

# Condensed Matter Physics I

Prof. Dr. Ir. Paul H.M. van Loosdrecht

II Physikalisches Institut, Room 312

E-mail: [pvl@ph2.uni-koeln.de](mailto:pvl@ph2.uni-koeln.de)

Website: <http://www.loosdrecht.net/>

# Previously

- Binding Attractive and repulsive potentials
- Lattice sums, cohesive energy, equilibrium structure
  
- Reciprocal space
- Diffraction

# Today

- Phonons (Ch.4 & 5 Kittel)

# PHONONS

# Elementary excitations in solids

Charge                      Electronic excitations

EM field                    Photon

**Elastic                    Phonon**

Magnetic                  Magnon (spin-wave)

Multi-particle            Exciton, polariton, polaron

Collective                  Plasmon

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# Phonons

- Propagation of sound
- Optical properties (infrared)
- Lattice expansion
- Heat capacity
- Thermal conductivity

# General

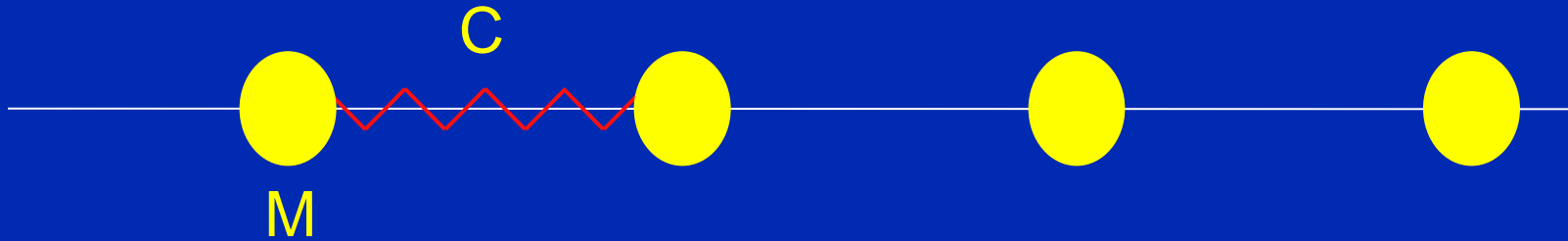
Total lattice energy  $U_{\text{total}} = \sum_{\langle ij \rangle} U_{ij}(\vec{R}_j - \vec{R}_i)$

Stability:  $\Delta_{R_j} U_{\text{total}} = 0 \Rightarrow$  Equilibrium coordinates

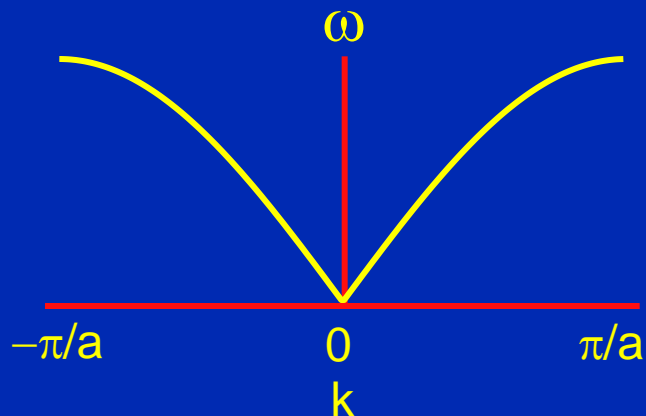
Harmonic approximation:

$$F_j = - \frac{\partial U_{\text{total}}}{\partial R_j}$$

# 1D, 1 at./cell



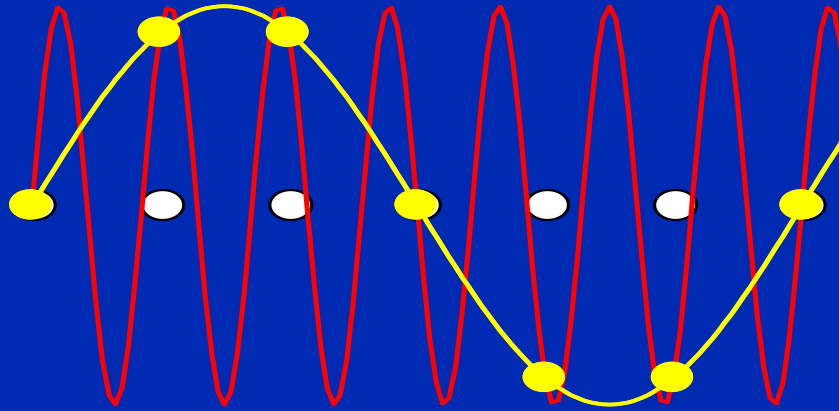
$$H = T + U = \sum_i \frac{p_i^2}{m_i} + \frac{1}{2} \sum_{\langle ij \rangle} C_j (u_i - u_j)^2$$



$$\omega(k) = \sqrt{\frac{4C}{m}} \left| \sin\left(\frac{ka}{2}\right) \right|$$

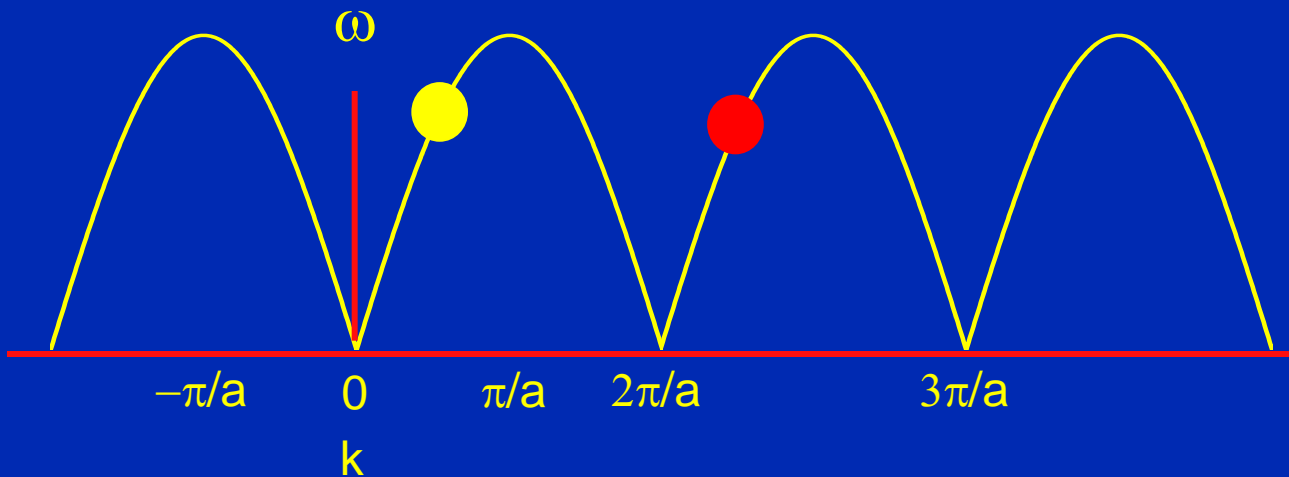


# Relevant values of k

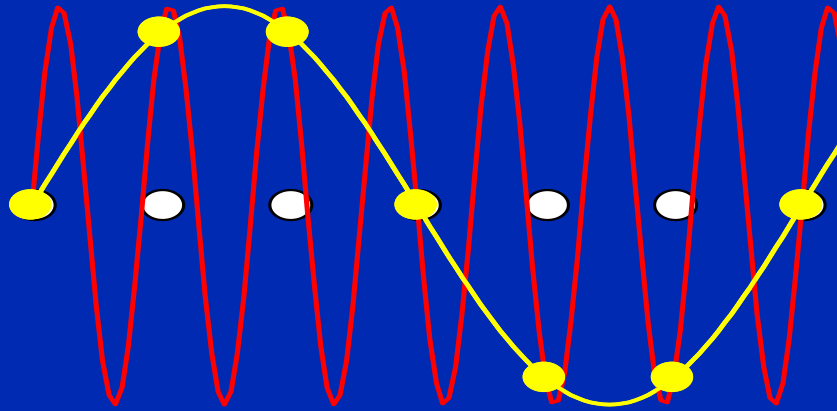


$$e^{i\left(\omega t - \frac{\pi}{3a}r\right)}$$

$$e^{i\left(\omega t - \frac{7\pi}{3a}r\right)}$$

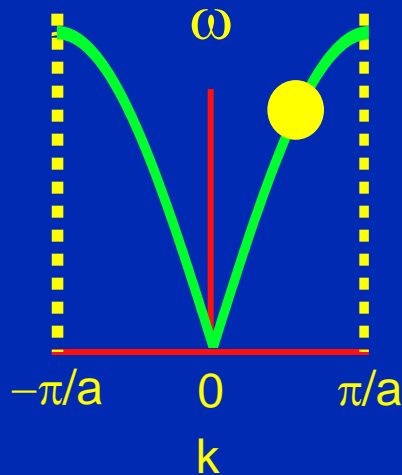


# Relevant values of k



$$e^{i\left(\omega t - \frac{\pi}{3a}r\right)}$$

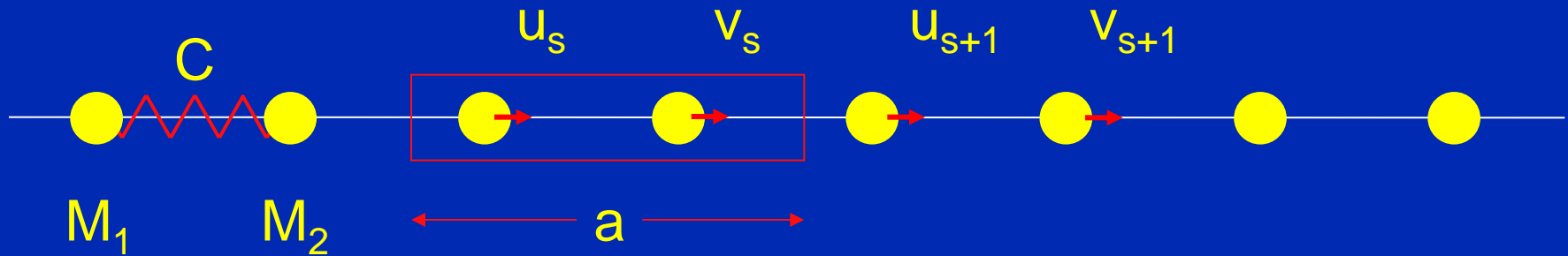
$$e^{i\left(\omega t - \frac{7\pi}{3a}r\right)}$$



$$-\frac{\pi}{a} < k \leq \frac{\pi}{a}$$

FIRST BRILLOUIN ZONE

# 1 dimensional -- 2 at./cell



EOM

$$M_1 \ddot{u}_s = -C(2u_s - v_s - v_{s-1})$$

$$M_2 \ddot{v}_s = -C(2v_s - u_s - u_{s+1})$$

Traveling wave

$$u_s(t) = u \cdot e^{ikas} \cdot e^{-i\omega t}$$

$$v_s(t) = v \cdot e^{ikas} \cdot e^{-i\omega t}$$

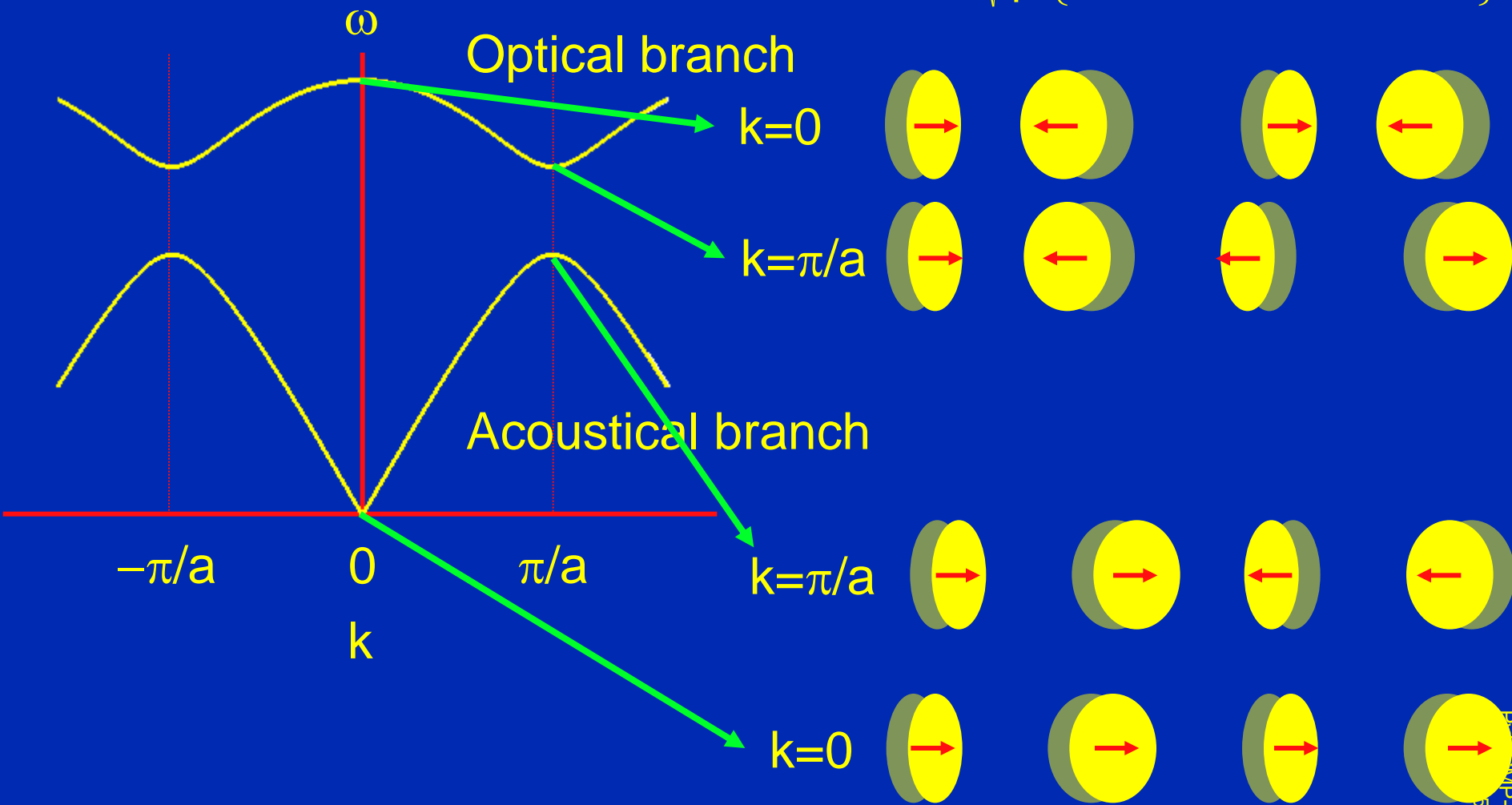
Dispersion

$$\omega^2(k) = \frac{C}{\mu} \left\{ 1 \pm \sqrt{1 - \frac{4\mu}{M} \sin^2(ka/2)} \right\}$$

$$\mu = \frac{1}{M_1} + \frac{1}{M_2}; \quad M = M_1 + M_2$$

# Dispersion

$$\omega(k) = \sqrt{\frac{C}{\mu}} \left\{ 1 \pm \sqrt{1 - \frac{4\mu}{M} \sin^2(ka/2)} \right\}$$



# Relevant values for k

$$\omega(k) = \sqrt{\frac{C}{\mu} \left\{ 1 \pm \sqrt{1 - \frac{4\mu}{M} \sin^2(ka/2)} \right\}}$$

## Solutions for k and for $k+h \cdot 2\pi/a$

have the same frequency

$$\sin\left(\frac{ka}{2}\right) = \sin\left(\frac{ka}{2} + h \cdot 2\pi\right) \Rightarrow \omega\left(k + h \frac{2\pi}{a}\right) = \omega(k)$$

have the same wavefunctions

$$u_{k+h \cdot 2\pi/a}(s, t) = u \cdot e^{ikas} \cdot e^{i(h \cdot 2\pi/a)as} \cdot e^{-i\omega t} = u_k(s, t)$$

**Are identical**

# Group velocity

$$v_g = \frac{\partial \omega(k)}{\partial k}$$

$$\omega(k) = \sqrt{\frac{C}{\mu} \left\{ 1 \pm \sqrt{1 - \frac{4\mu}{M} \sin^2(ka/2)} \right\}}$$

$$k \approx 0 \quad \omega(k) = \sqrt{\frac{2C}{M}} \cdot \frac{ka}{2}$$

$$v_g = \sqrt{\frac{2C}{M}} \frac{a}{2}$$

Sound velocity  $\omega = v_g \cdot k$

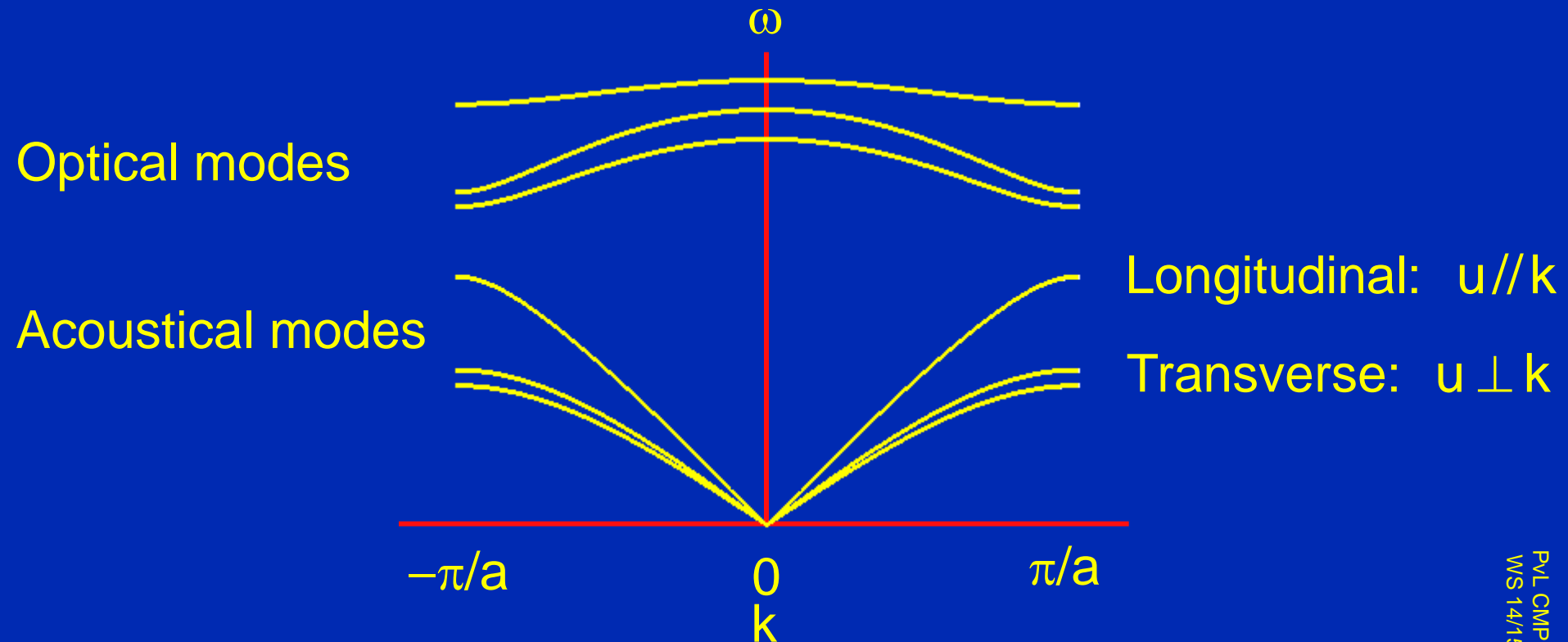
$$\omega(k) = \sqrt{\frac{2C}{\mu}}$$

$$v_g = 0$$

$k \approx \pm \pi/a$   $\omega(k) \approx \text{constant}$ : Standing wave

# Three dimensions

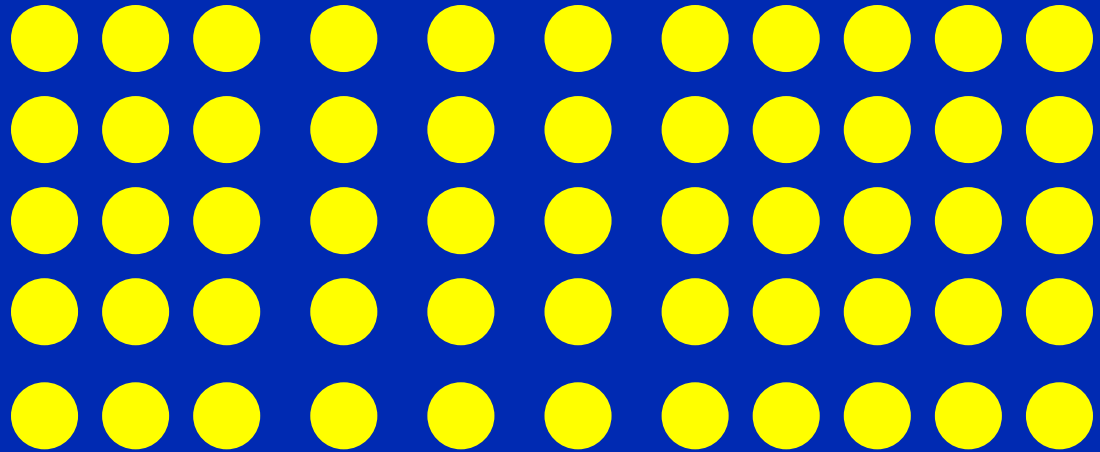
3-dimensional crystal: 3 degrees of freedom per atom  
s atoms per primitive cell: 3 acoustical branches  
3s-3 optical branches



# Sound waves

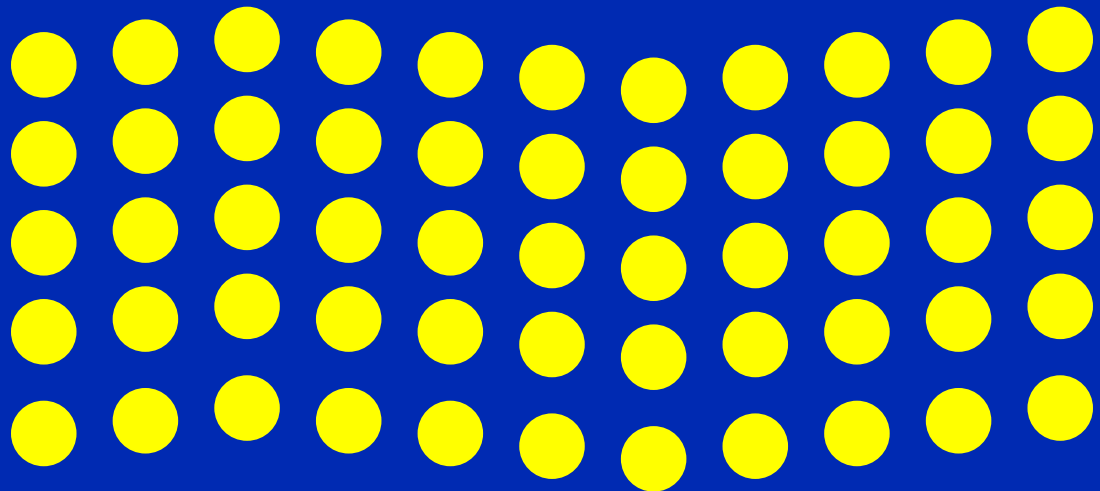
Longitudinal  
Acoustical

$$u // k$$



Transverse  
acoustical

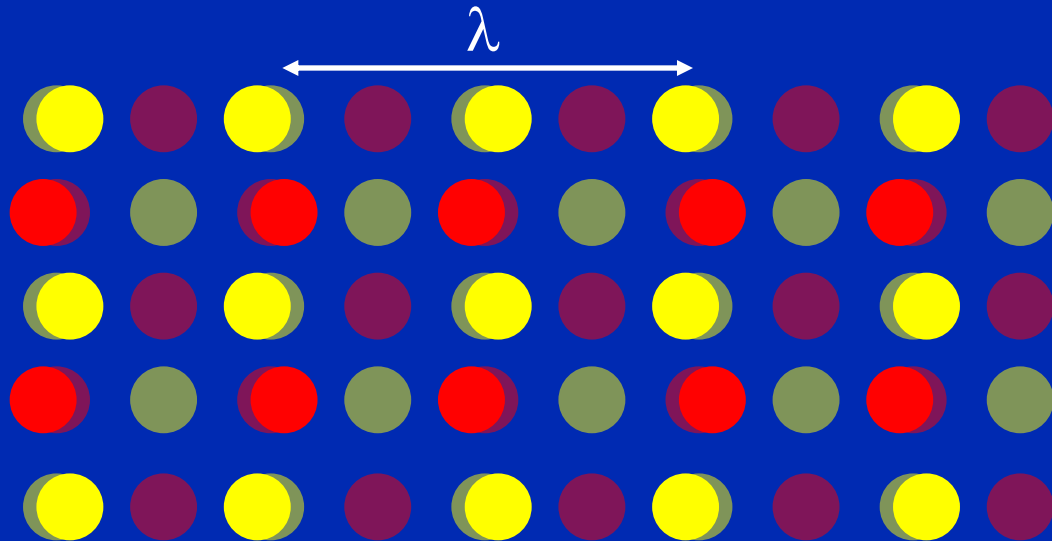
$$u \perp k$$



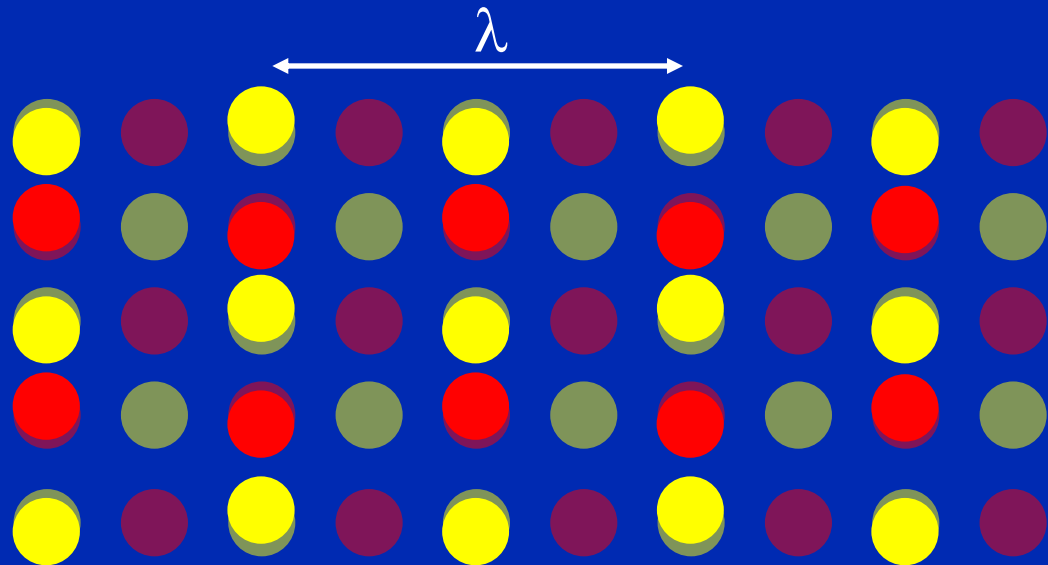


# Optical waves

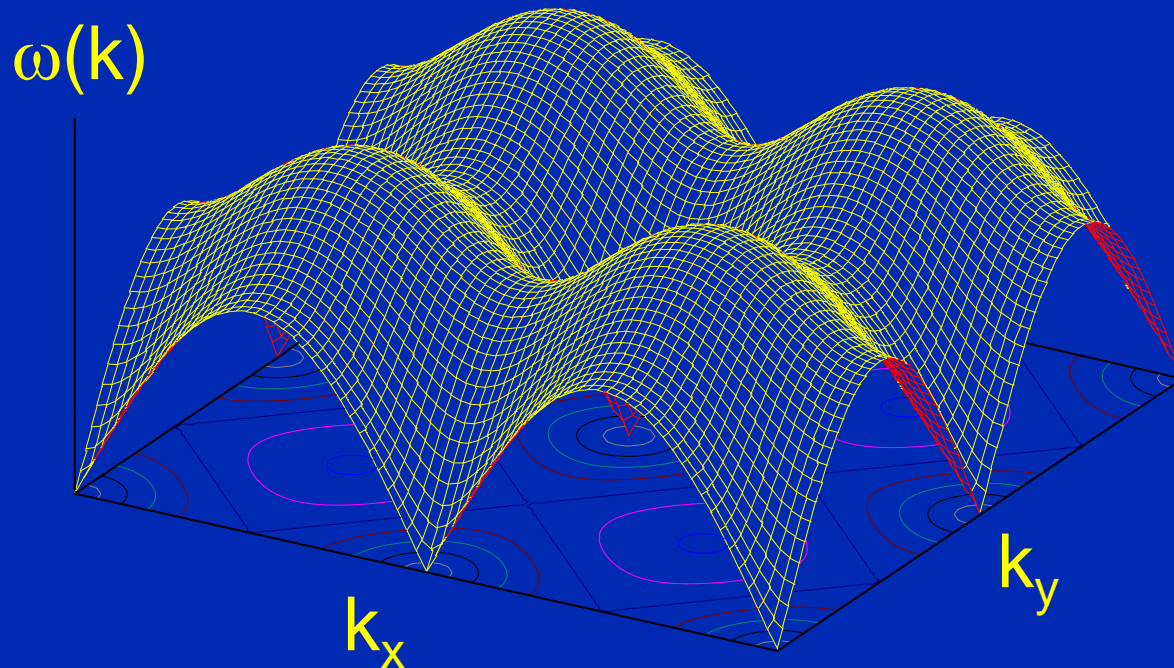
Longitudinal  
optical phonons



Transversal  
optical phonons



# Dispersion in two dimensions



$$\omega_{\mathbf{k}} = \sqrt{\frac{4C}{m}} \sqrt{\sin^2\left(\frac{k_x a}{2}\right) + \sin^2\left(\frac{k_y a}{2}\right)}$$

# phonons

Classical:  $u_s(t) = u_k(t) e^{i k a s}$

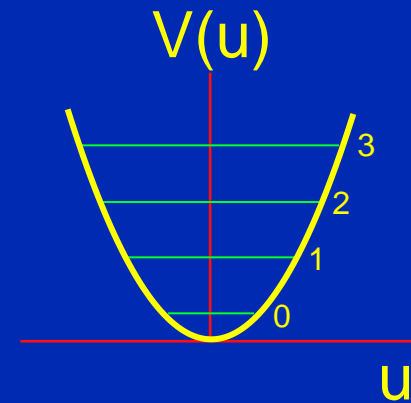
EOM:  $m\ddot{u}_k(t) = -C_k u_k(t)$  with  $C_k = m\omega_k^2$

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Quantum states of elastic waves:

$$\left\{ -\frac{\hbar}{2m} \frac{\partial^2}{\partial u_k^2} + \frac{1}{2} m \omega_k^2 u_k^2 \right\} \cdot \psi_k(u_k) = E_k \cdot \psi_k(u_k)$$

$$\psi_k(u_k, t) = e^{i(E_k/\hbar)t} \cdot \psi_k(u_k) \quad E_k = \left(n + \frac{1}{2}\right) \cdot \hbar\omega_k$$



See Kittel appendix C: quantization of elastic waves: phonons

# Properties of phonons

Any number can occupy the same vibrational mode  $u_{\mathbf{k}}$

⇒ Phonons are *bosons*

⇒ Thermal occupation given by Planck's distribution

$$\langle n_{\mathbf{k}} \rangle = \frac{1}{e^{(\hbar\omega_{\mathbf{k}}/k_bT)} - 1}$$

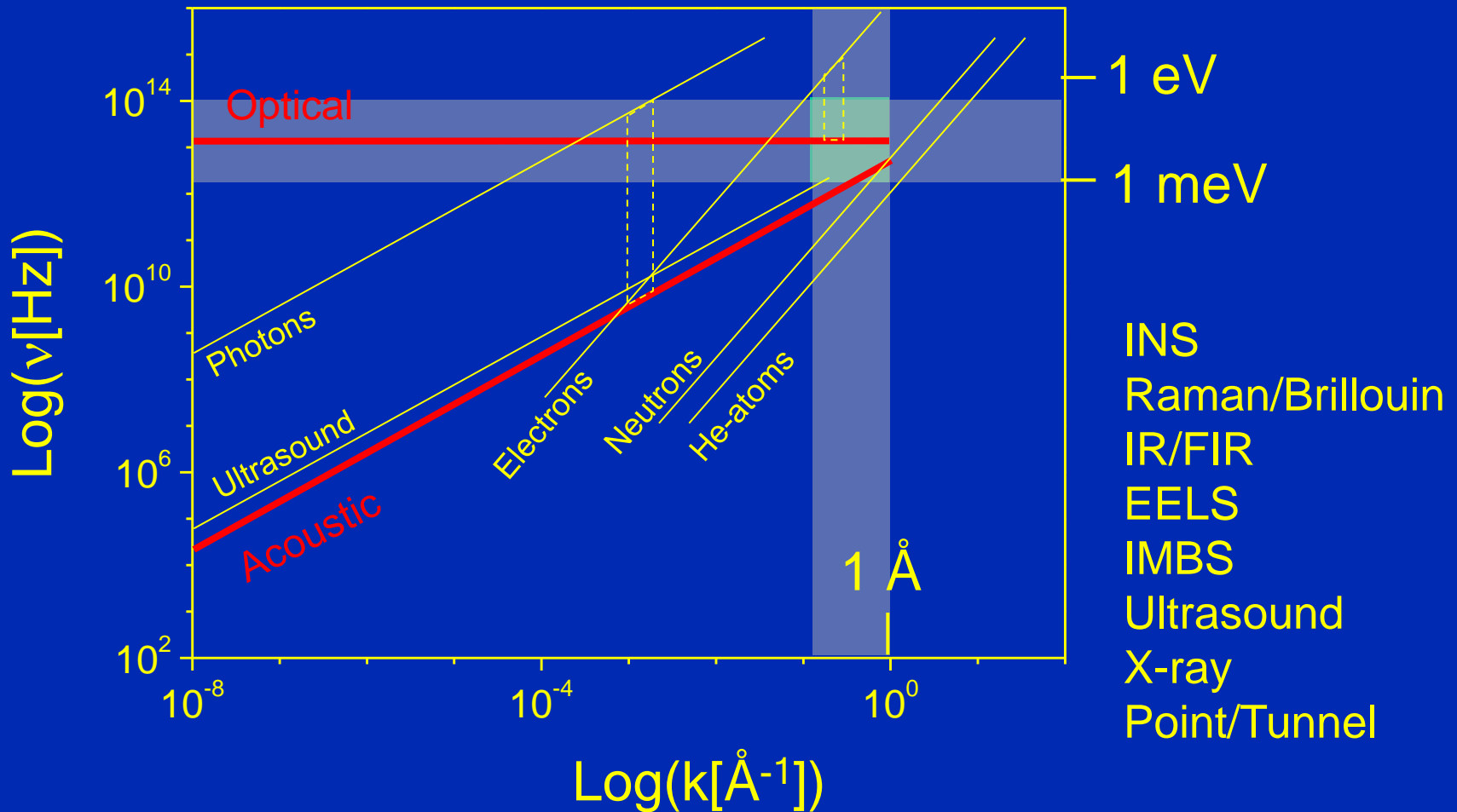
Zero-point energy:  $E_0 = \sum_{\mathbf{k}} \frac{1}{2} \hbar\omega_{\mathbf{k}}$

Energy of 1 phonon:  $\hbar\omega_{\mathbf{k}}$

“Momentum” of 1 phonon:  $\hbar\mathbf{k}$

Phonons: Quantum excitations of solids

# Measuring phonons



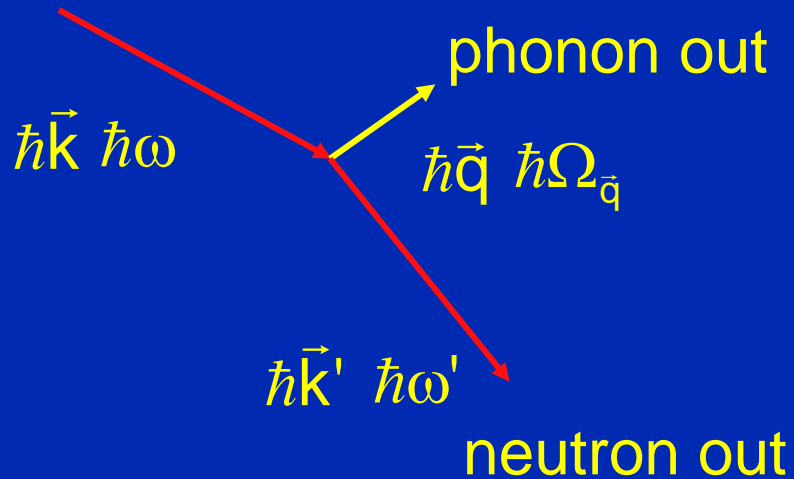
# Phonon momentum

Total momentum of a crystal with phonon  $k$  is zero !

$$\mathbf{P} = M \frac{\partial}{\partial t} \sum_s^N \mathbf{u}_s = M \frac{\partial \mathbf{u}}{\partial t} \cdot \sum_s e^{i k a s} = M \frac{\partial \mathbf{u}}{\partial t} \cdot \frac{1 - e^{i k a N}}{1 - e^{i k a}} = 0$$


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neutron in



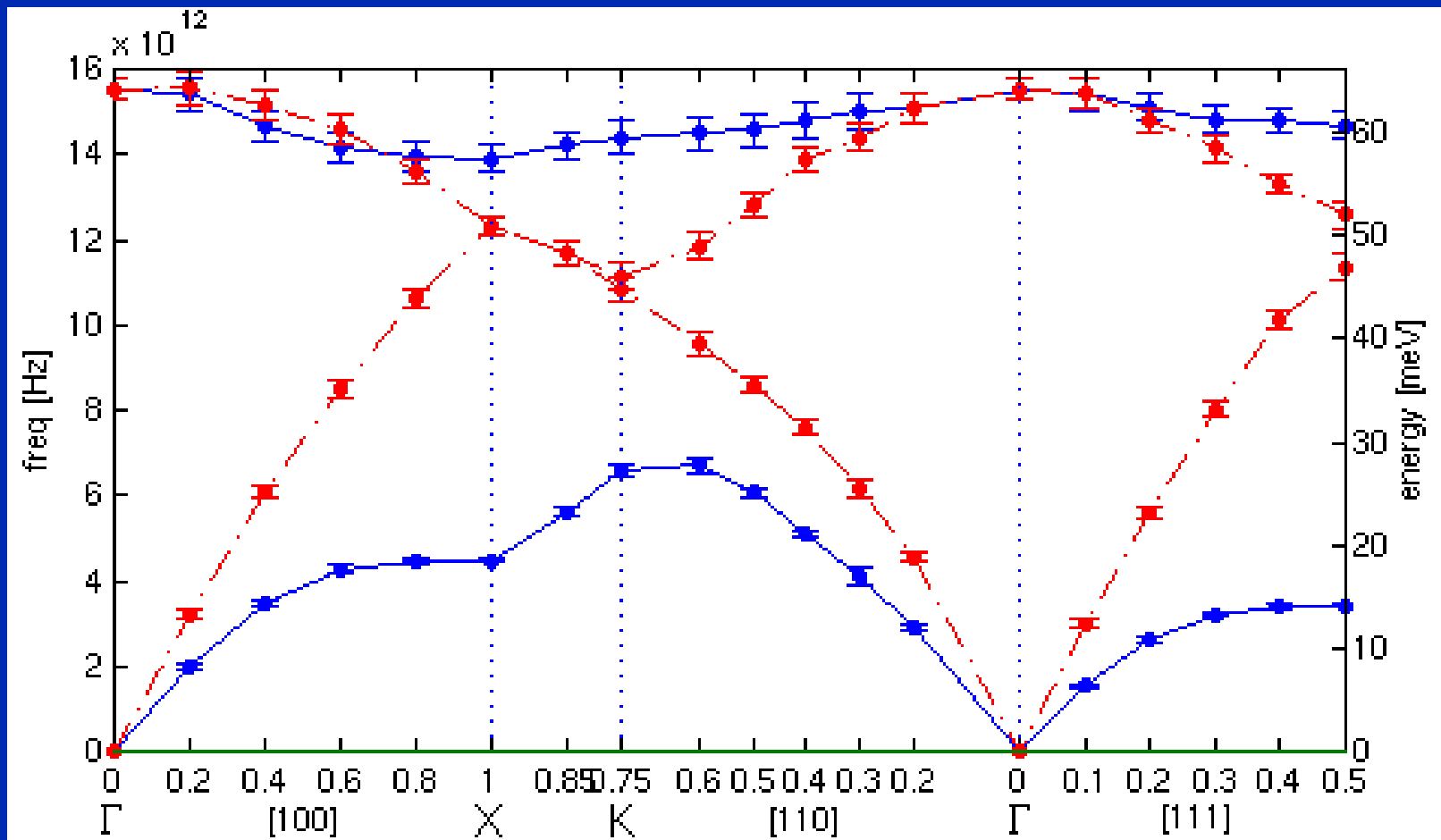
Energy conservation

$$\frac{\hbar^2 k^2}{2m_n} = \frac{\hbar^2 k'^2}{2m_n} \pm \hbar \Omega$$

“Momentum” conservation

$$\mathbf{k} = \mathbf{k}' \pm \mathbf{q} + \mathbf{G}$$

# Phonon dispersion in Si



# Inelastic phonon scattering

- Polarization response  $P = \varepsilon_0 \chi E$
- Phonons modulate susceptibility

$$P(t) = \varepsilon_0 \chi(t) E(t); \quad E(t) = E_0 \cos(\omega t)$$

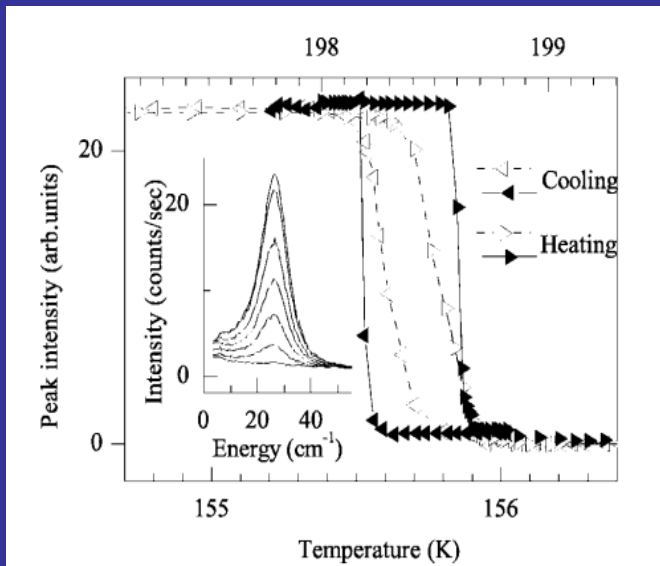
$$\chi = \chi_0 + \frac{d\chi}{dQ} Q = \chi_0 + \chi' \cos(\Omega t)$$

$$\begin{aligned} P(t) &= \varepsilon_0 \chi_0 E_0 \cos(\omega t) + \varepsilon_0 \chi' \cos(\Omega t) E_0 \cos(\omega t) \\ &= \varepsilon_0 \chi_0 E_0 \cos(\omega t) + \frac{1}{2} \varepsilon_0 \chi' E_0 [\cos([\omega + \Omega]t) + \cos([\omega - \Omega]t)] \end{aligned}$$

- Dipole radiation at  $\omega$ , and  $\omega \pm \Omega$
- Rayleigh scattering and Raman sidebands
- Ratio anti-Stokes and Stokes intensity  $\frac{I_{anti-stokes}}{I_{stokes}} = e^{-\frac{\hbar\Omega}{kT}}$

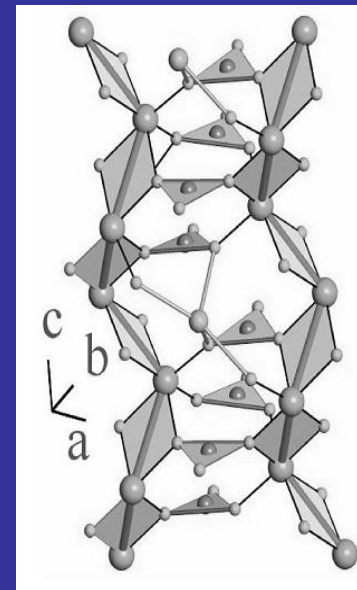
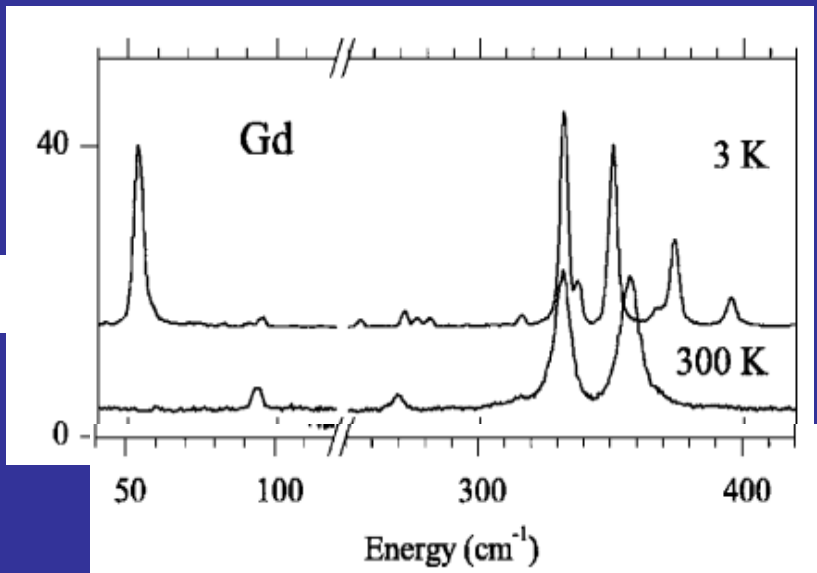


# Raman scattering



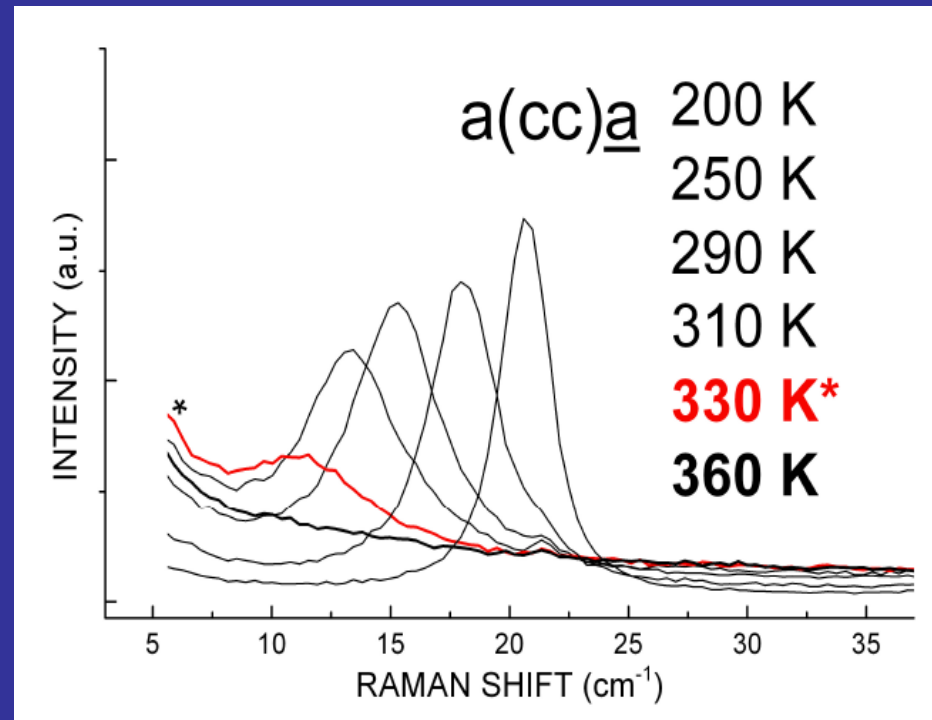
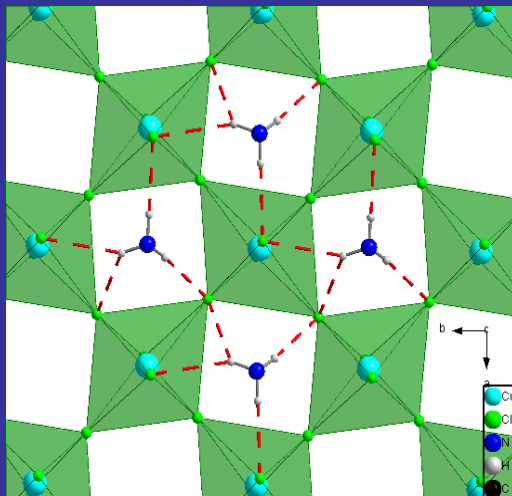
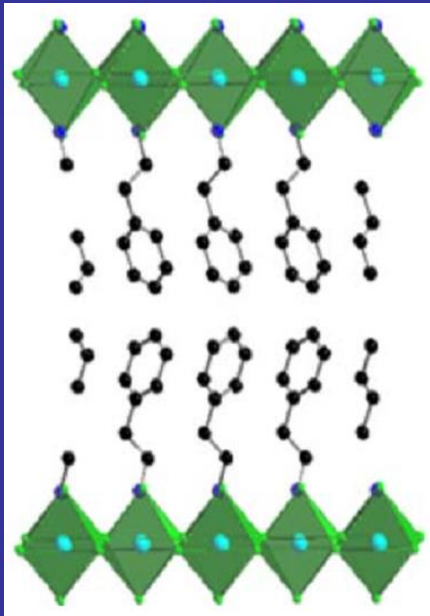
## Vibrational spectroscopy

- Symmetry
- Phase transitions
- Coupling to other excitations
- Bond specific (chemical composition)
- Temperature (ratio stokes/ant-stokes)

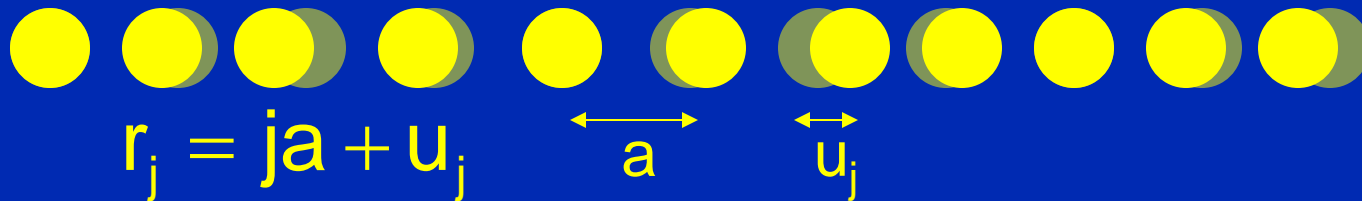


First order phase transition in RFe<sub>3</sub>(BO<sub>3</sub>)<sub>4</sub>  
D. Fausti et al., PRB **74**, 024403 1996

# Hybrids: Orientational melting



# Harmonic crystal: No thermal expansion

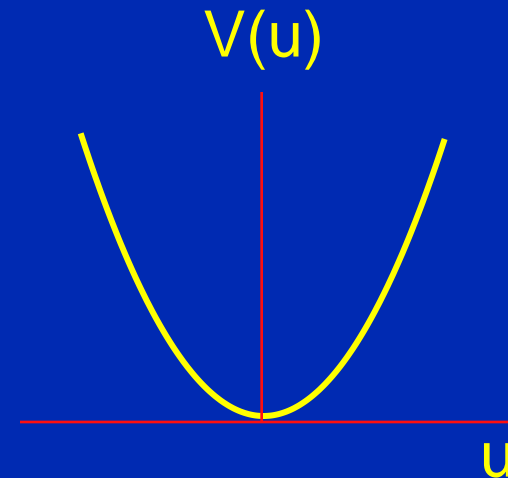


Harmonic

$$V(u_j) = \alpha \cdot u_j^2$$

$$a(T) = a + \langle u_j \rangle_T = a$$

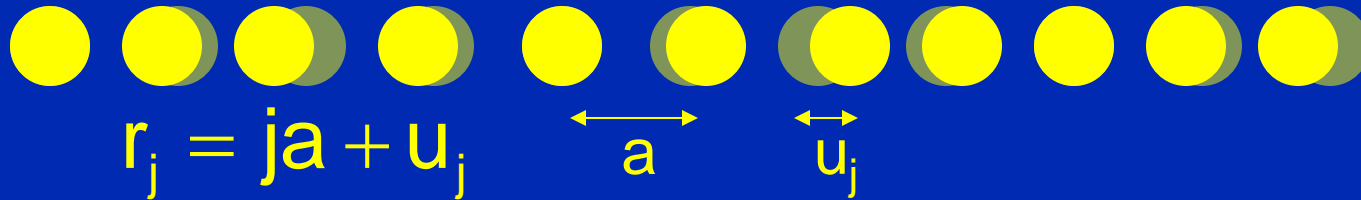
$$\langle u_j \rangle_T = \frac{\int du \cdot u e^{-V(u_j)/k_B T}}{\int du \cdot e^{-V(u_j)/k_B T}} = 0$$



No lattice expansion !!

# Anharmonicity:

## Thermal expansion (classical)

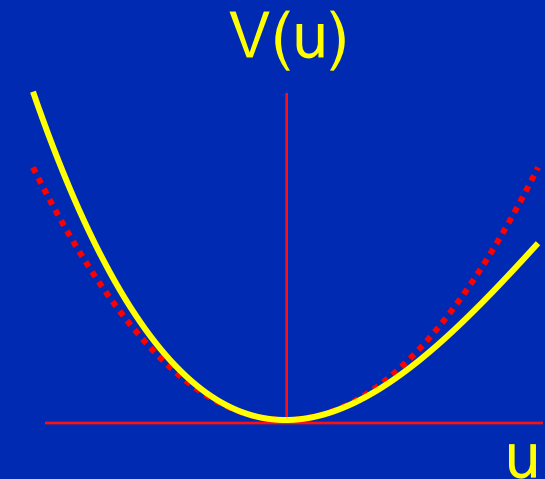


Weak anharmonicity

$$V(u_j) = \alpha \cdot u_j^2 - \gamma \cdot u_j^3$$

$$\langle u_j \rangle_T = \frac{\int du \cdot u e^{-V(u_j)/k_B T}}{\int du \cdot e^{-V(u_j)/k_B T}} \approx \frac{3/4 (k_B T)^{3/2} \sqrt{\pi} \gamma \alpha^{-5/2}}{\sqrt{k_B T} \sqrt{\pi} \alpha^{-1/2}}$$

$$a(T) = a_0 + \langle u_j \rangle_T = a_0 + \frac{3\gamma}{4\alpha^2} k_B T$$



Lattice expansion is caused by anharmonicity !