

UCN AND EXOTIC INTERACTIONS

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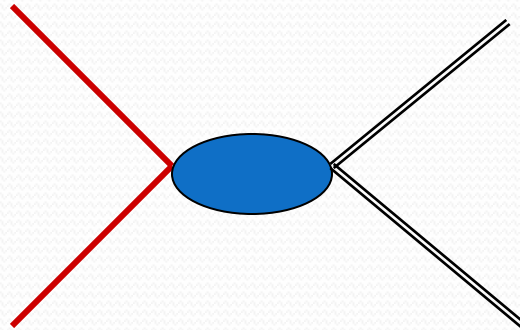
University of South Carolina

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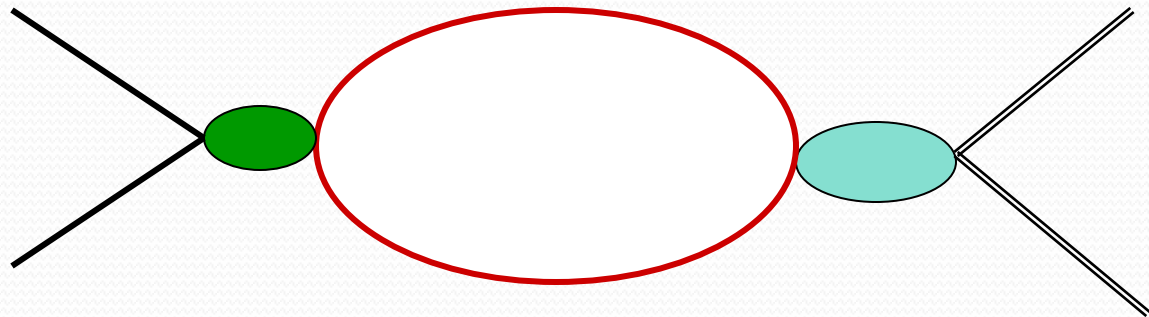
High Energy Physics with Low Energy Neutrons

HEP:



$$E \rightarrow \infty$$

FNP:



$$\Delta E/E \rightarrow \mathbf{0}$$

Some characteristic scales (UCN)

$$E_n = 100 \text{ neV} \quad \Rightarrow \quad \lambda = 90.4 \text{ nm}$$

$$E_n = 1 \text{ neV} \quad \Rightarrow \quad \lambda = 904 \text{ nm}$$

“Dark energy” density is $\sim (10^{-3} \text{ eV})^4$

Abnormal Gravity: sensitivity of neutrons for test of gravity at corresponding distances ($< 0.1 \text{ mm}$)

Extra dimensions and Gravity

$$R \sim M^{-1} \left(\frac{M_{Pl}}{M_*} \right)^{2/d} \sim 10^{32/d-17} \text{ cm}$$

$$V_G(r) = -G \frac{mM}{r} \left(1 + \alpha_G e^{-r/\lambda} \right)$$

$$V_G(r) = -G \frac{mM}{r} \left(1 + \alpha_G \left(\frac{\lambda}{r} \right)^n \right)$$

Interferometry

$$\Delta\Phi = \Delta\Phi_{nuclear} + \Delta\Phi_{ne} + \Delta\Phi_{grav}$$

- Very small intensity of a signal
- **Coherence**
- Resonance (energy scale)

Diffraction

$$b_{coh} = b_N + Z[1 - f(q)]b_{ne} + f_G(q)b_G$$

- For $q=0$: $b_{coh} = b_N + b_G$

- Bragg reflection

$$F_{H_1} = \sqrt{32}(b_N + Z[1 - f(H_1)]b_{ne} + f_G(H_1)b_G)$$

$$F_{H_3} = \sqrt{32}(b_N + Z[1 - f(H_3)]b_{ne} + f_G(H_3)b_G)$$

$$b_G = -\frac{2m_n^2 MG \alpha_G \lambda^2}{\hbar^2}$$

$$f_G(q) = \frac{1}{1 + (q\lambda)^2}$$

$$f(H_1) = 0.7526$$

$$f(H_3) = 0.4600$$

- For $q^{-1} \sim 1 \text{ \AA}$

$$f_G(q)b_G = -\frac{2m_n^2 MG \alpha_G \lambda^2}{\hbar^2}$$

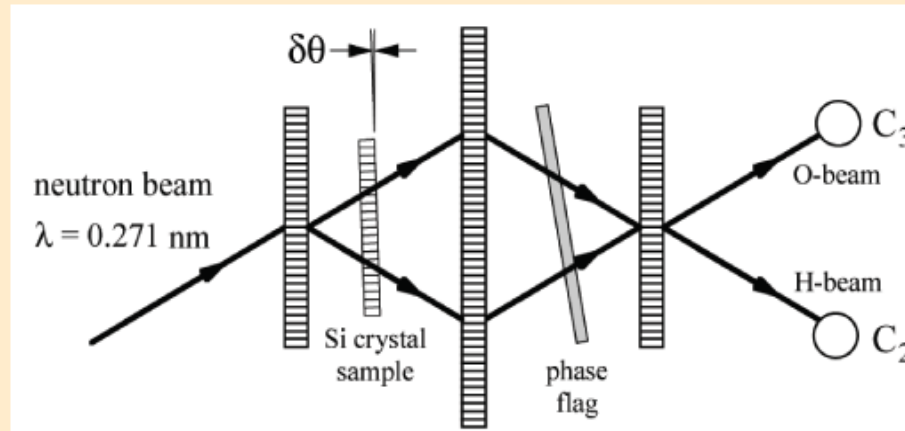
- For $\lambda \gg 1 \text{ \AA}$

$$f_G(q)b_G \simeq -\frac{2m_n^2 MG \alpha_G}{\hbar^2} \frac{1}{q^2}$$

$$b_G \simeq -1.6 \times 10^{-6} (\alpha_G \lambda^2)$$

$$\alpha_G \lambda^2 \leq 25.6 m^2$$

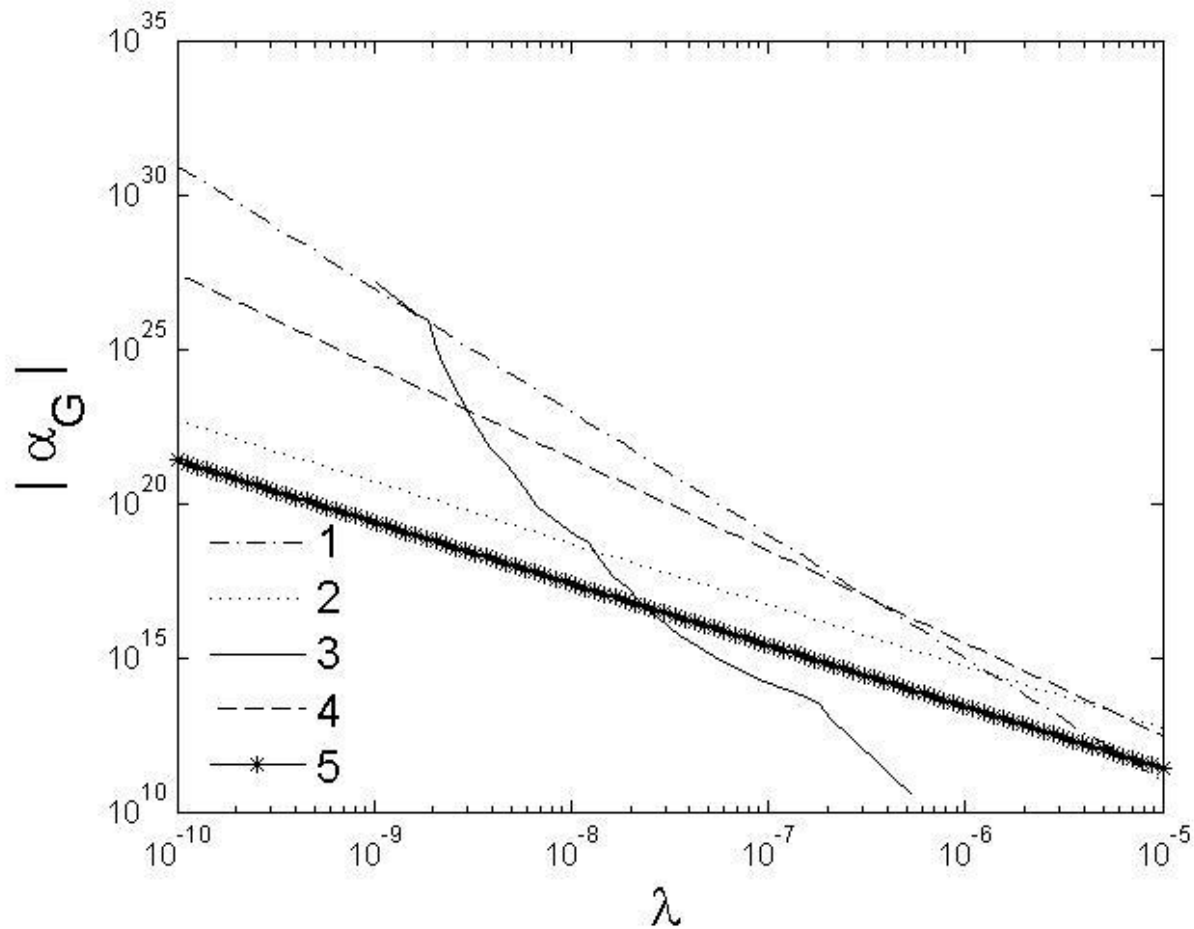
Neutron Interferometer Experiment



off Bragg: $b_{\text{coh}} = b_N + Z[1 - f(0)]b_{ne} = b_N$

near Bragg: $b_{\text{coh}} = b_N + Z[1 - f(\vec{H}_{111})]b_{ne}$

Courtesy of Fred Wietfeldt



- (1) from Nesvizhevsky and Protasov;
- (2) from Zimmer and Kaiser;
- (3) from the review of Adelberger;
- (4) from the “two-plate” method;
- (5) from the diffraction method.

G. L. Greene and V. Gudkov, Phys. Rev. C 75, 015501 (2007).

Translation Method

$$V_{\text{eff}} = 2\pi G \alpha_G m_n \rho \lambda^2 e^{-x/\lambda} \quad \text{outside the material;}$$

$$V_{\text{eff}} = 2\pi G \alpha_G m_n \rho \lambda^2 (2 - e^{-x/\lambda}) \quad \text{inside the material.}$$

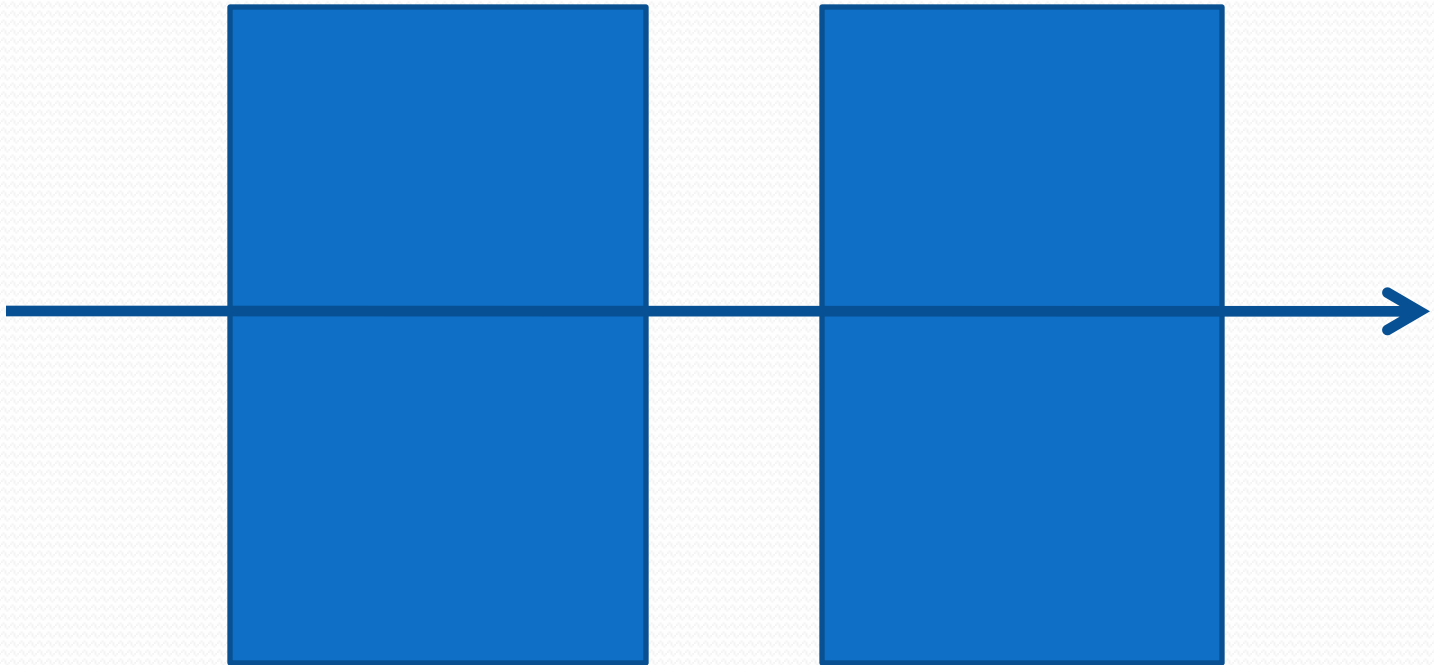
$$\Delta\Phi = \frac{4\pi G \alpha_G m_n \rho \lambda^3}{k_0} \left(\frac{2m_n}{\hbar^2} \right) (1 - e^{-L/\lambda})$$

$$k_0 = \sqrt{\frac{2m_n}{\hbar^2} E_n}$$

Two plates + Gravity

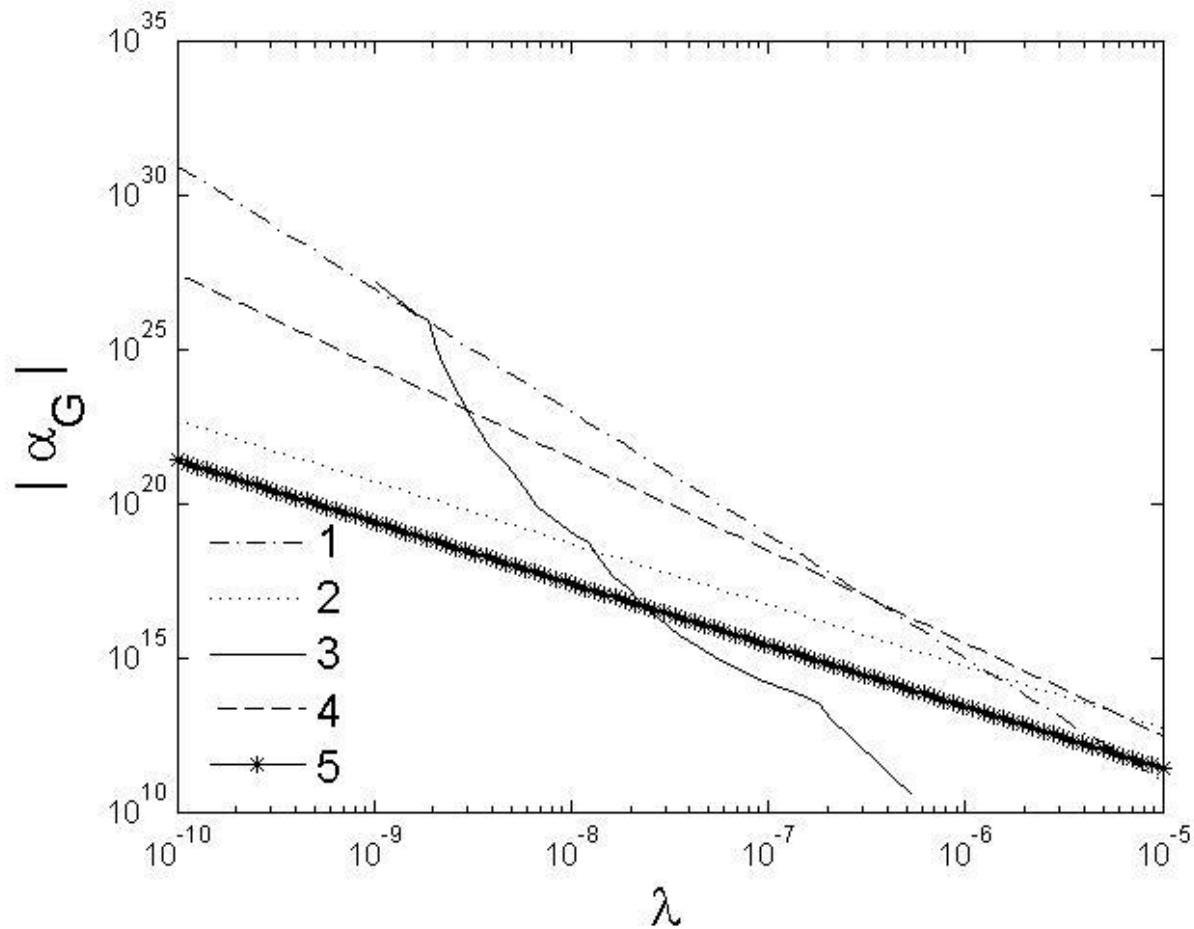
$$k^2 \rightarrow k^2 + 2a^2 - a^2 e^{(x-d)/\lambda} \left[1 - e^{-L/\lambda} \right]$$

$$k^2 \rightarrow k^2 + 2a^2 + a^2 e^{(d-x)/\lambda} \left[e^{L/\lambda} - 1 \right]$$



$$k_0^2 \rightarrow k_0^2 + a^2 (e^{-x/\lambda} + e^{(x-L)/\lambda})$$

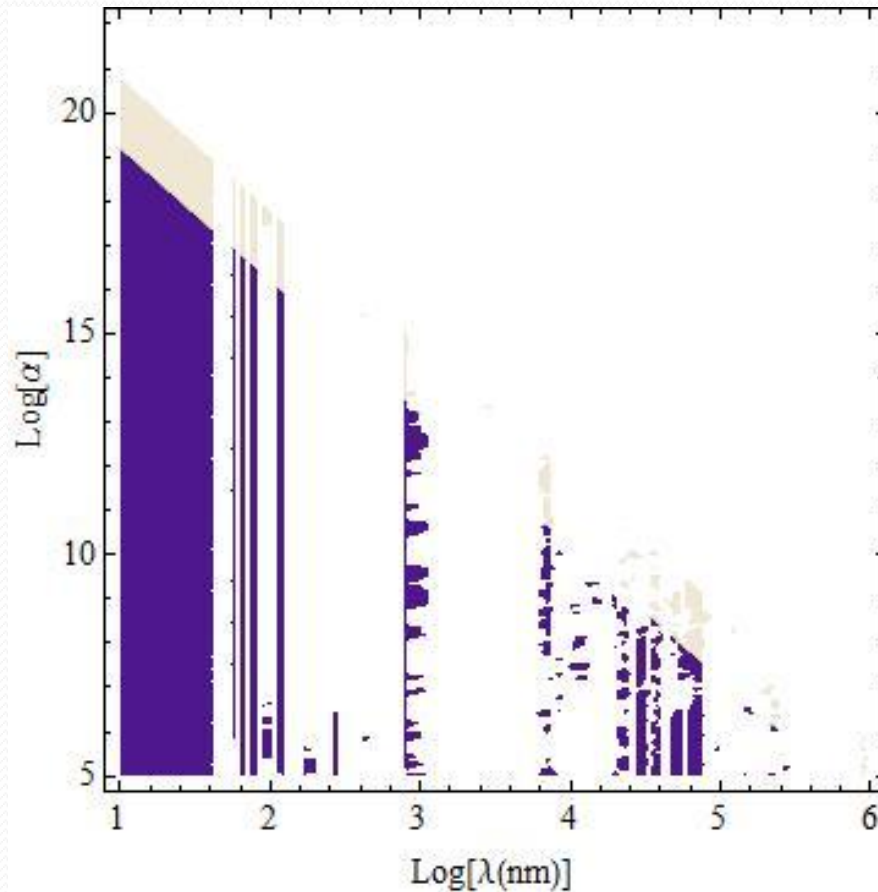
$$a^2 = 2\pi G \alpha_G m_n \rho \lambda^2$$



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Exclusion plot for $\lambda_n = 300 \text{ \AA}$ with the experimental sensitivity to the phase at the level 10^{-3} radian by scanning the distance between the slabs from $L = 0.5 \lambda$ to $L = 5 \lambda$ with a step 0.5λ



V. Gudkov, H. M. Shimizu and G. L. Greene, NIM A611, 153 (2009).

One-Dim transmission

- that transmission amplitude for **exponentially** decreasing potentials have **infinite number of singularities** in the complex momentum plane

$$k = -2i / \lambda$$

- For **two** overlapping potentials the transmission amplitude has a **second order pole** at the same position, defined by the slope.

Then, the region of maximal sensitivity is: $\lambda_n \leq \lambda$

L. D. Faddeev, Trudy Mat. Inst. Steklov **73**, 314 (1964)

M. S. Marinov & . Segev, J. Phys. A: Math. Gen. **29**, 2839 (1996)

$$T \sim t_s t_w \Rightarrow |T|^2 \simeq |t_s|^2 \text{ since } |t_w|^2 \simeq 1$$

$$\text{Arg}(T) = \text{Arg}(t_s) + \text{Arg}(t_w) + \dots$$

$$t_w \sim 1 / (k + 2i / \lambda) \Rightarrow$$

$$\text{Arg}(t_w) \sim \tan^{-1}(\pi \lambda_n / \lambda)$$

$$t_w \sim 1 / (k + 2i / \lambda)^2 \Rightarrow$$

$$\text{Arg}(t_w) \sim \tan^{-1} \left(\frac{2(\pi \lambda_n / \lambda)}{(\pi \lambda_n / \lambda)^2 - 1} \right)$$

Quantum parametric resonance

$$d^2\psi(x)/dx^2 + k^2(x)\psi(x) = 0$$

$$k^2(x) = k_0^2(1 + 2\varepsilon \sin((2 + \delta)k_0x)) \quad \text{at} \quad |\varepsilon|, |\delta| \ll 1$$

- L. P. Pitaevsky, A. M. Perelomov, Ya. B. Zeldovich
- (L. D. Landau, E. M. Lifshitz)

Quantum PR (phase)

- The potential in between the slabs: $k_0^2(1 + \eta \cosh(x/\lambda))$

where $\eta = 2a^2 \exp(-L/2\lambda) / k_0^2$

Since $\cosh(x/\lambda) = \frac{\sinh(L/\lambda)}{(L/\lambda)} + \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \left(\frac{2(-1)^n (L/\lambda) \sinh(L/\lambda)}{(L/\lambda)^2 + n^2 \pi^2} \cos\left(\frac{n\pi x}{L}\right) \right)$

QPR conditions: $2k_0 / \left(1 + \eta \frac{\sinh(L/\lambda)}{(L/\lambda)} \right) = \frac{n\pi}{L}$

or for very small parameter η : $\lambda_n \simeq 4L/n$

With the width $\gamma \simeq \frac{a^2 \lambda_n^2}{\pi^2} \frac{(L/\lambda) \sinh(L/\lambda)}{(L/\lambda)^2 + 16\pi^2 (L/\lambda_n)^2} e^{-L/(2\lambda)}$

“Rate” of the resonance development

$$L/\lambda \ll 1 \quad \Rightarrow$$

$$r \sim (\lambda^2 \alpha_G)^2 \lambda_n^4$$

$$L/\lambda > 1 \quad \Rightarrow$$

$$r \sim (\lambda^2 \alpha_G)^2 \lambda_n^4 \times \frac{e^{L/\lambda}}{L/\lambda}$$

Neutron propagation in two slabs setup

$$d^2\psi(x) / dx^2 + k^2(x)\psi(x) = 0$$

$$k^2(x) = k_0^2(1 + \eta \cosh(x / \lambda))$$

$$k^2(x) = k_m^2(1 + \eta_{L,R} \exp(\pm x / \lambda))$$

$$\eta_L = a^2(1 - \exp(-L / \lambda)) / k_m^2 \quad \eta_R = a^2(\exp(L / \lambda) - 1) / k_m^2$$

$$d^2\psi(z) / dz^2 + k^2(1 + \varepsilon \cosh(z))\psi(z) = 0$$

$$d^2\psi(z) / dz^2 + k^2(1 + \varepsilon \exp(z))\psi(z) = 0$$

where $z = x / \lambda$ and $k = k_0\lambda$ or $k = k_m\lambda$

$$\varepsilon = \eta, \eta_R, \eta_L$$

for $\varepsilon = 0$

$$\psi_0(z) = a \exp(\pm ikz) = a \exp(\pm i\varphi(z))$$

where $\varphi(z) = kz = k_0x$

If $\varepsilon > 0$, using Liouville's transformation*

$$\psi(z) \sim (\varepsilon k^2 \cosh(z))^{-1/4} \exp\left(\pm ik \int_{z_0}^z \sqrt{1 + \varepsilon \cosh(z)} dz\right) (1 + o(1))$$

as $z \rightarrow \infty$

then $\varphi(z) \rightarrow kz + k \sinh(z) \varepsilon / 2$

or

$$\varphi(L) \approx k_0 L + (k_0 \lambda) \varepsilon \exp(L / \lambda) / 2$$

$$\varepsilon k \sim 1/k \quad \Rightarrow \quad \lambda_n \exp(L / \lambda)$$

- (*) F. A. Berezin and M. A. Shubin, *The Schrodinger Equation* (Kluwer Academic Publishers, Netherlands, 1991).

Van der Pol variables:

$$\psi = w \cos \varphi$$

$$\psi' = -kw \sin \varphi$$

$$\varphi'(z) = k + \varepsilon \cosh z \cos^2 \varphi(z)$$

or $\varphi'(z) = k + \varepsilon e^z \cos^2 \varphi(z)$

Non-linear equation \Rightarrow instability

$$\varphi = \varphi_0 + \varepsilon \varphi_1 + \varepsilon^2 \varphi_2 \dots \Rightarrow \varphi_0 = kz;$$

$$\varphi_1 \sim \lambda_n^2 \varepsilon' \exp(z) / 2; \quad \varphi_2 \sim (\lambda_n^2 \varepsilon' \exp(z))^2 / 4$$

Heun Equation

$$d^2\psi(x) / dx^2 + k_0^2(1 + \eta \cosh(2k_0x))\psi(x) = 0$$

with $z = \exp(k_0x)$ and $\psi(z) = y(z) / \sqrt{z}$

$$\Rightarrow \frac{d^2 y(z)}{dz^2} + \left(\frac{\eta}{2z^4} + \frac{5}{4z^2} + \frac{\eta}{2} \right) y(z) = 0$$

DCHE:

$$\frac{d^2 y(z)}{dz^2} + \left(A + \frac{B}{z} + \frac{C}{z^2} + \frac{D}{z^3} + \frac{E}{z^4} \right) y(z) = 0$$

Potential of Cho and Ho¹

$$V(x) = -\frac{b^2}{4} e^{2x} - (l+1)de^{-x} + \frac{d^2}{4} e^{-2x}$$

has an explicit phase factor²:

$$\sim \exp(ibe^x / 2)$$

- 1. H. T. Cho and C. L. Ho, *J. Phys. A* **40**, 1325 (2007).
- 2. Lea Jaccoud El-Jaick, Bartolomeu D. B. Figueiredo, preprint CBPF-NF-003/08.

The inversed power potential

$$V(x) \sim \lambda \left(\frac{x_0}{x} \right)^n$$

$$n > 2$$

$$\varphi(x) \sim \frac{2}{n-2} \left(\lambda \left(\frac{x_0}{x} \right)^{n-2} \right)^{1/2}$$

H. J. M. Muller-Kirsten, *Introduction to Quantum Mechanics. Schrodinger equation and Path Integral* (World Scientific Publishing, Singapore, 2006).

K. M. Case, *Phys. Rev.* **80**, 797 (1950).

Hill's equation

- The potential in between the slabs: $k_0^2 (1 + \eta \cosh(x/\lambda))$

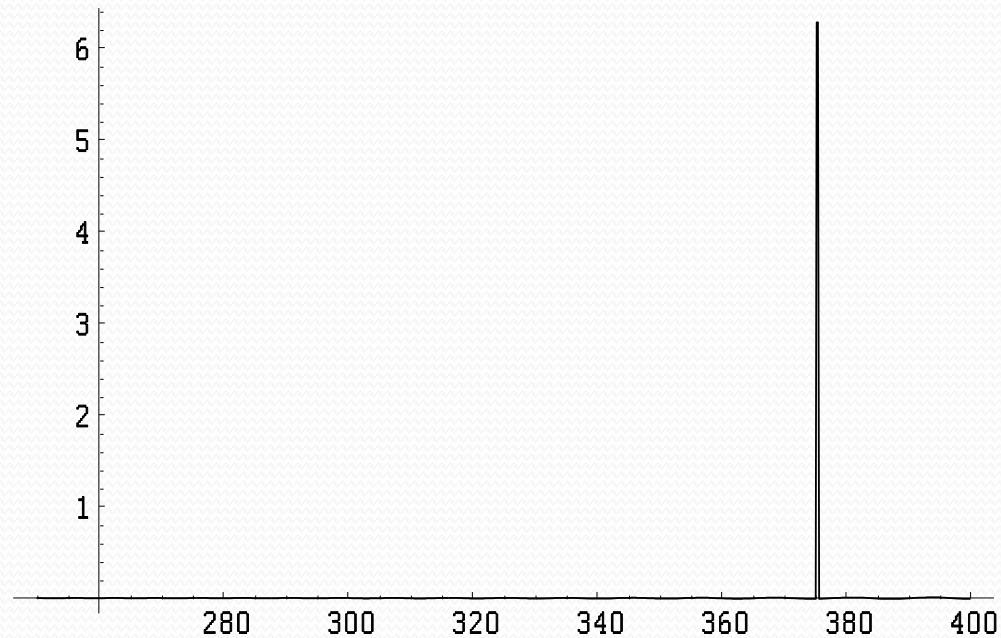
where $\eta = 2a^2 \exp(-L/2\lambda) / k_0^2$

Since $\cosh(x/\lambda) = \frac{\sinh(L/\lambda)}{(L/\lambda)} + \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \left(\frac{2(-1)^n (L/\lambda) \sinh(L/\lambda)}{(L/\lambda)^2 + n^2 \pi^2} \cos\left(\frac{n\pi x}{L}\right) \right)$

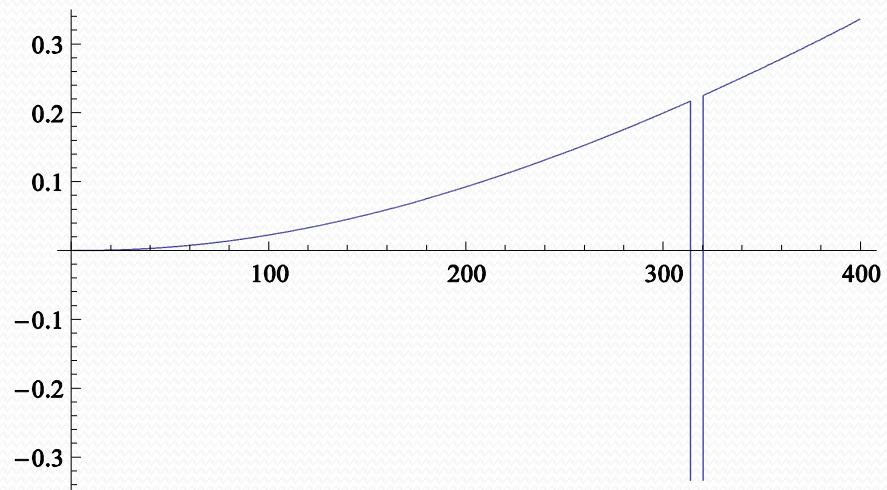
Then:

$$\frac{d^2 y(z)}{dz^2} + \left(a + \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} a_n \cos(2nz) \right) y(z) = 0$$

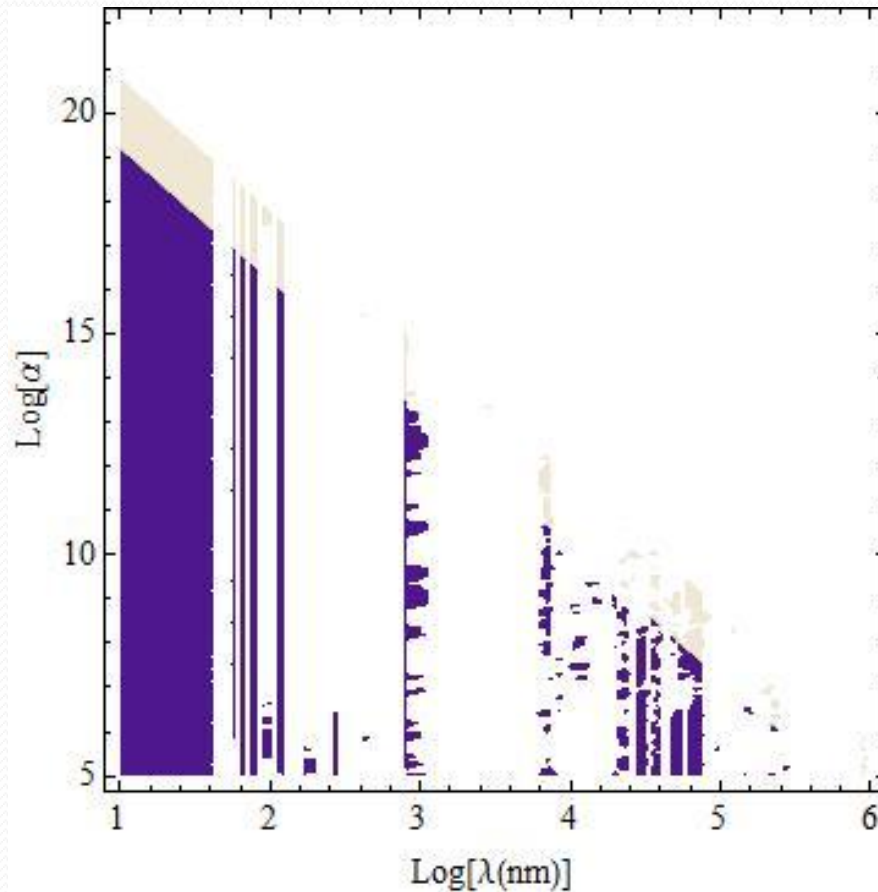
Phase shift for two slabs with $L=10\text{nm}$ and $\lambda=5\text{nm}$ as a function of neutron wavelength $\lambda_n (\text{\AA})$



Plot [GravDiff [100 , 19.3 , 197 , 8 , 0.01 , 1 , δ , 500 , 25] , { δ , 1 , 400 } , PlotPoints \rightarrow 1000]



Exclusion plot for $\lambda_n = 300 \text{ \AA}$ with the experimental sensitivity to the phase at the level 10^{-3} radian by scanning the distance between the slabs from $L = 0.5 \lambda$ to $L = 5 \lambda$ with a step 0.5λ



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Conclusions

UCNs are very sensitive to very weak and long range interactions :

- **Coherence**
- **Resonance** – energy match
- **Unstable solutions** of Schrödinger's equation for neutron propagation (**parametric phase enhancement**) :

$$\sim \lambda_n \exp(L / \lambda) \quad \text{or} \quad \lambda_n \left(\frac{x_0}{x} \right)^{(n-2)/2}$$

$$n > 2$$