

# Vacuum birefringence and real-photon decay in strong magnetic fields

as a building block of phenomenology

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In collaboration with K. Itakura (KEK).

(I) KH, K. Itakura, *Annals Phys.* 330 (2013) 23-54

(II) KH, K. Itakura, *Annals Phys.* 334 (2013) 58-82

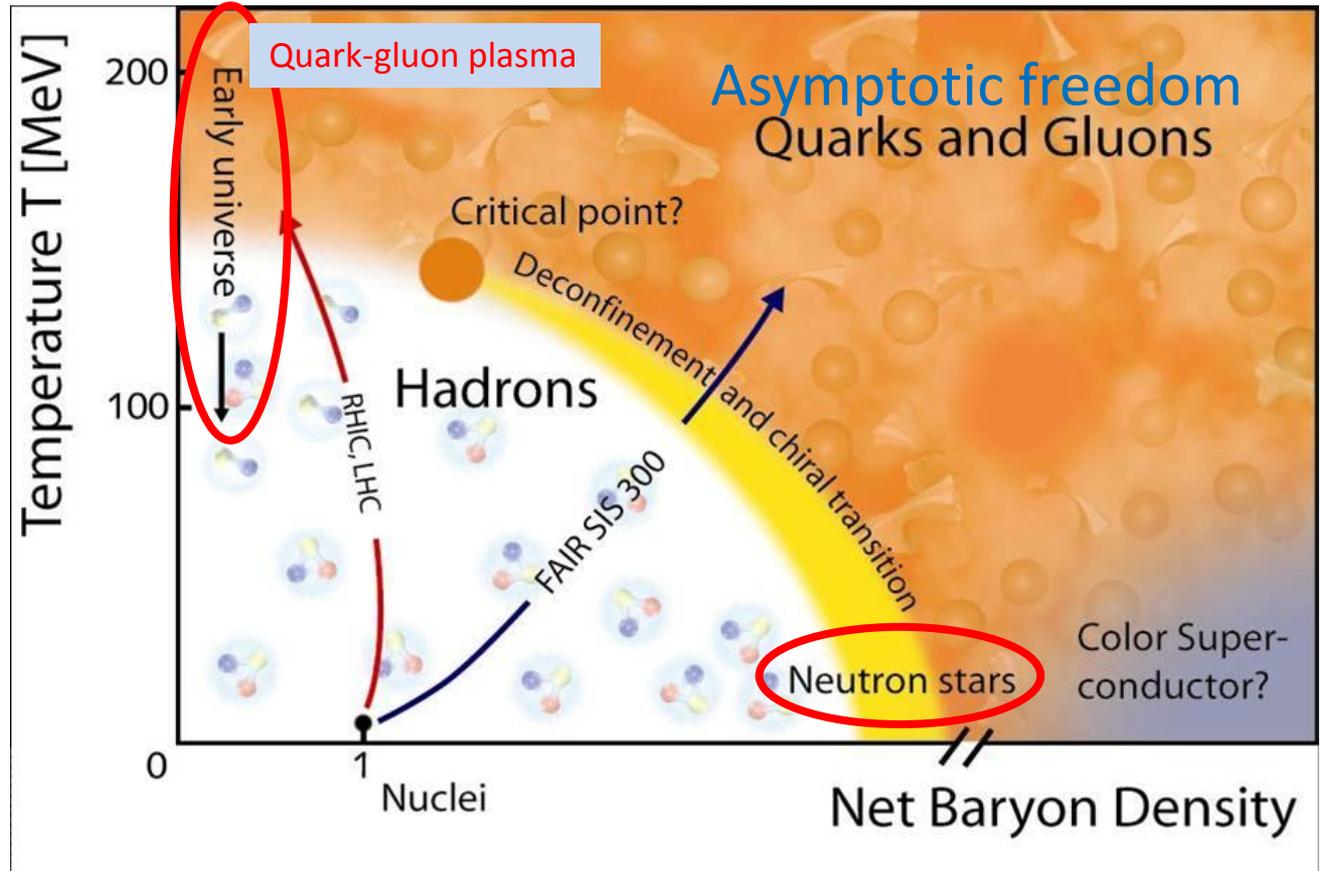
# Phase diagram of QCD matter



RHIC@BNL

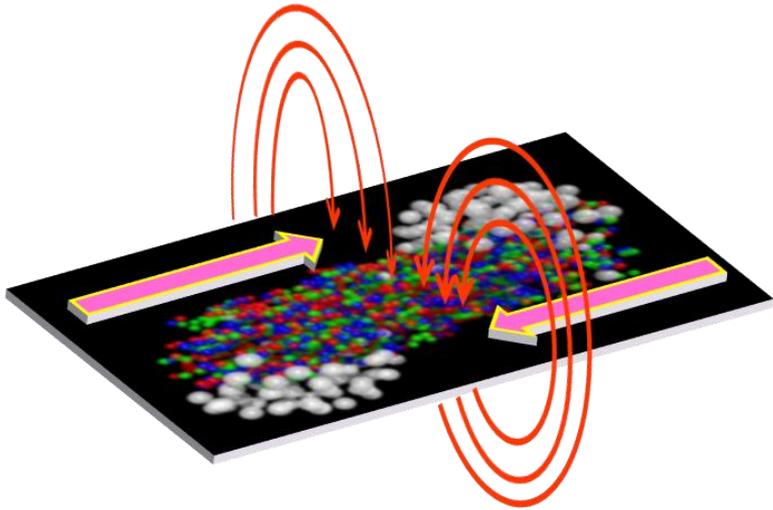


LHC@CERN



# Extremely strong magnetic fields

UrHIC



Lienard-Wiechert potential

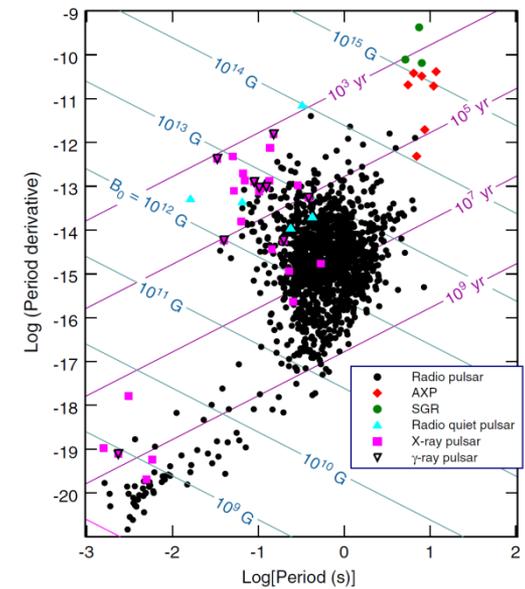
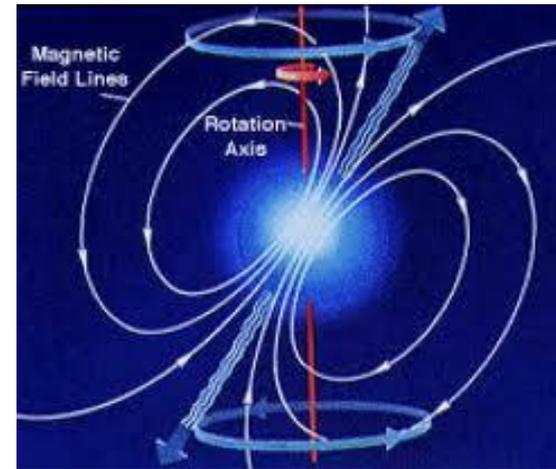
$$e\mathbf{B} = \frac{\alpha_{\text{EM}} Z \sinh(Y) (\mathbf{x}_{\perp} \times \mathbf{e}_z)}{[|\mathbf{x}_{\perp}|^2 + \tau^2 \sinh^2(Y - \eta)]^{3/2}}$$

$Y = \tanh^{-1} v_N$ : beam rapidity ( $v_N > 0.9999c$ )

$\mathbf{x}_{\perp}$ : distance from the beam in the transverse plane

$Z = 79(\text{Au}), 82(\text{Pb})$

NS/Magnetar



# Strong magnetic fields in nature and laboratories

## How strong?

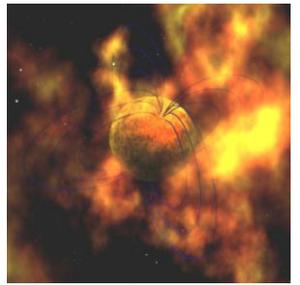
1 Tesla =  $10^4$  Gauss

- 0.6 Gauss
- 100 Gauss
- $8.3 \times 10^4$  Gauss
- $4.5 \times 10^5$  Gauss
- $10^{12}$  Gauss
- $4 \times 10^{18}$  Gauss
- $10^{15}$  Gauss
- $10^{17}$  Gauss
- $10^{18}$  Gauss

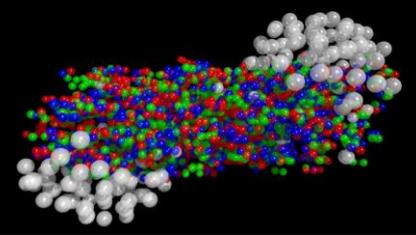
- Earth's magnetic field
- A typical hand-held magnet
- Superconducting magnets used in LHC
- The strongest steady magnetic field  
(Nat. High Mag. Field Lab. at Florida )
- Typical neutron stars
- "Critical" magnetic field of electrons  $\sqrt{eB_c} = m_e = 0.5 \text{ MeV}$
- Magnetars  $\rightarrow$  On the third day
- Noncentral heavy-ion coll. at RHIC
- Noncentral heavy-ion coll. at LHC  $\sqrt{eB} \sim 100 \text{ MeV}$
- "Color" magnetic fields in heavy-ion coll.  $\sqrt{gB} \sim 1 \text{ GeV}$  at RHIC



Magnet in Lab.



Magnetar



Heavy ion collisions

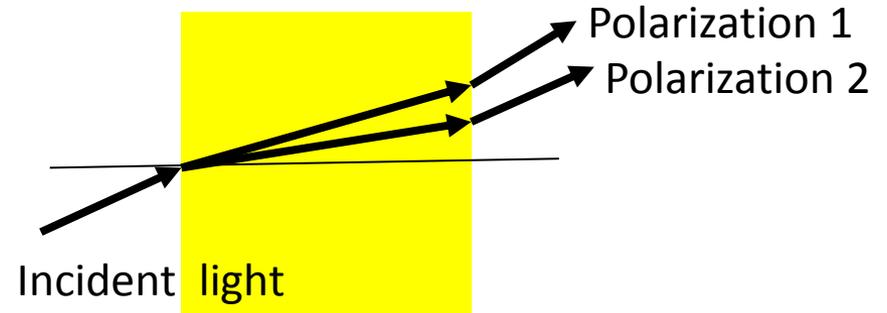
# What is “Birefringence” ?

Two polarization modes of a propagating photon have different refractive indices.

Doubled image due to a ray-splitting in birefringent substances



“Calcite” (方解石)



How about the vacuum with external magnetic fields ?

+ ~~Lorentz & Gauge symmetries~~  $\rightarrow n \neq 1$  in general

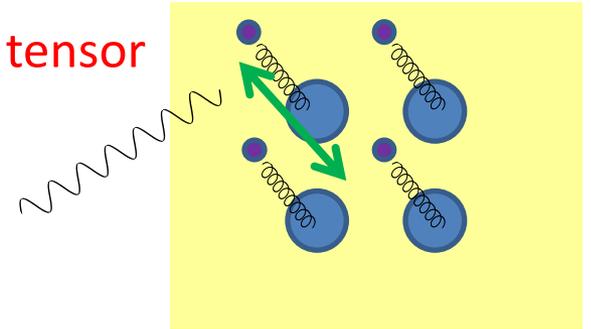
+ Oriented response of the Dirac sea  $\rightarrow$  Vacuum birefringence

# Modifications of photon propagations in strong B-fields

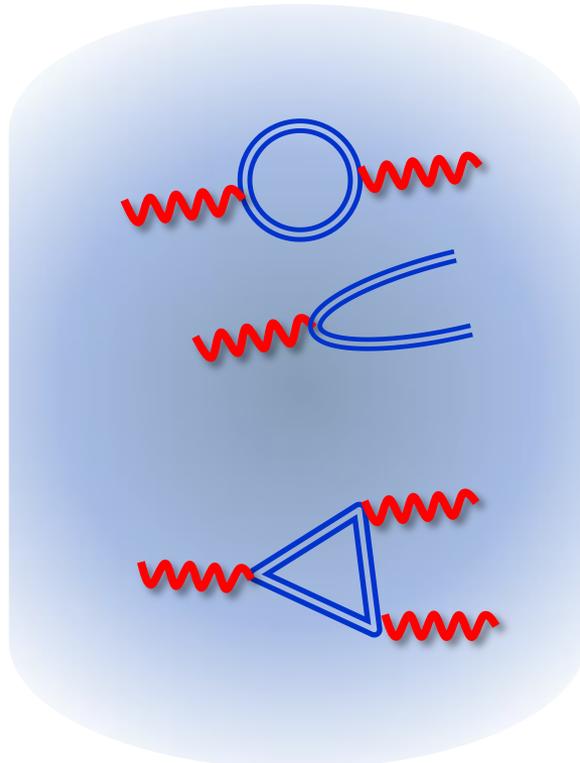
## - Old but unsolved problems

Modified Maxwell eq.:  $\{ q^2 \eta^{\mu\nu} - q^\mu q^\nu - \Pi_{\text{ex}}^{\mu\nu}(q^2) \} A_\nu(q) = 0$

Polarization tensor



### Quantum effects in magnetic fields



Refraction of photons in the vacuum with B-fields without medium effects



Real photon decay

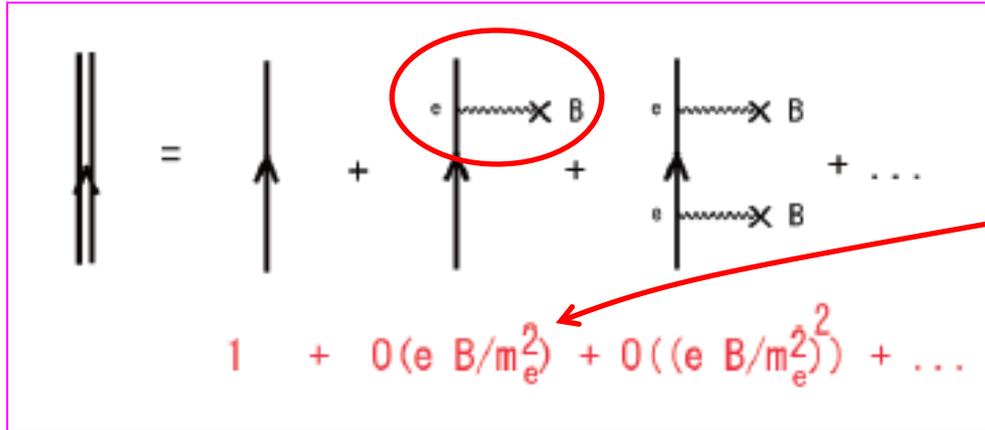
Should be suppressed in the ordinary perturbation.

Photon splitting

# Why strong B-fields?

- Break-down of naïve perturbation

## Dressed fermion propagator in Furry's picture



Critical field strength  
 $B_c = m_e^2 / e$

In heavy ion collisions,  
 $B/B_c \sim O(10^4) \gg 1$

Naïve perturbation breaks down when  $B > B_c$

→ Need to take into account all-order diagrams

## Resummation w.r.t. external legs by "proper-time method"

Schwinger

$$\begin{aligned}
 G(p|A) &= \frac{i(\not{p} - e\not{A} + m)}{(\not{p} - e\not{A})^2 - m^2 + i\epsilon} \\
 &= i(\not{p} - e\not{A} + m) \times \frac{1}{i} \int_0^\infty d\tau e^{i\tau\{(\not{p} - e\not{A})^2 - (m^2 - i\epsilon)\}}
 \end{aligned}$$

$\tau$  : proper-time

Nonlinear to strong external fields

# Photon propagation in a constant external magnetic field

Lorentz and gauge symmetries lead to a tensor structure,

$$\Pi_{\text{ex}}^{\mu\nu}(q^2) = - \{ \chi_0 P_0^{\mu\nu} + \chi_1 P_1^{\mu\nu} + \chi_2 P_2^{\mu\nu} \}$$

$$P_0^{\mu\nu} = q^2 \eta^{\mu\nu} - q^\mu q^\nu$$

$$P_1^{\mu\nu} = q_{\parallel}^2 \eta_{\parallel}^{\mu\nu} - q_{\parallel}^\mu q_{\parallel}^\nu$$

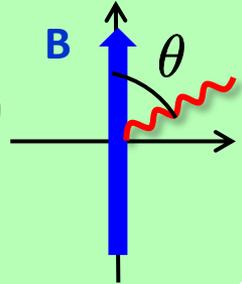
$$P_2^{\mu\nu} = q_{\perp}^2 \eta_{\perp}^{\mu\nu} - q_{\perp}^\mu q_{\perp}^\nu$$

$\theta$ : angle btw B-field and photon propagation

$$q^\mu = (q^0, q_{\perp}, 0, q^3)$$

$$q_{\parallel}^\mu = (q^0, 0, 0, q^3)$$

$$q_{\perp}^\mu = (0, q_{\perp}, 0, 0)$$



$$\chi_i(r_{\parallel}^2, r_{\perp}^2, B_r) = \frac{\alpha B_r}{4\pi} \int_{-1}^1 d\beta \int_0^{\infty} d\tau \frac{\Gamma_i(\tau, \beta)}{\sin(\tau)} e^{-i(\phi_{\parallel} + \phi_{\perp})\tau}$$

Integrands having strong oscillations

$$\begin{cases} \Gamma_0(\tau, \beta) = \cos(\beta\tau) - \beta \sin(\beta\tau) \cot(\tau) \\ \Gamma_1(\tau, \beta) = (1 - \beta^2) \cos(\tau) - \Gamma_0(\tau, \beta) \\ \Gamma_2(\tau, \beta) = 2 \frac{\cos(\beta\tau) - \cos(\tau)}{\sin^2(\tau)} - \Gamma_0(\tau, \beta) \end{cases}$$

Schwinger, Adler, Shabad, Urrutia, Tsai and Eber, Dittrich and Gies

$$\phi_{\parallel}(r_{\parallel}^2, B_r) = \frac{1}{B_r} \{ 1 - (1 - \beta^2) r_{\parallel}^2 \}$$

$$\phi_{\perp}(r_{\parallel}^2, B_r) = -\frac{2r_{\perp}^2}{B_r} \cdot \frac{\cos(\beta\tau) - \cos(\tau)}{\sin(\tau)}$$

Exponentiated trig-functions generate strongly oscillating behavior with arbitrarily high frequency.

# Analytic results of integrals without any approximation

KH, K. Itakura (I)

Every term results in either of three simple integrals.

$$\int_{-1}^1 d\beta \int_0^{\infty} d\tau \beta^k e^{-i\Phi(\beta)\tau} \quad k = 0, 1, 2$$
$$\Phi(\beta) = \frac{1}{B_r} \{1 - (1 - \beta^2) r_{\parallel}^2\} + 2\ell - n\beta + n$$

Decomposition into a double infinite sum

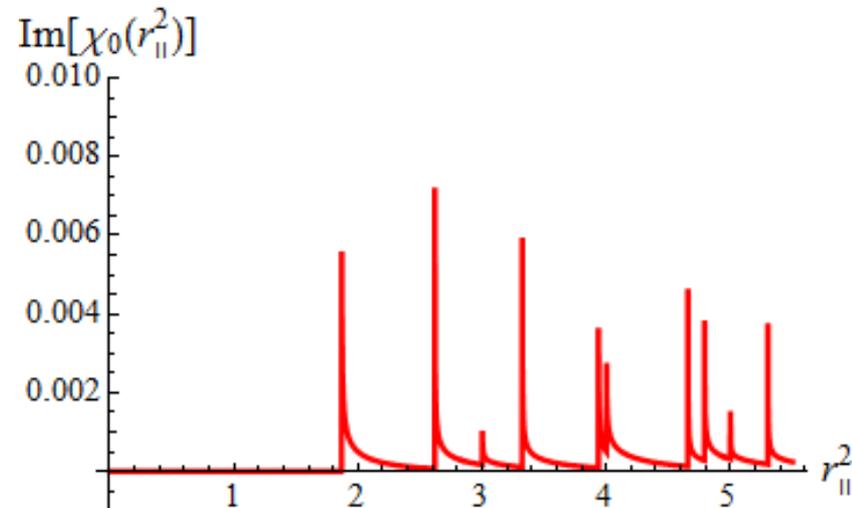
$$\chi_i = \frac{\alpha B_r}{4\pi} e^{-\eta} \sum_{\ell=0}^{\infty} \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \Omega_{\ell i}^n$$

$\Omega_{\ell i}^n$  is given by the Laguerre polynomials.  
(Wave functions of charged fermions in B-fields)

Polarization tensor acquires an imaginary part above

$$q_{\parallel}^2 = \left[ \sqrt{m^2 + 2\ell eB} + \sqrt{m^2 + 2(\ell + n)eB} \right]^2$$

$\ell$  and  $n$ : “Landau levels” of a pair excitation



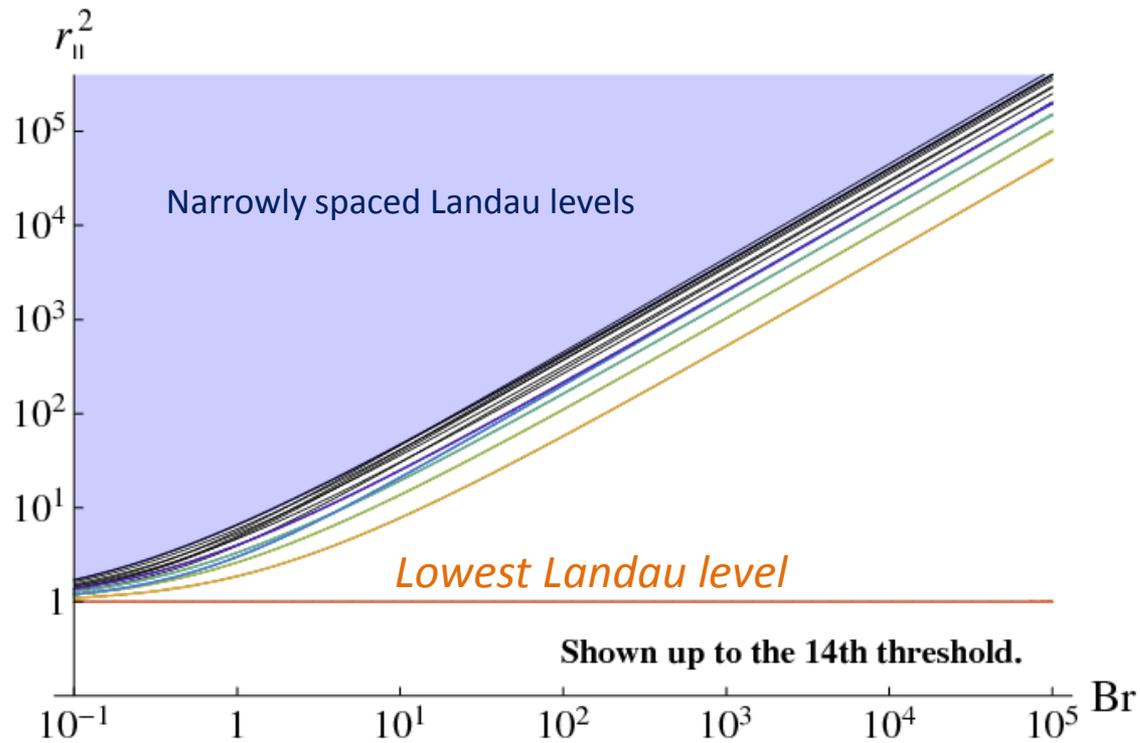
# Summary of relevant scales

- An infinite number of the Landau levels

$$r_{\parallel}^2 = \frac{q_{\parallel}^2}{4m_e^2}$$

(Photon momentum)

The first threshold  
(lowest Landau level):  
 $q_{\parallel}^2 = 4m_e^2 = 1 \text{ MeV}^2$



$$B_r = B/B_c$$

# Complex refractive indices

$$n = \frac{|\mathbf{q}|}{\omega}$$

Solutions of Maxwell eq.  
with the vacuum polarization tensor

$$n_{\parallel}^2 = \frac{1 + \chi_0 + \chi_1}{1 + \chi_0 + \chi_1 \cos^2 \theta}$$
$$n_{\perp}^2 = \frac{1 + \chi_0}{1 + \chi_0 + \chi_2 \sin^2 \theta}$$

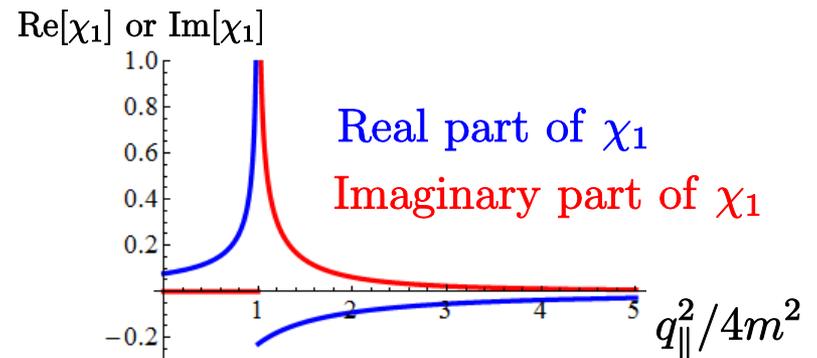
The Lowest Landau Level ( $\ell=n=0$ )

$$\chi_1 \neq 0, \quad \chi_0 = \chi_2 = 0$$

Refractive indices at the LLL

$$\begin{cases} n_{\parallel}^2 = \frac{1 + \chi_1}{1 + \chi_1 \cos^2 \theta} \\ n_{\perp}^2 = 1 \end{cases}$$

Polarization excites only along the magnetic field  
"Vacuum birefringence"



# Self-consistent solutions of the modified Maxwell Eq.

KH, K. Itakura (II)

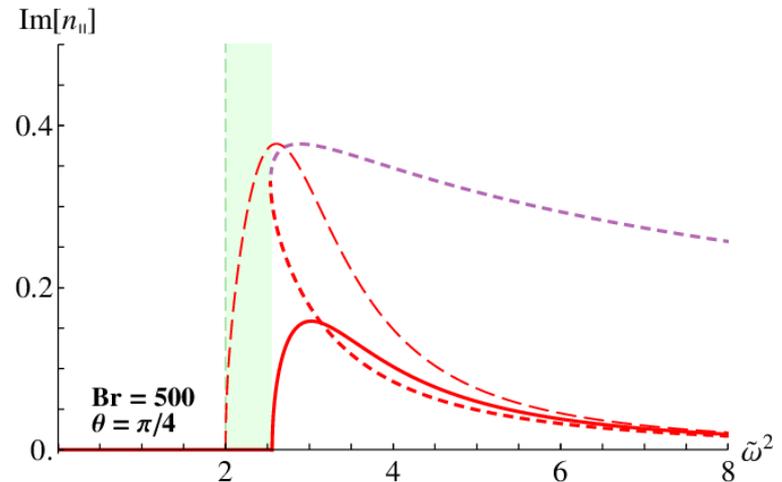
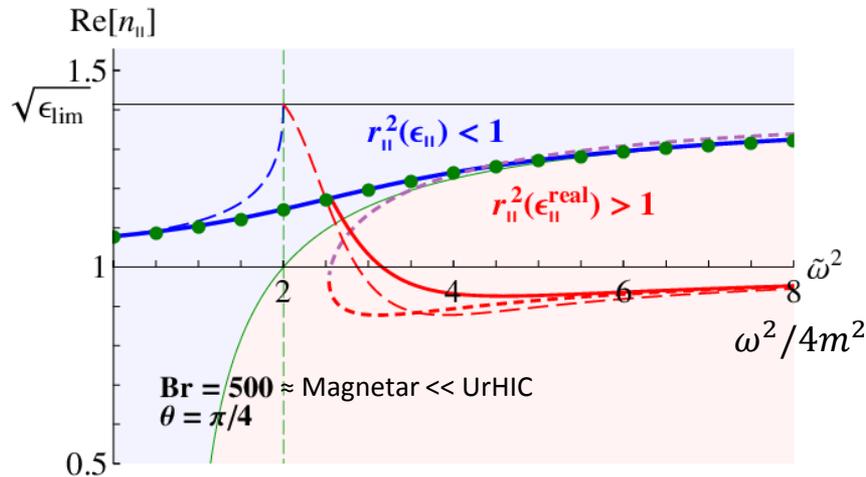
$$n^2 = \frac{1 + \chi_1}{1 + \chi_1 \cos^2 \theta}$$

$$\chi_1(q_{\parallel}^2, q_{\perp}^2; B_r)$$

$$q_{\parallel}^2 = \omega^2 - q_z^2 = \omega^2(1 - n^2 \cos^2 \theta)$$

$$q_{\perp}^2 = -|\mathbf{q}_{\perp}|^2 = -n^2 \omega^2 \sin^2 \theta$$

Photon dispersion relation is strongly modified when strongly coupled to excitations (cf: exciton-polariton, etc)



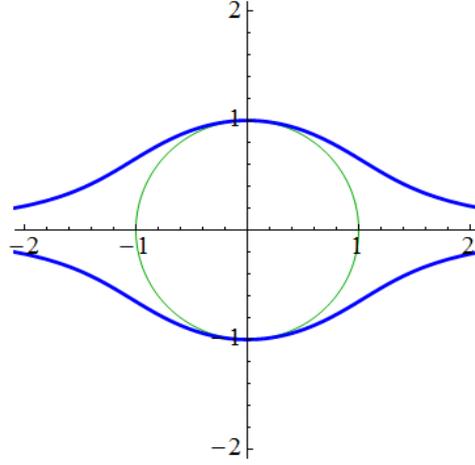
cf: air  $n = 1.0003$ , water  $n = 1.333$

# Angle dependence of the refractive index

$$B_r = 500$$

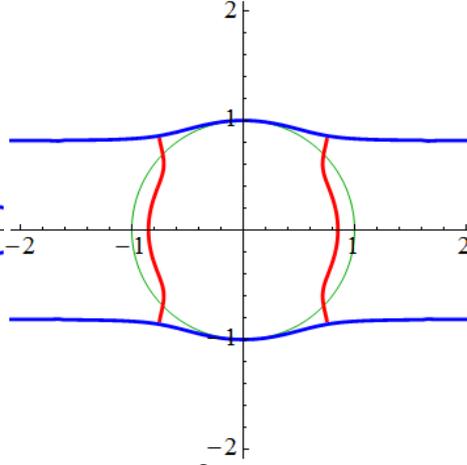
## Real part

Real part of the refraction index,  $B_r = 500$ ,  $\omega^2 = 1$



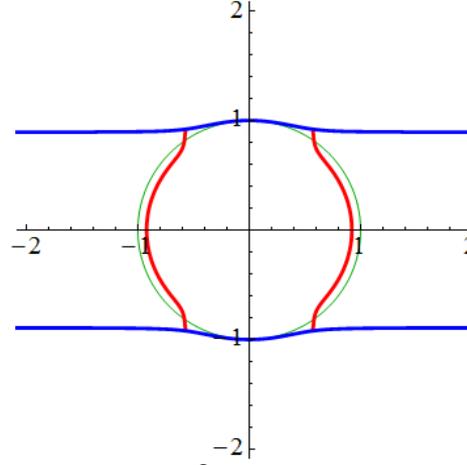
$$\omega^2 = 1$$

Real part of the refraction index,  $B_r = 500$ ,  $\omega^2 = 3$



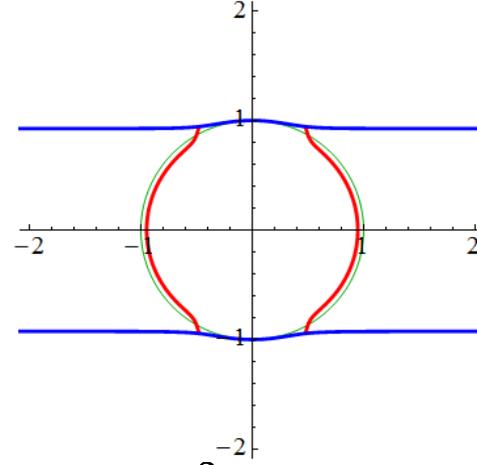
$$\omega^2 = 3$$

Real part of the refraction index,  $B_r = 500$ ,  $\omega^2 = 5$



$$\omega^2 = 5$$

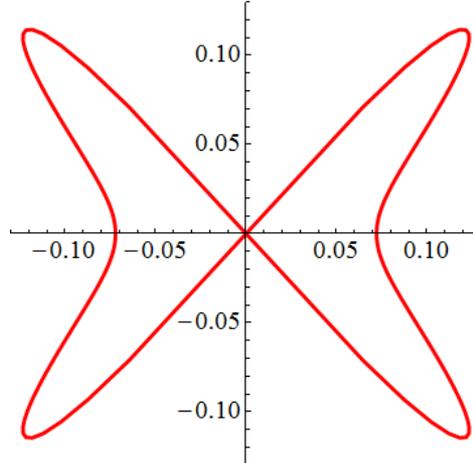
Real part of the refraction index,  $B_r = 500$ ,  $\omega^2 = 7$



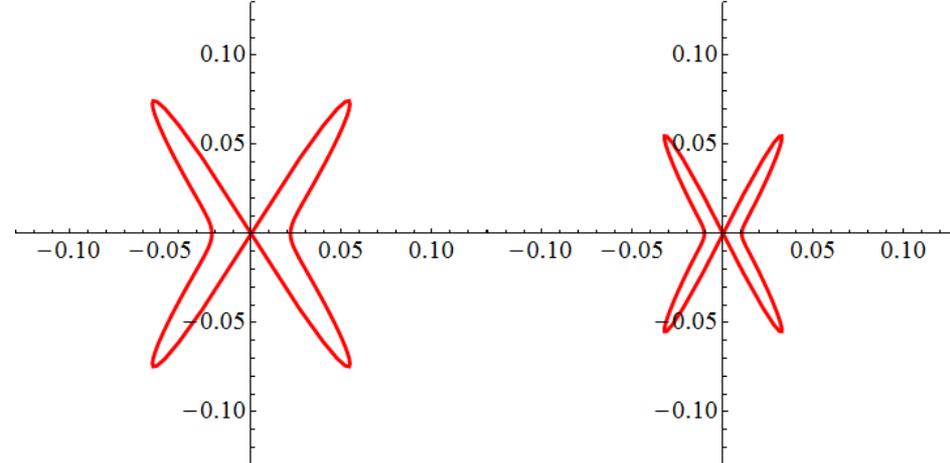
$$\omega^2 = 7$$

## Imaginary part

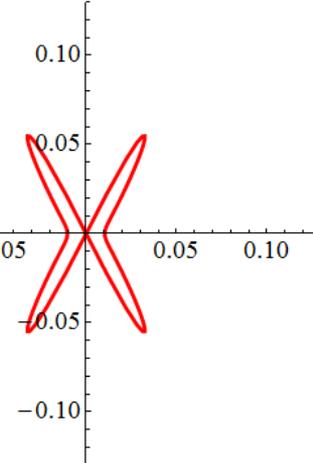
Imaginary part of the refraction index,  $B_r = 500$ ,  $\omega^2 = 3$



Imaginary part of the refraction index,  $B_r = 500$ ,  $\omega^2 = 5$



Imaginary part of the refraction index,  $B_r = 500$ ,  $\omega^2 = 7$

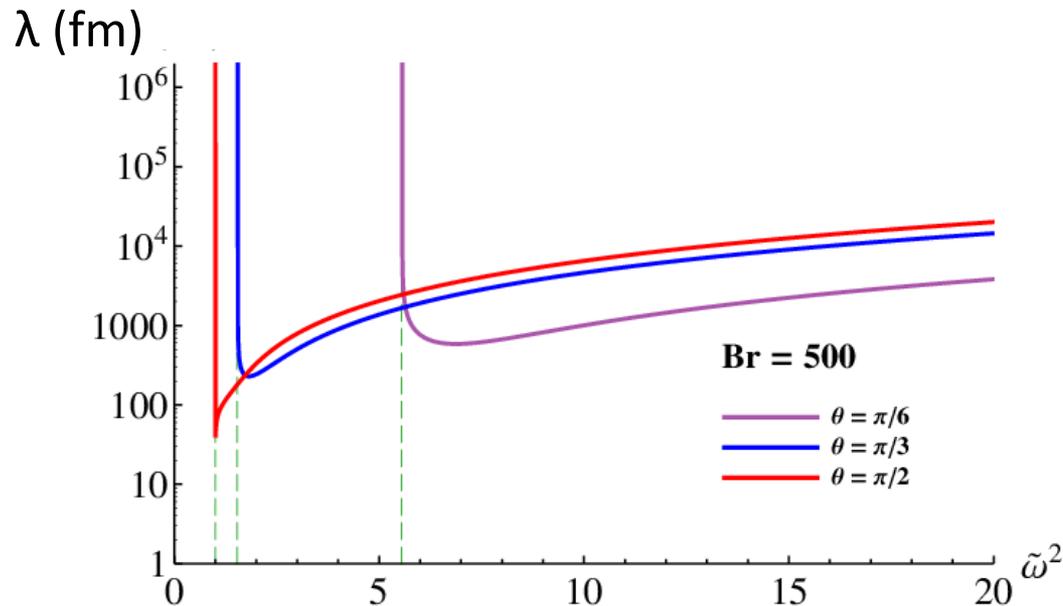


No imaginary part

# “Mean-free-path” of photons in B-fields

Photon flux :  $I \propto \exp\{ -\lambda^{-1} \hat{\mathbf{q}} \cdot \mathbf{x} \}$

$$\lambda = \frac{1}{2\omega n_{\text{imag}}}$$



# Summary

- + We obtained **an analytic form** of the polarization tensor in magnetic fields as the summation w.r.t. **the Landau levels**.
- + We obtained the complex refractive indices (photon dispersions) by solving the modified Maxwell Eq. self-consistently.
- **Photons decay within the microscopic spatial scale.**

# Prospects

We will go into phenomenology in neutron stars/magnetars and the heavy-ion collisions .



# The first seminal work in “nonlinear QED”

“Consequences of Dirac’s Theory of the Positron”

W. Heisenberg and H. Euler in Leipzig1

22. December 1935

## Abstract

According to Dirac’s theory of the positron, an electromagnetic field tends to create pairs of particles which leads to a change of Maxwell’s equations in the vacuum. These changes are calculated in the special case that no real electrons or positrons are present and the field varies little over a Compton wavelength. The resulting effective Lagrangian of the field reads:

$$\mathcal{L} = \frac{1}{2}(\mathcal{E}^2 - \mathcal{B}^2) + \frac{e^2}{\hbar c} \int_0^\infty e^{-\eta} \frac{d\eta}{\eta^3} \left\{ i\eta^2 (\mathcal{E}\mathcal{B}) \cdot \frac{\cos\left(\frac{\eta}{|\mathcal{E}_k|} \sqrt{\mathcal{E}^2 - \mathcal{B}^2 + 2i(\mathcal{E}\mathcal{B})}\right) + \text{conj.}}{\cos\left(\frac{\eta}{|\mathcal{E}_k|} \sqrt{\mathcal{E}^2 - \mathcal{B}^2 + 2i(\mathcal{E}\mathcal{B})} - \text{conj.}\right)} + |\mathcal{E}_k|^2 + \frac{\eta^2}{3} (\mathcal{B}^2 - \mathcal{E}^2) \right\}$$

$\mathcal{E}, \mathcal{B}$  field strengths

$$|\mathcal{E}_k| = \frac{m^2 c^3}{e\hbar} = \frac{1}{137} \frac{e}{(e^2/mc^2)^2} = \text{critical field strengths}$$

The expansion terms in small fields (compared to  $\mathcal{E}$ ) describe light-light scattering. The simplest term is already known from perturbation theory. For large fields, the equations derived here differ strongly from Maxwell’s equations. Our equations will be compared to those proposed by Born.

Euler – Heisenberg effective Lagrangian

- resummation wrt the number of external legs

$$iS_{1\text{-loop}} = \ln [\det(i\mathcal{D} - m)] = \text{diagram 1} + \text{diagram 2} + \text{diagram 3} + \dots$$

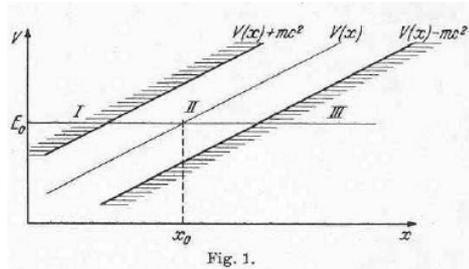
Correct manipulation of a UV divergence in 1935!

# Pair creation (vacuum instability) induced by strong electric field as known as Schwinger mechanism

## Folgerungen aus der Diracschen Theorie des Positrons.

Von W. Heisenberg und H. Euler in Leipzig.

Mit 2 Abbildungen. (Eingegangen am 22. Dezember 1935.)



In Fig. 1, the potential energy  $V(x)$  and the lines  $V(x)+mc^2$  and  $V(x)-mc^2$  are plotted against the coordinate (the electric field is parallel  $x$ -axis). The calculations of Sauter show that the eigenfunction associated to the eigenvalue  $E_0$ , for example, is large only in the regions I and II. In the region II, they decrease exponentially. Therefore, a wave function that begins being large in region I decreases slowly in region III where the transmission coefficient through region II (which plays the role of a Gamow-wall) calculated by Sauter has the order of magnitude  $e^{-\frac{m^2 c^3}{\hbar e |\mathcal{E}|} \pi}$ . If we define  $|\mathcal{E}_k| = \frac{m^2 c^3}{\hbar e}$  as the critical field strength, we can also write  $e^{-\frac{|\mathcal{E}_k|}{|\mathcal{E}|} \pi}$ . As long as  $|\mathcal{E}| \ll |\mathcal{E}_k|$ , pair creation is so rare that it can be practically ignored. Then it must be possible to find

$$\text{Creation rate: } \Gamma \propto e^{-\frac{E_c}{E} \pi}$$

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## On Gauge Invariance and Vacuum Polarization

JULIAN SCHWINGER

Harvard University, Cambridge, Massachusetts

(Received December 22, 1950)

If the integration path is considered to lie above the real axis, which is an alternative version of the device embodied in Eq. (6.32), we obtain a positive imaginary contribution to  $\mathcal{L}$ ,

$$2 \operatorname{Im} \mathcal{L} = \frac{1}{4\pi} \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} s_n^{-2} \exp(-m^2 s_n)$$

$$= \frac{\alpha^2}{\pi^2} \mathcal{E}^2 \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} n^{-2} \exp\left(\frac{-n\pi m^2}{e\mathcal{E}}\right). \quad (6.41)$$

This is the probability, per unit time and per unit volume, that a pair is created by the constant electric field.

General formula within 1-loop & constant field obtained by the “proper-time method”.

$$\text{Critical field: } E_c = \frac{m^2}{e}$$

## Quick derivation of the Landau level

Discretized spectrum of charged particle in the cyclotron orbits.

Landau gauge :  $\hat{\mathbf{A}} = (0, B\hat{x}_1, 0)$ ,  $\phi = 0$

$$\begin{aligned}\hat{H} &= \frac{1}{2m^2}(\hat{\mathbf{p}} - e\hat{\mathbf{A}})^2 \\ &= \frac{1}{2m^2} \{ \hat{p}_1^2 + (\hat{p}_2 - eB\hat{x}_1)^2 + \hat{p}_3^2 \}\end{aligned}$$

$$[\hat{p}_2, \hat{H}] = 0 \text{ and } [\hat{p}_3, \hat{H}] = 0$$

$$\hat{H} = \frac{\hat{p}_1^2}{2m^2} + \frac{1}{2}m\omega_c^2\left(\hat{x}_1 - \frac{p_2}{eB}\right)^2 + \frac{p_3^2}{2m^2}$$

$$\mathbf{B} = \text{rot } \mathbf{A} = (0, 0, B)$$

Cyclotron frequency :  $\omega_c = \frac{eB}{m}$

$$E_n = \omega_c \left( n + \frac{1}{2} \right) + \frac{p_3^2}{2m^2}, \quad (n \geq 0)$$

Harmonic oscillator + Continuous longitudinal spectrum

Wave function:

Associated Laguerre polynomial  $L_{(n+m+|n-m|)/2}^{|n-m|}$

It's convenient to use symmetric gauge,  
 $\mathbf{A} = (-By, Bx, 0)/2$ ,  
 which respects the rotational symmetry.

Relativistic version for spin- $\frac{1}{2}$  :

$$E_n = \sqrt{m^2 + 2eB \left( n + \frac{1}{2} \pm \frac{1}{2} \right) + p_3^2}$$

What dynamics is encoded in the functions,  $\chi_i$  ( $i = 0, 1, 2$ ) ?

$$\chi_i(r_{\parallel}^2, r_{\perp}^2, B_r) = \frac{\alpha B_r}{4\pi} \int_{-1}^1 d\beta \int_0^{\infty} d\tau \frac{\Gamma_i(B_r\tau, \beta)}{\sin(B_r\tau)} e^{-i(\phi_{\parallel} + \phi_{\perp})\tau}$$

Dimensionless variables

$$B_r = \frac{B}{B_c} \quad r_{\parallel}^2 = \frac{q_{\parallel}^2}{4m^2} \quad r_{\perp}^2 = \frac{q_{\perp}^2}{4m^2}$$

Schwinger, Adler, Shabad, Urrutia,  
Tsai and Eber, Dittrich and Gies

$$\phi_{\parallel}(r_{\parallel}^2, B_r) = 1 - (1 - \beta^2) r_{\parallel}^2$$

$$\phi_{\perp}(r_{\parallel}^2, B_r) = -2 \frac{\cos(\beta B_r\tau) - \cos(B_r\tau)}{\sin(B_r\tau)} r_{\perp}^2$$

Exponentiated trig-functions generate strongly oscillating behavior by arbitrarily high frequency.

$$\begin{cases} \Gamma_0(B_r\tau, \beta) = \cos(\beta B_r\tau) - \beta \sin(\beta B_r\tau) \cot(B_r\tau) \\ \Gamma_1(B_r\tau, \beta) = (1 - \beta^2) \cos(B_r\tau) - \Gamma_0(B_r\tau, \beta) \\ \Gamma_2(B_r\tau, \beta) = 2 \frac{\cos(\beta B_r\tau) - \cos(B_r\tau)}{\sin^2(B_r\tau)} - \Gamma_0(B_r\tau, \beta) \end{cases}$$

1<sup>st</sup> step: Use a series expansion known as partial wave decomposition Baier and Katkov

$$e^{-iu \cos(\beta\tau)} = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} (2 - \delta_{n0}) I_n(-iu) e^{in\beta\tau}$$

After 1<sup>st</sup> step:

$$\chi_i = \frac{\alpha}{4\pi} \int_{-1}^1 d\beta \int_0^\infty d\tau \sum_{i=0}^2 (2 - \delta_{n0}) \frac{\gamma_i^{(n)}(\tau, \beta)}{\sin \tau} e^{i\eta \cot \tau} e^{-i(\phi_{\parallel} - n\beta)\tau}$$

$$\begin{cases} \gamma_0^{(n)}(\tau, \beta) = \frac{1}{2} \{ I_{n+1}(-iu) + I_{n-1}(-iu) \} - n\beta \eta^{-1} I_n(-iu) \cos \tau \\ \gamma_1^{(n)}(\tau, \beta) = (1 - \beta^2) I_n(-iu) \cos \tau - \gamma_0^{(n)}(\tau, \beta) \\ \gamma_2^{(n)}(\tau, \beta) = \sin^{-2} \tau \{ I_{n+1}(-iu) + I_{n-1}(-iu) - 2I_n(-iu) \cos \tau \} - \gamma_0^{(n)}(\tau, \beta) \end{cases}$$

2<sup>nd</sup> step:

$$e^{i\eta \cot \tau} I_n(-iu) = e^{-\eta} e^{-z \frac{2\eta}{1-z}} I_n\left(\frac{2(\eta^2 z)^{\frac{1}{2}}}{1-z}\right)$$

Put  $z = \exp(-2i\tau)$  and use

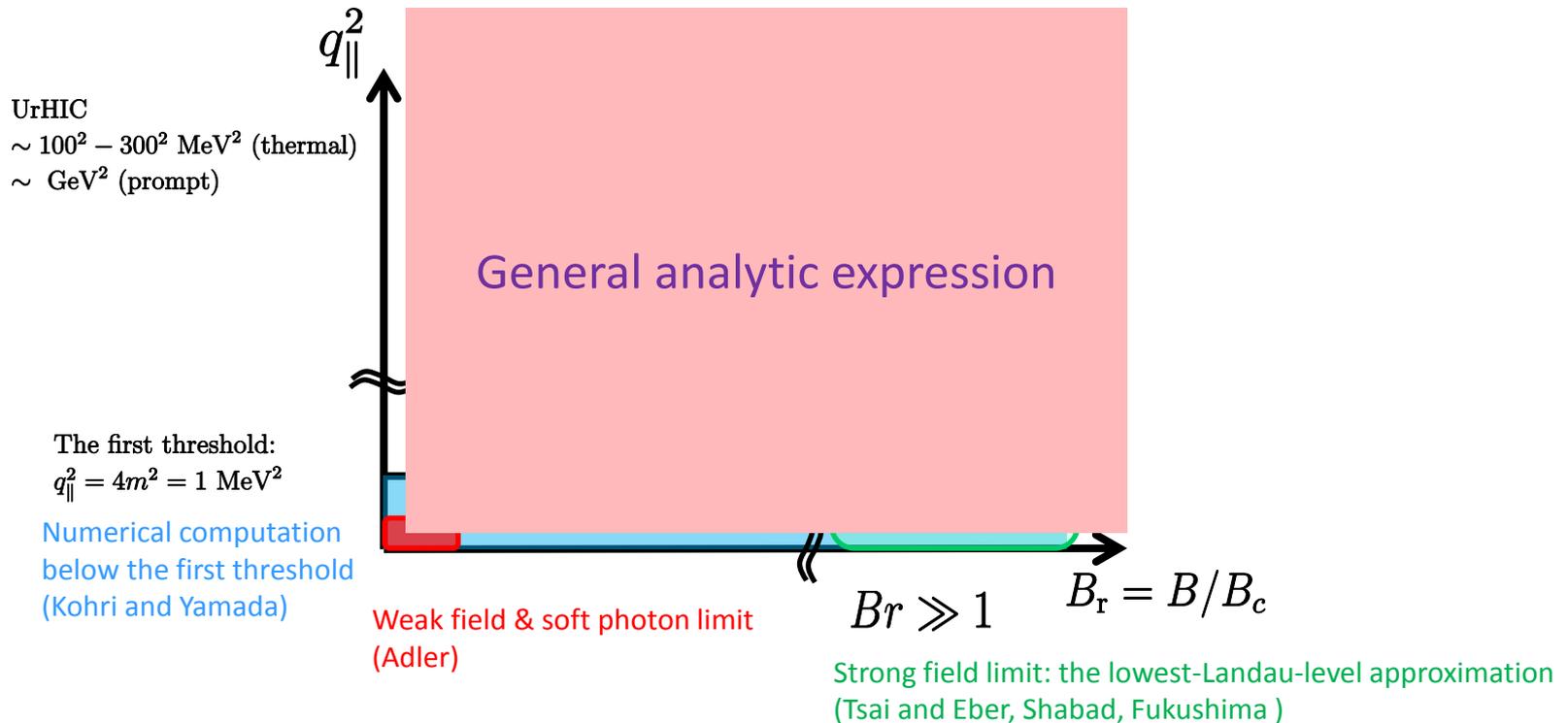
Associated Laguerre polynomial

$$\exp\left(-a \frac{z}{1-z}\right) I_n\left(\frac{2az^{\frac{1}{2}}}{1-z}\right) = (1-z) a^n \sum_{\ell=0}^{\infty} \frac{\ell!}{\Gamma(\ell+n+1)} [L_\ell^n(a)]^2 z^{\ell+\frac{n}{2}}$$

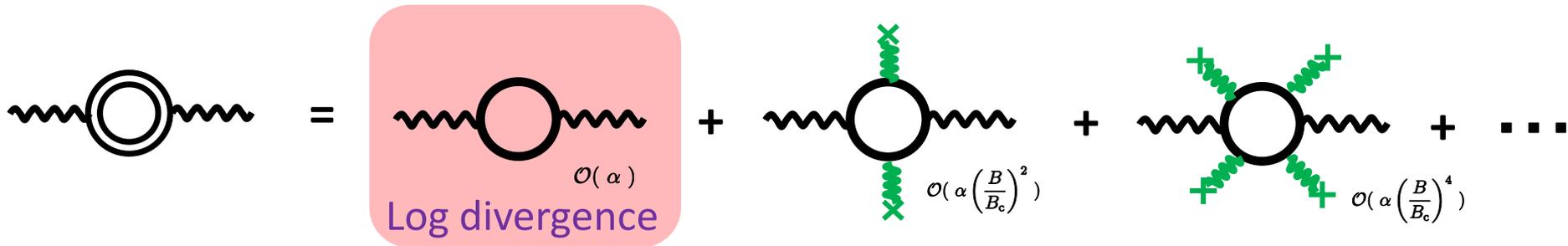
Then, any term reduces to either of three elementary integrals.

$$\begin{aligned} F_\ell^n(r_{\parallel}^2, B_r) &= \frac{i}{B_r} \int_{-1}^1 d\beta \int_0^\infty d\tau e^{-i(\phi_{\parallel} + 2\ell - n\beta + n)\tau} \\ G_\ell^n(r_{\parallel}^2, B_r) &= \frac{i}{B_r} \int_{-1}^1 d\beta \int_0^\infty d\tau \beta e^{-i(\phi_{\parallel} + 2\ell - n\beta + n)\tau} \\ H_\ell^n(r_{\parallel}^2, B_r) &= \frac{i}{B_r} \int_{-1}^1 d\beta \int_0^\infty d\tau \beta^2 e^{-i(\phi_{\parallel} + 2\ell - n\beta + n)\tau} \end{aligned}$$

# Summary of relevant scales and preceding calculations

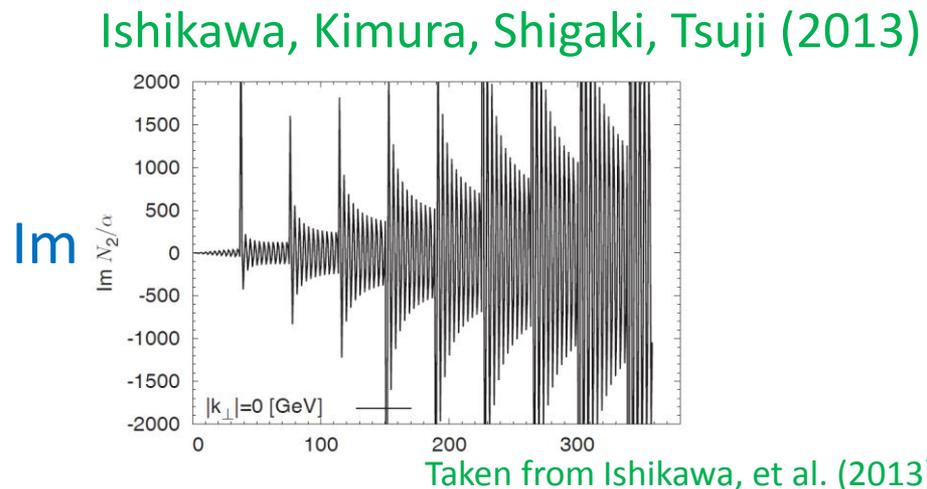
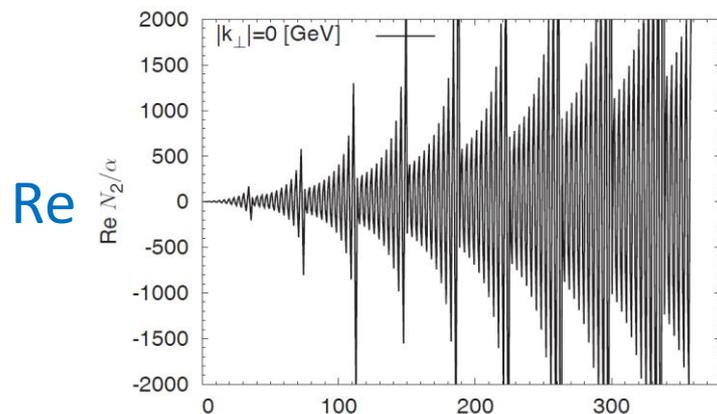


# Renormalization



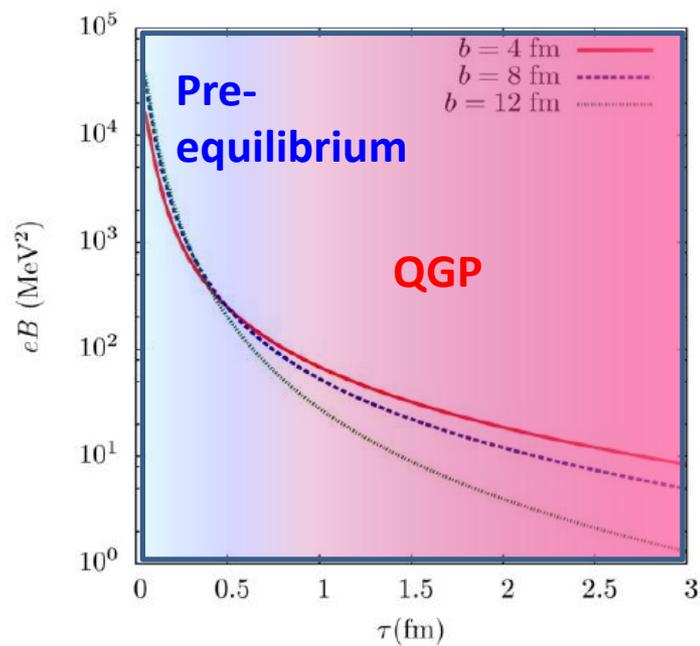
$$\begin{aligned} \Pi_{\text{ren}}(q^2) &= \Pi(q_{\parallel}^2, q_{\perp}^2) - \Pi_{\text{vac}}(q^2 = 0) \\ &= \underbrace{\Pi(q_{\parallel}^2, q_{\perp}^2) - \Pi(0, q_{\perp}^2)}_{\text{Subtraction term-by-term}} + \underbrace{\{\Pi(0, q_{\perp}^2) - \Pi_{\text{vac}}(q^2 = 0)\}}_{\text{Finite}} \end{aligned}$$

$\Pi(0, q_{\perp}^2)$  can be evaluated both by **directly** integrating the proper-time integrals and **decomposing into the series of Landau levels**.

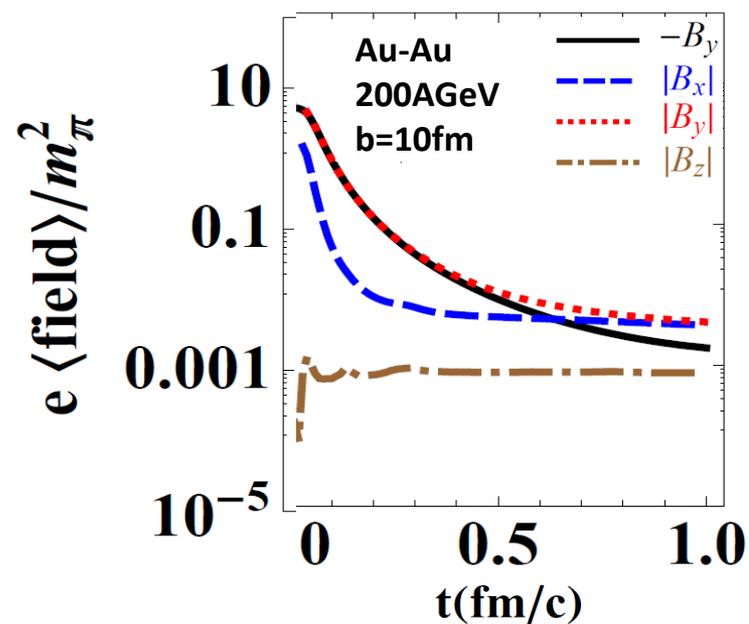


# Strong magnetic fields in UrHIC

Analytical modeling of colliding nuclei,  
Kharzeev, McLerran, Warringa, NPA (2008)



Event-by-event analysis, Deng, Huang (2012)



## Close look at the integrals

*What dynamics is encoded in the scalar functions ?*

$$\begin{aligned} F_\ell^n(r_\parallel^2, B_r) &= I_{\ell\Delta}^n(r_\parallel^2) \\ G_\ell^n(r_\parallel^2, B_r) &= \mathcal{G}_\ell^n [ I_{\ell\Delta}^n(r_\parallel^2) ; r_\parallel^2, B_r ] \\ H_\ell^n(r_\parallel^2, B_r) &= \mathcal{H}_\ell^n [ I_{\ell\Delta}^n(r_\parallel^2) ; r_\parallel^2, B_r ] \end{aligned}$$

$$I_{\ell\Delta}^n(r_\parallel^2) = \frac{2}{\sqrt{4ac - b^2}} \left[ \arctan \left( \frac{b + 2a}{\sqrt{4ac - b^2}} \right) - \arctan \left( \frac{b - 2a}{\sqrt{4ac - b^2}} \right) \right]$$

$$a = r_\parallel^2, \quad b = -nB_r, \quad c = (1 - r_\parallel^2) + (2\ell + n)B_r$$

**An imaginary part representing a real photon decay**

$$b^2 - 4ac = 0 \quad \Leftrightarrow \quad (-nB_r)^2 - 4r_\parallel^2 [(1 - r_\parallel^2) + (2\ell + n)B_r] = 0$$

$$\Leftrightarrow \quad q_\parallel^2 = \left[ \sqrt{m^2 + 2\ell eB} + \sqrt{m^2 + 2(\ell + n)eB} \right]^2$$

**Invariant mass of a fermion-pair in the Landau levels**

# Analytic representation of $\Pi^{\mu\nu}(q, B)$

$$\chi_i = \frac{\alpha B_r}{4\pi} \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} (2 - \delta_{n0}) \left[ \sum_{\ell=0}^{\infty} \Omega_{\ell i}^{n(0)} + \sum_{\ell=1}^{\infty} \Omega_{\ell i}^{n(1)} + \sum_{\ell=2}^{\infty} \Omega_{\ell i}^{n(2)} \right],$$

$$\Omega_{\ell 0}^{n(0)} = (1 - \delta_{n0}) C_{\ell}^{n-1}(\eta) F_{\ell}^n(\xi, B_r) - n\eta^{-1} C_{\ell}^n(\eta) G_{\ell}^n(\xi, B_r),$$

$$\Omega_{\ell 0}^{n(1)} = (1 + \delta_{n0}) C_{\ell-1}^{n+1}(\eta) F_{\ell}^n(\xi, B_r) - n\eta^{-1} C_{\ell-1}^n(\eta) G_{\ell}^n(\xi, B_r),$$

$$\Omega_{\ell 0}^{n(2)} = 0.$$

$$\Omega_{\ell 1}^{n(0)} = C_{\ell}^n(\eta) \{F_{\ell}^n(\xi, B_r) - H_{\ell}^n(\xi, B_r)\} - \Omega_{\ell 0}^{n(0)},$$

$$\Omega_{\ell 1}^{n(1)} = C_{\ell-1}^n(\eta) \{F_{\ell}^n(\xi, B_r) - H_{\ell}^n(\xi, B_r)\} - \Omega_{\ell 0}^{n(1)},$$

$$\Omega_{\ell 1}^{n(2)} = 0,$$

$$\Omega_{\ell 2}^{n(0)} = -\Omega_{\ell 0}^{n(0)},$$

$$\Omega_{\ell 2}^{n(1)} = D_{\ell}^{n(1)}(\eta) F_{\ell}^n(\xi, B_r) - \Omega_{\ell 0}^{n(1)},$$

$$\Omega_{\ell 2}^{n(2)} = D_{\ell}^{n(2)}(\eta) F_{\ell}^n(\xi, B_r).$$

$$C_{\ell}^n(\eta) \equiv e^{-\eta} \frac{\ell!}{(\ell+n)!} \eta^n [L_{\ell}^n(\eta)]^2.$$

$$F_{\ell}^n(r_{\parallel}^2, B_r) = \int_{-1}^1 \frac{d\beta}{r_{\parallel}^2 \beta^2 - n B_r \beta + (1 - r_{\parallel}^2) + (2\ell + n) B_r} \equiv I_{\ell \Delta}^n(r_{\parallel}^2)$$

$$G_{\ell}^n(r_{\parallel}^2, B_r) = \frac{1}{2r_{\parallel}^2} [\Xi_{\ell}^n(B_r) + n B_r I_{\ell \Delta}^n(r_{\parallel}^2)],$$

$$H_{\ell}^n(r_{\parallel}^2, B_r) = \frac{1}{r_{\parallel}^2} \left[ 2 + \frac{n B_r}{2r_{\parallel}^2} \Xi_{\ell}^n(B_r) + \frac{1}{4r_{\parallel}^2} \{ (b^2 - 4ac) + (n B_r)^2 \} I_{\ell \Delta}^n(r_{\parallel}^2) \right],$$

$$\Xi_{\ell}^n(B_r) \equiv \ln \left| \frac{1 + 2\ell B_r}{1 + 2(\ell + n) B_r} \right| = \ln \left| \frac{m^2 + 2\ell e B}{m^2 + 2(\ell + n) e B} \right|$$

$$D_{\ell}^{n(1)}(\eta) = -8 \sum_{\lambda=0}^{\ell-1} (\ell - \lambda) \{ (1 - \delta_{n0}) C_{\lambda}^{n-1}(\eta) - C_{\lambda}^n(\eta) \},$$

$$D_{\ell}^{n(2)}(\eta) = -8 \sum_{\lambda=0}^{\ell-2} (\ell - \lambda - 1) \{ (1 + \delta_{n0}) C_{\lambda}^{n+1}(\eta) - C_{\lambda}^n(\eta) \}.$$

$$I_{\ell \Delta}^n(r_{\parallel}^2) = \begin{cases} \frac{1}{\sqrt{(r_{\parallel}^2 - s_{-}^{\ell n})(r_{\parallel}^2 - s_{+}^{\ell n})}} \cdot \frac{1}{2} \ln \left| \frac{a-c-\sqrt{b^2-4ac}}{a-c+\sqrt{b^2-4ac}} \right| & (r_{\parallel}^2 < s_{-}^{\ell n}) \\ \frac{1}{\sqrt{|(r_{\parallel}^2 - s_{-}^{\ell n})(r_{\parallel}^2 - s_{+}^{\ell n})|}} \left[ \arctan \left( \frac{b+2a}{\sqrt{4ac-b^2}} \right) - \arctan \left( \frac{b-2a}{\sqrt{4ac-b^2}} \right) \right] & (s_{-}^{\ell n} < r_{\parallel}^2 < s_{+}^{\ell n}) \\ \frac{1}{\sqrt{(r_{\parallel}^2 - s_{-}^{\ell n})(r_{\parallel}^2 - s_{+}^{\ell n})}} \cdot \frac{1}{2} \left[ \ln \left| \frac{a-c-\sqrt{b^2-4ac}}{a-c+\sqrt{b^2-4ac}} \right| + 2\pi i \right] & (s_{+}^{\ell n} < r_{\parallel}^2). \end{cases}$$

- Infinite summation w.r.t.  $n$  and  $l$  = summation over two Landau levels
- Numerically confirmed by Ishikawa, et al. arXiv:1304.3655 [hep-ph]
- couldn't find the same results starting from propagators with Landau level decomposition

## Dielectric constant at the lowest-Landau-level

The first term  $(\ell, n) = (0, 0)$  in the double infinite series :

$$\chi_0 = 0$$

$$\chi_1 = \frac{\alpha B_r}{4\pi} e^{-\frac{|\mathbf{q}_\perp|^2}{2|eB|}} \times \frac{1}{r_\parallel^2} \{ I_{0\Delta}^0(r_\parallel^2) - 2 \}$$

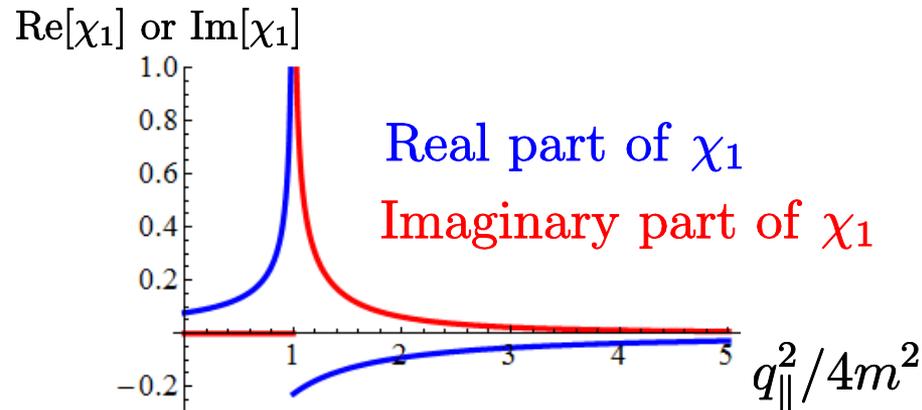
$$\chi_2 = 0$$

$$I_{0\Delta}^0(r_\parallel^2) = \frac{2}{\sqrt{r_\parallel^2(1-r_\parallel^2)}} \arctan \left( \frac{r_\parallel^2}{\sqrt{r_\parallel^2(1-r_\parallel^2)}} \right)$$

ArcTan : source of an imaginary part above the lowest threshold

## Dielectric constant at the LLL

$$\begin{cases} \epsilon_\parallel = \frac{1+\chi_1}{1+\chi_1 \cos^2 \theta} \\ \epsilon_\perp = 1 \end{cases} \quad \text{Polarization excites only along the magnetic field}$$

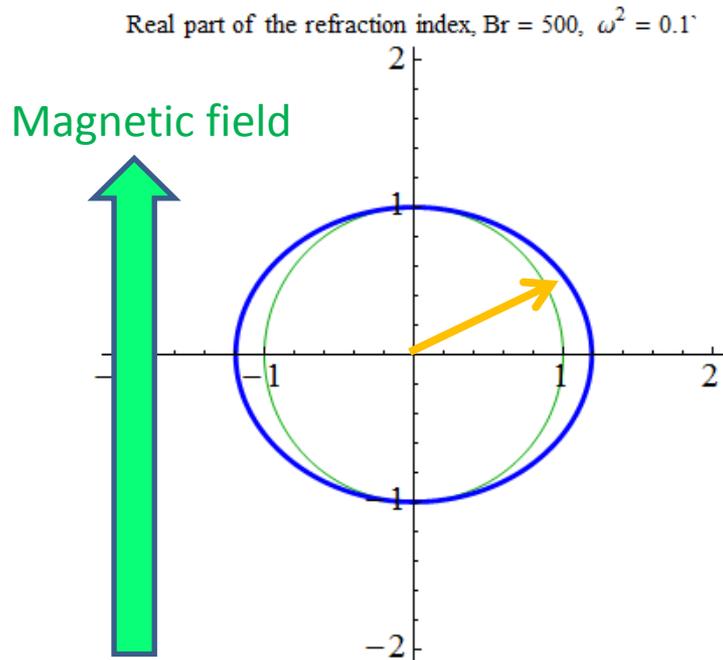


# Complex refractive index

$$\begin{aligned} \epsilon &= \epsilon_r + i\epsilon_i & n^2 &= \epsilon \\ n &= n_r + in_i & \longrightarrow & \end{aligned} \quad \left\{ \begin{aligned} n_r &= \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} \sqrt{|\epsilon| + \epsilon_r} \\ n_i &= \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} \sqrt{|\epsilon| - \epsilon_r} \end{aligned} \right. .$$

## Angle dependence of the refractive index

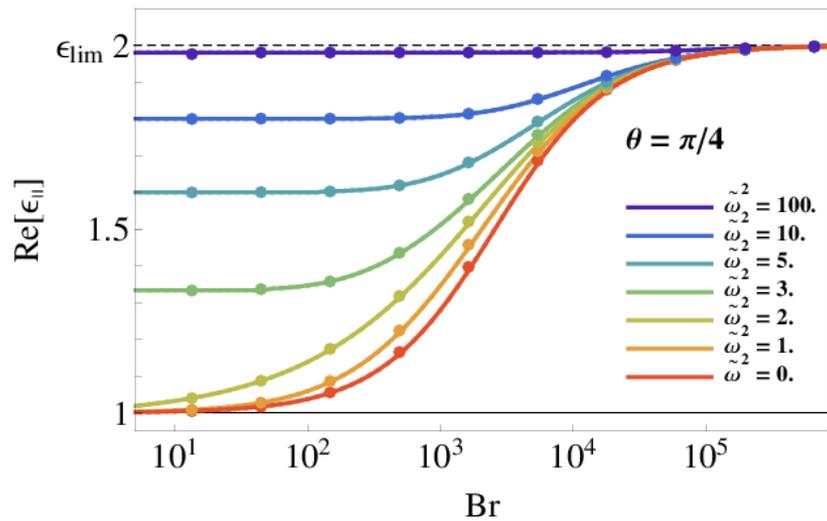
Shown as a deviation from unit circle



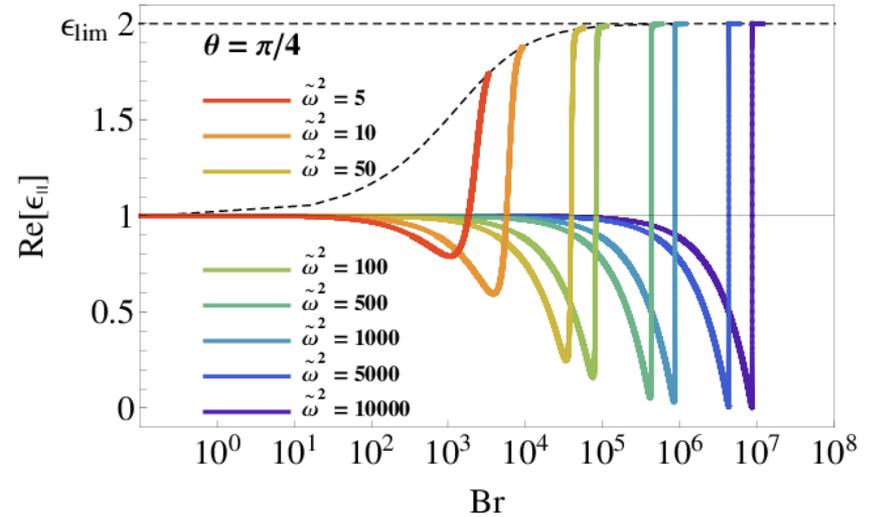
Direction of arrow :  
direction of photon propagation

Norm of arrow :  
magnitude of the refraction index

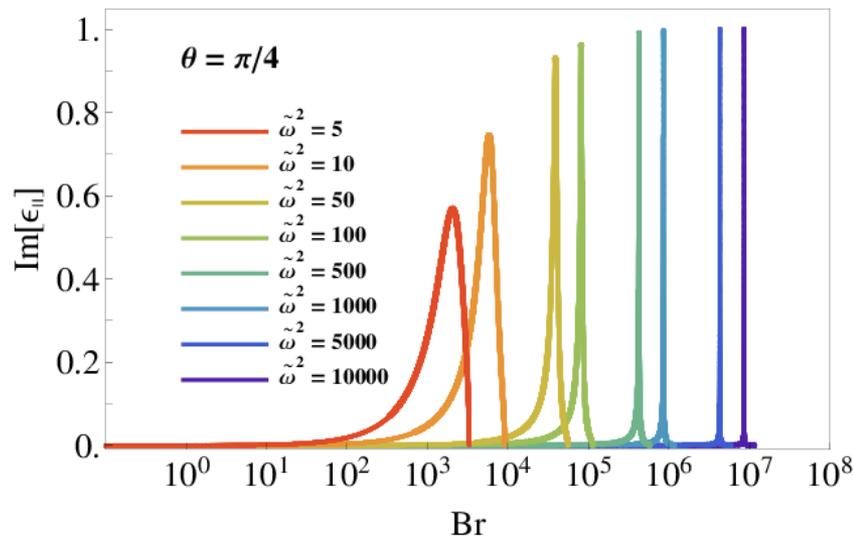
Real part of  $\epsilon$  on stable branch



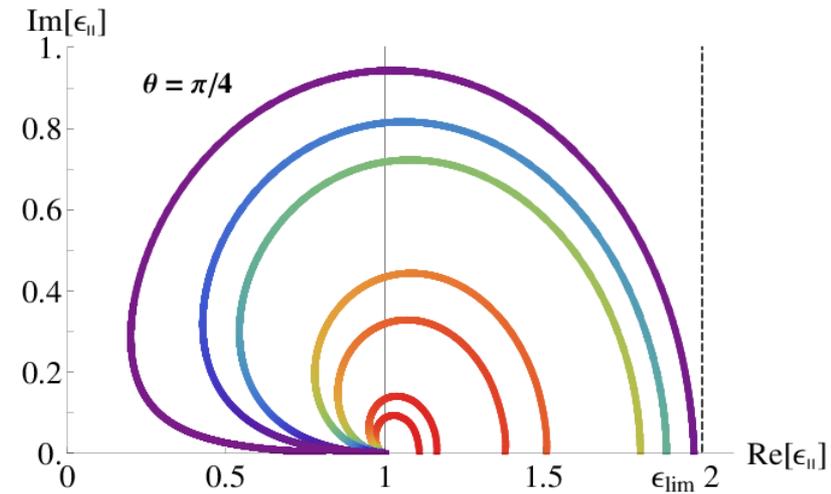
Real part of  $\epsilon$  on unstable branch



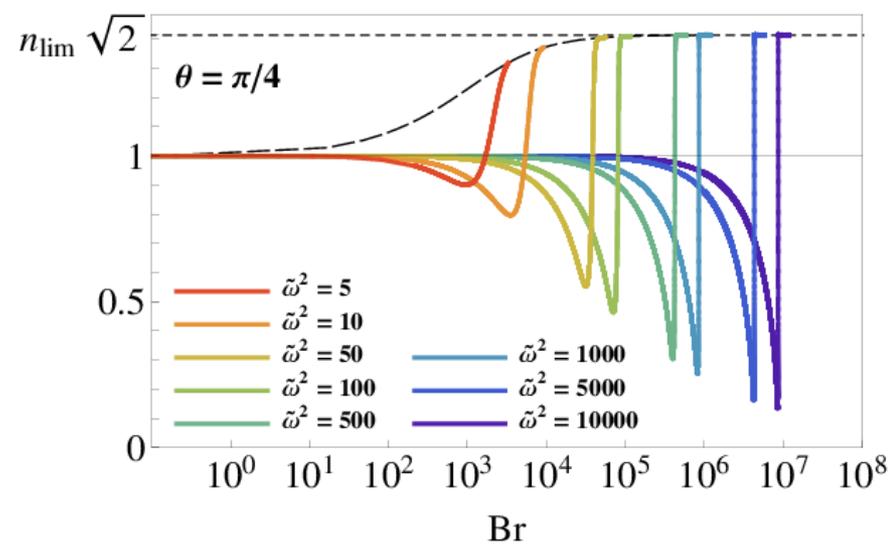
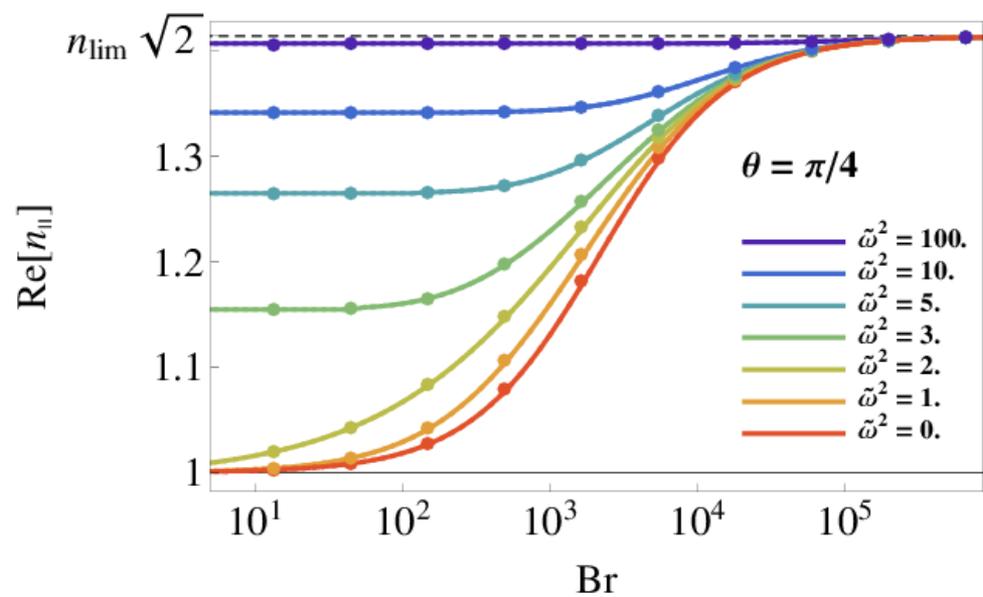
Imaginary part of  $\epsilon$  on unstable branch



Relation btw real and imaginary parts on unstable branch

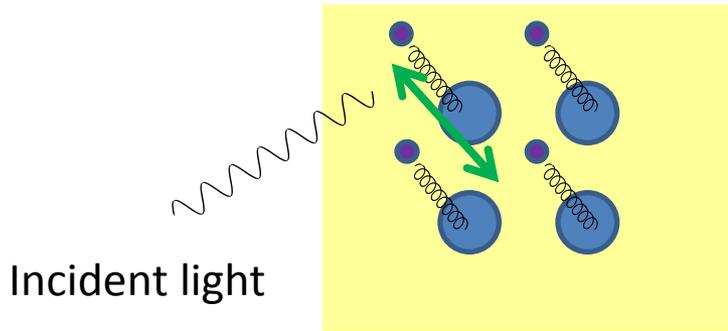


$Br = (50, 100, 500, 1000, 5000, 10000, 50000)$



# Schematic picture of the birefringence

Polarization in dielectric medium :  
a classical argument

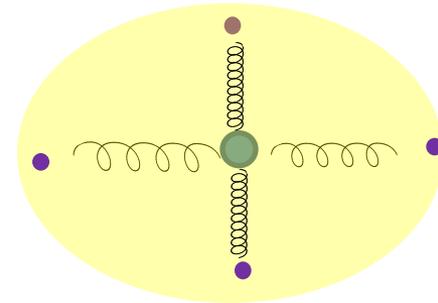


Lorentz-type dispersion :

$$\chi \propto \frac{1}{\omega^2 - \omega_0^2 + i\gamma\omega}$$

with characteristic frequency :  $\omega_0^2 = U/m$

Anisotropic constants result  
in an anisotropic response.



$$\mathbf{P} = qN\mathbf{x} \quad \begin{cases} q : \text{charge} \\ N : \text{density of dipoles} \\ \mathbf{x} : \text{displacement} \end{cases}$$

What happens with the anisotropic (discretized)  
spectrum by the Landau-levels ?

$$m\ddot{\mathbf{x}} + \gamma\dot{\mathbf{x}} + U\mathbf{x} = q\mathbf{E}$$

Dissipation

Linear bound force

Incident light field

