

# Group delay time and neutron optics

A.Frank & V.Bushuev

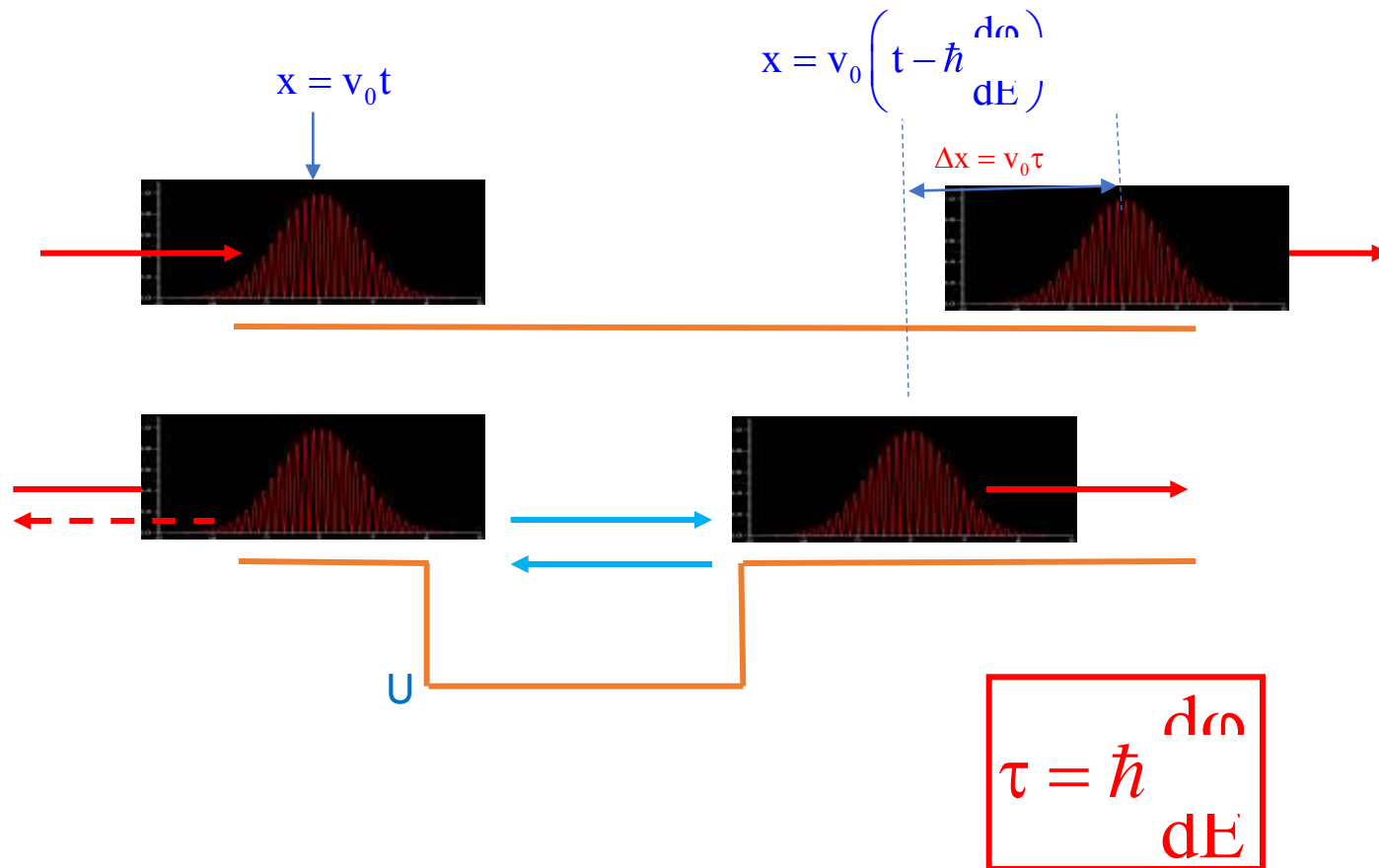
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M.V. Lomonosov Moscow State University, Moscow*

# *Group Delay Time in neutron optics*

- 1. Introduction*
- 2. Larmor clock as theoretical and experimental approach to the problem of interaction time of neutron with quantum object*
- 3. Goos-Hänchen shift at neutron reflection from a matter*
- 4. Some aspects of the refraction theory*

# Introduction

# Group delay time



Bohm, D. ,1951, Quantum Theory (Prentice-Hall. N.-Y), pp 257-261

Wigner, E.P., 1955, Phys,Rev. 98, 145

# Foundations of neutron optics

*Dispersion law*

$$\mathbf{k}^2 = \mathbf{k}_0^2 - 4\pi\rho\mathbf{b}$$

$$\mathbf{b} = \mathbf{b}' - i\mathbf{b}''$$

$$\mathbf{b}'' \ll \mathbf{b}'$$

$$\frac{\mathbf{b}''}{\mathbf{b}'} \approx 10^{-4} - 10^{-5}$$

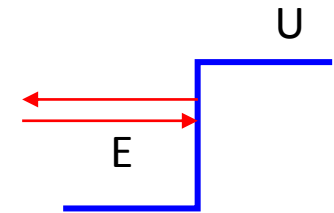
$$U = \frac{2\pi\hbar}{m} \rho\mathbf{b}$$

$\mathbf{b} = \text{const} (?)$

*Refraction index*

$$\mathbf{n} = \frac{\mathbf{k}}{\mathbf{k}_0}$$

$$\mathbf{n}^2 = 1 - \frac{4\pi\rho}{\mathbf{k}_0^2} \mathbf{b}$$



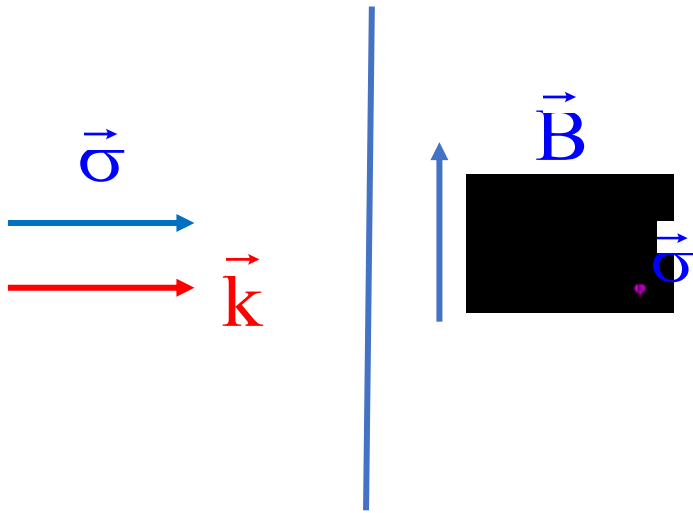
$$\mathbf{k}_{0\perp} \leq \mathbf{k}_b = (4\pi\rho\mathbf{b})^{1/2} \longrightarrow \text{Total reflection}$$

$$\mathbf{k}_{\perp}^2 = \mathbf{k}_{0\perp}^2 - 4\pi\rho\mathbf{b} \longrightarrow$$

*Optical properties of an object do not depend on the longitudinal component of  $\mathbf{k}$*

# **Group delay time and Larmor clock**

# Spin precession in the stationary field



$$\Psi(\mathbf{x}, t) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} \begin{pmatrix} e^{ik_+x} \\ e^{ik_-x} \end{pmatrix} e^{-i\omega t} \quad k_{\pm} = k_0 \begin{pmatrix} 1 \mp \frac{\mu\mathbf{R}}{E} \end{pmatrix}^{1/2}$$

$$\Psi(\mathbf{x}) = \begin{pmatrix} e^{i\varphi/2} & 0 \\ 0 & e^{-i\varphi/2} \end{pmatrix} \Psi_0, \quad \Psi_0 = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix} e^{i(kx - \omega t)}$$

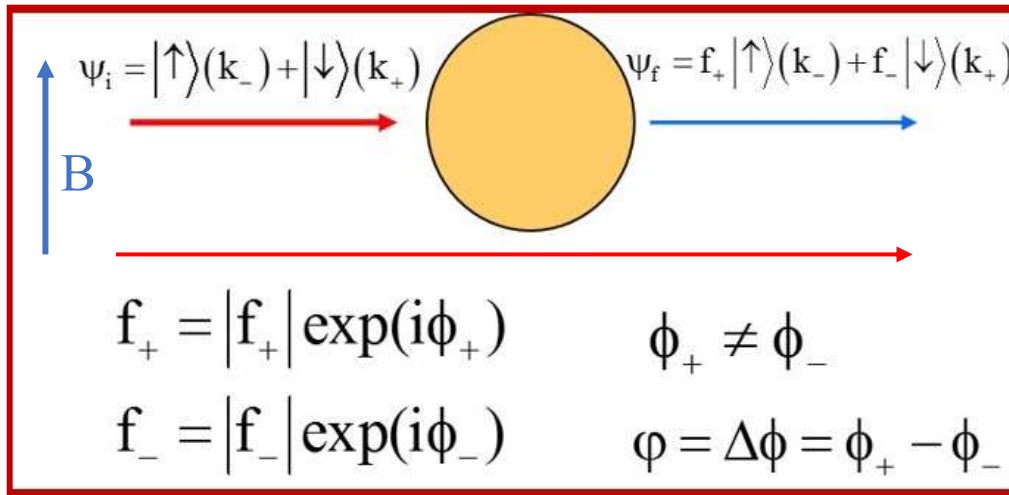


$\hat{R}$

Rotation operator

$$\varphi = (k_- - k_+)x \quad \varphi = \omega_L \frac{x}{v} \quad \omega_L = \frac{2\mu B}{\hbar}$$

# Larmor clock and group delay time



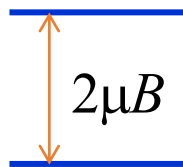
A.I.Baz,  
Soviet. J. Nucl. Phys. 4 (1967) 182

*In the presence of magnetic field, B interaction results in extra spin precession*

*Delay time due to interaction can be defined as*

$$\tau = \frac{\Delta\phi}{\omega_L} \quad \Delta\phi = \omega_L \tau \quad \omega_L = \frac{2\mu B}{\hbar}$$

$$\tau = \hbar \frac{\Delta\phi}{2\mu B} = \hbar \frac{\Delta\phi}{\Delta E}$$



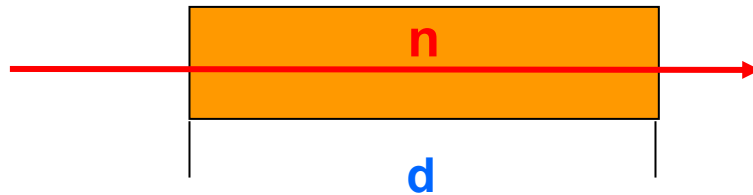
In a limit  $B, \Delta E \rightarrow 0$

$$\tau = \hbar \frac{d\phi}{dE}$$

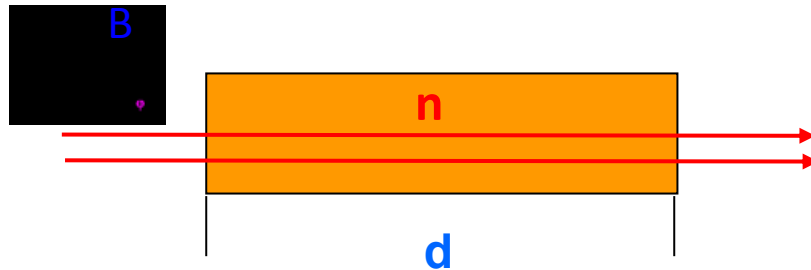
Group delay time



## Extra spin precession at refraction



$$\phi = k(n - 1)d$$



$$\phi_+ = k_+ [n(k_+) - 1]d$$

$$\phi_- = k_- [n(k_-) - 1]d$$

Extra spin precession

$$\Delta\phi = \omega_L \left( \frac{\mathbf{n} - 1}{\mathbf{n}} \right) \frac{\mathbf{d}}{\mathbf{v}}$$

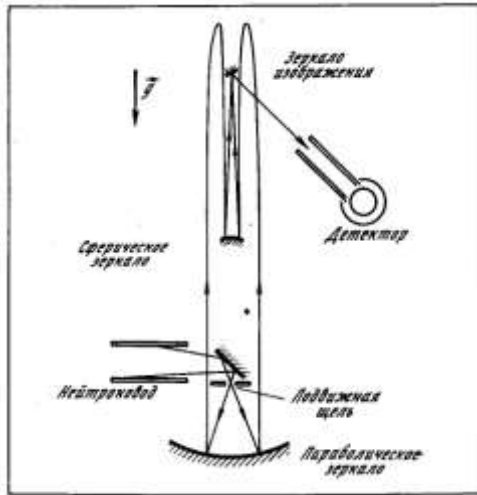
$$\Delta\phi = \omega_L \left( \frac{d}{v} - \frac{d}{nv} \right)$$

A.I. Франк. *Вопр. Ат.науки и техники, Серия: Общая и ядерная физика*, (36), с.69, 1986.

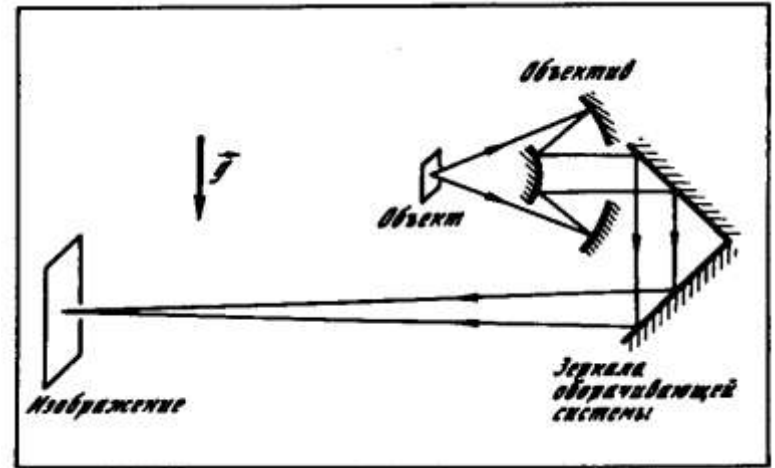
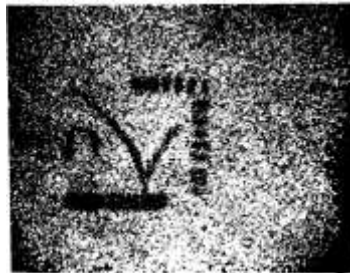
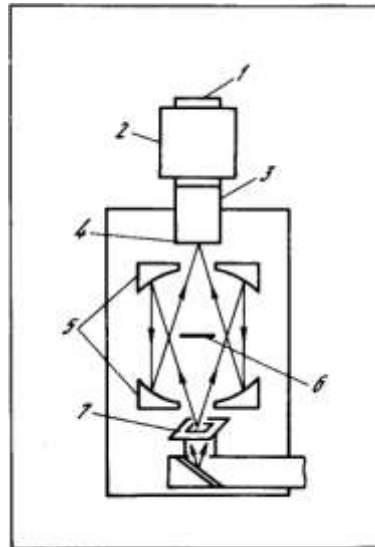
V.G.Baryshevskii, S.V.Cherepitsa, A.I.Frank.*Phys.Lett.A*, 1991, V.153, 299.

A.I.Frank *Soviet Physics Uspekhi* **34** (11) 980–987 (1991)

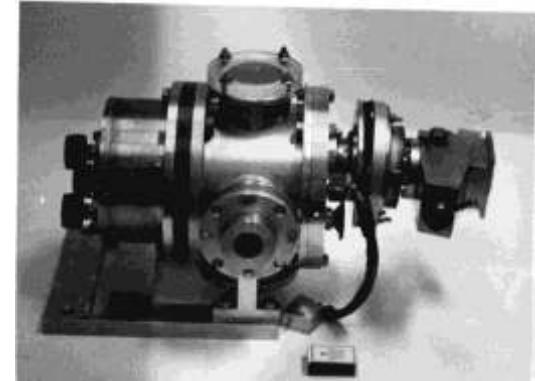
# Neutron Microscopy using ultra-cold neutrons



Resolution  $\approx 10 \mu$



Resolution  $\approx 15 \mu$

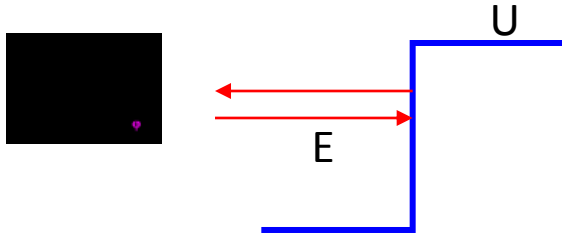


A.Steyerl et al, *Neutron Microscopy Rev.Phys.Appl*, **23**, 171, (1988)

A.I.Frank *Ultra-Cold neutron microscopy*. Atomic energy, **66**, p.106 (1987)

A.I.Frank. *Optics of very slow neutrons and neutron microscopy*. Nucl.Instr.Meth. A, **284**, (1989)

# Pseudo-Larmor spin precession at reflection from potential step



$$\psi(x) = R e^{-ikx}; \quad R = e^{i\varphi} \quad \cos \varphi = \frac{2E - U}{U}$$

In magnetic field

$$k_0^2 \rightarrow k_{\pm}^2,$$

$$E \rightarrow E \mp \mu$$

$$\cos \varphi_{\pm} = \frac{2E \mp \mu}{U}$$

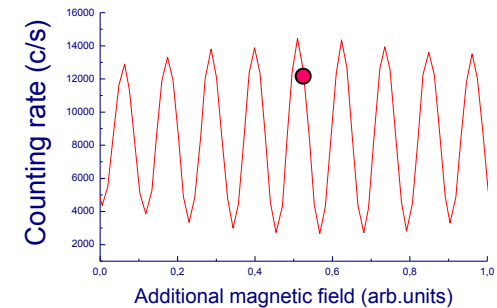
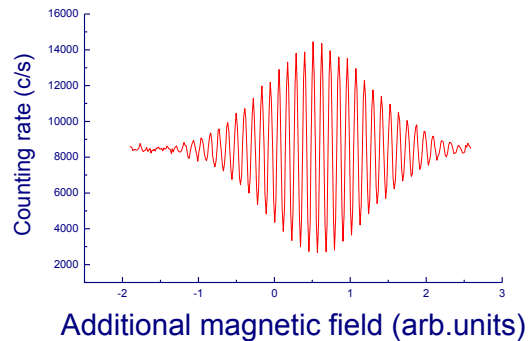
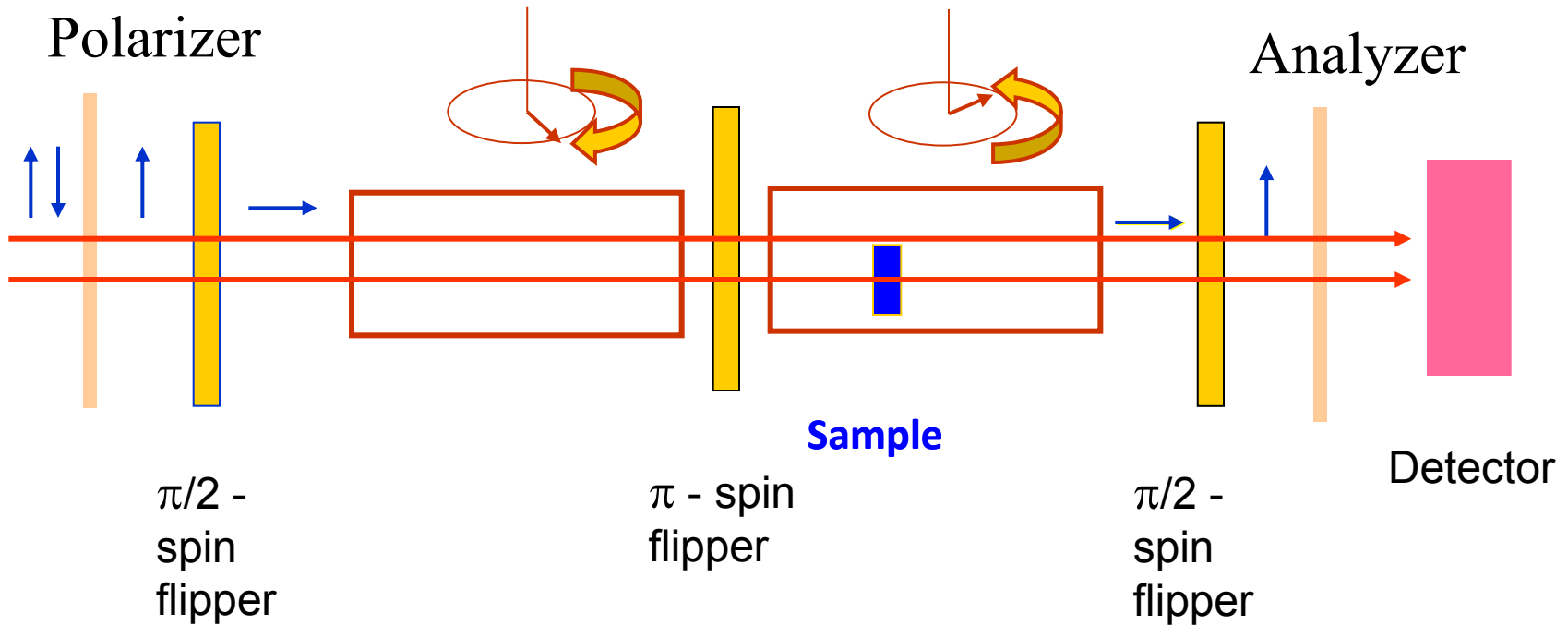
**Spin rotation at reflection**

$$\Delta\varphi = \varphi_+ - \varphi_- = \frac{2\mu B}{\sqrt{E(U-E)}}$$

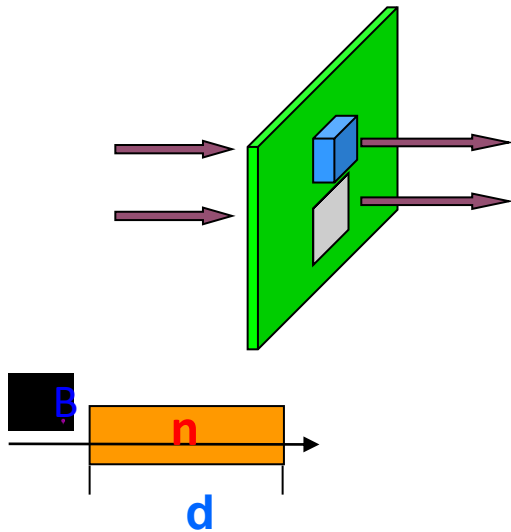
$$\tau = \frac{\hbar}{\sqrt{E_{\perp}(U - E_{\perp})}}$$

N. K. Pleshanov, Physica B **198**, 70 (1994)

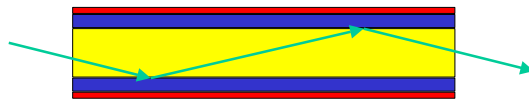
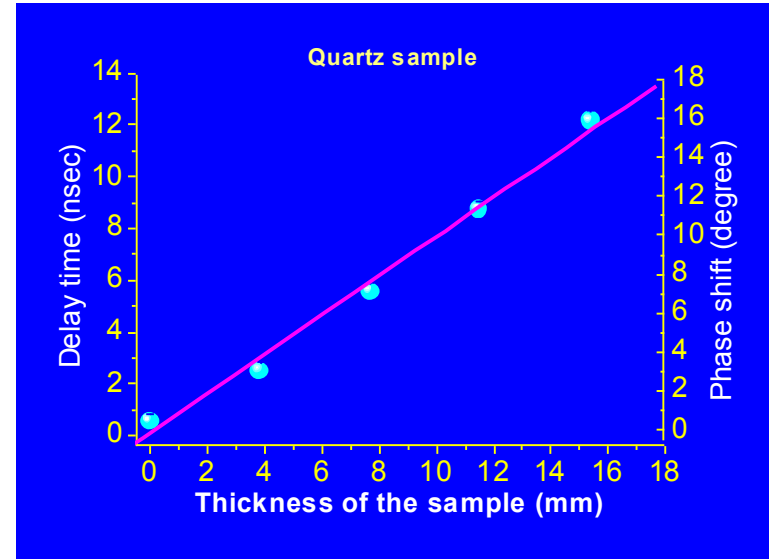
# Spin – echo machine and detection of the extra-precession angle



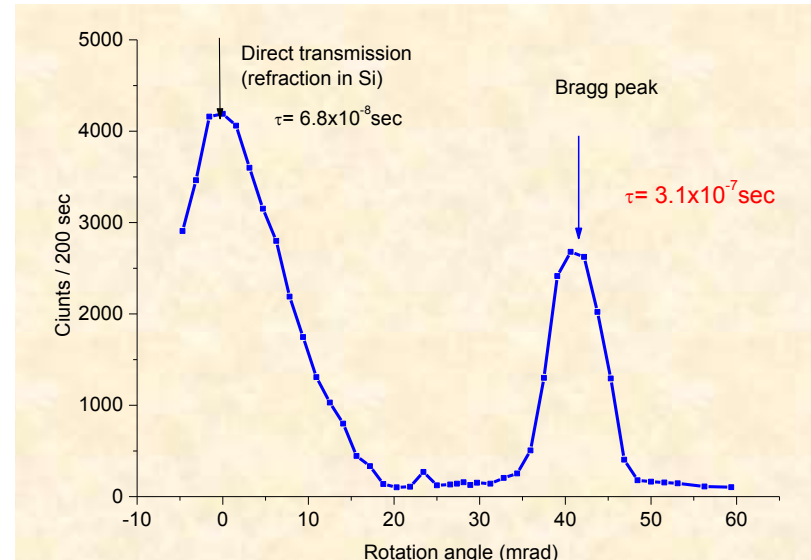
# Time delay measure: refraction and Bragg reflection



$$\Delta\Phi = \omega_L \left( \frac{1-n}{n} \right) \frac{d}{v}$$

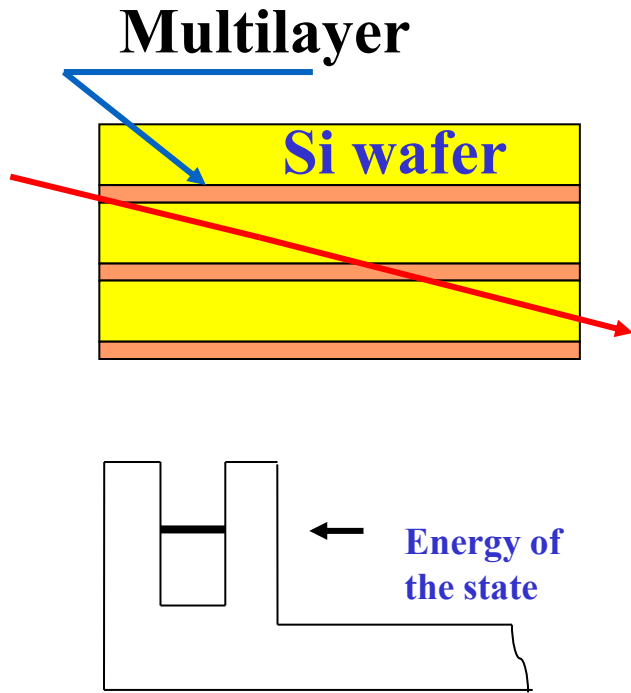


- Si wafer** (two-side polished)
- Multilayers**  
NiV(7) (130Å+Ti 70Å)x30
- Gd absorber** 700-100Å

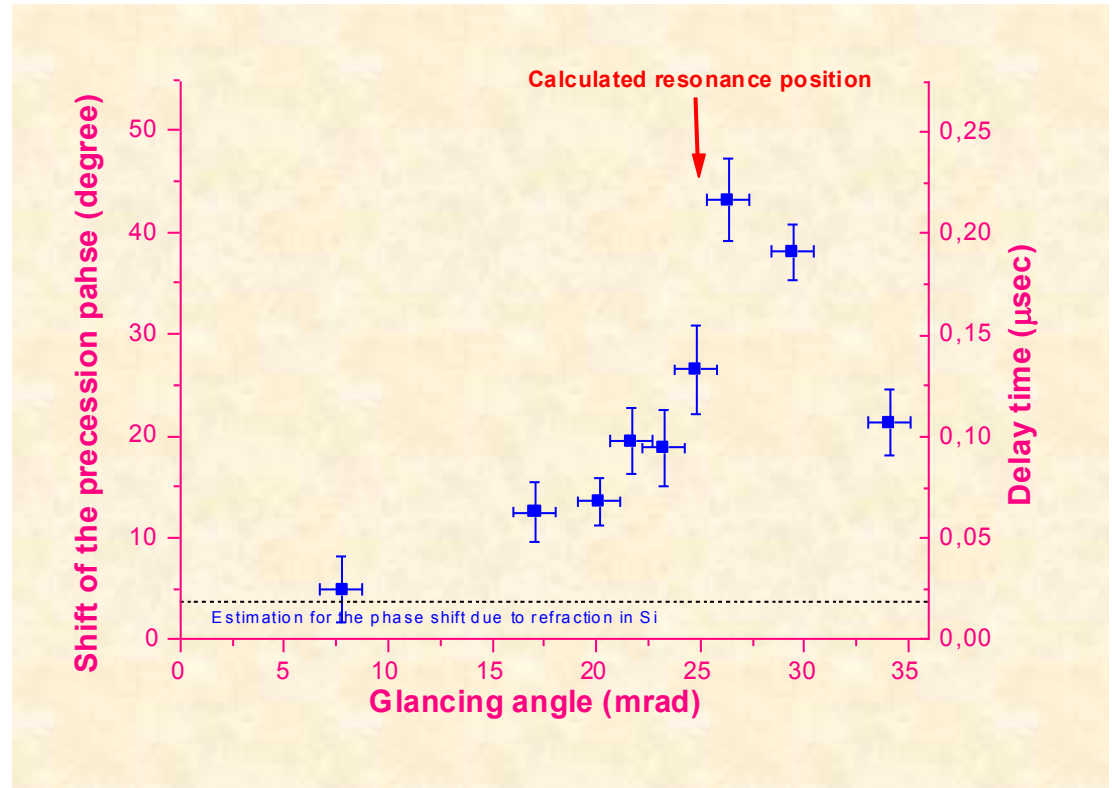


A.I. Frank, I.V. Bondarenko, A.V. Kozlov, P. Høghøj and G. Ehlers. Physica B: Condensed Matter 297, 307 (2001)

# Tunneling time in a resonance of quasi-bound state



$$U = \frac{2\pi\hbar^2}{m} \rho v$$



A.I.Frank, I.V. Bondarenko, V.V.Vasil'ev, I.Anderson, G.Ehlers, P. Høghøj. JETP Letters, 75, 705 (2002)

A.I.Frank, I.V.Bondarenko, A.V.Kozlov, G.Ehlers and P. Høghøj. In: Neutron Spin Echo Spectroscopy, Springer, pp 164-175.

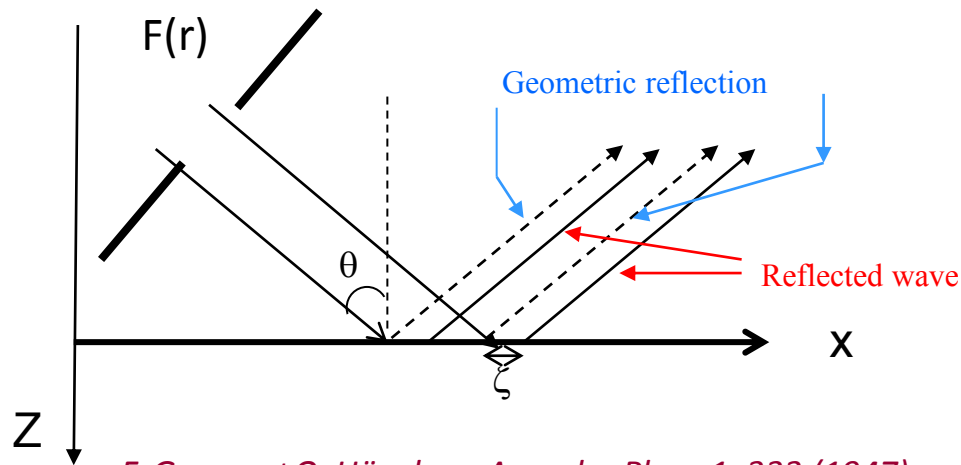
*1. Extra (or pseudo-Larmor) spin precession in neutron optics must be interpreted as a manifestation of the delay time.*

*2. Larmor clock is a good tool the calculation and measurement of the interaction time of neutron with various objects.*

**Goos – Hänchen shift at  
neutron reflection from a  
matter and group delay time**



# G.-H. shift. Formulation of the problem



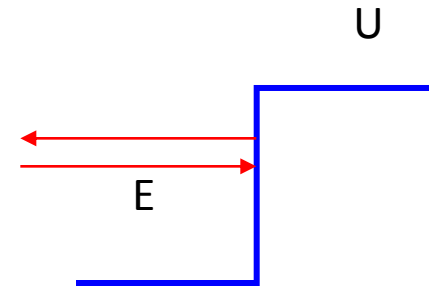
*F. Goos und O. Hänchen, Ann. der Phys. 1, 333 (1947).*

*F. Goos und H. Lindberg-Hanchen, Ann. der Phys. 5, 251 (1949)*

$$\psi_{in}(r) = A_0(r) \exp(ik_0 r)$$

At  $z = 0$

$$\Psi_{in}(x) \Leftrightarrow \Psi_R(x)$$



*K. Artmann, Ann. der Phys. 2, 87 (1948)*

*L.M. Brechovskikh, Usp. Fiz. Nauk 50, 539 (1953)*

*H. Hora, Optik 17, 409 (1960)*

*J. L. Carter and H. Hora. J. Opt. Soc. Am, 61, 1640, (1971)*

## G.-H shift. Simplified solution

*Fourier transform of the incoming and reflected waves*

$$A_{in}(x) = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} A_{in}(k_x) \exp(ik_x x) dk_x$$

$$A_R(x) = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} A_{in}(k_x) R(k_x) \exp(ik_x x) dk_x$$

## G.-H shift. Simplified solution

*Fourier transform of the incoming and reflected waves*

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$$A_R(x) = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} A_{in}(k_x) R(k_x) \exp(ik_x x) dk_x$$

$$R(k_x) = |R(k_x)| \exp[i\varphi(k_x)]$$

Approximation

$$\varphi(k_x) \cong \varphi_0(k_x)_{x_0} + \varphi'(k_x)_{x_0} (k_x - k_{x_0})$$

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Fourier transform of the incoming and reflected waves

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Approximation

$$\varphi(k_x) \cong \varphi_0(k_x)_{x_0} + \varphi'(k_x)_{x_0} (k_x - k_{x_0})$$

Solution

$$A_R(x) \cong |R(k_{x_0})| \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} A_{in}(k_x) \exp[ik_x(x - \zeta)] dx.$$

$$\zeta = -\left(d\varphi/dk_x\right)_{x_0}$$

## ***G.-H shift of the matter waves and its relation with the group delay time***

$$\zeta = -\left(\frac{d\varphi}{dk_x}\right)_{x_0} = -\left(\frac{d\varphi}{dk_z^2}\right)\frac{dk_z^2}{dk_x}$$

$$k_z^2 = k_0^2 - k_x^2$$

$$k_z^2 = \frac{2m}{\hbar^2}E_z$$

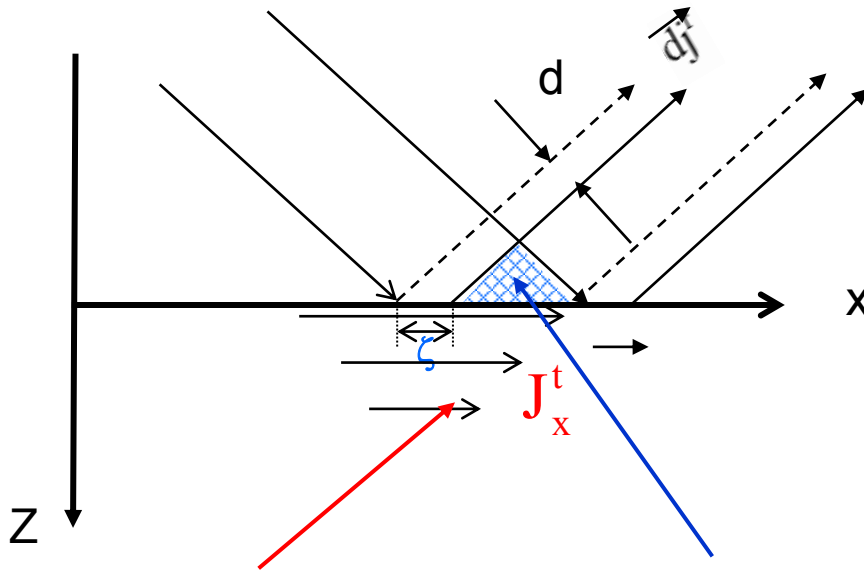
$$\zeta = \hbar\left(\frac{d\varphi}{dE_z}\right)v_x = \tau_g v_x$$

$$\tau_g = \hbar\left(\frac{d\varphi}{dE_z}\right)$$

Group delay time

*For the total reflection  $\tau \approx 5 \div 7$  ns*

# G.-H shift and flux balance



R. H. Renard. J. Opt. Soc. Am. 54, 1190 (1964)  
 with correction of  
 K. Yasimoto, Y.Oishi. J.Appl. Phys. 54, 2170 (1983)  
 V. G. Fedoseyev J. Opt. Soc. Am. A 3, 826, (1986)

$$J_{extra} = d \cdot j^r = d \cdot j^{in}$$

$$J_x^t = \frac{2\hbar}{m} \frac{k_x^2}{\sqrt{k_b^2 - k_z^2}} \frac{k_z^2}{k_b^2}$$

$$J_x^{ir} = -(V_x / k_z) \sin \varphi$$

$$J_{extra} = J_x^t + J_x^{ir} = \frac{2\hbar}{m \sqrt{k_b^2 - k_z^2}}$$

$$k_b = \sqrt{2mU} / \hbar$$

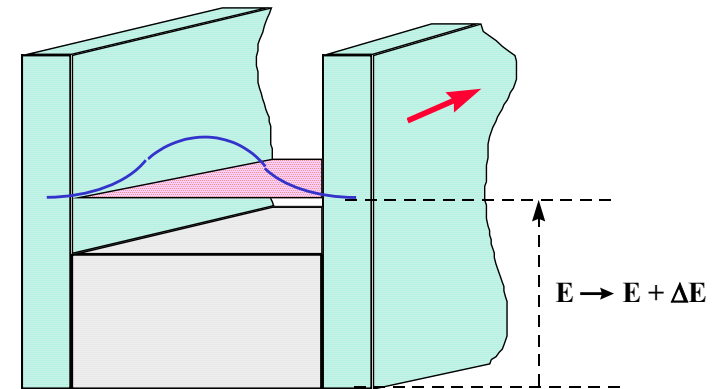
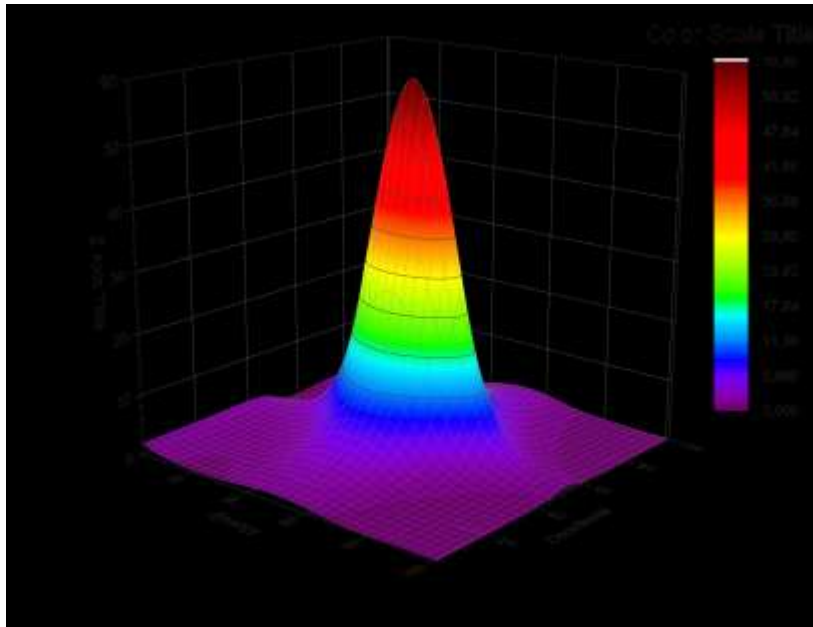
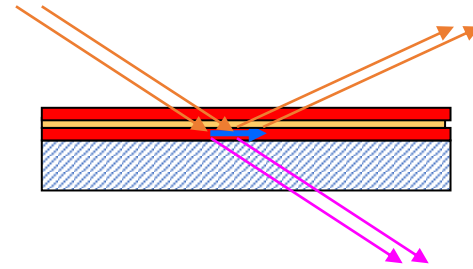
$$\zeta = \frac{2k_x}{k_y \sqrt{k_b^2 - k_z^2}}$$

$$\zeta = -(d\varphi / dk_x)_{x_0}$$

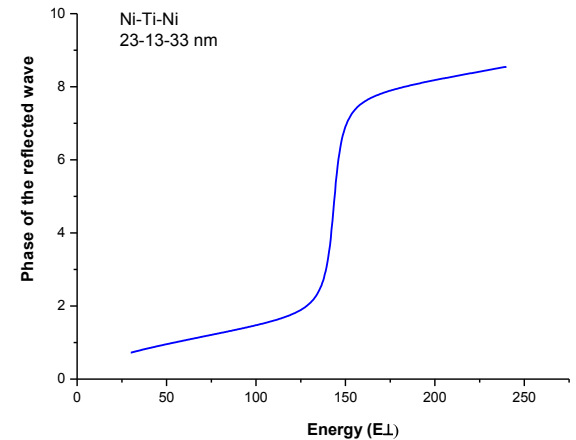
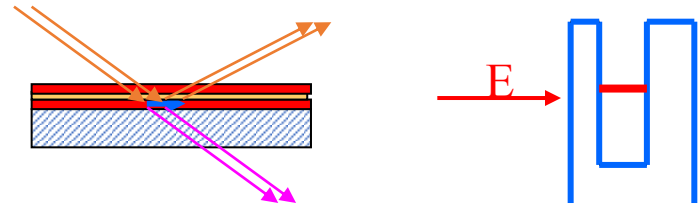
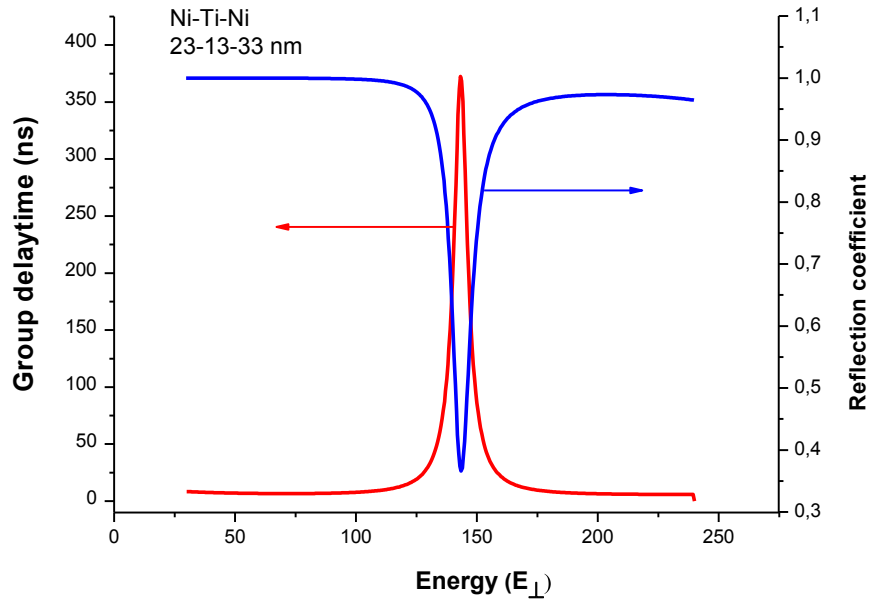
$$\zeta = v_x \tau$$

# Alternative definition of the interaction time and resonant amplification of the GDT

$$\tau = \frac{|\psi_{\text{extra}}|^2}{j_{\text{in}}}$$



# Giant group delay time



*Group delay time in reflection and reflection coefficient for the asymmetric three-layered resonant structures NiMo-Ti-NiMo*

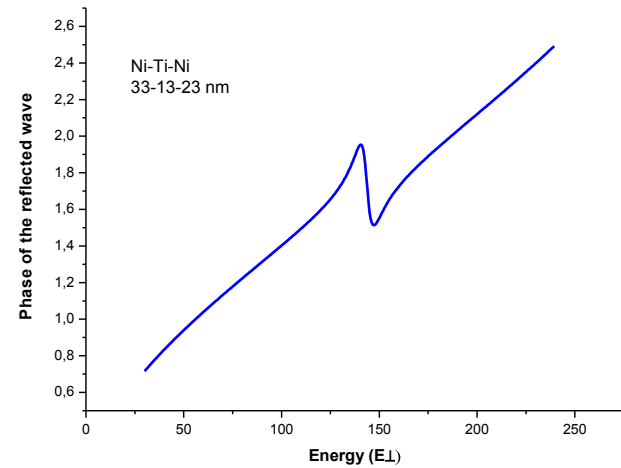
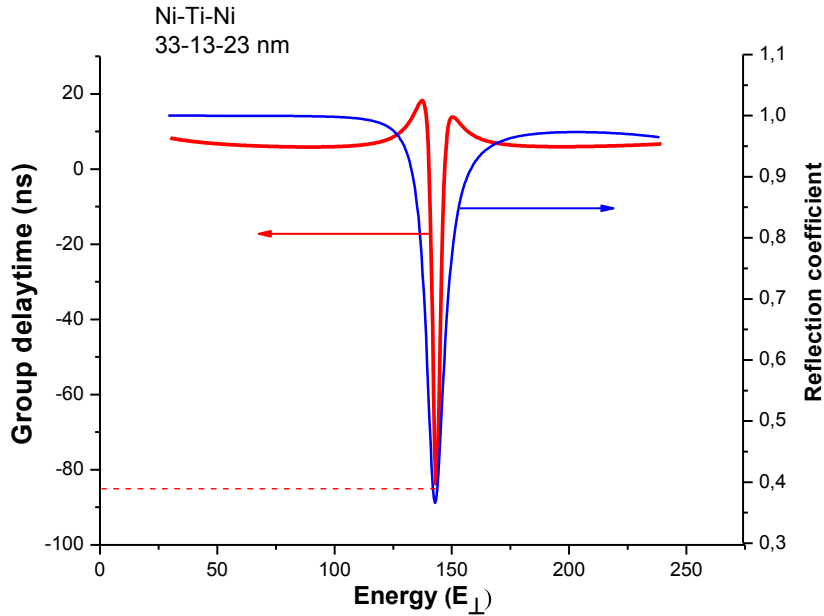
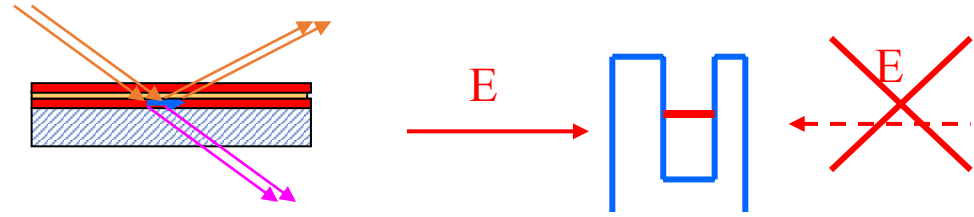
*Phase of the reflection wave*

Frank A I J. *Phys.: Conf. Ser.* **528** 012029 (2014)



# Negative group delay time

## Asymmetric interference filter

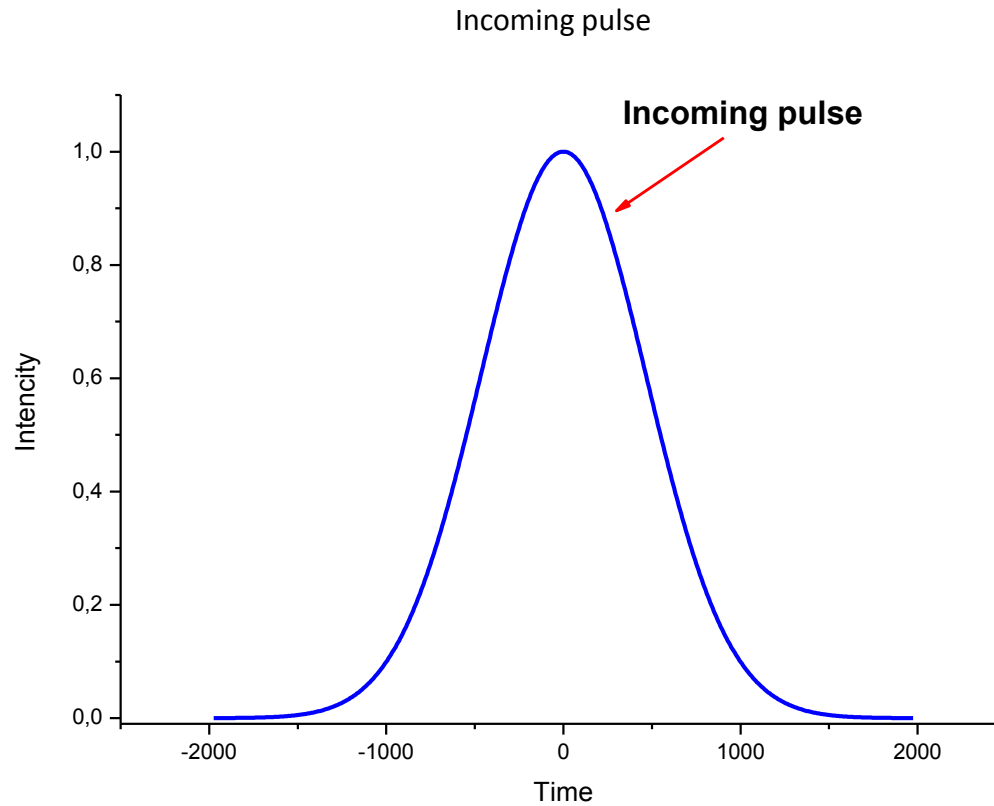


Group delay time in reflection and reflection coefficient for the asymmetric three-layered resonant structures NiMo-Ti-NiMo

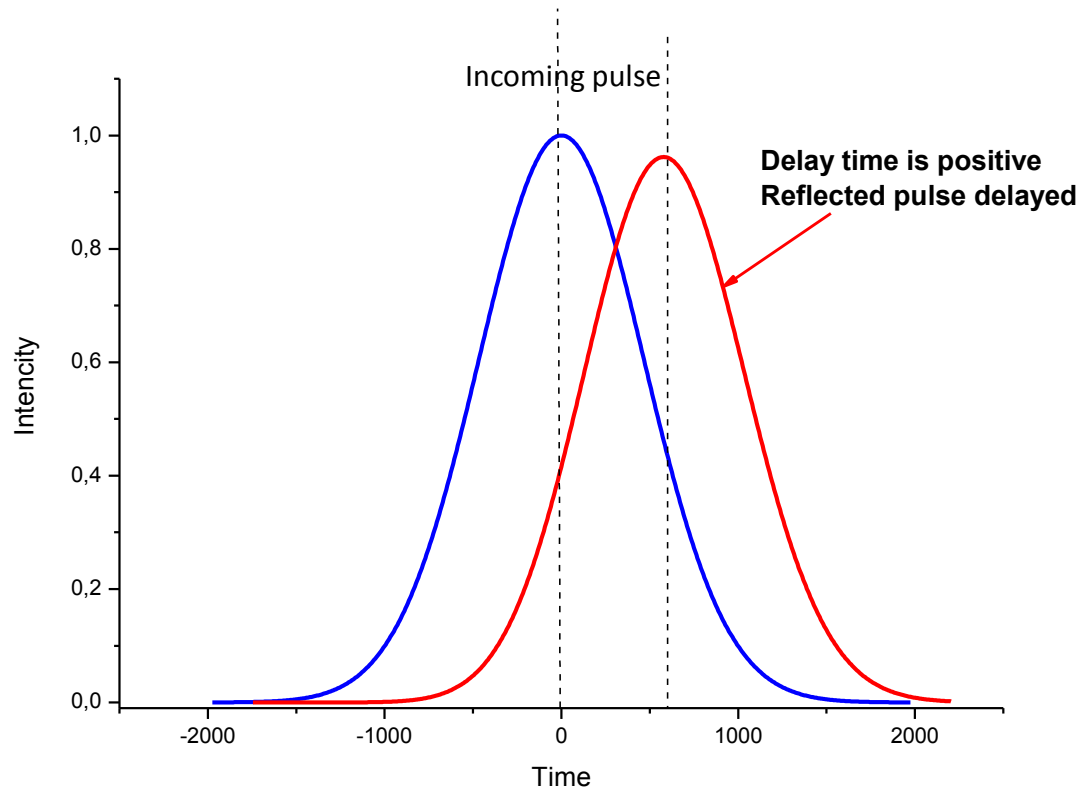
Phase of the reflected wave

Frank A I J. Phys.: Conf. Ser. **528** 012029 (2014)

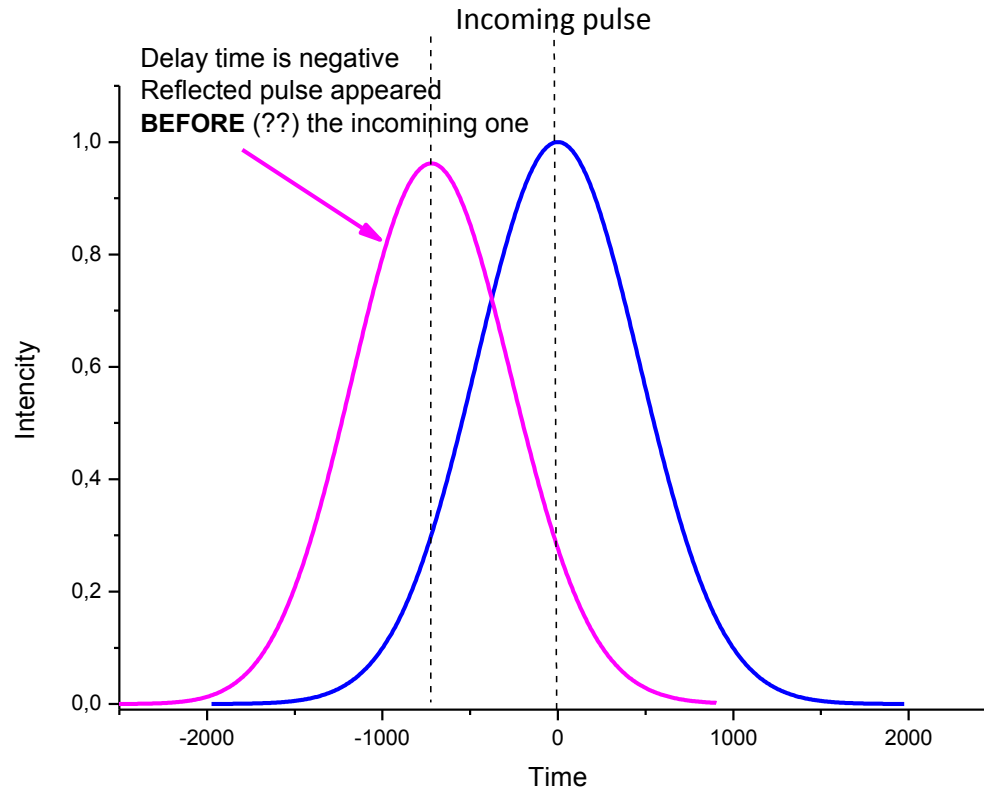
# Positive and negative delay time. What is it?



## Positive and negative delay time. What is it?



# Positive and negative delay time. What is it?



# Group delay time at the reflection of wave packet

At  $z = 0$

$$A_{in}(t) = A_0(t) \exp(-i\omega t)$$

$$A_{in}(t) = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} A_{in}(\omega) \exp(-i\omega t) d\omega$$

$$A_R(t) = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} A_{in}(\omega) R(\omega) \exp(-i\omega t) d\omega$$

$$\varphi(\omega) \cong \varphi_0(\omega_0) + \varphi'(\omega_0)(\omega - \omega_0)$$

$$\tau = \left( \frac{d\varphi}{d\omega} \right)_{\omega_0} = \hbar \left( \frac{d\varphi}{dE} \right)_{E_0}$$

*That is very rough approximation*

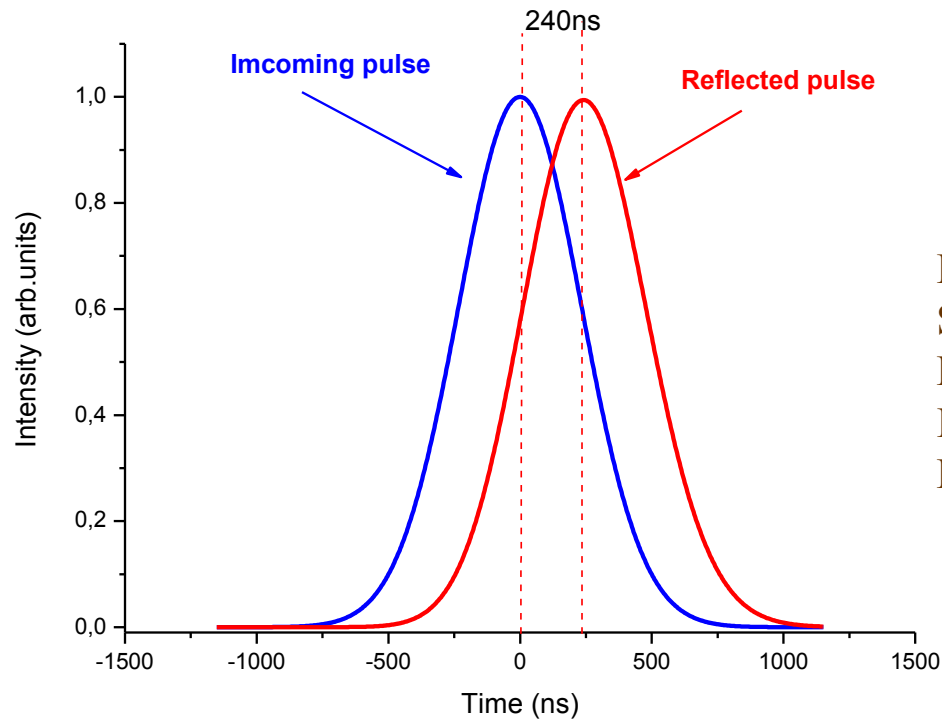
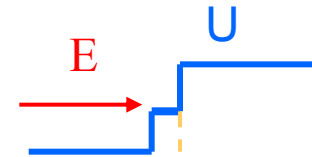
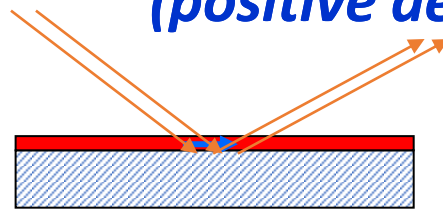
$$A_R(t) = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} A_{in}(\omega) R(\omega) \exp(-i\omega t) d\omega$$



where  $A_{in}(\omega) = \frac{1}{2\pi} \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} A_{in}(t) \exp(i\omega t) dt$

*Must be calculated*

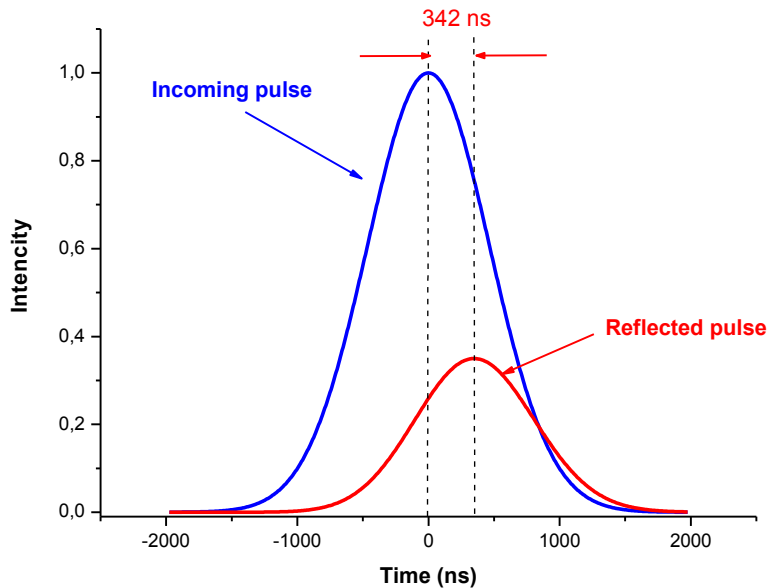
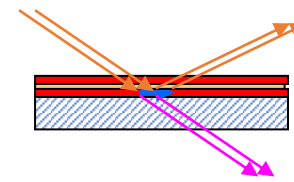
## Reflection of the short time pulse (positive delay time)



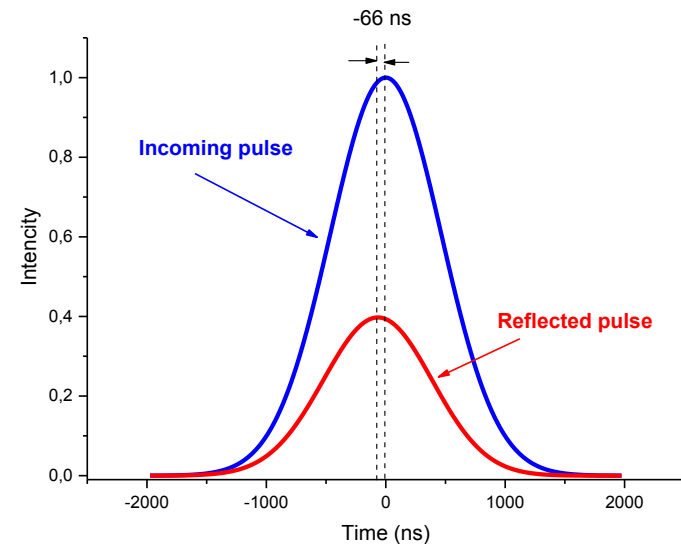
Energy 121 neV  
Spectrum width (FWHM) 2 neV  
Duration of the time pulse 330 ns  
Ideal time shift (GDT) 277 ns  
Real time shift 240 ns

**More details in the talk of German Kulin today later**

# Reflection of the short time pulse



Energy 144neV  
 Spectrum width (FWHM) 1 neV  
 Duration of the time pulse 660 ns  
 Ideal time shift (GDT) 349ns  
 Real time shift 342ns



Energy 144neV  
 Spectrum width (FWHM) 1 neV  
 Duration of the time pulse 660 ns  
 Ideal time shift (GDT) -80ns  
 Real time shift -66 ns

*1. In the first approximation G-Ch. shift at the neutron reflection is proportional to the GDT*

*2. In the case of neutron reflection from resonant multilayered structures (GDT) may reach **very large positive and negative value** but that **is not contradict** to the causality principle*



# **Group delay time and refraction of neutron waves**

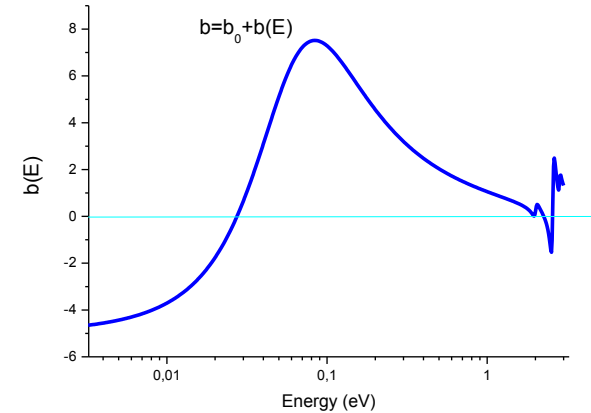
# GLT , dispersion law and refraction

**Dispersion law**  $k^2 = k_0^2 - 4\pi\rho b$  is not exactly correct

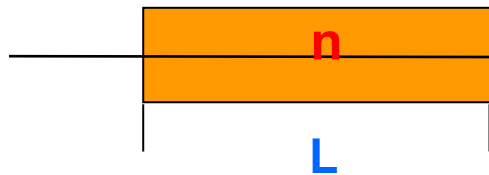
$$k^2 = k_0^2 - 4\pi\rho b(k_0)c(k_0),$$

*M.Lax. 1952,1952; F. Sears, 1985*

$$k = F(k_0^2)$$



*Behavior of the resonant part of scattering amplitude  $b$  for the natural Gd*



$$\Delta\Phi = kL \quad \tau = \hbar \frac{d(\Lambda\Phi)}{dE} \quad v = \frac{L}{\tau}$$

$$v = \frac{\hbar}{2m} (F')$$

$$v \neq nv_0$$

A.I.Frank. Physics Uspekhy (in print)

## GLT , dispersion law and refraction

$$v \neq nv_0 \quad k = nk_0 \quad m^* v = nmv_0$$

$$v = \frac{\hbar k}{m^*} = nv_0 \frac{m}{m^*} \quad m^* = 2mkF' \quad \frac{1}{m^*} = \frac{\partial^2 E}{\partial p^2}$$

For negative neutron effective mass at Bragg diffraction  
see Zeilinger A. Et al. *Phys. Rev.Lett.* **57**, 3089 (1986)

Generally speaking neutron inside a refractive matter is not a particle  
but quasi particle

Putting

$$v = nv_0$$

We arrive immediately to

$$k^2 = k_0^2 + \chi^2$$

$$m^* = m$$

$$k^2 = k_0^2 - 4\pi\rho b$$

## Conclusion

- 1. Group delay time (GDT) play an important role in neutron optics.*
- 2. In the spin optics GDT may be related with the extra precession angle. Larmor clock may be used for the calculation and measure of GDT*
- 3. Seems that we understand the physical nature of the G.H. effect as a general wave phenomenon but for the neutron beam it was not yet directly observed.*
- 4. The concept of GDT was used for the derivation the equation for the neutron velocity in the refractive matter.*

*Thank you for your attention*