



Lattice Dynamics: From Phonons to Thermodynamics

Christian Carbogno

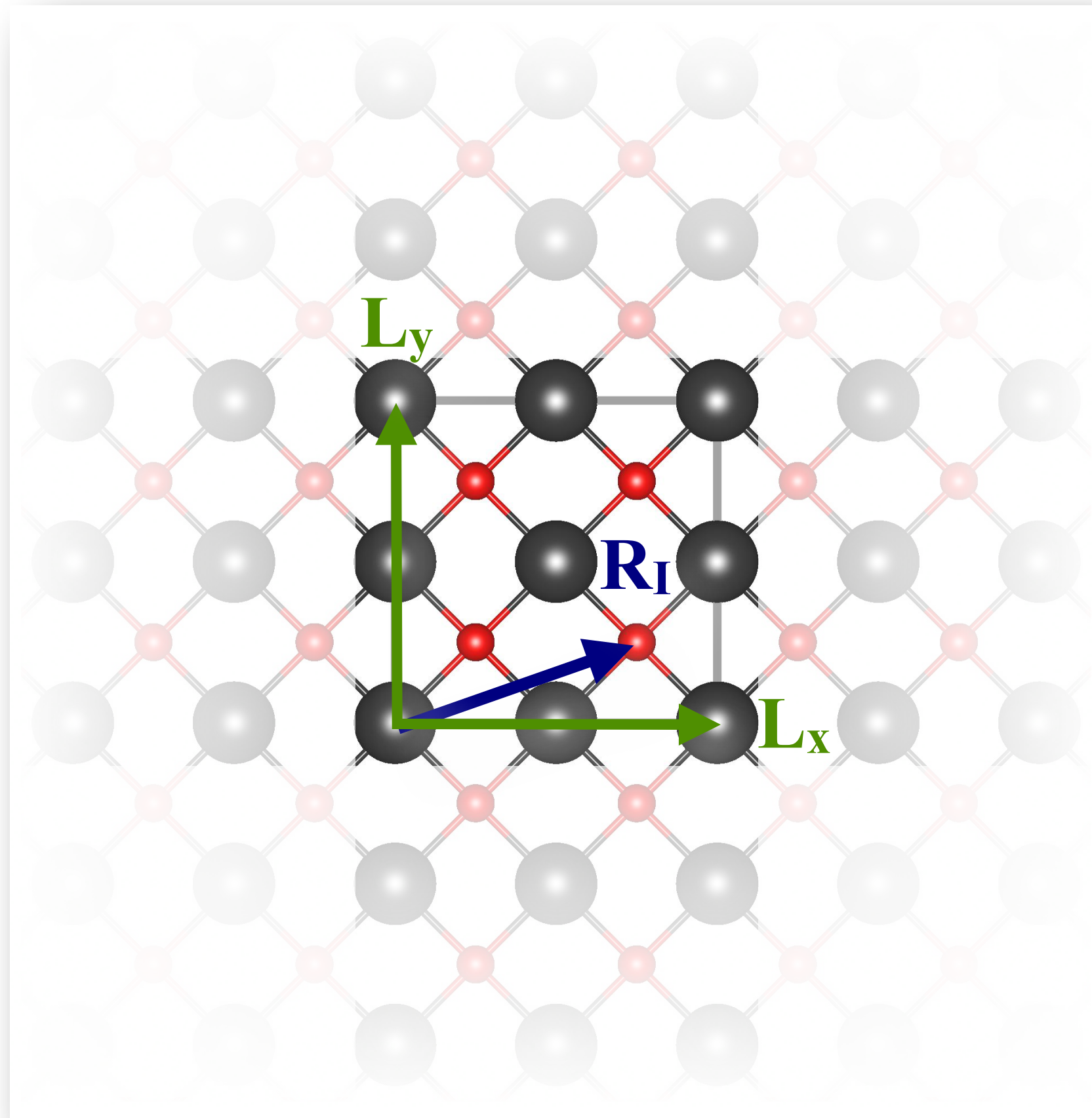
June 12, 2025

FRITZ-HABER-INSTITUT
MAX-PLANCK-GESELLSCHAFT



Crystalline Solids

Idealized Crystal Structure



Infinite grid of immobile atoms
with **perfect periodicity!**

$$\mathbf{R}_{I,lmn} = \mathbf{R}_I + l \mathbf{L}_x + m \mathbf{L}_y + n \mathbf{L}_z \quad l, m, n \in \mathbb{Z}$$

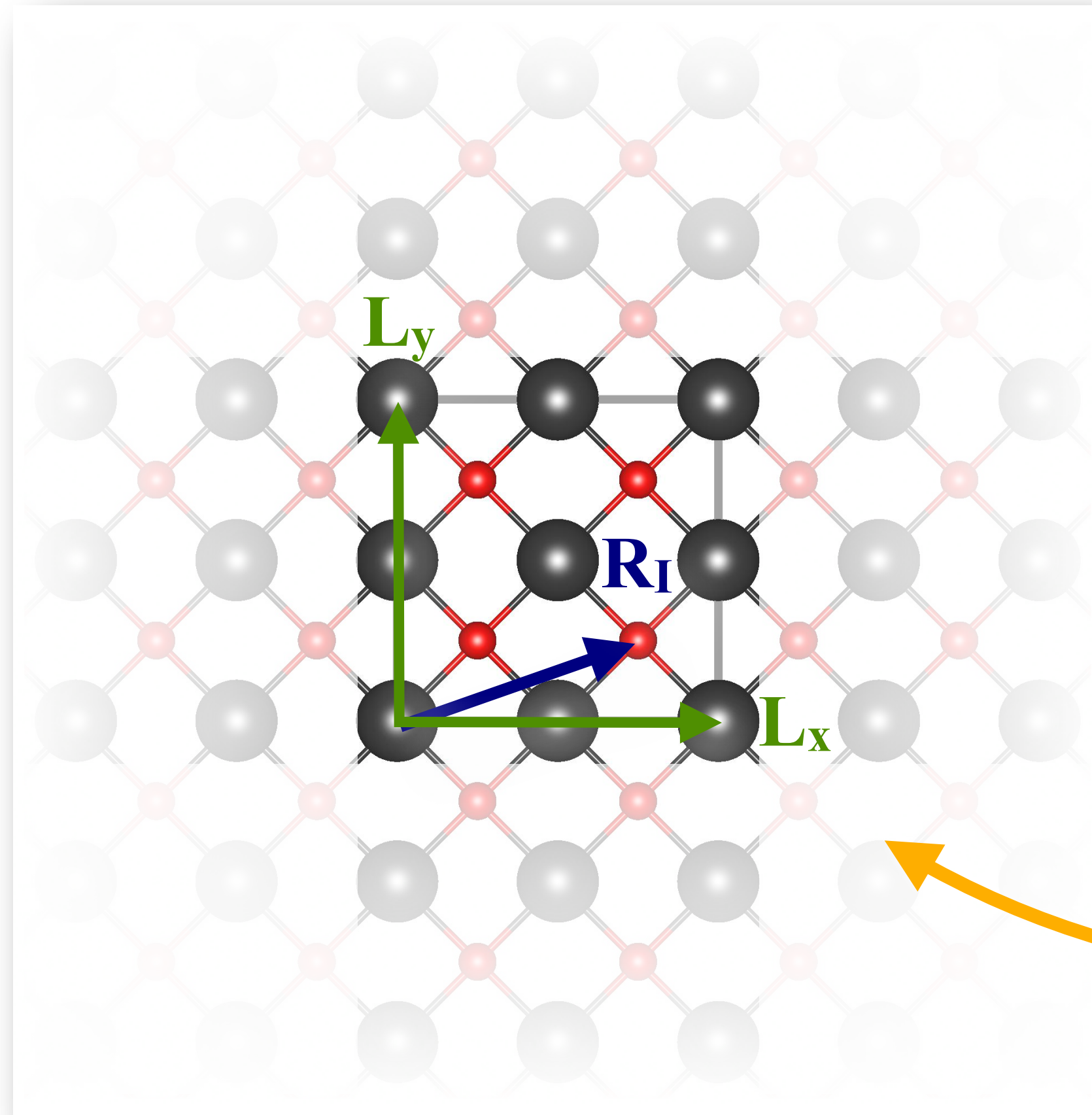
```
# Crystal lattice
lattice_vector 5.0  0  0
lattice_vector 0 5.0  0
lattice_vector 0  0 5.0
# Atomic basis
atom 0 0 0 Zr
atom 2.5 0 0 Zr
atom 0 2.5 0 Zr
atom 2.5 2.5 0 Zr
atom 1.25 1.25 0 0
atom 3.75 1.25 0 0
atom 1.25 3.75 0 0
atom 3.75 3.75 0 0
```

Electronic-Structure Theory

Energy, forces, etc.

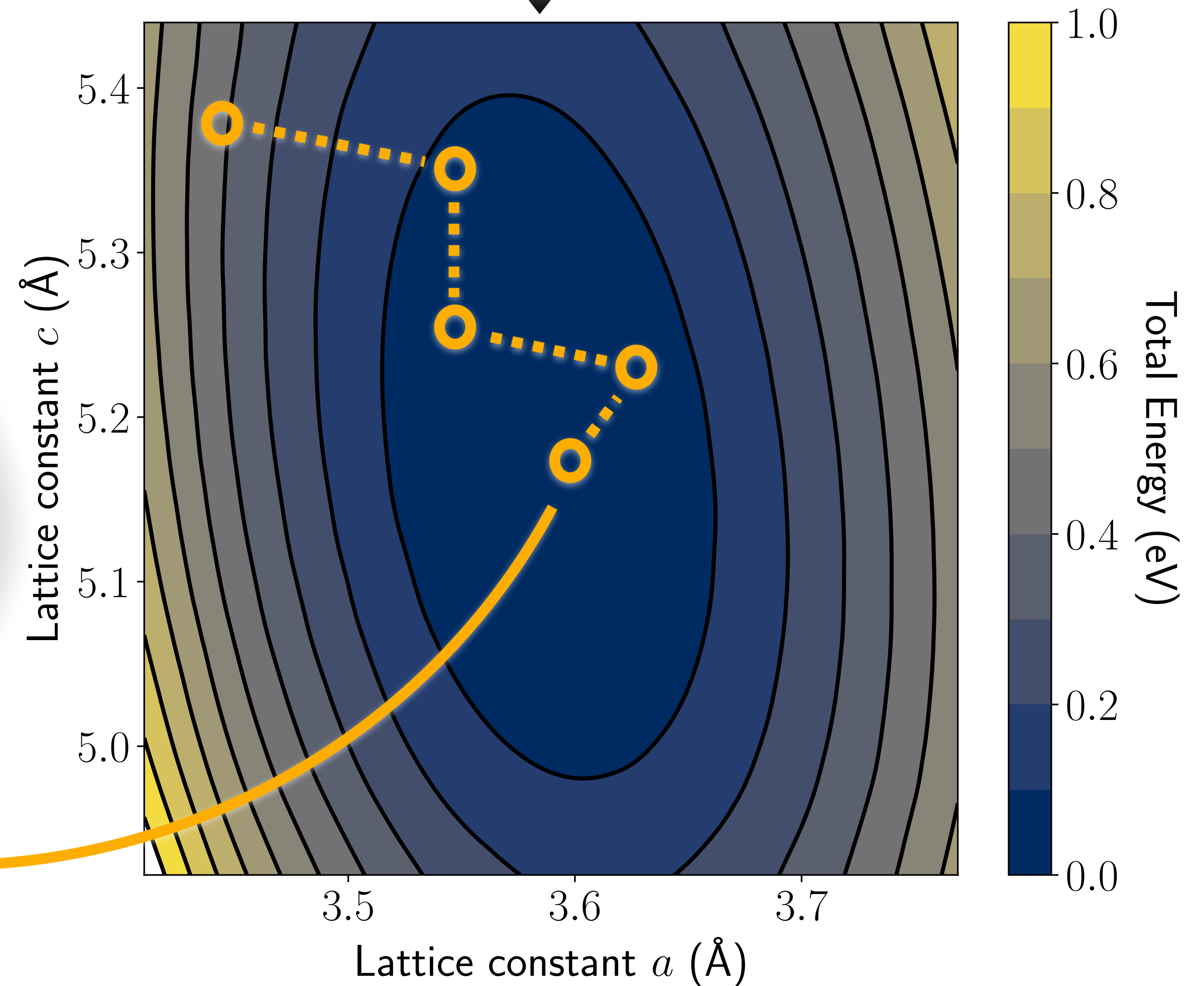
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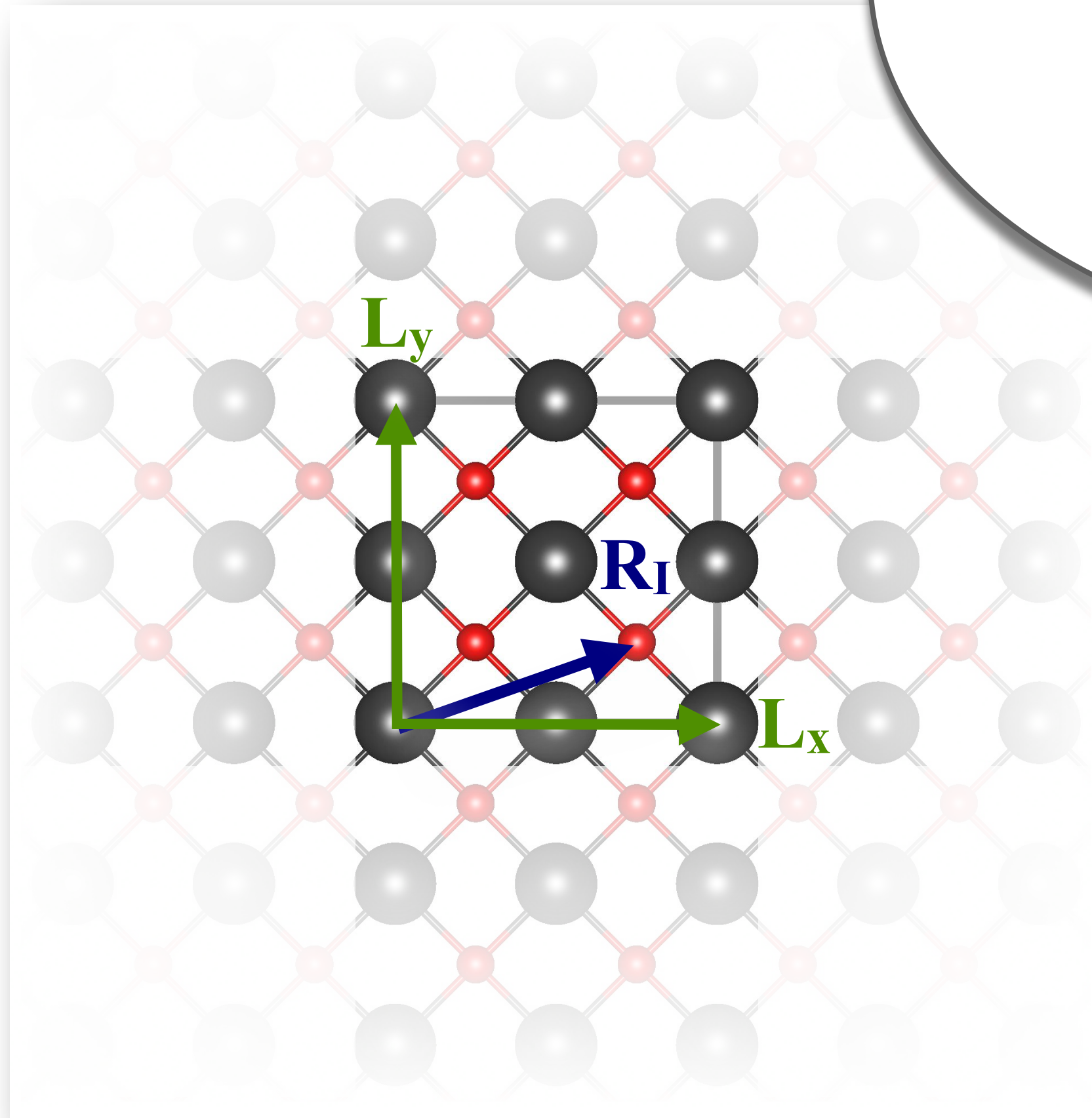
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Energy, forces, etc.

Crystalline Solids

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I beg to disagree:

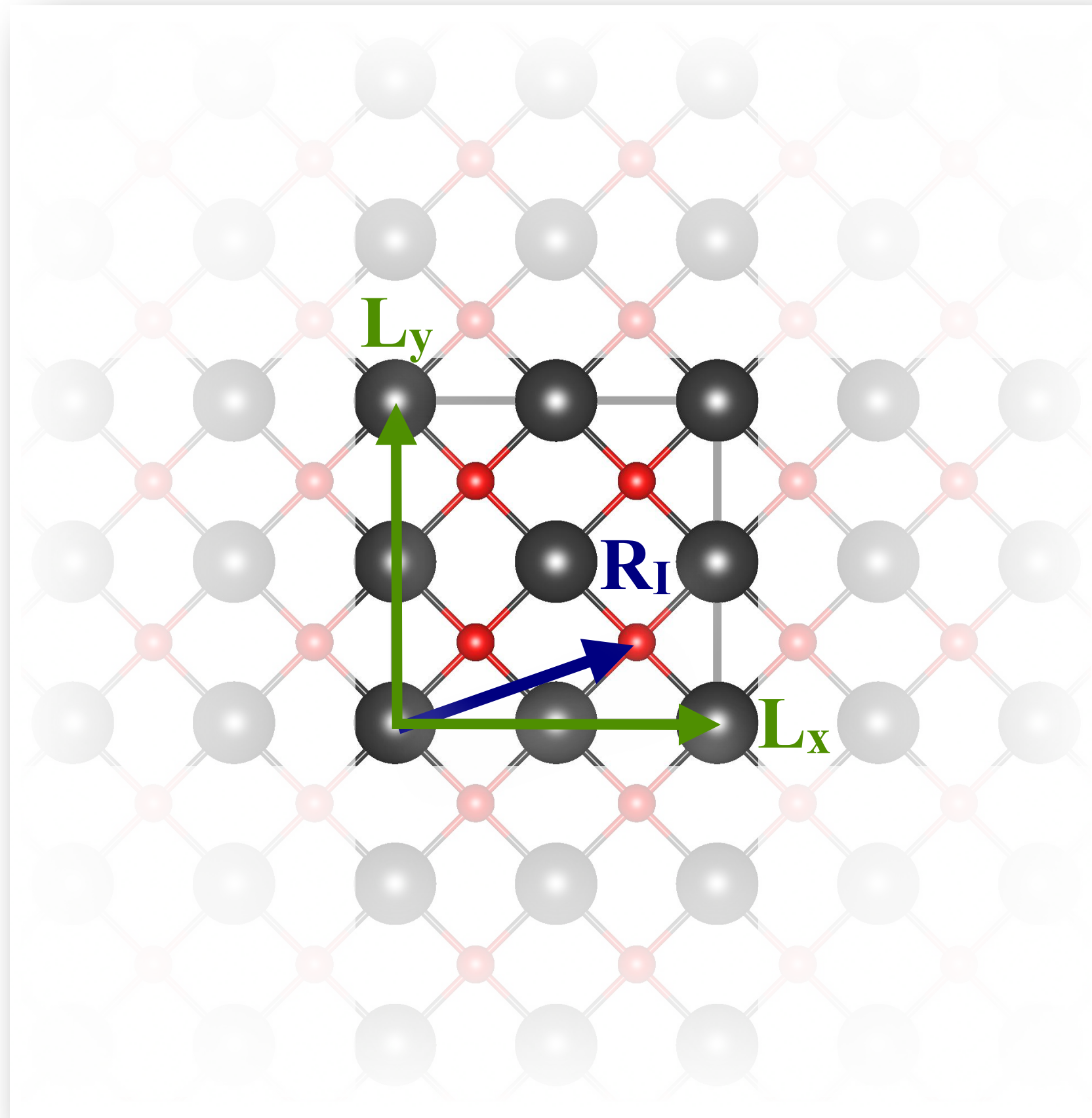
$$\Delta x \Delta p \geq \frac{\hbar}{2}$$



Werner Heisenberg

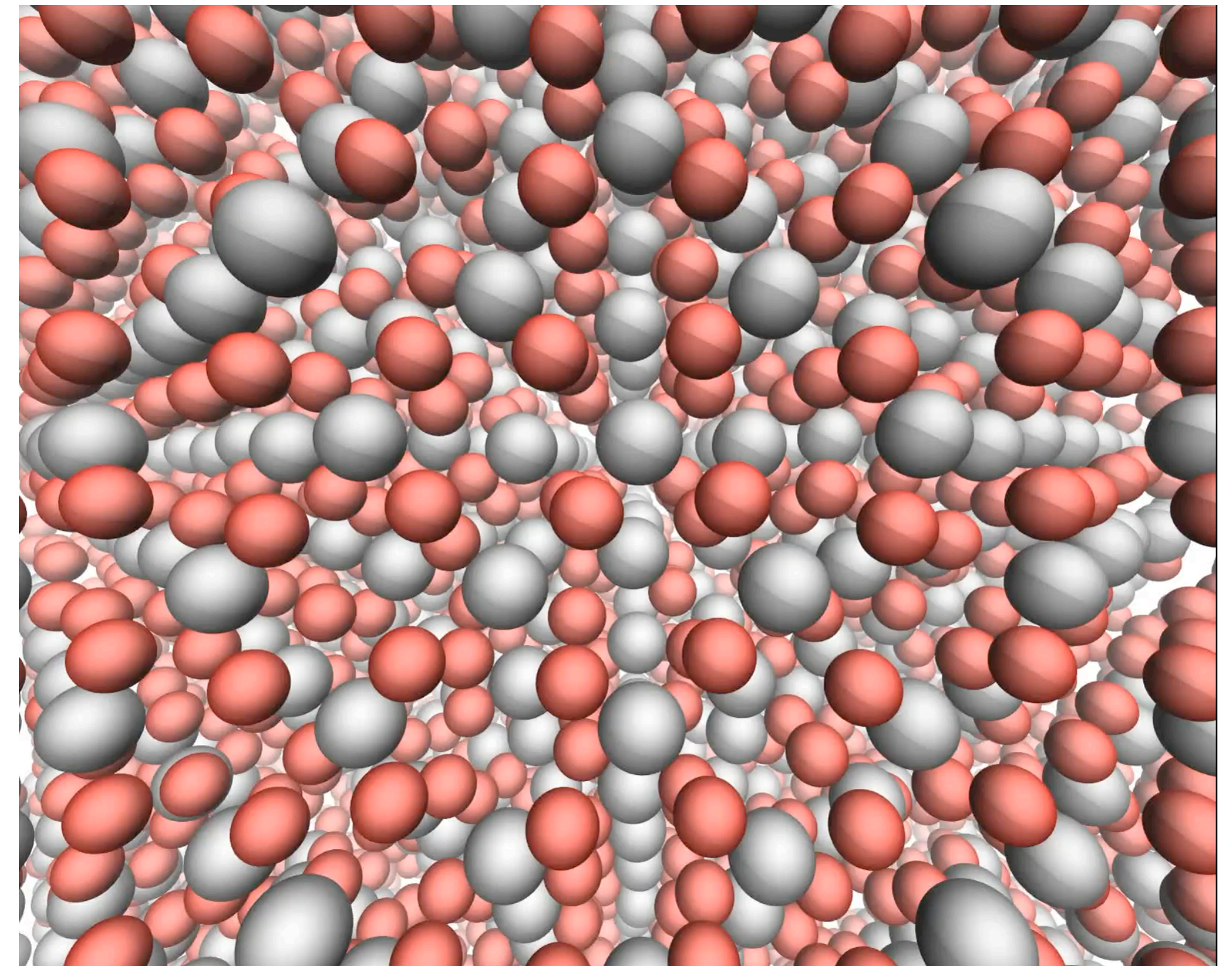
Crystalline Solids

Idealized Crystal Structure



**Infinite grid of immobile atoms
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Real Materials



**Everything moves: Perfect
periodicity broken!**

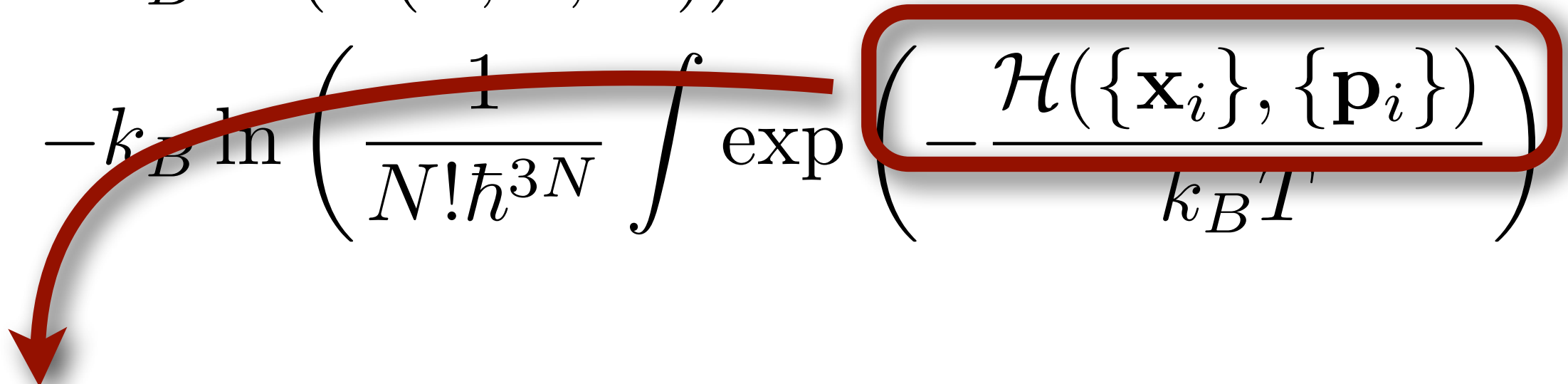
Failures of the Static Lattice Model

N. W Ashcroft and N. D. Mermin, “*Solid State Physics*” (1976).

- Inaccuracies in the **equilibrium properties at 0K**:
Lattice Constants, Cohesive Energies, Elastic Constants,...
- Failure to describe thermodynamic **equilibrium properties**:
Specific Heat, Thermal Lattice Expansion, Phase Transformations, ...
- Failure to describe thermodynamic **non-equilibrium properties**:
 - ✦ **Charge Transport**: *Electrical AC/DC Conductivity, Superconductivity,...*
 - ✦ **Heat Transport**: *Thermal Conductivity, Transmission of Sound,...*
 - ✦ **Coupling of Charge & Heat Transport**: *Seebeck and Peltier Effect,...*
 - ✦ **Interaction with Radiation**: *X-Ray, Infrared, Neutron, ...*

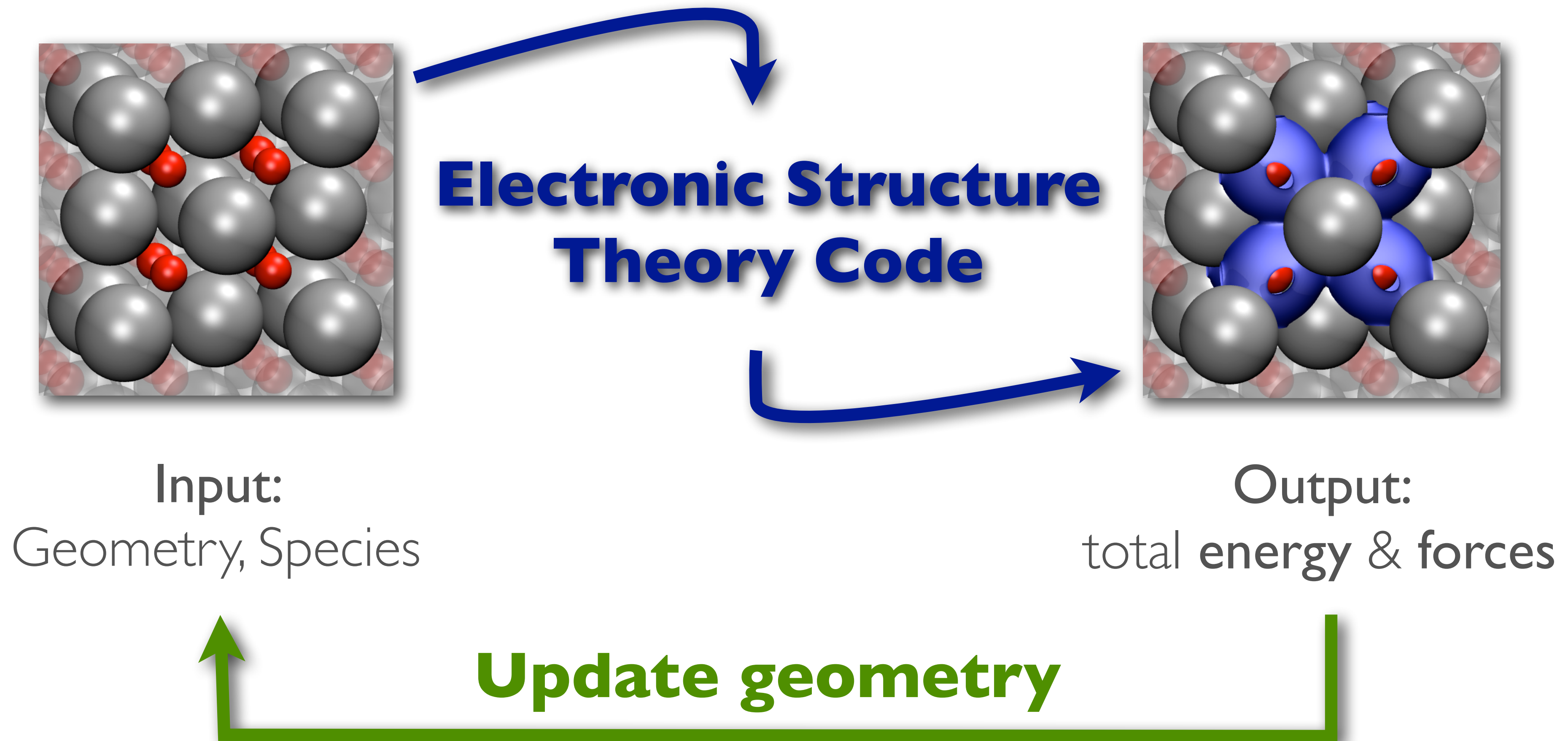
Thermodynamic Equilibrium in a Nutshell

A classical system with N **atoms**, a **Volume** V and a **Temperature** T is described by its **canonical partition function** $Z(T, V, N)$ viz.
its Helmholtz Free Energy $F(T, V, N)$.

$$\begin{aligned} F(T, V, N) &= -k_B \ln (Z(T, V, N)) \\ &= -k_B \ln \left(\frac{1}{N! \hbar^{3N}} \int \exp \left(- \frac{\mathcal{H}(\{\mathbf{x}_i\}, \{\mathbf{p}_i\})}{k_B T} \right) \{d^3 \mathbf{x}_i\} \{d^3 \mathbf{p}_i\} \right) \end{aligned}$$


Calculating the energy of **all possible configurations** $\{\mathbf{x}_i\}$ is numerically **unfeasible** even for very small systems.

Molecular Dynamics



Iterative Approach: Explore the Dynamics of the Atoms!

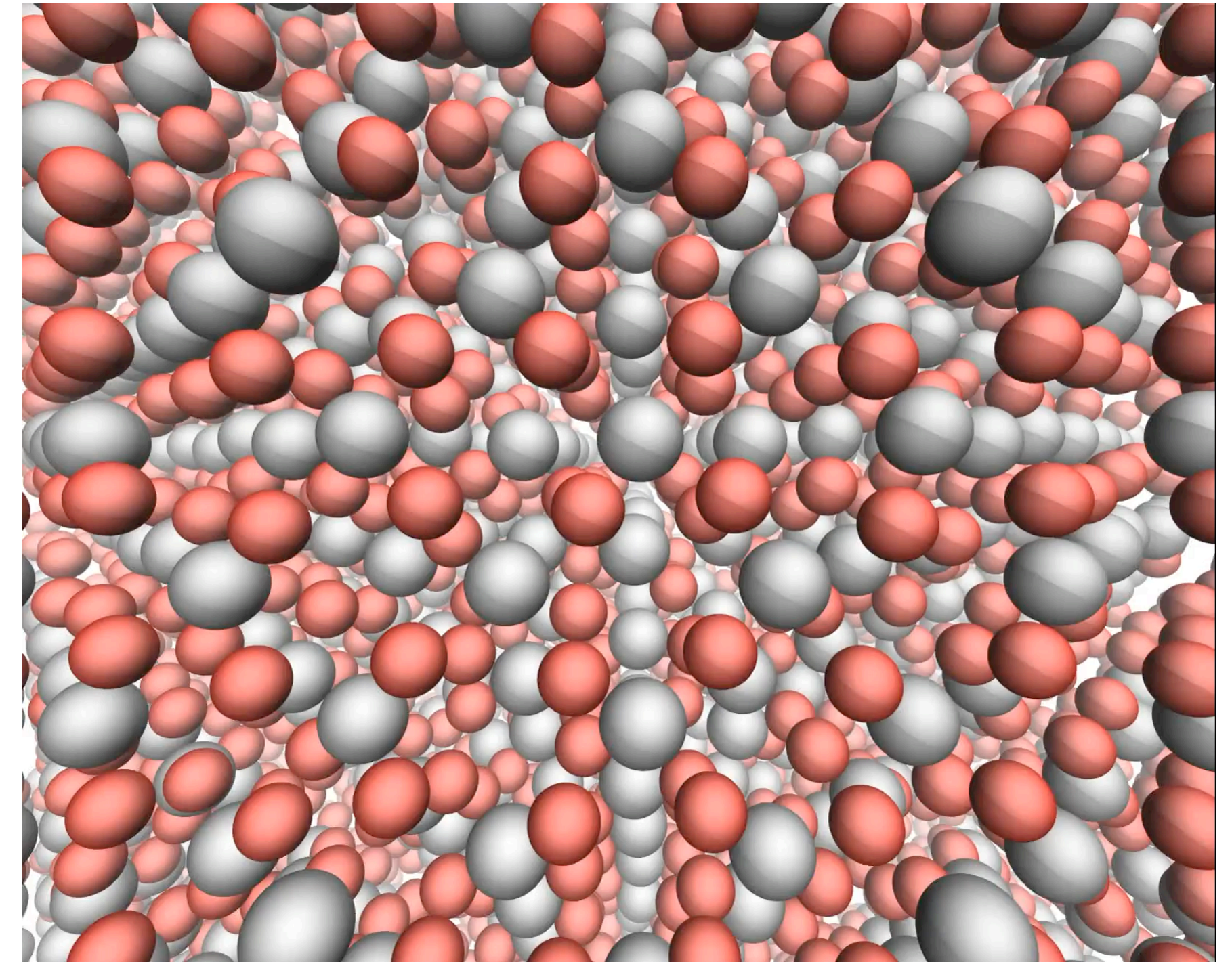
MOLECULAR DYNAMICS

Numerical Integration of the **equations of motion**

L.Verlet, *Phys. Rev.* **159**, 98 (1967).

$$M_I \ddot{\mathbf{R}}_I(t) = \mathbf{F}_I(\mathbf{R}_1(t), \dots, \mathbf{R}_N(t))$$

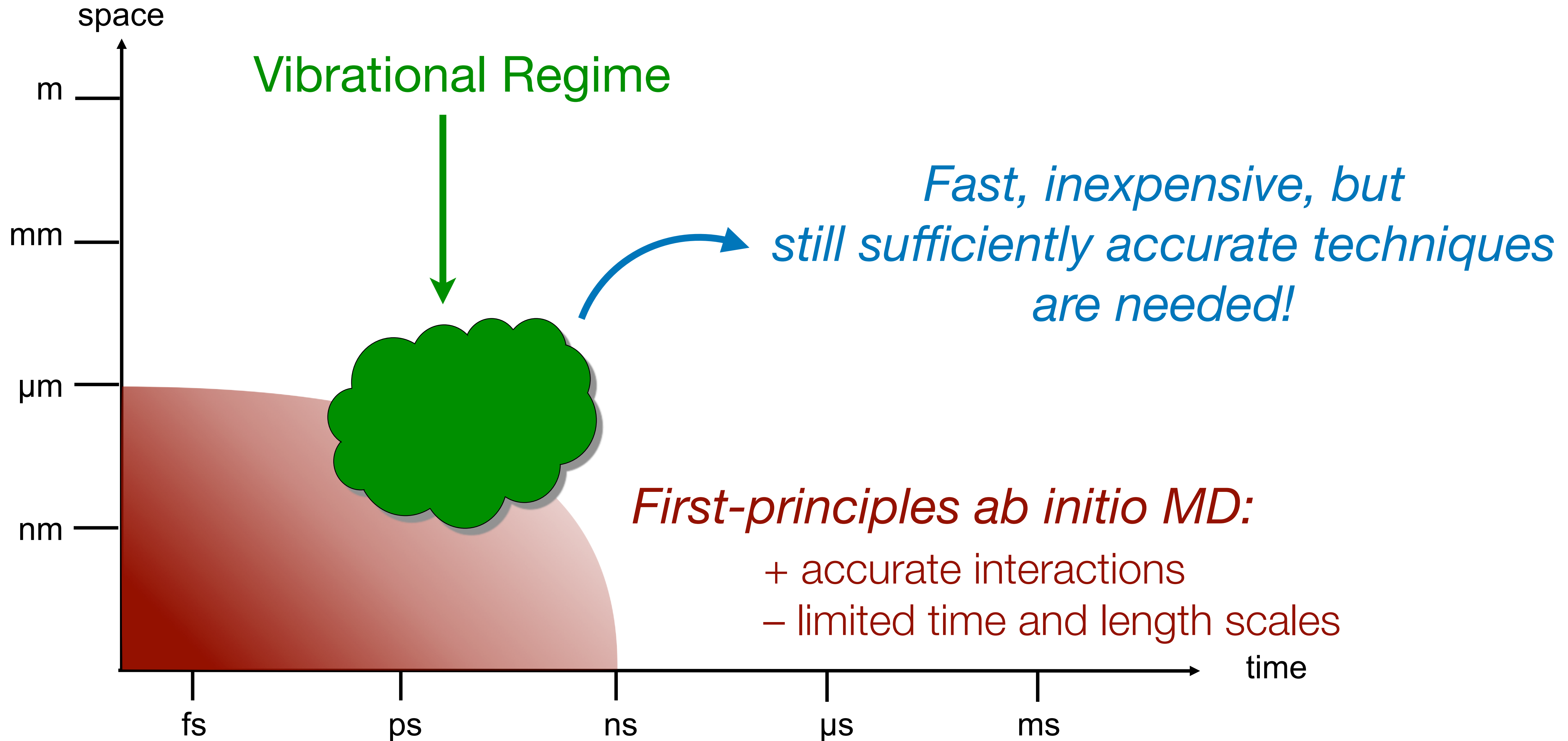
Initial conditions have to
be specified!



The **Verlet Algorithm** conserves the number of
particles **N**, the volume **V**, and the energy **E**.

⇒ **Micro-canonical Ensemble**

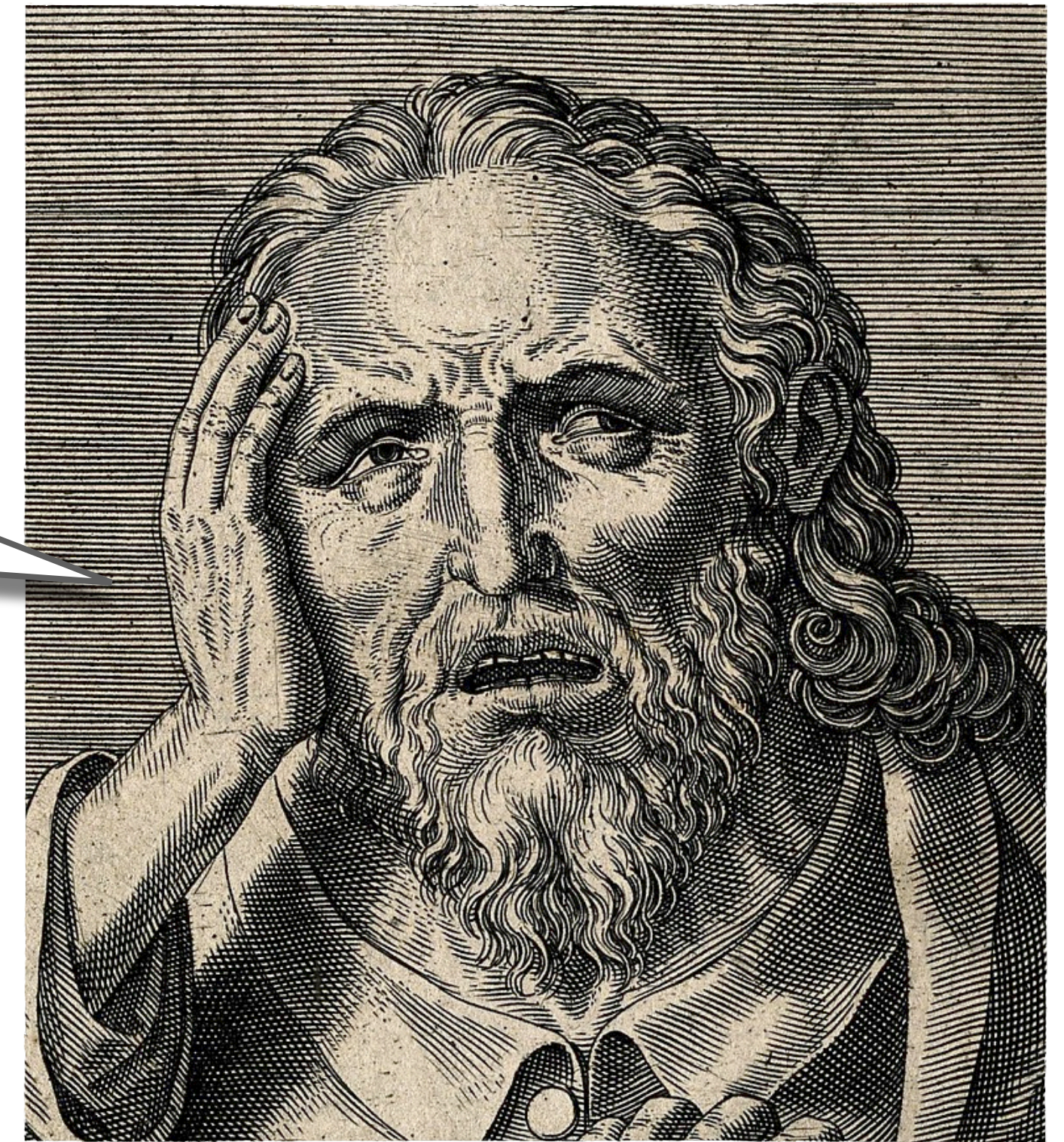
Time and Length Scales



Take-Home Messages

- **Everything moves!** Nuclei and atoms are never at rest.

*Panta rhei,
παντα ῥεῖ!*



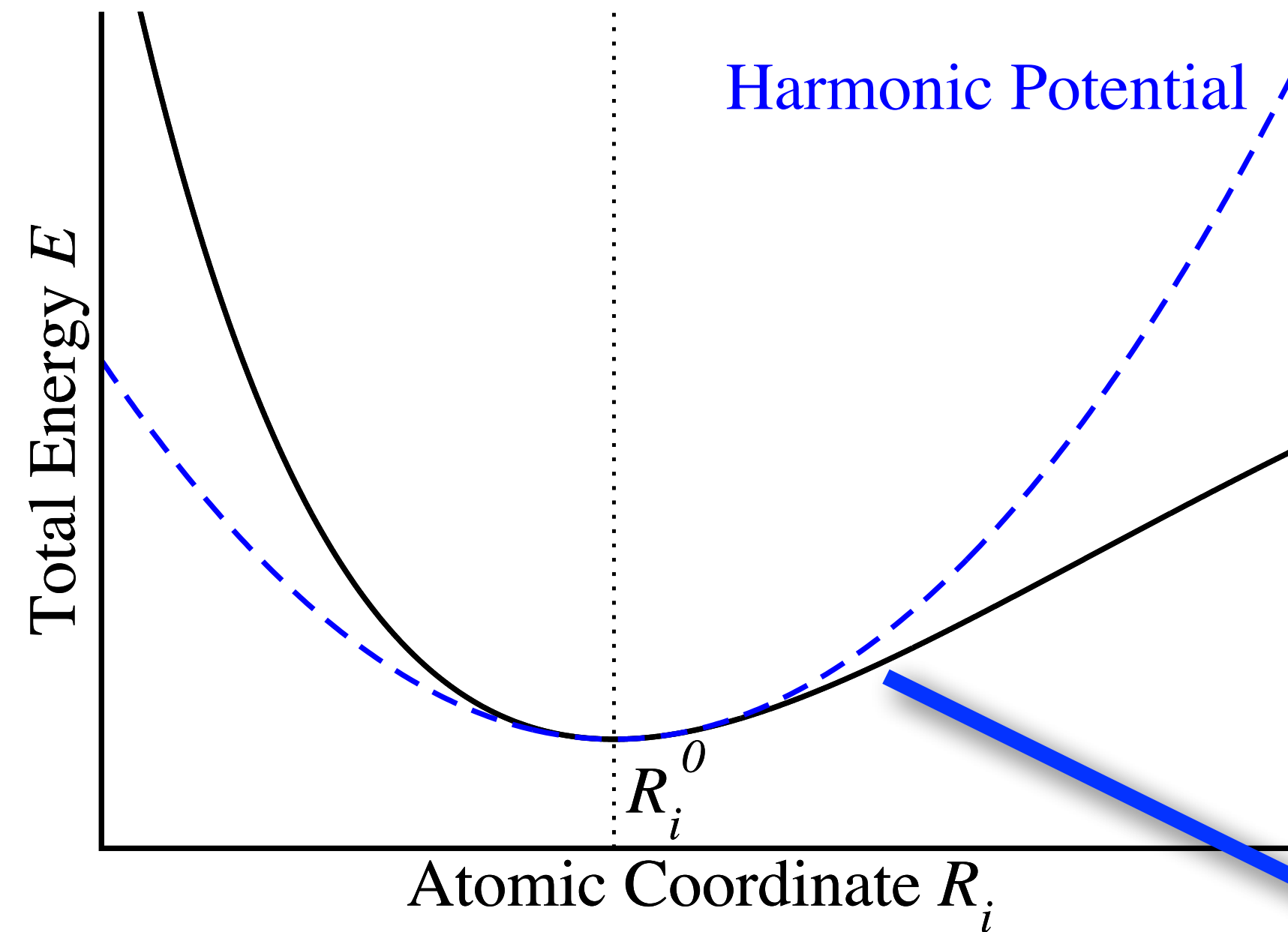
Heraclitus of Ephesus (500 BCE)

The Harmonic Approximation

*“Physics is that subset of human experience,
which can be reduced to coupled harmonic oscillators.”*

Michael Peskin

The Harmonic Approximation



The total energy E is a ***3N-dimensional surface***:

$$E = V(\mathbf{R}_1, \mathbf{R}_2, \dots, \mathbf{R}_N)$$

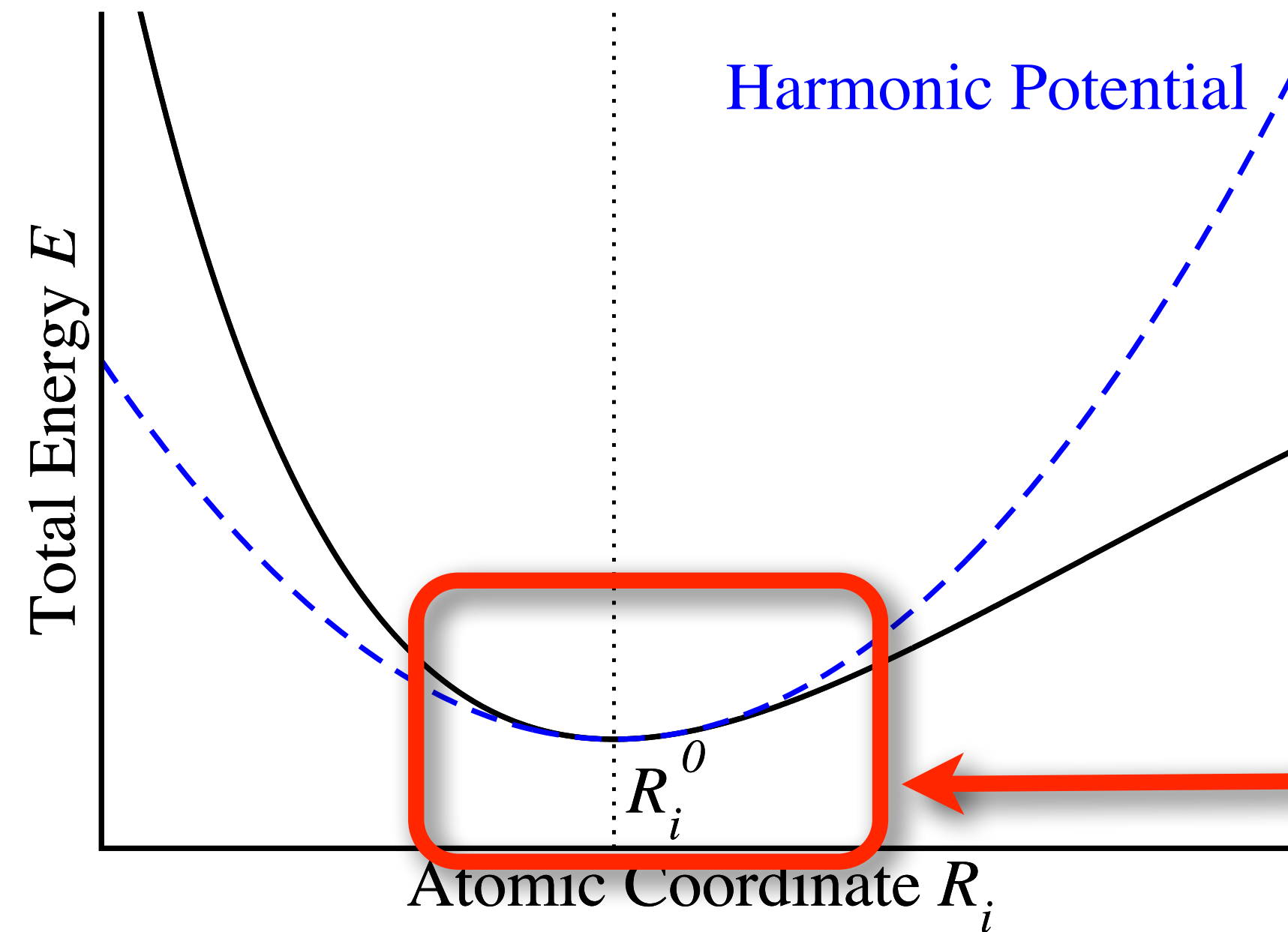


Approximate by Taylor
Expansion around the
Static Equilibrium

$$E(\{\mathbf{R}_0 + \Delta\mathbf{R}\}) \approx E(\{\mathbf{R}_0\}) + \sum_i \cancel{\frac{\partial E}{\partial \mathbf{R}_i} \bigg|_{\mathbf{R}_0}} \Delta\mathbf{R}_i + \frac{1}{2} \sum_{i,j} \frac{\partial^2 E}{\partial \mathbf{R}_i \partial \mathbf{R}_j} \bigg|_{\mathbf{R}_0} \Delta\mathbf{R}_i \Delta\mathbf{R}_j$$

Hessian Φ_{ij}

The Harmonic Approximation



The total energy E is a ***3N-dimensional surface***:

$$E = V(\mathbf{R}_1, \mathbf{R}_2, \dots, \mathbf{R}_N)$$

WARNING:
Harmonic Approximation
is only valid
for **small** displacements!

$$E(\{\mathbf{R}_0 + \Delta\mathbf{R}\}) \approx E(\{\mathbf{R}_0\}) + \sum_i \frac{\partial E}{\partial \mathbf{R}_i} \bigg|_{\mathbf{R}_0} \Delta\mathbf{R}_i + \frac{1}{2} \sum_{i,j} \frac{\partial^2 E}{\partial \mathbf{R}_i \partial \mathbf{R}_j} \bigg|_{\mathbf{R}_0} \Delta\mathbf{R}_i \Delta\mathbf{R}_j$$

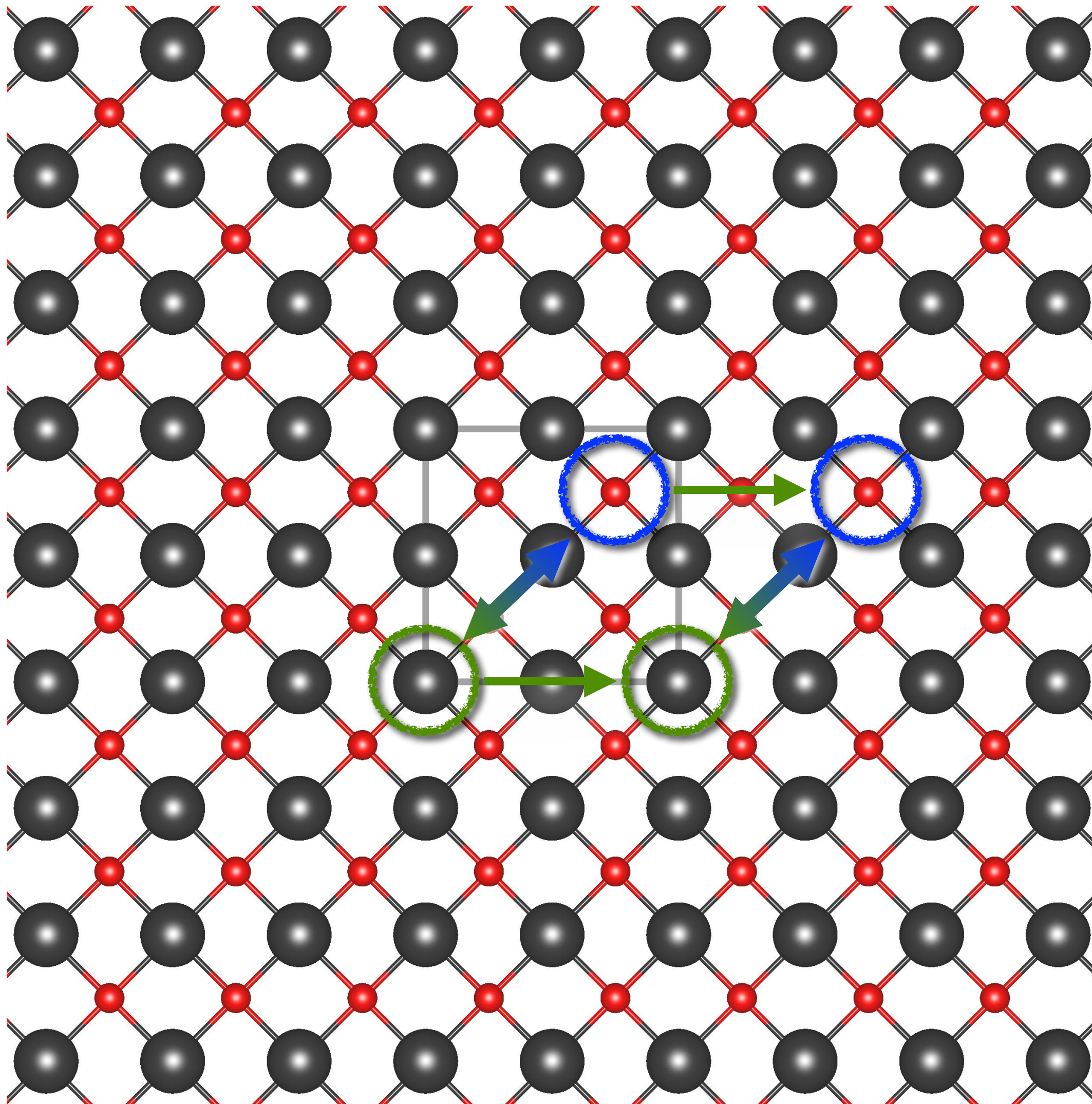
The Harmonic Force Constants

Hessian: $\Phi_{IJ}^{\alpha\beta} = \left. \frac{\partial^2 E}{\partial \mathbf{R}_I^\alpha \partial \mathbf{R}_J^\beta} \right|_{\mathbf{R}_0} = - \left. \frac{\partial \mathbf{F}_I^\alpha}{\partial \mathbf{R}_J^\beta} \right|_{\mathbf{R}_0}$

*“How much does **Force** on **atom I** change when moving **atom J**?”*



The Harmonic Force Constants

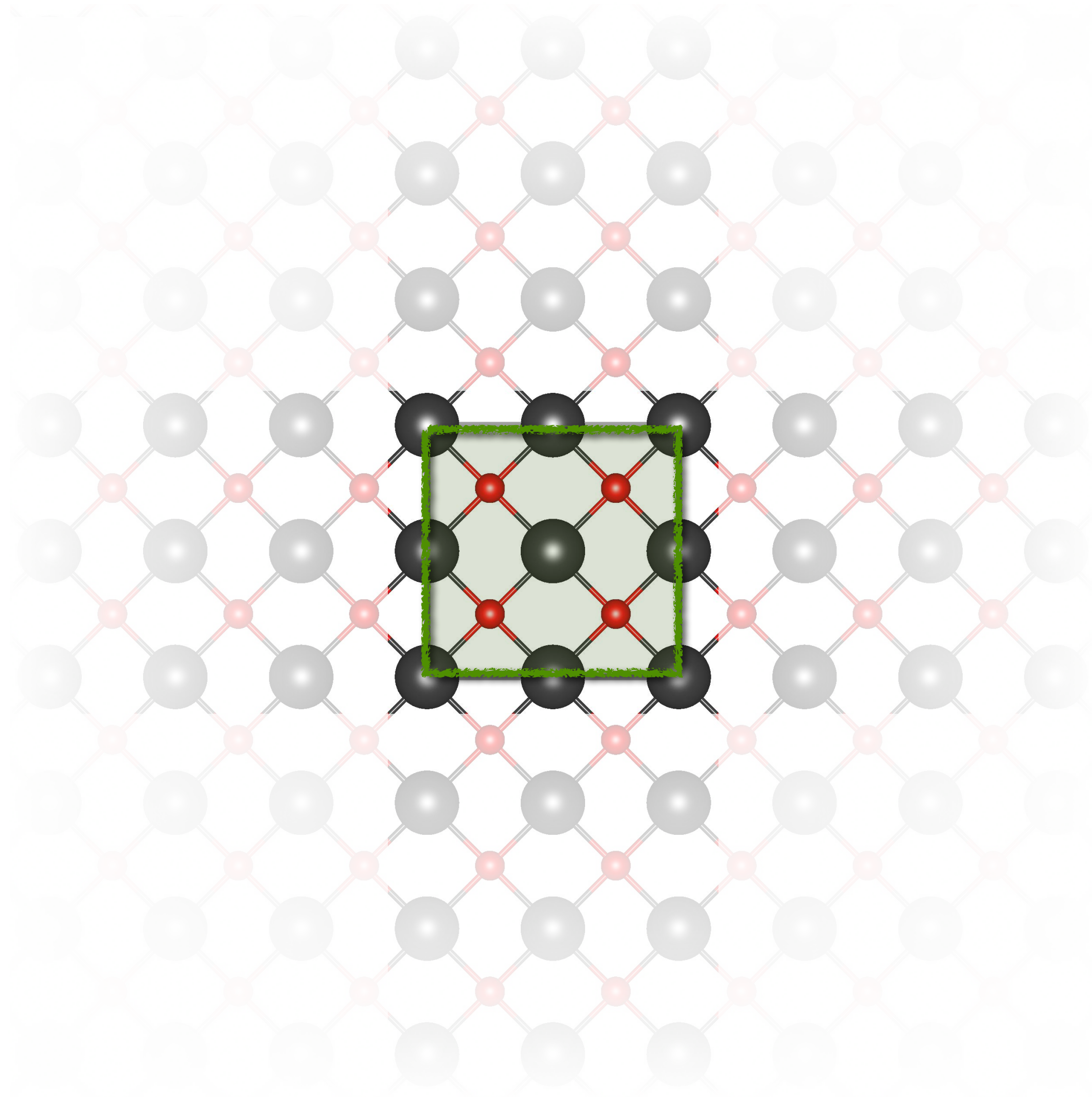


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Nota bene: The Hessian is **pair-wise** translationally invariant.

The Harmonic Force Constants



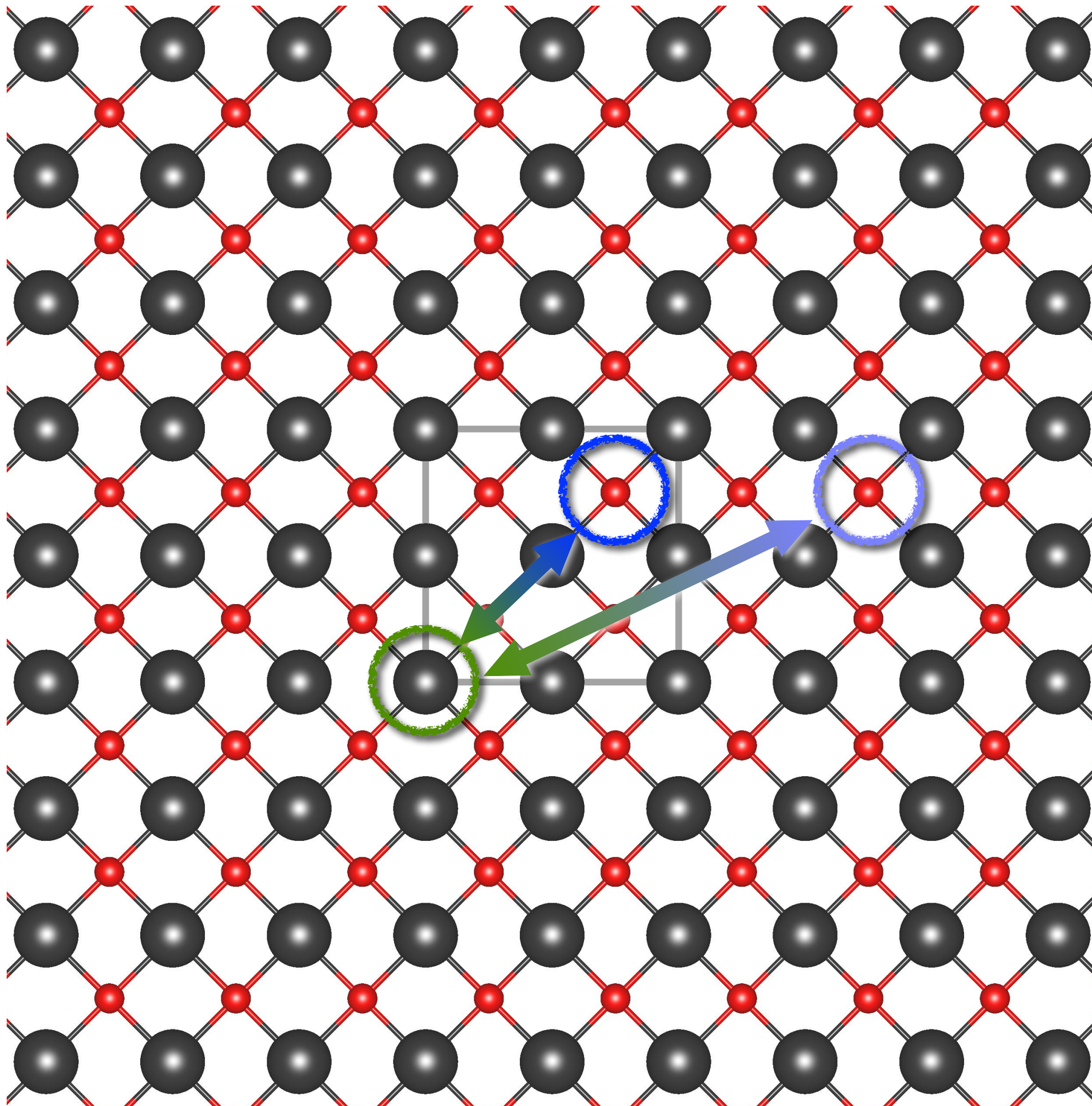
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*“How much does **Force** on **atom I** change when moving **atom J**?”*

Nota bene: The Hessian is **pair-wise** translationally invariant.

$\Rightarrow$ **One** index can be restricted to the **primitive unit cell**.

The Harmonic Force Constants

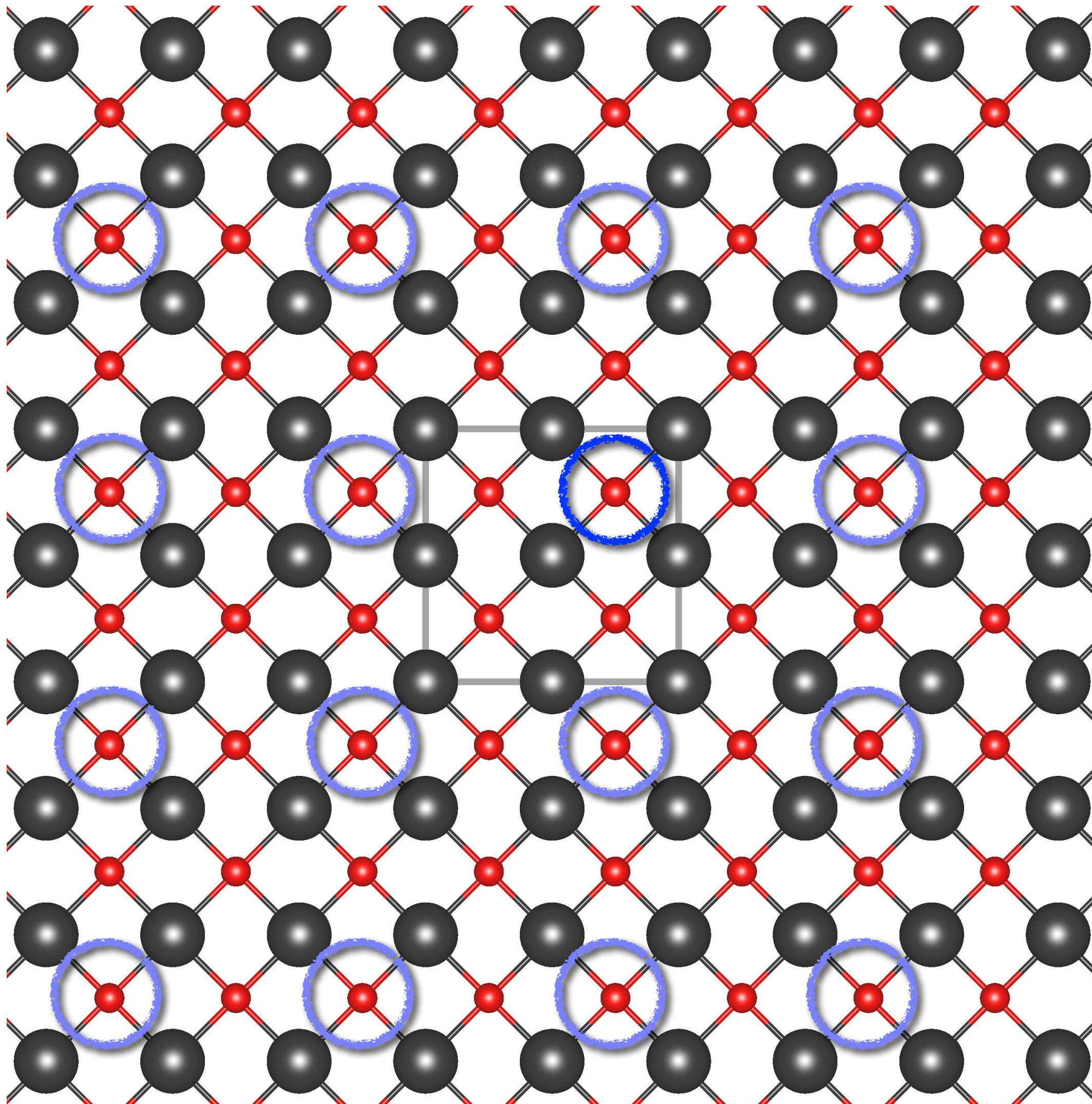


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*“How much does **Force** on **atom I** change when moving **atom J**?”*

Different **periodic images** of **atom J** results in different force constants.

The Harmonic Force Constants



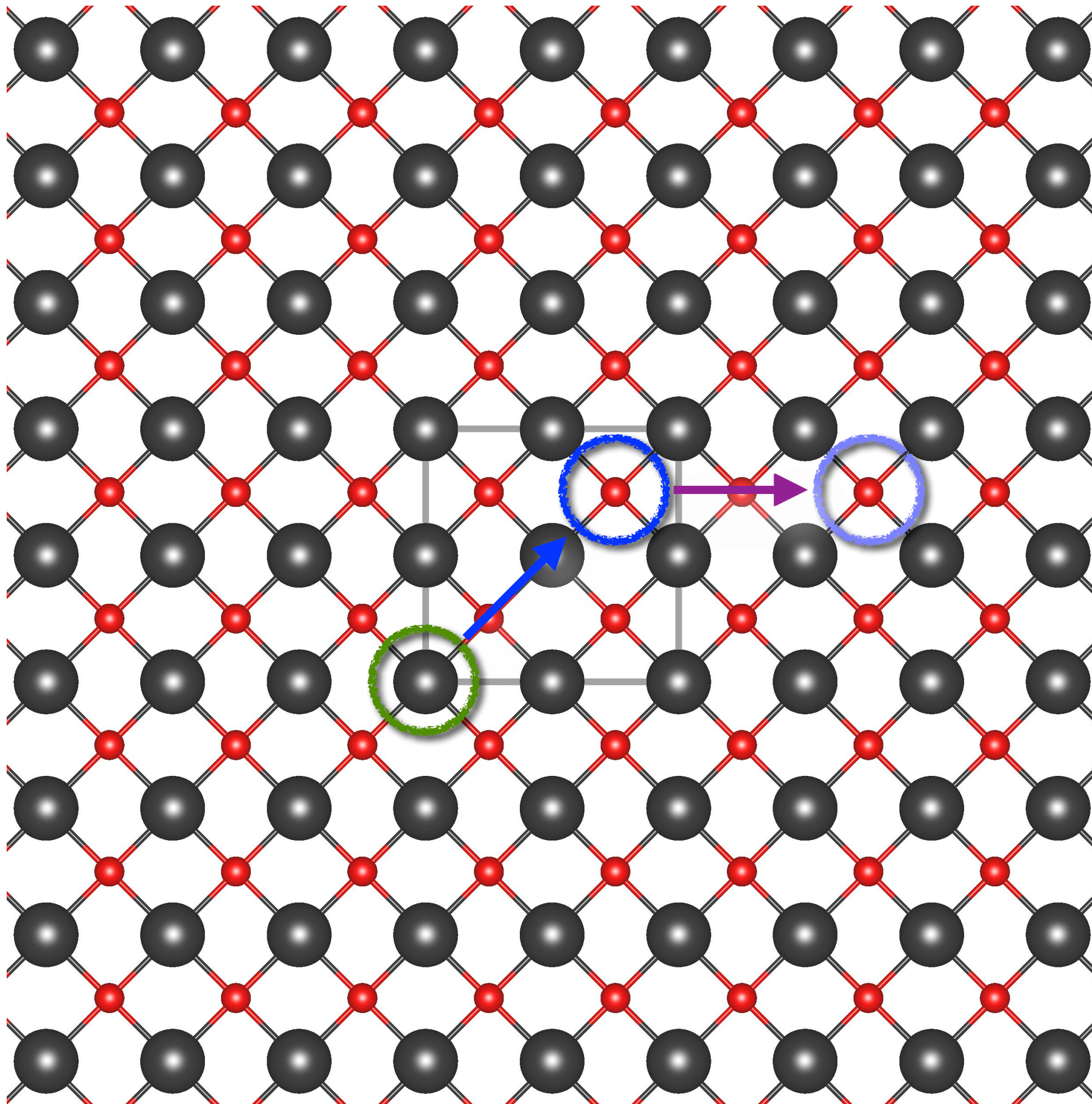
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Different **periodic images** of **atom J** results in different force constants.

⇒ The second index runs over the **whole, infinite** crystal.

The Harmonic Force Constants



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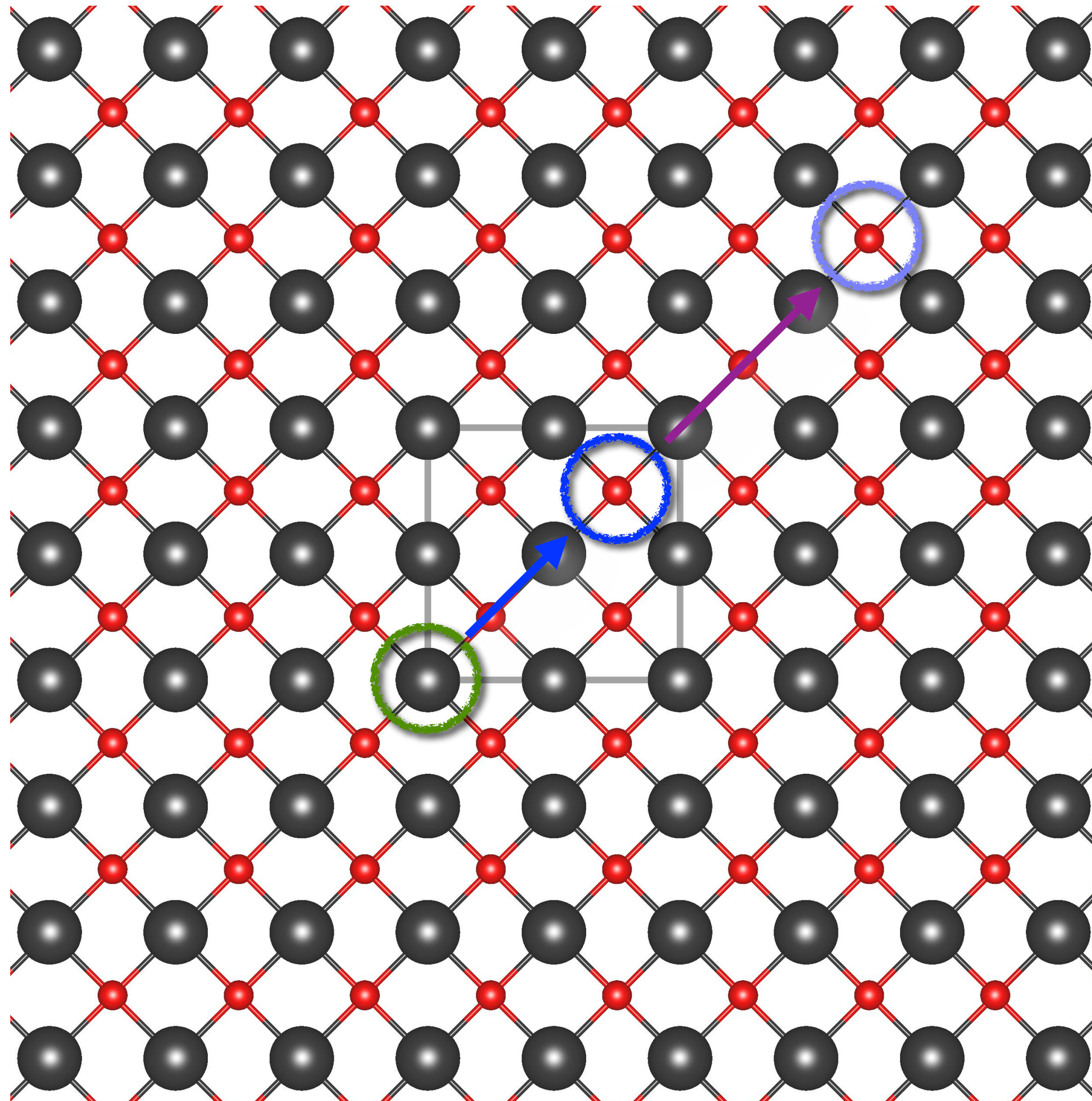
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$$\mathbf{R}_{J,lmn} = \mathbf{R}_J + l \mathbf{L}_x + m \mathbf{L}_y + n \mathbf{L}_z \quad l, m, n \in \mathbb{Z}$$

The Harmonic Force Constants



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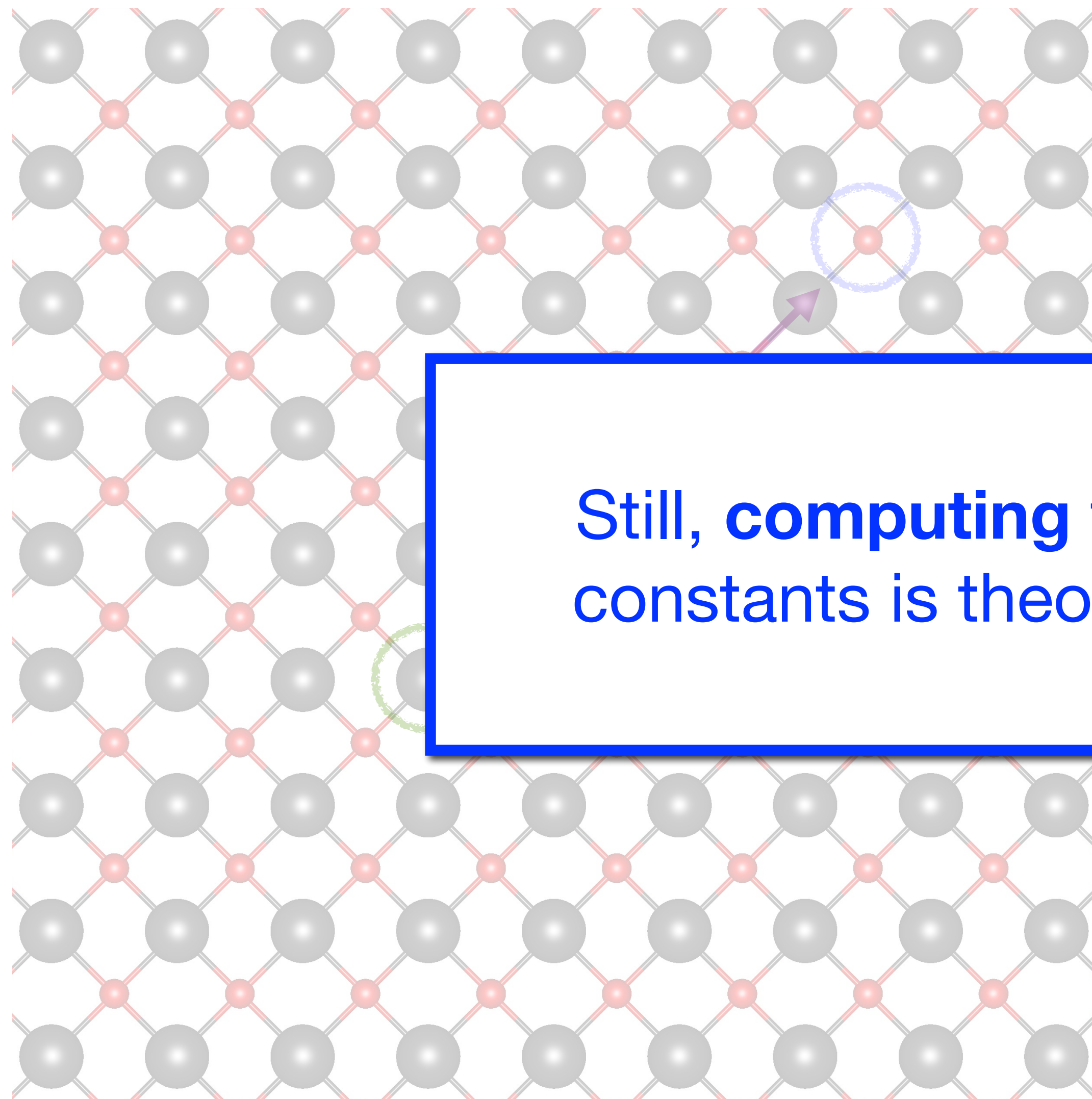
Nota bene:

Interactions in crystals **decay**
rapidly with distance.

$$\Phi_{IJ}^{\alpha\beta} \rightarrow 0 \quad \text{for} \quad |\mathbf{R}_{J,lmn} - \mathbf{R}_I| \rightarrow \infty$$

The interactions in the **infinite crystal**
can be described by
a **finite number** of force constants.

The Harmonic Force Constants



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Still, **computing** these harmonic force constants is theoretically **challenging!**

ne:
ystals **decay**
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The interactions in the **infinite crystal**
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Hellman-Feynman Theorem

Born-Oppenheimer Approximation:

Ground State Electrons determine the **Potential Energy**

Potential-Energy Surface: $U(\mathbf{R}) = \langle \Psi_{\mathbf{R}}(\mathbf{r}) | \mathbb{H}_{\mathbf{R}} | \Psi_{\mathbf{R}}(\mathbf{r}) \rangle$

Forces



$$\begin{aligned} \mathbf{F}_i &= - \frac{\partial U(\mathbf{R})}{\partial \mathbf{R}_i} \\ &= - \langle \Psi_{\mathbf{R}}(\mathbf{r}) | \underline{\partial \mathbb{H}_{\mathbf{R}}} | \Psi_{\mathbf{R}}(\mathbf{r}) \rangle - \cancel{\langle \underline{\partial \Psi_{\mathbf{R}}(\mathbf{r})} | \mathbb{H}_{\mathbf{R}} | \Psi_{\mathbf{R}}(\mathbf{r}) \rangle} - \cancel{\langle \Psi_{\mathbf{R}}(\mathbf{r}) | \mathbb{H}_{\mathbf{R}} | \underline{\partial \Psi_{\mathbf{R}}(\mathbf{r})} \rangle} \end{aligned}$$

Forces are an expectation value of the **wave function** and do **not** depend on **changes** in the *wave function* itself.

Higher Order Derivatives

$$\Phi_{ij} = -\frac{\partial F_i}{\partial \mathbf{R}_j} \quad \leftarrow \text{Hessian}$$
$$= \langle \Psi_{\mathbf{R}}(\mathbf{r}) | \frac{\partial^2 \mathbb{H}_{\mathbf{R}}}{\partial \mathbf{R}_i \partial \mathbf{R}_j} | \Psi_{\mathbf{R}}(\mathbf{r}) \rangle - \langle \Psi_{\mathbf{R}}(\mathbf{r}) | \frac{\partial \mathbb{H}_{\mathbf{R}}}{\partial \mathbf{R}_i} | \underline{\partial \Psi_{\mathbf{R}}(\mathbf{r}) / \partial \mathbf{R}_j} \rangle - \langle \underline{\partial \Psi_{\mathbf{R}}(\mathbf{r}) / \partial \mathbf{R}_j} | \frac{\partial \mathbb{H}_{\mathbf{R}}}{\partial \mathbf{R}_i} | \Psi_{\mathbf{R}}(\mathbf{r}) \rangle$$

Hessian depends explicitly on the **response** of the *wave function* to a **nuclear displacement**.

⇒ Adiabatic Electron-Phonon Coupling

2n+1 Theorem:

(2n+1)th derivative of the energy requires the n^{th} derivative of the wave function / electron density.

X. Gonze and J.-P. Vigneron, *Phys. Rev. B* **39**, 13120 (1989).

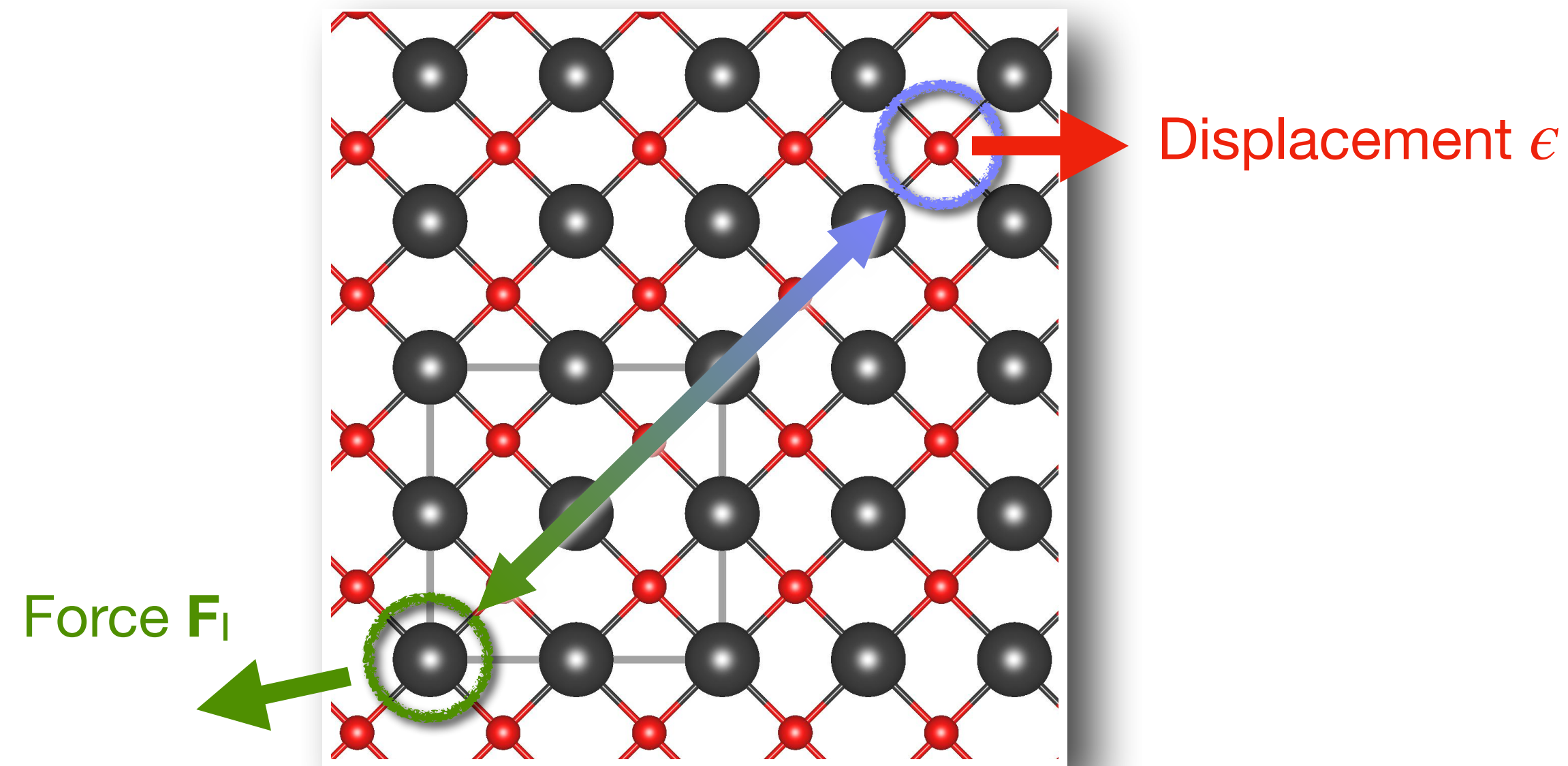
Computing Harmonic Force Constants

Finite Differences (aka Frozen Phonons)

K. Kunc, and R. M. Martin, *Phys. Rev. Lett.* **48**, 406 (1982).

K. Parlinski, Z. Q. Li, and Y. Kawazoe, *Phys. Rev. Lett.* **78**, 4063 (1997).

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Advantages:

- works with **all** electronic-structure methods
- trivially **parallel**

Disadvantages:

- requires **explicit** supercells
- **numerical noise** affects low-symmetry systems

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Density-Functional Perturbation Theory

S. Baroni, P. Giannozzi, and A. Testa, *Phys. Rev. Lett.* **58**, 1861 (1987)

S. Baroni, *et al.*, *Rev. Mod. Phys.* **73**, 515 (2001).

2n+1 Theorem:

$$\Phi_{I,Jlmn} = \langle \Psi | \partial_I \partial_{Jlmn} \mathbb{H} | \Psi \rangle - \langle \Psi | \partial_I \mathbb{H} | \partial_{Jlmn} \Psi \rangle - \langle \partial_{Jlmn} \Psi | \partial_I \mathbb{H} | \Psi \rangle$$

Density-Functional Perturbation Theory

S. Baroni, P. Giannozzi, and A. Testa, *Phys. Rev. Lett.* **58**, 1861 (1987) &
S. Baroni, et al., *Rev. Mod. Phys.* **73**, 515 (2001).

Starting Point:

Kohn-Sham Equations

$$\hat{h}_{\text{KS}} \psi_i = [\hat{t} + \hat{v}_{\text{ext}}(r) + \hat{v}_{\text{H}} + \hat{v}_{\text{xc}}] \psi_i = \epsilon_i \psi_i$$

**First-order expansion
of all relevant quantities
with respect to a perturbation λ**

$$\begin{aligned}\hat{h}_{\text{KS}}(\lambda) &= \hat{h}_{\text{KS}}^{(0)} + \overbrace{\frac{d\hat{h}_{\text{KS}}}{d\lambda}}^{\hat{h}_{\text{KS}}^{(1)}} \Delta\lambda + \dots \\ \psi_i(\lambda) &= \psi_i^{(0)} + \psi_i^{(1)} \Delta\lambda + \dots \\ \epsilon_i(\lambda) &= \epsilon_i^{(0)} + \epsilon_i^{(1)} \Delta\lambda + \dots\end{aligned}$$

Solve: Sternheimer Equation

$$\hat{h}_{\text{KS}}(\lambda) \psi_i(\lambda) = \epsilon_i(\lambda) \psi_i(\lambda) \Rightarrow \left(\hat{h}_{\text{KS}}^{(0)} - \epsilon_i^{(0)} \right) \psi_i^{(1)} = - \left(\hat{h}_{\text{KS}}^{(1)} - \epsilon_i^{(1)} \right) \psi_i^{(0)} + \mathcal{O}(\lambda^2)$$

R.M. Sternheimer, *Phys. Rev.* **96** 951 (1954).

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R.M. Sternheimer, *Phys. Rev.* **96** 951 (1954).

Route A: *Density-functional Perturbation Theory* $\psi_i^{(1)} = \sum_l C_{il} \psi_l^{(0)}$

Route B: *Coupled-Perturbed Self-Consistent Field* $\psi_i^{(1)} = \sum_l C_{il} \varphi_l$

Additional Self-Consistency Cycle
required **per perturbation!**

Density-Functional Perturbation Theory

S. Baroni, P. Giannozzi, and A. Testa, *Phys. Rev. Lett.* **58**, 1861 (1987) &
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Solve: Sternheimer Equation

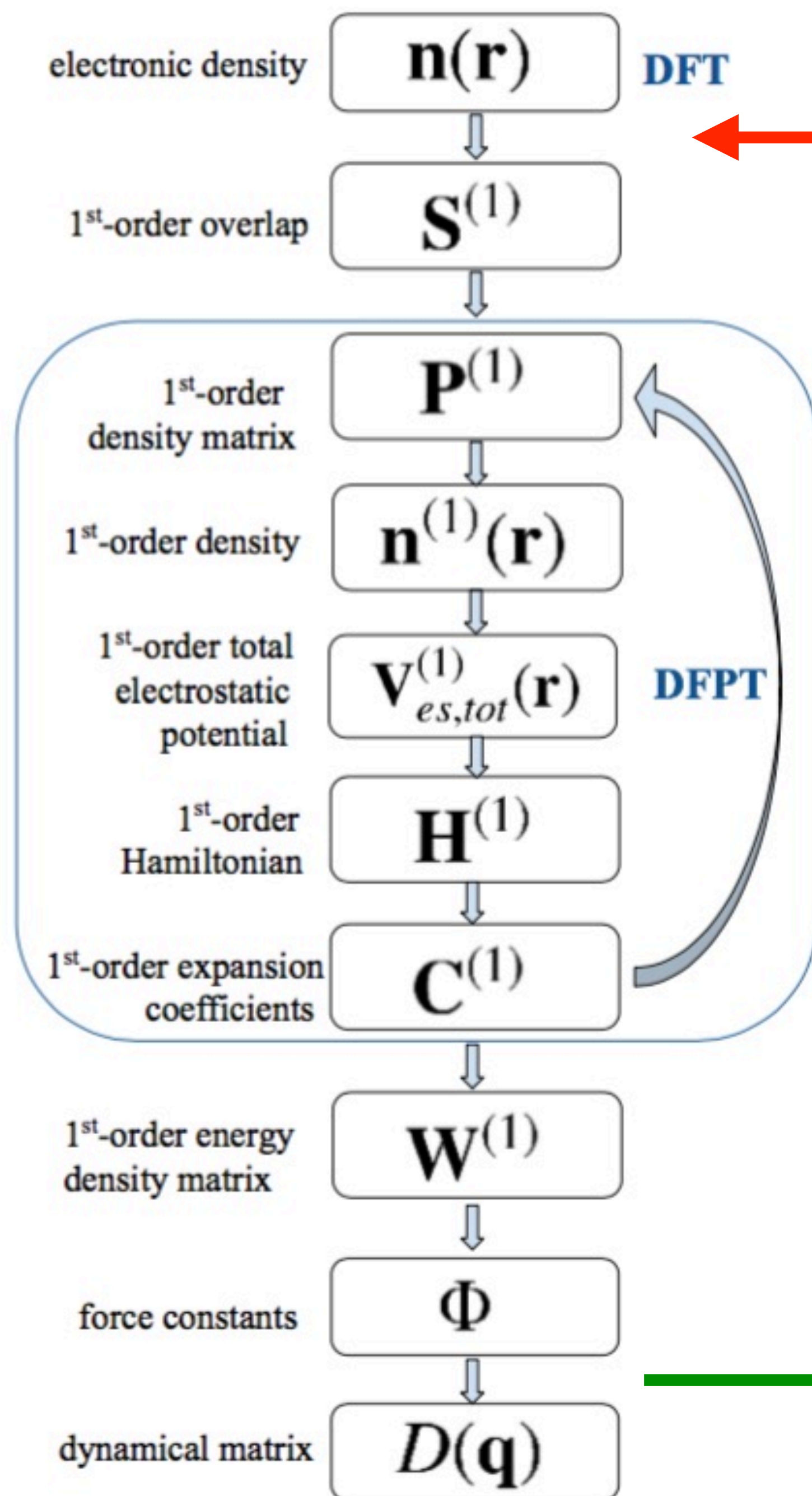
$$\hat{h}_{\text{KS}}(\lambda) \psi_i(\lambda) = \varepsilon_i(\lambda) \psi_i(\lambda) \Rightarrow \left(\hat{h}_{\text{KS}}^{(0)} - \varepsilon_i^{(0)} \right) \psi_i^{(1)} = - \left(\hat{h}_{\text{KS}}^{(1)} - \epsilon_i^{(1)} \right) \psi_i^{(0)} + \mathcal{O}(\lambda^2)$$

Normalization Conditions:

$$\left\langle \psi_i^{(0)} \left| \psi_i^{(0)} \right. \right\rangle = 1 \qquad \left\langle \psi_i^{(1)} \left| \psi_i^{(0)} \right. \right\rangle + \left\langle \psi_i^{(0)} \left| \psi_i^{(1)} \right. \right\rangle = 0$$

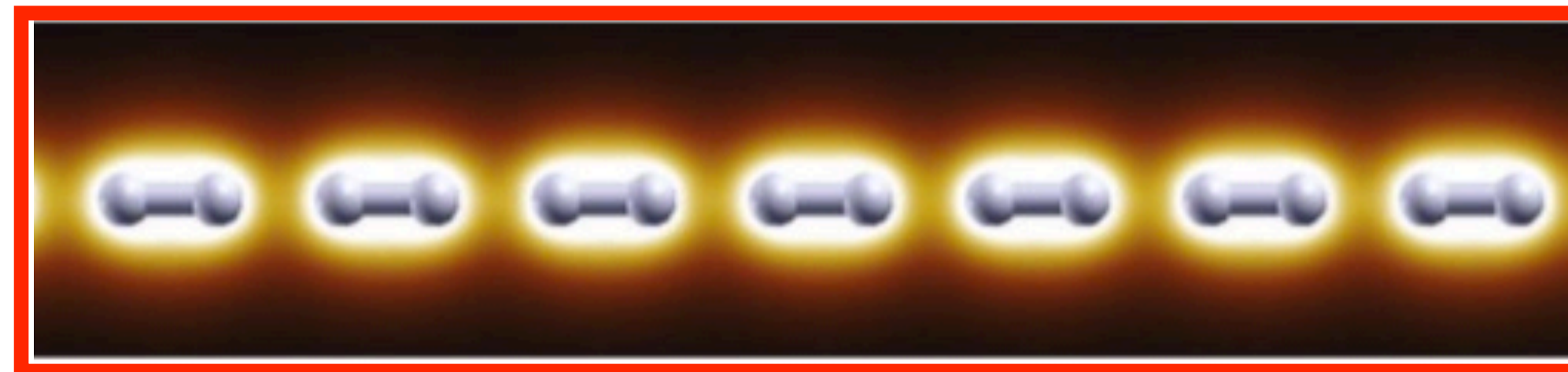
Phase Freedom: The phase of the perturbation can be freely chosen.

**$\Rightarrow$ Extended Perturbations $\lambda(\mathbf{q})$ can be treated
in the unit cell!**



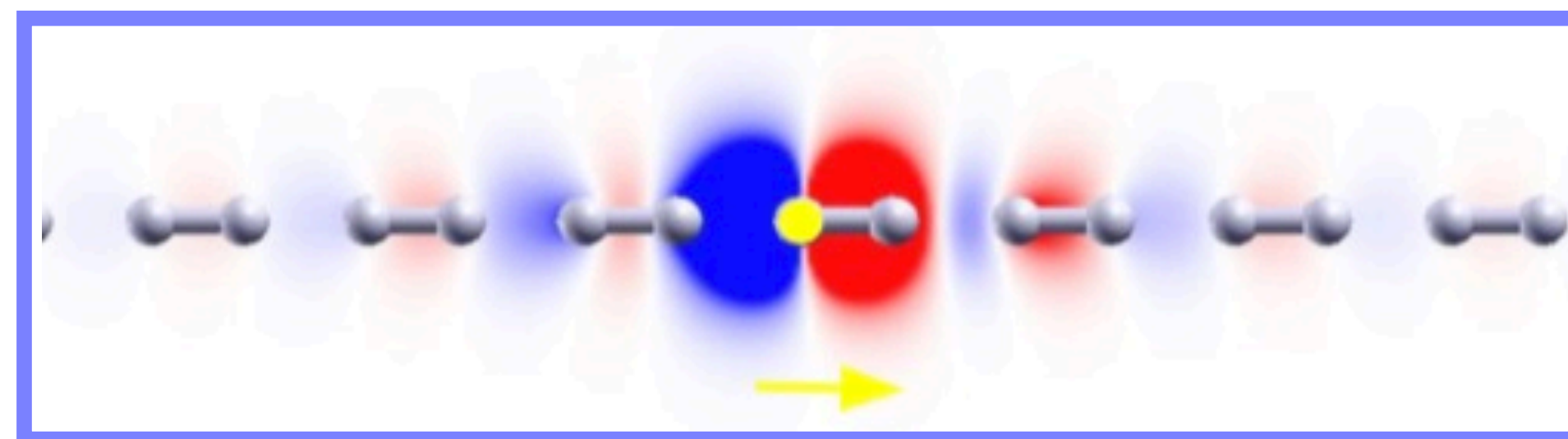
Density Functional Theory:

density $n(\mathbf{r})$



Density Functional Perturbation Theory:

density response $dn(\mathbf{r})/dR_I$

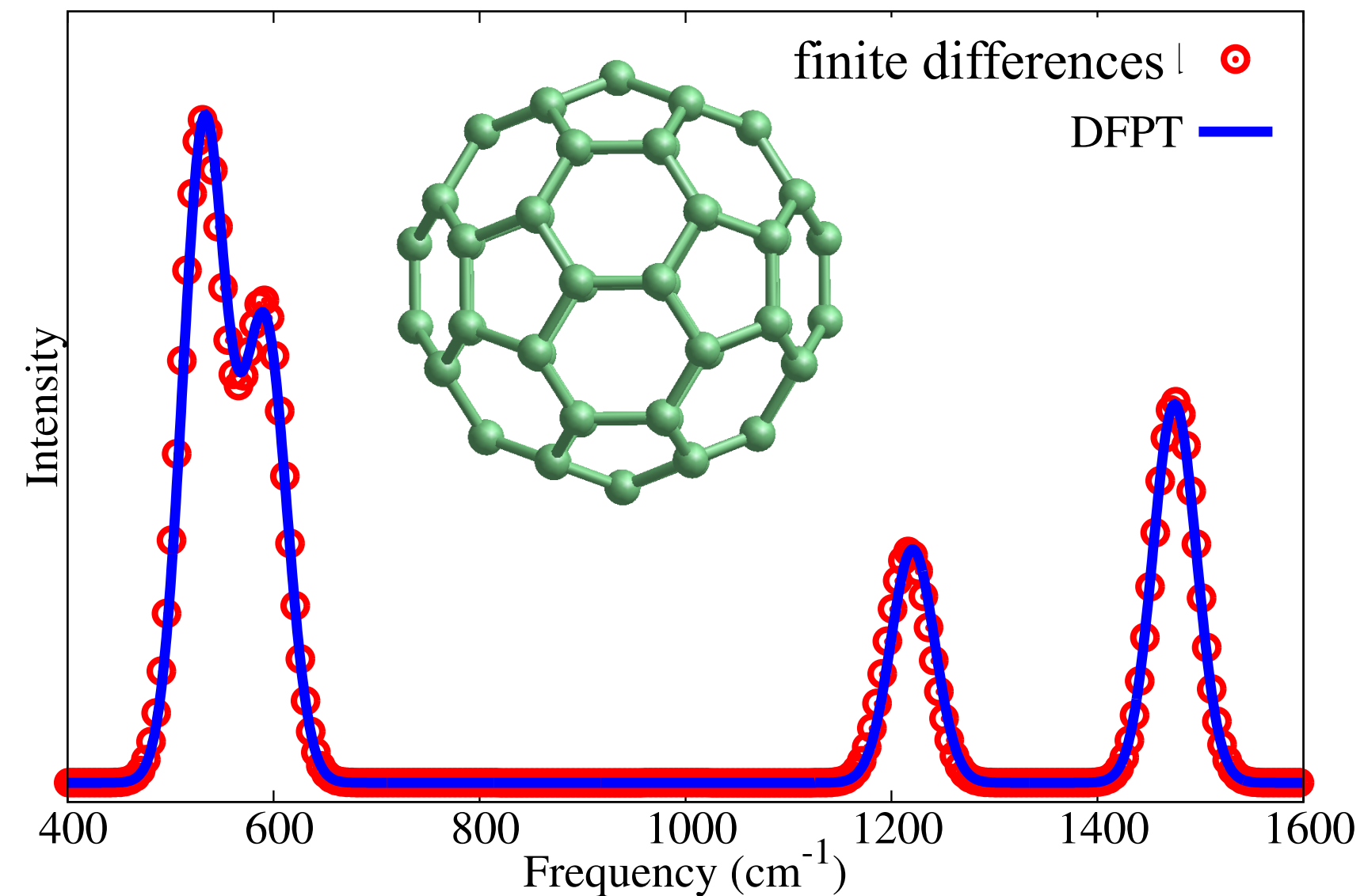


All **phonon** properties!

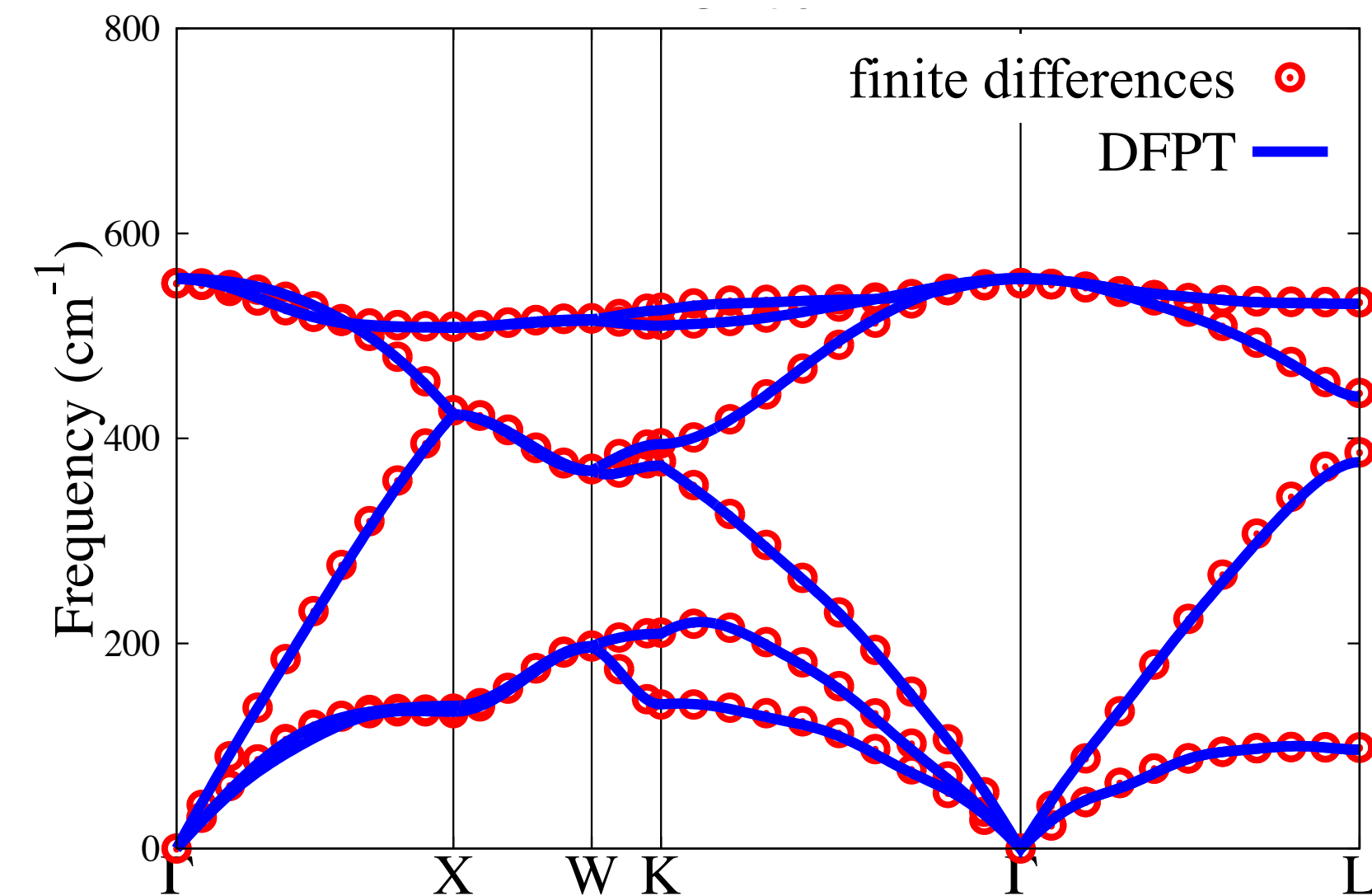
DF-Perturbation Theory in *FHI-aims*

H. Shang, C. Carbogno, P. Rinke, and M. Scheffler, *Comp. Phys. Comm.* **215**, 26 (2017).

Finite Systems: C₆₀

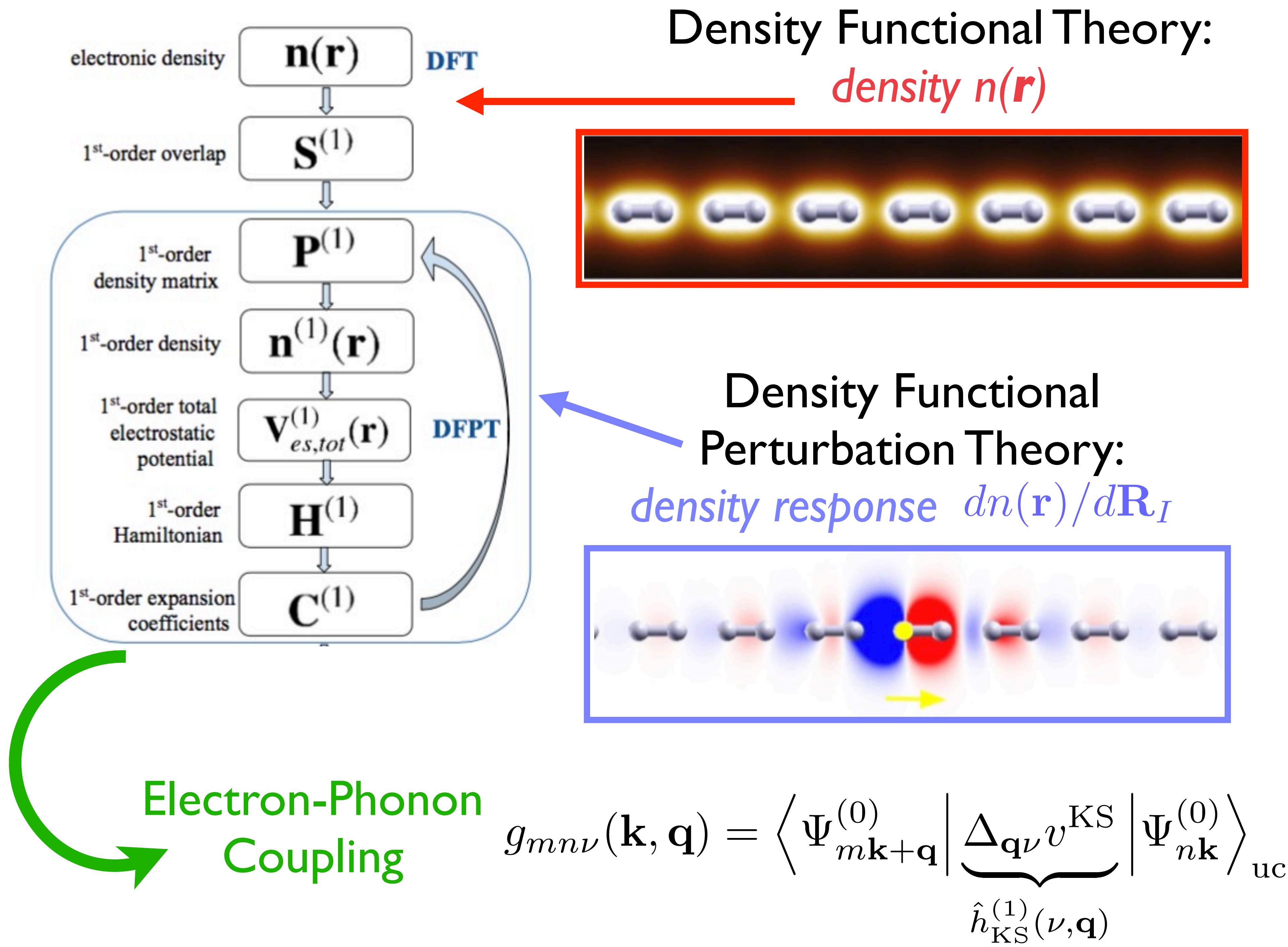


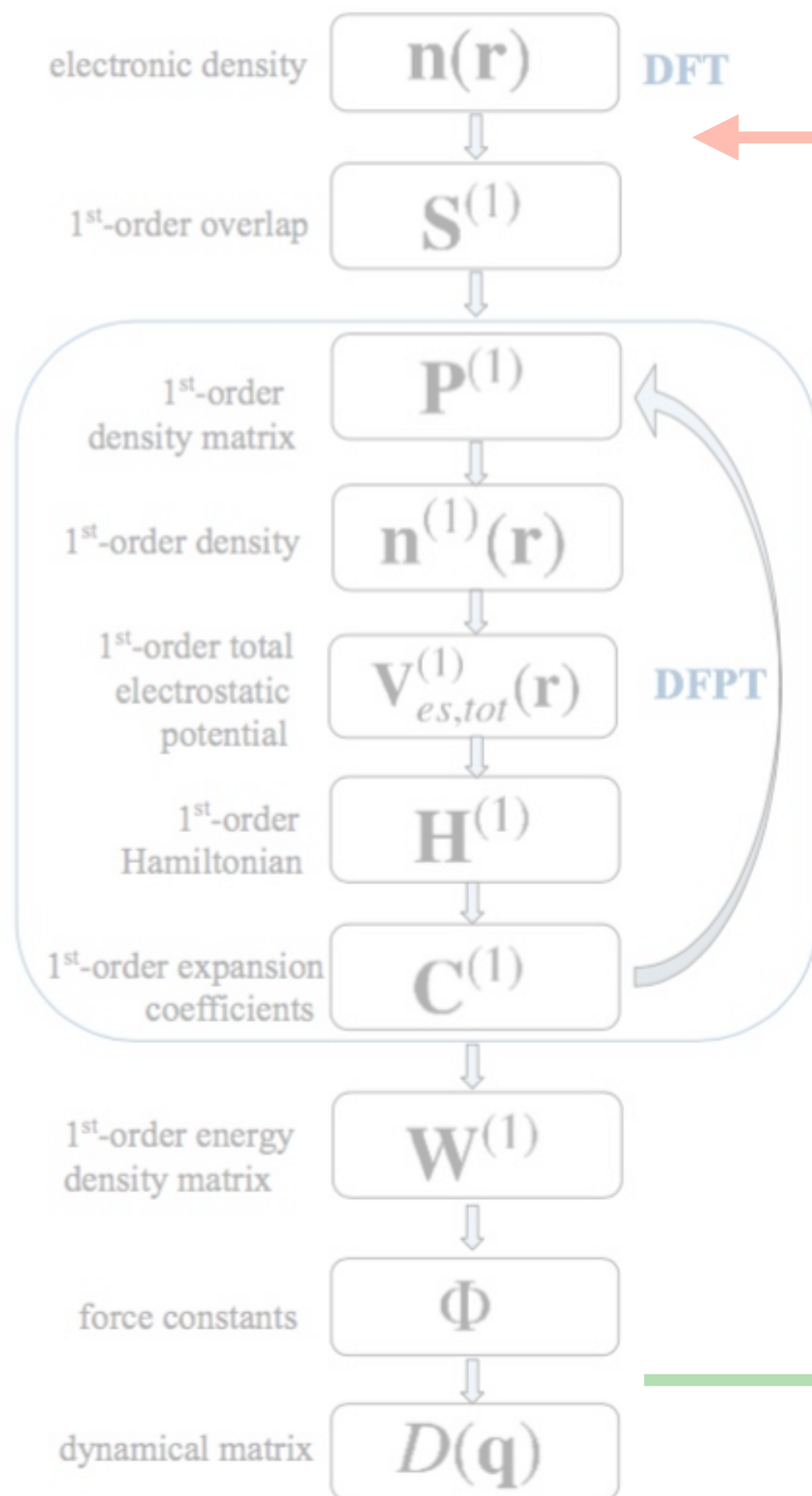
Periodic Systems: Silicon



Validation:

Comparison **DFPT** and **finite differences** for vibrational properties





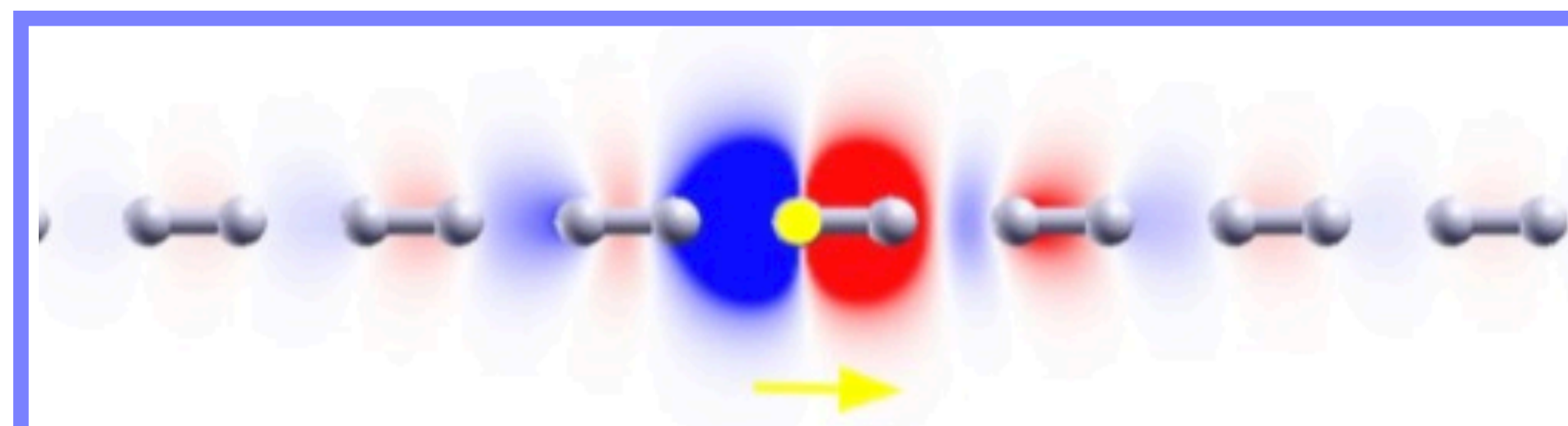
Density Functional Theory:

density $n(\mathbf{r})$



Density Functional Perturbation Theory:

density response $dn(\mathbf{r})/dR_I$

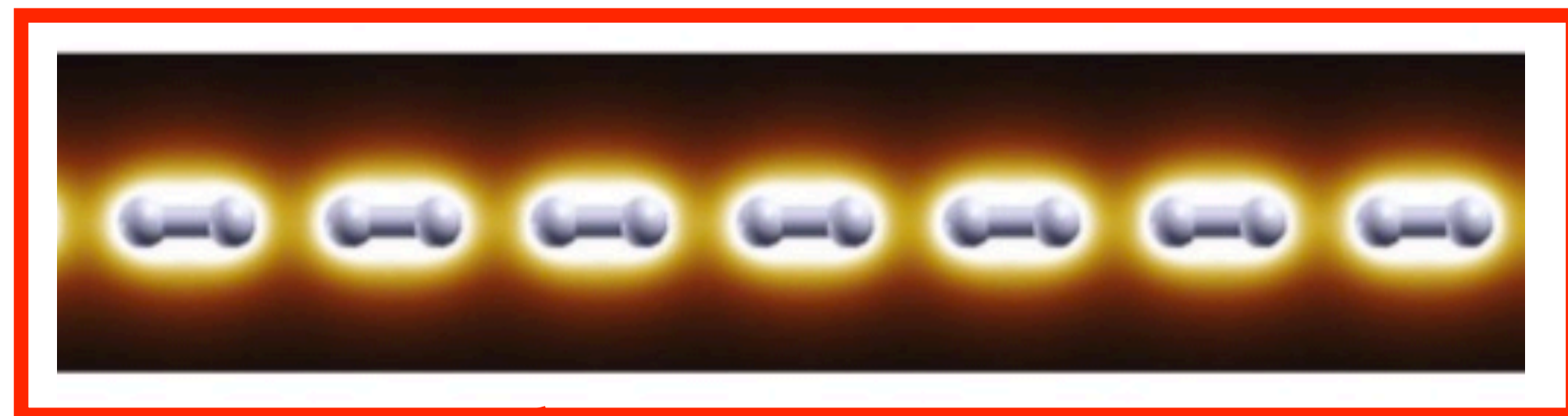


Density response is localized in real space.

F. Giustino, M. Cohen, and S. Louie,
Phys. Rev. B **76** 165108 (2007).



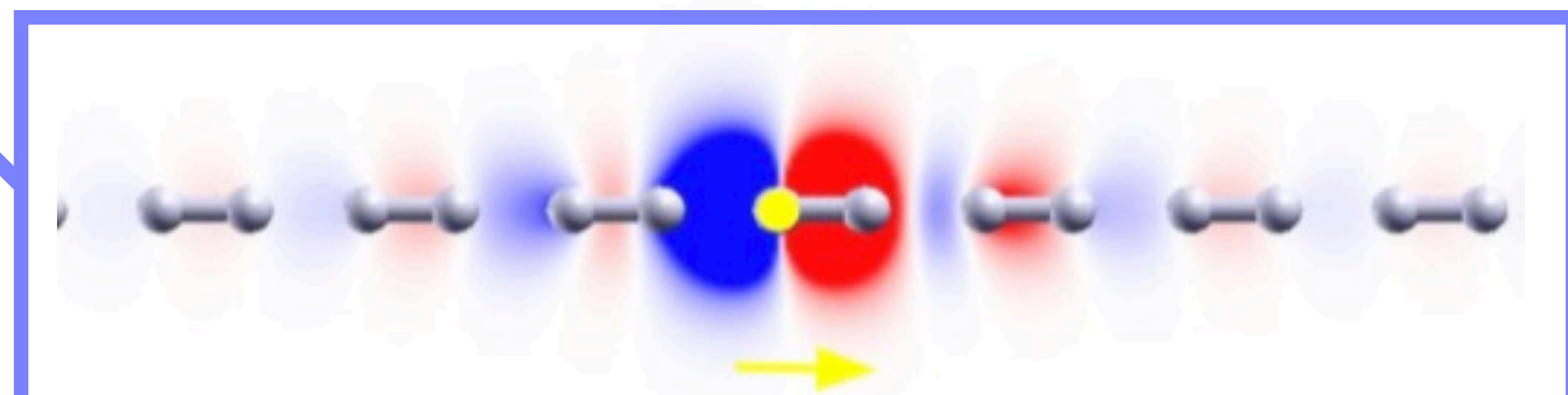
Density Functional Theory:
density $n(\mathbf{r})$



Using techniques developed for describing **delocalized properties** to describe a **localized response** is **not efficient!**

F. Giustino, M. Cohen, and S. Louie, *Phys. Rev. B* **76** 165108 (2007).

Density Functional Perturbation Theory:
density response $dn(\mathbf{r})/d\mathbf{R}_I$



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Phys. Rev. B **76** 165108 (2007).



Accelerating DFPT

e.g.: F. Giustino, M. Cohen, and S. Louie, *Phys. Rev. B* 76 165108 (2007).
EPW Software: Ponce, *et al.*, *Comp. Phys. Comm.* 209, 116 (2016).

Response computed in **reciprocal-space**
on a finite **q-grid**.

Truncated Fourier-Transform to **real-space**.

Localization enables **real-space interpolation**
(e.g. *Wannier*: Vanderbilt, Marzari, Giustino, etc.)

Truncated Fourier-Transform back to **reciprocal-space**.

Computing Harmonic Force Constants

Finite Differences (aka Frozen Phonons)

K. Kunc, and R. M. Martin, *Phys. Rev. Lett.* **48**, 406 (1982).

K. Parlinski, Z. Q. Li, and Y. Kawazoe, *Phys. Rev. Lett.* **78**, 4063 (1997).

$$\Phi_{I,Jlmn}^{\alpha\beta} = - \left. \frac{\partial \mathbf{F}_I^\alpha}{\partial \mathbf{R}_{J,lmn}^\beta} \right|_{\mathbf{R}_0} \approx - \lim_{\epsilon \rightarrow 0} \frac{\mathbf{F}_I^\alpha [\mathbf{R}_{J,lmn}^\beta + \epsilon]}{\epsilon}$$

Advantages:

- works with **all** electronic-structure methods
- trivially **parallel**

Disadvantages:

- requires **explicit** supercells
- **numerical noise** affects low-symmetry systems

Density-Functional Perturbation Theory

S. Baroni, P. Giannozzi, and A. Testa, *Phys. Rev. Lett.* **58**, 1861 (1987)

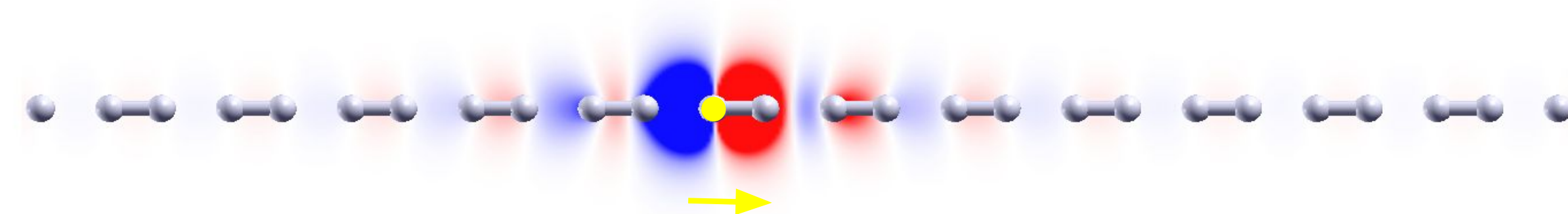
S. Baroni, *et al.*, *Rev. Mod. Phys.* **73**, 515 (2001).

2n+1 Theorem:

$$\Phi_{I,Jlmn} = \langle \Psi | \partial_I \partial_{Jlmn} \mathbb{H} | \Psi \rangle - \langle \Psi | \partial_I \mathbb{H} | \partial_{Jlmn} \Psi \rangle - \langle \partial_{Jlmn} \Psi | \partial_I \mathbb{H} | \Psi \rangle$$

Explicit response from *Sternheimer Equation*:

$$(\epsilon_q - \epsilon_p) \langle \psi_q | \underline{\partial \psi_p} \rangle = - \left(\langle \psi_q | \partial \hat{h}_{\text{KS}} | \psi_p \rangle - \partial \epsilon_p \delta_{qp} \right)$$



Computing Harmonic Force Constants

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Advantages:

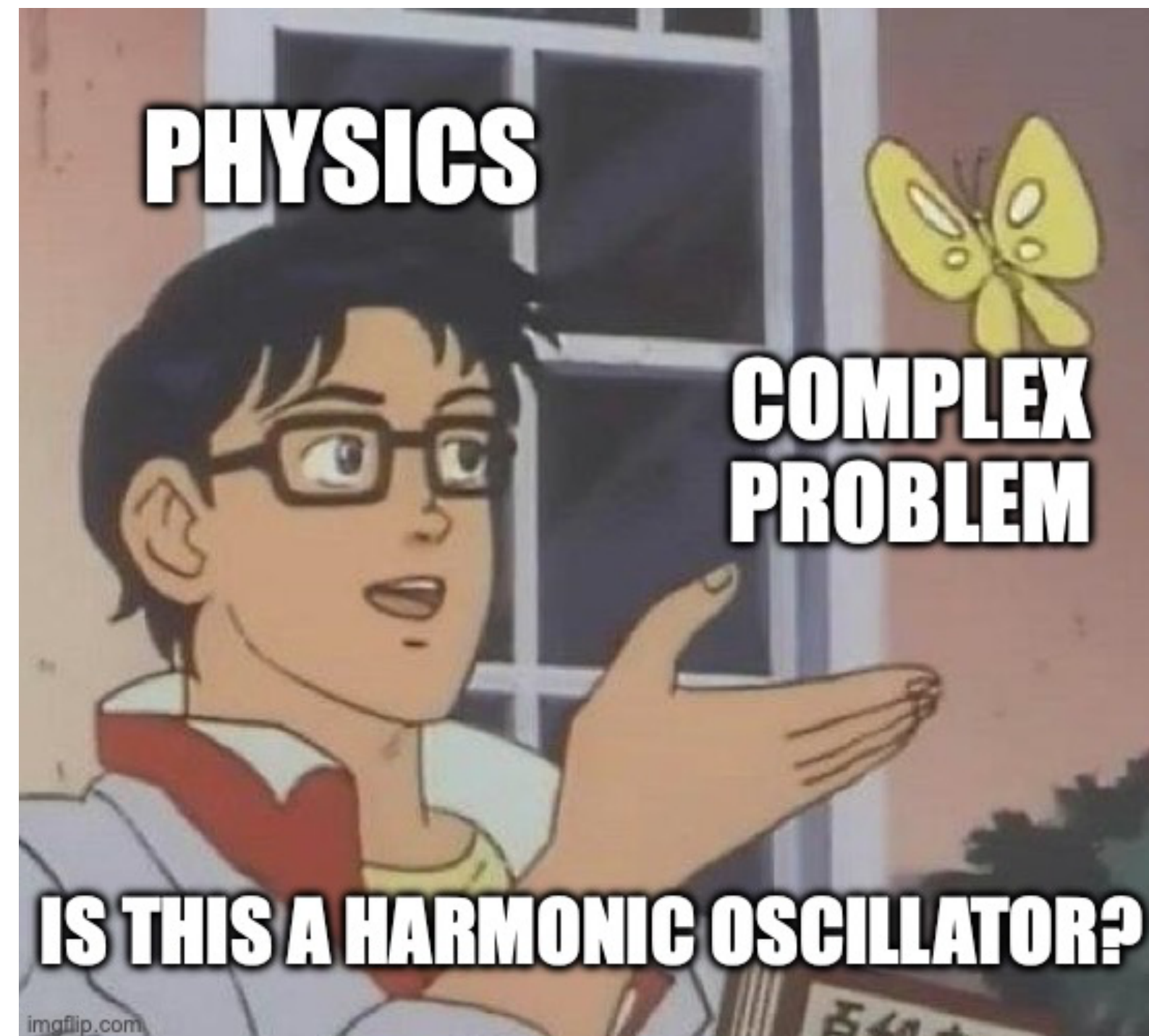
- works within **primitive** unit cells
- full access to the **electronic** perturbation

Disadvantages:

- requires **exchange-correlation** derivatives
- **costly** in extended, low-symmetry systems

Take-Home Messages

- **Everything moves!** Nuclei and atoms are never at rest.
- The potential-energy surface on which the nuclei move can be *approximated* using a *harmonic potential*.
This requires calculating *2nd order derivatives at equilibrium*.



The Harmonic Equations of Motion

Energy:

$$E^{\text{harm}} = \frac{1}{2} \sum_{I,J} \sum_{abc,lmn} \Phi_{Iabc,Jlmn} \Delta \mathbf{R}_{Iabc} \Delta \mathbf{R}_{Jlmn}$$

Forces:

$$\mathbf{F}_{Iabc} = - \sum_{Jlmn} \Phi_{Iabc,Jlmn} \Delta \mathbf{R}_{Jlmn}$$

Equation of Motion:

$$M_I \ddot{\mathbf{R}}_{Iabc} = - \sum_{Jlmn} \Phi_{Iabc,Jlmn} \Delta \mathbf{R}_{Jlmn}$$

$$\Delta \mathbf{R}_{Jlmn} = \frac{1}{\sqrt{M_J}} \mathbf{U}_J \exp(i\mathbf{q} \mathbf{L}_{lmn})$$

with $\mathbf{L}_{lmn} = l \mathbf{L}_x + m \mathbf{L}_y + n \mathbf{L}_z$

$$\sqrt{M_I} \ddot{\mathbf{U}}_I \exp(i\mathbf{q} \mathbf{L}_{abc}) = - \sum_{Jlmn} \frac{\Phi_{Iabc,Jlmn}}{\sqrt{M_J}} \mathbf{U}_J \exp(i\mathbf{q} \mathbf{L}_{lmn})$$

$$\ddot{\mathbf{U}}_I = - \sum_{Jlmn} \frac{\Phi_{Iabc,Jlmn}}{\sqrt{M_I M_J}} \exp(i\mathbf{q}(\mathbf{L}_{lmn} - \mathbf{L}_{abc})) \mathbf{U}_J$$

$$\ddot{\mathbf{U}}_I = - \sum_{Jlmn} \frac{\Phi_{I000,Jlmn}}{\sqrt{M_I M_J}} \exp(i\mathbf{q} \mathbf{L}_{lmn}) \mathbf{U}_J$$

$$\ddot{\mathbf{U}}_I = - \sum_J D_{I,J}(\mathbf{q}) \mathbf{U}_J$$

Dynamic Matrix: $\Rightarrow D_{I,J}(\mathbf{q}) = \sum_{lmn} \frac{\Phi_{I000,Jlmn}}{\sqrt{M_I M_J}} \exp(i\mathbf{q} \mathbf{L}_{lmn})$

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Infinite number of degrees of freedom!

However, we have to address all $\mathbf{q}$ -points in the 1st Brillouin zone.

$$\sqrt{M_I} \ddot{\mathbf{U}}_I \exp(i\mathbf{q} \mathbf{L}_{abc}) = - \sum_{Jlmn} \frac{\Phi_{Iabc,Jlmn}}{\sqrt{M_J}} \mathbf{U}_J \exp(i\mathbf{q} \mathbf{L}_{lmn})$$

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The Harmonic Equations of Motion

3 N_p solutions $\{\omega_s^2(\mathbf{q}), \tilde{\mathbf{U}}_s(\mathbf{q})\}$

**Complex Amplitudes
fully determined
by initial conditions!**

$$\Delta \mathbf{R}_{Jlmn}(t) = \frac{1}{(2\pi)^3} \sum_s \int_{\text{BZ}} \frac{A_s(\mathbf{q})}{\sqrt{M_J}} \exp(i\mathbf{q}\mathbf{L}_{lmn}) \exp[i\omega_s(\mathbf{q})t] \cdot \tilde{\mathbf{U}}_{s,J}(\mathbf{q})$$

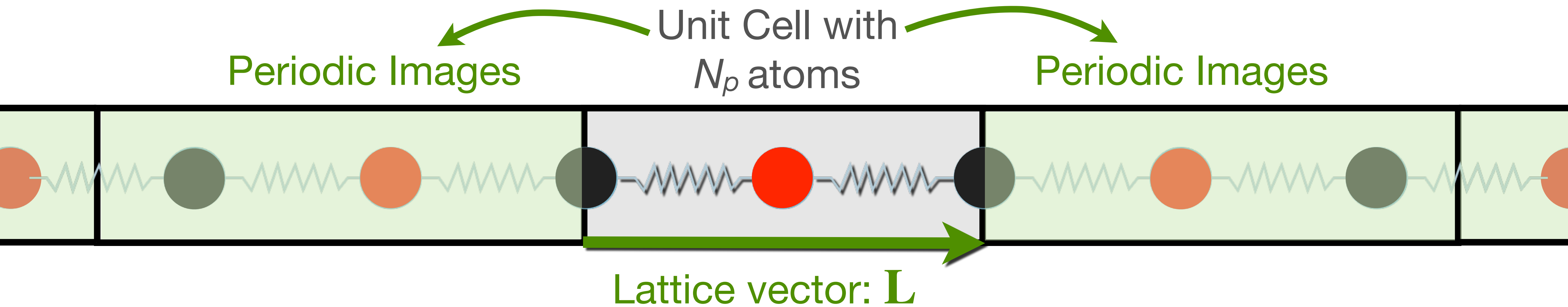
Eigenvalue problem:

$$\omega^2(\mathbf{q}) \tilde{\mathbf{U}}_I(\mathbf{q}) = \sum_J D_{I,J}(\mathbf{q}) \tilde{\mathbf{U}}_J(\mathbf{q}) \implies \omega^2(\mathbf{q}) \tilde{\mathbf{U}}(\mathbf{q}) = \mathbf{D}(\mathbf{q}) \tilde{\mathbf{U}}_J(\mathbf{q})$$

$$\mathbf{U}_J = \exp[i\omega(\mathbf{q})t] \cdot \tilde{\mathbf{U}}_J(\mathbf{q})$$

$$\ddot{\mathbf{U}}_I = - \sum_J D_{I,J}(\mathbf{q}) \mathbf{U}_J$$

One Simple Example



Real Space:
Hessian $\Phi_{I,Jlmn}$
with ∞ entries

Fourier Transform

$$D_{I,J}(\mathbf{q}) = \sum_{lmn} \frac{\Phi_{I000,Jlmn}}{\sqrt{M_I M_J}} \exp(i\mathbf{q}\mathbf{L}_{lmn})$$

Reciprocal Space:
Dynamical Matrix $D_{IJ}(\mathbf{q})$
with $I, J \leq N_p$

Vibrations in a Crystal 101

K. Parlinski, Z. Q. Li, and Y. Kawazoe, *Phys. Rev. Lett.* **78**, 4063 (1997).

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Space:

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Reciprocal
Space:

Dynamical Matrix $D_{IJ}(\mathbf{q})$
with $I, J \leq N_p$

Fourier Transform can be truncated
since $\Phi_{I,Jlmn} = 0$ for large $\mathbf{L}_{lmn}$

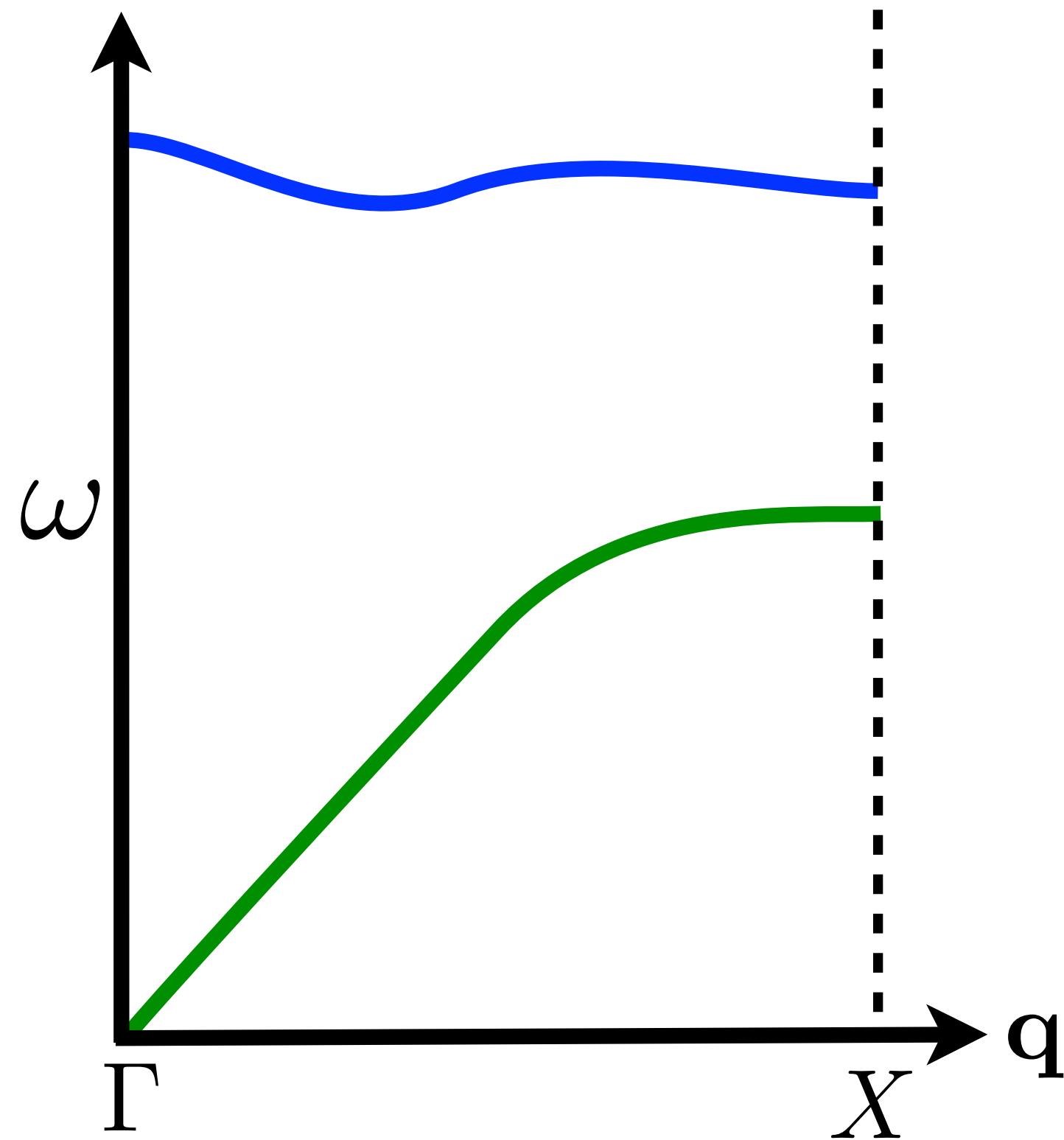
Hessian $\Phi_{I,Jlmn}$
with **finite** number
of non-zero entries



Dynamical Matrix $D_{IJ}(\mathbf{q})$
known for the **whole**
reciprocal space

Vibrations in a Crystal 101

see, e.g., N. W Ashcroft and N. D. Mermin, “*Solid State Physics*” (1976).



Dynamical matrix:

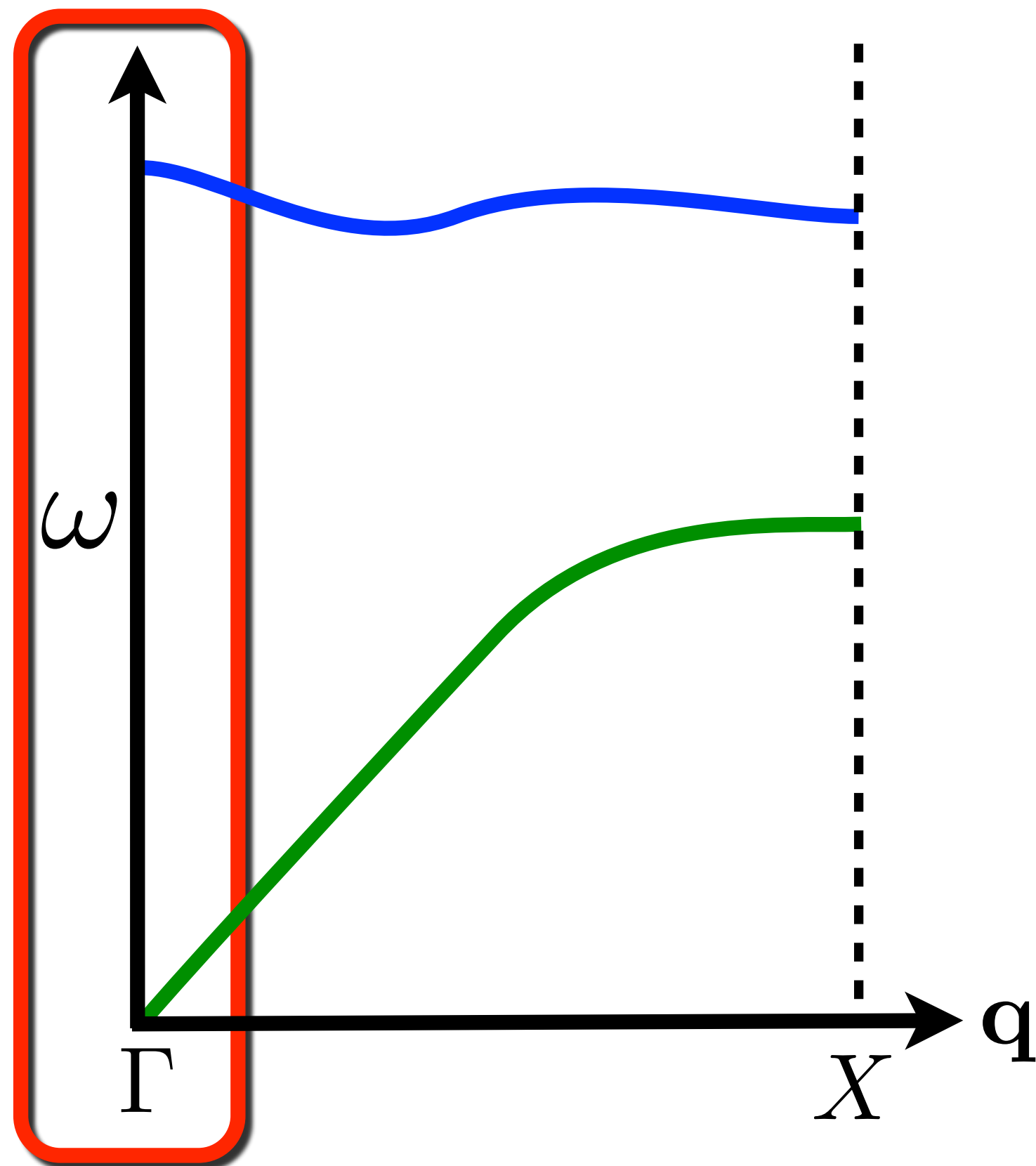
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Eigenvalue problem:

$$\mathbf{D}(\mathbf{q}) \tilde{\mathbf{U}}_J(\mathbf{q}) = \omega^2(\mathbf{q}) \tilde{\mathbf{U}}(\mathbf{q})$$

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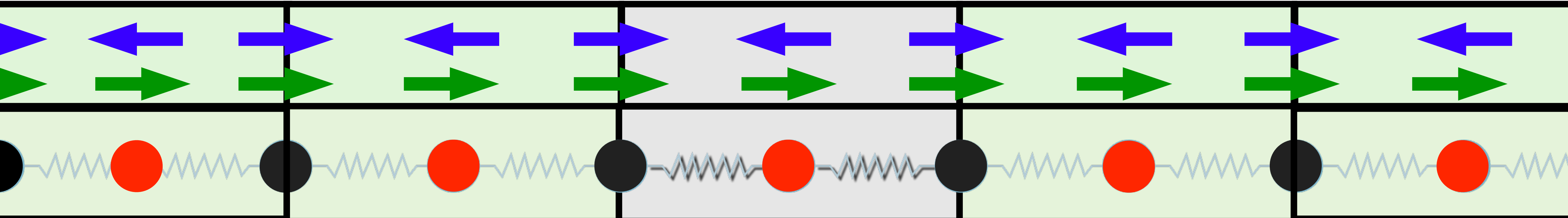


Dynamical matrix:

$$D_{I,J}(\mathbf{\Gamma}) = \sum_{lmn} \frac{\Phi_{I000,Jlmn}}{\sqrt{M_I M_J}} \exp(i\mathbf{q} \cdot \mathbf{L}_{lmn}) = 1$$

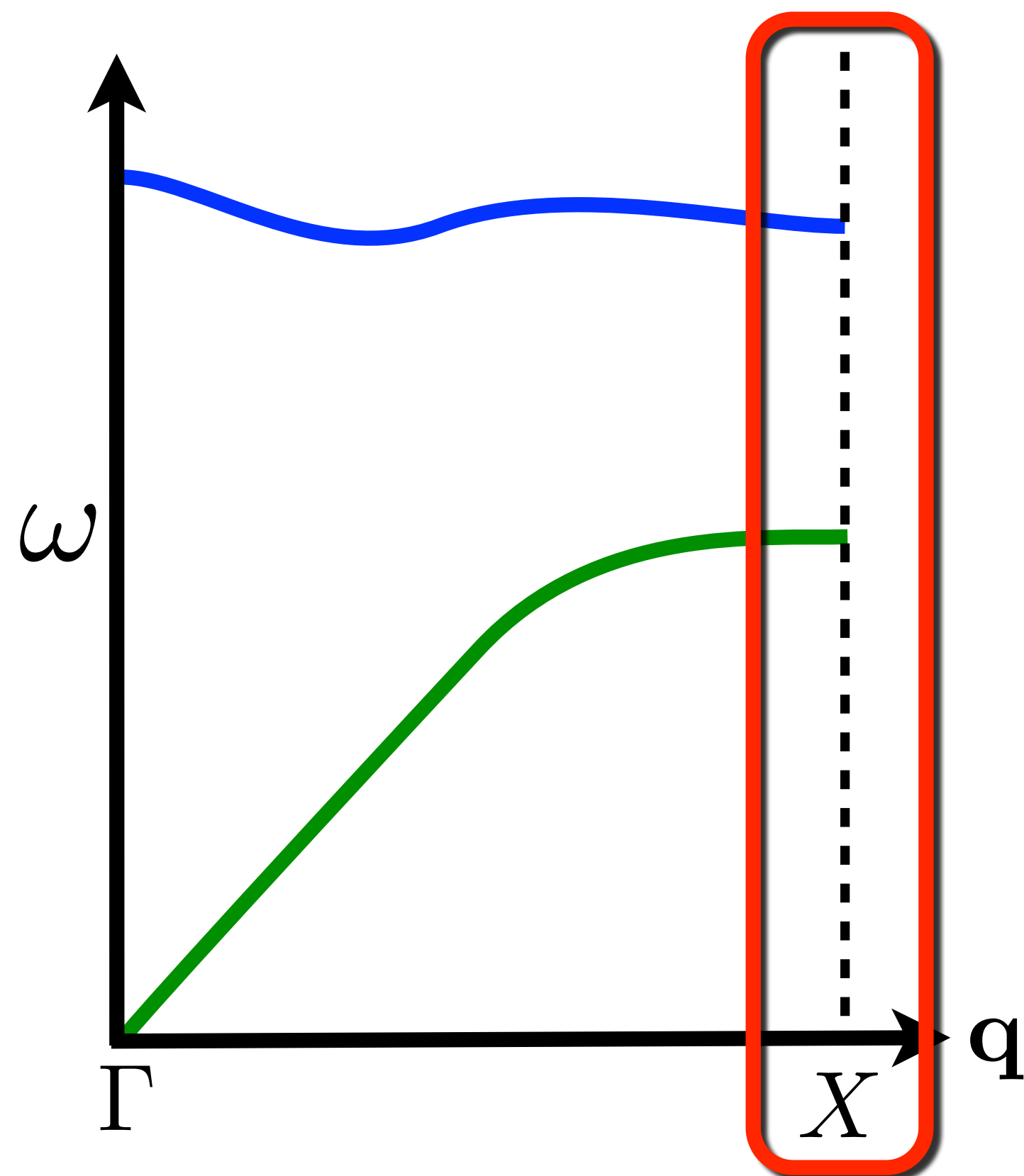
Eigenvalue problem:

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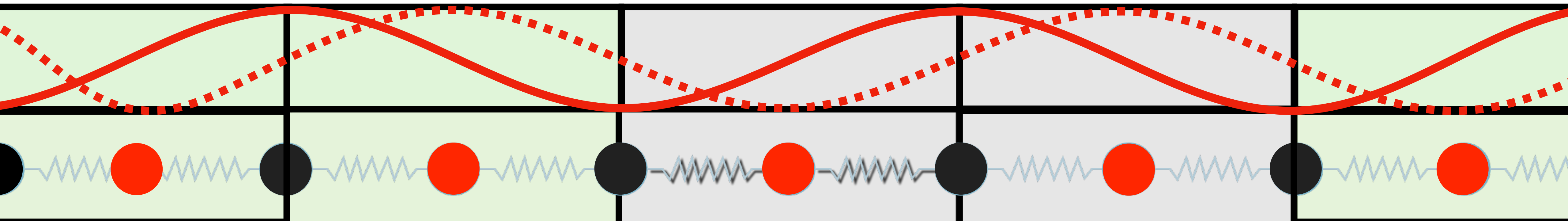


Dynamical matrix:

$$D_{I,J}(\textcolor{red}{X}) = \sum_{lmn} \frac{\Phi_{I000,Jlmn}}{\sqrt{M_I M_J}} \exp(i\mathbf{q}\mathbf{L}_{lmn}) \quad \textcolor{red}{alternating } \pm 1$$

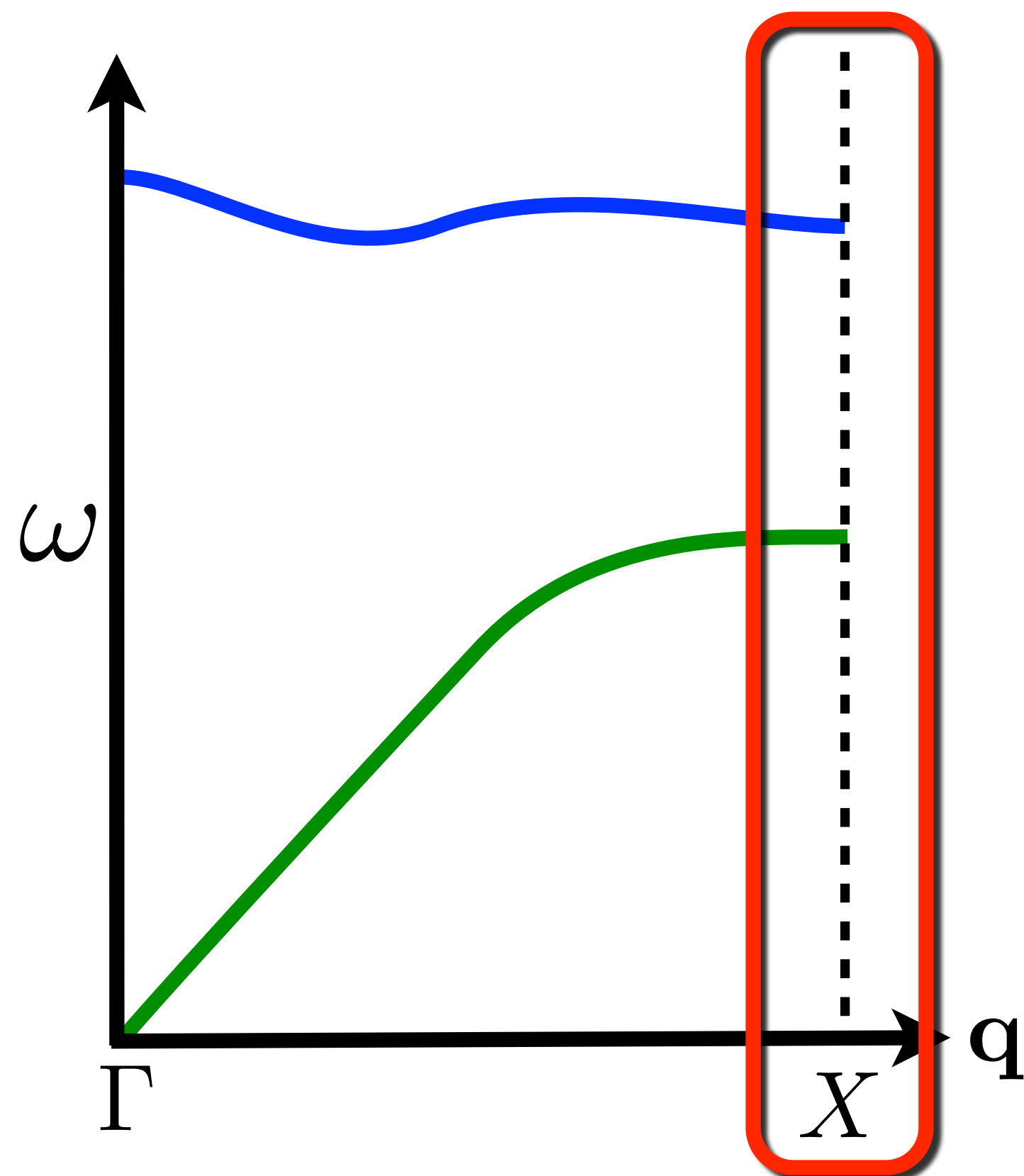
Eigenvalue problem:

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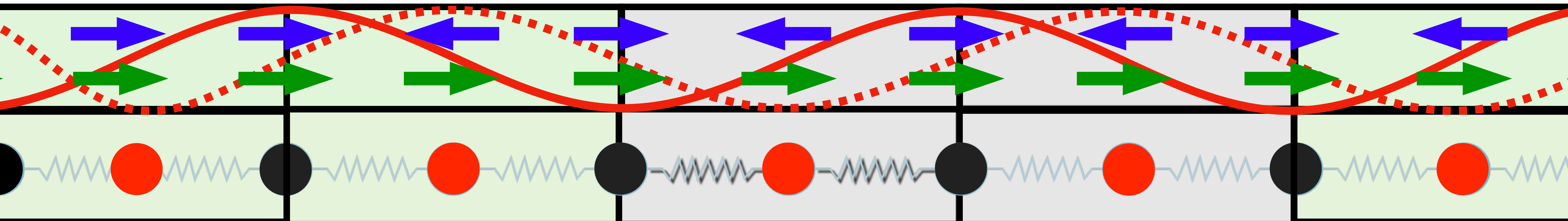


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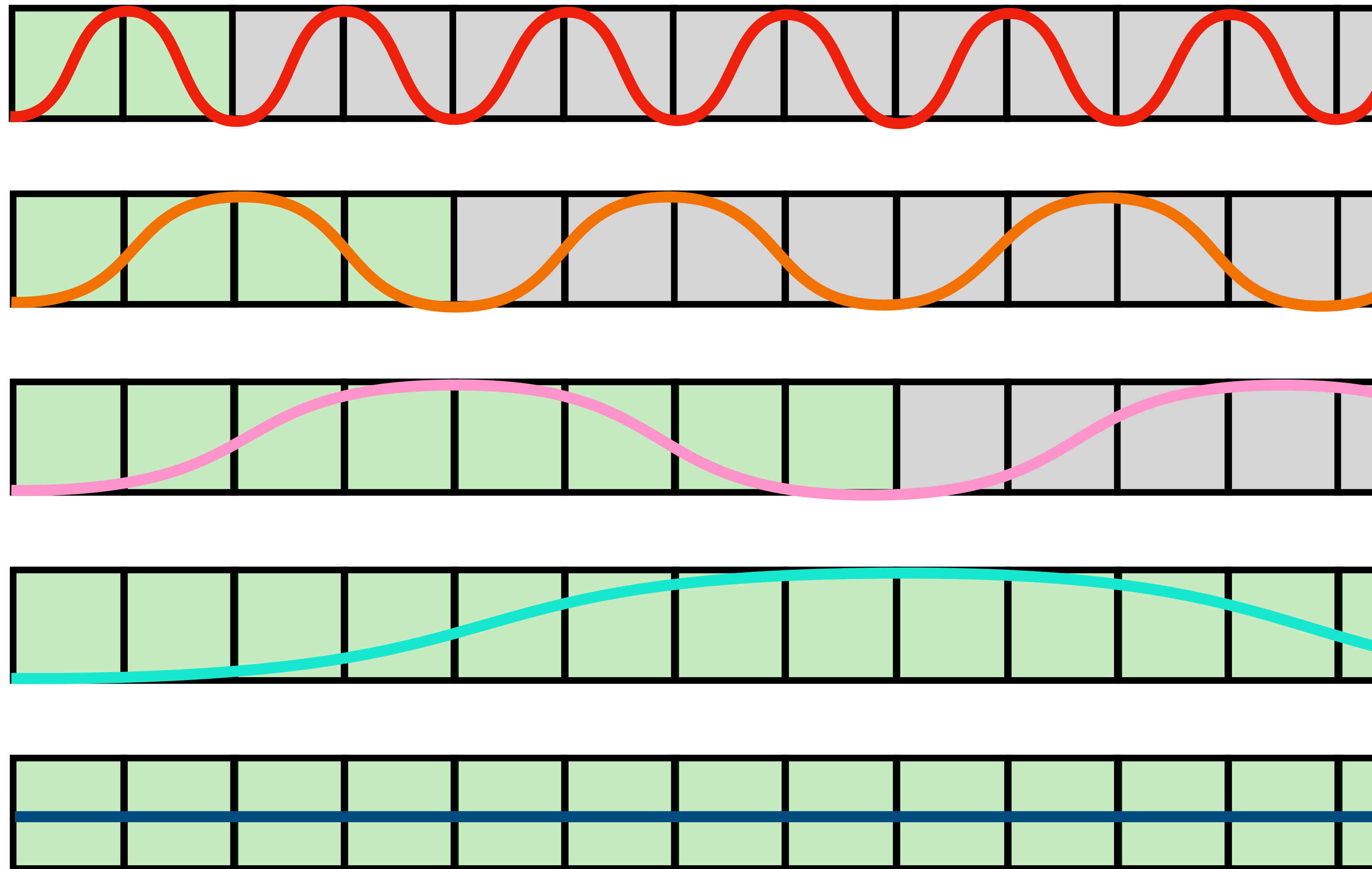
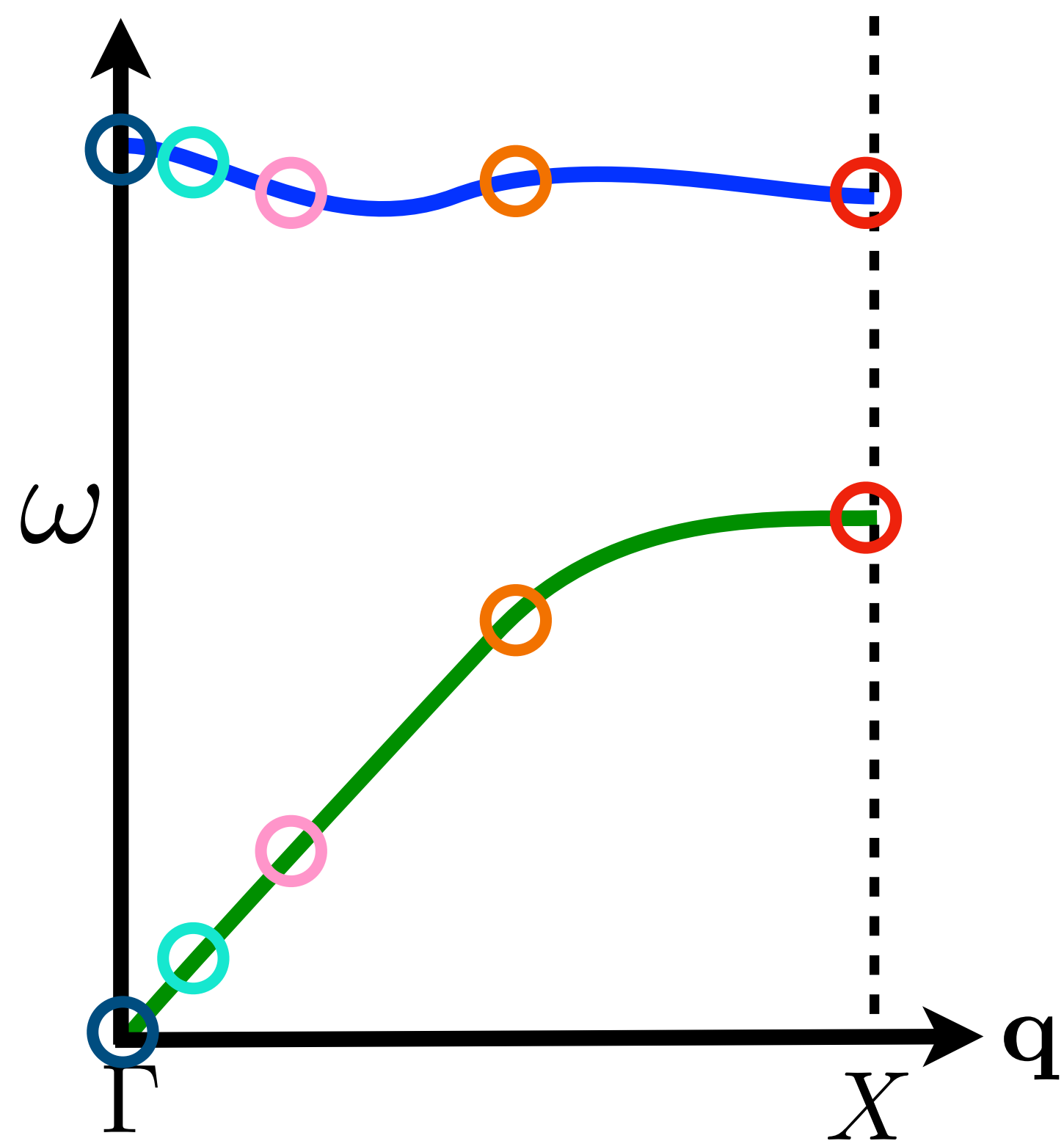
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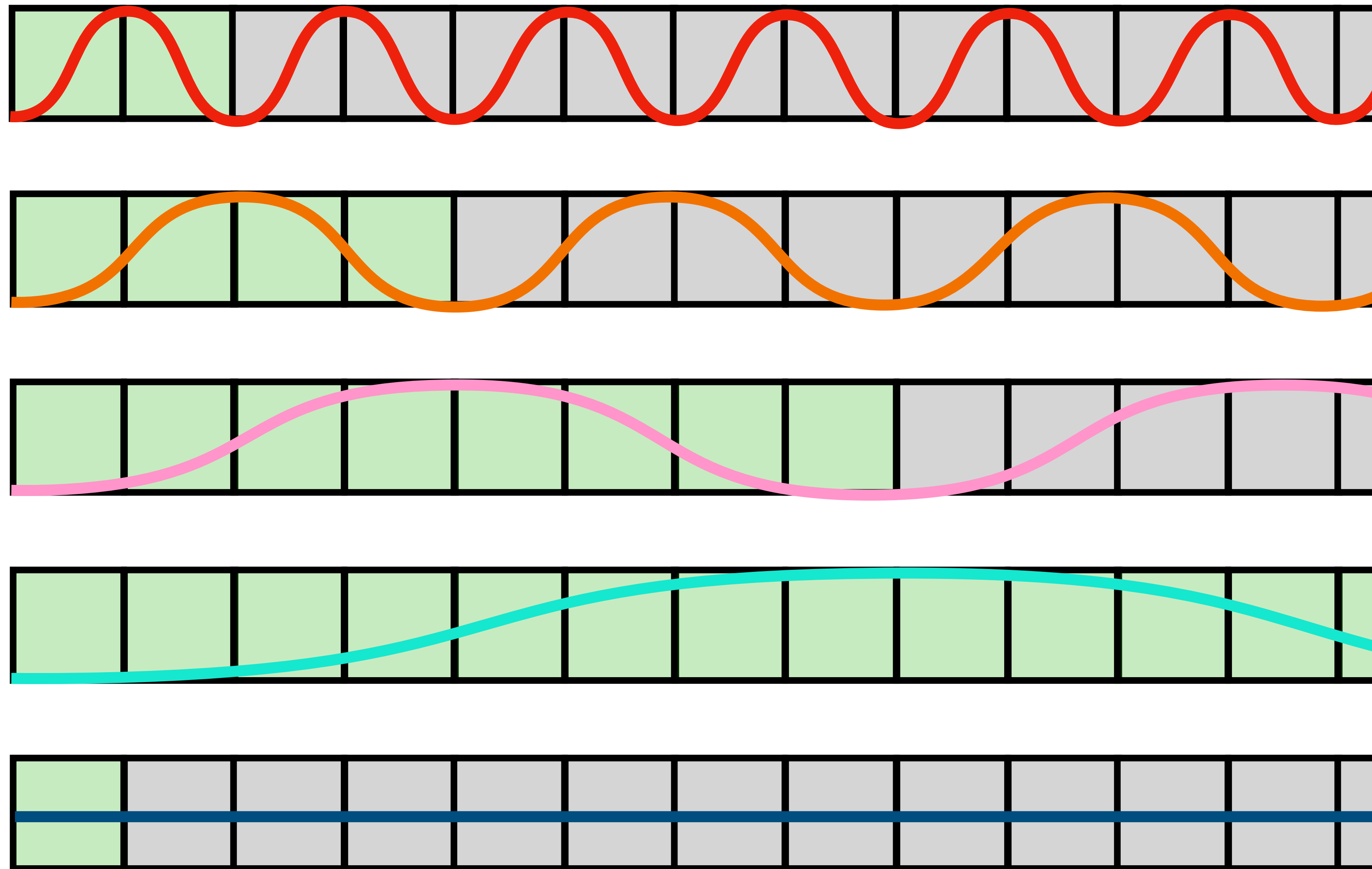
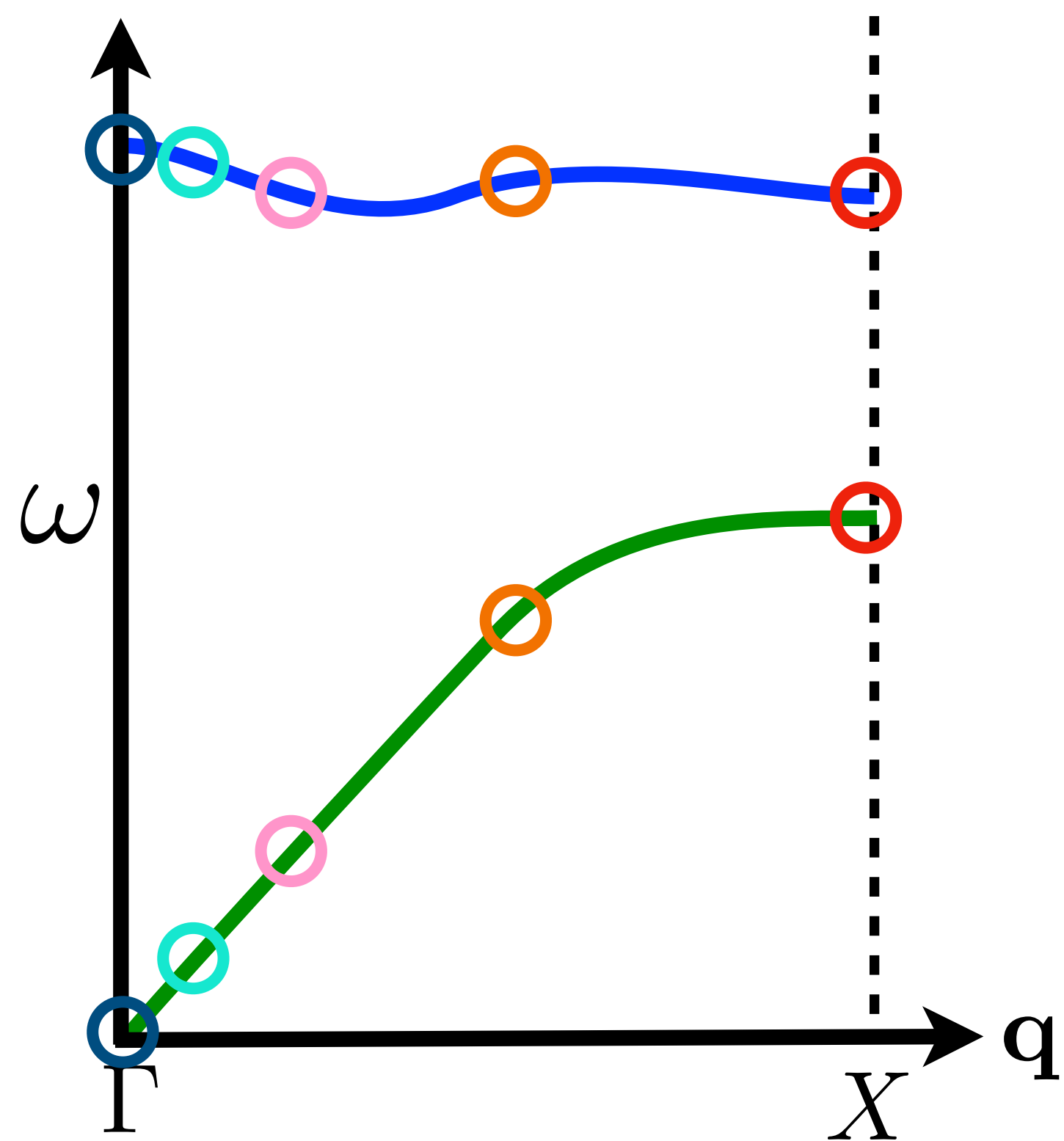
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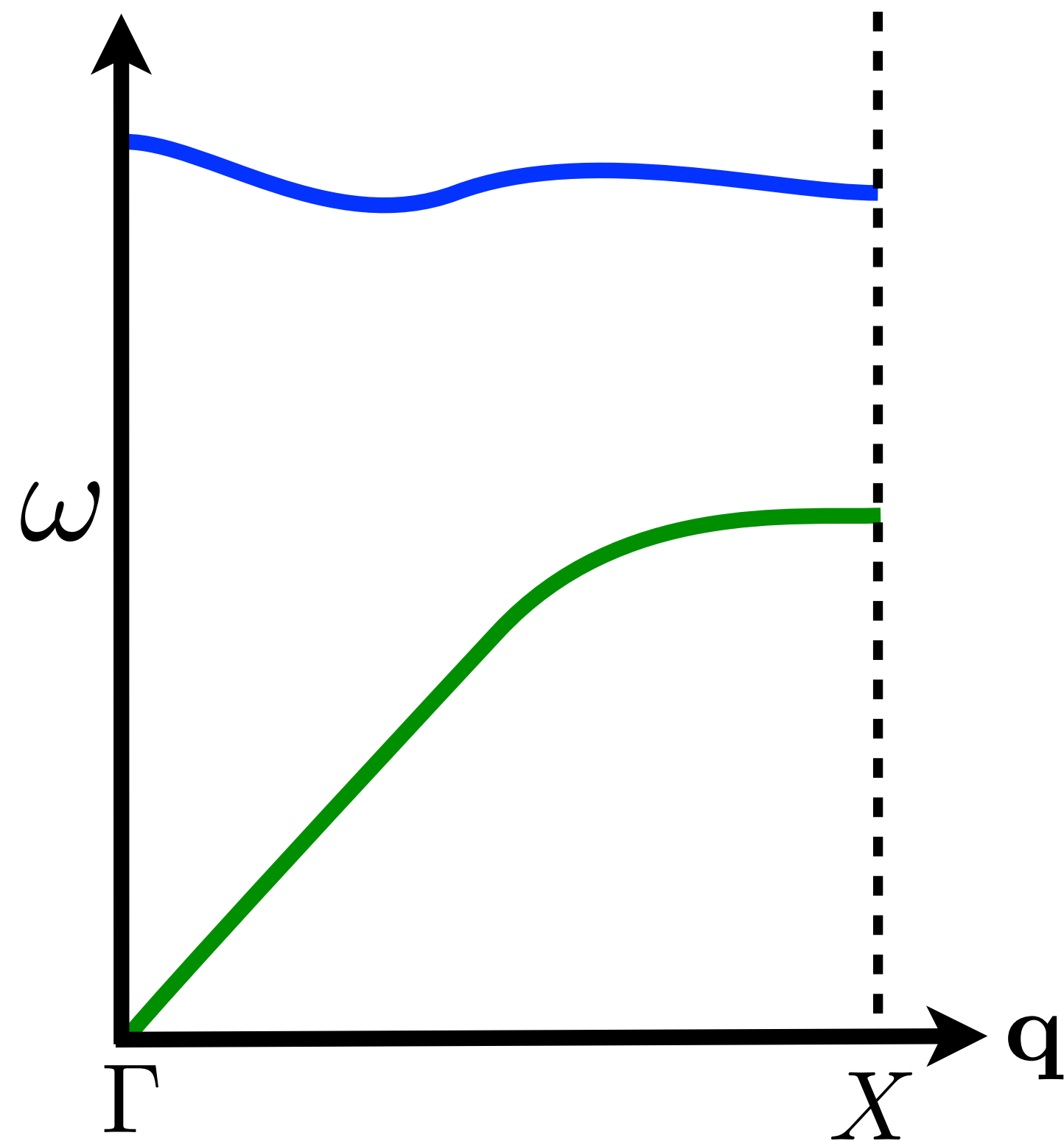
For N_p atoms in the unit cell there are:

3 Acoustic modes:

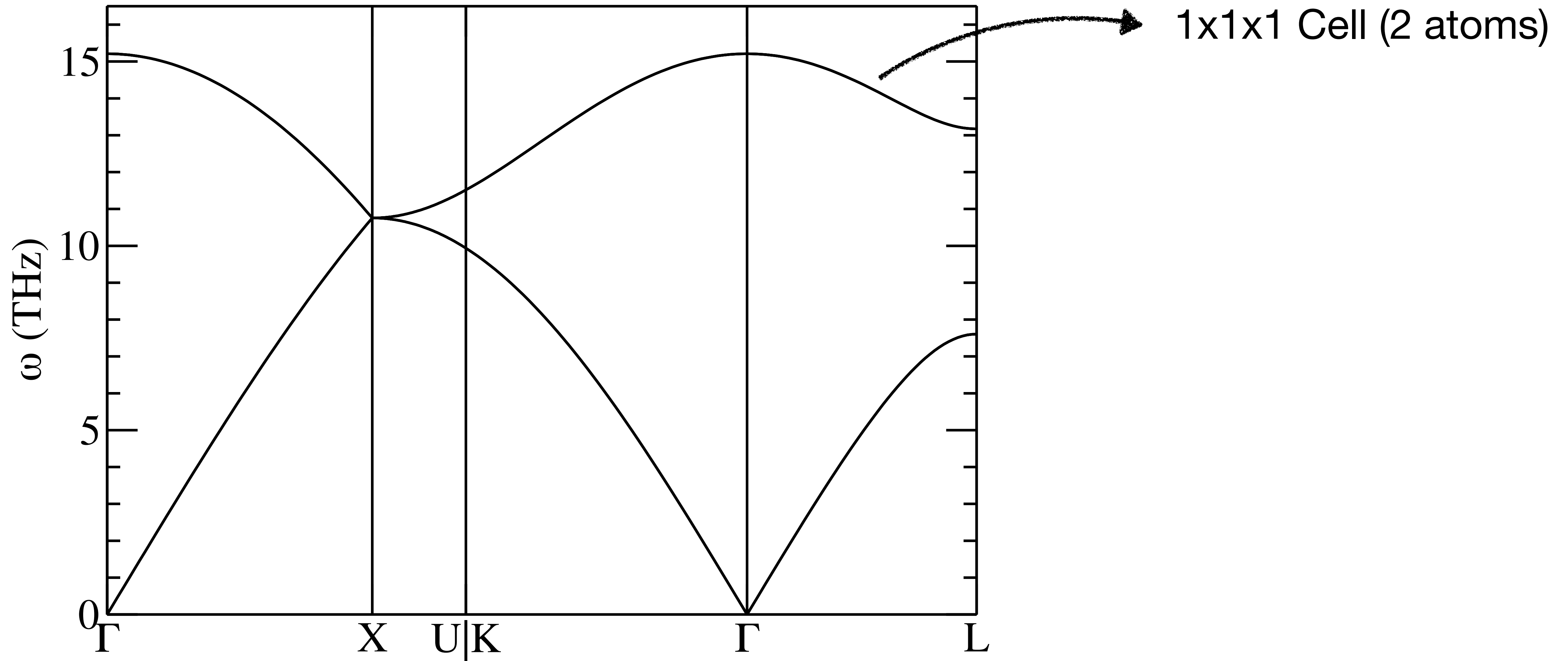
- Atoms in unit cell **in-phase**
- Acoustic modes **vanish** at Γ
- **Strong** (typically linear) **dispersion** close to Γ

$(3N_p - 3)$ Optical modes:

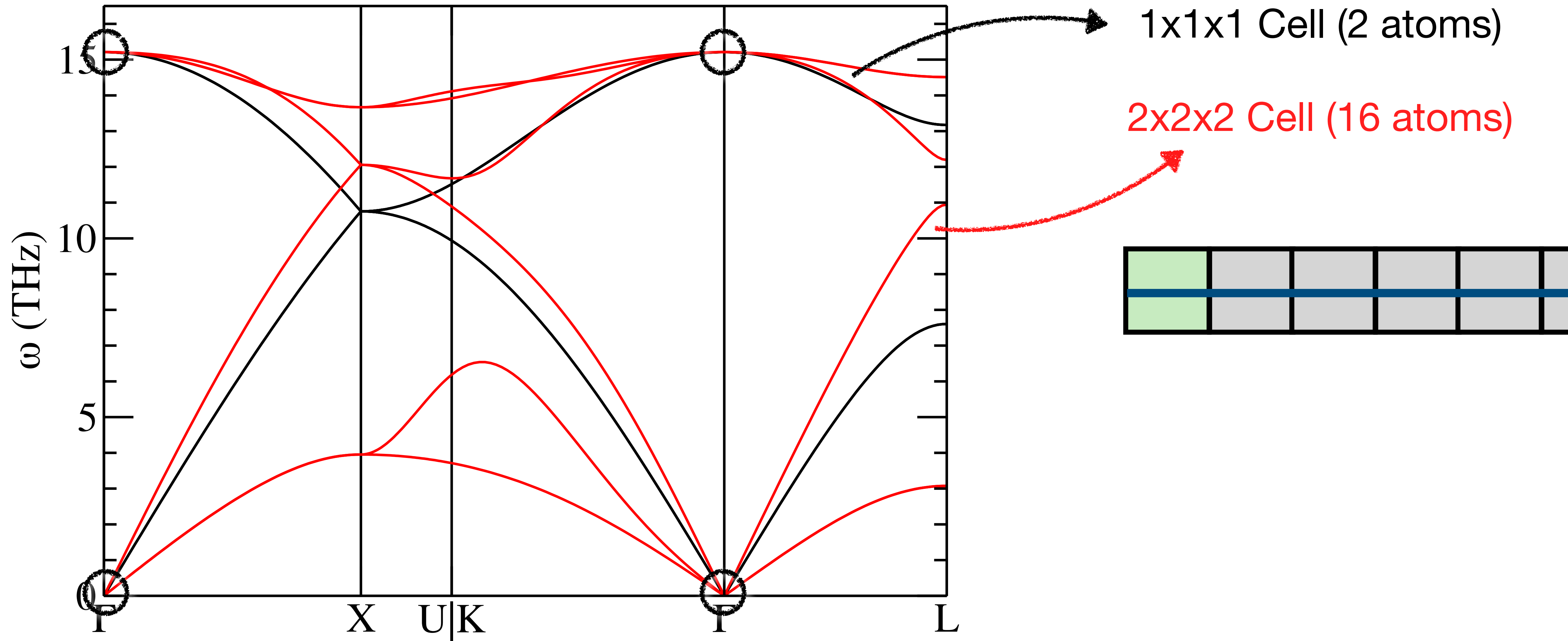
- Atoms in unit cell **out-of-phase**
- $\omega > 0$ at Γ (and everywhere else)
- **Weak** dispersion



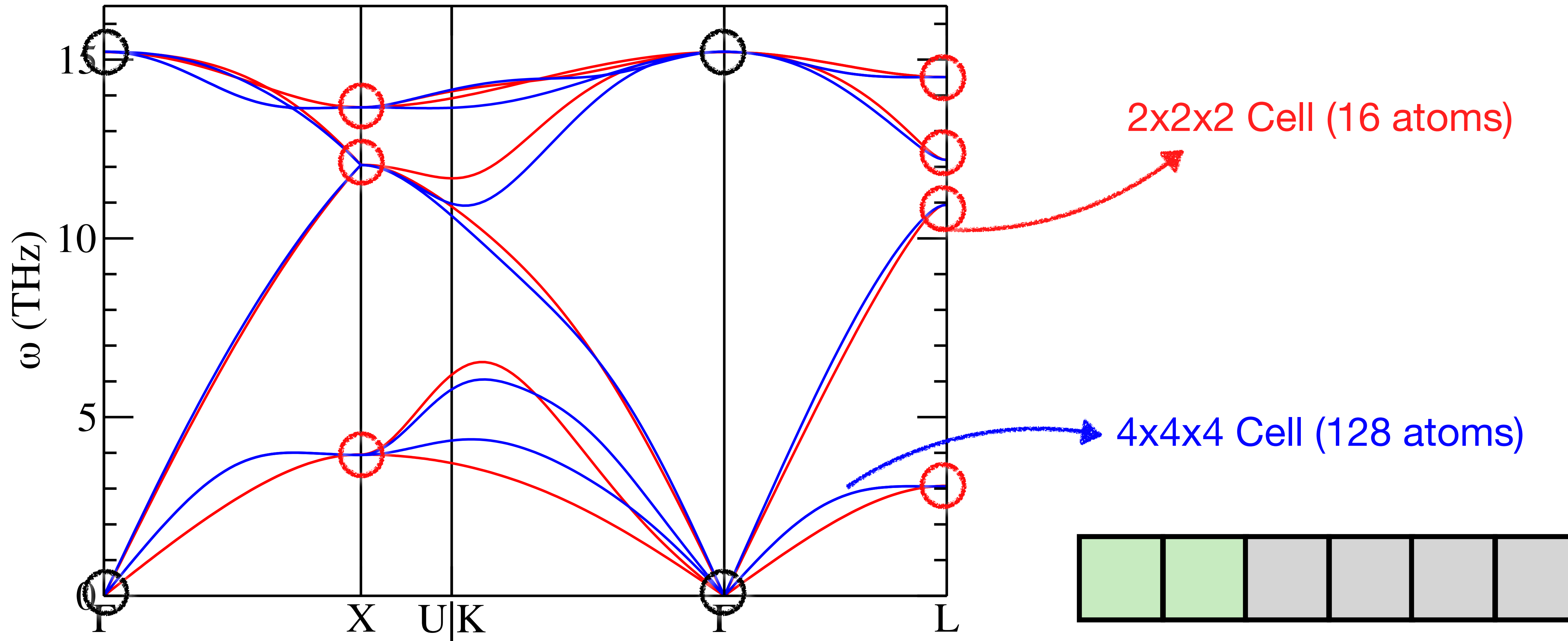
A Real Example: Diamond Si



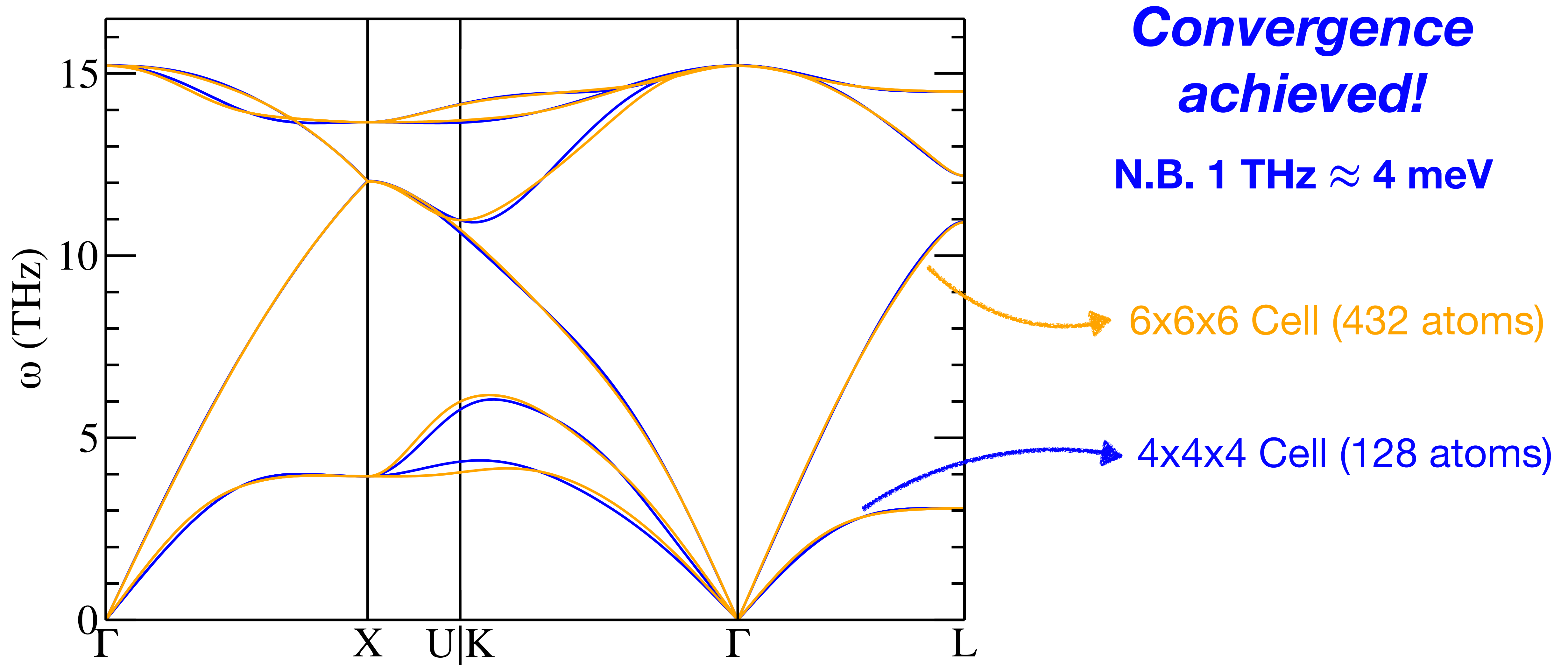
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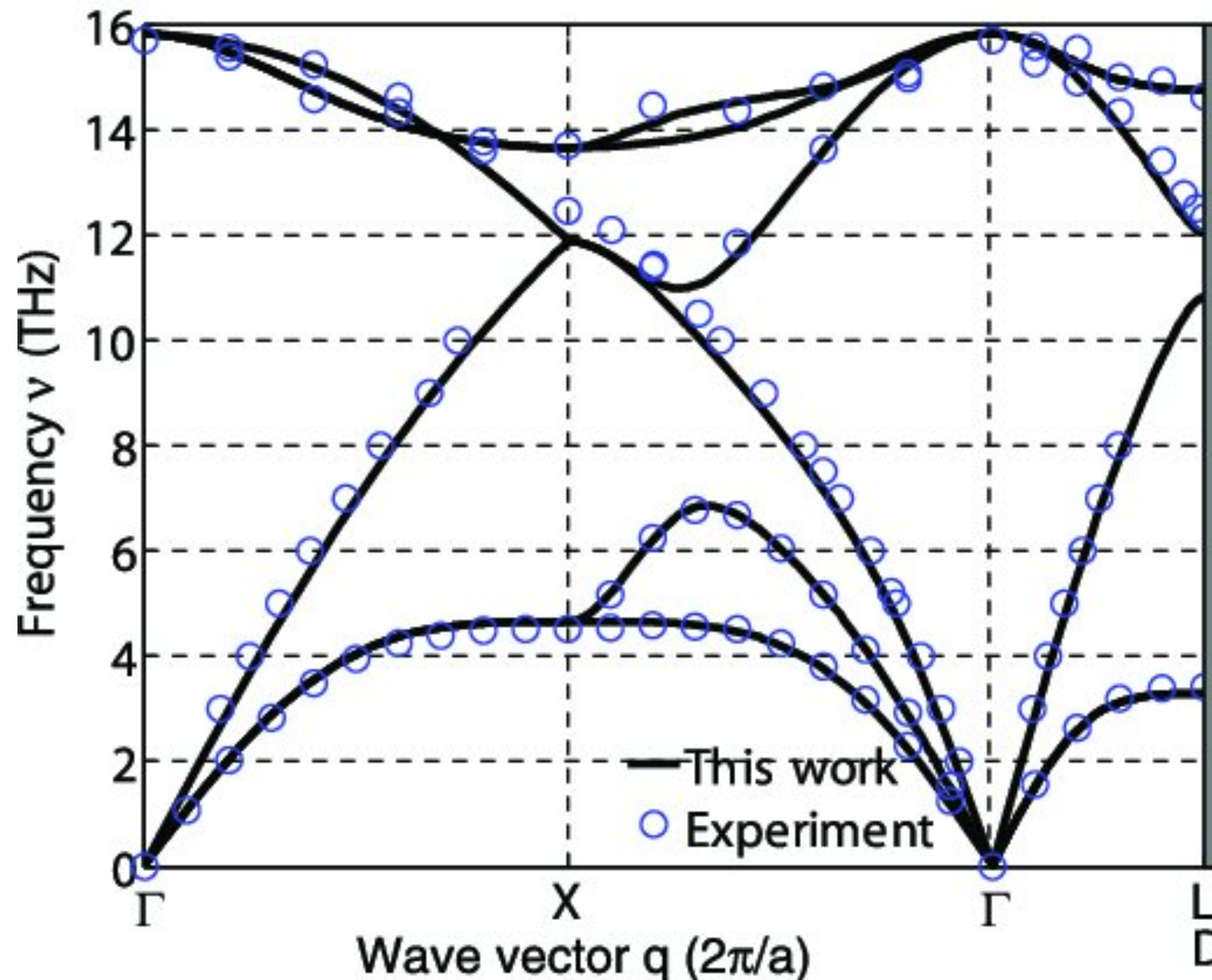
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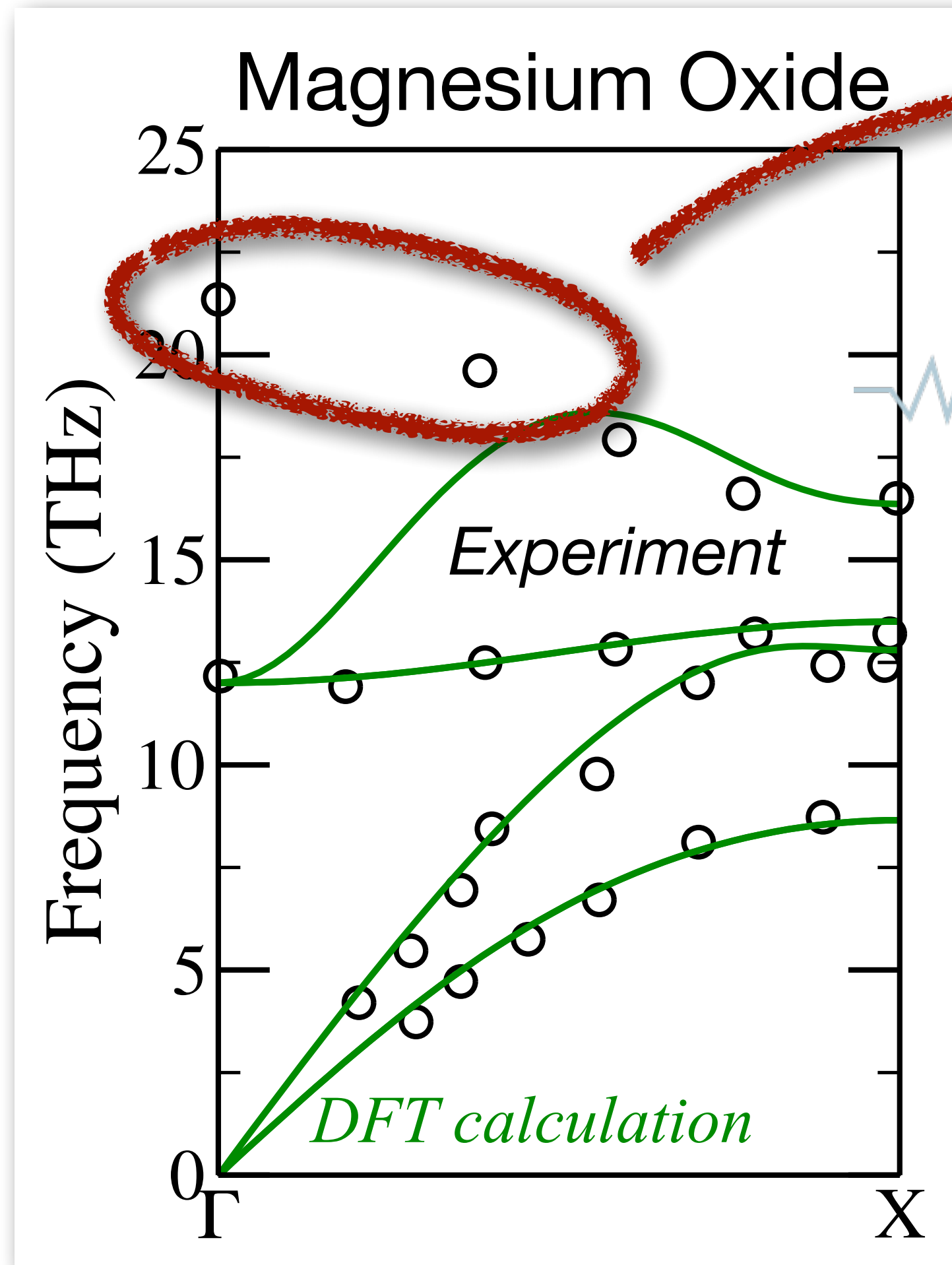
**Comparison to
experiment**

Audrey Valentin *et al.*,
J. Phys.: Condens. Matter **20** 145213 (2008)

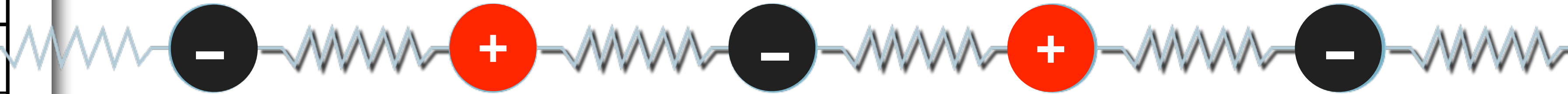
Polar Crystals

P. Giannozzi, S. Degironcoli, P. Pavone, and S. Baroni, *Phys. Rev. B* **43**, 7231 (1991).

X. Gonze, and C. Lee, *Phys. Rev. B* **55**, 10355 (1997).



What is wrong here?



When *charged* atoms are *displaced*,
a **weak, long-ranged** dipole field is induced.

In the **short-range** ($q \gg 0$) this interaction is
clouded by all other forces.

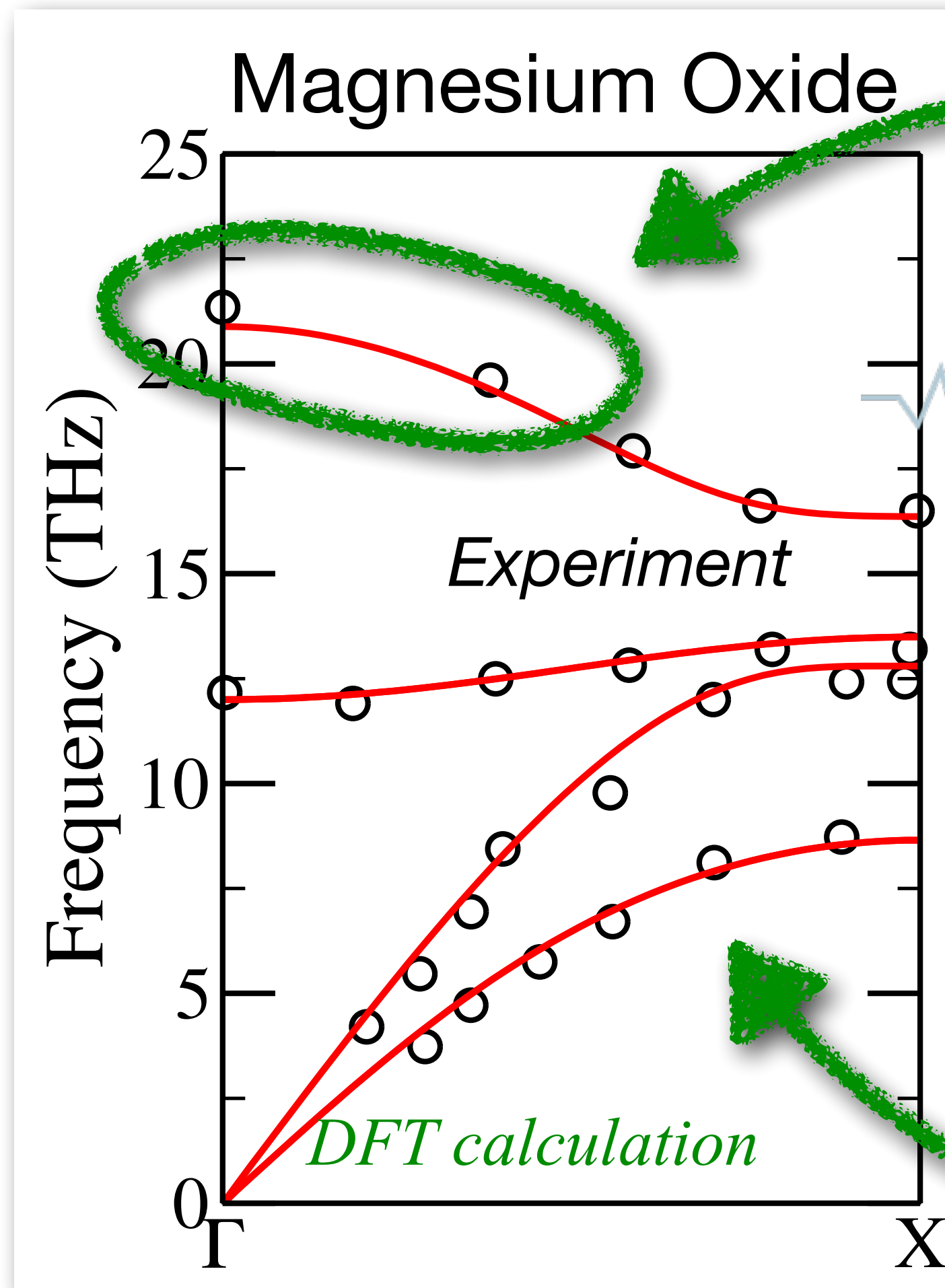
In the **long-range** ($q \approx 0$)
this interaction becomes **significant**.

Experiment: M. J. L. Sangster, G. Peckham, and
D. H. Saunderson, *J. Phys. C* **3**, 1026 (1970).

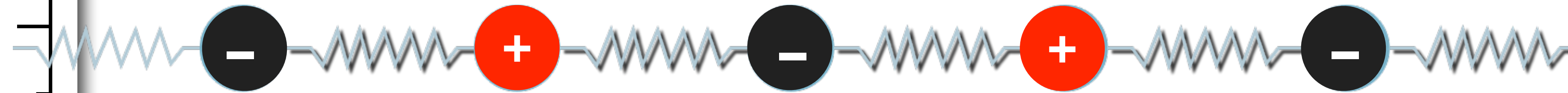
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How to account for it?



- ★ Calculate *Born Effective Charges* $\mathbf{Z}_i^*$, i.e., the **derivative** of the **polarisation**.
- ★ Calculate dielectric constant ϵ_∞ , i.e, how the electric field is screened.
- ★ Add the **additional, far-field** interaction:

$$\mathbf{D}_{IJ}(\mathbf{q}) \rightarrow \mathbf{D}_{IJ}(\mathbf{q}) + \frac{1}{\sqrt{M_I M_J}} \frac{4\pi}{\Omega_0} \frac{[\mathbf{q} \cdot \mathbf{Z}_I^*][\mathbf{q} \cdot \mathbf{Z}_J^*]}{\mathbf{q} \cdot \epsilon^\infty \cdot \mathbf{q}}$$

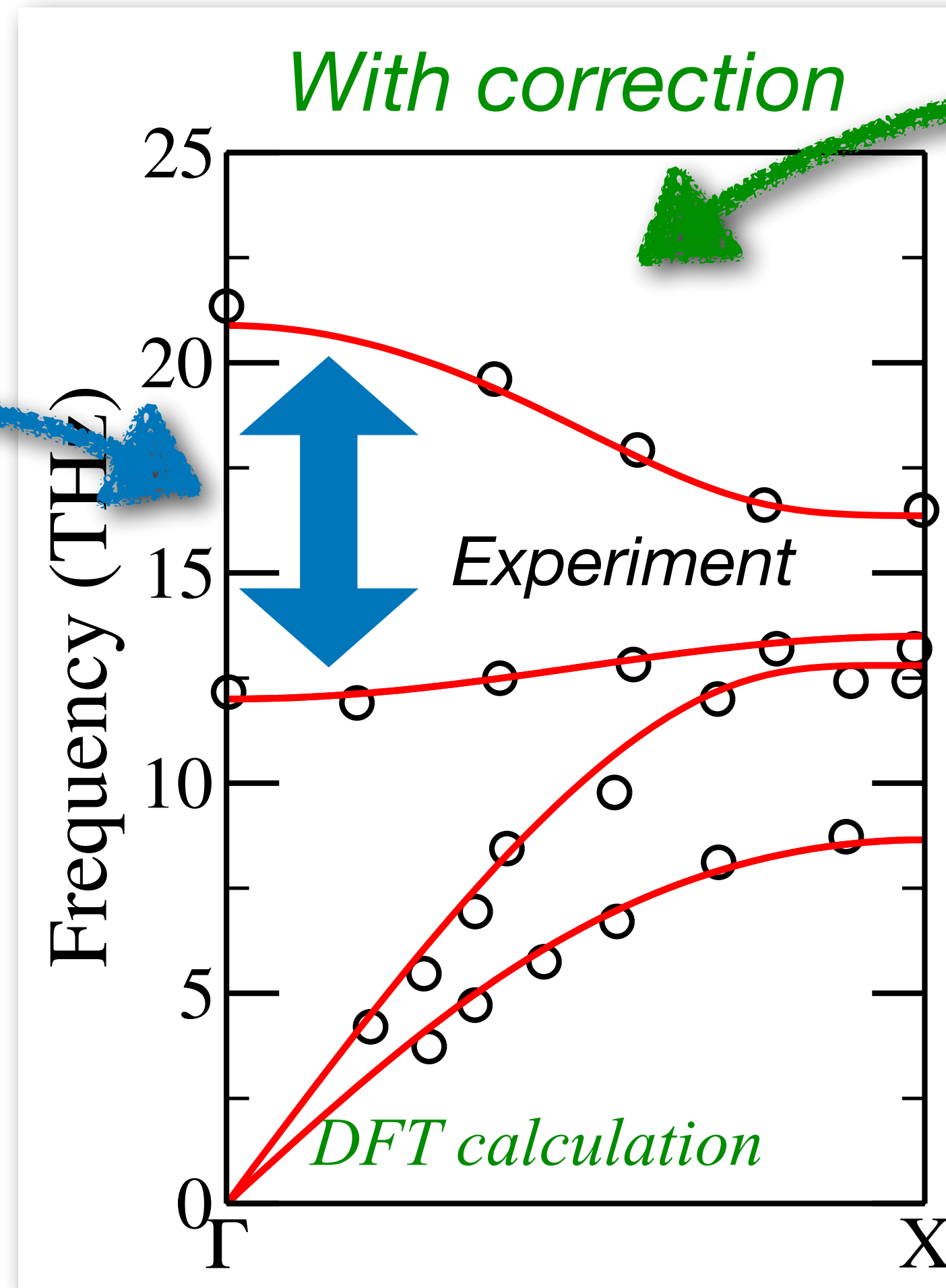
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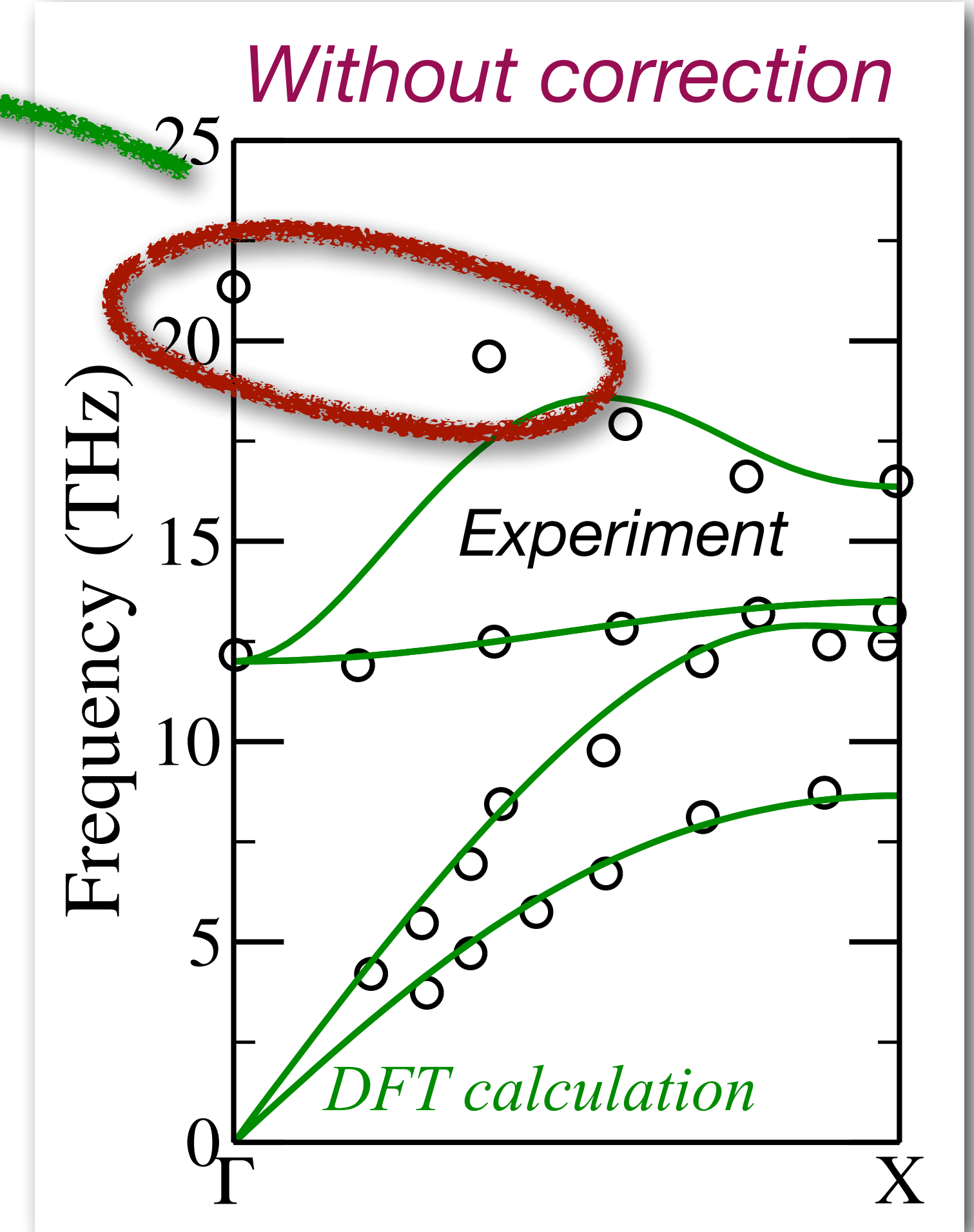
P. Giannozzi, S. Degironcoli, P. Pavone, and S. Baroni, *Phys. Rev. B* **43**, 7231 (1991).

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LO-TO splitting

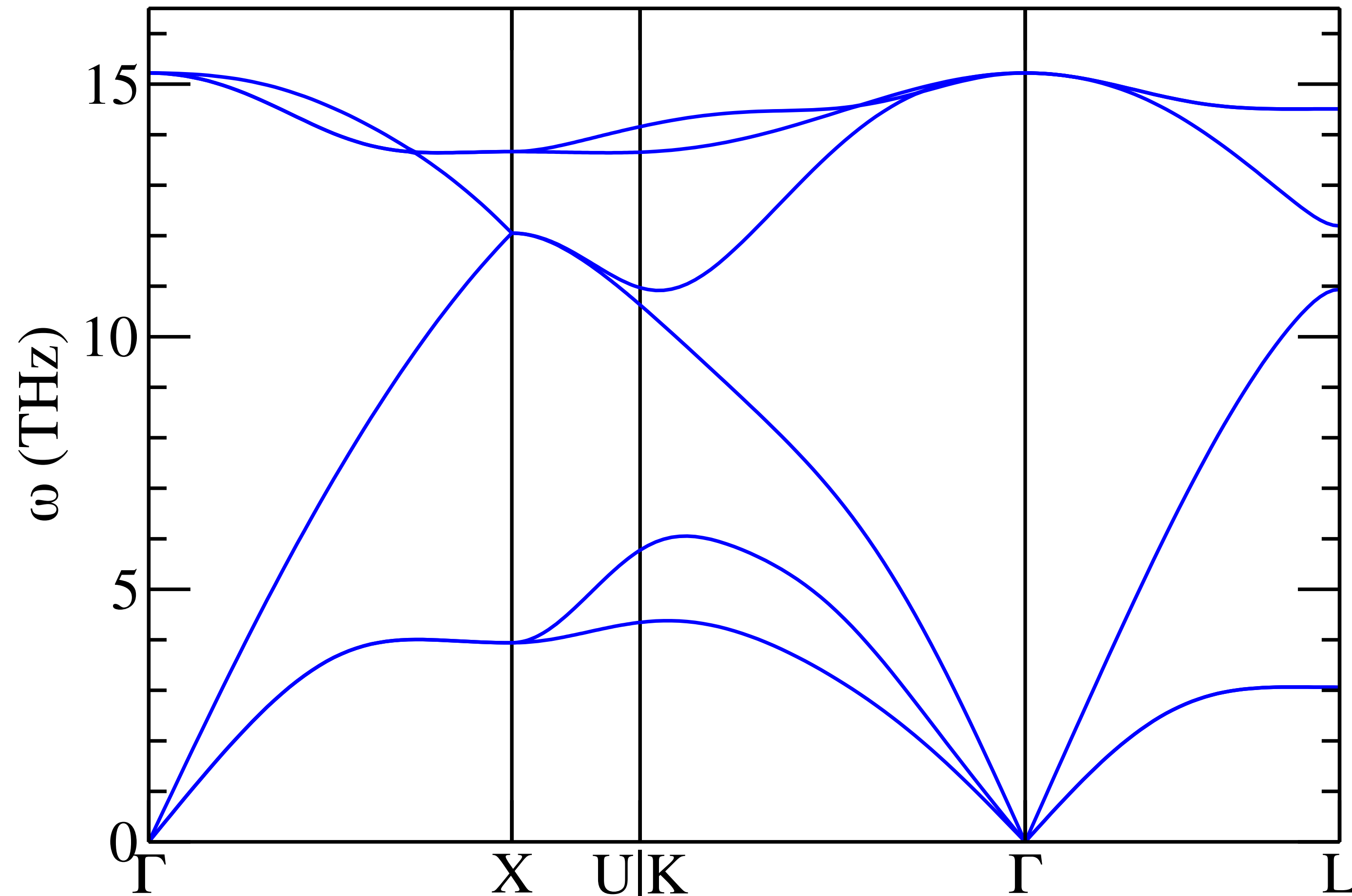


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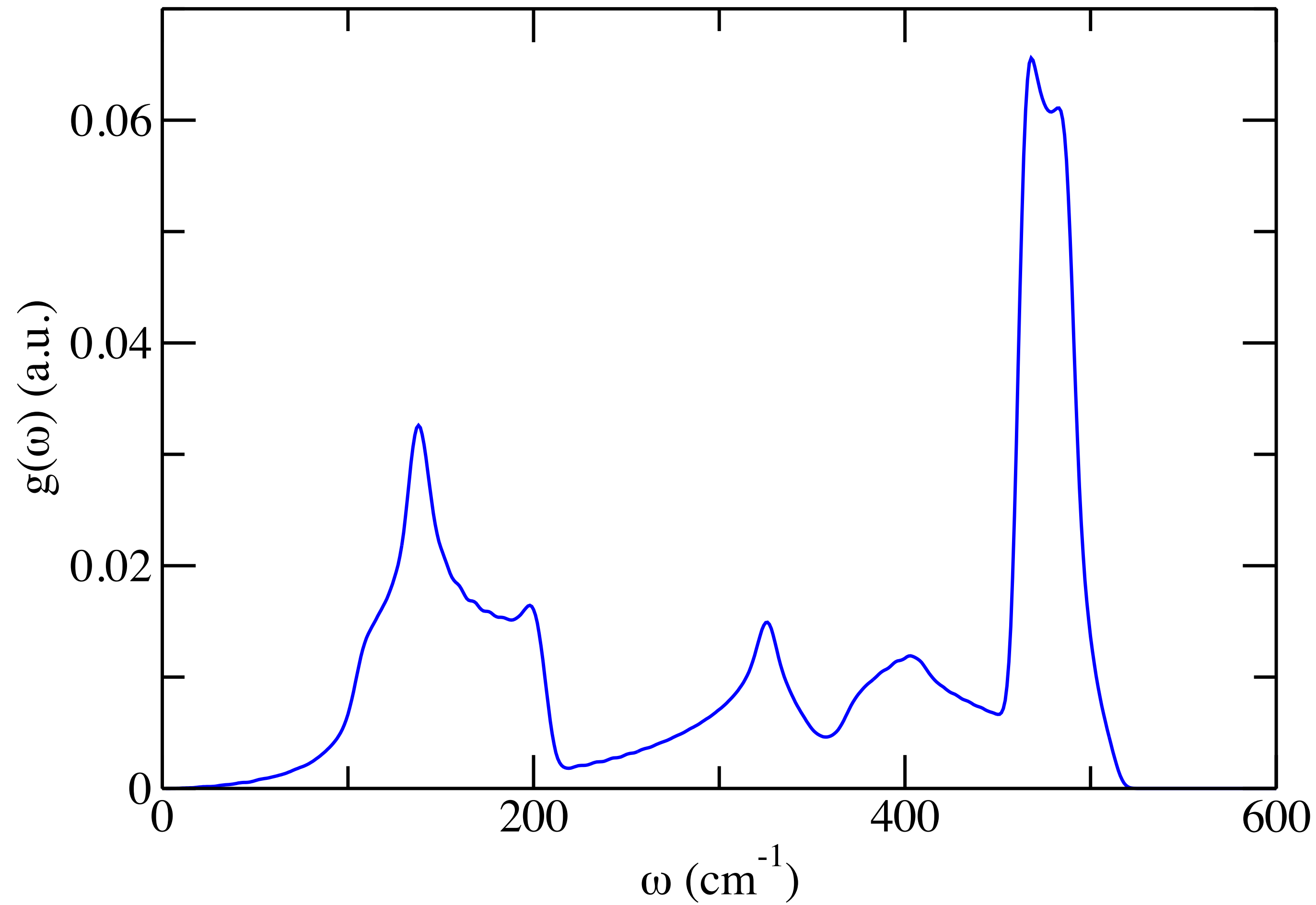
VIBRATIONAL BAND STRUCTURE



Silicon, diamond structure

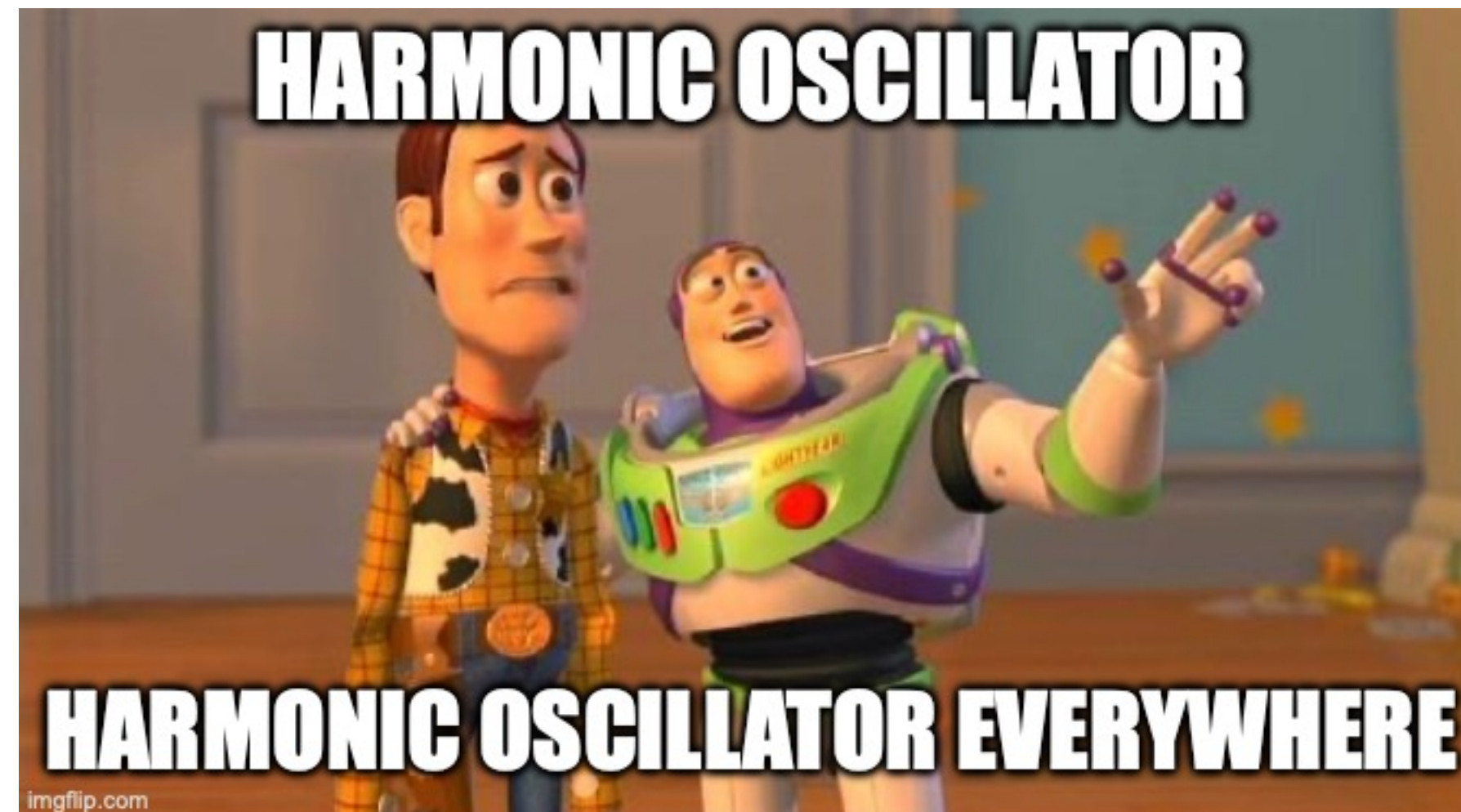
VIBRATIONAL DENSITY OF STATES

$$g(\omega) = \sum_s \int \frac{d\mathbf{q}}{(2\pi)^3} \delta(\omega - \omega(\mathbf{q})) = \sum_s \int_{\omega(\mathbf{q})=\omega} \frac{dS}{(2\pi)^3} \frac{1}{|\nabla \omega_s(\mathbf{q})|}$$



Take-Home Messages

- **Everything moves!** Nuclei and atoms are never at rest.
- The potential-energy surface on which the nuclei move can be ***approximated*** using a ***harmonic potential***. This requires calculating *2nd order derivatives at equilibrium*.
- With that, we obtain $3N_p$ **independent** and **q-dependent** harmonic oscillators. Their equations of motion can be solved *exactly* and *analytically*.



**What about the actual
thermodynamic motion?**

Attention:

Quantum-Nuclear Effects

Classical Limit: Equipartition Theorem

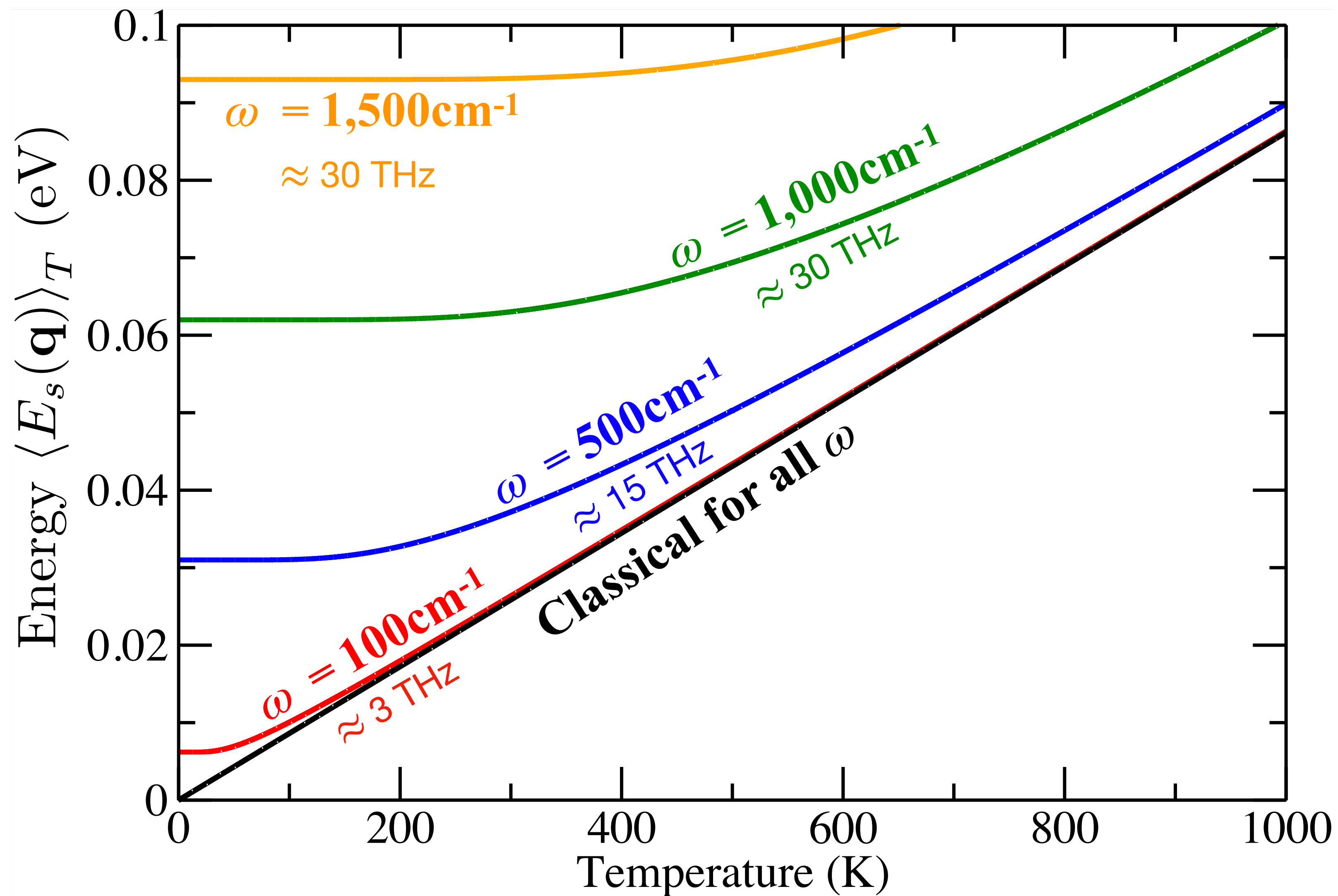
Each mode carries $\langle E_s(\mathbf{q}, T) \rangle = k_B T$

Quantum-mechanical Solution: Bose-Einstein

Each mode carries

$$\langle E_s(\mathbf{q}, T) \rangle = \hbar \omega_s(\mathbf{q}) \left(n_{\text{BE}}(\omega_s(\mathbf{q}), T) + \frac{1}{2} \right)$$

Attention: Quantum-Nuclear Effects

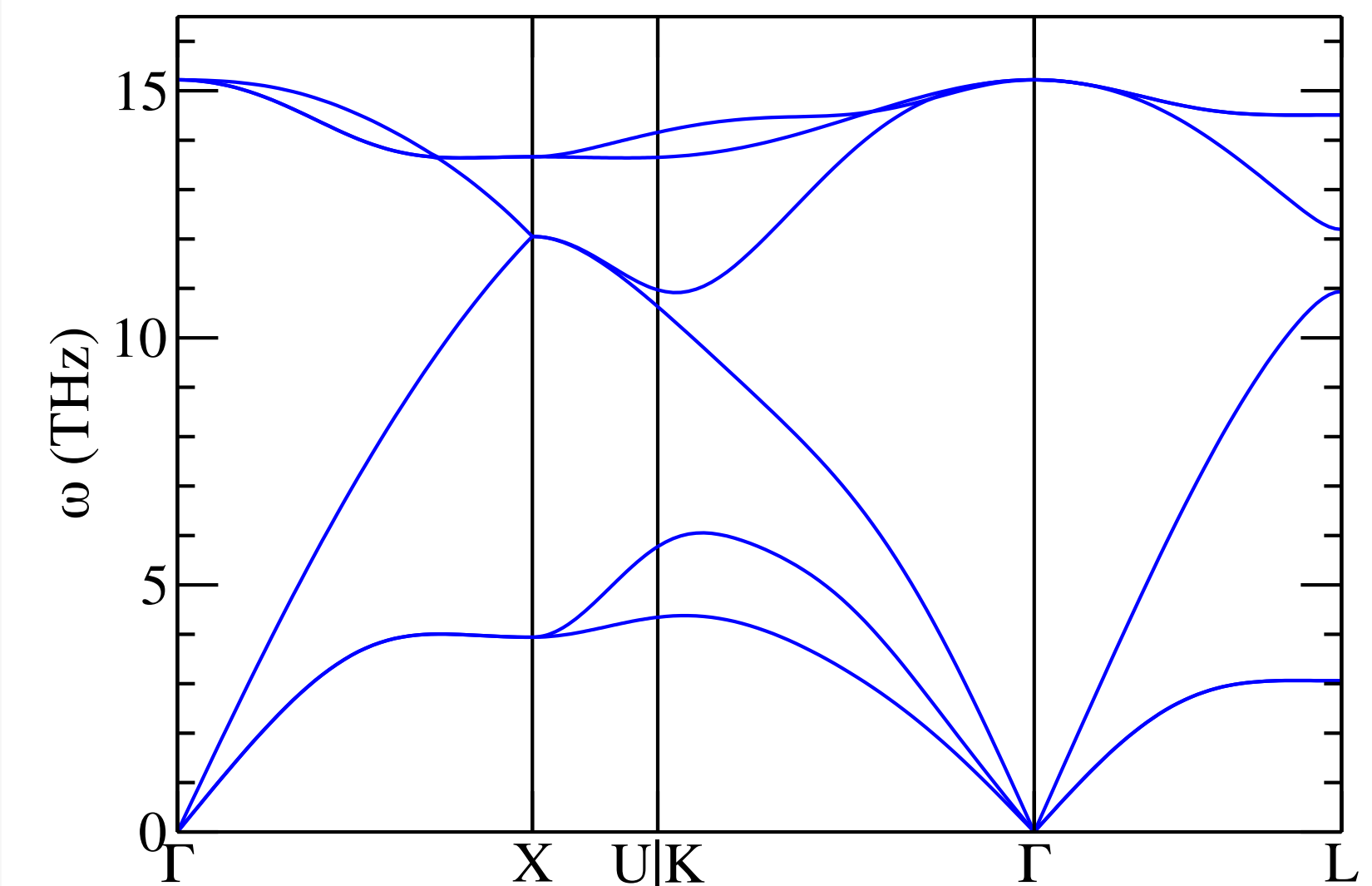
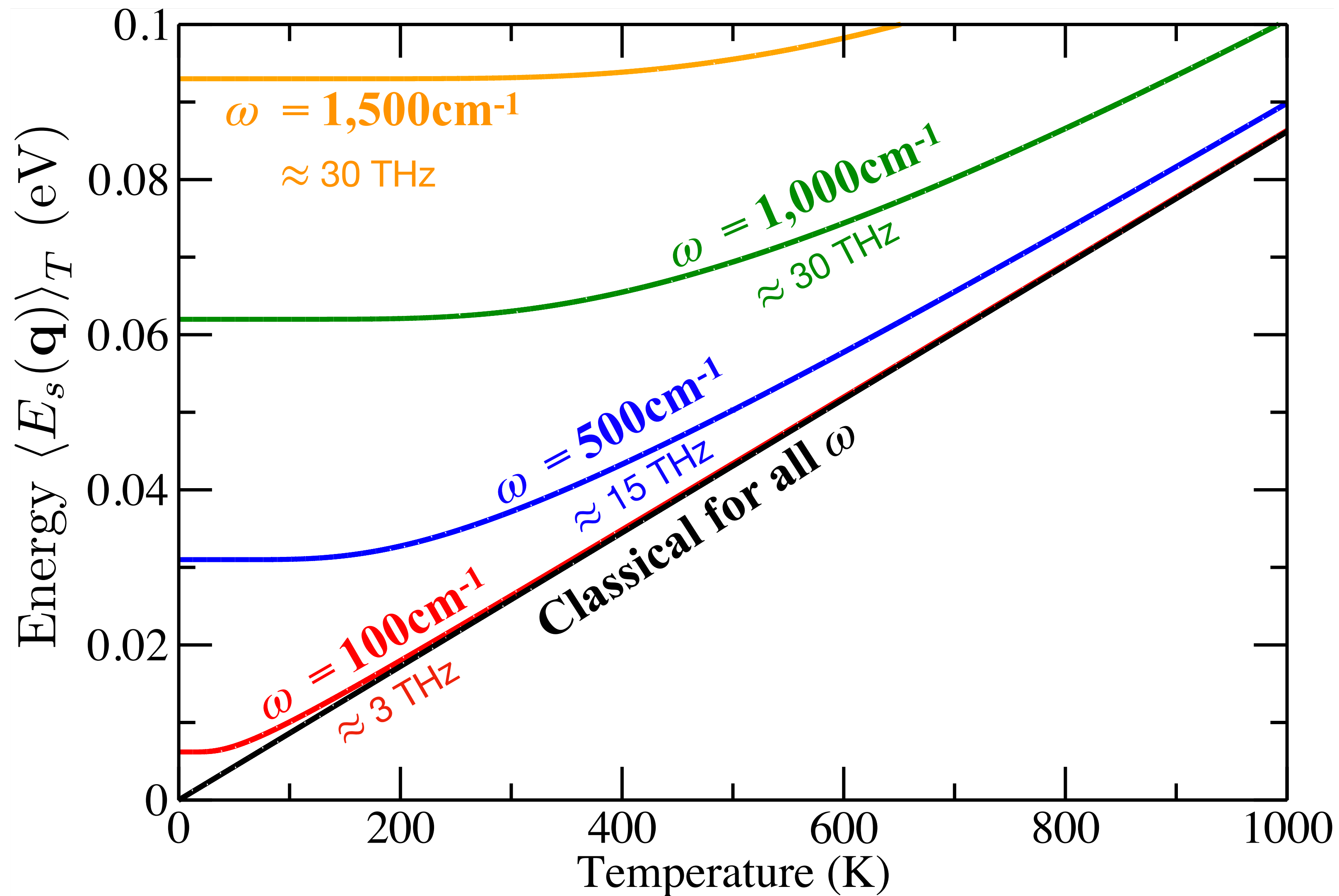


Einstein

$$\left(\langle E_s(\mathbf{q}), T \rangle + \frac{1}{2} \right)$$

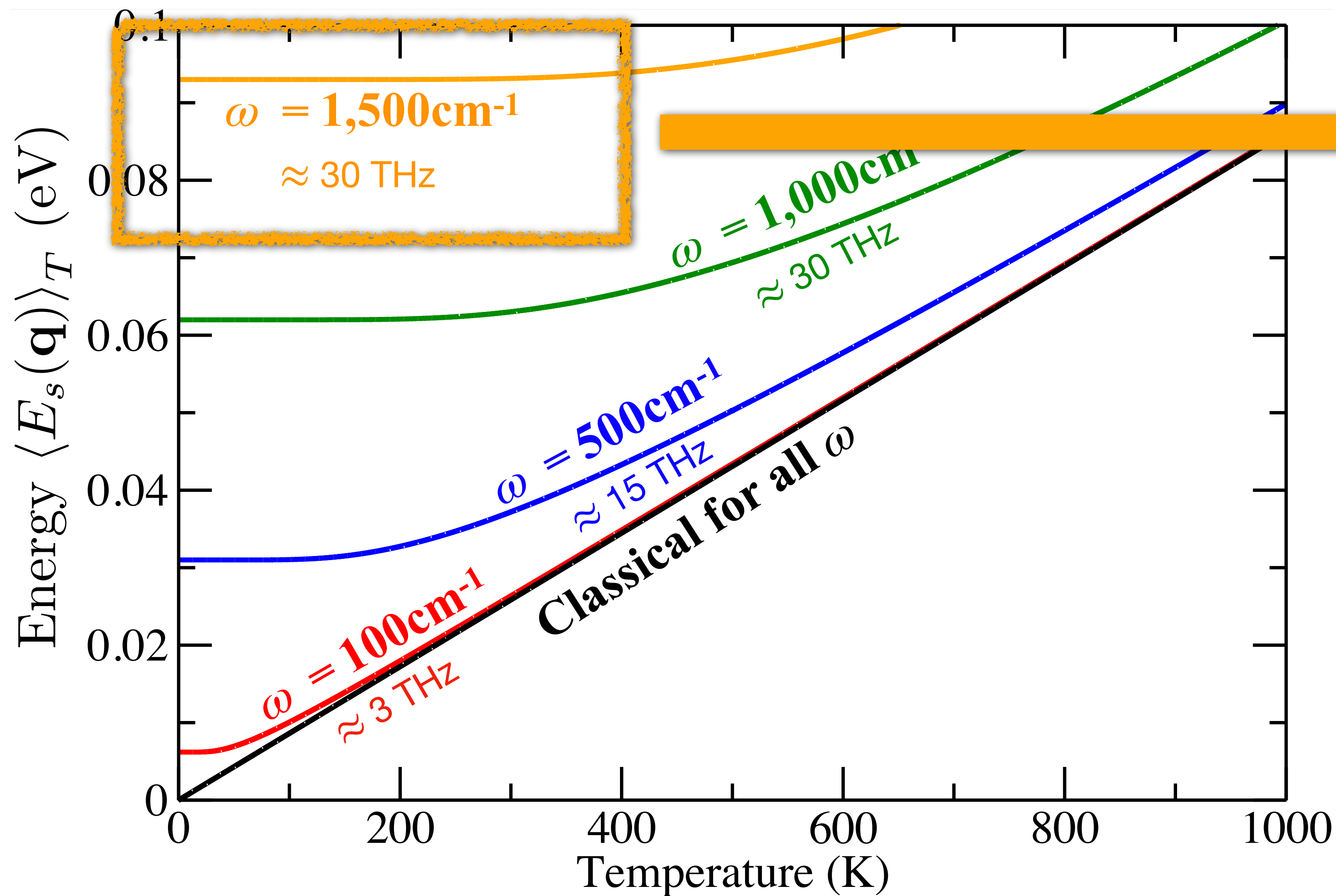
Attention:

Quantum-Nuclear Effects



$$), T)) + \frac{1}{2})$$

Attention: Quantum-Nuclear Effects



C-H frequencies
can reach
up to
3,000 cm^{-1} (60 THz)!

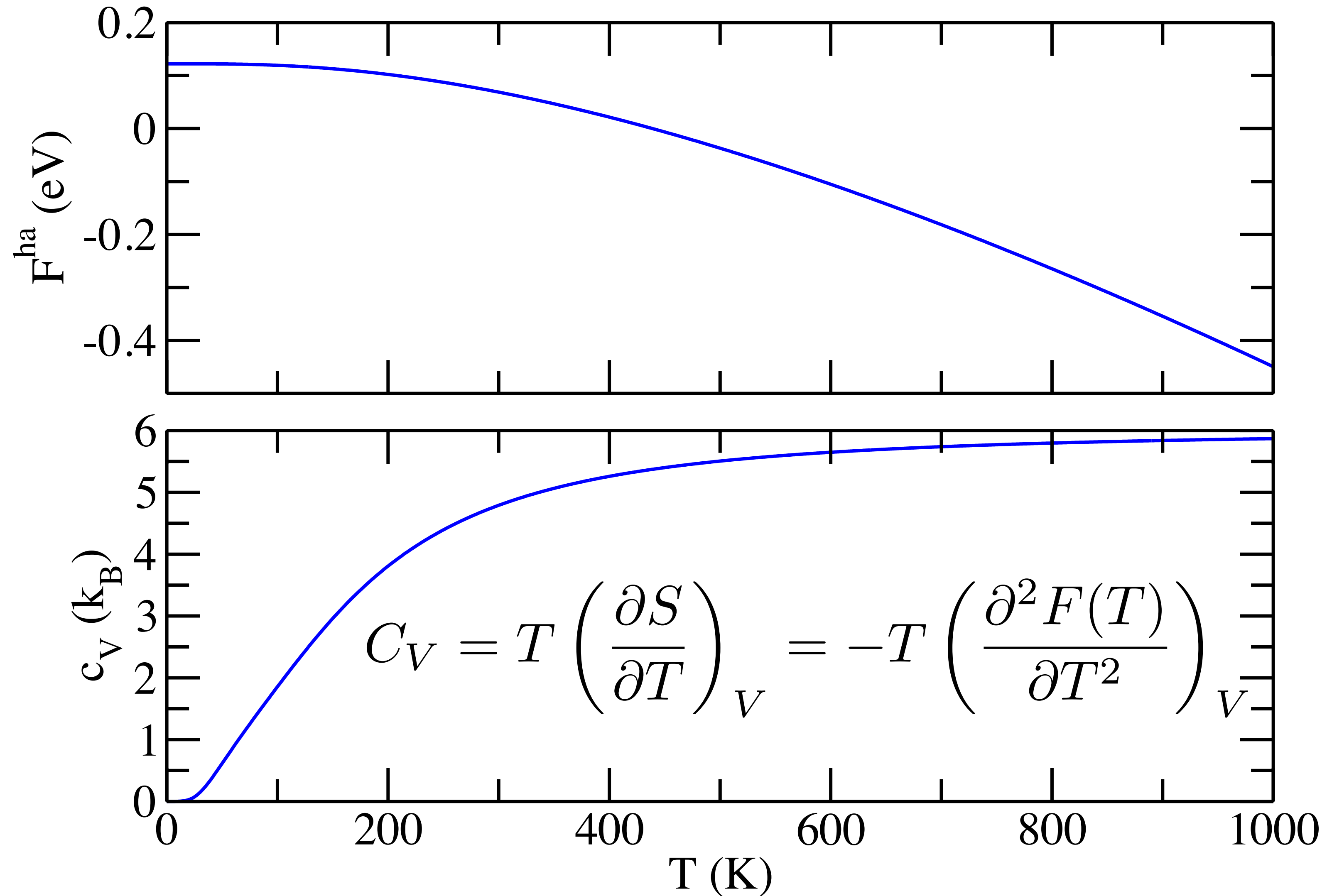
Einstein

$$), T)) + \frac{1}{2})$$

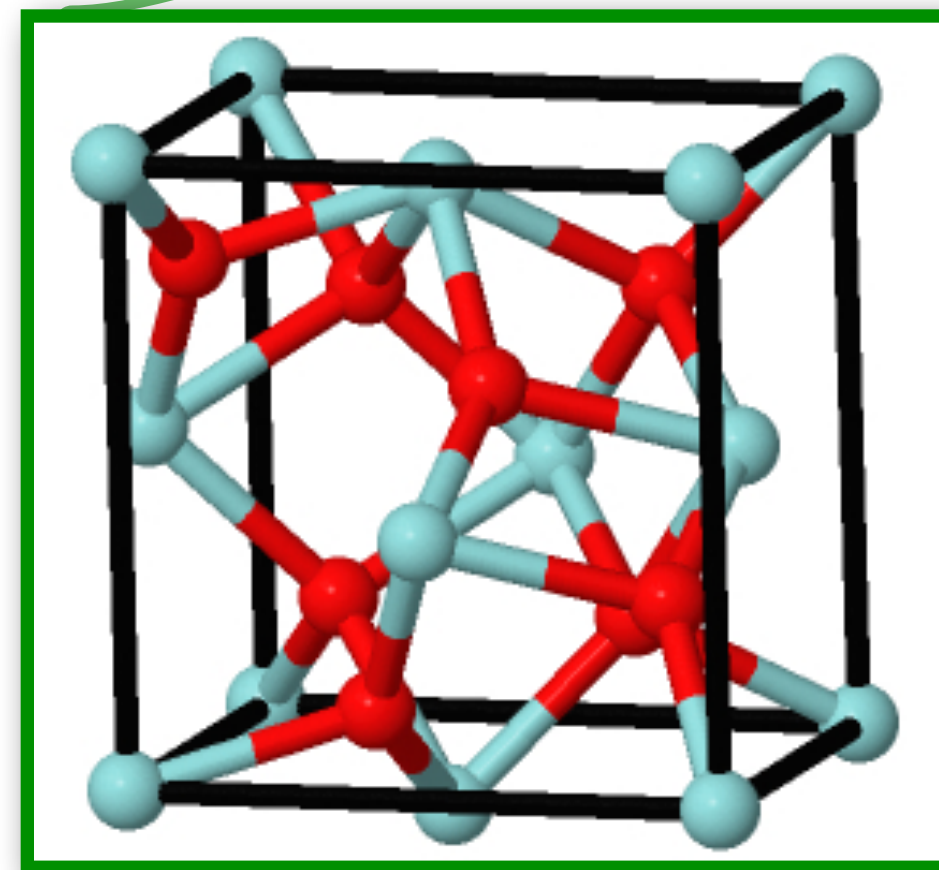
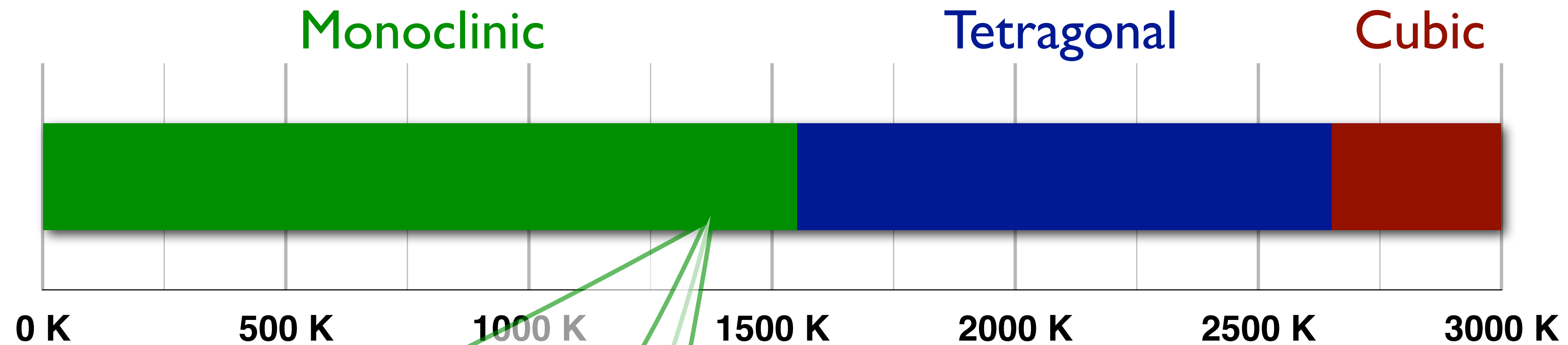
The Harmonic Free Energy

$$\begin{aligned} F^{ha}(T) &= E(\{\mathbf{R}_0\}) \xrightarrow{\text{Static Equilibrium Energy}} \\ &+ \int d\omega \, g(\omega) \frac{\hbar\omega}{2} \xrightarrow{\text{Zero-point vibration}} \\ &+ \int d\omega \, g(\omega) \, k_B T \ln \left(1 - e^{\left(-\frac{\hbar\omega}{k_B T}\right)} \right) \\ &\quad \downarrow \\ &\quad \text{Thermally induced vibrations} \end{aligned}$$

The Harmonic Free Energy



AN EXAMPLE: PHASE DIAGRAM OF ZrO_2

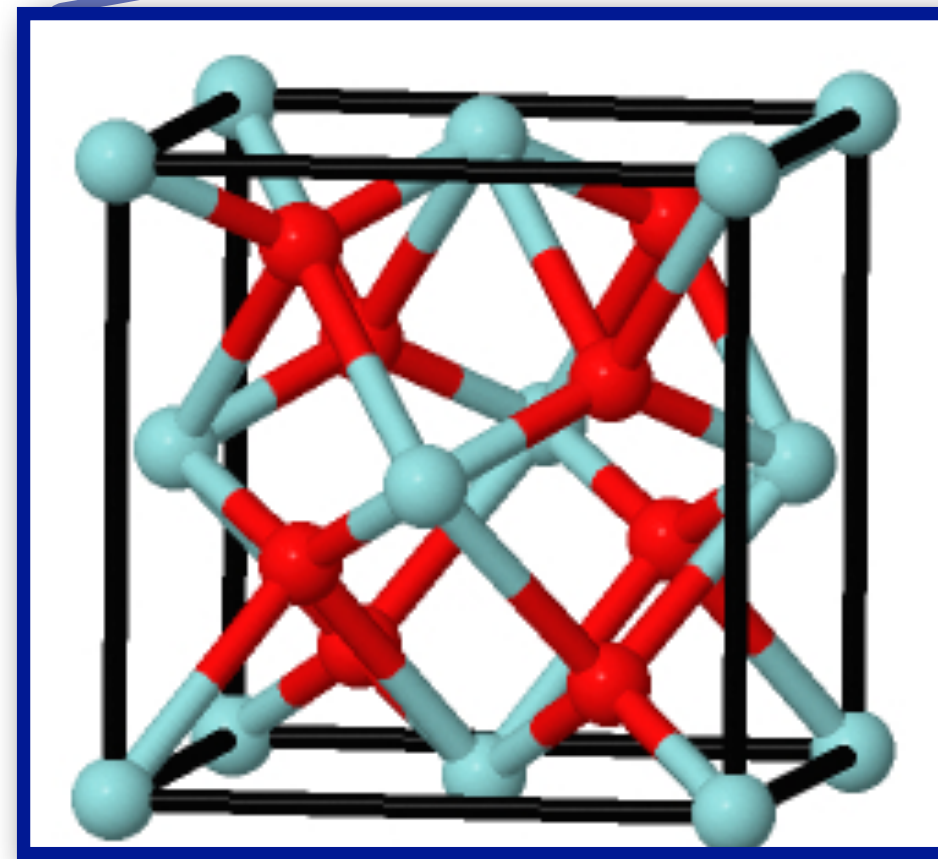
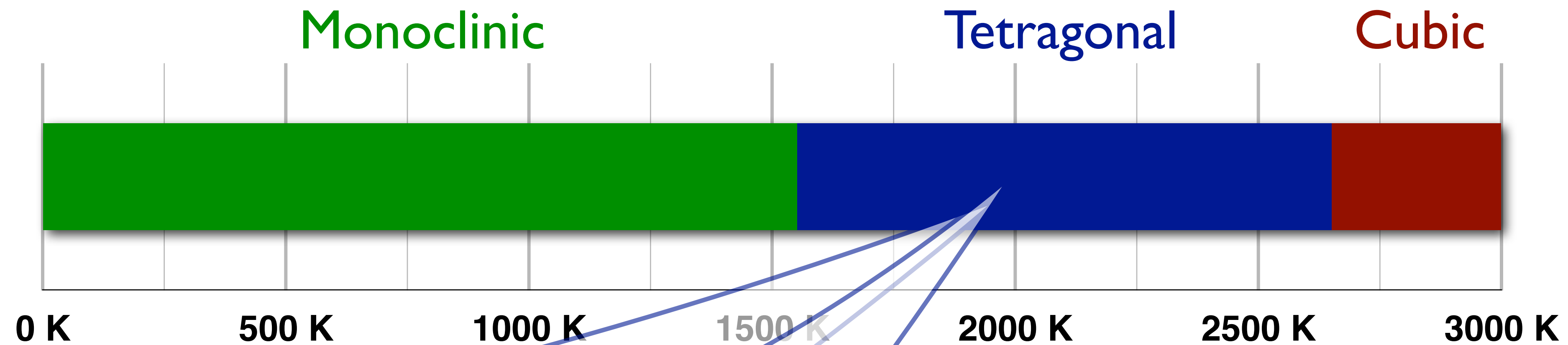


$T < 1200^\circ\text{C}$

„Monoclinic“

Baddeleyite Structure

AN EXAMPLE: PHASE DIAGRAM OF ZrO_2

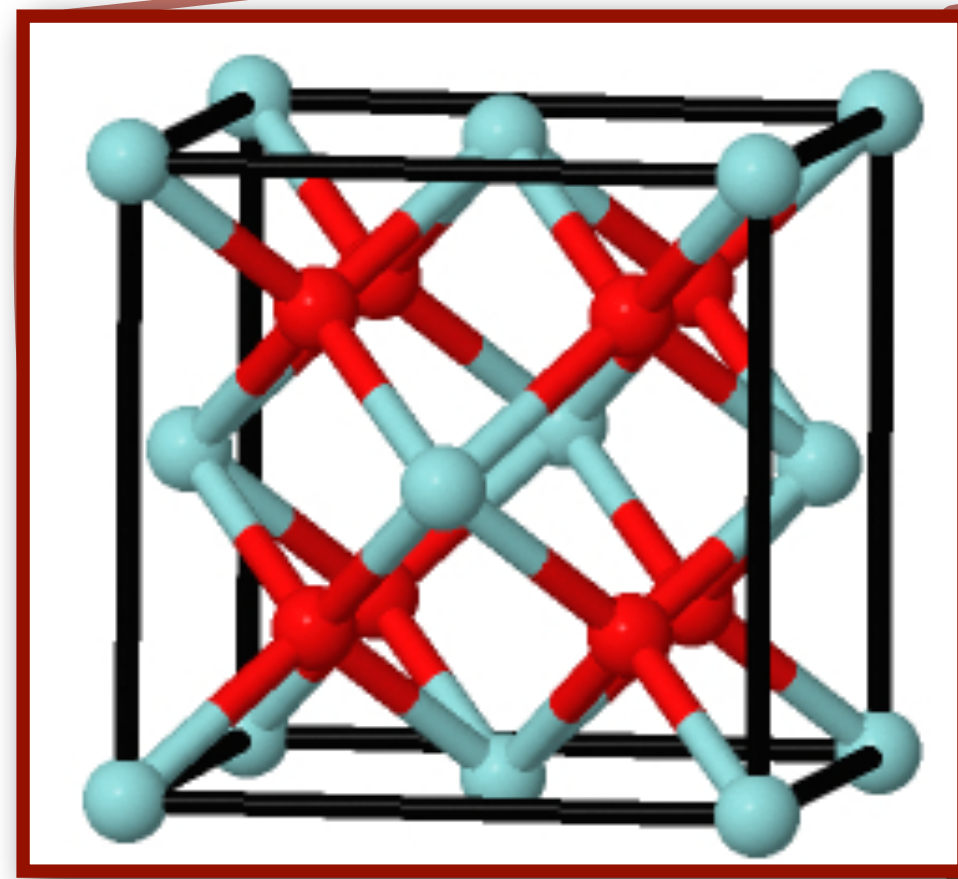
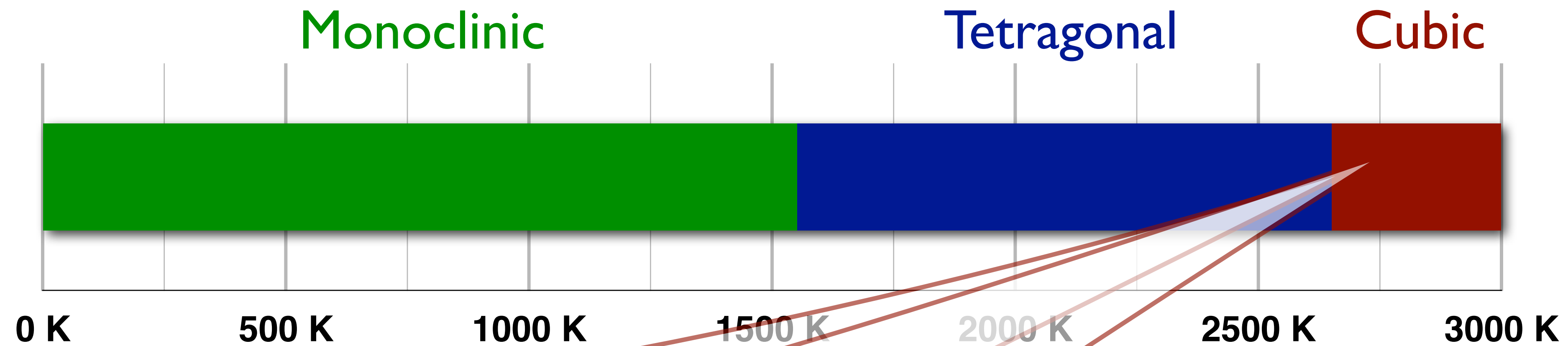


$$1200^{\circ}\text{C} < T < 2400^{\circ}\text{C}$$

„Tetragonal“

$P4_2/nmc$ Structure

AN EXAMPLE: PHASE DIAGRAM OF ZrO_2

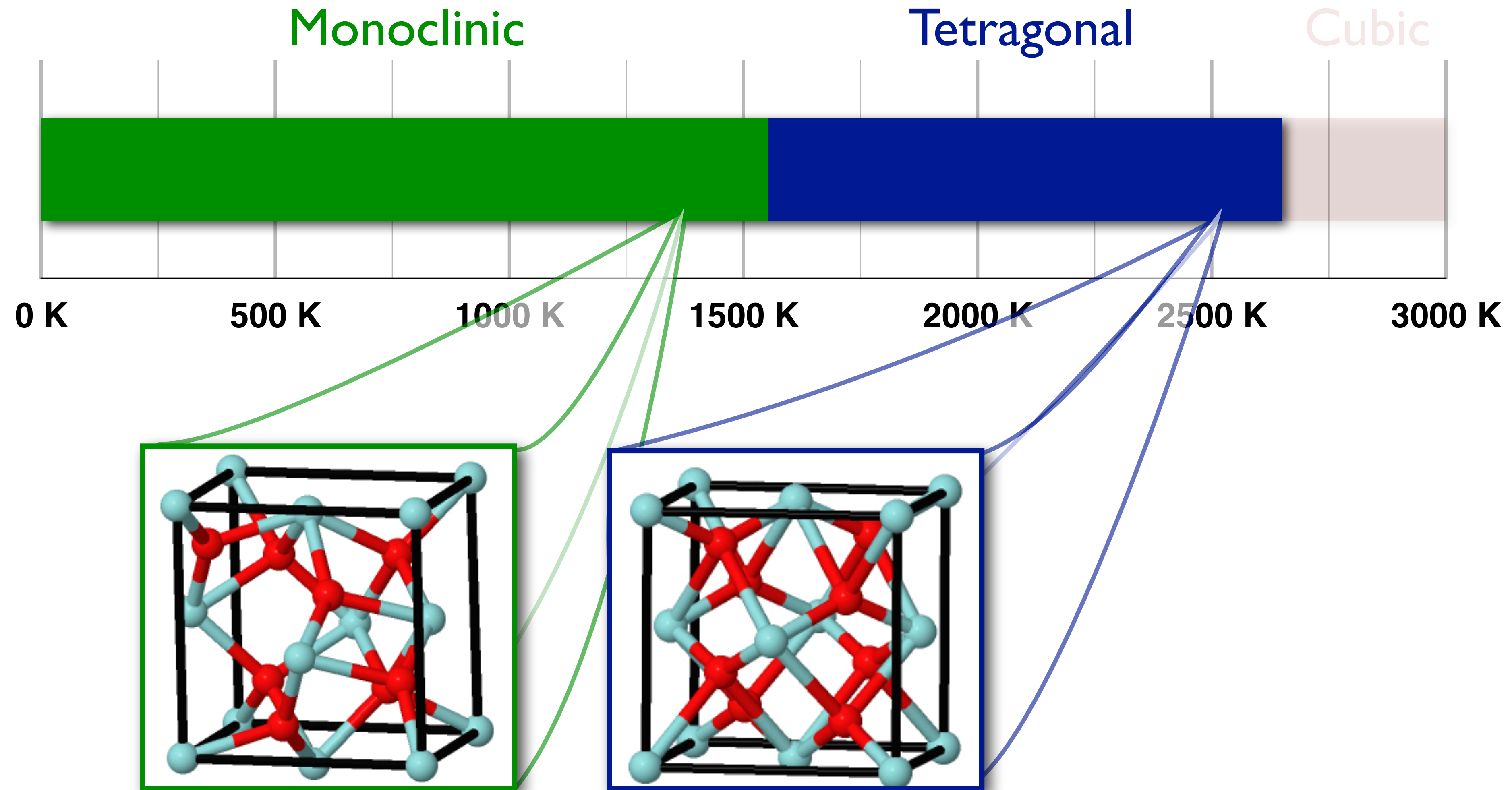


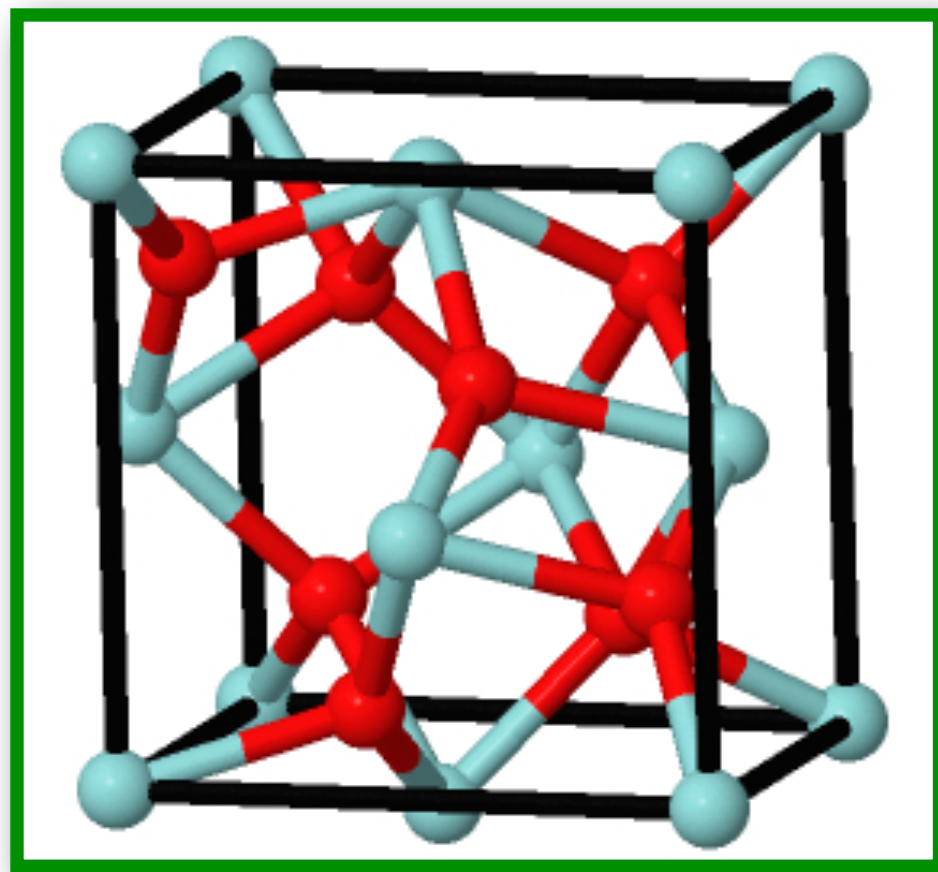
$T > 2400^\circ\text{C}$

„Cubic“

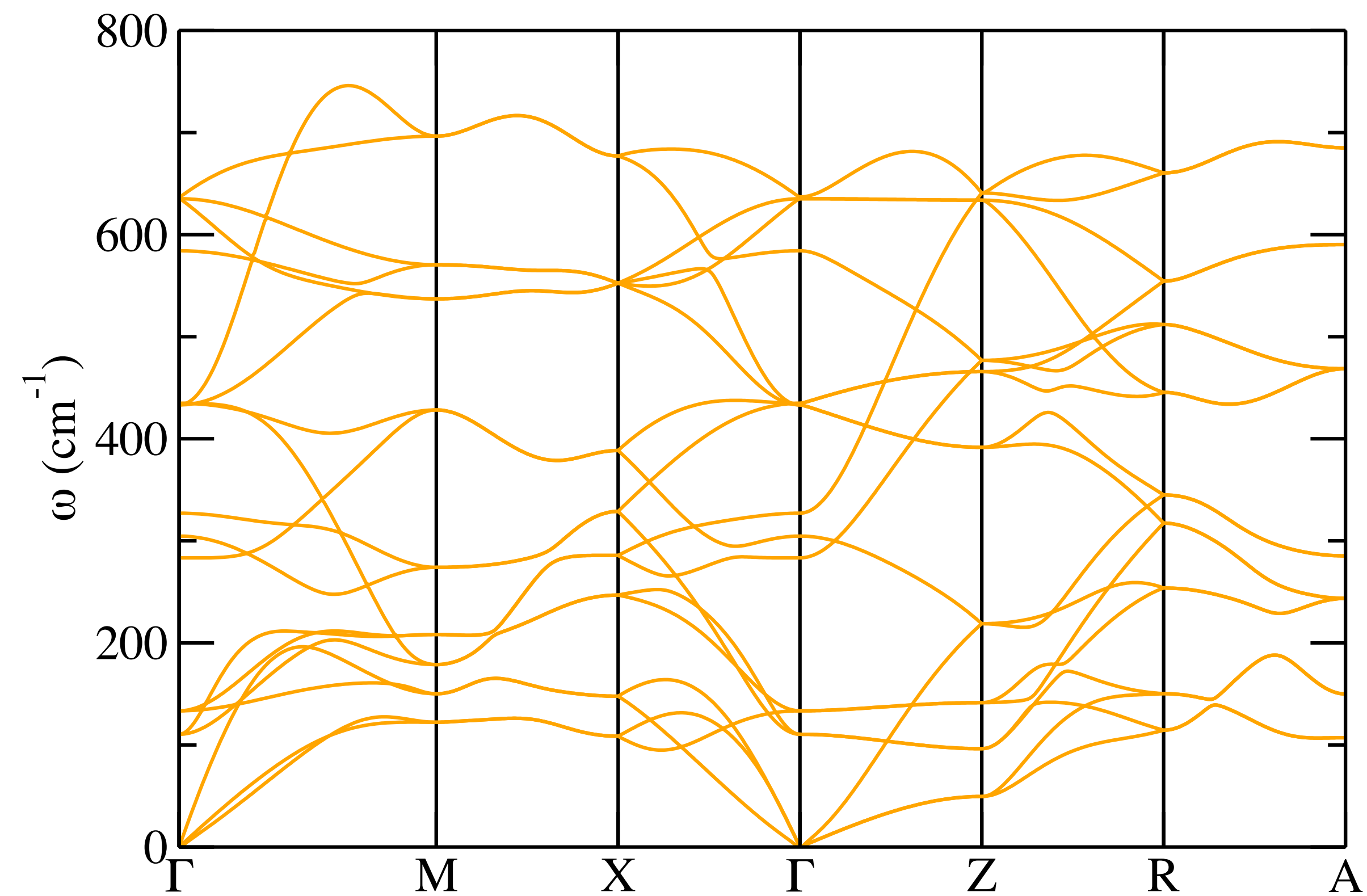
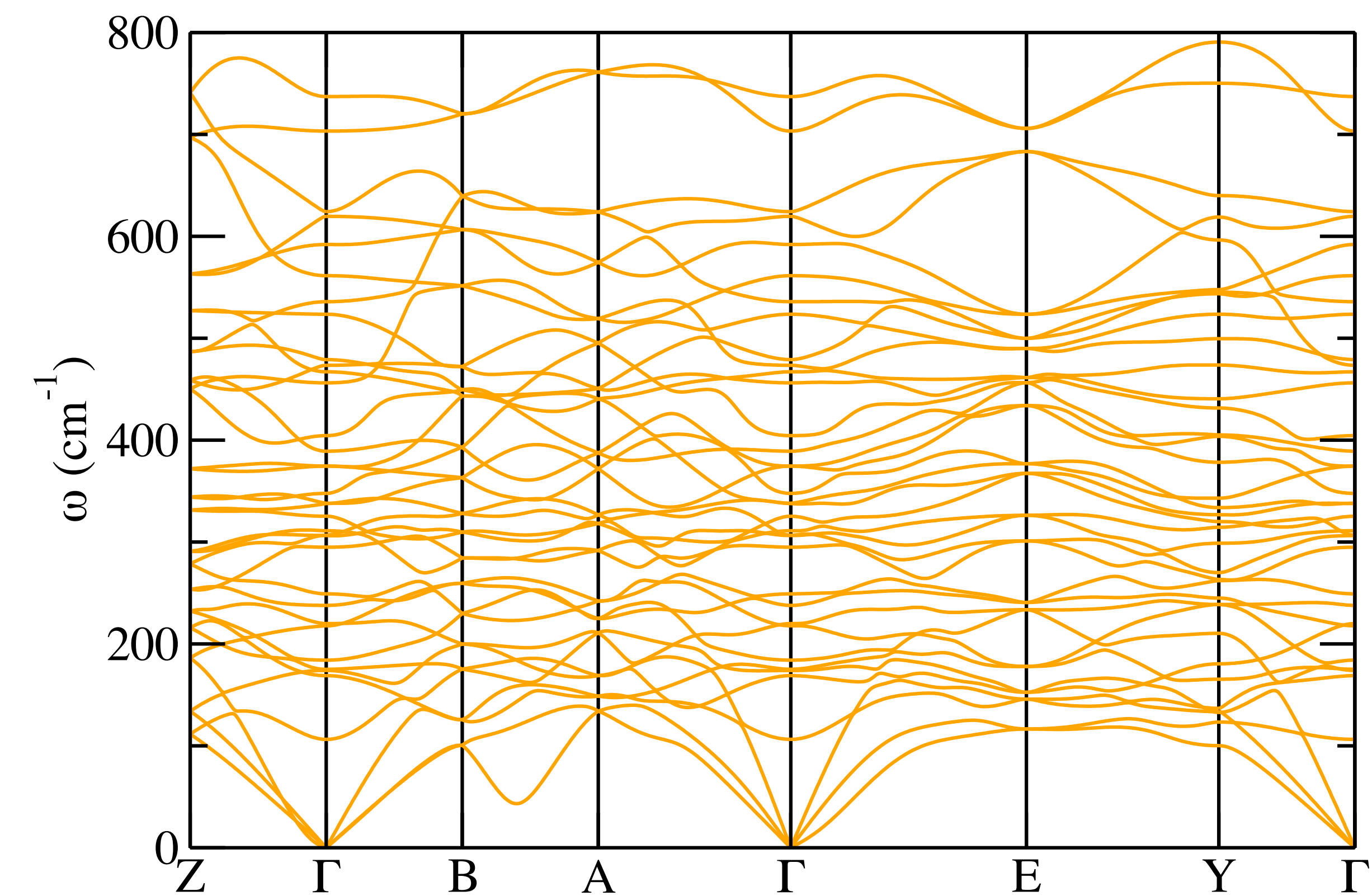
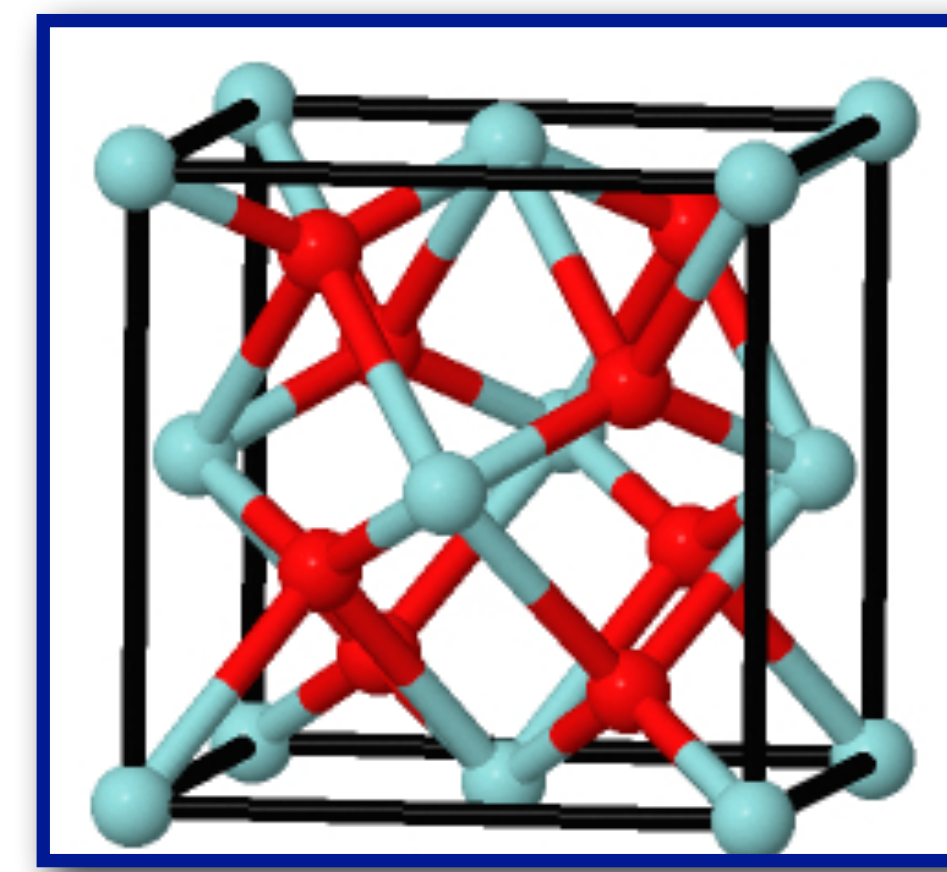
Fluorite Structure

AN EXAMPLE: PHASE DIAGRAM OF ZrO_2





CALCULATE THE PHONONS

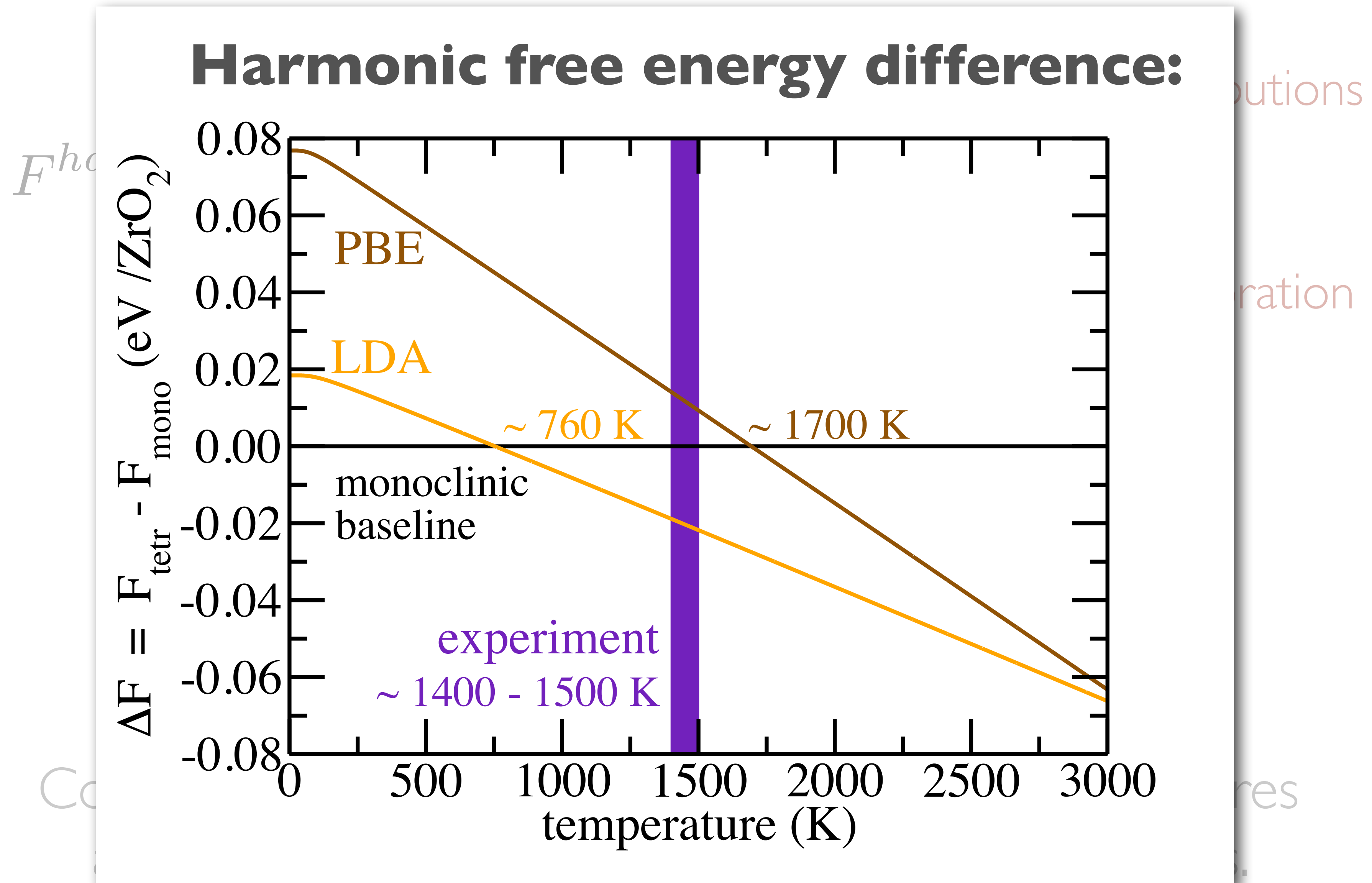


THE HARMONIC FREE ENERGY

$$\begin{aligned} F^{ha}(T) = & E_{\text{DFT}}(0K) \xrightarrow{\text{Electronic Contributions}} \\ & + \int d\omega g(\omega) \frac{\hbar\omega}{2} \xrightarrow{\text{Zero-point vibration}} \\ & + \int d\omega g(\omega) k_B T \ln \left(1 - e^{\left(-\frac{\hbar\omega}{k_B T}\right)} \right) \\ & \quad \quad \quad \downarrow \\ & \quad \quad \quad \text{Thermally induced vibrations} \end{aligned}$$

Comparison of the **free energy** for different structures allows to assess **thermodynamic phase transitions**.

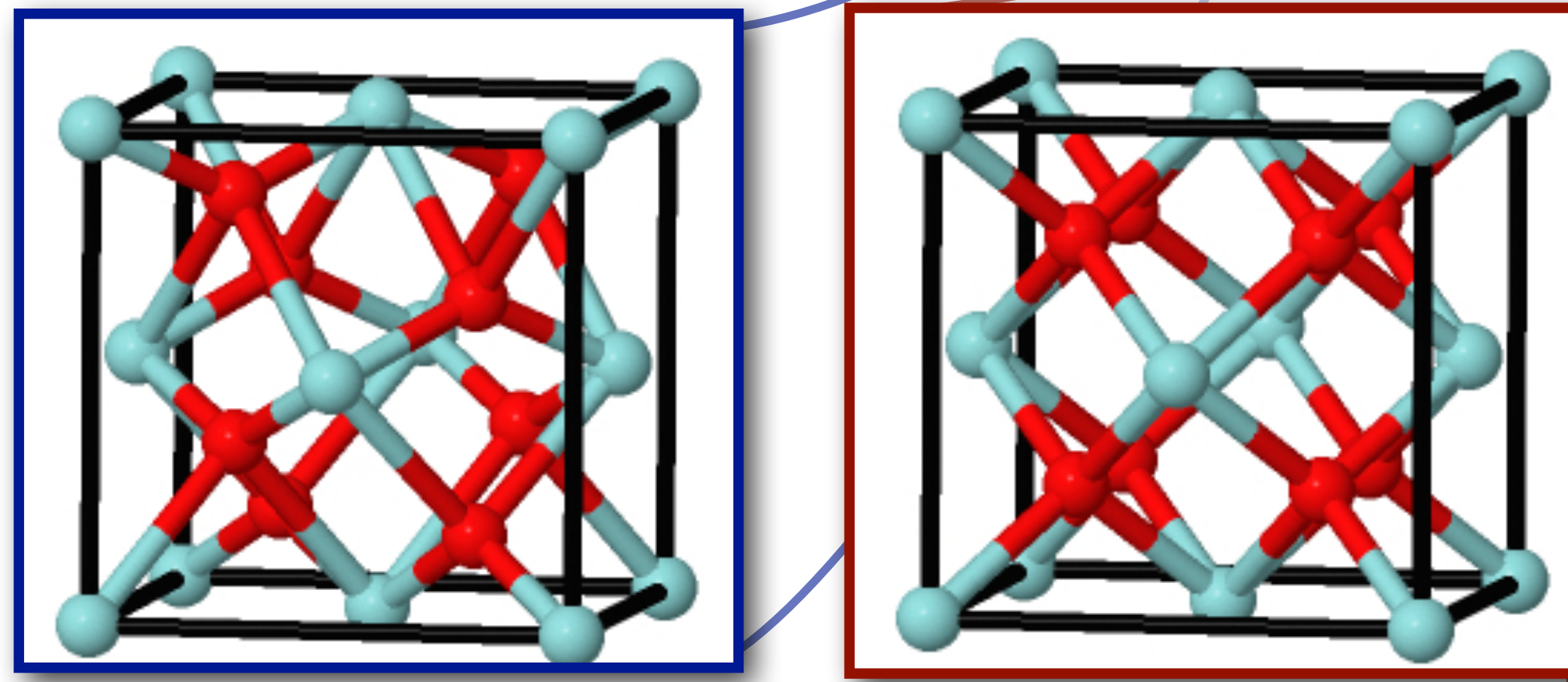
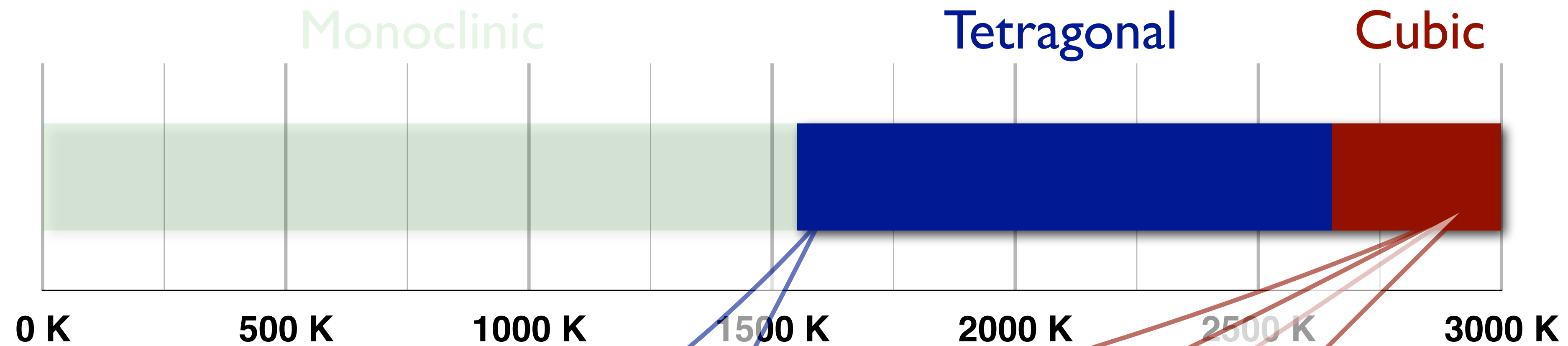
THE HARMONIC FREE ENERGY



Take-Home Messages

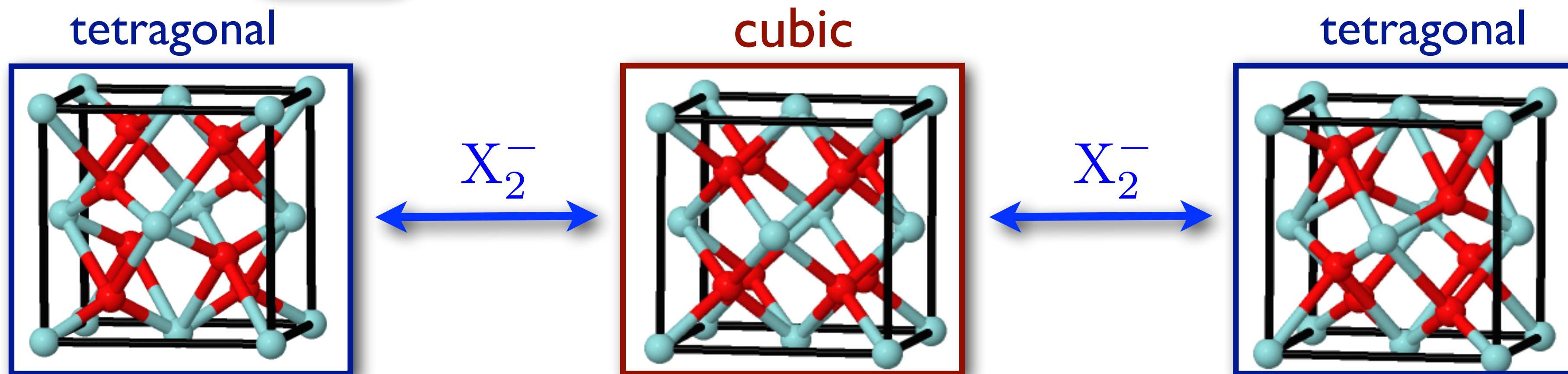
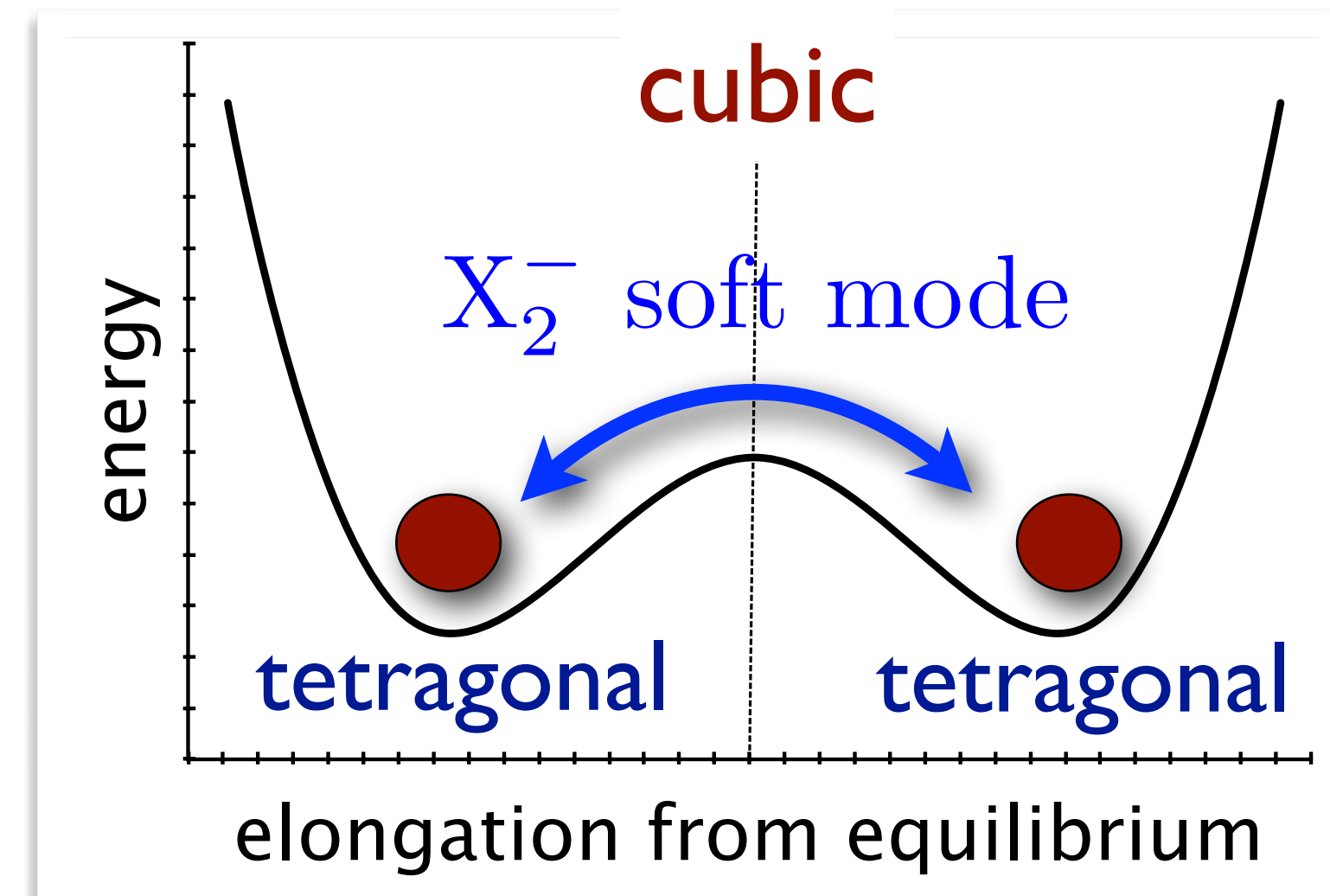
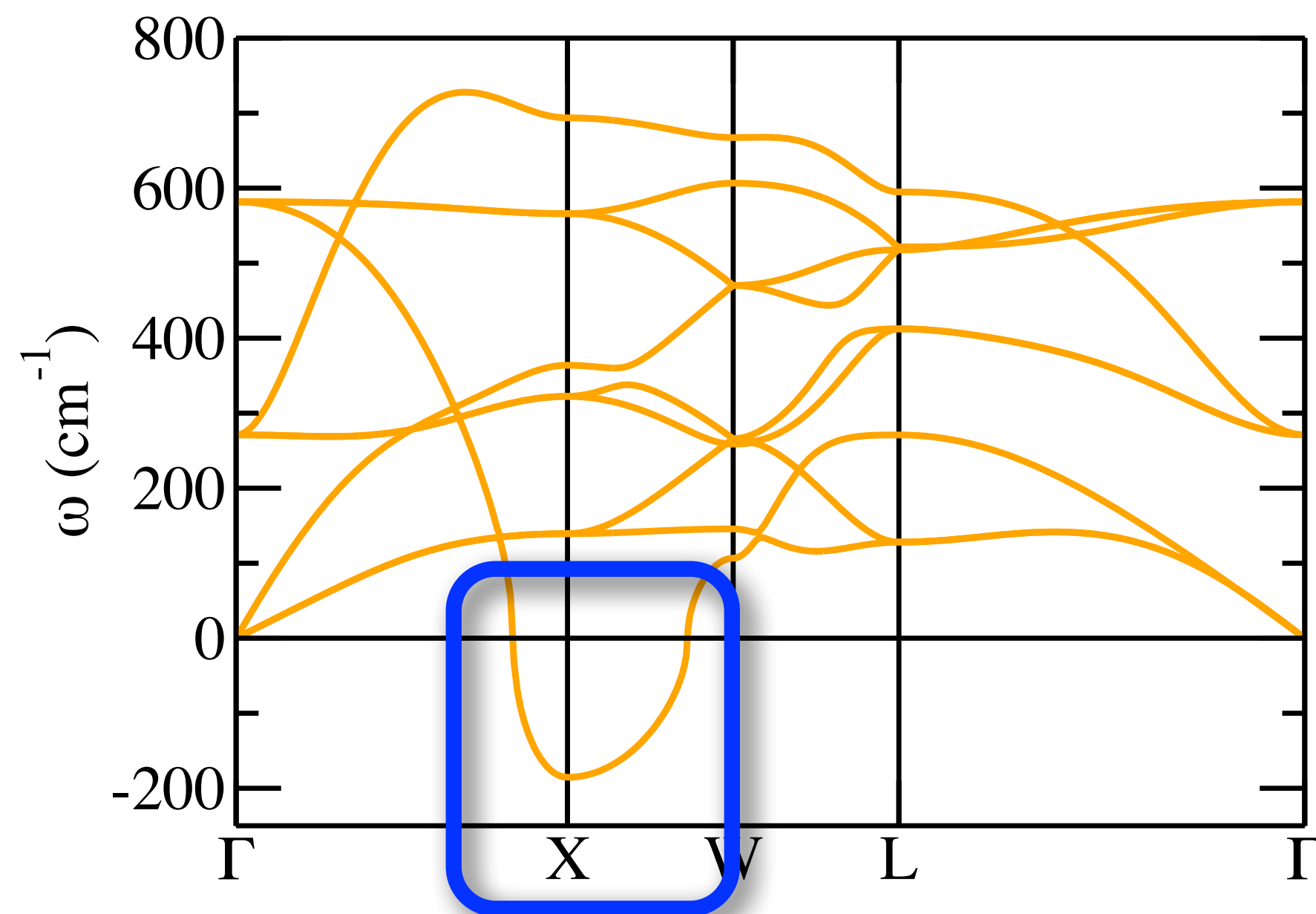
- **Everything moves!** Nuclei and atoms are never at rest.
- The potential-energy surface on which the nuclei move can be ***approximated*** using a ***harmonic potential***. This requires calculating *2nd order derivatives at equilibrium*.
- With that, we obtain $3N_p$ **independent** and **q-dependent** harmonic oscillators. Their equations of motion can be solved *exactly* and *analytically*.
- The *harmonic approximation* can be used to *estimate* thermodynamics expectation values.

AN EXAMPLE: PHASE DIAGRAM OF ZrO_2



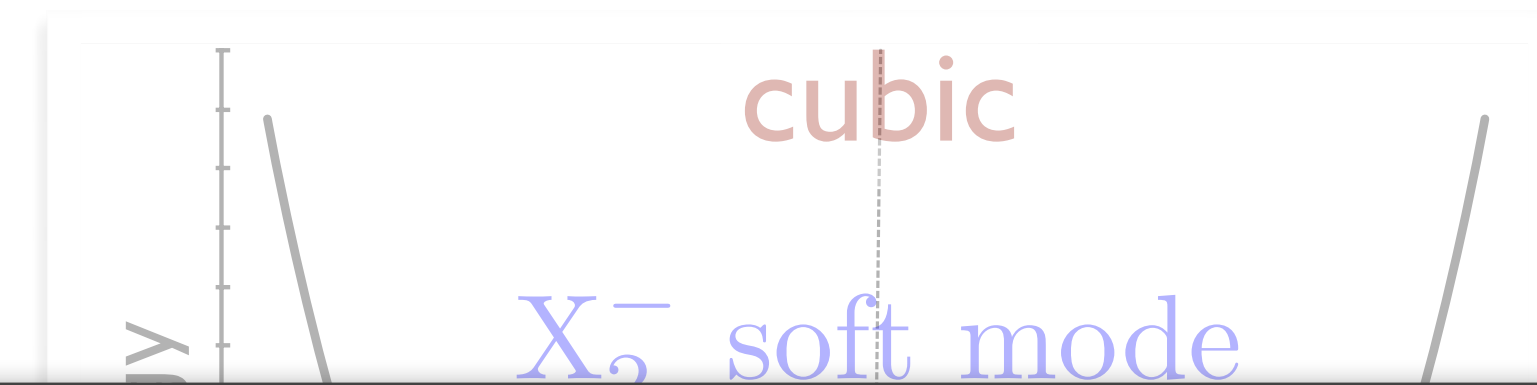
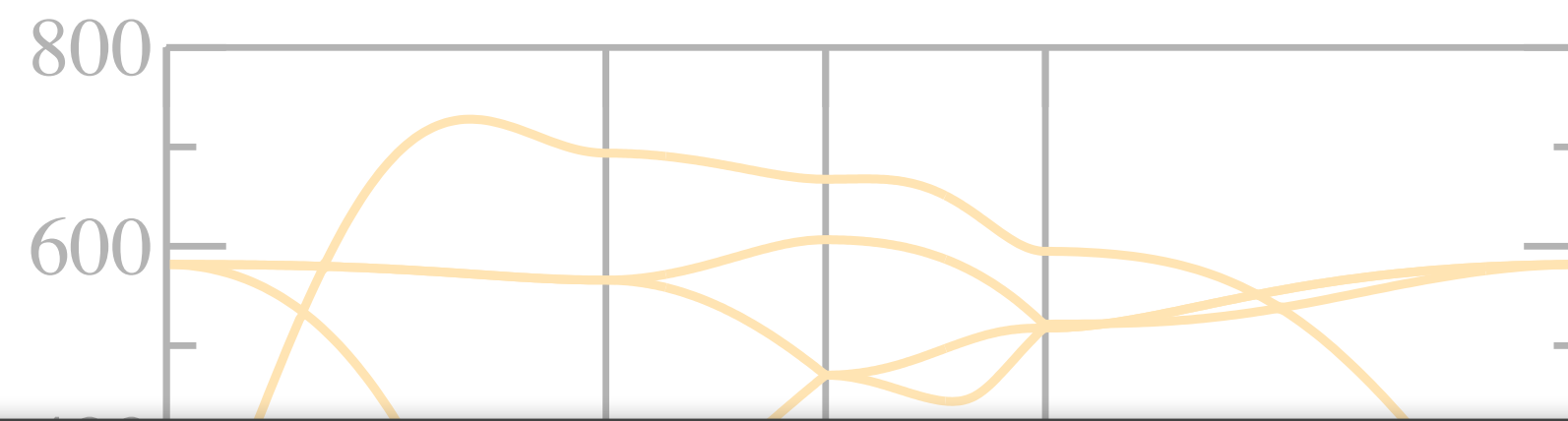
THE CUBIC ZrO_2 STRUCTURE

K. Parlinski, Z. Q. Li, and Y. Kawazoe, *Phys. Rev. Lett.* **78**, 4063 (1997).

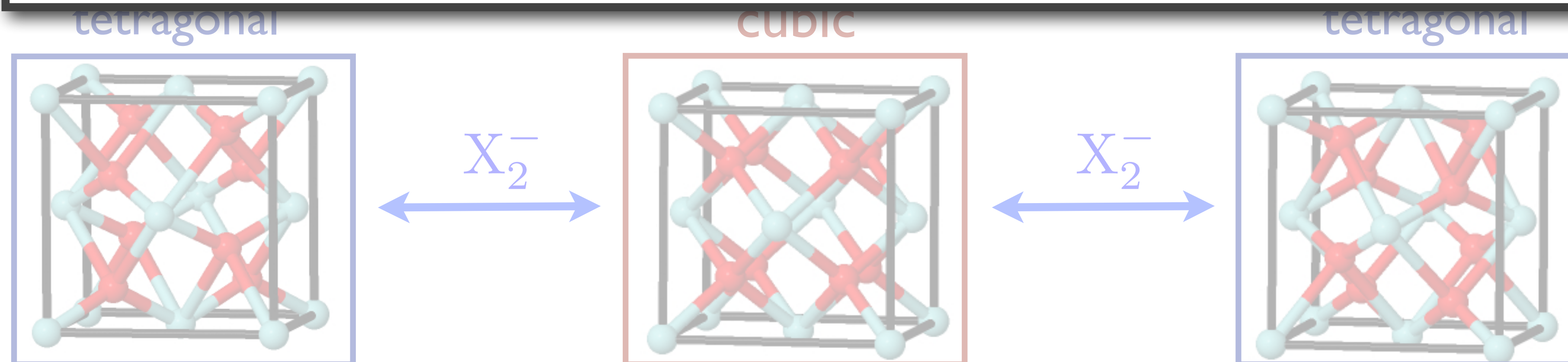


THE CUBIC STRUCTURE

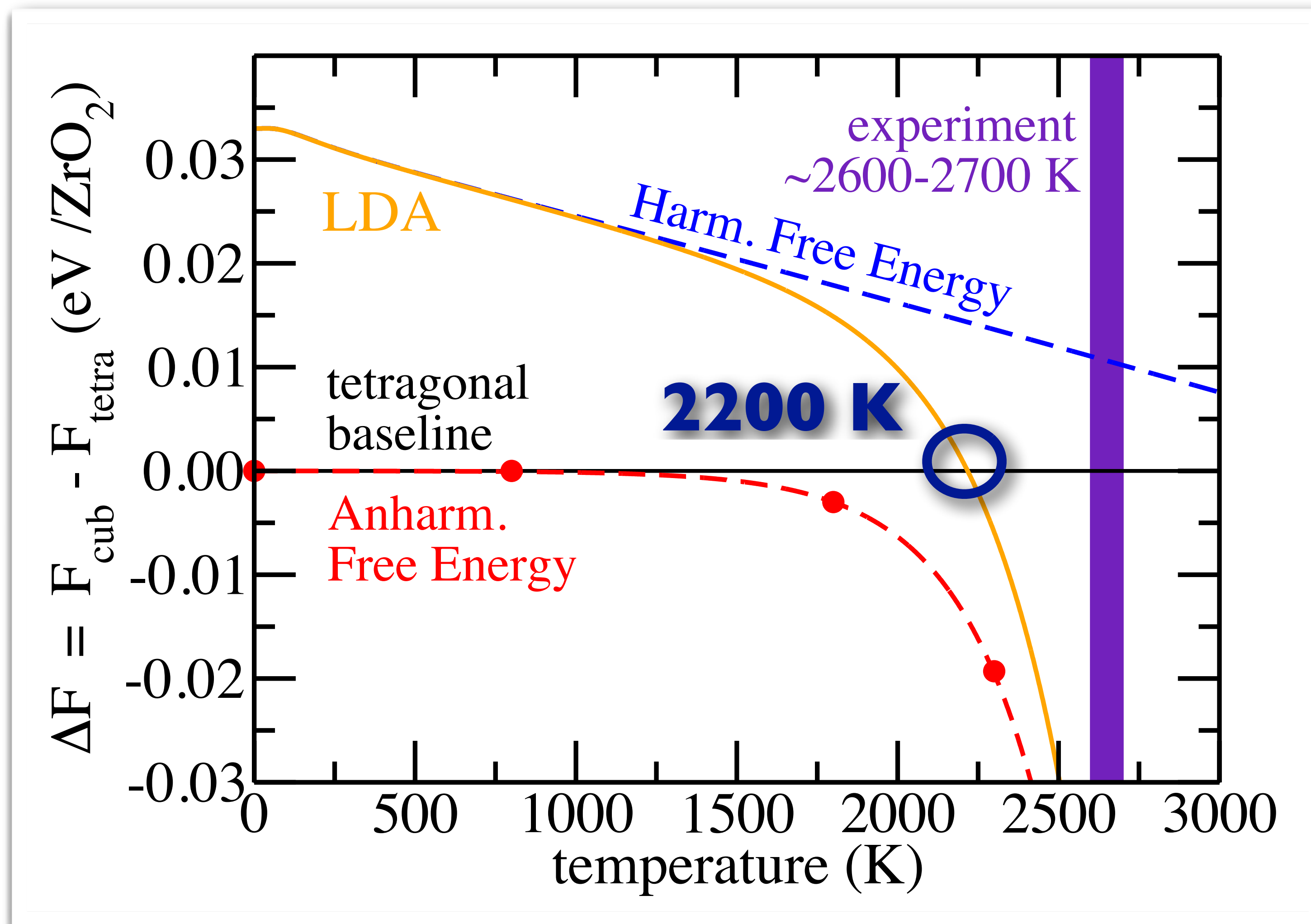
K. Parlinski, Z. Q. Li, and Y. Kawazoe, *Phys. Rev. Lett.* **78**, 4063 (1997).



THE HARMONIC APPROXIMATION
DOES NOT HOLD IN THE CASE
OF SOFT MODES!



CUBIC PHASE STABILITY



Anharmonic effects dominant for $T > 1500$ K !

Take-Home Messages

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- With that, we obtain $3N_p$ **independent** and **q-dependent** harmonic oscillators. Their equations of motion can be solved *exactly* and *analytically*.
- The *harmonic approximation* can be used to *estimate* thermodynamic expectation values.
- ***Anharmonic effects*** beyond the *harmonic approximation* are often important, too!



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Matthias Scheffler



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Berlin, Germany



University of California Santa Barbara,
USA



Take-Home Messages

- **Everything moves!** Nuclei and atoms are never at rest.
- The potential-energy surface on which the nuclei move can be ***approximated*** using a ***harmonic potential***. This requires calculating *2nd order derivatives at equilibrium*.
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- The *harmonic approximation* can be used to *estimate* thermodynamic expectation values.
- ***Anharmonic effects*** beyond the *harmonic approximation* are often important, too!