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Ultrafast asymmetric Rosen-Zener-like coherent phonon responses observed in silicon

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We investigate the spectral profiles of time signals attributed to coherent phonon generation in an undoped Si crystal. Here, the retarded longitudinal-optical (LO) phonon Green function relevant to the temporal variance of induced charge density of ionic cores is calculated by employing the polaronic quasiparticle model developed by the authors [Y. Watanabe *et al.*, Phys. Rev. B **95**, 014301 (2017); *ibid.*, **96**, 125204 (2017)]. The spectral asymmetry is revealed in the frequency domain of the signals under the condition that an LO phonon mode stays almost energetically resonant with a plasmon mode in the early time region; this lasts for approximately 100 fs immediately after the irradiation of an ultrashort pump-laser pulse. It is understood that based on the adiabatic picture in time, this asymmetry is caused by the Rosen-Zener coupling between both modes. The associated experimental results are obtained by measuring time-dependent electro-optic reflectivity signals, and it is proved that these are in harmony with the calculated ones. The spectra become more symmetric, as the photoexcited carrier density further changes from that meeting the above condition to higher and lower sides of carrier densities. Moreover, the effect of optical nutation of carrier density on the CP signals is addressed, and the present results are compared with the asymmetry caused by transient Fano resonance and the spectral profiles observed in a GaAs crystal in the text.

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I. INTRODUCTION

Using ultrafast laser pulse irradiation to semiconductors, it is possible to impulsively generate bare particles, e.g., phonons, and observe their subsequent dressing by the many-body interactions, that is, formation of a quasiparticle.^{1,2} The use of quasiparticles in semiconductors may revolutionize modern semiconductor-based optical and electronic device technologies, such as quantum computing.^{3,4} Coherent phonon (CP) generation⁵ induced by an ultrashort pulse laser has been investigated in various materials,^{2,6–19} and efforts of exploration in this research area have been devoted to the understanding of the underlying microscopic mechanism governing the CP generation^{20–23} and the concomitant quantum mechanical effects just after the pulse-irradiation.^{2,11,13} The experimental results of the CP generation have been examined on the basis of the two well-known classical models subject to a damped forced-oscillation; the impulsive stimulated Raman scattering model²⁴ and the dispersive excitation of CP model.²⁵ These models succeed in part in demonstrating the qualitative features of the CP oscillation.^{8,26–28} However, such an approach is confronted with difficulties in describing the early stage of the CP generation dynamics that is governed by an interaction of strongly photoexcited carriers with longitudinal optical (LO) phonons. Hereafter, this stage is termed as the early time region (ETR), which lasts up to approximately

100 fs after the irradiation of pump-pulse. Actually, it is commonly observed in the ETR in experiments that oscillatory patterns of transient electro-optic reflectivity signals for the CP are largely deviated from signals observed in the temporal region following the ETR; this is termed hereafter as the classical region.

Such anomalous signals sharply distinguished from a damped harmonics are considered to result from certain quantum-mechanical effects. There have been few studies toward the understanding of the anomaly so far, aside from the exploration of coherent coupling usually related to nonlinear optical effects of four-wave mixing due to pumping and probing radiation.²⁹ Transient Fano resonance observed in lightly *n*-doped Si is a vestige of the quantum-mechanical effects;² though not observed in polar-semiconductors such as GaAs and GaP.³⁰ The manifestation of this effect is understood based on the polaronic-quasiparticle (PQ) model, where photoexcited carriers are dressed in LO phonons by means of a strong coupling between these two particles in the ETR.²² A classical Fano oscillator model derived from the Fano-Anderson Hamiltonian³¹ is also applied for this experimental result.³² Further, based on the above PQ model, the following two effects are revealed.²³ One is a different quantum-mechanical effect of transient plasmon-LO-phonon resonance, that is energetically resonant interaction of the plasmon with the LO phonon via dynamically screened Coulomb interaction, which causes irregular os-

cillatory patterns of the CP time signals in the ETR and vanishes out of the ETR.²³ The other is the effect of Rabi flopping with respect to pulse area of a pump laser; this effect is reflected on both of the amplitude and initial phase of the time signals in the classical region.

In this paper, we delve deeper into the issue of the transient plasmon-LO-phonon resonance. The aim of it is to examine how the formation of such resonance affects the degree of asymmetry of the spectral profiles associated with the CP time signals by means of both theory and experiment. The spectral asymmetry is still one of the significant subjects in the study of the CP, and the transient Fano resonance mentioned above has been explored thus far exclusively on the view of the understanding of this subject.^{2,22} Here, based on the adiabatic picture with respect to time that is incorporated in the PQ model, the transient dynamics of the CP generation is described in terms of adiabatic energy curves of particles participating in this dynamics. A particular attention is paid to the curve-crossing behavior between the plasmon and the LO-phonon, and the origin of the discernible asymmetry is analyzed by virtue of the adiabatic two-state models,³³ namely, the Landau-Zener (LZ) model and the Rosen-Zener (RZ) model, as is mentioned in more detail later. Also, the effect of optical nutation³⁴ relevant to the above-mentioned Rabi flopping on the spectral asymmetry is taken into consideration.

This paper is organized as follows. The theoretical framework and the experimental setup are given in Sec. II and Sec. III, respectively. The results and discussion are given in Sec. IV, followed by the conclusions in Sec. V. Hereafter, atomic units (a.u.) are used throughout unless otherwise stated.

II. THEORY

The theoretical framework of the PQ model is surveyed for the CP generation dynamics available for both of polar and non-polar semiconductors on an equal footing; for more detail, consult Refs. [22] and [23]. The total Hamiltonian of concern $\hat{H}(t)$ at time t is composed of an electron Hamiltonian \hat{H}_e , an interaction between an electron and an external pump-pulse $\hat{H}'(t)$, an LO phonon Hamiltonian \hat{H}_p , and an electron-LO-phonon interaction \hat{H}_{e-p} . This is given as follows:

$$\hat{H} = \hat{H}_e + \hat{H}'(t) + \hat{H}_p + \hat{H}_{e-p}, \quad (1)$$

where

$$\begin{aligned} \hat{H}_e = & \sum_{b\mathbf{k}} \varepsilon_{b\mathbf{k}} a_{b\mathbf{k}}^\dagger a_{b\mathbf{k}} + \frac{1}{2} \sum_{\mathbf{q} \neq 0} V_{\mathbf{q}}^{(C)} \\ & \times \sum_{bb'\mathbf{k}\mathbf{k}'} a_{b\mathbf{k}+\mathbf{q}}^\dagger a_{b'\mathbf{k}'-\mathbf{q}}^\dagger a_{b'\mathbf{k}'} a_{b\mathbf{k}}, \end{aligned} \quad (2)$$

$$\hat{H}'(t) = - \sum_{\mathbf{k}} \left[\Omega_{cv}(t) a_{c\mathbf{k}}^\dagger a_{v\mathbf{k}} + \Omega_{vc}(t) a_{v\mathbf{k}}^\dagger a_{c\mathbf{k}} \right], \quad (3)$$

$$\hat{H}_p = \sum_{\mathbf{q}} \omega_{\mathbf{q}} c_{\mathbf{q}}^\dagger c_{\mathbf{q}}, \quad (4)$$

and

$$\hat{H}_{e-p} = \sum_{b,\mathbf{q},\mathbf{k}} \left(g_{b\mathbf{q}} c_{\mathbf{q}} a_{b\mathbf{k}+\mathbf{q}}^\dagger a_{b\mathbf{k}} + g_{b\mathbf{q}}^* c_{\mathbf{q}}^\dagger a_{b\mathbf{k}}^\dagger a_{b\mathbf{k}+\mathbf{q}} \right). \quad (5)$$

Here, a two-band model including conduction (c) and valence (v) bands is employed. $a_{b\mathbf{k}}^\dagger$ and $a_{b\mathbf{k}}$ are creation and annihilation operators of electron, respectively, with its energy dispersion $\varepsilon_{b\mathbf{k}}$ at Bloch momentum \mathbf{k} in band $b(=c, v)$. $V_{\mathbf{q}}^{(C)}$ is a Coulomb potential with momentum \mathbf{q} . $c_{\mathbf{q}}^\dagger$ and $c_{\mathbf{q}}$ are creation and annihilation operators of LO-phonon, respectively, with its energy dispersion $\omega_{\mathbf{q}}$ at Bloch momentum \mathbf{q} . The interaction of the laser pulse with electron in band b at t is given by

$$\Omega_{b\bar{b}}(t) = \Omega_{0b\bar{b}} f(t) \cos \omega_0 t, \quad (6)$$

where $\Omega_{0b\bar{b}}$ represents the Rabi frequency³⁵ given by the product of peak electric-field strength of the laser pulse and the electric dipole moment between Γ -points of c and v bands; $\bar{b} \neq b$. Here $f(t)$ represents the pulse envelope function given by the Gaussian function with temporal width (the full width at half maximum) τ_L satisfying $\tau_L \ll T_{\mathbf{q}} \equiv 2\pi/\omega_{\mathbf{q}}$, and ω_0 is the center frequency of the external laser-field. $g_{b\mathbf{q}}$ is a coupling constant of b -band electron with the LO-phonon.

We consider the time-evolution of a composite operator defined by $A_{\mathbf{q}}^\dagger(kbb')$ on the basis of adiabatic approximation with respect to t .^{22,23} $A_{\mathbf{q}}^\dagger(kbb')$ represents a carrier density matrix for the transition from b' -band to b -band with an anisotropic momentum distribution determined by the transferred momentum \mathbf{q} ; this is quite small, but finite ($\mathbf{q} \neq 0$). Here, the rotating wave approximation³⁵ is employed in order to remove high-frequency contributions from the equations of motion, and thus $A_{\mathbf{q}}^\dagger(kbb')$ is replaced by $\bar{A}_{\mathbf{q}}^\dagger(kbb') = A_{\mathbf{q}}^\dagger(kbb') e^{-i\bar{\omega}_{bb'} t}$, where $\bar{\omega}_{cv} = \omega_0$, $\bar{\omega}_{vc} = -\omega_0$, and $\bar{\omega}_{bb} = 0$. Further a creation operator of a collective excitation mode — a plasmon — $B_{\mathbf{q}}^\dagger$ with the plasma frequency ω_{qpl} is introduced by a linear combination of the intraband density matrices $A_{\mathbf{q}}^\dagger(kbb)$'s.²³ As regards the single-particle excitation mode, just the interband contributions from $A_{\mathbf{q}}^\dagger(kbb)$'s are retained, and the intraband contributions from $A_{\mathbf{q}}^\dagger(kbb)$'s are neglected because these vanish in the long wave-length limit ($|\mathbf{q}| \rightarrow 0$).^{23,35}

The equations of motion of $c_{\mathbf{q}}^\dagger$, $\bar{A}_{\mathbf{q}}^\dagger(kbb)$, and $B_{\mathbf{q}}^\dagger$ are provided in a matrix form of²³

$$-i \frac{d}{dt} [c_{\mathbf{q}}^\dagger, \bar{A}_{\mathbf{q}}^\dagger(kbb), B_{\mathbf{q}}^\dagger] = [c_{\mathbf{q}}^\dagger, \bar{A}_{\mathbf{q}}^\dagger(kbb), B_{\mathbf{q}}^\dagger] \bar{Z}_{\mathbf{q}}. \quad (7)$$

Here, $\bar{Z}_{\mathbf{q}} = \{\bar{Z}_{qj,j'}\}$ represents a non-Hermitian matrix. Hereafter, it is understood that $j, j' = \{ph, (kbb), pl\}$ with the LO-phonon mode ph , the single-particle excitation mode (kbb) , and the plasmon mode pl . The explicit

form of \bar{Z}_q is given as

$$\bar{Z}_q = \begin{bmatrix} \bar{\omega}_{qph} & 0 & 0 & M_{qph}^* \\ 0 & \bar{\omega}_{q(kb\bar{b})} & 0 & M'_{q(kb\bar{b})} \\ 0 & 0 & \ddots & \vdots \\ M_{qph} & M_{q(kb\bar{b})} & \cdots & \bar{\omega}_{qpl} \end{bmatrix}, \quad (8)$$

with $\bar{\omega}_{qj} = \omega_{qj} + i\gamma_{qj}$, where $\omega_{qph} \equiv \omega_q$, and $\omega_{q(kb\bar{b})} \equiv \varepsilon_{bk+\mathbf{q}}^{(r)} - \varepsilon_{b\bar{k}}^{(r)} - \bar{\omega}_{b\bar{b}}$; $\varepsilon_{b\bar{k}}^{(r)}$ represents a renormalized b -band electron energy with a Coulomb correction to $\varepsilon_{b\bar{k}}$. γ_{qj} represents a damping constant of the j th mode. M_{qph} represents an effective coupling between the LO-phonon and plasmon modes, which is mostly dominated by g_{bq} , while $M_{q(kb\bar{b})}$ and $M'_{q(kb\bar{b})}$ represent effective couplings between the single-particle excitation and plasmon modes, which arise from an equal-time commutator $[\bar{A}_q^\dagger(kb\bar{b}), B_q^\dagger]$, where $M_{q(kb\bar{b})}^* \neq M'_{q(kb\bar{b})}$.²³ In addition, the argument of t in $c_q^\dagger, \bar{A}_q^\dagger(kb\bar{b}), B_q^\dagger$, and \bar{Z}_q is omitted just for the sake of simplicity, and hereafter this convention is used unless otherwise stated.

Now, we introduce the PQ operator as follows:³⁶

$$P_{qj}^\dagger = c_q^\dagger V_{qphj}^R + B_q^\dagger V_{qplj}^R + \sum_{kb} \bar{A}_q^\dagger(kb\bar{b}) V_{q(kb\bar{b})j}^R, \quad (9)$$

where left and right eigenvalue problems³⁷ of \bar{Z}_q as $V_{qj}^{L\dagger} \bar{Z}_q = E_{qj} V_{qj}^{L\dagger}$ and $\bar{Z}_q V_{qj}^R = V_{qj}^R E_{qj}$, respectively, are solved in an adiabatic sense to obtain the j th eigenvalue E_{qj} and the corresponding biorthogonal set of eigenvectors $\{V_{qj}^L, V_{qj}^R\}$. The time-evolution of P_{qj}^\dagger is obtained by solving the associated Heisenberg equation, where a non-adiabatic coupling between j th and j' th modes are assumed negligibly small in the practical calculations.²³

In the linear response theory, the retarded phonon Green function $D_q^R(t, t')$ indicates an induced charge density of ionic cores probed at time t' by a weak external potential with a delta-function form $\delta(t')$.³⁸ This is provided by $D_q^R(t, t') = \bar{D}_q^R(t, t') + [\bar{D}_q^R(t, t')]^*$ in terms of the PQ operator with the relation of $c_q^\dagger = \sum_j P_{qj}^\dagger V_{qj,ph}^{L\dagger}$ as follows:

$$\begin{aligned} \bar{D}_q^R(t, t') &= -i \langle [c_q(t), c_q^\dagger(t')] \rangle \theta(t - t') \\ &= -i \sum_{jj'} V_{qph,j}^L(t) \left\langle [P_{qj}(t), P_{qj'}^\dagger(t')] \right\rangle \\ &\quad \times V_{qj',ph}^{L\dagger}(t') \theta(t - t') \end{aligned} \quad (10)$$

and $\bar{D}_q^R(t, t') = \bar{D}_q^R(t, t')$, where the ground-state expectation value is taken in $\langle \cdots \rangle$. The induced charge density attributed to the CP generation is provided by

$$Q_q(\tau) \equiv D_q^R(\tau + t', t') - D_q^{R(0)}(\tau + t', t') \quad (11)$$

with $\tau = t - t' \geq 0$, and it is considered that $Q_q(\tau)$ corresponds to a displacement function of the CP at time τ aside from an unimportant proportional constant. Here, the contribution of the incoherent phonon signal is subtracted, where this is given by the free phonon Green

function $D_q^{R(0)}(\tau + t', t')$ without the pump laser, and hereafter the probing time of $t' = 0$ is exclusively concerned. The oscillatory pattern of the CP is extracted by representing $Q_q(\tau)$ as

$$Q_q(\tau) = A_q(\tau) \cos[\omega_q \tau + \Theta_q(\tau)], \quad (12)$$

where $\Theta_q(\tau)$ and $A_q(\tau)$ represent a renormalized phase modulus π and a transitory amplitude at τ , respectively. The Fourier transform (FT) of $Q_q(\tau)$ is provided by

$$\tilde{Q}_q(\omega) = \int_0^\infty e^{-i\omega\tau} Q_q(\tau) d\tau, \quad (13)$$

and the associated power spectrum $S_q(\omega)$ is given by

$$S_q(\omega) \propto |\tilde{Q}_q(\omega)|^2. \quad (14)$$

In the long-time limit of τ ensuring $\tau \gg T_q$, $\Theta_q(\tau)$ and $A_q(\tau)$ become θ_q and $A_q^0 e^{-\tau/T_{qph}}$, respectively, where θ_q and A_q^0 are constants and T_{qph} represents a relaxation time constant attributed to phonon anharmonicity, namely, $T_{qph} = 1/\gamma_{qph}$. In this time region, Eq. (10) becomes

$$\bar{D}_q^R(\tau, 0) = -ie^{-i\omega_q\tau} \xi_q(\tau, 0) V_{qph,ph}^{L\dagger}(0) \theta(\tau), \quad (15)$$

where the relations of $V_{qph,j}^{R\dagger}(-\infty) = \delta_{ph,j}$, $V_{qph,ph}^L(\tau) \approx 1$, $[c_q(-\infty), c_q^\dagger(-\infty)] = 1$, and $[c_q, B_q^\dagger] = [c_q, A_q^\dagger(kb\bar{b})] = 0$ are used. In fact, $\xi_q(\tau, 0)$ given by

$$\begin{aligned} \xi_q(\tau, 0) &\approx \exp \left[- \int_{-\infty}^\tau dt'' \text{Im} E_{qph}(t'') - \int_{-\infty}^0 dt'' \text{Im} E_{qph}(t'') \right] \\ &\quad \times \exp \left[-i \int_0^\tau dt'' \{ \text{Re} E_{qph}(t'') - \omega_q \} \right] \end{aligned} \quad (16)$$

is approximately unity. Thus, θ_q and A_q^0 are provided as

$$\theta_q = \frac{\pi}{2} - \arg[\delta V_{qph}] \quad (17)$$

modulus π , and

$$A_q^0 = |\delta V_{qph}|, \quad (18)$$

respectively, where

$$\delta V_{qph} = V_{qph,ph}^{L\dagger}(0) - 1. \quad (19)$$

Numerical calculations for undoped Si are conducted. Material parameters employed here are given in Ref. 22 with $\tau_L = 10$ fs, $T_q = 66$ fs equivalent to $\omega_q = 63$ meV = 15.2 THz, and $T_{qph} = 2$ ps.

III. EXPERIMENTS

The anisotropic transient reflectivity of n -doped ($\sim 1 \times 10^{15} \text{cm}^{-3}$) Si(001) sample is measured in air at 295 K² by the electro-optic (EO) sampling technique.³⁹ Nearly collinear, pump and probe beams — with center frequency $\omega_p = 2.989 - 3.180 \text{ eV}$ (390 - 415 nm) and Gaussian pulse duration $\approx 10 \text{ fs}$ corresponding to τ_L — are overlapped at a $7.2 \times 10^{-7} \text{cm}^2$ spot on the sample. The maximum average pump power of 18 mW generates $N \approx 3.0 \times 10^{19} \text{cm}^{-3}$ carriers estimated from the absorption coefficient $\alpha = 8.0 \times 10^4 \text{cm}^{-1}$ at 397 nm.⁴⁰ This is 10 times less than the critical density for screening of the carrier-phonon interaction.⁴¹ After reflecting from the sample, the probe is analyzed into polarization components parallel and perpendicular to that of the pump and each is detected with a photodiode. The resulting photocurrents are subtracted and their difference ($\Delta R_{eo}/R = (\Delta R_{\parallel} - \Delta R_{\perp})/R$) was recorded versus the pump-probe delay. The delay is scanned over 8 ps at 20 Hz frequency.⁹

IV. RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

Figure 1 shows the calculated results of $Q_q(\tau)$ as a function of τ and the associated $S_q(\omega)$ for $\Delta = -136 \text{ meV}$, -54.4 meV , -27.2 meV , and 108.8 meV , respectively with $\Omega_{0cv} = 108.8 \text{ meV}$. Here, Δ represents the detuning defined as the difference of the center frequency of a pump-laser pulse ω_0 from the direct band gap energy at Γ point E_g , that is, $\Delta = \omega_0 - E_g$. $Q_q(\tau)$ in Fig. 1(a) looks almost sinusoidal. The spectrum $S_q(\omega)$ in Fig. 1(e) peaks at $\omega = \omega_q$ with a symmetric profile. It is seen that in Figs. 1(b) and 1(c), the amplitudes of $Q_q(\tau)$ in the ETR ($\tau \lesssim 100 \text{ fs}$) are much larger than those in the classical region ($\tau \gtrsim 100 \text{ fs}$), and the spectral profiles are found asymmetric in $S_q(\omega)$ seen in Fig. 1(f) and 1(g). In contrast, in Fig. 1(d), $Q_q(\tau)$ oscillates almost in a sinusoidal manner with a constant amplitude to show a symmetric spectral profile as seen in Fig. 1(h). The irregularity with the enhancement of amplitudes in the ETR shown in Figs. 1(b) and 1(c) is attributed to the almost energetically resonant interaction between both modes of plasmon and LO-phonon, as discussed in Ref. 23, so is the associated spectral asymmetry.

The asymmetry observed in $S_q(\omega)$ of Fig. 1 is evaluated by fitting these spectra in the vicinity of each peak to Fano's spectral formula,⁴²

$$I(\omega) = C \frac{(q_a + \varepsilon)^2}{1 + \varepsilon^2} + \text{const.}, \quad (20)$$

where $\varepsilon = (\omega - \omega_r - \Delta\omega)/\Gamma$, C is the amplitude, q_a is the asymmetry parameter, ω_r is the unperturbed frequency, and the frequency shift $\Delta\omega$ and the broadening parameter Γ are the carrier density dependent real and imaginary parts of the LO phonon self-energy associated with the interaction with photogenerated carriers.^{2,43} Figure 2

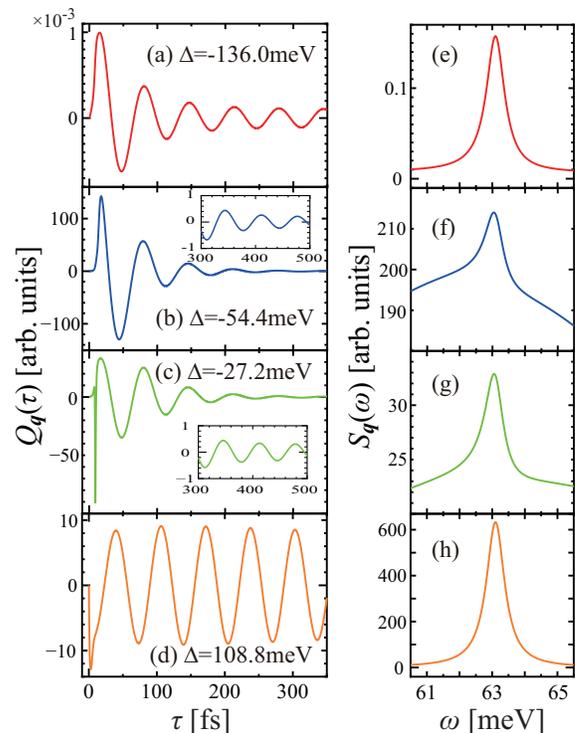


FIG. 1. The calculated results of the oscillatory pattern $Q_q(\tau)$ as a function of τ (in the unit of fs) and the associated power spectrum $S_q(\omega)$ as a function of ω (in the unit of meV) for the detuning $\Delta =$ (a) and (e) -136 meV , (b) and (f) -54.4 meV , (c) and (g) -27.2 meV , and (d) and (h) 108.8 meV . The insets in Figs. (b) and (c) show $Q_q(\tau)$ for $300 \text{ fs} \leq \tau \leq 500 \text{ fs}$.

shows the inverse of the asymmetry parameter $1/q_a$ having a negative value as a function of Δ with $\Omega_{0cv} = 108.8 \text{ meV}$; where a spectrum $S_q(\omega)$ becomes symmetric with the decrease of $1/|q_a|$, while this becomes asymmetric with the increase of it aside from $1/|q_a| \gg 1$ showing a (symmetric) spectral dip. At $\Delta < -100 \text{ meV}$, $1/|q_a|$ is reduced. As Δ increases, $1/|q_a|$ becomes larger, because the plasmon-phonon resonance likely occurs in the ETR. Within our calculations, the profile is the most asymmetric at $\Delta = -54.4 \text{ meV}$ with $1/q_a = -0.286$. As Δ further increases, $1/q_a$ approaches zero again to show symmetric profiles.

Figure 3(a) shows the experimental results of transient EO reflectivity as a function of time delay for different photon energy ω_p , and the FTs of these oscillatory signals are shown in Fig. 3(b). For the 2.989 eV excitation, aperiodic electronic response near the zero delay dominates the signal. For higher energies, in addition, there appears a coherent oscillation with a period of $\sim 66 \text{ fs}$ that persists for $\sim 8 \text{ ps}$ due to the $|\mathbf{q}| \approx 0$ coherent LO phonons.^{2,43} The phonon amplitude monotonically increases with increasing the photon energy, reaching a maximum of $\Delta R_{eo}/R \sim 2.5 \times 10^{-5}$ at the high-energy limit of the tuning range, where it is compara-

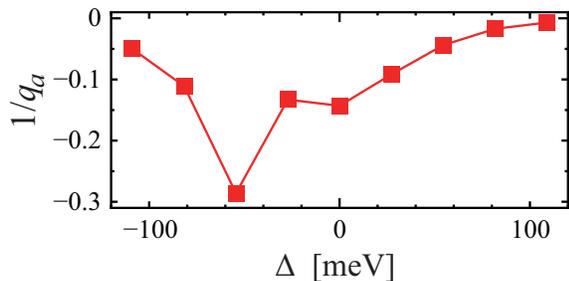


FIG. 2. The inverse of the calculated asymmetry parameter $1/q_a$ for the power spectrum $S_q(\omega)$ as a function of Δ (in the unit of meV).

ble to the electronic response. As with the spontaneous Raman spectra, the LO phonon signal is enhanced by resonance with the direct band gap of Si (attributed to two nearly overlapping transitions E'_0 (3.320 eV) at the Γ point and the more intense E_1 (3.396 eV) for a range of momenta along Λ^{44}). The FT spectra show a pronounced asymmetry, which we fit to a Fano lineshape given by Eq. (20).^{42,43}

Further, Fig. 3(c) shows the inverse of the asymmetry parameter $1/q_a$ as a function of ω_p , which is extracted from the signals of Fig 3(b) in the same manner as that of Fig 2. The intensity of the pulse laser irradiated here corresponds to $\Omega_{0cv} = 110$ meV almost equal to that used in the theoretical calculations for Figs. 1 and 2. In actual experiments accompanying high-density carrier excitation, a primitive bandgap $E_g \approx 3.3$ eV is likely modified to \bar{E}_g due to the effect of bandgap renormalization.⁹ Accordingly, it is considered that the photon energy ω_p necessary for the carrier excitation is reduced to some extent from ω_0 , that is, $\omega_p = \omega_0 - \Delta_g$ with the magnitude of the bandgap renormalization as $\Delta_g \equiv E_g - \bar{E}_g$. Thus, the detuning is represented by $\Delta = \omega_p - \bar{E}_g$. As shown in Figs. 3(b) and 3(c), for $\omega_p \lesssim 3.05$ eV, the spectral profiles are asymmetric, and the profile is the most asymmetric at $\omega_p = 3.025$ eV with $1/q_a = -0.348$, where the amplitudes of the time signals in the ETR are much larger than those in the classical region. On the other hand, for $\omega_p \gtrsim 3.05$ eV, as ω_p increases, the profile becomes symmetric. These results are in agreement with the calculated results shown in Figs. 1, and 2, if the estimate of Δ_g is considered to be roughly 200 meV; as a whole, however, the experimental results look somewhat more asymmetric than the theoretical ones for an uncertain reason. Actually, the photoexcited carrier density is $2.0 \times 10^{19} \text{ cm}^{-3}$ for $\Delta = 54.4$ meV in the present calculations, leading to $\omega_0 \approx 3.35$ eV. On the other hand, the photoexcited carrier density is $3.0 \times 10^{19} \text{ cm}^{-3}$ for $\omega_p = 3.12$ meV in the experiment cited in Ref. 9. Because both of the photoexcited carrier densities are almost equal, we obtain $\Delta_g \approx 230$ meV, which is the same order of magnitude as that calculated by a first-principle technique and the GW approximation for the self-energy

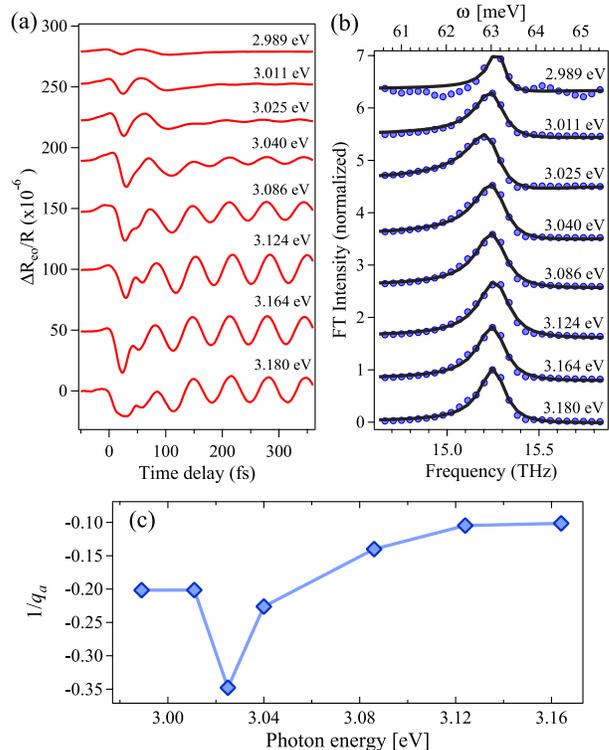


FIG. 3. The experimental results in lightly n -doped Si for different photon energy ω_p of (a) the transient electro-optic reflectivity as a function of time delay (in the unit of fs), (b) the associated FT power spectra of the reflectivity signals — represented by blue dots — as function of frequency (in the units of THz and meV). The black solid line represents a fit using Eq. (20). (c) The inverse of the asymmetric parameter $1/q_a$ for the power spectrum as a function of ω_p (in the unit of eV); ω_p is converted to Δ (in the unit of meV) used in Fig. 2 by means of the relation $\Delta = \omega_p - \bar{E}_g$ with $\bar{E}_g \approx 3.07$ eV.

operator.⁴⁵

Next, with the goal of deepening the understanding of the asymmetry observed in Fig. 2, first, we examine the detail of the pronounced behavior of the CP signals shown in Figs. 1(b) and 1(c) in the time region of $\tau \lesssim 20$ fs much smaller than the period T_q . To do this, an adiabatic two-state model, namely, the LZ model and the RZ model,³³ is introduced for \bar{Z}_q given in Eq. (8), where time τ is considered as an adiabatic parameter. The way of interaction between the LO-phonon mode and the plasmon mode can be understood based on the these models. In the LZ model, two adiabatic-energy curves, namely, real parts of $[E_{qph}(\tau)]$ and $[E_{qpt}(\tau)]$, tend to swerve sharply around the local time $\tau = \tau_{LZ}$, at which both are closest to each other forming anti-crossing, while in the RZ

model, these curves evolve in a parallel manner over τ after τ_{RZ} with almost energetically degeneracy. Here, the diagonal component of the plasmon mode ω_{qpl} and that of the LO-phonon mode ω_q in \bar{Z}_q accept roles of diabatic energy levels; the former is proportional to square root of carrier density, thus increases in time due to optical excitation, while the latter is kept constant.

Figure 4 shows the real parts of adiabatic energy curves of plasmon mode $E_{qpl}(\tau)$ with respect to τ for $\Delta = -54.4$ and -27.2 meV with $\Omega_{0cv} = 108.8$ meV. $E_{qpl}(\tau)$'s are renormalized by the electron-laser interaction, the Hartree-Fock interaction, and the electron-LO-phonon interaction to lead to the deviation from an unrenormalized plasmon frequency $\omega_{qpl}(\tau)$ to some extent. In particular, this stands out in the region of $\tau \lesssim 10$ fs. Actually, at $\tau = 9$ fs, despite $\tau > \tau_L/2$, $\text{Re}[E_{qpl}(\tau)]$'s differ from $\omega_{qpl}(\tau)$ by roughly 10 and 5 meV for $\Delta = -54.4$ and -27.2 meV, respectively, due to the renormalization of still non-negligible electron-laser interaction in the tail region of the pulse, where $\Omega_{cv}(\tau) = 11.5$ meV. As time passes, $\Omega_{cv}(\tau)$ vanishes, and $\text{Re}[E_{qpl}(\tau)]$ becomes closer to $\omega_{qpl}(\tau)$ aside from the energy difference between these two energy-values due to the Hartree-Fock interaction and the electron-LO-phonon interaction that are still retained in the ETR, as seen in Fig. 4. Concerning another adiabatic energy of LO-phonon mode $E_{qph}(\tau)$, the real part of it, $\text{Re}[E_{qph}(\tau)]$, is almost equal to ω_q within a couple of meV due to the renormalization of the electron-LO-phonon interaction;²³ thus, for the sake of simplicity, hereafter, let $E_{qph}(\tau)$ be represented by ω_q in Fig. 4.

It is seen in Fig. 4 that $\omega_{qpl}(\tau)$ can overtake ω_q during optical excitation leading to the LZ model, and $\omega_{qpl}(\tau)$ remains constant and can be close to ω_q after optical excitation leading to the RZ model. To be specific, for $\Delta = -27.2$ meV, $\text{Re}[E_{qpl}(\tau)]$ traverses $\text{Re}[E_{qph}(\tau)]$ around $\tau_{LZ} \equiv 9$ fs, while for $\Delta = -27.2$ and -54.4 meV, $\text{Re}[E_{qpl}(\tau)]$ becomes constant after $\tau_{RZ} \equiv 12$ fs to form the RZ coupling in the ETR. Let the energy difference of $\text{Re}[E_{qpl}(\tau)]$ from $\text{Re}[E_{qph}(\tau)]$ in the ETR be represented by δE_q , that is, $\delta E_q \equiv \text{Re}[E_{qpl}(\tau)] - \text{Re}[E_{qph}(\tau)]$; where δE_q is determined by the Rabi frequency Ω_{0cv} as well as Δ , because $\text{Re}[E_{qpl}(\tau)]$ as well as ω_{qpl} is subject to the photoexcited carrier density, and δE_q is considered almost constant in $\tau > \tau_{RZ}$. It is evident that with the decrease of $|\delta E_q|$, the effect of the RZ coupling becomes more significant. Actually, Δ 's in Fig 1 are put in an increasing order of $|\delta E_q|$ as -54.4 , -27.2 , -136.0 , and 108.8 meV. Incidentally, for $\Delta = 108.8$ meV, an anticrossing due to the LZ coupling likely occurs just in the region of $\tau \lesssim \tau_L/2$, though the overall oscillatory pattern is little affected by this.

The interaction between the two modes of plasmon and LO-phonon causes abrupt changes of $A_q(\tau)$ and $\Theta_q(\tau)$ in the oscillatory pattern of $Q_q(\tau)$.²³ Figure 5 is the enlarged view of Figs. 1(b) and 1(c) in the limited region of $\tau \leq 50$ fs to show the detailed behavior of Q_q for $\Delta = -54.4$ and -27.2 meV, respectively. In Fig. 5(a), $A_q(\tau)$ becomes pronouncedly enhanced around

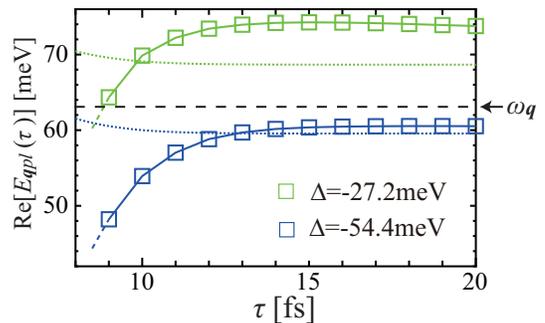


FIG. 4. The real part of the adiabatic eigenvalue of the plasmon mode $\text{Re}[E_{qpl}(\tau)]$ (in the unit of meV) as a function of τ (in the unit of fs) for $\Delta = -54.4$ meV (blue square) and -27.2 meV (green square). The blue and green dot lines represent the associated plasma frequencies $\omega_{qpl}(\tau)$, and the black dash line represents the bare phonon energy ω_q .

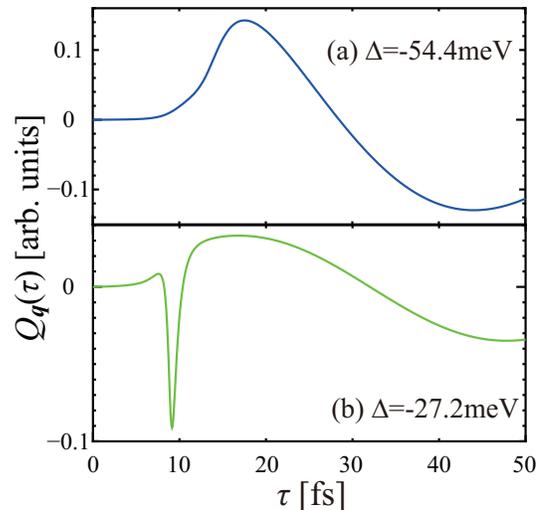


FIG. 5. The enlarged view of Figs. 1(b) and 1(c) in the limited temporal region of τ for $\Delta =$ (a) -54.4 meV and (b) -27.2 meV, respectively.

τ_{RZ} . This consists with the formation of the RZ coupling between the plasmon and LO-phonon modes, as is seen in Fig. 4. Concerning the case of Fig. 5(b), both of $A_q(\tau)$ and $\Theta_q(\tau)$ change sharply just in the vicinity of τ_{LZ} , followed by the enhancement of $A_q(\tau)$ in the region of $\tau \gtrsim \tau_{RZ}$. Also, this consists with the instantaneous formation of the LZ coupling between the two modes, followed by the RZ coupling in the rest of the ETR, as is seen in Fig. 4. In addition, for $\Delta = -136.0$ and 108.8 meV, Q_q 's oscillate in a more sinusoidal manner than those for $\Delta = -54.4$ and -27.2 meV, as is seen in Figs. 1(a) and 1(d), respectively.

Figure 6 is the enlarged view of Fig. 3(a) for $\omega_p = 3.025$ and 3.040 eV in the limited region. It is seen that transient electro-optic reflectivity signals oscillate with anomalously larger amplitudes and more varying phases

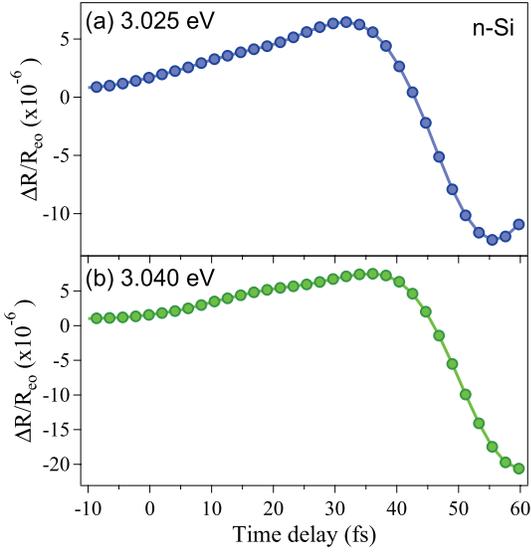


FIG. 6. The enlarged view of Fig. 3(a) in the limited temporal region for $\omega_p =$ (a) 3.025 eV and (b) 3.040 eV corresponding to $\Delta \approx -45$ meV and -30 meV, respectively.

in time, compared with those in the classical region. These oscillatory patterns are in overall agreement with those in Fig. 5, aside from the rapid change of $\Theta_q(\tau)$ observed in Fig. 5(b). It is remarked that such a rapid change caused by the LZ coupling would be possibly modified by the non-adiabatic correction, because this correction is considered still effective to some extent in the tail region of the pulse in $\tau \lesssim 10$ fs; though neglected here, as mentioned in Sec. II. To be specific, a diagonal part of the correction would modify the adiabatic energy $\text{Re}[E_{qpl}(\tau)]$, while the off-diagonal parts of it, especially, providing the interaction of the plasmon mode with other modes would blur the location of the crossing around τ_{LZ} .

Now, more detailed discussion is made on the asymmetry observed in Figs. 2 and 3(c) by dividing the region of τ for the CP signals shown in Fig. 1(a) into two regions inside and outside the ETR, namely, $\tau \lesssim 100$ fs and $\tau \gtrsim 100$ fs, respectively. Accordingly, the power spectrum $S_q(\omega)$ is cast into the sum of the contributions from the inner region $S_q^{(in)}(\omega)$ and the outer region $S_q^{(out)}(\omega)$, and the cross contribution between these two regions $S_q^{(cross)}(\omega)$, that is,

$$S_q(\omega) = S_q^{(in)}(\omega) + S_q^{(out)}(\omega) + S_q^{(cross)}(\omega). \quad (21)$$

It is speculated that $S_q^{(out)}(\omega)$ shows the Lorentzian profile with the peak frequency of ω_q and the full-width at half maximum of $1/T_{qph}$. By contrast, as seen in Fig. 1, the spectral profile of $S_q^{(in)}(\omega)$ is more or less affected by the aperiodic oscillatory pattern of $Q_q(\tau)$ in the ETR, and is deformed from the Lorentzian shape. Hence, $S_q(\omega)$ is considered asymmetric if $S_q^{(in)}(\omega)$ is comparable to or

dominant over $S_q^{(out)}(\omega) + S_q^{(cross)}(\omega)$; otherwise this is symmetric. The asymmetric spectra of Figs. 1(f) and 1(g) are the case. The degree of asymmetry in $S_q(\omega)$ is mostly governed by the magnitude of the RZ coupling in the ETR that is evaluated in terms of δE_q . Actually, with the increase in $|\delta E_q|$, $S_q(\omega)$ is apt to be more symmetric within the scope of the calculations implemented here, as is shown in Figs. 2 and 3(c).

For an additional consideration, Fig. 7 shows the alteration of θ_q and A_q^0 as a function of Δ for different values of Ω_{0cv} 's of 54.4, 108.8, and 244.8 meV. θ_q and A_q^0 are determined by δV_{qph} ; see Eqs. (17)-(19), bearing in mind that δV_{qph} is subject to the photoexcited carrier density, similarly to δE_q . Thus, with the increase of the carrier density, $(\pi/2 - \theta_q)$ and A_q^0 tend to increase as a whole, as seen in Figs. 7(a) and 7(b), respectively. Aside from this, the non-monotonic change of A_q^0 is observed for $\Omega_{0cv} = 244.8$ meV. This is attributed to reduction of photoexcited carrier density due to an optical nutation. Incidentally, when the pump-pulse irradiation is completed, the total amount of photoexcited carrier density per site is given by $D_L = (\Omega_{0cv}/\Omega_N)^2 \sin^2(S_L/2)$ by employing a square pulse with $f(t) = \theta(t + \tau_L/2)\theta(\tau_L/2 - t)$ in Eq. (6) instead of the Gaussian pulse adopted above. Here, a pulse area represented by S_L is assumed to be evaluated as the product of the nutation frequency given by $\Omega_N = \sqrt{\Omega_{0cv}^2 + \Delta^2}$ and τ_L , that is, $S_L = \Omega_N \tau_L$, where a dispersionless two-level model is adopted without the Coulomb correction to Ω_{0cv} .

Finally, three more remarks are given regarding the spectral asymmetry of concern. First, it is noted that there are many combinations of Ω_{0cv} and Δ for Ω_N which give the same value of the photoexcited carrier density D_L , namely, δE_q . For instance, let the special case of $\Omega_{0cv} = 108.8$ meV and $\Delta = -54.4$ meV — providing $\Omega_N = 121.6$ meV and $S_L/\pi = 0.5880 < 1$, — in Fig. 2 be taken into consideration, where $1/q_a = -0.286$ with $\delta E_q \approx 0$ that leads to the maximized RZ coupling. This value of $1/q_a$ is retrieved for $\Omega_N = 255.8.0$ meV, that is, $S_L/\pi = 1.3766 > 1$, with $\Omega_{0cv} = 244.8$ meV and $\Delta = -74.17$ meV, if $1/q_a$ is assumed to be determined solely by δE_q . Such a fact would also show the possibility that $1/q_a$ changes in an oscillating manner as Δ further increases in Fig. 2.

Second, it is pointed out that the spectral asymmetry attributed to the CP generation is observed exclusively in a lightly *n*-doped Si crystal and semimetals/metals such as Bi and Zn,^{13,14,46,47} though not observed in a GaAs crystal.⁴⁸ Obviously, the amplitude A_q^0 of $Q_q(\tau)$ in the classical region for GaAs is much greater than that for Si, because in the former, the CP is driven by a much stronger electron-LO-phonon coupling due to the Fröhlich interaction. Therefore, it is speculated that $S_q^{(out)}(\omega)$ dominates $S_q(\omega)$ to result in symmetric spectral-profile, that is, $S_q^{(out)}(\omega) \gg S_q^{(in)}(\omega)$. However, it might be possible that $S_q(\omega)$ is asymmetric⁴⁹ when a certain condition leading to $\delta E_q \approx 0$ is ensured. Thus, it

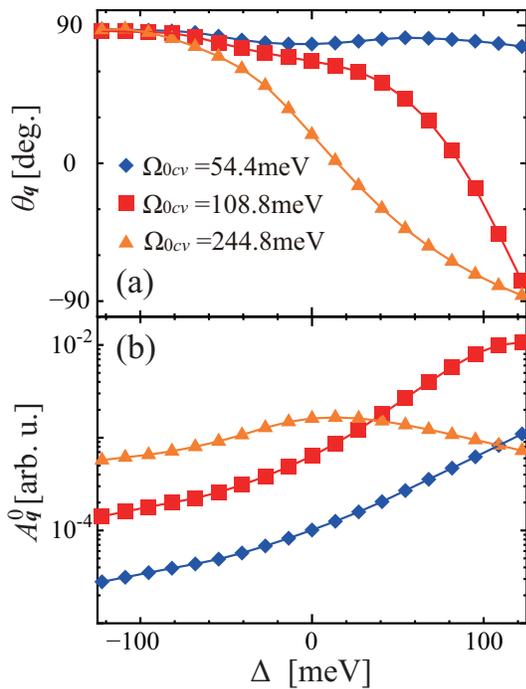


FIG. 7. The calculated results of (a) θ_q and (b) A_q^0 as a function of Δ (in the unit of meV) for $\Omega_{0cv} = 54.4$ meV (blue diamond), 108.8 meV (red square), and 244.8 meV (orange triangle).

would also be necessary to scrutinize spectral profiles at time τ in the ETR under this condition, for instance, by using the continuous-wavelet transform of $Q_q(\tau)$.

Third, it is reported that an asymmetric spectral-profile observed in a lightly n -doped Si crystal is attributed to transient Fano resonance.^{2,22,32} In Ref. 22, based on the PQ model incorporating the Fano model,⁴² the spectral asymmetry attributed to the Fano resonance is obtained just in the ETR, where $\Omega_{0cv} = 16.4$ meV and $\Delta = 82$ meV corresponding to $\delta E_q \approx -40$ meV; hence, the RZ model is no longer significant. There, $S_q(\omega)$ also shows the asymmetry, since the associated $Q_q(\tau)$ tends to vanish rapidly out of the ETR, and thus $S_q^{(in)}(\omega)$ becomes dominant over $S_q^{(out)}(\omega)$. Therefore, it is speculated that the asymmetry parameter $1/q_a$ discussed in

Figs. 2 and 3(c) becomes finite, namely, non-zero, due to the Fano resonance, even though $|\delta E_q|$ increases considerably with $\delta E_q < 0$.

V. CONCLUSIONS

The degree of asymmetry of the spectral profiles of the CP time signals is scrutinized in undoped Si by using the PQ model, and the adiabatic energy curves of the plasmon and the LO-phonon are examined based on the LZ and RZ models. The asymmetric spectral-profiles are discerned, as long as the RZ interaction is dominant in the ETR with $S_q^{(in)}(\omega)$ greater than or comparable with $S_q^{(out)}(\omega) + S_q^{(cross)}(\omega)$. Since the magnitude of the RZ interaction depends decisively on the adiabatic plasmon energy, thus $1/q_a$ varies with respect to the photoexcited carrier density. Actually, it is confirmed in both of the present calculation and experiment that the spectra become more symmetric with larger change of the carrier density from the critical carrier density at which the effect of the RZ interaction is maximized.

The particular emphasis is put on $1/q_a$ in both of the far-lower ($\omega_{qpl} \ll \omega_q$) and far-higher ($\omega_{qpl} \gg \omega_q$) carrier density regions than the region concerned in this study ($\omega_{qpl} \approx \omega_q$). In $\omega_{qpl} \ll \omega_q$, it is reported that the transient Fano resonance with an asymmetric profile is discerned in the ETR.²² On the other hand, in $\omega_{qpl} \gg \omega_q$ where $S_L > \pi$, it would be possible that $1/q_a$ varies following the optical nutation of the photoexcited carrier density. Here, the RZ interaction still plays a significant role of determining the degree of asymmetry. These two phenomena occurring in the respective regions are still unexplored in experiments. Therefore, it is expected to measure the spectral profiles of CP over the wider region of photoexcited carrier density than the present, and to reveal the underlying quantum-mechanical effects governing the alteration of the profiles.

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