

# heat transport in ill-condensed matter

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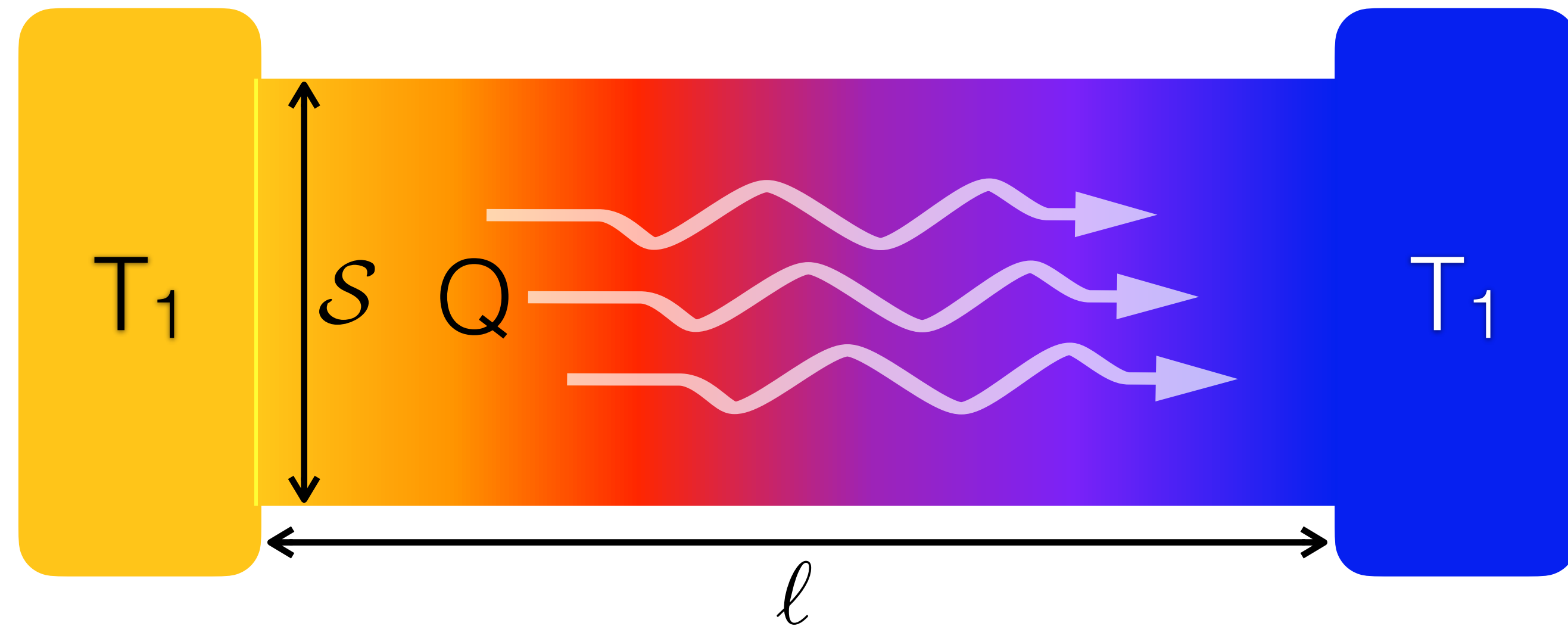
Trieste — Italy



*disclaimer*



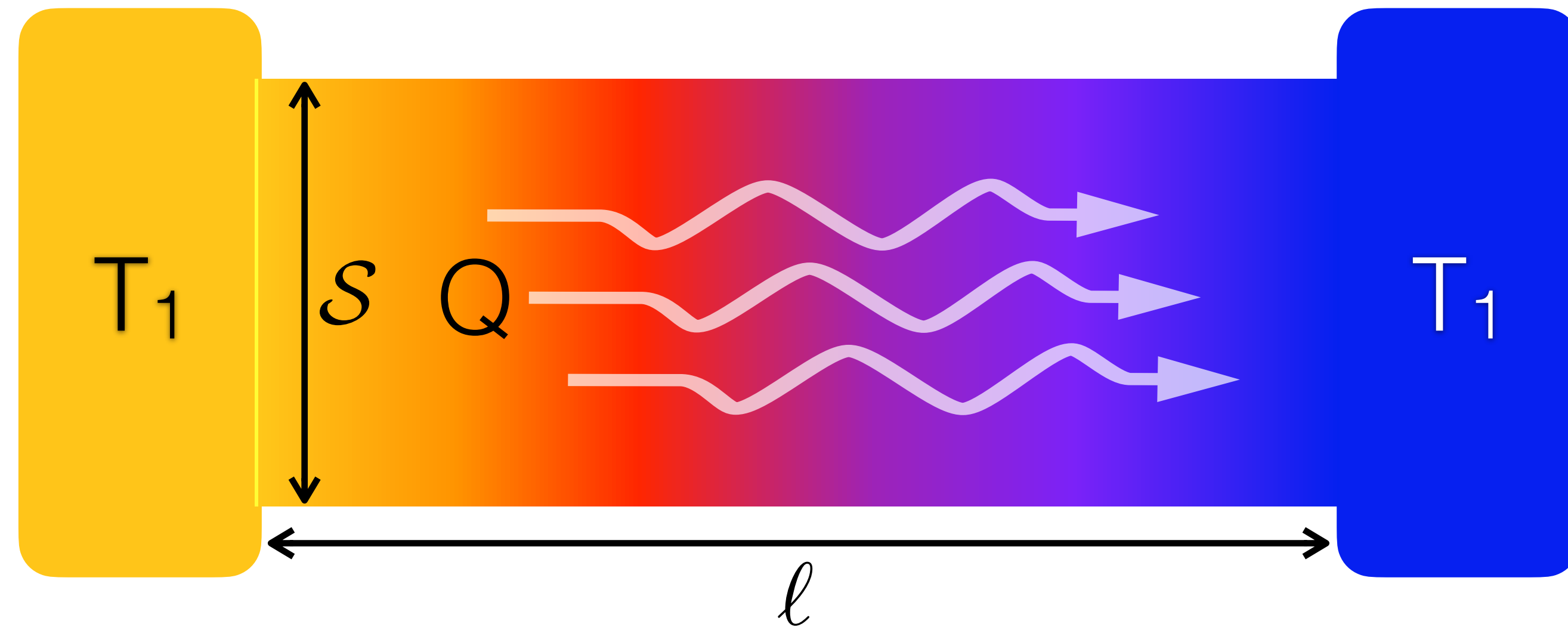
*what heat transport is all about*



$$\frac{1}{S} \frac{dQ}{dt} = -\kappa \frac{(T_2 - T_1)}{l}$$

*heat flows from warmth to coolth  
as time flows from the past to the future*

*what heat transport is all about*

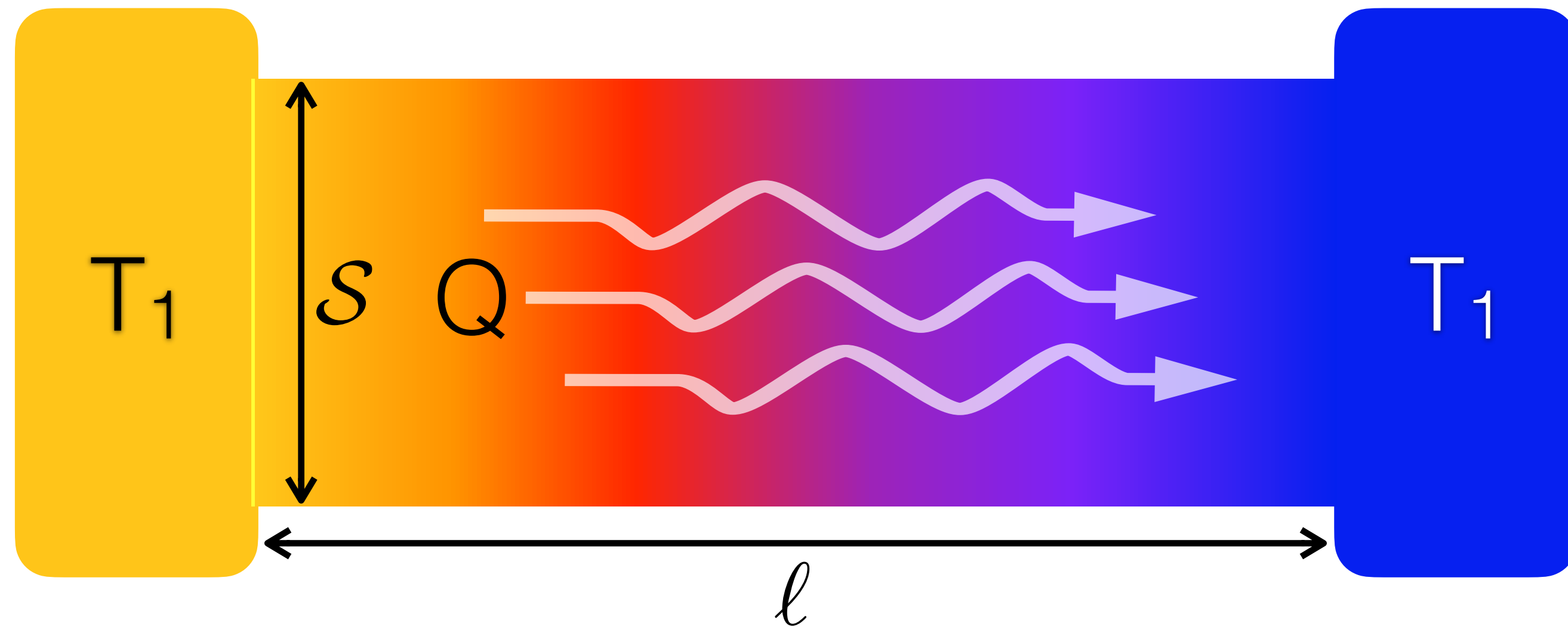


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Fourier Law

$$\mathbf{J} = -\kappa \nabla T$$

*what heat transport is all about*



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Fourier Law

$$\mathbf{J} = -\kappa \nabla T$$

Green-Kubo

$$\kappa = \frac{\Omega}{3k_B T^2} \int_0^\infty \langle \mathbf{J}(t) \cdot \mathbf{J}(0) \rangle dt$$

# *heat transport in solid (non-diffusive) media*

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbf{J} &= \frac{d}{dt} \sum_n \mathbf{R}_i \mathbf{e}_i \\ &= \sum_i (\dot{\mathbf{R}}_i \mathbf{e}_i + \mathbf{R}_i \dot{\mathbf{e}}_i) \end{aligned}$$



# *heat transport in solid (non-diffusive) media*

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbf{J} &= \sum_i (\dot{R}_i \mathbf{e}_i + R_i \dot{\mathbf{e}}_i) \\ &= \sum_i R_i^\circ \dot{\mathbf{e}}_i + \frac{d}{dt} \sum_i u_i \mathbf{e}_i \end{aligned}$$

$$R_i = R_i^\circ + u_i$$



# heat transport in solid (non-diffusive) media

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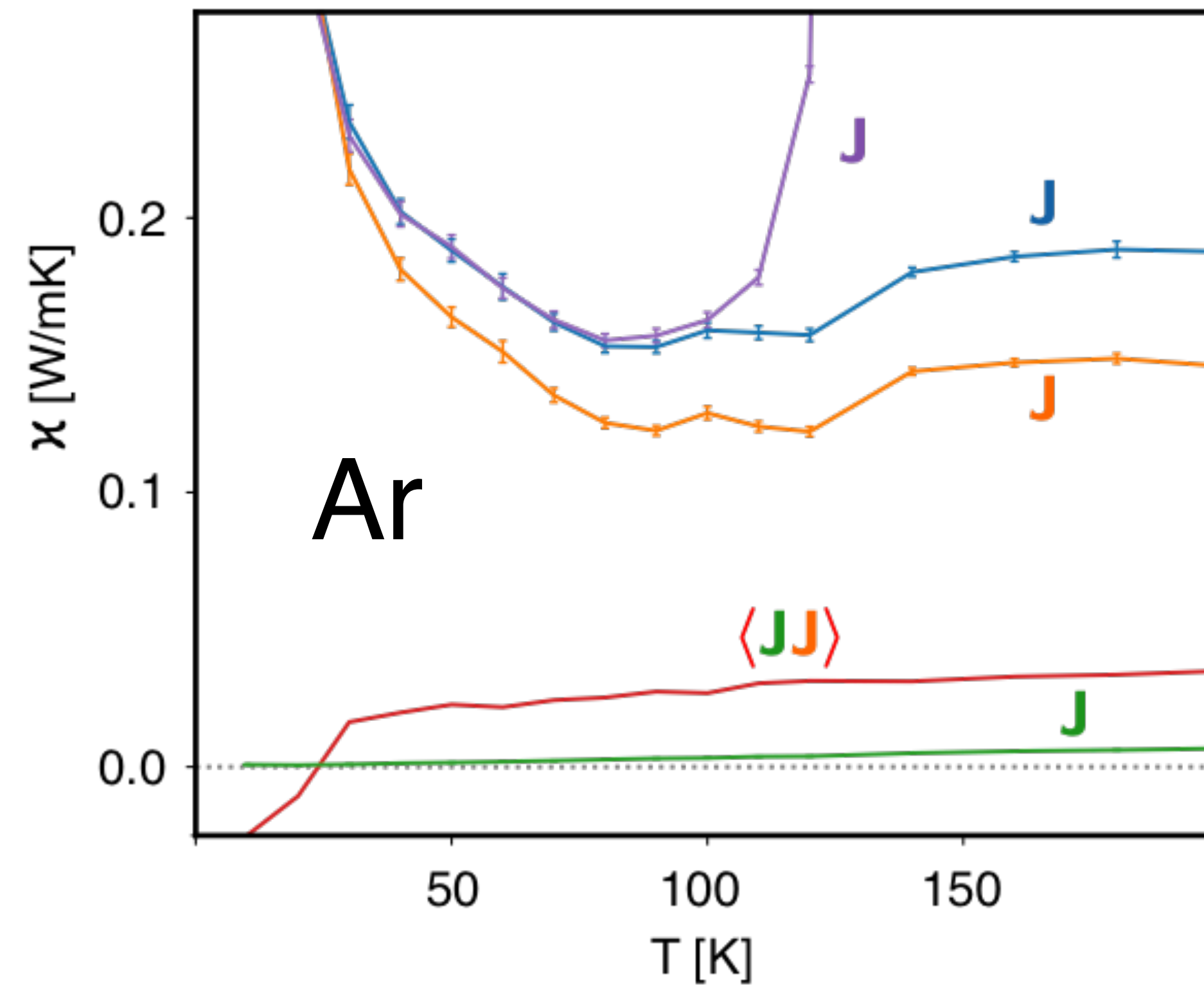
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# heat transport in solid (non-diffusive) media

$$J = \sum_i R_i^\circ \dot{e}_i$$

$$e_i \approx \frac{1}{2} \sum_\alpha \dot{u}_{i\alpha}^2 + \frac{1}{2} \sum_{\alpha\beta, j \neq i} \Phi_{i\alpha}^{j\beta} u_{i\alpha} u_{j\beta}$$

$$J_\alpha \approx \frac{1}{2} \sum_{ij\beta\gamma} (R_{i\alpha}^\circ - R_{j\alpha}^\circ) \Phi_{i\beta}^{j\gamma} u_{i\beta} \dot{u}_{j\gamma}$$

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first real-space moments  
of the inter-atomic force  
constants



# heat transport in solid (non-diffusive) media

$$J_\alpha = \sum_{nm} v_{nm}^\alpha \sqrt{\omega_n \omega_m} q_n p_m$$

$$\kappa \propto \int_0^\infty dt \int dq_o dp_o \underbrace{J(q_t p_t) J(q_o p_o)}_{\text{4-th order polynomial}} \underbrace{e^{-\beta H(q_o p_o)}}_{\text{Gaussian}}$$



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Gaussian integral  $\mapsto$  Wick theorem



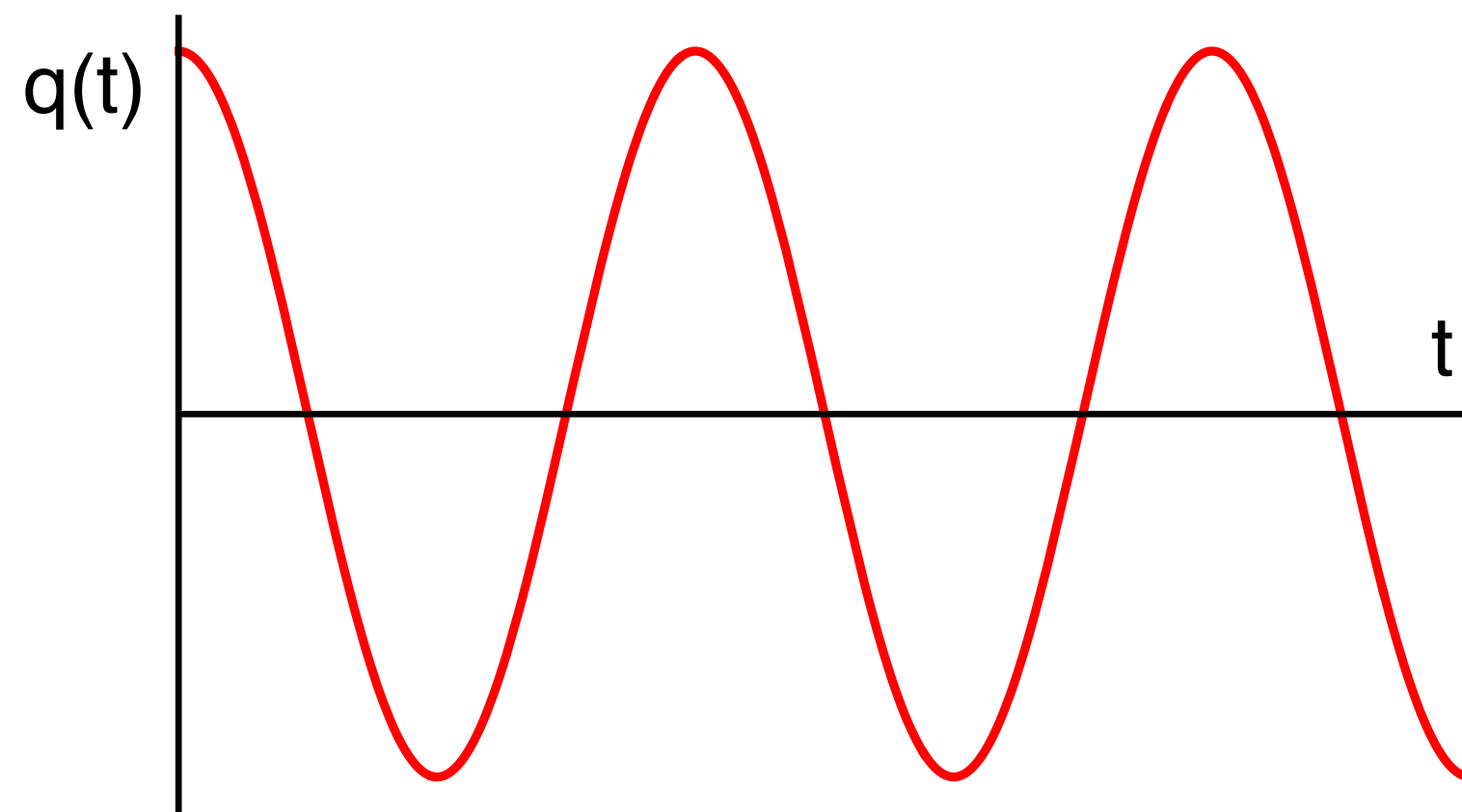


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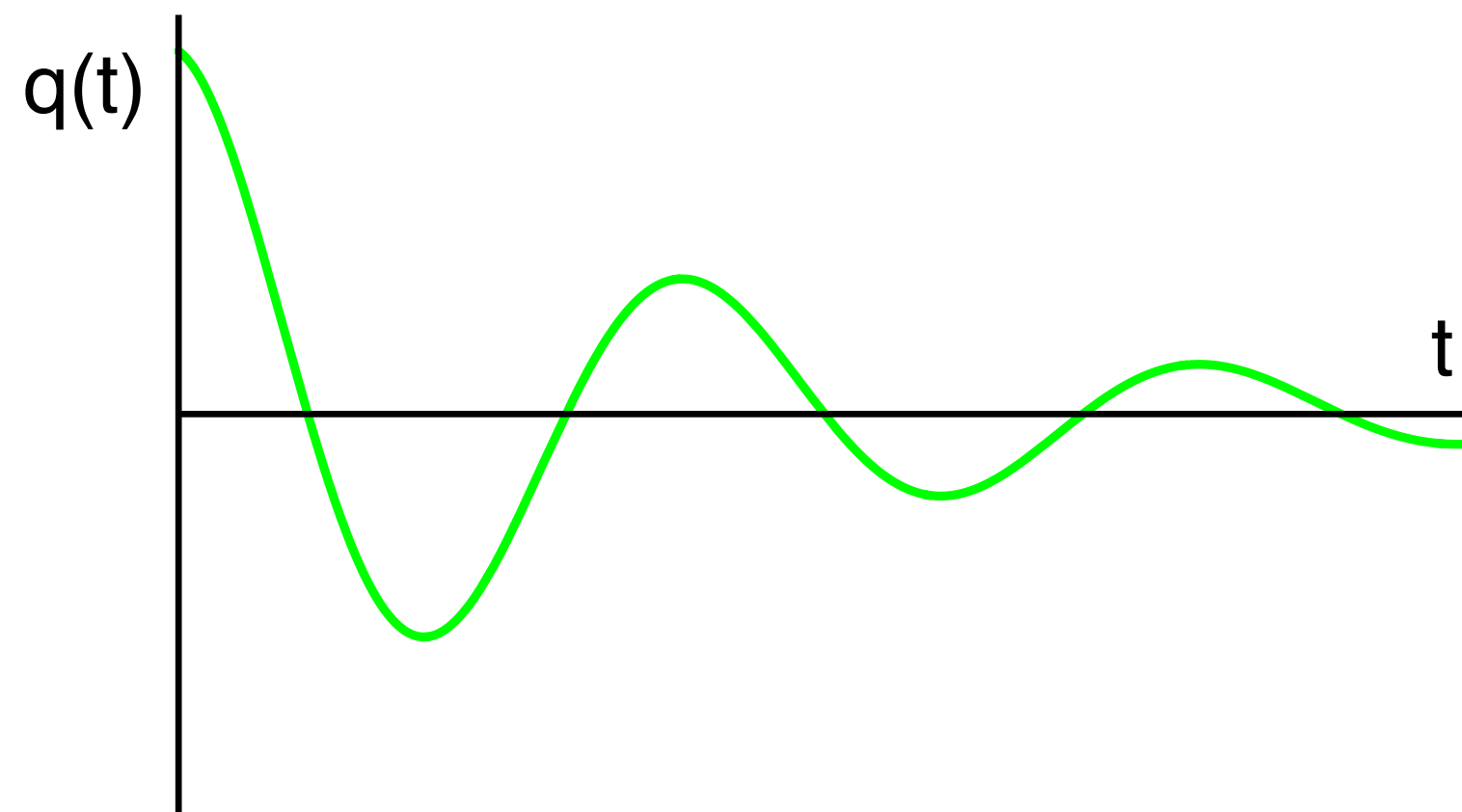
$$\kappa = \infty$$

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$$\omega \mapsto \omega + i\gamma$$

→

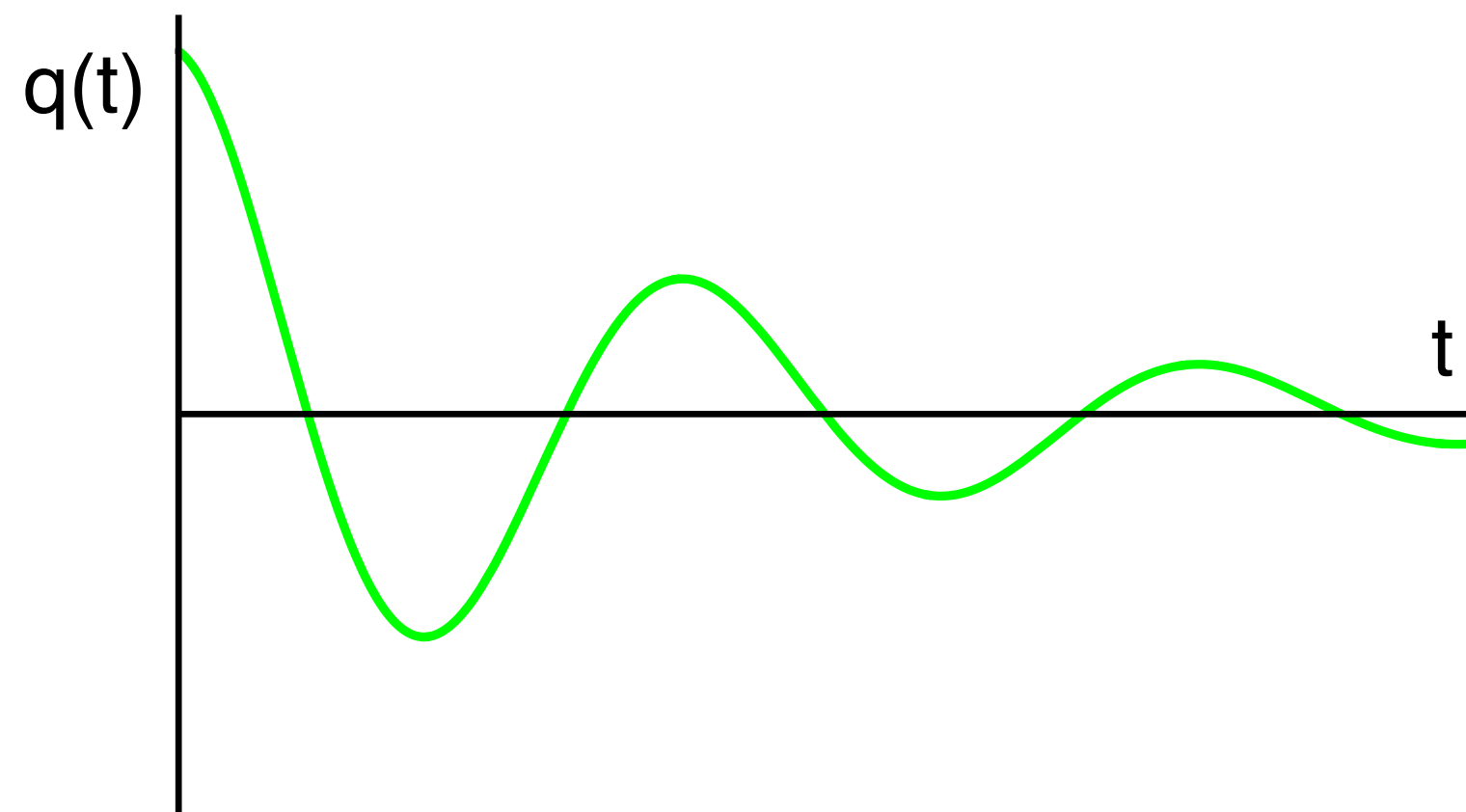
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$$\tau_{nm}^\circ = \frac{\gamma_n + \gamma_m}{(\gamma_n + \gamma_m)^2 + (\omega_n - \omega_m)^2}$$

$$c_{nm} = \frac{\hbar \omega_m \omega_n}{T} \frac{n(\omega_n) - n(\omega_m)}{\omega_m - \omega_n}$$



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small  $\gamma$

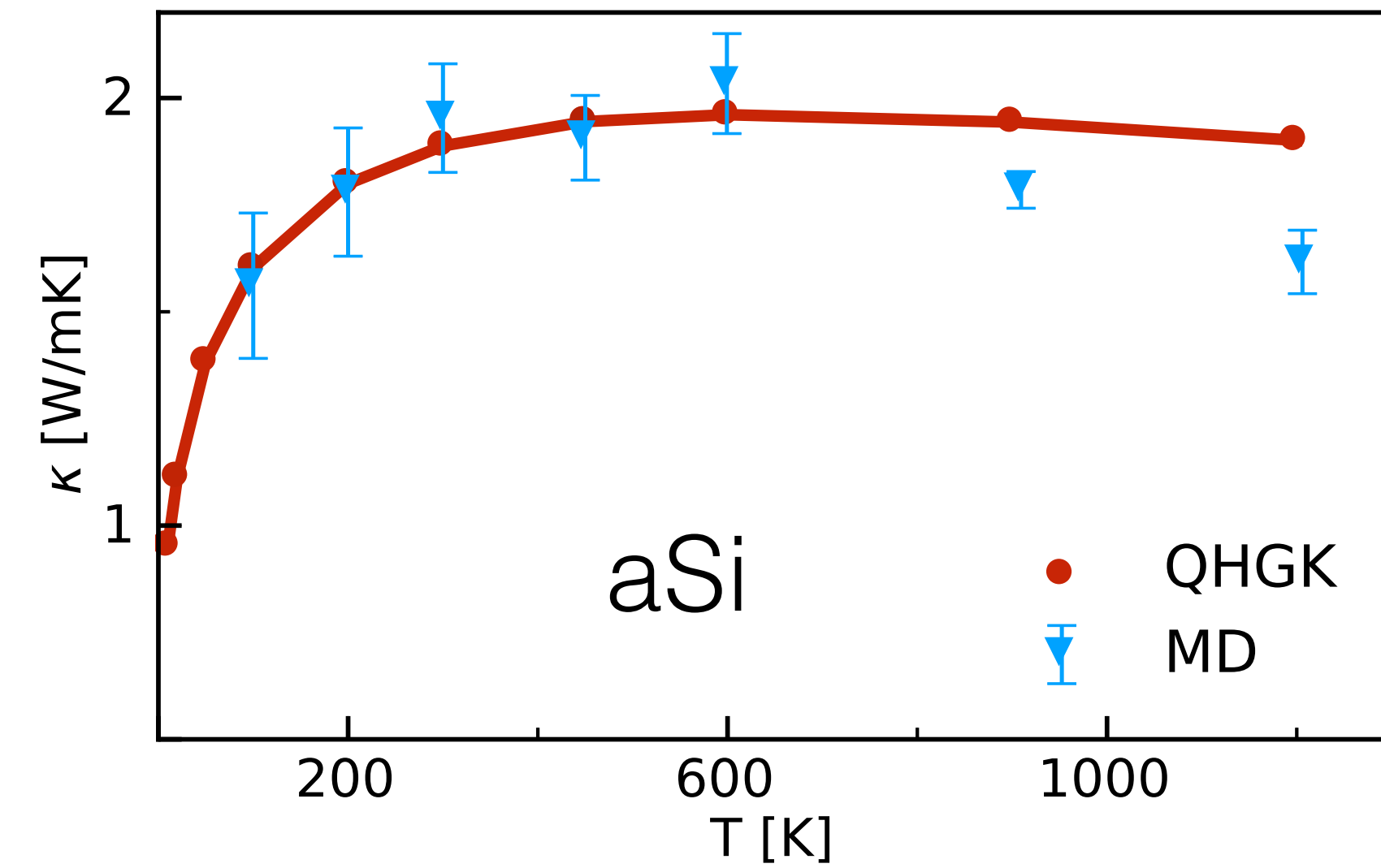
$$\approx \pi \delta(\omega_n - \omega_m)$$

$$\approx k_B \left( \frac{\hbar \omega_n}{k_B T} \right)^2 \frac{1}{\left( e^{\frac{\hbar \omega_n}{k_B T}} - 1 \right)^2}$$



# heat transport in solid (non-diffusive) media

$$\kappa = \frac{1}{V} \sum_{nm} C_{nm} (v_{nm})^2 \tau_{nm}^{\circ}$$



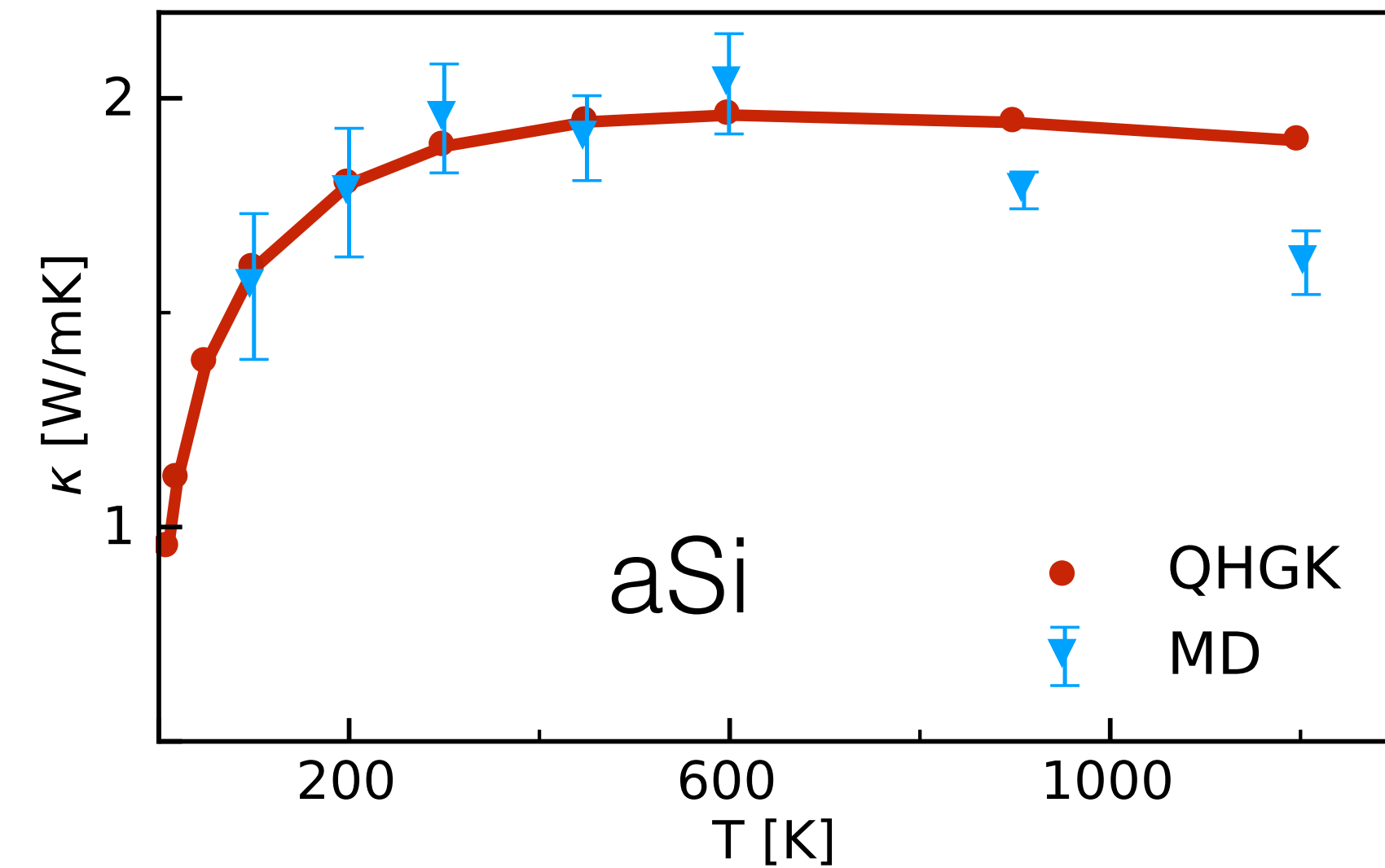
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$$\kappa = \frac{1}{V} \sum_{nm} c_{nm} (v_{nm})^2 \tau_{nm}^{\circ}$$

in crystals

$$v_{nn'} = v_n(\mathbf{q}) \delta_{\nu\nu'} \delta_{\mathbf{q}\mathbf{q}'}$$

$$\kappa = \frac{1}{V} \sum_{q\nu} c_{\nu}(\mathbf{q}) v_{\nu}(\mathbf{q})^2 \tau_{\nu}(\mathbf{q}) \quad (\text{BTE})$$





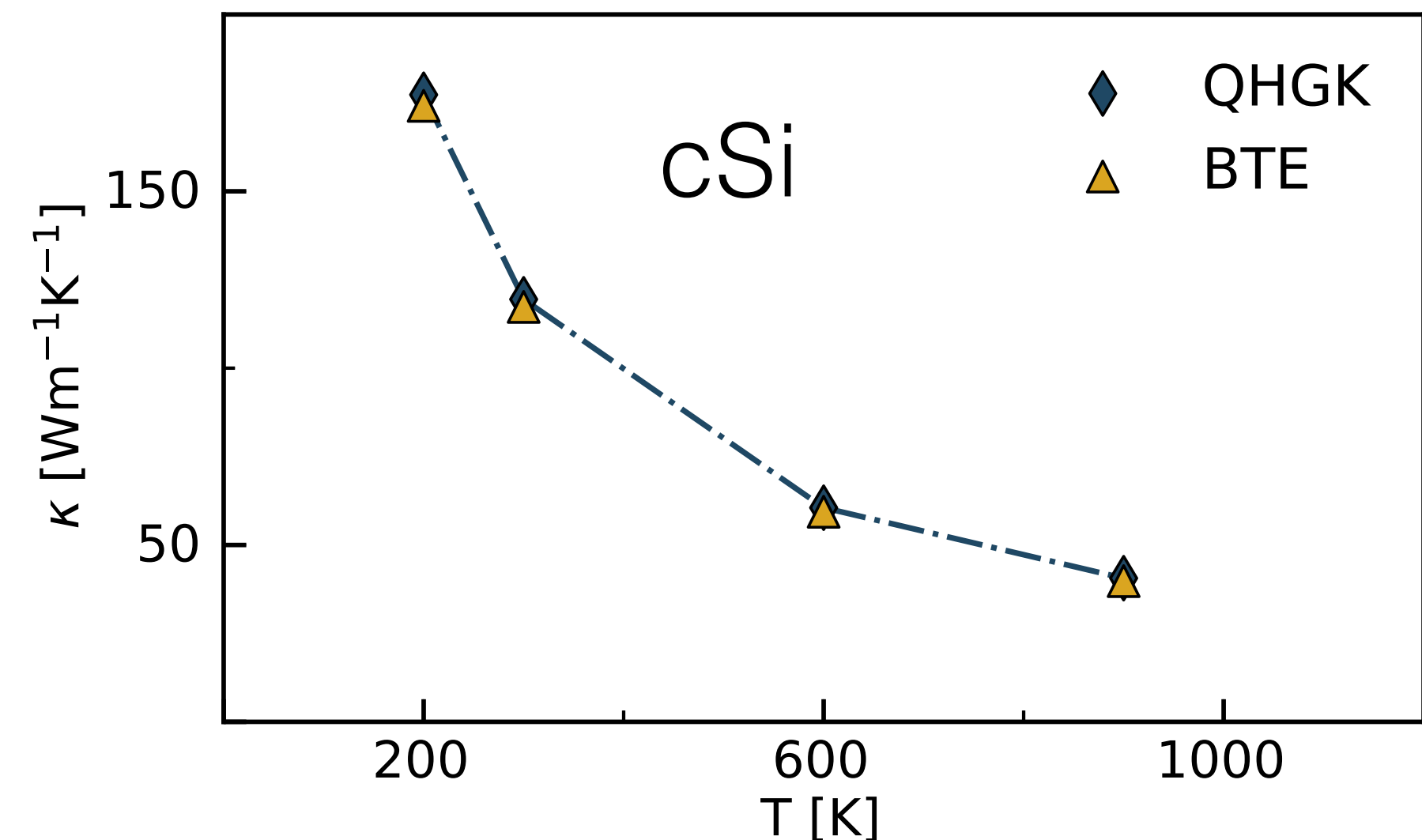
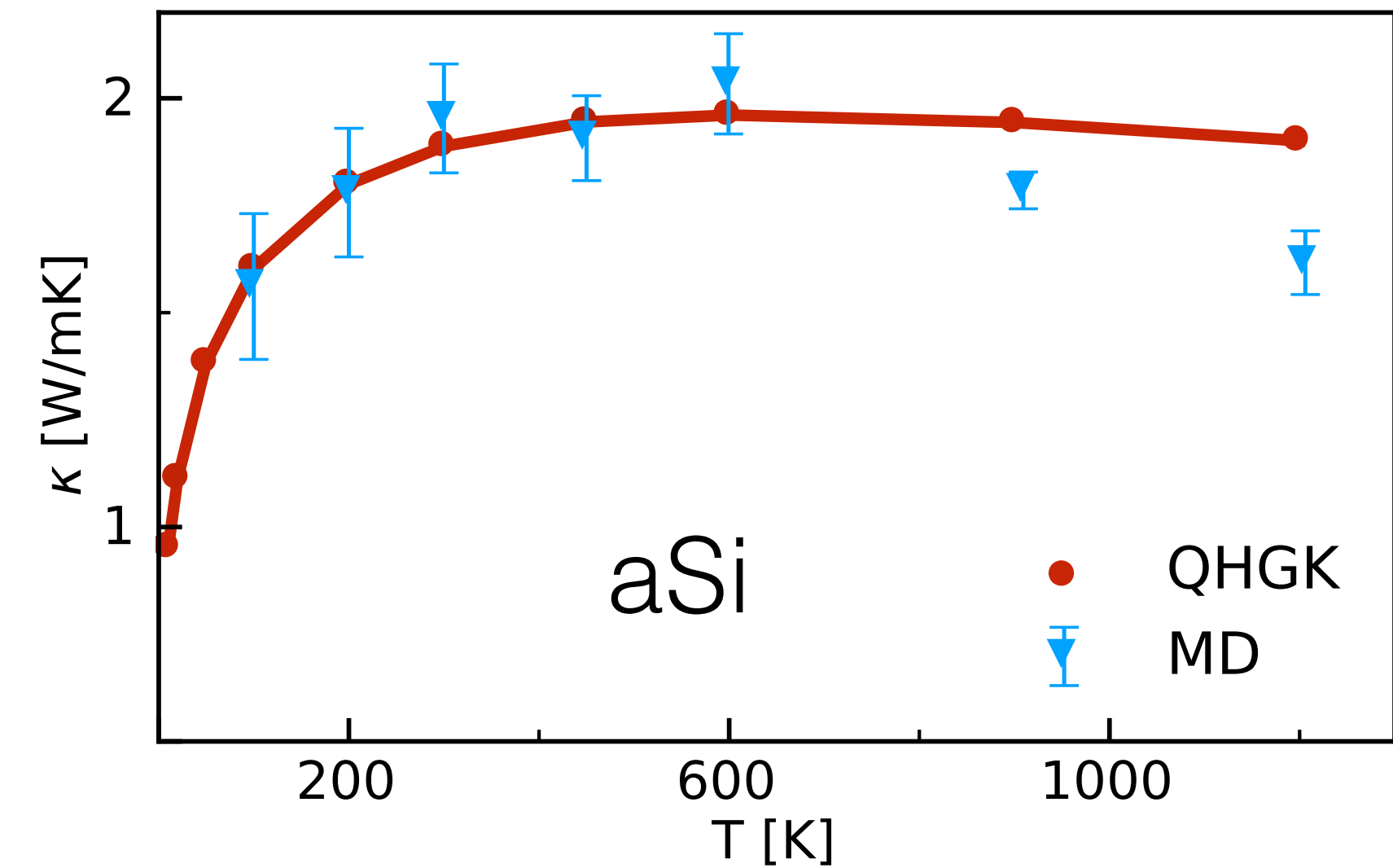
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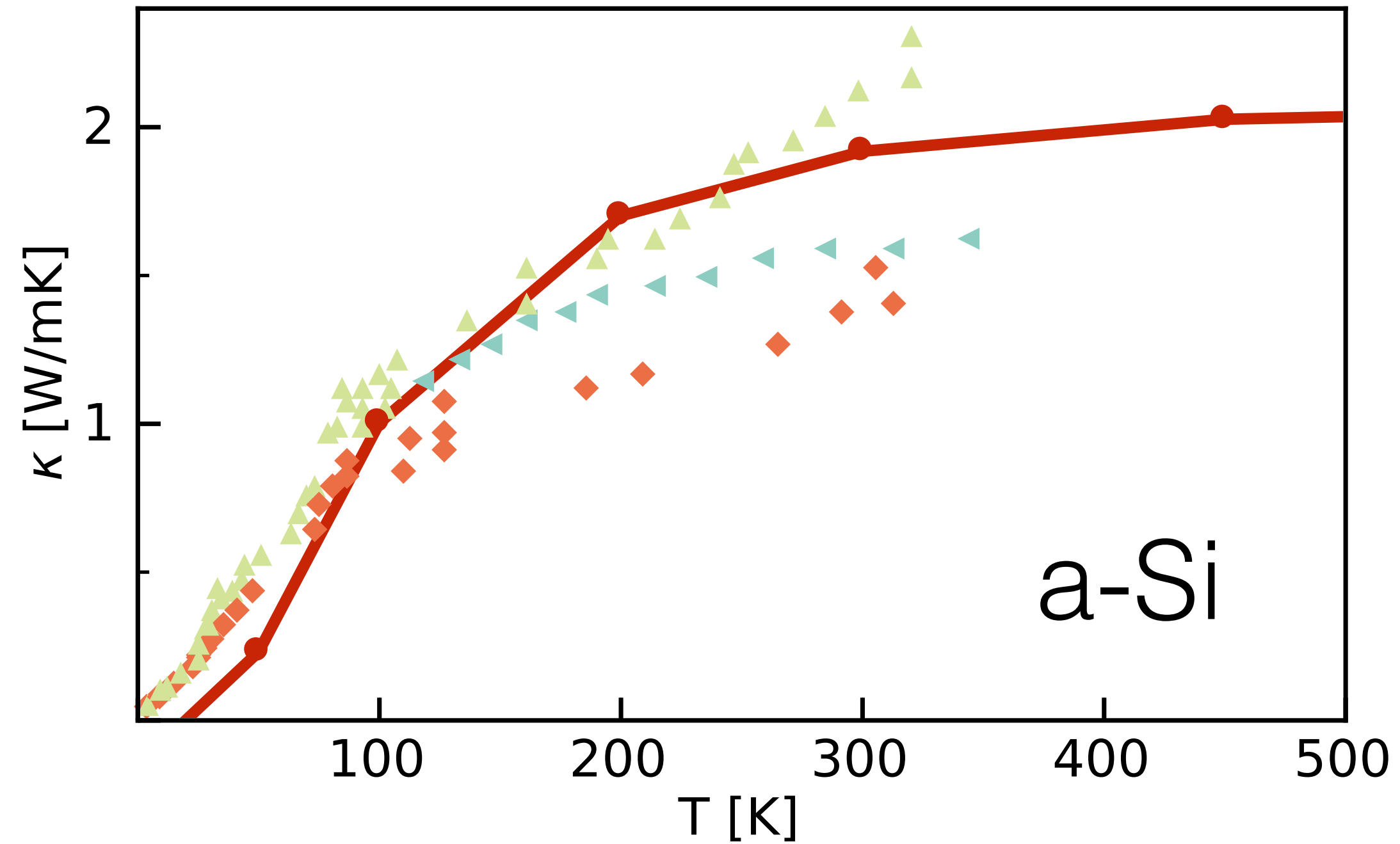
Isaeva, L., Barbalinardo, G., Donadio, D. & Baroni, S. *Modeling heat transport in crystals and glasses from a unified lattice-dynamical approach*, Nat. Commun. 10, 3853 (2019).

Simoncelli, M., Marzari, N. & Mauri, F. *Unified theory of thermal transport in crystals and disordered solids*, Nat. Phys. 15, 809–813 (2019).



# heat transport in glasses

$$\kappa = \frac{1}{V} \sum_{nm} c_{nm} (v_{nm})^2 \tau_{nm}^{\circ}$$



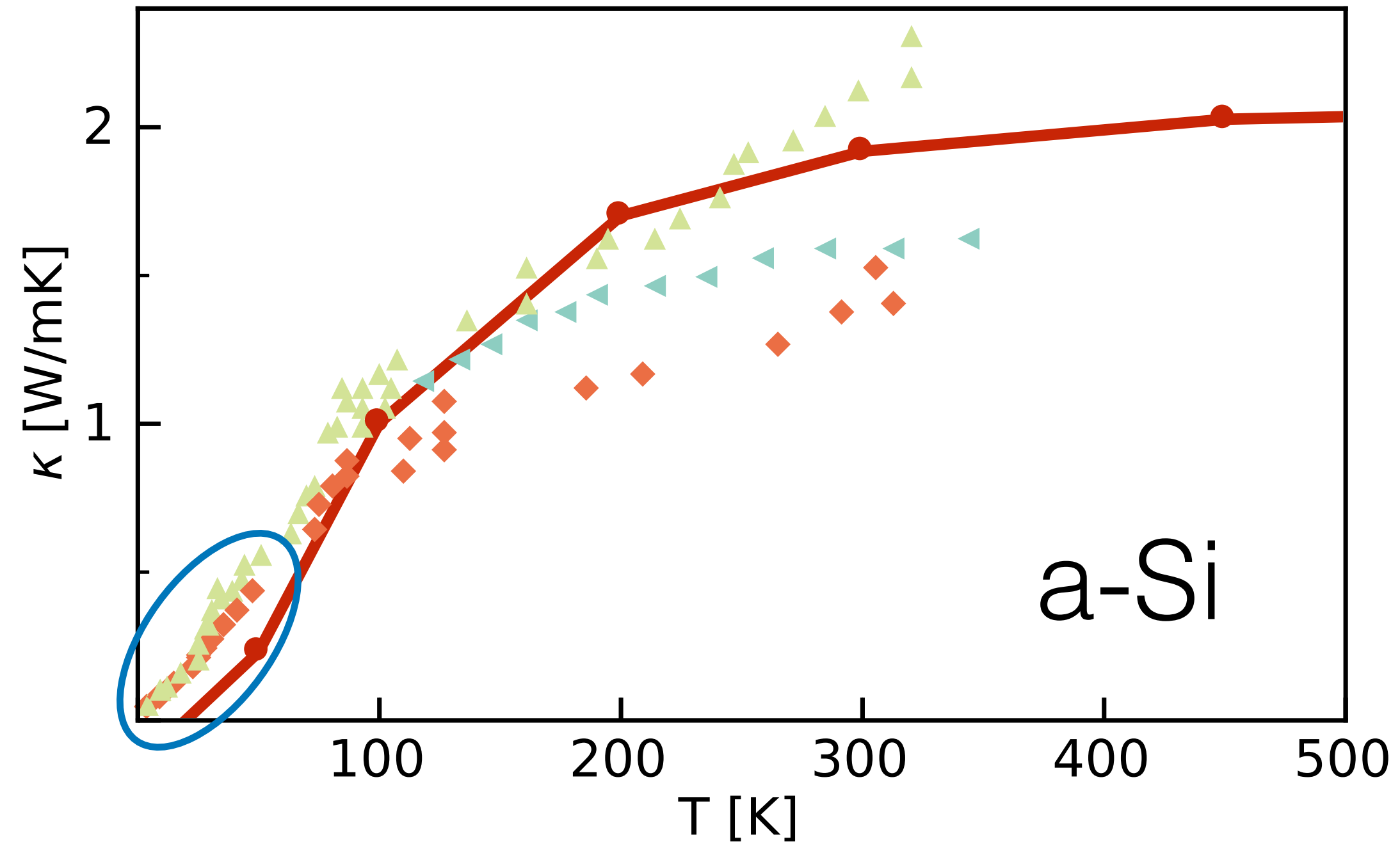
quantum  
QH GK

a-Si



# heat transport in glasses

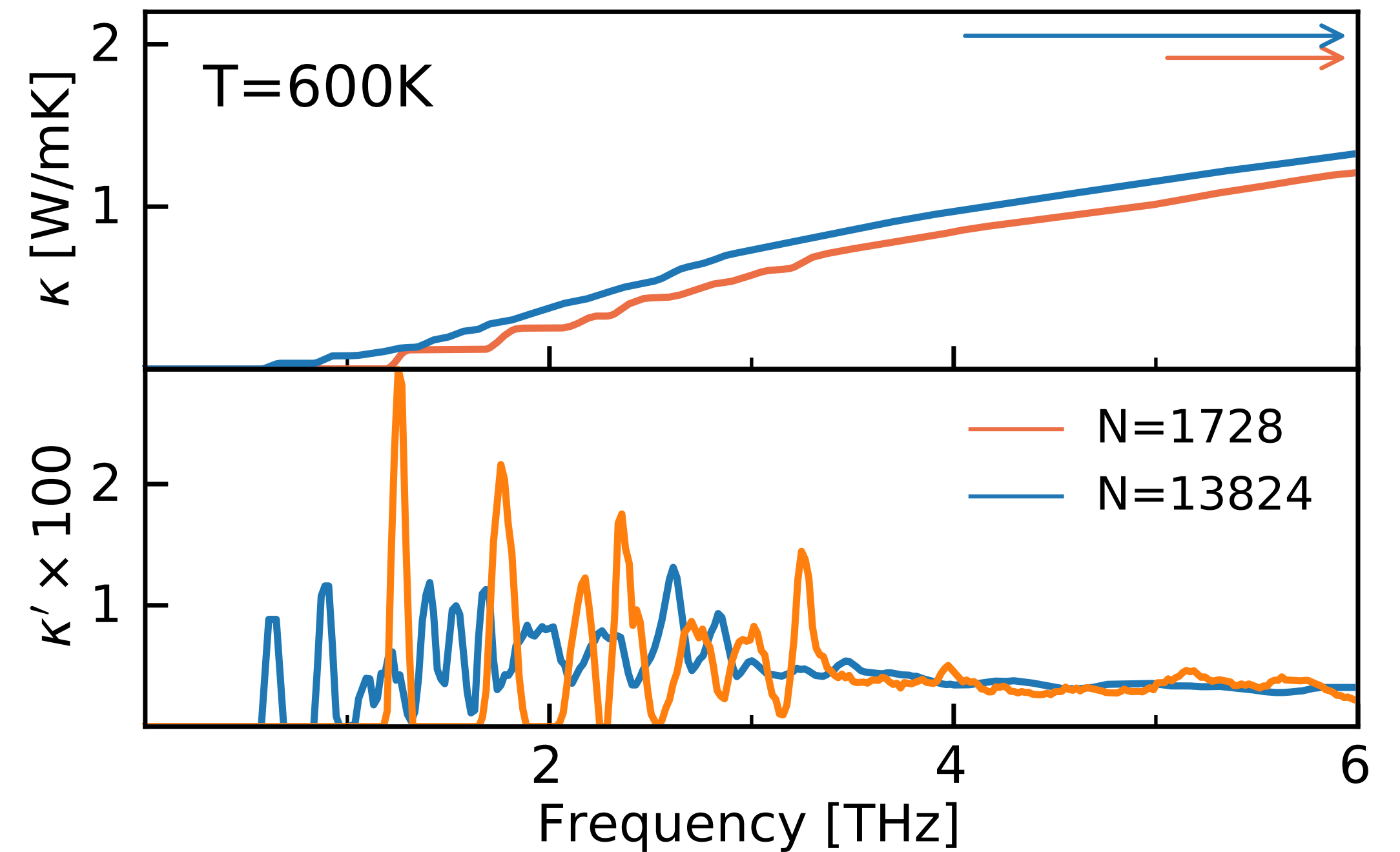
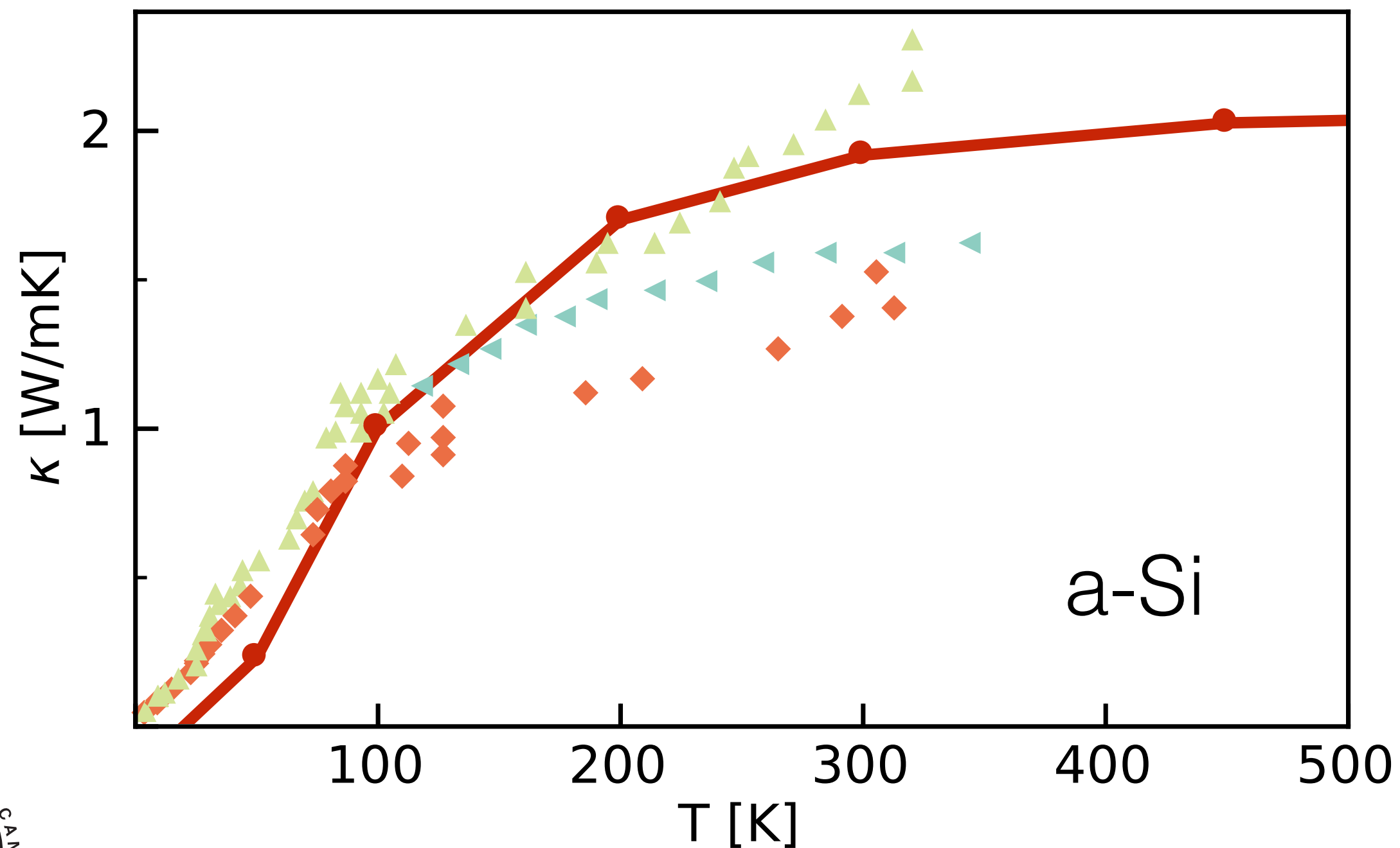
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# heat transport in glasses

$$\kappa = \frac{1}{V} \sum_{nm} C_{nm} (v_{nm})^2 \tau_{nm}^{\circ}$$

$$\kappa'(\omega) = \frac{1}{V} \sum_{nm} \delta(\omega - \omega_n) C_{nm} (v_{nm})^2 \tau_{nm}^{\circ}$$
$$\kappa(\omega) = \int_0^{\omega} \kappa'(\omega') d\omega'$$

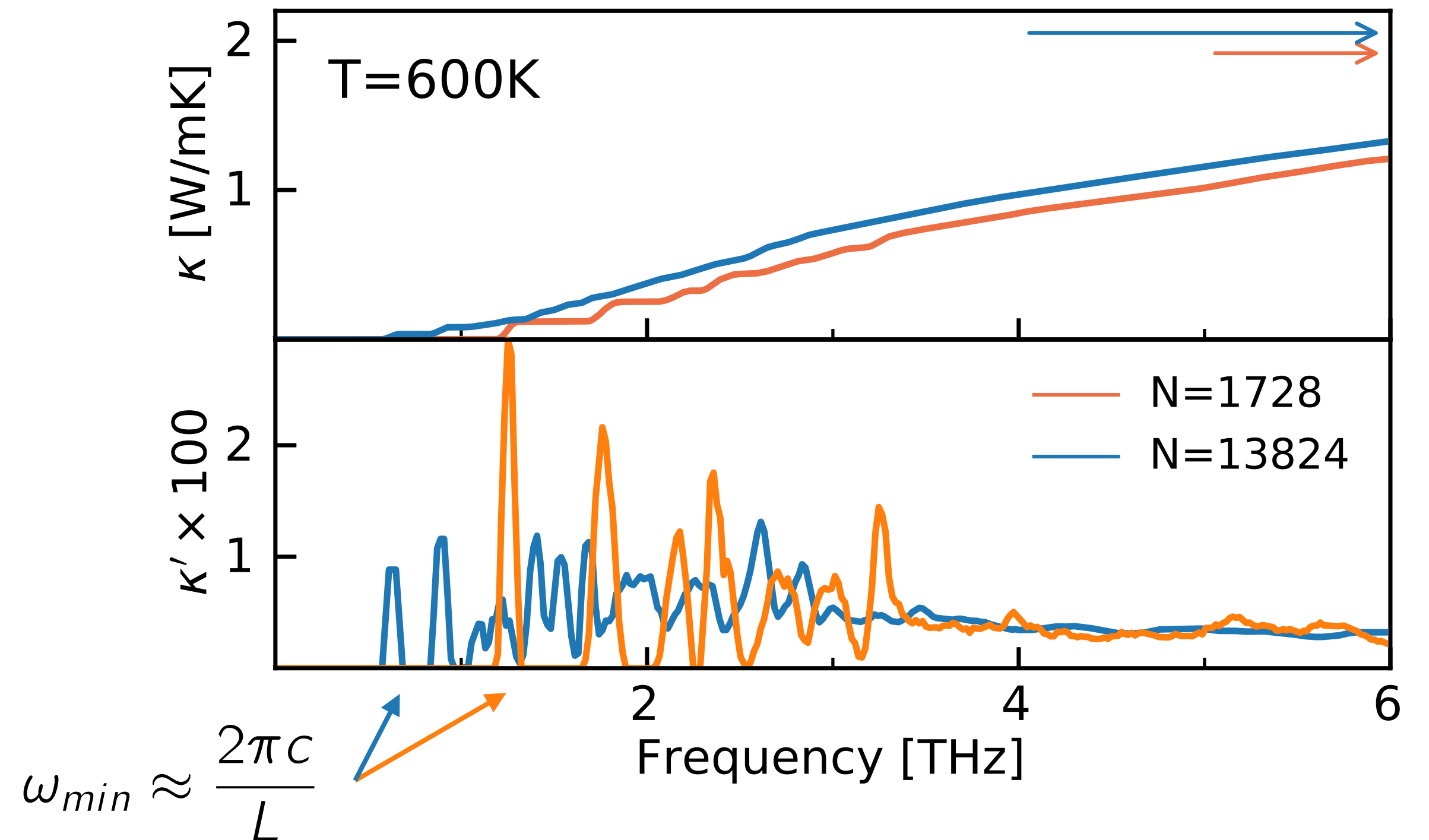
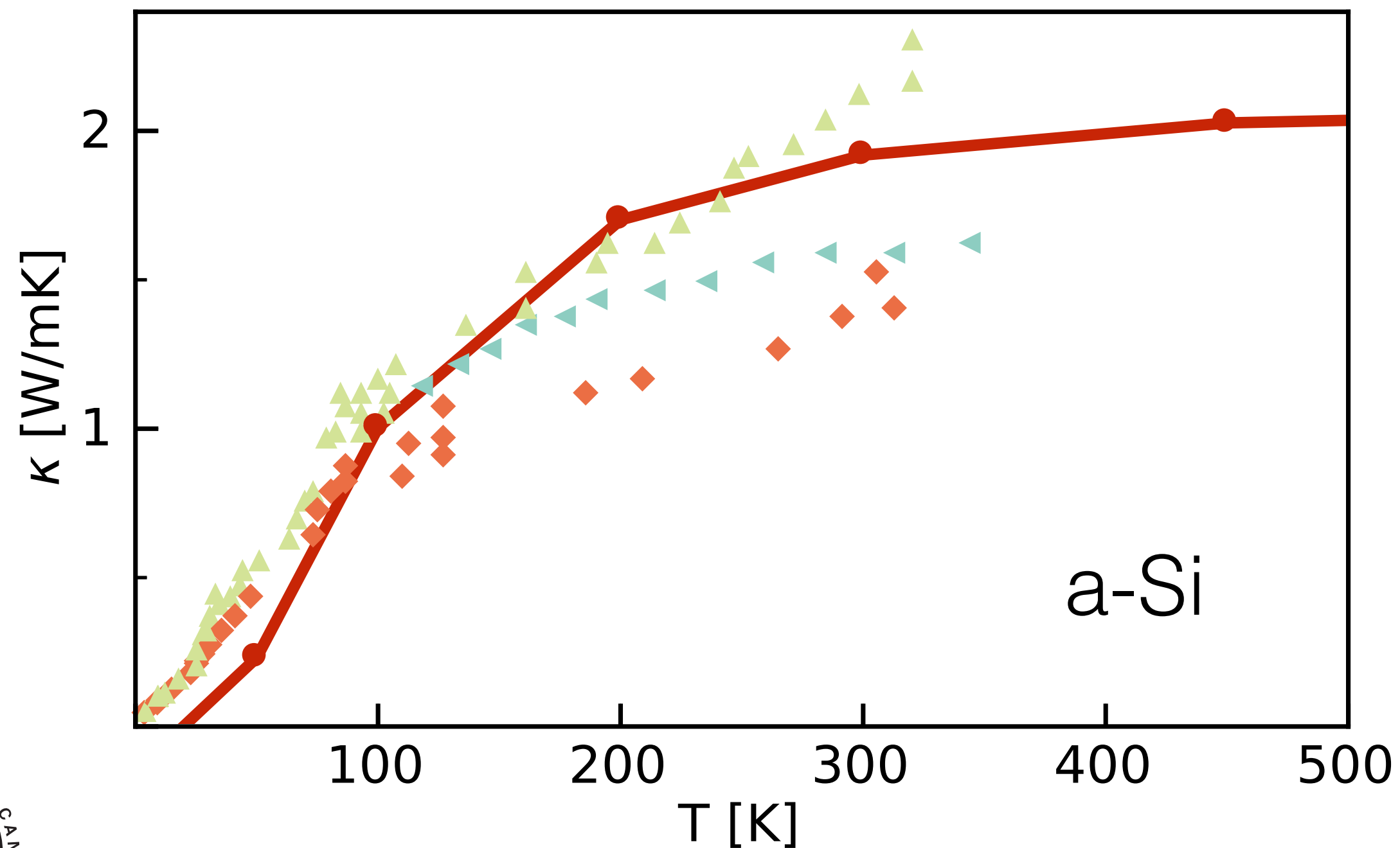


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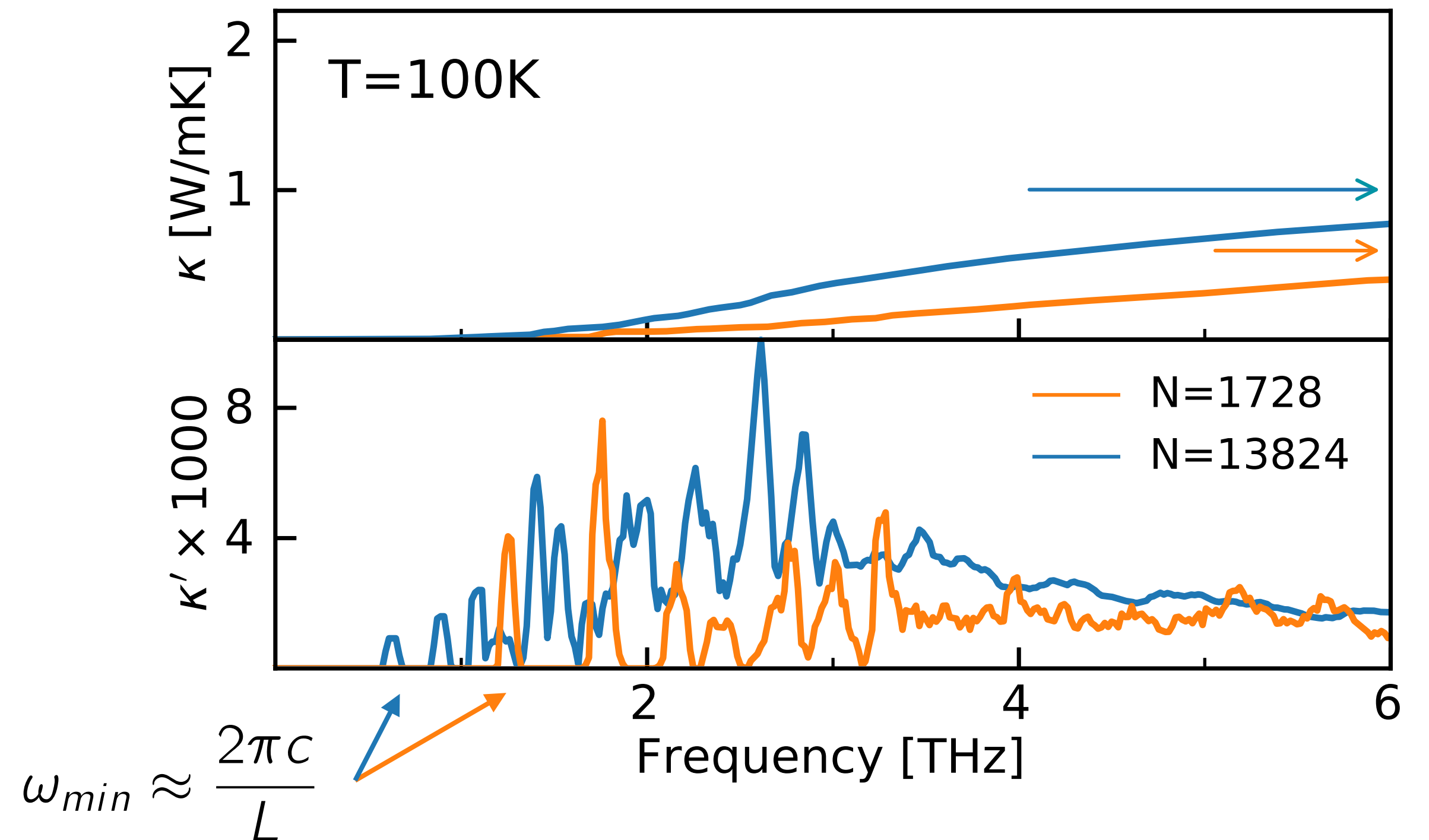
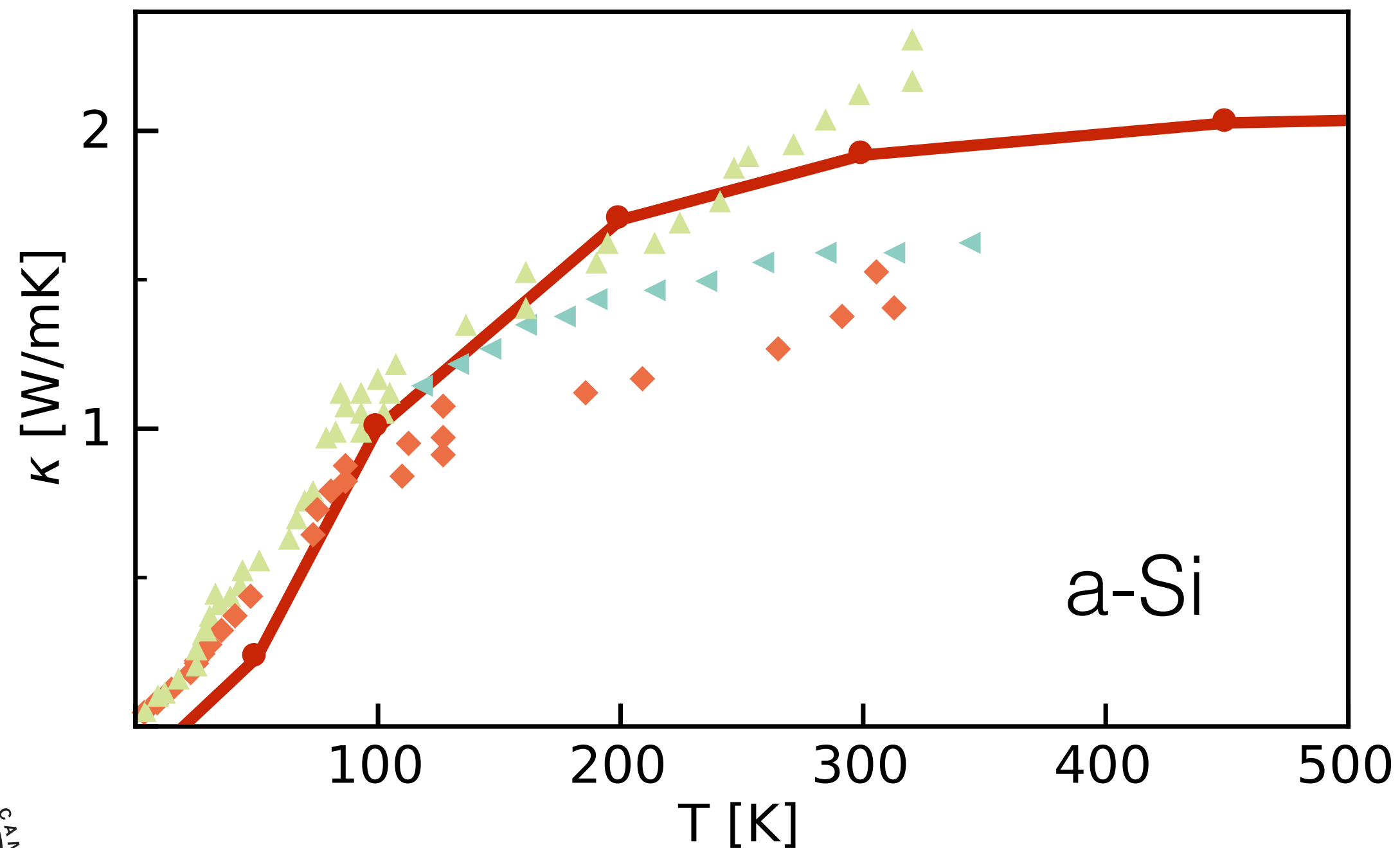
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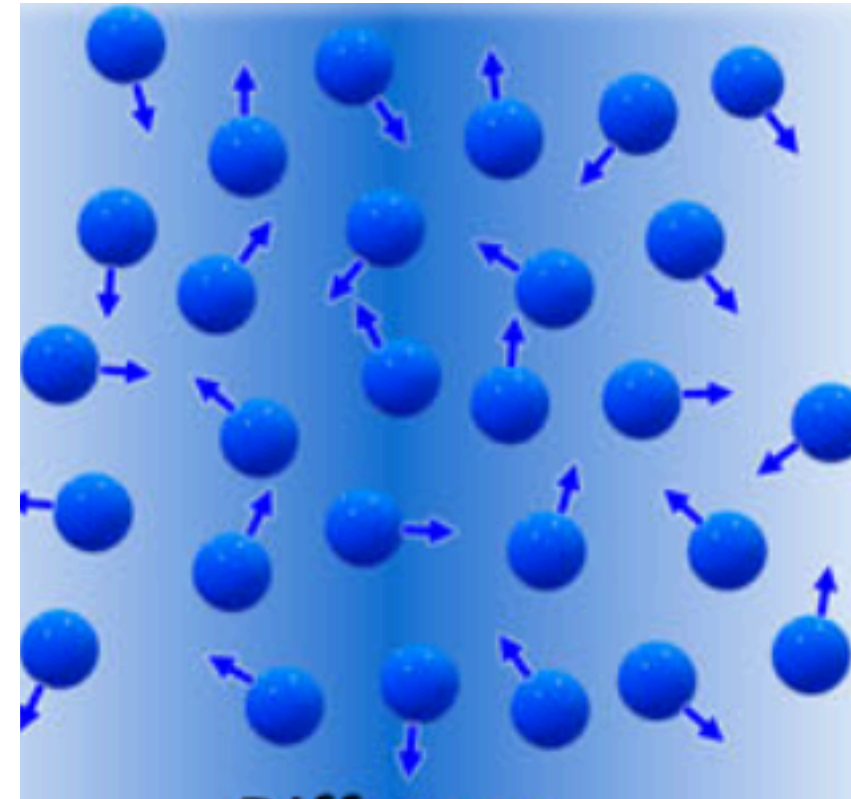
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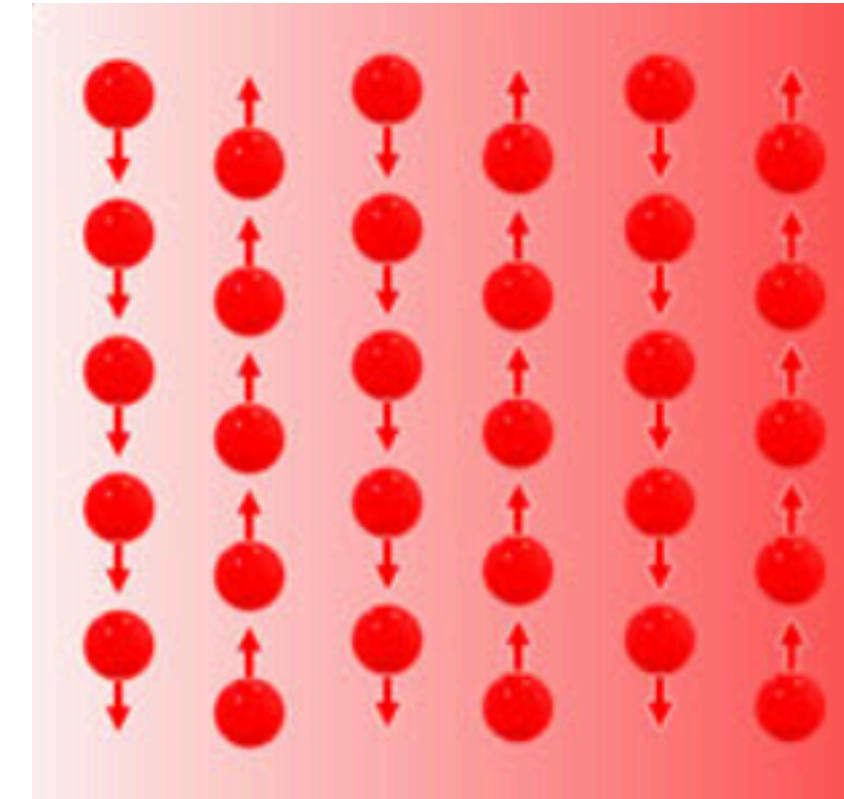
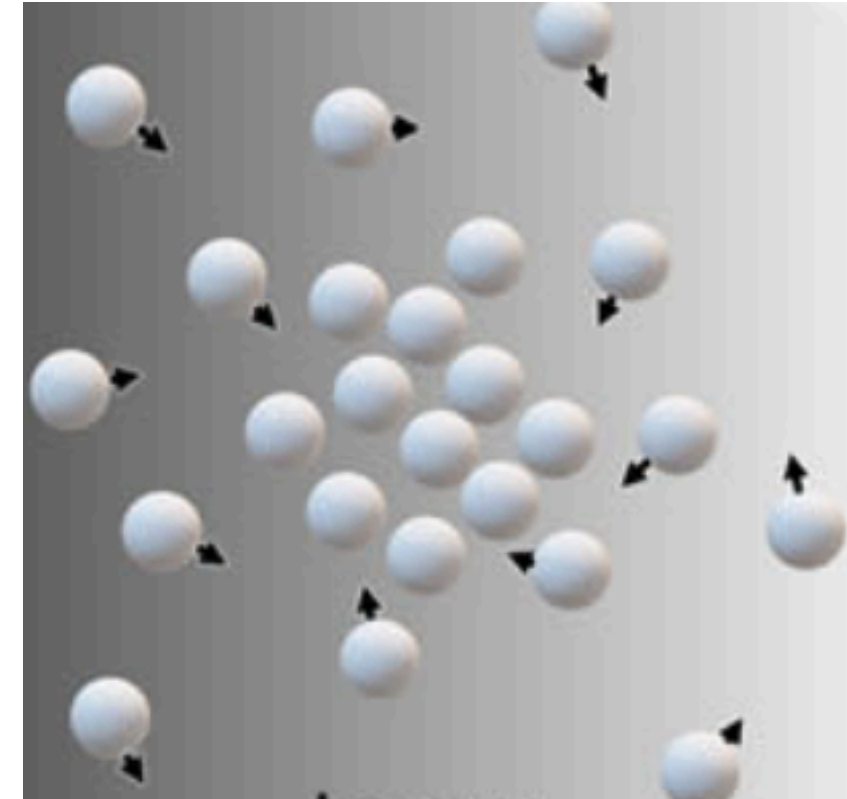
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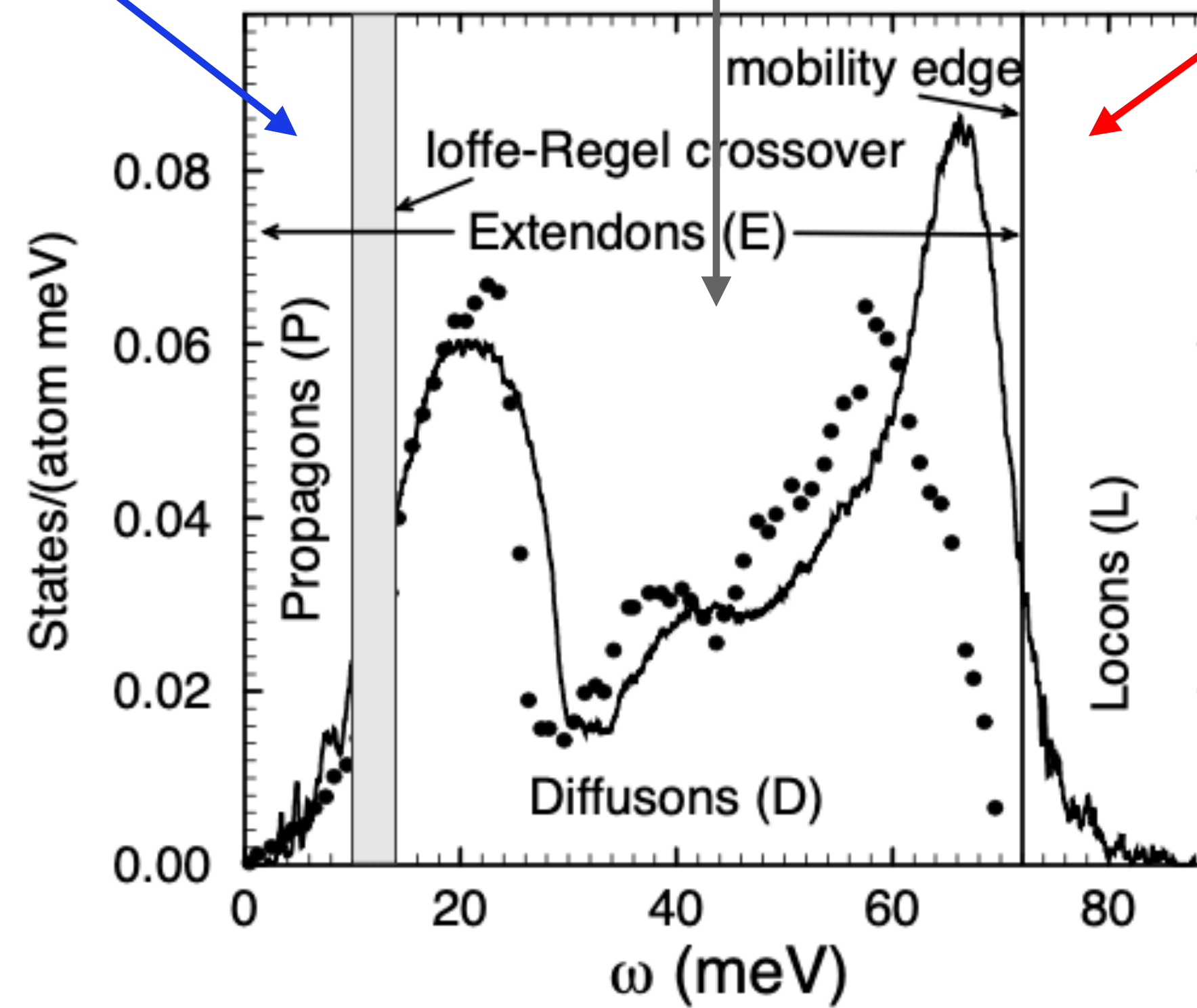
# *finite-size scaling*



sound waves



localised vibrations



# *finite-size scaling*

## Dynamical Structure Factor

$$\begin{aligned} S(\mathbf{q}, \omega) &= -\frac{1}{\pi} \text{Im} G(\mathbf{q}, \omega) \\ &= \frac{1}{\pi} \sum_n \frac{\gamma_n}{(\omega_n - \omega)^2 + \gamma_n^2} |\langle e_n | \mathbf{q} \rangle|^2 \end{aligned}$$



# *finite-size scaling*

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# *finite-size scaling*

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# finite-size scaling

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anharmonicity      disorder  
(blue sky)



# finite-size scaling

Dynamical Structure Factor

Lanczos recursion

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anharmonicity      disorder  
(blue sky)

## Lanczos recursion

$$\begin{aligned} S(\mathbf{q}, \omega) &= -\frac{1}{\pi} \text{Im} \langle \mathbf{q} | ((\omega + i\epsilon)^2 - D)^{-1} | \mathbf{q} \rangle \\ &= -\frac{1}{\pi} \frac{1}{(\omega + i\epsilon)^2 - a_0 - \frac{1}{\frac{b_1^2}{(\omega + i\epsilon)^2 - a_1 - \frac{b_2^2}{\ddots}}}} \end{aligned}$$



# finite-size scaling

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 S(\mathbf{q}, \omega) &= -\frac{1}{\pi} \text{Im} G(\mathbf{q}, \omega) \\
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anharmonicity
disorder  
(blue sky)

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 \end{aligned}$$

$$|\xi_0\rangle = |\mathbf{q}\rangle$$

$$b_0 |\xi_{-1}\rangle = 0$$

$$a_n = \langle \xi_n | D | \xi_n \rangle$$

$$a_{n+1} |\xi_{n+1}\rangle = (D - a_n) |\xi_n\rangle - b_n |\xi_{n-1}\rangle$$

$$b_{n+1} = \langle \xi_n | D | \xi_{n+1} \rangle$$

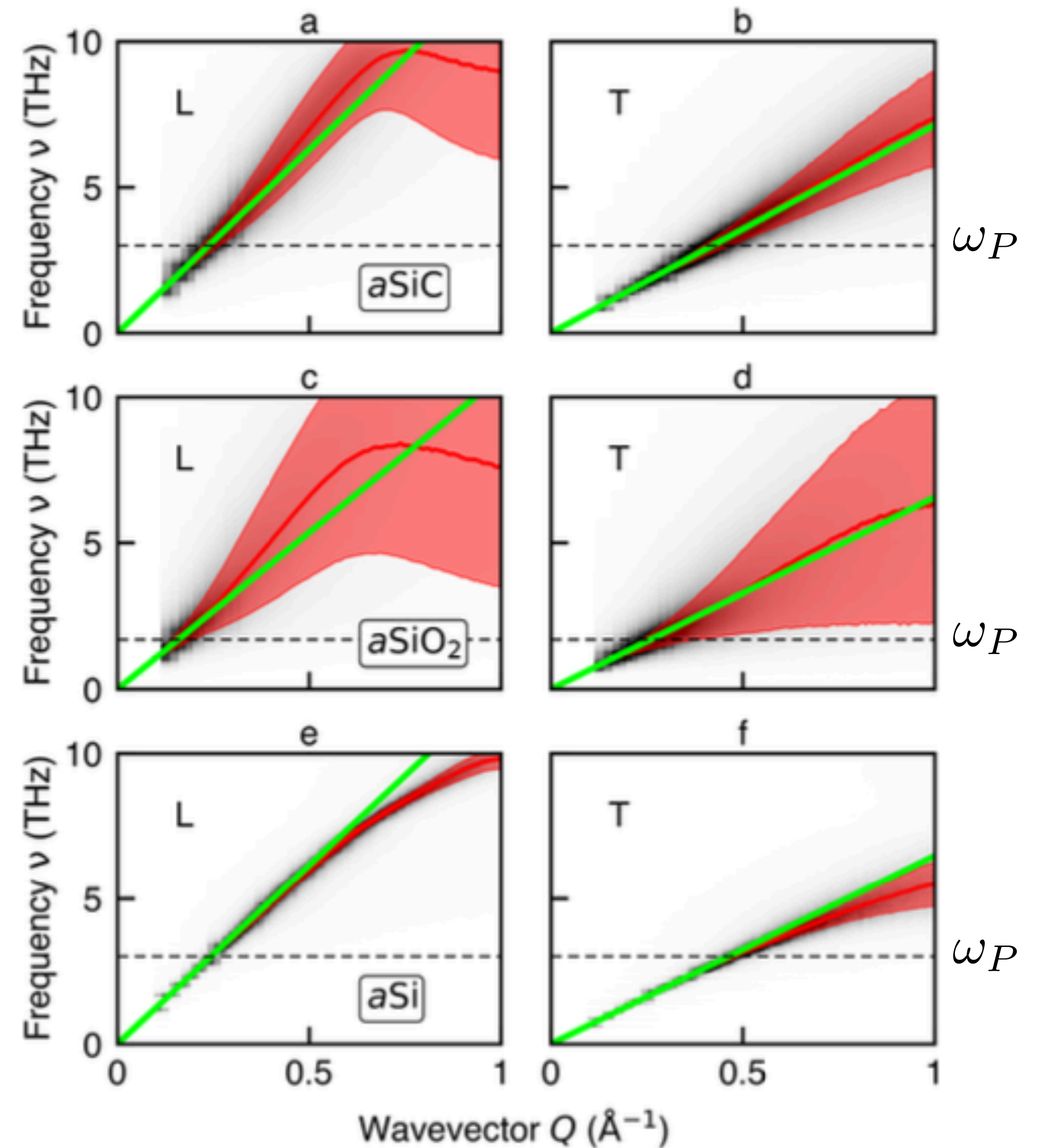
dozens of thousands of atoms easily manageable



# finite-size scaling

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$$S(\mathbf{q}, \omega) = \frac{A(\mathbf{q})}{\pi} \frac{\Gamma(\mathbf{q})^2}{(\omega - \Omega(\mathbf{q}))^2 + \Gamma(\mathbf{q})^2}$$



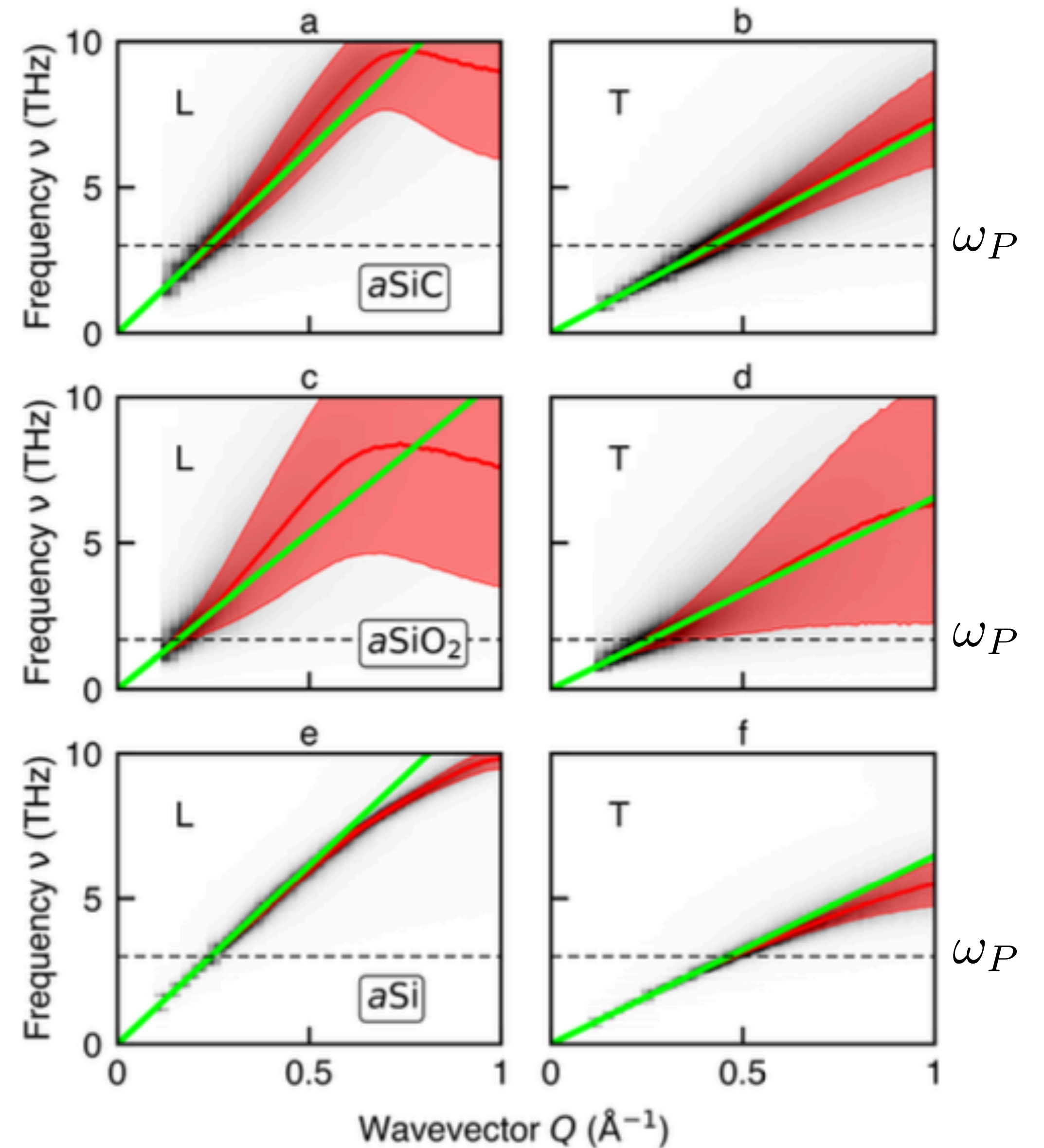
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## Heat conductivity

$$\kappa = \frac{1}{V} \sum_{nm \in P} c_{nm} (v_{nm})^2 \tau_{nm}^{\circ} + \frac{1}{V} \sum_{nm \notin P} c_{nm} (v_{nm})^2 \tau_{nm}^{\circ}$$





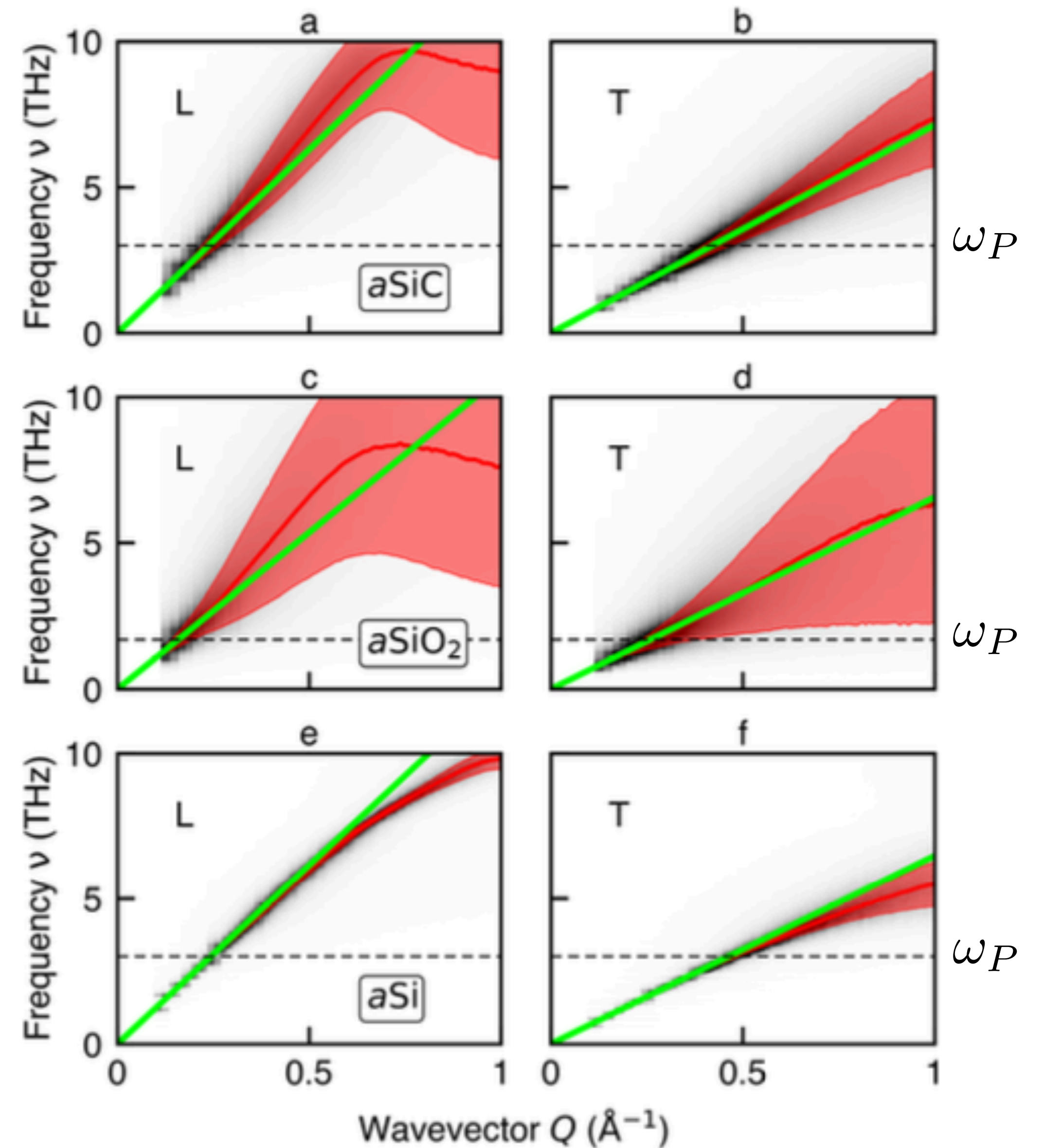
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$$S(\mathbf{q}, \omega) = \frac{A(\mathbf{q})}{\pi} \frac{\Gamma(\mathbf{q})^2}{(\omega - \Omega(\mathbf{q}))^2 + \Gamma(\mathbf{q})^2}$$

## Heat conductivity

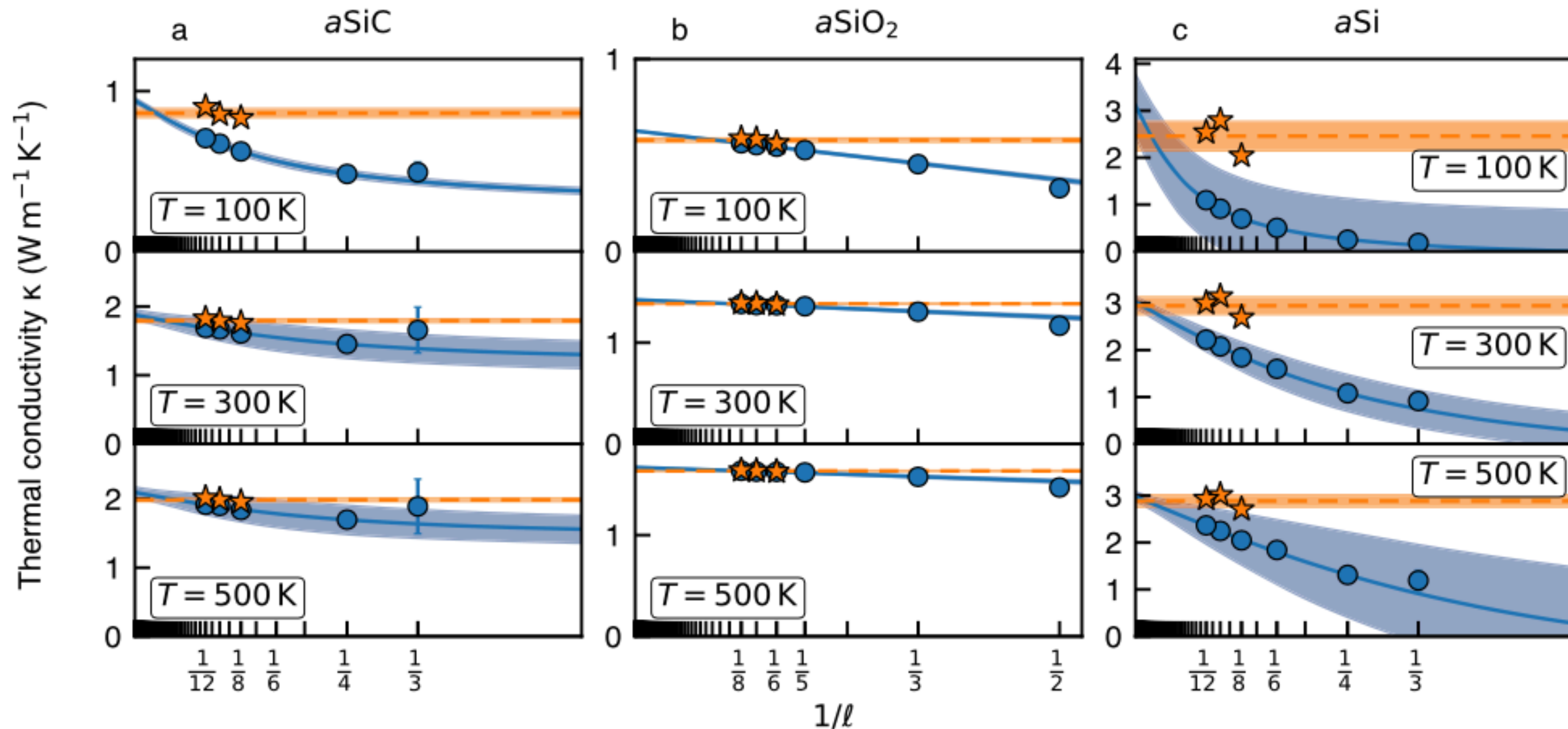
$$\begin{aligned} \kappa &= \frac{1}{V} \sum_{nm \in P} c_{nm} (v_{nm})^2 \tau_{nm}^{\circ} + \frac{1}{V} \sum_{nm \notin P} c_{nm} (v_{nm})^2 \tau_{nm}^{\circ} \\ &= \underbrace{\frac{1}{2\pi^2 c} \int_0^{\omega_P} \frac{\omega^2 C(\omega)}{2\Gamma(\omega)} d\omega}_{\kappa_P} + \underbrace{\frac{1}{V} \sum_{nm \notin P} c_{nm} (v_{nm})^2 \tau_{nm}^{\circ}}_{\kappa_{LD}} \end{aligned}$$



# finite-size scaling

hydrodynamic  
extrapolation

$$\kappa = \underbrace{\frac{1}{2\pi^2 c} \int_0^{\omega_P} \frac{\omega^2 C(\omega)}{2\Gamma(\omega)} d\omega}_{\kappa_P} + \underbrace{\frac{1}{V} \sum_{nm \notin P} C_{nm} (v_{nm})^2 \tau_{nm}^o}_{\kappa_{LD}}$$



*the  $V \rightarrow \infty$  limit of the Allen-Feldman harmonic model*

$$\kappa^{AF} = \frac{\pi}{V} \sum_{nm} C_n(v_{nm})^2 \delta(\omega_n - \omega_m)$$



*the  $V \rightarrow \infty$  limit of the Allen-Feldman harmonic model*

$$\begin{aligned}\kappa^{AF} &= \frac{\pi}{V} \sum_{nm} C_n(v_{nm})^2 \delta(\omega_n - \omega_m) \\ &\approx \frac{1}{V} \sum_{nm} C_n(v_{nm})^2 \frac{\eta}{(\omega_n - \omega_m)^2 + \eta^2}\end{aligned}$$



*the  $V \rightarrow \infty$  limit of the Allen-Feldman harmonic model*

$$\begin{aligned}\kappa^{AF} &= \frac{\pi}{V} \sum_{nm} C_n(v_{nm})^2 \delta(\omega_n - \omega_m) \\ &\approx \frac{1}{V} \sum_{nm} C_n(v_{nm})^2 \frac{\eta}{(\omega_n - \omega_m)^2 + \eta^2}\end{aligned}$$

$$\kappa_P^{AF} = \frac{1}{2\pi^2 c} \int_{\omega_{min}}^{\omega_P} \frac{\omega^2 C(\omega)}{b\omega^4 + \eta} d\omega$$

$$\frac{2\pi c}{L}$$



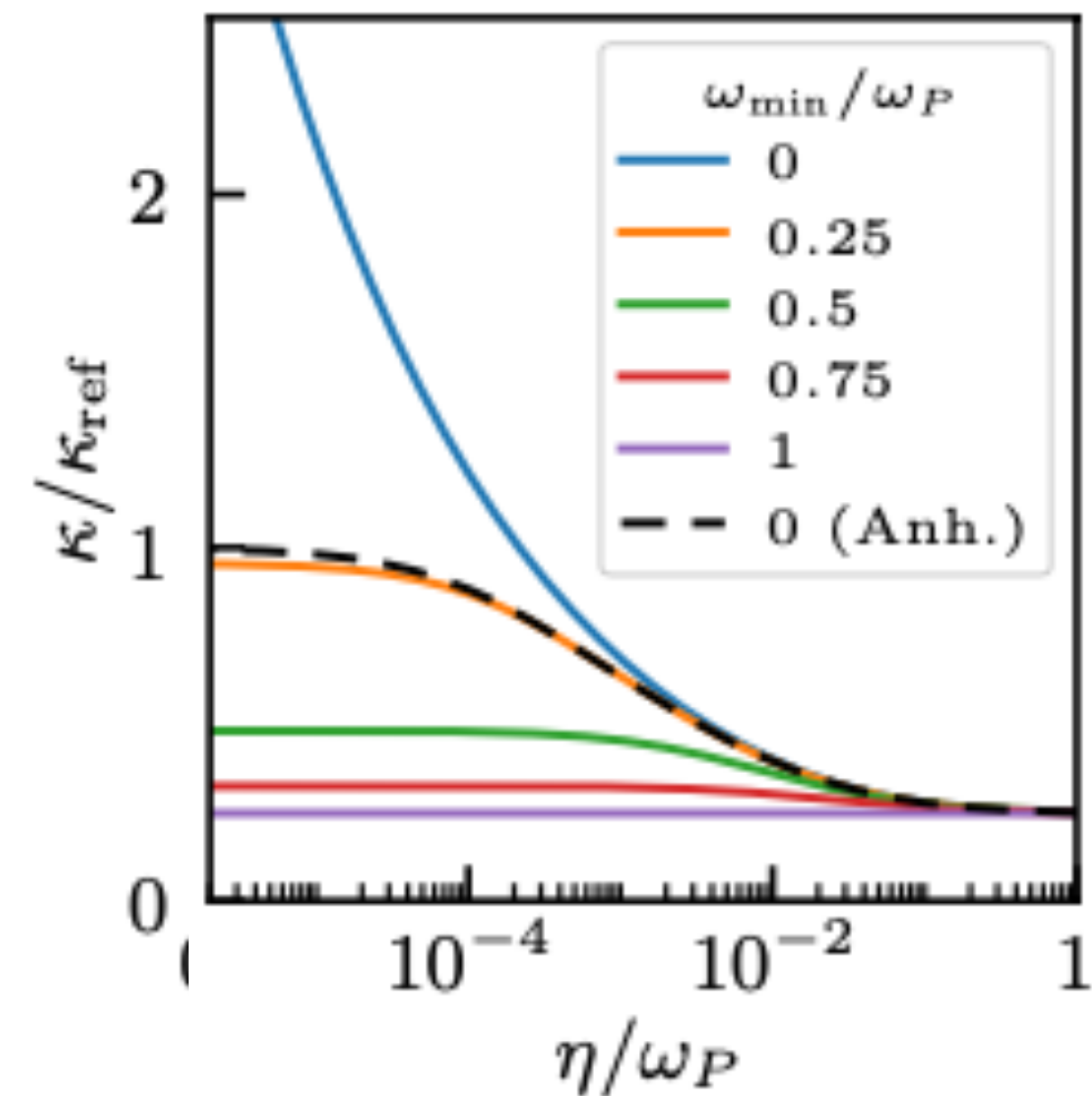
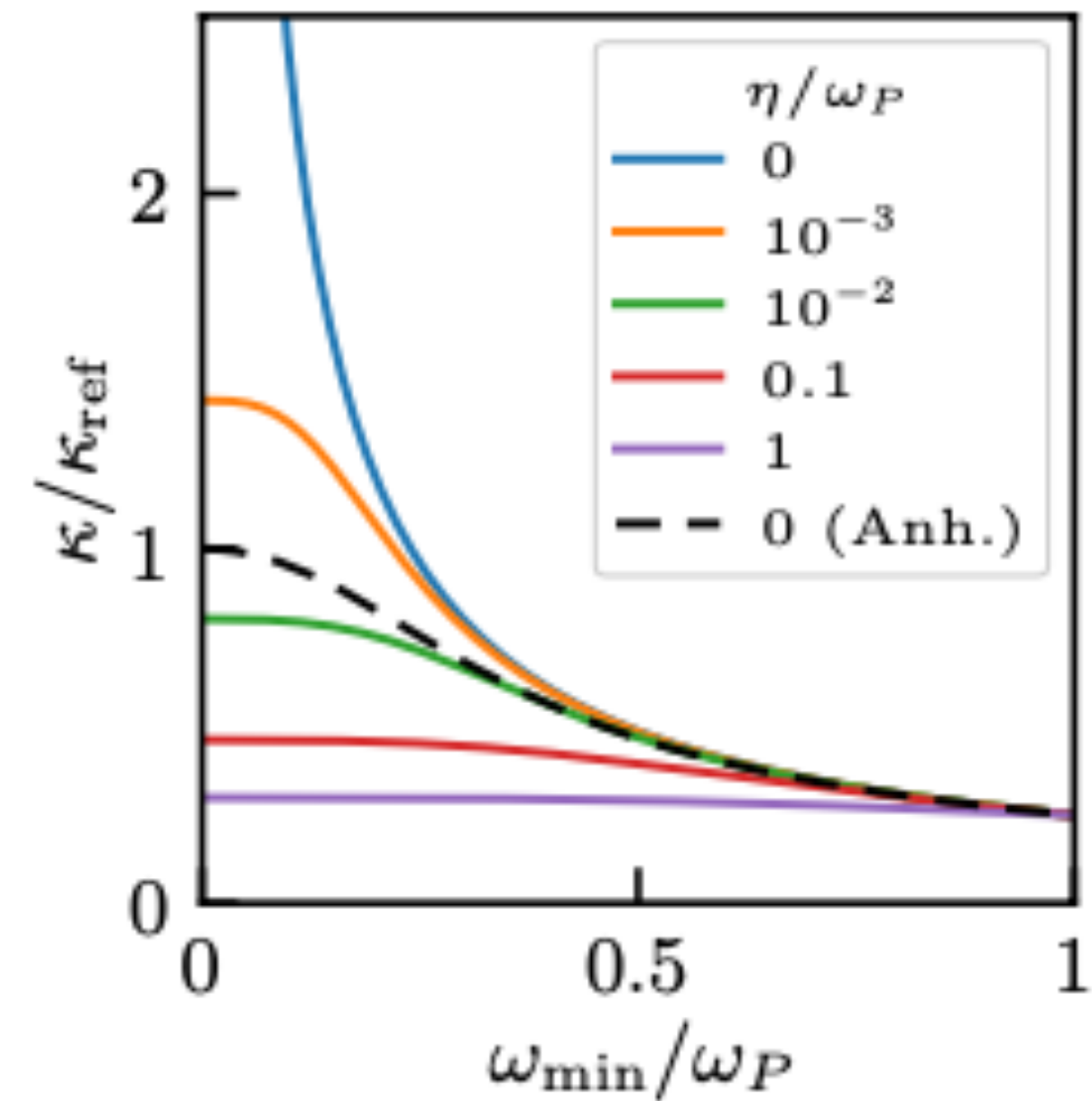
the  $V \rightarrow \infty$  limit of the Allen-Feldman harmonic model

$$\kappa^{AF} = \frac{\pi}{V} \sum_{nm} C_n(v_{nm})^2 \delta(\omega_n - \omega_m)$$

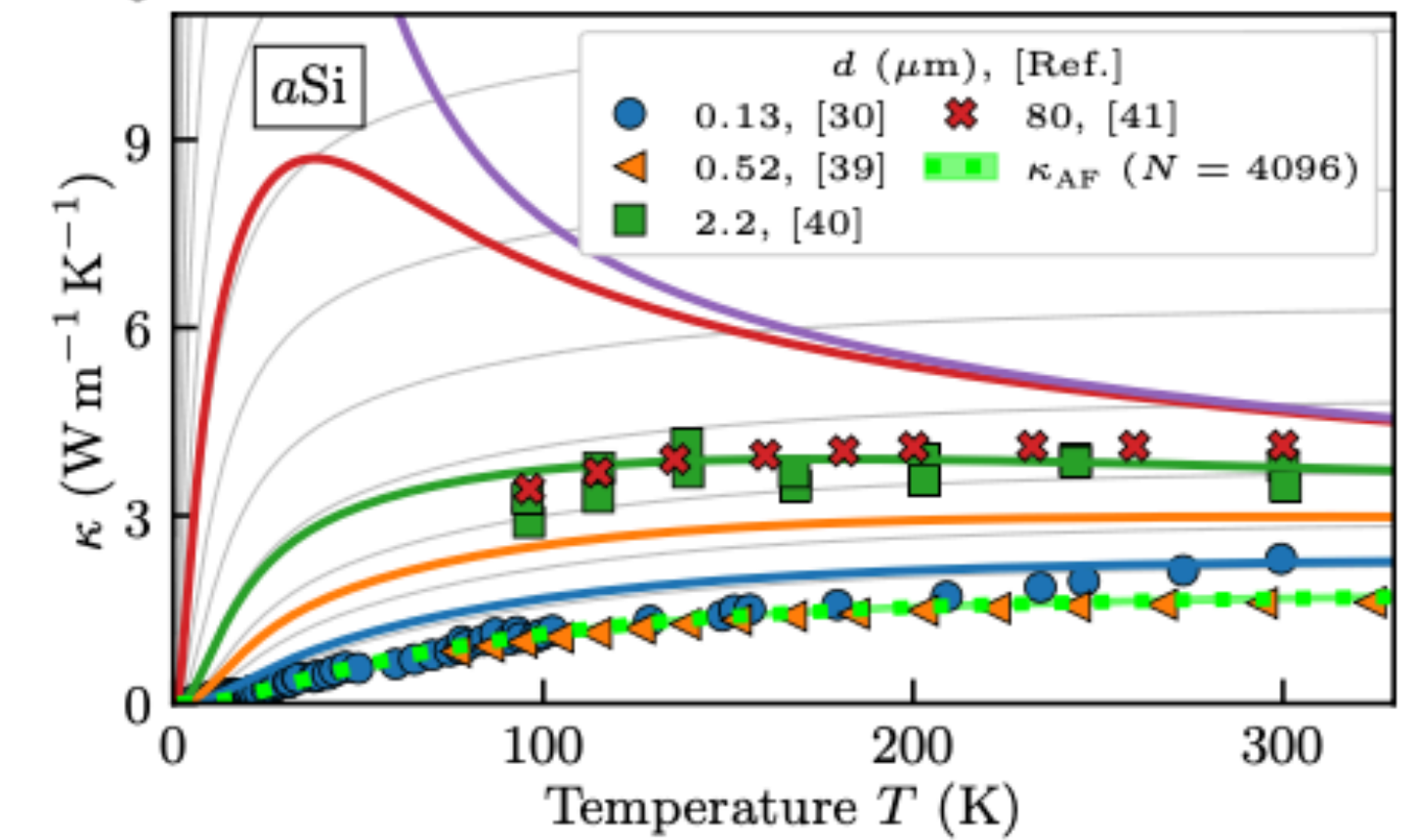
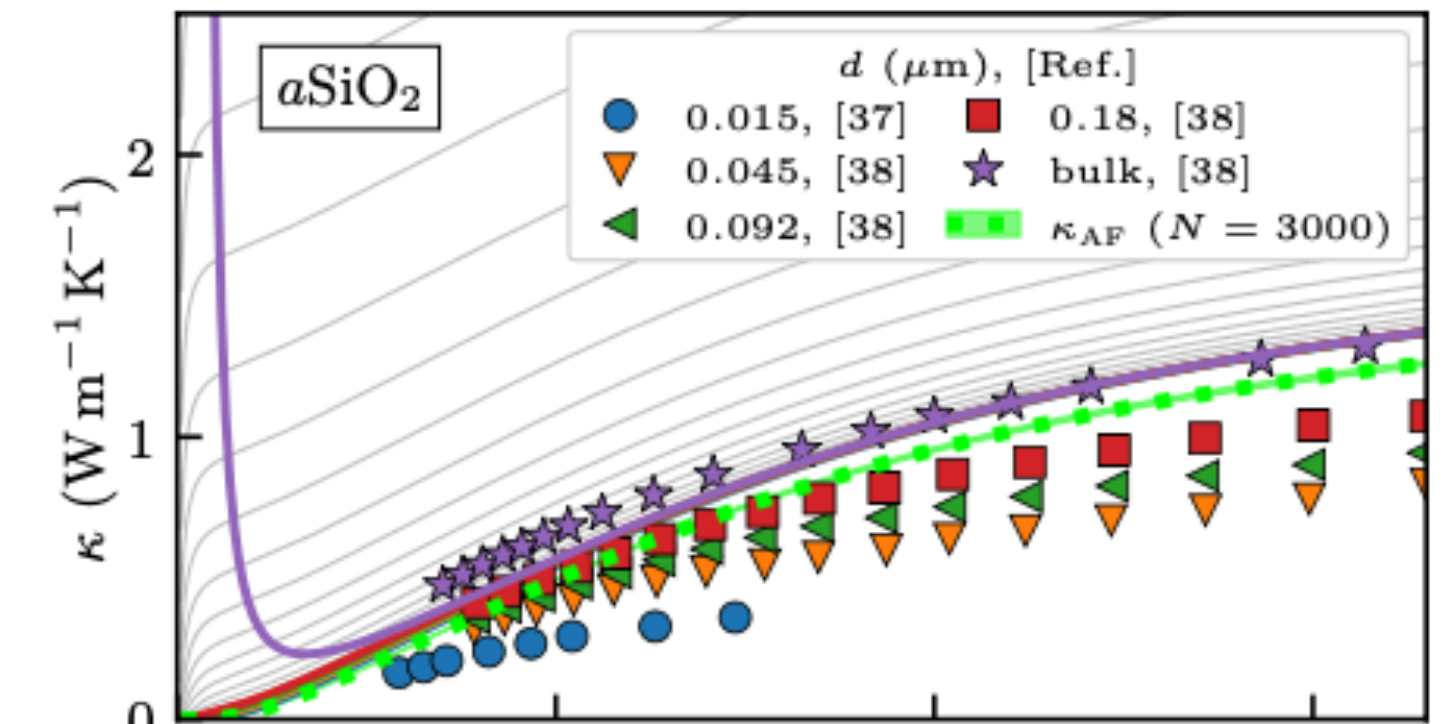
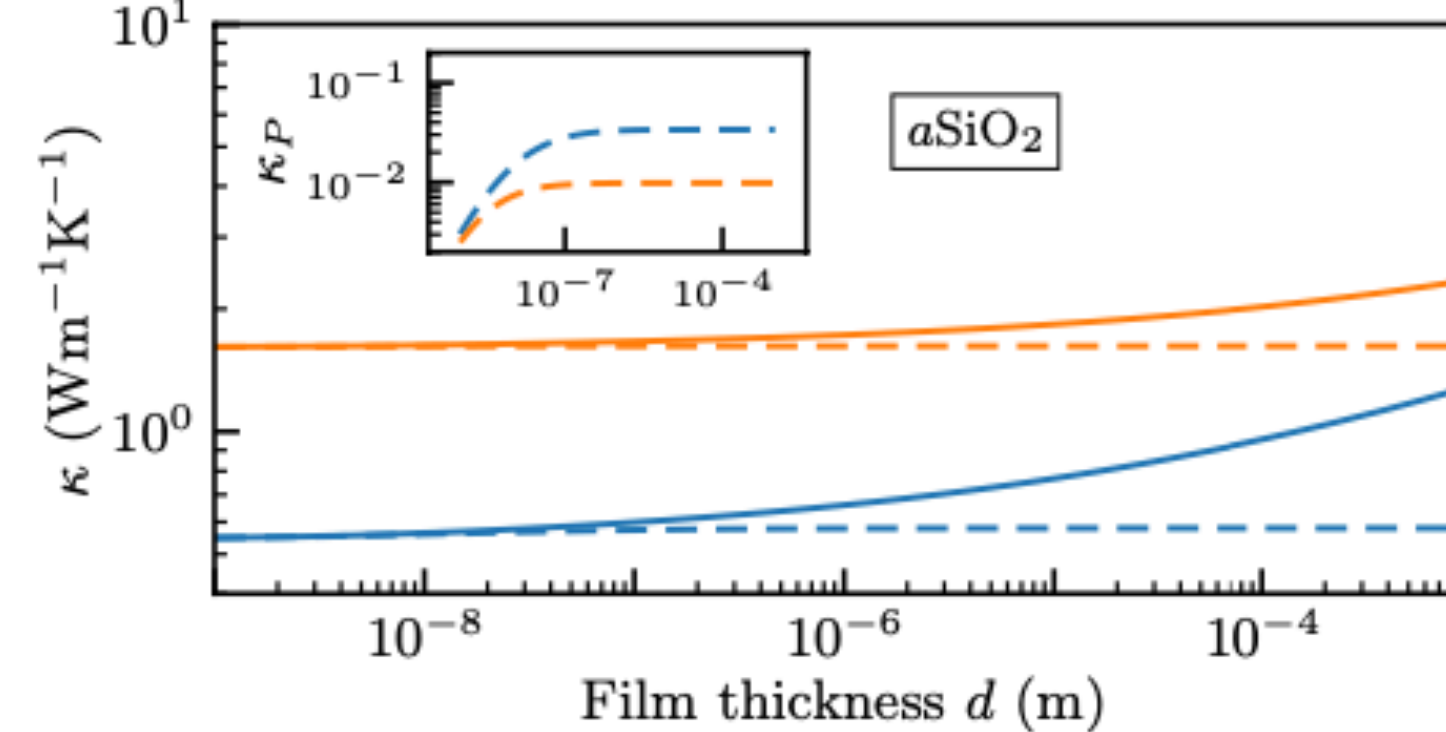
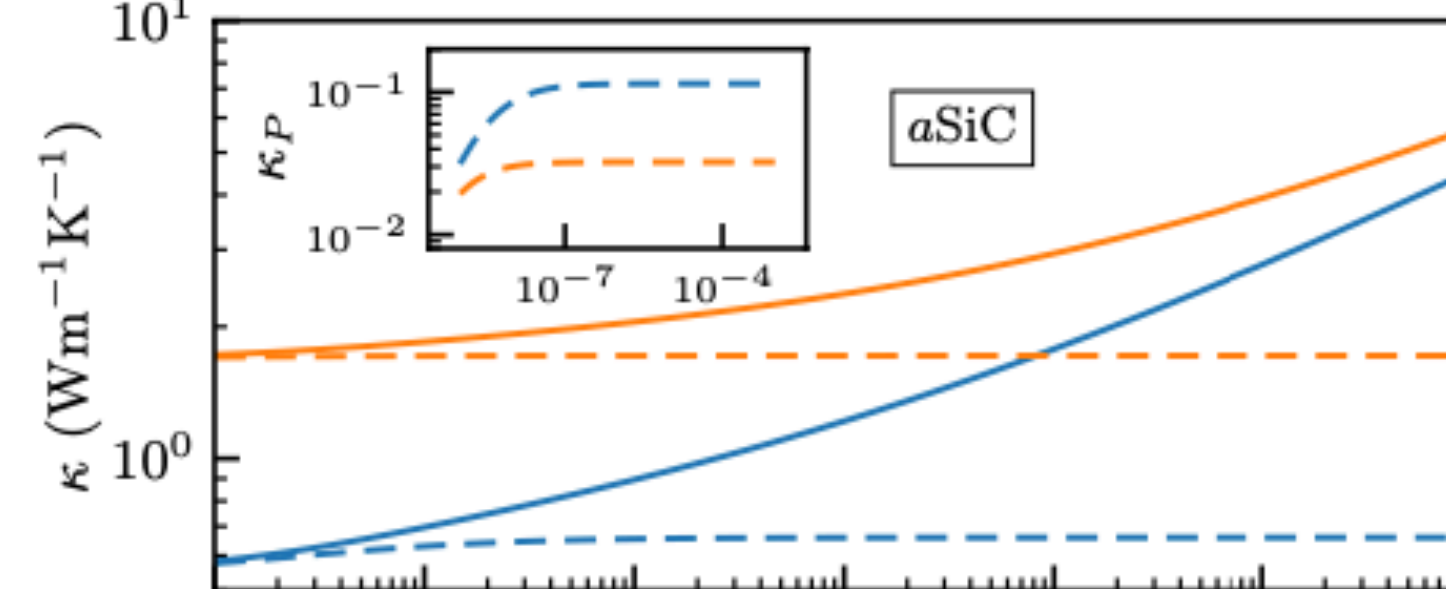
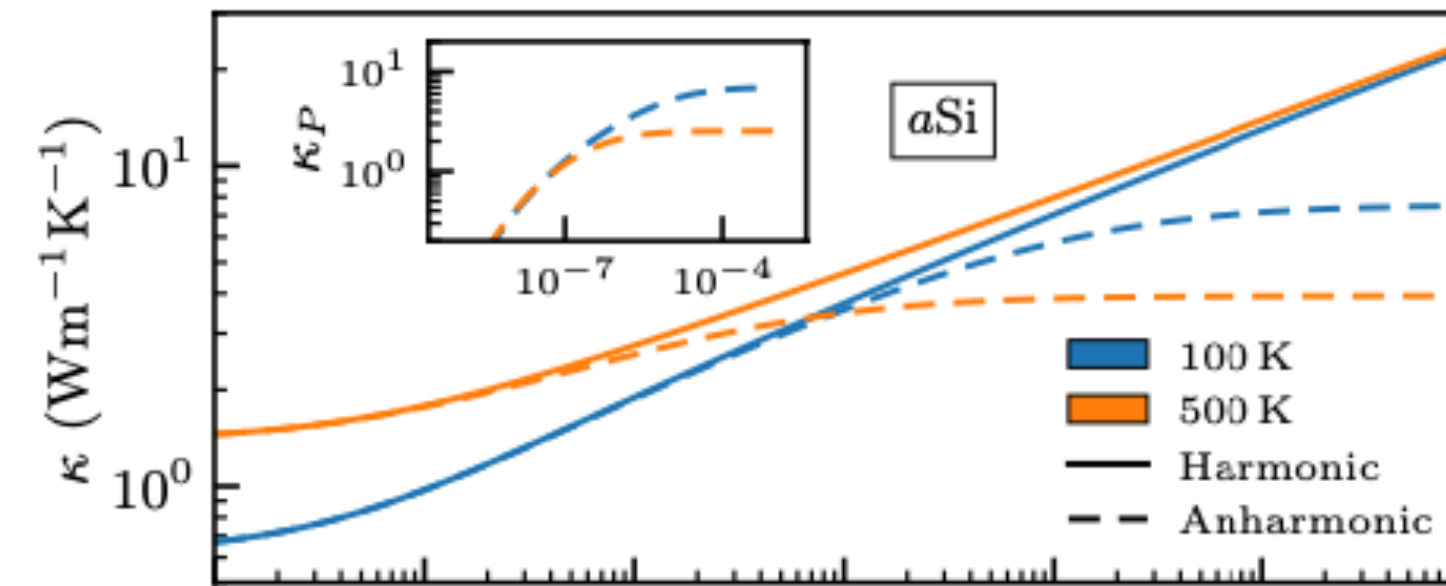
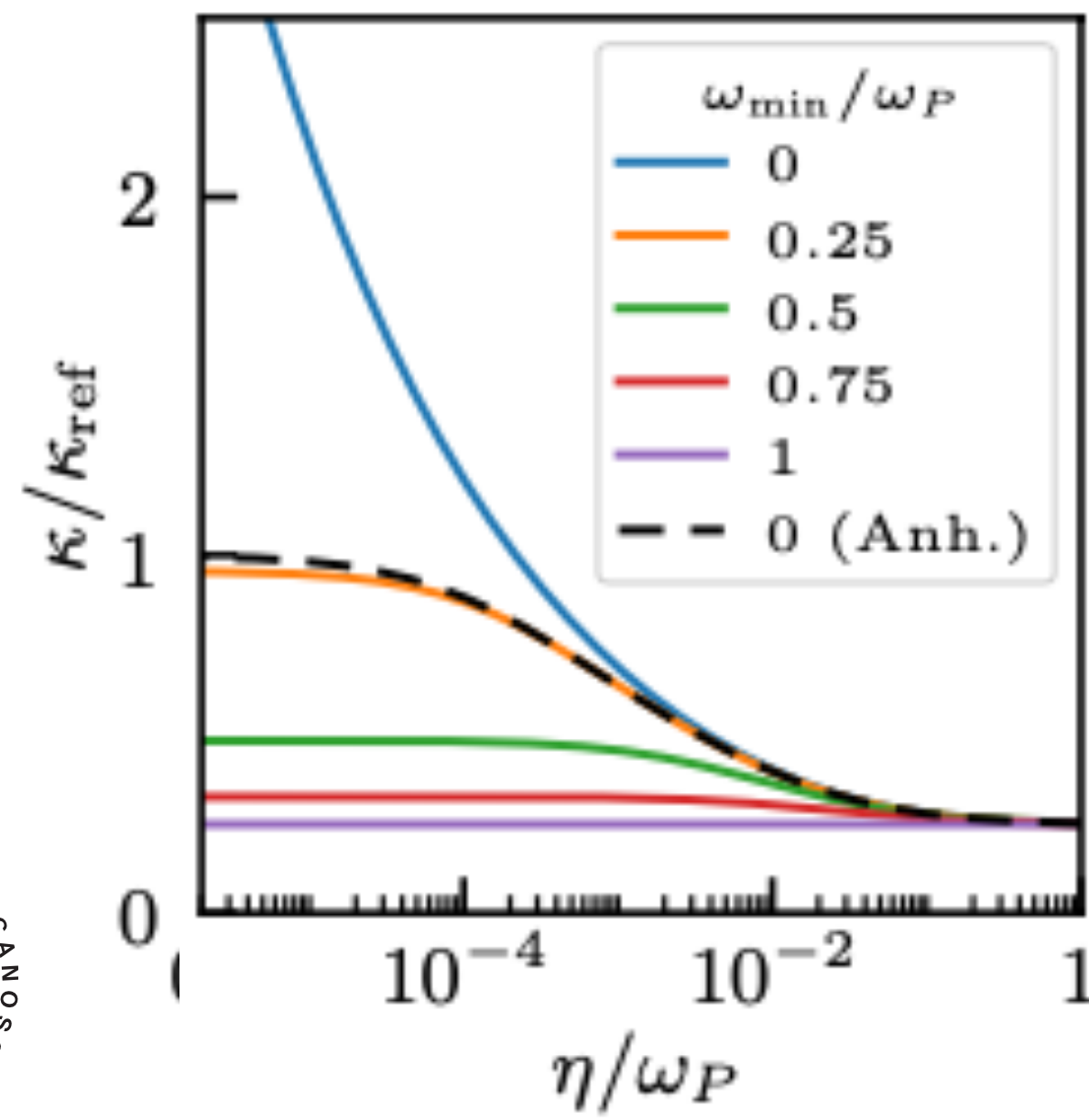
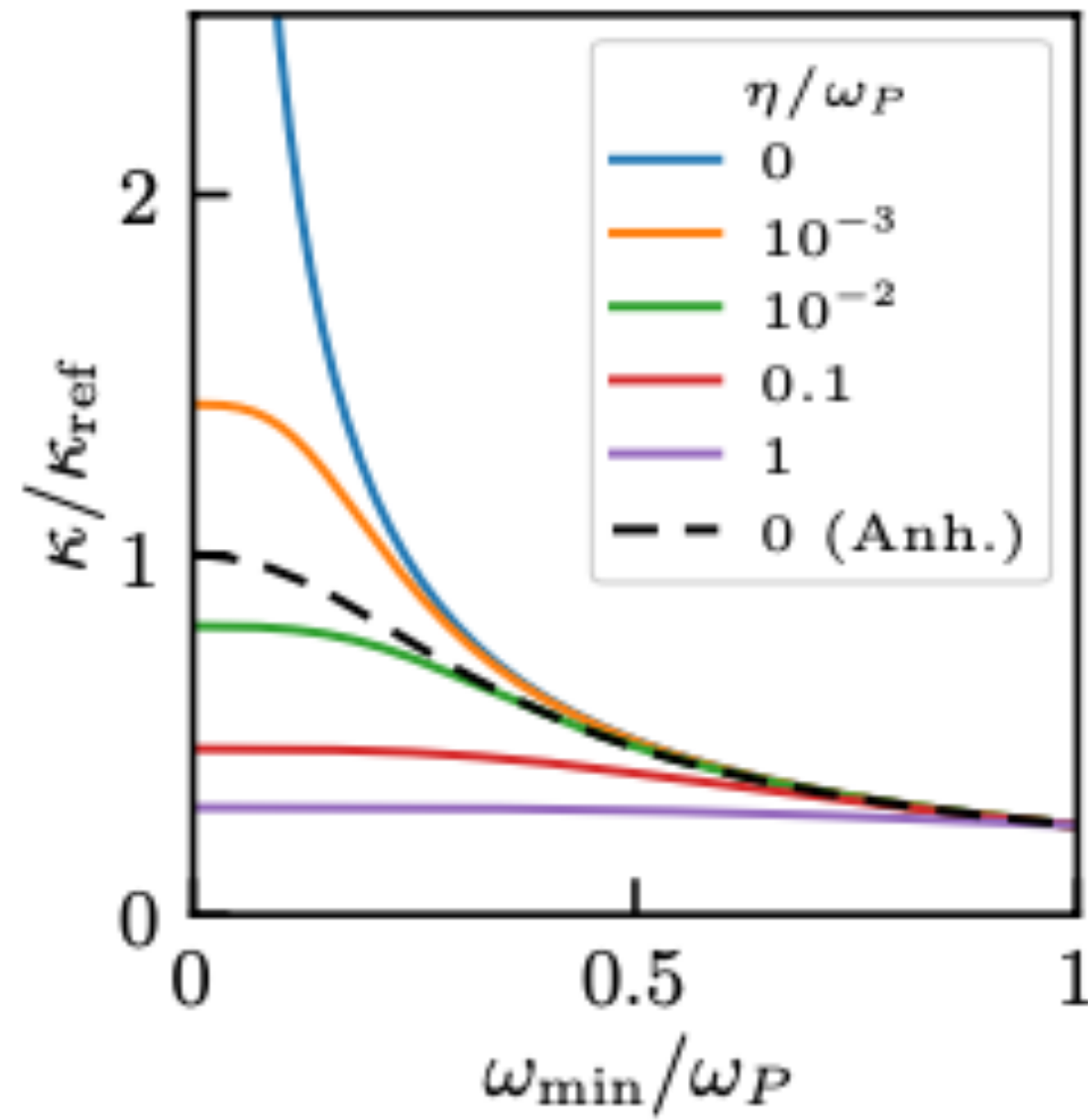
$$\approx \frac{1}{V} \sum_{nm} C_n(v_{nm})^2 \frac{\eta}{(\omega_n - \omega_m)^2 + \eta^2}$$

$$\kappa_P^{AF} = \frac{1}{2\pi^2 c} \int_{\omega_{min}}^{\omega_P} \frac{\omega^2 C(\omega)}{b\omega^4 + \eta} d\omega$$

$$\frac{2\pi c}{L}$$

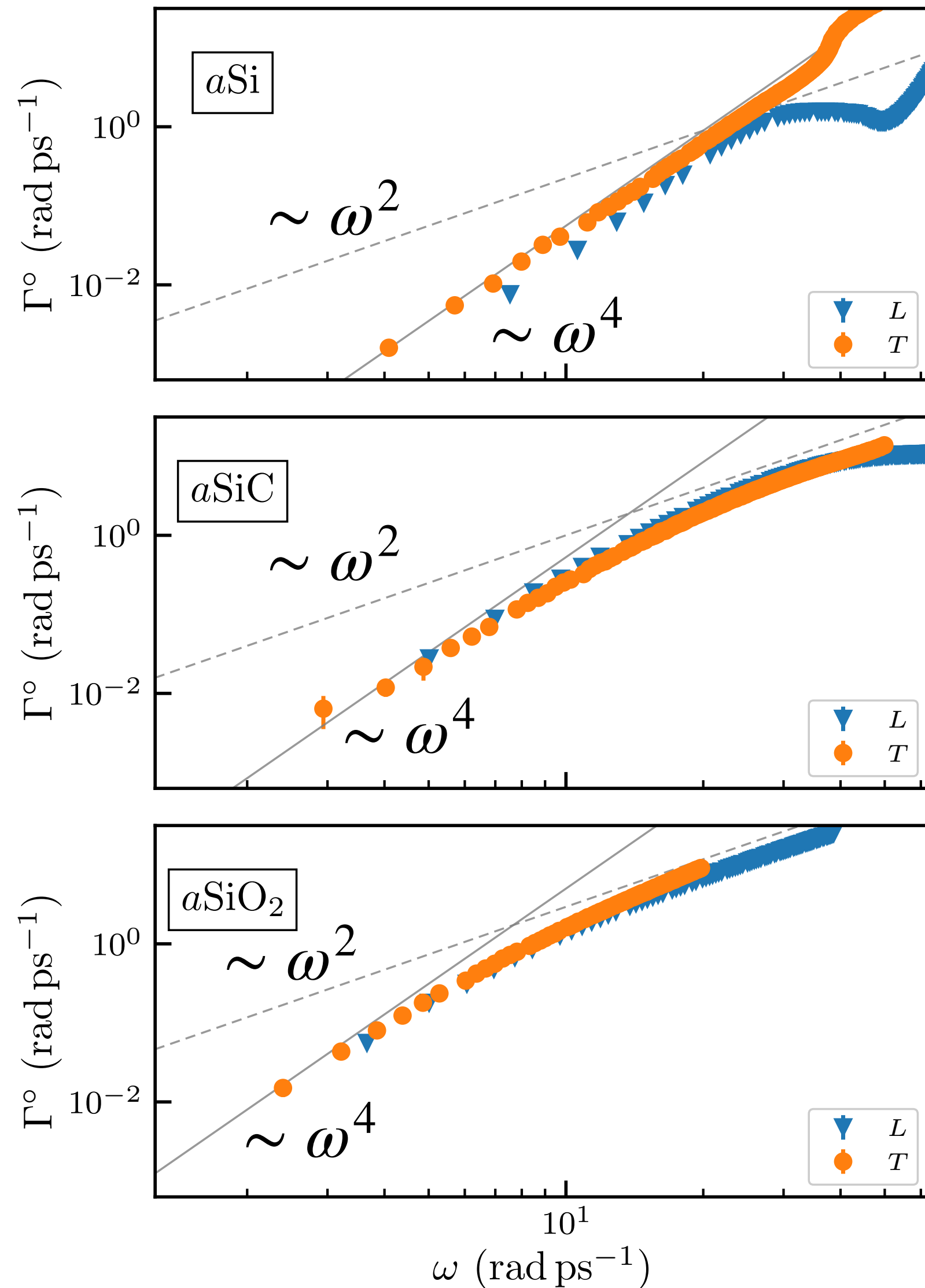


# the $V \rightarrow \infty$ limit of the Allen-Feldman harmonic model



# sound damping at low frequency

harmonic damping,  $\Gamma(\omega)$



- an  $\omega^4 \rightarrow \omega^2$  crossover is observed in the sound damping coefficient, as estimated from the harmonic DSF
- $\omega_{XO}[\text{Si}] > \omega_{XO}[\text{SiC}] > \omega_{XO}[\text{SiO}_2]$
- experimentally, one observes two frequency crossovers,  $\omega^2 \rightarrow \omega^4 \rightarrow \omega^2$ :
  - the **first, temperature-dependent**, is due to the weakness of anharmonic effects at low temperature;
  - the **second, temperature-independent**, is possibly due to LT mixing determined by the line broadening itself



# *conclusions*

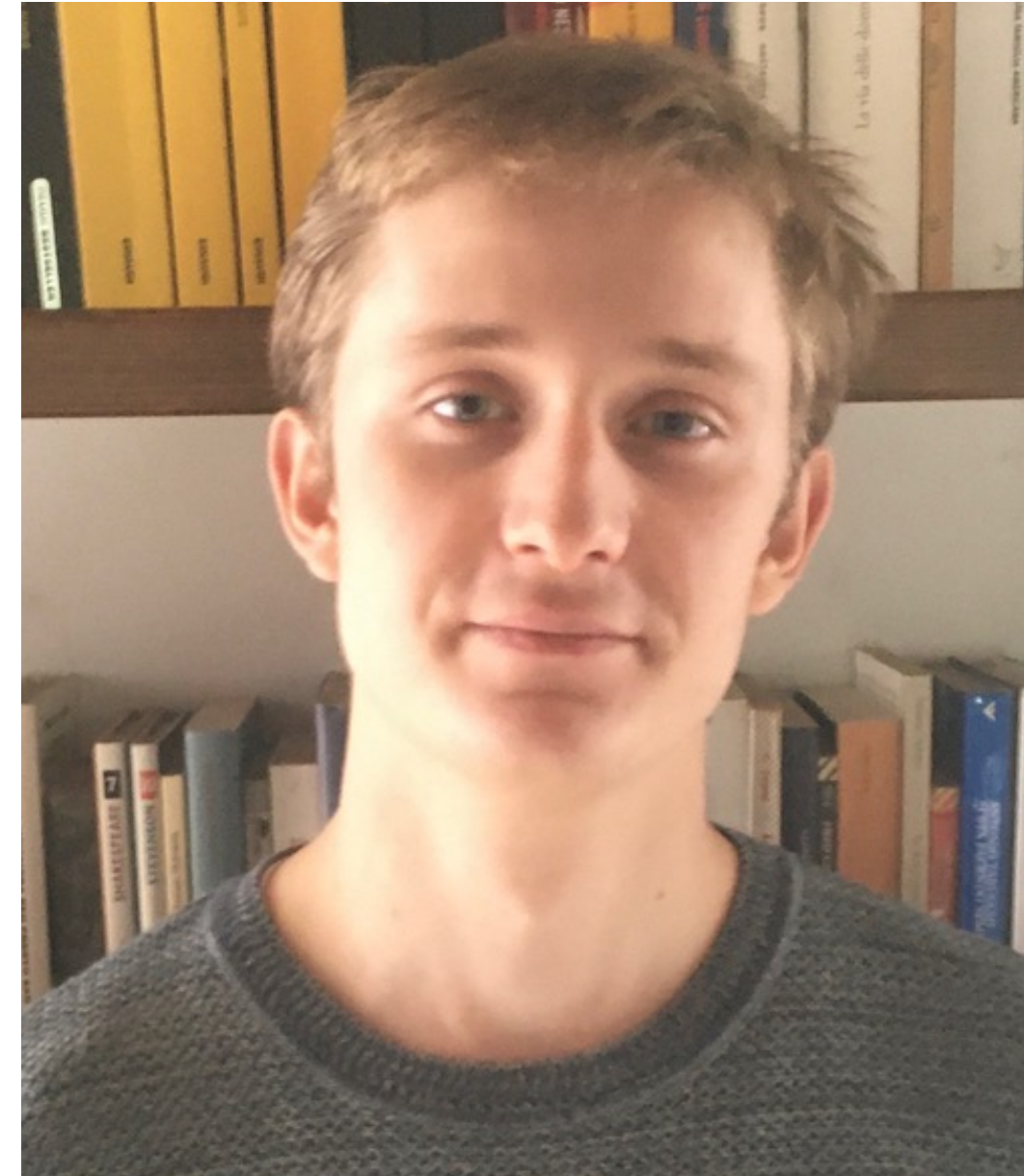
- the combination of the Green-Kubo theory of linear response with the (quasi-)harmonic approximation for lattice vibrations allows us to bridge and naturally extend the Boltzmann-Peierls kinetic theory of heat transport in crystals with the Allen-Feldman harmonic model in glasses
- results from computer simulations performed on finite glass models can be easily and accurately extrapolated to the thermodynamic limit, leveraging hydrodynamic arguments
- the Allen-Feldman harmonic model of heat transport in glasses is inevitably affected by an infrared singularity when the thermodynamic limit is performed properly; a finite conductivity can only result from finite-size finite effects, which can inadvertently mimic boundary scattering in experiments
- anharmonic effects are essential to predict a finite conductivity in bulk glasses



# thanks to:



Paolo Pegolo  
(EPFL)



Enrico Drigo  
(SISSA)



Alfredo Fiorentino  
(SISSA)

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## Hydrodynamic finite-size scaling of the thermal conductivity in glasses

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## Unearthing the foundational role of anharmonicity in heat transport in glasses

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supported by:



*farewell, Nicola!*



*farewell, Nicola!*

thanks to Nicola Marzari for sharing his photo archive with me