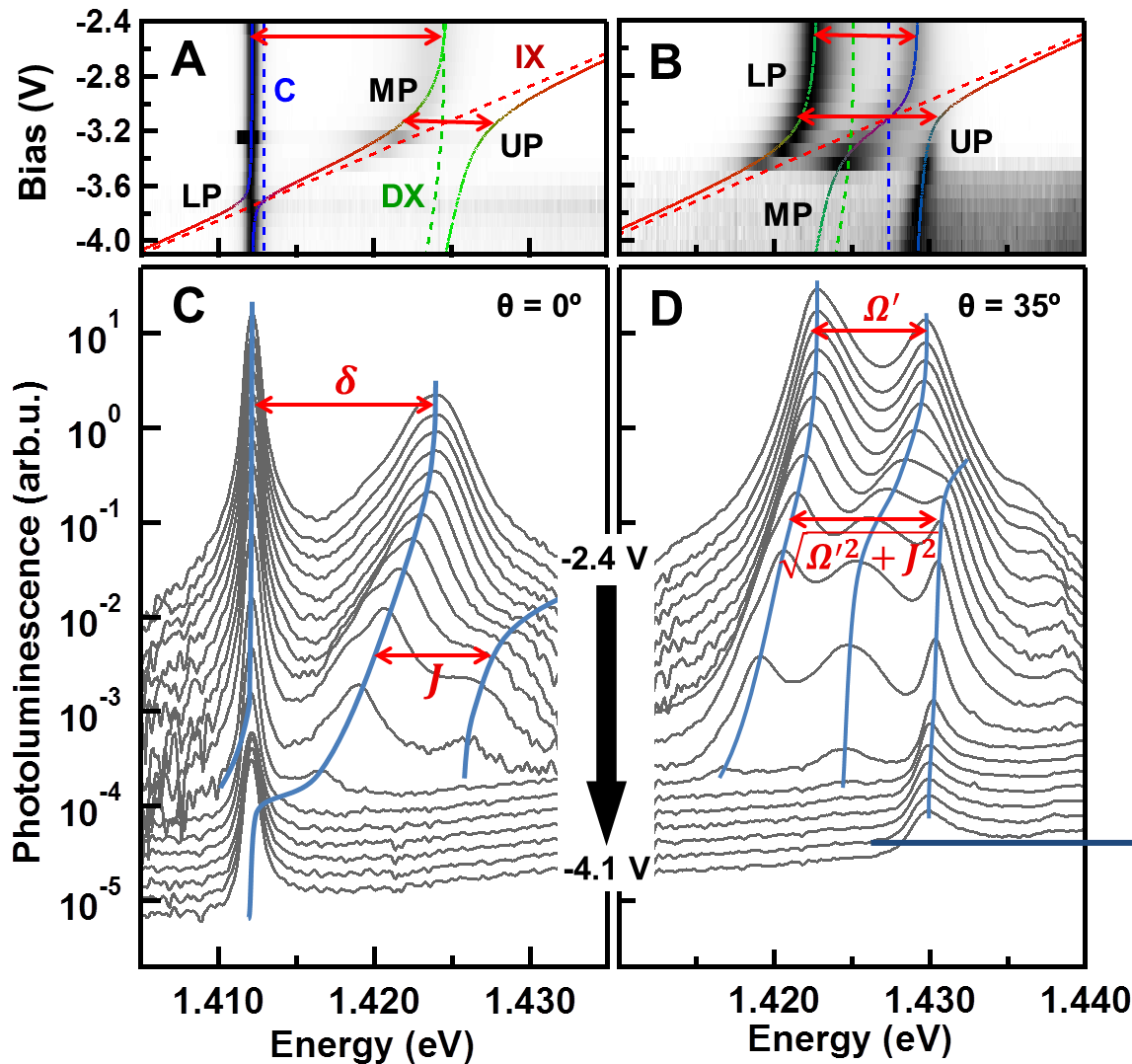
Coupled harmonic oscillator model

# Dipolariton Dispersions



- vertical polariton dipole
- enhanced polariton-polariton coupling

# Observation of dipolaritons



Photoluminescence of the system versus increasing bias for detuned and resonant cavity

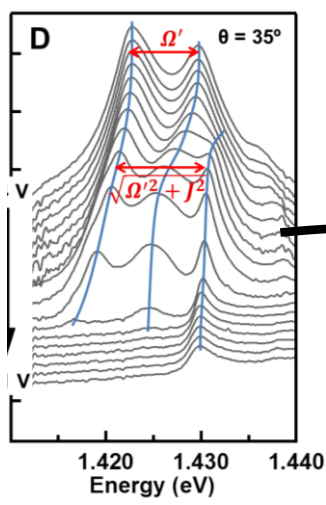
PL is lost because electron tunnel out of the system

tunnel-split excitons, uncoupled cavity

dipolaritons, strong coupling of  $J$  and  $\Omega$

“Coupling Quantum Tunneling with Cavity Photons”  
Science **336**, 704 (2012)

# Dipolaritons at resonance

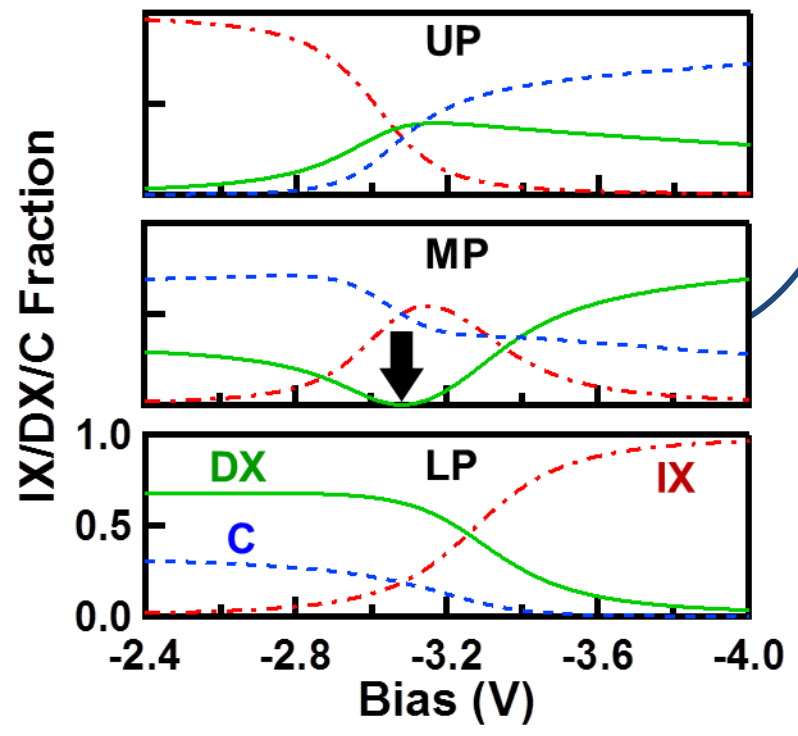
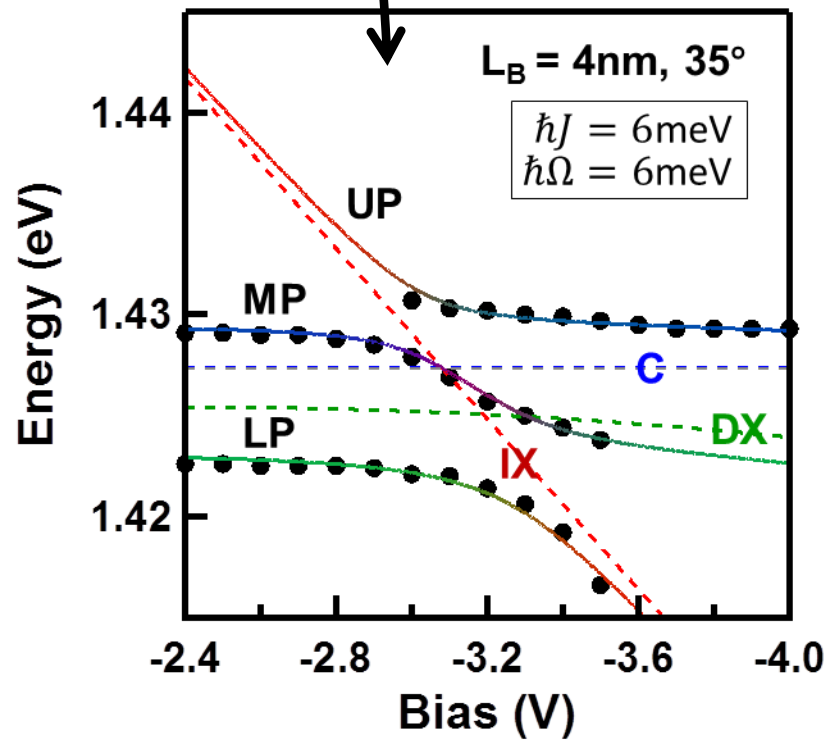


peak extraction +

$$H = \begin{pmatrix} E_C & \Omega/2 & 0 \\ \Omega/2 & E_{DX} & J/2 \\ 0 & J/2 & E_{IX} \end{pmatrix}$$

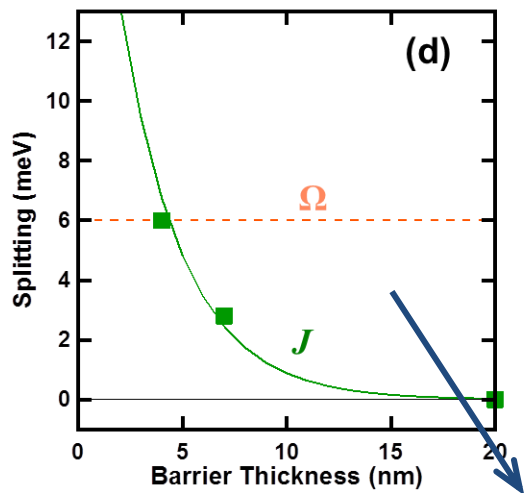
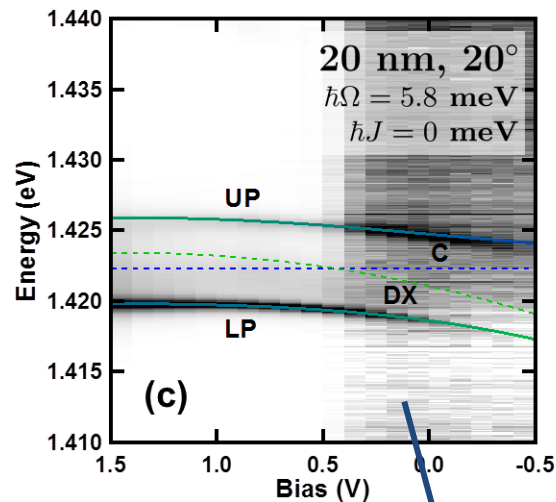
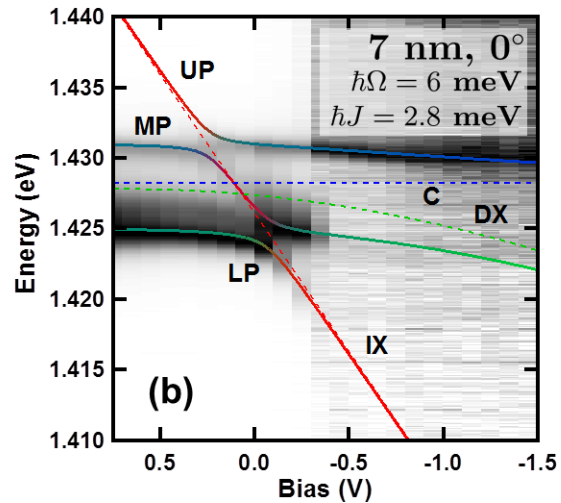
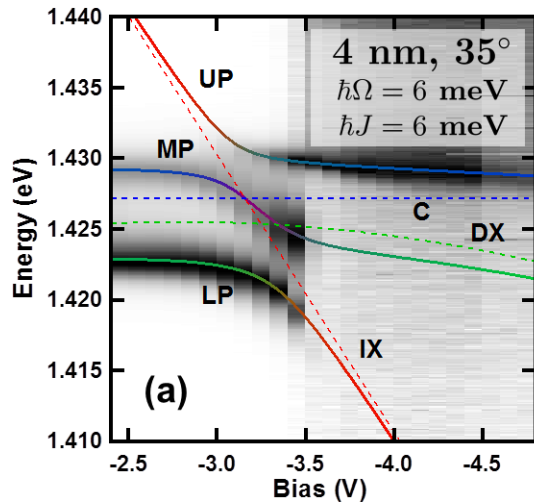
MP – state: no DX!

$$|MP\rangle = \frac{\Omega|IX\rangle - J|C\rangle}{S}$$





# Barrier width dependence



Influence of the **tunnelling barrier thickness** (4,7,20nm) on the bare tunnelling rate  $J$

Excellent agreement with solution of the Schrödinger equation for tunnel coupling

no tunnel coupling normal polariton regime

ADQW simulation from solving Schrödinger equation

# Applications of Dipolaritons

4 Apr 2013

## Continuous THz lasing from dipolaritons

K. Kristinsson,<sup>1</sup> O. Kyriienko,<sup>1,2</sup> T. C. H. Liew,<sup>1</sup> and I. A. Shelykh<sup>1,2</sup>

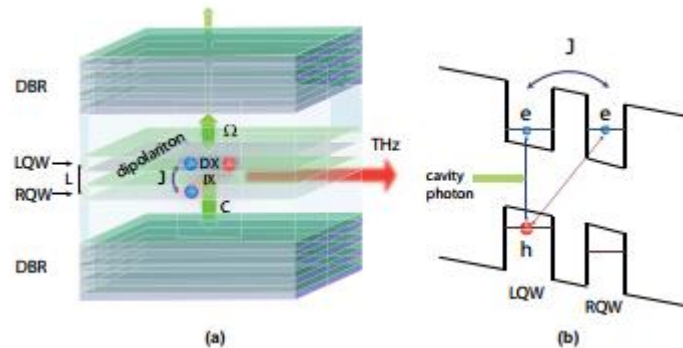
<sup>1</sup>*Division of Physics and Applied Physics, Nanyang Technological University 637371, Singapore*

<sup>2</sup>*Science Institute, University of Iceland, Dunhagi-3, IS-107, Reykjavik, Iceland*

(Dated: April 5, 2013)

We propose a scheme of continuous tunable THz emission based on dipolaritons — mixtures of strongly interacting cavity photons and direct excitons, where the latter are coupled to indirect excitons via tunnelling. We investigate the property of multistability under continuous wave (CW) pumping, and the stability of the solutions. We establish the conditions of parametric instability, giving rise to oscillations in density between the direct exciton and indirect modes under CW pumping. In this way we achieve continuous and tunable emission in the THz range, in a compact single-crystal device, which is expected to operate at high temperatures. We show that the emission frequency can be tuned in a certain range by varying an applied electric field and pumping conditions. Finally, we demonstrate the dynamic switching between different phases in our system, allowing rapid control of THz radiation.

PACS numbers: 71.36.+c, 78.67.Pt, 42.65.-k, 71.35.Lk

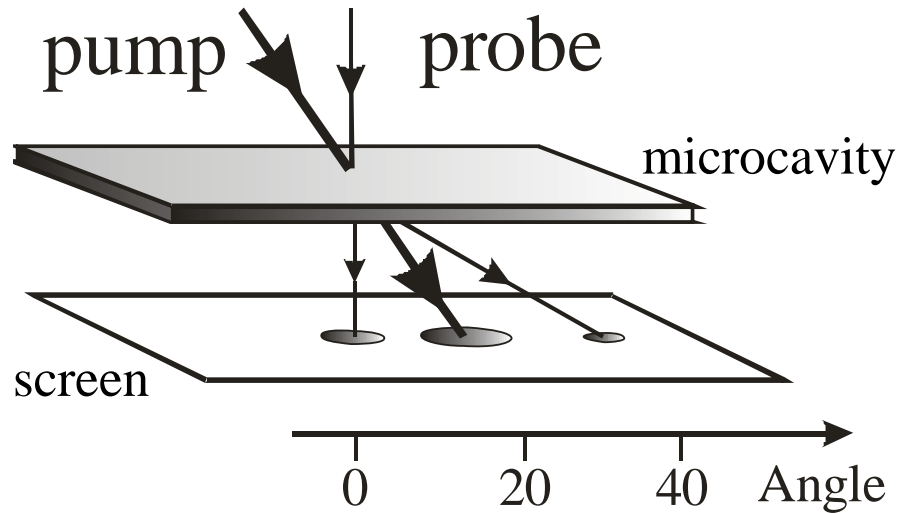


# Nonlinear properties of Tunnelling Polaritons

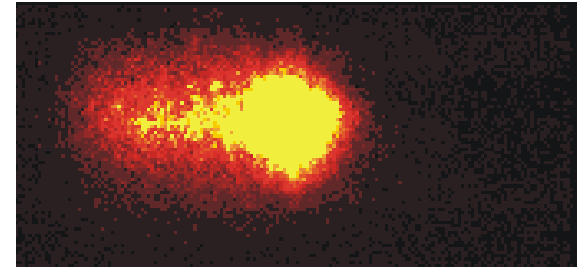
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Control of polariton scattering in resonant-tunnelling  
symmetric DQW semiconductor microcavities

# Polariton Parametric Amplification



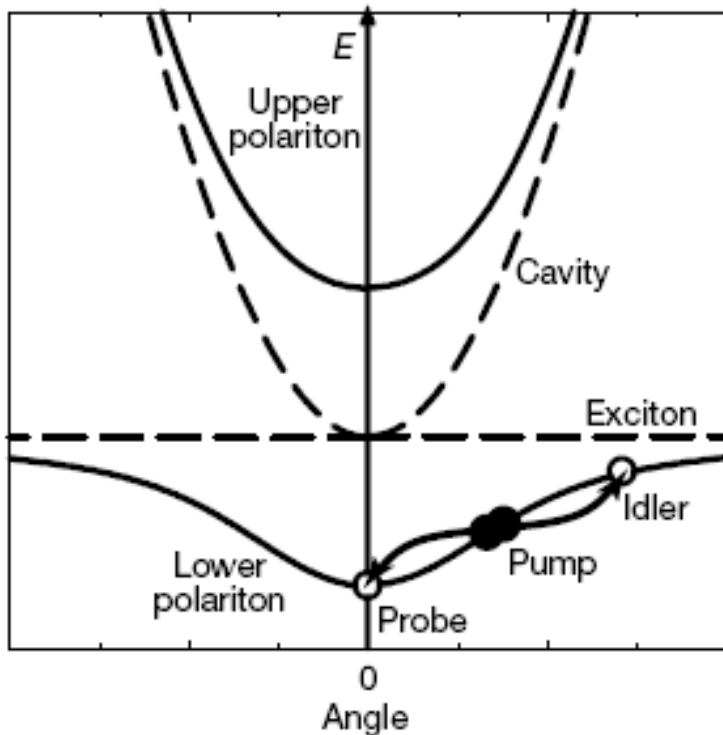
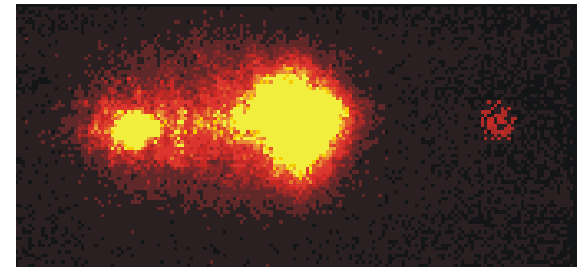
pump  
only



probe  
only



pump &  
probe

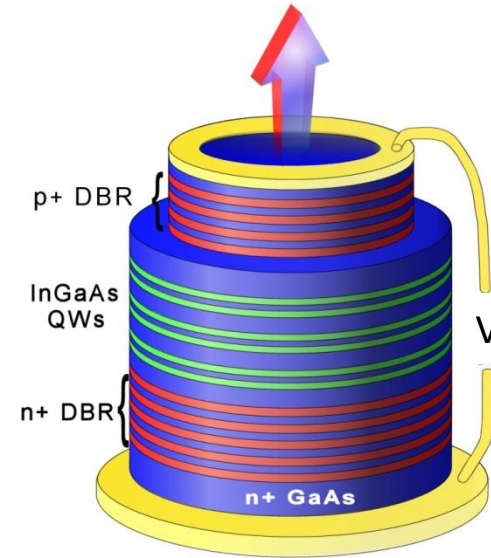
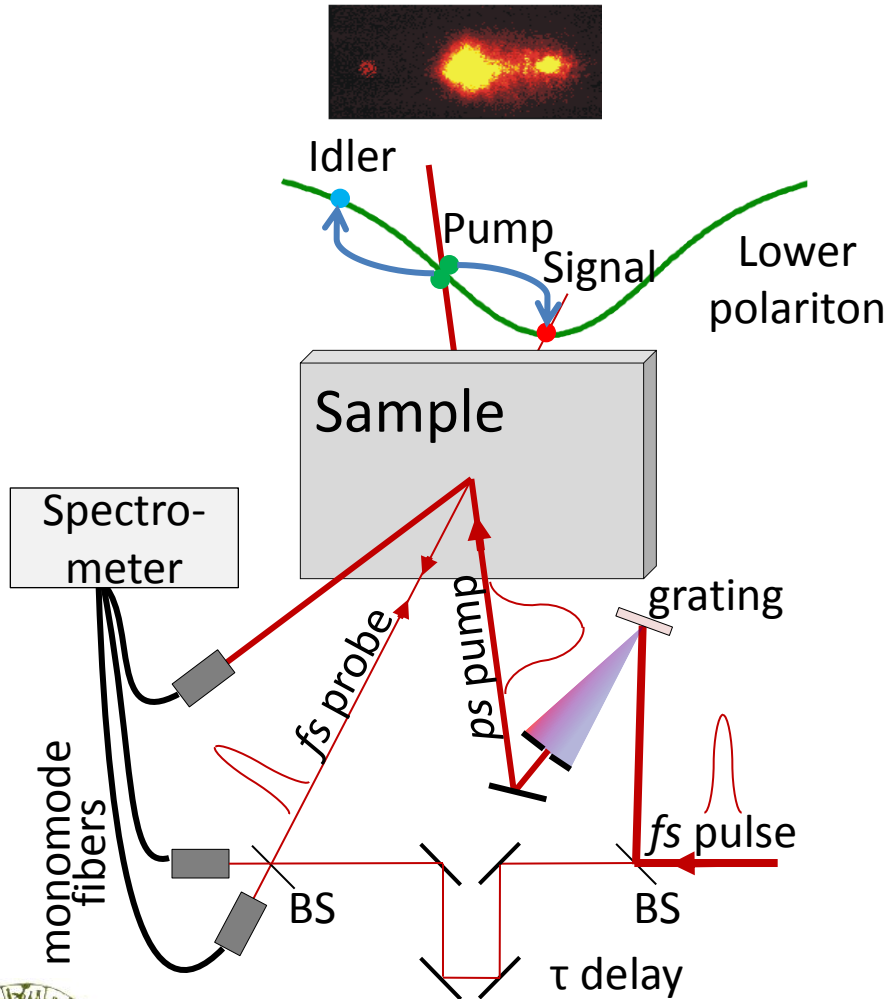


- Stimulated scattering of polaritons
- ultrafast amplification process

Savvidis *et. al.* PRL **84**, 1547 (2000)

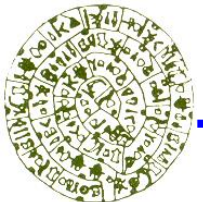
# Electrical control of parametric amplification

- 100fs OPO regime
- spectrally-filtered pump at  $\theta_m$
- monitor probe gain at  $k=0$



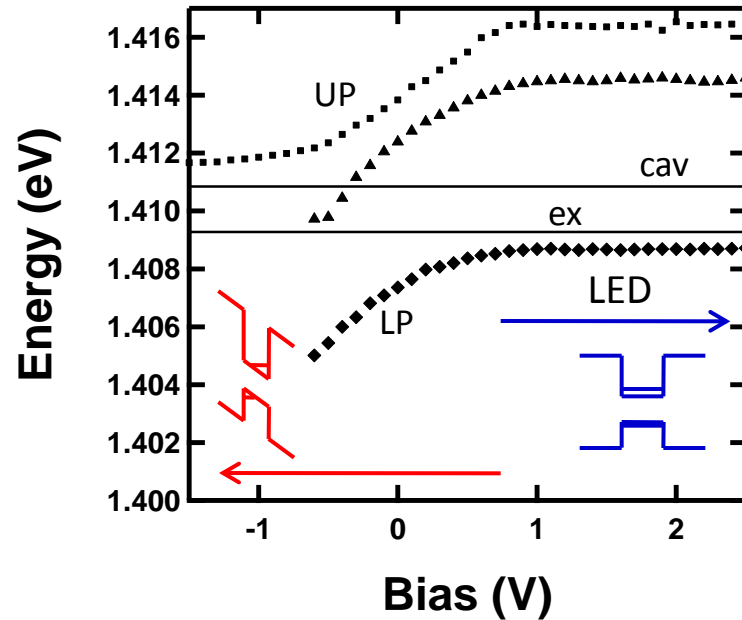
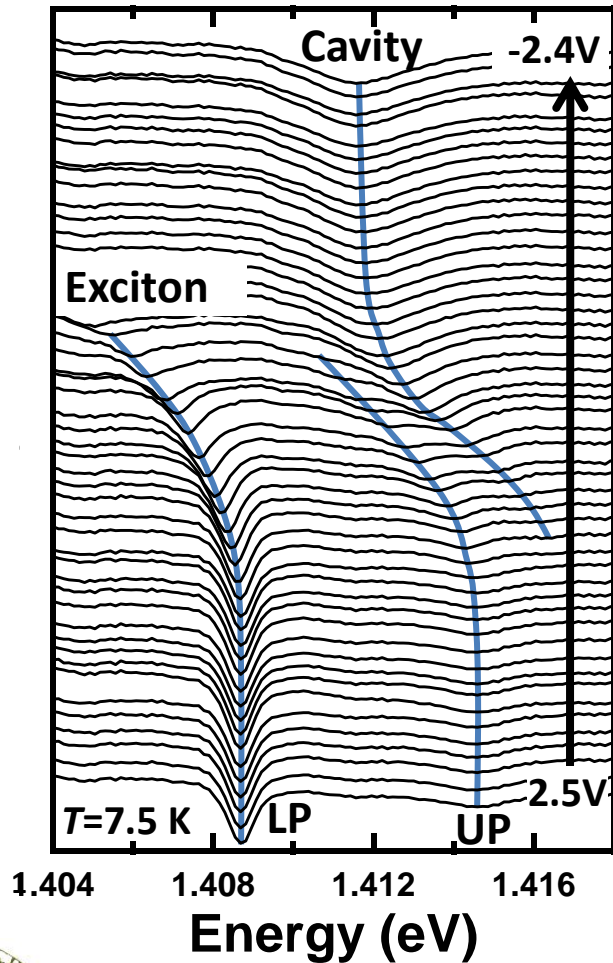
Electrical control: reverse bias

Quantum confined Stark effect



# Stark tunable polariton modes

Probe reflectivity

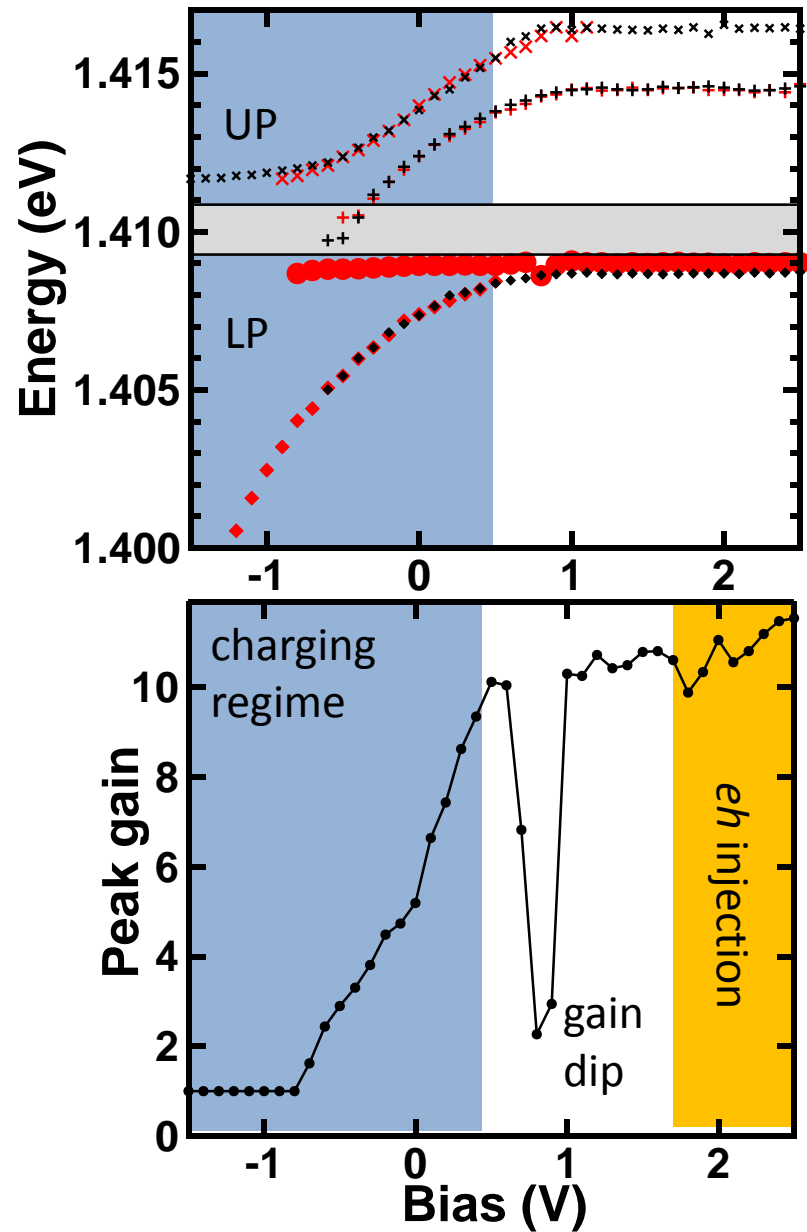
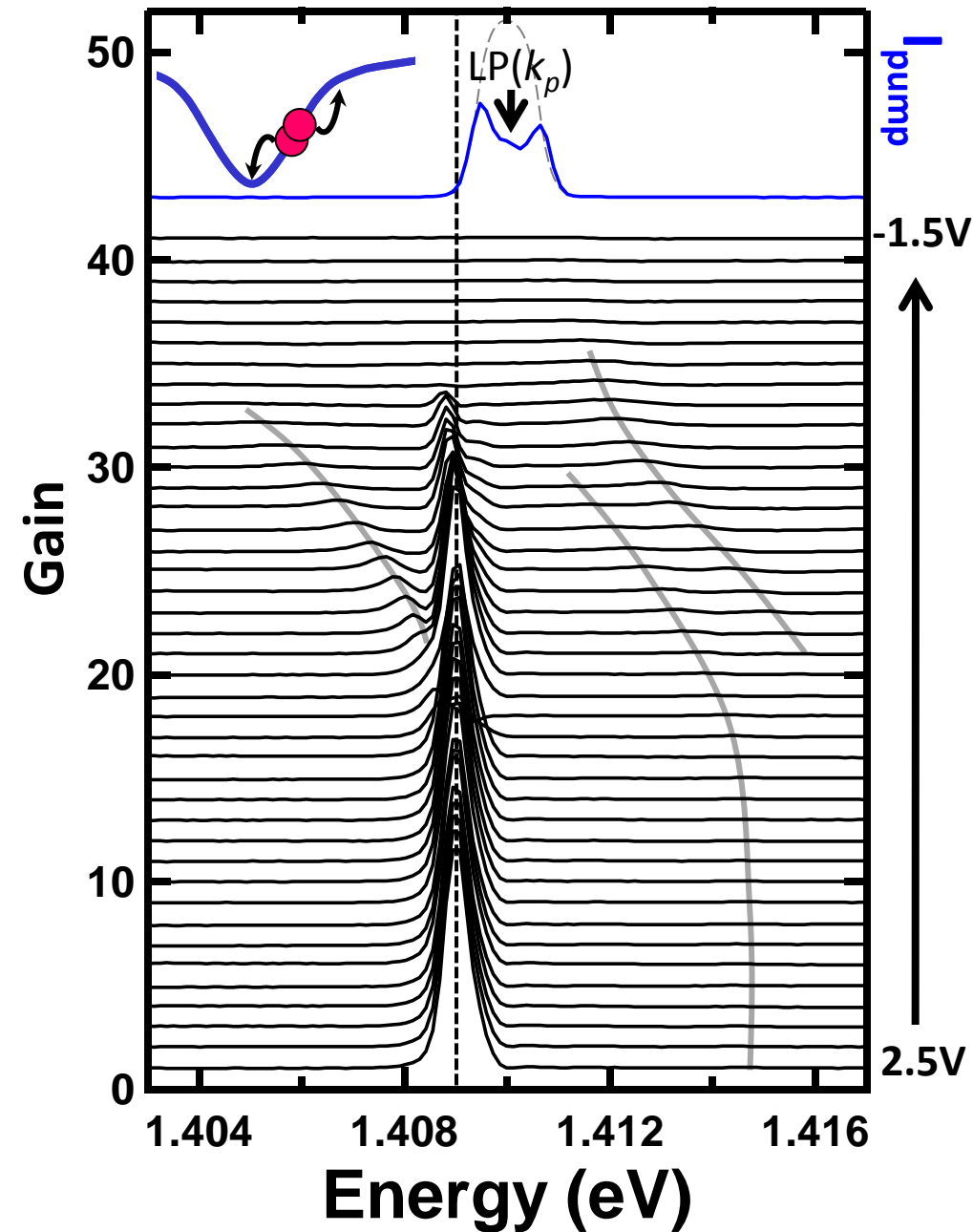


Stark tuning of the excitons  
Rabi splitting 6 meV



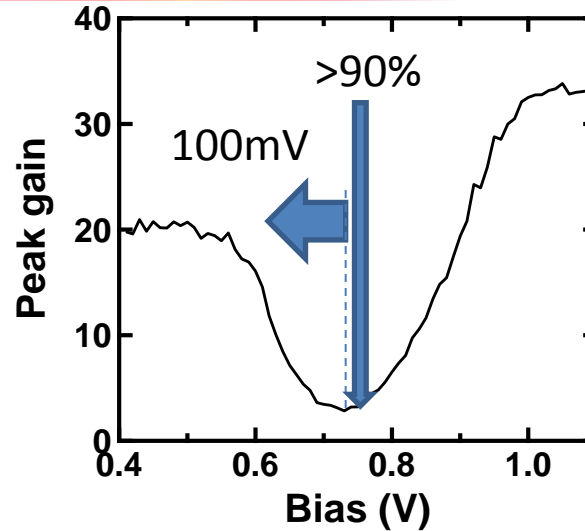
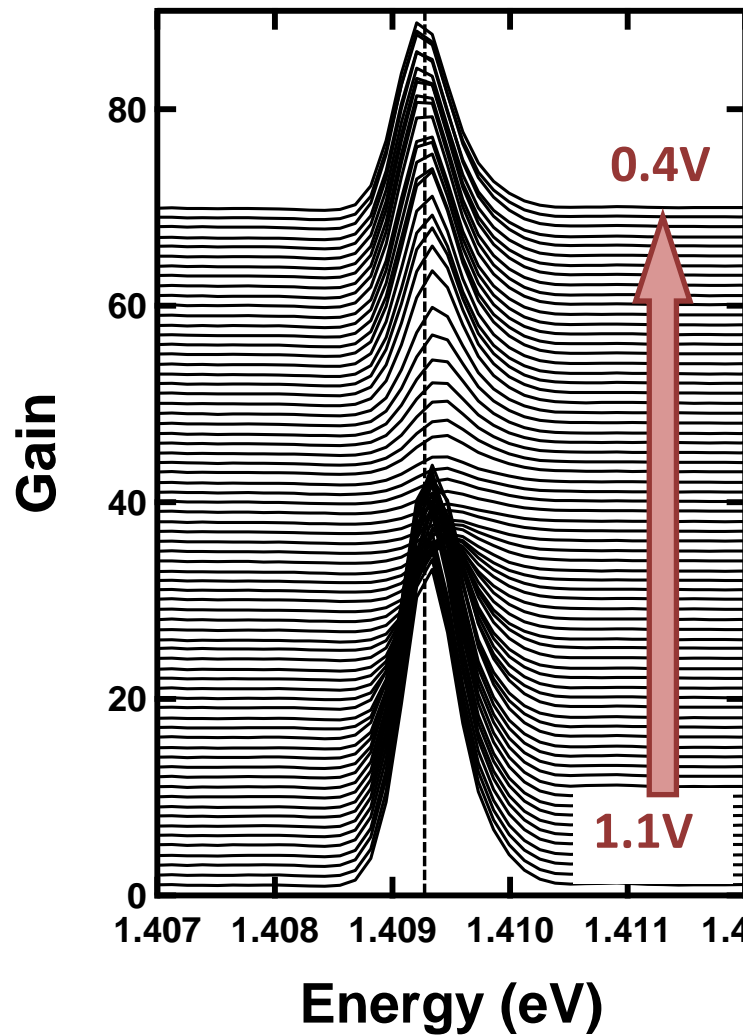


# Ultrafast Gain

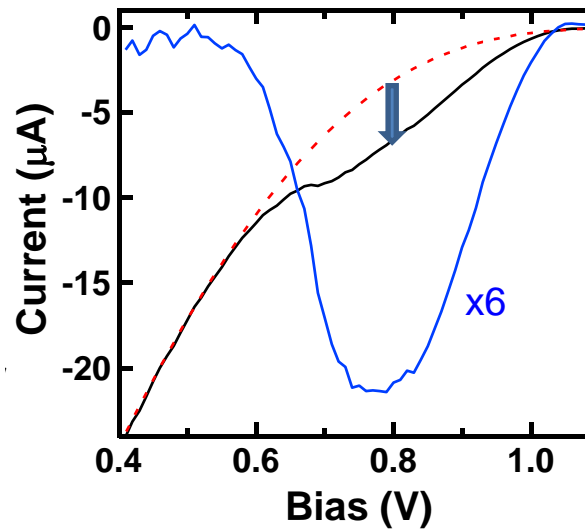


- dispersion-less gain peak
- gain dip at 0.7V

# Gain dip



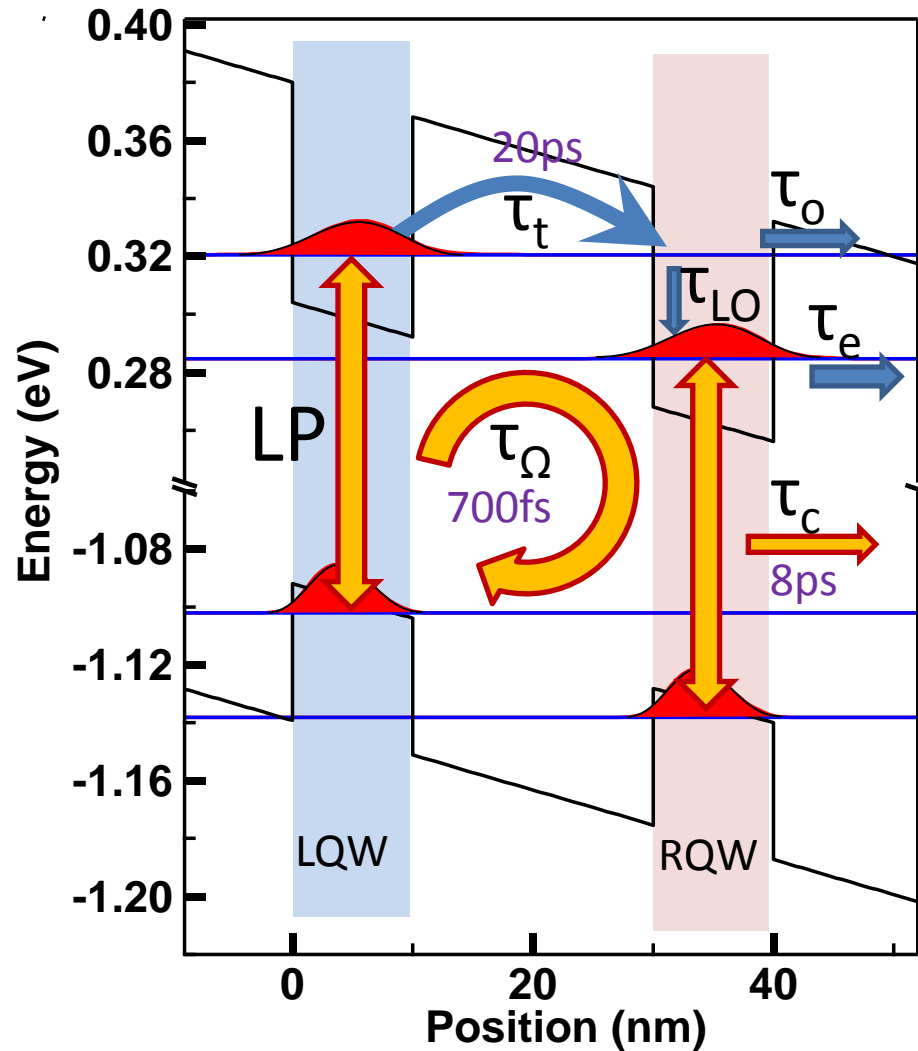
sharp dip in gain



extra photocurrent at same bias

- tunnelling-induced gain quenching

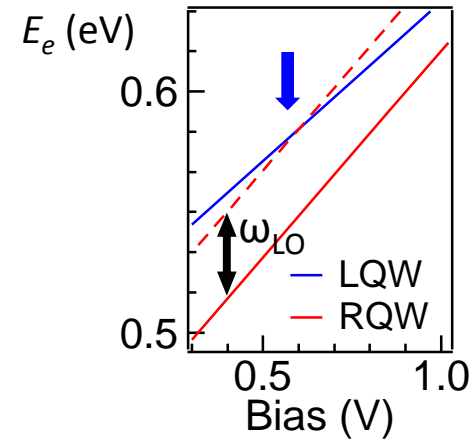
# Tunnelling in microcavities



- extra  $e^-$  population creates extra scattering
- OPO gain very sensitive to damping: phonon vs  $e^-$

## transport competition:

- tunnelling separates  $e$  and  $h$
- Rabi coupling: polaritons redistribute  $eh$  pairs between QWs



- LO phonon-induced tunnelling 100fs
- carrier escape 180ns, 250fs

