

# Light-induced states of matter from Floquet engineering to cavity materials

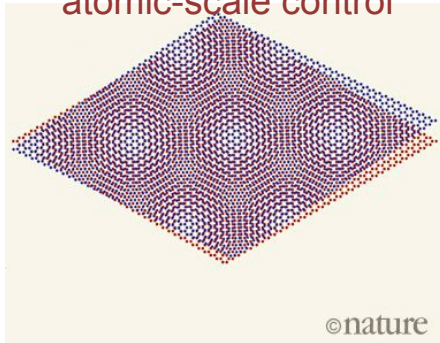
Michael A. Sentef  
*lab.sentef.org*

Max-Planck Institute for the Structure and Dynamics of Matter, Hamburg  
International Ultrafast Knowledge Coffee House, February 1, 2021

# Engineering materials with light

## condensed matter

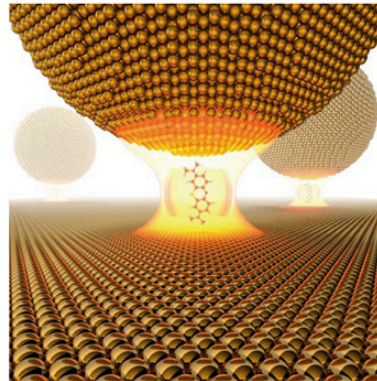
quantum materials  
atomic-scale control



©nature

Y. Cao et al., Nature 556, 43 (2018)

## nonequilibrium materials engineering



R. Chikkaraddy et al., Nature 535, 127 (2016)

## quantum optics

nanoplasmonics  
polaritonic chemistry

**QED: vacuum fluctuations**

## ultrafast spectroscopy

revealing elementary couplings  
light-induced new states of matter

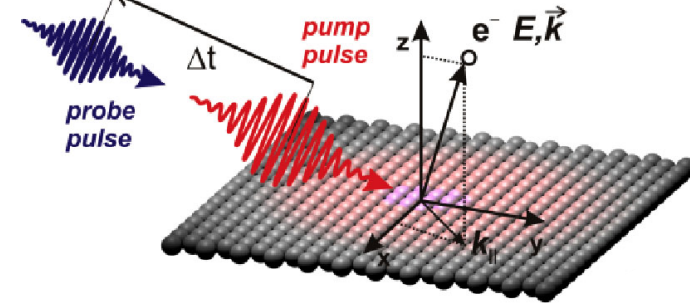


Image courtesy: J. Sobota

**pump-probe: strong classical fields**

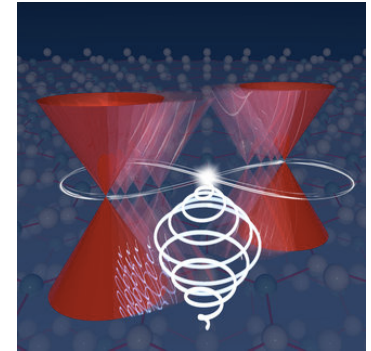
## 1. Floquet engineering

coherent laser driving can induce topology

*M. A. Sentef et al., Nat. Commun. 6, 7047 (2015)*

*H. Hübener et al., Nat. Commun. 8, 13940 (2017)*

*G. E. Topp et al., PRResearch 1, 023031 (2019)*



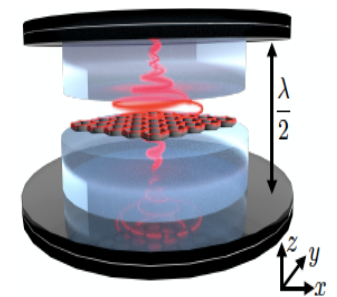
## 2. Cavity engineering

light-induced topology from pure vacuum fluctuations of light

*X. Wang, E. Ronca, M. A. Sentef, PRB 99, 235156 (2019)*

cavity superconductivity

*M. A. Sentef, M. Ruggenthaler, A. Rubio, Science Advances 4, eaau6969 (2018)*

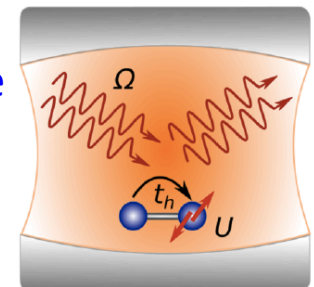


## 3. Cavity to Floquet crossover

strong light-matter coupling: Floquet effects without coherence

*M. A. Sentef, J. Li, F. Künzle, M. Eckstein, PRResearch 2, 033033 (2020)*

*E. V. Boström, M. Claassen, J. W. McIver, G. Jotzu, A. Rubio, M. A. Sentef, arXiv: 2007.01714*

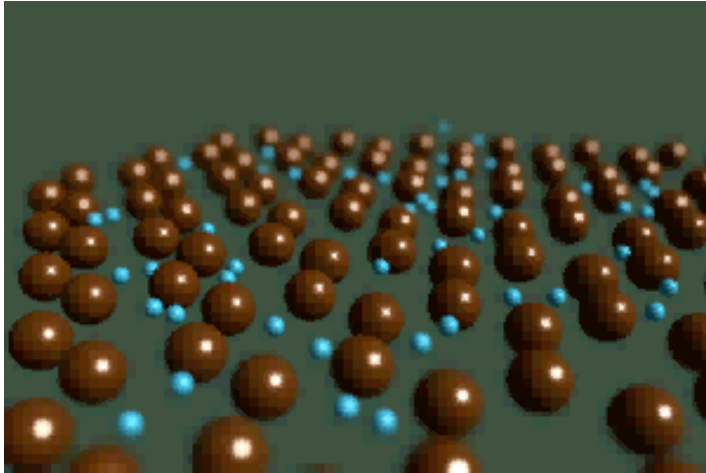


# 1. Floquet engineering

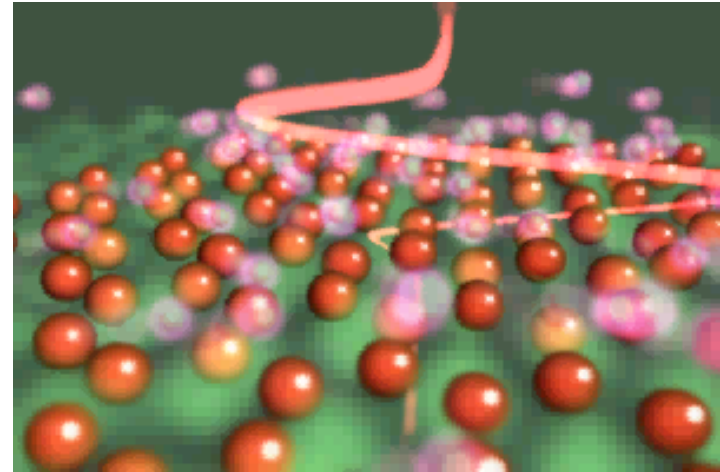


# Floquet states of matter

by Koichiro Tanaka (Kyoto university)



electrons in solids



Floquet state (photo-dressed state)

$$H$$

$$H_{\text{eff}}$$

$$H_{\text{eff}} = H_0 + \frac{[H_{-1}, H_1]}{\Omega} + \mathcal{O}(\Omega^{-2})$$

# Floquet states of matter

time periodic system

$$i\partial_t\psi = H(t)\psi \quad H(t) = H(t+T) \quad \Omega = 2\pi/T$$

“Floquet mapping”

=discrete Fourier trans.



$$\Psi(t) = e^{-i\varepsilon t} \sum_m \phi^m e^{-im\Omega t}$$

Floquet Hamiltonian (static eigenvalue problem)

$$\sum_{m=-\infty}^{\infty} \mathcal{H}^{mn} \phi_{\alpha}^m = \varepsilon_{\alpha} \phi_{\alpha}^n \quad \varepsilon: \text{Floquet quasi-energy}$$

$$(\mathcal{H})^{mn} = \frac{1}{T} \int_0^T dt H(t) e^{i(m-n)\Omega t} + m\delta_{mn}\Omega I$$

comes from the  $i\partial_t$  term

$$H_m = \mathcal{H}^{m0}$$

~ absorption of  $m$  “photons”

# Floquet states of matter

Time-periodic quantum system = Floquet theory (exact)  $\sim$  effective theory

$$i\partial_t\psi = H(t)\psi$$

$$H(t) = H(t + T)$$

$$\mathcal{H}\phi = \varepsilon\phi$$

$$H_{\text{eff}} = H_0 + \frac{[H_{-1}, H_1]}{\Omega} + \mathcal{O}(\Omega^{-2})$$

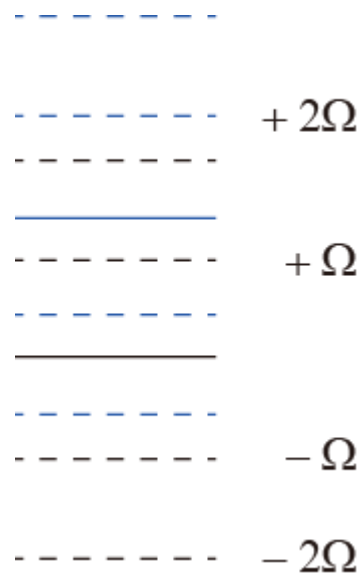
Fictitious fields!

projection to the original Hilbert space

two states + periodic driving



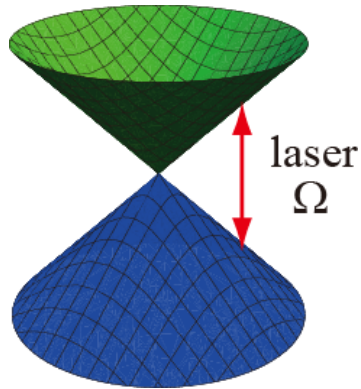
Floquet theory



Hilbert space size  
= original system

$n$ -photon dressed state  
Floquet side bands

# Dirac fermion + circularly polarized laser



coupling to AC field

$$\mathbf{k} \rightarrow \mathbf{k} + \mathbf{A}(t)$$

$$k = k_x + ik_y$$

$$\mathbf{A}(t) = (F/\Omega \cos \Omega t, F/\Omega \sin \Omega t)$$

$$A = F/\Omega$$

time dependent Schrödinger equation

$$i\partial_t \psi_k = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & k + Ae^{i\Omega t} \\ \bar{k} + Ae^{-i\Omega t} & 0 \end{pmatrix} \psi_k$$

Floquet theory

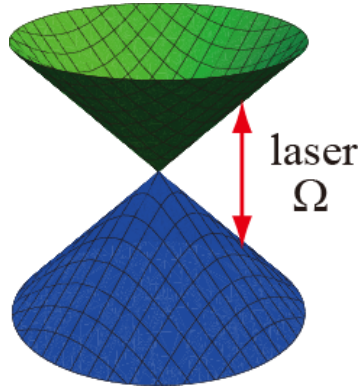


$$(\mathcal{H})^{mn} = \frac{1}{T} \int_0^T dt H(t) e^{i(m-n)\Omega t} + m\delta_{mn}\Omega I$$

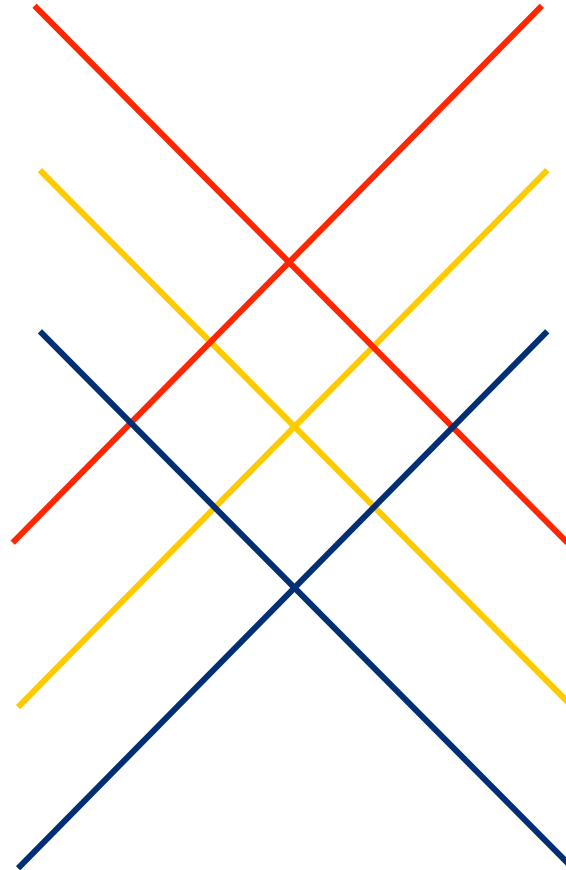
$$H^{\text{Floquet}} = \begin{pmatrix} \Omega & k & 0 & A & 0 & 0 \\ \bar{k} & \Omega & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & k & 0 & A \\ A & 0 & \bar{k} & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & -\Omega & k \\ 0 & 0 & A & 0 & \bar{k} & -\Omega \end{pmatrix}$$

truncated at  $m=0, +1, -1$  for display

# Dirac fermion + circularly polarized laser



$$H^{\text{Floquet}} = \begin{pmatrix} \boxed{\Omega} & \boxed{k} & 0 & A & 0 & 0 \\ \boxed{\bar{k}} & \boxed{\Omega} & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & \boxed{0} & \boxed{k} & 0 & A \\ A & 0 & \boxed{\bar{k}} & \boxed{0} & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & \boxed{-\Omega} & \boxed{k} \\ 0 & 0 & A & 0 & \boxed{\bar{k}} & \boxed{-\Omega} \end{pmatrix}$$



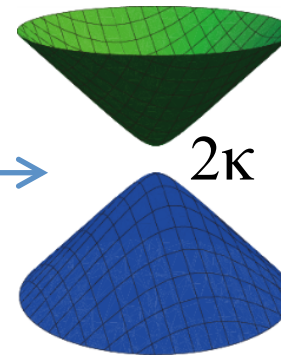
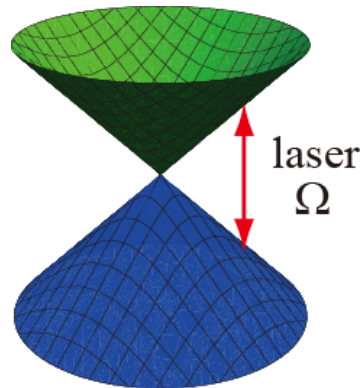
1-photon absorbed state

0-photon absorbed state

-1-photon absorbed state



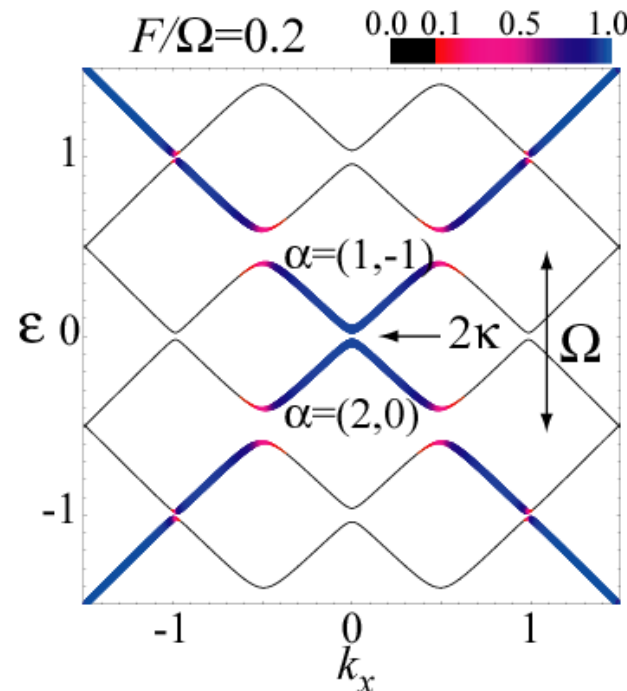
# Dirac fermion + circularly polarized laser



Mass term =  
synthetic field stemming from a  
real time-dependent field  $A(t)$

$$\kappa = \frac{\sqrt{4A^2 + \Omega^2} - \Omega}{2} \sim A^2/\Omega$$

$$H^{\text{Floquet}} = \begin{pmatrix} \boxed{\Omega} & \boxed{k} & \boxed{0} & \boxed{A} & 0 & 0 \\ \boxed{\bar{k}} & \boxed{\Omega} & \boxed{0} & \boxed{0} & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & \boxed{0} & \boxed{k} & \boxed{0} & \boxed{A} \\ \boxed{A} & 0 & \boxed{\bar{k}} & \boxed{0} & \boxed{0} & \boxed{0} \\ 0 & 0 & \boxed{0} & \boxed{0} & \boxed{-\Omega} & \boxed{k} \\ 0 & 0 & \boxed{A} & \boxed{0} & \boxed{\bar{k}} & \boxed{-\Omega} \end{pmatrix}$$



1-photon absorbed state

0-photon absorbed state

-1-photon absorbed state

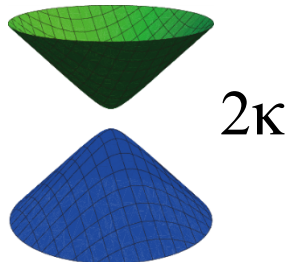
*Oka and Aoki,  
PRB 79, 081406 (2009)*

# Dirac fermion + circularly polarized laser

Projection to the original Hilbert space

$$H^{\text{Floquet}} = \begin{pmatrix} \Omega & \overset{\leftarrow k}{0} & \overset{\uparrow}{A} & 0 & 0 \\ \bar{k} & \Omega & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ \downarrow 0 & 0 & 0 & \overset{\leftarrow k}{k} & \overset{\uparrow}{0} & A \\ A & 0 & \bar{k} & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & -\Omega & k \\ 0 & 0 & A & 0 & k & -\Omega \end{pmatrix}$$

near Dirac point



$2\kappa$

Dynamical gap

$$\kappa = \frac{\sqrt{4A^2 + \Omega^2} - \Omega}{2} \sim A^2/\Omega$$

2nd order perturbation

$$H_{\text{eff}} = H_0 + \frac{\overset{\sim A\sigma_-}{[H_{-1}],} \overset{\sim A\sigma_+}{[H_1]}}{\Omega} + \mathcal{O}(A^4)$$

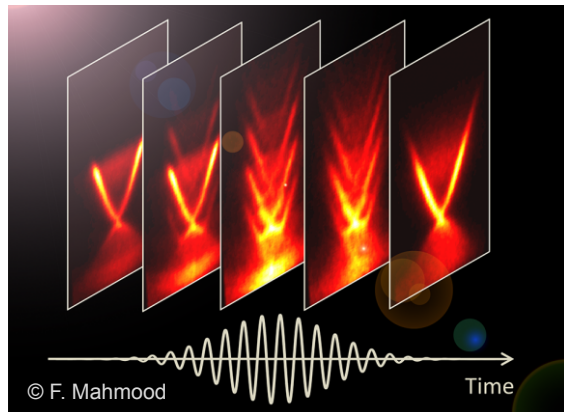
Mass term =

synthetic field stemming from a  
real time-dependent field  $A(t)$

$$\sim v(k_x\sigma_y - \tau_z k_y\sigma_x) \pm \tau_z \frac{v^2 A^2}{\Omega} \sigma_z \quad A = F/\Omega$$

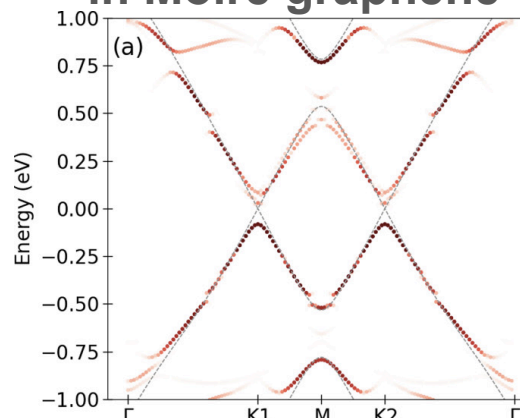
# Floquet at work

## Floquet-Bloch bands in time-resolved ARPES



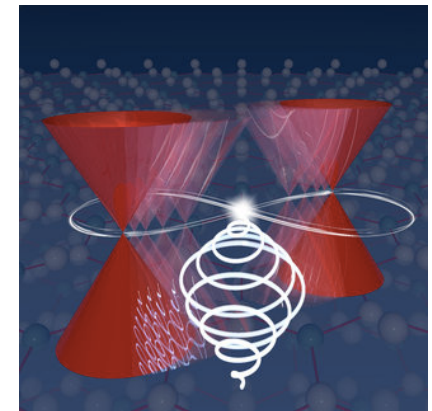
F. Mahmood et al., Nature Physics 12, 306 (2016)

## Floquet topology in Moiré graphene

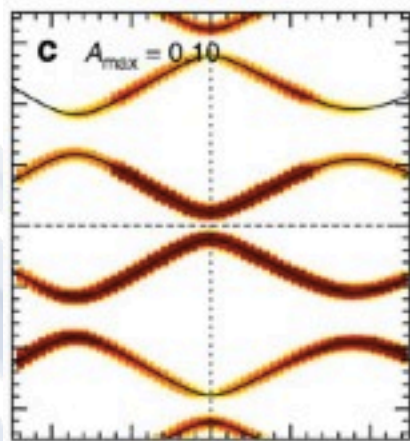


G. E. Topp et al., PRResearch 1, 023031 (2019)

## Floquet-Weyl semimetal



H. Hübener et al., Nat. Commun. 8, 13940 (2017)



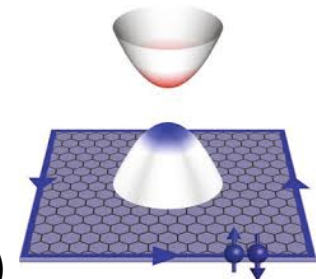
M. A. Sentef et al., Nat. Commun. 6, 7047 (2015)

... **but** many more theory Floquet proposals than experiments in materials. Issues:

- need for strong lasers
- need for coherence
- detrimental heating effects

possible resolution: **cavities** (next part of talk)

## Light-induced anomalous Hall effect



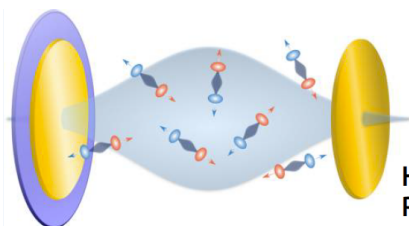
James McIver's talk

## 2. Cavity engineering

## CAVITY QUANTUM ELECTRODYNAMICS

A new generation of experiments shows that spontaneous radiation from excited atoms can be greatly suppressed or enhanced by placing the atoms between mirrors or in cavities.

Serge Haroche and Daniel Kleppner *Physics Today* 1989



Hybrid Light–Matter States in a Molecular and Material Science Perspective

*T. Ebbesen, Acc. Chem. Res. 49, 2403 (2016)*

higher enhancements. Another direction is to check physical phenomena that are sensitive to phonon energy. Metal–insulating and superconducting transitions for instance might be significantly modified under strong coupling.

*M. Ruggenthaler et al., Nat. Rev. Chem. 2, 0118 (2018)*

*J. Feist et al., ACS Photonics 5, 205 (2017)*

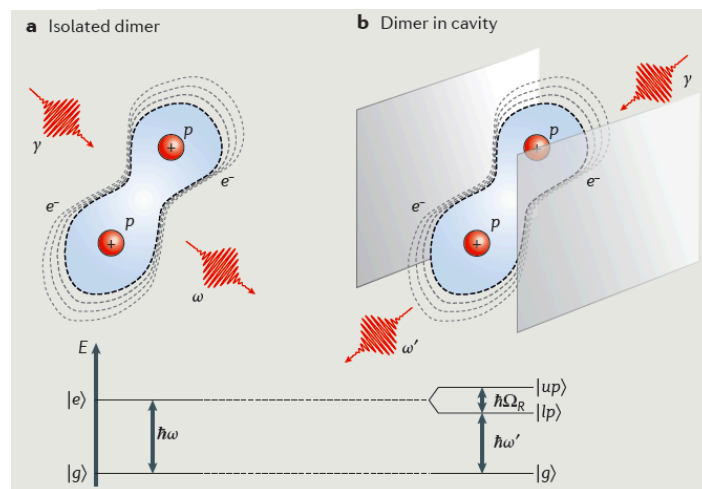
*R. F. Ribeiro et al., Chem. Sci. 9, 6325 (2018)*

*J. Flick et al., Nanophotonics 7, 1479 (2018)*

*A. F. Kockum et al., Nat. Rev. Phys. 1, 19 (2019)*

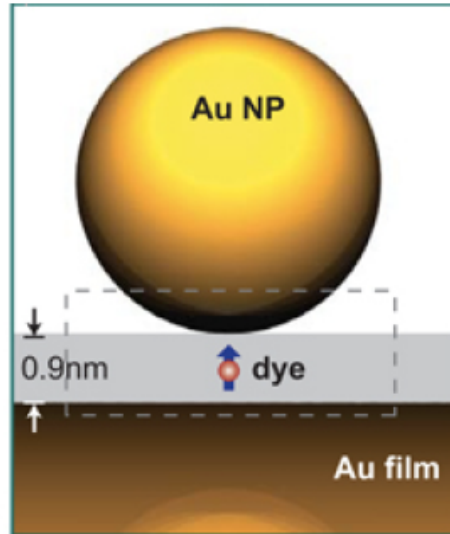
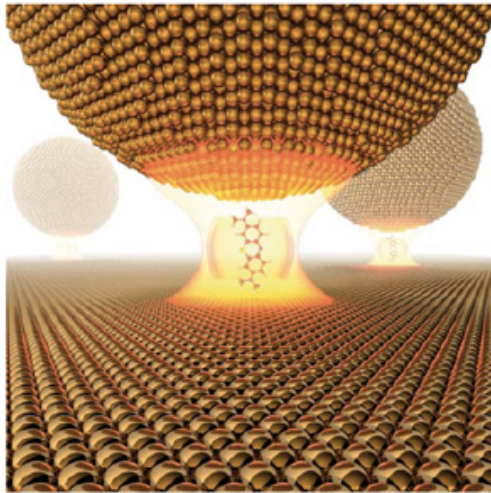
changing the vacuum **changes the matter!**

Recent years: Placing atoms and molecules in cavities shown to sometimes **dramatically change** their properties and chemical reactions. Scientists talk about „light-matter (collective) **strong coupling**“.





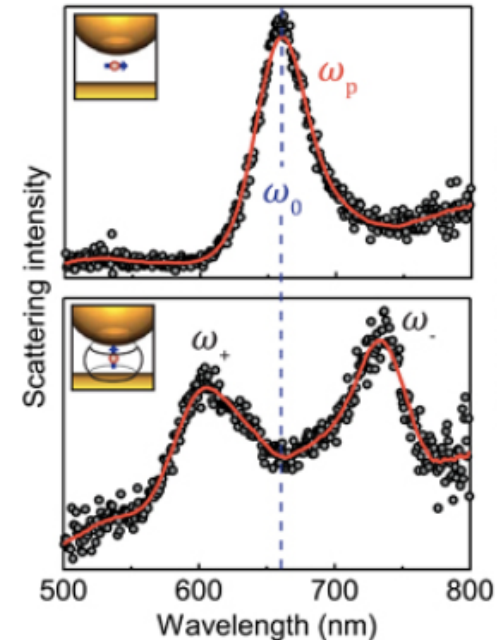
# From classical to quantum light



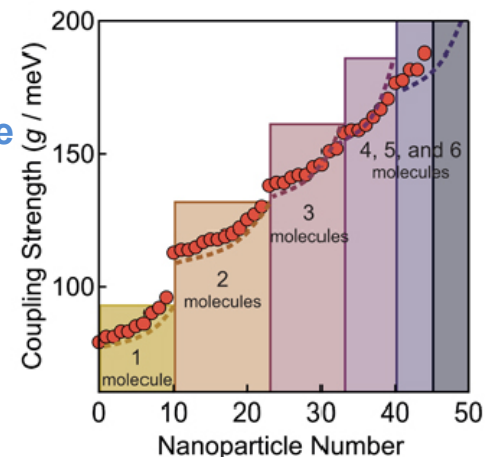
R. Chikkaraddy et al., Nature 535, 127 (2016)

**collective** strong light-matter coupling  
when many atoms interact with the **same** cavity photon mode

**cavity materials:** many atoms interact with the same modes



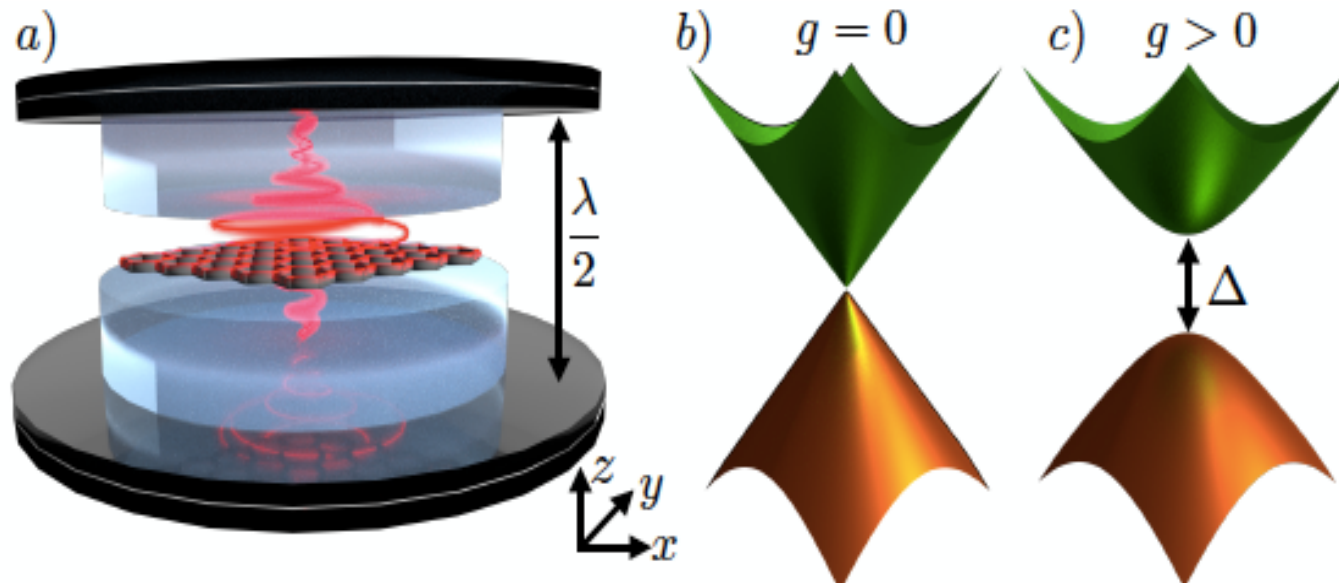
**Rabi splitting**



# Cavity-induced topology

Cavity-induced quantized anomalous Hall effect in graphene

*X. Wang et al., PRB 99, 235156 (2019)*



# Dirac fermion in cavity

*X. Wang et al., PRB 99, 235156 (2019)*

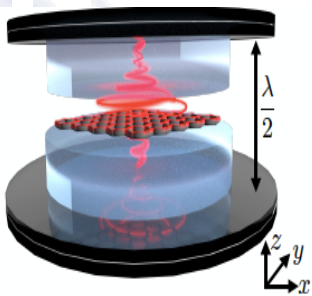
Dirac cone couples to cavity modes:  $\gamma(\vec{k} - \hat{\vec{A}}) \rightarrow \hbar v_F(k_x + ik_y - \sqrt{2}A_0 a^\dagger)$

$$H = \sum_{\vec{k}} \begin{pmatrix} c_{A,\vec{k}}^\dagger \\ c_{B,\vec{k}}^\dagger \end{pmatrix}^T \begin{pmatrix} 0 & \gamma(\vec{k} - \hat{\vec{A}}) \\ \gamma(\vec{k} - \hat{\vec{A}})^\dagger & 0 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} c_{A,\vec{k}} \\ c_{B,\vec{k}} \end{pmatrix} + \sum_{\lambda} \omega_{\lambda} a_{\lambda}^\dagger a_{\lambda},$$

$$\hat{\vec{A}} = A_0 \sum_{\lambda} (\vec{e}_{\lambda} a_{\lambda} + \vec{e}_{\lambda}^* a_{\lambda}^\dagger)$$

$$A_0 = \sqrt{\hbar/(\epsilon\epsilon_0 V \omega)}$$

cavity coupling controlled by mode volume  $V$ , dielectric environment  $\epsilon$ , and mode frequency  $\omega$



exchange of virtual photons with the cavity vacuum

# Dirac fermion in cavity

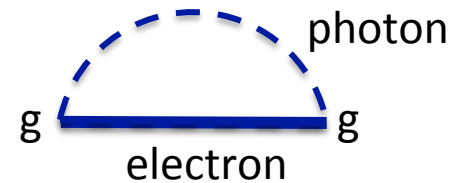
*X. Wang et al., PRB 99, 235156 (2019)*

Using a right-handed circularly polarized cavity reduces the photon field to a single branch with  $\vec{e}_\lambda \equiv \vec{e}$ , operators  $a_\lambda^\dagger \equiv a^\dagger$ , and frequency  $\omega_\lambda \equiv \omega$ , with unit polarization vector  $\vec{e} = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}(1, i)$ . In this case,  $\gamma(\vec{k} - \hat{A}) \rightarrow \hbar v_F(k_x + ik_y - \sqrt{2}A_0 a^\dagger)$

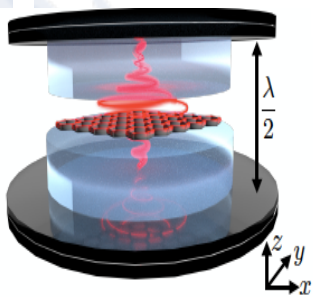
band renormalization due to electron-photon self-energy

$$\Sigma_{0,aa}^R(\vec{k} = 0, \epsilon) = \frac{g^2/2}{\epsilon + i0^+ - \omega},$$

$$\Sigma_{0,bb}^R(\vec{k} = 0, \epsilon) = \frac{g^2/2}{\epsilon + i0^+ + \omega},$$



$$g \equiv v_F A_0 \sqrt{2}$$



# Dirac fermion in cavity

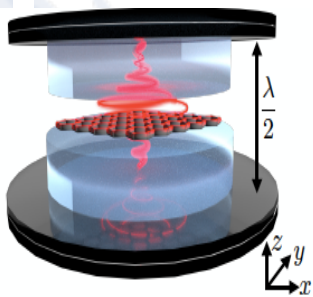
*X. Wang et al., PRB 99, 235156 (2019)*

Energy gap at Dirac point:  $\Delta = \sqrt{2g^2 + \omega^2} - \omega$

In the limit  $2g^2/\omega^2 \ll 1$ , we obtain  $\Delta \approx \frac{g^2}{\omega} = \frac{2\hbar^2 v_F^2 A_0^2}{\omega}$

... looks like Floquet result but **different interpretation of  $A_0$** :

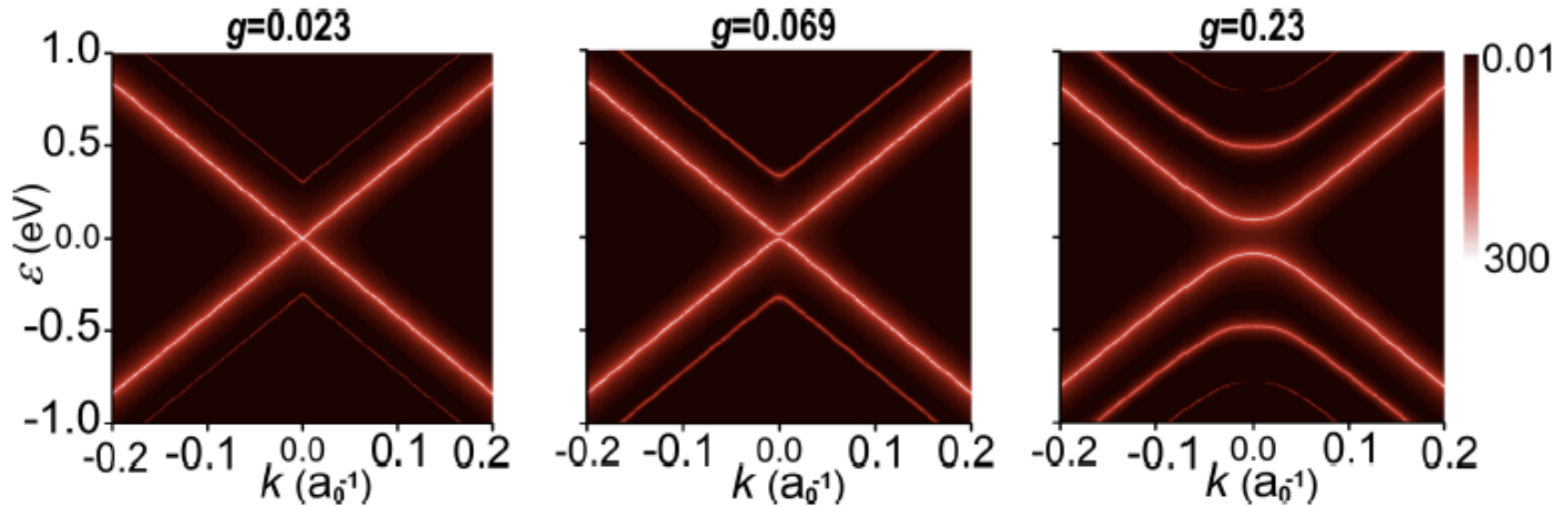
- Floquet = classical limit:  $A_0$  is the laser field amplitude
- dark cavity = quantum limit:  $A_0$  is the amplitude of quantum fluctuations





# Dirac fermion in cavity

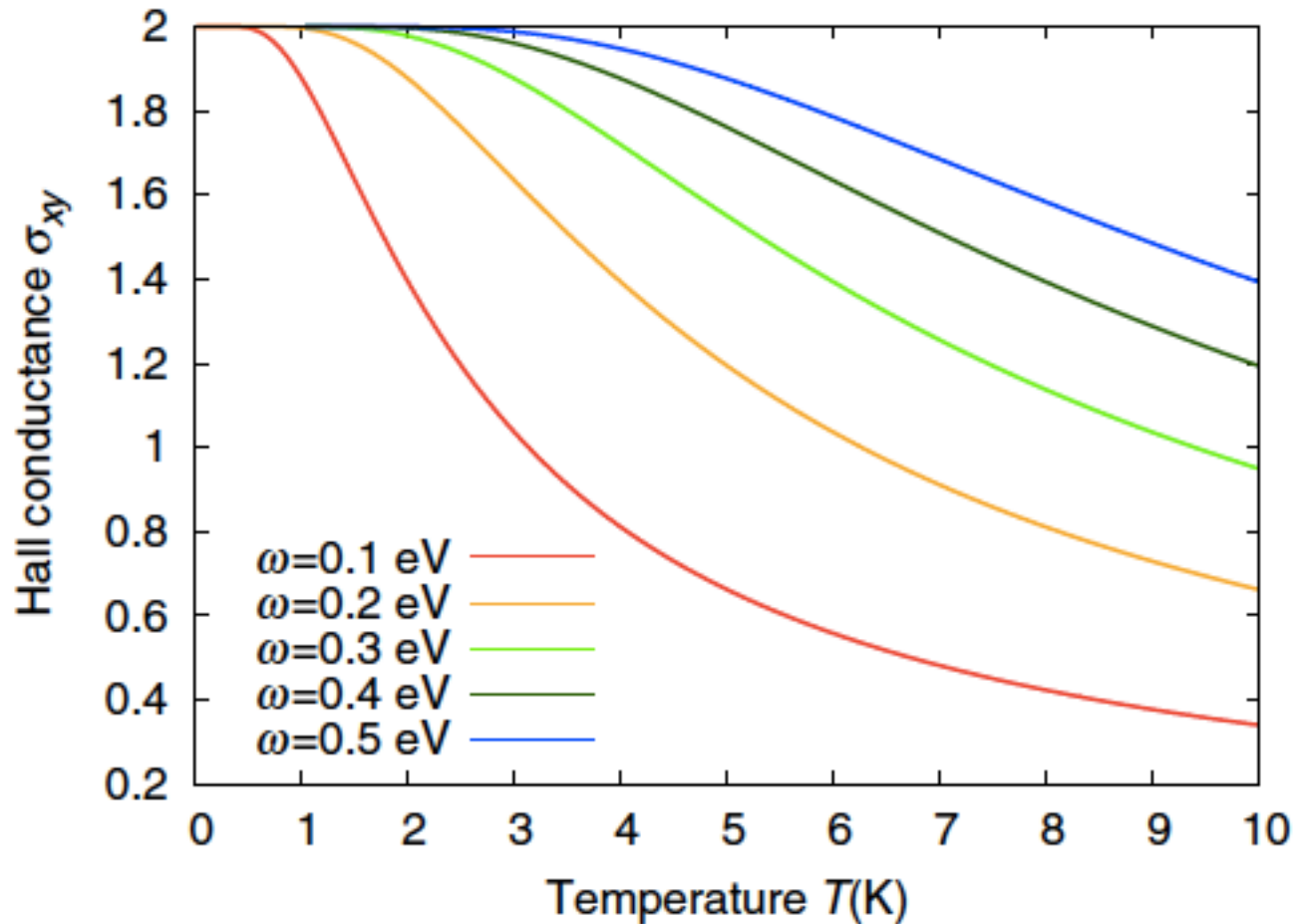
*X. Wang et al., PRB 99, 235156 (2019)*



energy gap and photon sidebands, controlled by light-matter coupling strength

# Dirac fermion in cavity

*X. Wang et al., PRB 99, 235156 (2019)*

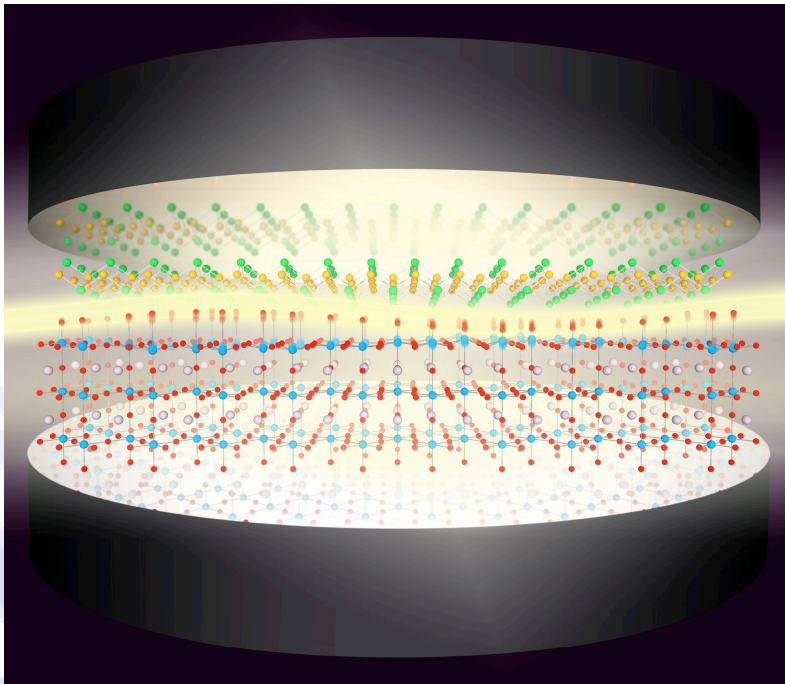


quantized light-induced Hall conductance at low temperatures, controlled by cavity geometry

# Cavity superconductivity?

Cavity quantum-electrodynamical polaritonically enhanced electron-phonon coupling and its influence on superconductivity

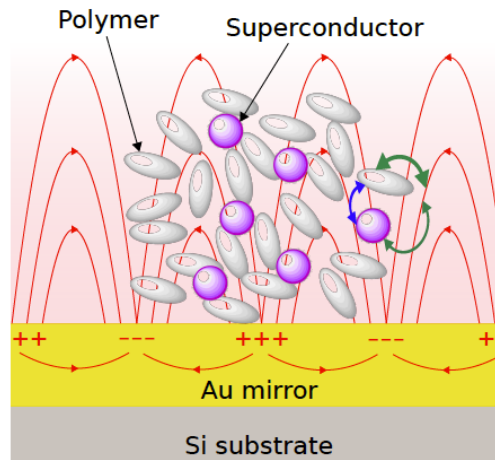
*M. A. Sentef, M. Ruggenthaler, A. Rubio, Science Advances 4, eaau6969 (2018)*



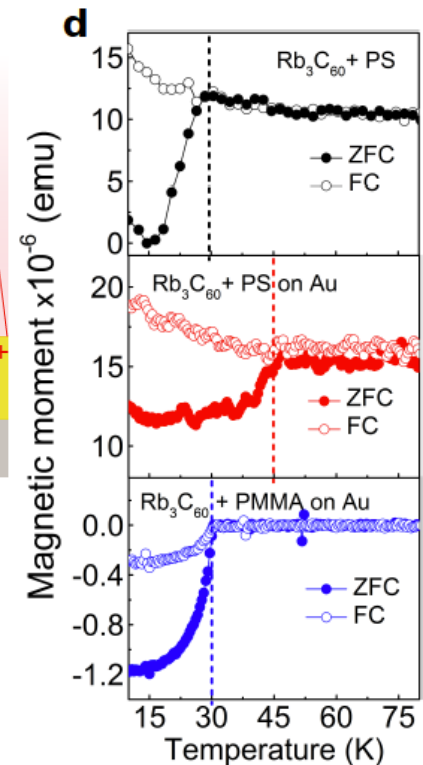
## Exploring Superconductivity under Strong Coupling with the Vacuum Electromagnetic Field [arXiv:1911.01459](https://arxiv.org/abs/1911.01459)

A. Thomas<sup>1</sup>, E. Devaux<sup>1</sup>, K. Nagarajan<sup>1</sup>, T. Chervy<sup>1</sup>, M. Seidel<sup>1</sup>, D. Hagenmüller<sup>1</sup>, S. Schütz<sup>1</sup>,

J. Schachenmayer<sup>1</sup>, C. Genet<sup>1</sup>, G. Pupillo<sup>1\*</sup> & T. W. Ebbesen<sup>1\*</sup>



suggests enhanced electron-phonon coupling due to polariton formation and mode softening



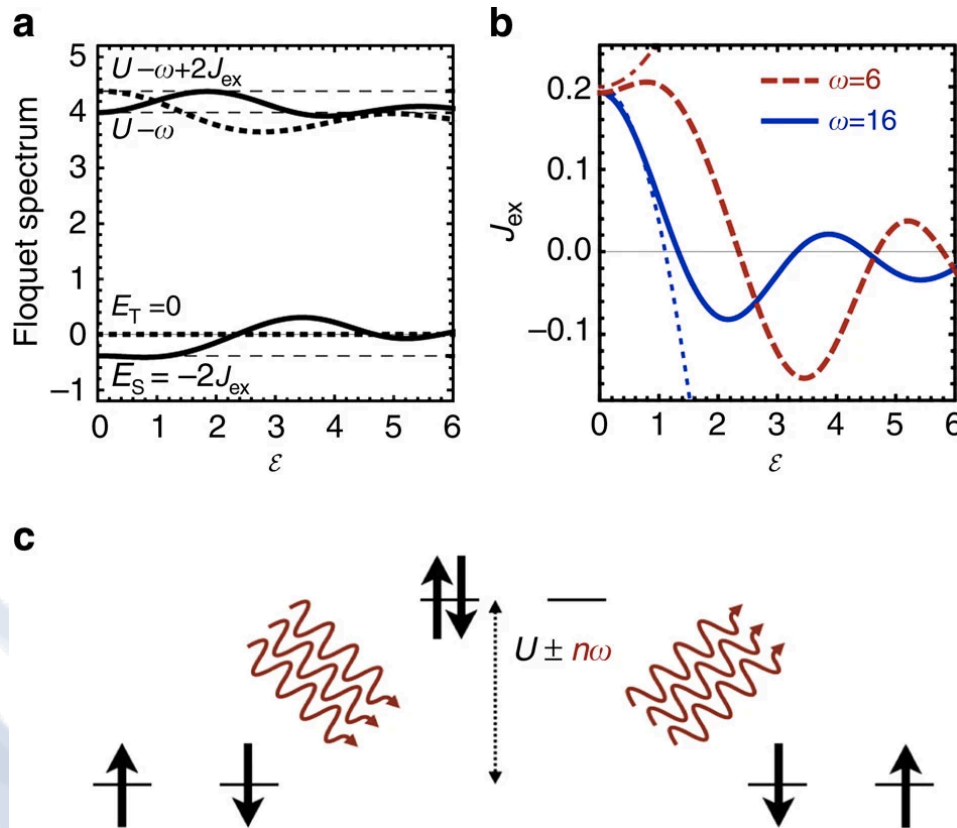
# 3. Cavity to Floquet crossover

# Cavity to Floquet crossover

*M. A. Sentef, J. Li, F. Künzel, M. Eckstein, PRResearch 2, 033033 (2020)*

Motivation: Ultrafast and reversible control of exchange interaction with classical field

*Mentink, Balzer, and Eckstein, Nat. Commun. 6, 6708 (2015)*



emission and absorption of real photons during exchange process renormalizes  $J_{ex}$

sign of change of  $J_{ex}$  controlled by detuning of laser frequency from Hubbard  $U$  at small field strength

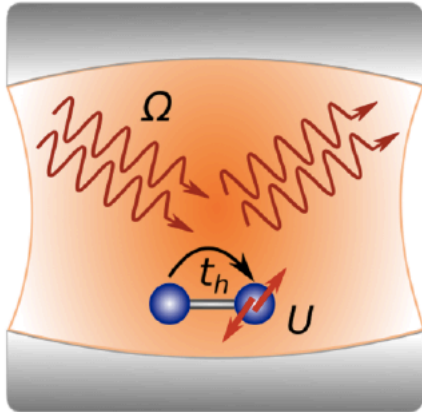
what about the cavity limit?  
can we investigate the crossover?



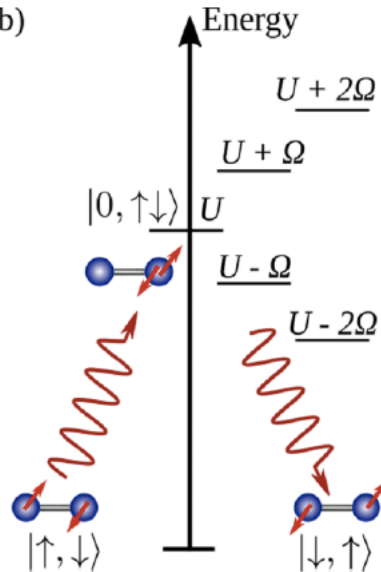
# Cavity to Floquet crossover

*M. A. Sentef, J. Li, F. Künzel, M. Eckstein, PRResearch 2, 033033 (2020)*

(a)



(b)



$$\hat{H} = t_h \sum_{j\sigma} (\hat{c}_{j,\sigma}^\dagger \hat{c}_{j+1,\sigma} e^{i\hat{A}} + \text{H.c.}) + U \sum_j \hat{n}_{j,\uparrow} \hat{n}_{j,\downarrow} + \Omega \hat{a}^\dagger \hat{a}.$$

$$\hat{A} = g(\hat{a} + \hat{a}^\dagger)$$

A: effective vector potential  
g: light-matter coupling strength

Quantum system → Floquet system for

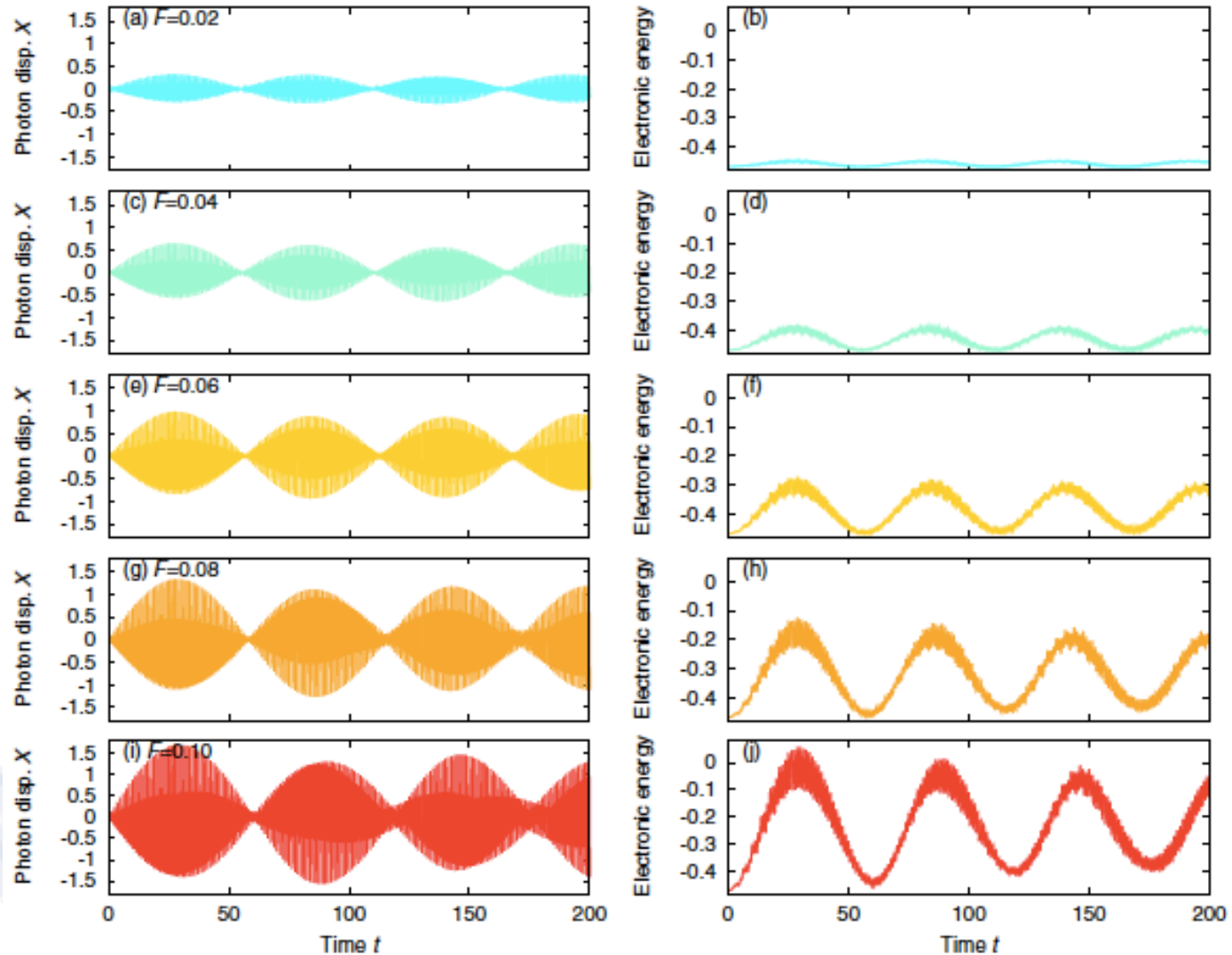
$$n \rightarrow \infty, \quad g\sqrt{n} \text{ fixed.}$$

(large photon number, weak light-matter coupling strength g)

Photon number states are good enough to see Floquet-engineering effects at sufficiently large coupling strength – **coherent states not required!**

# Driven cavity

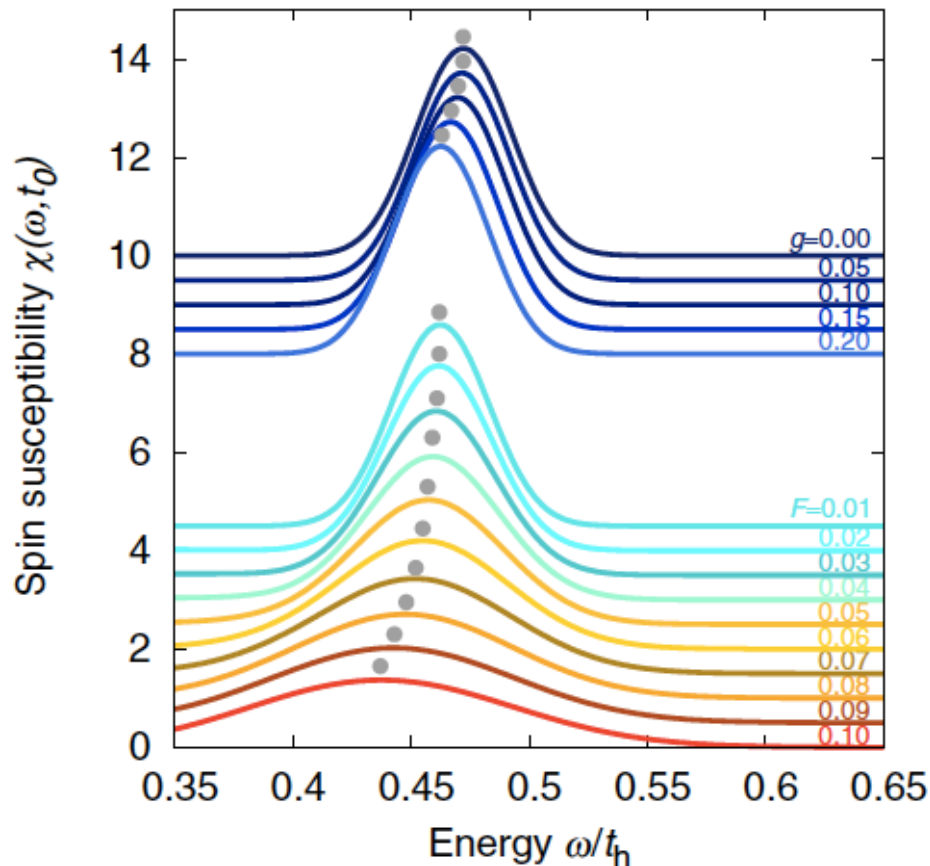
*M. A. Sentef, J. Li, F. Künzel, M. Eckstein, PRResearch 2, 033033 (2020)*



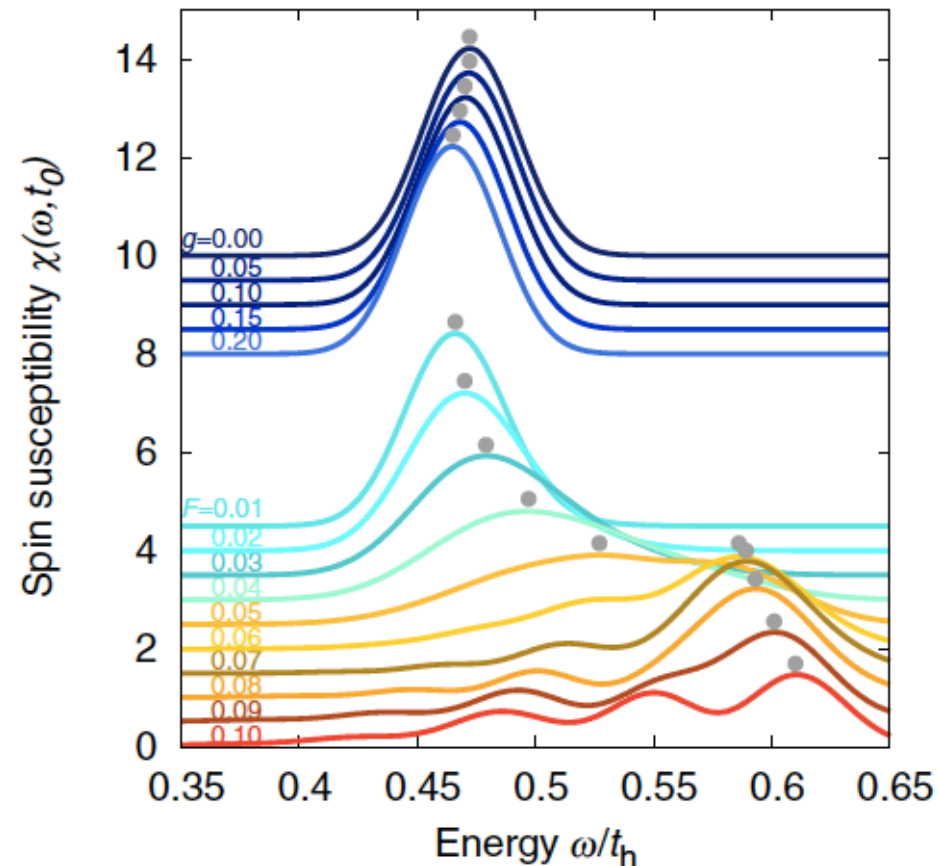
# Driven cavity

*M. A. Sentef, J. Li, F. Künzel, M. Eckstein, PRResearch 2, 033033 (2020)*

Time-resolved spin susceptibility in resonantly driven cavity (peak position  $\sim J_{ex}$ )



Cavity frequency  $> U$



Cavity frequency  $< U$

$J_{ex}$  always reduced by vacuum fluctuations

blue-detuned:  $J_{ex}$  further reduced by driving; red-detuned:  $J_{ex}$  enhanced by driving

# Floquet engineering **without** macroscopic laser fields

*M. A. Sentef, J. Li, F. Künzel, M. Eckstein, PRResearch 2, 033033 (2020)*

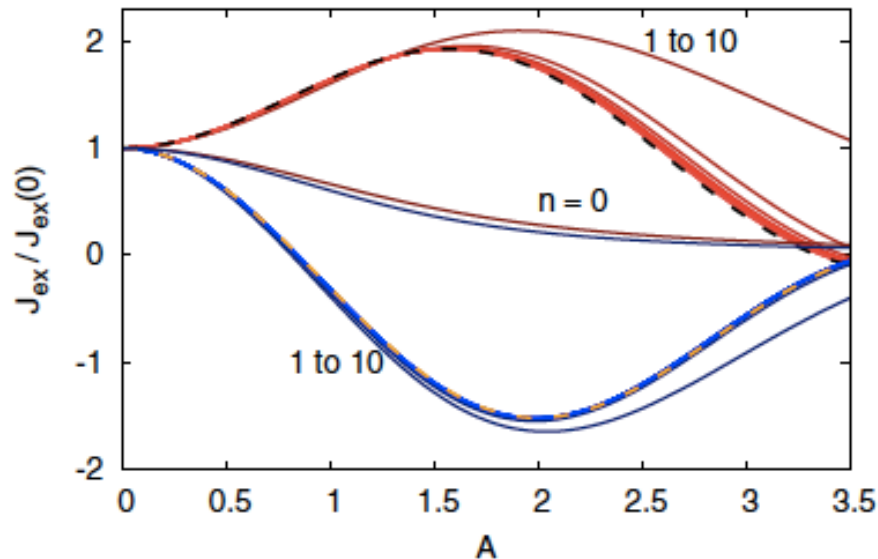


FIG. 4. Exchange interaction  $J_{\text{ex}}^{(n)}$  in the  $n$ -photon state as a function of  $A$  for  $n = 1, \dots, 10$ . The vertical axis is in units of  $J_{\text{ex}}(0)$  at coupling  $g = 0$ . The curves with colors from dark to light red correspond to  $\Omega = 0.8U$  (red-detuned) and those with dark to light blue correspond to  $\Omega = 1.2U$  (blue-detuned). The lightness of the color indicates the photon number  $n$  with the darkest ones denoting  $n = 0$ . The dashed black (orange) line shows the Floquet result (11) for  $\Omega = 0.8U$  ( $\Omega = 1.2U$ ). For the dark-cavity ( $n = 0$ ) case,  $J_{\text{ex}}^{(0)}$  is plotted as a function of the coupling  $g = A$ .

At fixed photon number, Floquet limit is reached as the **light-matter coupling strength** is increased!

**Note:**

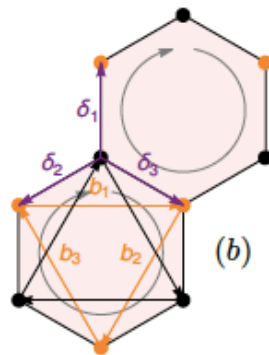
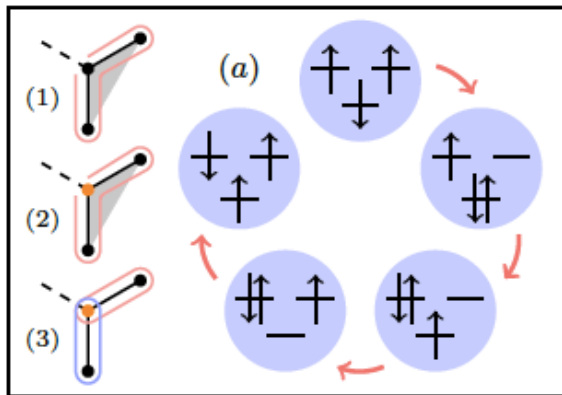
photon number states have zero macroscopic field

-> **coherence is not required** at sufficiently strong coupling!

# Floquet topological magnons

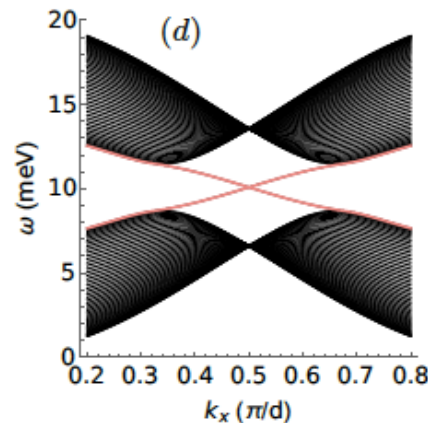
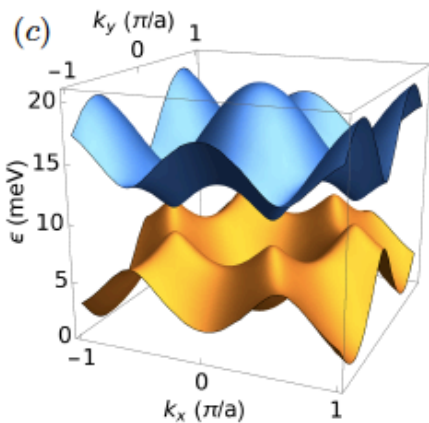
*E. V. Boström, M. Claassen, J. W. McIver, G. Jotzu, A. Rubio, and M. A. Sentef, arXiv: 2007.01714*

also see: Claassen et al., Nat. Commun. 8, 1192 (2017); Kitamura et al., PRB 96, 014406 (2017); Owerre, Journal of Physics Communications 1, 021002 (2017)

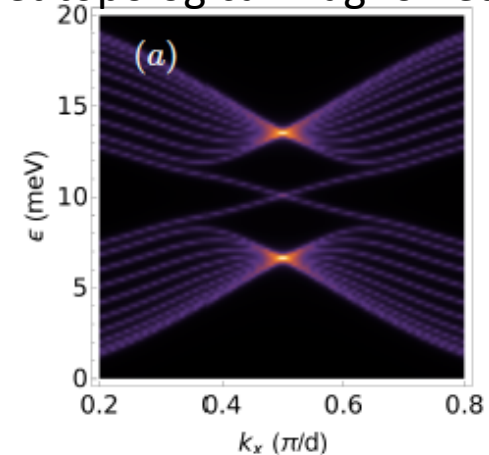


Light-induced **scalar spin chirality** in 2D honeycomb magnets

$$\mathcal{H} = \sum_{\langle ij \rangle} J_{ij} \hat{\mathbf{S}}_i \cdot \hat{\mathbf{S}}_j + \sum_{\langle\langle ik \rangle\rangle} J'_{ik} \hat{\mathbf{S}}_i \cdot \hat{\mathbf{S}}_k + \sum_{\langle\langle ik \rangle\rangle} \chi_{ik} \hat{\mathbf{S}}_j \cdot (\hat{\mathbf{S}}_i \times \hat{\mathbf{S}}_k).$$



Floquet topological magnon edge states





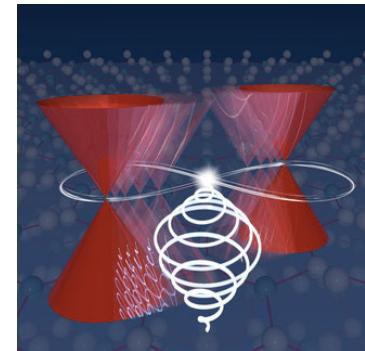
## 1. Floquet engineering

coherent laser driving can induce topology

*M. A. Sentef et al., Nat. Commun. 6, 7047 (2015)*

*H. Hübener et al., Nat. Commun. 8, 13940 (2017)*

*G. E. Topp et al., PRResearch 1, 023031 (2019)*



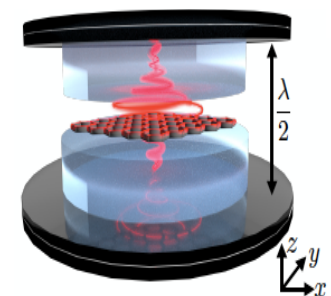
## 2. Cavity engineering

light-induced topology from pure vacuum fluctuations of light

*X. Wang, E. Ronca, M. A. Sentef, PRB 99, 235156 (2019)*

cavity superconductivity

*M. A. Sentef, M. Ruggenthaler, A. Rubio, Science Advances 4, eaau6969 (2018)*

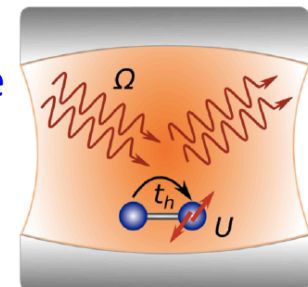


## 3. Cavity to Floquet crossover

strong light-matter coupling: Floquet effects without coherence

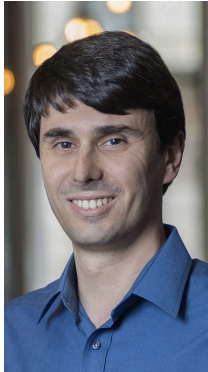
*M. A. Sentef, J. Li, F. Künzle, M. Eckstein, PRResearch 2, 033033 (2020)*

*E. V. Boström, M. Claassen, J. W. McIver, G. Jotzu, A. Rubio, M. A. Sentef, arXiv: 2007.01714*

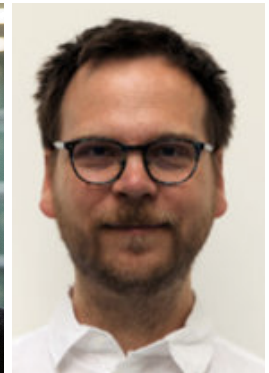
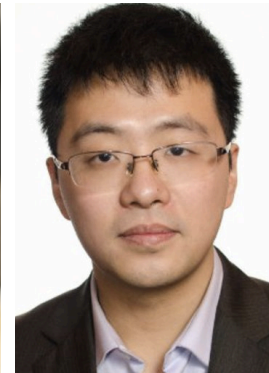




# Collaborators and Funding



Gabriel Topp Martin Claassen Tom Devereaux Lex Kemper Hannes Hübener Michael Ruggenthaler Ángel Rubio



Gregor Jotzu

James McIver

Xiao Wang

Jiajun Li

Martin Eckstein Emil Boström