

# **Oriented single crystal photocathodes: A route to high-quality electron pulses**

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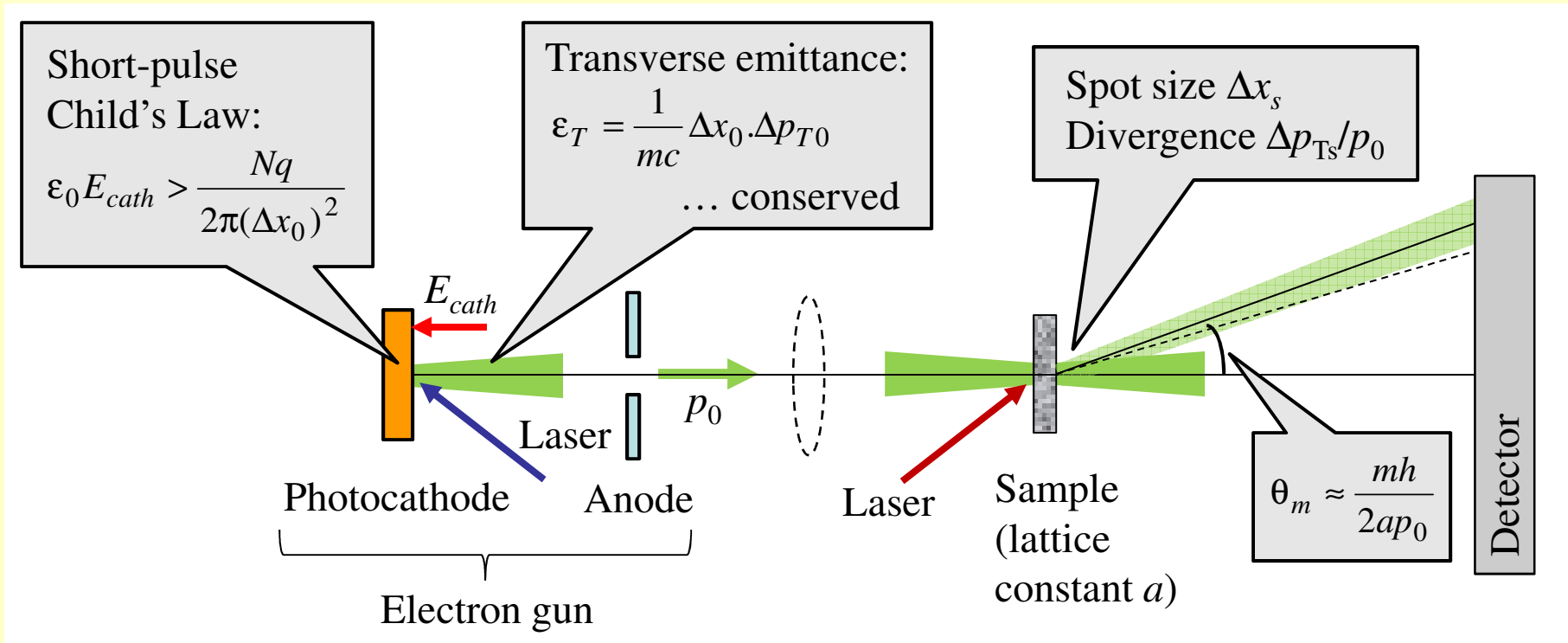
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Department of Energy, NNSA  
DE-FG52-09NA29451

# UED: Resolution Limit

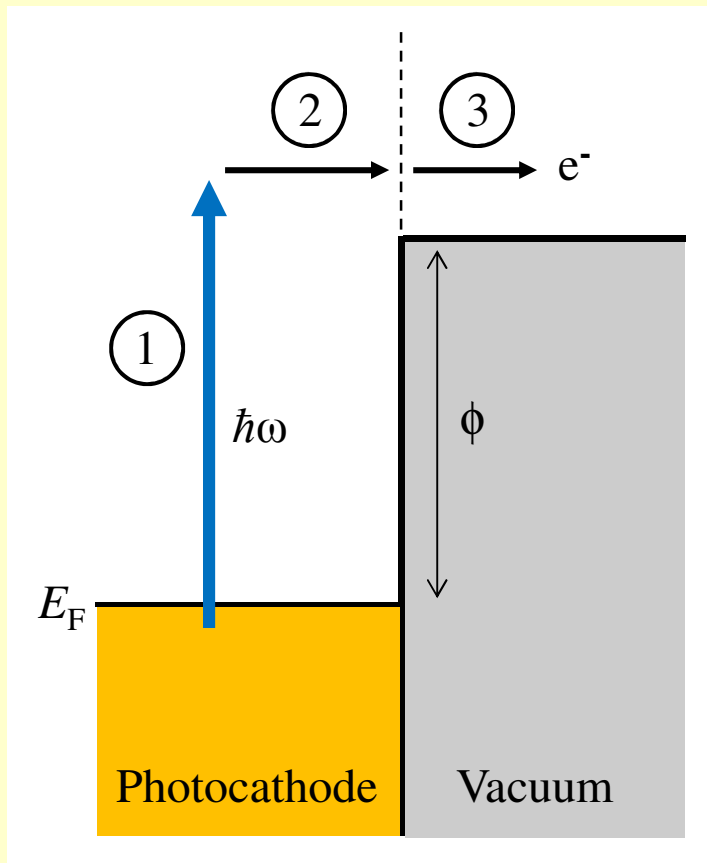
– Non-relativistic regime



$$\Rightarrow \text{Observable } \frac{\delta a}{a} \geq \frac{\xi}{mh} \left( \frac{a}{\Delta x_s} \right) \sqrt{\frac{2Nq}{\pi\epsilon_0 E_{cath}}} \cdot \Delta p_{T0} ; \text{ with } \Delta p_{T0} = \sqrt{\frac{m_0(\hbar\omega - \phi)}{3}} \quad ??$$

# Photoemission Theory I

– The semi-classical three-step ‘Spicer’ model



1. Photoexcitation
2. Transport to surface
3. Emission from surface

- Transport  $\Rightarrow$  **Real** electronic band  
 $\therefore$  Photoexcitation into upper state near vacuum level
- Emission from upper excited state  
 $\Rightarrow$  High quantum efficiency ( $\eta_{PE}$ )  
**AND**  
Response time  $\approx$  Lifetime (ps-ns)

$\therefore$  **NOT** suitable for UED

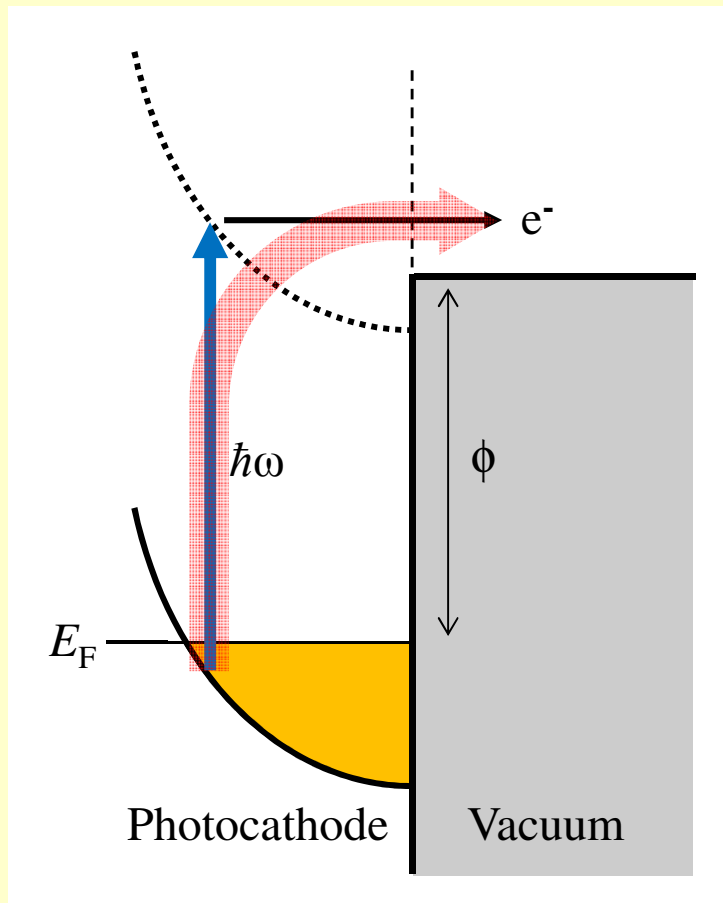
Examples: NEA GaAs, KCsSb, GaSb, diamond, Cu(111)?

C.N. Berglund & W.E. Spicer, *Phys. Rev.* **136**, A1030-A1044 (1964)

P.J. Feibelman & D.E. Eastman, *Phys. Rev. B* **10**, 4932-4947 (1974)

# Photoemission Theory II

– The ‘quantum mechanical’ one-step model



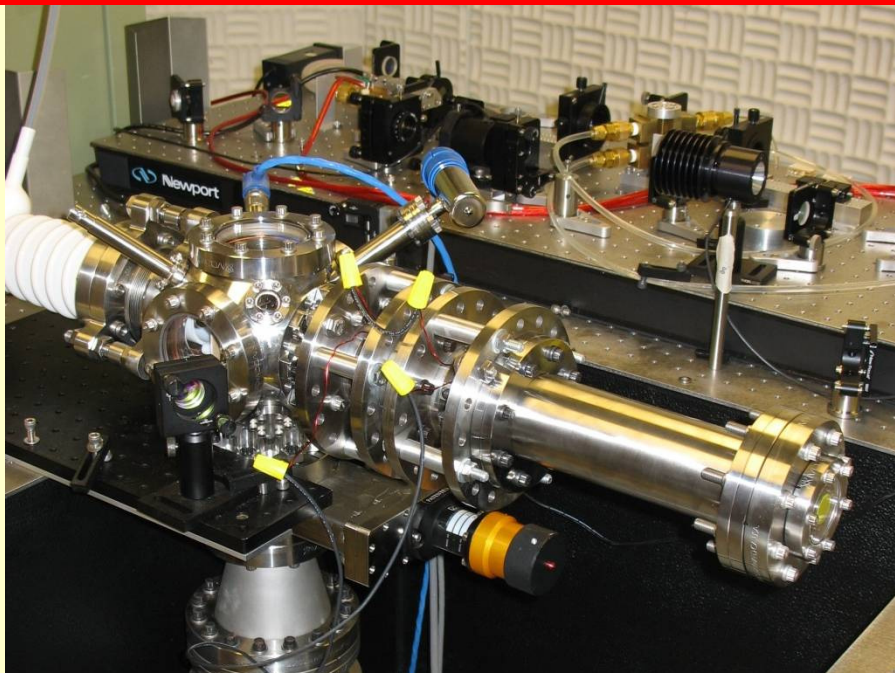
Photoexcitation into a *virtual* state  
(excited copy of filled band)  
emitting into the vacuum in one step

- Low  $\eta_{\text{PE}} \sim 10^{-5}$  to  $10^{-7}$
- ‘Instantaneous’ emission process

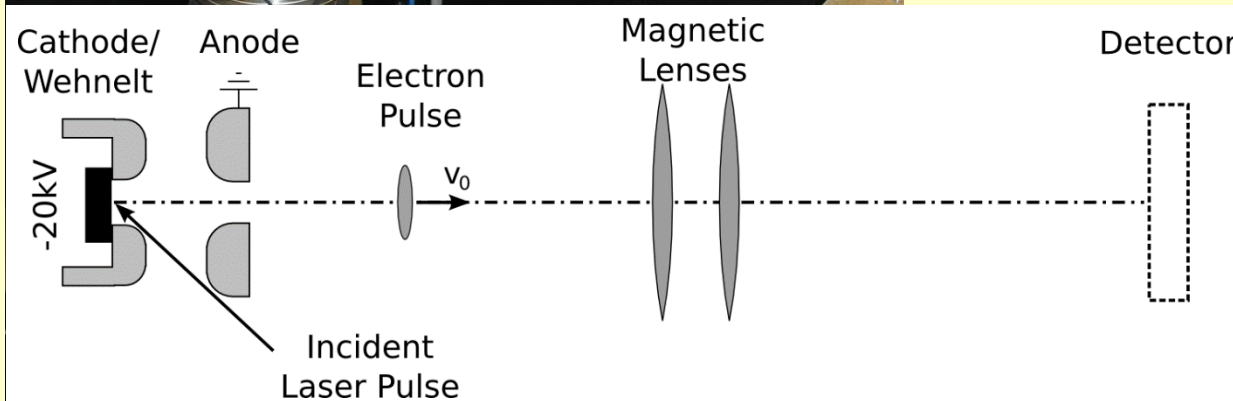
Suitable for UED

Examples: Most metals

# Experiment: Solenoid Scan

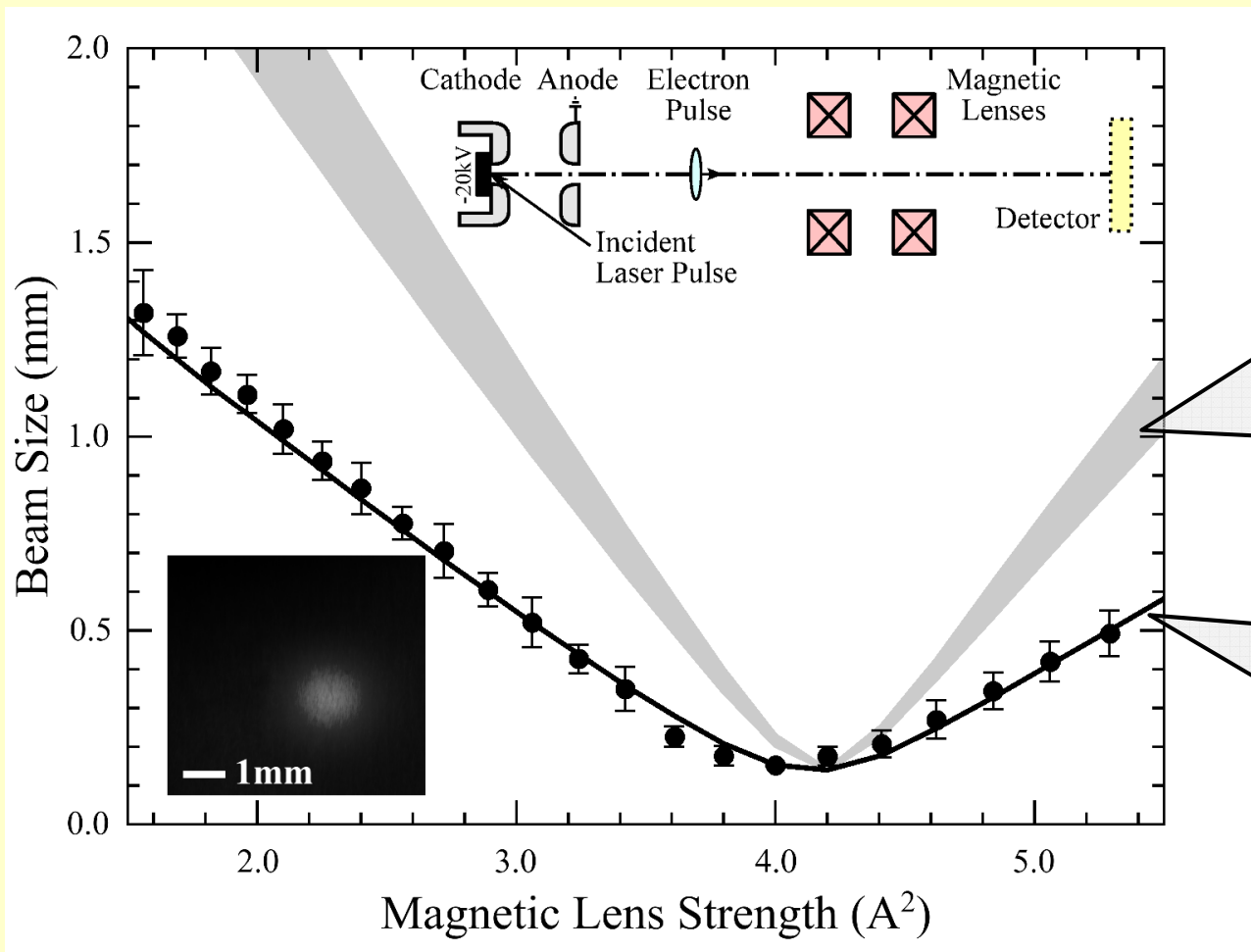


- 2W, 250fs, 63MHz , diode-pumped Yb:KGW laser
  - ~4ps at 261nm ( $\hbar\omega = 4.75\text{eV}$ )
- YAG scintillator optically coupled to CCD camera
  - Beam size vs. magnetic coil (lens) current measured
  - Analytical Gaussian (AG) pulse propagation model to extract  $\Delta p_{T0}$



# Results: Polycrystalline Cr

– Solenoid scan measurement



Range for  $\Delta p_T$  from

$$\Delta p_{T0} = \sqrt{\frac{m_0(\hbar\omega - \phi)}{3}}$$

...  $\phi = 4.50(\pm 0.05)\text{eV}$   
and  $\hbar\omega = 4.75\text{eV}$

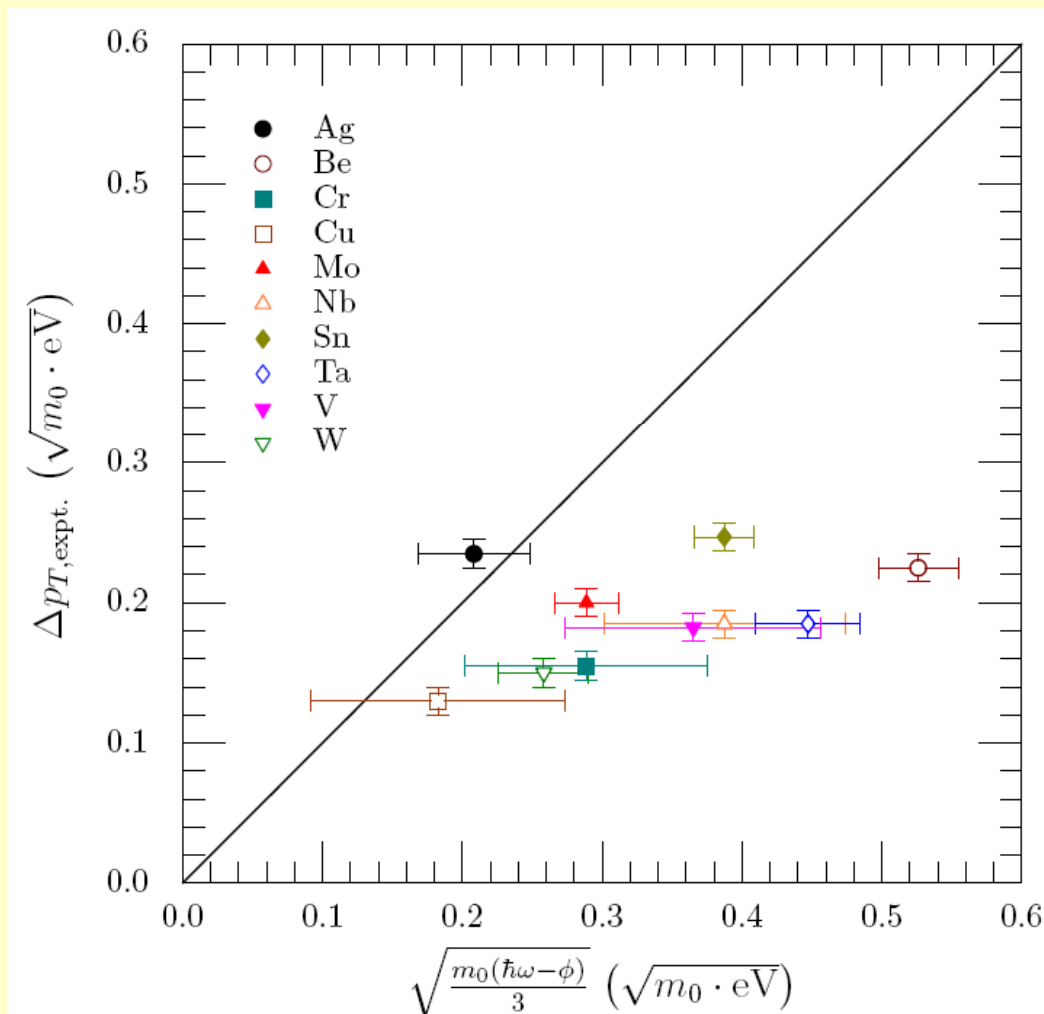
AG model simulation  
of experiment gives

$$\Delta p_{T0} = 0.155(\pm 0.01)$$

$(m_0 \cdot \text{eV})^{1/2}$

# Results: Metals

– Ten *polycrystalline* metal photocathodes



- Only Ag and Cu (noble metals) consistent with

$$\Delta p_{T, \text{expt}} = \Delta p_{T0} = \sqrt{\frac{m_0(\hbar\omega - \phi)}{3}}$$

for others

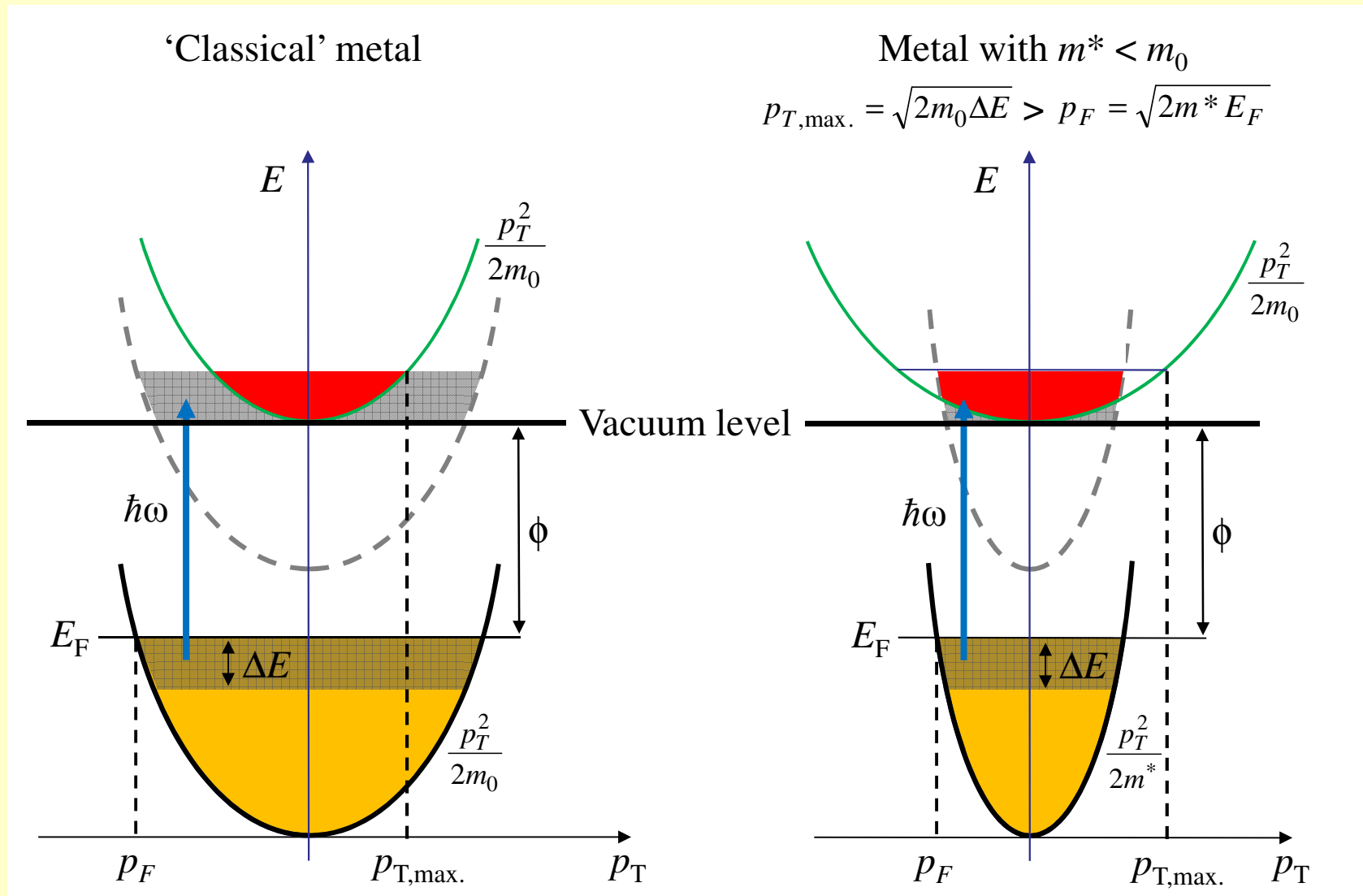
$$\Delta p_{T, \text{expt}} < \sqrt{\frac{m_0(\hbar\omega - \phi)}{3}}$$

⇒ Band structure effects?

– e.g.  $m^* < m_0$

# Band Structure Effects

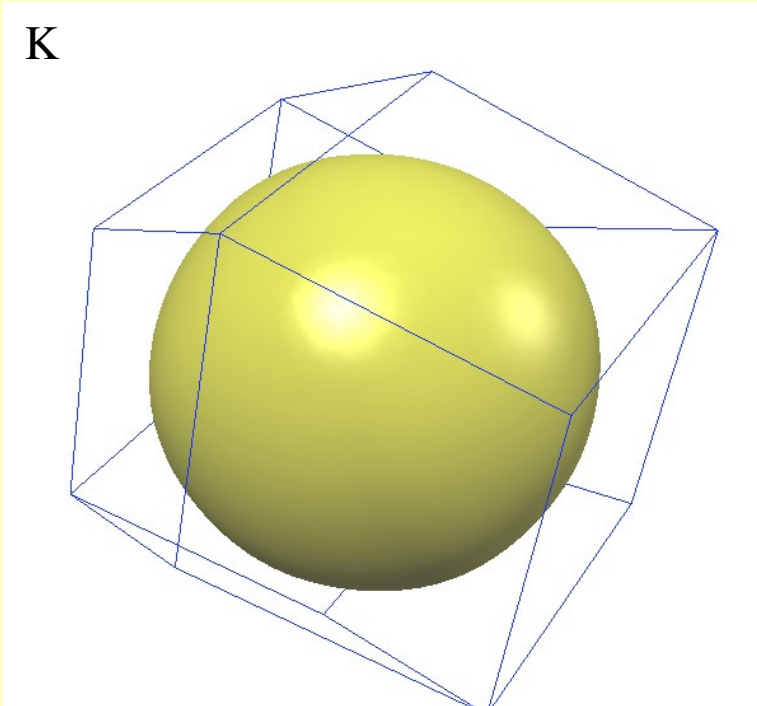
– Transverse momentum  $p_T$  conserved in photoemission





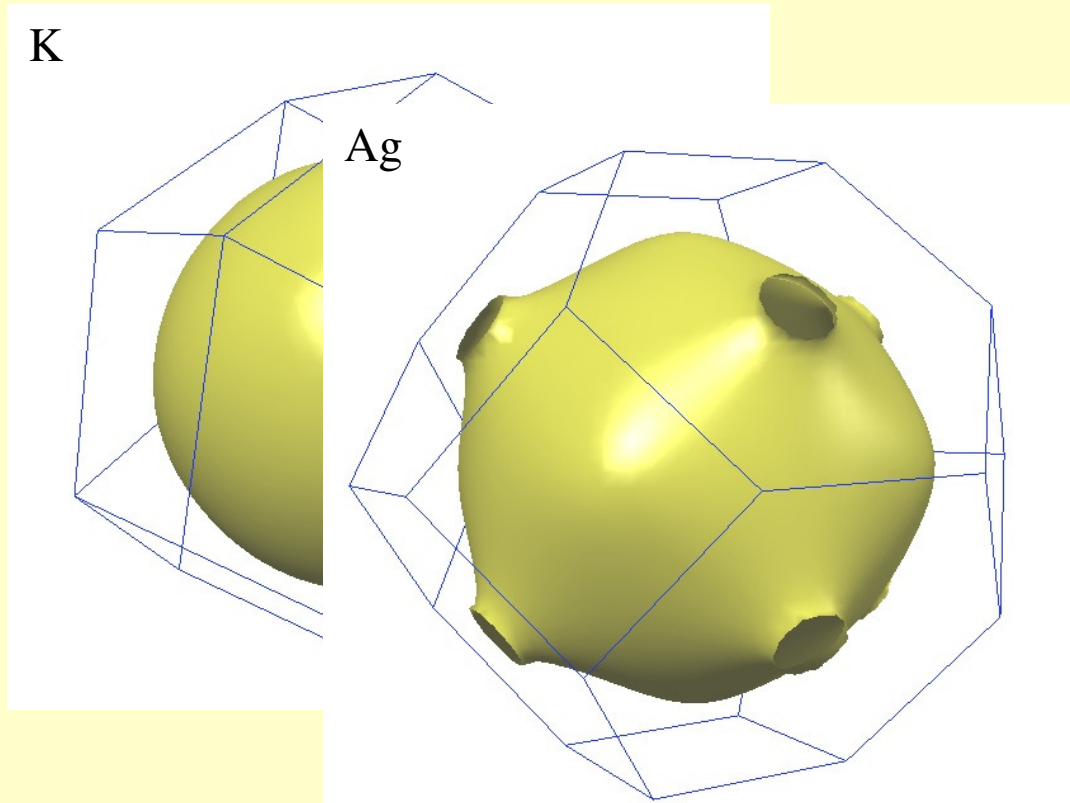
# Fermi Surfaces

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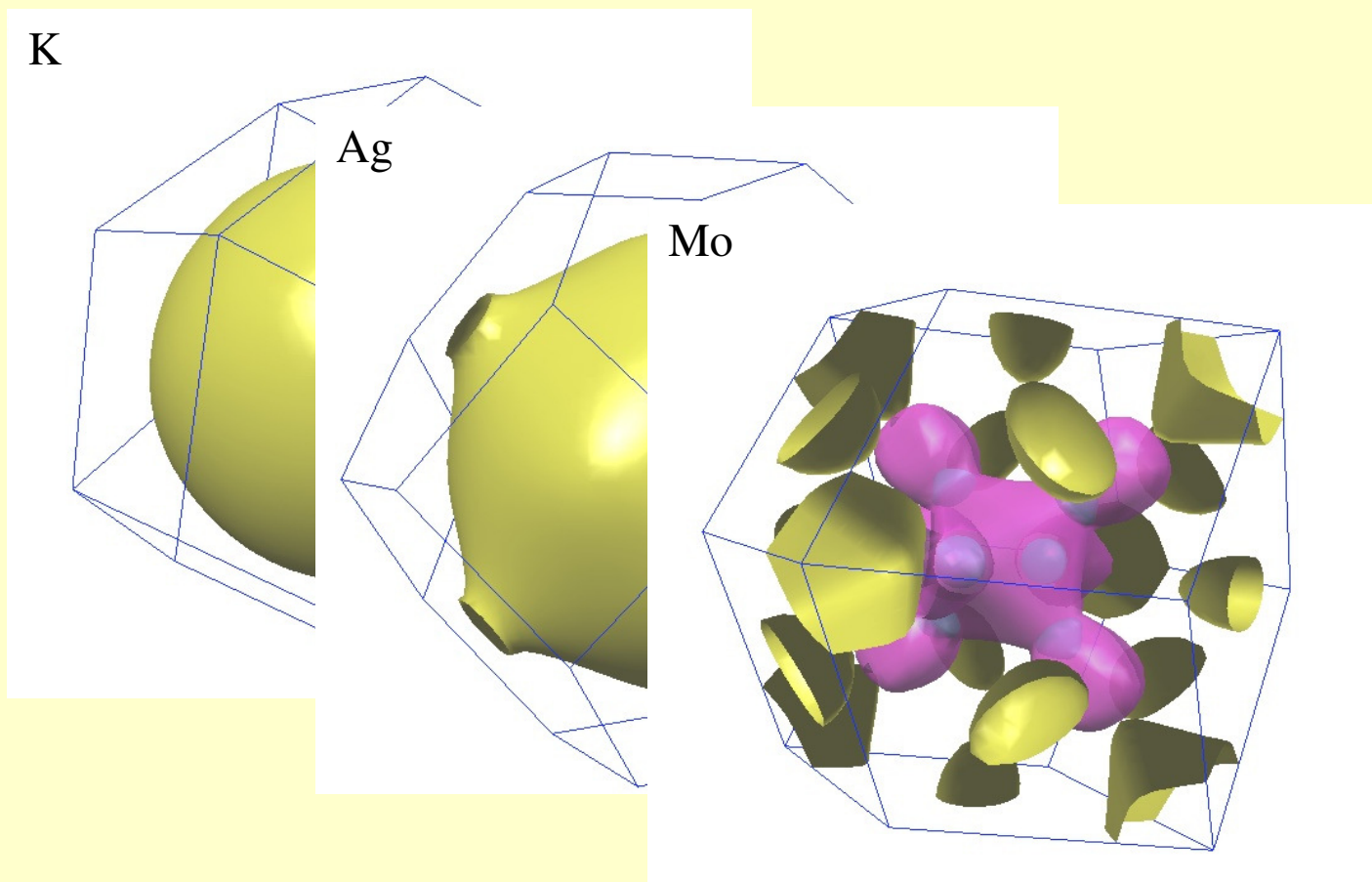


# Fermi Surfaces

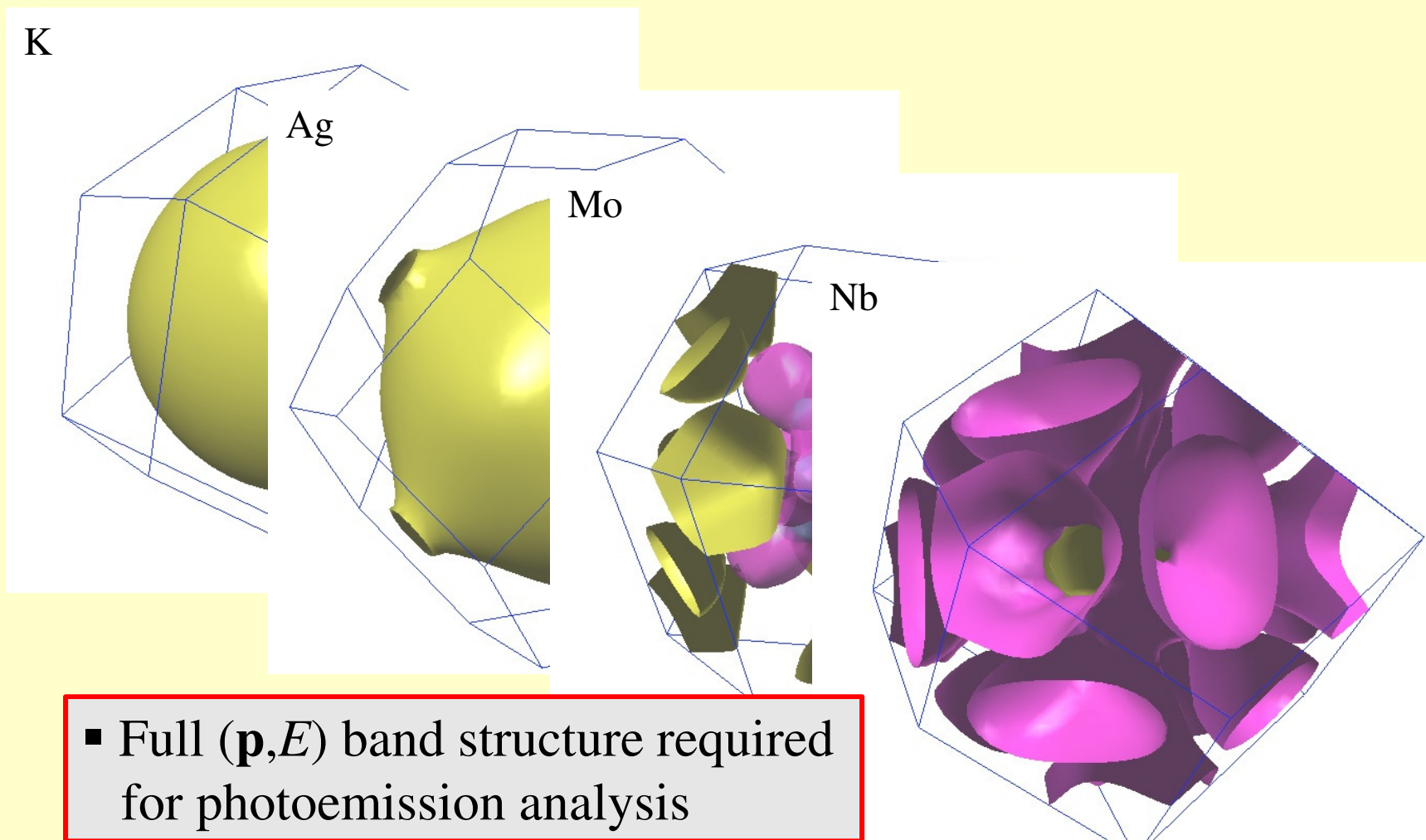
UIC



# Fermi Surfaces

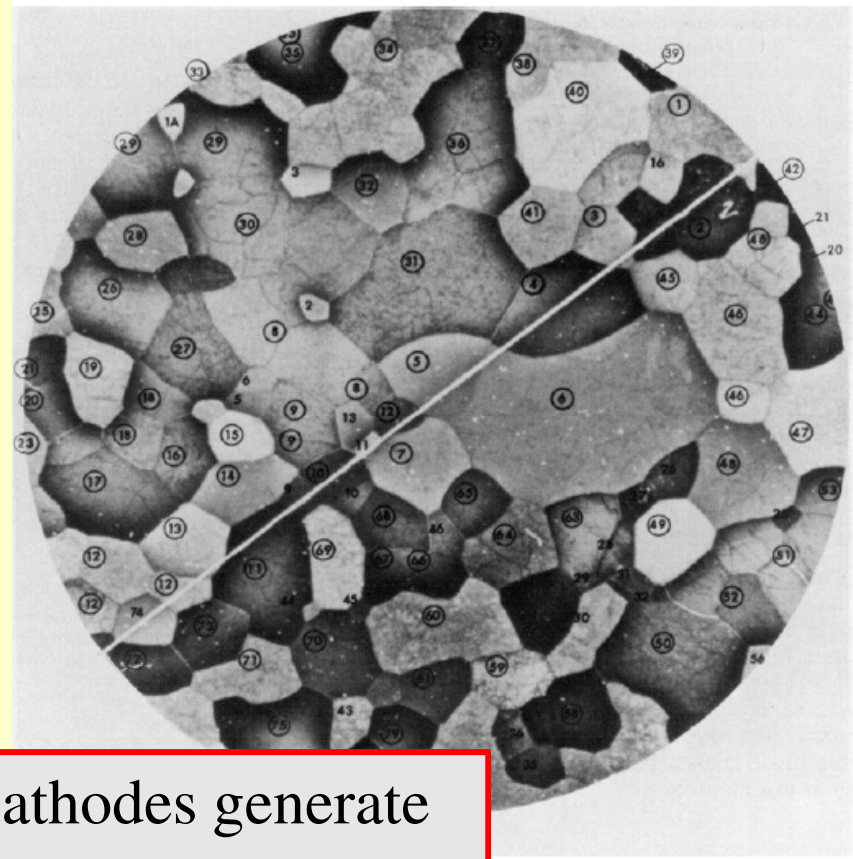
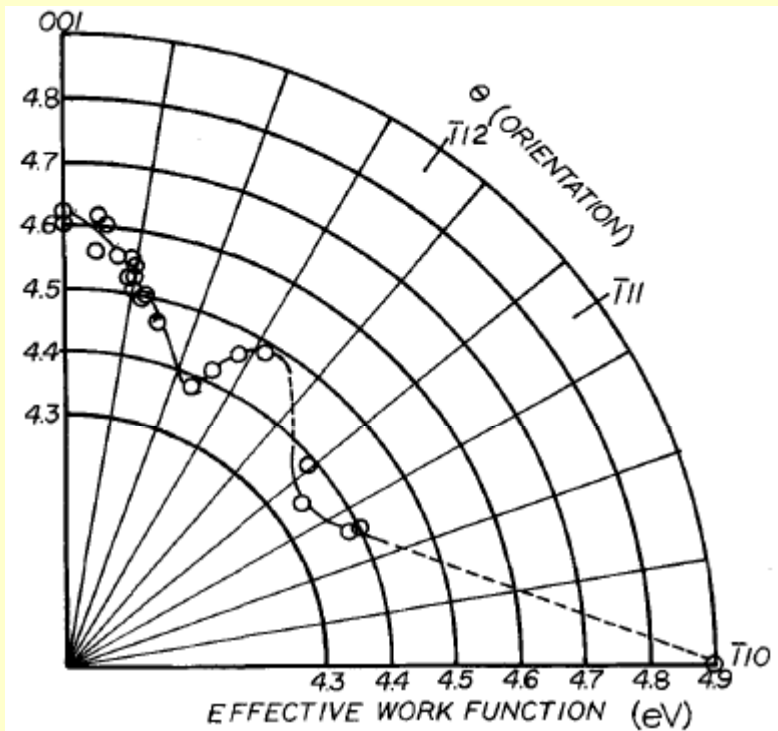


# Fermi Surfaces



# Work Function Anisotropy

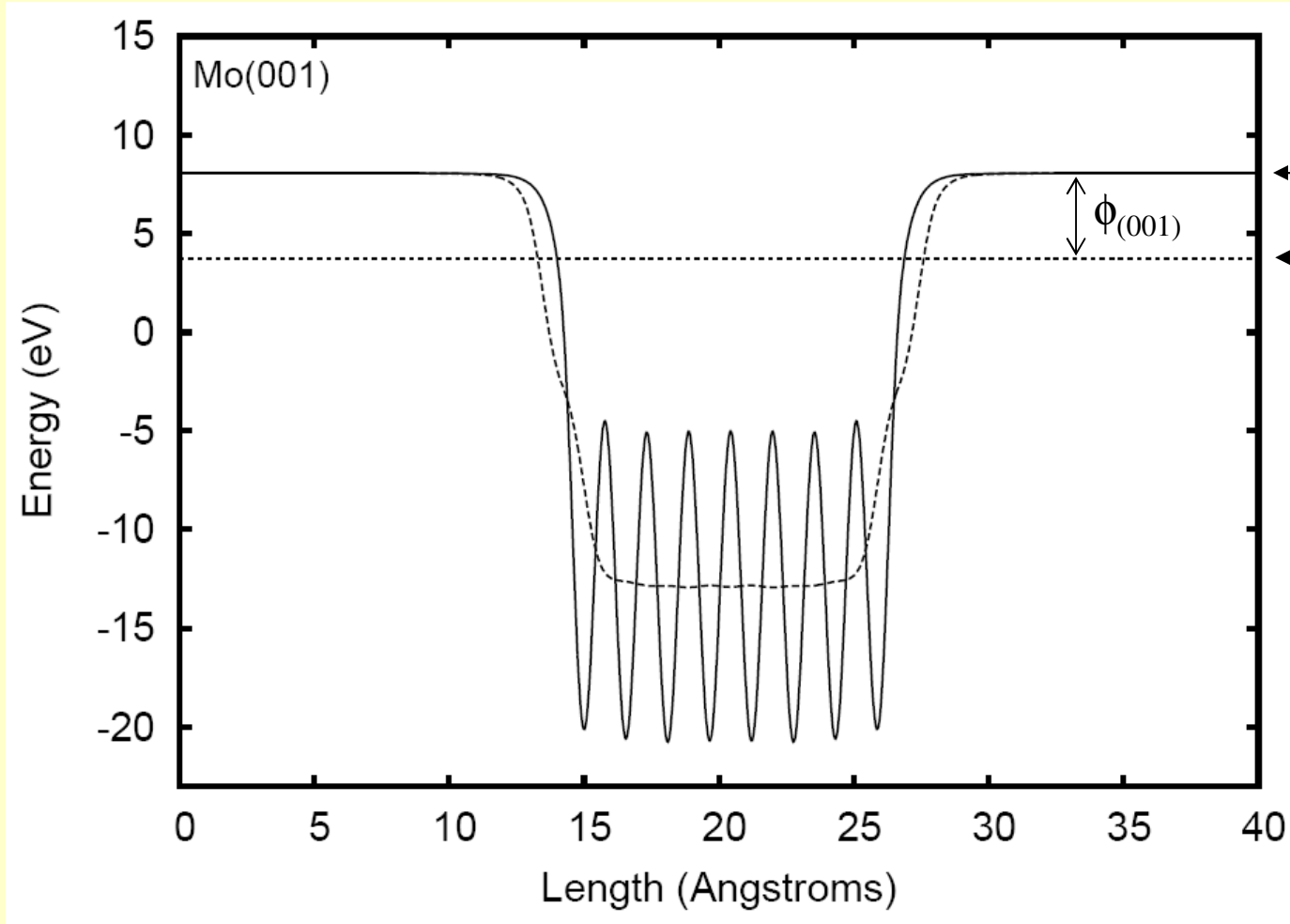
– Example:  $\phi_{(ijk)}$  for Mo by electron emission microscopy



- Polycrystalline metal photocathodes generate *inhomogeneous* electron beams
- Any photoemission analysis *must* include  $\phi_{(ijk)}$

# Thin-slab Evaluation of $\phi_{(ijk)}$

– Example:  $\phi_{(001)} = 4.53(\pm 0.05)\text{eV}$  for Mo



## NOTE

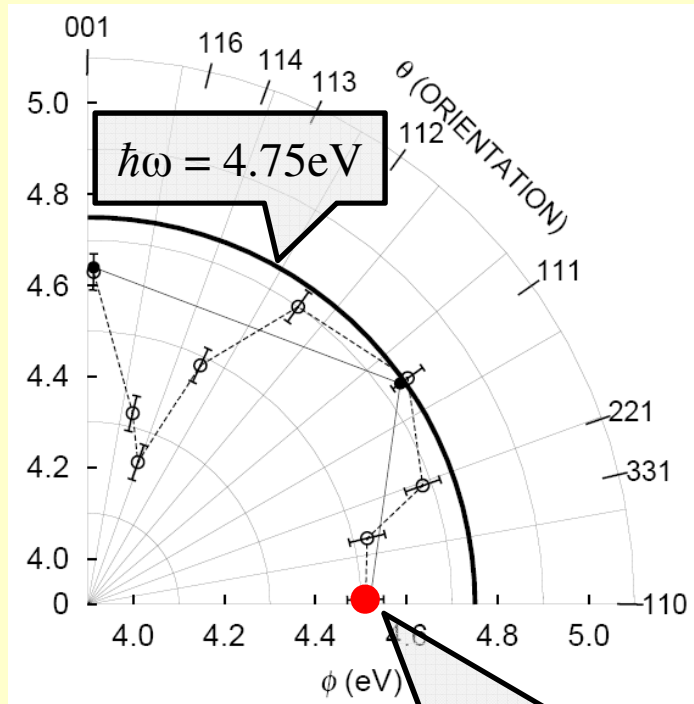
Schottky effect *not* included:

$$\frac{e}{2} \sqrt{\frac{eE_{DC}}{\pi\epsilon_0}} \approx \pm 50\text{meV}$$

uncertainty in  $\phi_{(ijk)}$

# Photoemission Simulation: Ag

– fcc crystal lattice



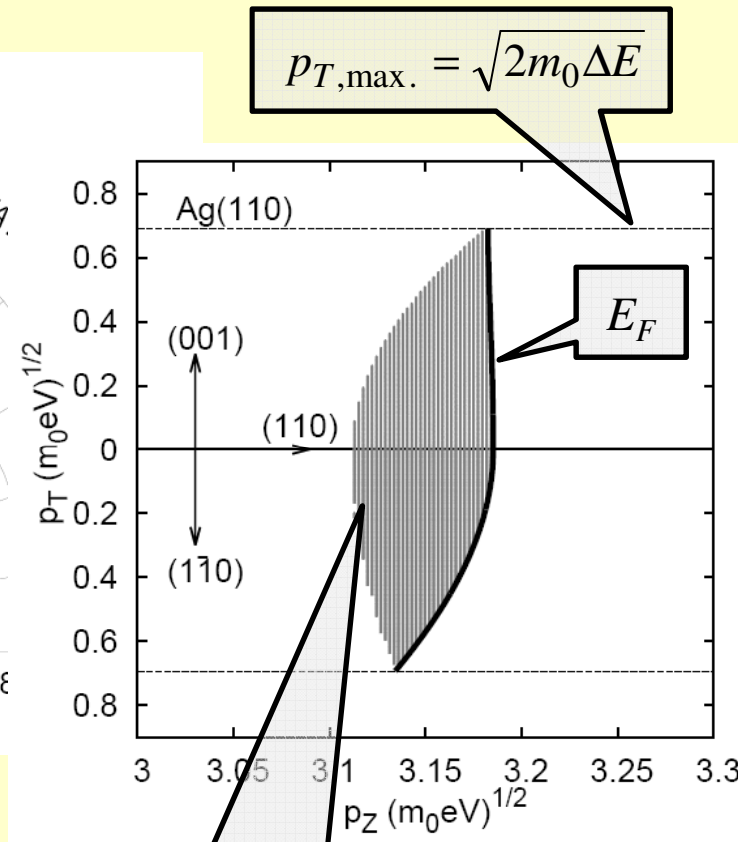
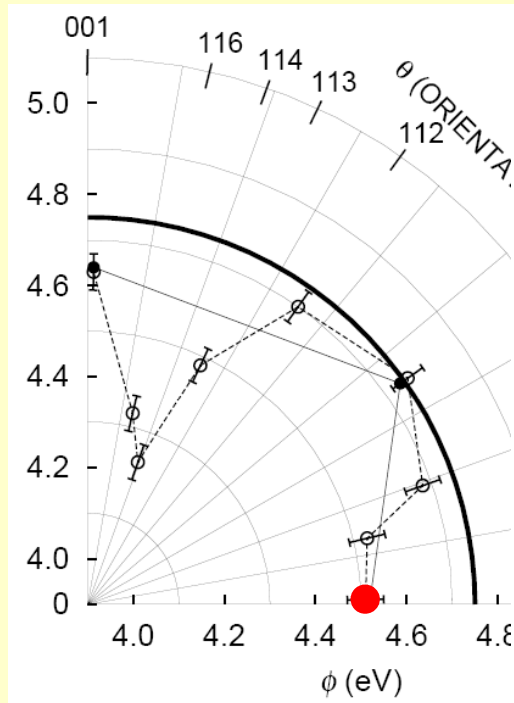
Lowest index face  
with lowest  $\phi_{(ijk)}$

$$\Delta E = \hbar\omega - \phi_{(110)} = 0.23\text{eV}$$

...  $\pm 50\text{meV}$  error in  $\phi_{(ijk)}$

# Photoemission Simulation: Ag

– fcc crystal lattice

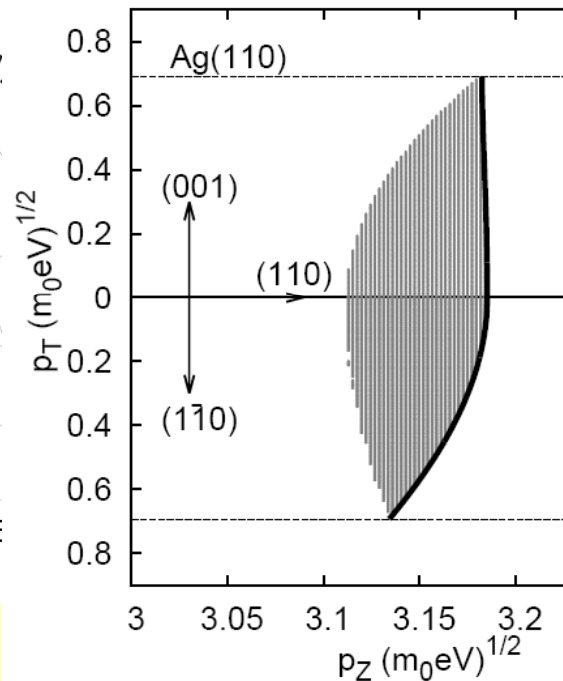
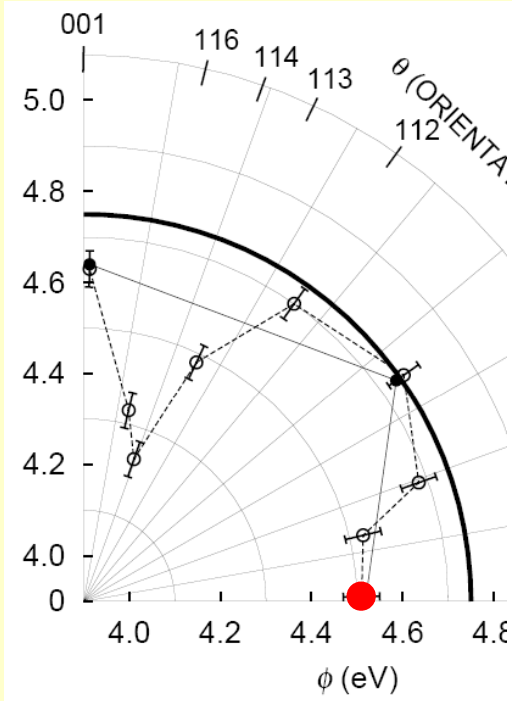


Photoemitting  
electron-like states for  
 $\hbar\omega = 4.75$  eV  
( $\mathbf{p}_T$  and  $E$  conserved)

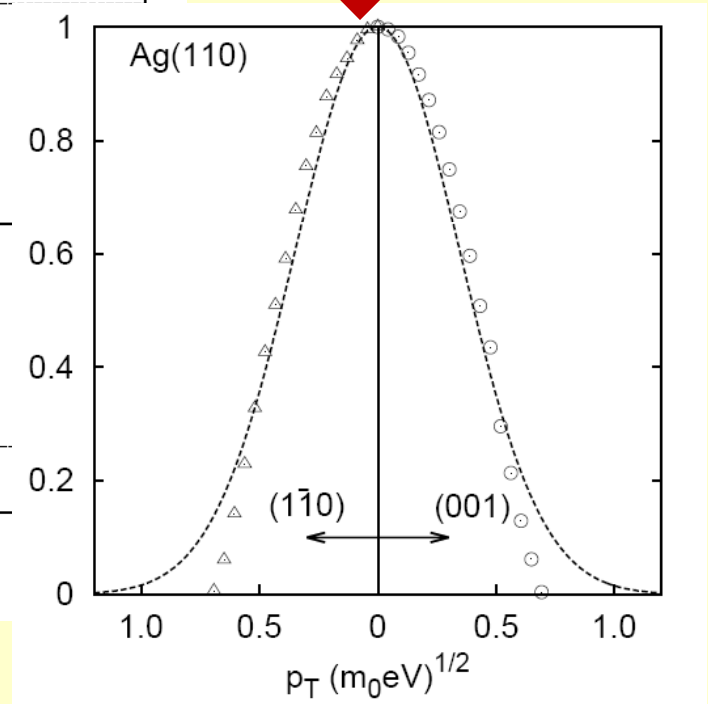


# Photoemission Simulation: Ag

– fcc crystal lattice



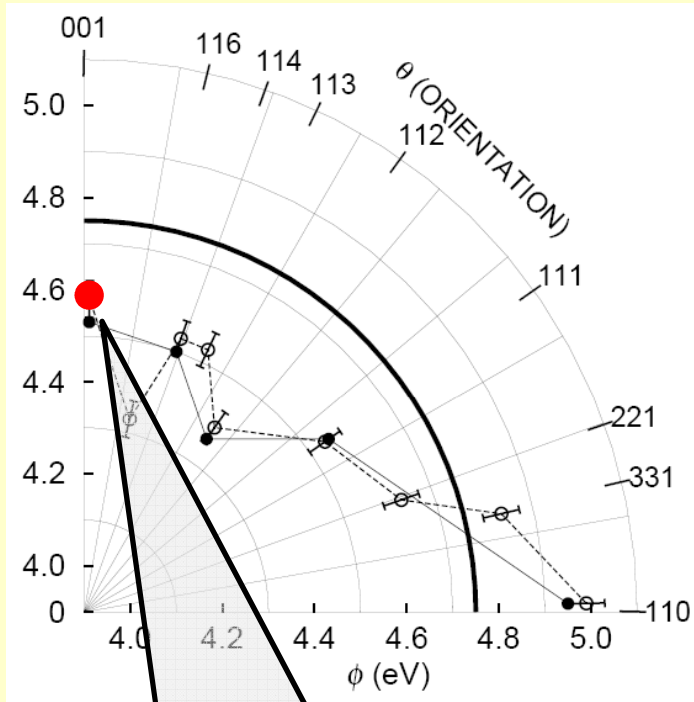
$E, \mathbf{p}_T$  conservation  
PLUS  
Barrier transmission,  $T(p_z, p_{z0})$



Spatially-averaged  
 $\Delta p_{T0} = 0.267 (m_0 \cdot eV)^{1/2}$

# Photoemission Simulation: Mo

– bcc crystal lattice



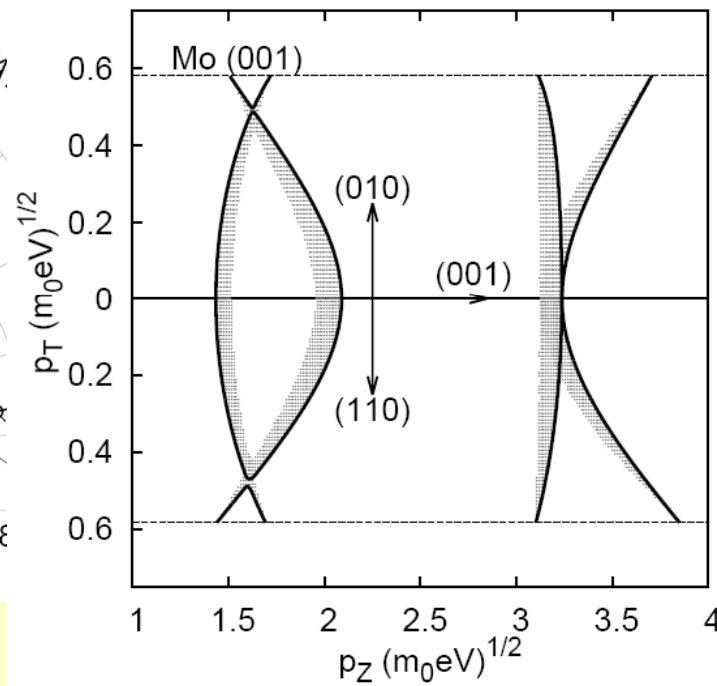
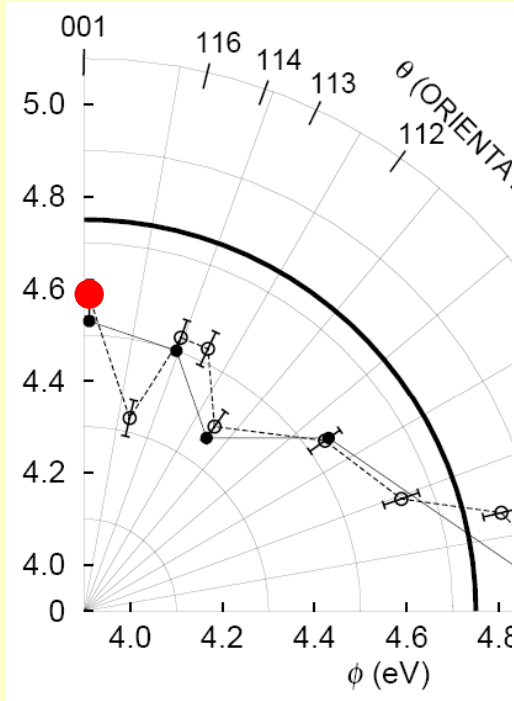
Lowest index face  
with lowest  $\phi_{(ijk)}$

$$\Delta E = \hbar\omega - \phi_{(001)} = 0.22\text{eV}$$

...  $\pm 50\text{meV}$  error in  $\phi_{(ijk)}$

# Photoemission Simulation: Mo

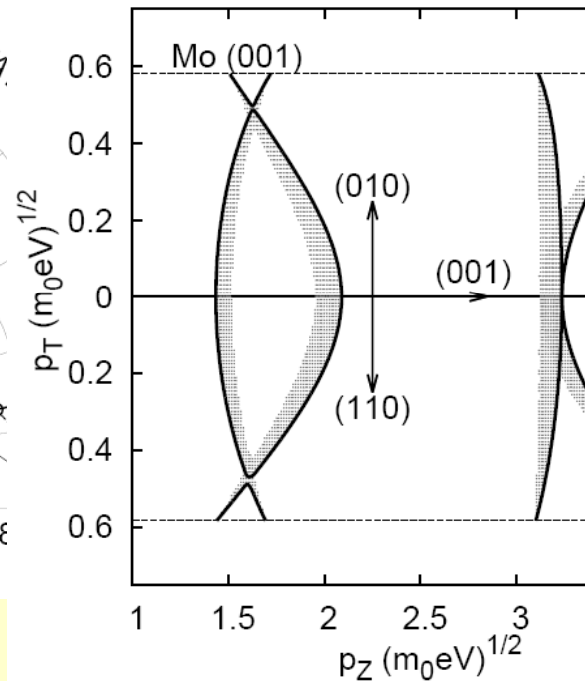
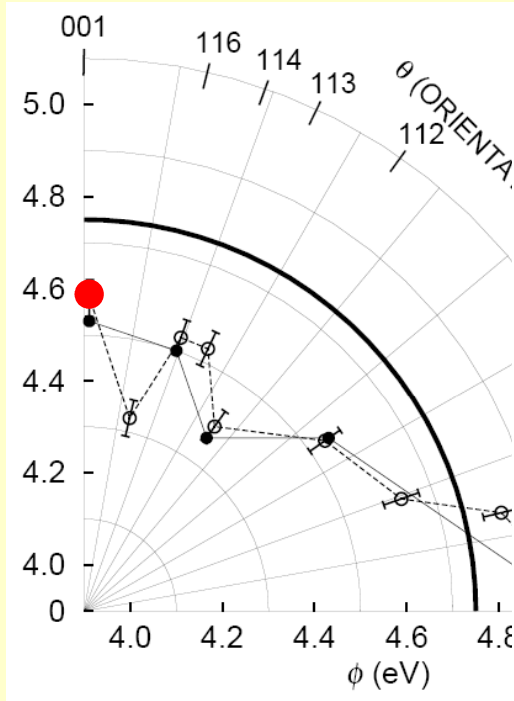
– bcc crystal lattice



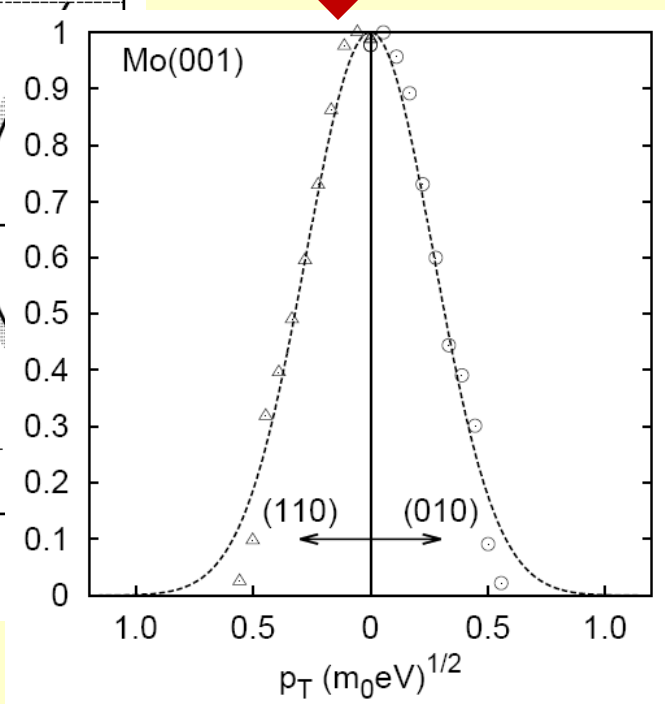
Both electron- and hole-like states contribute to photoemission

# Photoemission Simulation: Mo

– bcc crystal lattice



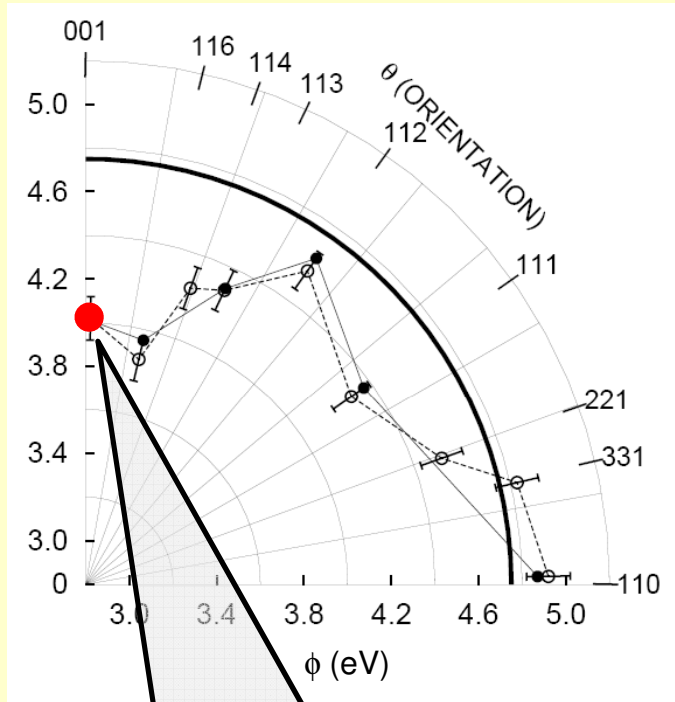
$E, \mathbf{p}_T$  conservation  
PLUS  
Barrier transmission,  $T(p_z, p_{z0})$



Spatially-averaged  
 $\Delta p_{T0} = 0.219 (m_0 \cdot eV)^{1/2}$

# Photoemission Simulation: Nb

– bcc crystal lattice



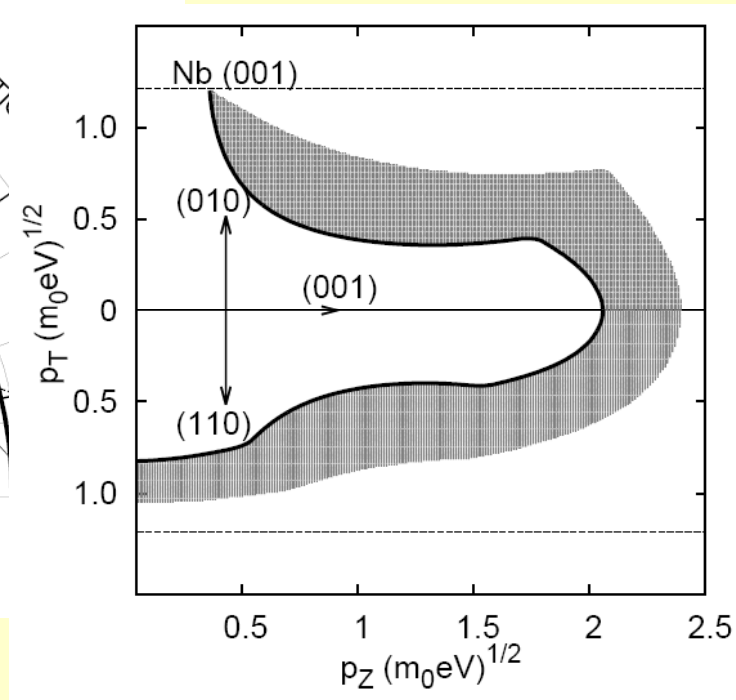
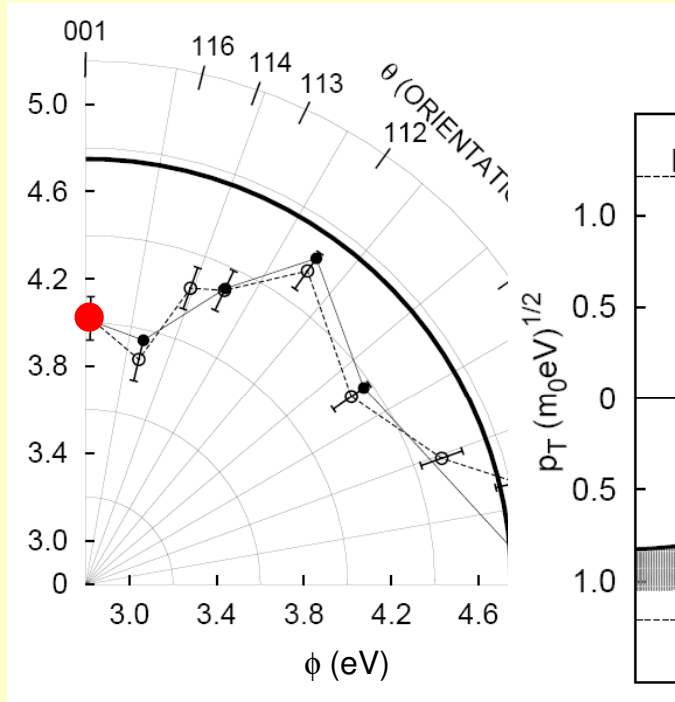
Lowest index face  
with lowest  $\phi_{(ijk)}$

$$\Delta E = \hbar\omega - \phi_{(001)} = 0.73\text{eV}$$

...  $\pm 50\text{meV}$  error in  $\phi_{(ijk)}$

# Photoemission Simulation: Nb

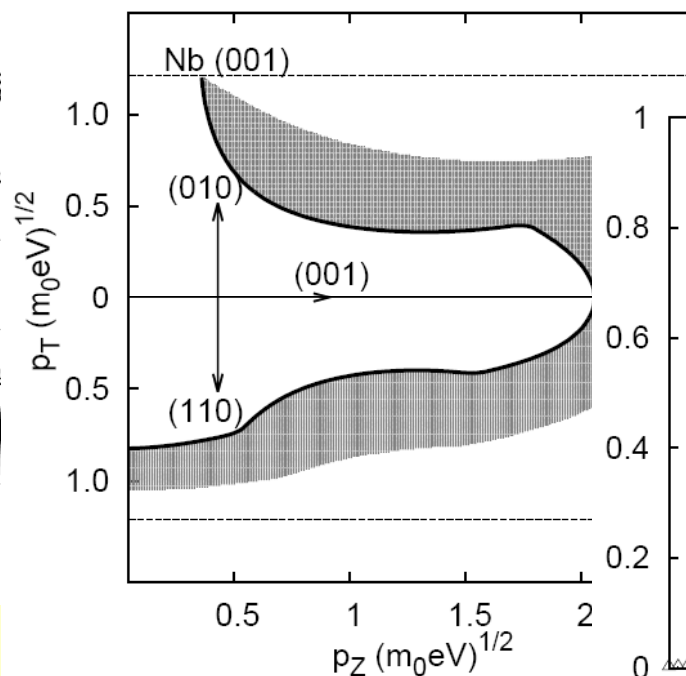
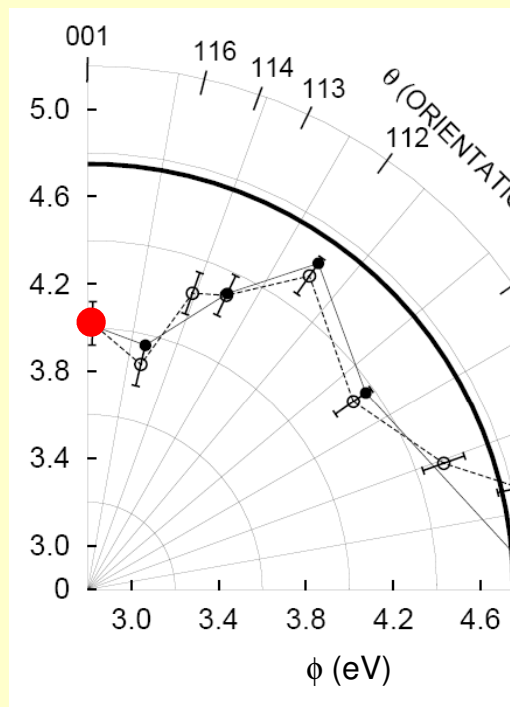
– bcc crystal lattice



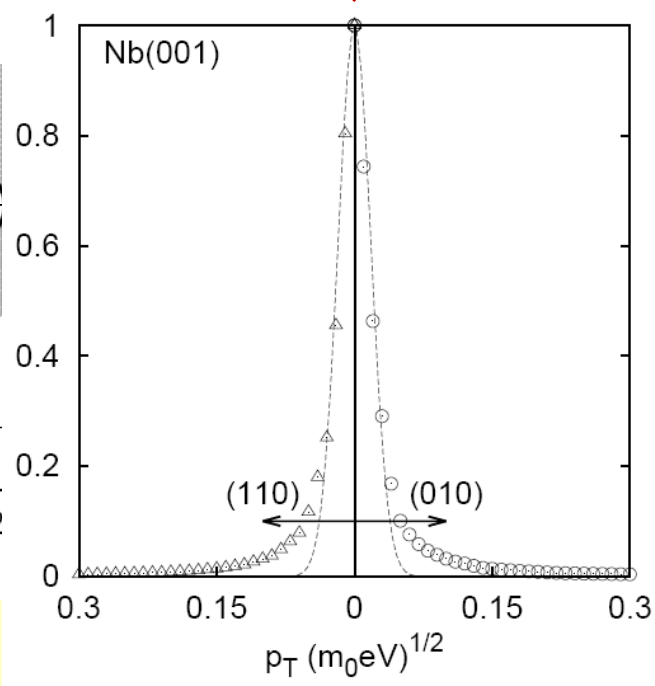
Only hole-like states contribute to photoemission

# Photoemission Simulation: Nb

– bcc crystal lattice



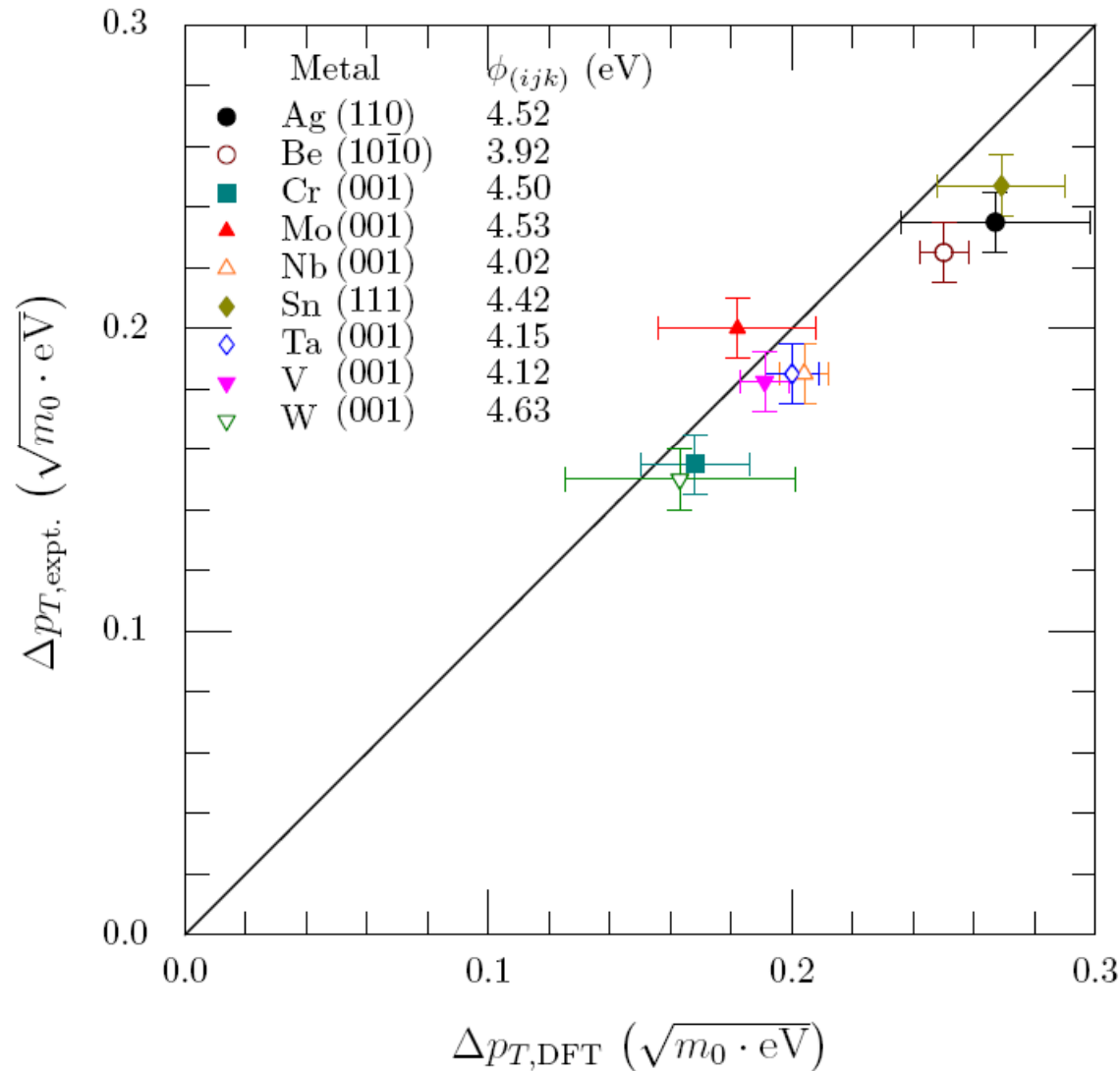
$E, \mathbf{p}_T$  conservation  
PLUS  
Barrier transmission,  $T(p_z, p_{z0})$



Spatially-averaged  
 $\Delta p_{T0} = 0.196 (m_0 \cdot eV)^{1/2}$

# Experiment vs. DFT Analysis

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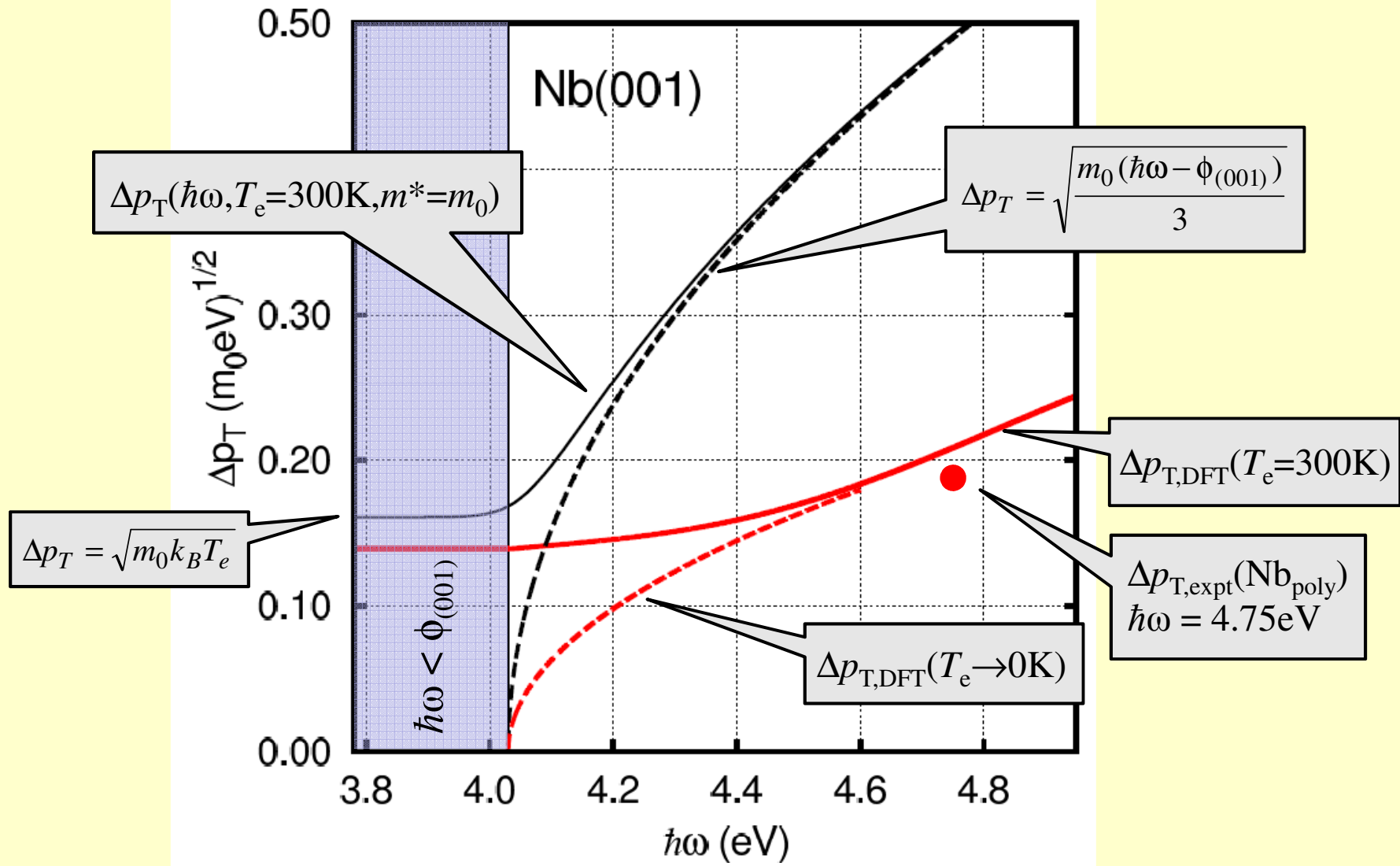


## NOTE:

- Polycrystalline vs. single-crystal comparison
  - Other crystal faces with smaller  $\Delta E = \hbar\omega - \phi_{(ijk)}$  contribute lower  $\Delta p_{T0}$
- DFT analysis at  $T_e \rightarrow 0\text{K}$   
Experiment at 300K



# Temperature dependence: $T_e$



## ■ Photocathodes for UED

- *Single-crystals* for homogeneous electron beam generation ( $\hbar\omega > \phi_{(ijk)}$ )  
⇒ Higher  $\eta_{\text{PE}}$  (?) and higher conductivity ( $\sigma$  and  $\kappa$ )
- *Virtual* excited state emission ⇒ Instantaneous response
- Emission from low  $m^*$  states:  $p_F > p_{T,\text{max}} \Rightarrow$  Lower  $\Delta p_{T0}$
- ‘Hole-like’ emission states are preferred:  
Even lower  $\Delta p_{T0}$  and less sensitive to  $T_e$  (e.g., laser heating)
- Robust (e.g., high m.p.) and chemically inert

## ■ Future work

- Direct comparison with theory: Single-crystal photocathodes
- Crystalline compounds:  $\text{Mo}_x\text{Nb}_{1-x}$ , semiconductors,  $\text{A}_3\text{B}$  (e.g.,  $\text{Nb}_3\text{Sb}$ ), ...
- Search for *ultra-low*  $\Delta p_{T0}$  solid-state photocathodes:  
 $\Delta p_{T0}$  approaching cold atom electron sources  $\Leftarrow$  TID issues?

# Finally ...

## Calculating $\Delta p_T(ijk)$ for *all* elemental metals

– Results available on-line at <http://people.uic.edu/~tli27/Database.html>.

E.g., hcp Mg(10 $\bar{1}$ 0) face emission:

