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# Microscopic Cascading in Fifth-Order Nonlinearity Induced by Local-Field Effects

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and John E. Sipe<sup>2</sup>

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# Cascading

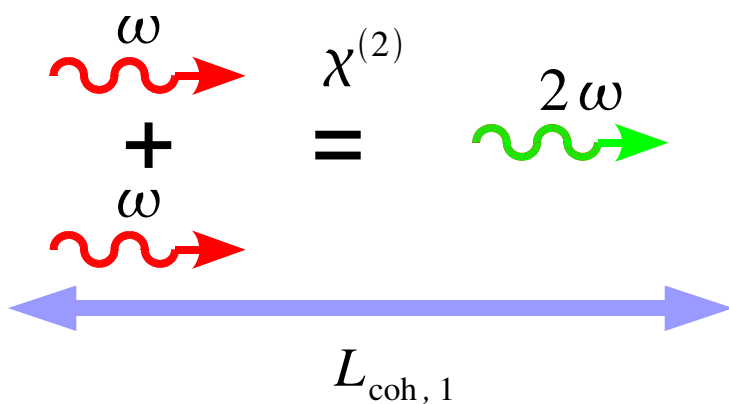
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In a broad sense:

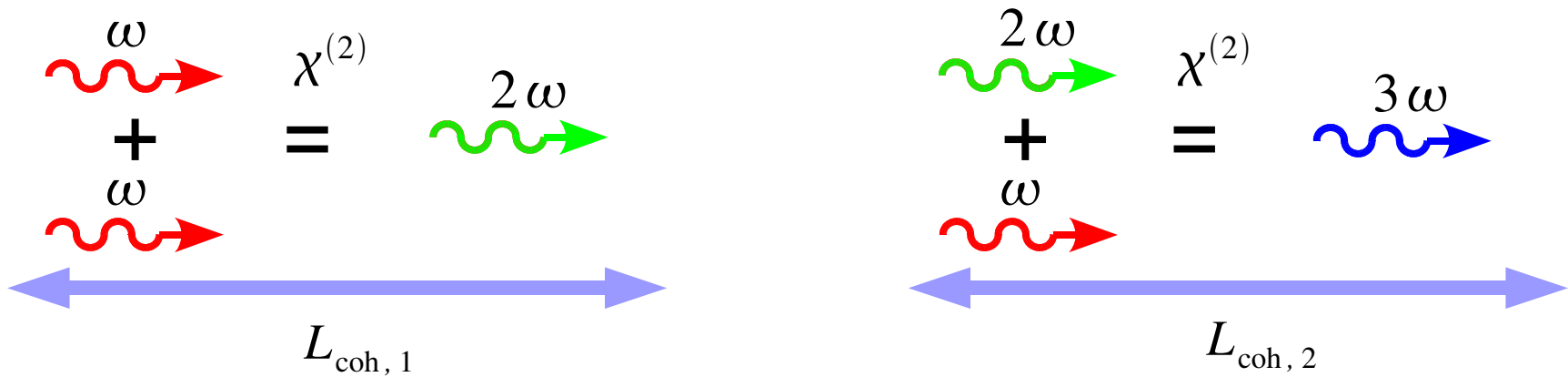
$$\chi_{\text{eff}}^{(3)} = \text{const} \times \chi^{(2)} : \chi^{(2)}$$

# Cascading

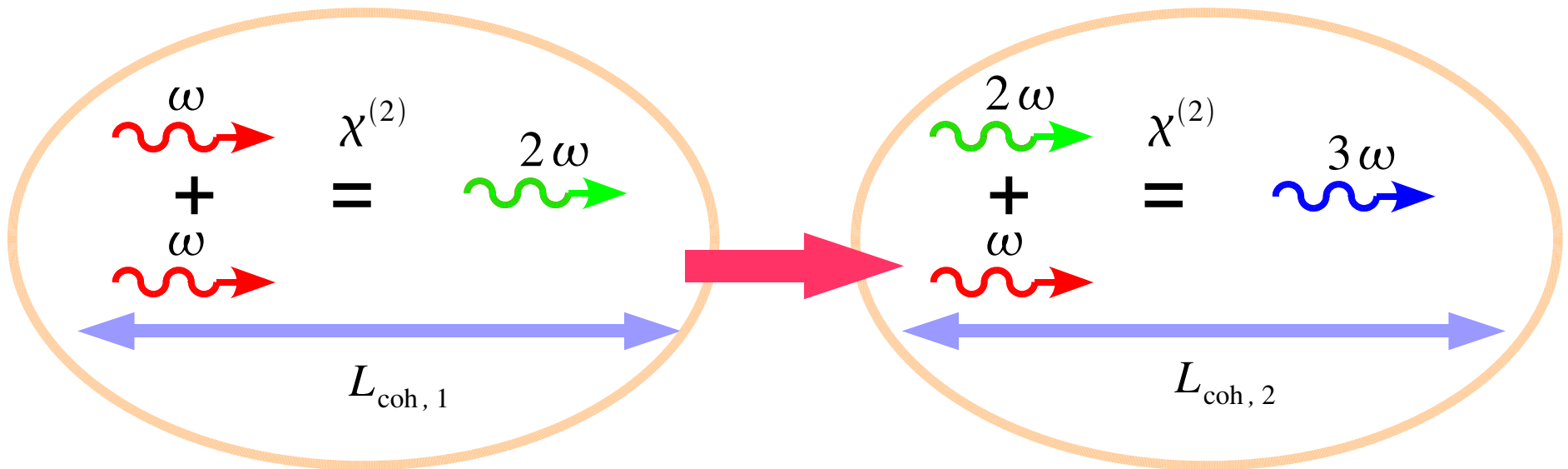
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# Cascading

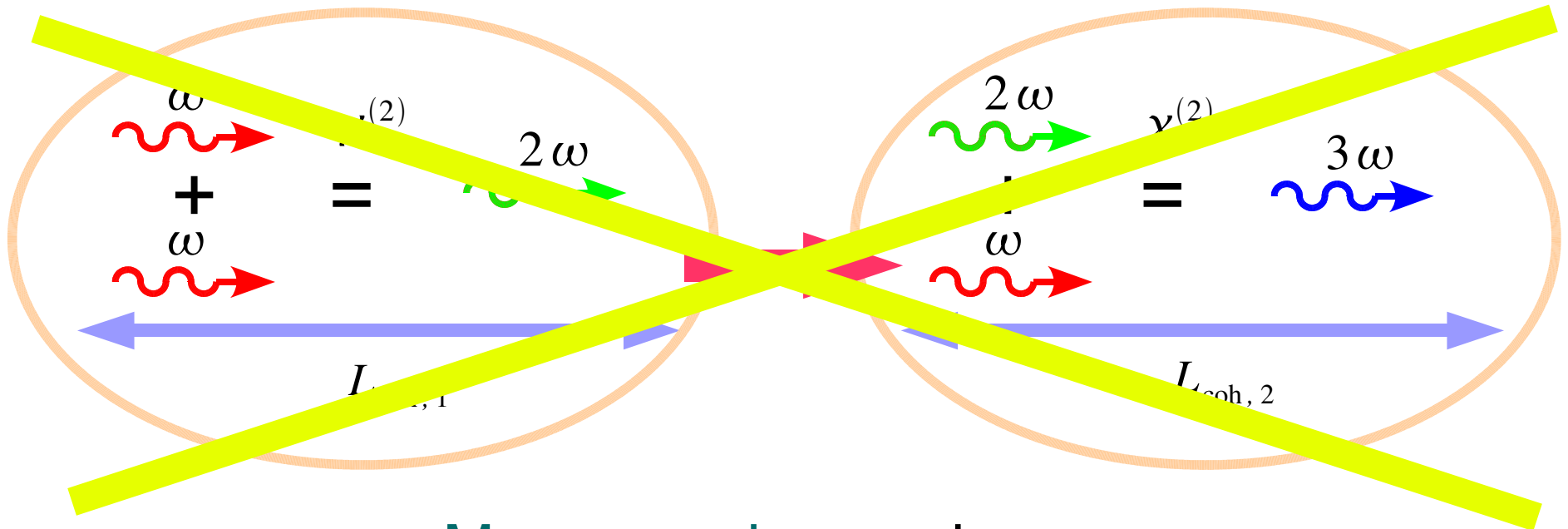


# Cascading



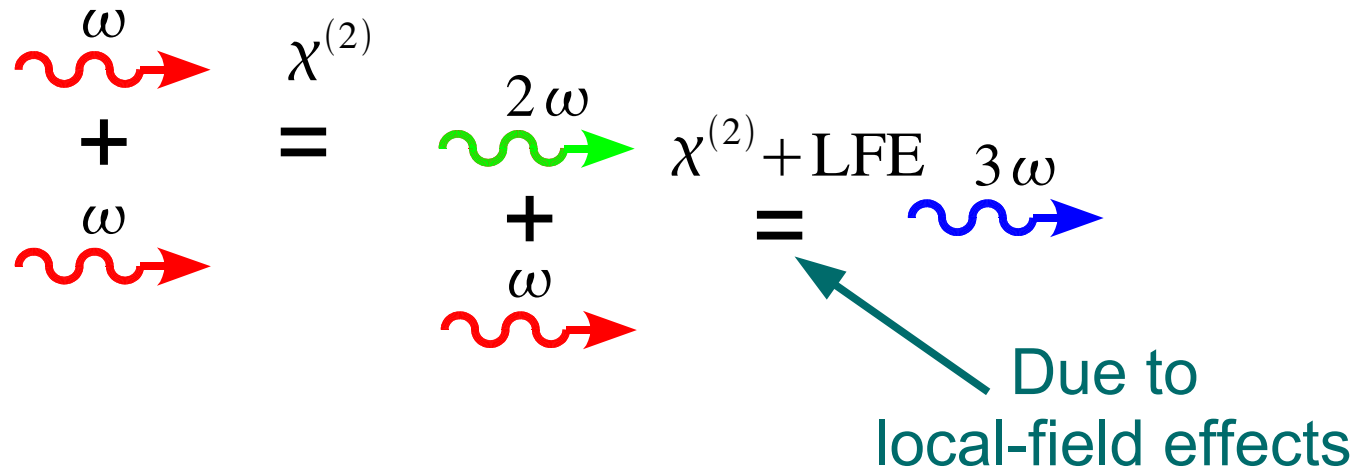
**Macroscopic:** requires propagation and phase-matching

# Cascading

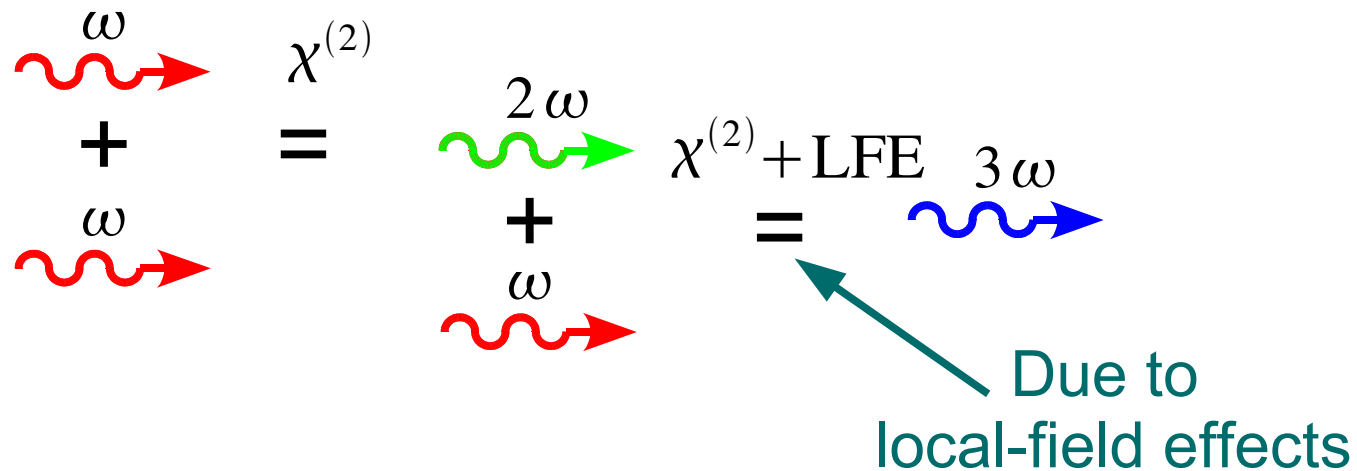


**Macroscopic:** requires propagation and phase-matching

# Cascading



# Cascading

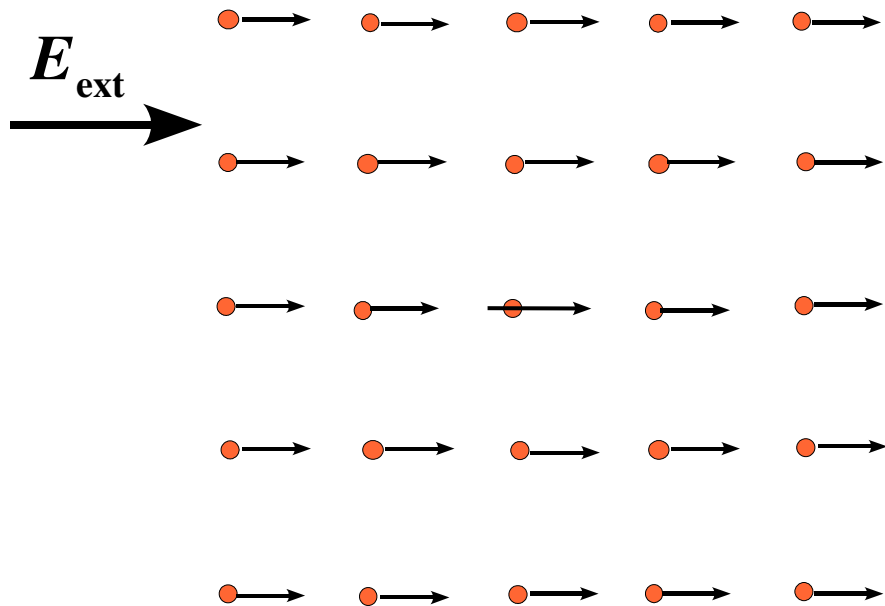


**Microscopic:** does not require propagation and phase-matching



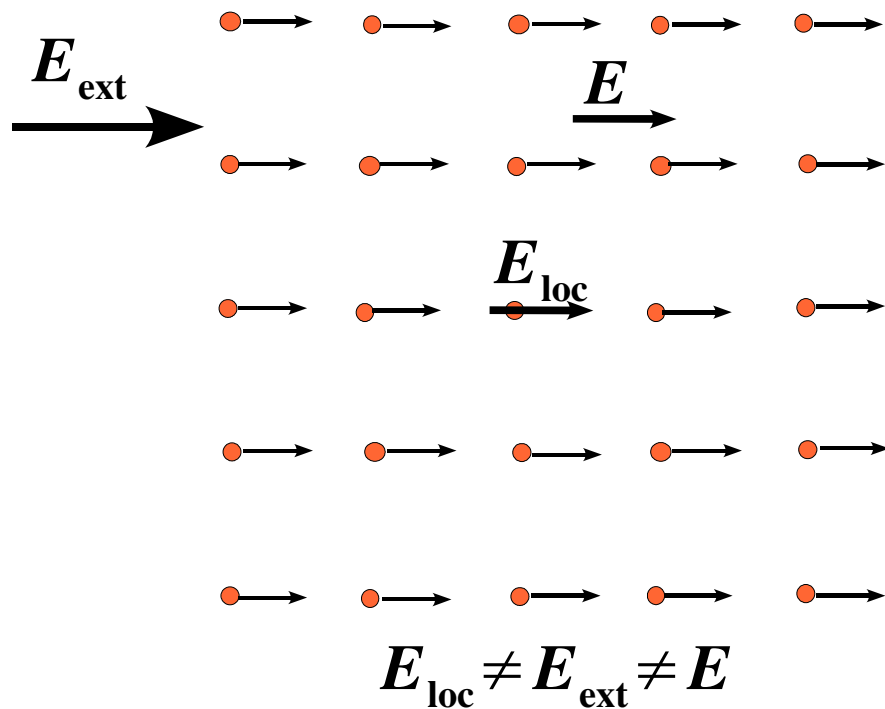
# Lorentz Local Field

Consider a homogeneous medium exposed to an external optical field:

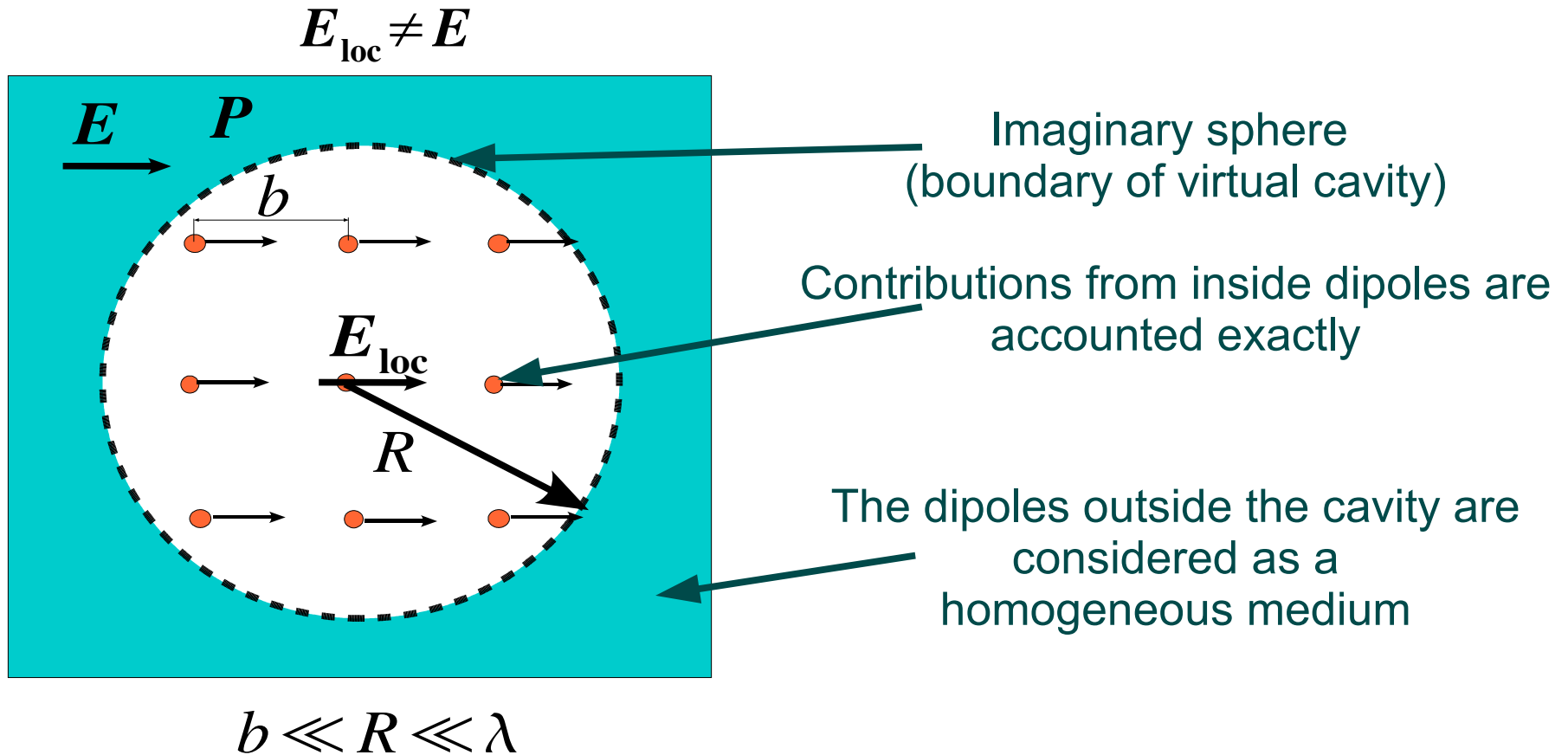


# Lorentz Local Field

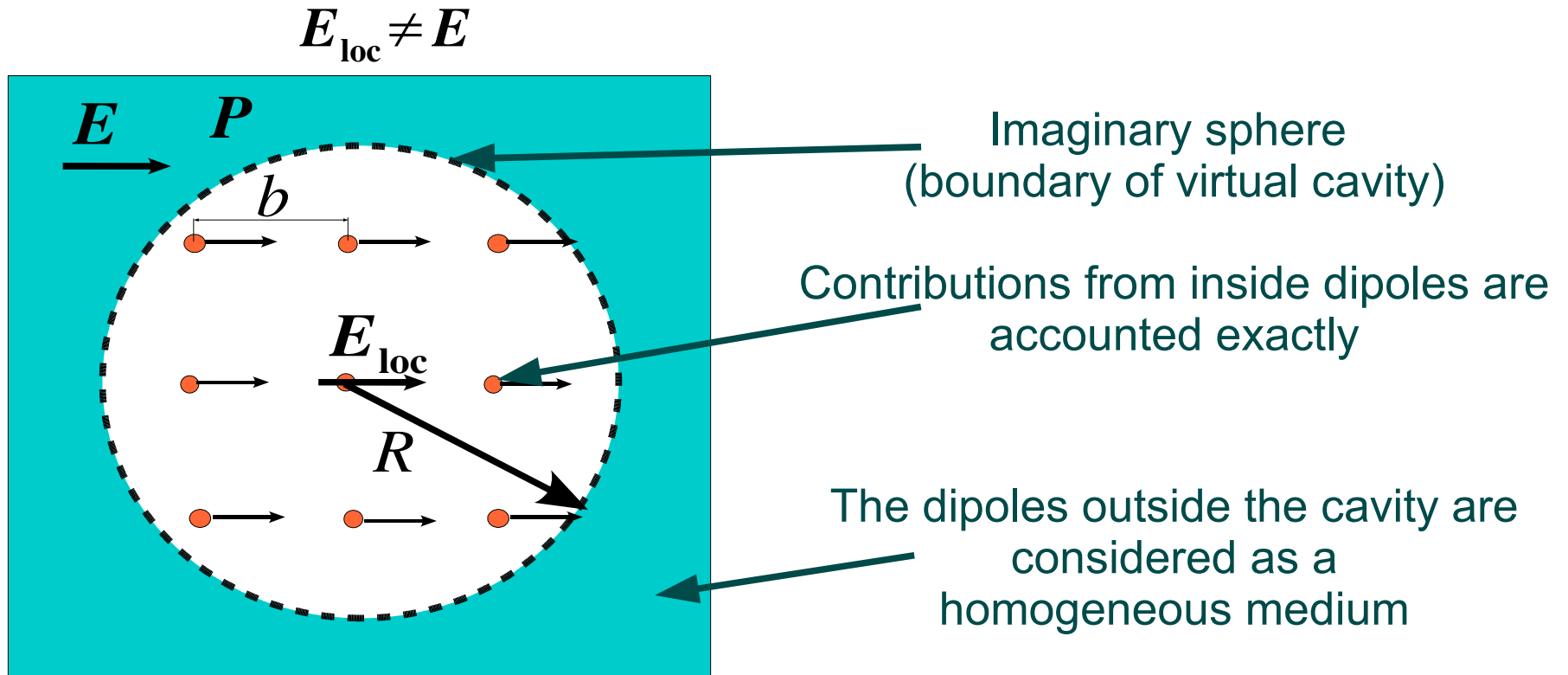
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# Lorentz Local Field



# Lorentz Local Field



$$E_{\text{loc}} = E + \frac{4\pi}{3} P$$

- $E$  is average (macroscopic) field in the medium
- $E_{\text{loc}}$  is the local field acting on a typical emitter
- $P$  is average (macroscopic) polarization

# Lorentz Local Field

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$$\mathbf{E}_{\text{loc}} = \mathbf{E} + \frac{4\pi}{3} \mathbf{P} \quad \text{or} \quad \mathbf{E}_{\text{loc}} = \mathbf{L} \mathbf{E}$$

# Lorentz Local Field

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$$\mathbf{E}_{\text{loc}} = \mathbf{E} + \frac{4\pi}{3} \mathbf{P} \quad \text{or} \quad \mathbf{E}_{\text{loc}} = L \mathbf{E}$$

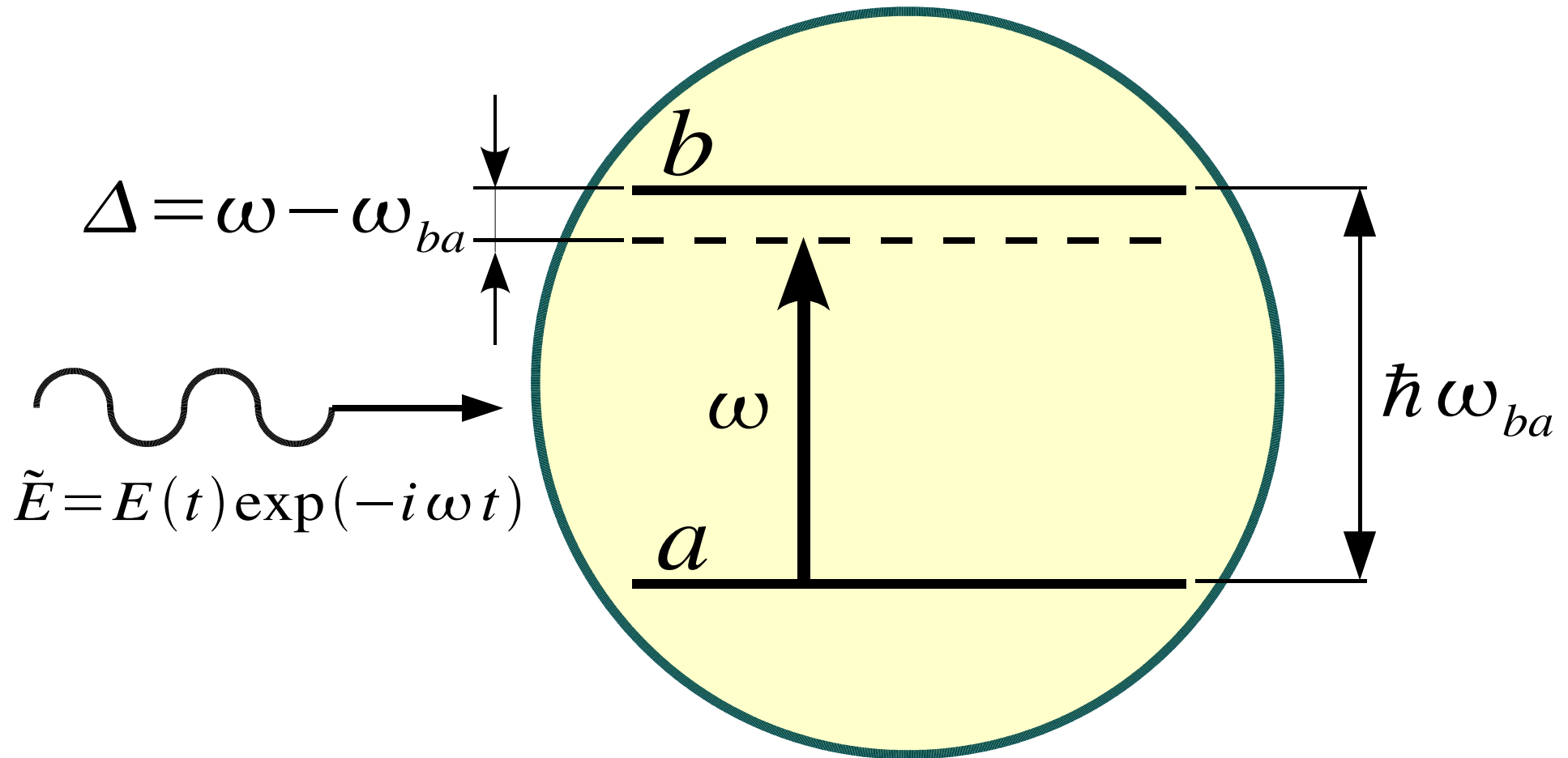
where

$$L = \frac{\epsilon^{(1)} + 2}{3}$$

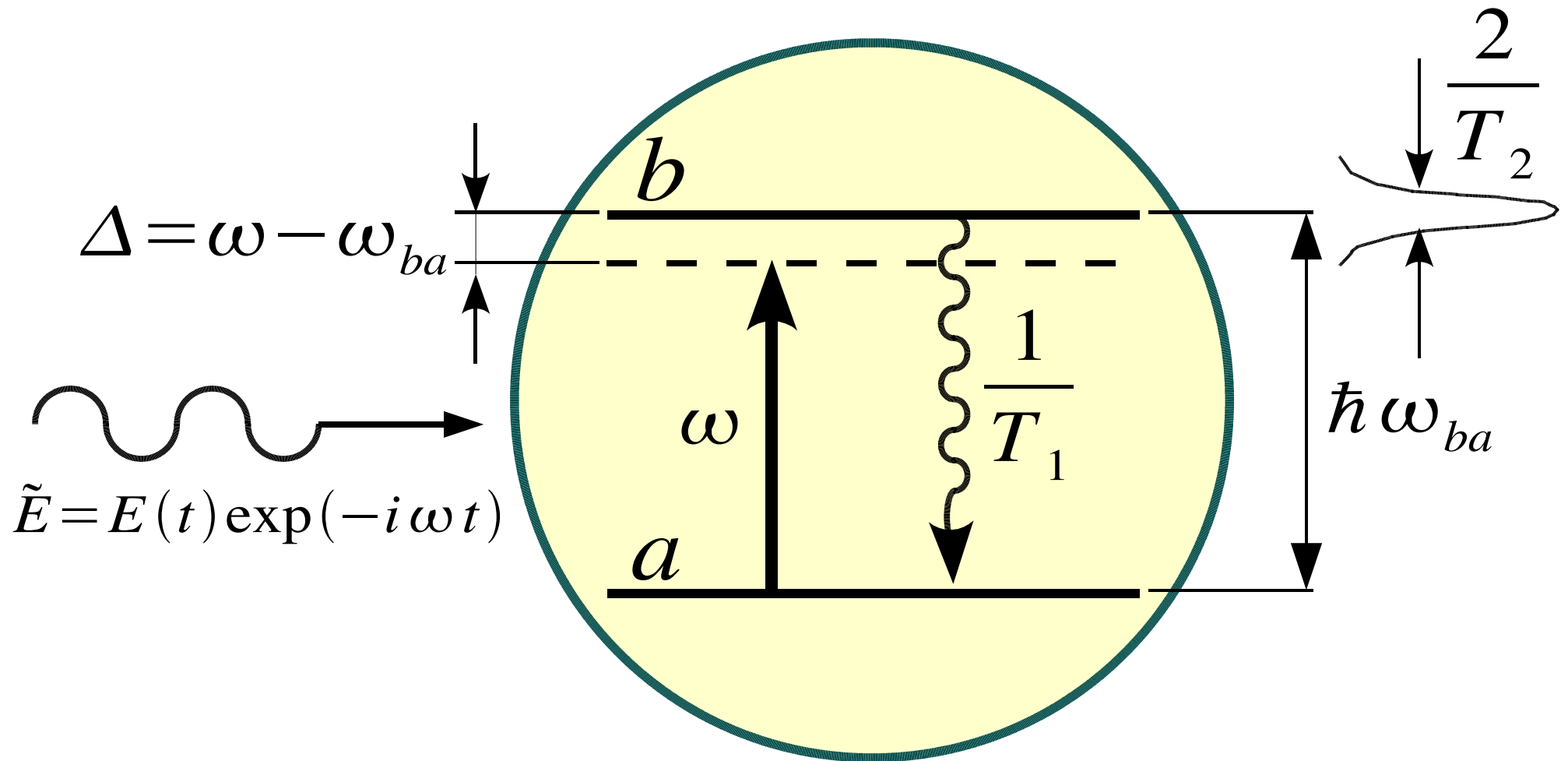
is Lorentz local-field  
correction factor

$\epsilon^{(1)}$  is dielectric permittivity

# Two-Level Atom



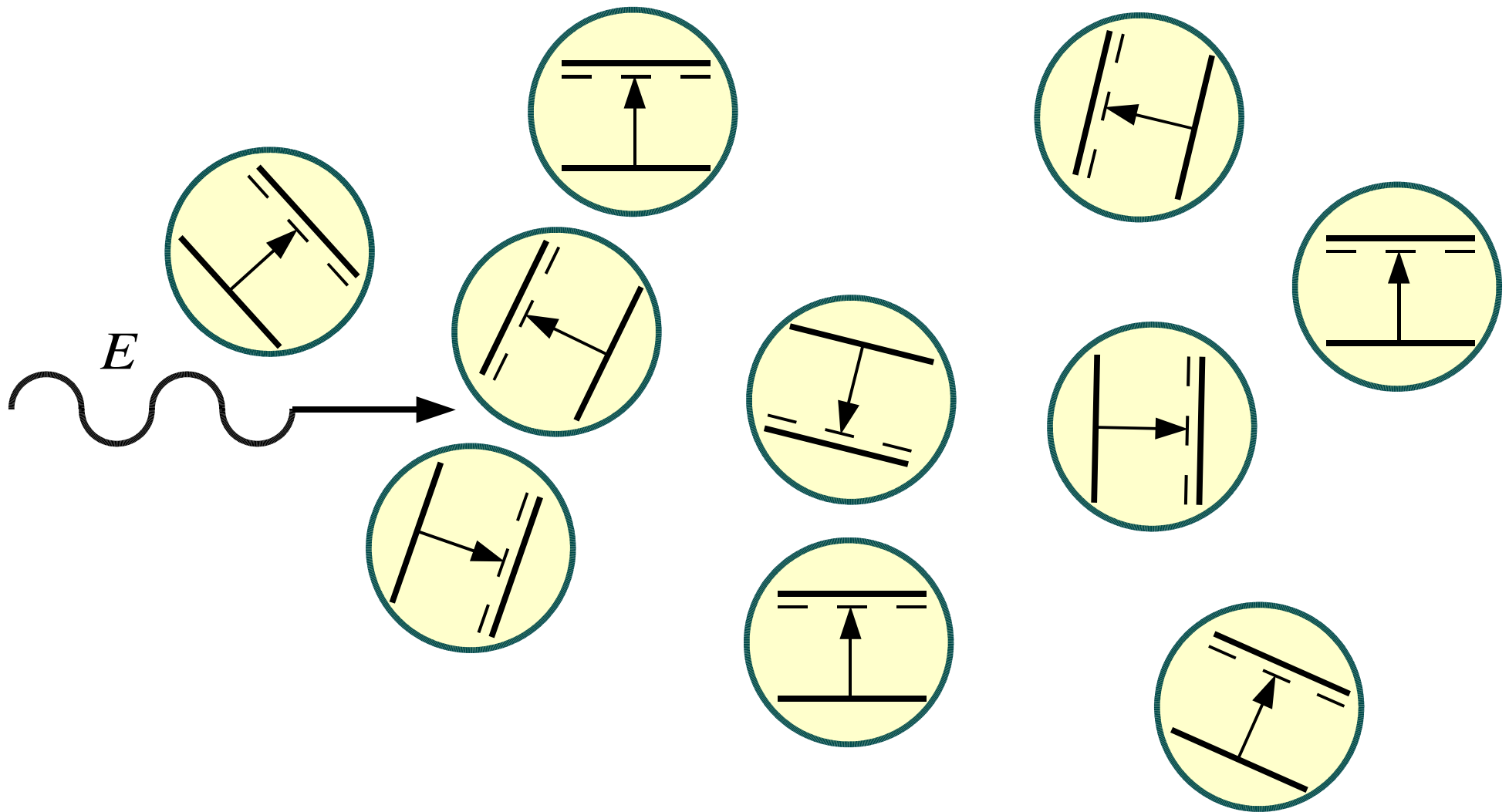
# Two-Level Atom



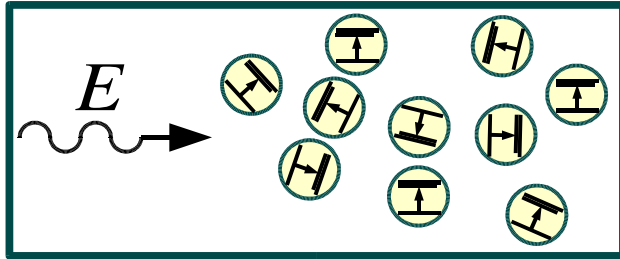


# A Collection of Two-Level Atoms

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# Maxwell-Bloch Equations



$$\dot{\sigma} = \left( i \Delta - \frac{1}{T_2} \right) \sigma - \frac{1}{2} i \kappa E w$$

$$\dot{w} = -\frac{w - w^{\text{eq}}}{T_1} + i \left( \kappa E \sigma^* - \kappa^* E^* \sigma \right)$$

$\sigma$  is coherence

$w$  is population inversion

$w^{\text{eq}}$  is equilibrium population inversion

$\kappa = 2 \mu / \hbar$  is atom-field coupling constant

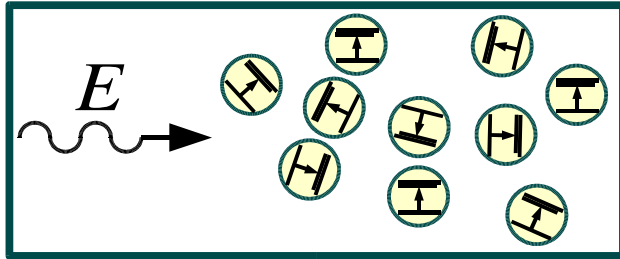
$\Delta$  is detuning

$\mu$  is transition dipole moment

$T_1$  is population relaxation time

$T_2$  is coherence relaxation time

# Maxwell-Bloch Equations

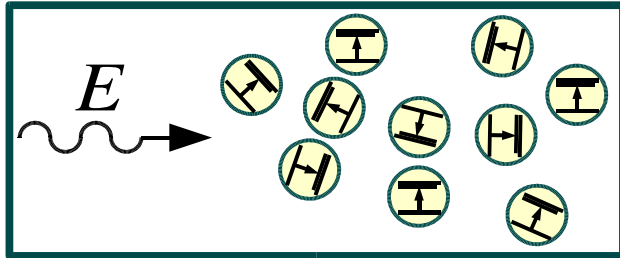


$$E_{\text{loc}} = E + \frac{4\pi}{3} P$$

$$\dot{\sigma} = \left( i\Delta - \frac{1}{T_2} \right) \sigma - \frac{1}{2} i\kappa E_{\text{loc}} w$$

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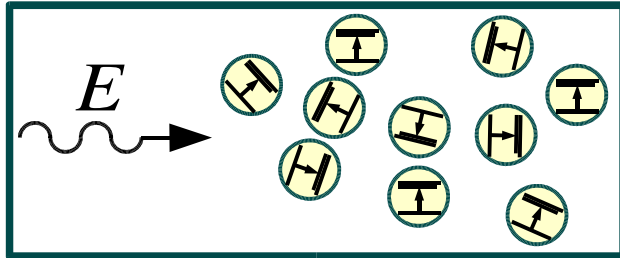
# Steady-State Solutions



$$w = \frac{1}{1 + \frac{|E|^2 / |E_s^0|^2}{1 + T_2^2 (\Delta + \Delta_L w)^2}}$$

$$\sigma = \frac{\mu}{\hbar} \frac{wE}{\Delta + \Delta_L w + i/T_2}$$

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inversion-dependent frequency shift

$$\Delta_L = -\frac{4\pi N |\mu|^2}{3\hbar}$$

Lorentz red shift

# Polarization

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$$P = N \mu^* \sigma$$

# Polarization

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$$P = N \mu^* \sigma = \chi E$$

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Local-field-corrected

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# Susceptibilities

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$$P = \chi E = \chi^{(1)} E + 3 \chi^{(3)} |E|^2 E + 10 \chi^{(5)} |E|^4 E$$

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# LF-Corrected Linear and Nonlinear Susceptibilities

The result:

$$\begin{aligned}\chi^{(1)} &= N \gamma_{\text{at}}^{(1)} L; \\ \chi^{(3)} &= N \gamma_{\text{at}}^{(3)} |L|^2 L^2; \\ \chi^{(5)} &= N \gamma_{\text{at}}^{(5)} |L|^4 L^2 \\ &+ \frac{24\pi}{10} N^2 (\gamma_{\text{at}}^{(3)})^2 |L|^4 L^3 + \frac{12\pi}{10} N^2 |\gamma_{\text{at}}^{(3)}|^2 |L|^6 L.\end{aligned}$$

$\gamma_{\text{at}}^{(1)}$  is microscopic polarizability

$\gamma_{\text{at}}^{(3)}$  and  $\gamma_{\text{at}}^{(5)}$  are 3<sup>rd</sup>- and 5<sup>th</sup>-order hyperpolarizabilities

# LF-Corrected Linear and Nonlinear Susceptibilities

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well-known  $\longrightarrow \chi^{(1)} = N \gamma_{\text{at}}^{(1)} L;$

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J. D. Jackson,  
“Classical  
Electrodynamics”

# LF-Corrected Linear and Nonlinear Susceptibilities

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The result:

well-known  $\longrightarrow \chi^{(1)} = N \gamma_{\text{at}}^{(1)} L;$

nothing  
peculiar  $\longrightarrow \chi^{(3)} = N \gamma_{\text{at}}^{(3)} |L|^2 L^2;$

$$\chi^{(5)} = N \gamma_{\text{at}}^{(5)} |L|^4 L^2$$

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R. W. Boyd,  
"Nonlinear Optics"

$$\chi^{(5)} = N \gamma_{\text{at}}^{(5)} |L|^4 L^2$$

$$+ \frac{24\pi}{10} N^2 (\gamma_{\text{at}}^{(3)})^2 |L|^4 L^3 + \frac{12\pi}{10} N^2 |\gamma_{\text{at}}^{(3)}|^2 |L|^6 L.$$

# LF-Corrected Linear and Nonlinear Susceptibilities

The result:

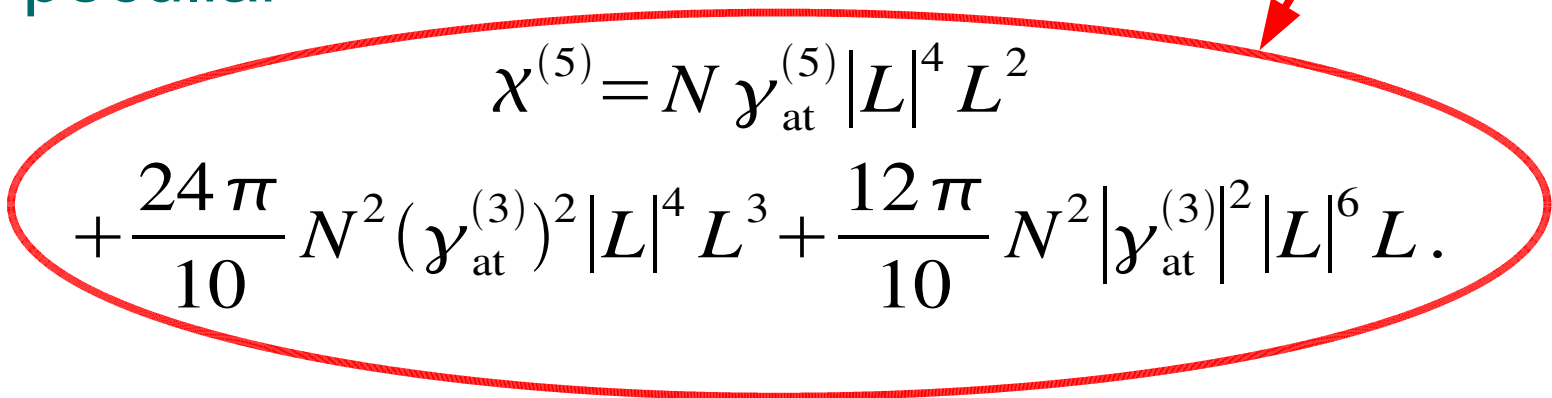
well-known  $\longrightarrow \chi^{(1)} = N \gamma_{\text{at}}^{(1)} L;$

nothing peculiar  $\longrightarrow \chi^{(3)} = N \gamma_{\text{at}}^{(3)} |L|^2 L^2;$

$$\chi^{(5)} = N \gamma_{\text{at}}^{(5)} |L|^4 L^2$$

$$+ \frac{24\pi}{10} N^2 (\gamma_{\text{at}}^{(3)})^2 |L|^4 L^3 + \frac{12\pi}{10} N^2 |\gamma_{\text{at}}^{(3)}|^2 |L|^6 L.$$

deserves attention



# LF-Corrected Degenerate $\chi^{(5)}$ : Direct and Cascaded Contributions

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$$\begin{aligned}\chi^{(5)} = & N \mathcal{Y}_{\text{at}}^{(5)} |L|^4 L^2 \\ & + \frac{24\pi}{10} N^2 (\mathcal{Y}_{\text{at}}^{(3)})^2 |L|^4 L^3 + \frac{12\pi}{10} N^2 |\mathcal{Y}_{\text{at}}^{(3)}|^2 |L|^6 L.\end{aligned}$$

# LF-Corrected Degenerate $\chi^{(5)}$ : Direct and Cascaded Contributions

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“direct” contribution from fifth-order  
hyperpolarizability  $\chi_{\text{at}}^{(5)}$

$$\chi^{(5)} = N \chi_{\text{at}}^{(5)} |L|^4 L^2 + \frac{24\pi}{10} N^2 (\chi_{\text{at}}^{(3)})^2 |L|^4 L^3 + \frac{12\pi}{10} N^2 |\chi_{\text{at}}^{(3)}|^2 |L|^6 L.$$

# LF-Corrected Degenerate $\chi^{(5)}$ : Direct and Cascaded Contributions

“direct” contribution from fifth-order hyperpolarizability  $\gamma_{\text{at}}^{(5)}$

$$\chi^{(5)} = N \gamma_{\text{at}}^{(5)} |L|^4 L^2 + \frac{24\pi}{10} N^2 (\gamma_{\text{at}}^{(3)})^2 |L|^4 L^3 + \frac{12\pi}{10} N^2 |\gamma_{\text{at}}^{(3)}|^2 |L|^6 L.$$

“cascaded” contributions from third-order hyperpolarizability  $\gamma_{\text{at}}^{(3)}$

# LF-Corrected Degenerate $\chi^{(5)}$ : Direct and Cascaded Contributions

---

$$\chi_{\text{direct}}^{(5)} = N \mathcal{Y}_{\text{at}}^{(5)} |L|^4 L^2 \quad \text{scales as 6}^{\text{th}} \text{ power of factor } L.$$

$$\begin{aligned} \chi_{\text{cascaded}}^{(5)} &= \frac{24\pi}{10} N^2 (\mathcal{Y}_{\text{at}}^{(3)})^2 |L|^4 L^3 \\ &+ \frac{12\pi}{10} N^2 |\mathcal{Y}_{\text{at}}^{(3)}|^2 |L|^6 L \end{aligned} \quad \text{scales as 7}^{\text{th}} \text{ power of factor } L.$$

# LF-Corrected Degenerate $\chi^{(5)}$ : Direct and Cascaded Contributions

$$\chi_{\text{direct}}^{(5)} = N \mathcal{Y}_{\text{at}}^{(5)} |L|^4 L^2 \quad \text{scales as 6}^{\text{th}} \text{ power of factor } L.$$

How significant?

$$\chi_{\text{cascaded}}^{(5)} = \frac{24\pi}{10} N^2 (\mathcal{Y}_{\text{at}}^{(3)})^2 |L|^4 L^3 + \frac{12\pi}{10} N^2 |\mathcal{Y}_{\text{at}}^{(3)}|^2 |L|^6 L$$

scales as 7<sup>th</sup> power of factor  $L$ .

# Example System

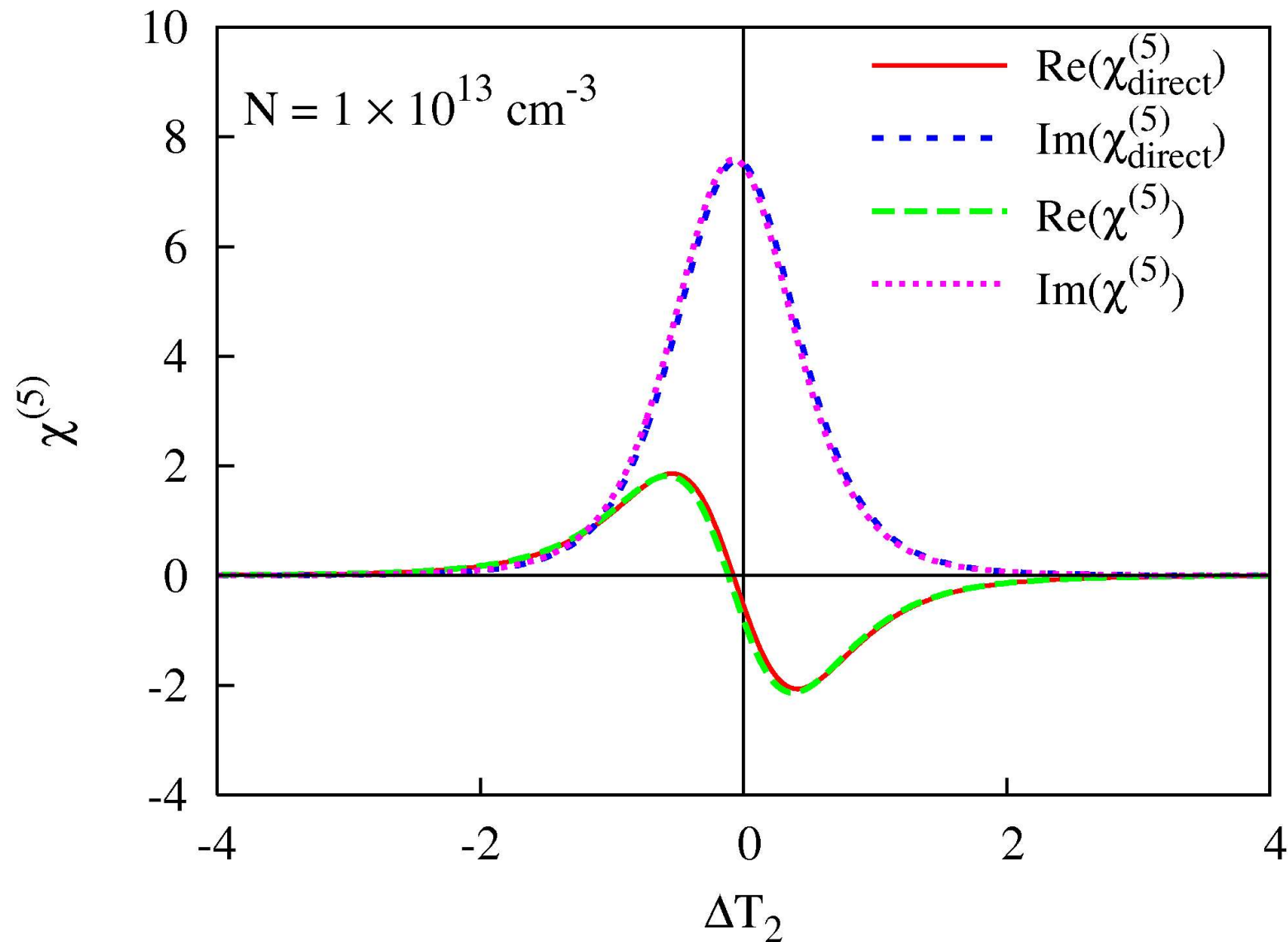
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Consider sodium  $3s \rightarrow 3p$  transition:

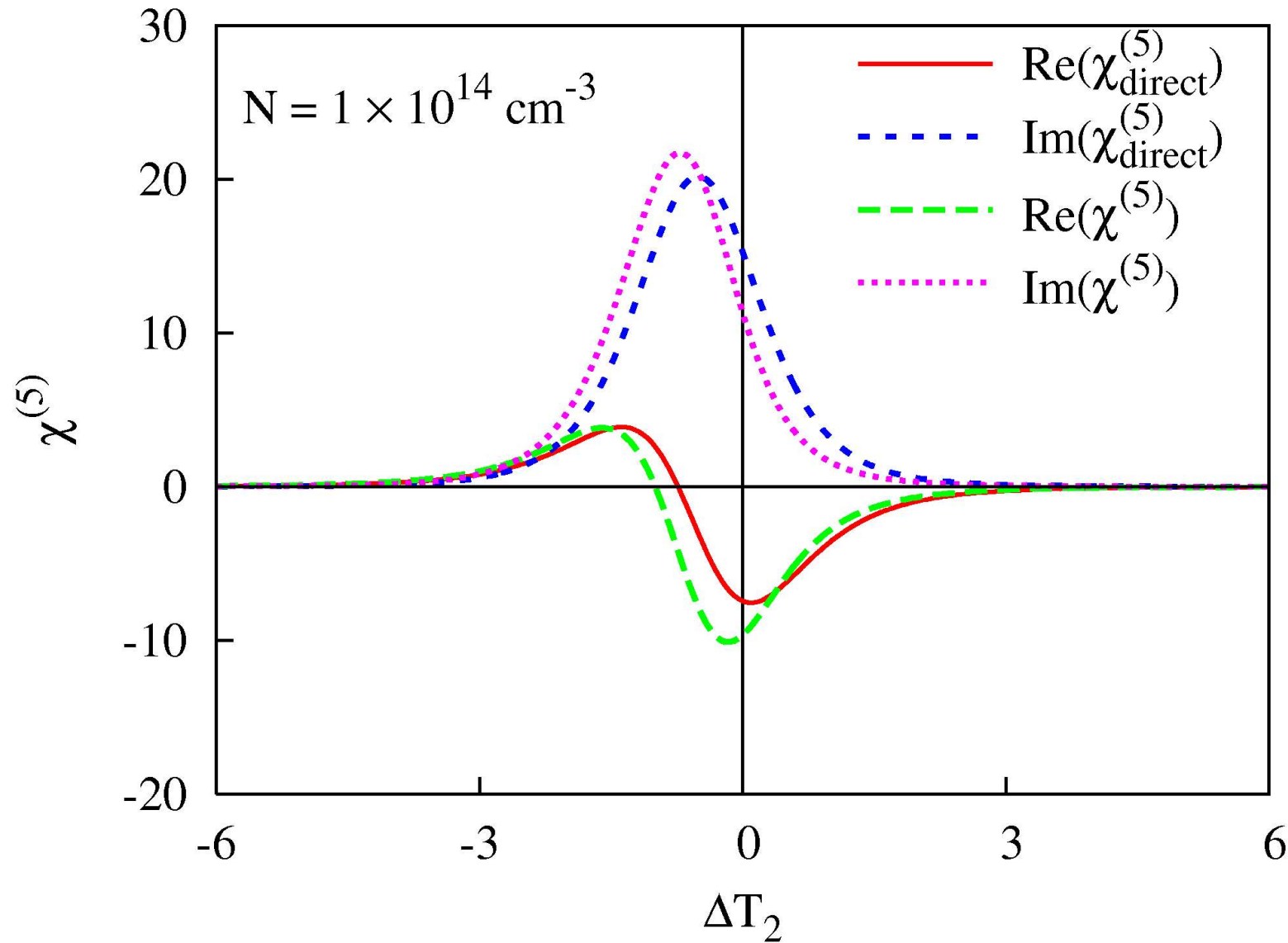
- The dipole moment  $|\mu| = 5.5 \times 10^{-18}$  esu
- Population relaxation time  $T_1 = 16$  ns
- Atomic density range  $N = 10^{13} - 10^{17}$  cm<sup>-3</sup>



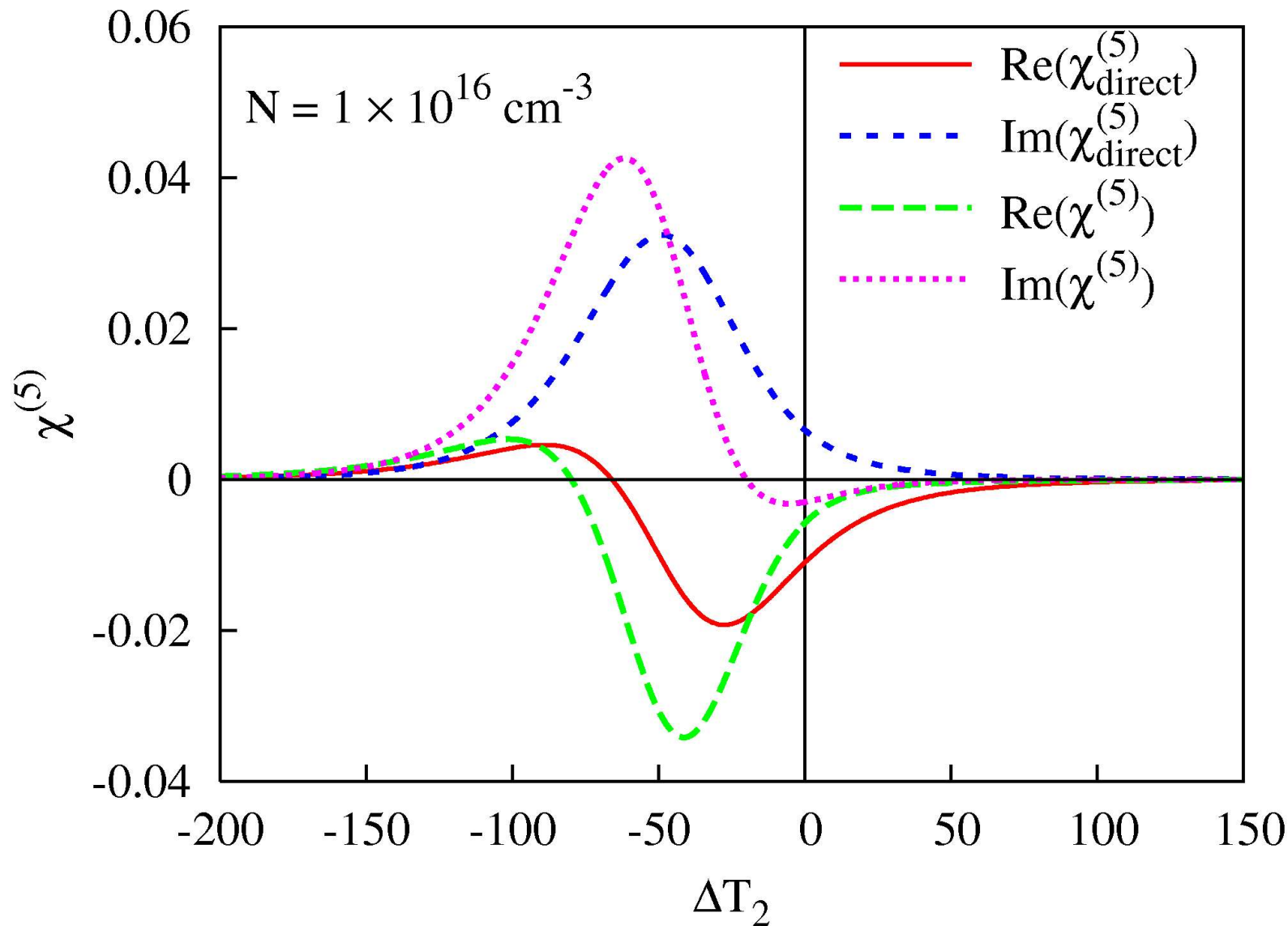
# Direct and Cascaded Contributions: Comparison



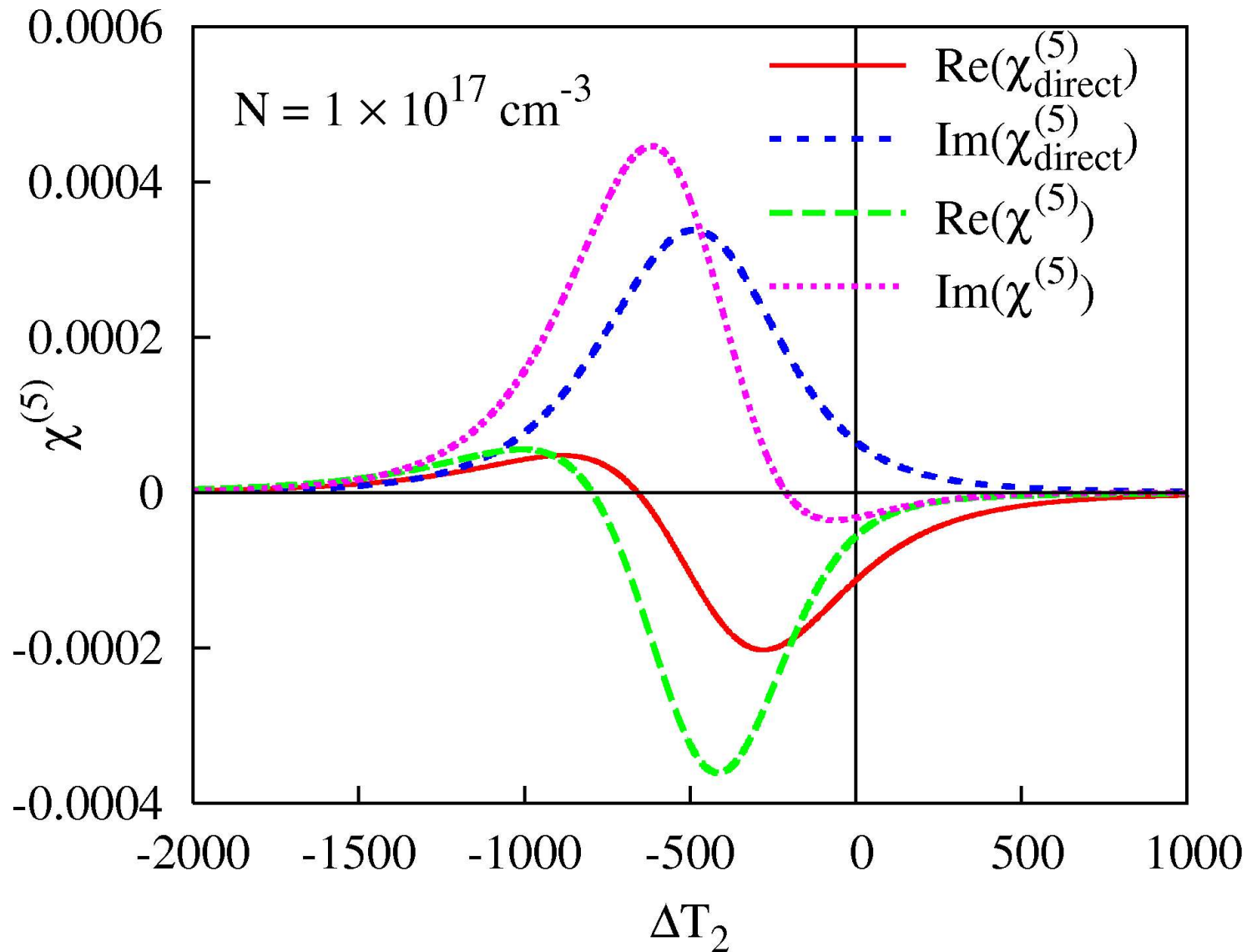
# Direct and Cascaded Contributions: Comparison



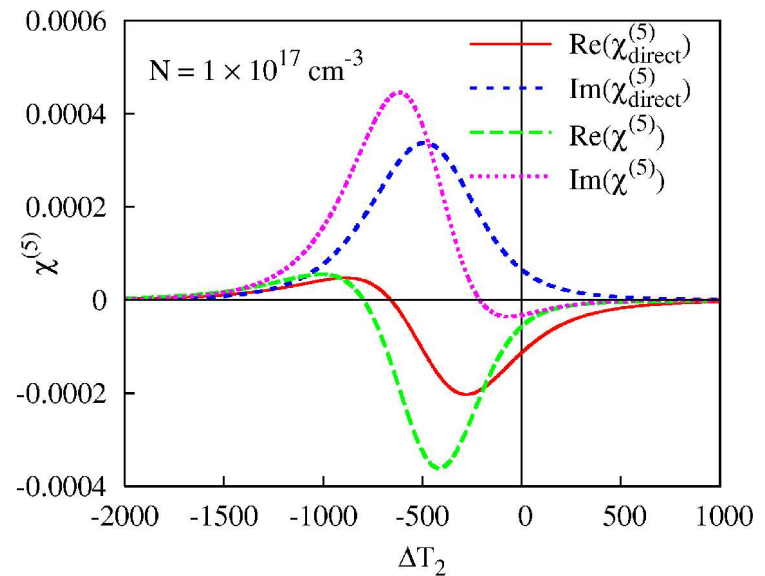
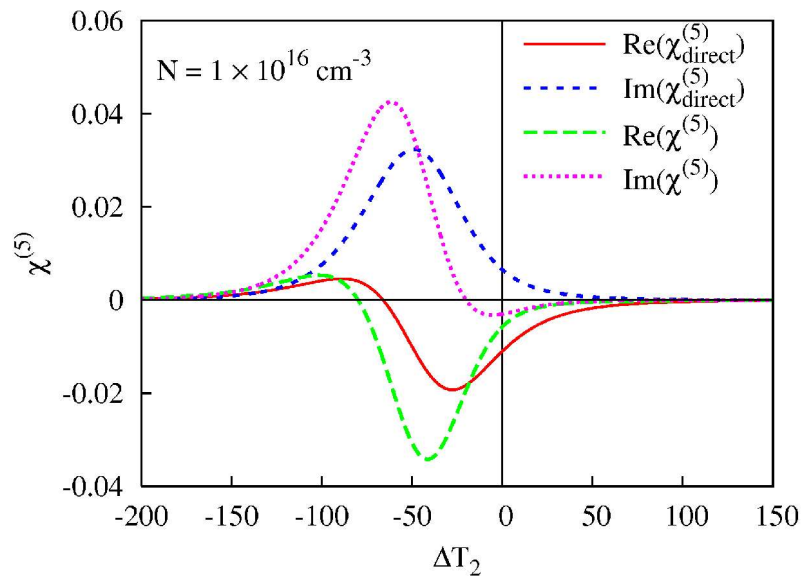
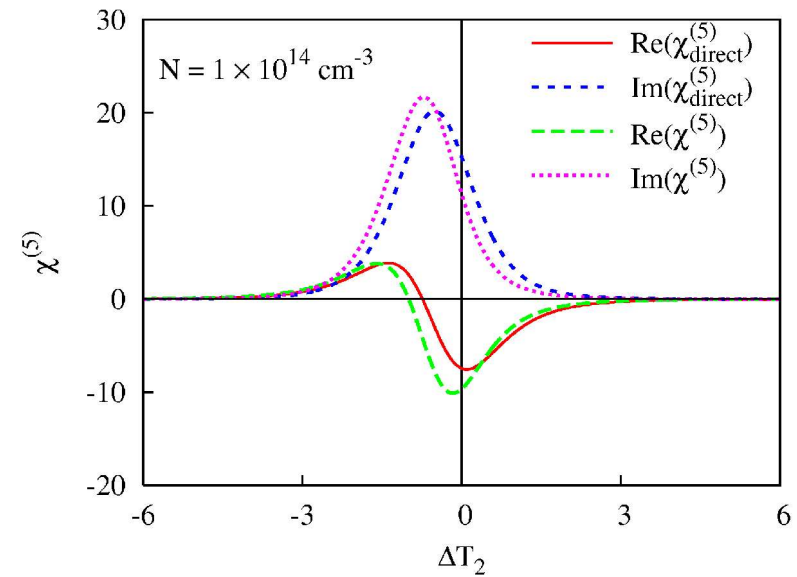
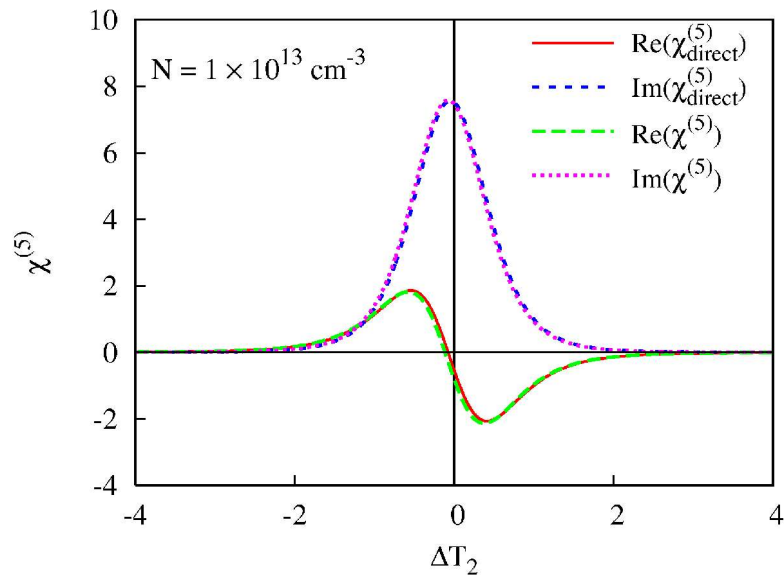
# Direct and Cascaded Contributions: Comparison



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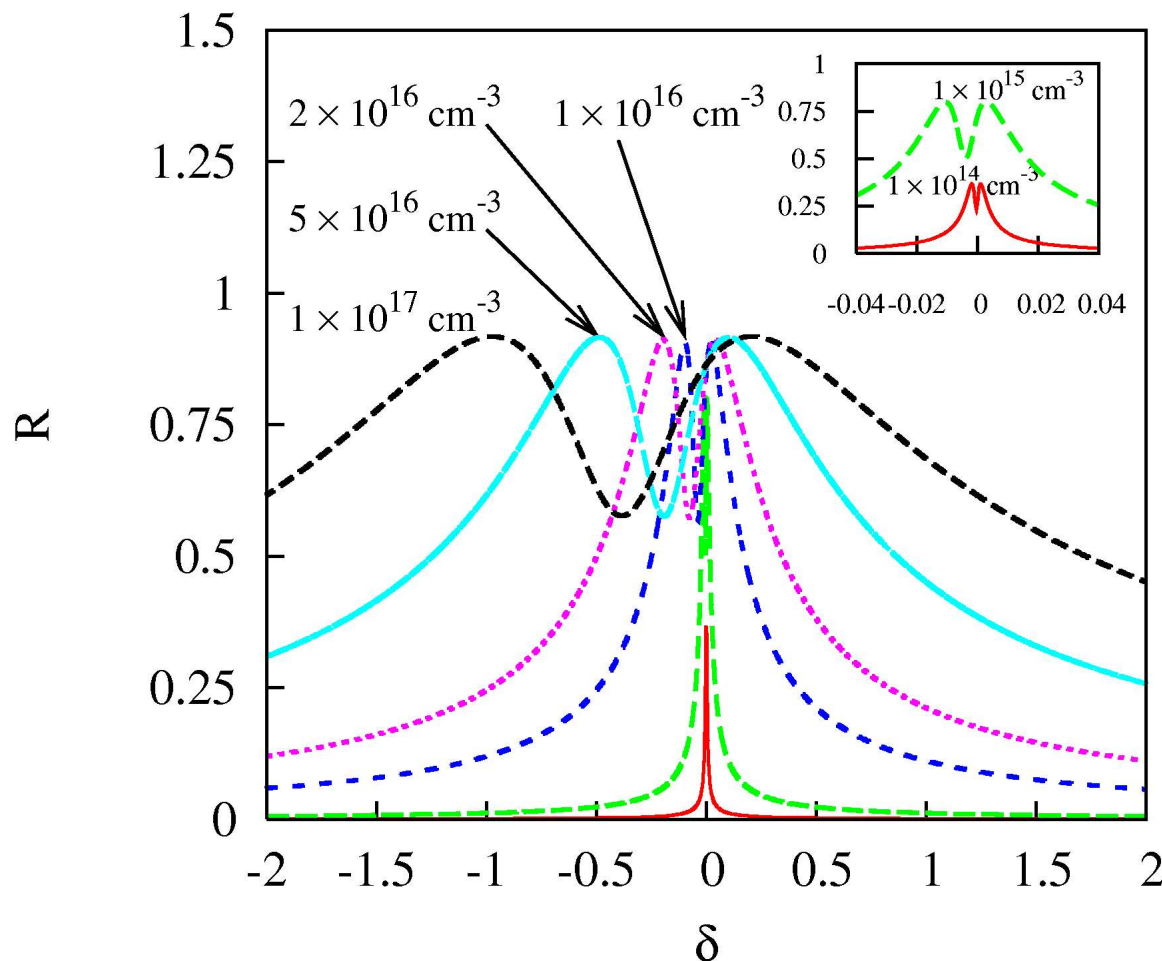


# Direct and Cascaded Contributions: Comparison



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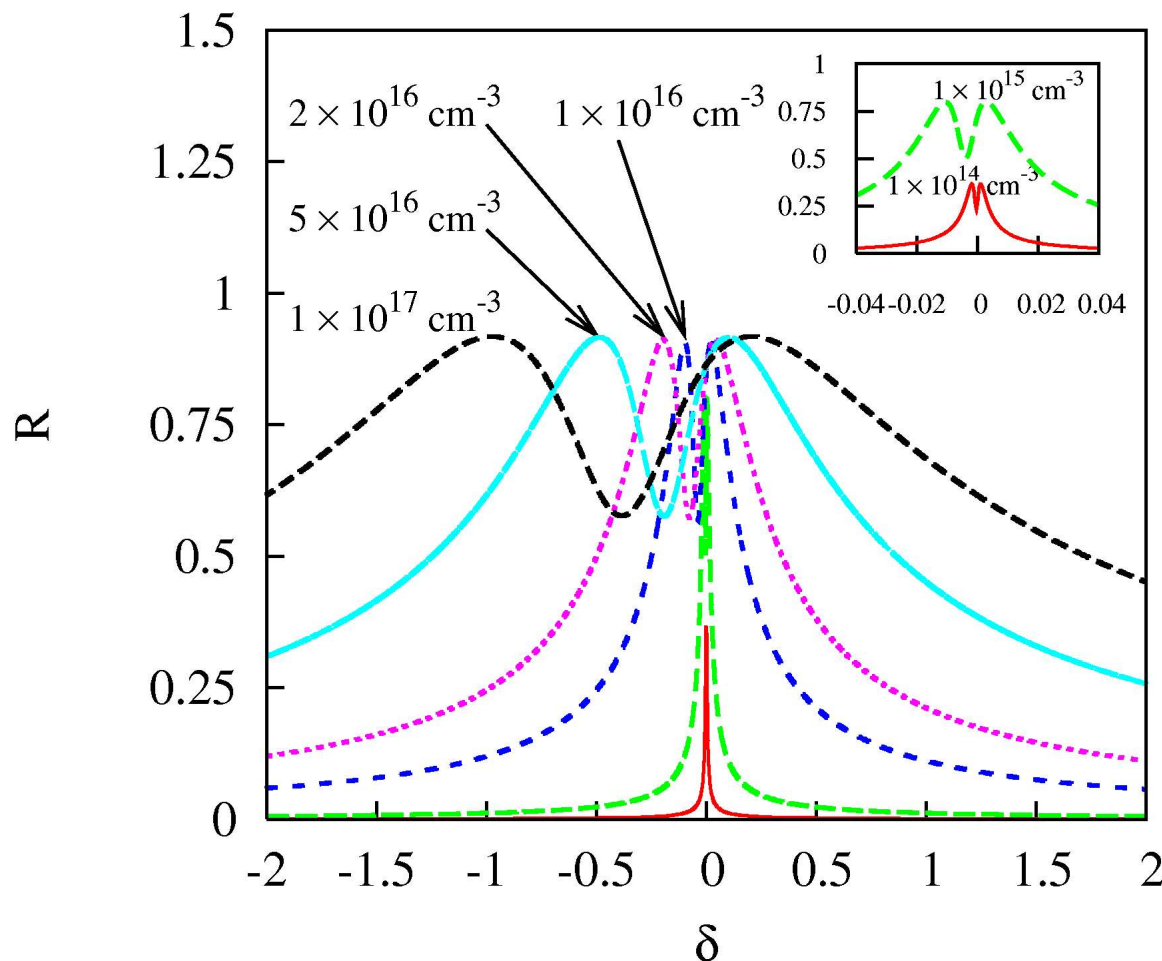
Ratio of absolute values of the contributions as a function of the normalized detuning and atomic density



$$R = \frac{|\chi_{\text{cascaded}}^{(5)}|}{|\chi_{\text{direct}}^{(5)}|}$$

# Direct and Cascaded Contributions: Comparison

Ratio of absolute values of the contributions as a function of the normalized detuning and atomic density



$$R = \frac{|\chi^{(5)}_{\text{cascaded}}|}{|\chi^{(5)}_{\text{direct}}|}$$

Under certain conditions, the cascaded contribution can be as large as the direct contribution.

# Conclusions

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- Microscopic cascading is possible due to local-field-induced contributions of lower-order nonlinearities to higher-order nonlinearities.
- We demonstrated it based on Maxwell-Bloch equations for a collection of two-level atoms.
- We demonstrated that the cascaded contribution to  $\chi^{(5)}$  can be as large as the direct contribution.
- Experiment is in progress to verify the theory.



# Acknowledgments

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- Dr. Sergei Volkov for valuable discussion
- Prof. Boyd's research group

