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Title:THz-driven quantum wells: Coulomb interactions and stark shifts in the ultrastrong coupling regime

Authors:Zaks, Benjamin (1); Stehr, Dominik (1); Truong, Tuan-Anh (4); Petroff, Pierre M. (4); Hughes, Stephen (5); Sherwin, Mark S. (1)

Author affiliation:(1) Institute for Terahertz Science and Technology, University of California at Santa Barbara, Santa Barbara, CA 93106, United States; (2) Physics Department, University of California at Santa Barbara, Santa Barbara, CA 93106, United States; (3) Institute for Ion Beam Physics and Materials Research, Helmholtz-Zentrum Dresden-Rossendorf, PO Box 510119, 01314 Dresden, Germany; (4) Materials Department, University of California at Santa Barbara, Santa Barbara, CA 93106, United States; (5) Department of Physics, Queen's University, Kingston, ON K7L 3N6, Canada

Corresponding author:Zaks, B.(bzaks@physics.ucsb.edu)

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Abstract:We investigate the near infrared interband absorption of semiconductor quantum wells driven by intense terahertz (THz) radiation in the regime of ultrastrong coupling, where the Rabi frequency is a significant fraction of the frequency of the strongly driven transition. With the driving frequency tuned just below the lowest frequency transition between valence subbands, a particularly interesting phenomenon is observed. As the THz power increases, a new peak emerges above the frequency of the undriven exciton peak, which grows and eventually becomes the larger of the two. This reversal of relative peak intensity is inconsistent with the Autler-Townes effect in a three-state system while within the rotating wave approximation (RWA). In the samples investigated, the Bloch-Siegert shift (associated with abandoning the RWA), exciton binding

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