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Tunable multidispersive bands of inductive origin in piezoelectric phononic plates

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A variety of multidispersive, localized or extended in frequency, bands, induced by inductance-based external electric circuits in piezoelectric phononic plates, is studied both theoretically and experimentally in this work. Their origin, tightly related to an equivalent LC -circuit behavior is analyzed in detail and their interaction with the Lamb-like guided modes of the plate is also discussed. These bands, easily tuned by the choice of the parameters of the external electric circuitry lead to a non-destructive, real-time control of the dispersion characteristics of these structures. Our device and analysis can find application in improvement of surface acoustic wave (SAW) components, by offering additional degrees of freedom.

1 I. INTRODUCTION

Controlling the dispersion of elastic waves has become a key issue when dealing with sound mitigation, vibration energy harvesting and, more generally, applications in which elastic waves have to be guided, collimated or trapped. The use of metamaterials has been an important step towards the feasibility of this control¹⁻³ by shaping the dispersion relation of these complex media. Several approaches have been proposed, the most common being the periodic structuration of the medium (phononic crystal) leading to folding of its frequency bands and opening up of band gaps. To tailor the band structure at subwavelength regime, a very promising means has been the use of the locally-resonant materials that produce strong dispersive effects related to negative effective bulk modulus and mass density⁴⁻⁶. These structures suffer, however, from an intrinsic narrow frequency range behavior of the resonant phenomena. To overcome this limitation, a more sophisticated structuring has been recently proposed, facilitated by the use of new manufacturing techniques, such as 3D printing. The concepts of rainbow metamaterials, gradient index and hierarchical metamaterials allowing to model the dispersion of the waves on a broader frequency range have emerged⁷⁻⁹.

However all these attractive properties of metamaterials, even in the case of wide-range frequency phenomena, will stay less appealing, especially for application purposes, if the question of frequency tunability in their response is not answered. For a fixed geometrical arrangement of the constituents of the complex medium, the resulting frequency response cannot be adapted in real time in a real device. A simple way to introduce this frequency tunability/agility lies in the use of active components whose control can be achieved with the help

of an externally applied field (magnetic^{10,11}, electric¹², thermal^{13,14}, and radiative^{15,16}). The mechanical properties (mass density, elastic moduli) of the active component are thus modified, leading to reversible changes in its frequency band structure. Among others, piezoelectric-based structures have been shown to be excellent candidates for the real-time control of the propagation of elastic waves. The electro-mechanical coupling, naturally present in these materials, offers a versatile tool to shape the effective elastic properties of the metamaterial, through a variety of electrically controlled external conditions applied at the structure¹⁷⁻²⁶.

In this paper, we use a piezoelectric material as a substrate (plate) on which metallic strips (electrodes) are structured. In previous works²³⁻²⁶, some of us have shown that propagation of Lamb-like guided modes in these phononic crystal piezoceramic plates exhibits an interesting tunable character easily controlled by external electric circuits through appropriate electric boundary conditions (EBCs) applied at the metallic strips. In particular, the band structure of the plate is significantly modulated by the presence of electric resonant modes originating from the external inductance-loads coupled to the effective capacitive behavior of the piezoelectric plate. Some basic methodological tools of our analysis are already presented in Ref. 26. Here, we extend them in order to give a synthetic panel that these systems can offer. We review under a new light some of the possibilities to mould the dispersion characteristics of tunable localized bands originating from an equivalent LC -circuit behavior, inherent in piezoelectric phononic plates, when loaded with inductance external circuits. We focus on three typical representative cases including external L -based loads that generate, each of them, a variety of multidispersive, tunable bands of electromagnetic (EM) origin, easily controlled via the external circuitry parameters (the inductance, in our case). These cases, first given in a qualitative schematic manner, cover, respectively, low, intermediate and higher frequency regions in a typical dispersion plot. Moreover, compared to previ-

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ous works^{23–26}, an important improvement of our exper-
imental device—especially its electronic part—is made,
towards a wider range of choices in real-time control and
automatization, combined to a robust and promising sig-
nal processing technique leading to a finer analysis of the
experimental data. Usually, surface acoustic wave (SAW)
devices offer only input and output ports, restricting the
analysis exclusively in the frequency domain. Our de-
vice, allows to probe the surface waves along their path,
thus offering the wavevector projection along this path
as an additional degrees of freedom, which could provide
an improvement in the domain of SAW components.

The paper is organized as follows. In Sec. II we present
the general characteristics of the materials and structures
considered in this study, and provide all necessary details
concerning the experimental setup employed for our mea-
surements, as well as the methods and techniques used in
the analysis of the experimental data and in the numer-
ical calculations, that follow in Sec. III. For the different
structures under study, the analysis of their dispersion
properties, strongly influenced by the external loads, in
terms of underlying physical mechanisms responsible for
these effects, as well as in comparison with their experi-
mental observation, constitute the main part of Sec. III,
before concluding the paper in Sec. IV.

II. MATERIALS AND METHODS

A. Sample structure

We shall be concerned, in this study, with thin homo-
geneous piezoceramic plates whose both surfaces are de-
corated with periodic one-dimensional (1D) arrays (lattice
constant a_0) of parallel and face-to-face metallic strips of
width w and negligible thickness. A schematic represen-
tation of the structure is given in Fig. 1(a). The plate
is made of PZT (Navy VI) and in all theoretical calcu-
lations presented in this paper it will be considered to
be infinite along x_1 - and x_2 -directions that coincide with
the transversely isotropic plane of the piezoceramic ma-
terial; the x_3 -axis coincides with the polarization axis of
the material.

The sample used in the experiments, is a finite square-
shaped plate (edge length 48 mm and thickness $h =$
1.6 mm), as can be seen in Fig. 1(b), on both sides of
which silver strips (rectangular electrodes) have been de-
posited periodically; their thickness is of the order of
15 μm and will be neglected in what follows. In the
real structure, the lattice period dictated by the metallic
strips (width $w = 0.7$ mm, separation gap $s = 0.3$ mm)
equals $a_0 = s + w = 1$ mm, but as we have already ex-
plained in previous works^{24–26} the true lattice constant
of the crystal a can be non-destructively extended to be a
multiple of a_0 , controlled through the application of ap-

propriate EBCs at each pair of (up- and down-side) elec-
trodes. The latter is connected in the most general case
to external electric circuits of characteristic impedance
 Z^u and Z^d , as schematically depicted in Fig. 1(c). In this
manner, the elementary blocks of length $a_0 = w + s$ may
have identical ($a = a_0$) or different ($a = \kappa a_0$, $\kappa = 2, 3, \dots$)
EBCs throughout the structure, thus tuning at will the
real periodicity of the crystal. The 1D Brillouin zone
(BZ) of the crystal is accordingly shortened; we will de-
note its center ($k_1 a/\pi = 0$) by Γ and its edge ($k_1 a/\pi = 1$)
by X .

B. Experimental setup

Our experimental setup, though simple, is designed in
such a general manner to facilitate modification at will of
the EBCs applied at each electrode by connecting exter-
nal circuits (resistive, capacitive, and/or inductive). The
current version has substantially improved, as compared
to the one used in Ref. 26. First, the plate is inserted into
a 1 mm-pitch PCI Express[®] edge card reader (stack-
able female connector with 98 contacts), allowing con-
nection of the electrodes of the crystal to different elec-
tric impedances, through controlled switches (FST3125).
All connections are now realized in a secure and robust
manner avoiding any noise and parasitic effects arising
from soldering. Second, a microcontroller (Teensy 3.6)
is used to actuate these switches, thus making possible a
real-time control. Apart from the first pair of electrodes
reserved for the excitation of the plate, the remaining 47
pairs of electrodes will be used to load the plate with ex-
ternal circuits, as shown in Fig. 2(a). Only this part of
the plate (we will refer to it as loaded crystal hereafter)
will be utilized to image the frequency response of the
structure, except otherwise stated.

A 200V-amplitude and 0.1 μs -width pulse signal is ap-
plied to the first pair of electrodes at the one edge of the
piezoelectric plate, using a Panametrics 5058PR pulse
generator, to excite guided waves within the plate. The
incident beam penetrates into the loaded crystal and is
reflected back at the other edge. To visualize the fre-
quency response of the crystal, we employ an all-electric
experimental technique (more details can be found in
Ref. 26). After excitation of the piezoelectric plate, any
deformations producing not negligible thickness varia-
tions of the plate will be manifested as electric potential
variations on the electrodes through the electromechani-
cal coupling that takes place within the piezoelectric ma-
terial; we exclusively measure these electric potentials
along the plate. To this end, a second PCI card reader,
identical to the first one used for the loading by exter-
nal circuits, is connected to the remaining free edge of
the plate [Fig. 2(b)]. The electric potential is recorded
with a 10-bit quantification, at each electrode position,
on the upper or lower side of the plate, with the help of a
digital oscilloscope (LeCroy HRO66ZI WaveRunner), the
ground of the pulse generator being taken as reference;

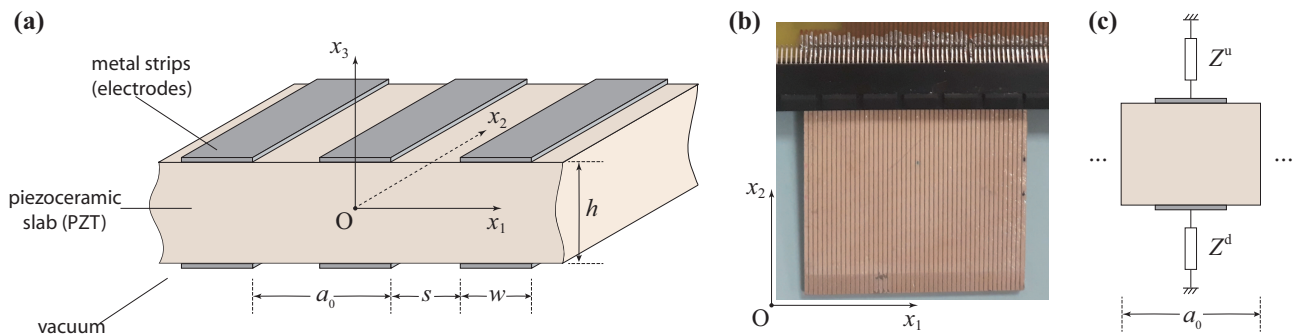


FIG. 1. (a) Schematic representation of the one-dimensional piezoelectric crystal, extended to infinity along x_1 - and x_2 -directions coinciding with the transversely isotropic plane of the piezoceramic material, poled across its thickness along the x_3 symmetry axis. (b) An image of the fabricated sample with finite dimensions ($48 \text{ mm} \times 48 \text{ mm} \times 1.6 \text{ mm}$), used in the experiments; the metallic strips (width $w = 0.7 \text{ mm}$ and separation gap $s = 0.3 \text{ mm}$) aligned along x_2 -direction are connected at the top edge of the plate to a PCI reader. The structure consists of $N = 48$ elementary blocks of length $a_0 = 1 \text{ mm}$. In (c) an elementary block of the structure loaded with electric circuits of impedance Z^u (upper plate side) and Z^d (lower plate side).

TABLE I. Material parameters for PZT (Navy VI), used in the calculations.

Material Property	Symbol	Value ^a
Elastic coefficients c_{pq}^E [GPa]	c_{11}^E	114.0
	c_{12}^E	75.7
	c_{13}^E	70.0 (72.4)
	c_{33}^E	107.0 (111.0)
	c_{44}^E	20.0 (26.3)
	c_{66}^E ^b	19.2
	Piezoelectric coefficients e_{ip} [C m^{-2}]	e_{15}
	e_{31}	-2.92
	e_{33}	20.3 (23.4)
Relative permittivity coefficients ϵ_{pq}^S	ϵ_{11}^S	2120.
	ϵ_{33}^S	1980.
Mass density [kg m^{-3}]	ρ	7510. ^c (7780.)

^a In the parenthesis, we give —if different— the initial values as provided by the manufacturer²⁸.

^b $c_{66}^E = \frac{1}{2}(c_{11}^E - c_{12}^E)$.

^c Measured.

183 the time window chosen is typically set to $250 \mu\text{s}$, with a
184 sampling period equal to 5 ns , allowing to observe a few
185 forward and backward traveling waves after reflections
186 at the edges of the plate. Each measured signal is then
187 averaged 30 times to improve the signal-to-noise ratio.
188 The above settings ensure a sufficiently high Nyquist fre-
189 quency and accurate resolution of the spectra obtained
190 through fast Fourier transforms (FFT).

191 C. Simulations and signal processing

192 All band structure calculations shown in this paper
193 were obtained by the use of a finite-element commercial
194 package²⁷ (except otherwise stated). Assuming trans-
195 lational invariance along x_2 -direction, the unit cell is

196 reduced to a rectangle and the metallic strips to lines
197 of zero thickness, able to host surface electric charges.
198 The classical constitutive equations of piezoelectricity
199 (stresses as functions of strains and electric field) apply
200 at the surface of the rectangle. The boundary condi-
201 tions are: (i) continuity of all fields between adjacent
202 cells and periodic (Bloch) conditions at the left and right
203 boundaries of the same cell, and (ii) at the upper and
204 lower edges of the cell, free stress conditions, together
205 with discontinuity of the normal component of the elec-
206 tric displacement field related to the surface charge den-
207 sity across the interface, assuming a uniform distribu-
208 tion of charge along the line representing the metallic strip.
209 Under this last assumption, the whole electrode is seen
210 as an electric node, where Ohm's relation involving ex-
211 ternal impedance loads can be applied. We recall that
212 a full comparison between an ab-initio analytical model
213 using the above assumptions and this FEM approach was
214 given in Ref. 25, leading to practically identical (graphi-
215 cally indiscernible) results for the band diagrams of these
216 systems. We note in passing that only the positive part of
217 the BZ will be represented, since the dispersion diagrams
218 are symmetric with respect to the vertical (frequency)
219 axis, in all cases discussed here. The material param-
220 eters (elastic, piezoelectric and coupling constants) for
221 PZT used in the simulations are shown in Table I and
222 were determined by adjusting the dispersion relation of
223 a floating-potential crystal to the corresponding experi-
224 mental data. The experimental dispersion relation $\omega(k_1)$,
225 $\omega = 2\pi f$ being the angular frequency, was obtained, af-
226 ter applying a 2D FFT of the potential signals $V(x_{1,n}, t)$
227 measured at each electrode position $x_{1,n}$, $n = 2, 3, \dots, 48$,
228 of the upper and lower side of the corresponding finite
229 plate, following the procedure described in Ref. 26. The
230 simulation results agree very well with the experimental
231 data (tolerance better than 3.2%).

232 The floating-potential EBCs were used as a bench-
233 mark; we are, however, interested in more complex unit
234 cells. For the systems under study, the dispersion plot

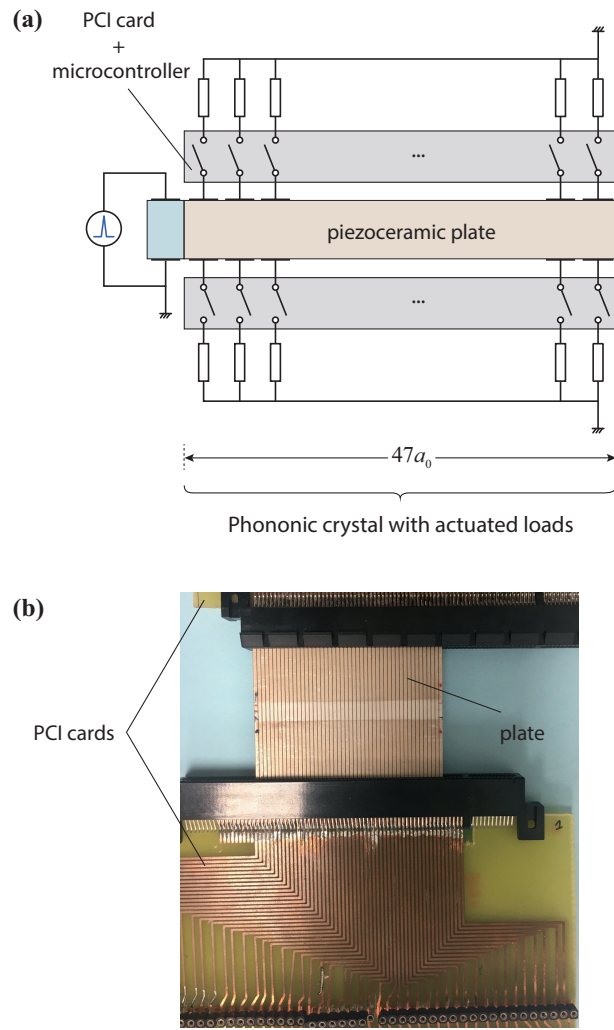


FIG. 2. The experimental setup used for the study of the phononic plate of Fig. 1: (a) schematic representation, and, (b) a view of the device. Excitation takes place at the left end of the plate and loading by external circuits at its remaining part through controlled EBCs.

235 is more crowded: several eigenmode trajectories coexist
 236 in the ω - k_1 space at neighboring points and cannot be
 237 easily resolved, after a 2D FFT is performed. To better
 238 resolve these separate contributions, we opt for a different
 239 method of analysis, by adapting an autoregressive model
 240 to two dimensions (AR2D), i.e., to both space and time
 241 directions²⁹. The results obtained in that manner agree
 242 with the corresponding picture obtained by a 2D FFT,
 243 without suffering from a wide ω - k_1 peak-character.

244 III. RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

245
 246 In what follows, we will focus on three configurations,
 247 all of them using inductance loads on the unit cell of the
 248 crystal, shown schematically in the left panel of Fig. 3;

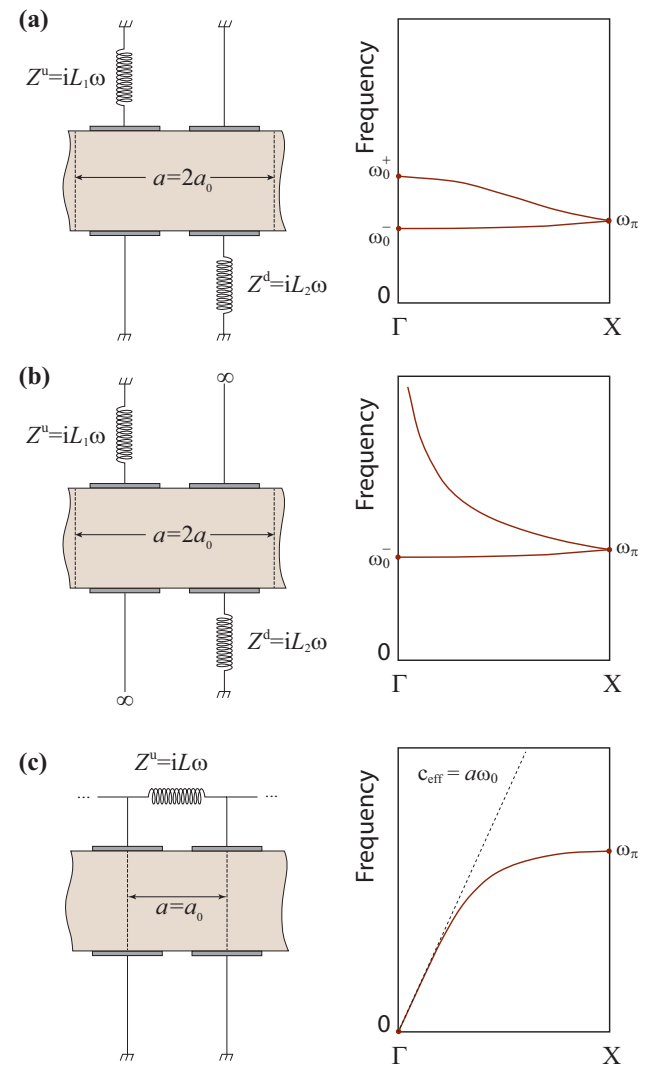


FIG. 3. The three configurations with inductive loads under study. Left panel: the unit cell of each crystal with different electric boundary conditions applied at the metallic strips [(a) grounded-inductance two-atom crystal, (b) floating-potential-inductance two-atom crystal, and (c) intercellular adjacent inductance-loaded crystal]. Right panel: schematic representation of the corresponding dispersion relation of the induced LC-origin bands (for $L_1 = L_2$, when applicable).

249 their interest lies on the unusual multidispersive form
 250 of localized and/or extended frequency bands of inductive
 251 origin that this circuitry may offer. More precisely,
 252 the first two cases correspond to two-atom unit cells
 253 ($a = 2a_0$), constructed by combination of two antiparallel
 254 elementary blocks (of width a_0), each of them having
 255 a L -load on the one side of the plate, the other-side
 256 electrode being either shunted [Fig. 3(a)] or in floating
 257 potential [Fig. 3(b)]. Though inspired from Ref. 26, the
 258 resulting structures offer new possibilities, since they possess
 259 inversion symmetry and exhibit, respectively, a set
 260 of two flat bands of localized modes and a set of one
 261 flat and one infinitely extended hyperbola-like frequency

bands, as schematically depicted in the right panel of Fig. 3. A third configuration [see Fig. 3(c)] consists of a L -load connecting adjacent strips, the EBCs conserve, in that case, the spatial periodicity of the metallic array ($a = a_0$). The corresponding modes originating from this circuitry exhibit a linear dispersion behavior with an effective medium slope $c_{\text{eff}} = a\omega_0$ at the long-wavelength limit which bends and tends to a zero-group-velocity branch at X point. It is worth noting that such a configuration is a direct analogue of the unit cell of a transmission line governed by the well-known telegrapher's equation.

The different characteristic angular frequencies ω_0^\pm , ω_0 , ω_π , appearing in Fig. 3 to describe qualitatively the dispersion of these eigenmodes at Γ and X points of the BZ, depend of course of the choice of L and of some characteristic capacitance values C , C_s , C_1 , and C_2 that describe effectively the intrinsic behavior of the piezoelectric plate in terms of equivalent circuits. More details are given in Appendix A. We note that this analysis for the two-atom crystals reveals higher-order interactions of capacitive origin within the plate which takes place between neighbors of adjacent cells and opposite sides, compared to previous demonstrations²⁶.

A. Grounded and inductance loaded two-atom unit cell

To begin with we shall examine the case of up- and down-side inductance loads alternated with grounded strips. The unit cell is thus a two-atom molecule analog with inversion symmetry if $L_1 = L_2$, or with identity operation symmetry only, if $L_1 \neq L_2$, as shown in Fig. 3(a). Aiming to analyze its frequency band structure both theoretically and experimentally, we find it useful to focus first on the frequency response of the corresponding monoatomic crystal of lattice constant $a = a_0$ [suppose only the left half part of the unit cell of Fig. 3(a)]. In the absence of piezoelectric coupling ($e_{ij} = 0$), the eigenmodes of the crystal are separated into two independent, non-interacting subspaces: the elastic-displacement Lamb guided modes of the plate (labelled, hereafter, with A for antisymmetric and S for symmetric modes, following standard notation used for Lamb modes in plates), simply folded at the BZ edge ($k_1 a_0/\pi = 1$) and the EM modes which originate from an LC -equivalent circuit behavior of the unit cell. The electric resonances of these individual LC atoms interact between each other and form a cos-like resonant band. In Fig. 4(a) we show the calculated —using a finite-element method— frequency band structure of such a crystal, the first subspace shown in gray lines, the second one in blue dotted line, extending from 1.294 MHz ($k_1 = 0$) to 0.597 MHz ($k_1 = \pi/a_0$). We note in passing that this zero coupling analysis, already presented in previous works^{24,26}, can be employed to visualize the bands of EM origin before hybridization.

When two antiparallel atoms are brought together to form a two-atom unit cell as shown in Fig. 3(a) the BZ

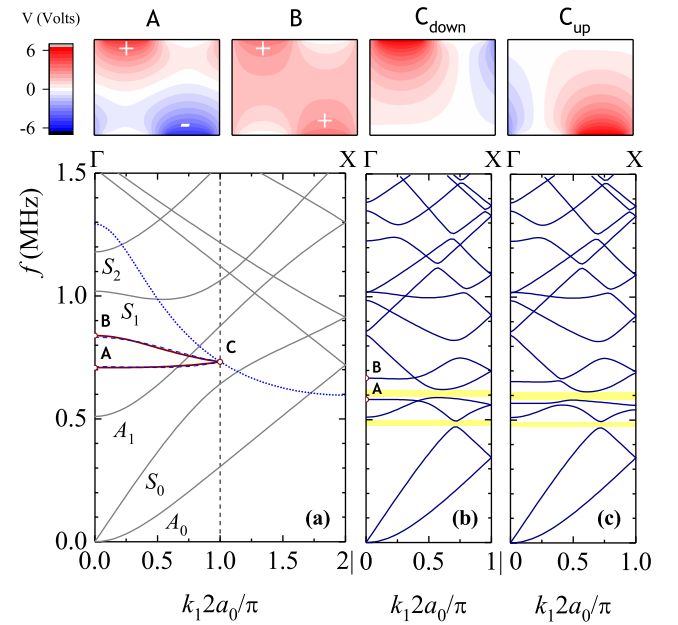


FIG. 4. (a) Calculated frequency band structure for a monoatomic crystal of lattice constant $a = a_0$ [only the left half part of the unit cell in Fig. 3(a) with $L_1 = 30 \mu\text{H}$ is considered] when piezoelectric coupling is switched off. The blue dotted curve spanning the whole BZ indicates the EM resonance band, while the thick red line represents the same band for the diatomic crystal of lattice constant $a = 2a_0$ [unit cell of Fig. 3(a) with $L_1 = L_2 = 30 \mu\text{H}$]; the gray lines correspond to Lamb eigenmodes of the phononic plate, labelled following standard notation. The full calculation of the band structures for the diatomic crystal of Fig. 3(a) when piezoelectric coupling is taken into account is shown in (b) for $L_1 = L_2 = 30 \mu\text{H}$ and (c) for $L_1 = 30 \mu\text{H}$ and $L_2 = 33 \mu\text{H}$. Yellow-shaded regions denote absolute frequency gaps. Top panel: Potential field plots within a unit cell for the points labelled in (a).

becomes shorter ($a = 2a_0$). An additional folding at $k_1 a_0/\pi = 0.5$ of the dispersion plot is dictated and, as a result, the EM resonant band is thus split into two separate flat minibands, a more dispersive, $\omega^+(k_1)$, extending from 0.839 MHz ($k_1 = 0$) to 0.732 MHz ($k_1 = \pi/a$), and a less dispersive, $\omega^-(k_1)$, extending from 0.708 MHz ($k_1 = 0$) to 0.732 MHz ($k_1 = \pi/a$). These bands compare very well (relative error better than $\pm 0.9\%$) to a tight-binding description³⁰ with first-neighbour interactions between atomic sites [blue dashed lines in Fig. 4(a)] that leads to $\omega^\pm(k_1) = [\omega_{\text{at}}^2 + 2\gamma_1 \cos k_1 a \pm 2\gamma_2 \cos(k_1 a/2)]^{1/2}$, $\gamma_1 = \gamma(a)$, $\gamma_2 = \gamma(R)$ being the overlap integrals γ depending on the distance $a = 2a_0$ and $R = \sqrt{a_0^2 + h^2} = 1.89a_0$ between the centers of the atomic potential functions and ω_{at} the eigenfrequency of an isolated atom. By a best fitting procedure we find $\omega_{\text{at}}/(2\pi) = 0.753$ MHz, $\sqrt{\gamma_1}/(2\pi) = 0.128$ MHz, and $\sqrt{\gamma_2}/(2\pi) = 0.214$ MHz. The $\omega^\pm(k_1)$ bands are independently reproduced by the electric-circuit picture [see Eq. (A1) in Appendix A1, with $C = 0.103$ nF, $C_s = 0.552$ nF, $C_1 = 0.0348$ nF, and

337 $C_2 = 0.116$ nF obtained by a best fitting procedure], also
 338 in accordance with the above tight-binding model.

339 A more careful look at the potential field functions at Γ
 340 point plotted within the unit cell (see top panel of Fig. 4)
 341 reveals a bonding ($\Phi_+ = C_+(\phi_1 + \phi_2)$) and antibonding
 342 ($\Phi_- = C_-(\phi_1 - \phi_2)$) character in analogy with a diatomic
 343 molecule picture in quantum physics, ϕ_1 and ϕ_2 being the
 344 two atomic potential functions and C_{\pm} appropriate coeffi-
 345 cients. Along ΓX direction the potential fields evolve
 346 progressively towards a more weighted one-atom picture
 347 with a double-degenerate state at X point (see two right
 348 plots of the top panel in Fig. 4), this degeneracy being
 349 lifted when inversion symmetry disappears ($L_1 \neq L_2$).

350 This picture is further modified when piezoelectric cou-
 351 pling is taken into account ($e_{ij} \neq 0$), as it should be in
 352 a real system. The result of our calculation is shown in
 353 Fig. 4(b). As a first remark, one observes a blue shift
 354 for the Lamb guided modes and a red shift for the EM
 355 origin resonant bands. And more importantly, the two
 356 eigenmode subspaces interact between each other and, in
 357 general, one expects the formation of avoided crossings
 358 between modes of the same symmetry. The lower in fre-
 359 quency EM resonant band $\omega^-(k_1)$ interacts with both the
 360 S_0 branch and the first folded A_0 branch, and similarly
 361 the higher in frequency EM band $\omega^+(k_1)$ interacts with
 362 both the A_1 branch and the first folded S_0 branch, thus
 363 leading to narrow selective absolute gaps (yellow-shaded
 364 regions). A slight detuning between L_1 and L_2 lowers
 365 further the symmetry of the system (inversion is now in-
 366 valid) thus resulting in interactions, though very weak,
 367 between all bands [see Fig. 4(c)].

368 Next, we confirm the above predictions, by their experi-
 369 mental verification. We measured the potential signal
 370 $V(x_{1,n}, t)$ along the $n = 2, 3, \dots, 48$ electrode positions
 371 located at the upper side of the plate, and after applica-
 372 tion of the AR2D model, we obtain the experimental
 373 $V(\omega, k_1)$, whose amplitude is shown in Fig. 5(a), and
 374 close to it, in Fig. 5(b), the calculated frequency band
 375 structure shown in Fig. 4(b). The different branches are
 376 color-indexed with the value of the potential, averaged on
 377 the area of the upper-side electrodes: the darker the tra-
 378 jectory, the weaker the electromechanical coupling, that
 379 takes place within the plate, is.

380 The experimental dispersion plot mainly reveals the
 381 S_0 -like branches of positive slope in the positive part
 382 of the 1st and negative part of the 2nd BZ, that compare
 383 well to the corresponding theoretical curve with effec-
 384 tive medium slope of 3013 m s^{-1} at the long wave-
 385 length limit. In addition, one observes some bright spots
 386 spanning the frequency region between 0.6 and 0.7 MHz,
 387 that could correspond to the localized modes of EM
 388 origin in Fig. 5(b) at about 0.58 MHz for $\omega^-(k_1)$ and
 389 at about 0.67 MHz for $\omega^+(k_1)$. At higher frequencies
 390 but below 1 MHz, two more trajectories are experi-
 391 mentally observed, belonging probably to A_1 -like and S_0 -like
 392 branches, visible in the positive part of the 1st and 2nd
 393 BZ, respectively (but also in the negative part of the 2nd
 394 and 1st BZ). The comparison between theory and experi-

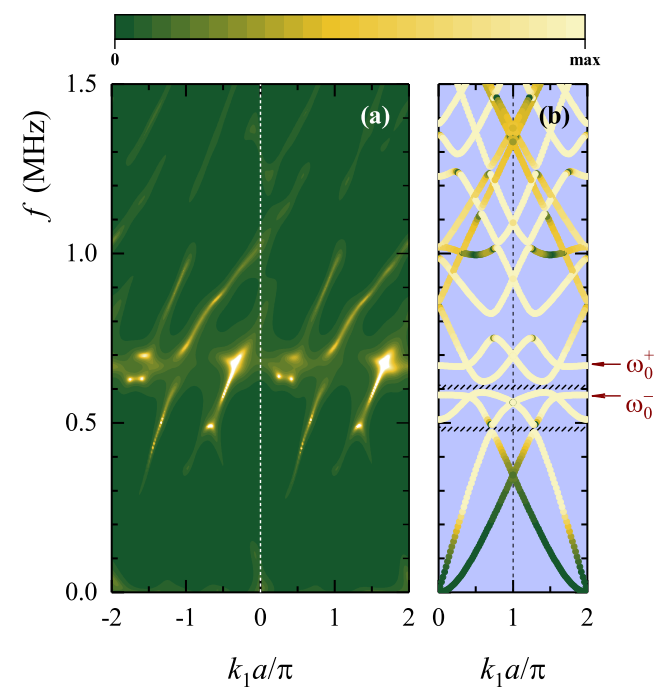


FIG. 5. Frequency band structure of the diatomic grounded- L piezoelectric phononic crystal (lattice constant $a = 2a_0 = 2$ mm) with EBCs depicted in Fig. 3(a). (a) Experimental dispersion plot for the finite crystal, consisting of $N = 24$ unit cells, obtained by use of the AR2D model on the electric-potential signal recorded at the upper-side electrode positions. (b) Calculated dispersion plot obtained through finite-element numerical simulations for the corresponding infinite crystal for $L = 30 \mu\text{H}$. In (a) the color map is saturated; in (b) the trajectories are color-indexed with the average potential on the upper-side electrodes of the unit cell. Red arrows and hatched areas denote, respectively, frequency bounds of the EM bands at Γ point and absolute gaps.

395 ment is, however, not straightforward, especially because
 396 the finite-element simulations predict much more active
 397 branches than seen experimentally.

398 B. Floating potential and inductance loaded two-atom 399 unit cell

400 If we replace the two grounded ends of the previous
 401 structure by free floating potential (FP) ends, we obtain
 402 the unit cell shown in Fig. 3(b). A similar methodol-
 403 ogy can be developed as that given in Sec. III A in order
 404 to follow the formation of the resonant bands; the main
 405 difference lies in the specific form of this band before hy-
 406 bridization. As it can be easily shown³¹ this branch is
 407 hyperbolic for the corresponding monatomic crystal [con-
 408 sider only the left half part of the unit cell of Fig. 3(b)]
 409 and when constructing the diatomic unit cell, the fold-
 410 ing results in two branches, one hyperbola-like, $\omega^+(k_1)$,
 411 extended in frequency, the other, $\omega^-(k_1)$, relatively flat.
 412 When $L_1 = L_2$ these two distinct bands degenerate to

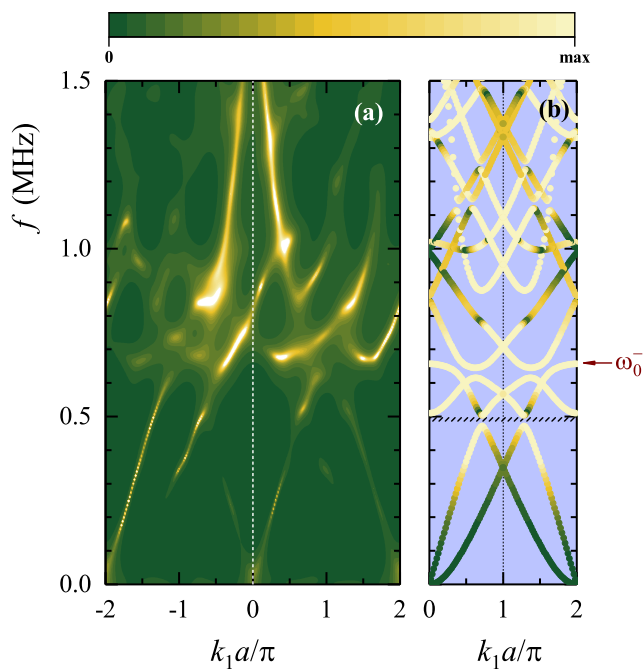


FIG. 6. Frequency band structure of the floating-potential- L piezoelectric phononic crystal (lattice constant $a = 2a_0 = 2$ mm) with EBCs depicted in Fig. 3(b). (a) Experimental dispersion plot for the finite crystal, consisting of $N = 24$ unit cells, obtained by use of the AR2D model on the electric-potential signal recorded at the upper-side electrode positions. (b) Calculated dispersion plot obtained through finite-element numerical simulations for the corresponding infinite crystal for $L = 30 \mu\text{H}$. In (a) the color map is saturated; in (b) the trajectories are color-indexed with the average potential on the upper-side electrodes of the unit cell. Red arrow and hatched area denote, respectively, frequency bounds of the EM band at Γ point and absolute gap.

413 a common frequency ω_π at X point; again this degeneracy
 414 originating from the inversion symmetry of the unit
 415 cell, is lifted if $L_1 \neq L_2$. The finite frequency point
 416 $\omega_0^- = \omega^-(k_1 = 0)$ can be tuned through the choice of L .
 417 Analytic expressions are derived in terms of an equivalent
 418 periodic transmission-line picture, as detailed in Ap-
 419 pendix A 2.

420 The experimental frequency band structure of our
 421 finite-size sample is obtained following the same pro-
 422 cedure, as for the previous case of grounded crystal
 423 (Sec. III A). The results are shown in Fig. 6(a), and next
 424 to it [Fig. 6(b)] the calculated frequency band structure
 425 for the corresponding infinite crystal, assuming again a
 426 pure L -component ($L = 30 \mu\text{H}$). In the experimental
 427 picture, three frequency regions are distinguished: be-
 428 low 0.6 MHz the S_0 -like and A_0 -like branches are clearly
 429 identified, in good agreement with those predicted theo-
 430 retically, and this was also the case for the grounded
 431 crystal (Fig. 5). Next, for frequencies above 0.6 MHz
 432 and below 1.0 MHz some bright spots are observed but a
 433 one-to-one comparison to the theoretical picture becomes

434 not straightforward. Finally, above 1.0 MHz the two ex-
 435 tended, hyperbolic branches become dominant and are
 436 clearly observed within the 1st BZ, in both its positive
 437 and negative part.

438 In both cases examined up to now, we remark that the
 439 experimental dispersion plots [Figs. 5(a) and 6(a)] do not
 440 reveal all branches predicted theoretically, and, more im-
 441 portantly, symmetry operations such as translation sym-
 442 metry by a reciprocal lattice vector, $\omega(k_1) = \omega(k_1 + \frac{2\pi}{a})$,
 443 and/or mirror symmetry, $\omega(k_1) = \omega(-k_1)$, are not ob-
 444 served for all trajectories. This could be explained by
 445 finite size effects and excitation that favors some of the
 446 branches with respect to others. To facilitate compari-
 447 son to the theoretical picture, we artificially restore the
 448 above said lost symmetries, by taking the average on the
 449 positive- k_1 and negative- k_1 part after, i) horizontal flip-
 450 ping, and, ii) horizontal translation by 2 (in reduced k_1 -
 451 axis units) of the latter. These two operations lead to
 452 a picture with mirror symmetry with respect to vertical
 453 (frequency) axis at both Γ and X points, thus the ΓX
 454 direction is sufficient for any analysis. The results are
 455 shown in Fig. 7, for the grounded crystal [left panel, plot
 456 (a)] and for the floating-potential crystal [right panel,
 457 plot (c)]. Their comparison to the corresponding theo-
 458 retical predictions [Figs. 5(b) and 6(b)] reveals a red shift
 459 of the simulated EM modes. Obviously, the reality, far
 460 away from the numerous simplifications assumed in the
 461 simulations, includes finite size effects, different elastic
 462 boundary conditions at the edges of the plate due to the
 463 use of the PCI cards, and, real-electronics effects, present
 464 in the circuitry, that were neglected in the previous analy-
 465 sis. In fact, a Z_e impedance load (see Appendix B) will be
 466 considered instead of the idealized $Z^u = Z^d = Z_L = iL\omega$
 467 generated by a pure L -component. In plots (b) and (d)
 468 of Fig. 7 we show the calculated band structures that
 469 correspond to those of Figs. 5(b) and 6(b), but for the
 470 real load Z_e [Eq. (B1)] instead of the pure inductive load
 471 with $L = 30 \mu\text{H}$. The use of Z_e blue-shifts the EM
 472 modes [by about $\sim 10\%$ for ω_0^\pm with respect to those
 473 of Figs. 5(b) and 6(b), indicated here by red arrows as
 474 guides to the eye] and improves the comparison between
 475 experimental data and theoretical simulations. The EM
 476 modes manifest themselves as two flat bands lying in the
 477 frequency range from 0.6 to 0.75 MHz for the grounded-
 478 L crystal [Fig. 7(b)] in rather good agreement with the
 479 experimental picture [bright spots extending from 0.63
 480 to 0.71 MHz in Fig. 7(a)]. For the floating-potential- L
 481 crystal [Fig. 7(d)] the EM modes manifest themselves, on
 482 the one hand, as a flat band centered at 0.7 MHz and, on
 483 the other hand, as a hyperbolic branch which interacts
 484 strongly with the A_1 -like branch and spans the whole
 485 frequency range above 0.9 MHz; these compare well to
 486 the experimental picture [Fig. 7(c)] that reveals, respec-
 487 tively, a flat bright segment from 0.66 to 0.75 MHz and
 488 a hyperbolic branch above 0.82 MHz.

489 We note in passing the appearance of narrow, selective,
 490 absolute frequency gaps for both systems [see hatched ar-
 491 eas in Figs. 7(b), (d)] originating from avoided-crossing

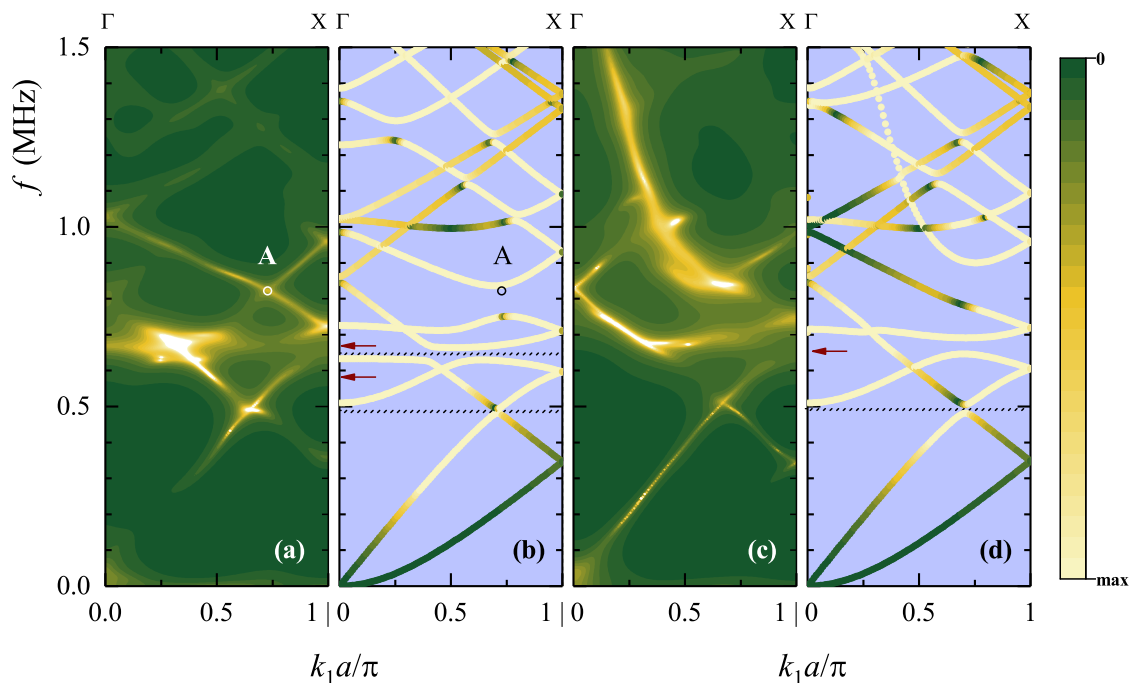


FIG. 7. Experimental frequency band structure of the diatomic (a) grounded- L and (c) floating-potential- L piezoelectric phononic crystals, after reduction along ΓX direction (see text) of their initial map plots, shown respectively in Figs. 5(a) and 6(a). In (b) and (d) the corresponding calculated dispersion plots for the infinite crystals, assuming real loads Z_e instead of the pure inductive ones Z_L ($L = 30 \mu\text{H}$). Red arrows denote the frequency positions of the EM bands at Γ point as predicted for the case of Z_L instead of Z_e [see Figs. 5(b) and 6(b), respectively]; hatched areas indicate, as usually, absolute gaps.

492 between bands of the same symmetry. Therefore, one ex-
 493 pects that even structures with a small number of units
 494 will exhibit such type of gaps³². Their frequency po-
 495 sition is indirectly controlled through ω_0 values scaling
 496 as $\sim L^{-1/2}$ [see Appendix A]. Their width is narrow,
 497 but possible enlargement could be achieved with elec-
 498 tronic components facilitating the degree of interaction
 499 [e.g., negative capacitors²⁵].

500 A careful global evaluation of the picture obtained by
 501 both models used for the simulations, i.e., Z_L and Z_e ,
 502 for the two crystals under study, suggests that none of
 503 these can perfectly describe the experimental picture in
 504 terms of frequency position of the EM modes (they are in
 505 general slightly shifted, but the hyperbolic branch clearly
 506 blue-shifted in the simulations) and in terms of degree of
 507 interaction that takes place in the avoided-crossing re-
 508 gions when EM and Lamb-like modes cross each other
 509 [weak avoiding is experimentally observed, while a strong
 510 one is predicted, e.g. at point A in Figs. 7(a), (b)].
 511 Deviations are also observed between some dark branch
 512 segments (vanishing potential value along them), while
 513 predicted highlighted in theory, e.g., the A_1 -like branch
 514 which is theoretically predicted with a cut-off frequency
 515 close to 0.5 MHz is not experimentally discernible. We
 516 deduce that even if a pure L -component is too simple
 517 to reproduce exactly the experimental picture of the dis-
 518 persion plot of these crystals, the use of the experimen-
 519 tally identified load Z_e is not sufficient either. A possible

520 reason could be the modification of this individual-atom
 521 load Z_e (we recall that its identification has been real-
 522 ized under isolated conditions, outside the crystal) when
 523 it is introduced in our device including the plate itself
 524 and the system of two PCI cards. On the other hand,
 525 simulations still constitute idealized models, since they
 526 neglect any finite size effects and leakage of elastic and
 527 EM modes in the surrounding medium (air). For the
 528 above reasons, comparison between theory and exper-
 529 iments remains, however, very satisfactory and provides
 530 a good verification of the main features of the dispersion
 531 properties of these crystals.

532 C. Intercellular inductance loaded unit cell

533 As a last case, we examine a crystal plate with inter-
 534 cellular connection of adjacent strips located at the same
 535 side of the plate (say the upper one) via an inductance
 536 load L , the other-side strips being grounded, as depicted
 537 in Fig. 3(c). These EBCs conserve the periodicity of the
 538 metallic array. The numerically predicted band struc-
 539 ture of that crystal (lattice constant $a = a_0$) is shown in
 540 Fig. 8 for two distinct inductance values: $L = 150 \mu\text{H}$
 541 [plot (a)] and $L = 30 \mu\text{H}$ [plot (b)]. The most striking
 542 feature of these dispersion plots is the appearance of a
 543 linear-dispersion branch at the long-wavelength limit, in
 544 addition to the traditionally expected S_0 -like and A_0 -like

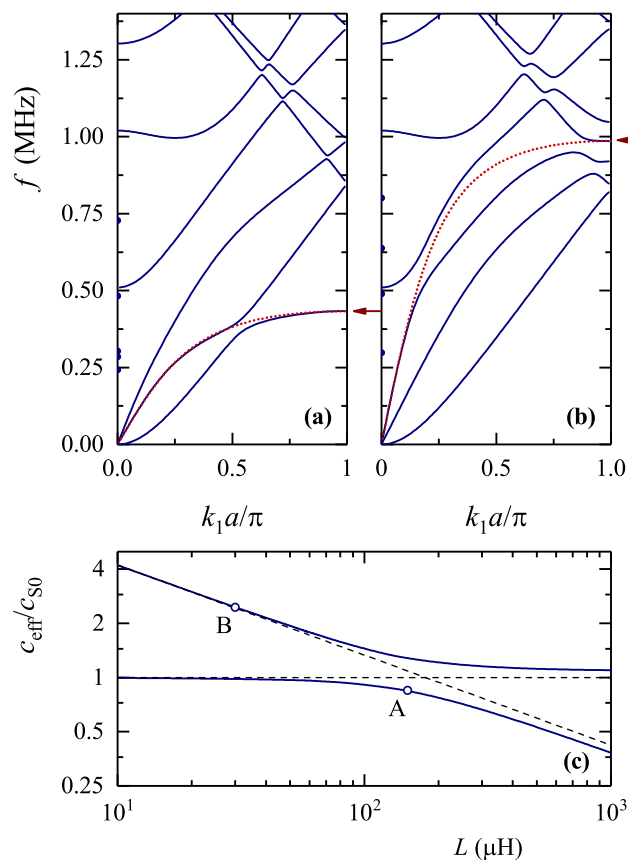


FIG. 8. Calculated frequency band structure for a monoatomic crystal of lattice constant $a = a_0$ whose unit cell is depicted in Fig. 3(c) with (a) $L = 150 \mu\text{H}$ and (b) $L = 30 \mu\text{H}$. The dotted red lines represent an estimate of the unhybridized L -induced band, applying Eq. (A3) for appropriate values of the parameters C , C_s (see text), with starting parameters $\omega_\pi / (2\pi)$ (indicated by red arrows) and the long-wavelength slope, c_{eff} , of this frequency branch. (c) Evolution of the slope of the two linear branches at $\omega \rightarrow 0$ for several values of the inductance load L . Horizontal and oblique dashed lines represent, respectively, the effective medium slope of the S_0 branch of the corresponding grounded crystal and the L -induced branch from Eq. (A3) calculated for C , C_s determined for $L = 10 \mu\text{H}$. Points A and B correspond to the L -induced bands (red dotted curves) of plots (a) and (b), respectively.

545 branches emerging at the same frequency range. The gen-
 546 eral form of that L -induced branch when the piezoelectric
 547 coupling is switched off ($e_{ij} = 0$) follows the schematic
 548 representation given in the right plot of Fig. 3(c) and
 549 is described by the relation (A3) for some appropriate
 550 values C , C_s in an equivalent periodic transmission line
 551 picture. The slope, c_{eff} , of this L -branch is tuned via
 552 the choice of L , and covers a wide range of effective
 553 medium velocities not easily encountered in ordinary mat-
 554 erials. The equivalent transmission line model presented
 555 in Appendix A predicts a scaling $\sim L^{-1/2}$ for given (L -
 556 independent) C and C_s values (we find $C = 0.645 \text{ nF}$ and
 557 $C_s = 0.593 \text{ nF}$, for the crystal under study). When this

558 coupling is switched on ($e_{ij} \neq 0$), as it should be in a real
 559 system, the L -induced band interacts with the same sym-
 560 metry bands of Lamb eigenmodes and generates avoided-
 561 crossing effects. To facilitate its visualization before hy-
 562 bridization, we apply the same relation [Eq. (A3), with
 563 different values of C , C_s , reflecting all coupling effects] to
 564 model its unhybridized form, represented in Fig. 8(a) and
 565 (b) by red dotted lines: after a careful reading of these
 566 dispersion plots, we identify the two starting parameters,
 567 ω_π (indicated by a red arrow), and, c_{eff} , the effective-
 568 medium slope of this branch at the long-wavelength limit,
 569 used to deduce the internal model capacitance paramet-
 570 ers ($C = 0.737 \text{ nF}$ and $C_s = 0.868 \text{ nF}$, for $L = 30 \mu\text{H}$;
 571 $C = 1.413 \text{ nF}$ and $C_s = 0.900 \text{ nF}$, for $L = 150 \mu\text{H}$).

572 For the case of $L = 150 \mu\text{H}$ [Fig. 8(a)], the L -
 573 band with $c_{\text{eff}} = 2560 \text{ m s}^{-1}$ interacts weakly with the
 574 A_0 -like branch, and a small avoided-crossing occurs at
 575 about 0.375 MHz; the other linear, S_0 -like, branch has
 576 $c_{\text{eff}} = 3850 \text{ m s}^{-1}$, which is higher than the correspond-
 577 ing value in a grounded crystal, $c_{S_0} = 3020 \text{ m s}^{-1}$. For
 578 the case of $L = 30 \mu\text{H}$ [Fig. 8(b)], the L -band with
 579 $c_{\text{eff}} = 7400 \text{ m s}^{-1}$ interacts weakly with the A_1 -like
 580 branch as well as with the first folded A_0 -like branch,
 581 giving rise to relatively larger avoided crossings, occur-
 582 ring, respectively, at about 0.50 MHz and 0.95 MHz;
 583 the other linear, S_0 -like, branch has $c_{\text{eff}} = 2970 \text{ m s}^{-1}$,
 584 which is lower than c_{S_0} . The above suggest a possible
 585 interaction with the S_0 -like branch when the two modes
 586 are close enough. In Fig. 8(c) we plot the evolution of
 587 the slope at the long-wavelength limit, for several val-
 588 ues of the inductance covering a large range spanning
 589 over two orders of magnitude, of both linear branches
 590 of a typical dispersion plot as those shown in Fig. 8(a)
 591 and (b). One clearly observes a hybridization between
 592 two distinct modes: the S_0 -like mode, represented by the
 593 horizontal dashed line, and the L -induced mode, repre-
 594 sented by the oblique dashed line that corresponds to
 595 the $\sim L^{-1/2}$ scaling rule calculated at $L = 10 \mu\text{H}$ (for
 596 $C / [1 + C / (4C_s)] = 0.618 \text{ nF}$), far away from the crossing
 597 point that occurs in the vicinity of $L = 150 \mu\text{H}$. For this
 598 value of L , a high-degree hybridization takes place, both
 599 linear-dispersion modes carry both the S_0 and L -induced
 600 character, the point A corresponding to the L -induced
 601 band. On the contrary, for $L = 30 \mu\text{H}$ point B, that
 602 corresponds to the L -induced band, conserves mainly its
 603 L -induced character.

604 We turn now our attention to the comparison with
 605 experimental results. As previously, the Z_e load will
 606 be considered instead of the idealized Z_L in the cal-
 607 culations. We measured the potential signal along the
 608 $n = 2, 3, \dots, 48$ electrode positions located at the up-
 609 per side of the plate, and after application of the AR2D
 610 model, we obtain the experimental $V(\omega, k_1)$ whose am-
 611 plitude is shown in Fig. 9(a) that compares well with the
 612 calculated frequency band structure including the real
 613 load Z_e , in Fig. 9(b).

614 The linear-slope, effective-medium branch of EM ori-
 615 gin, clearly observed in the experiments, is perfectly re-

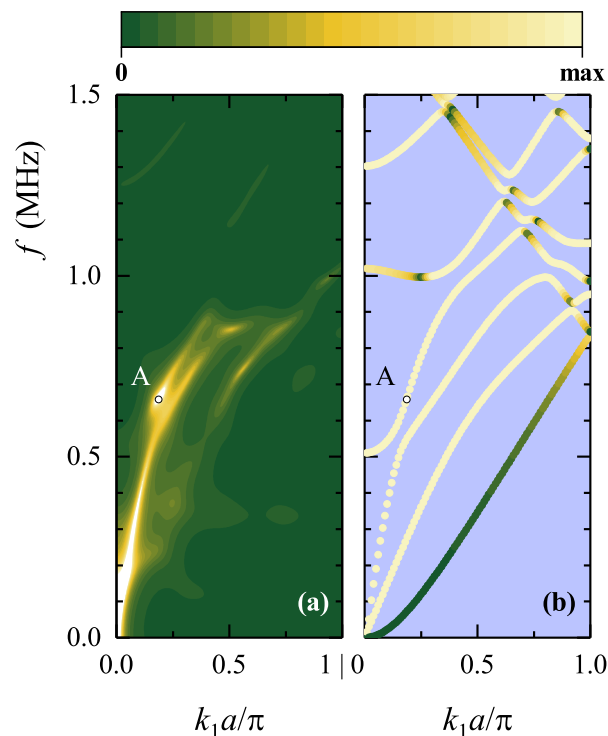


FIG. 9. (a) Experimental and (b) calculated frequency band structure for the monoatomic crystal of lattice constant $a = a_0$ whose unit cell is depicted in Fig. 3(c), loaded with impedance Z_e [Eq. (B1)]. In (b) the dispersion lines are color-indexed with the projection of the potential value averaged in the upper-side electrode of the unit cell.

616 produced in the calculations. The same holds for the
 617 bright part of the A_1 -like branch [see point A in Fig. 9(a)],
 618 though the latter is not discernible experimentally close
 619 to its cut-off frequency at ~ 0.5 MHz (this was also
 620 the case for the crystals presented in Sec. III A and
 621 III B). The S_0 -like branch is also observed experimen-
 622 tally, though with lower amplitude than predicted in the
 623 theoretical calculation. We note that the latter fails to
 624 capture the degree of repulsion of the trajectories in the
 625 vicinity of point A and for frequencies above it (this
 626 avoiding is predicted to be larger than experimentally
 627 observed). We close this part by a general remark con-
 628 cerning the A_0 -like branch which is not observed (apart
 629 some slightly visible parts close to X point), since the po-
 630 tential takes very low values along it, in all cases studied
 631 here, in perfect agreement with our numerical calcula-
 632 tions.

633 IV. CONCLUSIONS

634
 635 In conclusion, we have presented a thorough analy-
 636 sis of the dispersion properties of piezoelectric phononic
 637 plates, structured with metallic arrays on their surfaces

638 and loaded with inductive circuits. These structures,
 639 studied experimentally and theoretically, exhibit a va-
 640 riety of localized and/or extended in frequency modes
 641 that originate from an electric circuit behavior related to
 642 the inductive loads and span the low, intermediate, or
 643 high frequency range in a typical dispersion plot. This
 644 low-pass, band-pass, and high-pass behavior that mani-
 645 fests itself as an important potential variation along these
 646 trajectories, combined to the automatized, controllable
 647 character of our experimental device, constitute a power-
 648 ful tool for applications targeting real-time manipulation
 649 of elastic waves via EM waves and vice-versa. We demon-
 650 strate the appearance of unusual, high-valued, positive or
 651 negative group-velocity branches, not encountered in typ-
 652 ical Lamb-like dispersion plots of phononic plates, easily
 653 tuned via the external inductive loads.

654 Our experimental results, enhanced by non-ordinary,
 655 high-resolution signal processing techniques, are in ac-
 656 cordance with the theoretical predictions —despite some
 657 isolated discrepancies; they confirm the basic underlying
 658 mechanisms analyzed in this paper and the main phe-
 659 nomenological aspects that interest us for applications, our
 660 aim being among others the realization of viable, simple
 661 devices that can operate under real conditions and pro-
 662 duce the desired effects in the modulation of the disper-
 663 sion properties of these crystals. Nevertheless, although
 664 its very application-oriented aspect at a first sight, this
 665 study councils *per se* an important physical insight.

666 DATA AVAILABILITY STATEMENT

667 The data that support the findings of this study are
 668 available from the corresponding author upon reasonable
 669 request.

670 Appendix A: Equivalent electric circuits

671 A piezoceramic plate with metallized surfaces can be
 672 effectively described by an equivalent capacitor. When
 673 metallic strips are structured periodically on its both sur-
 674 faces, we can use an equivalent picture of a periodic trans-
 675 mission line whose unit cell coincides with the unit cell of
 676 the real structure. We give in what follows the electric-
 677 circuit models that correspond to such a description for
 678 the cases studied in this paper.

679 1. Two-atom grounded- L crystal

680 The equivalent circuit that models the two electric res-
 681 onators shown in Fig. 3(a) when the piezoelectric cou-
 682 pling is switched off is depicted in Fig. 10(a). We define
 683 all voltages in the input, V_{A_j} , and output, $V_{B_j} = \mathcal{P}V_{A_j}$,
 684 of the unit cell with respect to a common ground refer-
 685 ence, where $j = 1, 2$, and $\mathcal{P} = e^{-ik_1 a}$ is the Bloch phase
 686 factor (we assume an $e^{+i\omega t}$ time dependance in all fields);

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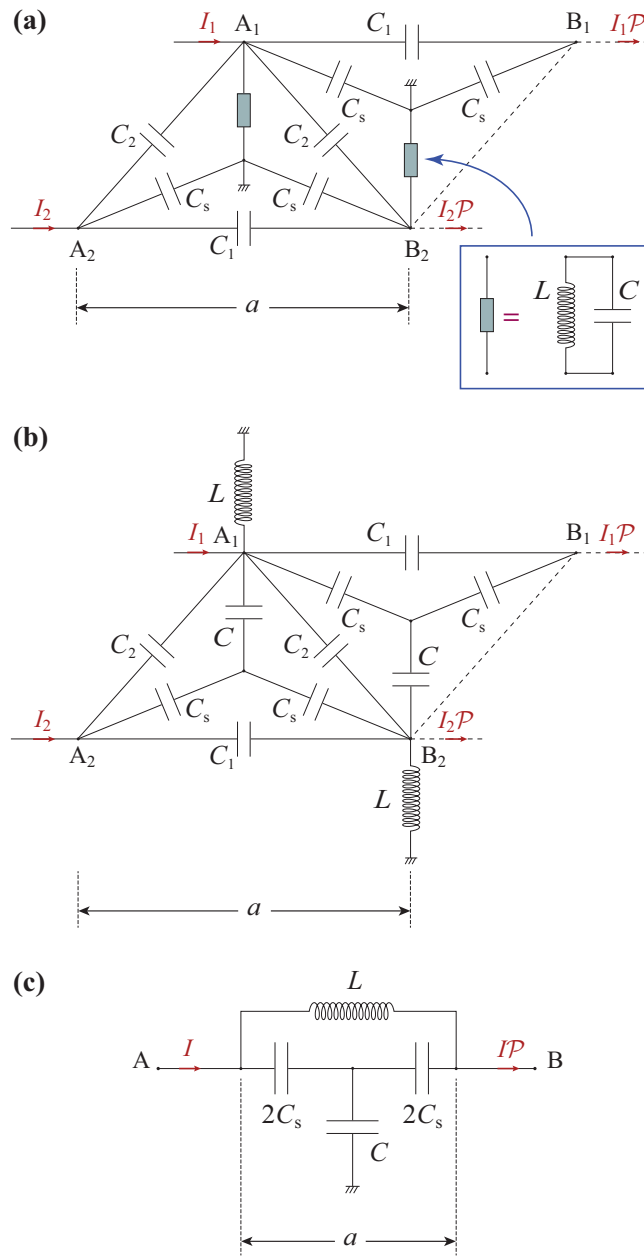


FIG. 10. The unit cell of a periodic transmission line describing equivalently (a) the two-atom grounded- L crystal [Fig. 3(a)], (b) the two-atom floating-potential- L crystal [Fig. 3(b)], and (c) the intercellular- L crystal [Fig. 3(c)], when electromechanical coupling is switched off.

687 the incoming and outgoing electric currents are respectively I_j and $\mathcal{P}I_j$. Application of Kirchhoff's current and
688 voltage laws leads to a secular equation depending only
689 on \mathcal{P} and the set of unit-cell impedances. We thus obtain
690 the following dispersion equation for the two electric
691 resonant bands
692

$$\omega^\pm(k_1) = \left[LC \left(1 + 2 \frac{C_s + C_1 + C_2}{C} \right) \right. \quad (\text{A1})$$

$$\left. - 2 \frac{C_1}{C} \cos k_1 a \mp 2 \frac{C_2}{C} \cos \frac{k_1 a}{2} \right]^{-1/2}.$$

693 At Γ point (center of the BZ) the two distinct eigen-
694 frequencies are $\omega_0^+ = [LC(1 + 2\frac{C_s}{C})]^{-1/2}$ and $\omega_0^- =$
695 $[LC(1 + 2\frac{C_s + 2C_2}{C})]^{-1/2}$, corresponding to a *bonding* and
696 an *antibonding* mode; at X point (edges of the BZ) a
697 double degenerate eigenfrequency is found to be $\omega_\pi =$
698 $[LC(1 + 2\frac{C_s + 2C_1 + C_2}{C})]^{-1/2}$. The width $\Delta\omega^\pm = |\omega_0^\pm -$
699 $\omega_\pi|$ of these cos-like resonant bands is finite, and controlled
700 by L and the internal effective parameters of the model
701 C, C_s, C_1 and C_2 . We note that these capacitors
702 do not correspond to real electronic elements in our device,
703 but they describe its equivalent behavior. C and C_s
704 account for a capacitive effect between electrodes located
705 at the two opposite sides (i.e., along x_3 -direction) and at
706 the same side (i.e., along x_1 -direction) of the plate, respectively.
707 C_1 and C_2 describe the capacitive interaction
708 between electrodes of the same side at distance $a = 2a_0$
709 and between electrodes at the opposite sides at distance
710 $R = \sqrt{a_0^2 + h^2}$, respectively, in one-to-one analogy with
711 the overlapping coefficients γ_1, γ_2 of the tight-binding
712 model.

713 2. Two-atom floating-potential- L crystal

714 For the case of the two-atom crystal with an alternation
715 of floating-potential EBCs and inductance loads —
716 its unit cell is given in Fig. 3(b)— we proceed in a similar
717 manner to construct its equivalent circuit [see Fig. 10(b)]
718 that models the two electric resonators. Using the same
719 steps as for the previous case, we obtain, after a relatively
720 lengthy but straightforward algebra, the following
721 dispersion equation for the two electric bands

$$\omega^\pm(k_1) = \left\{ 2LC \left[\frac{C_1 + 2C_2}{C} + \frac{C_s}{C} \frac{2C + C_s}{C + 2C_s} \right. \quad (\text{A2}) \right.$$

$$\left. - \left(\frac{C_1}{C} + \frac{C_s}{C} \frac{C_s}{C + 2C_s} \right) \cos k_1 a \right.$$

$$\left. \mp 2 \left(\frac{C_2}{C} + \frac{C_s}{C + 2C_s} \right) \cos \frac{k_1 a}{2} \right\}^{-1/2}.$$

722 At Γ point two distinct eigensolutions are found, one fi-
723 nite $\omega_0^- = [8LC_2(1 + \frac{C}{C_2} \frac{C_s}{2C_s + C})]^{-1/2}$ and one diverg-
724 ing as $\omega_0^+ \sim [LC_1(1 + \frac{C_s}{C_1} \frac{C_s}{2C_s + C})]^{-1/2} (k_1 a)^{-1}$. The
725 higher frequency branch $\omega^+(k_1)$ behaves as an hyper-
726 bolic function for $k_1 a \ll 1$, while the lower frequency
727 branch $\omega^-(k_1)$ corresponds to a cos-like resonant band
728 of finite width $\Delta\omega^- = |\omega_0^- - \omega_\pi|$, where ω_π is the com-
729 mon, double degenerate eigenfrequency at X point, found
730 to be $\omega_\pi = [4L(C_1 + C_2 + C_s \frac{C + C_s}{C + 2C_s})]^{-1/2}$. The form
731 of these two dispersive modes is still controlled by L and
732 the internal effective parameters of the model C, C_s, C_1

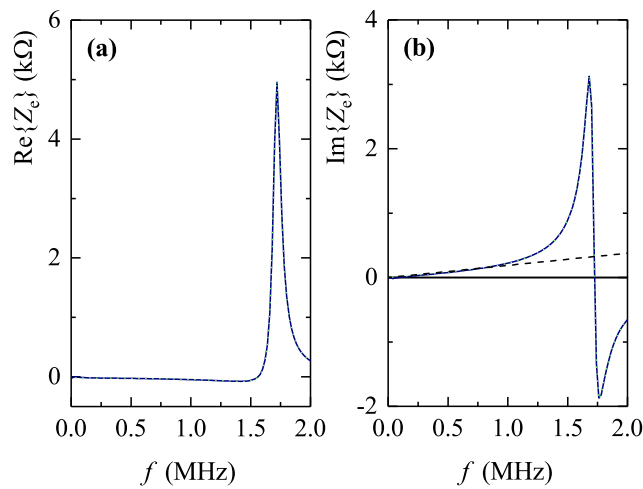


FIG. 11. Real (a) and imaginary (b) part of the impedance load Z_e used in the external circuits of Fig. 3. Solid and dotted lines represent the real (measured) and modeled [Eq. (B1)] function, respectively; in (b) the impedance of a pure inductance $L = 30 \mu\text{H}$ is also shown (broken line) for comparison.

733 and C_2 , whose physical meaning is the same as that for
734 the grounded- L crystal.

735 3. Intercellular- L crystal

736 The unit cell of Fig. 3(c) is modeled by the periodic
737 transmission line whose unit cell is shown in Fig. 10(c).
738 We easily obtain the following dispersion relation

$$\begin{aligned} \omega(k_1) &= \omega_0 \left[\frac{C}{4C_s} + \left(2 \sin \frac{k_1 a}{2} \right)^{-2} \right]^{-1/2}, \\ \omega_0 &= \left[\frac{1}{LC} \left(1 + \frac{C}{4C_s} \right) \right]^{1/2} \end{aligned} \quad (\text{A3})$$

739 from which one can immediately deduce the angular fre-
740 quency at X point, $\omega_\pi = \frac{1}{\sqrt{LC_s}}$, and the effective medium
741 velocity at the long wavelength limit $c_{\text{eff}} = \lim_{k_1 \rightarrow 0} \frac{\omega}{k_1} =$
742 $a\omega_0$. In this simplified but still quite accurate model,
743 knowledge of two external parameters, e.g. ω_π and ω_0
744 (or, equivalently, c_{eff}), is sufficient to determine the in-
745 ternal model parameters, C and C_s .

746 Appendix B: Impedance-load function

747 The external impedance load is ideally assumed to be
748 an inductance L connected to the metallic strips, as de-
749 tailed in Fig. 3. However, in practice, the real compo-
750 nent, used in our experiments, has not a pure inductive
751 behavior; other contributions have to be taken into ac-
752 count, related to several internal circuitry parts of re-
753 sistive and/or capacitive type of this component. The
754 measured impedance Z_e of our individual component — a

755 representative one, extracted from the crystal— is plot-
756 ted in Fig. 11 against frequency, f , and both its real and
757 imaginary parts [plots (a) and (b), respectively] show a
758 resonant behavior at about 1.71 MHz. Within the fre-
759 quency range that interest us here (up to 2 MHz) this
760 function can be in a very good approximation described
761 by the following rational expression

$$\begin{aligned} Z_e &= \frac{\alpha_4 f^4 + \alpha_3 f^3 + \alpha_2 f^2 + \alpha_1 f + \alpha_0}{f^2 + \beta_1 f + \beta_0} \quad (\text{B1}) \\ &= \gamma_0 + \gamma_1 f + \gamma_2 f^2 + \frac{\delta_+}{f - f_+} + \frac{\delta_-}{f - f_-} \end{aligned}$$

762 where f is expressed in MHz in the above expressions,
763 and α_n and β_n are appropriate complex coefficients ob-
764 tained by a fitting procedure

$$\begin{aligned} \alpha_4 &= -5.15566 - i5.18013 \times 10^{-14}, \quad (\text{B2}) \\ \alpha_3 &= -6.96706 \times 10^{-14} + i22.0970, \\ \alpha_2 &= 52.4644 + i4.78721 \times 10^{-13}, \\ \alpha_1 &= 4.56112 \times 10^{-13} - i452.779, \\ \alpha_0 &= 56.4767 - i7.41831 \times 10^{-13}, \\ \beta_1 &= -7.61040 \times 10^{-17} - i0.0790166, \\ \beta_0 &= -2.94215 + i8.96296 \times 10^{-18}, \end{aligned}$$

765 and

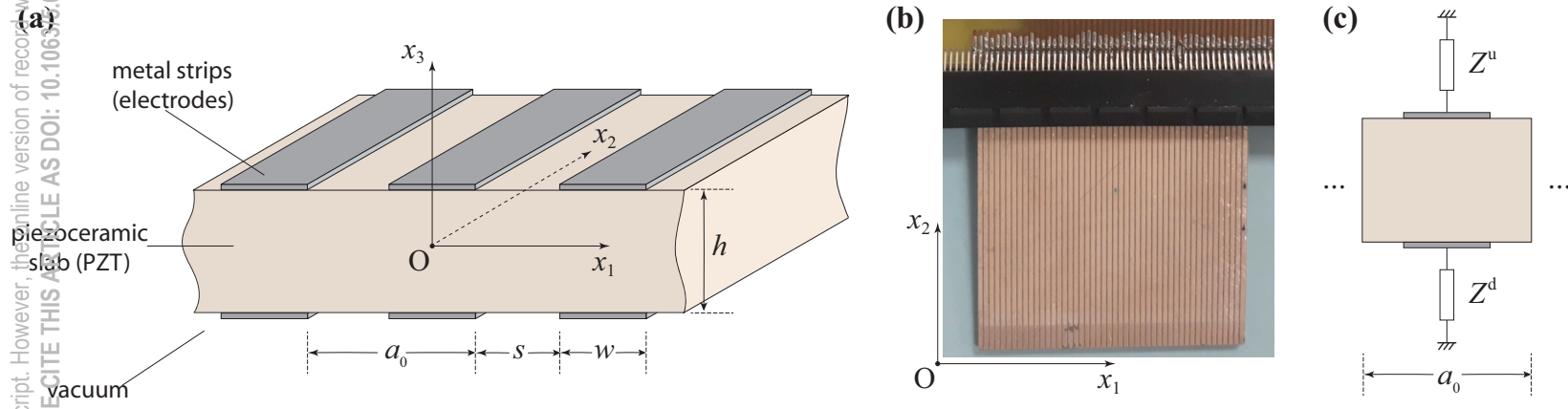
$$\begin{aligned} \gamma_0 &= \alpha_2 - \alpha_3 \beta_1 + \alpha_4 (\beta_1^2 - \beta_0) \quad (\text{B3}) \\ &= 35.5818 + i3.22798 \times 10^{-13}, \\ \gamma_1 &= \alpha_3 - \alpha_4 \beta_1 \\ &= -6.59699 \times 10^{-14} + i21.6896, \\ \gamma_2 &= \alpha_4, \\ \delta_\pm &= \pm 51.4400 - i193.077, \\ f_\pm &= \frac{1}{2} \left(-\beta_1 \pm \sqrt{\beta_1^2 - 4\beta_0} \right) \\ &= \pm 1.71481 + i0.0395083. \end{aligned}$$

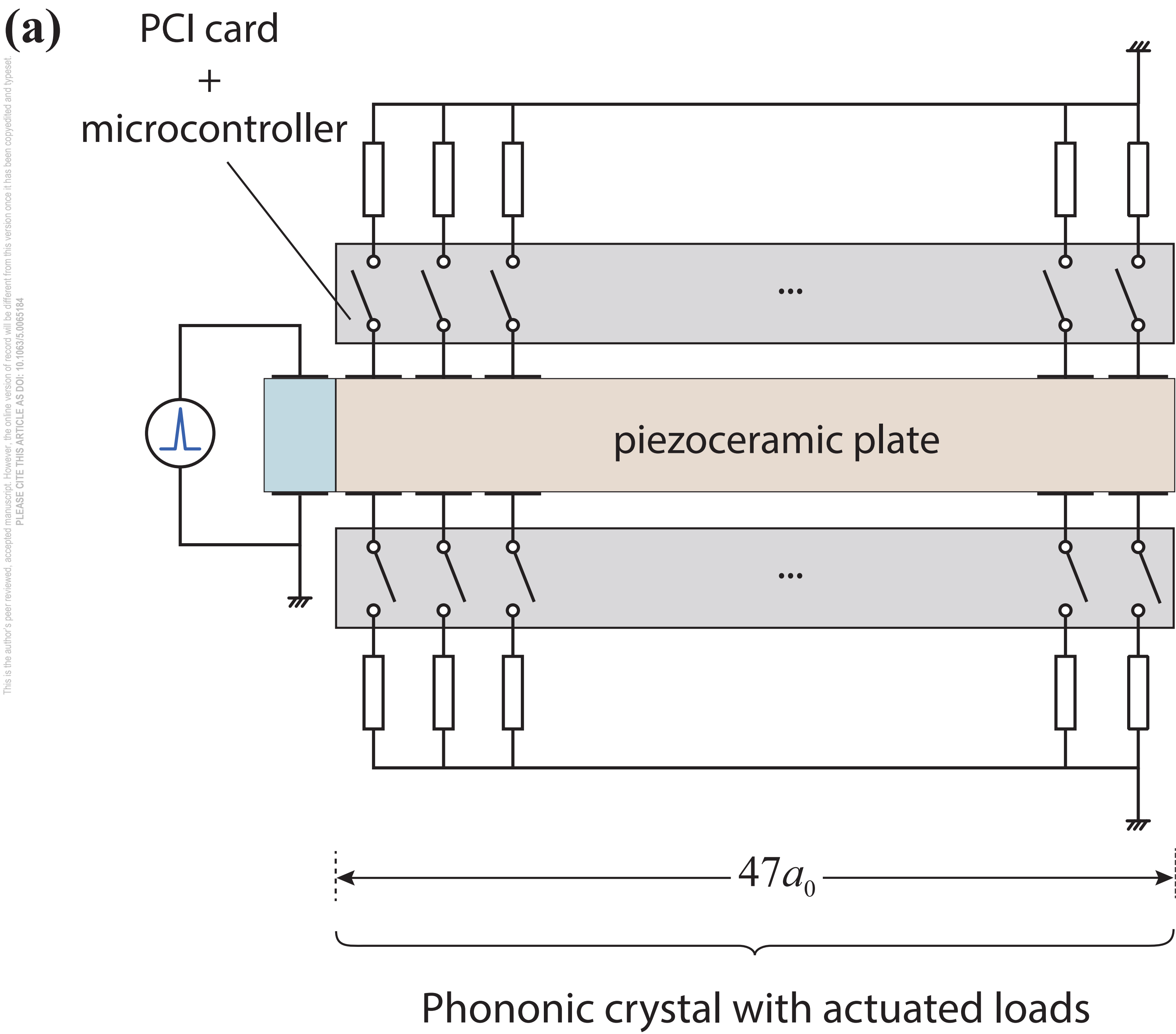
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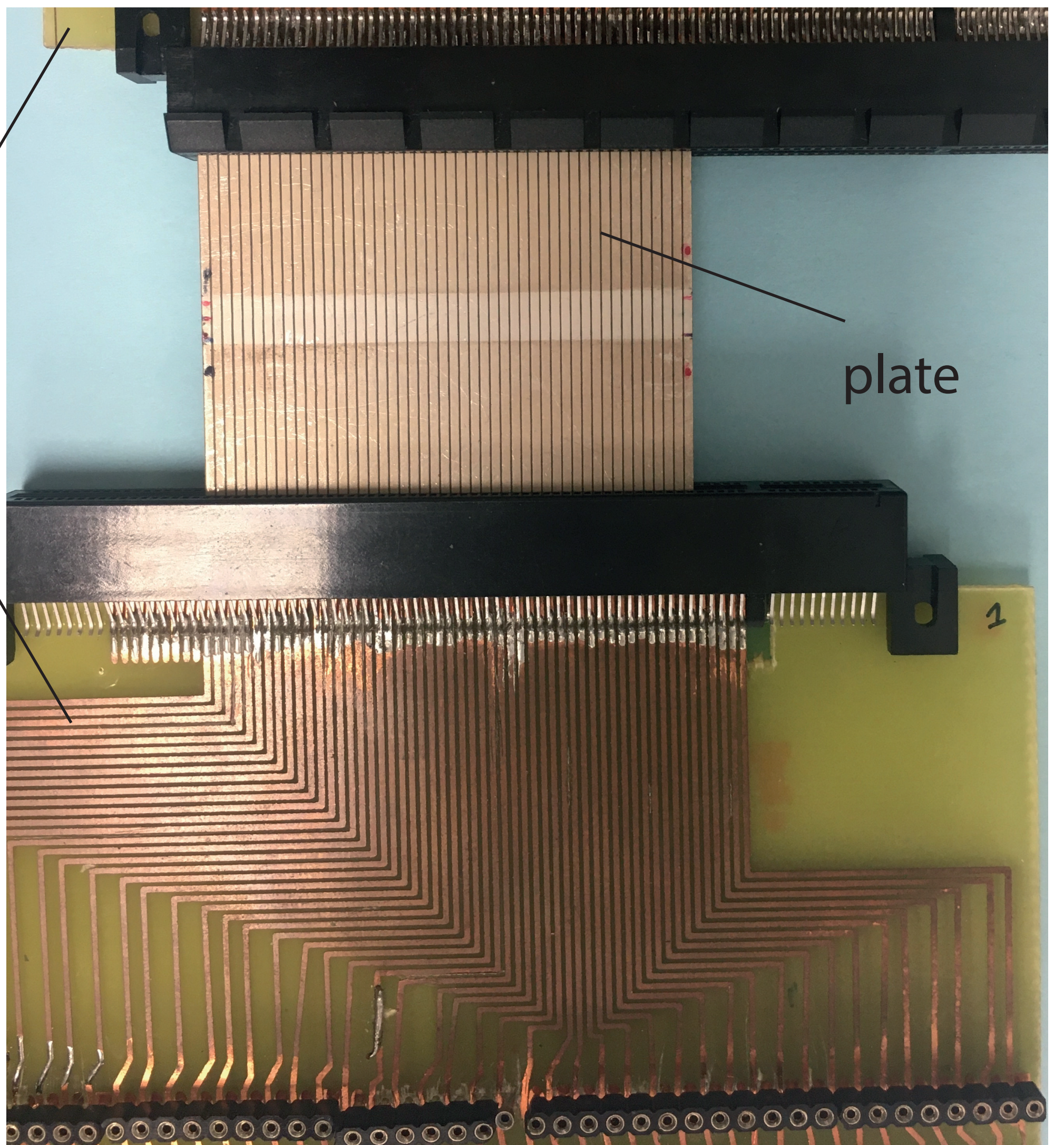
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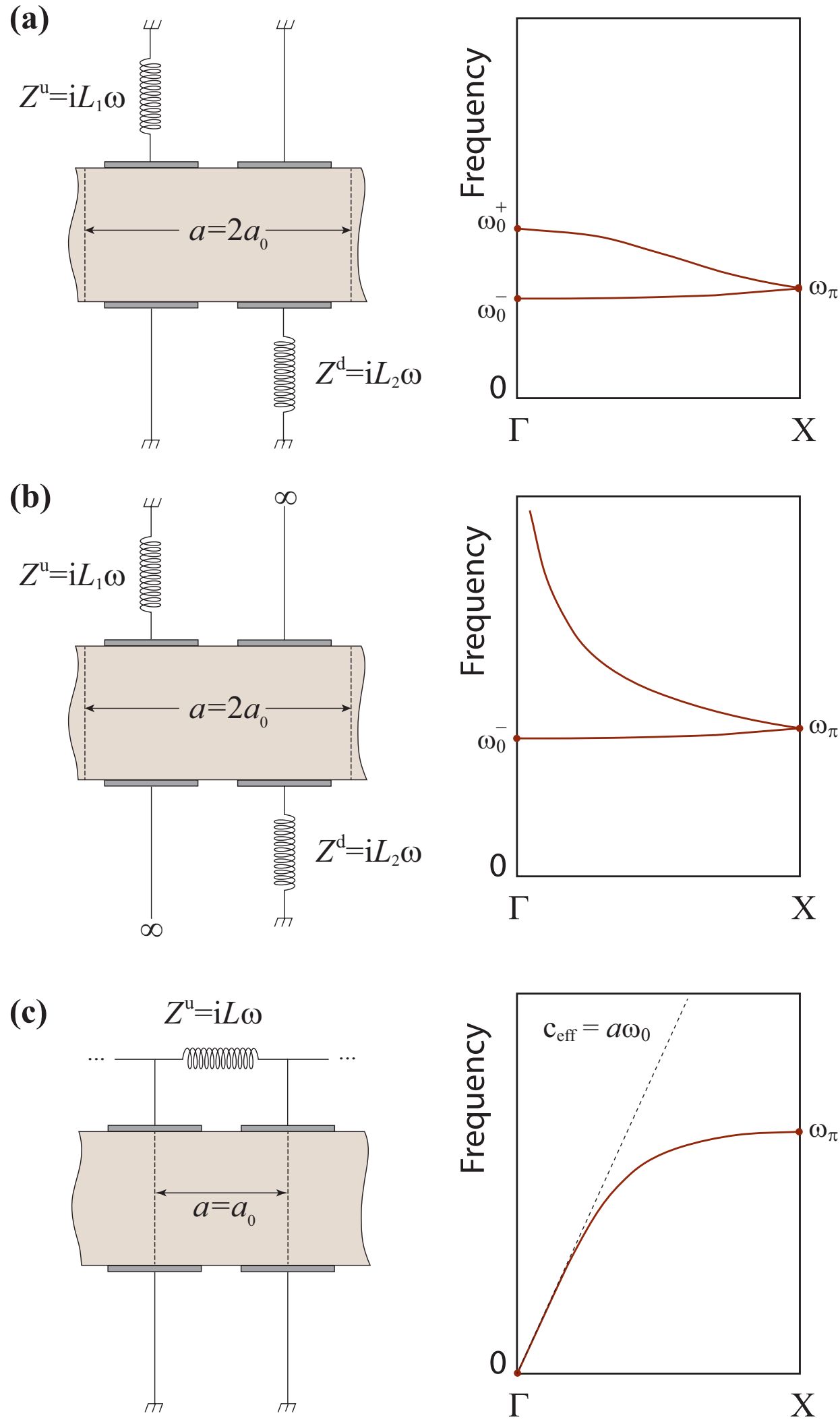
**(b)**

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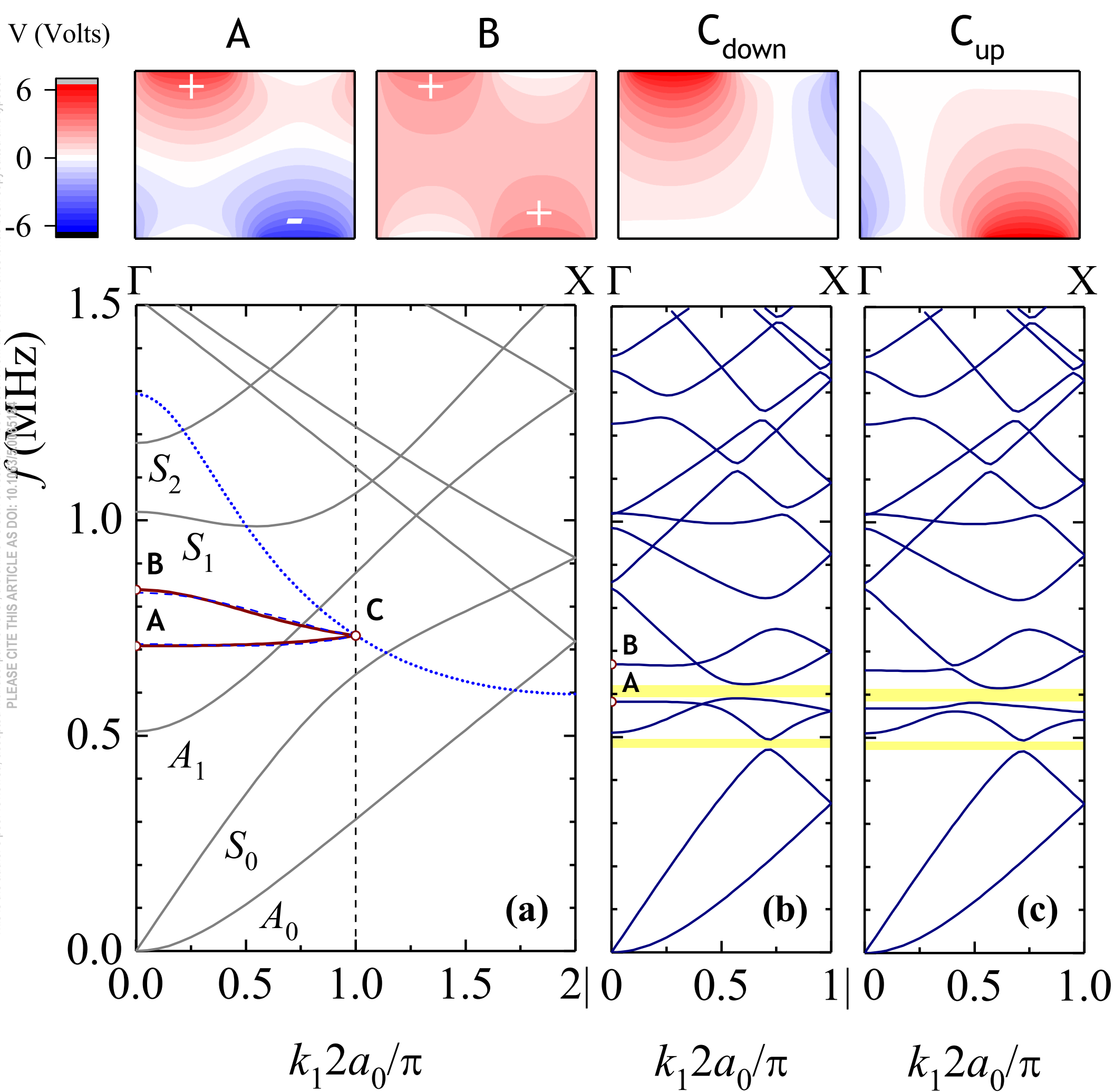
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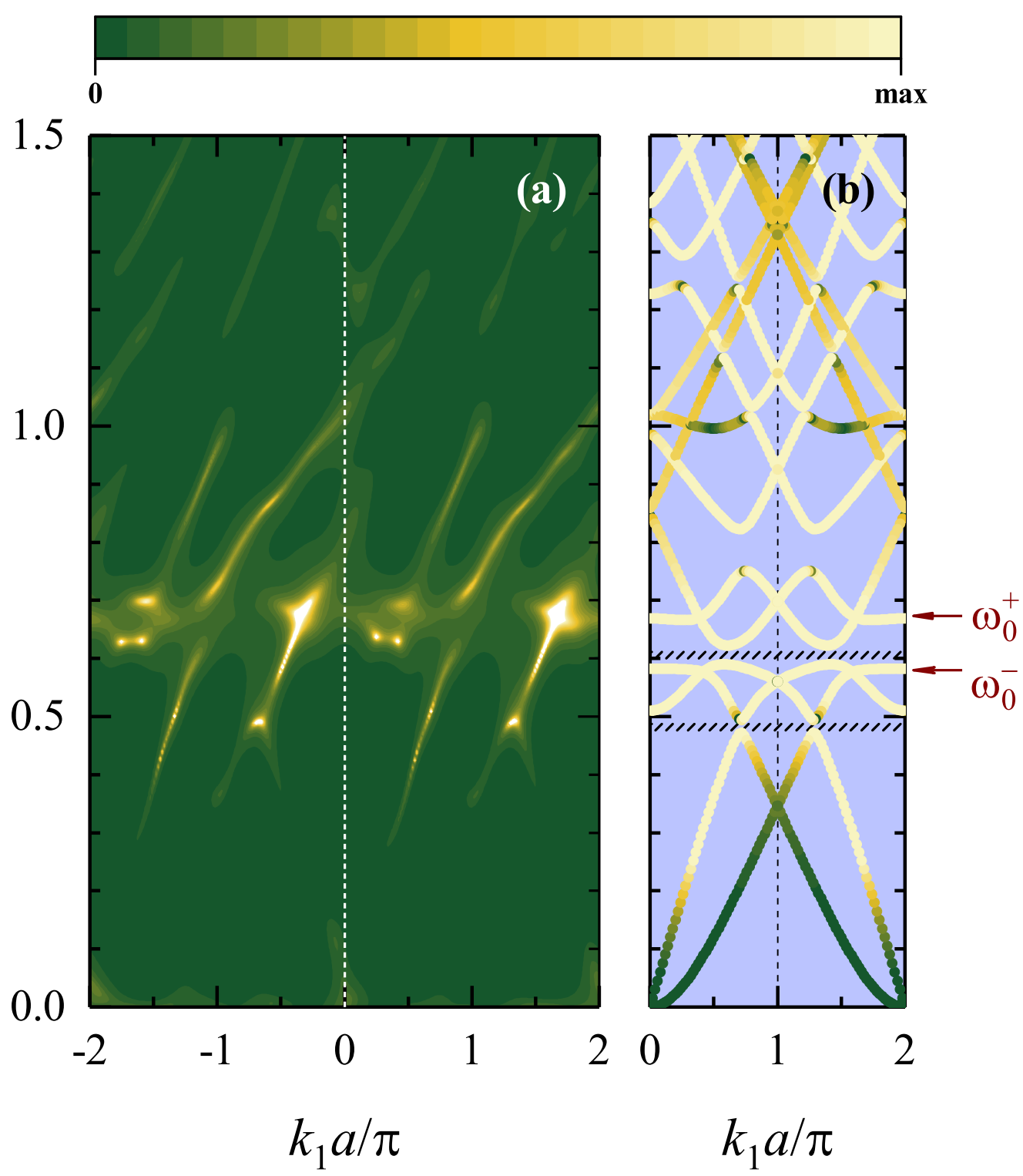
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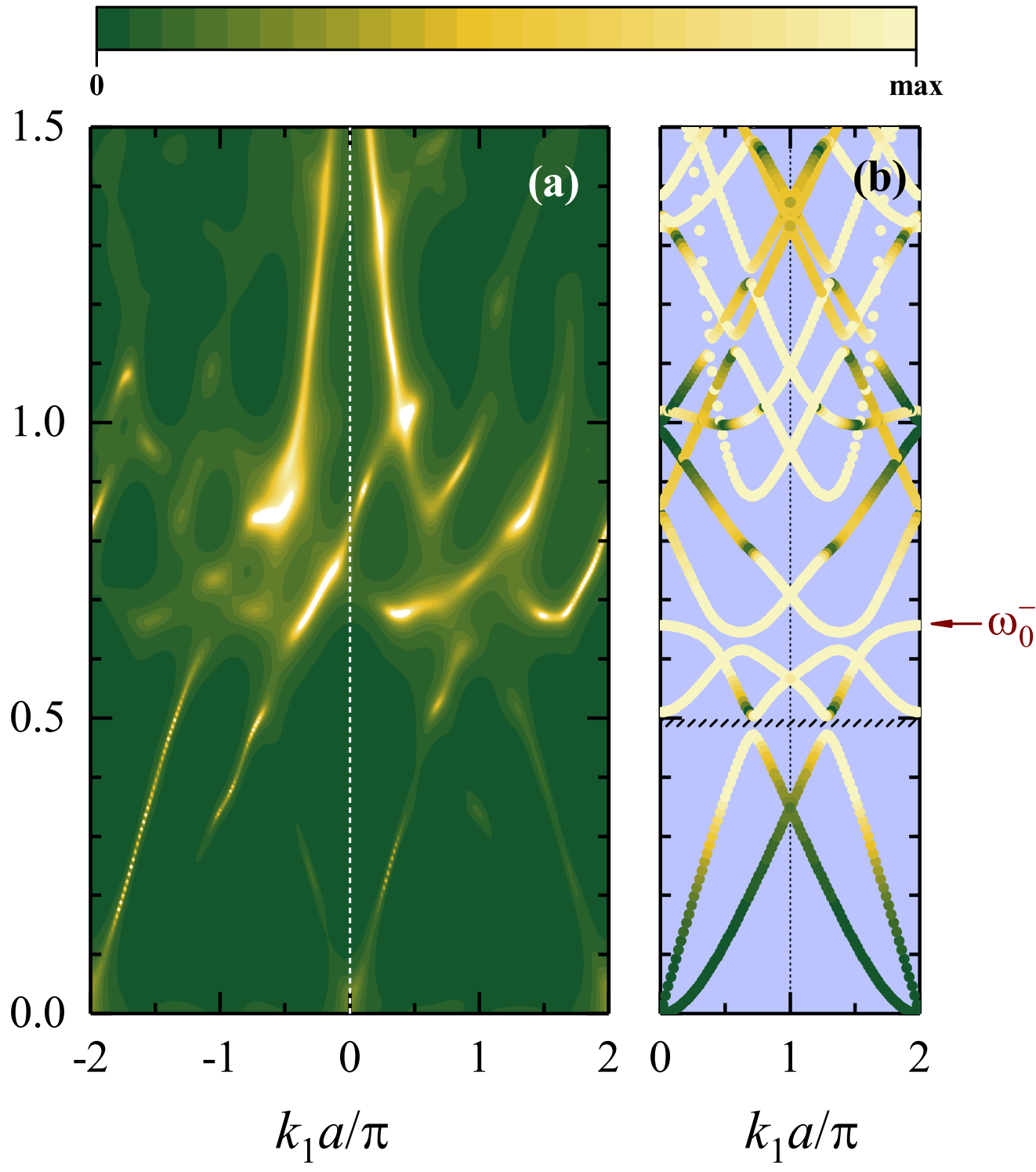


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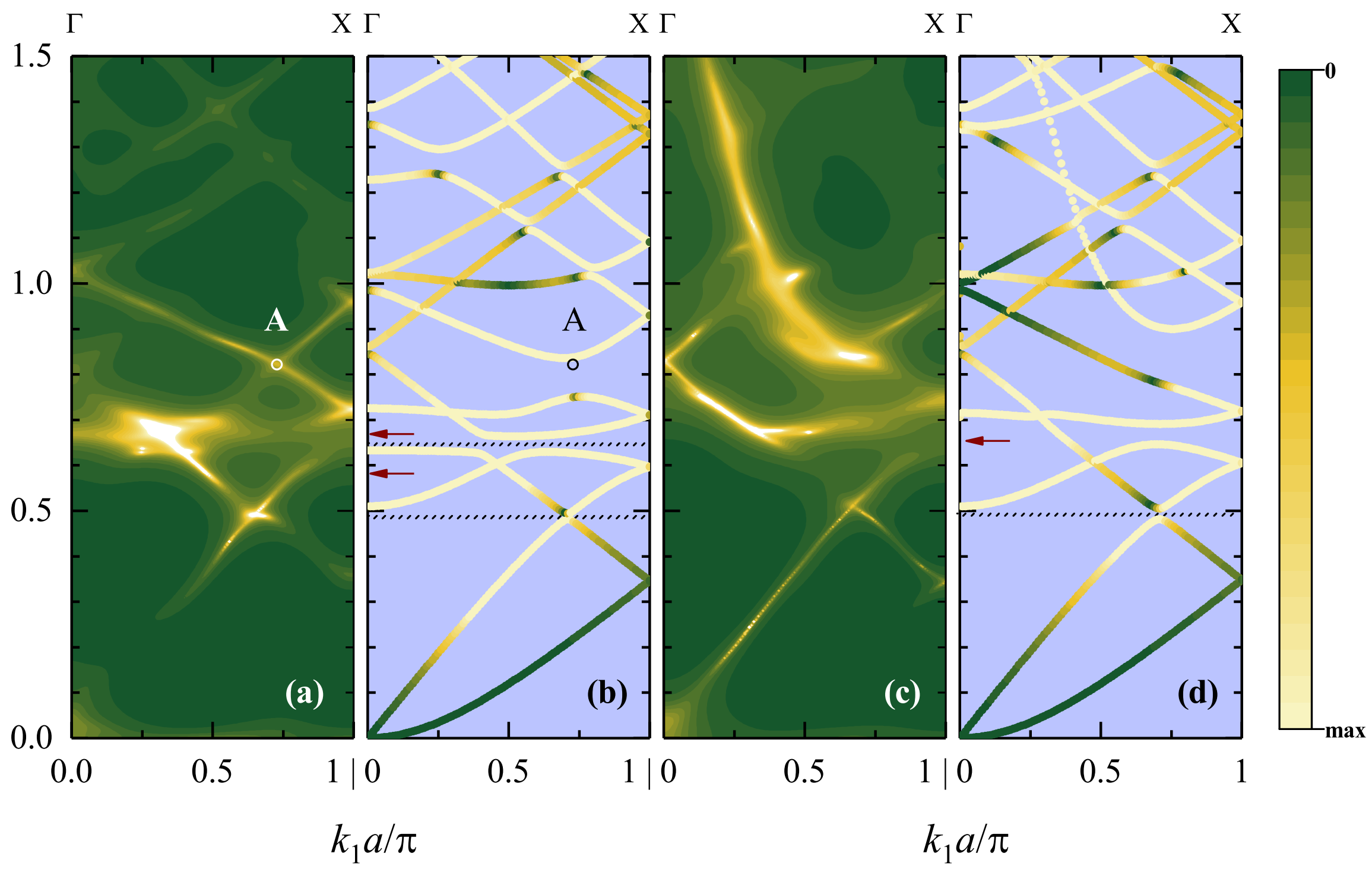


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f (MHz)



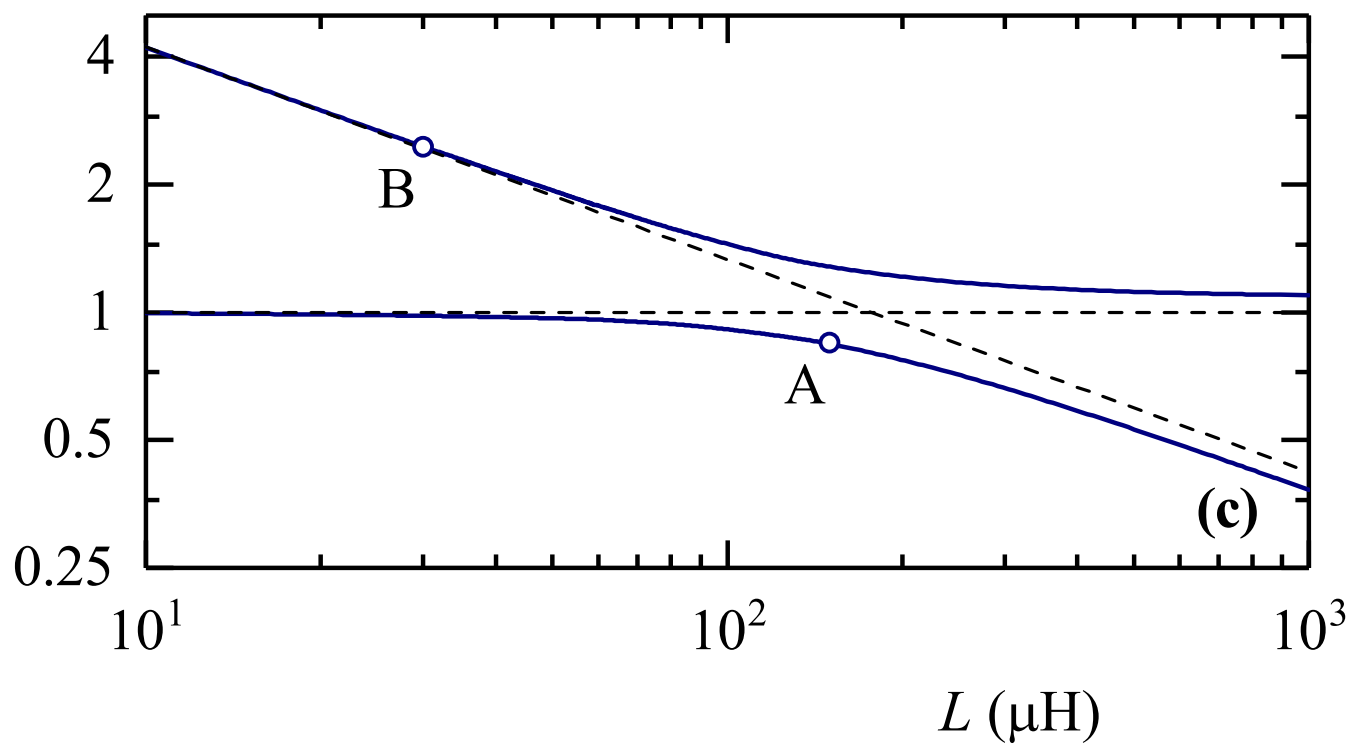
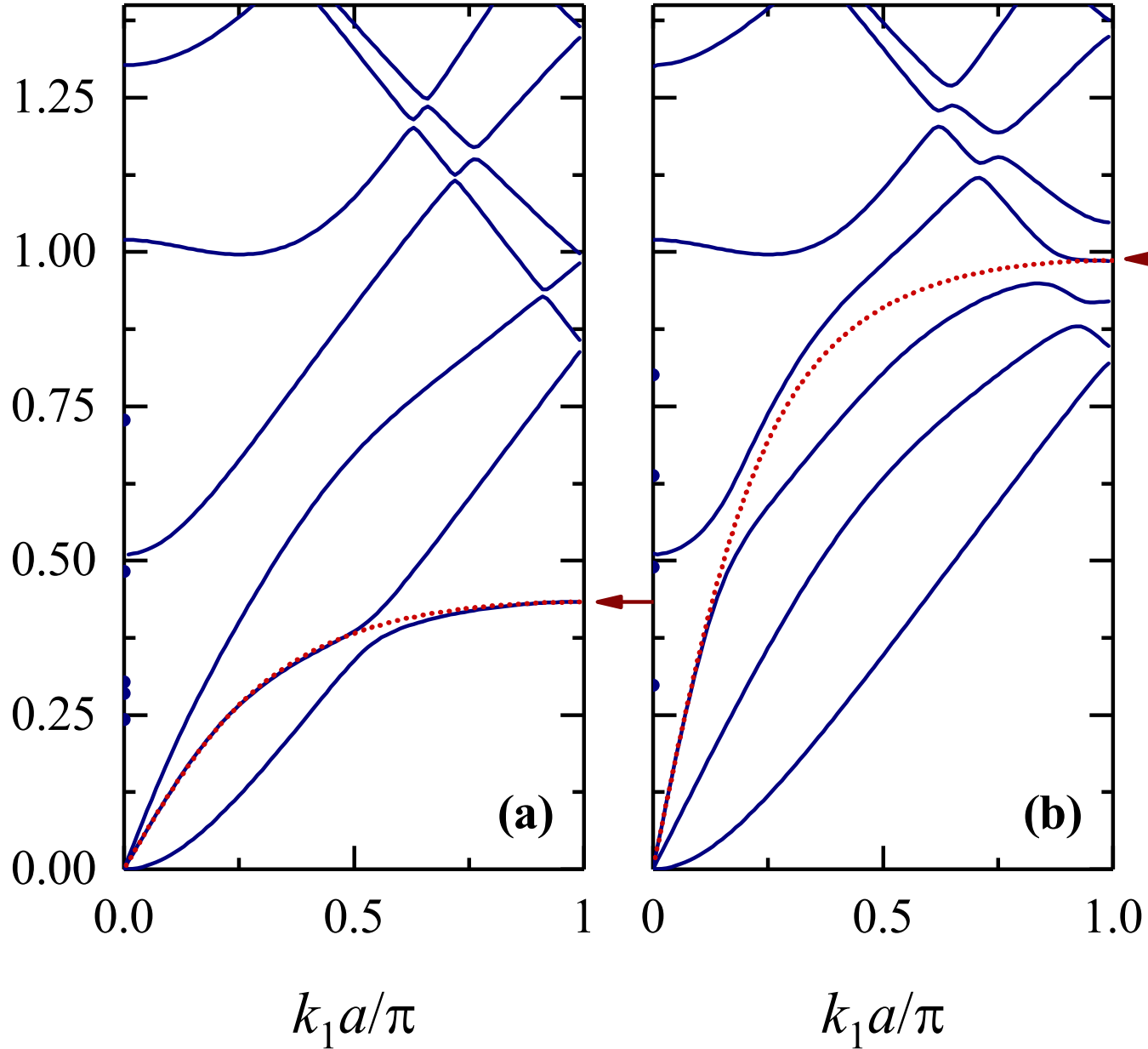
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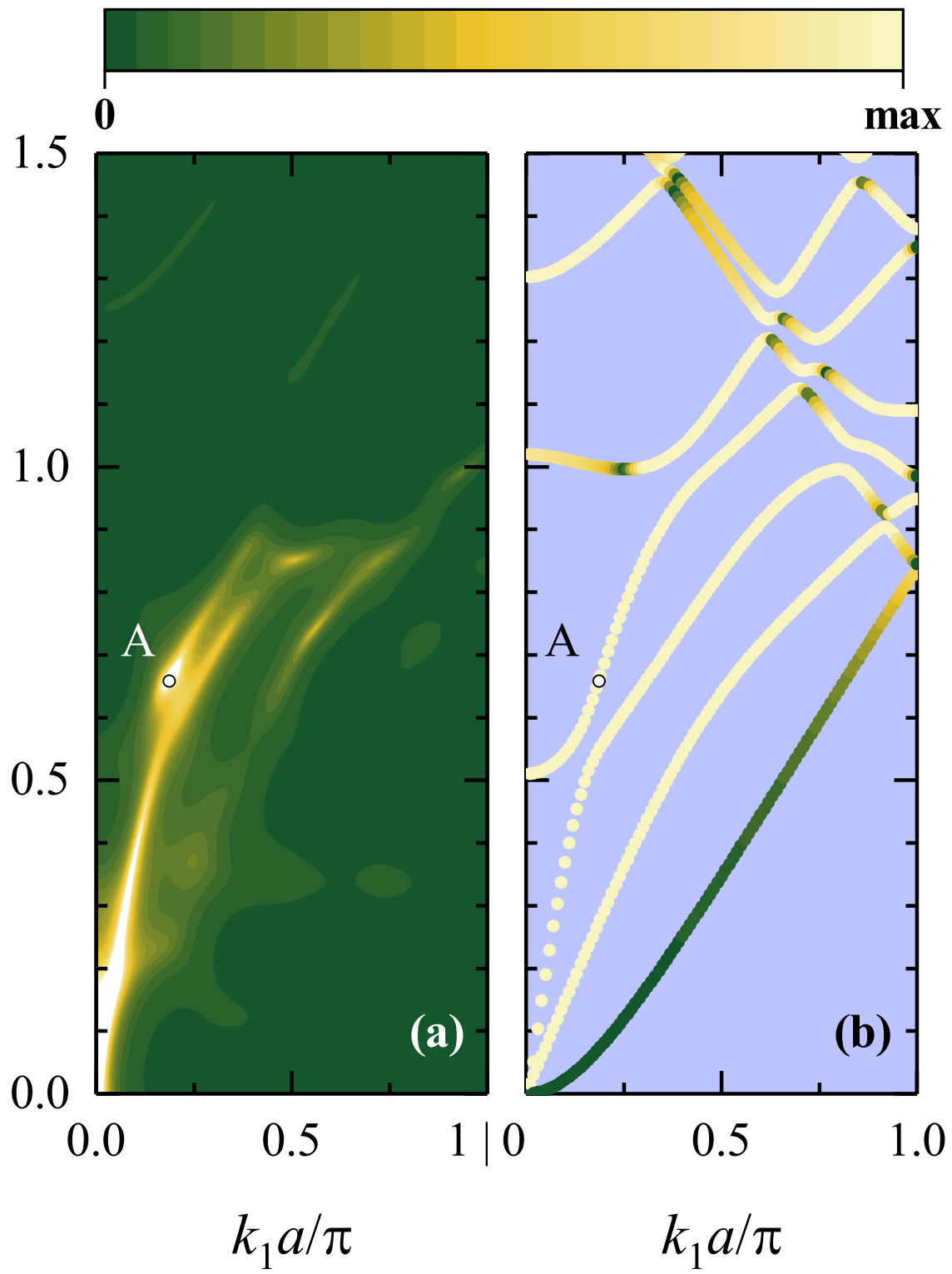
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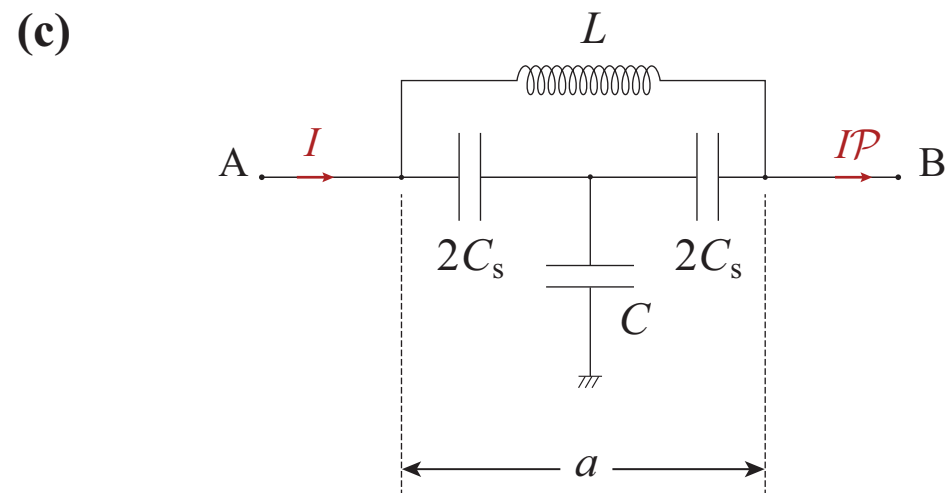
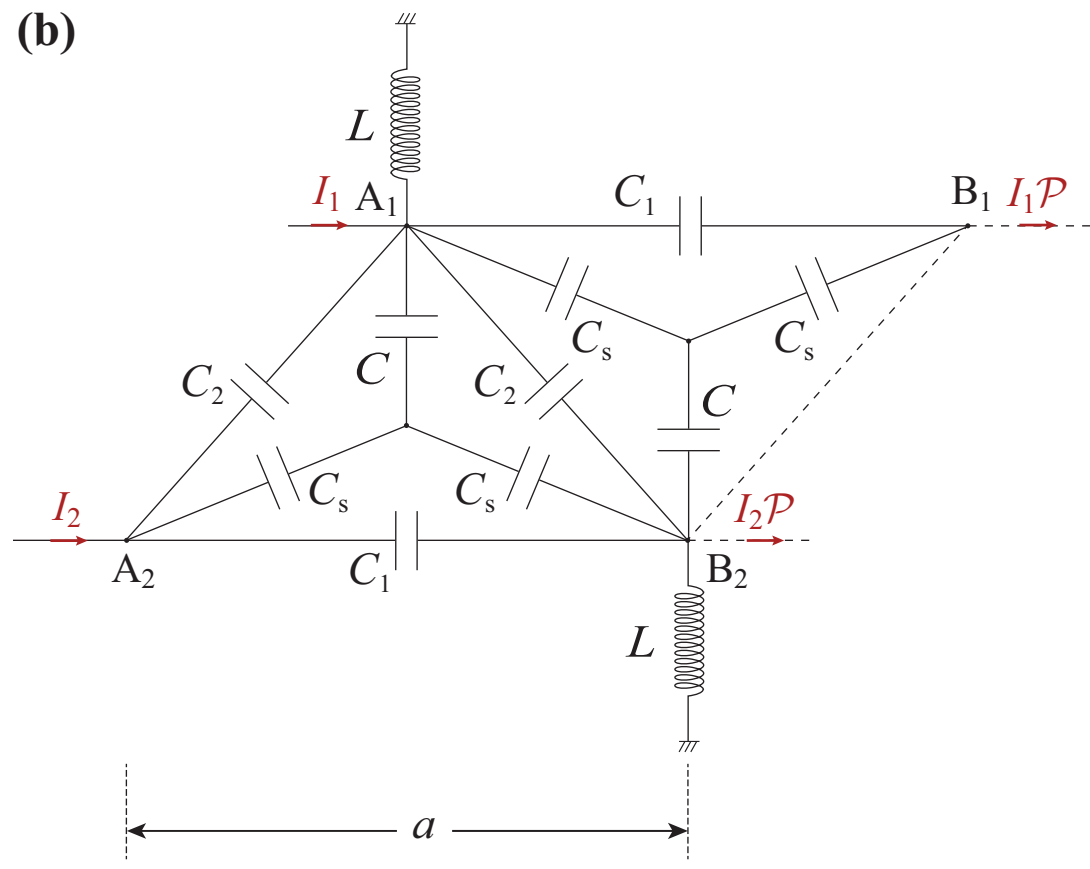
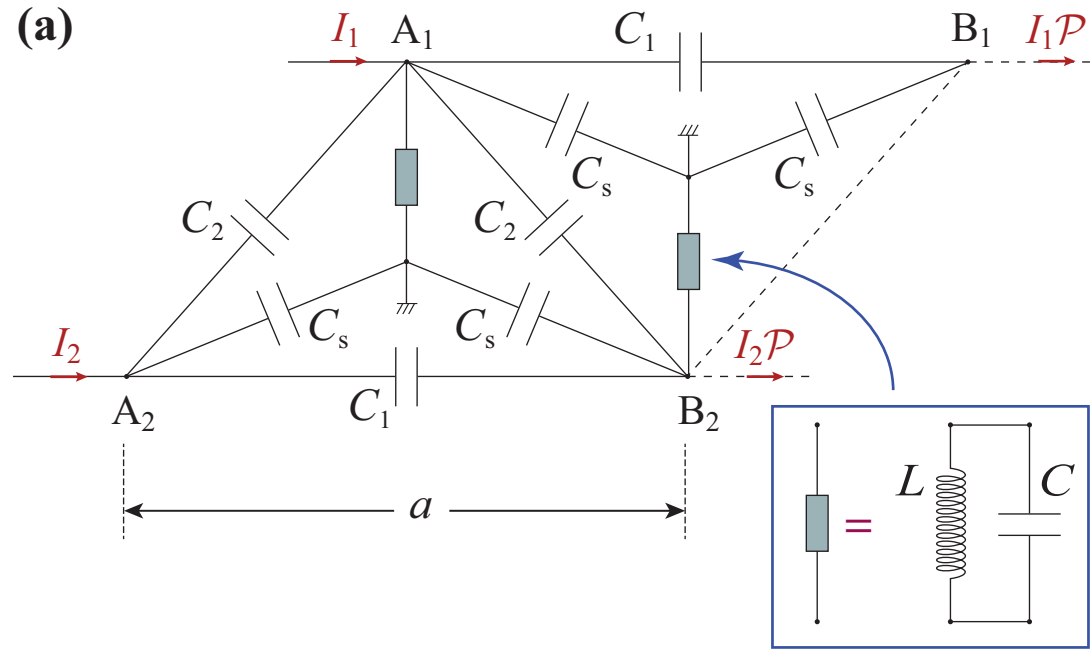


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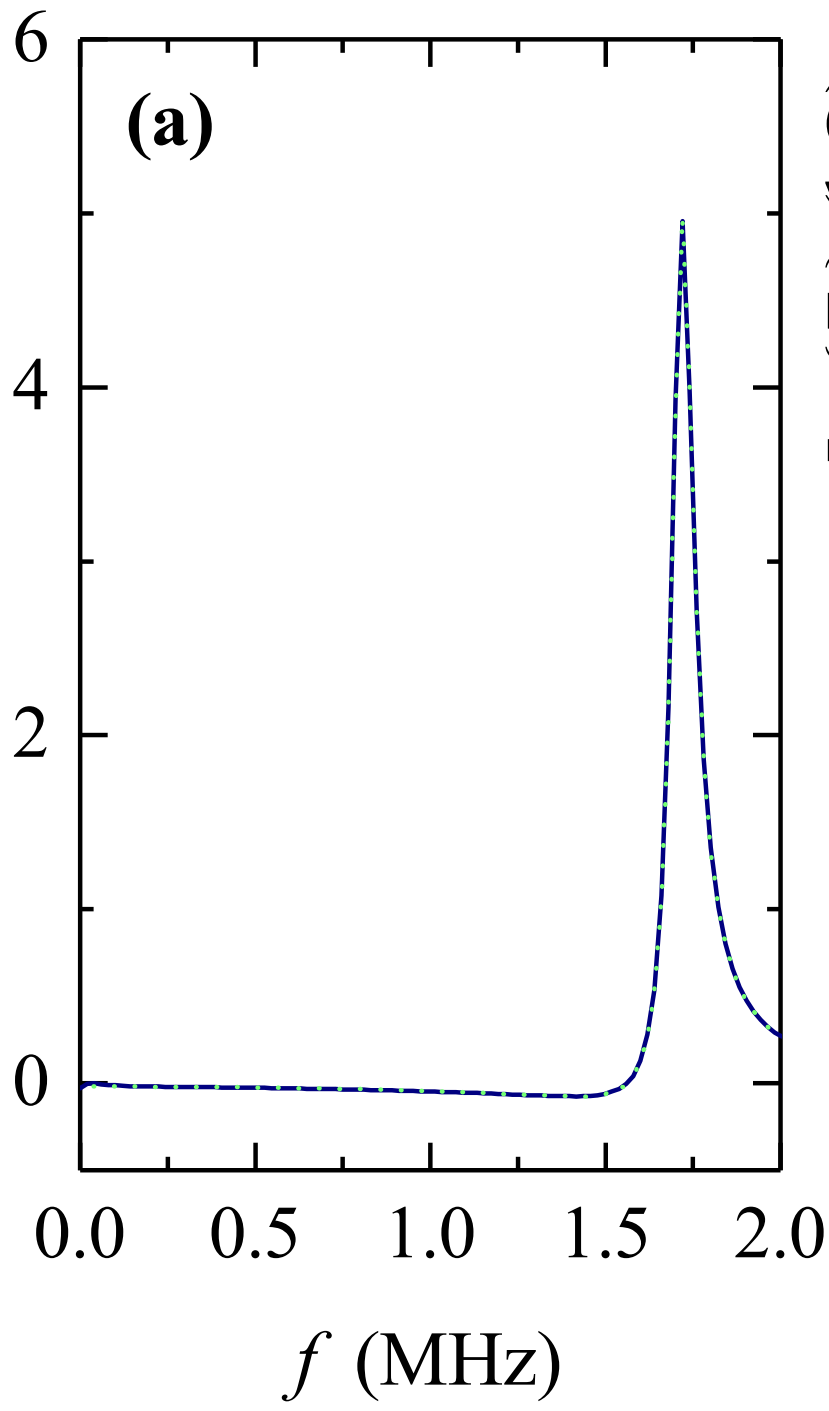
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 $\text{Re}\{Z_e\}$ (k Ω) $\text{Im}\{Z_e\}$ (k Ω)