

Chap 23 Optical properties of metals and inelastic scattering

- Propagation of EM wave
- Plasma wave
- Optical properties
- Angle resolved photo-emission

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Attenuation of EM wave (I)

$$n = \sqrt{\varepsilon} = n_R + in_I$$

$$n_R = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} \sqrt{|\varepsilon| + \varepsilon'}$$

$$n_I = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} \sqrt{|\varepsilon| - \varepsilon'} \cong \frac{\varepsilon''}{2\sqrt{\varepsilon'}} \quad (\text{if } \varepsilon'' \ll \varepsilon')$$

- Attenuation of plane wave due to n_I

$$\begin{aligned} \exp(i\vec{k} \cdot \vec{r}) &= \exp\left(in \frac{\omega}{c} \hat{k} \cdot \vec{r}\right) \\ &= \exp(in_R \frac{\omega}{c} \hat{k} \cdot \vec{r}) \exp(-n_I \frac{\omega}{c} \hat{k} \cdot \vec{r}) \end{aligned}$$

- Reflectivity (or reflectance, normal direction)

$$R = \frac{(n_R - 1)^2 + n_I^2}{(n_R + 1)^2 + n_I^2}$$

Attenuation of EM wave (II)

- Decay of intensity (energy density)

$$I(x) \equiv \frac{n_R^2}{8\pi} |E(x)|^2 = I_0 e^{-\alpha x}$$

$$\alpha = 2n_I \frac{\omega}{c} \cong \frac{\omega}{n_R c} \varepsilon''$$

- Penetration depth

$$\delta \equiv 1/\alpha$$

- Power loss (per unit volume)

$$\left| \frac{dI}{dt} \right| = \left| \frac{dI}{dx} \frac{dx}{dt} \right| = \alpha I_0 \frac{c}{n_R} = \frac{I_0}{n_R^2} \omega \varepsilon''$$

- dielectric function for metal

$$\sigma(\omega) = \frac{\sigma_0}{1 - i\omega\tau}, \quad \sigma_0 \equiv \frac{ne^2\tau}{m}$$

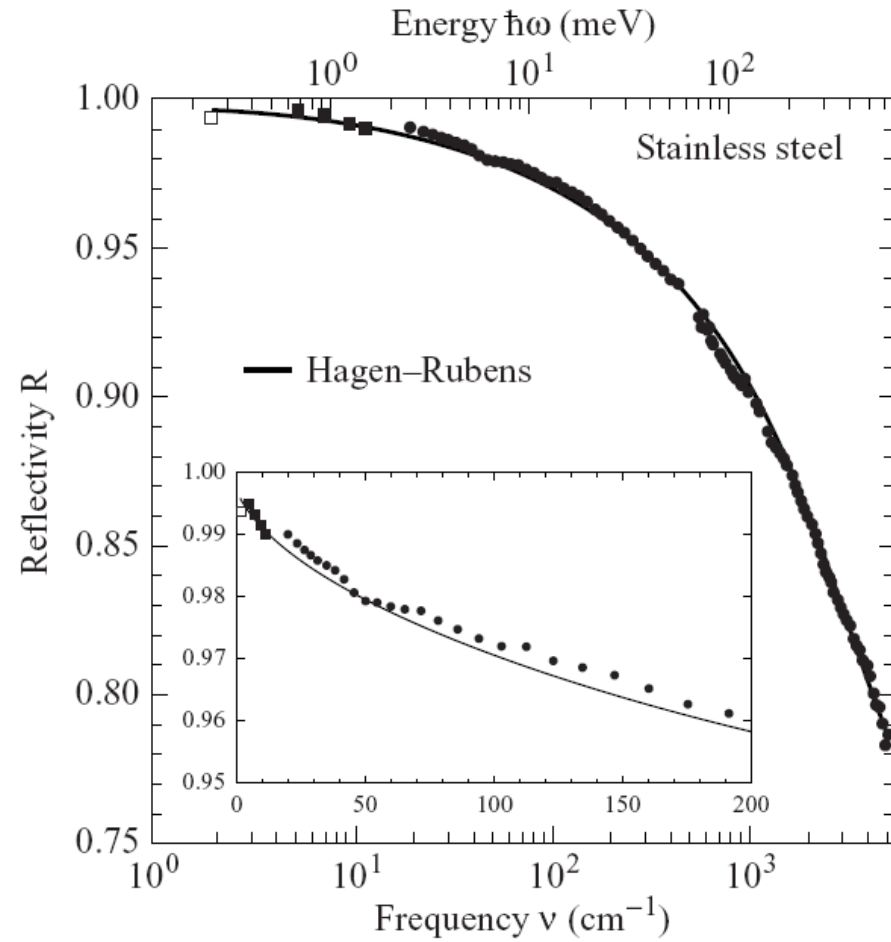
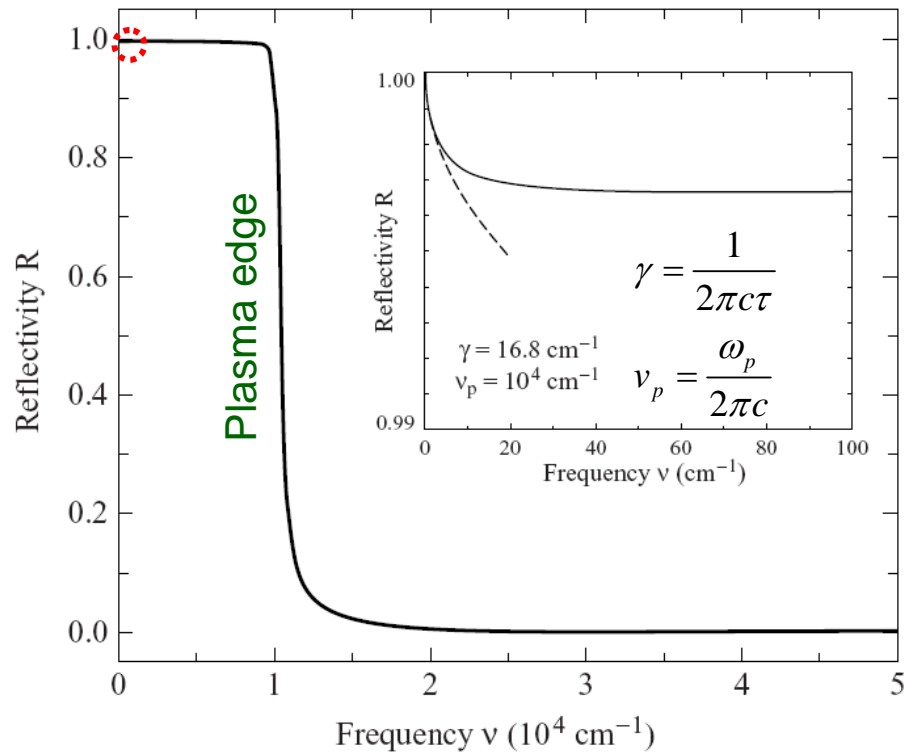
$$\varepsilon(\omega) = 1 + \frac{4\pi i\sigma_0}{\omega(1 - i\omega\tau)} = \begin{cases} 1 + 4\pi i \frac{\sigma_0}{\omega} & \text{for } \omega\tau \ll 1 \\ 1 - \frac{\omega_p^2}{\omega^2} & \text{for } \omega\tau \gg 1 \end{cases} \quad \omega_p^2 = \frac{4\pi ne^2}{m}$$

(A) Hagen-Rubens's regime

$$\omega \tau \ll 1$$

$$\tau \sim 10^{-13} \sim 10^{-14}$$

$\therefore \omega$ can be as large as 100 GHz



$$\underline{\omega \tau \gg 1} \quad \varepsilon(\omega) = 1 - \omega_p^2 / \omega^2$$

$$(B) \omega < \omega_p \rightarrow \varepsilon(\omega) < 0$$

EM wave is damped



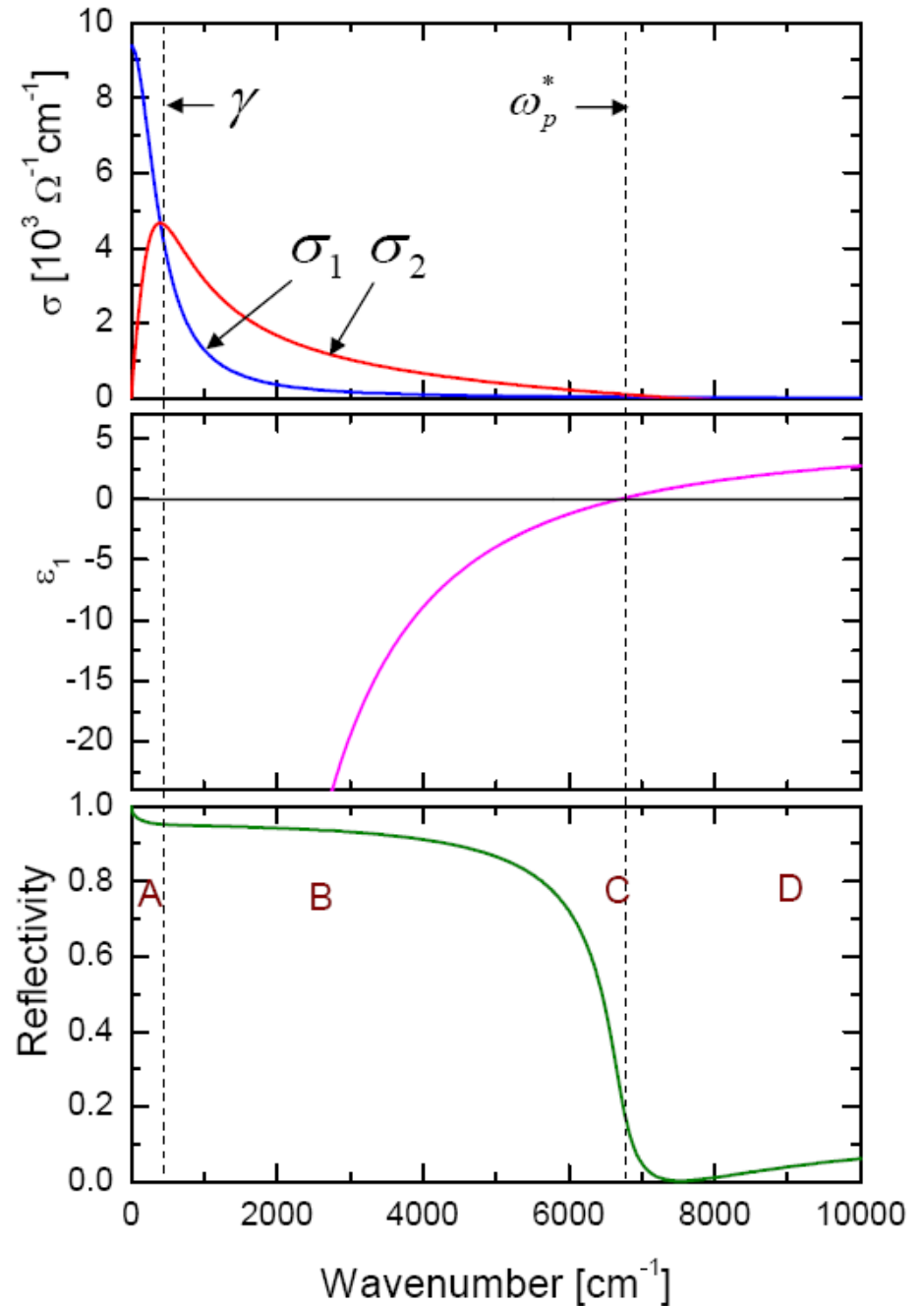
Signal blocked

$$(C) \omega = \omega_p \rightarrow \varepsilon(\omega) = 0$$

Longitudinal EM wave (plasma)

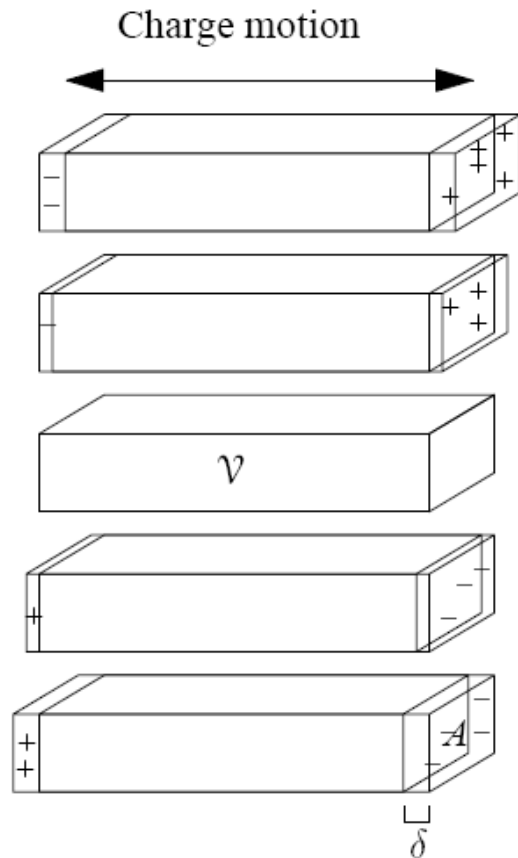
$$(D) \omega > \omega_p \rightarrow 0 < \varepsilon(\omega) < 1$$

EM wave propagates with phase velocity $c/\sqrt{\varepsilon} < c$



Plasma wave

A simple picture of plasma oscillation



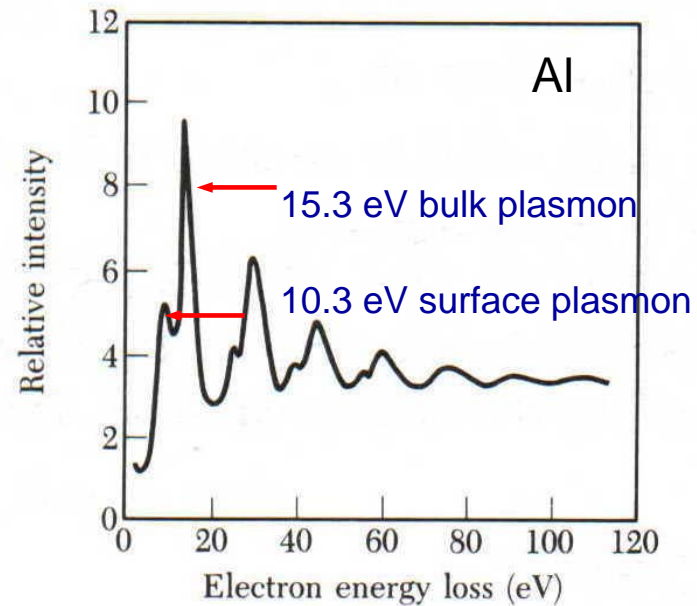
$$m\ddot{\delta} = -eE = -(4\pi ne^2)\delta$$

$$\rightarrow \omega_p = \sqrt{4\pi ne^2 / m}$$

For copper, $n=8 \times 10^{22} / \text{cm}^3$

$\omega_p = 1.6 \times 10^{16} / \text{s}$, $\lambda_p = 1200 \text{ \AA}$ (ultraviolet)

Material	Observed	Calculated	
		$\hbar\omega_p$	$\hbar\tilde{\omega}_p$
<i>Metals</i>			
Li	7.12	8.02	7.96
Na	5.71	5.95	5.58
K	3.72	4.29	3.86
Mg	10.6	10.9	
Al	15.3	15.8	ϵ_{core} correction
<i>Dielectrics</i>			
Si	16.4–16.9	16.0	
Ge	16.0–16.4	16.0	
InSb	12.0–13.0	12.0	



Dynamic susceptibility in the long wavelength limit (chap 20)

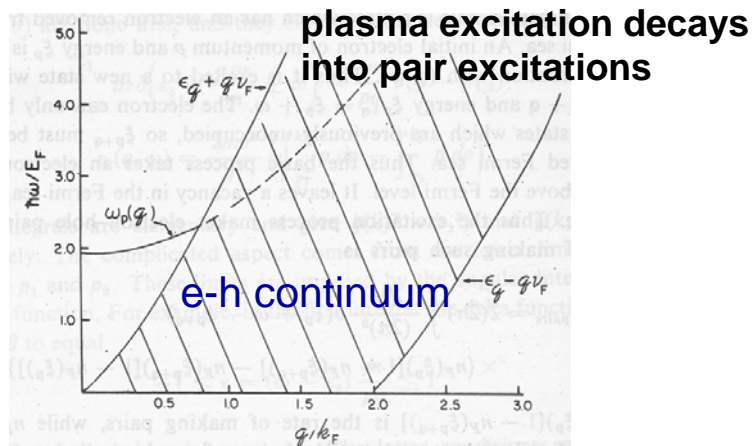
$$\epsilon(\vec{q}, \omega) = 1 - \frac{\omega_p^2}{\omega^2} \left[1 + \frac{3}{5} \left(\frac{\hbar k_F}{m\omega} \right)^2 q^2 \right]$$

For longitudinal EM wave $\epsilon(\vec{q}, \omega) = 0$

→ Energy dispersion for the plasma wave

$$\omega^2 = \omega_p^2 + \frac{6}{5} \frac{\epsilon_F}{m} q^2 + O(q^3)$$

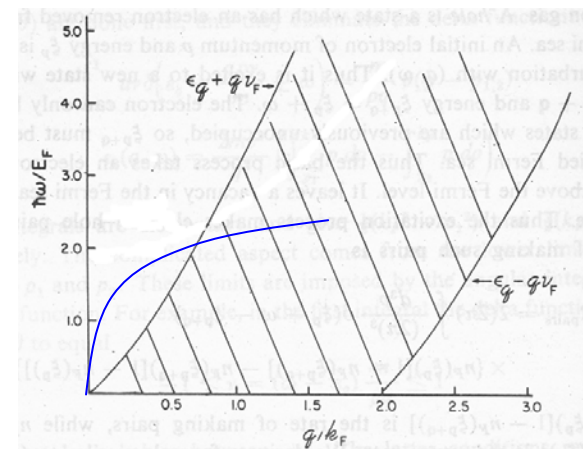
Collective excitation vs quasiparticle (e-h pair) excitation in metal



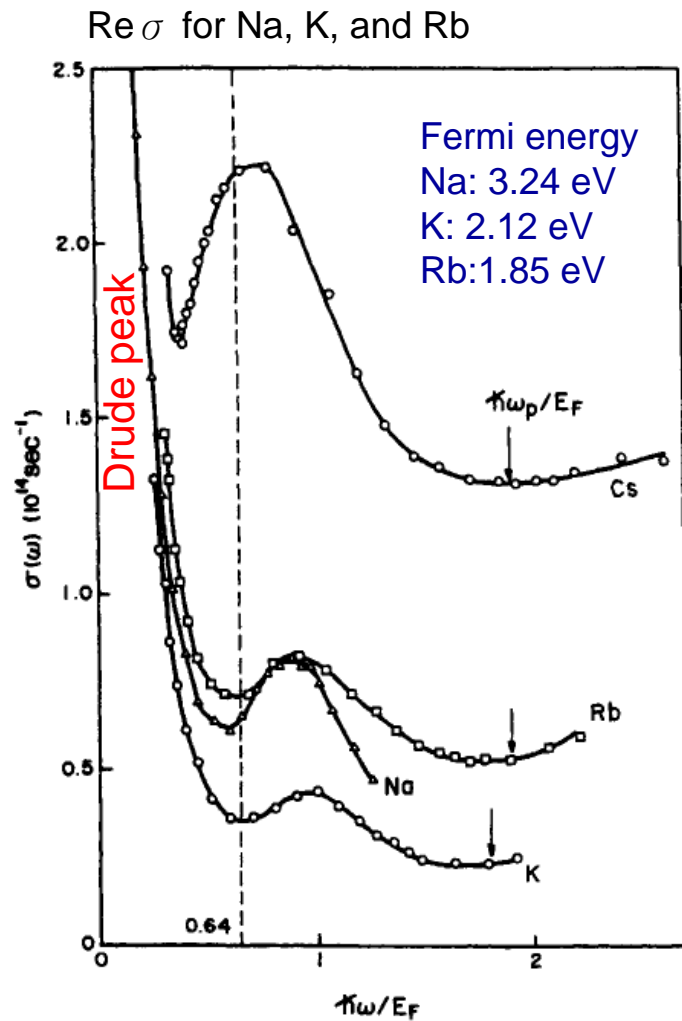
2D: for long wavelength

$$\omega_p^2 = \frac{2\pi n e^2}{m} q + \frac{3}{4} q^2 v_F^2 + O(q^3)$$

There is NO plasma gap

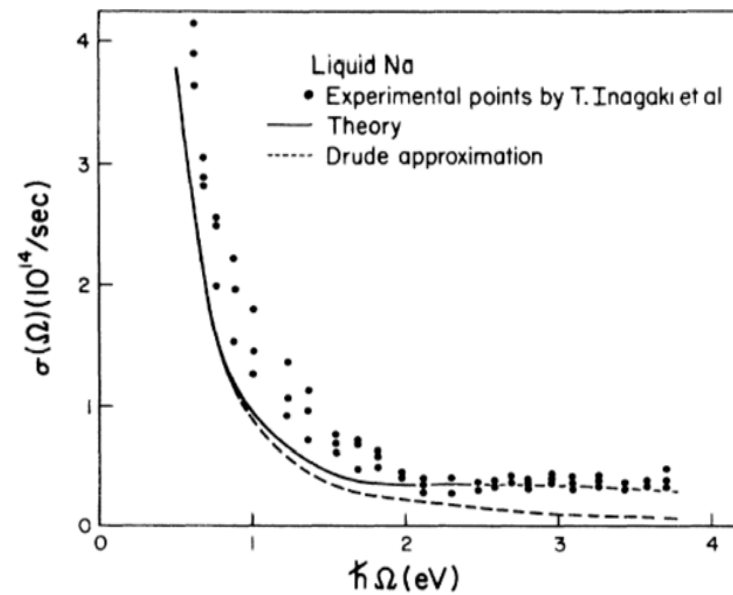
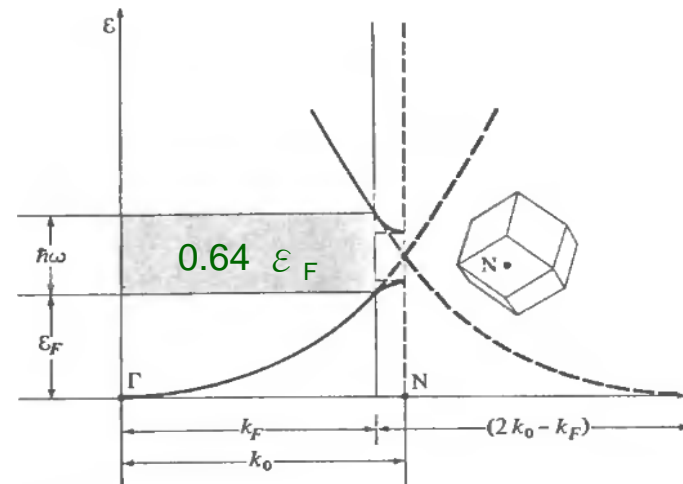


Optical properties of alkali metals



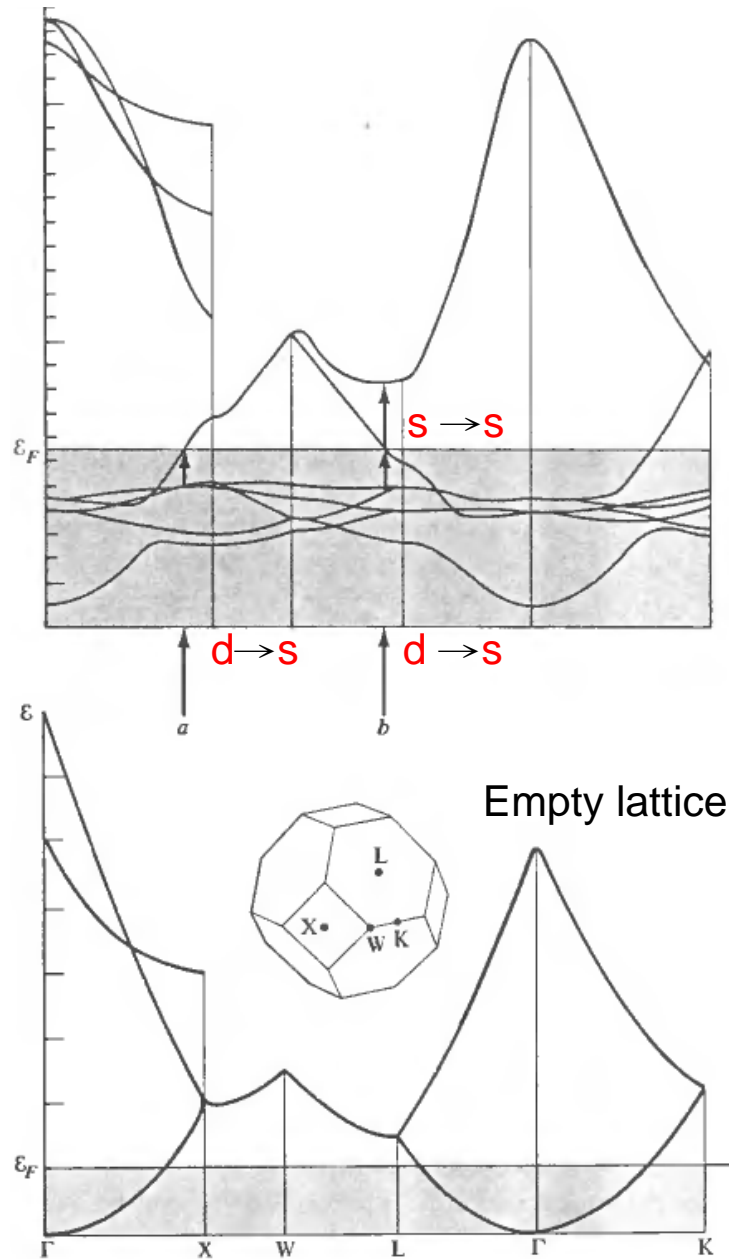
$$n = (\epsilon_0 + 4\pi i\sigma/\omega)^{1/2}$$

Absorption $\sim \text{Im}(n) \sim \text{Re}(\sigma)$

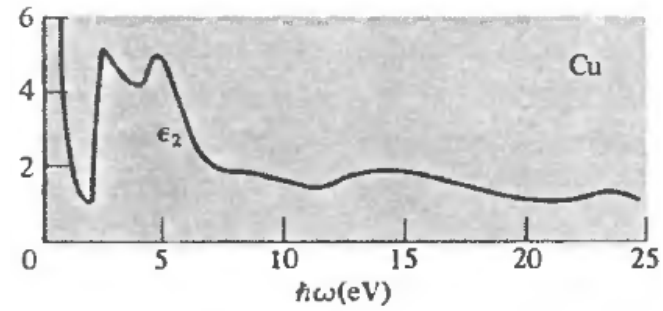


T. Inagaki et al, Phys. Rev. B 13, 5610 (1976).

Optical properties of noble metals



Cu: low threshold (2eV)



Ag: high threshold (4eV)

