



## The Unusual Raman and Optical Properties of Black Phosphorus



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#### Nature Commun. 7, 12191 (2016) Christiano J. S. de Matos

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## Talk outline



- Black phosphorus (BP): an anisotropic layered semiconductor
- Raman response in BP
  - Unusual dependence on light polarization
  - Edge phonons
- Nonlinear optical response in BP
  - Third-harmonic generation
- Conclusions



## About MackGraphe



(Graphene and Nanomaterials Research Center)



- Located at the Mackenzie Presbyterian University, São Paulo, Brazil
- Began its activities in 2013
- Headquarters building opened on 2 march 2016
- 3 areas of interest: Photonics, Energy, Composite Materials
- Positions available!



## **Black Phosphorus**



• orthorhombic, point group  $D_{2h}$ , centrosymmetric







### **Black Phosphorus**

 A direct bandgap semiconductor from bulk to the monolayer; gap increases with thickness reduction





## Motivation to this work



- Properties suggest important applications in
  - Electronics
  - Optoelectronics
  - Photonics
- Thorough characterization of the crystal is imperative

#### • Here:

- Polarized Raman characterization and identification of complex Raman tensor elements
- Changes in Raman mode symmetries at the crystal edges
- Enhanced nonlinear optical frequency conversion in few-layer flakes







- Parallel configuration:  $\hat{e}_i \parallel \hat{e}_s$
- Orthogonal configuration:  $\hat{e}_i \perp \hat{e}_s$

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Unusual angular dependence of the Raman response in BP



- Later work showed need to account also for
  - Flake thickness [Kim et al., Nanoscale 7 , 18708 (2015)] [Ling et al., Nano Lett 16, 2260 (2016)]
- Same trend also observed in other layered materials
  - ReS<sub>2</sub>/ReSe<sub>2</sub> [Lorchat et al., ACS Nano 10, 2752–2760 (2016)]
  - WTe<sub>2</sub> [Song et al., Scientific Reports 6, 29254 (2016)]

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## Edge phonons in BP





- Polarized Raman maps across BP flakes revealed anomalous mode appearance at the edges
- Mode appearance also depends on the edge type: zigzag or armchair

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## MackGraphe Modelling the edges with density MackGraphe functional theory (DFT)

- BP slabs with zigzag and armchair surfaces simulated by DFT
- Atomic rearrangements



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 Atomic rearrangements → deviations in atomic displacements at the edges

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## Raman tensors at BP edges calculated by DFPT



$$I^{\nu} \propto |\mathbf{e}_i \cdot A^{\nu} \cdot \mathbf{e}_s|^2 \frac{1}{\omega_{\nu}} (n_{\nu} + 1)$$

**Polarized Raman edge effects reproduced:** 







# Nonlinear optical frequency conversion in black phosphorus



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Luminescence consistent with 4-5 BP layers

[J. Yang et al., Light: Science & Applications 4, e312 (2015)]

 THG intensity an order of magnitude higher in the few layer region → resonant process?



- Intensity with BP 3 orders of magnitude higher
- $\chi_S^{(3)}$  in BP <u>~28×</u> higher than in graphene

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## The origin of the enhanced nonlinearity



- Density functional theory suggests that the single particle picture is unable to reproduce resonance
- Preliminary exciton analysis, on the other hand, indicates a quasi-resonance for the few-layer thickness regime

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## Conclusions



- Black phosphorus presents a series of unusual properties
- Unusual polarized Raman scattering
  - Linear dichroism leads to complex Raman tensors
- Observation of edge phonons with anomalous symmetries
  - Local atomic rearrangement near the edges change atom displacements, generating new tensor elements
- Third-harmonic generation with drastic efficiency increase for few-layer thicknesses
  - (Quasi) resonance with excitonic states

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- No edge effects observed in the truncated structure
- Edge phonons are, indeed, due to lattice relaxation

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though with lower relative intensity