

Interplay of magnetism and band structure in EuCd_2As_2

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Low-energy degrees of freedom



Topological materials

2007: 2D topological insulators

M. König et al., *Science* 318, 766 (2007)

2008: 3D topological insulators

D. Hsieh et al., *Nature* 452, 970 (2008)

2012: 3D topological crystalline insulators

P. Dziawa et al., *Nature Mater.* 11, 1023 (2012)

2014: Symmetry-protected 3D Dirac semimetals

Z. K. Liu et al., *Science* 343, 864 (2014)

2015: 3D Weyl semimetals

B. Q. Lv et al., *Nature Phys.* 11, 724 (2015)

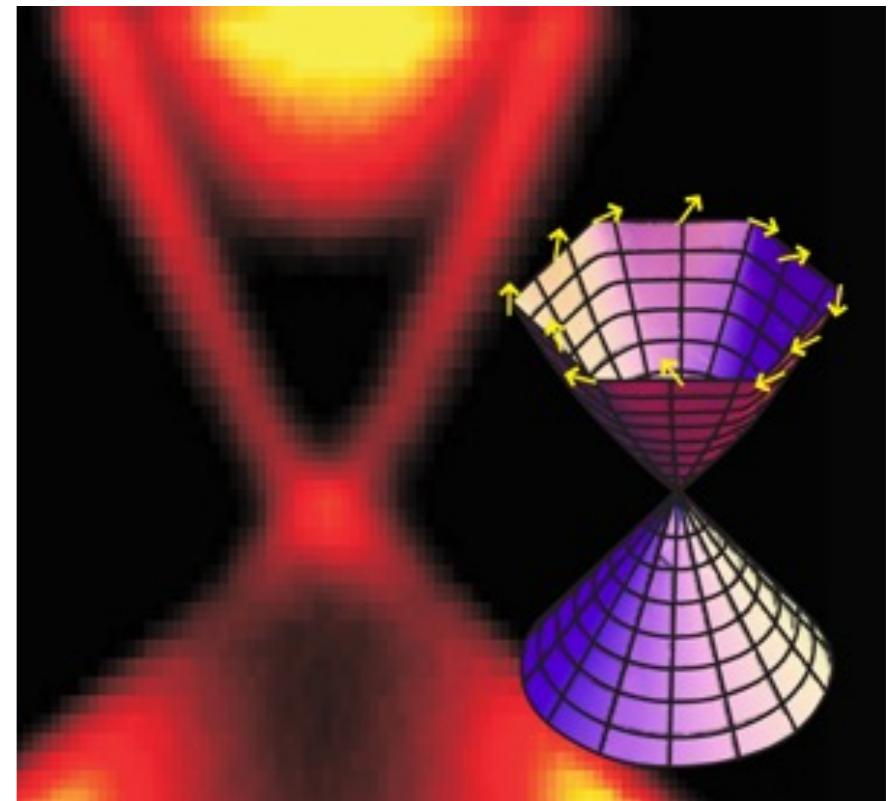
2016: Nodal line/loop Dirac semimetals

Wu, Y. et al., *Nature Phys.* 12, 667 (2016)

2019: Multifold massless electrons

D. S. Sanchez et al., *Nature* 567, 501 (2019)

2023: ...



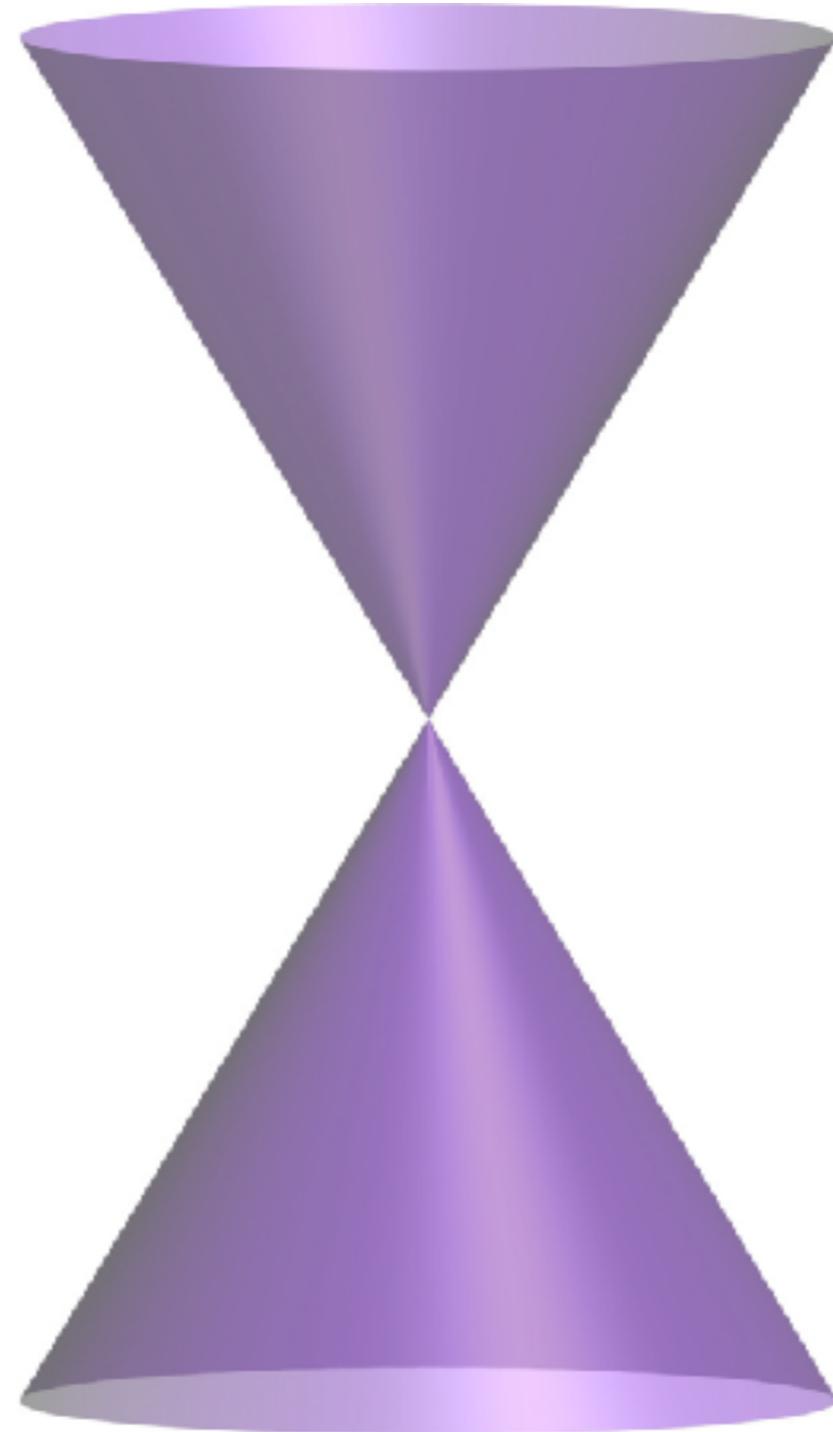
M. Z. Hasan and C. L. Kane, *RMP* 82, 3045 (2010)

Topological semimetals

conical bands

small energy scales

can be tuned
externally

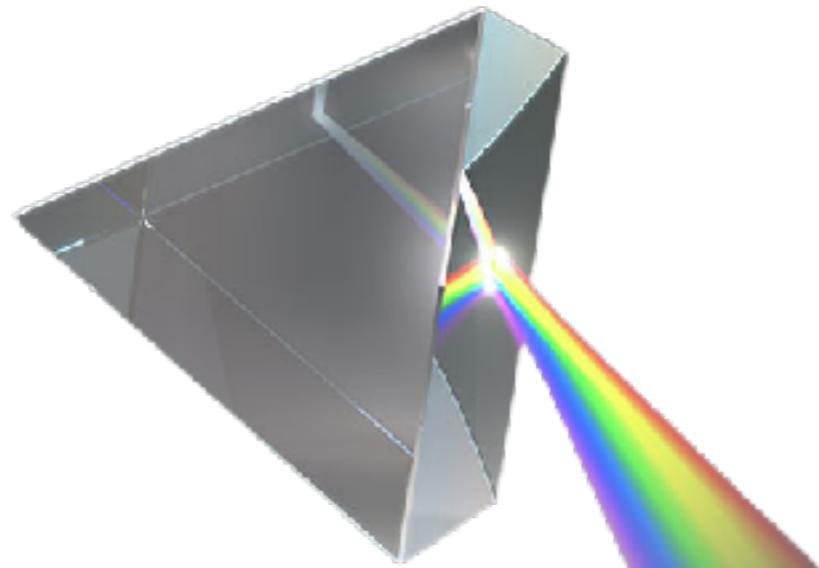


exotic quasiparticles:
eg Weyl fermions

can be coupled
to magnetism

correlations

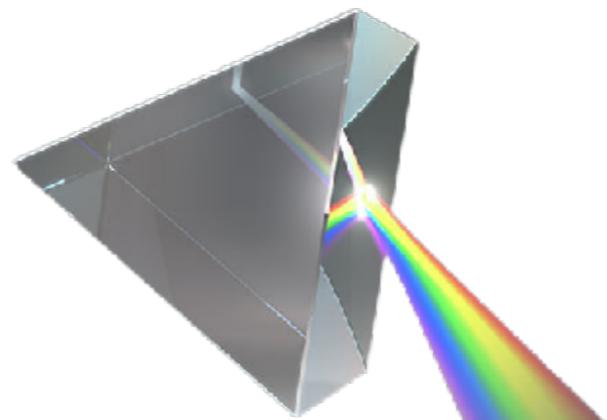
Our techniques



infrared spectroscopy



high-pressure
IR spectroscopy



magneto-optics

Infrared spectroscopy

Volume I. July-August, 1893. Number 1.

THE PHYSICAL REVIEW.

A STUDY OF THE TRANSMISSION SPECTRA OF
CERTAIN SUBSTANCES IN THE INFRA-RED.

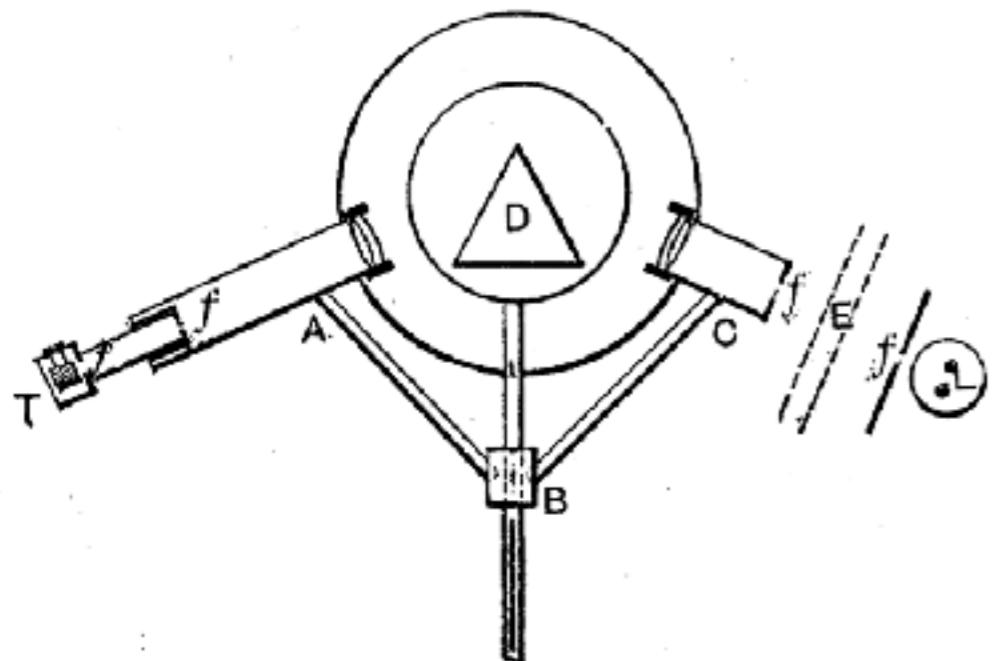


Fig. 1.

Infrared spectroscopy

Volume I. July-August, 1893. Number 1.

THE PHYSICAL REVIEW.

A STUDY OF THE TRANSMISSION SPECTRA OF CERTAIN SUBSTANCES IN THE INFRA-RED.

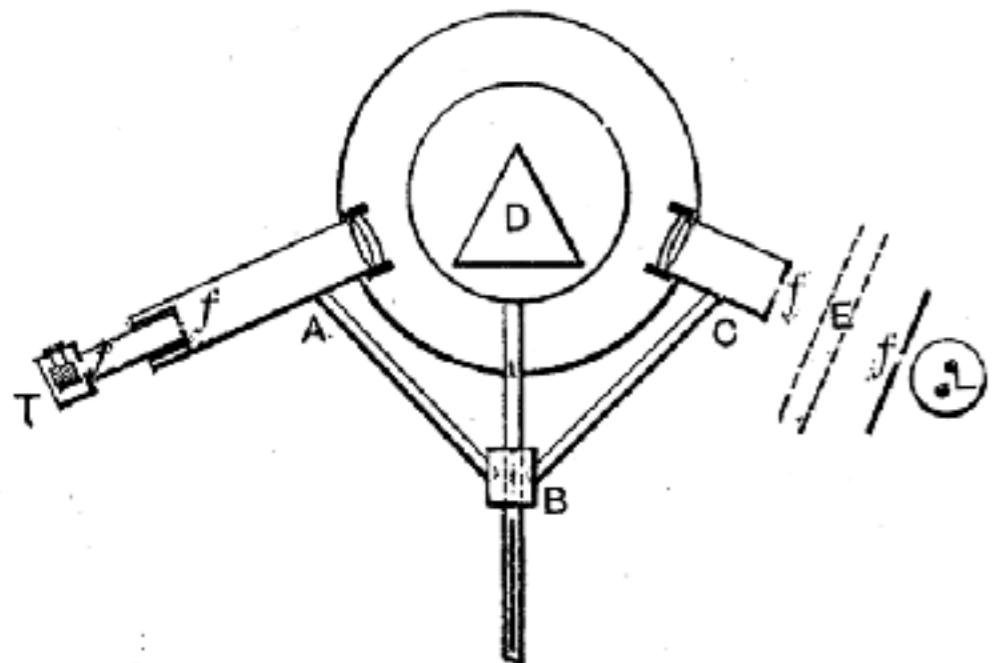
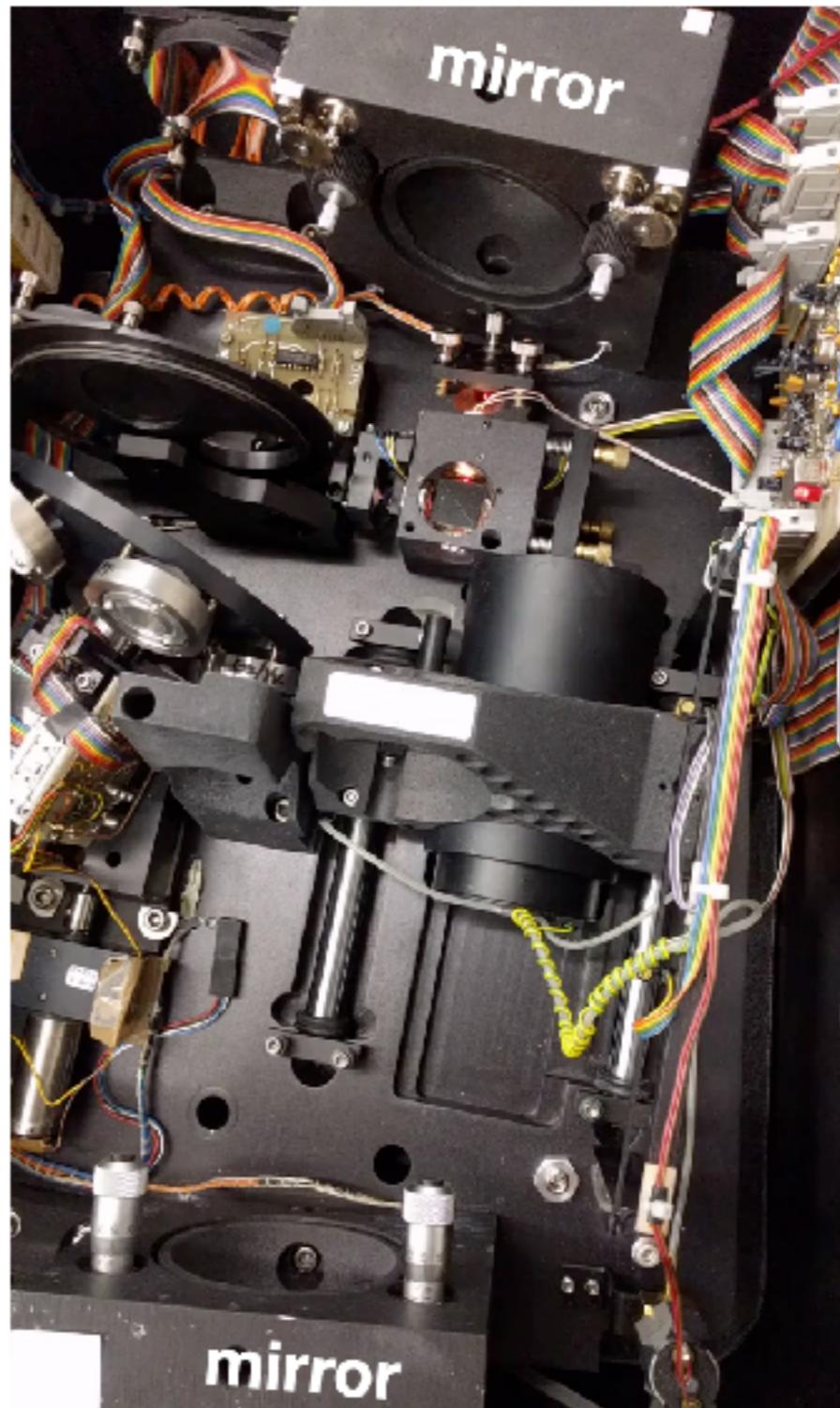
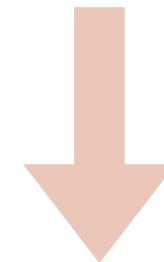


Fig. 1.

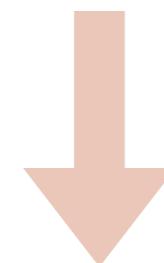


Infrared spectroscopy

$$R = \left| \frac{E_R}{E_0} \right|^2 = \left| \frac{1 - \sqrt{\varepsilon}}{1 + \sqrt{\varepsilon}} \right|^2$$



Kramers-Kronig relations



Complex optical conductivity

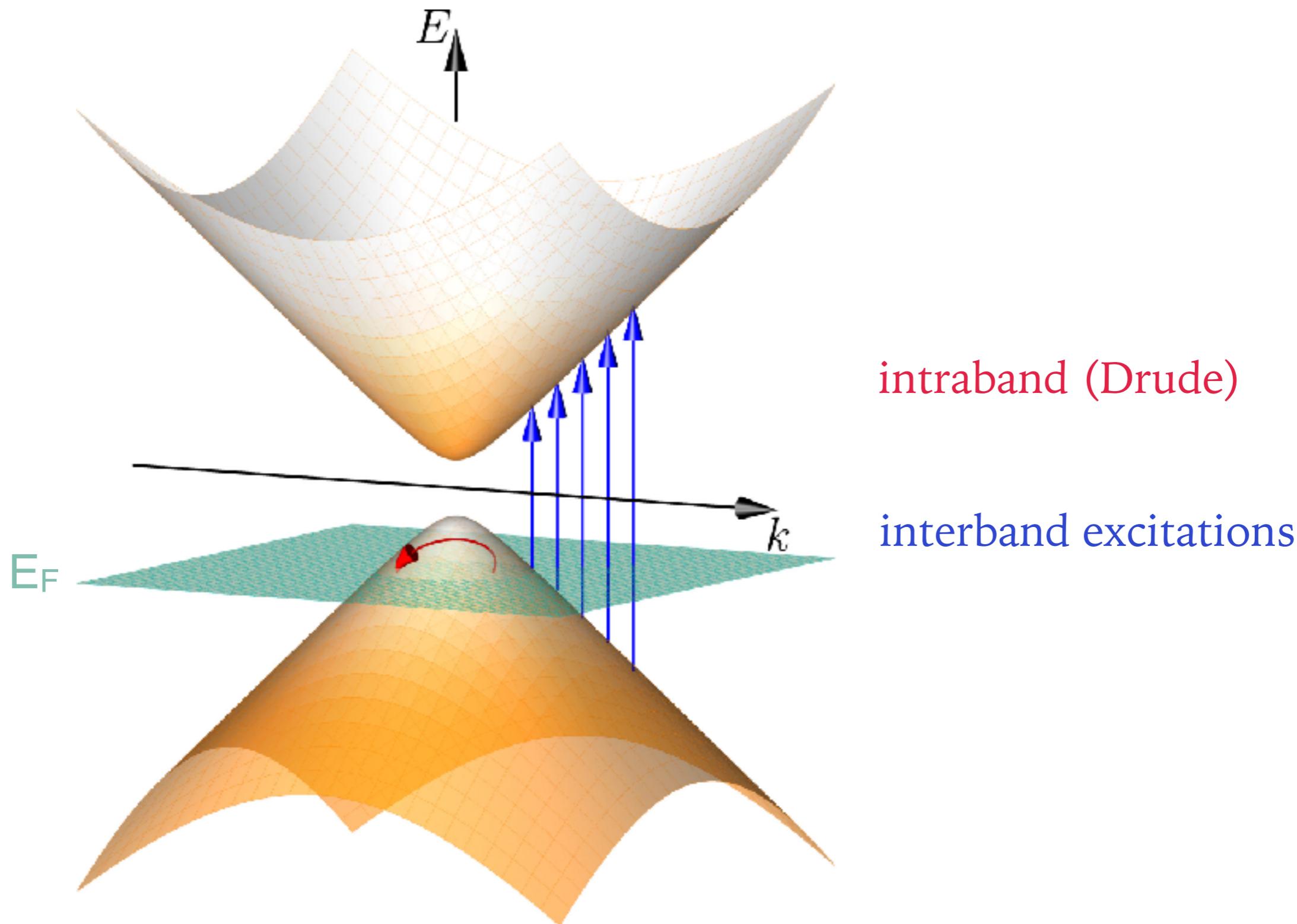
$$\sigma(\omega) = \sigma_1(\omega) + i\sigma_2(\omega)$$

$I(\omega)$

$R(\omega)$



Optical conductivity tells about jDOS

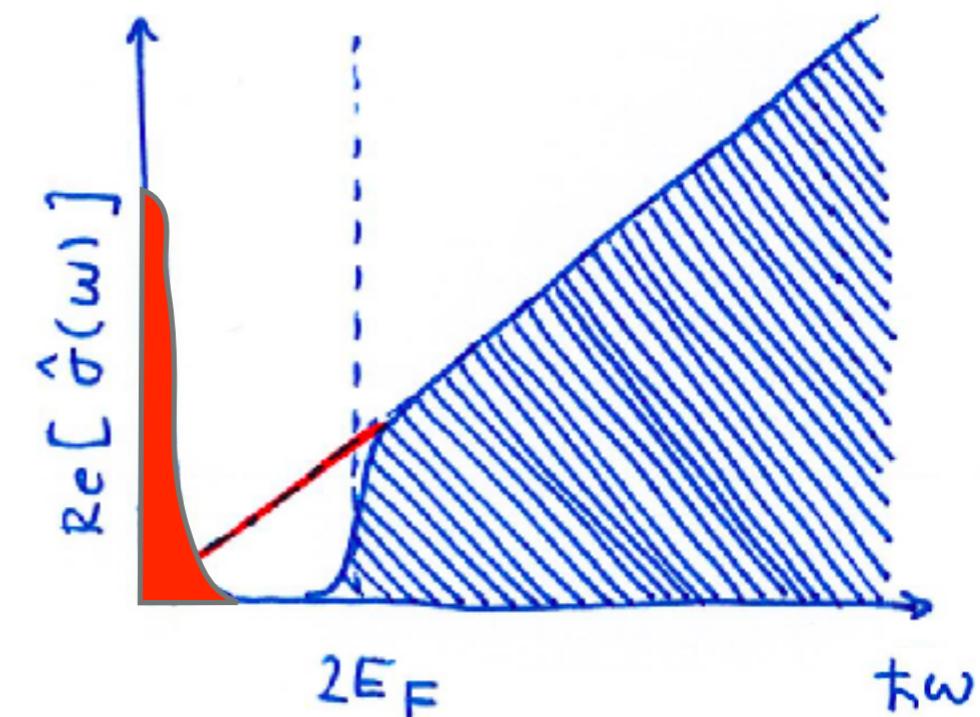
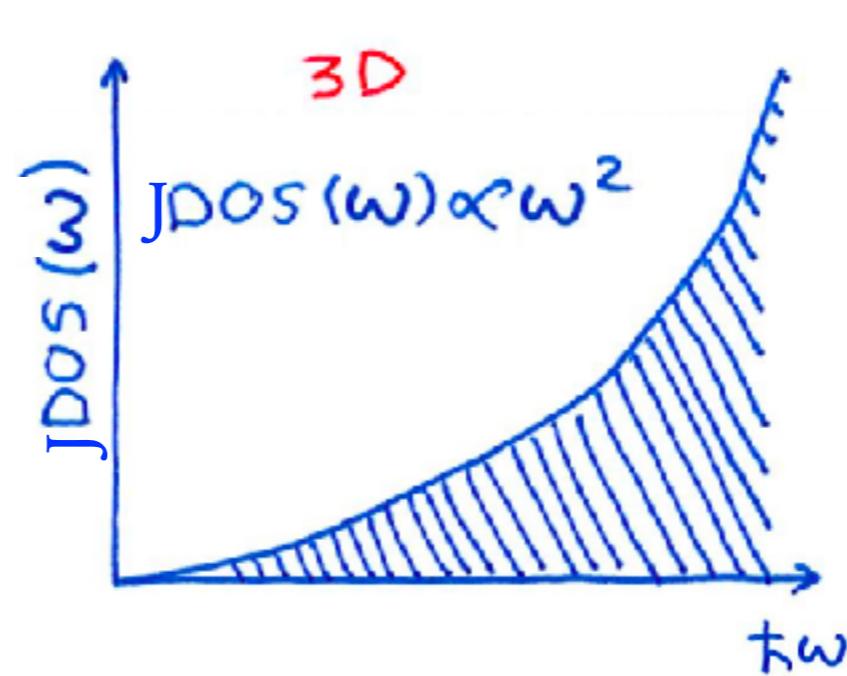
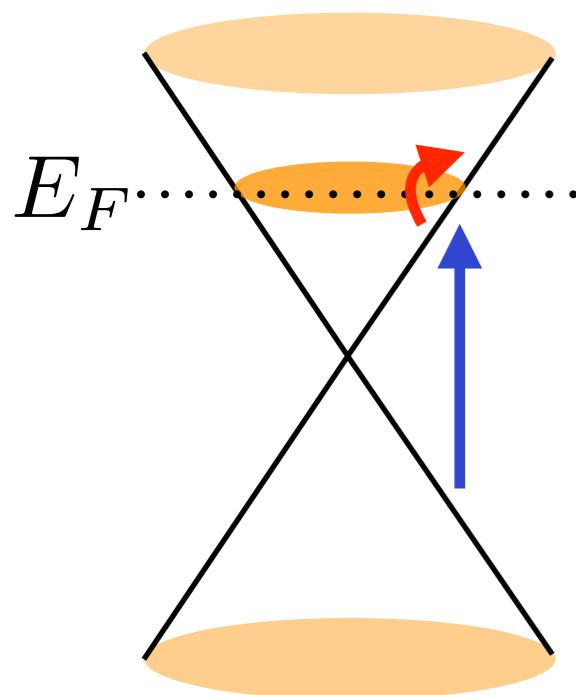


intraband (Drude)

interband excitations

Optical conductivity tells about jDOS

3D linear bands

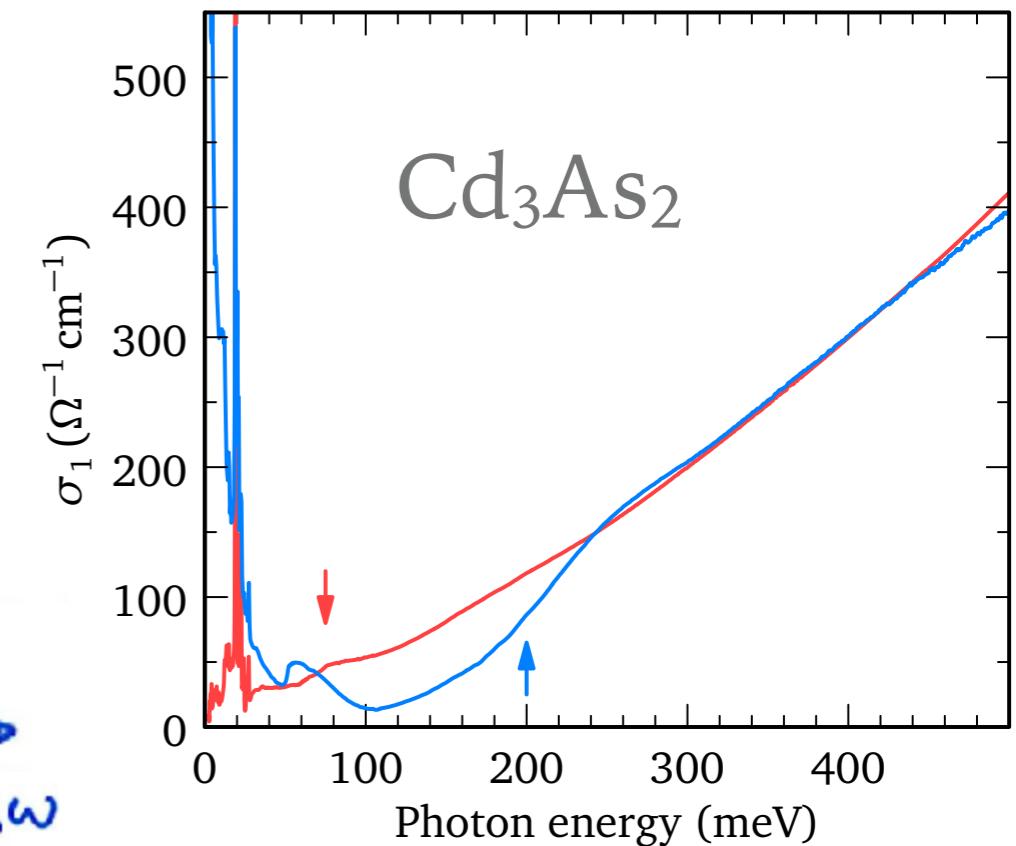
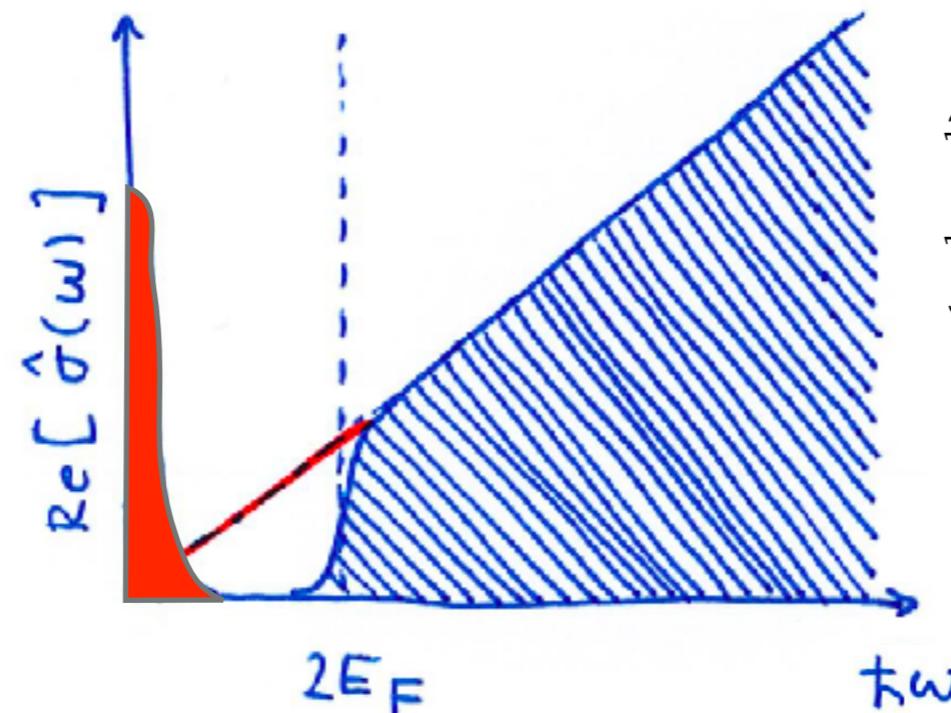
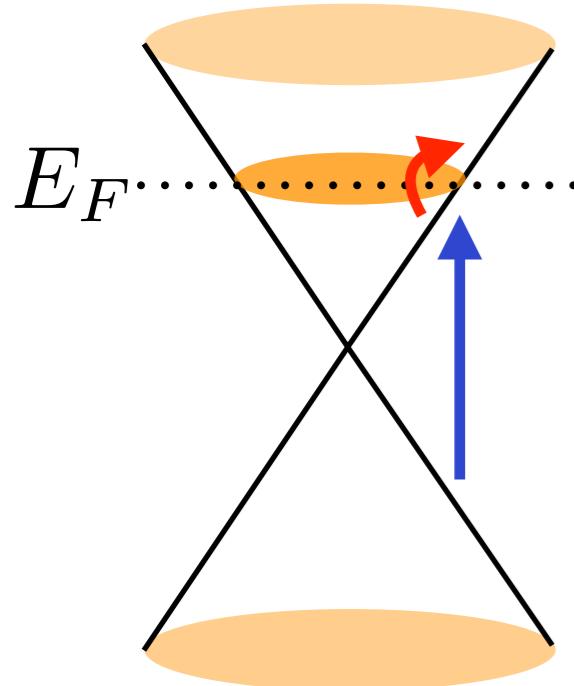


$$\sigma_1(\omega) \propto \frac{jDOS}{\omega}$$

$$JDOS(\omega) = \frac{1}{V} \sum_{k,\sigma} \delta(\hbar\omega - (\epsilon_2 - \epsilon_1))$$

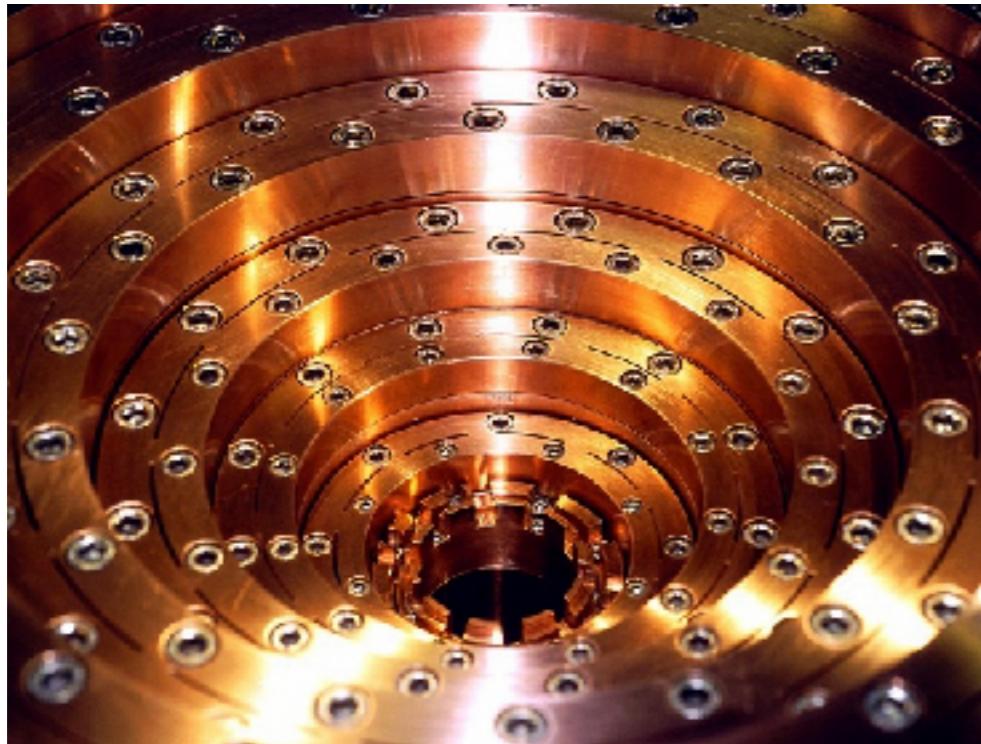
Optical conductivity tells about jDOS

3D linear bands



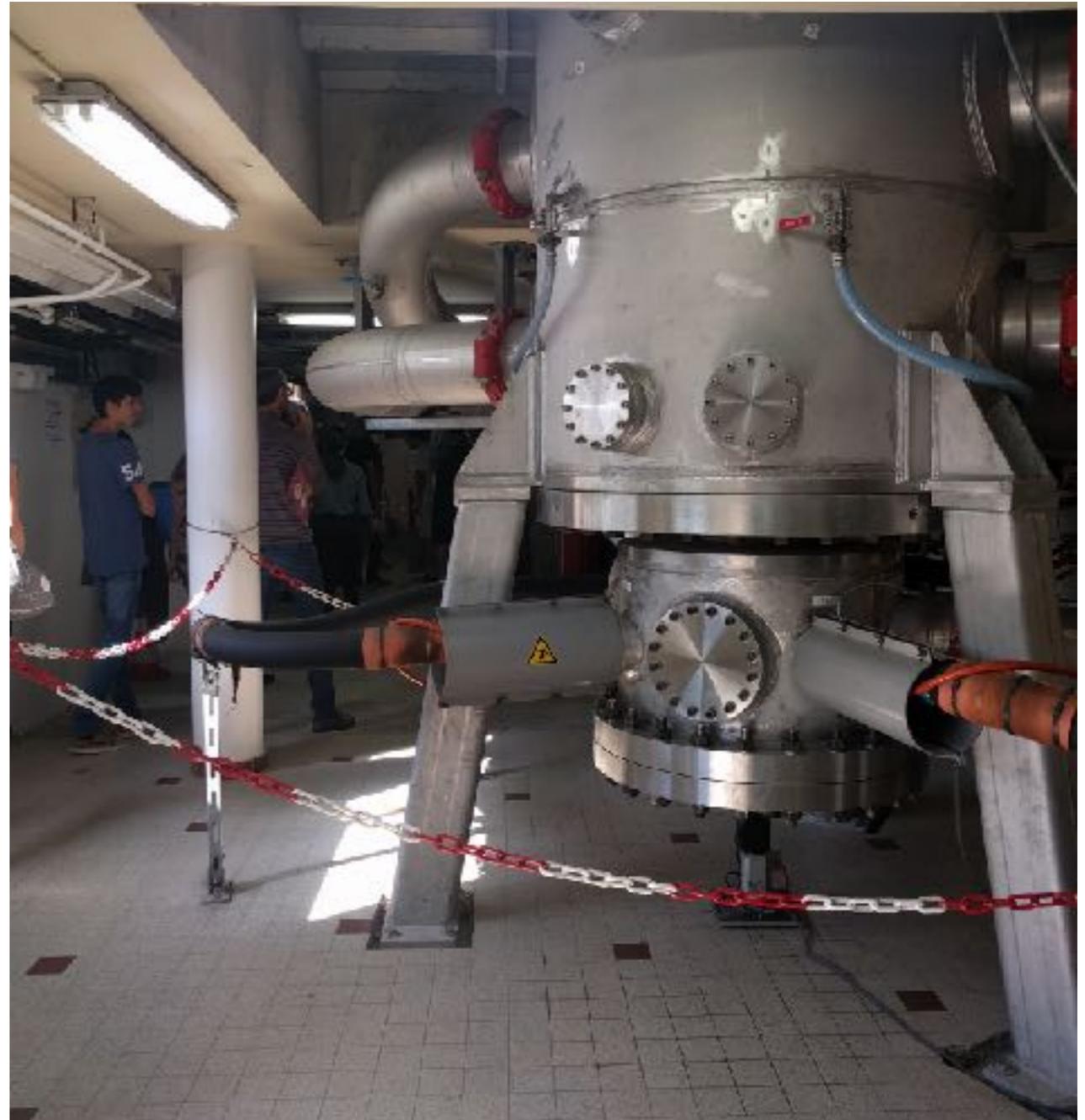
$$\sigma_1(\omega) \propto \frac{jDOS}{\omega}$$

Also in high magnetic fields

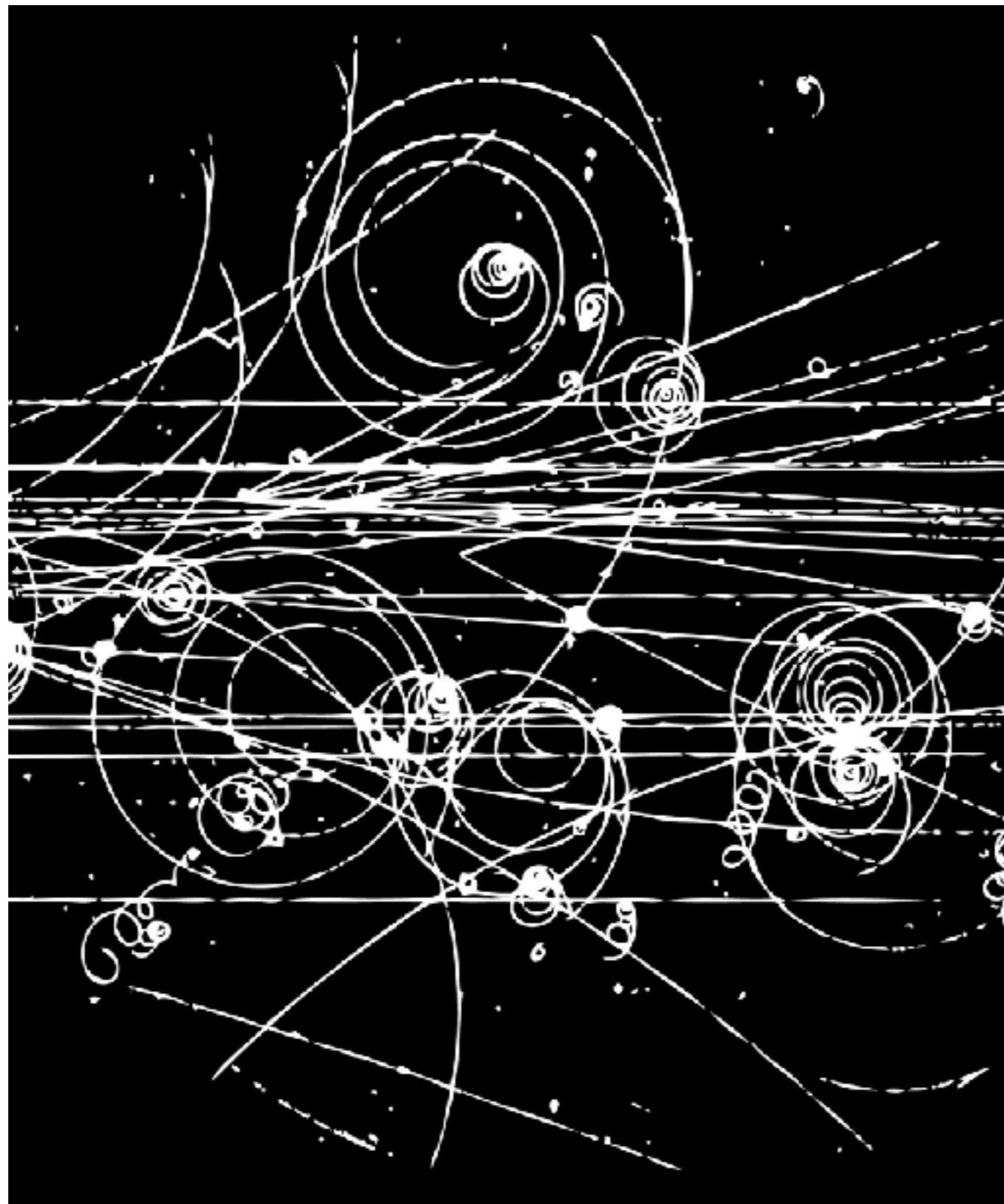


14'000 amps through
4 copper alloy coils

25 MW for 36 T
static magnetic field



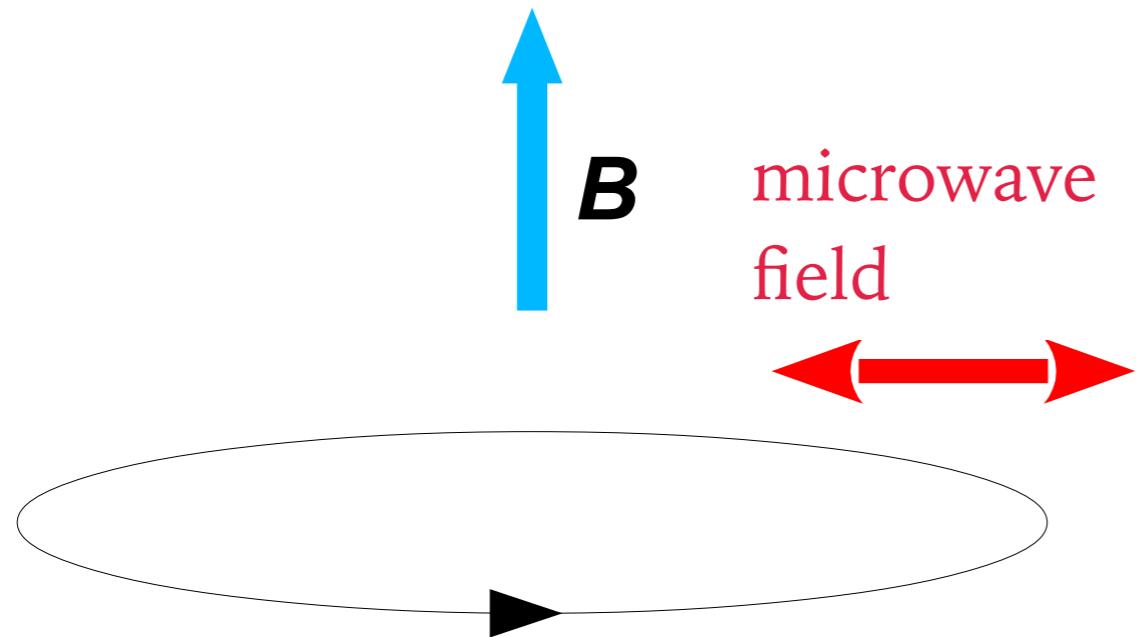
Cyclotron motion



CERN bubble chamber (1960)

Cyclotron resonance

Classical picture

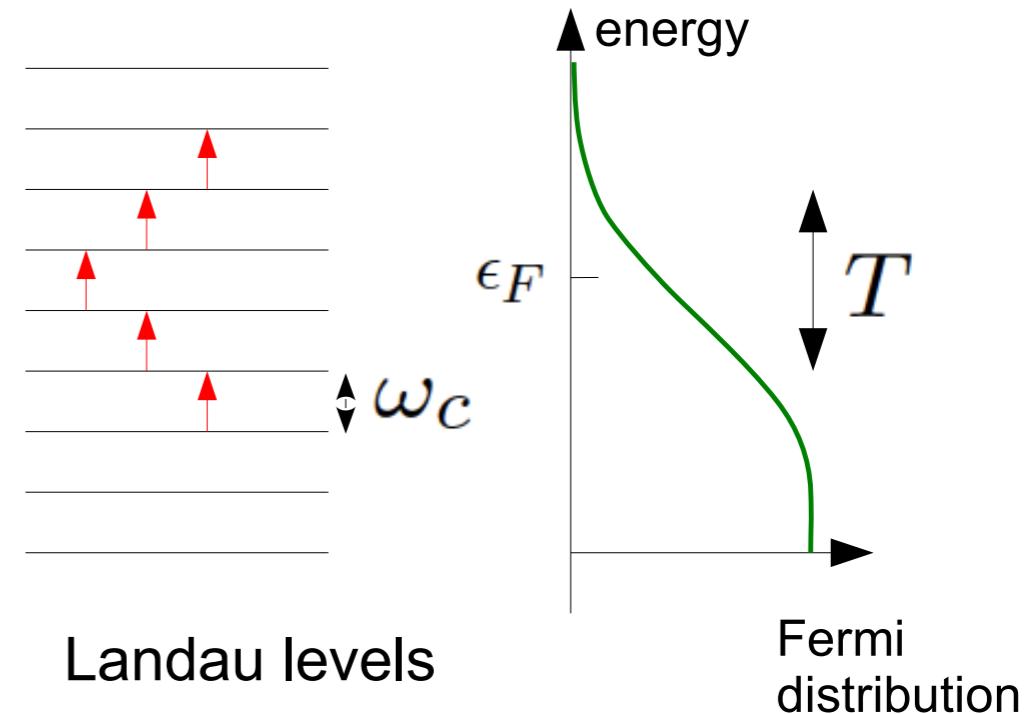


$$\frac{d\mathbf{p}}{dt} = \frac{e}{c} [\mathbf{v} \times \mathbf{B}] + \mathbf{F}_0 \cos \omega t$$

Cyclotron motion
with the frequency ω_c

Resonance
when $\omega = \omega_c$

Quantum picture



Landau levels

Transitions
between Landau
levels

Cyclotron resonance = resonant absorption of light at the cyclotron frequency

Observation of Cyclotron Resonance in Germanium Crystals*

an the simple magnetron. The angular rotation frequency in a crystal is

$$\omega_L = (eH)/(m^*c), \quad (1)$$

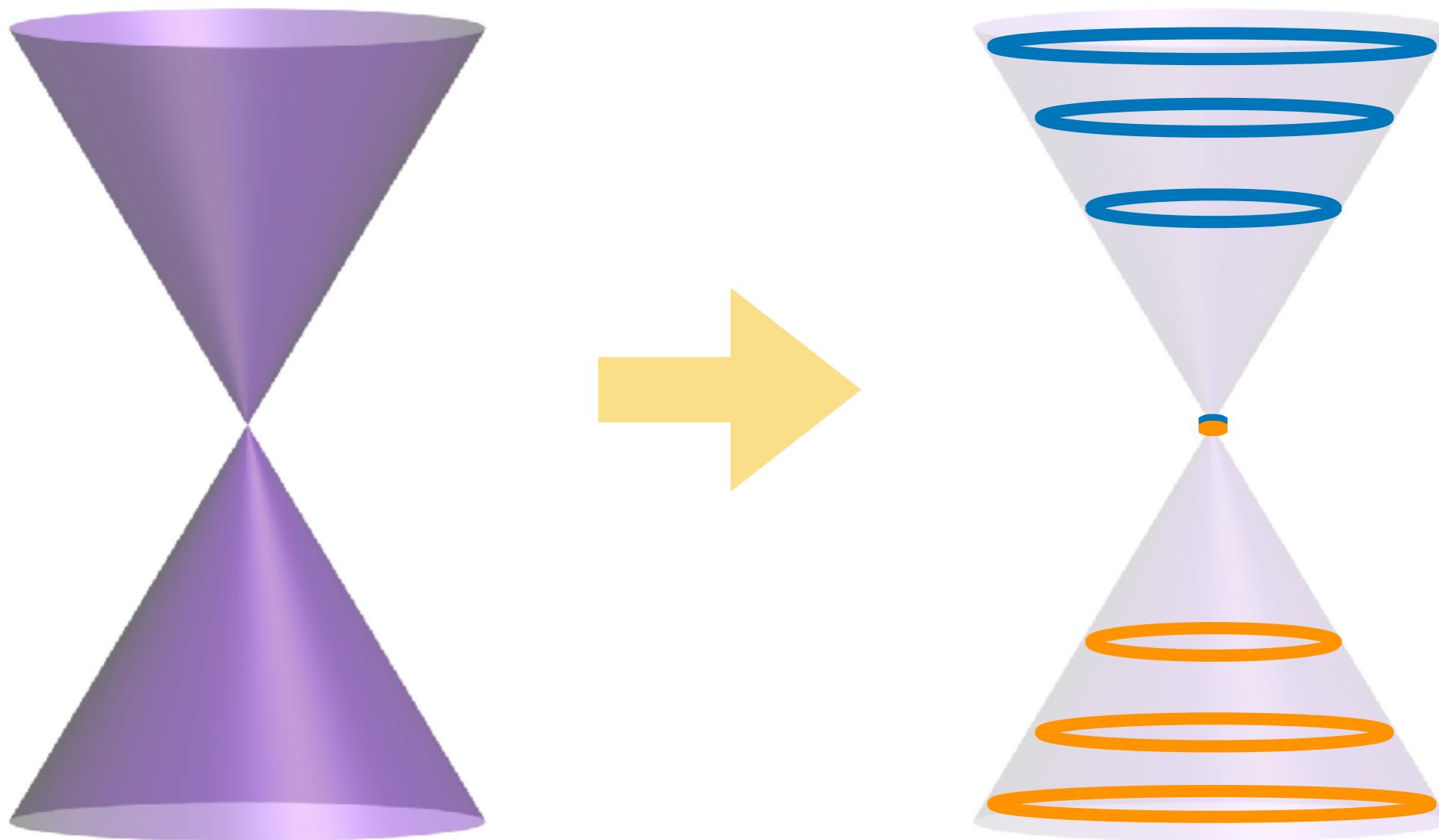
where m^* is the appropriate effective mass; thus the experiment determines the effective mass directly.



G. Dresselhaus, A.F. Kip, C. Kittel, Phys. Rev. 92, 827 (1953).

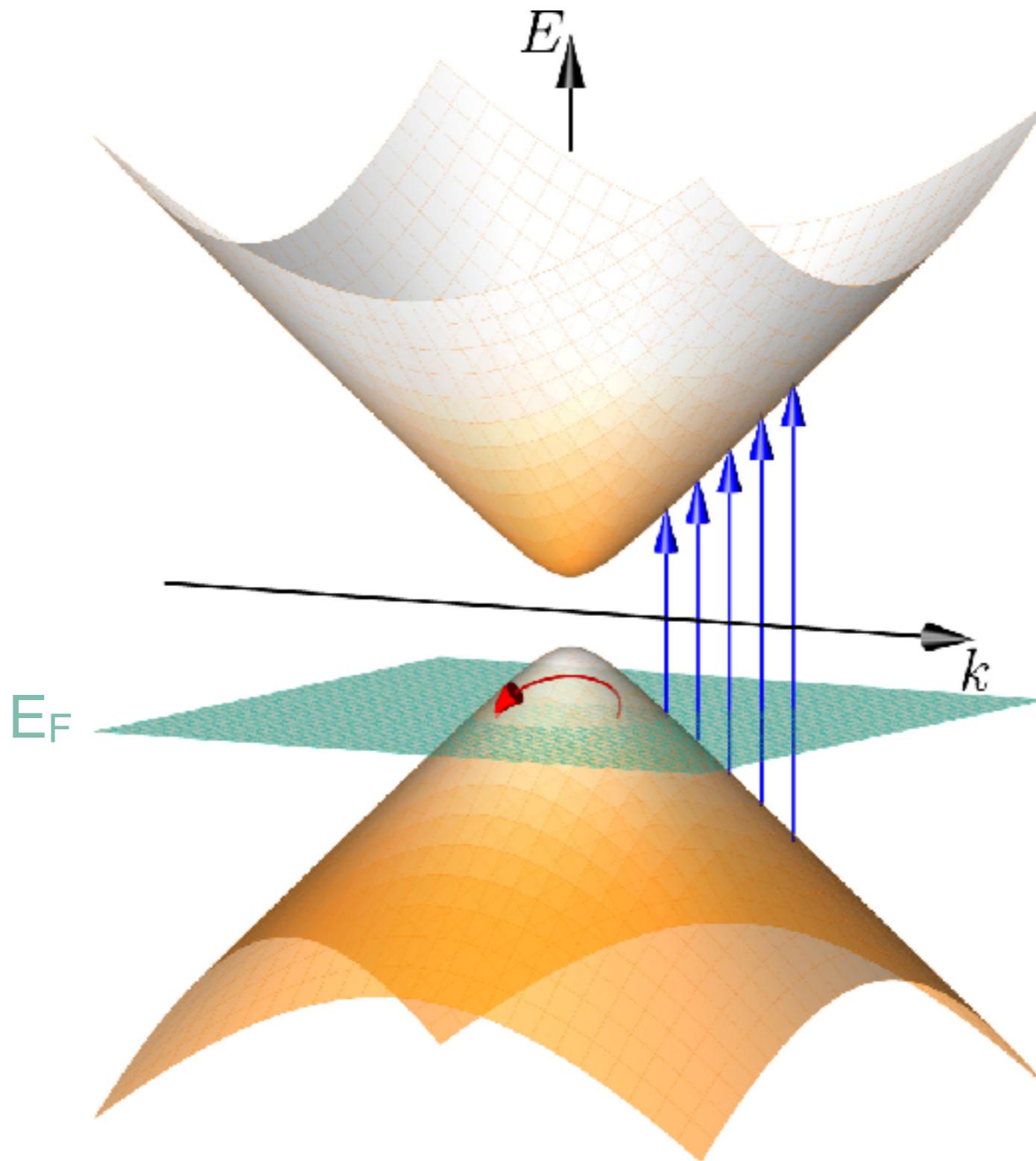
M.L. Cohen, AIP Conference Proceedings 772, 3 (2005).

Nonequidistant Landau levels



The nature of interband transitions is preserved.
Precise access to very low energy features.

Optical spectroscopy tells about jDOS



intraband (Drude) —
Cyclotron resonance

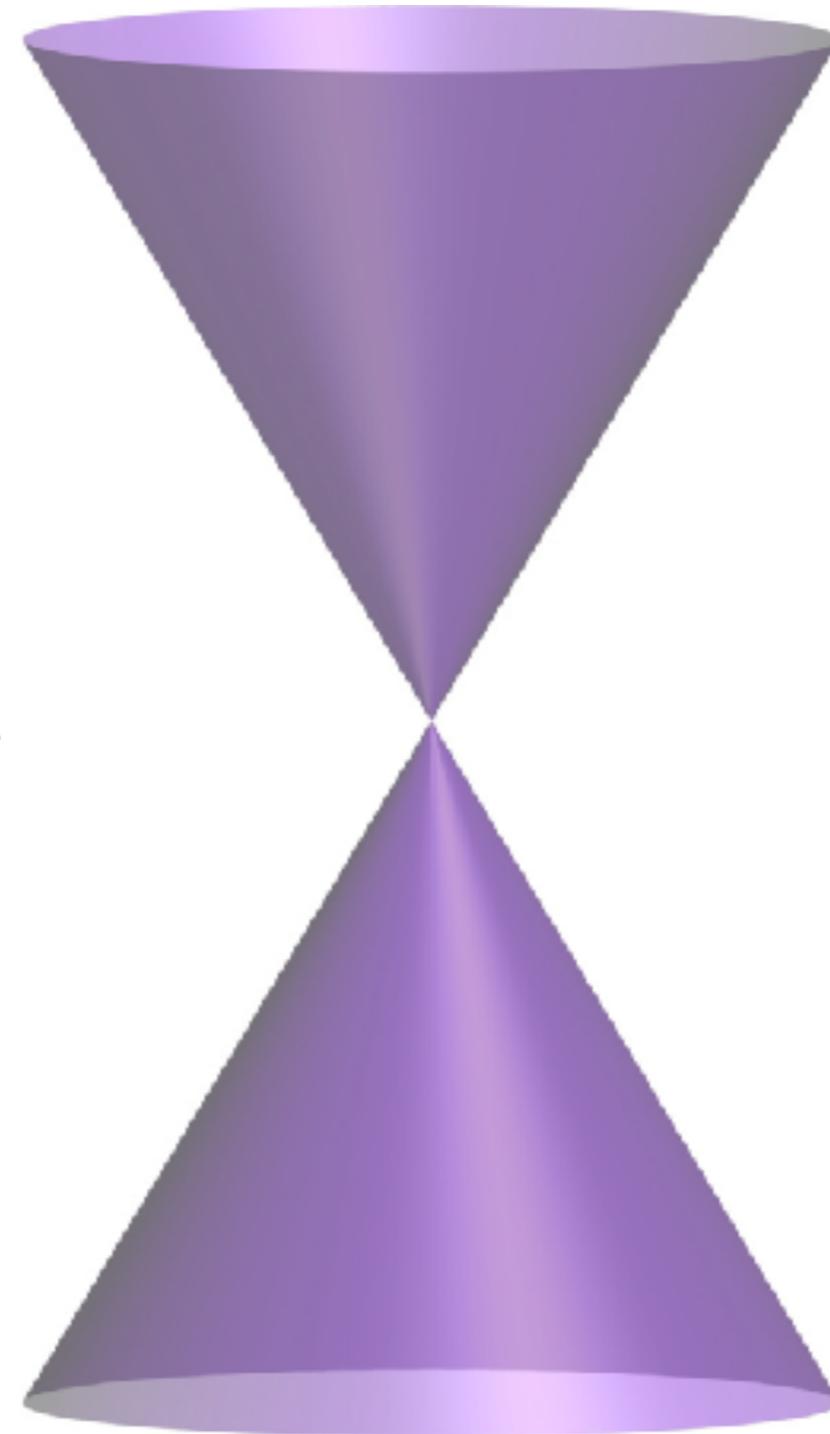
interband excitations —
interband inter-Landau level
transitions

Topological semimetals

conical bands

small energy scales

can be tuned
externally

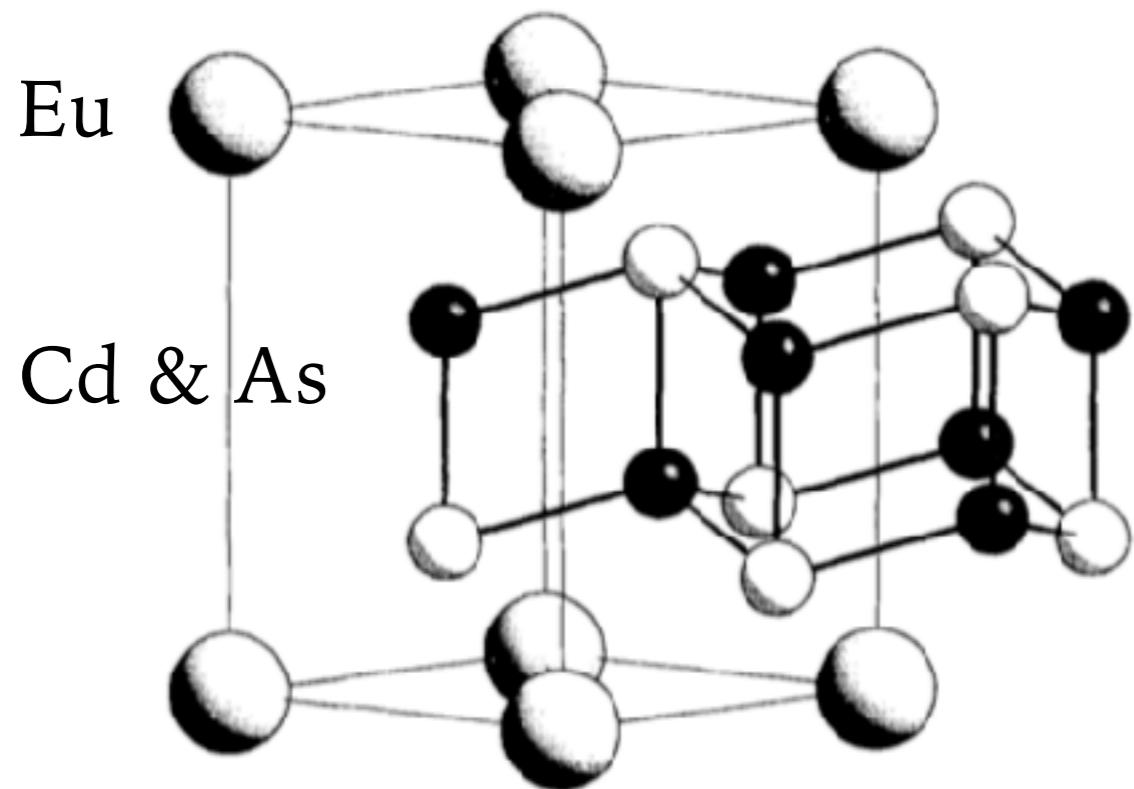


exotic quasiparticles:
eg Weyl fermions

can be coupled
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correlations

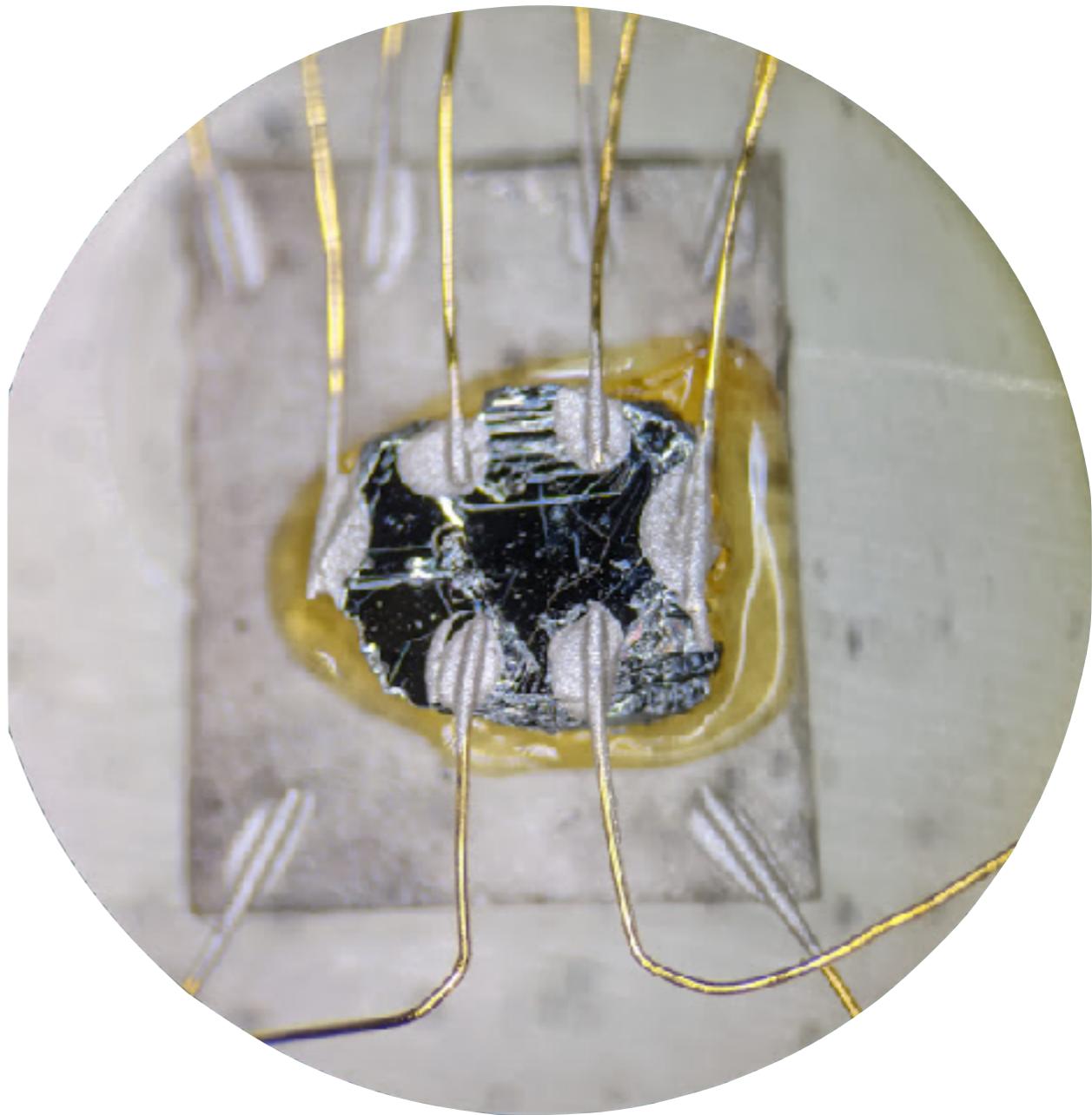
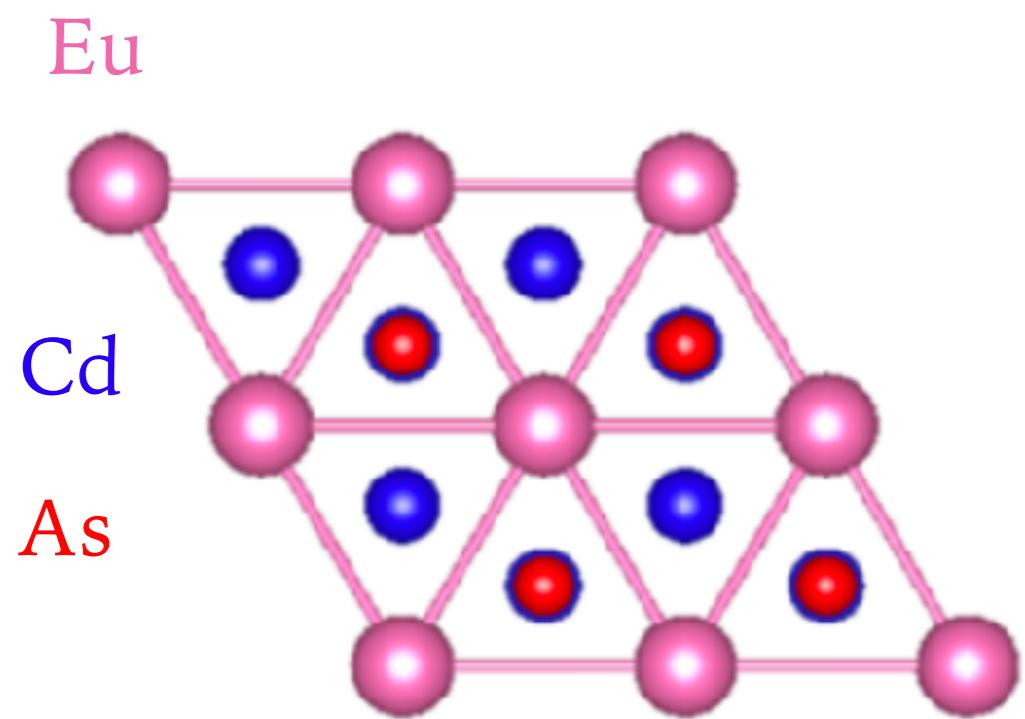
Topological semimetal EuCd_2As_2



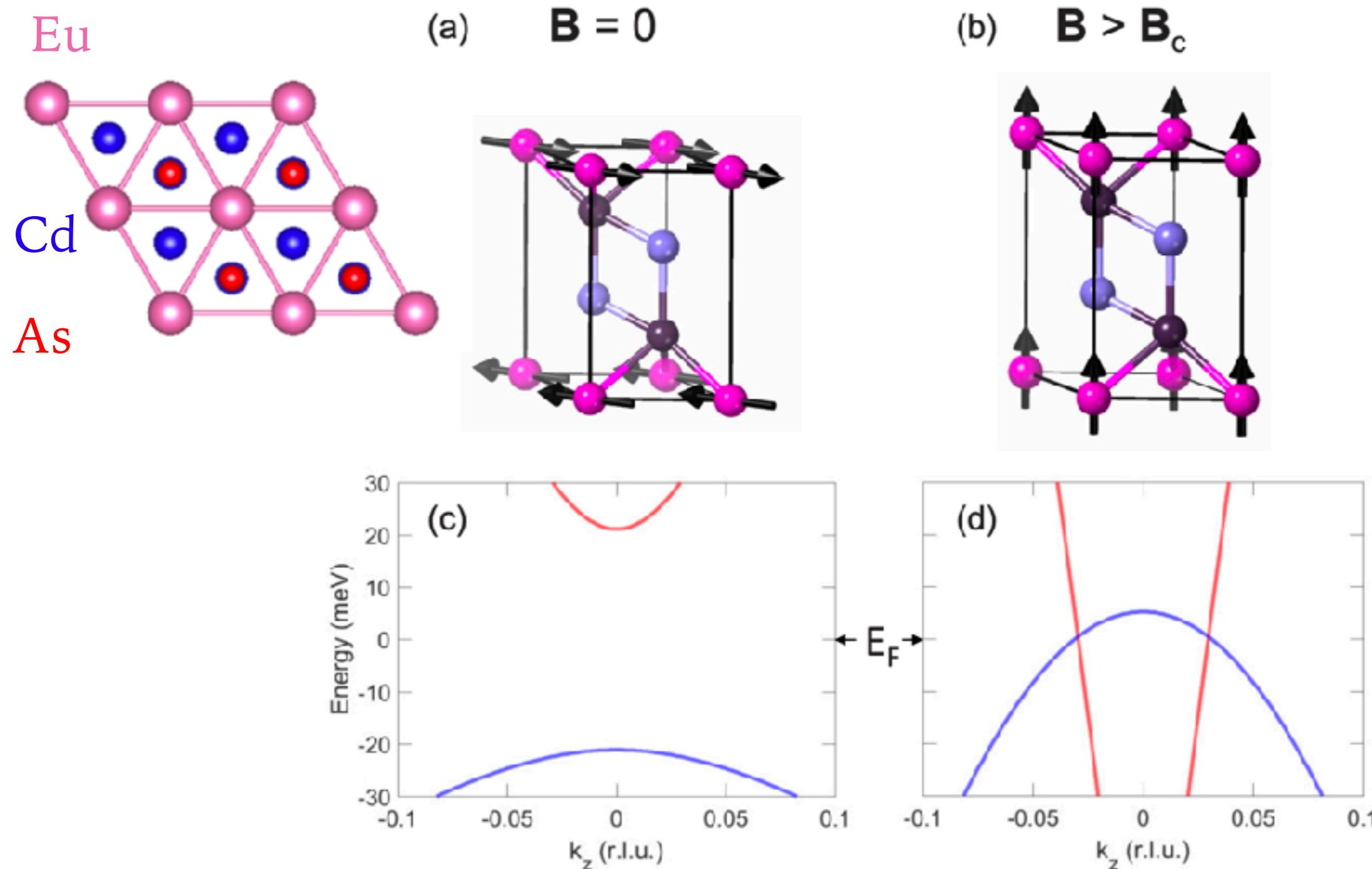
- Eu valence is $2+$
spin state $S=7/2$
- Néel transition at 9.5 K
- DFT says semimetal
($U = 5$ eV, by hand)

Currently, > 25 papers calling it a “topological semimetal” in their title/abstract.

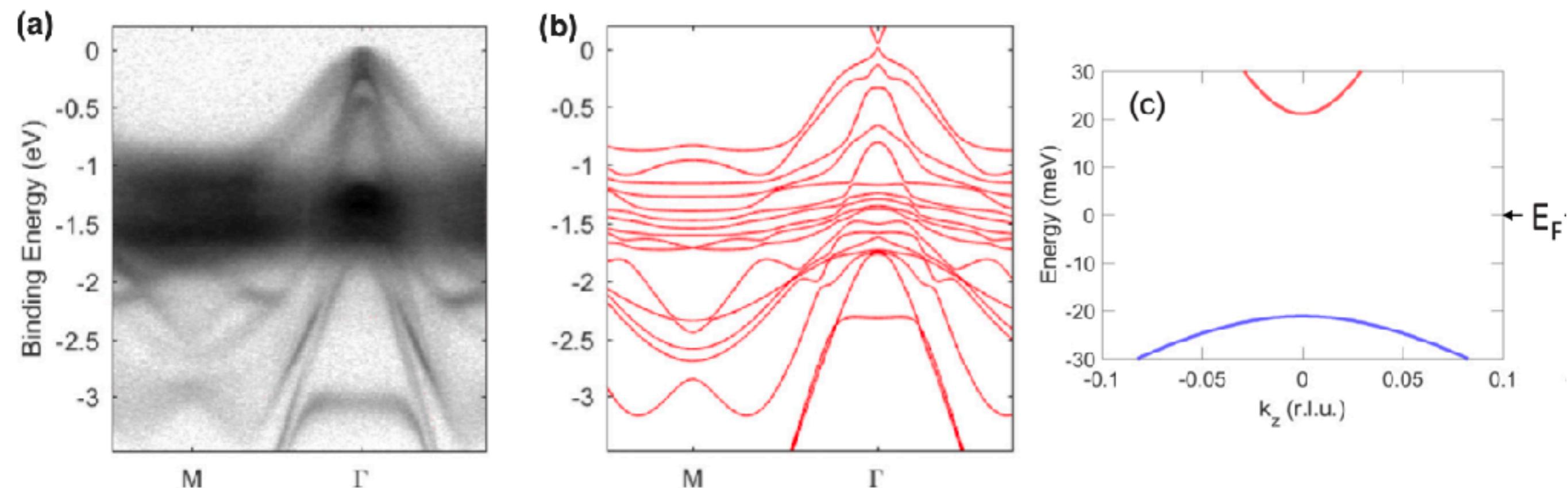
Topological semimetal EuCd_2As_2



Topological semimetal EuCd_2As_2

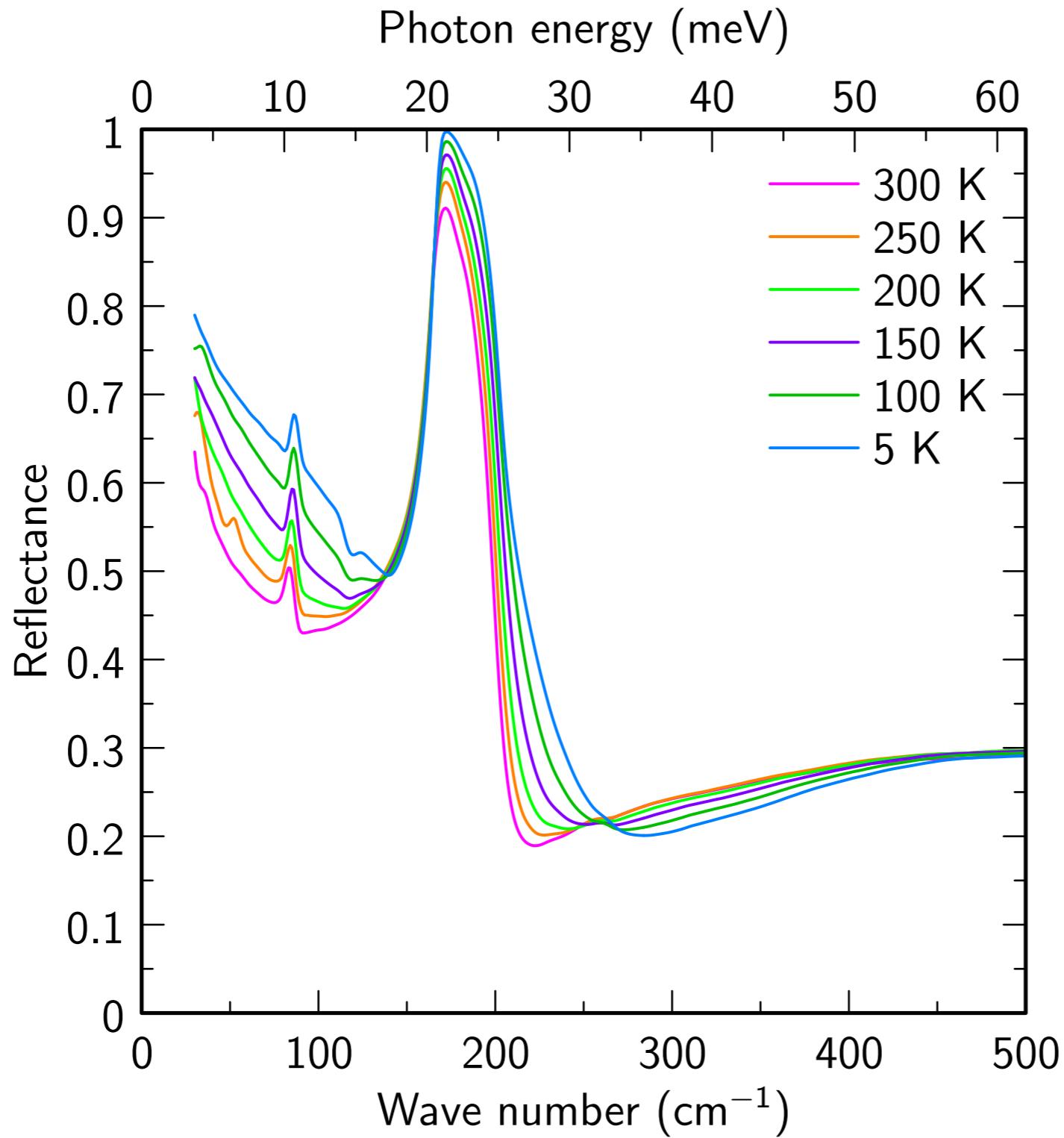


Topological semimetal EuCd_2As_2

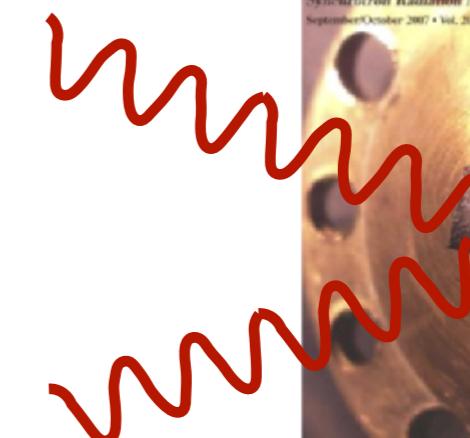




Surprise



$I(\omega)$



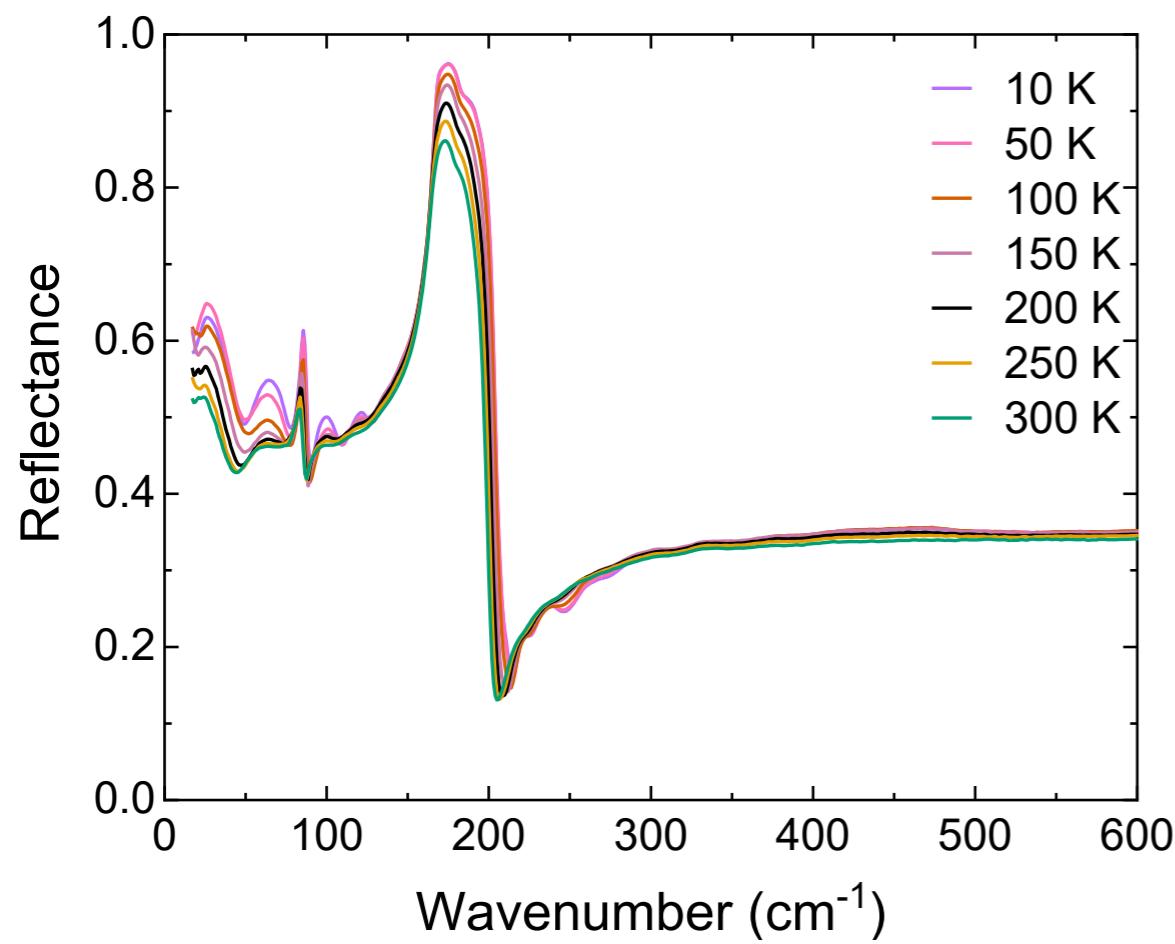
$R(\omega)$



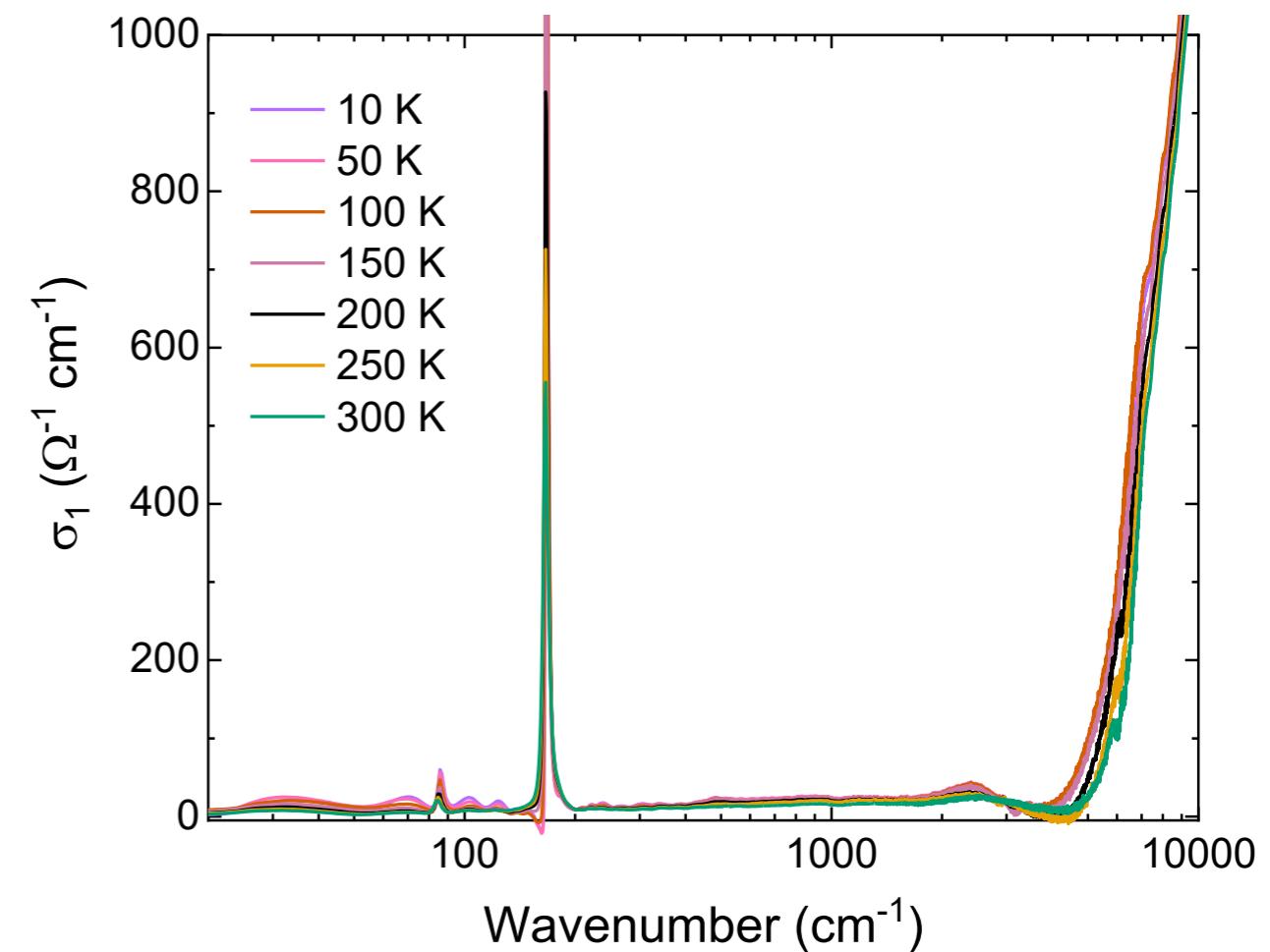
- weakly screened phonon modes
- low reflectance

Is this really a semimetal?

Reflectance

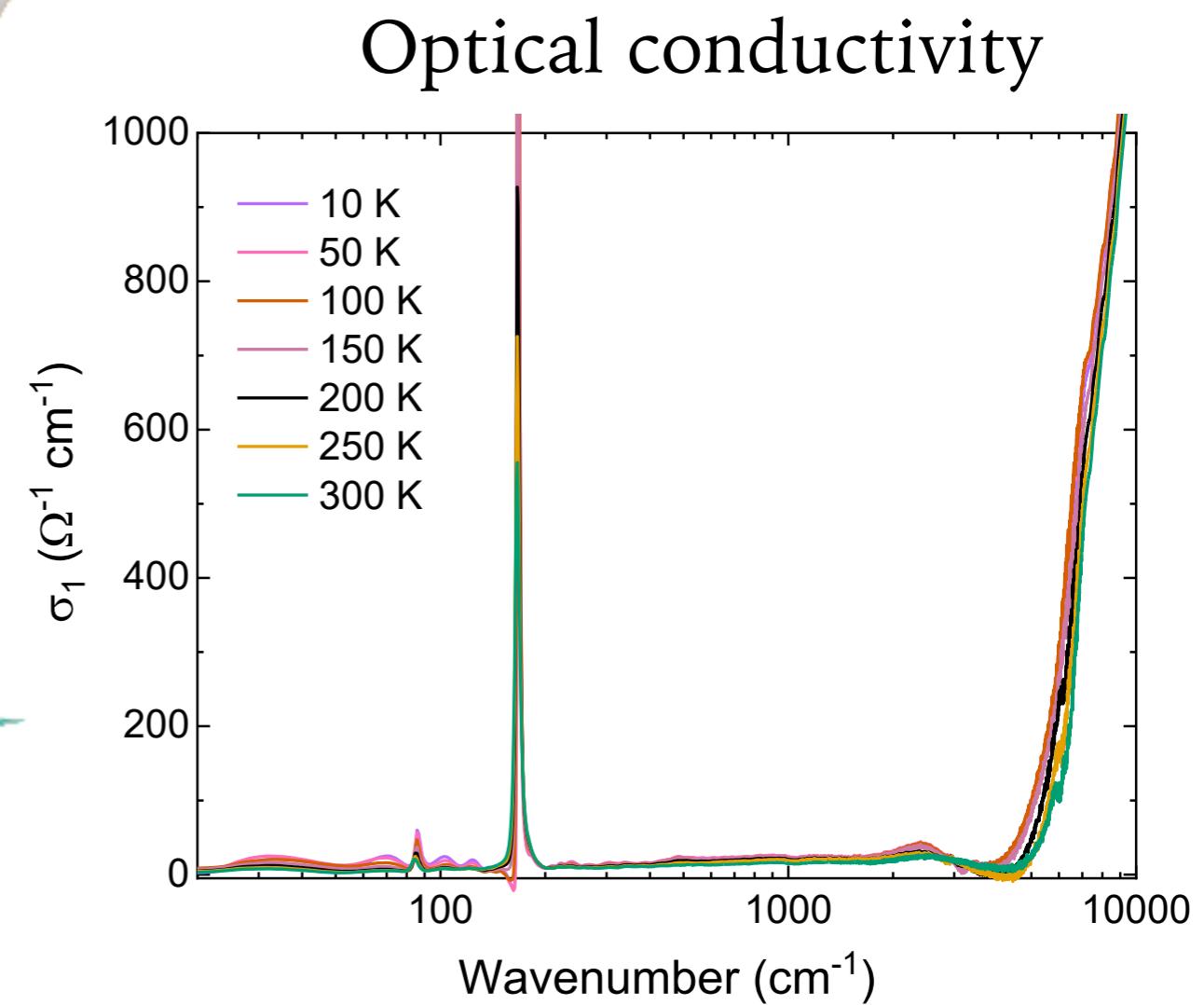
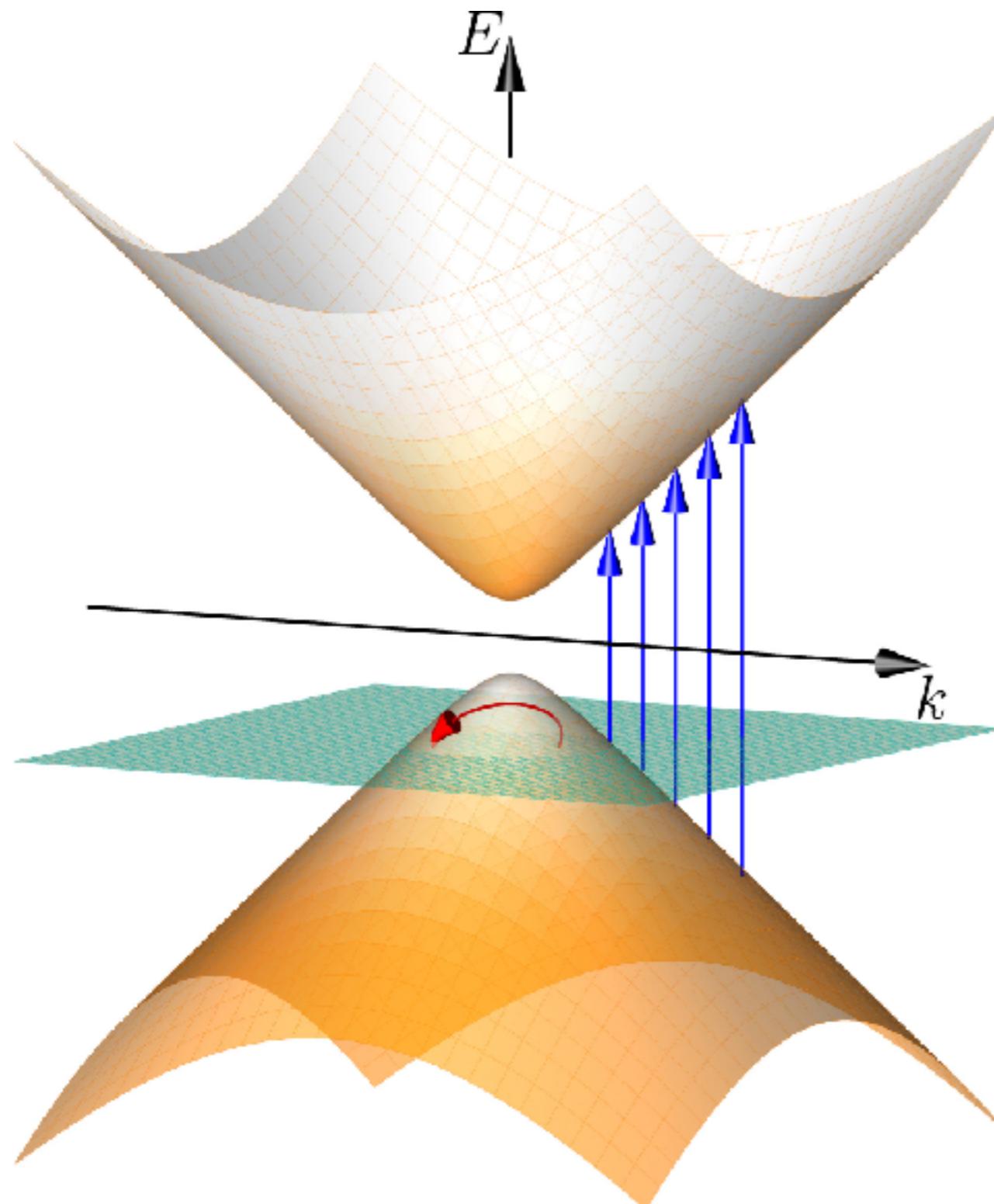


Optical conductivity



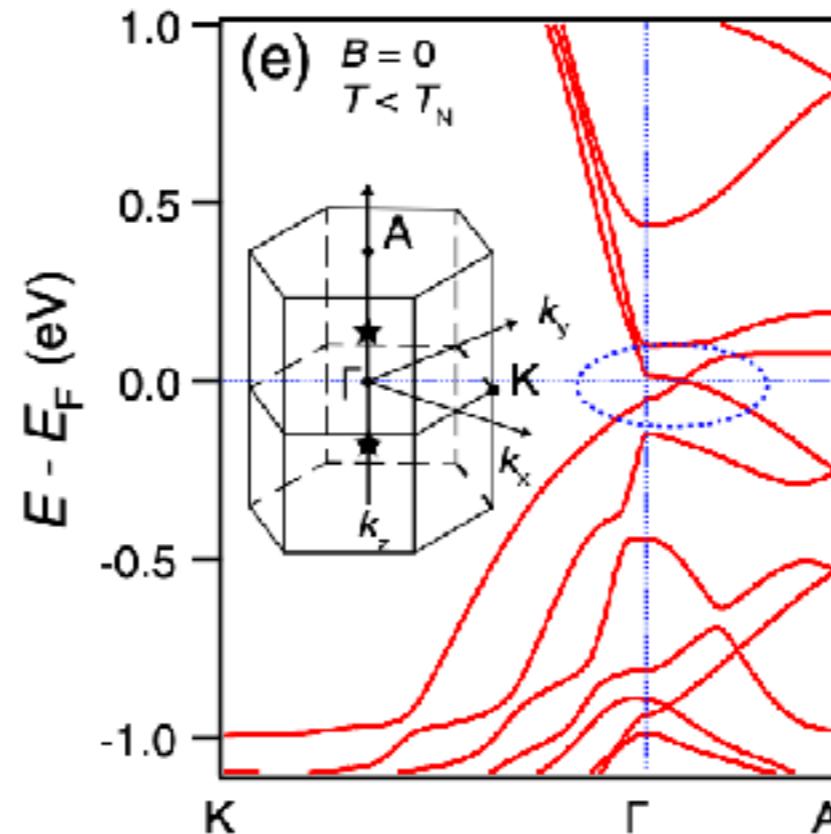
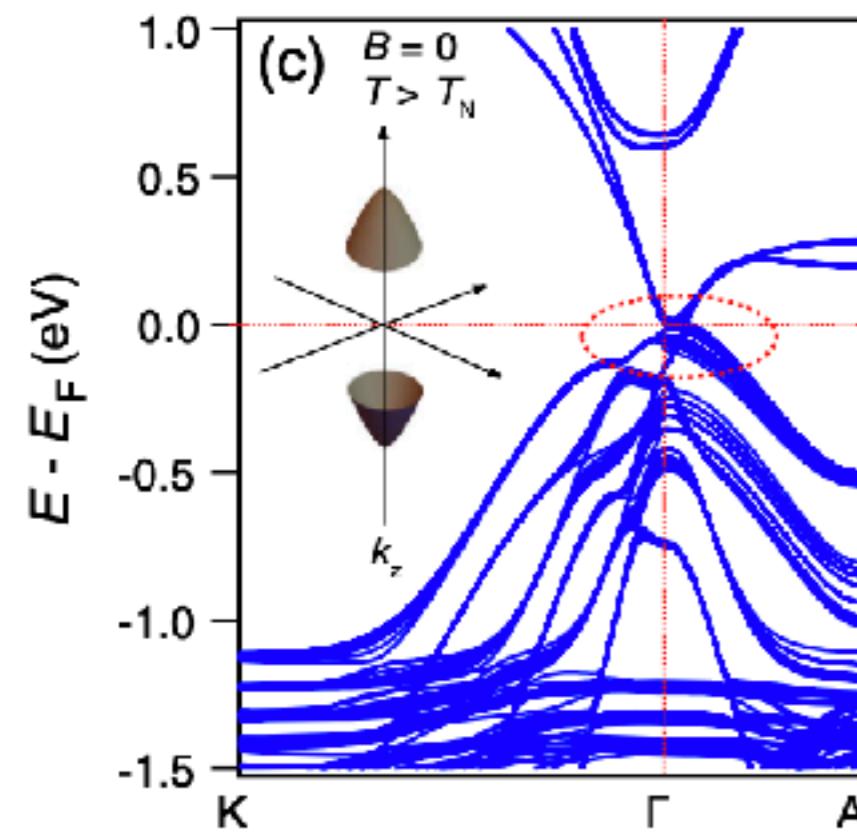
- weak temperature dependence of R
- weak Drude contribution
- gap-like feature above 0.5 eV

Is this really a semimetal?



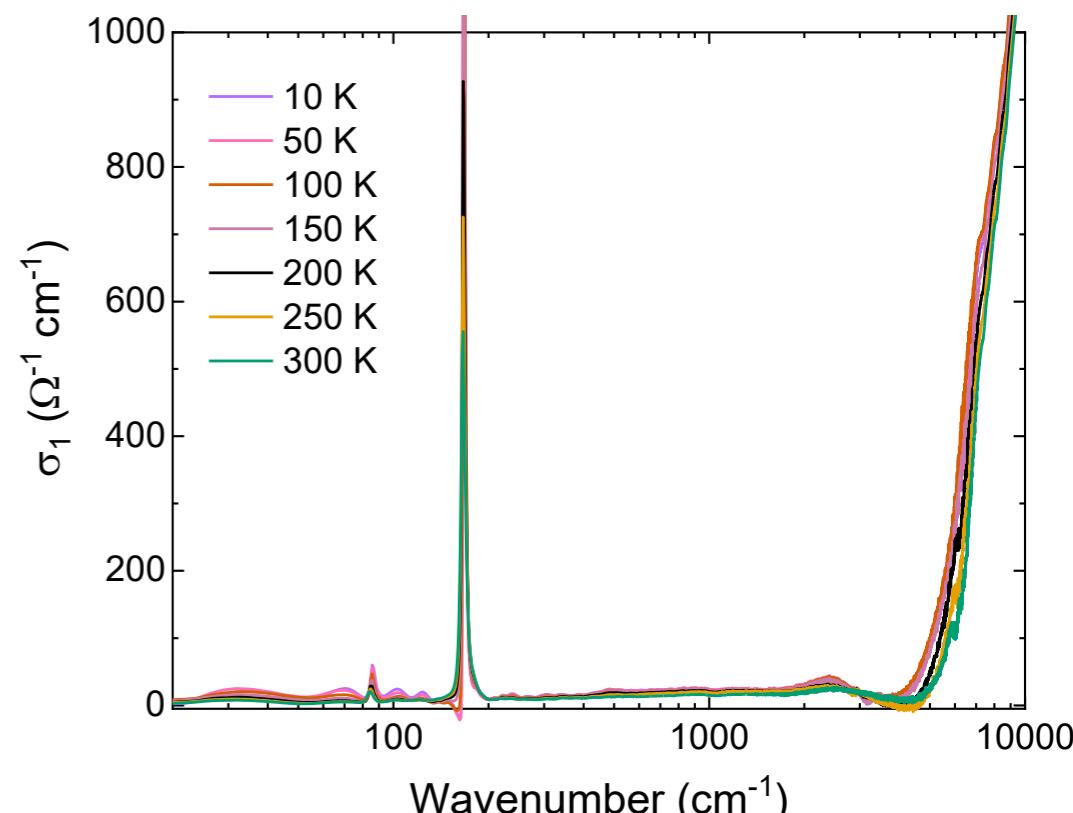
- weak Drude contribution
- gap-like feature above 0.5 eV

How to understand this?



DFT:
Small or zero gap

Optical conductivity:
No interband transitions
below 0.5 eV
Weird selection rule?





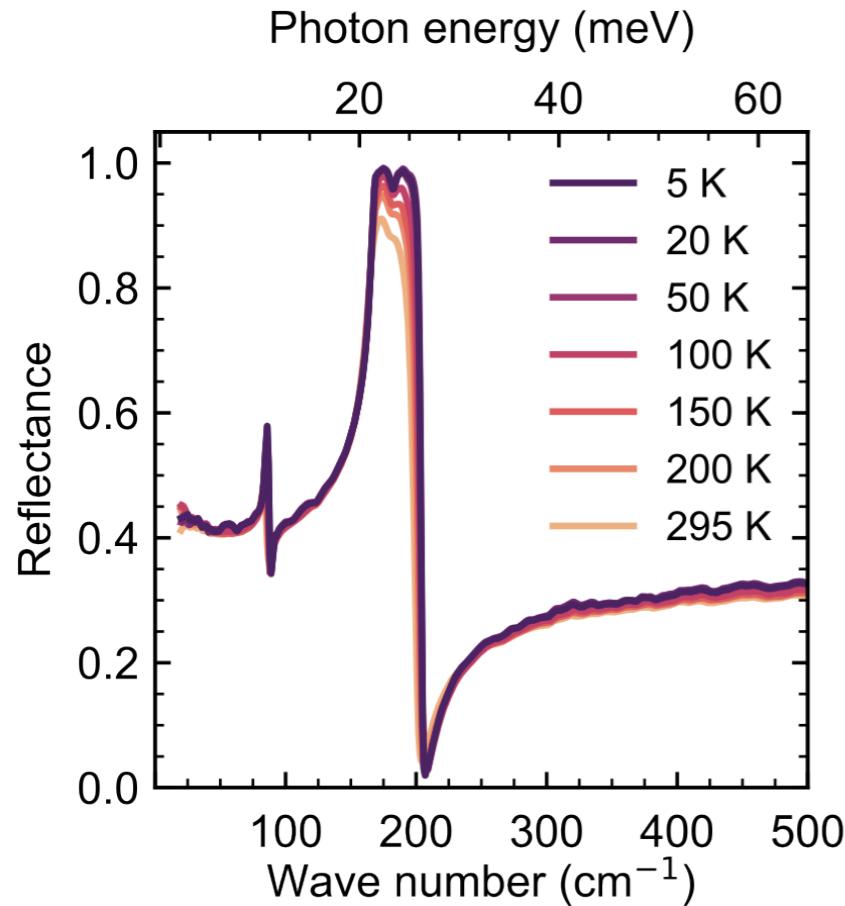
Better samples



New batch

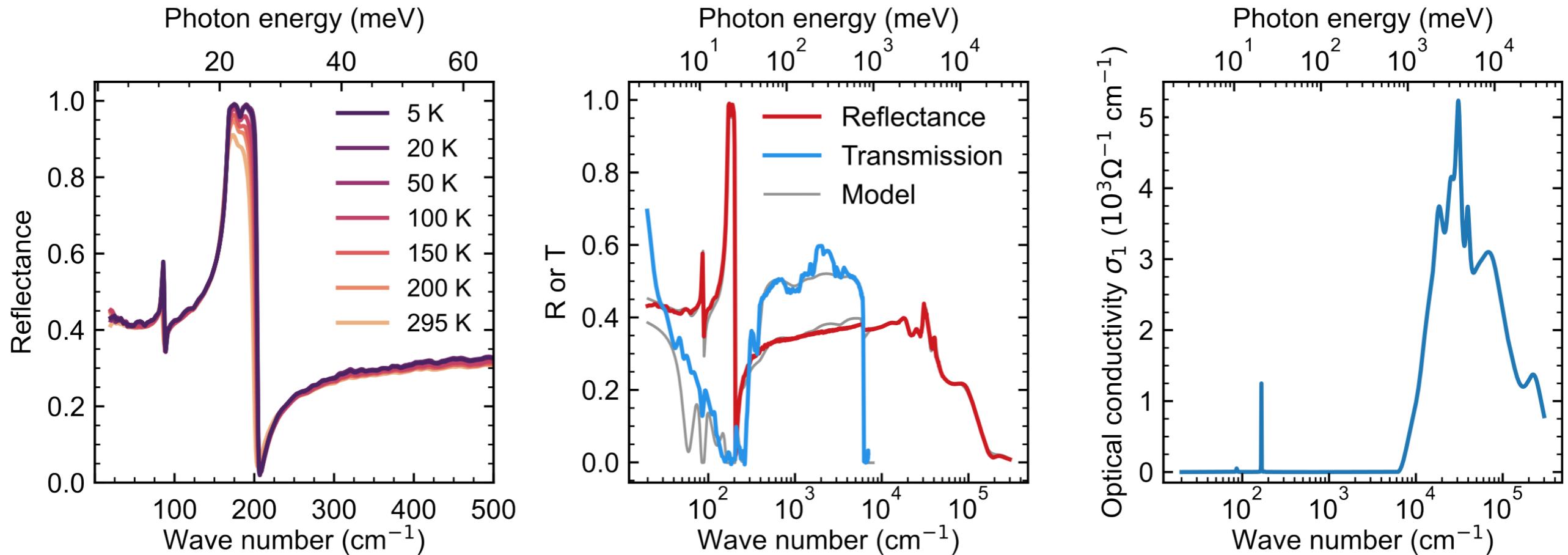
Old batch

Even fewer carriers



No Drude component.
Reststrahlen band between TO and LO frequencies

Even fewer carriers

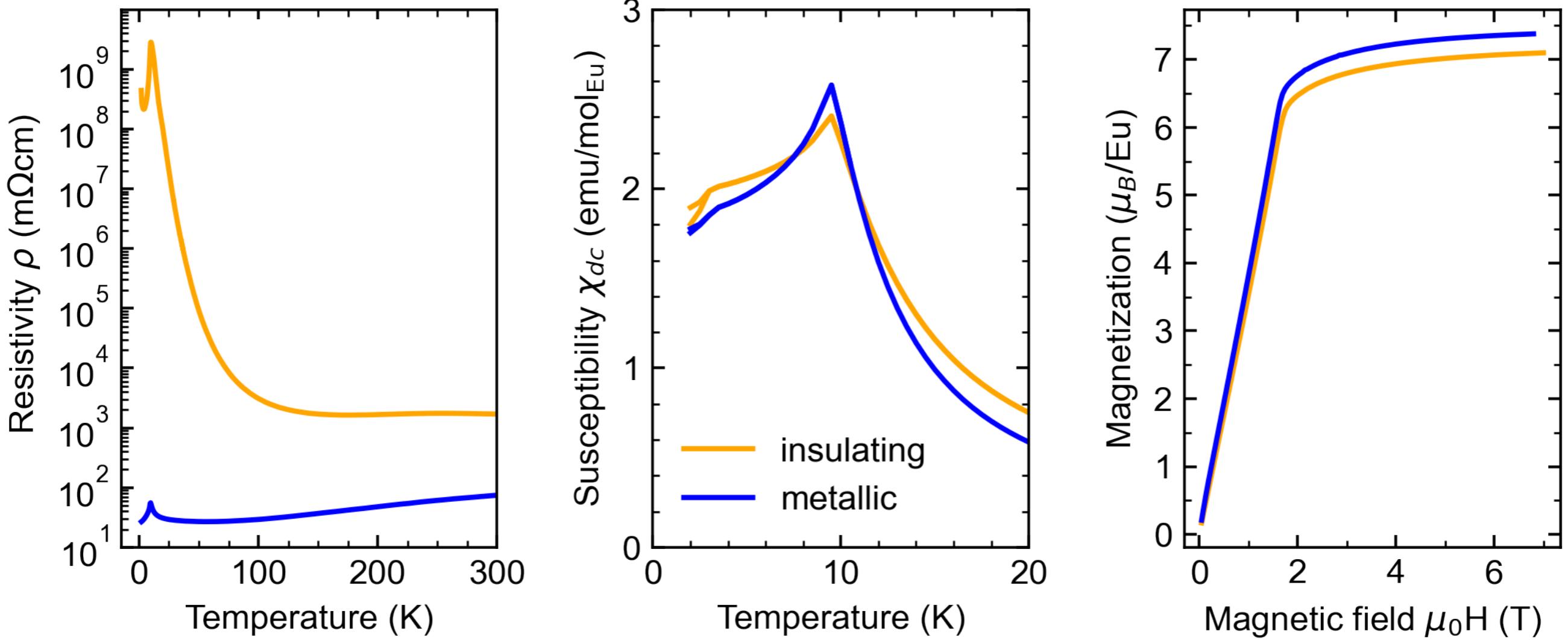


No Drude component.

Reststrahlen band between TO and LO frequencies.

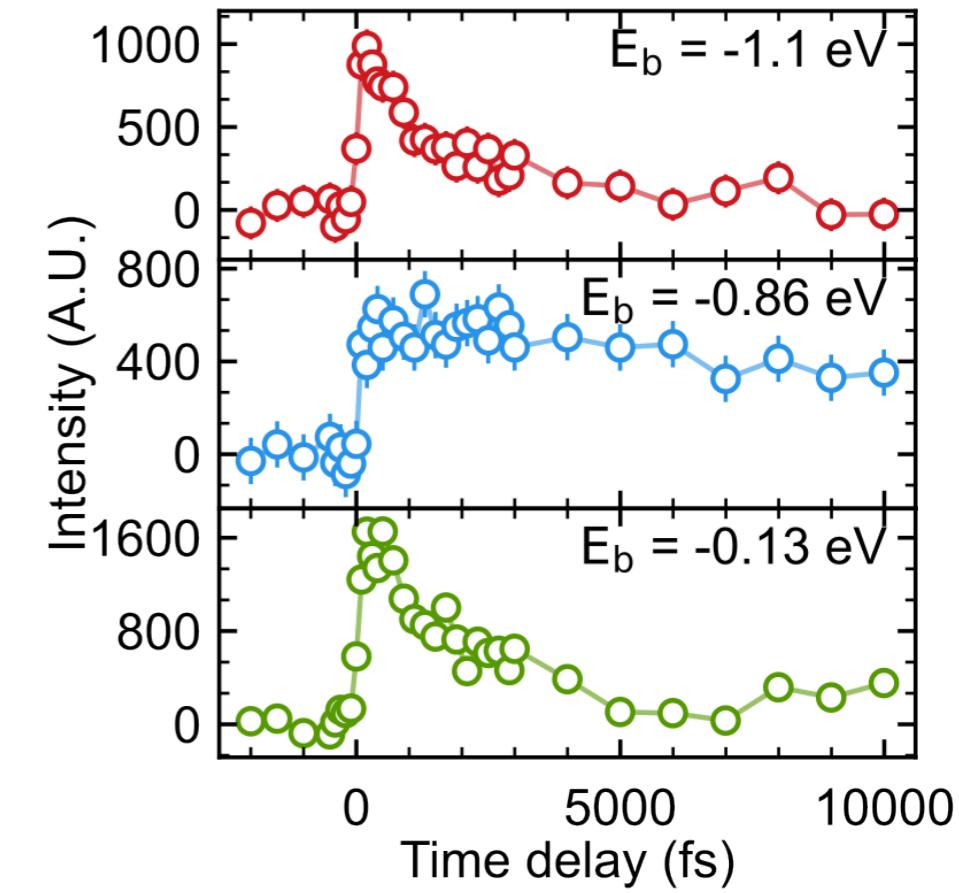
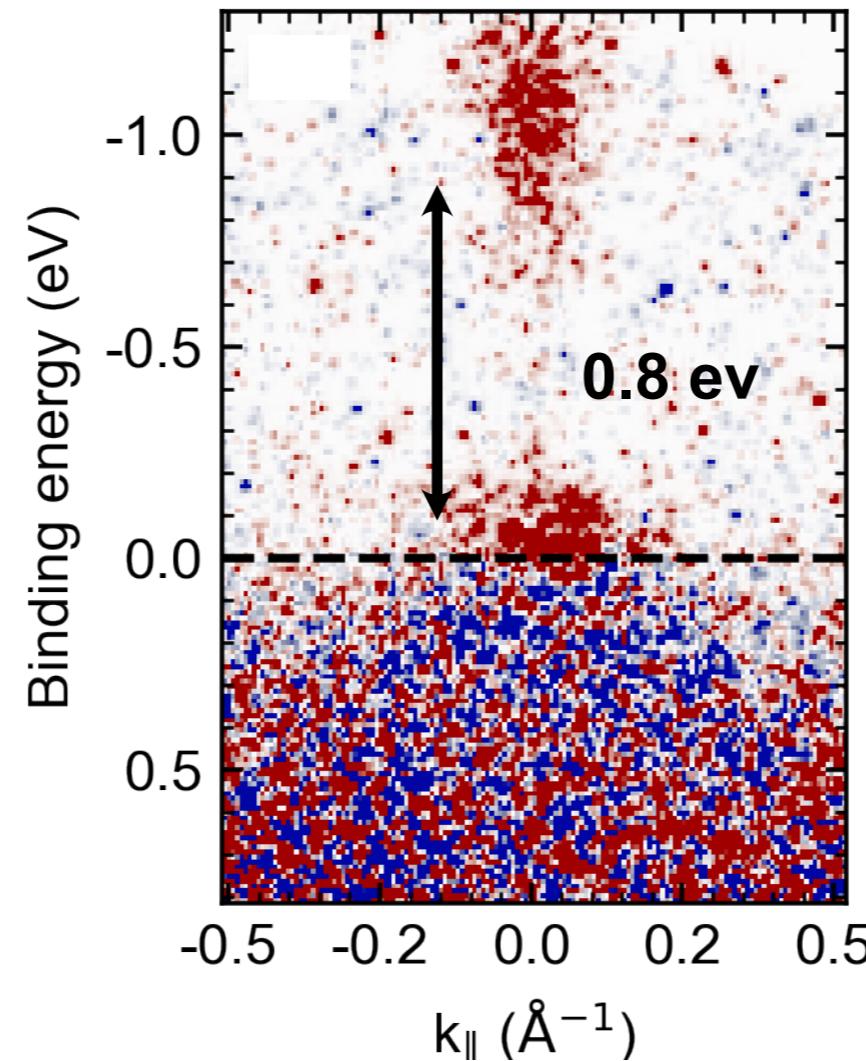
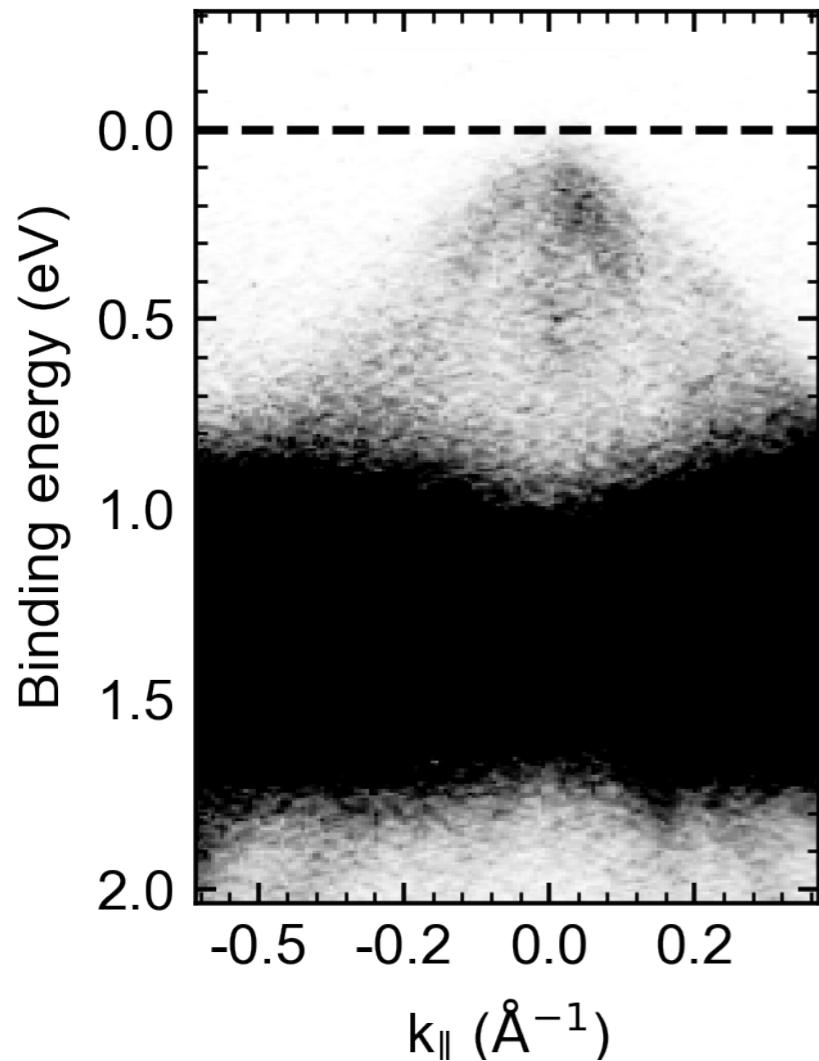
Can't use simple Kramers-Kronig analysis!

Not a semimetal...



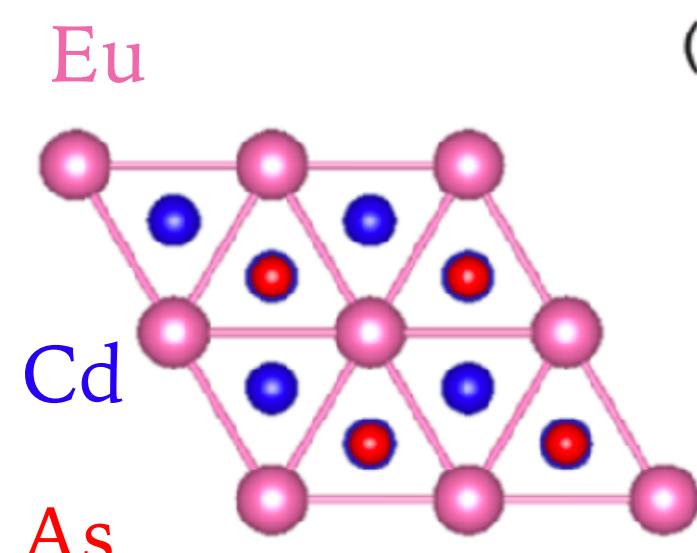
Drude doesn't know about topology!
This cannot be a semimetal.

Not a semimetal...

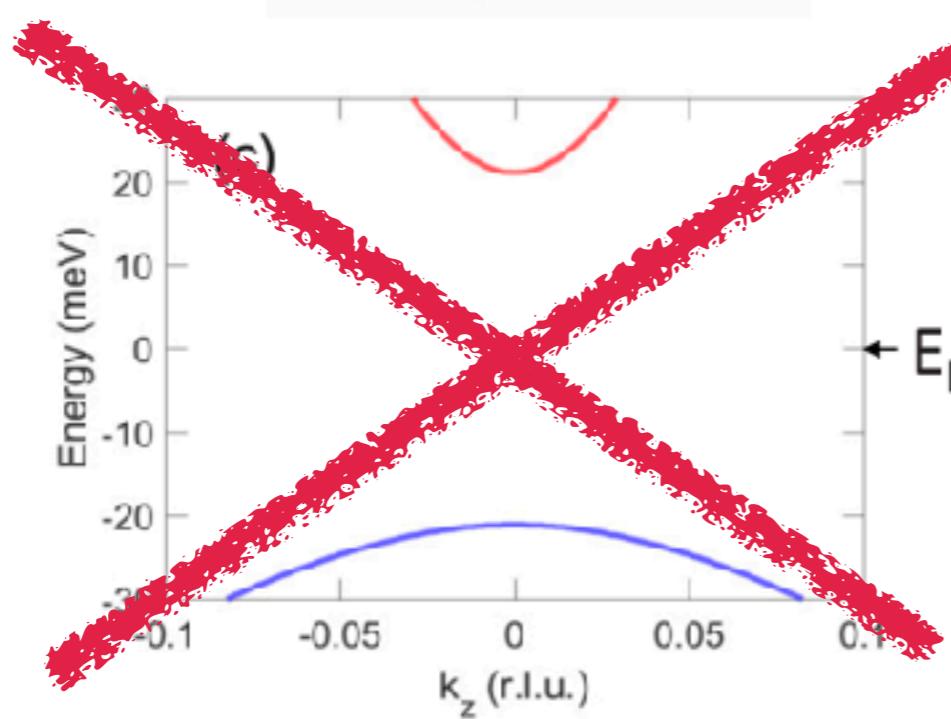
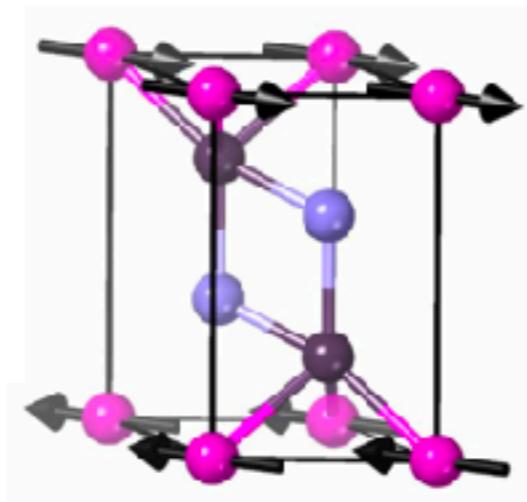


Hugo Dil's group, EPFL

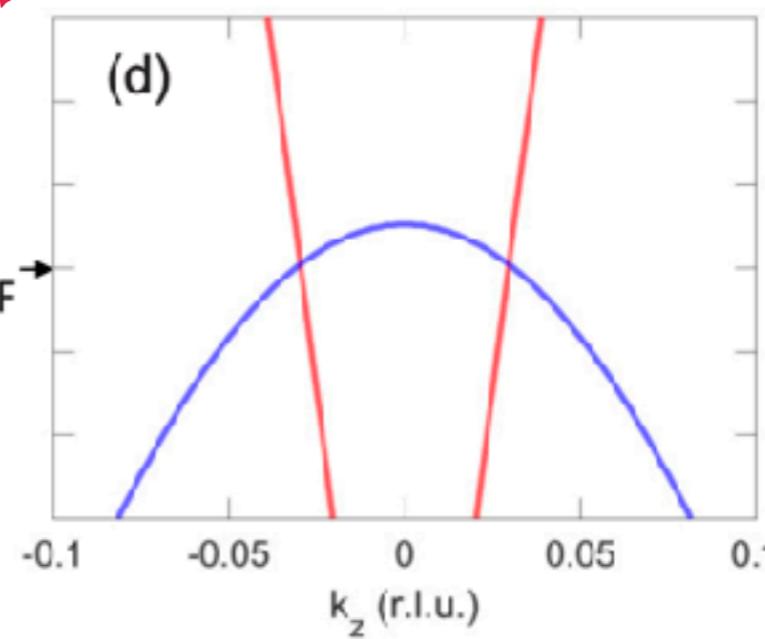
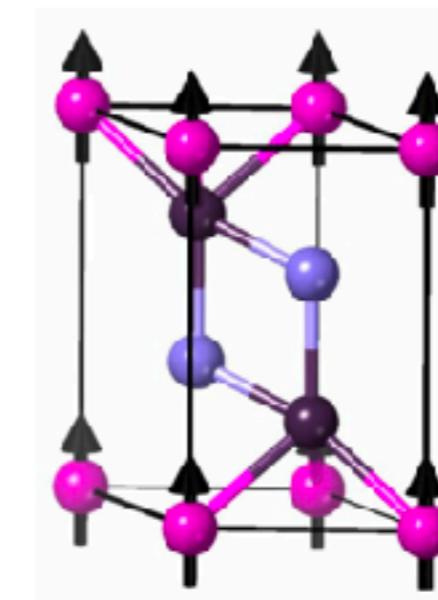
Topological semimetal EuCd_2As_2



(a) $\mathbf{B} = 0$



(b) $B > B_c$



PHYSICS

Spin fluctuation induced Weyl semimetal state in the paramagnetic phase of EuCd_2As_2

PAPER

Comparative Raman spectroscopy of magnetic topological material EuCd_2X_2 ($\text{X} = \text{P}, \text{As}$)

PHYSICAL REVIEW B 97, 214422 (2018)

Quantum anomalous Hall effect and gate-controllable topological phase transition in layered EuCd_2As_2

PHYSICAL REVIEW B 94, 045112 (2016)

Coupling of magnetic order and charge transport in the candidate Dirac semimetal EuCd_2As_2

npj quantum materials

www.nature.com/npjquantmat

Anisotropic transport and optical spectroscopy study on antiferromagnetic triangular lattice EuCd_2As_2 : An interplay between magnetism and charge transport properties

PHYSICAL REVIEW B 104, 155124 (2021)

ARTICLE OPEN

Consecutive topological phase transitions and colossal magnetoresistance in a magnetic topological semimetal

Check for updates

PHYSICA

Pressure-induced ferromagnetism in the topological semimetal EuCd_2As_2

PHYSICAL REVIEW B 102, 014408 (2020)

ARTICLE

<https://doi.org/10.1103/PhysRevB.102.014408>

OPEN

Visualizing band selective enhancement of quasiparticle lifetime in a metallic ferromagnet

Rapid Communications

Editors' Suggestion

Check for updates

Resonant x-ray scattering study of diffuse magnetic scattering from the topological

PHYSICAL REVIEW B 101, 140402(R) (2020)

Rapid Communications

Manipulating magnetism in the topological semimetal EuCd_2As_2

RESEARCH ARTICLE

ADVA
SCIENCE

www.advancedscience.com

Evidence of Ba-substitution induced spin-canting in the magnetic Weyl semimetal EuCd_2As_2

PHYSICAL REVIEW B 106, 085134 (2022)

Deutsche Physikalische Gesellschaft

Anomalous Hall Conductivity and Nernst Effect of the Ideal Weyl Semimetallic Ferromagnet EuCd_2As_2

New Journal of Physics

The open access journal at the forefront of physics

PHYSICAL REVIEW LETTERS 126, 075602 (2021)

Solution in a magnetic topological material EuCd_2As_2 **Unconventional Transverse Transport above and below the Magnetic Transition Temperature in Weyl Semimetal EuCd_2As_2**

PAPER • OPEN ACCESS

Switchable quantum anomalous and spin Hall effects in honeycomb magnet EuCd_2As_2

201116(R) (2018)

PHYSICAL REVIEW B 105, L140401 (2022)

COMMUNICATION

ADVANCED
MATERIALS

www.advmat.de

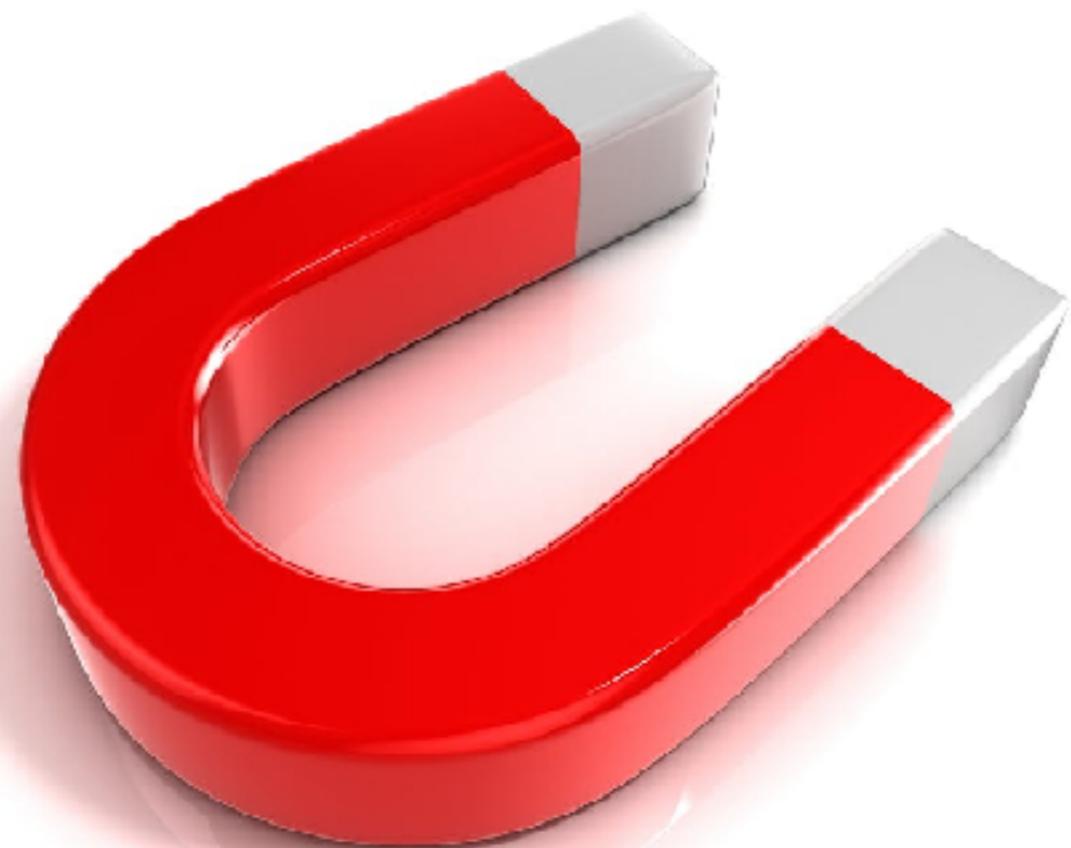
Single pair of Weyl nodes in the spin-canted structure of EuCd_2As_2

PAPER

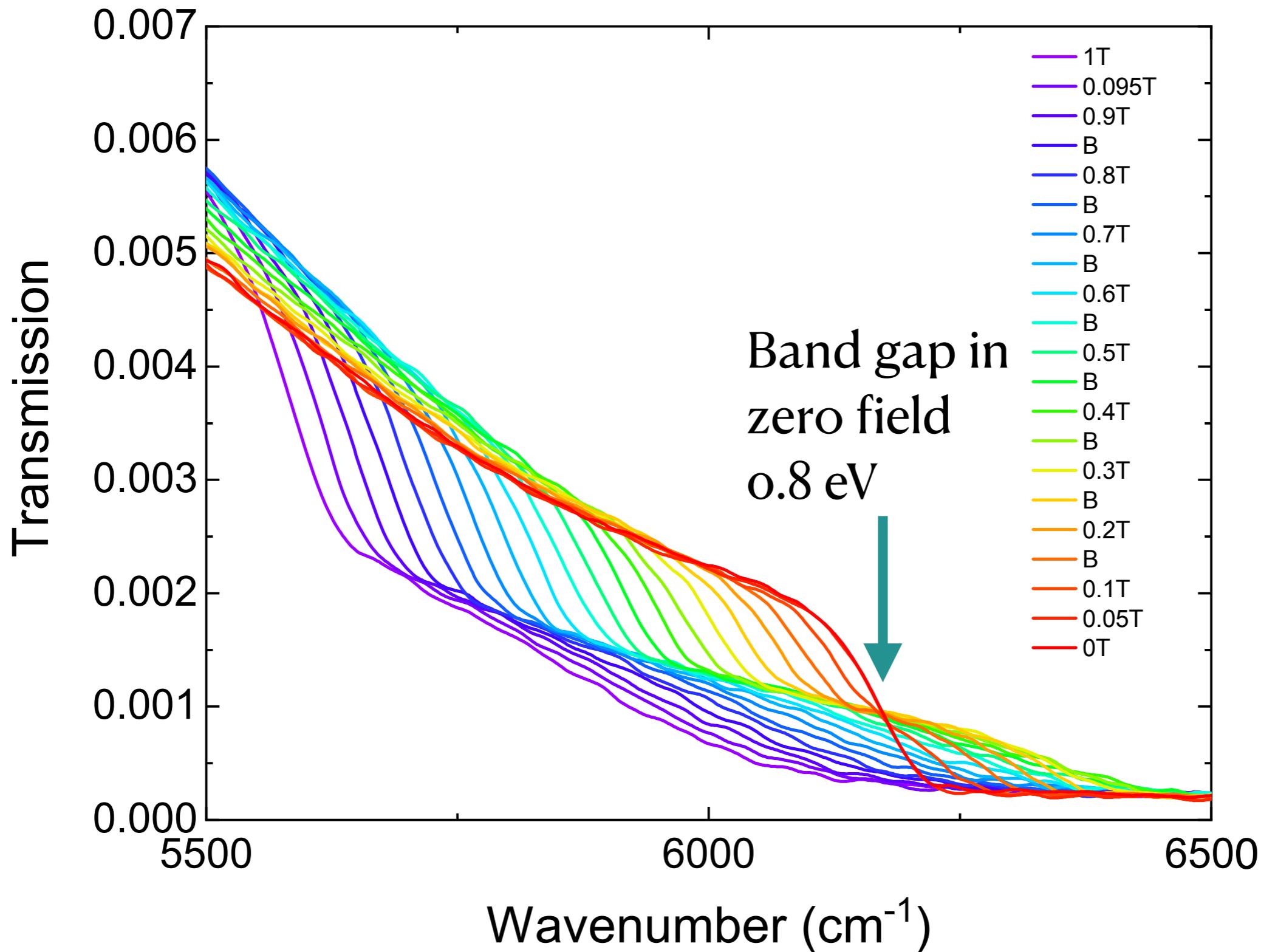
PHYSICAL REVIEW B 98, 125110 (2018)

Emergence of Nontrivial Low-Energy Dirac Fermions in Antiferromagnetic EuCd_2As_2 **Long-Time Magnetic Relaxation in Antiferromagnetic Topological Material EuCd_2As_2**

Magneto-transmission at 4 K

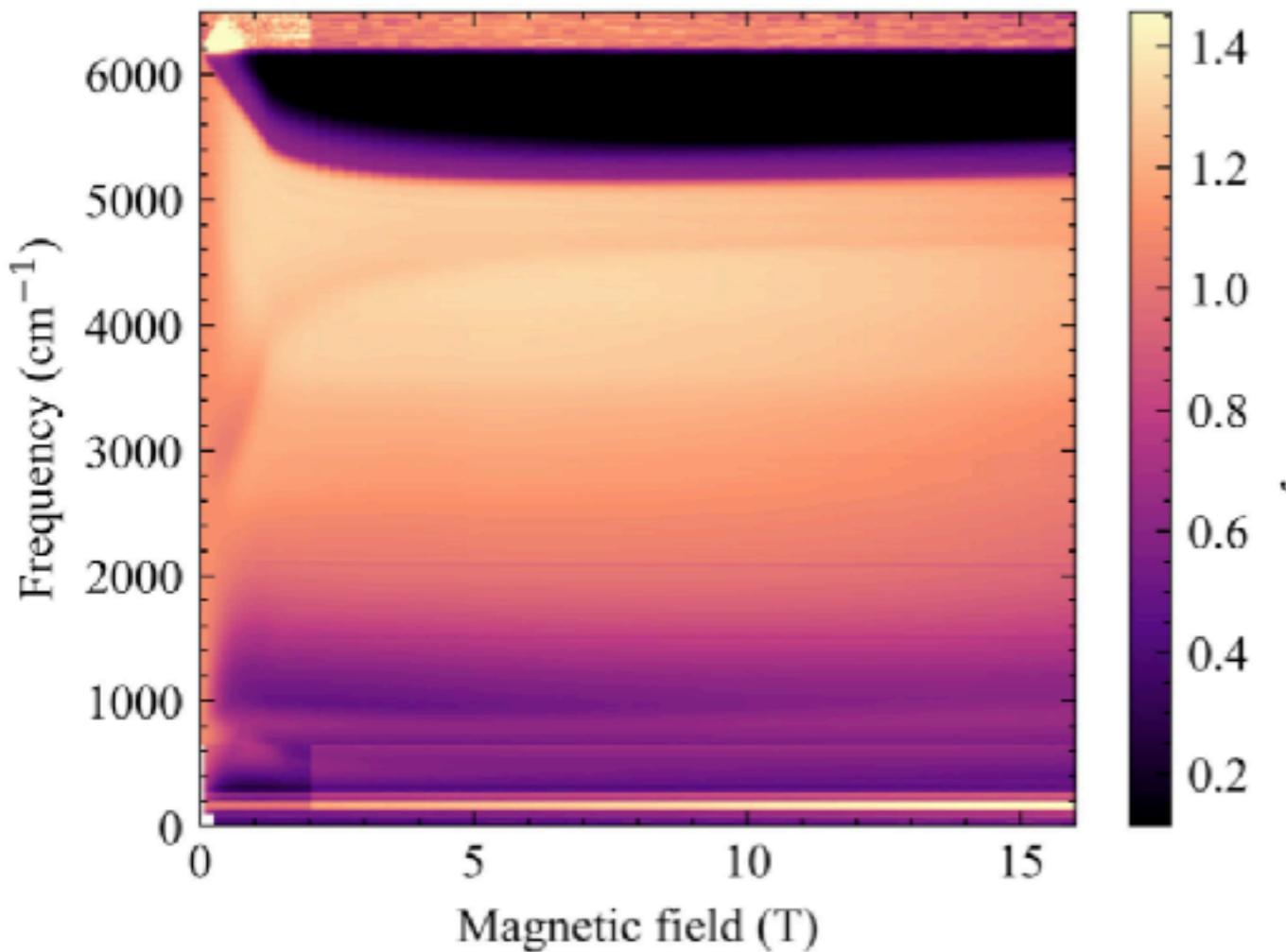


Magneto-transmission below 1 T

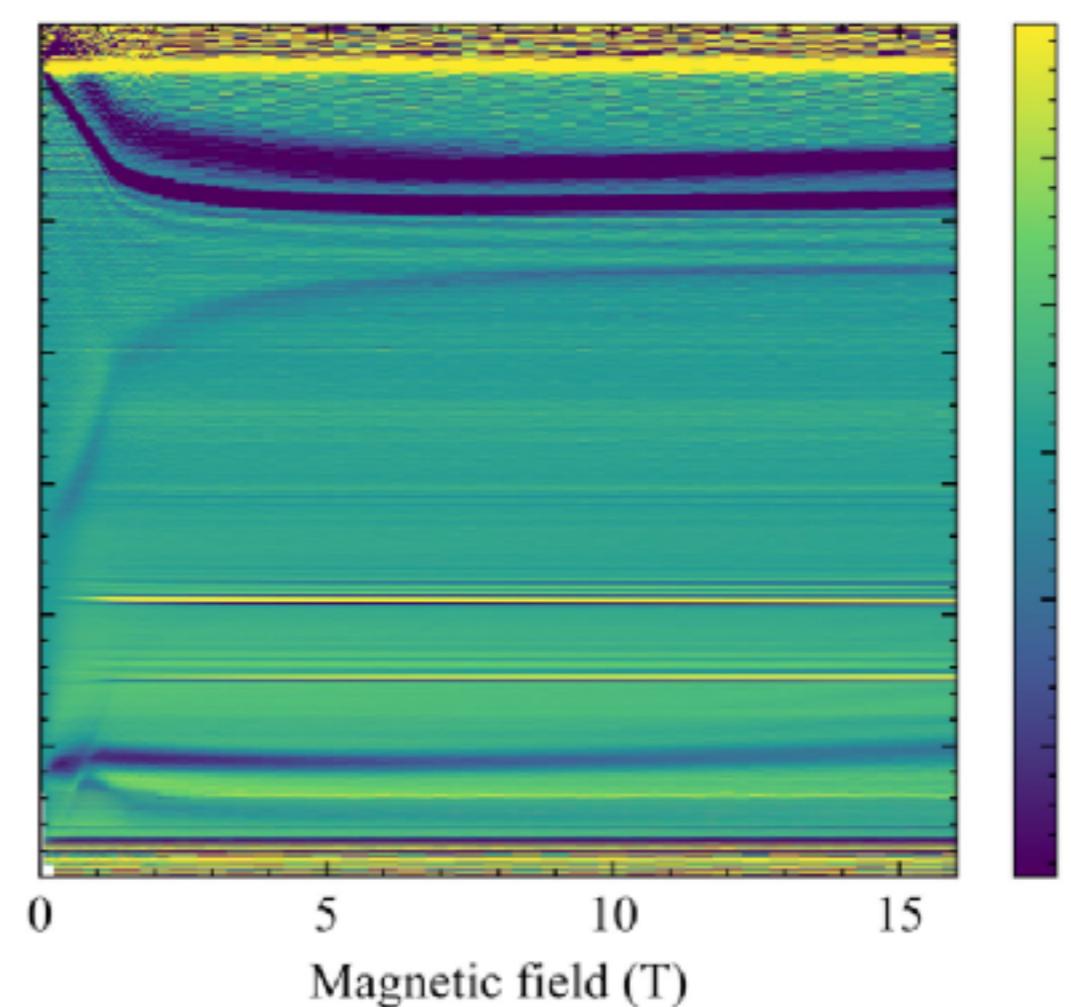


T_B/T_o in the mid infrared

Relative transmission



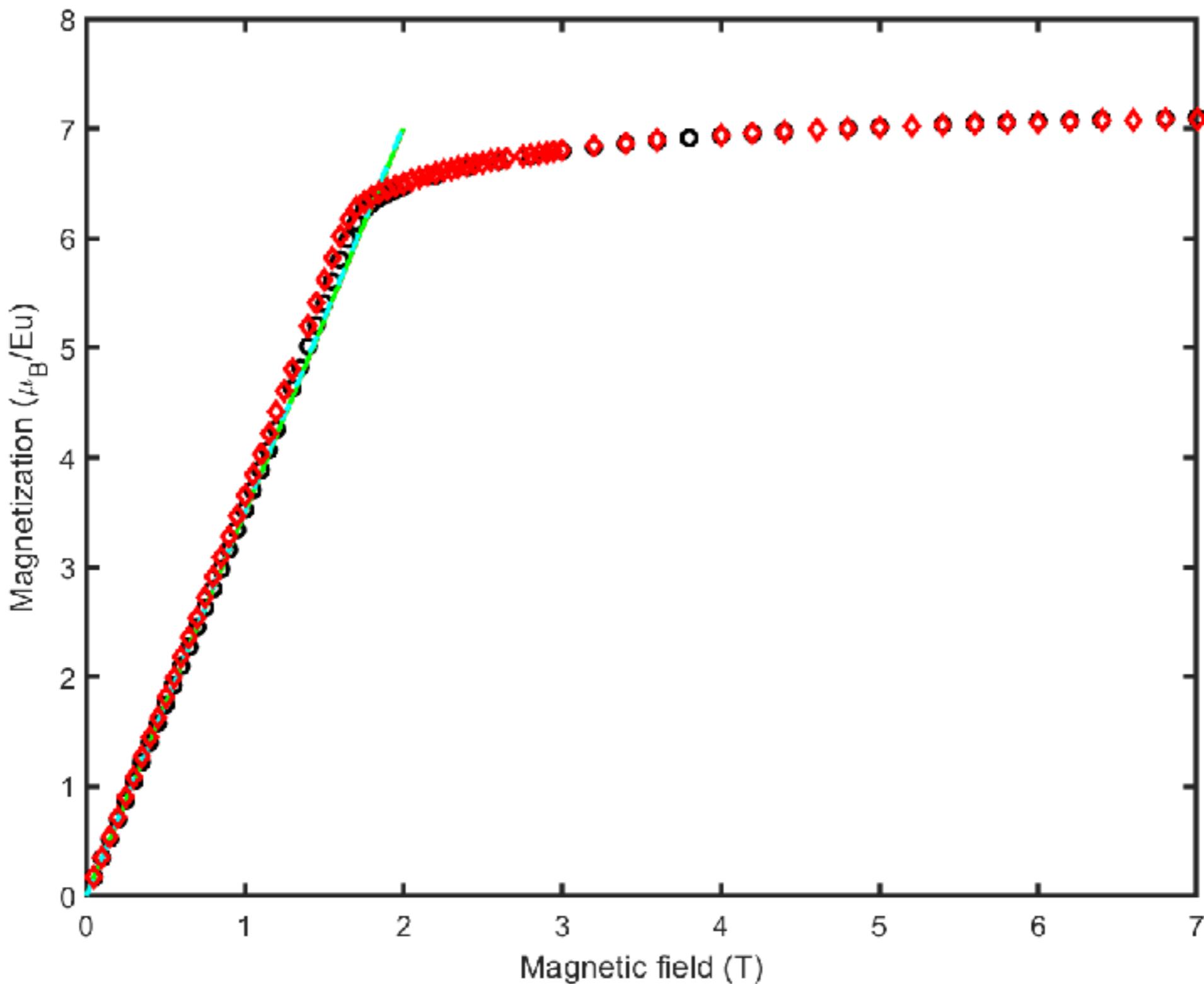
Derivative of relative transmission



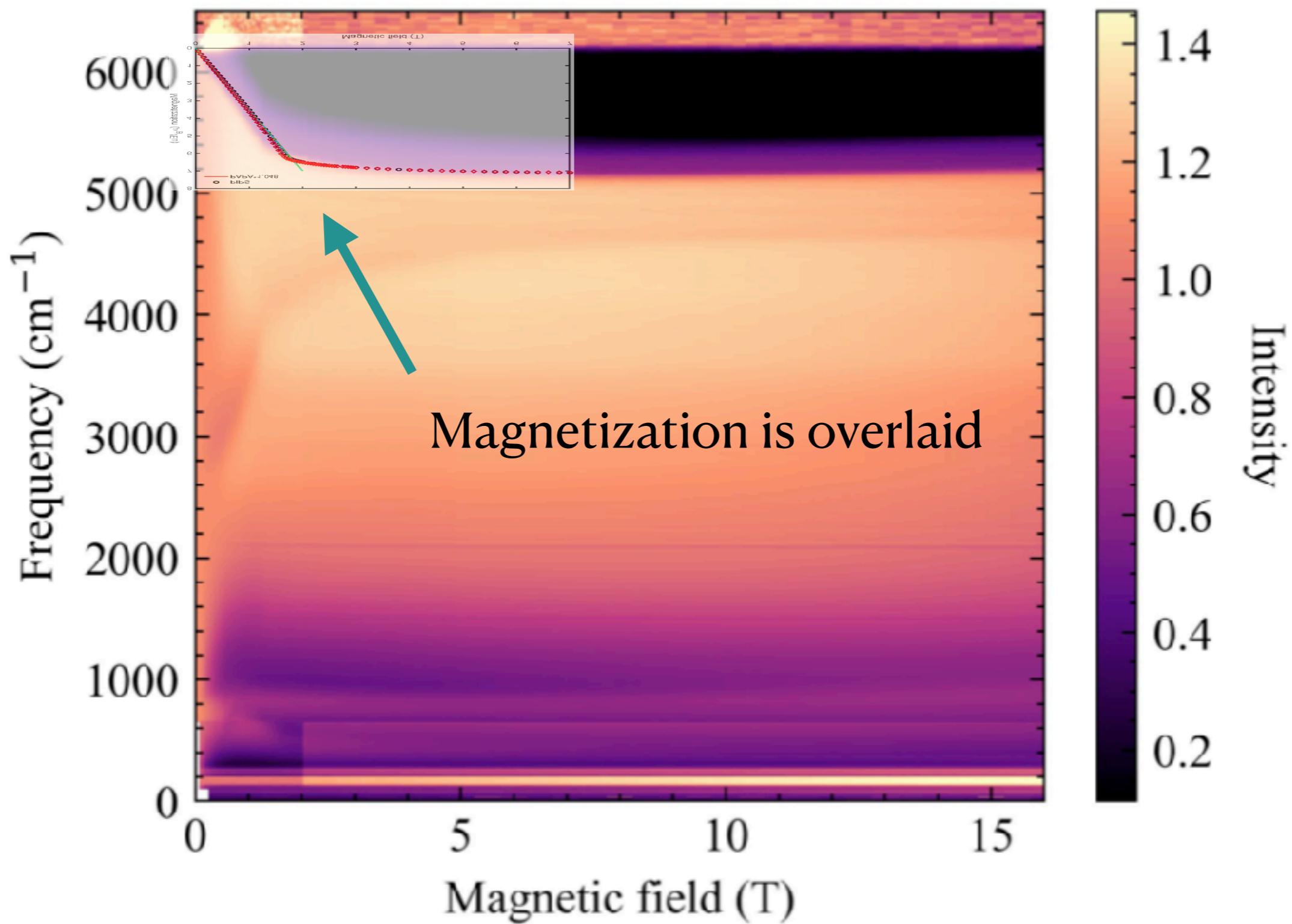
Gap of 0.8 eV decreases by 125 meV, under applied ~ 4 T.

Spin polarized bands. In-gap “stuff”.

Magnetization



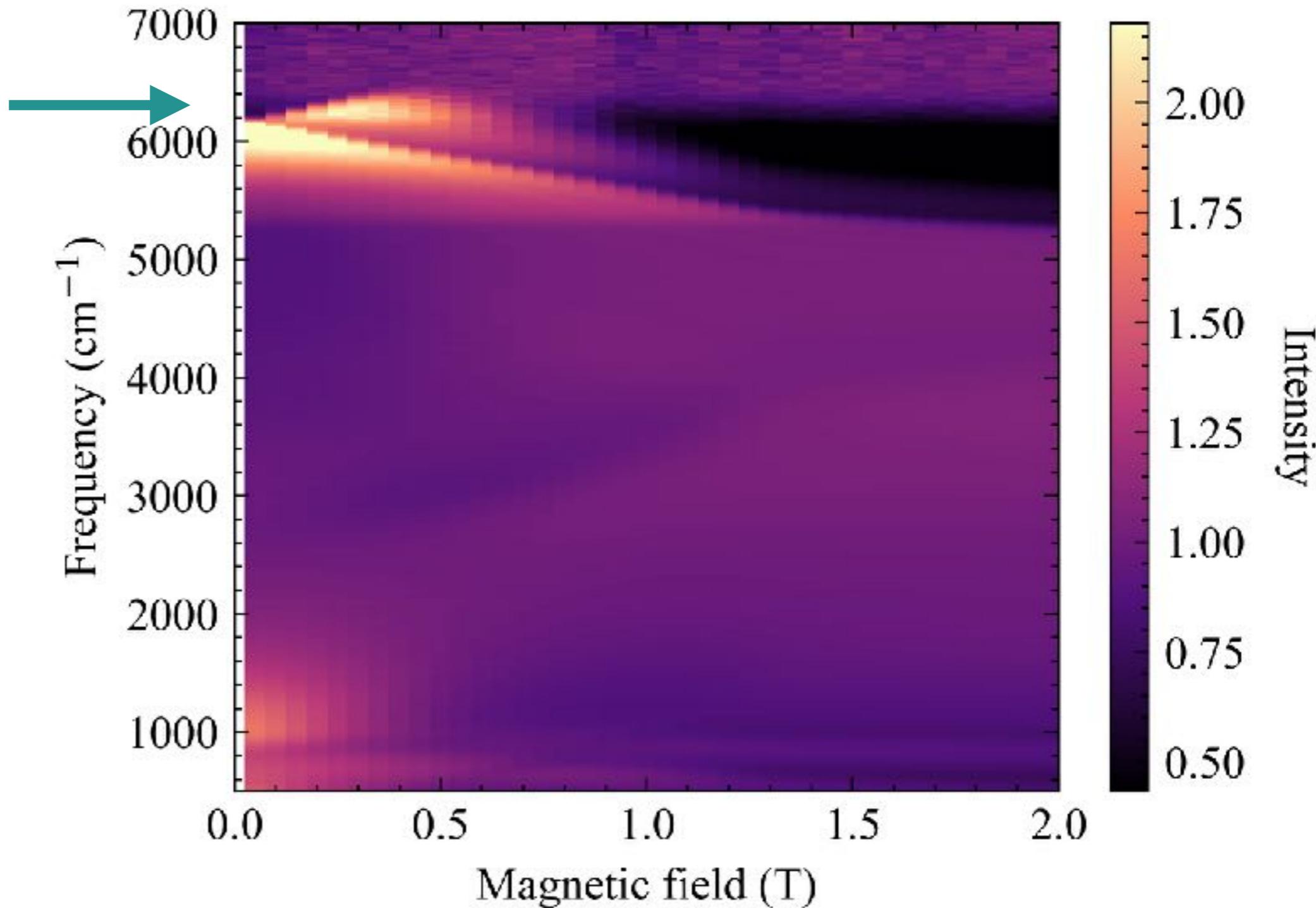
T_B/T_o in the mid infrared



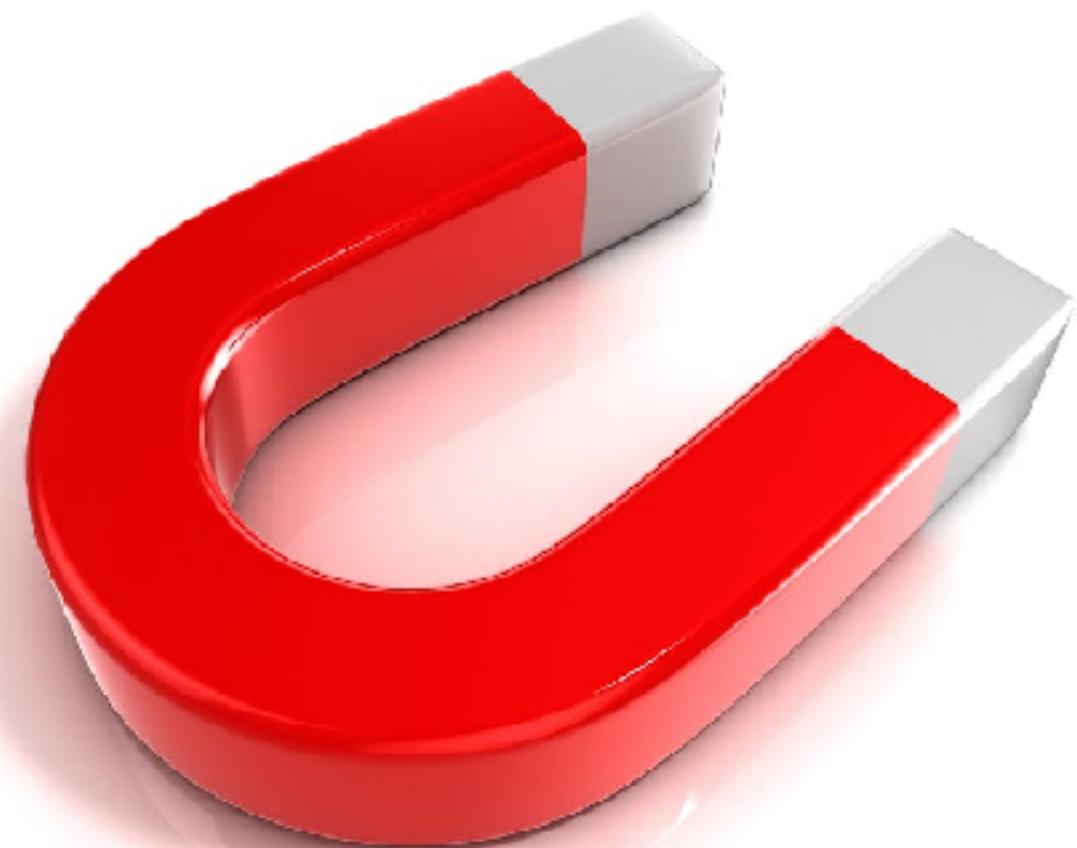
T_B/T_{avg}

The effective g factor is ~ 1600

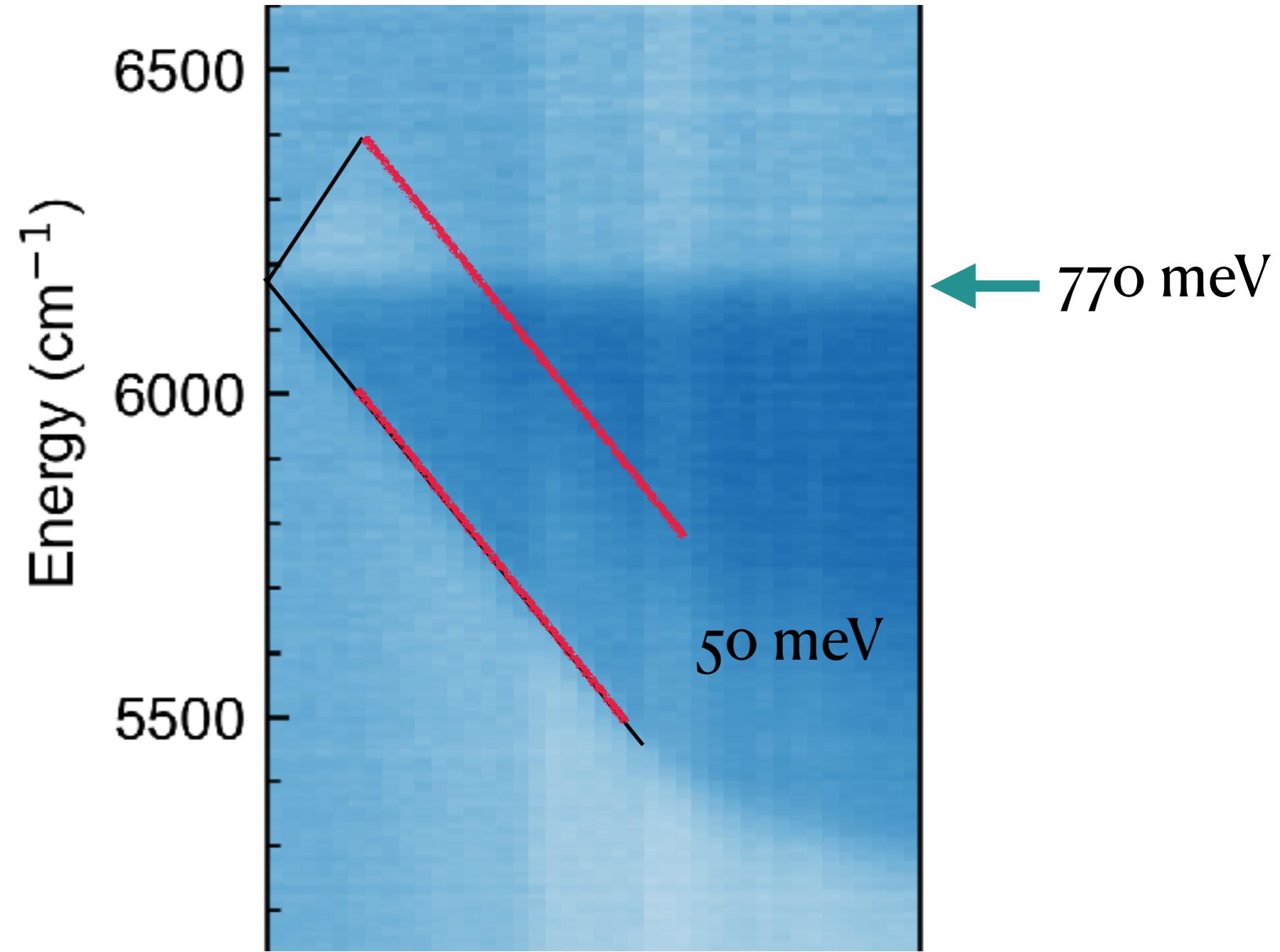
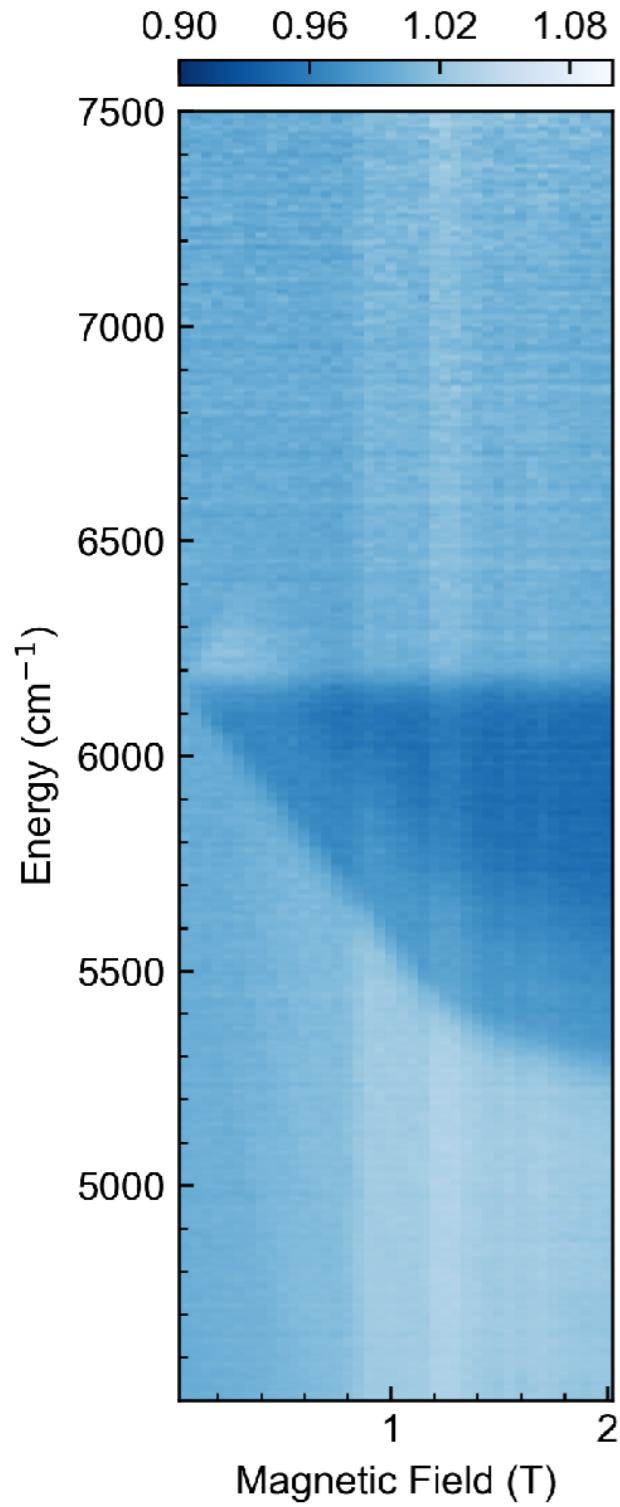
$$g \propto \frac{\Delta E}{\Delta B}$$



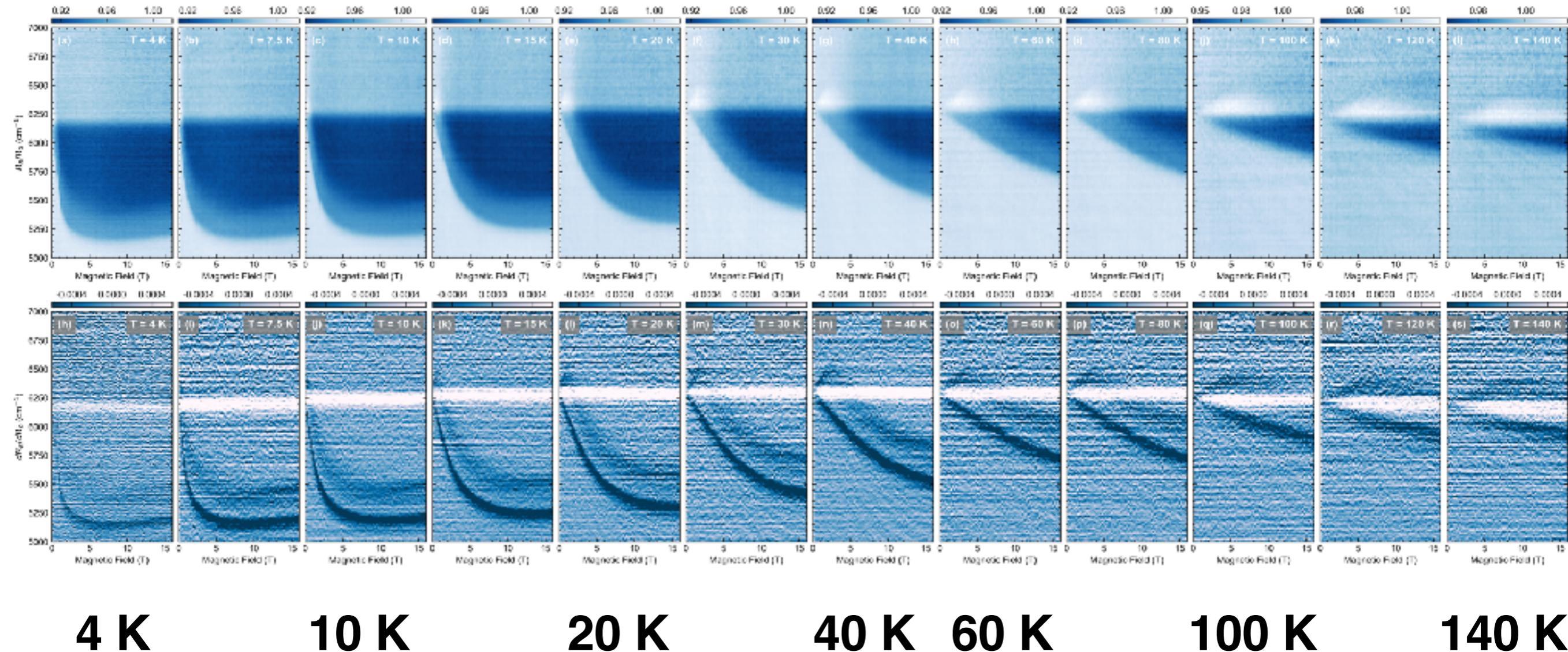
Magneto-reflection from 4 K to 140 K



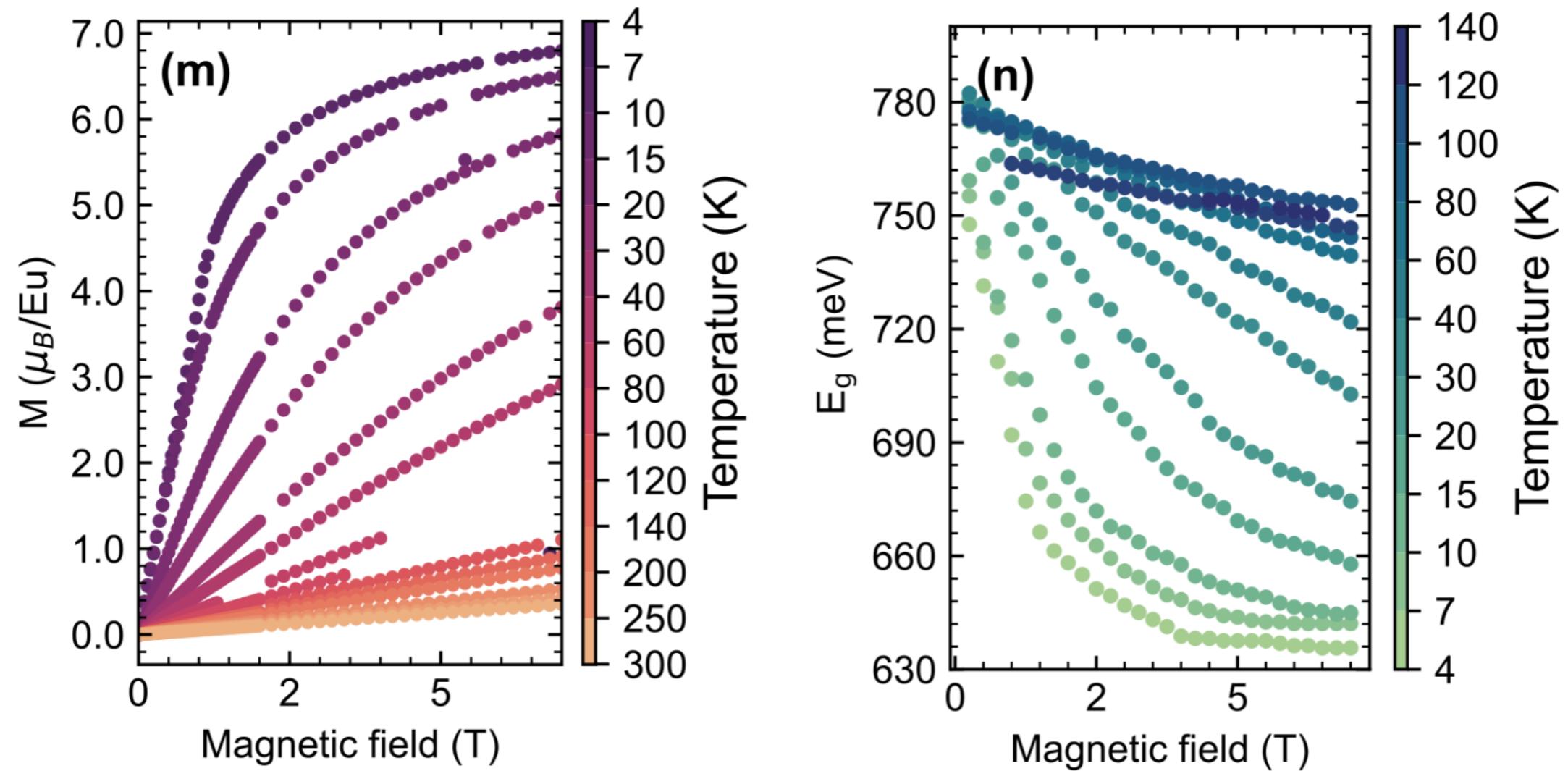
Gap splitting and decrease in field: 4 K



R_B/R_o up to 140 K - high field



Gap decrease mimics magnetization



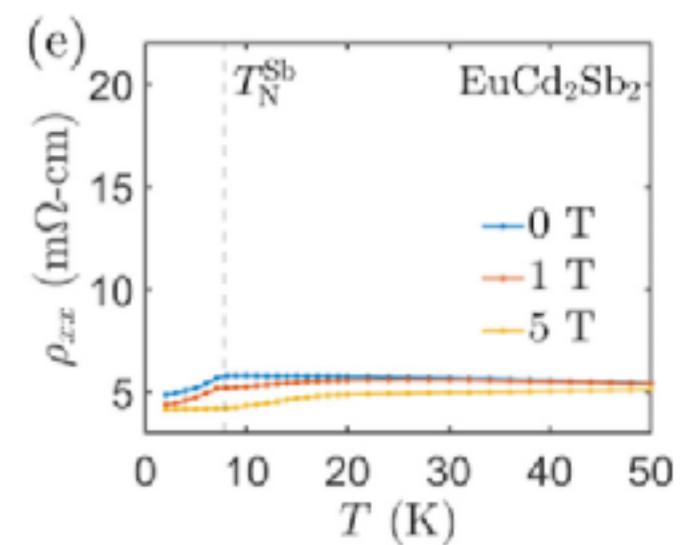
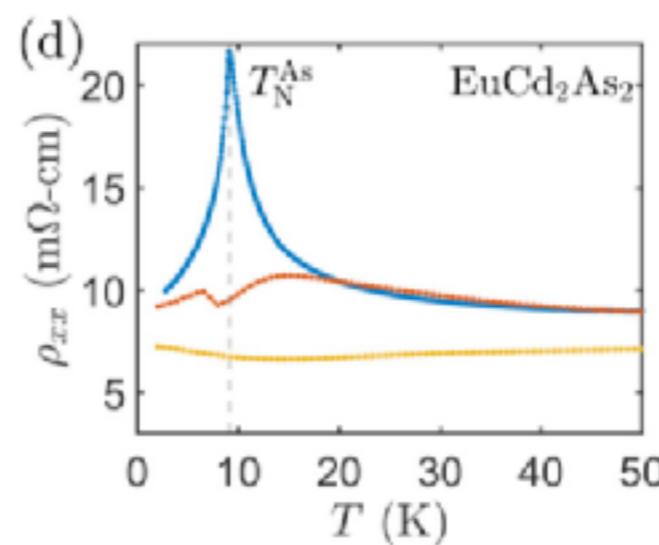
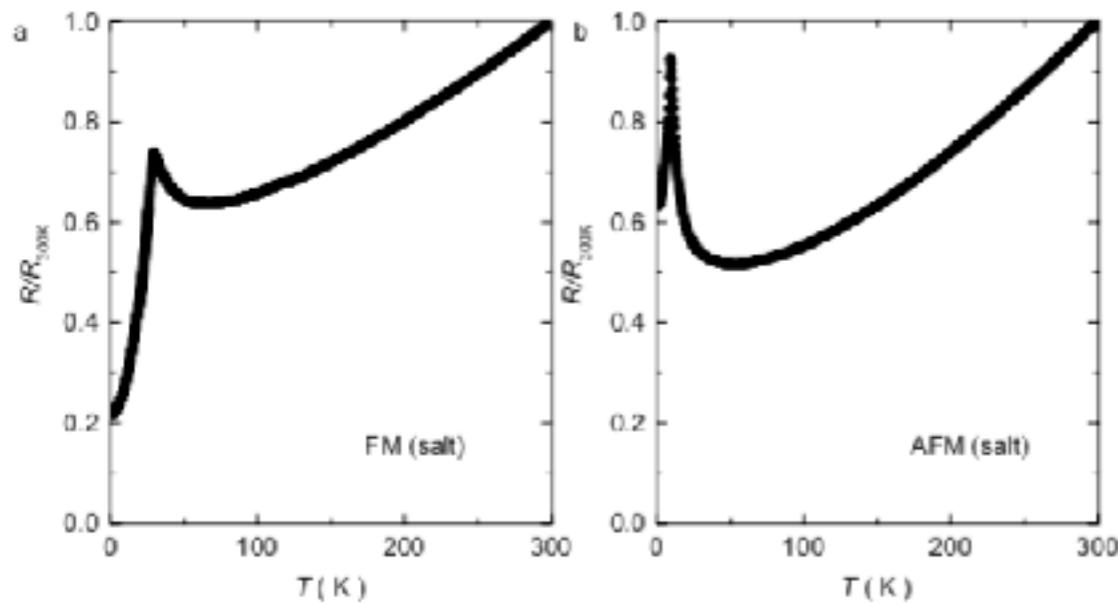
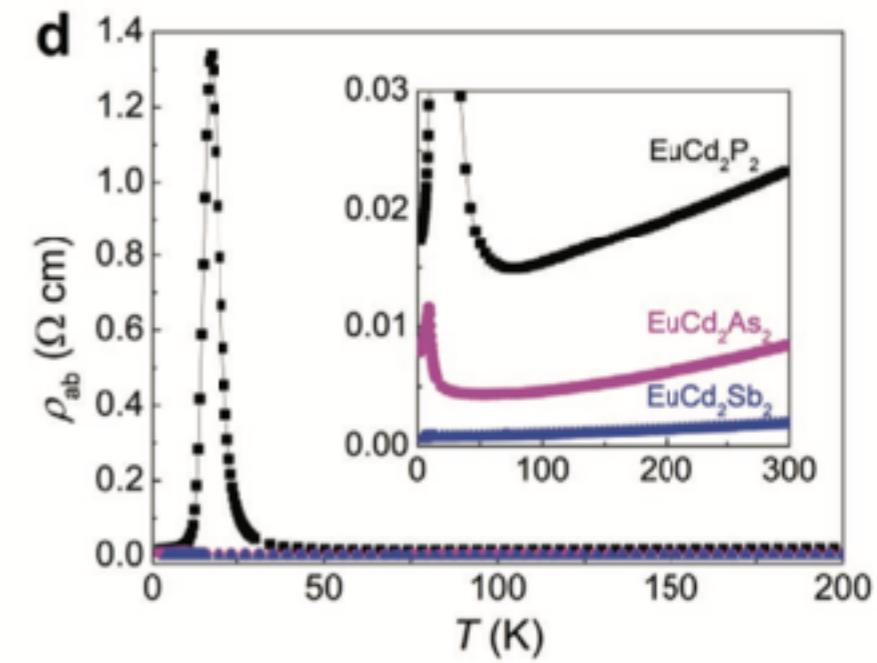
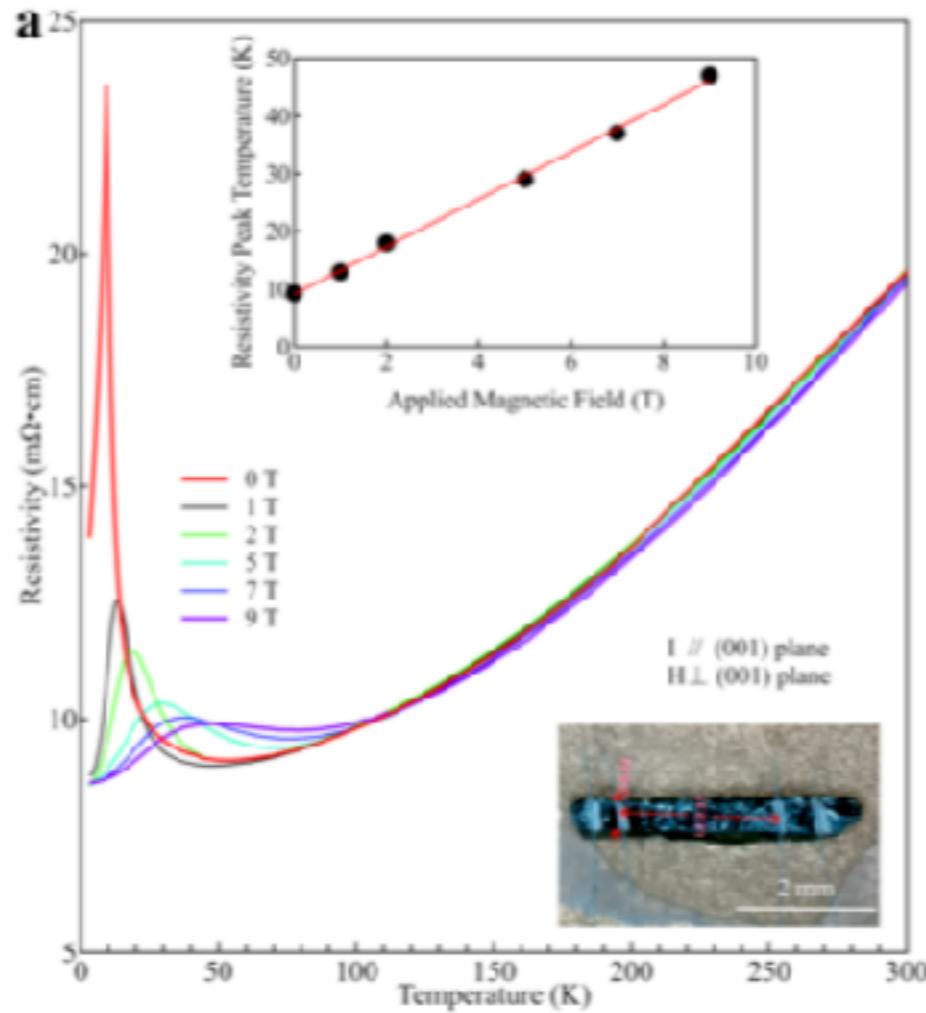
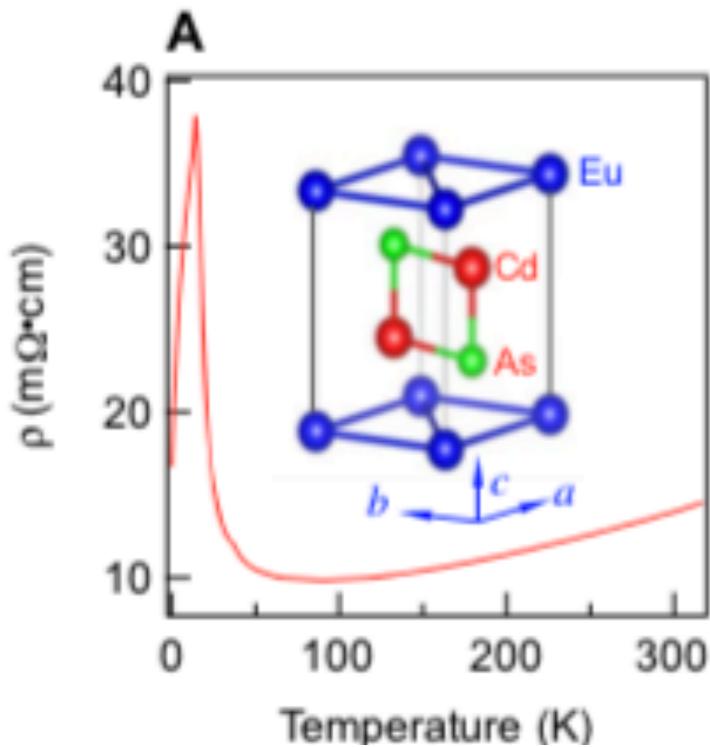
$$\Delta E_g = -\frac{1}{2} \mathcal{J}_{\text{eff}} S M(T, H) / M_S$$

$$\mathcal{J}_{\text{eff}} = 80 \text{ meV}$$

Exchange coupling dictates band structure

Local Eu magnetism strongly influences the band gap.

What about transport?



Conclusions

EuCd_2As_2 is a semiconductor with a 0.8 eV gap.

Clean samples are insulating.

The band structure is remarkably sensitive to magnetic fields.

Probably no topology involved.