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# Reaching ultimate perovskite quantum dot (QD) optical properties with a new synthetic approach

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## NanoGe NSM22

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Univ Rennes, ENSCR, INSA Rennes, CNRS, ISCR - UMR 6226



Work Package WP2



# Acknowledgements

## Collaborators

CNRS & INSA Rennes

- Claudine KATAN
- Jacky EVEN



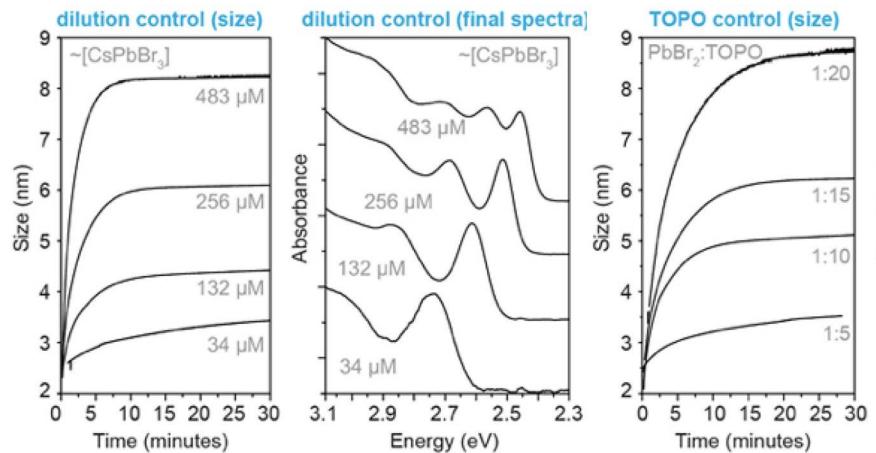
Kovalenko's group, Zurich

- Quinten A. Akkerman (LMU)
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- Federico Montanarella
- Dmitry N. Dirin
- Philipp Wechsler
- Finn Beiglböck
- Rolf Erni
- Gabrielle Raino
- Maksym V. Kovalenko

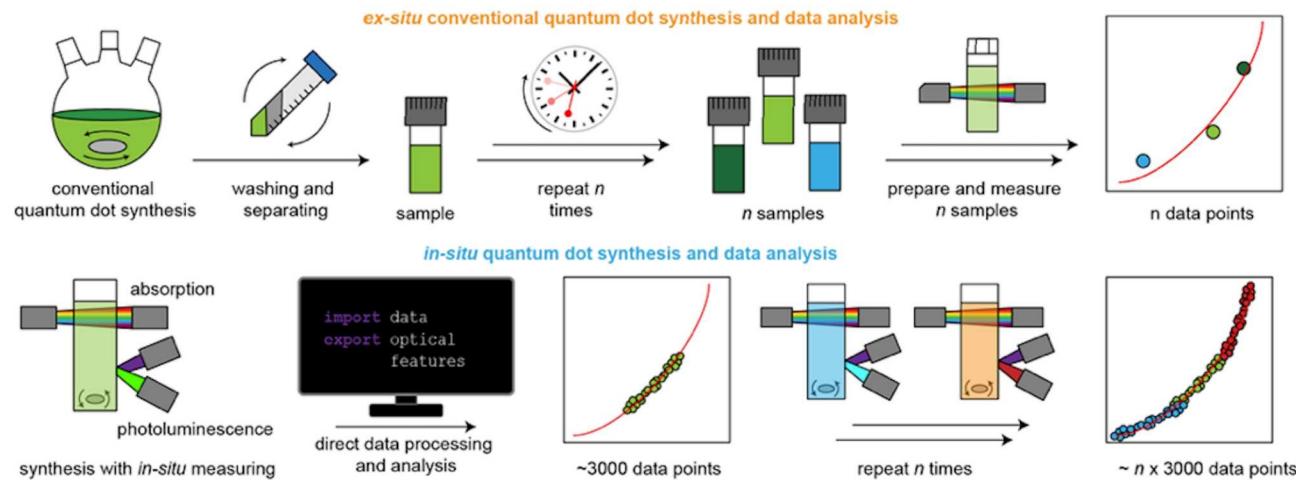
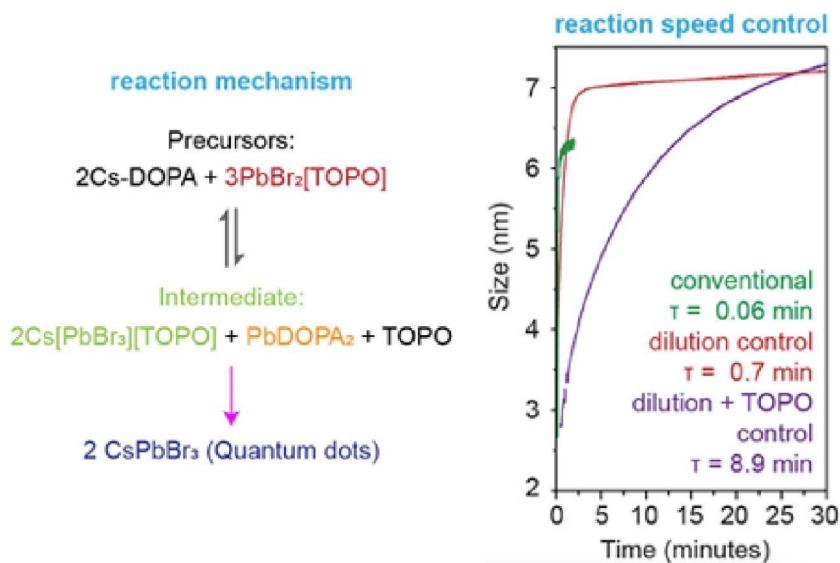


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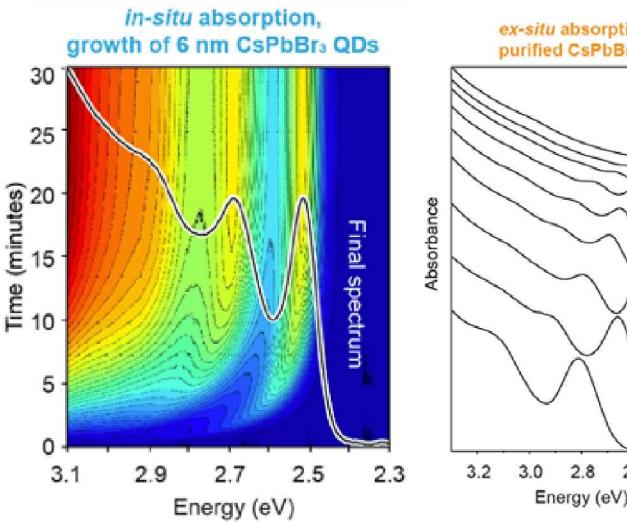
# New synthetic approach for colloidal perovskite QDs



- New approach to colloidal synthesis
  - ◊ Nucleation and growth decoupled temporally
  - ◊ Slow reaction time  
→ In-situ characterization (abundance of data)
  - ◊ Ex-situ characterization possible with strongly binding zwitterionic ligand

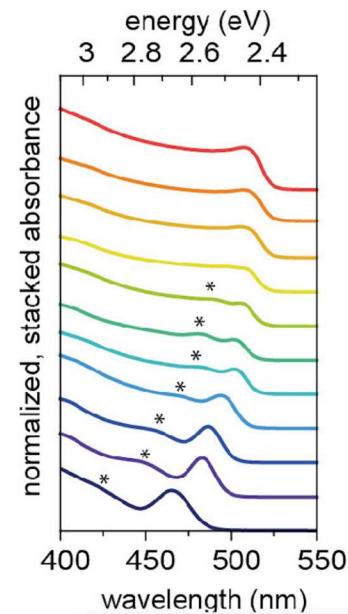


# Size and shape of the resulting perovskite QDs

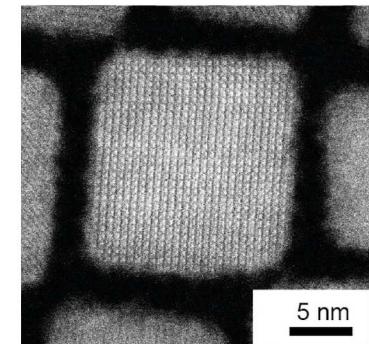


## Newly synthesized QDs

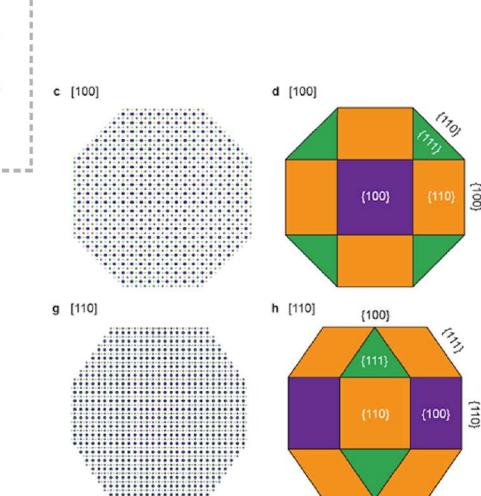
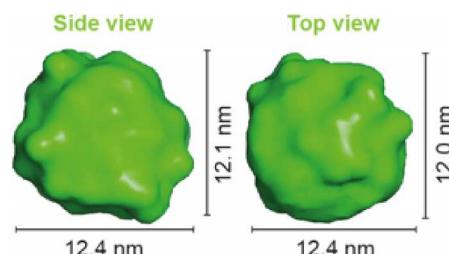
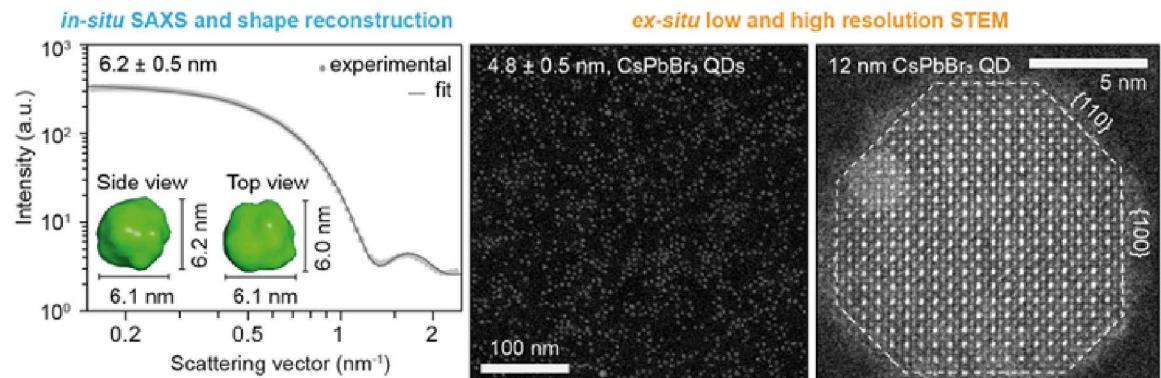
- ◊ Size tunable in the range 3-13 nm
- ◊ Rhombicuboctahedral or spheroidal shape
- ◊ Different absorption compared to cuboidal QDs



## Cuboidal QDs

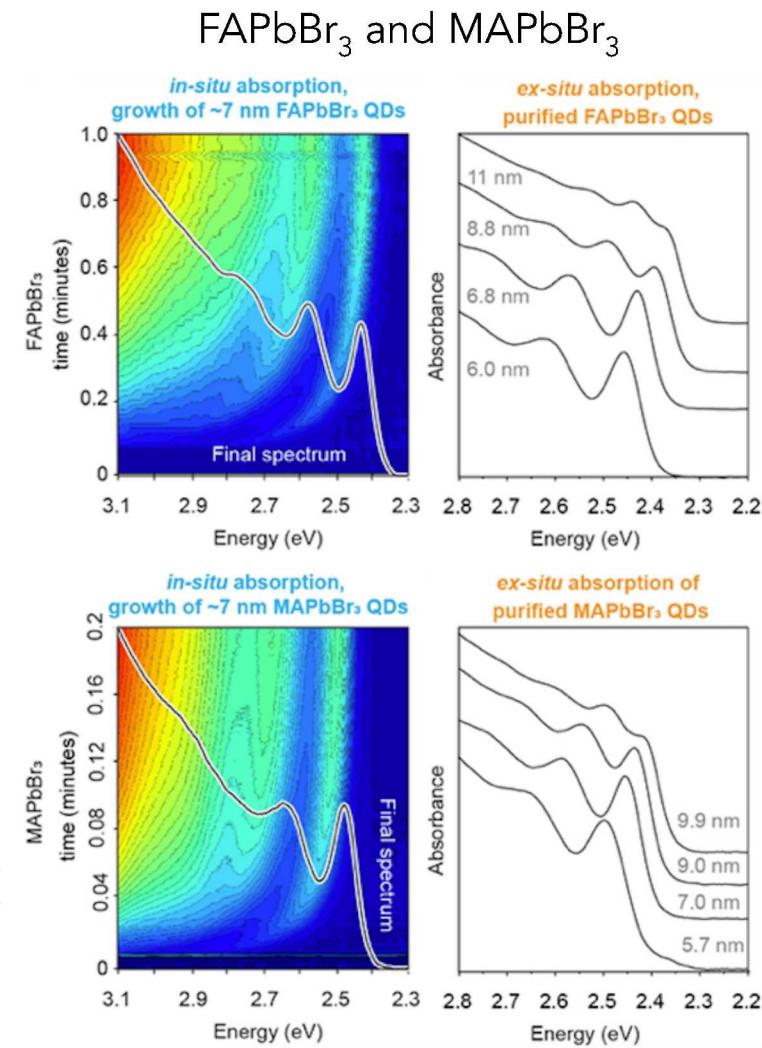
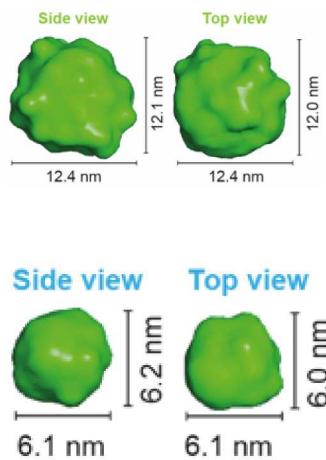
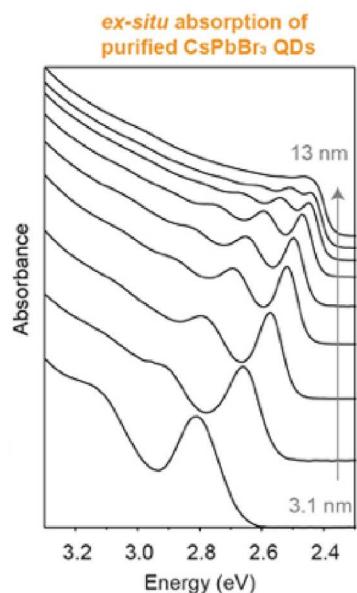
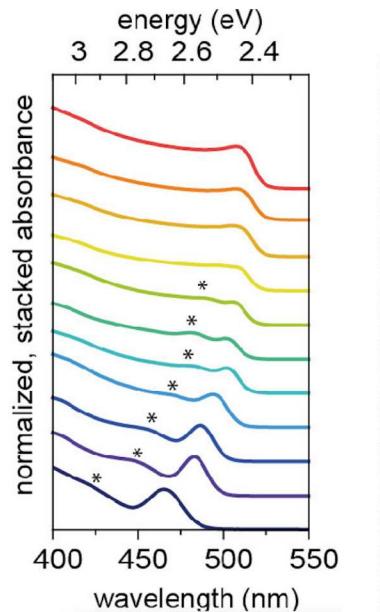


## Rhombicuboctahedral/spheroidal QDs



# Optical spectra of the newly synthesized QDs

Absorption spectra of  $\text{CsPbBr}_3$  for various sizes



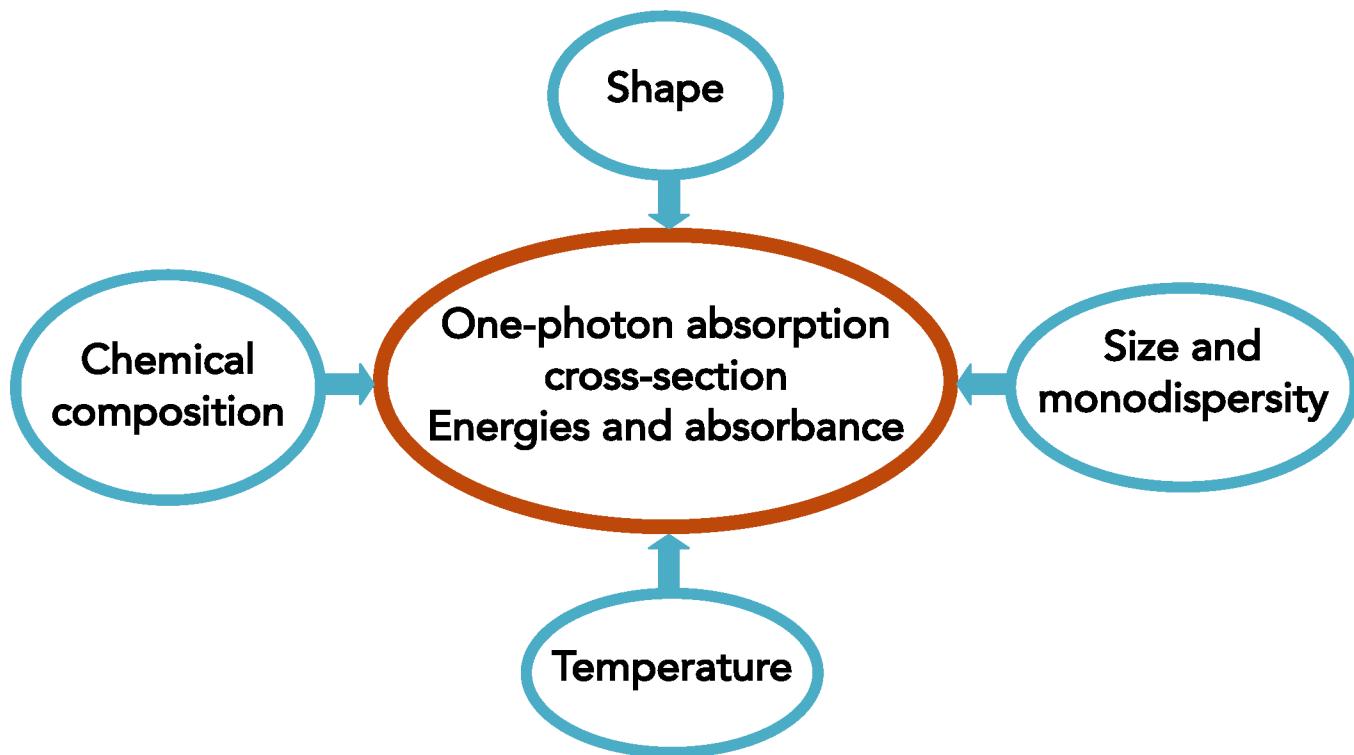
## QDs from **new approach**

- ◊ Spheroidal shape
- ◊ High monodispersity
- ◊ **Exceptionally well-resolved higher excitonic transitions**

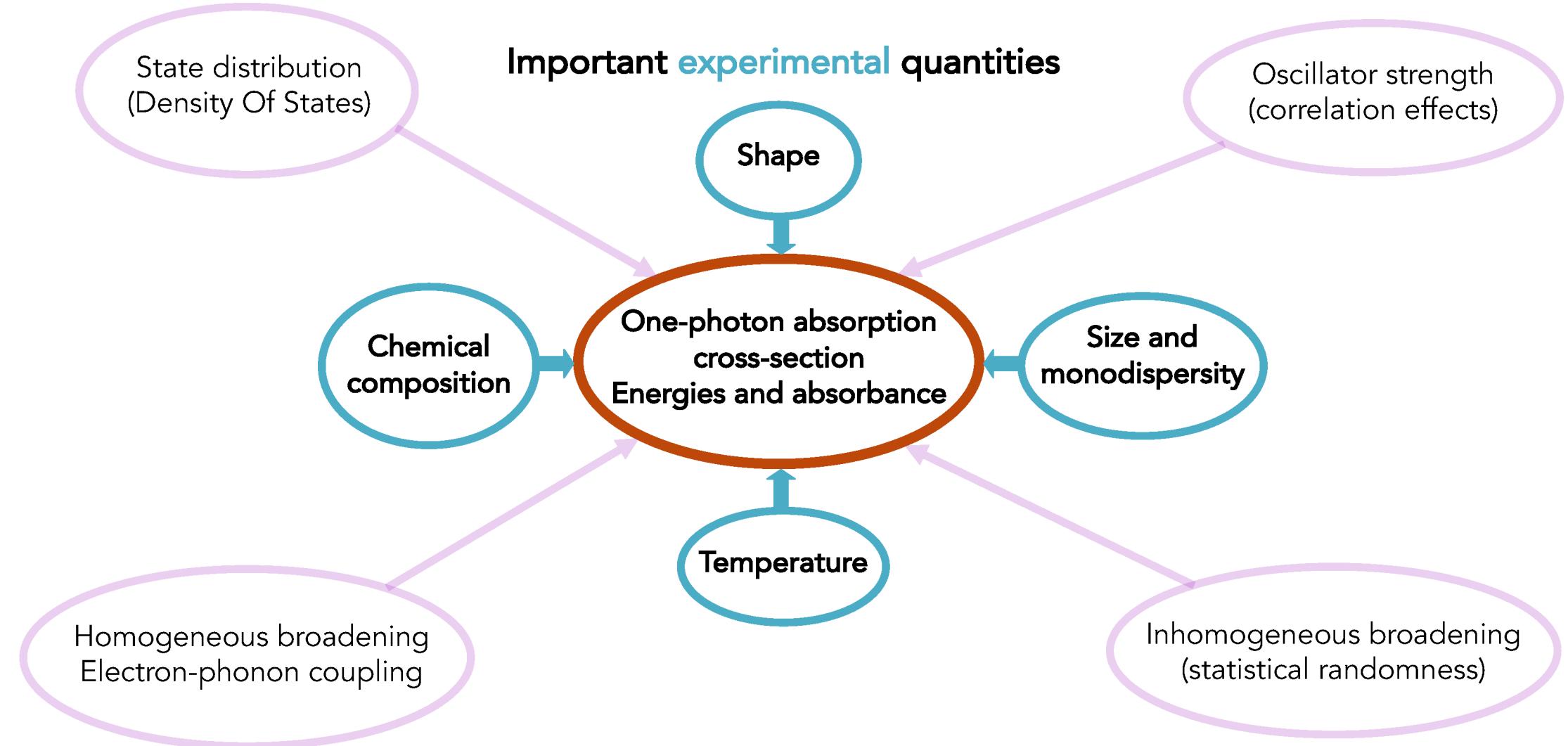
QDs from previous syntheses

- ◊ Cuboidal shape
- ◊ **Similar level of size dispersion**

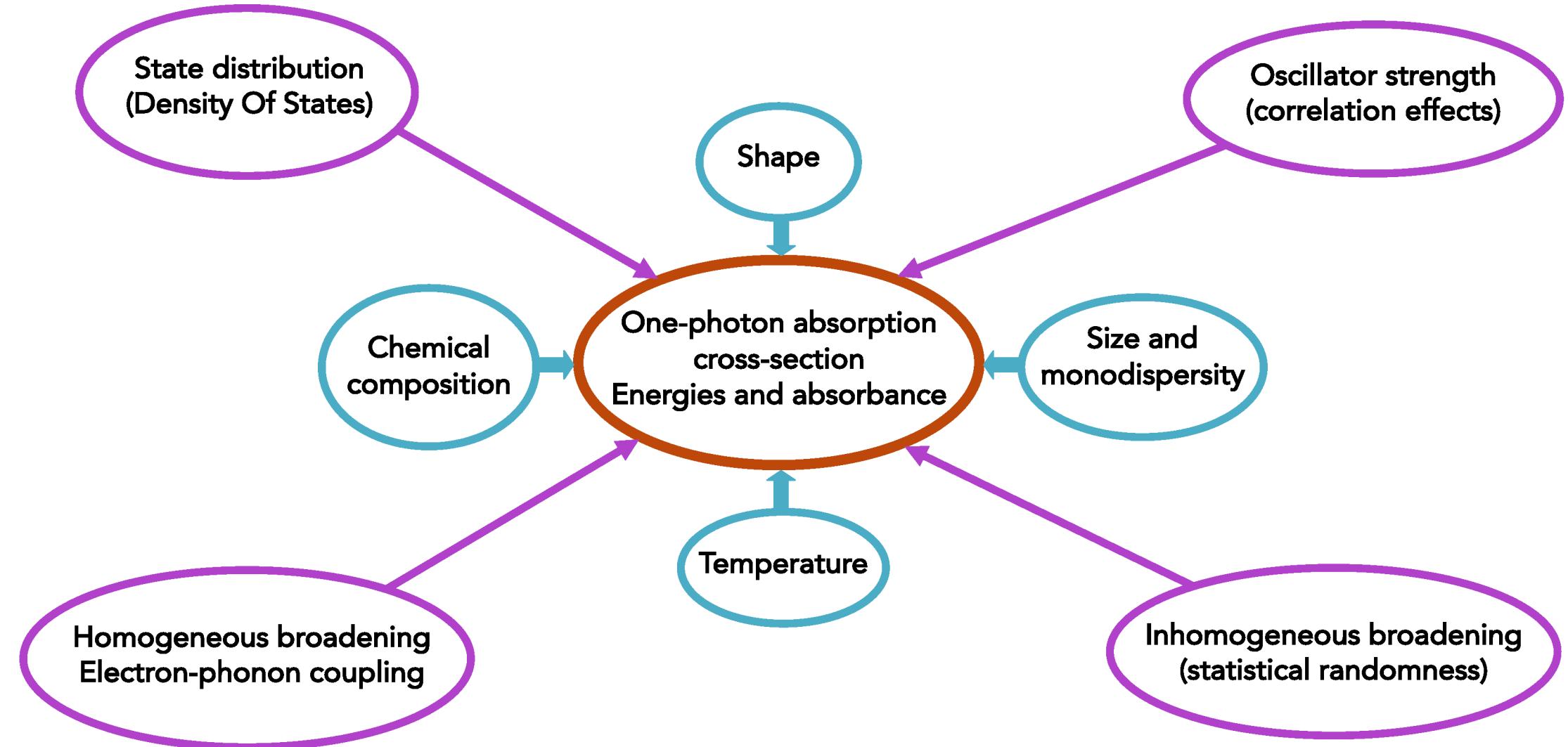
# Diagrammatic view of optical properties



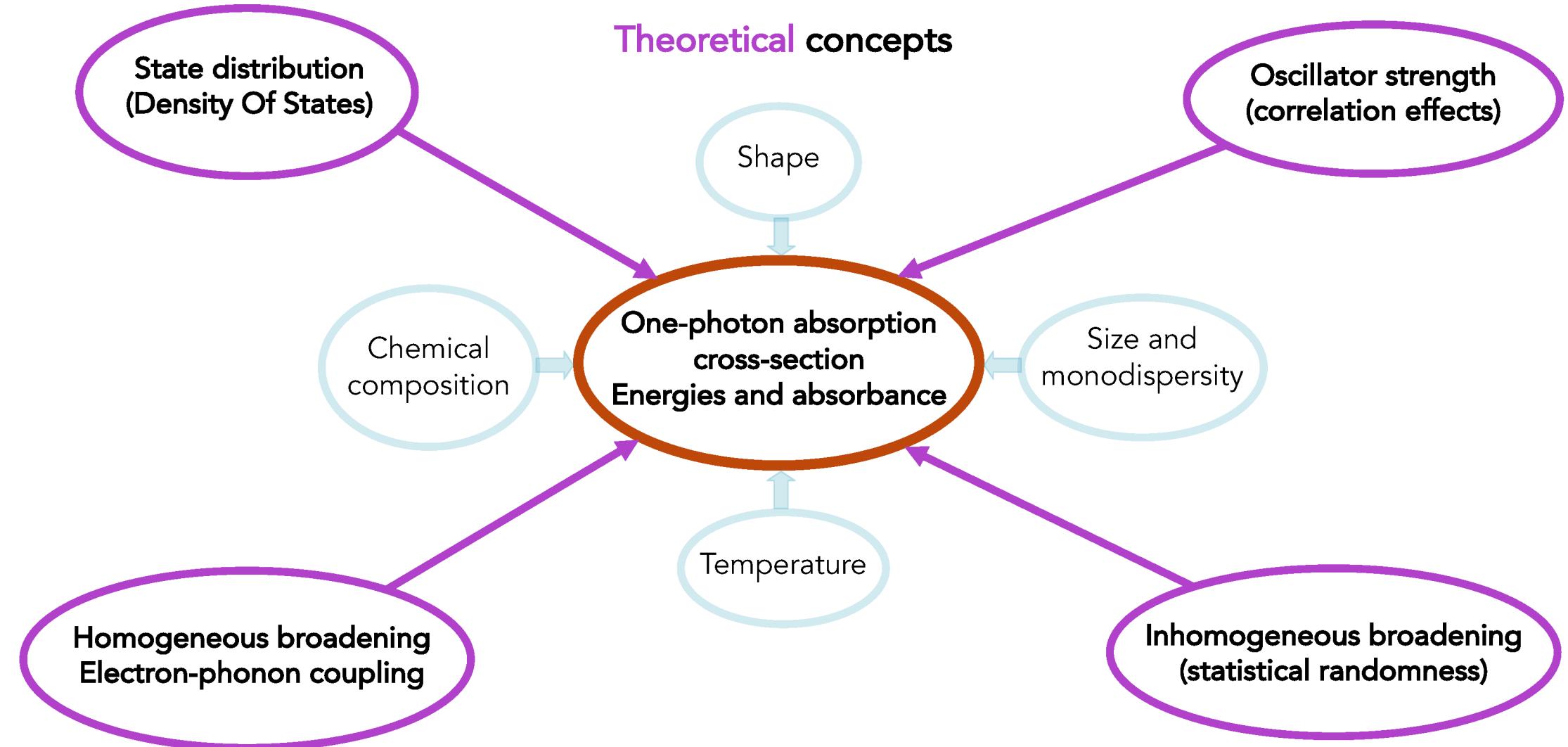
# Diagrammatic view of optical properties



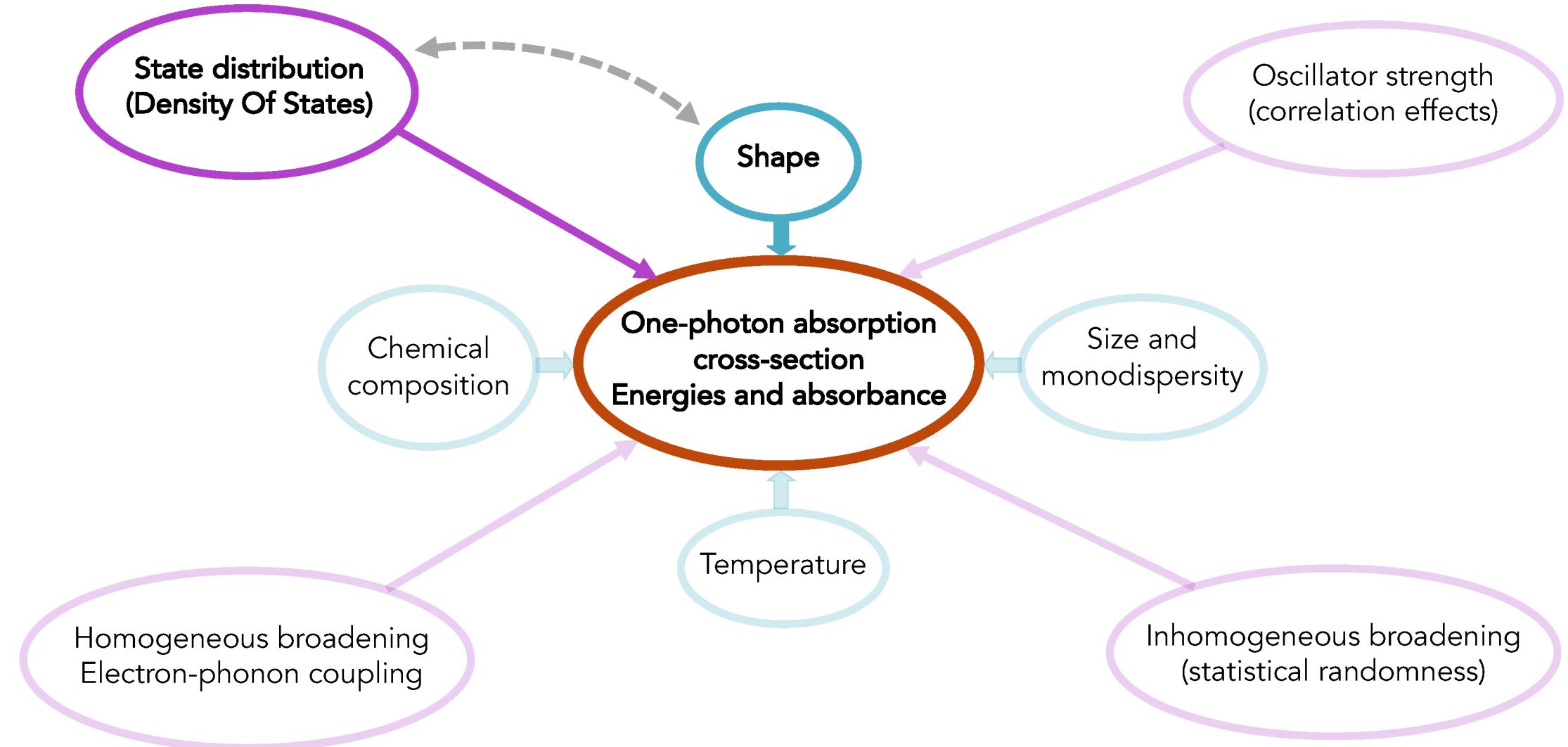
# Diagrammatic view of optical properties



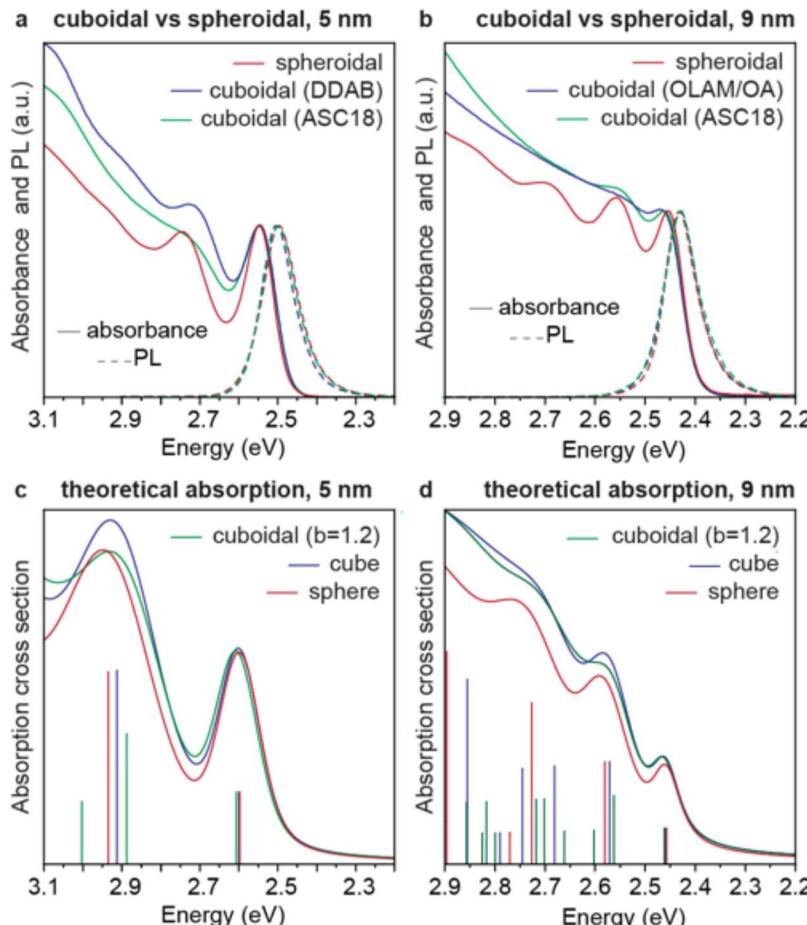
# Diagrammatic view of optical properties



# Diagrammatic view of optical properties – SHAPE



# Theoretical approach to understand the effect of shape



## One-photon absorption cross-section

- ◊ Effective Mass Approximation
- ◊ First-order perturbation, no self-consistency

$$\sigma^{(1)}(E) = \sum_{eh} \Xi_{eh} g_{eh}(E - E_{eh})$$

Broadening line shape

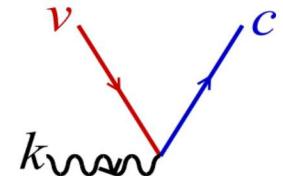
Oscillator strength  $\Xi_{eh} = \frac{4\pi^2}{3} \frac{f_\varepsilon^2}{\sqrt{\varepsilon_{out} c_0}} \frac{1}{E_{eh}} |M_{eh}|^2$

$$f_\varepsilon = \frac{3\varepsilon_{out}}{\varepsilon_{in} + 2\varepsilon_{out}}$$

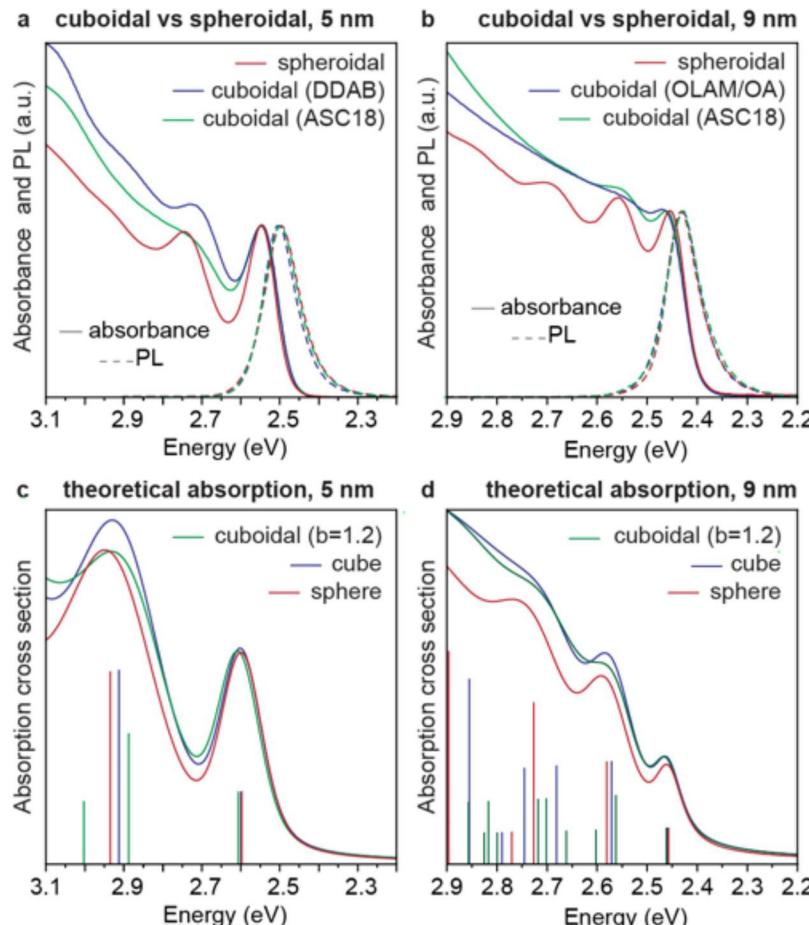
Spherical factor for dielectric screening

$$|M_{eh}|^2 = E_P \delta_{v,c}$$

Optical matrix element



# Theoretical approach to understand the effect of shape



## One-photon absorption cross-section

- ◊ Effective Mass Approximation
- ◊ First-order perturbation, no self-consistency

Influenced by QD shape

$$\sigma^{(1)}(E) = \sum_{eh} E_{eh} g_{eh}(E - E_{eh})$$

Broadening line shape

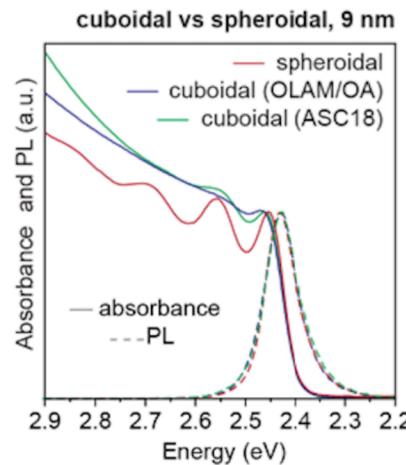
$$I_{eh} = \frac{4\pi^2}{3} \frac{f_\varepsilon^2}{\sqrt{\varepsilon_{out} c_0}} \frac{1}{E_{eh}} |M_{eh}|^2$$

Spherical factor for dielectric screening

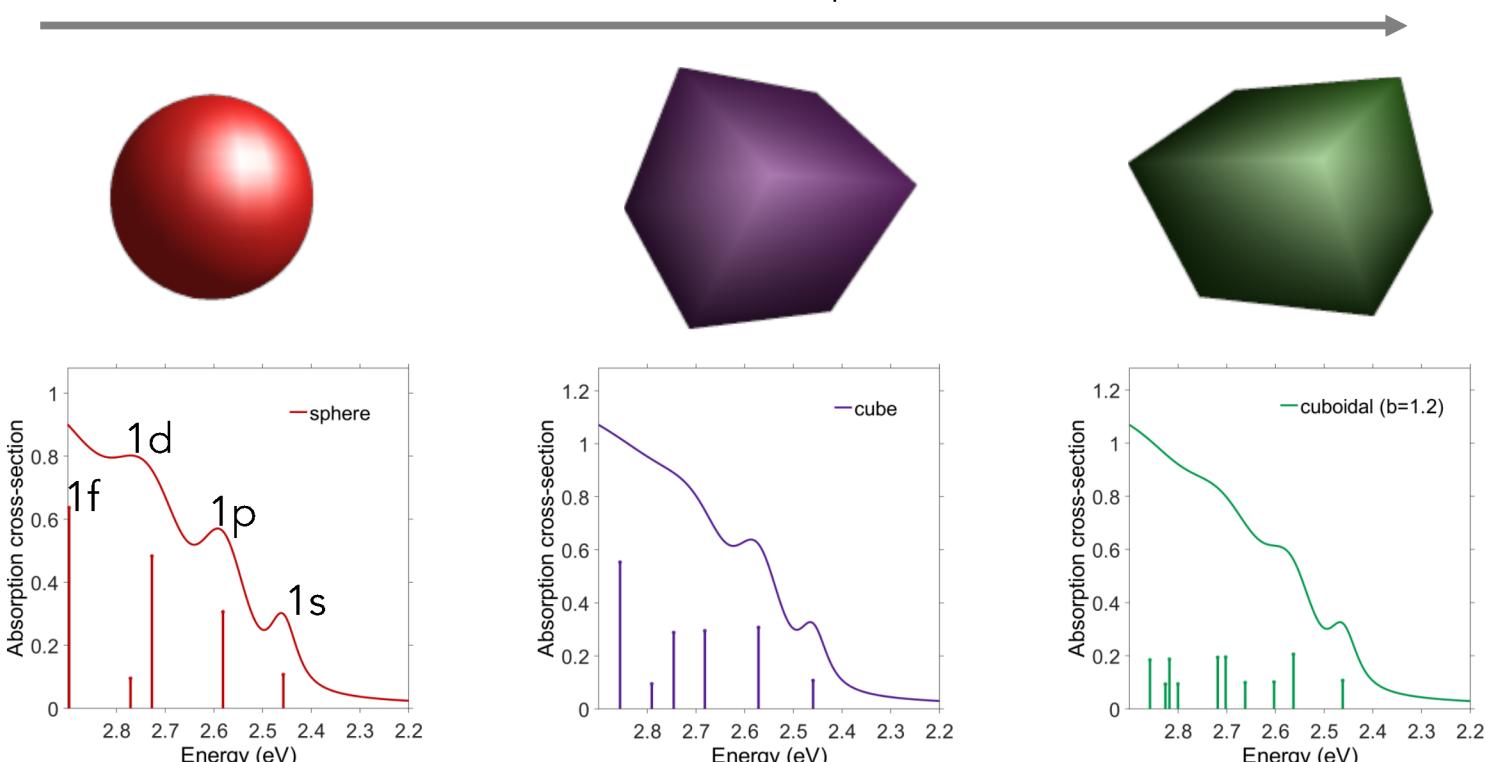
Optical matrix element

# The effect of symmetry on the QD optical spectra

All QDs have similar level of size dispersion

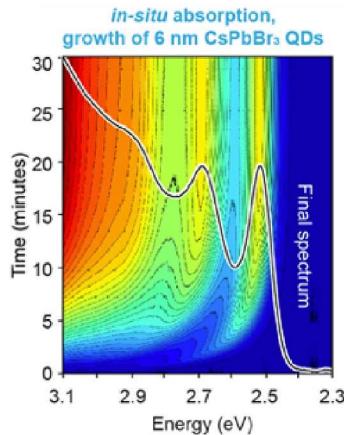
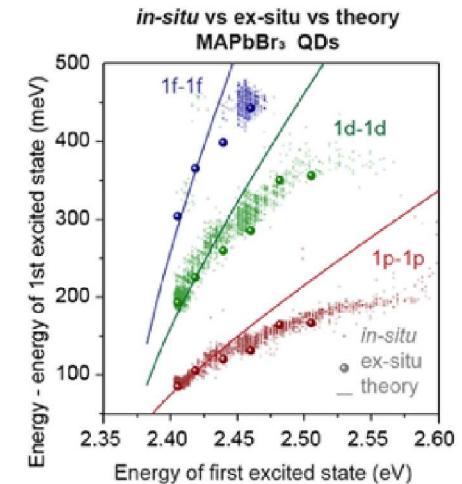
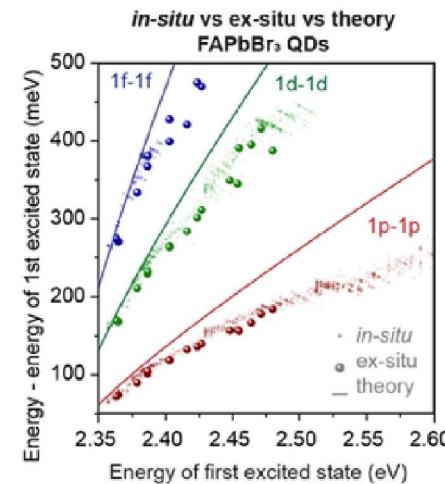
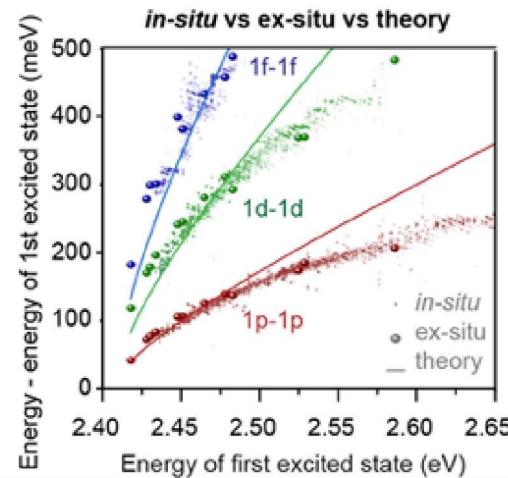
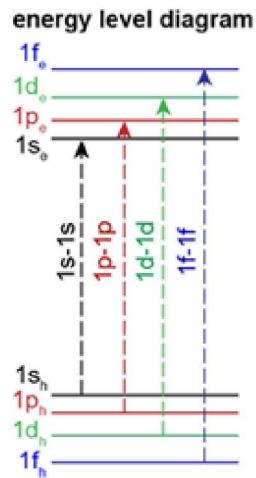


Descending symmetry  
of QD shape



# Optical absorption of excited states of exciton

Copious data from in-situ measurements!



$$(H_{k,p} + V_{\text{conf}} + V_{\text{HF}})|a\rangle = E_a|a\rangle$$

$$|a\rangle = R_s(r)|(s, 1/2)Fm_F\rangle + R_p(r)|(p, 1/2)Fm_F\rangle$$

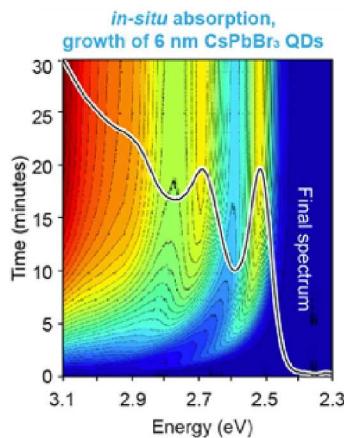
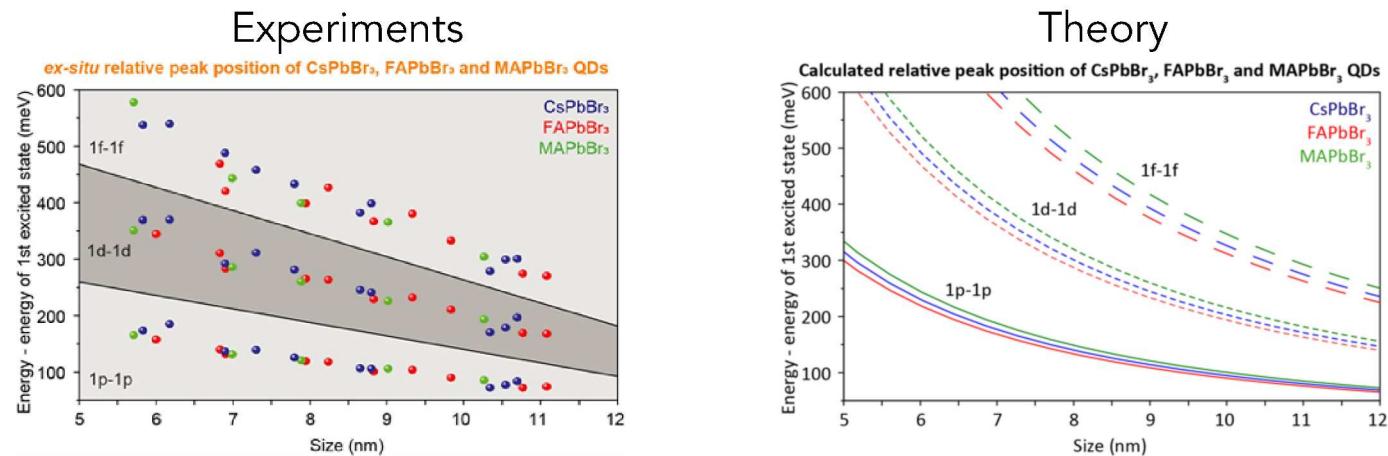


$$(H_{k,p} + V_{\text{conf}} + V_{\text{HF}}^a)|i\rangle = E_i|i\rangle$$

$$E_{\text{HF}} = E_{\text{gap}} + E_{\text{conf}} + E_{\text{Coul}}^{\text{HF}}$$

# Optical absorption of excited states of exciton

Optical properties  
relatively independent  
of A-site cations  
(Cs, FA, MFA)



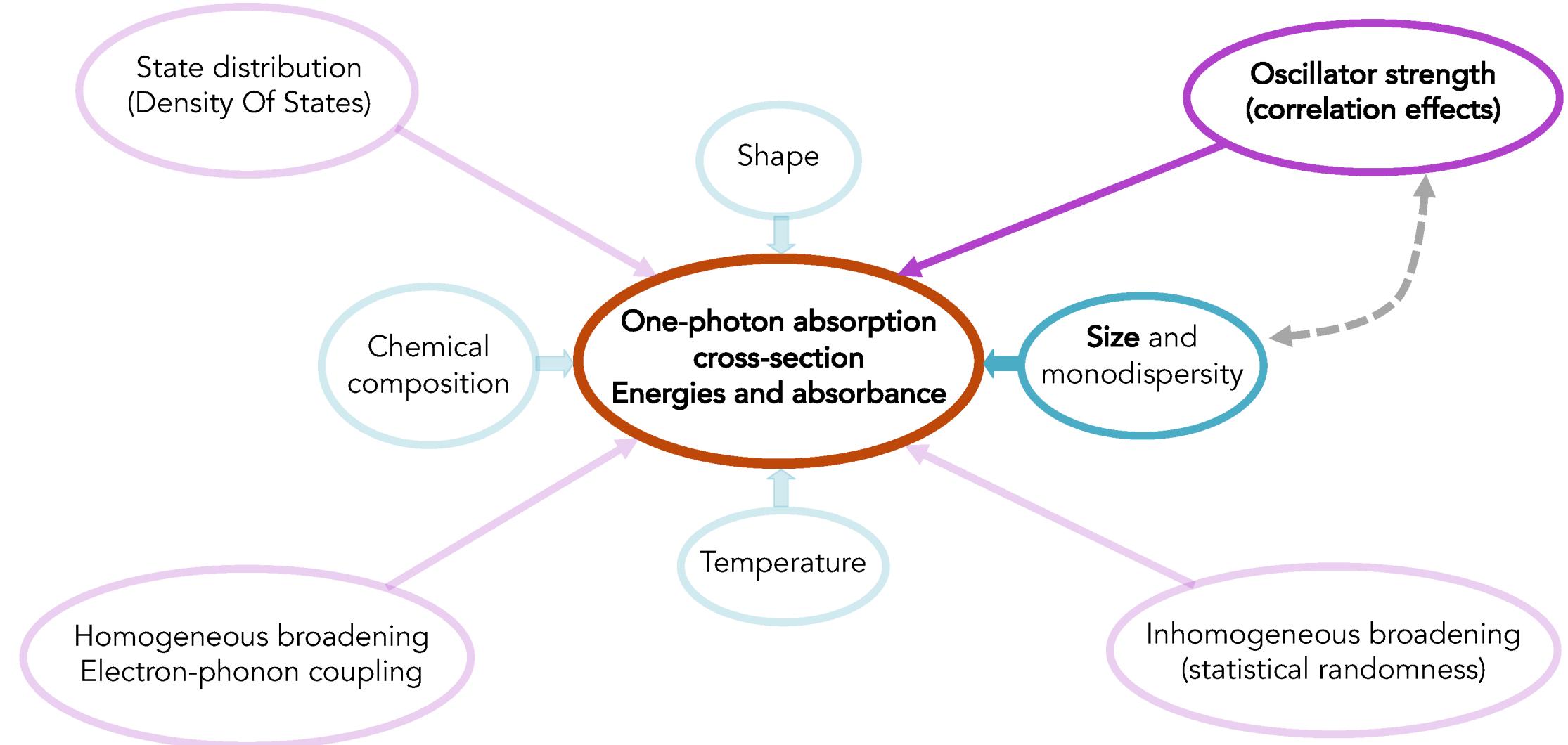
$$(H_{k,p} + V_{\text{conf}} + V_{\text{HF}})|a\rangle = E_a|a\rangle \quad |a\rangle = R_s(r)|(s, 1/2)Fm_F\rangle + R_p(r)|(p, 1/2)Fm_F\rangle$$

↓

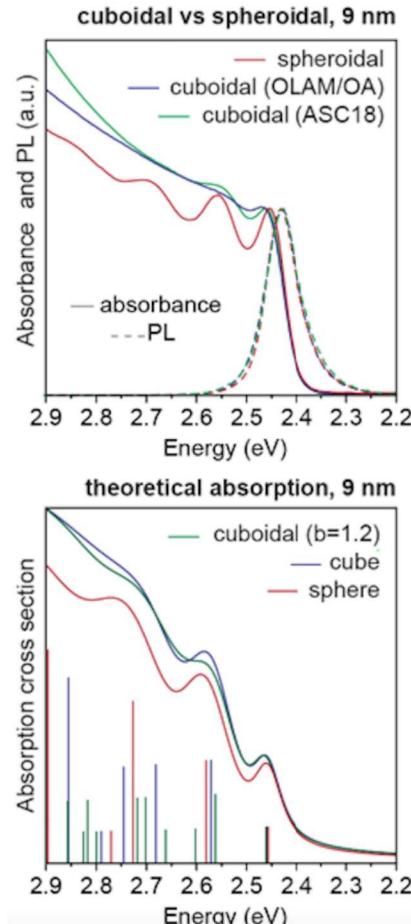
$$(H_{k,p} + V_{\text{conf}} + V_{\text{HF}}^a)|i\rangle = E_i|i\rangle$$

$$E_{\text{HF}} = E_{\text{gap}} + E_{\text{conf}} + E_{\text{Coul}}^{\text{HF}}$$

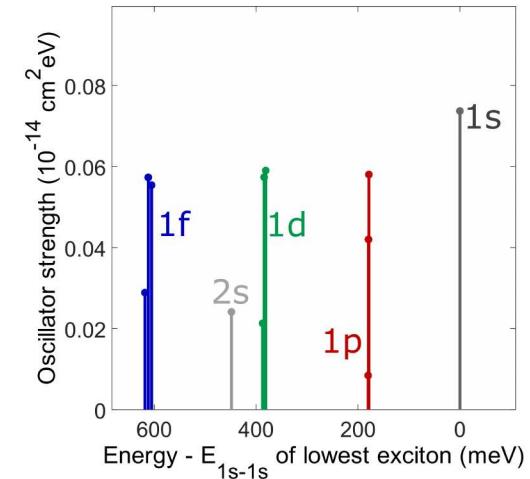
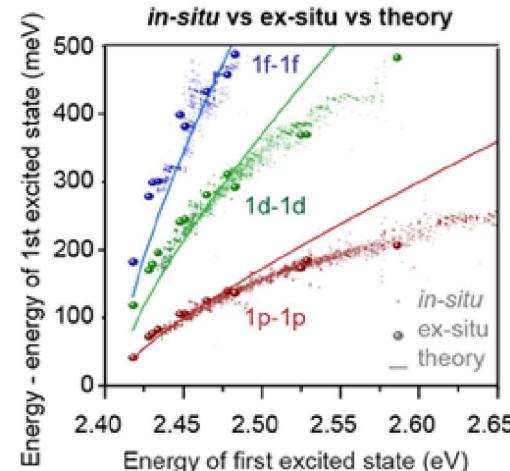
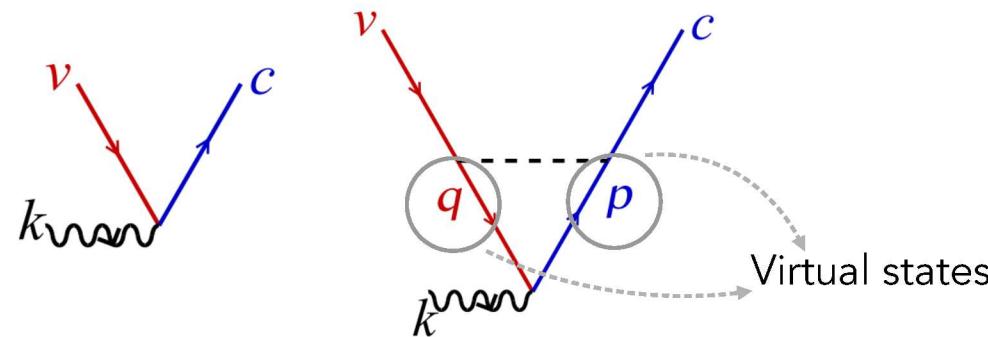
# Diagrammatic view of optical properties – SIZE (correlation)



# Correlation effect in the optical absorption spectrum

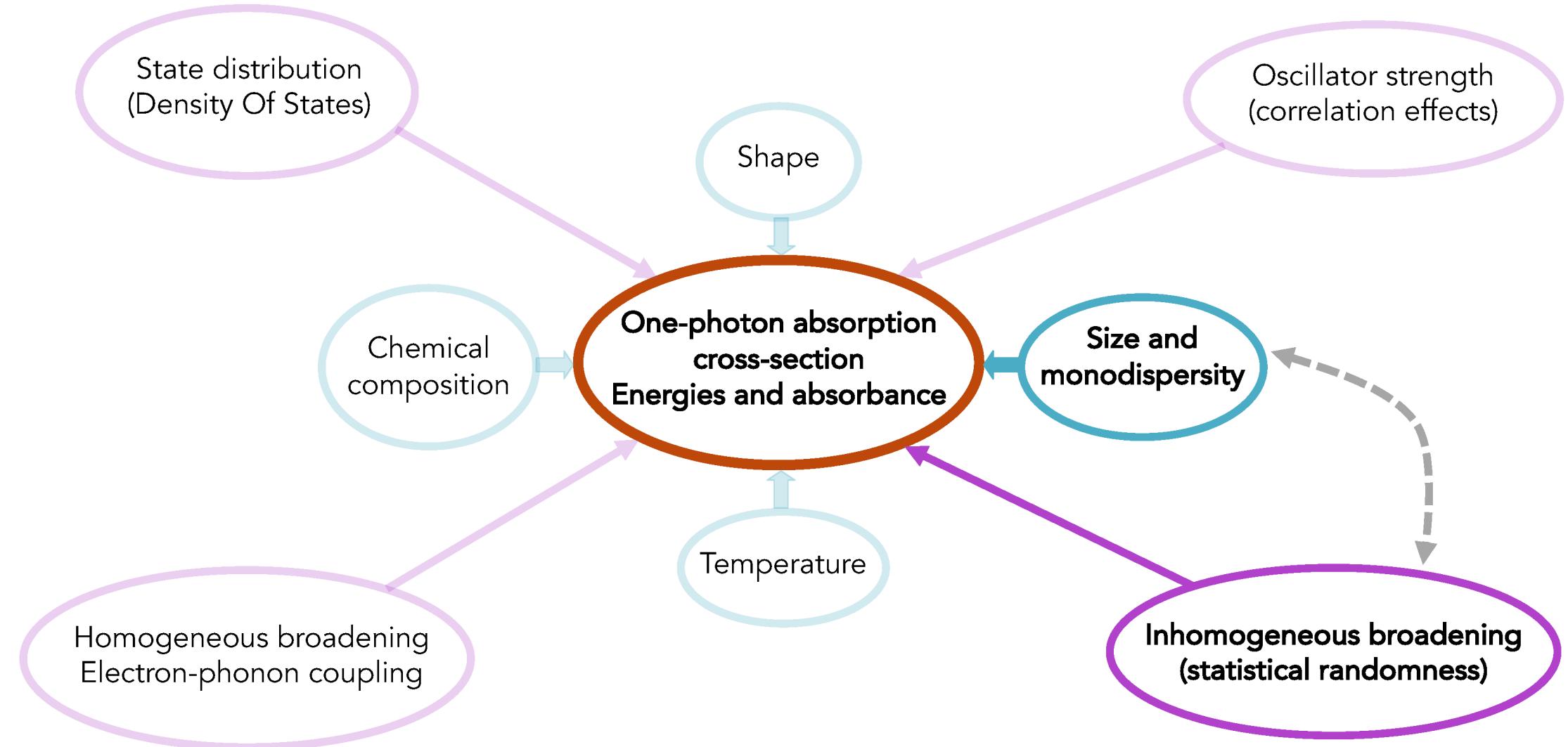


Correlation correction to  
electron-photon interaction



Theoretical transition energies  
and oscillator strength of  $L=7.0$   
nm QD

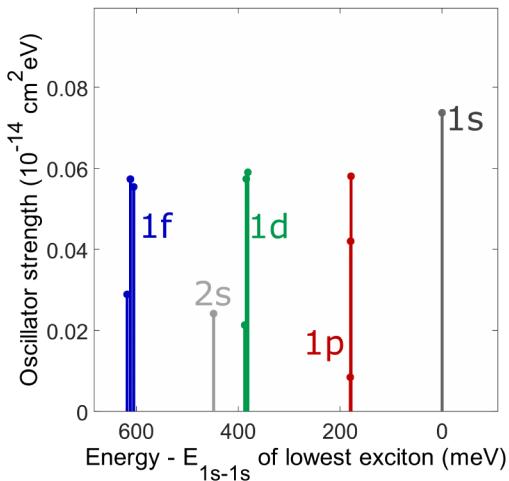
# Diagrammatic view of optical properties – SIZE dispersion



# Inhomogeneous broadening in QD absorption spectra



Theoretical transition energies  
and oscillator strength of  
 $L=7.0 \text{ nm}$  QD



$$\sigma^{(1)}(E) = \sum_{eh} \Xi_{eh} g_{eh}(E - E_{eh})$$

Broadening line shape

$$g_{eh}(\sigma, \Gamma, u) = \int G(\sigma, u') L(\Gamma, u - u') du'$$

$$\sigma = \sum_i \sigma^{(i)} (\delta_{size})^i$$

Gaussian standard deviation  
statistical randomness in size

$$\sigma^{(i)} = (-1)^i [(i+1)E_{\text{conf}} + E_{\text{coul}}]$$

Taylor-series coefficients

size dispersion

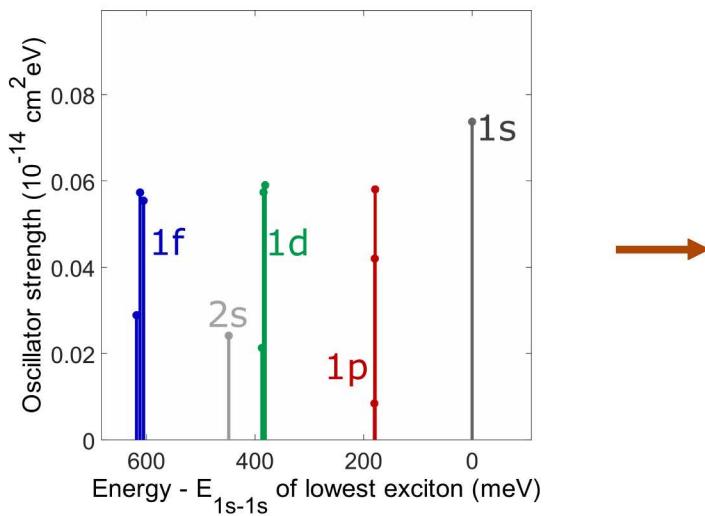
◊ **Experimental** full width at half maximum (FWHM) = **43.8 meV** at T = 14 K

◊ Using  $\delta_{size} = 10\%$ , **estimated FWHM = 44.5 meV** at low-T

# Inhomogeneous broadening in QD absorption spectra

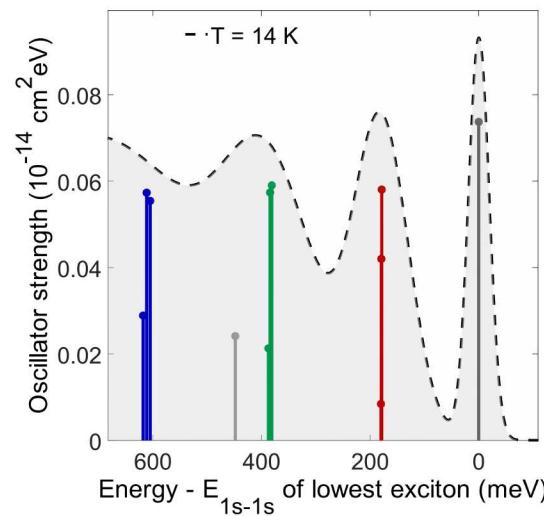


Theoretical transition energies  
and oscillator strength of L=7.0  
nm QD

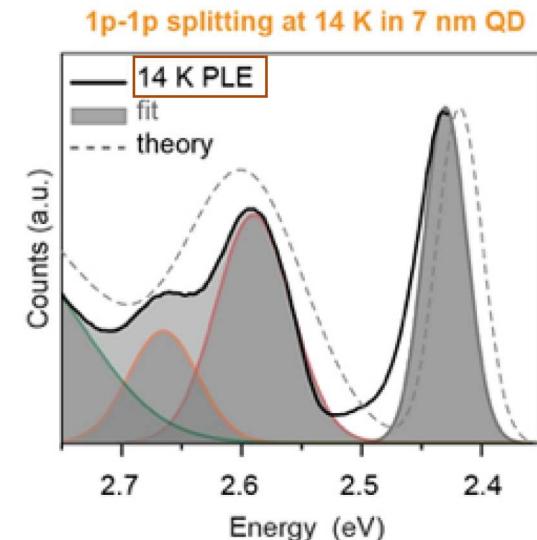


$$\sigma^{(1)}(E) = \sum_{eh} \Xi_{eh} g_{eh}(E - E_{eh})$$

Broadening line shape  
Gaussian at low T

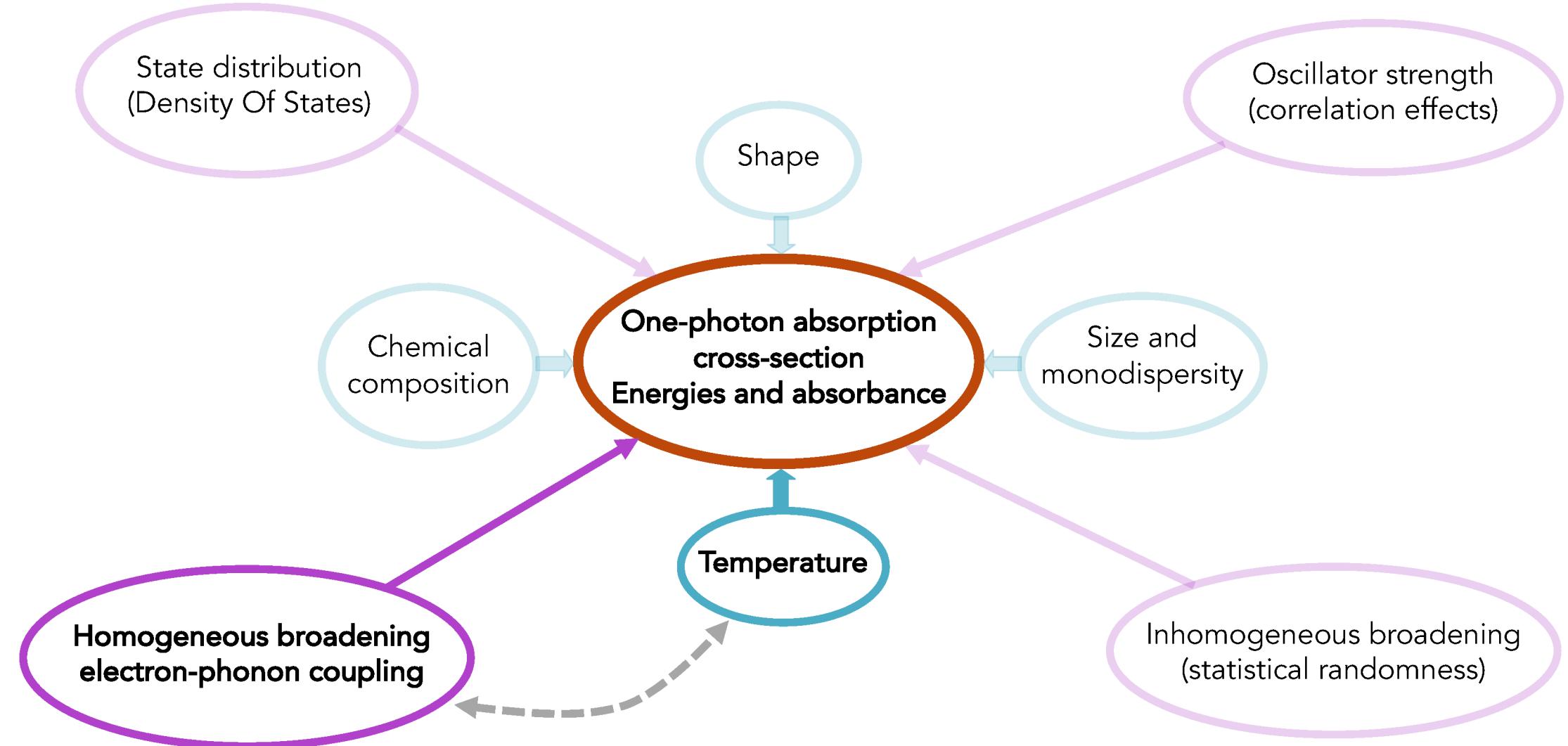


Theory versus  
experimental PLE

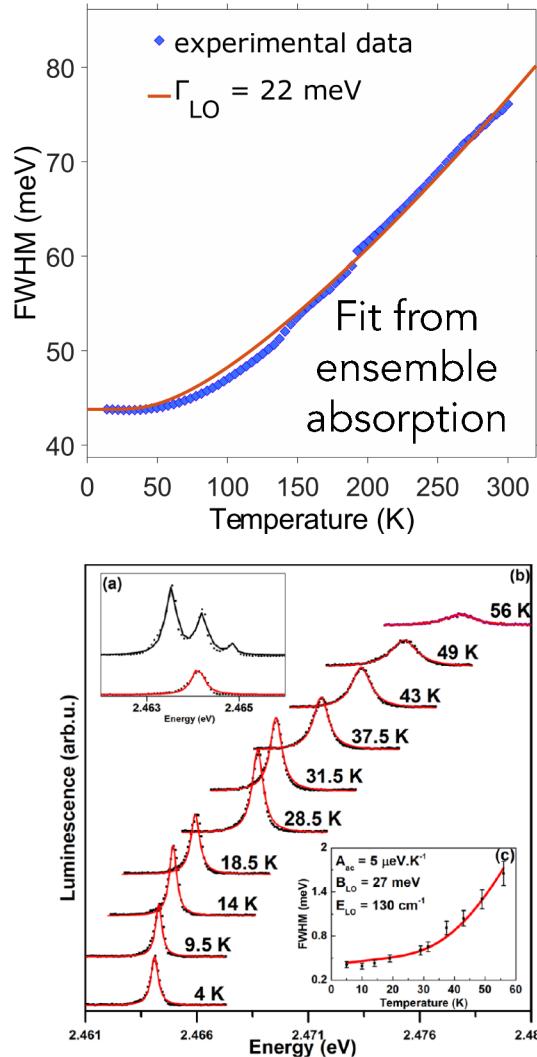


At high(er) temperature?

# Diagrammatic “view” of optical properties – TEMPERATURE



# Temperature-dependent homogeneous broadening



$$\sigma^{(1)}(E) = \sum_{eh} \Xi_{eh} g_{eh}(E - E_{eh})$$

Broadening line shape

$$g_{eh}(\sigma, \Gamma, u) = \int G(\sigma, u') L(\Gamma, u - u') du'$$

Lorentzian line width

$$\Gamma(T) = \Gamma_0 + \sigma_{\text{Ac}} T + \Gamma_{\text{LO}} N_{\text{LO}}$$

Acoustic phonon coupling

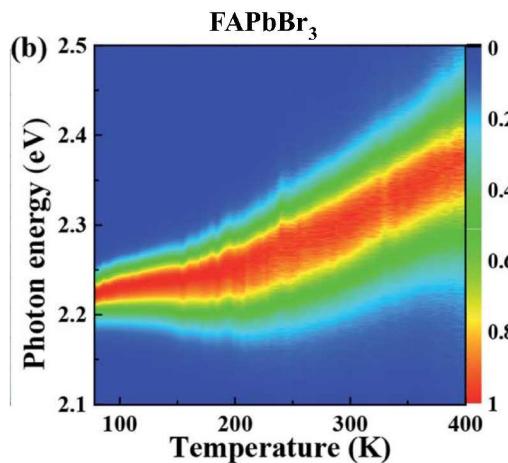
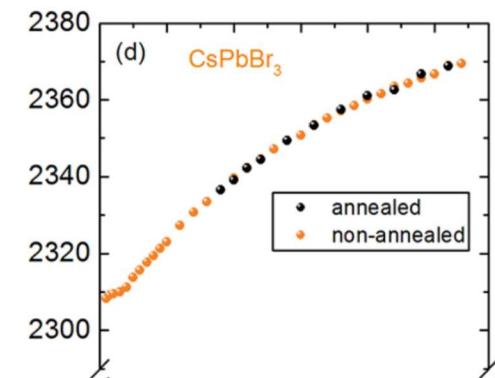
LO phonon coupling

Phonon occupation number

$$N_{\text{LO}} = \frac{1}{\exp(\hbar\omega_{\text{LO}}/k_B T) - 1}$$

$\Gamma_{\text{LO}} = 42 \text{ meV}$  from single dot PL

# Temperature-dependent absorption spectra

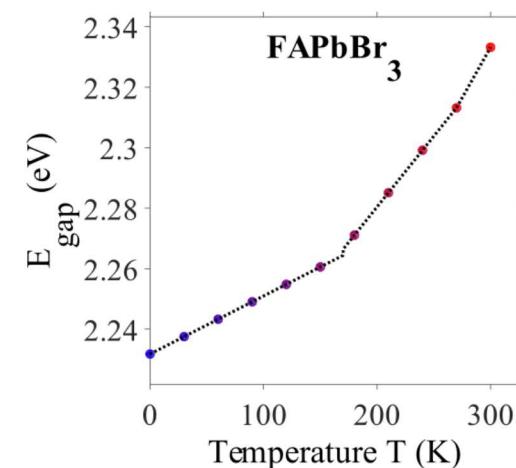
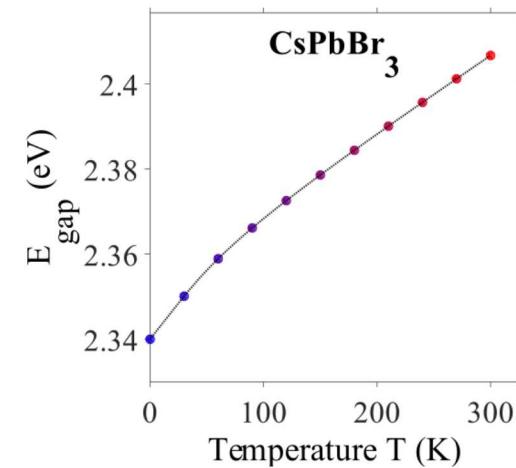


Temperature-dependent band gap  $E_{\text{gap}}(T)$

$$E_{\text{gap}}(T) = E_{\text{gap}}(T = 0) + A_{\text{linear}} T - A_{\text{e-LO phonon}} N_{\text{LO}}$$

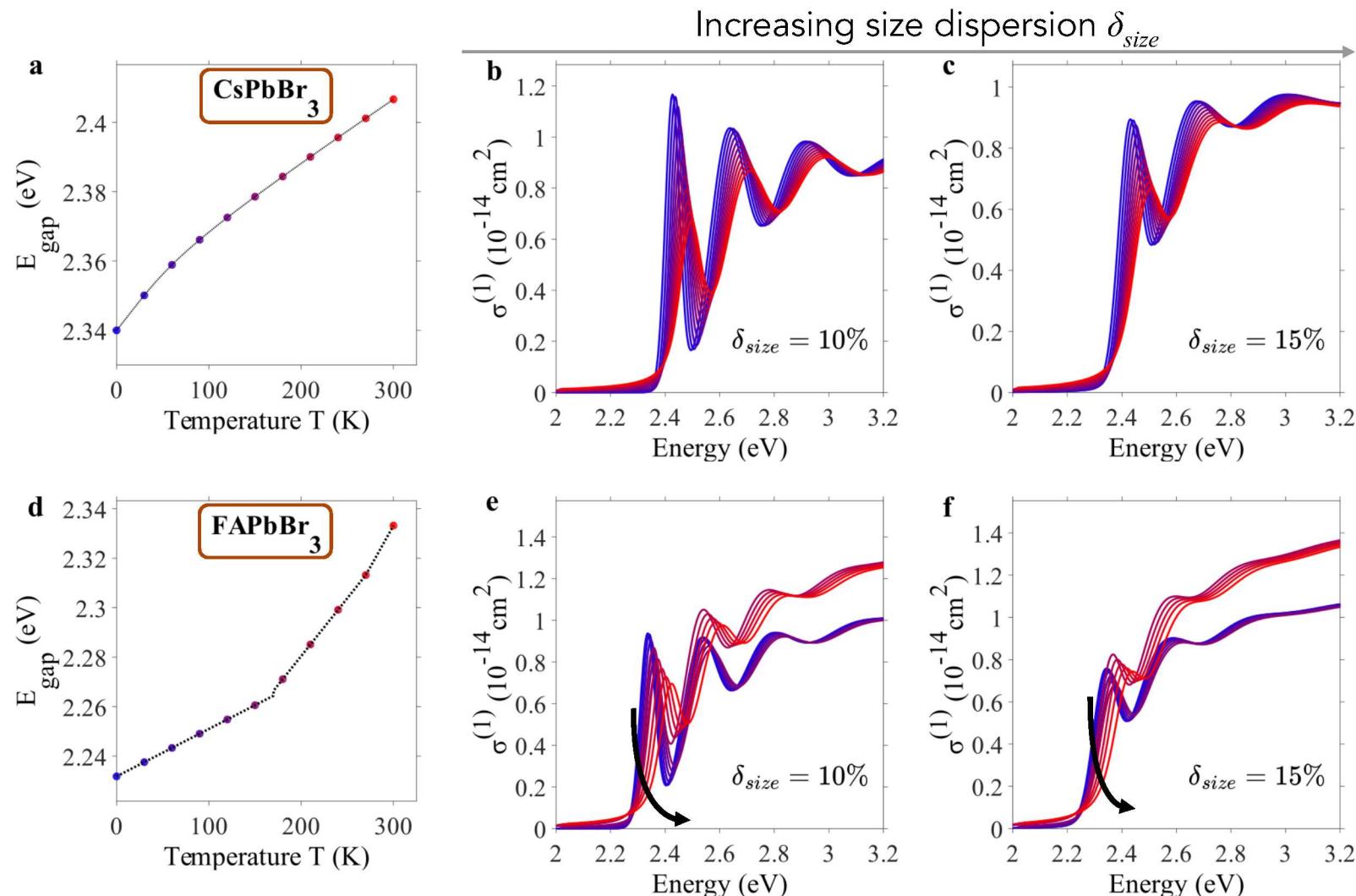
Volume expansion

e-LO phonon coupling  
band gap renormalization

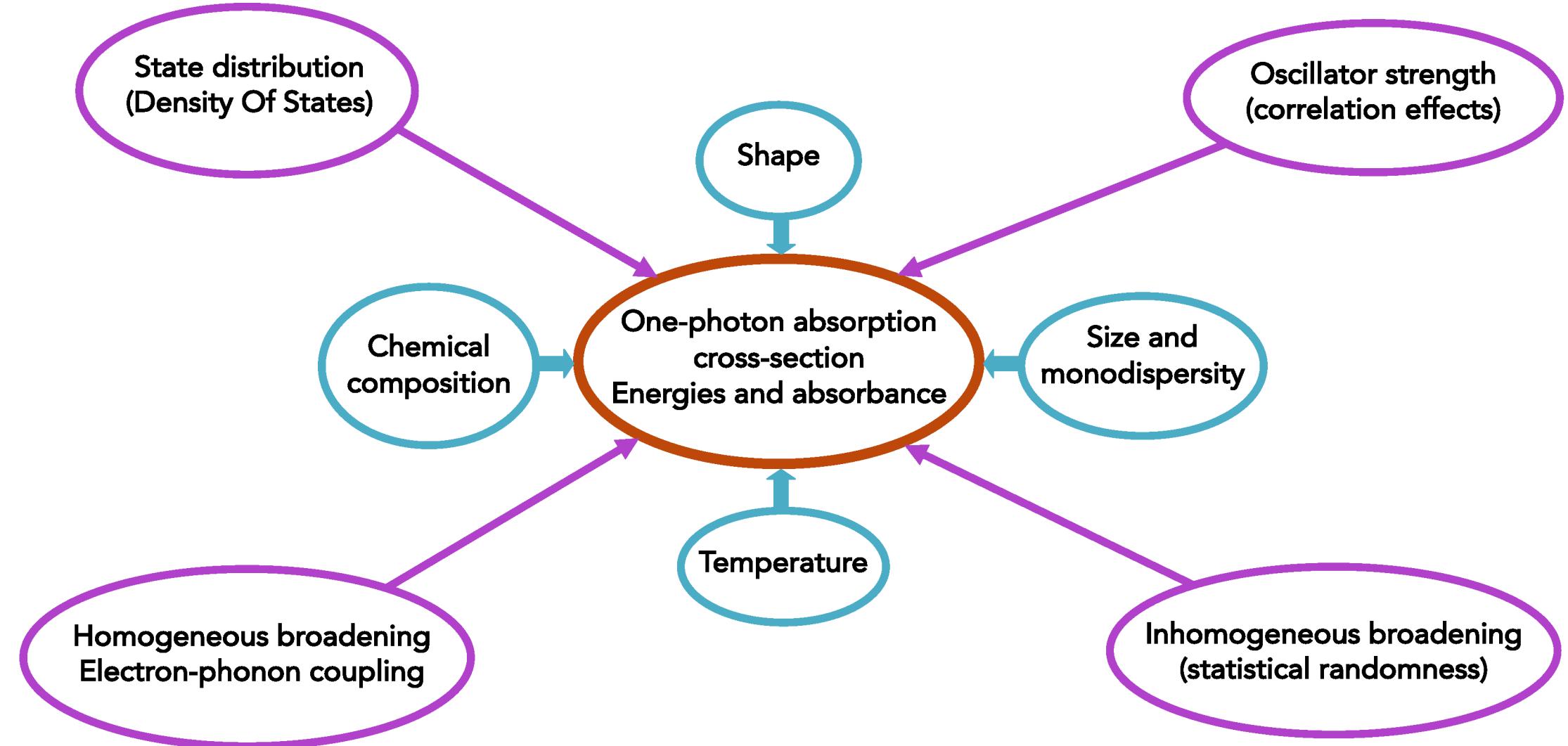


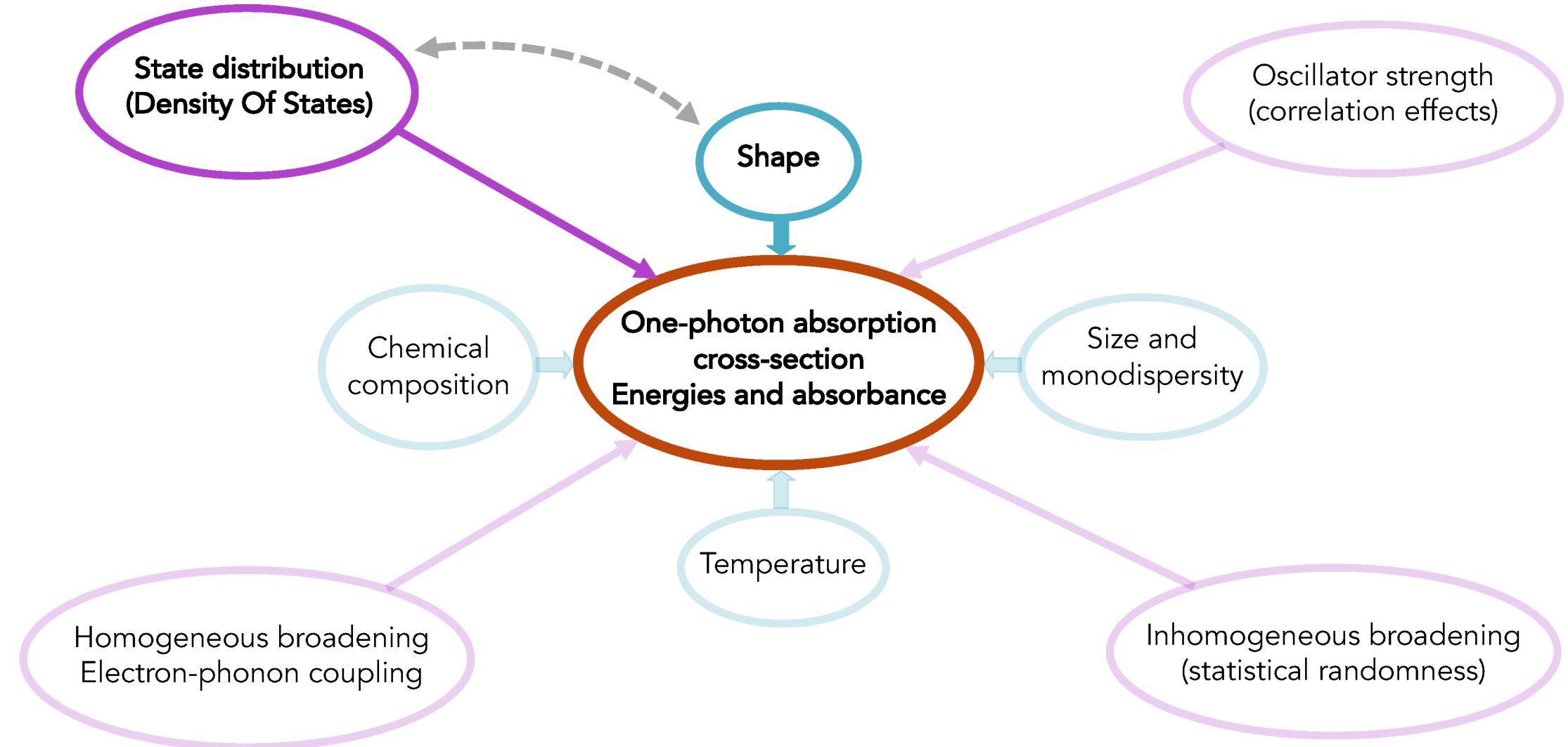
Yang, Z. et al., ACS Energy Letters, 2(7):1621–1627 (2017)  
 Wang, X. et al., RSC Adv. 10, 44373-44381 (2020)

# Temperature-dependent absorption spectra

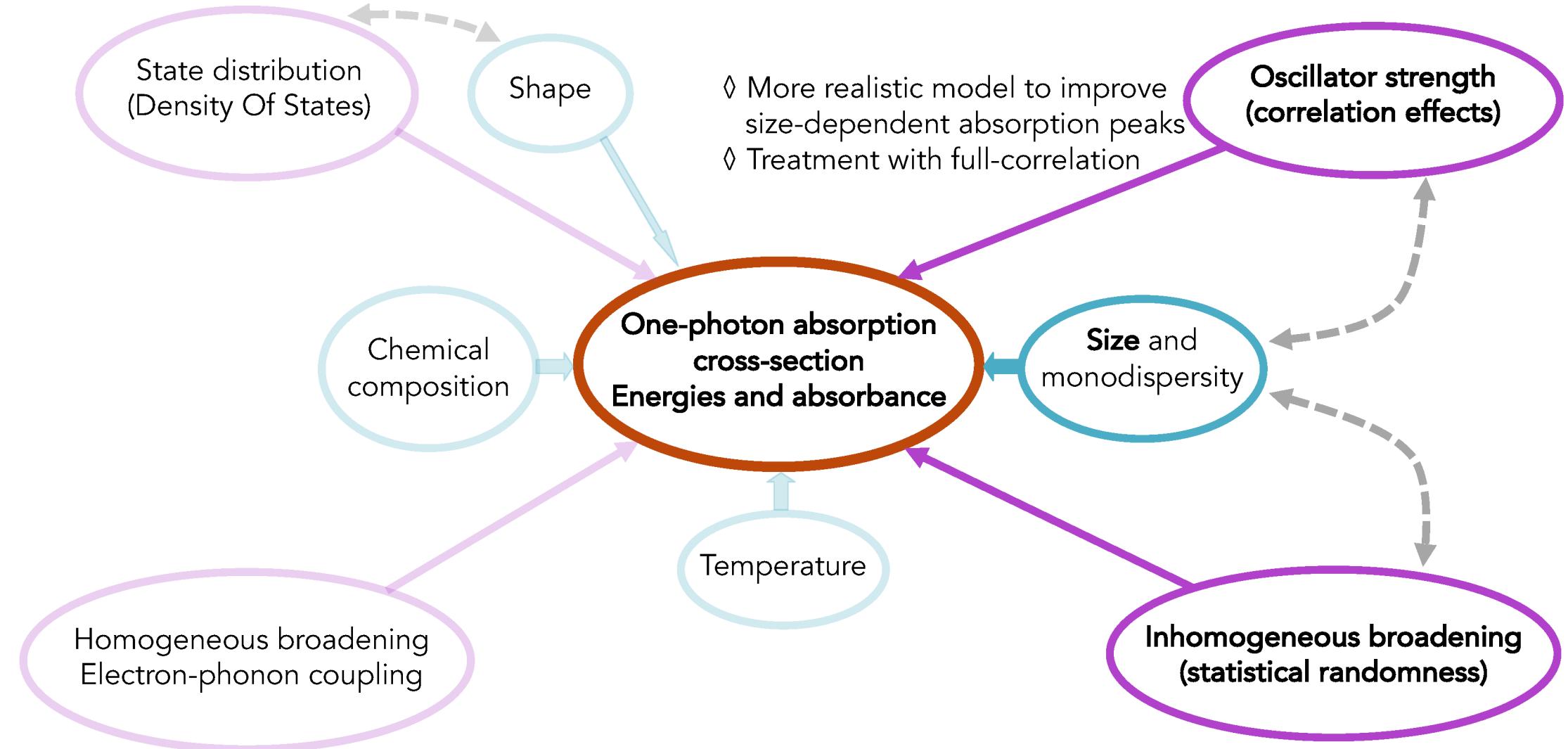


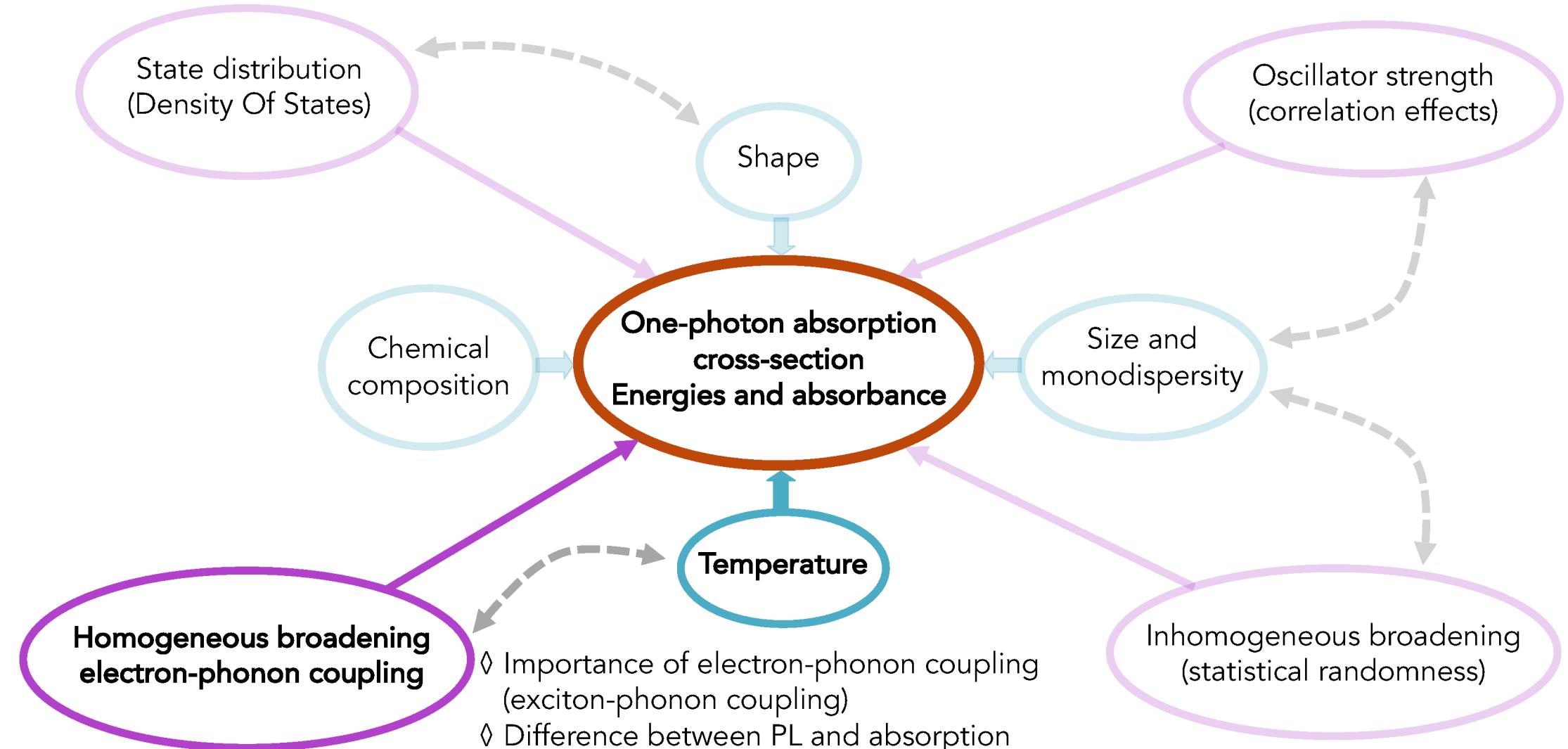
Arrows =  
increasing  
temperature





## Final remarks and outlook





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- Claudine KATAN
- Jacky EVEN



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- Simon C. Boehme
- Federico Montanarella
- Dmitry N. Dirin
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