

# Electrons and holes in bismuth

A list of answered and unanswered questions

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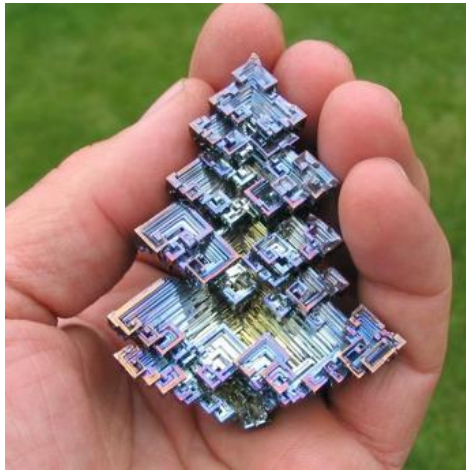
**Woun kang**

# I. Introduction to bismuth

# An old bulk semi-metal

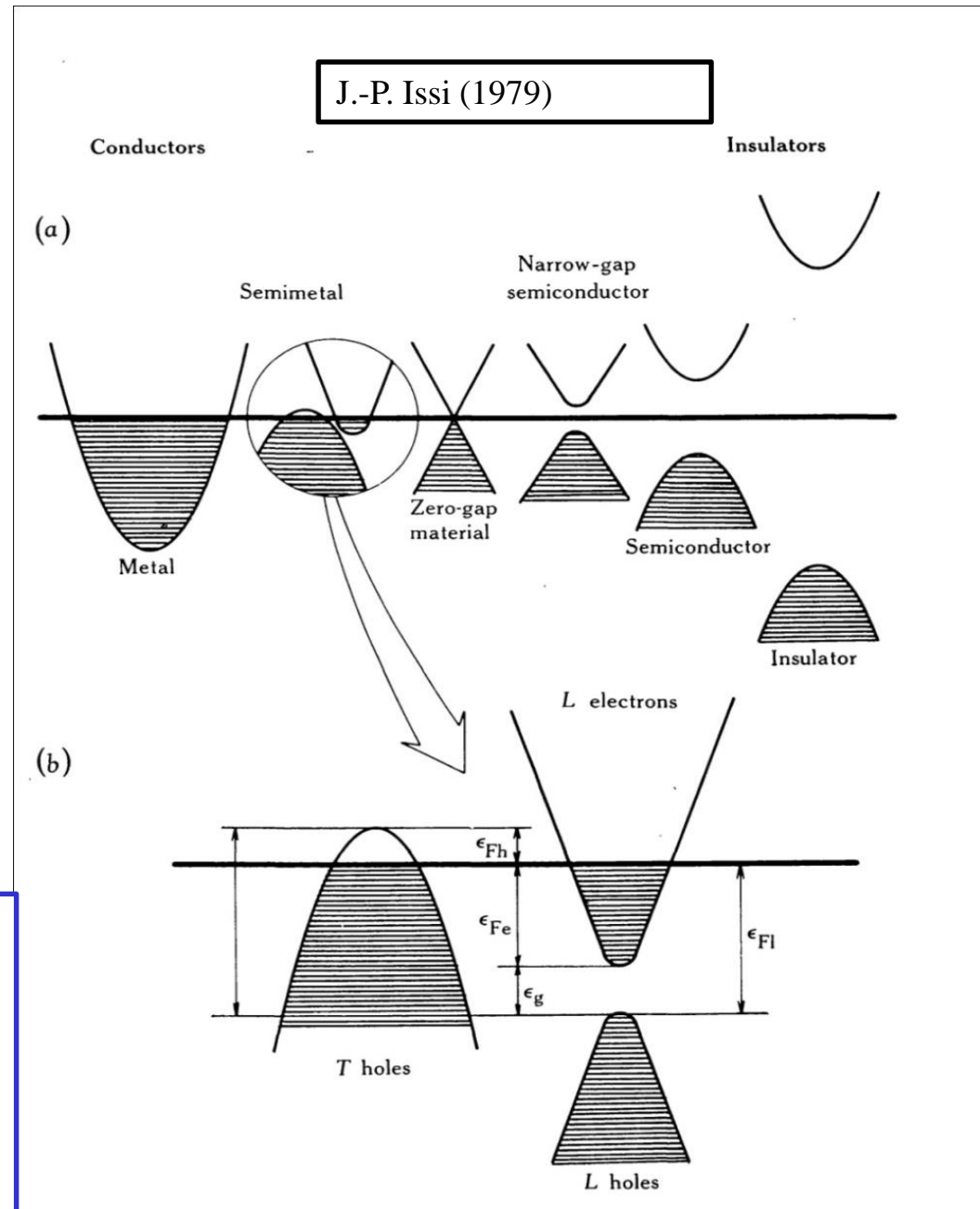


(Ger. *Weisse Masse*, white mass; later **Wisuth** and **Bisemutum**) In early times bismuth was confused with **tin** and **lead**. Claude Geoffroy the Younger showed it to be distinct from lead in 1753.



Largest

- Diamagnetism
- Magnetoresistance
- Thermoelectric figure of merit among elements at room temperature



# Exceptional role in the history of condensed-matter physics

- Seebeck effect (1821)
- Nernst effect (1886)
- Giant magnetoresistance [Kapitza] (1928)
- Shubnikov - de Haas effect (1930)
- de Haas - van Alphen effect (1930)

- A small Fermi surface  
[ $10^{-5}$  of the Brillouin zone]  $\lambda_F \sim 10 - 70$  nm

- A long mean-free-path  
[ $l_e \sim 2$   $\mu\text{m}$  at room temperature; quasi-ballistic at  $T=0$ ]

# 1964: The first irruption of Dirac Hamiltonian in condensed matter

*J. Phys. Chem. Solids* Pergamon Press 1964. Vol. 25, pp. 1057–1068. Printed in Great Britain.

## MATRIX ELEMENTS AND SELECTION RULES FOR THE TWO-BAND MODEL OF BISMUTH

P. A. WOLFF

Bell Telephone Laboratories, Incorporated,  
Murray Hill, New Jersey

(Received 7 April 1964)

**Abstract**—The two-band model of Cohen and Blount is used to investigate the wave functions and matrix elements for electrons in bismuth. After a suitable transformation the Hamiltonian takes the

We will commence our investigation by reviewing the two-band model, following closely the methods of COHEN and BLOUNT.<sup>(5)</sup> The resulting equations are essentially identical to those of the Dirac theory, and many of the methods employed there are useful in the present problem. In particular, the electron energy-momentum relation has the relativistic form:

$$E^2 = \left(\frac{E_G}{2}\right)^2 + E_G \left(\frac{\vec{p} \cdot \vec{\alpha} \cdot \vec{p}}{2}\right) \quad (1)$$

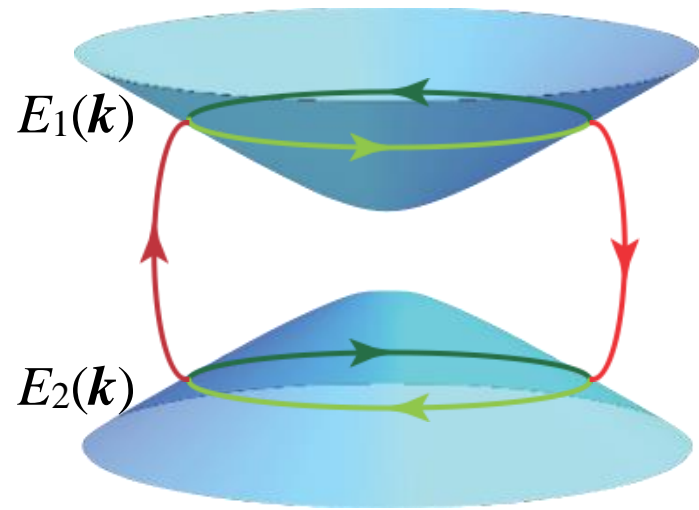
# Magnetic susceptibility

Material	Volume magnetic susceptibility	
	SI	CGS ( <i>emu</i> )
WATER	$-9.035 \times 10^{-6}$	$-7.190 \times 10^{-7}$
Bismuth	$-1.66 \times 10^{-4}$	$-1.32 \times 10^{-5}$
Diamond	$-2.2 \times 10^{-5}$	$-1.7 \times 10^{-6}$
Graphite ( perpendicular to c-axis)	$-1.4 \times 10^{-5}$	$-1.1 \times 10^{-6}$
Graphite	$-8.3 \times 10^{-4}$	$-6.6 \times 10^{-5}$
He	$-9.85 \times 10^{-10}$	$-7.84 \times 10^{-11}$
Xe	$-2.37 \times 10^{-8}$	$-1.89 \times 10^{-9}$
O2	$3.73 \times 10^{-7}$	$2.97 \times 10^{-8}$
N2	$-5.06 \times 10^{-9}$	$-4.03 \times 10^{-10}$

Source: Wikipedia

Largest [average] diamagnetism among non-superconducting solids

The large diamagnetism can be traced to interband effects



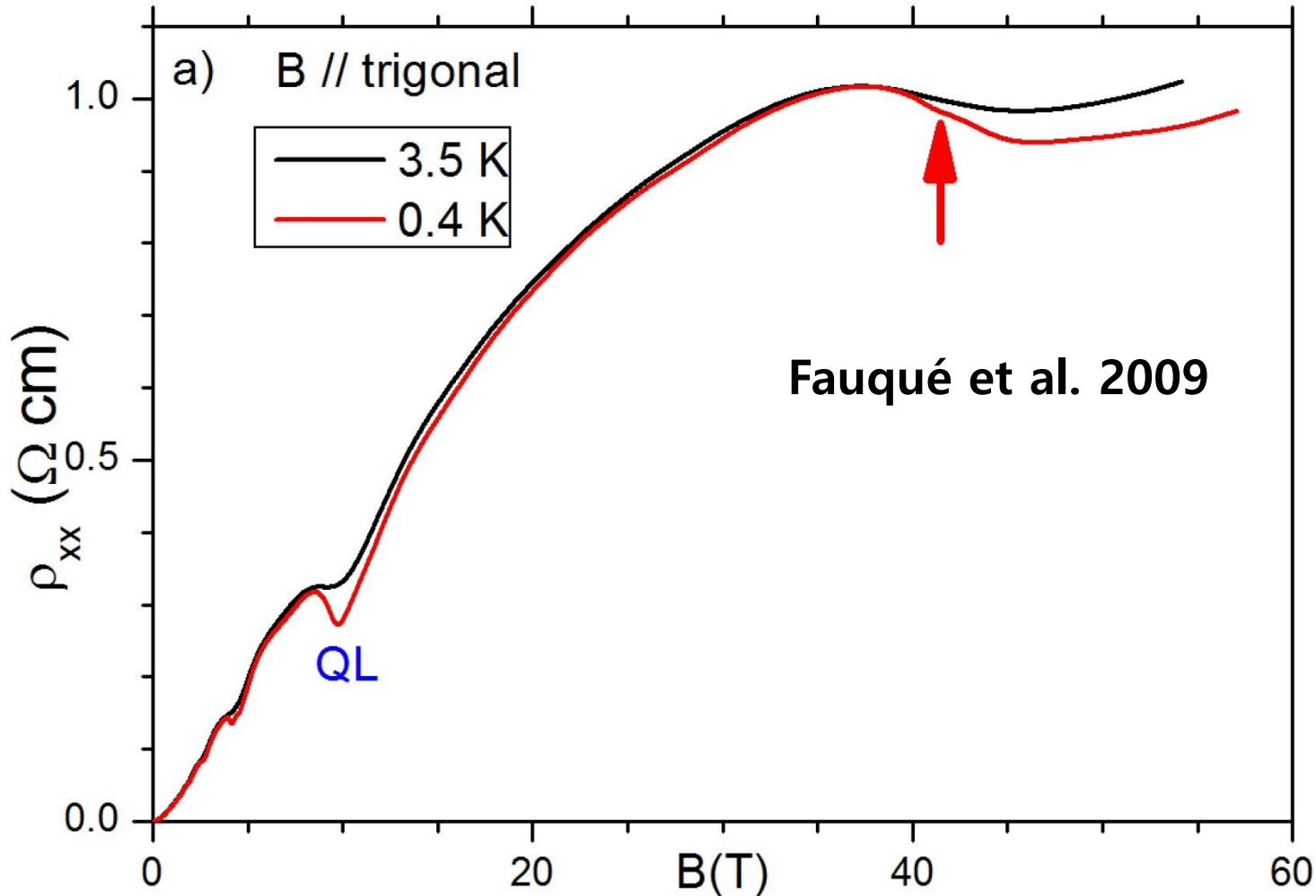
Beyond the Landau-Peierls formula for diamagnetism

$$\chi_{\text{LP}} = \frac{e^2}{6\pi^3 c^2} \sum_{n, \mathbf{k}} \left\{ \frac{\partial^2 E_n}{\partial k_x^2} \frac{\partial^2 E_n}{\partial k_y^2} - \left( \frac{\partial^2 E_n}{\partial k_x \partial k_y} \right)^2 \right\} \frac{\partial f(E_n)}{\partial E_n}$$

**H. Fukuyama and R. Kubo, J. Phys. Soc. Japan 28, 570 (1970)**



# Largest magnetoresistance among solids



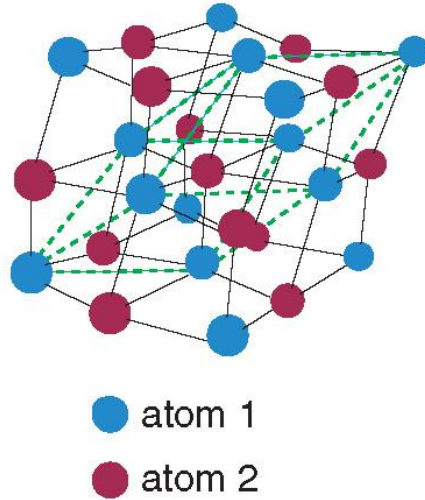
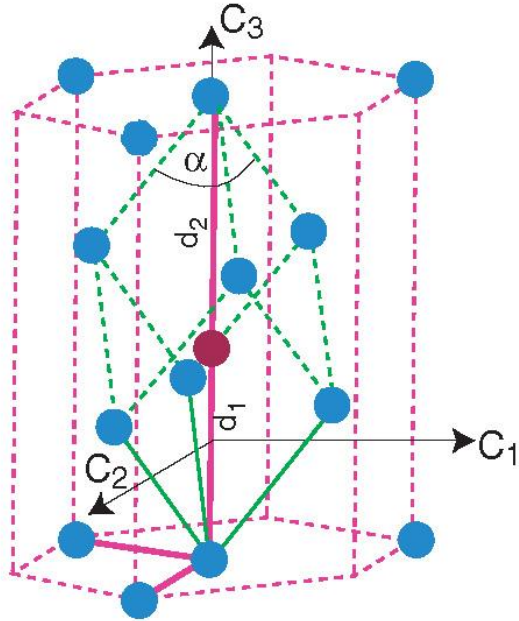
- A millionfold increase by 10 T

- Mobility as large as  $10^8 \text{ Vcm}^{-1}\text{s}^{-1}$

# The crystal structure

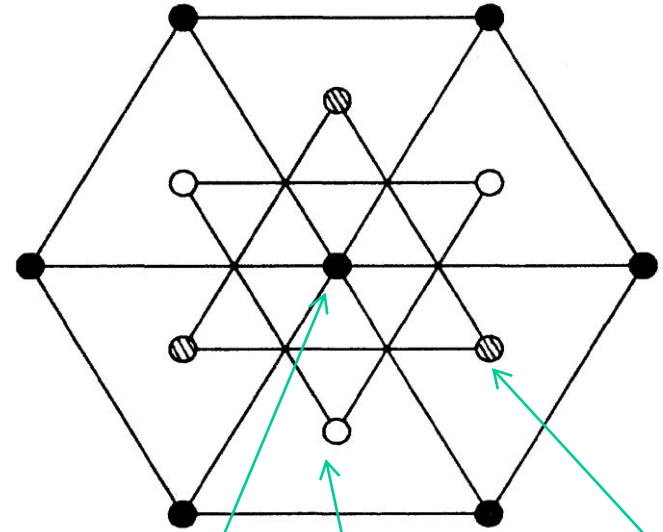
hexagonal + rhomb.

pseudocubic + rhomb.



Hoffman, 2006

Liu & Allen 1995



Central atom

Second neighbor

First neighbor

binary

⊙ trigonal

Bisectrix

“Evidently, no two- or three-body force law would make such a configuration stable.”  
Rudolf Peierls, *More surprises in theoretical physics*

## Electronic structure, phase stability, and semimetal-semiconductor transitions in Bi

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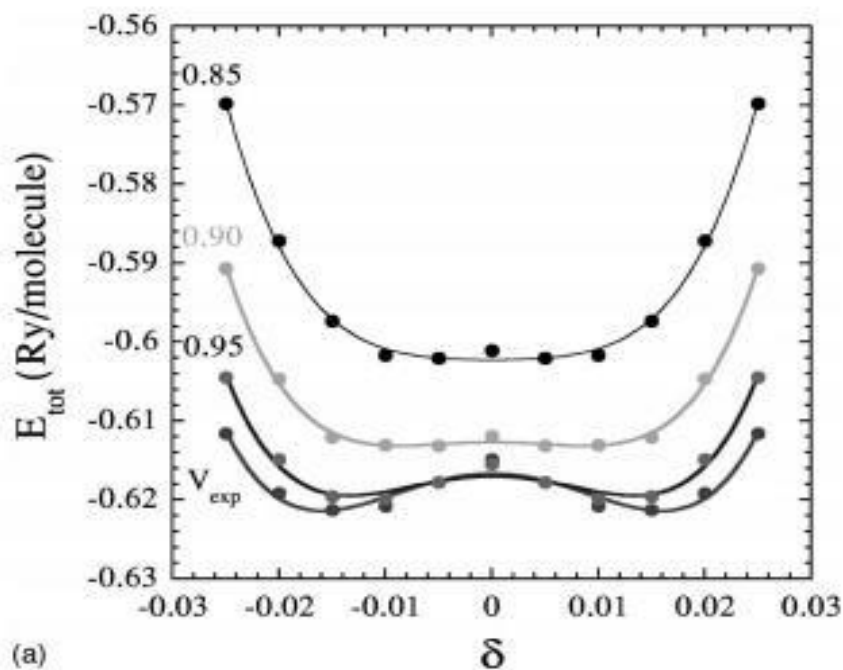
A. J. Freeman

*Department of Physics and Astronomy, Northwestern University, Evanston, Illinois 60208-3112*

(Received 6 July 1999)

The structural stability of bulk Bi is studied using the local-density full-potential linear muffin-tin orbital method. The effect of both the trigonal shear angle and internal displacement on the electronic structure is determined. It is shown that the internal displacement changes the Bi electronic structure from a metal to a semimetal, in qualitative agreement with a Jones-Peierls-type transition. The total energy is calculated to have

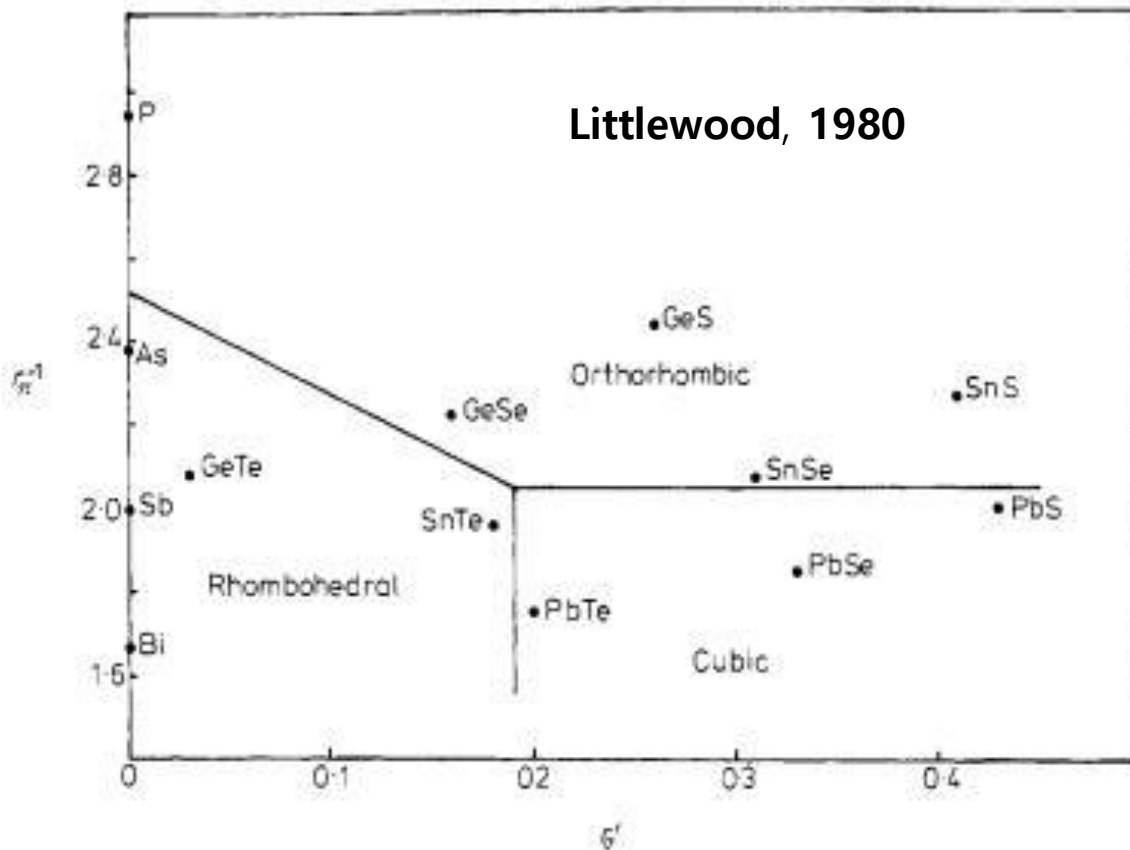
trigonal phase. We  
to a semimetal-  
constant mismatch,  
control their thermo-



In agreement with  
experimentally-observed cubic  
structure under pressure

# Sharing 5 electrons lead to complications!

The crystal structure of IV–VI compounds: I



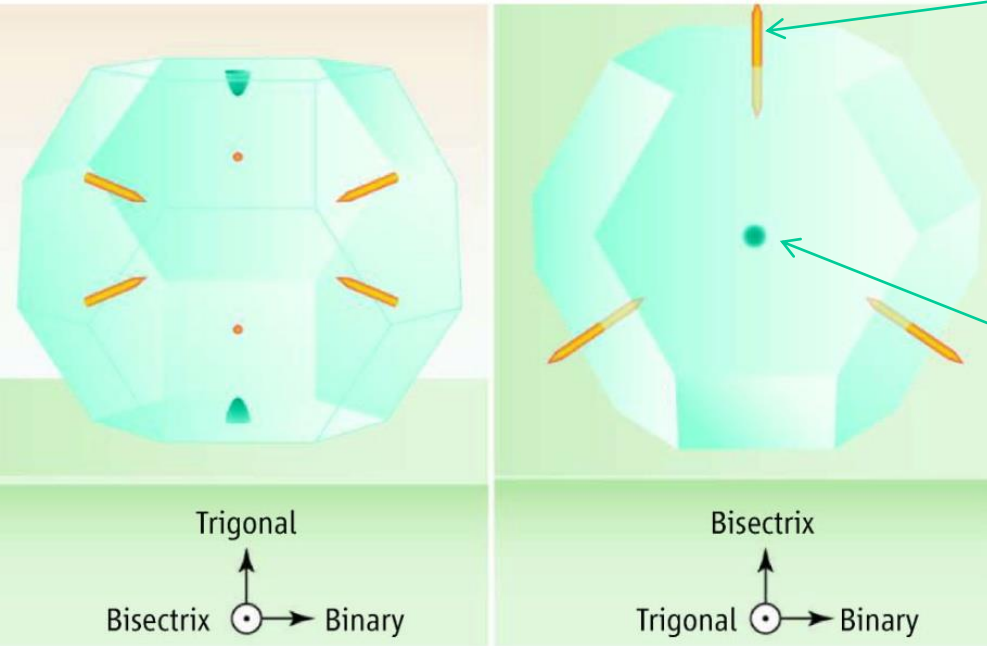
5	6	7	8	
	C	N	O	F
13	14	15	16	
	Si	P	S	Cl
31	32	33	34	
	Ge	As	Se	Br
49	50	51	52	
	Sn	Sb	Te	I
81	82	83	84	
	Pb	Bi	Po	At

Figure 1. St John–Bloch plot for the IV–VI compounds and group V elements, using the bond orbital coordinates  $r_s'$  and  $r_e^{-1}$  (equations (1.3) and (1.5)), calculated from the orbital radii of Chelikowsky and Phillips (1978). Increasing ionicity is measured by  $r_s'$ , and increasing covalency by  $r_e^{-1}$ .

## II. Angle-resolved Landau spectrum

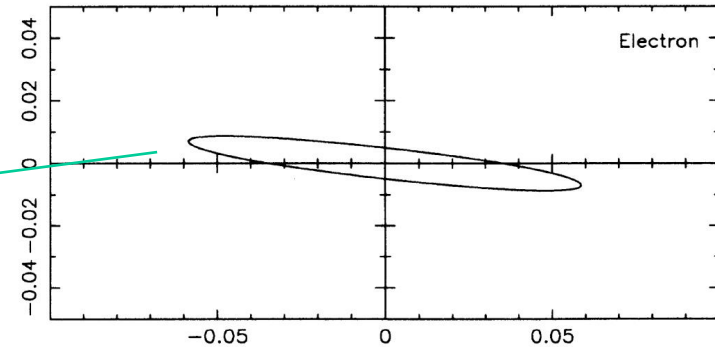
- **A complex spectrum near the quantum limit**
- **The g-factor and the Zeman-to-cyclotron-energy ratio**

# The Fermi surface

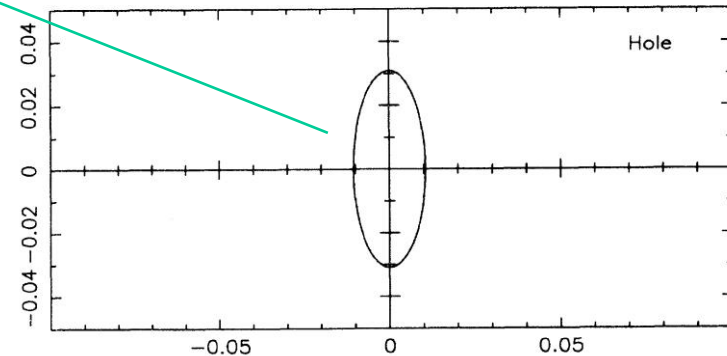


These pockets occupy  $10^{-5}$  of the Brillouin zone!

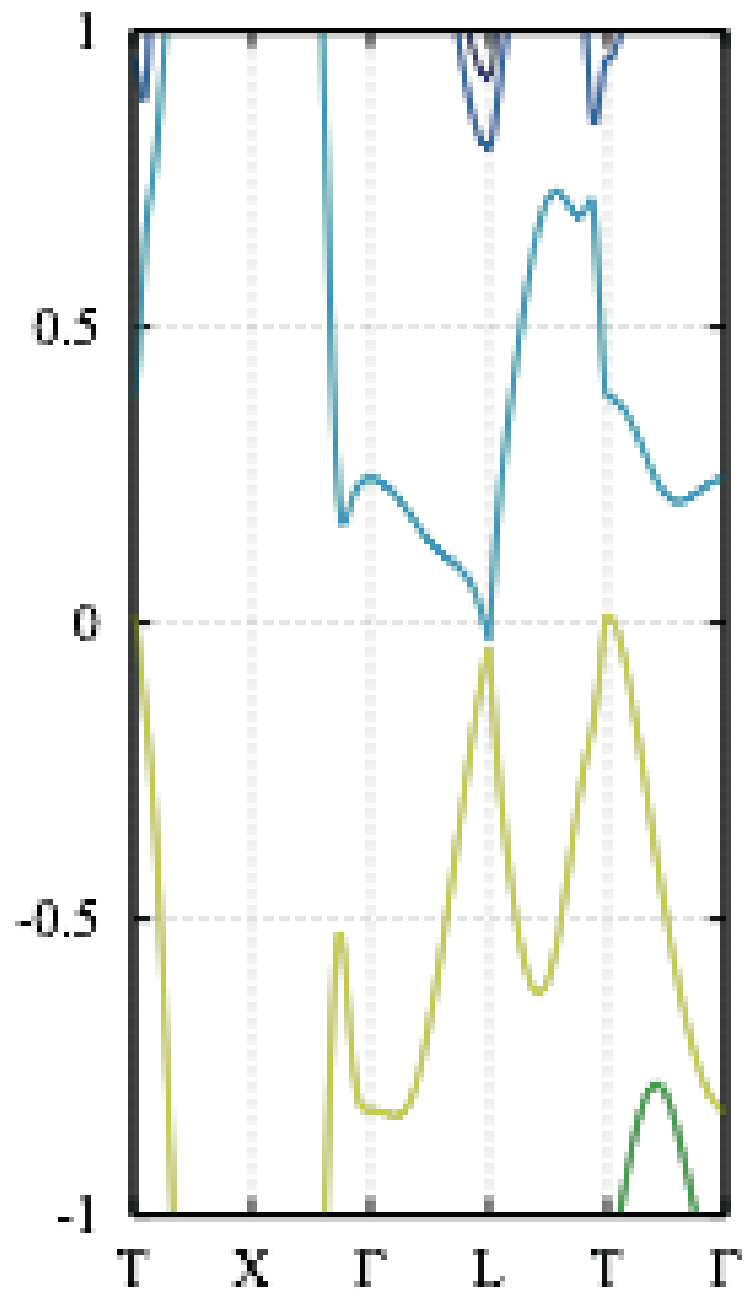
Liu & Allen, PRB 1995



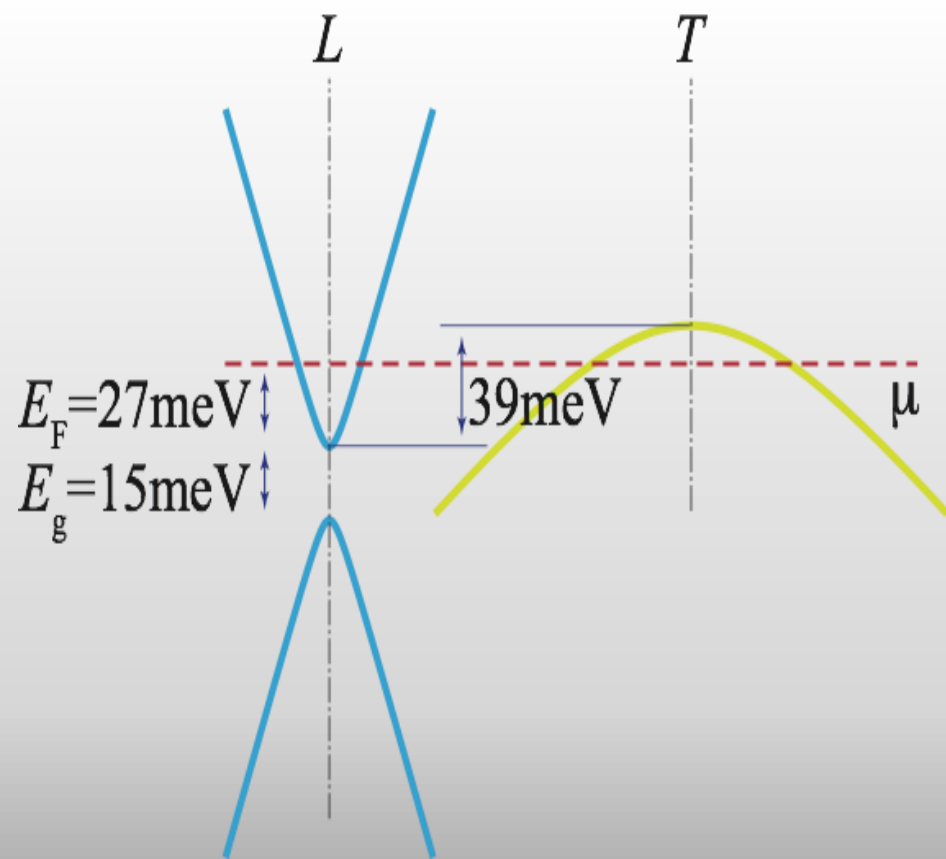
**Electron**  
Non-Parabolic  
Mass anisotropy 200  
 $E_F = 27$  meV



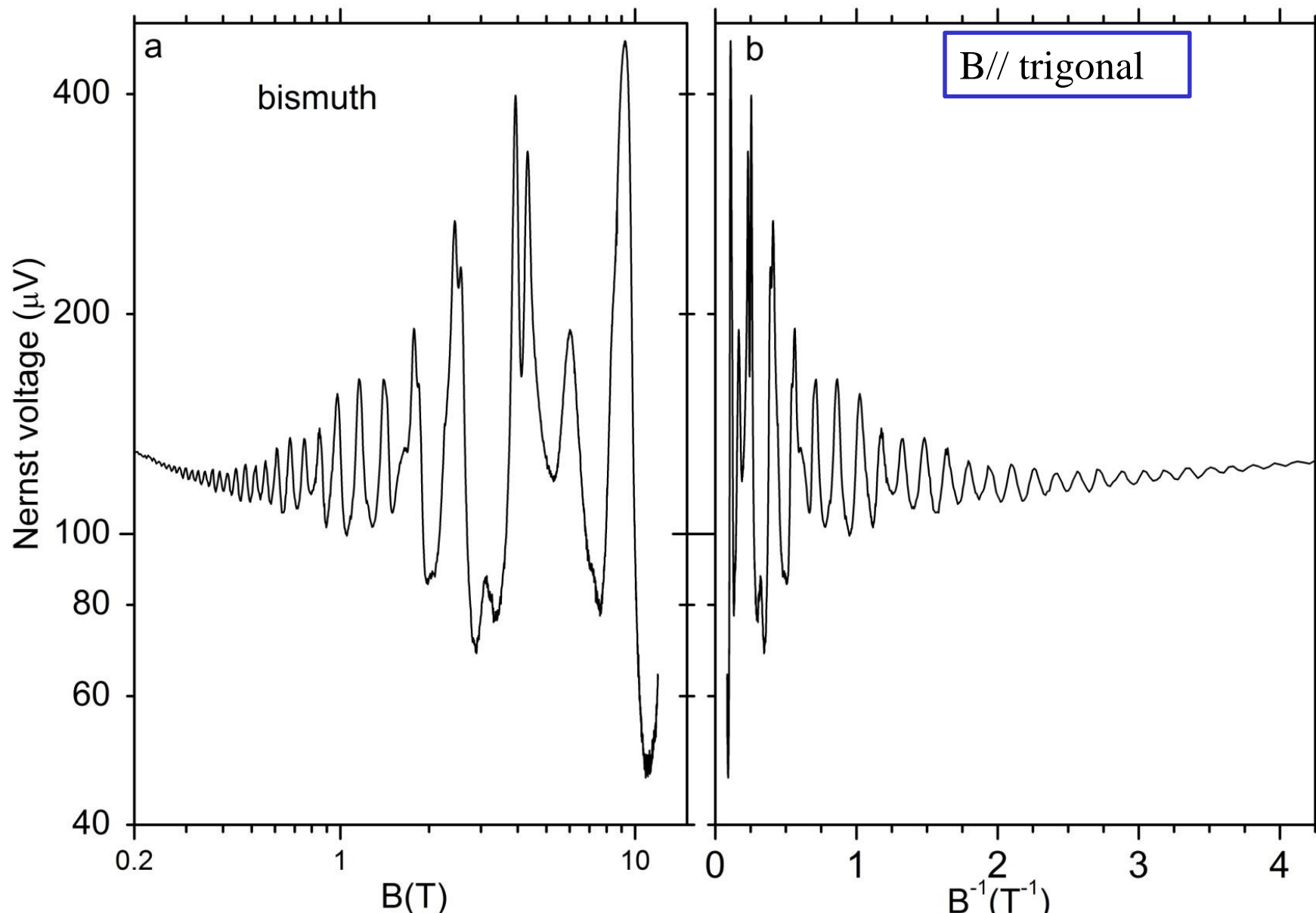
**Hole**  
Parabolic  
Mass anisotropy 10  
 $E_F = 15$  meV



Fuseya 2015



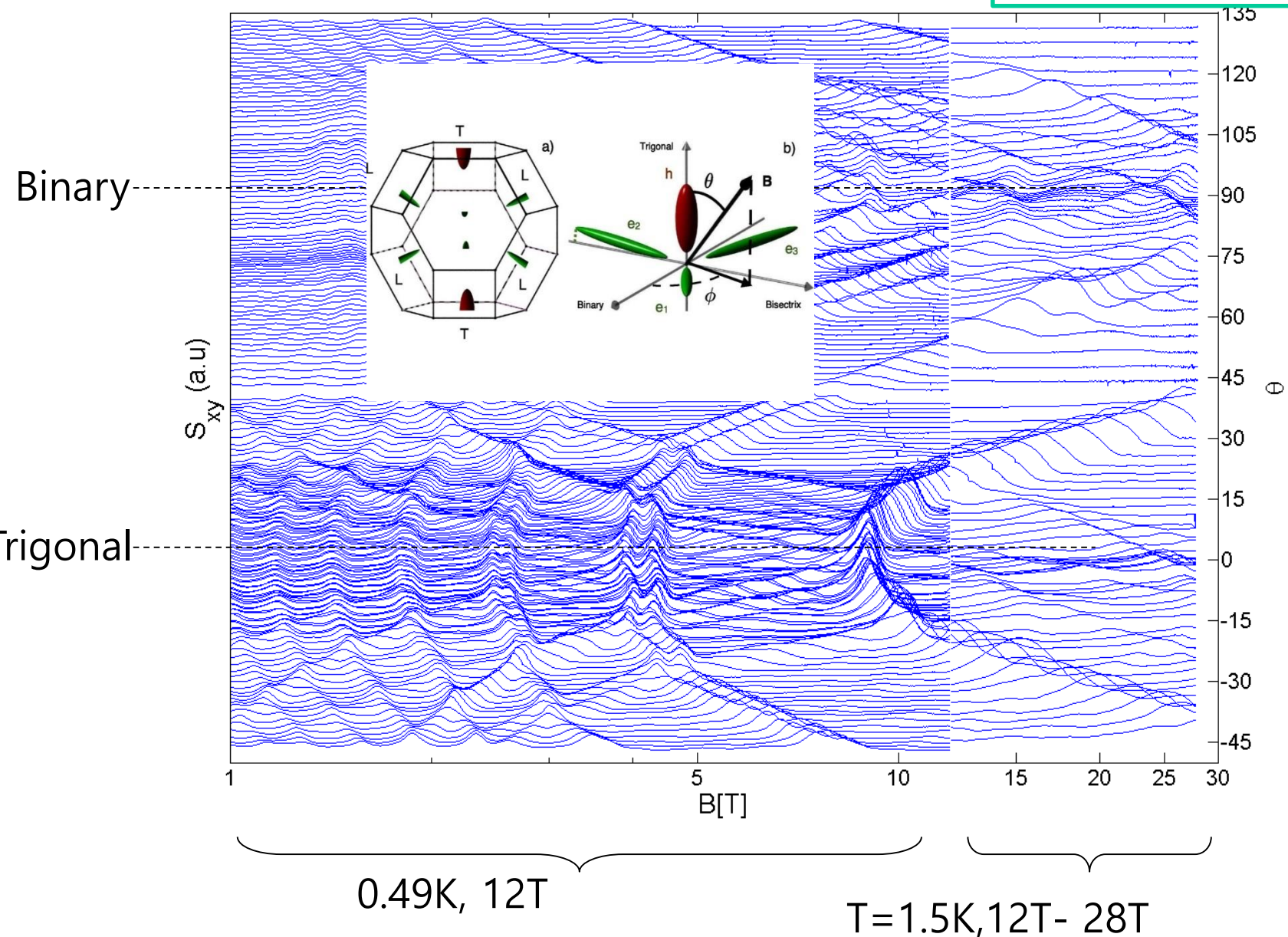
# Giant quantum oscillations of the Nernst response



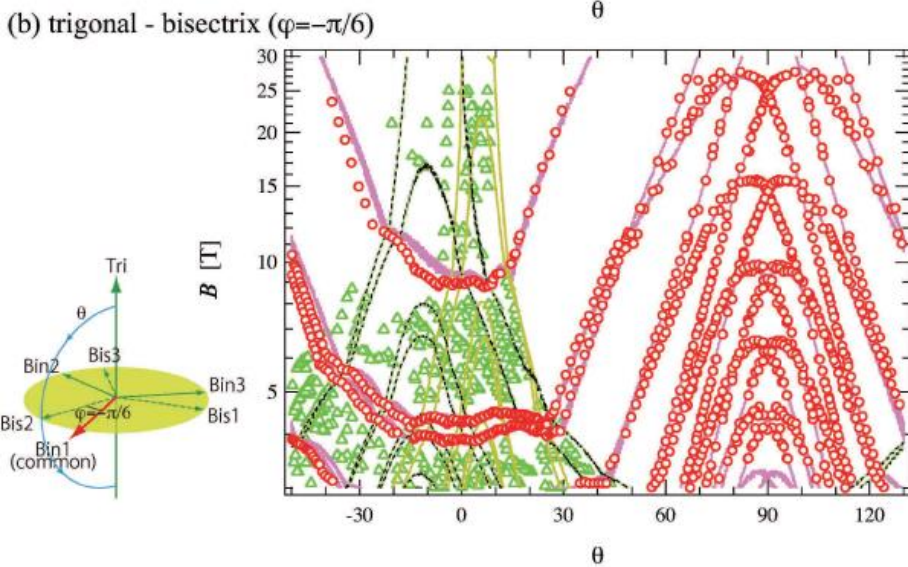
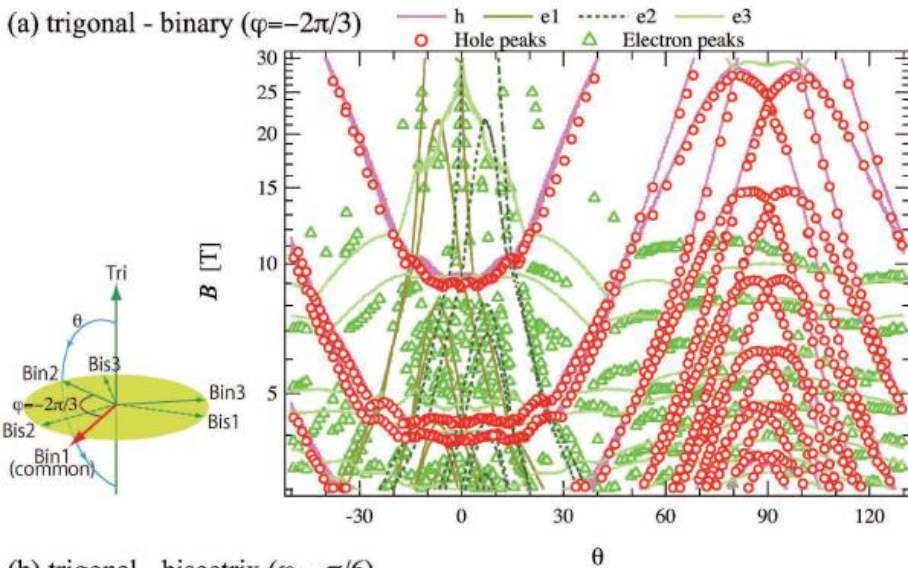


# Angle-resolved Nernst signal for a rotating magnetic field

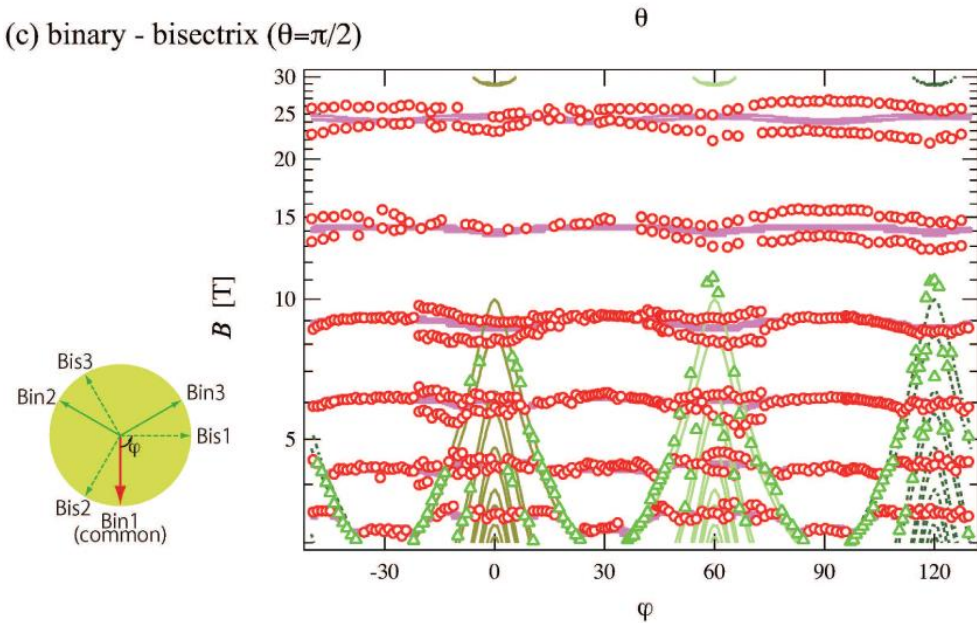
Zhu et al. PNAS (2012)



# Landau spectrum (experiment and theory)



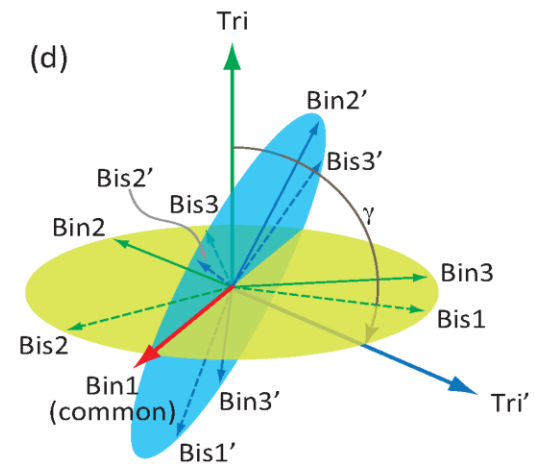
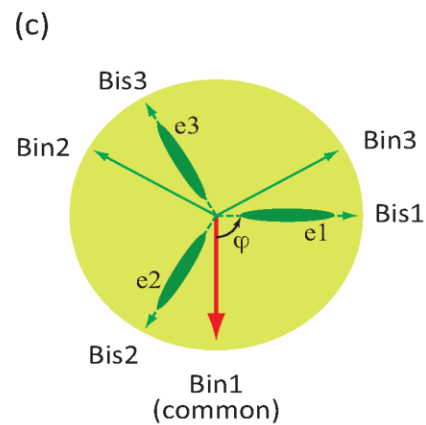
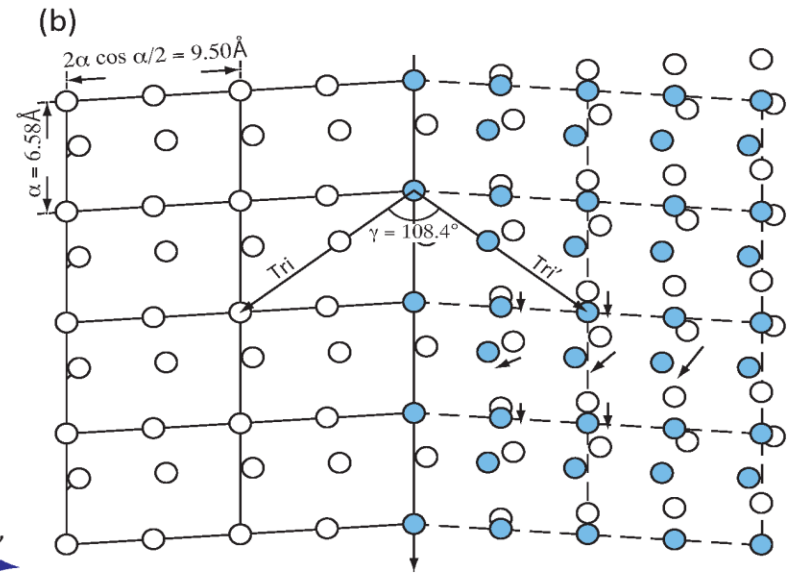
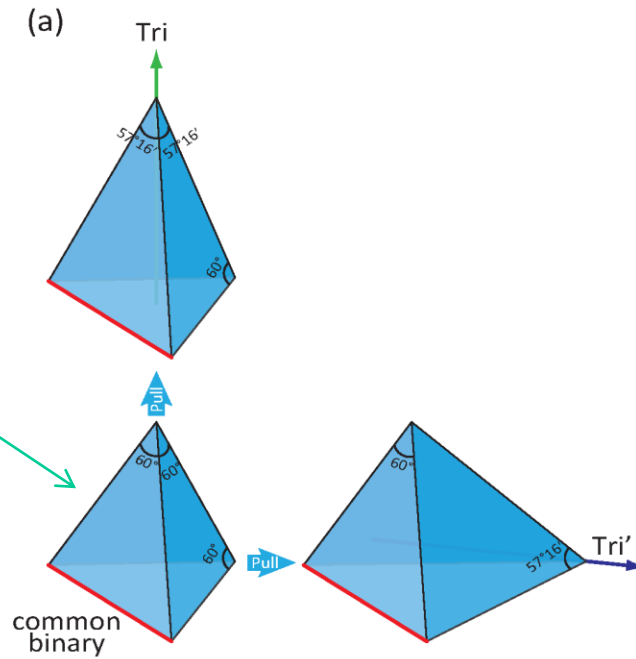
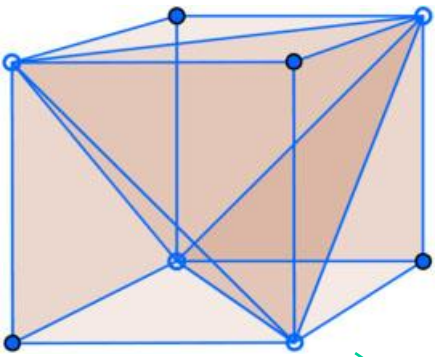
(c) binary - bisectrix ( $\theta = \pi/2$ )



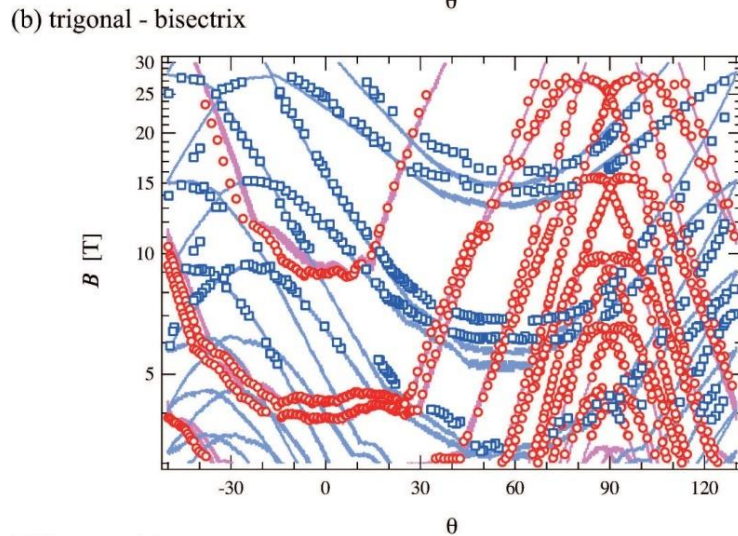
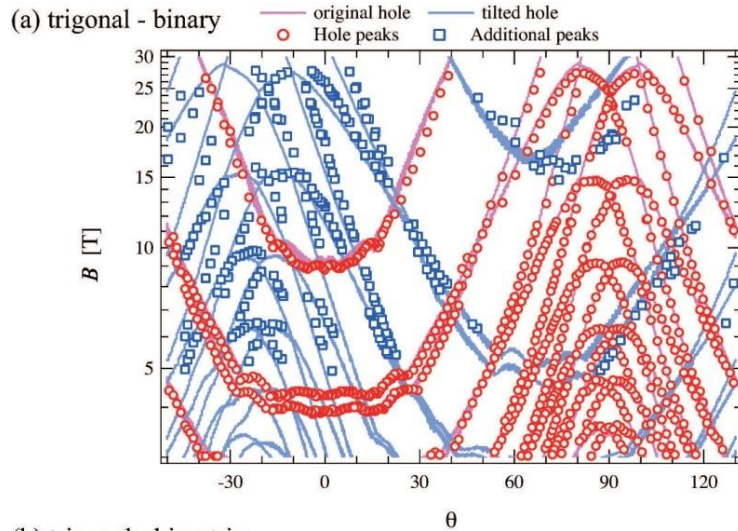
Symbols: experimental data  
 Red: hole  
 Green: electron  
 Lines: theory

Zhu et al. PNAS (2012)

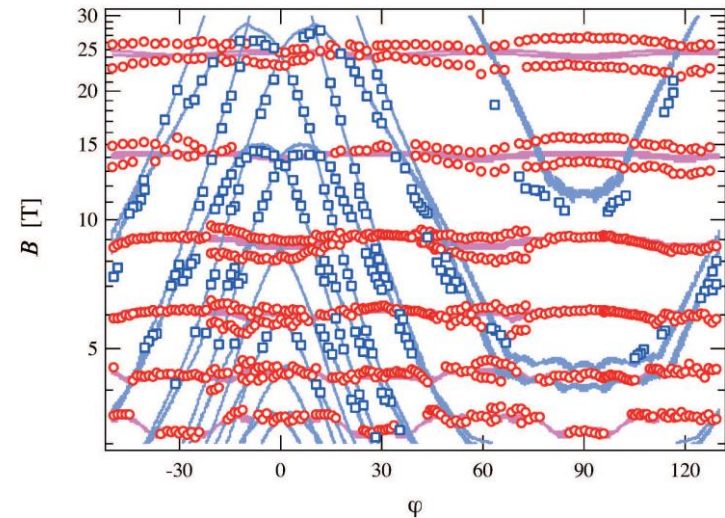
# Twinning in bismuth



# Single-particle theory explains additional peaks



(c) binary - bisectrix



Red lines and open circles: theory and experiment for holes

Blue lines and open squares: experimental additional peaks and theory for a tilted crystal

# Electrons and holes in bismuth

## Model

Hole: Smith-Baraff-Rowell (SBR) model

$$E = E_0 - \left[ \left( n + \frac{1}{2} \right) \hbar\omega_c + \frac{p_H^2}{2m_H} \pm \frac{1}{2}g\beta_0H \right]$$

Electrons: Vecchi-Pereira-Dresselhaus (VPD) model

$$j = (n + \frac{1}{2} + s) > 0$$

$$E = -\frac{E_g}{2} \pm \left[ \frac{1}{2} \sqrt{E_g^2 + 4E_g \left( j\beta_B H + \frac{p_H^2}{2m_H} \right)} - 2s|G\beta|H \right]$$

	$\mathbf{B} \parallel \text{Binary}$	$\mathbf{B} \parallel \text{Bisectrix}$	$\mathbf{B} \parallel \text{Trigonal}$
$m_c^{e2}$	0.0272	0.00189	0.0125
$m_c^{e1,e3}$	0.00218	0.00375	0.0125
$m_z^{e2}$	0.00124	0.257	0.00585
$m_z^{e1,e3}$	0.193	0.0653	0.00585
$g^{e2}$	73.5	1060	159
$g^{e1,e3}$	917	533	159
$g'^{e2}$	-7.26	24.0	-7.92
$g'^{e1,e3}$	16.2	0.545	-7.92
$1 + (m_c g')^{e2}/2$	0.90	1.02	0.950
$1 + (m_c g')^{e1,e3}/2$	1.01	1.00	0.950
$M_c$	0.221	0.221	0.0678
$M_z$	0.0678	0.0678	0.721
$G$	0.791	0.791	62.6
$E_Z/\hbar\omega_c$	0.0875	0.0875	2.12

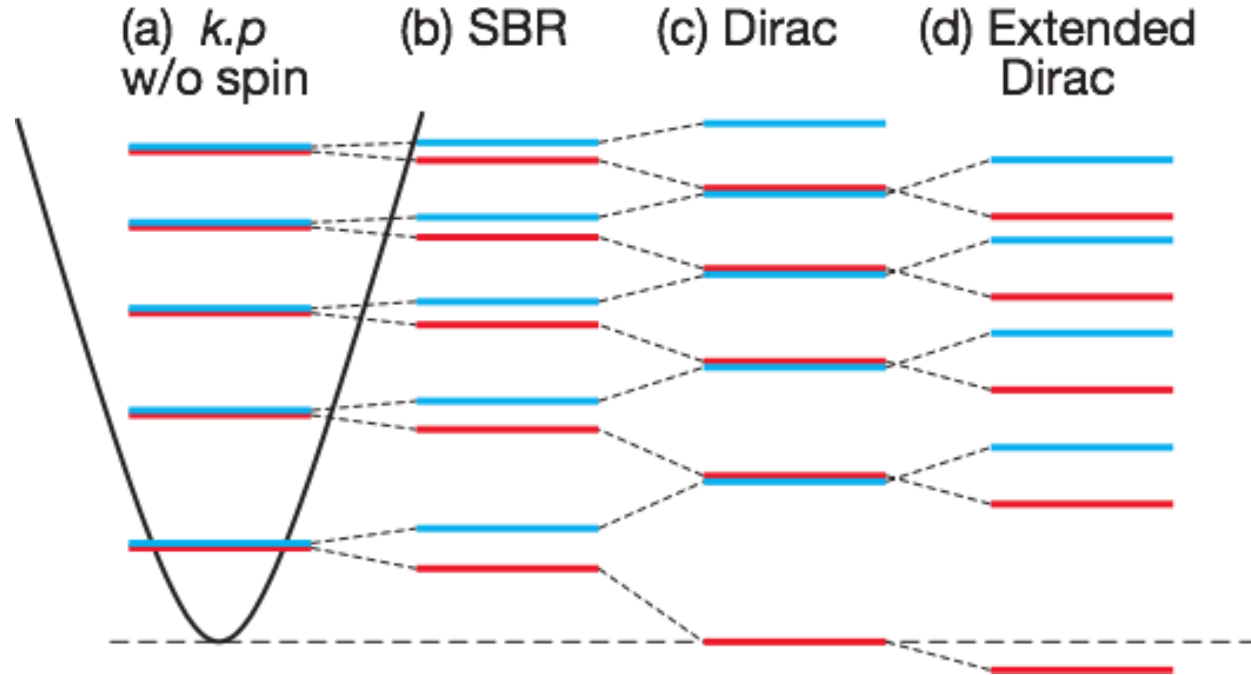
Light and anisotropic electrons

Large g-factors

Heavier and less anisotropic holes

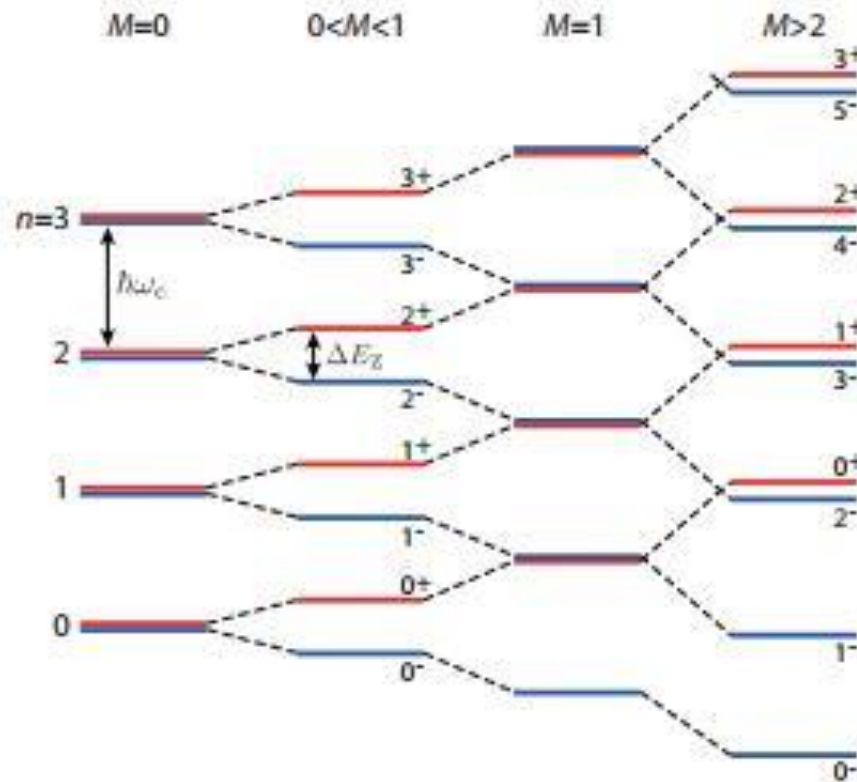
Parameters

# Zeeman and cyclotron energies



- In the case of electrons, Dirac-like spectrum with a small and anisotropic correction.
- The  $g$ factor is large because electrons are light.

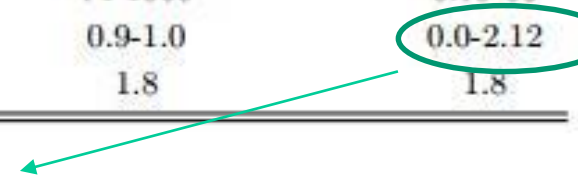
# Zeeman and cyclotron energies



$$M = \frac{\Delta E_Z}{\hbar\omega_c}$$

	Graphite		InSb	Bi	
position	<i>K</i> (ele.)	<i>H</i> (hole)	$\Gamma$	<i>L</i> (ele.)	<i>T</i> (hole)
$m_c/m$	0.038	0.057	0.014	0.0019-0.027	0.068-0.22
$\bar{g}$	2.5	2.5	52	74-1060	0.79-63
$M = m_c\bar{g}/2m$	0.048	0.073	0.36	0.9-1.0	0.0-2.12
atomic SO (eV)	0.005	0.005	0.27, 0.68	1.8	1.8

Holes in bismuth stand out!



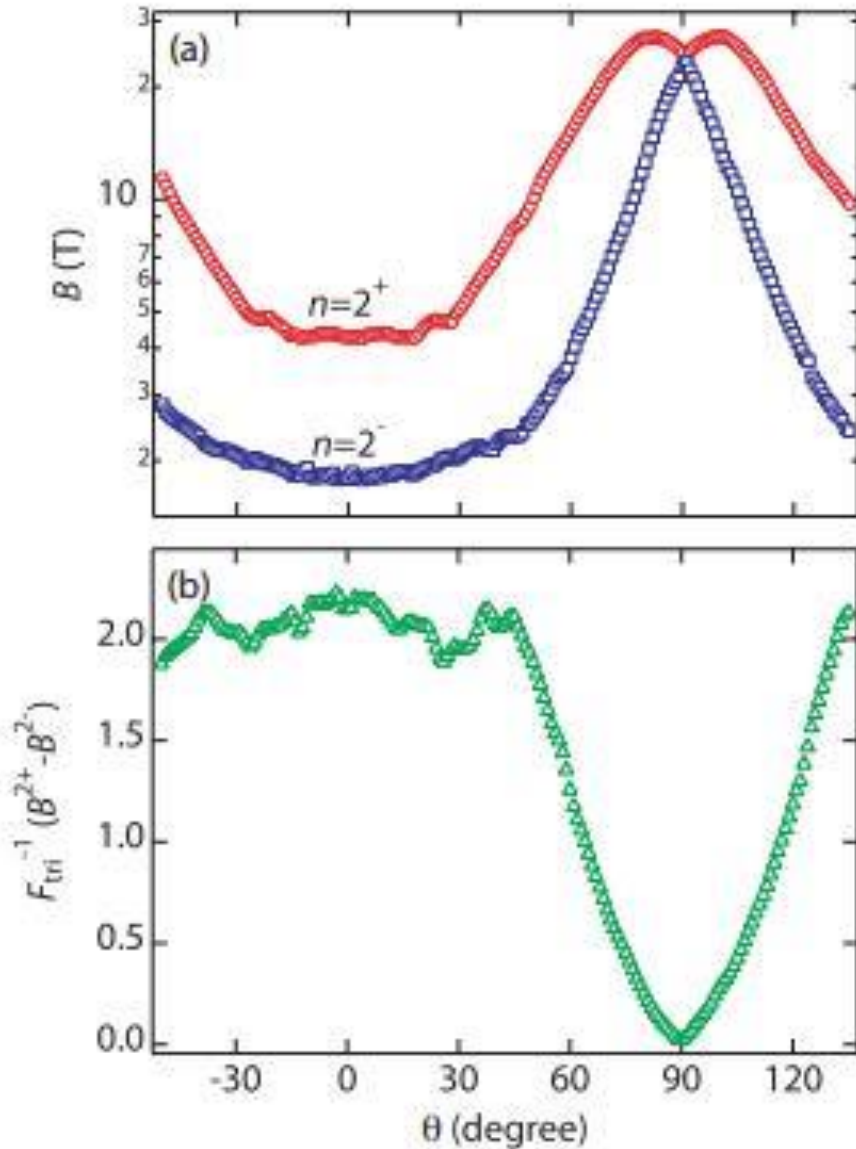
# Zeeman and cyclotron energies

$$M = \frac{\Delta E_Z}{\hbar\omega_c}$$

The ratio of Zeeman to cyclotron energy for holes:

i) is larger than 2 when the field is parallel to the trigonal axis

ii) becomes vanishingly small for the perpendicular orientation?





# Zeeman and cyclotron energies

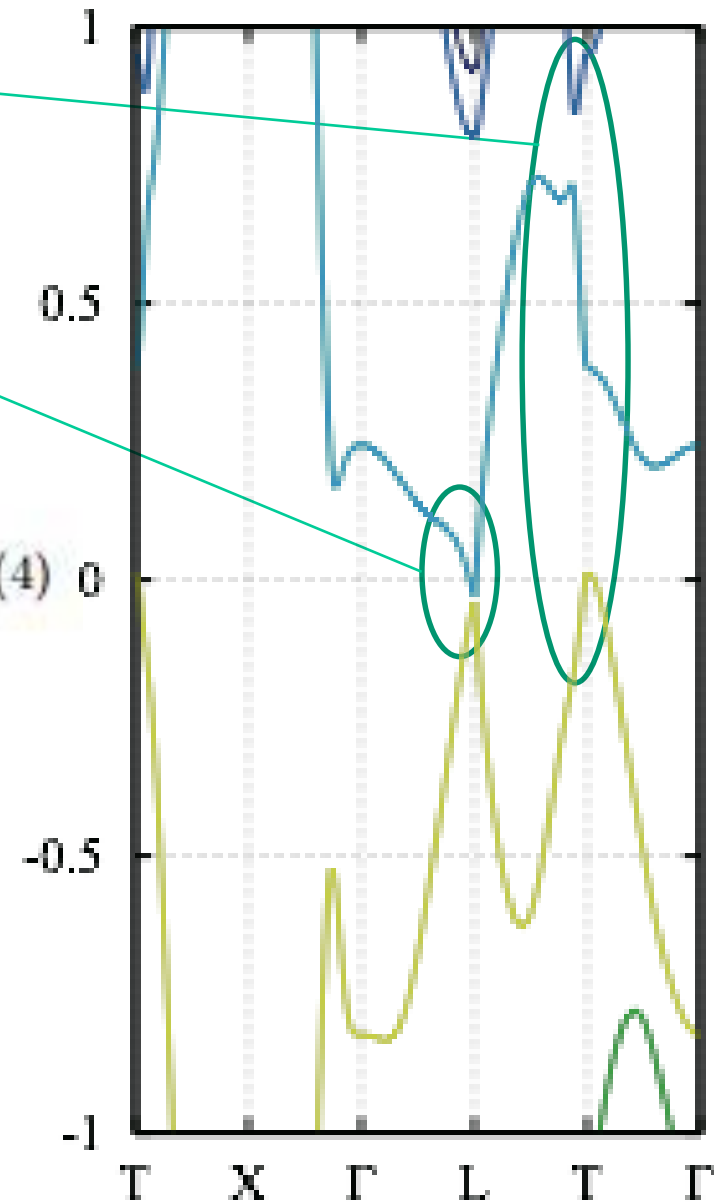
For holes one needs to consider at least three bands!  $M > 2$

For electrons the two-band model is good enough!  $M \sim 1$

$$M = \sqrt{\left| \sum_{n \neq 0} \frac{a_n^2}{E_0 - E_n} \right|^2} / \left( \sum_{n \neq 0} \frac{|a_n|^2}{E_0 - E_n} \right)^2 \quad (4)$$

Energy [eV]

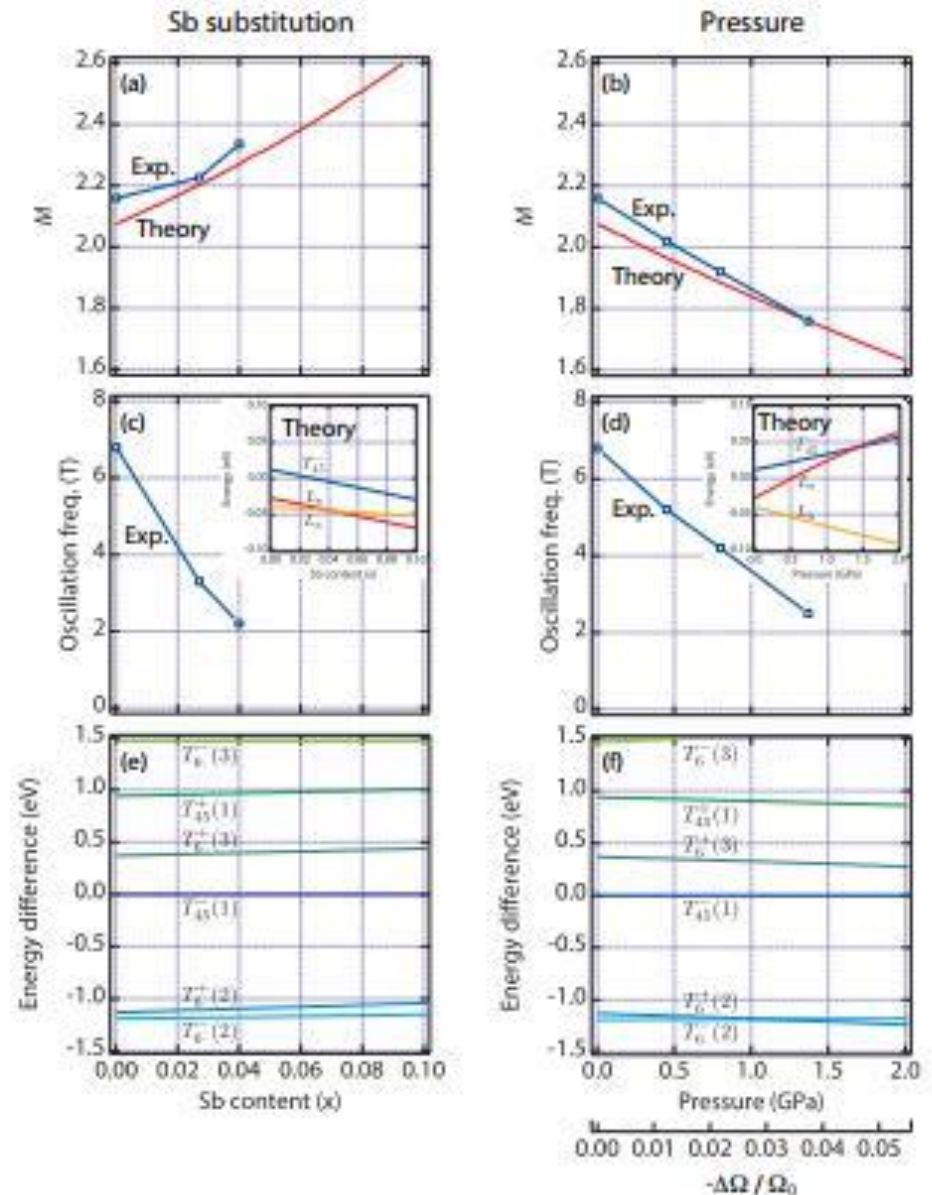
Y. Fuseya, ArXiv :1507.05996



# Multiband k.p theory

- Provides an explanation for the magnitude and anisotropy of  $M$  for holes at T-point.
- Explains its evolution with pressure and Sb doping.
- Relevant to other cases of strong SOC like  $\text{Bi}_2\text{Se}_3$ ,  $\text{PbTe}$ ,...

Y. Fuseya, ArXiv :1507.05996



# III. The valley degree of freedom

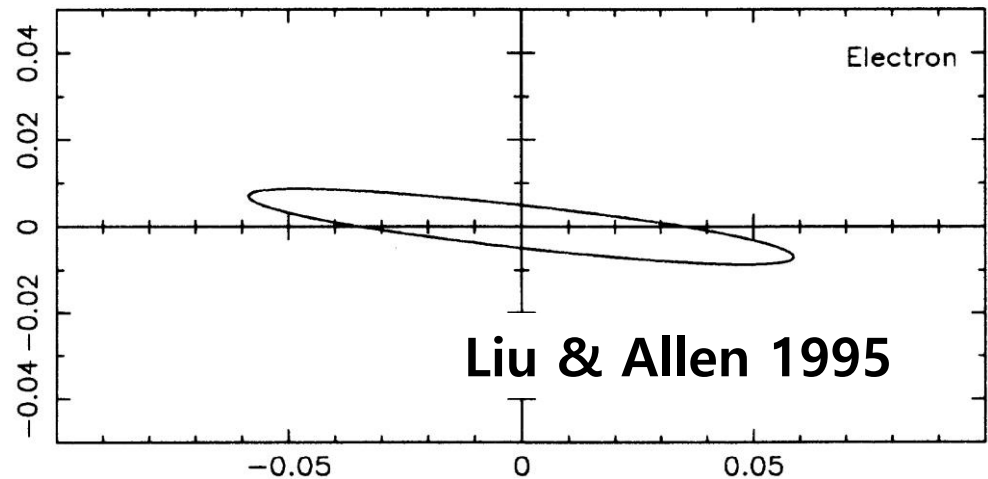
- SEMI-CLASSIC HIGH-FIELD TRANSPORT
- SPONTANEOUS LOSS OF THREEFOLD SYMMETRY
- VALLEY NEMATICITY?

# Anisotropic Dirac valleys in bismuth

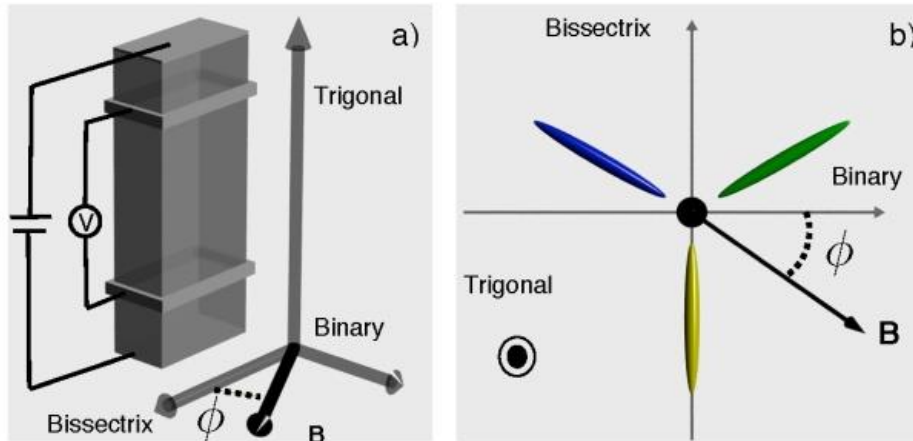
	B// binary	B// bisectrix	B// trigonal
m (e)	0.0012	0.26	0.0058

The anisotropy of the electron mass exceeds 200 !

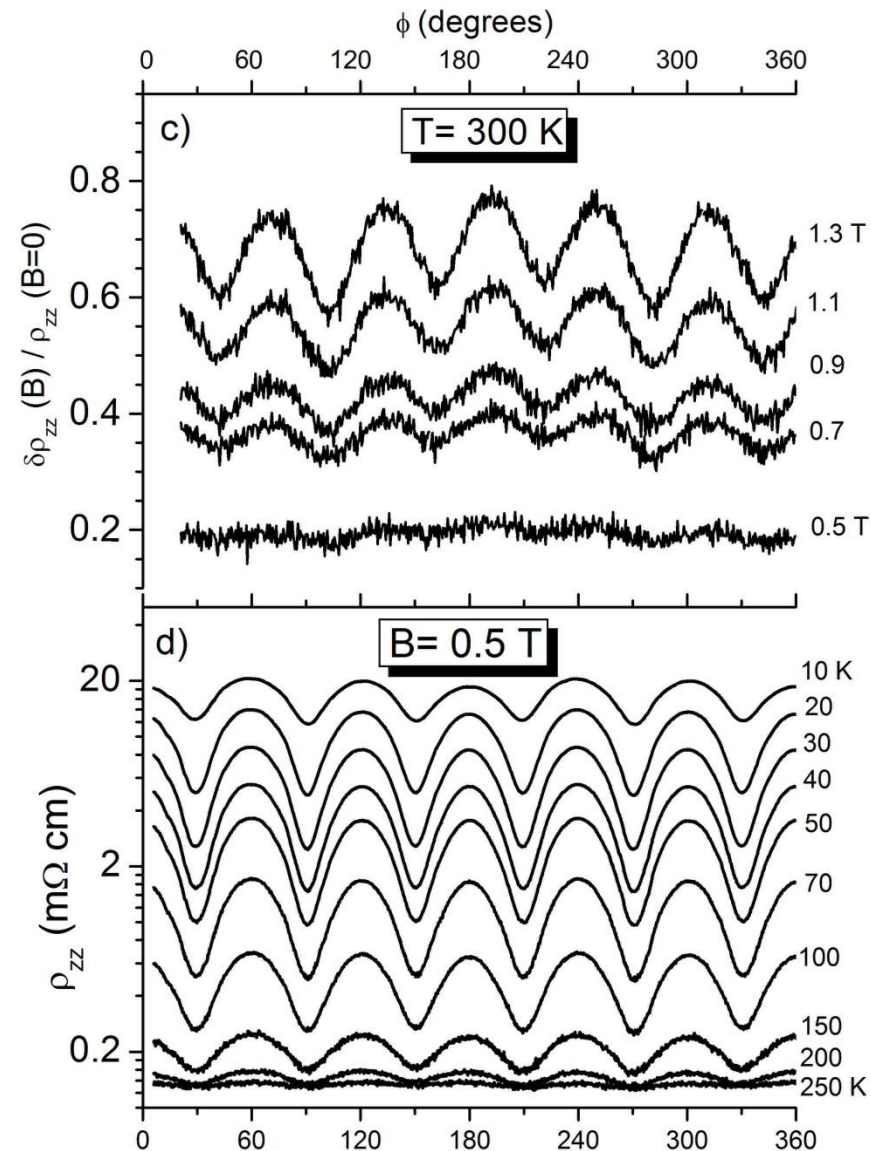
Wave-vector anisotropy:  
14



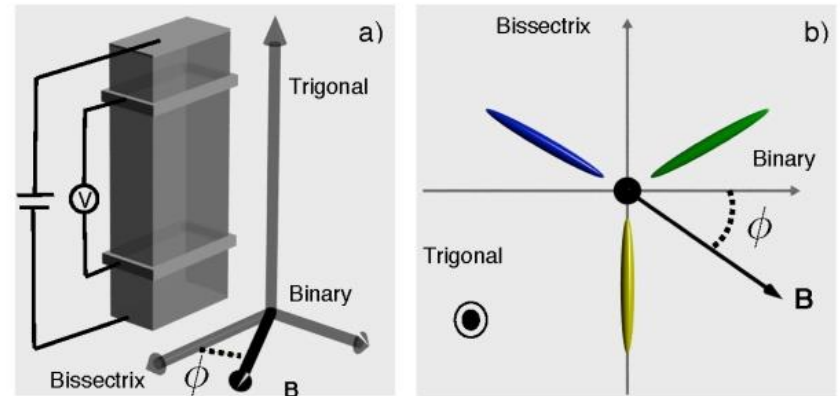
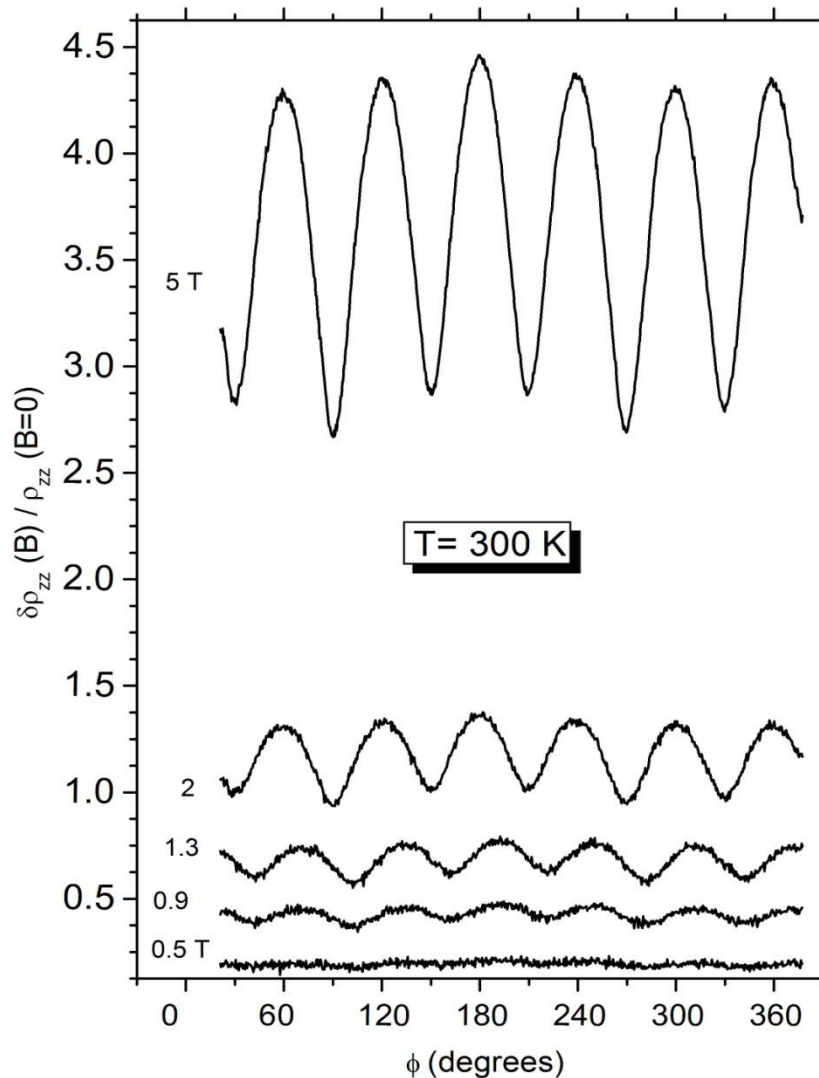
# Angle-dependent Magnetoresistance



Mobility is largest when  $B \parallel$  bisectrix  
Therefore orbital magnetoresistance is largest!



# Room-temperature oscillations



No other solid known to combine anisotropy and lightness:

- Mobility (10000 @ 300 K)
- Anisotropy ( $m_{\text{bin}}/m_{\text{bis}} > 200$ )
- Lightness ( $m \sim 10^{-3} m_e$ )

**UNIQUE TO BISMUTH!**

# Semi-classic transport theory

Boltzmann  
equation:

$$\mathbf{j} = \sigma_0 \cdot (\mathbf{E} + \frac{1}{ne} \mathbf{j} \wedge \mathbf{B}) \quad \text{Abeles and Meiboom (1956)}$$

$$\sigma_0 = ne\mu$$

When  $B \neq 0$

$$\mathbf{j} = \sigma(\mathbf{B}) \cdot \mathbf{E} \quad \sigma(\mathbf{B}) = ne(\mu^{-1} + \mathbf{B})^{-1} \quad \text{Aubrey (1971)}$$

$\sigma$ ,  $\mu$  and  $B$  are tensors!

$$\mu = \begin{pmatrix} \mu_1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & \mu_2 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & \mu_3 \end{pmatrix} \quad B = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & -B_3 & B_2 \\ B_3 & 0 & -B_1 \\ -B_2 & B_1 & 0 \end{pmatrix}$$

If  $\mu$  were a scalar, this would yield the familiar:

$$\sigma = \begin{pmatrix} \frac{ne\mu}{1 + \mu^2 B^2} & \frac{ne\mu^2 B^2}{1 + \mu^2 B^2} & 0 \\ -\frac{ne\mu^2 B^2}{1 + \mu^2 B^2} & \frac{ne\mu}{1 + \mu^2 B^2} & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & ne\mu \end{pmatrix}$$

# Multi-valley bismuth

$$\sigma_{total} = \sum_i \sigma_e^i + \sigma_h$$

**Mobility tensor for the three electron pockets:**

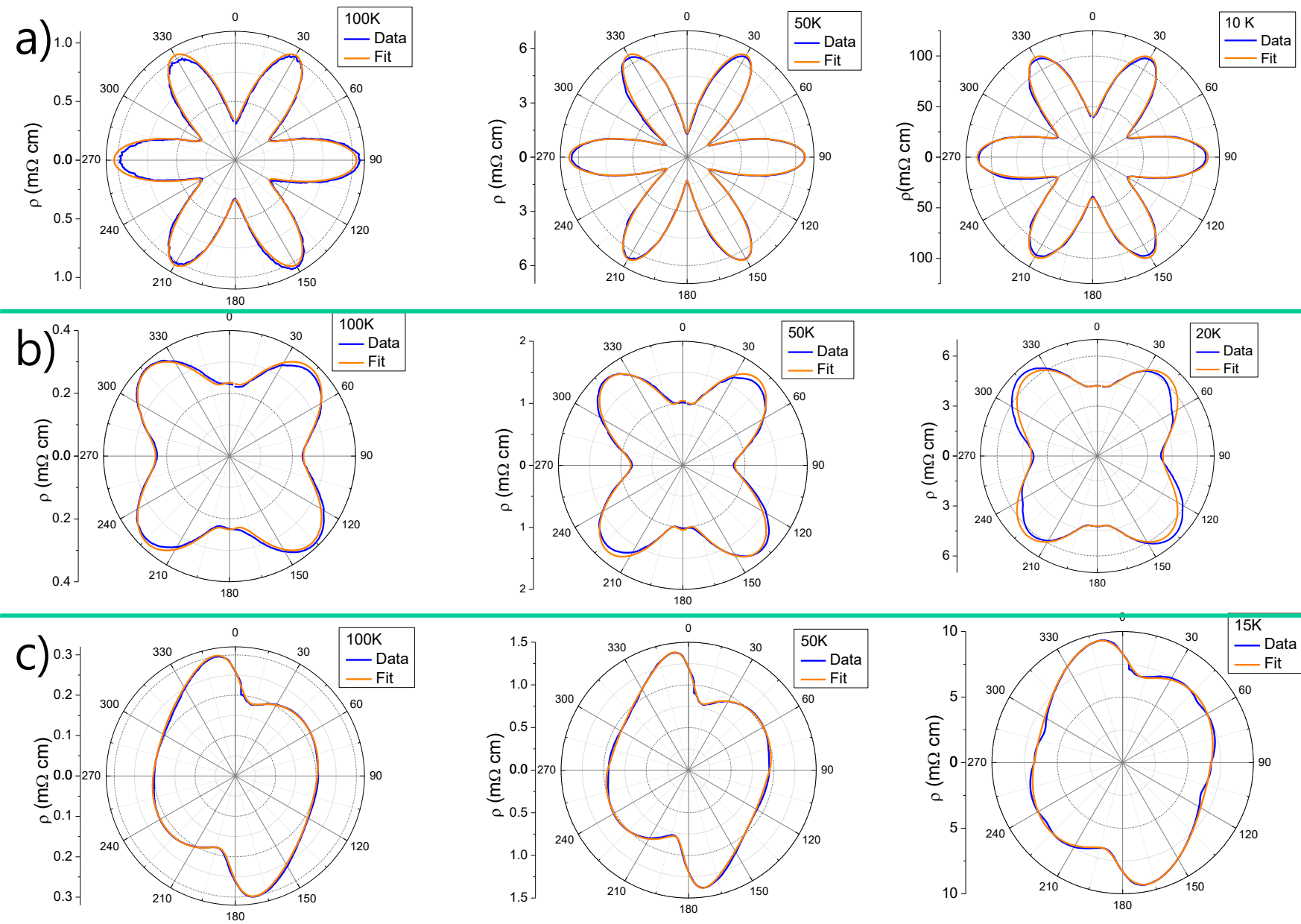
$$\hat{\mu}_a = \begin{pmatrix} \mu_1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & \mu_2 & \mu_4 \\ 0 & \mu_4 & \mu_3 \end{pmatrix} ; \quad \hat{\mu}_b = \hat{R}_{2\pi/3}^{-1} \cdot \hat{\mu}_a \cdot \hat{R}_{2\pi/3} ; \quad \hat{\mu}_c = \hat{R}_{4\pi/3}^{-1} \cdot \hat{\mu}_a \cdot \hat{R}_{4\pi/3}$$

The rotation matrix

$$R^\theta = \begin{pmatrix} \cos \theta & -\sin \theta & 0 \\ \sin \theta & \cos \theta & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix}$$

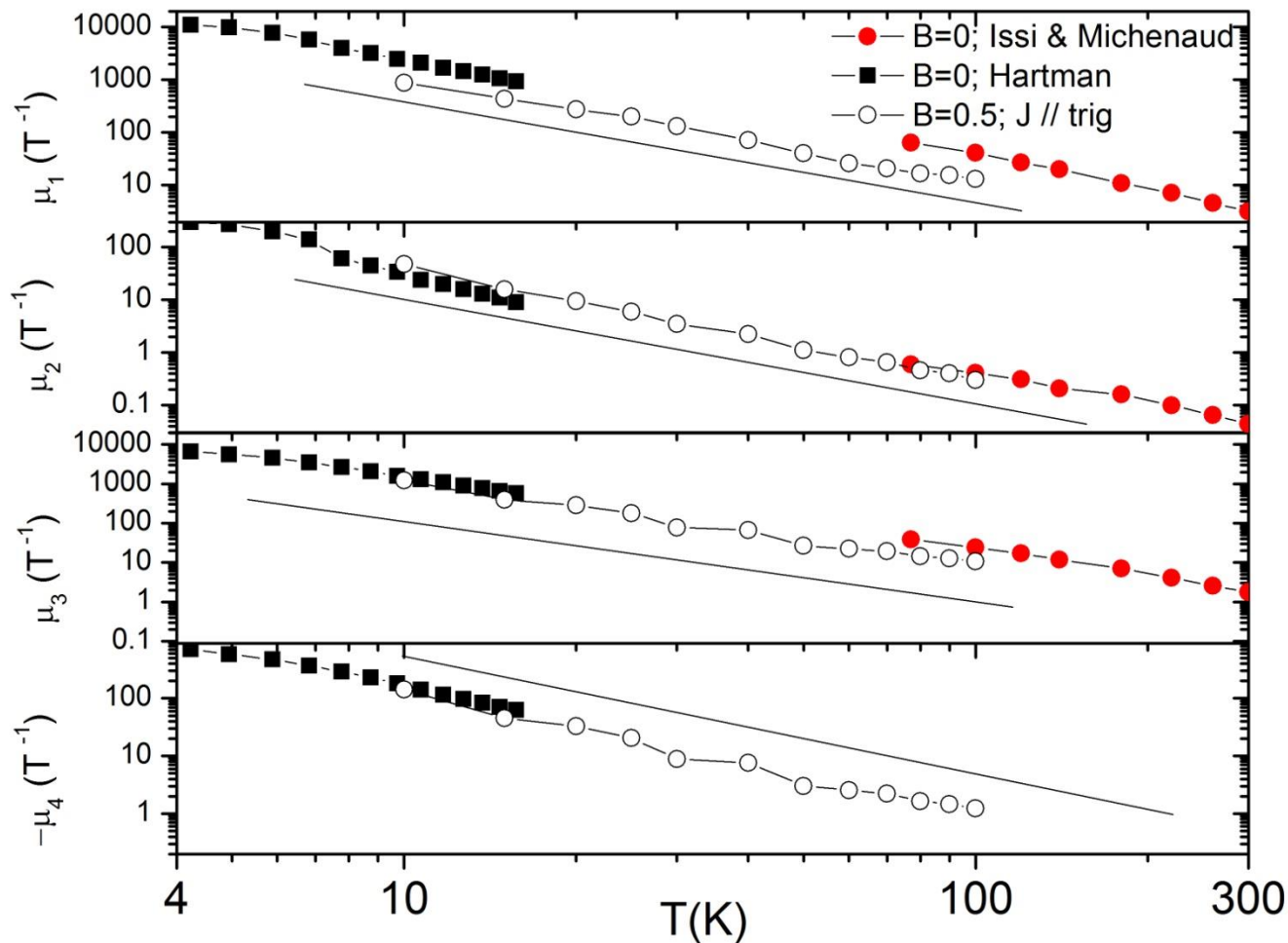
**Mobility tensor for the hole-like pocket:** 
$$\begin{pmatrix} \nu_1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & \nu_1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & \nu_3 \end{pmatrix}$$





**Theoretical fits and experimental data**

# Components of the mobility tensor of the Dirac electrons in bismuth

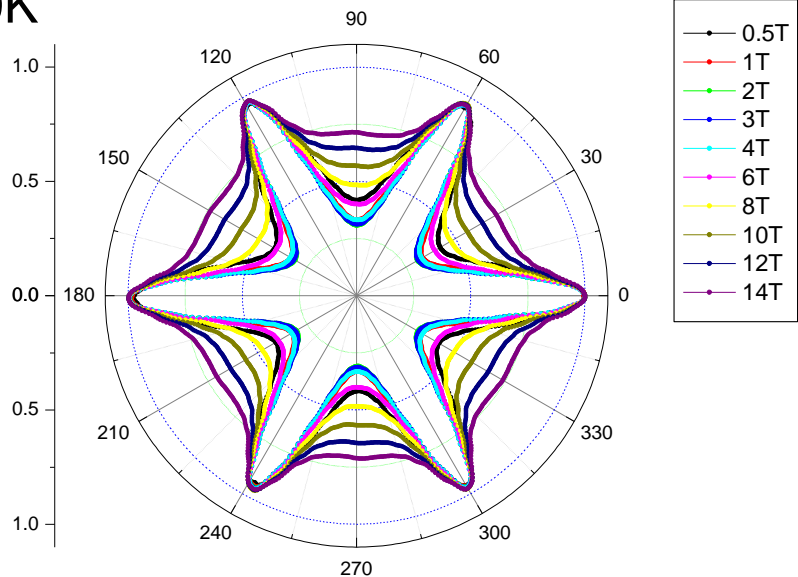


- T<sup>-2</sup> behavior
- e-e scattering

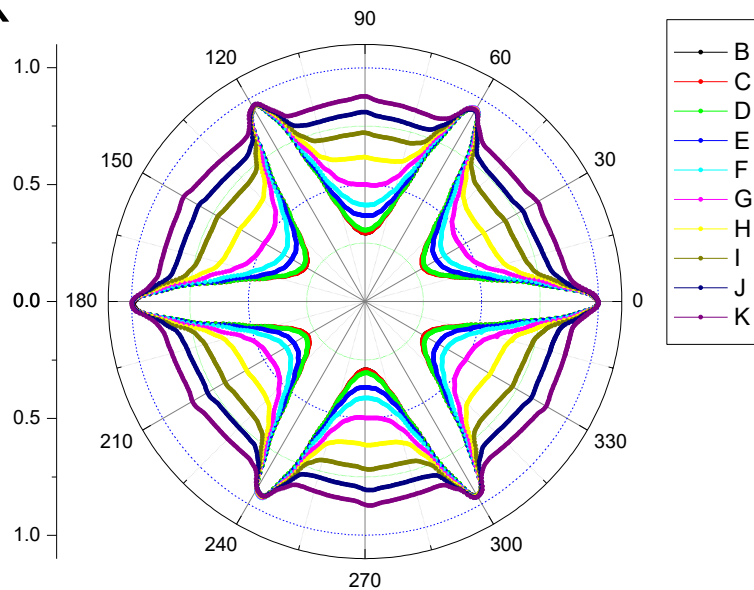
• Extremely anisotropic and exceptionally large ( $\mu_1 > 10^8$  cm<sup>2</sup>V<sup>-1</sup>s<sup>-1</sup>)

# Field dependence of normalized conductivity at fixed temperatures (1/2)

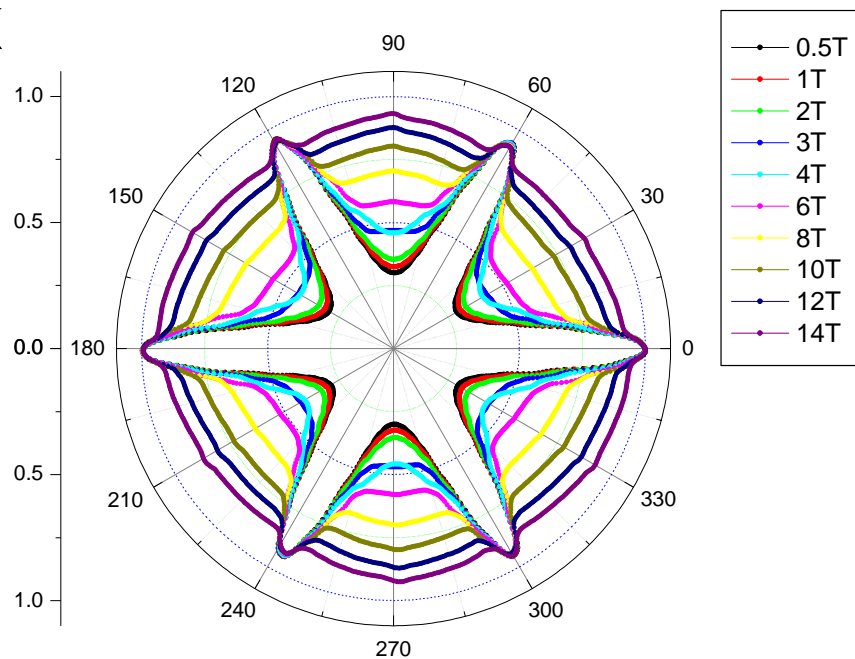
100K



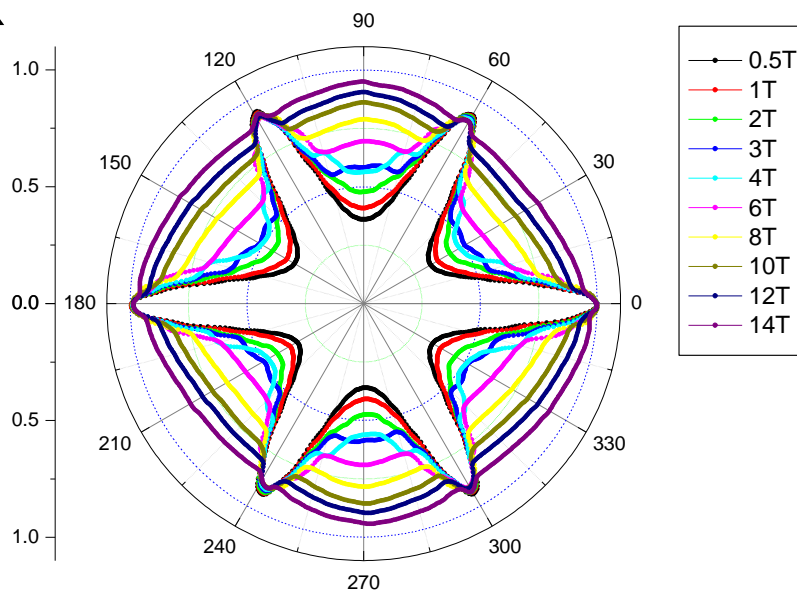
50K



30K

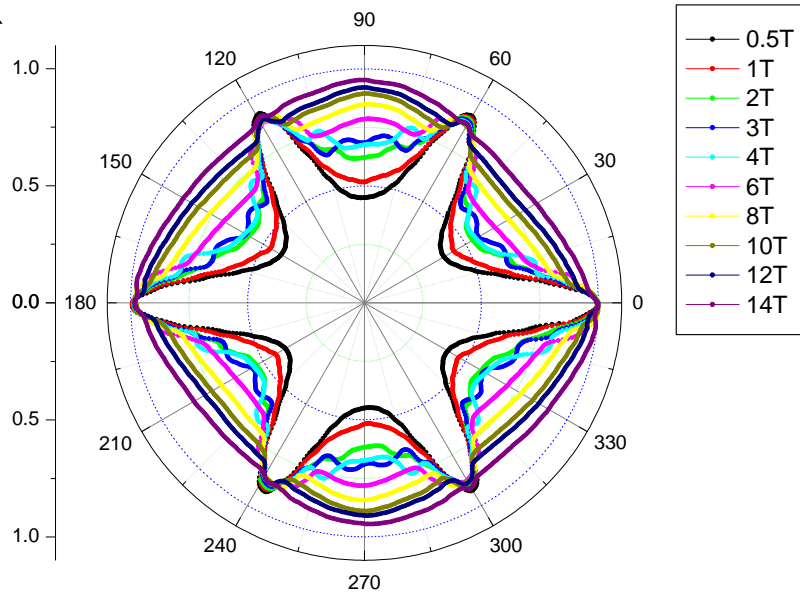


20K

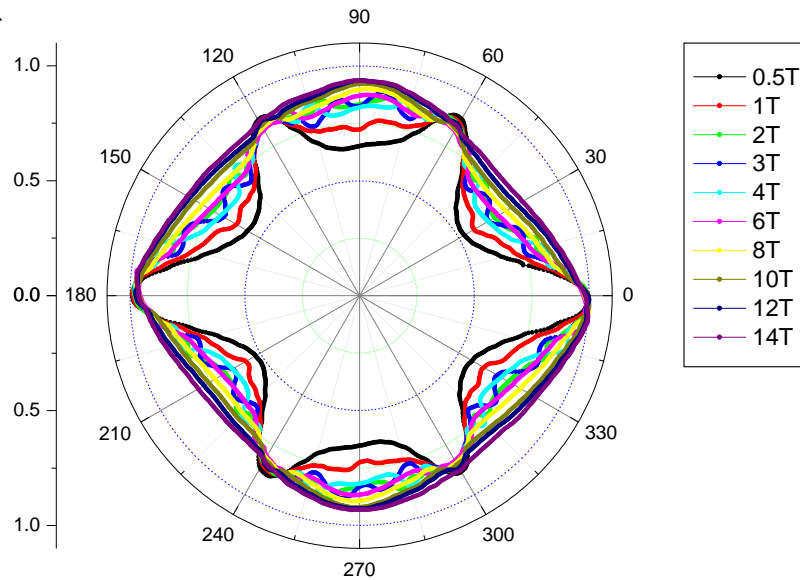


# Field dependence of normalized conductivity at fixed temperatures (2/2)

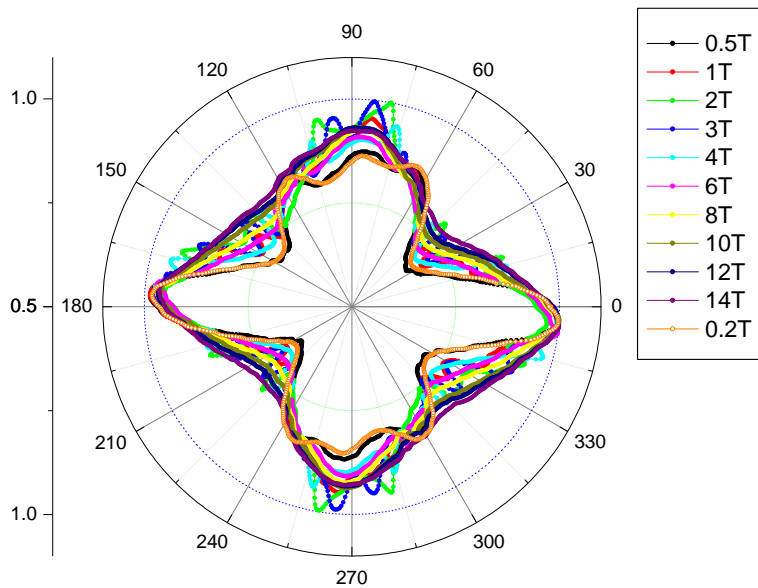
15K



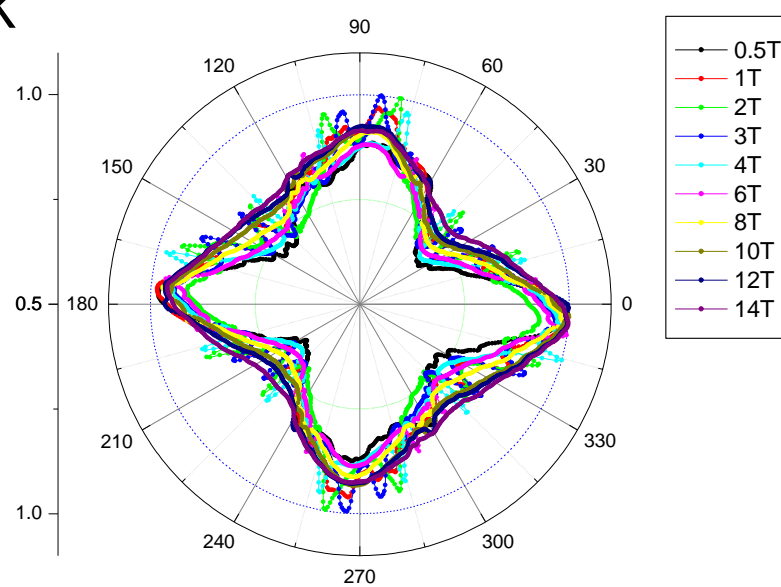
10K



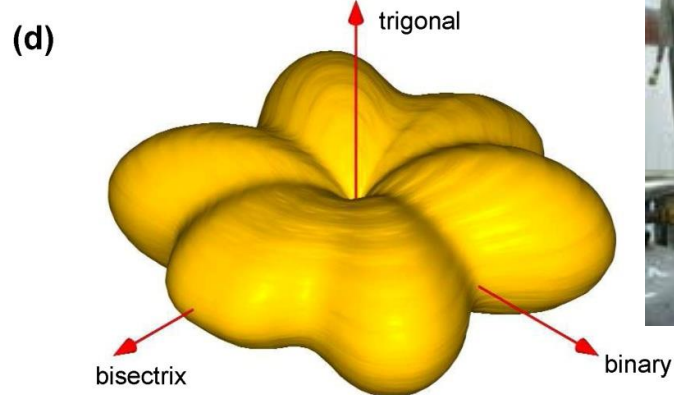
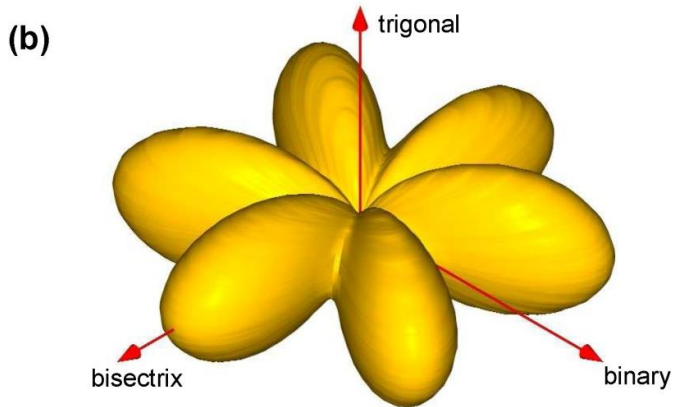
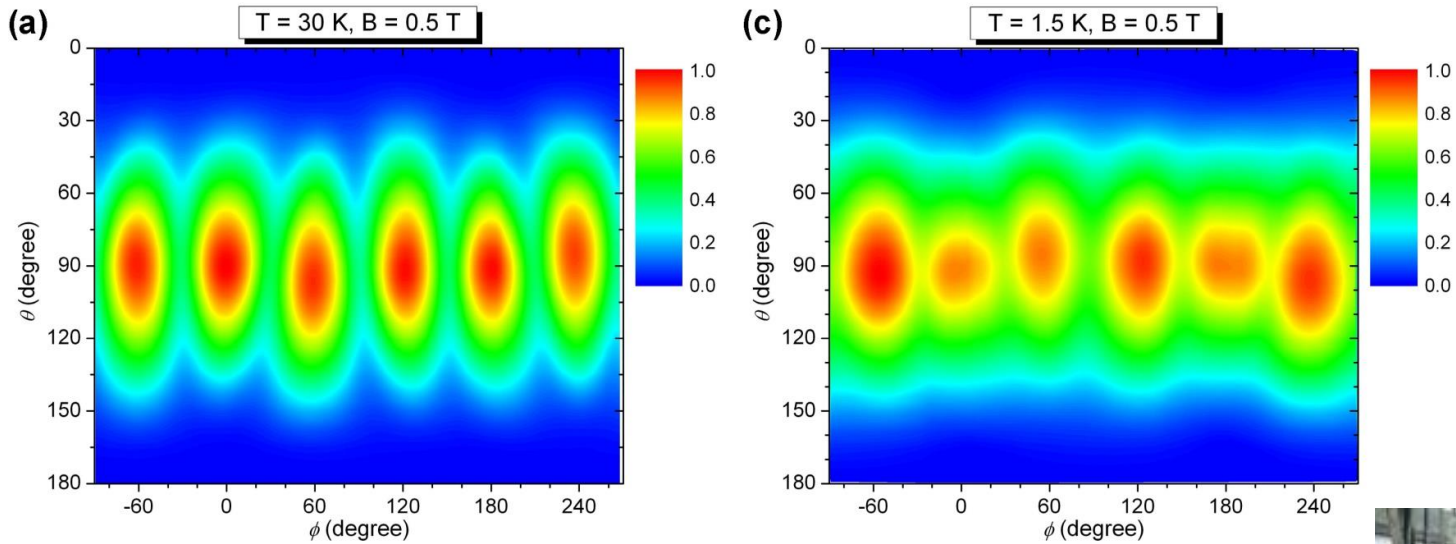
5K



1.4K



# Two-axis rotation

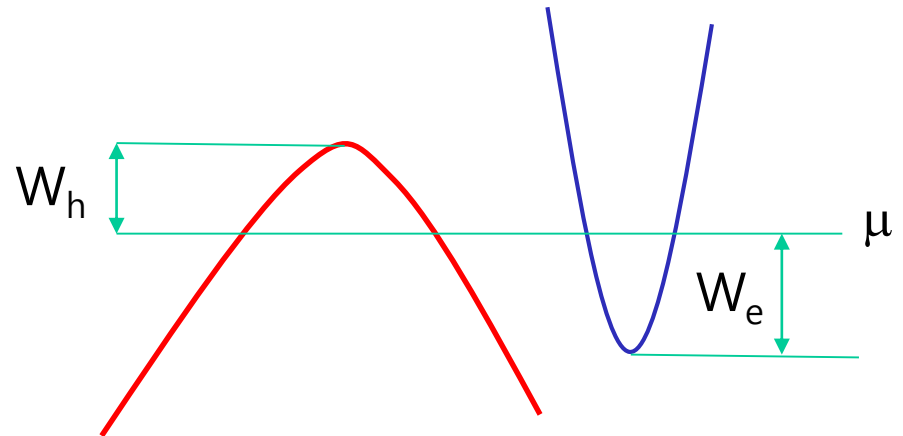
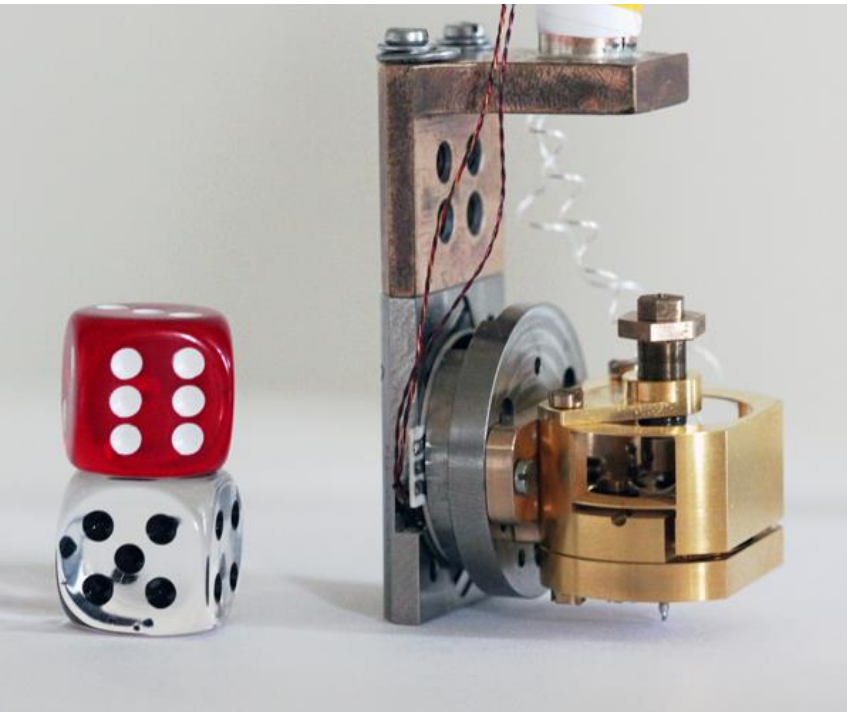


In all samples, the threefold symmetry of the crystal is spontaneously lost in low T and high B !

Possible origins:

- Internal strain ?
- Difference in mean-free-path along the three equivalent axes ?
- Coulomb interaction?

# Magnetostriction in bismuth



$$\Delta F = F_{\text{elastic}} + \Delta N (W_e + W_h)$$

$$W_e \propto \varepsilon \quad W_h \propto \varepsilon$$

$$F_{\text{elastic}} \propto \varepsilon^2$$

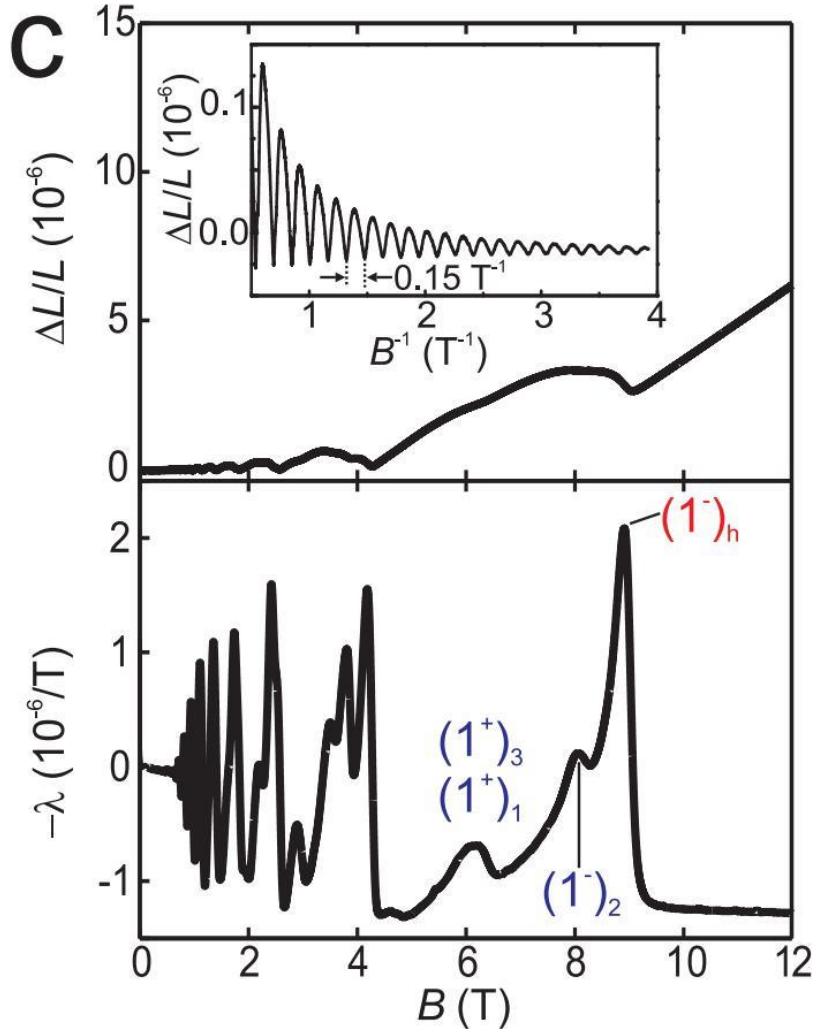
$$\Delta F \propto a \varepsilon^2 - b \varepsilon$$

**Robert Küchler, Dresden**  
[www.dialtometer.info](http://www.dialtometer.info)

**There is a finite  $\varepsilon_{\text{optimal}}$  to minimize  $\Delta F$ !**

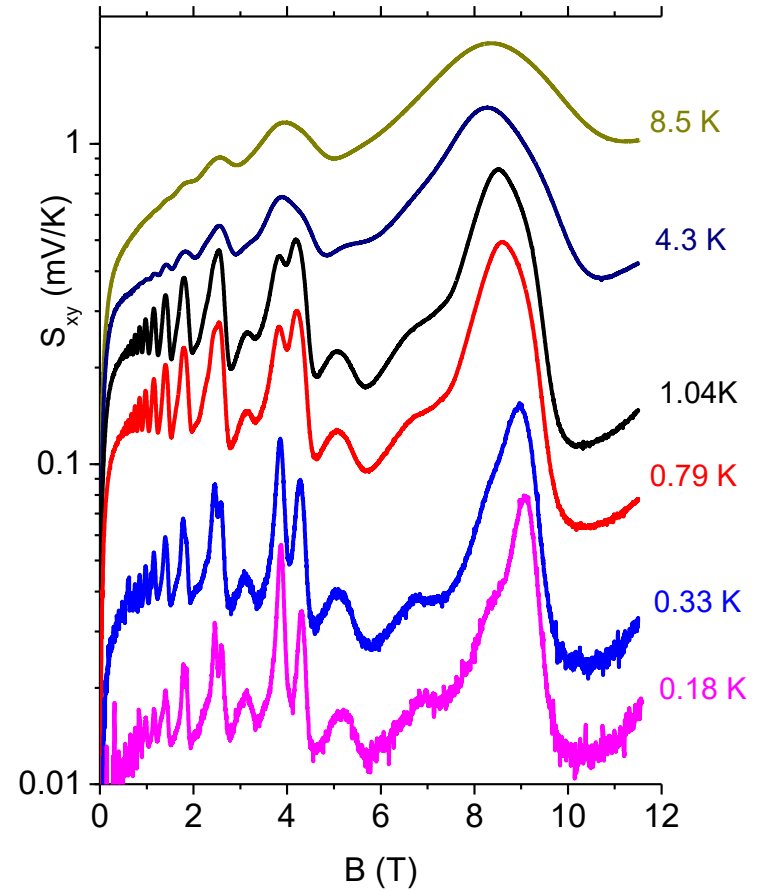
# Quantum oscillations for B//trigonal

Kuchler *et al.*, Nature Mat. 2014



Magnetostriction

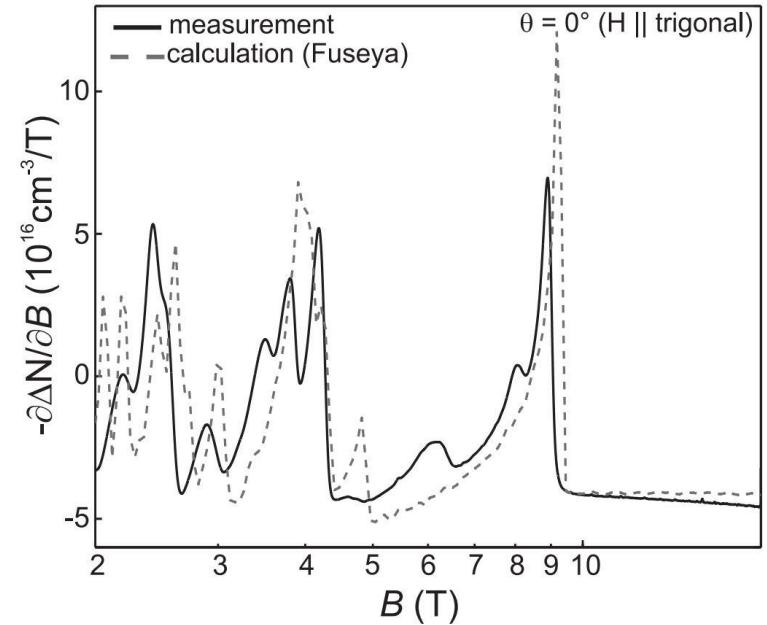
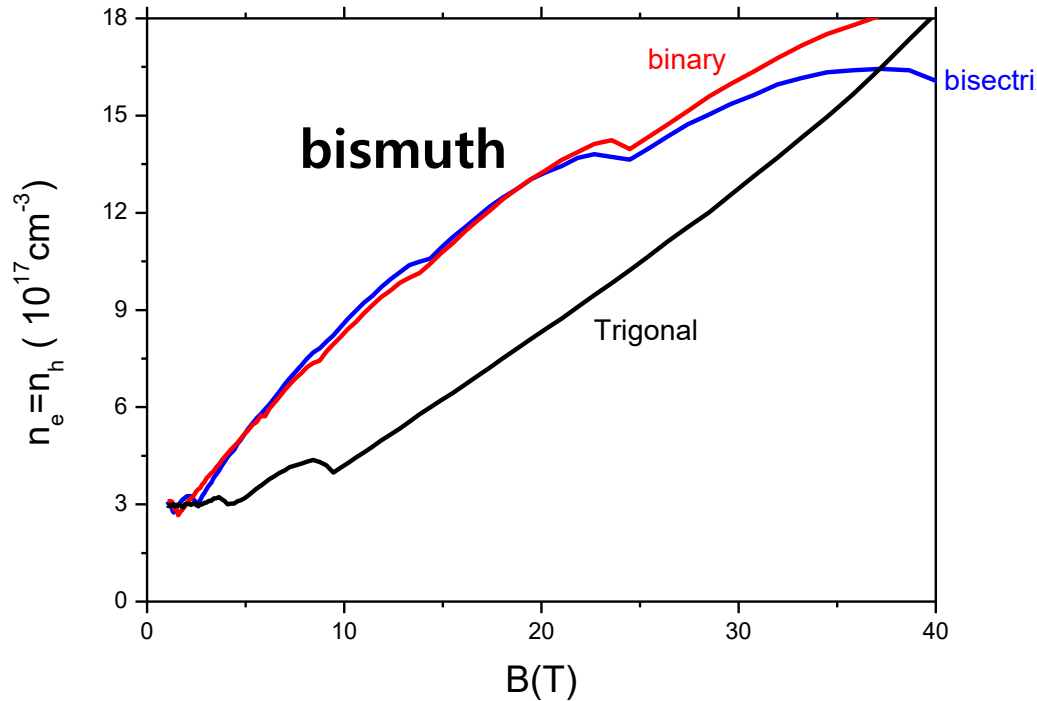
Zhu *et al.* PRB 2012



Nernst effect



# Magnetostriction is caused by field-induced change in carrier concentration!



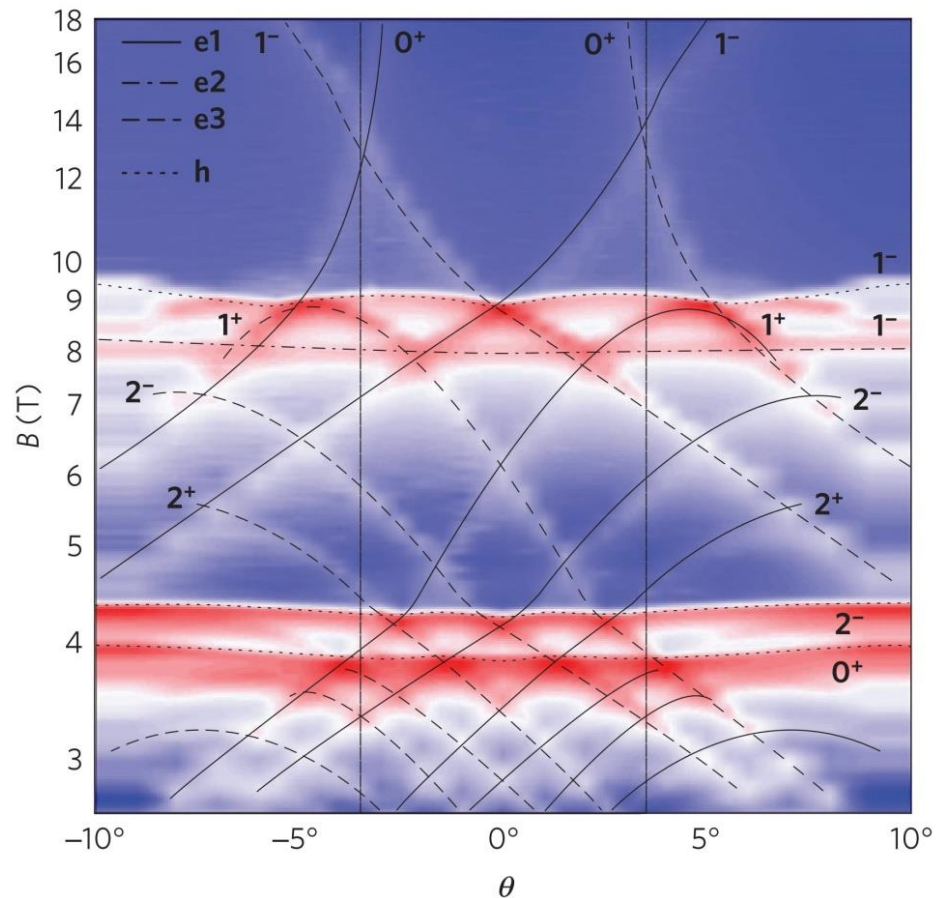
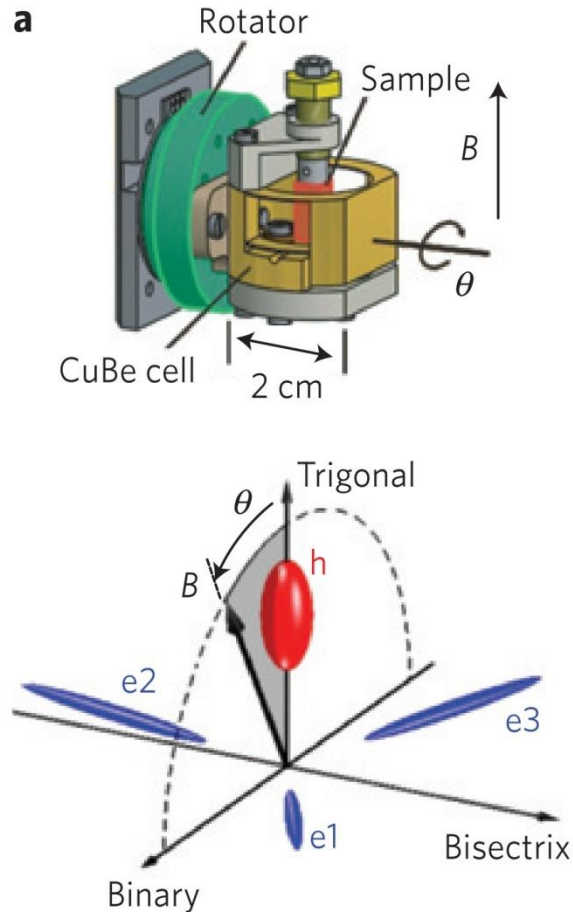
Degenerate Landau levels are voracious!

$$\epsilon_{33} = c \Delta N$$

$$N(\epsilon) = n/E_F \propto B$$

In a compensated system  $n$  can change without violating charge neutrality!

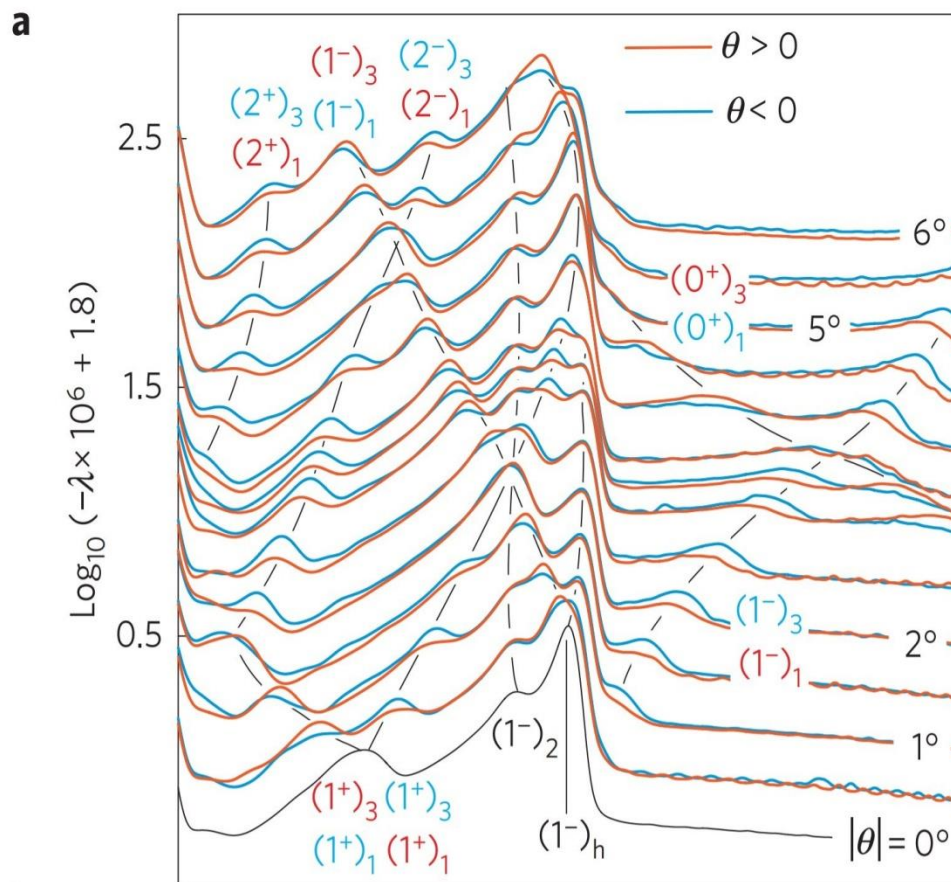
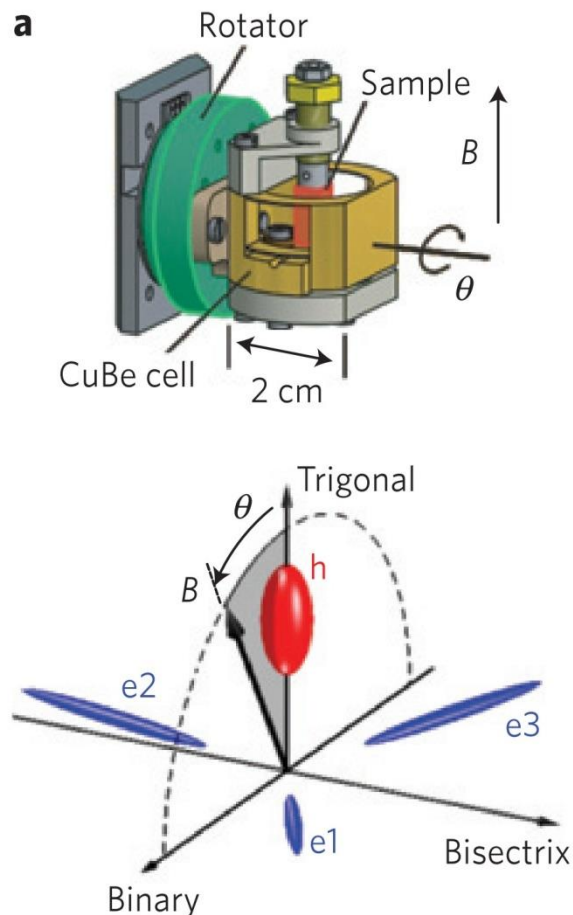
# Angle-resolved Landau spectrum according to magnetostriction



**It is symmetric !**

Kuchler *et al.*, Nature Mat. 2014

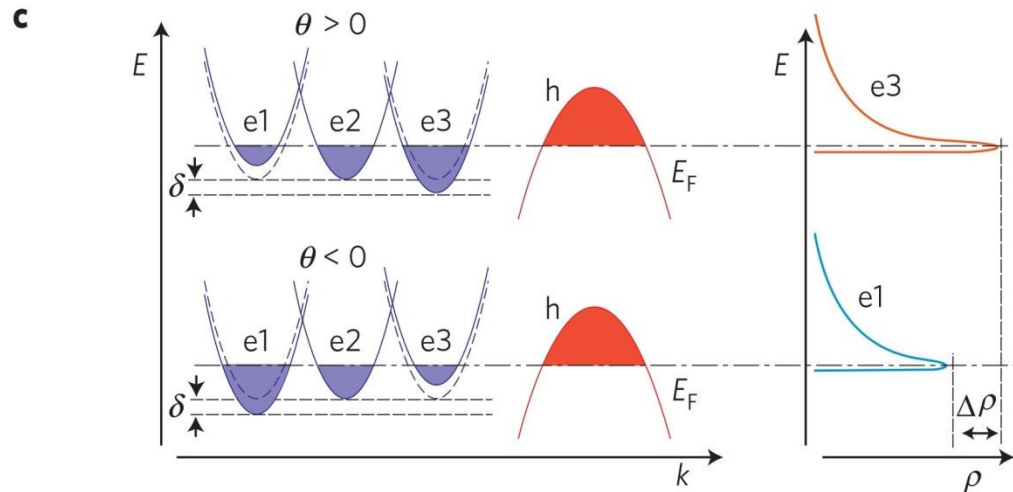
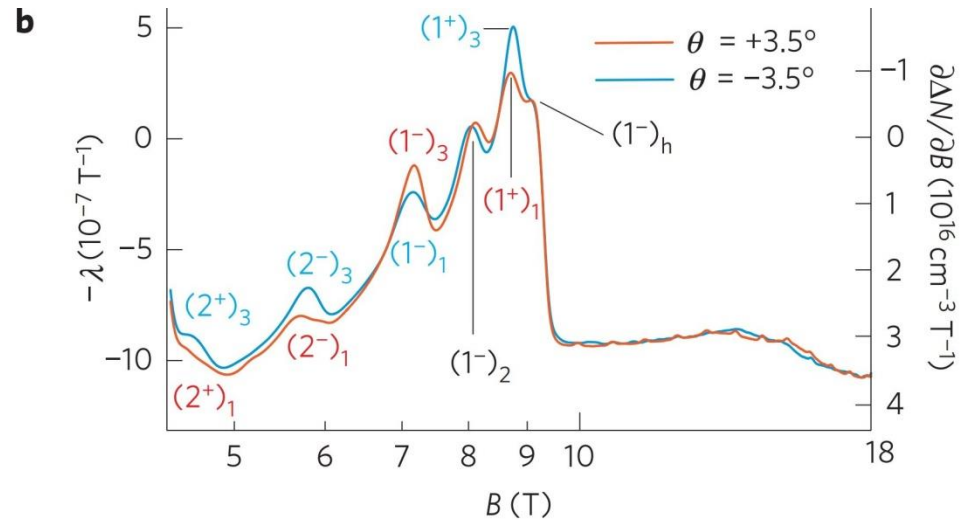
# But density of states is valley-dependent



**Compare peaks at negative and positive tilt angles!**

# Valley-dependent density of states

Different heights,  
but same positions!



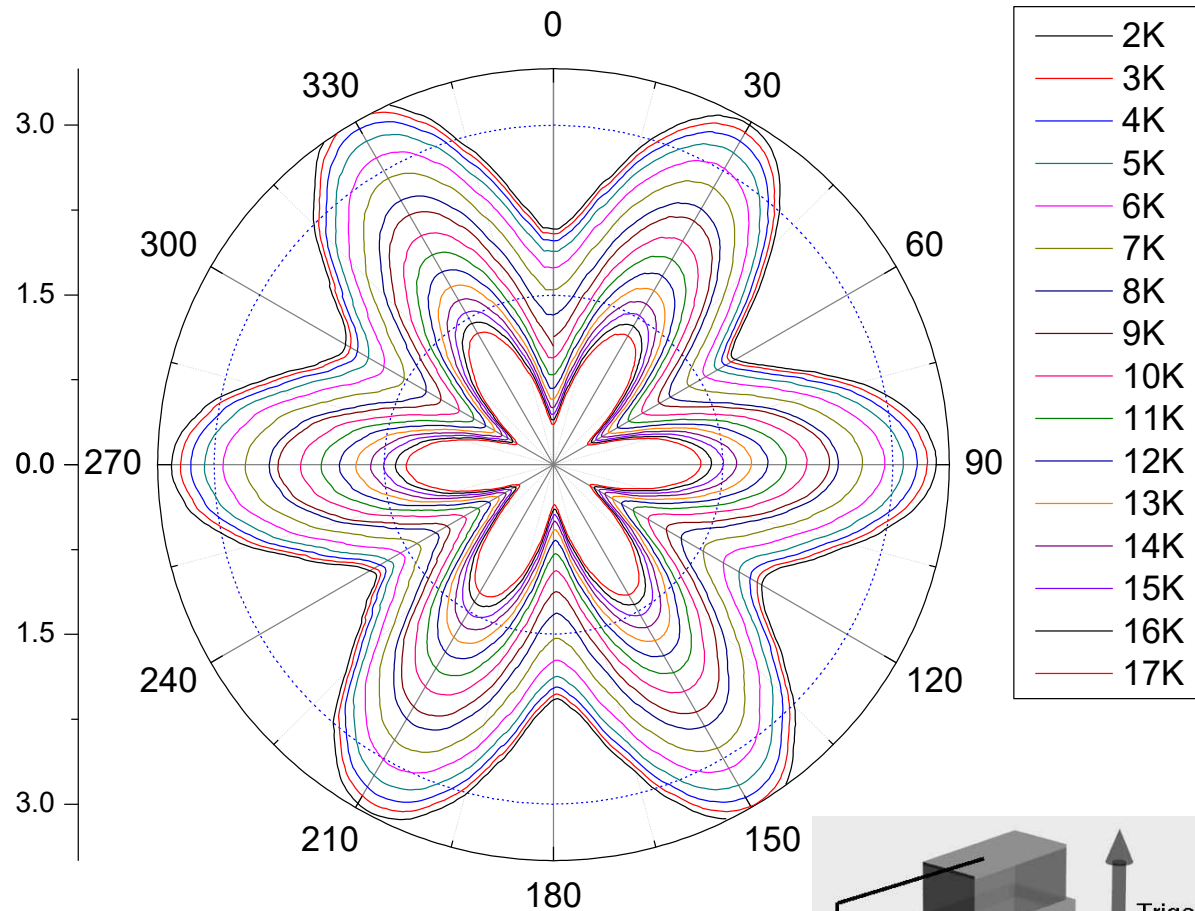
In all samples, the threefold symmetry of the crystal is spontaneously lost in low T and high B !

Possible origins:

- ~~Internal strain ?~~
- ~~Difference in mean-free-path along the three equivalent axes ?~~
- Coulomb interaction?

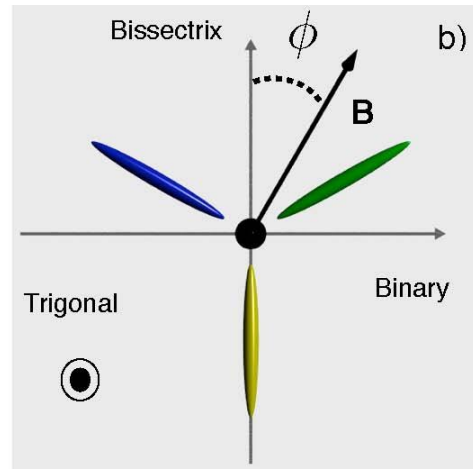
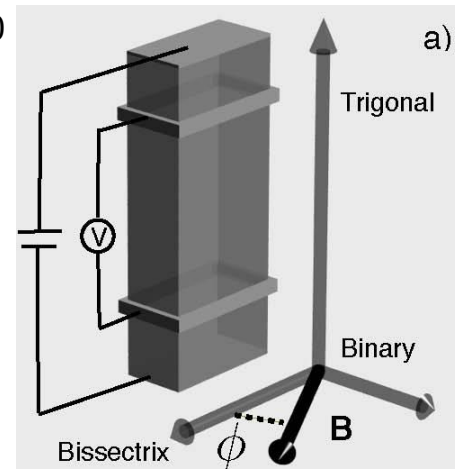
**But, is there a phase transition?**

# Back to resistivity!

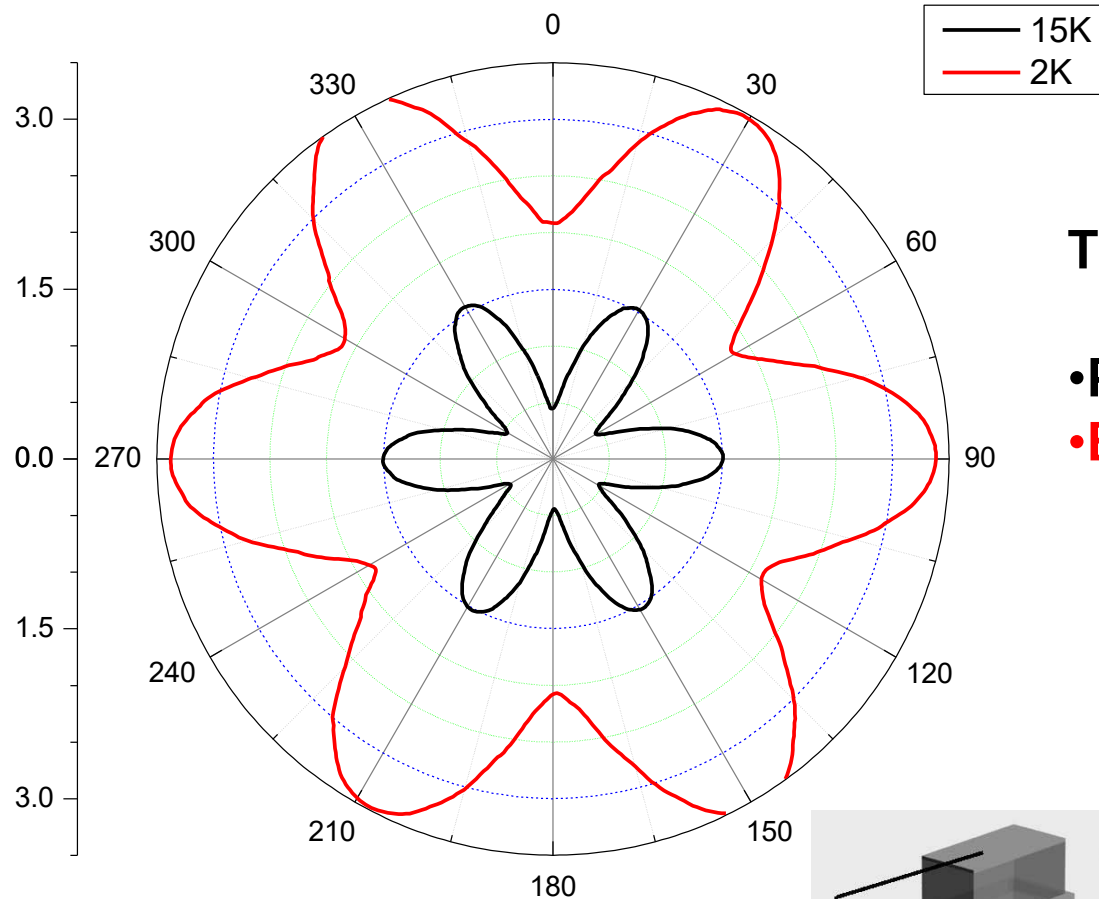


**B=0.1 T**

A. Collaudin *et al.* PRX (2015)



# Back to resistivity!

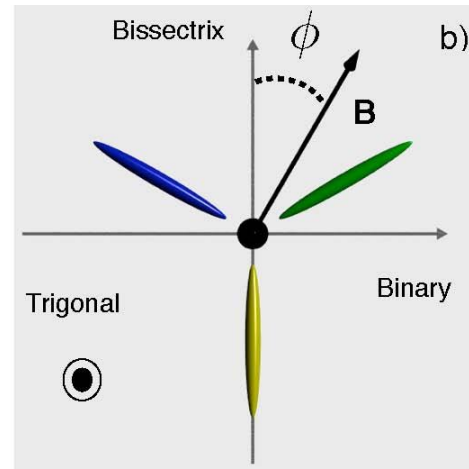
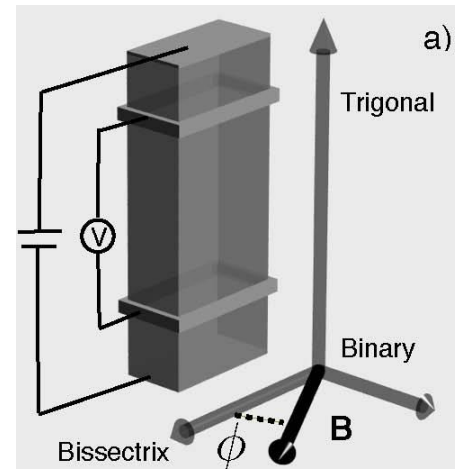


Threefold symmetry is :

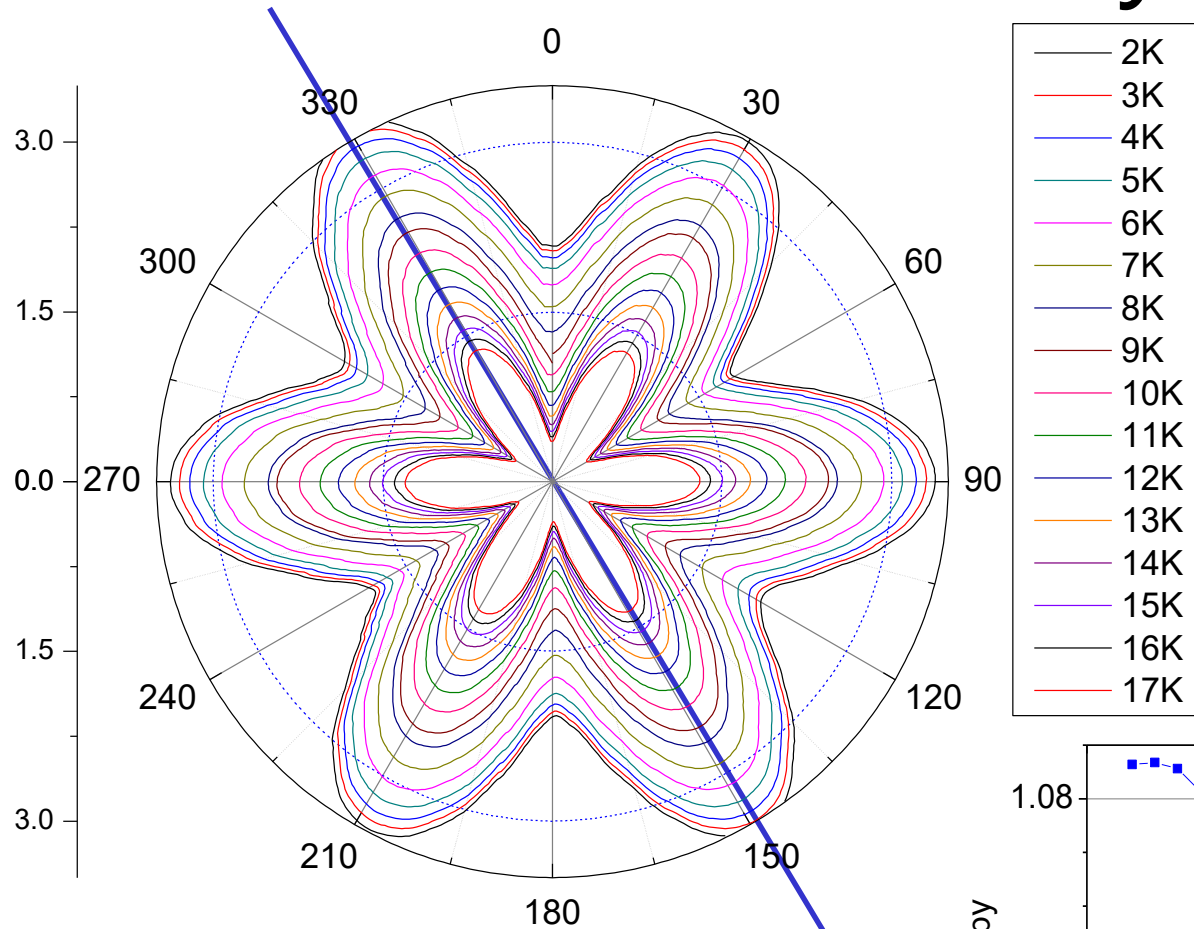
- Present at 15 K
- **But lost at 2 K**

**B=0.1 T**

A. Collaudin *et al.* PRX(2015)



# Back to resistivity!

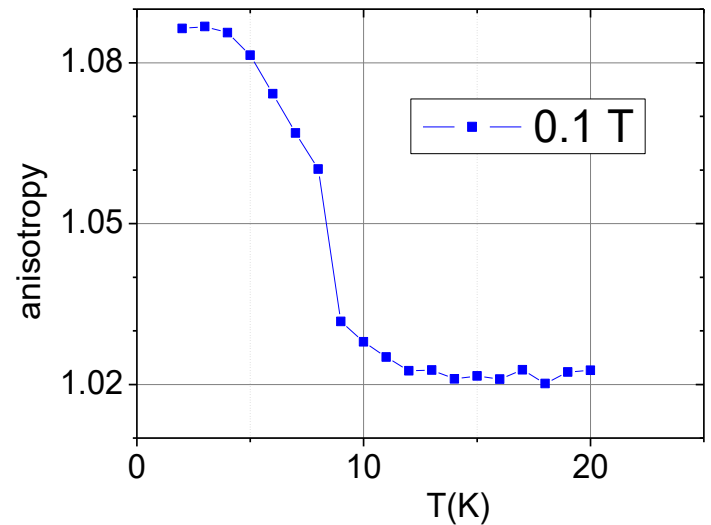


**B=0.1 T**

fold symmetry is :

ent at 15 K

ost at 2 K

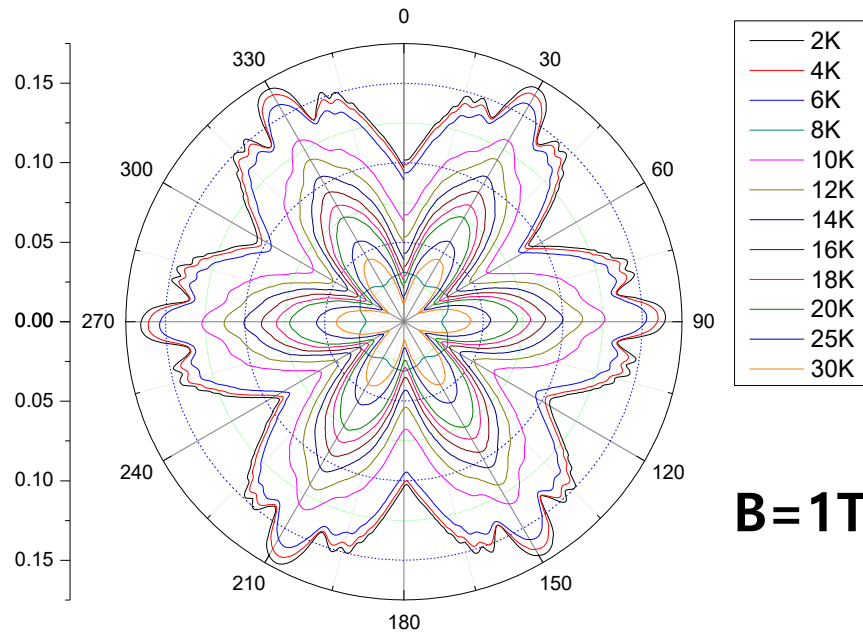
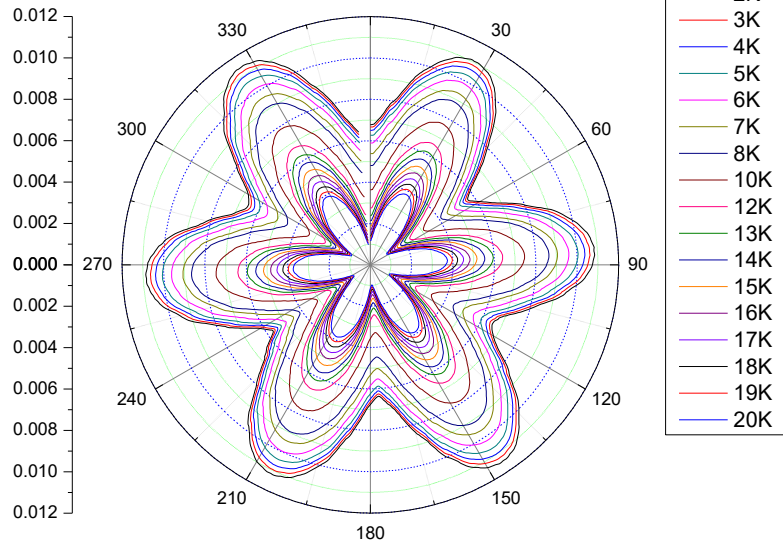


A. Collaudin *et al.* PRX (2015)

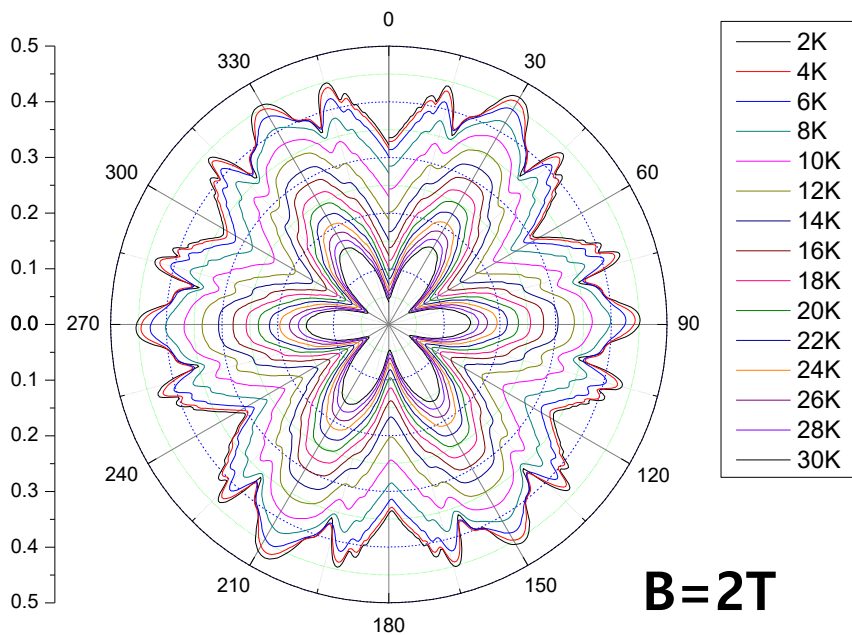


# Evolution with magnetic field

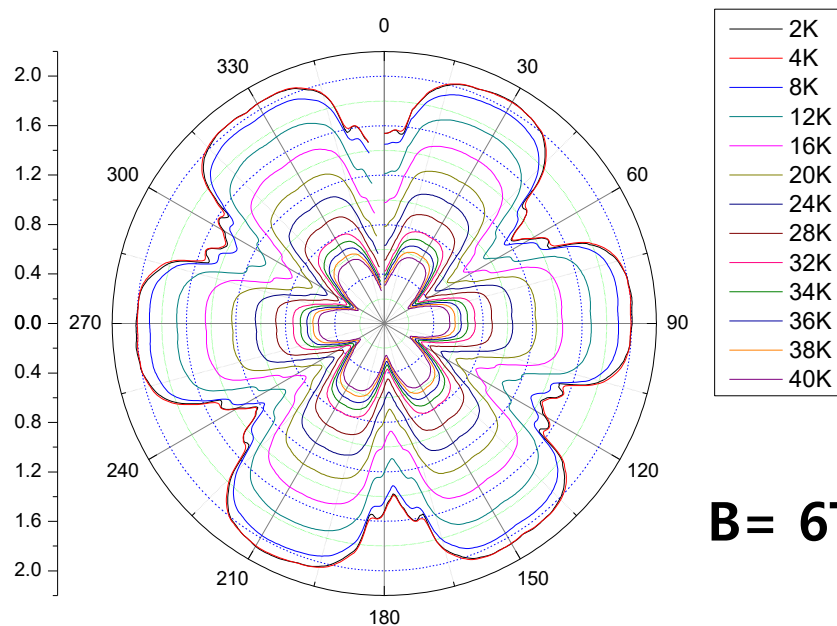
**B=0.2 T**



**B=1T**

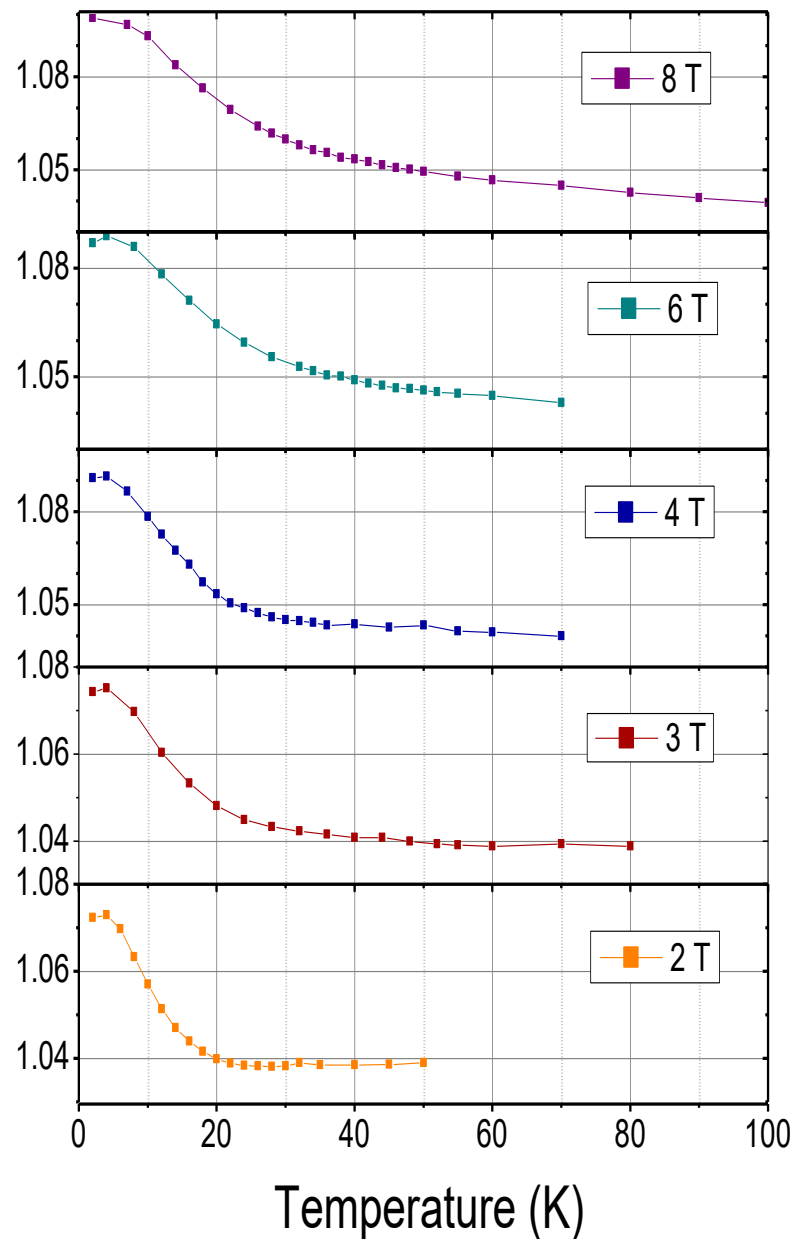
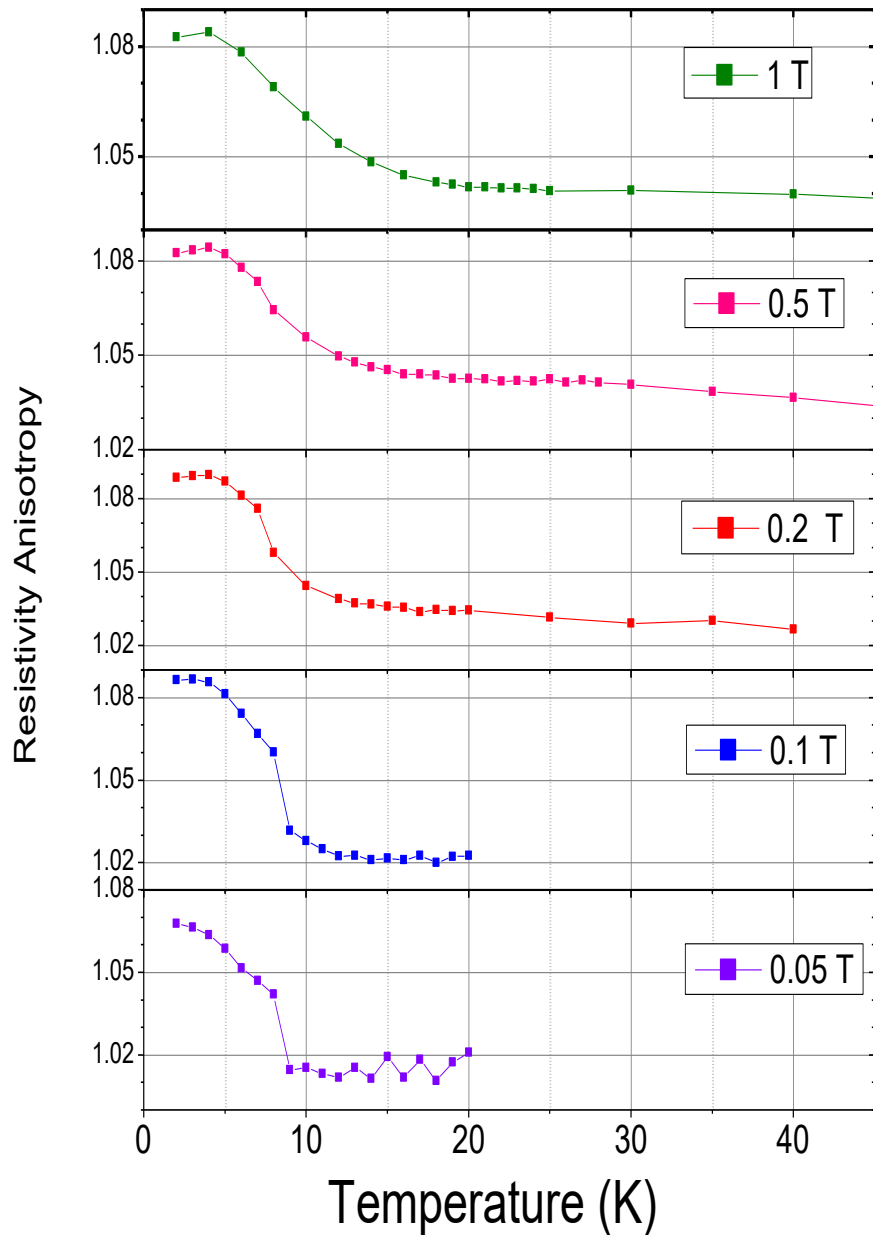


**B=2T**

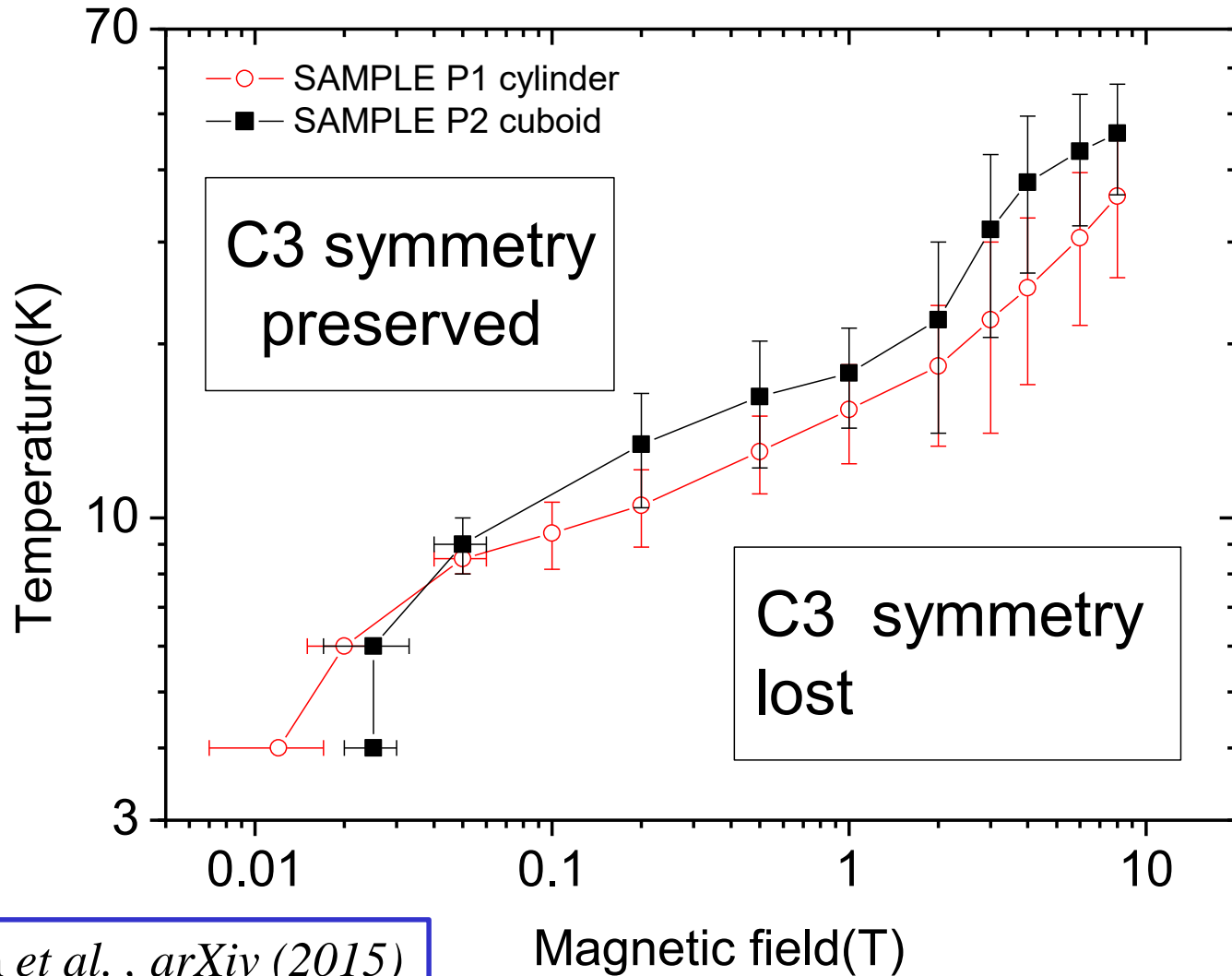


**B= 6T**

# A phase transition



# The phase diagram





## Nematic valley ordering in quantum Hall systems

D. A. Abanin,<sup>1,2</sup> S. A. Parameswaran,<sup>1</sup> S. A. Kivelson,<sup>3</sup> and S. L. Sondhi<sup>1</sup>

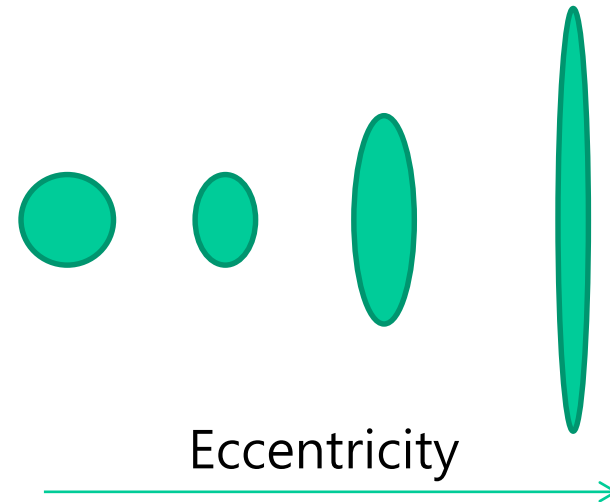
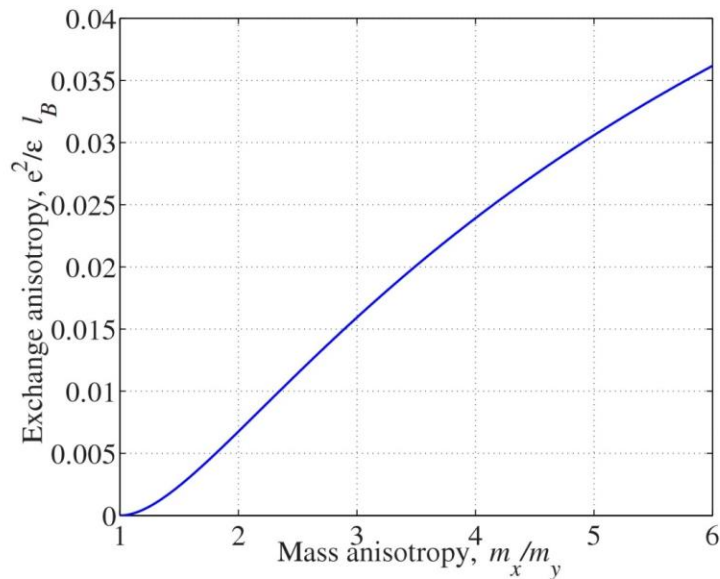
<sup>1</sup>*Department of Physics, Princeton University, Princeton, New Jersey 08544, USA*

<sup>2</sup>*Princeton Center for Theoretical Science, Princeton University, Princeton, New Jersey 08544, USA*

<sup>3</sup>*Department of Physics, Stanford University, Stanford, California 94305, USA*

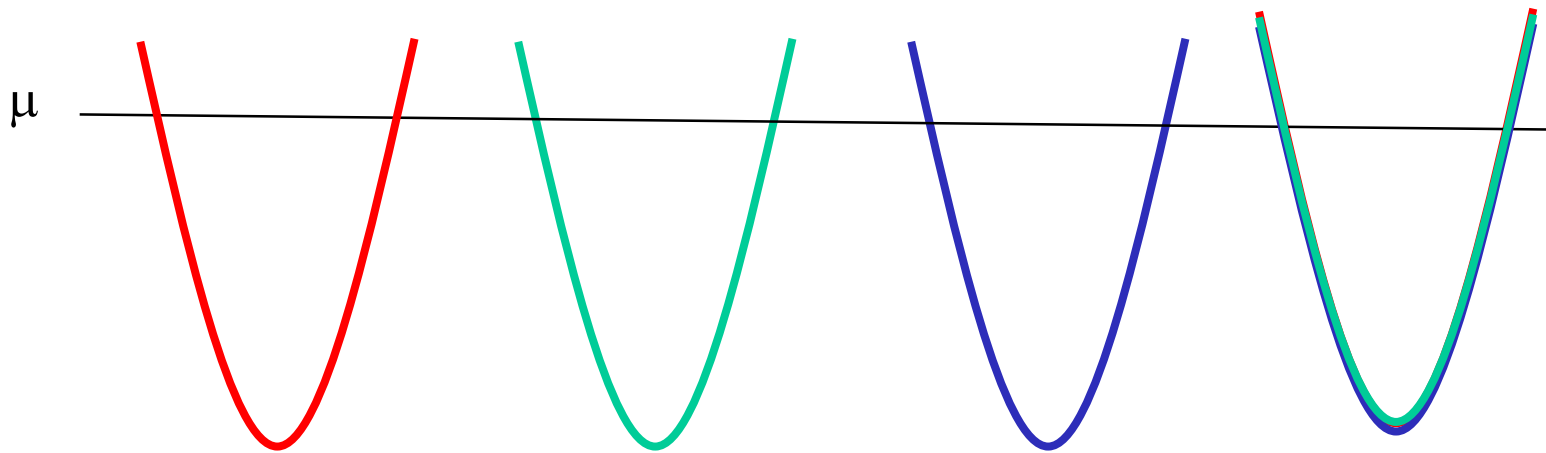
(Received 23 March 2010; revised manuscript received 13 June 2010; published 20 July 2010)

- Inequality in valley occupancy saves exchange energy!
- The effect is enhanced as the valleys become more eccentric!



# Challenge to theory

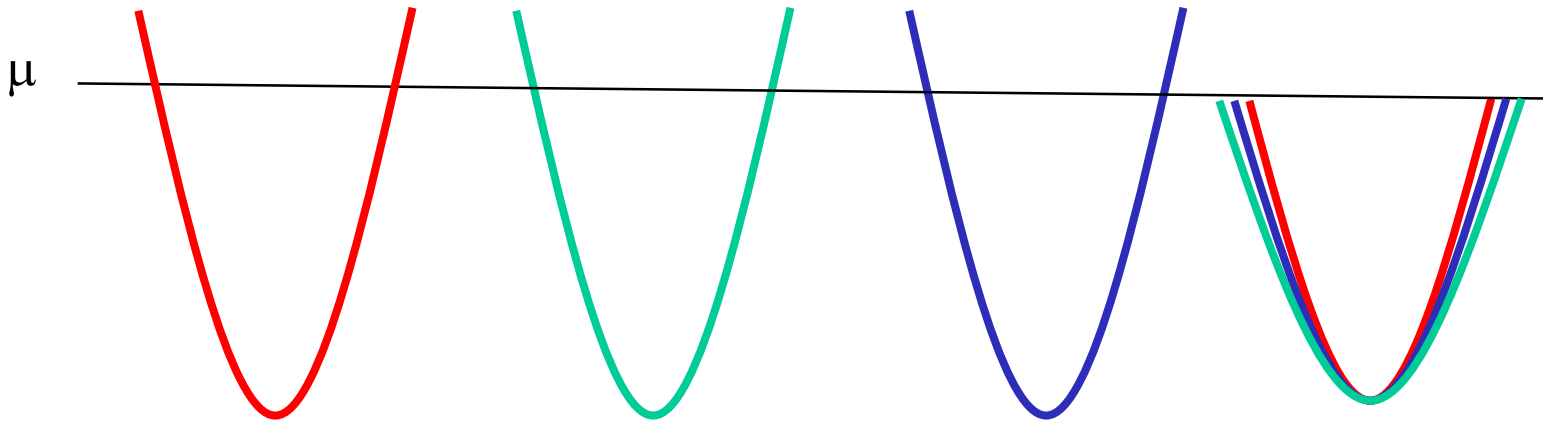
How does the magnetic field induce a gap between valleys' Landau levels near the Fermi energy?



**Without interaction : The three valleys are degenerate**

# Challenge to theory

How does the magnetic field induce a gap between valleys' Landau levels near the Fermi energy?

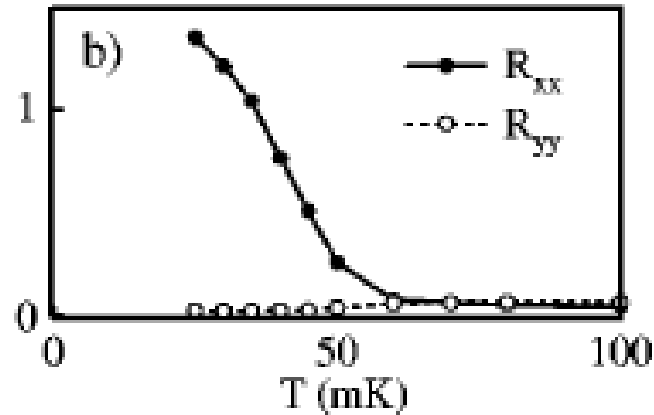


**Interaction lifts degeneracy, but only near the chemical potential!**

# Nematic Fermi liquids

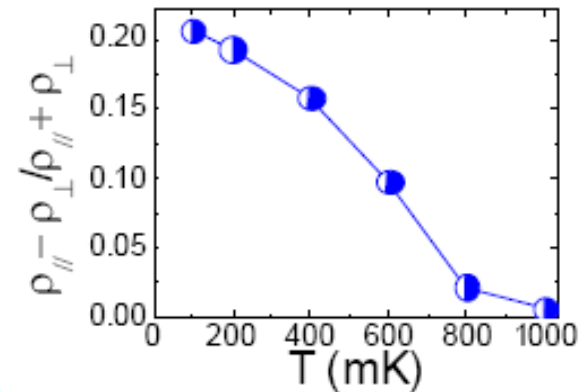
Lilly *et al.*, Phys. Rev. Lett. 82, 394 (1999)

Quantum Hall 2DEG



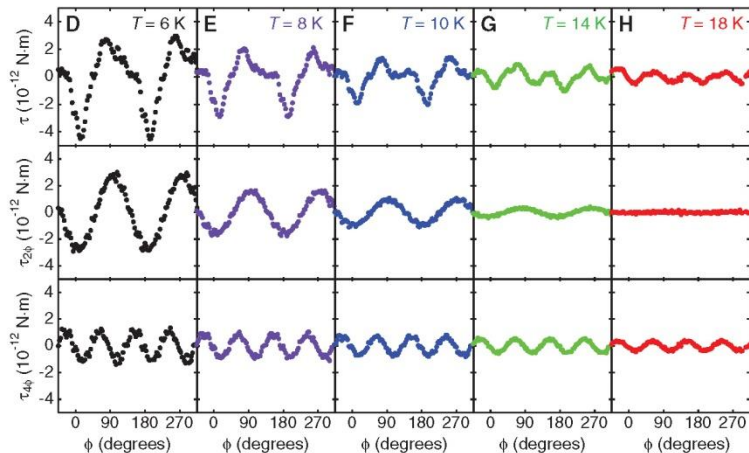
Borzi *et al.*, Science 315, 214 (2007)

Bulk layered  $\text{Sr}_3\text{Ru}_2\text{O}_7$



Okazaki *et al.*, Science 331, 439 (2011)

Hidden order of  $\text{URu}_2\text{Si}_2$



# Nematic Fermi Fluids in Condensed Matter Physics

## Annual Review of Condensed Matter Physics

Eduardo Fradkin, Steven A. Kivelson, Michael J. Lawler  
James P. Eisenstein, Andrew P. Mackenzie

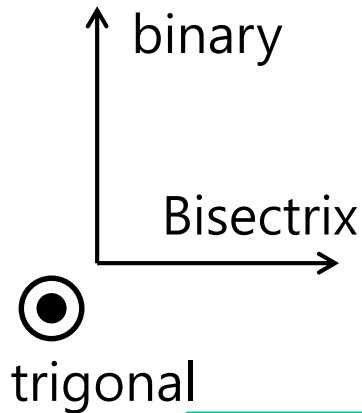
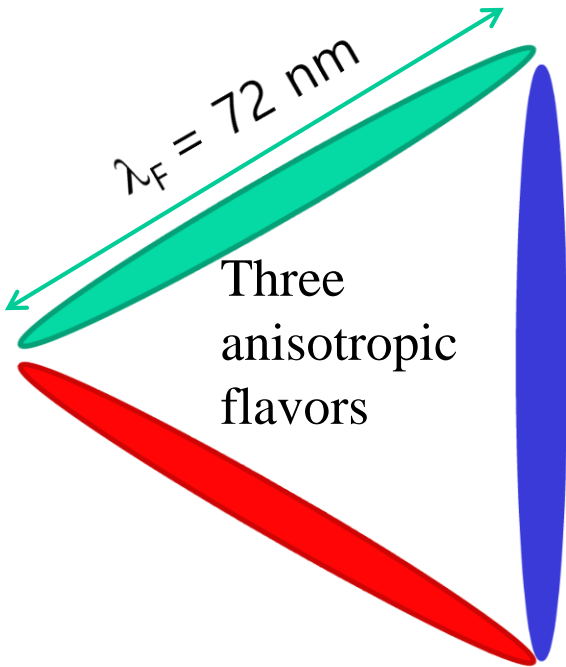
“Classical nematics generally occur in liquids of rod-like molecules; **given that electrons are point like**, ... motivation for contemplating electron nematics came from thinking of the electron fluid as a quantum melted electron crystal...”



# View from real space

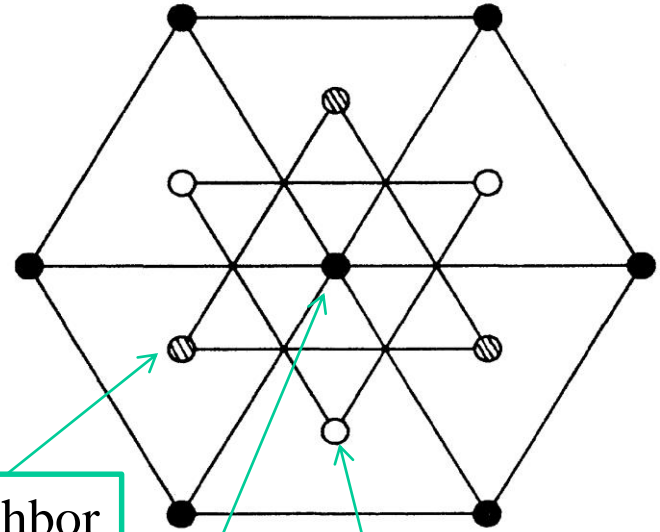
## electrons

Interelectron distance  $\sim 10-100$  nm



## atoms

Interatomic distance  $\sim 0.3$  nm



Second neighbor

Central atom

First neighbor

## Rod-like electrons!

# List of questions

- What makes such a low-symmetry crystal structure stable?

*The crystal floats over the liquid!*

- Why magnetoresistance does not follow  $B^2$ ?
- What causes the loss of rotational symmetry (or nematicity) induced by magnetic field?
- Can the melting temperature shift with magnetic field given the magnitude of Zeeman and cyclotron energies?