

# Breather energy spectra and reconstructive transformations of mica muscovite

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**No Lineal 2007**

Ciudad Real

June 8, 2007

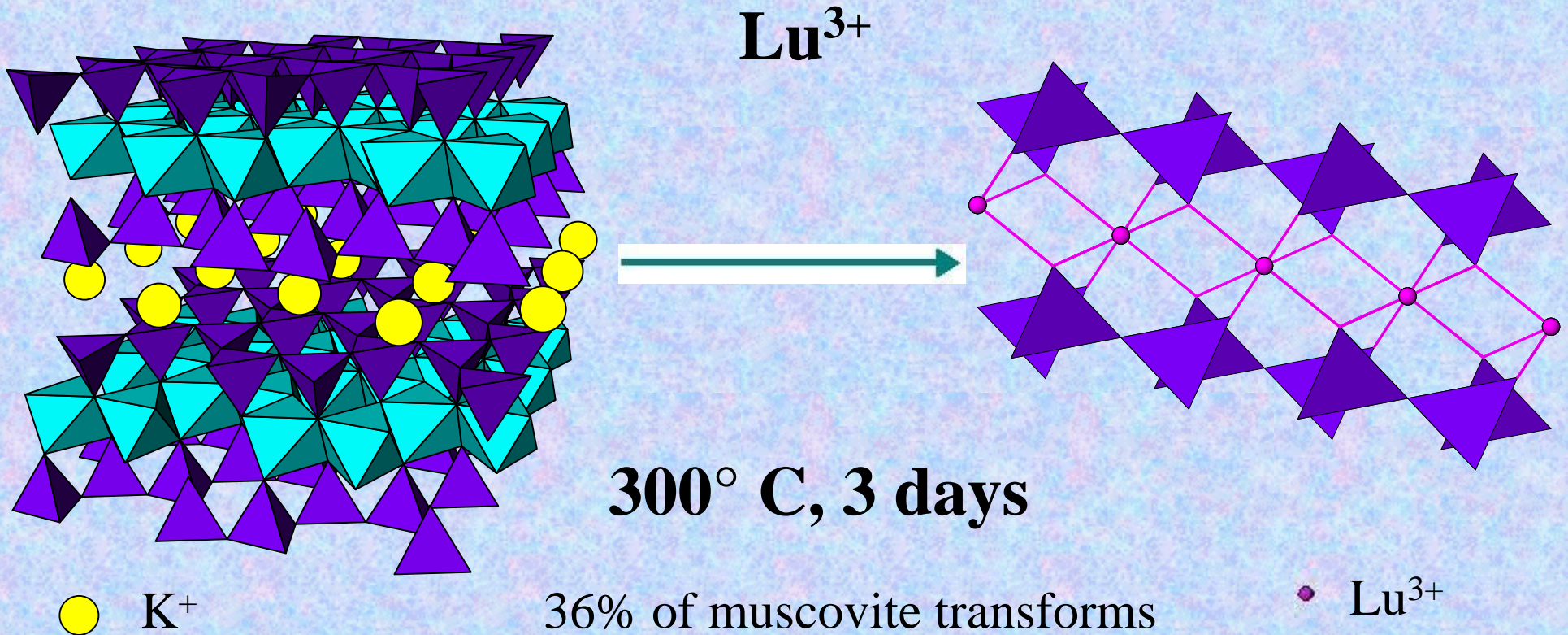


# ¿What is the reconstructive transformation of Mica muscovite?

muscovite

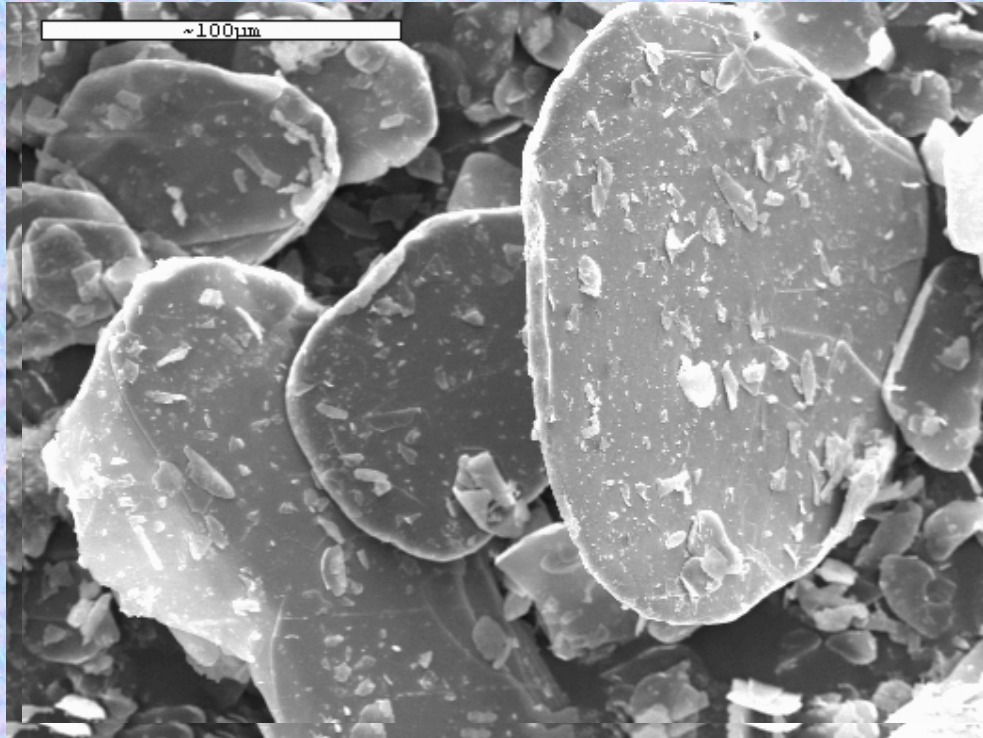


Disilicate of Lutetium

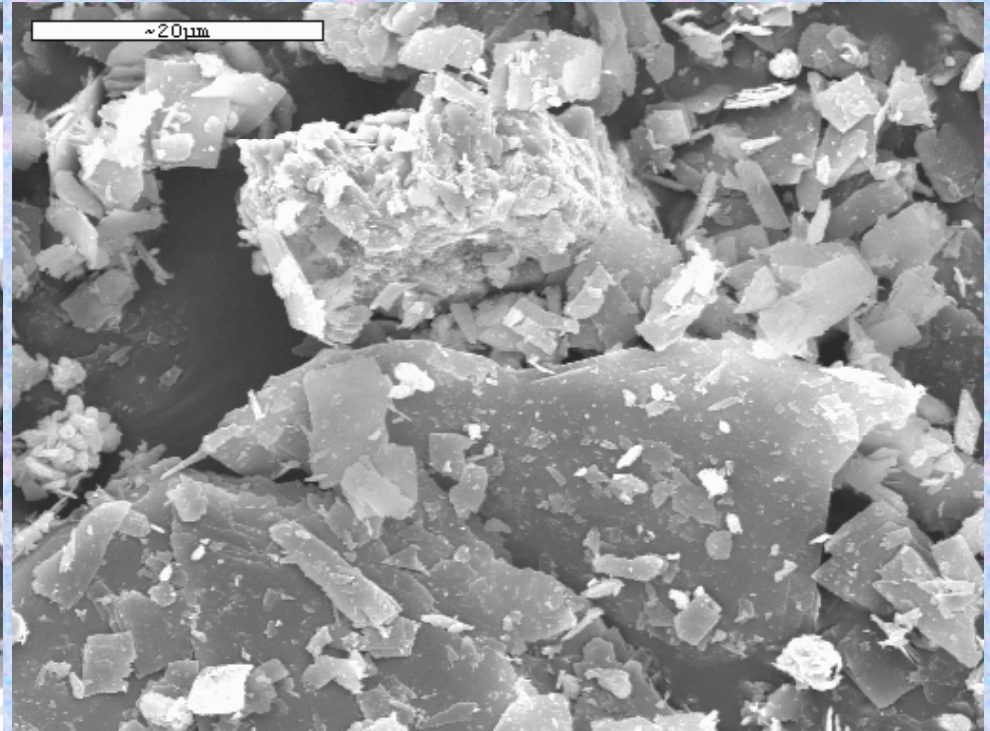


# Scanning electron microscopy with energy dispersive X-ray (EDX) analysis

Untreated muscovite



Treated muscovite

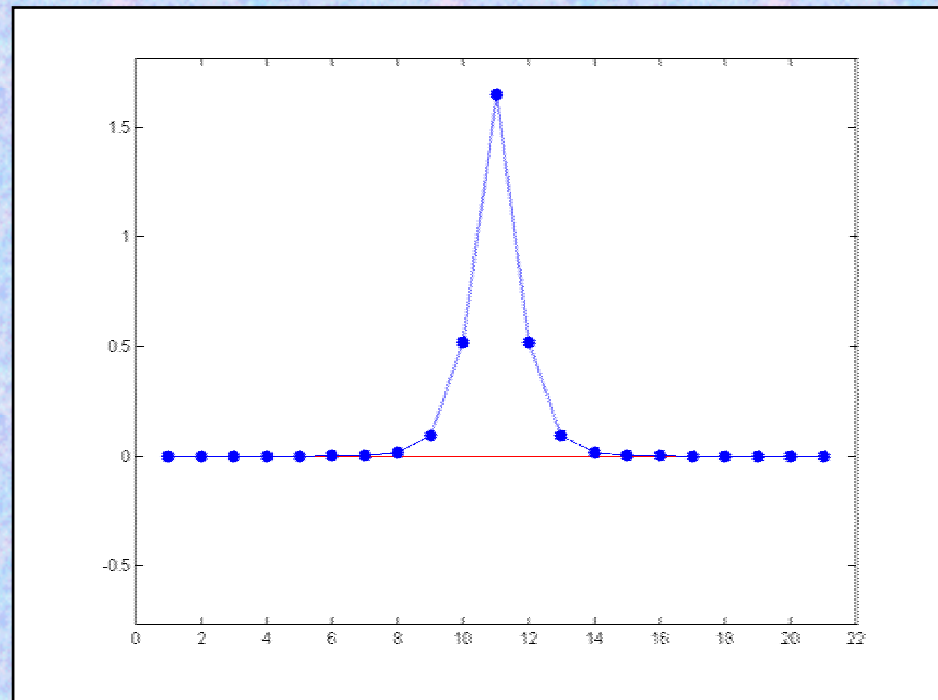


Three different types of particles: muscovite,  $\text{Lu}_2\text{Si}_2\text{O}_7$  and bohemite

¿What are breathers?

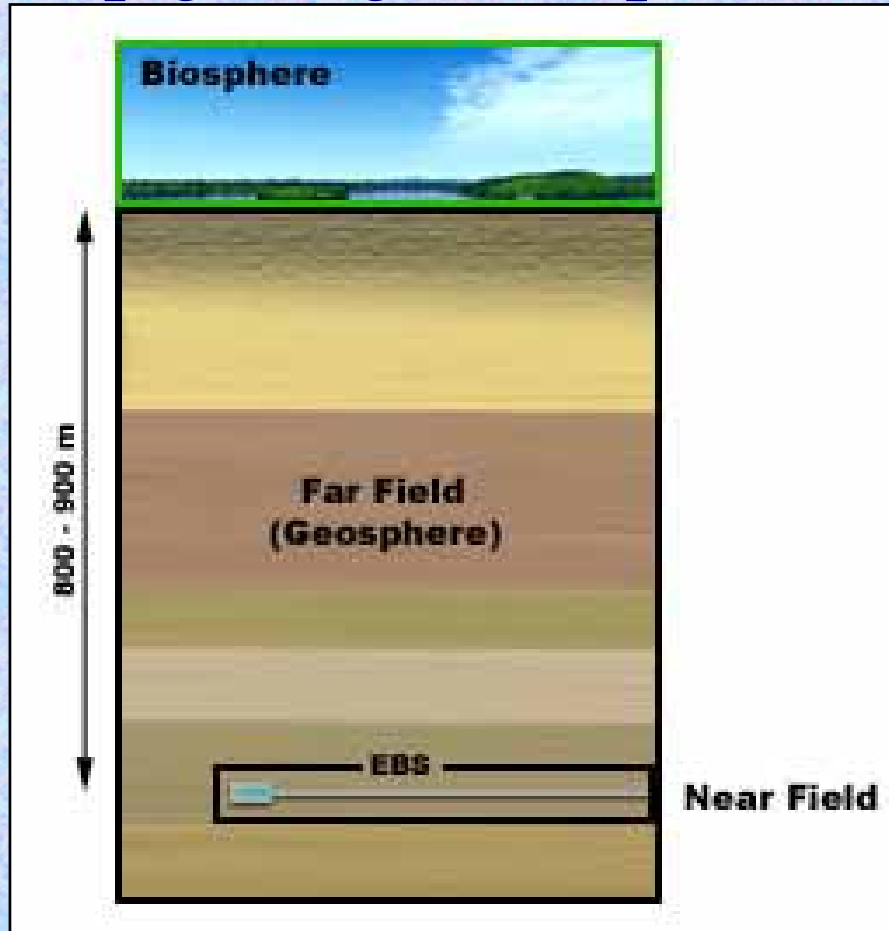
¿In which systems do they appear?

- Vibrations
- Localized
- Exact
- In systems of coupled oscillators



¿Why are we interested in reconstructive transformations?

Deep geological depositories for nuclear waste.



EBS:  
Engineered barrier system

- Lutetium substitutes in the laboratory to heavy radionuclides
- The reconstructive transformation traps the radionuclides

# ¿What is special in the reconstructive transformation of mica and other layered silicates?

- Reconstructive transformations had been observed in silicates only about 1000 C
- **Some of the authors (MDA, MN, JMT) have recently achieved low temperature reconstructive transformations (LTRT) at temperatures 500 C lower than the lowest temperature reported before**
- **LTRT: Low temperature reconstructive transformations.**
- **UP TO NOW THERE WAS NO EXPLICATION**

## ¿Could breathers be the explanation?

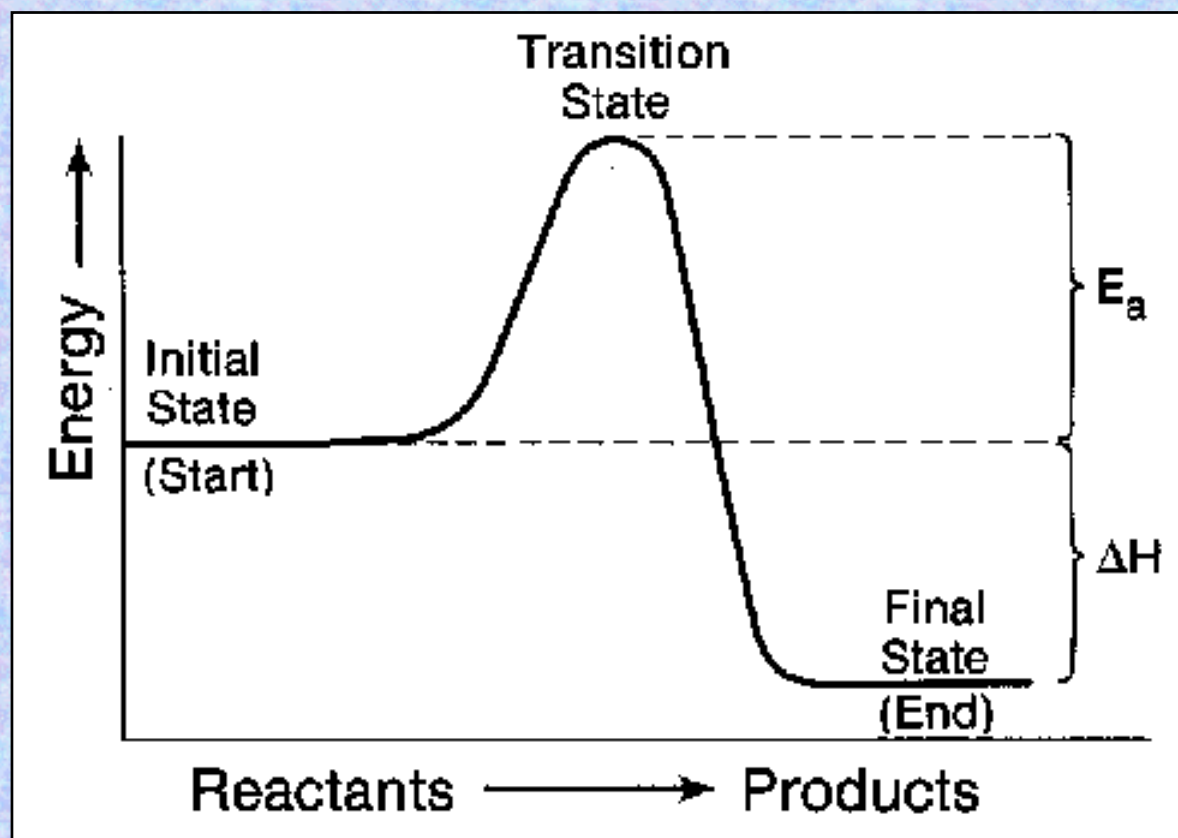
First suggested in: Mackay and Aubry [Nonlinearity, **7**, 1623 (1994)]

# ¿What influence may have breathers? Reaction speed and statistics

Arrhenius law:  $\kappa = A \exp(-E_a/RT)$

Transition state theory

$E_a \sim 100\text{-}200 \text{ KJ/mol}$

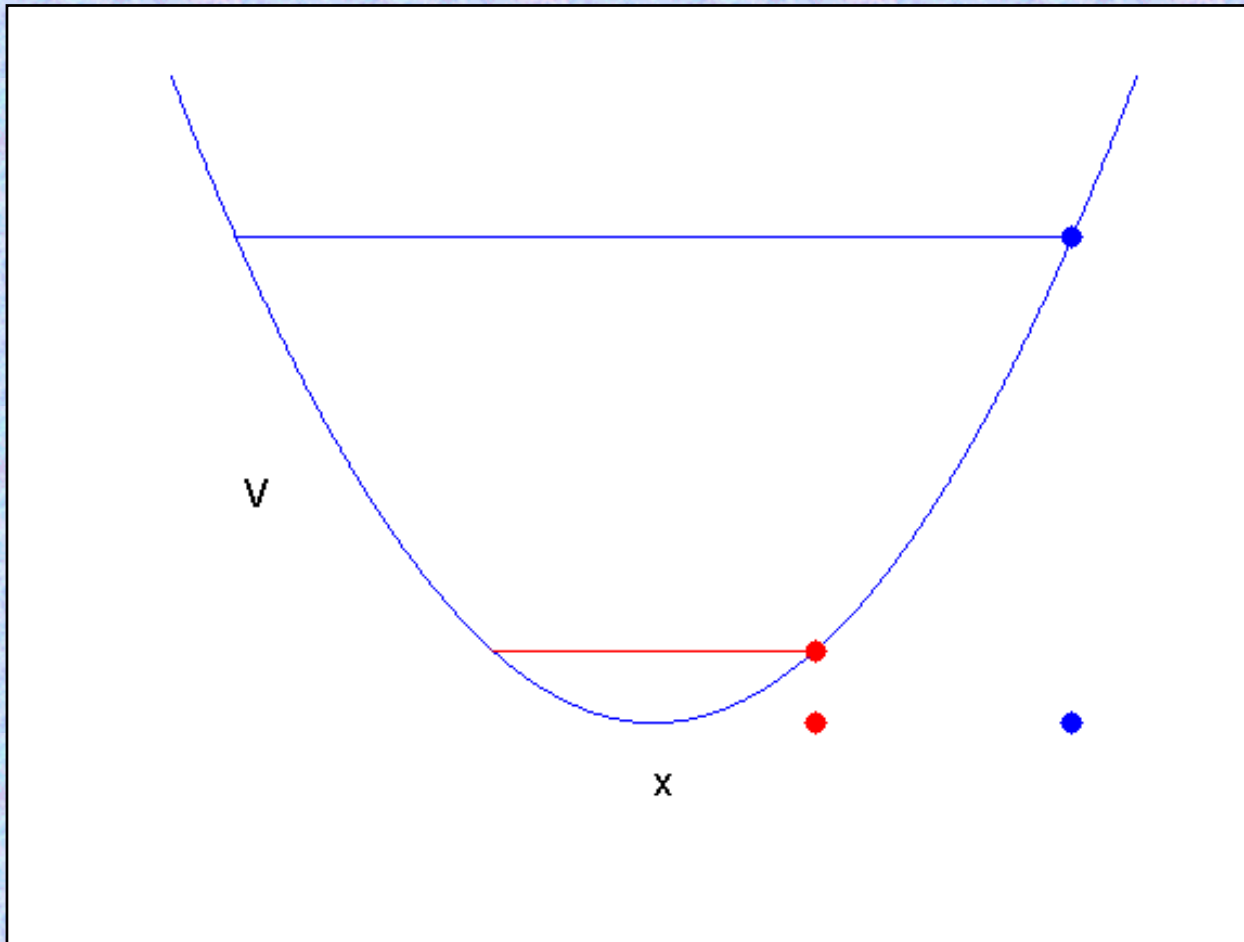


# Outline of the talk

- Non linear oscillator with hard, soft and mixed potential
- Phonons and breathers
- Breathers in a model of mica muscovite
- Phonon and breather statistics
- Numerical results and modification of breather statistics
- Estimation of the influence on the reaction speed
- Other evidences on breathers in muscovite
- Conclusions

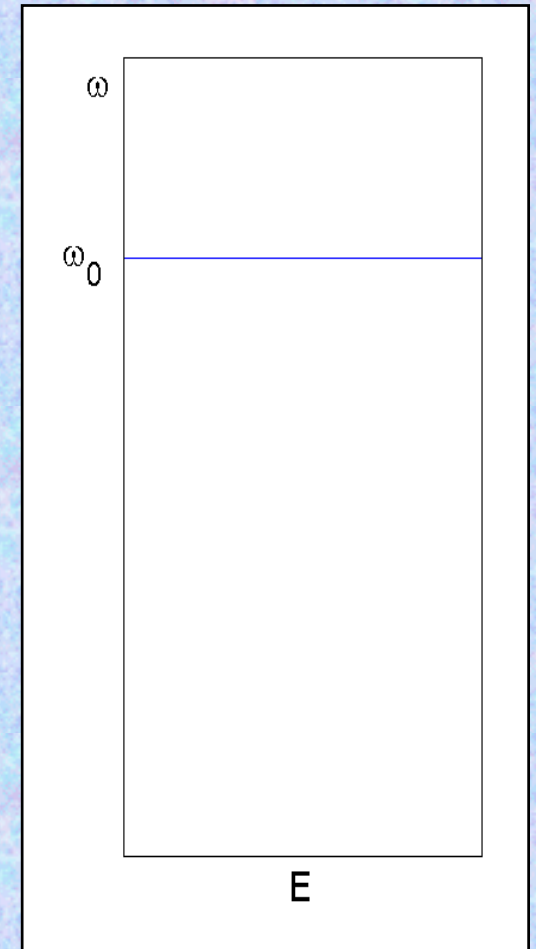
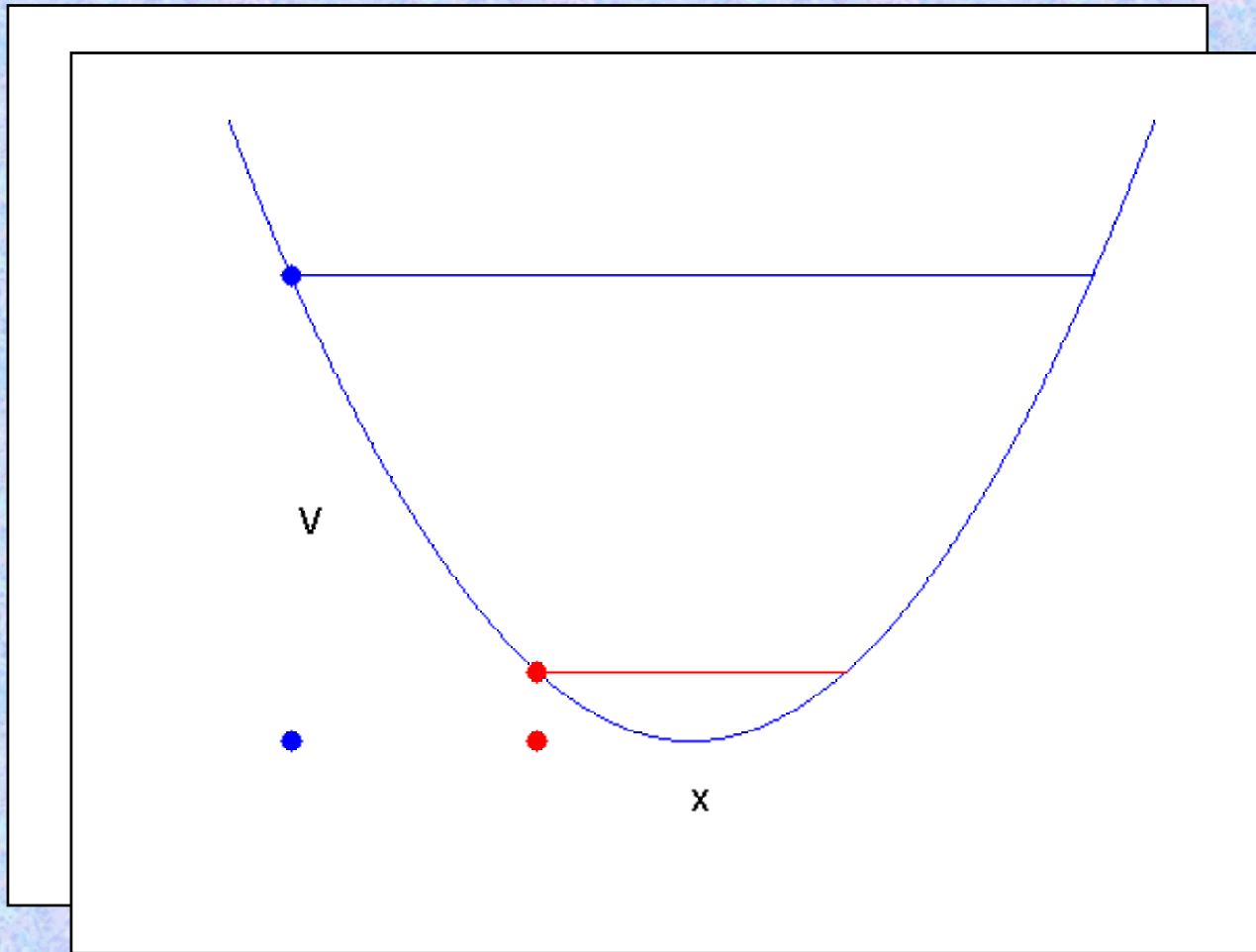


# Isolated linear oscillator (1): $F = -k x$ , $V = \frac{1}{2} k x^2$



$$x = A \cos(\omega_0 t + \varphi_0)$$

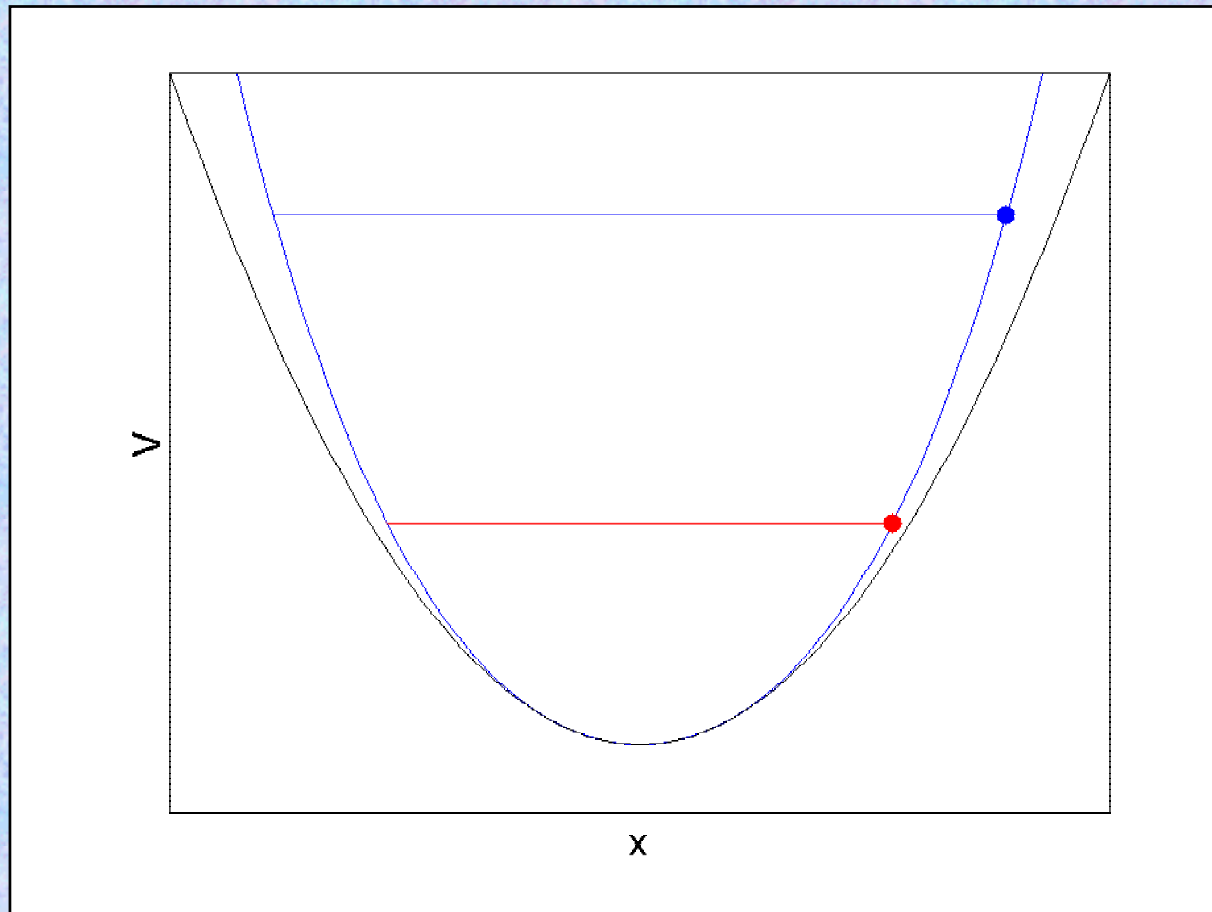
# Isolated linear oscillator (2): $F = -k x$ , $V = \frac{1}{2} k x^2$



$$T_{\bullet} = T_{\bullet}$$

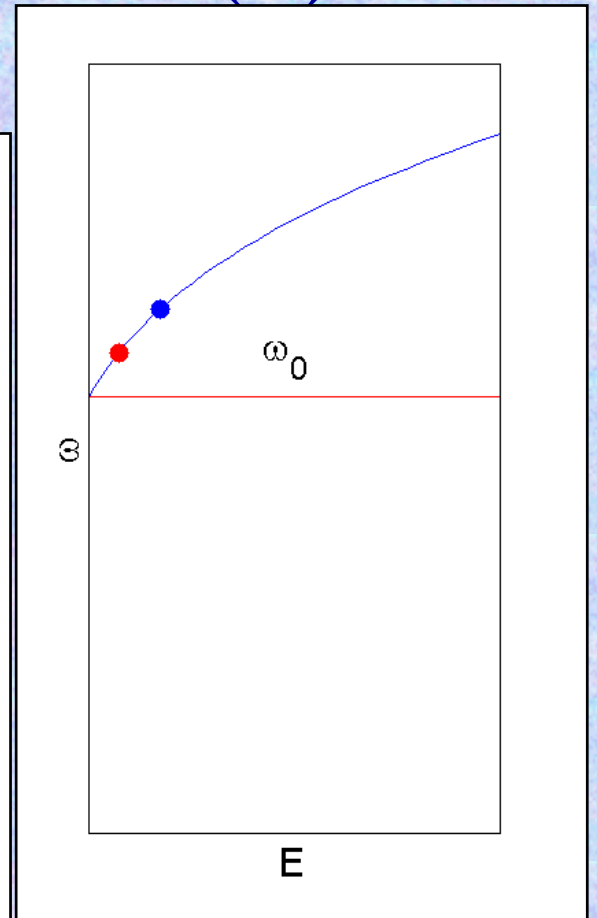
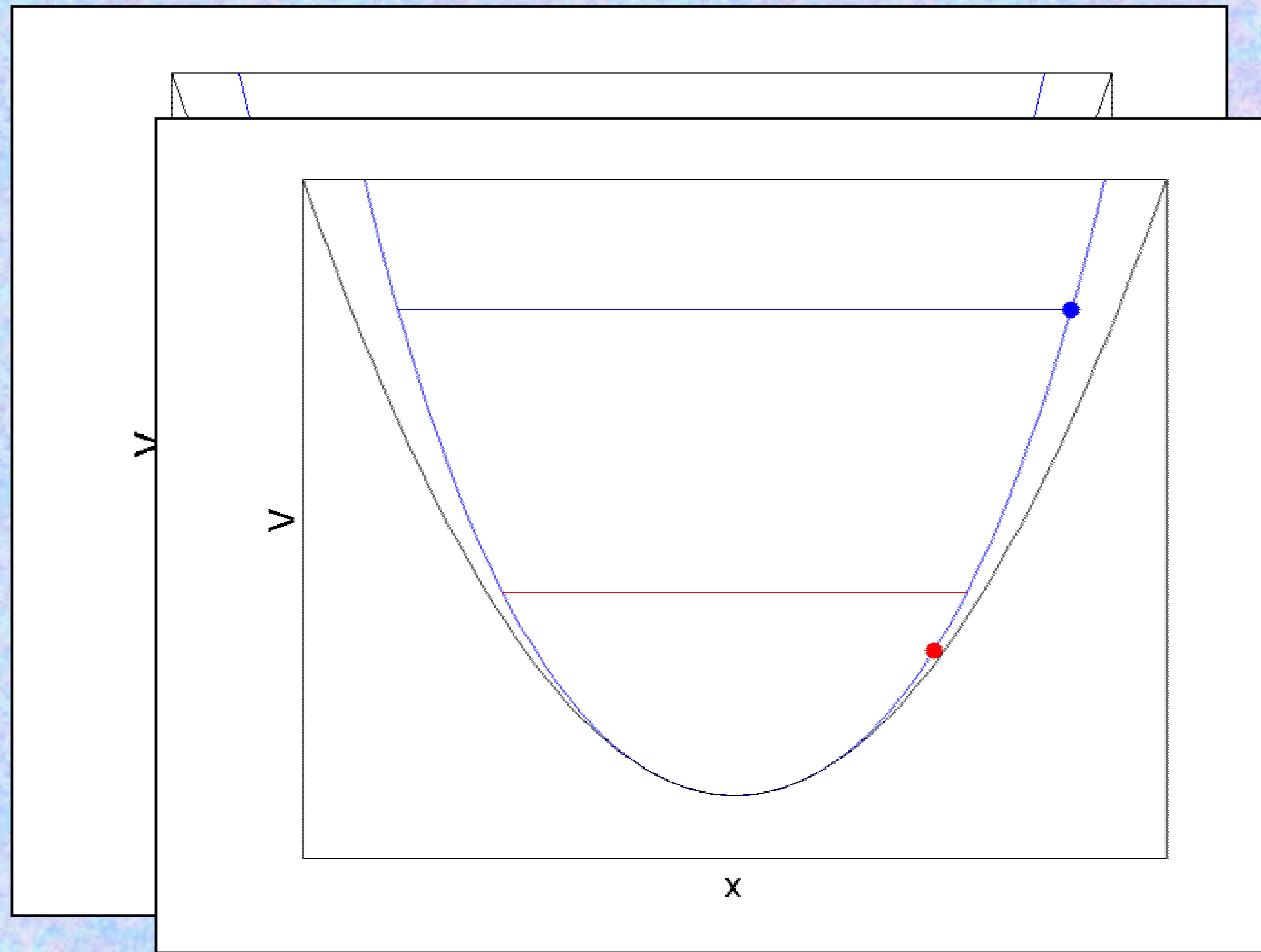
$$\omega_0 \neq \omega_0(E)_0$$

# Oscillator with hard potential (1)

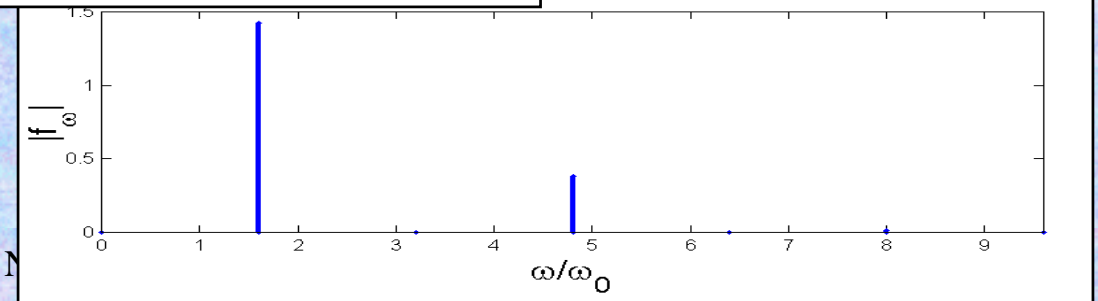


$$V = \frac{1}{2} (\omega_0)^2 x^2 + \frac{1}{4} x^4$$

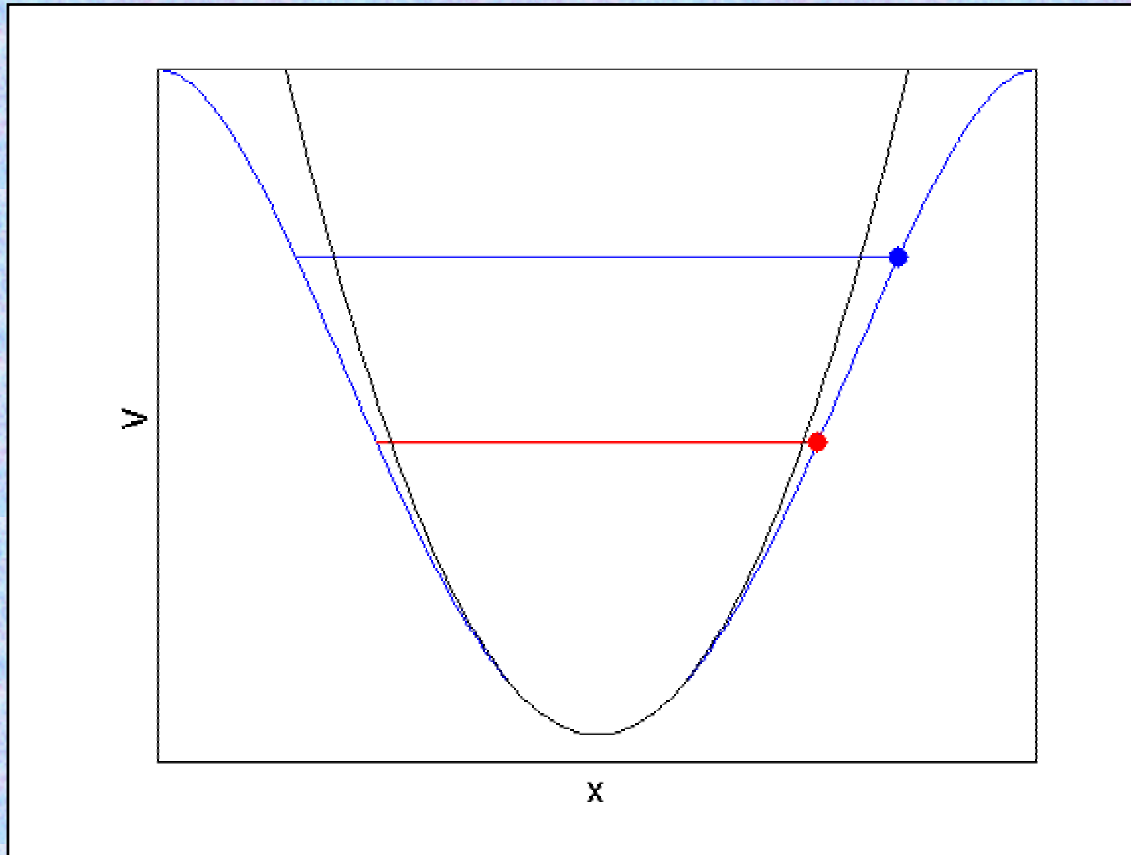
# Oscillator with hard potential (2)



$$T_{\text{red}} < T_{\text{blue}}$$

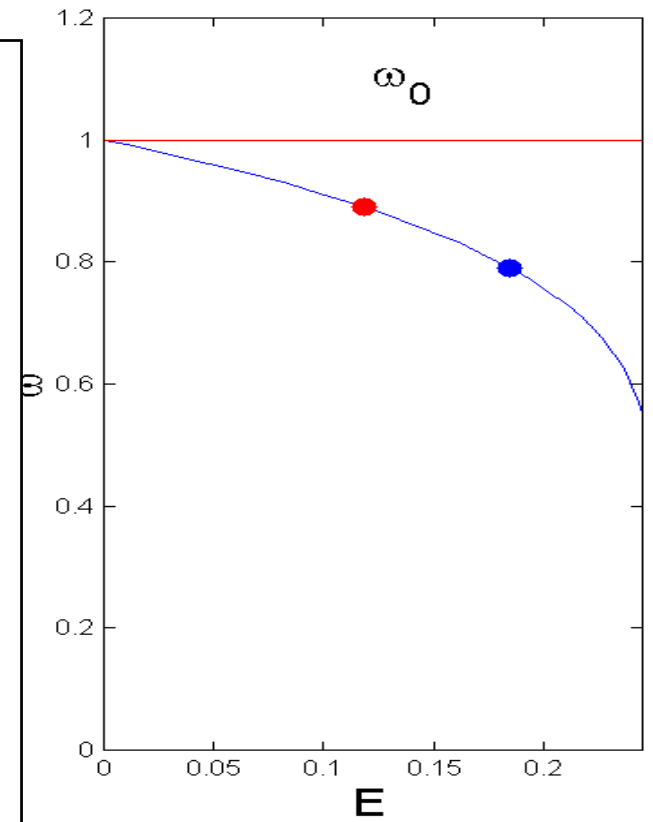
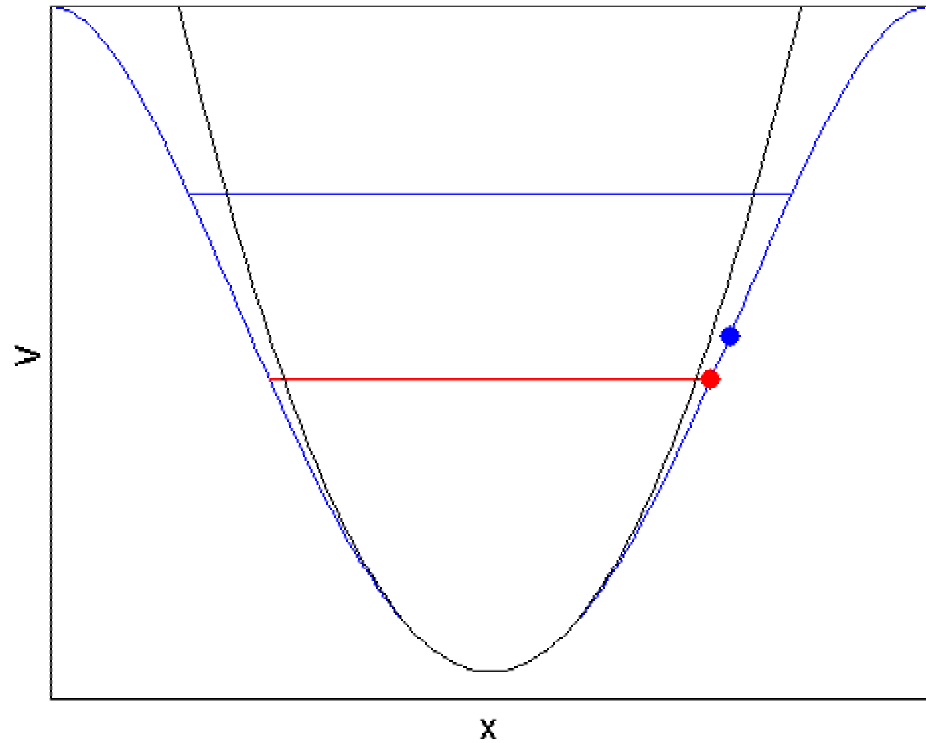


# Oscillator with soft potential (1)

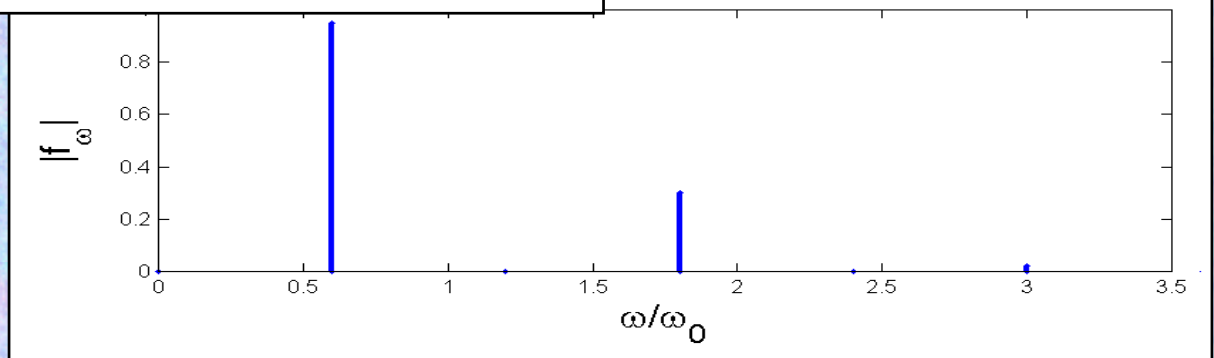


$$V = \frac{1}{2} (\omega_0)^2 x^2 - \frac{1}{4} x^4$$

# Oscillator with soft potential (2)

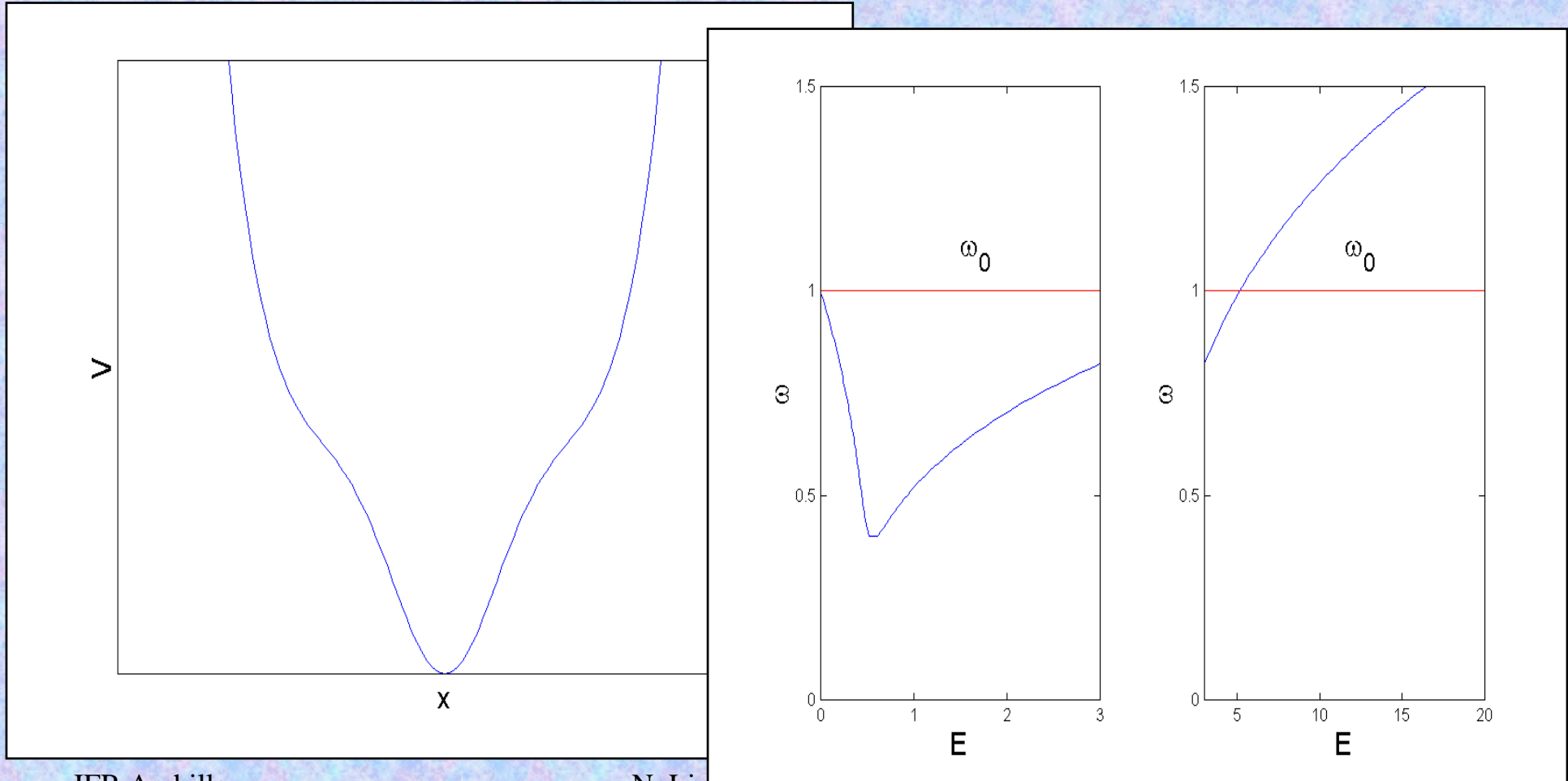


$$T_{\text{red}} > T_{\text{blue}}$$



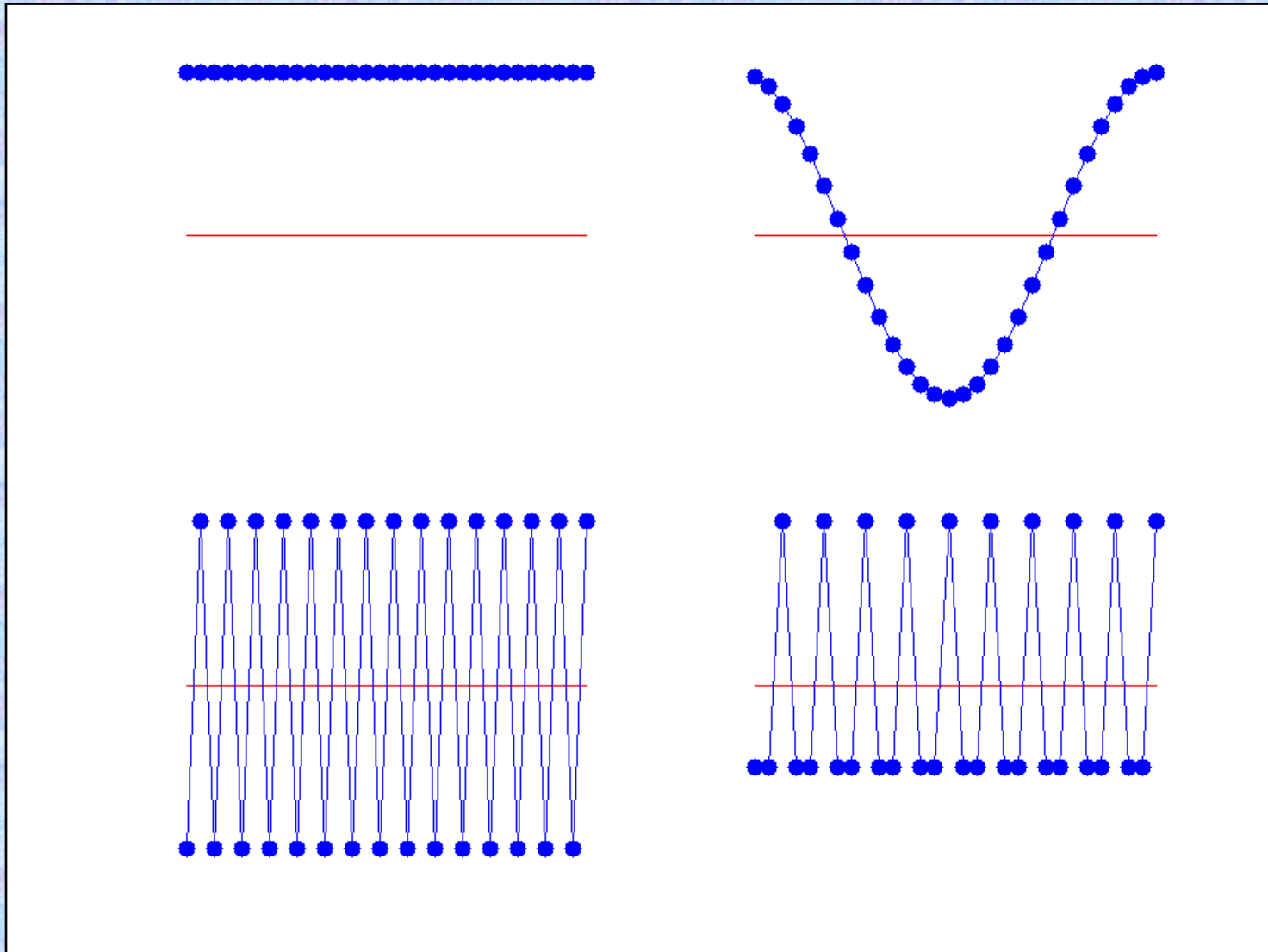
# Nonlinear oscillator with mixed potential

$$\text{Potential } V(x) = D(1 - e^{-bx^2}) + \gamma x^6$$



# Lattice of coupled linear oscillators (1)

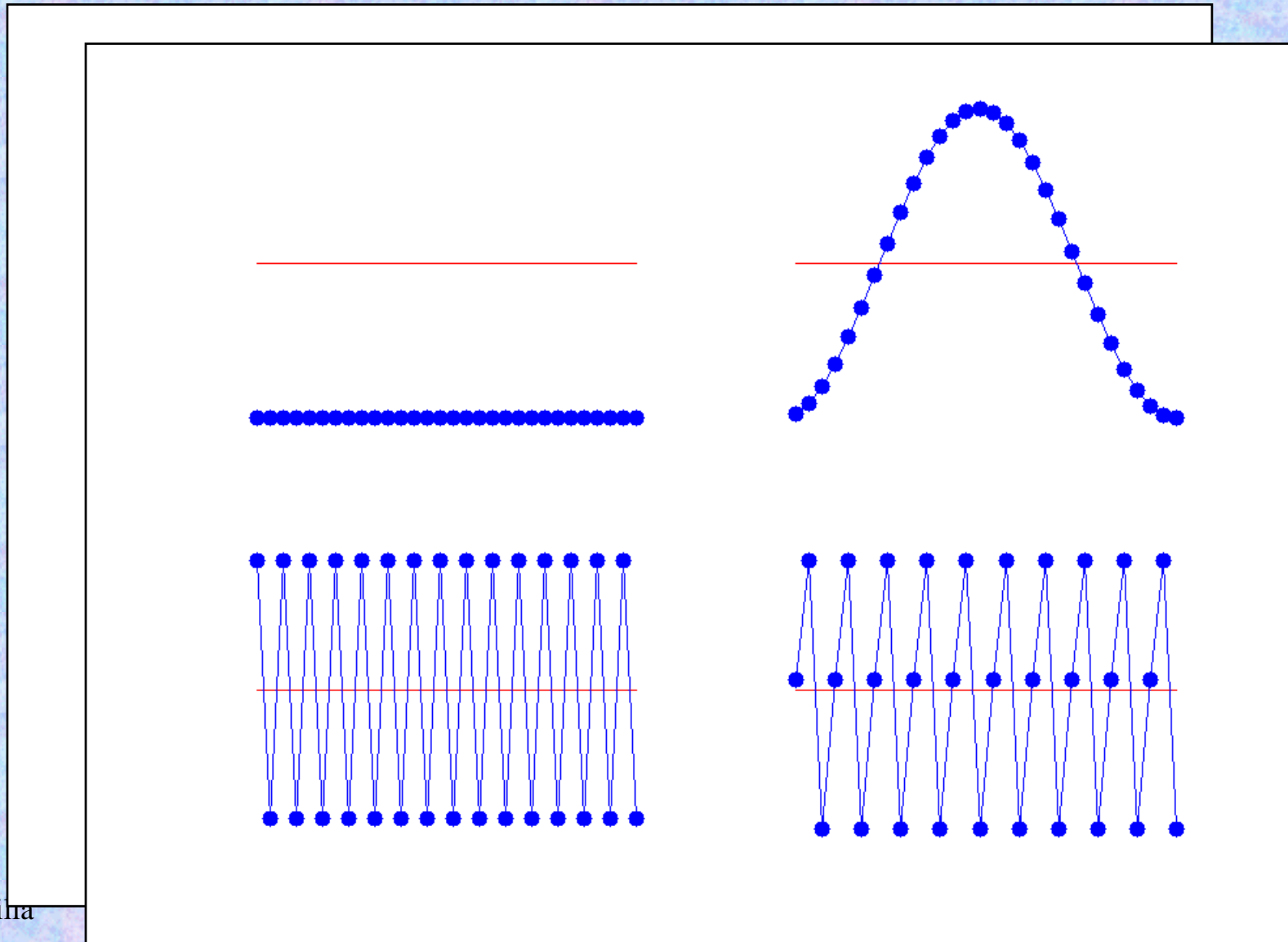
Phonons:  $x_n = A \cos(\omega_q t - q n)$





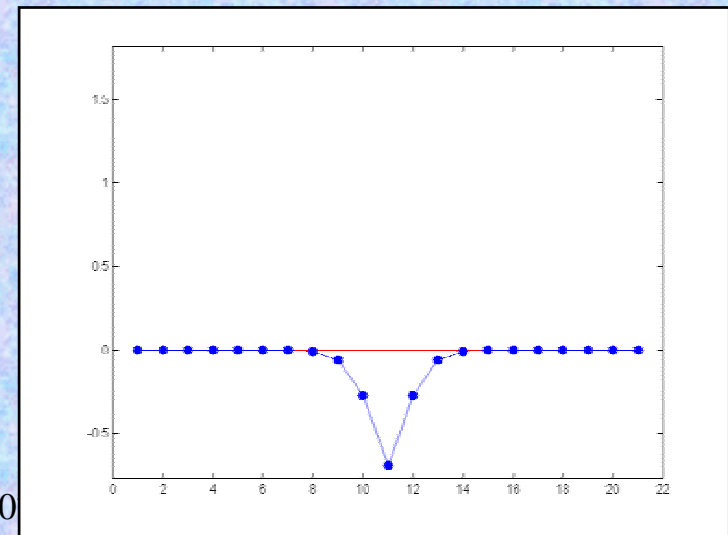
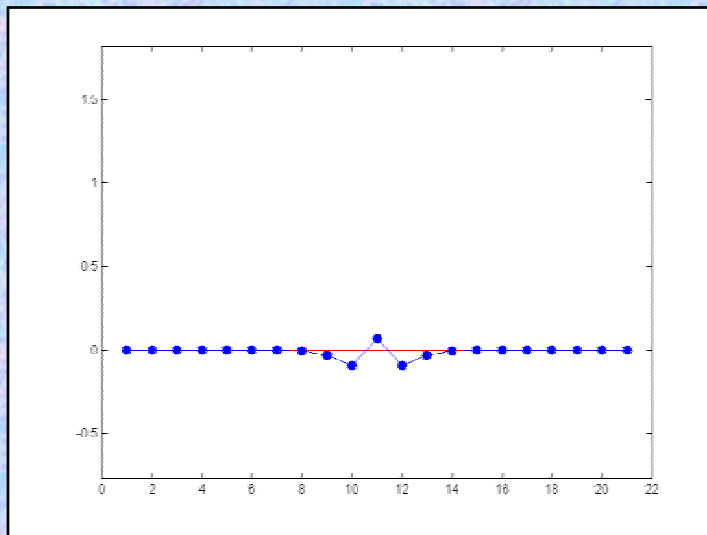
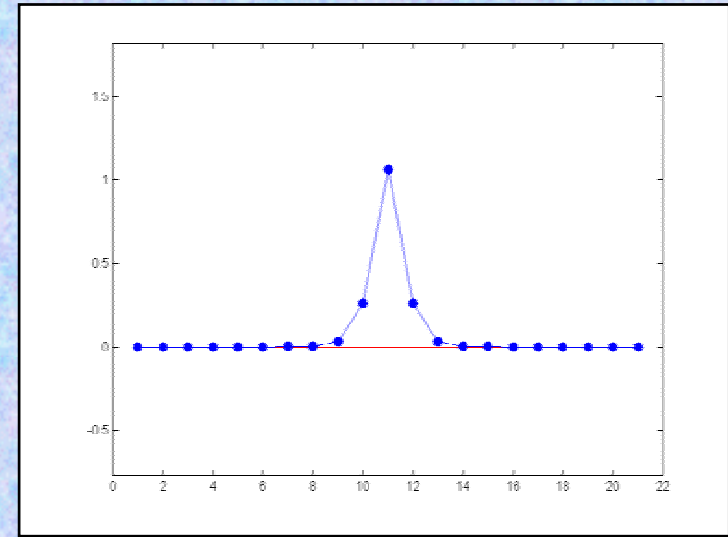
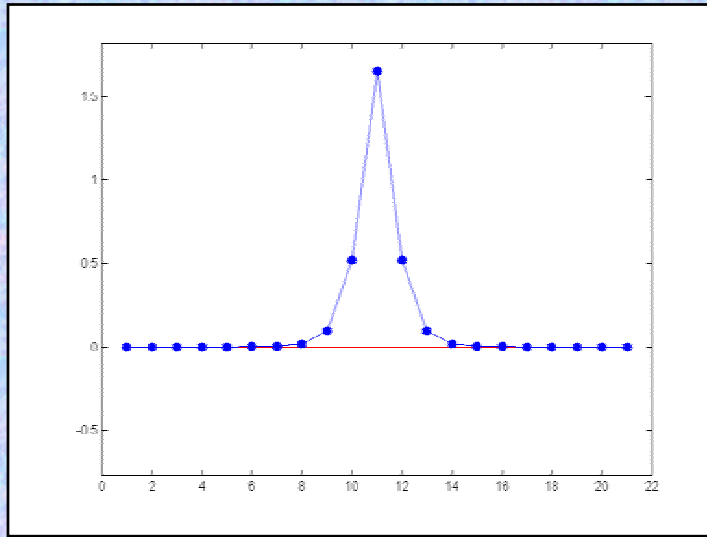
# Lattice of coupled linear oscillators (2)

Phonons:  $x_n = A \cos(\omega_q t - q n)$



# Lattice of coupled nonlinear oscillators. Breathers.

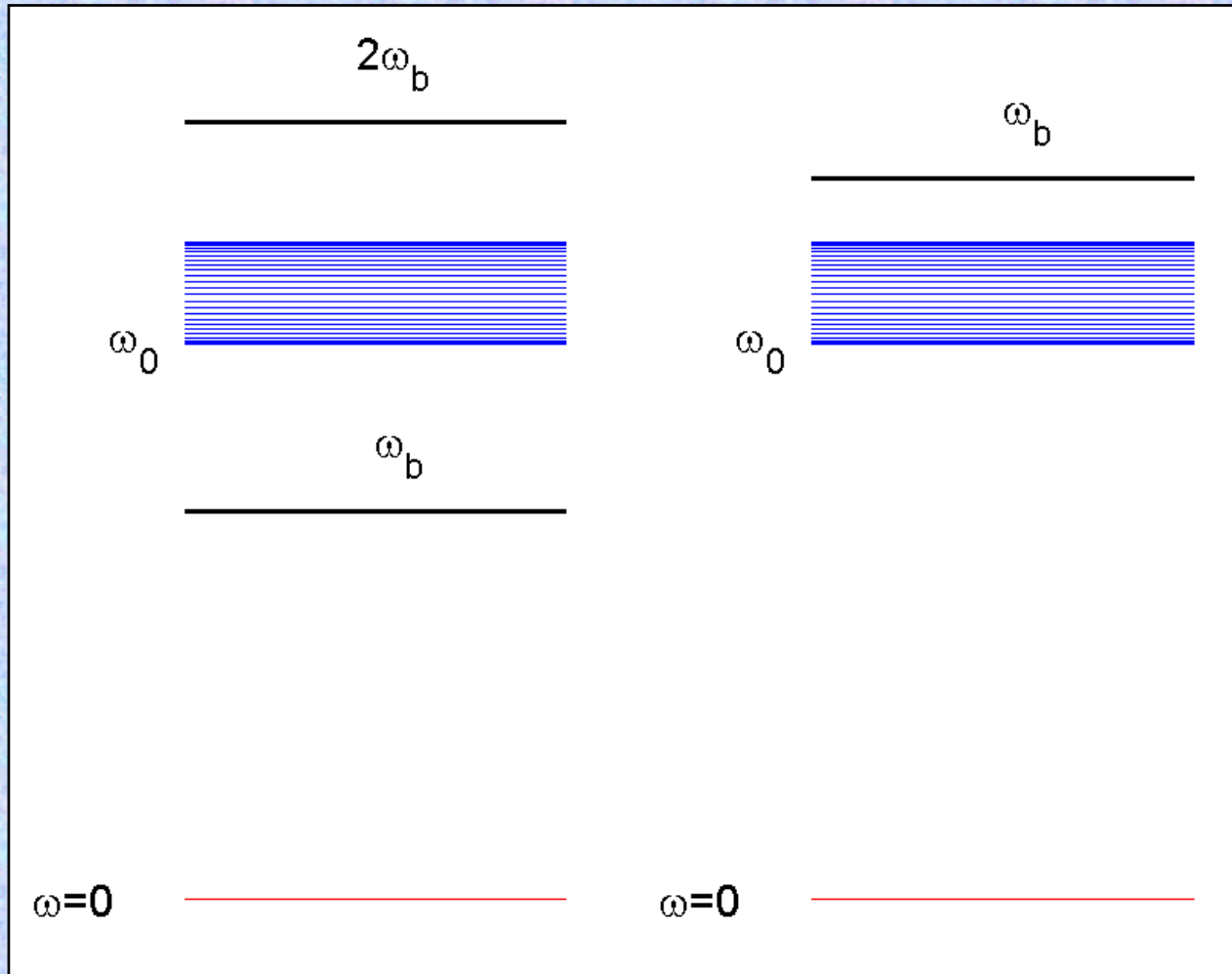
- Exact, periodic and localized solution



# Breather frequency and phonon band

Hard

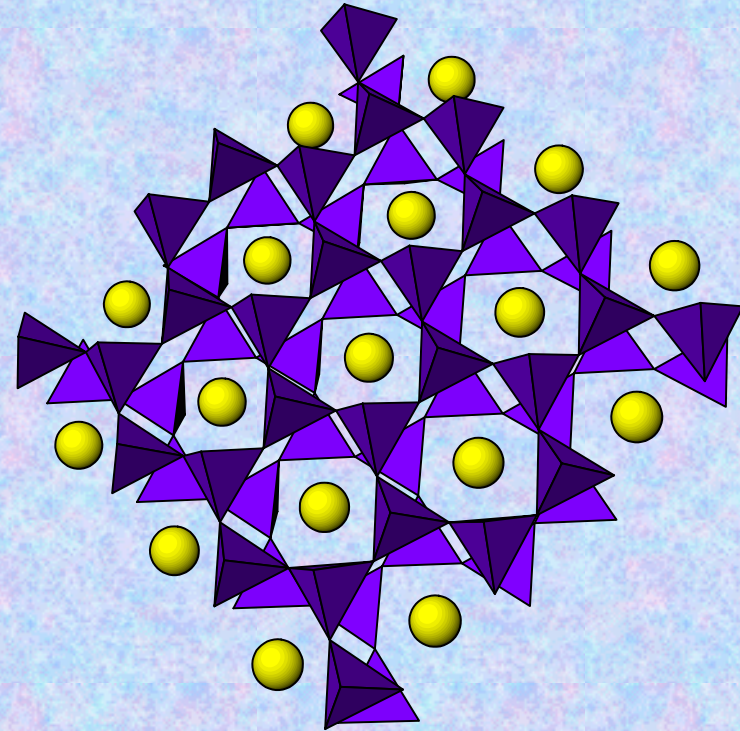
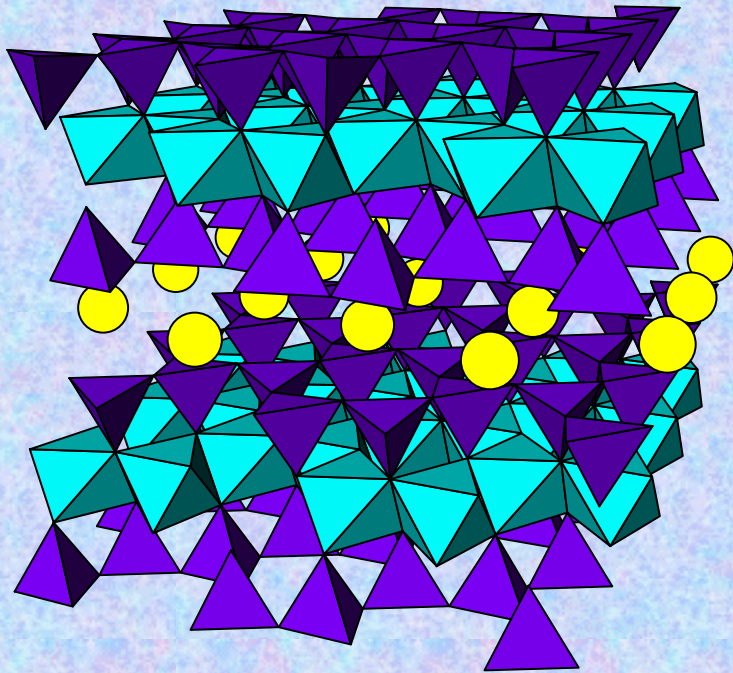
Soft



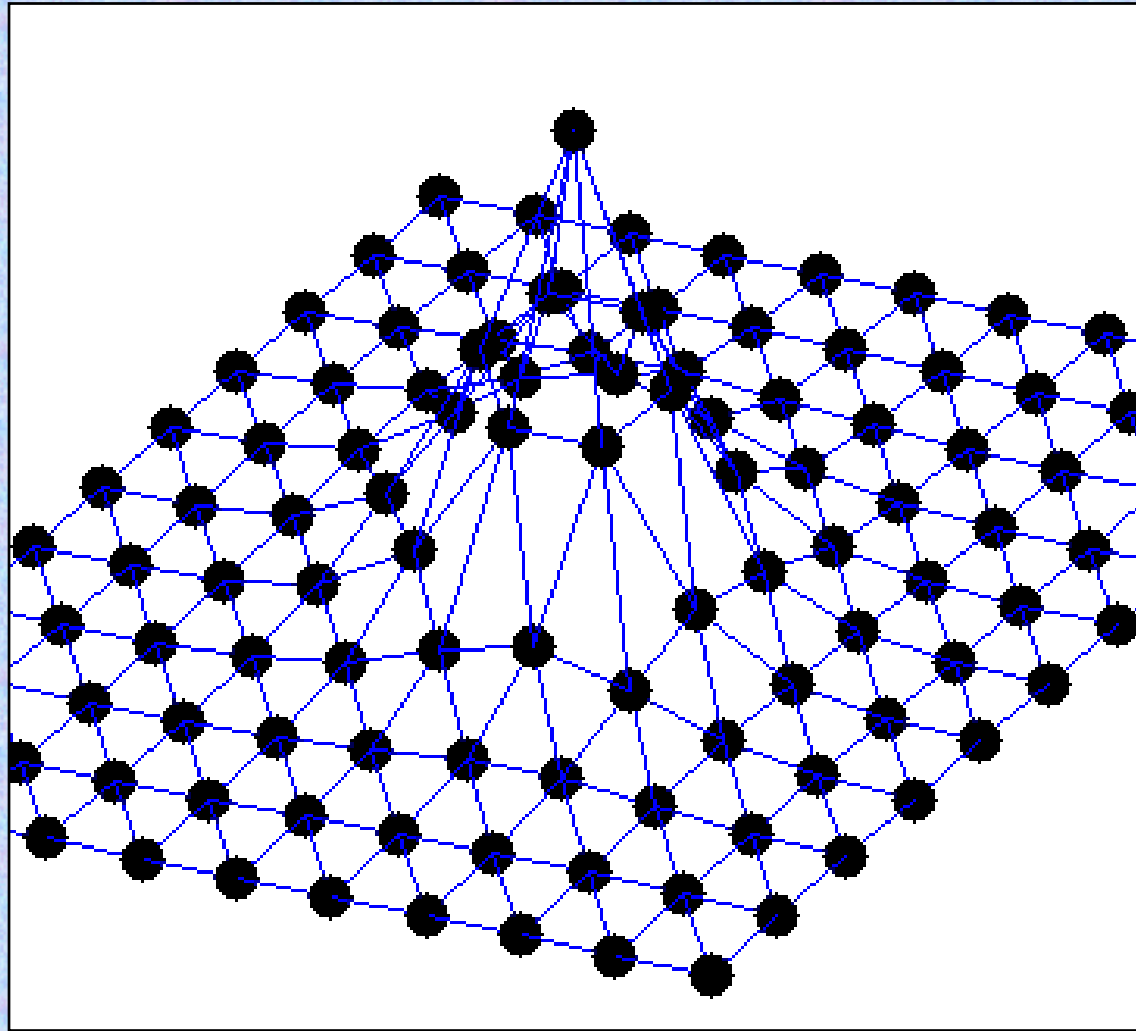
$$n\omega_b \notin [\omega_0, \omega_{f,\max}]$$

$$\omega_b'(E) \neq 0$$

# Example: mica muscovite



# A 2D breather in the cation layer



# Hypothesis: influence of discrete breathers on the reaction speed

## Objectives:

- Calculate 2D breathers in the cation layer of mica muscovite
- ¿Have they large enough energy to bring about the increase in reaction speed?
- ¿Is their number large enough?

# Mathematical model

## Hamiltonian:

$$H = \sum_{\vec{n}} \left[ \frac{1}{2} m \dot{u}_{\vec{n}}^2 + V(u_{\vec{n}}) + \frac{1}{2} k \sum_{\vec{n}'} (u_{\vec{n}} - u_{\vec{n}'})^2 \right]$$

## Harmonic coupling

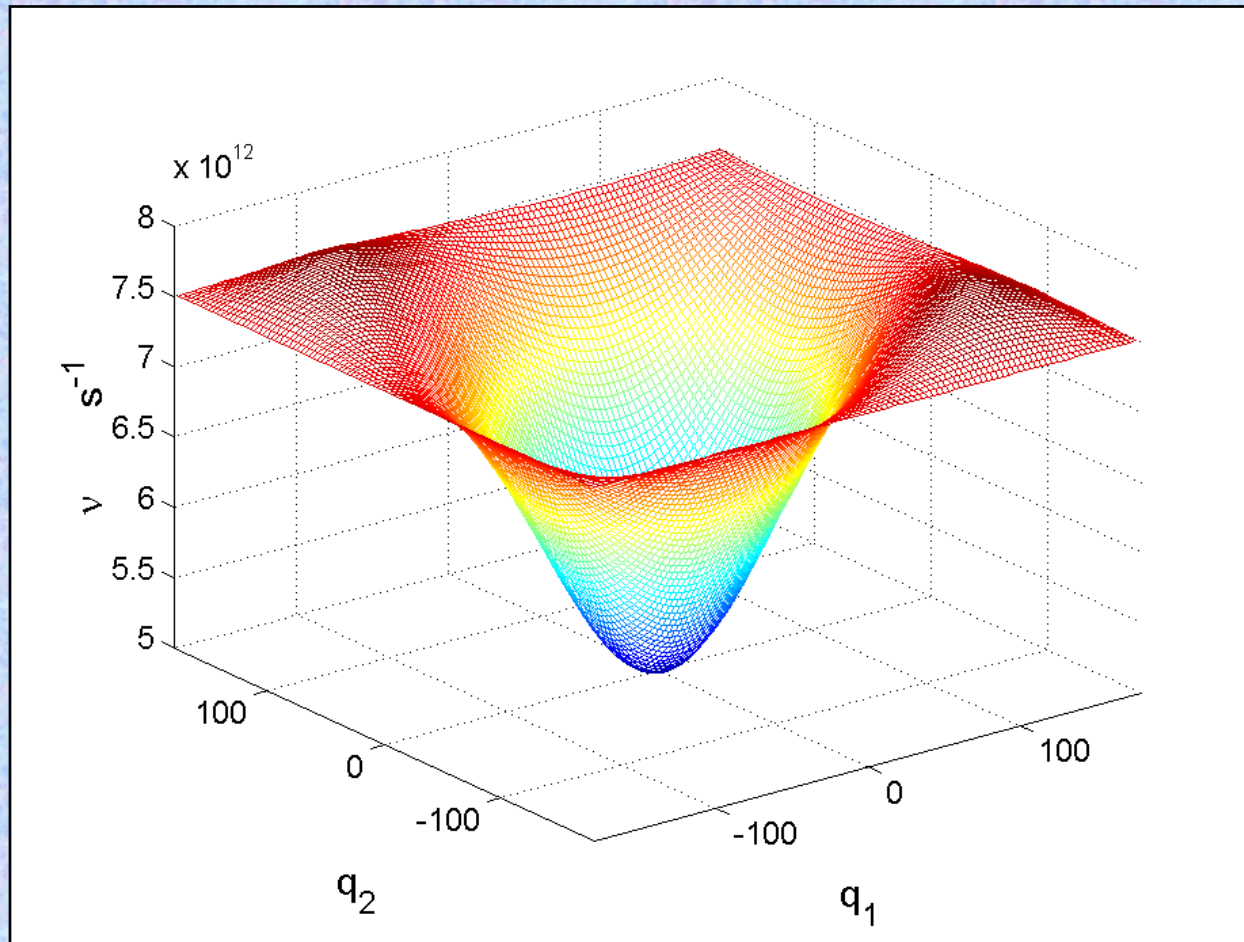
- $k=10 \pm 1$  N/m ( D. R. Lide Ed., *Handbook of Chemistry and Physics*, CRC press 2003-2004)

## On-site potential $V$

- Assignment of far infrared (30-230  $\text{cm}^{-1}$ ) bands through dichroic experiments, [Diaz et al, *Clays Clay Miner.*, **48**, 433 (2000)] with linear frequency  $\nu_0=143 \text{ cm}^{-1} = 5.03 \text{ THz}$
- Nonlinearity of the potential unknown

# Phonon band

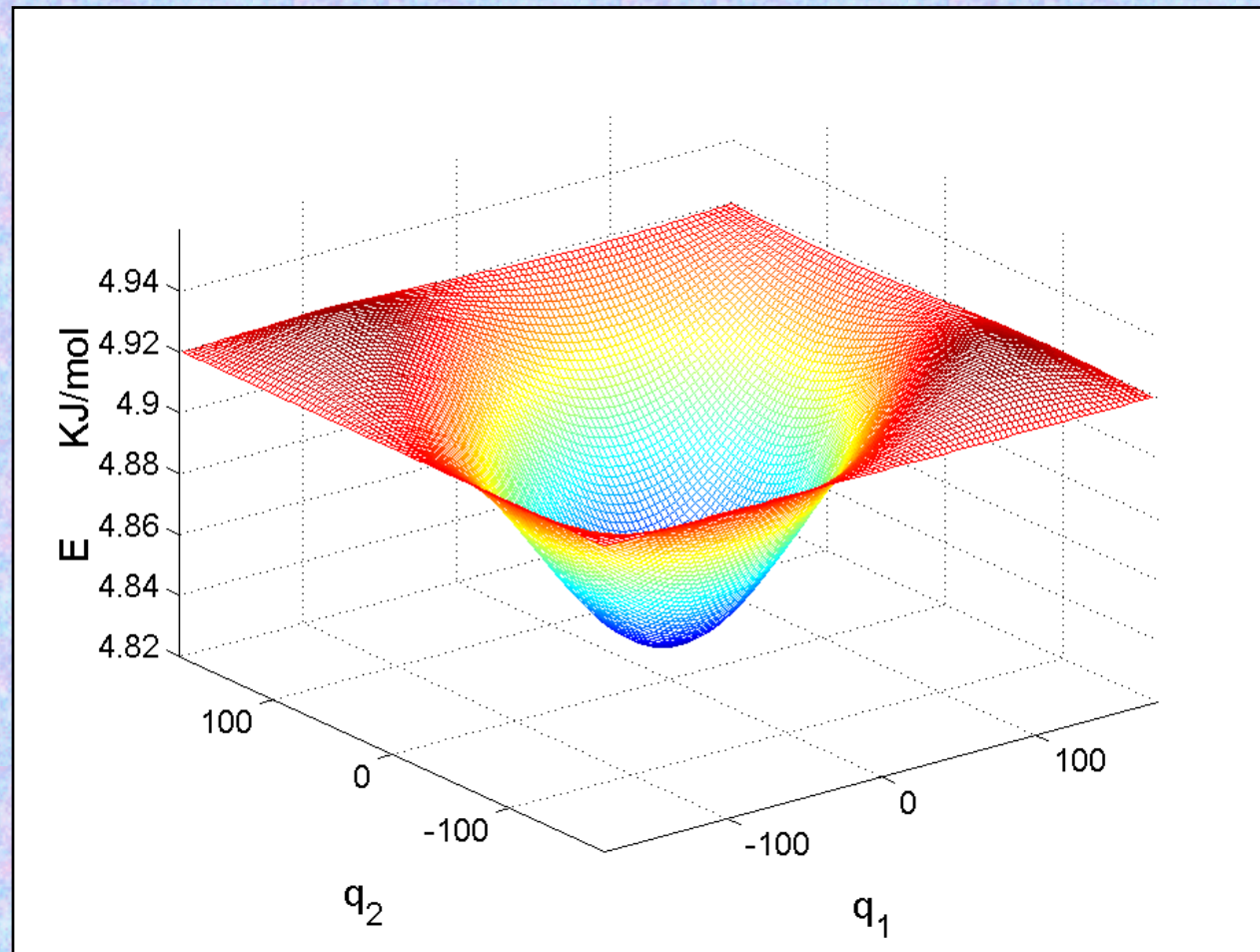
$$v_f \in [5, 7.8] \text{ THz}$$



$$v^2 = (v_0)^2 [1 + 4 \varepsilon (\sin^2(q_1/2) + \sin^2(q_1/2) + \sin^2(q_2/2 - q_1/2))]$$

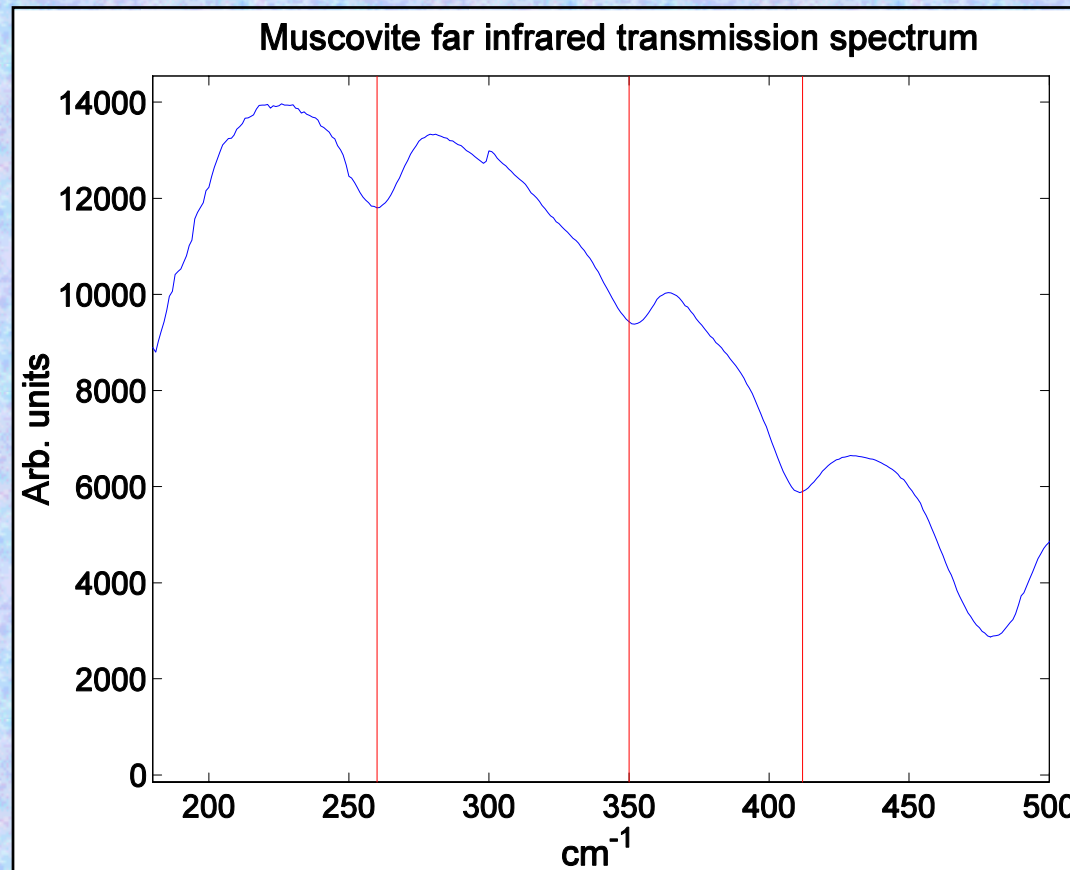


# Mean energy of each phonon mode



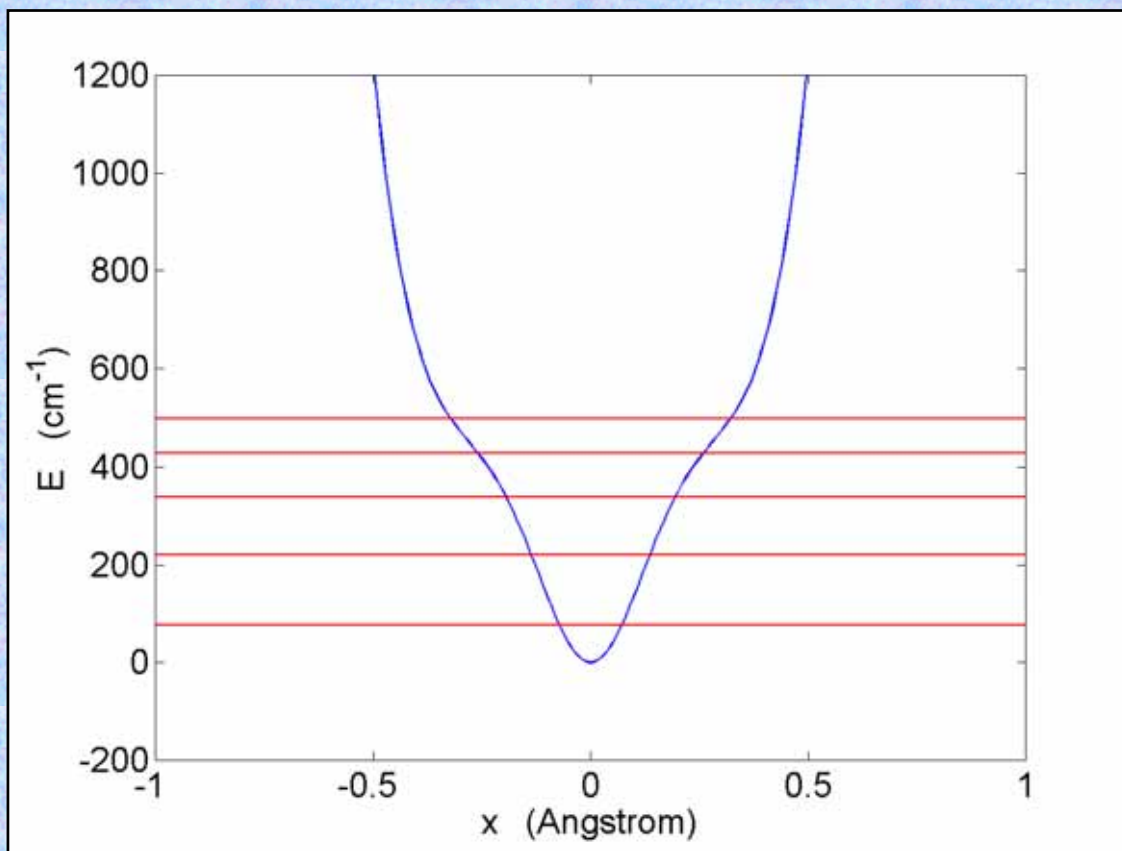
$$\langle E_{\text{ph}} \rangle = (n + 0.5) h\nu, \quad n = 1 / (e^{\beta h\nu} - 1), \quad T = 573 \text{ K}$$

# Far infrared spectrum performed at LADIR-CNRS



Bands are assigned tentatively to  $K^+$  higher order transitions

# Fitting of the nonlinear on-site potential



$$V(x) = D ( [1 - \exp(-b^2 x^2)] + \gamma x^6 )$$

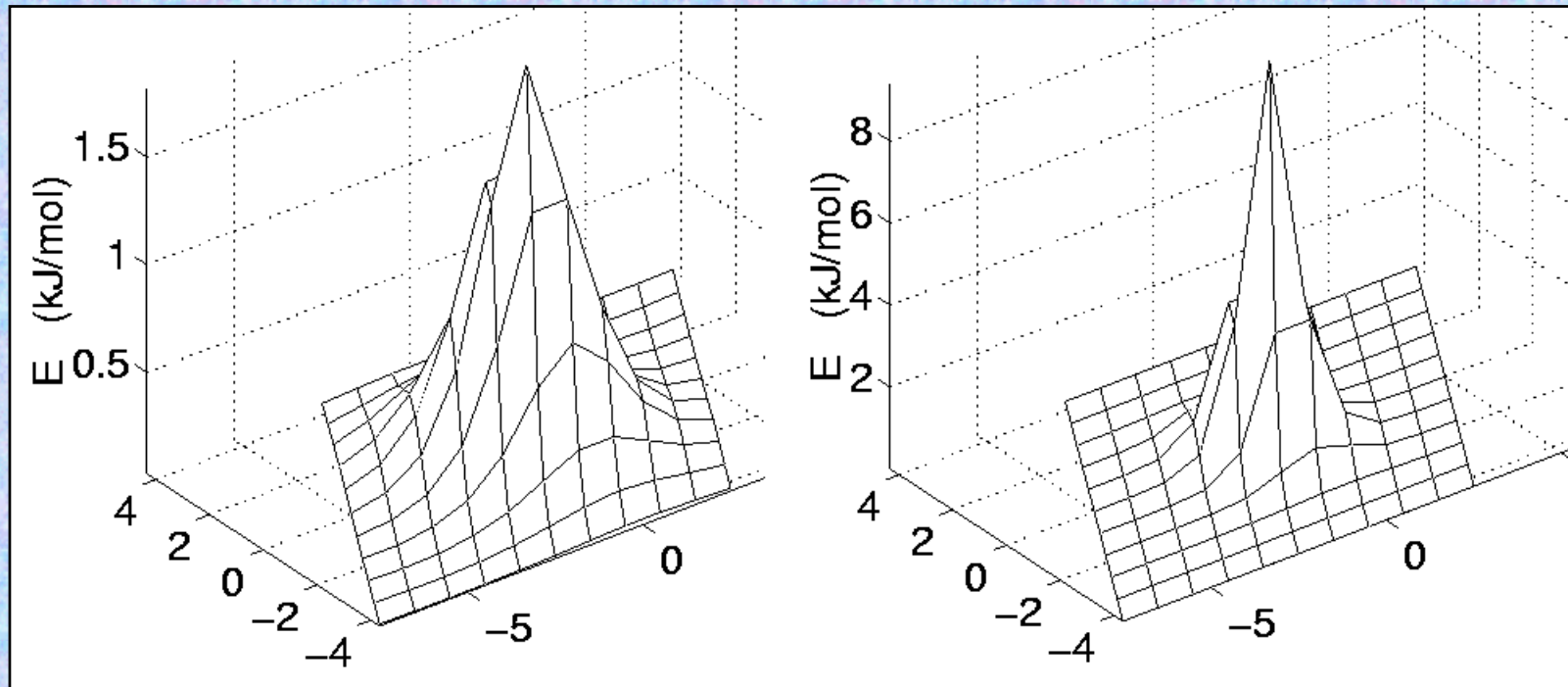
$$D = 453 \text{ cm}^{-1}$$

$$b^2 = 36 \text{ \AA}^{-2}$$

$$\gamma = 49884 \text{ cm}^{-1} \text{ \AA}^{-6}$$

Choice consistent with the space available for  $\text{K}^+$   $2 \cdot 1.45 \text{ \AA}$

# Energy density profiles for two soft breathers

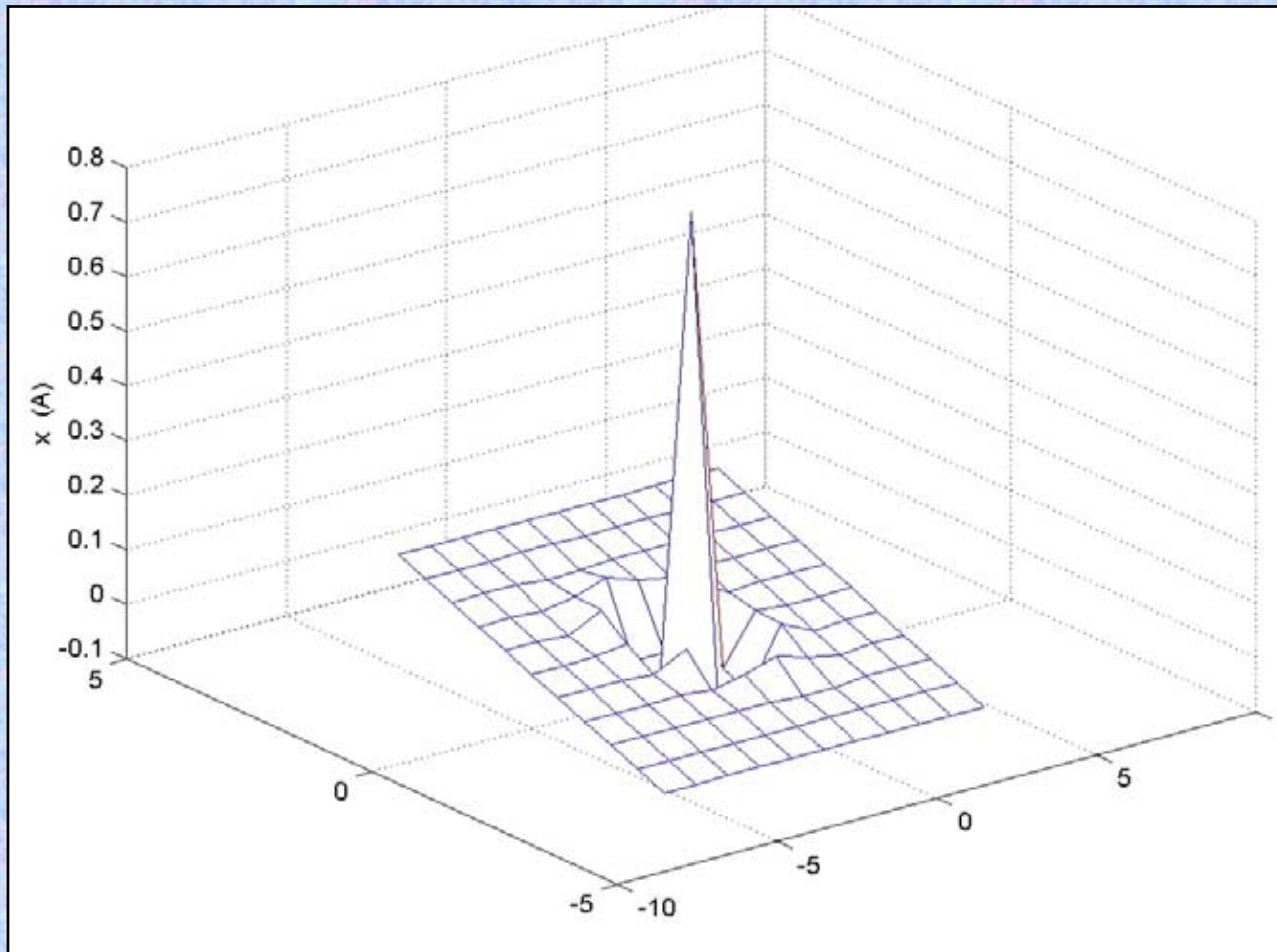


$$v_b = 0.97 v_0, \quad E = 25.6 \text{ kJ/mol}$$

$$v_b = 0.85 v_0, \quad E = 36.3 \text{ kJ/mol}$$

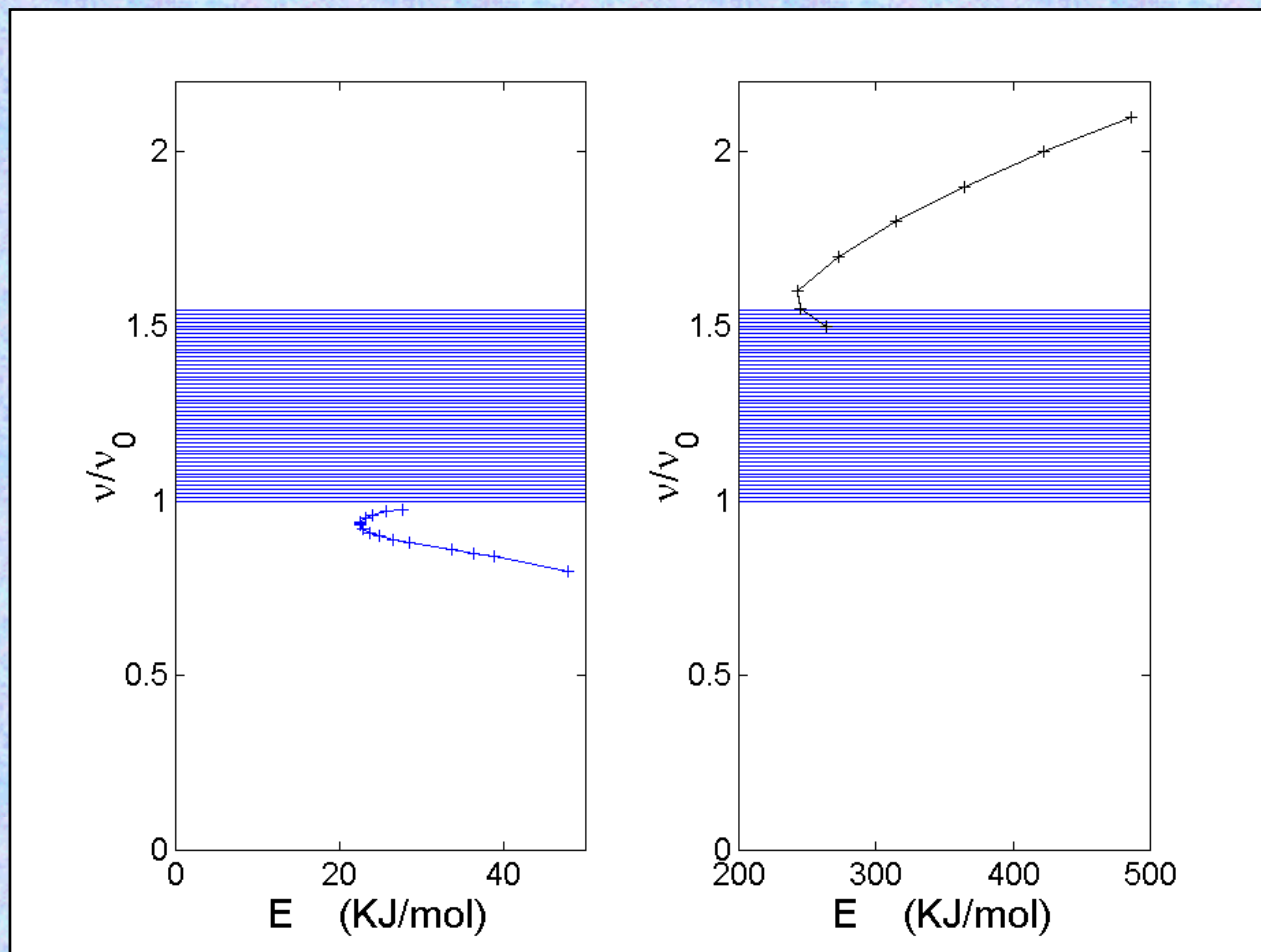
$$v_0 = 167.5 \text{ cm}^{-1} \sim 5 \cdot 10^{12} \text{ Hz}$$

# Profile of a hard breather



$$\nu = 1.7\nu_0 = 8.54 \text{ THz}, E = 272 \text{ KJ/mol}$$

# Breather frequency versus energy



$$\nu_0 = 167.5 \text{ cm}^{-1}$$
$$\sim 5 \cdot 10^{12} \text{ Hz}$$

Minimum energies

$$\Delta_s = 22.4 \text{ kJ/mol}$$

$$\Delta_h = 240 \text{ kJ/mol}$$

**BREATHERS HAVE LARGER ENERGIES THAN THE ACTIVATION ENERGY**

¿How many phonons? ¿How many breathers?  
¿With which energies?

**Phonons:** fraction of phonons per site with energy larger than  $E_a$  :  $C_{\text{ph}}(E_a) = \exp(-E_a/RT)$

**Breathers:**

- Numerically:  $\langle n_B \rangle \sim 10^{-3}$  per  $K^+$
- Theory: Piazza et al, Chaos **13**, 589 (2003)]

# 2D breather statistics: Piazza et al, 2003

1.- They have a minimum energy:  $\Delta$

2.- Rate of breather creation:  $B(E) \propto \exp(-\beta E)$ ,  $\beta=1/k_B T$

3.- Rate of breather destruction:  $D(E) \propto 1/(E-\Delta)^z$

Large breathers live longer.

4.- Thermal equilibrium: if  $P_b(E) dE$  is the probability that a breather energy is between  $E$  and  $E+dE$ :

$$D(E) P_b(E) dE = A B(E) dE, \quad A \neq A(E)$$

5.- Normalization:  $\int_0^\infty P_b(E) dE = 1$



# Breathers statistics. Results.

1.-  $P_b(E) = \beta^{z+1} (E - \Delta)^z \exp[-\beta(E - \Delta)] / \Gamma(z+1)$

2.-  $\langle E \rangle = \Delta + (z+1) k_B T$

3.- Most probable energy:  $E_p = \Delta + z k_B T$

3.- Fraction of breathers with energy above  $E$ :

$$C_b(E) = \Gamma(z+1)^{-1} \Gamma(z+1, \beta[E - \Delta])$$

4.- Mean number of breathers per site with energy above  $E$ :

$$n_b(E) = \langle n_b \rangle C_b(E)$$

$$\langle n_b \rangle = \text{mean number of breathers per site} \sim 10^{-3}$$

-Function gamma and first incomplete gamma function:

$$\Gamma(z+1) = \int_0^{\infty} y^z \exp(-y) dy, \quad \Gamma(z+1, x) = \int_x^{\infty} y^z \exp(-y) dy$$

# Breathers statistics. Results.

1.-  $P_b(E) = \beta^{z+1} (E - \Delta)^z \exp[-\beta(E - \Delta)] / \Gamma(z+1)$

2.-  $\langle E \rangle = \Delta + (z+1) k_b T$

3.- Most probable

3.- Fraction of

$$C_b(E)$$

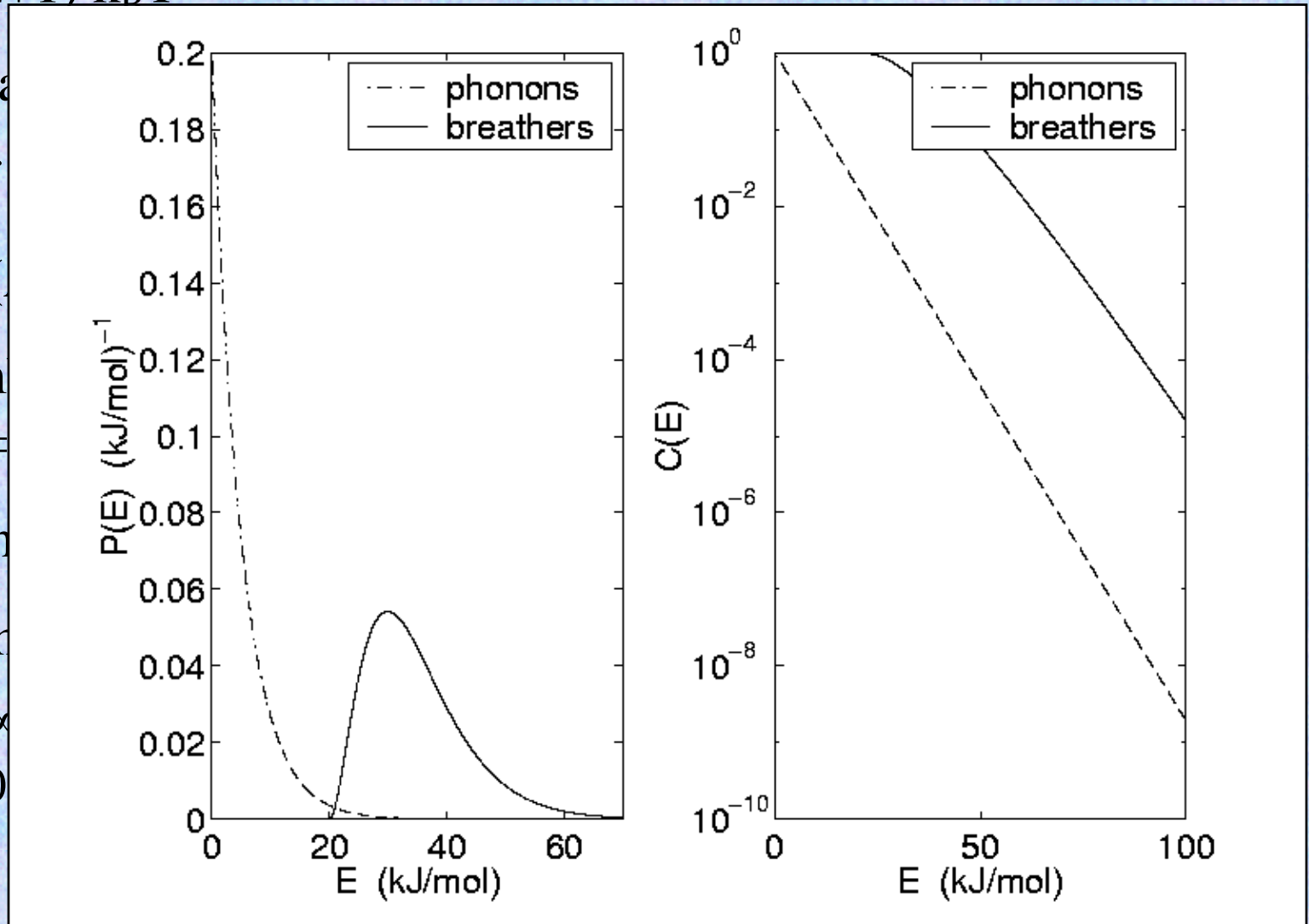
4.- Mean number

$$n_b(E) =$$

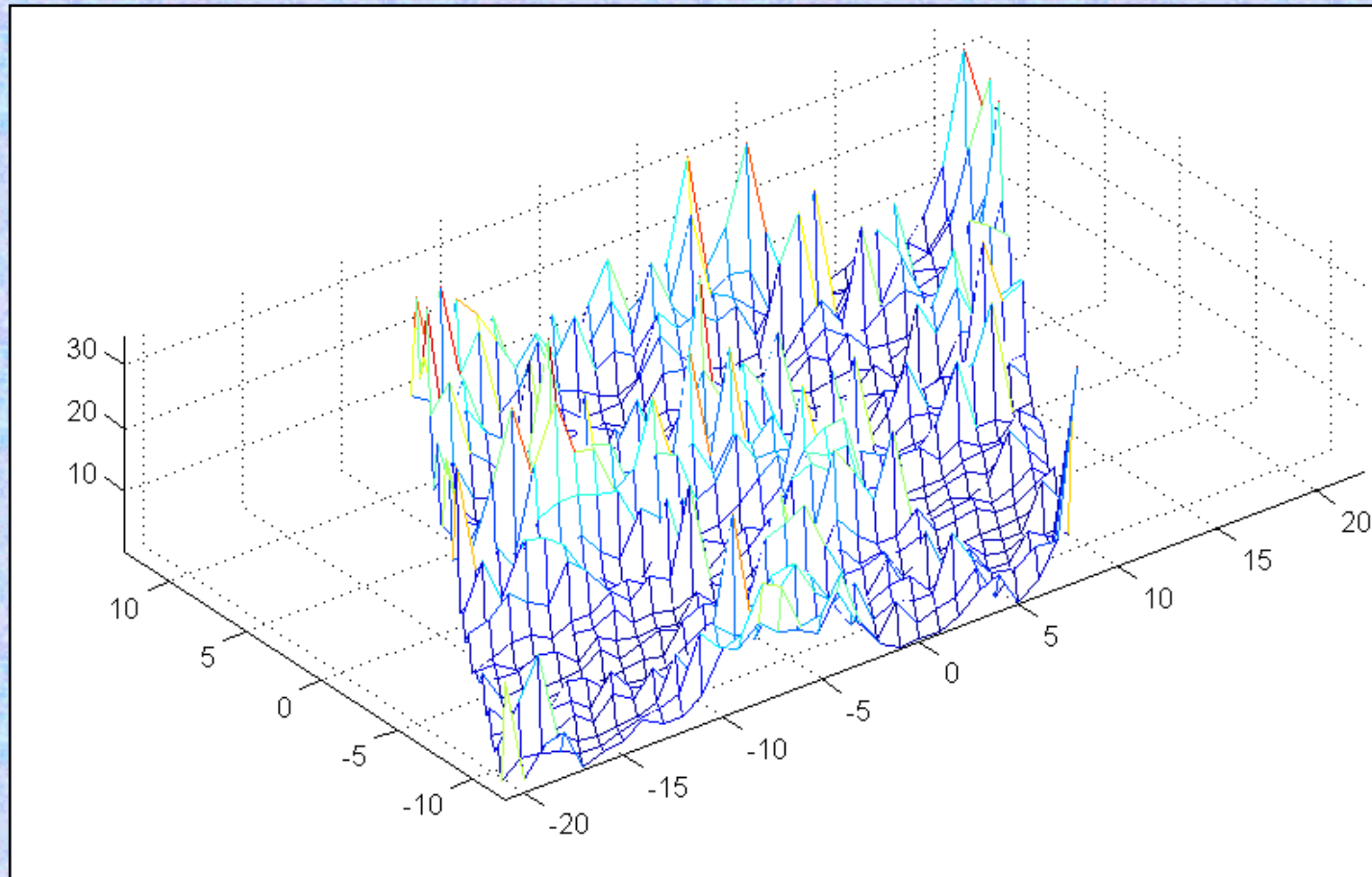
$$\langle n_b \rangle = n$$

-Function gamma

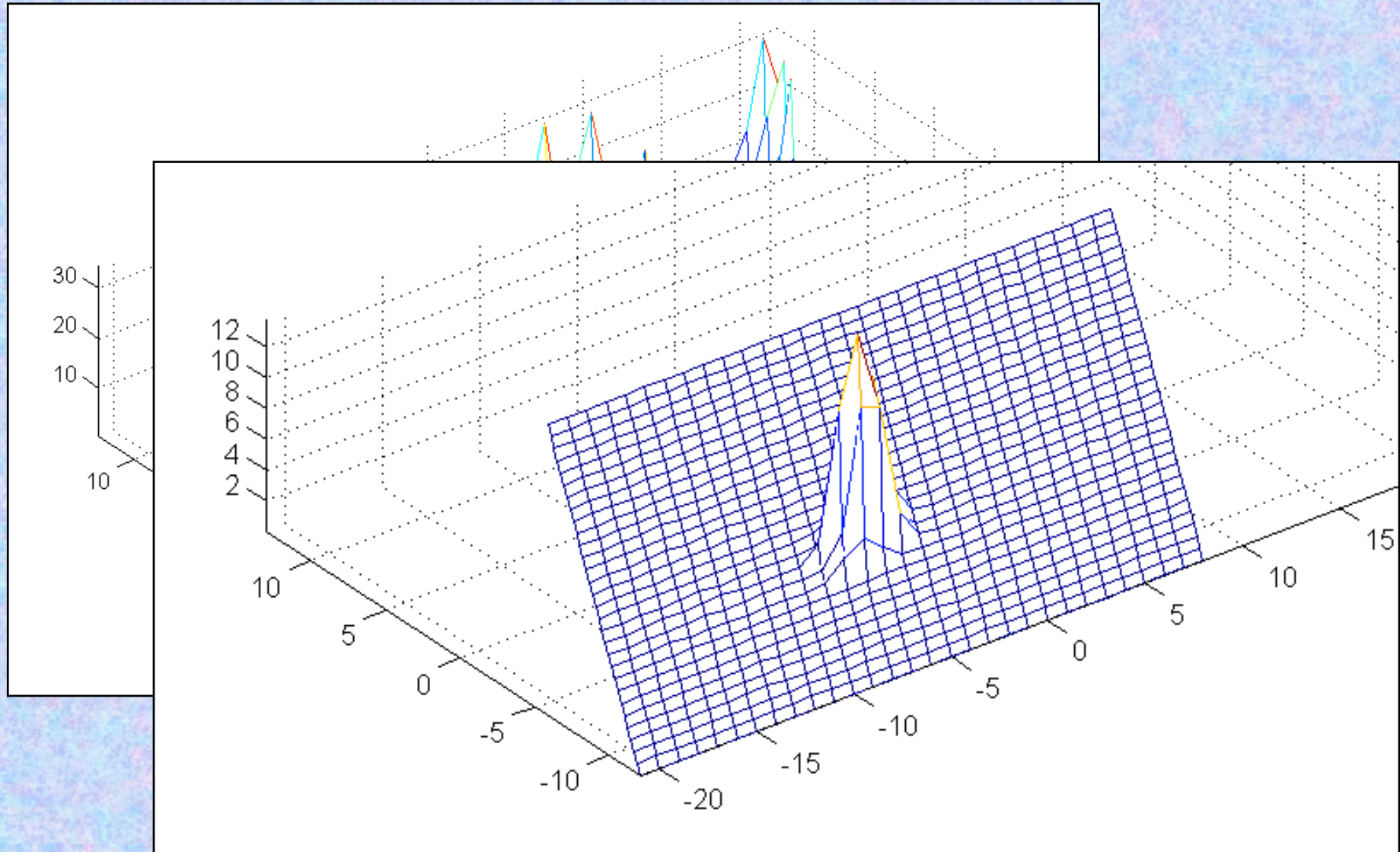
$$\Gamma(z+1) = \int_0^\infty$$



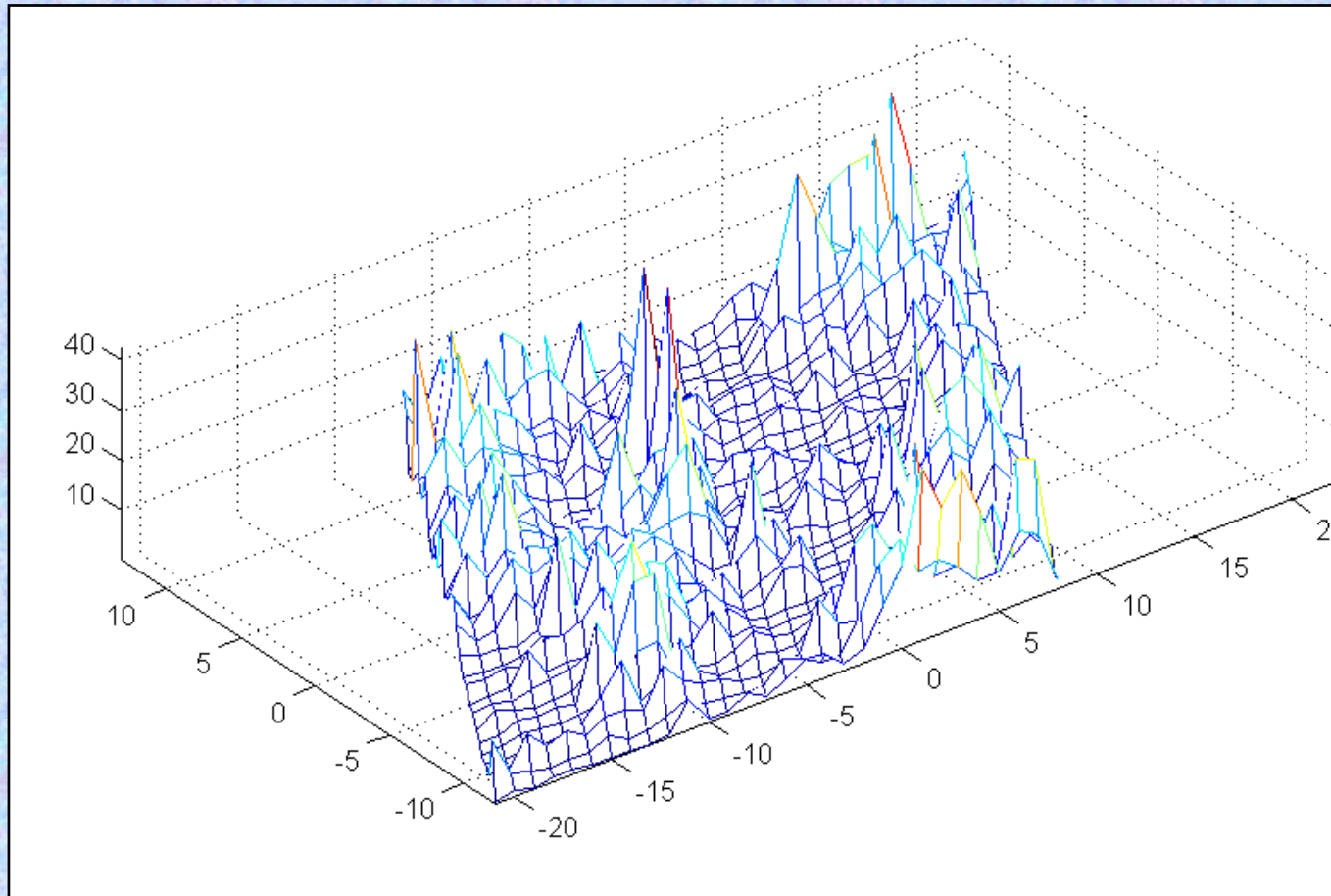
# Numerical simulations in mica (1a)



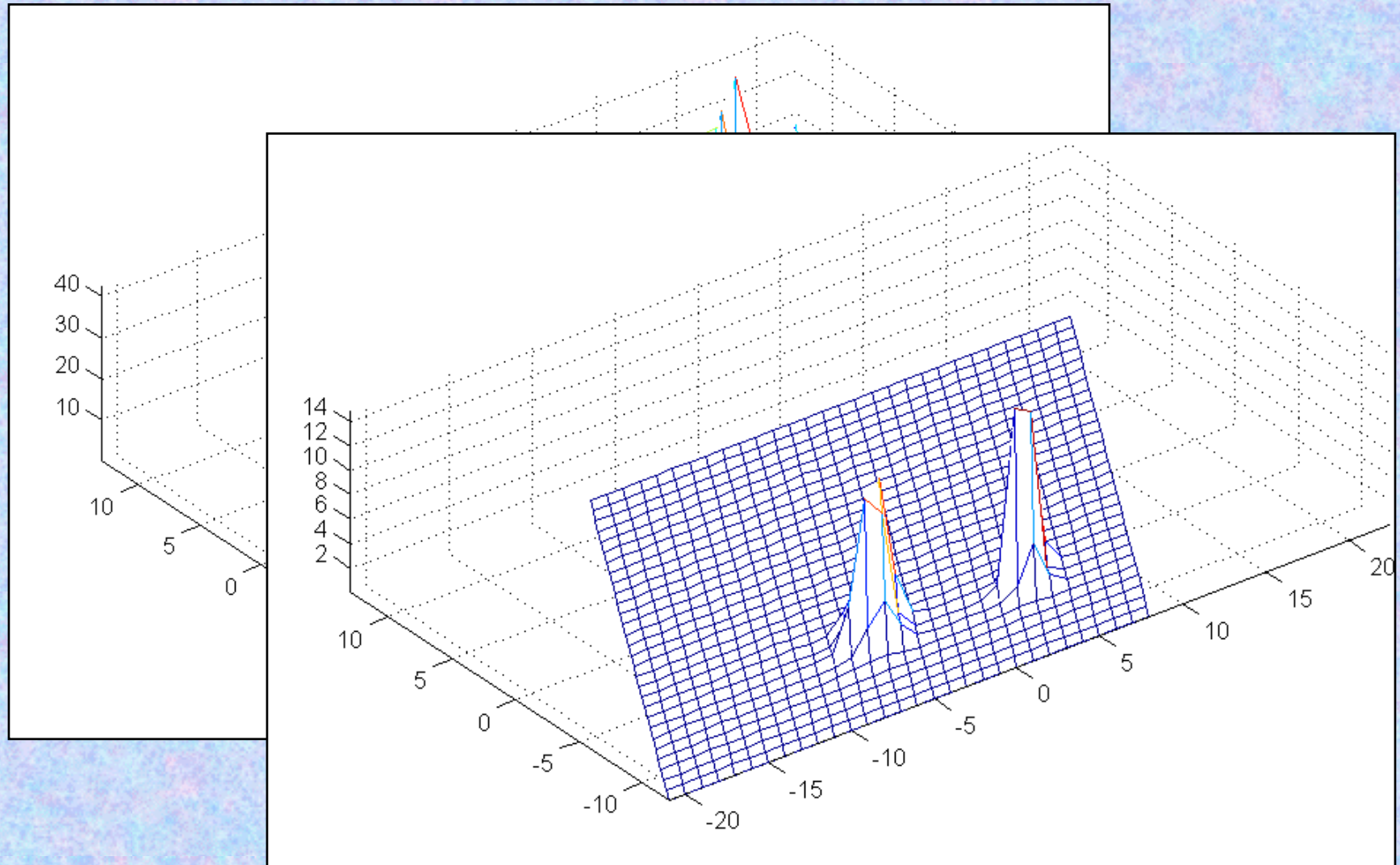
# Numerical simulations in mica (1b)



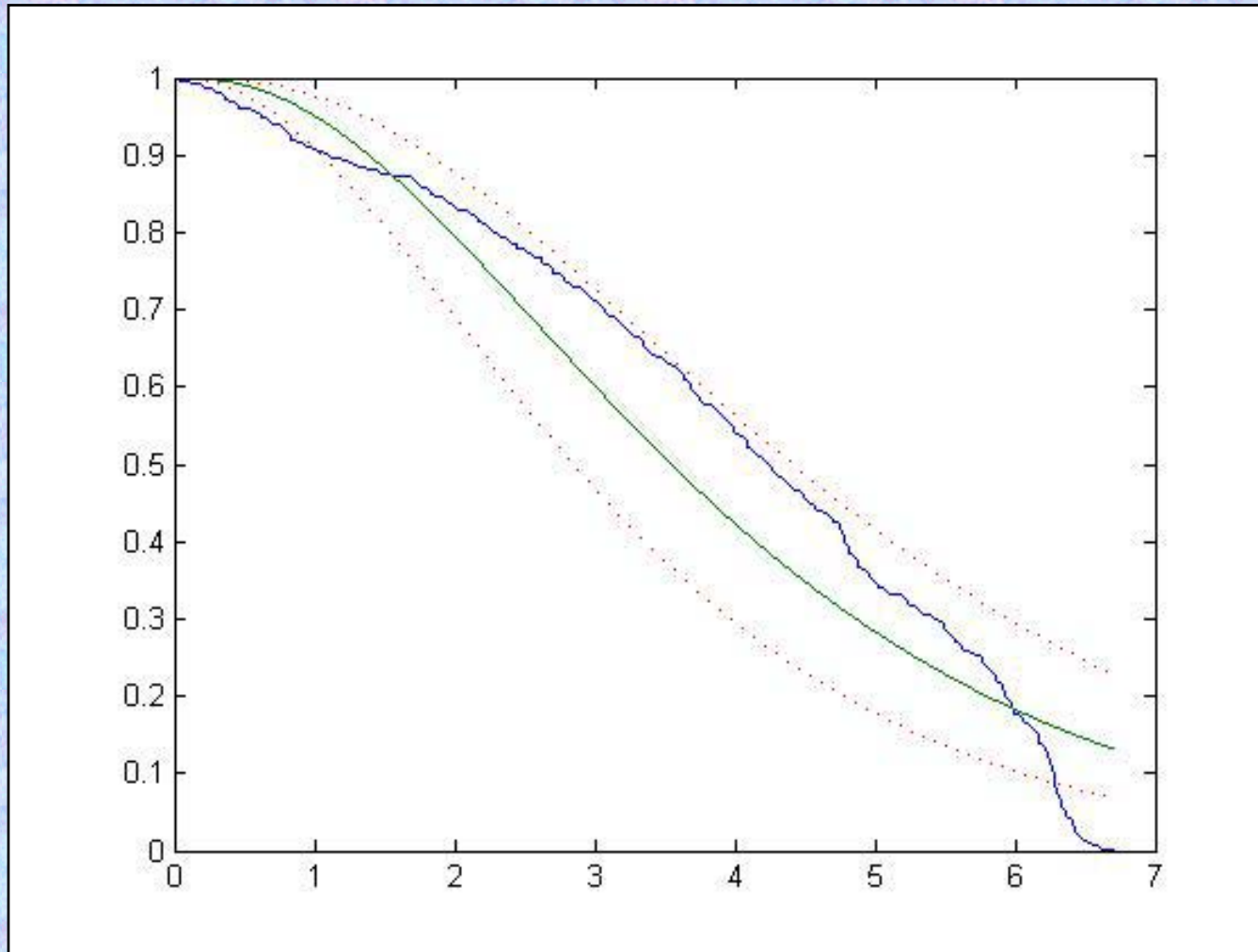
# Numerical simulations in mica (2a)



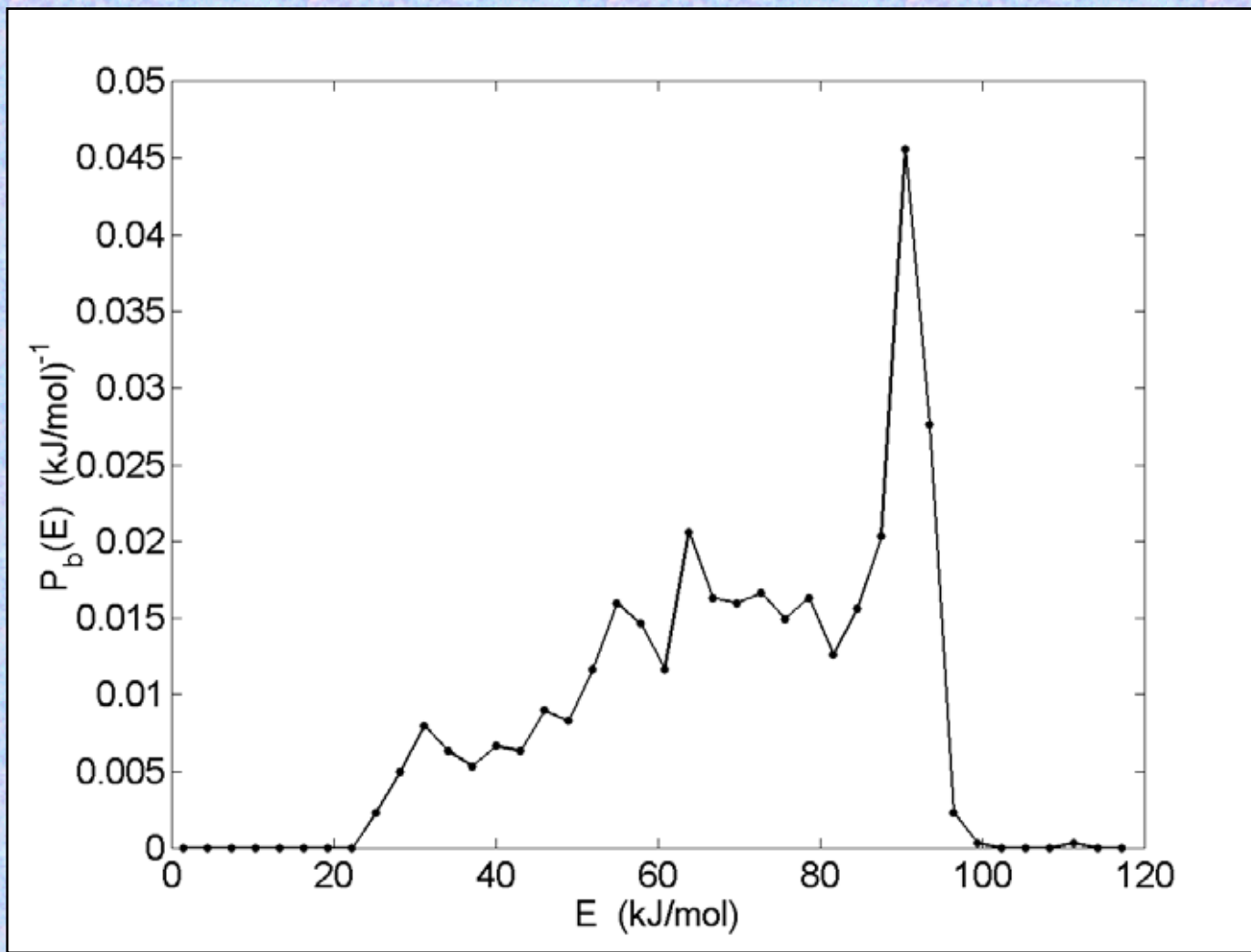
# Numerical simulations in mica (2b)



# Attempt to fit $C_b(E)$ : failure.

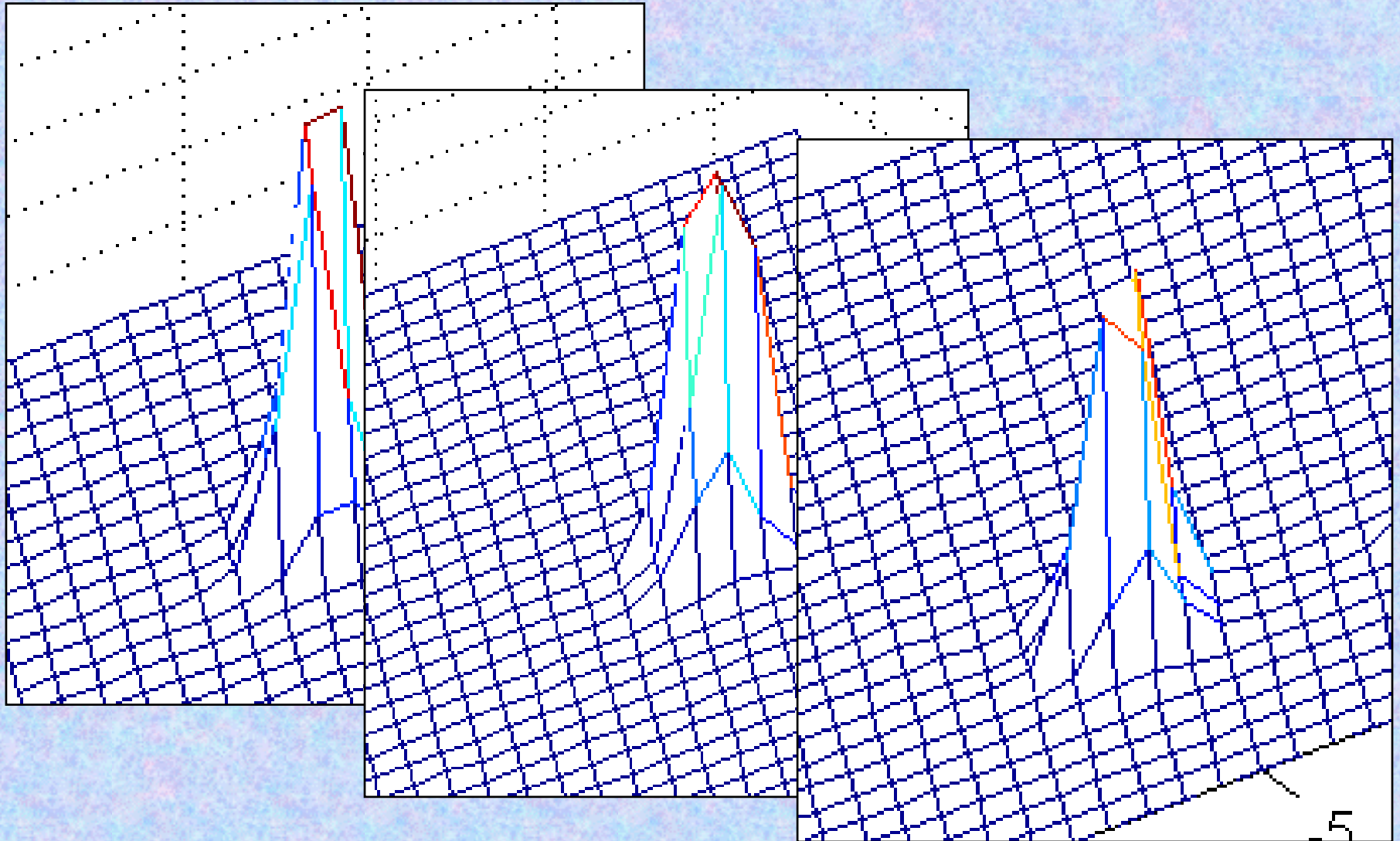


# Total failure: $P_b(E)$





# Reason: multiple breather types



# Modification of the theory. Breathers with maximum energy

1.- Multiple breather types

2.- Differences:

- Minimum energy  $\Delta$
- Parameter  $z$
- Maximum energy  $E_M$  !! :

- Normalization:  $\int_{\Delta}^{E_M} P_b(E) dE = 1$

- Different probability for each type of breather:

$$P(\Delta, z, E_M, ?)$$

# Breathers with maximum energy. Results.

1.- Probability density:

$$P_b(E) = \beta^{z+1} (E - \Delta)^z \exp[-\beta(E - \Delta)] / \gamma(z+1, \beta[E_M - \Delta])$$

3.- Fraction of breathers with energy above  $E$ :

$$C_b(E) = 1 - \gamma(z+1, \beta[E - \Delta]) / \gamma(z+1, \beta[E_M - \Delta])$$

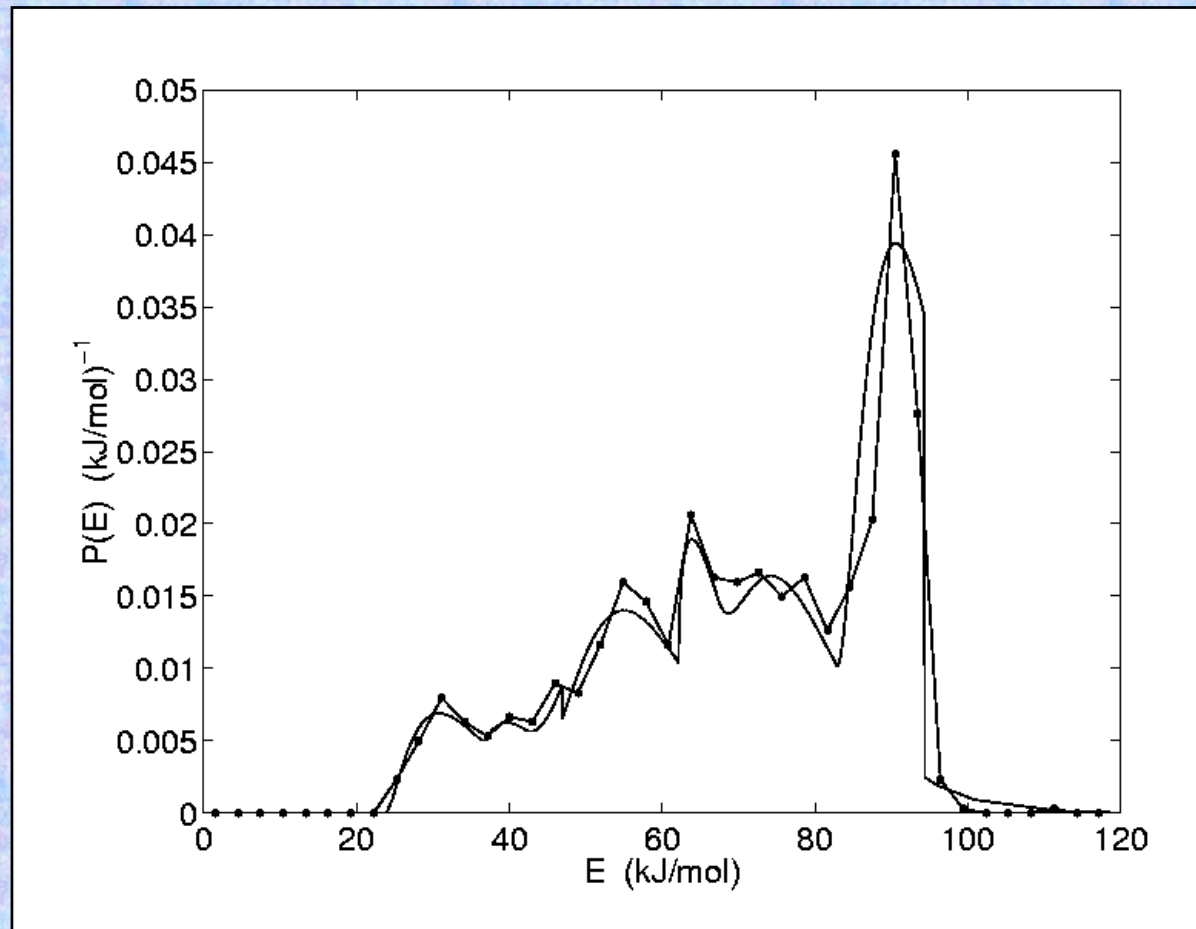
- Second incomplete gamma function:

$$\gamma(z+1, x) = \int_0^x y^z \exp(-y) dy$$

# Breather energy spectrum

$\Delta$ (kJ/mol)	23.9	36.6	41.4	62.2	67.3	82.9
$z$	1.50	1.17	3.00	0.52	2.07	1.80
$E_M$ (kJ/mol)	-	46.9	-	-	-	94.4
probability	0.103	0.026	0.281	0.097	0.202	0.290

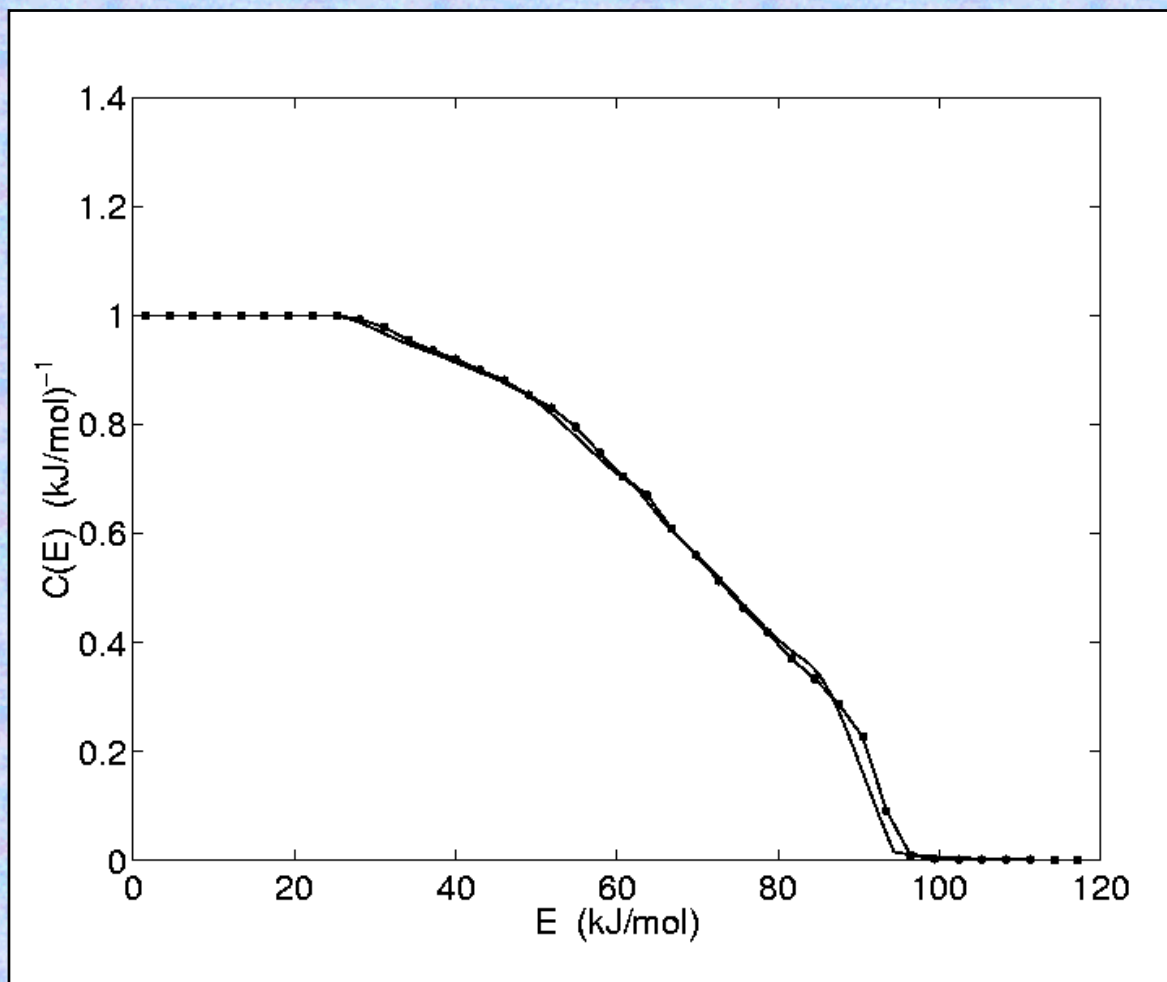
# Density probability for breathers in mica



----- Numerical  
— Theoretical

# Accumulate probability:

Fraction of breathers with energy equal or larger than  $E$



--- Numerical  
— Theoretical

# Estimations

For  $E_a \sim 100\text{-}200$  kJ/mol,  $T=573$  K:

$$\frac{\text{Number of breathers}}{\text{Number of phonons}} = 10^4\text{-}10^5 \quad (\text{with } E \geq E_a)$$

Reaction time without breathers: 80 a 800 years,

Moreover, breather can localize more the energy delivered, which will increase further the reaction speed

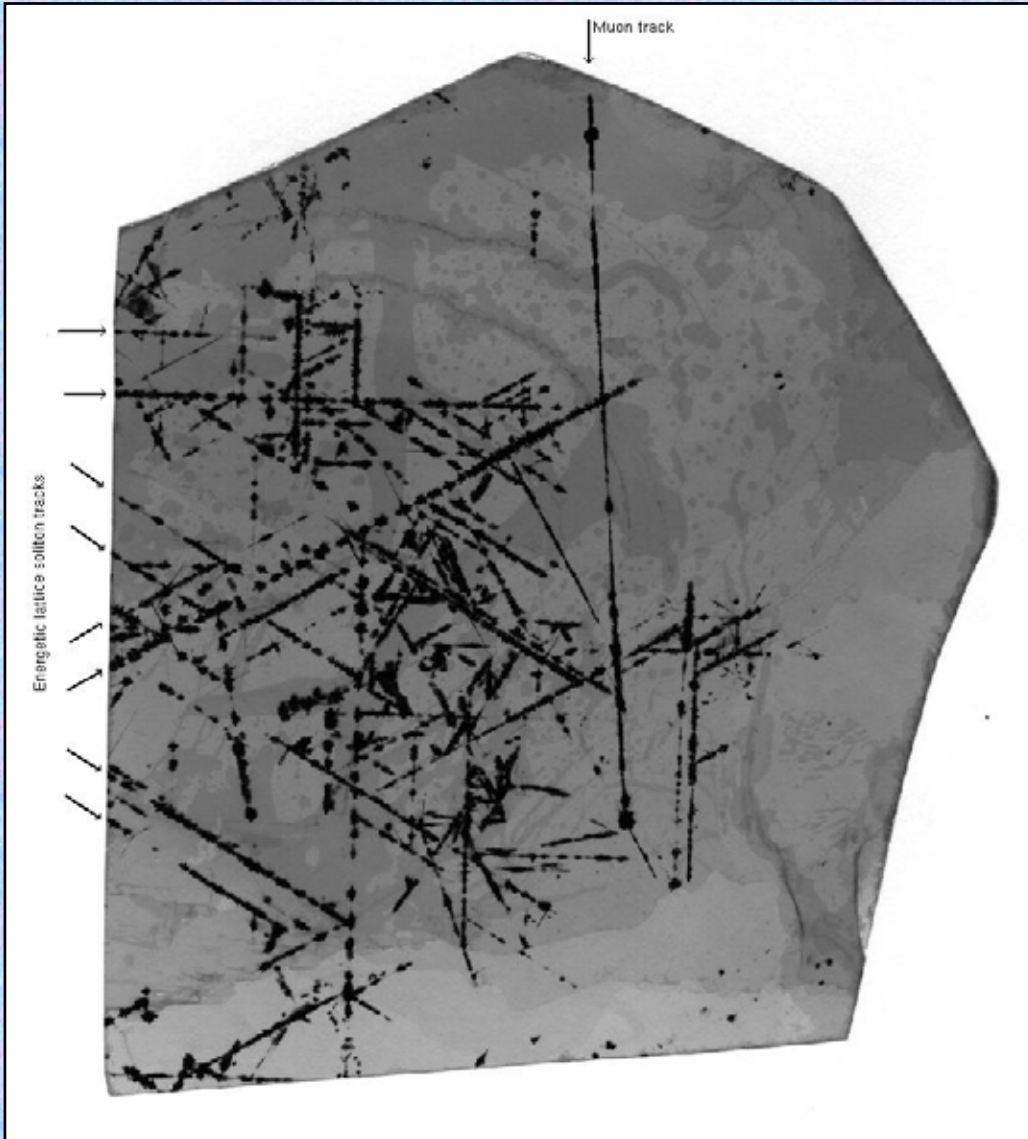
**THERE ARE MUCH LESS BREATHERS THAN LINEAR MODES, BUT MUCH MORE WITH ENERGY ABOVE THE ACTIVATION ENERGY**

# Other possible evidences for breather existence in mica muscovite

- Black tracks in natural mica
- Numerical studies of moving breathers
- Sputtering



# Quodons in mica muscovite



Black tracks:  $\text{Fe}_3\text{O}_4$

Cause:

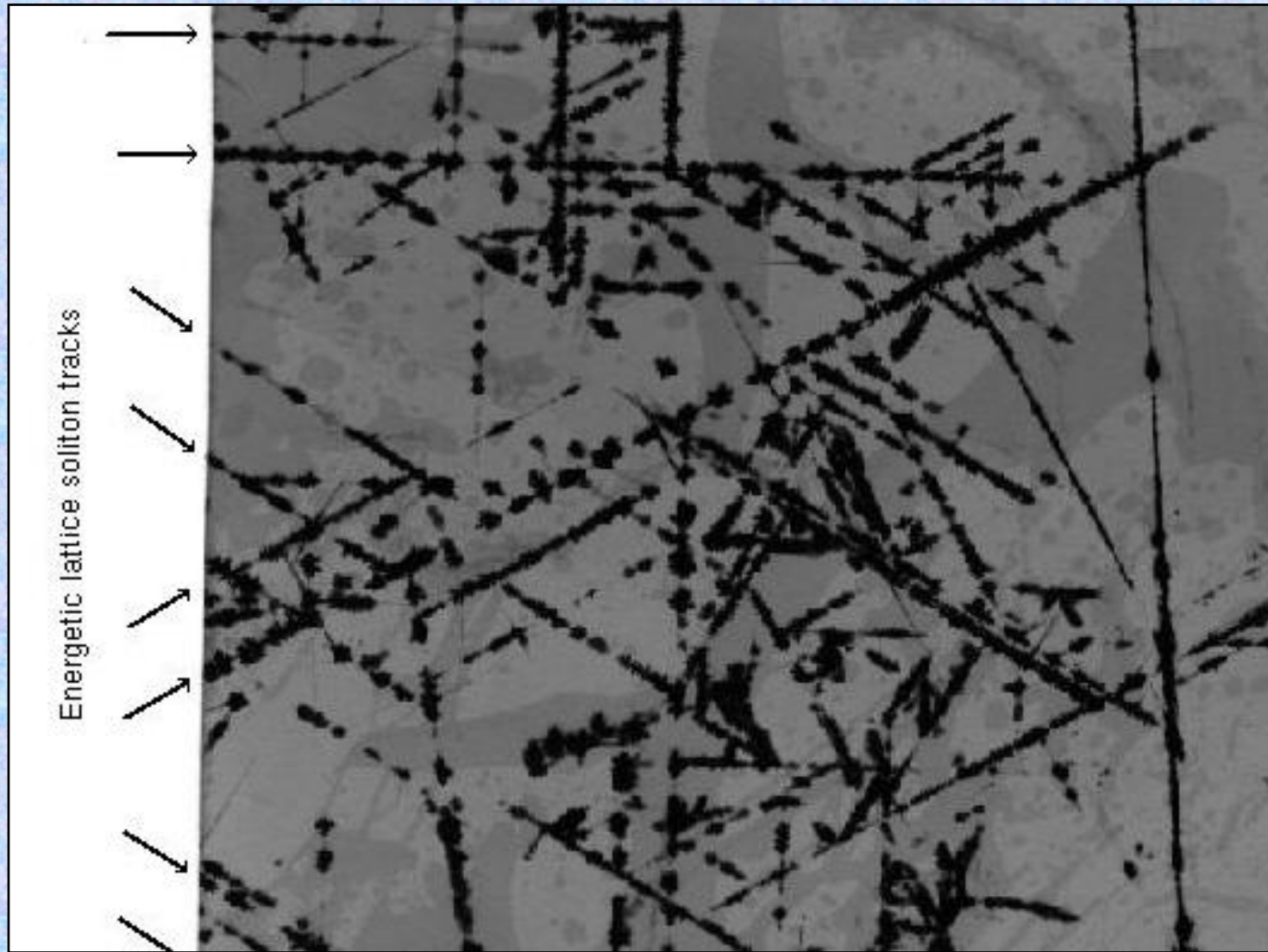
- 0.1% Particles:

- muons: produced by interaction with neutrinos
- Positrons: produced by muons' electromagnetic interaction and K decay

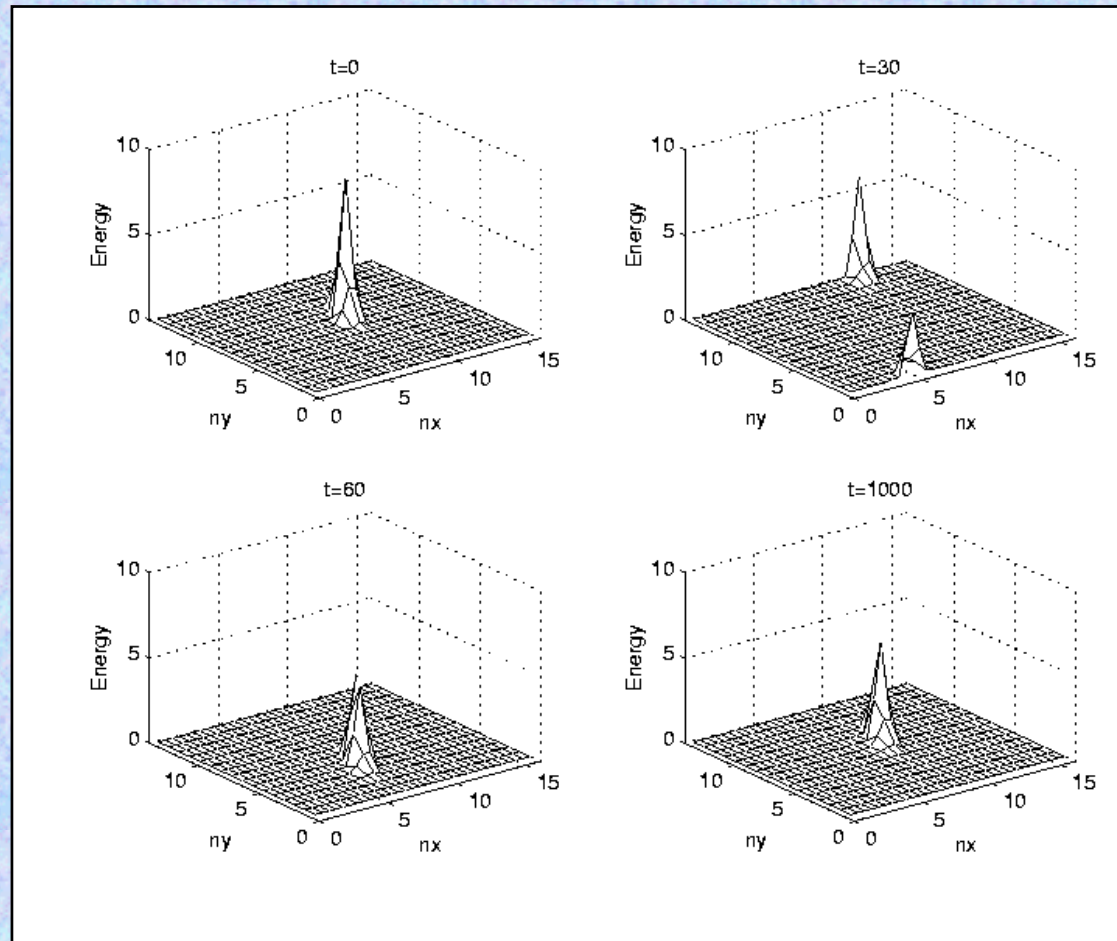
- 99.9% **Unknown**

¿Lattice localized vibrations:  
quodons?

Black tracks are along lattice directions within the  $K^+$  layer



# Numerical simulations in a 2D hexagonal lattice

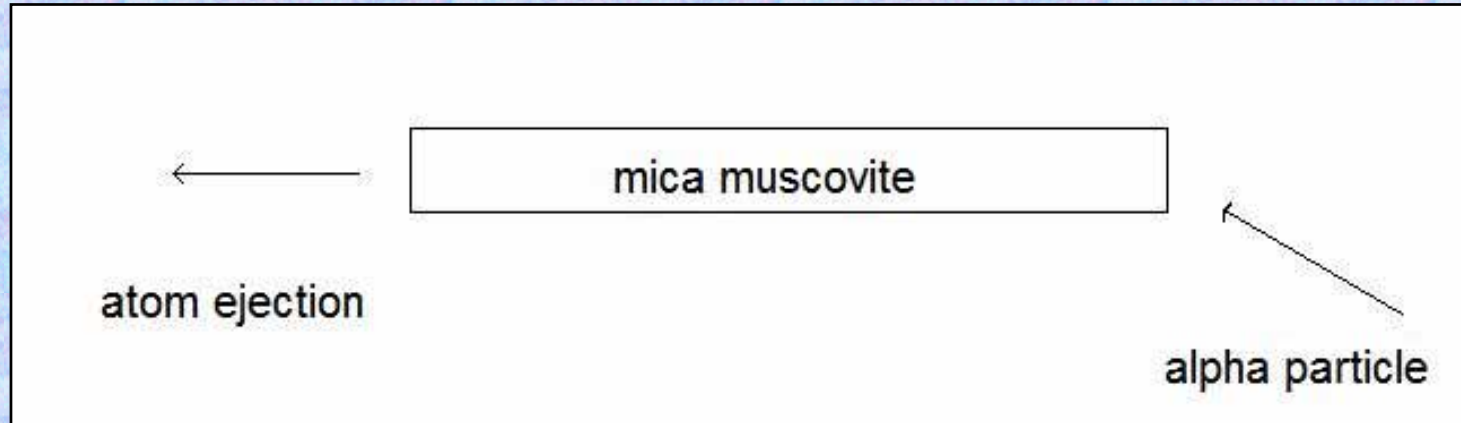


No apparent dispersion in  
1000~10000 lattice units

*Localized moving breathers in a 2D hexagonal lattice.*

JL Marín, JC Eilbeck, FM Russell, Phys. Lett A 248 (1998) 225

# Sputtering



Trajectories along lattice directions within the  $K^+$  layer

*Evidence for moving breathers in a layered crystal insulator at 300K*  
FM Russell y JC Eilbeck, Europhysics Letters, **78** (2007) 10004

# CONCLUSIONS

1. Breathers within the cation layer have larger energies than the activation energy
2. There are much more breathers than linear modes with enough energy, which can explain the observed increase in the reaction speed
3. There are other evidences on the existence of breathers in the cation layer

## Acknowledgments

JFRA to LADIR for hospitality and the spectra performed, JFRA y JC to the Spanish Education and Science, proyect FIS2004-01183, all the authors to prof. R Livi from Florence University for useful discussions

*Discrete breathers for understanding reconstructive mineral processes at low temperatures*, JFR Archilla, J Cuevas, MD Alba, M Naranjo and JM Trillo, J. Phys. Chem. B 110, 24112, 2006