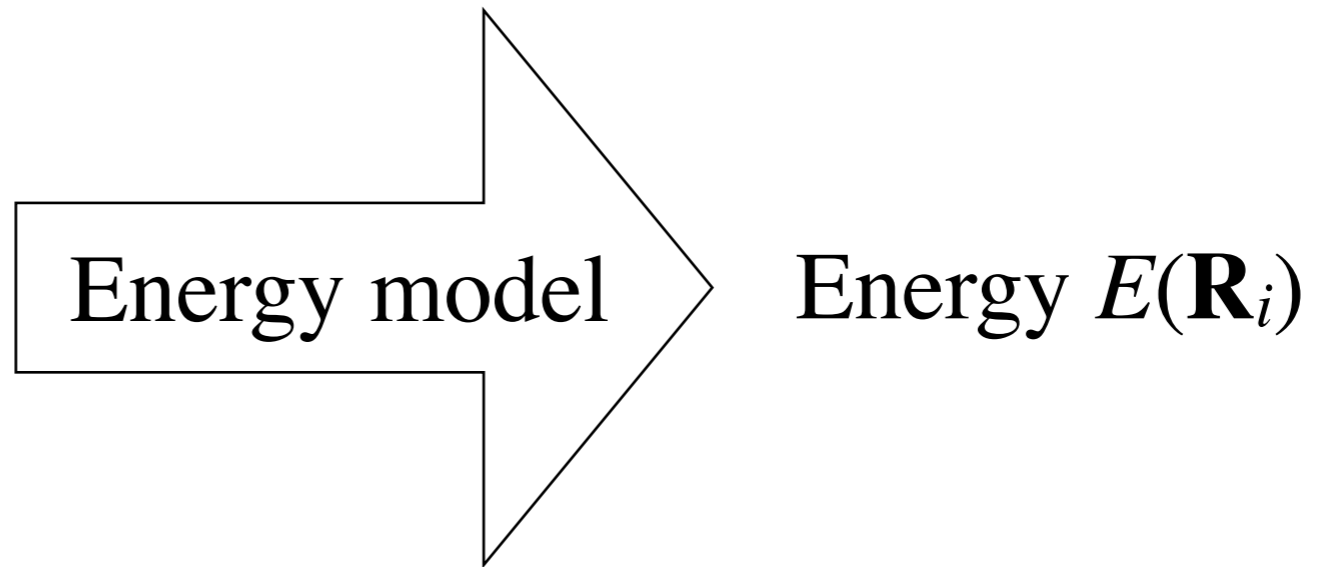
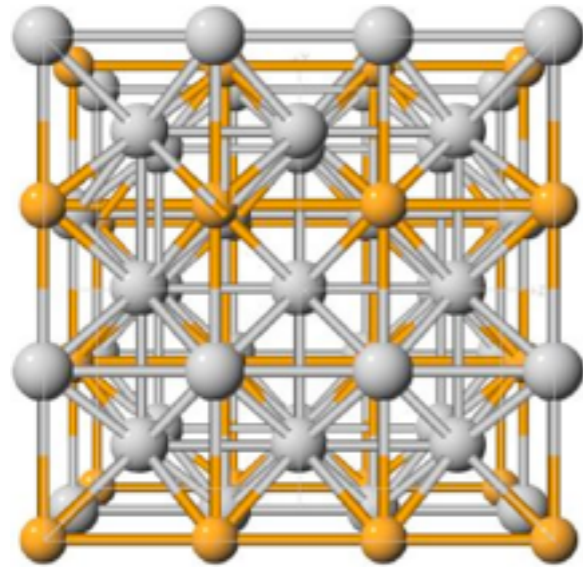
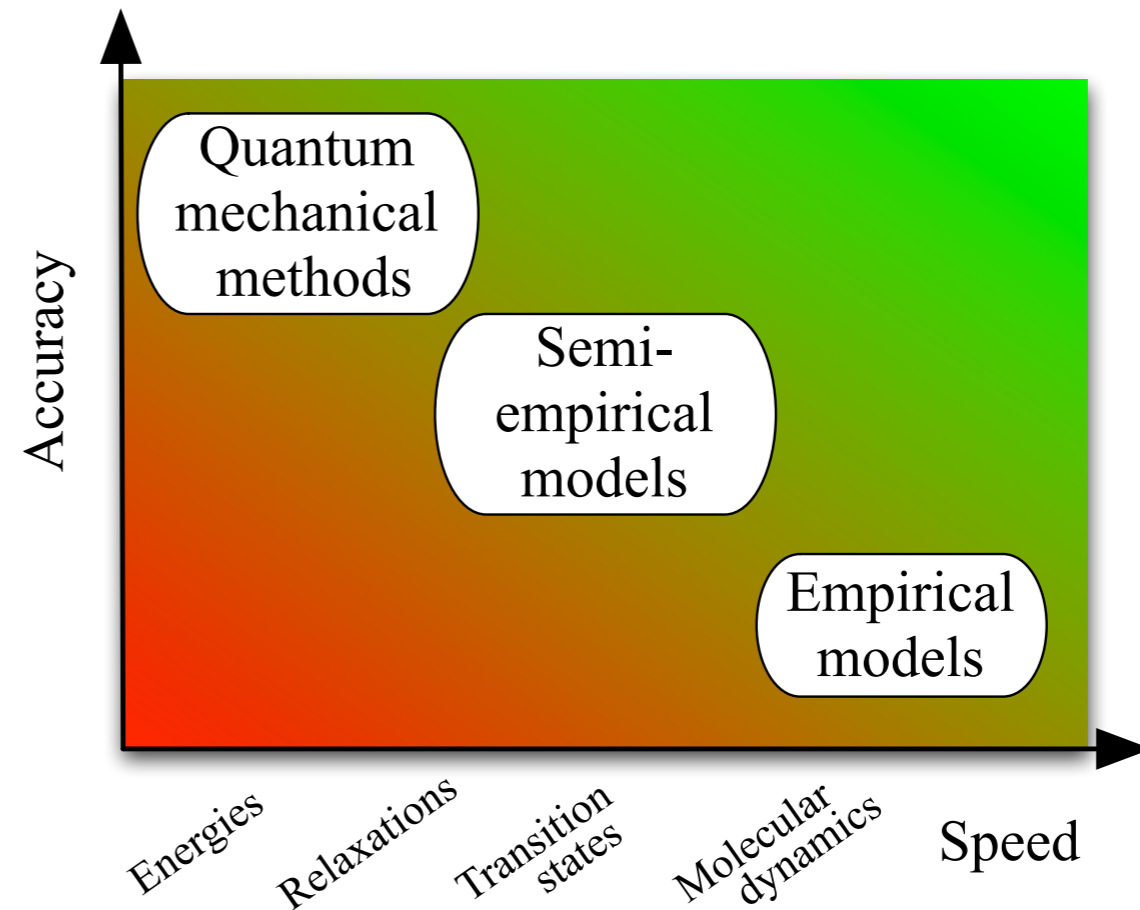


# Quantum Mechanics Methods



Hierarchy of energy models



# Short Review of Quantum Mechanics

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## Why do we need quantum mechanics?

- Bonding and structure
- Electronic, magnetic and optical properties of materials
- Chemistry and reactions

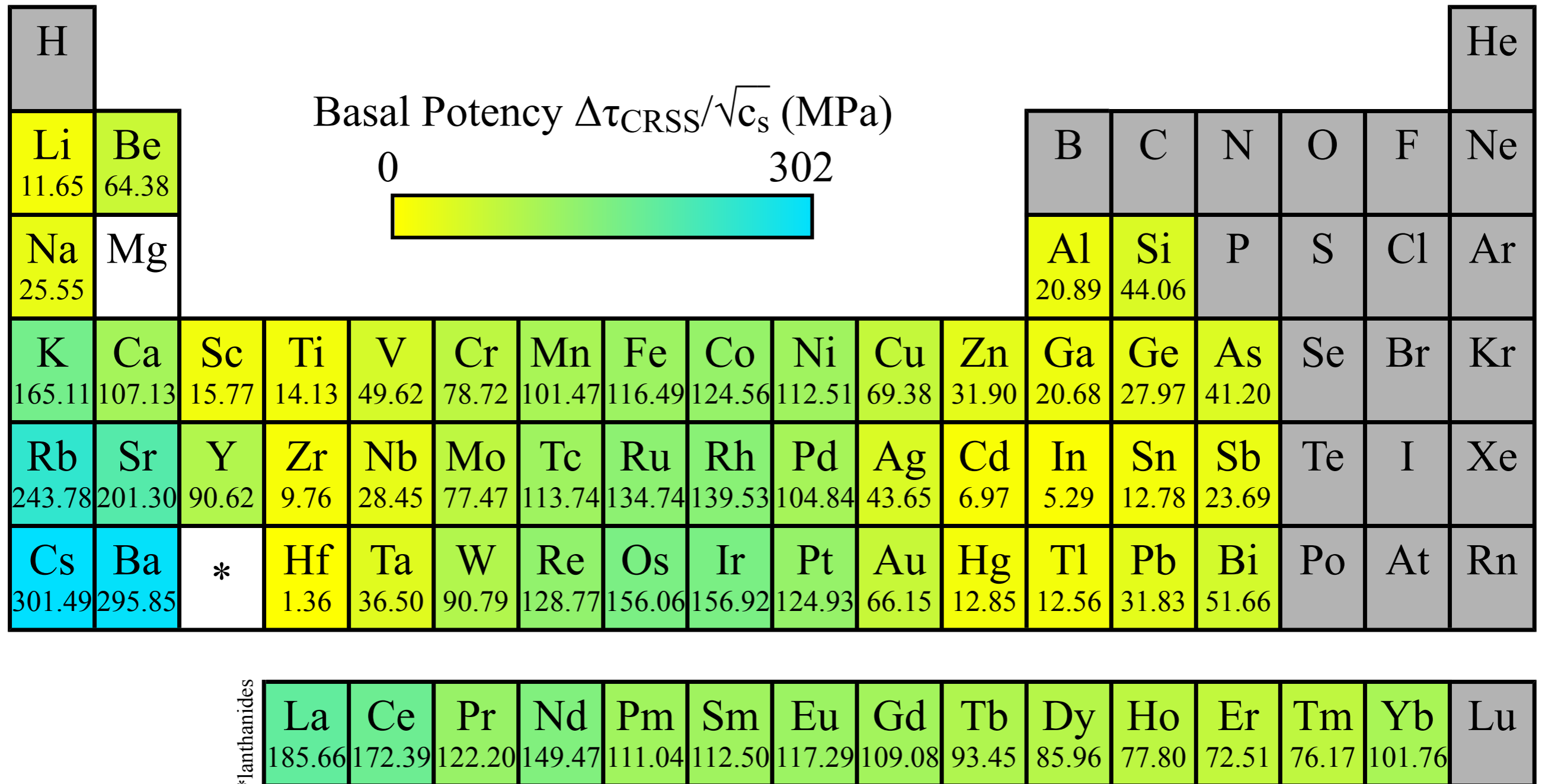
## Standard model of matter

- Matter consists of atoms
- Atoms consist of
  - ▶ Massive, point-like nuclei (protons + neutrons)
  - ▶ That are surrounded by tightly bound core electrons
  - ▶ And held together in molecules, liquid and solids by the bonds formed by valence electrons

# Solute trends in Mg alloys: basal strengthening

Basal potency: increase in basal CRSS with concentration

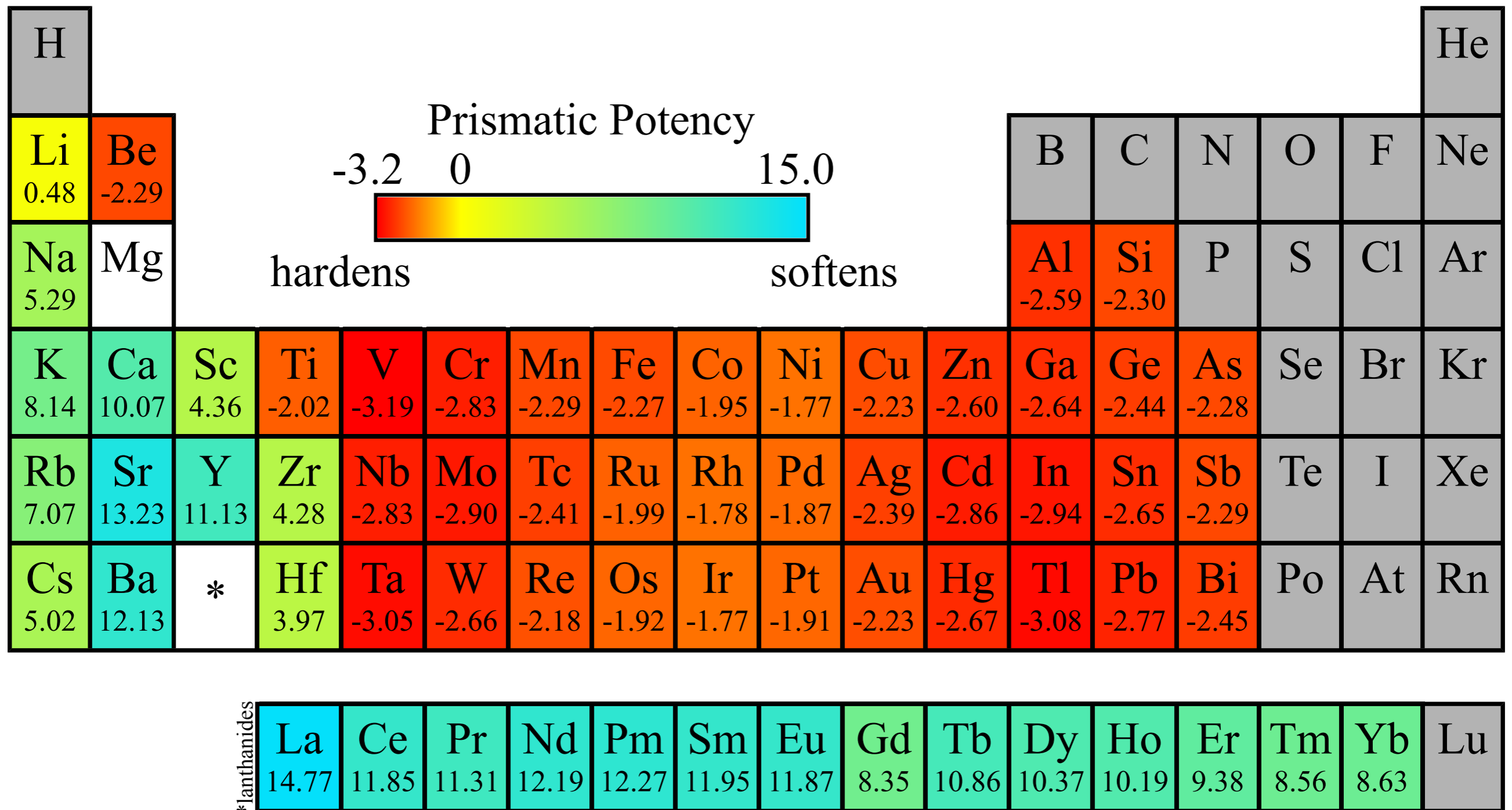
- correlated with size and basal stacking fault energy change
- derived for dilute limit, zero temperature pinning



# Solute trends in Mg alloys: prismatic softening

Prismatic potency: maximum possible cross-slip softening

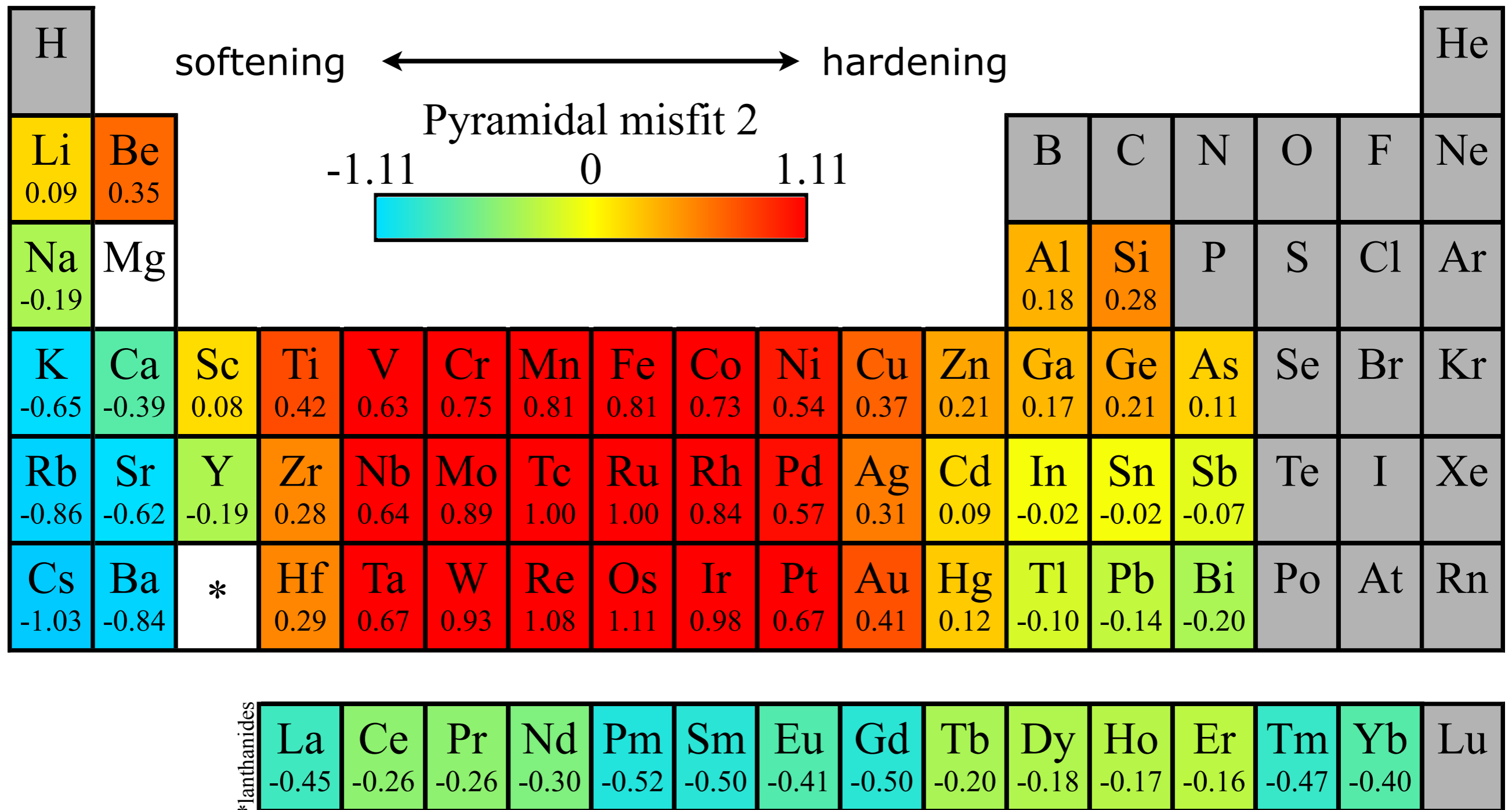
- correlated with prismatic stacking fault energy reduction (except Li)
- strictly for **random binary** solute distribution



# Solute trends in Mg alloys: c+a softening

Change in pyramidal (11̄01) stacking fault with addition of solute

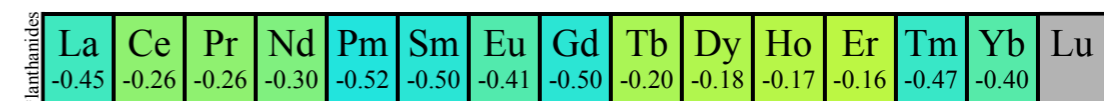
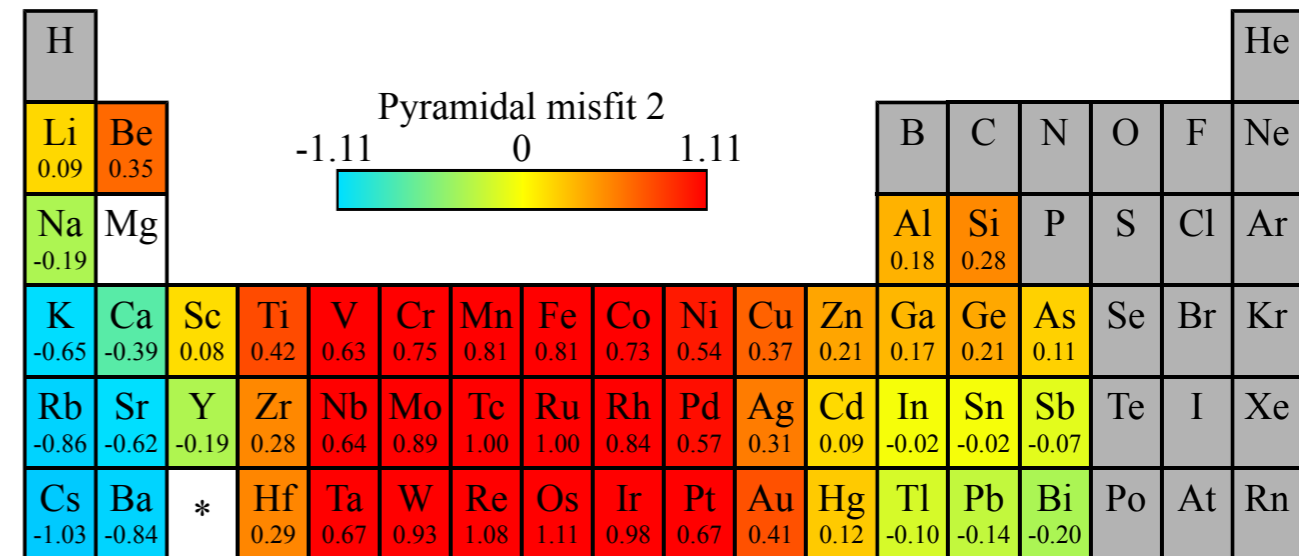
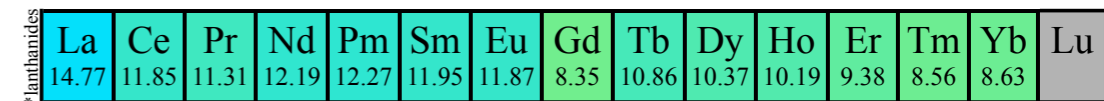
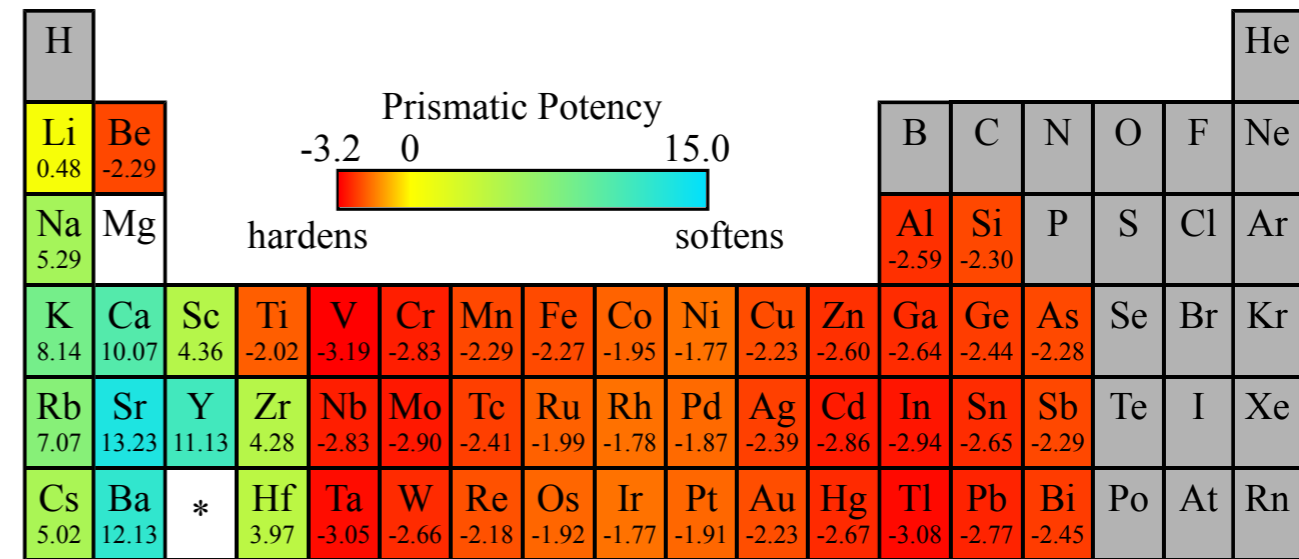
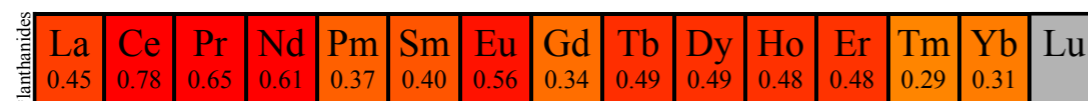
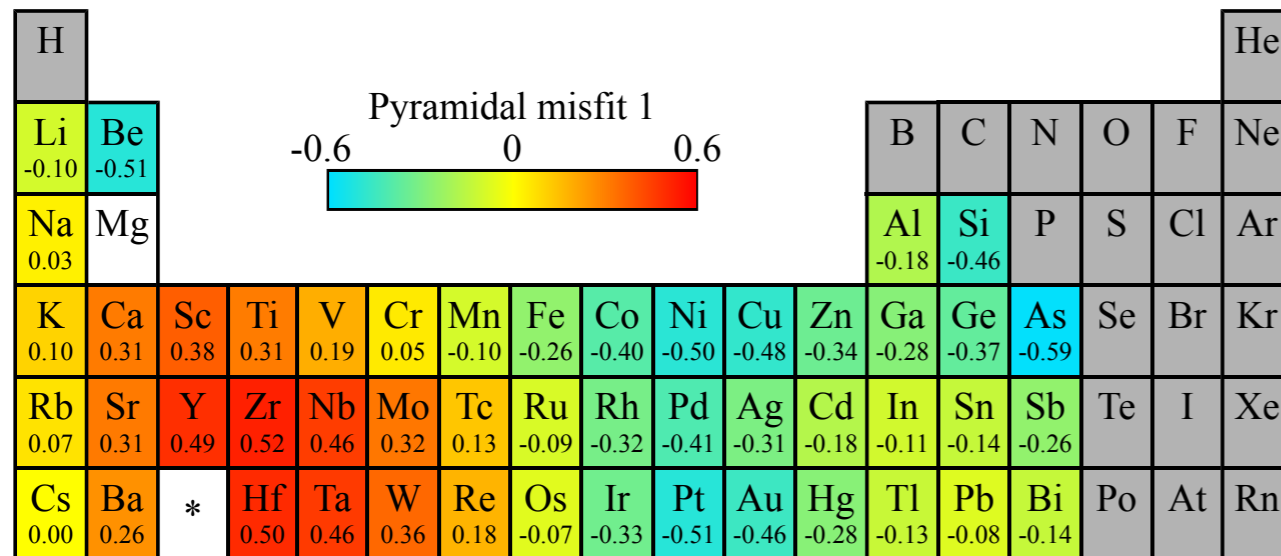
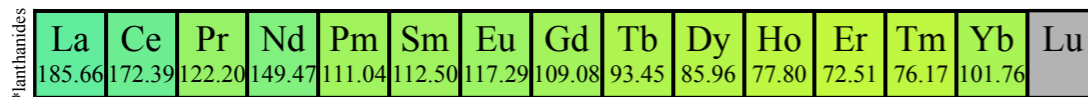
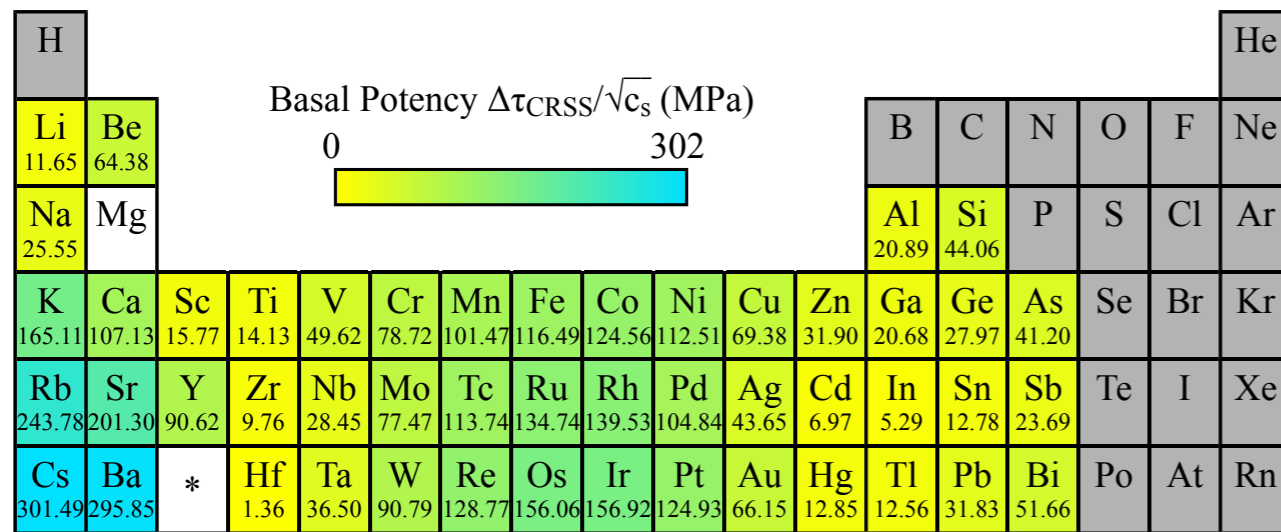
- size, valency change, localization / delocalization of orbitals
- changes to Mg local electronic structure (3s and 2p)



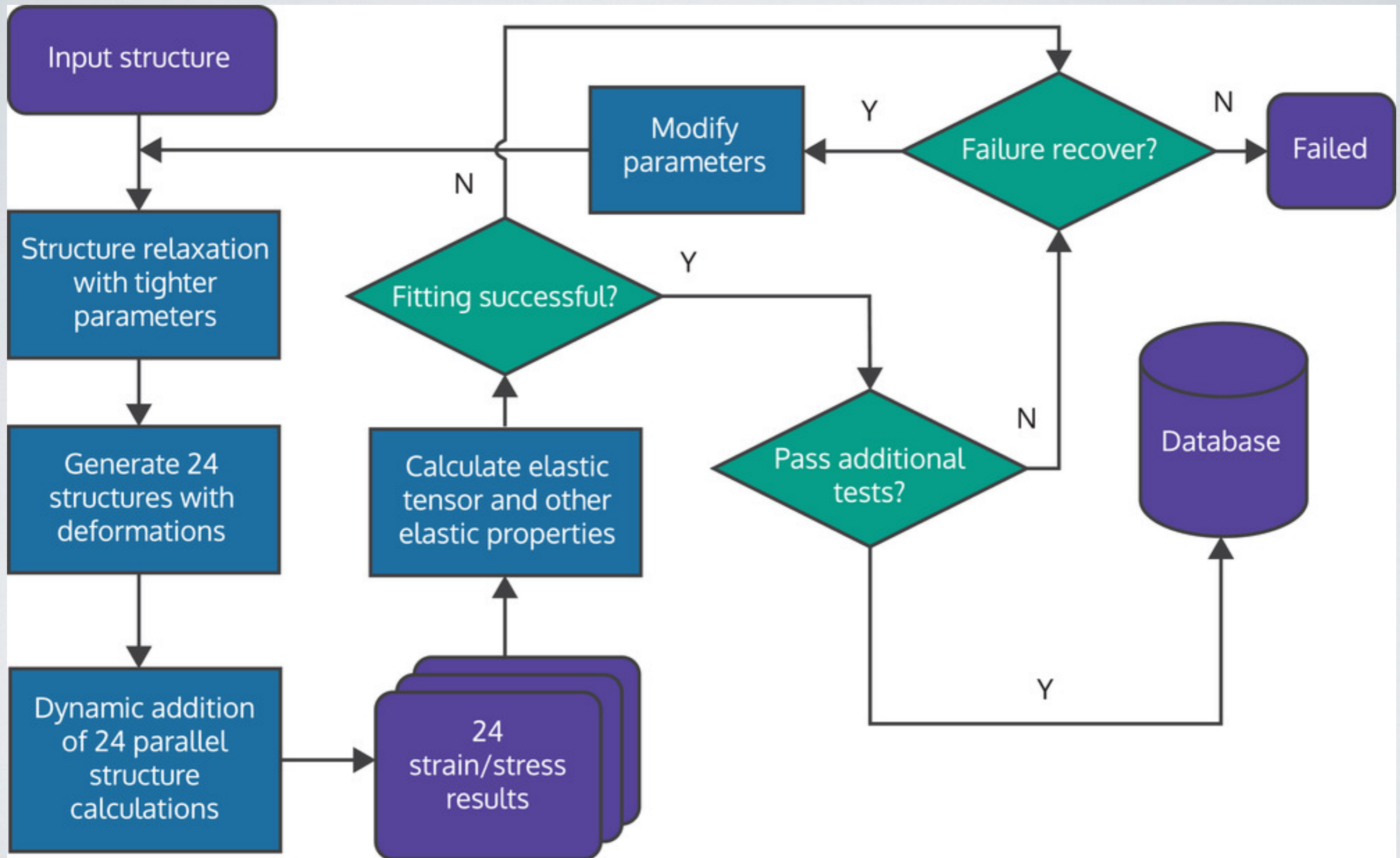
# Solute trends in Mg alloys: effect on slip

Multiple misfits (changes in SFE) and potencies (changes in slip)

- pyramidal fault energies needed for  $\langle c+a \rangle$  slip
- combined effects even more important



# Example of high-throughput



# Short Review of Quantum Mechanics

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## Wave-particle duality

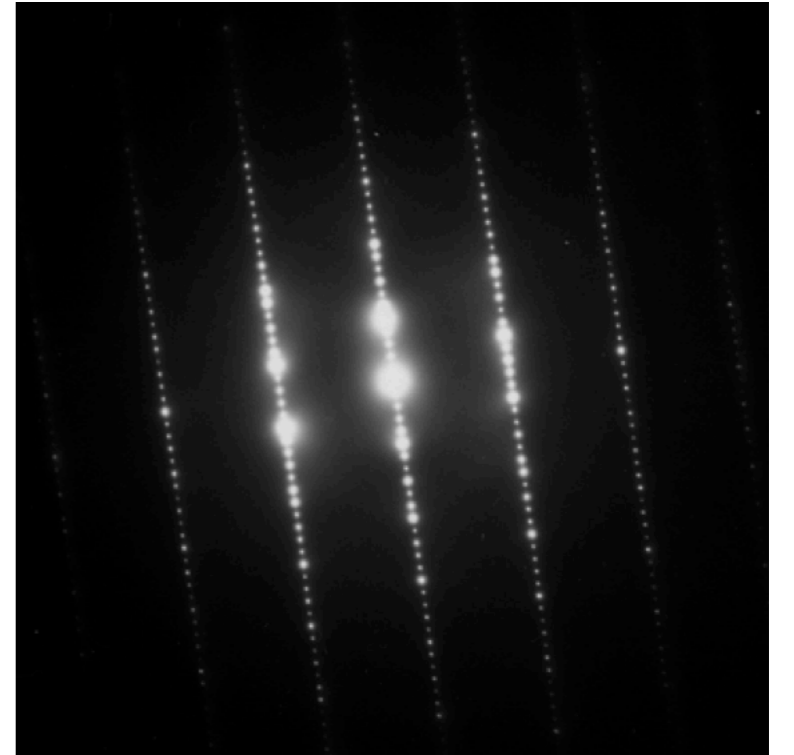
- Planck's uncertainty relationship

$$\lambda \cdot p = h$$

## Schrödinger equation

- Time dependent

$$-\frac{\hbar^2}{2m} \nabla^2 \Psi(\mathbf{r}, t) + V(\mathbf{r}, t) \Psi(\mathbf{r}, t) = i\hbar \frac{\partial \Psi(\mathbf{r}, t)}{\partial t}$$





# Exercise for Schrödinger equation

---

1) List as many mathematical characteristics of the Schrödinger equation as you can think of.

- Think: Quadratic?, Homogeneous? etc.

$$-\frac{\hbar^2}{2m} \nabla^2 \Psi(\mathbf{r}, t) + V(\mathbf{r}, t) \Psi(\mathbf{r}, t) = i\hbar \frac{\partial \Psi(\mathbf{r}, t)}{\partial t}$$

# Exercise for Schrödinger equation

---

2) Solve the Schrödinger equation by separation of variables

$$-\frac{\hbar^2}{2m} \nabla^2 \Psi(\mathbf{r}, t) + V(\mathbf{r}, t) \Psi(\mathbf{r}, t) = i\hbar \frac{\partial \Psi(\mathbf{r}, t)}{\partial t}$$

$$\Psi(\mathbf{r}, t) = \varphi(\mathbf{r}) \cdot f(t)$$

# Solutions of the Schrödinger Equation (1)

## Free particle

- $V(\mathbf{r}) = 0 \Rightarrow$  Solutions are plane waves

$$\Psi_k(\mathbf{r}, t) = \exp(i \mathbf{k} \cdot \mathbf{r} - \omega t)$$

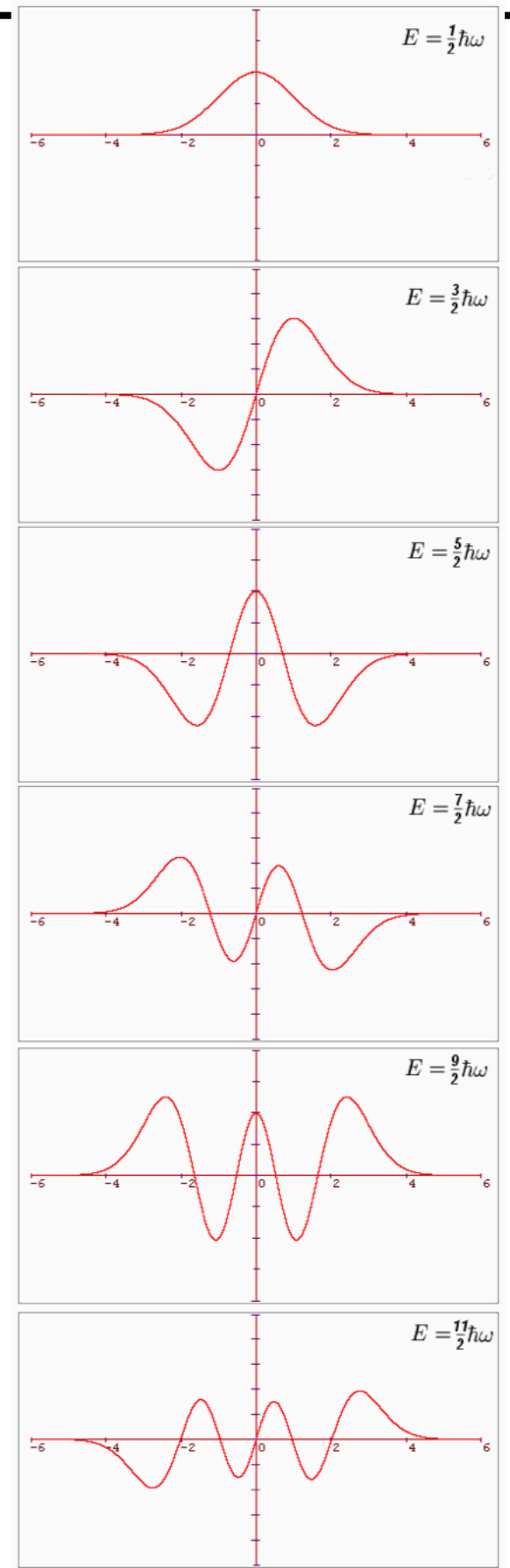
$$E_k = \frac{\hbar^2 k^2}{2m} = \omega \hbar$$

## Harmonic oscillator

$$V(x) = \frac{1}{2} k x^2$$

$$\varphi_n(x) = c_n \cdot \exp\left(-\frac{m\omega^2 x^2}{2\hbar}\right) \cdot H_n\left(\sqrt{\frac{m\omega}{\hbar}} x\right)$$

$$E_n = \left(n + \frac{1}{2}\right) \hbar \omega$$



# Solutions of the Schrödinger Equation (2)

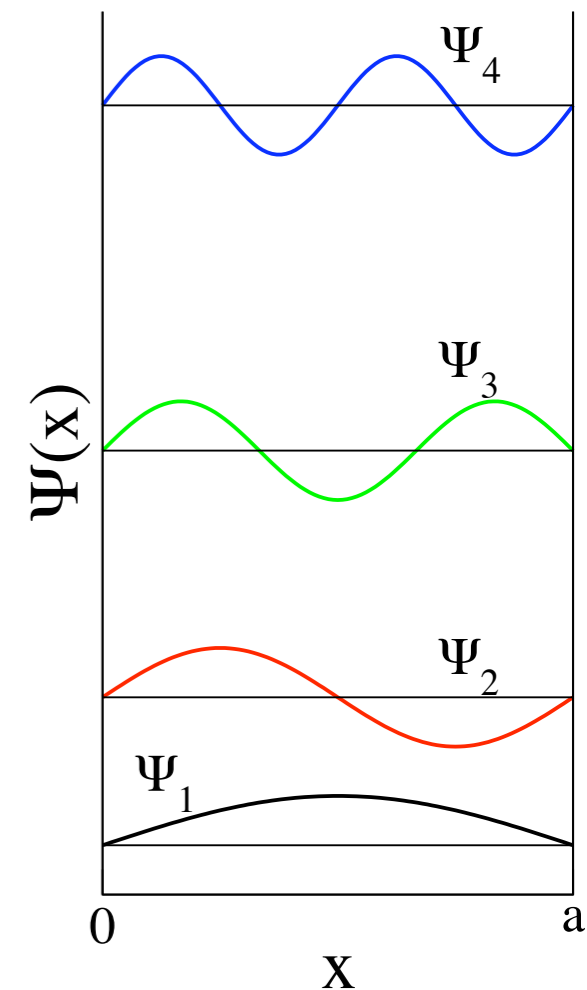
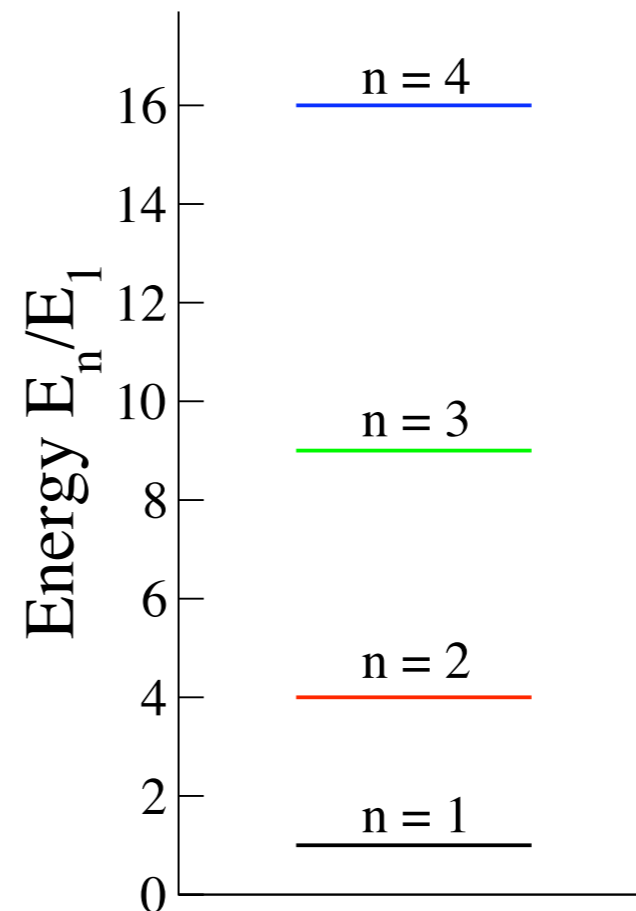
## Infinite square well

- Plane waves that vanish at the boundary

$$V(x) = \begin{cases} 0 & \text{if } 0 < x < a \\ \infty & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

$$\varphi_n(x) = \sqrt{\frac{2}{a}} \sin\left(\frac{\pi n x}{a}\right)$$

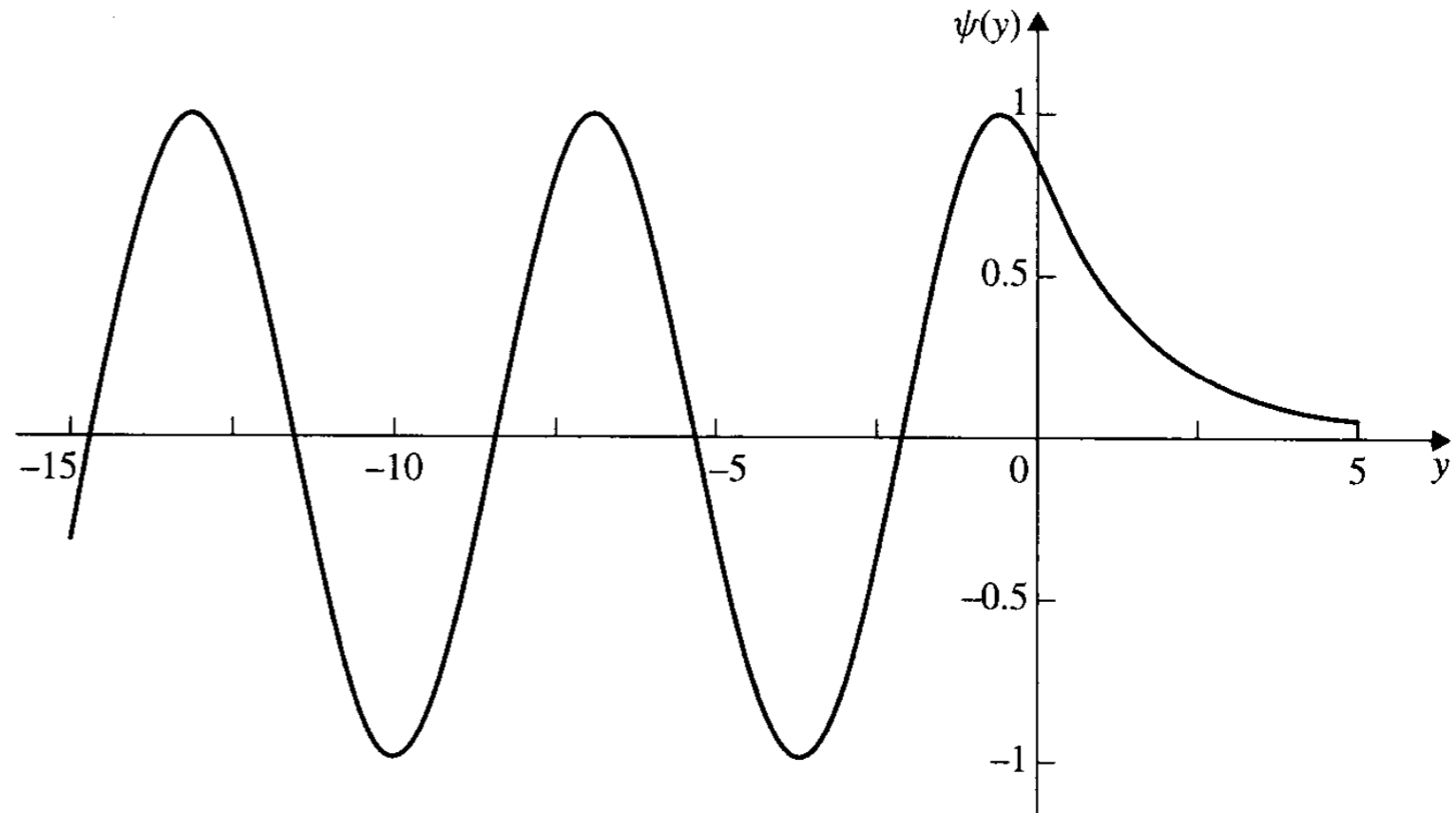
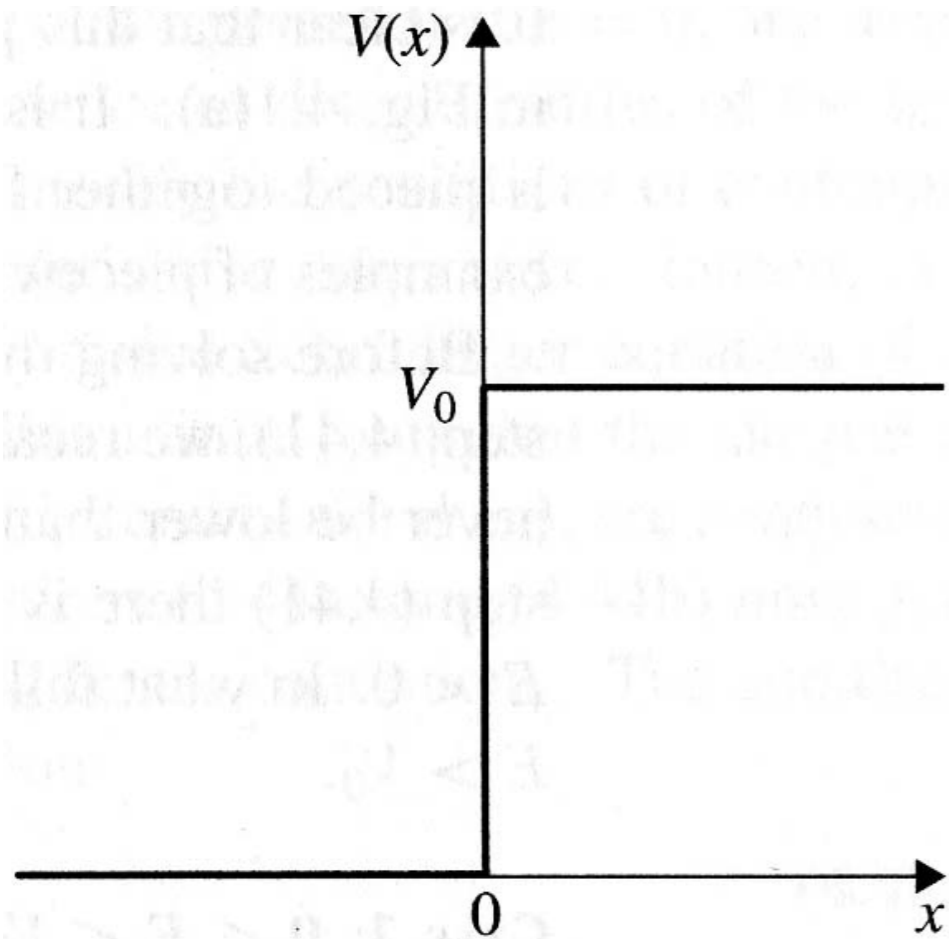
$$E_n = \frac{\hbar^2 \pi^2 n^2}{2ma^2}$$



# Solutions of the Schrödinger Equation (3)

## Metal surface

- Potential step  $\Rightarrow$  Plane wave inside metal, exponential decay outside



# Solutions for the Coulomb Potential

---

## Spherical Symmetry

$$\begin{aligned}\nabla^2 &= \frac{\partial^2}{\partial x^2} + \frac{\partial^2}{\partial y^2} + \frac{\partial^2}{\partial z^2} \\ &= \frac{1}{r^2} \frac{\partial}{\partial r} \left( r^2 \frac{\partial}{\partial r} \right) + \frac{1}{r^2 \sin \theta} \frac{\partial}{\partial \theta} \left( \sin \theta \frac{\partial}{\partial \theta} \right) + \frac{1}{r^2 \sin^2 \theta} \frac{\partial^2}{\partial \varphi^2}\end{aligned}$$

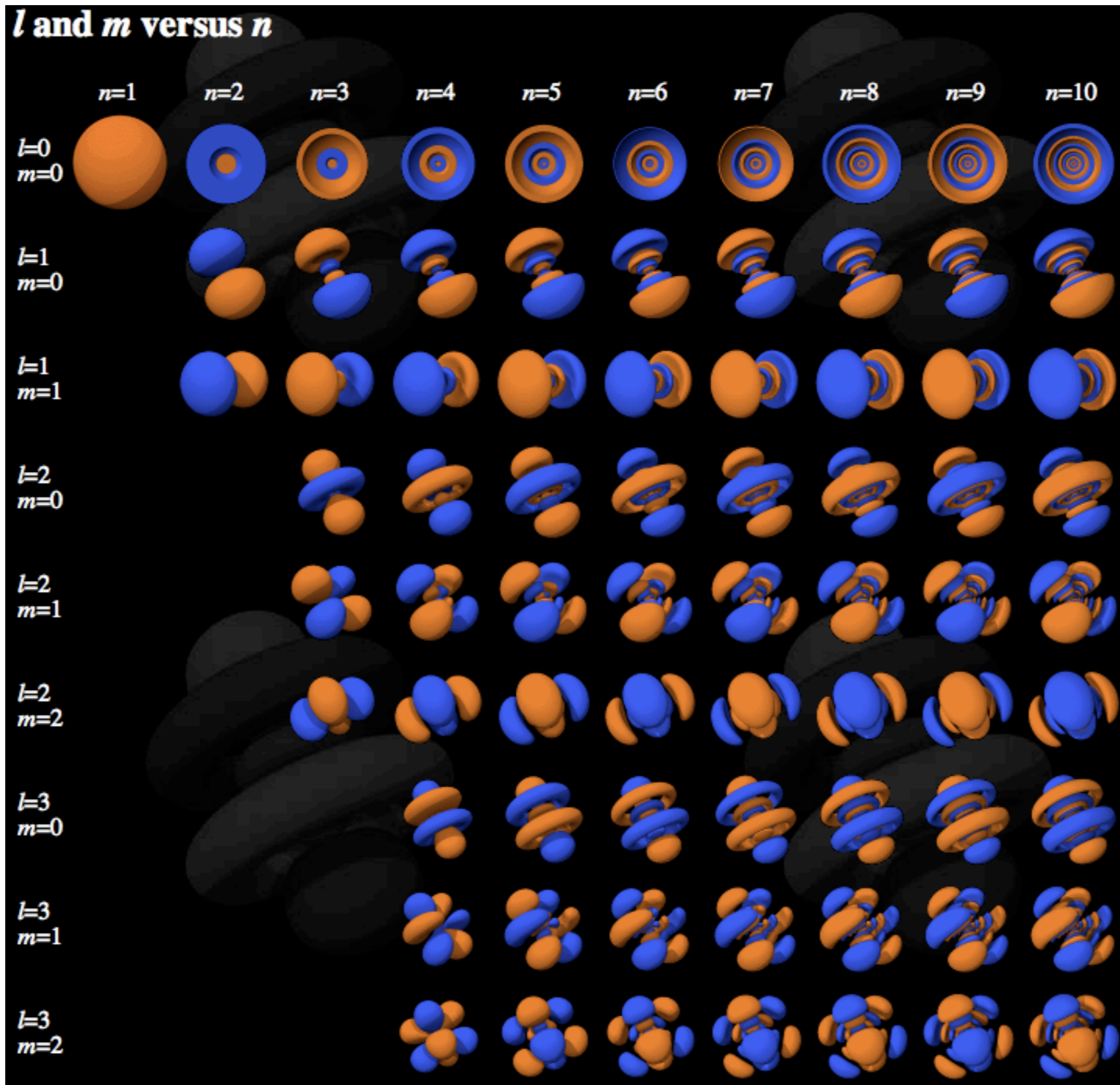
## Separation of variables

$$\Psi_{nlm}(\mathbf{r}) = R_{nl}(r) \cdot Y_{lm}(\theta, \varphi)$$

## Equation for radial wave functions

$$\left[ -\frac{\hbar^2}{2m} \left( \frac{d^2}{dr^2} + \frac{2}{r} \frac{d}{dr} \right) + \frac{l(l+1)\hbar^2}{2mr^2} + V(r) \right] R_{nl}(r) = E R_{nl}(r)$$

# The Periodic System of Elements



# Matrix Formulation

---

Expand wave function in set of  $n$  orthogonal functions  $|\psi\rangle = \sum_{n=1}^k c_n |\varphi_n\rangle$

Plugging this solution into the Schrödinger equation yields and multiplying with function  $\varphi_m$  yields

$$\langle \varphi_m | \mathcal{H} | \psi \rangle = E \langle \varphi_m | \psi \rangle$$

$$\sum_{n=1}^k c_n \langle \varphi_m | \mathcal{H} | \varphi_n \rangle = E c_m$$

$$\sum_{n=1}^k H_{mn} c_n = E c_m$$

$$\begin{pmatrix} H_{11} & \cdots & H_{1k} \\ \vdots & & \vdots \\ H_{k1} & \cdots & H_{kk} \end{pmatrix} \cdot \begin{pmatrix} c_1 \\ \vdots \\ c_k \end{pmatrix} = E \begin{pmatrix} c_1 \\ \vdots \\ c_k \end{pmatrix}$$



# Atomic Units

Quantity	Name	Symbol	SI value
Energy	Hartree energy	Ha	$4.359\,744\,17(75)\times 10^{-18}$ J
Length	Bohr radius	$a_0$	$5.291\,772\,108(18)\times 10^{-11}$ m
Mass	Electron rest mass	$m_e$	$9.109\,3826(16)\times 10^{-31}$ kg
Electric charge	Elementary charge	e	$1.602\,176\,53(14)\times 10^{-19}$ C
Electrostatic force constant	Coulombs constant	$1/4\pi\epsilon_0$	$8.9875516\times 10^9$ C <sup>-2</sup> Nm <sup>2</sup>

# The Many-Electron Problem

---

$$\left[ -\frac{1}{2} \sum_{i=1}^n \nabla_i^2 - \sum_{i=1}^n \frac{Z}{r_i} + \sum_{i=1}^{n-1} \sum_{j=i+1}^n \frac{1}{|\mathbf{r}_i - \mathbf{r}_j|} \right] \psi(\mathbf{r}_1, \dots, \mathbf{r}_n) = E \psi(\mathbf{r}_1, \dots, \mathbf{r}_n)$$

## Example: Fe atom

- Fe has 26 electrons  $\Rightarrow$  wave function has  $3 \times 26 = 78$  variables
- Store wave function on a grid
- Use a coarse grid of only 10 points along each direction
- To store wave function would require storage of  **$10^{78}$  numbers**
- Single precision 1 number = 4 Bytes
  
- Compare that to all the data stored worldwide **1 zettabyte =  $10^{21}$  Bytes**

# The Hartree Method

---

## Independent electron method

- Assume that electrons move independently of each other
- Each electron moves in an effective potential that consists of
  - Attraction of nuclei
  - Average repulsive interaction of other electrons
- Many-body wave function as product of single-particle orbitals

$$\psi(\mathbf{r}_1, \mathbf{r}_2, \dots, \mathbf{r}_n) = \varphi_1(\mathbf{r}_1) \varphi_2(\mathbf{r}_2) \dots \varphi_n(\mathbf{r}_n)$$

# The Hartree Method

$$\left[ -\frac{1}{2} \nabla_i^2 + \sum_I V(\mathbf{R}_I - \mathbf{r}_i) + \underbrace{\sum_{j \neq i} \int |\varphi_j(\mathbf{r}_j)|^2 \frac{1}{|\mathbf{r}_i - \mathbf{r}_j|} d^3 r_j}_{\text{Hartree potential}} \right] \varphi_i(\mathbf{r}_i) = \epsilon \varphi_i(\mathbf{r}_i)$$



Douglas Rayner Hartree and Porter Meccano differential analyzer built in 1934 at a cost of £20. It achieved an accuracy of about 2%.

# Illustration of Electron Correlations

---

**Uncorrelated**  
**Cars are smeared out**



**Uncorrelated**  
**Electrons described by their independent density, electrons can get arbitrary close**

<http://www.digital-photography-school.com/how-to-shoot-light-trails>

**Correlated**  
**Cars avoid each other**



**Correlated**  
**Electrons avoid each other due to the Coulomb interaction between them**

<http://www.flickr.com/photos/88943727@N00/101166668/>

# The Hartree-Fock Method

---

## What is missing in the Hartree approximation

- Wave function is not **antisymmetric**
- Does not include electron **correlation**

## Antisymmetry for Fermions

- Exchanging two identical (indistinguishable) fermions changes the sign of the wave function

$$\psi(\mathbf{r}_1, \mathbf{r}_2, \dots, \mathbf{r}_j, \dots, \mathbf{r}_k, \dots, \mathbf{r}_n) = -\psi(\mathbf{r}_1, \mathbf{r}_2, \dots, \mathbf{r}_k, \dots, \mathbf{r}_j, \dots, \mathbf{r}_n)$$

## Pauli Exclusion Principle

- Two electrons cannot be in the same quantum state
- Consequence of the antisymmetry

# Slater Determinants

---

## Slater determinant

- Antisymmetric product of single particle orbitals

$$\psi(\mathbf{r}_1, \mathbf{r}_2, \dots, \mathbf{r}_n) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{n!}} \begin{vmatrix} \varphi_1(\mathbf{r}_1) & \varphi_2(\mathbf{r}_1) & \cdots & \varphi_n(\mathbf{r}_1) \\ \varphi_1(\mathbf{r}_2) & \varphi_2(\mathbf{r}_2) & \cdots & \varphi_n(\mathbf{r}_2) \\ \vdots & \vdots & & \vdots \\ \varphi_1(\mathbf{r}_n) & \varphi_2(\mathbf{r}_n) & \cdots & \varphi_n(\mathbf{r}_n) \end{vmatrix}$$

- Swapping rows in a determinant changes the sign

# The Hartree-Fock Method

---

## Hartree-Fock equation for orbitals $\varphi_\lambda$

- Use of variational principle leads to set of equations for  $\varphi_\lambda$

$$\begin{aligned} & \left[ -\frac{1}{2} \nabla_i^2 + \sum_I V(\mathbf{R}_I - \mathbf{r}_i) \right] \varphi_\lambda(\mathbf{r}_i) + \\ & \left[ \sum_\mu \int \varphi_\mu^*(\mathbf{r}_j) \frac{1}{|\mathbf{r}_i - \mathbf{r}_j|} \varphi_\mu(\mathbf{r}_j) d^3 r_j \right] \varphi_\lambda(\mathbf{r}_i) - \\ & \sum_\mu \left[ \int \varphi_\mu^*(\mathbf{r}_j) \frac{1}{|\mathbf{r}_i - \mathbf{r}_j|} \varphi_\lambda(\mathbf{r}_j) d^3 r_j \right] \varphi_\mu(\mathbf{r}_i) = \epsilon \varphi_\lambda(\mathbf{r}_i) \end{aligned}$$



# The Exchange Term

---

$$\sum_{\mu} \left[ \int \varphi_{\mu}^*(\mathbf{r}_j) \frac{1}{|\mathbf{r}_i - \mathbf{r}_j|} \varphi_{\lambda}(\mathbf{r}_j) d^3 r_j \right] \varphi_{\mu}(\mathbf{r}_i)$$

- Describes effect of exchange of electrons
- *Cannot* be written in the form

$$V_{\lambda}^x(\mathbf{r}_i) \varphi_{\lambda}(\mathbf{r}_i)$$

- Instead it is of the form

$$\int V_{\lambda}^x(\mathbf{r}_i, \mathbf{r}_j) \varphi_{\lambda}(\mathbf{r}_j) d^3 r_j$$

- This is called a *non-local potential*

# Successes and Limitations of Hartree-Fock

---

## Successes

- Good for atomic properties
- Self-interaction free
- Good starting point for correlated-electron methods

## Limitations

- Schrödinger equation:  $H \Psi = E \Psi \Rightarrow E_{\text{exact}}$
- Hartree-Fock equations:  $F \phi_i = \varepsilon_i \phi_i \Rightarrow E_{\text{HF}}$
- Any effect beyond HF is called correlation  $E_{\text{corr}} = E_{\text{exact}} - E_{\text{HF}}$
- Size of correlation energy  $E_{\text{corr}} < 1\%$  of  $E_{\text{exact}}$   
Example: N<sub>2</sub> molecule:  $E_{\text{corr}} = 14.9 \text{ eV} < 1\%$  of  $E_{\text{exact}}$
- **However:** binding energy N<sub>2</sub> → N + N is  
 $D_e(\text{Hartree-Fock}) = 5.1 \text{ eV}, D_e(\text{exp}) = 9.9 \text{ eV}$

**Thus**, there are **large** contribution from the correlation energy to **relative energies**, *i.e.* chemical reaction energies.

# Beyond Hartree-Fock

---

## Hartree Fock configuration

- HF Slater determinant is built from lowest energy 1-e orbitals

$$\Psi_{\text{HF}}^0 = |\varphi_1 \varphi_2 \dots \varphi_K|$$

- Slater determinant is also called a configuration since it refers to certain filled orbitals

## Configuration interaction method

- Add additional configurations to the wave functions that mix in “excited” states
- Excite electron from orbital  $i$  to orbital  $K+1$

$$\Psi_{\text{HF}}^1 = |\varphi_1 \varphi_2 \dots \varphi_{K+1} \dots \varphi_K|$$

$$\Psi_{\text{CI}} = c_0 \Psi_0 + c_1 \Psi_1 + c_2 \Psi_2 + \dots$$

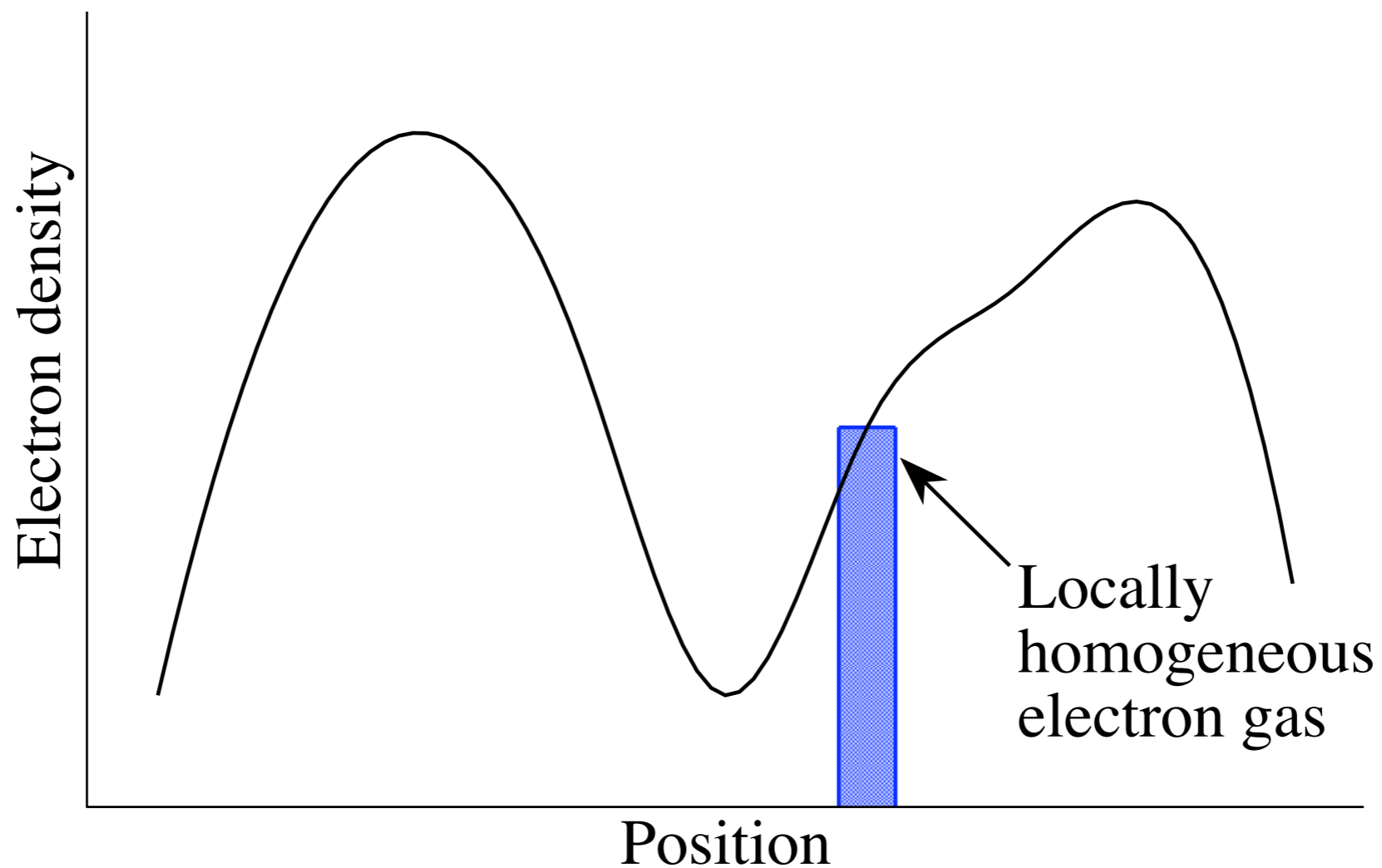
# Thomas-Fermi Approach

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## Motivation

$\Psi(\mathbf{r}_1, \mathbf{r}_2, \dots, \mathbf{r}_n)$  Function of  $3N$  variables

$\rho(\mathbf{r})$  Function of  $3$  variables



# Density Functional Theory

---

- Theory for the ground state energy of a system as a function of the *electron density* **instead** of the *wave function*
- Walter Kohn received the Nobel prize in 1998 for his development of density functional theory

## Motivation

$\Psi(\mathbf{r}_1, \mathbf{r}_2, \dots, \mathbf{r}_n)$       Function of **3N** variables

$\rho(\mathbf{r})$       Function of **3** variables

# The Hohenberg-Kohn Theorems

- The external potential and the number of electrons define the problem
- Schrödinger's equation in principle uniquely determines the wave functions
- All system properties follow from the wave functions

**⇒ Hence the energy and everything else  
is a functional of  $V_{\text{ext}}$  and  $N_{\text{el}}$**

Hohenberg-Kohn  
Theorem

$V_{\text{ext}}(\mathbf{r})$

⇐

$\rho_0(\mathbf{r})$

Schrödinger  
equation

⇓

⇑

Integration of  $|\Psi_0|^2$  over  
N-1 electron coordinates

$\Psi_i(\mathbf{r}_1, \dots, \mathbf{r}_N)$

⇒

$\Psi_0(\mathbf{r}_1, \dots, \mathbf{r}_N)$

# The Universal Functional

---

- Since the ground state density determines all properties, the ground state energy and its components are a functional of the density

$$E_{\text{tot}}^0 = E_{\text{kin}}[\rho^0] + V_{\text{ext}}[\rho^0] + V_{\text{el-el}}[\rho^0]$$

- $V_{\text{ext}}$  is known

$$V_{\text{ext}}[\rho^0] = \int V_{\text{ext}}(\mathbf{r}) \rho(\mathbf{r}) d^3r$$

- For the kinetic energy and the e-e interaction

$$F[\rho^0] = E_{\text{kin}}[\rho^0] + V_{\text{el-el}}[\rho^0]$$

- Form of this functional is the same for any molecule or solid

**$\Rightarrow$  Universal functional  $F[\rho]$**

**Functional form unknown**

# 2<sup>nd</sup> Hohenberg-Kohn Theorem

---

- The groundstate energy can be obtained variationally.
- The density that minimizes the total energy is the exact groundstate density.

$$E[\rho(\mathbf{r})] = F[\rho(\mathbf{r})] + \int V_{\text{ext}}(\mathbf{r})\rho(\mathbf{r})d^3r \geq E_0$$



# The Kohn-Sham Equations

---

## Mapping to a non-interacting system

$$\rho(\mathbf{r}) = \sum_{i=1}^N |\varphi_i(\mathbf{r})|^2$$

- Why? The kinetic energy of the non-interacting system is well defined.

$$T_S[\rho(\mathbf{r})] = -\frac{1}{2} \sum_{i=1}^N \int \varphi_i^*(\mathbf{r}) \nabla^2 \varphi_i(\mathbf{r})$$

- Universal functional now takes the form

$$F[\rho(\mathbf{r})] = T_S[\rho(\mathbf{r})] + E_H[\rho(\mathbf{r})] + E_{xc}[\rho(\mathbf{r})]$$

- Electron-electron interaction is separated into two terms, the Hartree term and the unknown exchange-correlation energy term

$$E_H = \frac{1}{2} \int \int \frac{\rho(\mathbf{r}) \rho(\mathbf{r}')}{|\mathbf{r} - \mathbf{r}'|} d^3r d^3r'$$

# Euler-Lagrange Equations

---

**Minimize energy with respect to variations of the density**

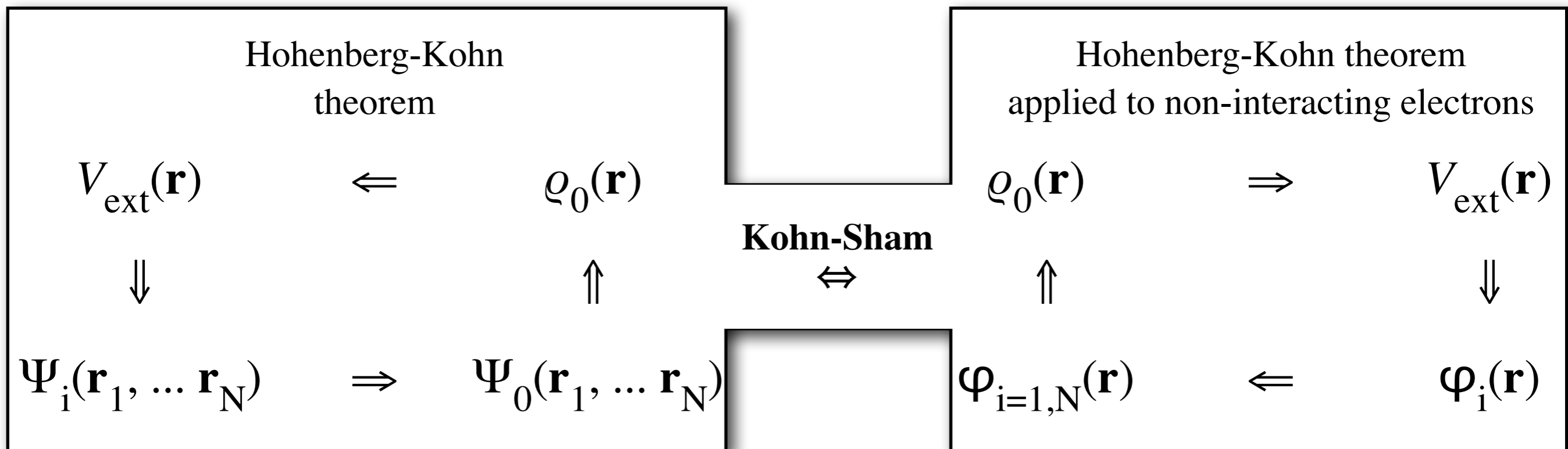
$$\frac{\delta}{\delta\rho} \left\{ F[\rho(\mathbf{r})] + \int V_{\text{ext}}(\mathbf{r})\rho(\mathbf{r})d^3r - \mu \left( \int \rho(\mathbf{r})d^3r - N \right) \right\} = 0$$

$$\frac{\delta F[\rho(\mathbf{r})]}{\delta\rho(\mathbf{r})} + V_{\text{ext}} = \mu$$

- Resulting equations have a similar form as the Schrödinger equation and are known as the Kohn-Sham equations

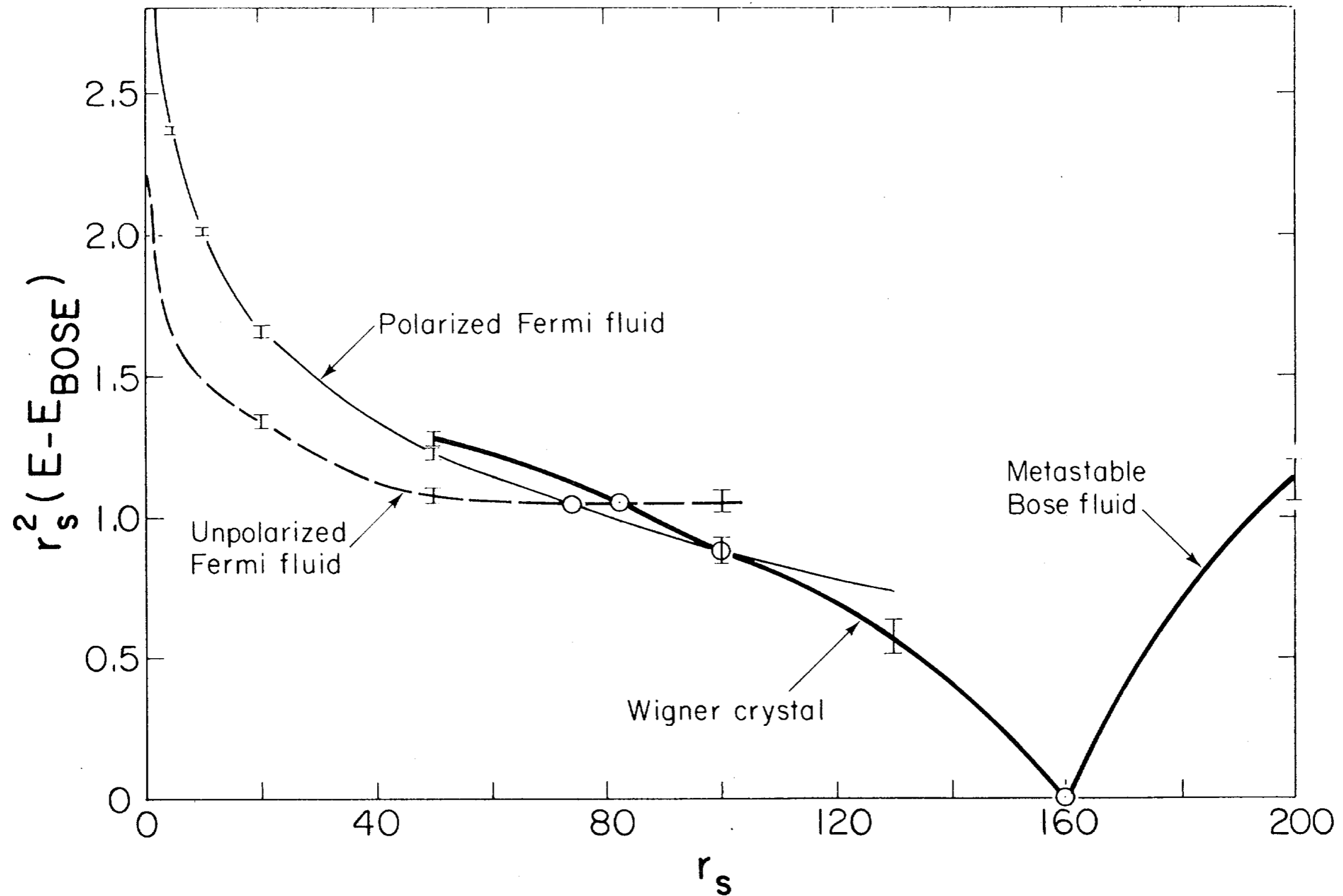
$$\underbrace{\left[ -\frac{1}{2}\nabla^2 + V_{\text{H}}(\mathbf{r}) + V_{\text{xc}}(\mathbf{r}) + V_{\text{ext}}(\mathbf{r}) \right]}_{\mathcal{H}_{\text{KS}}} \varphi_i(\mathbf{r}) = \epsilon_i \varphi_i(\mathbf{r})$$

# Summary



$$\begin{aligned}
 E[\{\varphi_i(\mathbf{r})\}] &= \sum_{i=1}^N -\frac{1}{2} \int \varphi_i^*(\mathbf{r}) \nabla^2 \varphi_i(\mathbf{r}) d^3 r + E_{\text{H}}[\rho(\mathbf{r})] + E_{\text{xc}}[\rho(\mathbf{r})] + \int V_{\text{ext}}(\mathbf{r}) \rho(\mathbf{r}) d^3 r \\
 &= \sum_{i=1}^N \epsilon_i - V_{\text{H}}[\rho(\mathbf{r})] + E_{\text{xc}}[\rho(\mathbf{r})] - \int \frac{\delta E_{\text{xc}}[\rho]}{\delta \rho(\mathbf{r})} \rho(\mathbf{r}) d^3 r
 \end{aligned}$$

# The Local Density Approximation

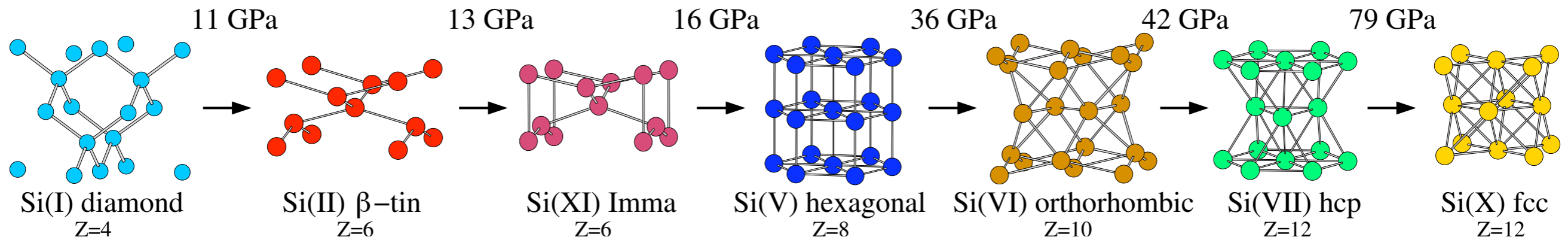


# The Phases of Silicon

**Under pressure Si displays 11 crystal phases**

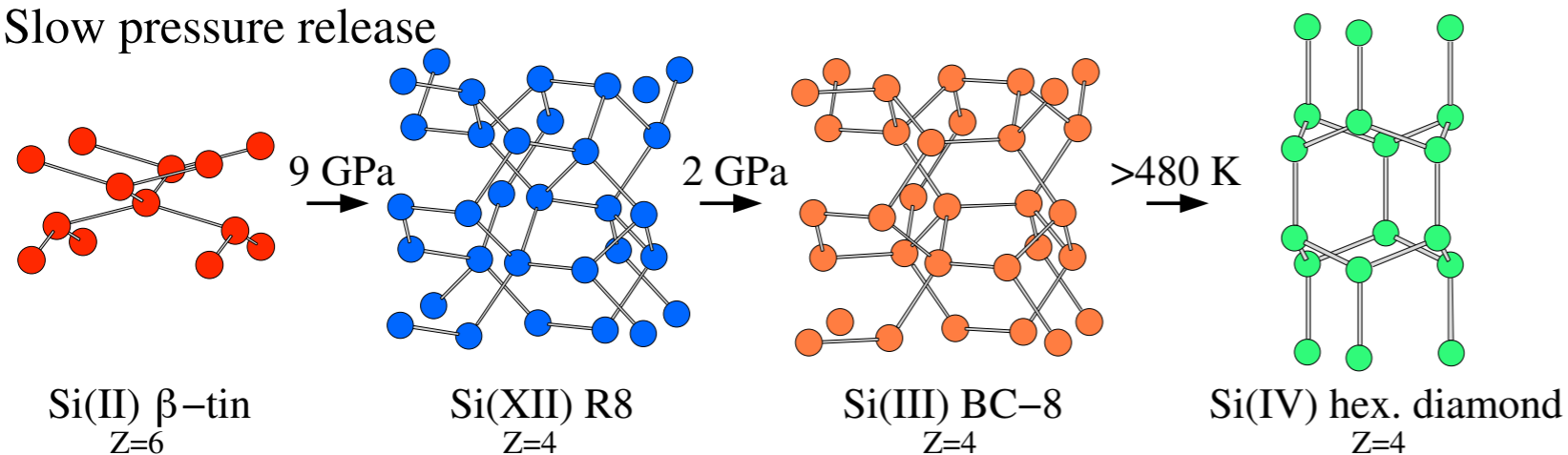
- LDA correctly predicts the energetic order of all these phases

## Compression

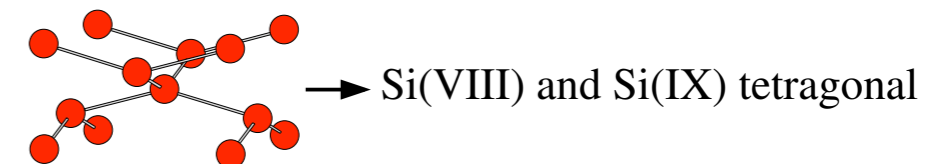


## Decompression

Slow pressure release



Fast pressure release



# Exchange-Correlation Functionals

---

## **Local density approximation (LDA)**

- Based on Ceperley & Alder's calculations for the uniform electron gas by quantum Monte Carlo (a stochastic method for quantum particles)

## **Generalized gradient approximations (GGA: PW91, PBE)**

- Gradients of the density are introduced
- Preserve analytic scaling features of the unknown exact functional

## **Meta-GGA (TPSS)**

- Include information about curvature of the density

## **Hybrid density functionals (B3LYP, HSE)**

- Based on GGA or meta-GGA approximations
- Add some non-local Hartree-Fock exchange to the functional

# Density Functional Theory in Practice

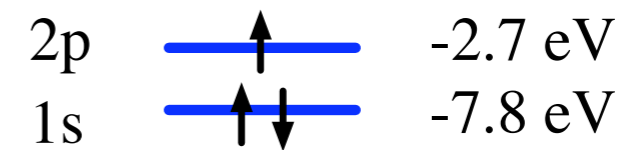
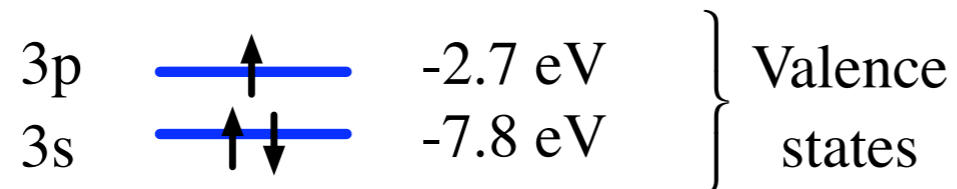
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1. Remove tightly bound core electrons: the pseudopotential approach
2. Represent orbitals with a basis (plane waves or Gaussians)
3. Calculate total energy for trial orbitals
  - Kinetic and hartree energy in reciprocal space
  - Exchange-correlation energy and external potential in real space
  - Method can take advantage of Fast Fourier Transformations
  - Sum over all states: BZ integrations
4. Minimize energy and iterate charge density to self-consistency

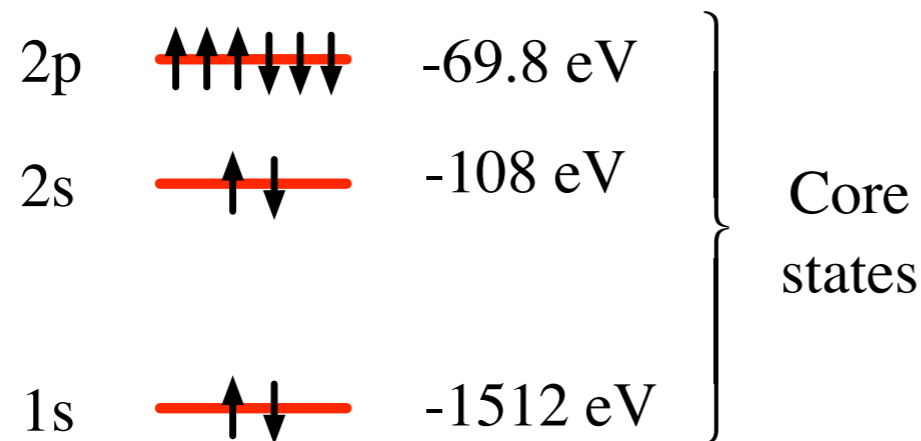
# Pseudopotentials

## Electrons in the inner shells do not contribute to bonding

- Core electrons are effectively frozen
- Replace Coulomb potential between electrons and nuclei with effective potential, the pseudopotential



**Al**  
**Z = 13**



**Pseudo Al**  
**Z = 3**

$$\left[ -\frac{1}{2} \nabla^2 + V_{\text{eff}} \right] \varphi_i = \epsilon_i \varphi_i$$

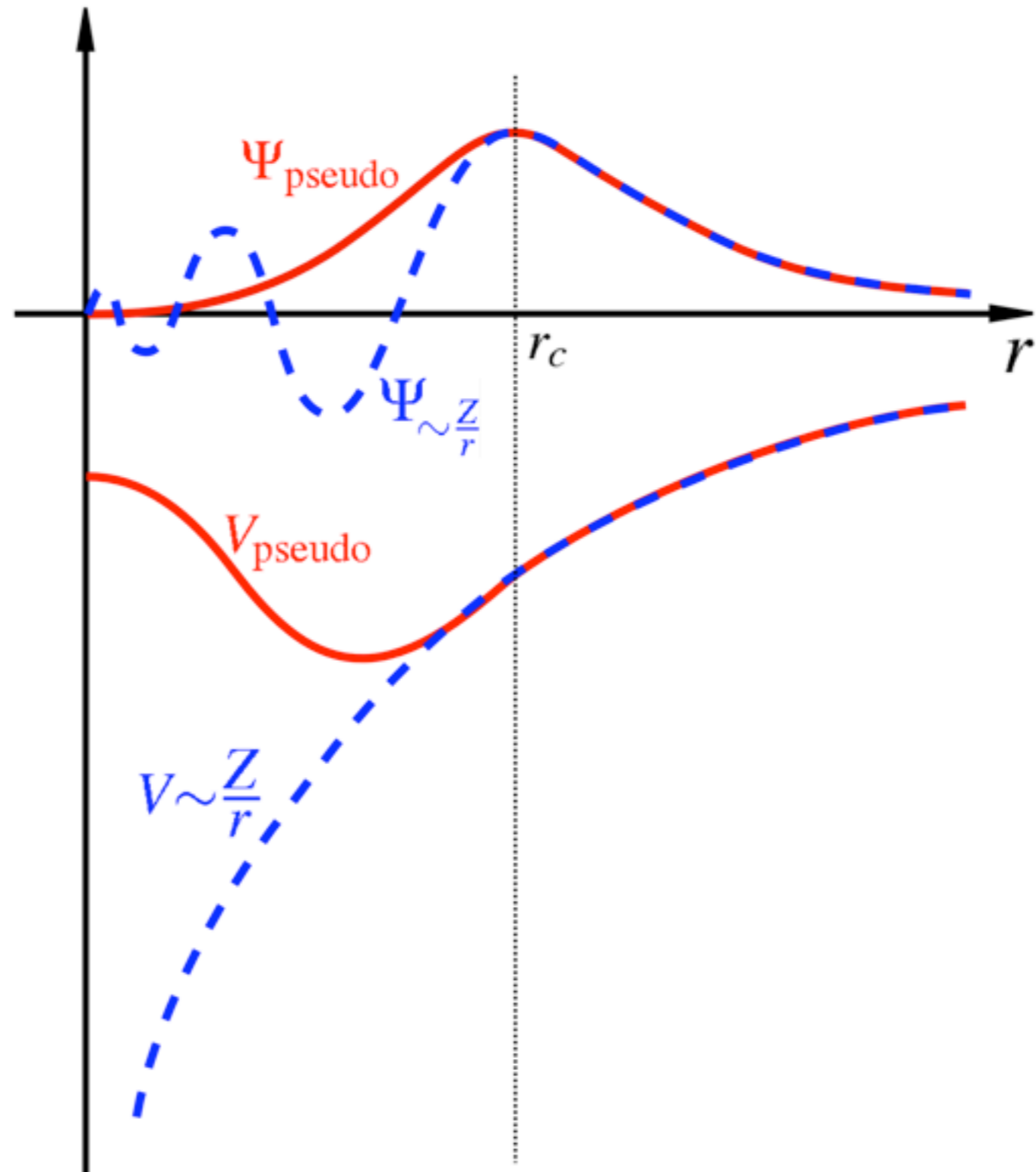
$$\left[ -\frac{1}{2} \nabla^2 + V_{\text{eff}}^{\text{pseudo}} \right] \varphi_i^{\text{pseudo}} = \epsilon_i \varphi_i^{\text{pseudo}}$$



# Pseudopotentials

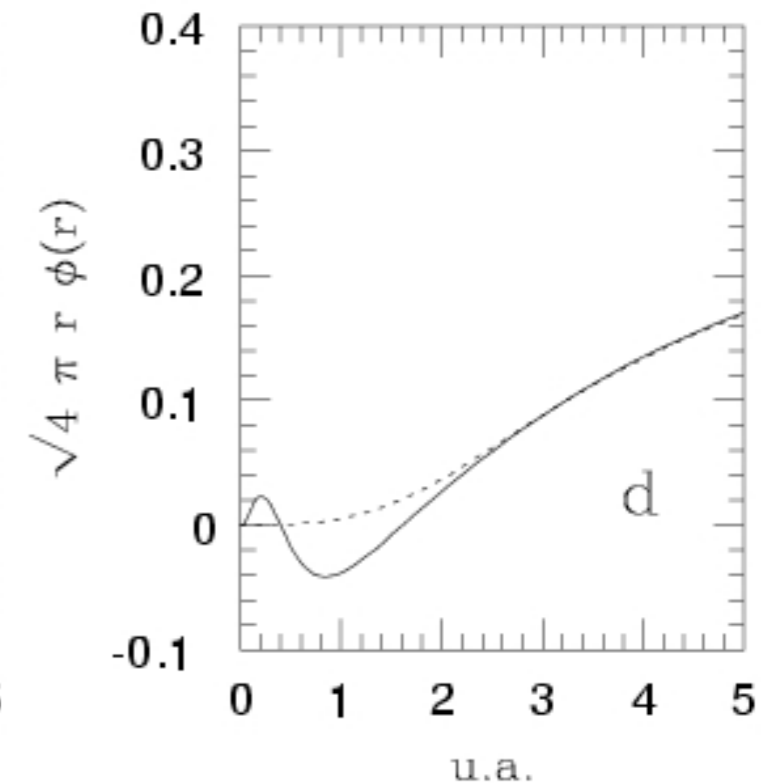
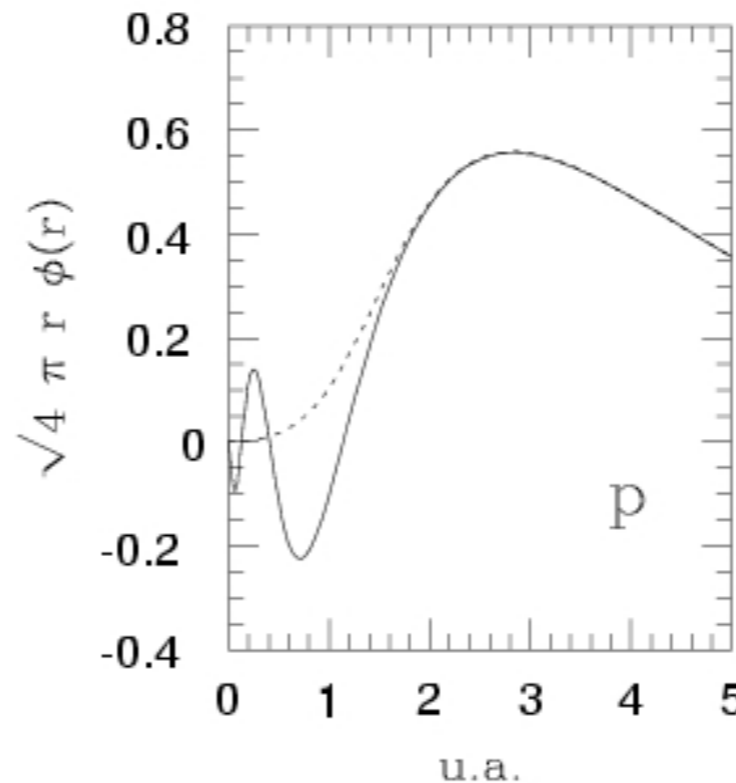
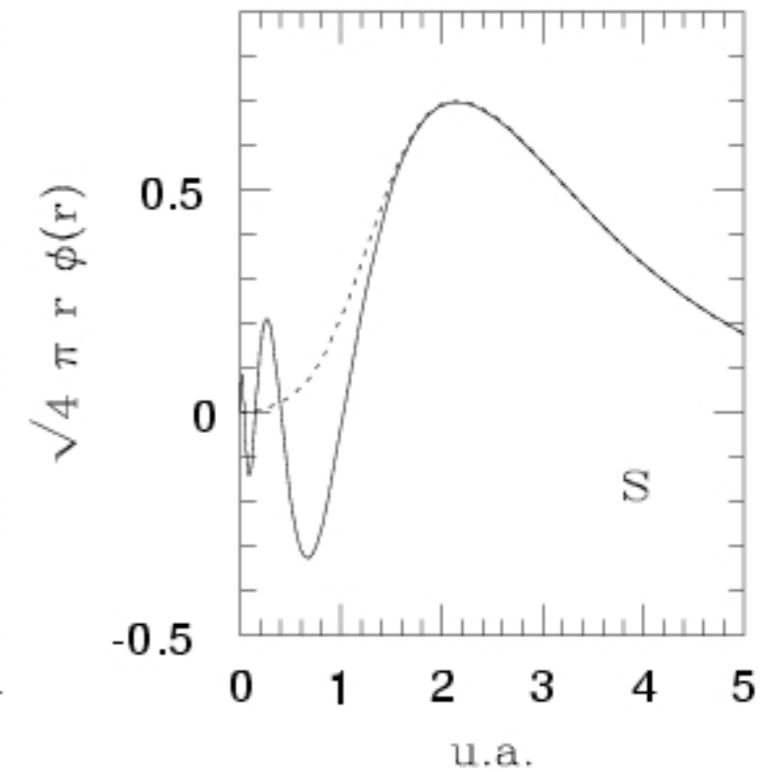
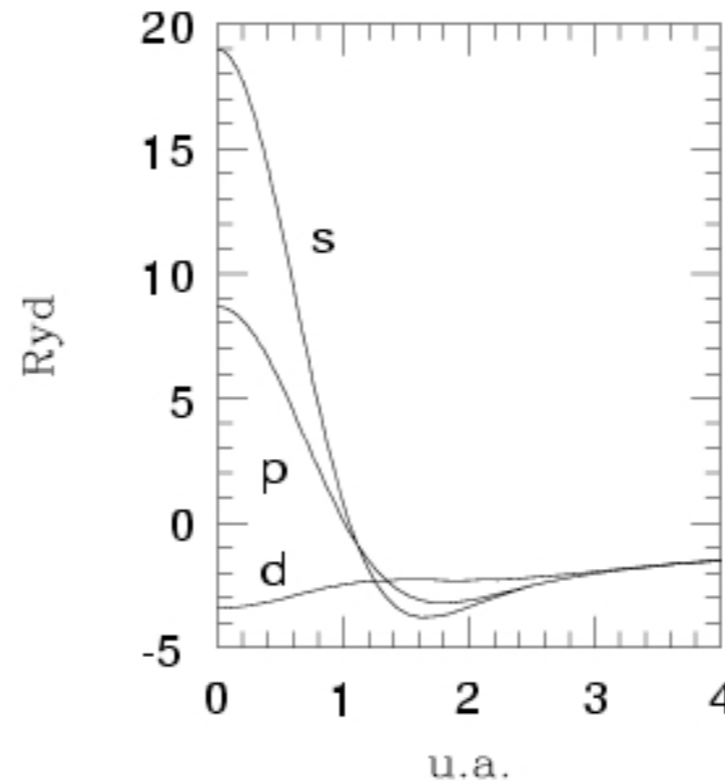
## The pseudopotential and the wave function

- Real potential and wave function are shown in blue
- Pseudopotential and pseudo wave function in red
- Outside the cutoff region (vertical black line) the two are identical



# Non-Local Pseudopotentials

- Electron states with different angular momenta scatter differently from the core
- States that have shell below them with same angular momentum feel stronger repulsion due to orthogonality constraint



# Basis Set Choices and Convergence

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## Basis set choices

- Real potential and wave function are shown in blue
- For molecules: often atomic orbitals, or localized functions like Gaussians
- For solids, periodic functions such as sines and cosines (plane waves)
- Use of Bloch theorem for periodic solids

$$[\mathcal{H}, \mathcal{T}_{\mathbf{R}}] = 0 \quad \Rightarrow \quad \varphi(\mathbf{r}) = u_{n\mathbf{k}}(\mathbf{r}) \exp(i\mathbf{k} \cdot \mathbf{r})$$

$\Rightarrow$  Remember the importance of  $k$ -point sampling

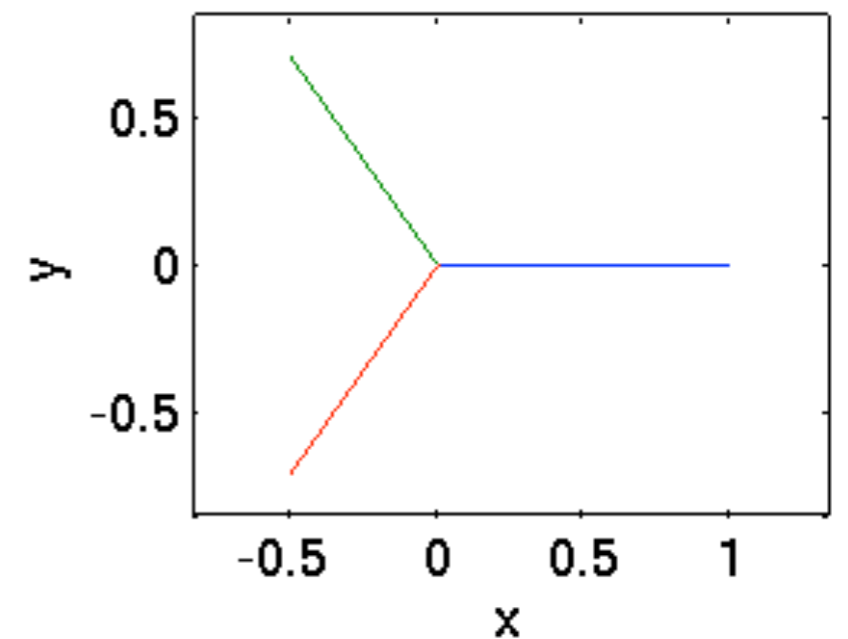
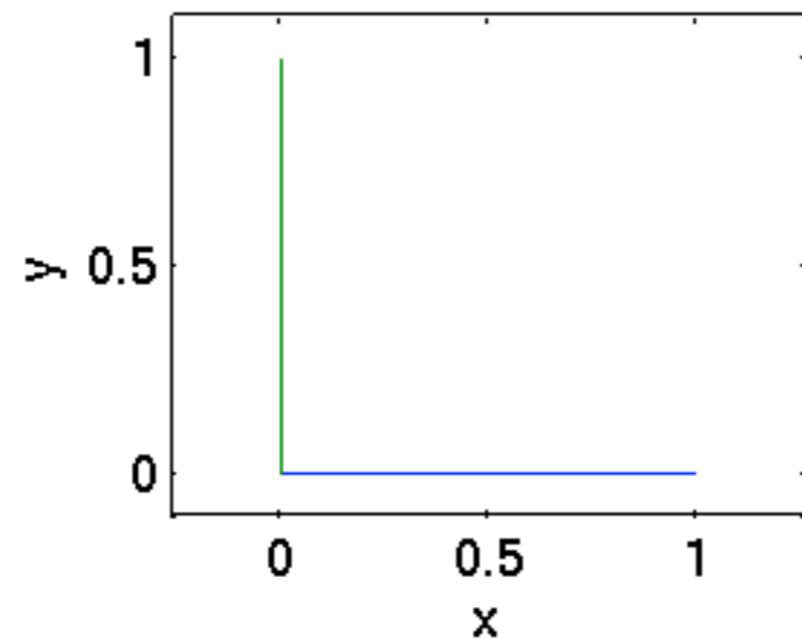
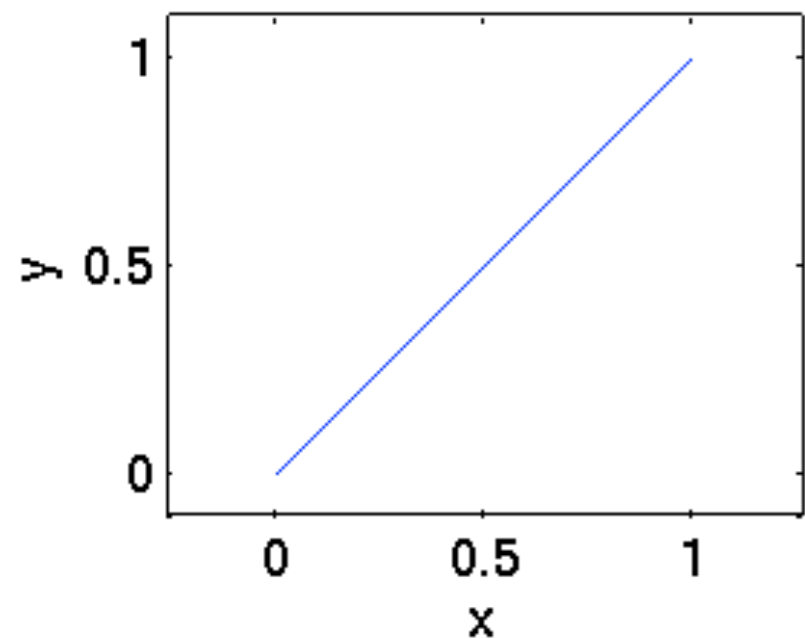
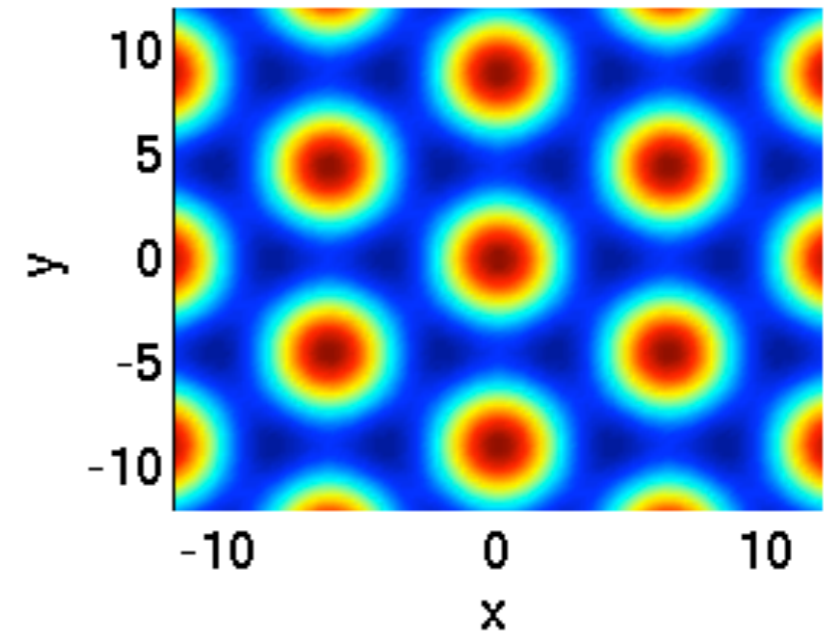
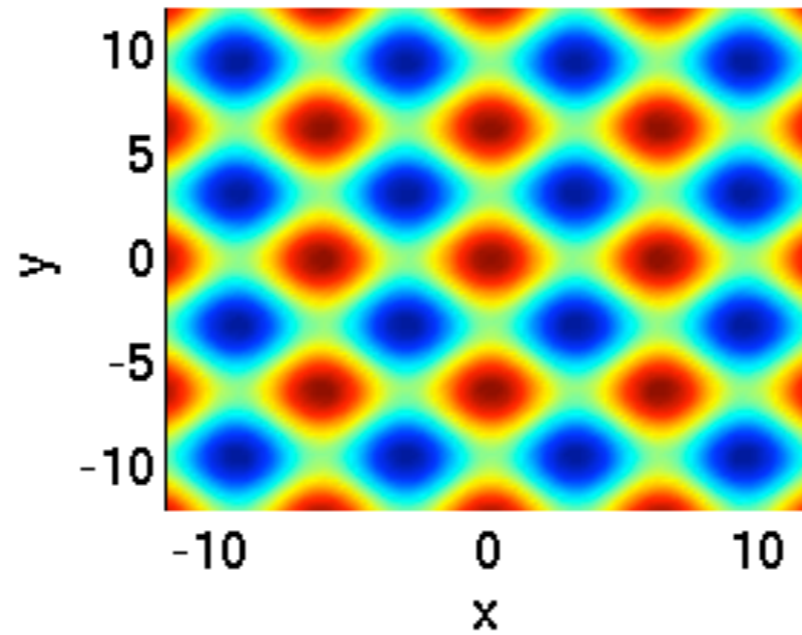
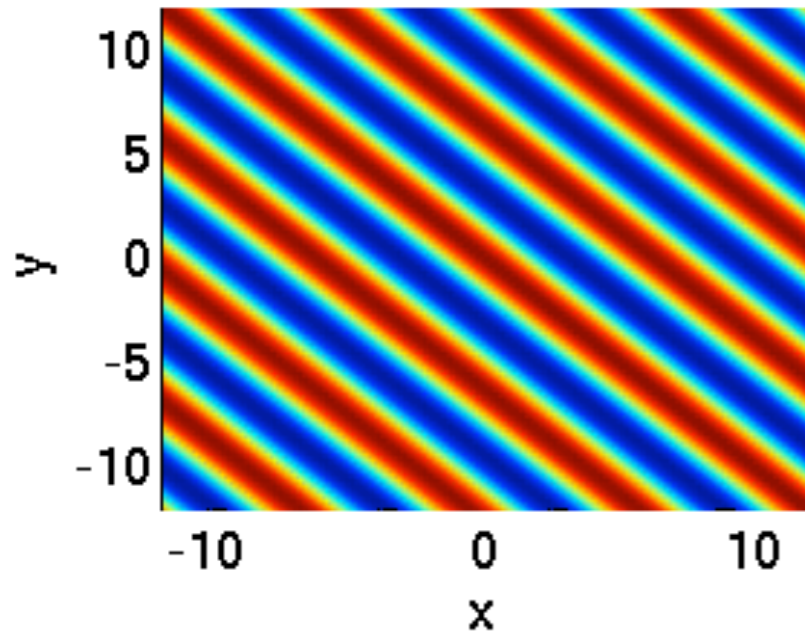
## Convergence

- Increase size of basis set to approach completeness

# Plane Wave Basis Set

- Superposition of plane waves to represent orbitals

$$u_{nk}(\mathbf{r}) = \sum_{|\mathbf{G}| \leq G_{\max}} c_{nk}(\mathbf{G}) \exp(i \mathbf{G} \cdot \mathbf{r})$$



# Band structure of crystals (1)

## Bloch states and Brillouin zones

- Crystal structures defined by Bravais lattice  $\{\mathbf{a}_i\}$  and basis
- Periodic density  $\Rightarrow$  Bloch theorem  $\psi(\mathbf{r} + \mathbf{R}) = \psi(\mathbf{r}) \cdot \exp(i\mathbf{k} \cdot \mathbf{r})$

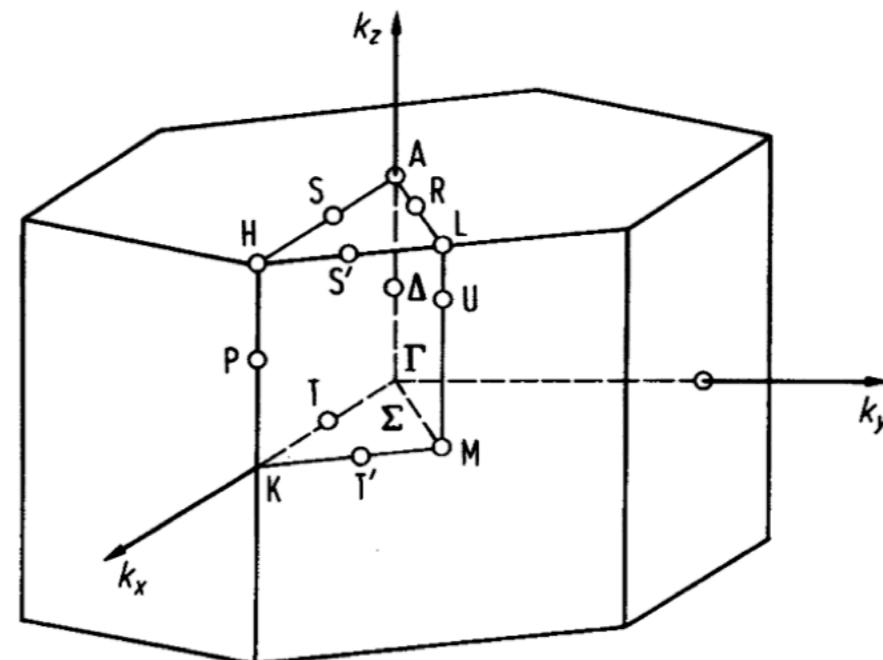
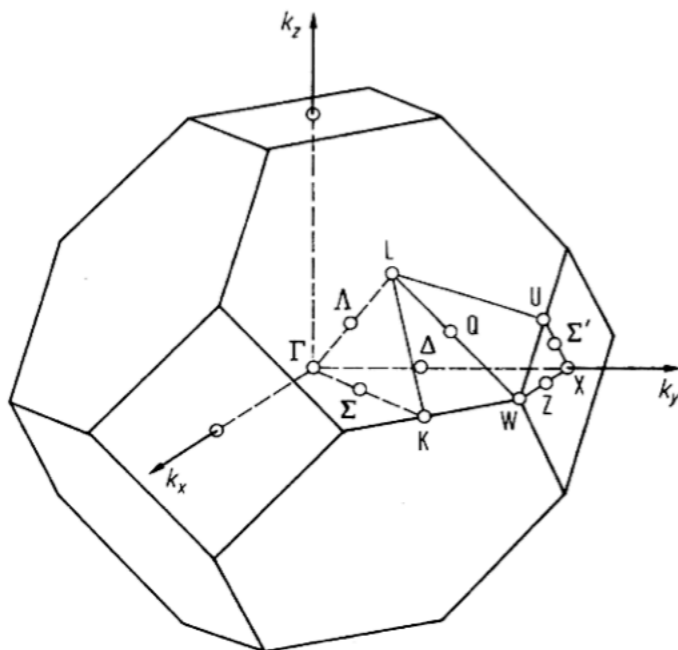
- Fourier transformation

$$n(\mathbf{r}) = \sum_{\mathbf{G}} n_{\mathbf{G}} \cdot \exp(i\mathbf{G} \cdot \mathbf{r})$$

- Reciprocal lattice

$$\mathbf{b}_k = 2\pi \cdot \frac{\mathbf{a}_l \times \mathbf{a}_m}{\mathbf{a}_k \cdot (\mathbf{a}_l \times \mathbf{a}_m)}$$

- Brillouin zone is the Wigner-Seitz cell of the reciprocal lattice



# Band structure of crystals (2)

## Diffraction picture for origin of the energy gap

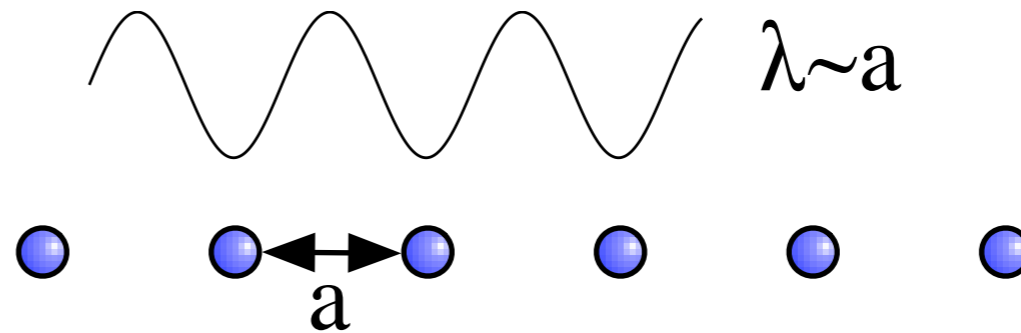
- Start with a 1D crystal and consider diffraction of electron wave

$$n\lambda = 2d \cdot \sin \theta \quad \text{with } d = a \text{ and } \sin \theta = 1$$

$$n\lambda = 2a$$

$$k = \frac{2\pi}{\lambda}$$

$$k = \frac{n\pi}{a}$$



- Take lowest order ( $n = 1$ ) and consider incident and reflected electron wave

$$\psi_i = e^{ikx} = e^{i\frac{\pi}{a} \cdot x} \quad \text{and} \quad \psi_r = e^{-i\frac{\pi}{a} \cdot x}$$

- Total wave function for electrons with diffracted wave length

$$\psi = \psi_i \pm \psi_r \quad \Rightarrow \quad \psi_+ = \psi_i + \psi_r = 2 \cos \frac{\pi x}{a} \quad \text{and} \quad \psi_- = \psi_i - \psi_r = 2 \sin \frac{\pi x}{a}$$

- Only two solutions for  $k = \pi/a$ : Electron density on atoms or between
- No traveling wave solution

# Band structure of crystals (3)

## Diffraction picture for origin of the energy gap

- If ion potential is a weak perturbation  $U$ , the electrons near diffraction condition have two possible solutions

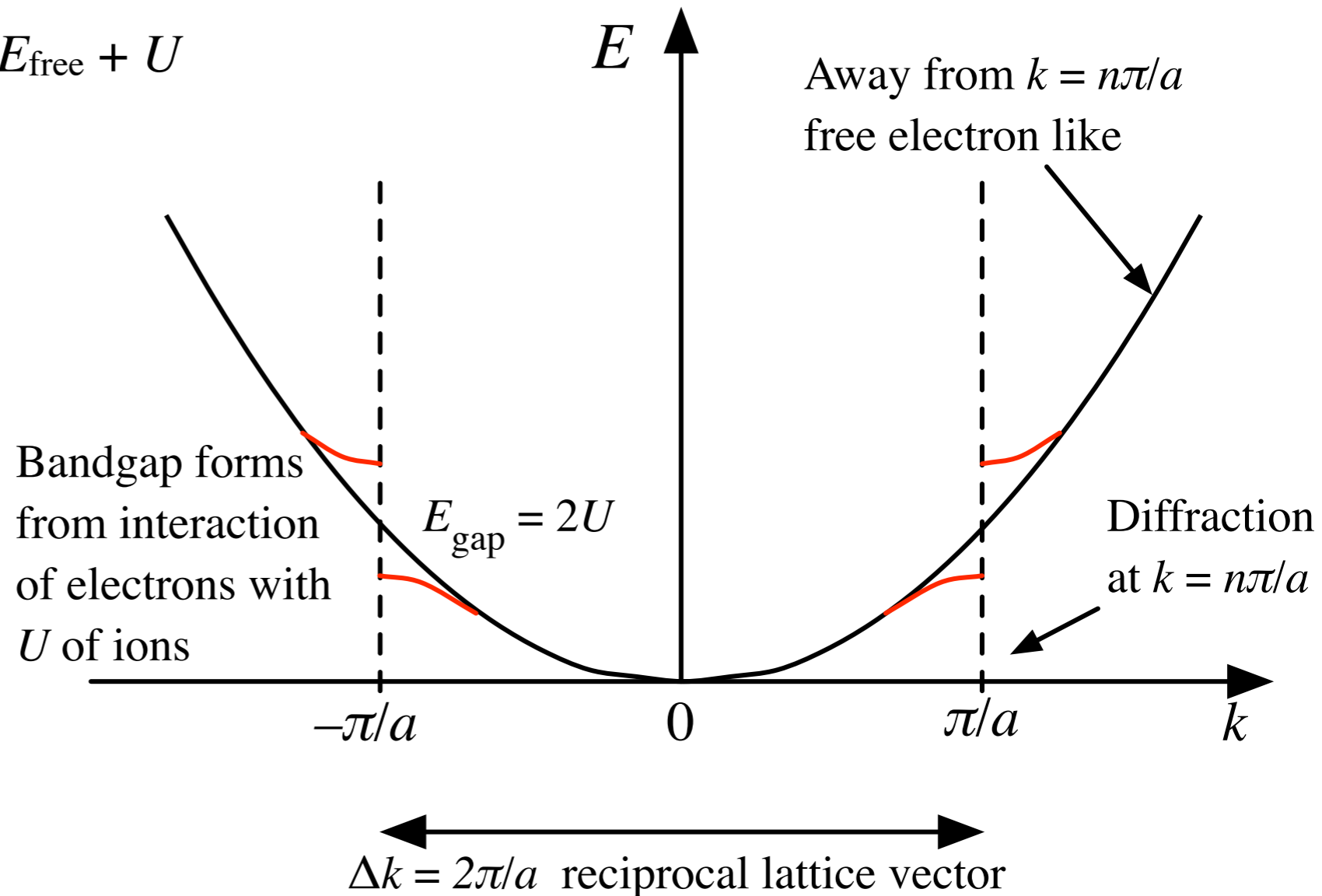
▶ Electron density between ions:  $E = E_{\text{free}} - U$

▶ Electron density on ions:  $E = E_{\text{free}} + U$

▶ Near diffraction condition energy is parabolic in  $k$ ,  $E \propto k^2$

▶ Electron near diffraction conditions are not free

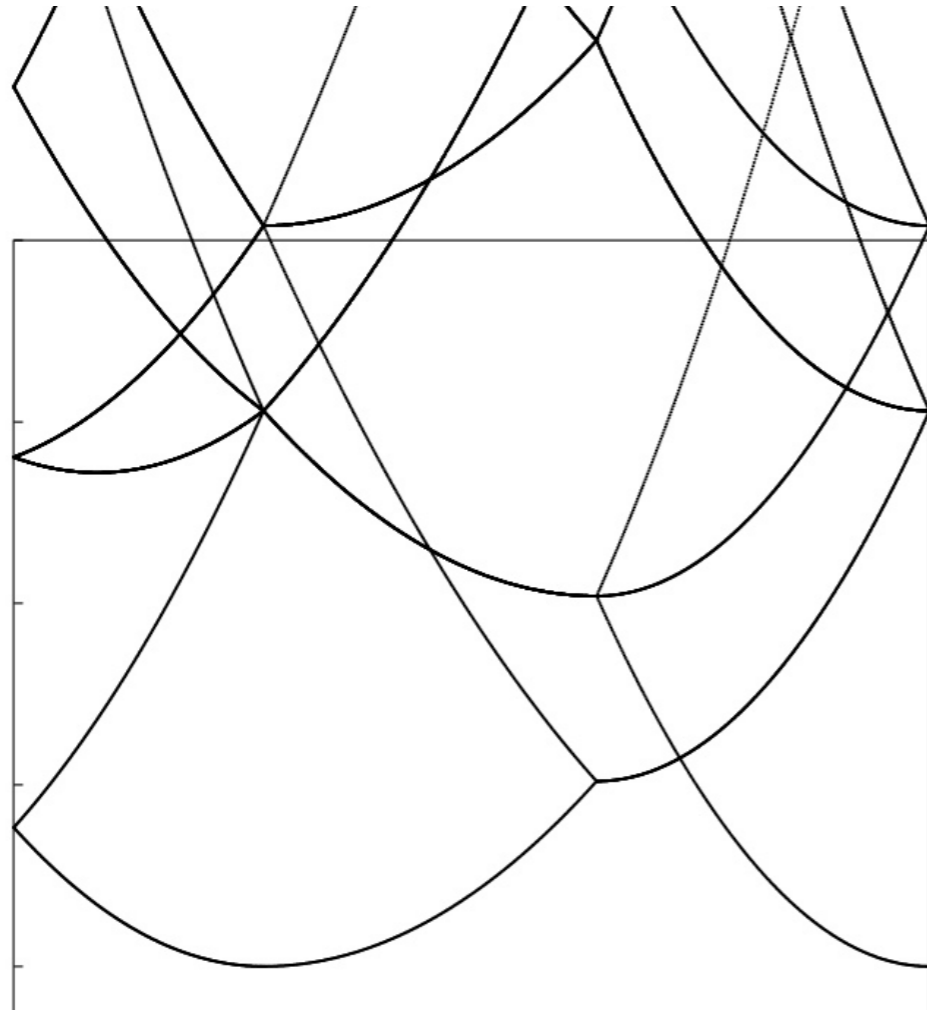
▶ Their properties can still be described as “free” with an *effective mass*  $m^*$



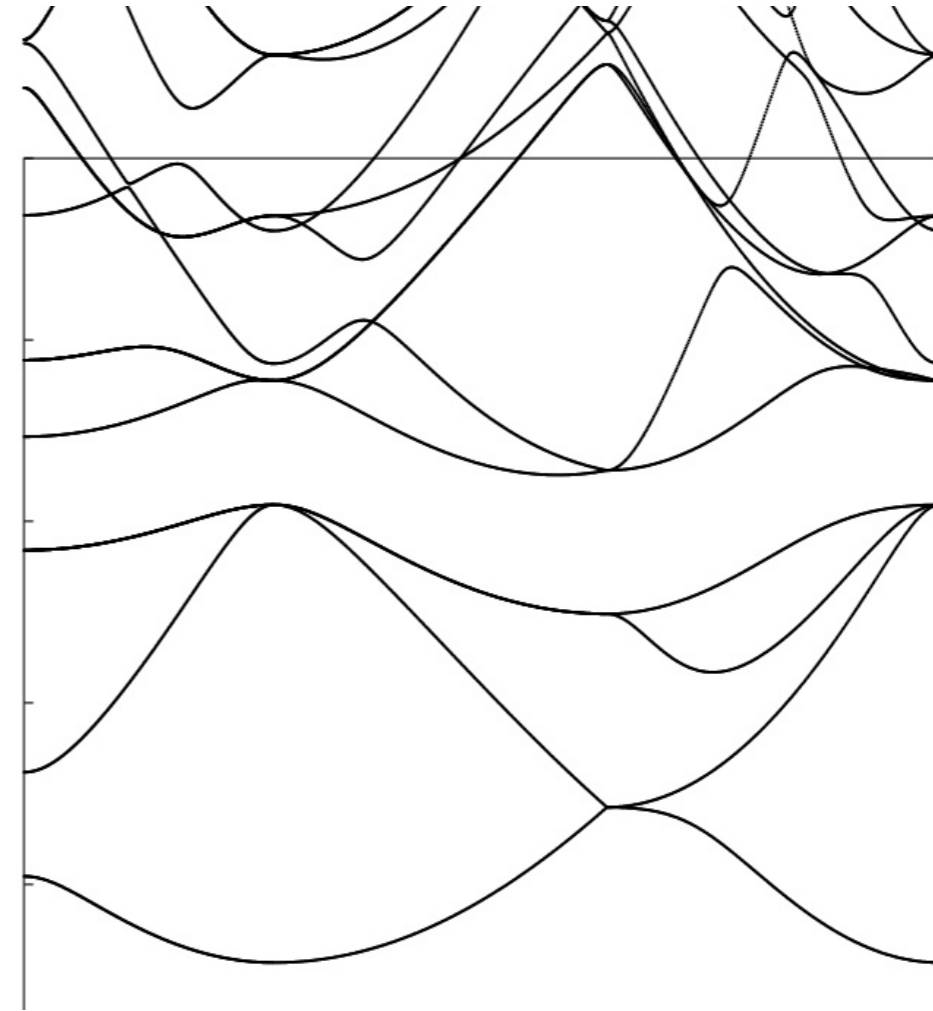
# Band Structure: Free Electron Gas and Si

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Free electron gas



Silicon

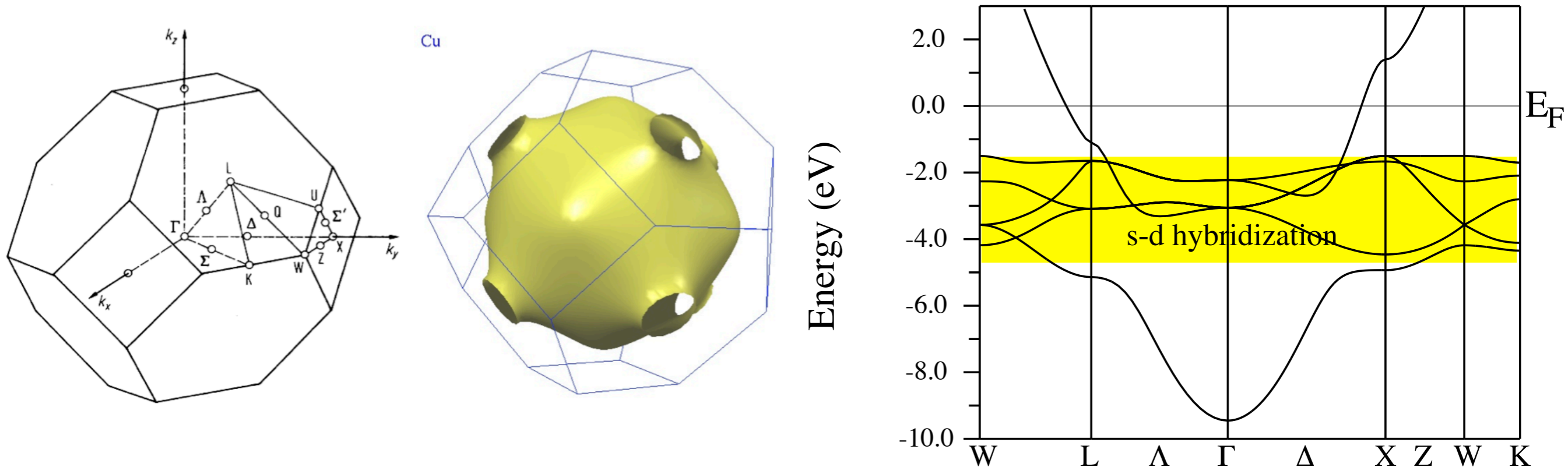


$$E = \frac{\hbar^2 k^2}{2m} \quad \text{and} \quad \varphi(\mathbf{r}) = \exp(i \mathbf{k} \cdot \mathbf{r})$$



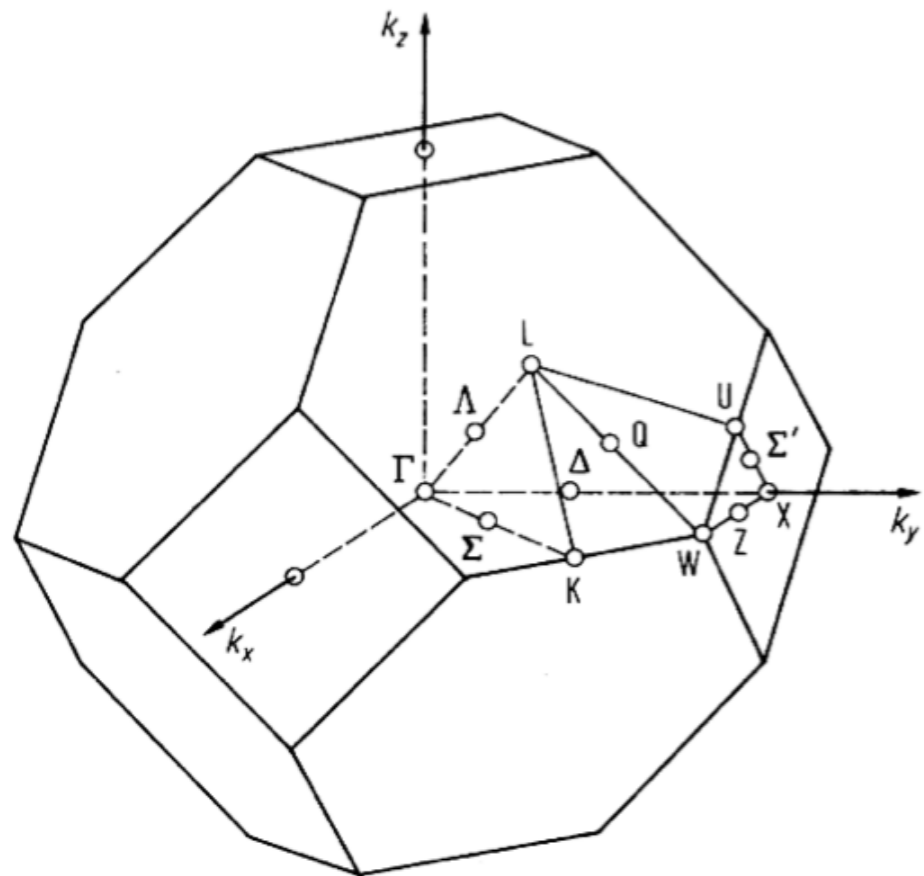
# Example of metallic band structure: Cu

- Copper: Band structure calculated with Wien2k

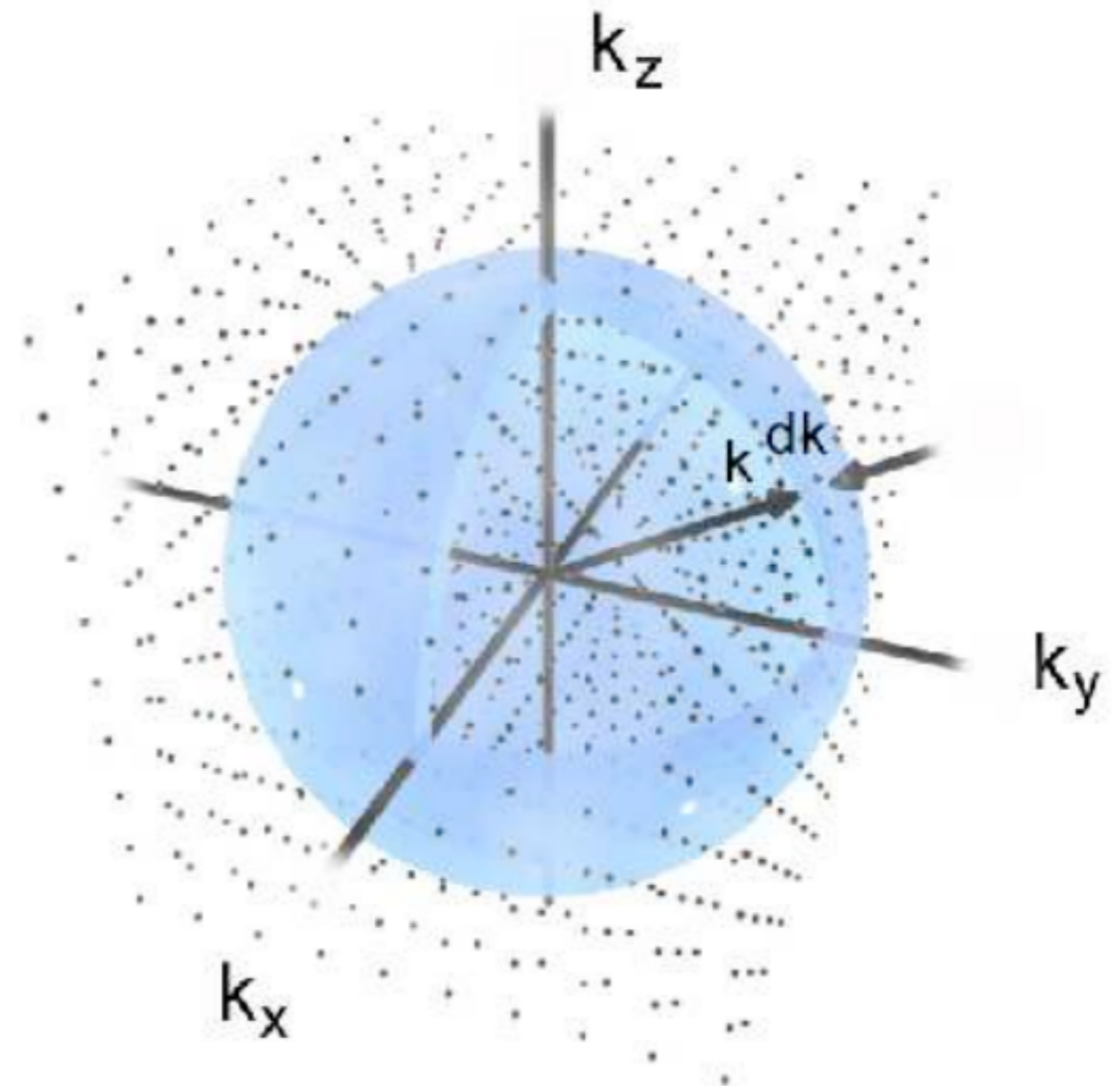


- Nearly free electron  $s$ -band dominates at low and high energies
- Electron near diffraction conditions have different effective mass
- Hybridization between *nearly-free*  $s$  and *atomic-like*  $d$  orbitals at intermediate energies
- Necking of Fermi surface in  $[111]$  directions  $\Rightarrow$  *Hume-Rothery stabilization*

# Integrating the Brillouin zone



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- Large real-space Wigner-Seitz cell  $\Rightarrow$  small Brillouin Zone (few  $k$ -points reqd)
- Small real-space Wigner-Seitz cell  $\Rightarrow$  large Brillouin Zone (many  $k$ -points reqd)

# k-points

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- The wavefunction (and energy) of each electron depends on both its quantum number  $n$  and its position  $k$  within the Brillouin Zone

$$\hat{h}_{\mathbf{k}} \psi_{n,\mathbf{k}}(\mathbf{r}) = \varepsilon_{n,\mathbf{k}} \psi_{n,\mathbf{k}}(\mathbf{r})$$

- Real-space quantities are computed by a **discrete sum over  $n$**  and **integration over  $k$  within the Brillouin Zone** (approximated over a grid at finite  $k$ -points)

- e.g. density,  $n(\mathbf{r})$

$$n(\mathbf{r}) = \frac{V_{\text{cell}}}{(2\pi)^3} \int_{\text{1BZ}} \left( \sum_{n=1}^{N_{\text{el}}} |\psi_{n,\mathbf{k}}(\mathbf{r})|^2 \right) d\mathbf{k}$$

# k-points + smearing

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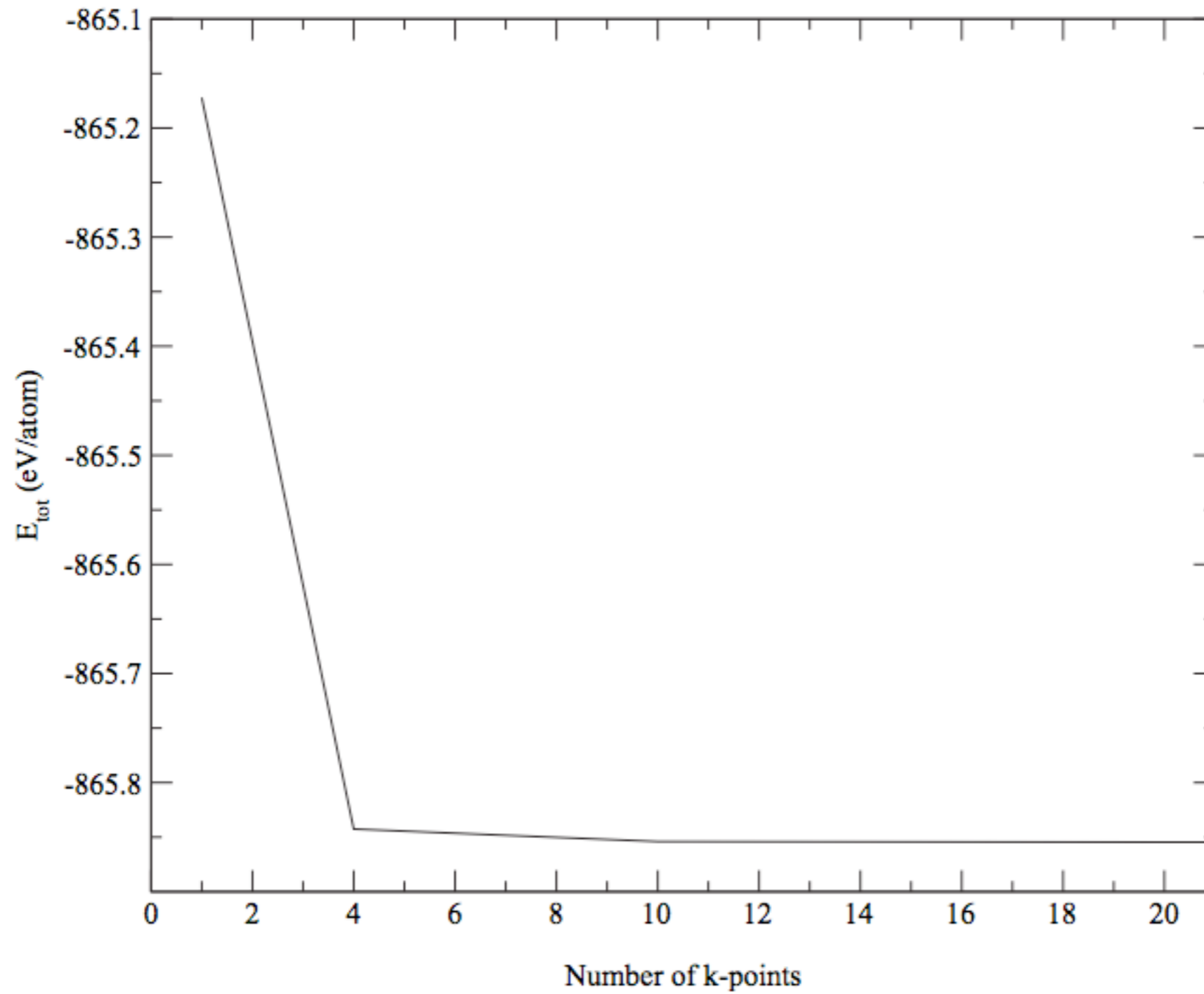
- The integration occurs over **occupied** electron states: energy  $\leq$  Fermi energy
- At  $T = 0$ , equivalent to adding a step (Heaviside  $H$ ) function:

$$\rho(\mathbf{r}) = \sum_n \frac{V_{\text{cell}}}{(2\pi)^3} \int_{\text{1BZ}} H(E_F - \varepsilon_{n,\mathbf{k}}) |\psi_{n,\mathbf{k}}|^2 d^3\mathbf{k}$$

- For a material with a band gap (no Fermi surface), no problem.
- For a *metal*, **huge** problem: this Heaviside function is **not smooth**
- **Solution:** replace Heaviside function with a smooth function. **Smearing.**
  - Fermi-Dirac occupancy at a *finite, artificial temperature*
  - Integral of a Gaussian centered at Fermi energy, with a finite width
  - Polynomial expansion (Methfessel-Paxton)
- **N.B.:** there is *another solution* called tetrahedron method for integrating *without smoothing*; however, it can have some issues that make it less than desirable for our purposes.

# k-points

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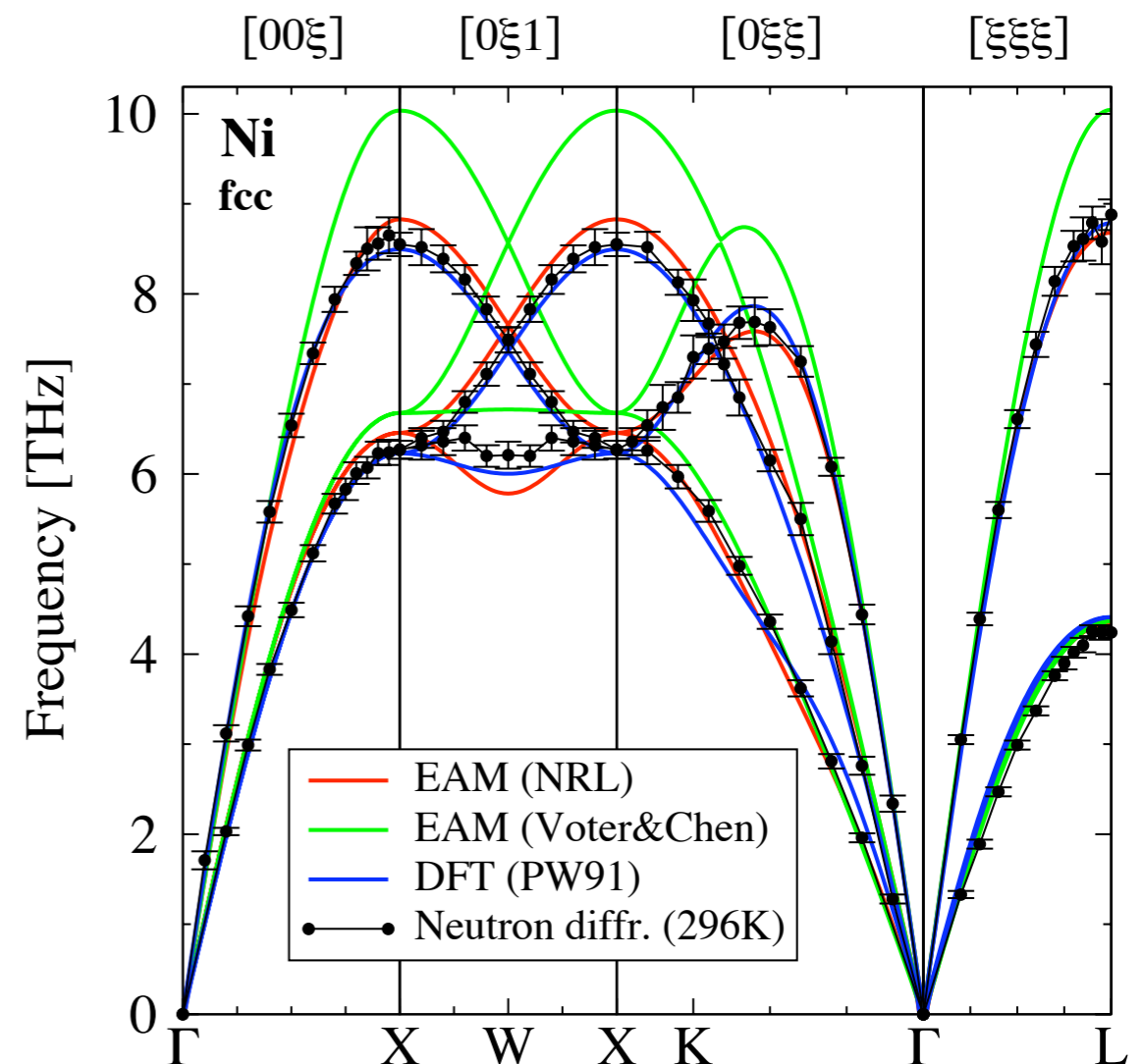
# Successes and Failures of DFT

## Structural and elastic properties

- Lattice parameters are typically within a few percent of experimental values and often accurate to better than 1%
- The bulk modulus and other elastic constants are usually within 10%

## Vibrational Properties

- Forces = 1<sup>st</sup> derivative of energy with respect to atomic displacement
- Forces are accurate to better than 10% (similar to elastic constants)
- Vibrational frequencies are the 2<sup>nd</sup> derivatives
- Their accuracy is about 1/2 the accuracy of the forces or about 5%



# Successes and Failures of DFT

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## Defect energies

- In many cases such as for metals, vacancy and interstitial energies are highly accurate (within 0.1 eV)
- In some cases such as interstitial defects in silicon, DFT is too low by about 1 eV predicting a 3–3.5 eV formation energy instead of the 4.5 eV of experiments and QMC [Phys. Rev. B 74, 121102(R) (2006)]

## Excited states and gaps

- Local density approximation fails for excited states
- Bandgaps in LDA and GGA are usually underestimated by 20–50%
- In some cases such as Ge, LDA predicts a metallic instead of semiconducting state
- Hybrid functionals (e.g. B3LYP and HSE) improve the accuracy to about 10%

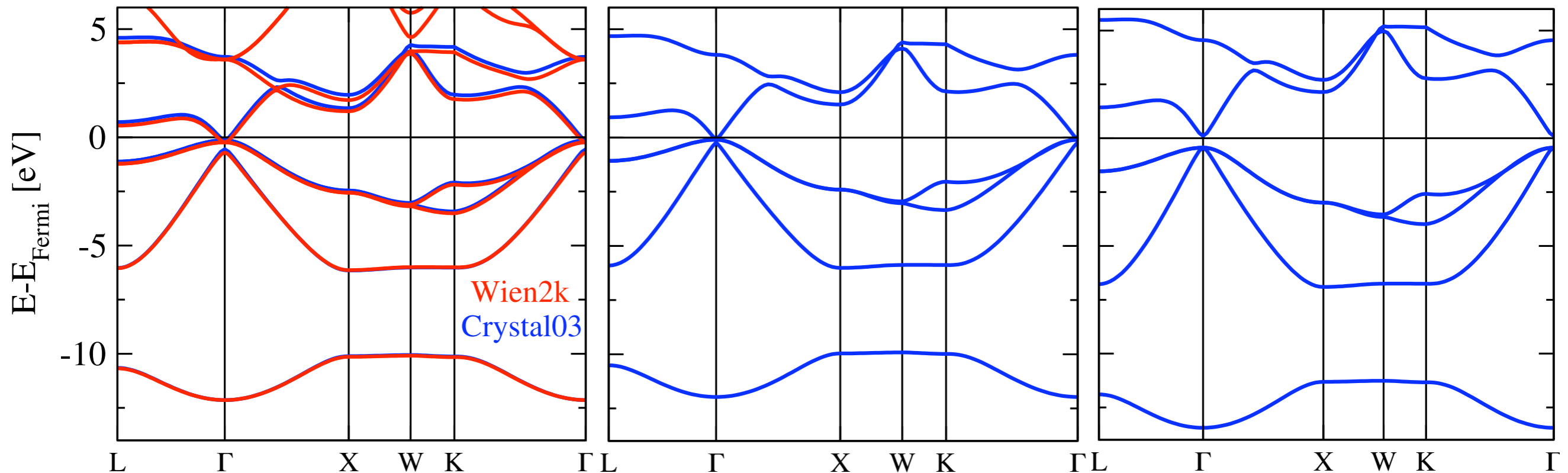
# The bandgap problem of DFT

## Example: Bandstructure of InAs

LDA, no gap: -0.42 eV

PBE, no gap: -0.13 eV

B3LYP 20%, gap: 0.54 eV



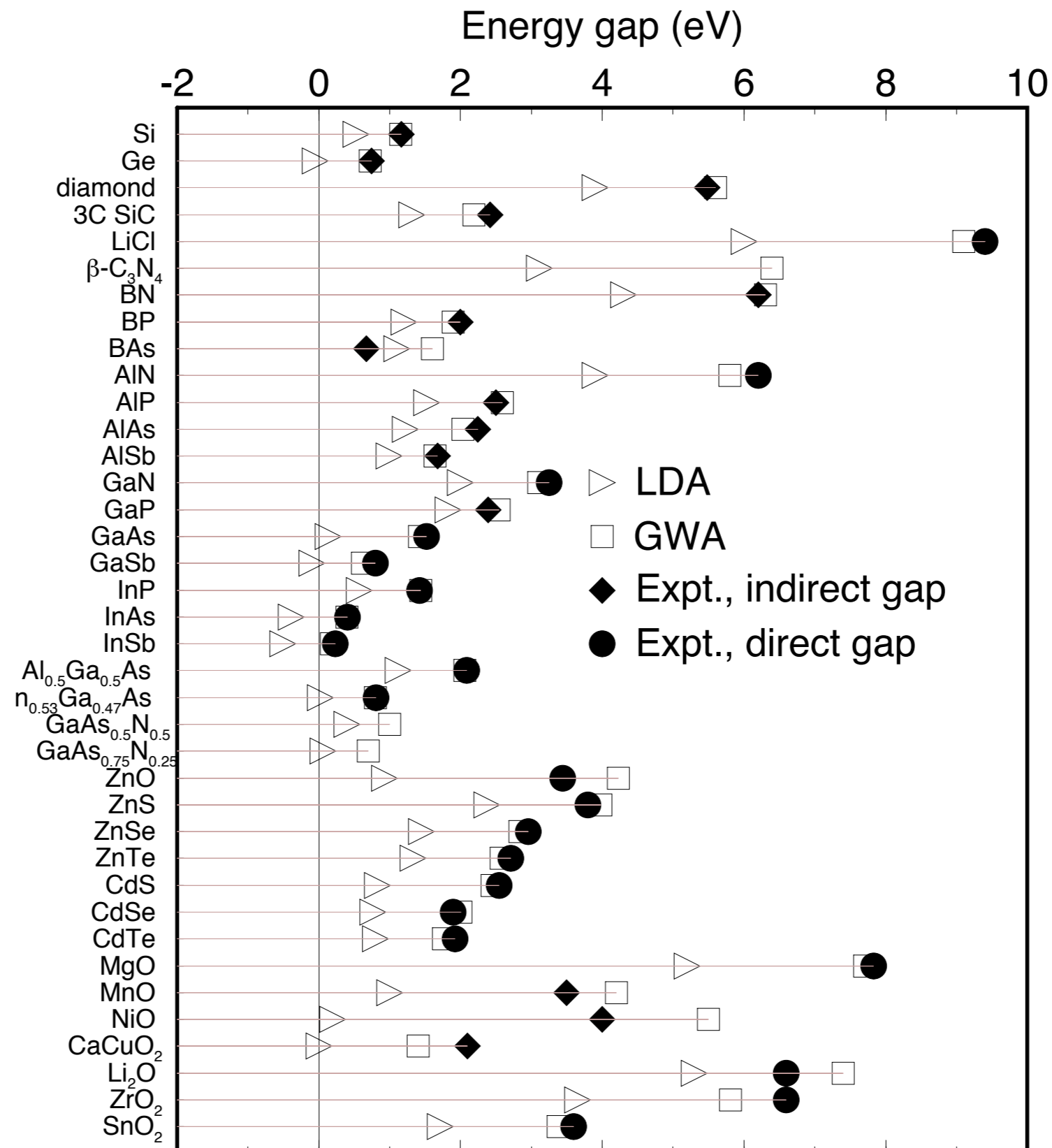
- Experimental bandgap: 0.41 eV

**Band gap problem: LDA and GGA yield a metallic ground state!**

- Practical solution: **Hybrid functionals B3LYP & HSE (0.39 eV)**
- Better solution: **GW approximation or QMC methods**



# Beyond DFT – The GW approximation



# Summary of Density Functional Theory

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## LDA

- Lattice constants: 1-3% too small
- Cohesive Energies: 5-20% too strongly bound
- Bulk Modulus: 5-20% (largest errors for late TM)
- Bandgaps: too small

## GGA

- Improves cohesive energies
- Often but not always better for lattice parameters
- Important for magnetic systems

## Hybrid functionals

- Improved band gaps, often very accurate

**Always check the accuracy of the computational method by benchmarking against experimental data or more accurate theory.**

# “Parameters” of a DFT calculation

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## What do you need to know to *reproduce* a calculation?

- **Software:** what code was used?
  - VASP, QuantumEspresso, Gaussian, Wien2k, ...
- **Exchange-correlation potential:** LDA, GGA, MetaGGA, Hybrid, ...
- **Basis functions:** what type and how many?
  - Type: Planewaves, linear combination of atomic orbital / Gaussians, APW
  - How many is often characterized by a “cutoff”
- **Brillouin zone integration:** how dense and what method?
  - K-point density inversely proportional to size of cell
  - Smearing to convert discrete grid into continuous integral *or* interpolation
- **Treatment of atomic cores:** pseudopotential / PAW / all-electron
  - If PP or PAW, what electrons are in the core vs. valence?
  - Can control the number of basis functions needed
- **Self-consistency parameters:** convergence (and error) in results
  - Energy change in SCF loop (accuracy of energy, wavefunctions, forces, stresses)
  - Force or energy criterion for optimization
- **Optional other parameters:** DFT+U, GW, etc.
  - “Beyond DFT” methods can introduce new parameters