
Spatial dispersion effects via long-wave DFPT



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Spatial dispersion

Real space: Response to a gradient of the applied field

Reciprocal space: \mathbf{q} -dependence of the response function

OPTICAL RESPONSE

$$\sigma_{ab}(\mathbf{q}, \omega) = \sigma_{ab}^{(0)}(\omega) + \sigma_{abc}(\omega)q_c + \dots$$

*Magneto-electric (ME)
Natural optical activity*

R. M. Hornreich and S. Shtrikman, Phys. Rev. **171**, 1065 (1968)

A. Malashevich and I. Souza, Phys. Rev. B **82**, 245118 (2010)

ELASTICITY

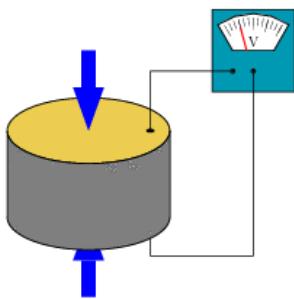
$$c_{ij}(\omega, \mathbf{k}) = c_{ij}(\omega) + id_{ij,l}(\omega)k_l + e_{ij,lm}(\omega)k_l k_m + \dots$$

Acoustical activity

D. Portigal and E. Burstein, Phys. Rev. **170**, 673 (1968)

Electromechanical response

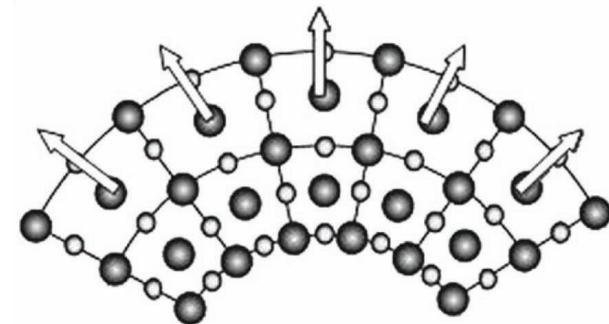
PIEZOELECTRICITY



$$P_\alpha = e_{\alpha\beta\gamma} \varepsilon_{\beta\gamma}$$

P response to uniform strain
Few materials display this effect
Size-independent property

FLEXOELECTRICITY



$$P_\alpha = \mu_{\alpha\lambda\beta\gamma} \frac{\partial \varepsilon_{\beta\gamma}}{\partial r_\lambda}$$

P response to **strain gradient**
Universal property of all materials
Scales as the inverse of the sample size

How to calculate μ from first principles?



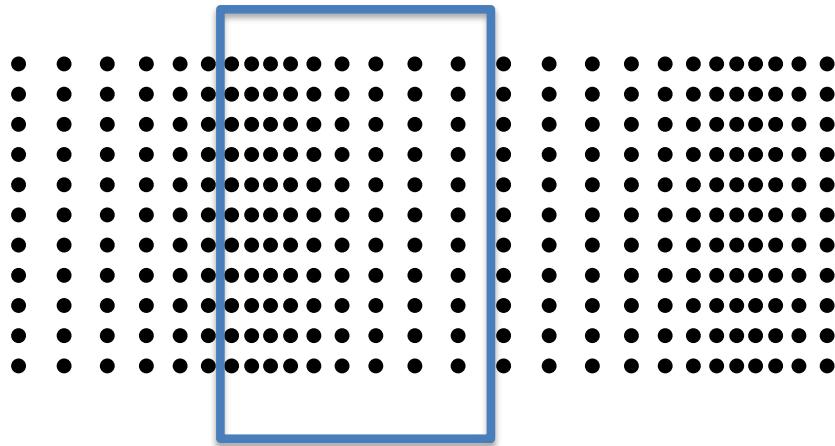
PROBLEM: Translational symmetry is broken!

Cannot use periodic boundary conditions, Bloch theorem, plane waves, etc.

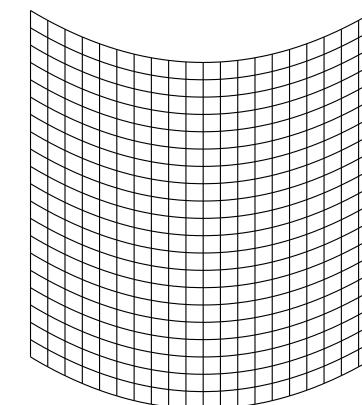
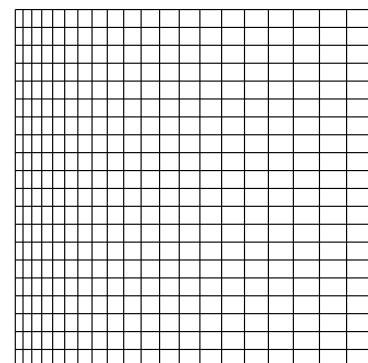
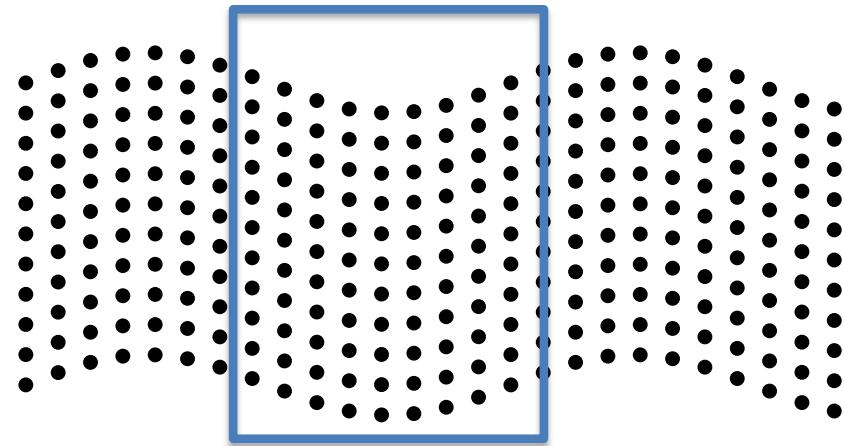
...or is there a way around??

Solution: acoustic phonons

Longitudinal strain gradient



Shear strain gradient

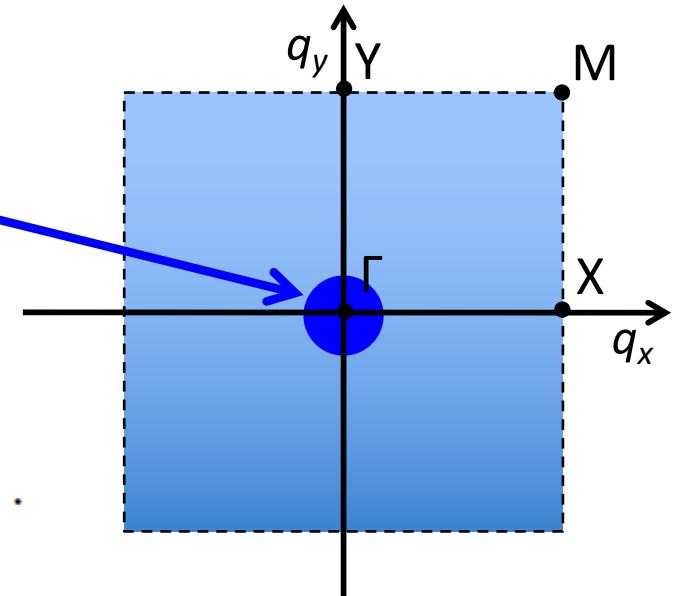


Long-wave linear-response approach

1. Use density-functional perturbation theory (DFPT) to calculate the \mathbf{P} -response at small wavevectors \mathbf{q} (both electronic & lattice-mediated)

2. Taylor expansion around the Γ point (long-wave limit):

$$\overline{P}_\alpha(\mathbf{q}) = \boxed{\quad} + iq_\gamma e_{\alpha\beta\gamma} - q_\gamma q_\lambda \mu_{\alpha\beta,\gamma\lambda} + \dots$$



$O(q^0)$: translation (vanishes)

$O(q^1)$: strain (PIEZO)

$O(q^2)$: strain gradient (FLEXO)

Density-functional perturbation theory

$$\hat{V}_{\text{ext}}(\lambda) = \hat{V}_{\text{ext}}^{(0)} + \lambda \hat{V}_{\text{ext}}^{(1)} + \lambda^2 \hat{V}_{\text{ext}}^{(2)} + \dots$$

$$E(\lambda) = E^{(0)} + \lambda E^{(1)} + \lambda^2 E^{(2)} + \dots$$

$$\psi_i(\lambda) = \psi_i^{(0)} + \lambda \psi_i^{(1)} + \dots$$

$$E^{(1)} = \sum_i \langle \psi_i^{(0)} | \hat{V}_{\text{ext}}^{(1)} | \psi_i^{(0)} \rangle.$$

atomic forces (Hellmann-Feynman)

$$E^{(2)} = \sum_i \left[\langle \psi_i^{(0)} | \hat{V}_{\text{ext}}^{(1)} | \psi_i^{(1)} \rangle + \langle \psi_i^{(0)} | \hat{V}_{\text{ext}}^{(2)} | \psi_i^{(0)} \rangle \right].$$

second-order energy

$$\left(\hat{\mathcal{H}}^{(0)} + a\hat{P} - \epsilon_m^{(0)} \right) |\psi_m^{(1)}\rangle = -\hat{Q}\hat{\mathcal{H}}^{(1)}|\psi_m^{(0)}\rangle,$$

Sternheimer equation

$$\hat{P} = \sum_{i=1}^N |\psi_i\rangle\langle\psi_i|, \quad \hat{Q} = 1 - \hat{P}. \quad (\text{band projectors})$$

Variational principle: “2n+1” theorem

$$\begin{aligned} E^{(2)} = & \sum_m \langle \psi_m^{(1)} | \left(H^{(0)} - \epsilon^{(0)} \right) | \psi_m^{(1)} \rangle \\ & + \sum_m \left(\langle \psi_m^{(1)} | H^{(1)} | \psi_m^{(0)} \rangle + \langle \psi_m^{(0)} | H^{(1)} | \psi_m^{(1)} \rangle \right) \\ & + \frac{1}{2} \int_{\Omega} \int K_{\text{Hxc}}(\mathbf{r}, \mathbf{r}') n^{(1)}(\mathbf{r}) n^{(1)}(\mathbf{r}') d^3 r d^3 r' \\ & + \frac{1}{2} \frac{\partial^2 E}{\partial \lambda^2}, \end{aligned}$$

$$\langle \psi_j^{(1)} | \psi_l^{(0)} \rangle = 0, \quad j, l \in \mathcal{V}. \quad \text{constraint (parallel transport gauge)}$$

$$\hat{Q} \left(H^{(0)} - \epsilon^{(0)} \right) \hat{Q} | \psi_m^{(1)} \rangle = - \hat{Q} \hat{\mathcal{H}}^{(1)} | \psi_m^{(0)} \rangle. \quad \text{stationary condition (Sternheimer equation)}$$

Unconstrained variational formulation

$$\begin{aligned} E^{(2)} = & \sum_m \langle \psi_m^{(1)} | \left(\hat{H}^{(0)} + a\hat{P} - \epsilon_m^{(0)} \right) | \psi_m^{(1)} \rangle \\ & + \sum_m \langle \psi_m^{(1)} | \hat{Q} \hat{H}^{(1)} | \psi_m^{(0)} \rangle + c.c. \\ & + \frac{1}{2} \int_{\Omega} \int K_{\text{Hxc}}(\mathbf{r}, \mathbf{r}') n^{(1)}(\mathbf{r}) n^{(1)}(\mathbf{r}') d^3 r d^3 r' \\ & + \frac{1}{2} \frac{\partial^2 E}{\partial \lambda^2}, \end{aligned}$$

$$n^{(1)}(\mathbf{r}) = \sum_m \langle \psi_m^{(1)} | \hat{Q} | \mathbf{r} \rangle \langle \mathbf{r} | \psi_m^{(0)} \rangle + c.c.$$

$$\begin{aligned} \langle \psi_v^{(0)} | (\hat{H}^{(0)} + a\hat{P} - \epsilon_n) | \psi_v^{(0)} \rangle &= \epsilon_v + a - \epsilon_n, \\ \langle \psi_c^{(0)} | (\hat{H}^{(0)} + a\hat{P} - \epsilon_n) | \psi_c^{(0)} \rangle &= \epsilon_c - \epsilon_n. \end{aligned}$$

$$\hat{P} = \sum_{i=1}^N |\psi_i\rangle\langle\psi_i|, \quad \hat{Q} = 1 - \hat{P}.$$

(band projectors)

Automatically enforces orthogonality to the valence subspace if a is larger than the valence bandwidth!

Monochromatic perturbations

$$E_{\mathbf{q}}^{\lambda_1^* \lambda_2} = s \int_{\text{BZ}} [d^3 k] \sum_m E_{m\mathbf{k},\mathbf{q}}^{\lambda_1^* \lambda_2} + \frac{1}{2} \int_{\Omega} \int K_{\mathbf{q}}(\mathbf{r}, \mathbf{r}') n_{\mathbf{q}}^{\lambda_1*}(\mathbf{r}) n_{\mathbf{q}}^{\lambda_2}(\mathbf{r}') d^3 r d^3 r' + \frac{1}{2} \frac{\partial^2 E}{\partial \lambda_1^* \partial \lambda_2},$$

$$E_{m\mathbf{k},\mathbf{q}}^{\lambda_1^* \lambda_2} = \langle u_{m\mathbf{k},\mathbf{q}}^{\lambda_1} | \left(\hat{H}_{\mathbf{k}+\mathbf{q}}^{(0)} + a \hat{P}_{\mathbf{k}+\mathbf{q}} - \epsilon_{m\mathbf{k}} \right) | u_{m\mathbf{k},\mathbf{q}}^{\lambda_2} \rangle + \langle u_{m\mathbf{k},\mathbf{q}}^{\lambda_1} | \hat{Q}_{\mathbf{k}+\mathbf{q}} \hat{H}_{\mathbf{k},\mathbf{q}}^{\lambda_2} | u_{m\mathbf{k}}^{(0)} \rangle + \langle u_{m\mathbf{k}}^{(0)} | \left(\hat{H}_{\mathbf{k},\mathbf{q}}^{\lambda_1} \right)^{\dagger} \hat{Q}_{\mathbf{k}+\mathbf{q}} | u_{m\mathbf{k},\mathbf{q}}^{\lambda_2} \rangle,$$

$$n_{\mathbf{q}}^{\lambda}(\mathbf{r}) = 2s \int_{\text{BZ}} [d^3 k] \sum_m \langle u_{m\mathbf{k}}^{(0)} | \mathbf{r} \rangle \langle \mathbf{r} | \hat{Q}_{\mathbf{k}+\mathbf{q}} | u_{m\mathbf{k},\mathbf{q}}^{\lambda} \rangle.$$

Parametric \mathbf{q} -dependence
only via “gauge-invariant”
objects (operators,
Coulomb kernel, etc.)



Can perform a perturbative
 \mathbf{q} -expansion by using the
“2n+1” theorem

Need to derive
Variational
Density
No \mathbf{q} dependence

Long-wave DFPT

$$E_{\gamma}^{\lambda_1^* \lambda_2} = \frac{dE_{\mathbf{q}}^{\lambda_1^* \lambda_2}}{dq_{\gamma}} \Big|_{\mathbf{q}=0} = \frac{\partial E_{\mathbf{q}}^{\lambda_1^* \lambda_2}}{\partial q_{\gamma}} \Big|_{\mathbf{q}=0}$$

$$\begin{aligned} E_{\gamma}^{\lambda_1^* \lambda_2} &= s \int_{\text{BZ}} [d^3 k] \sum_m E_{m\mathbf{k}, \gamma}^{\lambda_1^* \lambda_2} \\ &+ \frac{1}{2} \int_{\Omega} \int K_{\gamma}(\mathbf{r}, \mathbf{r}') n^{\lambda_1*}(\mathbf{r}) n^{\lambda_2}(\mathbf{r}') d^3 r d^3 r' \\ &+ \frac{1}{2} \frac{\partial}{\partial q_{\gamma}} \left(\frac{\partial^2 E}{\partial \lambda_1^* \partial \lambda_2} \right) \Big|_{\mathbf{q}=0}, \end{aligned}$$

\mathbf{q} -gradient of the Coulomb kernel

velocity operator

\mathbf{k} -gradient of the band projector
("d/dk")

$$\begin{aligned} E_{m\mathbf{k}, \gamma}^{\lambda_1^* \lambda_2} &= \langle u_{m\mathbf{k}}^{\lambda_1} | \partial_{\gamma} \hat{H}_{\mathbf{k}}^{(0)} | u_{m\mathbf{k}}^{\lambda_2} \rangle \\ &+ \langle u_{m\mathbf{k}}^{\lambda_1} | \partial_{\gamma} \hat{Q}_{\mathbf{k}} \hat{\mathcal{H}}_{\mathbf{k}}^{\lambda_2} | u_{m\mathbf{k}}^{(0)} \rangle + \langle u_{m\mathbf{k}}^{(0)} | \left(\hat{\mathcal{H}}_{\mathbf{k}}^{\lambda_1} \right)^{\dagger} \partial_{\gamma} \hat{Q}_{\mathbf{k}} | u_{m\mathbf{k}}^{\lambda_2} \rangle \\ &+ \langle u_{m\mathbf{k}}^{\lambda_1} | \hat{H}_{\mathbf{k}, \gamma}^{\lambda_2} | u_{m\mathbf{k}}^{(0)} \rangle + \langle u_{m\mathbf{k}}^{(0)} | \left(\hat{H}_{\mathbf{k}, \gamma}^{\lambda_1} \right)^{\dagger} | u_{m\mathbf{k}}^{\lambda_2} \rangle. \end{aligned}$$

Only $\mathbf{q}=0$ response needs
to be calculated!!

Is this useful to our scopes?

FLEXOELECTRIC TENSOR

$$\mu_{\alpha\beta,\gamma\delta} = \frac{1}{2} \frac{d^2 P_{\alpha,\beta}(\mathbf{q})}{dq_\gamma dq_\delta} \Big|_{\mathbf{q}=0}.$$

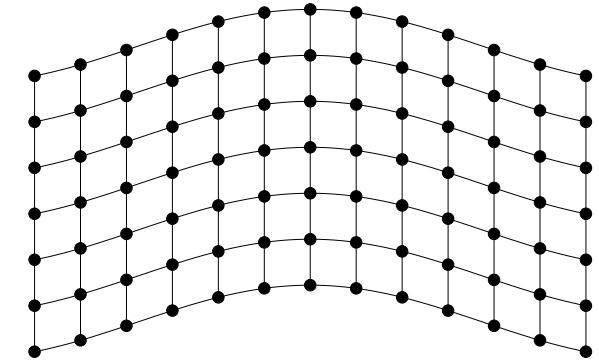
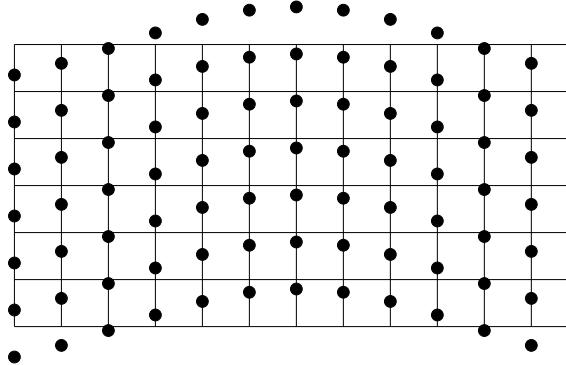
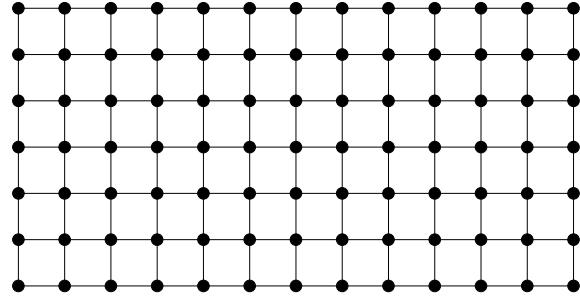
$$P_{\alpha,\beta}(\mathbf{q}) = \frac{dP_\alpha^\mathbf{q}}{d\lambda_\beta^\mathbf{q}} = -\frac{d^2 E}{d\mathcal{E}_\alpha^{-\mathbf{q}} d\lambda_\beta^\mathbf{q}}.$$

electric field

acoustic phonon

- ✗ Standard **electric field** not applicable (only defined at $\mathbf{q}=0$)
- ✗ Acoustic phonon perturbation needs to be specified first (some subtleties here)
- ✗ I know how to calculate first derivatives, but the flexoelectric tensor is **2nd order in \mathbf{q}**

Metric and electric fields @ finite \mathbf{q}



Acoustic phonon described via a
“metric wave” perturbation

{ Translation @ $\mathbf{q}=0$, vanishes in the curvilinear frame
Uniform strain @ $O(q^1)$, recovers Hamann’s theory

Andrea Schiaffino, Cyrus E. Dreyer, David Vanderbilt, and Massimiliano Stengel, Phys. Rev. B 99, 085107 (2018)

Electric field from vector potential:

$$\mathcal{E} = -\frac{d\mathbf{A}}{dt}$$

{ $\mathbf{q}=0$: d/dk perturbation
 $O(q^1)$: d^2/dk^2 + orbital \mathbf{B} -field

“Microscopic polarization response” → next talk by C. Dreyer

2nd order formula

- ✓ “2n+1” theorem again: To calculate second order, knowledge of the gradient response to one of the perturbations is enough!
- ✓ If the response vanishes at $\mathbf{q}=0$, the formula is essentially the same as at $O(q^1)$!

$$\begin{aligned}\widetilde{E}_{m\mathbf{k},\gamma\delta}^{\mathcal{E}_\alpha^*(\beta)} = & i\langle u_{m\mathbf{k}}^{\mathcal{E}_\alpha} | \partial_\gamma \hat{H}_\mathbf{k}^{(0)} | u_{m\mathbf{k}}^{\eta_{\beta\delta}} \rangle + i\langle u_{m\mathbf{k}}^{\mathcal{E}_\alpha} | \partial_\gamma \hat{Q}_\mathbf{k} \hat{\mathcal{H}}_\mathbf{k}^{\eta_{\beta\delta}} | u_{m\mathbf{k}}^{(0)} \rangle + i\langle u_{m\mathbf{k}}^{(0)} | \hat{V}^{\mathcal{E}_\alpha} \partial_\gamma \hat{Q}_\mathbf{k} | u_{m\mathbf{k}}^{\eta_{\beta\delta}} \rangle \\ & + \frac{1}{2} \langle u_{m\mathbf{k}}^{\mathcal{E}_\alpha} | \hat{H}_{\mathbf{k},\gamma\delta}^{(\beta)} | u_{m\mathbf{k}}^{(0)} \rangle + i\langle i u_{m\mathbf{k},\gamma}^{A_\alpha} | u_{m\mathbf{k}}^{\eta_{\beta\delta}} \rangle\end{aligned}$$

symmetric $\alpha \leftrightarrow \gamma$: d^2/dk^2 wavefunctions (OK)
antisymm. $\alpha \leftrightarrow \gamma$: orbital magnetic field (??)

Summary

- Unconstrained variational formulation of DFPT
- Long-wave expansion of the second-order energy via $2n+1$
- Can calculate dispersion properties without ever treating a gradient explicitly
- Finite- \mathbf{q} generalization of electric field and strain perturbations → flexo
- Dynamical quadrupoles (replace strain with phonon) → talk by M. Royo

Ongoing work:

- Full flexoelectric tensor (w/ lattice contrib.)
- Other dispersion properties: Natural gyrotropy, etc.
- Frequency (ω) expansion: Nonadiabatic lattice dynamics, optical response, etc.
- **ANADDB**: How should we treat spatial dispersion tensors?