

Nematic boson in an iron-based superconductor

Ukratop Workshop
December 4-5, 2018

Christian Hess

Institute for Solid State Research
IFW Dresden



Leibniz Institute
for Solid State and
Materials Research
Dresden

Member of the



Acknowledgement

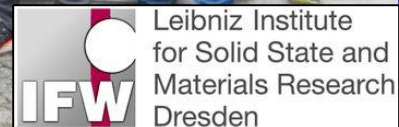
Quantum Matter: Transport and Tunneling

SPP1458

Deutsche
Forschungsgemeinschaft
DFG



European Research Council
Established by the European Commission



STM experiments

Pranab K. Nag
Jose Guevara

Zhixiang Sun
Sven Hoffmann

Theory

Steffen Sykora

Crystals

R. Kappenberger, S. Wurmehl

Acknowledgement

Quantum Matter: Transport and Tunneling



PHYSICAL REVIEW B 98, 201107(R) (2018)

Anomalous Nernst effect and field-induced Lifshitz transition in the Weyl semimetals TaP and TaAs

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STM

Pranab
Jose Gue

F. Caglieris,¹ C. Wuttke,¹ S. Sykora,¹ V. Süß,² C. Shekhar,² C. Felser,² B. Büchner,^{1,3,4} and C. Hess^{1,4}
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Acknowledgements

Quantum Materials

PHYSICAL REVIEW LETTERS 120, 117204 (2018)

Unusual Phonon Heat Transport in α -RuCl₃: Strong Spin-Phonon Scattering and Field-Induced Spin Gap

Richard Hentrich,^{1,*} Anja U. B. Wolter,¹ Xenophon Zotos,^{1,2} Wolfram Brenig,³ Domenic Nowak,⁴ Anna Isaeva,⁴ Thomas Doert,⁴ Arnab Banerjee,⁵ Paula Lampen-Kelley,^{6,7} David G. Mandrus,^{6,7} Stephen E. Nagler,⁵ Jennifer Sears,⁸ Young-June Kim,⁸ Bernd Büchner,^{1,9,10} and Christian Hess^{1,10,†}

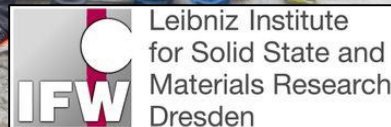
PHYSICAL REVIEW LETTERS 120, 117204 (2018)

Anomalous Nernst effect and field-induced Lifshitz transition in the Weyl semimetal TaAs

F. Caglieris,¹ C. Wuttke,¹ S. Sykora,¹ V. Süß,² C. Shekhar,² C. Felser,² B. Büchner,^{1,3,4} and C. Hess^{1,10,†}



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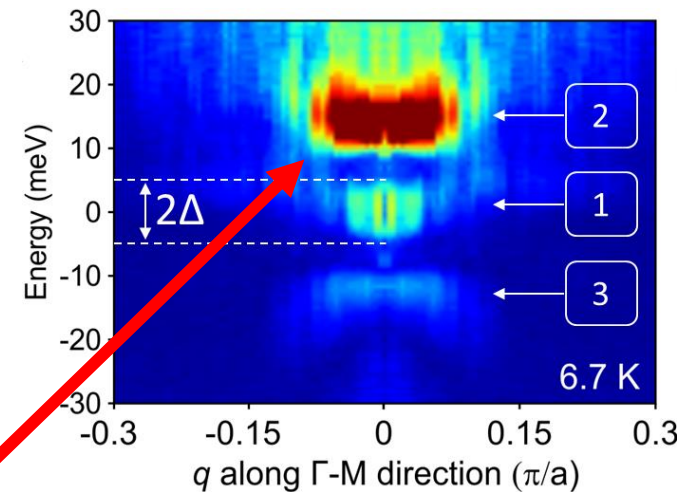
Outline

Warm-up

Scanning tunneling microscopy and spectroscopy
Superconductivity

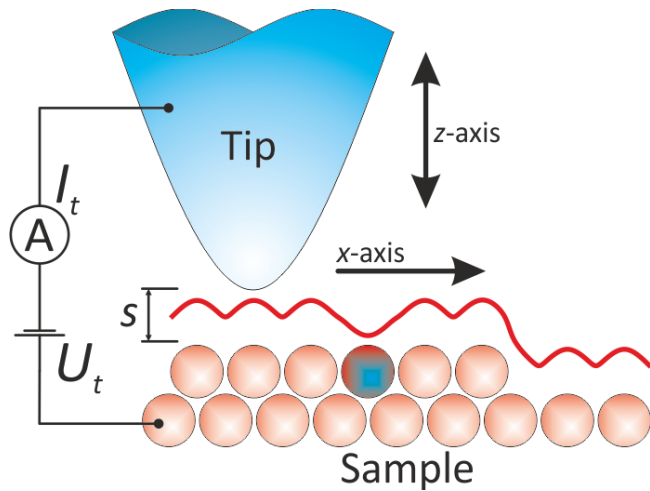
Probing electron-boson coupling in LiFeAs

Local spectroscopy
Friedel oscillations



Signature of electron-boson coupling

Scanning Tunneling Microscopy (STM)



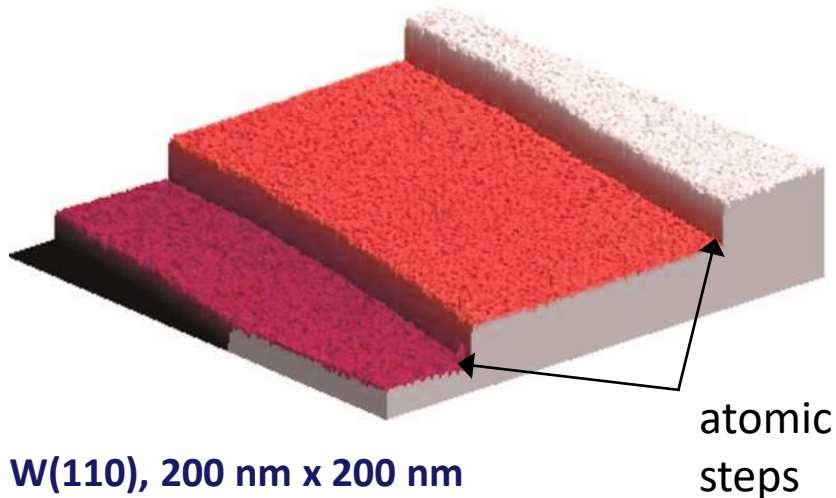
$$T \approx 0$$

$$I_t \propto e^{-2\kappa s} \int_0^{eU_t} \rho_s(\epsilon) d\epsilon$$

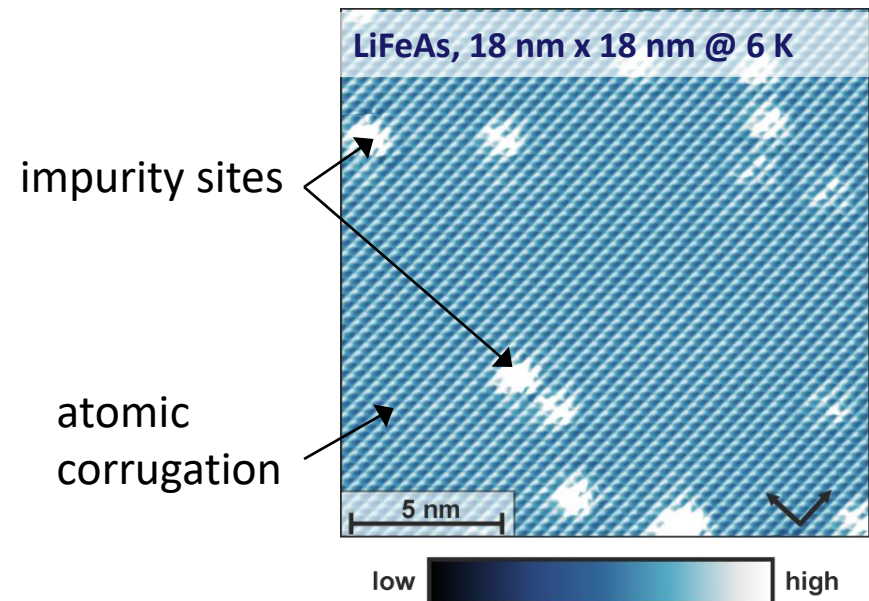
distance

local density of states (LDOS)

➔ Topographic surface data

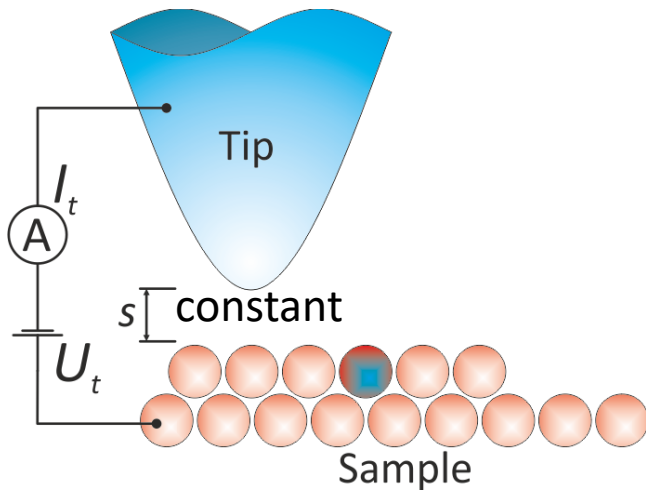


Danny Baumann, PhD thesis, IFW Dresden



Hänke, Hess et al., PRL 2012

Scanning Tunneling Spectroscopy (STS)



➔ direct measurement of LDOS

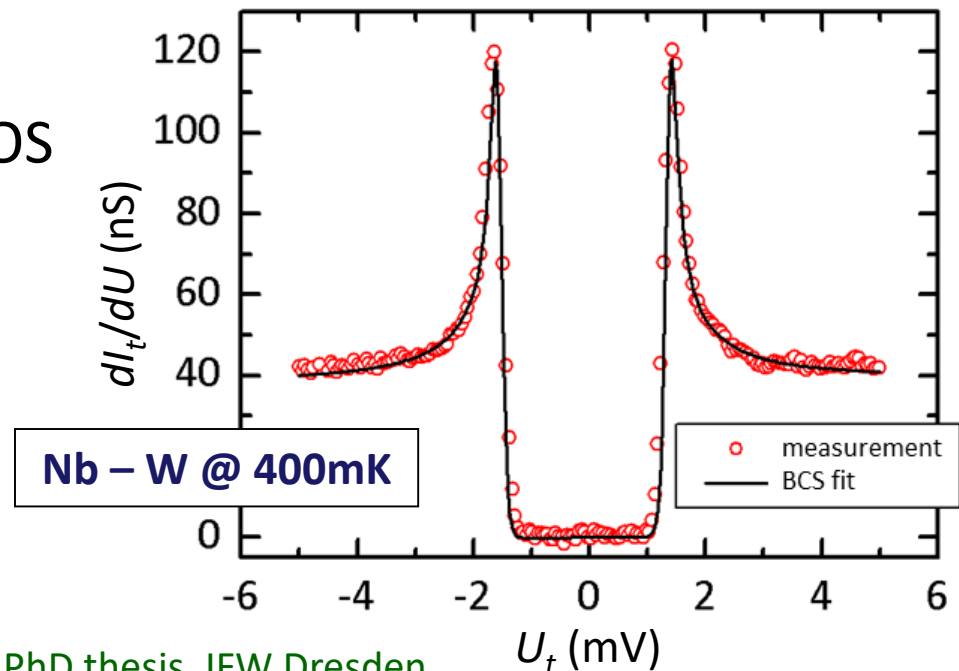
$$\frac{dI_t}{dU}(U_t) \propto \rho_s(eU_t)$$

$T \approx 0$

distance

$$I_t \propto e^{-2\kappa s} \int_0^{eU_t} \rho_s(\epsilon) d\epsilon$$

local density of states (LDOS)



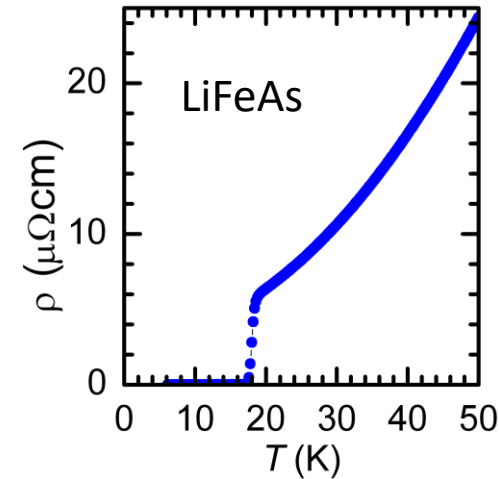
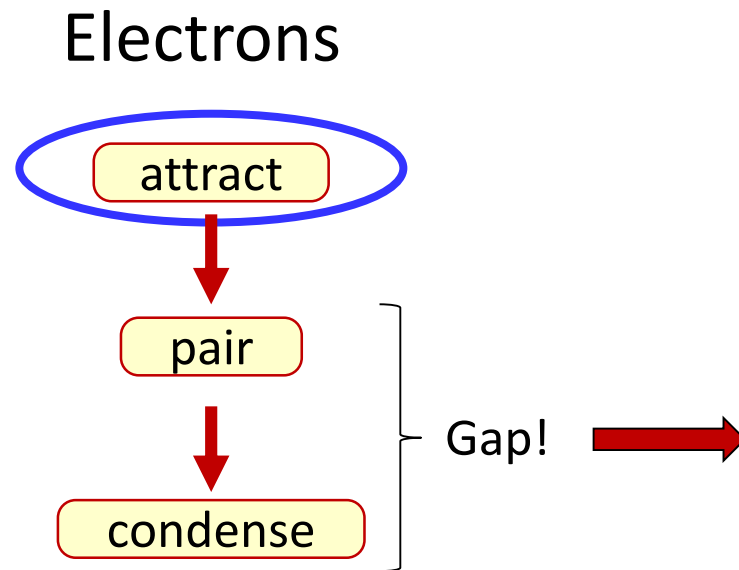
Danny Baumann, PhD thesis, IFW Dresden

Superconductivity: short introduction

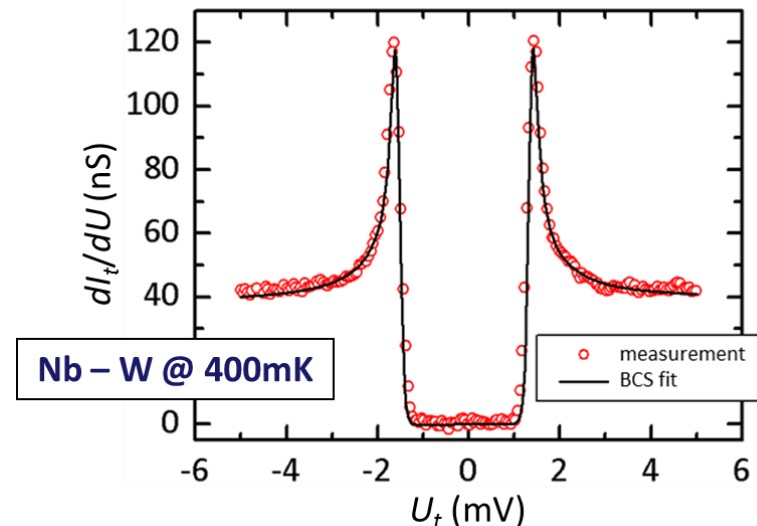
Macroscopic quantum state

- Zero resistivity¹
- Meißner effect²

Microscopic BCS-theory³



Tunneling spectroscopy!



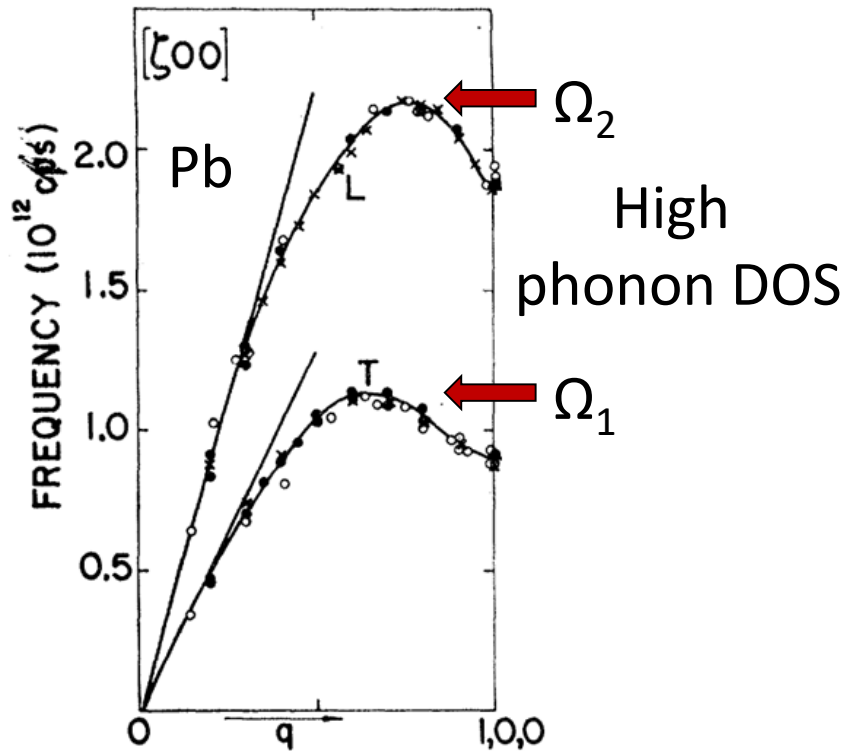
¹Kamerlingh-Onnes, Comm. Leiden **120b** (1911)

²Meißner & Ochsenfeld, Naturwissenschaften **21**, 787 (1933)

³Bardeen, Cooper, Schrieffer, Phys. Rev. **108**, 1175 (1957)

Conventional: electron-phonon interaction

Phonons



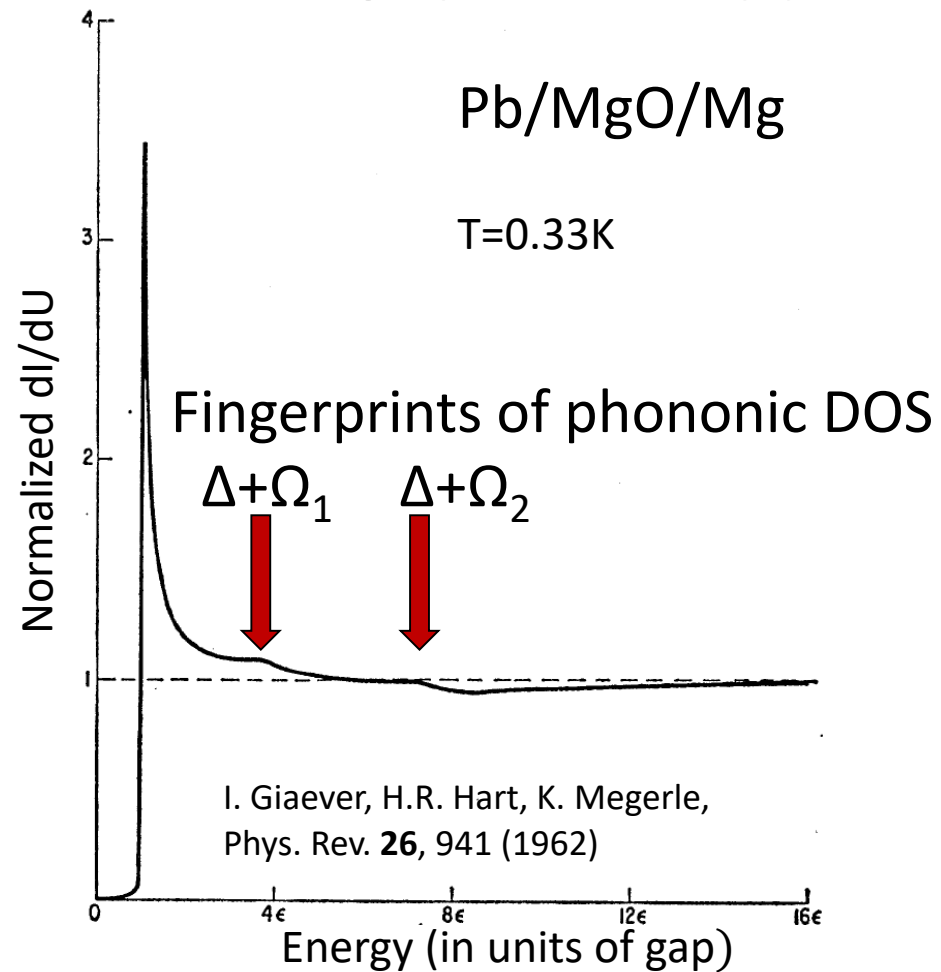
B.N. Brockhouse et al., Phys. Rev. **128**, 1099 (1962)

Electron-phonon coupling



Renormalization of
electronic states

Tunneling spectroscopy



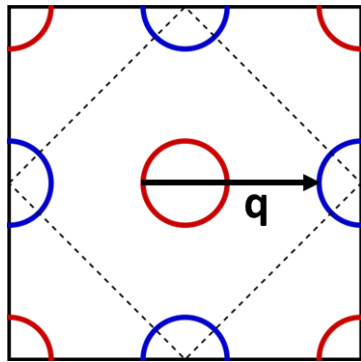
I. Giaever, H.R. Hart, K. Megerle,
Phys. Rev. **26**, 941 (1962)

Theory: Rowell, et al., PRL **10**, 334 (1963)
Schrieffer et al., PRL **10**, 336 (1963); PR **148**, 263 (1966)
Scalapino et al., PR **148**, 263 (1966)

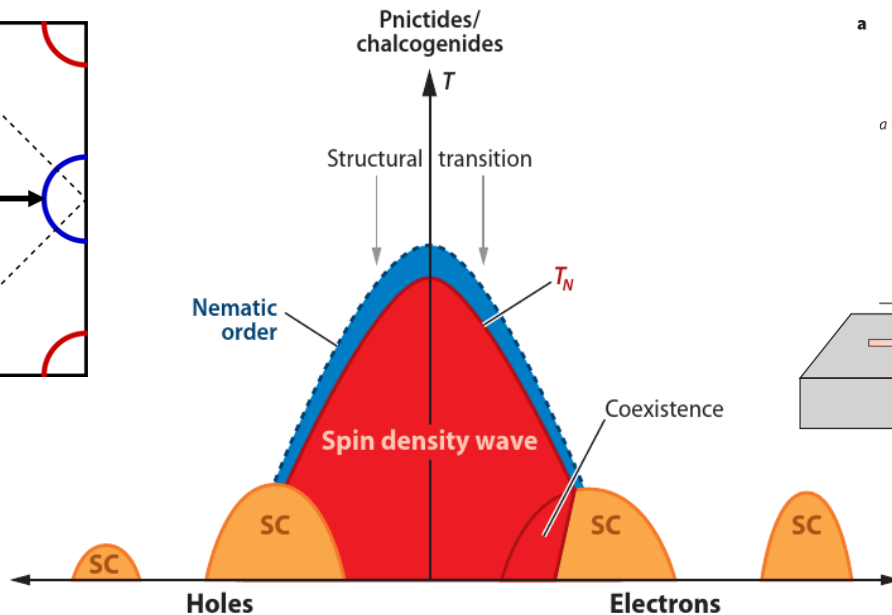
Unconventional: electron-electron interaction

e.g. in iron-based superconductors

Spin fluctuations...

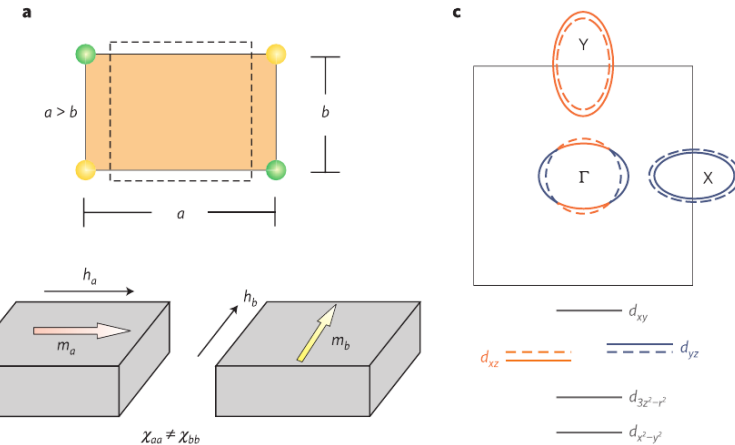


Peak in $\chi_{\text{mag}}(\mathbf{q}, \omega)$ at $\mathbf{q}=(\pi, 0)$



A. Chubukov, 2012

Orbital fluctuations...



Fernandes, Chubukov, Schmalian
Nat. Phys. **10**, 97 (2014)

Idea: Fermi surface nesting and spin fluctuations drive superconductivity

I. Mazin, Phys. Rev. Lett. **101**, 057003 (2008)

Idea: Orbital (nematic fluctuations) drive superconductivity

Kontani & Onari, Phys. Rev. Lett. **104**, 1547001 (2010)

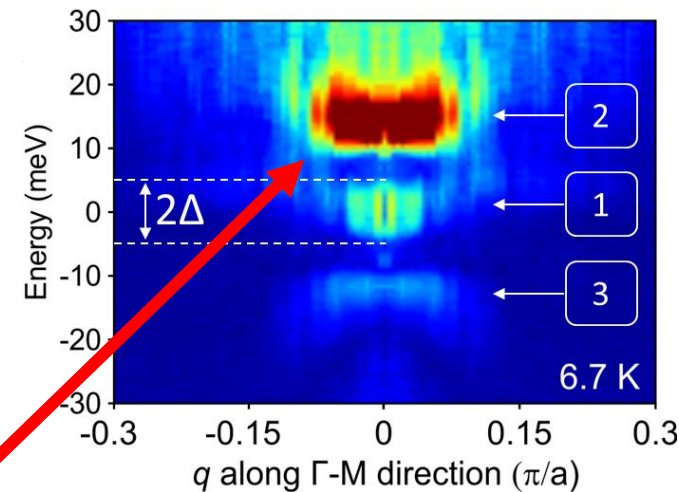
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Probing electron-boson coupling in LiFeAs

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Friedel oscillations

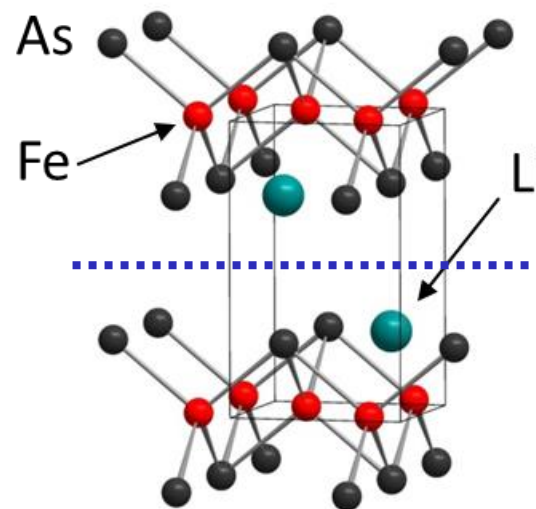
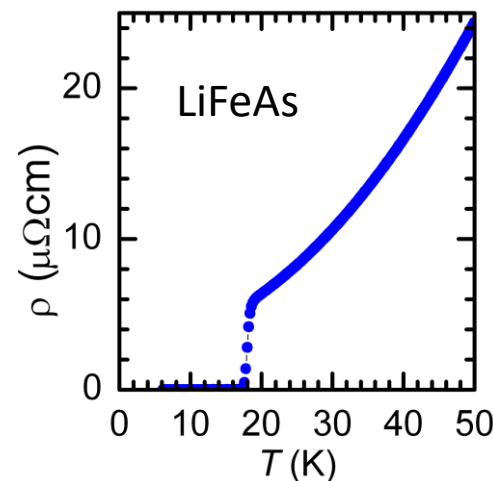


Signature of electron-boson coupling

Explore possible pairing bosons by STM/STS

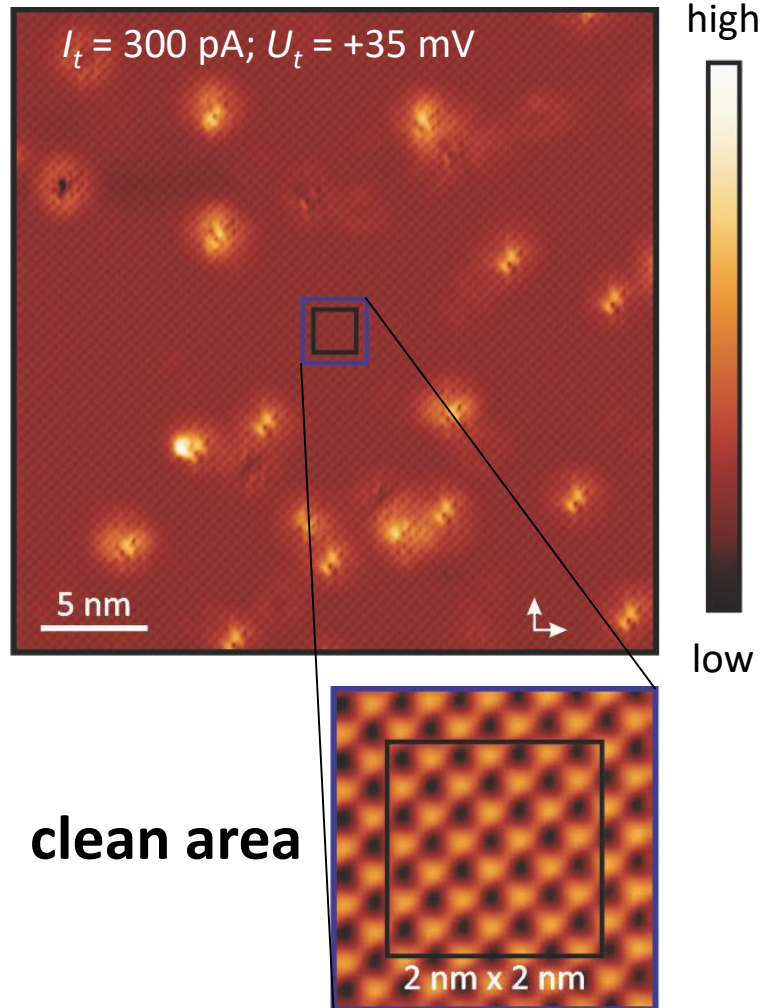
LiFeAs

- Iron-pnictide superconductor
→ unconventional
- $T_c \sim 17$ K
- Stoichiometric superconductor
- “perfect” surfaces
- No magnetic order
- No nematic order

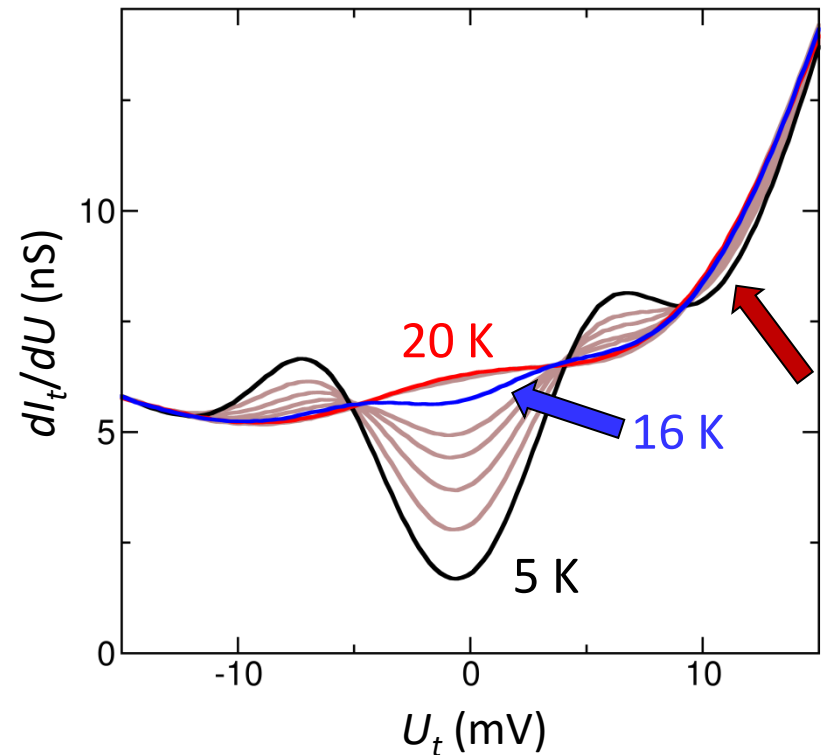


Temperature dependent STS on LiFeAs

Topography @ 5 K



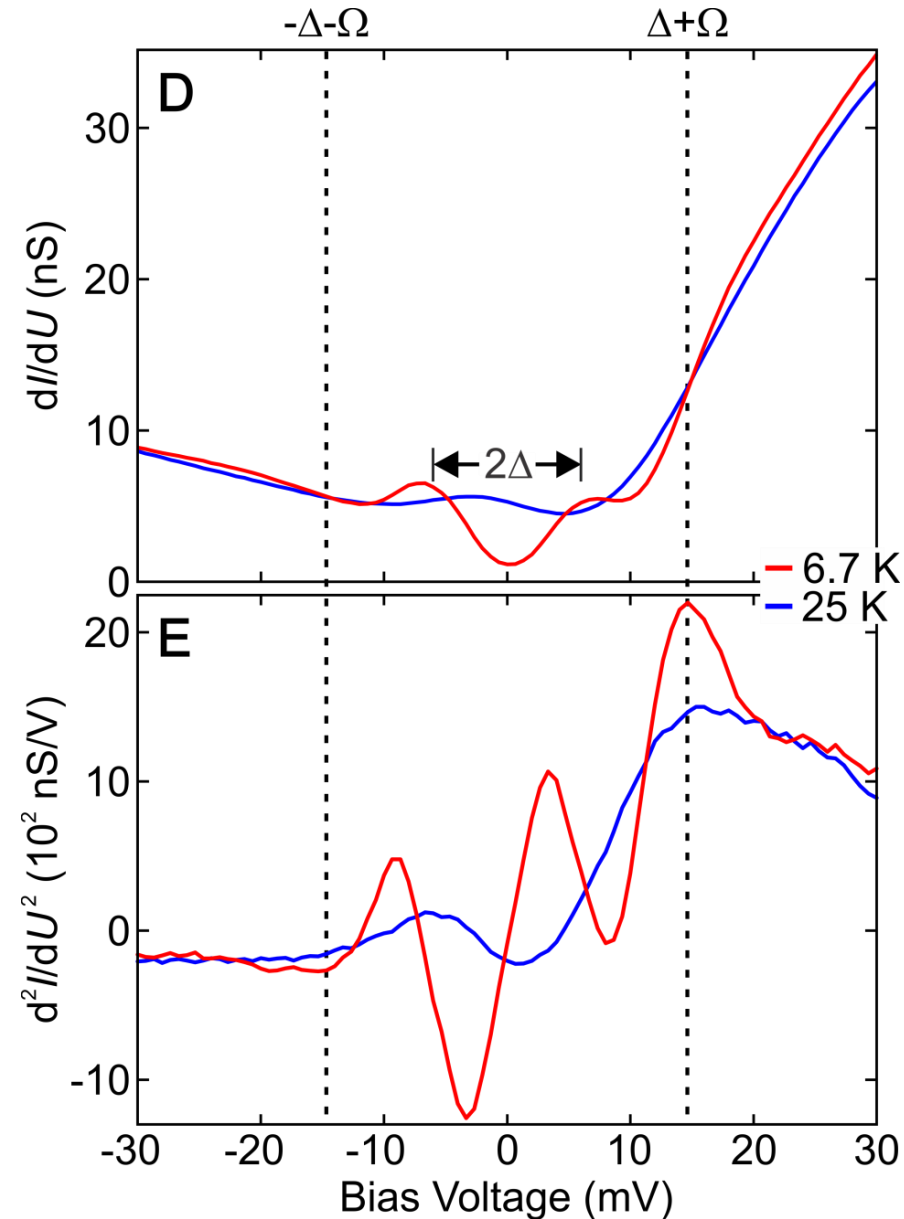
Spectroscopy



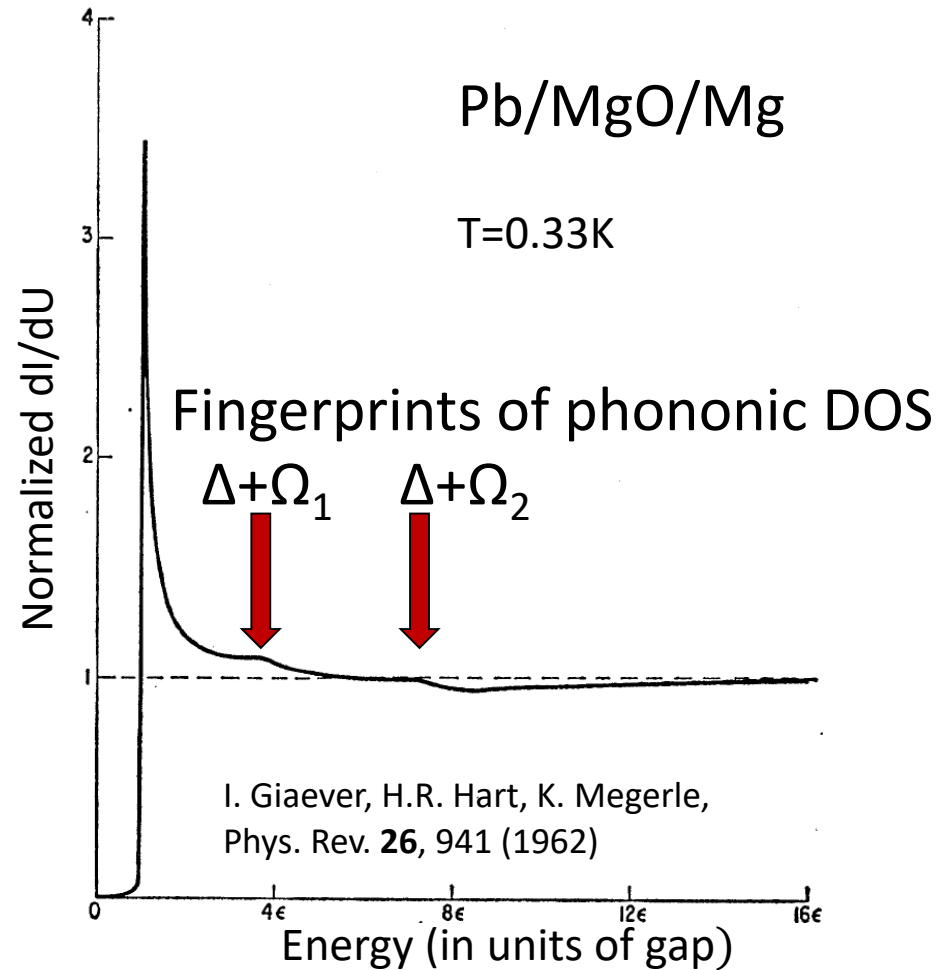
- Superconducting gap $\Delta \sim 6 \text{ meV}$
- $T_c \approx 16 \text{ K}$
- High-energy depletion
➡ signature of boson!

Nag, Hess et al., Scientific Reports 2016

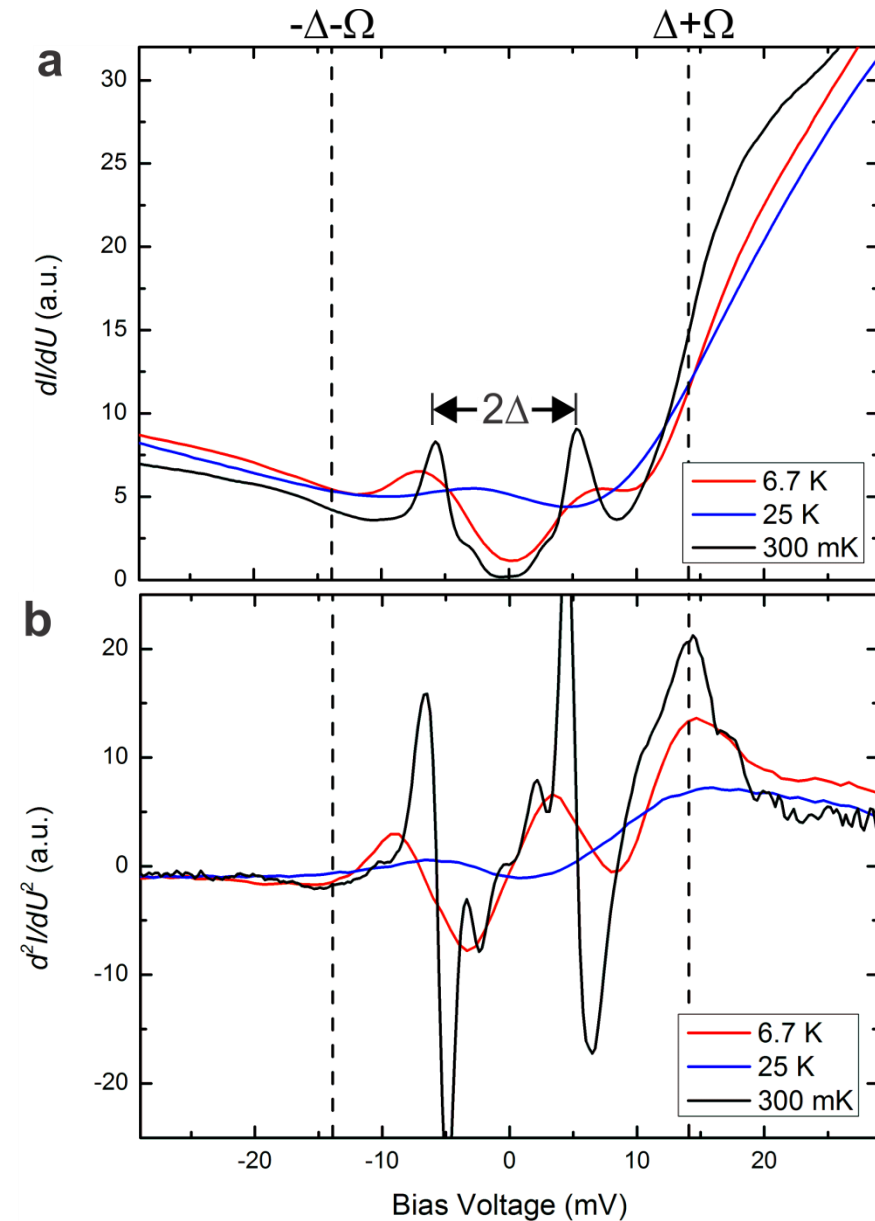
Bosonic mode signature



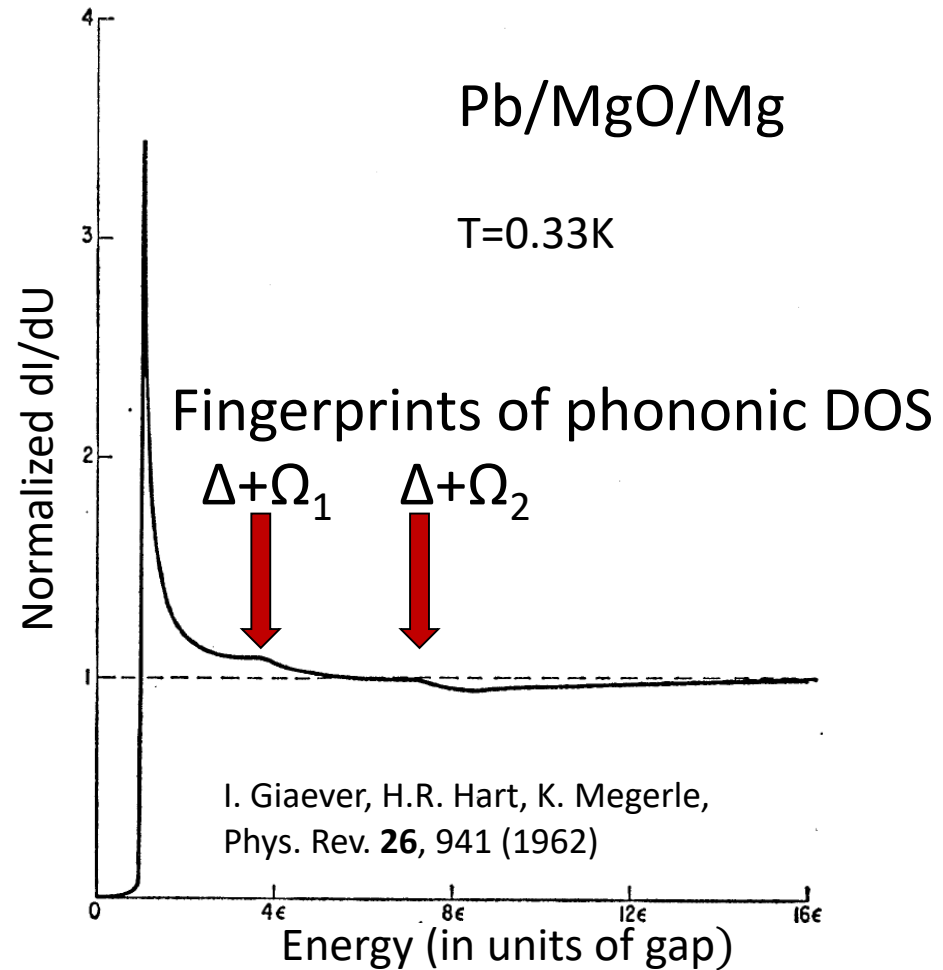
Reminder:



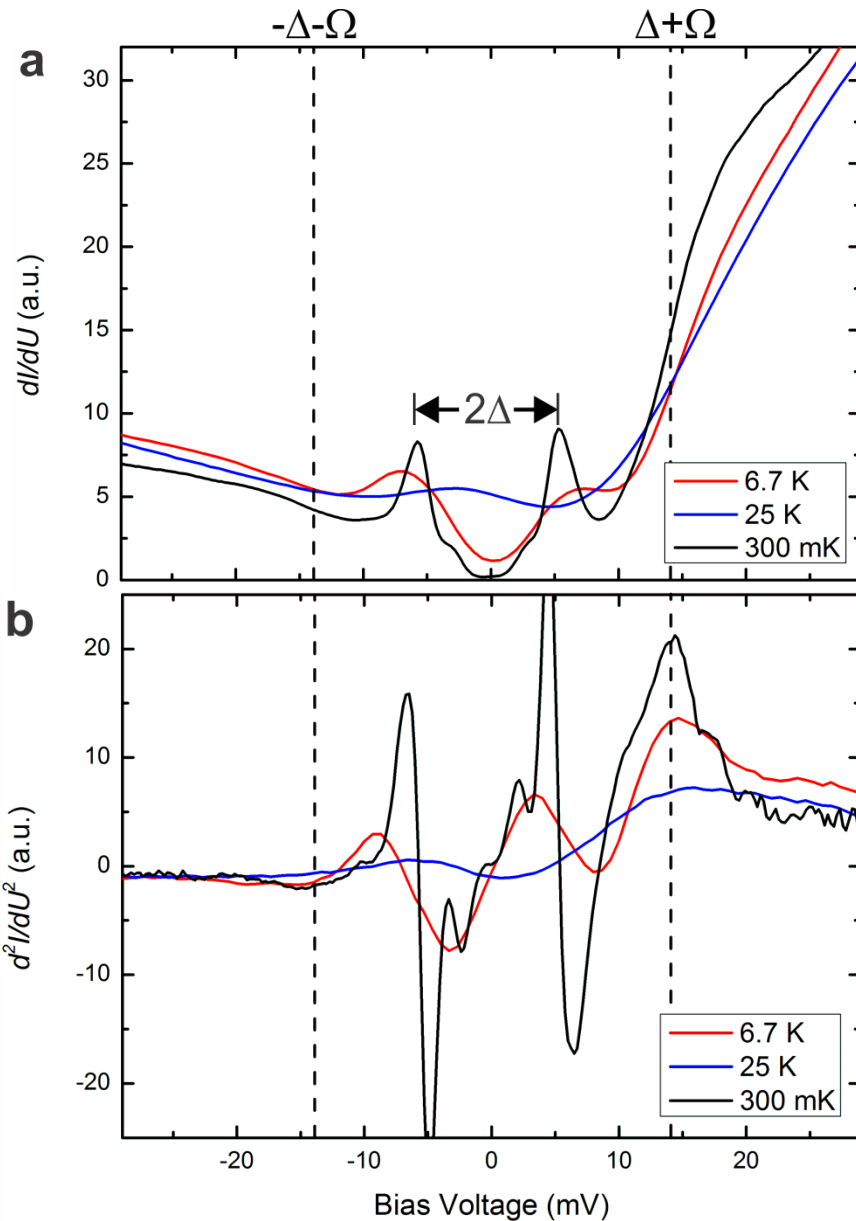
Bosonic mode signature



Reminder:



Bosonic mode signature



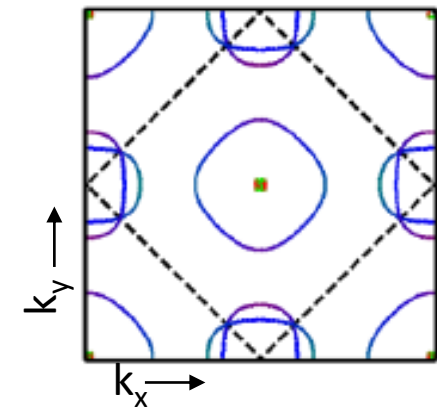
$$\Delta + \Omega \approx 14 \text{ meV}$$

$$\Delta \approx 6 \text{ meV}$$

$$\Omega \approx 8 \text{ meV}$$



Phonon?
Spin fluctuation?
Which parts of the FS?



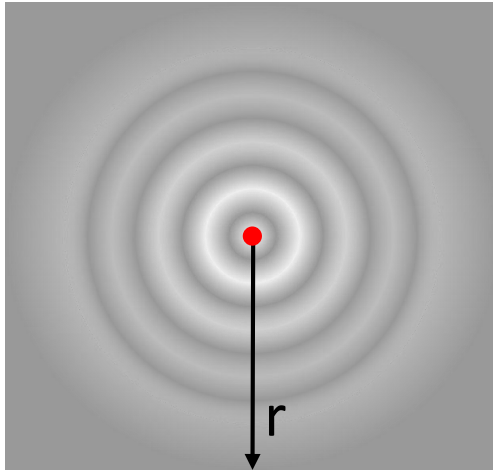
Band structure data:
Wang et al., PRB 2013

...add momentum sensitivity!

Friedel oscillations

Quasiparticle scattering off defects → Friedel oscillations

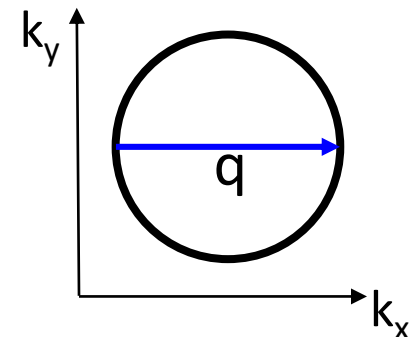
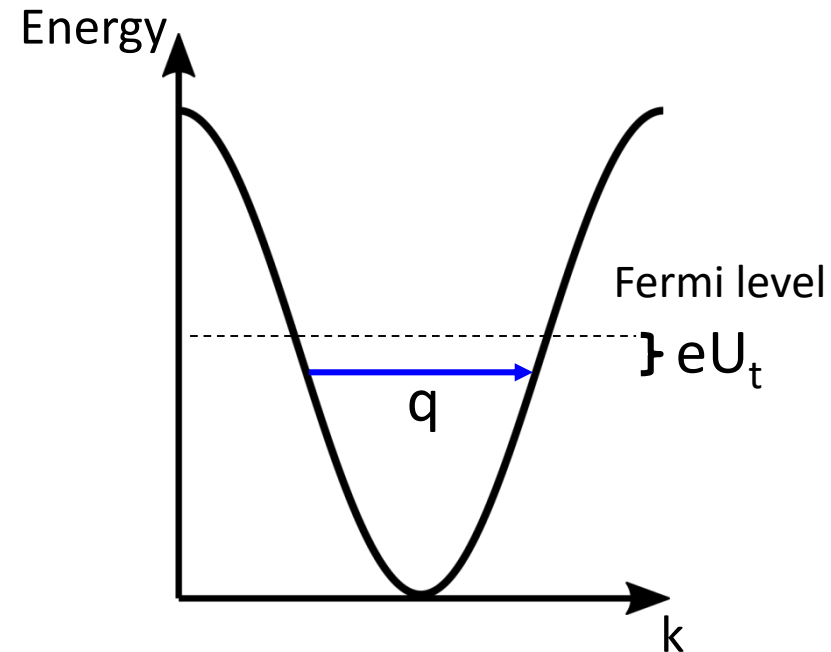
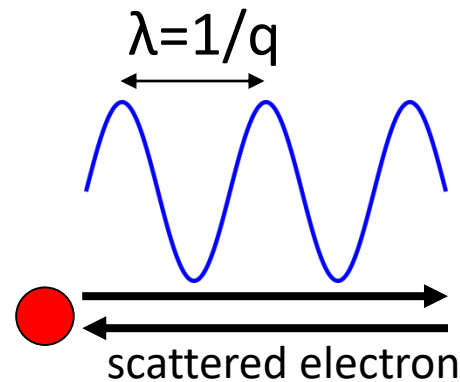
impurity in a metal



$$\Delta\text{LDOS} \sim \cos^2(rq)$$

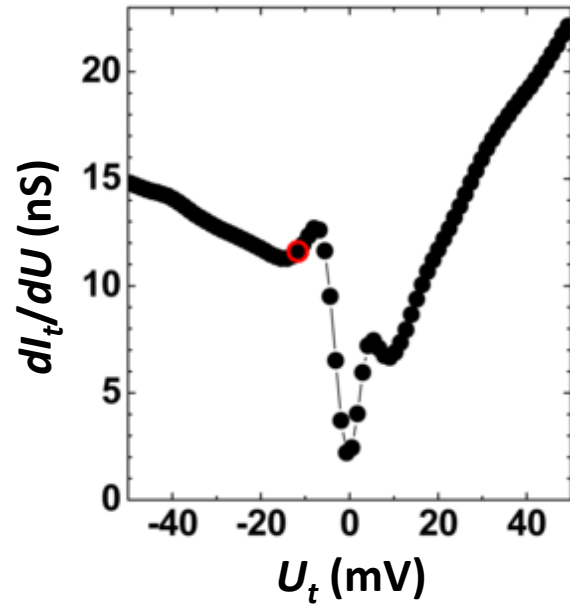
Accessible by STM/STS

➡ probe band structure and scattering processes!



Friedel oscillations in LiFeAs

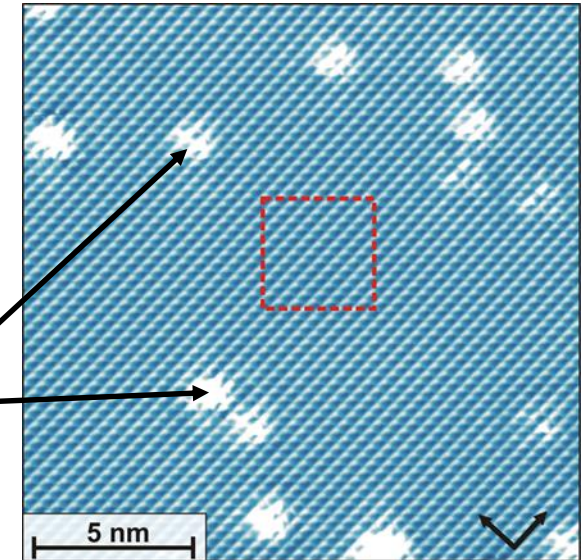
$dI_t/dU@6K$



measured at
each tip position

Impurity sites causing
Friedel oscillations

Topography@6K

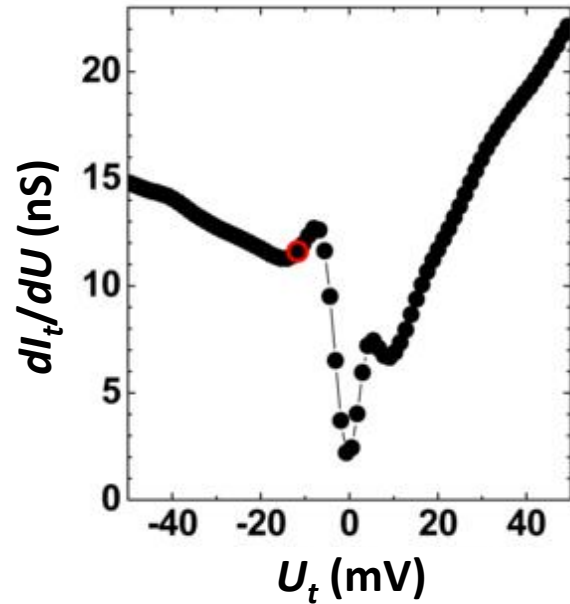


low high

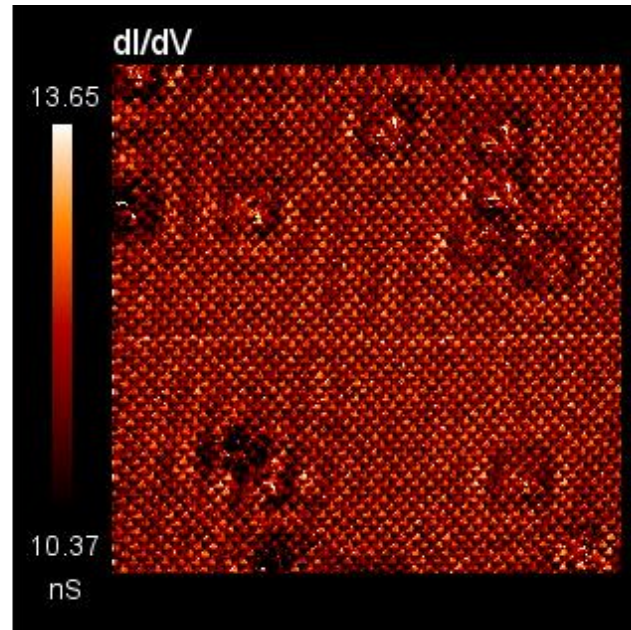
$U_t = -50$ mV; $I_t = 600$ pA

Friedel oscillations in LiFeAs

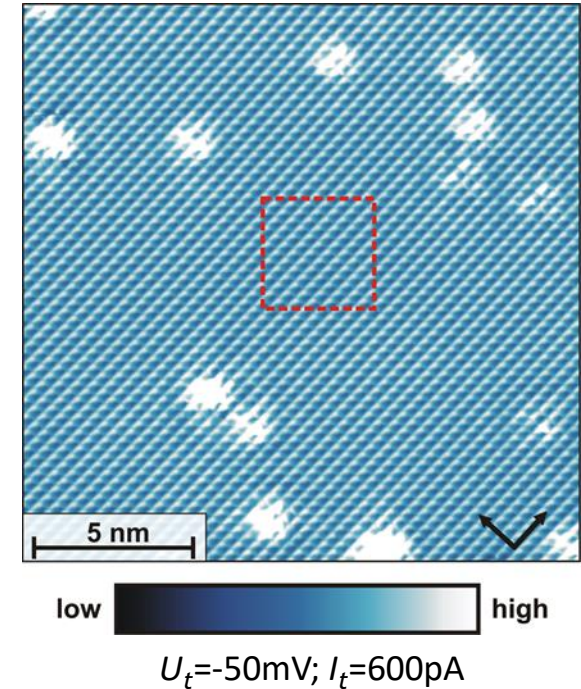
$dI_t/dU@6K$



dI_t/dU map @ -12 mV



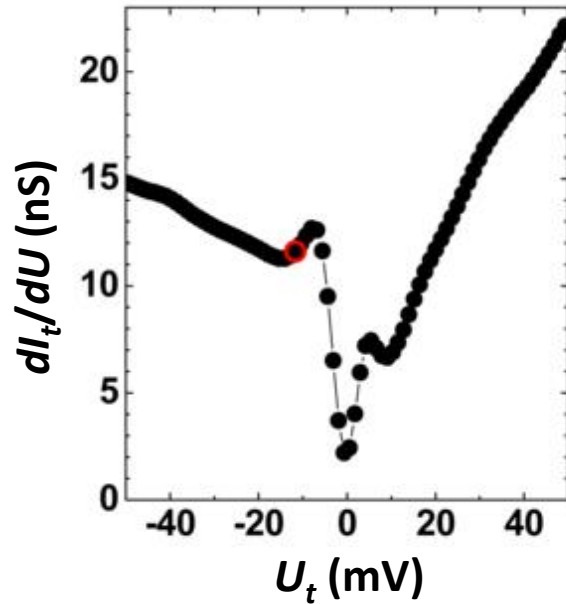
Topography@6K



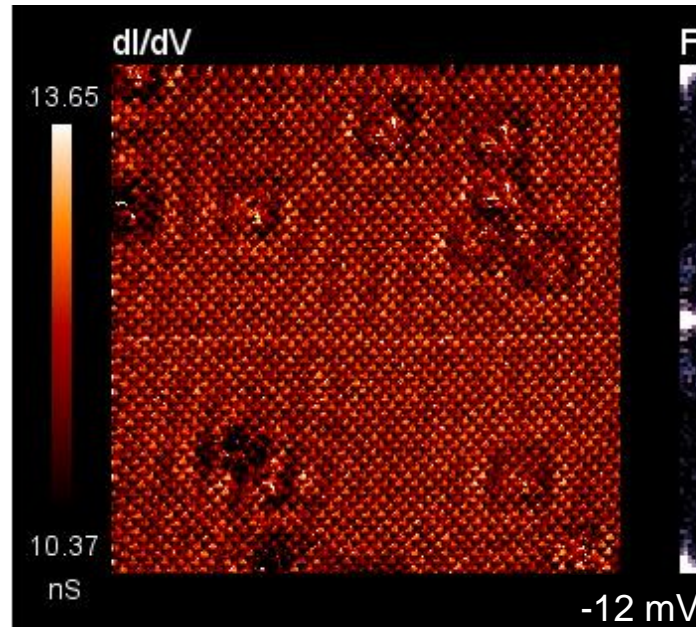
„Quasiparticle Interference (QPI)“

Friedel oscillations in LiFeAs

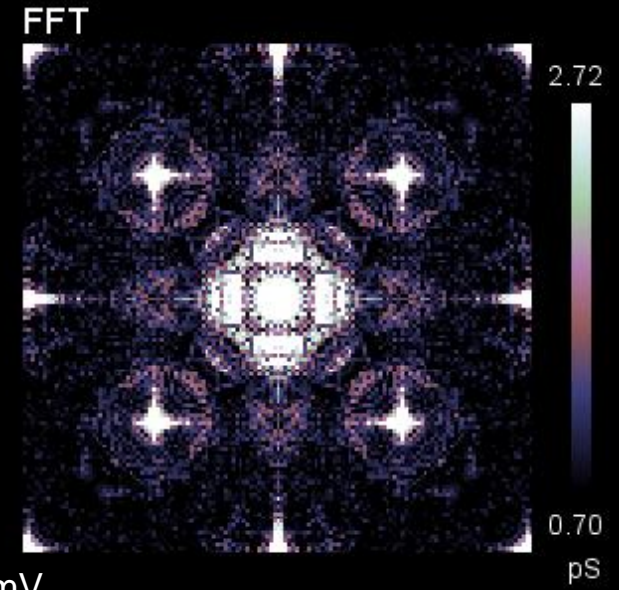
$dI_t/dU@6K$



dI_t/dU map @ -12 mV



Fourier transform

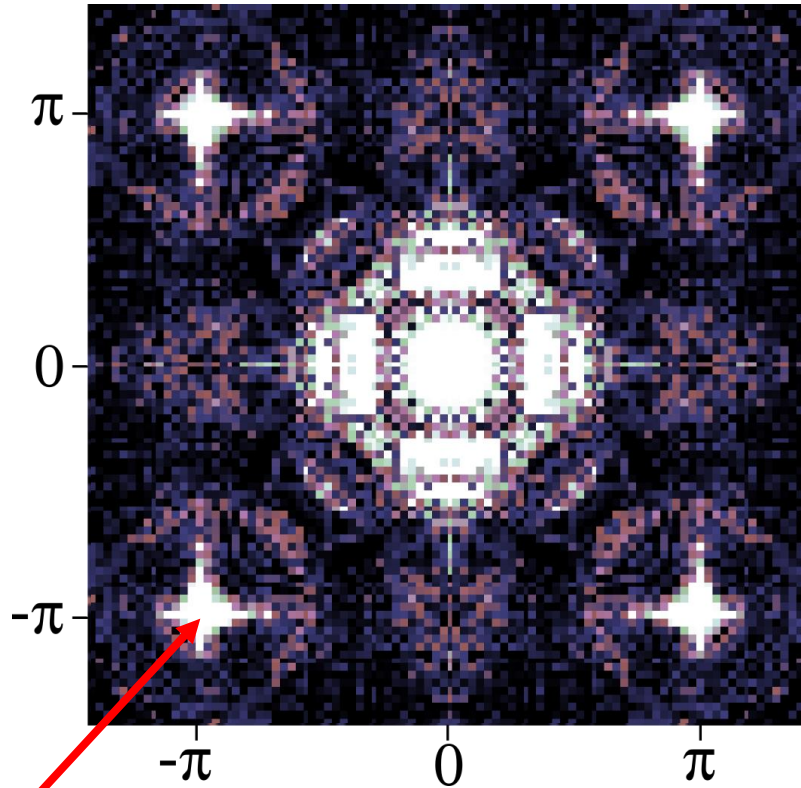


Scattering vector map!

„Quasiparticle Interference (QPI)“

Friedel oscillations in LiFeAs

q-space image

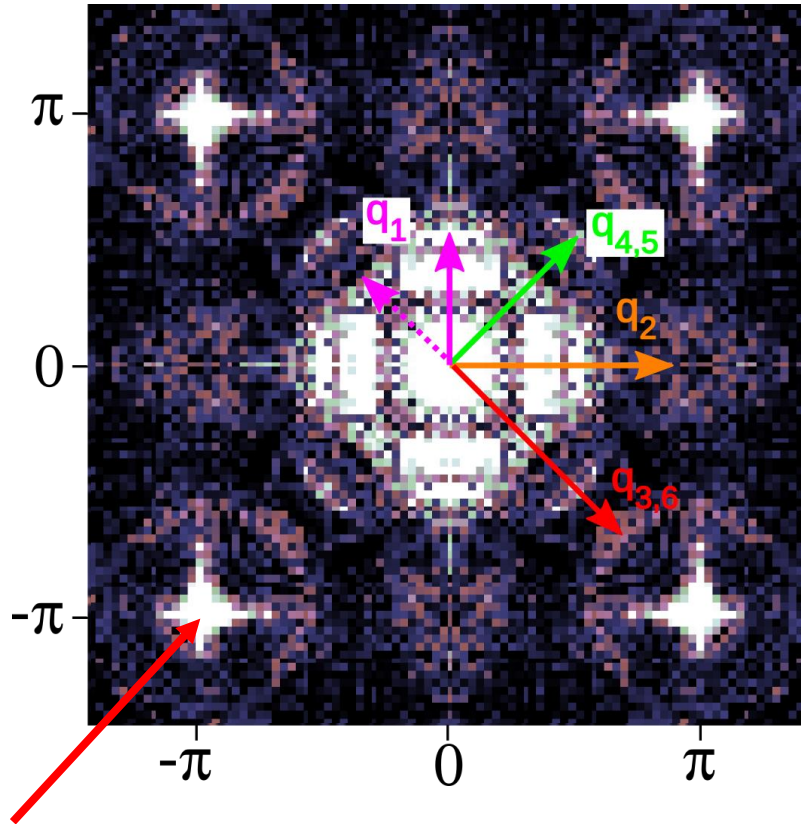


Reciprocal atomic lattice

Hänke, Hess et al., PRL 2012; Hess et al., PRL 2013

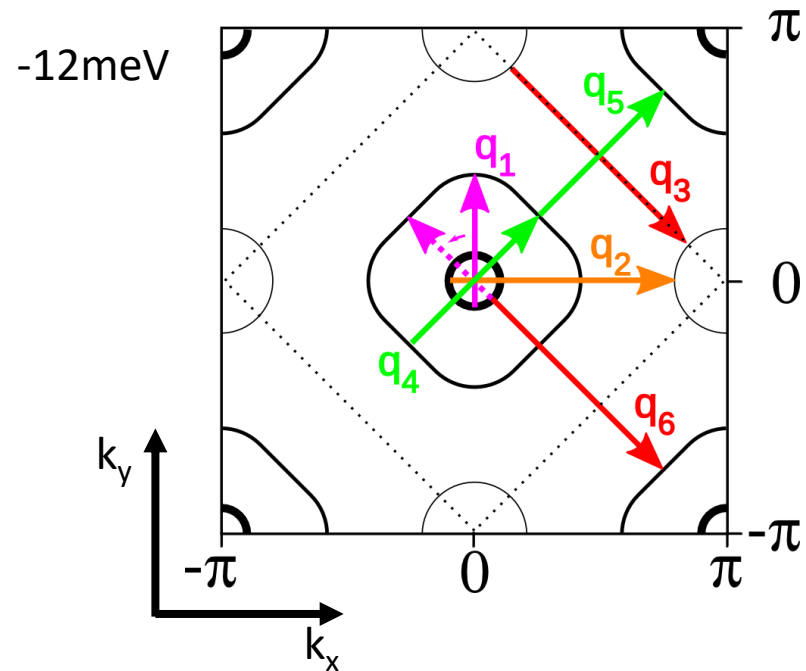
Friedel oscillations in LiFeAs

q-space image



Reciprocal atomic lattice

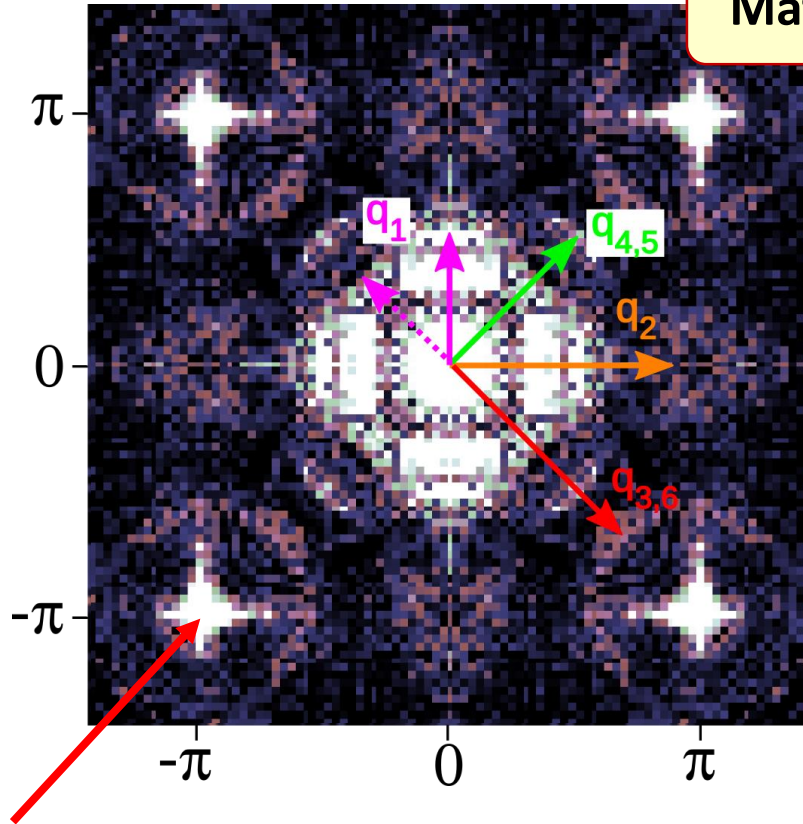
ARPES band structure



Friedel oscillations in LiFeAs

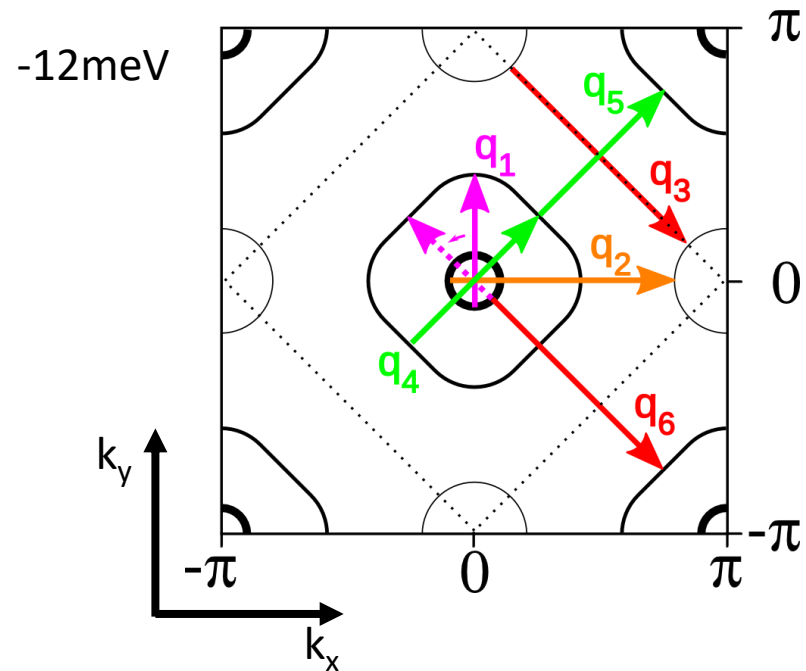
q-space image

Match!



Reciprocal atomic lattice

ARPES band structure

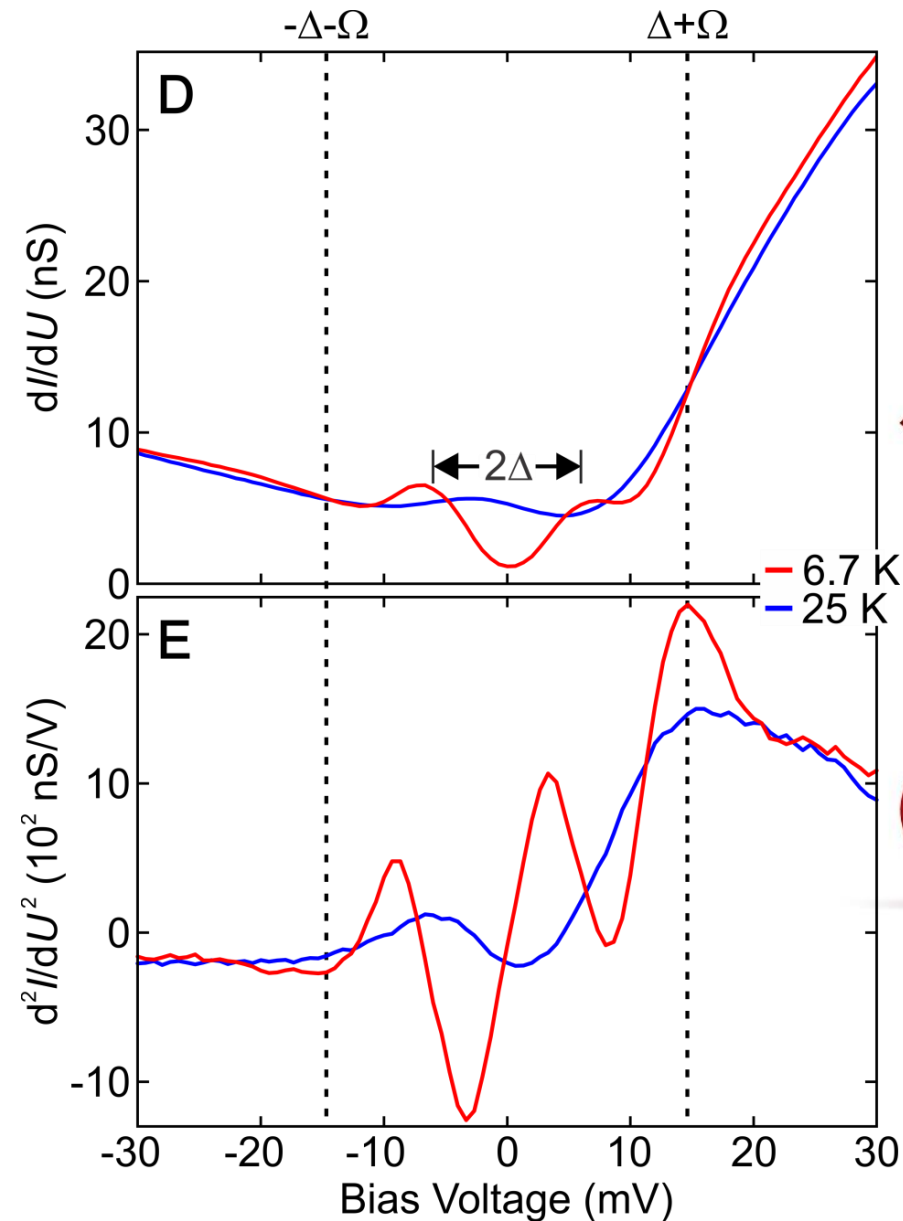


See also:

Allan et al., Science **336**, 563 (2012)

Chi et al., PRB **89**, 104522 (2014)

Bosonic mode signature



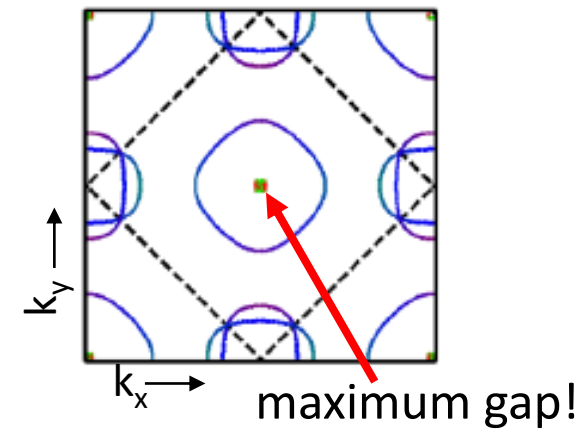
$$\Delta + \Omega \approx 14 \text{ meV}$$

$$\Delta \approx 6 \text{ meV}$$

$$\Omega \approx 8 \text{ meV}$$



Phonon?
Spin fluctuation?
Which parts of the FS?

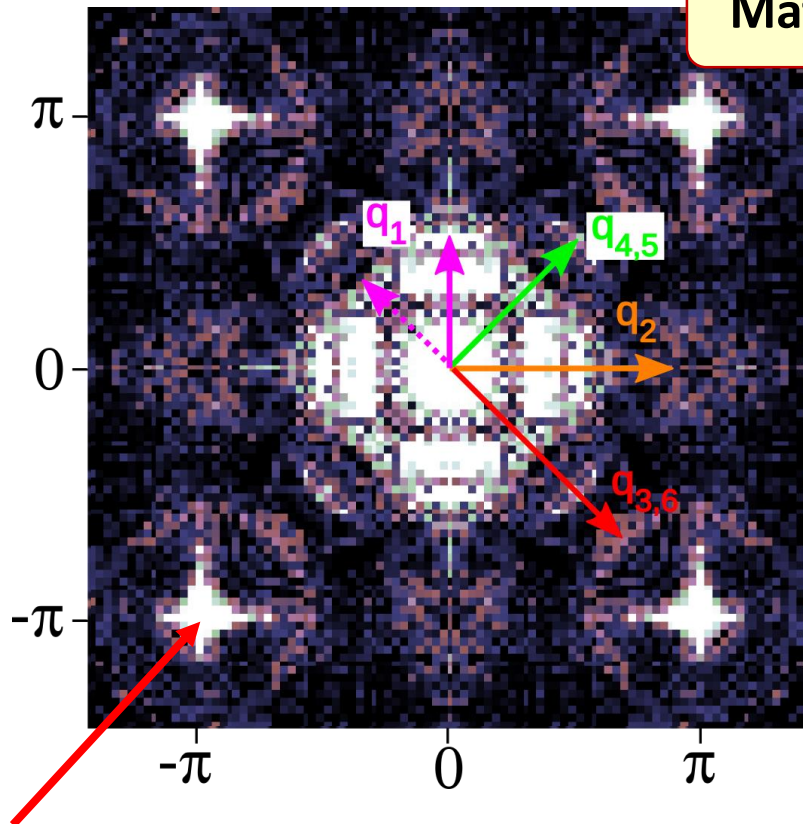


Band structure data:
Wang et al., PRB 2013

...add momentum sensitivity!

Friedel oscillations in LiFeAs

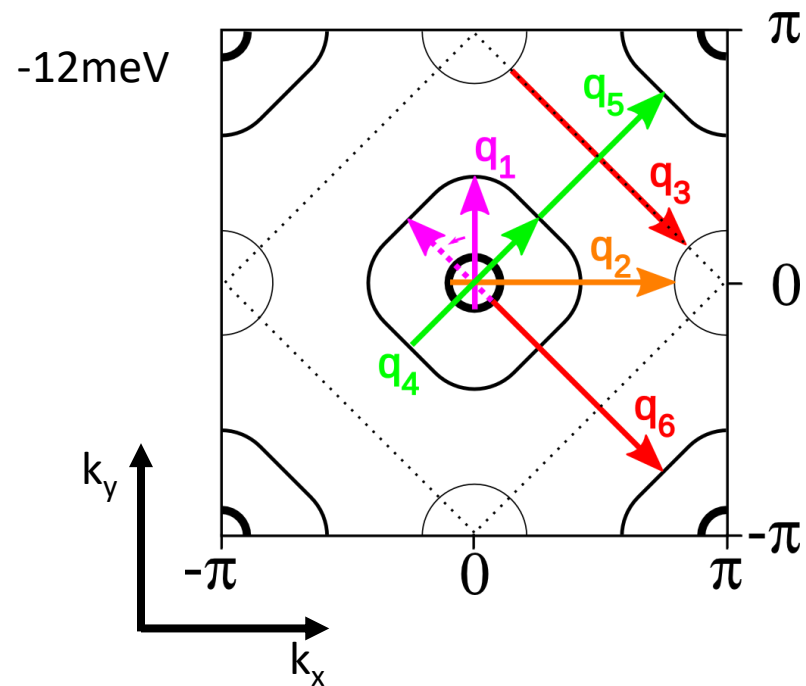
q-space image



Reciprocal atomic lattice

Match!

ARPES band structure



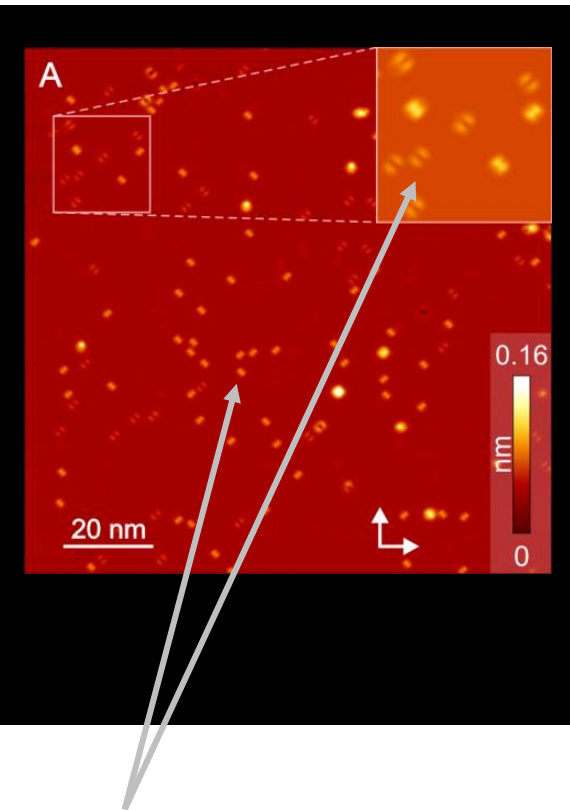
Required:

Higher resolution at $q < q_1$

➡ new measurement

Friedel oscillations with high q resolution

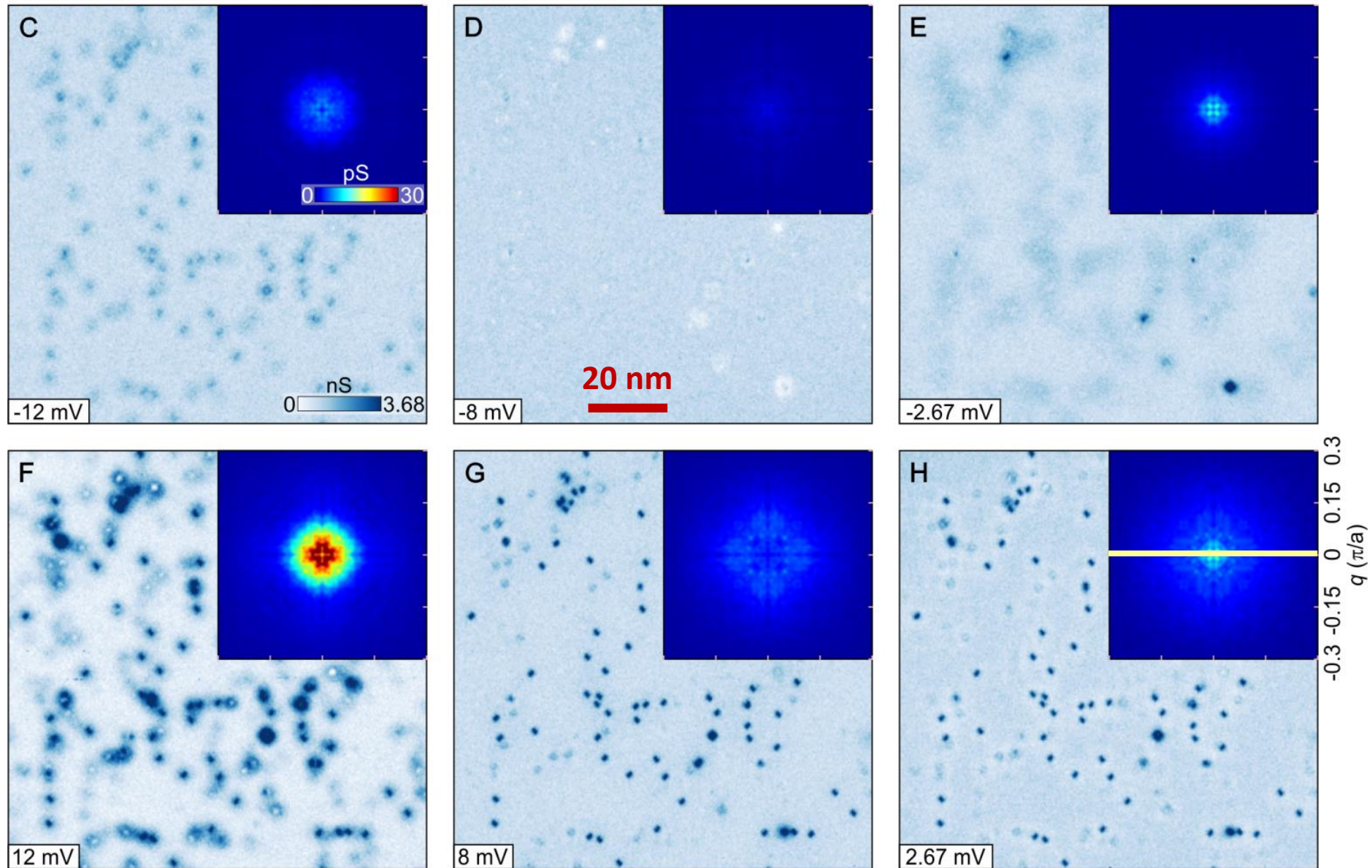
Topography @ 6.7 K



Iron defects

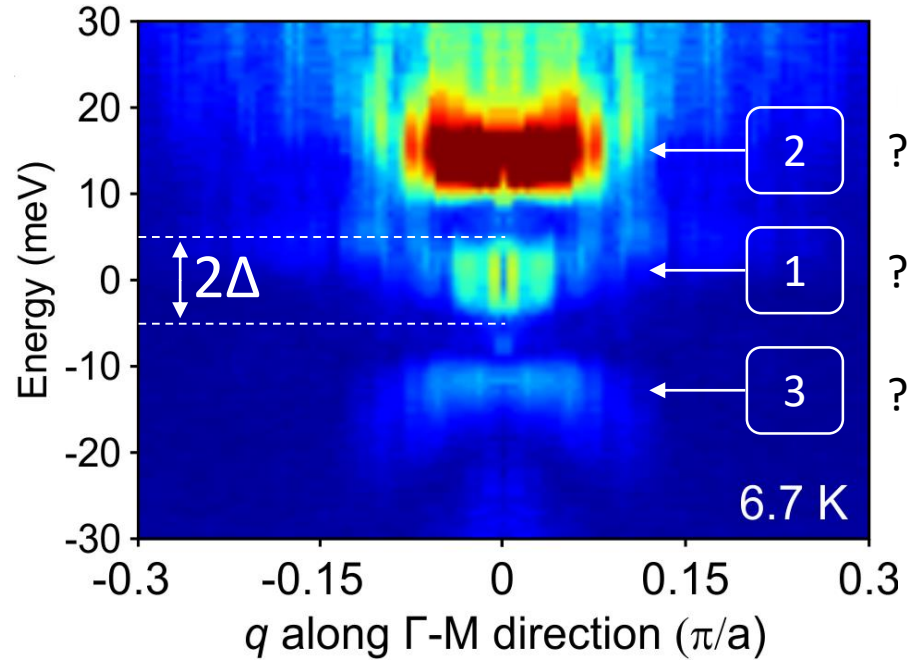
Schlegel, Hess et al., PSSB 2017; Grothe et al., PRB 2012

Energy dependence



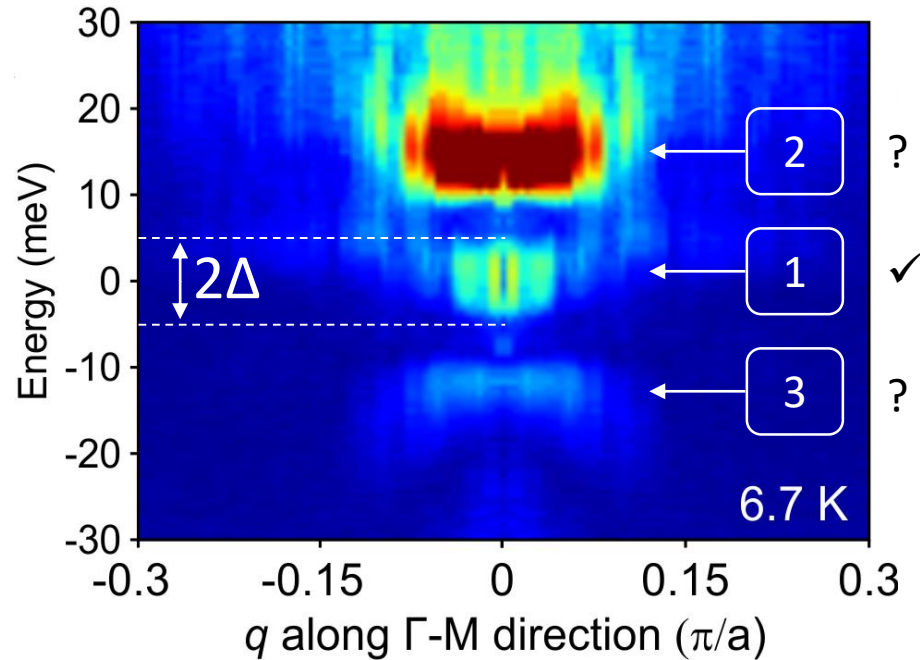
Energy-momentum dependence

T = 6.7 K



Energy-momentum dependence

$T = 6.7 \text{ K}$



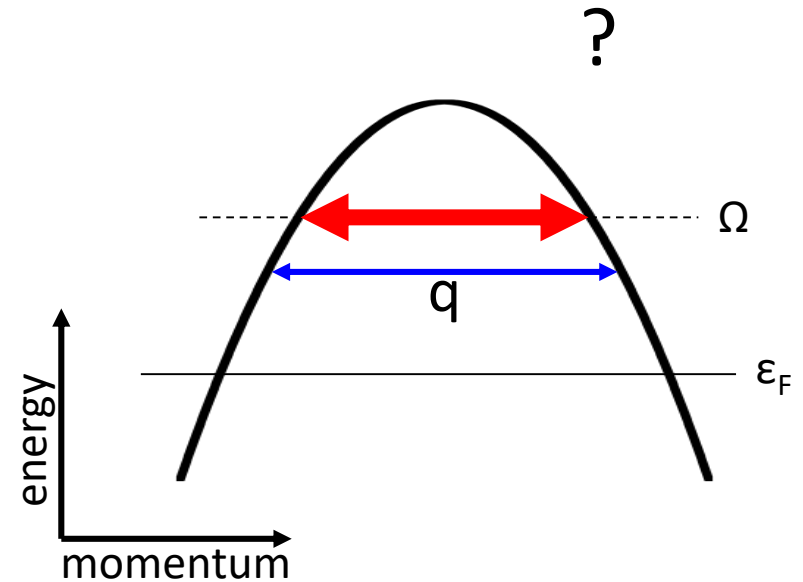
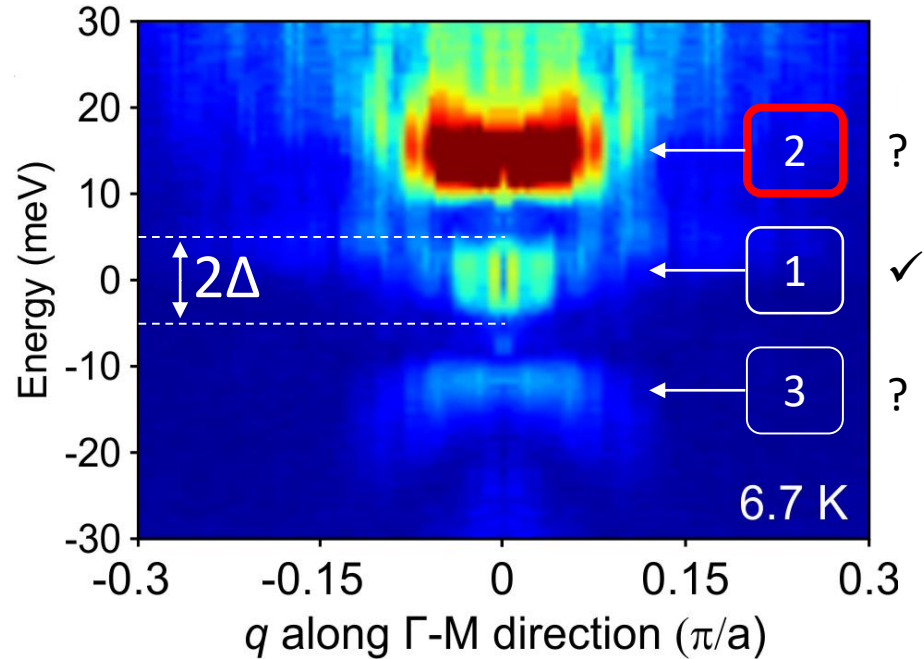
1

Impurity bound states¹

¹Schlegel, Hess et al., Phys. Stat. Sol. B 2017

Boson-assisted scattering?

$T = 6.7 \text{ K}$



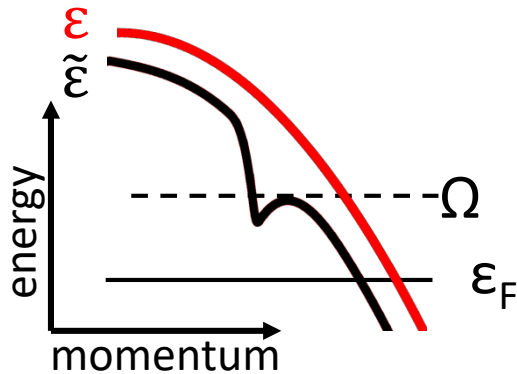
1

Impurity bound states¹

¹Schlegel, Hess et al., Phys. Stat. Sol. B 2017

Boson-assisted scattering

Electron-boson coupling

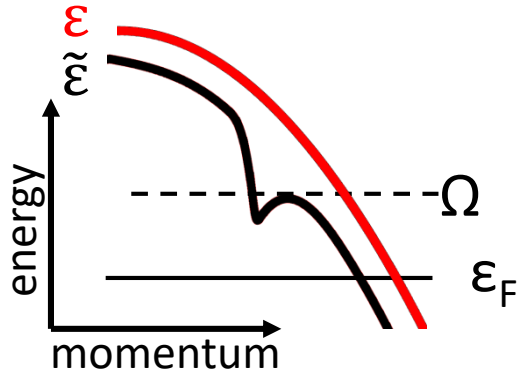


Well established: Band energy renormalization

$$\epsilon \rightarrow \tilde{\epsilon}$$

Boson-assisted scattering

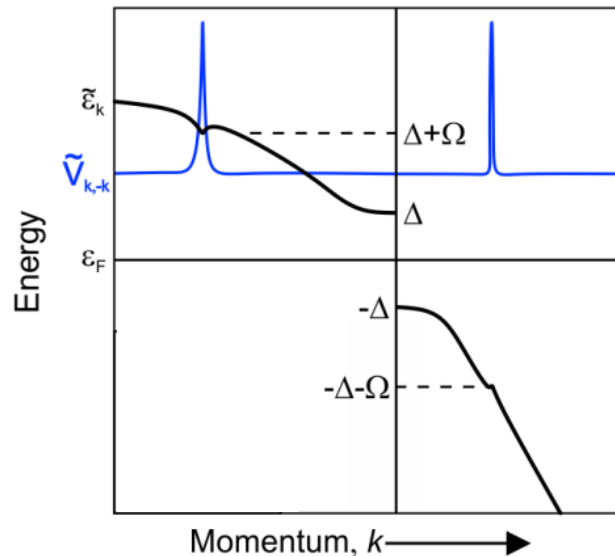
Electron-boson coupling



Well established: Band energy renormalization

$$\varepsilon \rightarrow \tilde{\varepsilon}$$

Here: consider electron **scattering** (Friedel Oscillation)

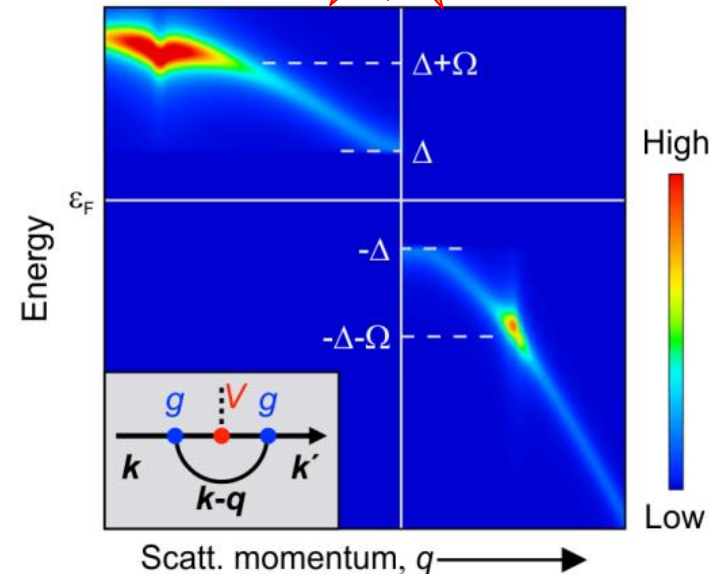


Scattering potential

$$V \rightarrow \tilde{V}$$

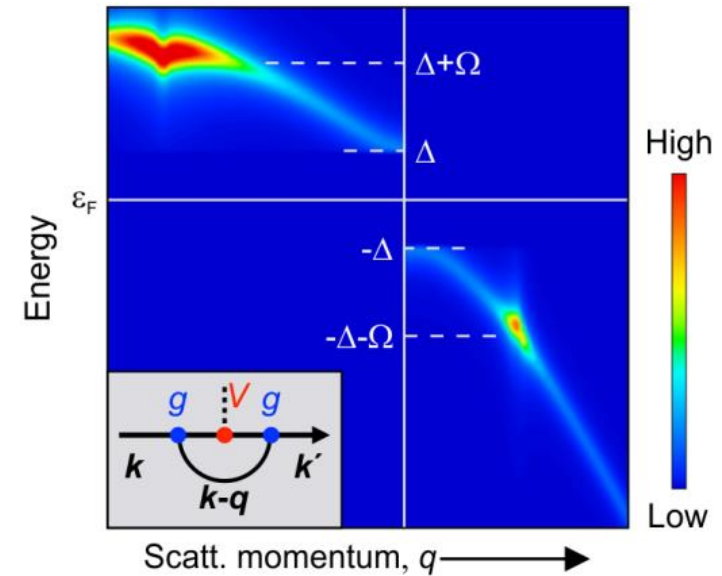
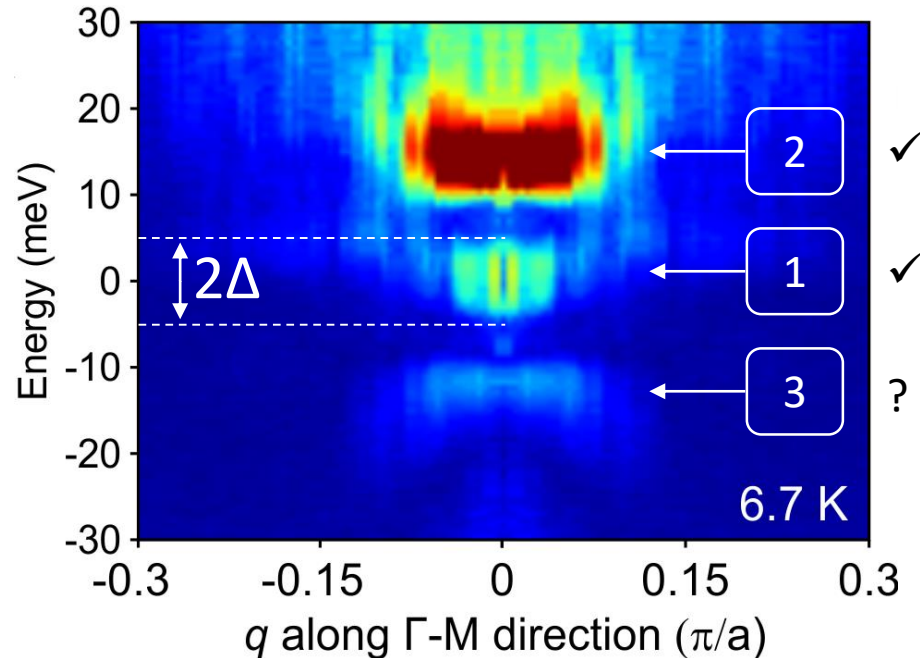
**Resonant
enhancement!**

Theory: Steffen Sykora



Resonantly enhanced Friedel oscillations

Superconducting State – 6.7 K



1

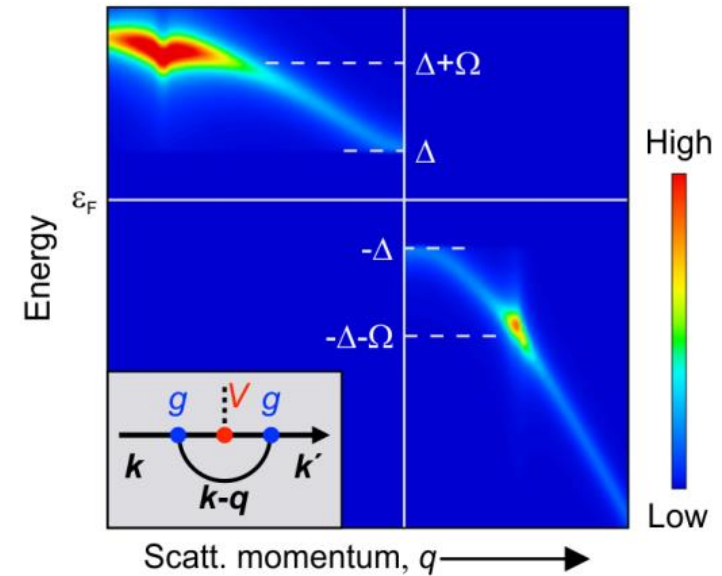
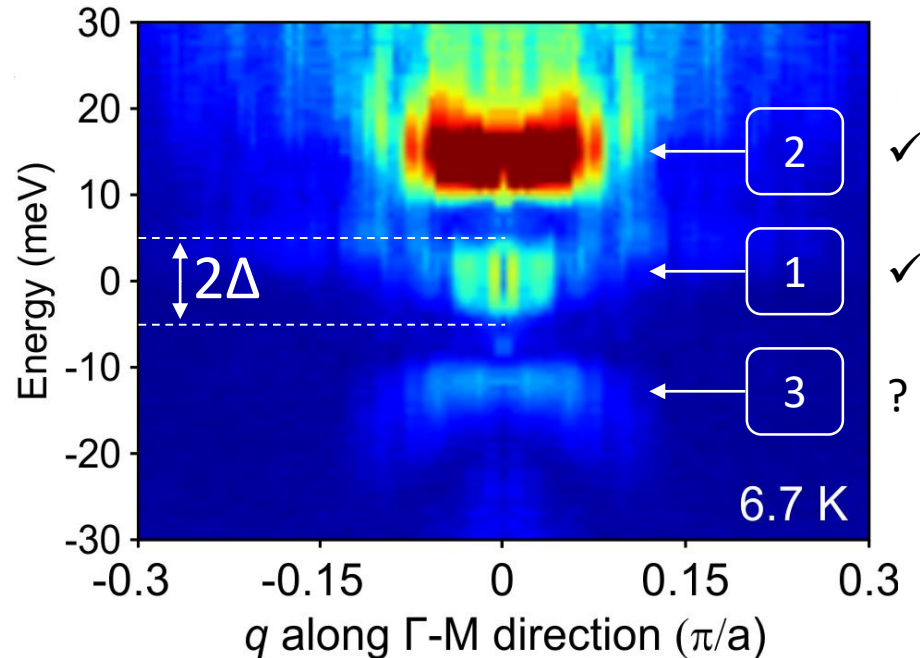
Impurity bound states

2

Resonant peak \rightarrow **Boson** at $\Delta + \Omega \approx 14$ meV, $q \approx 0$

Check: signature at negative energies?

Superconducting State – 6.7 K



1

Impurity bound states

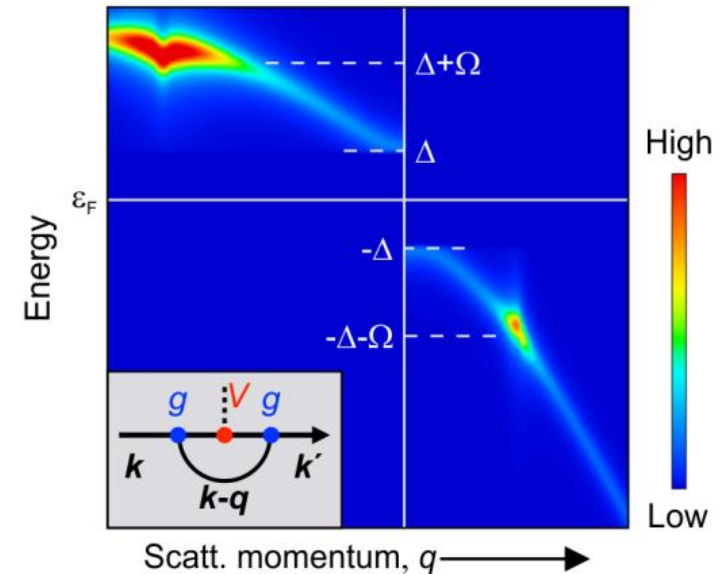
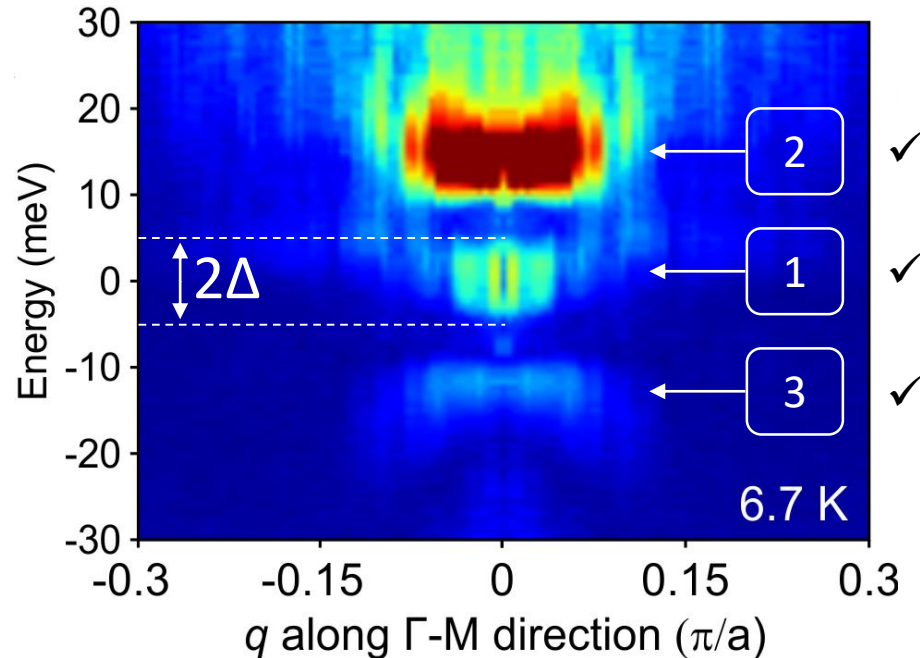
2

Resonant peak \rightarrow **Boson** at $\Delta + \Omega \approx 14$ meV, $q \approx 0$

Prediction: Signature at $-\Delta - \Omega$

Check: signature at negative energies?

Superconducting State – 6.7 K



1

Impurity bound states

2

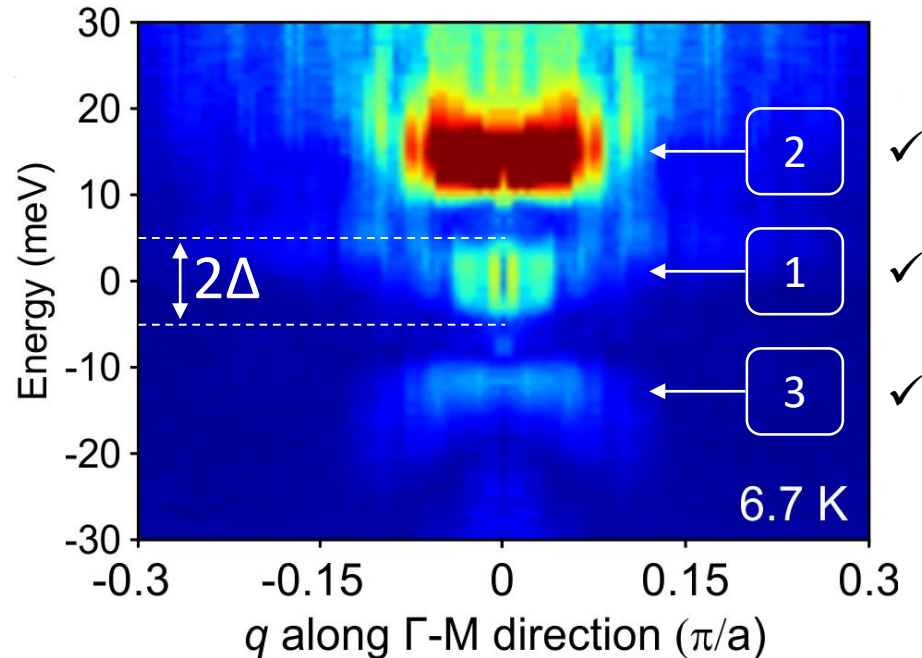
Resonant peak \rightarrow **Boson** at $\Delta + \Omega \approx 14$ meV, $q \approx 0$

3

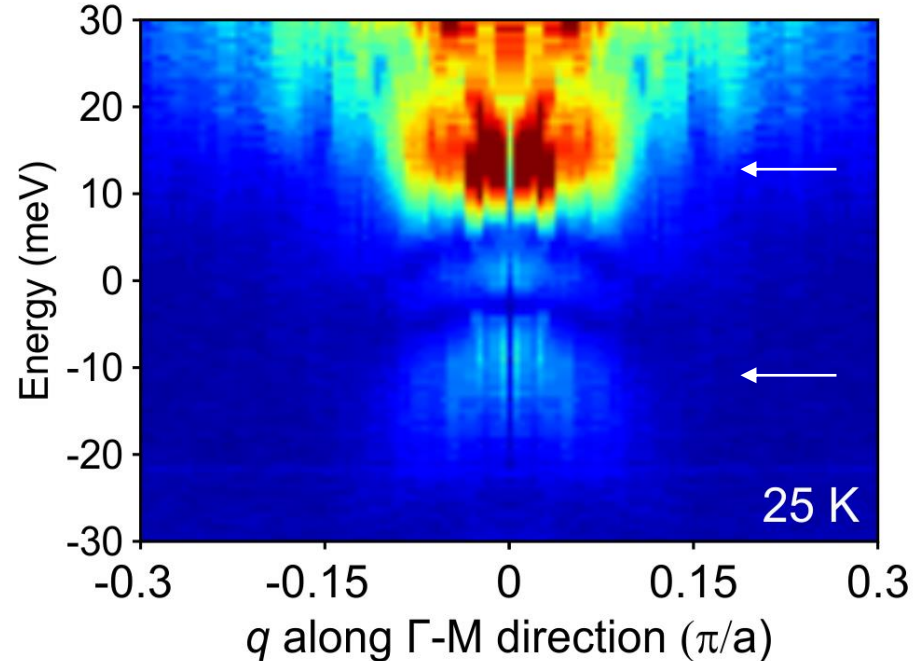
Resonant peak \rightarrow **Boson** at $-\Delta - \Omega \approx -14$ meV, $q \approx 0$

Superconducting vs. Normal State

Superconducting State – 6.7 K



Normal State – 25 K



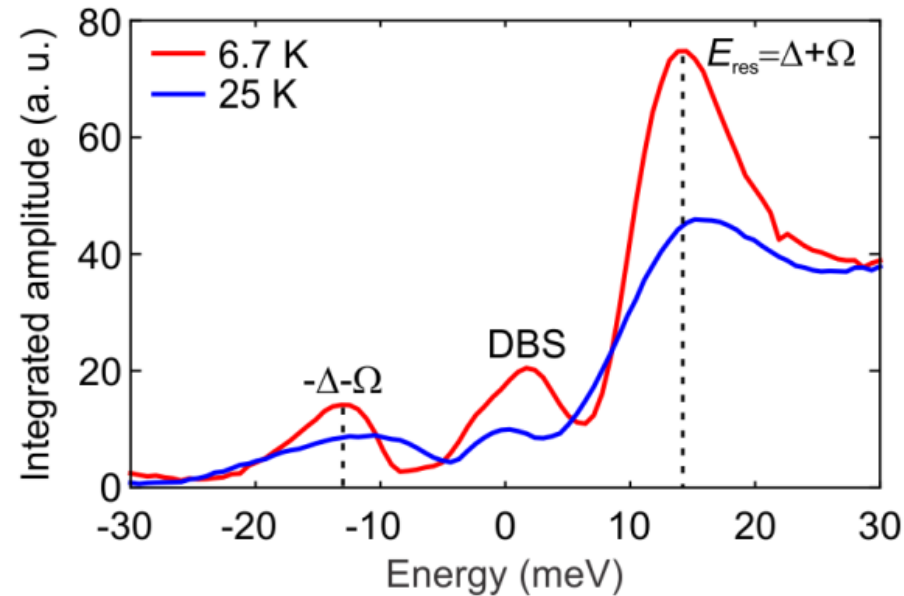
Resonance at ~14 meV persists!

*

* Spin orbit split bands ($\lambda \sim 10$ meV) yield similar shift in normal state as Δ in SC state

Friedel oscillations vs. dI/dU

Integration for $q < 0.1\pi/a$



$$\Delta + \Omega \approx 14 \text{ meV}$$

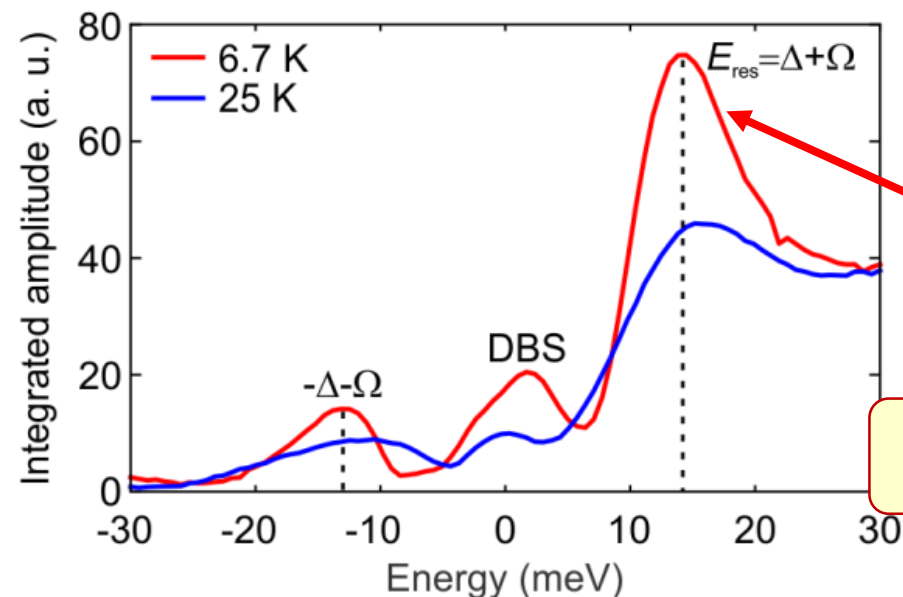
$$\Delta \approx 6 \text{ meV}$$

$$\Omega \approx 8 \text{ meV}$$

Check tunneling spectra...

Friedel oscillations vs. dI/dU

Integration for $q < 0.1\pi/a$



Match!

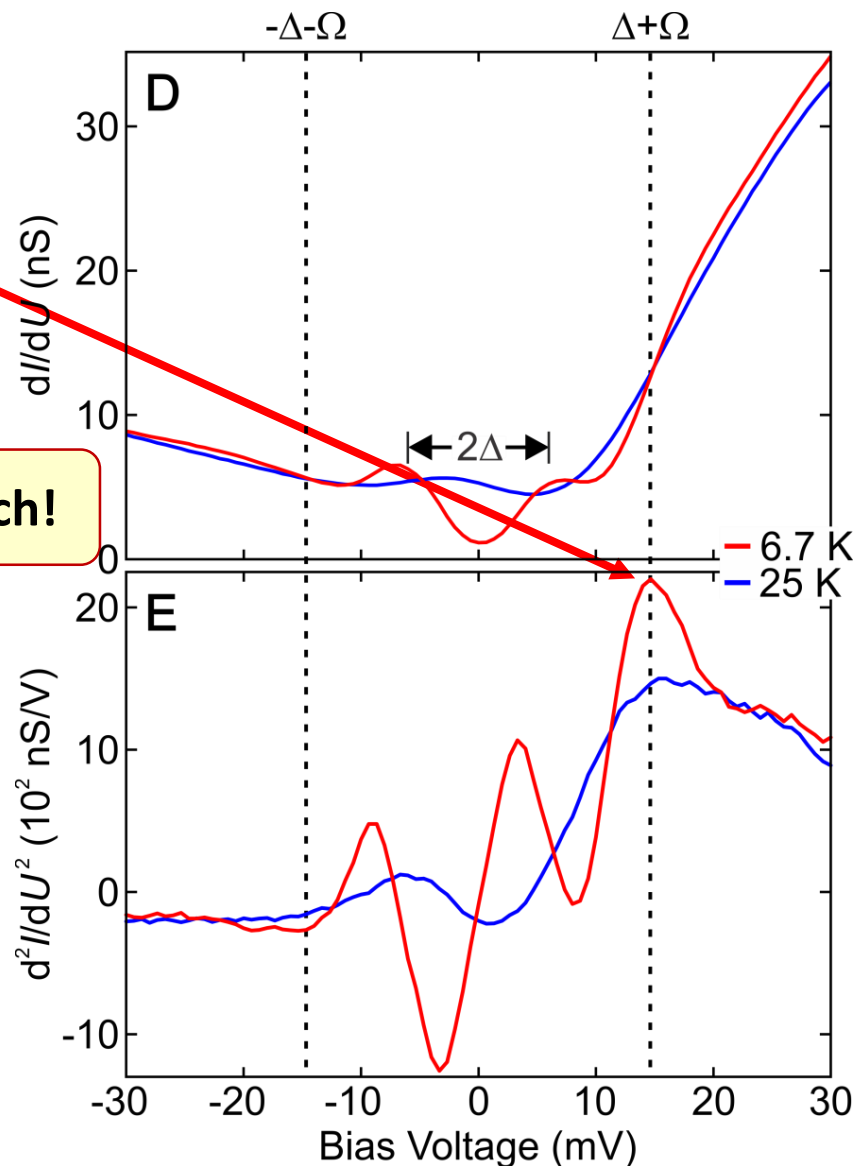
$$\Delta + \Omega \approx 14 \text{ meV}$$

$$\Delta \approx 6 \text{ meV}$$

$$\Omega \approx 8 \text{ meV}$$

Check tunneling spectra...

dI/dU away from impurities



Conclusions

Electron-boson coupling \longrightarrow Enhanced Friedel oscillations

New probe: **energy and momentum** of renormalized states

Conclusions

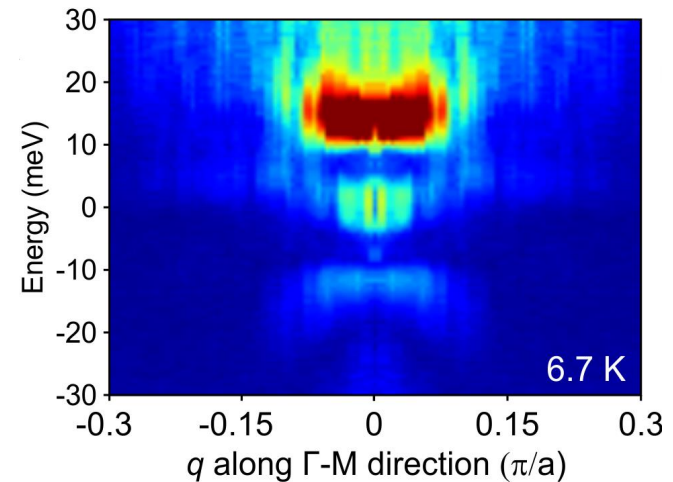
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New probe: **energy and momentum** of renormalized states

Here: LiFeAs
 $\Omega \approx 8$ meV, $q \approx 0$



New constraints for pairing models



AF spin fluctuations

Mazin, PRL 2008

Wang et al., PRB 2013

Ahn et al., PRB 2014

Yin, Nat. Phys. 2014

Orbital (nematic) fluct.

Kontani & Onari, PRL 2010

Saito et al., PRB 2014, PRB 2015

Small-q spin fluct.

Brydon et al., PRB 2011

Conclusions

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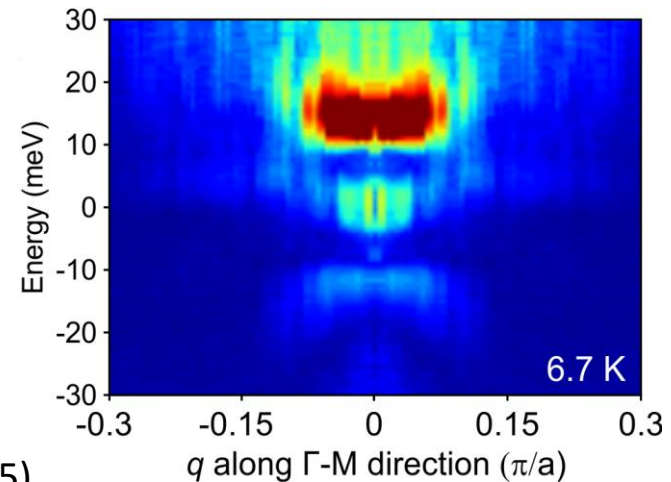
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*Optical Spec.: Hwang et al., J. Phys. Cond. Mat. 27, 055701 (2015)



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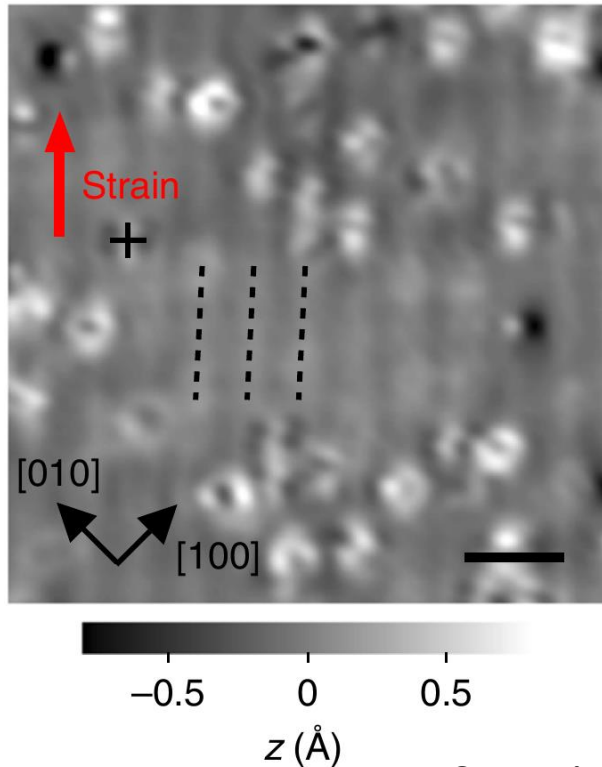
Saito et al., PRB 2014, PRB 2015

Small-q spin fluct.

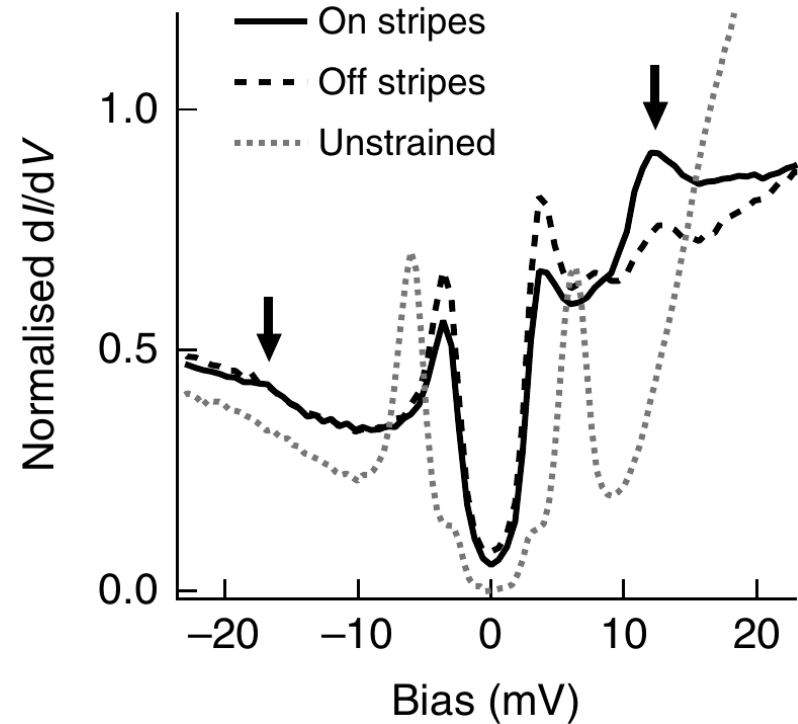
Brydon et al., PRB 2011

Strained LiFeAs

Topography



Spectroscopy



C.M. Yim et al., Nat. Comm. 9, 2602 (2018)

- Suppressed leading gap Δ
- Global appearance of resonance peak
- Stripe order

Conclusions

Electron-boson coupling \longrightarrow Enhanced Friedel oscillations

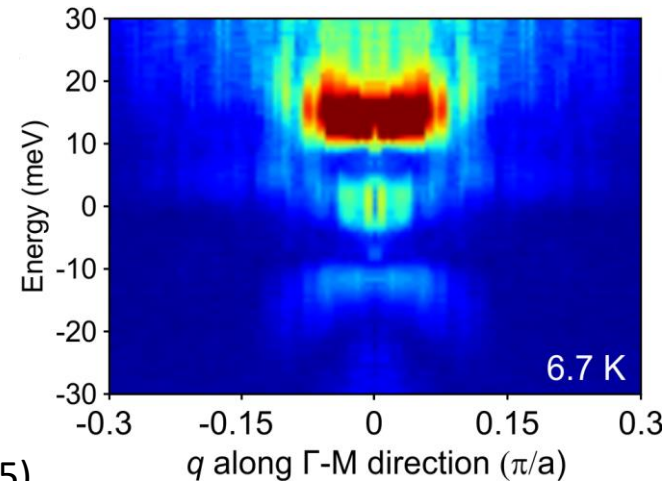
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