

# Divide-&-Conquer Maxwell-Ehrenfest-Surface Hopping (DC-MESH)

---

**Aiichiro Nakano**

*Collaboratory for Advanced Computing & Simulations*

*Department of Computer Science*

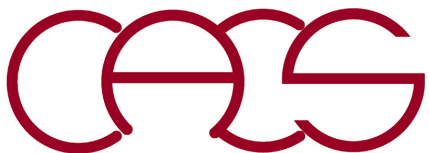
*Department of Physics & Astronomy*

*Department of Quantitative & Computational Biology*

*University of Southern California*

**Email: [anakano@usc.edu](mailto:anakano@usc.edu)**

**Goal: To describe multiscale light-matter interaction ranging from  
atto-to-nano seconds & pico-to-micro meters**



Linker *et al.*, *Science Adv.* **8**, eabk2625 ('22)  
Razakh *et al.*, *PDSEC* (IEEE, '24)



# Dawn of Attosecond Physics

## The Nobel Prize in Physics 2023



© Nobel Prize Outreach. Photo:

Clément Morin

Pierre Agostini

Prize share: 1/3



© Nobel Prize Outreach. Photo:

Clément Morin

Ferenc Krausz

Prize share: 1/3



© Nobel Prize Outreach. Photo:

Clément Morin

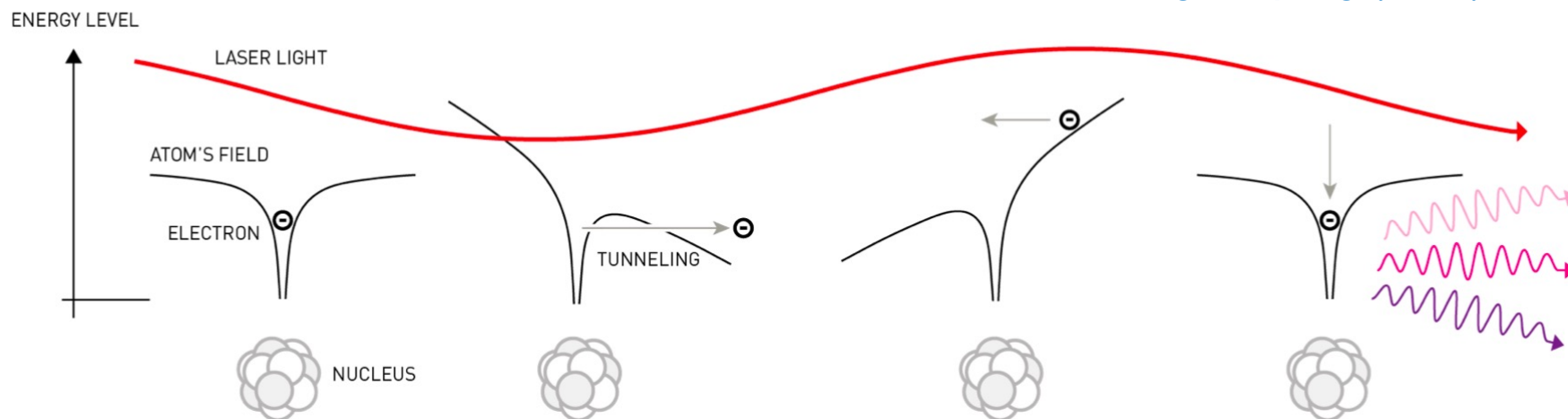
Anne L'Huillier

Prize share: 1/3

The Nobel Prize in Physics 2023 was awarded to Pierre Agostini, Ferenc Krausz and Anne L'Huillier "for experimental methods that generate attosecond pulses of light for the study of electron dynamics in matter"

**It's light-matter interaction!**

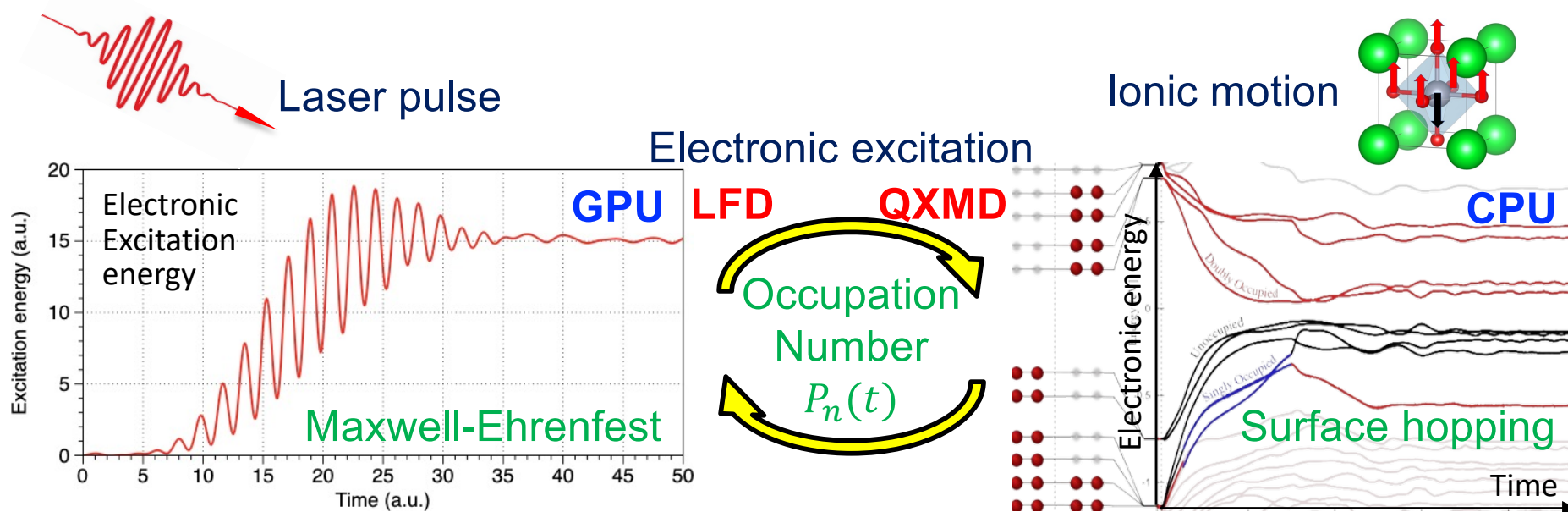
Ultrastrong coupling (USC)



cf. "Strongly correlated electron-photon systems," J. Bloch *et al.*, [\*Nature\* \*\*606\*\*, 41 \('22\)](#)

# Nonadiabatic Quantum MD: DC-MESH

- **DC-MESH** (divide-&-conquer Maxwell + Ehrenfest + surface-hopping):  $O(N)$  algorithm to simulate photo-induced quantum materials dynamics
- **LFD** (local field dynamics): Maxwell equations for light & real-time time-dependent density functional theory equations for electrons to describe light-matter interaction
- **QXMD** (quantum molecular dynamics with excitation): Nonadiabatic coupling of excited electrons & ionic motions based on surface-hopping approach
- “Shadow” **LFD** (GPU)-**QXMD** (CPU) handshaking *via* electronic occupation numbers with minimal CPU-GPU data transfer
- **GSLD**: Globally sparse (interdomain Hartree coupling *via* multigrid) & locally dense (intradomain nonlocal exchange-correlation computation *via* BLAS) solver



Linker *et al.*, *Science Adv.* **8**, eabk2625 (2022); Razakh *et al.*, *PDSEC* (IEEE, '24)

# DC-MESH Physics

- MESH (Maxwell + Ehrenfest + surface-hopping):** Maxwell equations for light & real-time time-dependent density functional theory equations for electrons (*short-time Ehrenfest dynamics & long-time surface-hopping dynamics*)

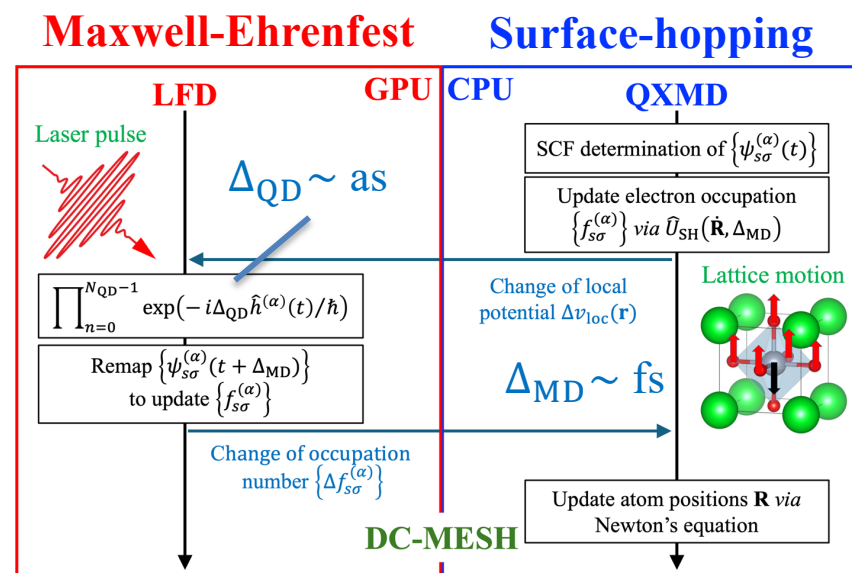
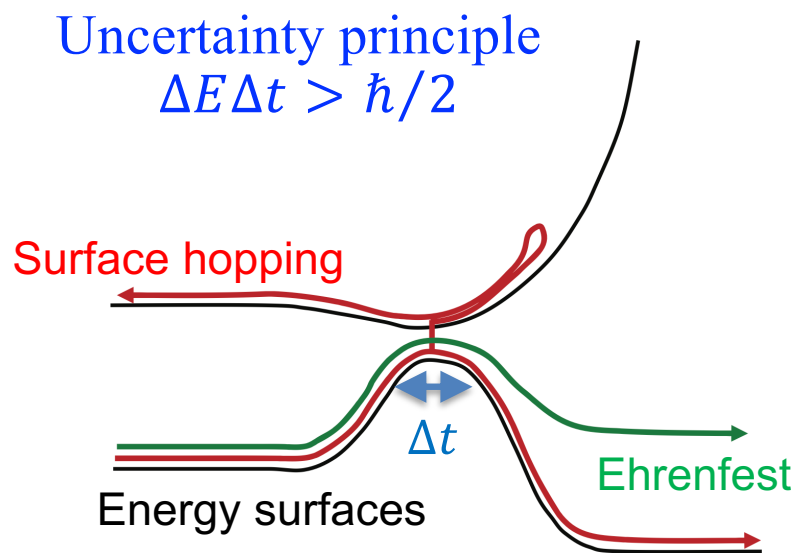
James Clark Maxwell  
(1831-1879)



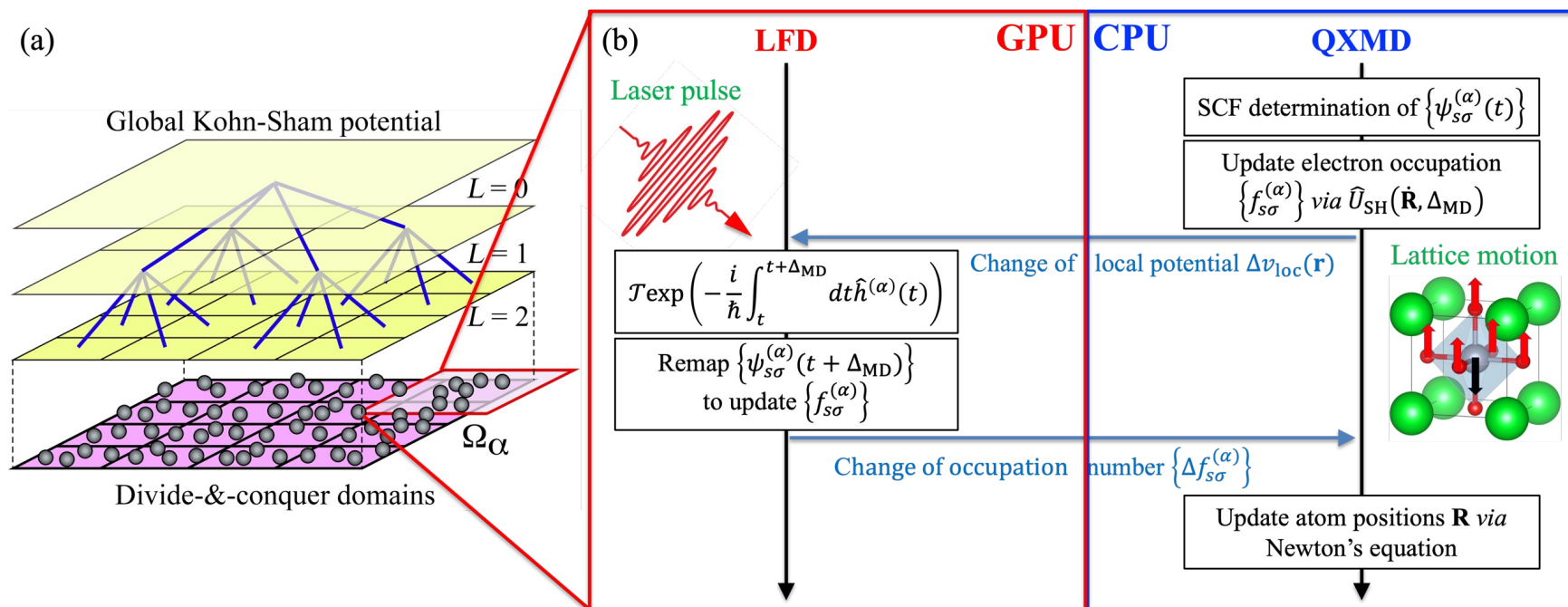
Paul Ehrenfest (1880-1933)



Surface-hopping  
John Tully  
(1942-)



# Divide-Conquer-Recombine (DCR)



- Treat multi-physics at appropriate scales & levels of approximation
- Hartree potential & electromagnetic field are computed globally using the scalable  $O(N)$  multigrid method & macroscopic grid, respectively
- Higher-order correlations represented by the exchange-correlation (XC) kernel in time-dependent density functional theory (TDDFT) are treated locally within each divide-&-conquer (DC) domain since they are known to be short-ranged [Nakano & Ichimaru, *Phys. Rev. B* **39**, 4930 ('89)]
- See notes on [dynamic correlation](#), [DCR-NAQMD](#), [embedded TDDFT](#), and [Ehrenfest-hopping dynamics \(EHD\)](#).

*cf.* electron-nuclei operator splitting & Kohn-Sham orbital remapping



# LFD Algorithm

- Hamiltonian in the  $\alpha$ -th domain** [Yabana, *Phys. Rev. B* **85**, 045134 ('12); Jestadt, *Adv. Phys.* **68**, 225 ('19)]

$$\hat{h}(t, \mathbf{R}(t)) = \overbrace{\frac{1}{2} \left( \frac{\nabla}{i} + \frac{1}{c} \mathbf{A}(\mathbf{r}_\alpha, t) \right)^2 - \phi(\mathbf{r}_\alpha, t) + \hat{v}_{\text{xc}} + v_{\text{ion}}(\mathbf{r}, \mathbf{R})}^{\hat{h}_{\text{el}}(t)} + \overbrace{\Delta \dot{\mathbf{R}} \cdot \frac{\partial}{\partial \mathbf{R}} v_{\text{ion}}}^{\hat{h}_{\text{el-ion}}}$$

Electromagnetic vector & scalar potentials at the  $\alpha$ -th domain      Nonadiabatic coupling

- Trotter expansion of time propagator**

$$\exp(-i\hat{h}\Delta_{\text{MD}}) \cong \underbrace{\exp(-i\hat{h}_{\text{el-ion}}\Delta_{\text{MD}}/2)}_{\text{QXMD}} \underbrace{\mathcal{T} \exp \left( -i \int_t^{t+\Delta_{\text{MD}}} dt \hat{h}_{\text{el}}(t) \right)}_{\text{LFD}} \underbrace{\exp(-i\hat{h}_{\text{el-ion}}\Delta_{\text{MD}}/2)}_{\text{QXMD}}$$

- Self-consistent propagator** [Sato, *J. Chem. Phys.* **143**, 224116 ('15); Lian, *Adv. Theo. Sim.* **1**, 1800055 ('18)]

$$\mathcal{T} \exp \left( -i \int_t^{t+\Delta_{\text{MD}}} dt \hat{h}_{\text{el}}(t) \right) \cong \prod_{n=1}^{N_{\text{QD}}=\Delta_{\text{MD}}/\Delta_{\text{QD}}} \exp \left( -i\Delta_{\text{QD}} \hat{h}_{\text{el}} \left( t + \left( n - \frac{1}{2} \right) \Delta_{\text{QD}} \right) \right)$$

- Nonlocal exchange-correlation propagator** [Vlcek, *J. Chem. Phys.* **150**, 184118 ('19)]

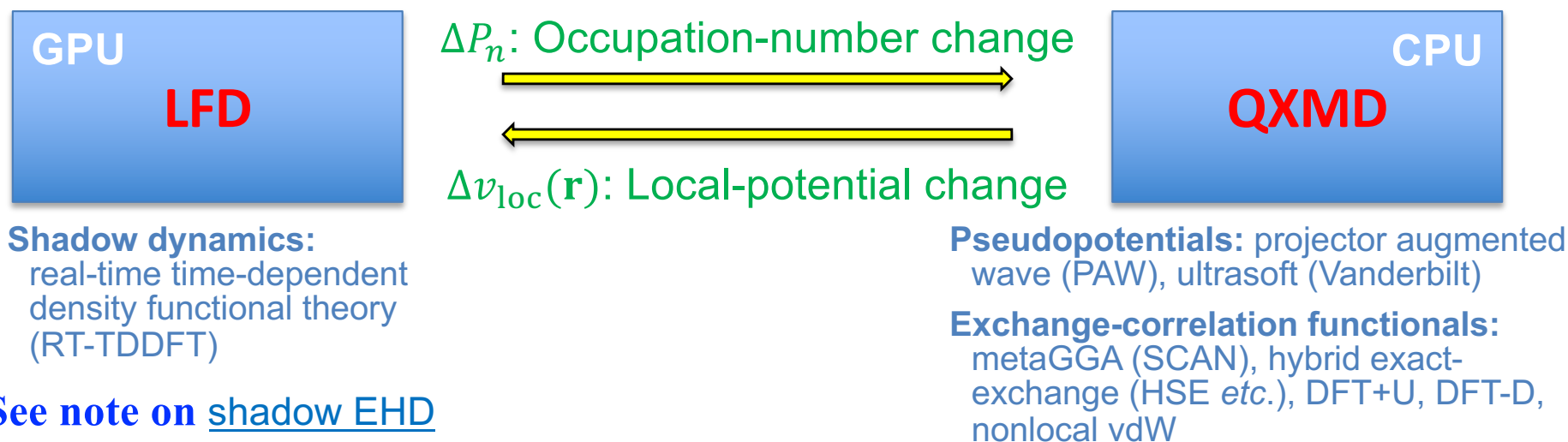
$$\exp(-i\Delta_{\text{QD}}\hat{h}_{\text{el}}) \cong \frac{1 - i\hat{v}_{\text{nl}}\Delta_{\text{QD}}/2}{\| (1 - i\hat{v}_{\text{nl}}\Delta_{\text{QD}}/2) |\psi_n(t)\rangle \|} \exp(-i\Delta_{\text{QD}}\hat{h}_{\text{loc}}) \frac{1 - i\hat{v}_{\text{nl}}\Delta_{\text{QD}}/2}{\| (1 - i\hat{v}_{\text{nl}}\Delta_{\text{QD}}/2) |\psi_n(t)\rangle \|}$$

$\hat{v}_{\text{xc}} = \hat{v}_{\text{loc}} + \hat{v}_{\text{nl}}; \quad \hat{h}_{\text{el}} = \hat{h}_{\text{loc}} + \hat{v}_{\text{nl}}$   
local      nonlocal

- See note on [self-consistent time propagator](#)**

# Reduced-Communication Shadow Dynamics

- Fundamental physics equations are local at the finest spatiotemporal scales, *i.e.*, simple partial differential equations with differential operators acting locally in a data-parallel fashion — **LFD fits naturally to GPU**; on the other hand, coarse-grained schemes to approximately describe complex chemical interactions often come with an excessive computational cost of nonlocal operations in space and time — **QXMD takes advantage of complex instruction sets in CPU**
- At each molecular-dynamics (MD) step, LFD informs QXMD of occupation-number change due to light-electron & electron-electron interactions
- QXMD performs excited-state quantum molecular dynamics & informs LFD of local-potential change for the next  $N_{\text{QD}}$  ( $= \Delta_{\text{MD}}/\Delta_{\text{QD}}$ ) quantum-dynamics (QD) steps
- “Shadow” electronic wave functions in LFD are resident on GPU, while QXMD wave functions on CPU, to minimize CPU-GPU data transfers



- See note on [shadow EHD](#)

*cf.* Niklasson, [J. Chem. Phys.](#) **158**, 154105 ('23)

# Data-Parallel & BLASified LFD

- **Data-parallel local LFD:** Auxiliary-field electronic time propagator for local potential [Car & Parrinello, *Solid State Commun.* 62, 403 ('87); Nakano *et al.*, *Comput. Phys. Commun.* 83, 181 ('94) ] on *real-space mesh* achieves high performance on GPU
- **BLASified nonlocal LFD:** Operation of nonlocal potential is projected onto *a vector space spanned by Kohn-Sham orbitals* at time 0 within the real-time scissor approximation [Wang *et al.*, *J. Phys. Condens. Mat.* 31, 214002 ('19) ], making it dense matrix operations implemented with highly optimized level3 (or matrix-matrix) BLAS (basic linear algebra subprogram) library on GPU

$$\hat{v}_{nl}|\psi_n(t)\rangle \cong \Delta_{\text{sci}} \sum_{m \geq \text{LUMO}} |\psi_m\rangle \langle \psi_m | \psi_n(t)\rangle$$

Razakh *et al.*, *PDSEC* (IEEE, '24); Piroozan *et al.*, *PMBS* (IEEE, '24)

- See notes on [auxiliary-field electron propagator](#) and [real-time scissor](#) (see also [nonlocal computation via matrix multiplication](#))



# Global Maxwell's Equations

- **Global Maxwell's equations are solved on a macroscopic grid**

Yabana, *Phys. Rev. B* **85**, 045134 ('12); cf. Gabay, *Phys. Rev. B* **101**, 235101 ('20)

$$\mathbf{A} = \mathbf{A}_{\text{ext}} + \mathbf{A}_{\text{ind}} + \mathbf{A}_{\text{xc}}$$

$$\left\{ \begin{aligned} \left( \frac{1}{c^2} \frac{\partial^2}{\partial t^2} - \frac{\partial^2}{\partial \mathbf{R}^2} \right) \mathbf{A}_{\text{ind}} &= \frac{4\pi}{c} \mathbf{J} && \text{Induced vector potential} \\ \left( \frac{1}{c^2} \frac{\partial^2}{\partial t^2} - \frac{\partial^2}{\partial \mathbf{R}^2} \right) \phi &= \frac{4\pi}{c} \rho && \text{Scalar potential} \end{aligned} \right.$$

- **Local domain-averaged current & charge densities**

$$\mathbf{J}(\mathbf{R}_\alpha, t) = \frac{1}{\Omega_\alpha} \int_{\Omega_\alpha} d\mathbf{r} \mathbf{j}(\mathbf{r}, t)$$

$$\rho(\mathbf{R}_\alpha, t) = -\frac{1}{\Omega_\alpha} \int_{\Omega_\alpha} d\mathbf{r} n(\mathbf{r}, t)$$

$$\mathbf{j}(\mathbf{r}, t) = -\sum_{n\sigma} \text{Re} \left[ \psi_{n\sigma}^*(\mathbf{r}, t) \frac{\nabla}{i} \psi_{n\sigma}(\mathbf{r}, t) \right] f_{n\sigma} - \frac{1}{c} \mathbf{A}(\mathbf{r}, t) n(\mathbf{r}, t)$$

$$n(\mathbf{r}, t) = \sum_{n\sigma} |\psi_{n\sigma}(\mathbf{r}, t)|^2 f_{n\sigma}$$

- **Long-range correction in time-dependent current density functional theory (TDCDFT)**

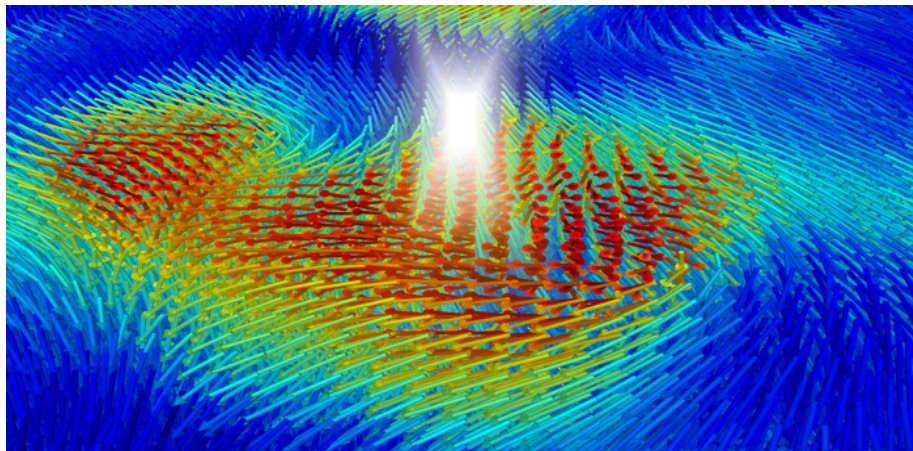
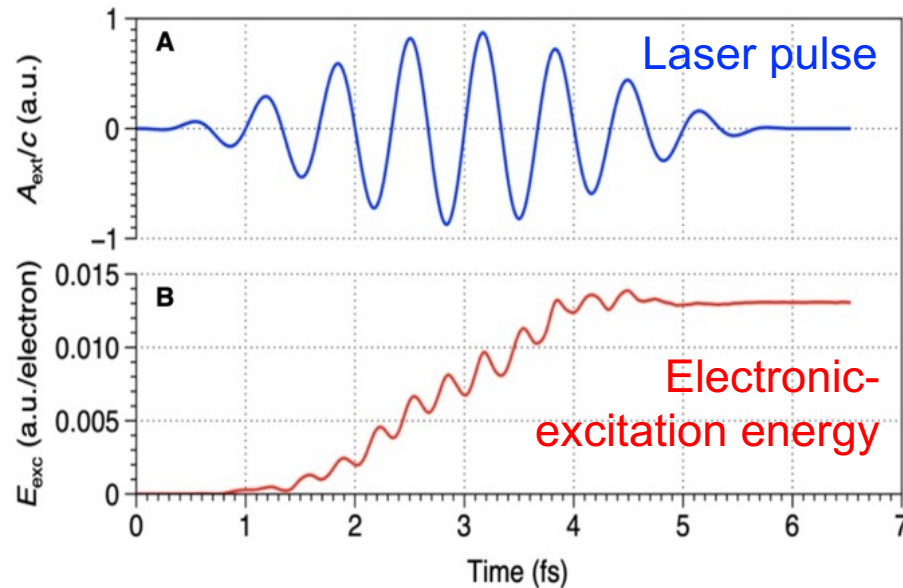
[Vignale, *Phys. Rev. Lett.* **77**, 2037 ('96); Maitra, *Phys. Rev. B* **68**, 045109 ('03); Sun, *Phys. Rev. Lett.* **127**, 077401 ('21)]

$$\left( \frac{1}{c^2} \frac{\partial^2}{\partial t^2} - \frac{\partial^2}{\partial \mathbf{R}^2} \right) \mathbf{A}_{\text{xc}} = -\frac{\alpha}{c} \mathbf{J} \quad \text{Exchange—correlation vector potential}$$

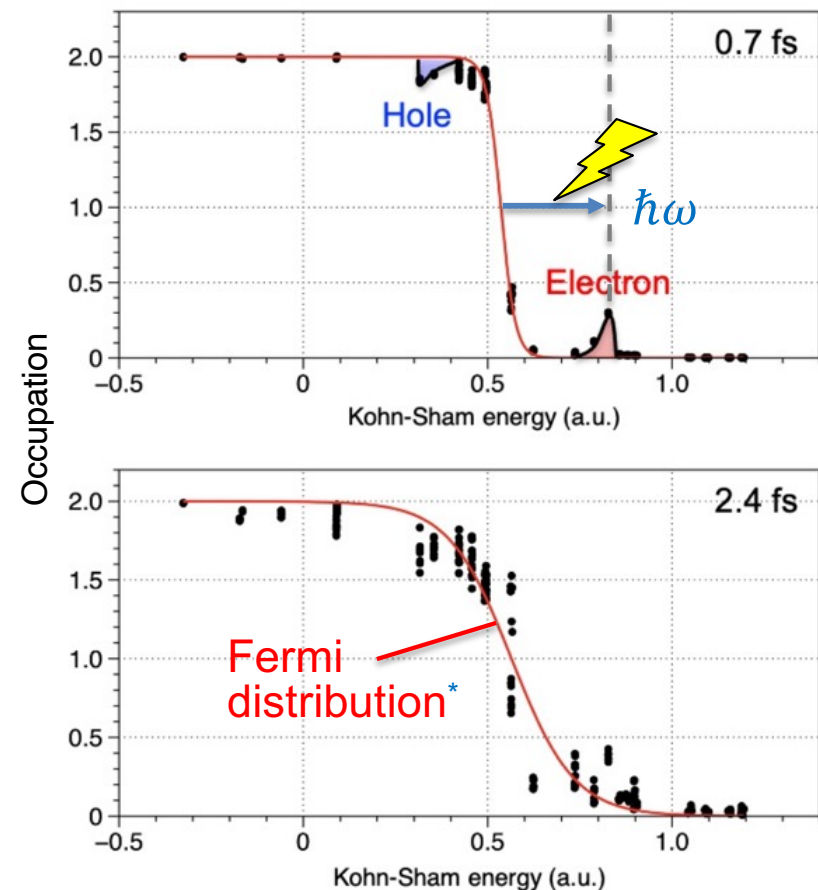
- **See note on [Maxwell solver](#), [poor man's Maxwell-TDDFT](#), and [exciton dynamics](#)**

# Application: Ferroelectric Opto-Topotronics

- Quantized ferroelectric topology is protected against thermal noise → ultralow-power opto-electronics



- Ehrenfest NAQMD simulation of photoexcited  $\text{PbTiO}_3$  shows rapid thermalization of electron excitation energy into Fermi distribution within a few femtoseconds



\* Electron Fermi temperature hasn't equilibrated with nuclei temperature in 2.4 fs

# Photo-induced Matter

- Surface-hopping & Fermi-temperature NAQMD simulations show the disappearance of a ferroelectric order parameter & emergence of a new rotational order parameter due to the excited-state energy landscape



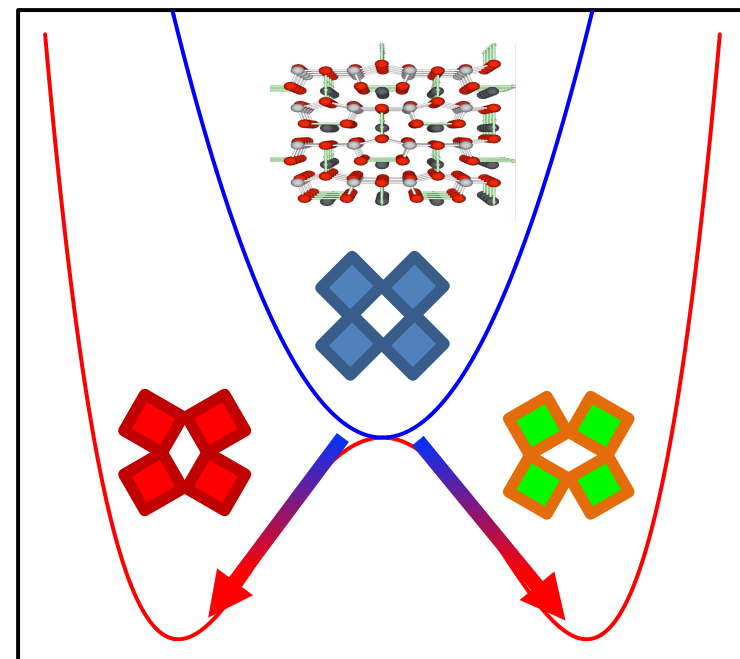
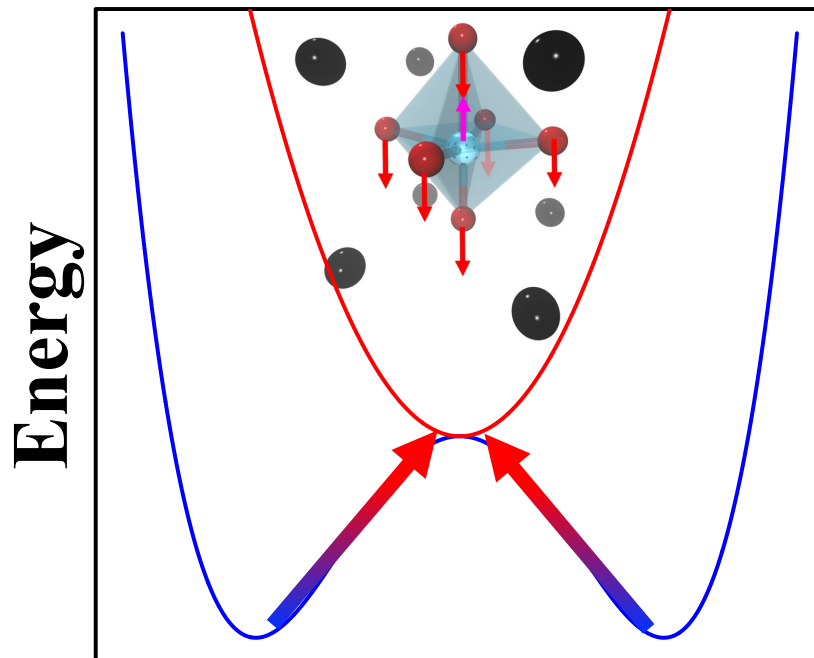
Surface-hopping  
John Tully  
(1942-)

— Ground State  
— Excited State



Enrico Fermi  
(1901-1954)

— Ground State  
— Excited State

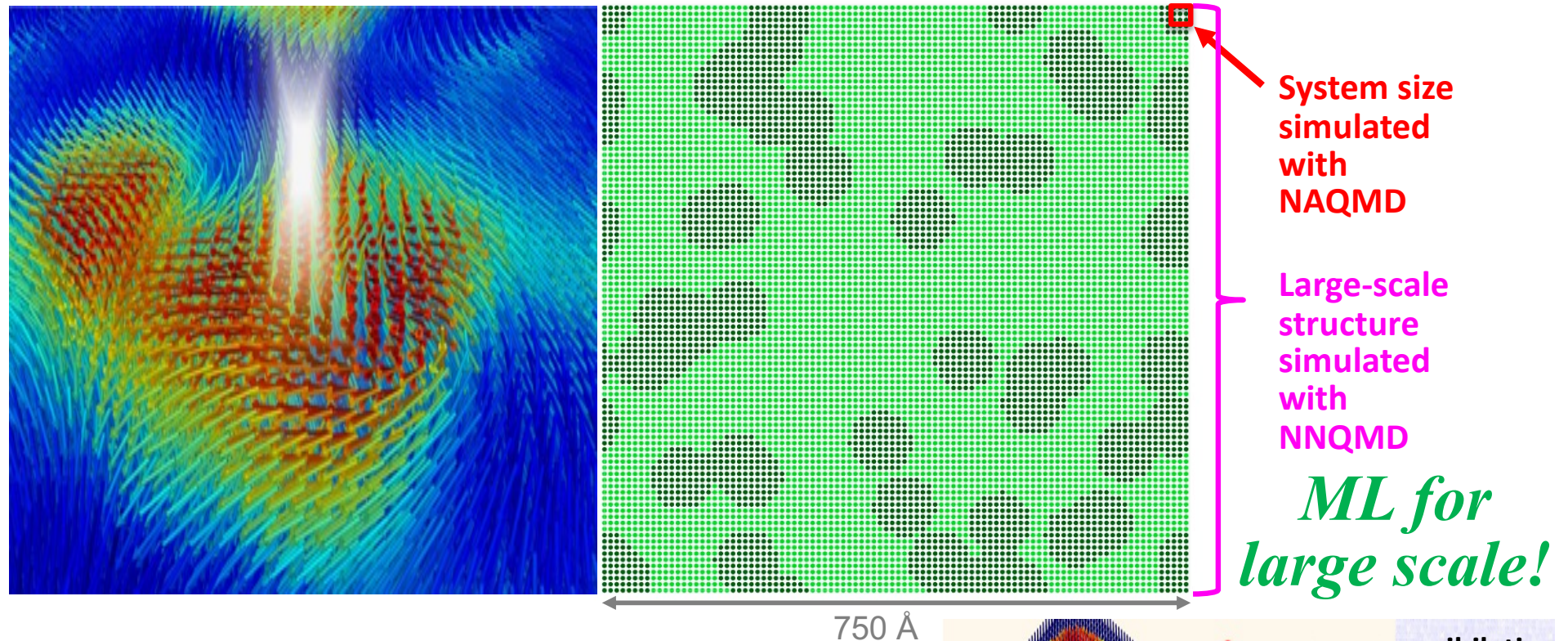


$D_z$

Linker *et al.*, *Science Adv.* 8, eabk2625 ('22)



# Multiscale Ferroelectric Opto-Topotronics



- Billion-atom neural-network quantum molecular dynamics (NNQMD) trained by NAQMD revealed photo-induced topological phase-transition dynamics (*cf.* Kibble-Zurek mechanism in cosmology)
- Symmetry-controlled skyrmion-to-skyrmionium\* switching

\*Composite of skyrmions with opposite topological charges

Linker *et al.*, *Science Adv.* **8**, eabk2625 ('22);  
*JPCL* **13**, 11335 ('22); *Nano Lett.* **23**, 7456 ('23)

