



# Superconducting Fluctuations in One-Dimensional Quasi-periodic Metallic Chains

- The Little Model of RTS Embodied -

*Does the*

**DAVINCI CODE**

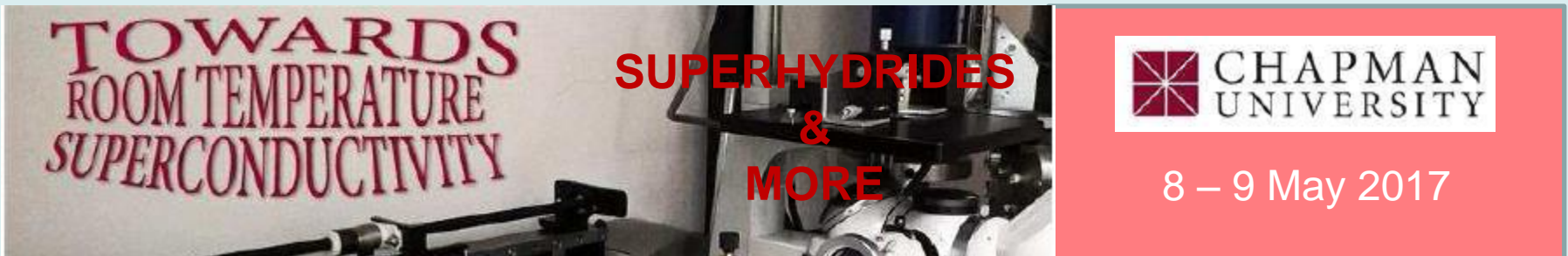
*Hold the Key to Room Temperature Superconductivity?*

Room 209, Argyros Forum, 9 May 2017, 9:45 AM - 10:30 AM

Paul Michael Grant


Aging IBM Pensioner

(research supported under the IBM retirement fund)



**TOWARDS  
ROOM TEMPERATURE  
SUPERCONDUCTIVITY**

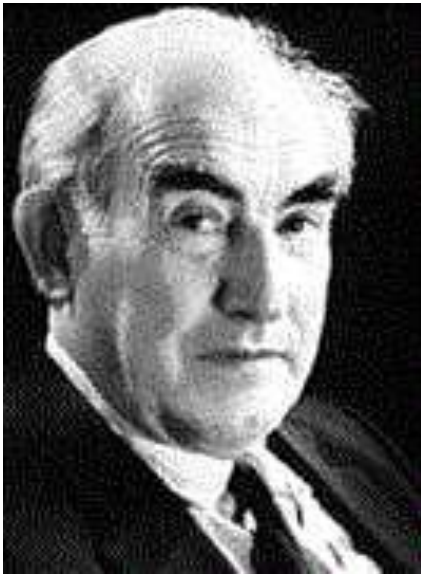
**SUPERHYDRIDES  
&  
MORE**

 **CHAPMAN  
UNIVERSITY**

8 - 9 May 2017

# My Three Career Heroes

*“Men for All Seasons”*



“VL”



“Bill”

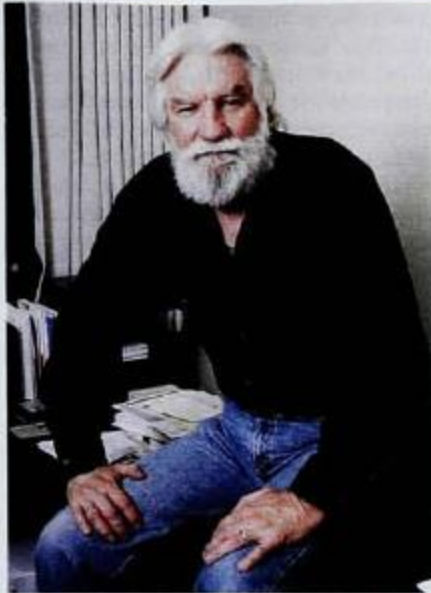


“Ted”

# 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of Physics Today, May 1998

<http://www.w2agz.com/Publications/Popular%20Science/Bio-Inspired%20Superconductivity,%20Physics%20Today%2051,%2017%20%281998%29.pdf>

## PHYSICS TOMORROW: ESSAY CONTEST WINNER



### RESEARCHERS FIND EXTRAORDINARILY HIGH TEMPERATURE SUPERCONDUCTIVITY IN BIO-INSPIRED NANOPOLYMER

Paul M. Grant  
May 2028

**May, 2028  
(still have some time!)**

# “Bardeen-Cooper-Schrieffer”

$$T_C = a\Theta e^{-\frac{1}{\lambda - \mu^*}}$$

Where

$$\lambda k\Theta \ll E_F$$

$\Theta$  = Debye Temperature ( $\sim 275$  K)

$\lambda$  = Electron-Phonon Coupling ( $\sim 0.28$ )

$\mu^*$  = Electron-Electron Repulsion ( $\sim 0.1$ )

$a$  = “Gap Parameter,  $\sim 1-3$ ”

$T_C$  = Critical Temperature (9.5 K “Nb”)

# Electron-Phonon Coupling a la Migdal-Eliashberg-McMillan

(plus Allen & Dynes)

$$H_{el-ph} = \sum_{\mathbf{k}q\nu} g_{\mathbf{k}+\mathbf{q},\mathbf{k}}^{q\nu,mn} c_{\mathbf{k}+\mathbf{q}}^{\dagger m} c_{\mathbf{k}}^n (b_{-\mathbf{q}\nu}^{\dagger} + b_{\mathbf{q}\nu}) \quad (1)$$

First compute  
this via DFT...

$$\alpha^2 F(\omega) = \frac{1}{N(\epsilon_F)} \sum_{mn} \sum_{q\nu} \delta(\omega - \omega_{q\nu}) \sum_{\mathbf{k}} |g_{\mathbf{k}+\mathbf{q},\mathbf{k}}^{q\nu,mn}|^2 \times \delta(\epsilon_{\mathbf{k}+\mathbf{q},m} - \epsilon_F) \delta(\epsilon_{\mathbf{k},n} - \epsilon_F), \quad (2)$$

$$\lambda = 2 \int \frac{\alpha^2 F(\omega)}{\omega} d\omega = \sum_{q\nu} \lambda_{q\nu}, \quad (3)$$

$$\lambda_{q\nu} = \frac{2}{N(\epsilon_F)\omega_{q\nu}} \sum_{mn} \sum_{\mathbf{k}} |g_{\mathbf{k}+\mathbf{q},\mathbf{k}}^{q\nu,mn}|^2 \times \delta(\epsilon_{\mathbf{k}+\mathbf{q},m} - \epsilon_F) \delta(\epsilon_{\mathbf{k},n} - \epsilon_F). \quad (4)$$

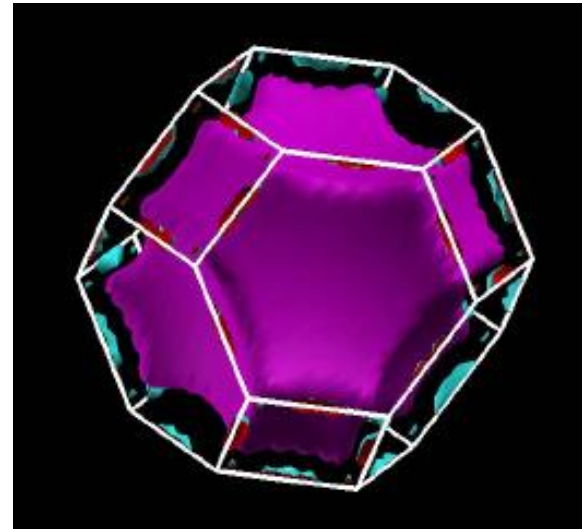
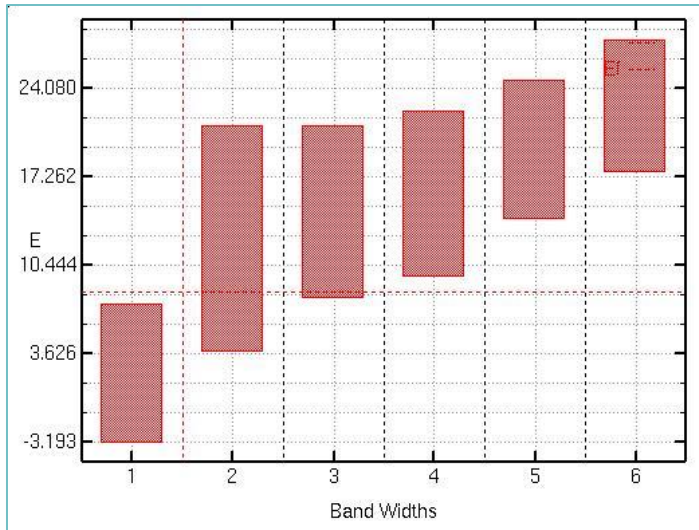
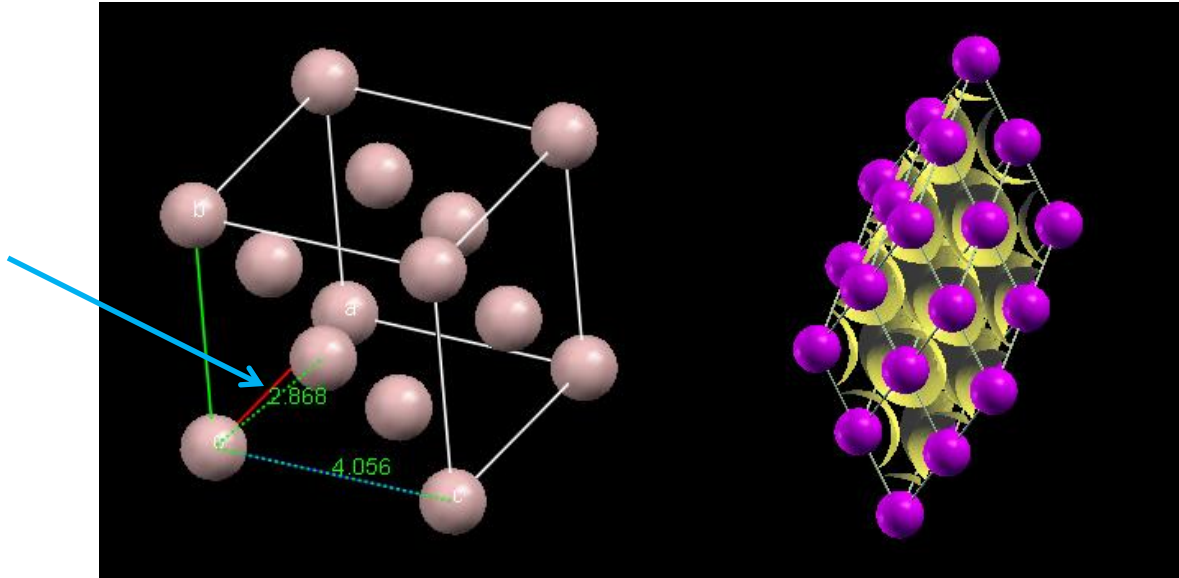
Then this...

Quantum-Espresso (Democritos-ISSA-CNR)

<http://www.pwscf.org> Grazie!

# “3-D” Aluminum, $T_C = 1.15$ K

“Irrational”



# Fermion-Boson Interactions

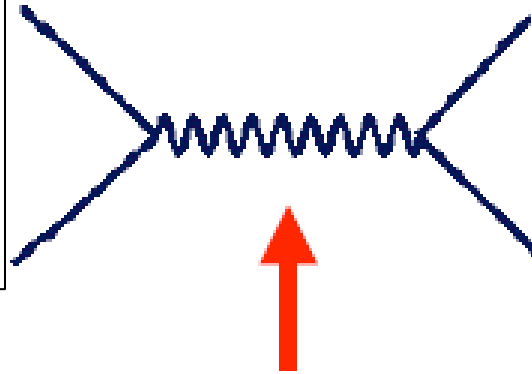
Phonons:

$\Theta(\text{Al}) \sim 430\text{K} \sim 0.04\text{eV}$

Excitons:

$\Theta(\text{GaAs}) \sim 1\text{eV} \sim 12,000\text{K}$

WOW!



Insert your favorite "on" here

(phonon, magnon, exciton, plasmon, anyon, moron ...)

**“Put-on !”**

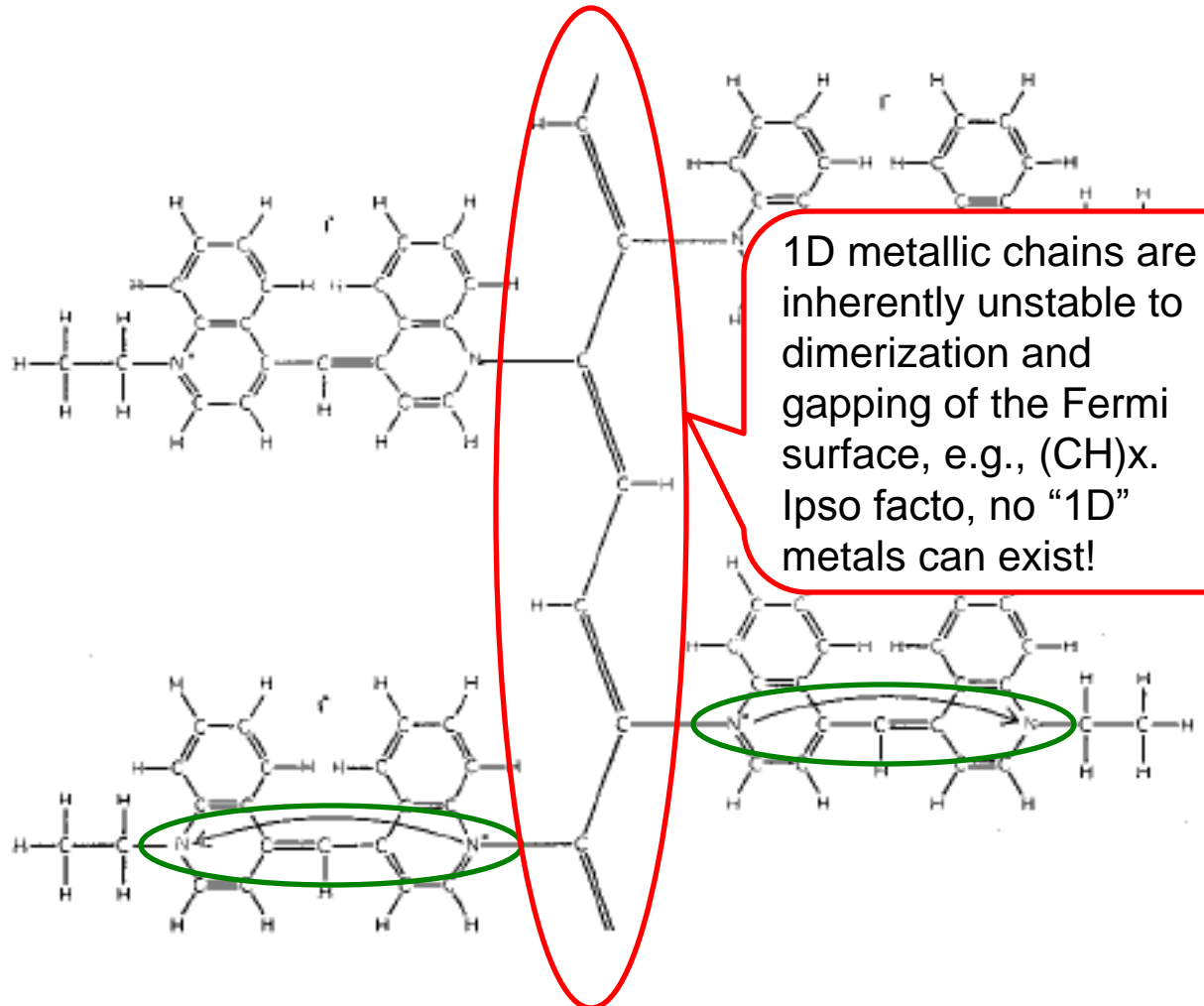
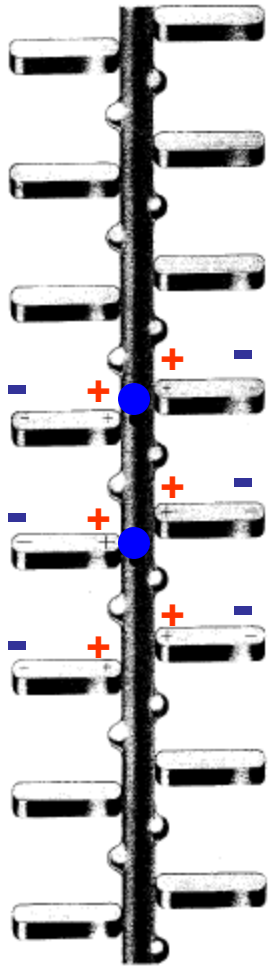




# NanoConcept

What novel atomic/molecular arrangement might give rise to higher temperature superconductivity  $\gg 165$  K?

# Little, 1963



Diethyl-cyanine iodide

# NanoBlueprint

- Model its expected physical properties using Density Functional Theory.

$$E_{\text{LDA+U}} [n(\mathbf{r})] = E_{\text{LDA}} [n(\mathbf{r})] + E_{\text{HUB}} \left[ \left\{ n_m^{l\sigma} \right\} \right] - E_{\text{DC}} \left[ \left\{ n^{l\sigma} \right\} \right]$$

- DFT is a widely used tool in the pharmaceutical, semiconductor, metallurgical and chemical industries.
  - Gives very reliable results for ground state properties for a wide variety of materials, including strongly correlated, and the low lying quasiparticle spectrum for many as well.
- This approach opens a new method for the prediction and discovery of novel materials through numerical analysis of “proxy structures.”

# Fibonacci Chains

"Monte-Carlo Simulation of Fermions on Quasiperiodic Chains,"

P. M. Grant, **BAPS March Meeting** (1992, Indianapolis)

$$G_n \equiv G_{n-1} | G_{n-2}, \quad n = 3, 4, 5, \dots, \infty$$

Where  $G_1 = a$ ,  $G_2 = ab$

And  $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} N_a(G_n) / N_b(G_n) \equiv \tau = (1 + \sqrt{5}) / 2 \approx 1.618\dots$

Example:  $G_6 = abaababaab$  ( $N = 13$ )

Let  $a = c\tau b$ , subject to  $\langle a, b \rangle$  invariant,

And take  $a$  and  $b$

to be "inter-atomic n-n distances,"

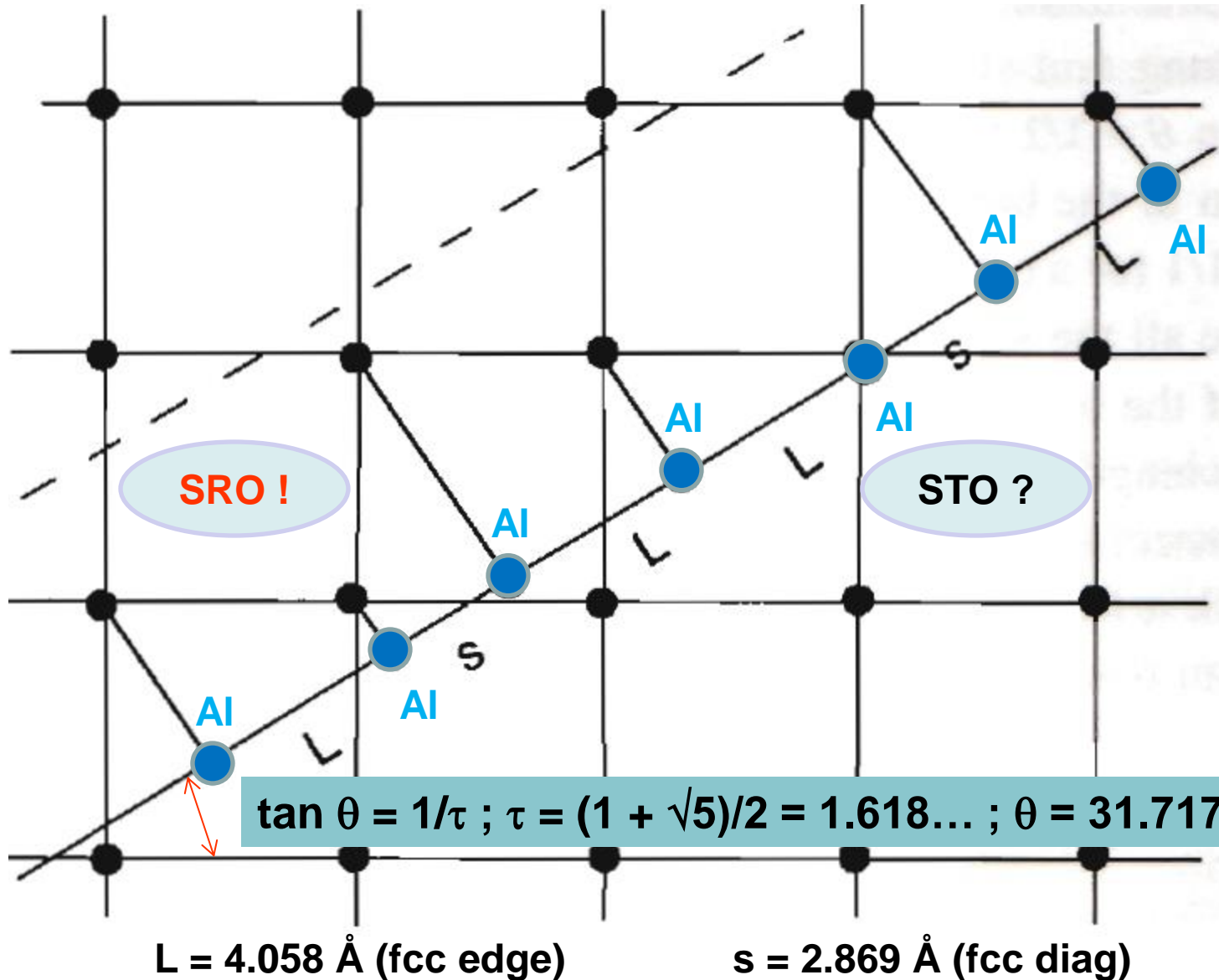
Then  $b = \tau \langle a, b \rangle / [(1 + c)\tau - 1]$ .

Where  $c$  is a "scaling" parameter.



# A Fibonacci fcc “Dislocation Line”

...or maybe Na on Si?...in other words...”a proxy Little model!”



$$64 = 65$$

$$64 = 65 ?$$

# "Not So Famous Danish Kid Brother"



**Harald Bohr**

**Silver Medal, Danish Football Team, 1908 Olympic Games**

# Almost Periodic Functions

"Electronic Structure of  
Disordered Solids and  
Almost Periodic  
Functions,"

P. M. Grant, **BAPS 18**, 333  
(1973, San Diego)

Definition I: Set of all summable trigonometric series:

$$f(x) = \sum_n A_n e^{i\lambda_n x}$$

where  $\{\lambda_n\}$  are denumerable.

Type (1) Purely Periodic:  $\lambda_n = cn, n = 0, \pm 1, \pm 2, \dots$

Type (2) Limit Periodic:  $\lambda_n = cr_n, r_n \in \{\text{rationals}\}$

Type (3) General Case: One or more  $\lambda_n$  irrational

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Definition II: Existence of an infinite set of "translation numbers,"  $\{\tau_\varepsilon\}$ , such that:

$$|f(x + \tau_\varepsilon) - f(x)| \leq \varepsilon; \quad -\infty < x < \infty$$

where  $\varepsilon \geq 0$ .

---

Parseval's Theorem:

$$\sum_n |A_n|^2 = \lim_{L \rightarrow \infty} \frac{1}{2L} \int_{-L}^L |f(x)|^2 dx$$

Mean Value Theorem:

$$\int_{-\infty}^{\infty} f(x) e^{i\lambda x} dx = A_n \delta(\lambda - \lambda_n)$$

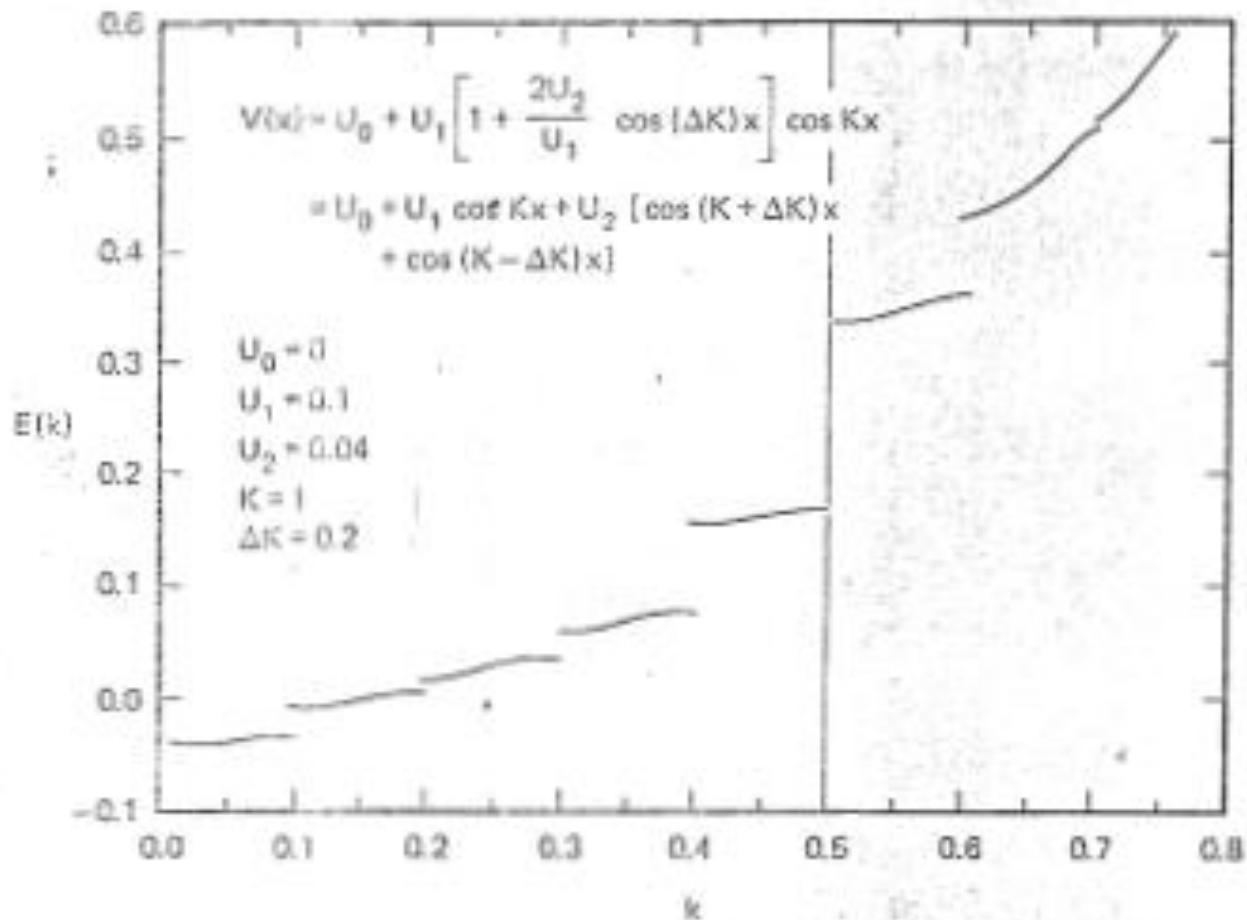
Example :  $f(x) = \cos x + \cos \sqrt{2}x$



# APF "Band Structure"

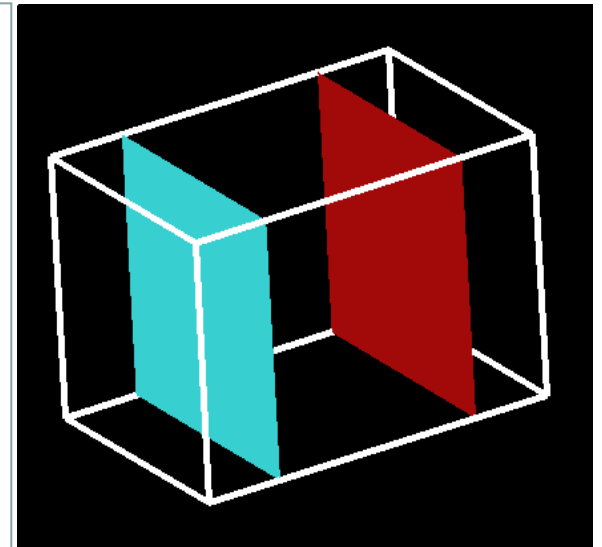
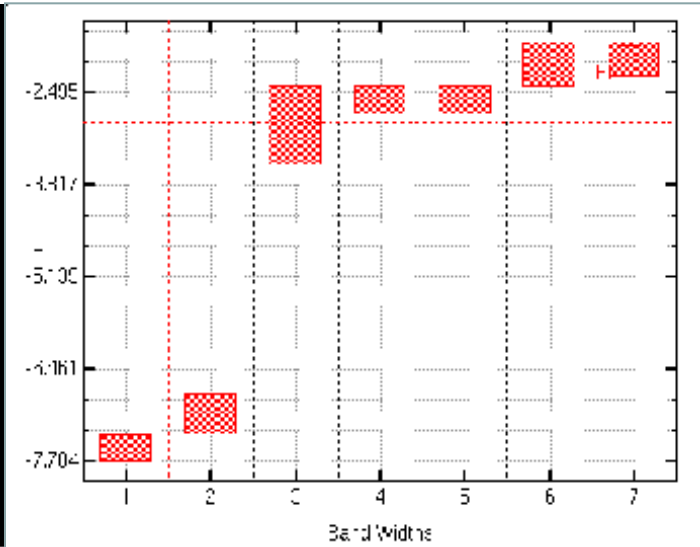
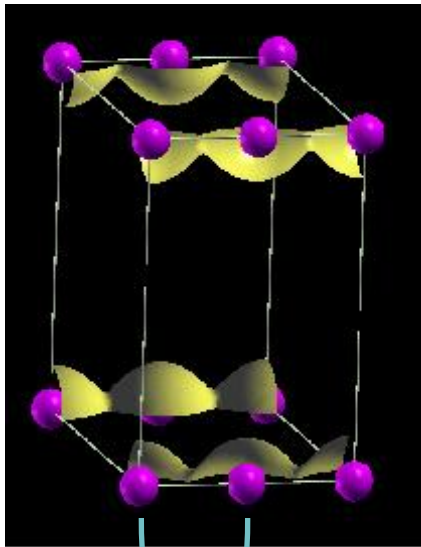
"Electronic Structure of Disordered Solids and Almost Periodic Functions,"

P. M. Grant, **BAPS 18**, 333 (1973, San Diego)



# Doubly Periodic Al Chain

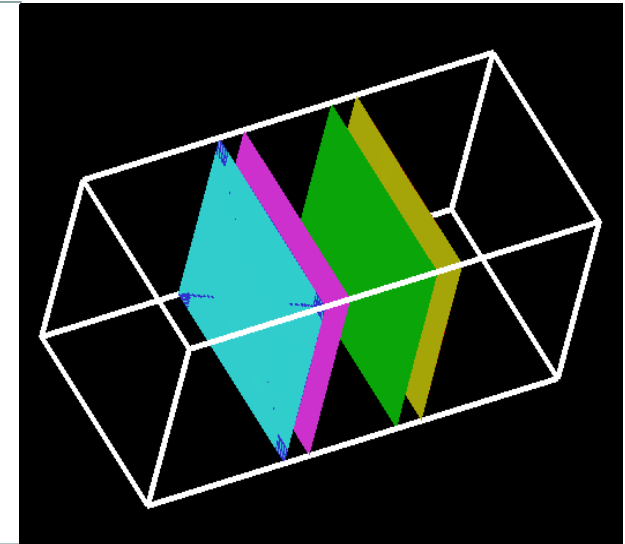
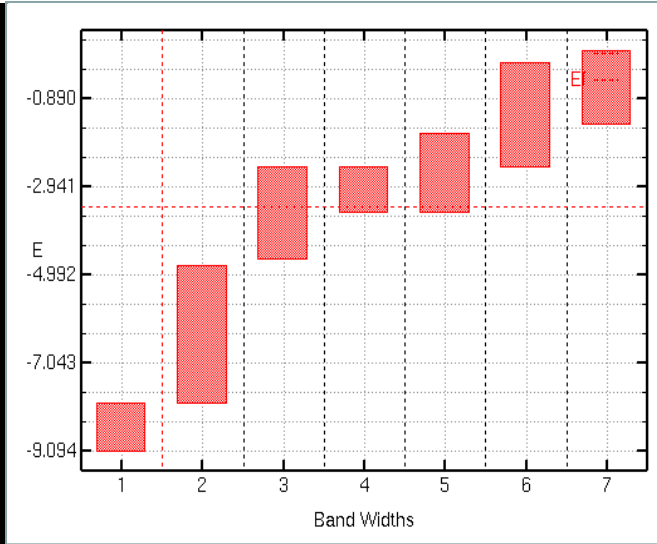
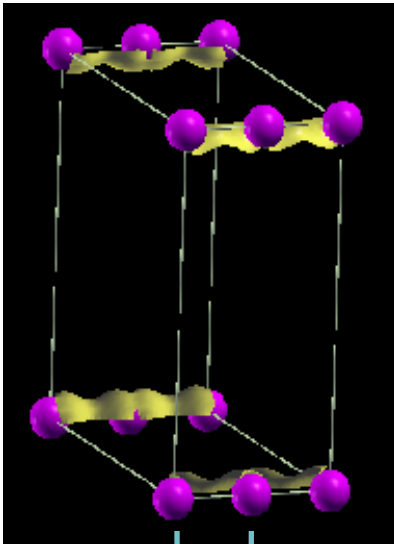
( $a = \underline{4.058 \text{ \AA}}$  [fcc edge],  $b = c = 3 \times a$ )



a

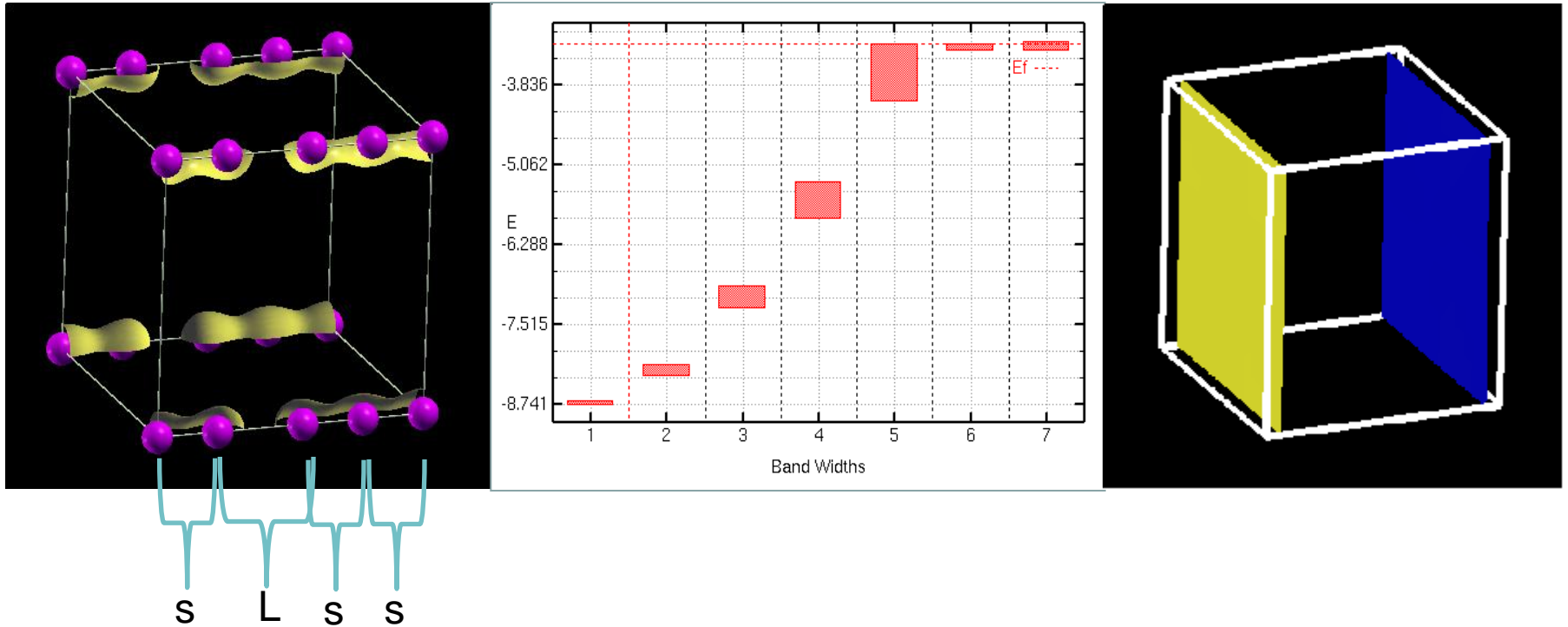
# Doubly Periodic Al Chain

( $a = \underline{2.869 \text{ \AA}}$  [fcc diag],  $b = c = 6 \times a$ )



# Quasi-Periodic Al Chain

Fibo  $G = 6$ :  $s = 2.868 \text{ \AA}$ ,  $L = 4.058 \text{ \AA}$   
( $a = s+L+s+s = 12.66 \text{ \AA}$ ,  $b = c \approx 3 \times a$ )



# Preliminary Conclusions

- 1D Quasi-periodicity can defend a linear metallic state against CDW/SDW instabilities (or at least yield an semiconductor with extremely small gaps)
- Decoration of appropriate surface bi-crystal grain boundaries or dislocation lines with appropriate odd-electron elements could provide such an embodiment.

# What's Next (1)

## - Do a Better Job Computationally -

- We now have computational tools (DFT and its derivatives) to calculate to high precision the ground and low level excited states of very complex “proxy” structures.
- In addition, great progress has been made over the past two decades on the formalism of “response functions,” e.g., generalized dielectric “constant” models.
- It should now be possible to “marry” these two developments to predict material conditions necessary to produce “room temperature superconductivity.

*A possible PhD thesis project?*

# Davis – Gutfreund – Little (1975)

PHYSICAL REVIEW B

VOLUME 13, NUMBER 11

1 JUNE 1976

## Proposed model of a high-temperature excitonic superconductor\*

D. Davis,<sup>†</sup> H. Gutfreund,<sup>‡</sup> and W. A. Little

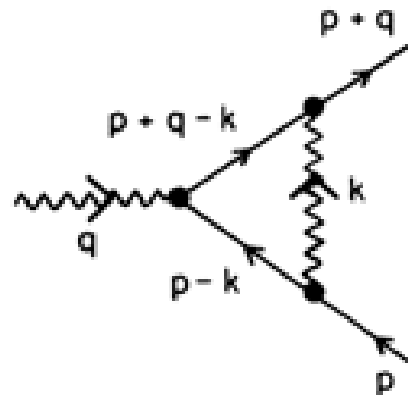
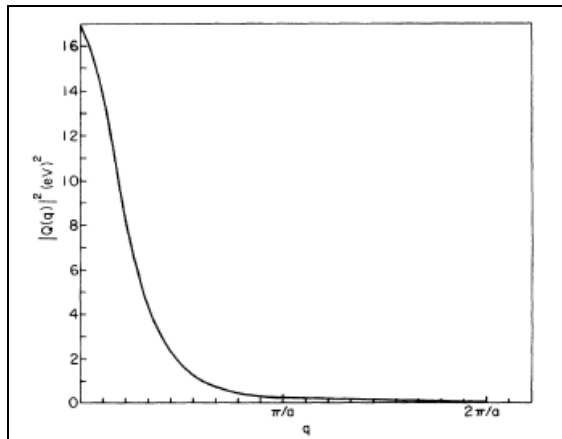
Physics Department, Stanford University, Stanford, California 94305

(Received 16 October 1975)

$$g_{\mathbf{k}+\mathbf{q},\mathbf{k}}^{qv,mm} \longrightarrow$$

$$\phi^*(r_1 - R_j) \phi(r_1 - R_h) e^{i[kR_h - (k-q)R_j]} V(r_1 r_2) \sum_{m,l,\nu} [u_{\alpha l}^{\nu}(q) + i v_{\alpha l}^{\nu}(q)] e^{-iqR_l} \Psi_{\nu}^*(R_{m_l}) \Psi_{00}$$

$$Q_{\alpha}(q) = \frac{1}{N^{3/2}} \int \sum_{j,k} \phi^*(r_1 - R_j) \phi(r_1 - R_h) e^{i[kR_h - (k-q)R_j]} V(r_1 r_2) \sum_{m,l,\nu} [u_{\alpha l}^{\nu}(q) + i v_{\alpha l}^{\nu}(q)] e^{-iqR_l} \Psi_{\nu}^*(R_{m_l}) \Psi_{00} d^3 r_1 d^3 r_2$$



### Migdal Issues:

- Only small exciton  $q$ 's,  $v_q \approx v_e$ , couple to the electrons.
- Thus vertex corrections are of order  $\lambda^2/\theta$  and we're OK.
- DGL claim this is NOT the case for ABB.
- IMHO, this is an item amenable to numerical analysis.

## **The Description of Superconductivity in Terms of Dielectric Response Function**

**D. A. Kirzhnits, E. G. Maksimov, and D. I. Khomskii**

*P. N. Lebedev Physical Institute, Moscow, USSR*

(Received May 30, 1972)

*A critical temperature  $T_c$  of a superconducting transition is calculated for a rather general form of the electron-electron interaction. It is shown that even if both the energy and momentum dependence of the interaction is included, the equation determining  $T_c$  coincides formally with the corresponding equation of the BCS theory. The kernel of this equation is a smooth real function of its variables; it is expressed through  $\rho(\mathbf{k}, E)$ , the spectral density of the inverse dielectric function of the system. The expression for  $T_c$  is written in terms of  $\rho(\mathbf{k}, E)$ ; this enables us to analyze the dependence of the critical temperature on the properties of the metal in a normal state. Some simple models illustrating the results are considered, and a discussion of the limits on  $T_c$  is given.*



# Filamentary-Chaotic Conductance and Possible Routes to Room Temperature Superconductivity

Hans Hermann Otto

Materialwissenschaftliche Kristallographie, Clausthal University of Technology, Clausthal-Zellerfeld, Lower Saxony, Germany

World Journal of Condensed Matter Physics, 2016, 6, 244-260

Published Online August 2016 in SciRes. <http://www.scirp.org/journal/wjcmp>

<http://dx.doi.org/10.4236/wjcmp.2016.63023>



## Keywords

Superconductivity, Fractals, Chaos, Feigenbaum Numbers, Fibonacci Numbers, Golden Mean,

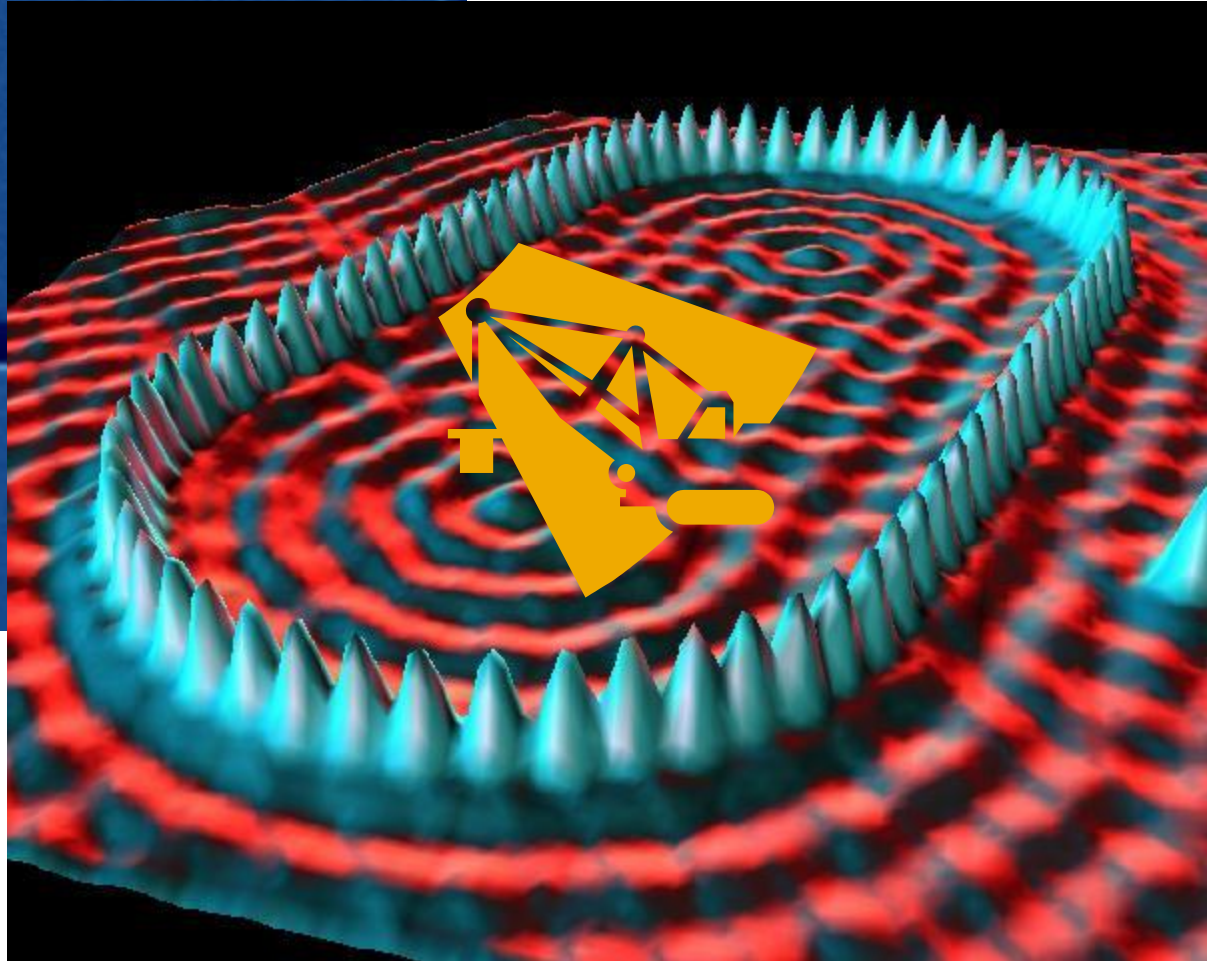
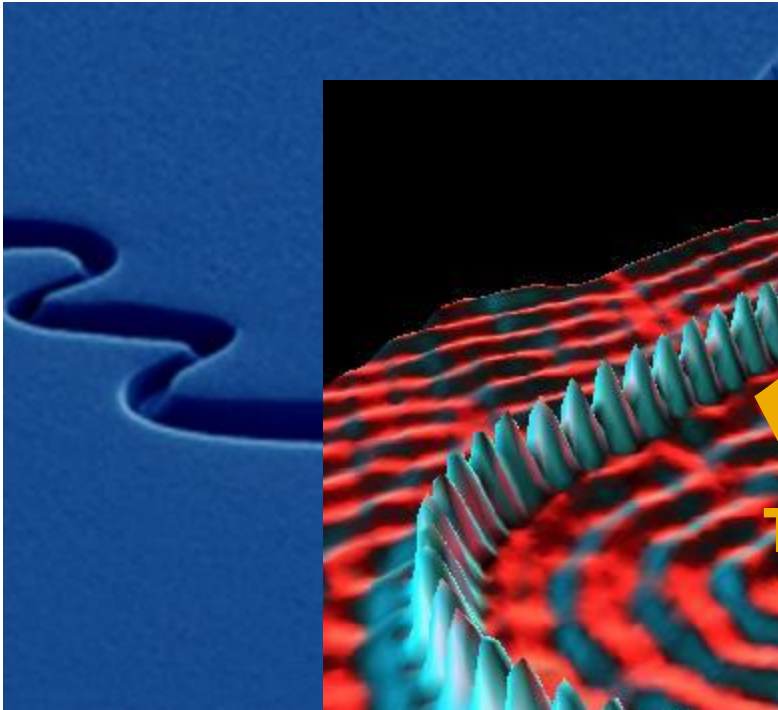
A low mean cationic charge allows the development of a frustrated nano-sized fractal structure of possibly ferroelastic nature delivering nano-channels for very fast charge transport, in common for both high- $T_c$  superconductor and organic-inorganic halide perovskite solar materials. With this backing superconductivity above room temperature can be conceived for synthetic sandwich structures of  $\langle q \rangle_c$  less than 2+. For instance, composites of tenorite and cuprite respectively tenorite and CuI (CuBr, CuCl) onto AuCu alloys are proposed. This specification is suggested by previously described filamentary superconductivity of "bulk"  $\text{CuO}_{1-x}$  samples. In addition, cesium substitution in the Tl-1223 compound is an option.

# What's Next (2)

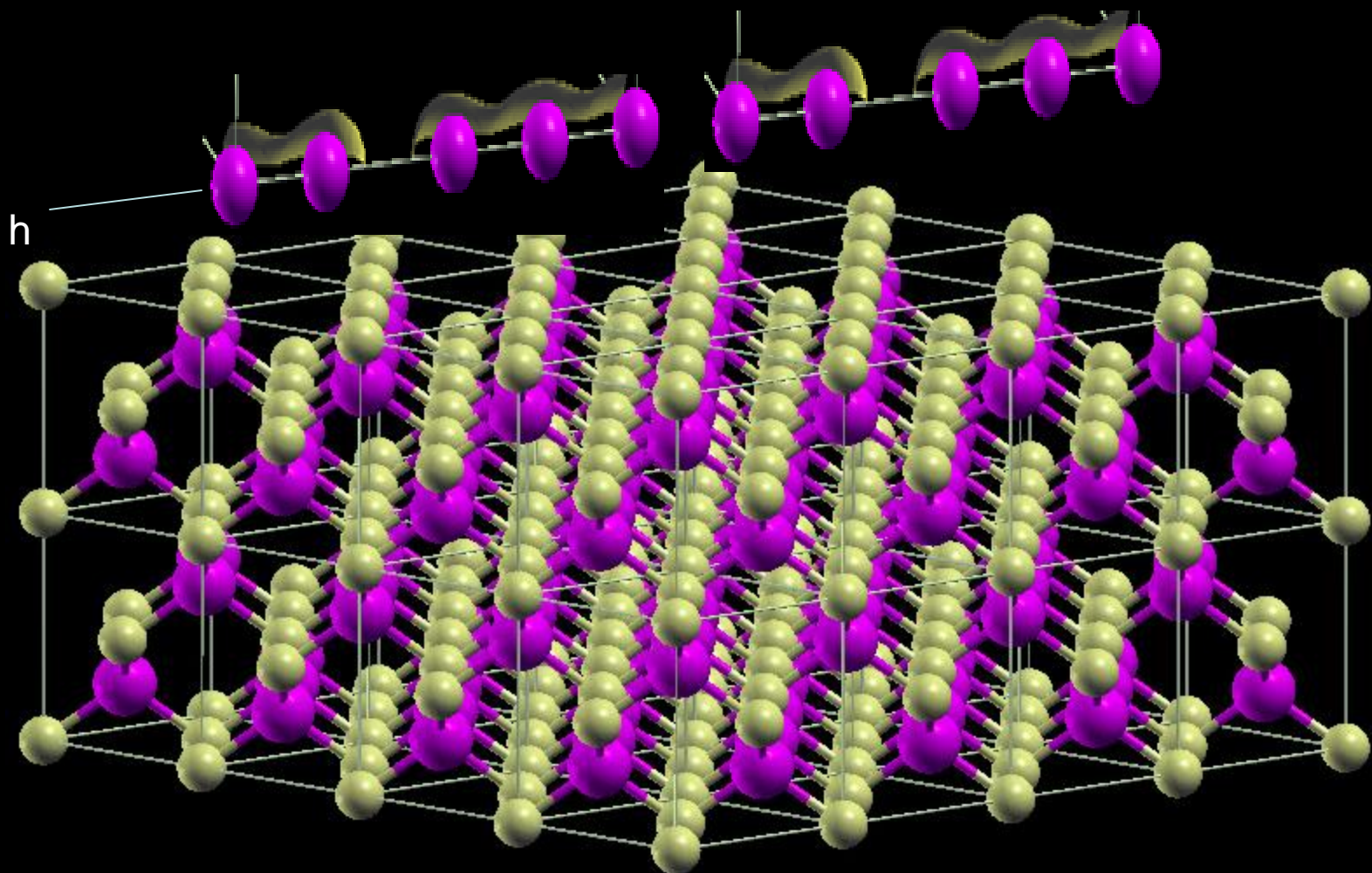
## - Build It! -

- Today we have lots of tools...MBE (whatever), “printing,” bio-growth...
- So, let's do it!

# NanoConstruction

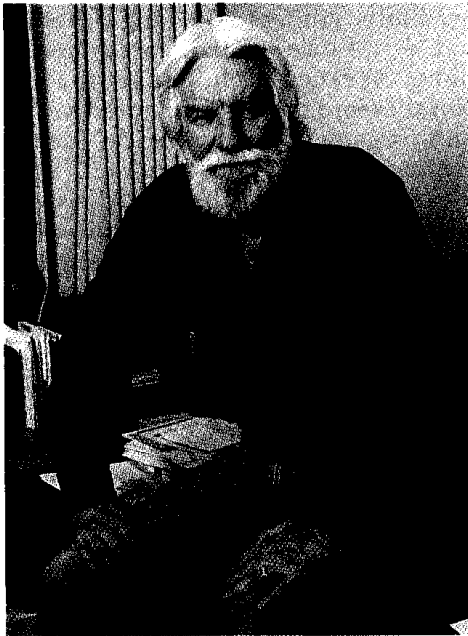


"Eigler Derricks"



# Fast Forward: 2028

PHYSICS TOMORROW: ESSAY CONTEST WINNER



RESEARCHERS FIND  
EXTRAORDINARILY HIGH  
TEMPERATURE  
SUPERCONDUCTIVITY IN  
BIO-INSPIRED NANOPOLYMER

Paul M. Grant  
May 2028



“You can’t always get what you want...”



“...you get what you need!”

