

# The Schwinger mechanism with perturbative electric fields

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[[HT](#), PRD 99, 056006 (2019)]

[X.-G. Huang, [HT](#), PRD 100, 016013 (2019)]

[X.-G. Huang, M. Matsuo, [HT](#) (to appear in PTEP)]

# Overview

## Problem

### **Dynamically assisted Schwinger mechanism**

⇒ spontaneous particle production from the vacuum by strong slow E-field + weak fast E-field w/ arbitrary time-dep.

## Technical results

### **Analytical formula for arbitrary time-dep. weak fast E is derived based on pert. theory in Furry picture**

⇒ has wider applicability compared to conventional formulas based on, e.g. WKB, worldline instanton method

## Physical results

- **Dynamically assisted Schwinger mech. in high-energy = Franz-Keldysh effect in cond-mat**
- **Spin-dependence appears**

# INTRODUCTION



## THEORY



## RESULTS



## SUMMARY

# Particle production by strong E-field

Vacuum pair production occurs in the presence of strong E-field



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- is expected to occur in various systems under extreme conditions e.g.) heavy ion collisions, high-Z atoms ( $Z > 173$ ), intense lasers, early Universe

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- **is expected to occur in various systems under extreme conditions**  
e.g.) heavy ion collisions, high-Z atoms ( $Z > 173$ ), intense lasers, early Universe

- **can be classified into 3 depending on size of freq.  $\Omega$ :  $E = E_0 \cos(\Omega t)$**

(1) slow E-field (small  $\Omega$ )      Schwinger mechanism      [Sauter (1932)][Schwinger (1951)]  
[Heisenberg, Euler (1936)]

(2) fast E-field (large  $\Omega$ )      multi-photon pair production      [Brezin, Izykson (1970)]  
[Popov (1971)]  
[HI, Fujii, Itakura (2014)]

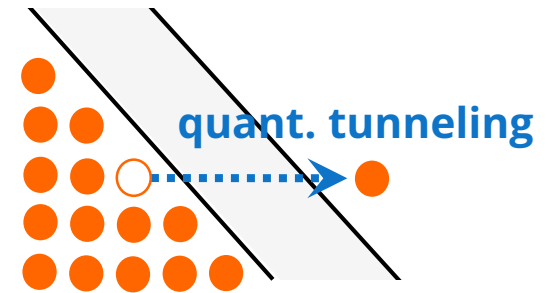
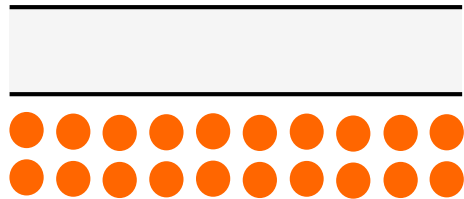
(3) both (slow + fast E)      dynamically assisted Schwinger mechanism

[Dunne, Gies, Schutzhold (2008), (2009)][Piazza et al (2009)][Monin, Voloshin (2010)]

# (1) Slow E-field $\Rightarrow$ Schwinger mechanism

[Sauter (1932)] [Heisenberg, Euler (1936)] [Schwinger (1951)]

E-field tilts the band  $\Rightarrow$  level crossing  $\Rightarrow$  **tunneling (non-pert.)**



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E-field tilts the band  $\Rightarrow$  level crossing  $\Rightarrow$  **tunneling (non-pert.)**



😊 well understood

(1) An analog of “electrical breakdown (Landau-Zener trans.)”  
in cond-mat [Landau (1932)] [Zener (1932)] [Majorana (1932)] [Stueckelberg (1932)]

(2) Analytical formula exists (Gaussian + spin-independent)

Schwinger formula: 
$$\frac{d^3 N_{\uparrow}}{dp^3} = \frac{d^3 N_{\downarrow}}{dp^3} = \frac{V}{(2\pi)^3} \exp\left[-\frac{\pi(m^2 + p_T^2)}{eE}\right]$$



# (2) Fast E-field $\Rightarrow$ multi-photon pair production

[Brezin, Izykson (1970)]  
[Popov (1971)]  
[HT, Fujii, Itakura (2014)]

interact as a particle (photon)  $\Rightarrow$  **perturbative scattering**



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😊 **well understood**

(1) An analog of “photo-electric effect” in cond-mat

[Einstein (1905)]

(2) Analytical formula exists (delta func. + spin-independent)

LO perturbation theory: 
$$\frac{d^3 N_{\uparrow}}{dp^3} = \frac{d^3 N_{\downarrow}}{dp^3} = \# \times \left( \frac{eE}{m^2 + p^2} \right)^2 \delta(2\sqrt{m^2 + p^2} - \Omega)$$

# (3) Slow + Fast E-field $\Rightarrow$ dynamically assisted Schwinger mechanism

[Dunne, Gies, Schutzhold (2008), (2009)] [Piazza et al (2009)]  
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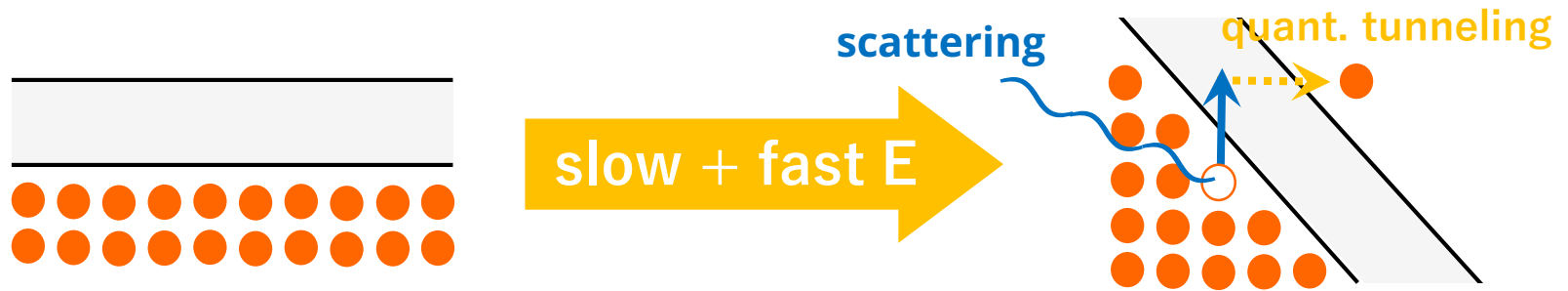
tunneling (non-pert.) by slow E + scattering (pert.) by fast E



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☹️ **NOT understood well**

(1) No analog in cond-mat (?)

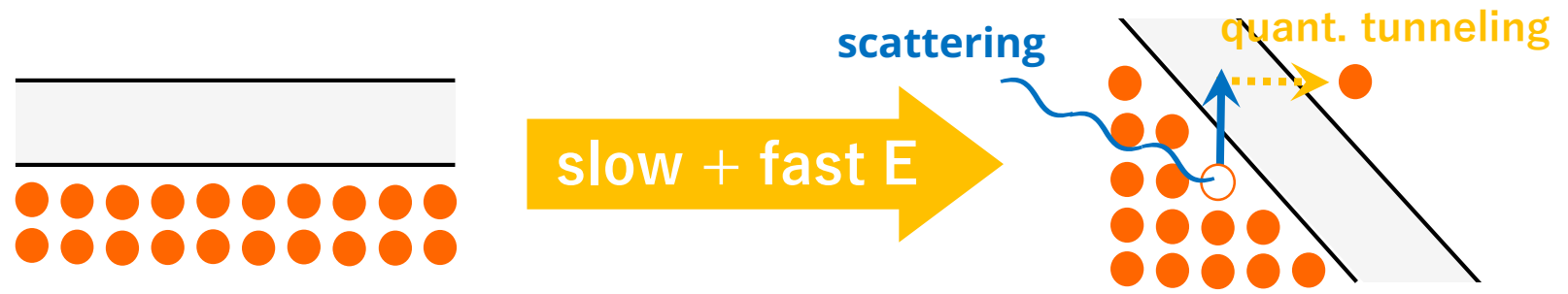
(2) No general analytical formula

- No analytical formula for weak fast E with arbitrary time-dep.
- Usually formulated w/i semi-classical methods (e.g. WKB, worldline)  
 $\Rightarrow$  **limited applicability**: E must be adiabatic (i.e., valid for tiny  $\omega \ll 2m$ )
- Less attention has been paid to spin DoG

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## Note: important to phenomenology

### ex.1) heavy ion collisions

- at *glasma* phase, a lot of (mini-)jets exists  $\Rightarrow$  int. b/w glasma & jets  $\Rightarrow$  **dyn. ass.**  
 (~ strong slow EM field)    (~ weak fast EM field) **Sch. mech.**
- event generators (e.g. PYTHIA) assume a complete separation b/w soft  
 (by string breaking ~ Schwinger mech.) & hard (by pert. collisions) contributions

$\Rightarrow$  **dynamical assistance is completely neglected**

### ex.2) laser [Dunne, Gies, Schutzhold (2008), (2009)][Piazza et al (2009)][Monin, Voloshin (2010)]

- available E-field is too weak  $\Rightarrow$  **needs dynamical assistance to observe in exp.**

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**A** Derive a general analytical formula

**B** Claim “Franz-Keldysh effect” is the cond-mat analog



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**Apply strong slow E-field and a photon (~ weak fast E-field)  
onto a semi-conductor, and measure photo-absorption rate**

⇒ photo-aborp. rate  $\sim \text{Im}[1\text{-loop action}] \sim$  particle prod. rate

⇒ looks very similar to the dynamically assisted Schwinger mech.

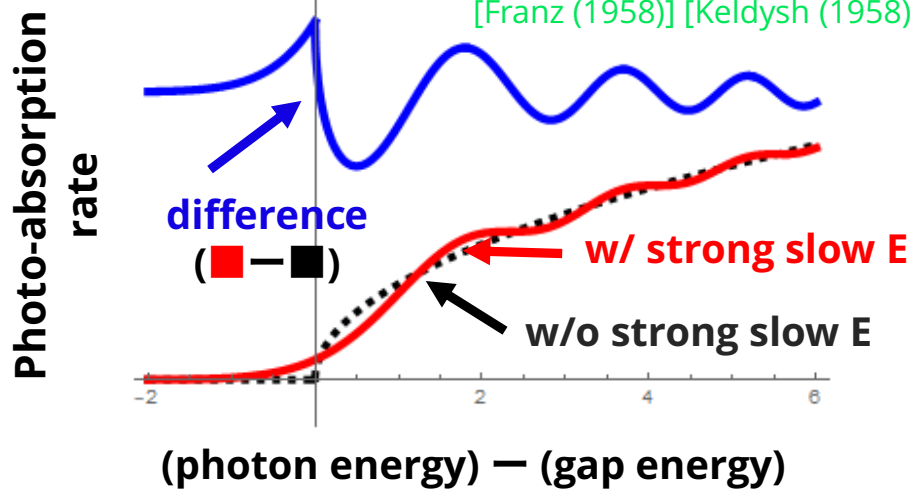
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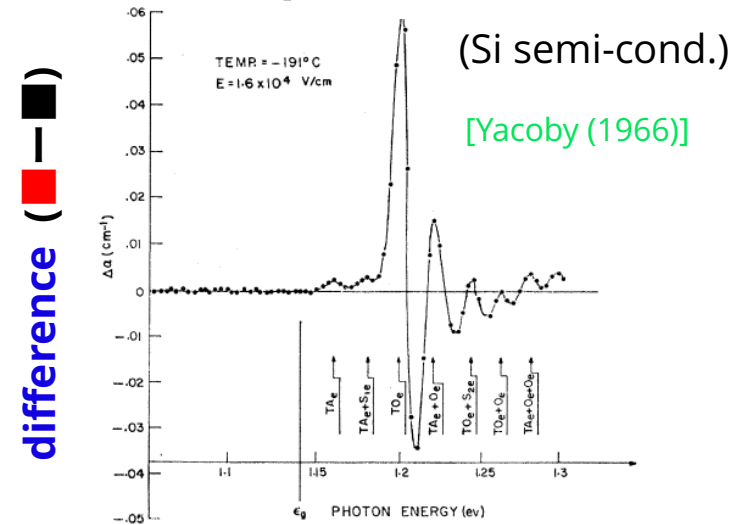
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## Theory



## Experiment



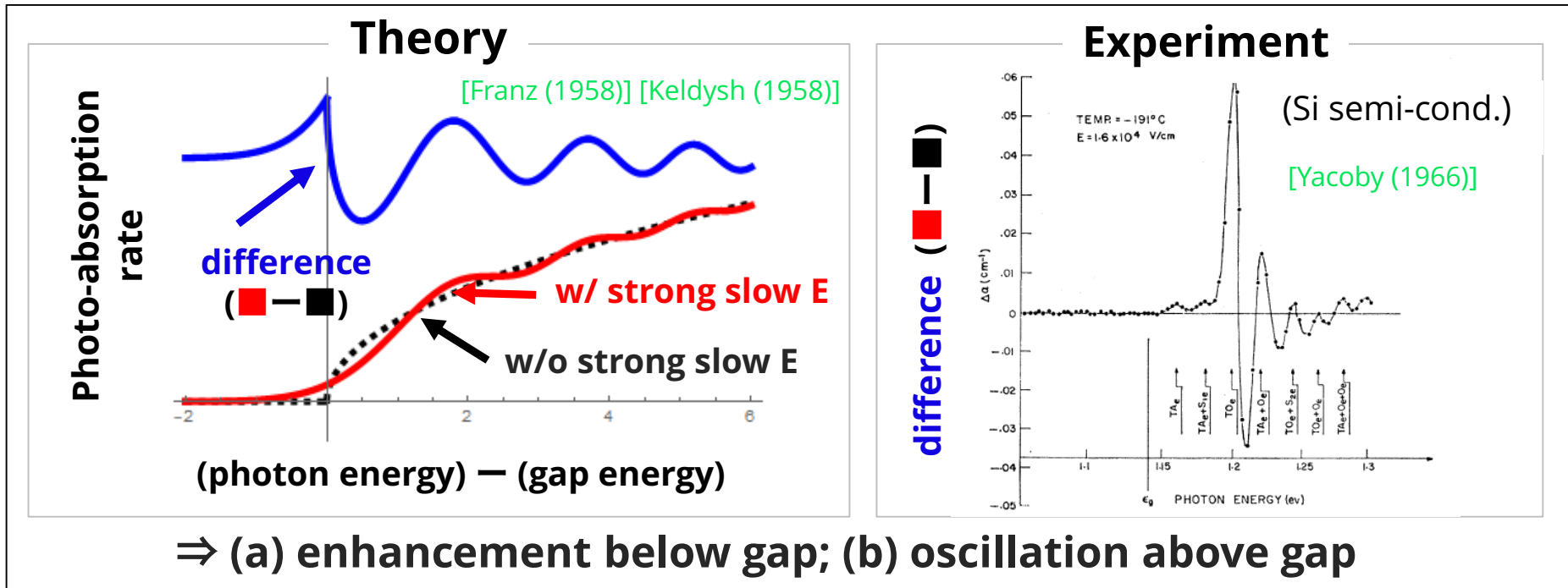
⇒ (a) enhancement below gap; (b) oscillation above gap

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$\Rightarrow$  (a) enhancement below gap; (b) oscillation above gap

**To-do**

Show Franz-Keldysh effect is the correct analog [B] by

- (1) Deriving an analytical formula for the production [A]
- (2) Using that formula to explicitly demonstrate (a), (b) occur in the dynamically assisted Schwinger mech.

INTRODUCTION



**THEORY**



RESULTS



SUMMARY

# Perturbation theory in Furry picture (1/4)

## Goal

Evaluate  $\frac{d^3 N_s}{dp^3} = \langle \text{vac} | \hat{a}_{p,s}^\dagger \hat{a}_{p,s} | \text{vac} \rangle$  in the presence of strong slow  $E_s$  & weak fast  $\mathcal{E}_f$

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## Idea

Perturbative expansion  $\hat{a}_{p,s}$  i.t.o. weak fast  $\mathcal{E}_f$



# Perturbation theory in Furry picture (2/4)

**STEP 1**



Separate the total E-field  $E$  into **strong slow**  $E_s$  and **weak fast**  $\mathcal{E}_f$

$$E = E_s + \mathcal{E}_f \quad (E_s \gg \mathcal{E}_f)$$

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$$E = E_S + \mathcal{E}_f \quad (E_S \gg \mathcal{E}_f)$$

**STEP 2**

Solve Dirac eq. non-pert. w.r.t.  $E_S$ , but pert. w.r.t.  $\mathcal{E}_f$

$$[i\partial - e\mathcal{A}_S - m]\hat{\psi} = e\mathcal{A}_f\hat{\psi}$$

$$\Rightarrow \hat{\psi}(x) = \hat{\psi}^{(0)}(x) + \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} dy^4 S_R(x, y) e\mathcal{A}_f(y) \hat{\psi}^{(0)}(y) + O(|e\mathcal{A}_f|^2)$$

Here,  $\hat{\psi}^{(0)}$  and  $S_R$  are **non-perturbatively dressed by**  $E_S$  as

$$[i\partial - e\mathcal{A}_S - m]\hat{\psi}^{(0)} = 0$$

$$[i\partial - e\mathcal{A}_S - m]S_R(x, y) = \delta^4(x - y)$$

# Perturbation theory in Furry picture (3/4)

## STEP 3

Compute in/out annihilation operators  $\hat{a}_{p,s}^{\text{in/out}}$ ,  $\hat{b}_{p,s}^{\text{in/out}}$  from  $\hat{\psi}$

$$\begin{pmatrix} \hat{a}_{p,s}^{\text{in/out}} \\ \hat{b}_{-p,s}^{\text{in/out}\dagger} \end{pmatrix} \equiv \lim_{t \rightarrow -\infty / +\infty} \int d^3\mathbf{x} \begin{pmatrix} (u_{p,s} e^{-i\omega_p t} e^{i\mathbf{p}\cdot\mathbf{x}})^\dagger \\ (v_{p,s} e^{+i\omega_p t} e^{i\mathbf{p}\cdot\mathbf{x}})^\dagger \end{pmatrix} \hat{\psi}(x)$$

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$\Rightarrow \hat{a}_{p,s'}^{\text{in}}, \hat{a}_{p,s}^{\text{out}}$  are inequivalent  $\hat{a}_{p,s}^{\text{in}} \neq \hat{a}_{p,s}^{\text{out}}$  and related with each other by a Bogoliubov transformation

$$\begin{pmatrix} \hat{a}_{p,s}^{\text{out}} \\ \hat{b}_{-p,s}^{\text{out}\dagger} \end{pmatrix} = \sum_{s'} \int d^3 \mathbf{p}' \begin{pmatrix} \alpha_{p,s;p',s'} & \beta_{p,s;p',s'} \\ -\beta_{p,s;p',s'}^* & \alpha_{p,s;p',s'}^* \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} \hat{a}_{p',s'}^{\text{in}} \\ \hat{b}_{-p',s'}^{\text{in}\dagger} \end{pmatrix}$$

where, up to 1<sup>st</sup> order in  $e\mathcal{A}_f$ ,

$$\alpha_{p,s;p',s'} = \int d^3 \mathbf{x} +\psi_{p,s}^{(0)\text{out}\dagger} + \psi_{p',s'}^{(0)\text{in}} - i \int d^4 x +\bar{\psi}_{p,s}^{(0)\text{out}} e\mathcal{A}_f + \psi_{p',s'}^{(0)\text{in}} + O(|e\mathcal{A}_f|^2)$$

$$\beta_{p,s;p',s'} = \int d^3 \mathbf{x} -\psi_{p,s}^{(0)\text{out}\dagger} + \psi_{p',s'}^{(0)\text{in}} - i \int d^4 x -\bar{\psi}_{p,s}^{(0)\text{out}} e\mathcal{A}_f + \psi_{p',s'}^{(0)\text{in}} + O(|e\mathcal{A}_f|^2)$$

Here,  $\pm\psi_{p,s}^{(0)\text{in/out}}$  are sol. of Dirac eq. **dressed by  $e\mathcal{A}_s$**  w/ different B.C.

$$[i\cancel{\partial} - e\mathcal{A}_s - m] \pm\psi_{p,s}^{(0)\text{in/out}} = 0 \quad \text{w/} \quad \lim_{t \rightarrow -\infty / +\infty} \begin{pmatrix} +\psi_{p,s}^{(0)\text{in/out}} \\ -\psi_{p,s}^{(0)\text{in/out}} \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} u_{p,s} e^{-i\omega_p t} e^{i\mathbf{p}\cdot\mathbf{x}} \\ v_{p,s} e^{-i\omega_p t} e^{i\mathbf{p}\cdot\mathbf{x}} \end{pmatrix}$$

# Perturbation theory in Furry picture (4/4)

## STEP 4

Evaluate the in-vacuum expectation value of # operator

$$\frac{d^3 N_e}{d\mathbf{p}^3} \equiv \langle \text{vac}; \text{in} | a_{\mathbf{p},s}^{\text{out}\dagger} a_{\mathbf{p},s}^{\text{out}} | \text{vac}; \text{in} \rangle = \sum_{s'} \int d^3 \mathbf{p}' |\beta_{\mathbf{p},s;\mathbf{p}',s'}|^2$$

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Assume  $E_s$  is sufficiently slow (i.e., static) and spatially uniform

$\Rightarrow$  analytical sol. of Dirac eq.  $\pm \psi_{\mathbf{p},s}^{(0)\text{in/out}}$  is known

$\Rightarrow$  one can evaluate  $\beta_{\mathbf{p},s;\mathbf{p}',s'}$  **exactly!** [\[HT, \(2019\)\]](#) [\[Huang, HT, \(2019\)\]](#)

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### Remarks:

#### (1) Directly computing VEV of # operator

[Baltz, McLerran (2001)]

• **inclusive quantity** that includes all the processes up to 1<sup>st</sup> order in  $\mathcal{E}_f$

$$\langle \text{vac}; \text{in} | a_{\mathbf{p},s}^{\text{out}\dagger} a_{\mathbf{p},s}^{\text{out}} | \text{vac}; \text{in} \rangle = \sum_X |\langle e_{\mathbf{p},s} X; \text{out} | \text{vac}; \text{in} \rangle|^2$$

$$= \sum_X \left| \left\{ \begin{array}{c} \text{diagram} \\ \text{X;out} \end{array} \right\} \right|^2 = \left| \begin{array}{c} \text{diagram} \\ \text{Schwinger} \end{array} \right|^2 + \left| \begin{array}{c} \text{diagram} \\ \text{multiple Schwinger} \end{array} \right|^2 + \left| \begin{array}{c} \text{diagram} \\ \text{Breit-Wheeler} \end{array} \right|^2 + \left| \begin{array}{c} \text{diagram} \\ \text{Schwinger + absorption} \end{array} \right|^2 + \left| \begin{array}{c} \text{diagram} \\ \text{Schwinger + annihilation} \end{array} \right|^2 + \dots$$

#### (2) No approximation in evaluating $\beta_{\mathbf{p},s;\mathbf{p}',s'}$

cf) within 0-th order WKB [Torgimsson *et al* (2017)]

• important to discuss an analog of Franz-Keldysh effect in Schwinger mechanism

# Formula (1/2): for $E_S \parallel \mathcal{E}_f$

[HT, (2019)]

$$\frac{d^3 N_e}{d\mathbf{p}^3} = \frac{V}{(2\pi)^3} \exp\left[-\frac{\pi(m^2 + \mathbf{p}_\perp^2)}{eE_S}\right] \\ \times \left| 1 + \frac{1}{2} \frac{m^2 + \mathbf{p}_\perp^2}{eE_S} \int_0^\infty d\omega \frac{\tilde{\mathcal{E}}_f(\omega)}{E_S} \exp\left[-\frac{i}{4} \frac{\omega^2 + 4\omega p_\parallel}{eE_S}\right] {}_1F_1\left(1 - \frac{i}{2} \frac{m^2 + \mathbf{p}_\perp^2}{eE_S}; 2; \frac{i}{2} \frac{\omega^2}{eE_S}\right) \right|^2$$



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Schwinger mech. by slow  $E_S$

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$$\times \left[ 1 + \frac{1}{2} \frac{m^2 + \mathbf{p}_\perp^2}{eE_s} \int_0^\infty d\omega \frac{\tilde{\varepsilon}_f(\omega)}{E_s} \exp\left[-\frac{i\omega^2 + 4\omega p_\parallel}{4eE_s}\right] {}_1F_1\left(1 - \frac{i m^2 + \mathbf{p}_\perp^2}{2eE_s}; 2; \frac{i\omega^2}{2eE_s}\right) \right]^2$$

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Dynamical assistance by fast  $\mathcal{E}_f$

- slow limit  $\omega/\sqrt{eE_S} \ll 1$ : ■ dominates  $\Rightarrow$  **usual Schwinger formula**

$$\frac{d^3 N_e}{d\mathbf{p}^3} \sim \frac{V}{(2\pi)^3} \exp \left[ -\frac{\pi(m^2 + \mathbf{p}_\perp^2)}{eE_S} \right] \left| 1 + \frac{\pi}{2} \frac{m^2 + \mathbf{p}_\perp^2}{eE_S} \frac{\mathcal{E}_f}{E_S} \right|^2 \sim \frac{V}{(2\pi)^3} \exp \left[ -\frac{\pi(m^2 + \mathbf{p}_\perp^2)}{e(E_S + \mathcal{E}_f)} \right]$$

- fast limit  $\omega/\sqrt{eE_S} \gg 1$ : ■ dominates  $\Rightarrow$  **multi-photon pair prod. (LO)**

$$\frac{d^3 N_e}{d\mathbf{p}^3} \sim \frac{V}{(2\pi)^3} \frac{1}{4} \frac{m^2 + \mathbf{p}_\perp^2}{\omega_p^2} \frac{|e\tilde{\mathcal{E}}_f(2\omega_p)|^2}{\omega_p^2}$$

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**Derived an analytical formula for the dynamically assisted Schwinger mech. for arbitrary time-dep.  $\mathcal{E}_f$**

# Formula (2/2): for $E_s \not\propto \varepsilon_f$

[Huang, HT, (2019)]

$$\frac{d^3 N_e}{d\mathbf{p}^3} = \frac{V}{(2\pi)^3} \exp\left[-\frac{\pi(m^2 + \mathbf{p}_\perp^2)}{eE_s}\right] \times \left[ \begin{aligned} & 1 + \int_0^\infty d\omega e^{-i\frac{\omega p_\parallel}{eE_s}} \frac{1}{2} \frac{m^2 + \mathbf{p}_\perp^2}{eE_s} \frac{\tilde{\boldsymbol{\varepsilon}}_f(\omega) \cdot \mathbf{E}_s}{E_s^2} e^{-i\frac{\omega^2}{4eE_s}} {}_1F_1\left(1 - \frac{i}{2} \frac{m^2 + \mathbf{p}_\perp^2}{eE_s}; 2; \frac{i}{2} \frac{\omega^2}{eE_s}\right) \\ & + i \int_0^\infty d\omega e^{-i\frac{\omega p_\parallel}{eE_s}} \frac{\tilde{\boldsymbol{\varepsilon}}_f(\omega) \cdot \mathbf{p}_\perp}{E_s \omega} \operatorname{Re}\left[e^{-i\frac{\omega^2}{4eE_s}} {}_1F_1\left(1 - \frac{i}{2} \frac{m^2 + \mathbf{p}_\perp^2}{eE_s}; 1; \frac{i}{2} \frac{\omega^2}{eE_s}\right)\right] \\ & + s \times i \int_0^\infty d\omega e^{-i\frac{\omega p_\parallel}{eE_s}} \frac{(\tilde{\boldsymbol{\varepsilon}}_f(\omega) \times \mathbf{p}_\perp) \cdot \mathbf{E}_s}{E_s^2 \omega} \operatorname{Im}\left[e^{-i\frac{\omega^2}{4eE_s}} {}_1F_1\left(1 - \frac{i}{2} \frac{m^2 + \mathbf{p}_\perp^2}{eE_s}; 1; \frac{i}{2} \frac{\omega^2}{eE_s}\right)\right] \\ & + \left| \int_0^\infty d\omega e^{-i\frac{\omega p_\parallel}{eE_s}} \frac{m}{\omega} \frac{\tilde{\varepsilon}_f^x(\omega) + is\tilde{\varepsilon}_f^y(\omega)}{E_s} \operatorname{Im}\left[e^{-i\frac{\omega^2}{4eE_s}} {}_1F_1\left(1 - \frac{i}{2} \frac{m^2 + \mathbf{p}_\perp^2}{eE_s}; 1; \frac{i}{2} \frac{\omega^2}{eE_s}\right)\right] \right|^2 \end{aligned} \right]^2$$

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$$\times \left[ 1 + \int_0^\infty d\omega e^{-i\frac{\omega p_\parallel}{eE_s}} \frac{1}{2} \frac{m^2 + \mathbf{p}_\perp^2}{eE_s} \frac{\tilde{\boldsymbol{\varepsilon}}_f(\omega) \cdot \mathbf{E}_s}{E_s^2} e^{-i\frac{\omega^2}{4eE_s}} {}_1F_1\left(1 - \frac{i}{2} \frac{m^2 + \mathbf{p}_\perp^2}{eE_s}; 2; \frac{i}{2} \frac{\omega^2}{eE_s}\right) \right.$$

$$+ i \int_0^\infty d\omega e^{-i\frac{\omega p_\parallel}{eE_s}} \frac{\tilde{\boldsymbol{\varepsilon}}_f(\omega) \cdot \mathbf{p}_\perp}{E_s \omega} \operatorname{Re}\left[ e^{-i\frac{\omega^2}{4eE_s}} {}_1F_1\left(1 - \frac{i}{2} \frac{m^2 + \mathbf{p}_\perp^2}{eE_s}; 1; \frac{i}{2} \frac{\omega^2}{eE_s}\right) \right]$$

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Sch. mech.  
by slow  $E_s$

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Dynamical assistance by fast  $\varepsilon_f$

$$\times \left[ 1 + \int_0^\infty d\omega e^{-i\frac{\omega p_\parallel}{eE_s}} \frac{1}{2} \frac{m^2 + \mathbf{p}_\perp^2}{eE_s} \frac{\tilde{\mathcal{E}}_f(\omega) \cdot \mathbf{E}_s}{E_s^2} e^{-i\frac{\omega^2}{4eE_s}} {}_1F_1 \left( 1 - \frac{i}{2} \frac{m^2 + \mathbf{p}_\perp^2}{eE_s}; 2; \frac{i}{2} \frac{\omega^2}{eE_s} \right) \right. \\ \left. + i \int_0^\infty d\omega e^{-i\frac{\omega p_\parallel}{eE_s}} \frac{\tilde{\mathcal{E}}_f(\omega) \cdot \mathbf{p}_\perp}{E_s \omega} \operatorname{Re} \left[ e^{-i\frac{\omega^2}{4eE_s}} {}_1F_1 \left( 1 - \frac{i}{2} \frac{m^2 + \mathbf{p}_\perp^2}{eE_s}; 1; \frac{i}{2} \frac{\omega^2}{eE_s} \right) \right] \right. \\ \left. + s \times i \int_0^\infty d\omega e^{-i\frac{\omega p_\parallel}{eE_s}} \frac{(\tilde{\mathcal{E}}_f(\omega) \times \mathbf{p}_\perp) \cdot \mathbf{E}_s}{E_s^2 \omega} \operatorname{Im} \left[ e^{-i\frac{\omega^2}{4eE_s}} {}_1F_1 \left( 1 - \frac{i}{2} \frac{m^2 + \mathbf{p}_\perp^2}{eE_s}; 1; \frac{i}{2} \frac{\omega^2}{eE_s} \right) \right] \right. \\ \left. + \left| \int_0^\infty d\omega e^{-i\frac{\omega p_\parallel}{eE_s}} \frac{m \tilde{\mathcal{E}}_f^x(\omega) + is \tilde{\mathcal{E}}_f^y(\omega)}{\omega E_s} \operatorname{Im} \left[ e^{-i\frac{\omega^2}{4eE_s}} {}_1F_1 \left( 1 - \frac{i}{2} \frac{m^2 + \mathbf{p}_\perp^2}{eE_s}; 1; \frac{i}{2} \frac{\omega^2}{eE_s} \right) \right] \right|^2 \right]$$

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Sch. mech. by slow  $E_s$

- becomes complicated (red = new terms), but the basic structure is the same
- **spin-dependence appears even without magnetic fields**

$\therefore$  Dirac particle has a spin-orbit coupling  $\mathbf{s} \cdot (\mathbf{p} \times \mathbf{E})$  [Foldy, Wouthuysen (1950)]  
[Tani (1951)]

e.g. application to spintronics [Huang, Matsuo, HT (2019)]



INTRODUCTION



THEORY



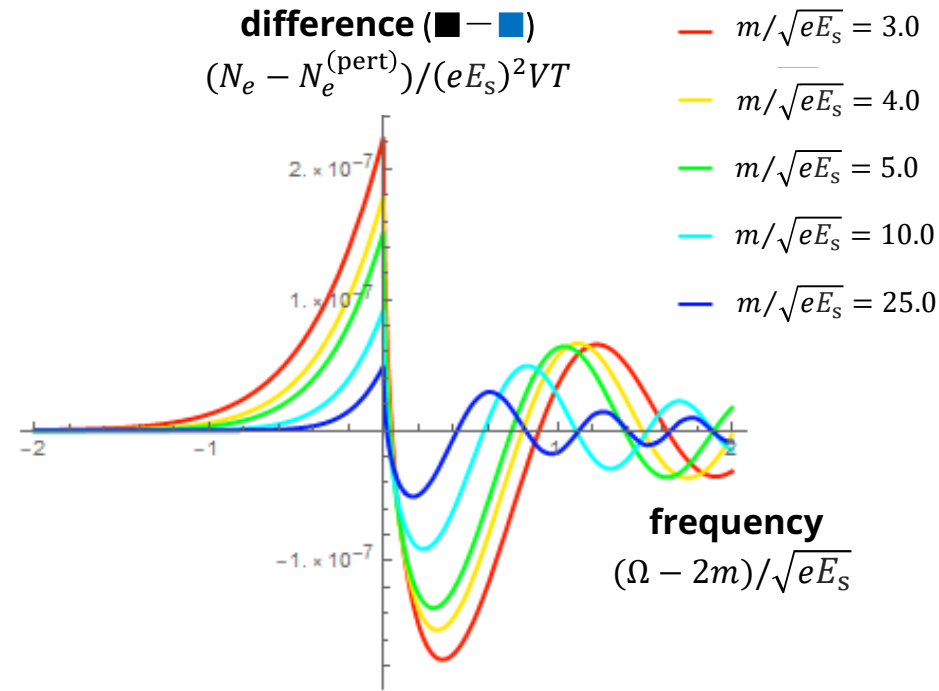
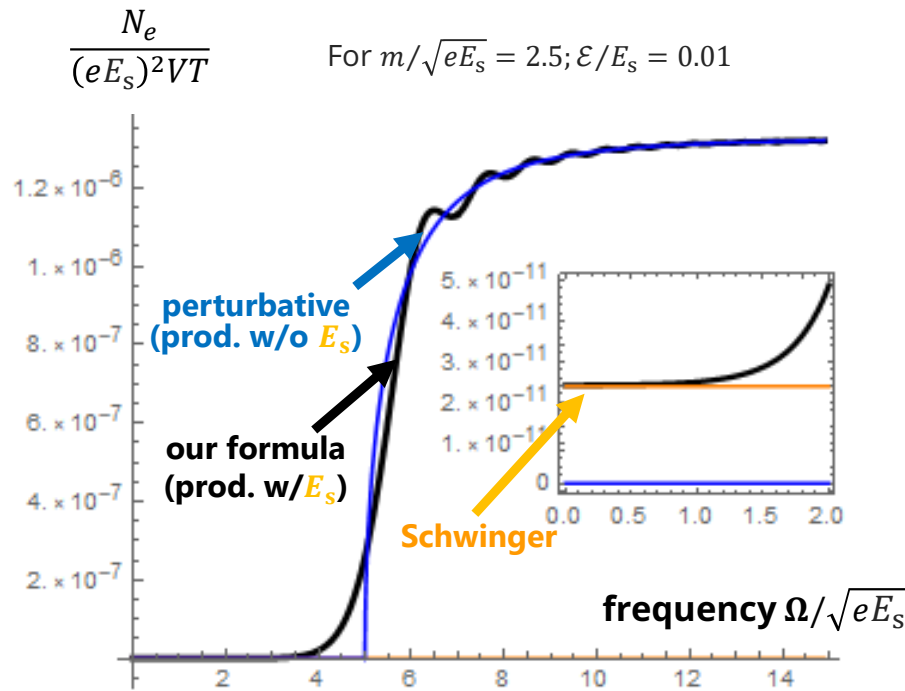
**RESULTS**



SUMMARY

# Results (1/3): Total prod. # $N$

Parallel field configuration:  $\mathbf{E} = \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \\ E_s + \mathcal{E} \cos \Omega t \end{pmatrix}$

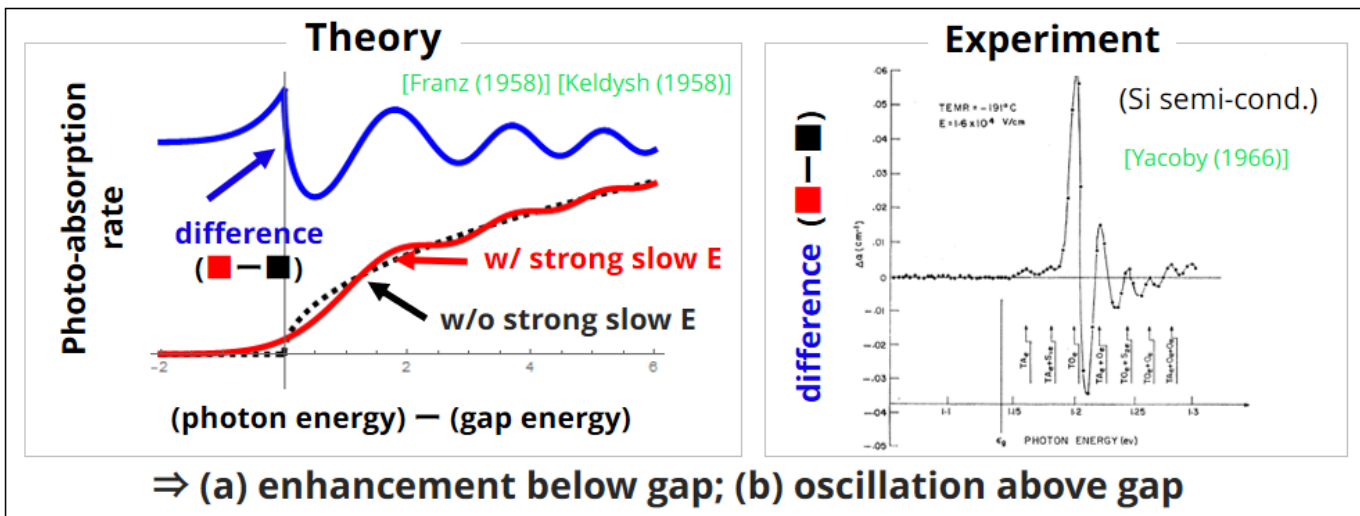


## Franz-Keldysh effect

Apply strong slow E-field and a photon (~ weak fast E-field) onto a semi-conductor, and measure photo-absorption rate

⇒ photo-aborp. rate  $\sim \text{Im}[1\text{-loop action}] \sim \text{particle prod. rate}$

⇒ looks very similar to the dynamically assisted Schwinger mech.



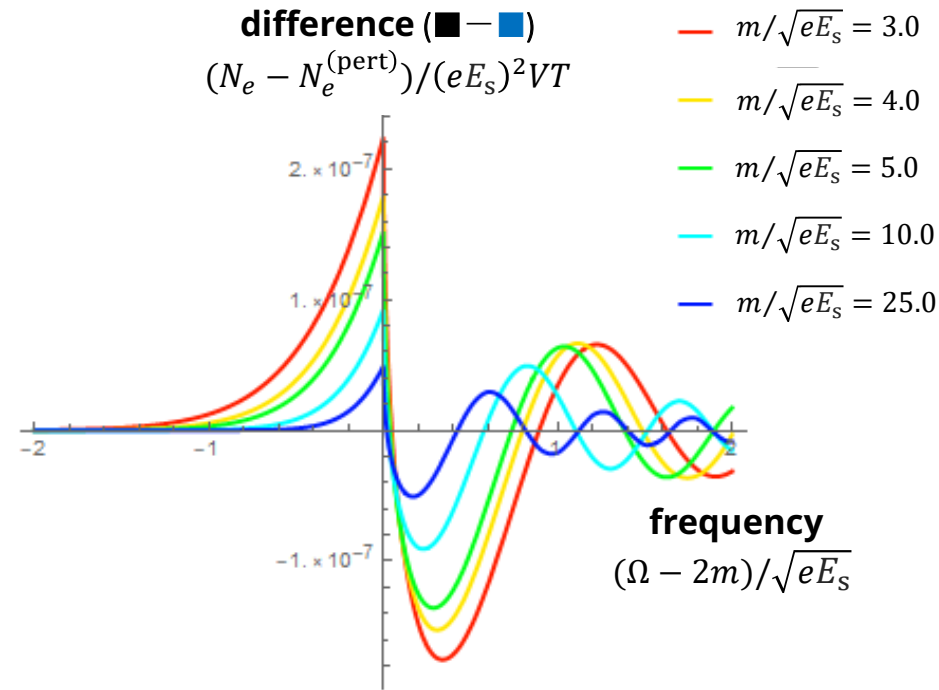
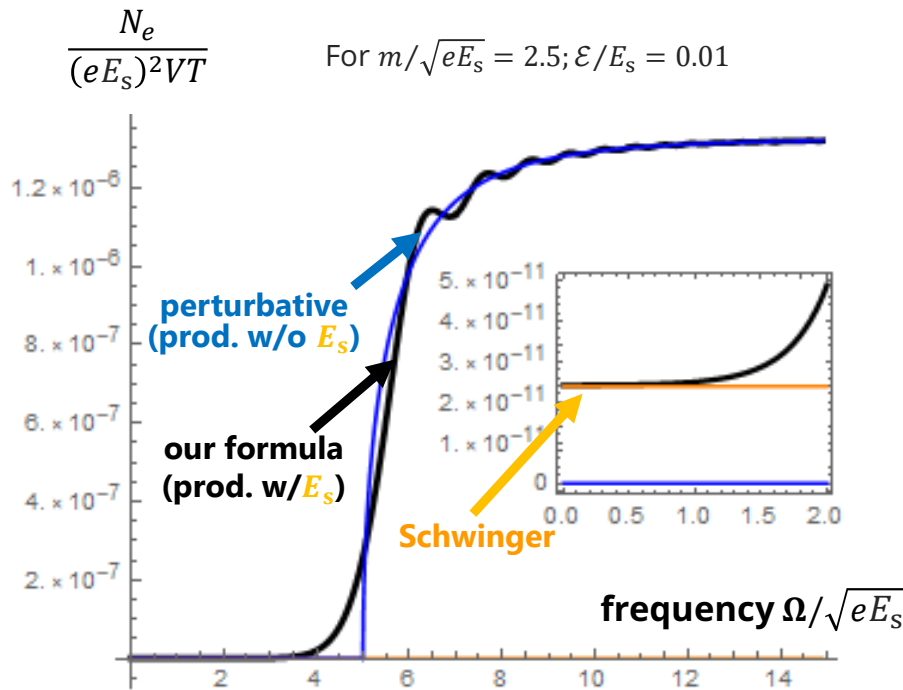
**To-do**

Show Franz-Keldysh effect is the correct analog [B] by  
 (1) Deriving an analytical formula for the production [A]  
 (2) Using that formula to explicitly demonstrate (a), (b) occur in the dynamically assisted Schwinger mech.

$\sqrt{eE_s} = 3.0$   
 $\sqrt{eE_s} = 4.0$   
 $\sqrt{eE_s} = 5.0$   
 $\sqrt{eE_s} = 10.0$   
 $\sqrt{eE_s} = 25.0$   
 frequency  
 $\sqrt{eE_s}$

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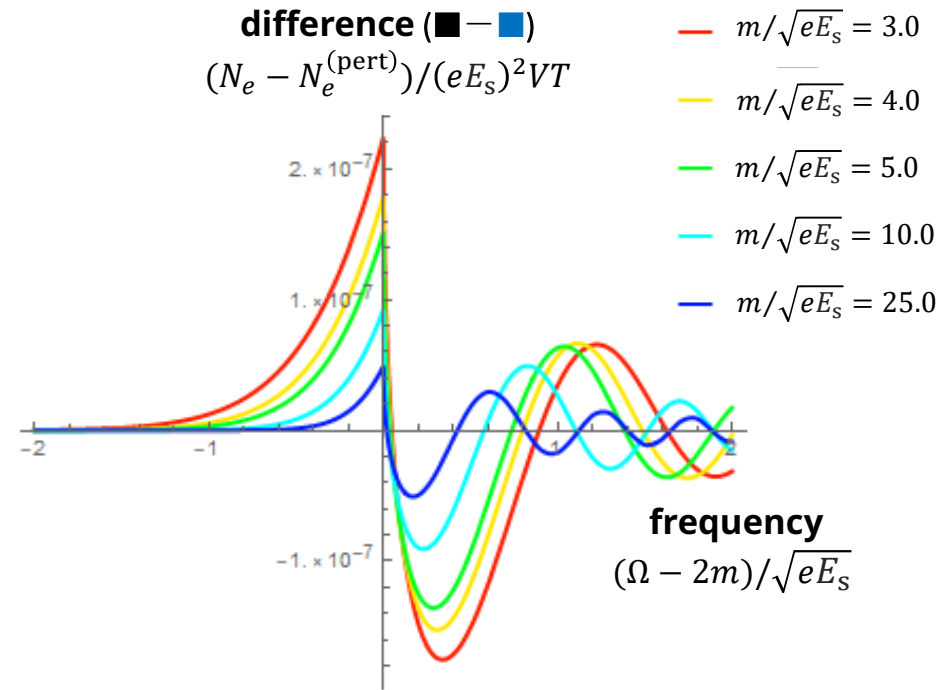
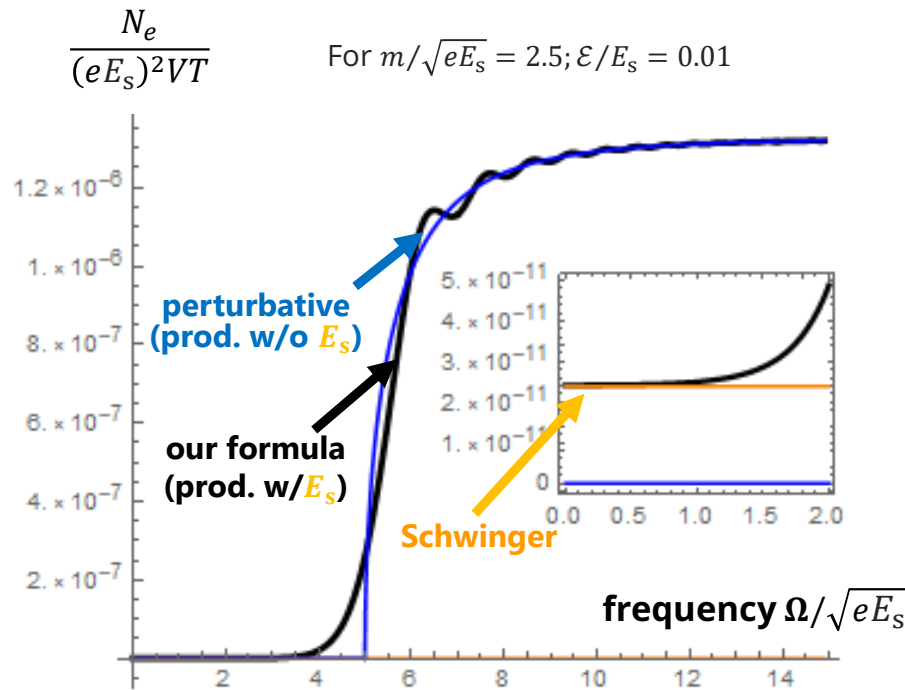


**Completely the same as the Franz-Keldysh effect !**

- enhancement below the gap [Dunne, Gies, Schutzhold (2008), (2009)]
- oscillation above the gap

# Results (1/3): Total prod. # $N$

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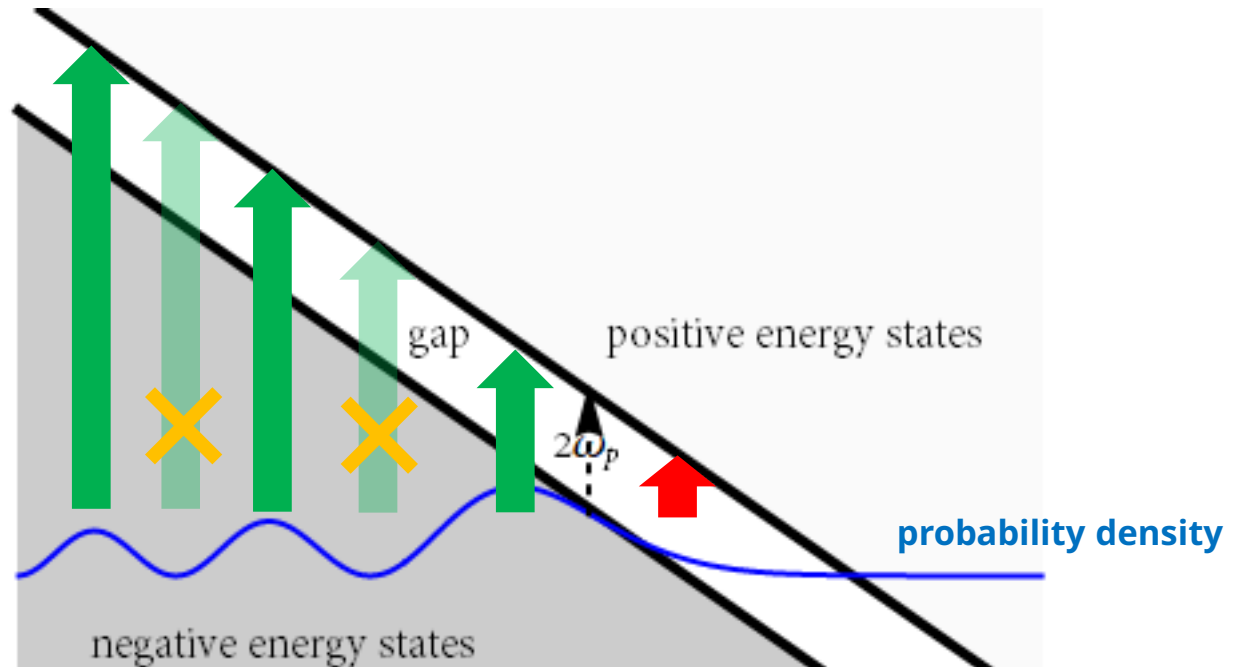
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- enhancement below the gap [Dunne, Gies, Schutzhold (2008), (2009)]
- oscillation above the gap



**Franz-Keldysh effect = dyn. ass. Schwinger mech.**

# Intuitive explanation



- quantum tunneling  $\Rightarrow$  **enhancement**
- quantum reflection  $\Rightarrow$  **oscillation**
  - non-uniform prob. dist. due to interference b/w in-coming and reflected waves
  - production occurs most efficiently at the maxima

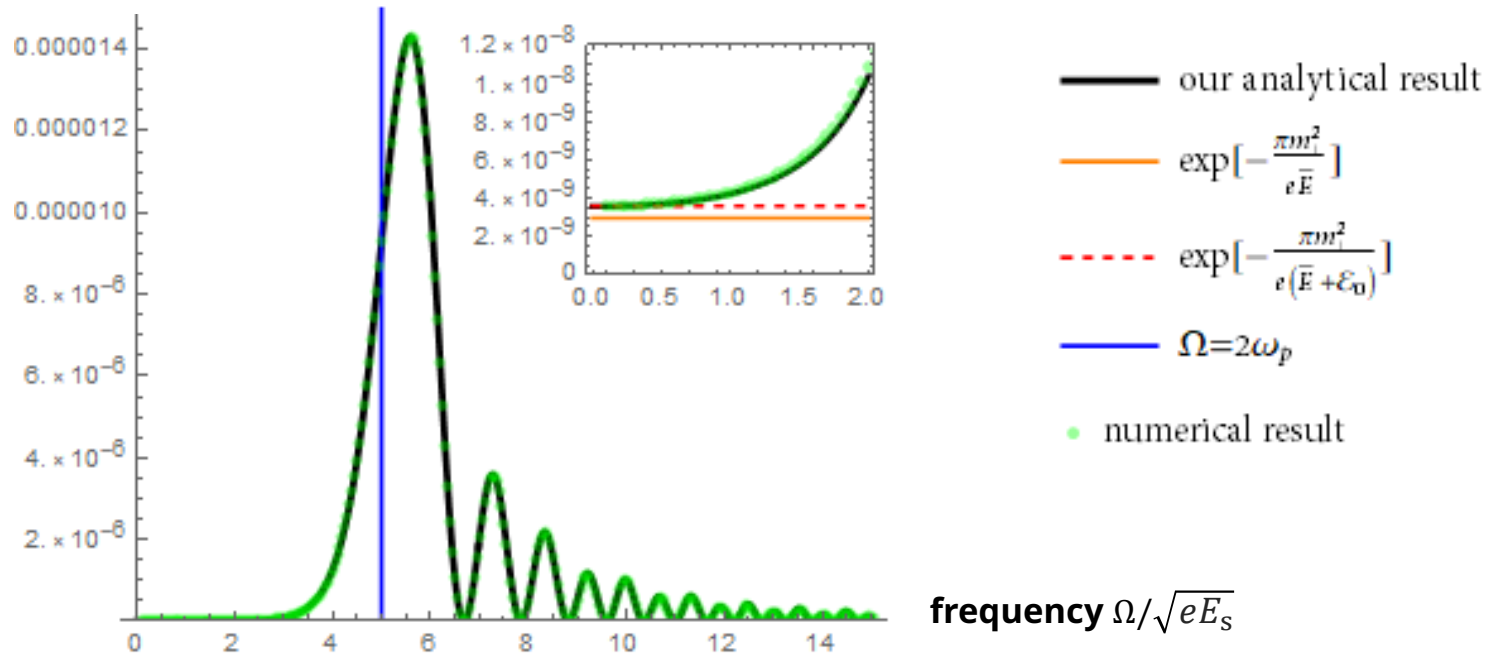
# Results (2/3): Momentum dist. $d^3 N_e / dp^3$

Parallel field configuration:  $\mathbf{E} = \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \\ E_s + \mathcal{E} \cos \Omega t \end{pmatrix}$

momentum dist.

$$\frac{(2\pi)^3 d^3 N_e}{V dp^3}$$

For  $m/\sqrt{eE_s} = 2.5; \mathcal{E}/E_s = 0.01$



- **enhancement below gap; oscillation above gap**
- **the pert. peak is slightly above the gap  $\Omega = 2\omega_p$  due to reflection**
- **excellent agreement** b/w our analytical formula and the numerics

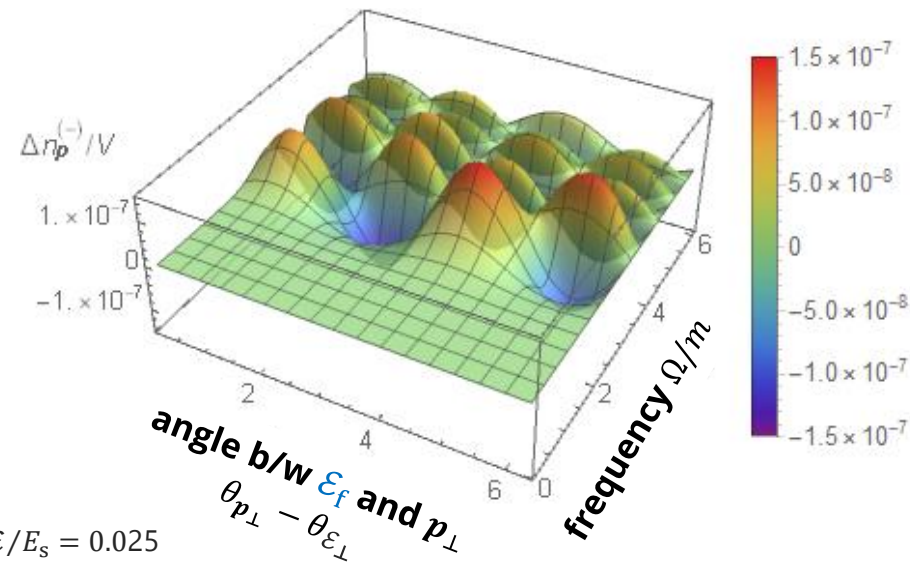
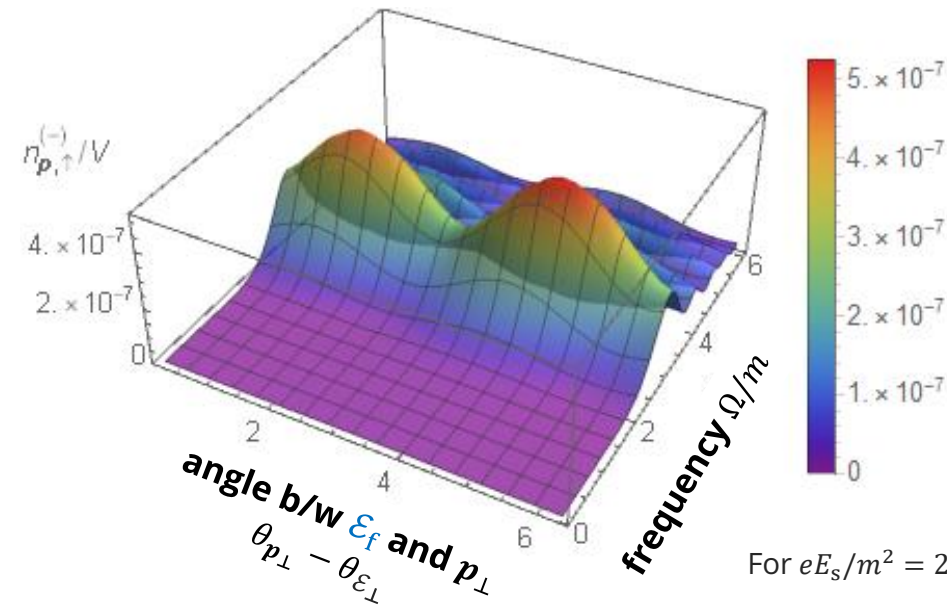
ef) effective mass  
[Kohlfurst, Gies,  
Alkofer (2014)]

# Results (3/3): Spin-dependence

$$\text{Perpendicular field configuration: } \mathbf{E} = \begin{pmatrix} \mathcal{E} \cos \theta_{\varepsilon_{\perp}} \times \cos \Omega t \\ \mathcal{E} \sin \theta_{\varepsilon_{\perp}} \times \cos \Omega t \\ E_s \end{pmatrix}$$

momentum dist. of spin up  $\frac{1}{V} \frac{d^3 N_{\uparrow}}{dp^3}$

diff. b/w spin up and down  $\frac{1}{V} \frac{d^3 N_{\uparrow}}{dp^3} - \frac{1}{V} \frac{d^3 N_{\downarrow}}{dp^3}$



For  $eE_s/m^2 = 2.5; \mathcal{E}/E_s = 0.025$

- Basically the same as the parallel case: **enhancement/oscillation below/above gap**
- **Spin-dependence appears**  $\Rightarrow$  O(10%) effect  $\Rightarrow$  not negligible
  - $\theta_{p_{\perp}}$ -dependent because of the spin-orbit interaction  $\mathbf{s} \cdot (\mathbf{p} \times \mathcal{E})$



INTRODUCTION



THEORY



RESULTS



**SUMMARY**

# Summary

[[HT](#), PRD 99, 056006 (2019)]

[X.-G. Huang, [HT](#), PRD 100, 016013 (2019)]

[X.-G. Huang, M. Matsuo, [HT](#) (to appear in PTEP)]

## Problem

### Dynamically assisted Schwinger mechanism

⇒ spontaneous particle production from the vacuum by strong slow E-field + weak fast E-field w/ **arbitrary** time-dep.

## Technical results

### Analytical formula for arbitrary time-dep. weak fast E is derived based on pert. theory in Furry picture

⇒ reproduces the numerics so well and has wider applicability compared to conventional methods (e.g. WKB, worldline)

## Physical results

- **Dyn. ass. Schwinger mech. = FK effect in cond-mat**

⇒ enhancement/oscillation below/above the gap energy

- **Spin-dependence appears**

⇒ not negligible  $\sim O(10\%)$  effect

## Outlook

- Interact w/ cond-mat

- Phenomenological applications. (e.g. HIC, laser, ...)



dynamical FK, exciton effect, modulation spectroscopy ...

worldline method, Furry picture, 2PI, resurgence ...

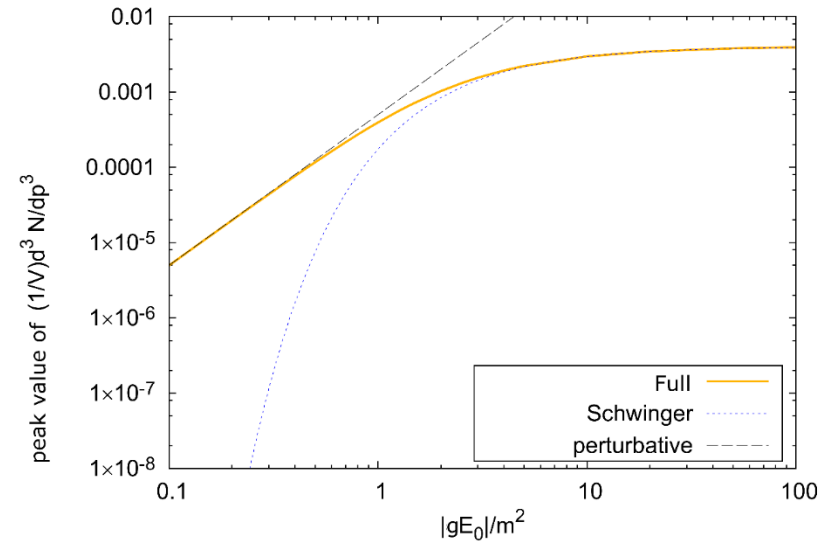
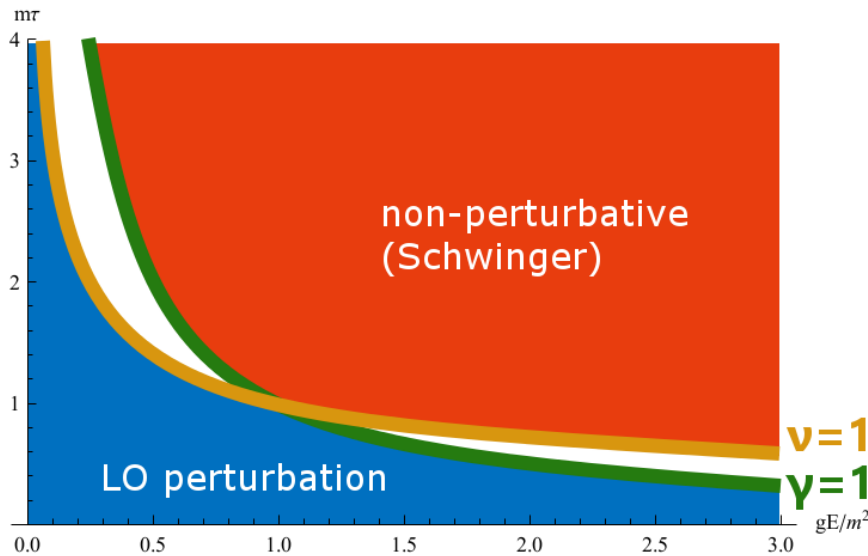
**BACK**

**UP**

# Interplay b/w pert. & non-pert. prod.

[HT, Fujii, Itakura (2014)]

Sauter E-field with lifetime  $\tau$  & strength  $E_0$ :  $E = E_0/\cosh^2(t/\tau)$



- Analytically solvable [Sauter (1932)]
- 2 dimensionless parameters  $\gamma = gE_0\tau/m$ ,  $\nu = gE_0\tau^2$  controls the interplay
  - because there are 3 dimensionfull parameters