



# ***The Feigel Process***

## ***The Momentum of Quantum Vacuum***

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What is claimed by A. Feigel ? [Phys. Rev. Lett. 92, 020404 \(2004\)](#)

- Dielectric homogeneous media must obey Lorentz –invariance
- This solves Abraham-Minkowski Controversy
- This predicts a finite momentum density for zero-point fluctuations in Electro-Magnetic Matter



## Vacuum Langrangian

$$L = \int dt d^3\mathbf{r} \left[ \frac{1}{2} \mathbf{E}^2 - \frac{1}{2} \mathbf{B}^2 \right]$$

is Galilean – invariant  
(even Lorentz -invariant):

$$\begin{cases} \mathbf{E} \rightarrow \mathbf{E} + \mathbf{v} \times \mathbf{B} \\ \mathbf{B} \rightarrow \mathbf{B} - \mathbf{v} \times \mathbf{E} \\ dt d^3\mathbf{r} \rightarrow dt d^3\mathbf{r} \end{cases} \quad (\text{for } v \ll 1)$$

## Vacuum stress tensor

$$T_{ij} = \frac{1}{4\pi} [E_i E_j + B_i B_j] - \frac{1}{8\pi} [\mathbf{E}^2 + \mathbf{B}^2] \delta_{ij}$$

is symmetric

conservation of momentum



$$\mathbf{P} = \int d^3\mathbf{r} (\mathbf{E} \times \mathbf{B}) = \mathbf{S} / c^2$$

conservation of angular momentum



$$\mathbf{G} = \int d^3\mathbf{r} \mathbf{r} \times (\mathbf{E} \times \mathbf{B})$$



# Homogeneous dielectric Lagrangian

$$L = \int dt d^3\mathbf{r} \left[ \frac{1}{2} \mathbf{E} \cdot \boldsymbol{\epsilon} \cdot \mathbf{E} - \frac{1}{2} \mathbf{B}^2 \right]$$

is NOT Galilean – invariant:

$$\left\{ \begin{array}{ll} \mathbf{E} \rightarrow \mathbf{E} + \mathbf{v} \times \mathbf{B} & \underline{\mathbf{D} \rightarrow \mathbf{D} + \mathbf{v} \times \mathbf{H}} \\ \mathbf{B} \rightarrow \mathbf{B} - \mathbf{v} \times \mathbf{E} & \underline{\mathbf{H} \rightarrow \mathbf{H} - \mathbf{v} \times \mathbf{D}} \\ & dt d^3\mathbf{r} \rightarrow dt d^3\mathbf{r} \end{array} \right.$$

dielectric stress tensor

$$T_{ij} = \frac{1}{4\pi} [E_i D_j + B_i B_j] - \frac{1}{8\pi} [\mathbf{E} \cdot \underline{\mathbf{D}} + \mathbf{B}^2] \delta_{ij}$$

is NOT NECESSARILY symmetric

Momentum is conserved

$$\mathbf{P} = \int d^3\mathbf{r} (\mathbf{D} \times \mathbf{B})$$

Momentum of what?

$$\mathbf{P} \neq \mathbf{S} / c^2$$

$$\mathbf{G} = \int d^3\mathbf{r} \mathbf{r} \times (\mathbf{D} \times \mathbf{B})$$

is angular momentum?





Feigel's approach: the two problems must be related,  
and must be solvable simultaneously

$$\left. \begin{aligned} \mathbf{E} &\rightarrow \mathbf{E} + \mathbf{v} \times \mathbf{B} \\ \mathbf{B} &\rightarrow \mathbf{B} - \mathbf{v} \times \mathbf{E} \end{aligned} \right\} \xrightarrow{\text{yellow arrow}} \begin{cases} \mathbf{D} = \boldsymbol{\varepsilon} \cdot \mathbf{E} + \boldsymbol{\chi} \cdot \mathbf{H} \\ \mathbf{B} = \mathbf{H} - \boldsymbol{\chi} \cdot \mathbf{E} \end{cases}$$

$$\chi_{ij} = (1 - \varepsilon) \varepsilon_{ijk} v_k$$

$$\begin{aligned} L &= \int dt d^3\mathbf{r} \left[ \frac{1}{2} \rho \mathbf{v}^2 + \frac{1}{2} \mathbf{E} \cdot \mathbf{D} - \frac{1}{2} \mathbf{B} \cdot \mathbf{H} \right] \\ &= \int dt d^3\mathbf{r} \left[ \frac{1}{2} \rho \mathbf{v}^2 + \frac{1}{2} \mathbf{E}^2 - \frac{1}{2} \mathbf{B}^2 + \mathbf{E} \cdot \boldsymbol{\chi} \cdot \mathbf{B} \right] \end{aligned}$$

is Galilean-invariant  
:

Conservation of  
Noether momentum:

$$\mathbf{G} = \int d^3\mathbf{r} \left[ \rho \mathbf{v} + \frac{1}{4\pi} \mathbf{E} \times \mathbf{H} \right]$$

$$L(\cancel{x}_\alpha, v_\alpha, A_\alpha, \partial_\beta A_\alpha)$$

Conservation of  
Pseudo-momentum:

$$\frac{\partial L}{\partial \mathbf{v}} = \int d^3\mathbf{r} \left[ \rho \mathbf{v} + \frac{(\varepsilon - 1)}{4\pi} \mathbf{E} \times \mathbf{B} \right]$$



Feigel concludes:

$$\rho \mathbf{v} = \frac{(\epsilon - 1)}{4\pi} \mathbf{E} \times \mathbf{B} = \mathbf{P} \times \mathbf{B}$$

?

$$\mathbf{G} = \int d^3\mathbf{r} \left[ \rho \mathbf{v} + \frac{1}{4\pi} \mathbf{E} \times \mathbf{H} \right] = \int d^3\mathbf{r} \frac{1}{4\pi} \mathbf{D} \times \mathbf{B}$$

(Minkowski Momentum)

$$\begin{aligned} \rho \mathbf{v} &= \langle 0 | \mathbf{P} \times \mathbf{B} | 0 \rangle \\ &= \int d\omega \int \frac{d^3\mathbf{k}}{(2\pi)^3} \delta[\omega - \omega(\mathbf{k})] \langle 0 | \mathbf{P}(\mathbf{k}) \times \mathbf{B}^*(\mathbf{k}) | 0 \rangle \end{aligned}$$

$$\frac{1}{\rho} \int d\omega \int d^2\hat{\mathbf{k}} \frac{\omega^2}{(2\pi)^3} \times \frac{1}{2} \hbar \omega \times \frac{\mathbf{k}}{\omega} = 0$$

Empty vacuum

$$v_n = \frac{2}{3} \frac{\hbar \omega_c^4}{\pi^3 \rho c^4} (1 + \epsilon) \epsilon_{nkl} \chi^{kl}$$

Bi-anisotropic medium in vacuum



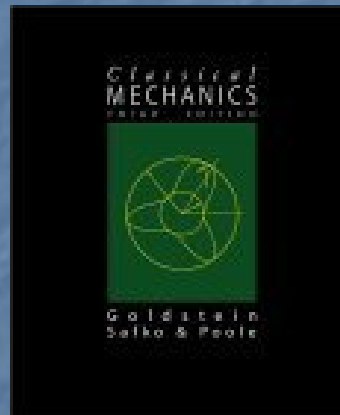
## Classical Electrodynamics of bi-anisotropic media:

$$\begin{aligned} \partial_t \mathbf{D} &= \nabla \times \mathbf{H} & \nabla \cdot \mathbf{D} &= 0 \\ \partial_t \mathbf{B} &= -\nabla \times \mathbf{E} & \nabla \cdot \mathbf{B} &= 0 \end{aligned}$$

Macroscopic Maxwell equations

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbf{D} &= \boldsymbol{\varepsilon} \cdot \mathbf{E} + \boldsymbol{\chi} \cdot \mathbf{H} \\ \mathbf{B} &= \mathbf{H} - \boldsymbol{\chi} \cdot \mathbf{E} \end{aligned}$$

Constitutive equations



$$\rho(\mathbf{r}) = \sum_a m_a \delta(\mathbf{r} - \mathbf{r}_a) \quad \mathbf{v} = \frac{d\mathbf{r}}{dt} \approx \mathbf{v}_a = \frac{d\mathbf{r}_a}{dt}$$

Microscopic Matter

Newton -Lorentz equation

$$m_a \frac{d\mathbf{r}_a}{dt} = q_a (\mathbf{E} + \mathbf{v}_a \times \mathbf{B})$$



## Macro-Maxwell



$$\begin{aligned} \partial_t \mathbf{G} + \nabla \cdot \mathbf{T} &= \mathbf{f} & \partial_t E + \nabla \cdot \mathbf{S} &= 0 \\ \mathbf{G} &= \frac{1}{4\pi} \mathbf{D} \times \mathbf{B} & \mathbf{S} &= \frac{1}{4\pi} \mathbf{E} \times \mathbf{H} \\ E &= \frac{1}{8\pi} (\mathbf{H} \cdot \mathbf{B} + \mathbf{E} \cdot \mathbf{D}) & T_{ij} &= E \delta_{ij} - \frac{1}{4\pi} (H_i B_j + E_i D_j) \end{aligned}$$

Minkowski version of  
Energy/momentum conservation

## Newton-Lorentz



$$\begin{aligned} \partial_t (\rho \mathbf{v} - \mathbf{P} \times \mathbf{B}) + \nabla \cdot \mathbf{U} &= -\mathbf{f} \\ U_{ij} &= \rho v_i v_j + E_i P_j - M_i B_j - \frac{1}{2} (\mathbf{E} \cdot \mathbf{P} - \mathbf{M} \cdot \mathbf{B}) \delta_{ij} \end{aligned}$$

« pseudo momentum » conservation  
(Feigel)

EM force density

$$f_j = \frac{1}{8\pi} \left[ \mathbf{E} \cdot (\partial_j \boldsymbol{\epsilon}) \cdot \mathbf{E} + \mathbf{H} \cdot (\partial_j \boldsymbol{\mu}) \cdot \mathbf{H} + 2\mathbf{E} \cdot (\partial_j \boldsymbol{\chi}) \cdot \mathbf{H} \right]$$

$$\partial_t \left( \rho \mathbf{v} + \frac{1}{4\pi} \mathbf{E} \times \mathbf{B} \right) + \nabla \cdot \mathbf{T}^0 = 0$$

$$T_{ij}^0 = \frac{1}{8\pi} (\mathbf{E}^2 + \mathbf{B}^2) \delta_{ij} - \frac{1}{4\pi} (E_i E_j + B_i B_j)$$

Rigorous conservation of total momentum (matter + field)





$$\partial_t \mathbf{G} + \nabla \cdot \mathbf{T} = \mathbf{f}$$

$$\partial_t E + \nabla \cdot \mathbf{S} = 0$$

$$\mathbf{G} = \frac{1}{4\pi} \mathbf{E} \times \mathbf{H}$$

$$\mathbf{S} = \frac{1}{4\pi} \mathbf{E} \times \mathbf{H}$$

$$E = \frac{1}{8\pi} (\mathbf{H} \cdot \mathbf{B} + \mathbf{E} \cdot \mathbf{D}) \quad T_{ij} = E \delta_{ij} - \frac{1}{8\pi} (H_i B_j + H_j B_i + E_i D_j + E_j D_i)$$

$$\mathbf{f} = \mathbf{f}(\text{Minkowski}) + \frac{1}{4\pi} \partial_t (\mathbf{D} \times \mathbf{B} - \mathbf{E} \times \mathbf{H}) + \partial_i (\dots)$$

Abrahams version of energy/momentum conservation



## Problems with the Feigel paper

1. Conservation of momentum and pseudo momentum density follow from ordinary classical electrodynamics applied to bi-anisotropic media, with actually a sloppy flaw corrected

Classical electrodynamics obeys Galilean Invariance.

2. The Abraham-Minkowski is not solved because it is not even addressed

AB controversy involves a discussion of the EM force density (thus inhomogeneous media or time-dependent fields) and the (symmetry of the) stress tensor. There is no unique solution (on macroscopic level).

3. From  $\partial_t \int d^3\mathbf{r} (\rho \mathbf{v} - \mathbf{P} \times \mathbf{B}) = 0$  it is concluded that  $\rho \mathbf{v} \equiv \mathbf{P} \times \mathbf{B}$

This assumes no motion and no field at some distant time, whereas already no sources (free charges) have been adopted. The final result is also not Galilean invariant

The solution  $\rho \mathbf{v} \equiv 0$  and  $\mathbf{P} \times \mathbf{B} = \text{constant}$  leads to no contradiction.



Need to address the dynamic problem !



$$\mathbf{D} = \epsilon \mathbf{E} + \boldsymbol{\chi} \cdot \mathbf{H}$$

$$\mathbf{B} = \mathbf{H} + \boldsymbol{\chi}^T \cdot \mathbf{E}$$

1. The tensor  $\boldsymbol{\chi}$  changes under time reversal
2. The tensor  $\boldsymbol{\chi}$  changes under parity

Fresnel Dispersion law

$$\det(\epsilon \omega^2 - p^2 + \mathbf{p}\mathbf{p} + \omega \boldsymbol{\chi} \cdot \boldsymbol{\Phi}_p + \omega \boldsymbol{\Phi}_p \cdot \boldsymbol{\chi}) = 0$$

Rotatory power;  $(\Phi_p)_{inm} = i \epsilon_{nml} p_l$

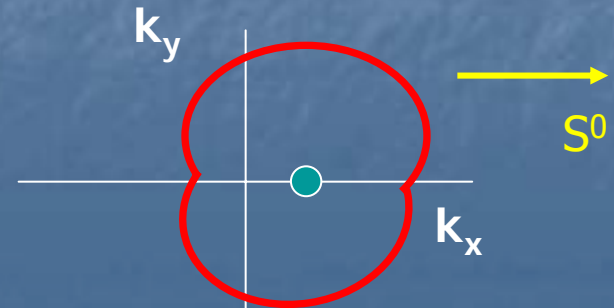
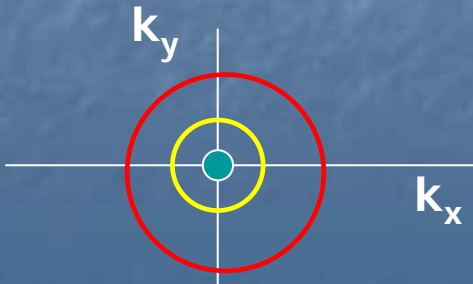
$$\chi_{ij}(\omega) = g \omega \delta_{ij}$$

Magneto-electrical effect

$$\chi_{ij}(\omega) = \chi (E_i^0 B_j^0 - B_i^0 E_j^0)$$

$$\epsilon_{ij}(\omega, \mathbf{p}) = \epsilon \delta_{ij} + 2g i \epsilon_{ijk} p_k$$

$$\epsilon_{ij}(\omega, \mathbf{p}) = \epsilon \delta_{ij} + \frac{2\chi}{\omega} i (S_i^0 p_j - p_i S_j^0)$$





Subtle theorems

$$\langle 0 | \mathbf{S} | 0 \rangle = \langle 0 | \frac{1}{4\pi} \mathbf{E} \times \mathbf{H} | 0 \rangle = 0$$

So in Abraham's version:

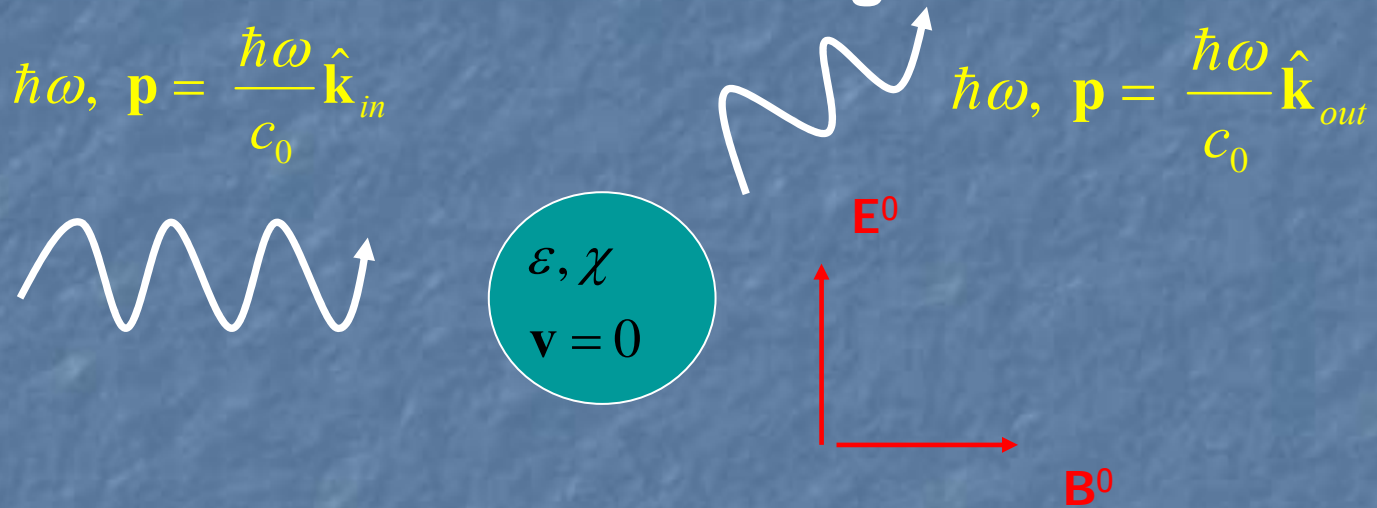
$$\langle 0 | \mathbf{G} | 0 \rangle = \langle 0 | \mathbf{S} | 0 \rangle = 0$$

But in Minkowski's version:

$$\langle 0 | \mathbf{G} | 0 \rangle \propto \frac{\hbar \omega_c^4}{\rho c^4} (1 + \varepsilon) \chi \mathbf{S}^0$$



# Finite classical macroscopic medium: elastic scattering



$$\begin{aligned}
 \Delta \mathbf{p}(\omega) &= \hbar\omega^2 \Delta t \int d^2 \hat{\mathbf{k}}_{in} \int d^2 \hat{\mathbf{k}}_{out} \frac{d\sigma}{d\Omega}(\hat{\mathbf{k}}_{in}, \hat{\mathbf{k}}_{out}, \mathbf{S}_0) (\mathbf{k}_{in} - \mathbf{k}_{out}) \\
 &\stackrel{\vec{P}T}{=} \hbar\omega^2 \Delta t \int d^2 \hat{\mathbf{k}}_{in} \int d^2 \hat{\mathbf{k}}_{out} \frac{d\sigma}{d\Omega}(\hat{\mathbf{k}}_{out}, \hat{\mathbf{k}}_{in}, \mathbf{S}_0) (\mathbf{k}_{in} - \mathbf{k}_{out}) \\
 &= \hbar\omega^2 \Delta t \int d^2 \hat{\mathbf{k}}_{in} \int d^2 \hat{\mathbf{k}}_{out} \frac{d\sigma}{d\Omega}(\hat{\mathbf{k}}_{int}, \hat{\mathbf{k}}_{out}, \mathbf{S}_0) (\mathbf{k}_{out} - \mathbf{k}_{in}) \\
 &= 0
 \end{aligned}$$

Object stays at rest

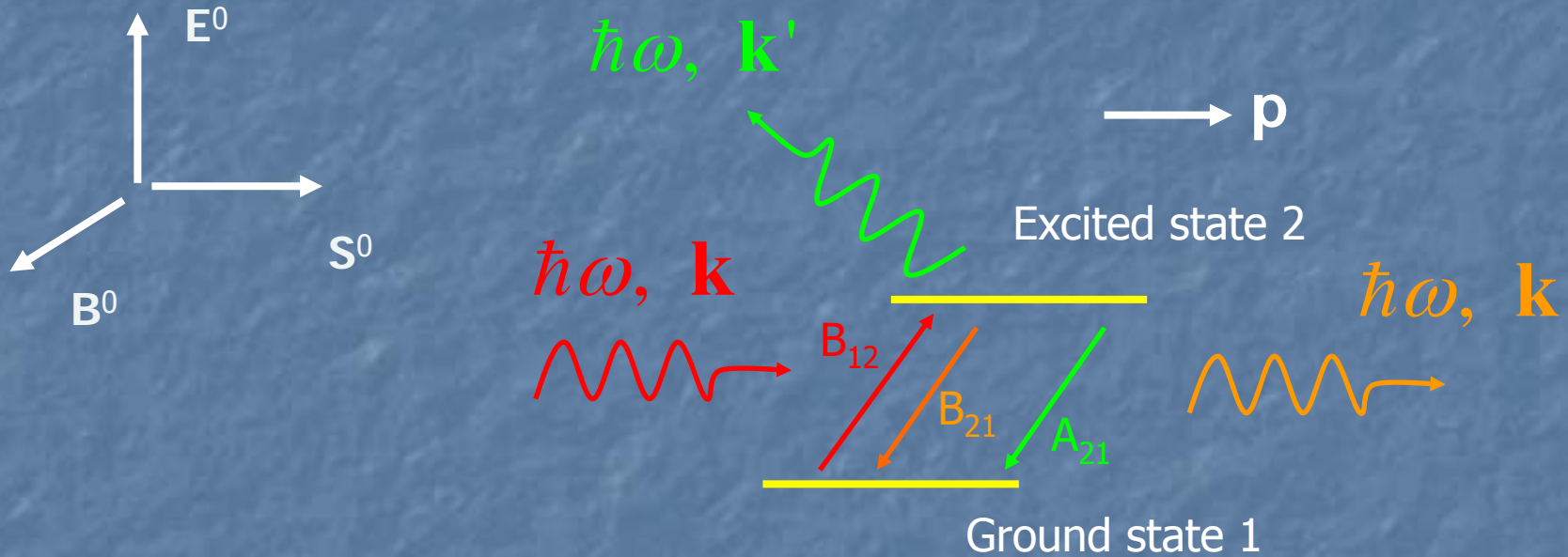
Van Tiggelen and Rikken, Comment Phys. Rev. Lett. (2004)





# Quantum electrodynamics:

Inelastic scattering from molecules in a radiation field and subject to  $E^0$  and  $B^0$



$$B_{12} = B(1 + \chi \mathbf{k} \cdot \mathbf{S}^0)$$

$$B_{21} = B_{12}$$

$$A_{21} = B_{12} \times \frac{\hbar\omega^3}{\pi^2 c_0^3}$$

Magneto-electric QED

Parity : OK

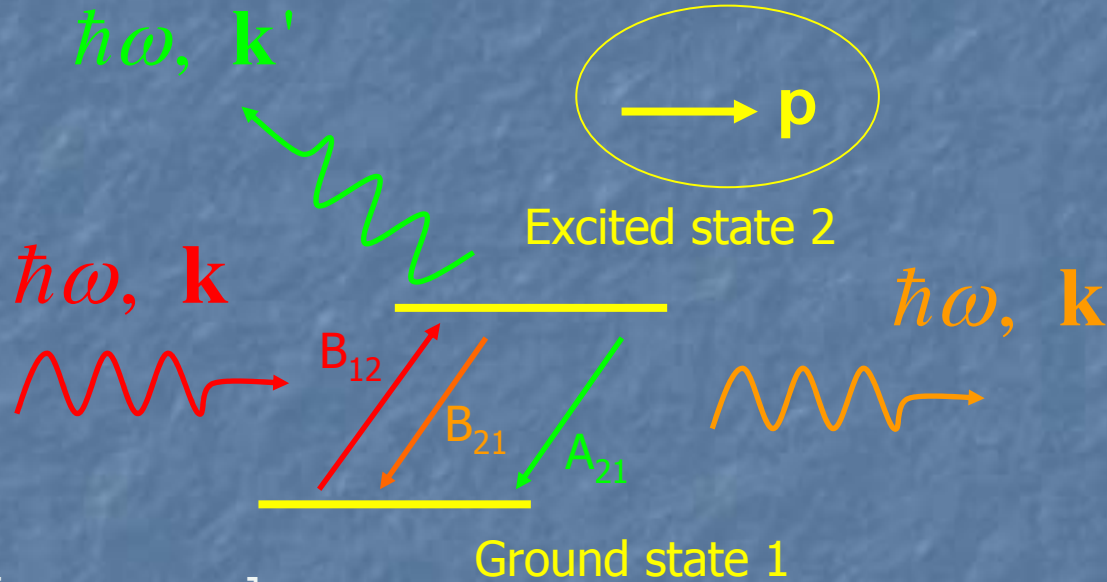
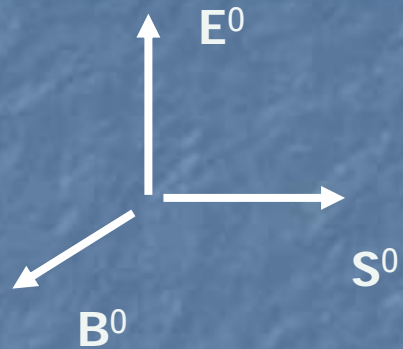
Time-reversal: OK

Lorentz-invariance?

Value of  $\chi$  ?



# Quantum electrodynamics:



$$\frac{dp}{dt} = -\int d\hat{k}' \hbar k' N_2(t) A_{21}(k')$$

$$+ \int d\hat{k} \hbar k \rho(\omega) [N_1(t) - N_2(t)] B_{21}(k')$$

Einstein Doppler friction  $\longrightarrow -\frac{\hbar\omega}{mc_0^2} B_0 [N_1(t) - N_2(t)] \left( \rho - \frac{\omega}{3} \frac{d\rho}{d\omega} \right) \mathbf{p}$

$\mathbf{p}(t \rightarrow \infty) \propto \chi \mathbf{S}^0 ?$   
Lorentz/Galilean invariance ?

Vacuum  
Thermal equilibrium



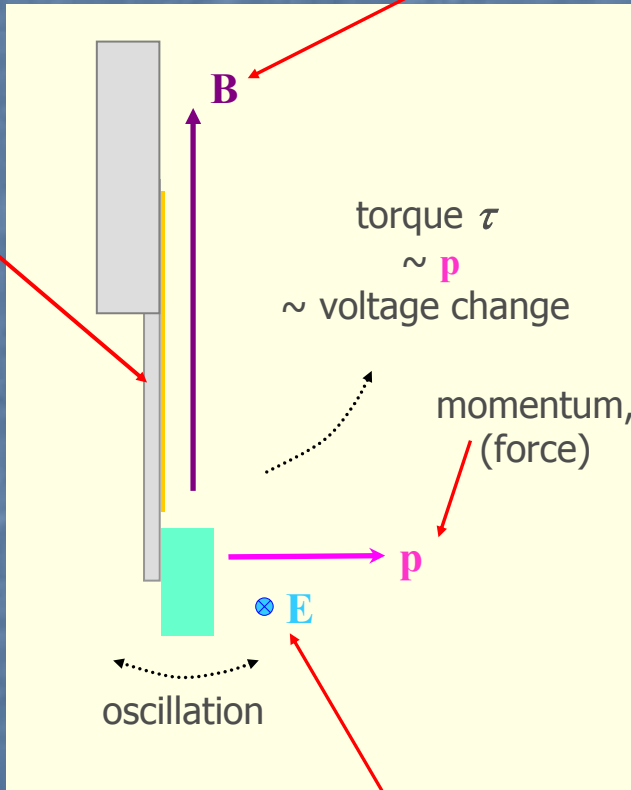
# Experimental verification of Feigel theory

phase-sensitive torque-measurements on micro-sized samples

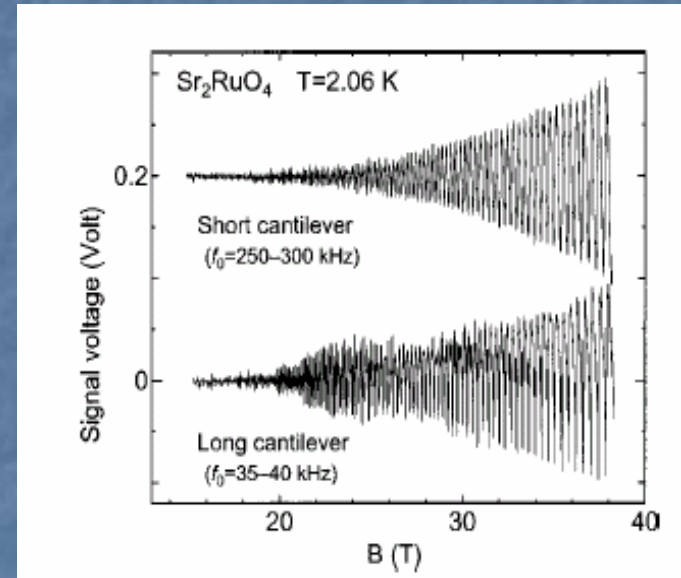
side-view:

static magnetic field

example: E. Ohmichi, Yt Osada, Rev. Sci. Instr. **73**, 3022 (2002)



de Haas - van Alphen oscillations of  $Sr_2RuO_4$



resolution  $\delta V \sim \delta \tau \approx \pm 10^{-11}$  Nm



## some numbers on the Feigel process...

material: diamond

$$\epsilon \approx 6, \mu \approx 1, \rho \approx 3.52 \text{ g/cm}^3, m \approx 10 \text{ } \mu\text{g}$$

B : 16 T

AC electric Field:  $10^7 \text{ V/m}$  at cantilever eigen-frequency (reduced to 8.72 kHz due to sample mass)

following Feigel:

vacuum fluctuations

$$\lambda_{\text{max}} = 0.1 \text{ nm}$$



$$v \approx 3.7 \text{ } \mu\text{m/s}$$

$$p \approx 37 \cdot 10^{-15} \text{ kgm/s}$$

yields

$$\tau \approx 1 \cdot 10^{-9} \text{ Nm}$$

exp. resolution

$$\delta\tau \approx \pm 10^{-11} \text{ Nm}$$



alternatives:

isotropic high intensity field  
( $p \sim$  intensity)

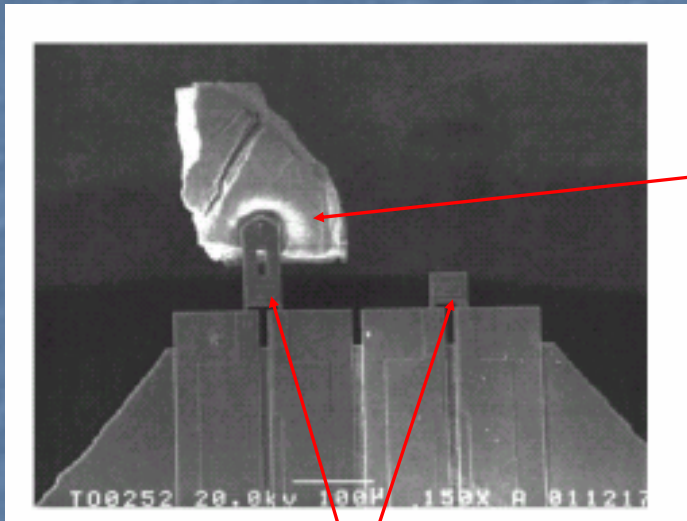
 laser-field



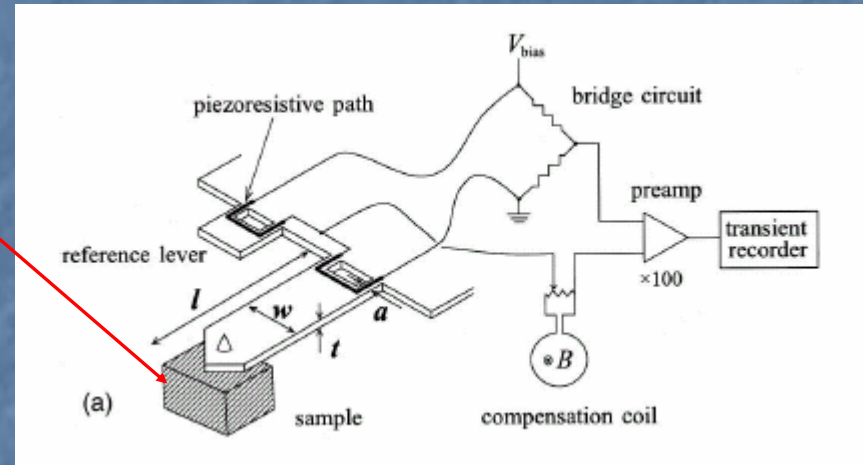


## Possible experimental approach:

cantilever-magnetometry:



piezoresistive path / element



$l = 120 - 400 \mu\text{m}$   
 $w = 50 \mu\text{m}$   
 $t = 4 - 5 \mu\text{m}$   
 $f = 250 - 300 \text{ kHz}$

small samples possible!

force/torque applied  
 ~ mechanical stress  
 ~ voltage / resistance change on piezoresistive element