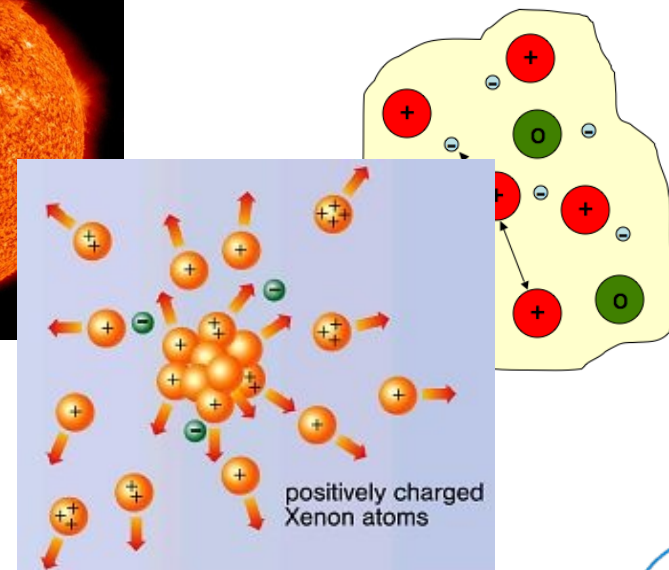
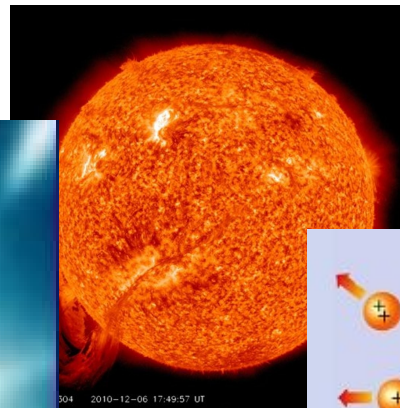
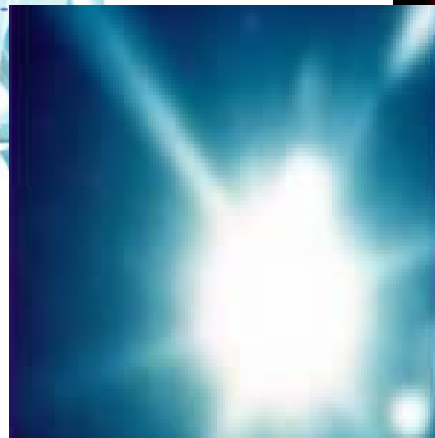
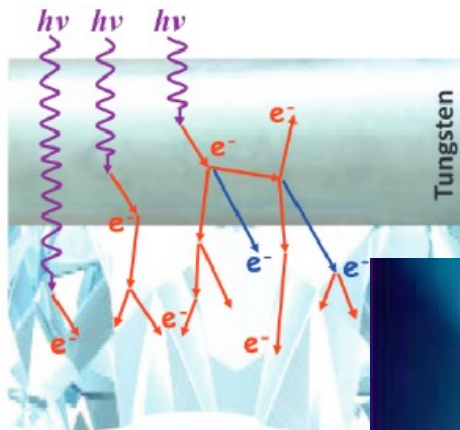


# Ultrafast transformations in matter induced by intense X-ray radiation

B. Ziaja<sup>1,2</sup>

<sup>1</sup> Center for Free-Electron Laser Science, DESY, Hamburg

<sup>2</sup> Institute of Nuclear Physics, PAS, Kraków



# CFEL-DESY Theory Group at the Center for Free-Electron Laser Science

The CFEL Theory Group develops theoretical and computational tools to predict the behavior of matter exposed to intense electromagnetic radiation. We employ quantum-mechanical and classical techniques to study ultrafast processes that take place on time scales ranging from  $10^{-12}$  s to  $10^{-18}$  s. Our research interests include the dynamics of excited many-electron systems; the motion of atoms during chemical reactions; and x-ray radiation damage in matter.



## Members of the CFEL-DESY Theory Group:

C. Arnold, S. Bazzi, J. Beks, Y.-J. Chen, O. Geffert, D. Gorelova, L. Inhester, Z. Jurek, A. Hanna, R. Kaur, D. Kolbasova, M. Krishna, Z. Li, V. Lipp, M. A. Malik, P. K. Mishra, **R. Santra (Group Director)**, J. Schaefer, S.-K. Son, V. Tkachenko, K. Toyota, R. Welsch, B. Ziaja

## 3 subgroups:

'Ab-initio X-ray Physics' (S.-K. Son),  
'Chemical Dynamics' (R. Welsch),  
'Modeling of Complex Systems' (B. Ziaja)

# My excellent collaborators ...

V. Lipp



N. Medvedev



Now in Prague ...

V. Tkachenko



V. Saxena



Now in Delhi ...

J. Bekx



# Outline

- 1. Transitions in matter triggered by X-rays**
- 2. X-ray induced electronic and structural transitions in solids**
- 3. Diagnostics of structural transitions**
- 4. Amorphization of solids by intense X-ray pulse**
- 5. Summary**

# Transitions in matter ...

**Energy delivered to a thermodynamic system → transition into a different phase or state of matter**

Examples:

Structural transition → leads to a change of a system structure

Magnetic transition → changes magnetic properties (e.g., demagnetization)

Superconductivity → superconducting phase

...

Or

Solid-to-solid → leads to a change of solid's structure

Solid-to-liquid → melting

Solid-to-plasma → ionization

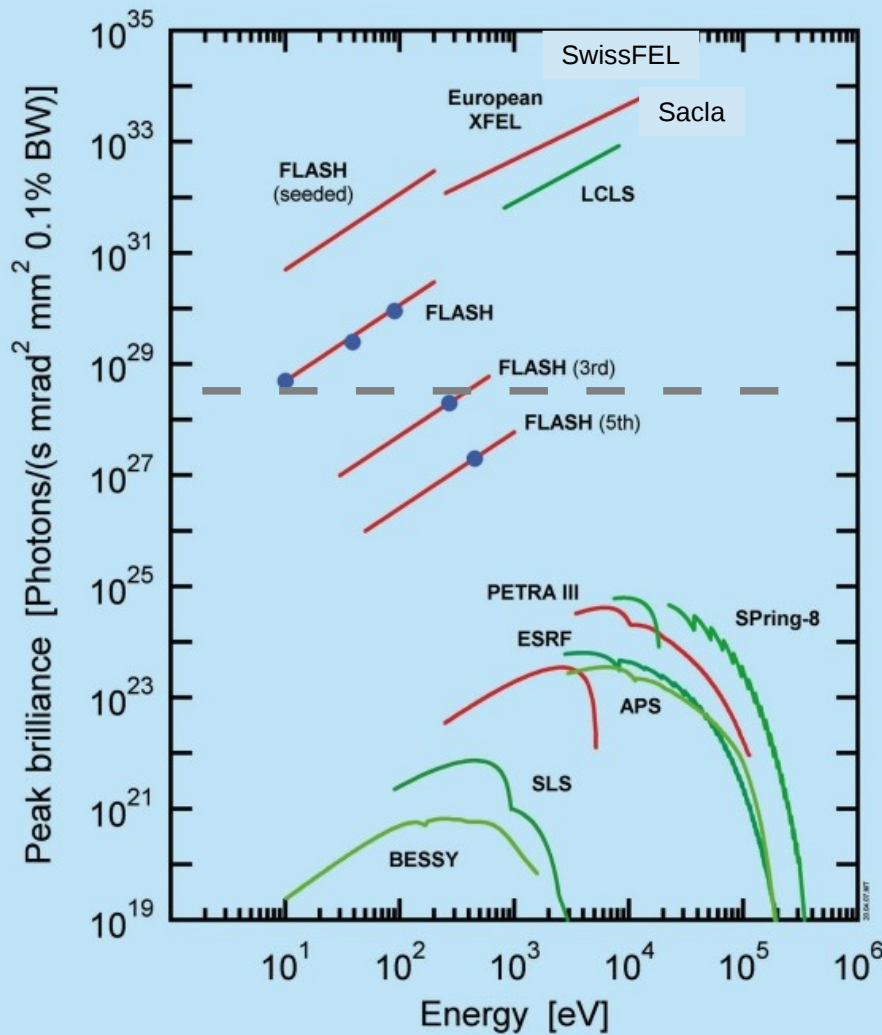
...

# Structural transitions in solids induced by X-ray radiation

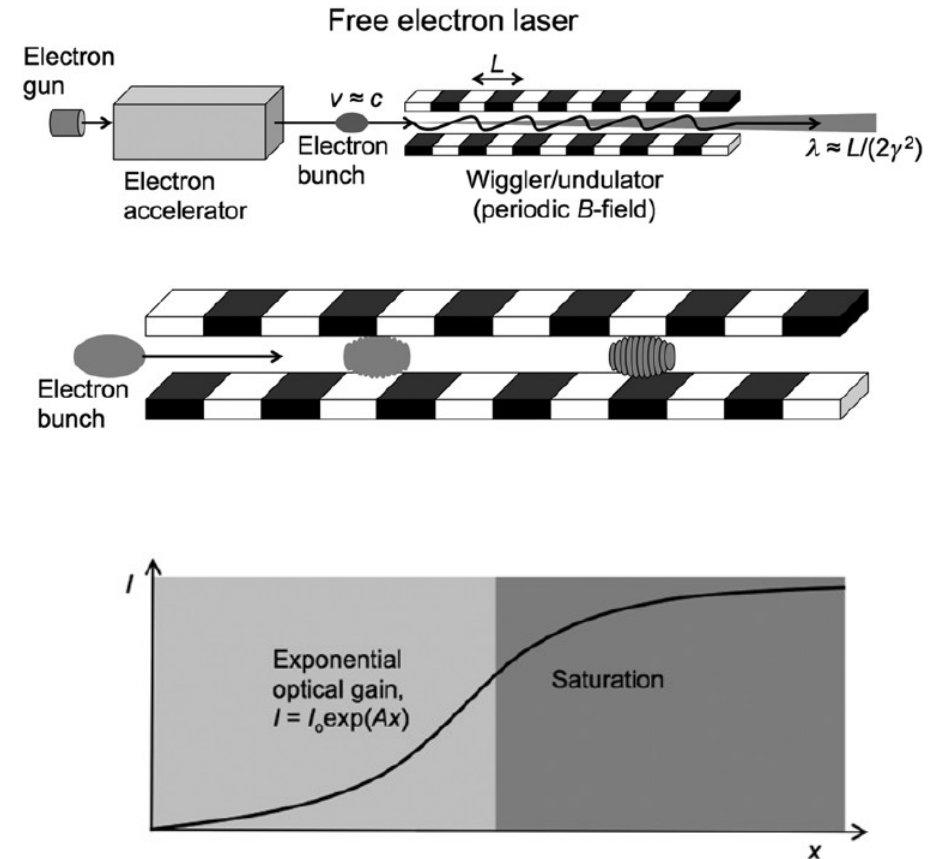
**... Femtosecond intense pulses  
from X-ray free-electron laser ...**



# FELs: 4<sup>th</sup> generation light sources



photon-science.desy.de



Ribic, Margaritondo, J. Phys. D **45** 213001 (2012)

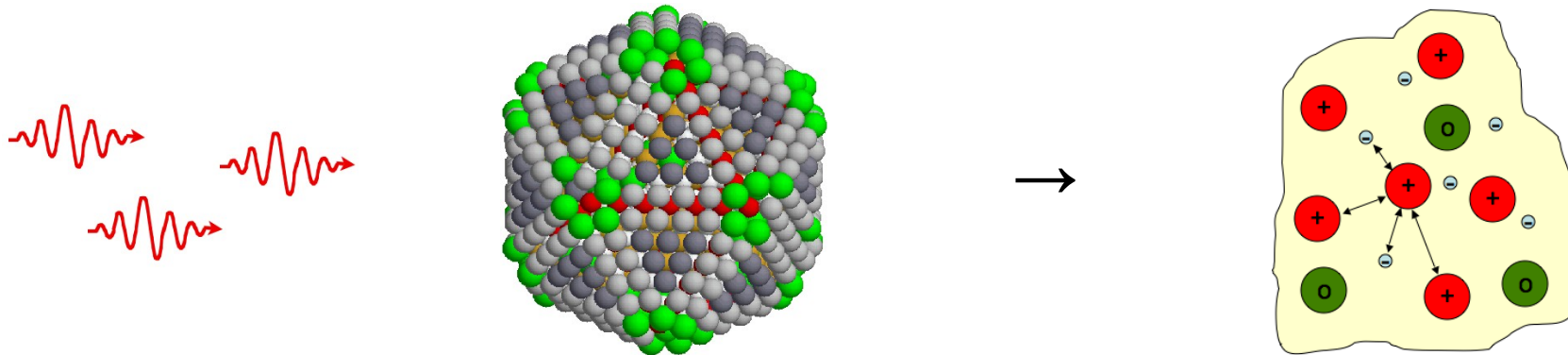
Pulse duration ~ down to 10 fs  
Wavelength ~ VUV- hard X-ray

# Main interactions:

**X-ray photons:** elastic scattering, Compton scattering, photoionization (valence band, inner-shell), Auger & fluorescence decays

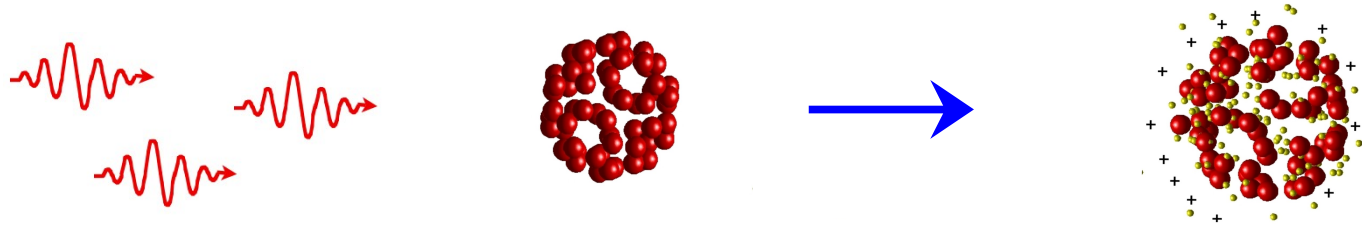
**Electrons:** collisional ionization and recombination from/to bands, thermalization → band modification

**Ions:** electrostatic repulsion → band modification → structural transition?



© phys.canterbury.ac.nz



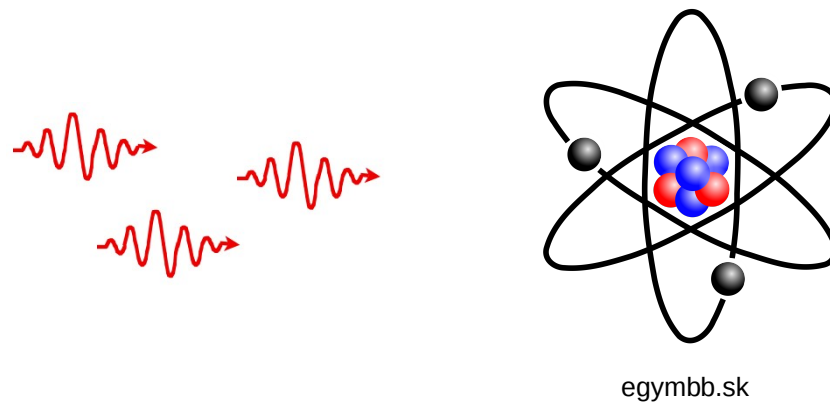


## Challenges for theory description:

- system out of equilibrium → band structure evolving
- irradiation with hard X-rays → keV excited electrons
- irradiated complex systems with large number of atoms in the sample → computational efficiency vs. accuracy
- microscopic description desired

# Structural transitions in solids induced by X-ray radiation

Transition depends on the average absorbed dose ....



# Outline

**1. Transitions in matter triggered by X-rays**

**2. X-ray induced electronic and structural transitions in solids modeled with our in-house codes XCASCADE and XTANT**

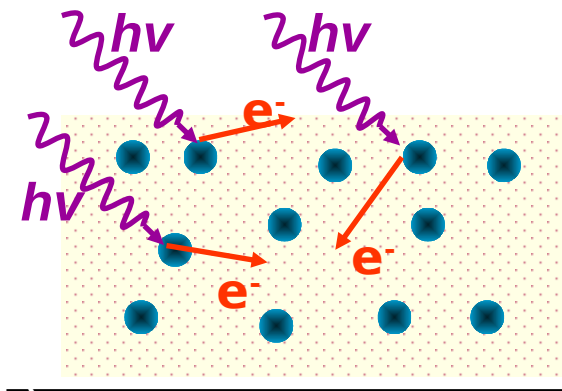
**3. Diagnostics of structural transitions**

**4. Amorphization of solids by intense X-ray pulse**

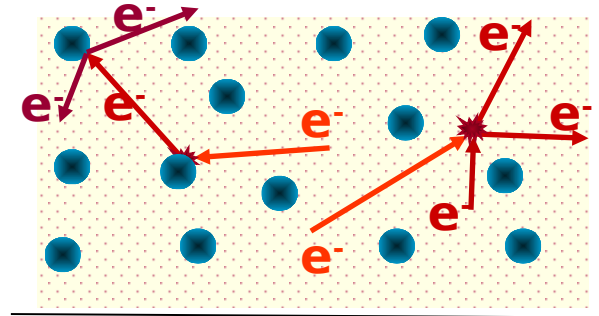
**5. Summary**

# Electron kinetics after impact of **low-fluence** femtosecond X-ray pulse

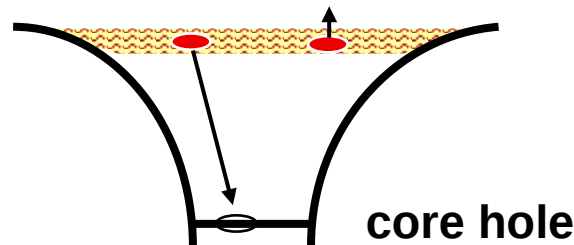
Low X-ray dose



Photoabsorption during X-ray pulse



Electron kinetics: impact ionization, elastic scatterings



core hole

Auger decay of core holes  $\rightarrow$  electron emission

[Medvedev et al., CPP 53 (2013) 347]

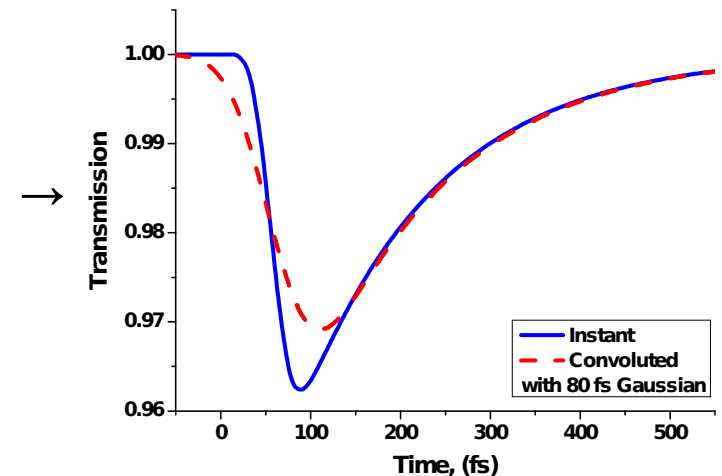
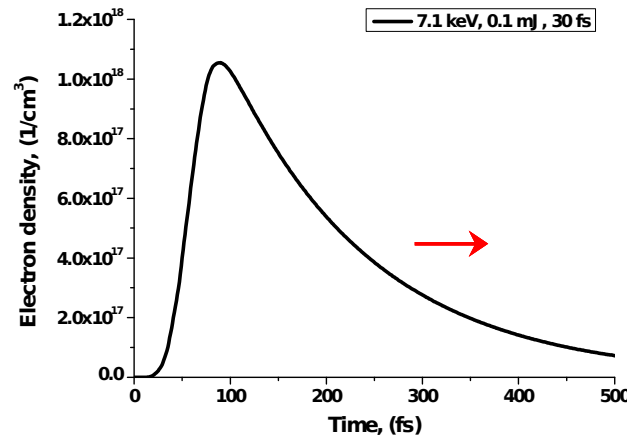


# Interaction of solids with low-fluence femtosecond X-ray pulses: → **Electron Kinetics**

Low dose

Radiation excites **free electrons** within solids which induce transient change of solid's optical properties (reflectivity, transmission) but no structural changes.

Example:  
 $\text{SiO}_2$



Electron density translates into **transient change of optical properties** with **Drude model** (or ab-initio calculated dielectric function)

[Medvedev et al., CPP 53 (2013) 347]

→ application for a non-destructive high-resolution **FEL pulse timing tool**

[Harmand et al. (Medvedev, Ziaja), Nat. Phot. 7 (2013) 215]

[Riedel et al. (Medvedev, Ziaja), Nat. Commun. 4 (2013) 1731]

[Finetti et al. (Medvedev, Tkachenko, Ziaja), PRX (2017) accepted]

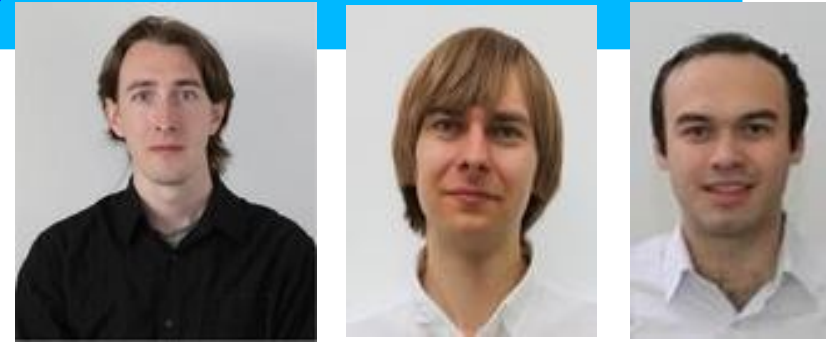
Damage Threshold



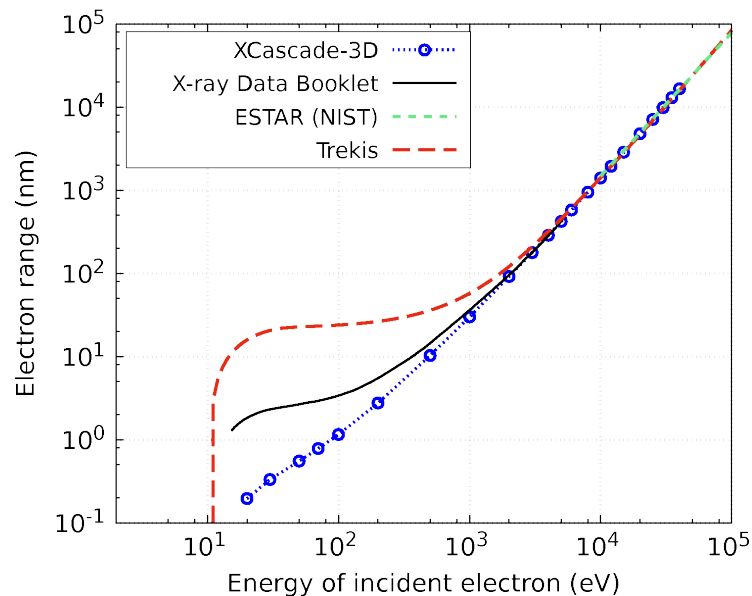
# Our efficient simulation tool: XCASCADE (3D) code

→ Resolves 3D spatio-temporal structure of electron cascades initiated by a primary (photo)electron impact

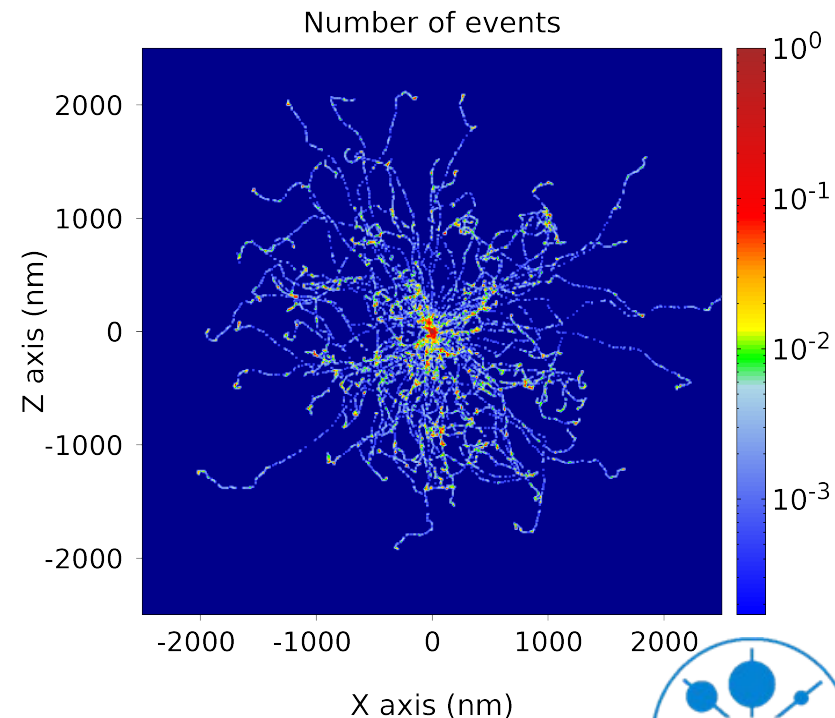
→ Efficient simulation scheme due to independent electron cascade approximation and low ionization degree of material in which electrons propagate



100 cascades in LiF after 10 keV electron impact

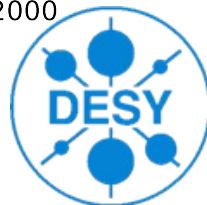


Predicted electron ranges in Si



[N. Medvedev, *Appl. Phys. B* 118 (2015) 417]

[V. Lipp, N. Medvedev, B. Ziaja, *SPIE Proc.* 10236 (2017) 10236 H]



# Interaction of solids with

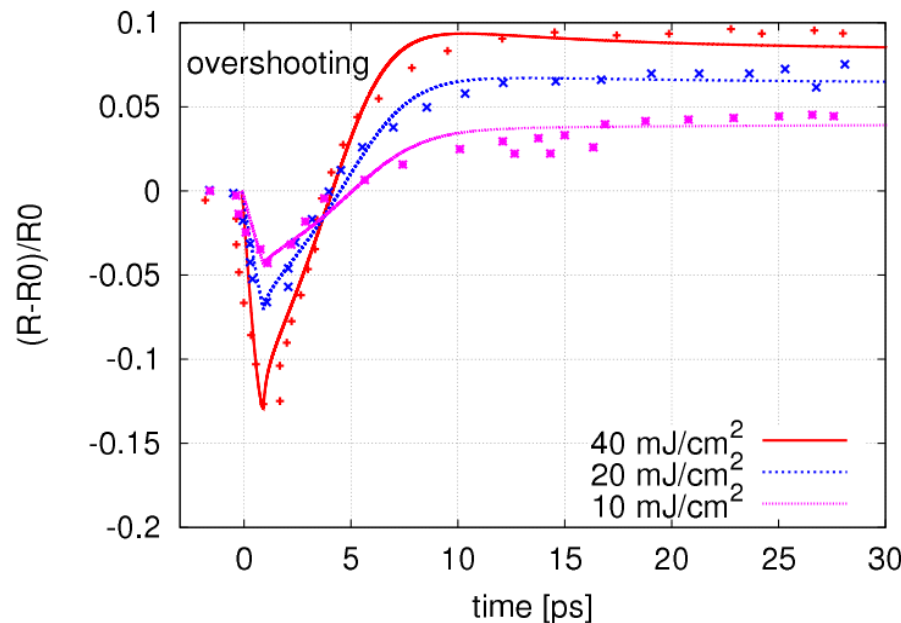
## low-fluence femtosecond X-ray pulses

### → Electron Kinetics and Exchange with Lattice

Low dose

Reflectivity overshooting in GaAs

- Reflectivity overshooting ← effect of band gap shrinking
- Timescale < 10 ps
- Observable at probe wavelength 800 nm (1.55 eV) ~ band gap width (1.43 eV) ← low absorption



LCLS measurement (800 eV)



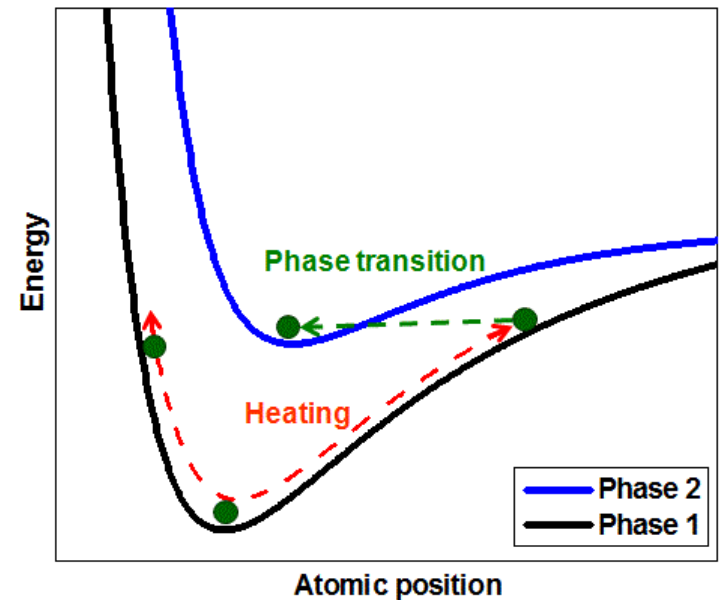
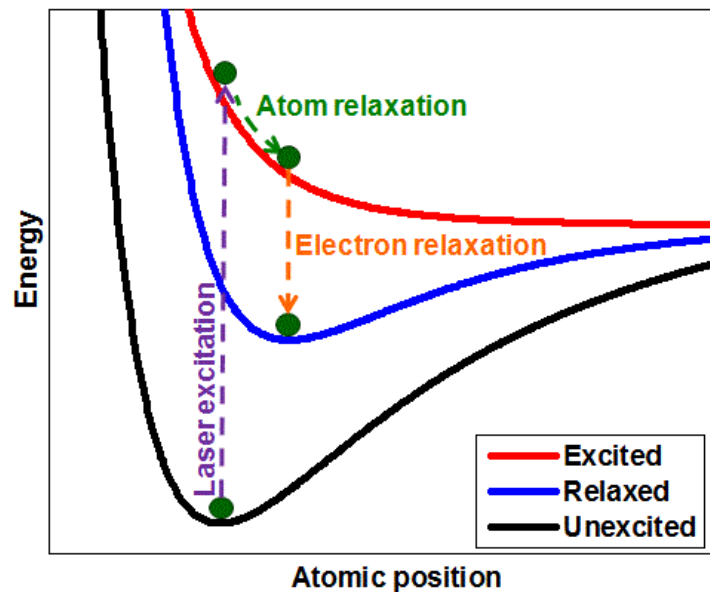
Damage Threshold

# Interaction of solids with femtosecond X-ray pulses of fluence above the damage threshold

Damage threshold

Non-thermal melting (~100 fs)

Thermal melting (~ ps)



Change of interatomic potential

Heating of atomic lattice due to el-ph coupling within the same potential

Melting threshold

[Medvedev et al. (BZ): NJP 15 (2013) 015016;  
PRB 88 (2013) 224304 & 060101;  
PRB 91 (2015) 054113 ]



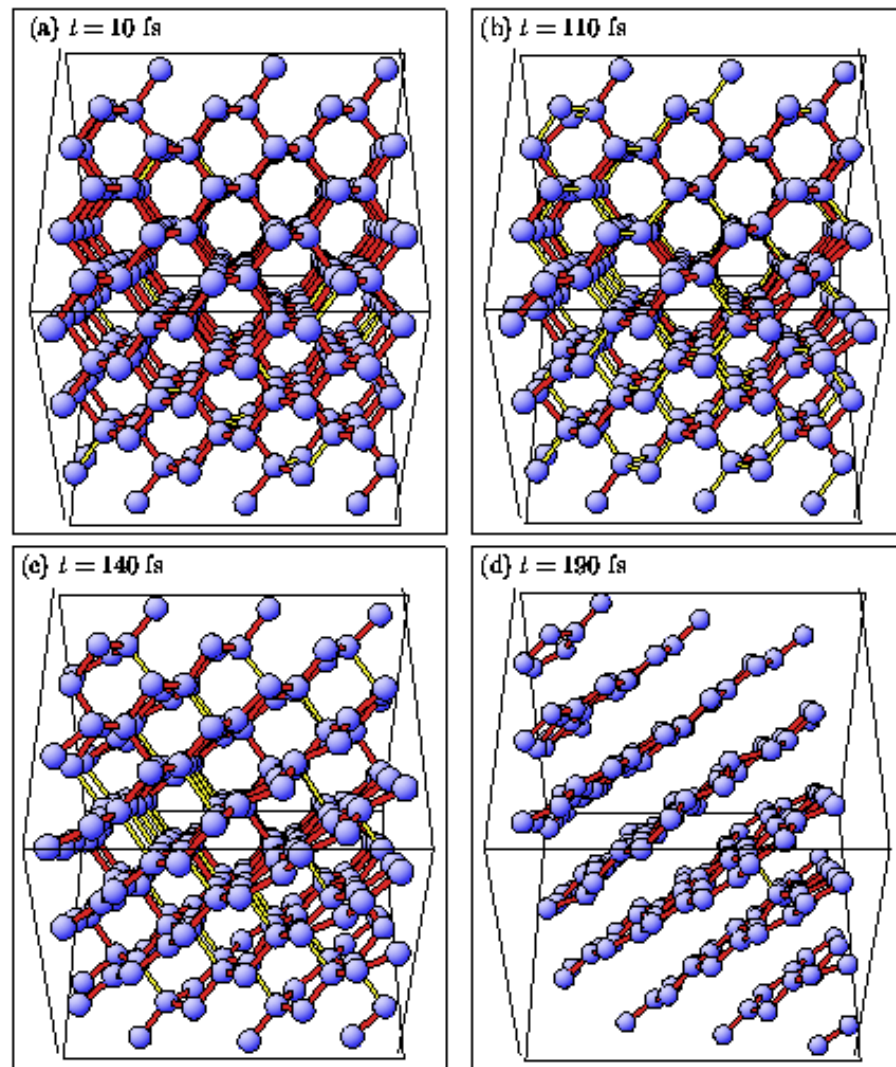
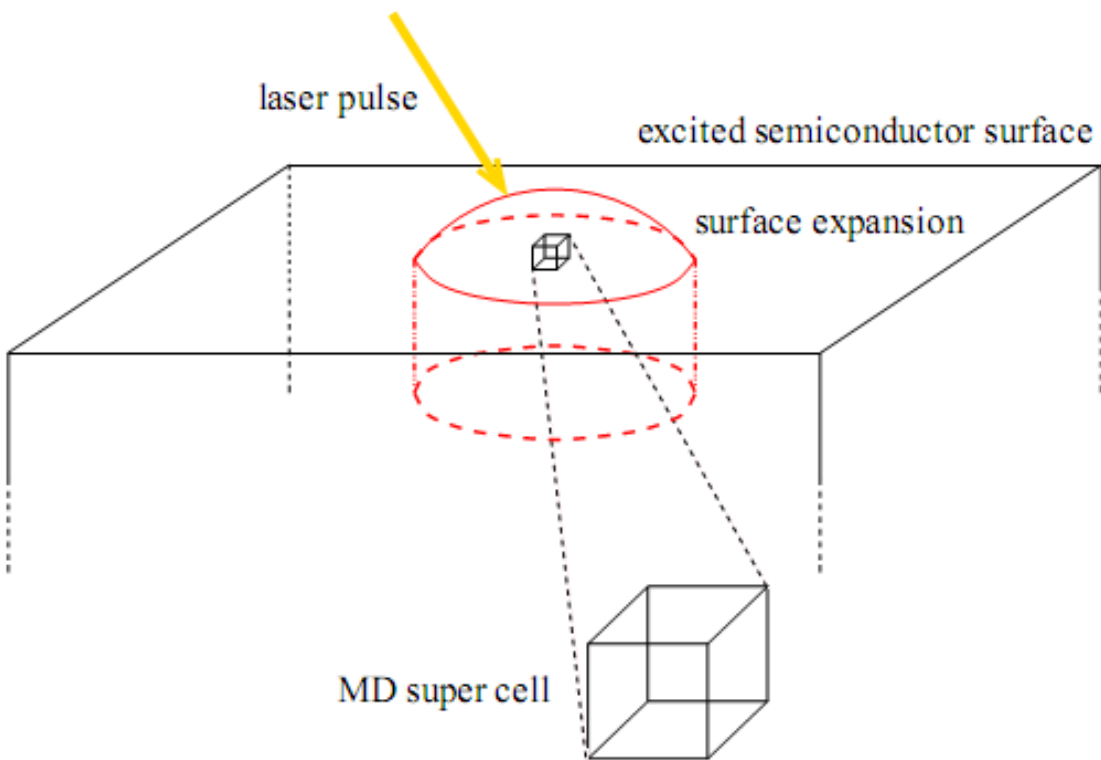
# Our simulation tool XTANT: modular MD/MC/TB/Boltzmann approach

- MD (Parrinello-Rahman scheme) to describe dynamics of ions and atoms
- Boltzmann approach to describe dynamics of electrons within the valence and conduction bands
- Tight binding method/DFT to describe changes of band structure, potential energy surface
- MC approach to describe dynamics of high energy free electrons in conduction band and creation and relaxation of core holes
- Scattering/ionization rates calculated from complex dielectric function updated at each time step

[Medvedev et al. (BZ): NJP 15 (2013) 015016;  
PRB 88 (2013) 224304 & 060101;  
PRB 91 (2015) 054113 ]



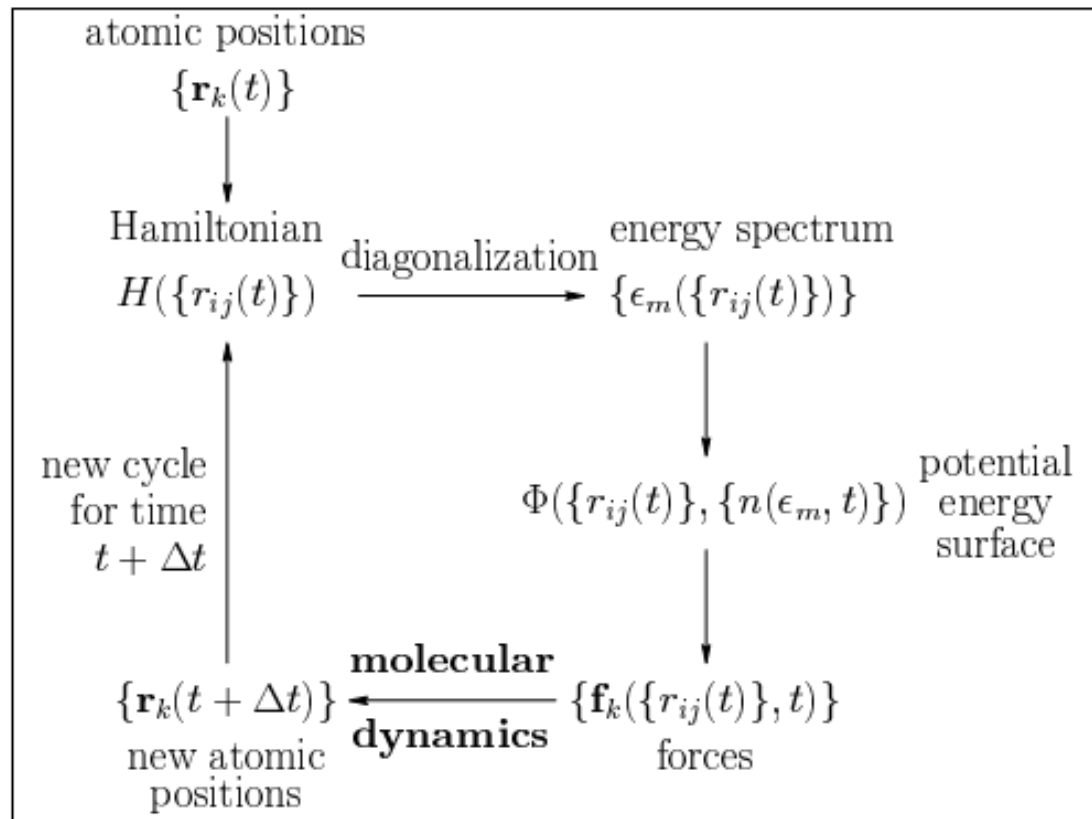
# XTANT: modular MD/MC/TB/Boltzmann approach



Can be used to simulate both bulks  
as well as surfaces and thin layers

[H. Jeschke et al. PRL 2002]

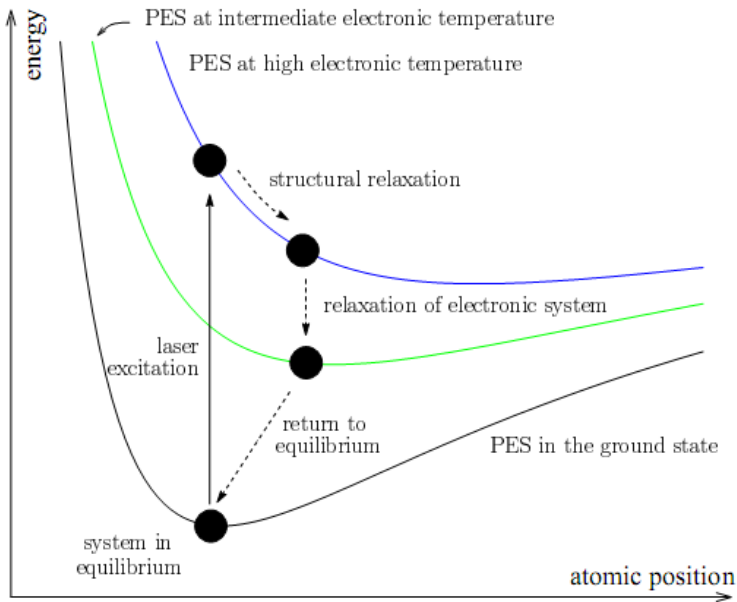
# TB Method and molecular dynamics (TBMD)



[H. Jeschke et al. PRL 1999]



# TB Method and molecular dynamics (TBMD)



$$m_k \ddot{\mathbf{r}}_k = - \frac{\partial \Phi(\{\mathbf{r}_{ij}\}, t)}{\partial \mathbf{r}_k}$$

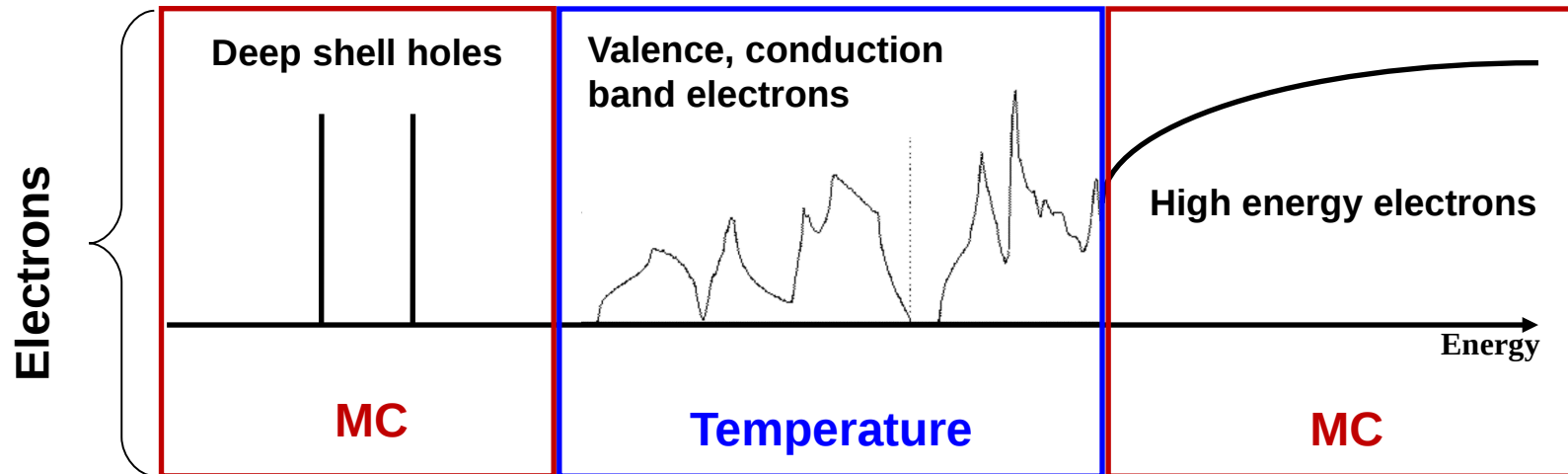
$$\Phi(\{\mathbf{r}_{ij}(t)\}, t) = \underbrace{\sum_m \underbrace{f(\epsilon_m, t)}_{\text{Electrons}} \epsilon_m}_{\text{Electrons}} + \underbrace{\frac{1}{2} \sum_{\substack{ij \\ j \neq i}} E_{\text{rep}}(r_{ij})}_{\text{Core}}$$

$f(\epsilon_m, t)$  - transient electron distribution function

$\epsilon_m(\{\mathbf{r}_{ij}(t)\}) = \langle m | H_{\text{TB}}(\{\mathbf{r}_{ij}(t)\}) | m \rangle$  - transient band structure



# Combined MC-TBMD



$$m_k \ddot{\mathbf{r}}_k = - \frac{\partial \Phi(\{r_{ij}\}, t)}{\partial \mathbf{r}_k}$$

**Electrons**

**Core**

$$\Phi(\{r_{ij}(t)\}, t) = \sum_m \overbrace{n(\epsilon_m, t) \epsilon_m}^{\text{Electrons}} + \frac{1}{2} \sum_{\substack{ij \\ i \neq j}} \overbrace{1 \underbrace{f_{-p}(r_{ij})}_{\text{Core}}}_{\text{Core}}$$

# Processes considered

1) Photoabsorbtion by deep shells and VB

2) Scattering of fast electrons:

- Deep shells ionization

- VB and CB scatterings

3) Auger-decays of deep holes

4) Thermalization in VB and CB

5) Lattice heating (e-phonon coupling)

6) Atomic dynamics

7) Changes of band structure

8) Changes of scattering rates (minor effect)

- MC

- Temperature &  
Boltzmann equation

- TBMD



# Interaction of solids with femtosecond X-ray pulses of fluence above the damage threshold: → **Electron Kinetics + Atomic Relocations**

**Damage threshold** Structural transitions in solids:

→ **graphitization of diamond**  
 ultrafast non-thermal process  
 modeled within  
 Born-Oppenheimer scheme

→ **amorphization of silicon**  
 contribution of non-thermal  
 and thermal melting (due to  
 electron-phonon coupling);  
 extended Born-Oppenheimer  
 scheme

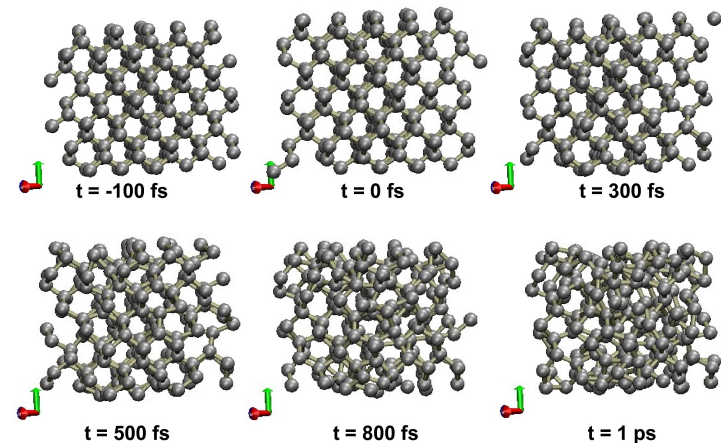
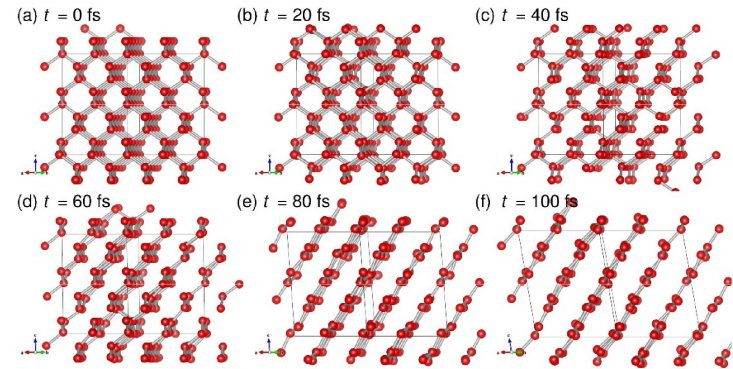


**Melting threshold**

[Medvedev et al. (BZ): NJP 15 (2013) 015016;  
 PRB 88 (2013) 224304 & 060101;  
 PRB 91 (2015) 054113 ]



Photon energy 92 eV, FWHM = 10 fs



**Damage thresholds  
 in good agreement  
 with experiments!**



# Interaction of solids with femtosecond X-ray pulses of fluence above the damage threshold: → Electron Kinetics + Atomic Relocations

Damage threshold



Simulations with dedicated code XTANT: X-ray induced Thermal and Non-Thermal Transitions [Medvedev et al.] →



Melting threshold

[Medvedev et al. (BZ): NJP 15 (2013) 015016; PRB 88 (2013) 224304 & 060101; PRB 91 (2015) 054113 ]

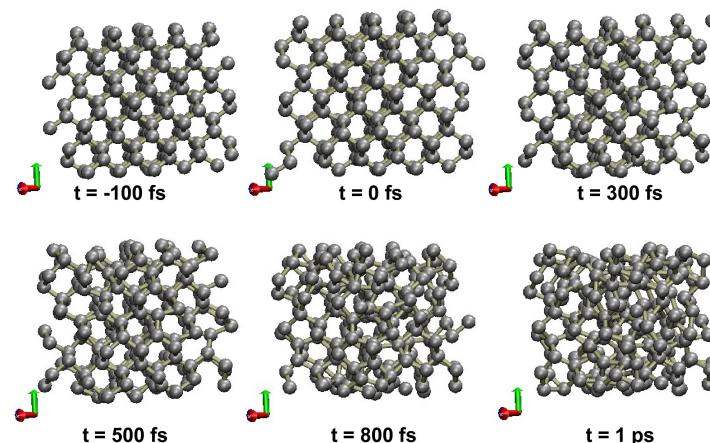
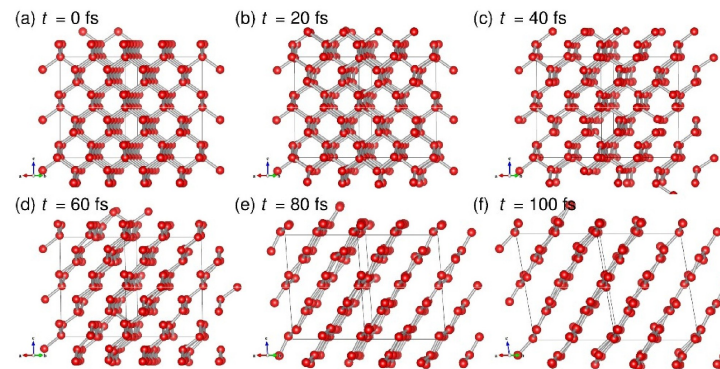
HELMHOLTZ RESEARCH FOR GRAND CHALLENGES



Damage thresholds in good agreement with experiments!



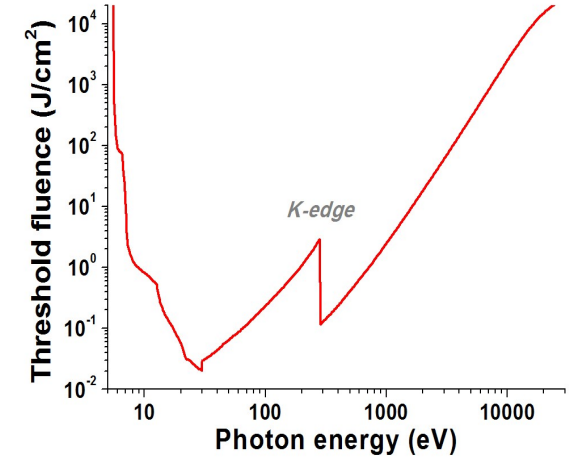
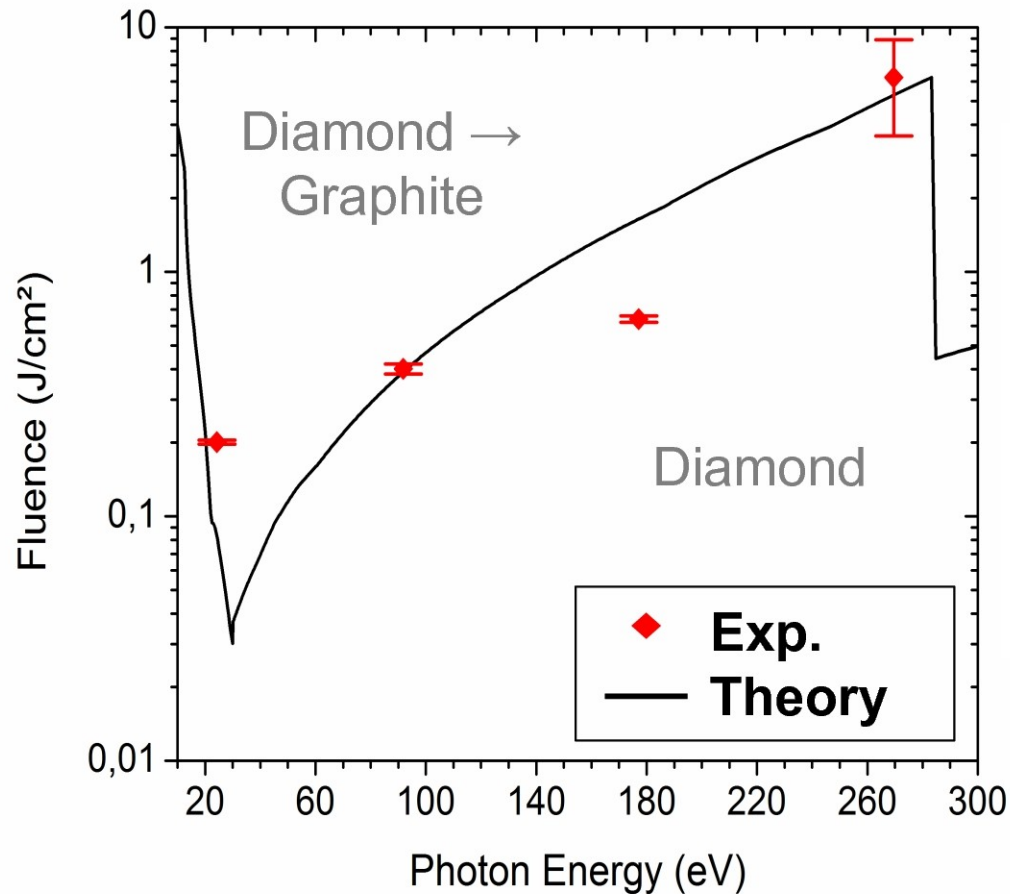
Photon energy 92 eV, FWHM = 10 fs





# Graphitization Damage threshold

Irradiated diamond turns into graphite if the fluence is high:



Extrapolation to hard X-rays

**Damage threshold is in a good agreement with the experiments by J. Gaudin *et al.* (FLASH)**

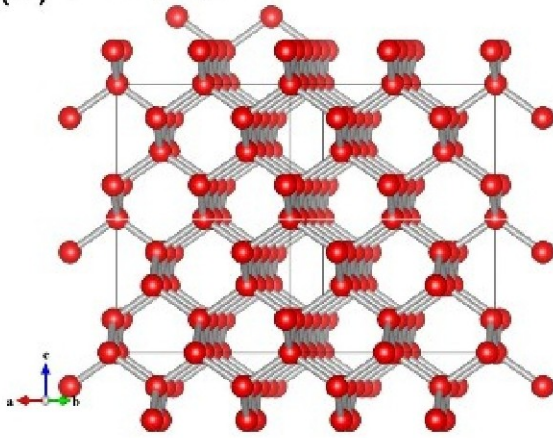
[J. Gaudin *et al.*, PRB, Rapid Comm. 88 (2013) 060101 (R)]

[N. Medvedev, H. Jeschke, BZ, PRB 88 (2013) 224304]

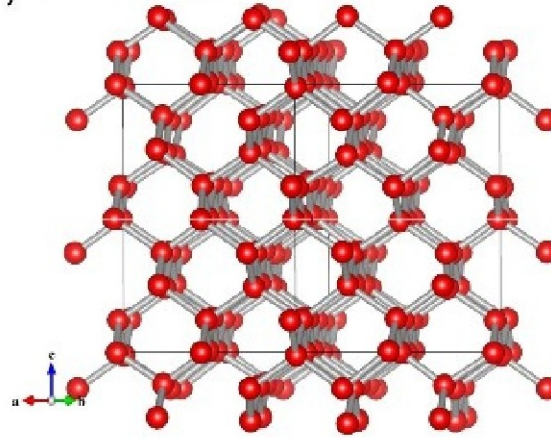
# Graphitization: Atomic snapshots

Photon energy 92 eV, FWHM = 10 fs

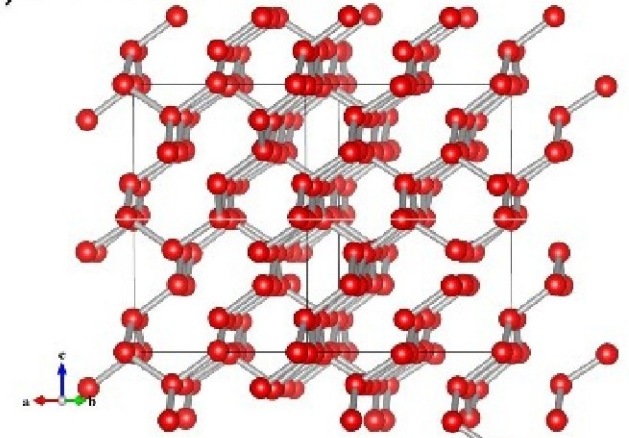
(a)  $t = 0$  fs



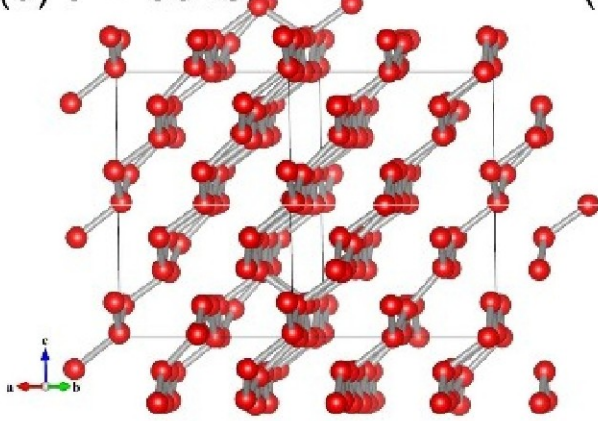
(b)  $t = 20$  fs



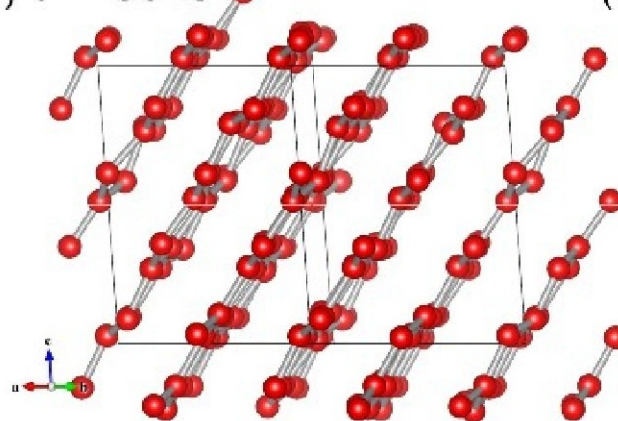
(c)  $t = 40$  fs



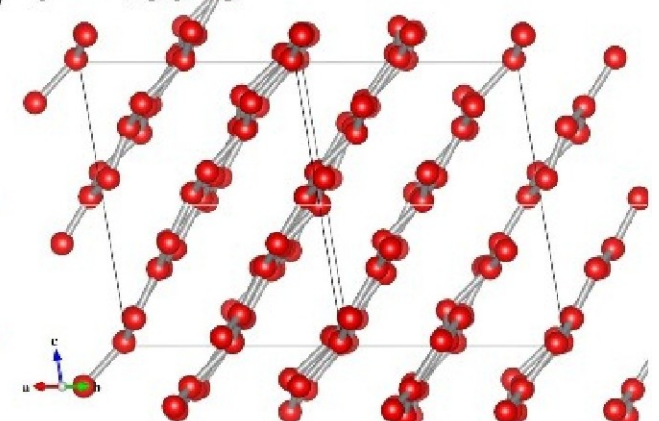
(d)  $t = 60$  fs



(e)  $t = 80$  fs



(f)  $t = 100$  fs



**Ultrafast graphitization of diamond**

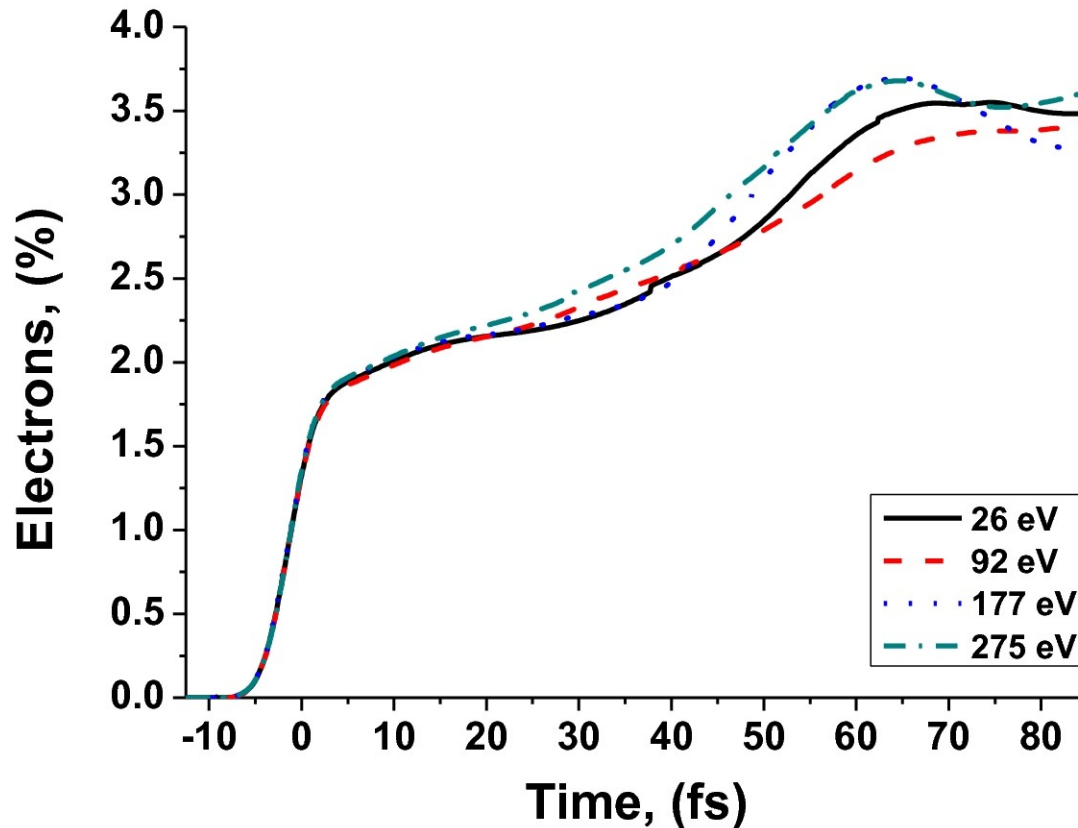
[N. Medvedev, H. Jeschke, B. Ziaja, NJP 15 (2013) 015016]

[This slide courtesy of N. Medvedev]

**Increase of electronic density → band gap collapse**

# Results: Conduction band electrons

Different photon energies: 26 eV, 92 eV, 177 eV, 275 eV

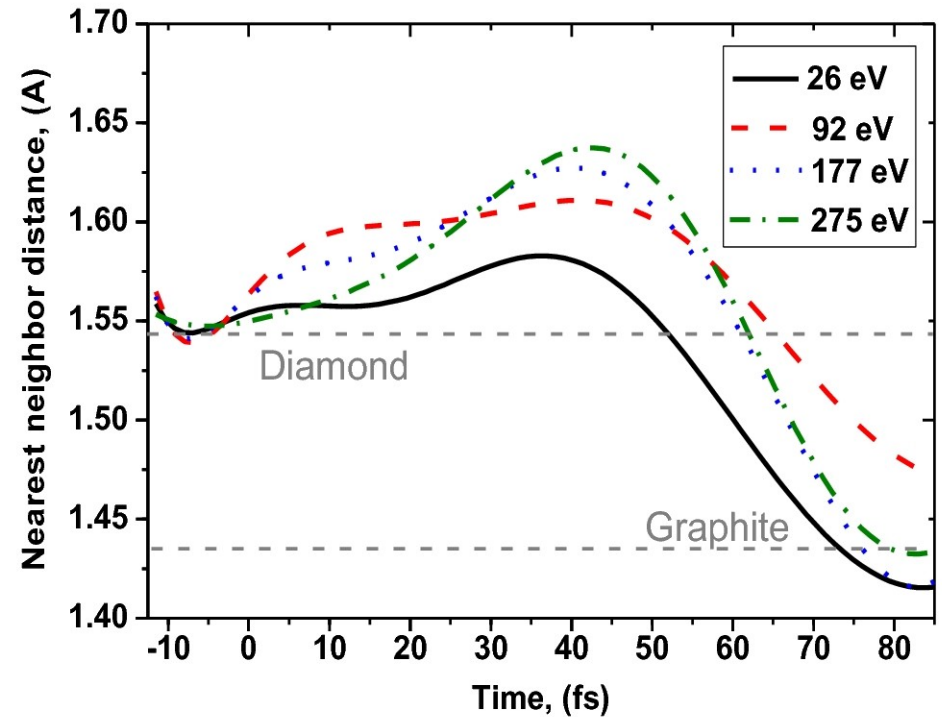
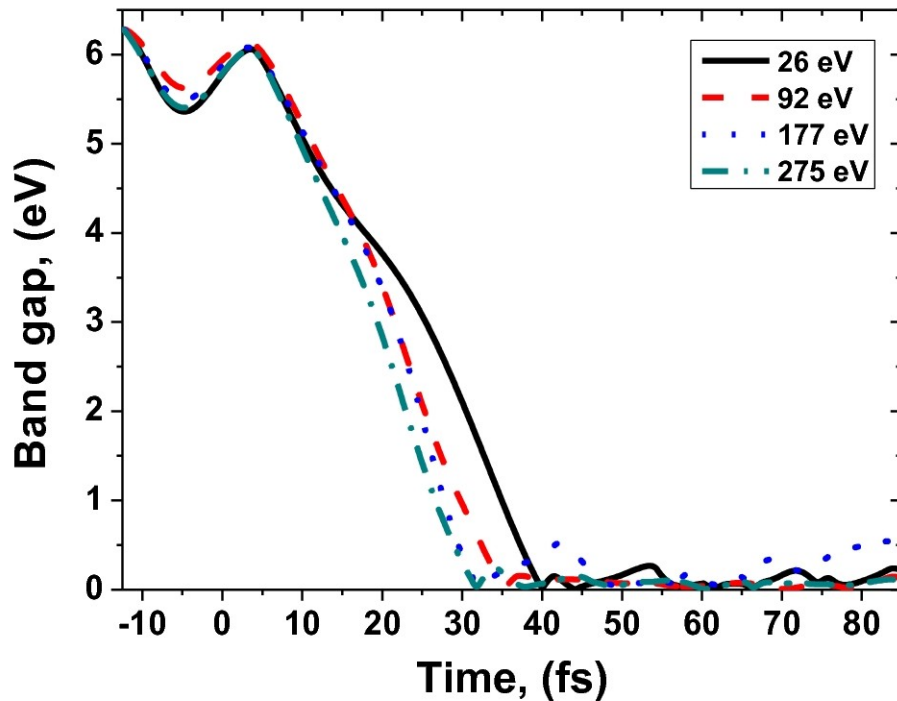


**When electron density overcomes threshold value of 1.5 %, phase transition occurs**



# Results: Bandgap collapse

Different photon energies: 26 eV, 92 eV, 177 eV, 275 eV

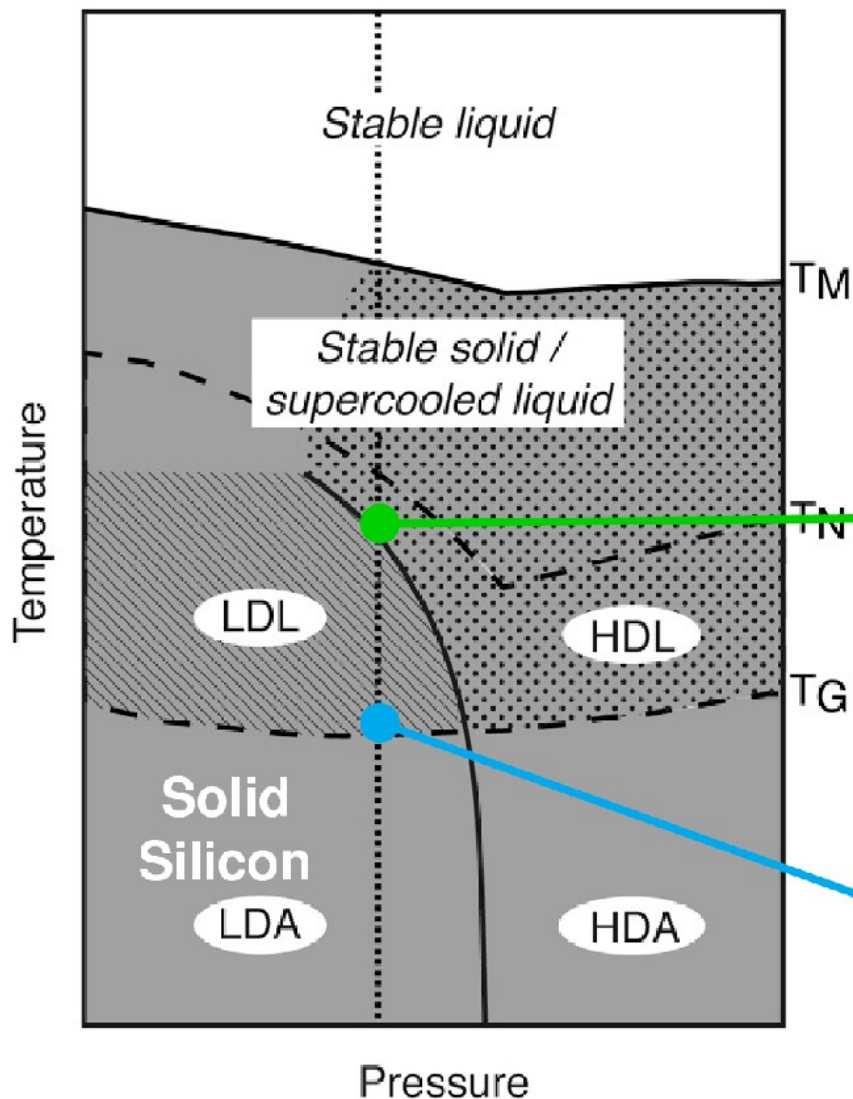


**Bandgap collapse induces ultrafast phase transition**

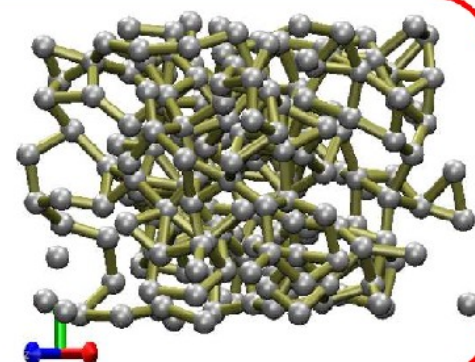


# Structural transition in Si: interplay of thermal and non-thermal processes

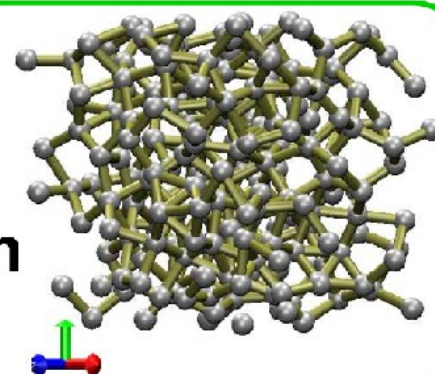
Silicon,  $\hbar\omega = 1$  keV, 10 fs



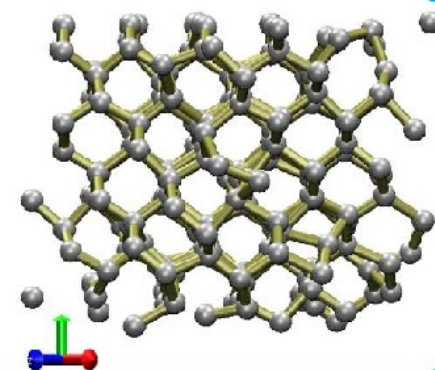
**Liquid**  
2.1 eV/atom



**HDL**  
0.9 eV/atom  
**Amorphization**



**LDL**  
0.6 eV/atom  
**Band gap collapse**



M. Beye, et al., *J. of El. Spectr.* 188 (2013) 172

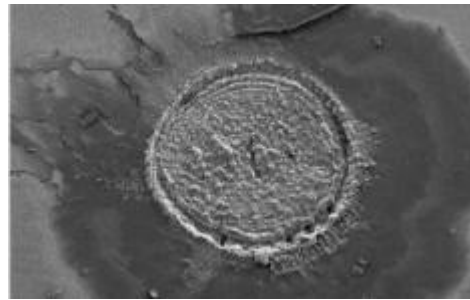
N. Medvedev, Z. Li, B. Ziaja, *PRB* 91 (2015) 054113

# Outline

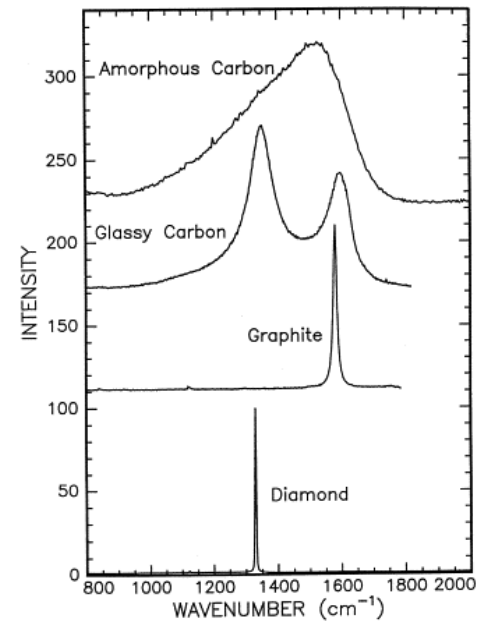
1. **Transitions in matter triggered by X-rays**
2. **X-ray induced electronic and structural transitions in solids modeled with our in-house codes XCASCADE and XTANT**
3. **Diagnostics of structural transitions**
4. **Amorphization of solids by intense X-ray pulse**
5. **Summary**

# Diagnostics of transitions?

Damage thresholds → post mortem measurements on samples



osapublishing.org

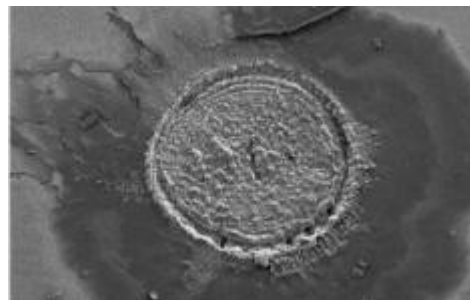


matsci4uwi.wordpress.com

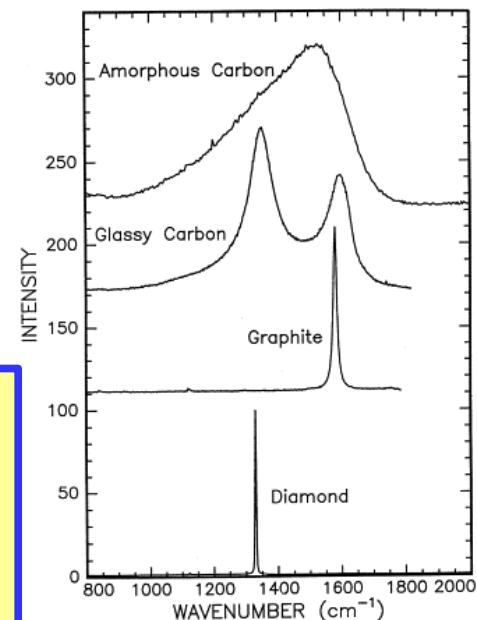


# Diagnostics of transitions?

Damage thresholds → post mortem measurements on samples



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**Challenge:** long-time large-scale simulations needed for comparison to post-mortem measurements



long time-span between ultrafast excitation and final relaxation of the material: lattice heating, diffusion, recrystallization ...

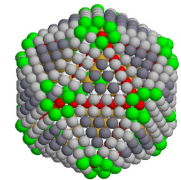




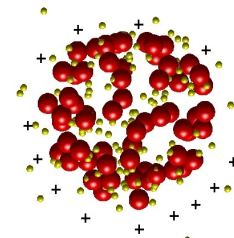
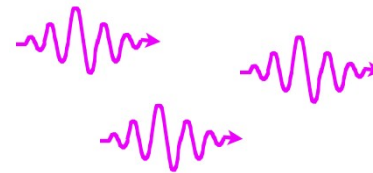
# Time-resolved diagnostics of transitions:

## Pump-probe experiments:

- pump pulse initiates transition ...



- probe pulse probes it at varying time delay ...



# Transient optical properties as diagnostics of X-ray induced transitions



## Low material excitation

below and around damage  
threshold → band structure  
evolution accurately described  
with transferable tight binding  
method

## Long-wavelength limit ( $q \rightarrow 0$ ), Tight-binding (TB) model

Optical dielectric function within the random-phase approximation (Lindhard formula) [3]:

$$\epsilon^{\alpha\beta}(E) = \delta_{\alpha,\beta} + \frac{4\pi e^2 \hbar^2}{m\Omega} \sum_{n,n'} (\eta_{n'} - \eta_n) \frac{F_{n,n'}^{\alpha\beta}}{E_{n,n'}} \left[ \frac{1}{E - E_{n,n'} + i\gamma} \right]$$

$$F_{n,n'}^{\alpha\beta} = \frac{2\langle n | \hat{p}_\alpha | n' \rangle \langle n' | \hat{p}_\beta | n \rangle}{mE_{n,n'}} \quad \text{- the oscillator strength [3]}$$

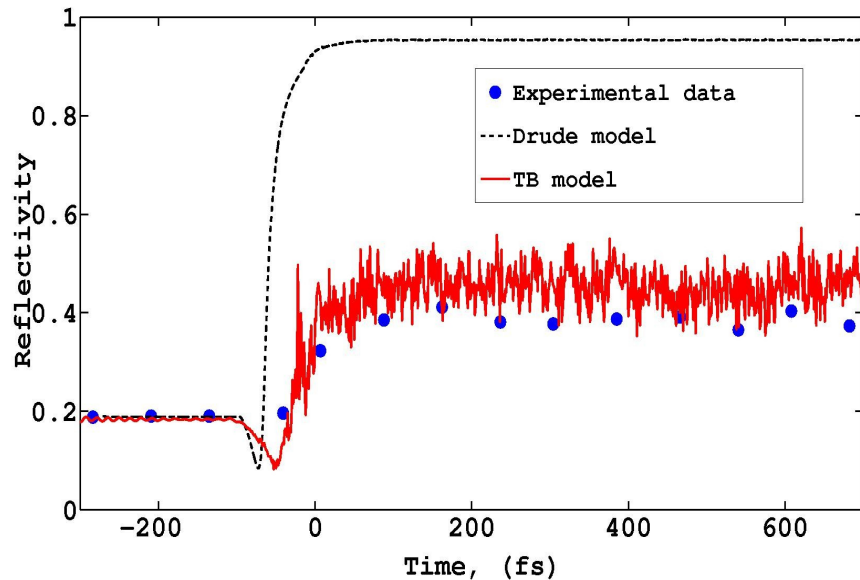
Calculated within tight-binding model by F. Trani et al, as:  $\mathbf{P}(\mathbf{R}, \mathbf{R}') = \frac{m}{i\hbar} [\mathbf{R} - \mathbf{R}'] H(\mathbf{R}, \mathbf{R}')$

Dielectric function → refractive indices  $n$ ,  $k$

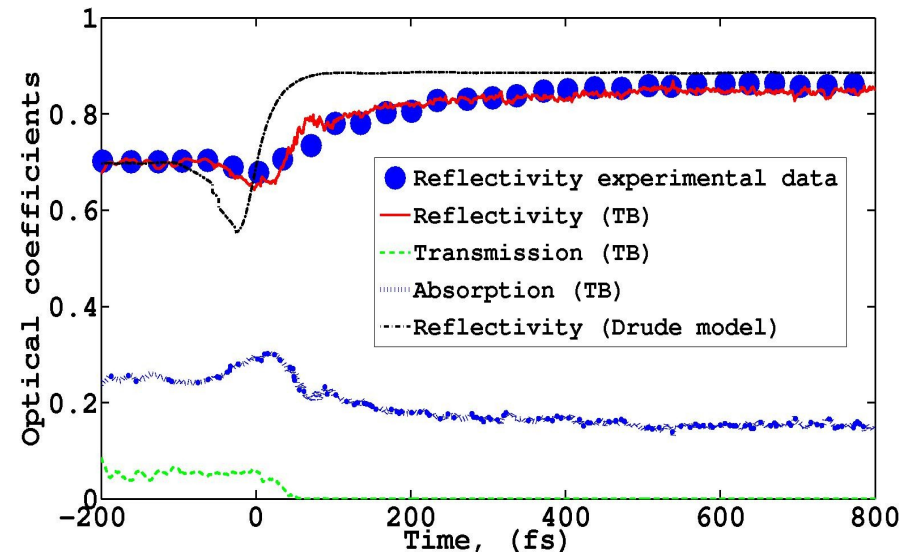
# Transient optical properties as diagnostics of X-ray induced transitions

**Low material excitation**  
below and around damage  
threshold → band structure  
evolution accurately described  
with **transferable tight binding  
method**

- Diamond and silicon are excited with a laser pulse ...
- Transient optical properties are probed with the optical laser pulse ...
- Complex dielectric function calculated from an ab-initio scheme .



**Diamond**

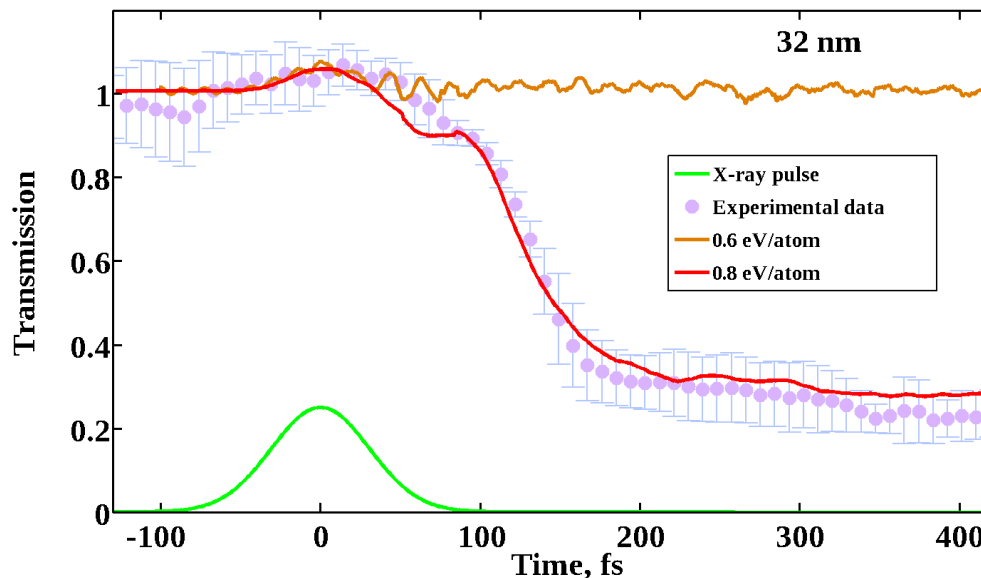


**Silicon**

# Transient optical properties as diagnostics of X-ray induced transitions

Damage threshold

First observation of time-resolved graphitization



Absorbed dose = 0.8 eV/atom  
FEL pulse duration = 51 fs  
FEL photon energy = 47.4 eV  
Probe pulse duration = 32.8 fs  
Probe wavelength = 630 nm  
Angle of X-ray pulse incidence =  $20^\circ$

Experiment performed by [Sven Toleikis, Franz Tavella, Hauke Hoepfner, Mark Prandolini et al.](#) at FERMI facility

- Characteristic drop of transmission is observed during the experiment on **fs** time-scale
- Evidence of phase transition within  **$\sim 150$  fs**.
- Very good agreement with our theoretical predictions for the absorbed dose of 0.8 eV/atom (above graphitization threshold)

[[F. Tavella et al. \(V.Tkachenko, N. Medvedev, BZ\), HEDP 24 \(2017\) 22](#)] → DESY Press Release

Melting  
threshold

# Transient optical properties as diagnostics of picosecond transitions within irradiated systems

Low dose **Reflectivity overshooting in GaAs** ← effect of band gap shrinking

Timescales of relaxation and excitation processes.



Photoexcitation of electrons to conduction band (<10 fs)

Electron cascades

→ Thermalization of electrons & thermalization of holes (up to a few 100 fs)

→ Equilibration of electron & hole temperatures (up to 10 ps)

Electron-phonon interactions

→ Electron-lattice thermalization (~ few ps)

Electron-hole Recombination (~100 ns)

Damage Threshold

# Transient optical properties as diagnostics of picosecond transitions within irradiated systems

Low dose

## Reflectivity overshooting in GaAs

- Rate equations → the evolution of free-carrier densities as a function of time [5];

$$d n_{e-h}(t)/dt = \gamma_{e-h}(t)$$

← Before  $\Delta R/R$  minimum

$$d n_{e-h}(t)/dt = -\gamma_{rec} \cdot n_{e-h}(t)$$

← After  $\Delta R/R$  minimum

- Two-temperature model → electron-lattice equilibration

[5];  $d T_{latt}(t)/dt = +G_{latt}(T_{e-h}(t) - T_{latt}(t))$

$$d T_{e-h}(t)/dt = -G_{e-h}(T_{e-h}(t) - T_{latt}(t))$$

- Drude model → follows the transient reflectivity (extended for interband transitions) [5].

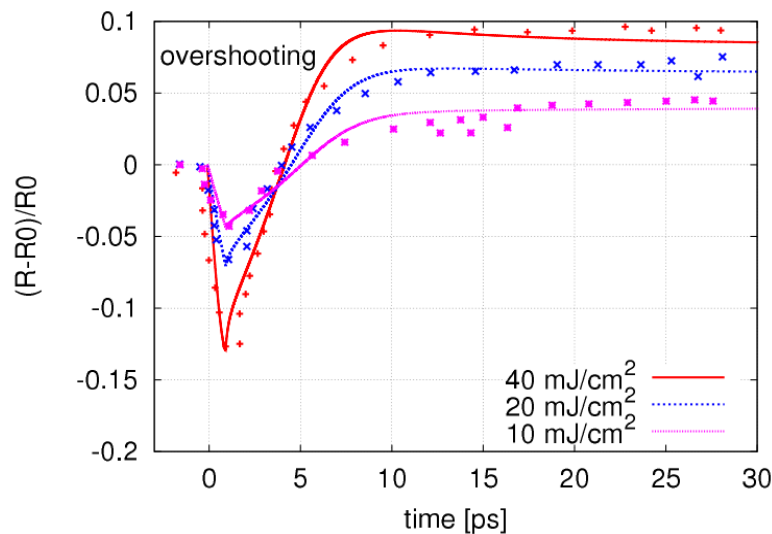
Damage Threshold

# Transient optical properties as diagnostics of picosecond transitions within irradiated systems

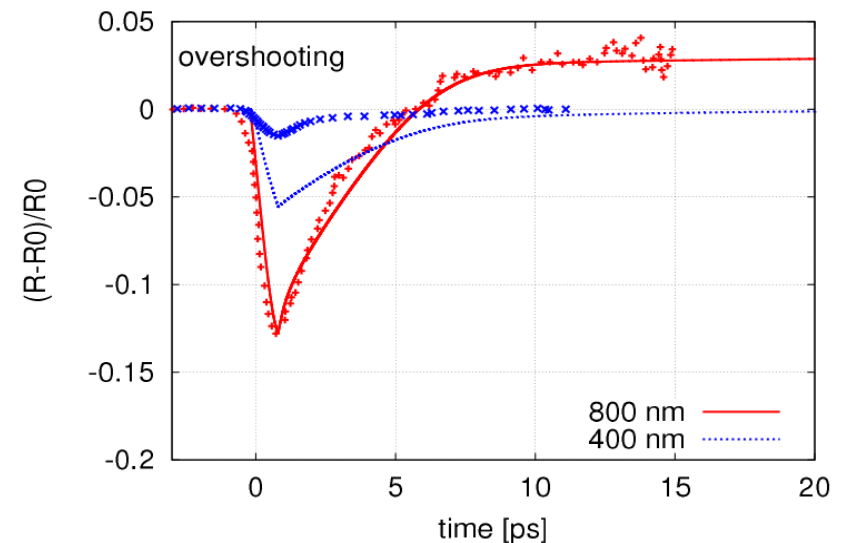
## Reflectivity overshooting in GaAs ← effect of band gap shrinking

Low dose

- Timescale of a few ps
- Observable at probe wavelength ~ band gap width (low absorption)
- Measurement of electron-phonon coupling with femtosecond resolution ( $\tau_{\text{el-latt}} \sim 2\text{-}3\text{ ps}$ ) and transient electronic temperatures ( $\sim 2\text{-}3\text{ eV}$ )
- Expected for other narrow band-gap semiconductors



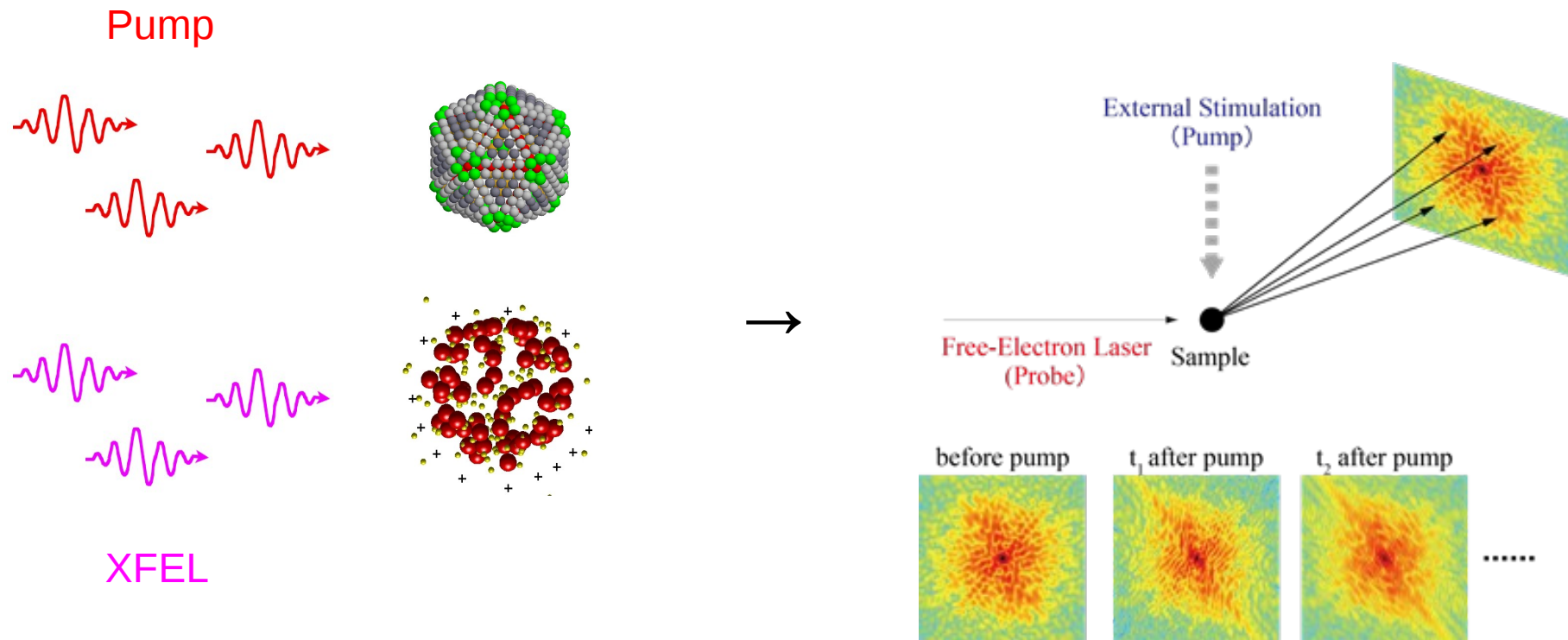
LCLS measurement (800 eV)



FLASH measurement (40 eV)

Damage Threshold

# X-ray diffraction as diagnostics of structural transitions?



[cxo-www.es.hokudai.ac.jp]



# Outline

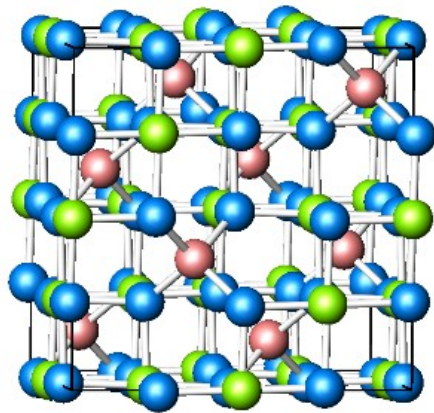
1. **Transitions in matter triggered by X-rays**
2. **X-ray induced electronic and structural transitions in solids modeled with our in-house codes XCASCADE and XTANT**
3. **Diagnostics of structural transitions**
4. **Amorphization of solids by intense X-ray pulse → plasma creation**
5. **Summary**

# Impact of high-fluence fs X-ray pulses: → Transition to Warm Dense Matter or Plasma

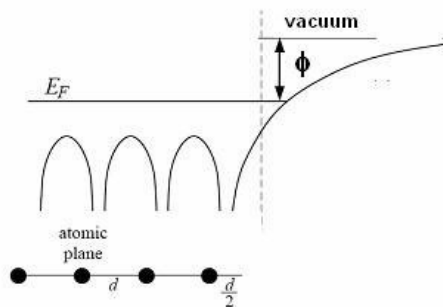
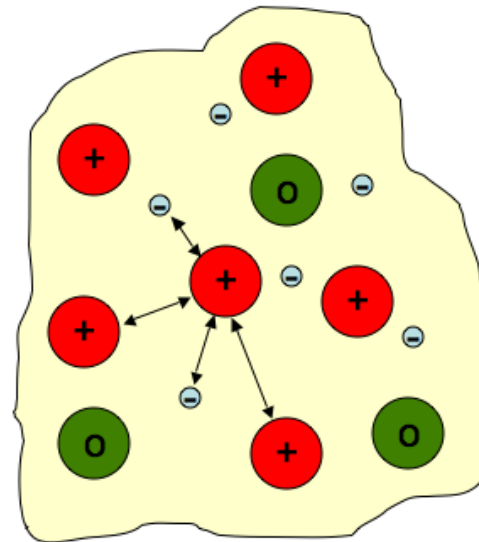
Melting  
threshold



'Ensemble' of bonded atoms



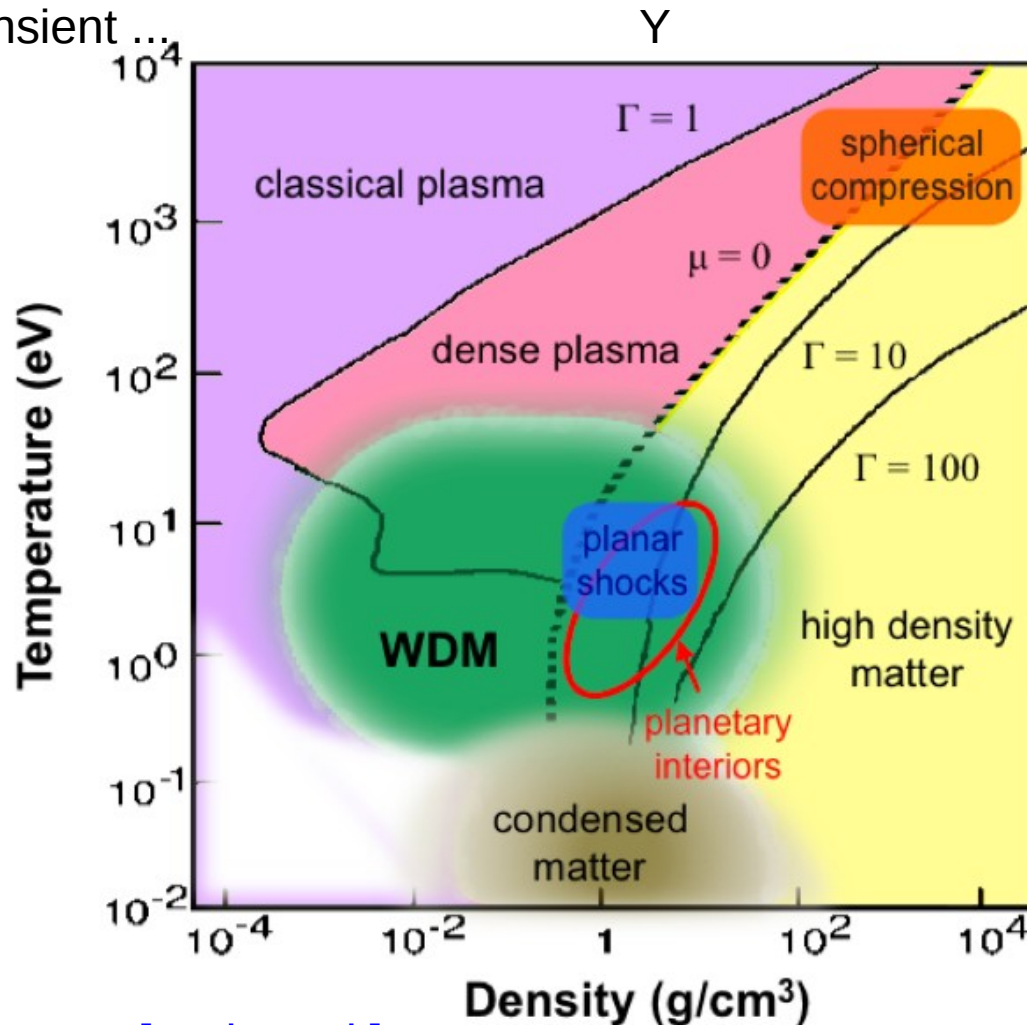
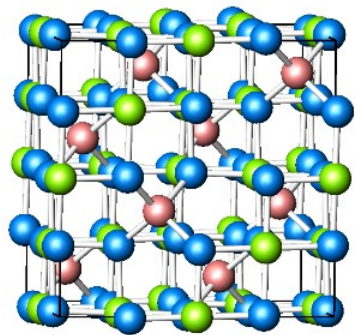
'Gas' of free ions and electrons



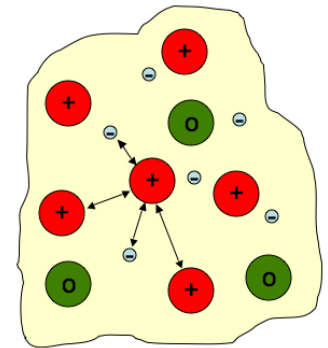
# Matter in warm dense matter (WDM) state

Located between solid state and plasma state. Because of its extreme temperatures and pressures, WDM tends to be drastically transient

WDM defined by  $\Gamma$ ,  $Y \approx 1$ .



[Roth et al.]



$\Gamma$  – Coulomb coupling parameter =

potential energy/  
kinetic energy

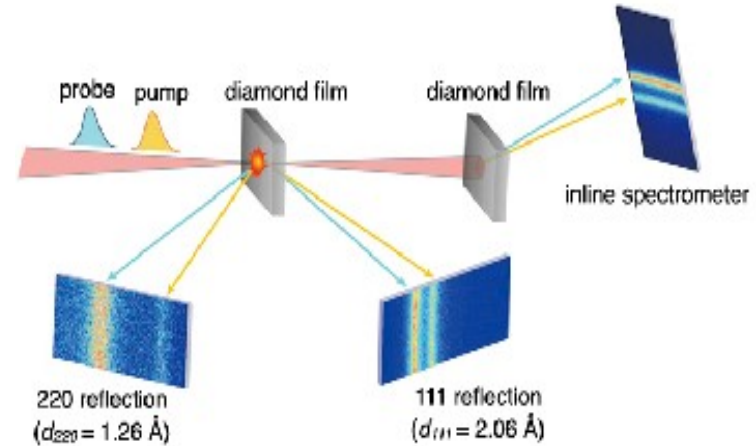
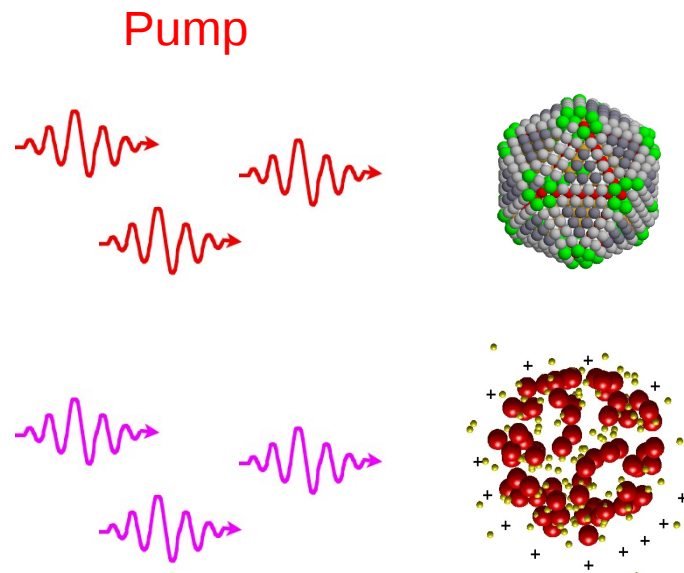
$Y$  – degeneracy parameter =

Fermi energy/  
kinetic energy



# X-ray diffraction as diagnostics of structural transitions

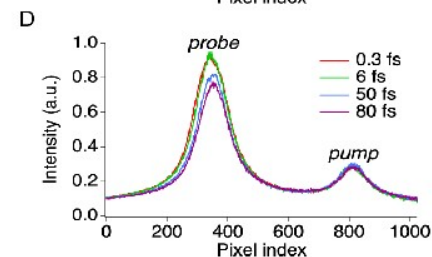
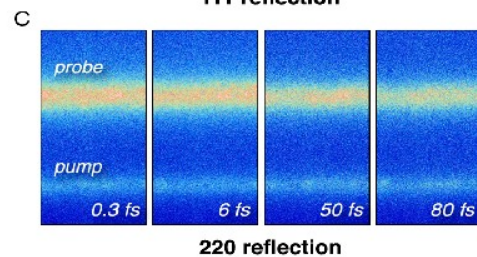
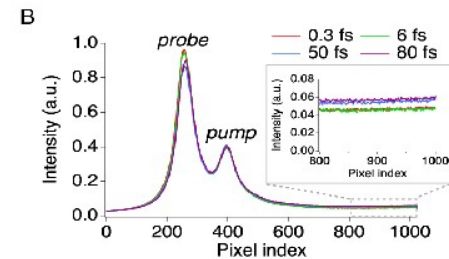
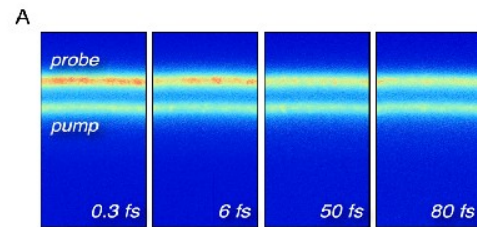
Example: diamond melted into plasma ...



[I. Inoue et al., PNAS 113 (2016) 1492]

SACLA pump/probe scheme:

3 / 7 J/cm<sup>2</sup>  
 5 / 5 fs  
 6.1 / 5.9 keV



# Amorphisation of diamond: atomic snapshots

Irradiation of diamond crystal  
with 5 fs-long pump pulse:

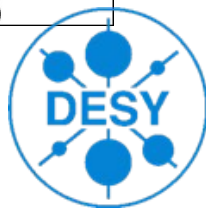
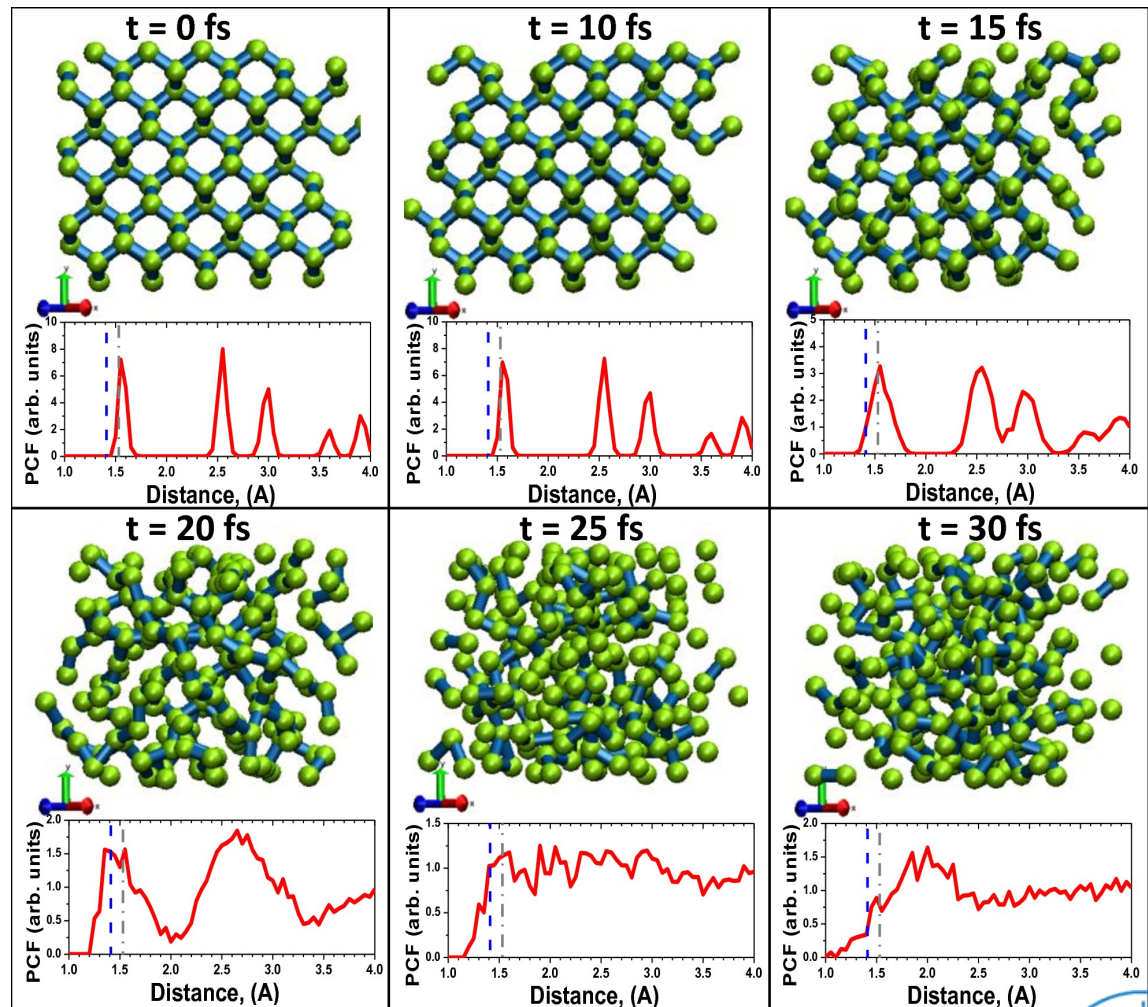
X-ray photons: 6.1 keV energy  
Fluences:  $2.3 - 3.1 \cdot 10^4 \text{ J/cm}^2$



Average absorbed dose/atom:  
**19-25 eV/atom**

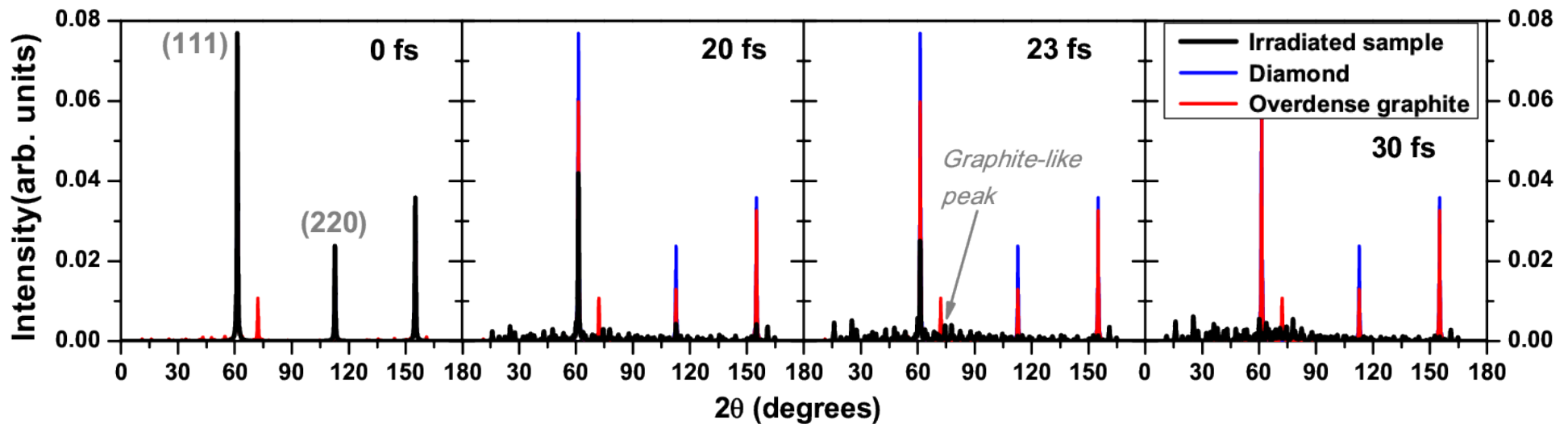


Intermediate graphitization phase  
at  $\sim 20 \text{ fs}$  -  
with **overdense** graphite ...



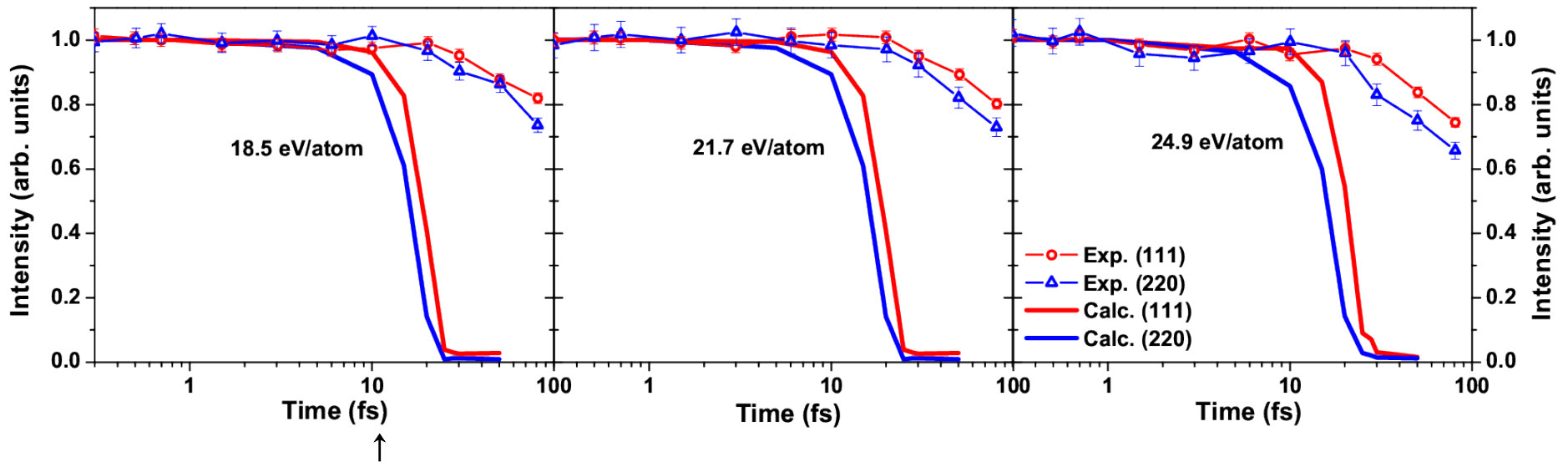
# Amorphisation of diamond: transient graphitization phase?

Intermediate few-fs long graphitization phase:  
simulated powder diffraction peaks



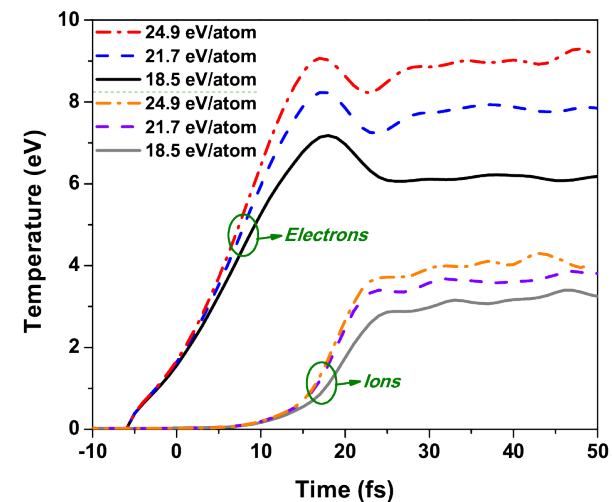
Powder diffraction patterns in diamond irradiated with an X-ray pulse of 6.1 keV photon energy, 5 fs FWHM duration, at the average absorbed dose of **24.9 eV/atom** at different time instants after the pump pulse maximum.

# Comparison with experiment



Integrated diffraction peak intensities (111) and (220) in X-ray irradiated diamond →  
**Too fast intensity decrease predicted**

Temperatures of electrons and ions in X-ray irradiated diamond →  
**Timescales of the  $T_i$  increase in agreement with DW fit from experiment**



# Necessary model improvements

Currently, **no fully ab-initio model exists** to describe accurately WDM formation after solid's irradiation with **X-rays!**

**XTANT** could be a possible **hybrid solution** if some **current shortcomings** are addressed:

- correct description of atomic orbitals and impact ionization cross sections in dense plasmas
- impact of K-shell holes
- band structure description underway to dense plasma → tight-binding model we use breaks down at high densities of excited electrons (i.e., times > 20 fs)
- effect of probe pulse (5 fs FWHM)





# Necessary model improvements

Currently, **no fully ab-initio model exists** to describe accurately WDM formation after solid's irradiation with **X-rays!**

**XTANT** could be a possible **hybrid solution** if some **current shortcomings** are overcome:

- correct description of atomic orbitals and impact ionization cross sections in dense plasmas → **work on-going** (J.Bekx, S.-K. Son, R. Santra, BZ)
- impact of K-shell holes → **turns out to be not critical in this case**
- band structure description underway to dense plasma → tight-binding model we use breaks down at high densities of excited electrons (i.e., times > 20 fs) → **ab-initio model under construction** (J.Bekx, V. Lipp, N. Medvedev, R. Santra, S.-K. Son, V. Tkachenko, BZ)
- effect of probe pulse (5 fs FWHM) → **negligible here**



# Outline

1. **Transitions in matter triggered by X-rays**
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# Summary

**Transitions in solids induced by X-ray radiation depend on material properties and pulse parameters:**

- below damage threshold – **non-equilibrium electron kinetics** → **XTANT**
- below melting threshold – **also rearrangement of atomic structure** ↑
- above melting threshold – **amorphization; plasma, warm-dense matter formation** → **model developments on-going!**

**Diagnostics of transitions:**

- transient optical properties ← **time-resolved**
- X-ray diffraction ← **time-resolved**
- post mortem measurements



# Summary

Transitions in solids induced by X-ray radiation depend on material properties and pulse parameters:

- below damage threshold – non-equilibrium → XTANT
  - below melting threshold → atomic structure ↑
  - above melting threshold → ionization; plasma, warm-dense matter
- Diagnosis → model developments on-going!
- transient optical properties ← time-resolved
  - X-ray diffraction ← time-resolved
  - post mortem measurements

**Bottleneck: lack of universal ab-initio description of transient electronic structure in response to nuclear dynamics** → **Remedy: DFTB + method**



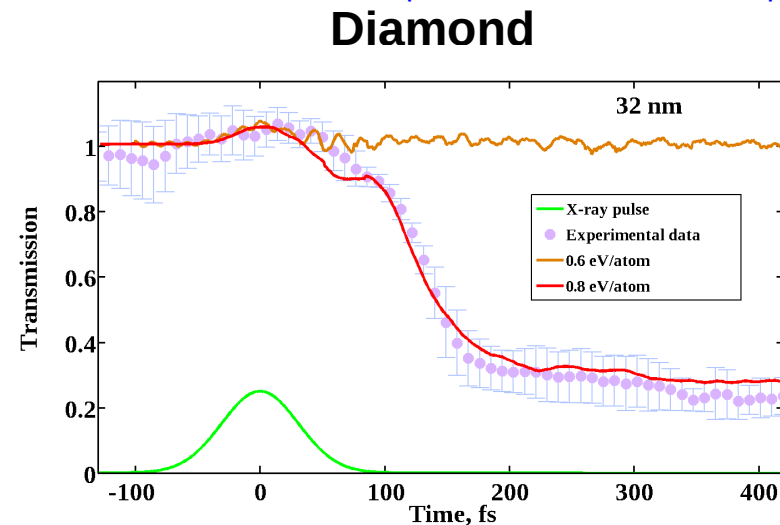
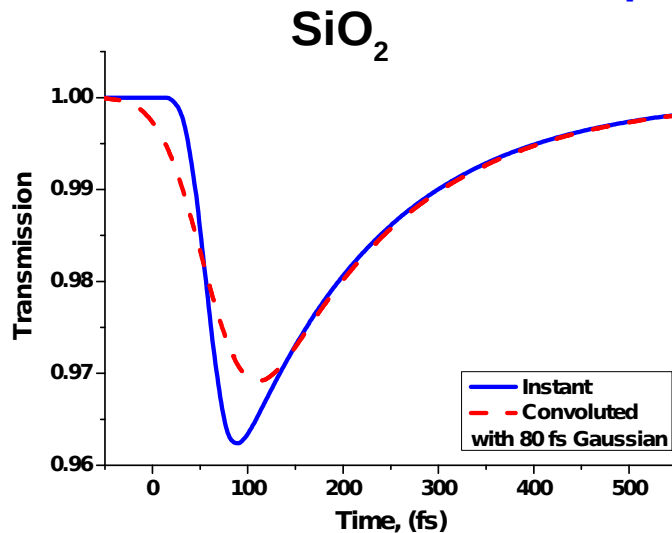
# Applications so far ...

Low fluence material excitation below and around damage threshold.  
Transient optical properties can follow:

[V. Tkachenko, N. Medvedev et al. (BZ), *Phys. Rev. B* 93 (2016) 144101]

- **Electron kinetics ~ 100 fs** → application for FEL pulse diagnostics  
[M.Harmand et al. (Medvedev, BZ), *Nat. Phot.* 7 (2013) 215;  
R. Riedel et al.(Medvedev,BZ), *Nat. Commun.* 4 (2013) 1731,  
P. Finetti et al. (Medvedev, Tkachenko, BZ), *Phys. Rev. X* 7 (2017) 021043]
- **Structural transitions ~ 100 fs - ps** → application for damage studies in FEL optics  
[N.Medvedev et al. (BZ): *NJP* 15 (2013) 015016; *PRB* 88 (2013) 224304 & 060101 ]
- **Lattice heating ~ few ps** → application for material studies

[B.Z., N. Medvedev, V. Tkachenko, T. Maltezopoulos, W. Wurth, *Sci. Rep.* 5, 18068 (2015)]



Electron kinetics follows temporal pulse profile ...

Time-resolved non-thermal graphitization ...

# Development of diagnostic tools: both with theory and experiment

- Laser pulse properties (IR to X-ray): their quantitative temporal and spatial characteristics → pulse diagnostics
- Signatures of magnetic transitions → material science
- Long-timescale simulations to unveil long-timescale relaxation processes within excited material → material science
- Going above low excitation limit: diagnostics of warm dense matter and plasma formation → intense light sources



fundamental understanding and practical applications



# Thanking my collaborators and the CFEL-DESY Theory Group

V. Lipp



N. Medvedev



V. Saxena



V. Tkachenko



J. Bekx



# Thanking our external collaborators...

[J. Gaudin](#) (CELIA, Bordeaux)

[H. Jeschke](#) (U. Frankfurt ), [Z. Li](#) (LCLS), [P. Piekarczyk](#) (INP, Kraków)

[L. Juha](#), [M. Stransky](#) (FZU, Prague), [R. Sobierajski](#) (IF PAN, Warszawa)

[H.-K. Chung](#) (IAEA, Vienna), [R. W. Lee](#) (LBNL, Berkley)

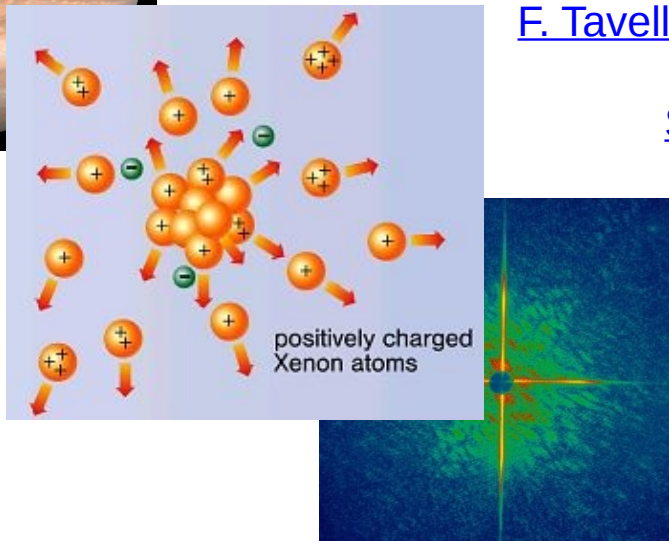
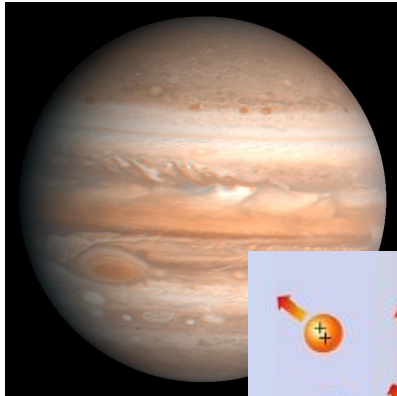
[M. Harmand](#) (LULI,CNRS), [M. Cammarata](#) (U. Rennes)

[A. Ng](#) (U. British Columbia), [Z.Chen](#), [Y.Y. Tsui](#) (U. Alberta), [V. Recoules](#) (CEA, DAM)

[F. Tavella](#) (LCLS), [U. Teubner](#) (U. Oldenburg) and [FERMI team](#)

[S. Toleikis](#), [H. Hoepfner](#), [M. Prandolini](#), [T. Takanori](#) (DESY)

and ...





# XTOOLS of the CFEL-DESY Theory Group

- **XATOM**<sup>1</sup>: an ab-initio integrated toolkit for x-ray atomic physics
- **XMOLECULE**<sup>2</sup>: an ab-initio integrated toolkit for x-ray molecular physics
- **XMDYN**<sup>3</sup>: an MD/MC tool for modeling matter irradiated with high intensity x-rays
- **XHYDRO**<sup>4</sup>: a hydrodynamic tool for simulating plasma in local thermodynamic equilibrium
- **XSINC**<sup>5</sup>: a tool for calculating x-ray diffraction patterns for nanocrystals
- **XTANT**<sup>6</sup>: a hybrid tight-binding/MD/MC tool to study phase transitions
- **XCASCADE**<sup>7</sup>: MC tool to follow electron cascades induced by low x-ray excitation
- **XCALIB**<sup>8</sup>: an XFEL pulse profile calibration tool based on ion yields



R. Santra 1-5, 8    B. Ziaja 3,4,6,7, Boltzmann-code    S.-K. Son 1,2,3,8    Z. Jurek 3,5,8    N. Medvedev 6,7 (now in Prague)    V. Saxena 4 (now in India)    L. Inhester 1,2    K. Toyota 1,2,8    V. Lipp 6,7    M.M. Abdullah 3,5    V. Tkachenko 6,7

Released versions of XATOM and XMDYN available at <http://www.desy.de/~xraypac>

Thank you for your attention !

# Radiative Properties of Hot Dense Matter 2018

Hamburg, 21-26 October 2018

Organizers: DESY & European XFEL

