

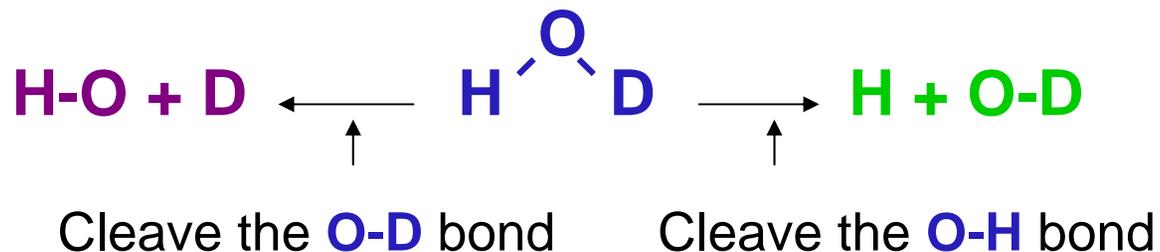
# Coherent Control: from concept to reality

**General objectives:** Control of future events.

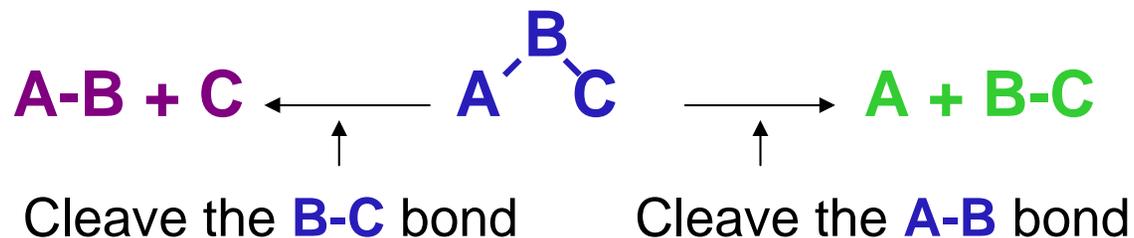
**Tools:** Use controlled quantum interference between **material waves**. We access the same final state using more than one pathway. Lacking the “which way” information these pathways interfere.

But interference is not enough. In order to achieve control we need to “**tune**” this interference, and this is done with a **photon**.

**A possible objective:** to control the outcome of chemical reactions.

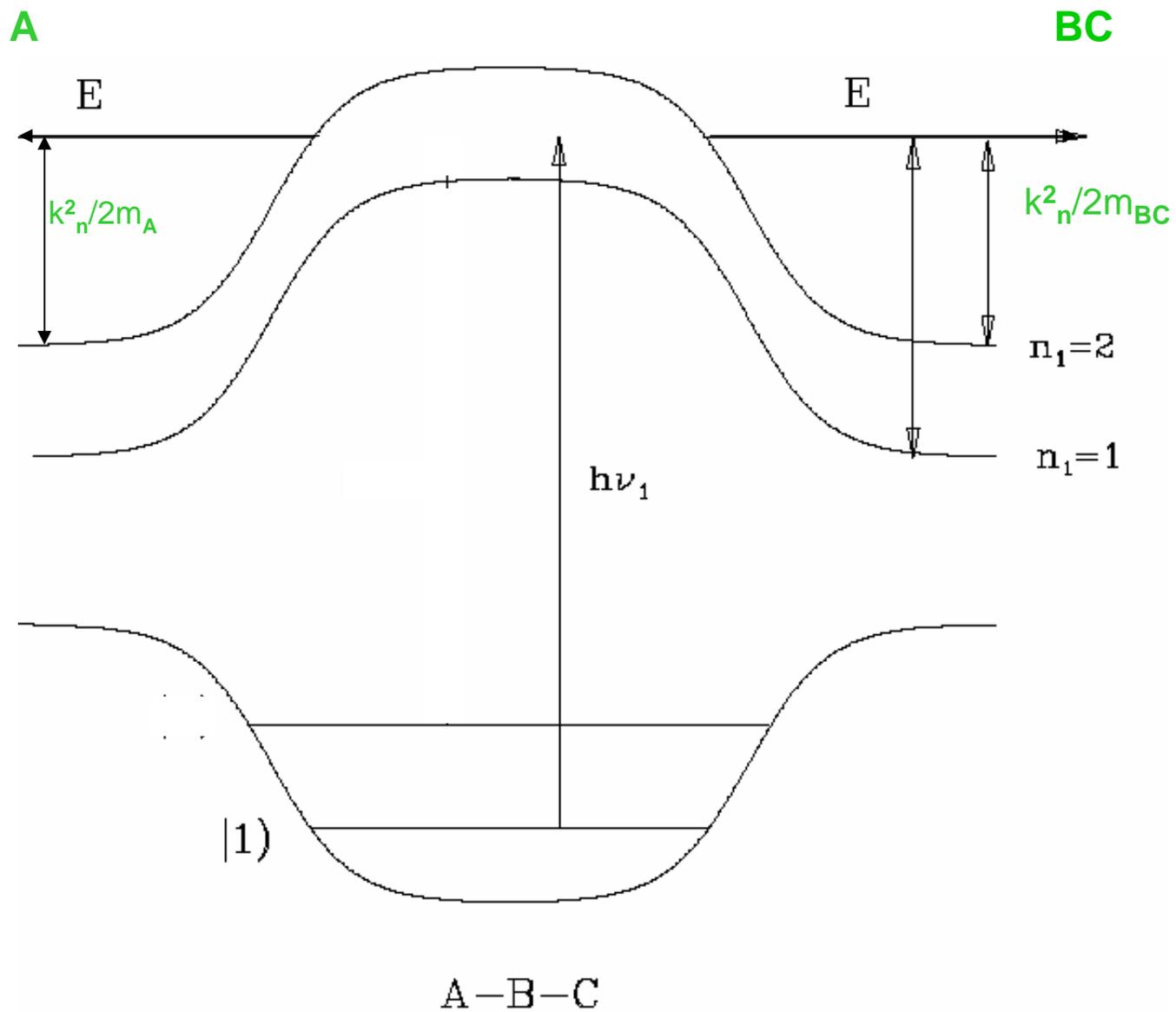


Or in greater generality:



where **A**, **B**, or **C** can be any atom or any group of atoms.

# photodissociation



# Photo-exciting a Molecule with a Pulse of Light

The matter-radiation Schrödinger equation

$$i\hbar \frac{d\Psi(t)}{dt} = H(t)\Psi(t),$$

where  $H(t) = H_M + H_{MR}$  is the total Hamiltonian,  $H_M$  is the material Hamiltonian, and  $H_{MR}$  is the matter-radiation interaction.

in the dipole approximation,

$$H_{MR} = -\mathbf{d} \cdot \mathbf{E}_R(z, t)$$

where  $\mathbf{d} \equiv \sum_j q_j \mathbf{r}_j$  .

$\mathbf{E}_R(r, t)$  is **a Pulse of Light**

$$\mathbf{E}_R(z, t) = \hat{\mathbf{e}} \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} d\omega \epsilon(\omega) \exp(-i\omega\tau)$$

where  $\tau \equiv t - z/c$  is the “retarded time”,

$$\epsilon(\omega) = |\epsilon(\omega)|e^{i\phi(\omega)},$$

where  $\phi(\omega)$  are frequency dependent phases. Because of the reality of the field

$$\epsilon(-\omega) = \epsilon^*(\omega) .$$

Hence

$$\phi(-\omega) = -\phi(\omega)$$

$$|\epsilon(-\omega)| = |\epsilon(\omega)| .$$

We can solve the Schrödinger equation

$$i\hbar \frac{d\Psi(t)}{dt} = H\Psi(t)$$

using the eigenstates of the material

Hamiltonian,  $H_M | E_n \rangle = E_n | E_n \rangle$

as a basis set, by expanding  $\Psi(t)$  as,

$$\Psi(t) = \sum_n b_n(t) | E_n \rangle e^{-iE_n t/\hbar}.$$

We obtain that

$$\frac{db_m(t)}{dt} = \frac{-i}{\hbar} \sum_n b_n(t) e^{i\omega_{m,n}t} \langle E_m | H_{MR} | E_n \rangle$$

where  $\omega_{m,n} \equiv (E_m - E_n)/\hbar$ .

The molecule is initially ( $t = -\infty$ ) in a single state  $|E_1\rangle$ , i.e.,

$$b_1(t = -\infty) = 1, \text{ and } b_{k \neq 1}(t = -\infty) = 0$$

If  $H_{MR}(t)$  is weak, namely,

$$\int_{-\infty}^{\infty} dt |\langle E_i | H_{MR}(t) | E_j \rangle| / \hbar \ll 1,$$

then,

$$b_m(t) = \frac{id_{m,1}}{\hbar} \int_{-\infty}^t dt' e^{i\omega_{m,1}t'} \varepsilon(z, t') =$$

$$\frac{id_{m,1}}{\hbar} \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} d\omega \bar{\varepsilon}(\omega) \int_{-\infty}^t dt' e^{i(\omega_{m,1} - \omega)t'},$$

where

$$d_{m,1} \equiv \langle E_m | d \cdot \hat{\epsilon} | E_1 \rangle,$$

$$\varepsilon(z, t) = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} d\omega \bar{\epsilon}(\omega) e^{-i\omega t}$$

is the length of the  $E_R(z, t) = \varepsilon(z, t) \hat{\epsilon}$

vector and

$$\bar{\epsilon}(\omega) \equiv |\epsilon(\omega)| e^{i(\phi(\omega) + \omega z/c)}.$$

$\Psi(t)$  as  $t \rightarrow +\infty$  is obtained using

$$\int_{-\infty}^{\infty} dt' e^{i(\omega_{m,1} - \omega)t'} = 2\pi \delta(\omega_{m,1} - \omega),$$

to yield

$$b_m(+\infty) = \frac{2\pi i}{\hbar} d_{m,1} \bar{\epsilon}(\omega_{m,1}) =$$

$$\frac{2\pi i}{\hbar} d_{m,1} |\epsilon(\omega_{m,1})| e^{i(\phi(\omega_{m,1}) + \omega_{m,1}z/c)}.$$

A material energy state  $|E_m\rangle$  only absorbs or emits modes, at infinite time, for which

$$\omega = \omega_{m,1} \quad \text{OR} \quad \omega' = -\omega_{m,1}.$$

## State Preparation During the Pulse

At finite times, while the pulse is on,

$$b_m(t) = \langle E, m | \Psi(t) \rangle = \\ (i/\hbar) d_{m,1} \int_{-\infty}^t dt' \varepsilon(t') e^{i\omega_{m,1}t'}$$

The probability of observing state  $|E, m\rangle$

is, 
$$P_m(t) = |\langle E, m | \Psi(t) \rangle|^2 = |b_m(t)|^2$$

$$b_m(t) = (i/\hbar)d_{m,1}\bar{\epsilon}(\omega_{m,1})c_m(t),$$

where

$$c_m(t) \equiv \frac{1}{\bar{\epsilon}(\omega_{m,1})} \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} d\omega \epsilon(\omega) \frac{e^{i(\omega_{m,1}-\omega)t}}{i(\omega_{m,1} - \omega)} .$$

For a Lorentzian profile,

$$\epsilon(\omega) = (1/2\pi) \frac{\epsilon_a \Gamma}{(\omega - \omega_a)^2 + \Gamma^2/4},$$

the contribution of the “rotating wave” term is given, as,

$$c_m^+(t) = 2\pi \left\{ \theta(t) - \left[ \frac{i(\omega_{m,1} - \omega_a)}{\Gamma} + \frac{\text{sgn}(t)}{2} \right] \cdot \exp[-\Gamma|t|/2 + i(\omega_{m,1} - \omega_a)t] \right\},$$

where

$$\text{sgn}(t) = 1 \text{ for } t \geq 0, = -1 \text{ for } t < 0,$$

and

$$\theta(t) = [1 + \text{sgn}(t)]/2.$$

A Lorentzian frequency profile is equivalent

to choosing

$$\epsilon(t) = \epsilon_a \exp(-\Gamma|t|/2) \exp(-i\omega_a t) + c.c.,$$

which is unrealistic because of the cusp at

For a Gaussian pulse,

$$\epsilon(t) = \epsilon_a e^{-4 \ln 2 (\Gamma t)^2} [e^{-i\omega_a t} + c.c.],$$

we have that

$$\epsilon(\omega) = \pi^{-1/2} \epsilon_a \alpha e^{-\alpha^2 (\omega - \omega_a)^2},$$

where  $\alpha \equiv 1/(\Gamma 4 \ln^{1/2} 2)$ .

$$c_m(t) = \text{sgn}(t') 2\pi \left\{ \theta(t) - \frac{e^{\beta^2}}{2} W[\text{sgn}(t)\beta] \right\}$$

where,  $\beta \equiv \alpha(\omega_{m,1} - \omega_a) + i\frac{t}{2\alpha}$ .

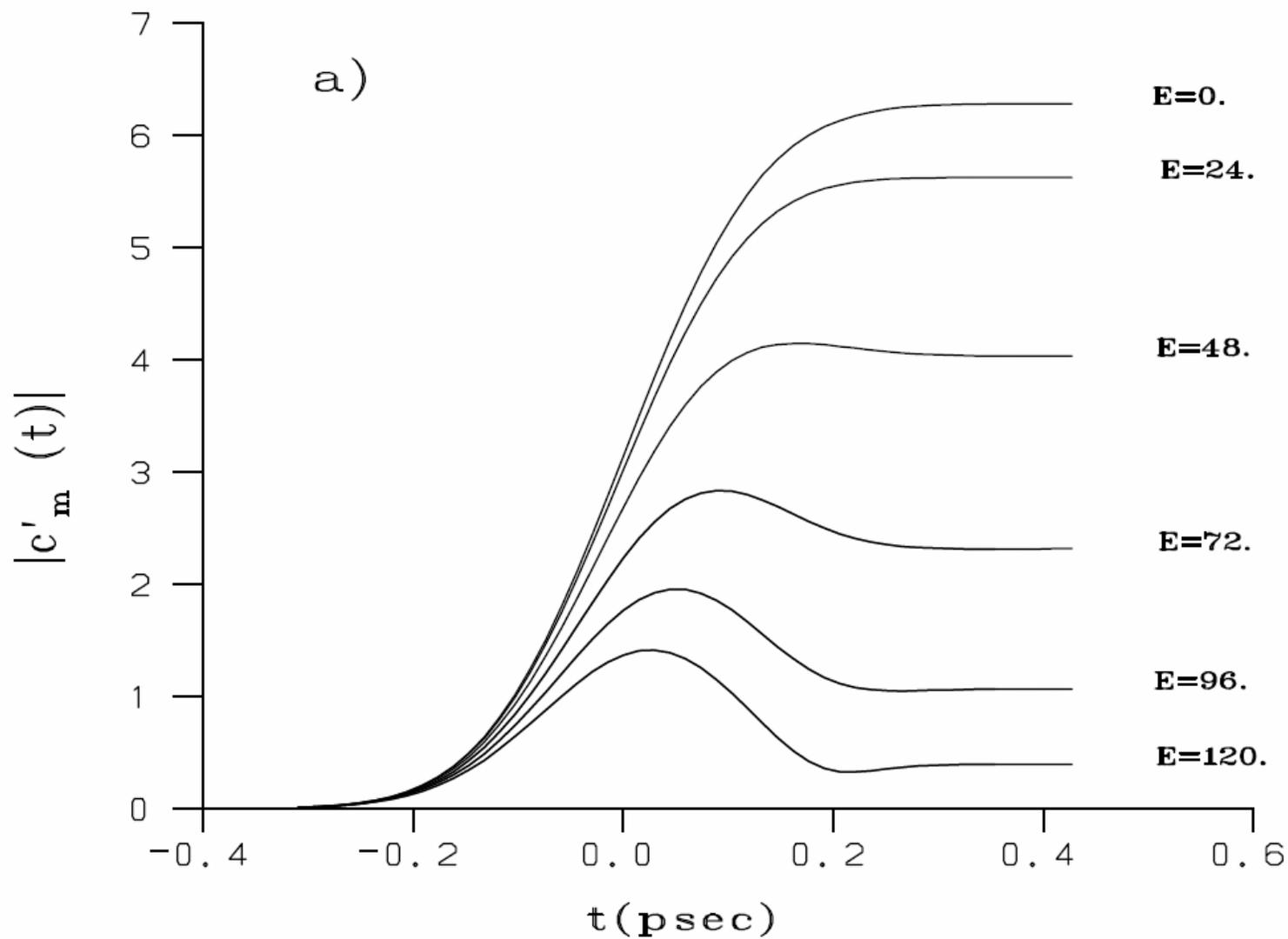
$W[z]$  is the complex error function.

$$c_m(t) \rightarrow 0, \text{ for } t \ll -1/\Gamma,$$

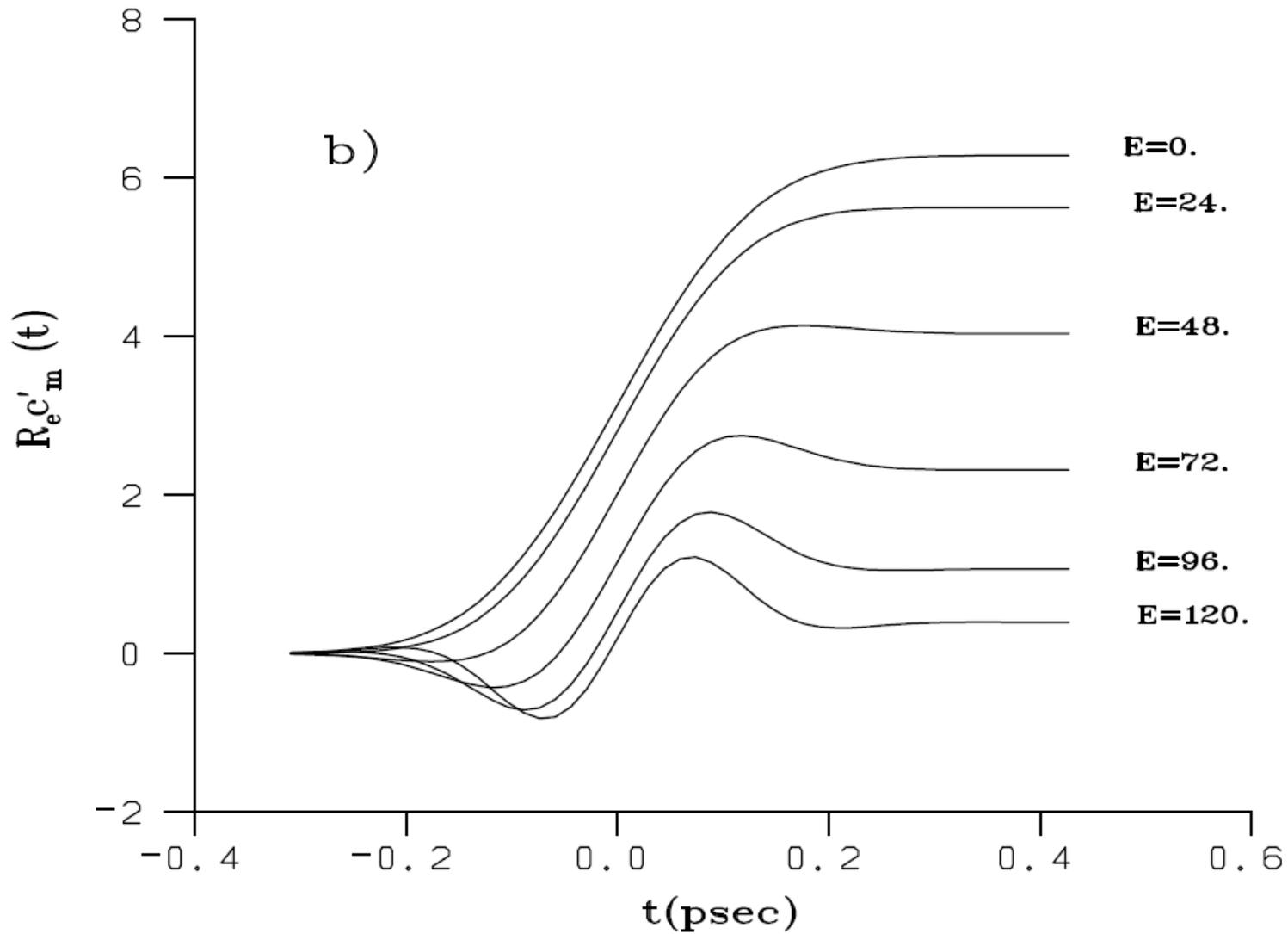
and

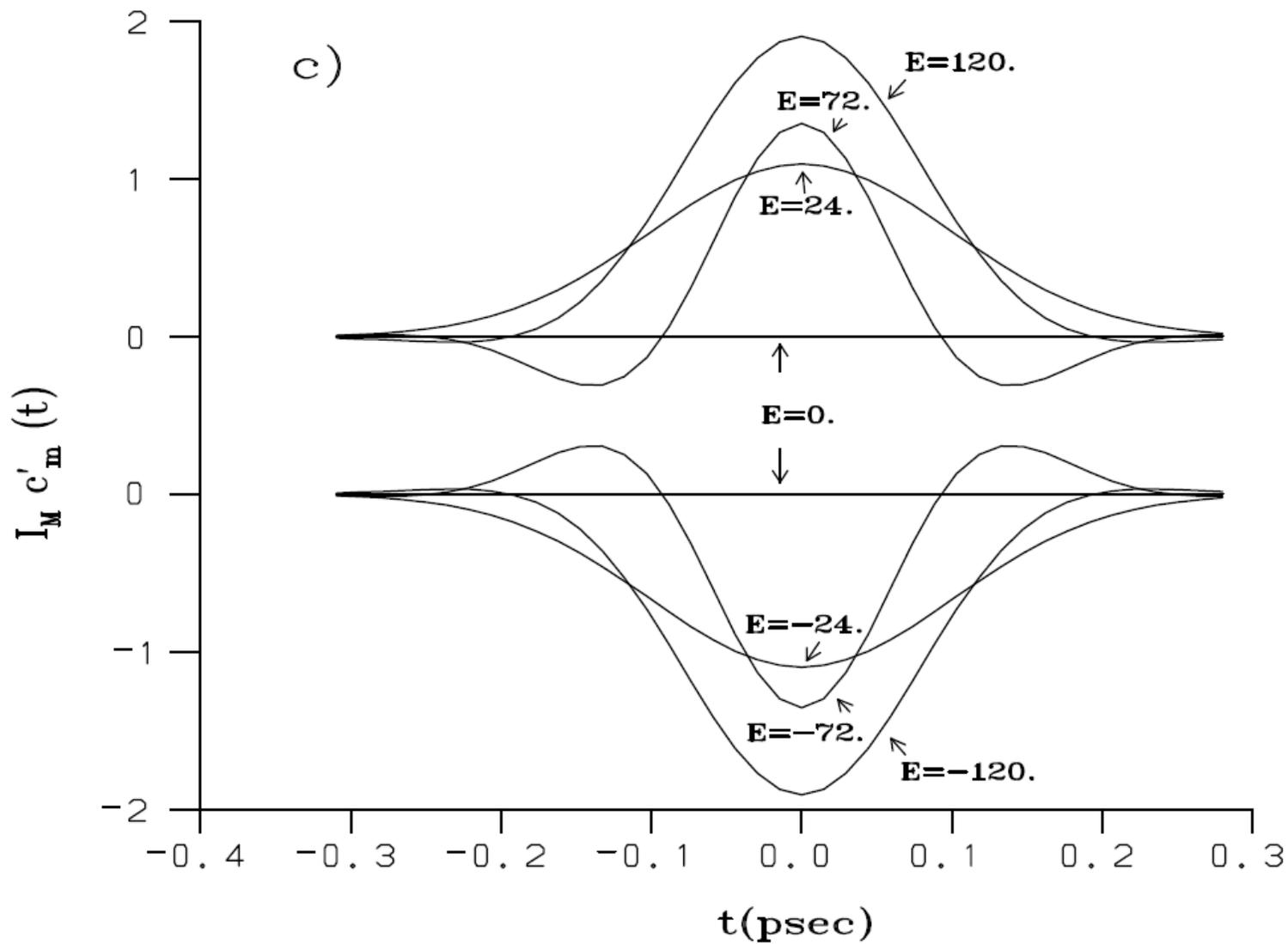
$$c_m(t) \rightarrow 2\pi, \text{ for } t \gg 1/\Gamma .$$

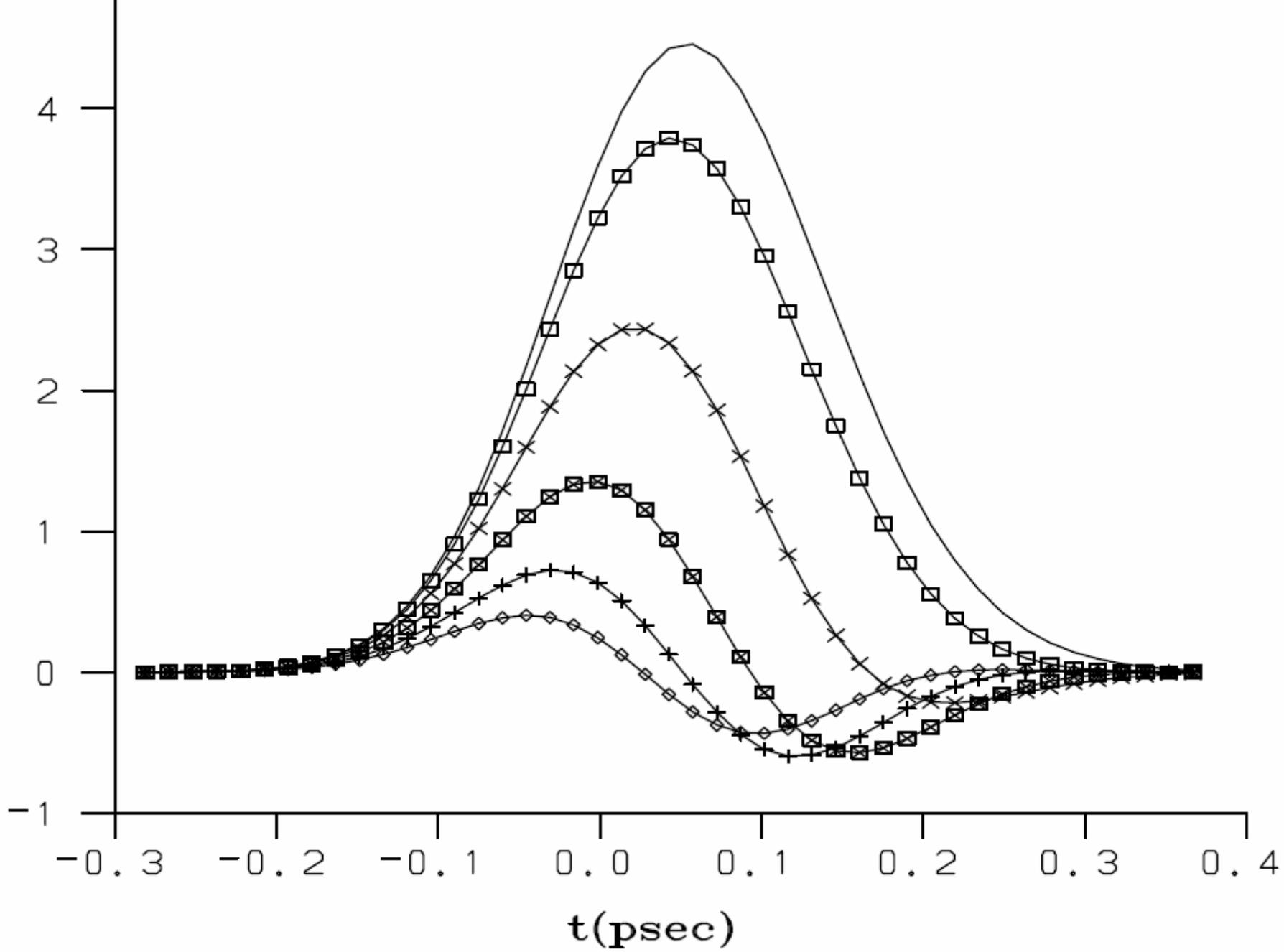
# Pulse preparation coefficients



b)







During the excitation pulse

$$\Psi(t) = |E_1\rangle e^{-iE_1 t/\hbar} +$$

$$(i/\hbar) \sum_m c_m(t) \bar{\epsilon}(\omega_{m,1}) d_{m,1} |E_m\rangle e^{-iE_m t/\hbar}.$$

At the end of the pulse, for an absorption process ( $E_m > E_1$ ),

$$\Psi(t \gg 1/\Gamma) = |E_1\rangle e^{-iE_1 t/\hbar} +$$

$$(2\pi i/\hbar) \sum_m \bar{\varepsilon}(\omega_{m,1}) d_{m,1} |E_m\rangle e^{-iE_m t/\hbar}.$$

The absorption of a photon has created a wavepacket in which the coefficients of preparation are proportional to the field amplitude at the  $\omega_{m,1}$  frequency.

## The Outcome of a State

The amplitude of creating a discrete excited state  $|E_m\rangle$  after the pulse is

$$b_m = \langle E_m | \Psi(t \gg 1/\Gamma) \rangle = \frac{2\pi i}{\hbar} \langle E_m | d | E_1 \rangle \bar{\varepsilon}(\omega_{m,1})$$

where  $\bar{\varepsilon}(\omega) \equiv \frac{1}{2\pi} \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} dt \varepsilon(t) e^{i\omega t}$ .

The excited portion of the wavepacket

$$\Psi(t \gg 1/\Gamma) = (2\pi i/\hbar)$$

$$\sum_m \bar{\varepsilon}(\omega_{m,1}) \langle E_m | d | E_1 \rangle | E_m \rangle e^{-iE_m t/\hbar}.$$

If the spectrum is continuous

$$[E - H_M] | E, m \rangle = 0,$$

with  $m$  designating any additional quantum number.

In that case

$$\Psi(t) = \frac{2\pi i}{\hbar} \sum_n \int dE \bar{\varepsilon}(\omega_{E,1}).$$

$$\langle E, n | d | E_1 \rangle | E, n \rangle e^{-iEt/\hbar}.$$

**normalization**

$$\langle E', m | E, n \rangle = \delta(E - E') \delta_{m,n}.$$

$\psi_n(E, R) \equiv \langle R | E, n \rangle$  has dimensions

of  $[L]^{-1/2} [E]^{-1/2}$ .

Consider a triatomic molecule -  $ABC$ ,  
which breaks apart to yield, the  $A + BC$   
products or the  $B + AC$  products,



$H_M$  is now composed of three parts,

$$H_M = K_R + K_r + W(R, r).$$

where

$$K_R = \frac{-\hbar^2}{2\mu} \nabla_R^2, \quad K_r = \frac{-\hbar^2}{2m} \nabla_r^2,$$

$\mu$  and  $m$  being the reduced masses,

$$\mu = m_A(m_B + m_C)/(m_A + m_B + m_C) ,$$

$$m = m_B m_C / (m_B + m_C) .$$

$v(r)$  is the asymptotic limit of  $W(R, r)$  as

$A$  departs from  $B - C$ ,

$$v(r) = \lim_{R \rightarrow \infty} W(R, r) .$$

The  $A-BC$  interaction potential, defined as,

$$V(R, r) \equiv W(R, r) - v(r)$$

vanishes as  $R \rightarrow \infty$ ,

$$\lim_{R \rightarrow \infty} V(R, r) = 0.$$

Defining the  $B-C$  Hamiltonian as,

$$h_r \equiv K_r + v(r)$$

$$H_M = K_R + K_r + W(R, r) = \\ K_R + h_r + V(R, r).$$

The interaction potential  $V(R, r)$  couples the motion of the  $A$  atom to the motion of the  $BC$  diatomic.

$$H_0 \equiv K_R + h_r$$

The eigenstates,  $|E, m; 0\rangle$ , of the free

Hamiltonian  $H_0 \equiv K_R + h_r$

satisfying,  $[E - H_0]|E, m; 0\rangle = 0$ ,

are given as products

$$|E, m; 0\rangle = |e_m\rangle |E - e_m\rangle$$

where  $[e_m - h_r]|e_m\rangle = 0$ ,

$e_m$  is the internal energy of  $B - C$ .

$|E - e_m\rangle$  describe free motion of  $A$

relative to  $BC$ . They satisfy the equation

$$[E - e_m + \frac{\hbar^2}{2\mu} \nabla_R^2] \langle R | E - e_m \rangle = 0$$

whose solutions are plane waves of kinetic

energy  $E - e_m$ ,  $\langle R | E - e_m \rangle = e^{ik_m \cdot R}$ ,

where  $k_m = \{2\mu(E - e_m)\}^{1/2}/\hbar$ ,

They are normalized as,

$$\langle E', m; 0 | E, n; 0 \rangle = \delta(E - E') \delta_{m,n}.$$

Relating the free states to the fully interacting states: The Schrödinger

equation,  $[E - H_0] | E, n \rangle = V | E, n \rangle,$

can be solved formally as a sum of

$$|E, n\rangle = [E - H_0]^{-1} V |E, n\rangle$$

and any solution  $|E, n; 0\rangle$  of the

homogeneous part that equation,

$$|E, n\rangle = |E, n; 0\rangle + [E - H_0]^{-1} V |E, n\rangle .$$

Using the spectral resolution,

$$[E - H_0]^{-1} = \int dE' \frac{|E', n; 0\rangle \langle E', n; 0|}{E - E'} ,$$

we have that,

$$|E, n\rangle = |E, n; 0\rangle +$$

$$\int dE' \frac{|E', n; 0\rangle \langle E', n; 0| V |E, n\rangle}{E - E'}$$

The  $\int dE'$  integral is ill defined in the Riemann sense. In the Cauchy sense we consider the limit of a series of well defined Riemann integrals .

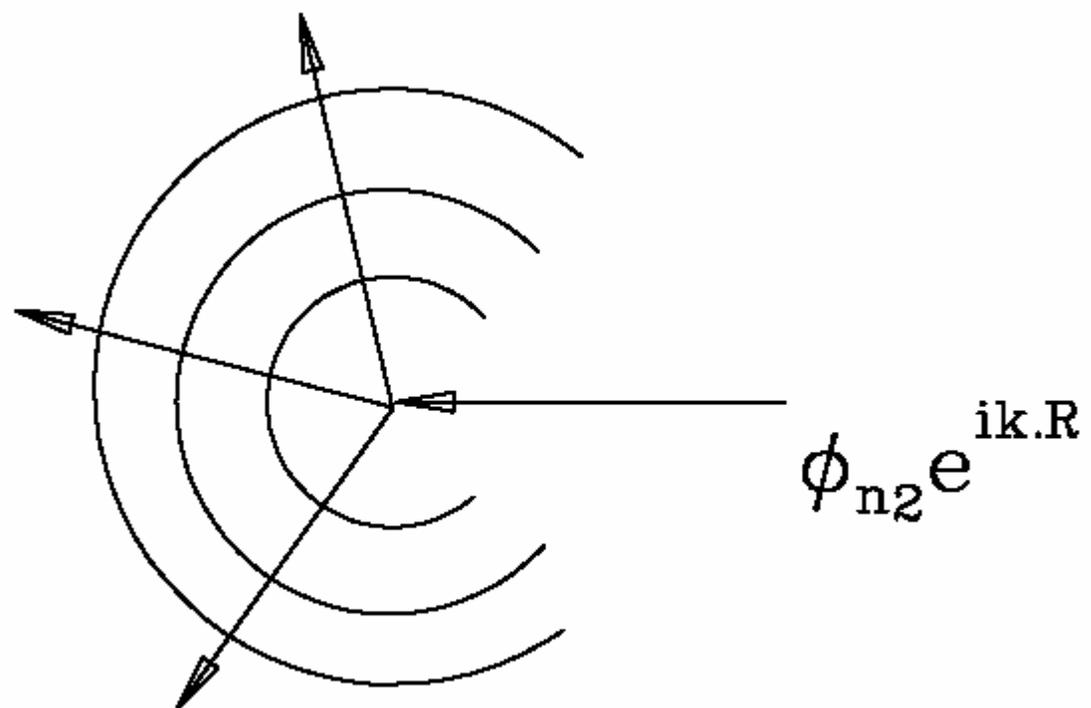
We add a small  $i\epsilon$  imaginary part to  $E$ , calculate the integrals and then let  $\epsilon \rightarrow 0$ . The limiting value thus obtained depends on the sign of  $\epsilon$ .

We consider adding  $i\epsilon$  or subtracting  $i\epsilon$ , with  $\epsilon > 0$ .

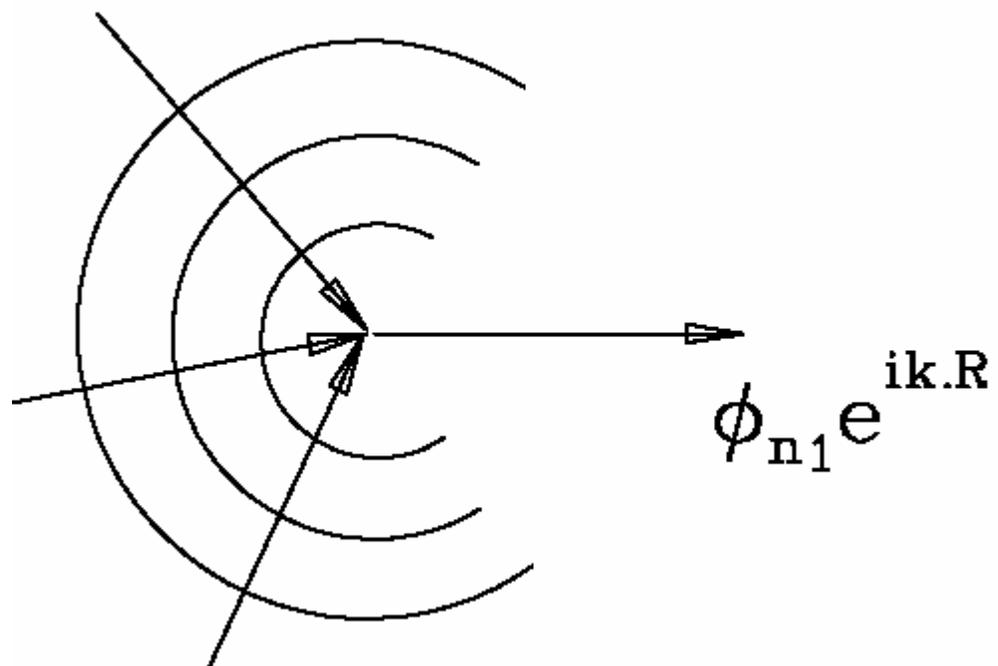
$$|E, n^\pm\rangle = |E, n; 0\rangle + \lim_{\epsilon \rightarrow 0} [E \pm i\epsilon - H_0]^{-1} V |E, n^\pm\rangle.$$

This is the Lippmann-Schwinger eq.

The  $\pm$  solutions are not independent of (and definitely not orthogonal to) one another, so we can use either one or the other.



$$\psi_{n_2}^+(E)$$



$$\psi_{n_1}^{-}(E)$$

The long-time behaviour of  $\Psi(t)$  is obtained as,

$$\Psi(t) = \frac{2\pi i}{\hbar} \sum_n \int dE e^{-iEt/\hbar}.$$

$$\bar{\varepsilon}(\omega_{E,1}) \langle E, n^\pm | d | E_1 \rangle.$$

$$\{ | E, n; 0 \rangle + [E \pm i\epsilon - H_0]^{-1} V | E, n^\pm \rangle \}.$$

Using the spectral resolution of

$[E \pm i\epsilon - H_0]^{-1}$  the probability of finding a

free state  $|E', m; 0\rangle$  at time  $t$  is given as

$$\langle E', m; 0 | \Psi(t) = \frac{2\pi i}{\hbar} \sum_n \int dE e^{-iEt/\hbar}.$$

$$\bar{\epsilon}(\omega_{E,1}) \langle E, n^\pm | d | E_1 \rangle \left\{ \langle E' m; 0 | E, n; 0 \rangle + \right.$$

$$\left. [E \pm i\epsilon - E']^{-1} \langle E' m; 0 | V | E, n^\pm \rangle \right\}.$$

$$\langle E', m; 0 | \Psi(t) = \frac{2\pi i}{\hbar} e^{-iE't/\hbar}.$$

$$\left\{ \bar{\varepsilon}(\omega_{E',1}) \langle E', m^\pm | d | E_1 \rangle + \right.$$

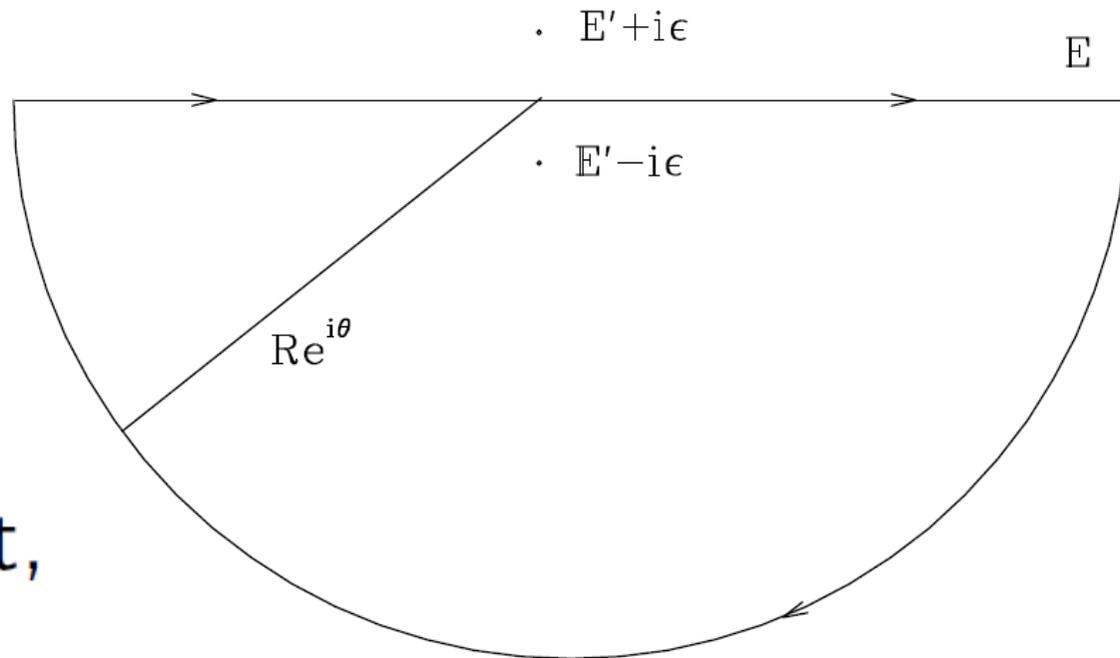
$$\sum_n \int dE e^{-iEt/\hbar} \bar{\varepsilon}(\omega_{E,1}) \langle E, n^\pm | d | E_1 \rangle.$$

$$\left. [E \pm i\epsilon - E']^{-1} \langle E' m; 0 | V | E, n^\pm \rangle \right\}.$$

In the  $t \rightarrow \infty$  limit the integration over

$E$  can be performed analytically by contour

integration.



Noting that

in that limit,

when  $E = Re^{i\theta}$ , with  $\theta < 0$ ,

$$e^{-iEt/\hbar} = e^{-iRe^{i\theta}t/\hbar} = e^{-iR \cos \theta t/\hbar} \cdot e^{R \sin \theta t/\hbar} \xrightarrow{t \rightarrow \infty} 0.$$

$\uparrow$   
 $\theta < 0$

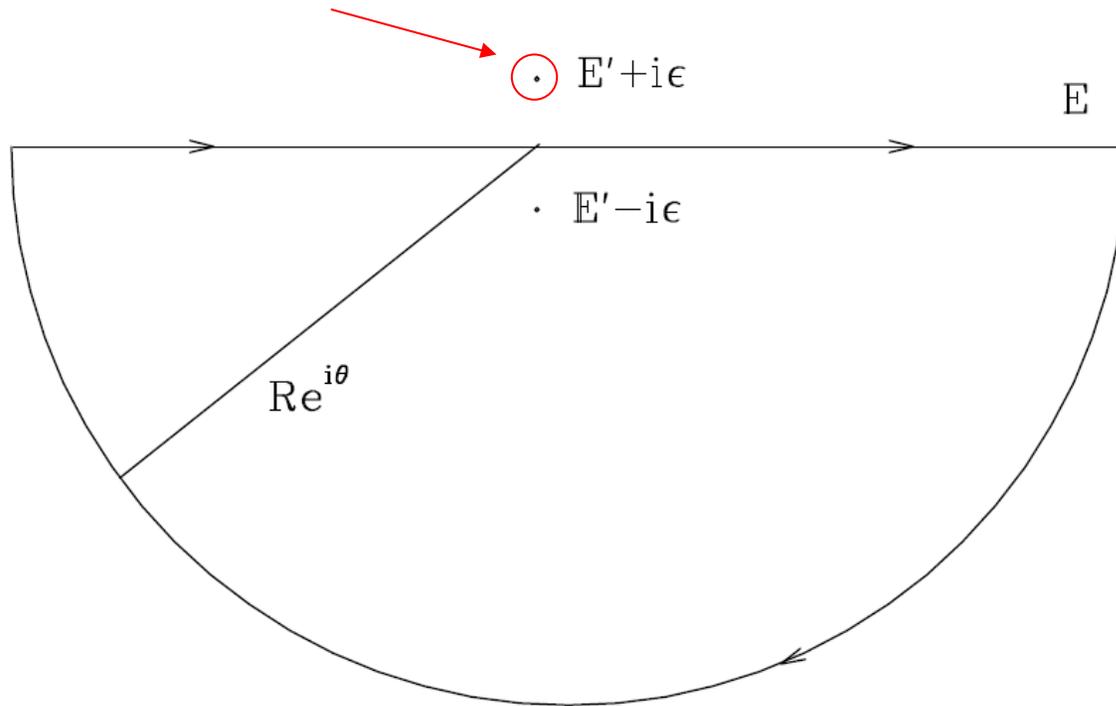
The real  $E$  integration remains unchanged

by supplementing it with integration along

the above large semi-circle in the lower

half  $E$ -plane.

Since in the  $-i\epsilon$  case, the integrand has a pole at  $E = E' + i\epsilon$  which is outside



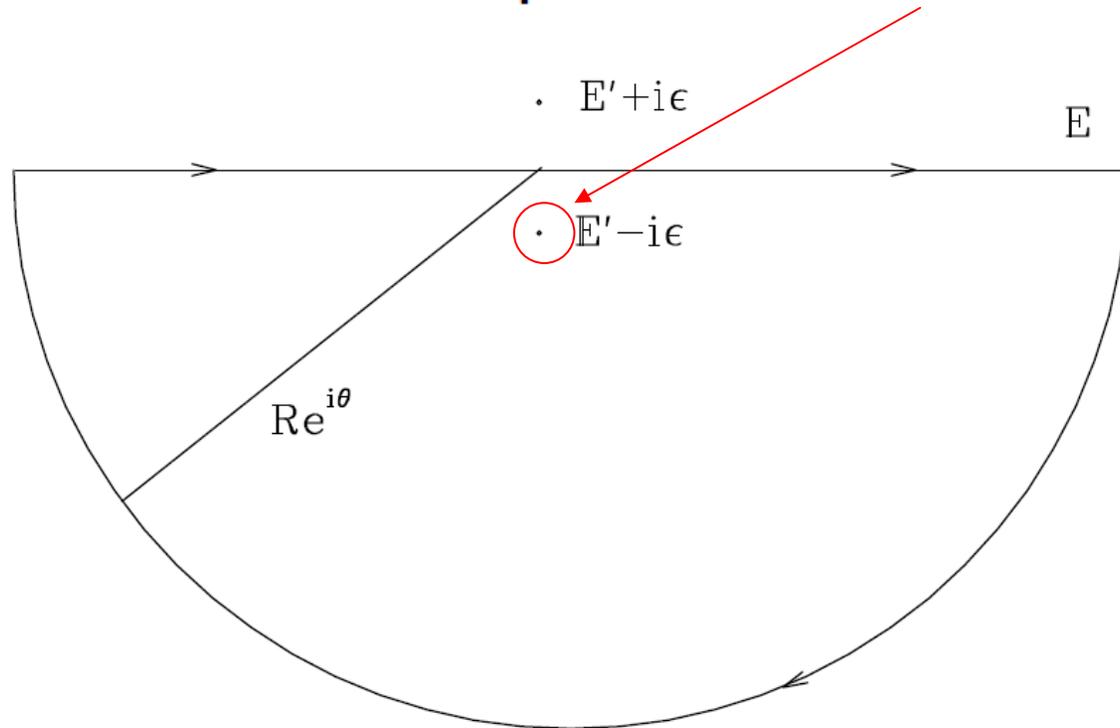
the closed  
contour, the whole integral is zero.

Thus,

$$\lim_{t \rightarrow \infty} \langle E', m; 0 | \Psi(t) = \frac{2\pi i}{\hbar} \bar{\varepsilon}(\omega_{E',1}) e^{-iE't/\hbar} \langle E', m^- | d | E_1 \rangle.$$

Hence the coefficients of expansion of the full wavepacket in terms of the  $|E, m^- \rangle$  states, tell us immediately what is the probability of observing states  $|E, m; 0 \rangle$  in the distant future.

If instead of the incoming states we use the outgoing states, the closed contour integration encircles a pole at  $E = E' - i\epsilon$ ,



hence the integration yields

$$\lim_{t \rightarrow \infty} \langle E', m; 0 | \Psi(t) = \frac{2\pi i}{\hbar} e^{-iE't/\hbar} \bar{\varepsilon}(\omega_{E',1}) \cdot \sum_n S_{n,m}(E') \langle E', n^+ | d | E_1 \rangle.$$

where the  $S_{n,m}(E')$  matrix,

$$S_{n,m}(E') \equiv \delta_{n,m} - 2\pi i \langle E' m; 0 | V | E', n^+ \rangle$$

is the S-matrix or Scattering matrix.

In contrast, in the  $t \rightarrow -\infty$  limit,

$$\lim_{t \rightarrow -\infty} \langle E', m; 0 | \Psi(t) =$$
$$\frac{2\pi i}{\hbar} \bar{\varepsilon}(\omega_{E',1}) e^{-iE't/\hbar} \langle E', m^+ | d | E_1 \rangle.$$

while if we use the  $-$  solutions

$$\lim_{t \rightarrow -\infty} \langle E', m; 0 | \Psi(t) =$$

$$\frac{2\pi i}{\hbar} e^{-iE't/\hbar} \bar{\varepsilon}(\omega_{E',1}) \sum_n S_{n,m}^-(E') \langle E', n^- | d | E_1 \rangle.$$

where the  $S_{n,m}^-(E')$  matrix is defined as,

$$S_{n,m}^-(E') \equiv \delta_{n,m} + 2\pi i \langle E' m; 0 | V | E', n^- \rangle$$

## Direct Photo-Dissociation

### by a Strong Laser Field

We now present a non-perturbative solution of the pulsed photo-dissociation problem.

Writing the pulse electric field as,

$$\mathbf{E}(t) = \mathcal{R}_e \hat{\mathbf{e}} \mathcal{E}(t) e^{-i\omega_a t},$$

where  $\omega_a$ , called “carrier” frequency,

represents the average frequency in the

spectrum of the pulse  $\bar{\epsilon}(\omega)$ .  $\mathcal{E}(t)$  is called

the “envelope” of the pulse.

As before we expand the full time-dependent wavefunction as,

$$\Psi(t) = b_1(t)|E_1\rangle e^{-iE_1t/\hbar} + \sum_n \int dE b_{E,n}(t) |E, n^-\rangle e^{-iEt/\hbar},$$

Substituting into the time-dependent Schrödinger equation we obtain as before

$$\frac{db_1}{dt} = \frac{i}{\hbar} \sum_n \int dE \langle E_1 | d | E, n^- \rangle \mathcal{E}^*(t) b_{E,n}(t) \cdot e^{-i(\omega_{E,1} - \omega_a)t} ,$$

$$\frac{db_{E,n}}{dt} = \frac{i}{\hbar} \langle E, n^- | d | E_1 \rangle \mathcal{E}(t) b_1(t) e^{i(\omega_{E,1} - \omega_a)t}$$

where  $\omega_{E,1} \equiv (E - E_1)/\hbar$ , and we have

invoked the rotating wave approximation.

Substituting the formal solution

$$b_{E,n}(t) =$$

$$\frac{i \langle E, n^- | d | E_1 \rangle}{\hbar} \int_{-\infty}^t dt' \mathcal{E}(t') b_1(t') e^{i(\omega_{E,1} - \omega_a)t'},$$

we obtain that,

$$\frac{db_1}{dt} = -\frac{1}{\hbar^2} \int dE \sum_n |\langle E_1 | d | E, n^- \rangle|^2 \mathcal{E}^*(t).$$

$$\int_{-\infty}^t dt' \mathcal{E}(t') e^{-i(\omega_{E,1} - \omega_a)(t-t')} b_1(t').$$

This is an *integro-differential* equation.

According to it the change in  $b_1$  at time  $t$

depends on its history at all preceding times

$t' < t$ . The  $\mathcal{E}(t')e^{-i(\omega_{E,1}-\omega_a)(t-t')}$  factor is

sometimes called the “memory-Kernel” of

the integral equation.

Defining the the spectrum,

$$A(E) \equiv \sum_n |\langle E, n^- | d | E_1 \rangle|^2$$

and the “spectral autocorrelation function”, as its Fourier transform,

$$F(t - t') \equiv \int dE A(E) e^{-i\omega_{E,1}(t-t')},$$

we have that

$$\frac{db_1}{dt} =$$

$$-\frac{\mathcal{E}^*(t)}{\hbar^2} \int_{-\infty}^t dt' e^{i\omega_a(t-t')} \mathcal{E}(t') F(t-t') b_1(t').$$

If  $A(E)$  is slowly varying we can replace it by its value  $A(E_a)$  at the center energy of the pulse ( $E_a = E_1 + \hbar\omega_a$ ).

The above equation transforms into,

$$F(t - t') \approx A(E_a) \int dE e^{-i\omega_{E,1}(t-t')} = \\ 2\pi\hbar A(E_a) \delta(t - t').$$

Using this equation and remembering that

we integrate  $t'$  from  $-\infty$  to the singularity

point  $t$ , which introduces a factor of  $\frac{1}{2}$ , we

obtain that

$$\frac{db_1}{dt} = -\frac{\pi A(E_a)}{\hbar} |\mathcal{E}(t)|^2 b_1(t),$$

whose solution is

$$b_1(t) =$$

$$b_1(-\infty) \exp \left[ -\frac{\pi A(E_a)}{\hbar} \int_{-\infty}^t dt' |\mathcal{E}(t')|^2(t') \right].$$

The above is a statement of what may be termed the “slowly varying continuum approximation” (SVCA).

We see that in this approximation  $b_1(t)$  decreases monotonically with time, though not necessarily as an exponential function.

The SVCA need not be assumed for the continuum coefficients themselves, because once we know  $b_1(t)$  the  $b_{E,n}$  coefficients are given as,

$$b_{E,n}(t) = \frac{i \langle E, n^- | d | E_1 \rangle}{\hbar} \int_{-\infty}^t dt' \mathcal{E}(t').$$

$$e^{\left[ i(\omega_{E,1} - \omega_a)t' - \frac{\pi A(E_a)}{\hbar} \int_{-\infty}^{t'} |\mathcal{E}(t'')|^2 dt'' \right]} .$$

## Coherent Control

We now wish to see how the laser field can be made to modify the outcome of the photodissociation process. As we saw the probability of populating a “free” state

$|e_m\rangle|k_m\rangle$  at any given time is given as

$$P_m(E)(t) = |\langle e_m | \langle k_m | \Psi(t) \rangle|^2.$$

Using the expansion of the wavepacket

$\Psi(t)$  we have that,

$$\langle e_m | \langle \mathbf{k}_m | \Psi(t) \rangle = b_1(t) \langle e_m | \langle \mathbf{k}_m | E_1 \rangle e^{-iE_1 t/\hbar} \\ + \sum_n \int dE b_{E,n}(t) \langle e_m | \langle \mathbf{k}_m | E, n^- \rangle e^{-iEt/\hbar}.$$

Assuming that  $\langle e_m | E_1 \rangle = 0$ , (e.g., they belong to different electronic states),

it follows that in the long-time limit

$$P_m(E) = |\langle e_m | \langle \mathbf{k}_m | \Psi(t \rightarrow \infty) \rangle|^2 =$$
$$|b_{E,m}(t \rightarrow \infty)|^2.$$

Since

$$b_{E,n}(t \rightarrow \infty) =$$

$$\frac{i}{\hbar} \langle E, n^- | d | E_1 \rangle \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} dt' \varepsilon(t') e^{-i\omega_{E,1}t} b_1(t')$$

it follows that,

$$\frac{P_n(E)}{P_m(E)} = \left| \frac{b_{E,n}(\infty)}{b_{E,m}(\infty)} \right|^2 = \left| \frac{\langle E, n^- | d | E_1 \rangle}{\langle E, m^- | d | E_1 \rangle} \right|^2 .$$

We see that the relative probabilities of populating different asymptotic states at a fixed energy  $E$  are *independent of the laser power and pulse shape.*

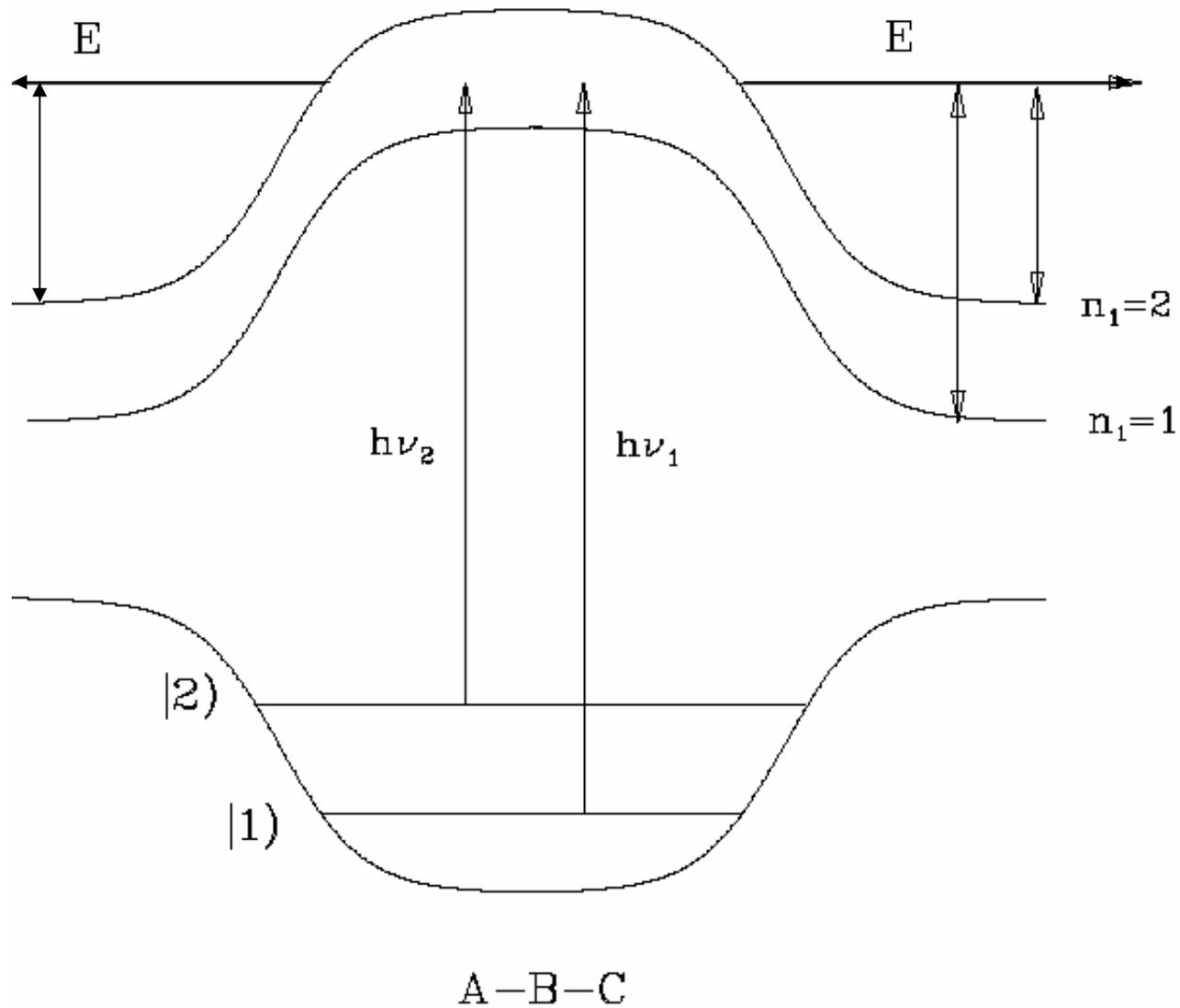
This result which coincides with that of perturbation theory, holds true provided there is only *one* initial (“precursor”) state  $|E_1\rangle$  coupled to the continuum.

In order to affect the long time outcome we must therefore move away from the single initial (precursor) state situation.

# Bichromatic photodissociation

A+BC

C+AB



Starting from a linear superposition of two initial states

$$\Phi(t) = b_1 |E_1\rangle e^{-iE_1 t/\hbar} + b_2 |E_2\rangle e^{-iE_2 t/\hbar}$$

we have that

$$b_{E,n}(t \rightarrow \infty) =$$

$$\frac{i}{\hbar} \left\{ \langle E, n^- | d | E_1 \rangle \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} dt' \varepsilon(t') e^{-i\omega_{E,1} t'} b_1(t') \right. \\ \left. + \langle E, n^- | d | E_2 \rangle \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} dt' \varepsilon(t') e^{-i\omega_{E,2} t'} b_2(t') \right\}.$$

In first order perturbation theory  $b_1(t)$  and  $b_2(t)$  are constant, hence in the weak field

regime, 
$$b_{E,n}(t \rightarrow \infty) \approx \frac{2\pi i}{\hbar}.$$

$$\left\{ \langle E, n^- | d | E_1 \rangle \bar{\epsilon}(\omega_{E,1}) b_1 + \langle E, n^- | d | E_2 \rangle \bar{\epsilon}(\omega_{E,2}) b_2 \right\}$$

where 
$$\bar{\epsilon}(\omega) = \frac{1}{2\pi} \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} dt \epsilon(t) e^{-i\omega t}.$$

Recognizing as we did in previous lectures that  $\bar{\epsilon}(\omega)$  has a phase, we can write

$$\bar{\epsilon}(\omega_{E,i}) = |\bar{\epsilon}(\omega_{E,i})| e^{-i\theta(\omega_{E,i})}, \quad i = 1, 2,$$

and obtain,  $b_{E,n}(\infty) =$

$$\frac{2\pi i}{\hbar} \left\{ \langle E, n^- | d | E_1 \rangle |\bar{\epsilon}(\omega_{E,1})| e^{-i\theta(\omega_{E,1})} b_1 + \langle E, n^- | d | E_2 \rangle |\bar{\epsilon}(\omega_{E,2})| e^{-i\theta(\omega_{E,2})} b_2 \right\}.$$

The probability of seeing product state  $n$  at infinite time is,

$$P_n(E) = \frac{4\pi^2}{\hbar^2}.$$

$$\left| \langle E, n^- | d | E_1 \rangle |\bar{\epsilon}(\omega_{E,1})| e^{-i\theta(\omega_{E,1})} b_1 + \langle E, n^- | d | E_2 \rangle |\bar{\epsilon}(\omega_{E,2})| e^{-i\theta(\omega_{E,2})} b_2 \right|^2.$$

We see that the pulse attributes have been “entangled” into the material matrix elements.

The properties we wish to control in Chemistry are often the branching ratios to different chemical products. Realizing that any Chemical process such as



involves both the chemical products ( $q$ ) of interest, and the multitude of internal fragment states ( $|e_n\rangle$ ) in each chemical channel, which are now of no interest. We calculate the total probability to produce products in one of the  $q$  channels as,

$$P^{(q)}(E) = \sum_n P_n^{(q)}(E) = \sum_n \frac{4\pi^2}{\hbar^2}.$$

$$\left| \langle E, q, n^- | d | E_1 \rangle |\bar{\epsilon}(\omega_{E,1})| e^{-i\theta(\omega_{E,1})} b_1 + \langle E, q, n^- | d | E_2 \rangle |\bar{\epsilon}(\omega_{E,2})| e^{-i\theta(\omega_{E,2})} b_2 \right|^2.$$

Hence

$$P^{(q)}(E) = P_{11}^{(q)}(E) + P_{22}^{(q)}(E) + P_{12}^{(q)}(E)$$

where

$$P_{11}^{(q)}(E) = \frac{4\pi^2}{\hbar^2} \mu_{11}^{(q)} |\bar{\epsilon}(\omega_{E,1})|^2 b_1^2$$

$$P_{22}^{(q)}(E) = \frac{4\pi^2}{\hbar^2} \mu_{22}^{(q)} |\bar{\epsilon}(\omega_{E,2})|^2 b_2^2$$

$$P_{12}^{(q)}(E) = \frac{4\pi^2}{\hbar^2} |\bar{\epsilon}(\omega_{E,1})| |\bar{\epsilon}(\omega_{E,2})| \cdot \\ 2\mathcal{R}_e\{\mu_{12}^{(q)} e^{-i\theta_{12}} b_1^* b_2\},$$

where

$$\mu_{11}^{(q)} \equiv \sum_n |\langle E, q, n^- | d | E_1 \rangle|^2,$$

$$\mu_{22}^{(q)} \equiv \sum_n |\langle E, q, n^- | d | E_2 \rangle|^2,$$

$$\mu_{12}^{(q)} = \sum_n \langle E_1 | d | E, q, n^- \rangle \langle E, q, n^- | d | E_2 \rangle,$$

and  $\theta_{12} \equiv \theta(\omega_{E,2}) - \theta(\omega_{E,1})$ .

The  $P_{11}^{(q)}(E)$  and  $P_{22}^{(q)}(E)$  terms are the individual probabilities of photodissociating level  $|E_1\rangle$  or  $|E_2\rangle$  respectively.

$P_{12}^{(q)}(E)$  is the interference terms. It is the only term influenced by the relative phase  $\theta_{12}$  between the  $\bar{\epsilon}(\omega_{E,1})$  and  $\bar{\epsilon}(\omega_{E,2})$ .

In order to make the structure of the probability expression clearer, we write the complex amplitude  $\mu_{12}^{(q)}$  as,

$$\mu_{12}^{(q)} = |\mu_{12}^{(q)}| e^{i\phi_{12}^{(q)}},$$

where  $\phi_{12}^{(q)}$  is the so-called “molecular” or “material” phase. In addition we write,

$$b_1^* b_2 = |b_1 b_2| e^{-i\alpha_{12}}.$$

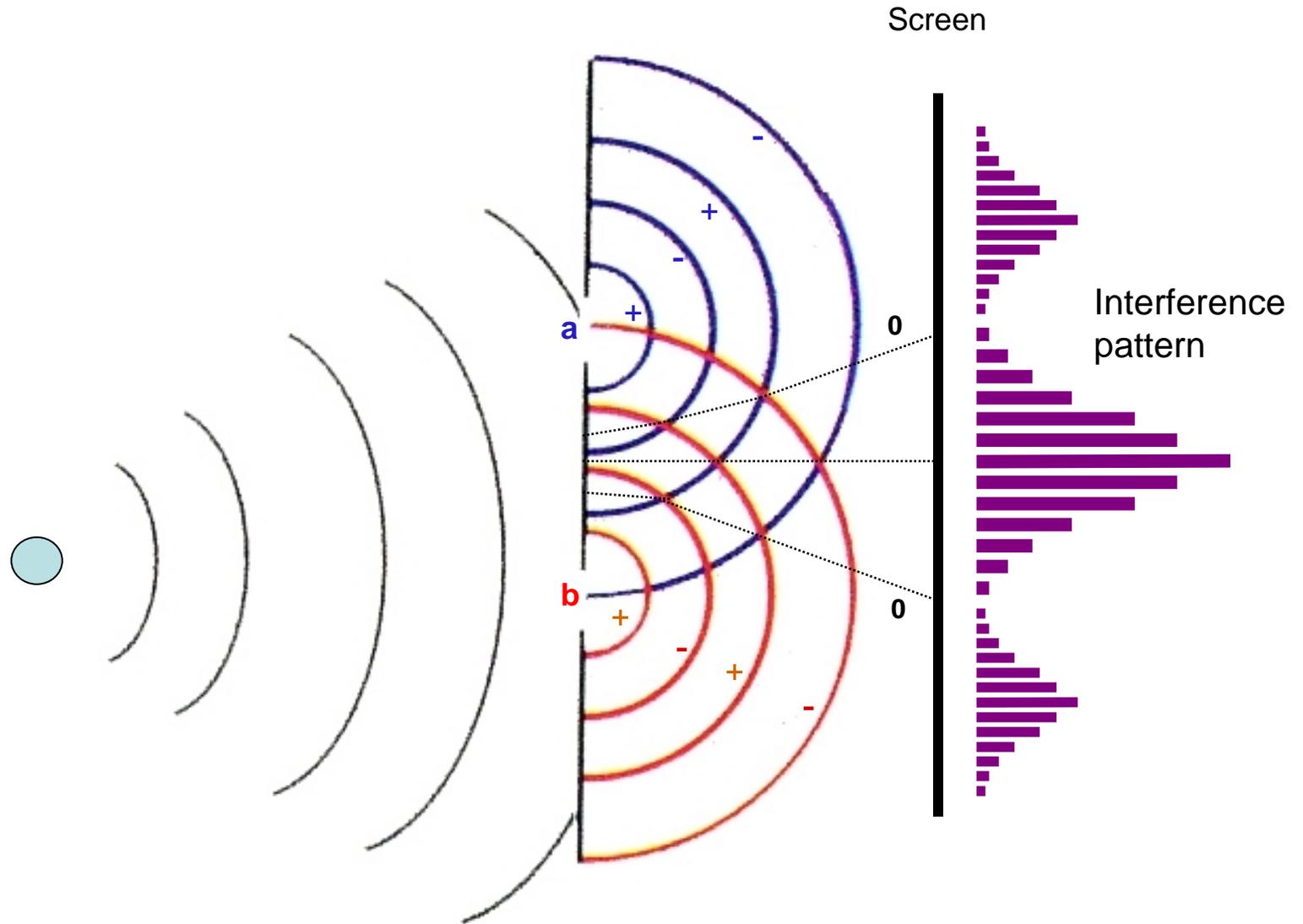
The interference term is now,

$$P_{12}^{(q)}(E) = \frac{8\pi^2}{\hbar^2} \left| \bar{\epsilon}(\omega_{E,1}) \bar{\epsilon}(\omega_{E,2}) \mu_{12}^{(q)} b_1 b_2 \right| \cdot \cos \left[ \phi_{12}^{(q)} - \alpha_{12} - \theta_{12} \right],$$

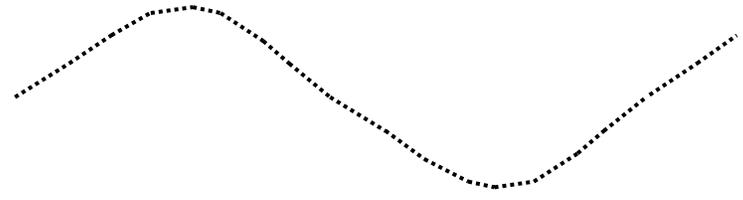
This term can be positive (“constructive interference”) or negative (“destructive interference”) with respect to one  $q$  channel and the opposite with respect to the other.

By tuning the external phases  $\alpha_{12}$  or  $\theta_{12}$  we can make the sign of this term be negative with respect to one  $q$  chemical channel and positive with respect to another. In this way by changing an external phase factor that is indifferent to the final channels we attain selectivity (discrimination) between the final channels.

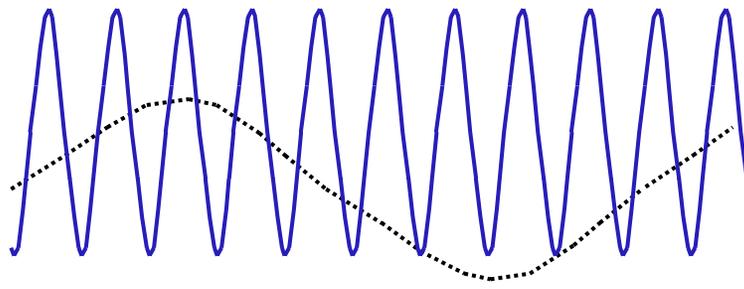
# The two slit perspective: the importance of the relative phase



light wave a

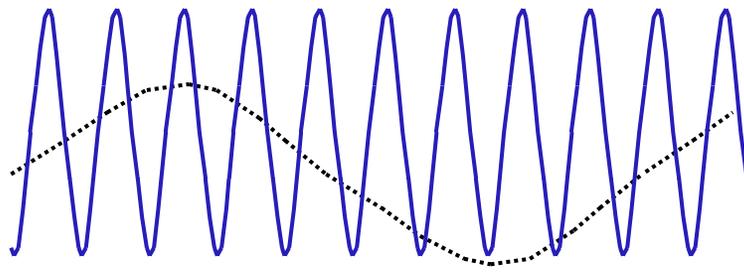


light wave a

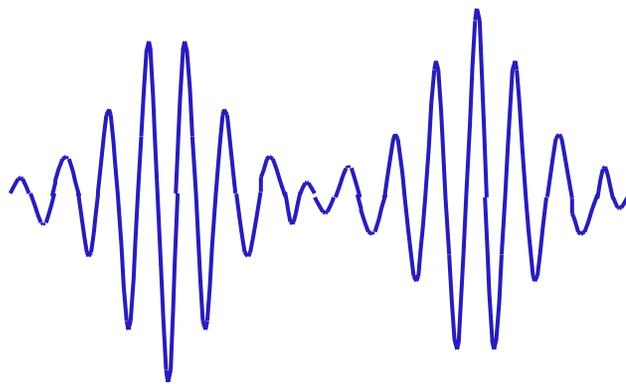


final matter state

light wave a



amplitude for  
absorbing  
light wave a

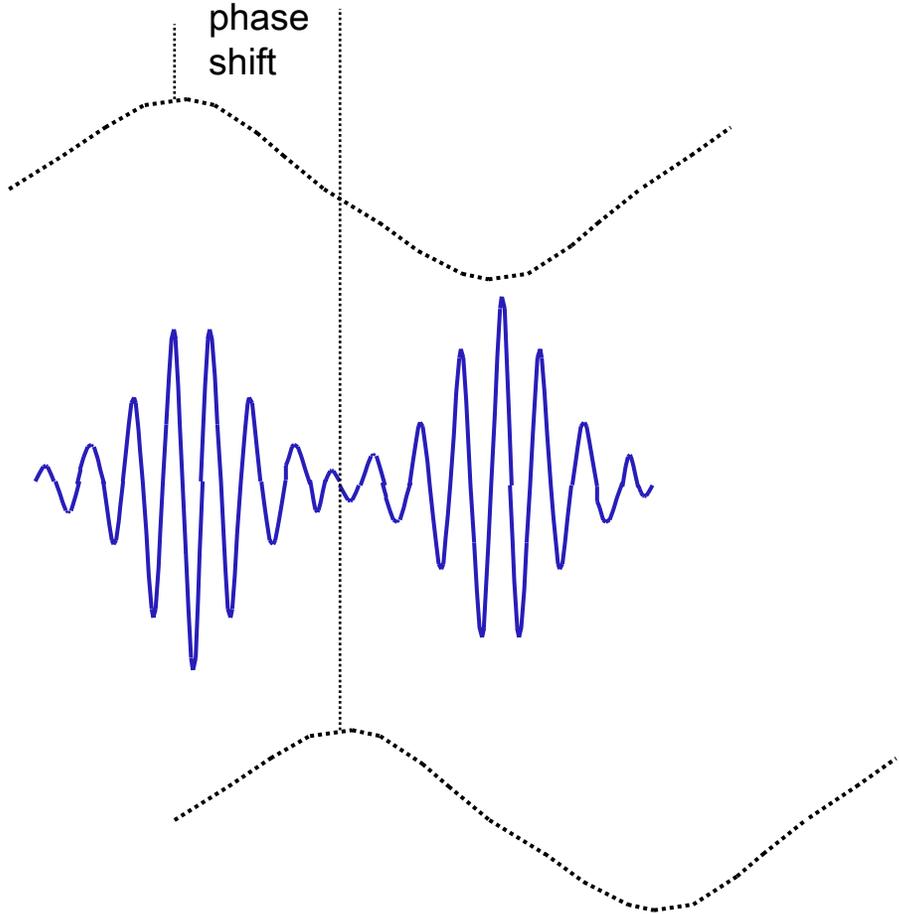


light wave a

phase  
shift

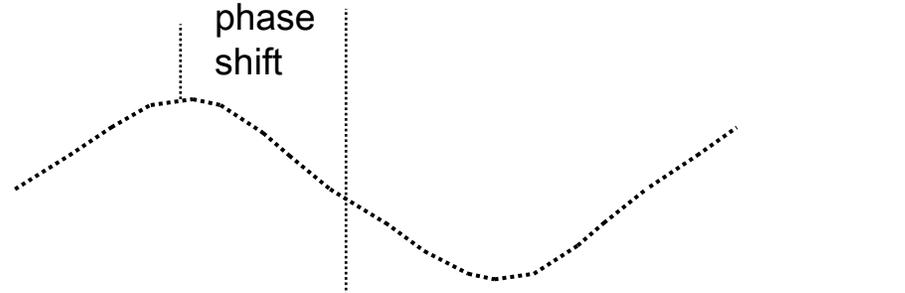
amplitude for  
absorbing  
light wave a

light wave b

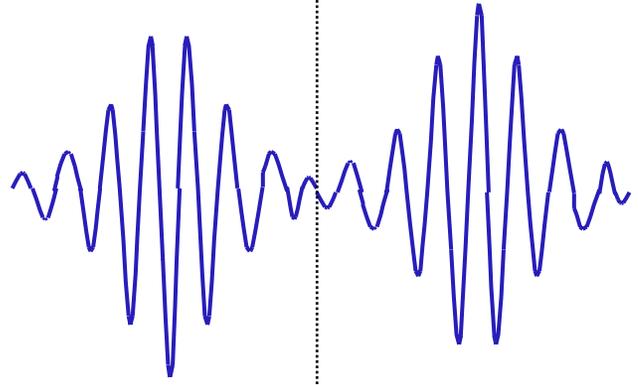


phase  
shift

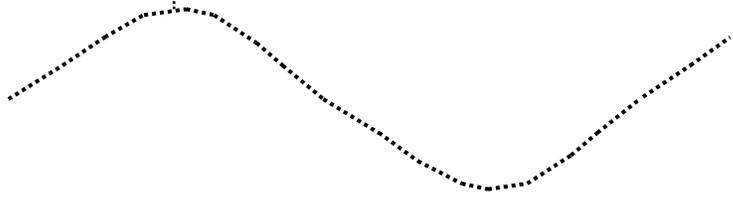
light wave a



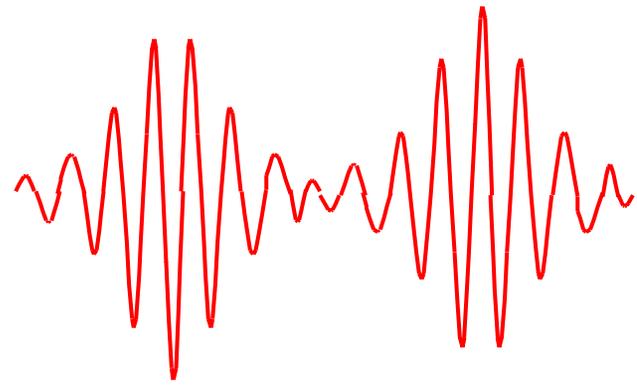
amplitude for  
absorbing  
light wave a



light wave b



amplitude for  
absorbing  
light wave b



light wave a

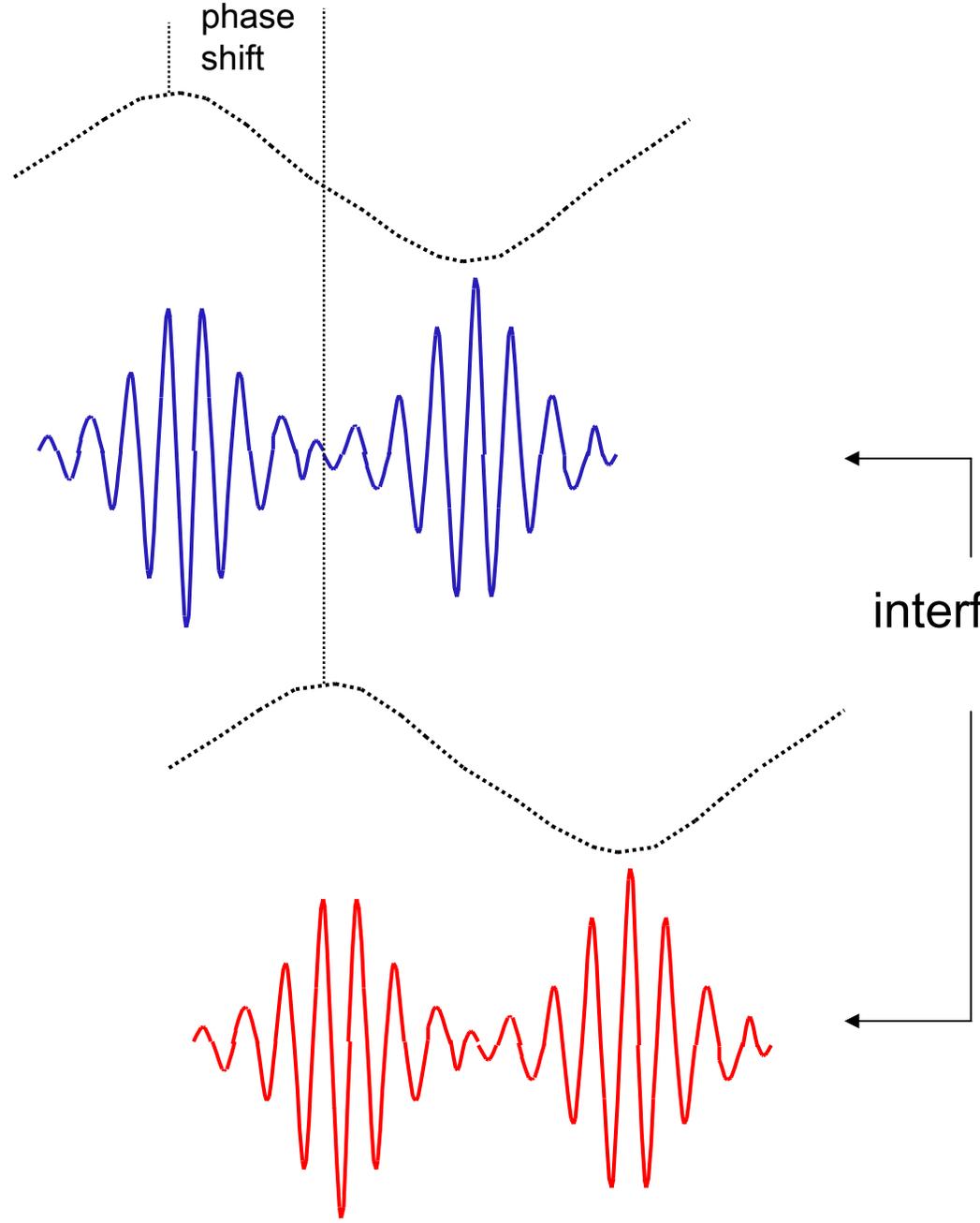
phase shift

amplitude for absorbing light wave a

light wave b

amplitude for absorbing light wave b

interfere

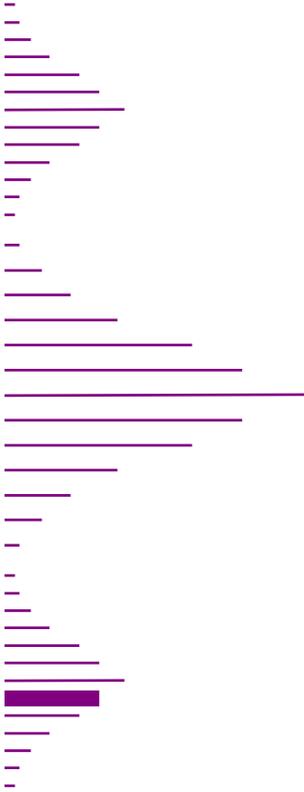


The **key** to control is that the interference patterns of different outcomes be shifted in phase.

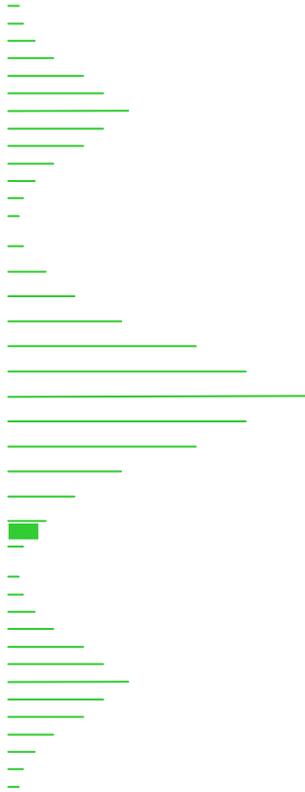
the “screen” of relative phases



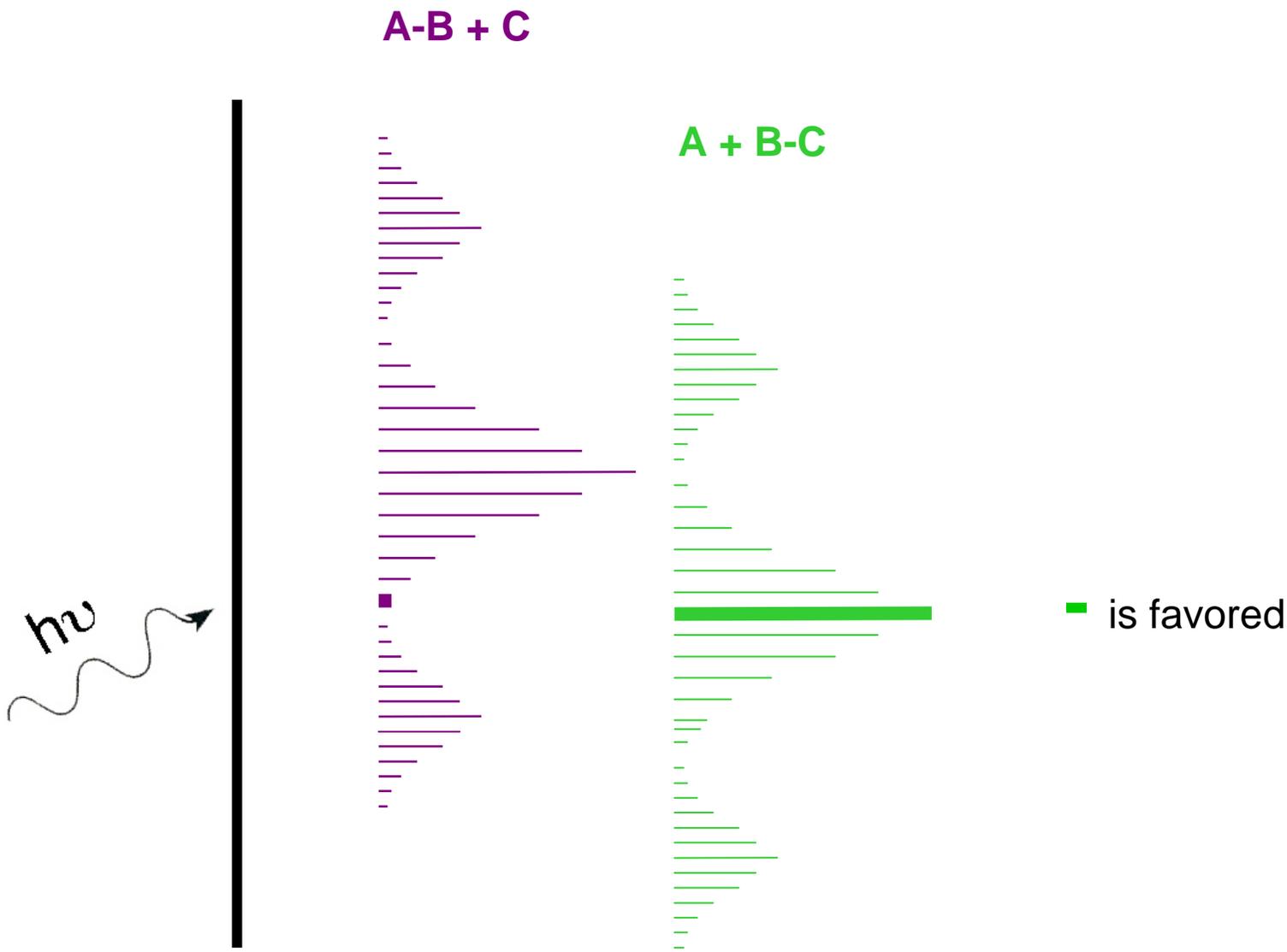
A-B + C

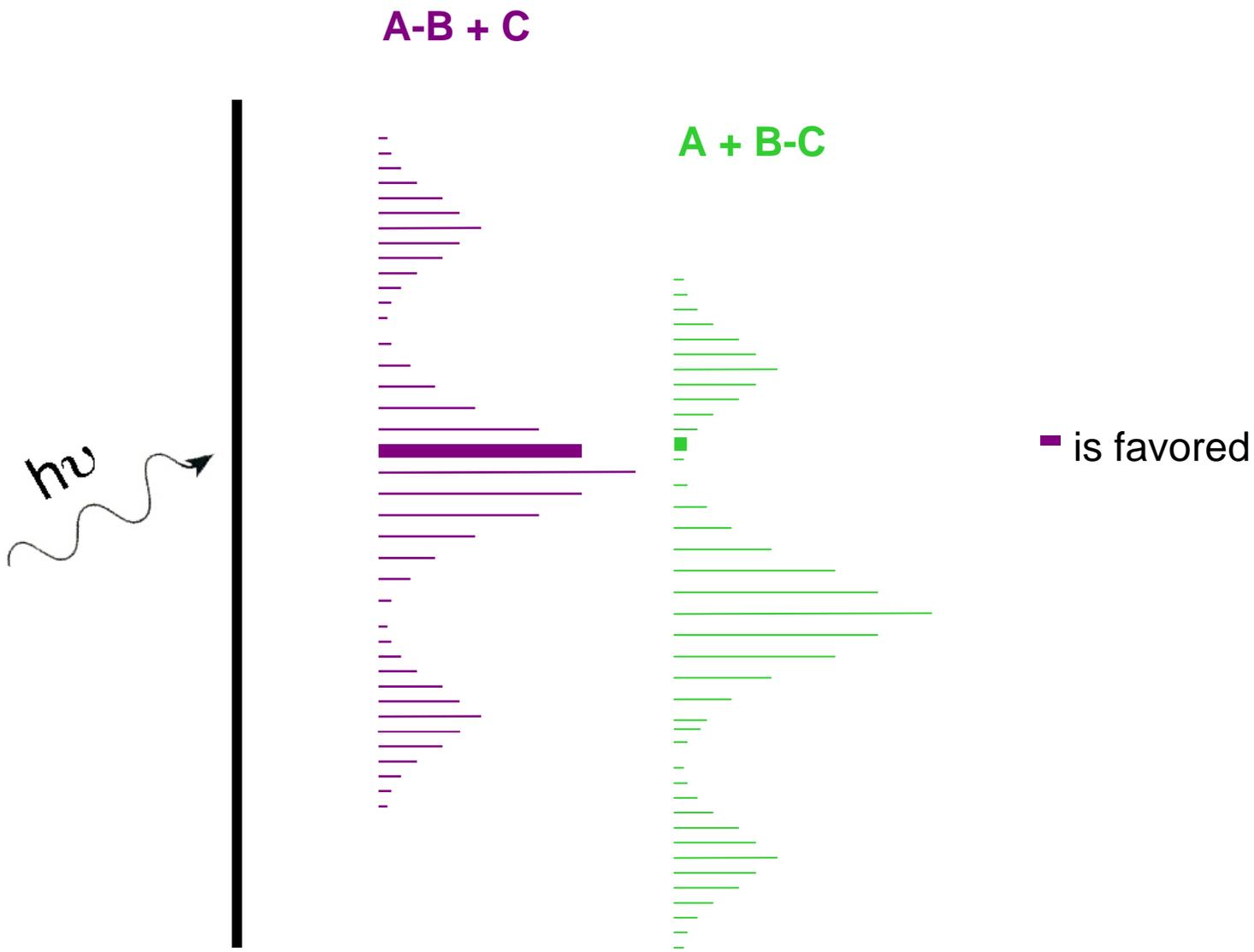


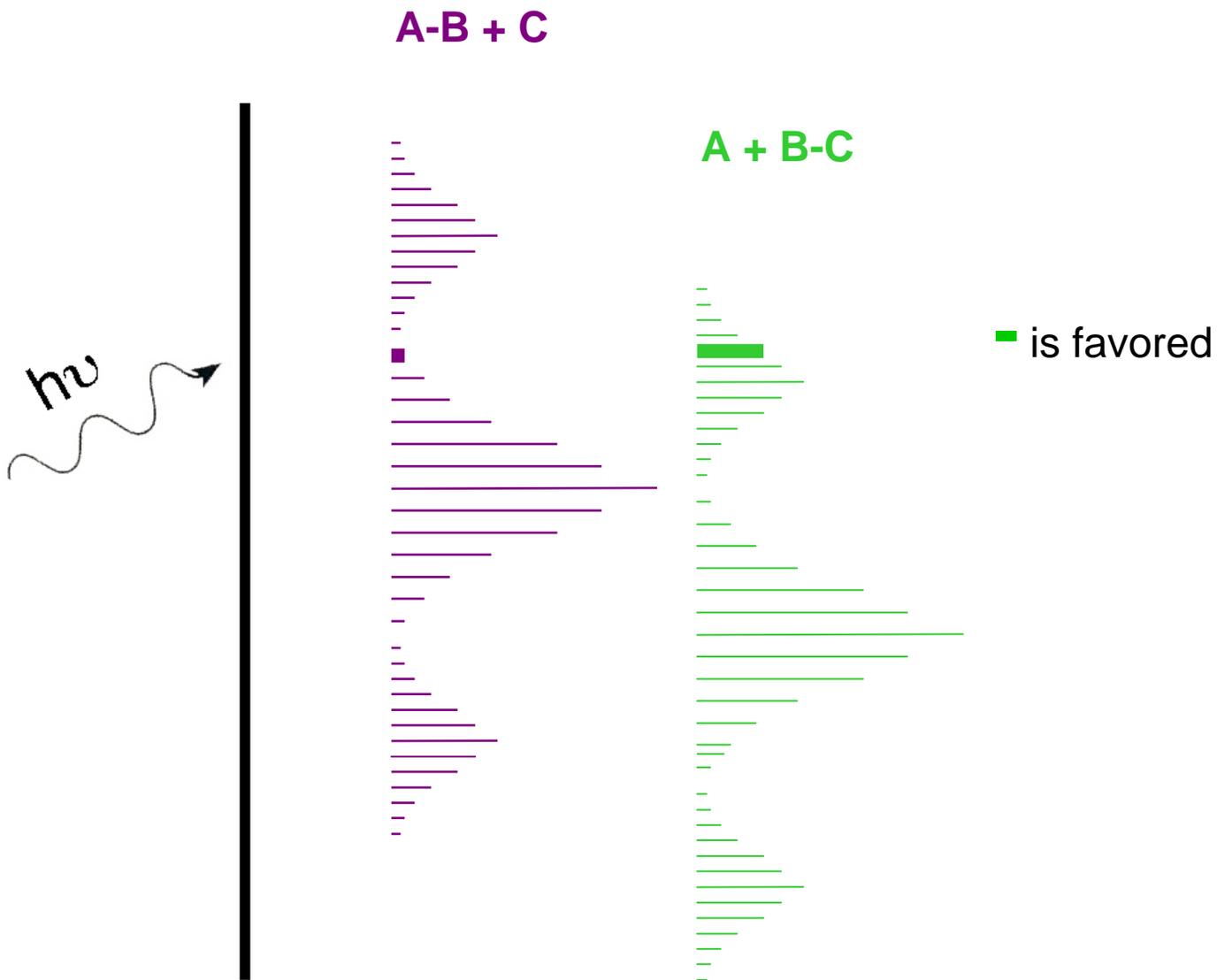
A + B-C



■ is favored







The effect can be enhanced by varying

$$x \equiv \frac{|\bar{\epsilon}(\omega_{E,1})b_1|}{|\bar{\epsilon}(\omega_{E,2})b_2|}$$

The method of controlling the final outcome of a process in this way is called

“Coherent Control” (CC).

In order to see the structure more clearly we write the CC equations as,

$$P^{(q)}(E) = \frac{4\pi^2}{\hbar^2} |\bar{\epsilon}(\omega_{E,1}) b_1|^2.$$

$$\{\mu_{11}^{(q)} + x^2 \mu_{22}^{(q)} + 2x |\mu_{12}^{(q)}| \cos[\phi_{12}^{(q)} - \alpha_{12} - \theta_{12}]\}.$$

In order to attain maximum control we want to set  $P^{(q)}(E) = 0$  for one of the  $q$  channels. This will automatically maximize the probability in the other  $q'$  channel(s).

Since  $P^{(q)}(E)$  is always positive and since  $\mu_{11}^{(q)} + x^2\mu_{22}^{(q)}$  is also positive, the only way we can minimize  $P^{(q)}(E)$  is by making the interference term  $2x|\mu_{12}^{(q)}|\cos[\phi_{12}^{(q)} - \alpha_{12} - \theta_{12}]$  as negative as possible.

Thus, we must set the external phases

$$\alpha_{12} + \theta_{12} \text{ such that, } \alpha_{12} + \theta_{12} = \pi - \phi_{12}^{(q)}.$$

When this is done  $\cos[\phi_{12}^{(q)} - \alpha_{12} - \theta_{12}] = -1$

and we obtain that,

$$P^{(q)}(E) =$$

$$\frac{4\pi^2}{\hbar^2} |\bar{\epsilon}(\omega_{E,1}) b_1|^2 \{ \mu_{11}^{(q)} + x^2 \mu_{22}^{(q)} - 2x |\mu_{12}^{(q)}| \} :$$

We obtain that  $P^{(q)}(E) = 0$  when this quadratic equation has a solution .

There is a solution

$$x = |\mu_{12}^{(q)}| / \mu_{22}^{(q)} \quad \text{iff} \quad |\mu_{12}^{(q)}|^2 = \mu_{11}^{(q)} \mu_{22}^{(q)},$$

i.e., when the discriminant vanishes.

We now write,

$$\mu_{11}^{(q)} = \sum_n \langle E_1 | d | E, q, n^- \rangle \langle E, q, n^- | d | E_1 \rangle$$

$$= \langle E_1 | d \sum_n | E, q, n^- \rangle \langle E, q, n^- | d | E_1 \rangle$$

$$= \langle E_1 d P | P d E_1 \rangle,$$

$$\begin{aligned}\mu_{22}^{(q)} &= \sum_n \langle E_2 | d | E, q, n^- \rangle \langle E, q, n^- | d | E_2 \rangle \\ &= \langle E_2 d P | P d E_2 \rangle,\end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}\mu_{12}^{(q)} &= \sum_n \langle E_1 | d | E, q, n^- \rangle \langle E, q, n^- | d | E_2 \rangle \\ &= \langle E_1 d P | P d E_2 \rangle,\end{aligned}$$

where

$$P \equiv \sum_n | E, q, n^- \rangle \langle E, q, n^- |$$

Hence the  $\mu_{11}^{(q)}$ ,  $\mu_{22}^{(q)}$  and  $\mu_{12}^{(q)}$  matrix elements are related as scalar products of the  $|E_1 dP\rangle$  and  $|PdE_2\rangle$  vectors. By the Schwarz inequality,

$$|\langle E_1 dP | PdE_2 \rangle|^2 \leq \langle E_1 dP | PdE_1 \rangle \langle E_2 dP | PdE_2 \rangle$$

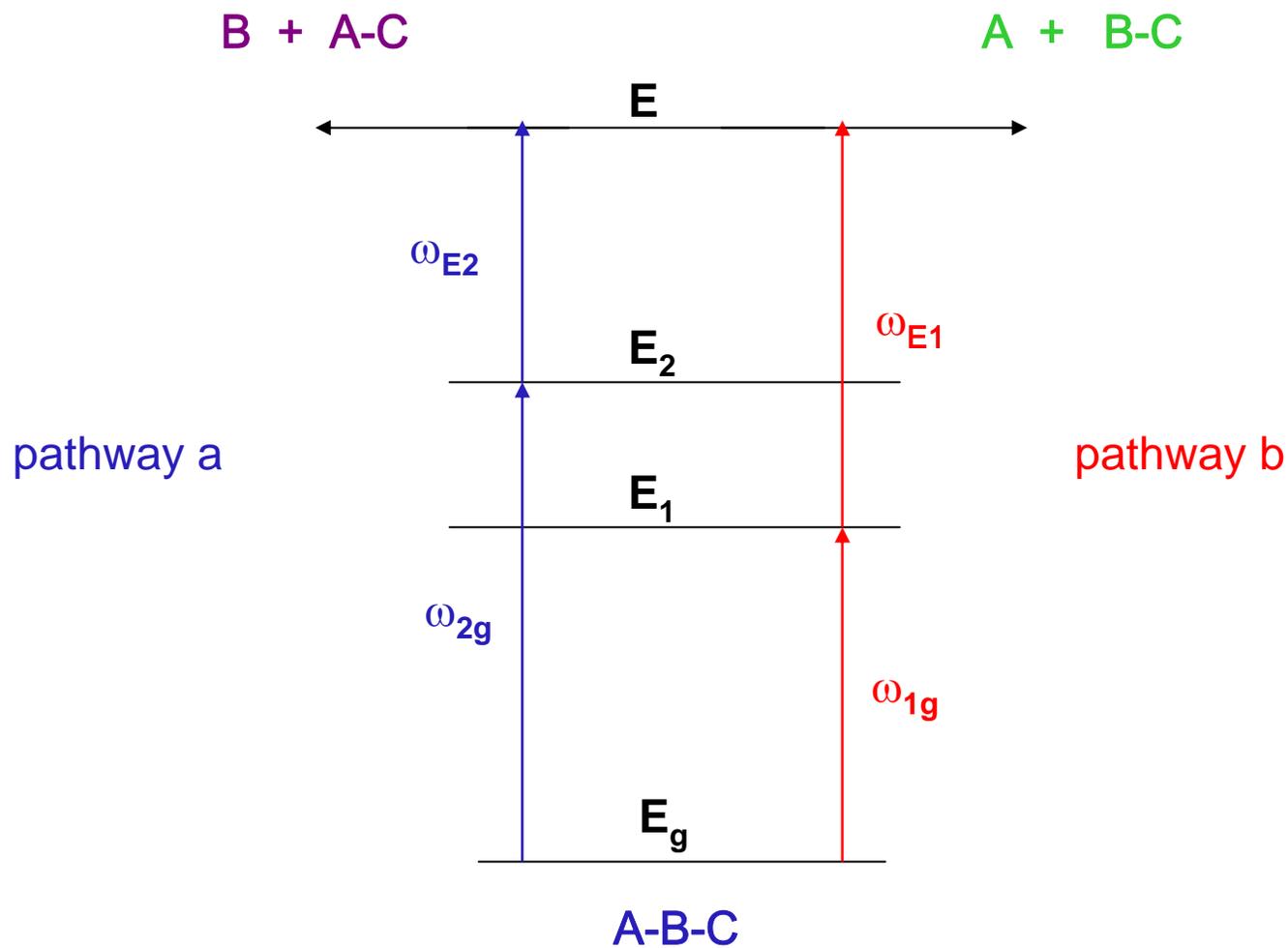
with the equality holding only when the  $|E_1 dP\rangle$  and  $|PdE_2\rangle$  vectors are parallel.

If  $P$  is a projection onto a single state i.e.,  
no  $n$  summation, this in fact is the case,  
because by definition

$$\begin{aligned} & |\langle E_1 d | E, q^- \rangle \langle E, q^- | d E_2 \rangle|^2 = \\ & \langle E_1 d | E, q^- \rangle \langle E, q^- | d E_1 \rangle \cdot \\ & \langle E_2 d | E, q^- \rangle \langle E, q^- | d E_2 \rangle \end{aligned}$$

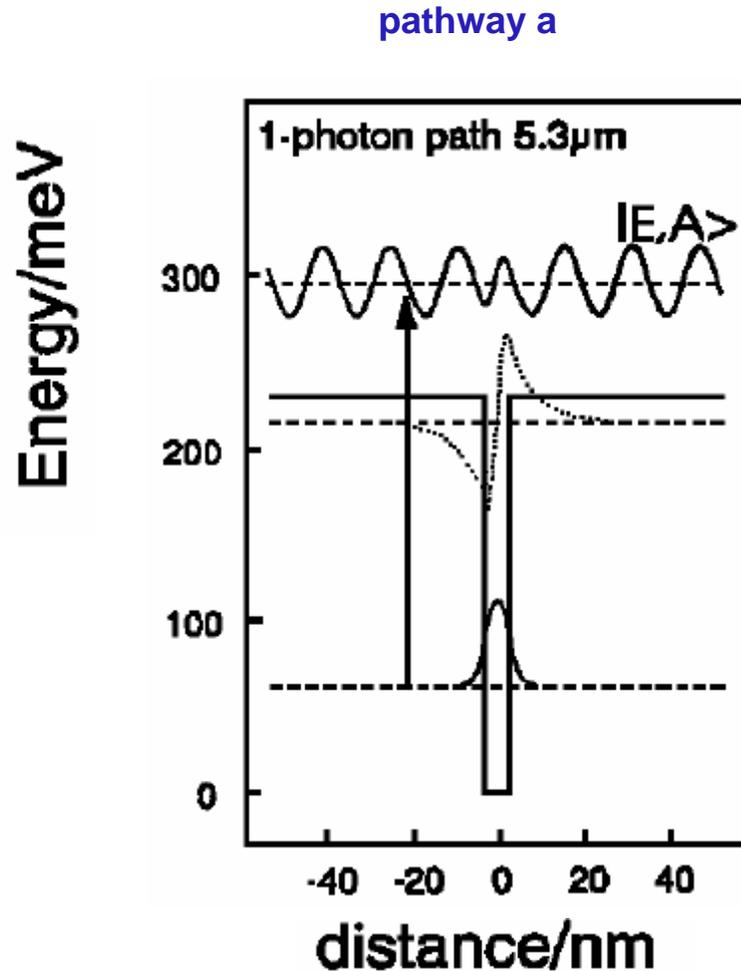
In all other cases due to the existence of many  $n$  internal states the strict inequality holds and complete control can never be realized. Nevertheless one can minimize  $P^{(q)}(E)$  as much as possible. In that case the solution of the CC equation yields the “optimal” solution.

# Bichromatic “coherent control” (Chem. Phys. Lett. 126, 541 (1986))

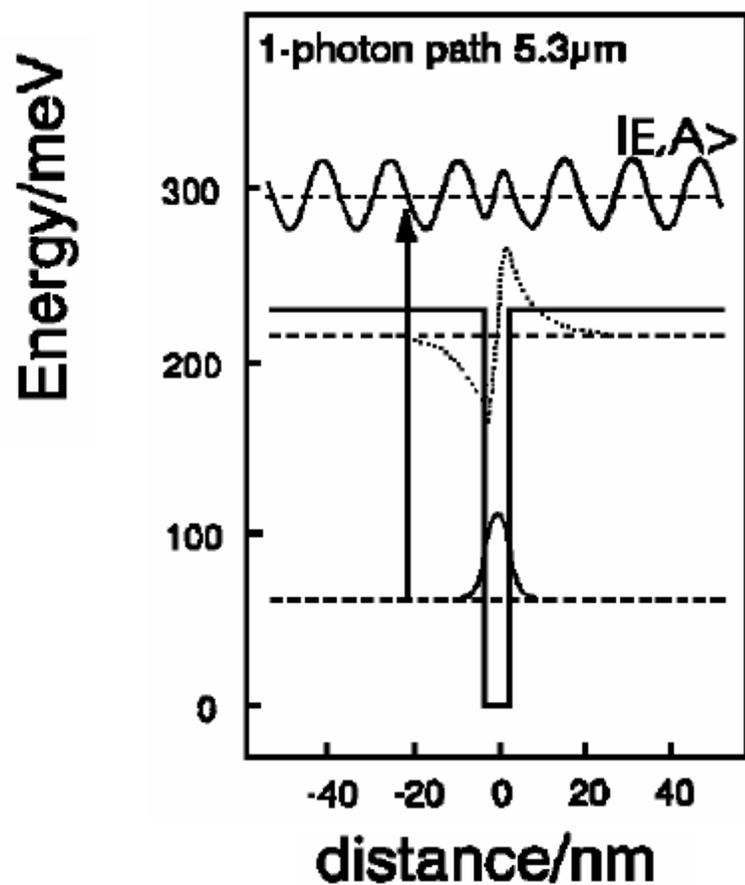


**A second objective:** to control of the direction of electronic motion.  
The generation of current without voltage!

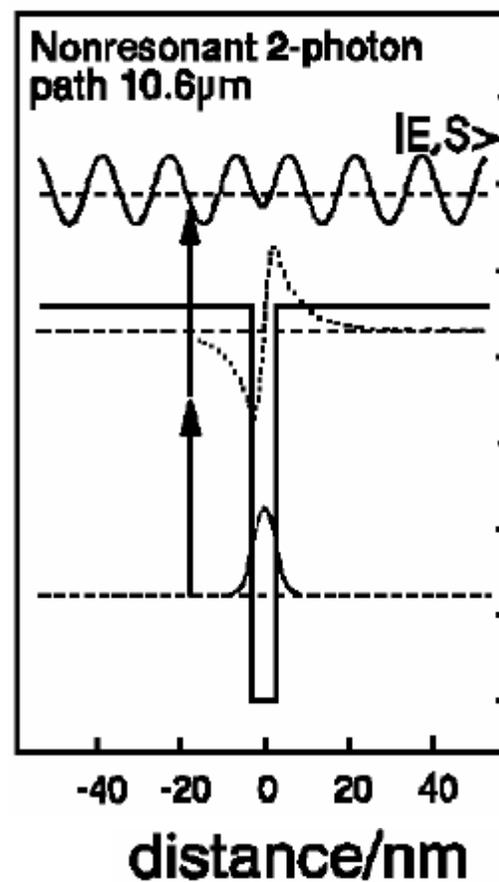
(G. Kurizki, M. Shapiro, P. Brumer, Phys. Rev. B, **39**, 3435 (1989)).



pathway a



pathway b



We can break the symmetry by irradiating the system with two fields,

$A_1 e^{-i\omega_1 t - i\phi_1}$  leading to a 1 photon transition, and

$A_2 e^{-i\omega_2 t - i\phi_2}$  where  $\omega_1 = 2\omega_2$  leading to a 2 photon transition.

The initial state is  $|k_v\rangle$  and the final state is  $|k_c\rangle$

The probability of populating conduction state  $|k_c\rangle$  is given as,

$$P_{k_c} = \left| A_1 p_{cv} e^{-i\phi_1} + A_2^2 \sum_i \frac{p_{c,i} p_{i,v}}{\hbar\omega_2 - E_i} e^{-2i\phi_2} \right|^2$$

where  $p_{cv} = \langle \mathbf{k}_c | \mathbf{p} | \mathbf{k}_v \rangle$      $p_{ci} = \langle \mathbf{k}_c | \mathbf{p} | \mathbf{k}_i \rangle$

$$p_{iv} = \langle \mathbf{k}_i | \mathbf{p} | \mathbf{k}_v \rangle$$

Opening the square we obtain that

$$P_{\mathbf{k}_c} = P_{\mathbf{k}_c}^{1,1} + P_{\mathbf{k}_c}^{2,2} + P_{\mathbf{k}_c}^{1,2}$$

where

$$P_{\mathbf{k}_c}^{1,1} = \left| A_1 p_{cv} \right|^2, \quad P_{\mathbf{k}_c}^{2,2} = \left| A_2^2 \sum_i \frac{p_{c,i} p_{i,v}}{\hbar\omega_2 - E_i} \right|^2$$

$$P_{\mathbf{k}_c}^{1,2} = B_{\mathbf{k}_c} \exp(i\delta_{\mathbf{k}_c}) \exp(i\phi_1 - 2i\phi_2) + c.c.$$

where

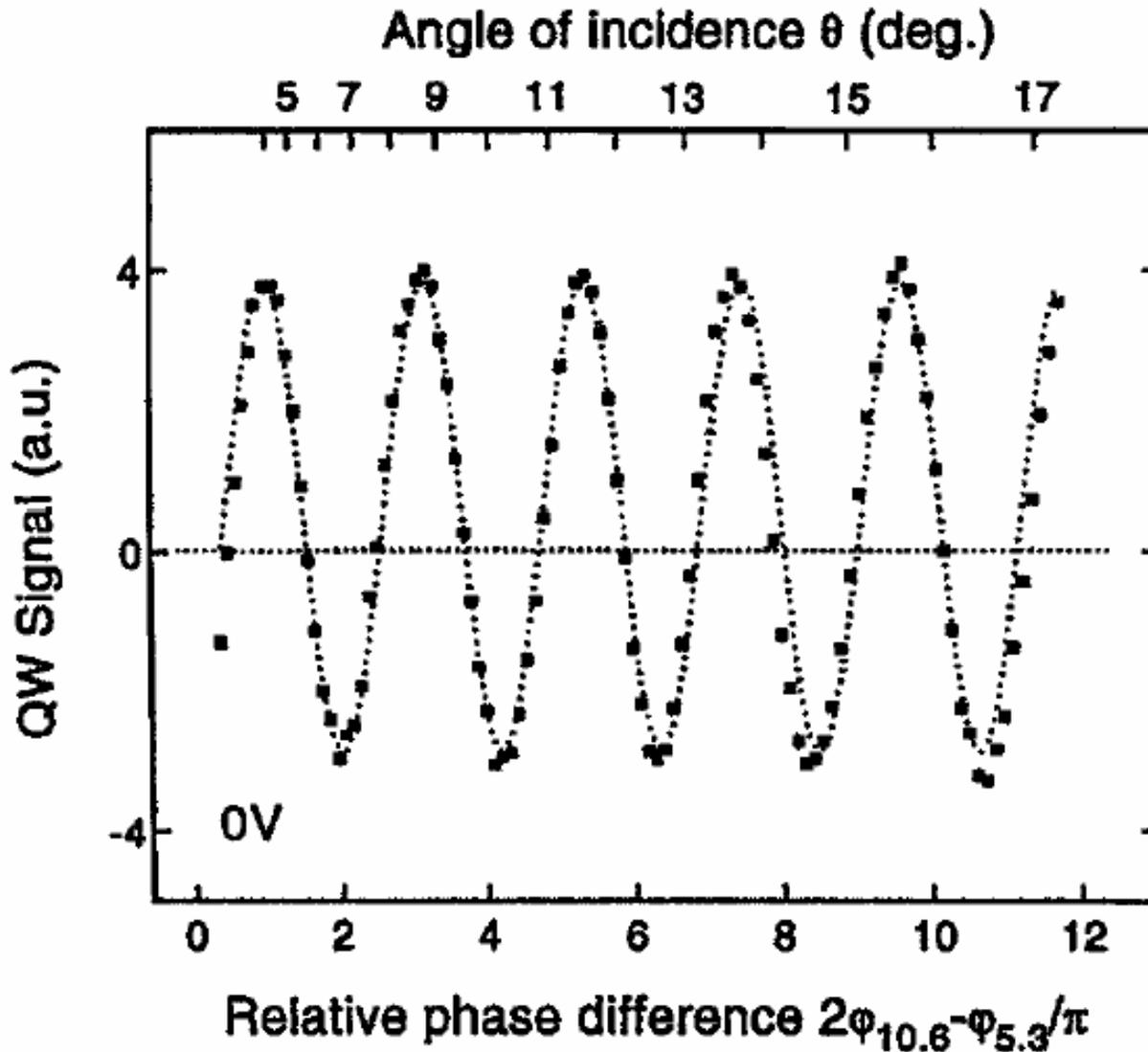
$$B_{\mathbf{k}_c} = \left| A_1 p_{cv} \cdot A_2^2 \sum_i \frac{p_{c,i} p_{i,v}}{\hbar\omega_2 - E_i} \right|$$

so that

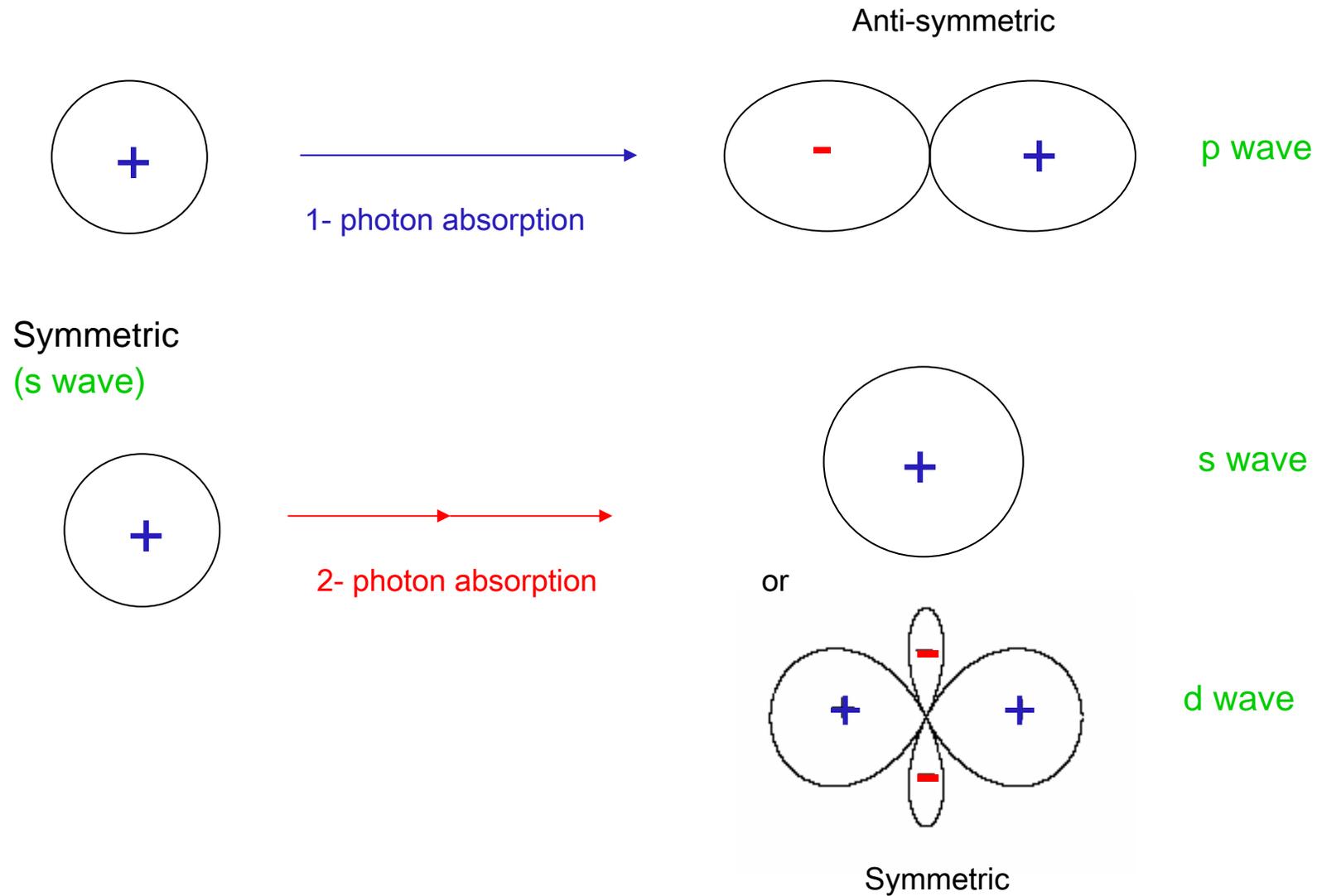
$$\underline{P_{\mathbf{k}_c}^{1,2} = B_{\mathbf{k}_c} \cos(\delta_{\mathbf{k}_c} + \phi_1 - 2\phi_2)}$$

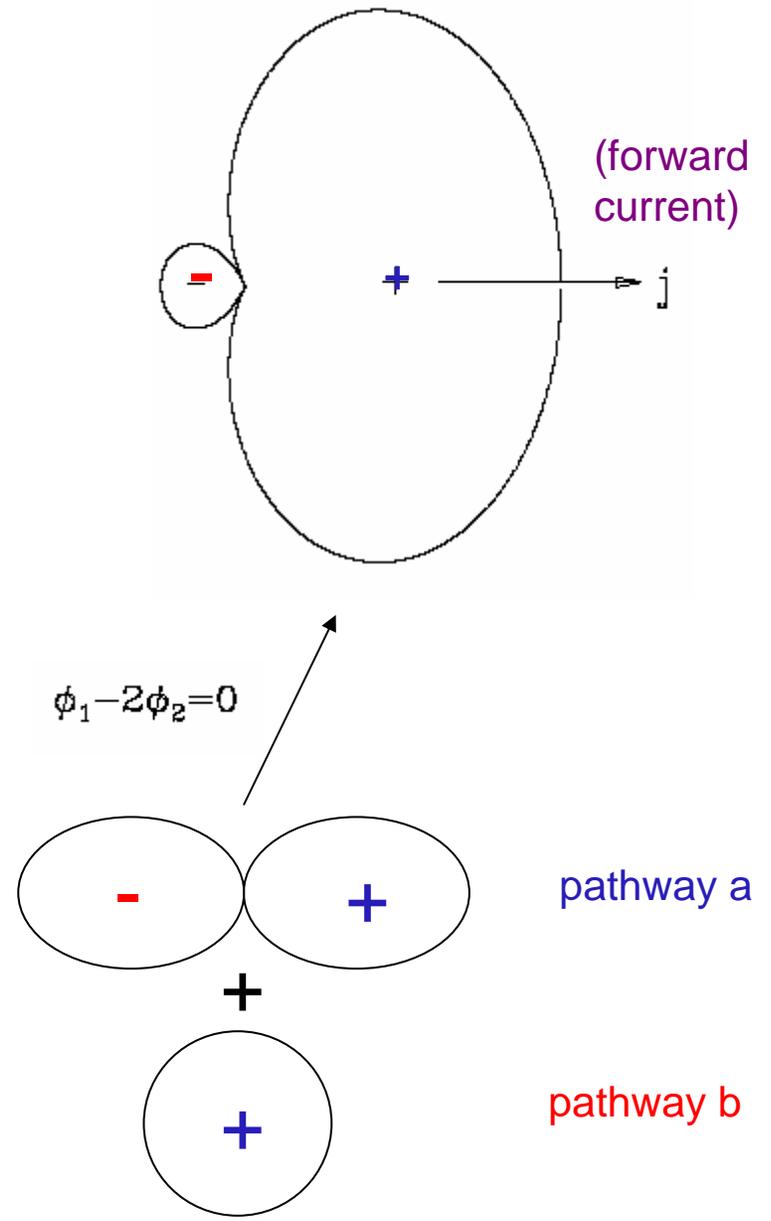
In particular

$$\delta_{-\mathbf{k}_c} = \pi + \delta_{\mathbf{k}_c}$$

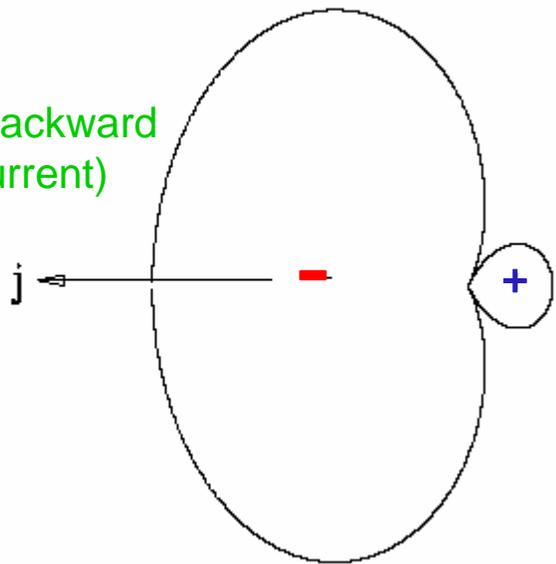


# A pictorial representation

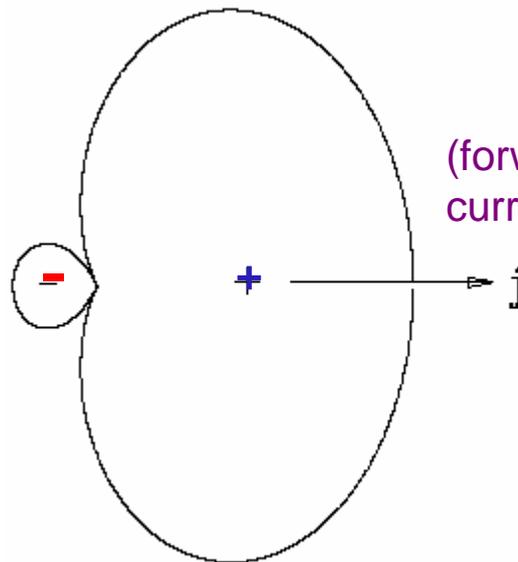




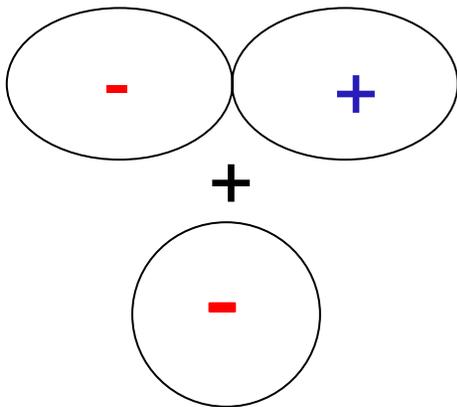
(backward current)



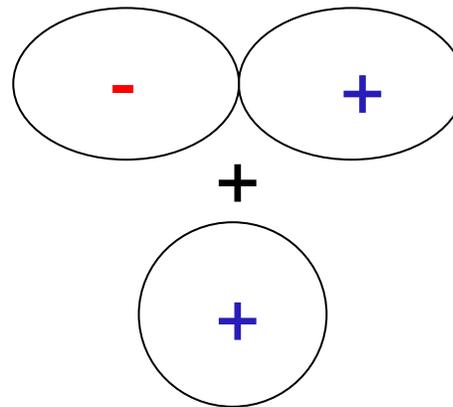
(forward current)



$$\phi_1 - 2\phi_2 = \pi$$



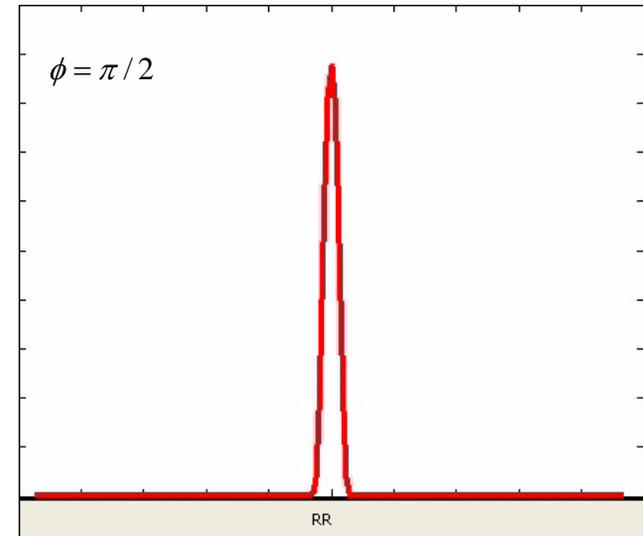
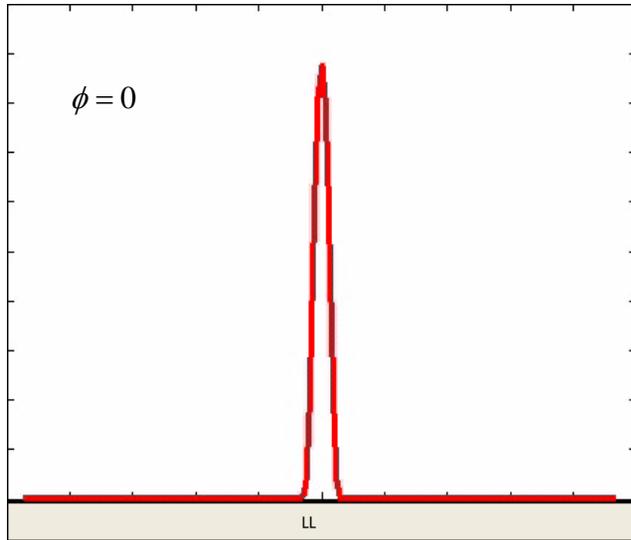
$$\phi_1 - 2\phi_2 = 0$$



pathway a

pathway b

# Generation of DC current in a molecular "wire" suspended between two leads



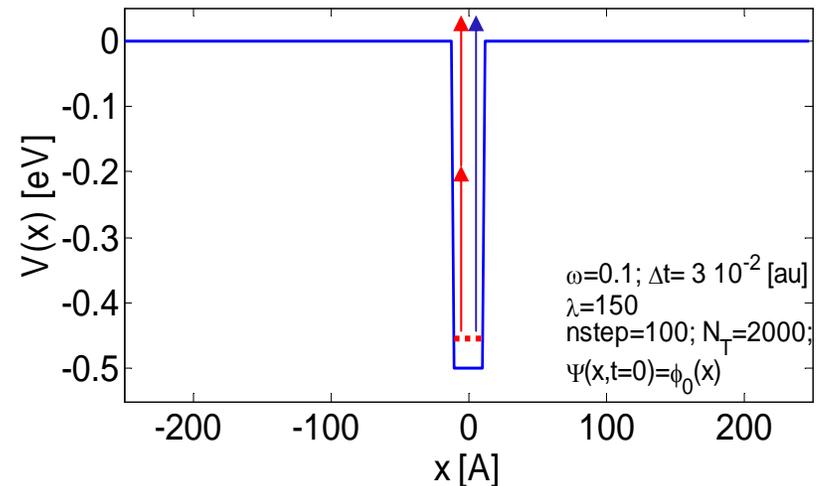
$$\dot{\psi} = -iH\psi$$

$$H = -\frac{\hbar^2}{2m} \frac{d^2}{dx^2} + V(x) + U(x,t)$$

$$V(x) = \begin{cases} 0 & |x| > 0.1 \text{ nm} \\ -0.5 \text{ eV} & |x| < 0.1 \text{ nm} \end{cases}$$

$$U(x,t) = x [\sin(\omega t) + \sin(2\omega t + \phi)] f(t)$$

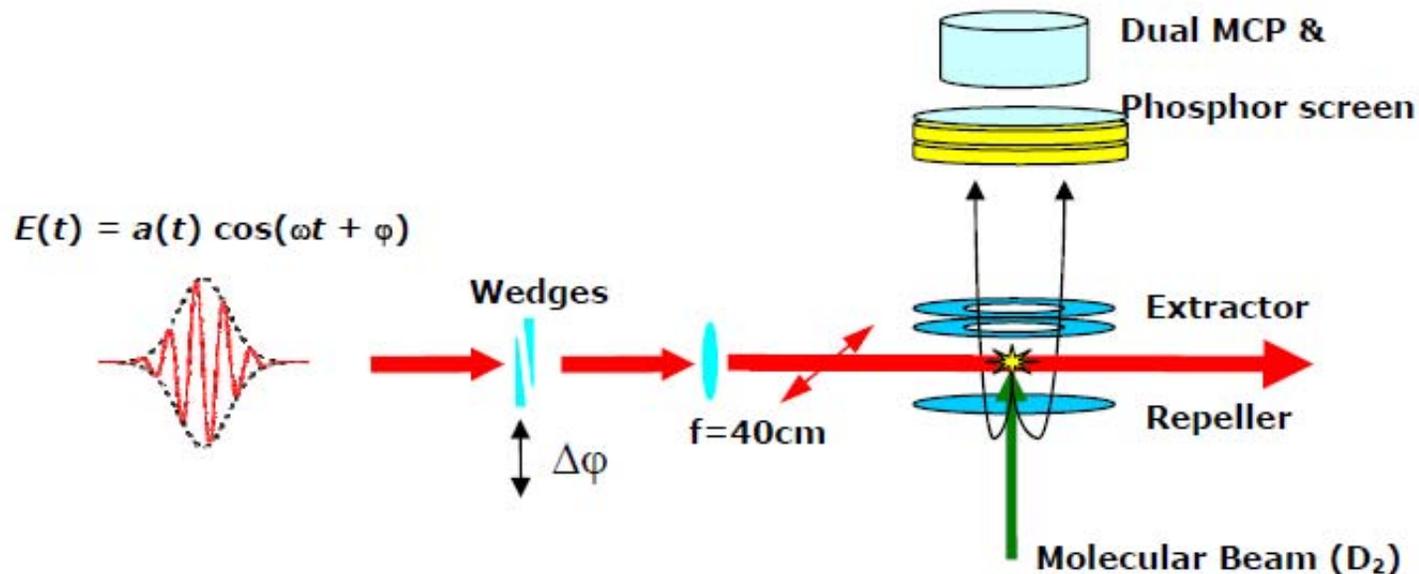
$$f(t) = e^{-(t/\lambda)^2} \quad \text{a short pulse}$$

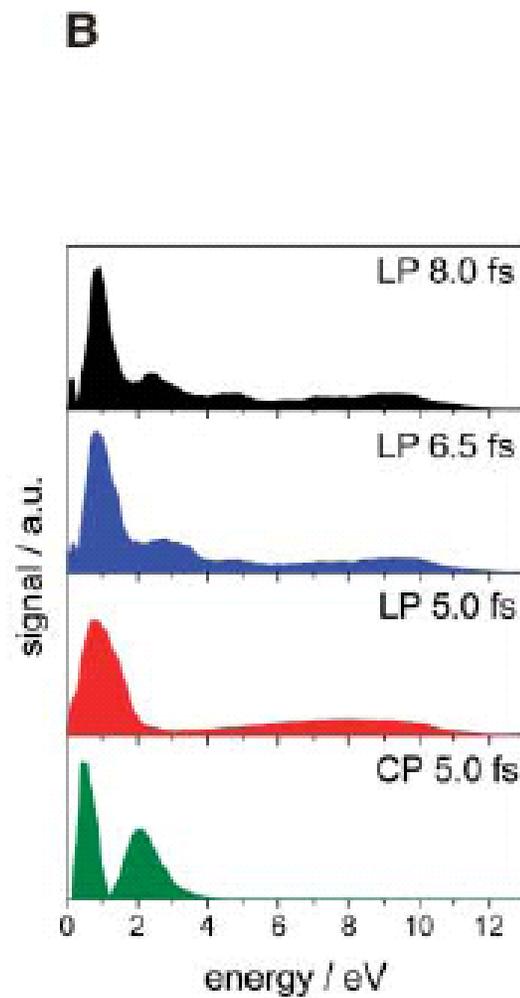
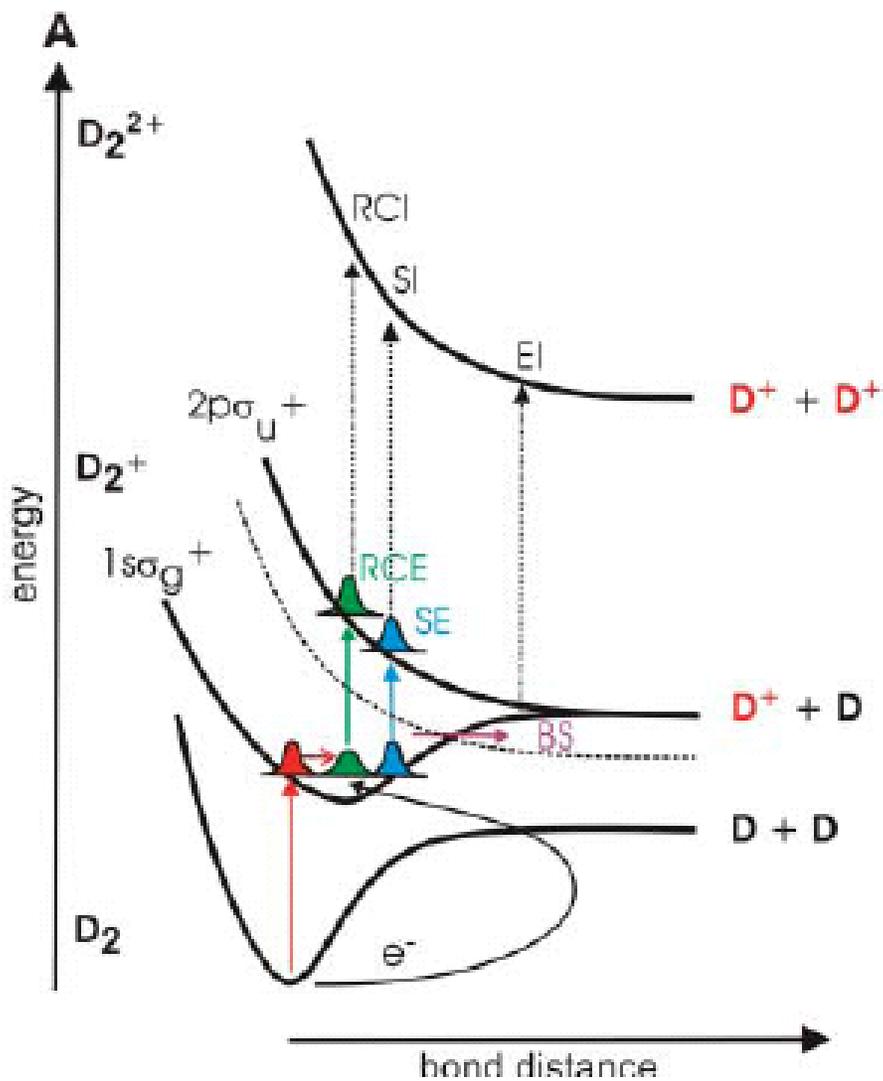


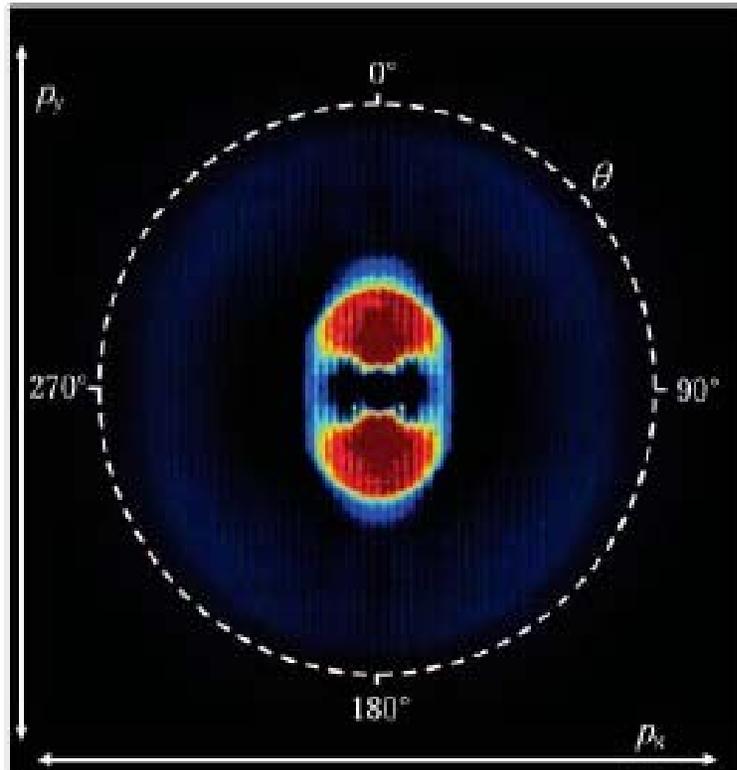
# Control of Electron Localization in Molecular Dissociation

M. F. Kling,<sup>1</sup> Ch. Siedschlag,<sup>1</sup> A. J. Verhoef,<sup>2</sup> J. I. Khan,<sup>1</sup> M. Schultze,<sup>2</sup> Th. Uphues,<sup>3</sup> Y. Ni,<sup>1</sup>  
M. Uiberacker,<sup>4</sup> M. Drescher,<sup>3,5</sup> F. Krausz,<sup>2,4</sup> M. J. J. Vrakking<sup>1</sup>

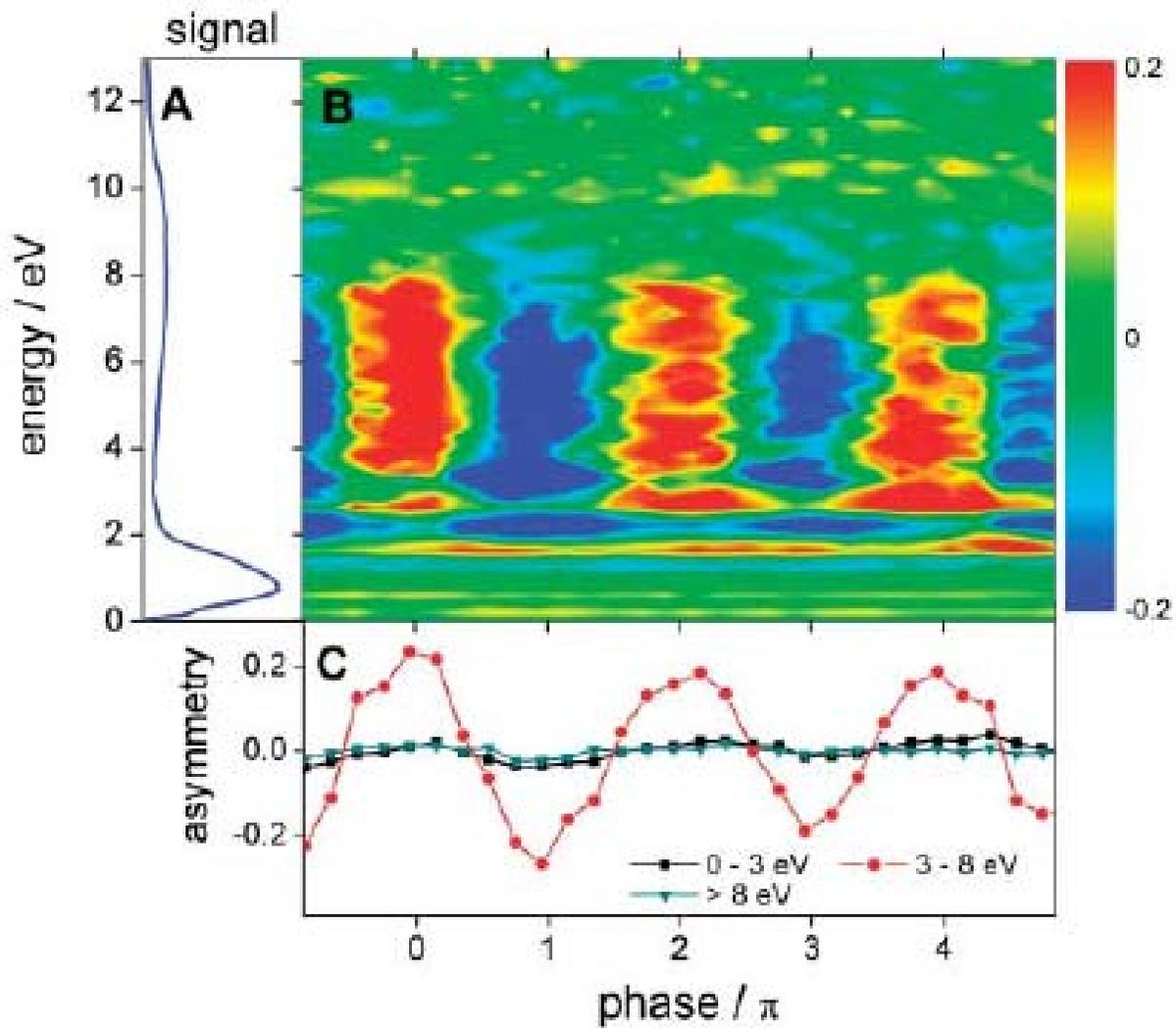
Science **312** 246 (2006)

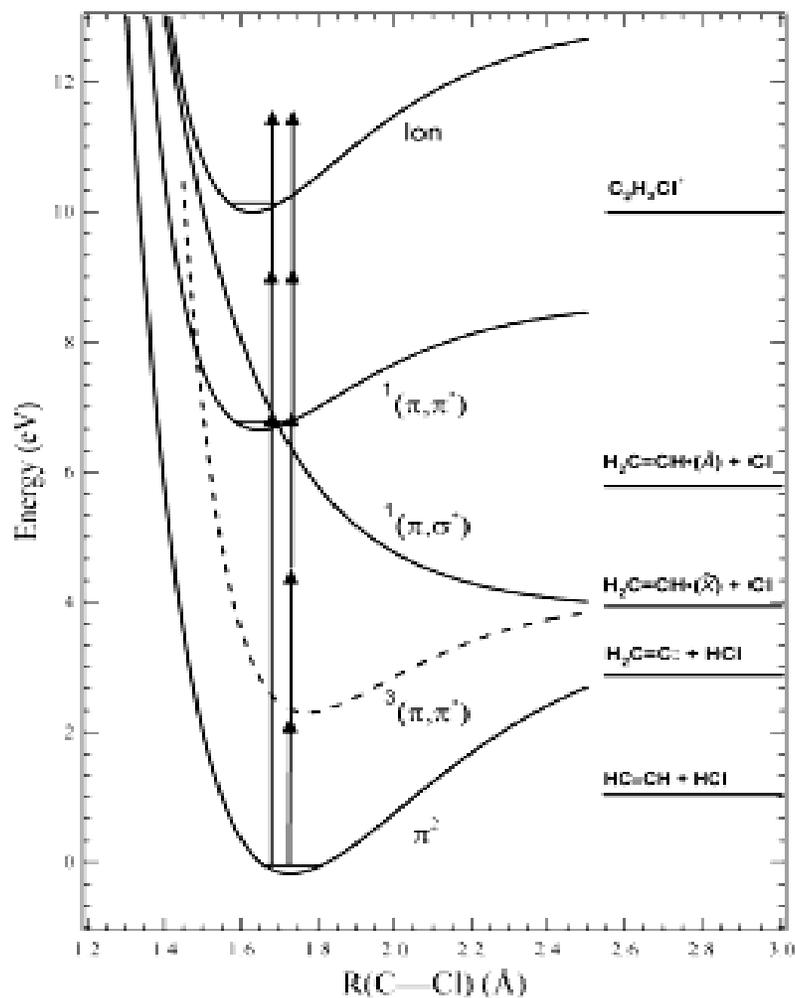




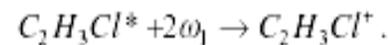
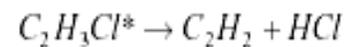
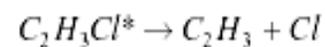
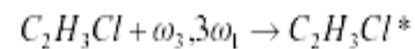


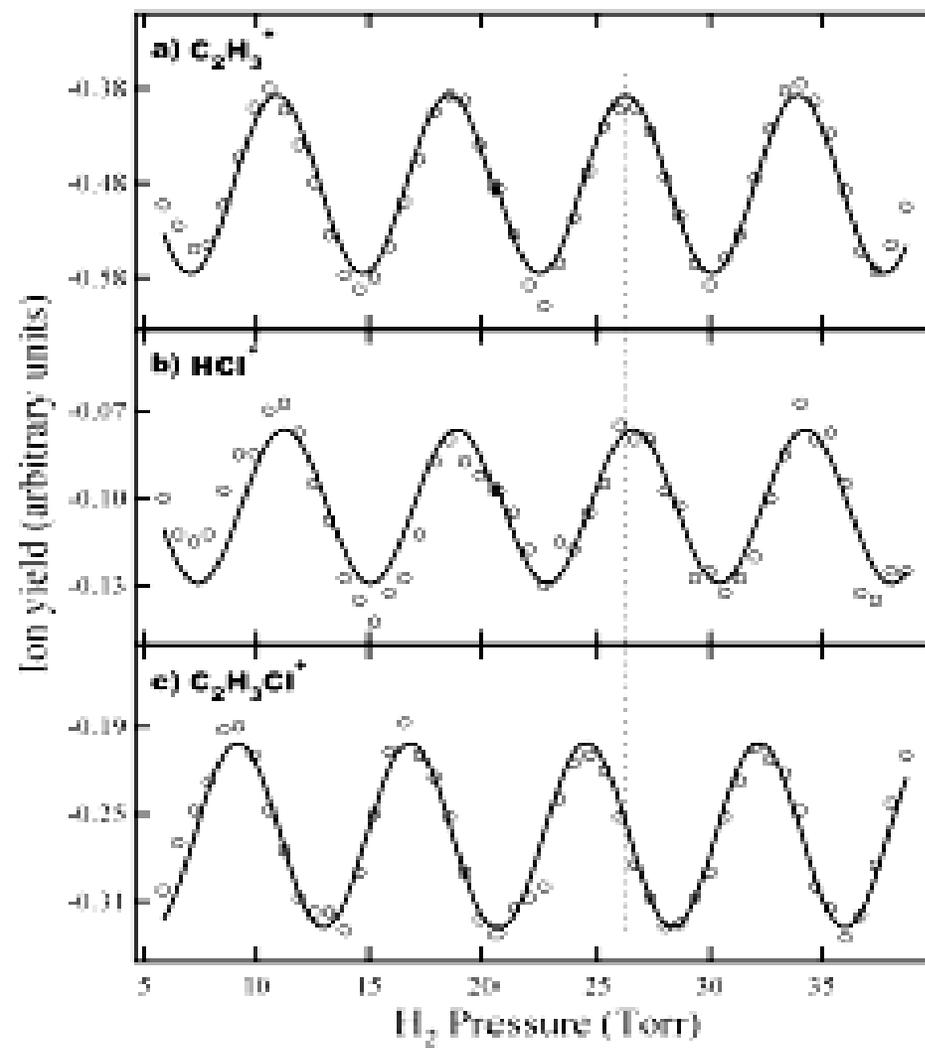
**Fig. 2.** Two-dimensional  $D^+$  momentum image for  $D_2$  dissociation in a 5-fs,  $1 \times 10^{14} \text{ W cm}^{-2}$  laser field without phase stabilization.





**J**



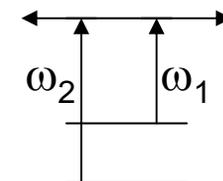


# Milestones in the development of coherent control

## blue – coherent control (theory)

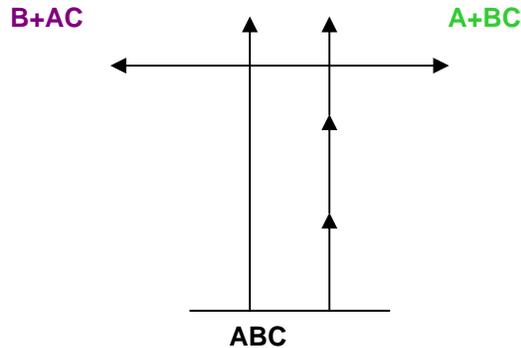
## red - experiments

- **1985/1986:** PB +MS (trying to understand why control in IR multiphoton dissociation failed) suggest using quantum interference for control. Introduction of bi-chromatic control.

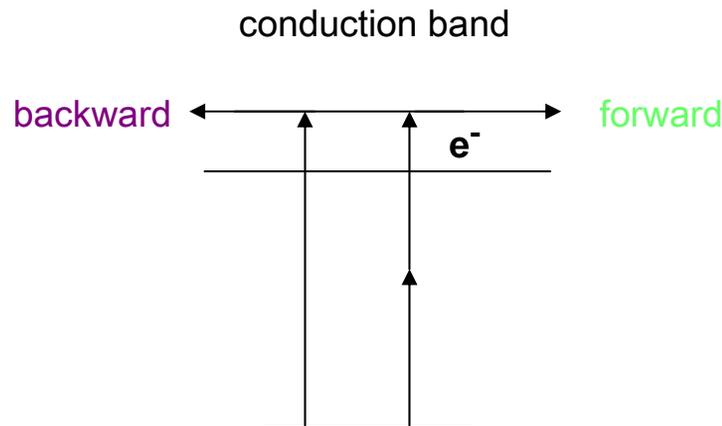


- **1987:** First theoretical results on the control of realistic systems: The control of electronic branching in the  $\text{CH}_3 + \text{I}^* \leftarrow \text{CH}_3\text{I} \rightarrow \text{CH}_3 + \text{I}$ , reaction
- **1987:** Coining the phrase “Coherent Control”
- **1988:** (with Asaro) Elliptic polarization control of differential cross-sections

1988: (with Hepburn) Introduction of 1 photon vs. 3 photon interference as a means of control



1989: (with Kurizki) Introduction of 1 photon vs. 2 photon as a means of symmetry breaking and differential control: prediction of creation of DC photo-current in semi-conductors with *no bias voltage*.



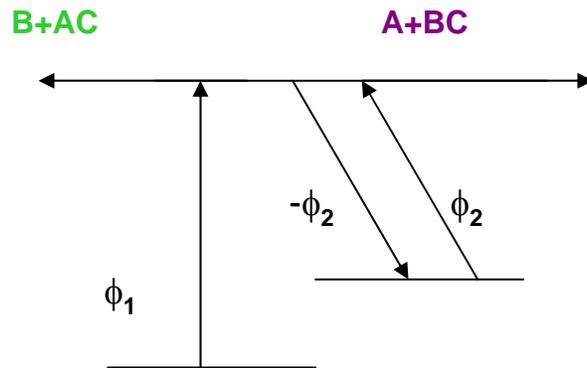
**1990:** First experimental verification of the 1 vs. 2 coherent control scenario. Control over photo-current directionality in semiconductors (Zeldovitch)

**1990/1991:** First experimental verifications of the 1 vs. 3 coherent control scenario: The control of photoionization yields in atoms (Elliott, Bucksbaum) and molecules (Gordon, Bersohn)

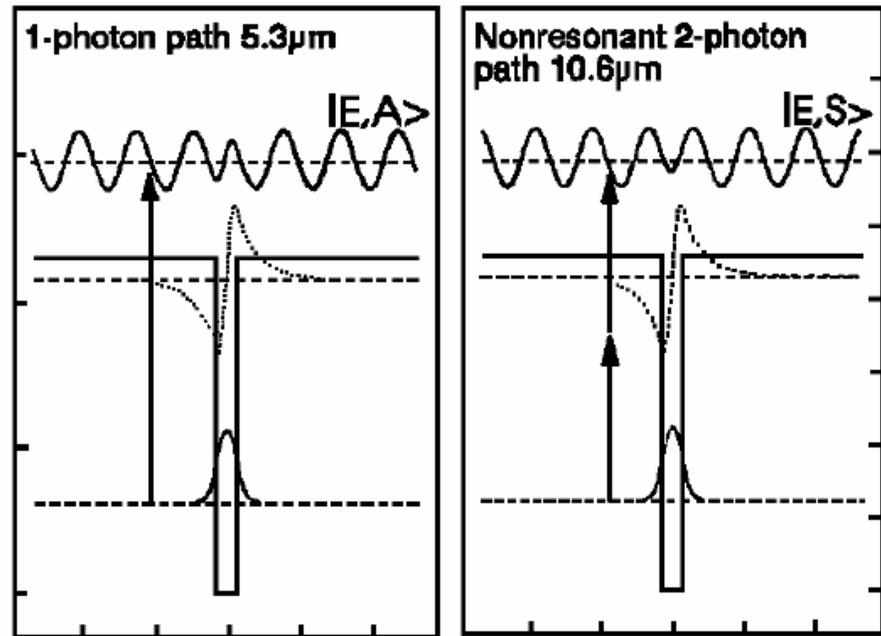
**1991:** Coherent control of molecular chirality introduced

**1991:** First experimental realization of the pump-dump control scheme in  $\text{Na} + \text{Na} \leftarrow \text{Na}_2 \rightarrow \text{Na}_2^+$  (Baumert +Gerber)

## 1994/1995: Interference Control with Incoherent light introduced



**1995:** Experimental demonstration of coherent control of photo-current generation in quantum wells by the 1 vs. 2 photon scenario (Corkum)



**1995:** Experimental demonstration of control of electronic hopping in a dissociating molecule, in 1 vs. 2 photon  $\text{H}^+ + \text{D} \leftarrow \text{HD}^+ \rightarrow \text{H} + \text{D}^+$  (DiMauro)

**1995:** (Gordon) First experimental demonstration of control over a branching process: control over the ionization vs. dissociation in 1 vs. 3 photon  $\text{HI}^+ \leftarrow \text{HI} \rightarrow \text{H} + \text{I}$

**1996:** First experimental demonstration of control over electronic branching ratios: interference control with incoherent light in  $\text{Na} + \text{Na}(3p) \leftarrow \text{Na}_2 \rightarrow \text{Na} + \text{Na}(3d)$  (Shnitman+Yogev+, Shapiro)

**1997:** (with Vardi) Photoassociation of ultracold atoms to form ultracold molecules via Coherent Raman Process suggested

**1997:** First experiments on automated feedback control via pulse shapings (Wilson, Silberberg, Gerber)

**1998:** Experimental demonstration of coherent control via phase modulation of two photon absorption of atoms (Silberberg)

**1998:** (Gerber) First experimental demonstration of adaptive feedback control of a branching photochemical reaction: Control over the photodissociation of  $\text{Fe}(\text{CO})_5$  and

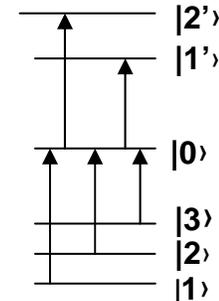


**2000:** Coherent Control of refractive indices introduced

**2000:** (with Frishman) Enantiomeric purification of chiral racemic mixtures by coherent control techniques

- **2000:** Theory of nanoscale deposition on surfaces
- **2000:** (with Frishman) Coherent Suppression of spontaneous emission using overlapping resonances

**2001:** Adaptive feedback control of the photodissociation of  $\text{C}_6\text{H}_5\text{CO} + \text{CH}_3 \leftarrow \text{C}_6\text{H}_5\text{CH}_3\text{CO} \rightarrow \text{C}_6\text{H}_5 + \text{CH}_3\text{CO}$  in the high field regime (Levis)



**2002:** (with Kral): An exact analytical solution of the non-degenerate quantum control problem

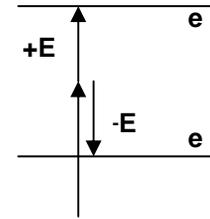
**2002:** Adaptive feedback control of internal conversion channel in a light harvesting antenna complex of photosynthetic purple bacterium (Motzkus)

**2003:** (with Kral and Thanopoulos): An analytic solution for the degenerate quantum control problem

**2003:** (with Zhang and Keil) Experimental demonstration of phase locking between two 2-photon processes in 2-photon vs. 2-photon coherent control

**2003-2004:** Experimental control of high harmonic generation (Murnane, Gerber)

**2004:** Coherent Control techniques used in the “streak camera” phase measurement attosecond pulses (Krausz, Corkum)



- 2005:** Control of radiationless transitions by interference between overlapping resonances

**2005:** (with Thanopoulos) Automatic repair of mutations caused by dihydrogenic tunneling between two nucleotides using coherent control

**2005:** (with Kral) Coherent control with non-classical light

**2005:** Experimental demonstration of coherent photoassociation of Rb + Rb BEC to form Rb<sub>2</sub> molecular BEC using the Vardi+Shapiro scheme (Grimm)

**2005:** Experimental demonstration of bond breaking selectivity in the  $\text{CH}_2=\text{CH}\cdot + \text{Cl} \leftarrow \text{CH}_2=\text{CHCl} \rightarrow \text{CH}=\text{CH} + \text{HCl}$  (Gordon)

**2005:** (with Segal) Suggestion of quantum computation using electron trapped in an quadrupoles of carbon nanotubes