

# Activities of the Brillouin light scattering laboratory

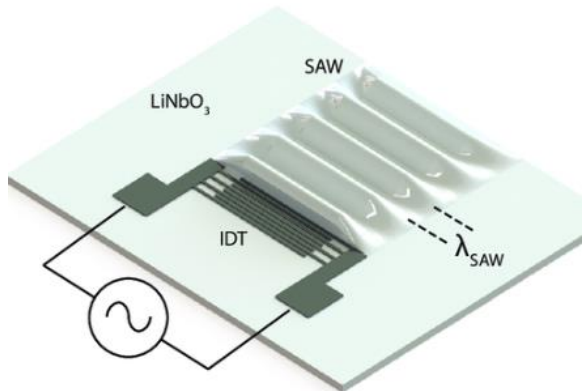
(department of Biophysics)

Members: Bartłomiej Graczykowski, Mikolaj Pochylski,  
Jacek Gapinski,

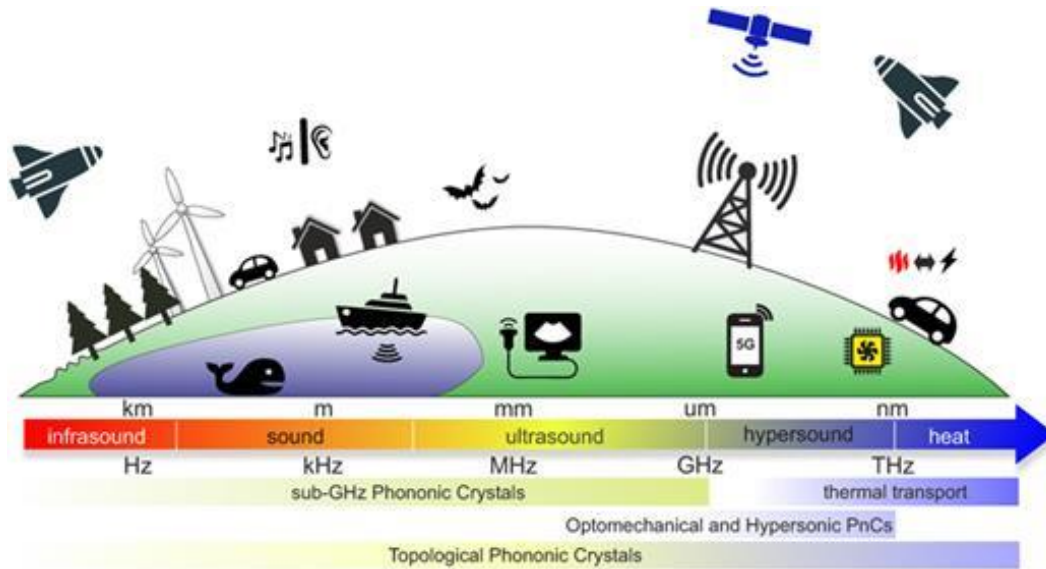
George Fytas, Thomas Vasileiadis, Adam Krysztofik,  
Rafal Bialek, Anuj Kumar Dhiman

# Optomechanics & Phononics: Meaning & Motivation

1) Connecting different wavelengths

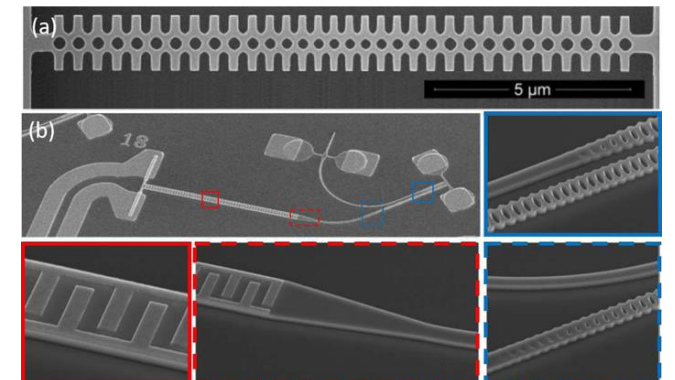


Armaghan Fakhfouri, PhD thesis, *Design of Surface Acoustic Waves Field for Manipulation of Particles in Microfluidics*. Monash University



*J. Appl. Phys.* 129, 160901 (2021)

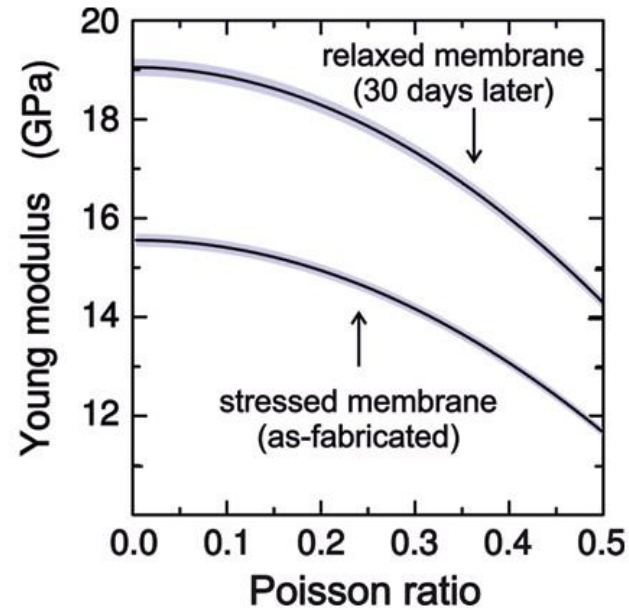
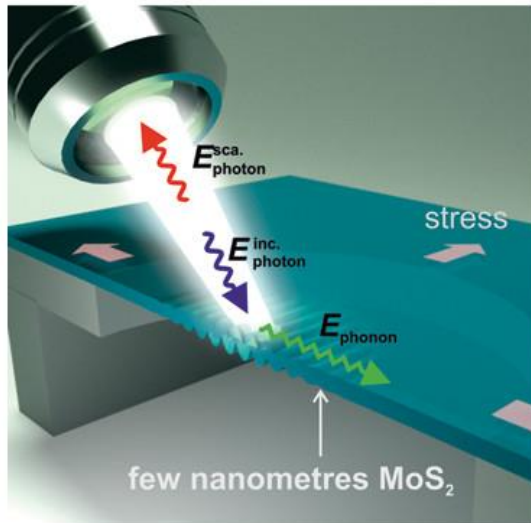
2) Connecting different frequencies



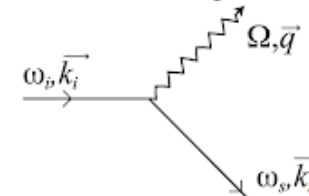
*Sci. Rep.* 5, 1–7 (2015).  
& *Nat. Commun.* 11, 1–7 (2020).

# Brillouin light scattering (BLS): A tool for studying mechanical and thermal properties

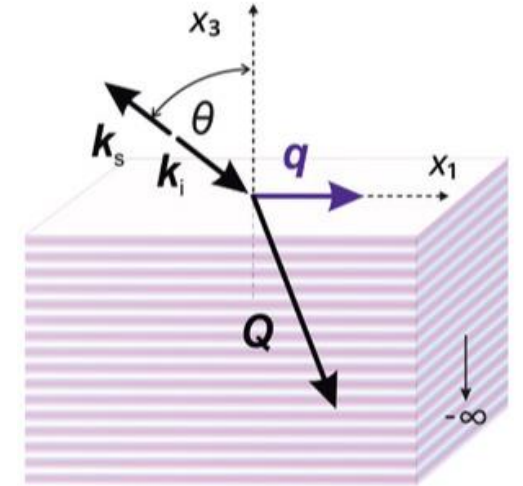
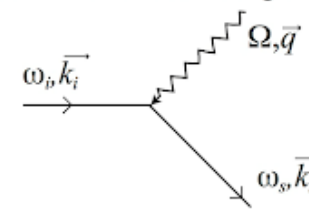
- Brillouin light scattering (BLS) is direct manifestation of optomechanical coupling.
- It can be used for contactless characterization of the mechanical and thermal properties of nanomaterials.



Stokes scattering event:



Anti-Stokes scattering event:



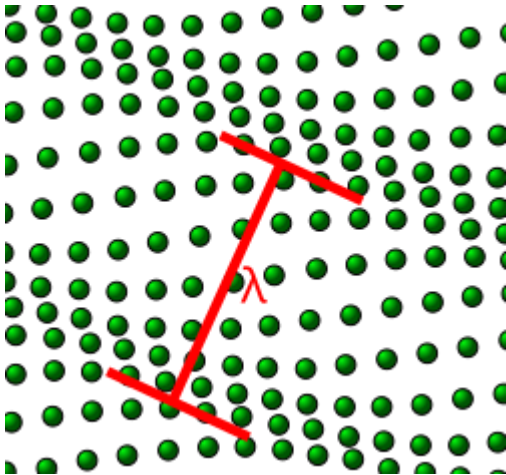
$$q = 4\pi \sin \theta / \lambda$$

$$Q = 4\pi n / \lambda$$

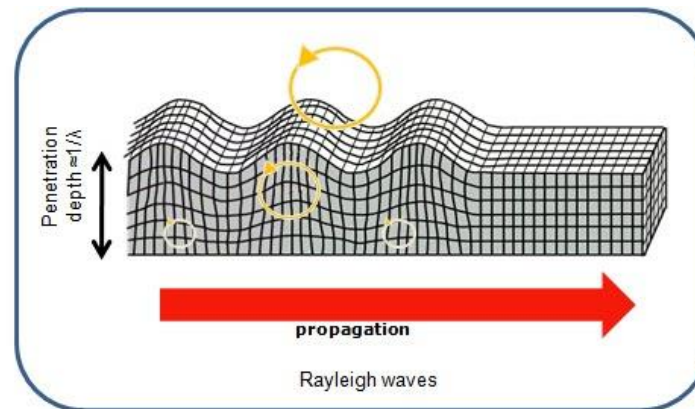
Graczykowski et al. Nano Lett. 2017,  
17, 12, 7647–7651

# BLS: From bulk transparent samples to nanomaterials

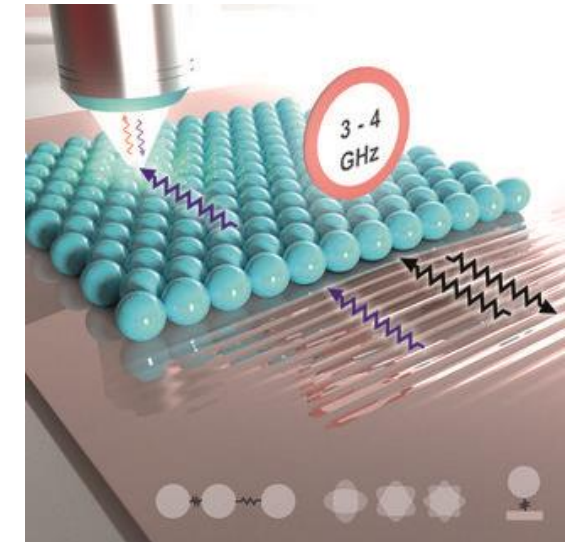
BLS studies started from bulk transparent glasses and liquids.....



Continued with surface acoustic waves (SAWs)



Now applied to nano- & meta-materials

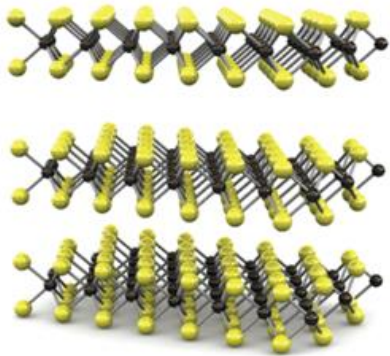


Graczykowski et al. Nano Letters , 20(3), pp. 1883–1889 (2020).

# Types of projects:

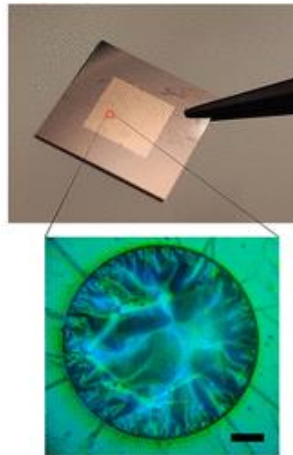
Low-dimensional  
&  
nanostructured materials

## 2D materials



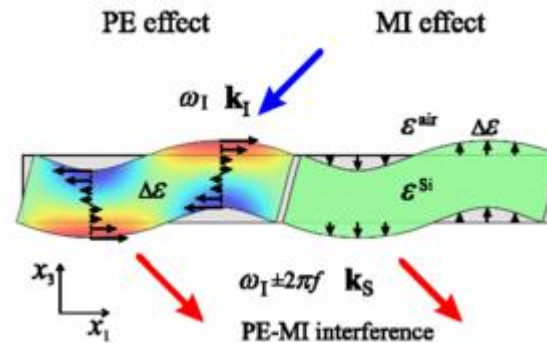
Babacic, Graczykowski, et al.  
Advanced Materials, 2021,  
33(23), 2008614

## Bio-inspired materials



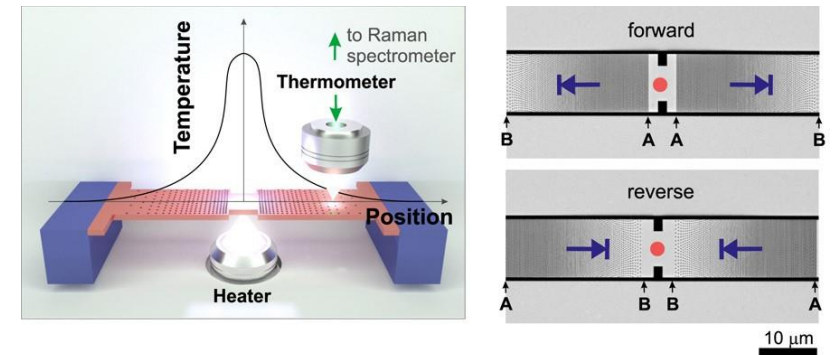
Nano Letters, 2022,  
22(2), pp. 578–585

## Semiconducting nanomembranes



Graczykowski et al.  
Physical Review B  
, 99(16), 165431

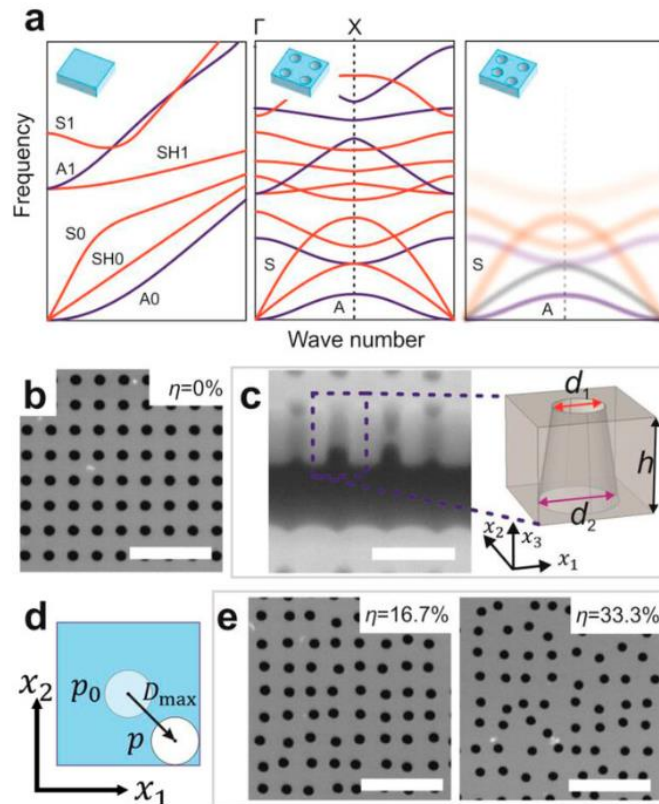
## Metamaterials and novel devices



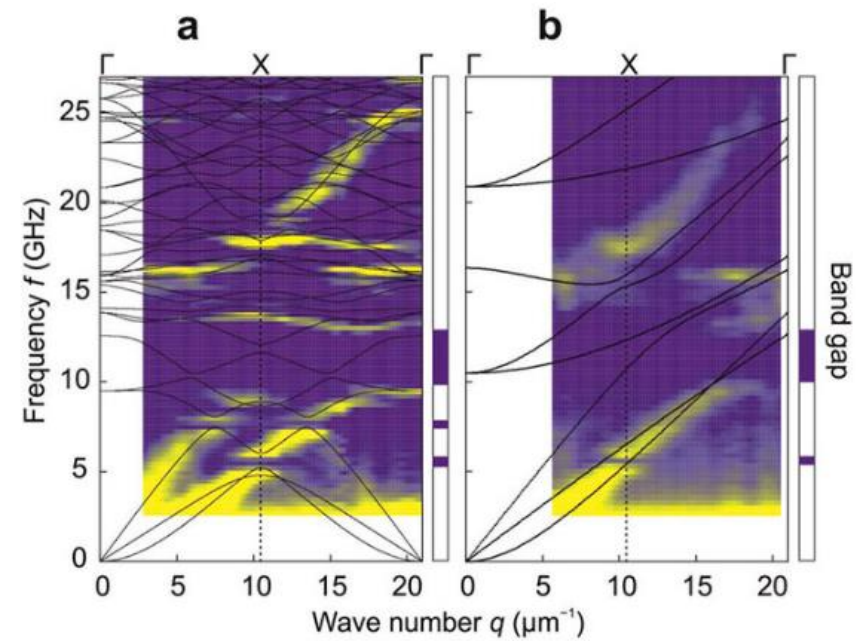
Graczykowski, Kasprzak, et al. High-temperature silicon thermal diode and switch, Nano Energy 78, 105261 (2020).

# Recent examples: Phononic Crystals

A phononic crystal  
with varying degree  
of disorder



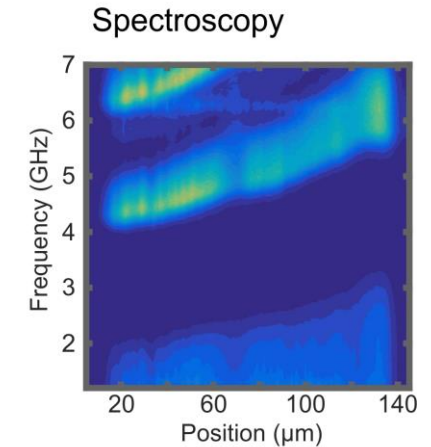
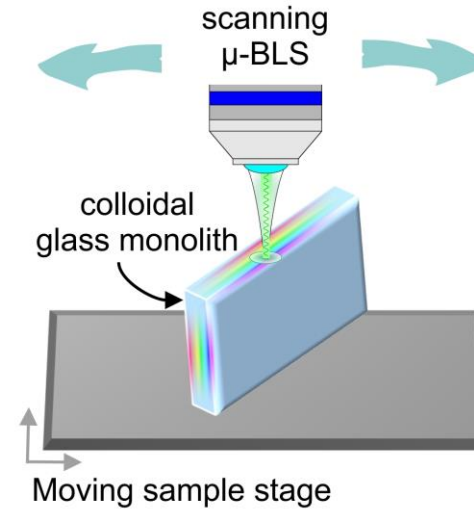
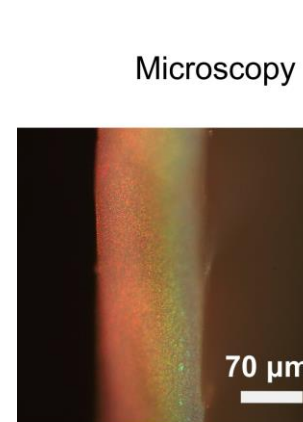
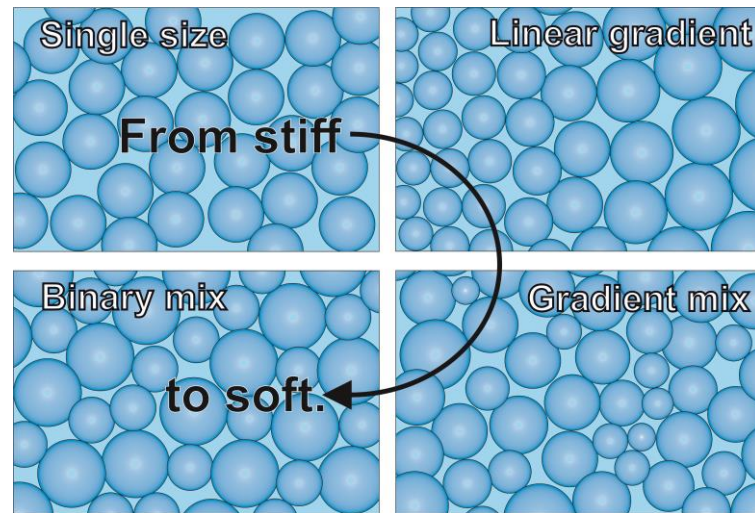
Excellent  
robustness to  
disorder



Babacic, Graczykowski, et al.  
APL Materials, 2024, 12(4), 041108

# Recent examples: Phononic Glasses

Elasticity Mapping of Colloidal Glasses Reveals the Interplay between Mesoscopic Order and Granular Mechanics



Collaboration with Markus Retsch,  
Universität Bayreuth

Accepted in Small Methods, 2024

# Pumped Brillouin Light Scattering (pump-BLS)

Pump-BLS: Novel method showing 330-fold enhancement of inelastic light scattering from a 260 nm-thick Si nanomembrane (compared with spontaneous BLS)

*Science Advances* 6, eabd4540 (2020).

SCIENCE ADVANCES | RESEARCH ARTICLE

## PHYSICS

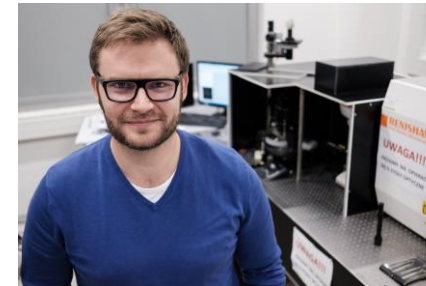
### Frequency-domain study of nonthermal gigahertz phonons reveals Fano coupling to charge carriers

Thomas Vasileiadis<sup>1,2</sup>, Heng Zhang<sup>1</sup>, Hal Wang<sup>1</sup>, Mischa Bonn<sup>1</sup>, George Fytas<sup>1\*</sup>, Bartłomiej Graczykowski<sup>1,2\*</sup>

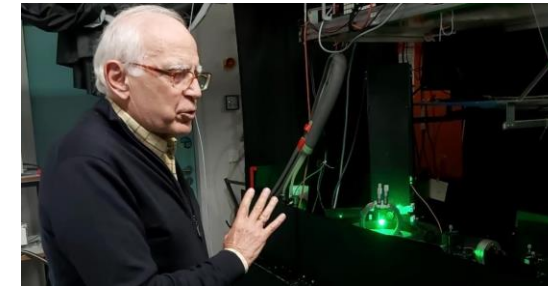
Telecommunication devices exploit hypersonic gigahertz acoustic phonons to mediate signal processing with microwave radiation, and charge carriers to operate various microelectronic components. Potential interactions of hypersound with charge carriers can be revealed through frequency- and momentum-resolved studies of acoustic phonons in photoexcited semiconductors. Here, we present an all-optical method for excitation and frequency-, momentum-, and space-resolved detection of gigahertz acoustic waves in a spatially confined model semiconductor. Lamb waves are excited in a bare silicon membrane using femtosecond optical pulses and detected with frequency-domain micro-Brillouin light spectroscopy. The population of photoexcited gigahertz phonons displays a hundredfold enhancement as compared with thermal equilibrium. The phonon spectra reveal Stokes–anti-Stokes asymmetry due to propagation, and strongly asymmetric Fano resonances due to coupling between the electron-hole plasma and the photoexcited phonons. This work lays the foundation for studying hypersonic signals in nonequilibrium conditions and, more generally, phonon-dependent phenomena in photoexcited nanostructures.

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Bartłomiej  
Graczykowski



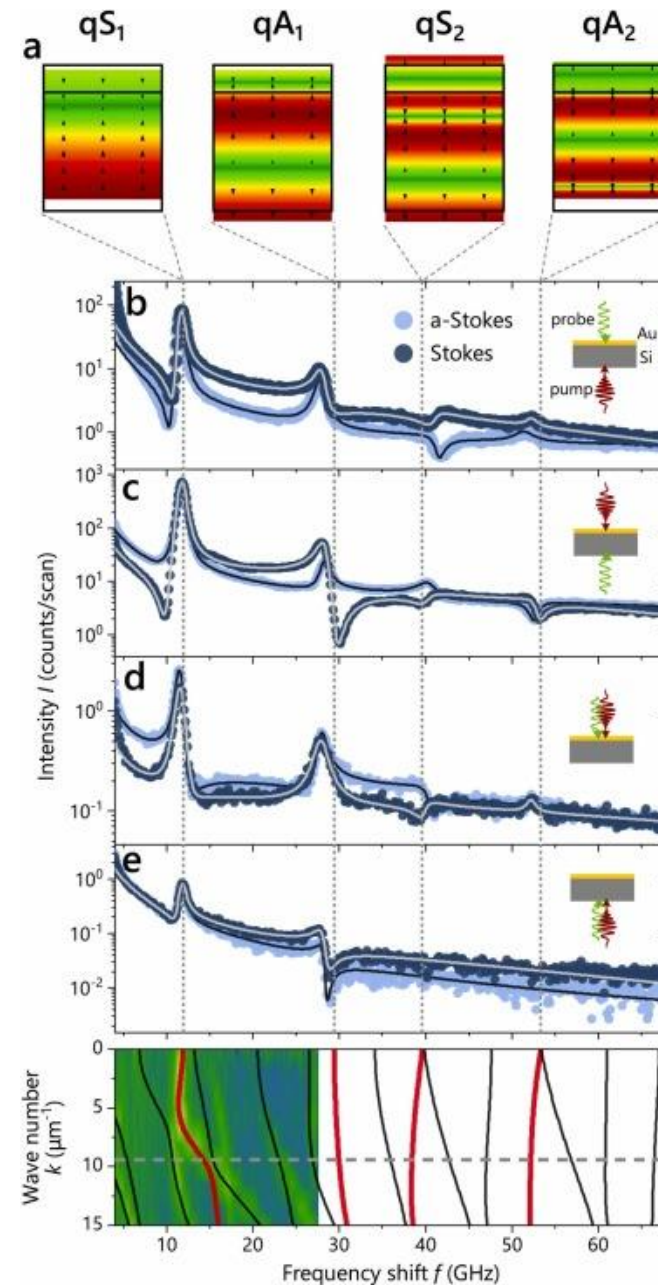
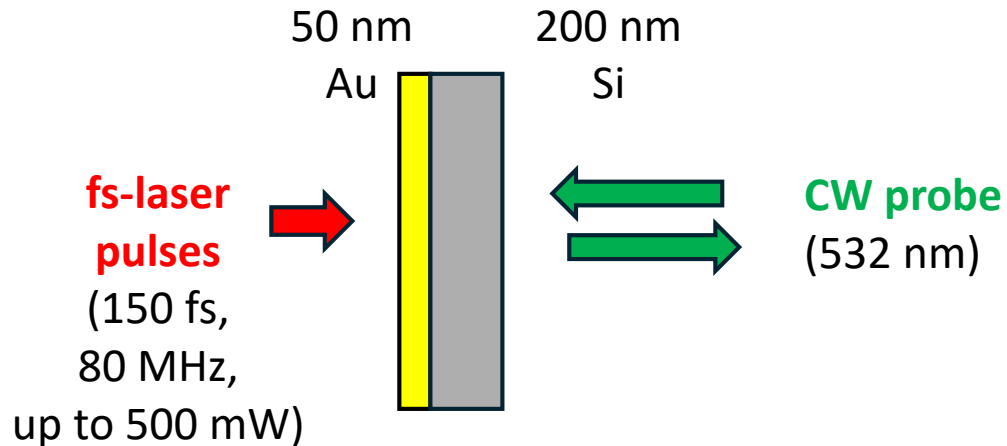
George  
Fytas





# Metal-semiconductor heterostructures

Rafał Białek, Bartłomiej Graczykowski, *et al.*  
Photoacoustics Vol. 30, 100478 (2023)

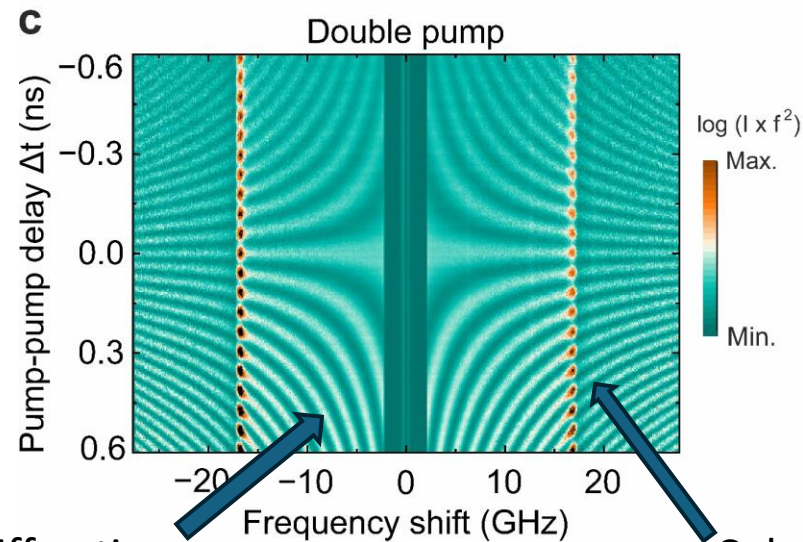
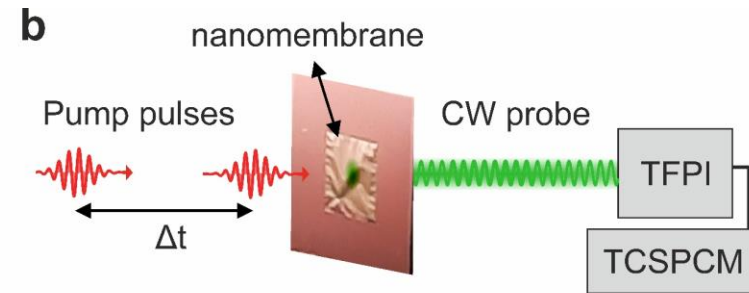
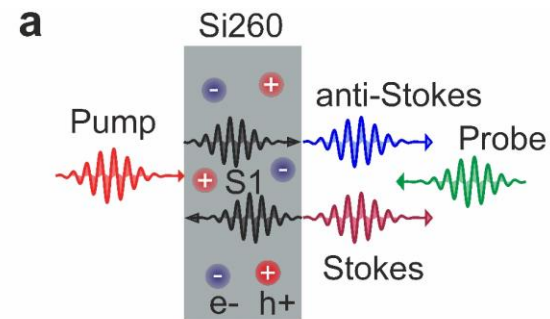


# Inelastic light scattering on temporal interfaces

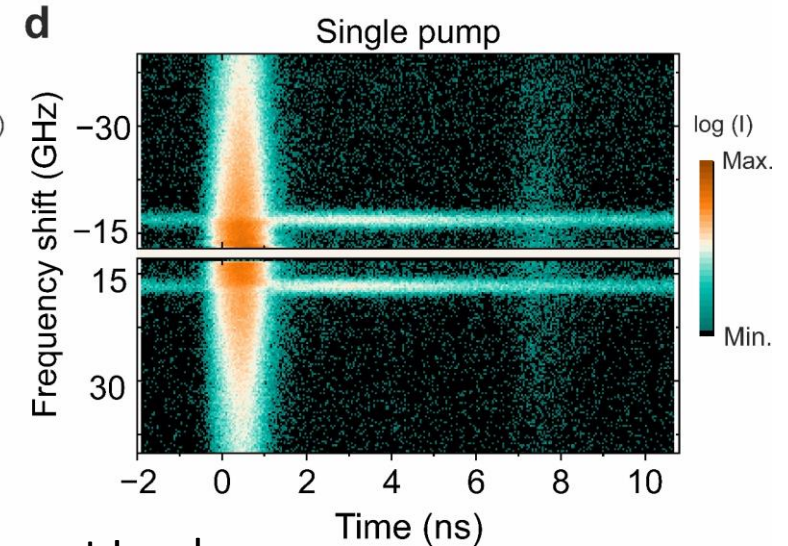
Pump-BLS with *pairs* of fs pump pulses

(wavelength 780 nm, pulse duration  $\sim 150$  fs) and a continuous wave probe (532 nm).

Work performed by Anuj Kumar Dhiman.



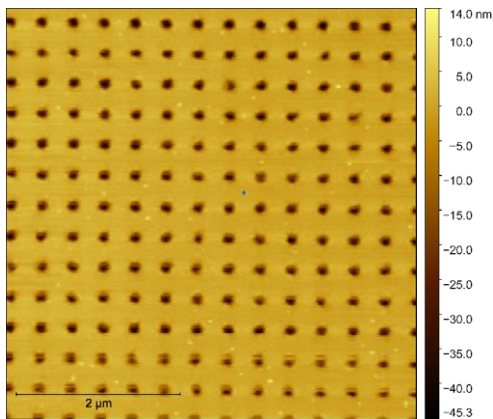
Time-diffraction of light



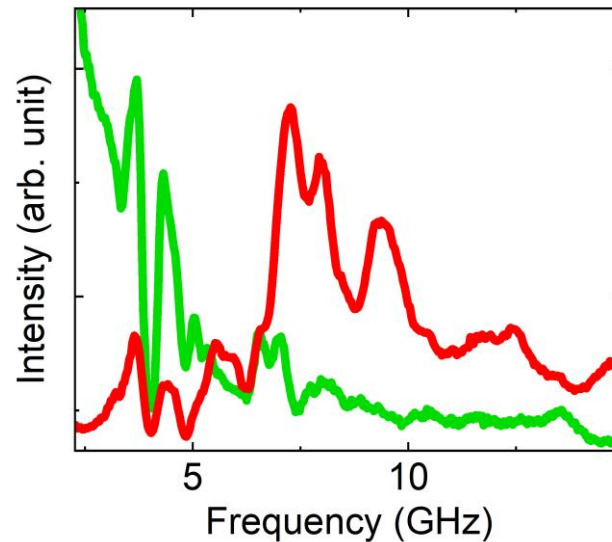
Coherent Lamb mode at 17 GHz

# Acoustoplasmonics

Nanoholes  
On Au/SiO<sub>2</sub>/Si  
layers

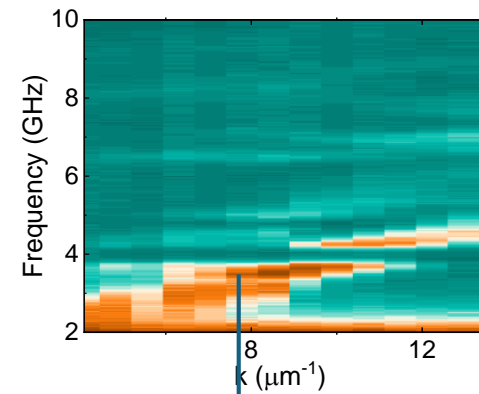


The obtained spectra depend  
on the photon energy!

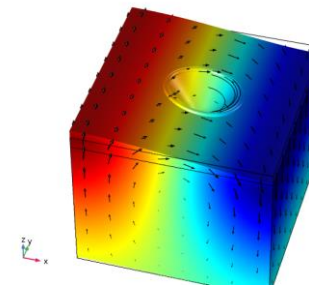


Mode-resolved mapping of  
acoustoplasmonic coupling

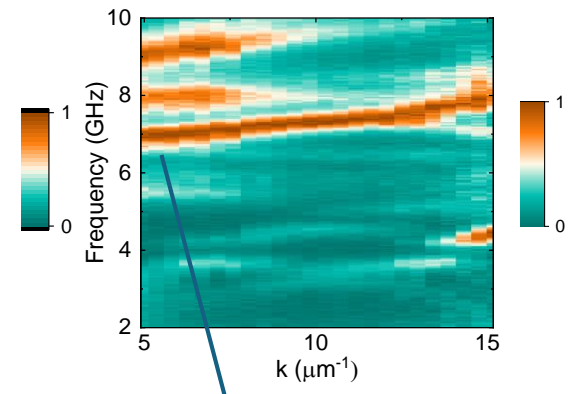
$\lambda=532$  nm



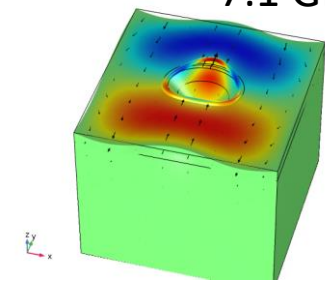
3.35 GHz



$\lambda=660$  nm



7.1 GHz



Work performed by Hritika Dongre and Anuj Kumar Dhiman.