

# 強磁場中における真空複屈折の詳細解析 とその応用に向けて

Vacuum birefringence by nonlinear QED effects  
in strong magnetic fields

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*KH and K. Itakura in preparation*

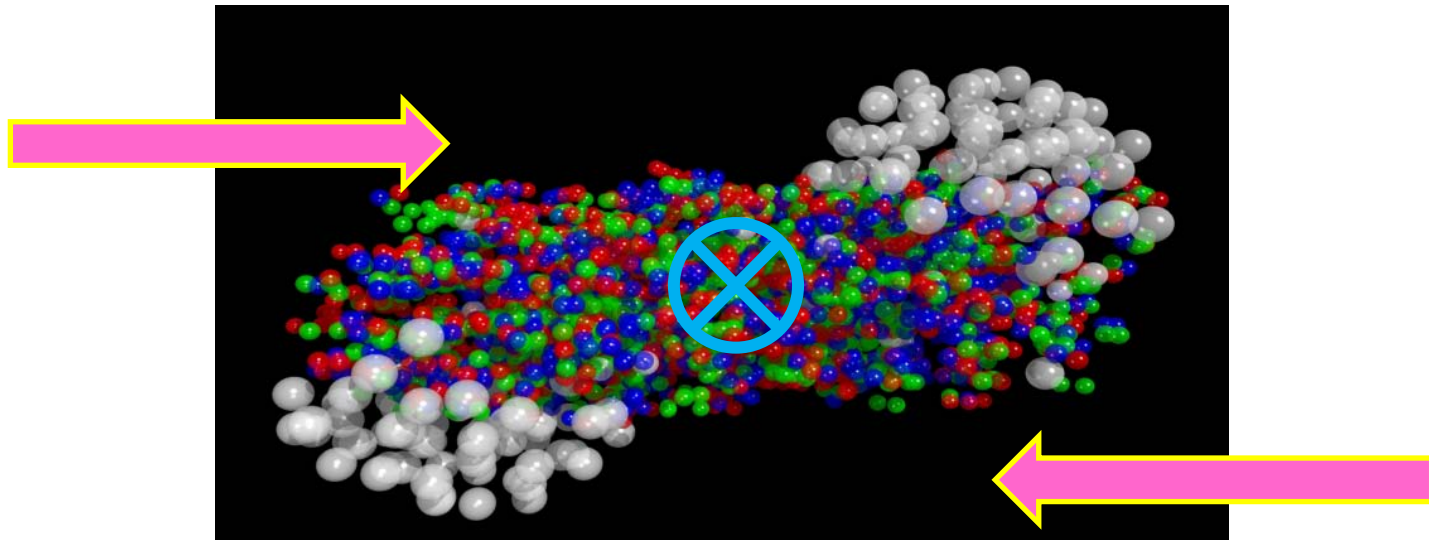
**熱場の量子論とその応用**

8月22-24日 2012

# A magnetic field in Ultrarelativistic Heavy-Ion Collisions

*An extremely strong B-field  
induced by highly accelerated heavy nuclei*

$$\frac{v}{Z} = \left| \frac{\mathbf{v} \times \mathbf{Z}}{r^3} \right|$$



Pb+Pb peripheral, ALICE

# Strong magnetic fields in nature and laboratory

## How strong?

1 Tesla =  $10^4$  Gauss



0.6 Gauss

Earth's magnetic field

100 Gauss

A typical hand-held magnet

$8.3 \times 10^4$  Gauss

Superconducting magnets used in LHC

$4.5 \times 10^5$  Gauss

The strongest steady magnetic field

(Nat. High Mag. Field Lab. at Florida)

$10^{12}$  Gauss

Typical neutron stars

$4 \times 10^{13}$  Gauss

"Critical" magnetic field of electrons  $\sqrt{eB_c} = m_e$

$10^{15}$  Gauss

Magnetars  $\rightarrow$  On the third day  $= 0.5 \text{ MeV}$

$10^{17}$  Gauss

Noncentral heavy-ion coll. at RHIC

$10^{18}$  Gauss

Noncentral heavy-ion coll. at LHC

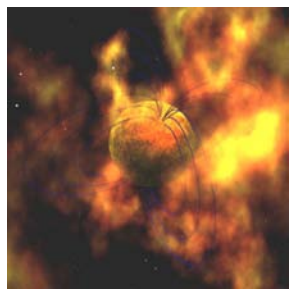
"Color" magnetic fields  
in heavy-ion coll.

$\sqrt{eB} \sim 100 \text{ MeV}$

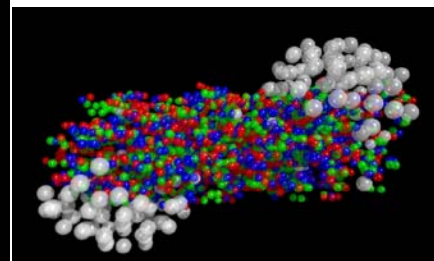
$\sqrt{gB} \sim 1 \text{ GeV}$   
at RHIC



Magnet in Lab.



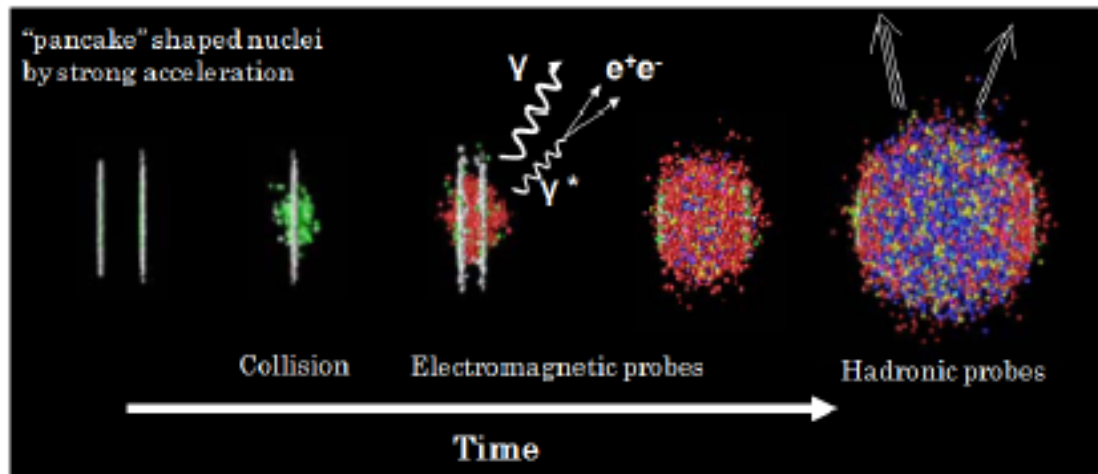
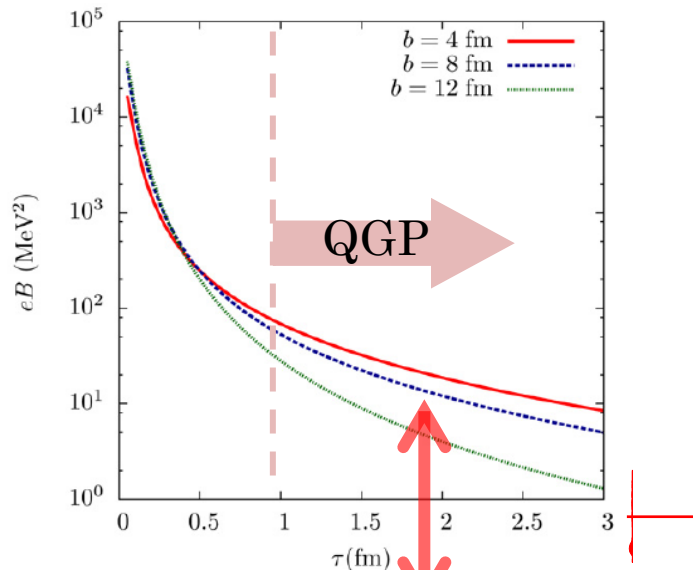
Magnetar



Heavy ion collisions

# Time evolution of the magnetic field in UrHIC

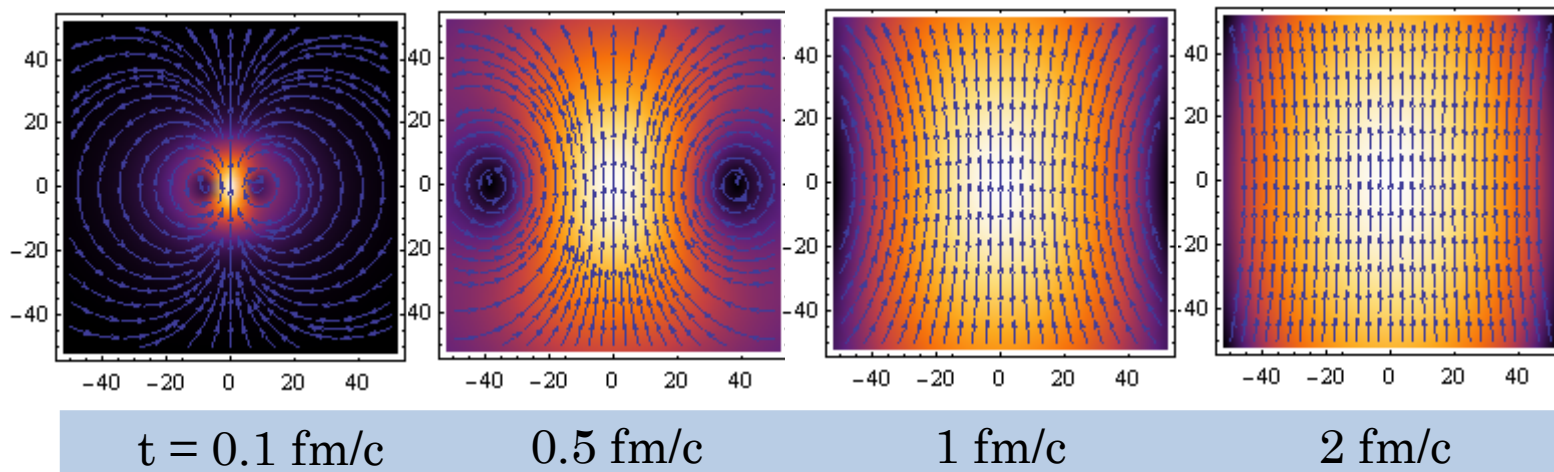
*A simple estimate by Lienard-Wiechert potential*



$$eB_c = |$$

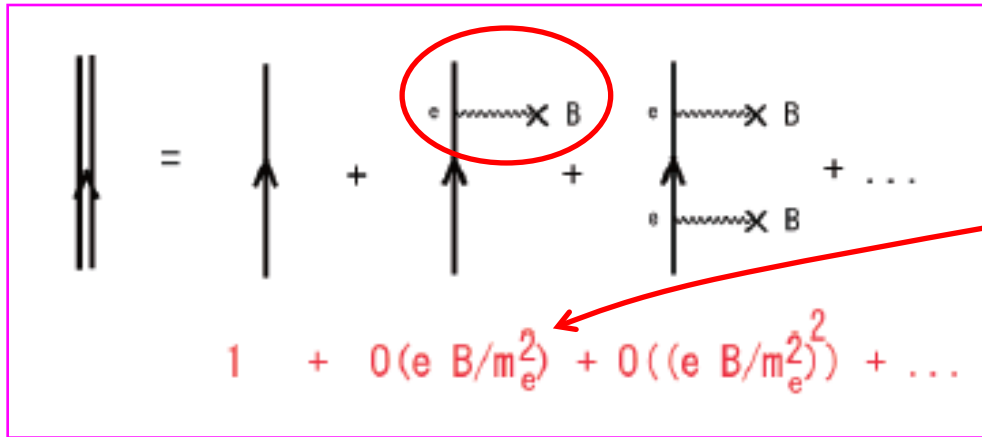
$$E_{\text{cm}} = 200 \text{ GeV (RHIC)}$$

$$Z = 79 \text{ (Au)}, b = 6 \text{ fm}$$



# Break-down of a perturbation in strong magnetic fields

## *Dressed fermion propagator*



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

$$G(p|A) = \frac{i(\not{p} - eA)}{(\not{p} - eA)^2}$$

$$= i(\not{p} - eA) \int_0^\infty d\tau \exp(-\tau(\not{p} - eA)^2)$$

$\tau$  : proper-time



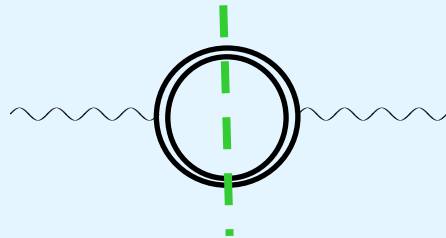
Employing Fock-Schwinger gauge  $x^\mu A_\mu = 0$ ,

$$G(p|A) = \int_0^\infty d\tau [\not{p} - e\gamma^\mu F_\mu^\nu]$$

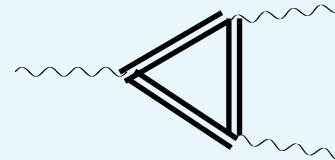
# What happens in strong magnetic fields ?

## *Quantum and Nonlinear modification of photon propagations*

Refraction & real photon decay



Photon splitting



*Photon propagation is studied by incorporating a vacuum polarization tensor from the dressed fermion propagator :*

$$i\Pi_{\text{ex}}^{\mu\nu}(q) = -(-ie)^2 \int \text{---}$$

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

# Photon propagation in a constant external magnetic field

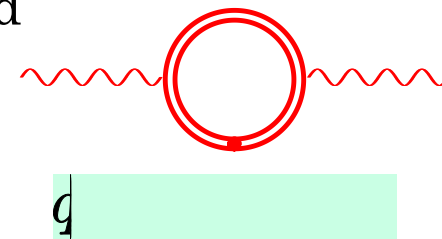
Lorentz and gauge symmetries lead to a tensor structure,

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

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

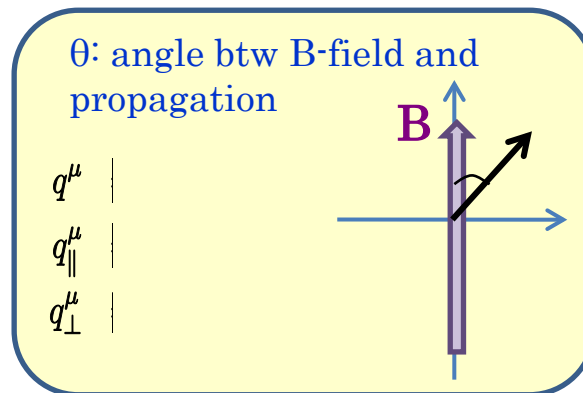
$$P_1^{\mu\nu} = q_{\parallel}^2 \eta_{\parallel}^{\mu\nu} - q_{\parallel}^\mu q_{\parallel}^\nu$$

$$P_2^{\mu\nu} |$$



Eigen-equations from the modified Maxwell eq.

$$\begin{cases} \{ (1 + \chi_0) q^2 \} \pi_0^\mu = 0 \\ \{ (1 + \chi_0) q^2 + \chi_2 q_{\perp}^2 \} \pi_1^\mu = 0 \\ \{ (1 + \chi_0) q^2 + \chi_1 q_{\parallel}^2 \} \pi_2^\mu = 0 \\ \xi_g^{-1} q^2 \pi_3^\mu = 0 \end{cases}$$



*“Vacuum birefringence”*

Dielectric

Following from the tensor structure, we obtain distinct eigenmodes!!

$$\left\{ \begin{array}{l} \epsilon_{\parallel} \\ \epsilon_{\perp} \end{array} \right. = \begin{array}{l} \text{---} \\ \text{---} \end{array}$$

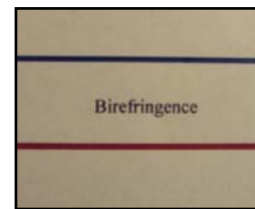
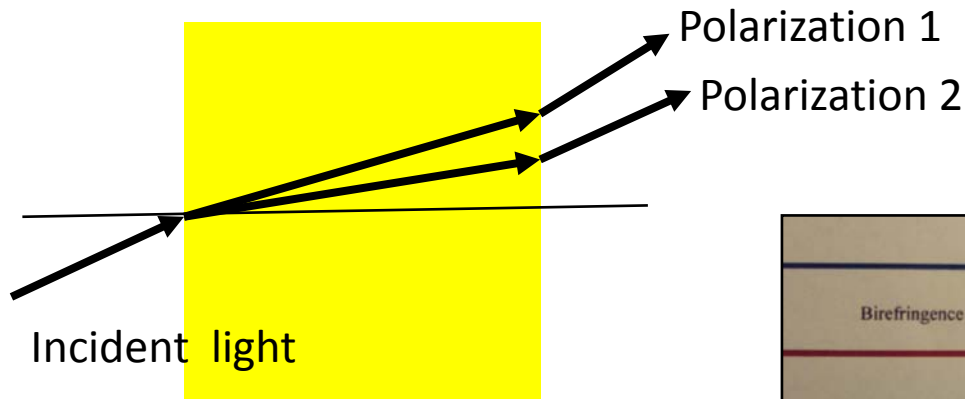
with eigenvectors,  $\begin{cases} \mathbf{E}_{\parallel} \propto ((1 + \chi_0 + \chi_1) \cos \theta, 0, -(1 + \chi_0) \sin \theta) \\ \mathbf{E}_{\perp} \propto (0, 1, 0) \end{cases}$

Melrose and Stoneham

When  $\theta = 0$ , we find  $\epsilon_{\parallel} = \epsilon_{\perp} =$   
owing to a boost invariance al

# “Birefringence” in a dielectric substance

*Doubled image by a splitting in a birefringent dielectric medium*



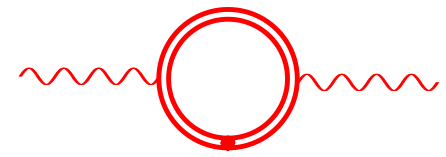
*“Calcite” (方解石)*

An birefringence has been led by the tensor structure.

What dynamics is encoded in the scalar functions,  $\chi_i$  ?



# Scalar coefficients $\chi$ in the proper-time method



Given by double integral associated with two fermion lines

$$\chi_i(r_{\parallel}^2, r_{\perp}^2, B_r) = \frac{\alpha B_r}{4\pi} \int_0^1 \int_0^1 dx dy \dots$$

Dimensionless variables

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

$$\begin{cases} q^{\mu} \\ q_{\parallel}^{\mu} \\ q_{\perp}^{\mu} \end{cases}$$

$$\begin{cases} \Gamma_0(\tau, \beta) = \dots \\ \Gamma_1(\tau, \beta) = \dots \\ \Gamma_2(\tau, \beta) = \dots \end{cases}$$

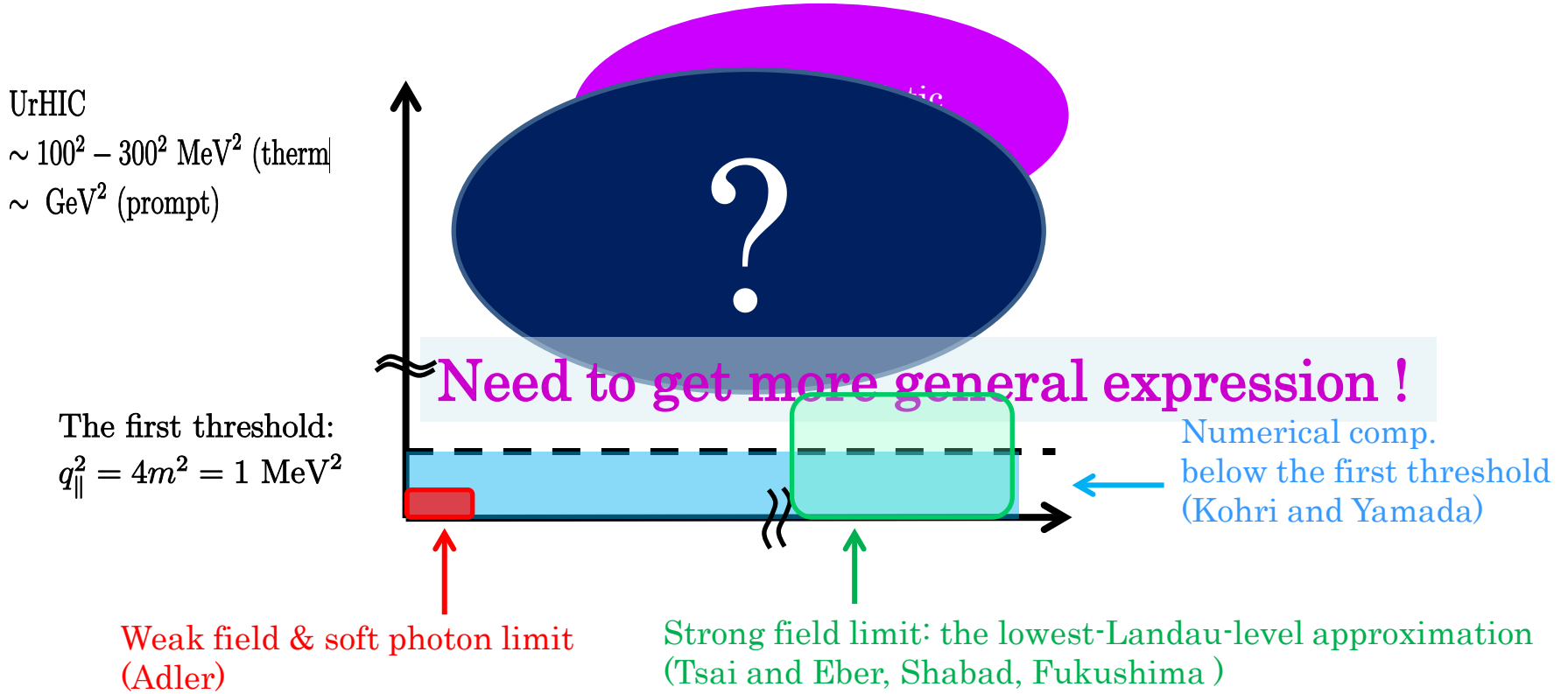
Schwinger, Adler, Shabad, Urrutia, Tsai and Eber, Dittrich and Gies

$$\begin{aligned} \phi_{\parallel}(r_{\parallel}^2, B_r) &= \dots \\ \phi_{\perp}(r_{\parallel}^2, B_r) &= \dots \end{aligned}$$



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

# Relevant scales and available calculations for $\chi$ 's



# Analytic calculation of the double integral

$$\chi_i(r_{\parallel}^2, r_{\perp}^2, B_r) = \frac{\alpha B_r}{4\pi} \left| \text{---} \right.$$

$$\phi_{\perp}(r_{\parallel}^2, B_r) \left| \text{---} \right.$$

$$\eta = \left| \text{---} \right.$$

## Two important relations

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

$$\star e^{i\eta \cot \tau} I_n(-iu) = \eta^n e^{-\frac{|q_{\perp}|^2}{2|eB|}}$$

Wave function of LLL

Associated Laguerre polynomial

Any term reduces to either of elementary integrals.

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

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

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

# Analytic results!

*Applicable to any momentum regime and field strength !*

$$\chi_i = \frac{\alpha B_r}{4\pi} e^{-\eta} \sum_{l=0}^{\infty} \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} |$$

Sum wrt Landau levels

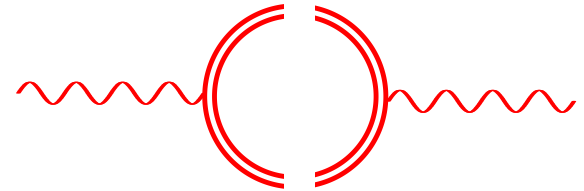
Combination of known functions

Polarization tensor has an imaginary part above

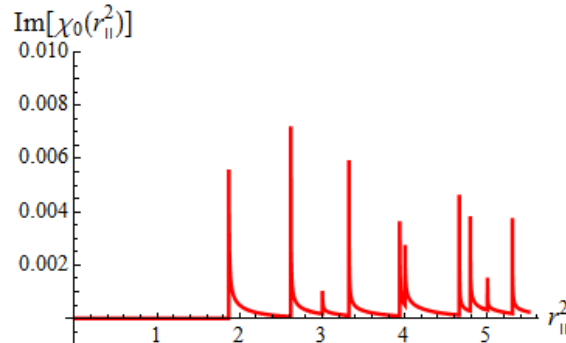
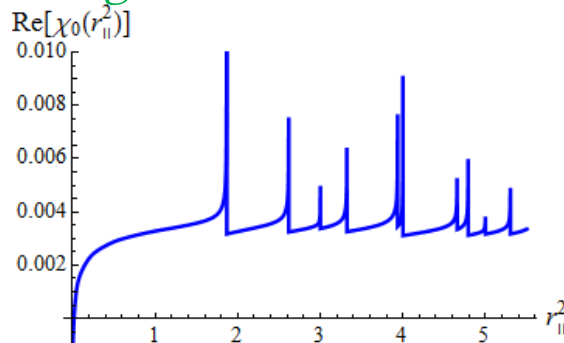
$$q_{\parallel}^2 = \left[ \sqrt{m^2 + 2leB} + \sqrt{m^2} \right]$$

$l$  and  $n$ : “Landau levels” of

Photon decay into a fermion pair



*Divergence at infinite number of the thresholds*



Dielectric constants stay finite at the thresholds.

$$\left\{ \begin{array}{l} \epsilon_{\parallel} \\ \epsilon_{\perp} \end{array} \right.$$

We've got a general expression of the vacuum polarization tensor

*Dielectric constant from the vacuum polarization tensor in strong magnetic fields*

# Dielectric constant at the lowest-Landau-level

The first term  $(\ell, n) = (0, 0)$

$$\chi_1 = \frac{\alpha B_r}{4\pi} e^{\frac{1}{2} \left( \frac{1}{r_{\parallel}^2} - 1 \right)}$$

ArcTan : source of an imaginary part above LLL

## Dielectric constant in the LLL

K. Fukushima

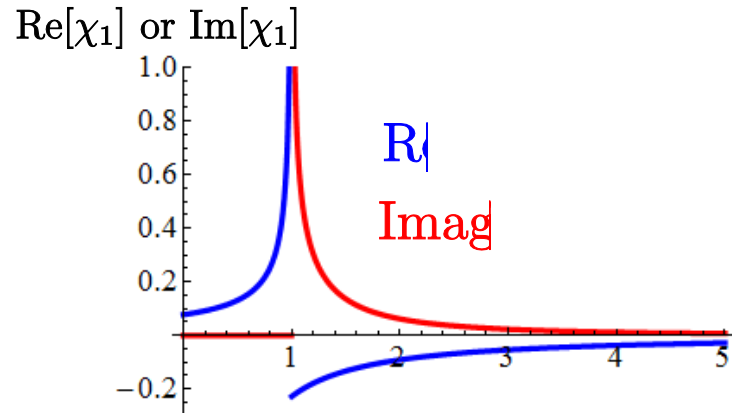
$$\begin{cases} \epsilon_{\parallel} \\ \epsilon_{\perp} \end{cases} \quad \text{Excitation only along a magnetic field}$$

Limiting behavior of dielectric constant

$$\text{As } r_{\parallel}^2 \rightarrow 1 \pm 0, \quad \text{Re}[\chi_1] \rightarrow +\infty$$

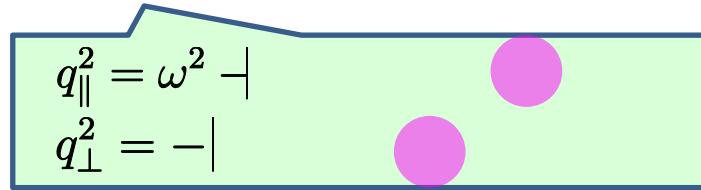
$$\text{Im}[\chi_1] \rightarrow +\infty$$

$$\lim_{r_{\parallel}^2 \rightarrow 1} \epsilon_{\parallel}(r_{\parallel}^2) = \frac{1}{\cos^2 \theta}$$



# Dielectric constant at the LLL

$$\epsilon_{\text{real}} + i\epsilon_{\text{im}}$$

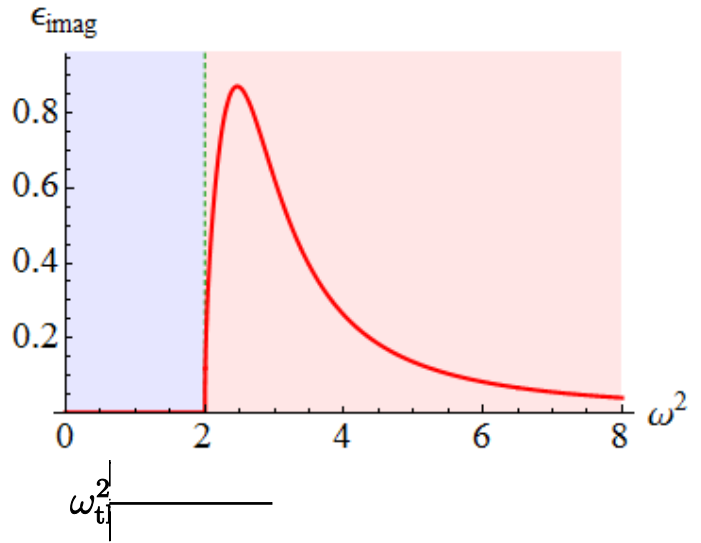
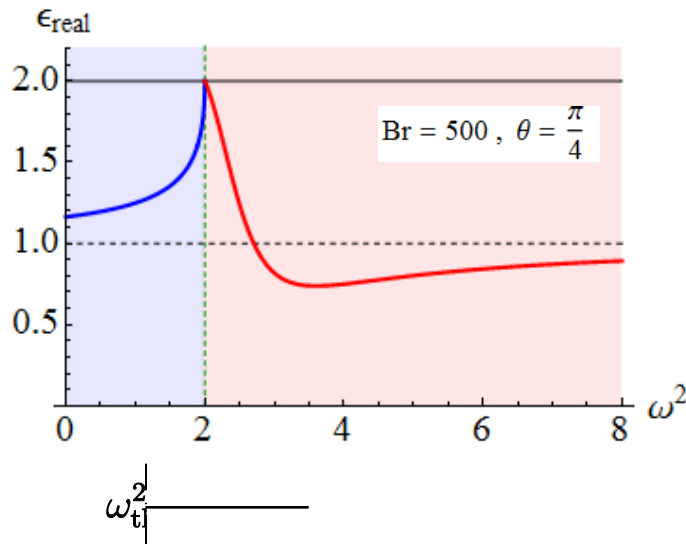


Step 0

*Without back-reaction to incident photon field from induced vacuum polarization*

Assuming  $\epsilon = 1$  in  $\chi_1$ , we get a naïve profile of the dielectric constant.

$$\epsilon$$



As  $q_{\parallel}^2 \rightarrow 4m^2$ ,  $\epsilon \rightarrow 1/\cos^2 \theta$

$q_{\parallel}^2 = \omega^2(1 - \epsilon \cos^2 \theta) \rightarrow 0$ .

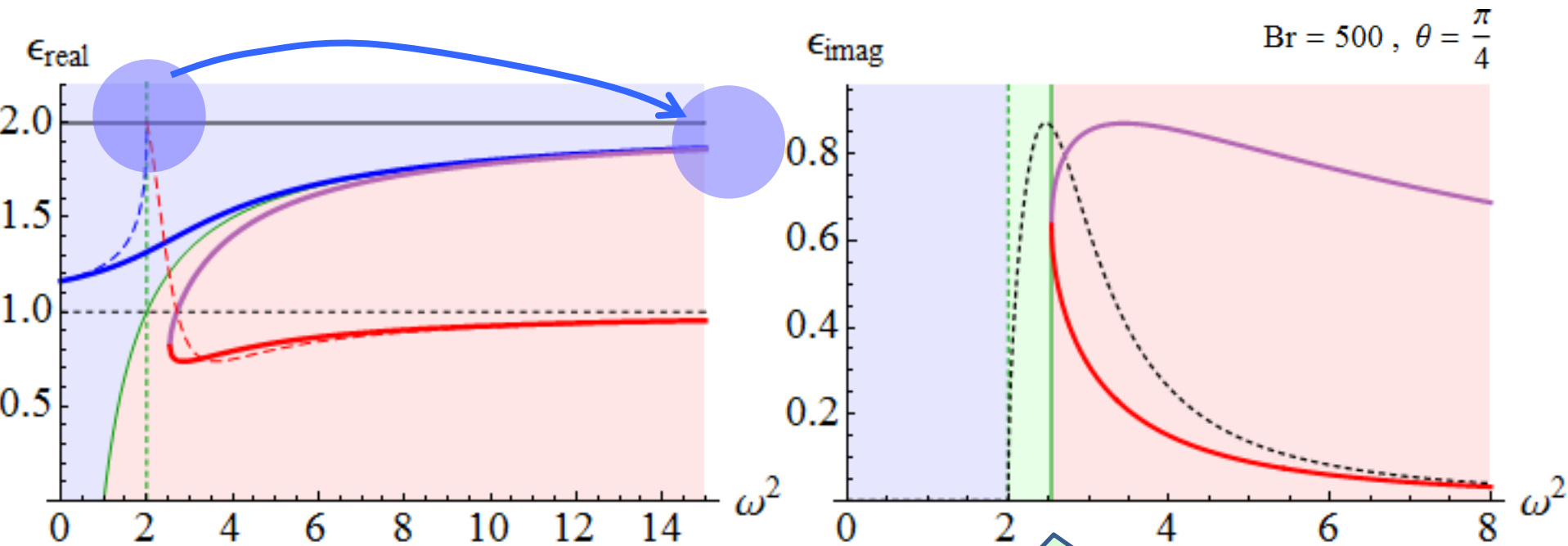
*Implies a requirement of self-consistent treatment*

# Step 1

## Partially consistent solution

*Screening of the incident photon field by an induced vacuum polarization*

Taking into account  $\epsilon_{\text{real}} \neq 1$  and assuming  $\epsilon_{\text{imag}} = 1$  in  $\chi_1$ ,



Limiting point has gone to the asymptotic regime.

Shift of the threshold due to a screening caused by nonlinear response

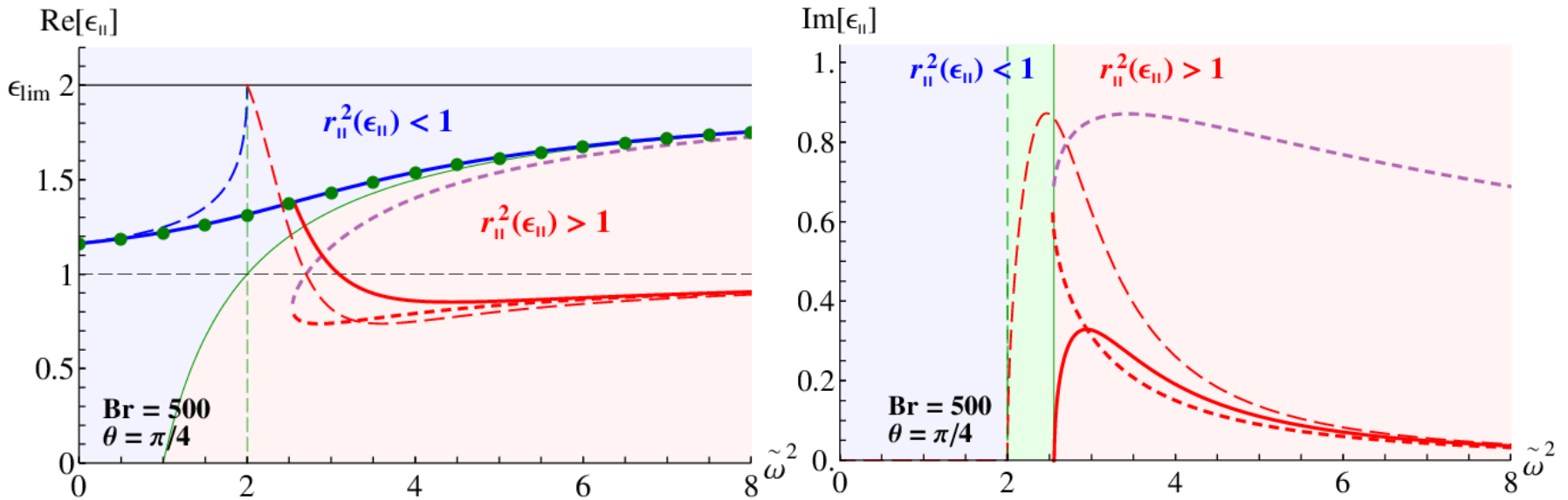


# Step 2

# Fully consistent solution

*Damping of the incident photon field due to a decay into a fermion pair*

Taking into account both  $\epsilon_{\text{real}} \neq 1$  and  $\epsilon_{\text{imag}} \neq 1$  in  $\chi_1$ ,



- Stable branch (ICS)
- Unstable branch (ICS)
- Stable branch (PCS & FCS)
- Unstable branch (PCS)
- Stable branch (Extended Num.)
- Unstable branch (FCS)

## *Summary*

- We performed an analytical evaluation of the vacuum polarization tensor in an external magnetic field, within constant field case.
- We inspected the dielectric constant around the LLL with a self-consistent treatment .

KH and K. Itakura, in preparation.

## *Prospects*

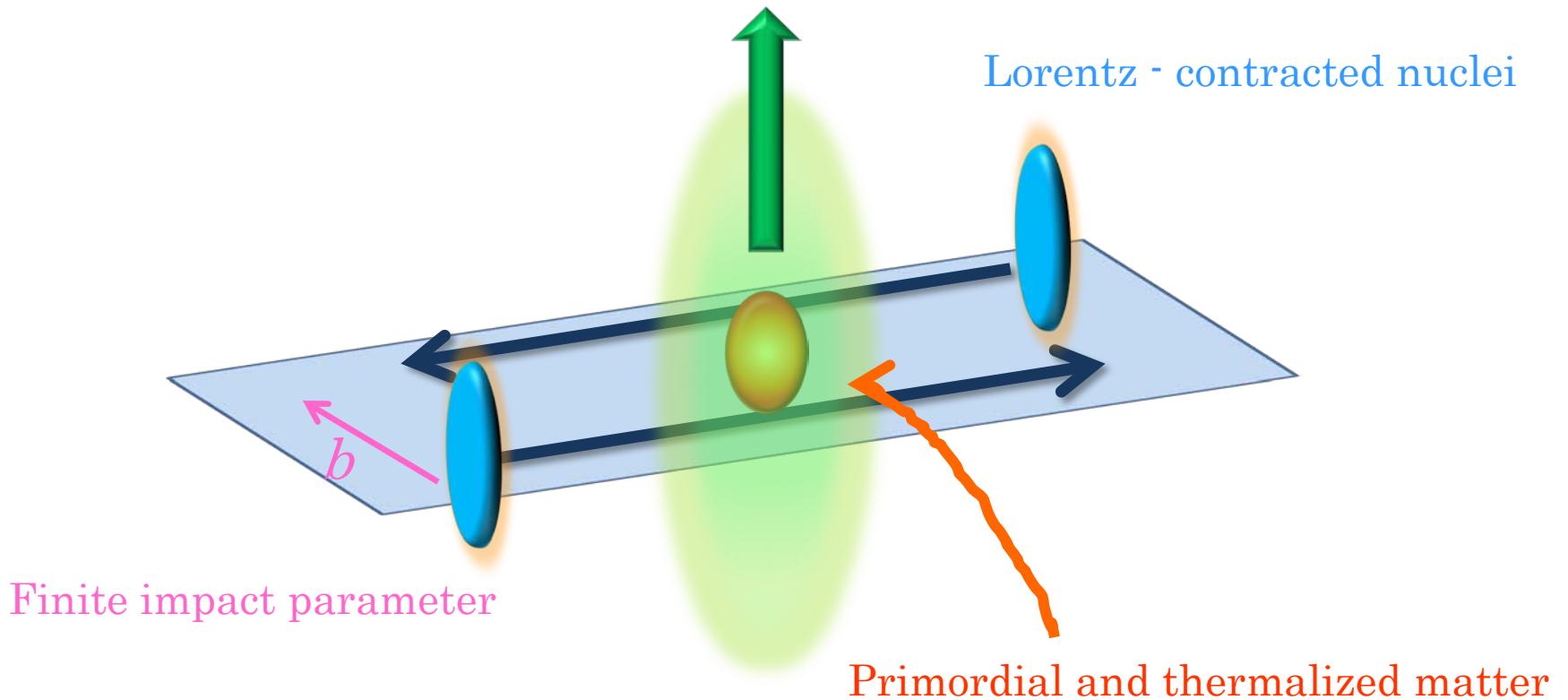
- Application to photon spectrum in heavy-ion collisions. **In progress**
- Extension to strong “color” electromagnetic fields
  - What happens if a quarkonium is dropped into strong fields?  
**In progress, in collaboration with S. H. Lee**



# An extremely strong magnetic field in Ultrarelativistic Heavy-Ion Collision

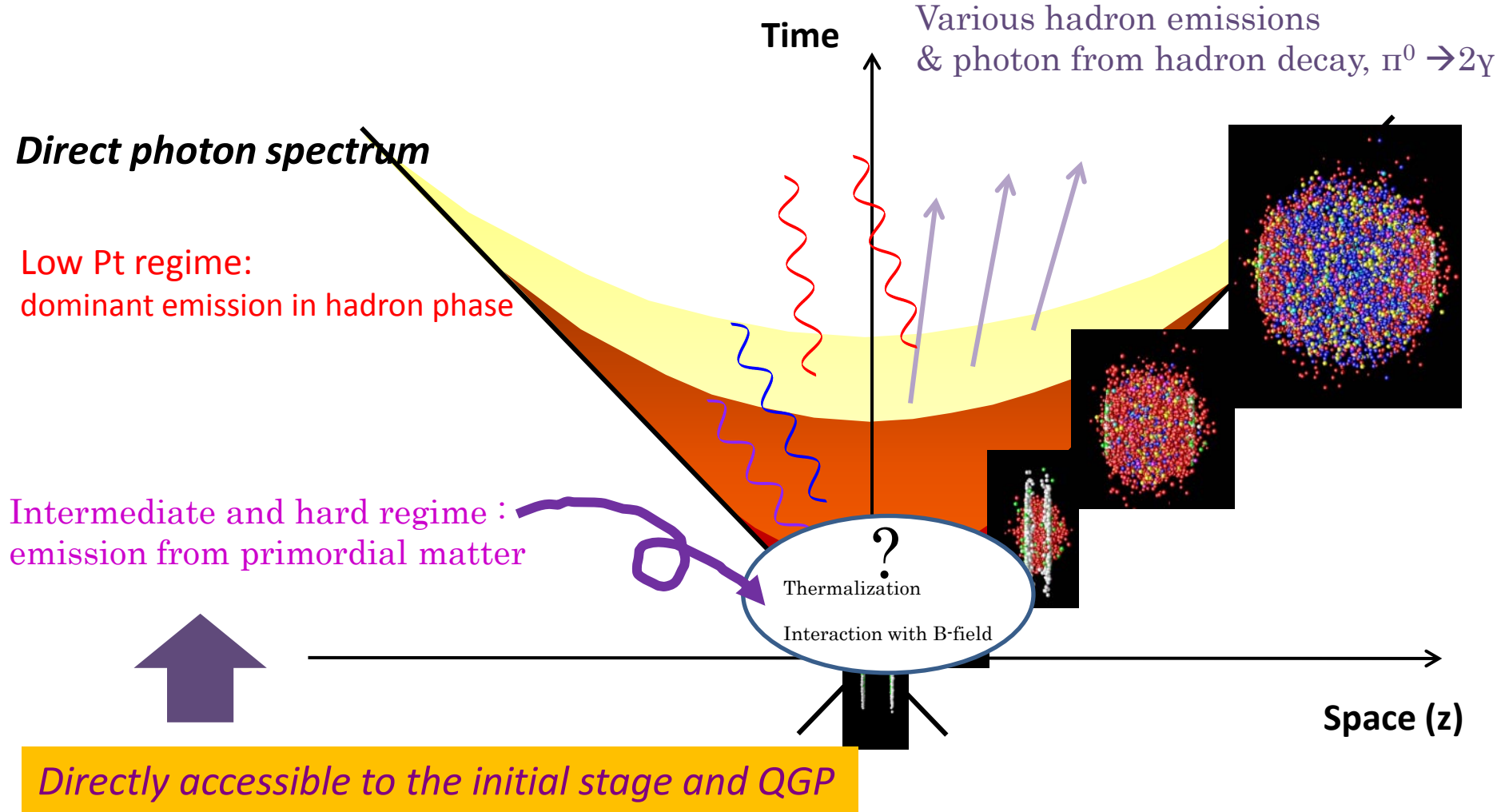
## *Geometry of the peripheral collision and strong B-field*

Extremely strong magnetic field  
in the direction of the out-of-reaction plane



# Direct photon from initial stage in UrHIC

## *Initial and background photons*



Detecting photon from the initial stage  
 $\Leftrightarrow$  Detecting effects of B-field

# Close look at the integrals

*What dynamics is encoded in the scalar functions ?*

$$\begin{aligned} F_\ell^n(r_\parallel^2, B_r) &= \\ G_\ell^n(r_\parallel^2, B_r) &= \\ H_\ell^n(r_\parallel^2, B_r) &= \end{aligned}$$

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

$$a = r_\parallel^2, \quad b = -nB_r, \quad c = (1 - \frac{r_\parallel^2}{4})$$

An imaginary part representing a real photon decay

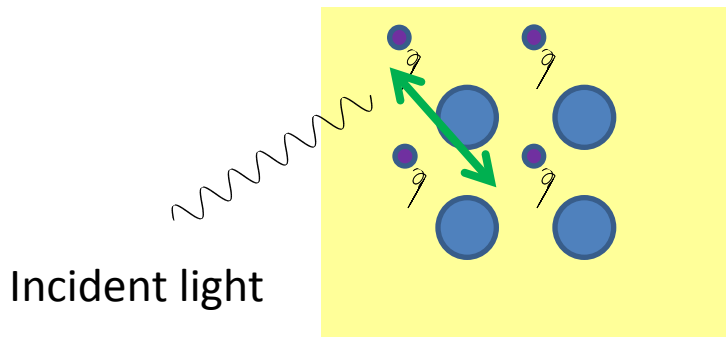
$$b^2 - 4ac = 0 \quad \Leftrightarrow \quad (-nB_r)^2 - 4r_\parallel^2 \left( 1 - \frac{r_\parallel^2}{4} \right)$$

$$\Leftrightarrow \quad q_\parallel^2 = \left[ \sqrt{m^2 + 2leB} + \sqrt{m^2 - \frac{1}{4}(nB_r)^2} \right]^2$$

Invariant mass of a fermion-pair in the Landau levels

# Schematic picture of the birefringence

Polarization in dielectric medium :  
a classical argument

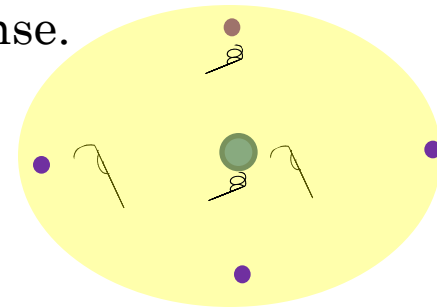


Lorentz-type dispersion :

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

with characteri

Anisotropic constants result  
in an anisotropic response.



$$\begin{cases} q : d \\ N : | \\ x : d \end{cases}$$

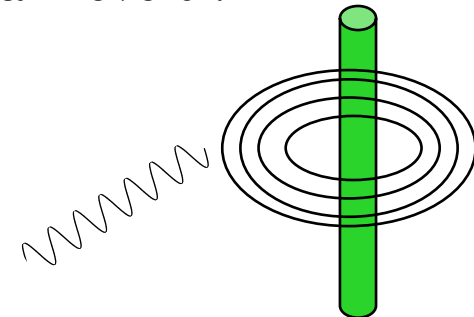
What happens with the anisotropic (discretized)  
spectrum by the Landau-levels ?

$$m\ddot{x} +$$

Dissipation

Linear bound force

Incident light field



# Analytic results!

*Applicable to any momentum regime and field strength !  
Applicable to both on-shell and off-shell photon!*

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

Sum wrt Landau levels

Combination of known functions

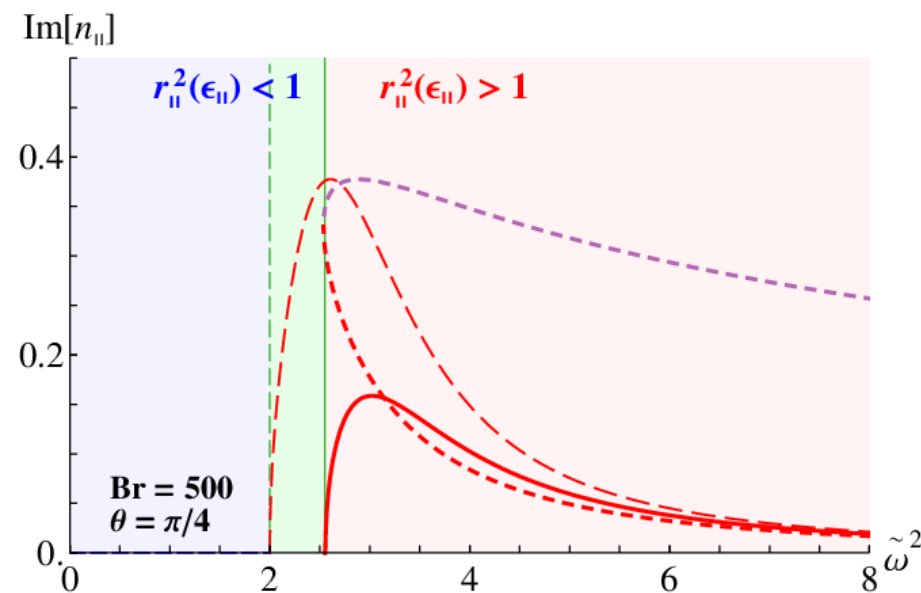
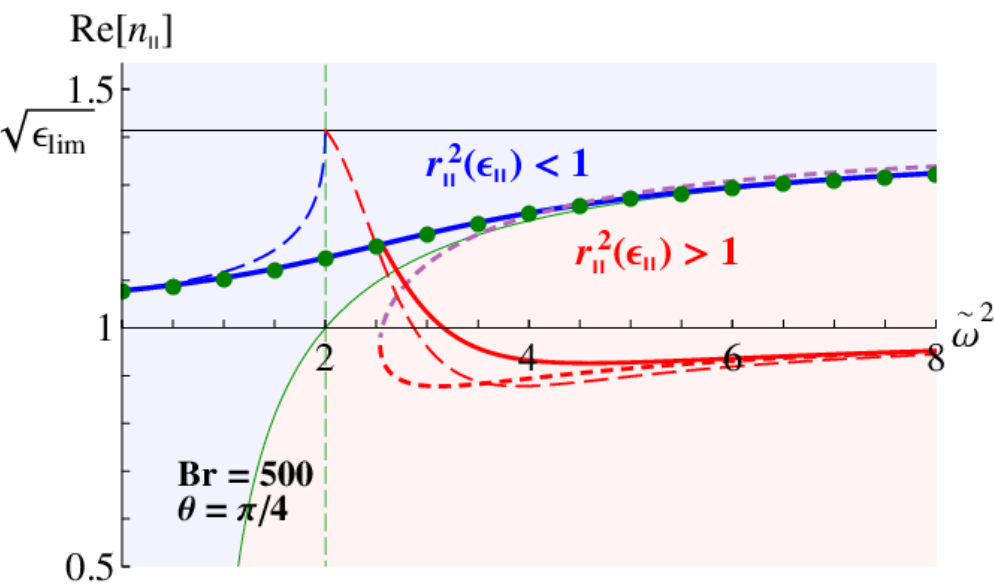
Photon decay channel opens at every Landau level

$$I_{\ell\Delta}^n(r_{\parallel}^2) = \begin{cases} \frac{1}{2\sqrt{(r_{\parallel}^2-s_-)(r_{\parallel}^2-s_+)}} & \text{lo} \\ \frac{1}{\sqrt{|(r_{\parallel}^2-s_-)(r_{\parallel}^2-s_+)|}} & \text{[} \\ \frac{1}{2\sqrt{(r_{\parallel}^2-s_-)(r_{\parallel}^2-s_+)}} & \text{[} \end{cases}$$

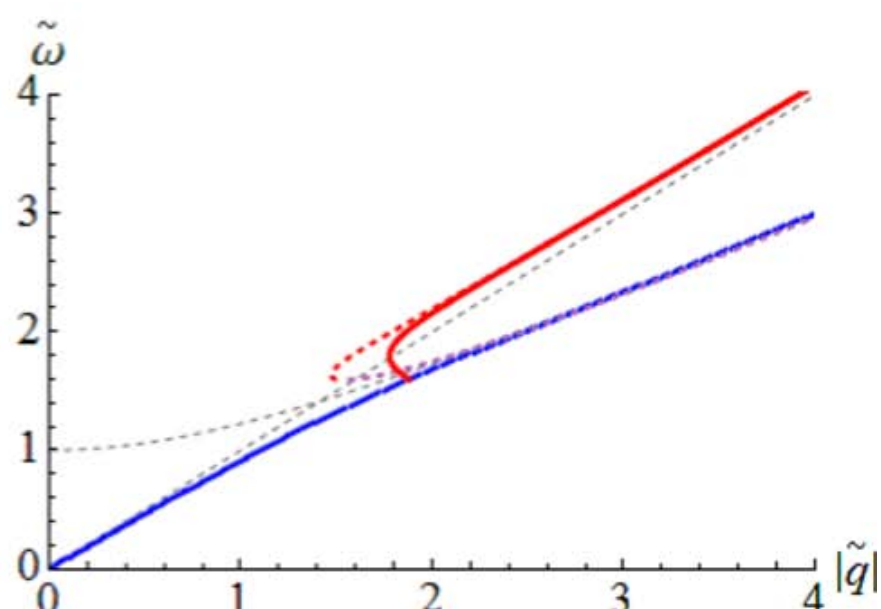
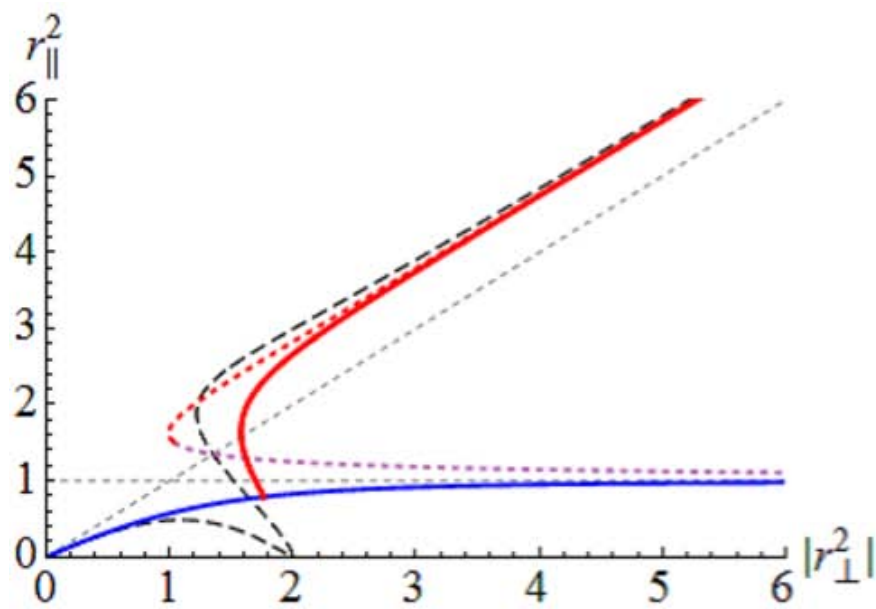




# Refraction index from the complex dielectric constant



# Photon dispersion relation in a strong magnetic field



Real and imaginary parts of refraction index  
from dielectric constant

$$(n_r + in_i)^2 = \epsilon_r + i\epsilon_i \quad (n^2 = \epsilon)$$

$$\begin{cases} n_r = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} \sqrt{|\epsilon| + \epsilon_r} \\ n_i = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} \sqrt{|\epsilon| - \epsilon_r} \end{cases} .$$

Electromagnetic field of propagating photon

$$\begin{cases} \mathbf{e} = \omega N \sqrt{\frac{\epsilon_{\parallel}(\theta)}{\epsilon_{\parallel}(\frac{\pi}{2})}} (-\epsilon_{\parallel}(\frac{\pi}{2}) \cos \theta, 0, \sin \theta) \Psi_{\parallel}(t, \mathbf{x}) \\ \mathbf{b} = \omega N \sqrt{\epsilon_{\parallel}(\frac{\pi}{2})} (0, -1, 0) \Psi_{\parallel}(t, \mathbf{x}) \end{cases} .$$

Phase and damping factors provided by a complex refraction index

$$\Psi_{\parallel}(t, \mathbf{x}) = e^{-i\omega(t - n_{\parallel r} \hat{\mathbf{q}} \cdot \mathbf{x})} e^{-\omega n_{\parallel i} \hat{\mathbf{q}} \cdot \mathbf{x}}$$