

# Last Weeks

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**Surface curvature  
vs. chemical  
potential**

**Self-assembly  
SAMs  
Adsorption**

**Ostwald ripening**

**Interaction forces &  
stability**

**Different types of  
nanomaterials**

# Physical Properties at Nanoscale I

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26<sup>TH</sup> SEPTEMBER 2016

KIRSI YLINIEMI



# Properties at Nanoscale Differ from Macro- or Atomic Scale

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**Surface-to-volume ratio large**

**Huge surface energy**

**Spatial confinement**

**Reduced imperfections**

# Properties at Nanoscale Differ from Macro- or Atomic Scale

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Surface-to-volume ratio large  
- **Lower melting point**

Huge surface energy  
- **Superparamagnetism**

Spatial confinement  
- **Colour changes vs. size**

Reduced imperfections  
- **Higher mechanical strength**

# One Size Does Not Fit All

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**Spatial confinement depends on  
the characteristic length scale of  
studied property**

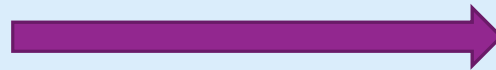
➤ **In the end, depends on the  
material property**

# Properties at Nanoscale I & II

## Property at Nanoscale

## Application

1. Electric



*Single-electron devices*  
*Nanopiezoelectric materials*

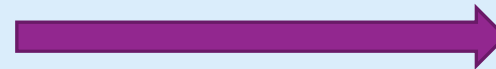
2. Optical



*Optical Ruler*  
*Optical Antenna*  
*Local Heat Formation*

**Properties I**

3. Mechanical



*High-Strength Alloys*  
*Nanocrystals*  
*Nanolaminates*

4. Thermal



*Thermoelectric materials*  
*Printed electronics*

5. Magnetic



*Superparamagnetism*

**Properties II**



# After This Lecture You Can

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Describe the effect of size on  
electronic properties

Explain the  
concept  
“exciton”

Predict the shift in  
absorbance peaks  
of semiconductor  
nanomaterials

Explain localised surface  
plasmon resonance

Use Hall-Petch equation in  
hardness estimations



## 1<sup>st</sup> Part: Electrical Properties at Nanoscale

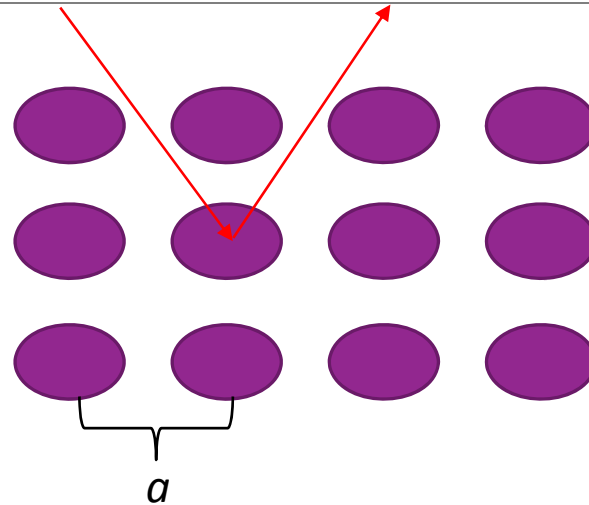


# METALS and SEMICONDUCTORS



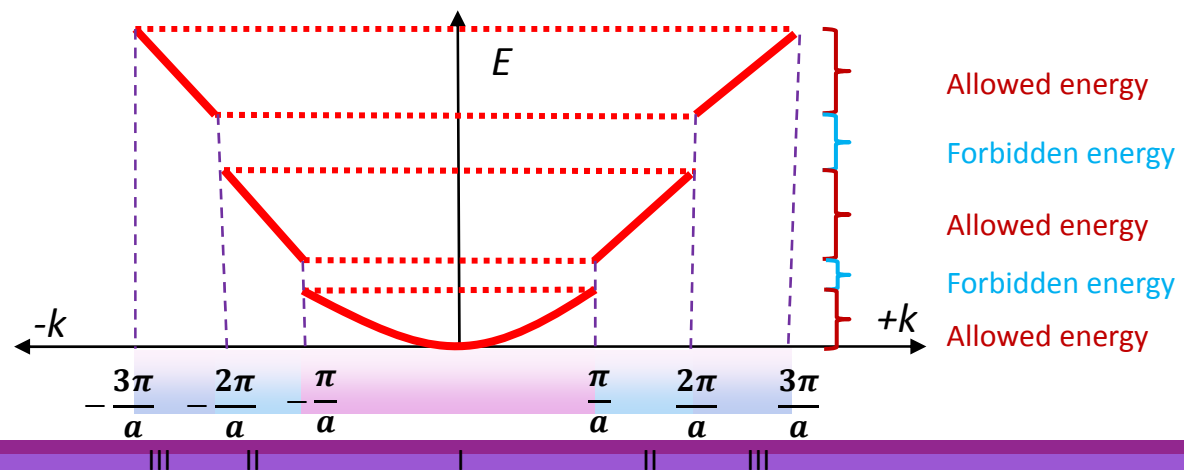
# Electrons in Macroscopic Material (Bloch Functions & Brillouin Zones)

Bloch Wave Functions

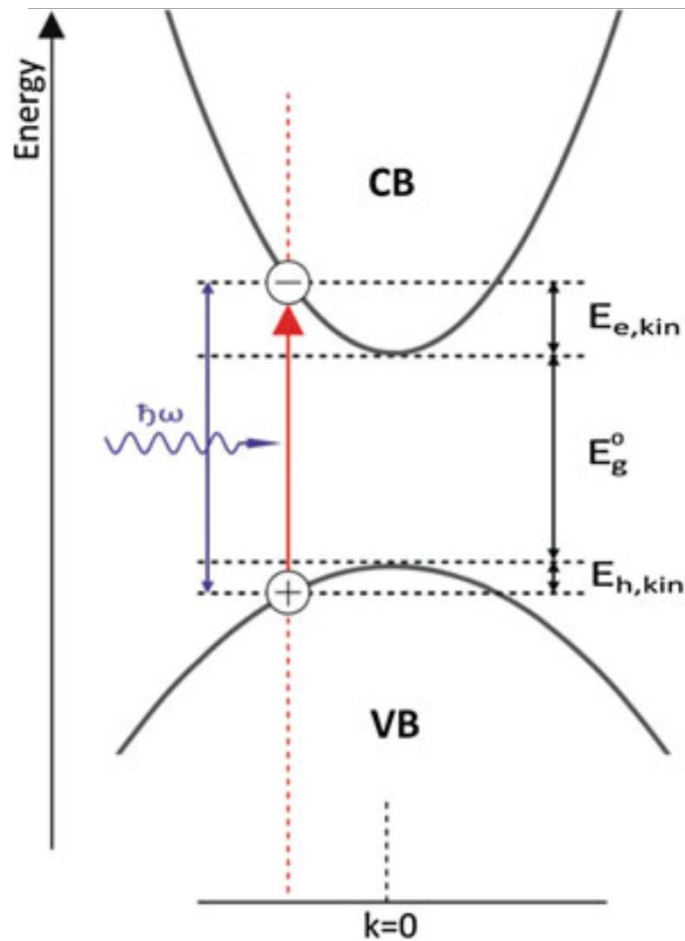


$$k = \pm \frac{n\pi}{a}$$

Brillouin Zones



# Semiconductors: Bulks



$$E = E_g + E_{e,kin} + E_{h,kin}$$

R. Koole, E. Groeneveld, D. Vanmaekelbergh,  
A. Meijerink, C. de Mello Donegá, Ch. 2- p. 20 (2014), Springer

# Two Effects at Nanoscale

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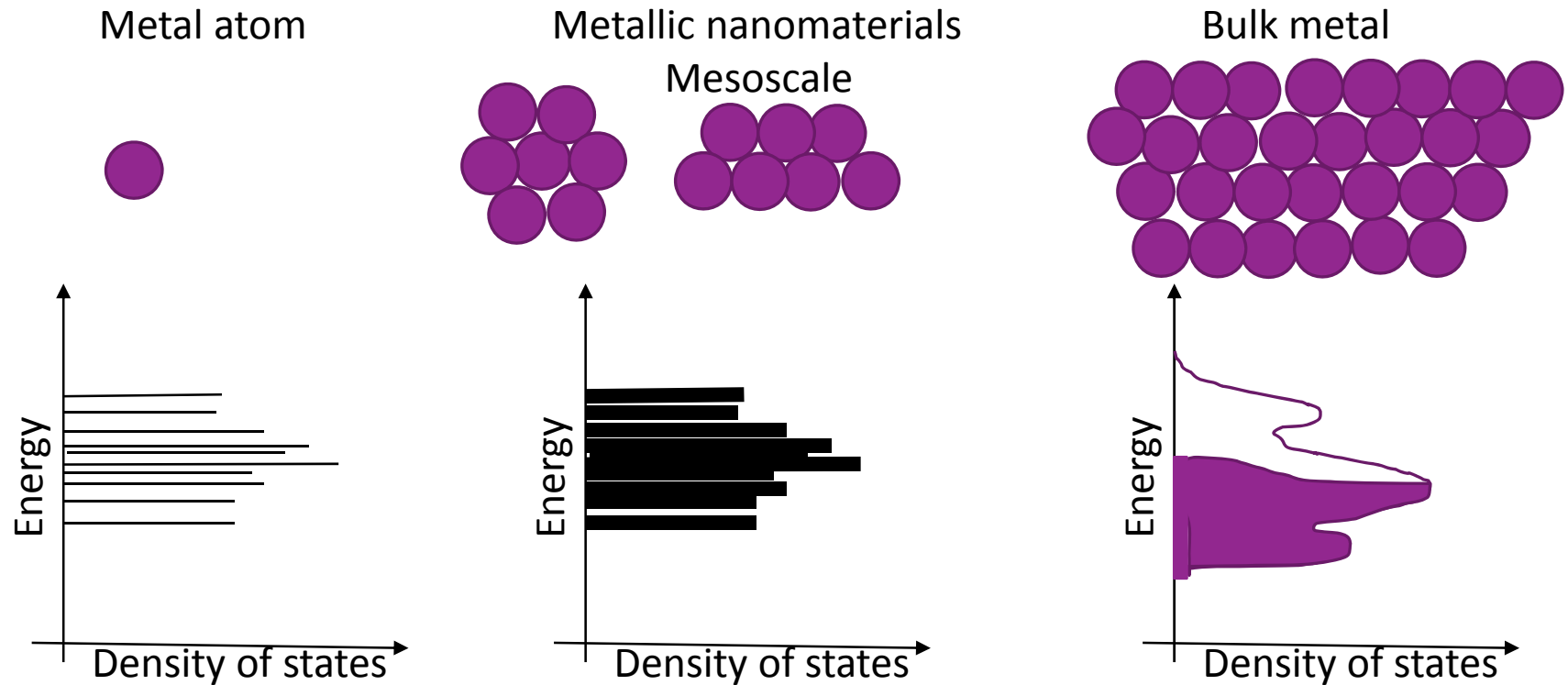
## 1. Quantum Effect

Energy bands  $\rightarrow$  discrete energy levels due to confinement to small space

## 2. Classical effect

Random walk  $\rightarrow$  mean-free path of collisions at the same level with the size of the system

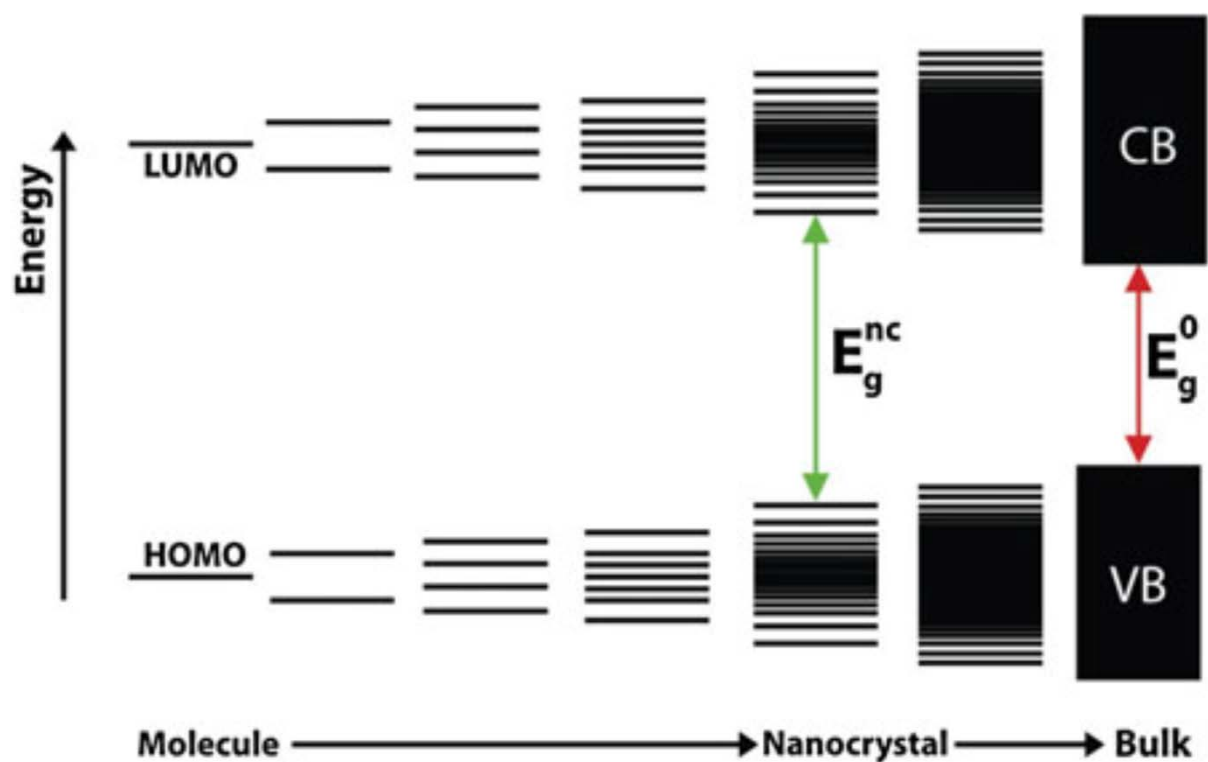
# Quantum Effect: Metals



Quantum confinement:

- Discrete energy levels of electrons
- electrons in conductive nanomaterials behave more like in molecules

# Quantum Effect: Semiconductor



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## In bulk

- Electron in periodic potential wells, caused by positive nucleus

## In nanoparticle (metal) / quantum dot (semiconductor)

- Electron in spherical potential well, radius =  $r$
- Outside the sphere, potential = 0



# Movement of Electrons (Conductivity)

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At mesoscale (nanomaterials) electrons moving

1. In a confined space (QF) to certain direction(s)

➤ Energy from Particle-in-a-box

$$E_{Conf} = \left[ \frac{\pi^2 \hbar^2 n^2}{2ml^2} \right]$$

2. Unrestricted to certain direction(s)

➤ Fermi Energy ( $E_F$ )

**The type & size of nanomaterial affects how much quantum effect dominates : 2D, 1D, 0D**

Watch **Video Lecture A: Particle-in-a-box** and **Video Lecture B: Density of States and Fermi Energy**





# Total energy at 2D

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$$E_{Total} = \underbrace{\left[ \frac{\pi^2 \hbar^2 n^2}{2ml^2} \right]}_{\substack{\text{Quantum} \\ \text{confinement in the} \\ \text{thickness direction (z)}}} + \underbrace{\left[ \frac{\hbar^2 k_F^2}{2m} \right]}_{\substack{\text{Unrestricted} \\ \text{movement to other} \\ \text{directions (x, y)}}$$

$\hbar$  = reduced Planc'ks constant

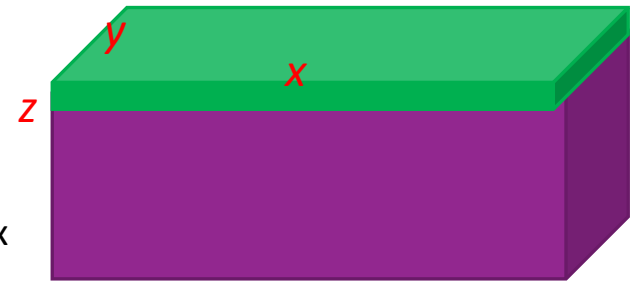
$n$  = quantum number

$m$  = mass of electron

$l$  = thickness of the film (i.e. "length of the box" in particle-in-a-box problem)

$$k_F = \text{wave vector} = k_F = \sqrt{k_x^2 + k_y^2}$$

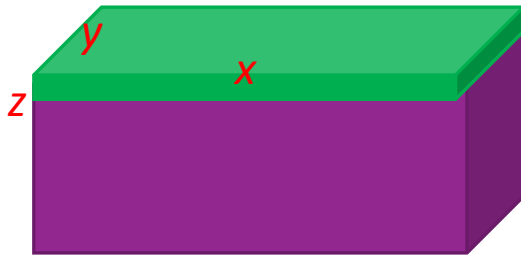
$k_x$  and  $k_y$  are related to electron's momentum



# Total energy at 2D

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$$E_{Total} = \underbrace{\left[ \frac{\pi^2 \hbar^2 n^2}{2ml^2} \right]}_{\substack{\text{Quantum} \\ \text{confinement in the} \\ \text{thickness direction (z)}}} + \underbrace{\left[ \frac{\hbar^2 k_F^2}{2m} \right]}_{\substack{\text{Unrestricted} \\ \text{movement to other} \\ \text{directions (x, y)}}$$



**Electrons in z direction are "trapped"**

- **2D electrons are the conductive ones**
  - Scattering (by grain boundaries, impurities & phonons) can also take in-plane direction (x,y)
- Smaller the grain, lower the conductivity

# Total energy at 1D

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$$E_{Total} = \underbrace{\left[ \frac{\pi^2 \hbar^2 n_y^2}{2m l_y^2} \right] + \left[ \frac{\pi^2 \hbar^2 n_z^2}{2m l_z^2} \right]}_{\text{Quantum confinement in two directions (y and z)}} + \underbrace{\left[ \frac{\hbar^2 k_x^2}{2m} \right]}_{\text{Unrestricted movement to x directions}}$$

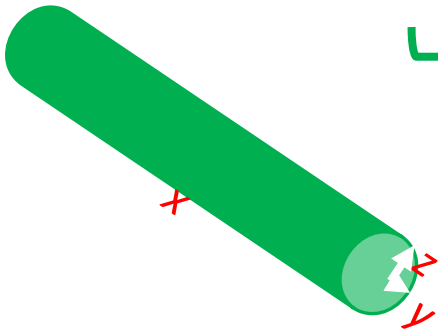
*Quantum  
confinement in two  
directions (y and z)*

*Unrestricted  
movement to x  
directions*



# Total energy at 1D

$$E_{Total} = \underbrace{\left[ \frac{\pi^2 \hbar^2 n_y^2}{2m l_y^2} \right] + \left[ \frac{\pi^2 \hbar^2 n_z^2}{2m l_z^2} \right]}_{\text{Quantum confinement in two directions (y and z)}} + \underbrace{\left[ \frac{\hbar^2 k_x^2}{2m} \right]}_{\text{Unrestricted movement to x directions}}$$



Quantum  
confinement in two  
directions (y and z)

Unrestricted  
movement to x  
directions

1D (z, y) act as "reflectors" for electron movement

- **Electrons forced to stay on the surface**

Scattering is also more restricted along the long-axis

- **Movement of electrons along the tube**  
"without" restrictions

Curiosity – conductivities:

Carbon nanotube  $10^9 \text{ A/cm}^2$

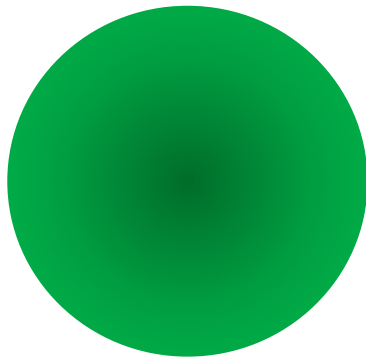
Copper  $10^6 \text{ A/cm}^2$

# Total energy at 0D

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$$E_{Total} = \underbrace{\left[ \frac{\pi^2 \hbar^2 n_x^2}{2ml_x^2} \right] + \left[ \frac{\pi^2 \hbar^2 n_y^2}{2ml_y^2} \right] + \left[ \frac{\pi^2 \hbar^2 n_z^2}{2ml_z^2} \right]}$$

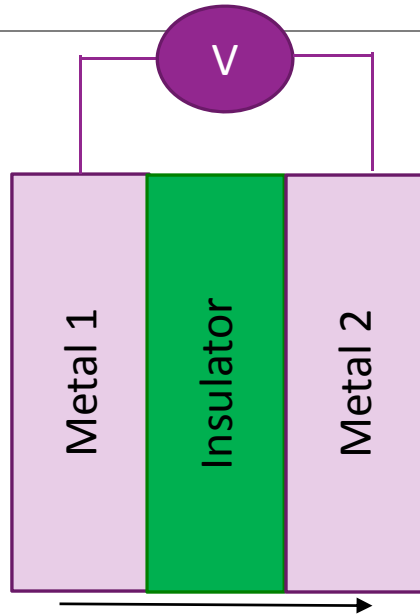
*Quantum  
confinement in all  
directions (x, y and z)*



Restriction to all directions

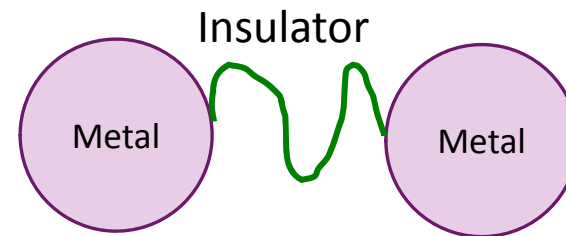
- **Even metallic nanoparticles behave like insulators or semiconductors (when on their own)**

# Connected Nanoparticles



**For tunneling**

- Metal 2 needs to have unoccupied energy levels
- Can be controlled by applying voltage



→  
Tunneling

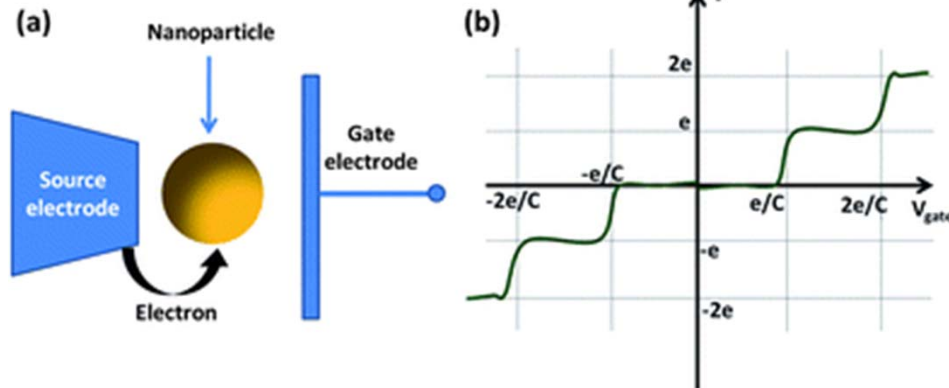
$$C = \frac{I}{V}$$

*Conductance* due to tunneling

# Single-electron Devices

Discrete energy levels of nanoparticles

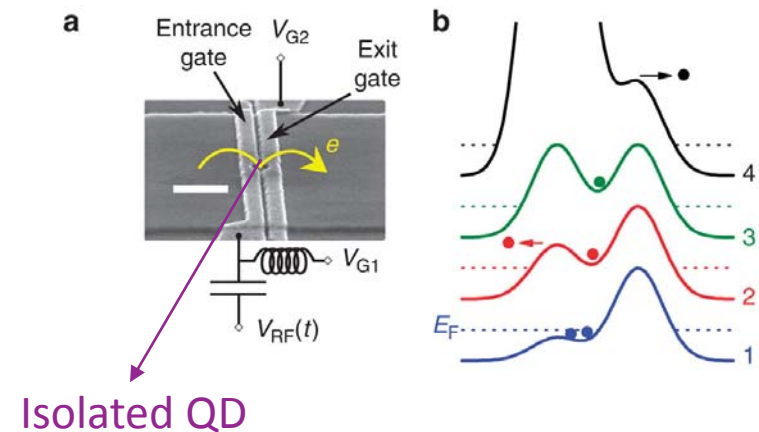
## Transistors



S. Singamaneni, V. N. Bliznyuk, C. Binek, Evgeny Y. Tsymbal, *J. Mater. Chem.* **21** (2011) 16819-16845.

Electron increases the charge of NP by  $E = \frac{e^2}{2C}$   
 which the next electron has to overcome  
 ➤ Coulomb staircase

## Pumps



By manipulating the entrance gate and exit gate voltages, QD will be excited one electron / time

S.P. Giblin, M. Kataoka, J.D. Fletcher, P. See, T.J.B.M. Janssen, J.P. Griffiths, G.A.C. Jones, I. Farrer, D.A. Ritchie, *Nature Communications* **3** (2012) 1-6.

# **INSULATORS (DIELECTRICS)**





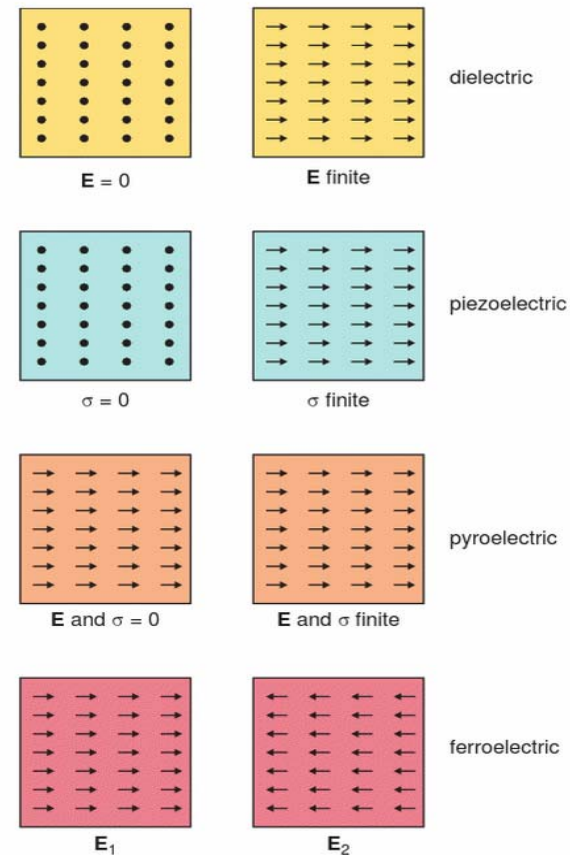
# Ferro- and Piezoelectricity

## Ferroelectricity

- **Spontaneous polarisation** due to crystallographic features and surface terminations
- "Electric field inside the material can be changed by **applied electric field**"

## Piezoelectricity

- **Polarisation** due to **mechanical** stress/strain
- "Electricity by pressing/pulling the material"



# Ferro- and Piezoelectricity

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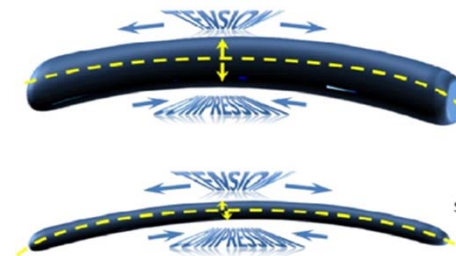
Surface becomes more dominant at nanoscale

## Ferroelectricity

- Critical size ( $\approx 5$  nm) when ferroelectricity disappears
- But also strain effects change: some atoms "freezed"  $\rightarrow$  ferroelectricity reappears when size decreases further

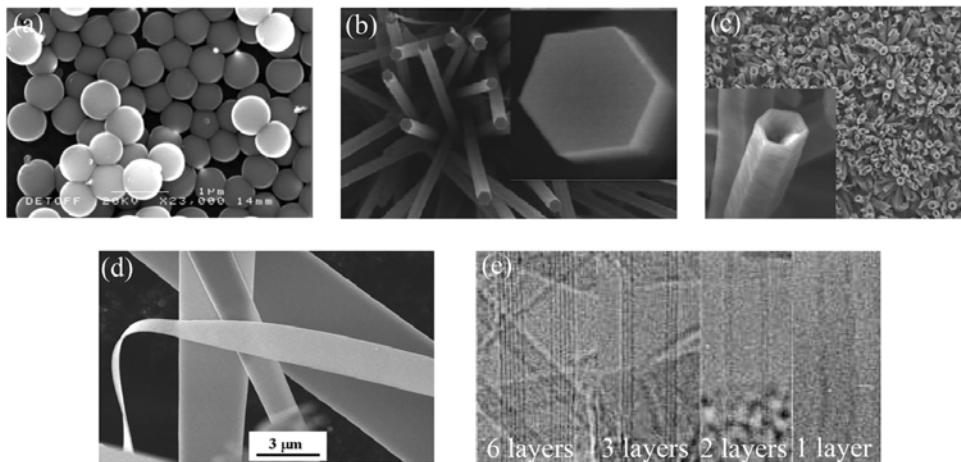
## Piezoelectricity

- "Increased" movement
- Temperature effect pronounced
- Single crystals?



# Nanopiezoelectric Materials

## TYPICAL MATERIALS

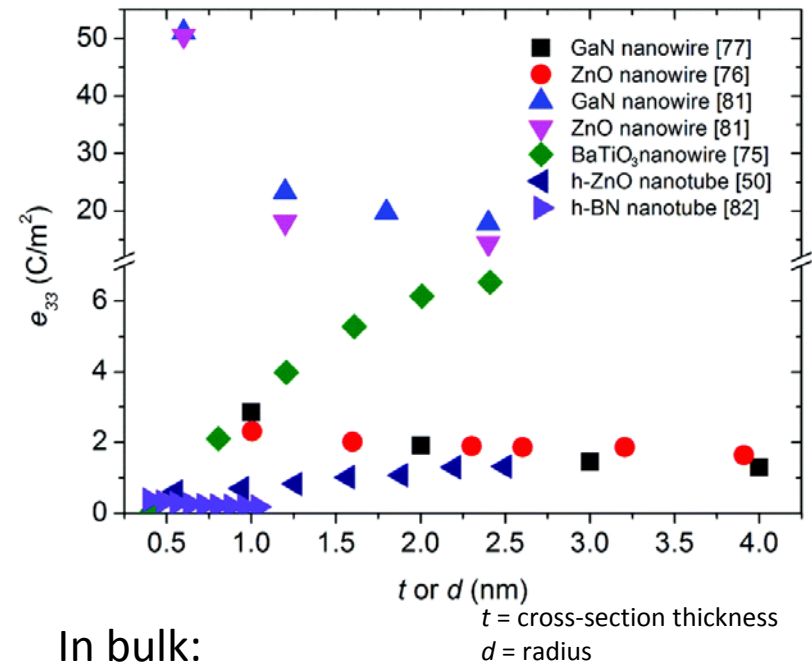


(a) ZnO nanoparticles, (b) ZnO nanowires, (c) ZnO nanotubes, (d) ZnO nanobelts, and (e) hexagonal Boron Nitride (h-BN) nanotubes.

$$e_{33} = \frac{\partial P}{\partial \varepsilon}$$

Polarisation  $P$  vs. strain  $\varepsilon$  along the axis

## POLARISATION VS. STRAIN

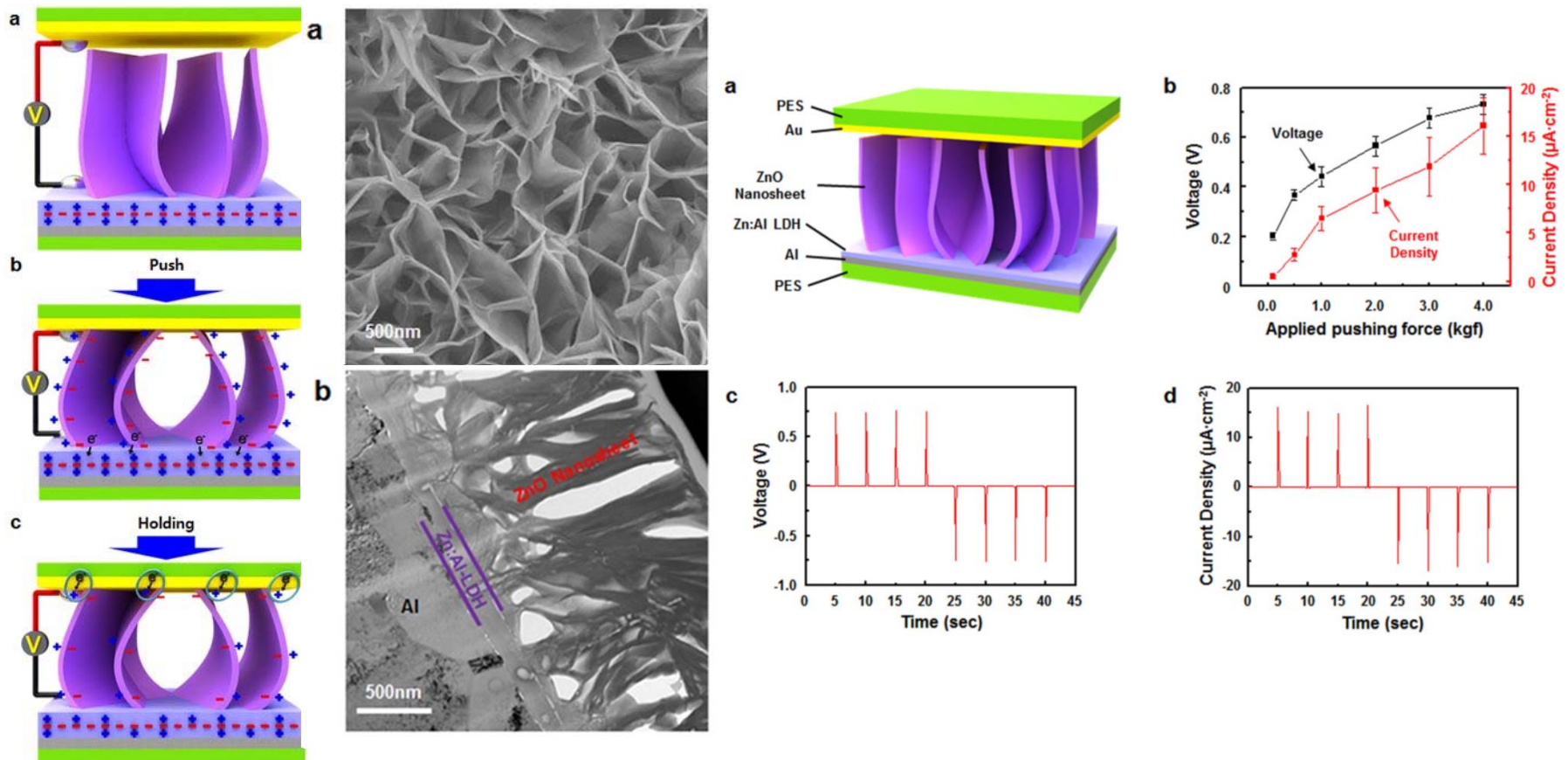


In bulk:

$$e_{33} (\text{ZnO}) \approx 1.22 \text{ C/m}^2$$

$$e_{33} (\text{h-BN}) \approx 0.20 \text{ C/m}^2$$

# Nanopiezoelectric Materials



# Concept Checks

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True or False

1. Carbon nanotubes are conductive along the tube length
2. The electrons in 2D structures can move on the plane only at wavelengths with multiple integer of thickness

# Concept Checks

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Which one is correct

- A) Quantum confinement increases the conductivity of 0D materials
- B) 1D materials are typically more conductive than their bulk counterparts
- C) Scattering in the non-confined direction increases the conductivity of 2D materials

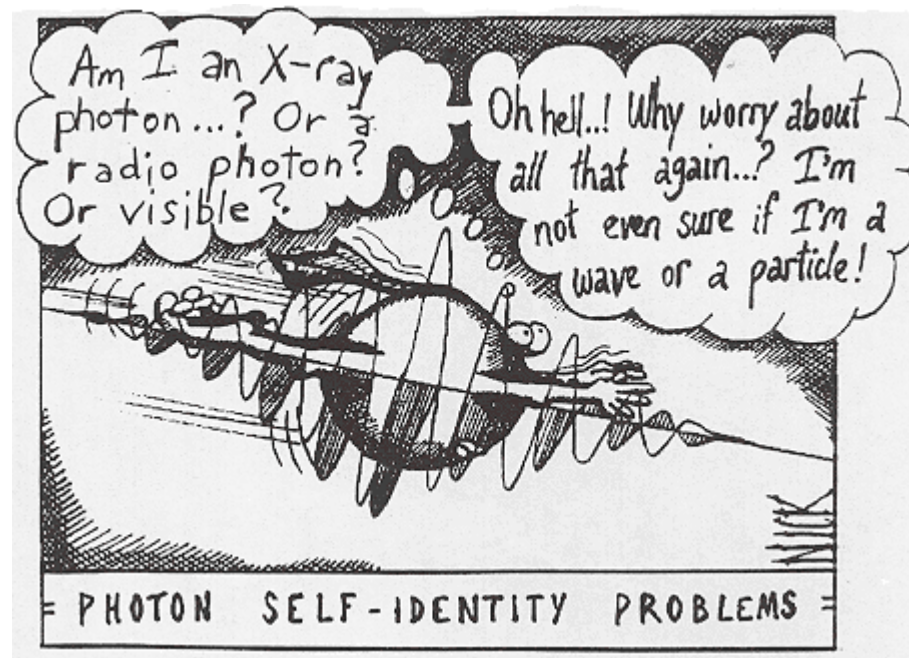




## 2<sup>nd</sup> Part: Optical Properties at Nanoscale

# Optical Properties

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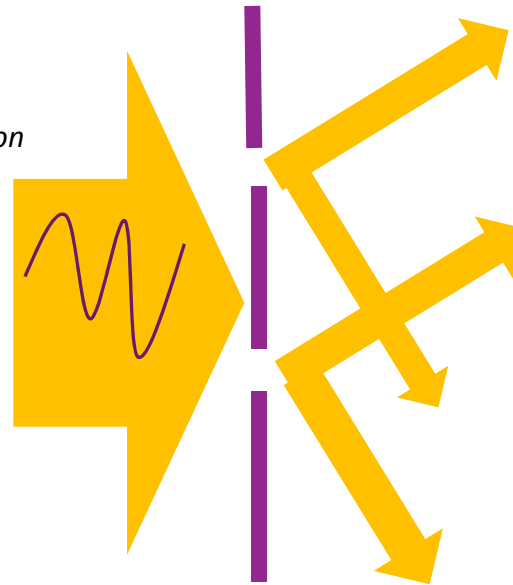
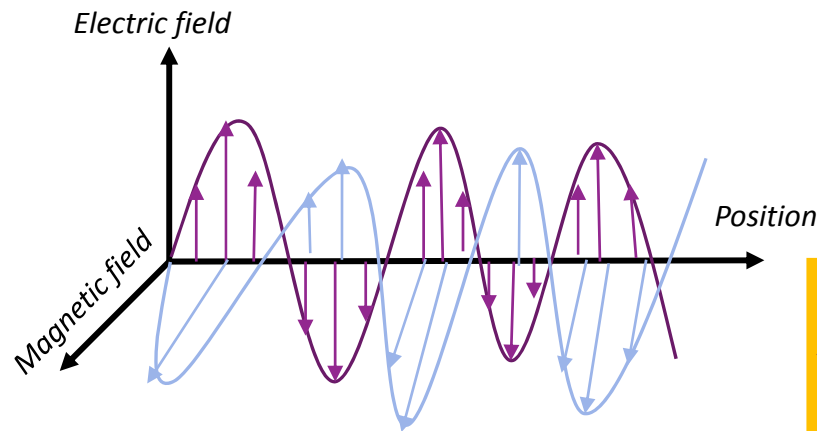


<http://www.conversationswithanoldone.com/albert-einstein-surprises-robert-lanza-in-the-night>



# Electromagnetic Radiation

## WAVE OR PARTICLE?



$$c = \frac{1}{\sqrt{\epsilon_0 \mu_0}} \quad c = \lambda \nu$$

$$E = h\nu = \frac{hc}{\lambda}$$

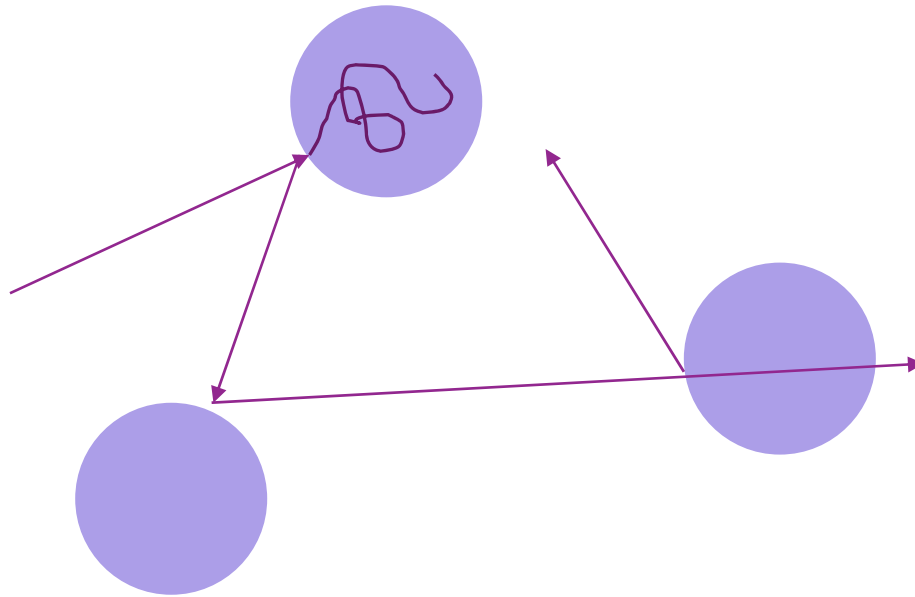
# Light vs. Solid

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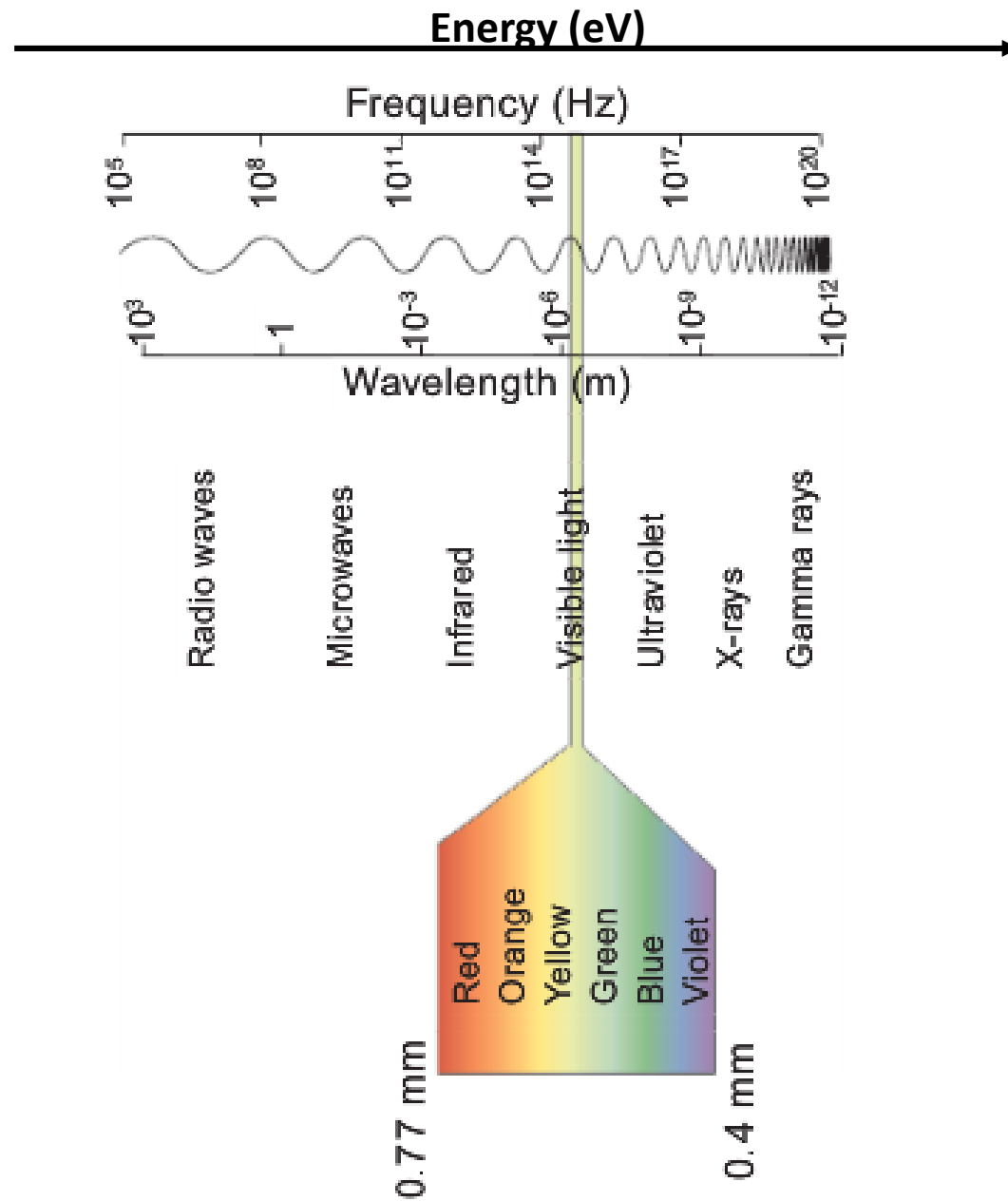
Absorbance

Reflectance (and scattering)

Transmission



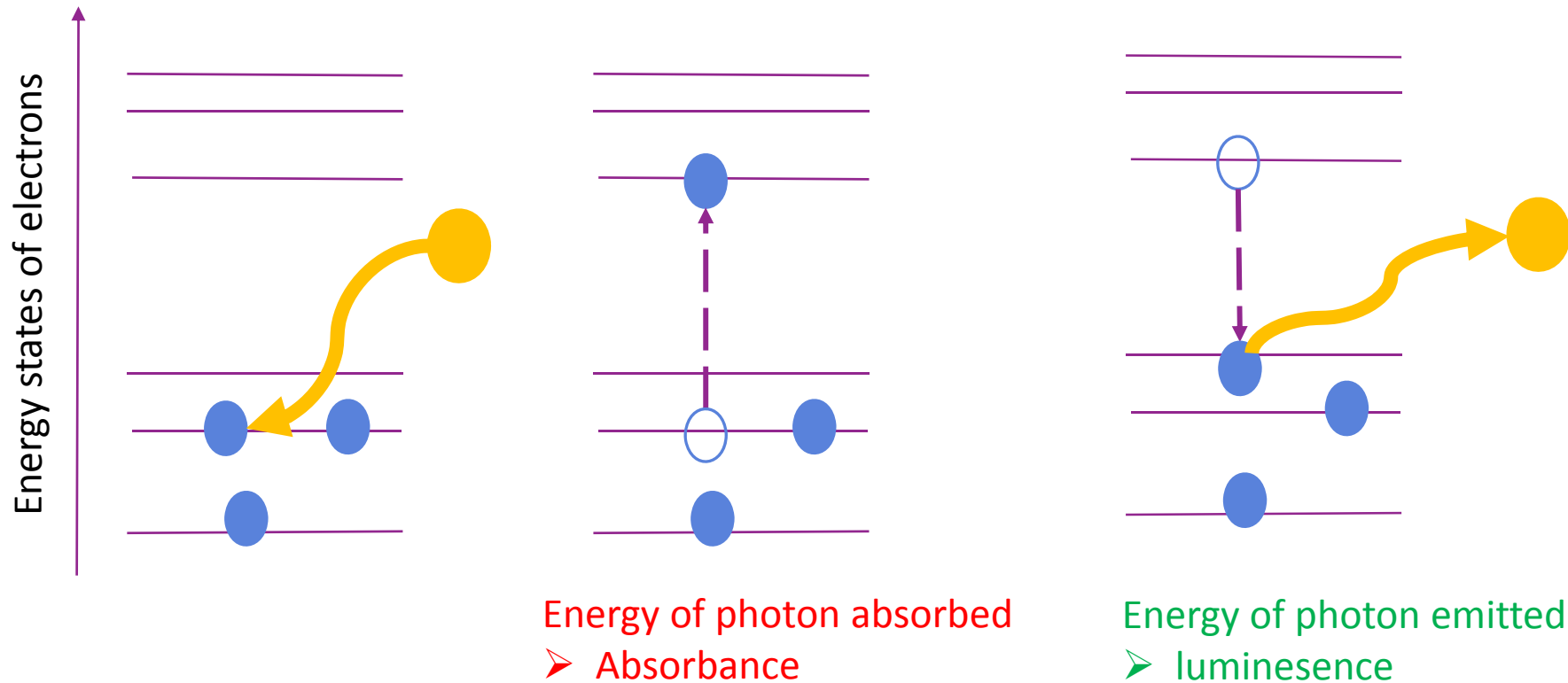
$$I_{tot} = I_A + I_R + I_T$$



From: M.F Ashby, P.J. Ferreira, D.L. Schodek, Nanomaterials, Nanotechnologies and Design – An Introduction to Engineers and Architects (2009) Elsevier, p.230.

# Electromagnetic Radiation

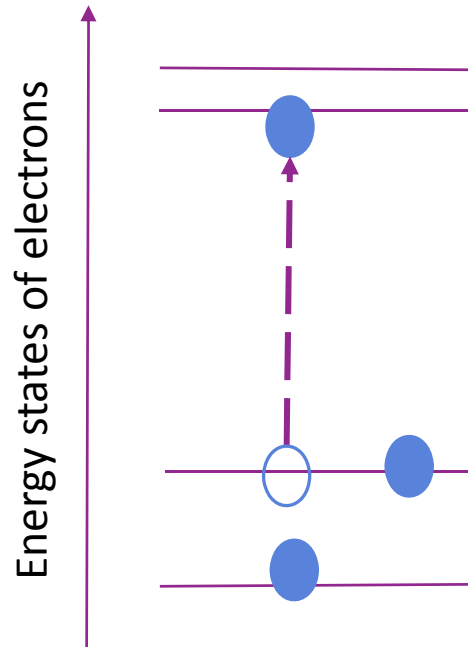
WAVE  $\approx$  PHOTONS



# In bulk

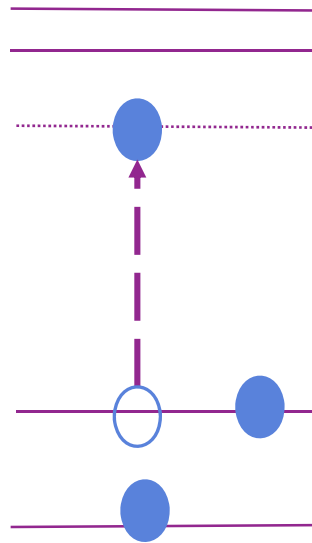
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**NORMAL T**



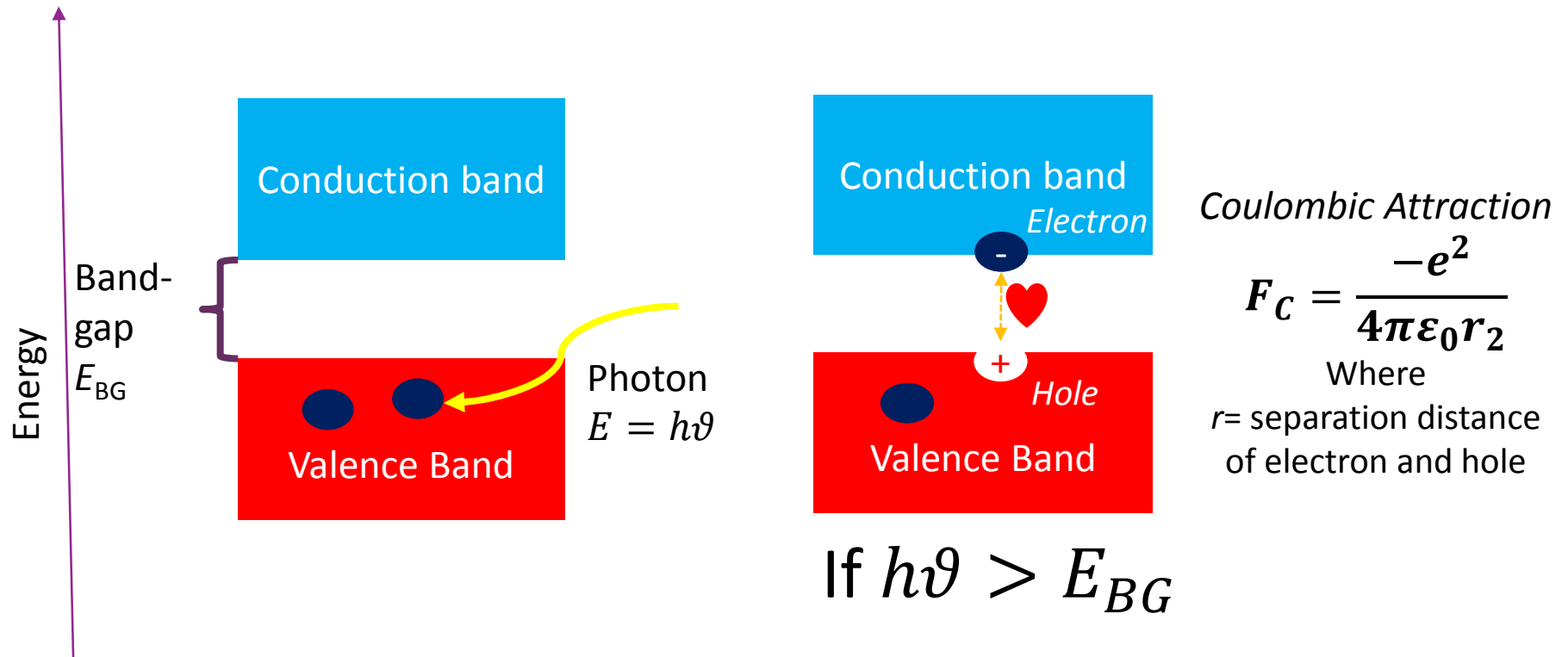
Absorbance matches  
EXACTLY the band-gap

**LOW T**



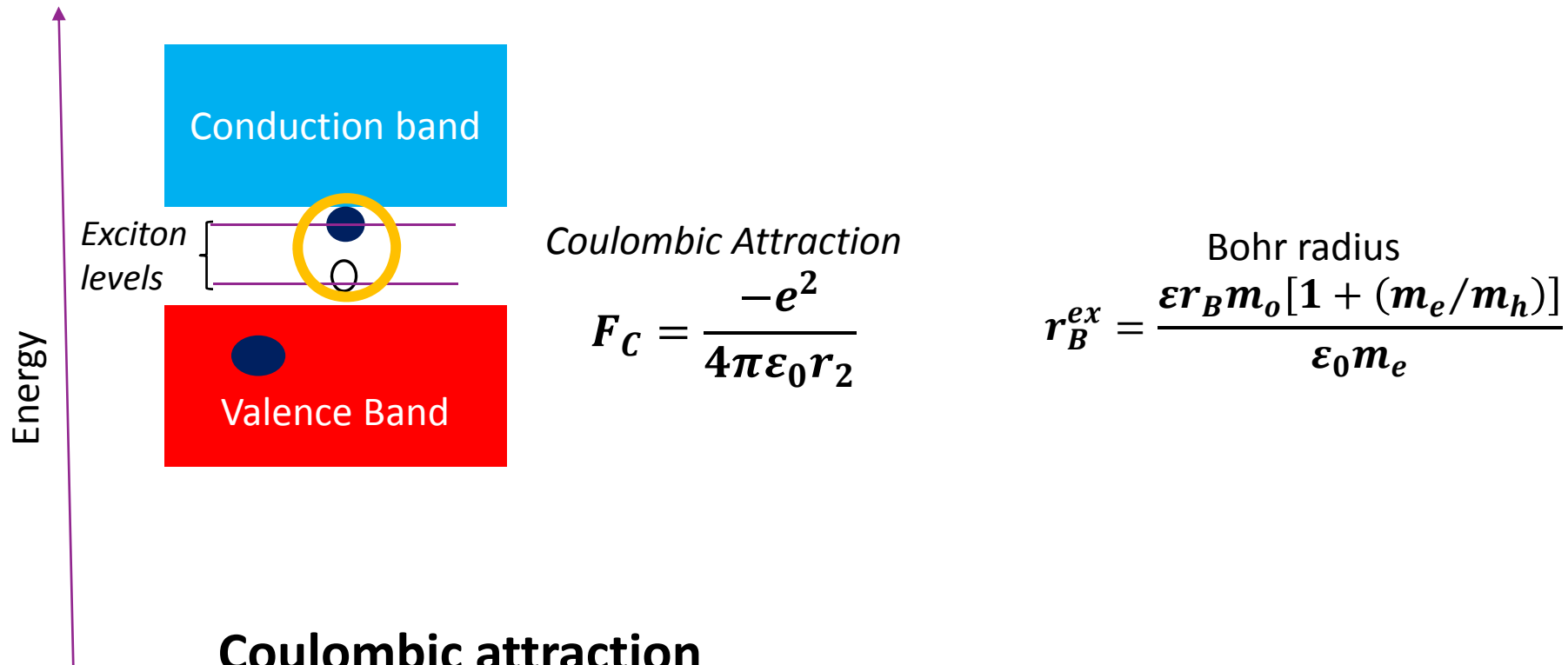
Absorbance slightly LOWER than the band-gap

# Quasi-Particle: Exciton



Electron and hole **bound** to each other: exciton

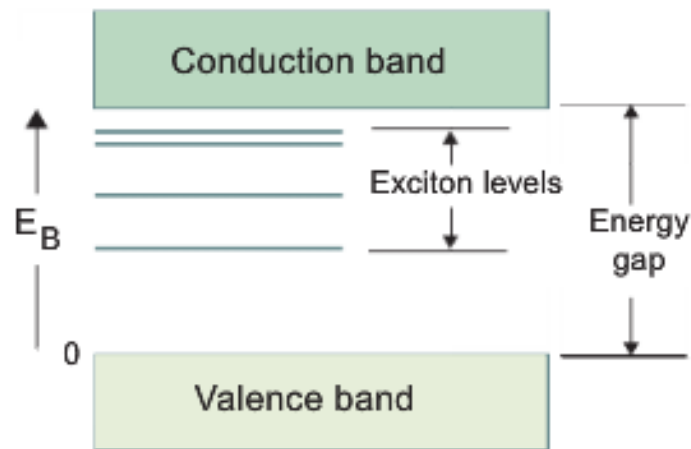
# Semiconductor



## Coulombic attraction

1. Brings exciton levels closer to each other
2. Increases Bohr radius of exciton

# Binding energy of exciton (formation of exciton)



**FIGURE 7.30**

*Energy levels of an exciton. The binding energy  $E_B$  of an exciton is equal to the difference between the energy required to create a free electron and free hole and the energy to create an exciton.*

*(Adapted from C. Kittel, Introduction to Solid State Physics, John Wiley & Sons Inc, New York.)*



# Exciton Diameter

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**Table 7.1** Exciton Bohr Diameters and Band-Gap Energies for Various Semiconductors

Material	Exciton Diameter	Band-Gap Energy
CuCl	1.3 nm	3.4 eV
CdS	8.4 nm	2.58 eV
CdSe	10.6 nm	1.74 eV
GaAs	28 nm	1.43 eV
Si	3.7 nm (longitudinal) 9 nm (transverse)	1.11 eV

**Conclusion: At nanoscale, excitons come confined!**

# Excitons in Nanomaterials

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- Exciton radius is at nanoscale
  - **Quantum confinement of excitons in nanomaterials**

$$0D > 1D > 2D (> 3D)$$

**More QF, exciton levels higher & more quantized  
(as the density of states becomes more discrete)**



# Confinement regions

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## **WEAK and HIGH**

- degree of coupling electron-hole ( $\rightarrow$  Coulombic energy)
  - Dimensions of nanomaterial
  - Dimensions of electron & hole

# Regimes

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## 1. Strong Confinement Regime ( $r \ll r_{\text{Bohr}}$ )

- No excitons: Quantum confinement energy  $\gg$  Coulomb energy

➤ The kinetic energy of electron and hole so large that they move **independently**

$$E_{\text{binding}} = E_{bg}^0 + E_{\text{conf}} = E_{bg}^0 + \frac{2\hbar^2 \chi_e^2}{m_e^* D} + \frac{2\hbar^2 \chi_h^2}{m_h^* D}$$

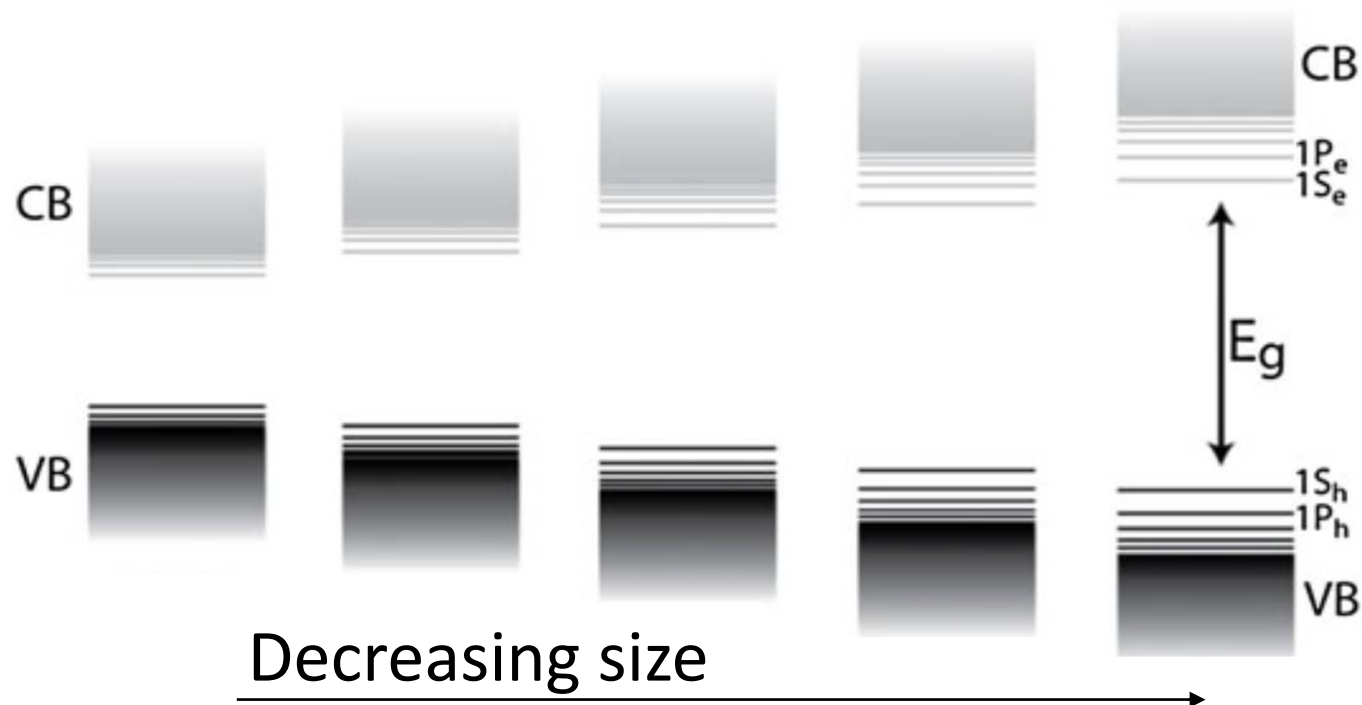
where  $D$  = size of the sphere,  $\chi$  = Bessel function including quantum numbers ( $n, l, s$ )

## 2. Weak Confinement Regime ( $r > r_{\text{Bohr}}$ )

- Excitons exists

$$E_{\text{binding}} = E_{bg}^0 + \frac{\pi^2 \hbar^2}{2r^2} \left( \frac{1}{m_e^*} + \frac{1}{m_h^*} \right) - E_{\text{Coulomb}} + E_{\text{polarisation}} + E_{\text{Rydberg}}$$

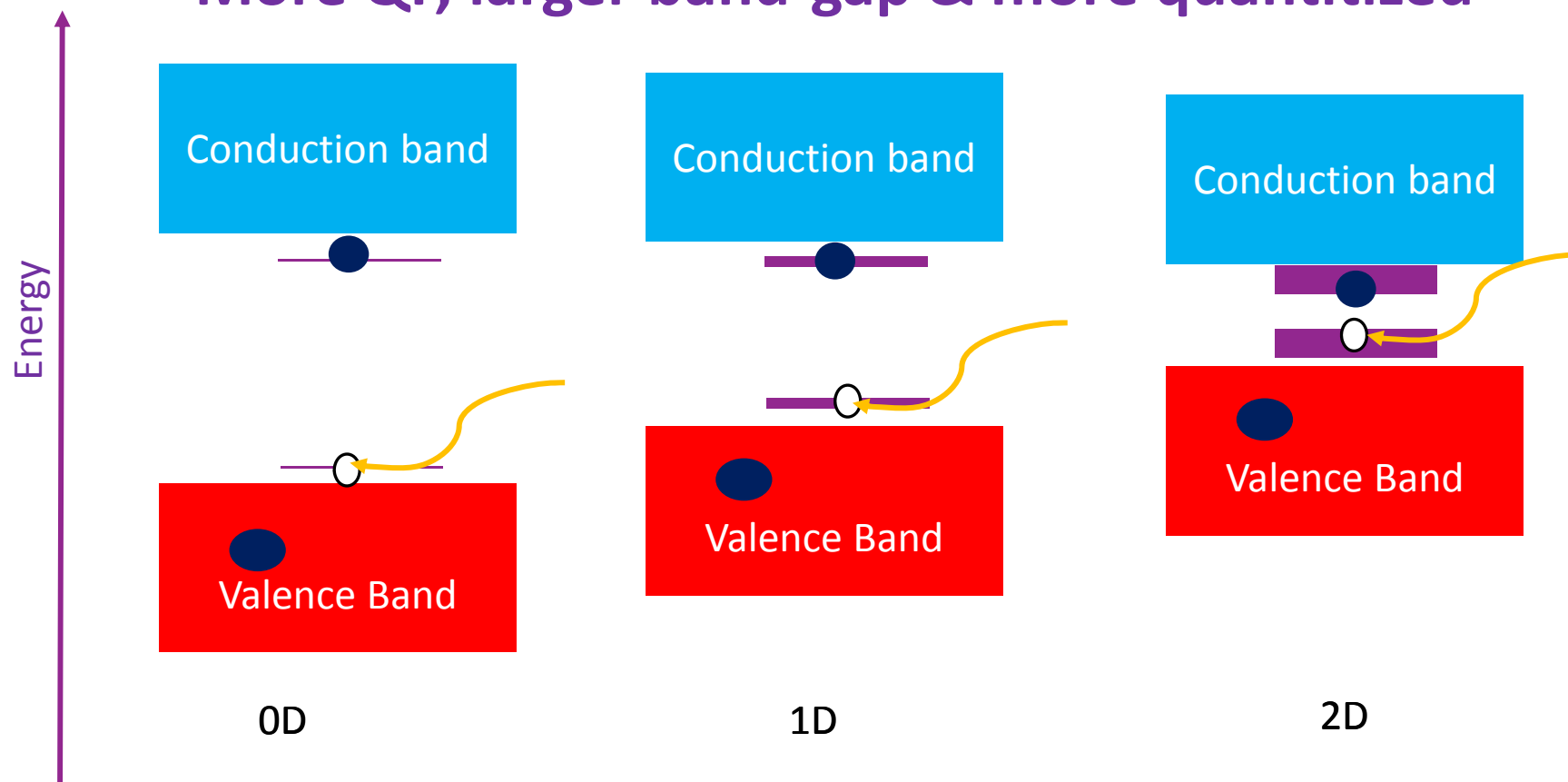
# Quantum Confinement



$$E_{binding} = E_{bg}^0 + \frac{\pi^2 \hbar^2}{2r^2} \left( \frac{1}{m_e^*} + \frac{1}{m_h^*} \right) - E_{Coulomb} + E_{polarisation} + E_{Rydberg}$$

# Excitons in Nanomaterials

More QF, larger band-gap & more quantitized

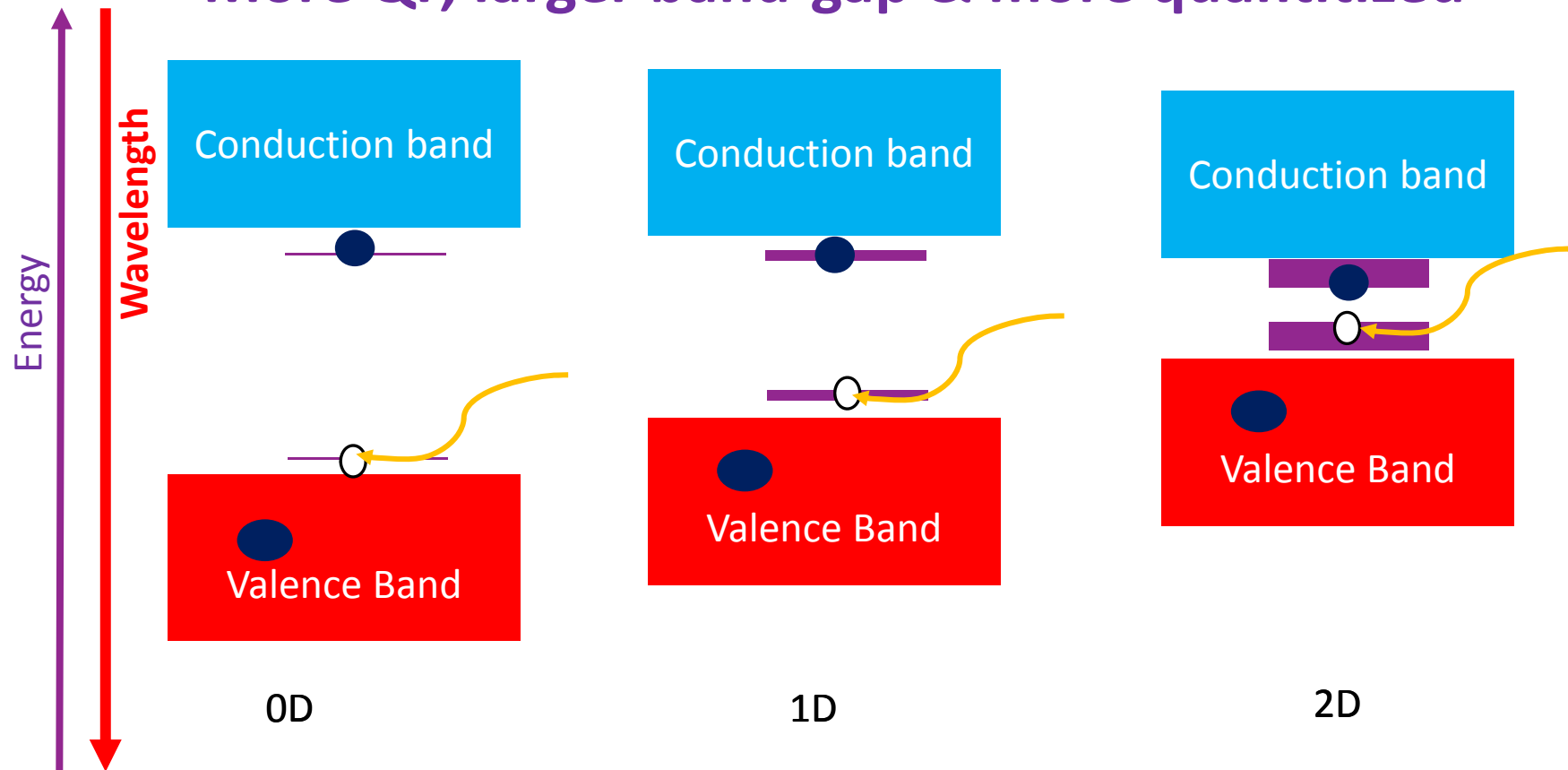


Remember!  
Wavelength and energy are  
combined

$$\lambda_{particle} = \frac{h}{p} = \frac{h}{\sqrt{2mE}}$$

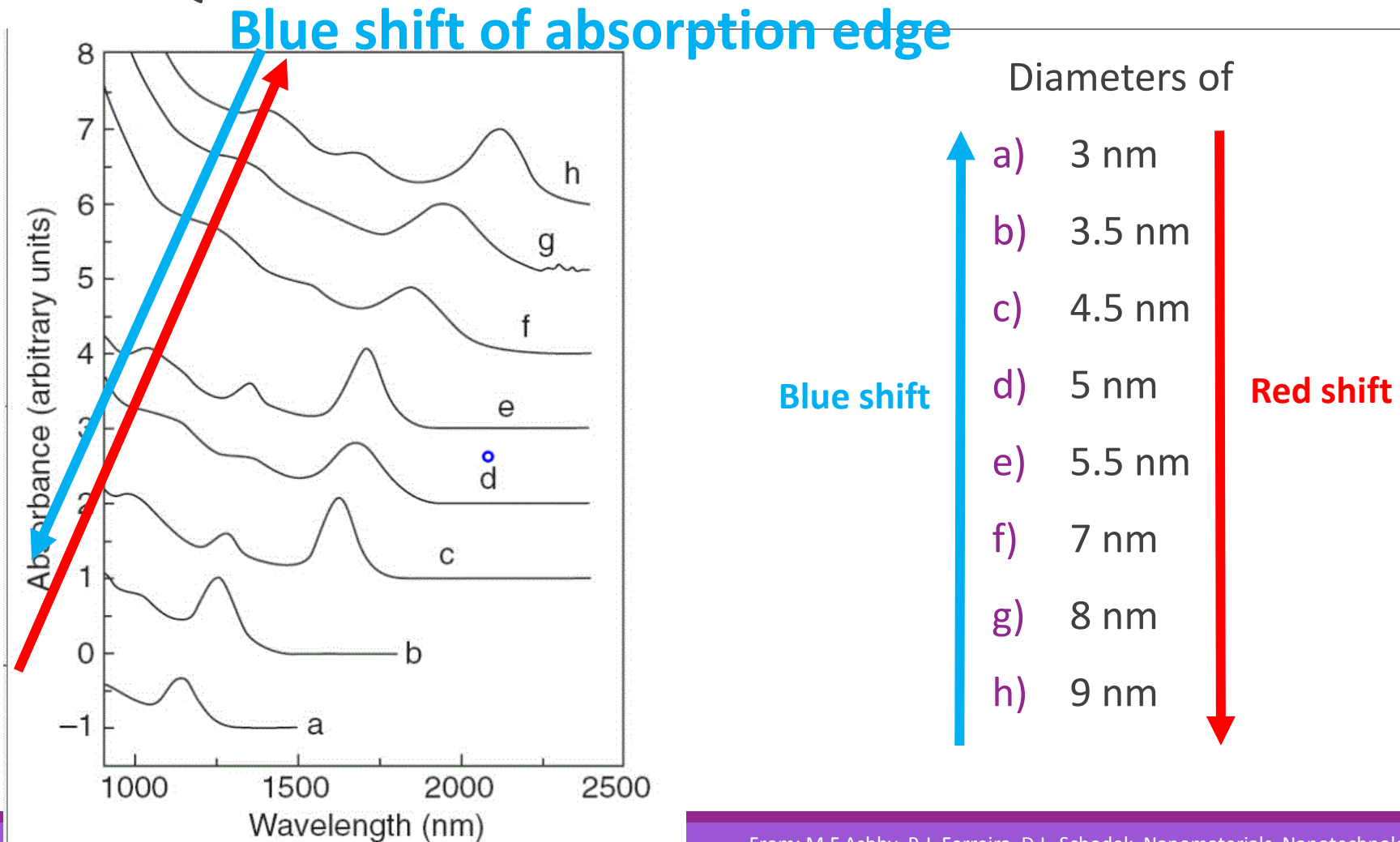
# Excitons in Nanomaterials

More QF, larger band-gap & more quantitized



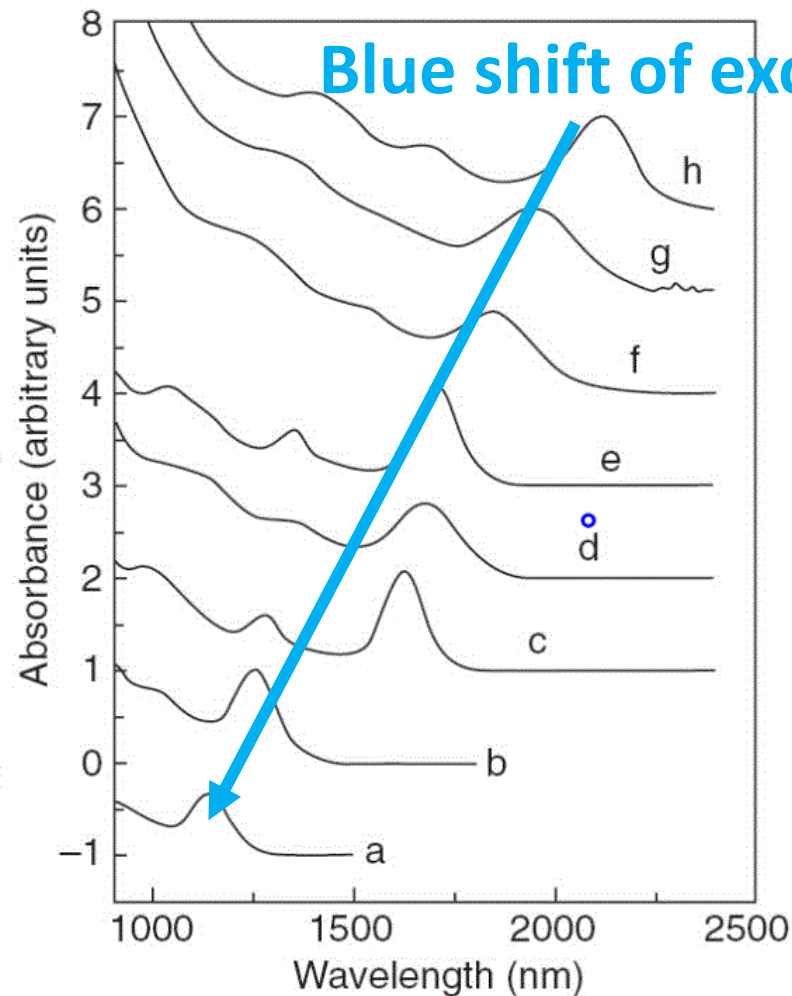


# Absorbance Spectra of PbSe Quantum Dots



From: M.F Ashby, P.J. Ferreira, D.L. Schodek, Nanomaterials, Nanotechnologies and Design – An Introduction to Engineers and Architects (2009) Elsevier, p.229.

# Absorbance Spectra of PbSe Quantum Dots



Blue shift of exciton peak

Blue shift

Diameters of

- a) 3 nm
- b) 3.5 nm
- c) 4.5 nm
- d) 5 nm
- e) 5.5 nm
- f) 7 nm
- g) 8 nm
- h) 9 nm

Red shift

# Two Regimes

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## 1. Nanomaterial size $\approx$ few times exciton size

### ➤ Weak confinement

➤ Smaller particles have exciton absorbance peak at lower WLs

➤ 0D has exciton peak at lower WLs than 2D

## 2. Nanomaterial size $<$ exciton radius

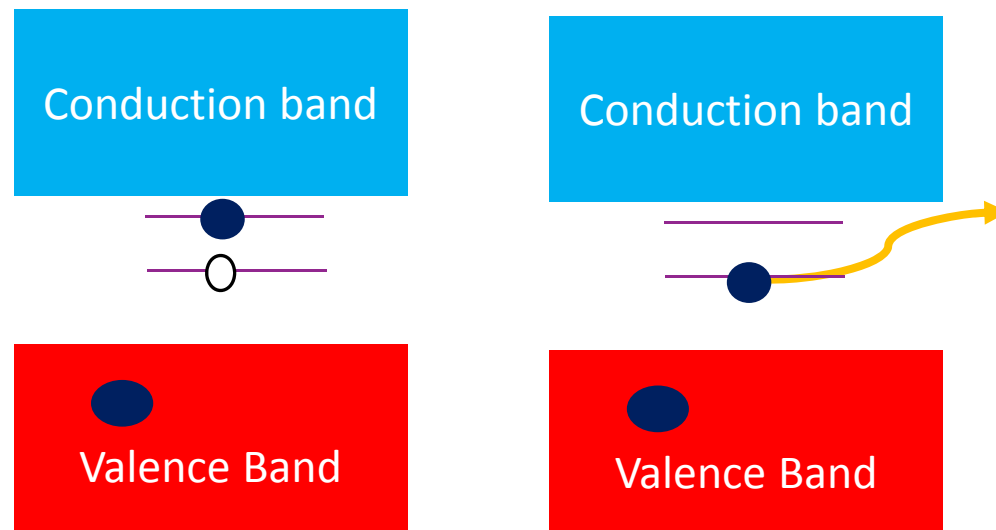
### ➤ Strong confinement

➤ No coupling – excitons do not exist

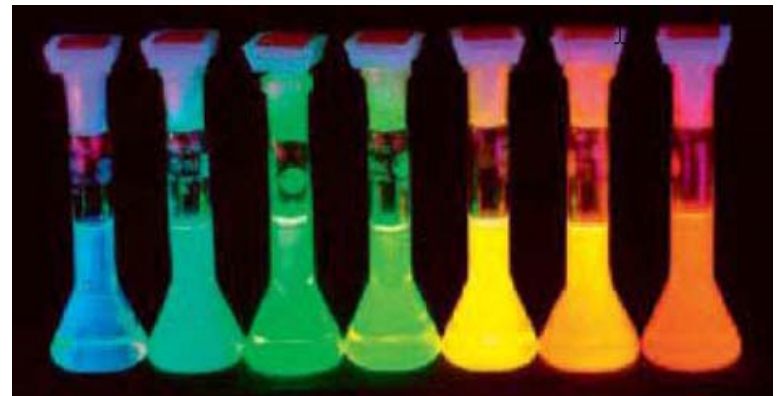
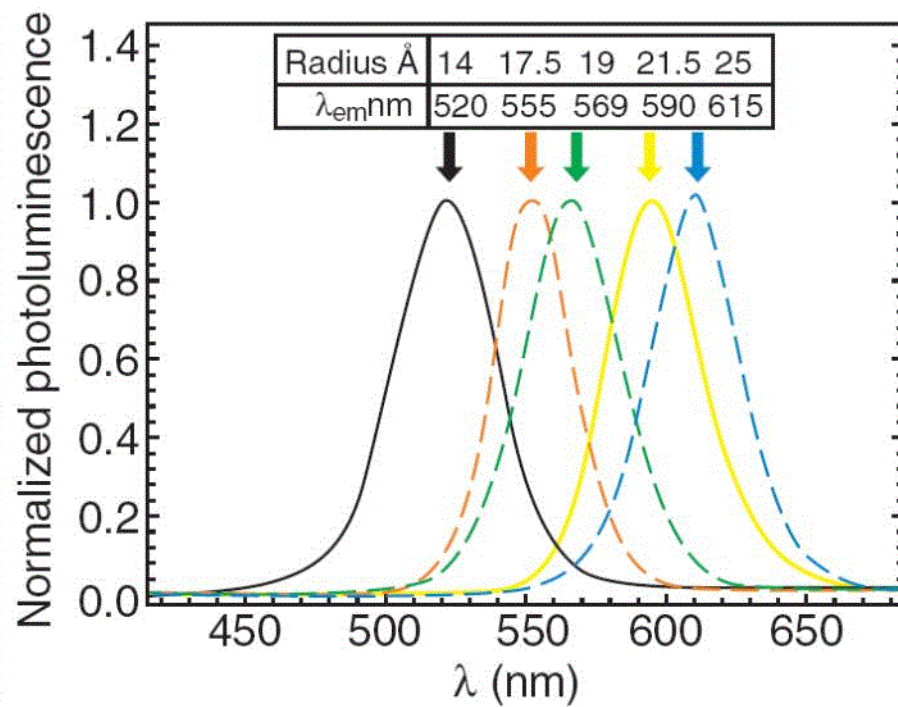
➤ No exciton peak

# Luminescence

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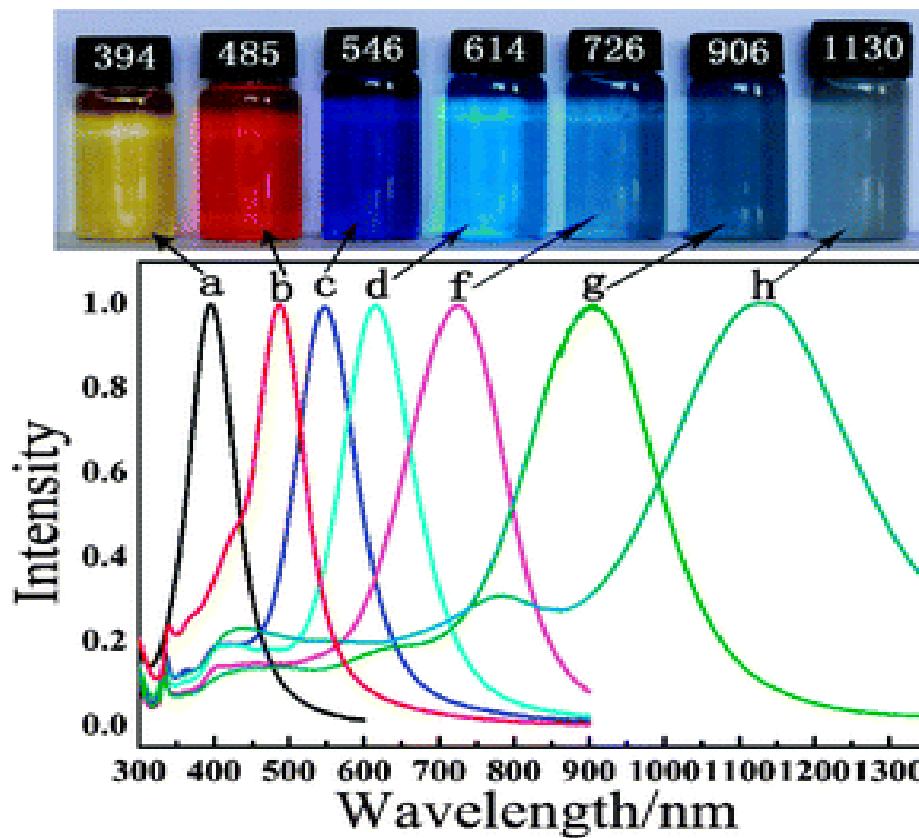


# Luminescence

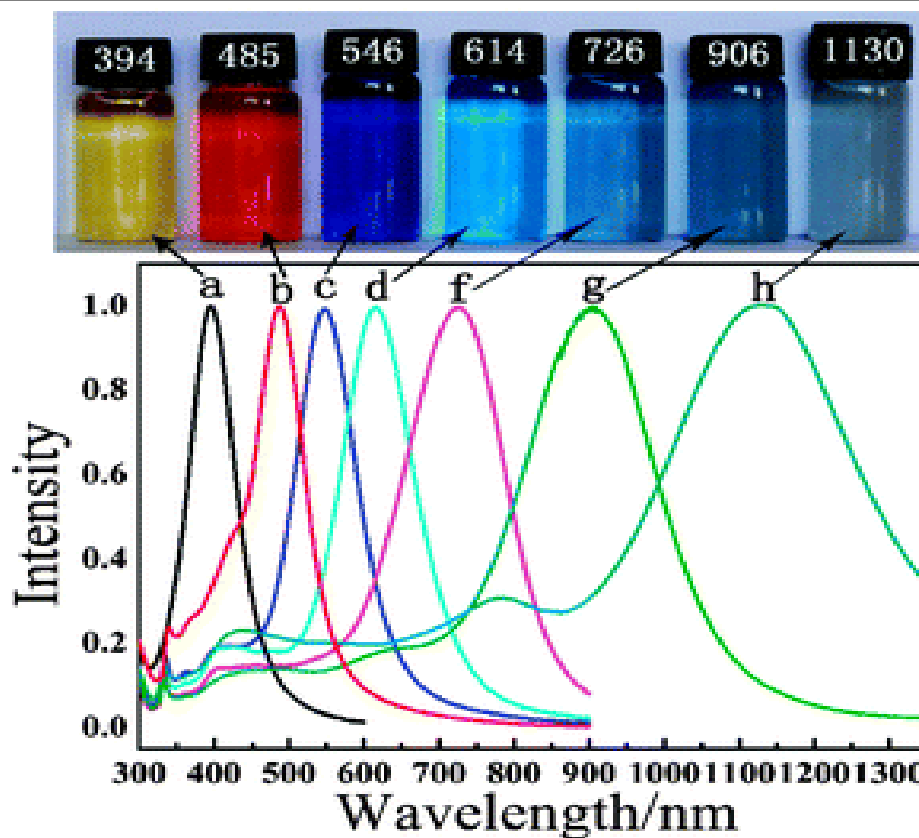


From: M.F Ashby, P.J. Ferreira, D.L. Schodek, Nanomaterials, Nanotechnologies and Design – An Introduction to Engineers and Architects (2009) Elsevier, p.230.

# Nanoscale Observation



# Nanoscale Observation



## Localised Surface Plasmon Resonance

# Localised Surface Plasmon Resonance (Metal NPs)

**Mobile electrons create a collections of waves**

➤ **Plasmons**

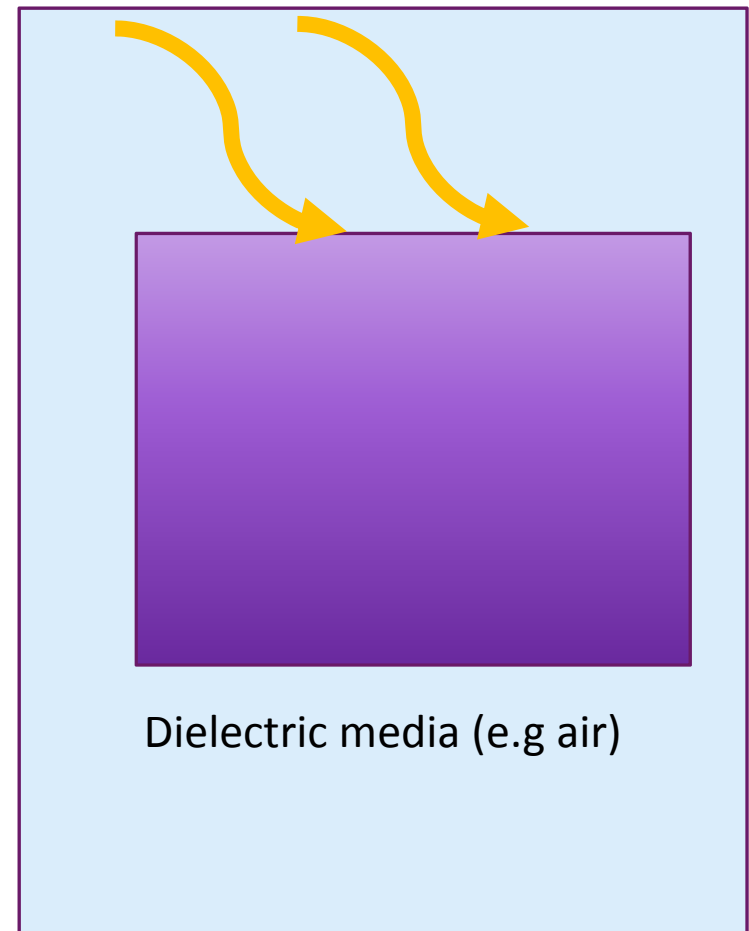
**In bulk**

- Not affected by light

**At surface**

- Interaction with light

**The interaction polarises the plasmons vs. the cationic cubic lattice**

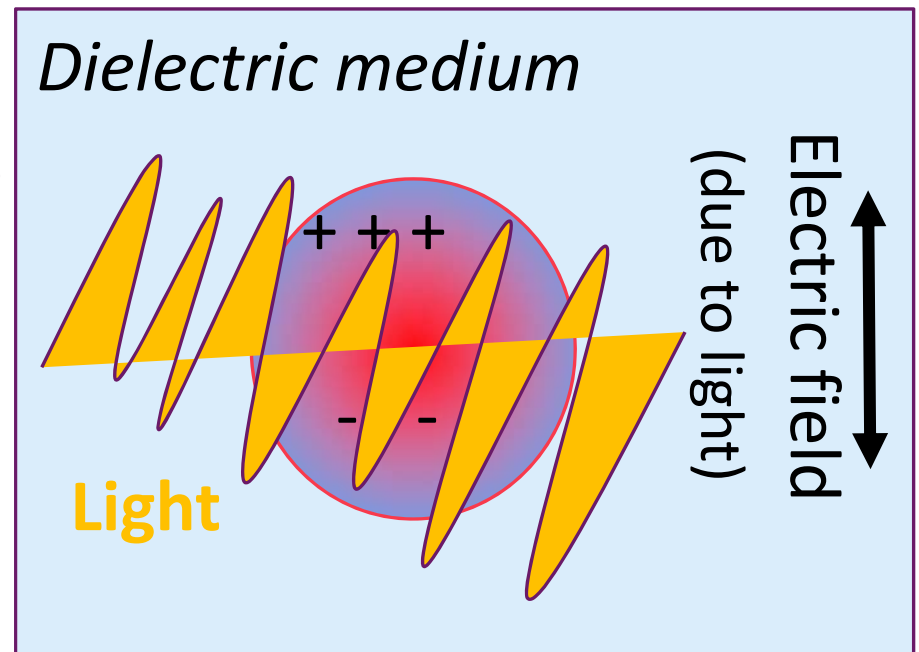




# Localised Surface Plasmon Resonance (Metal NPs)

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**Surface plasmons oscillate  
with electromagnetic  
wave**



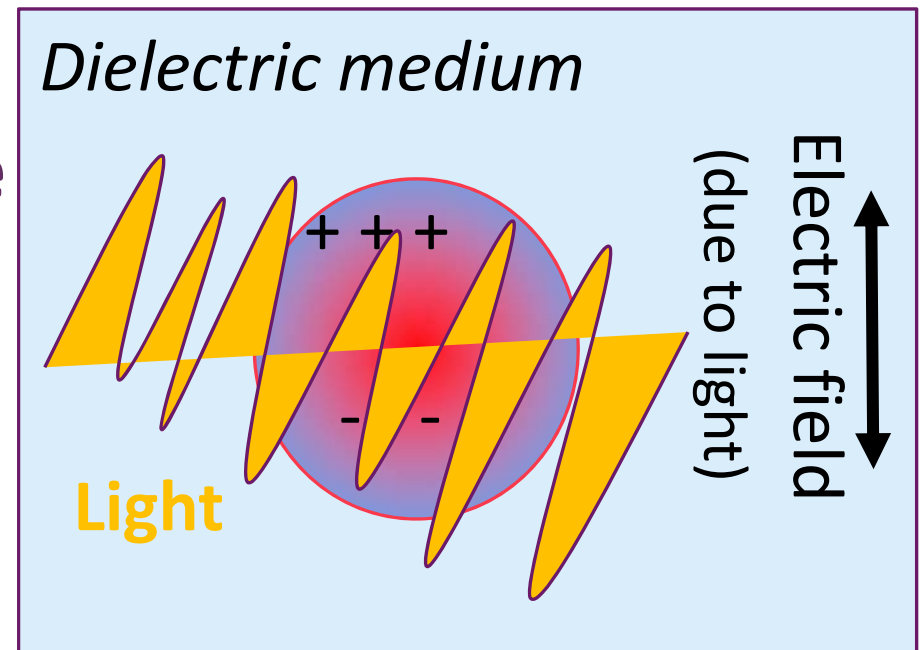
# Localised Surface Plasmon Resonance (Metal NPs)

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**Surface plasmons oscillate with electromagnetic wave**

At certain wavelength

→ **Resonance between plasmon and light**



# Localised Surface Plasmon Resonance (Metal NPs)

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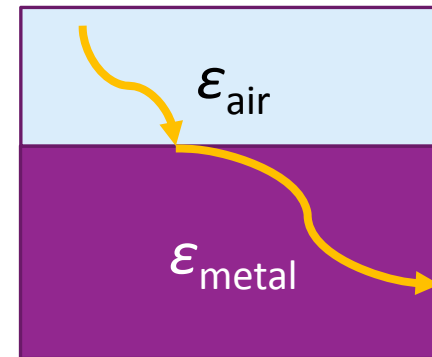
## 1. Size

Electron mean free path



## 2. Material Properties

Dielectric constant:  
metal|air interface has a  
large difference



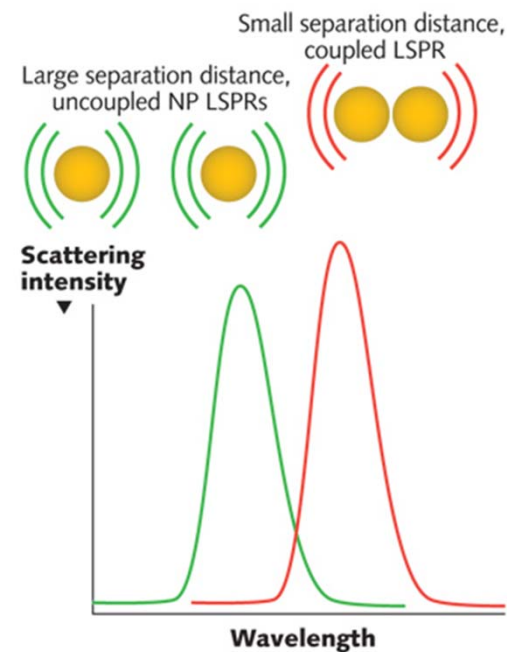
**Localised\*\* surface plasmon resonance**

*\*\*localised in the nanoparticle*

# Example: Optical Ruler

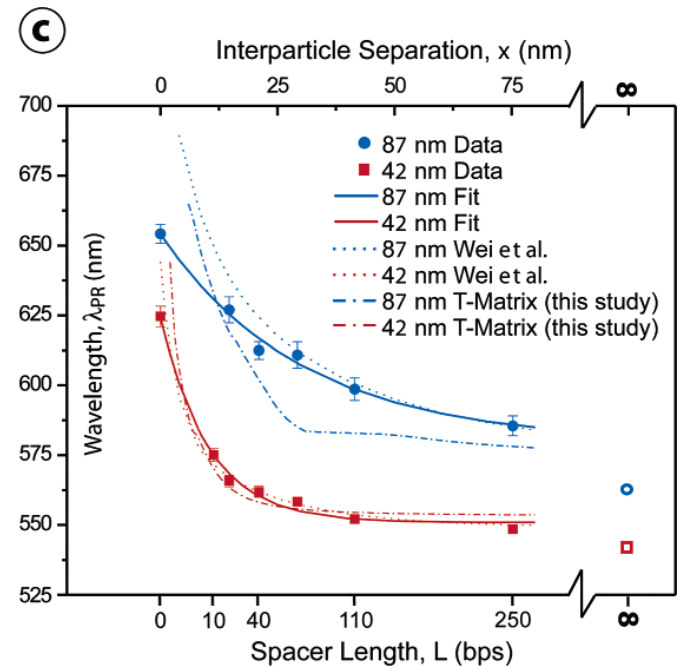
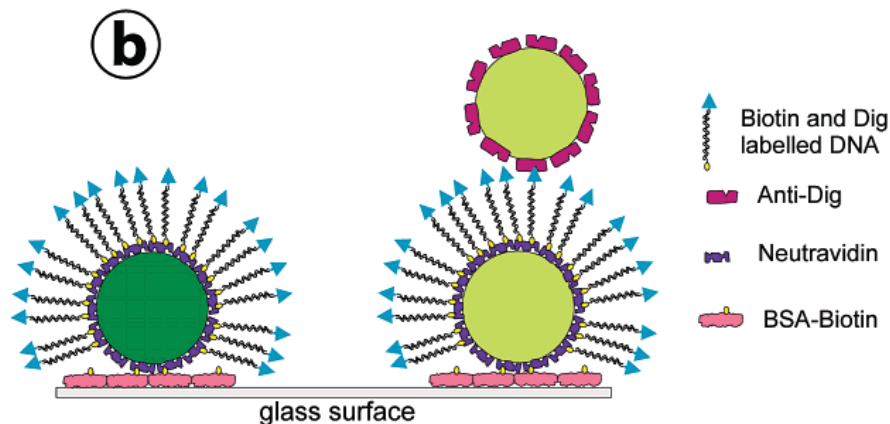
## LSPR RULER

The red shift in the spectrum depends on the distance between the particles



# Example: Optical Ruler

- Calibrated by coupling particles with known separation
  - Double stranded DNA as the linker



B. M. Reinhard et al. Nano Letters, **2005**, 5, 2246.

# Example: Optical Antenna

Antenna = mediator between far-field radiation and local fields (current)



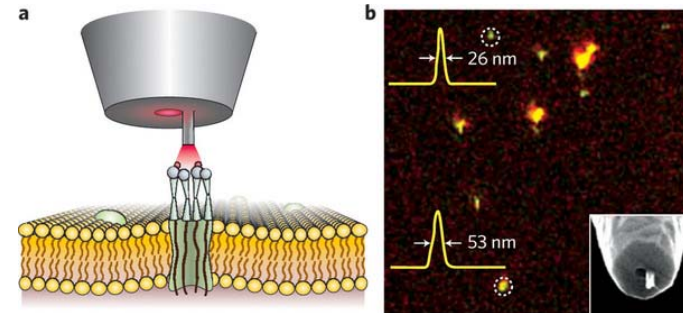
E. A. Coronado, E. R. Encina, F. D. Stefani, *Nanoscale* **3** (2011) 4042-4059.

**Light → Far-field radiation**

**LSPR → Local field**

## Example

Detecting fluorophores with optical antenna



L. Novotny, N. van Hulst, *Nature Photonics* **5** (2011) 83-90.

- LSPR transmits light to fluorophore very efficiently
- Smaller amounts and smaller scales detected

# Example: Local Heat Generation

- Metal nanoparticles are poor light emitters but effective light absorbers

➤ After excitation (LSPR), the heat is conducted to metal crystal

➤ High local temperature's by light

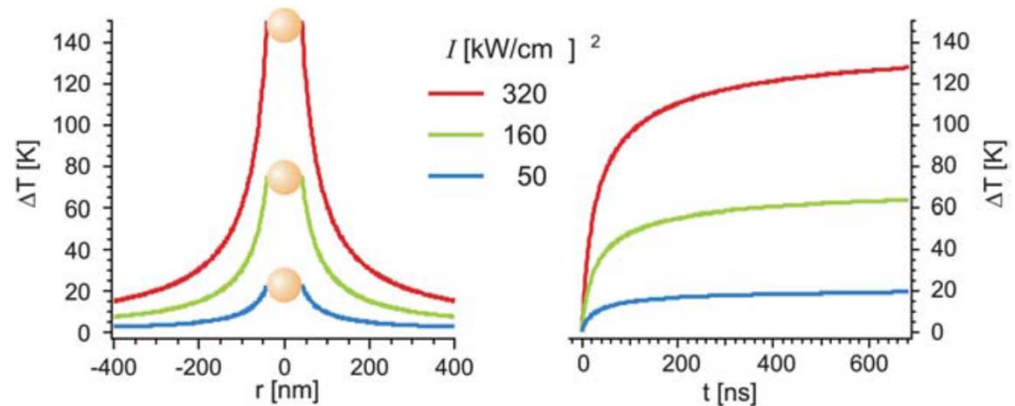
$$\Delta T = \frac{I \sigma_{abs}}{4\pi k r}$$

$I$  = intensity of light

$\sigma_{abs}$  = absorbance cross-section

$k$  = thermal conductivity of the medium

$r$  = distance from nanoparticle



# Concept checks

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True or false

1. Excitons exist in weak confinement region
2. Surface plasmon resonance is due to confinement of electrons
3. Higher the wavelength, higher the energy



# Concept checks

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Which statement is correct

- A) Binding energy of exciton increases with decreasing band-gap
- B) Binding energy of exciton increases with increased Coulomb energy
- C) Binding energy of exciton increases with decreasing particle size



## 3<sup>rd</sup> Part: Mechanical Properties

# Scale (In)Dependce

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## Continuum of Materials

- Properties of crystals / grains can be averaged to get the bulk material property
- Material properties are **Scale Independent**

## Higher Strength Steel and Aluminium Alloys (the latter half of 20<sup>th</sup> century)

- The above does not hold
- Material Properties are **Scale Dependent**



# Mechanical Properties of

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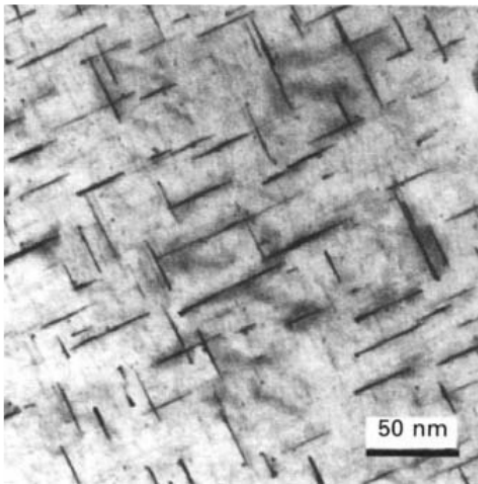
**1. Nanodispersions**

**2. Nanocrystals**

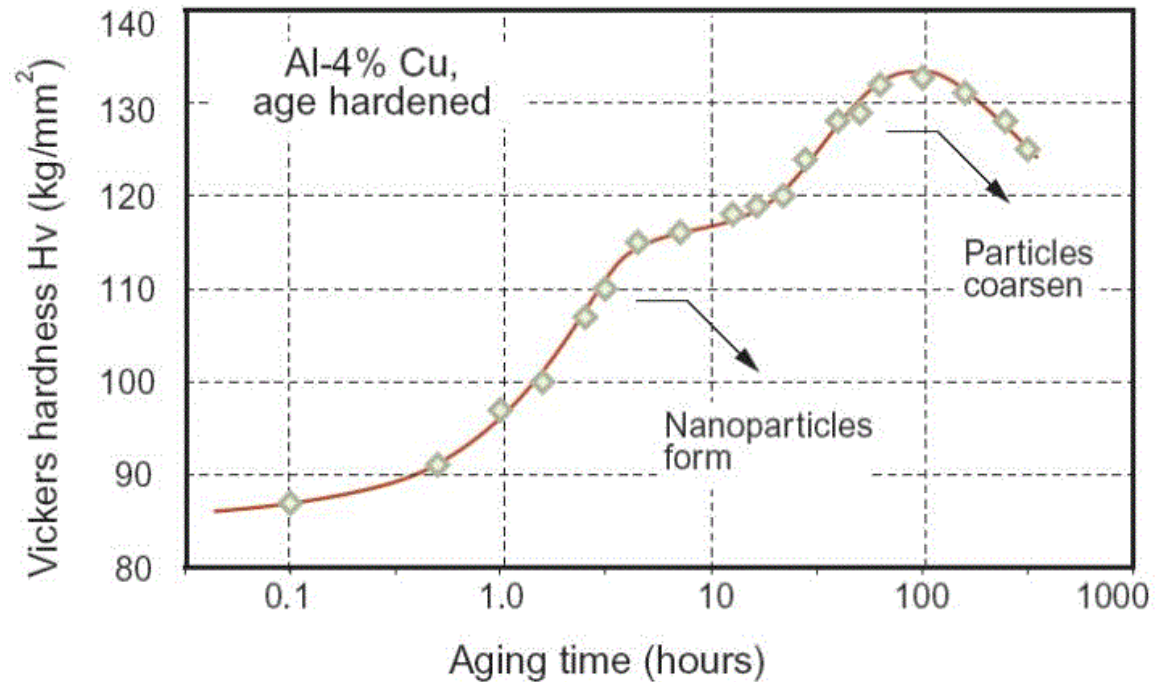
**3. Nanolaminates**



# Nanodispersions (High-strength Steel & Al Alloys)



The oldest mechanical application of controlled nanoscale structuring



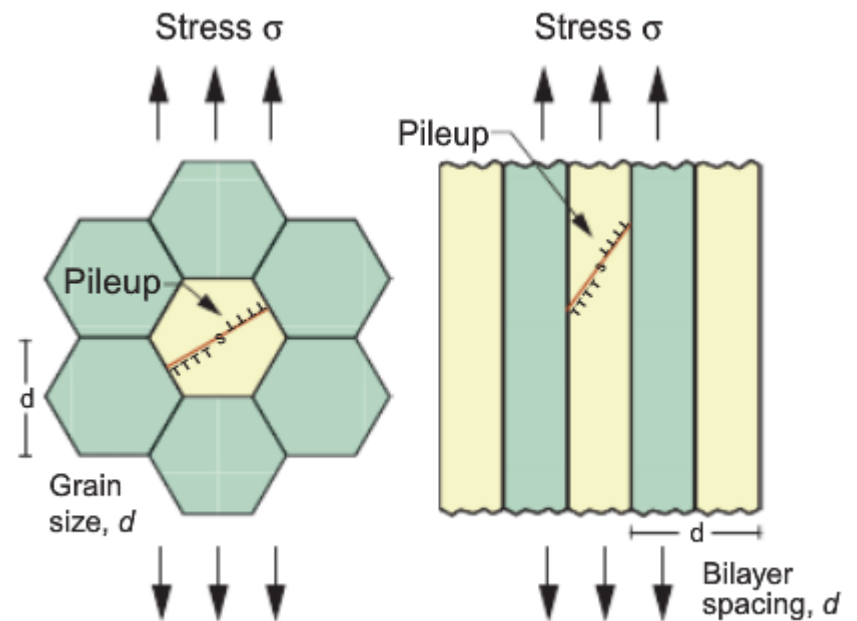
M.F Ashby, P.J. Ferreira, D.L. Schodek, *Nanomaterials, Nanotechnologies and Design – An Introduction to Engineers and Architects* (2009) Elsevier., pp. 201-202.

# Nanocrystalline Solids: Hall-Petch Equation

Grain boundaries =  
**obstacles** for  
dislocations

Pileups can form  
between boundaries

- Grain size
- Applied Shear Stress



*M.F Ashby, P.J. Ferreira, D.L. Schodek, Nanomaterials, Nanotechnologies and Design – An Introduction to Engineers and Architects (2009) Elsevier., p. 204.*

# Nanocrystalline Solids: Hall-Petch Equation

$$\sigma = \sigma_0 + k * \left(\frac{b}{d}\right)^{\frac{1}{2}}$$

$$= \sigma_0 + \left(\frac{2f * E}{Cb}\right)^{1/2} \left(\frac{b}{d}\right)^{\frac{1}{2}}$$

Where

$\sigma$  tensile stress

$\sigma_0$  lattice friction stress (constant)

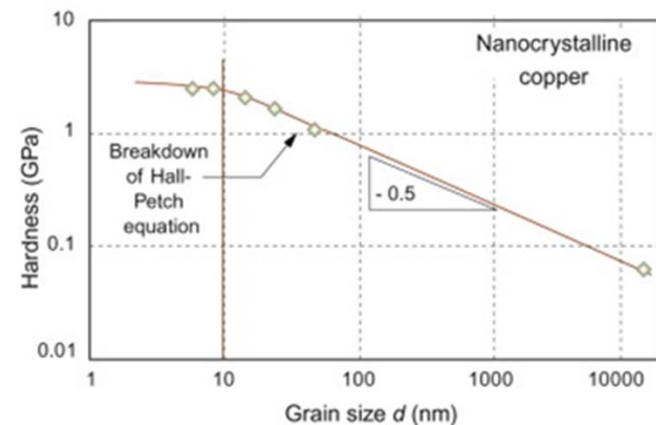
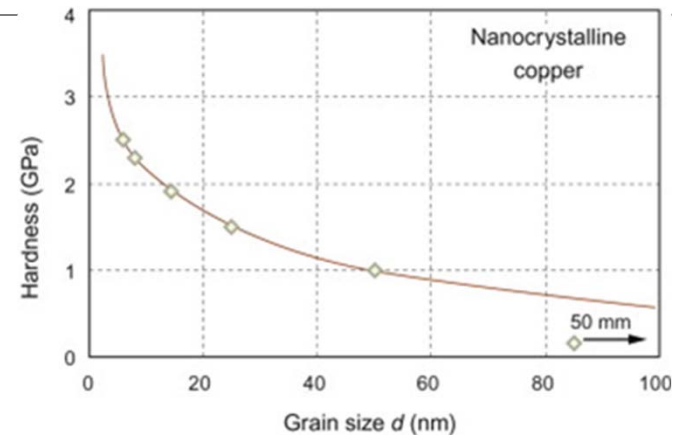
$b$  Burgers vector

$d$  grain size

$E$  Elastic modulus (Young's modulus)

$f^*$  force / unit length

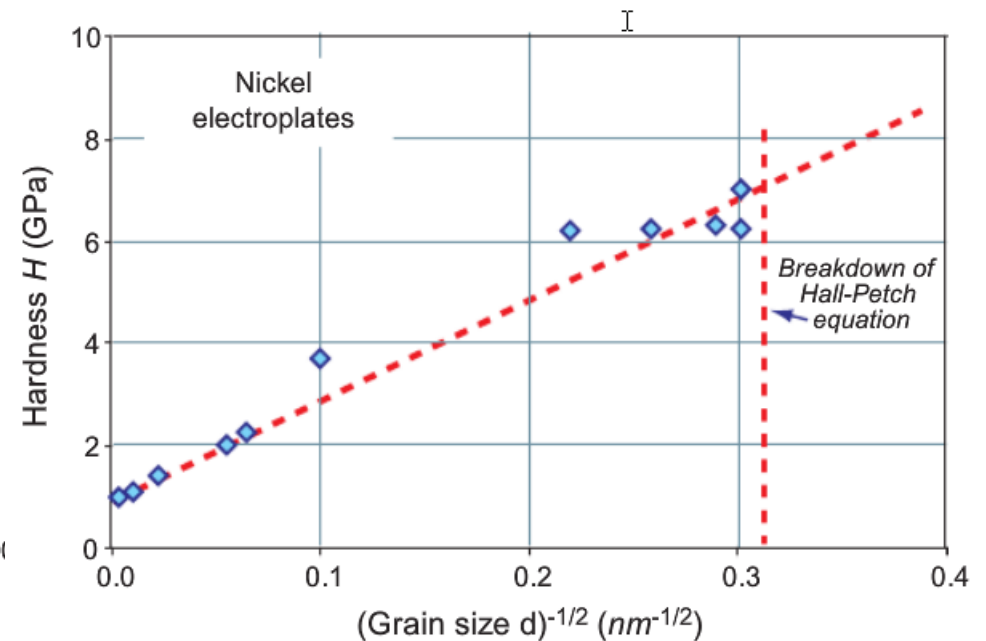
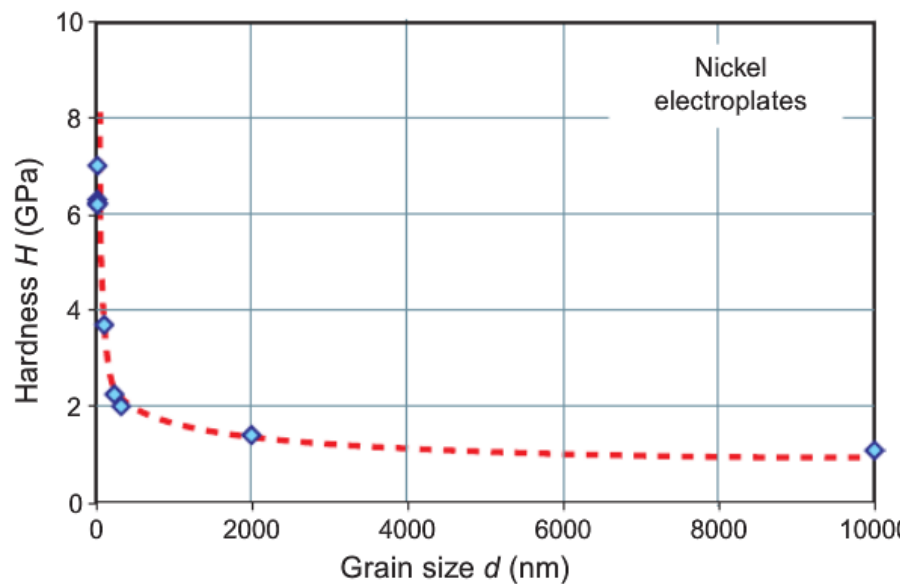
$C$  constant



M.F Ashby, P.J. Ferreira, D.L. Schodek, *Nanomaterials, Nanotechnologies and Design – An Introduction to Engineers and Architects* (2009) Elsevier., p. 203.



# Example: Electrodeposited Ni



M.F Ashby, P.J. Ferreira, D.L. Schodek, *Nanomaterials, Nanotechnologies and Design – An Introduction to Engineers and Architects* (2009) Elsevier., p. 205.

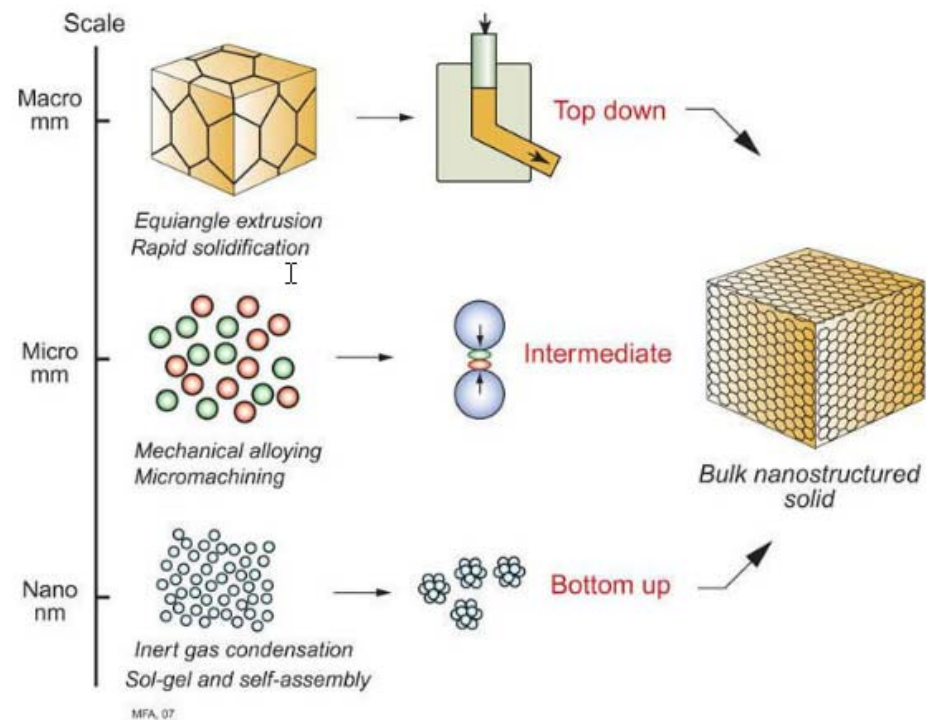


# Nanocrystallines

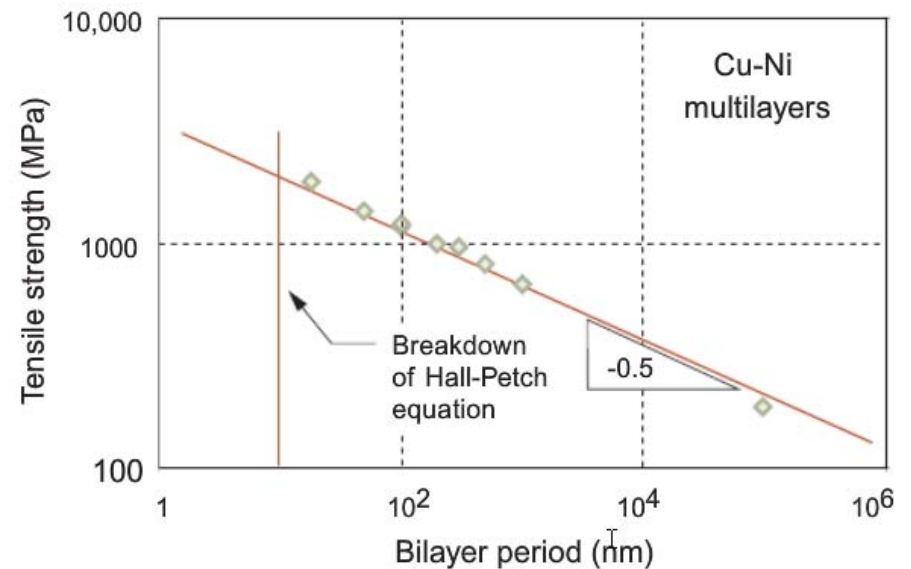
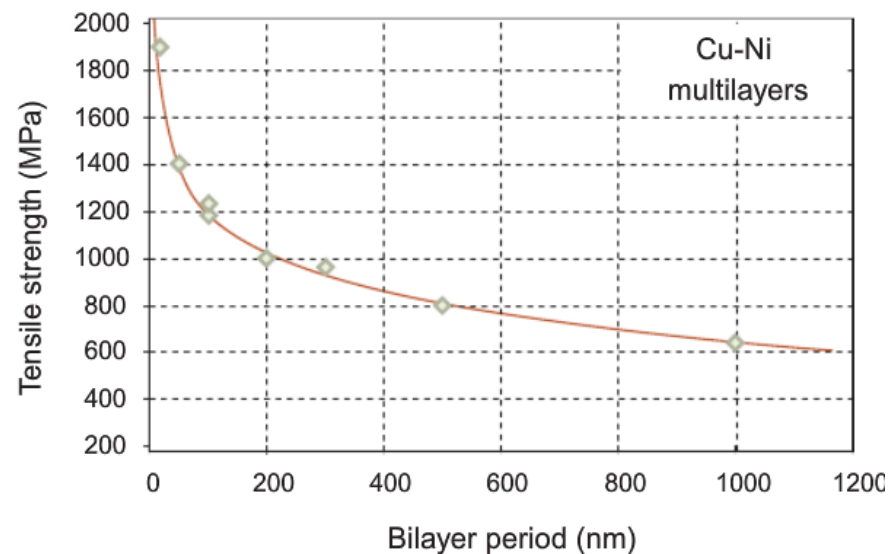
Glass stays amorphous due to its viscosity, same goes with most polymers

➤ Plenty of “obstacles”

But metals & ceramics → “familiar” crystals which are difficult to control



# Example: Nanolaminates



*M.F Ashby, P.J. Ferreira, D.L. Schodek, Nanomaterials, Nanotechnologies and Design  
– An Introduction to Engineers and Architects (2009) Elsevier., p. 206.*

# Reading Material

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## **For Exam**

*M.F Ashby, P.J. Ferreira, D.L. Schodek, Nanomaterials, Nanotechnologies and Design – An Introduction to Engineers and Architects (2009) Elsevier:*

1. Electric Properties, pp. 218-222.
2. Optical Properties, pp. 227-232.
3. Mechanical Properties, pp. 199-211.

## **For Interested Reader (optional)**

*G. Cao, Y. Wang, Nanostructures and Nanomaterials – Synthesis, Properties and Applications, World Scientific:*

- 1<sup>st</sup> Edition: Physical Properties (mechanical, optical, electric): pp. 357-382
- 2<sup>nd</sup> Edition: Physical Properties (mechanical, optical, electric): pp. 467-496

*C. de Mello Donegá (Ed.), Nanoparticles: Workhorses of Nanoscience, Springer, Berlin(2014):*

- Chapter 2: R. Koole, E. Groeneveld, D. Vanmaekelbergh, A. Meijerink, C. Mello Donegá: Size effects on semiconductor nanoparticles