

Thermal and non-thermal transitions in X-ray-irradiated solids

Nikita Medvedev

Collaborators

In collaboration with:



Beata
Ziaja-Motyka



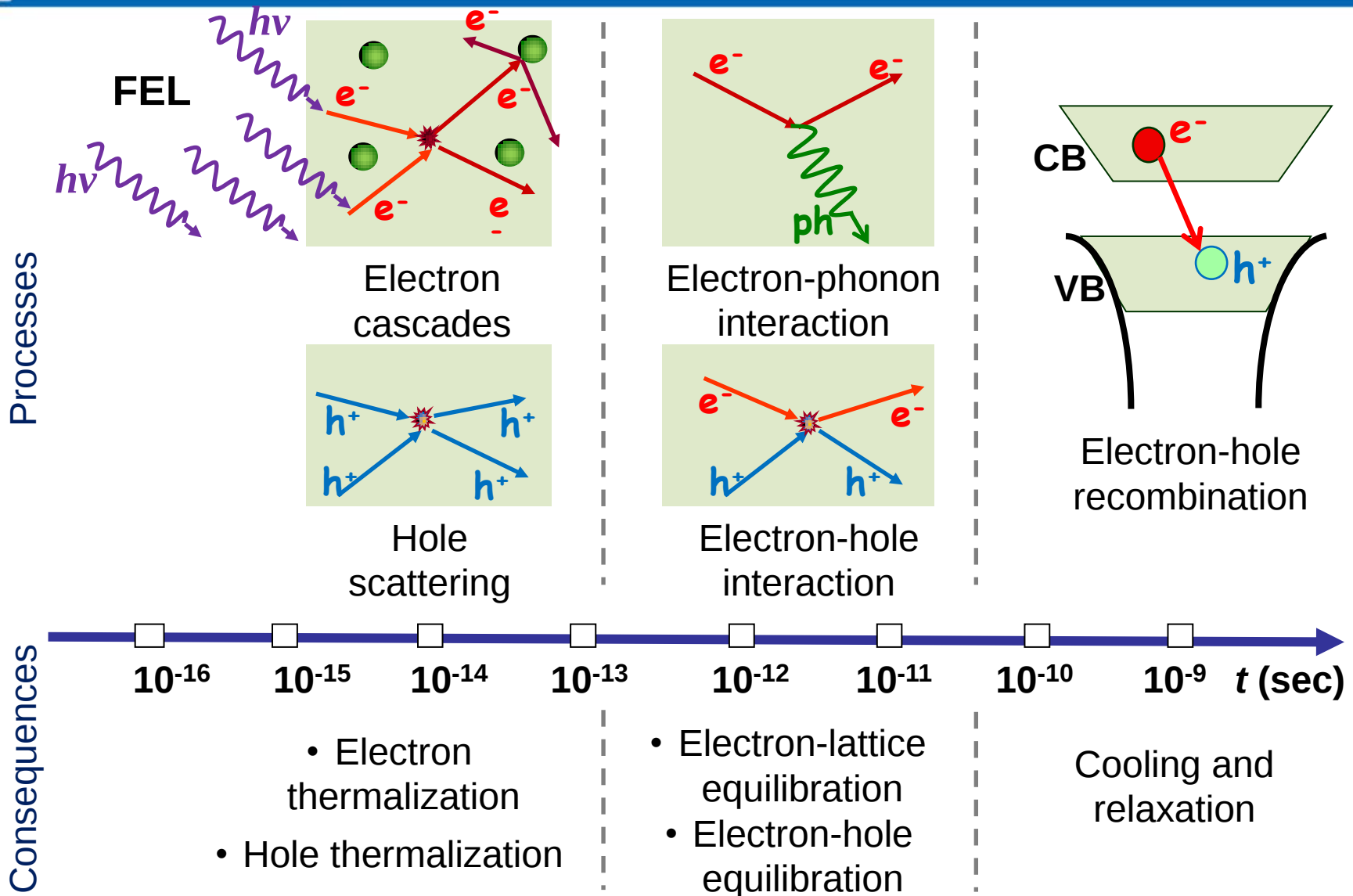
Victor
Tkachenko



Zheng Li

- 1. Introduction**
- 2. Model: XTANT**
- 3. Nonthermal phase transitions**
- 4. Thermal phase transitions**
- 5. Other damage channels**
- 6. Conclusions**

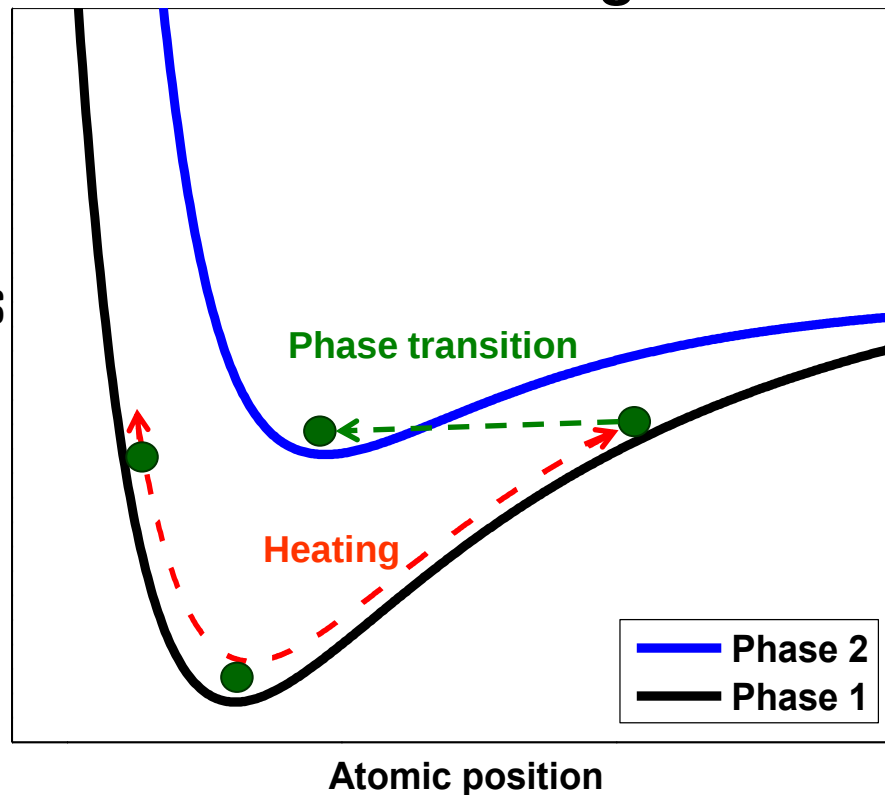
Introduction: timescales



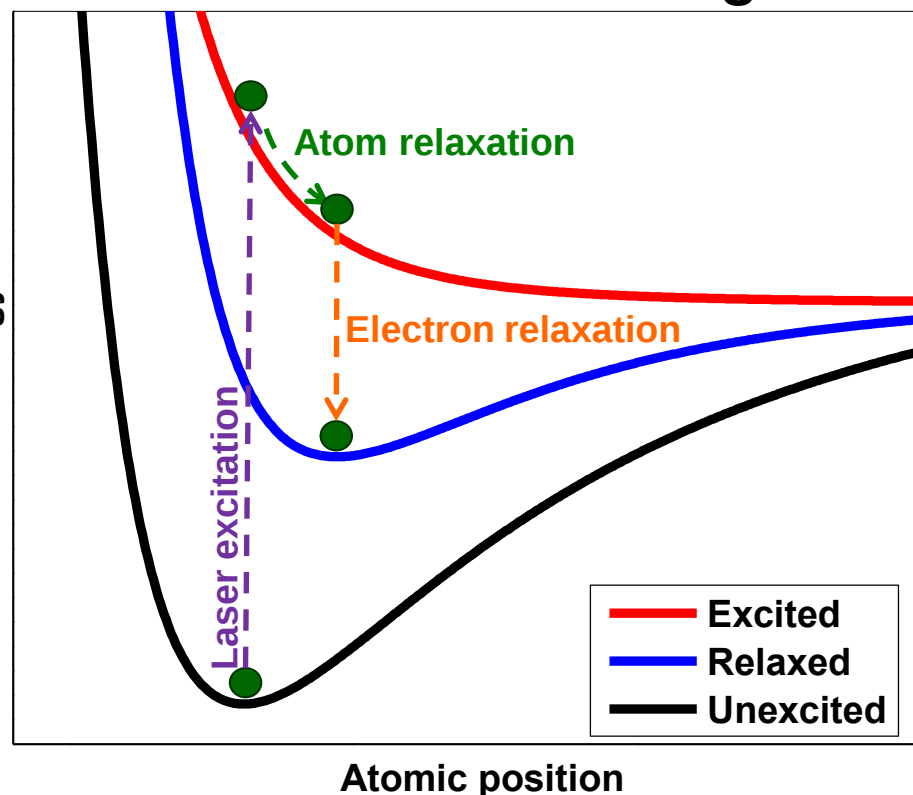
Thermal vs nonthermal

$$\text{Electron energy} = \text{Kinetic} + \text{Potential}$$

Thermal melting



Nonthermal melting



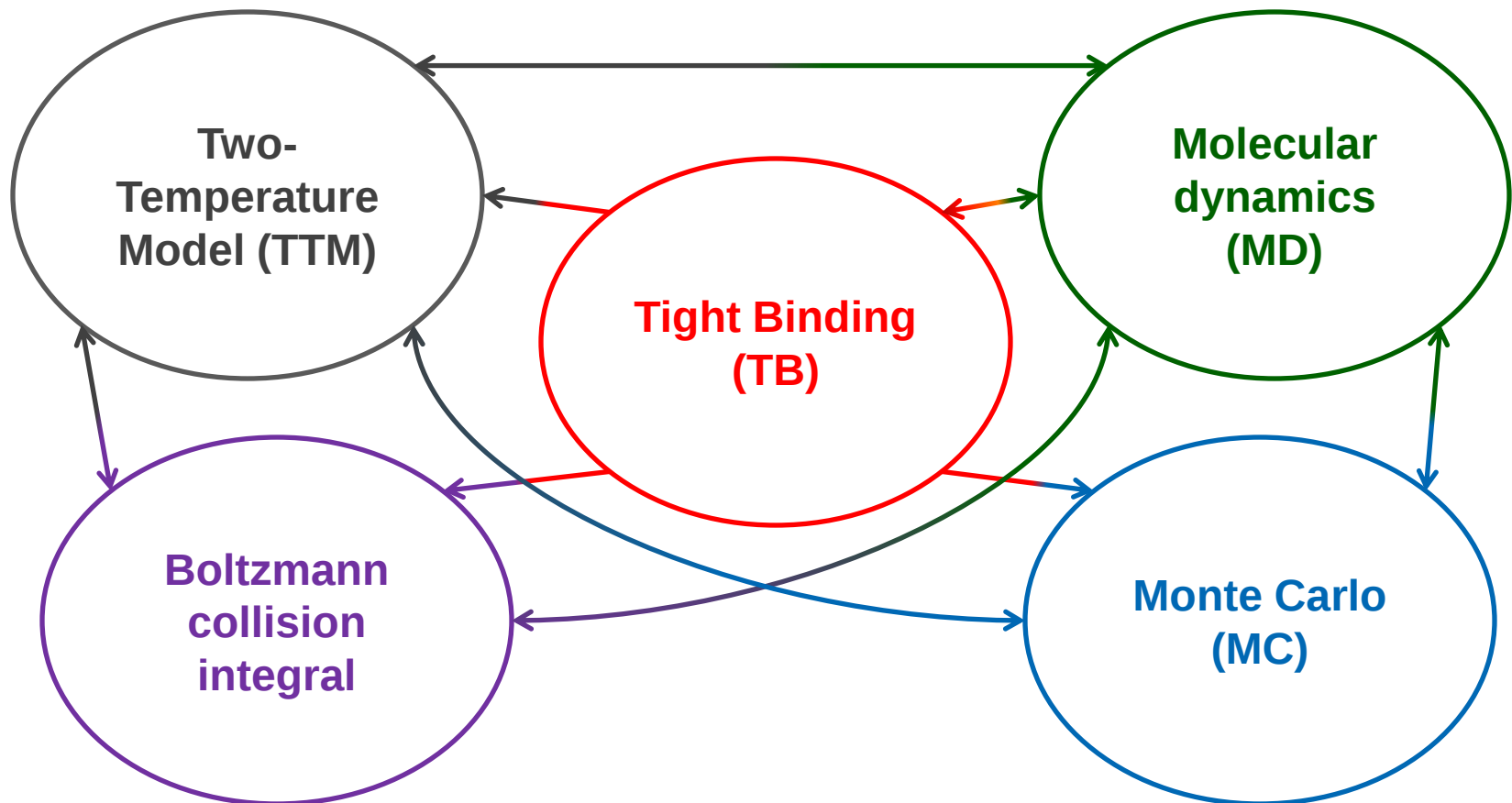
- Thermal melting: atomic heating within the same potential
- Nonthermal melting: change of interatomic potential

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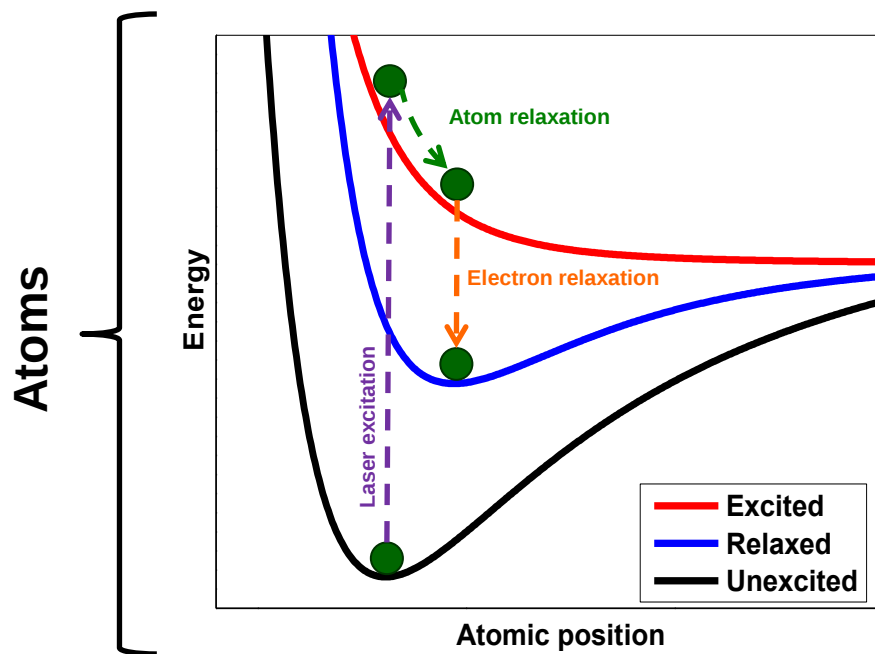
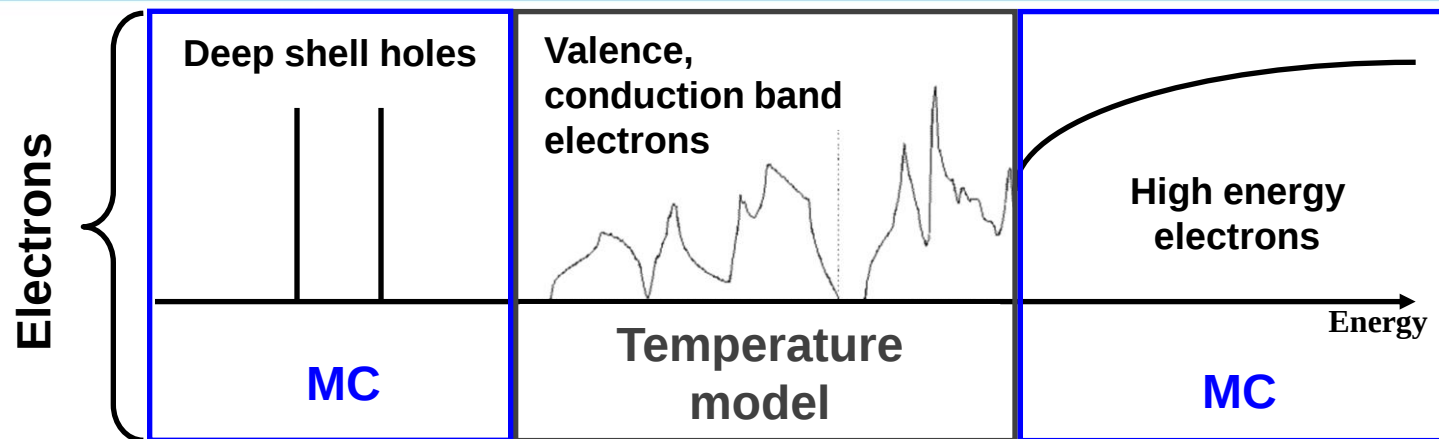
Hybrid model

XTANT: X-ray-induced Thermal And Nonthermal Transitions

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

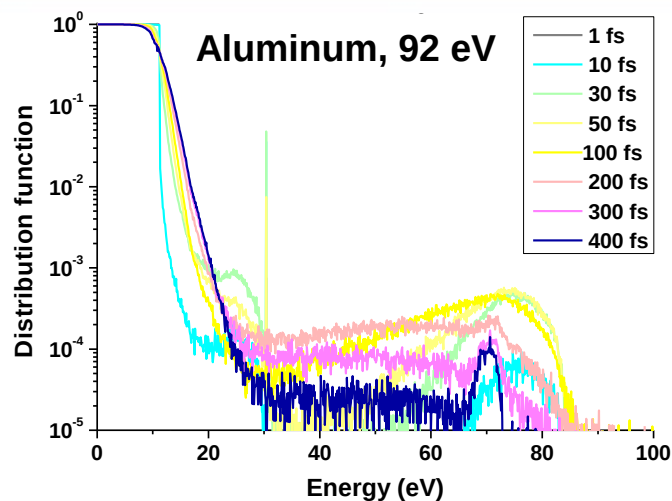


Schematics of XTANT

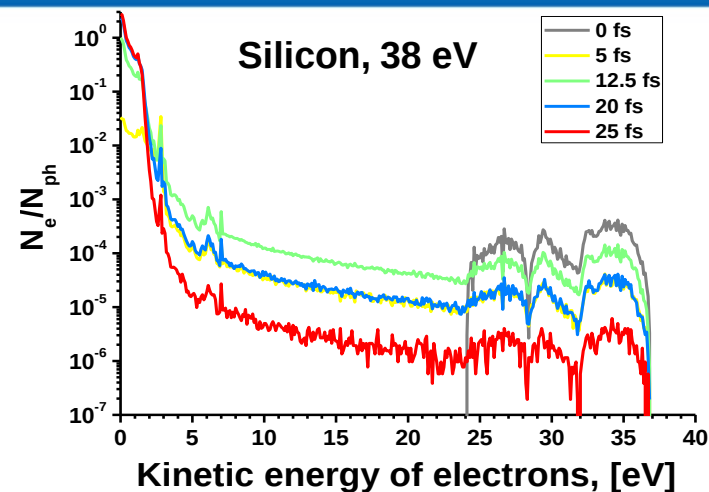


Tight Binding MD
+
Nonadiabatic energy exchange

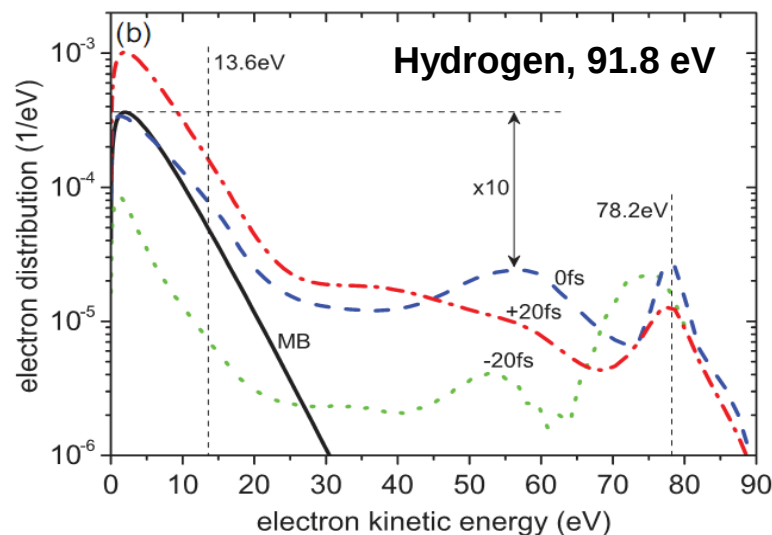
Bump-on-hot-tail distribution



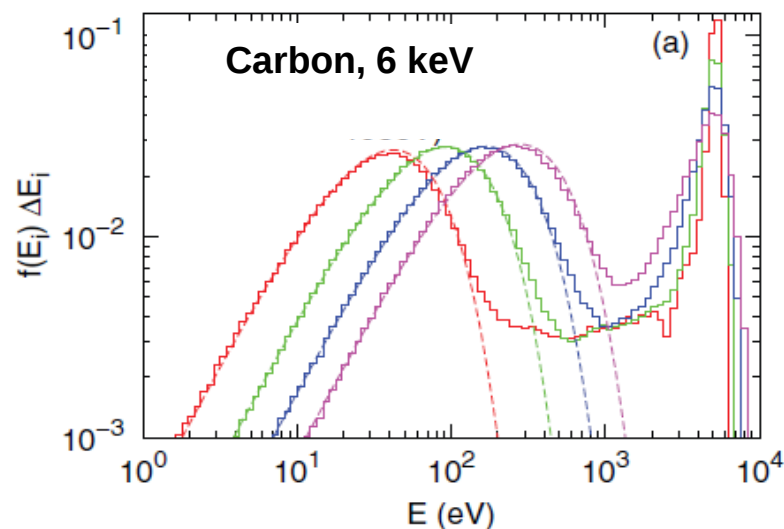
[N. Medvedev *et al.*, PRL **107** (2011)]



[N. Medvedev, B. Rethfeld, NJP **12** (2010)]



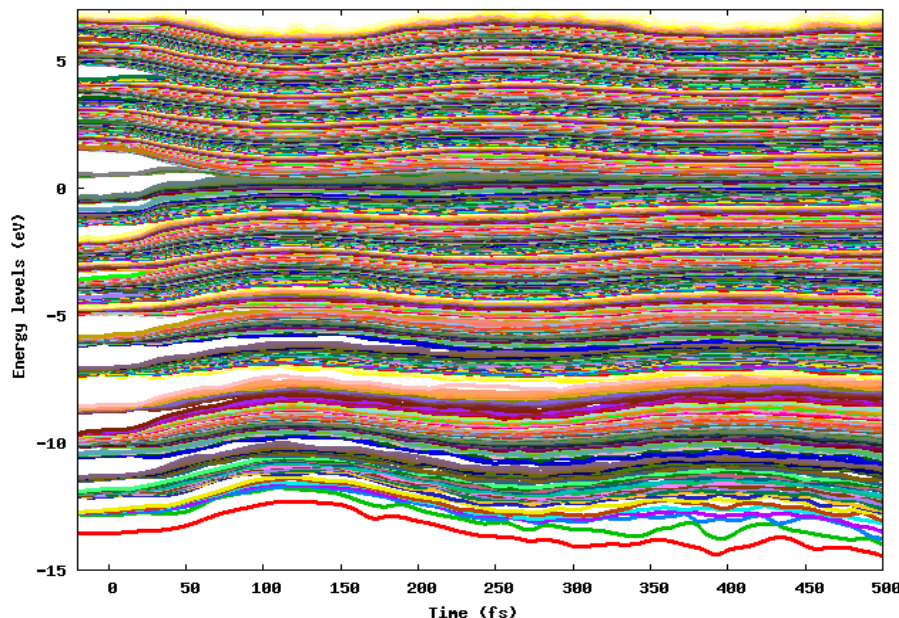
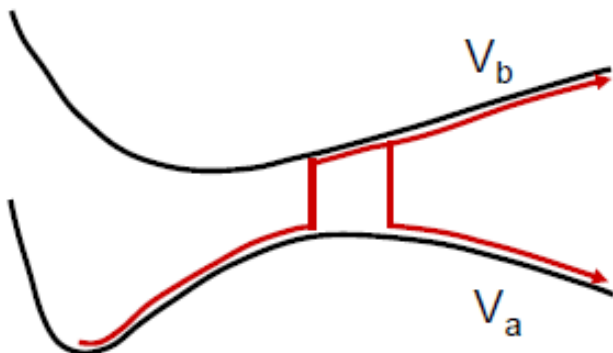
[R.R. Faustlin, B. Ziaja *et al.*, PRL **104** (2010)]



[S. P. Hau-Riege, PRE **87** (2013)]

Electron-ion coupling we use

Femto-chemistry “surface-hopping method”



J. C. Tully, *J. Chem. Phys.* 93 (1990) 1061

Surface-Hopping

[\[http://simons.hec.utah.edu/TSTCsite/TullyLectures/\]](http://simons.hec.utah.edu/TSTCsite/TullyLectures/)

N. Medvedev, *et al.*, *SPIE Proc.* (2015)

Hopping probability: matrix element => use in collision integral

$$\sum_{j=1}^N I_{i,j}^{e-at} = \frac{2\pi}{\hbar} \sum_{j=1}^N \int_0^\infty \int_0^\infty |M_{e-at}(E_i, E_j)|^2 F_{i,j}(E_i, E_j, E_{at}, E_{at}^{fin}) dE_{at} dE_{at}^{fin}$$

$$M_{e-at}(E_i, E_j) = \frac{1}{2} (\langle i(t - \delta t) | j(t) \rangle - \langle j(t - \delta t) | i(t) \rangle) (\overline{E_j} - \overline{E_i})$$

[N. Medvedev *et al.*, *Phys. Rev. B* 95 (2017) 014309]

Processes considered in XTANT

1) Photoabsorbption by deep shells and VB

2) Scattering of fast electrons:

- Deep shell ionizations
- VB and CB scatterings

3) Auger-decays of deep holes

4) Thermalization in VB and CB

5) Electron-ion coupling

6) Lattice heating, atomic dynamics

7) Changes of band structure

- MC

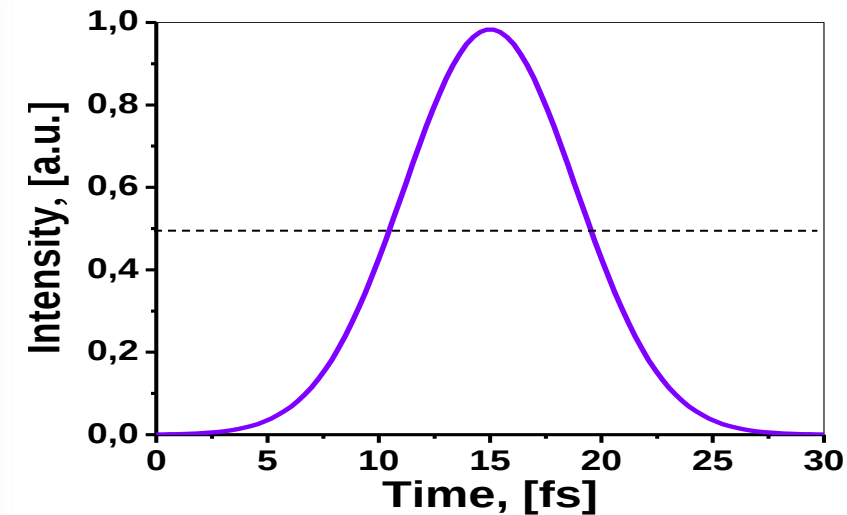
- Temperature
model

Boltzmann eq.

- TBMD

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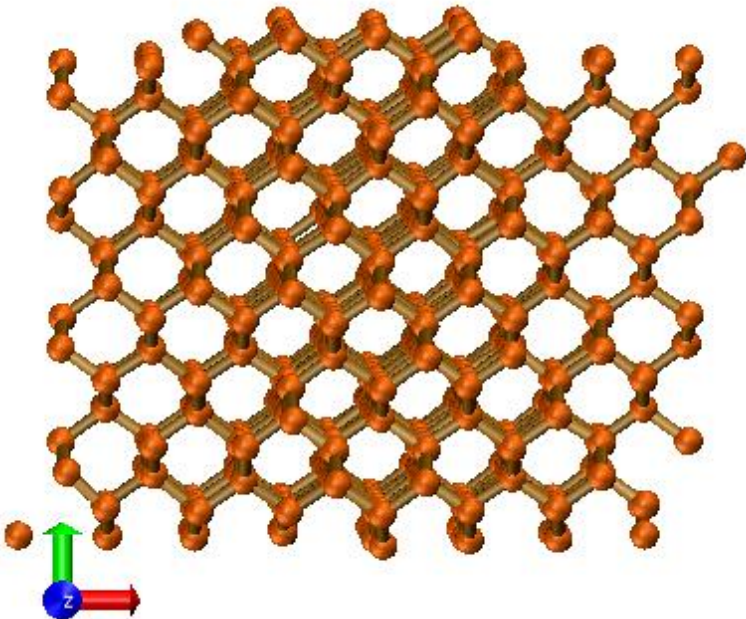
Parameters applied



Energy: $h\nu = 30 \text{ eV} - 10 \text{ keV}$

FWHM: $t_{pulse} \sim 10 \text{ fs}$

Fluence: $J = 0.1 \text{ J/cm}^2 - 10^3 \text{ J/cm}^2$



Diamond target:

$$\rho = 3.5 \text{ g/cm}^3$$

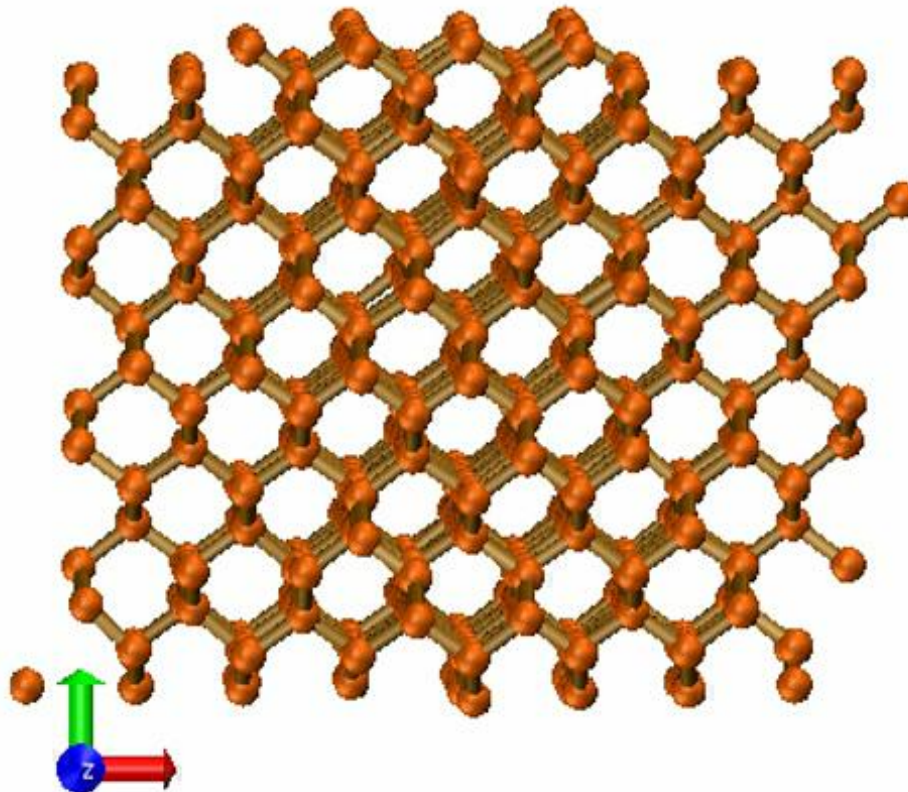
Silicon target:

$$\rho = 2.32 \text{ g/cm}^3$$

216 - 1000 atoms

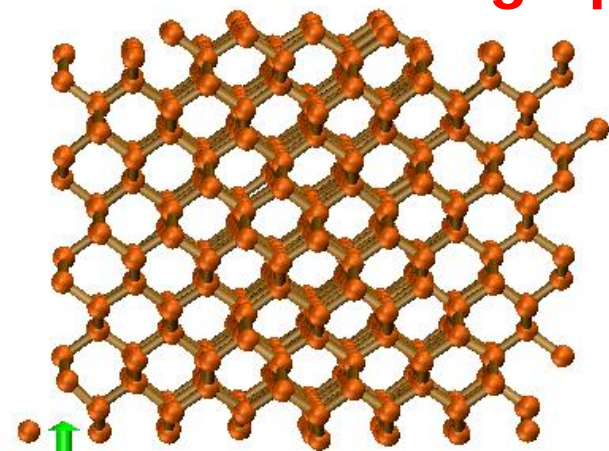
Nonthermal graphitization of diamond

$$\hbar\omega = 10 \text{ keV}, t = 10 \text{ fs}, 0.85 \text{ eV/atom}$$

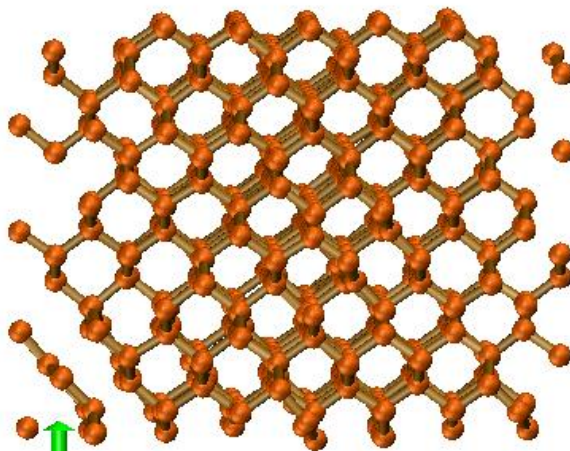


Atomic snapshots

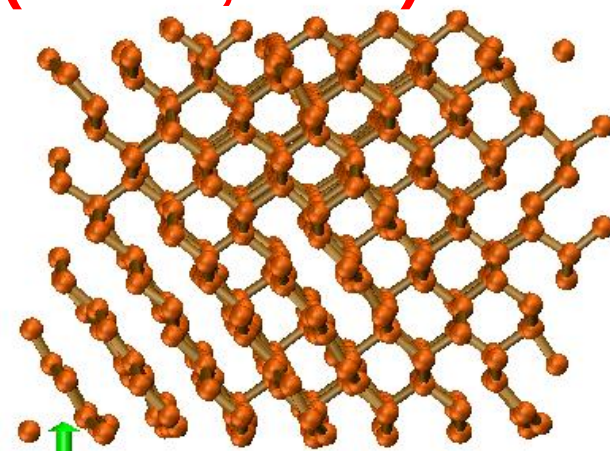
Ultrafast graphitization of diamond (10 keV, 10 fs)



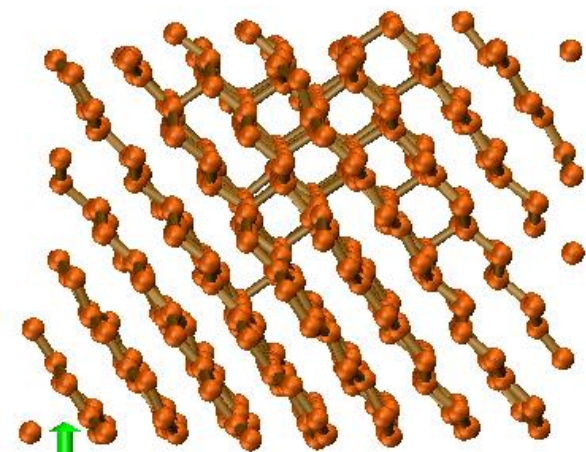
(a) $t = 0$ fs



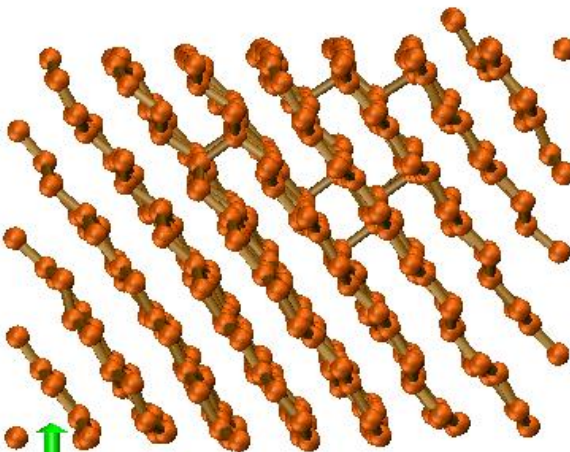
(b) $t = 100$ fs



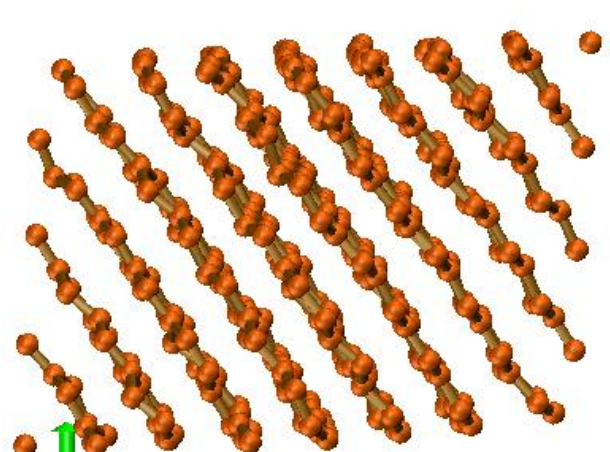
(c) $t = 130$ fs



(d) $t = 140$ fs



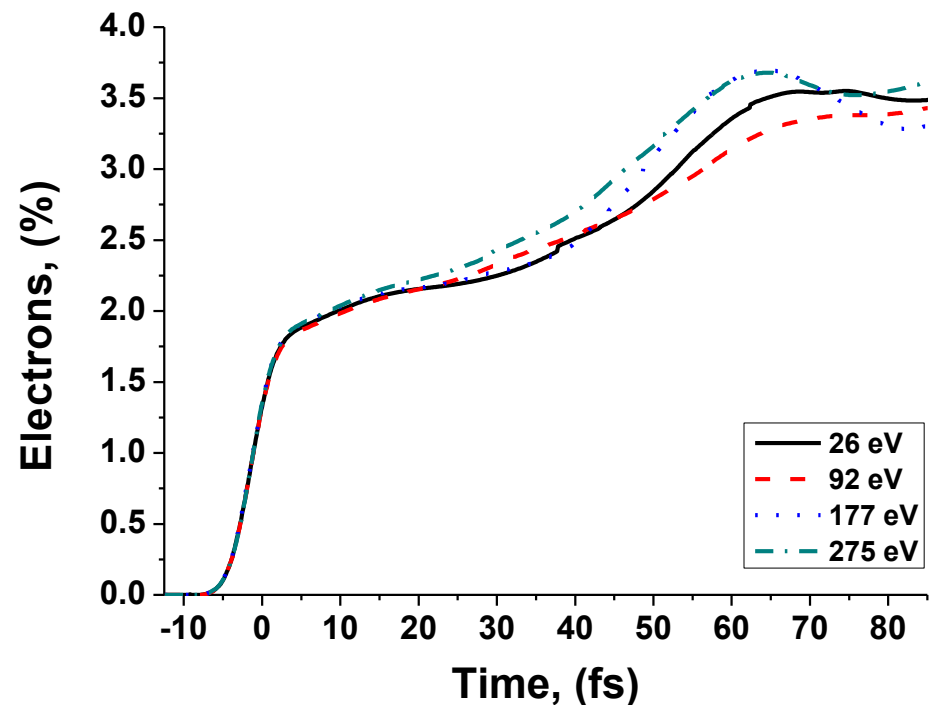
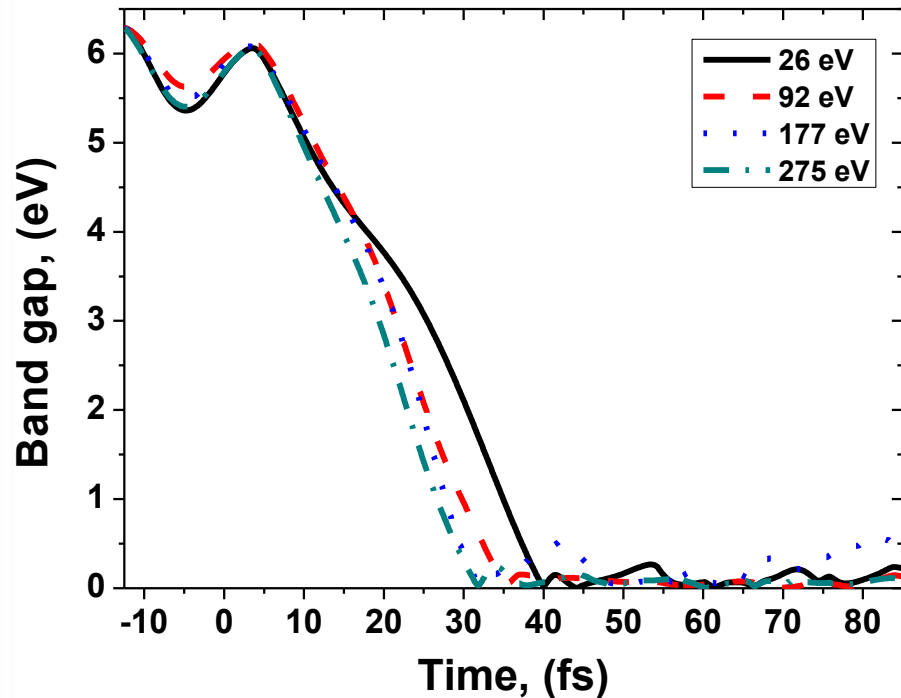
(e) $t = 150$ fs



(f) $t = 170$ fs

Band gap collapse

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

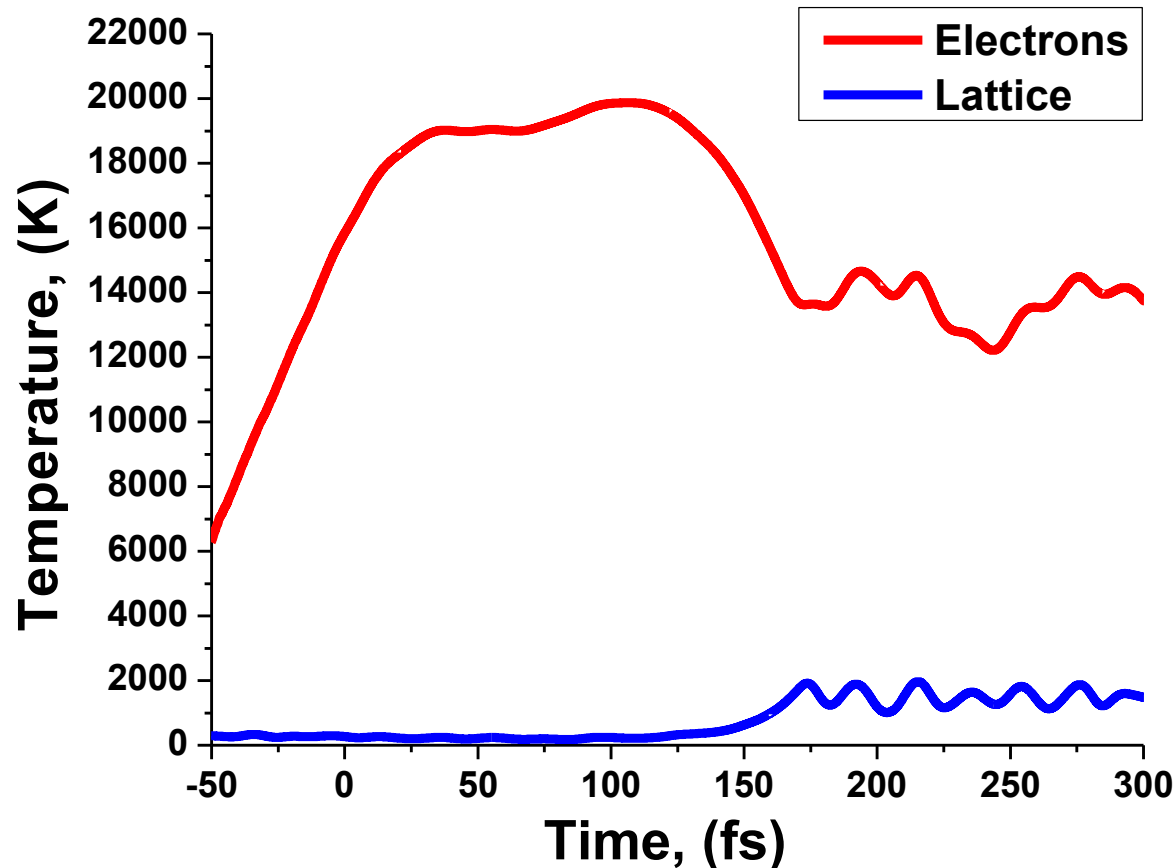


When electron density overcomes threshold value of 1.5 %, phase transition occurs (corresponds to dose 0.7 eV/atom)

Bandgap collapse induces ultrafast phase transition

Temperatures

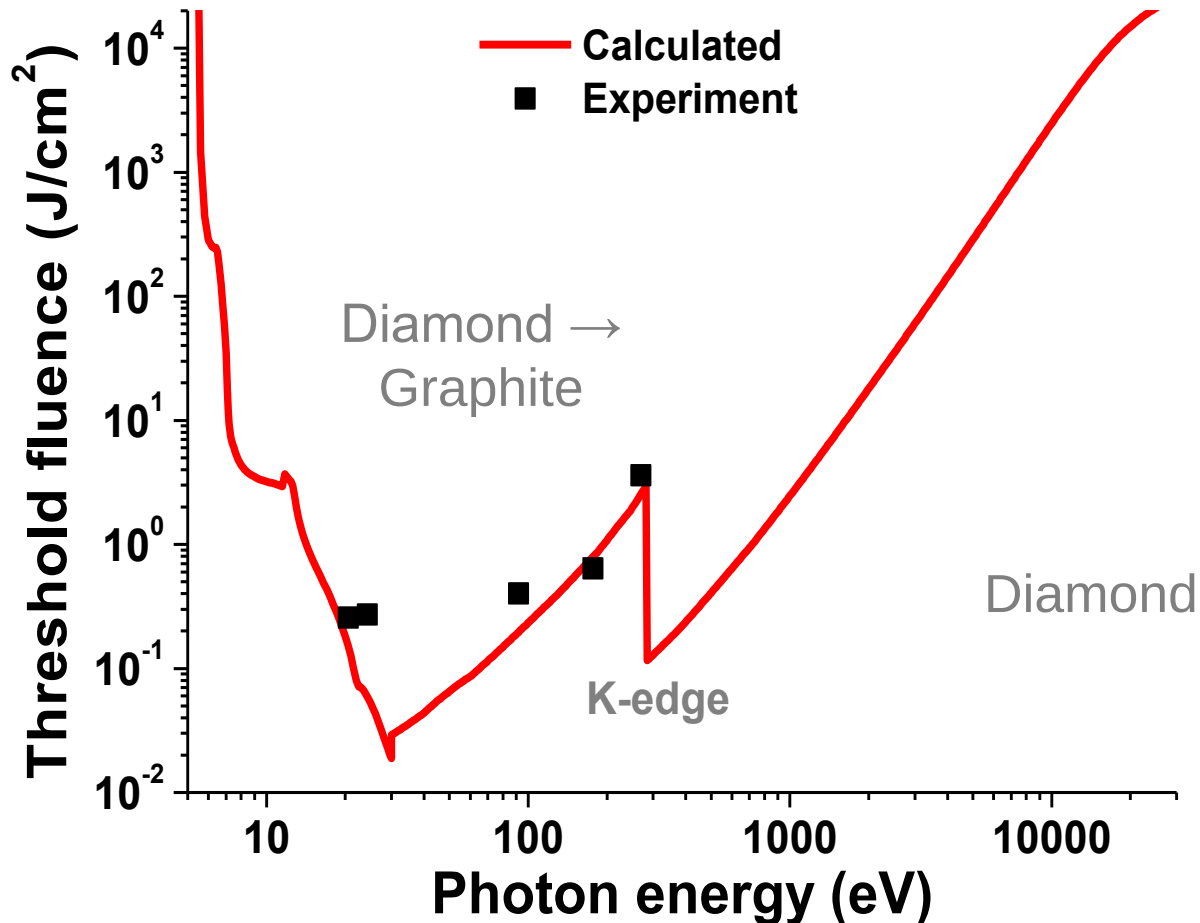
Photon energy 92 eV, FWHM = 50 fs, 0.85 eV/atom



Nonthermal phase transition:

Temperature increase follows *after* material modification, not induces it

X-ray damage threshold

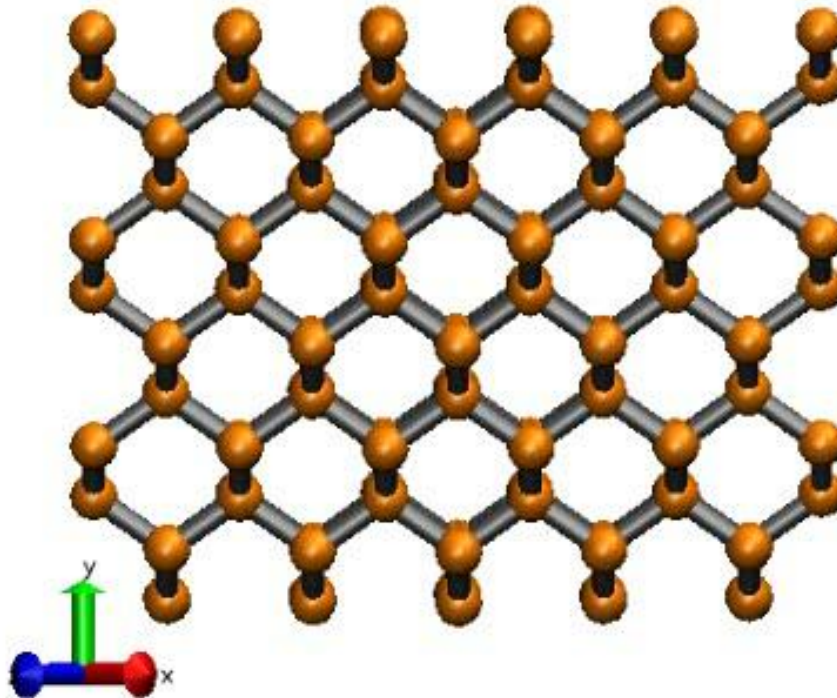


Damage threshold is in good agreement with experiments

[J. Gaudin, N. Medvedev *et al.*, *PRB Rapid Comm.* 88, 060101 (2013)]²⁰

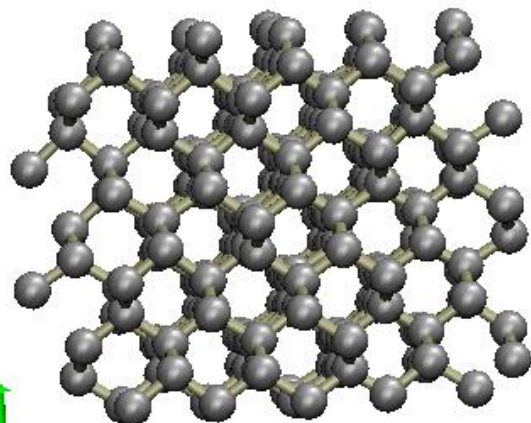
Nonthermal melting of Si (HDL)

$\hbar\omega = 50$ eV, FWHM = 10 fs, 1.1 eV/atom

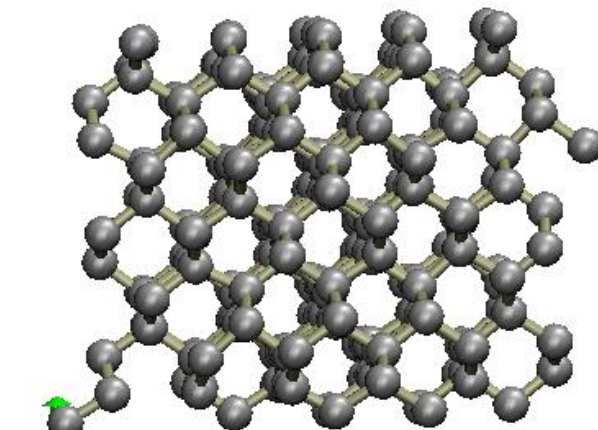


Snapshots of nonthermal melting

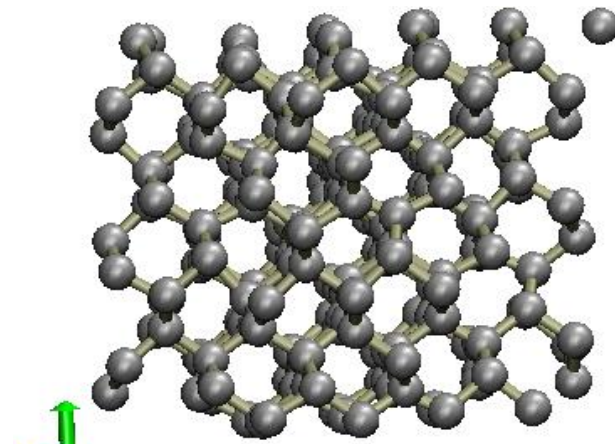
$\hbar\omega = 92$ eV, FWHM = 10 fs, 2.5 eV/atom: 9% electrons



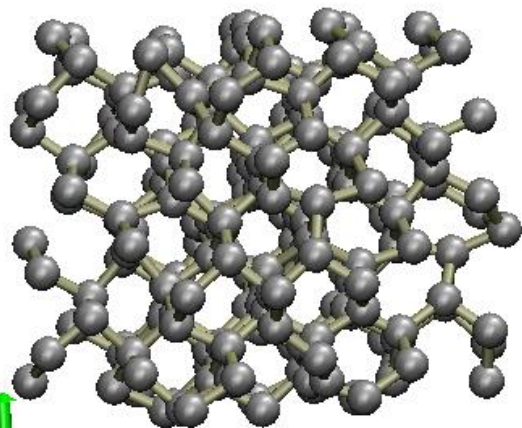
$t = -100$ fs



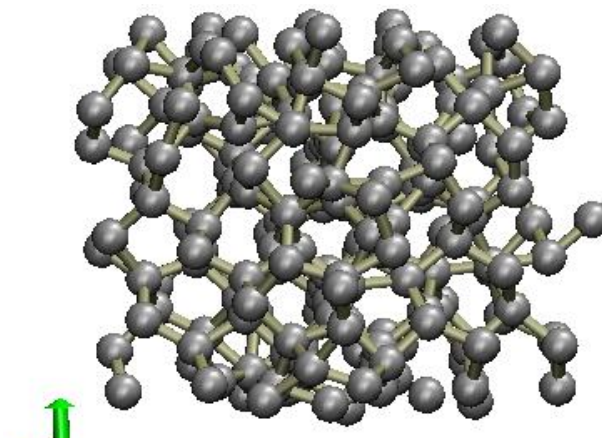
$t = 0$ fs



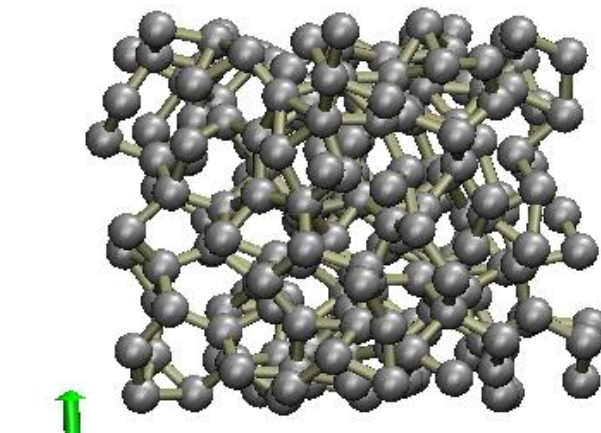
$t = 300$ fs



$t = 500$ fs



$t = 800$ fs

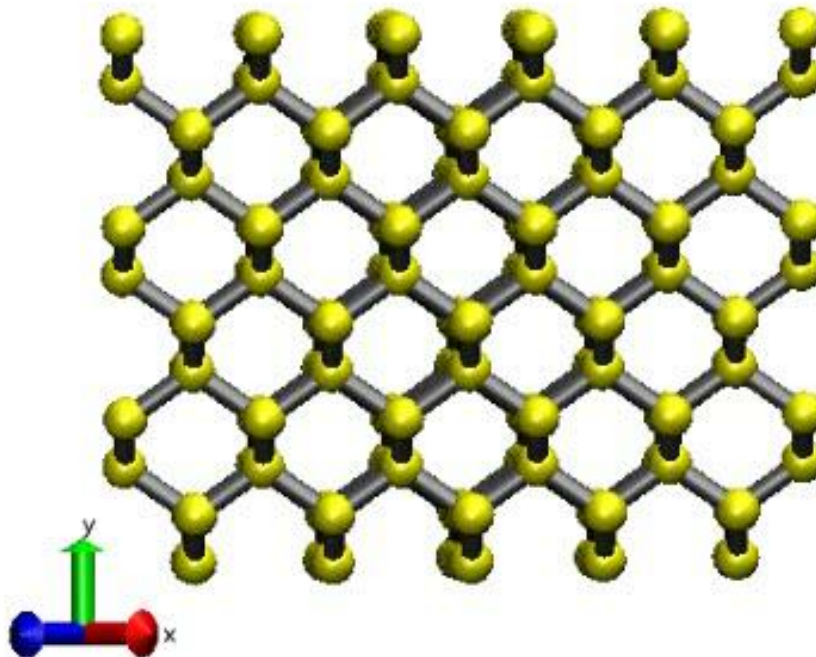


$t = 1$ ps

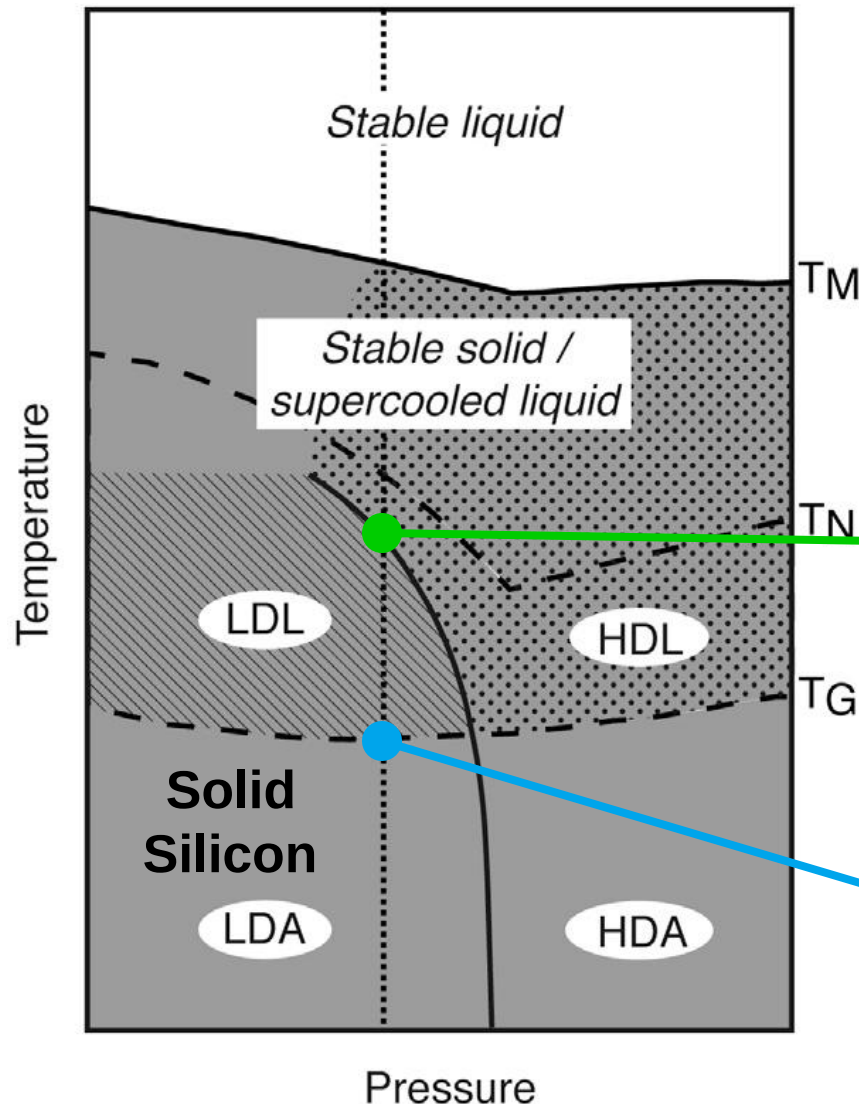
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Thermal melting of Si (LDL)

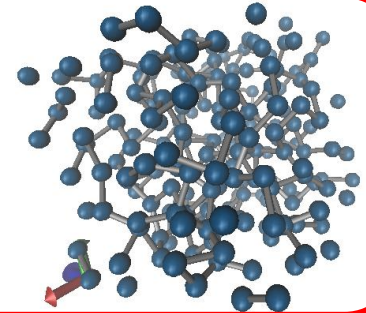
$\hbar\omega = 50$ eV, FWHM = 10 fs, 0.65 eV/atom



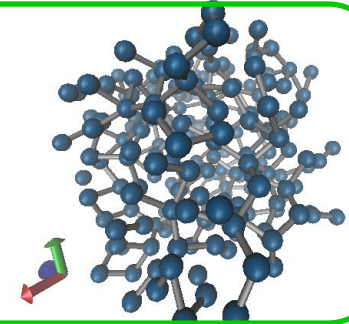
Thermal vs nonthermal effects



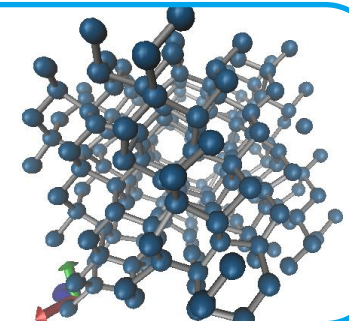
Liquid
(2.1 eV/atom;
 $T_e=17000$ K)
9 % electrons



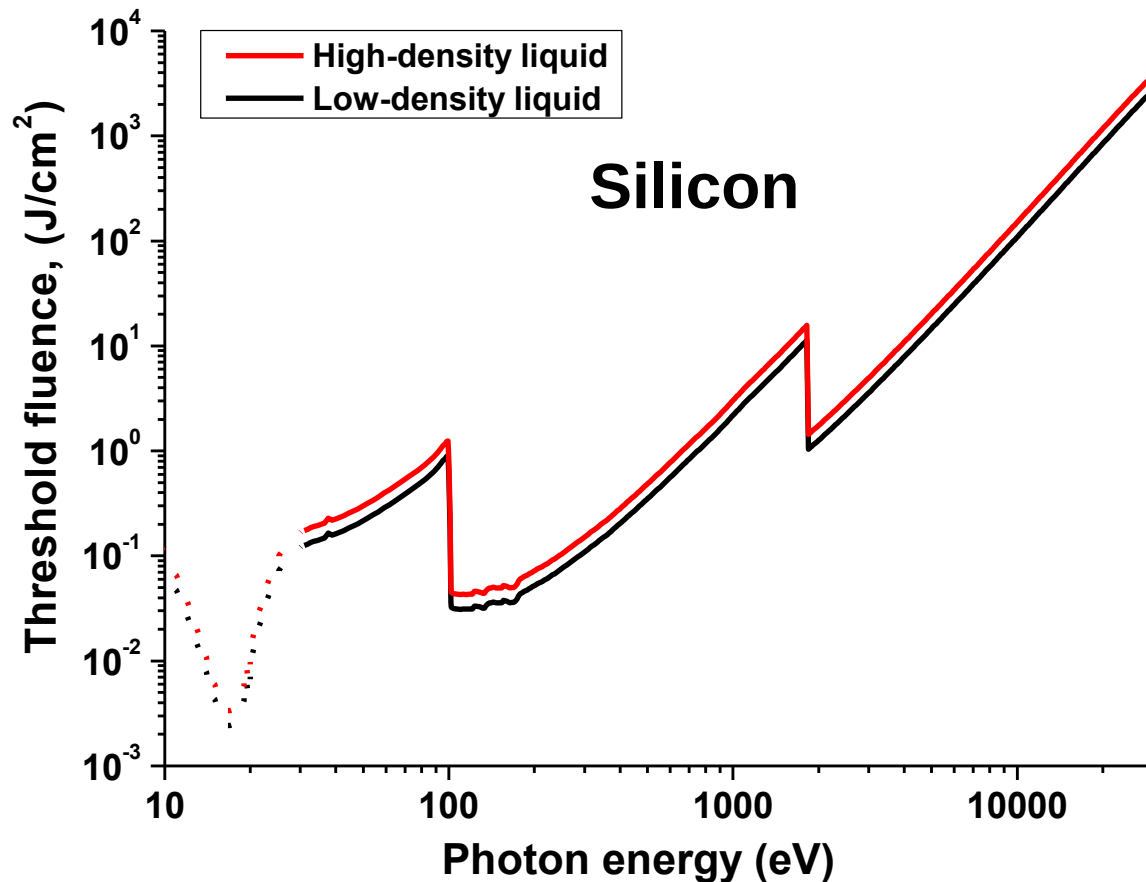
HDL
0.9 eV/atom
Amorphization
~5% electrons



LDL
0.6 eV/atom
Band gap
collapse



X-ray damage threshold



Threshold in terms of incoming photon fluence
corresponding to absorbed dose of 0.6 and 0.9 eV/atom

Effects of electron-ion coupling (Si)

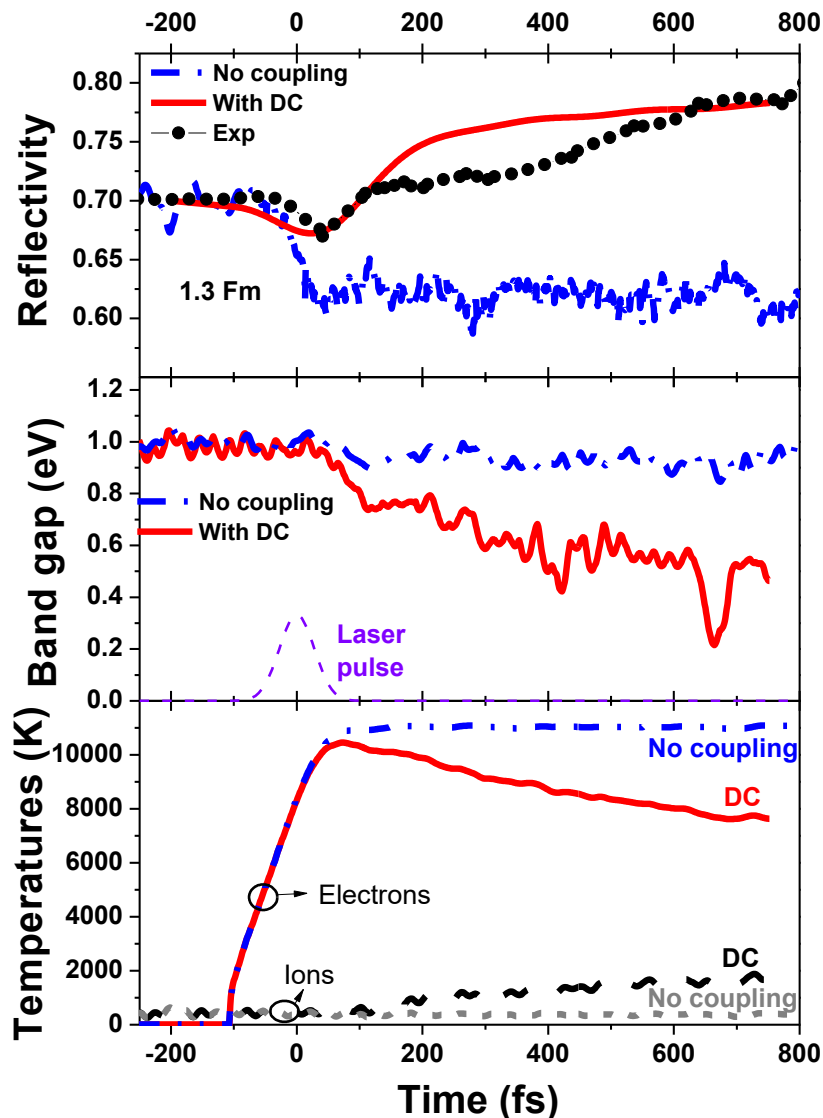
Exp: K. Sokolowski-Tinten *et al*, PRB 51(1995) 14186

- Optical properties are affected
by shrinking band gap

- Band gap is affected by heating of
atoms

- Atoms are heated via electron-ion
coupling

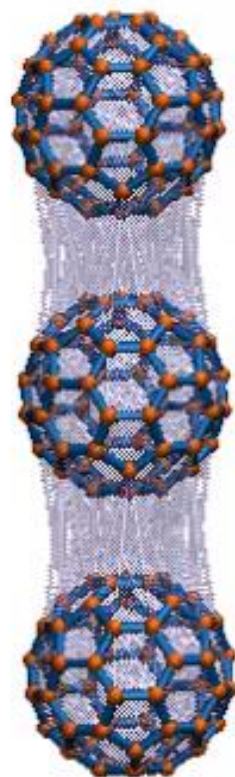
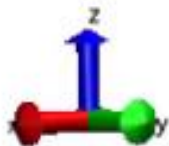
**Electron-ion coupling is experimentally
accessible via pump-probe!**



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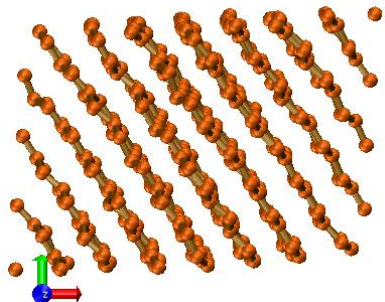
Coulomb explosion of C₆₀ crystal

$\hbar\omega = 92$ keV, FWHM = 30 fs, 0.22 eV/atom

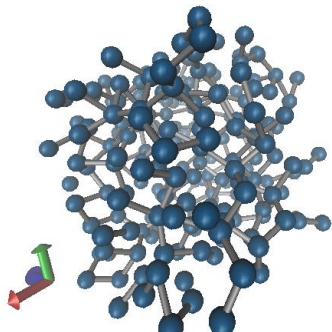


Preliminary results!

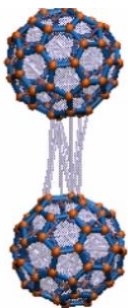
Conclusions



Nonthermal phase transitions: result of change of interatomic potential (~ 100 fs)



Thermal phase transitions: result of nonadiabatic electron-ion coupling (~ 1 ps)



Other damage channels also exist, e.g. Coulomb explosion in finite systems

Thank you for you attention!

For details see:

N. Medvedev, H. Jeschke, B. Ziaja, *New J. Phys.* **15**, 015016 (2013)

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

N. Medvedev, A. Volkov, B. Ziaja, *NIMB* **365**, 437 (2015)

N. Medvedev, V. Tkachenko, B. Ziaja, *Contrib. Plasma Phys.* **55**, 12 (2015)

N. Medvedev *et al.* *Phys. Rev. B* **95**, 014309 (2017)