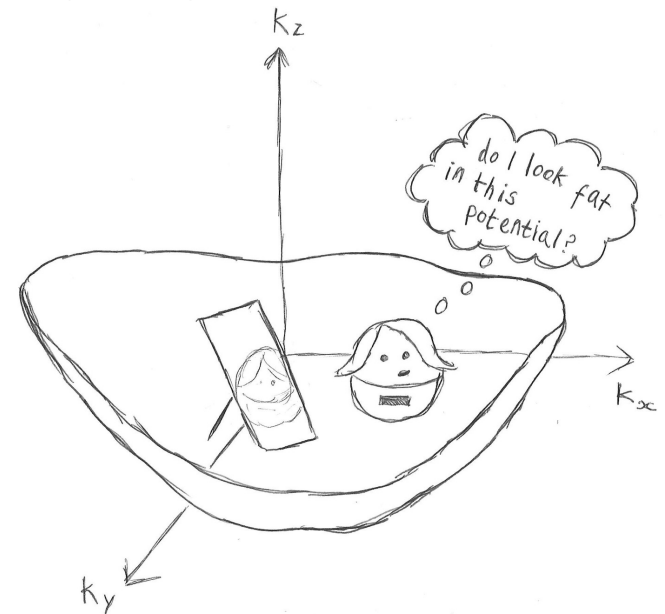




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# Nonparabolic electronic bandstructure in PV materials

Impact on optical and transport properties



**Dr Lucy Whalley**

Vice-Chancellor's Fellow

 [lucydot.github.io](https://github.com/lucydot)  [l.whalley@northumbria.ac.uk](mailto:l.whalley@northumbria.ac.uk)

# From physics to materials



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## **University of Birmingham**

Msci Theoretical Physics – w/ Prof. Andy Schofield  
*transverse magnetoresistance in a quasi-2D metal*

## **Birmingham City University**

PGCE in post-compulsory education and training

## **Imperial College London**

PhD in Materials Science w/ Prof. Aron Walsh  
*defects and distortions in hybrid halide perovskites*

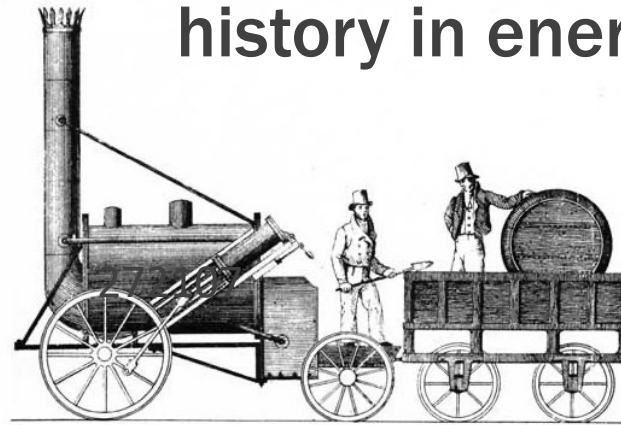
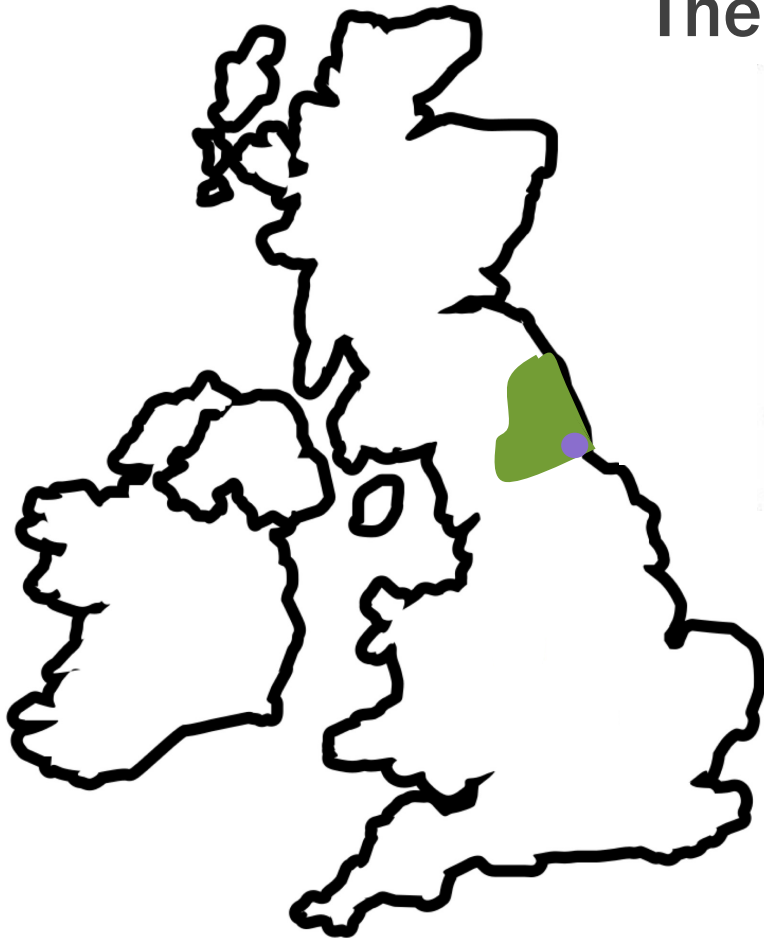
## **Imperial College London**

Research Associate in Solar Cells

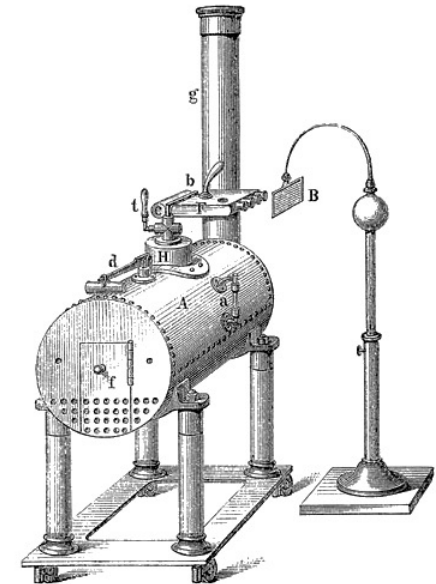
## **Northumbria University**

Vice-Chancellor's Fellow

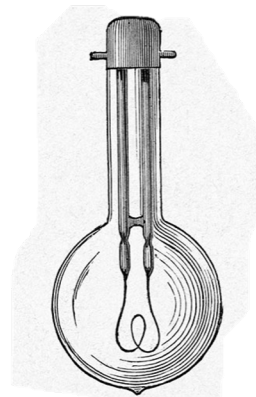
## The North-East of England has a long history in energy technology



Steam locomotive  
1829



Hydroelectric generator  
1842



Lightbulb  
1879

# Newcastle, UK



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The North-East of England has a lot of activity in energy technology



**ReNU**  **Renewable Energy  
Northeast Universities**

**DOGGER BANK  
WIND FARM**

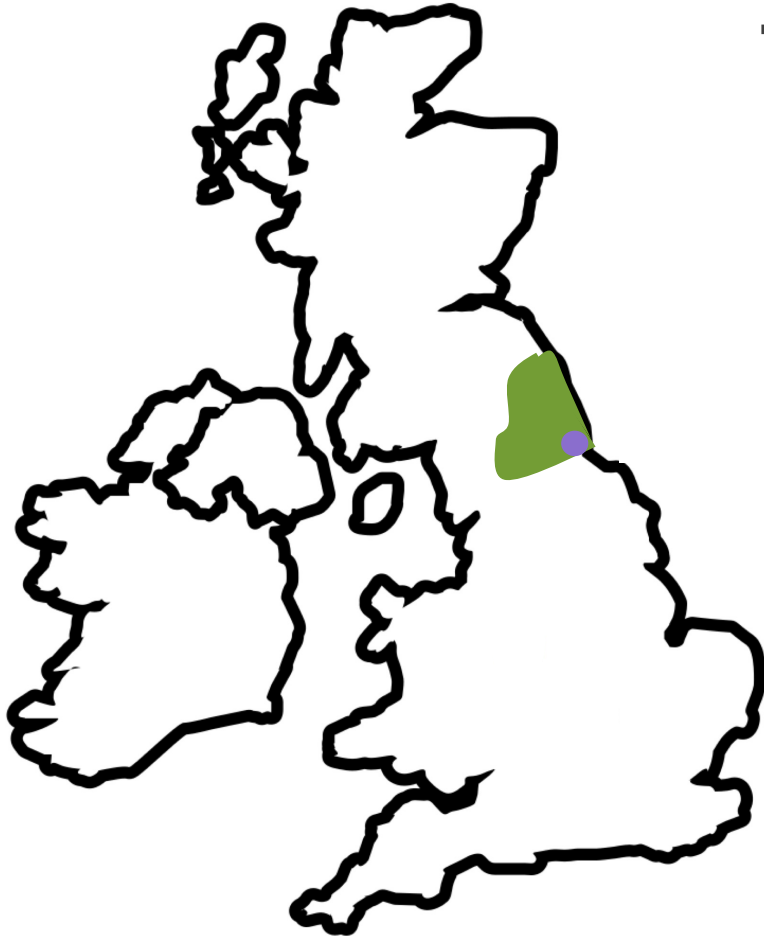
  
**necem**

# Newcastle, UK



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...but the North-East of England is better known for..



Football



Beer



Dialect - "Geordie"

# Newcastle, UK



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**“shy bairns get nowt”**

**=**

**shy children get  
nothing**

**..so speak up and  
don't be shy**

# Talk outline

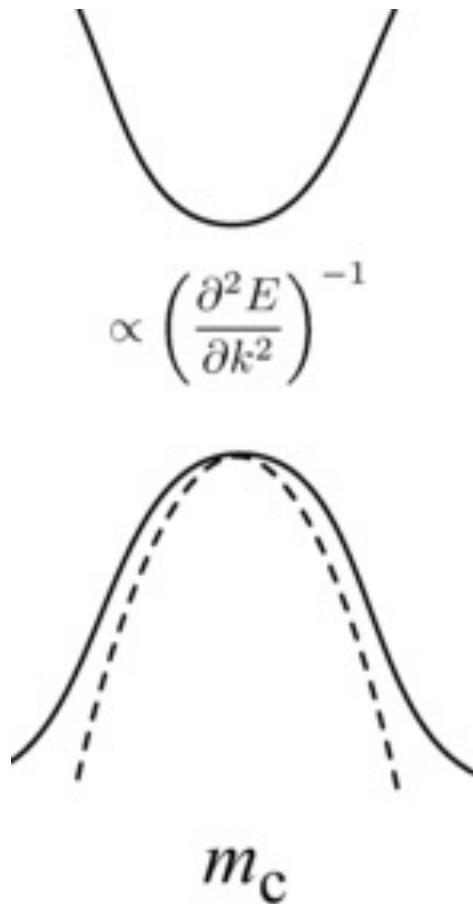


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- A. Effective mass is not as simple as it might seem**
- B. Band non-parabolicity is very sensitive to the electronic structure method used**
- C. Non-parabolicity can impact on various material properties (case study: hybrid halide perovskite)**

Paper: L. Whalley et al. *Phys. Rev. B* 99, 085297 (2019)

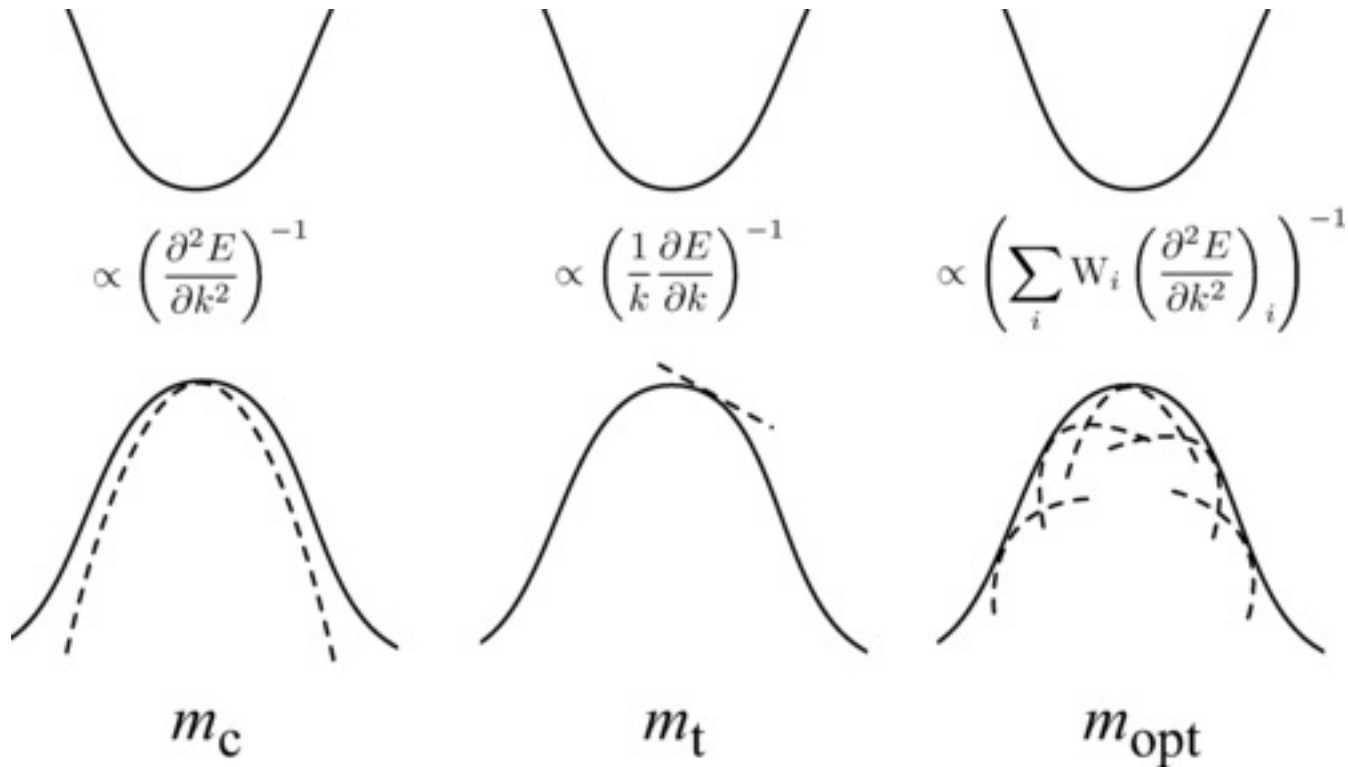
# Effective mass refresh



“Using DFT, we calculated the effective mass to be  $0.34m_e$ ”



## There are several definitions for effective mass



Describes:

acceln of electron in  
applied electric field

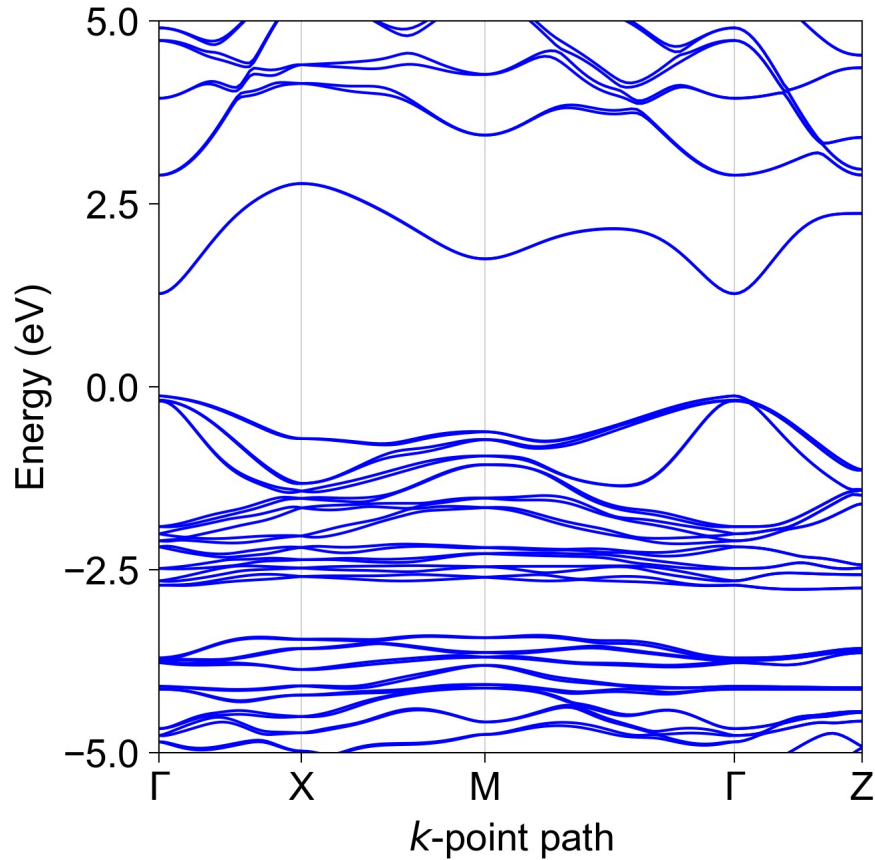
velocity of electron  
wavepacket

average inertial  
effective mass

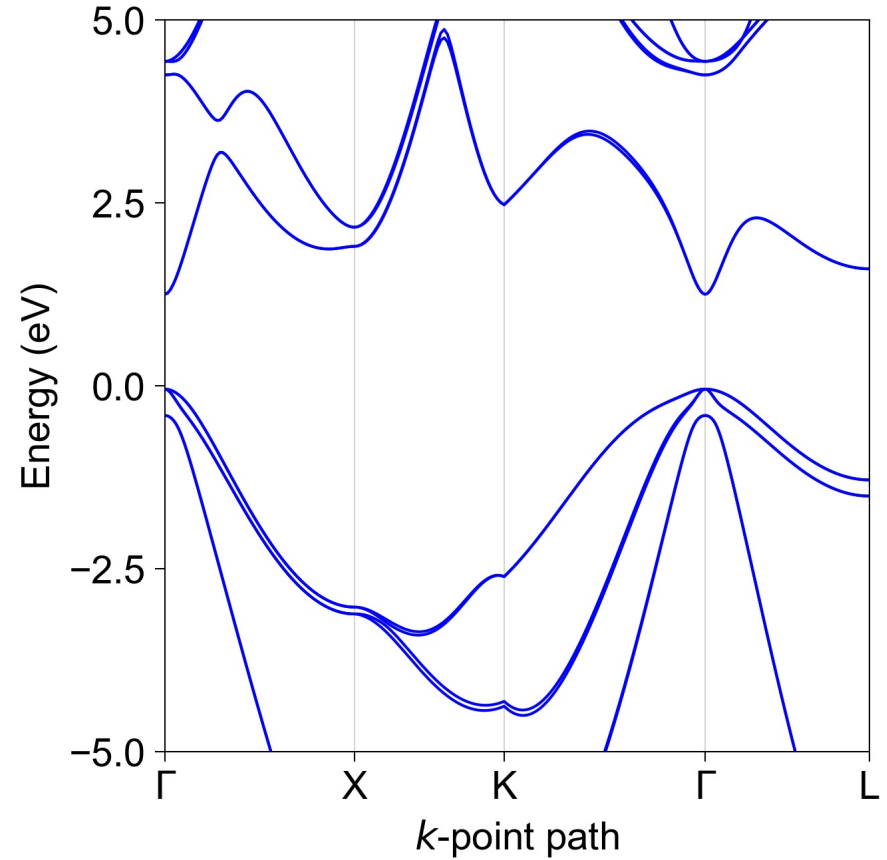
# Real materials are not so simple



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CZTS – HSE06 - SoC

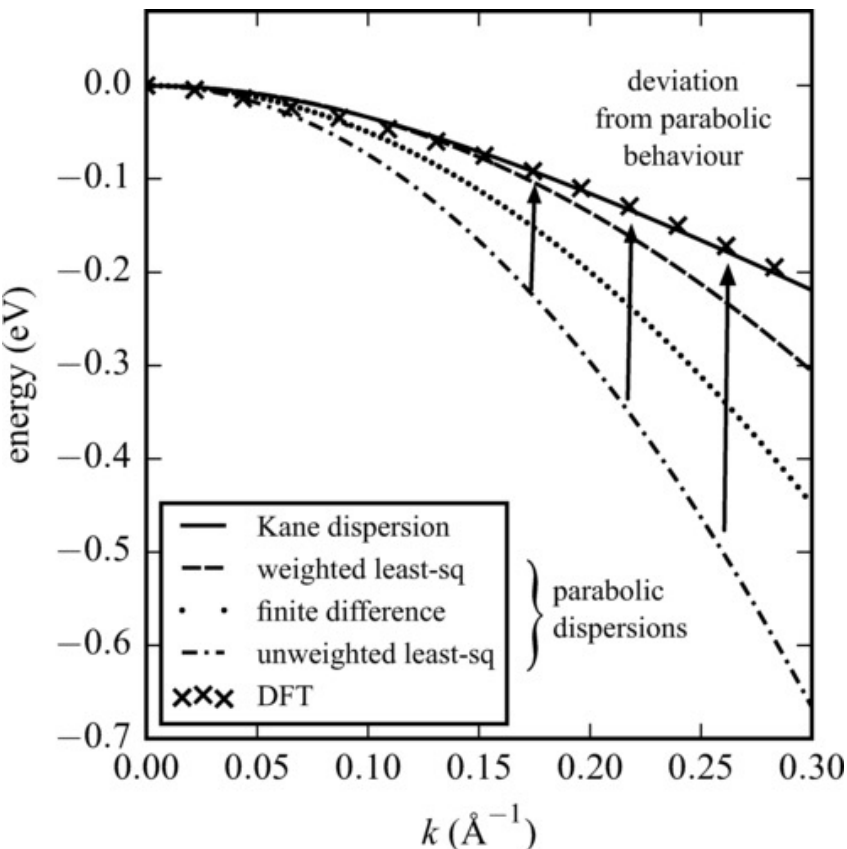


GaAs – HSE06 - SoC

# Real materials are not so simple



Non-parabolicity can be described using the Kane quasilinear dispersion



$$\frac{\hbar^2 k^2}{2m_{t,0}} = E(1 + \alpha E)$$

$$m_t(E) = m_{t,0}(1 + 2\alpha E)$$

CZTS valence band [110]  
HSE06+SoC

# Real materials are not so simple



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Effective mass depends on the sampling range in reciprocal space and numerical method used

	sampling density	
	$0.005A^{-1} (m_e)$	$0.025A^{-1} (m_e)$
fitting method	Finite-difference (3-points)	0.06
	Unweighted LSQ (3-points)	0.05
	Fermi-Dirac weighted LSQ (many points)	0.07

See the `effmass` package for an implementation of these methods:  
[github.com/lucydot](https://github.com/lucydot)



CZTS valence band [100], PBESol+SoC

# Real materials are not so simple



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**“Using DFT, we calculated the effective mass to be  $0.34m_e$ ”**

- *Which effective mass?***
- *Over what range?***

# Talk outline



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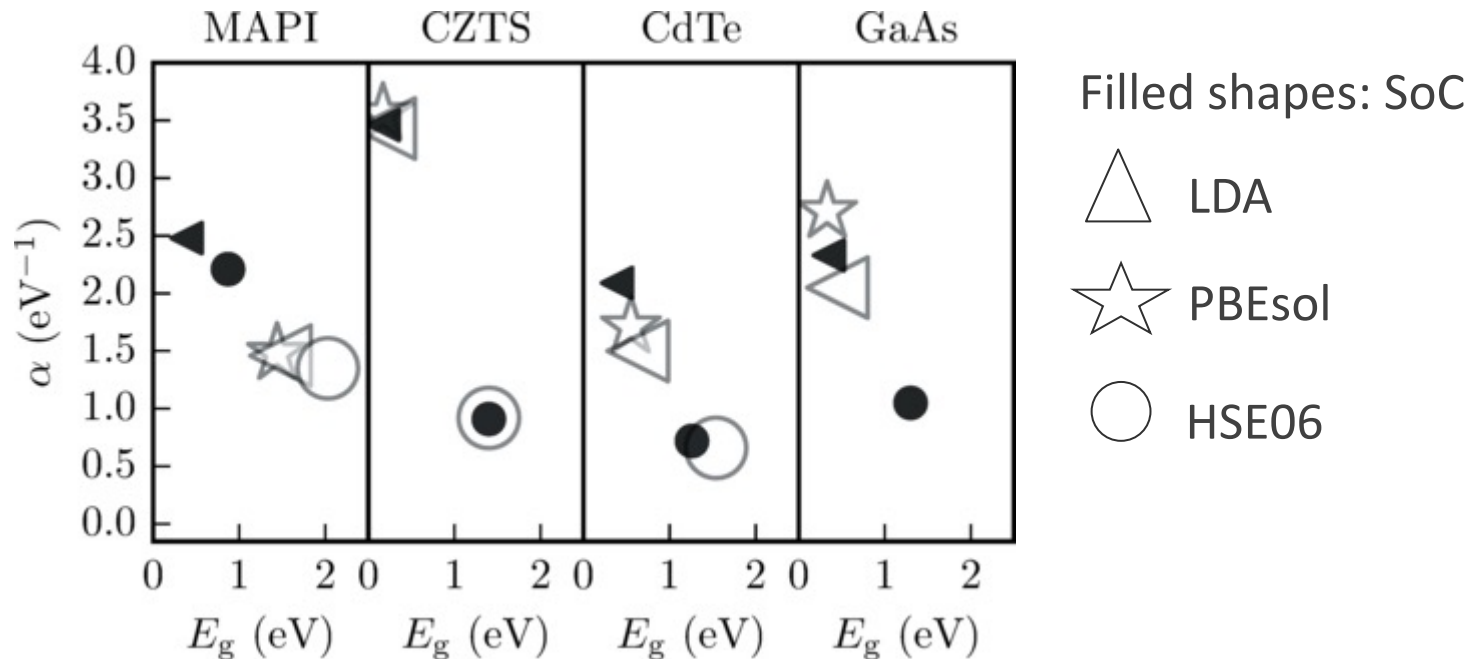
- A. Effective mass is not as simple as it might seem**
- B. Band non-parabolicity is sensitive to the electronic structure method used**
- C. Non-parabolicity can impact on various material properties (case study: hybrid halide perovskite)**

Paper: L. Whalley et al. *Phys. Rev. B* 99, 085297 (2019)

# Alpha parameter



Local and semilocal approximations underestimate the band gap and overestimate non-parabolicity

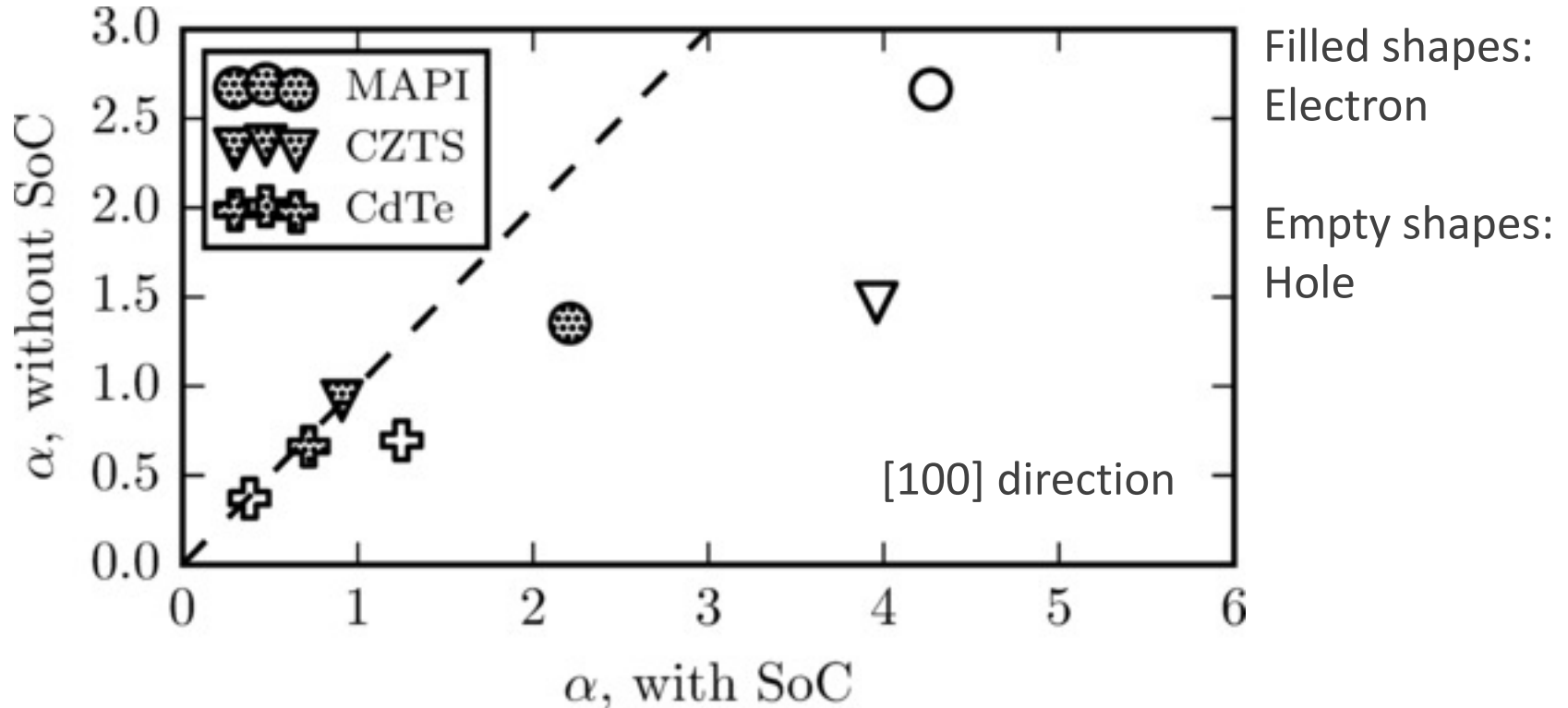


Conduction band [100]

# Alpha parameter



Spin-orbit effects lead to increased non-parabolicity in the valence band

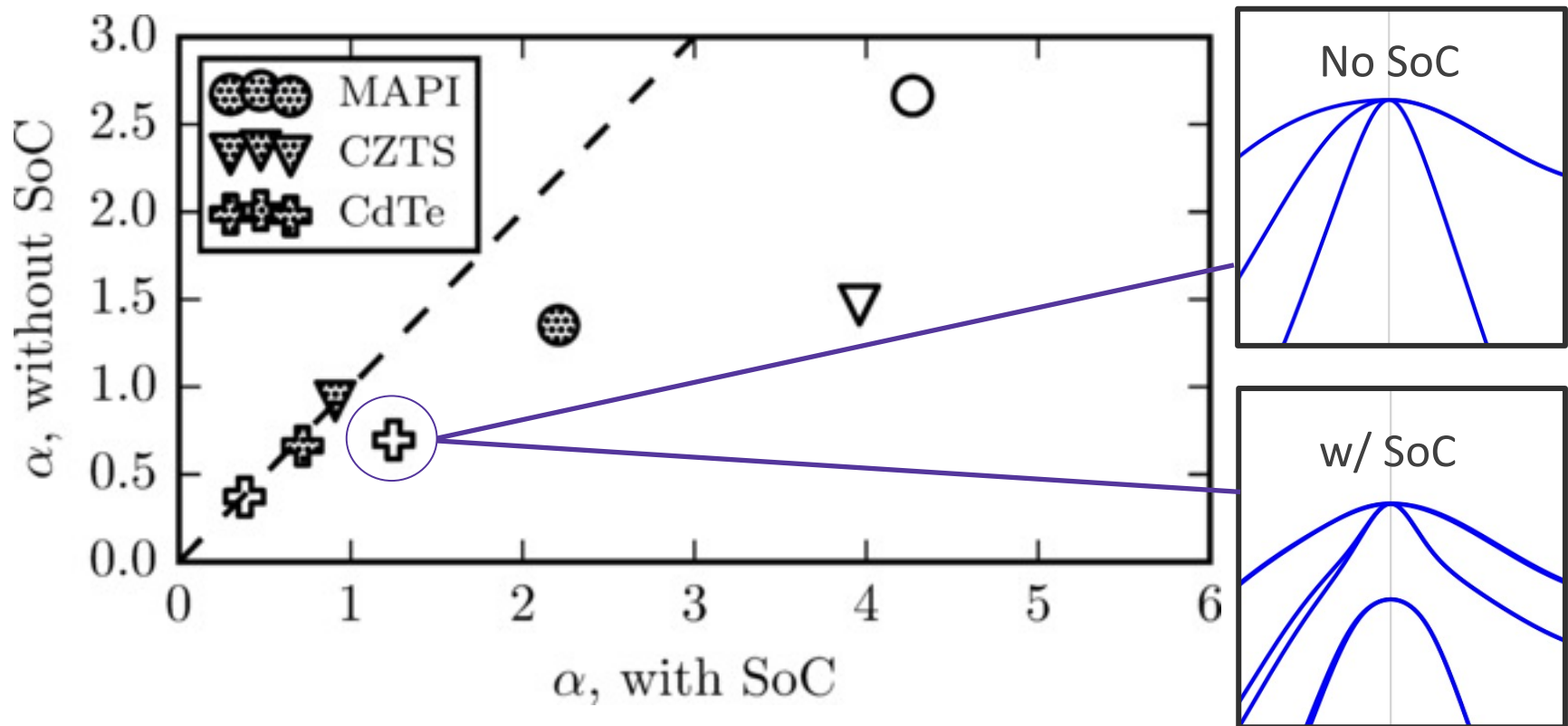




# Alpha parameter



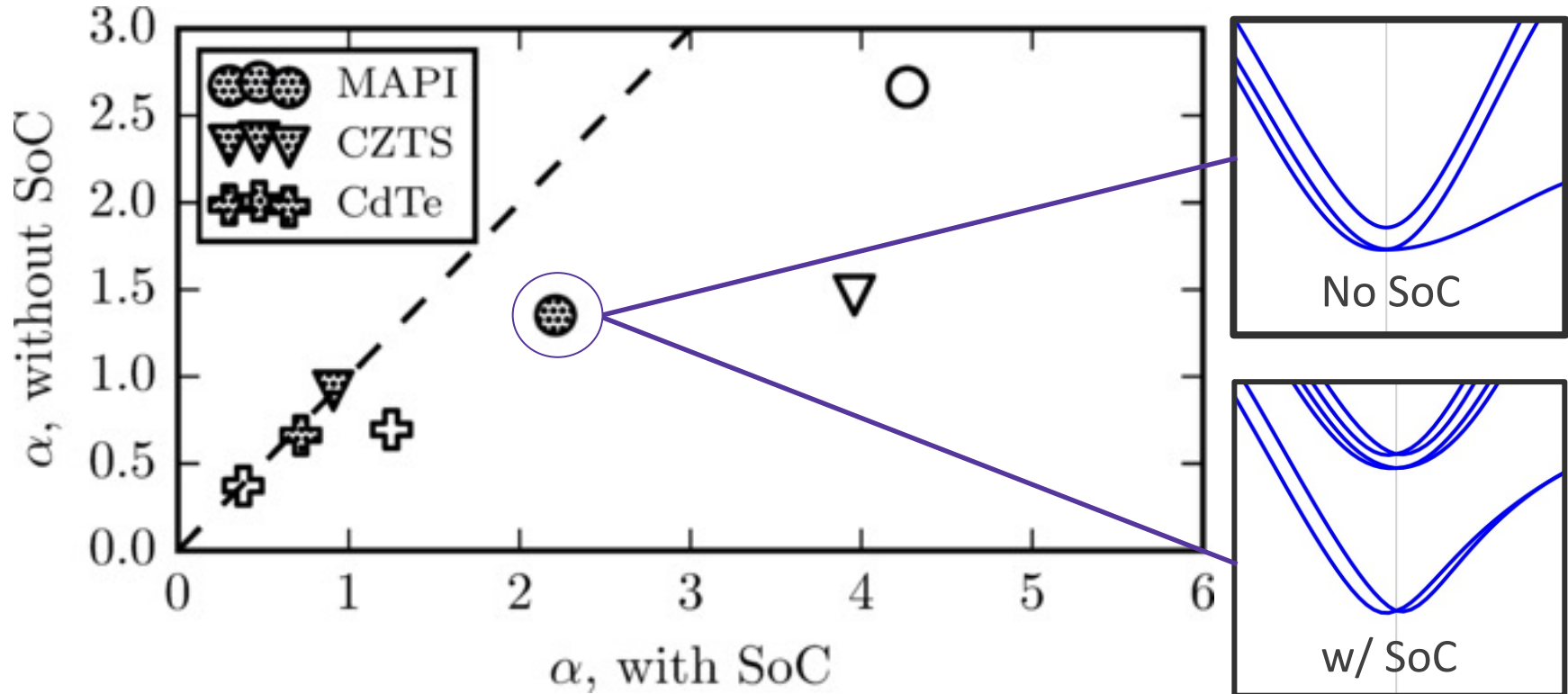
Spin-orbit effects lead to increased non-parabolicity in the valence band



# Alpha parameter



For MAPI, spin-orbit effects lead to increased non-parabolicity in the valence and conduction bands



# Talk outline



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Paper: L. Whalley et al. *Phys. Rev. B* 99, 085297 (2019)

# Hybrid perovskites: A computational challenge



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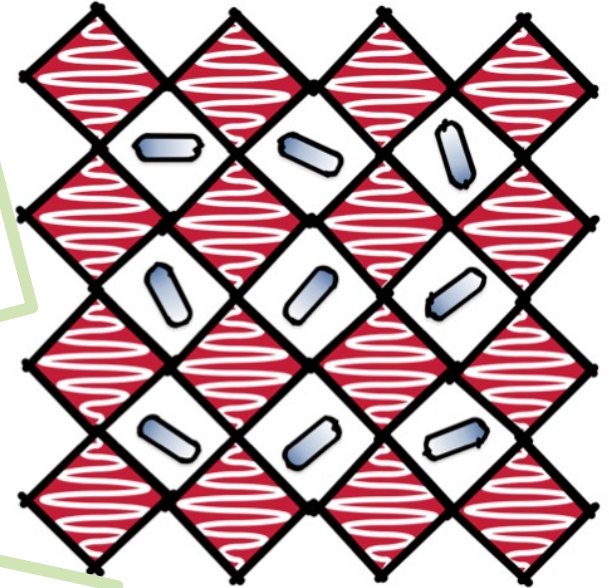


My daughter Robin

Soft

Messy

Surprisingly  
heavy



Hybrid-halide  
perovskite

# Hybrid perovskites: A computational challenge



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**Soft**

large,  
anharmonic  
lattice  
*Phys. Rev. B* 94,  
220301 (2016)

**Messy**

high density  
of defects,  
and mobile  
ions

**heavy**

Pb requires  
inclusion of  
spin-orbit  
coupling

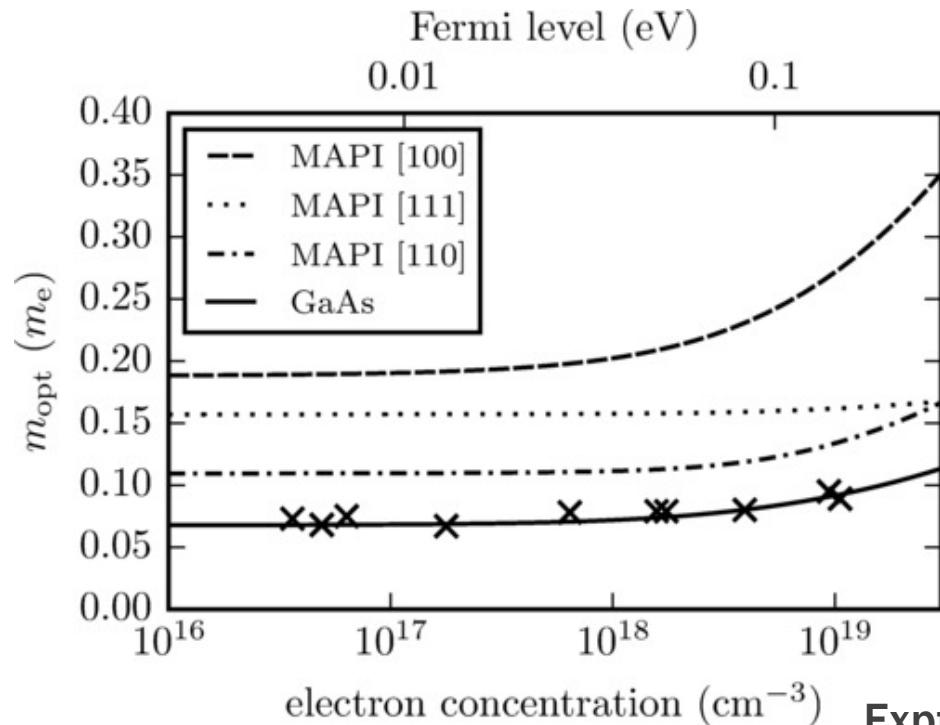


# $m^*$ from Transient Absorption Spectroscopy



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## The kane quasi-linear approximation can explain variations in TAS data



$m^*$  estimations from TAS vary :  
**0.14** - for concentrations up to  
 $6 \times 10^{18}$

**0.30** - for concentrations up to  
 $1.5 \times 10^{19}$

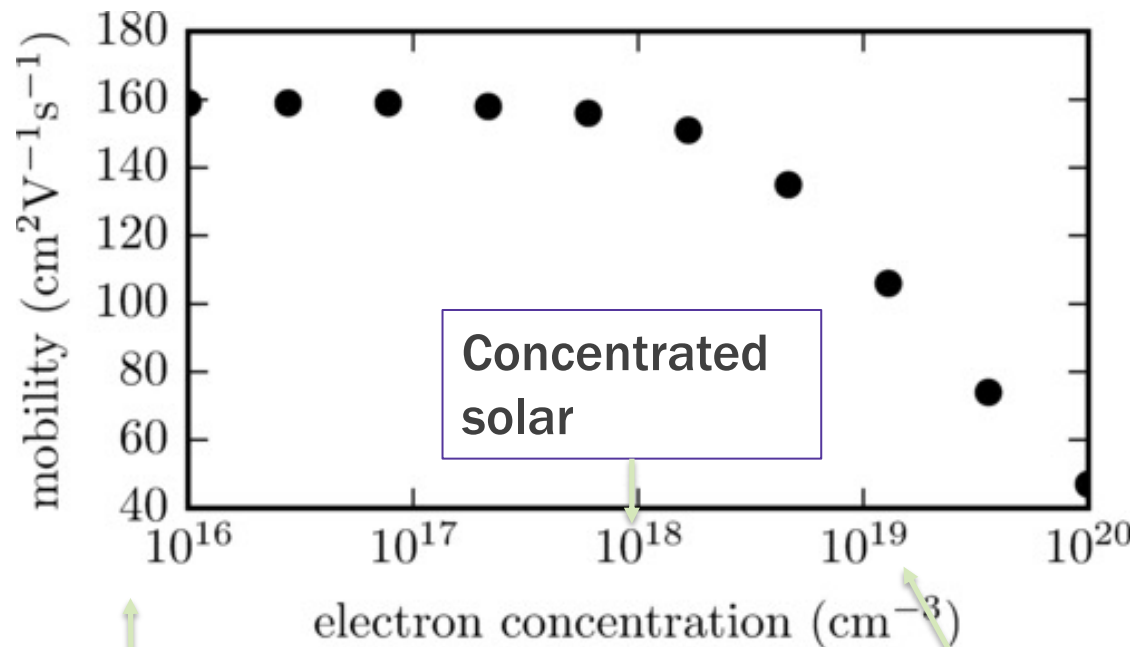
Our calculated effective mass  
varies from **0.19** to **0.35**

Expt: The Fermi level is shifted into the conduction  
band at a carrier concentration  $\sim 10^{18} \text{cm}^{-3}$

# Polaron mobility in MAPI



Polaron mobility decreases above a carrier concentration of  $\sim 10^{18} \text{cm}^{-3}$



Scattering from polar optical modes limits charge carrier mobility at RT

Prediction:  $158 \text{cm}^2\text{V}^{-1}\text{s}^{-1}$

Experiment:  $73 \pm 58 \text{cm}^2\text{V}^{-1}\text{s}^{-1}$

AM1.5

PL studies

# Summary



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- A. **Effective mass is not as simple as it might seem**  
**The definition, range in k-space and numerical implementation matter**
- B. **Band non-parabolicity is very sensitive to the electronic structure method used**  
**Best results for accurate  $E_g$  and inclusion of SoC**
- C. **Non-parabolicity can impact on various material properties (case study: hybrid halide perovskite)**  
**Impacts at concentrations  $> 10^{18}$  (concentrated solar, PL studies)**



# Thank you



L.D. Whalley, J.M. Frost, B.J. Morgan and A. Walsh  
*Phys. Rev. B* 99, 085297 (2019)