

First Principles Defect Chemistry for Modeling Irradiated GaAs and III-V's

- Getting electrons and atoms into QASPR

Friday, April 1, 2011

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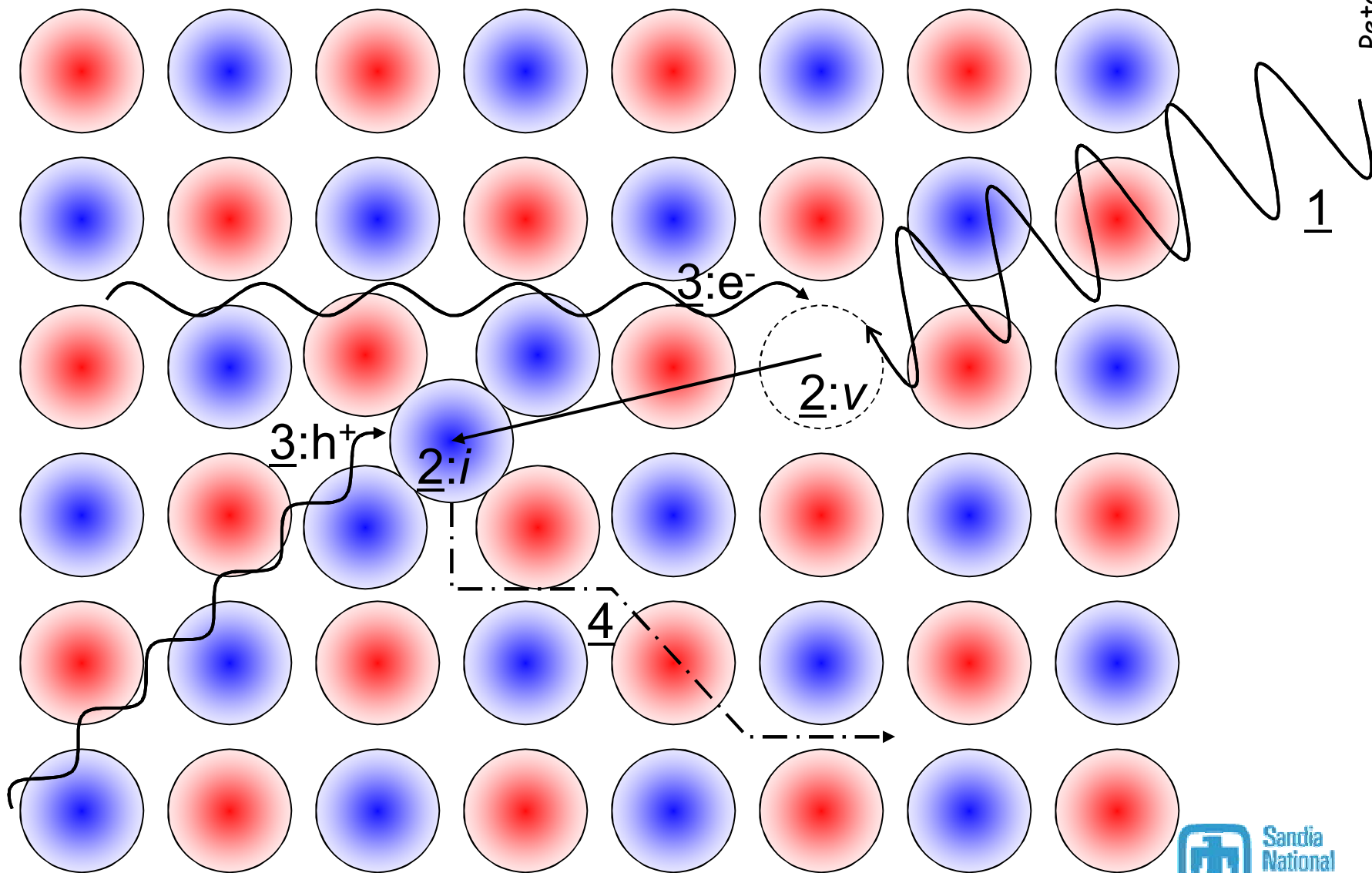
Advanced Device Technologies, Dept. 1425

Sandia National Laboratories

Albuquerque, NM

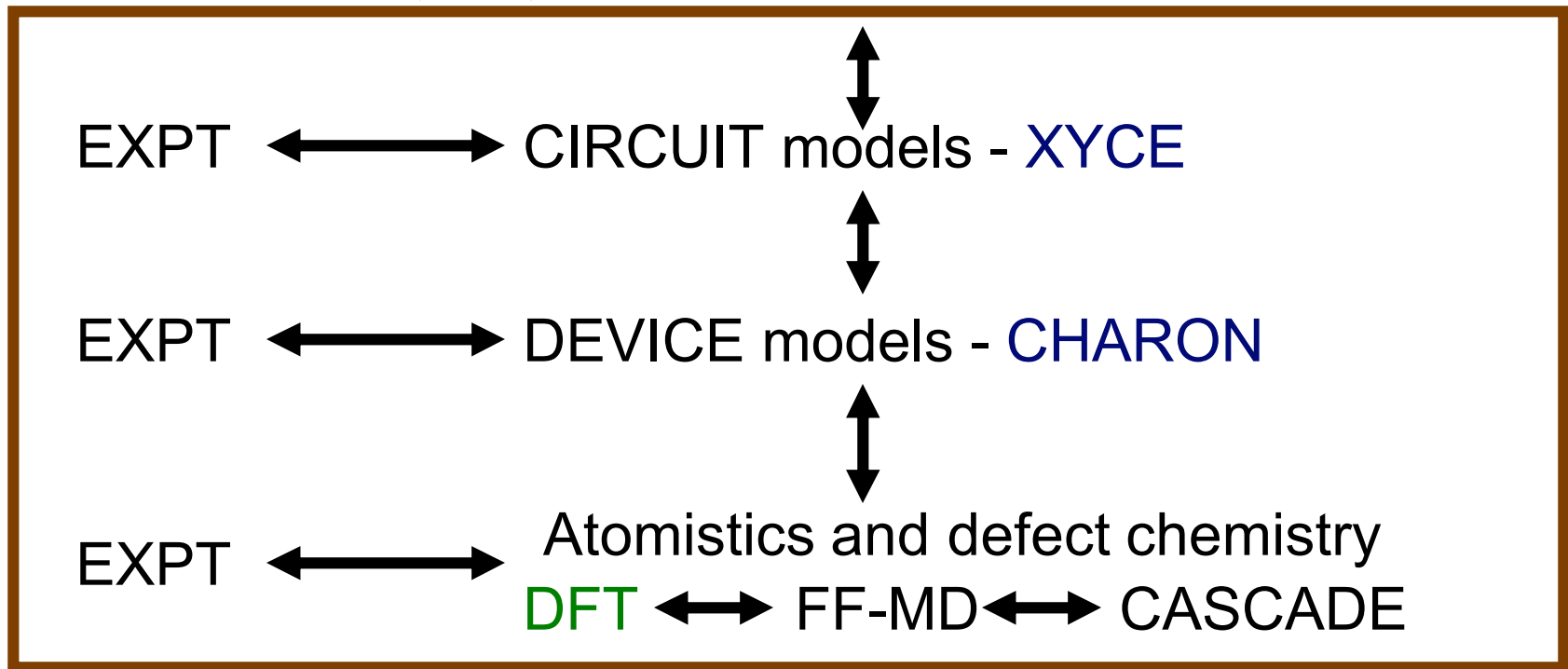
2011 HEART Conference, Orlando, FL

It begins with displaced atoms ...



Modeling Radiation Response - QASPR

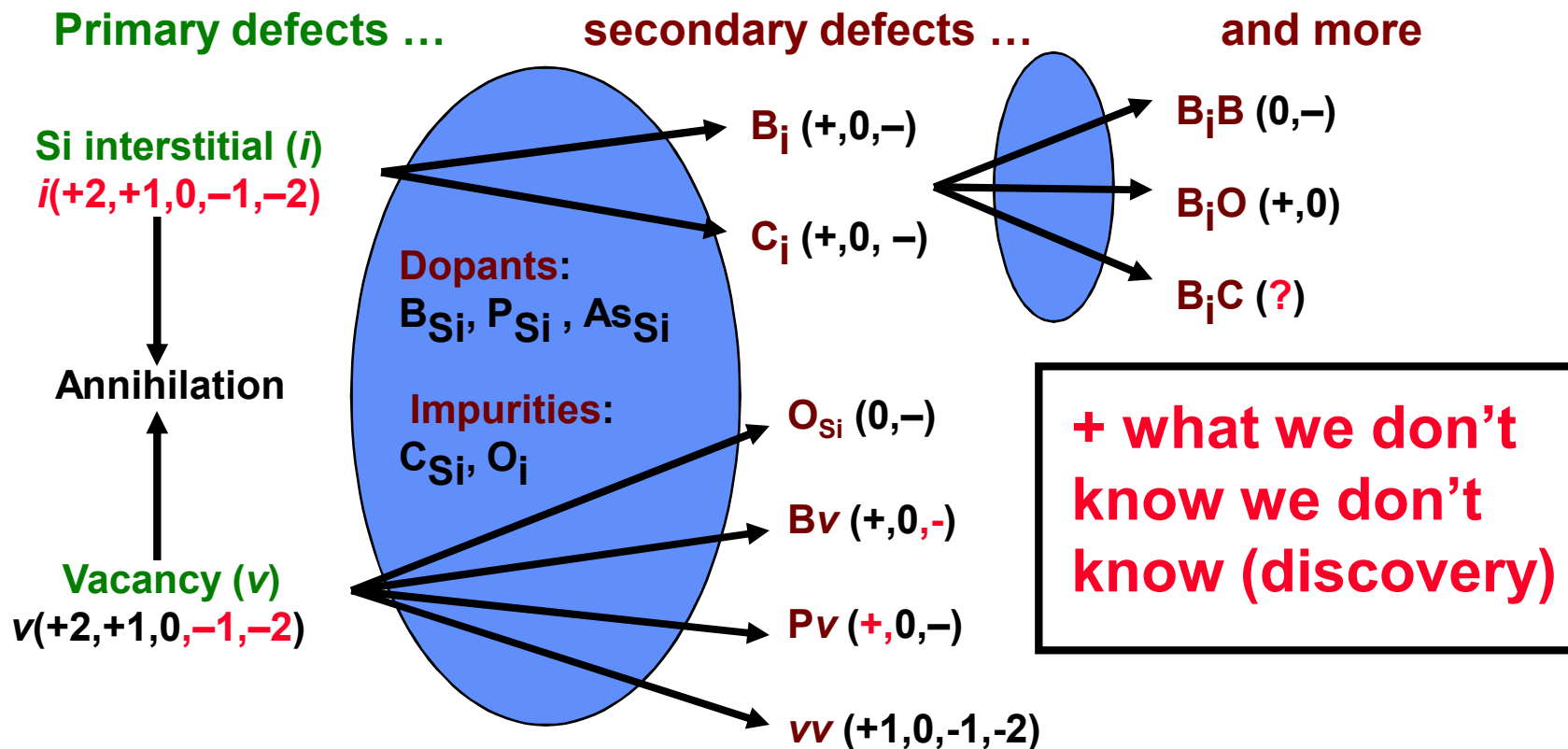
SPR Tests $\xleftrightarrow{n^0}$ Weapons systems qualification



QASPR charter: replace SPR tests with expt'l-comp'l system

Atomistic density functional theory (DFT) gives defect chemistry

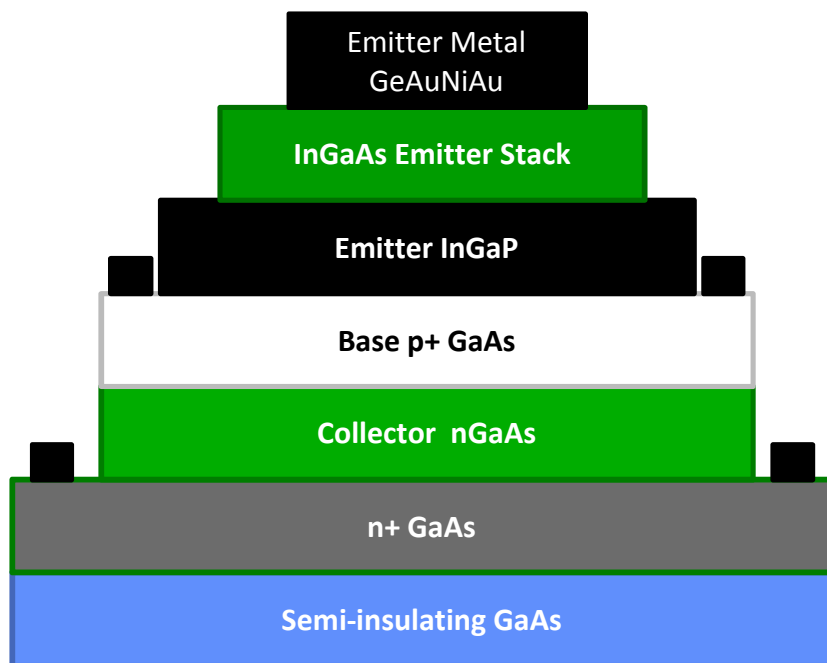
Radiation defects chemistry: Si



Need to know defects species, charge states, levels, chemical networks ...
DFT most accurate (sometimes only) probe of defect behavior
This chemistry map almost entirely blank in GaAs, III-V's - unknown

HBT model needs more than Si, or even GaAs

Example HBT stack



(Thanks: Don King and Gary Patrizi)

AlGaAs and InGaP
are important in HBT devices

Need defect physics for:
InP and GaP, AlAs

Then need to extend that
defect physics to ternary alloys.

The sequence of physics challenges

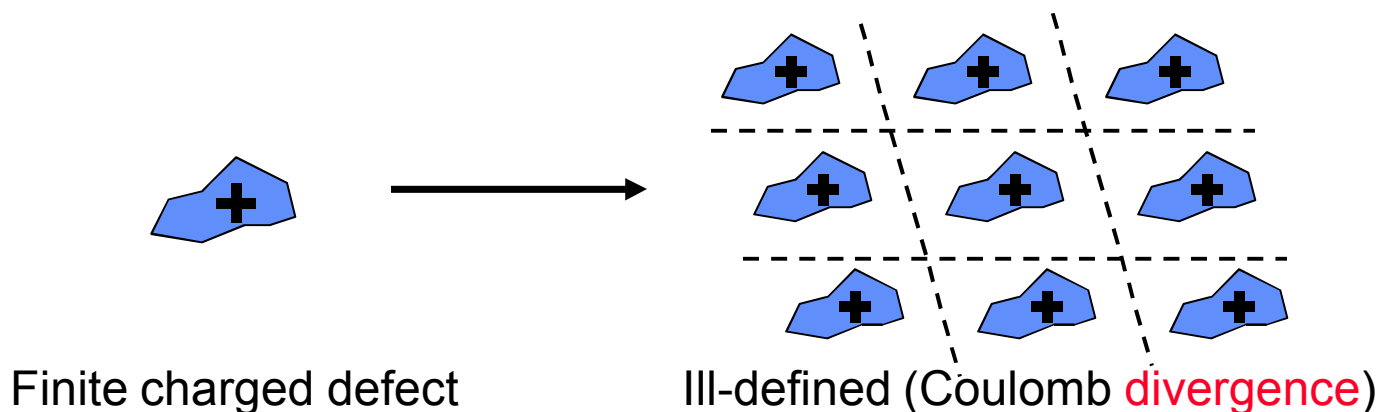
- **Silicon: lots of good data**
 - Expt: DLTS (levels) + EPR (chemical identity)
 - Need DFT to fill key gaps in QASPR defect package:
 - interstitial, vacancies(-q), reactions/migration energies
 - Unknown unknowns (Pv, Bv)
- **GaAs: more complex system, very little good data**
 - DLTS (levels) + ~~EPR(chemical identity)~~
 - Only defect characterized is EL2 (As_{Ga}), no radiation-defects
 - DFT must take place of EPR to identify chemistry
 - **Validation challenge**
- **HBT's: other III-V's and ternary alloys, even less good data**

Strategy: (1) comprehensive quantitative validation in Si
 (2) extend into GaAs, validate and predict
 (3) lather, rinse, repeat: dopants in GaAs, III-V, ...

Computational challenges

- **Conventional DFT failed for defect levels in semiconductors**

- (1) Physical accuracy: “band gap problem”
- (2) Computational model convergence – model size limitations
- (3) Lack of good and sufficient data for validation (esp. III-V’s)
- (4) Supercell problem for charged defects:



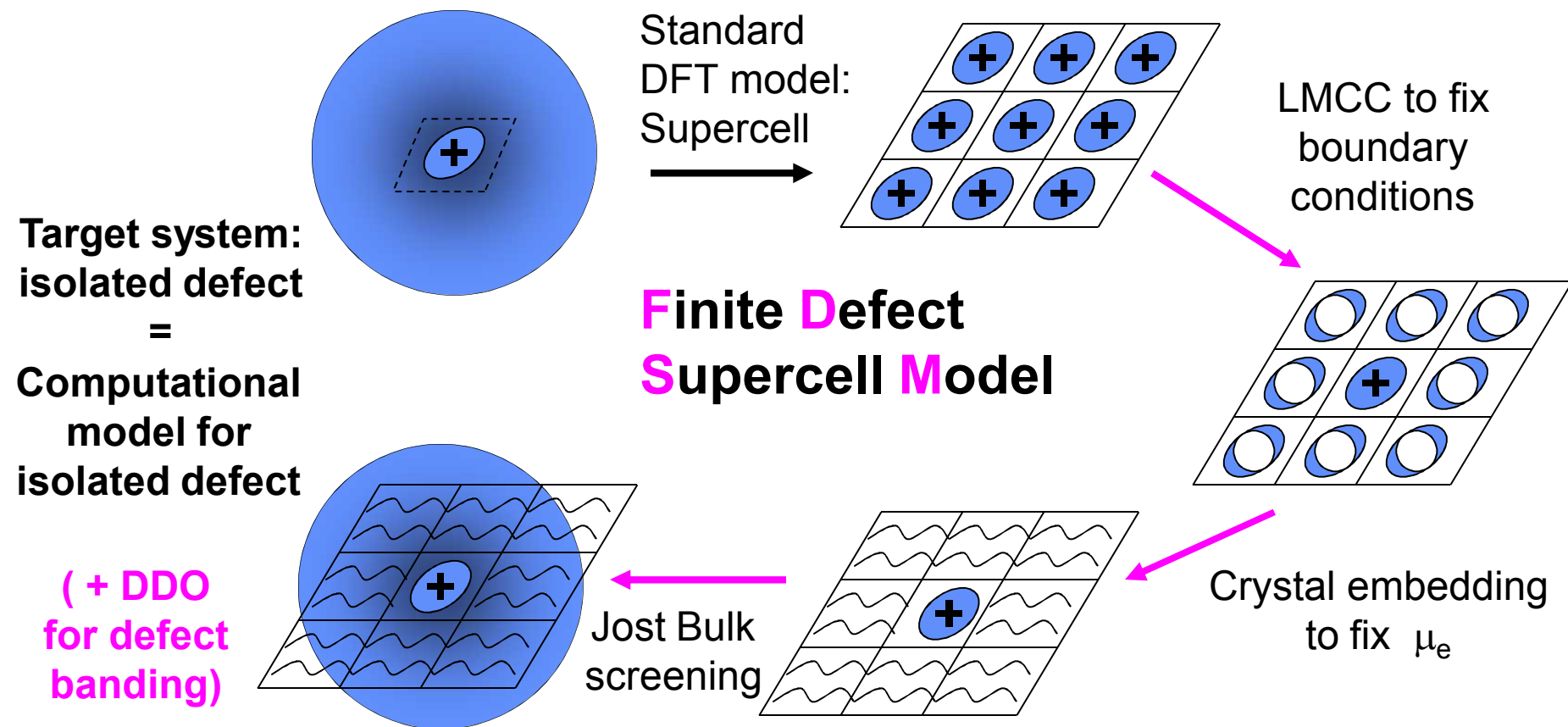
- lots of “point solutions” with DFT, but no robust, predictive method

- **Need to build and justify new approaches, apply to new problems**

Strategy: incrementally build/test, V&V defect models

A supercell theory of defect energies

Peter A. Schultz, Phys. Rev. Lett. **96**, 246401 (2006).



FDSM - breakthrough for robust calculations of defect levels

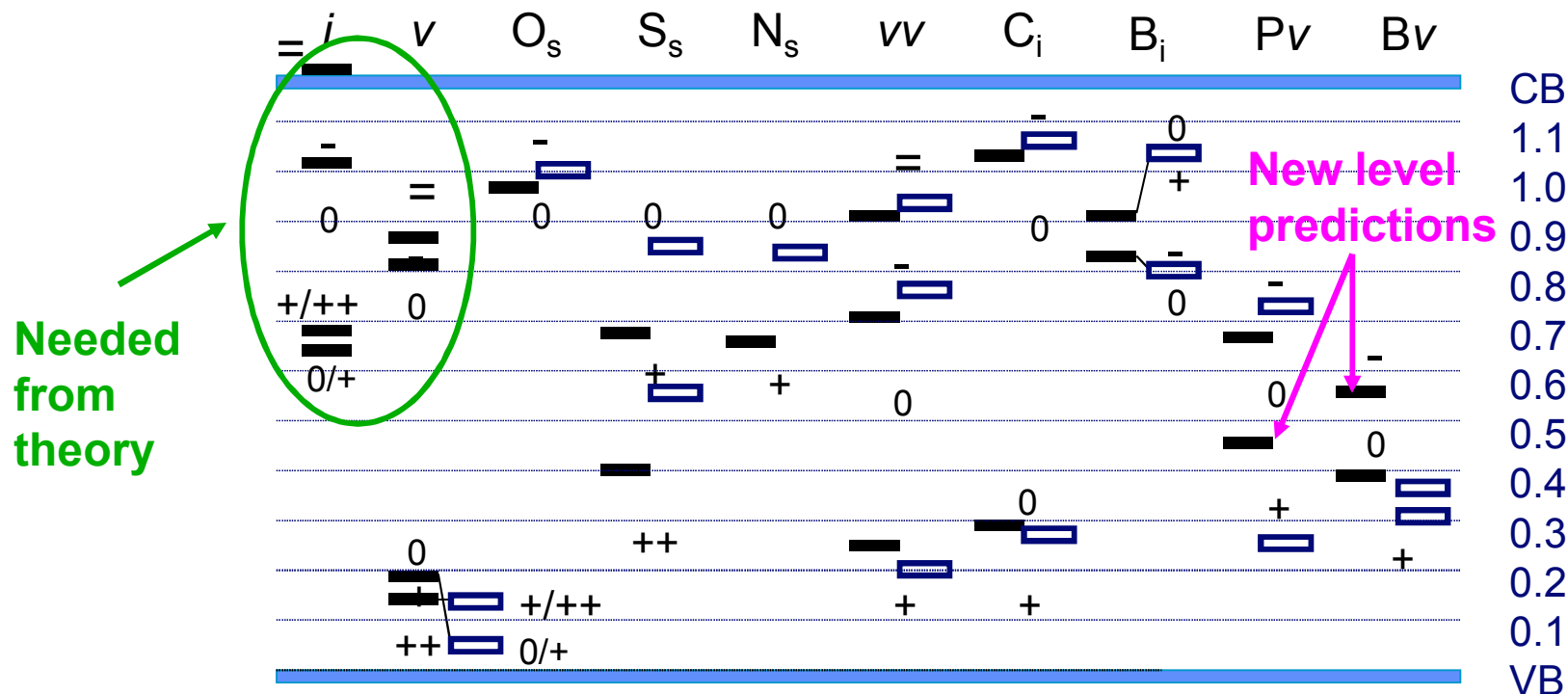
Computational methods - GaAs and III-V's

- **General purpose DFT code SeqQuest** (<http://dft.sandia.gov/Quest>)
 - Version 2.61j, and development Version dev-2.62/j (equivalent to 2.61j)
 - well-converged (Gaussian-based) local orbital basis
 - both LDA and PBE functionals
 - converged norm-conserving pseudopotentials (Ga,In with both $Z_{\text{val}}=3,10$)
 - full force-relaxed (<1 meV total energies)
 - full FDSM ... robust control of boundary conditions

- **Large bulk simulation supercells**
 - $a_0=a_0(\text{theory})$ (GaAs:5.60Å(LDA),5.63Å(3d),5.74Å(PBE); $a_0(\text{expt})=5.65$ Å)
 - 216-, 512- and some 64-site (+defect) cubic III-V cells
 - k-sampling: (2^3 for 216- and 512-cells, 3^2 for 64-site cell)
 - real-space grids: $64/96^3$, $216/144^3$, $512/192^3$ (96^3 , 144^3 , 192^3 for GaAs-d0)
 - fully calibrated, verified polarization model
 - all these computational parameters are tested for convergence

Comparable method to Si that yielded 0.1 eV accuracy

Si: DFT/PBE vs. Experimental Levels



... and $v_2P(=/-/0/+)$, $vP_2(-/0)$, $v_2O(=/-/0+/2+)$, $v_2O_2(=/-/0+/2+)$, $H_i(-/0/+)$... O_i , P_s , B_s , C_s ,

DFT “defect gap” matches experiment – no band gap problem.

DFT/PBE max error=0.20 eV, mean |error|=0.10 eV – VALIDATION

DFT gives verified, validated results with good uncertainties

Simple intrinsic defects in GaAs: LDA

P.A. Schultz and O.A. von Lilienfeld, MSMSE **17**, 084007 (2009), 35pp.

216-site results = 512-site

Verification: cell-converged

LDA-3d = LDA to ≤ 0.1 eV

Verification: PP converged

Defect band gap = ~ 1.54 eV

Validation: band gap (1.52)

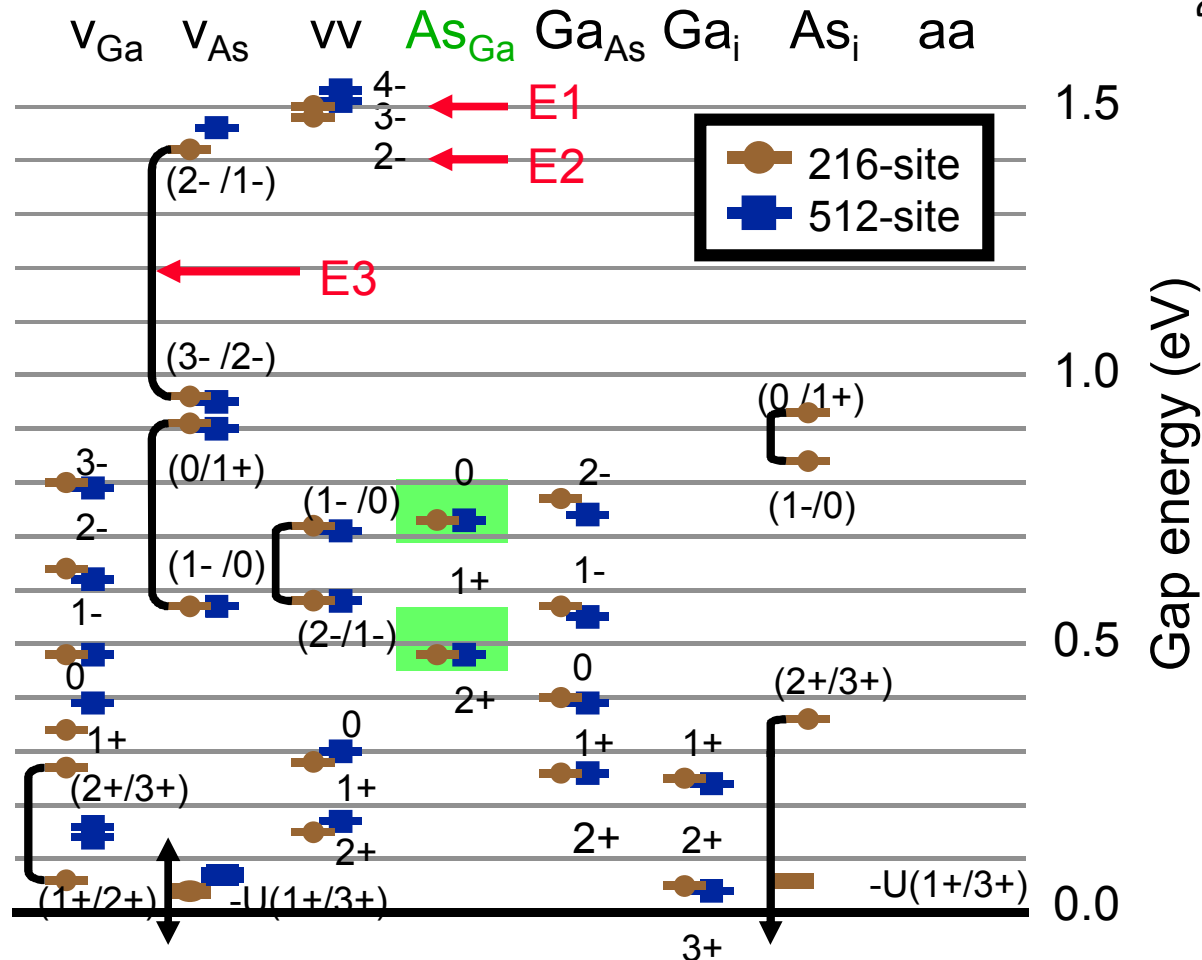
As_{Ga} levels = EL2 levels

vGa levels below midgap

Validation: levels < 0.1 eV

DFT/SeqQuest-FDSM

V&V accuracy ~ 0.1 eV



Pure prediction: a GaAs radiation defects Rosetta Stone

Transients: Identify mobile species in GaAs

- **Ga_i is thermally mobile in p-type**

- migration barriers, T-H-T: Ga_i[1+] 1.1 eV, Ga_i[2+] 0.8 eV, Ga_i[3+] 0.5 eV

- **As_i is thermally mobile in p-type, likely also in n-type**

- p-type migration barriers, T-H-T: As_i[3+], As_i[2+] <0.5 eV (~validated)
 - n-type: flat (<1 eV) structural energy variations in other charge states

- **As_i is athermally mobile in p-type (~validated), just as in Si**

- e.g., T [3+] + e⁻ → H[2+] + h⁺ → T'[3+] + e⁻
 - recombination-enhanced diffusion through bistabilities in other charge states

- **No other mobile species (e.g. vacancies are stationary)**

- consistent with, and roughly validated by experimental analyses

Transient effects dominated first by As_i, second by Ga_i

GaAs transient defect chemistry network

Primary defects ...

secondary defects ...

and more

As interstitial
 $As_i(1-,0,1+,2+,3+)$

Ga interstitial
 $Ga_i(1+,2+,3+)$

Dopants:
 C_{As}, Si_{Ga}

Antisites,
Annihilation

Vacancies

V_{Ga}, V_{As}

$(3-,2-,1-,0,1+,2+,3+)$

$(V_X, X_Y \text{ immobile})$

Reactant initiation ranked by mobility:

As_i : "instant" athermal
~0.5 thermal

Ga_i : ~0.5 eV thermal in *p*-type

Likely reactant targets of mobile interstitials:

p-type ... C_{As} - in *p*-type

n-type ... Si_{Ga} (Si_{As}) - in

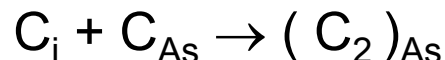
Interstitial-defect reactions and energies

Thermodynamic (non-charge conserving)

As interstitial:

p-type:

(E_f =VB edge)



$(\text{C}_2)_{\text{As}}$ is terminus of chemistry

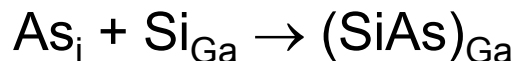
Reaction energy

-1.35 eV

-3.23

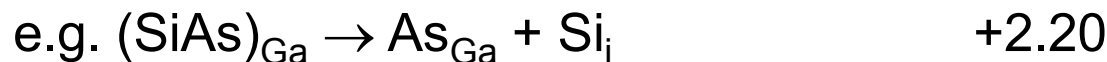
n-type:

(E_f =CB edge)



$(\text{SiAs})_{\text{Ga}}$ is terminus of chemistry

but perhaps source of delayed release of As_i



$(\text{SiAs})_{\text{Ga}}$ is strongly bound vs. dissociation to Si_i

Ga interstitial:

n-type:

(E_f =CB edge)



Si_i will be mobile (just as in Si), not a terminus

-0.92

GaP: Simple intrinsic defects

SeqQuest version dev2.62/j, LDA, Ga(Z=3) PP

216-site results = 512-site

Verification: cell-converged

Defect band gap = ~2.4 eV

Validation: band gap (2.35)

Mobile species:

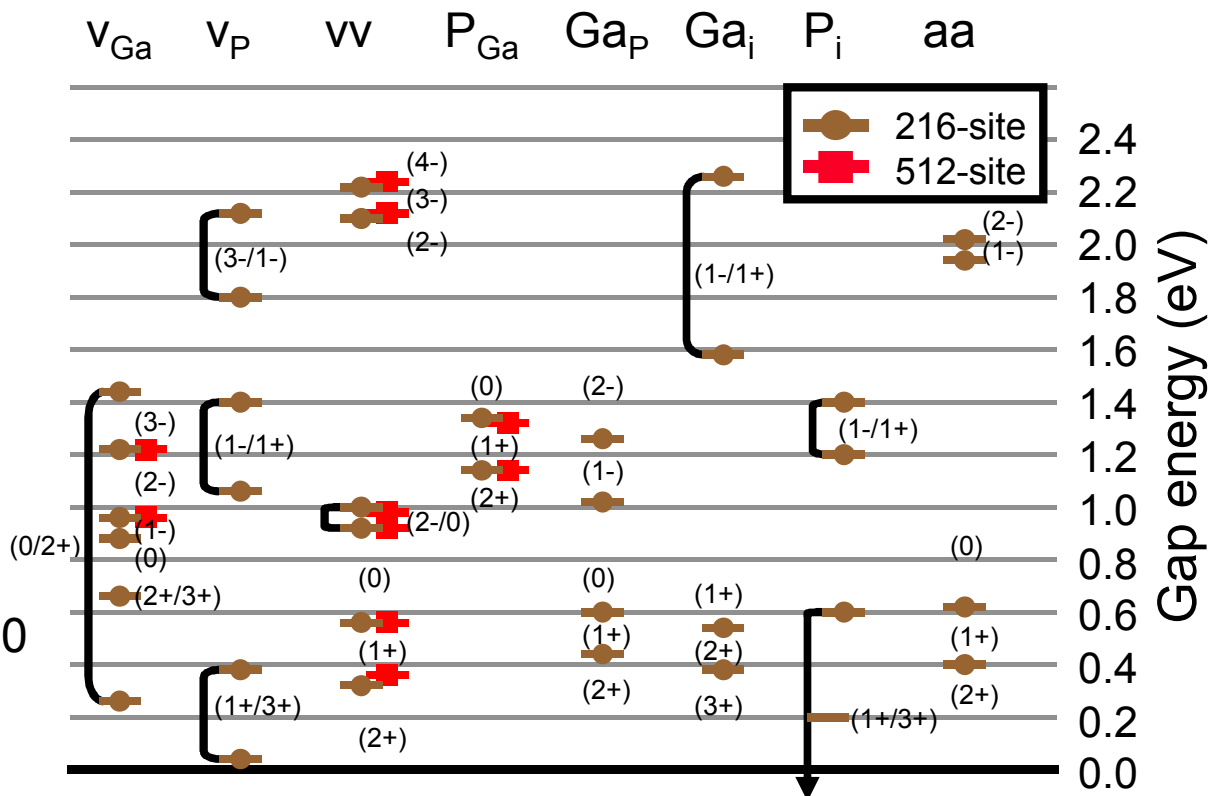
P_i , thermal (~0.5 eV)

and athermal p-type

Ga_i , migration barriers ~1.0

Similar to GaAs ...

... with some differences



Pure prediction: defect physics of GaP almost unknown

InP: Simple intrinsic defects

SeqQuest version dev2.62/j, LDA, In(Z=3) PP

216-site results = 512-site

Verification: cell-converged

Defect band gap = ~1.7 eV

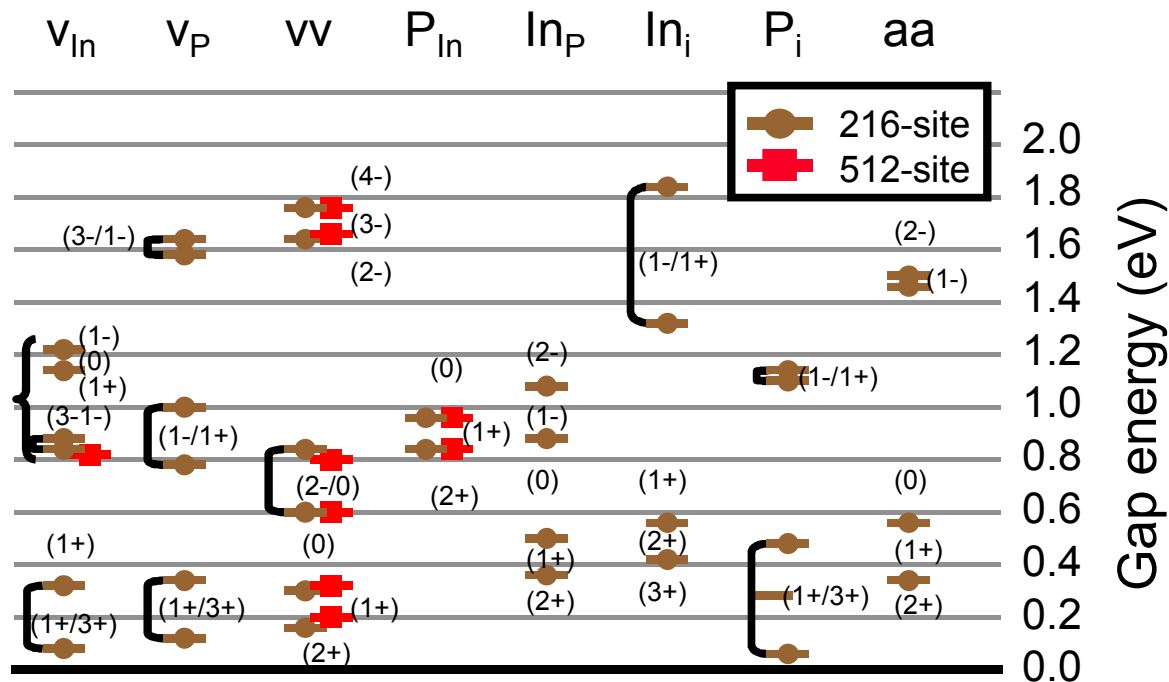
Validation: band gap (1.42)

Mobile species:

P_i , thermal (~0.5 eV)

and athermal p-type

In_i , barriers > 0.7 eV



Similar to GaAs, GaP

Some difference, but same mobile species -> similar defect chemistries

InGaP alloy within reach, intermediate between InP, GaP?

Path forward for defect chemistries

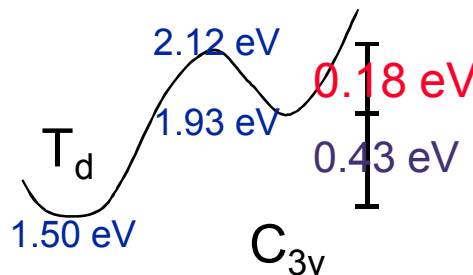
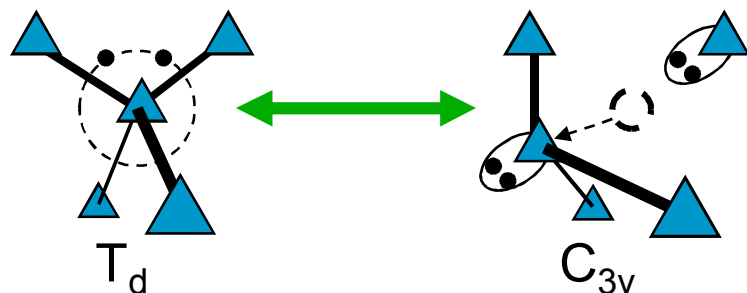
- Impurity-defect chemistry in GaAs - Si (*n*-type), C (*p*-type)
 - clean up chemical networks, need experiment to filter possibilities
- Set up baseline defect physics for other III-V - get ahead of engineering needs
 - identify mobile species, and begin to scope radiation chemistry networks
 - scope issues for extending to HBT-relevant alloys, e.g. InGaP
- Ternaries? Looks like InGaP $\sim$ GaP + InP ...
- Need to figure out physics in GaAs (U-band)
- Need experiment in InP, GaP, InGaP for model development, validation
- Need to develop validated defect-aware device models

DFT has achieved accuracy necessary for device model needs
DFT studies can meet (lead) engineering timeline constraints

- Extra slides -

V&V: EL2 and the As antisite

EL2 = antisite $\text{As}_{\text{Ga}}(0)$



216-site =
512-site
(~ 64-site)

	Experiment -EL2	SeqQuest/FDSM - As_{Ga}
EL2(0/1+)	E_c -0.74 eV	E_c -0.81 eV
EL2(1+/2+)	E_v +0.54 eV	E_v +0.48 eV
Splitting:	0.24 eV ($E_g=1.52$)	0.25 eV
EL2*	no donor states	no donor states
Reorientation:	~0.3 eV	~0.2 eV

Verification: 64-216-512-site supercell results match

Validation: DFT matches experiment for EL2 w/in 0.1 eV

Defect complex energy levels

(in eV)	C_i (cf VB)	$(C_2)_{As}$ (cf VB)	Si_i (cf CB)	$(SiAs)_{Ga}$ (cf CB)
$E(2-/1-)$	+1.23	n/x	$\begin{bmatrix} -0.14 \end{bmatrix}$	$\begin{bmatrix} -0.33 \end{bmatrix}$
$E(1-/0)$	+1.04	+1.18	$\begin{bmatrix} -0.03 \end{bmatrix}$	$\begin{bmatrix} +0.71 \end{bmatrix}$
$E(0/1+)$	+0.53	+0.97	$\begin{bmatrix} -0.71 \end{bmatrix}$	-1.03
$E(1+/2+)$	+0.32	n/x	$\begin{bmatrix} -0.40 \end{bmatrix}$	-1.35

Complexes have complicated structures, bistabilities

Lead to -U transitions in Si-complexes

$(SiAs)_{Ga}$ [2-], [1-] states thermodynamically inaccessible

Levels can be used to extend defect physics package in GaAs

III-V: The DFT Defect Gap

- Usual band gap definition: CB to VB energy
 - cannot compute directly in DFT (Kohn-Sham (KS) gap is wrong predictor)
- Defect band gap: range of transition energies for local defects

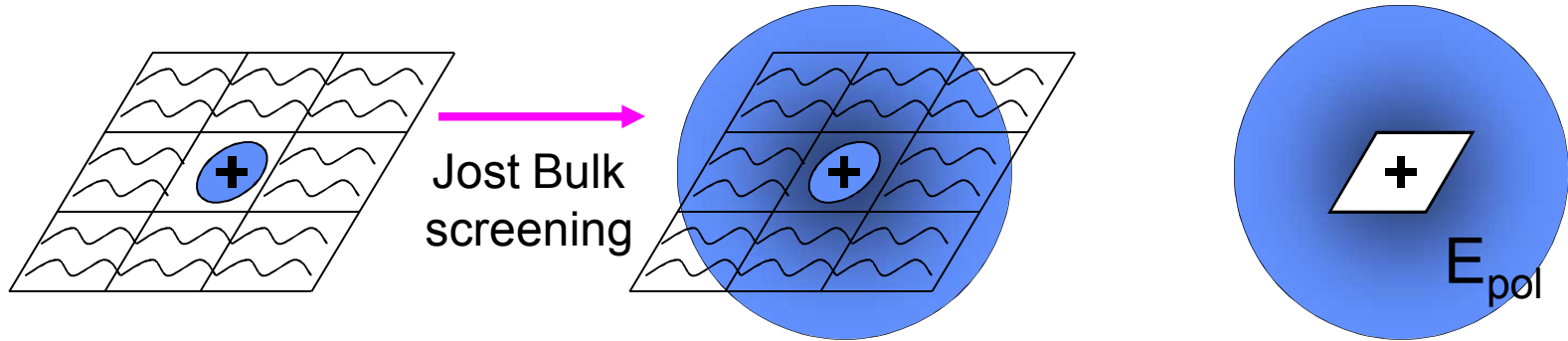
Si			AlAs		
1.17 eV			2.16ⁱ eV		
	KS	Defect		KS	Def.
lda	0.49	1.2	lda	1.37	2.2
pbe	0.62	1.2	pbe	1.53	n/a

$\epsilon_0 = \epsilon_0(\text{expt})$
 $R_{\text{skin}} = 1.6(1)$
Verified polarization model

GaAs			GaP			InP		
1.52 eV			2.35 eV			1.42 eV		
	KS	Def.		KS	Def.		KS	Def.
lda	0.83	1.54	lda	1.51	2.3	lda	0.67	1.7
lda-3d	0.47	1.51	lda-3d	1.47	n/a	lda-3d	0.66	1.7
pbe	0.45	1.44	pbe	1.74	n/a	pbe	0.47	n/a
pbe-3d	0.13	n/a	pbe-3d	1.52	n/c	pbe-3d	0.46	n/c

DFT: defect band gap accurate for interesting III-V

The polarization model and verification



For extrapolation to infinite cell, need energy of screening outside of cell. E_{pol}

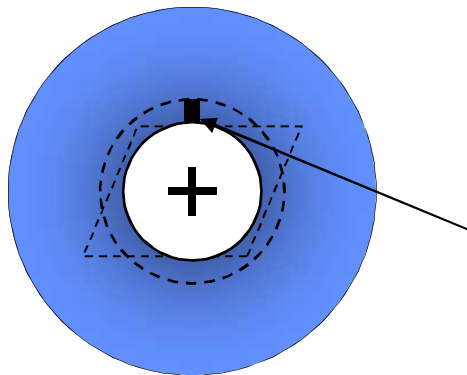
Jost model:
$$E_{pol} = \frac{(1 - 1/\epsilon_0) q^2}{R_{jost}}$$

$$R_{jost} = R_{vol} - R_{skin}$$

q = charge on defect

$$R_{jost} = R_{vol} - R_{skin}$$

R_{vol} = radius of volume sphere



Two parameters for any material

R_{skin} = unscreened volume **inside** cell.
fit: $\approx 1.5(1)$ bohr

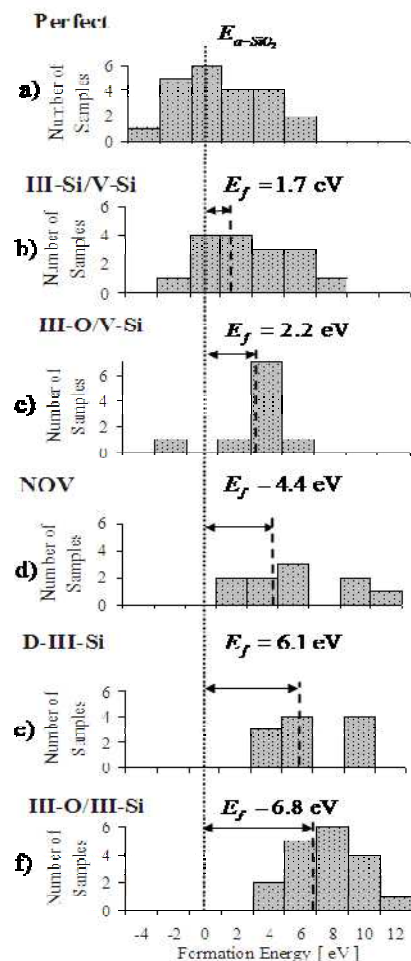
ϵ_0 = static dielectric constant - expt

Si	GaAs	InP	GaP	AlAs	InAs
11.8	13	12.5	11.2	10.1	15.15

Enabling progress on oxides

Collaboration with Purdue (ASC/PSAAP program) and PNNL

N. Anderson, R. Vedula, A. Strachan (Purdue), R. Van Ginhoven (PNNL)



Strategy:

- (1) MD (ReaxFF) to generate **many** hi-fidelity samples both stoichiometric and O-deficient (60 each)
- (2) DFT (SeqQuest/PBE) to screen structures
- (3) identify non-artifact “defects”, compute energies
- (4) model charge states, diffusion and interfaces

Advance: accurate, statistical approach for a-SiO₂
Prediction: isolated III-Si (E' centers), without v_O

Advance: FDSM approach for *amorphous* systems
New capability: defect levels (charge traps) in oxides

Progress made outside of QASPR

Methods now enable quantitative studies of oxides