

# **MBE Challenges from Quantum Information Technologies**

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*Supported by DARPA, ARO, and NSF*

# Materials Issues are Essential for QI

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Spin coherence times

*influenced by inversion asymmetry of the material*

*(110) growth has promise:*

*control of spin coherence times with gates*

Integration of magnetic and semiconducting materials

*coherent transport between magnetic and nonmagnetic materials*

*- new spin detection and amplification methods*

Control of nuclear properties in semiconductor structures

*spatially-selective nuclear magnetic resonance*

*manipulation of nuclear pseudomagnetic fields*

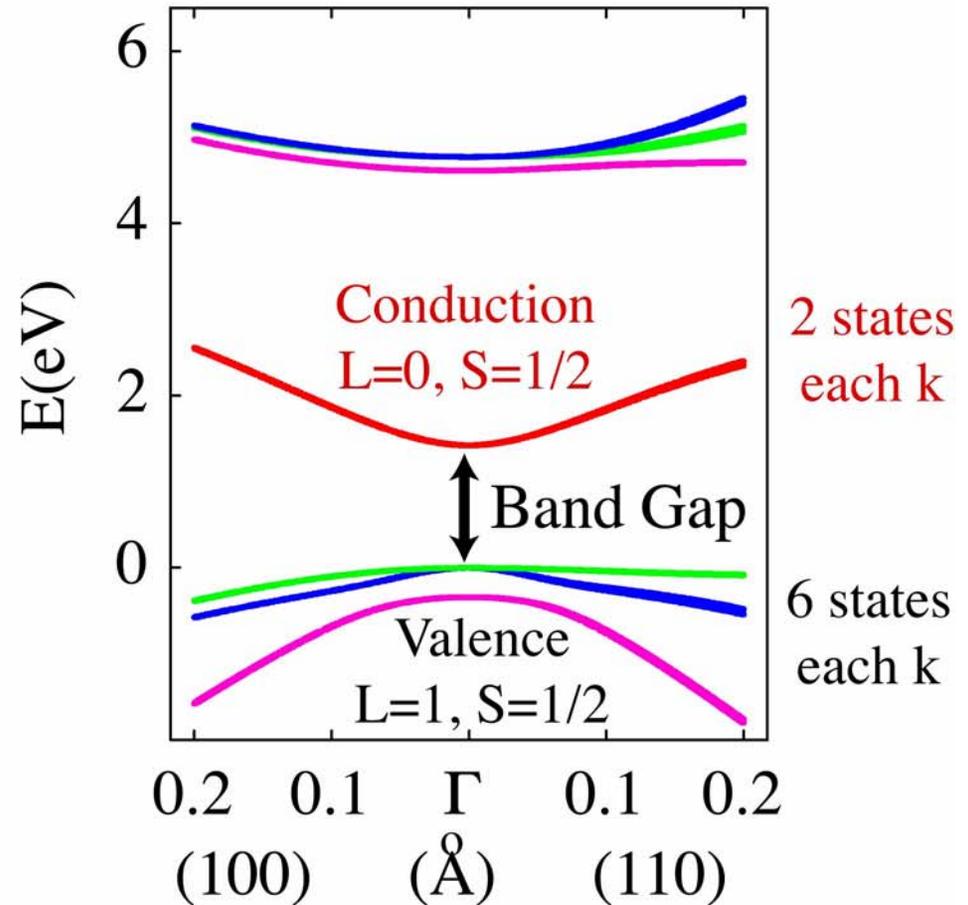
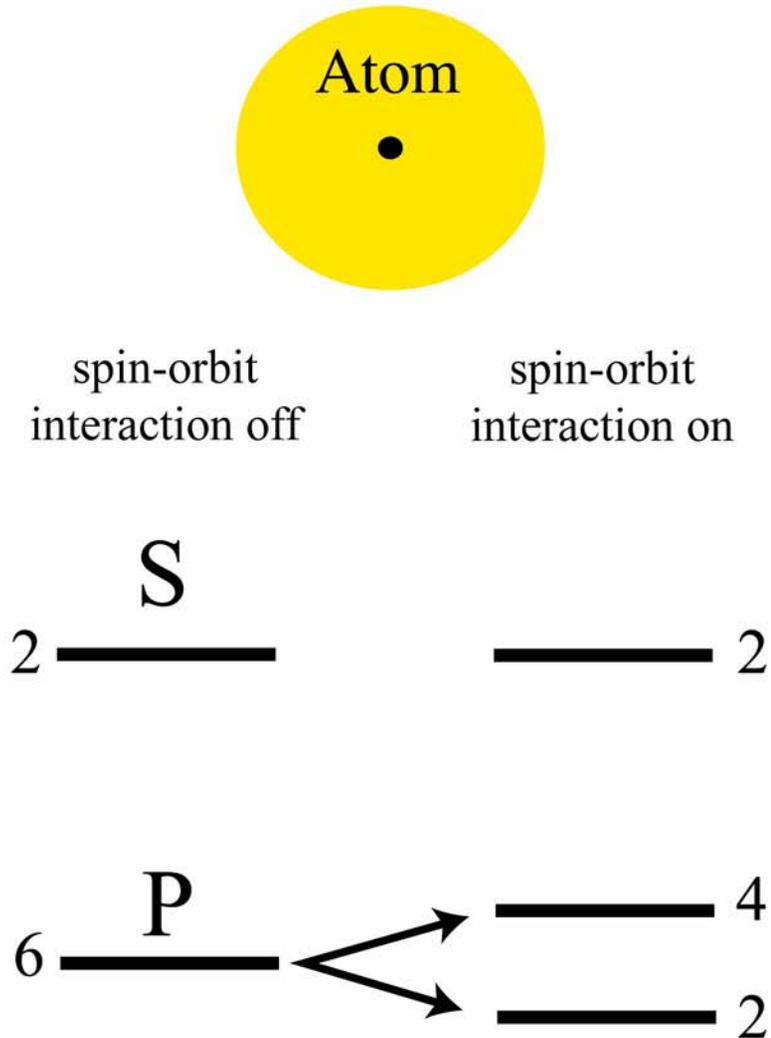
Spin manipulation and detection in quantum dots

*importance of dot shape for selection rules for*

*AC Stark effect and photoluminescence*

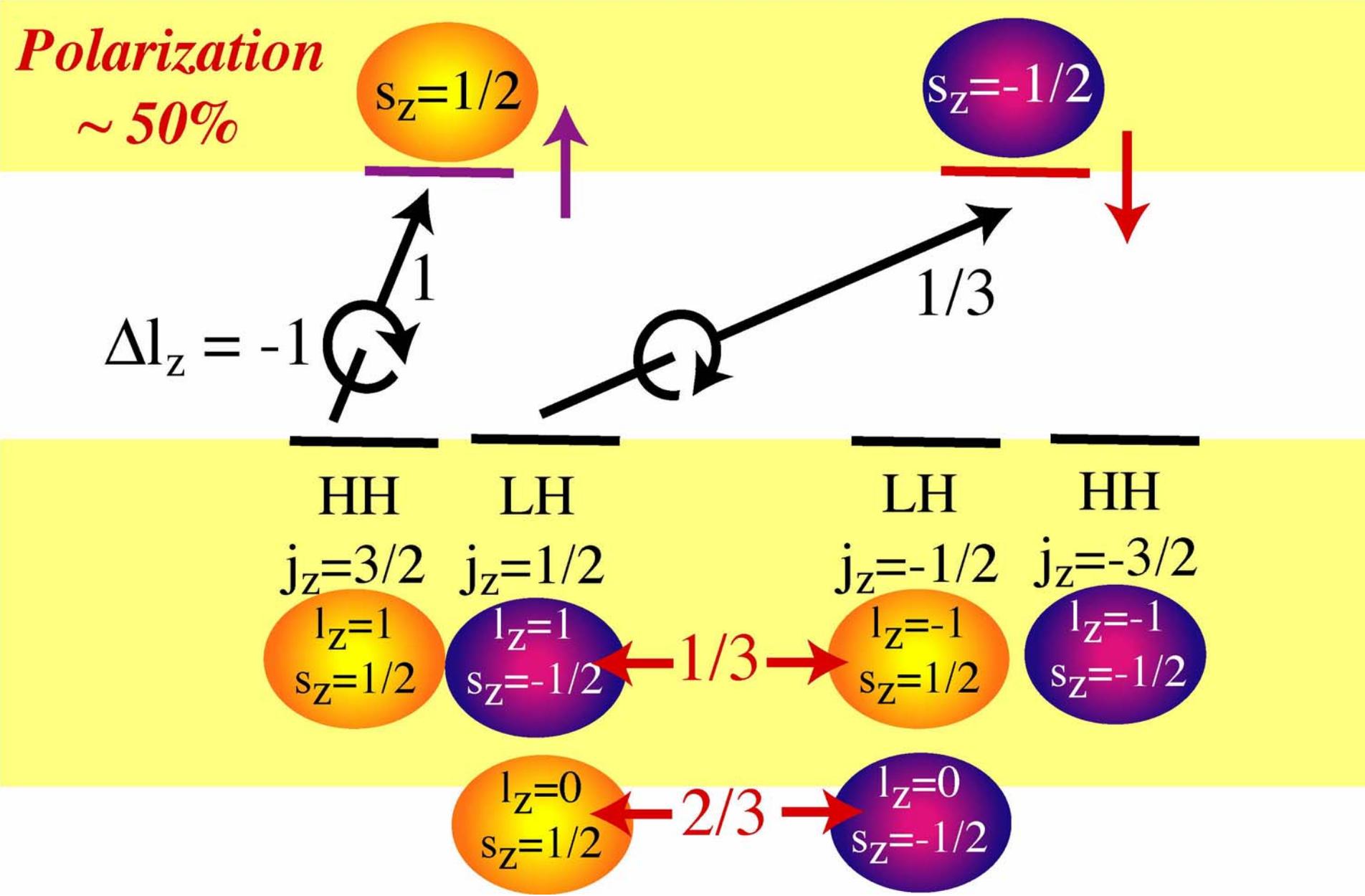
# Optically creating spin-polarized carriers

## Electronic structure of GaAs



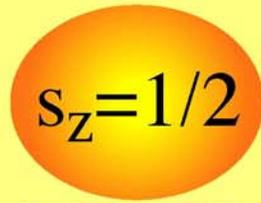
*Optical transitions are vertical*

# Optical excitation of spin-polarized distributions

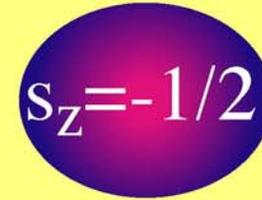


# Optical excitation of spin-polarized distributions

*Polarization*  
*~ 100%*



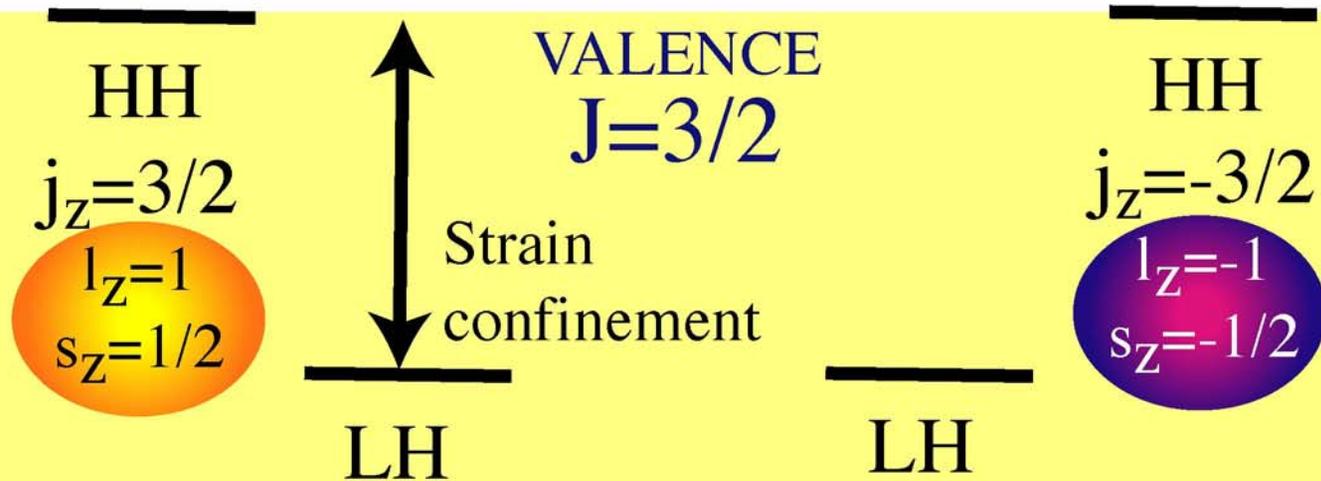
CONDUCTION  
 $J = 1/2$



$$\Delta l_z = -1$$



Circularly polarized light  
changes orbital quantum number



Low-dimensional structures (e.g. quantum wells)

# Precessional Decoherence

For a crystal with inversion asymmetry and spin-orbit coupling there is a (very small) effective field:

$$\mathbf{B}(\mathbf{k}) = -\mathbf{B}(-\mathbf{k})$$

Average of crystal magnetic field vanishes

however each spin precesses in this field

population of  $\mathbf{k}$

*dephasing....*

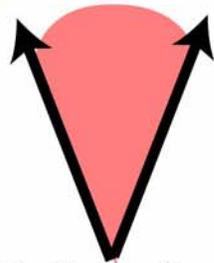
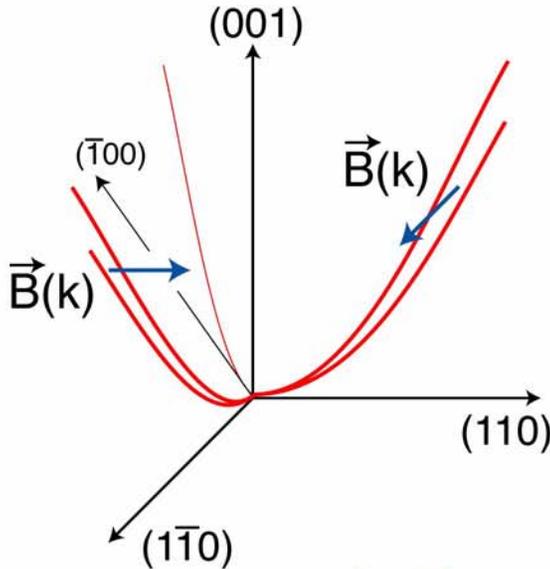
*orbital scattering loses  $k$ -information*

*... decoherence*

$$S(\mathbf{k}, \tau)$$

even if the spin splitting  $\sim 1$  meV, precession frequency  $\sim 1$  ps

*symmetry of crystal magnetic field determined by crystal symmetry*



# 7.5 nm (001)-grown GaAs/AlGaAs MQW

*PRB Rapid Comm.* **64**, 161301 (2001).

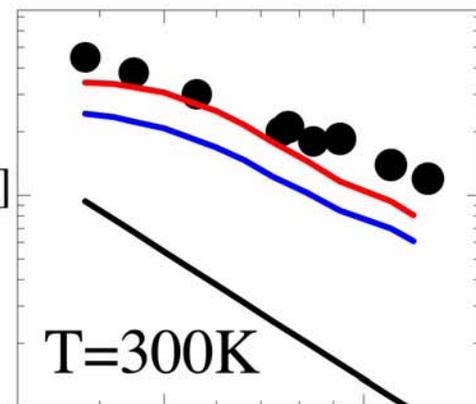
● experiment

Terauchi, et al., *Jpn. J. Appl. Phys.* 38, 2549 (1999)

confinement energy  
(meV)

50 100

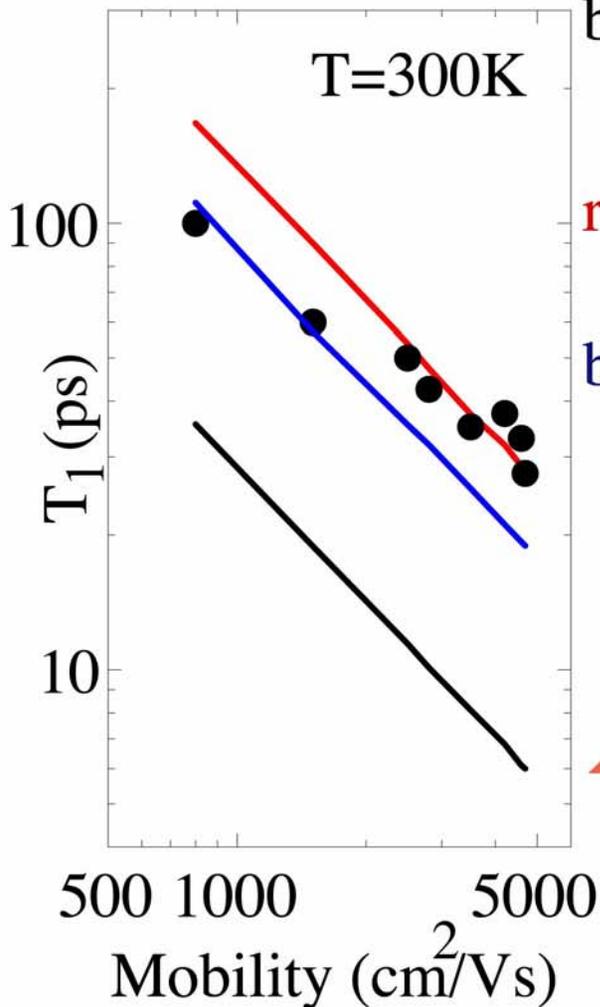
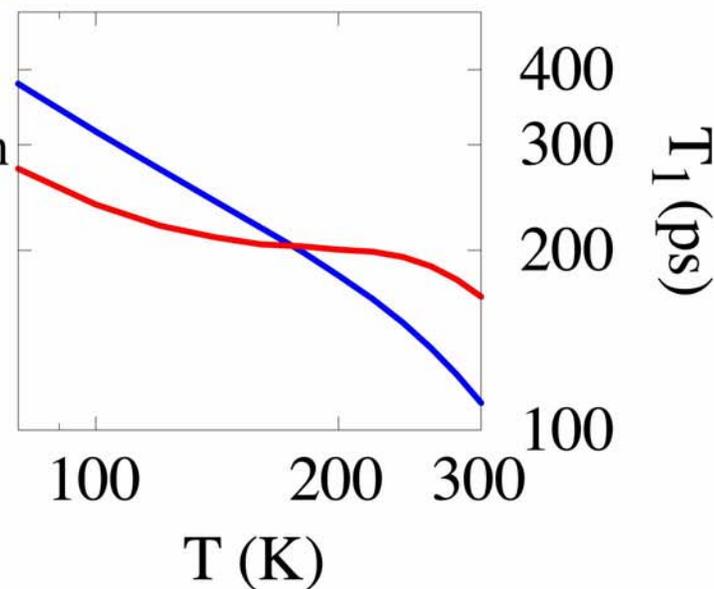
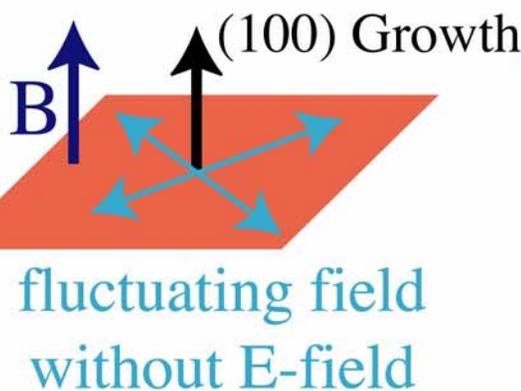
$T_1$  (ps)  
10  
1



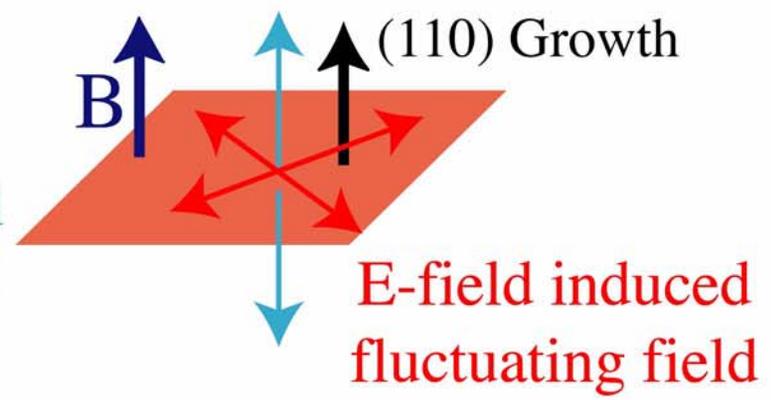
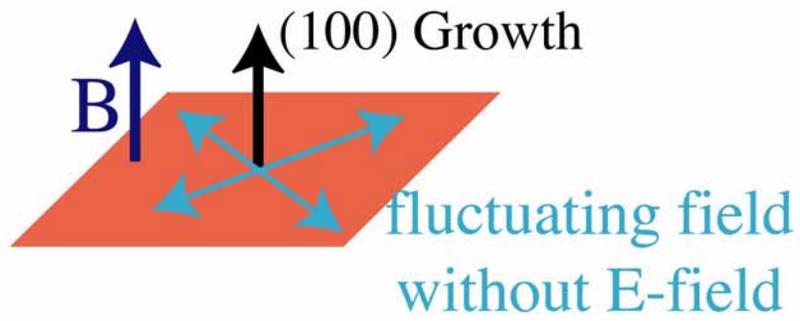
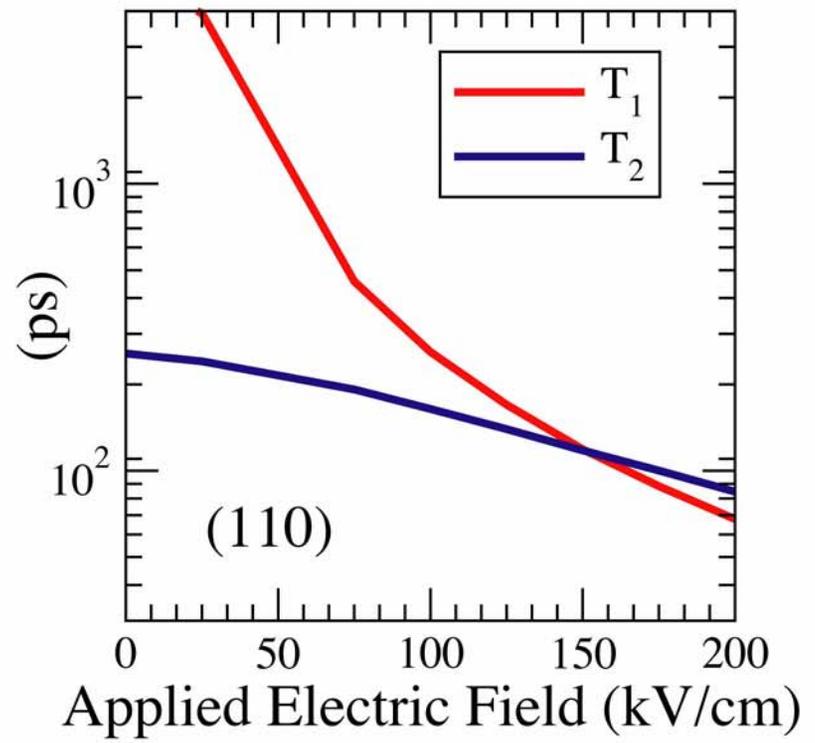
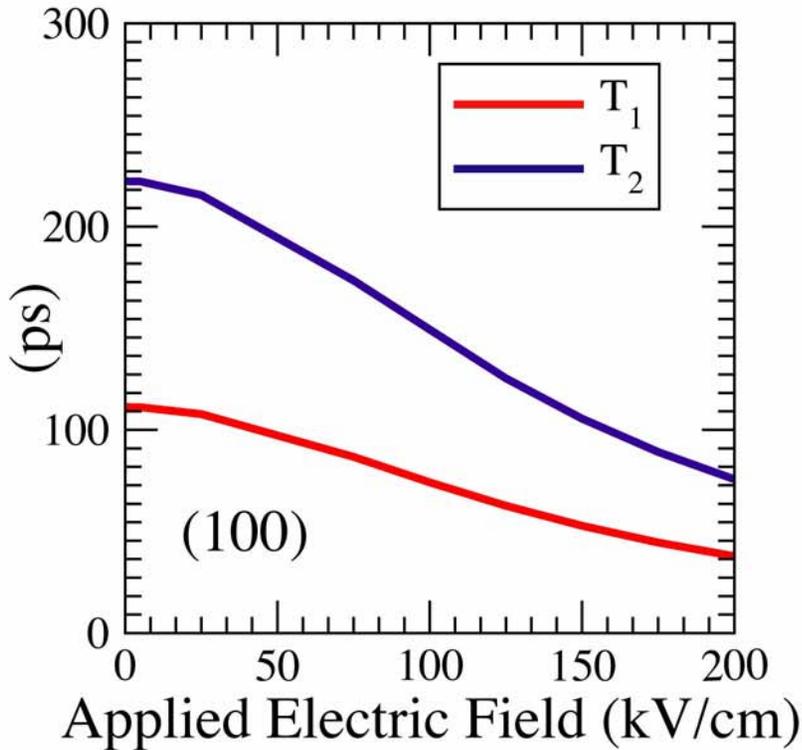
black - D'yakonov-Kachorovskii  
(DK) theory [*Sov. Phys. Semicond.* 20, 110 (1986)]

red - optical phonon  
scattering

blue - neutral impurity  
scattering



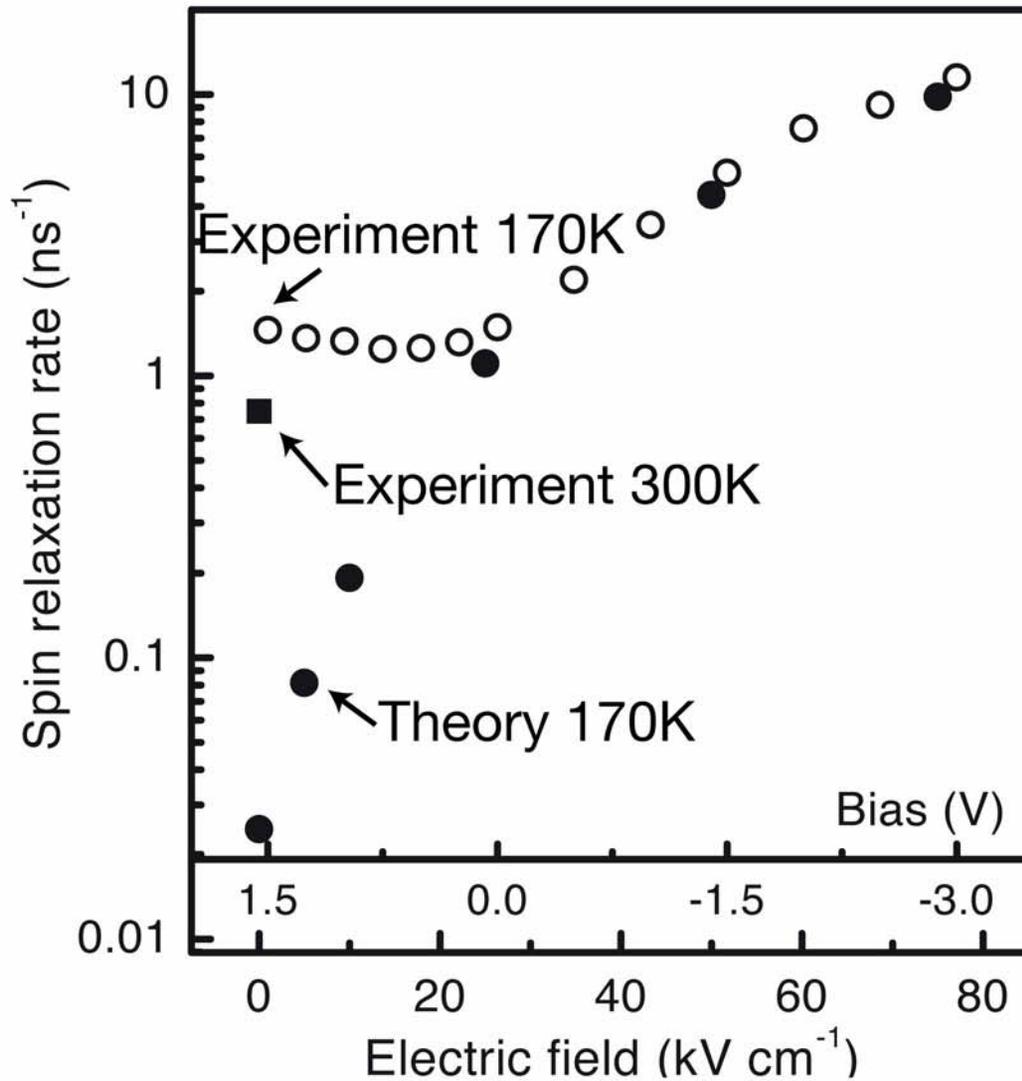
# Tunability of $T_1$ and $T_2$



7.5 nm GaAs/AlGaAs QW

Suppression of  $T_1$  by over a factor of 100! *J. Appl. Phys.* 91, 8682 (2002).

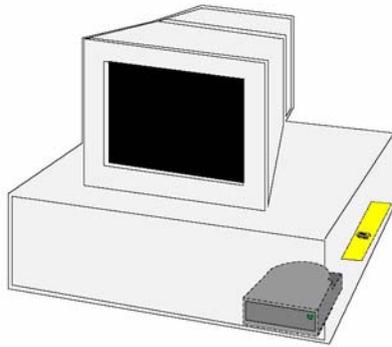
# $T_1$ in 75 Å (110) GaAs/AlGaAs QW



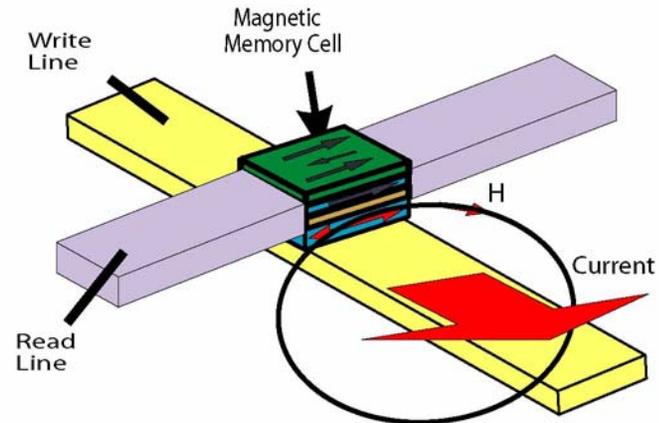
*Factor of 10 tunability demonstrated*

*Karimov, et al., cond-mat/0305396*

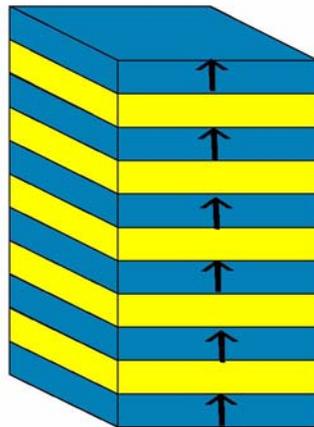
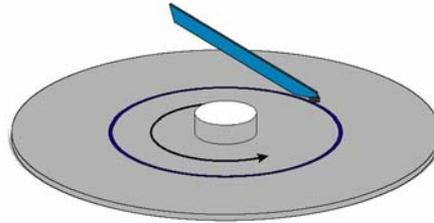
# Use of Magnetic Multilayers in Technology



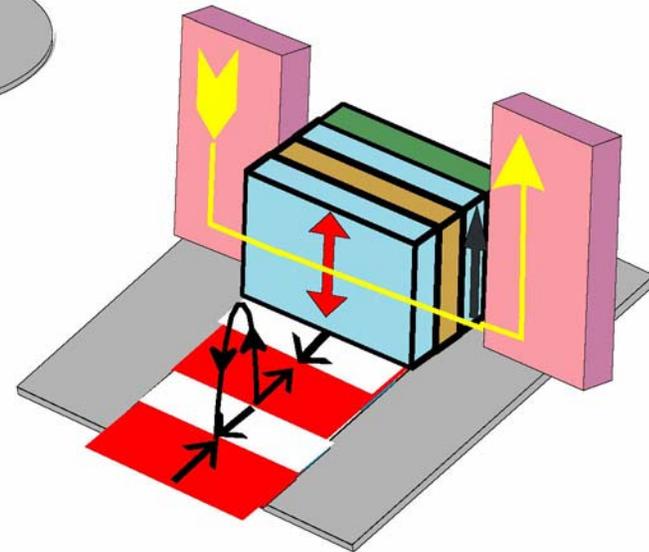
## Magnetic Random Access Memory



## Magneto-optical Disk



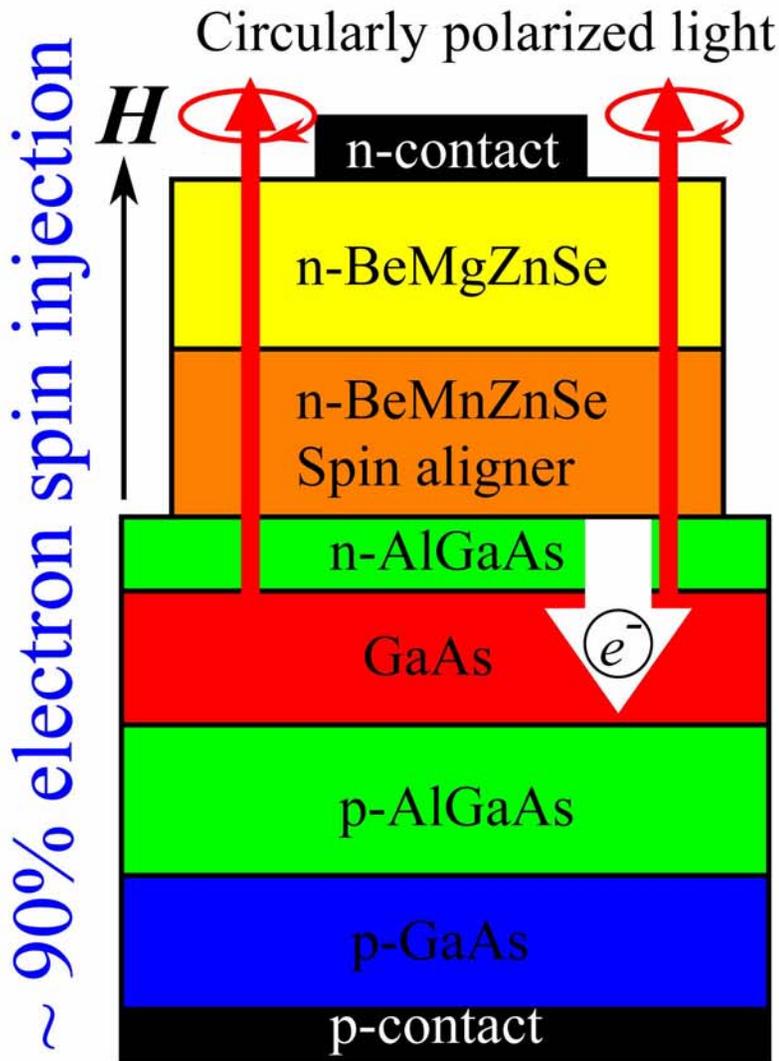
## Spin-Valve Read Head



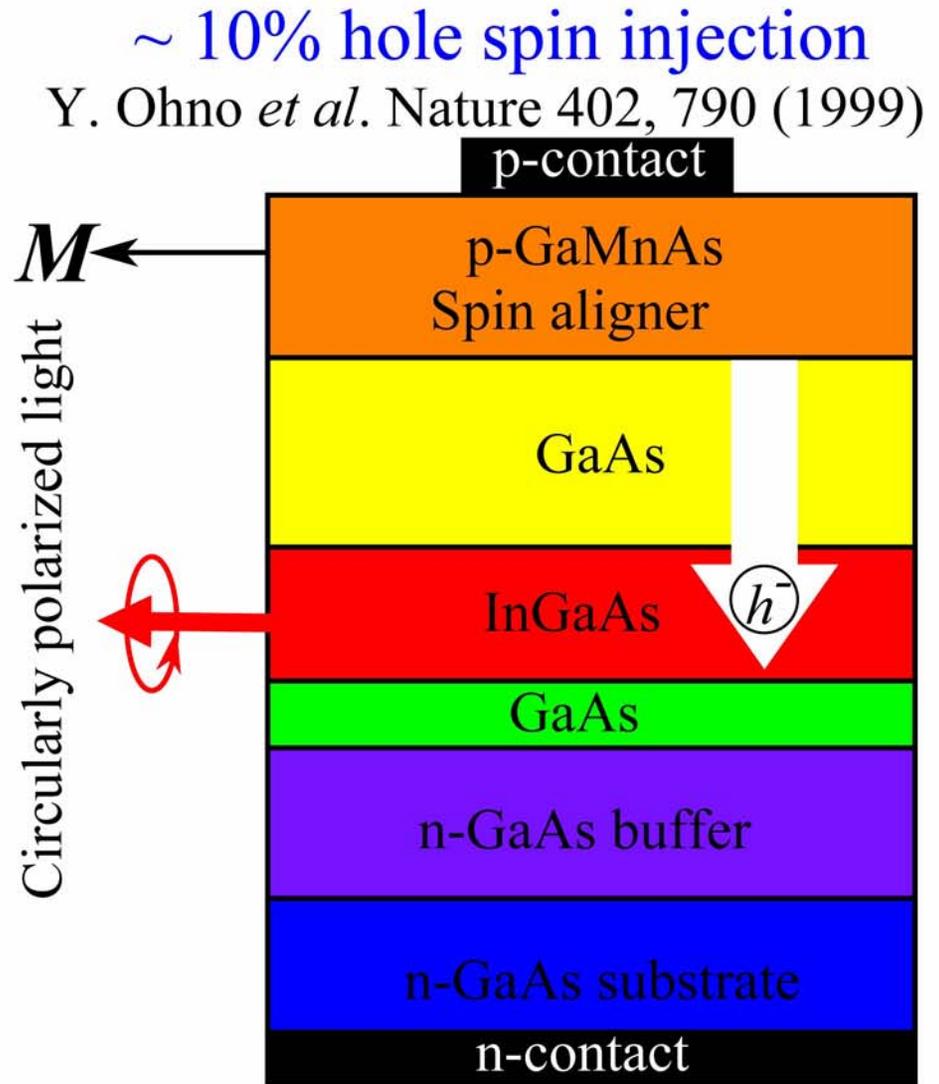
(image courtesy J. Stöhr)

see Stöhr, Nakajima, IBM J. Res. Dev. 42 (1) (1998)

# Spin-polarized light emitting diode (LED)

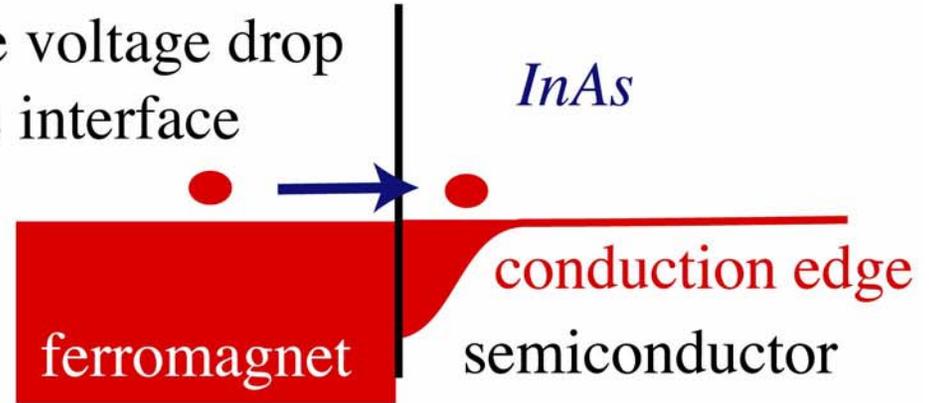


R. Fiederling *et al.* Nature 402, 787 (1999)

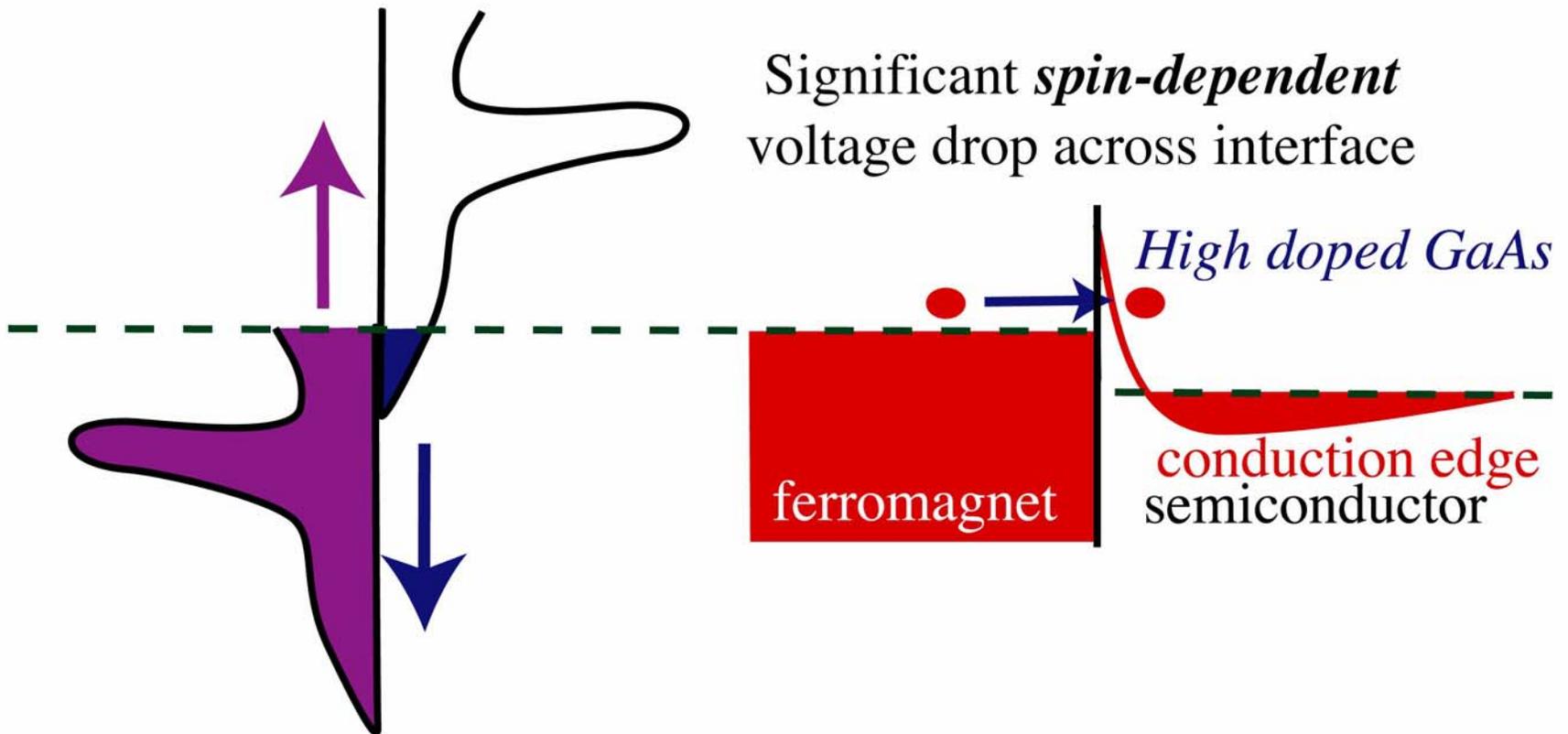


# Metal-semiconductor contacts

Negligible voltage drop  
across interface

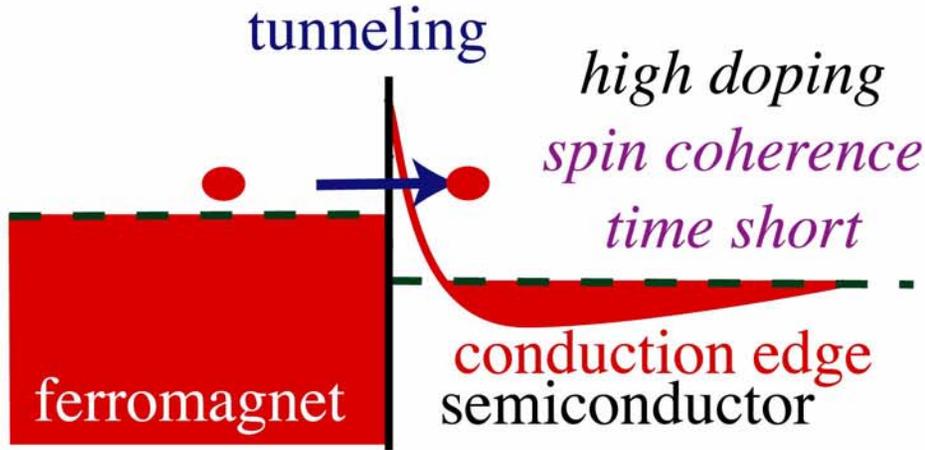


Significant *spin-dependent*  
voltage drop across interface



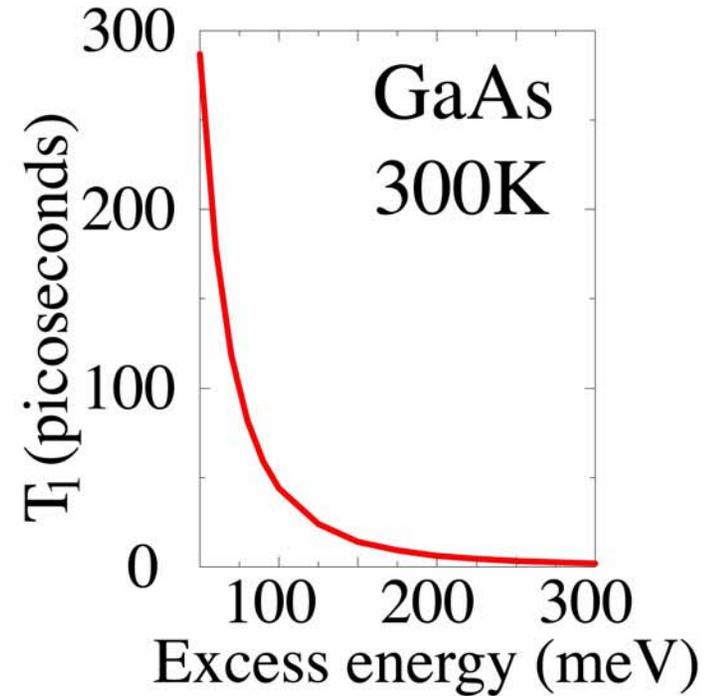
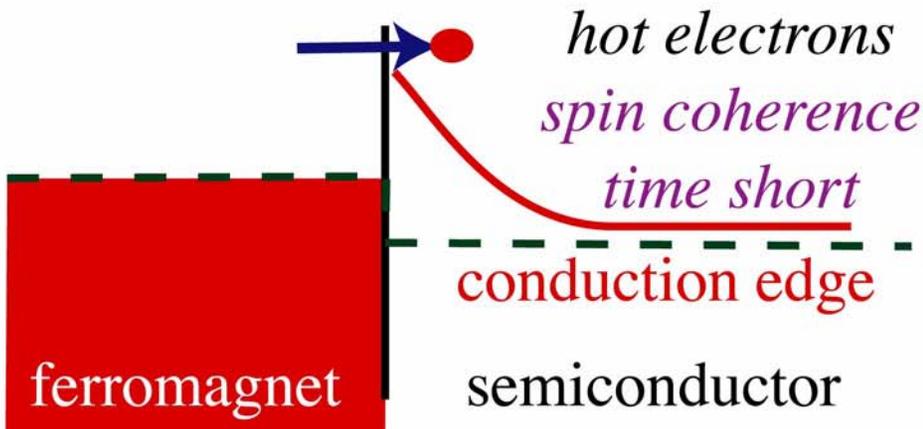
# Metal-semiconductor contacts

*High doped GaAs*



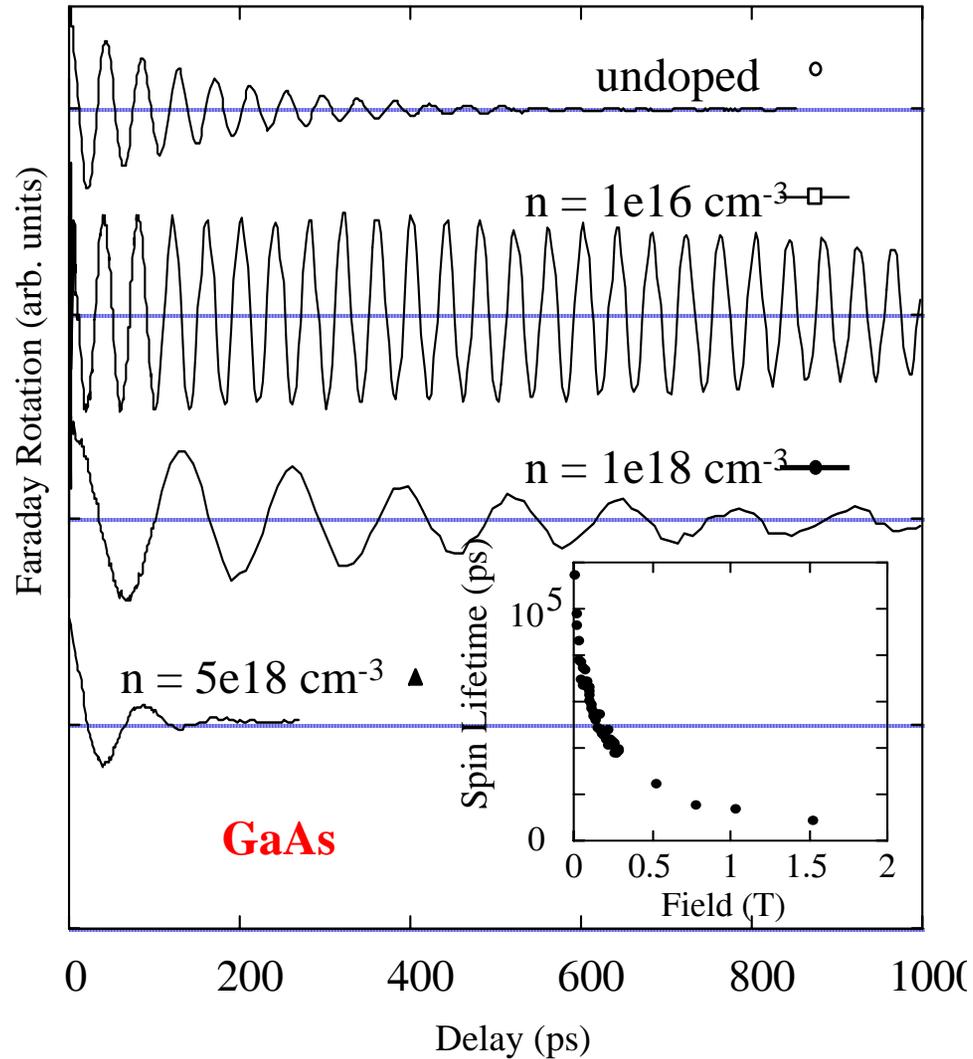
*Low doped GaAs*

thermionic emission



# Bulk GaAs

Kikkawa and Awschalom, PRL 80, 4313 (1998).



# Spin Transport in p-n diode

## Persistent sourcing of coherent spins for multifunctional semiconductor spintronics

I. Malajovich\*, J. J. Berry, N. Samarth & D. D. Awschalom\*  
 NATURE | VOL 411 | 14 JUNE 2001 | www.nature.com

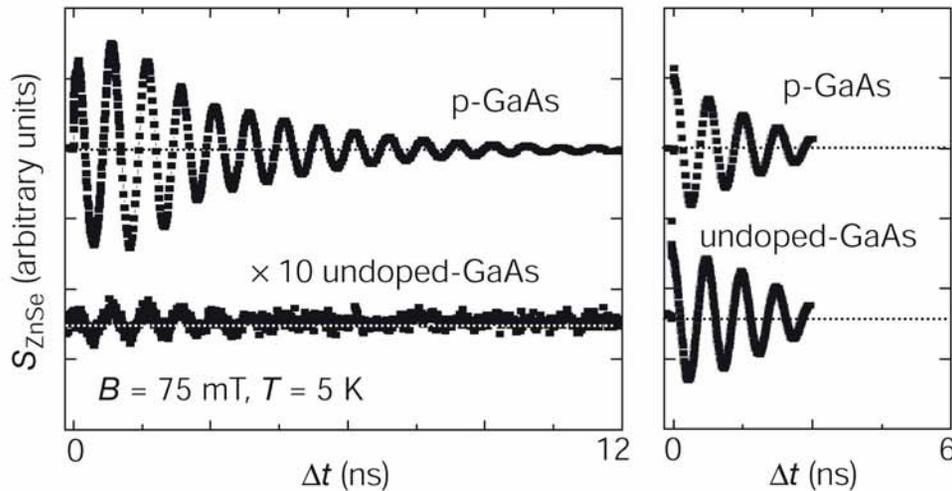
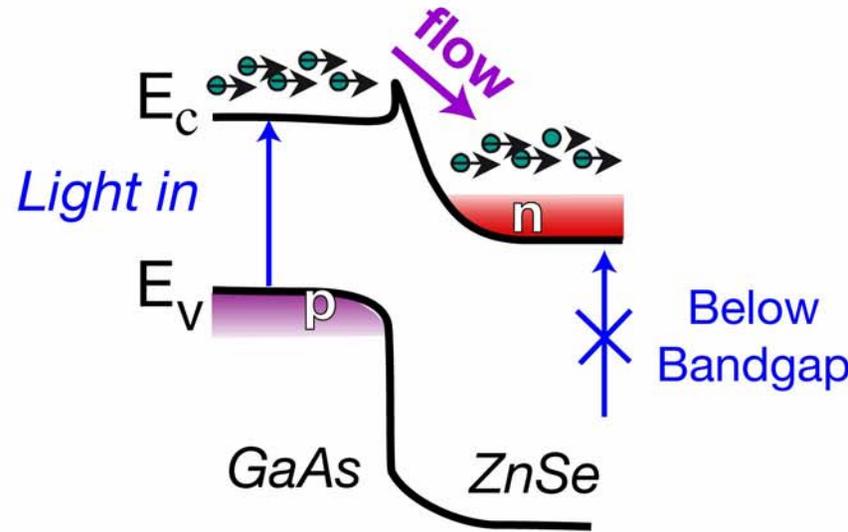


Figure 4 Time evolution of the spin polarization transfer across a p-GaAs/n-ZnSe heterojunction. Zn p-type doping concentration,  $10^{19} \text{ cm}^{-3}$ . Transfer across an undoped-GaAs/n-ZnSe is shown for comparison. Dotted lines show the zeros, and an offset was added for clarity. a, Spins transported across the interface (two-colour pump probe). b, Spins excited and measured in the ZnSe epilayer (degenerate pump probe).

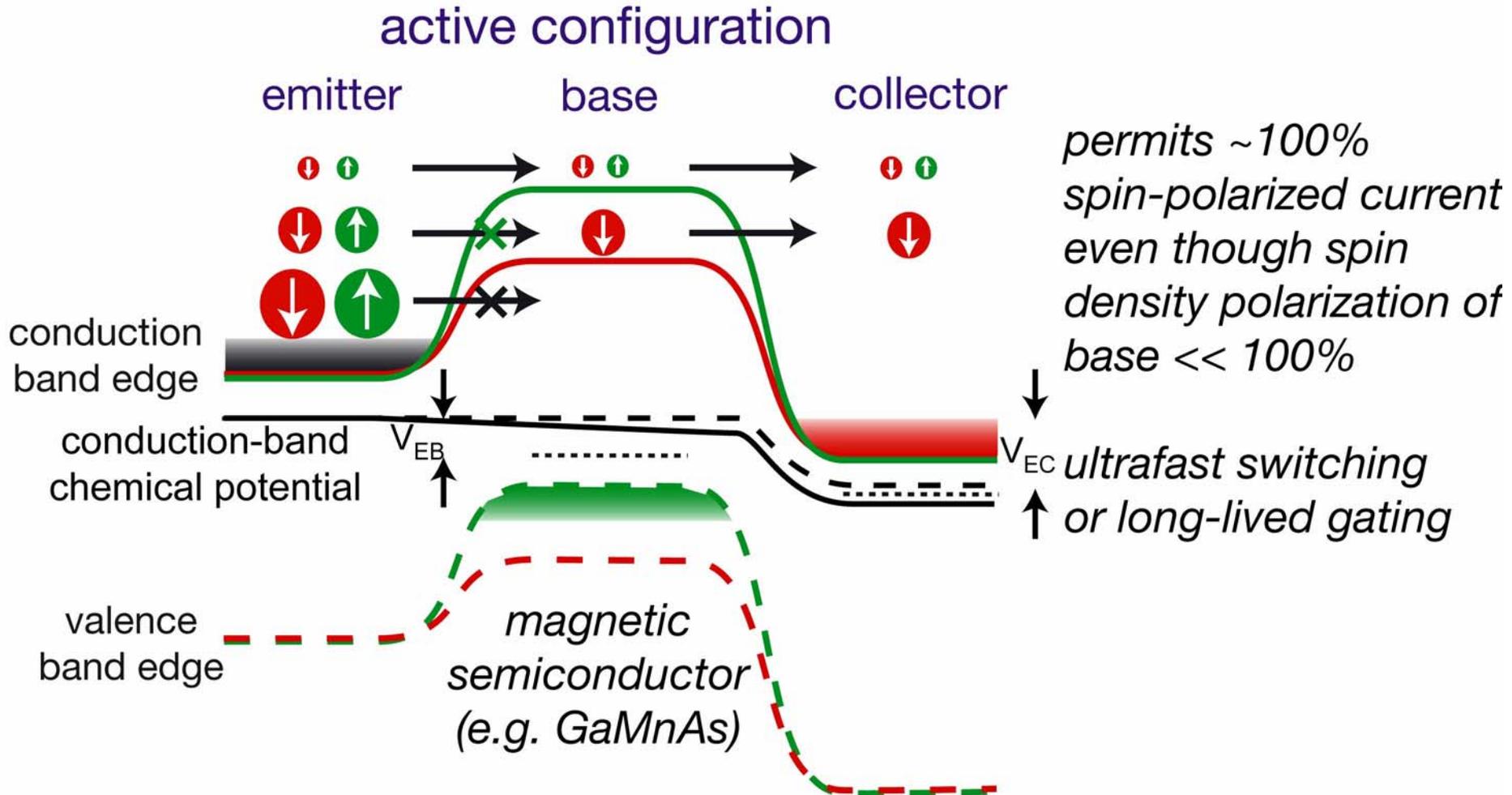


*The time-reverse of this is minority carrier injection*

***minority carrier spin electronics should be possible***

# npn magnetic bipolar transistor (MBT)

*Appl. Phys. Lett. 82, 4740 (2003)*



*patent pending*

# MBT spin polarization

*Appl. Phys. Lett.* 82, 4740 (2003)

Conduction band spin splitting  $S_c$

$$\frac{n_{B\downarrow o} - n_{B\uparrow o}}{n_{B\downarrow o} + n_{B\uparrow o}} = \tanh(S_c/2k_B T)$$

**Spin-filter**

**Shockley approximations:**

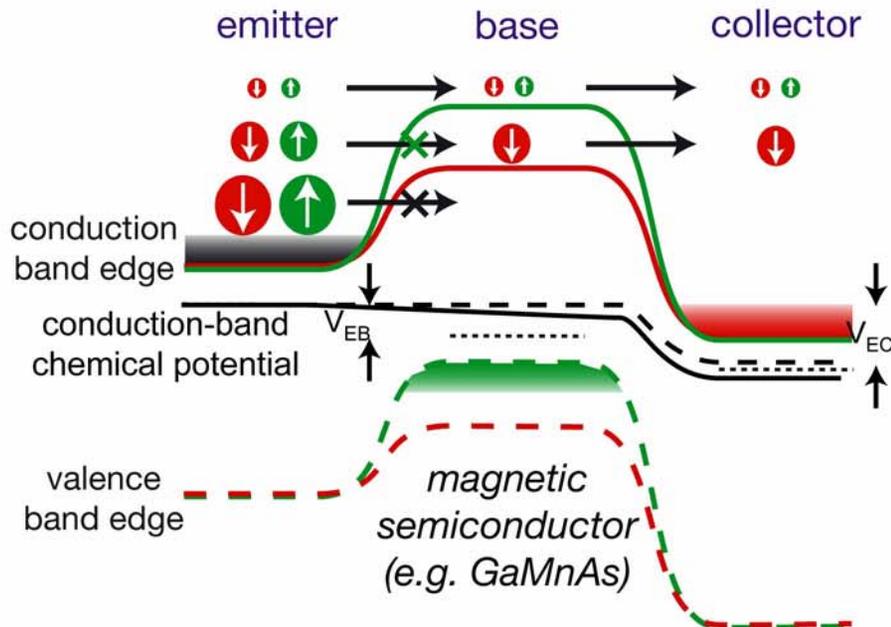
$$\frac{n_{B\downarrow}}{n_{B\uparrow}} = \frac{n_{B\downarrow o}}{n_{B\uparrow o}}$$

Hence even when  $n_{B\downarrow} \gg n_{B\uparrow o}$

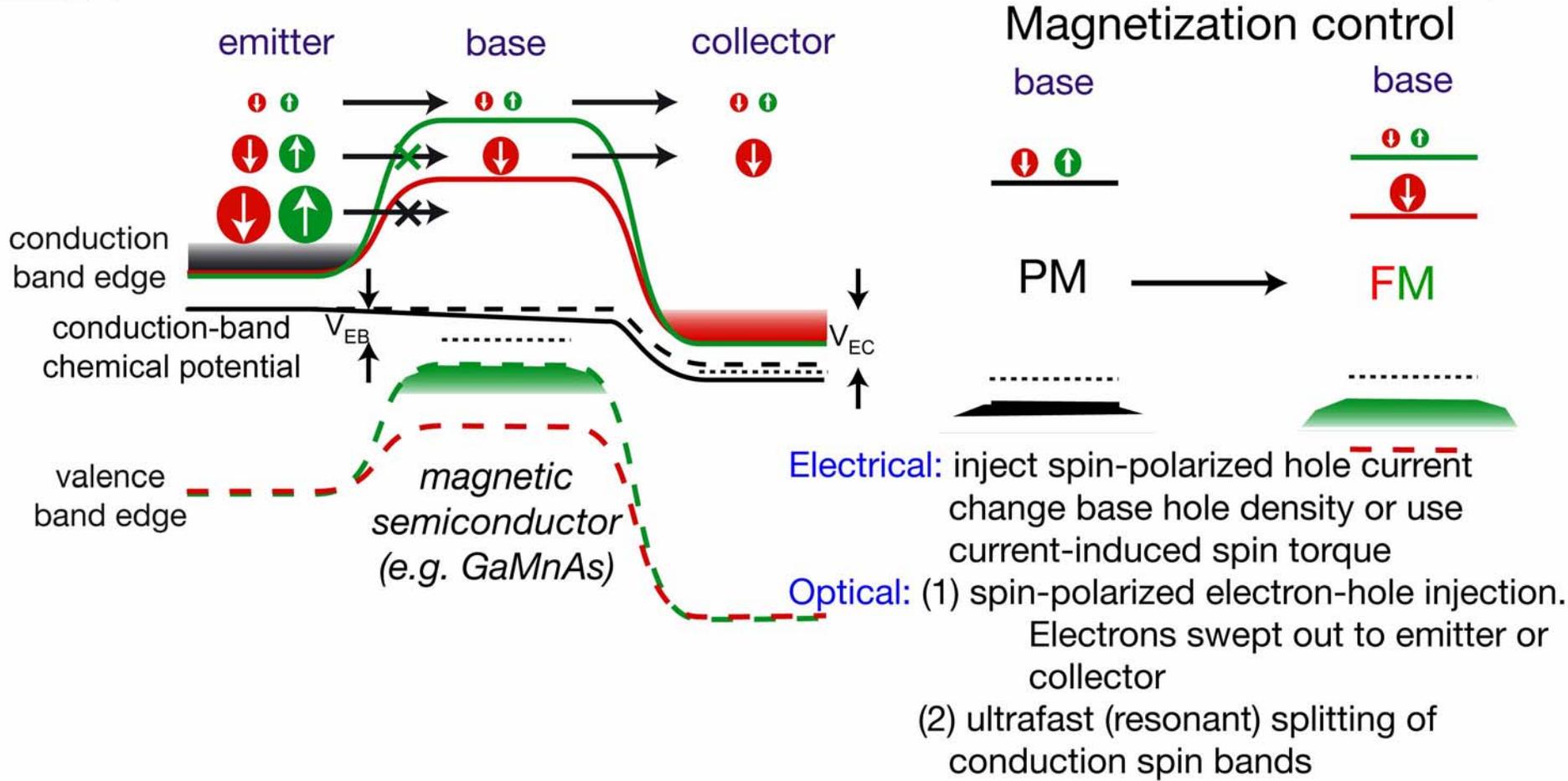
$$\frac{n_{B\downarrow} - n_{B\uparrow}}{n_{B\downarrow} + n_{B\uparrow}} = \tanh(S_c/2k_B T)$$

**Spin-relax**

$$\frac{n_{B\downarrow} - n_{B\uparrow}}{n_{B\downarrow} + n_{B\uparrow}} = \frac{\tau_{\downarrow\uparrow} - \tau_{\uparrow\downarrow}}{\tau_{\downarrow\uparrow} + \tau_{\uparrow\downarrow}}$$



# Switching npn magnetic bipolar transistor



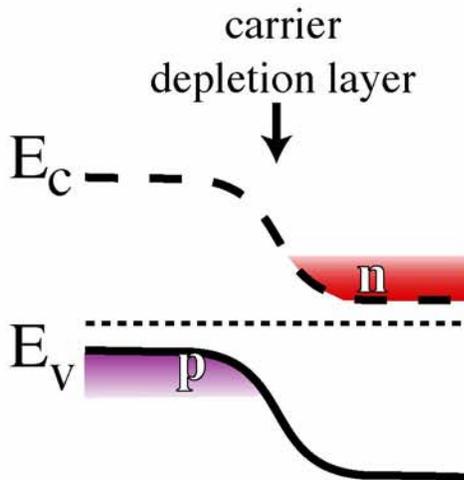
Through independent control of base magnetization and base voltage,  
independent amplification of spin-up current and spin-down current are possible.

**Both spin current gain and charge current gain**

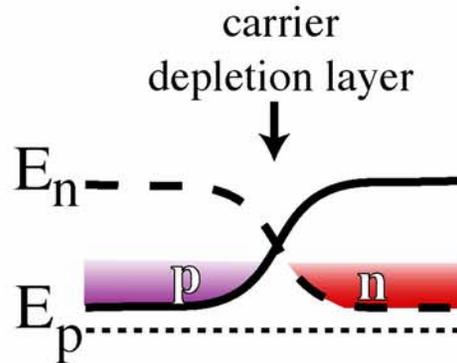
# Unipolar spin diode (equilibrium)

## p-n diode

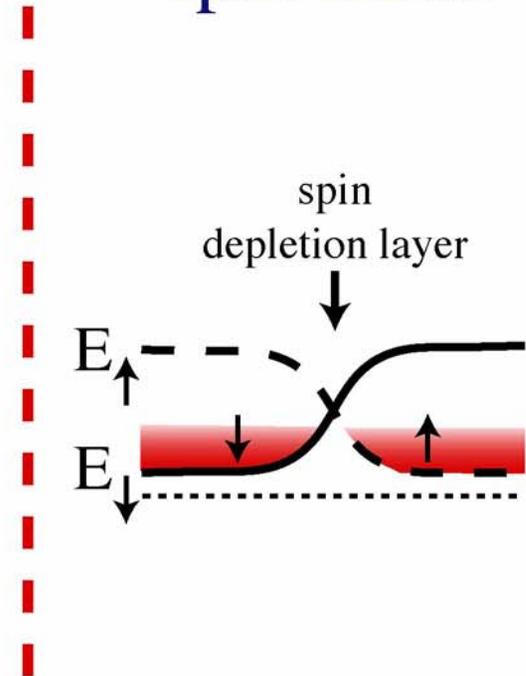
*standard (electron)  
energy diagram*



*carrier  
energy diagram*



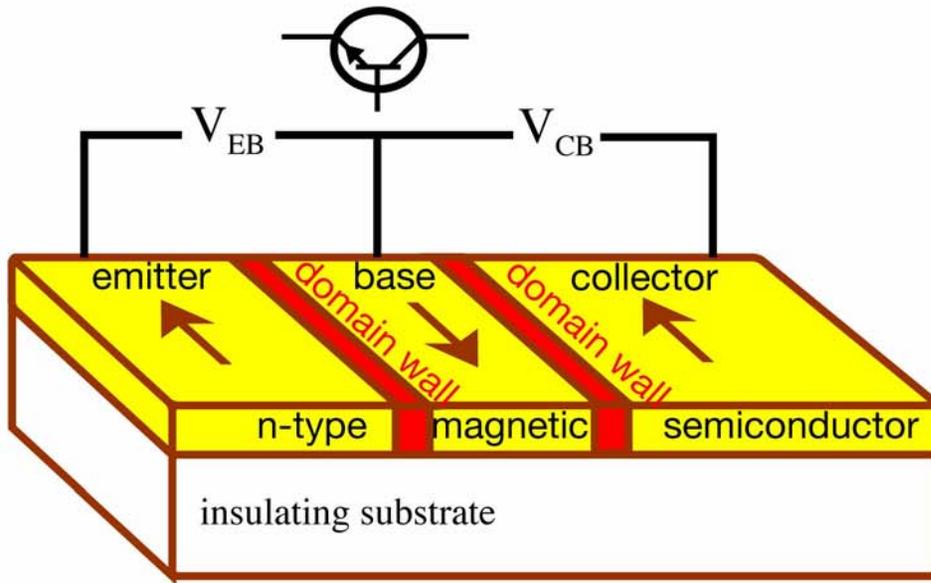
## unipolar spin diode



APL 78, 1273 (2001).

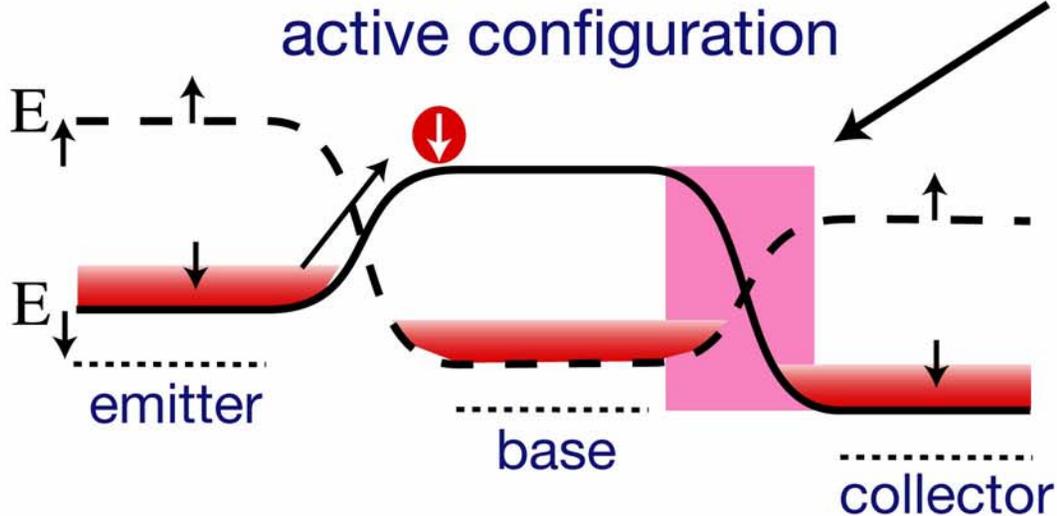
# Unipolar Spin Transistor

APL 78, 1273 (2001)



**possible applications to**  
 reprogrammable logic  
 non-volatile memory  
 magnetic sensing

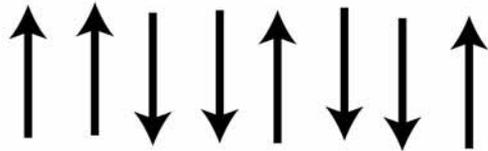
Transport across  
 domain wall  
 (noncollinear spin)



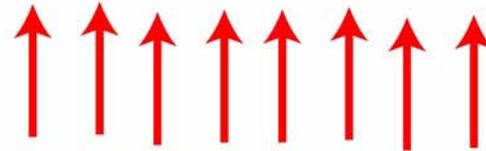
# Optical orientation of nuclear spin

"Overhauser effect"

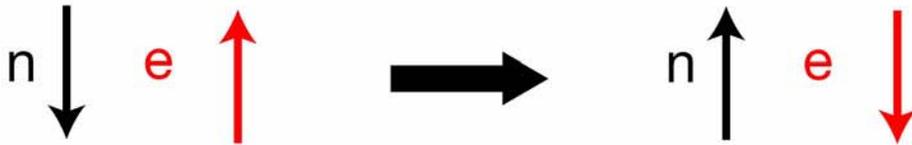
begin with unpolarized nuclear spins



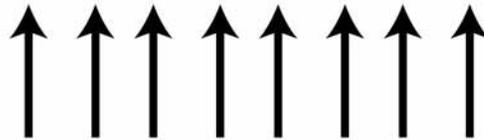
optical generation of polarized electrons



kinetic process



result - highly polarized nuclear spins (out of thermal equilibrium)



in quantum wells:

Barrett, et al., PRL 72, 1368 (1994)

Marohn, et al., PRL 75, 1364 (1995)

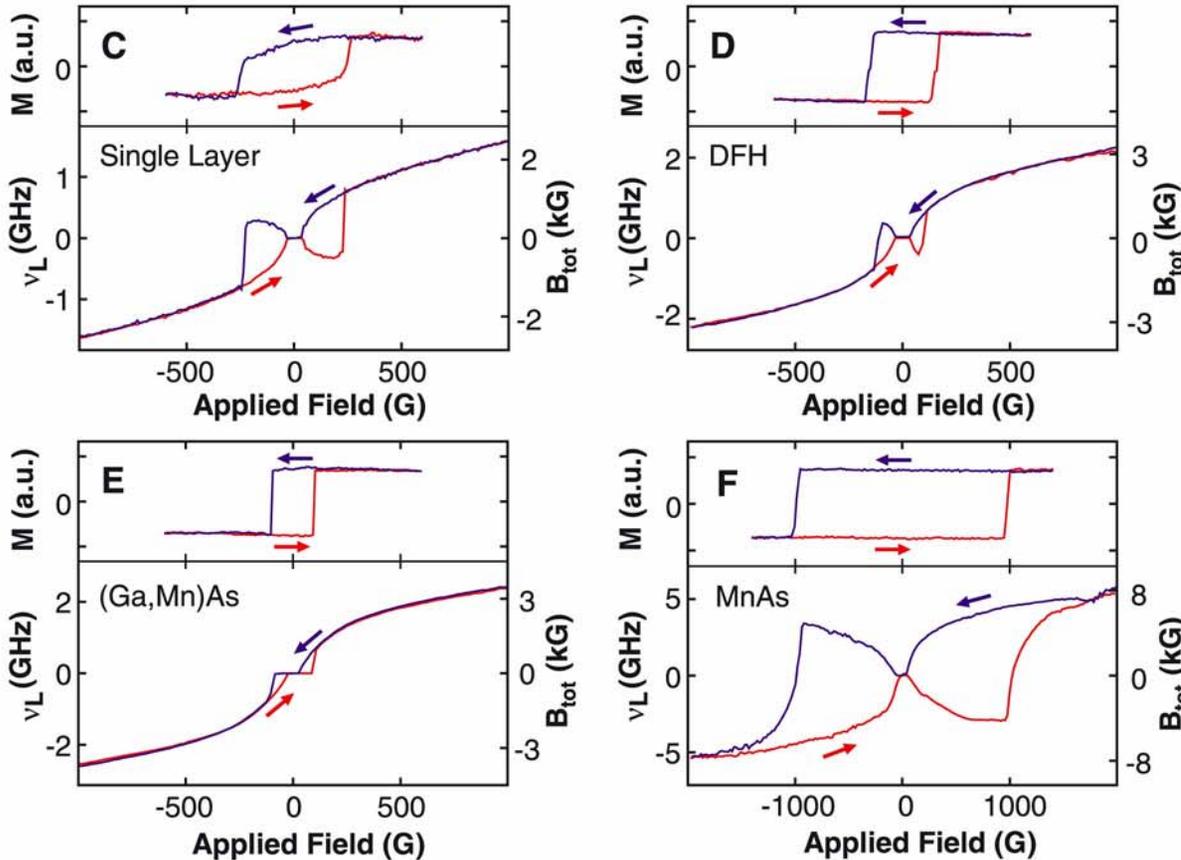
Malinowski and Harley, Solid State Comm. 114, 419 (2000)

Salis, et al., PRL 86, 2677 (2001)

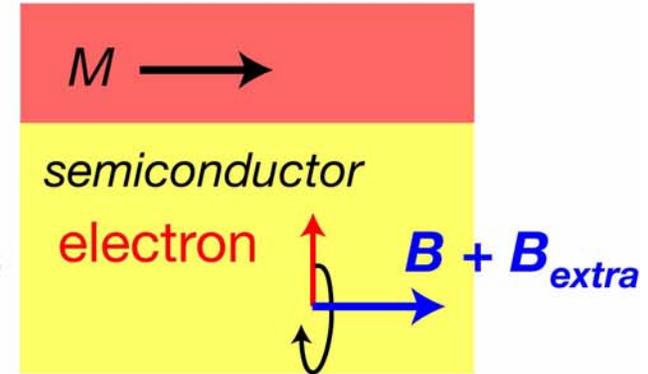
Poggio, et al., (cond-mat/03xxxxx)

# Ferromagnetic imprinting of nuclear polarization

Kawakami, et al., Science 294, 131 (2001)



magnetic overlayer



where is the extra magnetic field coming from?

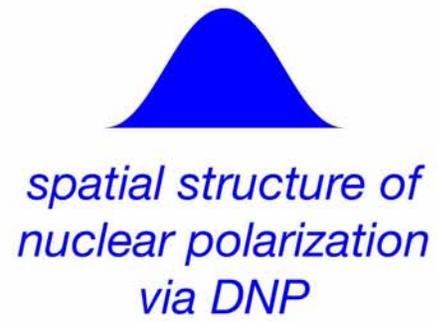
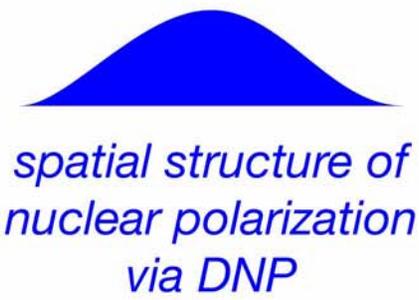
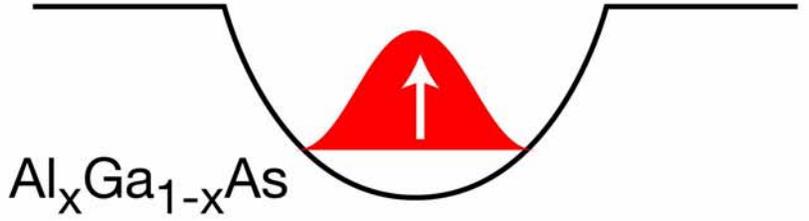
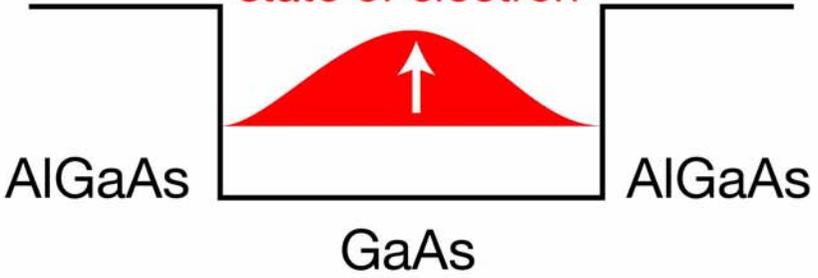
long-lived patterned polarization

# Spatial structure of dynamic nuclear polarization

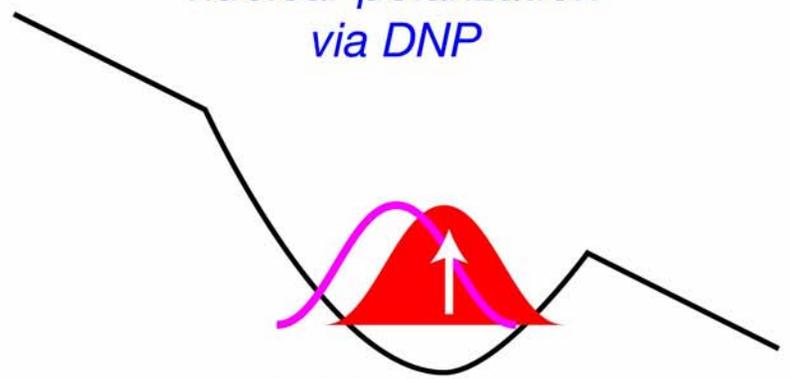
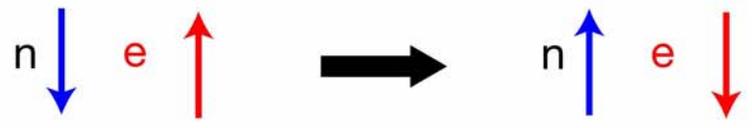
square quantum well

parabolic quantum well (PQW)

*wavefunction of lowest energy state of electron*



kinetic process



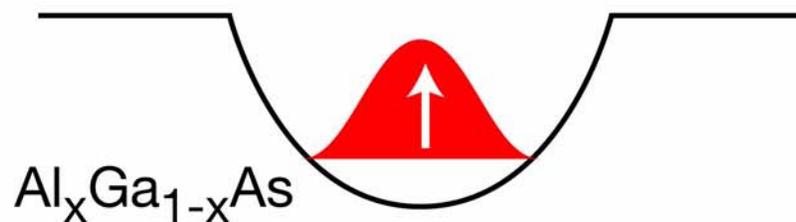
PQW with electric field

# Spatial structure of nuclear spin relaxation

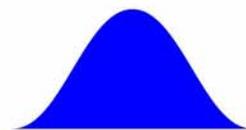
relaxation



polarize nuclei via DNP

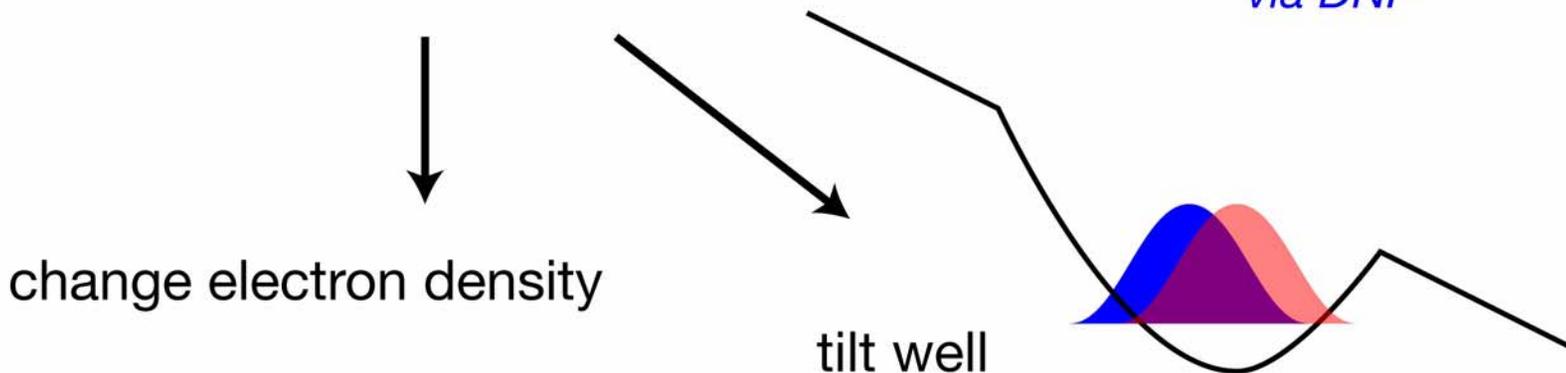


$$T_{1n}^{-1}(\mathbf{r}_n) = \frac{512\pi^3 \beta_e^2 \beta_n^2 k_B T \int d\varepsilon A^2(\mathbf{r}_n, \varepsilon) f'_{FD}(\varepsilon)}{3\hbar I(I+1)(2I+1)}$$



*spatial structure of  
nuclear polarization  
via DNP*

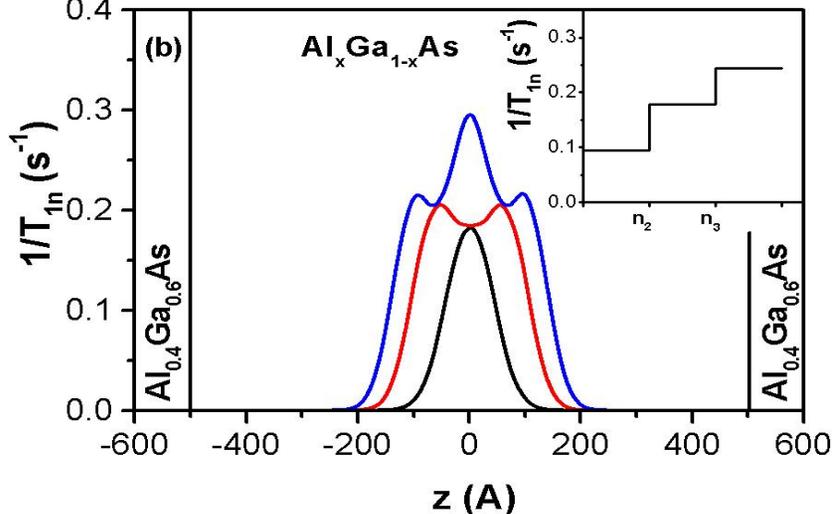
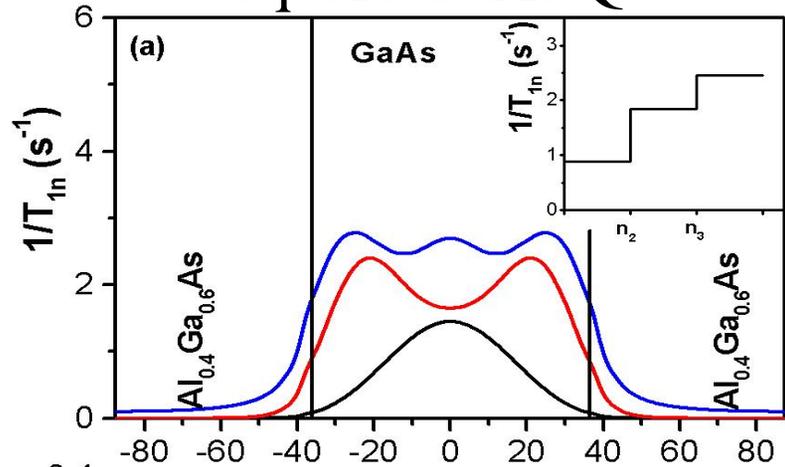
depends on the square of the  
**electronic local density of states**



# Tuning nuclear spin dynamics with an electric field

*I. Tifrea, MEF, PRL 90, 237601 (2003)*

## Square GaAs QW



## Parabolic GaAs QW

The nuclear spin relaxation rate as function of the position in the QW for different conduction subband occupancy at  $T=30\text{K}$

**black line - single subband occupancy**

**red line - double subband occupancy**

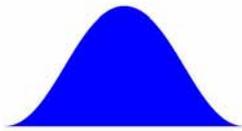
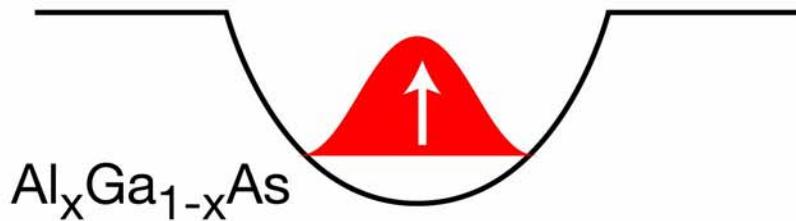
**blue line - triple subband occupancy**

**Inset: initial nuclear spin relaxation rate for different band occupancy;  $n_2$  ( $n_3$ ) represents the minimum doping level required for the occupancy of the second (third) conduction subband.**

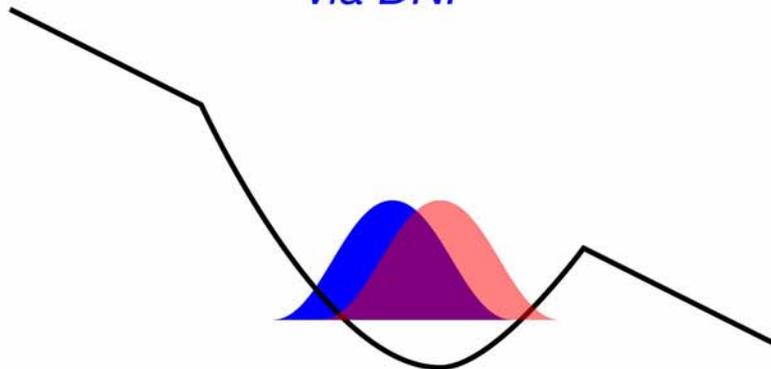
# Amplifying the effect of a tilt ( $\delta$ -doping)

use nucleus with different resonant frequency - like indium

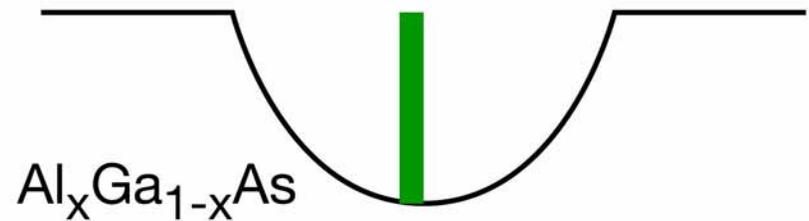
polarize nuclei via DNP



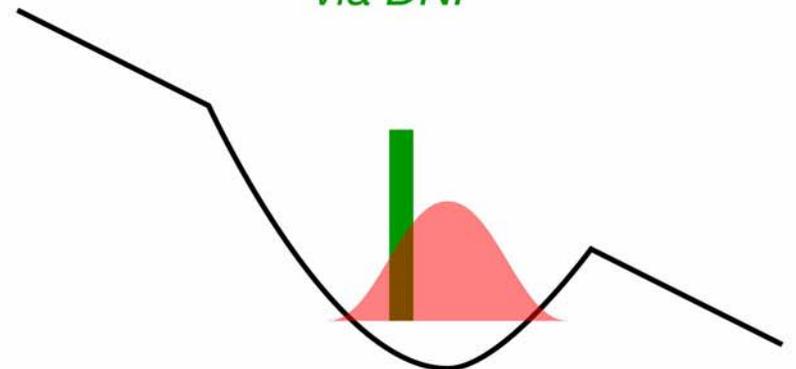
*spatial structure of  
nuclear polarization  
via DNP*



monolayer of In

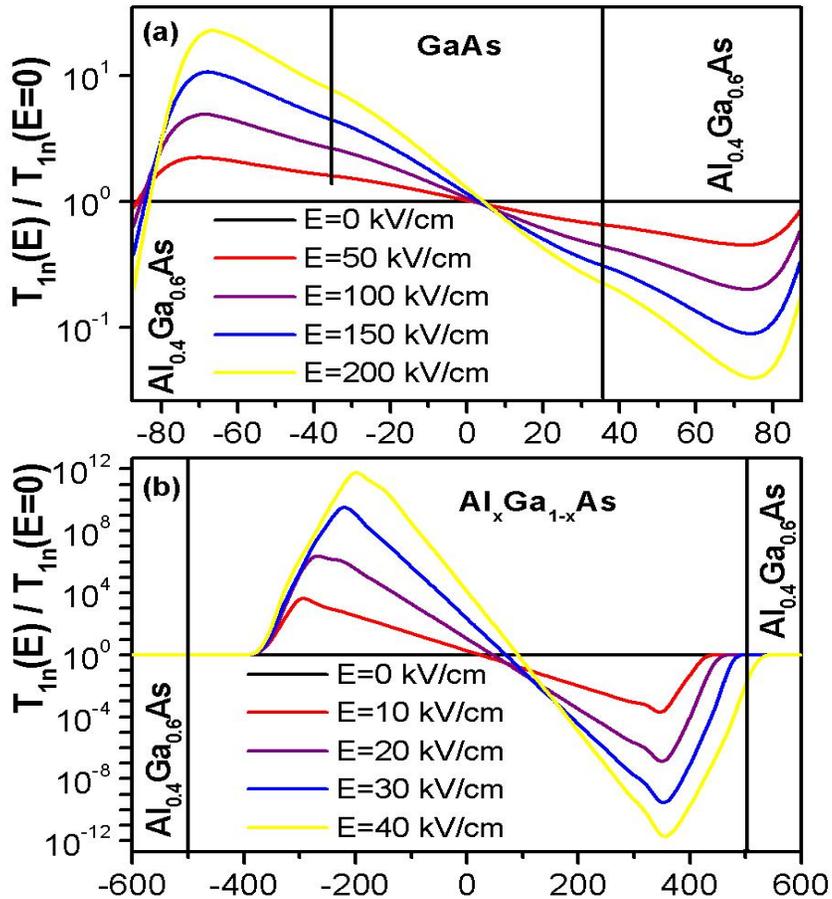


*spatial structure of  
In nuclear polarization  
via DNP*



# Manipulating a delta-doped layer of nuclei

## Square GaAs QW



The ratio of the relaxation times in the presence and absence of the electric field as function of the position in the QW at  $T=30$  K

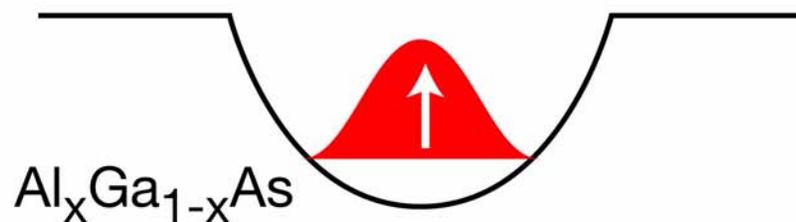
## Parabolic GaAs QW

# Spatial structure of nuclear spin relaxation

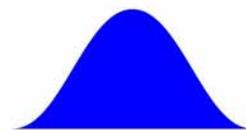
relaxation



polarize nuclei via DNP



$$T_{1n}^{-1}(\mathbf{r}_n) = \frac{512\pi^3 \beta_e^2 \beta_n^2 k_B T \int d\varepsilon A^2(\mathbf{r}_n, \varepsilon) f'_{FD}(\varepsilon)}{3\hbar I(I+1)(2I+1)}$$

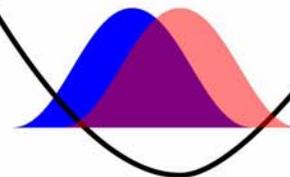


*spatial structure of  
nuclear polarization  
via DNP*

depends on the square of the  
**electronic local density of states**

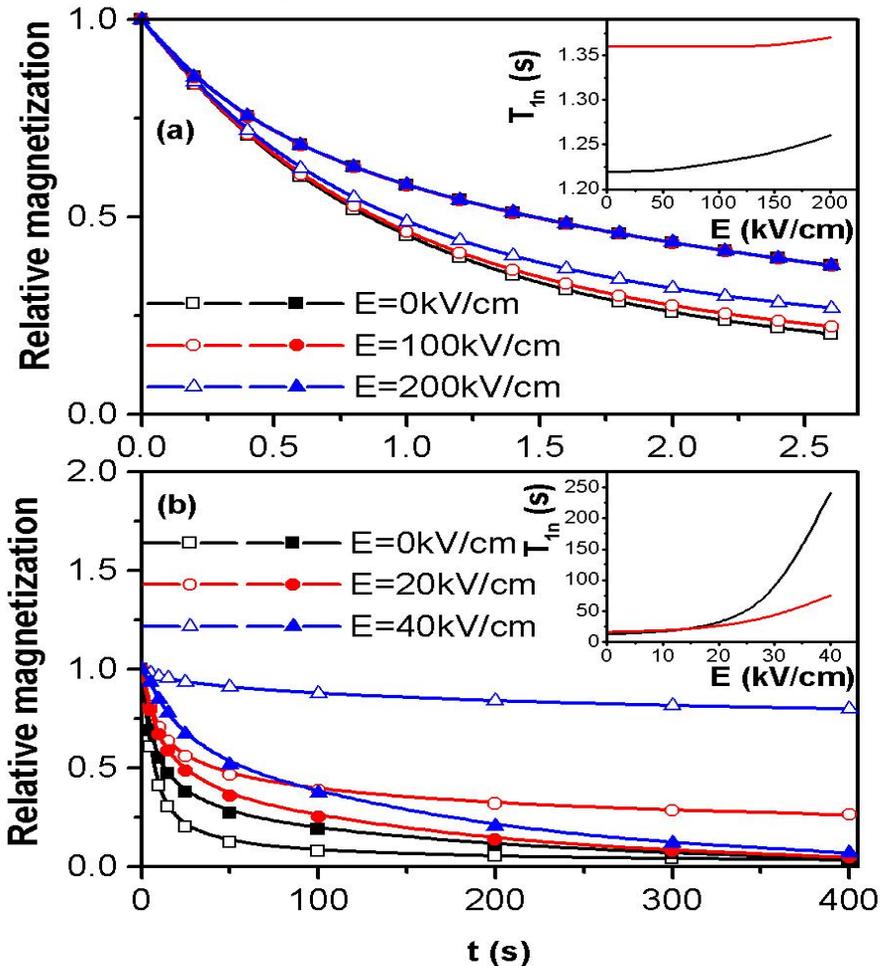
change electron density

tilt well



# Manipulating uniformly distributed nuclei

## Square GaAs QW



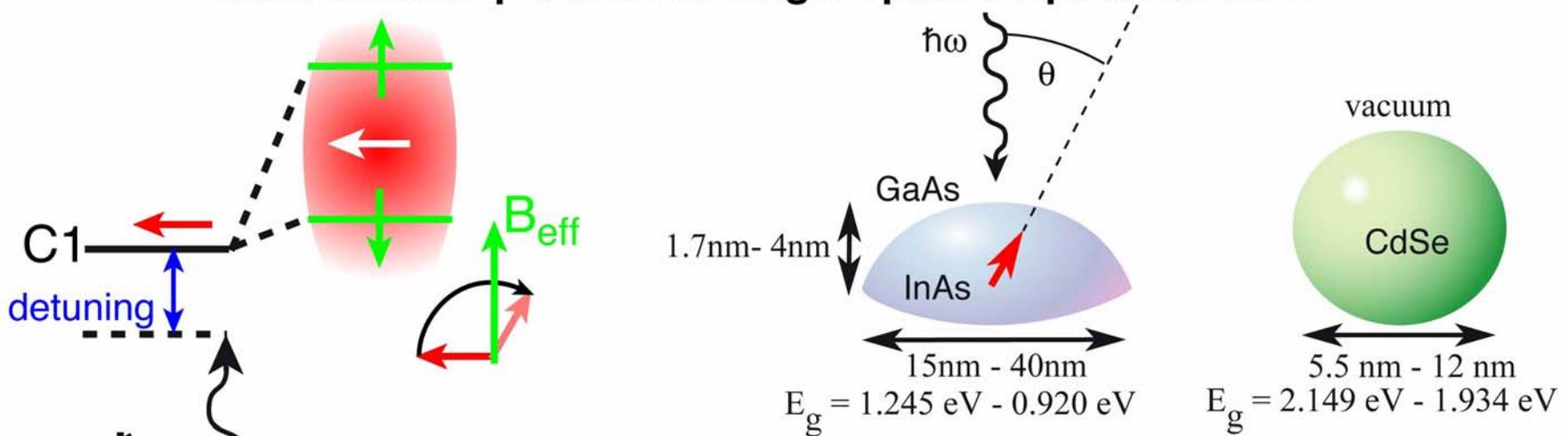
## Parabolic GaAs QW

The total relative nuclear magnetization as function of time for different values of the applied electric field at  $T=30$  K in the presence (full symbols) and absence (open symbols) of diffusion.

**Inset:** total nuclear spin relaxation time as function of the electric field

# Spin Optical Stark Effect in Quantum Dots

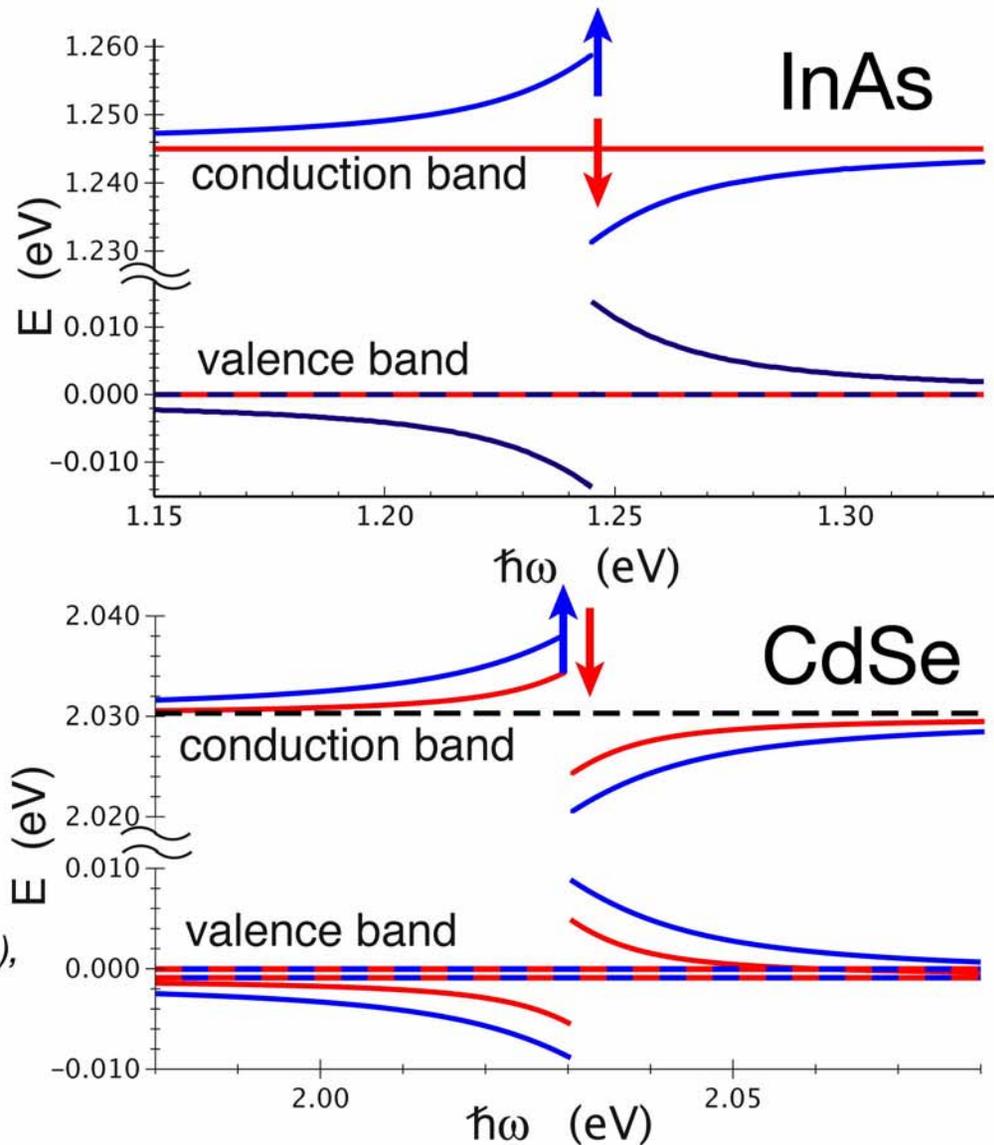
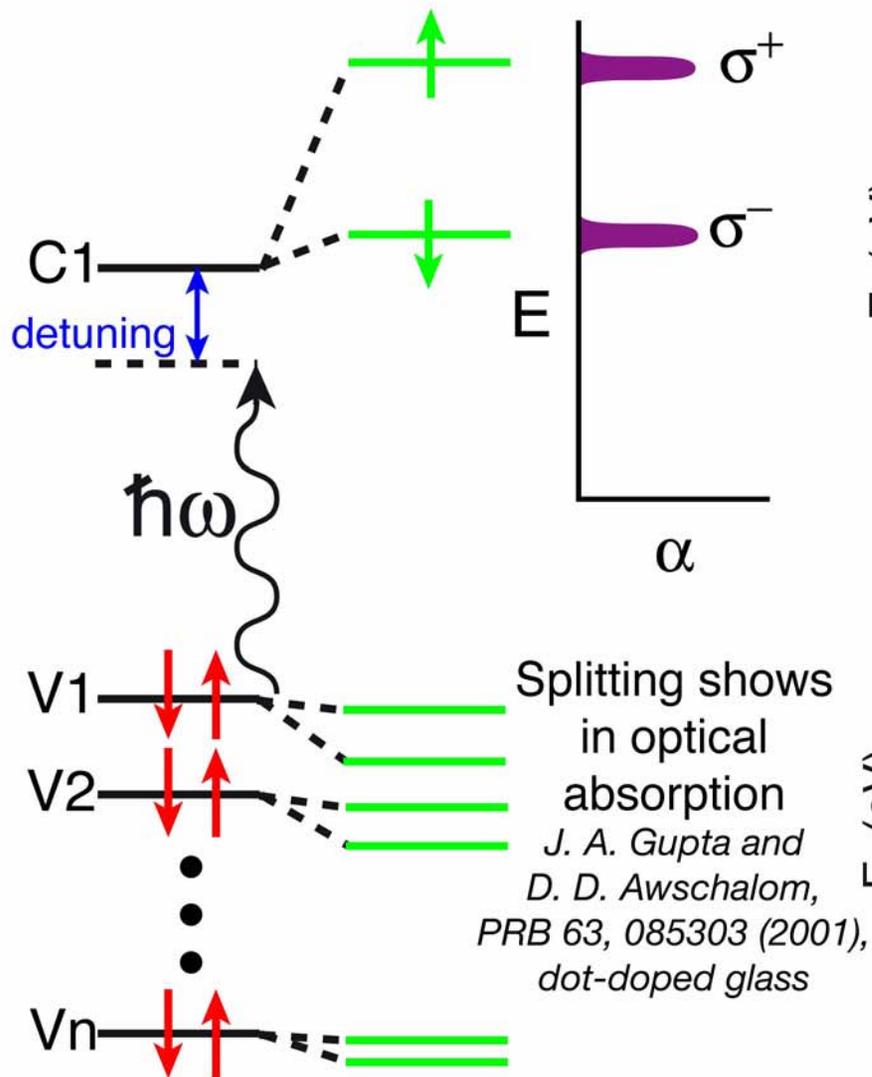
Presence of virtual excitons creates a spin splitting which behaves as an effective magnetic field  
**ultrafast manipulation of single spins in quantum dots**



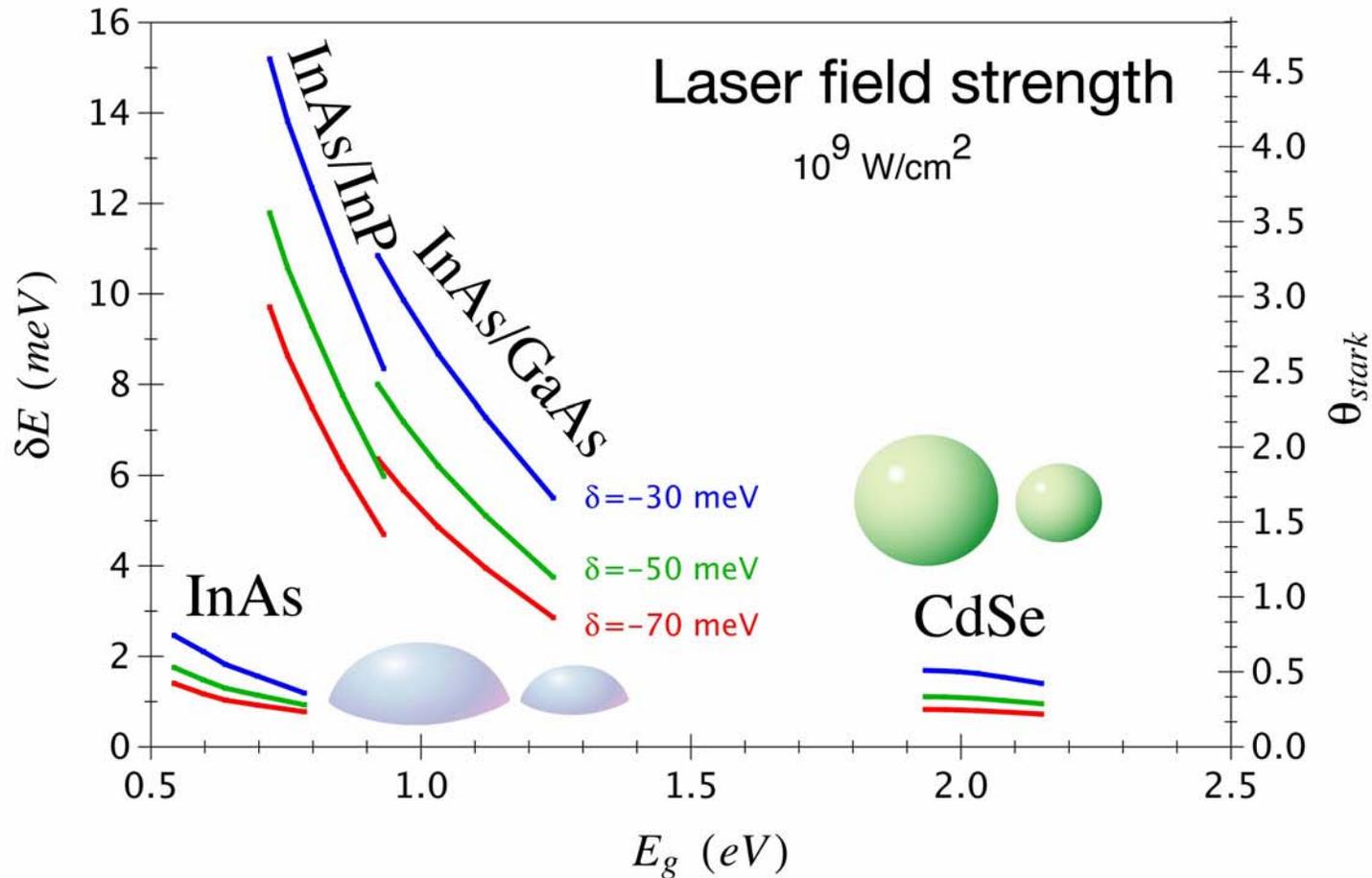
## Calculational Technique

- restricted basis of dot states solved
- non-perturbatively in strong light field
- k·p Hamiltonian, envelope functions
- InAs SAQD: minimize strain energy (continuum elasticity)
- 8-band model
- CdSe CQD: (one-band) conduction and (four-band) valence models
- unstrained

# Detuning Dependence of Stark Shift

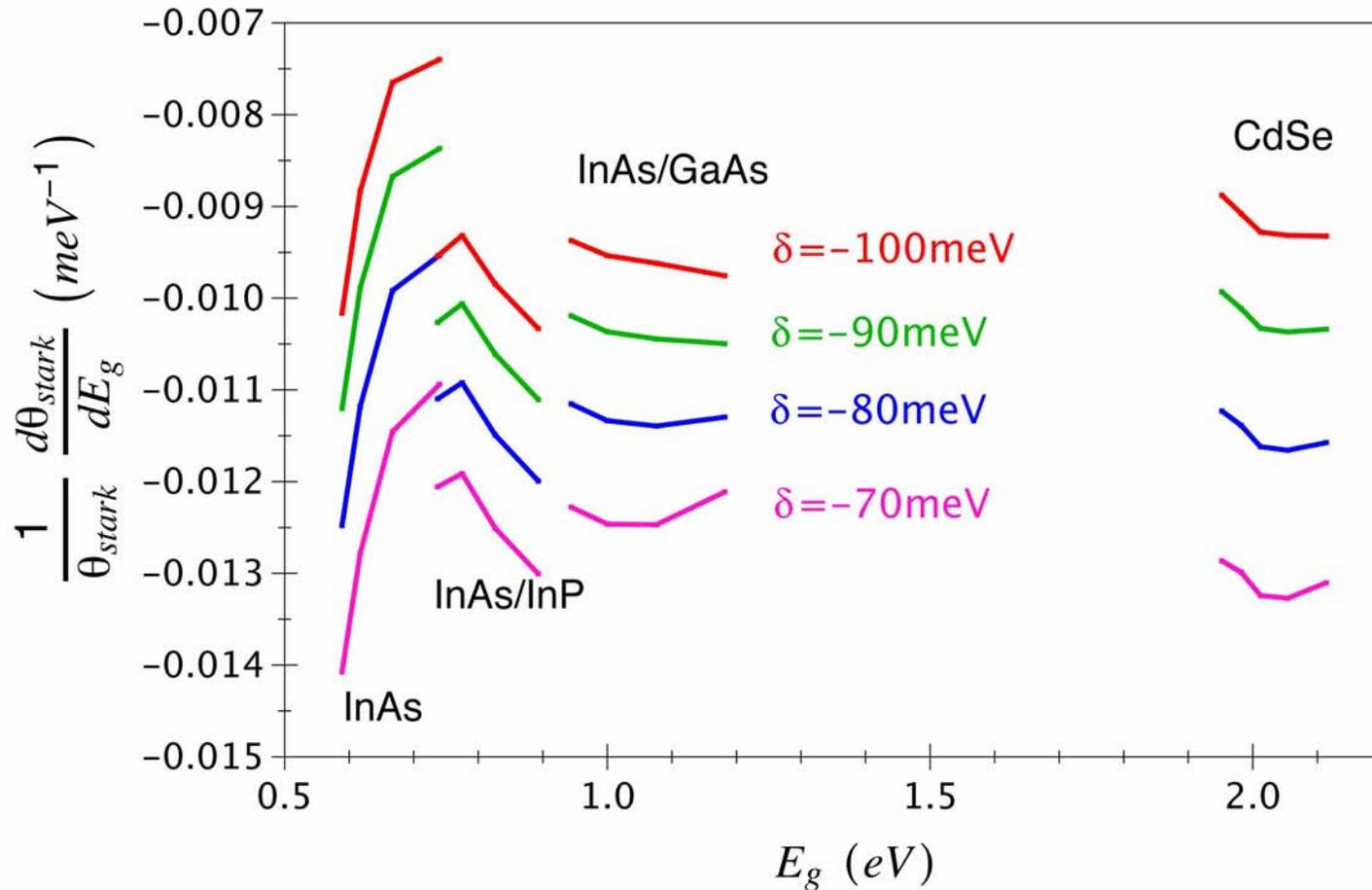


# Optically-Induced Spin Splitting in Quantum Dots



*Complete spin flip possible in 200 femtoseconds*

# Errors in single qubit operations using dots



*Error for single qubit operation in InAs/InP dot with 0.1meV linewidth is  $10^{-6}$*

# Spin Fidelity from a Quantum Dot

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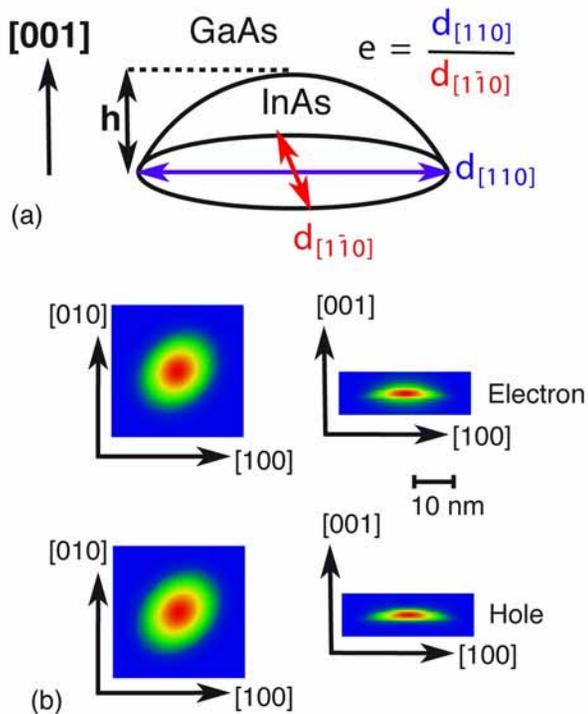


FIG. 1: (a) The quantum dot geometry. (b) Electron and hole wave functions for a dot with  $e = 1.4$  and  $h = 2.8$  nm

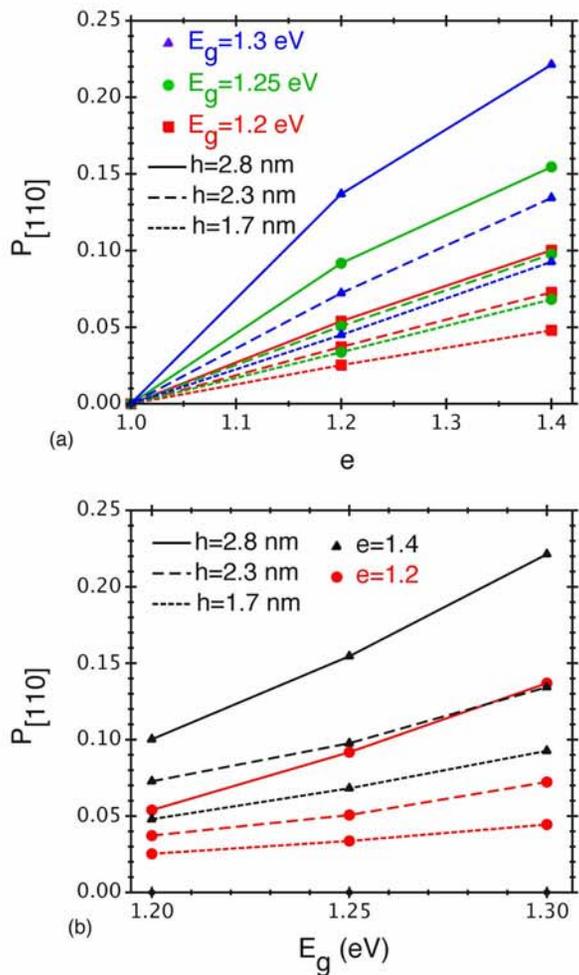
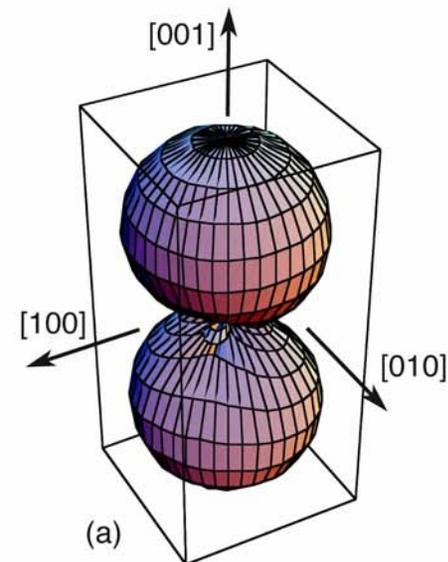


FIG. 2: (a) Polarization along  $[110]$ , as a function of elongation. (b) Polarization along  $[110]$ , as a function of bandgap.



# Materials Issues are Essential for QI

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Spin coherence times

*influenced by inversion asymmetry of the material*

*(110) growth has promise:*

*control of spin coherence times with gates*

Integration of magnetic and semiconducting materials

*coherent transport between magnetic and nonmagnetic materials*

*- new spin detection and amplification methods*

Control of nuclear properties in semiconductor structures

*spatially-selective nuclear magnetic resonance*

*manipulation of nuclear pseudomagnetic fields*

Spin manipulation and detection in quantum dots

*importance of dot shape for selection rules for*

*AC Stark effect and photoluminescence*

# **Spin coherence times in nanoscale geometries**

**Ferromagnetic  
Semiconductors**

**Inhomogeneous  
Spin transport**

**Optical manipulation  
Of nuclear spin**

**Spin manipulation  
In quantum dots**

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