

# Reactive helicity and reactive power in nanoscale optics

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Nanolight Conference  
Benasque, March 2022





**To the memory of Prof. Juan José Sáenz**

## Thanks to my young collaborator:



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## Record:

### THE REACTIVE POWER IS A CLASSIC CONCEPT IN ANTENNA THEORY

W. Geyi and P. Jarmuszewski, The foster reactance theorem for antennas and radiation Q, [IEEE Trans. Antenn. Propag.](#) **48**, 401 (2000); W. Geyi, *Foundations of Applied Electrodynamics* (J. Wiley, New York, 2010). Sec. 4.4.1.

### WHAT ABOUT AS REGARDS TO THE HELICITY?:

Bliokh, Kivshar, Nori, PRL 113, 033601 (2014) introduce the term: “Magnetolectric energy”. No physical meaning nor physical law provided. No mention of any reactive property.

Kamenetskii, Berezin, Shavit, Appl. Phys. B, 2015, introduce the term: “Real helicity”. No physical meaning nor physical law provided. No mention of any reactive property.

## WHAT ABOUT NANOANTENNAS?:

A study of reactive quantities: **reactive power** and **reactive helicity** aims to **controlling** dynamic effects (optical forces) in the near-field, and resonances of re-emitted (scattered) energy and helicity.

PHYSICAL REVIEW RESEARCH **3**, 043080 (2021)

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### **Reactive helicity and reactive power in nanoscale optics: Evanescent waves. Kerker conditions. Optical theorems and reactive dichroism**

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(Received 17 June 2021; accepted 6 October 2021; published 28 October 2021)

# The Physics of the Reactive Power

Time-harmonic fields

The fundamentals of antenna theory:

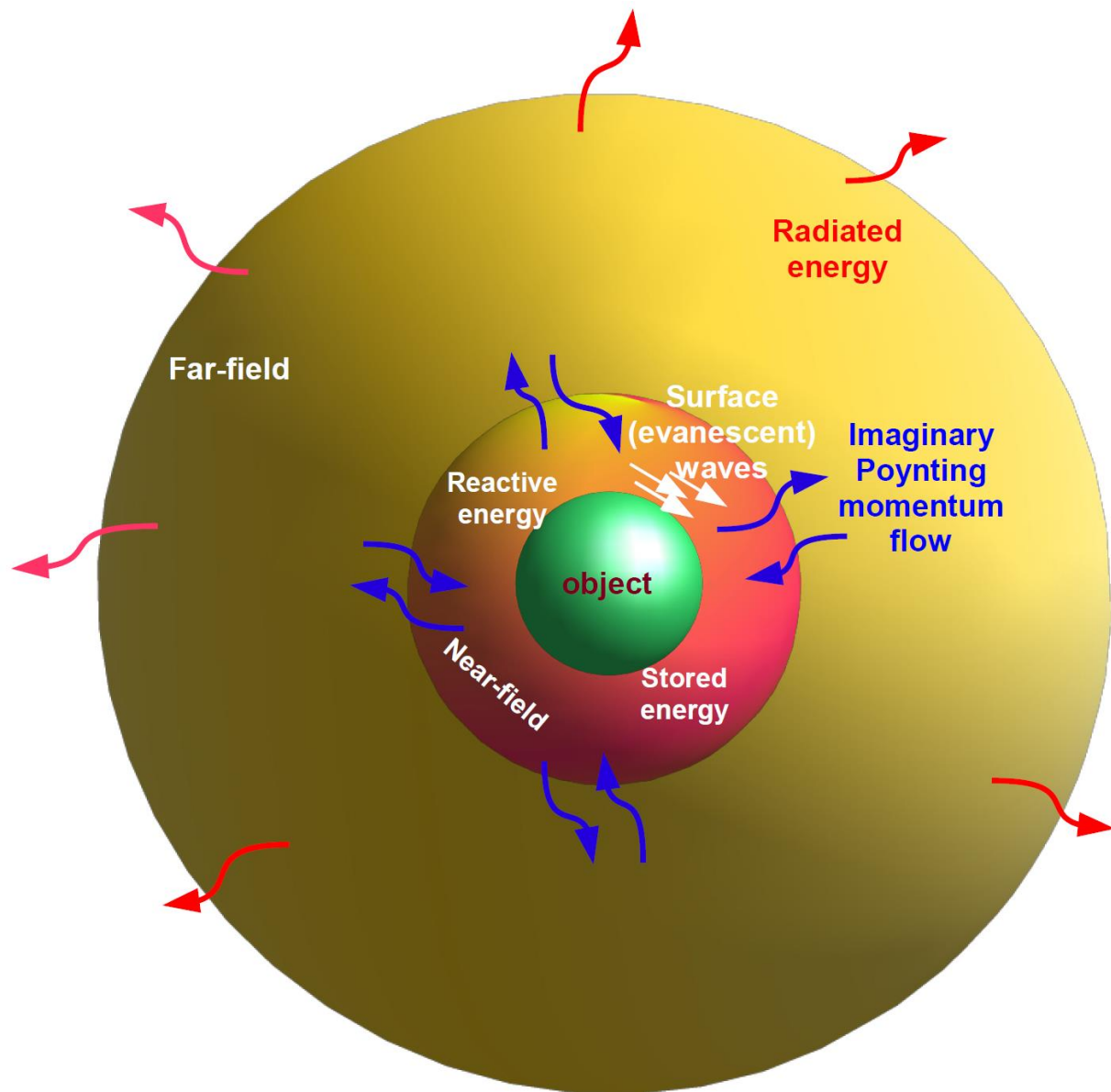
**The complex Poynting theorem:**

$$\int_V \left[ \frac{1}{2} \mathbf{j}^* \cdot \mathbf{E} + \nabla \cdot \mathbf{S} \right] d^3r = i2\omega \int_V (\langle w_m \rangle - \langle w_e \rangle) d^3r$$

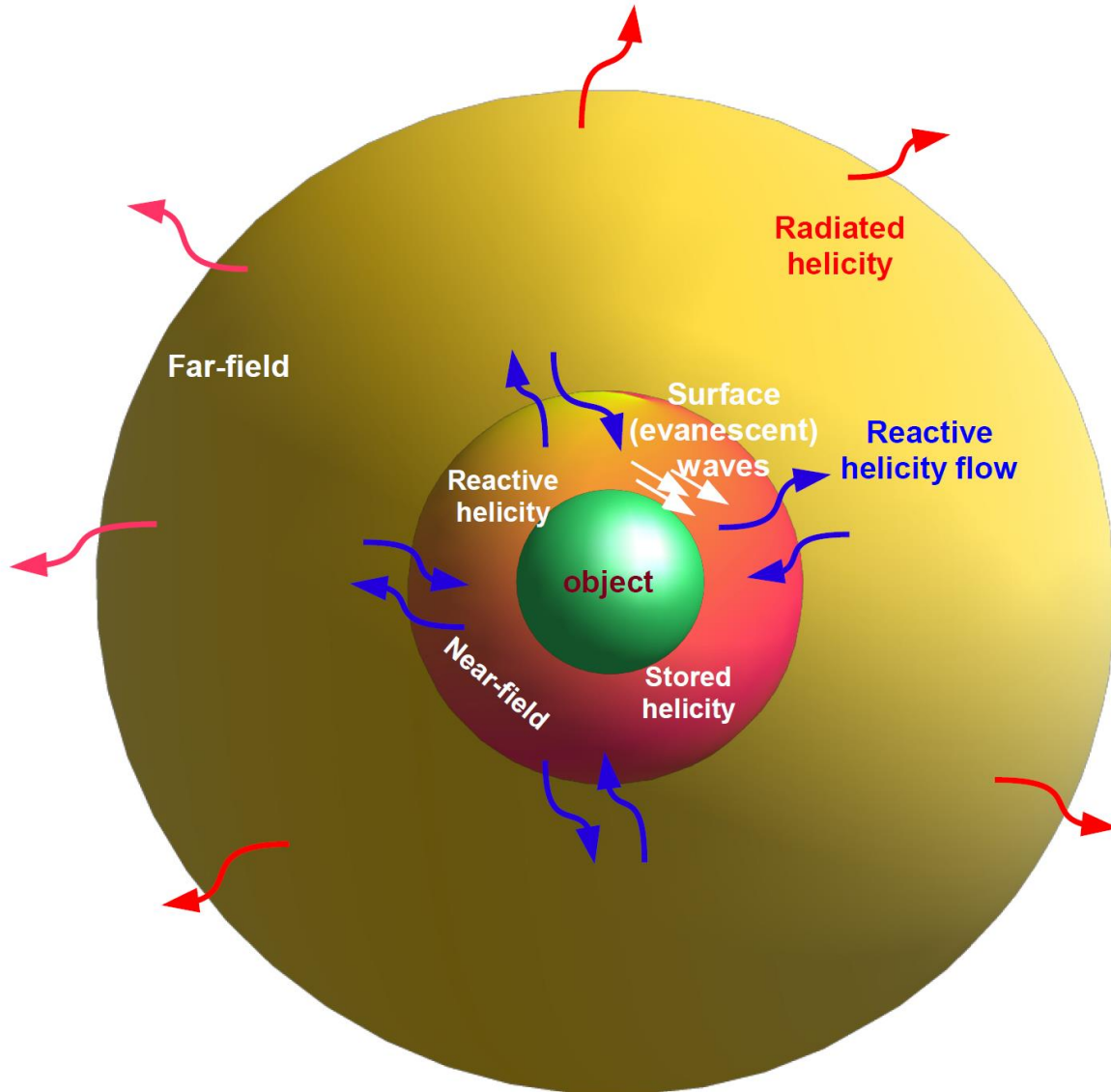
$\text{Im}\{\mathbf{S}\}$  is the **reactive (imaginary) Poynting vector**. It alternates back and forth from the scattering object at  $2\omega$  building-up reactive power:  
 $2\omega (\langle w_m \rangle - \langle w_e \rangle)$

$$\mathbf{S}(\mathbf{r}) = \frac{c}{8\pi\mu} \mathbf{E}(\mathbf{r}) \times \mathbf{B}^*(\mathbf{r}),$$

$$\langle w_e(\mathbf{r}) \rangle = \frac{\epsilon}{16\pi} |\mathbf{E}(\mathbf{r})|^2, \quad \langle w_m(\mathbf{r}) \rangle = \frac{1}{16\pi\mu} |\mathbf{B}(\mathbf{r})|^2.$$



# The Physics of the Reactive Helicity



Time-harmonic fields

What about helicity theory?:

MN-V & X. Xu, , PRR 3, 043080 (2021)

We establish the Reactive Helicity theorem:

$$\int_V \left[ -\frac{2\pi}{kn} \text{Im}\{\mathbf{j}^* \cdot \mathbf{B}\} + \nabla \cdot \mathcal{F}_{\mathcal{H}_R} \right] d^3r = 2\omega \int_V \mathcal{H}_R d^3r$$

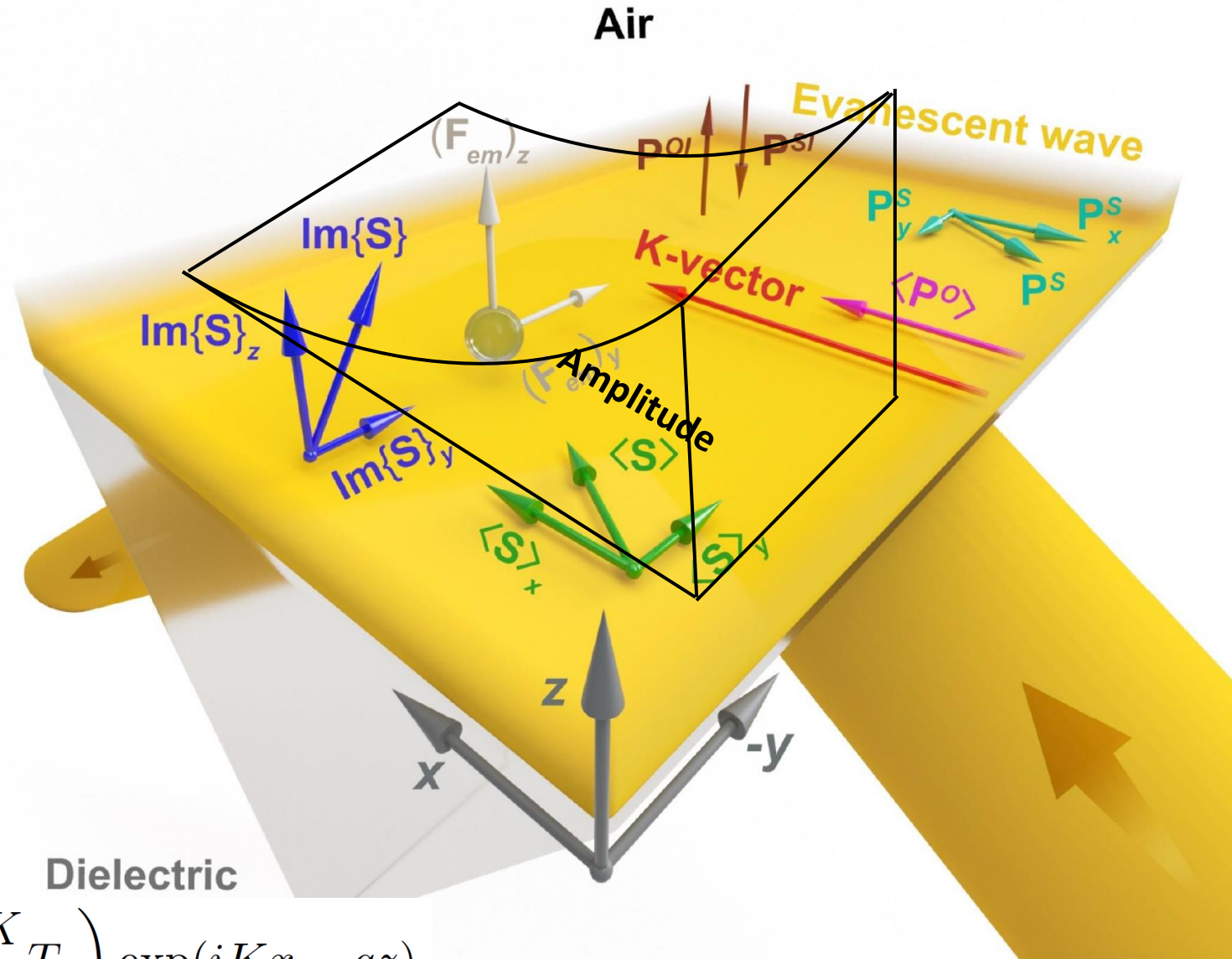
$$\begin{aligned} \mathcal{F}_{\mathcal{H}_R} &= \mathcal{F}_B - \mathcal{F}_E = (c/4kn) \Im\{\mathbf{H}^* \times \mathbf{B} - \mathbf{E}^* \times \mathbf{D}\} \\ &= \frac{2\pi c^2}{n} (\langle \mathcal{S}_m \rangle - \langle \mathcal{S}_e \rangle). \quad (\text{Spin angular momenta}) \end{aligned}$$

$\mathcal{F}_{\mathcal{H}_R}$  alternates back and forth from the scattering object at  $2\omega$  building-up the reactive helicity:

$$\mathcal{H}_R(\mathbf{r}) = (1/2k) \sqrt{\frac{\epsilon}{\mu}} \text{Re}\{\mathbf{E}(\mathbf{r}) \cdot \mathbf{B}^*(\mathbf{r})\}$$

# EVANESCENT WAVE BY T.I.R.

## REACTIVE QUANTITIES



$$\mathbf{E} = \left( -\frac{iq}{k}T_{\parallel}, T_{\perp}, \frac{K}{k}T_{\parallel} \right) \exp(iKx - qz),$$

$$\mathbf{B} = n \left( -\frac{iq}{k}T_{\perp}, -T_{\parallel}, \frac{K}{k}T_{\perp} \right) \times \exp(iKx - qz).$$

$$k(\mathbf{s}_{xy}, s_z) = (K, 0, iq), \quad q = \sqrt{K^2 - k^2}, \quad k^2 = K^2 - q^2.$$



## Reactive quantities:

### EVANESCENT WAVE BY T.I.R.

$$w_{react} = \frac{c}{4\pi} \frac{q^2}{k} (|T_{\perp}|^2 - |T_{\parallel}|^2) \exp(-2qz).$$

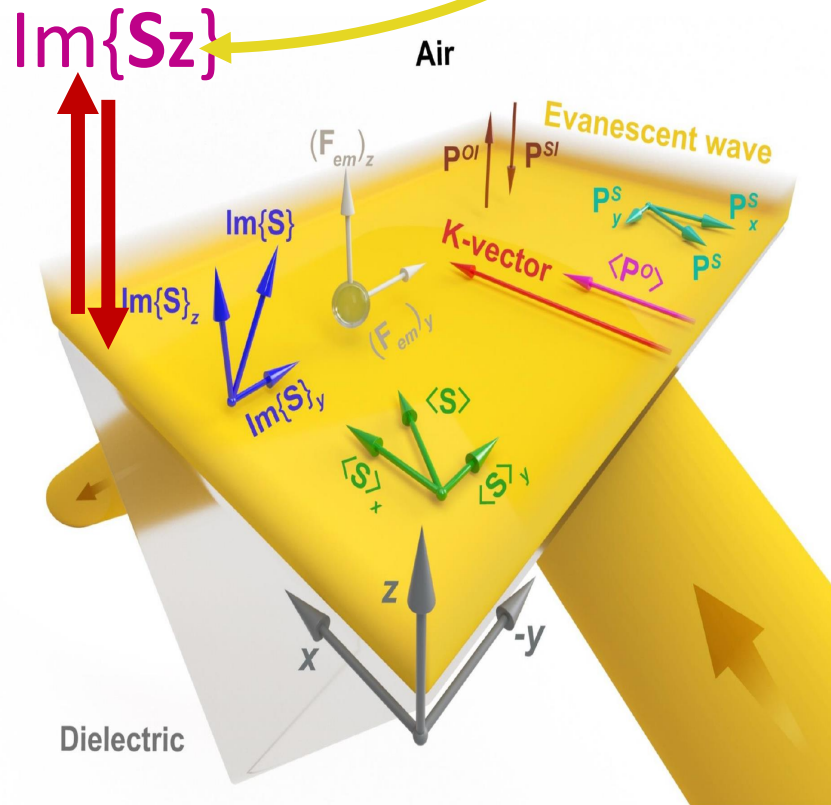
$$\mathcal{H}_{\mathcal{R}} = (q^2/k^3) \Re\{T_{\perp} T_{\parallel}^*\} \exp(-2qz).$$

## Reactive Poynting vector and Reactive Momentum:

$$Im\{\mathbf{S}\} = \frac{1}{2q} \left[ 0, \frac{ckK}{2\pi} \mathcal{H}_{\mathcal{R}}, -w_{react} \right].$$

$$\mathbf{g}^I = Im\{\mathbf{g}\} = Im\{\mathbf{S}\}/c^2$$

# Reactive power conservation:



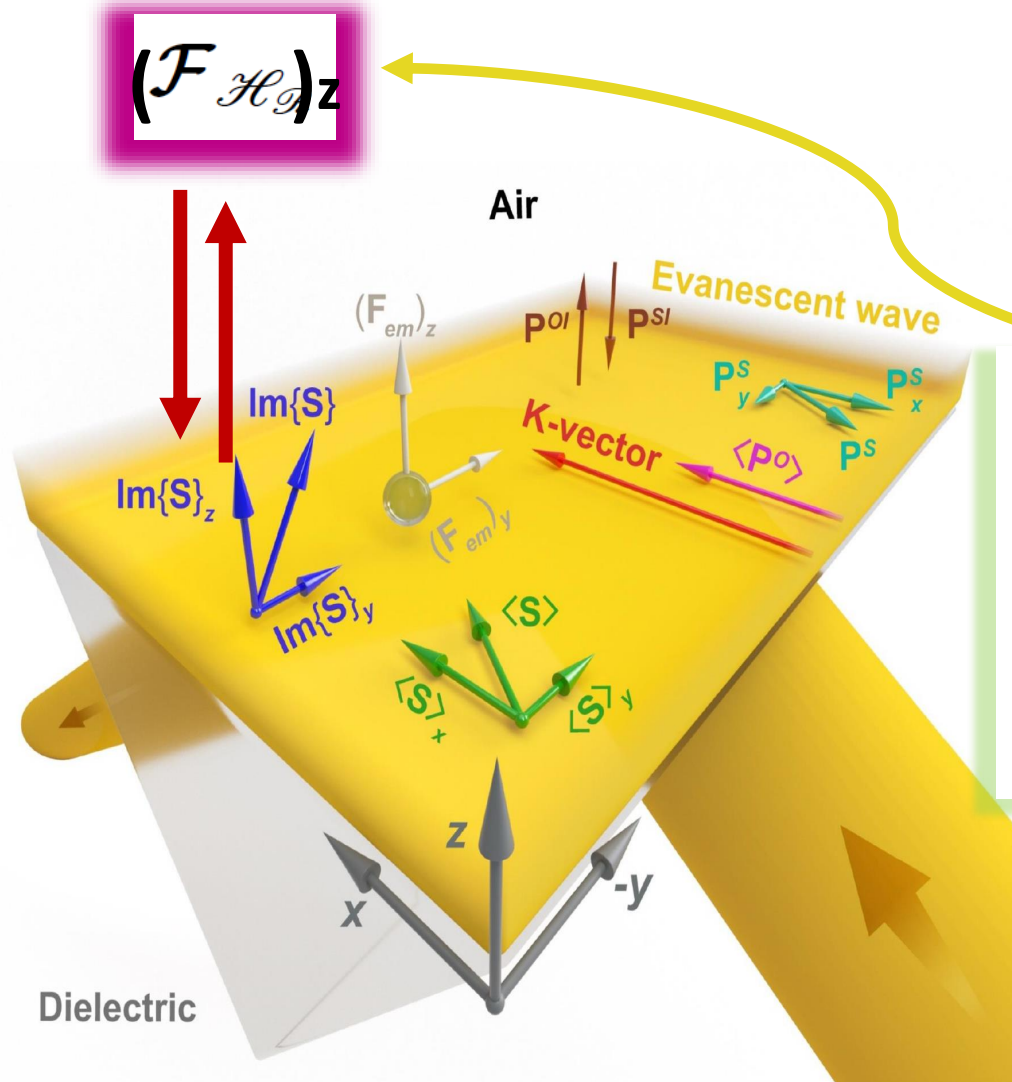
The  $z$ -component of  $\text{Im}\{\mathbf{S}\}$  depends on the reactive power density,  $\nabla \cdot \text{Im}\{\mathbf{S}\}$ , of the evanescent wave in the half-space  $z > 0$ , (which actually concentrates in the near field region above the interface  $z = 0$ , namely at  $z \ll \lambda$ ), flowing back and forth along  $OZ$  at twice the frequency  $\omega$ , without contributing to a net energy flow since its time-average is zero. I.e. one has from the CPV theorem:

$$\begin{aligned} \nabla \cdot \text{Im}\{\mathbf{S}\} &\equiv \partial_z \text{Im}\{S_z\} = w_{\text{react}} \\ &\equiv -2q \text{Im}\{S_z\} \end{aligned}$$

# EVANESCENT WAVE BY T.I.R.

## Reactive helicity conservation:

### Reactive helicity flow:



$$\mathcal{F}_{\mathcal{H}_R} = -\frac{1}{q} \left[ 0, \frac{2\pi K}{k^2} w_{react}, ck\mathcal{H}_R \right].$$

the  $z$ -component of  $\mathcal{F}_{\mathcal{H}_R}$  depends on the reactive helicity density,  $\nabla \cdot \mathcal{F}_{\mathcal{H}_R}$ , of the evanescent wave in the half-space  $z > 0$ , concentrated in the near field on  $z = 0$ , flowing up and down in the  $z$ -direction without yielding a net flow since its time-average is zero.

$$\nabla \cdot \mathcal{F}_{\mathcal{H}_R} \equiv \partial_z \mathcal{F} = -2q(\mathcal{F}_{\mathcal{H}_R})_z \equiv 2\omega \mathcal{H}_R.$$

**REACTIVE  
QUANTITIES**

$g^I$  whose components come from two vectors that we put forward next: *the density of both reactive spin momentum  $\mathcal{P}^S$  and reactive orbital momentum  $\mathcal{P}^O$ :*

$$\mathcal{P}^S = \frac{1}{2}(\mathbf{P}_m^{SI} - \mathbf{P}_e^{SI}) = \frac{K}{2cq} \left( 0, \frac{k}{2\pi} \mathcal{H}_{\mathcal{R}}, -\frac{K}{ck^2} w_{react} \right),$$

Superscript  $I$  is imaginary part

$$\mathcal{P}^O = \frac{1}{2}(\mathbf{P}_m^{OI} - \mathbf{P}_e^{OI}) = \frac{q}{2cq} \left( 0, 0, \frac{q}{ck^2} w_{react} \right). \quad (25)$$

$\mathcal{P}^S$  and  $\mathcal{P}^O$  are **the spin and orbital**, electric or magnetic, momenta  
Namely,

$$\mathbf{g}^I = \mathcal{P}^S + \mathcal{P}^O. \quad (26)$$

We emphasize that  $g_y^I$  is fully due to  $\mathcal{P}_y^S$ , while  $g_z^I$  comes from  $\mathcal{P}_z^S + \mathcal{P}_z^O$ .

## THE PHYSICS OF THE REACTIVE (IMAGINARY) POYNTING MOMENTUM : OPTICAL FORCES

☉ We shall analyze forces on magnetodielectric particles due to reactive quantities of an evanescent wave. These are its reactive helicity and its flow and its reactive power and its flow: the Imaginary Poynting momentum.

☉ In our opinión, and as far as we know, these forces have not yet been adequately studied. Whether studied at all.

☉ Such forces, and the upsurge of the reactive quantities, are those due to the interaction between the induced electric and magnetic dipole, that we predicted several years ago, (cf. Op. Ex. 2010), from which the so-called *extraordinary momentum* of evanescent waves was inferred (Bliokh et al. Nat. Comm. 2014), and the force due to it, measured (Antognozzi et al. Nat. Phys. 2016).

# Optical force on a magnetodielectric dipolar particle due to the Interaction of the induced electric and magnetic dipole:

MN-V, Juanjo Sáenz, et al., OpEx. 2010

$$\langle \mathbf{F}_{e-m} \rangle = \frac{8\pi k^4 c}{3} \left[ -\text{Re}(\alpha_e \alpha_m^*) \langle \mathbf{g} \rangle + \text{Im}(\alpha_e \alpha_m^*) \mathbf{g}^I \right].$$

$\alpha_e$  and  $\alpha_m$  are the electric and magnetic polarizabilities

**Already studied for evanescent waves:**

K. Bliokh et al. Nat. Comm. **5**, 3300 (2014). (Prediction).

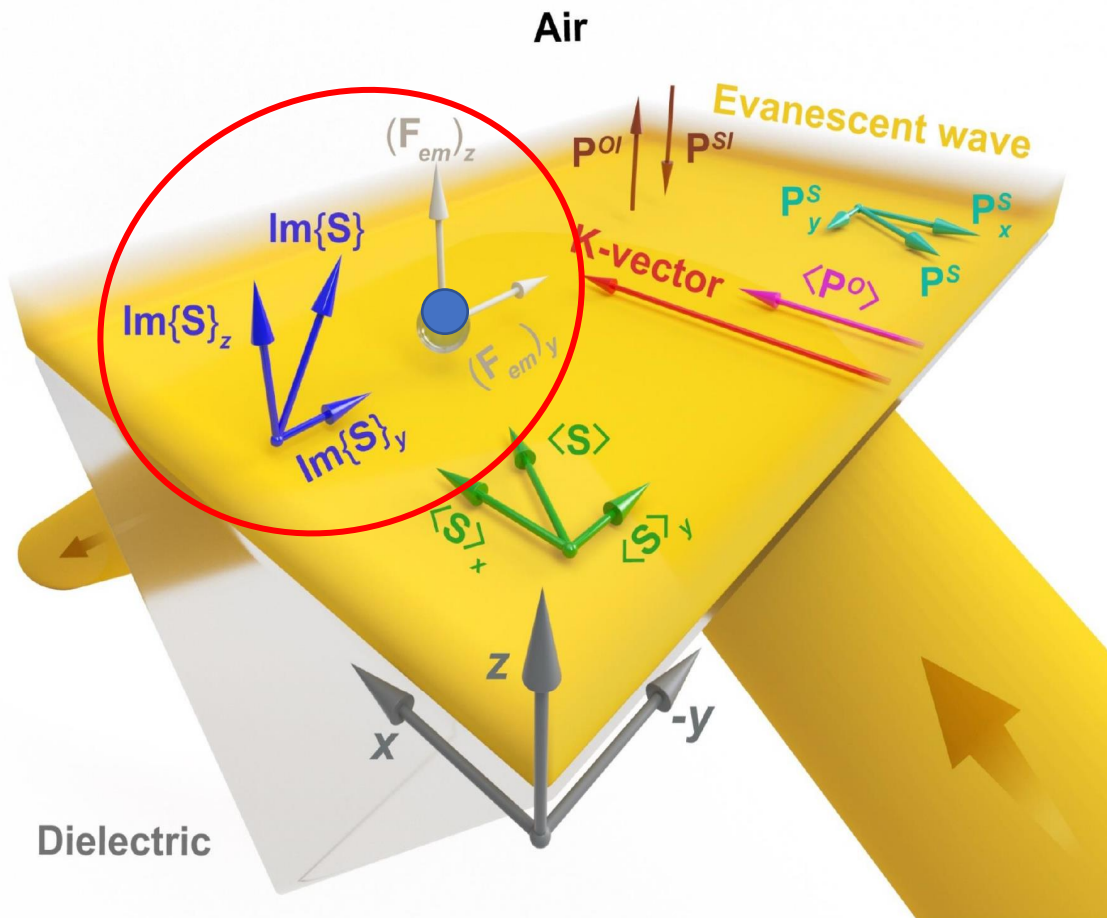
M. Antognozzi, et al. Nat. Phys. **12**, 731 (2016). (detection).

??

At wavelenghts around the 2nd Kerker condition, the transversal force from  $\mathbf{g}_y^I$  is opposite to  $\langle \mathbf{g} \rangle_y$  !!

# Optical force by an on a Si spherical particle placed on the T.I.R. interface due to the reactive field (Poynting) momentum:

## EVANESCENT WAVE BY T.I.R.



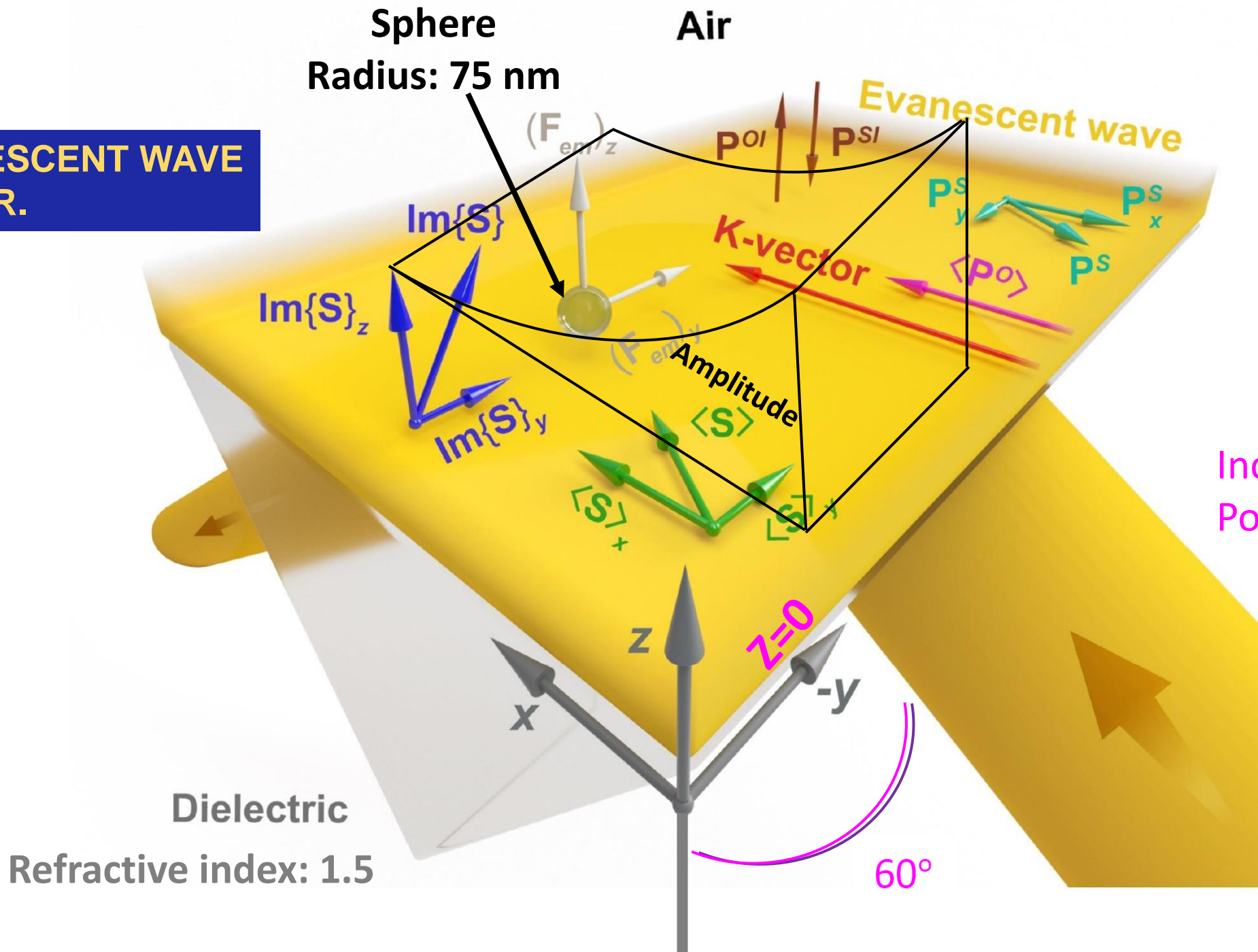
$$\langle \mathbf{F}_{e-m} \rangle = \frac{8\pi k^4 c}{3} \cdot Im(\alpha_e \alpha_m^*) \mathbf{g}^I$$

$$\mathbf{g}^I = \frac{1}{2qc^2} \left[ 0, \frac{ckK}{2\pi} \mathcal{H}_R, -w_{react} \right],$$

Transversal component.  
Considered a secondary weaker force.  
Not studied in depth.

Perpendicular component

**EVANESCENT WAVE  
BY T.I.R.**





# Results for the transversal force due to $g^I$

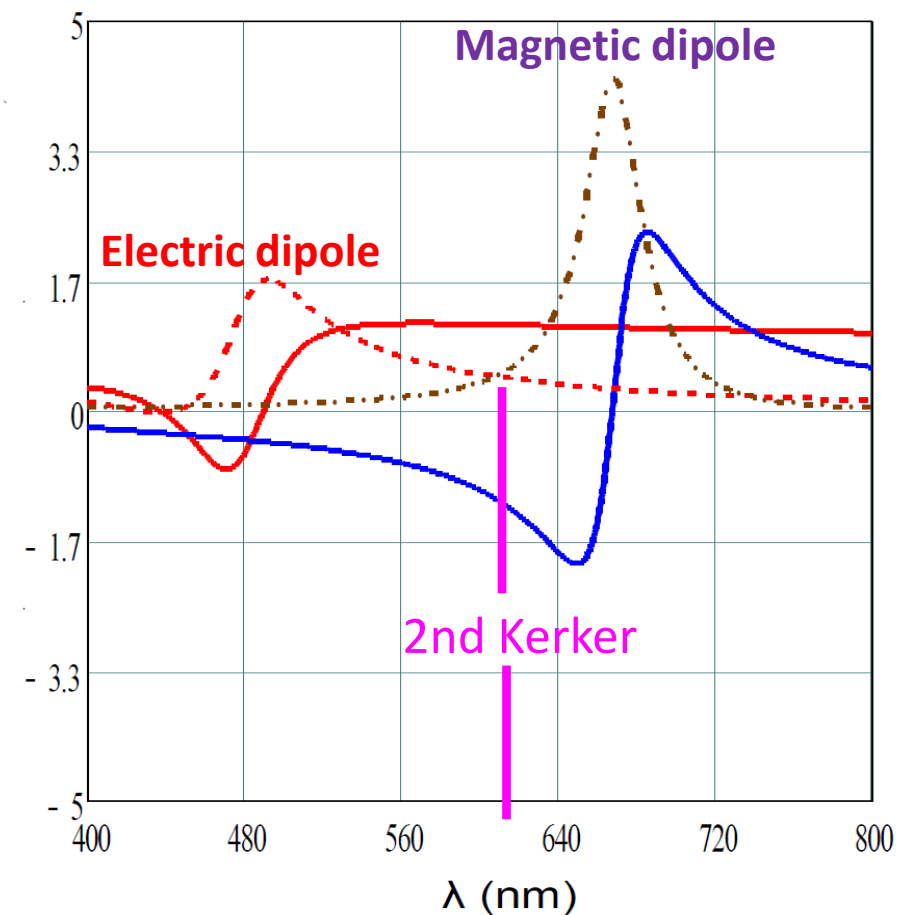
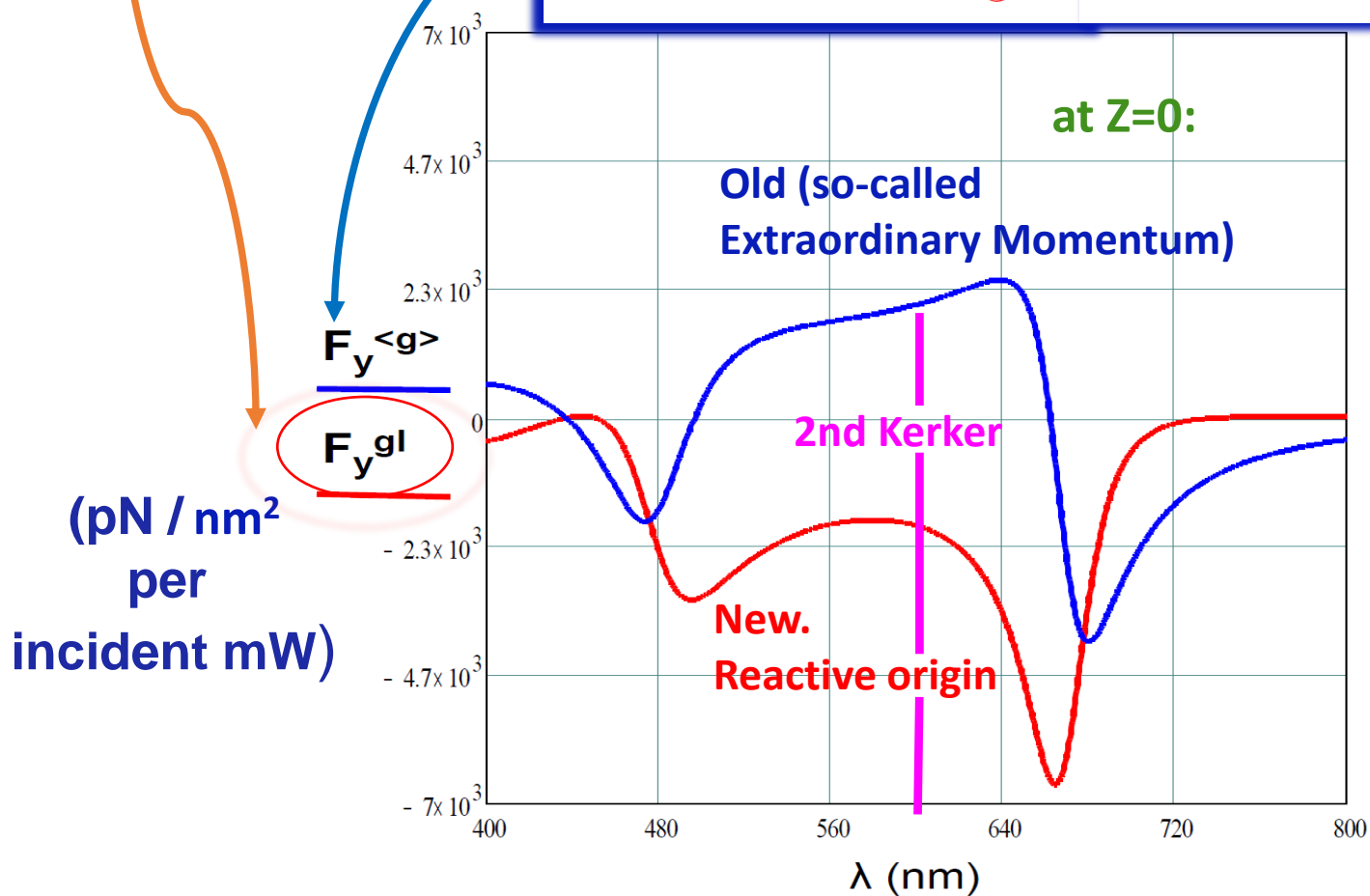
MN-V & X. Xu, , PRR 3, 043080 (2021)

$$\langle \mathbf{F}_{e-m} \rangle = \frac{8\pi k^4 c}{3} \text{Im}(\alpha_e \alpha_m^*) \mathbf{g}^I$$

$$\mathbf{g}^I = \frac{1}{2qc^2} \left[ 0, \frac{ckK}{2\pi} \mathcal{H}_R, -w_{react} \right]$$

$$\langle \mathbf{F}_{e-m} \rangle = \frac{8\pi k^4 c}{3} \text{Re}(\alpha_e \alpha_m^*) \langle \mathbf{g} \rangle$$

$$\langle \mathbf{g} \rangle = \frac{ck}{K} \left[ w, -\frac{q}{4\pi} \mathcal{H}, 0 \right] / c^2$$



# Results for the perpendicular force due to $g^I$ versus gradient force

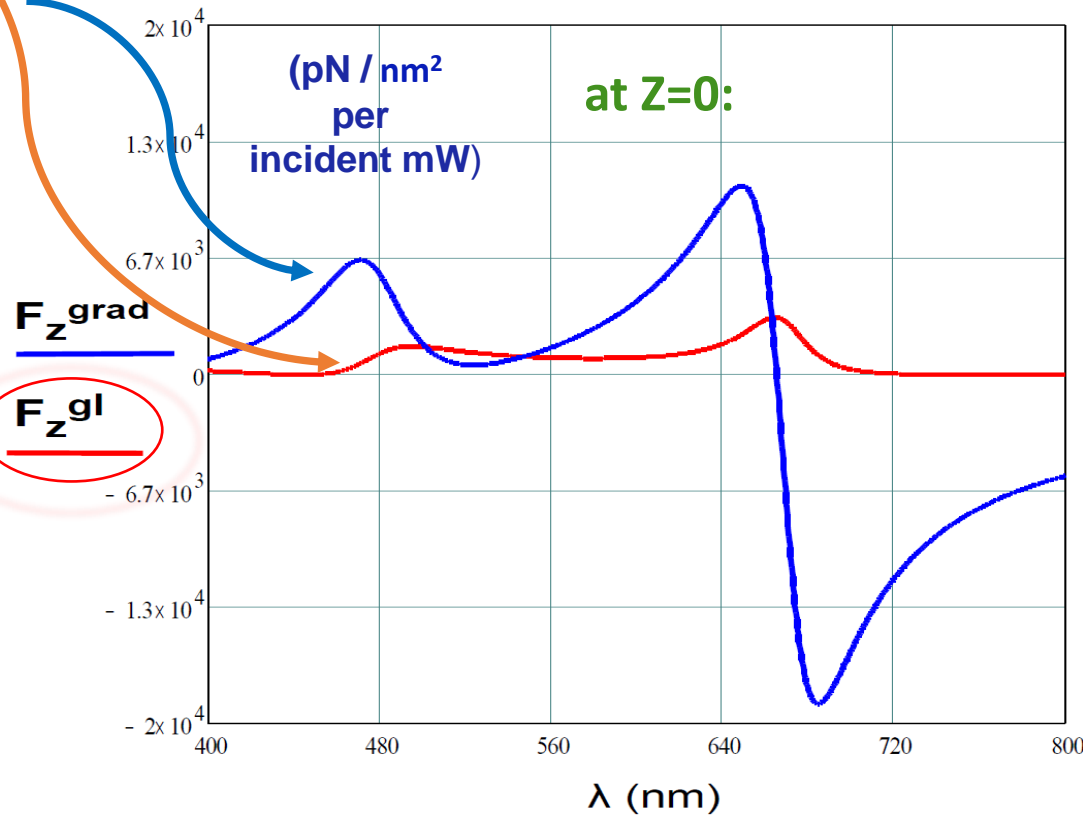
$$\langle \mathbf{F}_{e-m} \rangle = \frac{8\pi k^4 c}{3} \text{Im}(\alpha_e \alpha_m^*) \mathbf{g}^I$$

$$\mathbf{g}^I = \frac{1}{2qc^2} \left[ 0, \frac{ckK}{2\pi} \mathcal{H}_R, -w_{react} \right]$$

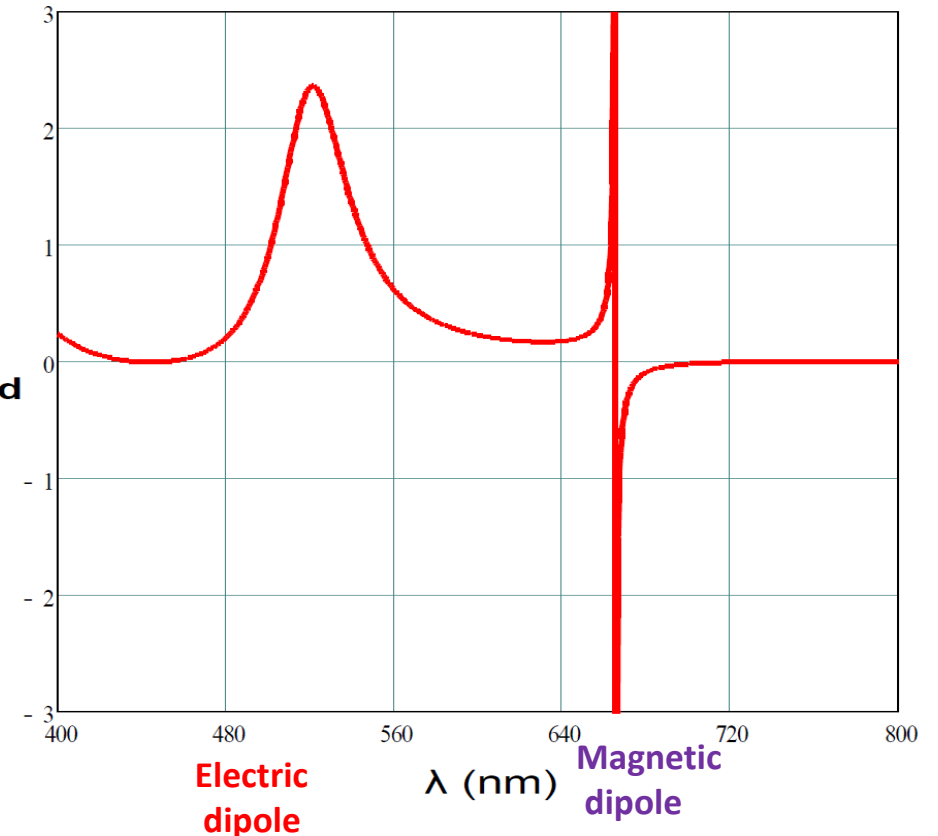
Gradient force, normal to interface:

$$\langle \mathbf{F} \rangle_z^{grad} = - (1/2) \alpha_e^R q |T_\perp|^2 \exp(-2qz)$$

Choose:  
 $A_{||} = 0$



Ratio:  
 $\frac{F_z^{gl}}{F_z^{grad}}$



# The field from a dipolar (in the wide sense) particle

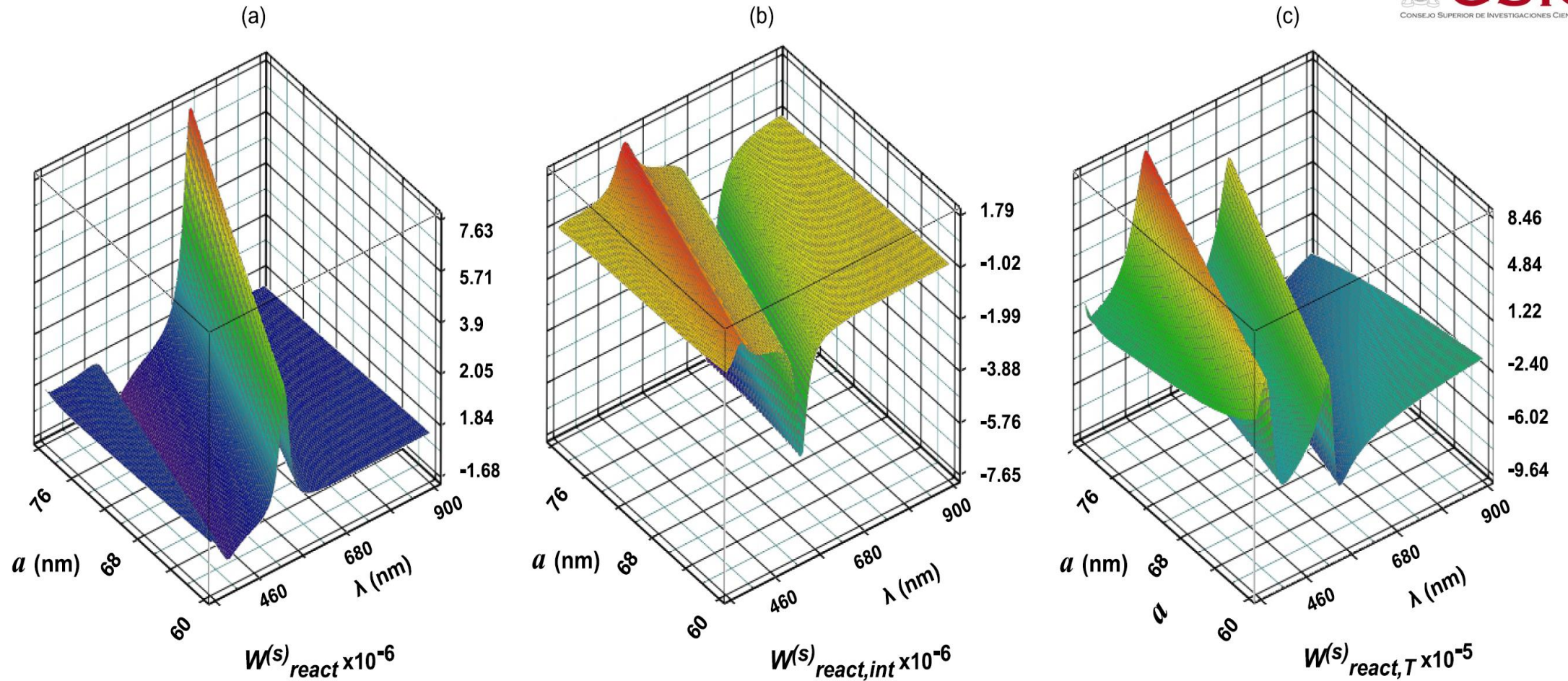


FIG. 3. 3D graphs of reactive powers as functions of wavelength  $\lambda$  and radius  $a$  of a magnetodielectric sphere of Si in air, illuminated by a (linearly or circularly polarized) plane wave. (a): External  $W_{\text{react}}^{(s)}$ . (b): Interior  $W_{\text{react,int}}^{(s)}$ . (c): Total  $W_{\text{react,T}}^{(s)} = W_{\text{react}}^{(s)} + W_{\text{react,int}}^{(s)}$ . The sign of  $W_{\text{react,int}}^{(s)}$  is opposite to that of  $W_{\text{react}}^{(s)}$  for all  $\lambda$  and  $a$ . The dip and peak of  $W_{\text{react}}^{(s)}$  correspond to the electric and magnetic resonance, respectively, and are close to these resonances in  $W_{\text{react,int}}^{(s)}$ . Like the resonances exhibited by the scattered power  $W^{(s)}$  [46], these peaks and dips are redshifted as  $a$  increases.  $W_{\text{react,T}}^{(s)}$  vanishes in the proximities of these resonances, irrespective of  $a$ .

# The field from a dipolar (in the wide sense) particle

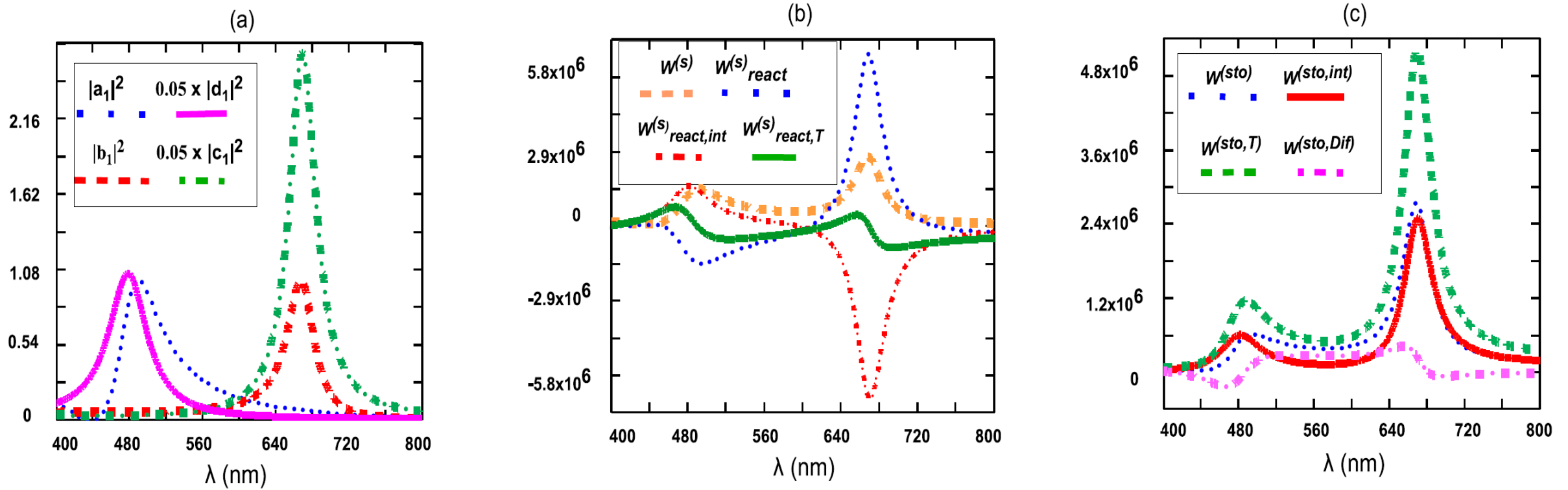


FIG. 4. (a) Si sphere of radius  $a = 75$  nm. (a) Square moduli of the electric and magnetic Mie coefficients,  $a_1$  and  $b_1$ , and  $d_1$  and  $c_1$  of the external and interior scattered field, respectively. (b) Scattered power  $W^{(s)}$  and reactive powers: external  $W^{(s)}_{\text{react}}$ , interior  $W^{(s)}_{\text{react,int}}$ , and total  $W^{(s)}_{\text{react,T}} = W^{(s)}_{\text{react}} + W^{(s)}_{\text{react,int}}$ . Notice that  $W^{(s)}_{\text{react,T}}$  vanishes at wavelengths close to those of the electric and magnetic Mie resonances:  $\lambda_e = 492$  nm and  $\lambda_m = 668$  nm, where  $W^{(s)}$  is maximum. The lines  $|a_1|^2$  and  $|b_1|^2$  cross each other at the Kerker wavelengths:  $\lambda_{K1} = 738.5$  nm [at which  $W^{(s)}_{\text{react}} = 0$  and  $W^{(s)}_{\text{react,int}} \simeq 0$ ] and  $\lambda_{K2} = 608$  nm [where both  $W^{(s)}_{\text{react}}$  and  $W^{(s)}_{\text{react,int}}$  are near 0]. (c) Stored energies: external  $W^{(\text{sto})}$ , interior  $W^{(\text{sto,int})}$ , total  $W^{(\text{sto,T})} = W^{(\text{sto})} + W^{(\text{sto,int})}$ , and difference  $W^{(\text{sto,Dif})} = W^{(\text{sto})} - W^{(\text{sto,int})}$ .

# The field from a dipolar (in the wide sense) particle

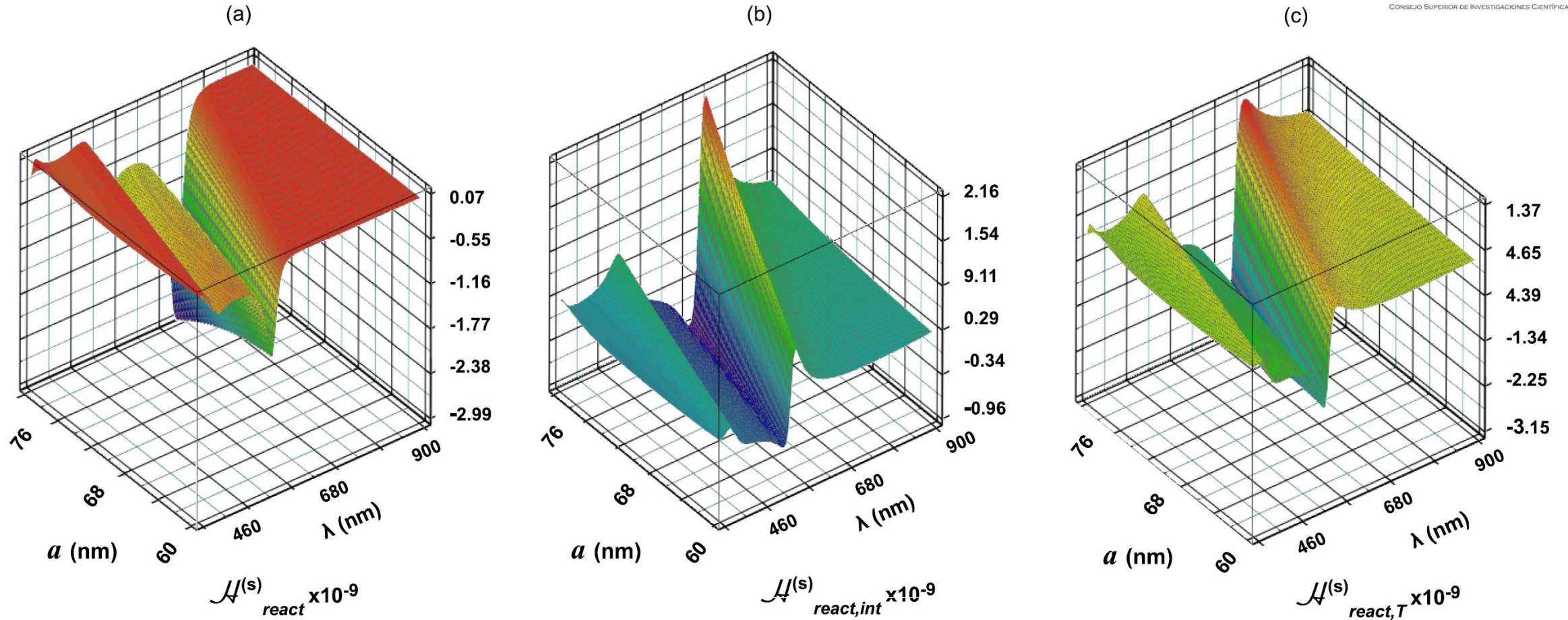


FIG. 5. 3D graphs of reactive helicities as functions of wavelength  $\lambda$  and radius  $a$  of a magnetodielectric sphere of Si in air, illuminated by a left circularly polarized incident plane wave, CPL(+). (a) External  $\mathcal{H}_{\text{react}}^{(s)}(\lambda, a)$ . (b) Interior  $\mathcal{H}_{\text{react,int}}^{(s)}(\lambda, a)$ . (c) Total  $\mathcal{H}_{\text{react,T}}^{(s)}(\lambda, a) = \mathcal{H}_{\text{react}}^{(s)}(\lambda, a) + \mathcal{H}_{\text{react,int}}^{(s)}(\lambda, a)$ . The two dips of  $\mathcal{H}_{\text{react}}^{(s)}$  and zero crossings of  $\mathcal{H}_{\text{react,int}}^{(s)}$  are close to the electric and magnetic resonant wavelengths  $\lambda_e$  and  $\lambda_m$  and are redshifted with increasing  $a$ . Irrespective of the value of  $a$ ,  $\mathcal{H}_{\text{react}}^{(s)} = 0$  at  $\lambda_{K1}$  and  $\mathcal{H}_{\text{react,T}}^{(s)} = 0$  close to  $\lambda_e$  and  $\lambda_m$ .

# The field from a dipolar (in the wide sense) particle

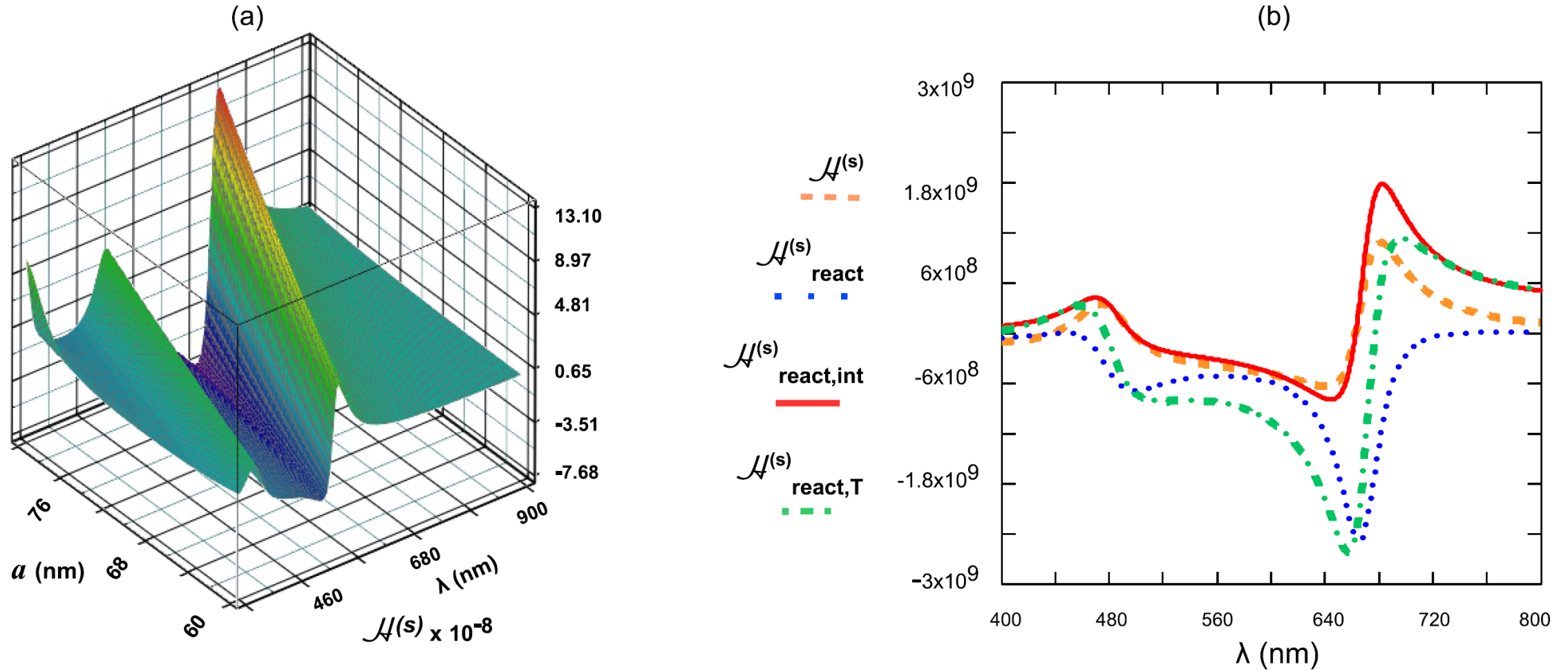


FIG. 6. (a) 3D graph of the scattered helicity  $\mathcal{H}^{(s)}(\lambda, a)$  generated by Si spheres in air, illuminated by a left circularly polarized incident plane wave, CPL(+). It has two peaks, at 475 and 679 nm, influenced by the electric and magnetic resonant wavelengths  $\lambda_e = 492$  nm and  $\lambda_m = 668$  nm. (b) Making  $a = 75$  nm,  $\mathcal{H}^{(s)}(\lambda)$ ,  $\mathcal{H}_{\text{react}}^{(s)}(\lambda)$ ,  $\mathcal{H}_{\text{react,int}}^{(s)}(\lambda)$ , and  $\mathcal{H}_{\text{react,T}}^{(s)}(\lambda)$ . At the Kerker wavelength  $\lambda_{K1} = 738.5$  nm,  $\mathcal{H}_{\text{react}}^{(s)}$  vanishes. Also  $\mathcal{H}_{\text{react,T}}^{(s)}(\lambda)$  is zero close to the wavelengths where the scattered helicity  $\mathcal{H}^{(s)}$  is maximum, and in the vicinity of extrema of both  $\mathcal{H}_{\text{react}}^{(s)}$  and  $\mathcal{H}_{\text{react,int}}^{(s)}$ .

¶. Experiments observing these predictions are awaited...

¶. Forces from the electric-magnetic dipole interaction in magnetodielectric particles, and due to **reactive quantities** of the wavefield, **may be larger** than those so far observed of the so-called *extraordinary (transversal) momentum* of the evanescent wave; especially in the proximities at the **electric and magnetic dipole resonances**. They may also neutralize the well-known gradient force.

**These forces make observable both the reactive power and reactive helicity.**

¶. Reactive quantities yield a novel interpretation of the two Kerker conditions, which are linked to an absence, or minimum, of the overall scattered reactive power.

¶. The reactive helicity of chiral light incident on a chiral nanoparticle may separate enantiomers by excitation of the external reactive power. An effect that we call ***reactive dichroism***.