

# Trion ARPES signature

Jinyuan Wu<sup>1,\*</sup> and Diana Y. Qiu<sup>1,†</sup>

<sup>1</sup>*Department of Mechanical Engineering and Materials Science, Yale University, New Haven, CT 06520*

## I. ARPES THEORY

In most driven ARPES settings, the probe is much weaker than the pump and does not itself influence the electronic structure, and the generic theory of ARPES can be formulated by treating the pump as a non-equilibrium self-energy, while the effect of the probe can be captured by the first order perturbation and hence the final ARPES intensity is proportional to the electron dipole and the pumped single-electron lesser Green func-

tion [1, 2]; the theory reduced to the usual Fermi golden rule when the pump is turned off [3, 4]. When the pump pulse is strong at its peak but has faded away at the probing time, the main effect of pumping is preparing an initial state, and the ARPES intensity can be evaluated from pure-state first-order time dependent perturbation theory, which gives a Fermi golden rule-like expression of the probability of an electron being pumped out of the sample [5]. Ref. [5] is focused on excitons; here we generalize its methodology to all excitations and have

$$I_{\mathbf{k}}(\omega, t) \propto \sum_{n_1, n_2} \sum_n \rho_n (M_{\mathbf{k}\mathbf{k}_{\parallel}}^{fn_2})^* M_{\mathbf{k}\mathbf{k}_{\parallel}}^{fn_1} \int_{t_0}^t dt_1 \int_{t_0}^t dt_2 e^{-i(E_n - \omega)(t_1 - t_2)} \langle \Psi_n | c_{n_2 \mathbf{k}_{\parallel}}^\dagger U(t_2, t_1) c_{n_1 \mathbf{k}_{\parallel}} | \Psi_n \rangle s(t_1) s(t_2), \quad (1)$$

where  $t$  is the observation time,  $t_0$  is the starting time of the probe pulse,  $s(t)$  is the envelope function of the probe,  $\omega$  is the output electron energy shifted by the frequency of the probe pulse and the work function of the sample,  $\mathbf{k}$  is the momentum of the outgoing electron and  $\mathbf{k}_{\parallel}$  is its projection on the two-dimensional plane,  $n_{1,2}$  are electron band indices,  $n = (S, \mathbf{Q})$  is the index of exciton modes,  $\rho_n$  is the effective density matrix of excitons,  $|\Psi_n\rangle$  is the many-body wave function of the exciton state at  $t = t_0$ , and  $U(t_2, t_1)$  is the time evolution operator. The  $c^\dagger U c e^{-iE_n t}$  factor comes from the electron lesser Green function; the  $e^{-iE_n t}$  factor comes from the time evolution of the excitation states, while the time evolution operator  $U(t_2, t_1)$  instructs the time evolution of the residue of the excitation after one electron is driven out; time oscillation from the two factors together gives us the energy conservation relation

$$\omega = E_n - E_{\text{remain}}, \quad (2)$$

where  $E_{\text{residue}}$  refers to the remaining energy of the system after one electron is driven out from  $n_1, \mathbf{k}_{\parallel}$ . For three-dimensional systems, the momenta of  $c$  and  $c^\dagger$  in the  $c^\dagger U c$  factor can be different [1], but for two-dimensional materials however, since by momentum conservation the crystal momentum of the band electron that is driven out by the external field can only be the parallel component of  $\mathbf{k}$ , and we refer it as  $\mathbf{k}_{\parallel}$  in (1). As below we are mostly dealing with the ARPES spectrum of a single mode. In principle, the  $\langle \Psi_n | c_{n_2 \mathbf{k}_{\parallel}}^\dagger U(t_2, t_1) c_{n_1 \mathbf{k}_{\parallel}} | \Psi_n \rangle$

matrix can be non-diagonal with an excited initial state; frequently, however, because of energy conservation, the signature at given  $(\omega, \mathbf{k})$  can only come from a single band, and in this case  $n_1 = n_2$ .

## II. TWO-BAND MODEL FOR TRION

In this work, we generalize the two-band model approach to trions [6] to the indirect band gap case. We start with the following example.

$$H = \frac{(\mathbf{k}_e - \mathbf{w})^2}{2m_e} + E_g + \frac{\mathbf{k}_{h1}^2}{2m_h} + \frac{\mathbf{k}_{h2}^2}{2m_h} + V(\mathbf{r}_{h1} - \mathbf{r}_{h2}) - V(\mathbf{r}_e - \mathbf{r}_{h1}) - V(\mathbf{r}_e - \mathbf{r}_{h2}). \quad (3)$$

Here  $\mathbf{k}_{hi}$  is the crystal momentum of the quantum state containing hole  $i$  only, which is the opposite of the momentum of the corresponding electron state of the hole; similarly,  $\mathbf{k}^2/2m_h$  is the opposite of the dispersion relation of the valence band top, and therefore  $m_h > 0$ , and under this Hamiltonian we treat holes as ordinary particles with positive masses and positive charges and ordinary momentum conservation relations without minus signs.

The ARPES signature of trion mode  $(S, \mathbf{P})$  comes solely from the electron in the trion. Therefore, the energy conservation relation hidden in (1) means the dispersion relation of the ARPES signature should always have the form of

$$\omega = E_n - \frac{\mathbf{k}_{h1}^2}{2m_h} - \frac{\mathbf{k}_{h2}^2}{2m_h}, \quad (4)$$

\* jinyuan.wu@yale.edu

† diana.qiu@yale.edu

where  $\mathbf{k}_{h1,2}$  are implicit functions of  $\mathbf{k}_{\parallel} = \mathbf{k}_e$  and  $\mathbf{P}$ . Unlike the case for excitons, however, momentum conservation does not give a one-to-one mapping from  $\mathbf{k}_e$  and  $\mathbf{P}$  to  $\mathbf{k}_{h1,2}$ ; we still need one additional constraint to pin down  $\mathbf{k}_{h1,2}$ , which is to be given by the position of the trion wave function maximum when  $\mathbf{P}$  and  $\mathbf{k}_e$  are given, which, in turn, needs us to decompose (3) into an external part that solely depends on the total momentum of the trion and an internal part that decides the structure of the trion wave function.

It can be easily seen that the total momentum of the trion

$$\mathbf{P} = \mathbf{k}_e + \mathbf{k}_{h1} + \mathbf{k}_{h2} \quad (5)$$

is conserved, and we are to rewrite the Hamiltonian in terms of the total momentum, which should only appear in the total kinetic energy term, and two internal degrees of freedom. Following the procedure in [6], we define

$$\mathbf{r}_1 = \mathbf{r}_{h1} - \mathbf{r}_e, \quad \mathbf{r}_2 = \mathbf{r}_{h2} - \mathbf{r}_e \quad (6)$$

as the internal degrees of freedom. To separate the Hamiltonian into terms about  $\mathbf{P}$  and terms about the internal degrees of freedom, we need to find the canonical coordinate corresponding to  $\mathbf{P}$  and the canonical momenta corresponding to  $\mathbf{r}_{1,2}$ .

Regarding the canonical coordinate corresponding to  $\mathbf{P}$ , intuitively we may choose the center of mass

$$\mathbf{R} = \frac{m_e \mathbf{r}_e + m_h \mathbf{r}_{h1} + m_h \mathbf{r}_{h2}}{M}, \quad M = m_e + 2m_h \quad (7)$$

as the canonical coordinate corresponding to  $\mathbf{P}$ ; this correctness of this choice can be directly verified by writing  $\mathbf{R}, \mathbf{r}_1, \mathbf{r}_2$  as functions of  $\mathbf{r}_e, \mathbf{r}_{h1}, \mathbf{r}_{h2}$  and verifying that  $\partial_{\mathbf{R}}$  is the sum of  $\partial_{\mathbf{r}_e}, \partial_{\mathbf{r}_{h1}}$  and  $\partial_{\mathbf{r}_{h2}}$ , and hence  $\mathbf{P} = -i\hbar \partial_{\mathbf{R}}$  is indeed the total momentum.

We can define the canonical momenta of  $\mathbf{r}_{1,2}$ , hereafter referred to as  $\mathbf{k}_{1,2}$ , as  $-i\hbar \partial_{\mathbf{r}_{1,2}}$ ; in this way

$$\mathbf{k}_e = \frac{m_e}{M} \mathbf{P} - \mathbf{k}_1 - \mathbf{k}_2, \quad \mathbf{k}_{h1,2} = \mathbf{k}_{1,2} + \frac{m_h}{M} \mathbf{P}, \quad (8)$$

and the kinetic energy part of the (3) now reads

$$H_{\text{kin}} = \frac{(\mathbf{P} - \mathbf{w})^2}{2M} + E_g + \frac{\mathbf{k}_1^2 + \mathbf{k}_2^2}{2m_h} - \frac{\mathbf{w}^2}{2M} + \frac{(\mathbf{k}_1 + \mathbf{k}_2 + \mathbf{w})^2}{2m_e}.$$

We however want to shift the definitions of  $\mathbf{k}$  so that the kinetic part resembles the kinetic energy in a direct band gap system. By redefining

$$\mathbf{k}_{1,2} = -i\hbar \partial_{\mathbf{r}_{1,2}} + \frac{\mathbf{w}}{1 + m_e/\mu}, \quad \mu = \frac{m_e m_h}{m_e + m_h}, \quad (9)$$

and therefore

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbf{k}_e &= \frac{m_e}{M} \mathbf{P} + \frac{2m_h \mathbf{w}}{M} - \mathbf{k}_1 - \mathbf{k}_2, \\ \mathbf{k}_{h1,2} &= \mathbf{k}_{1,2} - \frac{m_h \mathbf{w}}{M} + \frac{m_h}{M} \mathbf{P}, \end{aligned} \quad (10)$$

the total Hamiltonian now reads

$$H = \frac{(\mathbf{P} - \mathbf{w})^2}{2M} + E_g + \underbrace{\frac{\mathbf{k}_1^2}{2\mu} + \frac{\mathbf{k}_2^2}{2\mu} + \frac{\mathbf{k}_1 \cdot \mathbf{k}_2}{2m_e} + V(\mathbf{r}_1 - \mathbf{r}_2) - V(\mathbf{r}_1) - V(\mathbf{r}_2)}_{H_{\text{internal}}}. \quad (11)$$

The redefinition of  $\mathbf{k}_{1,2}$  does not change the commutation relation between  $\mathbf{r}_{1,2}$  and  $\mathbf{k}_{1,2}$ . We find that the internal part of the Hamiltonian has the same form as the Hamiltonian in [6]. This can also be seen as generalization of the indirect band gap exciton two-band model to the trion; for the former we have [5]

$$H = \frac{(\mathbf{Q} - \mathbf{w})^2}{2M} + E_g + \frac{\mathbf{k}^2}{2\mu} - V(\mathbf{r}), \quad (12)$$

where

$$\begin{aligned} M &= m_e + m_e, \\ \mathbf{k}_e &= \frac{m_e}{M} \mathbf{Q} + \mathbf{k} + \frac{m_h}{M} \mathbf{w}, \\ \mathbf{k}_h &= \frac{m_h}{M} \mathbf{Q} - \mathbf{k} - \frac{m_h}{M} \mathbf{w}. \end{aligned} \quad (13)$$

The trion wave function therefore assumes the following form:

$$\psi_{S\mathbf{P}}(\mathbf{R}, \mathbf{r}_1, \mathbf{r}_2) = e^{i\mathbf{P} \cdot \mathbf{R}} \sum_{s_1, s_2} A_{s_1 s_2}^{S\mathbf{P}} \phi_{s_1}(\mathbf{r}_1) \phi_{s_2}(\mathbf{r}_2), \quad (14)$$

where  $\phi_s(\mathbf{r})$  is an eigenfunction of the hydrogenic Hamiltonian  $\frac{\mathbf{k}^2}{2\mu} - V(\mathbf{r})$ , and  $A_{s_1 s_2}^{S\mathbf{P}}$  reflects the mixing of the modes by interactive Hamiltonian  $V(\mathbf{r}_1 - \mathbf{r}_2)$  and  $\mathbf{k}_1 \cdot \mathbf{k}_2 / 2m_e$ . Working in the momentum space we can also write

$$\psi_{S\mathbf{P}}(\mathbf{R}, \mathbf{p}_1, \mathbf{p}_2) = e^{i\mathbf{P} \cdot \mathbf{R}} \sum_{s_1, s_2} A_{s_1 s_2}^{S\mathbf{P}} \phi_{s_1}(\mathbf{p}_1) \phi_{s_2}(\mathbf{p}_2), \quad (15)$$

where  $\phi_s(\mathbf{p})$  is the Fourier transform of  $\phi_s(\mathbf{r})$ . The additional constraint required to pin down the relation between  $\mathbf{k}_{h1,2}$  and  $\mathbf{k}_e, \mathbf{P}$  is maximization of  $\psi_{S\mathbf{P}}(\mathbf{R}, \mathbf{p}_1, \mathbf{p}_2)$ .

### III. TWO PEAK MODEL

Similarly for

$$H = \frac{\mathbf{k}_e^2}{2m_e} + E_g + \frac{\mathbf{k}_{h1}^2}{2m_h} + \frac{(\mathbf{k}_{h2} - \mathbf{w})^2}{2m_h} + V(\mathbf{r}_{h1} - \mathbf{r}_{h2}) - V(\mathbf{r}_e - \mathbf{r}_{h1}) - V(\mathbf{r}_e - \mathbf{r}_{h2}), \quad (16)$$

by defining

$$\mathbf{k}_1 = -i\hbar \partial_{\mathbf{r}_1} + \frac{m_h}{M} \mathbf{w}, \quad \mathbf{k}_2 = -i\hbar \partial_{\mathbf{r}_2} - \frac{m_e + m_h}{M} \mathbf{w}, \quad (17)$$

and hence

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbf{k}_e &= \frac{m_e}{M}(\mathbf{P} - \mathbf{w}) - \mathbf{k}_1 - \mathbf{k}_2, \\ \mathbf{k}_{h1} &= \mathbf{k}_1 - \frac{m_h}{M}\mathbf{w} + \frac{m_h}{M}\mathbf{P}, \\ \mathbf{k}_{h2} &= \mathbf{k}_2 + \frac{m_e + m_h}{M}\mathbf{w} + \frac{m_h}{M}\mathbf{P}, \end{aligned} \quad (18)$$

we get exact the same Hamiltonian in (11).

When  $\mathbf{k}_1 = \mathbf{k}_2$ , we have

$$\mathbf{k}_{h1} = \frac{1}{2}(\mathbf{P} - \mathbf{w} - \mathbf{k}_e), \quad \mathbf{k}_{h2} = \frac{1}{2}(\mathbf{P} + \mathbf{w} - \mathbf{k}_e), \quad (19)$$

and the dispersion relation is

$$\omega = E_{SP} + E_g + \frac{(\mathbf{P} - \mathbf{w} - \mathbf{k}_e)^2}{4m_h}. \quad (20)$$

In conclusion, the ARPES signature of any electron-hole-hole trion mode has two major differences from that of an exciton mode with a comparable momentum: the center and the curvature of the signature.

#### IV. TWO-ELECTRON CASE

The shifts of the center and the curvature of ARPES signatures are even more clearly when the trion mode has two electrons and one hole. A typical setting of such a trion mode can be described by the following two-band model, where the two electrons reside at different valleys:

$$\begin{aligned} H &= \frac{\mathbf{k}_{e1}^2}{2m_e} + \frac{(\mathbf{k}_{e2} - \mathbf{w})^2}{2m_e} + \frac{\mathbf{k}_h^2}{2m_h} \\ &+ V(\mathbf{r}_{e1} - \mathbf{r}_{e2}) - V(\mathbf{r}_h - \mathbf{r}_{e1}) - V(\mathbf{r}_h - \mathbf{r}_{e2}). \end{aligned} \quad (21)$$

The decomposition of the Hamiltonian into internal and external terms follows exactly the same procedure as in the two-peak model; we only need to swap the positions of electrons and holes. Therefore we get

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbf{r}_1 &= \mathbf{r}_{e1} - \mathbf{r}_h, \quad \mathbf{r}_2 = \mathbf{r}_{e2} - \mathbf{r}_h, \\ \mathbf{k}_1 &= -i\partial_{\mathbf{r}_1} + \frac{m_e}{M}\mathbf{w}, \quad \mathbf{k}_2 = -i\partial_{\mathbf{r}_2} - \frac{m_e + m_h}{M}\mathbf{w}, \end{aligned} \quad (22)$$

and conversely

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbf{k}_h &= \frac{m_h}{M}(\mathbf{P} - \mathbf{w}) - \mathbf{k}_1 - \mathbf{k}_2, \\ \mathbf{k}_{e1} &= \mathbf{k}_1 - \frac{m_e}{M}\mathbf{w} + \frac{m_e}{M}\mathbf{P}, \\ \mathbf{k}_{e2} &= \mathbf{k}_2 + \frac{m_e + m_h}{M}\mathbf{w} + \frac{m_e}{M}\mathbf{P}. \end{aligned} \quad (23)$$

Now when one electron is driven out by the probe, it can be e1 or e2, so  $\mathbf{k}_\parallel = \mathbf{k}_{e1, 2}$ , momentum conservation blocks any block terms between the two valleys, so we can evaluate the ARPES signature contributed by the two valleys separately. This drastically changes the dispersion relation of the ARPES signature, but the structure

of trion wave function is intact. Therefore, the curvature of the ARPES signature can still be found by either postulating  $\mathbf{k}_1 = \mathbf{k}_2$  or by postulating that one of the momenta vanishes. When  $\mathbf{k}_1 = \mathbf{k}_2$  and  $\mathbf{k}_\parallel = \mathbf{k}_{e1}$ , we have

$$\mathbf{k}_{e2} - \mathbf{w} = \mathbf{k}_\parallel, \quad \mathbf{k}_h = \mathbf{P} - \mathbf{w} - 2\mathbf{k}_\parallel, \quad (24)$$

and the dispersion relation is

$$\omega = E_{\text{bind}} - \frac{\mathbf{k}_\parallel^2}{2m_e} - \frac{(2\mathbf{k}_\parallel + \mathbf{w} - \mathbf{P})^2}{2m_h}, \quad (25)$$

while the effective mass is

#### V. VARIATIONAL WAVE FUNCTION

The spin part is in a singlet state, and therefore the orbital part of the wave function is symmetric.

It should be noted that since  $\mathbf{k}$  is confined on the two-dimensional plane, so is  $\mathbf{r}$ , which is the canonical coordinate corresponding to the crystal momentum  $\mathbf{k}$  instead of the free-space momentum, and therefore differs from the free-space position; the wave function in terms of the free-space position does have  $z$ -directional distribution, but the wave function in terms of  $\mathbf{r}$  does not. The spatial part of the wave function therefore is to be solved on the 2D plane. On the other hand, electromagnetism in a two-dimensional system is still inherently three-dimensional, and the Coulomb force retains its inverse-square form, leading to the  $\sim 1/r$  form of  $V(r)$ .

The 3D version of the problem is solved in [7, 8];

$$\Psi(\mathbf{r}_1, \mathbf{r}_2) = \psi_{1s,a}(\mathbf{r}_1)\psi_{1s,b}(\mathbf{r}_2) + \psi_{1s,b}(\mathbf{r}_1)\psi_{1s,a}(\mathbf{r}_2) \quad (26)$$

$$\langle 1s, a | 1s, b \rangle = \frac{4ab}{(a+b)^2}. \quad (27)$$

$$\langle 1s, a | -\nabla^2 | 1s, b \rangle = \frac{4}{(a+b)^2}. \quad (28)$$

$$\langle 1s, a | \frac{1}{r} | 1s, b \rangle = \frac{4}{a+b} \quad (29)$$

Serious problem:

$$\int d^2\mathbf{r}_1 \int d^2\mathbf{r}_2 e^{-r_1/a} \frac{1}{|\mathbf{r}_1 - \mathbf{r}_2|} e^{-r_2/b} \quad (30)$$

One option might be to numerically solve the interaction part, and use the analytic forms elsewhere.

An immediate consequence of this fact is that since at the ground state

$$\mathbf{k}_e = \frac{m_e}{M}\mathbf{P} + \frac{2m_h}{M}\mathbf{w}. \quad (31)$$

The same procedure can be applied to other configurations of peaks and valleys.

Variational wave function: TODO list

1. We should work in the real space, because the form of  $V$  can be complicated.
2. The kinetic term should be evaluated analytically.
3. Normalization??? Why the factor is  $1/\sqrt{2}$ ?
4. The structure of the three-particle wave function.
5. Also see the paper Two-electron atoms, ions, and molecules

and when  $\mathbf{k}_1 = \mathbf{k}_2$ , we have  
 It can be seen that the trion ARPES signature shows  
<http://users.df.uba.ar/dmitnik/estructura3/articulostrabigifwaelectsmallensiamolwithles.pdf>  
 and <https://articles.adsabs.harvard.edu/pdf/1944ApJ...100..476G> more than the exciton ARPES signature does.

## VI. ARPES SIGNATURES

When  $\mathbf{k}_1$  is set to zero, we find

$$\mathbf{k}_{h2} = \frac{m_e + m_h}{M} \mathbf{P} + \frac{m_h}{M} \mathbf{w} - \mathbf{k}_e, \quad (32)$$

and when  $\mathbf{k}_1 = \mathbf{k}_2$ , we have

- 
- [1] J. Freericks, H. Krishnamurthy, and T. Pruschke, Theoretical description of time-resolved photoemission spectroscopy: application to pump-probe experiments, *Physical review letters* **102**, 136401 (2009).
  - [2] M. Schüler and M. A. Sentef, Theory of subcycle time-resolved photoemission: application to terahertz photo-dressing in graphene, *Journal of Electron Spectroscopy and Related Phenomena* **253**, 147121 (2021).
  - [3] J. A. Sobota, Y. He, and Z.-X. Shen, Angle-resolved photoemission studies of quantum materials, *Reviews of Modern Physics* **93**, 025006 (2021).
  - [4] J. Freericks and A. F. Kemper, What do the two times in two-time correlation functions mean for interpreting trion arpes?, *Journal of Electron Spectroscopy and Related Phenomena* **251**, 147104 (2021).
  - [5] A. Rustagi and A. F. Kemper, Photoemission signature of excitons, *Physical Review B* **97**, 235310 (2018).
  - [6] Y.-W. Chang and Y.-C. Chang, Variationally optimized orbital approach to trions in two-dimensional materials, *The Journal of Chemical Physics* **155** (2021).
  - [7] S. Chandrasekhar, Some remarks on the negative hydrogen ion and its absorption coefficient, *Astrophysical journal* **100**, 176 (1944).
  - [8] H. Høgaasen, J.-M. Richard, and P. Sorba, Two-electron atoms, ions, and molecules, *American Journal of Physics* **78**, 86 (2010).