

# MOLECULAR POLARITONICS 2019: Theoretical and Numerical Approaches

Miraflores de la Sierra, Madrid, July 7-11, 2019

Organizers: Claudiu Genes and Johannes Feist

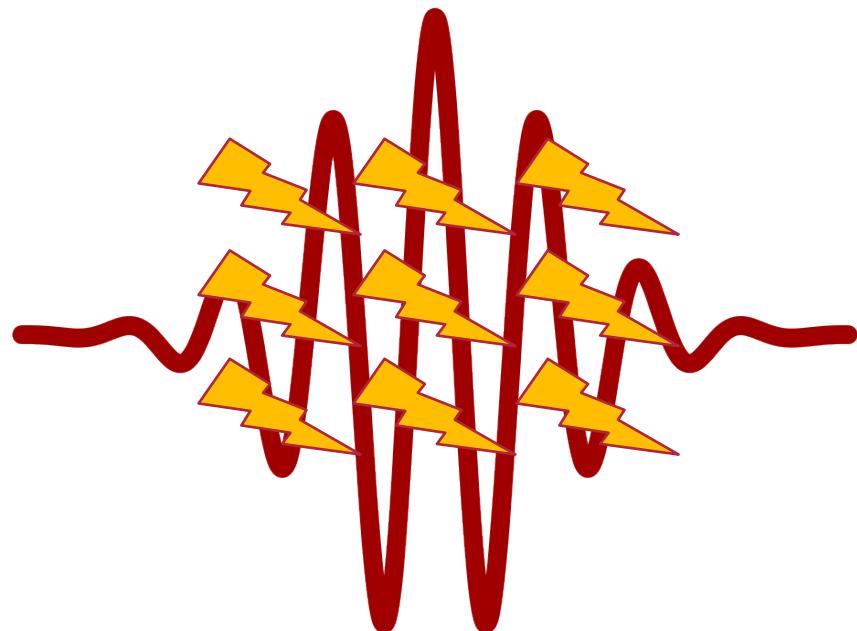


Introduction / overview / perspective of the field

# Molecular Polaritonics: Introduction

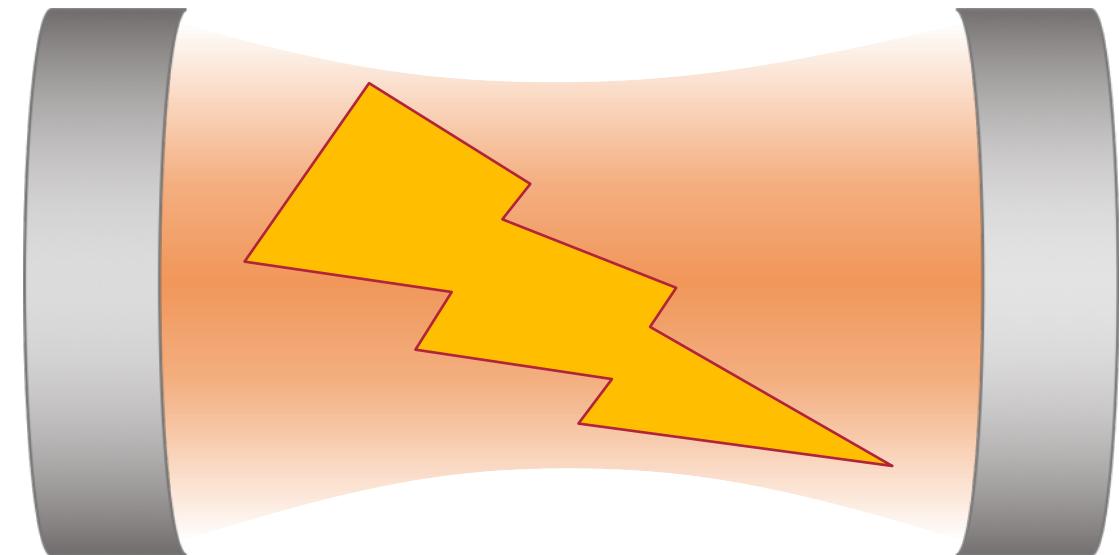
## Laser:

Many coherent photons



## Alternative:

Make single photon “strong” by  
confining it in space



# Cavity-modified material properties

Use light (*vacuum field*) to modify material properties?



Confine light in space to get strong **few-photon** interaction with **interesting materials**



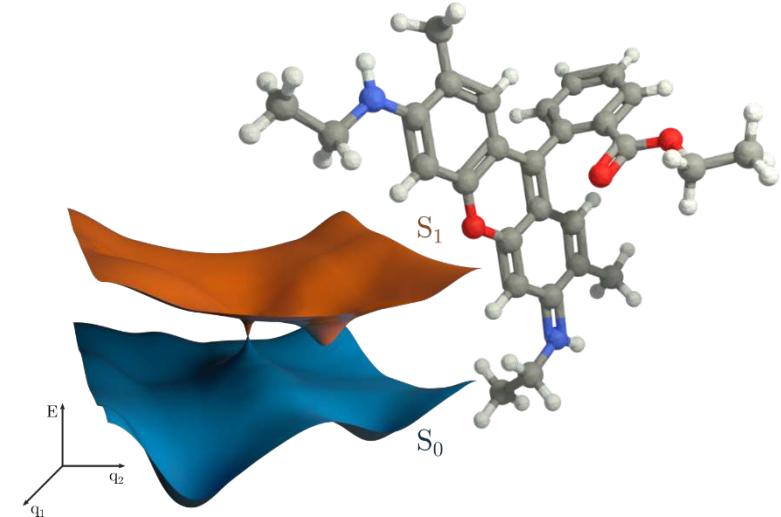
Nanophotonics  
Plasmonics



Cavity QED  
Quantum Optics

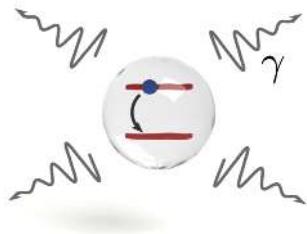


Materials Science  
Chemistry

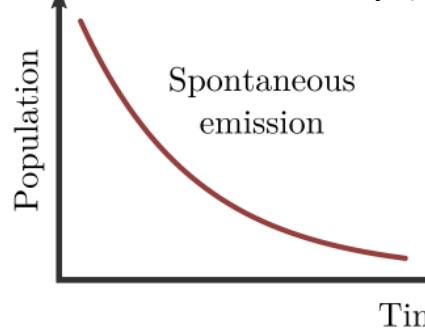


# Strong light–matter coupling

## Weak coupling



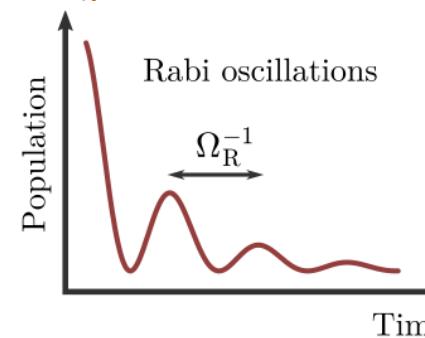
- Absorption and emission
- EM environment → modify radiative decay (**Purcell effect**)



## Strong coupling



- **Vacuum Rabi oscillations** (coherent energy exchange)
- Interaction faster than decay
- Hybrid light-matter states (**polaritons / dressed states**)



## Simple model

excited emitter

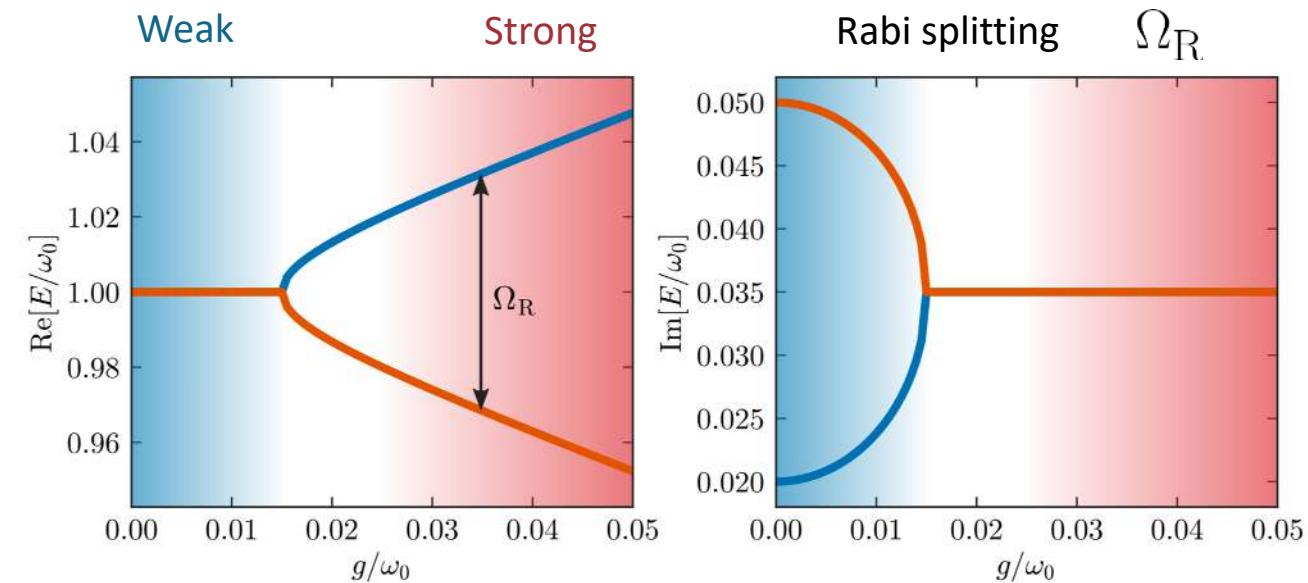
$$H = \begin{pmatrix} \omega_0 - i\frac{\gamma}{2} & g \\ g & \omega_0 - i\frac{\kappa}{2} \end{pmatrix}$$

coupling

$$g = \mu \cdot \mathbf{E}_{1\text{ph}}$$

$$\mathbf{E}_{1\text{ph}} \propto \frac{1}{\sqrt{V}}$$

photon

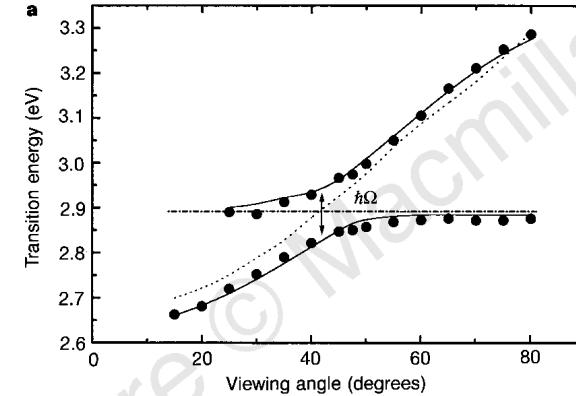
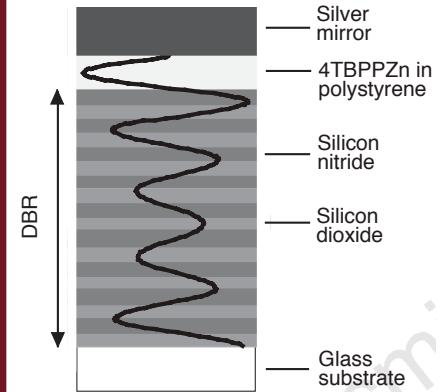


# Strong coupling with organic molecules

## Organic molecules:

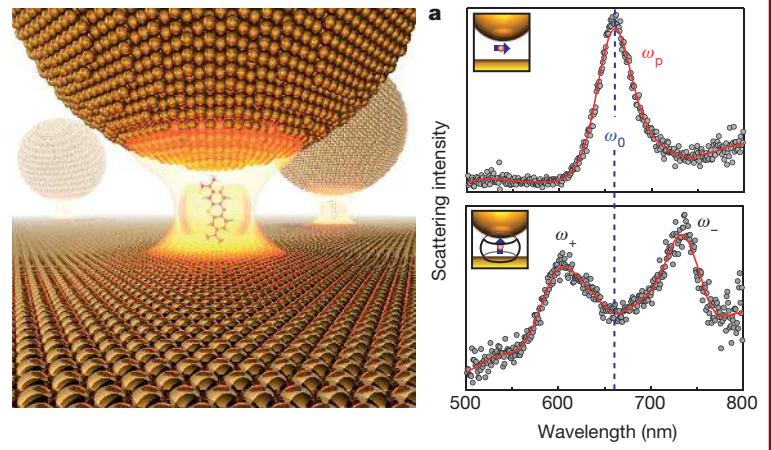
- Large dipole moments
- High densities  $\Omega_R \propto \sqrt{\rho\mu}$
- **Rabi splitting can be >1 eV**  
(large fraction of transition energy)
- **Room temperature!**

## Microcavity: D. G. Lidzey et al., Nature 395, 53 (1998)

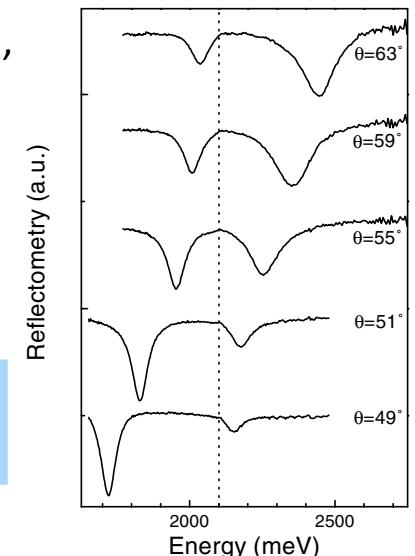
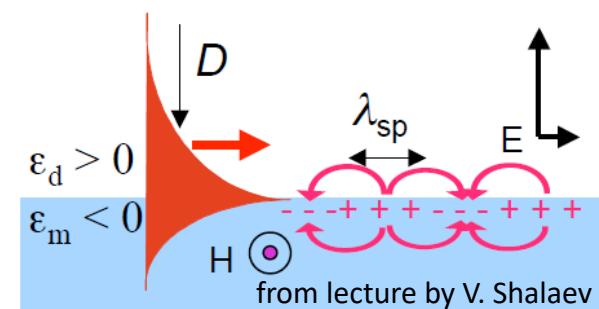


## Few molecules with gap plasmon:

Chikkaraddy et al., Nature 535, 127 (2016)



## Surface plasmons: J. Bellessa et al., Phys. Rev. Lett. 93, 036404 (2004)



# Many vs single organic molecules

## Room temperature:

### Many molecules / macroscopic

#### Promises

- "Easy" to reach strong coupling
- Modifications of electronic properties
- Tunable chemistry
- Could integrate in devices

#### Problems

- Many effects "classical" (Maxwell's eqs)
- No few-photon nonlinearity
- Small polariton density of states compared to "dark" states
- delocalized → single-molecule effects small

### Single (or few) molecules

#### Promises

- Single molecule!
- ~all states/properties affected
- Quantum nature (more) evident
- Generates non-linearities (photon blockade)

#### Problems

- Experimentally very challenging
- Extremely strong field confinement necessary (mode volume  $\sim 50 \text{ nm}^3$ ) → large losses
- "Messy" system (molecules close to metal: quenching, chemical modification, etc.)

# Many vs single organic molecules

## Cryogenic single molecule

### Promises

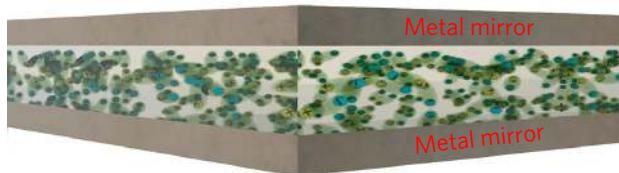
- Coherent control of quantum states
- Coherent quantum light-matter interface
- Generates **non-linearities** (photon blockade)
- Integrated into quantum networks

### Problems

- Requires good cavities while minimizing the mode volume
- Requires **cryogenic** conditions
- Reactivity is bad for experiments

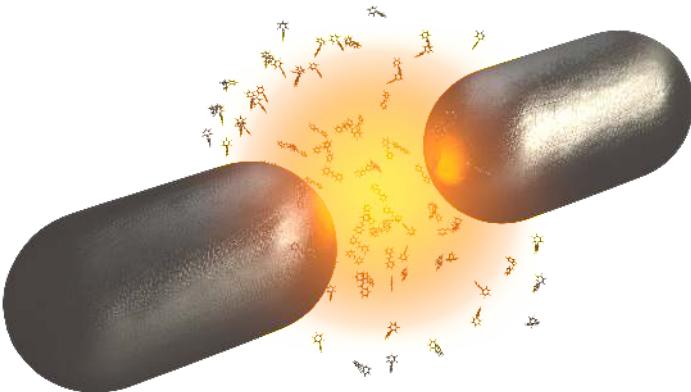
# What is a cavity?

“Cavity” in this context: **any material system**  
... that confines or enhances light / EM modes



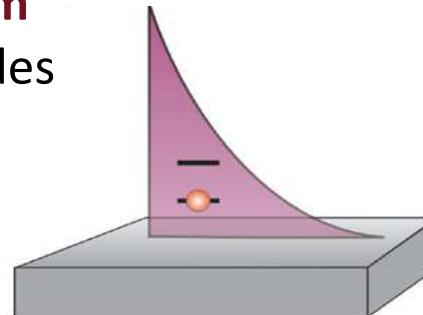
**Fabry-Perot / planar cavities**

Sanvitto & Kéna-Cohen,  
Nat. Mater. **15**, 1061 (2016)



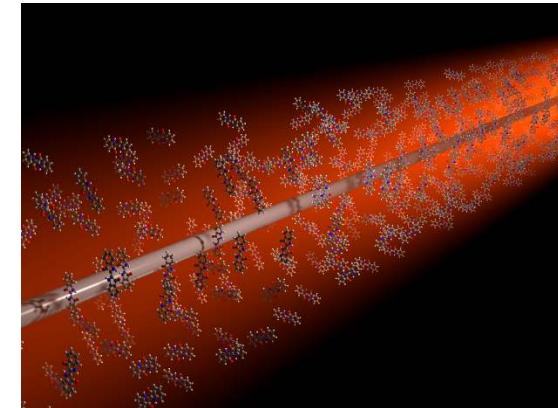
**Localized surface plasmon resonances**

Galego et al., Nature Commun. **7**, 13841 (2016)

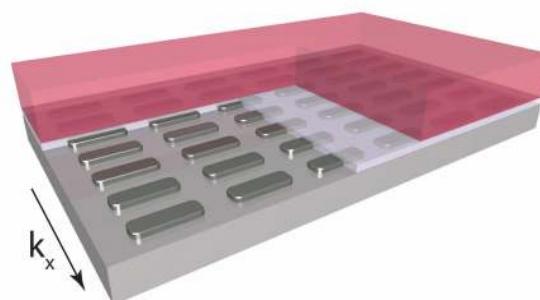


**Surface plasmon polaritons**

Törmä & Barnes,  
Rep. Prog. Phys. **78**, 13901 (2015)



**Nanowires**



**Plasmonic nanoparticle array**

Ramezani et al., Optica **4**, 31 (2017)



**Photonic Crystal**

Galego, PhD thesis (2019)

Almost never a single cavity mode!

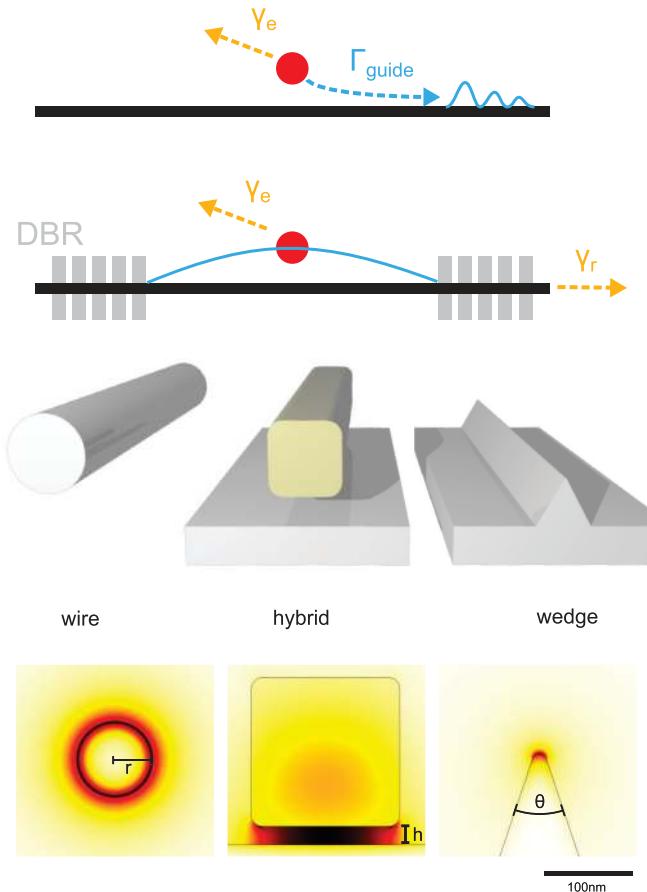
Proper quantized description?

Macroscopic QED?

# Quantized approaches to plasmonic “cavities”

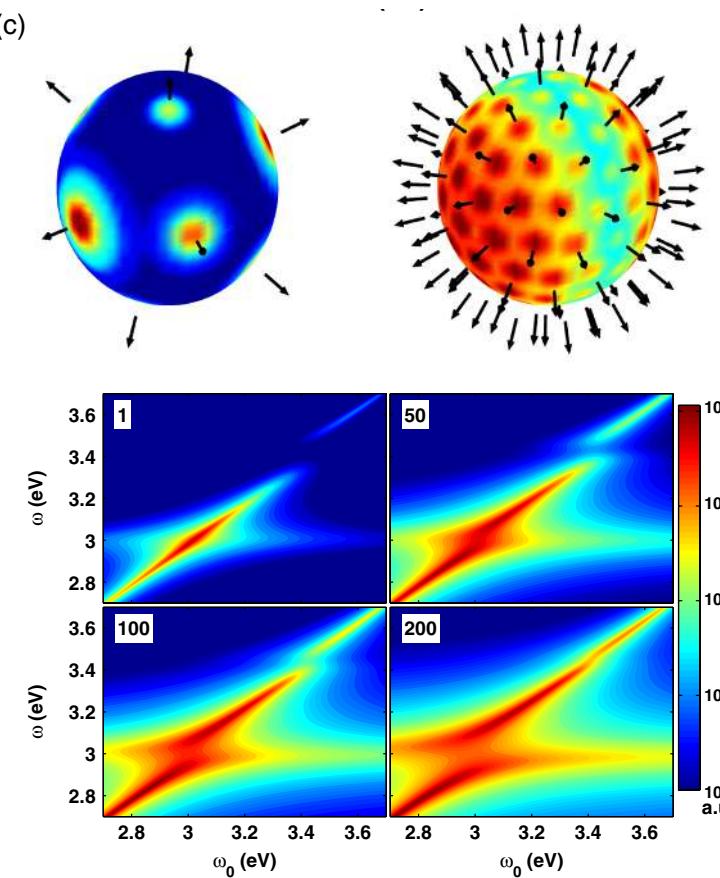
## Weak and strong coupling regimes in plasmonic QED

T. Hümmer et al., Phys. Rev. B **87**, 115419 (2013)



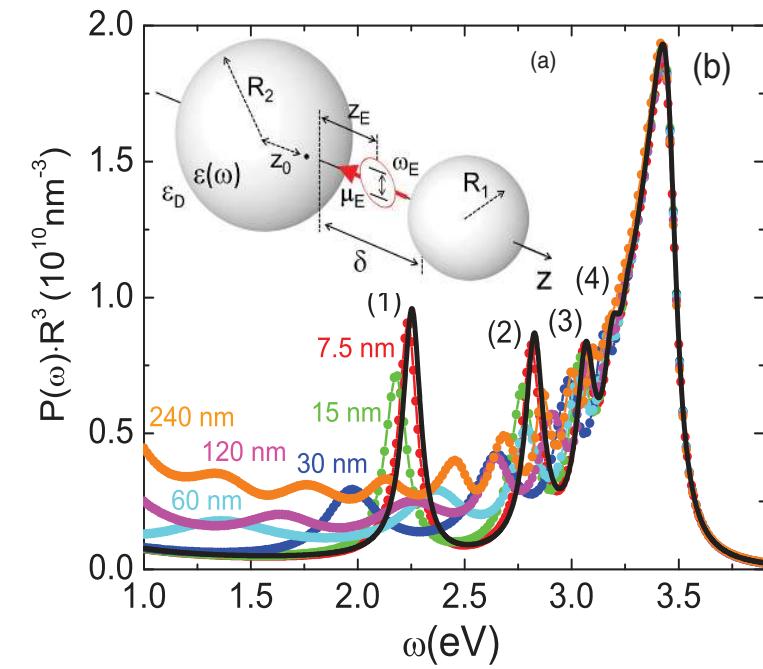
## Quantum Emitters Near a Metal Nanoparticle: Strong Coupling and Quenching

A. Delga et al., Phys. Rev. Lett. **112**, 253601 (2014)



## Transformation Optics Approach to Plasmon-Exciton Strong Coupling in Nanocavities

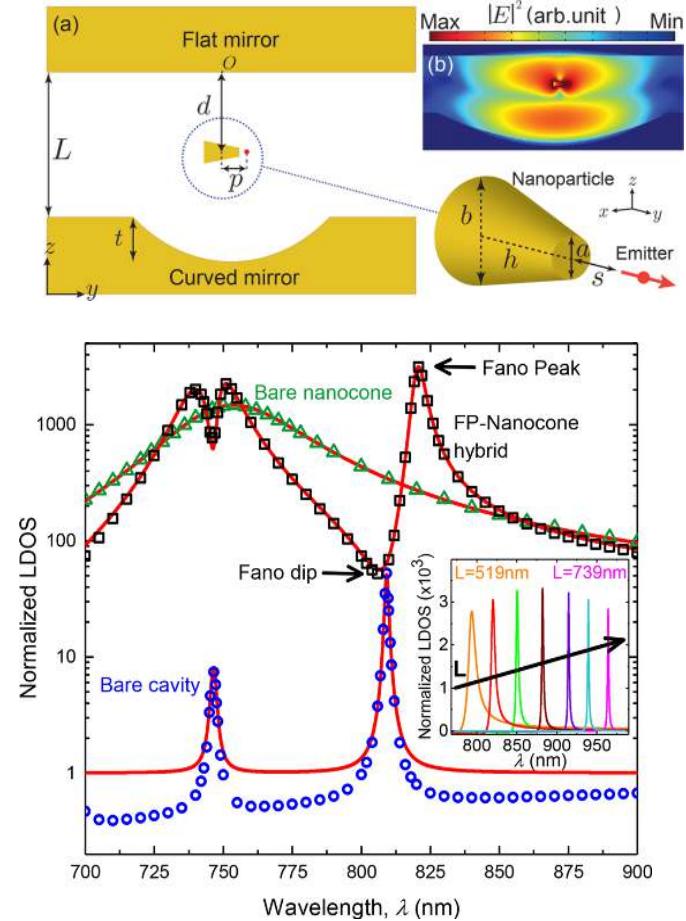
R.-Q. Li et al., Phys. Rev. Lett. **117**, 107401 (2016)



# Hybrid cavities

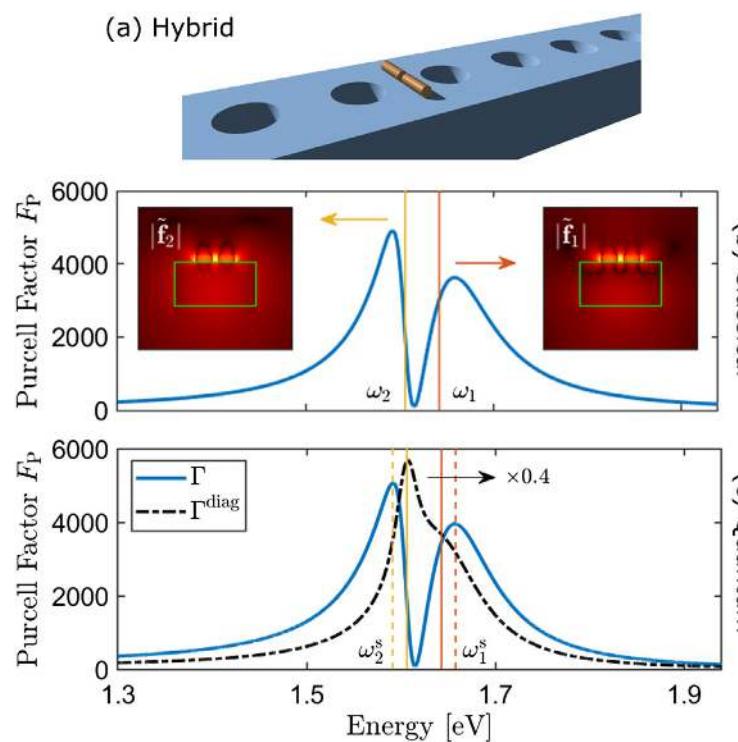
## Hybrid cavities to manipulate quenching and strong coupling

B. Gurlek et al., ACS Phot. **5**, 456 (2018)



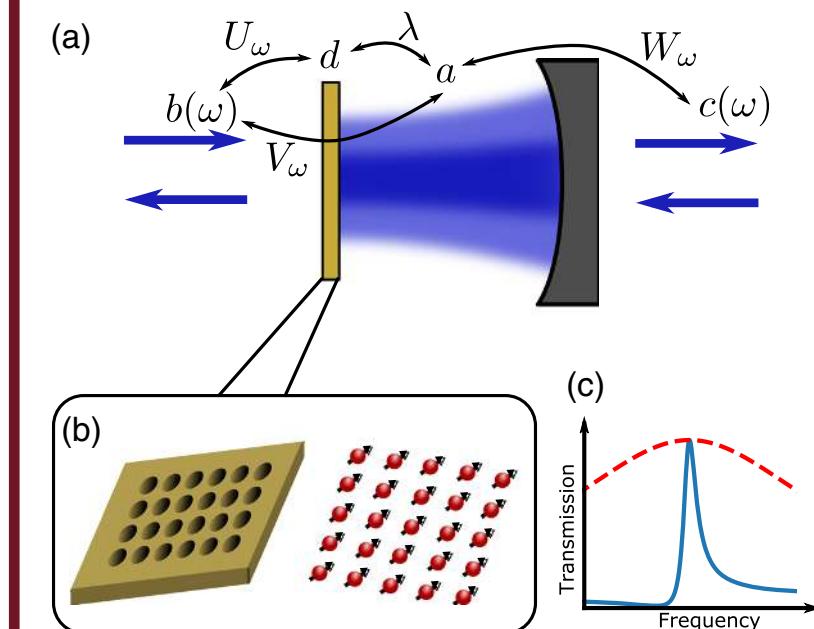
## Explicit quantization of quasinormal modes

S. Franke et al., Phys. Rev. Lett. **122**, 213901 (2019)



## Cavity Quantum Electrodynamics with Frequency-Dependent Reflectors

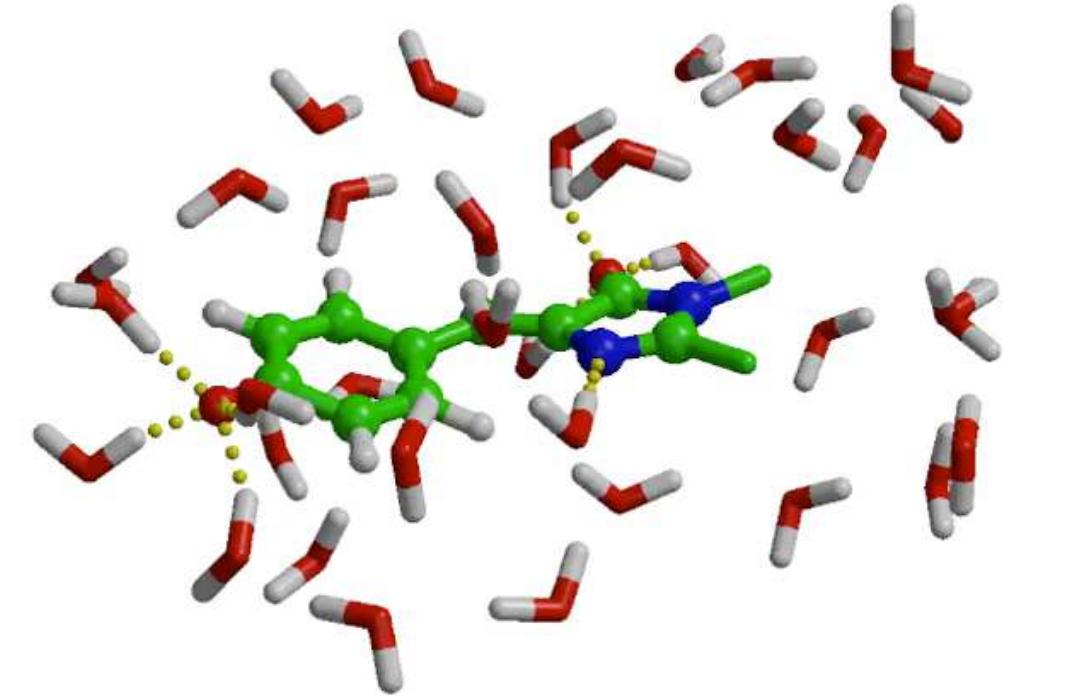
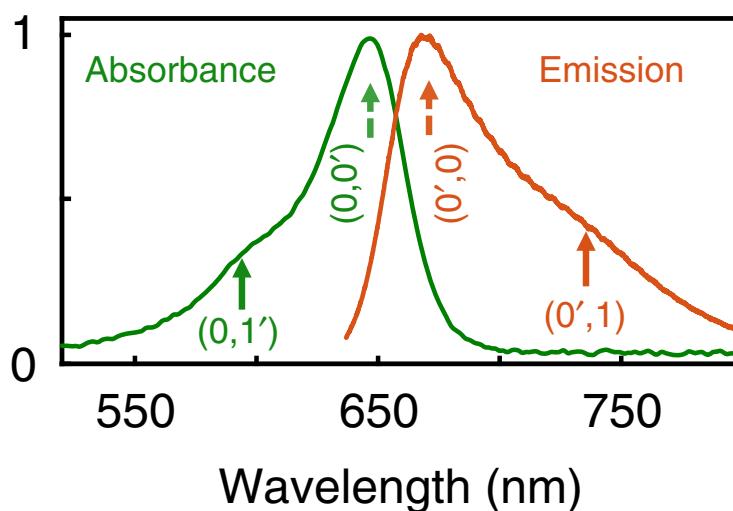
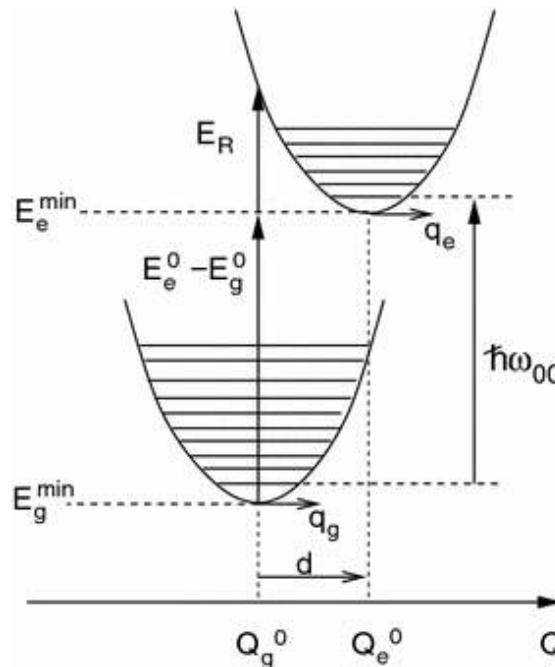
O. Černotík et al., Phys. Rev. Lett. **122**, 243601 (2019)



# Two-level emitters?



This is not a molecule!

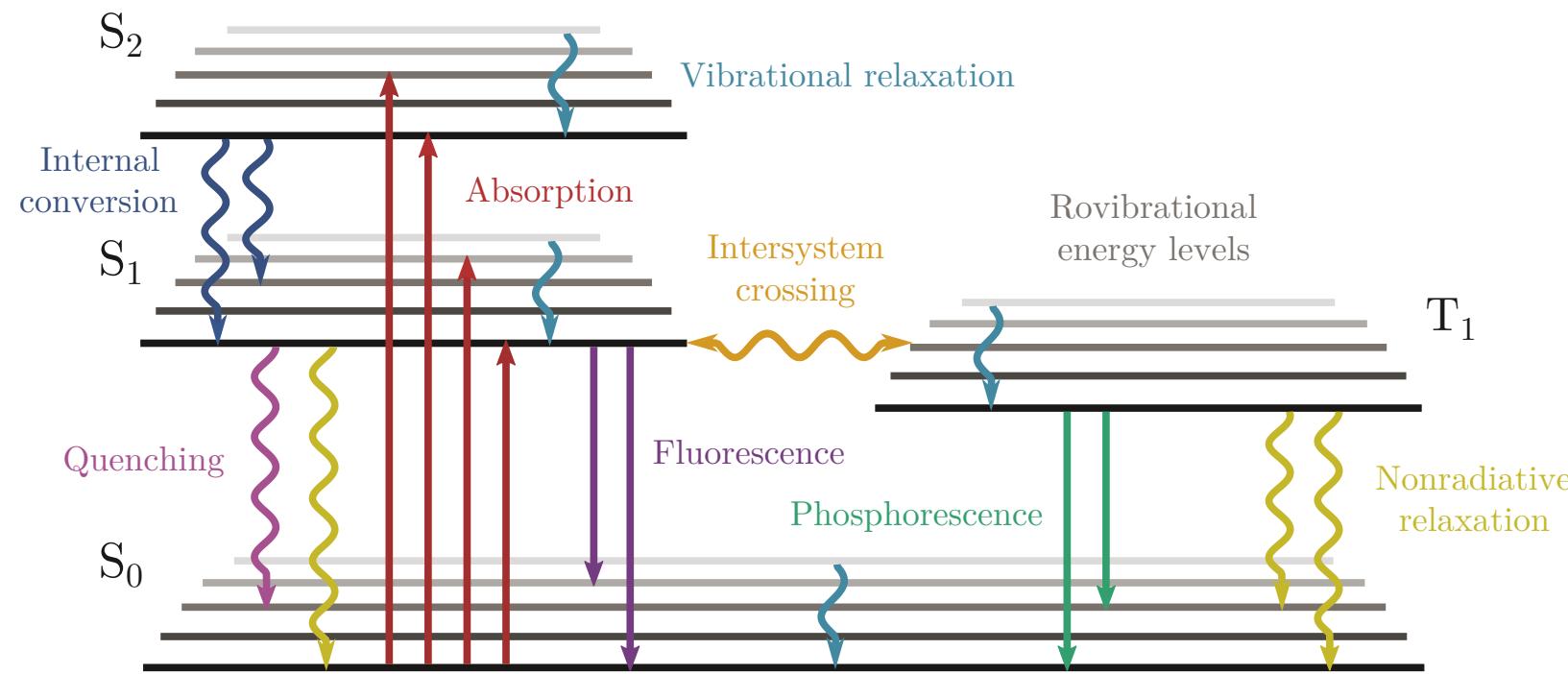


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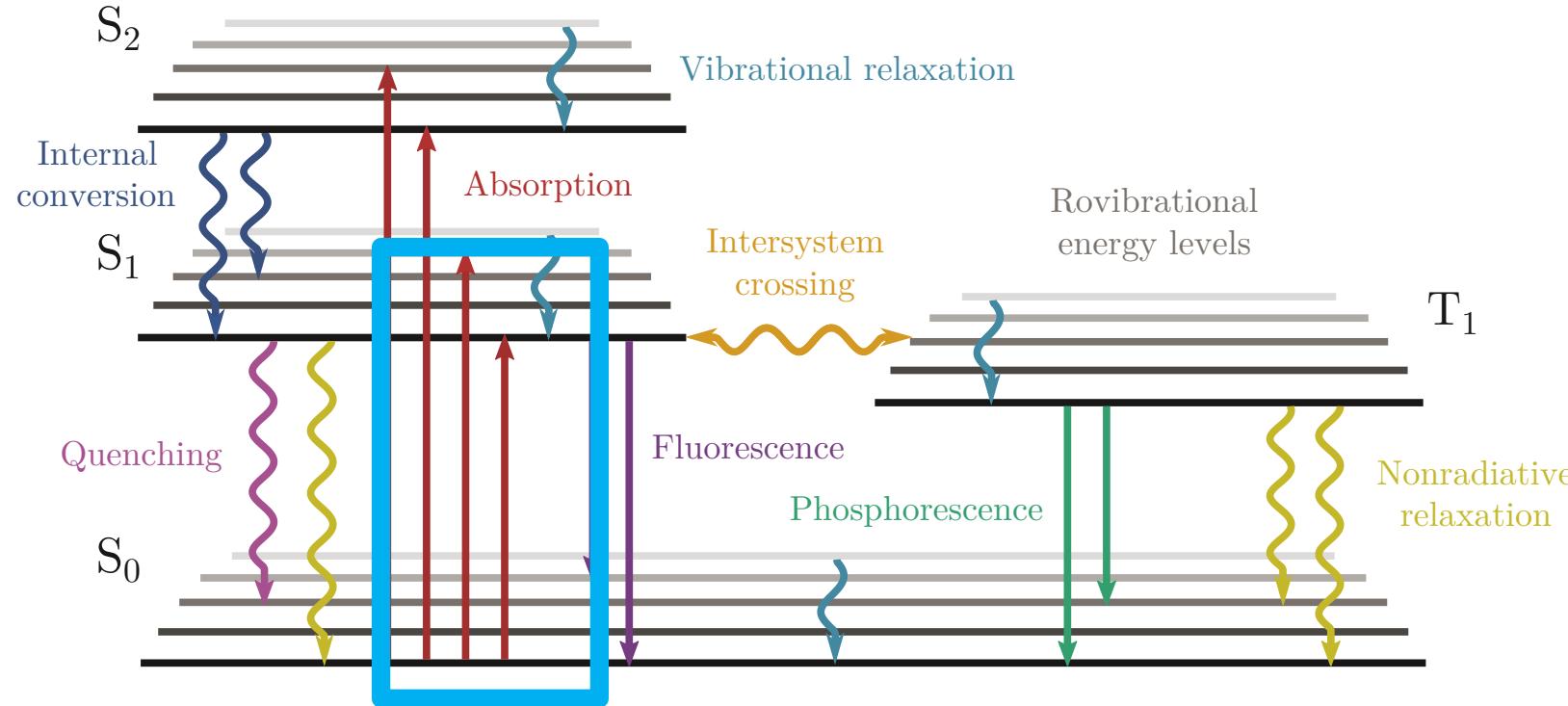
## Real molecules:

- Many nuclear (vibrational) DOFs
- Large exciton-phonon coupling
- Fast nuclear dynamics

# The complex nature of molecules



# Coupling to electronic transitions



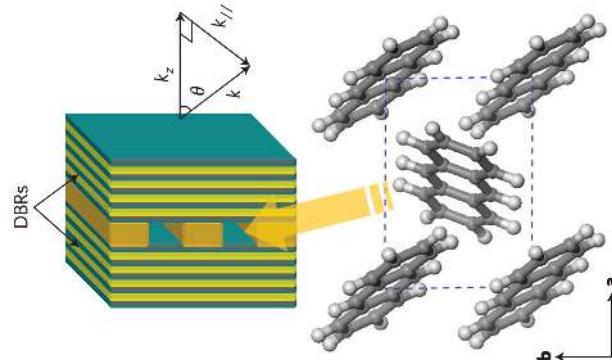
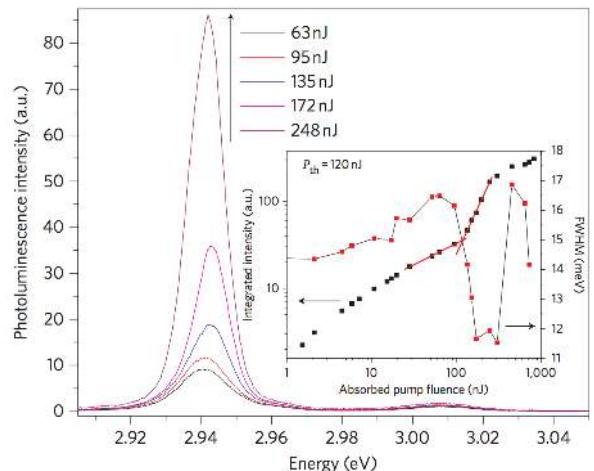
## Coupling at optical frequencies

- Experimentally: chemistry, charge/exciton transport, polariton condensation, etc.
- Theory: **role of vibrations**, Tavis-Cummings-Holstein model, polaritonic potential energy surfaces, polariton cross-talk, etc...

# Coupling to electronic transitions - experiments

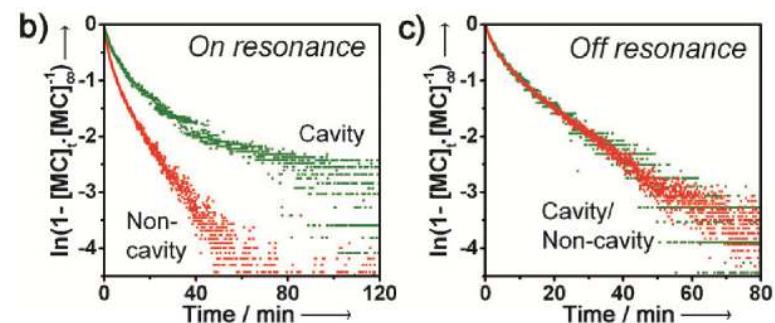
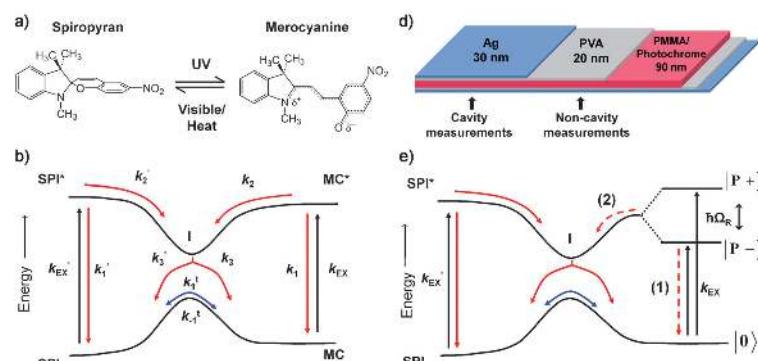
## Polariton lasing

S. Kéna-Cohen and S. Forrest, Nat. Phot. **4**, 402 (2010)



## Modify photochemical reaction rates

J. A. Hutchison *et al.*, Angew. Chemie **124**, 1624 (2012)



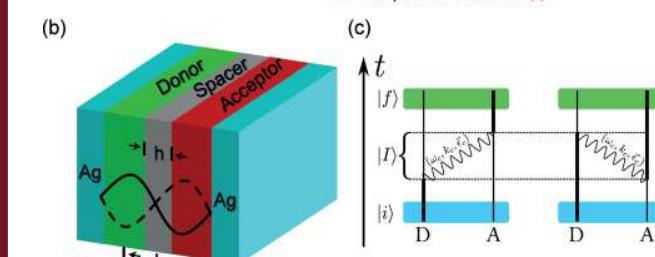
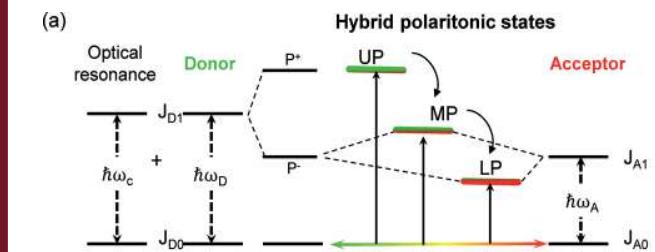
## Polariton-mediated energy transfer

D. M. Coles *et al.*, Nat. Mater. **13**, 712 (2014)



## Spatially separated donor and acceptor

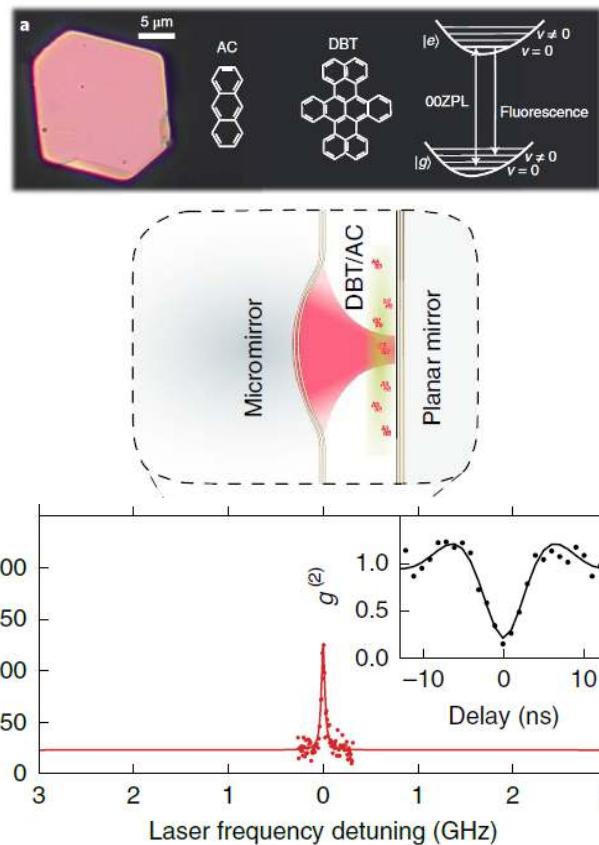
X. Zhong *et al.*, Angew. Chem. Int. Ed. **56**, 9034 (2017)



# Coupling to electronic transitions - experiments

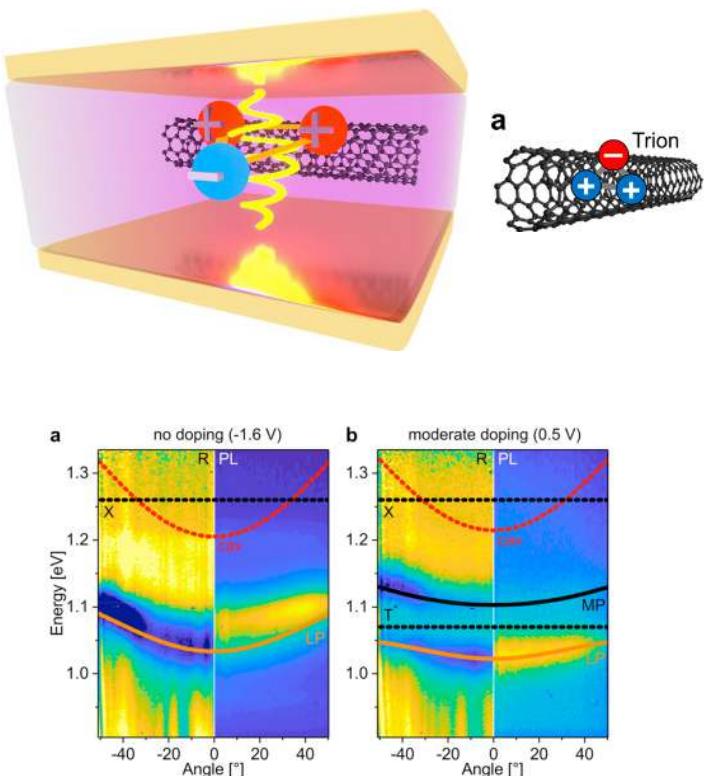
## Turning a molecule into a coherent two-level quantum system

D. Wang et al, Nat. Phys. **15**, 483 (2019)



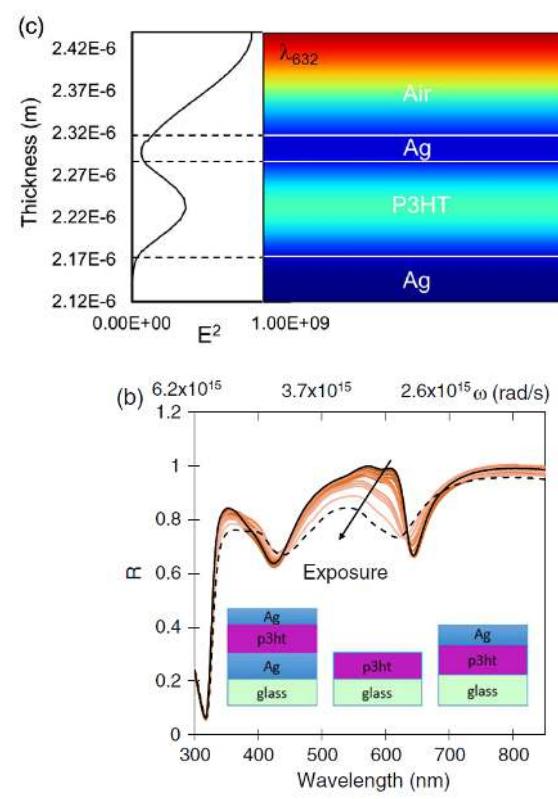
## Trion-Polariton Formation in Single-Walled Carbon Nanotube Microcavities

C. Möhl et al, ACS Phot., **5**, 2074 (2018)



## Effect of strong coupling on photo-degradation of the semiconducting polymer P3HT

V. N. Peters et al, Optica, **6**, 318 (2019)



# Ultrafast dynamics of everything



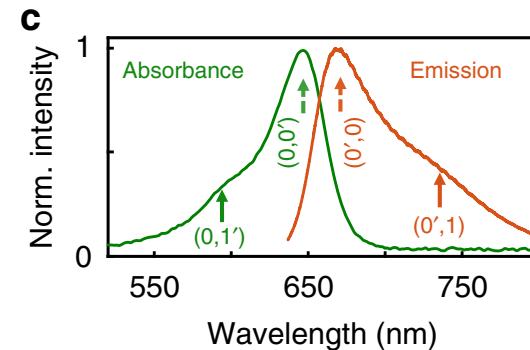
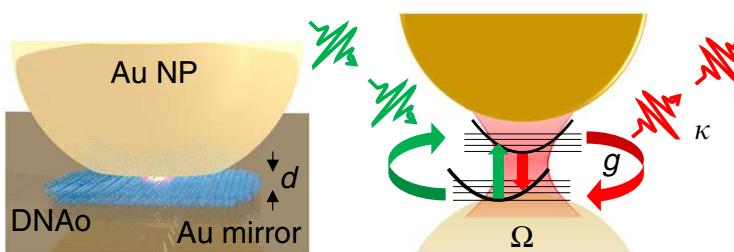
ARTICLE

<https://doi.org/10.1038/s41467-019-10861-5>

OPEN

## Quantum electrodynamics at room temperature coupling a single vibrating molecule with a plasmonic nanocavity

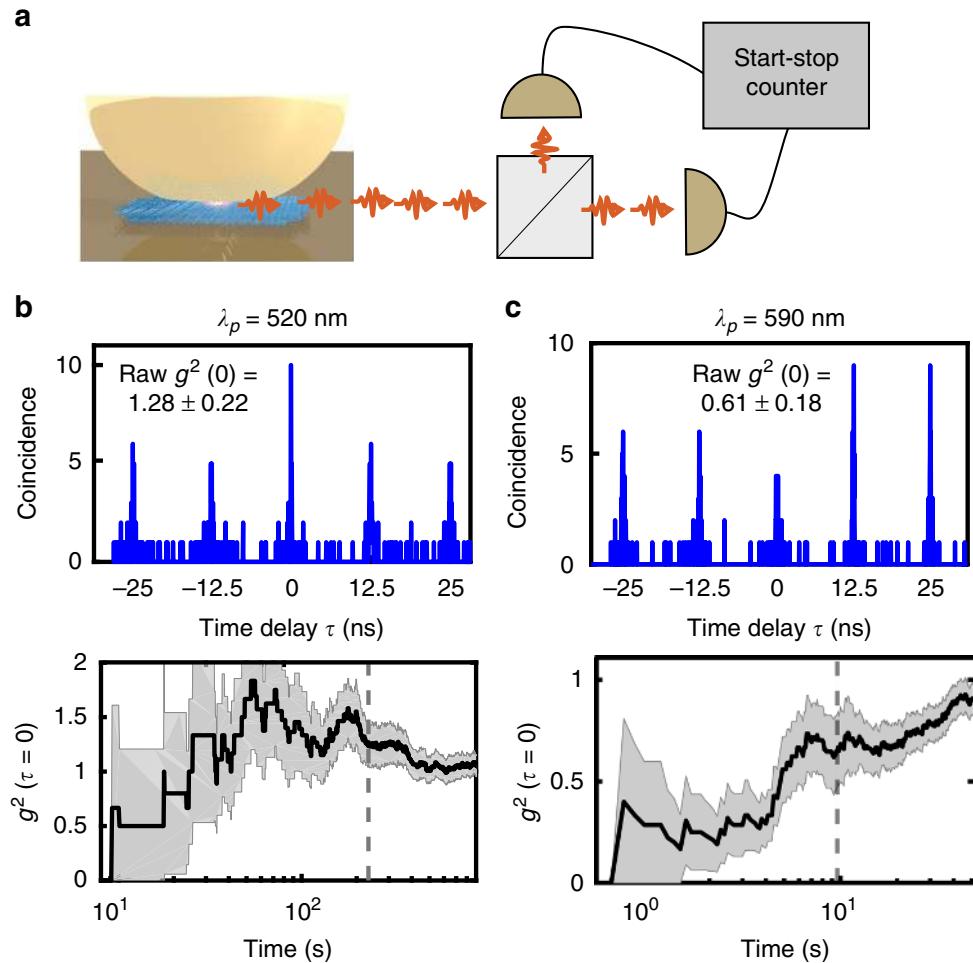
Oluwafemi S. Ojambati<sup>1</sup>, Rohit Chikkaraddy<sup>1</sup>, William D. Deacon<sup>1</sup>, Matthew Horton<sup>1</sup>, Dean Kos<sup>1</sup>, Vladimir A. Turek<sup>1</sup>, Ulrich F. Keyser<sup>1</sup> & Jeremy J. Baumberg<sup>1</sup>



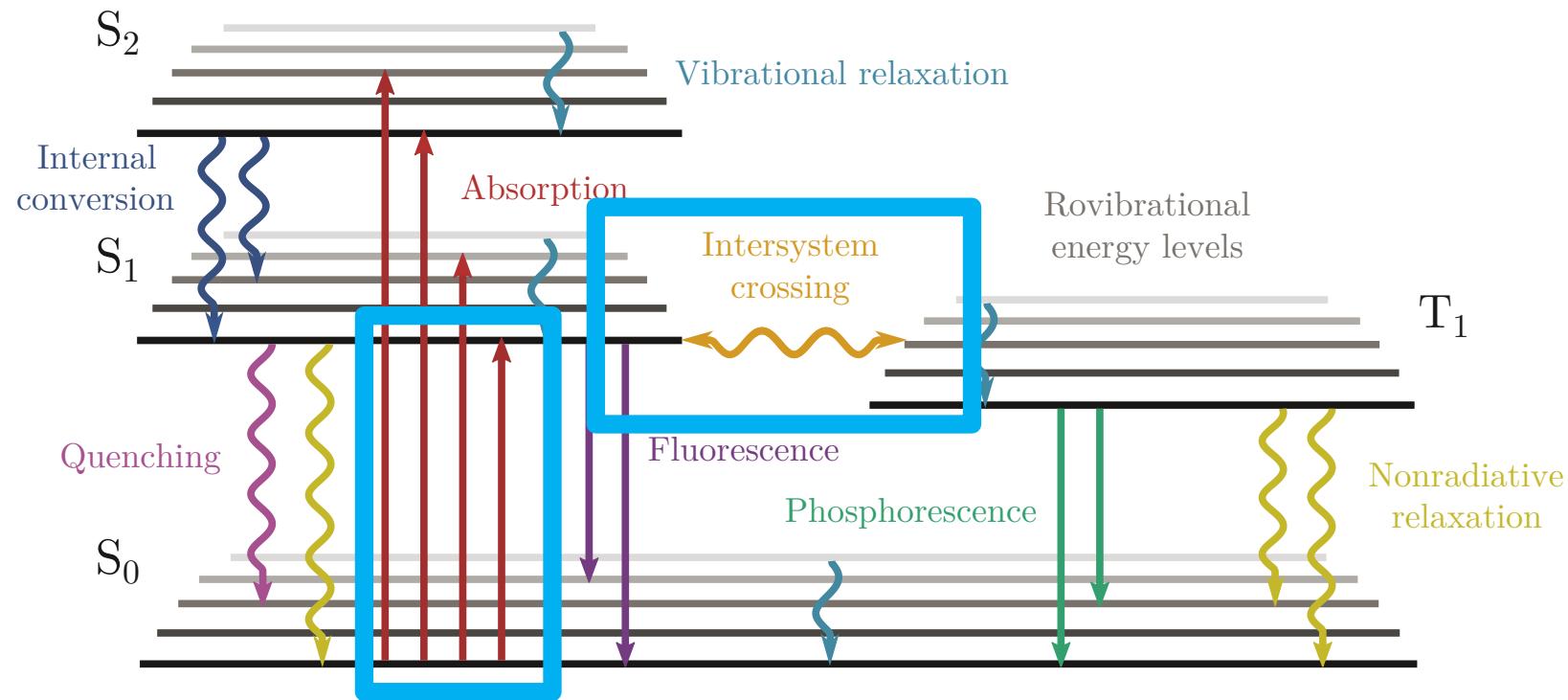
- Short-pulse driving
- short plasmon lifetime
- $\Omega_R \approx \omega_v$



Ultrafast electronic, photonic & phononic dynamics!  
Both in system and in absorption and emission.



# Coupling to electronic transitions – intersystem crossing



## Coupling at optical frequencies

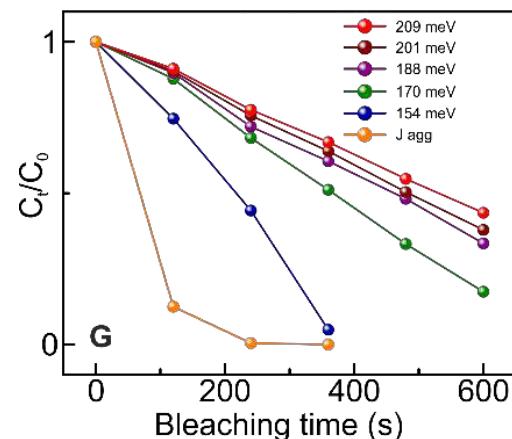
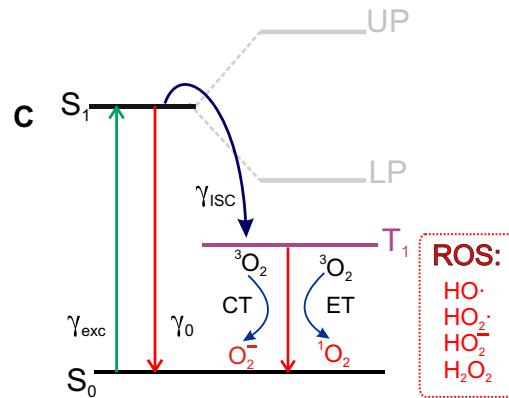
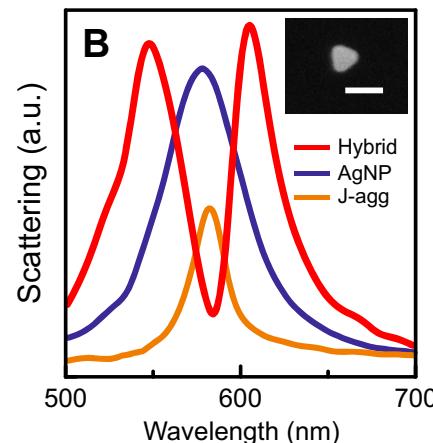
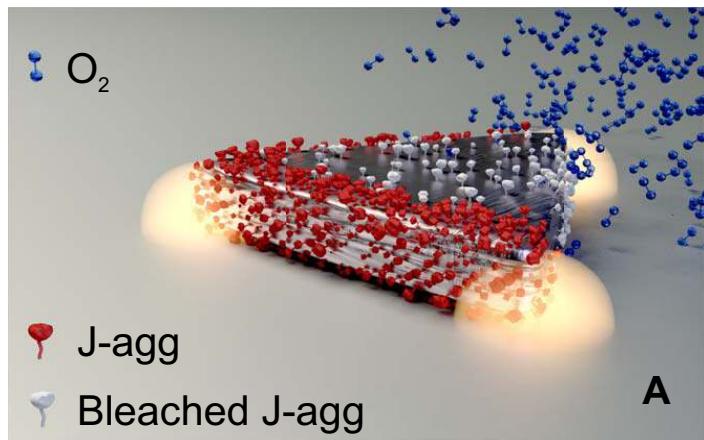
- Modifications of the intersystem crossing dynamics

# Intersystem crossing – experimental progress

## Suppression of photo-oxidation of organic chromophores

Significantly increased lifetime against photobleaching under strong coupling

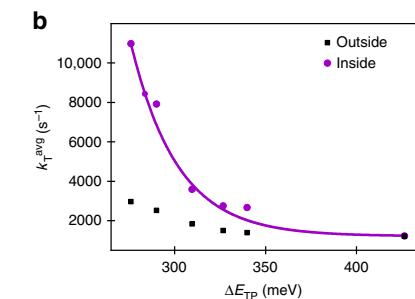
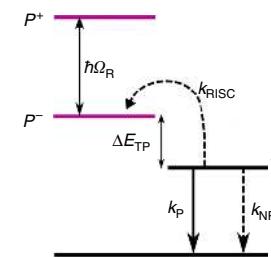
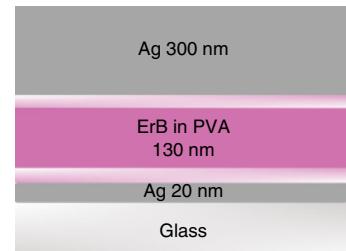
B. Munkhbat et al., Science Advances 4, eaas9552 (2018).



## Increased reverse intersystem crossing

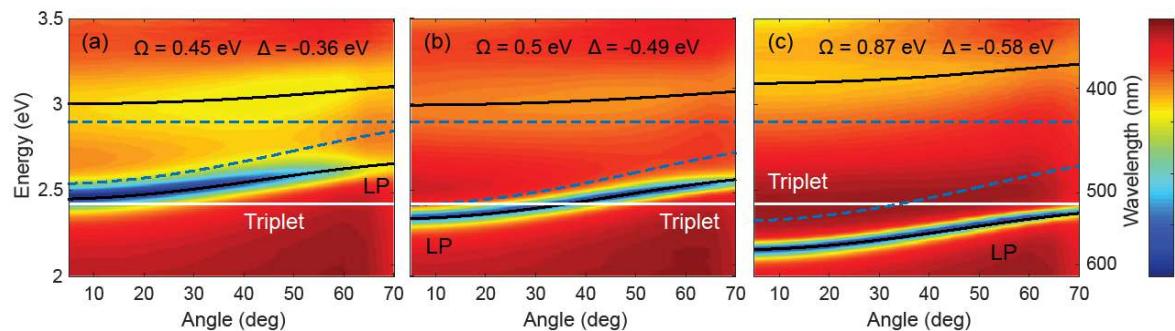
Crossing from triplet to singlet increased by reducing gap  
K. Stranius et al., Nat. Commun. 9, 2273 (2018)

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## Inverting singlet and triplet

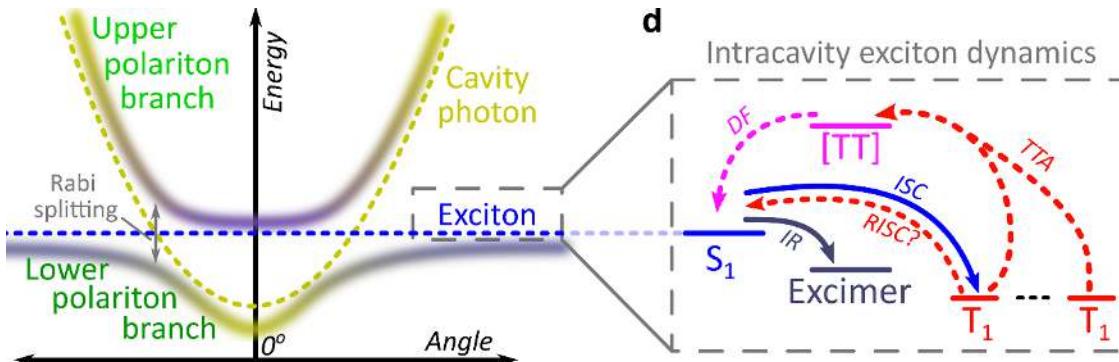
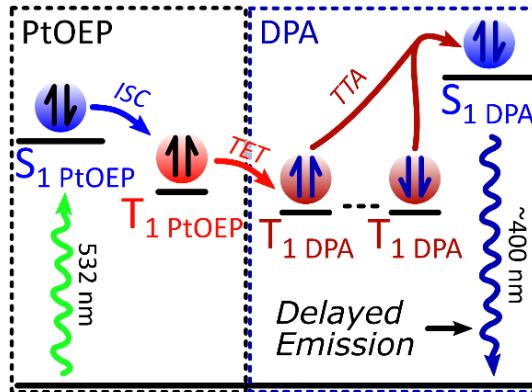
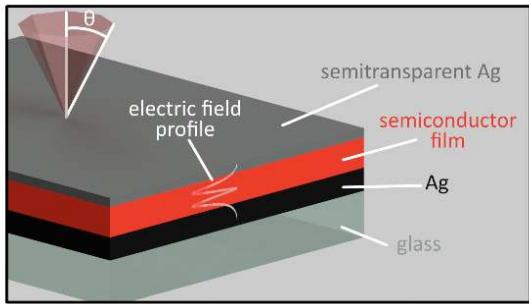
E. Eizner et al., arXiv:1903.09251 (2019)



# Intersystem crossing – experimental progress

Manipulating matter with strong coupling: harvesting triplet excitons in organic exciton microcavities

D. Polak et al., arXiv:1806.09990 (2018).

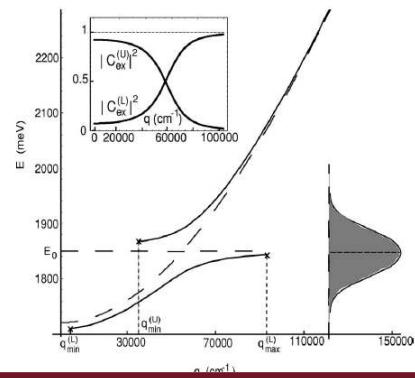
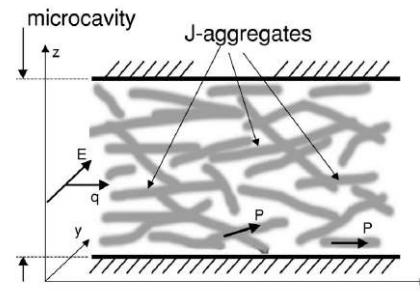


# Coupling to electronic transitions – theoretical approaches

## Quantum optics/condensed matter approaches

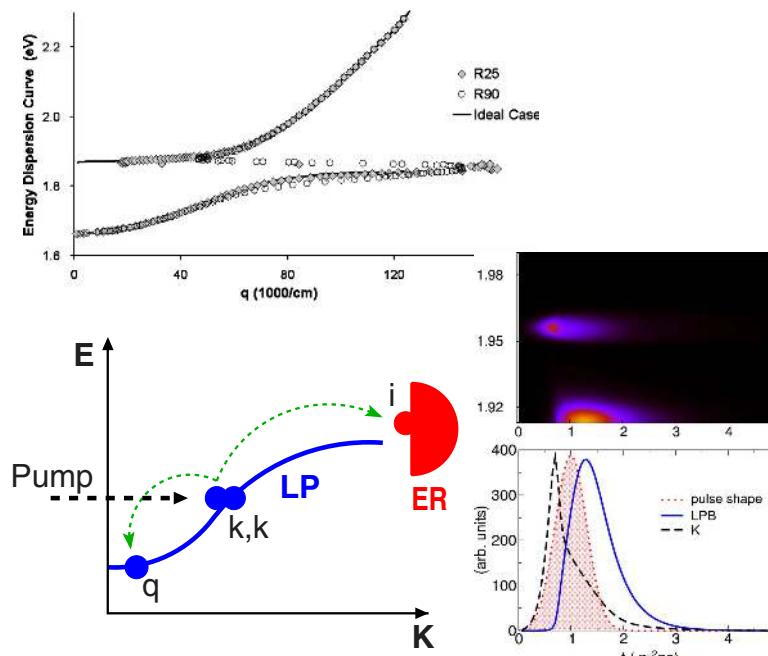
### Cavity polaritons in microcavities containing disordered organic semiconductors

V. M. Agranovich, M. Litinskaya and D. G. Lidzey, Phys. Rev. B **67**, 085311 (2003)



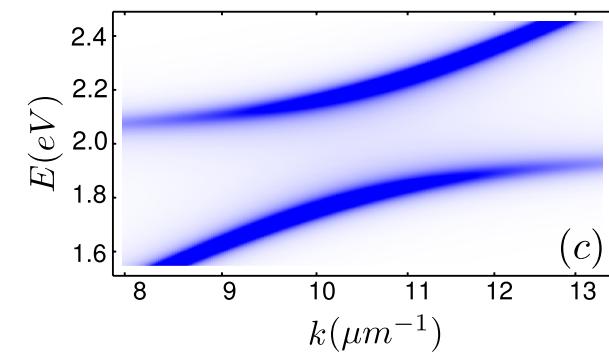
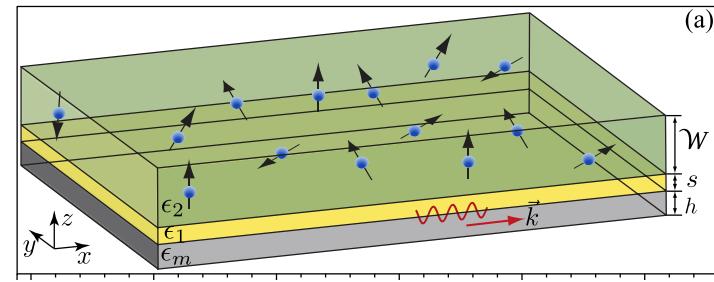
### Polariton states & polariton-polariton scattering in disordered organic microcavities

P. Michetti and G. C. La Rocca, Phys. Rev. B **71**, 115320 (2005); Phys. Rev. B **82**, 115327 (2010)



### Theory of Strong Coupling between Quantum Emitters and Propagating Surface Plasmons

A. González-Tudela et al, Phys. Rev. Lett. **110**, 126801 (2013).



# Coupling to electronic transitions – theoretical approaches

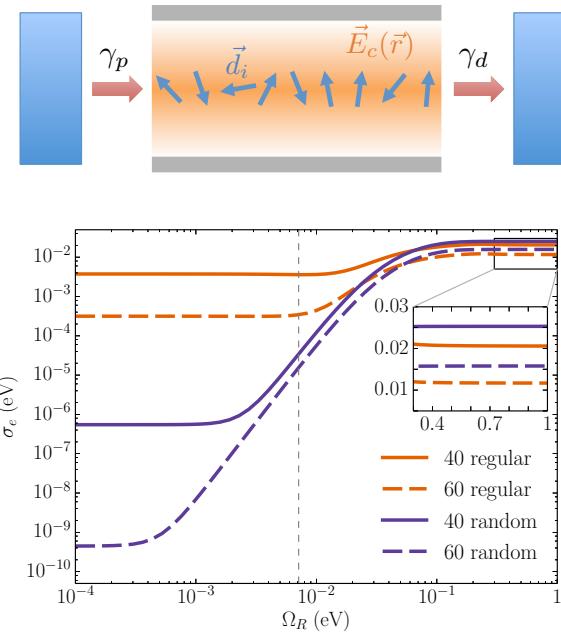
## Quantum optics/condensed matter approaches

### Extraordinary exciton conductance

J. Feist, F. J. Garcia-Vidal, Phys. Rev. Lett. **114**, 196402 (2015)

### Cavity enhanced transport of excitons

J. Schachenmayer, C. Genes, E. Tignone and G. Pupillo , Phys. Rev. Lett. **114**, 196403 (2015)

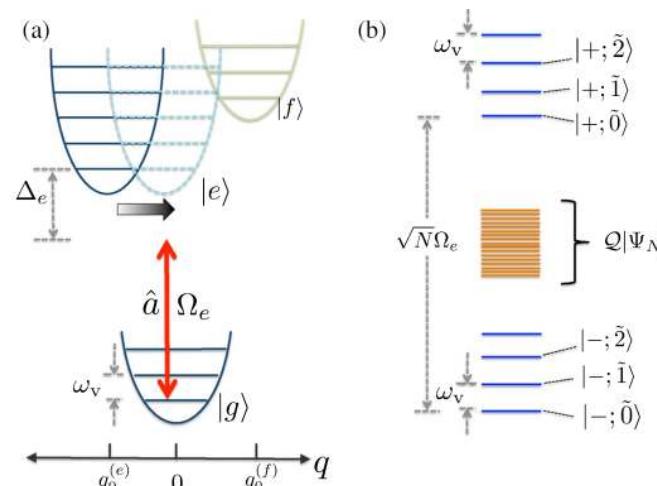


### Cavity-controlled chemistry in molecular ensembles

F. Herrera and F. C. Spano, Phys. Rev. Lett **116**, 238301 (2016)

### Dark vibronic polaritons and the spectroscopy of organic microcavities

F. Herrera and F. C. Spano, Phys. Rev. Lett **118**, 223601 (2017)

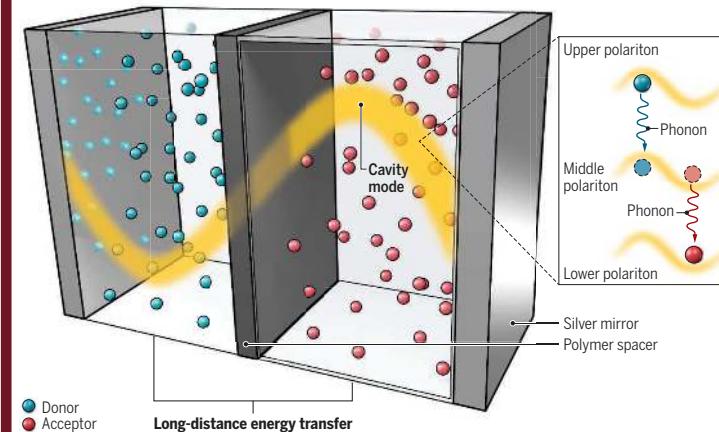


# Coupling to electronic transitions – theoretical approaches

## Quantum optics/condensed matter approaches

### Long-distance operator for energy transfer

F. J. Garcia-Vidal, J. Feist, Science **357**, 1357 (2017)  
(perspective on Zhong, Angew. Chem. **56**, 9034)

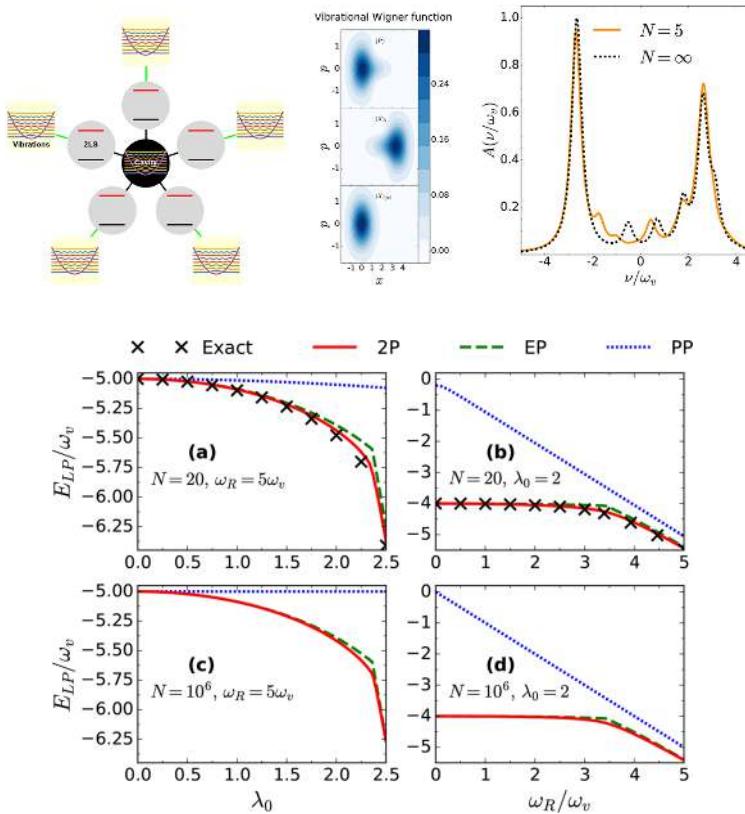


### Quantitative explanation:

R. Sáez-Blázquez, J. Feist, A.I. Fernández-Domínguez, F.J. García-Vidal, Phys. Rev. B **97**, 241407(R) (2018)

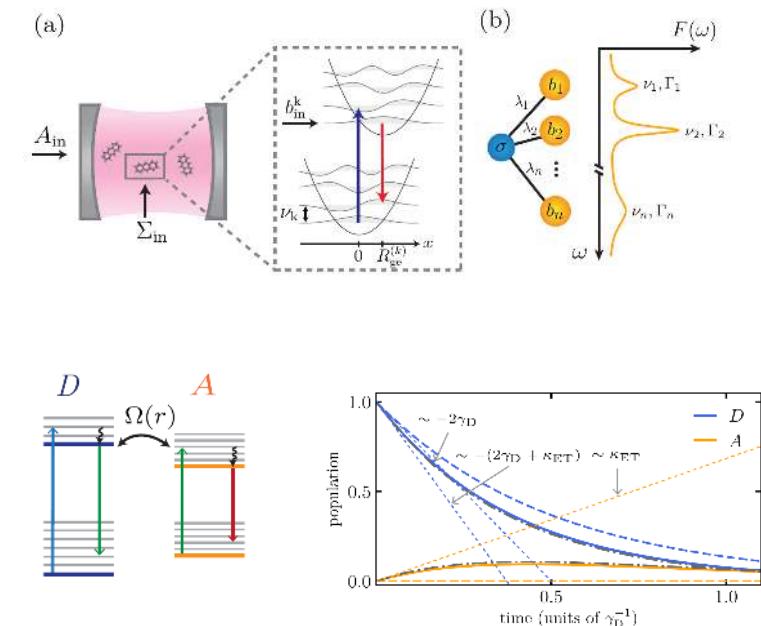
### Vibrational dressing of polaritons

M. A. Zeb et al., ACS Photonics **5**, 249 (2018).



### Quantum Langevin approach to quantum optics with molecules

M. Reitz, C. Sommer and C. Genes, Phys. Rev. Lett **122**, 203602 (2019)

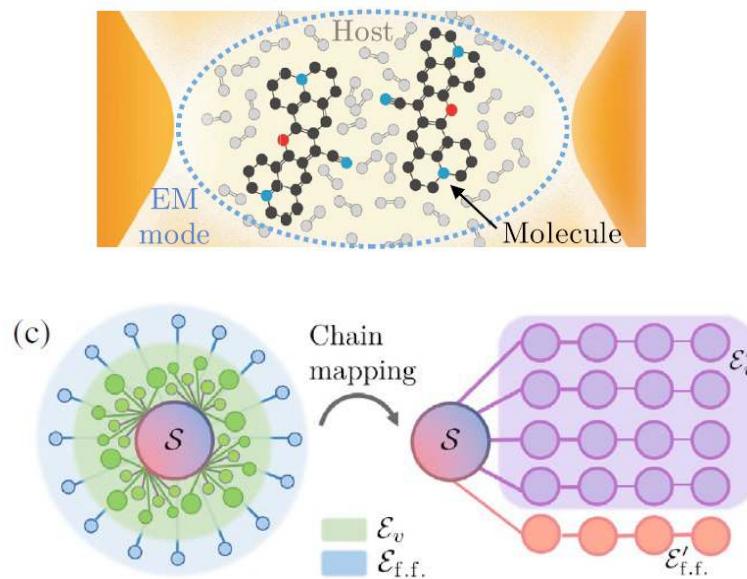


# Coupling to electronic transitions – theoretical approaches

## Quantum optics approaches – numerical tensor matrix simulations

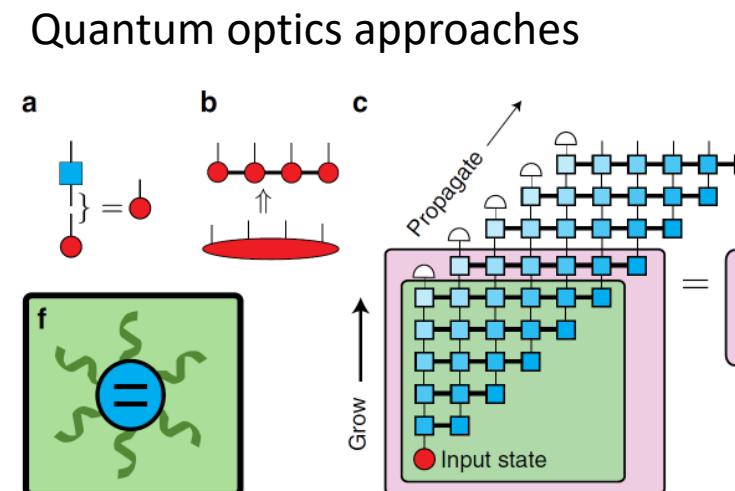
### Tensor network simulations of non-markovian dynamics in organic polaritons

J. Del Pino et al, Phys. Rev Lett. **121**, 227401 (2018)



### Efficient non-markovian quantum dynamics using time-evolving matrix product operators

A. Strathearn et al, Nat. Comms. **9**, 3322 (2018)

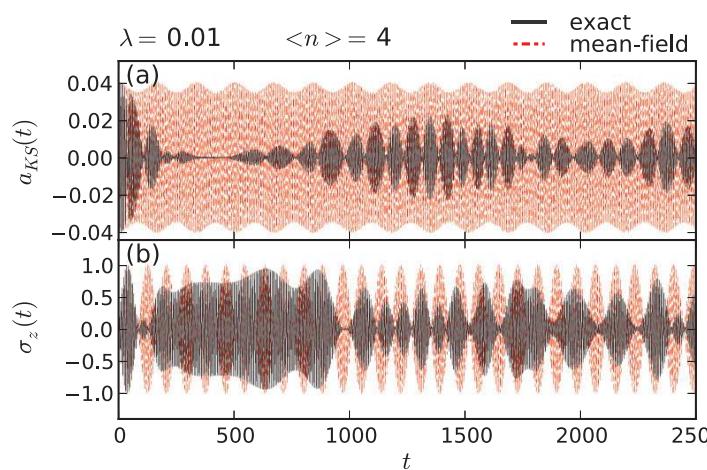


# Coupling to electronic transitions – theoretical approaches

## Ab initio / electronic-structure-based approaches

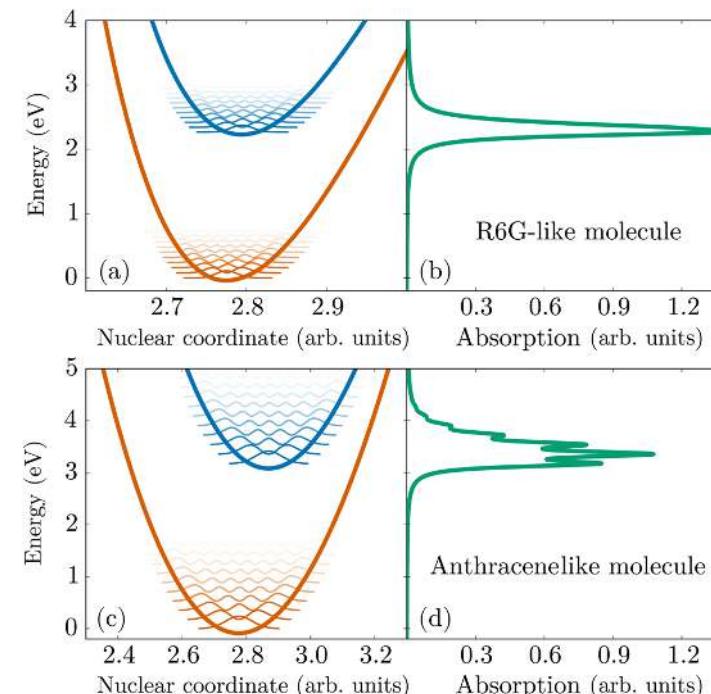
### Quantum-electrodynamical DFT

I. V. Tokatly, Phys. Rev. Lett. **110**, 233001 (2013)  
M. Ruggenthaler et al., Phys. Rev. A **90**, 012508 (2014)



### Polaritonic potential energy surfaces

J. Galego et al., Phys. Rev. X **5**, 041022 (2015)

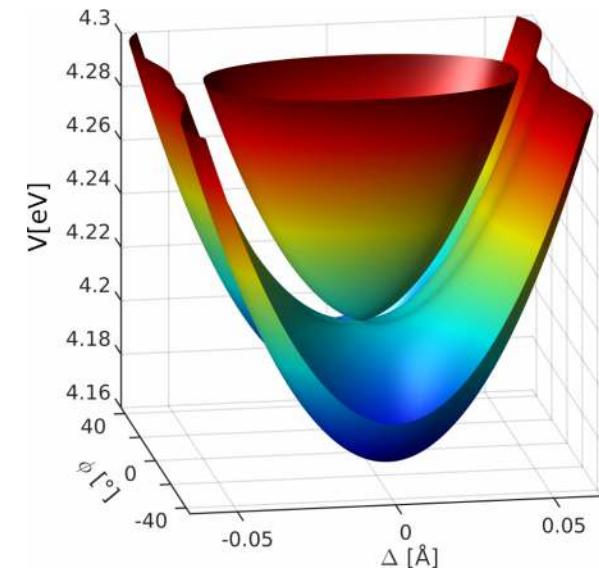


### Nonadiabatic dynamics in cavities

M. Kowalewski et al, J. Chem. Phys. **144**, 054309 (2016).

### Quantum light-induced conical intersections

A. Csehi et al., arXiv:1902.03640

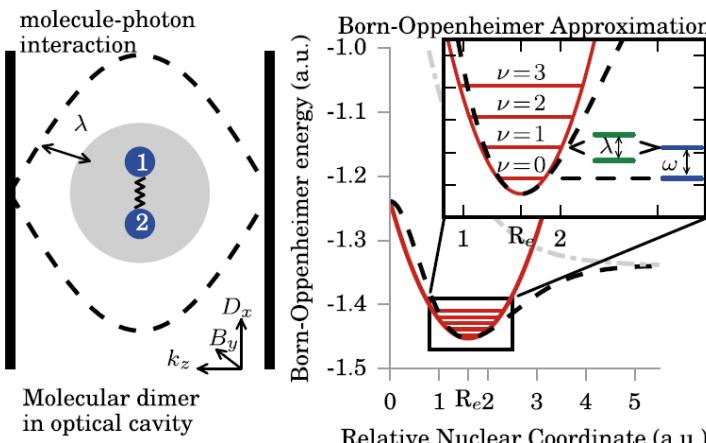


# Coupling to electronic transitions – theoretical approaches

## Ab initio / electronic-structure-based approaches

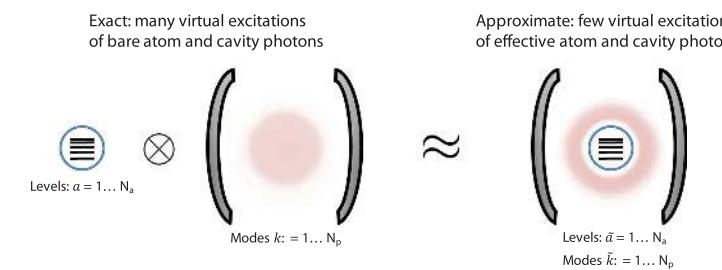
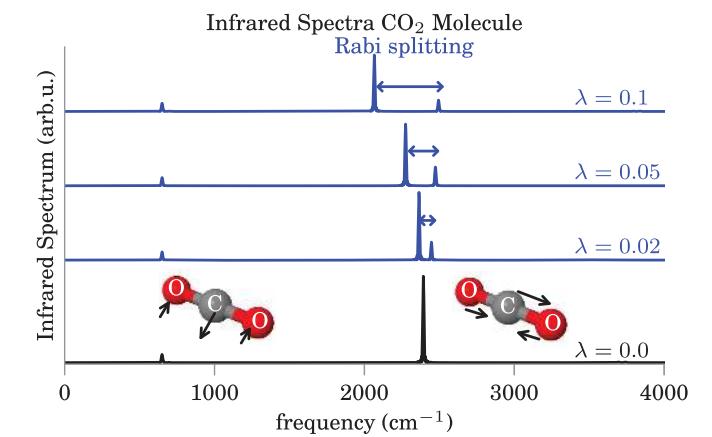
### Cavity Born-Oppenheimer approximation

J. Flick et al., PNAS **114**, 3026 (2017)  
J. Flick et al.; JCTC **13**, 1616 (2017)



### Cavity-Correlated Electron-Nuclear Dynamics & Variational Theory

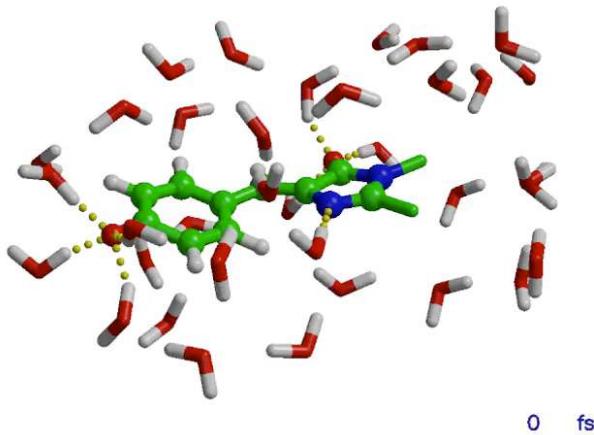
J. Flick and P. Narang, Phys. Rev. Lett. **121**, 113002 (2018).  
N. Rivera et al., Phys. Rev. Lett. **122**, 193603 (2019).



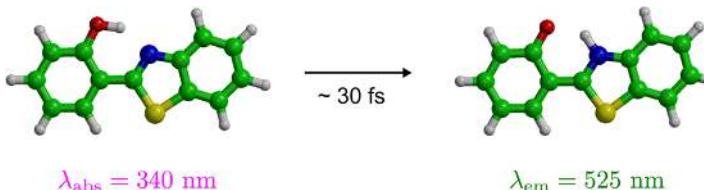
# Coupling to electronic transitions – theoretical approaches

## Molecular dynamics / quantum chemistry etc

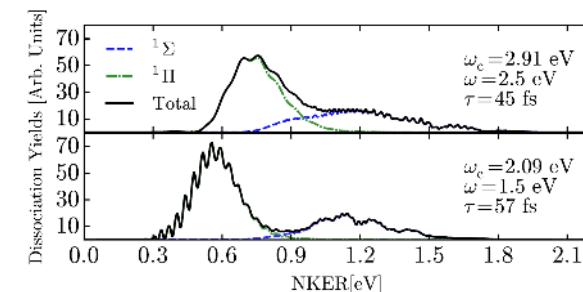
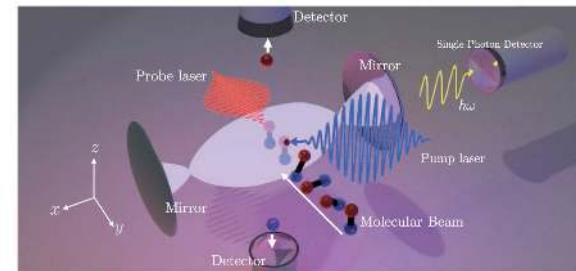
Multiscale QM/MM molecular dynamics  
H. L. Luk et al., JCTC **13**, 4324 (2017)



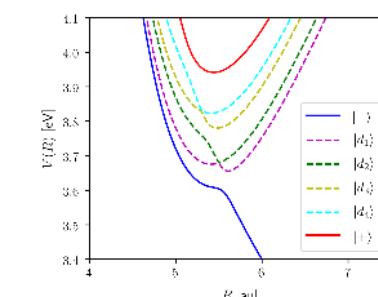
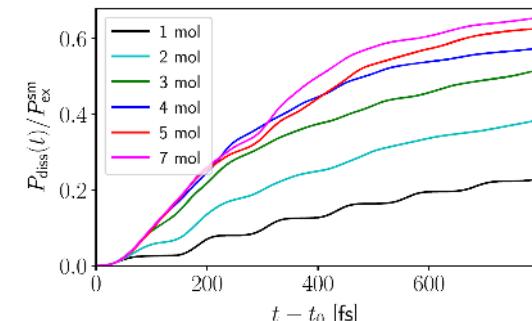
Coherent Light Harvesting  
G. Groenhof, J. J. Toppari, J. Phys. Chem. Lett. **9**, 4848 (2018)



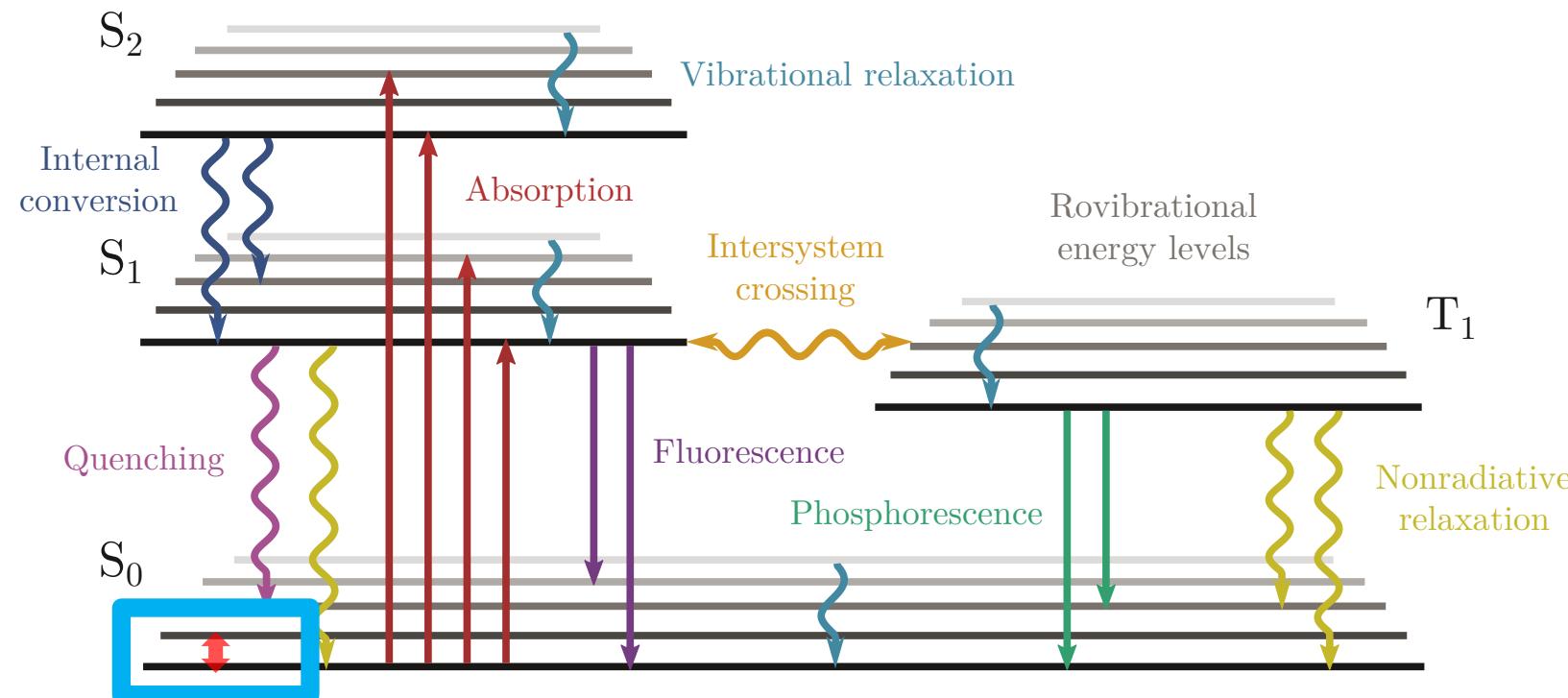
Revealing the Presence of Potential Crossings in Diatomics Induced by Quantum Cavity Radiation  
J. F. Triana and J. L. Sanz-Vicario, Phys. Rev. Lett. **122**, 063603 (2019)



Collective Jahn-Teller Interactions through Light-Matter Coupling in a Cavity (MCTDH)  
O. Vendrell, Phys. Rev. Lett. **121**, 253001 (2018)



# The complex nature of molecules



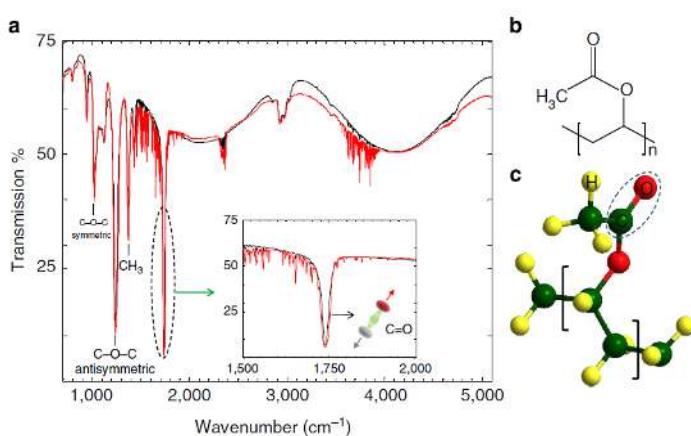
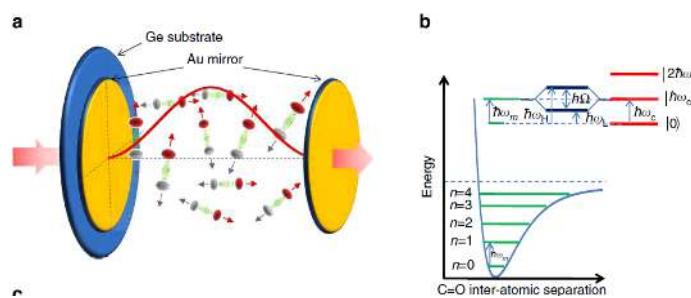
## Coupling at infrared frequencies

- All within electronic ground state – thermally driven effects
- “Optomechanical” (nuclear motion coupled to light)
- Modification of ground-state chemical reactions

# Strong coupling to vibrations – experimental progress

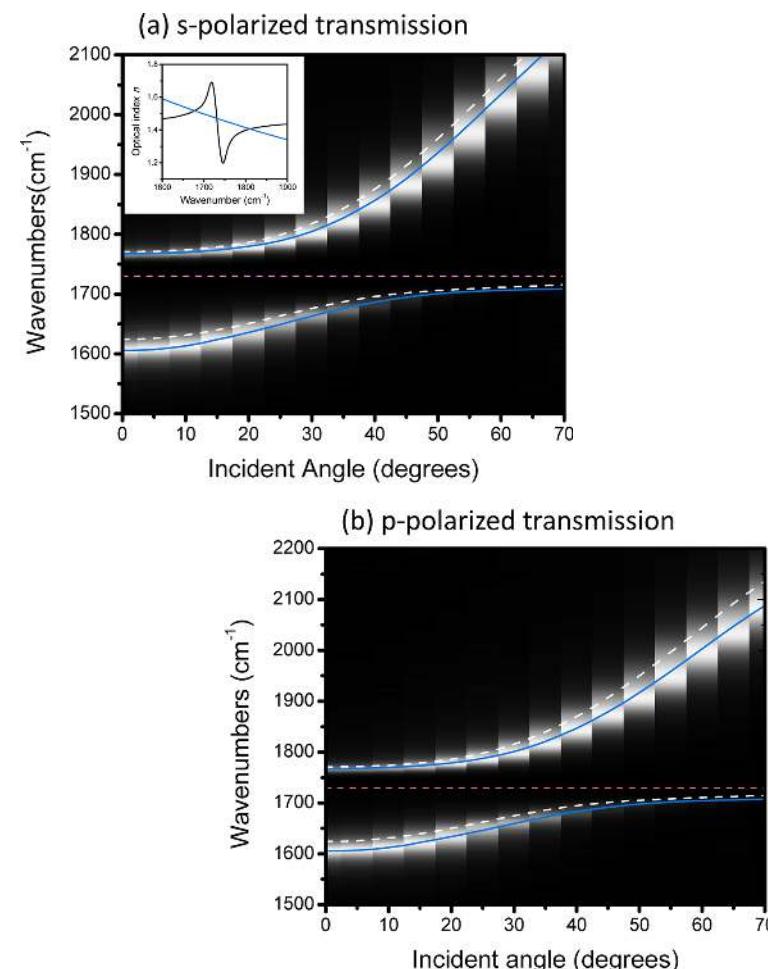
## Coherent coupling of molecular resonators with a microcavity mode

A. Shalabney et al, Nat Comms. **6**, 6981 (2015)



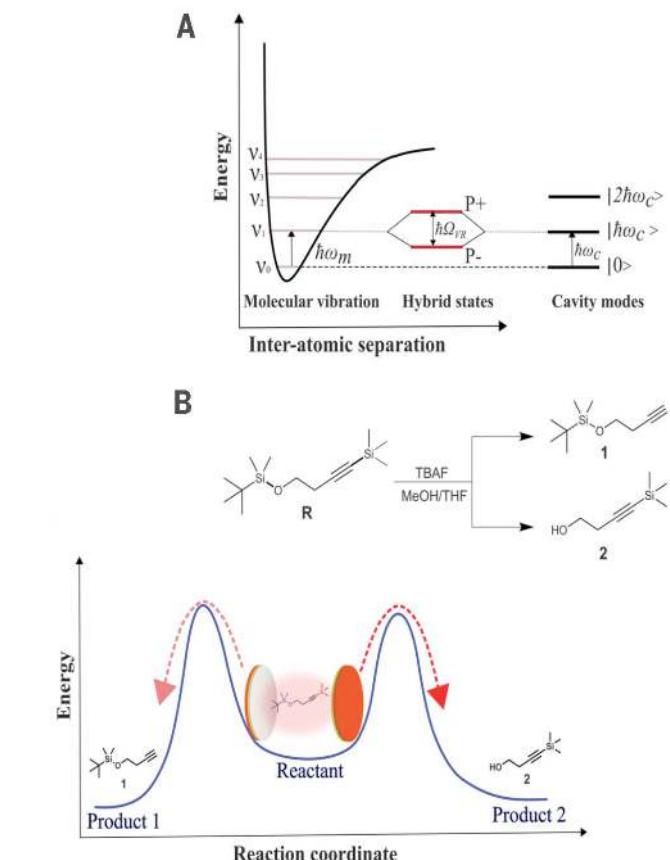
## Vibrational strong coupling

J. P. Long and B. S. Simpkins, ACS Phot. **2**, 130 (2015)



## Changing ground-state chemistry

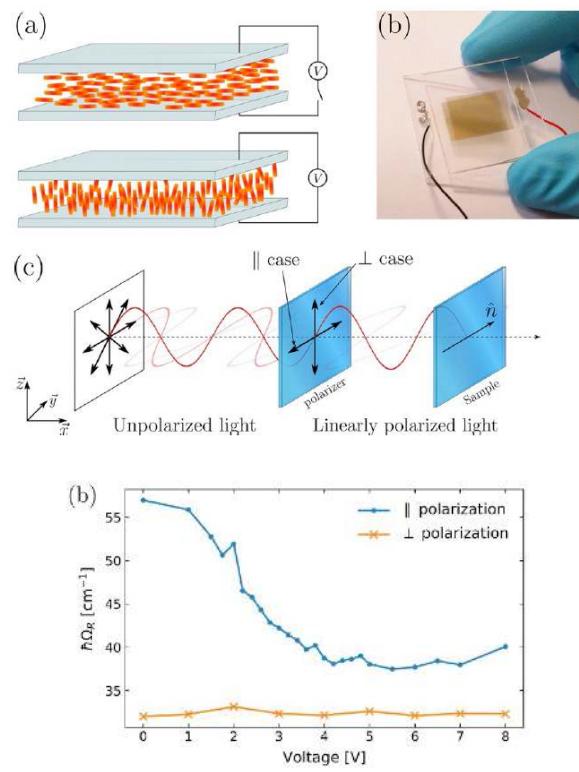
A. Thomas et al., Angew. Chem. Int. Ed. **55**, 6202 (2016);  
Science, **363**, 6427 (2019)



# Strong coupling to vibrations – experimental progress

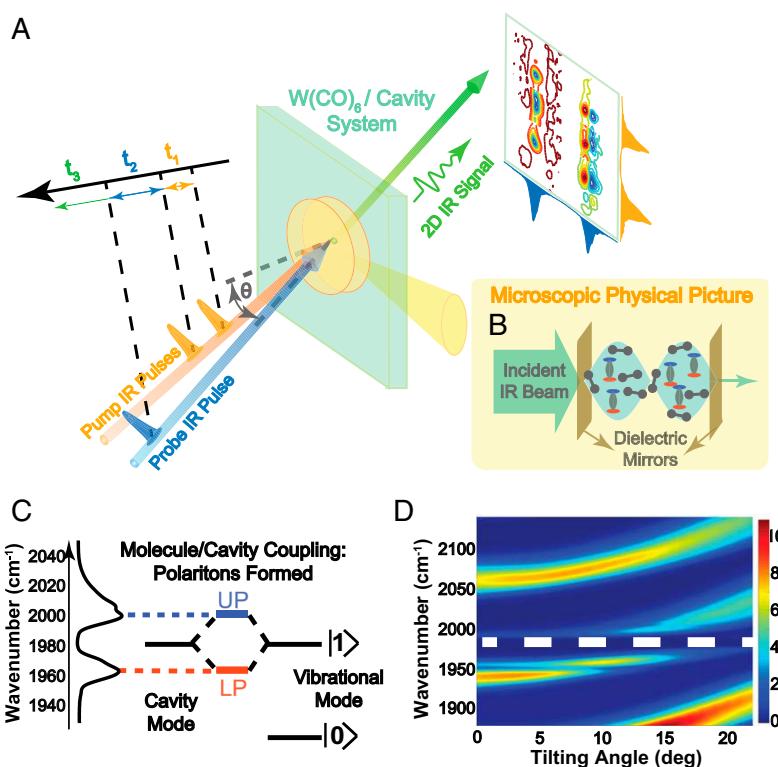
## Voltage-controlled switching of strong light–matter interactions using liquid crystals

M. Hertzog et al, Chem. Eur. J., **23**, 18166 (2017)



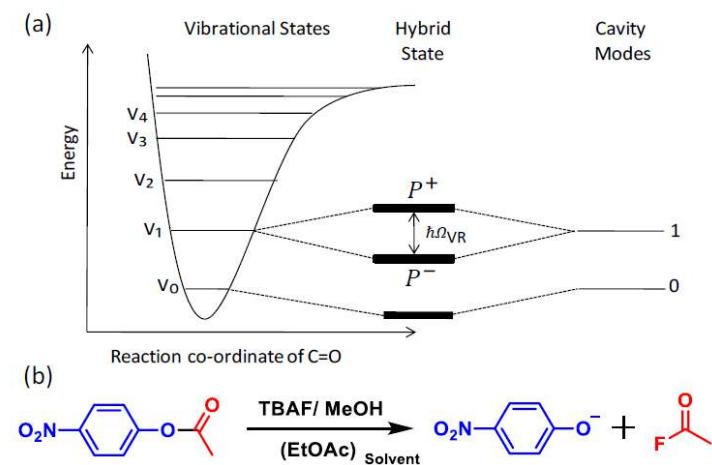
## Nonlinear Spectroscopy of Vibrational Polaritons

B. Xiang et al., PNAS **115**, 4845 (2018)



## Cavity catalysis by cooperative vibrational strong coupling of reactant and solvent molecules

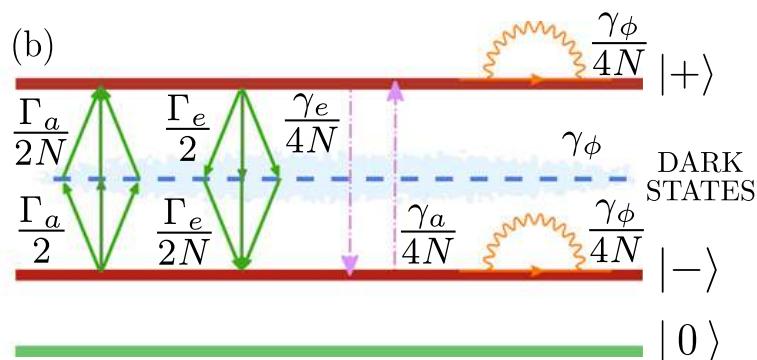
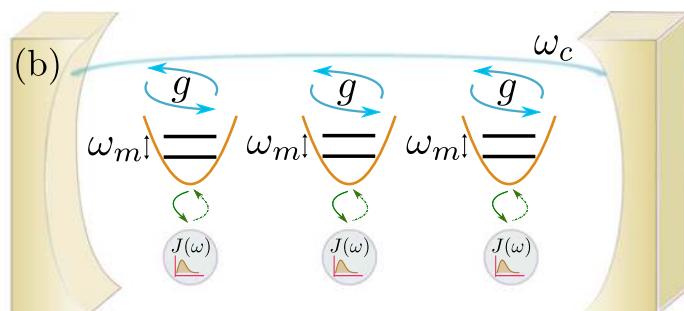
J. Lather et al, Ang. Chemie (2019)



# Strong coupling to vibrations – theory

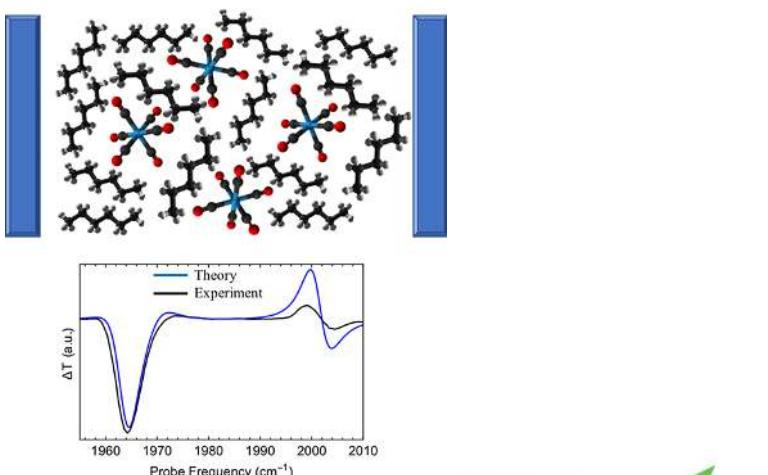
## Quantum theory of collective strong coupling of molecular vibrations with a microcavity mode

J. del Pino et al., New J. Phys. **17**, 053040 (2015)



## Theory for Nonlinear Spectroscopy of Vibrational Polaritons

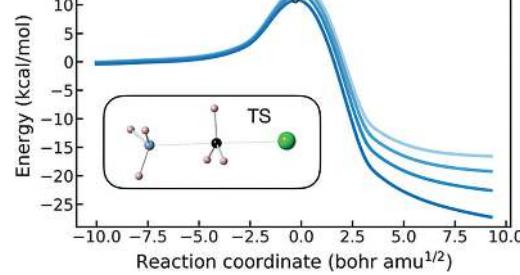
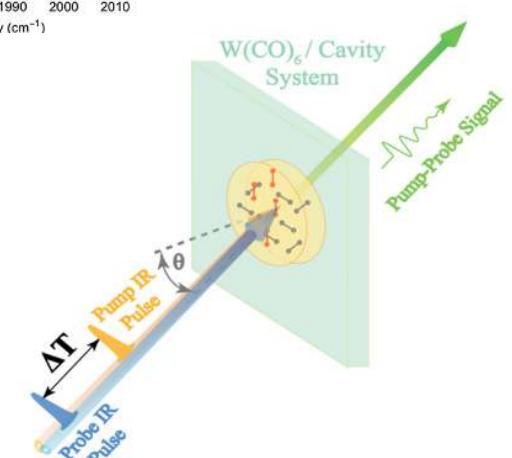
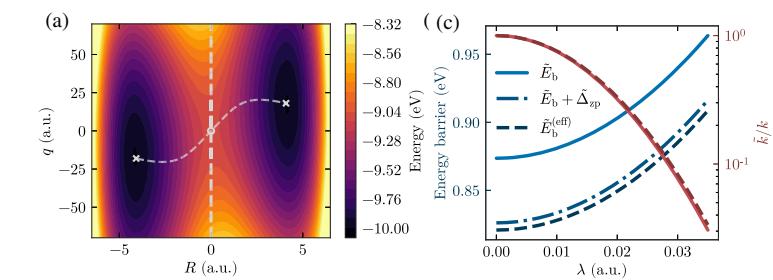
R. F. Ribeiro et al, J. Phys. Chem. Lett. **9** 3766, (2019)



## Cavity Casimir-Polder forces & self-induced electrostatic catalysis

J. Galego et al., Phys. Rev. X **9**, 021057 (2019)

C. Climent et al., Angew. Chem. Int. Ed. **58**, 8698 (2019).



# Theoretical challenges ahead...

**Proper modelling of light-matter interaction in non-trivial cavities (plasmonic structures, hybrid cavities, frequency dependent mirrors etc)**

**Efficient/reliable simulations for many particles (including many vibrations, dissipative coupling to bulks or solvent etc)**

## Huge playing field!

- Identify interesting effects that can be controlled/manipulated/enhanced via strong coupling
- Which chemical reactions can be affected, and how? (ground state, solvent effects...)
- Room-temperature quantum optics?
- Connection to ultrafast laser physics?