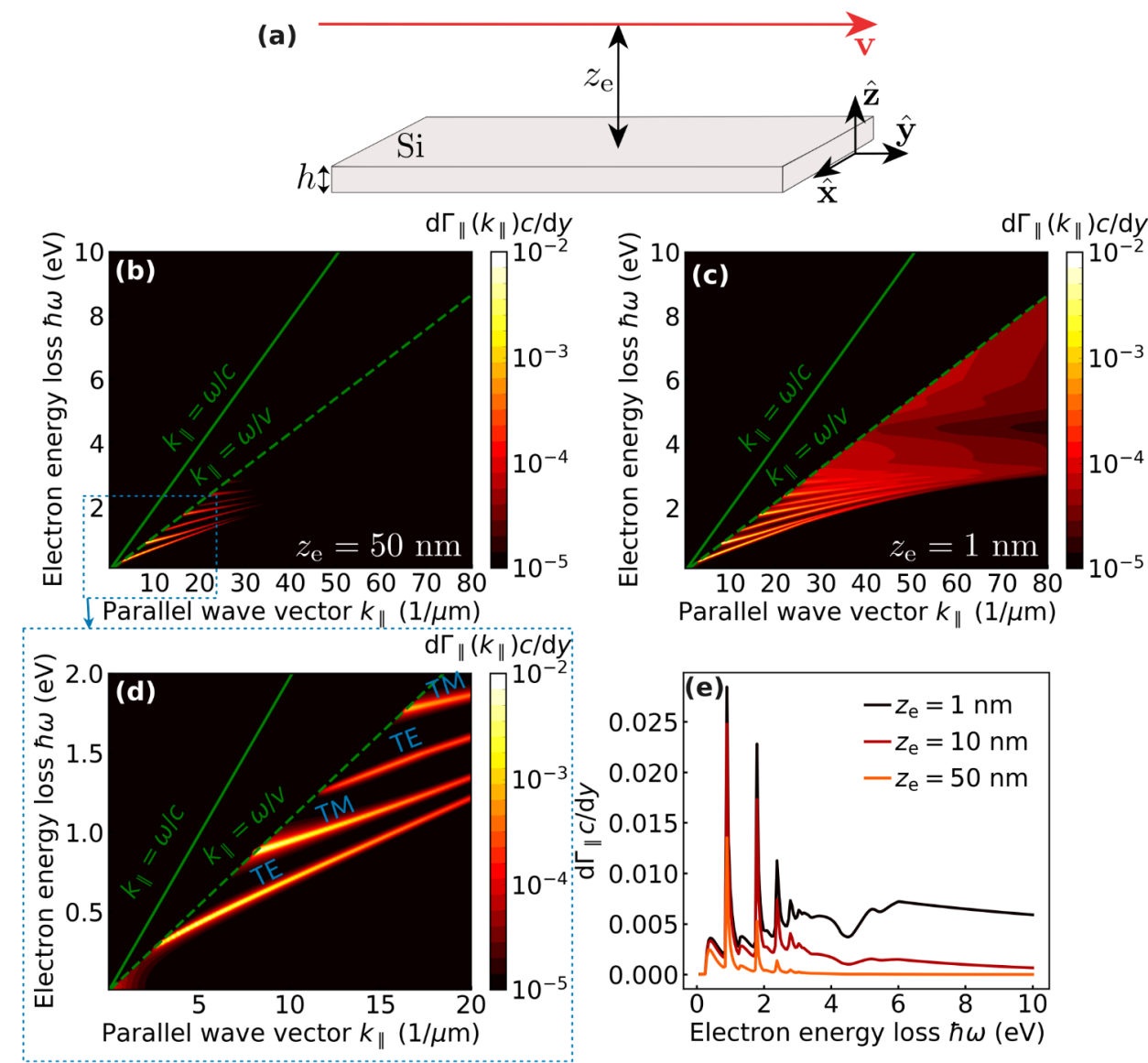


Fig. 1:

$$\frac{d\Gamma}{dy}(k_{\parallel}, \omega) = \frac{2e^2}{\pi\hbar v^2} \frac{k}{k_{\parallel}^2} \text{Re} \left\{ k_{z1} e^{2ik_{z1}z_e} \left[\left(\frac{k_x v}{k_{z1} c} \right)^2 r_{123}^s(k_{\parallel}) - \frac{1}{\epsilon_1} r_{123}^p(k_{\parallel}) \right] \right\}, \quad \frac{d\Gamma}{dy}(\mathbf{r}, \omega) = \frac{2e^2}{\pi\hbar v^2} \int_0^\infty \frac{dk_x}{k_{\parallel}^2} \text{Re} \left\{ k_{z1} e^{2ik_{z1}z_e(\mathbf{r})} \left[\left(\frac{k_x v}{k_{z1} c} \right)^2 r_{123}^s(k_{\parallel}) - \frac{1}{\epsilon_1} r_{123}^p(k_{\parallel}) \right] \right\},$$



$$r_{123}^{\nu} = r_{12}^{\nu} + \frac{t_{12}^{\nu} t_{21}^{\nu} r_{23}^{\nu} e^{2ik_{z2}h}}{1 - r_{21}^{\nu} r_{23}^{\nu} e^{2ik_{z2}h}},$$

$$\epsilon_2(\omega) + i10^{-1} \text{ Si from Aspnes}$$

FIG. 3. **Electron coupling to a waveguide mode.** (a) Schematic representation of an electron beam moving with velocity $\mathbf{v} = v\hat{\mathbf{y}}$ at a distance z_e from a laterally infinite Si surface with a thickness h embedded in vacuum. The electron excites the waveguide modes supported by the surface. (b) Wave-vector-resolved electron energy loss (EEL) probability per unit length described in Eq. (1b) (multiplied by the velocity of light c) as a function of the parallel wave vector k_{\parallel} and the electron energy loss $\hbar\omega$, for $z_e = 50$ nm. The light (in vacuum) and electron dispersion relation lines are marked in solid and dashed green lines, respectively. (c) Same as (b) for an electron-surface distance of $z_e = 1$ nm. (d) Close up of the region marked in a blue dashed square in (b). We identify each of the TM and TE modes supported by the waveguide with a label. (e) Total EEL probability (i.e., integrated over wave vector as defined in Eq. (1a)) as a function of the electron energy loss $\hbar\omega$, for different values of the electron-surface distance z_e . In all panels, the thickness of the surface is $h = 0.2 \mu\text{m}$ and the energy of the electron is $E_e = 100$ keV.