

Some non-self-adjoint problems in the theory of composites

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Three topics:

- Conduction in composites in the presence of a magnetic field
- Conversion to a self-adjoint problem
- PT symmetry in space-time field patterns

Conductivity equation: $\nabla \cdot \boldsymbol{\sigma} \nabla V = 0$,

In a isotropic material $\boldsymbol{\sigma}(\mathbf{x}) = \sigma(\mathbf{x})\mathbf{I}$.

Set $\psi = \sigma^{1/2}V$, $q = \frac{\Delta\sigma^{1/2}}{\sigma^{1/2}}$

Schrödinger equation: $\Delta\psi = q\psi$

In a magnetic field $\boldsymbol{\sigma}(\mathbf{x})$ is not symmetric (Hall effect)

$$\mathbf{j} = \boldsymbol{\sigma} \mathbf{e}, \quad \nabla \cdot \mathbf{j} = 0, \quad \mathbf{e} = -\nabla V$$

$$\mathbf{j} = \boldsymbol{\sigma}_0 \mathbf{e} + (\mathbf{S} \mathbf{b}) \times \mathbf{e}, \quad \mathbf{e} = \boldsymbol{\rho}_0 \mathbf{j} + (\mathbf{A}_H \mathbf{b}) \times \mathbf{j}$$

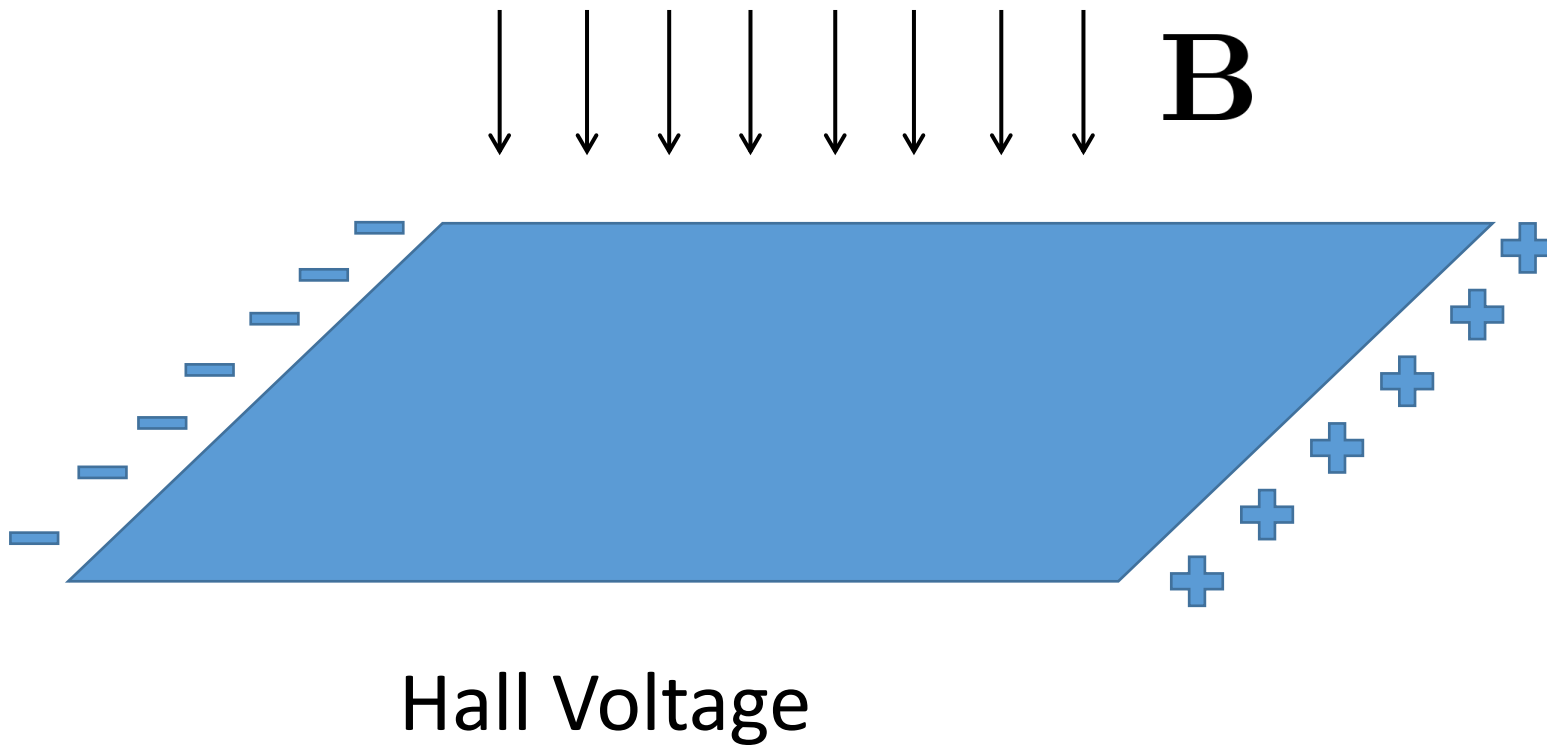
For an isotropic material $\mathbf{A}_H = R_H \mathbf{I}$, (R_H - Hall coefficient)

Achieving reversal of the sign of the Hall coefficient

With Marc Briane, Christian Kern, Muamer Kadic,
Martin Wegener, Dylon Whyte,

An example of surprising properties of composites:

Reversal of the Hall-effect coefficient



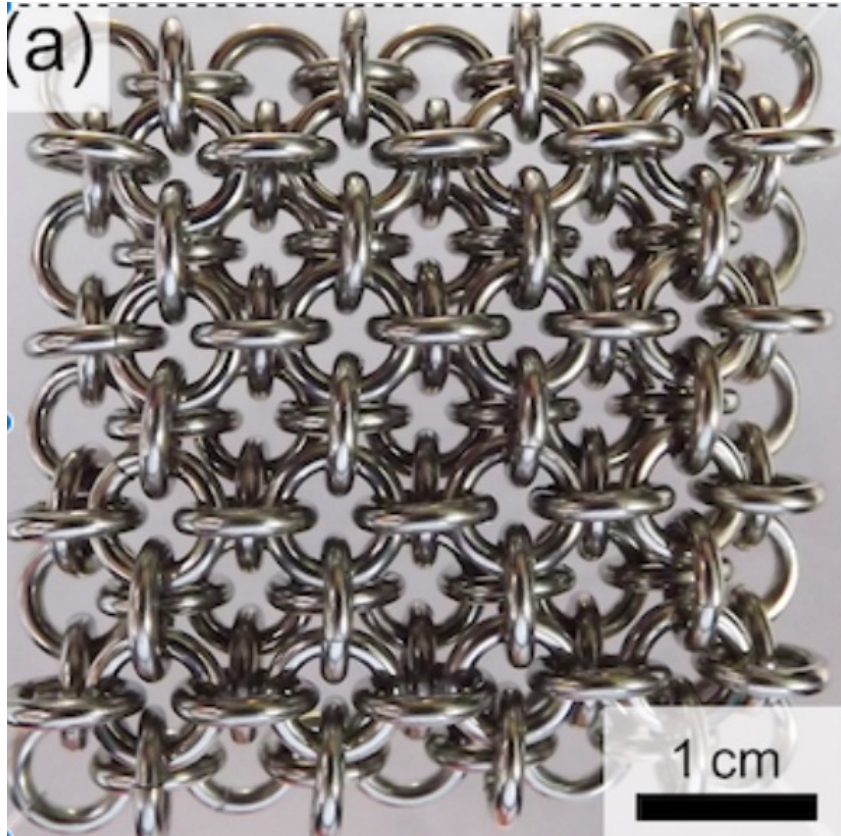
$$\mathbf{F} = q\mathbf{v} \times \mathbf{B}$$

In elementary physics textbooks one is told that in classical physics the sign of the Hall coefficient tells one the sign of the charge carrier.

However there is a counterexample!

Mathematically: Find a conducting periodic composite with say cubic symmetry, where the matrix-valued electric field has negative trace of its cofactor matrix in some regions.

Geometry suggested by artist Dylon Whyte



Picture
Courtesy
Dylon Whyte

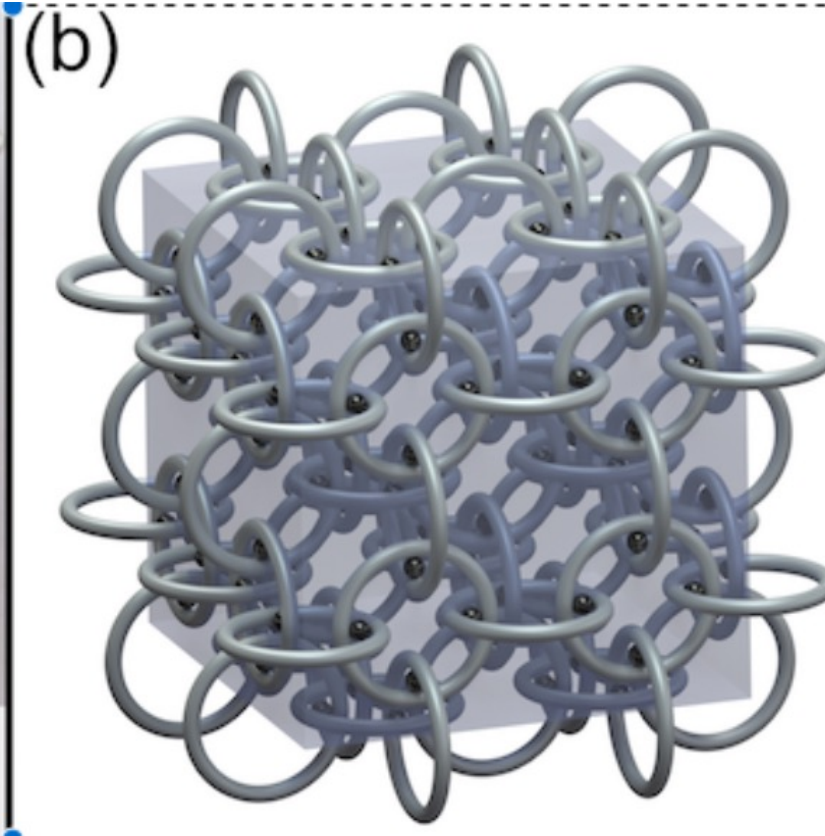
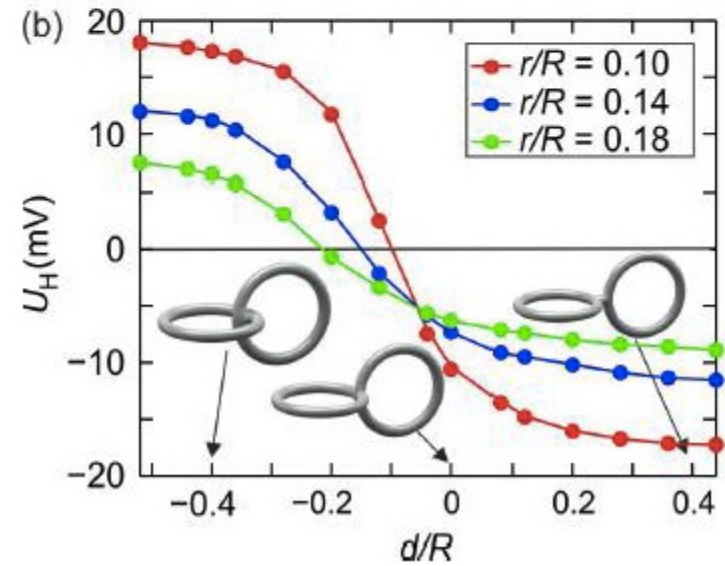
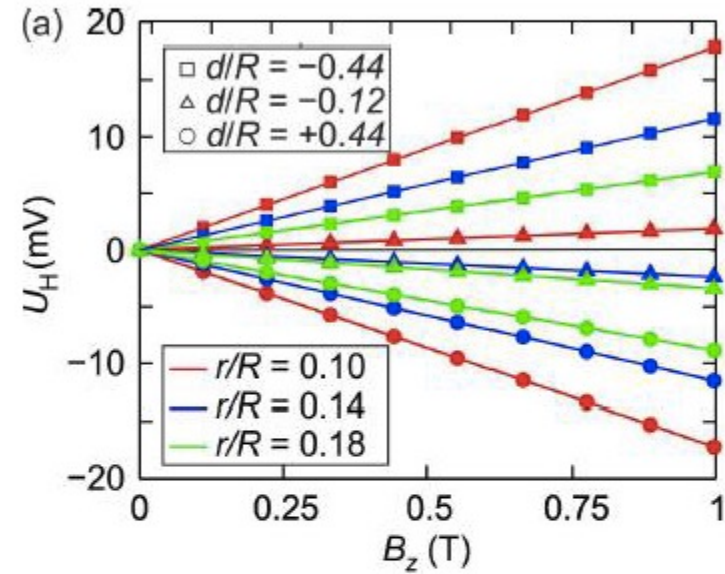
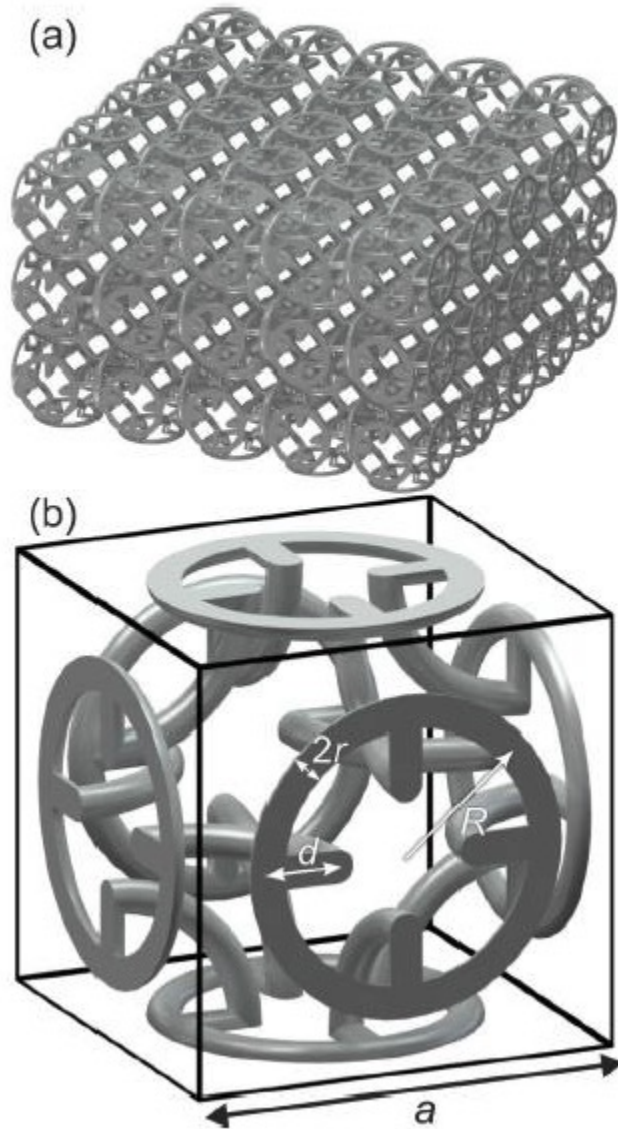
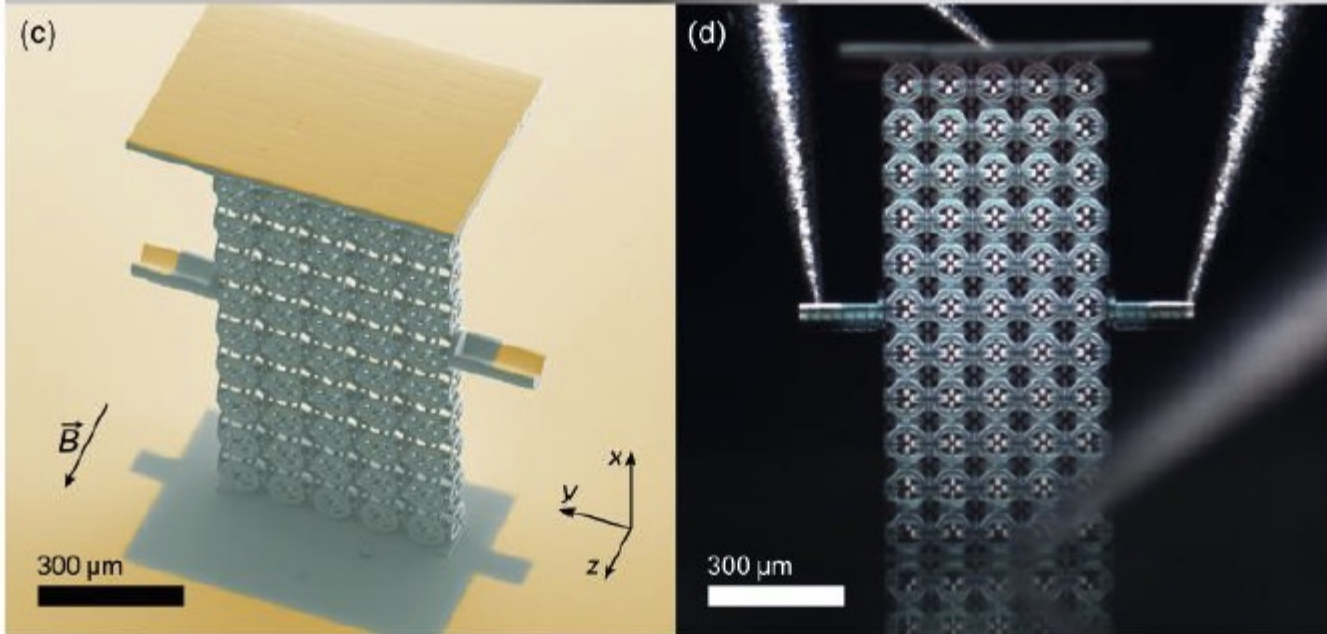
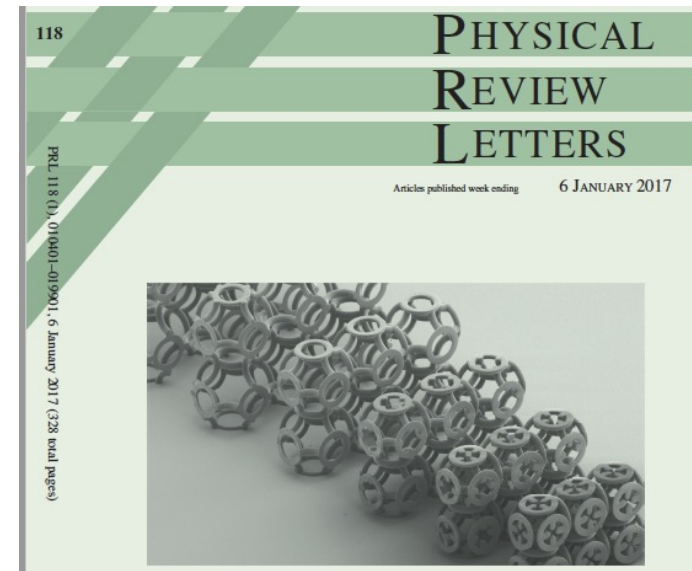
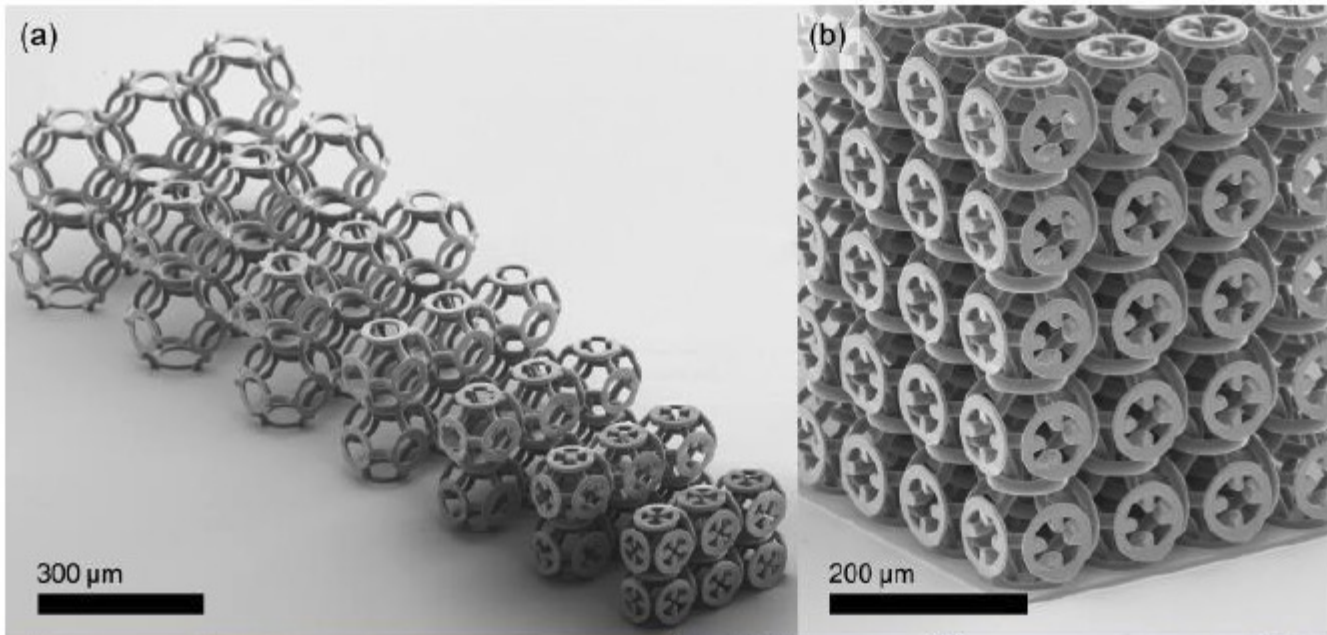


Image
Courtesy
Christian Kern

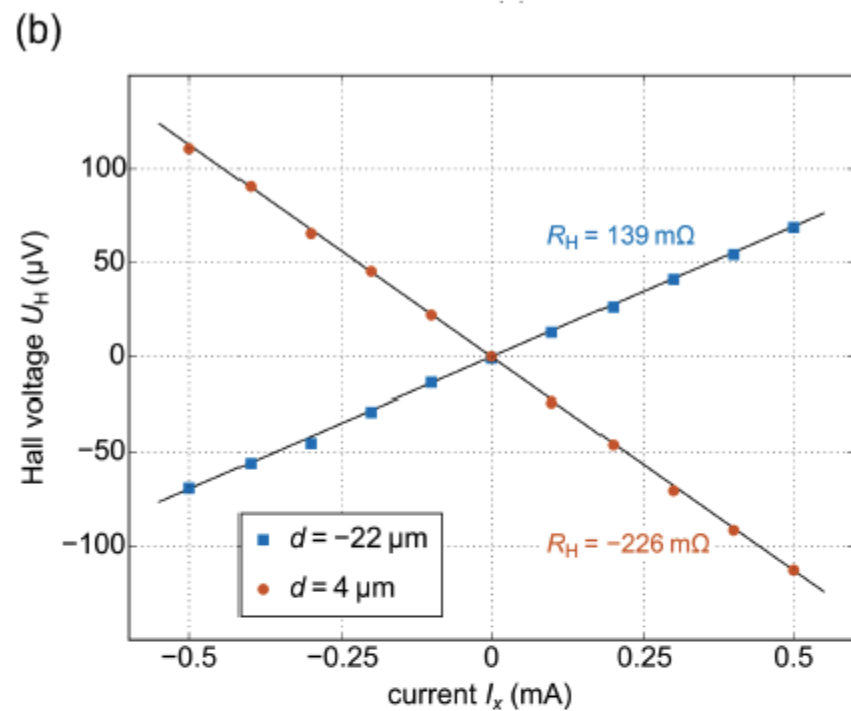
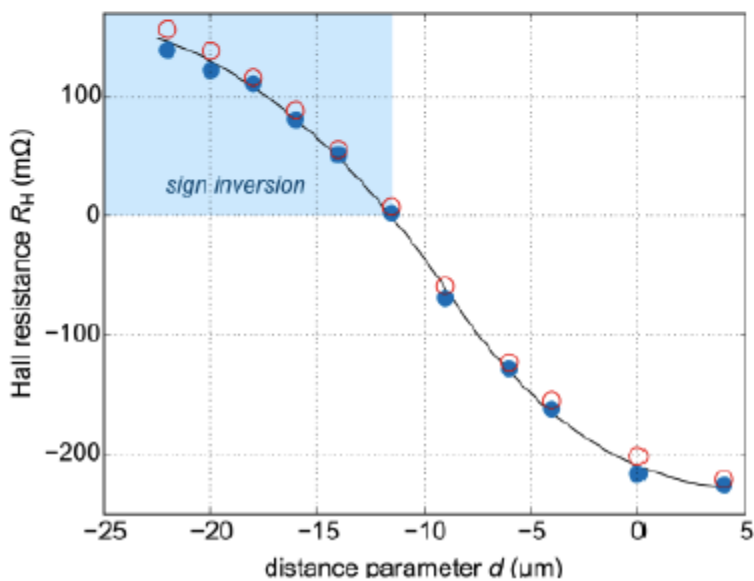
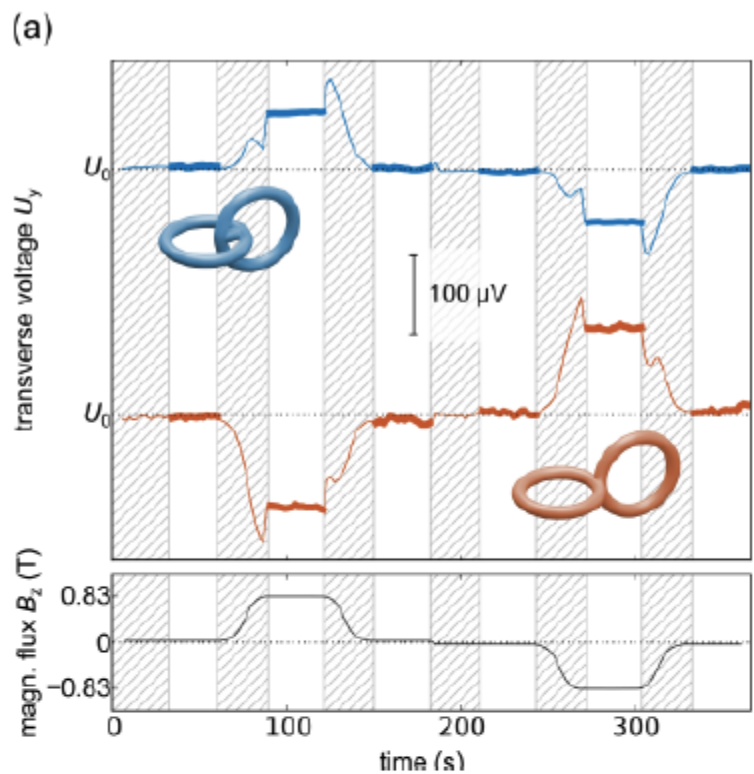
A material with cubic symmetry having a Hall coefficient opposite to that of the constituents.

Simplification of Kadic et.al. (2015)





Experimental realization of Kern, Kadic, and Wegener

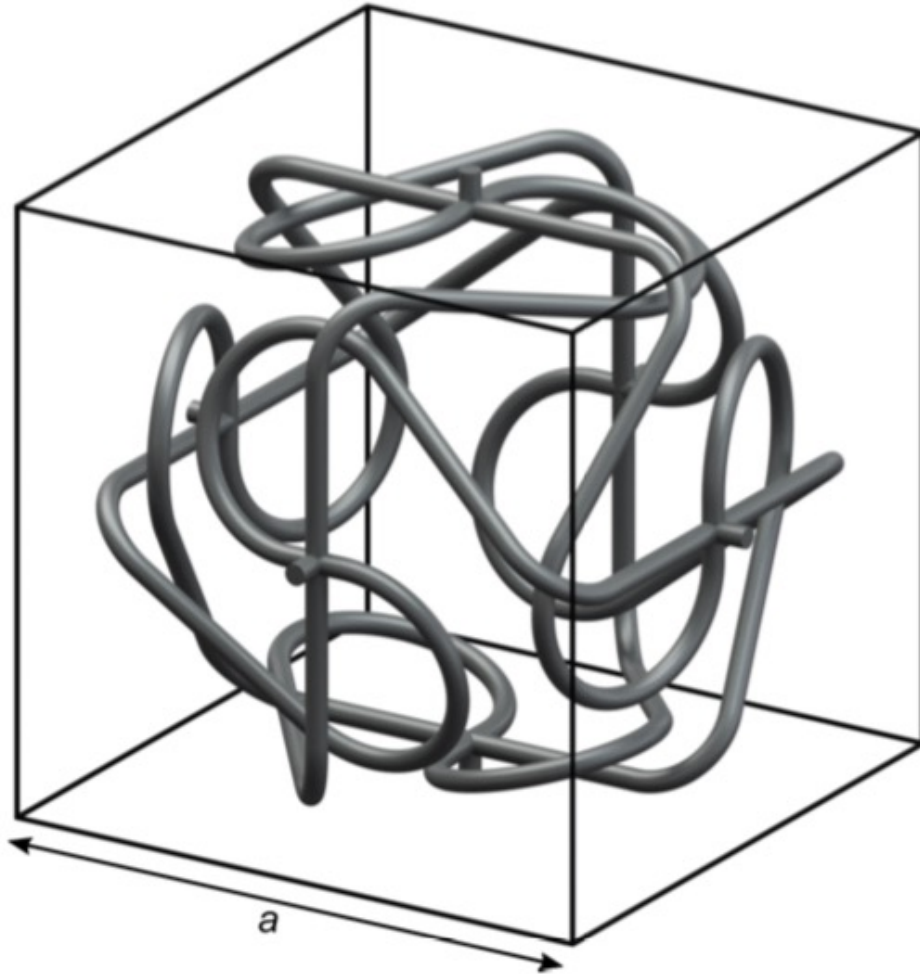


Their experimental results confirming Hall-effect reversal

Japanese 4 in cube / Jelly Cube available on ETSY



Alternate Structure of Christian Kern:



C. Kern, G.W.M., M. Kadic, and M. Wegener, *New J. Phys.*, 20, 083034, (2018)

The parallel Hall effect:

twisting the induced electric field in each unit cell

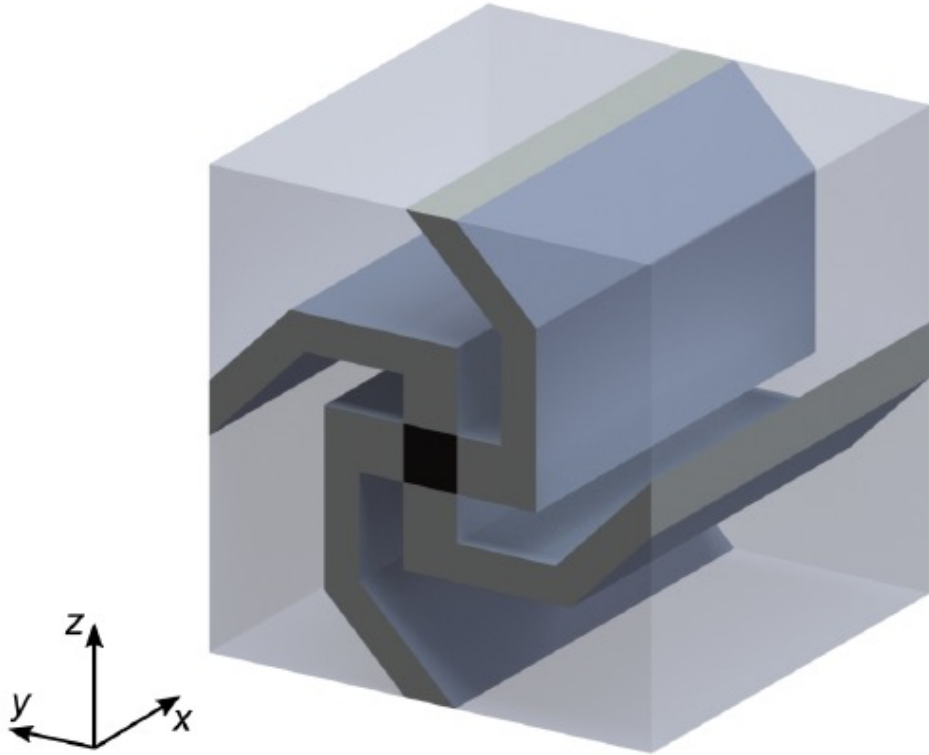


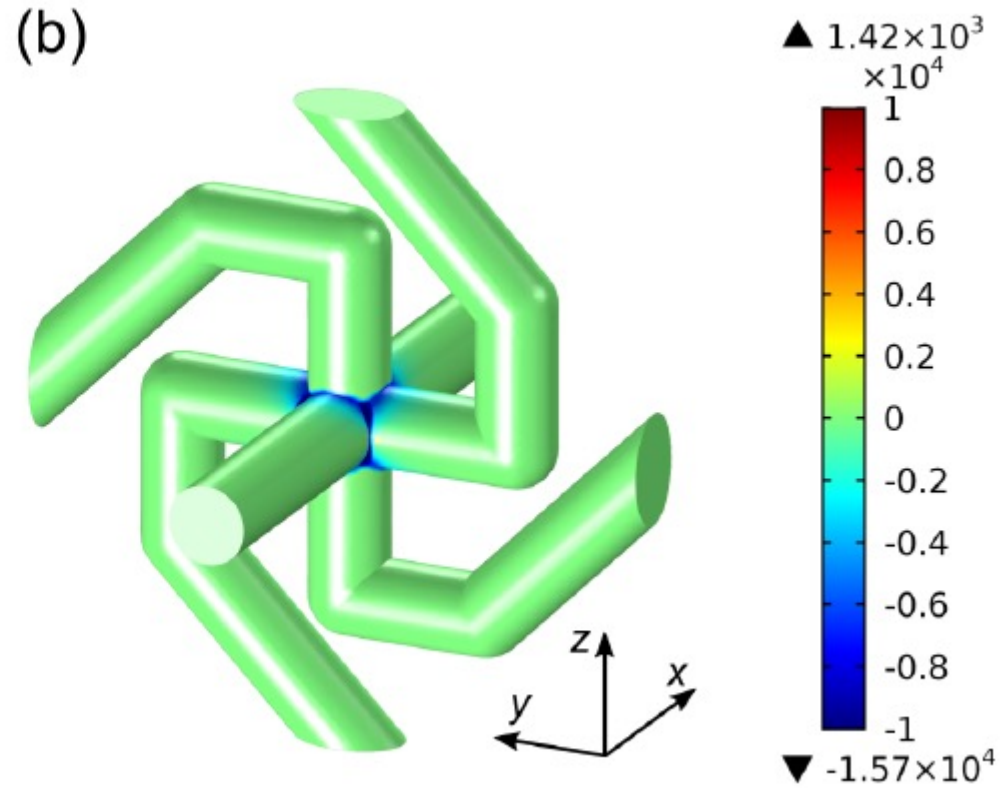
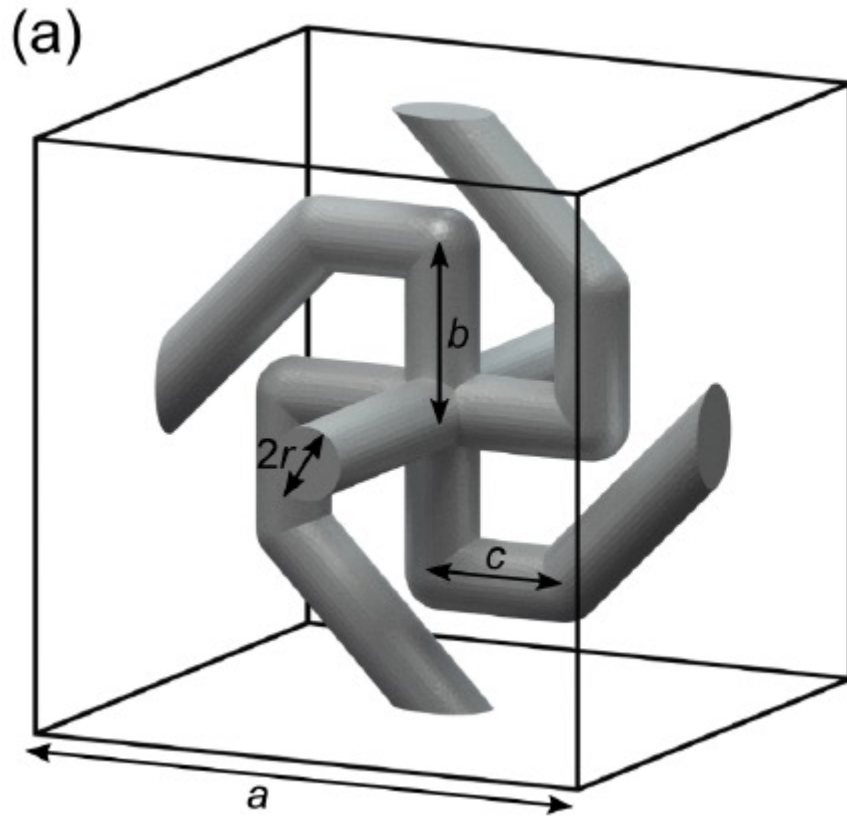
Image courtesy Christian Kern

$$\mathbf{A}_H = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & A_{23} \\ 0 & -A_{23} & 0 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$\mathbf{e}_H = -A_{23}j_x (b_y \hat{\mathbf{y}} + b_z \hat{\mathbf{z}})$$

The Hall matrix becomes asymptotically an antisymmetric matrix.
(Milton and Briane, 2010)

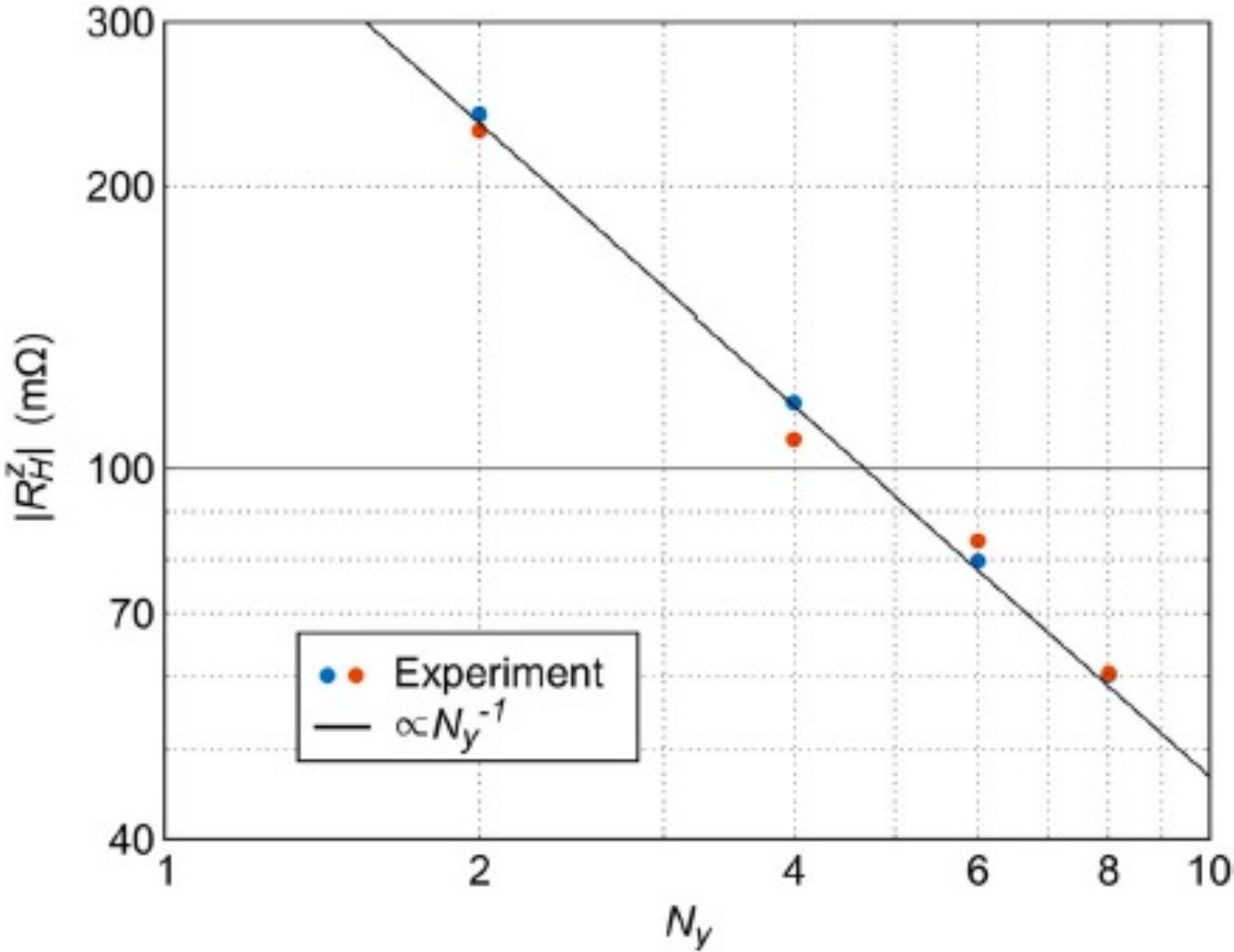
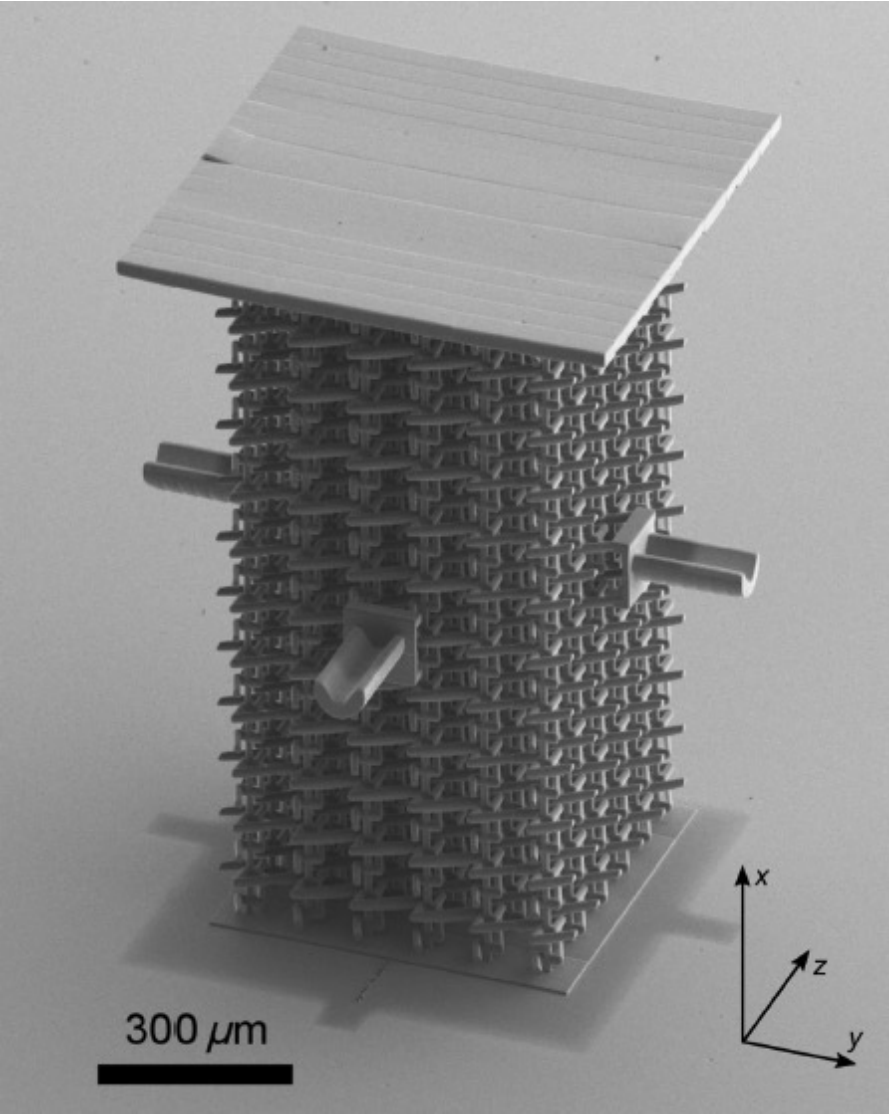
Simplified Design: (Kern, Kadic, Wegener 2015)



$$\mathbf{A}_H^* = \begin{pmatrix} 6.85 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0.04 & 6.84 \\ 0 & -6.84 & 0.04 \end{pmatrix} \mathbf{A}_H^0$$

Plot of the cofactor

Experiments: Kern, Schuster, Kadic, and Wegener (2017)



Transformation to self-adjoint form

Conductivity equation: $\nabla \cdot \boldsymbol{\sigma} \nabla V = -\nabla \cdot \mathbf{s}$,

$\boldsymbol{\sigma}$ not symmetric: $\boldsymbol{\sigma}(\mathbf{x}) = \boldsymbol{\sigma}_s(\mathbf{x}) + \boldsymbol{\sigma}_a(\mathbf{x})$

$\mathbf{j}_0 = \boldsymbol{\sigma} \mathbf{e} - \mathbf{s}$, $\nabla \cdot \mathbf{j}_0 = 0$, $\mathbf{e} = -\nabla V$

Can be manipulated into the extended Cherkhev-Gibiansky form:

$\begin{pmatrix} \mathbf{e} \\ \mathbf{j}_0 \end{pmatrix} = \mathbf{L} \begin{pmatrix} \mathbf{j}_0 \\ \mathbf{e} \end{pmatrix} - \mathbf{s}_0$, $\nabla \cdot \mathbf{j}_0 = 0$, $\mathbf{e} = -\nabla V$

$\mathbf{L} = \begin{pmatrix} \boldsymbol{\sigma}_s^{-1} & -\boldsymbol{\sigma}_s^{-1} \boldsymbol{\sigma}_a \\ \boldsymbol{\sigma}_a \boldsymbol{\sigma}_s^{-1} & \boldsymbol{\sigma}_s - \boldsymbol{\sigma}_a \boldsymbol{\sigma}_s^{-1} \boldsymbol{\sigma}_a \end{pmatrix}$, $\mathbf{s}_0 = \begin{pmatrix} -\boldsymbol{\sigma}_s^{-1} \mathbf{s} \\ \mathbf{s} - \boldsymbol{\sigma}_a \boldsymbol{\sigma}_s^{-1} \mathbf{s} \end{pmatrix}$

Field Patterns: A new type of Wave

With Ornella Mattei





Formulation of the problem

- Generic wave equation:

$$\frac{\partial}{\partial x} \left(\alpha(x, t) \frac{\partial u(x, t)}{\partial x} \right) - \frac{\partial}{\partial t} \left(\beta(x, t) \frac{\partial u(x, t)}{\partial t} \right) = 0$$

The coefficients are **time – dependent** → **DYNAMIC MATERIALS**

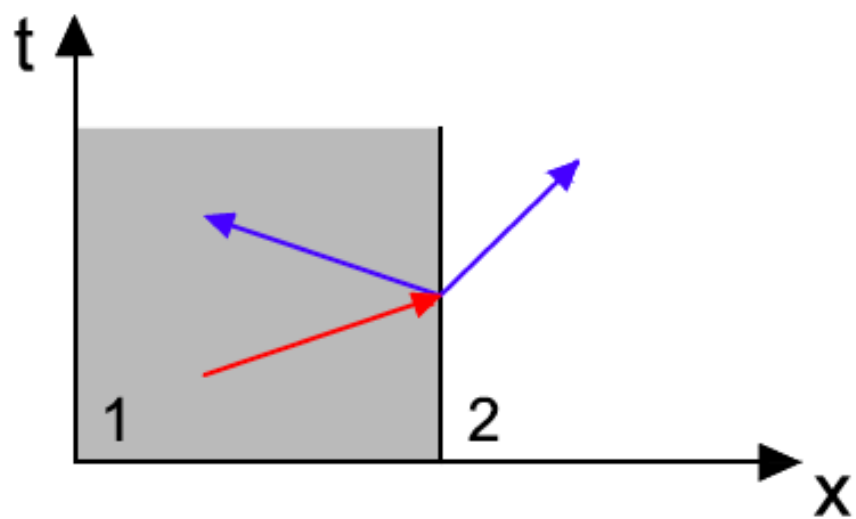
- **Boundary conditions:** The medium is infinite in the x -direction
- **Initial conditions:**

$$\begin{aligned} u(x, 0) &= g(x) \\ \frac{\partial u(x, t)}{\partial t} \Big|_{t=0} &= f(x) \end{aligned}$$

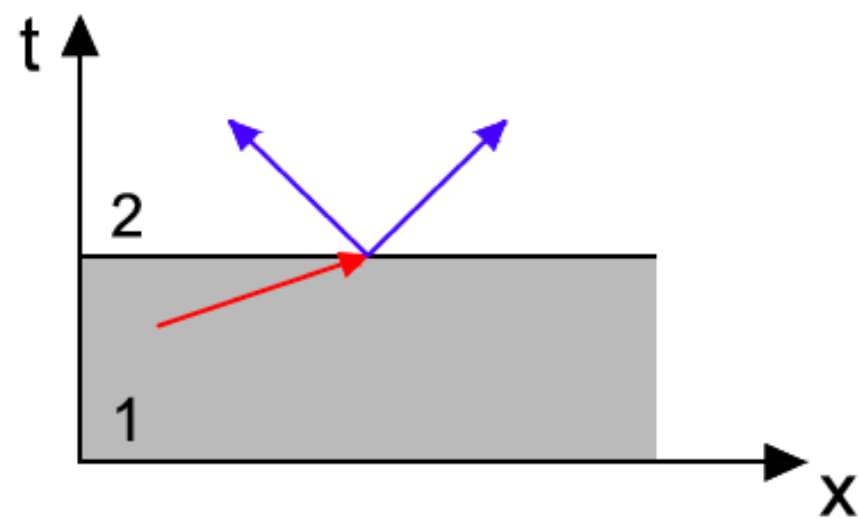
[see, e.g., Lurie, 2007]

Dynamic composites

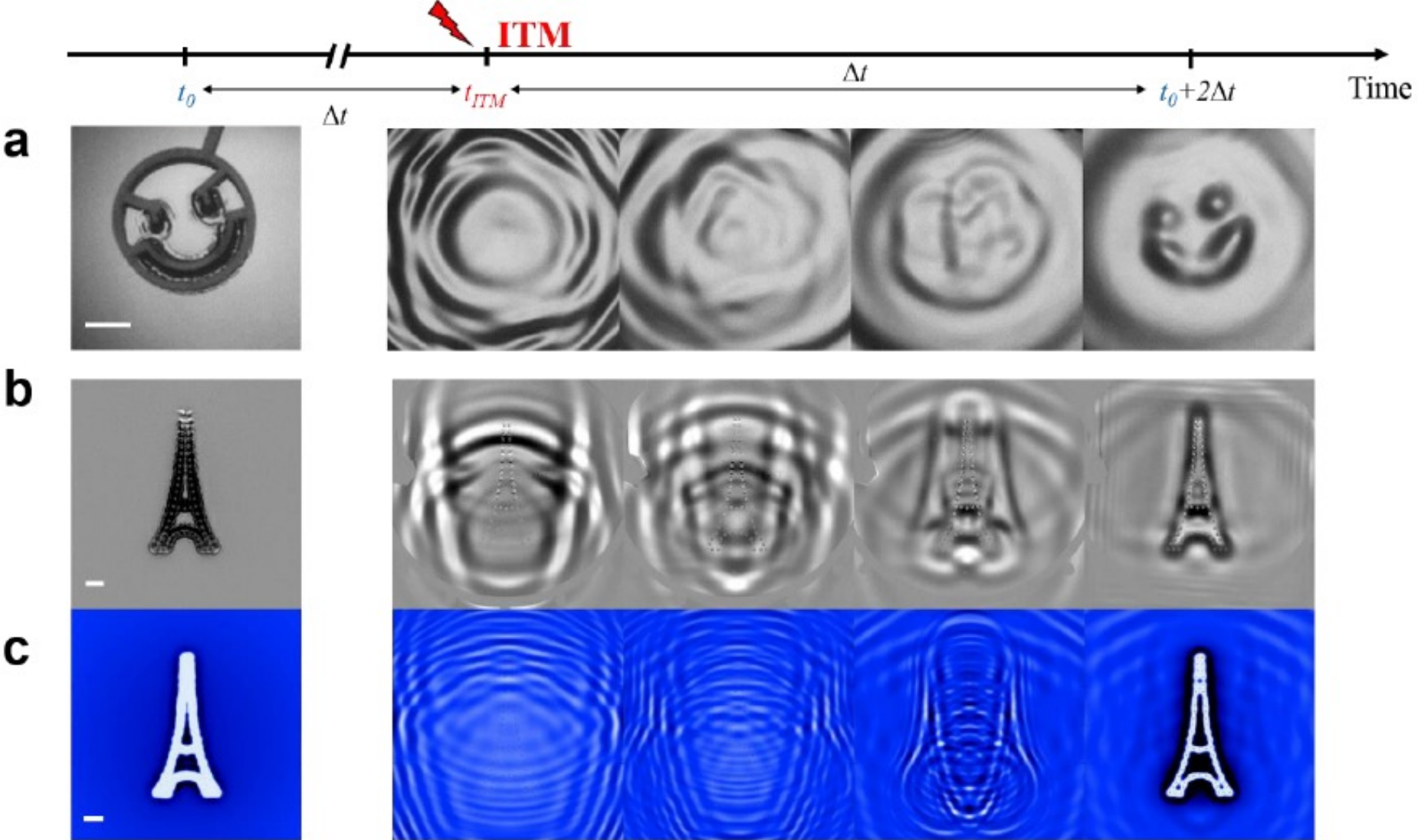
Pure space interface



Pure time interface



What happens at a time interface?



Thinking of the wave equation as a conductivity problem

$$\mathbf{j}(\mathbf{x}) = \boldsymbol{\sigma}(\mathbf{x})\mathbf{e}(\mathbf{x}), \quad \text{where } \nabla \cdot \mathbf{j} = 0, \quad \mathbf{e} = -\nabla V,$$

$$\boldsymbol{\sigma}(\mathbf{x}) = \begin{pmatrix} \alpha(\mathbf{x}) & 0 \\ 0 & -\beta(\mathbf{x}) \end{pmatrix}, \quad \begin{array}{ll} \text{material 1} & \rightarrow \alpha_1, \beta_1 \\ \text{material 2} & \rightarrow \alpha_2, \beta_2 \end{array}$$

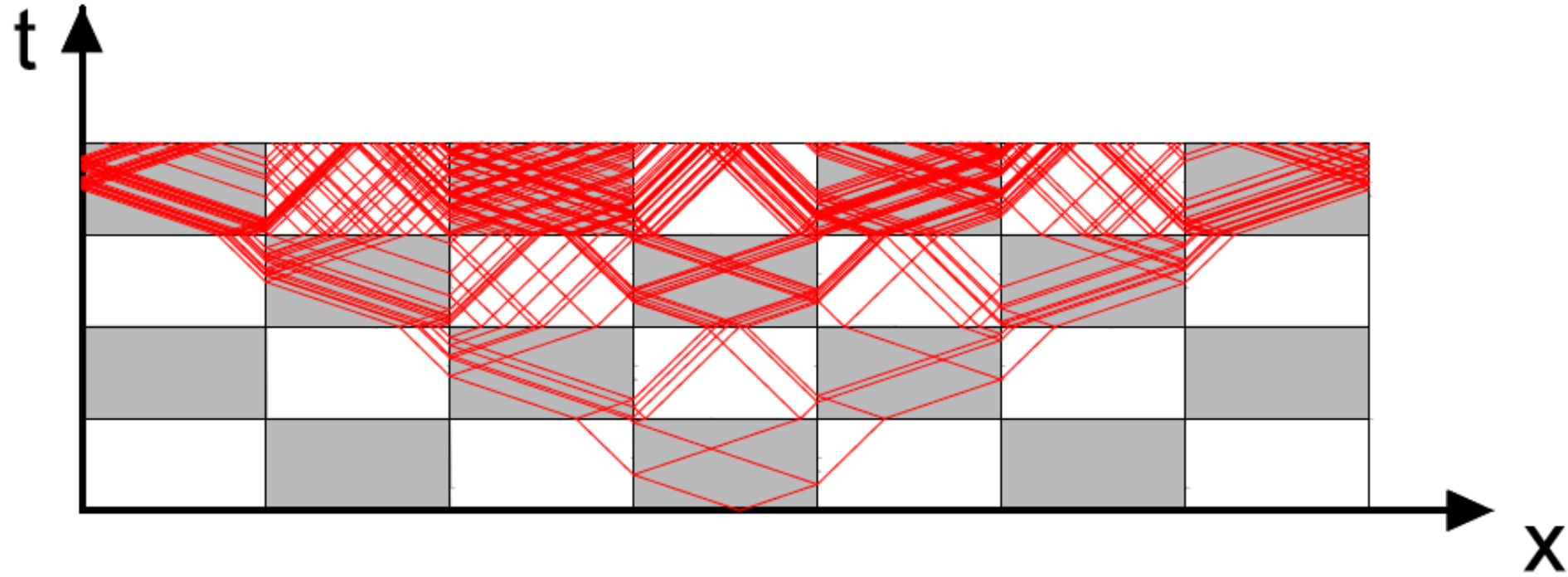
$$\frac{\partial}{\partial x_1} \left(\alpha(x_1, x_2) \frac{\partial V(x_1, x_2)}{\partial x_1} \right) - \frac{\partial}{\partial x_2} \left(\beta(x_1, x_2) \frac{\partial V(x_1, x_2)}{\partial x_2} \right) = 0$$

N.B. Hyperbolic materials!! [See, e.g. the review Poddubny, Iorsh, Belov, Kivshar, 2013]

$$\alpha_i \frac{\partial^2 V_i}{\partial x^2} - \beta_i \frac{\partial^2 V_i}{\partial t^2} = 0, \quad i = 1, 2$$

D'Alembert solution : $V_i(x, t) = V_i^+(x - c_i t) + V_i^-(x + c_i t) \quad c_i = \sqrt{\frac{\alpha_i}{\beta_i}}$

Evolution of a disturbance in a space-time checkerboard

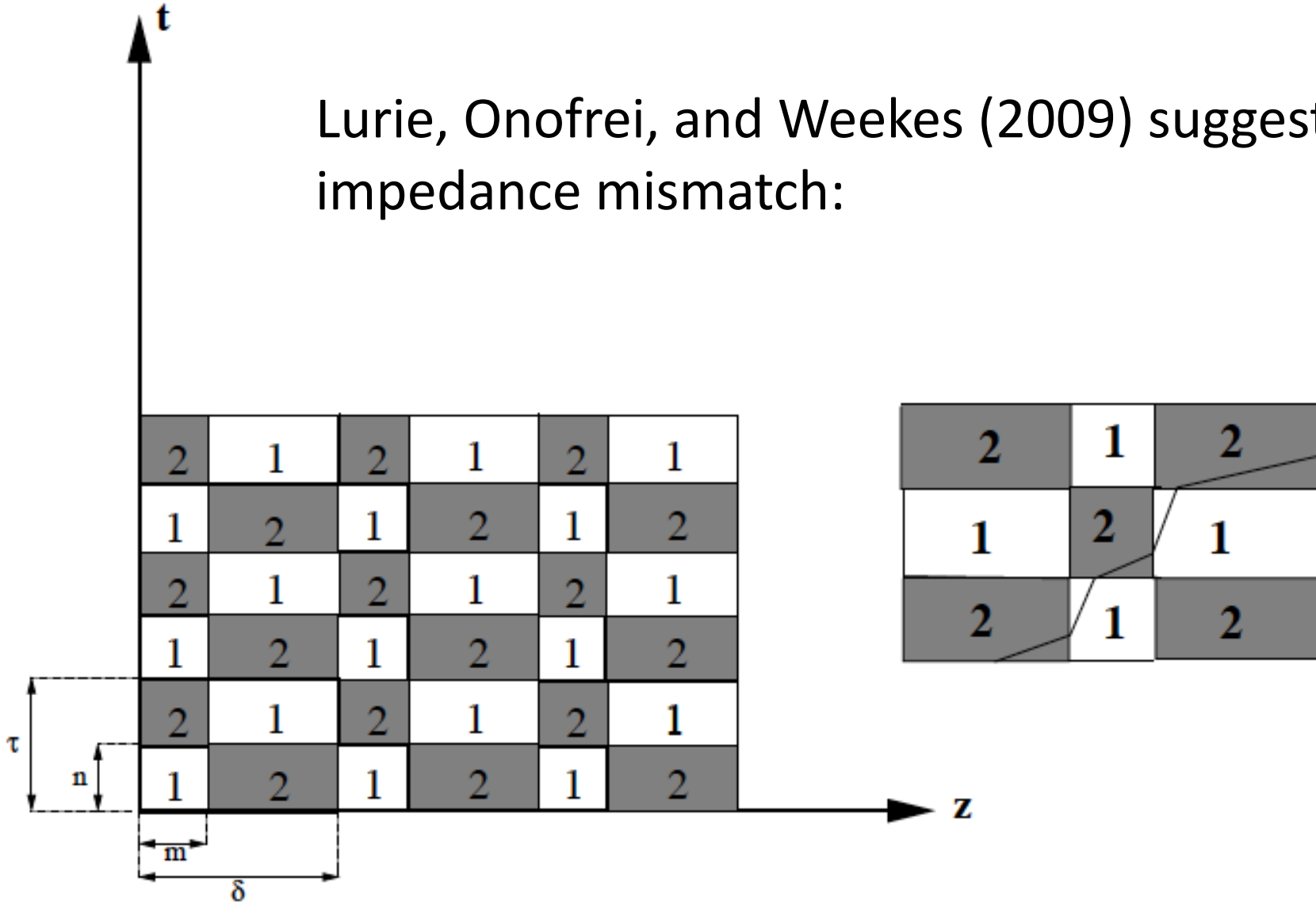


Transmission conditions:

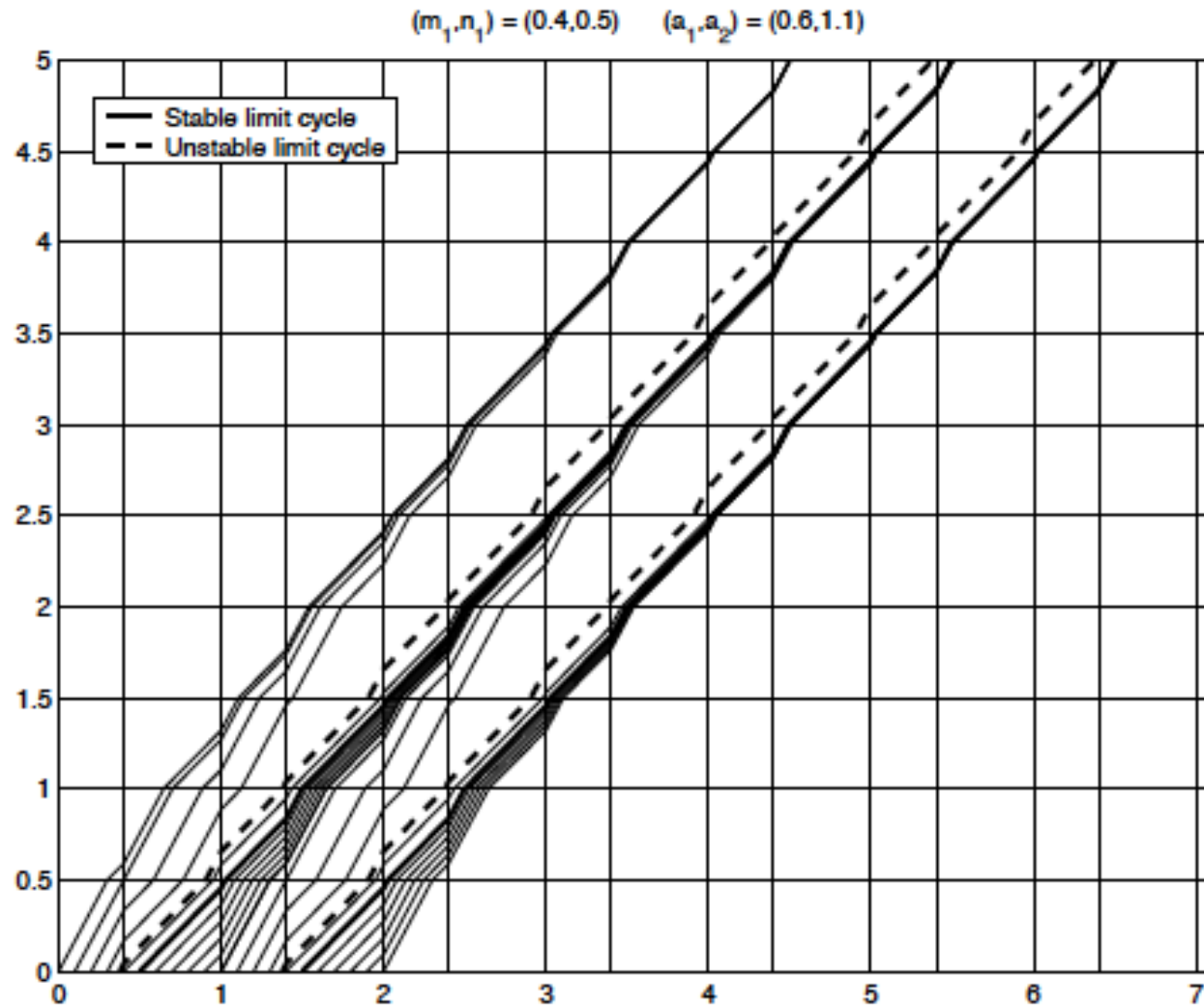
$$\begin{cases} V_1 = V_2 \\ \mathbf{n} \cdot \boldsymbol{\sigma}_1 \nabla V_1 = \mathbf{n} \cdot \boldsymbol{\sigma}_2 \nabla V_2 \end{cases}$$

How to avoid this complicated cascade?

Lurie, Onofrei, and Weekes (2009) suggested having a zero impedance mismatch:



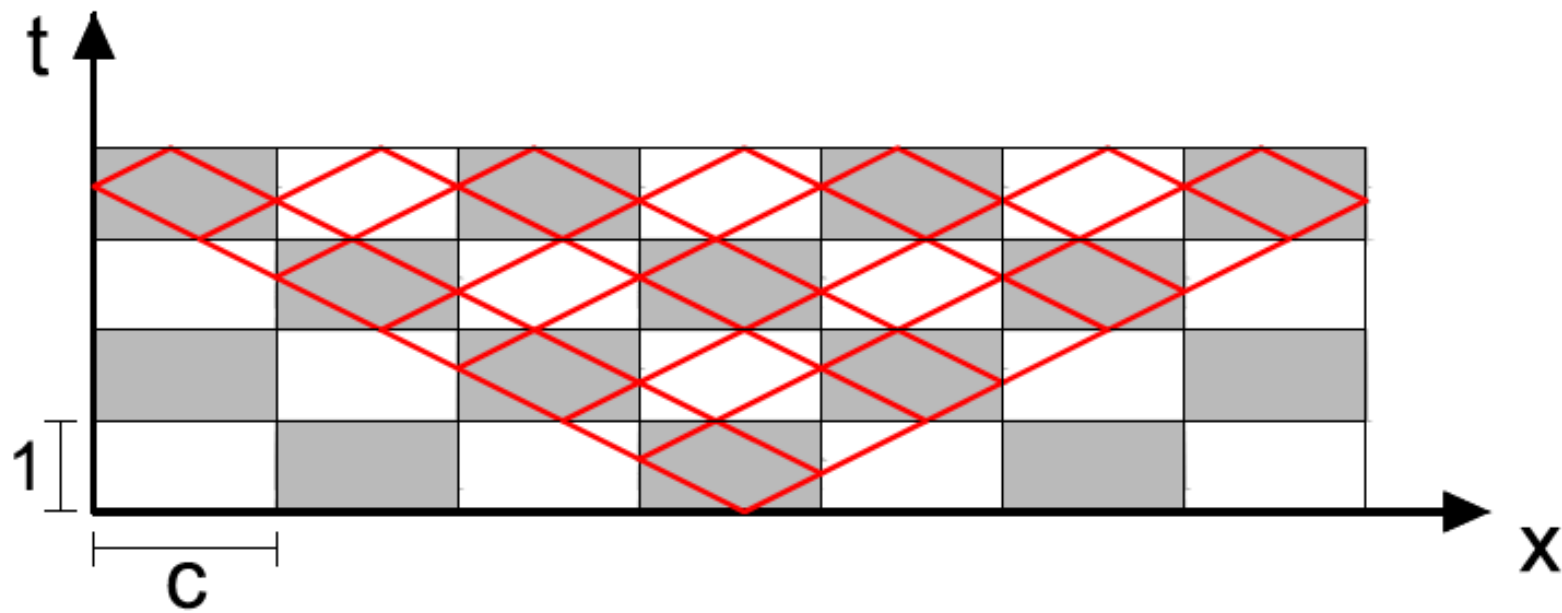
Curiously they found accumulations of the characteristic lines:



A bit like a shock but in a linear medium!

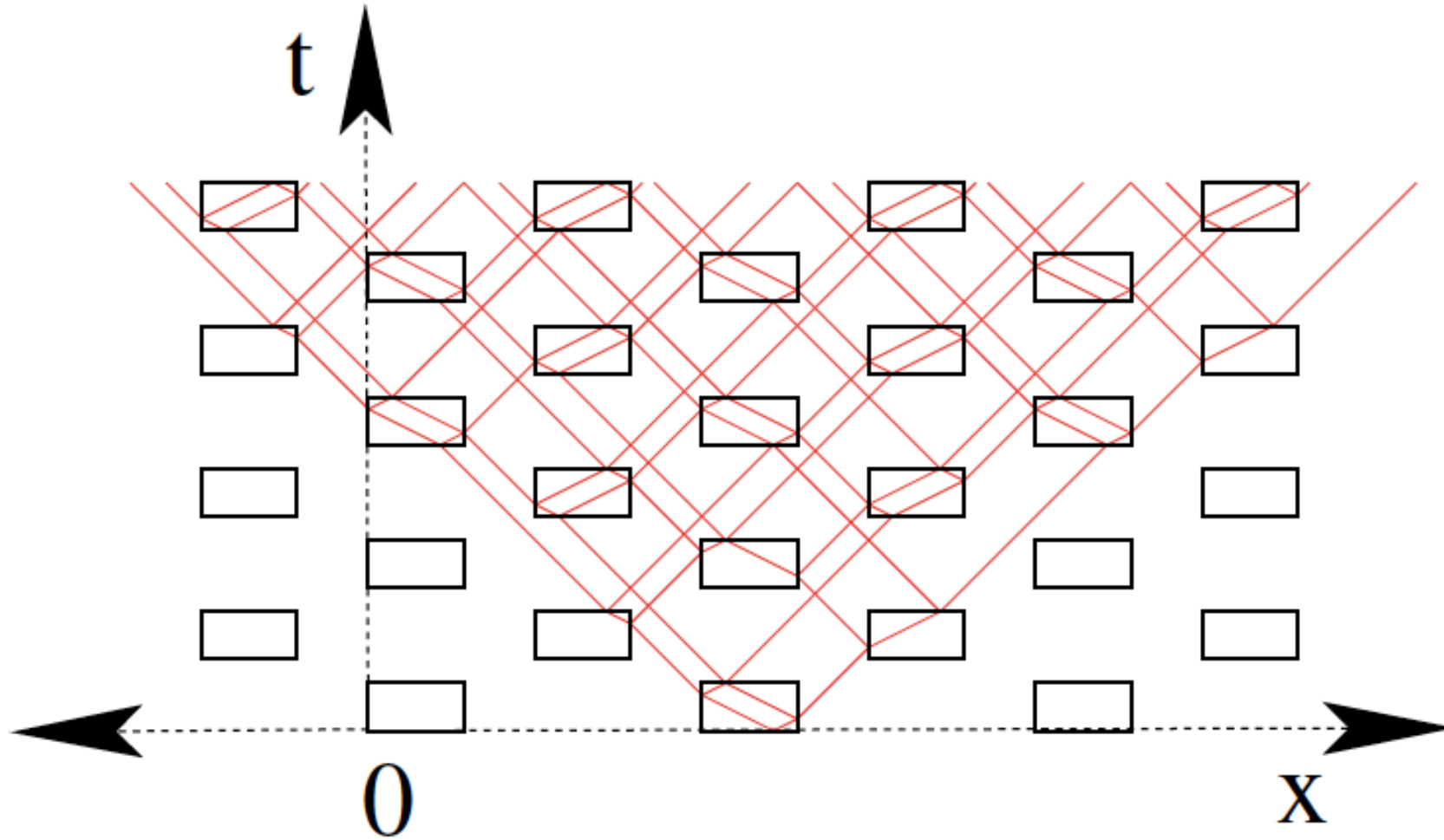
Field patterns in a space-time checkerboard

$$c_1 = c_2 = c \quad \Rightarrow \quad \frac{\alpha_1}{\beta_1} = \frac{\alpha_2}{\beta_2}$$

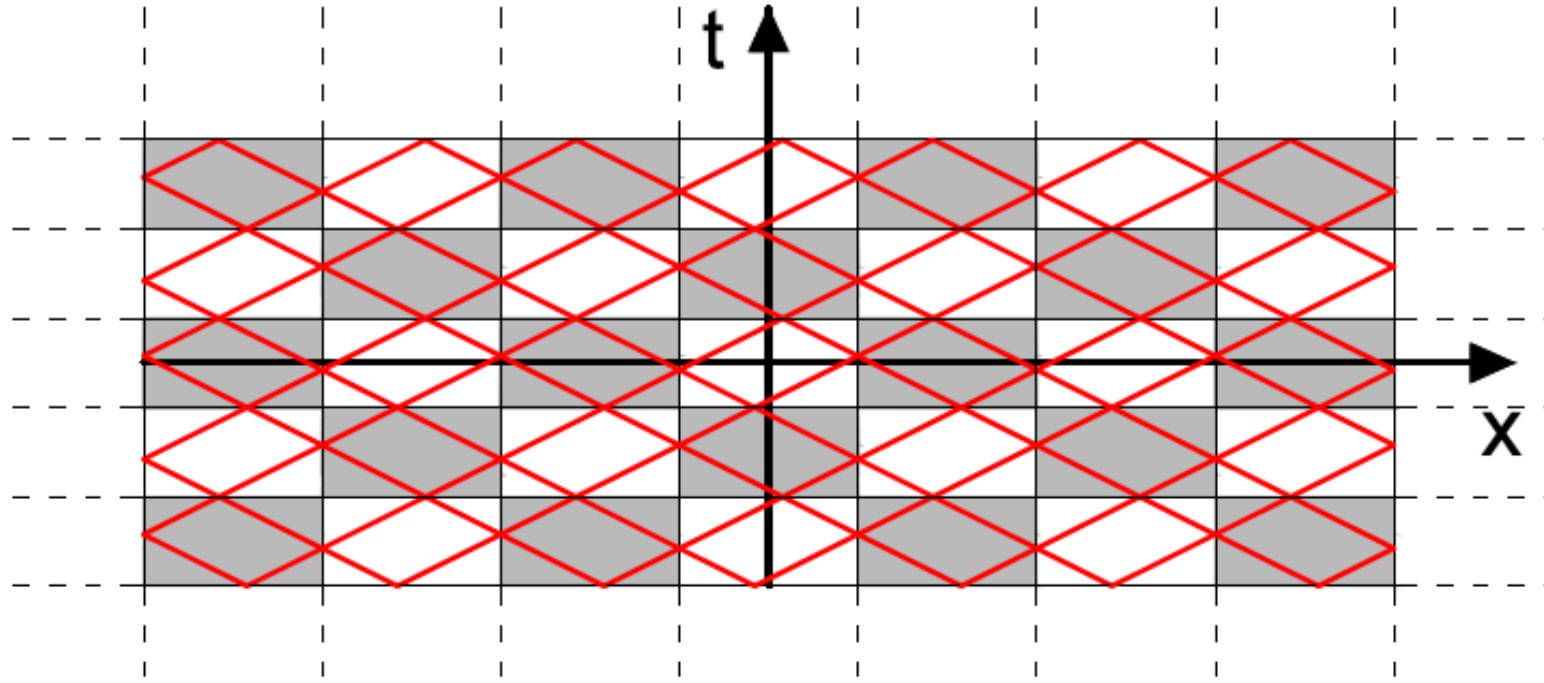


Field patterns are a new type of wave propagating along orderly patterns of characteristic lines!!!

Alternatively one can have staggered inclusions:



PT-symmetry of field patterns



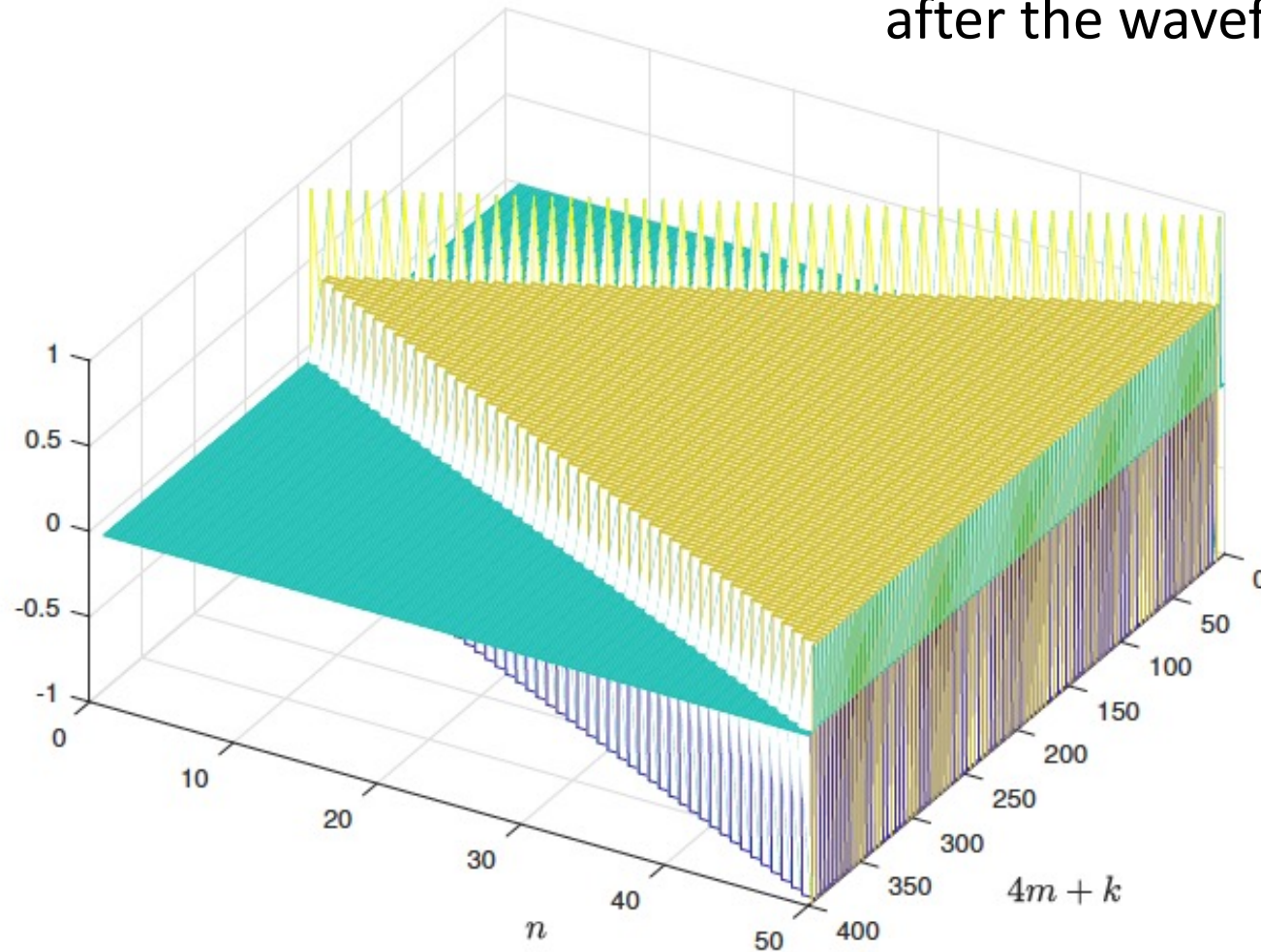
[Quantum physics, e.g., Bender and Boettcher, 1998,
Optics, e.g., Zyablovsky et al., 2014]

Unbroken PT-symmetry \rightarrow real eigenvalues

Broken PT-symmetry \rightarrow complex conjugate eigenvalues

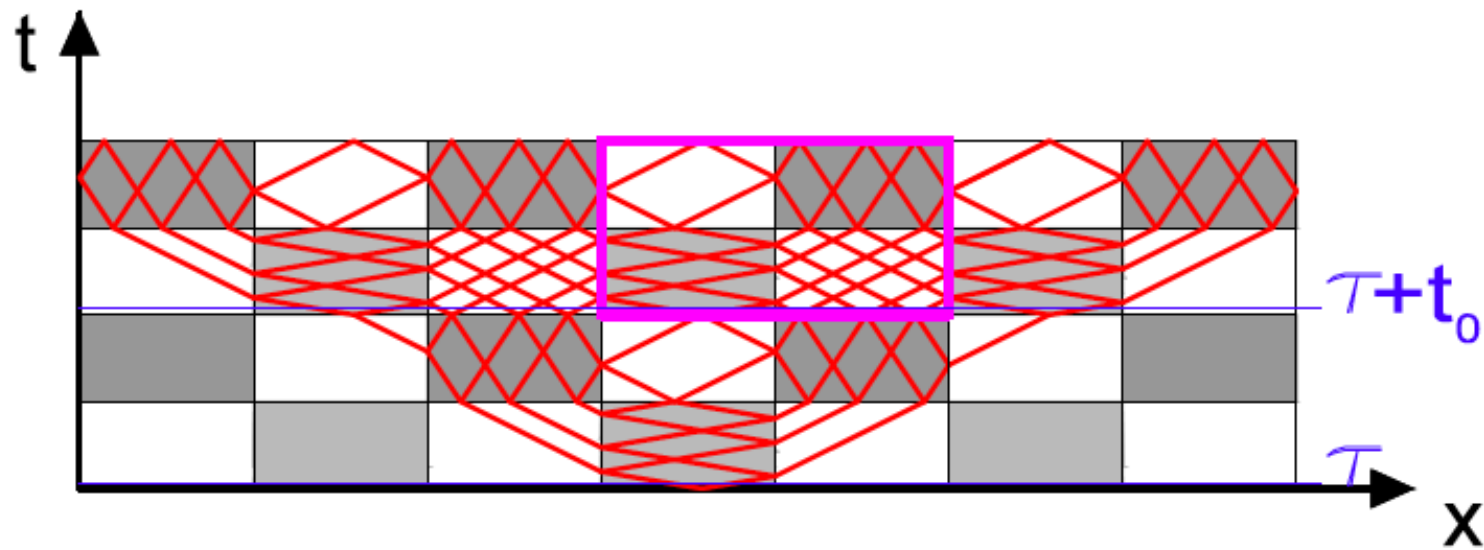
Evolution in time of the current distribution

Note: oscillations continue after the wavefront!



Three-phase space-time checkerboard

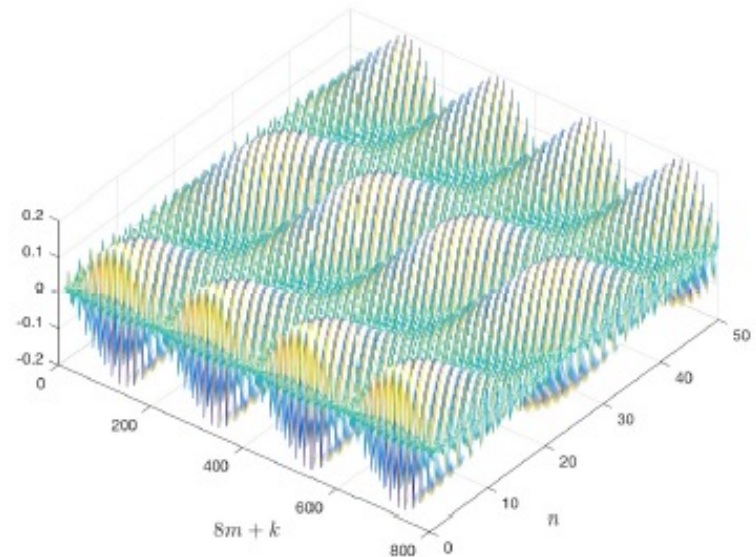
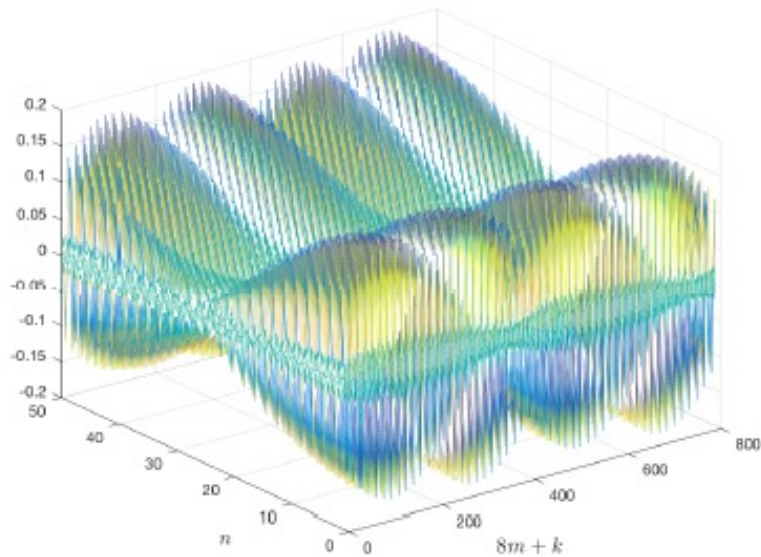
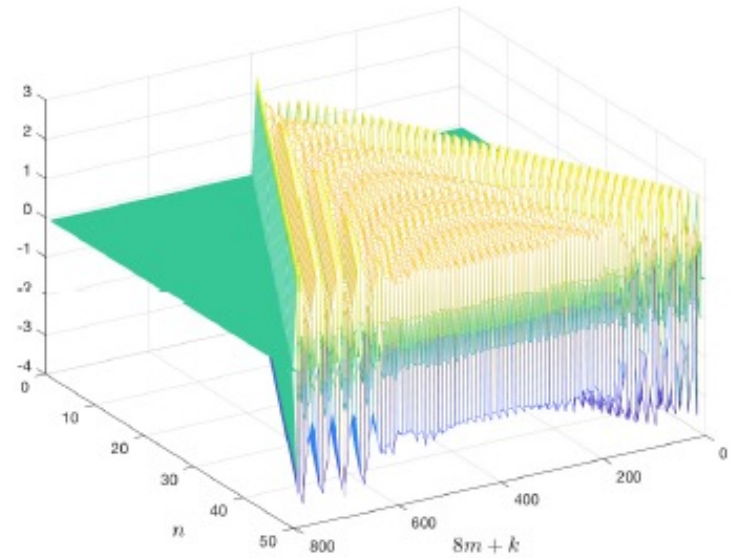
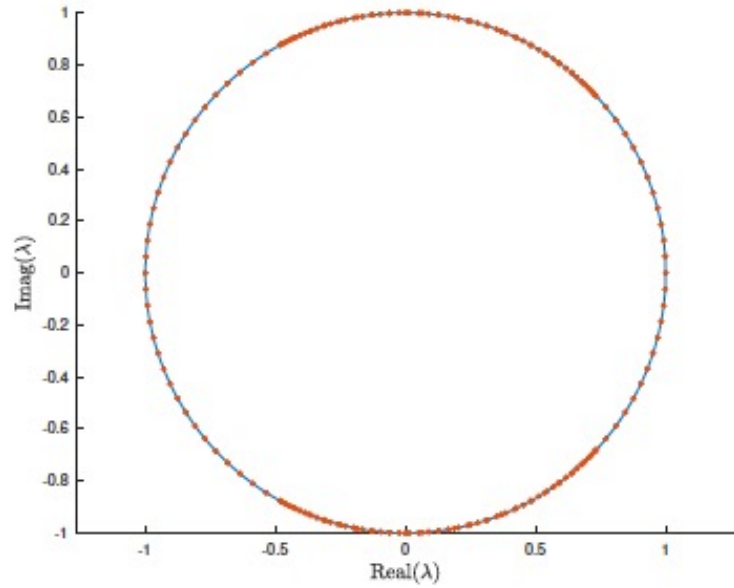
$$c_2/c_1 = c_1/c_3 = 3$$



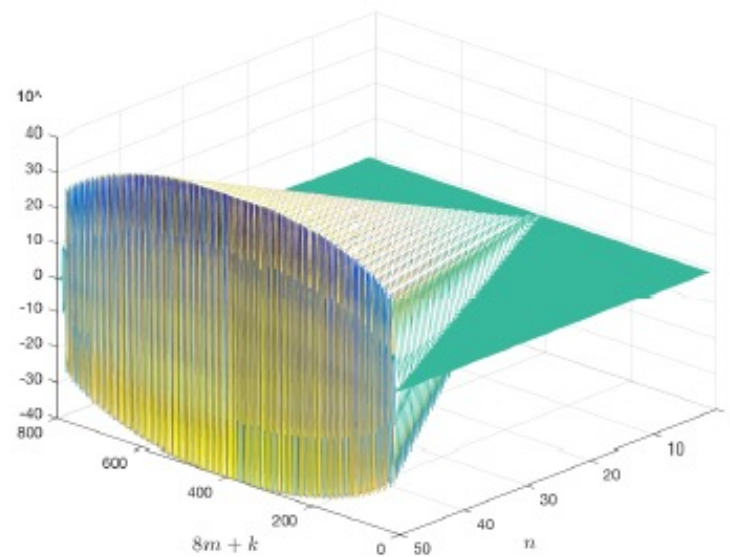
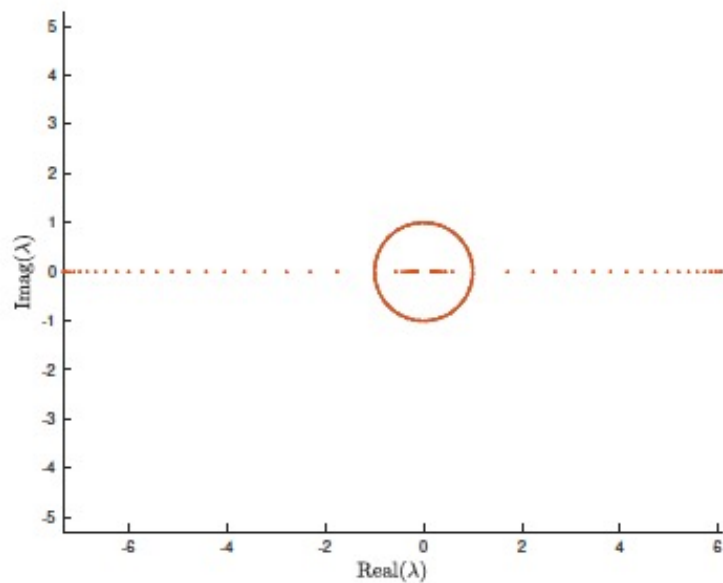
For some combinations of $\gamma_1, \gamma_2, \gamma_3$: **UNBROKEN** PT-symmetry

For other combinations of $\gamma_1, \gamma_2, \gamma_3$: **BROKEN** PT-symmetry

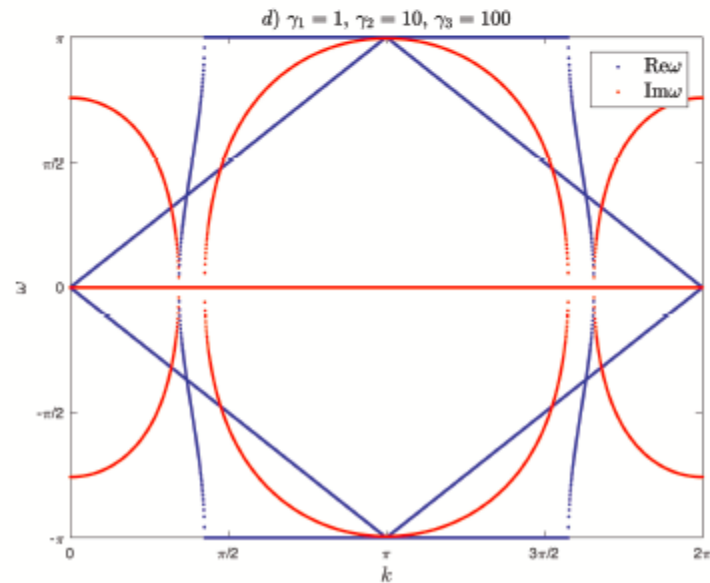
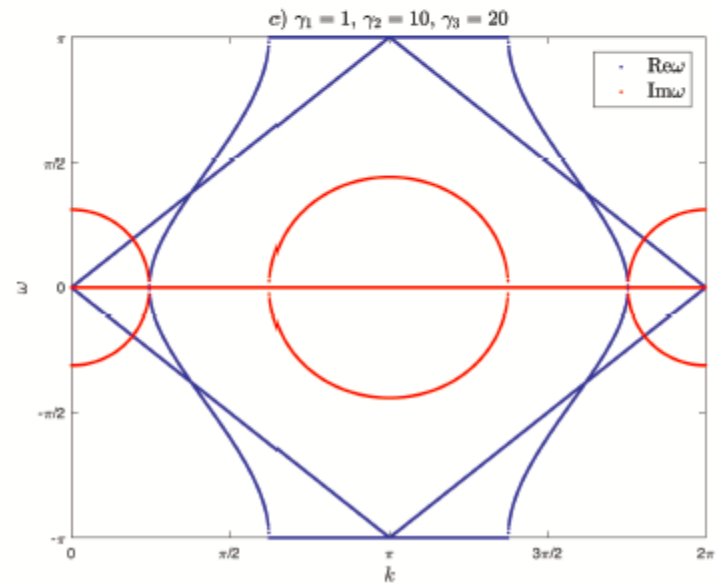
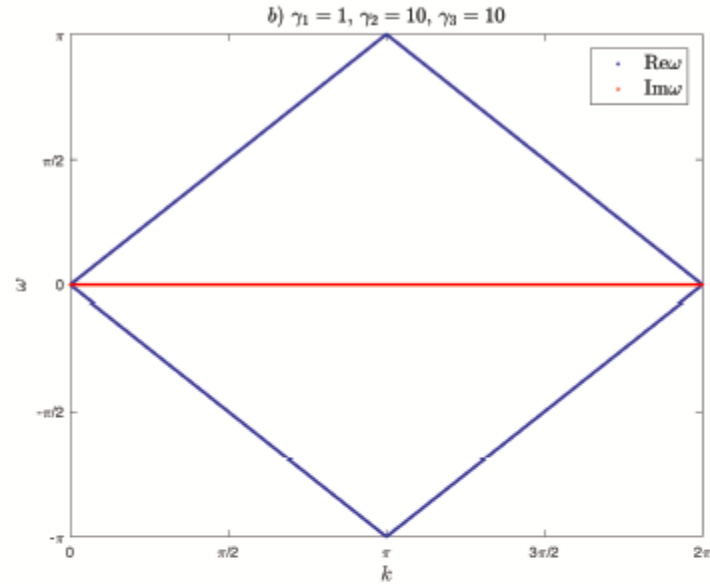
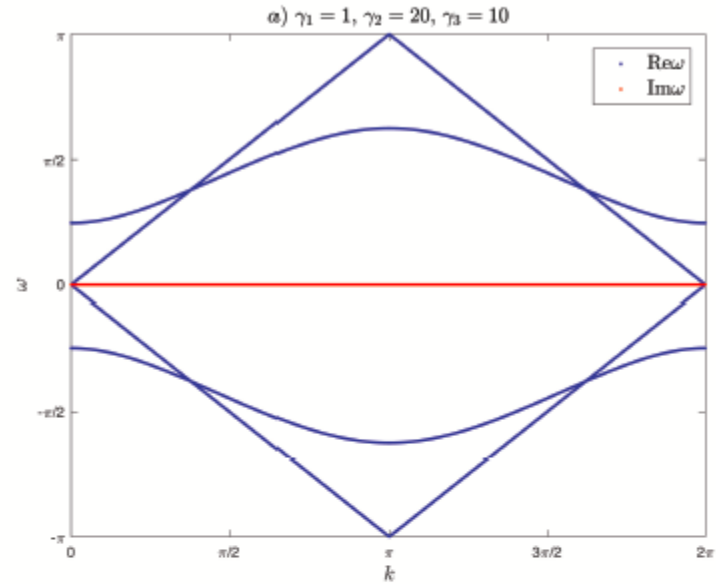
Unbroken PT -symmetry for the three-phase checkerboard



Broken PT-symmetry for the three-phase checkerboard



Dispersion diagrams for the three-phase checkerboard



Bloch Waves are:
Infinitely Degenerate!

Thank you!

Thank you!

Thank you!

Thank you!

Thank you!