# Aron Pinczuk: A Friend for 40 Years with Plasmon Modes in Our Minds



Absence of spin-density excitations in quasi two-dimensional electron systems R. Decca, *A. Pinczuk, S. Das Sarma*, S. Dennis, L. N. Pfeiffer, and K. W. West *Phys. Rev. Lett. 72, 1506* (1994)

### Meeting Aron.....

- I think it was late 1981 or early 1982....??
- I think it was at IBM in Yorktown Heights ... ??
- What I do know is that he told me, by eagerly asking me about my work on (1981-82) predicting stable acoustic plasmons in semiconductor layers, that he was engaged in light scattering experiments at Bell Labs looking for these acoustic plasmons and might have already seen them
- I had no idea how unusual this was: A senior Bell Labs experimental PI showing real interest in the work of an unknown theoretical postdoc
- I thought this was normal, and this is how physics works
- This was not normal: Aron Pinczuk was just very special
- Thus began our ~ 40 year old close and special friendship (1981/82-2022)

### Some highlights of our friendship.....

- Prediction/observation of undamped 2D acoustic plasmons (1980s)
- Prediction/observation of 2D intersubband plasmons (1980s)
- Prediction/observation of 1D collective modes in quantum wires (1990s)
- Observation and understanding of SPE, SDE, CDE in 1/2/3D semiconductors
- Plasmons in very dilute systems and 2D Wigner crystals (early 2000)
- Collective modes in QHE and FQHE (late 1990s-2022)
- QHE book (1994-95, 1996; 2010)
- Buckley Prize (1994) [Stormer]
- Horst Stormer retirement (2008 ??; 2011)
- Solid State Communications (2003-2018); Editorial Board; Executive Editor....
- Many conferences/workshops in ICTP Trieste; multiple APS symposia,.....

**Exploring graphene Recent Progress in Graphene Studies Recent research advances** Edited by Vladimir Fal'ko, Andre Geim, Sankar Das Edited by Sankar Das Sarma, Andre K. Geim, Philip Kim, Allan Sarma, Allan MacDonald, Philip Kim H. MacDonald Volume 149, Issues 27–28, Pages 1039-1160 (July 2009) Volume 143, Issues 1–2, Pages 1-126 (July 2007) **Emergent phenomena in quantum Hall systems - Emergent Advances in Studies of Electrons in Low Dimensional** Phenomena in Quantum Hall Systems **Structures P. Hawrylak and S. Das Sarma Edited by** Last update September 2003 S. Das Sarma, J. Eisenstein, V. Pellegrini, S. Simon Last update October 2006 **Proceedings of the High-Tc Superconductivity** It was (almost) impossible to say 'no' to Aron Pinczuk Workshop (HTSC Workshop 2002) He had this exceptionally sweet way of asking!! A. Millis, S. Uchida, Y. Uemura It took me a long to learn how to say 'no' to Aron Last update April 2003 **Topological States in Condensed Matter: Physics and Materials Science Exploring Graphene, Recent Research Advances Edited by** Volumes 215–216, Pages 1-62 (July 2015) Luis Brey, Rodney Ruoff, Klaus Ensslin, Philip Kim Edited by: Cheng Xie, Allan H. MacDonald, Qi-Kun Xue, Last update August 2012 Moty Heiblum

#### From APS Journal 'Search':

Pinczuk cited Das Sarma/Jain/Stormer/Eisenstein: 37/23/35/22 out of 89 total publications

From APS Journal 'Search':

Das Sarma cited Pinczuk/Jain/Stormer/Eisenstein: 72/81/132/94 out of ?? total publications

## Does this (72>37) imply that Das Sarma is a better friend of Pinczuk than the reverse? It depends....

?? = 833: 37/89~0.42>> 0.09 =72/833 !



#### Discrete Plasmons in Finite Semiconductor Multilayers





A. R. Goñi, A. Pinczuk, J. S. Weiner, J. M. Calleja, (a) B. S. Dennis, L. N. Pfeiffer, and K. W. West



#### **Resonant Raman Scattering by Elementary Electronic Excitations in Semiconductor Structures**

#### S. Das Sarma and Daw-Wei Wang

We explain quantitatively why resonant Raman scattering spectroscopy, an extensively used experimental tool in studying elementary electronic excitations in doped low-dimensional semiconductor nanostructures, always produces an observable peak at the so-called "single particle" excitation although the standard theory predicts that there should be no such single particle peak in the Raman spectra. We have thus resolved an experimental puzzle which dates back more than 25 years.



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#### Plasmon dispersion in dilute two-dimensional electron systems: Quantum-classical and Wigner crystal-electron liquid crossover

E. H. Hwang and S. Das Sarma Department of Physics, University of Maryland, College Park, Maryland 20742-4111 (Received 4 February 2001; published 5 October 2001)

We theoretically calculate the finite-wave-vector plasmon dispersion in a low-density two-dimensional (2D) electron layer taking into account finite temperature, finite layer width, and local-field corrections. We compare our theoretical results with recent Raman-scattering spectroscopic experimental 2D plasmon dispersion data in GaAs quantum wells at very low carrier densities  $(r_s > 10)$  and large wave vectors  $(q \ge k_F)$ . We find good agreement with the experimental data, providing an explanation for why the experimentally measured dispersion seems to obey the simple classical long-wavelength 2D plasmon dispersion formula. We also provide a critical discussion on the observable manifestations of the quantum-classical and the Wigner crystal-electron liquid crossover behavior in the 2D plasmon properties as a function of electron density and temperature in GaAs quantum-well systems.



FIG. 1. Calculated plasmon dispersions with available experimental data (Ref. 11) for (a)  $n = 1.2 \times 10^{10}$  cm<sup>-2</sup> ( $r_s = 5.3$ ) and (b)  $n = 1.1 \times 10^9$  cm<sup>-2</sup> ( $r_s = 17.2$ ). This solid line is the classical local



#### *Most (all?) claimed 2D observations of WC are* Anderson insulators, or at best Wigner glasses

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8 March 1999

#### Collective Excitations in the Dilute 2D Electron System

M. A. Eriksson,<sup>1</sup> A. Pinczuk,<sup>1,2</sup> B. S. Dennis,<sup>1</sup> S. H. Simon,<sup>1</sup> L. N. Pfeiffer,<sup>1</sup> and K. W. West<sup>1</sup> <sup>1</sup>Lucent Technologies, Bell Labs, Murray Hill, New Jersey 07974 <sup>2</sup>Departments of Physics and Applied Physics, Columbia University, New York, New York 10027 (Received 22 October 1998)

Aron Pinczuk was my friend for 40 years

#### **PRB** Letter

Thermal melting of a quantum electron solid in the presence of strong disorder: Anderson ocalization versus the <u>Wigner crystal</u> DinhDuy Vu and Sankar Das Sarma Phys. Rev. B **106**, L121103 (2022) -Published 8 September 2022