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# LEFT HANDED MATERIALS IN MAGNETIC NANOCOMPOSITES

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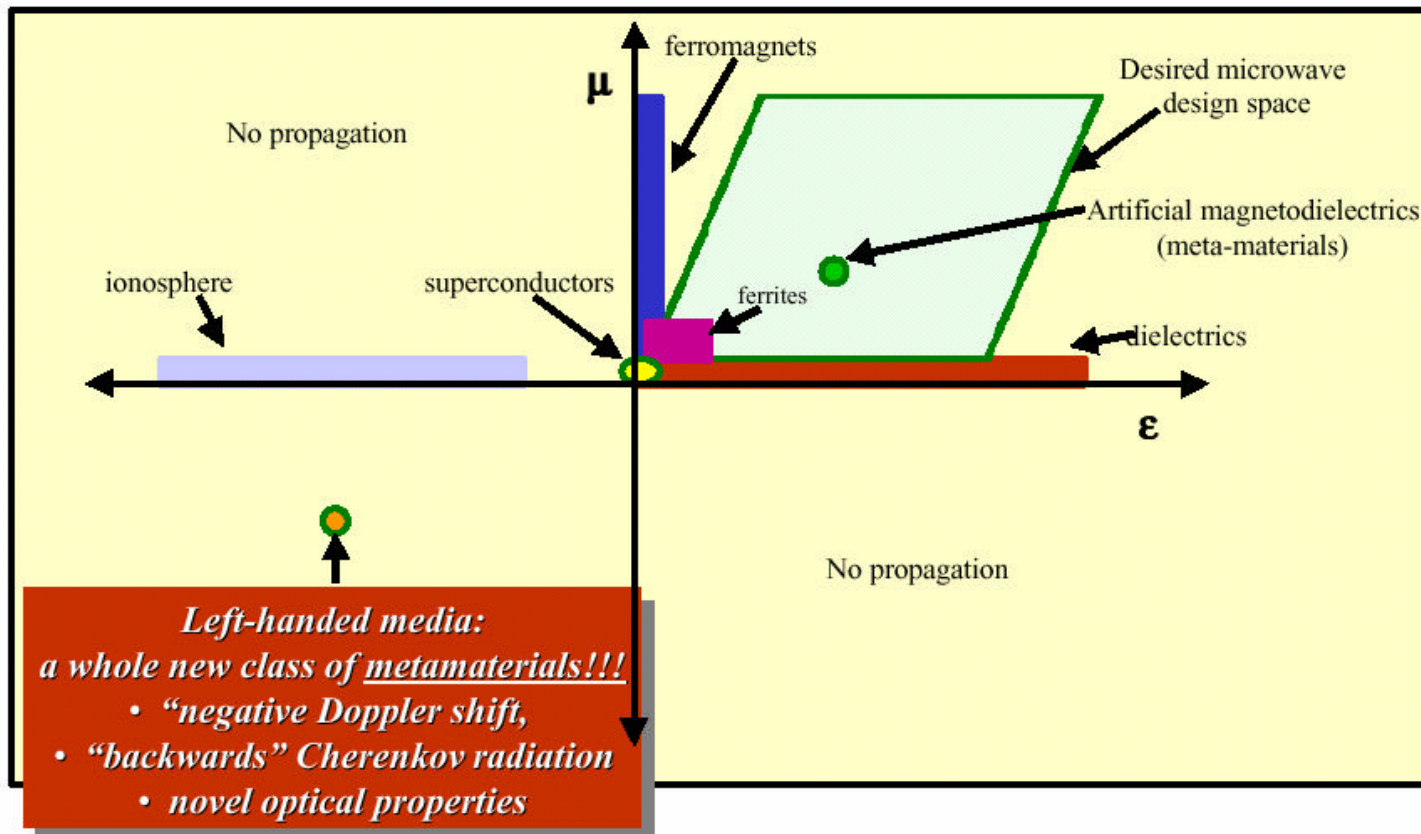
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# Propagation Properties of Different Materials



Speed of light:  $C = \frac{1}{\sqrt{\epsilon\mu}}$

$\epsilon$ : dielectric permittivity  
 $\mu$ : magnetic permeability



# LHM: Energy Propagation Opposite to Wave Propagation



## Convention Materials(RHM):

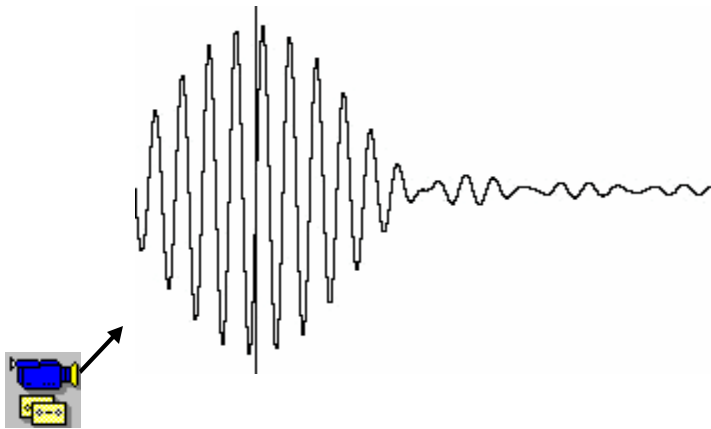
$$\vec{E}(\vec{r}, t) = \vec{E}_0 e^{ikz - \omega t}$$

$$\vec{H}(\vec{r}, t) = \vec{H}_0 e^{ikz - \omega t}$$

$$\vec{E} \times \vec{H} \Rightarrow \vec{k} = \omega \sqrt{\epsilon(\mu \pm \mu')}$$

$$\vec{E} \times \vec{H} \Rightarrow \vec{S}$$

Wave propagates(phase velocity)  
in the same direction of energy  
flow(k)



## Left-Handed Materials(LHM):

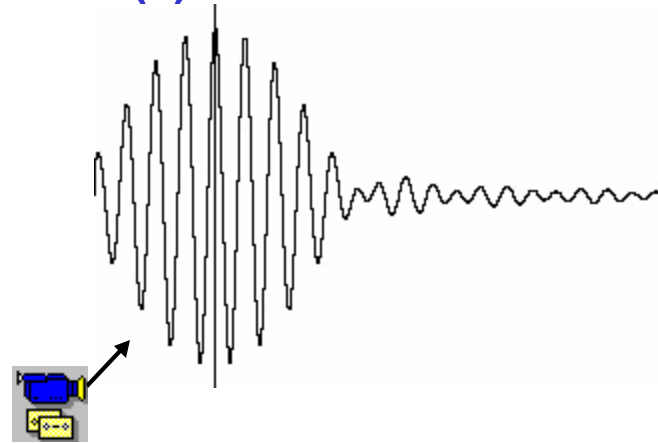
$$\vec{E}(\vec{r}, t) = \vec{E}_0 e^{-ikz - \omega t}$$

$$\vec{H}(\vec{r}, t) = \vec{H}_0 e^{-ikz - \omega t}$$

$$\vec{E} \times \vec{H} \Rightarrow -\vec{k} = \omega \sqrt{\epsilon(\mu \pm \mu')}$$

$$\vec{E} \times \vec{H} \Rightarrow \vec{S}$$

Wave propagates(phase velocity)  
in the opposite direction of energy  
flow(k)



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# Key Ideas of LHM

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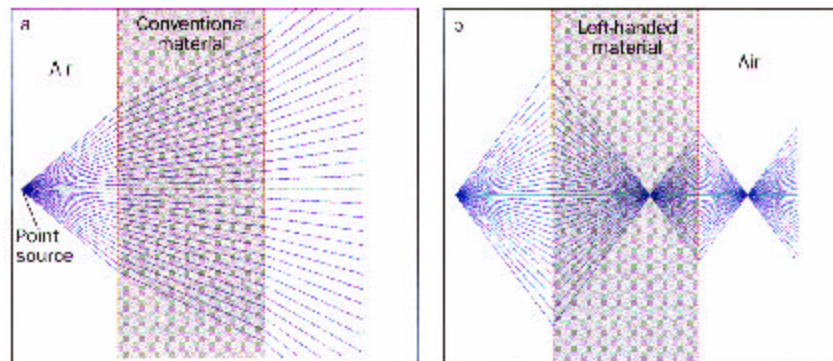
- **Negative dielectric constant**
- **Negative magnetic permeability**
- **Light propagation may not be damped**

**Key feature:** The direction of energy flow is opposite to the direction of the wave vector!

# Unusual Physical Properties



1. Reversed Doppler effect – microwave radiation or light shift to lower frequencies as a source approaches and to higher frequencies as it recedes.
2. Reversed Cerenkov effect – light emitted in the backward direction (forward direction in a right-handed materials) when a charged particle passes through a medium.
3. Reversed Snell's law – light that enters a LHM from a normal material will undergo reflection, but opposite to that usually observed.
4. Unusual lens:



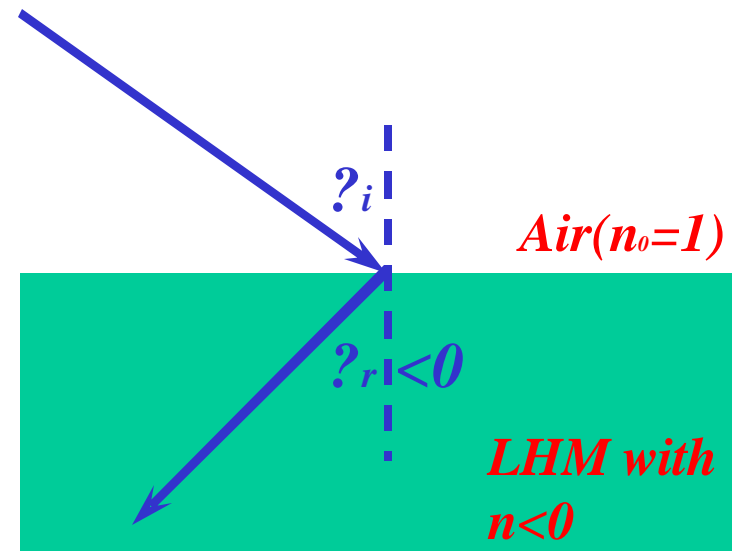
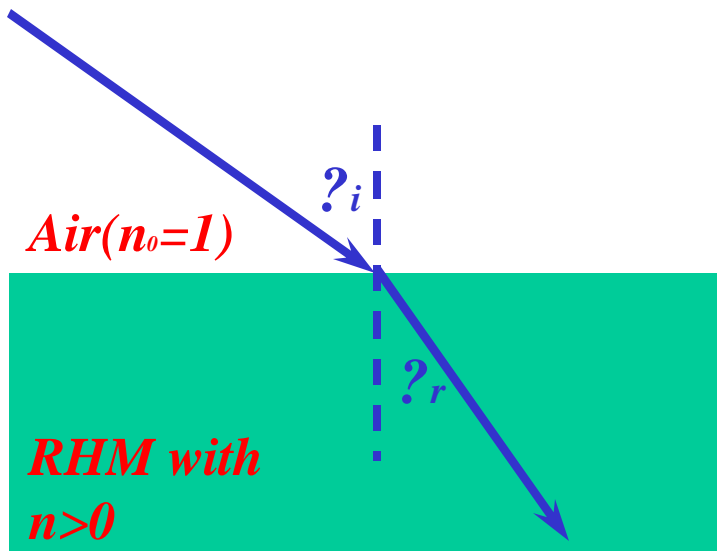
Radiation emanating from a point source in air that is incident on a conventional right-handed material (a) diverges, but on a left-handed material (b), it converges.

# Negative Index of Refraction

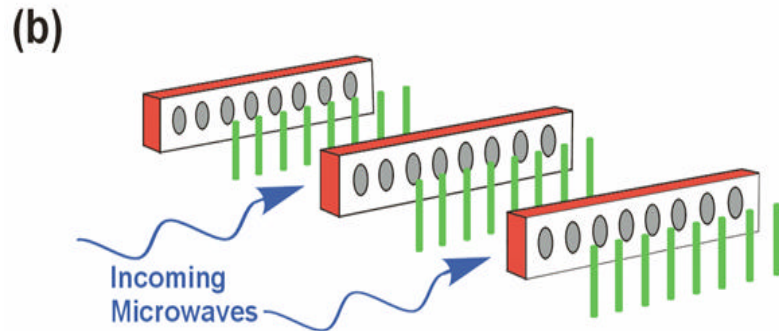
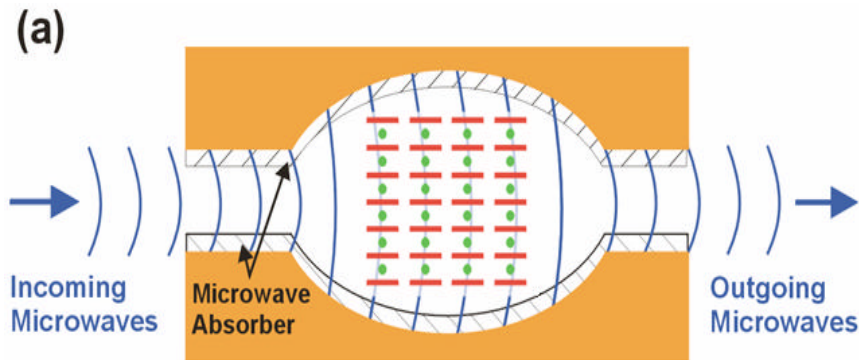


According to Snell's Law: 
$$\sin \mathbf{q}_r = \frac{n_0 \sin \mathbf{q}_i}{n}$$

Reversed refraction can be observed at interface between RHM and LHM.



# Current Left-Handed Materials



Since these materials are made by microstructure, they are very difficult to be used

# Negative $\epsilon$ and $\mu$ in Composite Materials

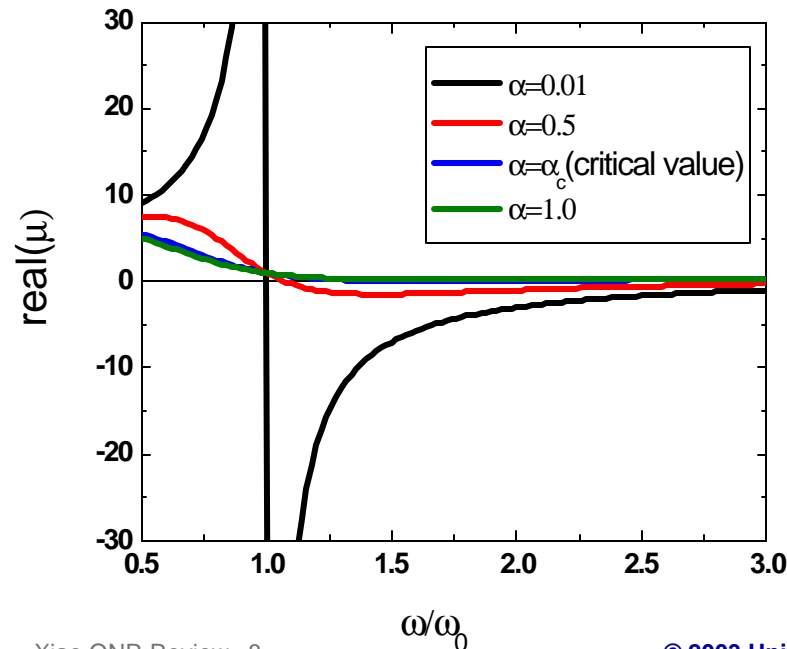
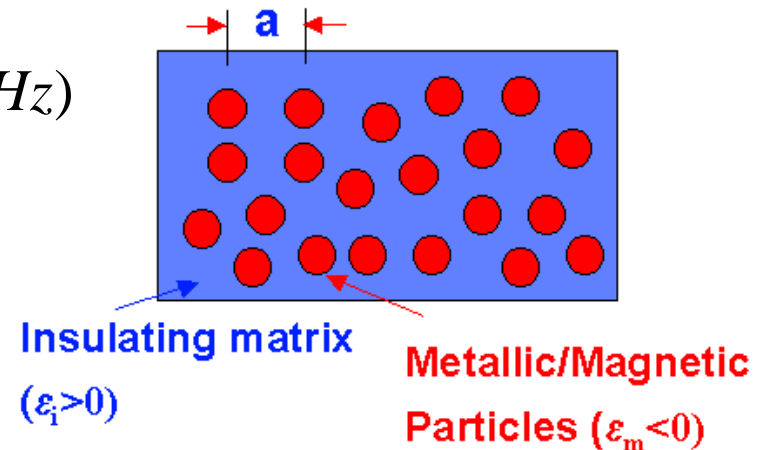


metals :  $\epsilon_m < 0$  at  $\omega < \omega_{plasma}$  ( $UV, 10^{15} Hz$ )

dielectrics :  $\epsilon_i > 0$

Effective medium theory:  $\lambda > a$

$$\epsilon_{eff} = f\epsilon_m + (1 - f)\epsilon_i$$



- Negative magnetic permeability can be obtained by ferromagnetic resonance (for RCP Waves);
- Small Particles and polymer matrix are used to get small damping.

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## Effective Medium Approximation:

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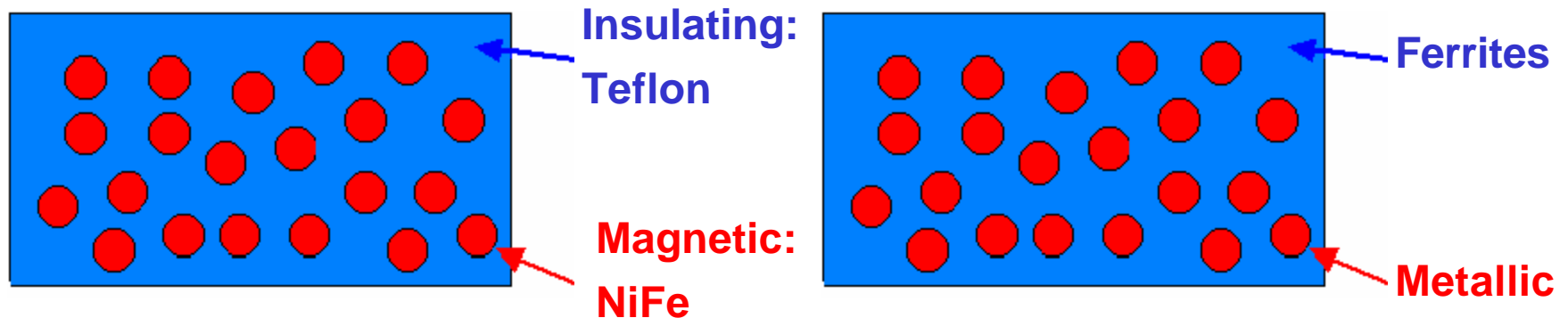
- Medium is LHM for right circularly polarized waves (RCP) propagating along the direction of the magnetization. Medium is RHM for LCP waves. mLHM is anisotropic and chiral!
- Metal concentration below the conducting percolation threshold but above the magnetic percolation threshold.
- The direction of energy flow is opposite to the wave vector.
- The damping turns out to be small,  $\text{Im}(k_{\text{eff}}) \ll \text{Re}(k_{\text{eff}})$ !

Chui *et. al.*, Phys. Rev. B65, 144407, 2002; PRB66, 085108-1, 2002.

# Magnetic Composite Fabrication

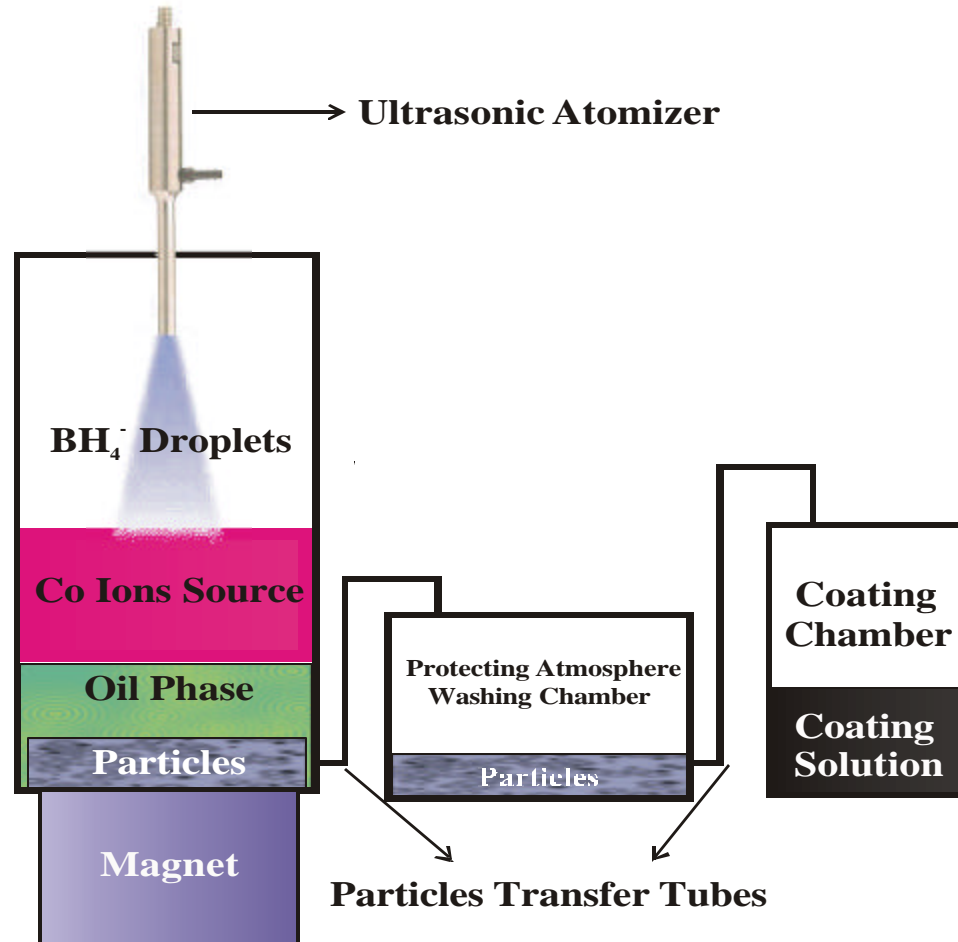


- Magnetic composites (films, and bulk materials)



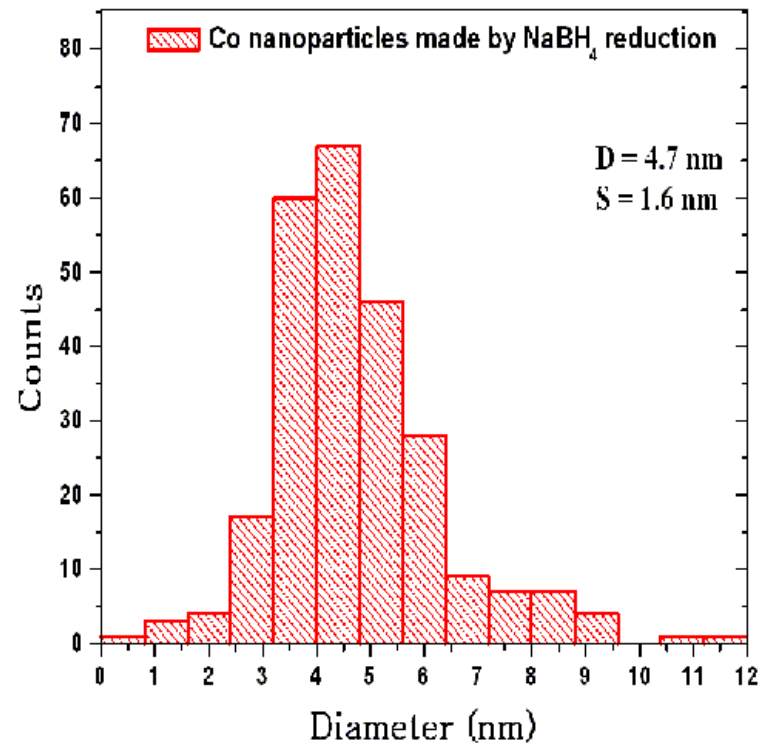
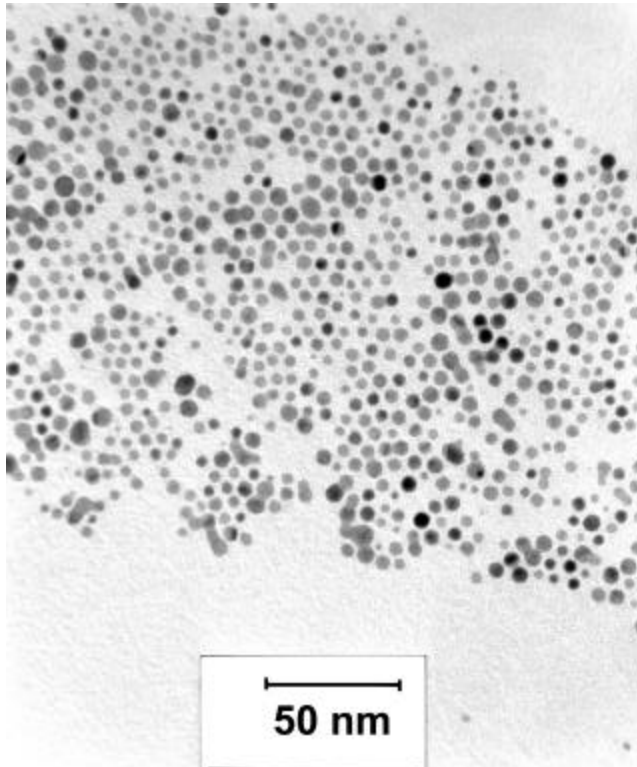
- Thin Films: Vapor deposition (magnetron Sputtering)
- Bulk Materials: Ball milling, chemical synthesis, and microcompounder
- FeNi: Low loss, resonant frequency can be tuned with composition, and large negative permeability.
- Teflon: Low loss and low dielectric constants

# Mass Production of Magnetic Uniform Nanoparticles



- **Modified chemical reduction method: mass production.**
- **Controlled nucleation and growth: uniform particle sizes**
- **Controlled environment: minimum oxidation and impurity phase.**

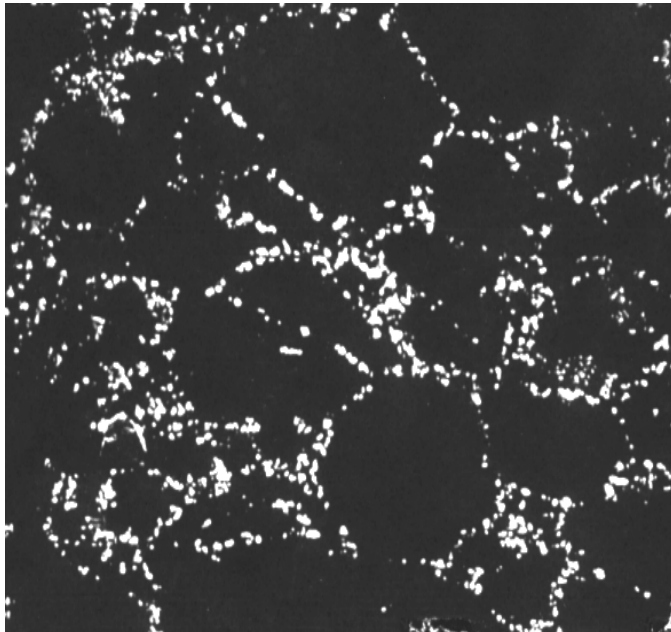
# Example: Co Nanoparticles



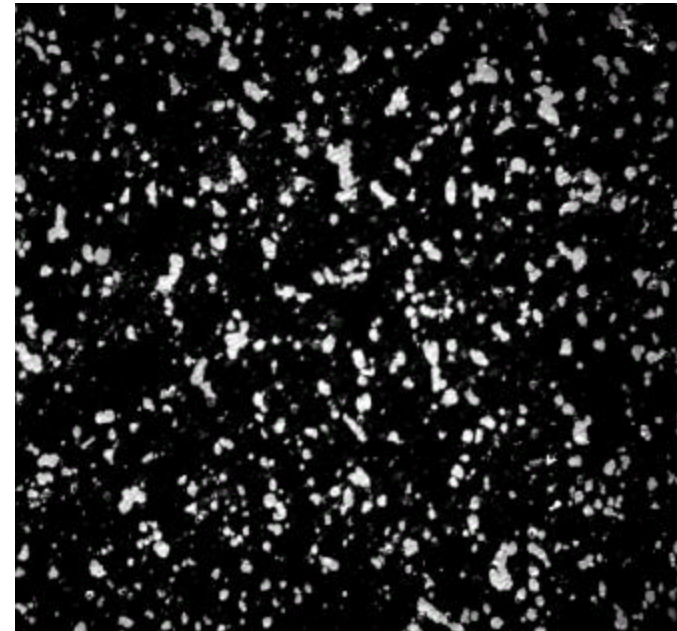
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# Monodispersed Magnetic Composites

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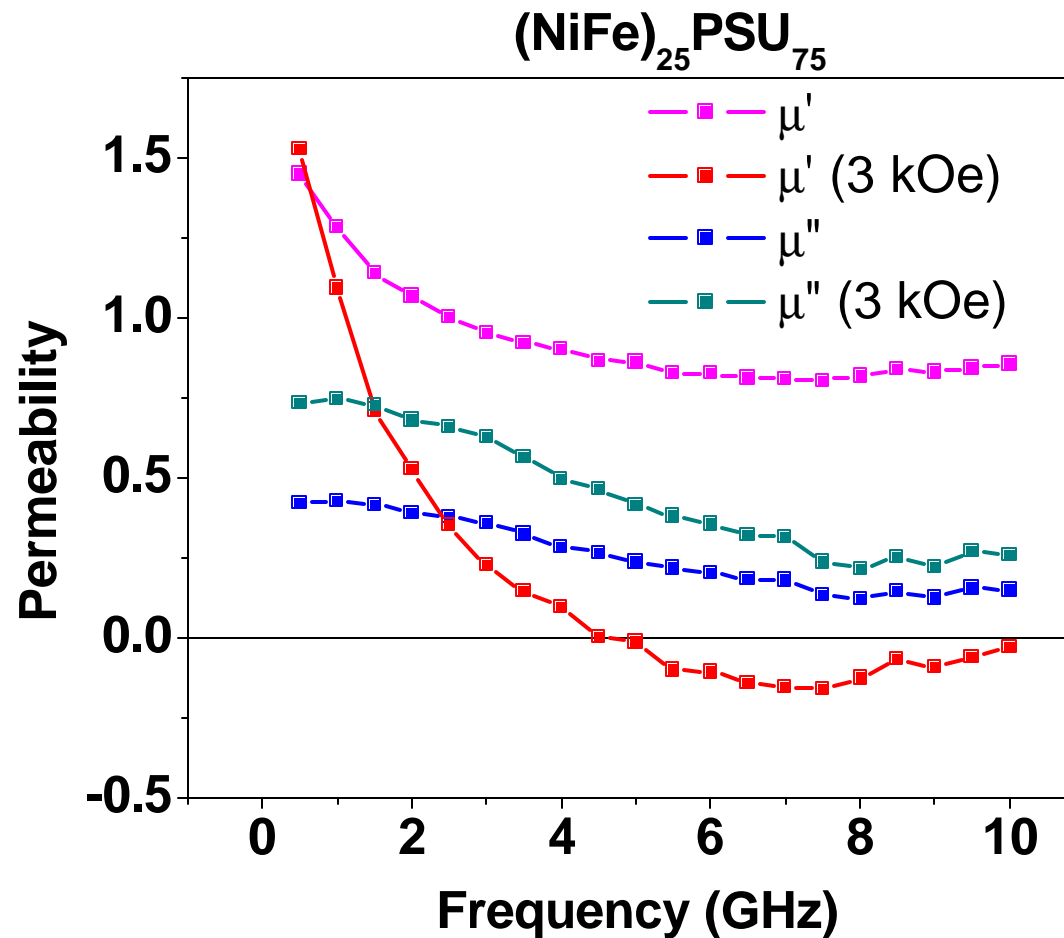


**Dry powder mixing  
and  
Hot press**



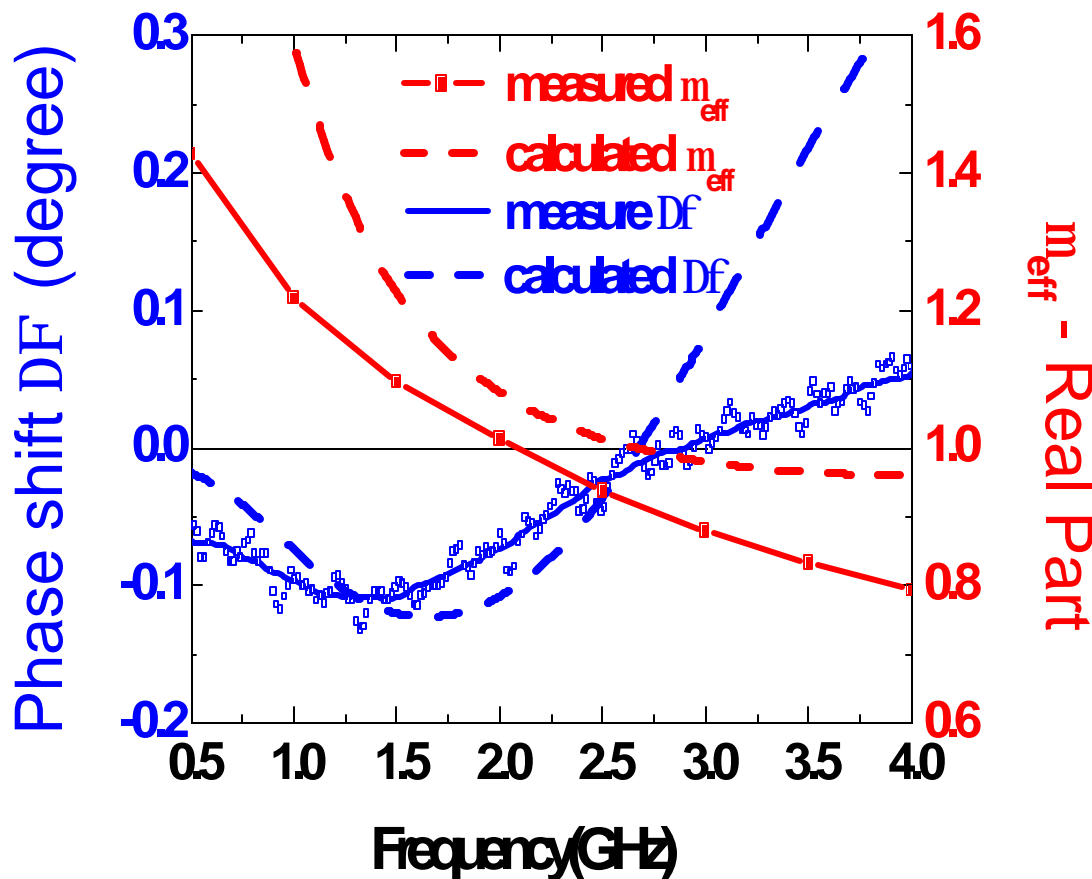
**High Temperature  
shear mixing  
and  
Hot press**

# Experiment: Negative Permeability

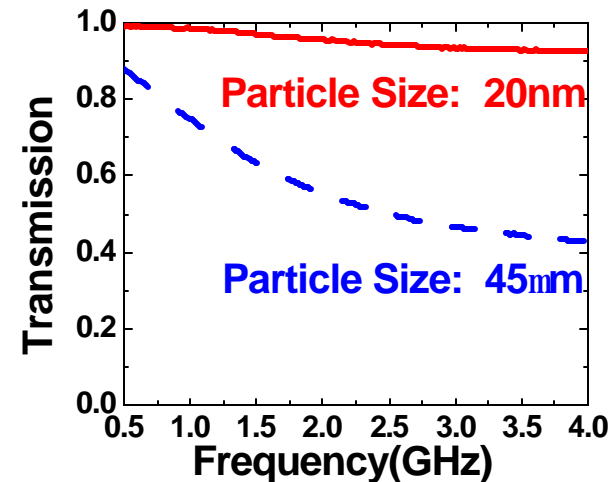


$\mu < 0$  can be achieved in magnetic composite. The sign can be tuned with an external magnetic field.

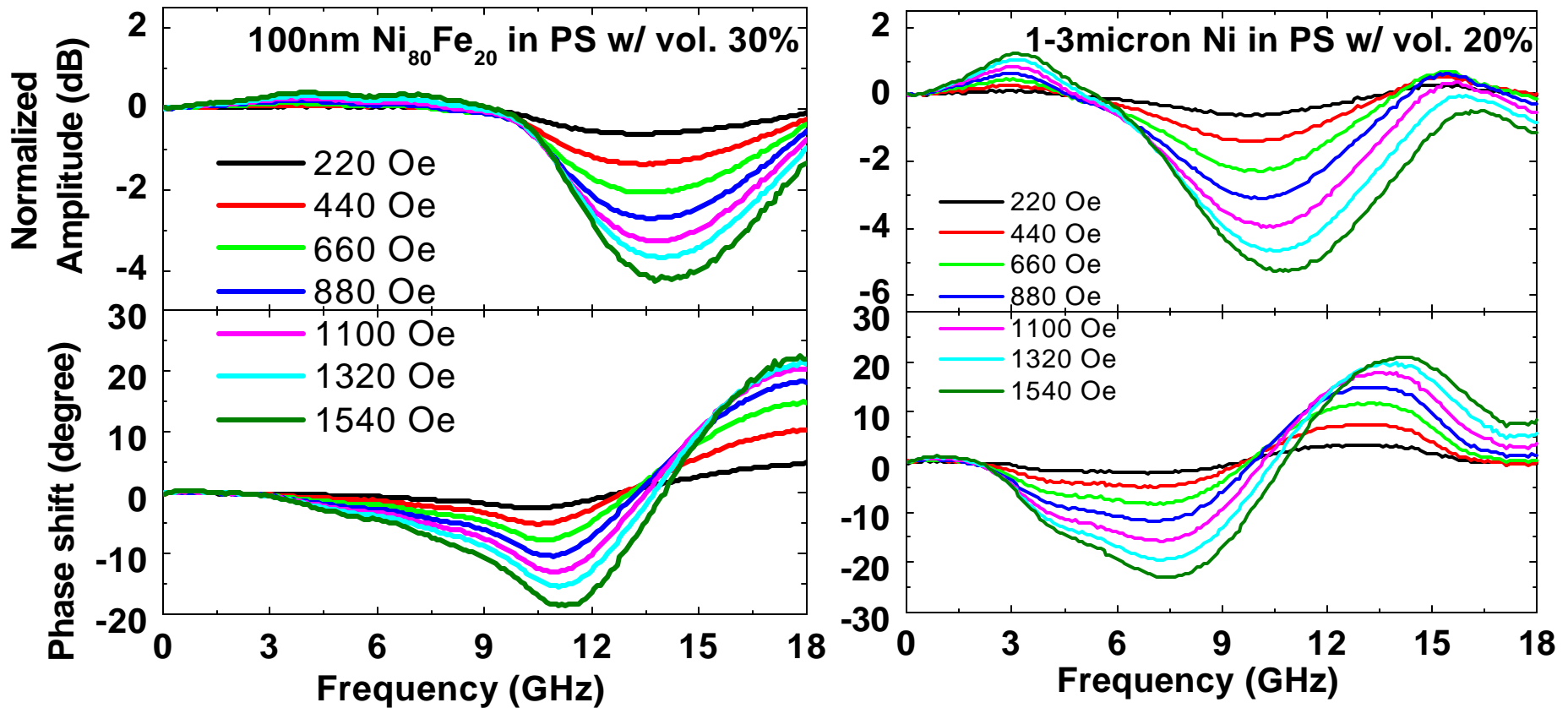
# Abnormal Transmission Phase Shift: a Possible Sign for mLHM



- Abnormal phase shift at  $m_{eff} < 1$  ( $c < 0$ ), due to reverse of k direction
- Good theoretical fittings! (dash lines)
- Low loss with small particles

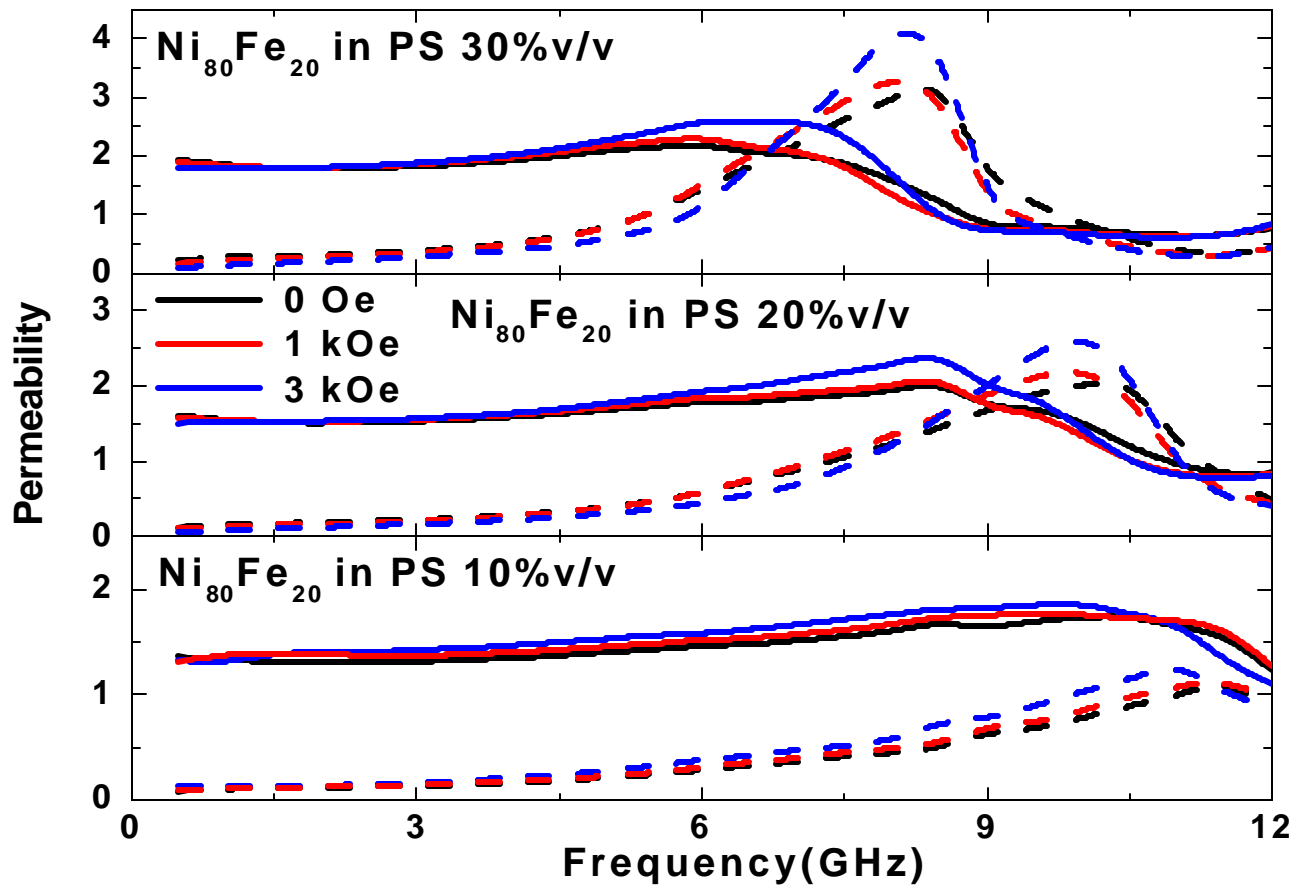


# Transmission - Field Dependence



Phase shift can be enhanced by the external magnetic field

# Transmission - Composition Dependence

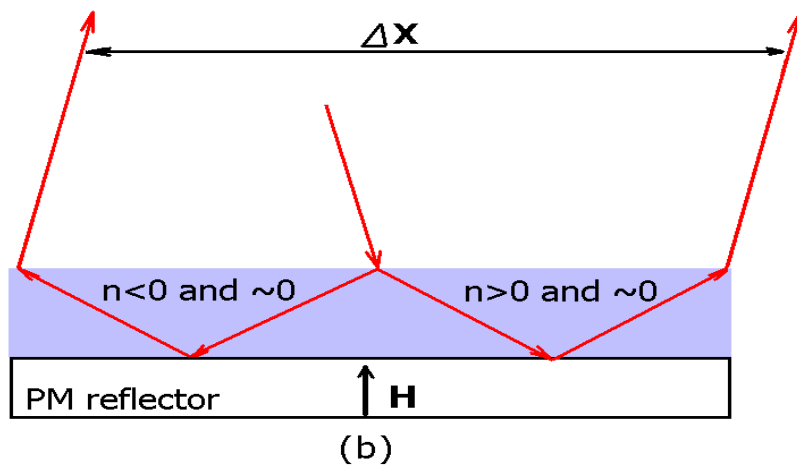
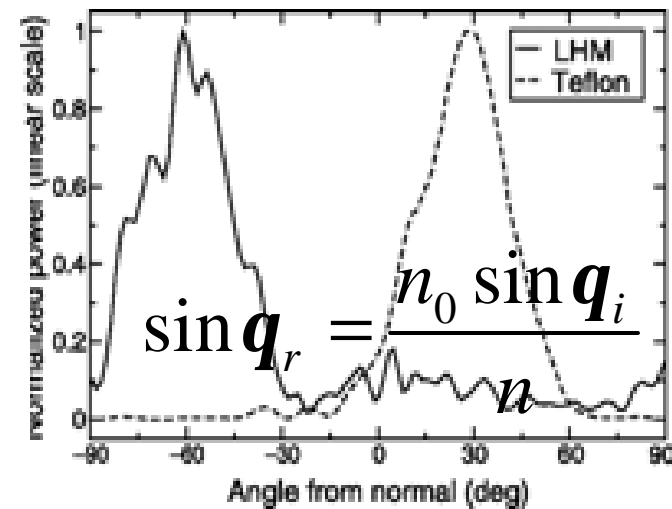
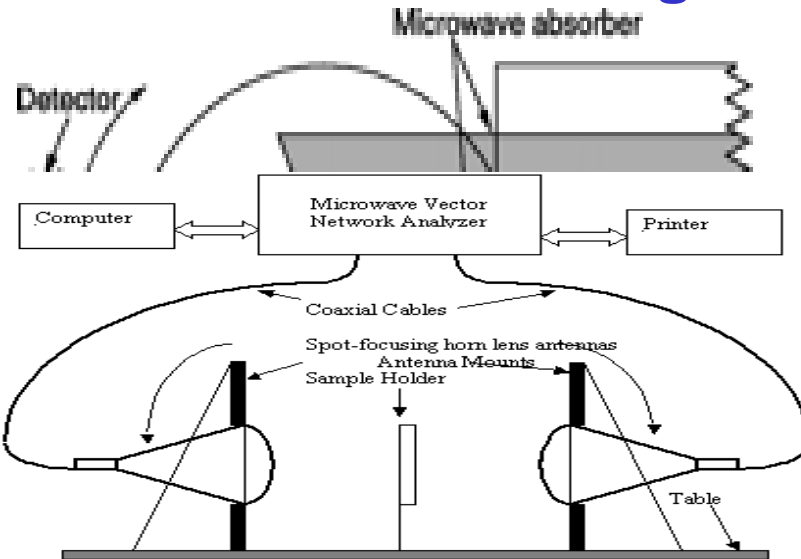


Permeability spectrum can also tuned by the composition.

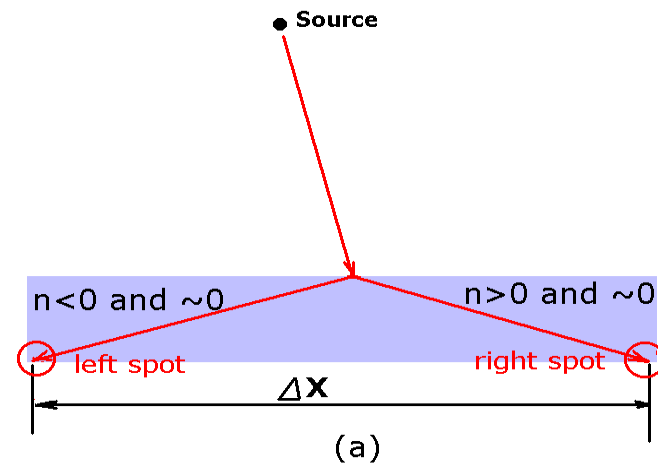
# Direct Prove of Negative Refraction Index in Open Space



Negative refraction index can be proved by the fact the refracted wave will change direction at around  $n \sim 0$



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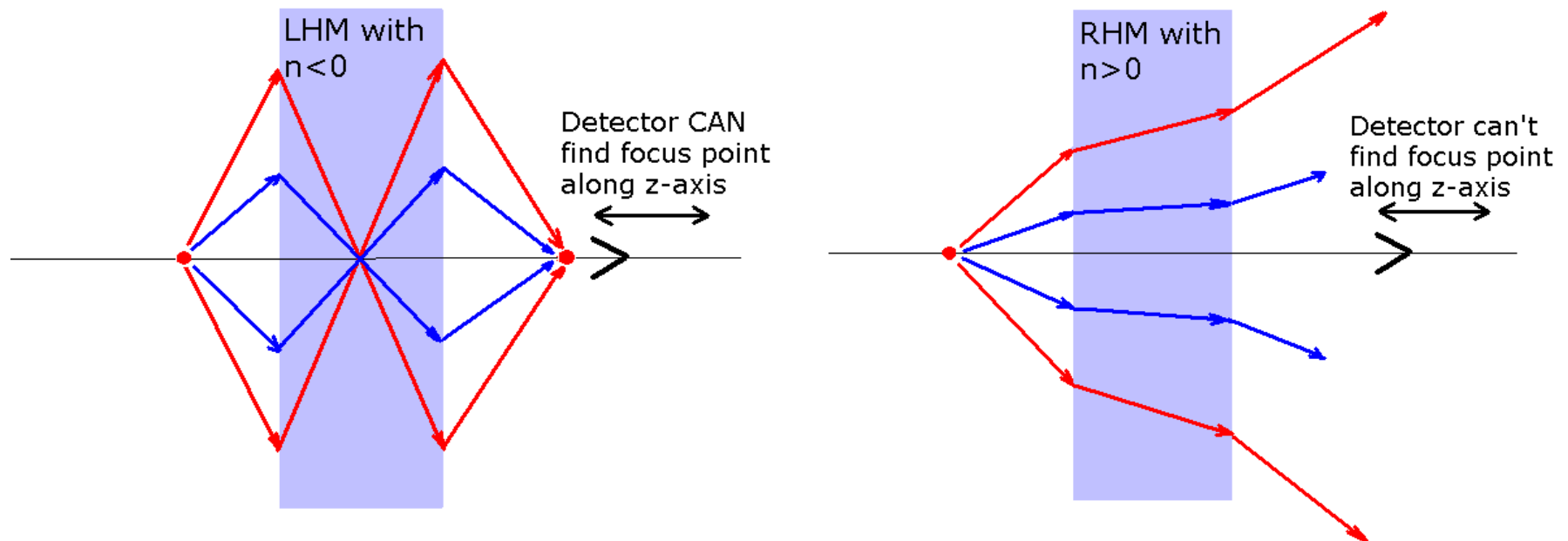


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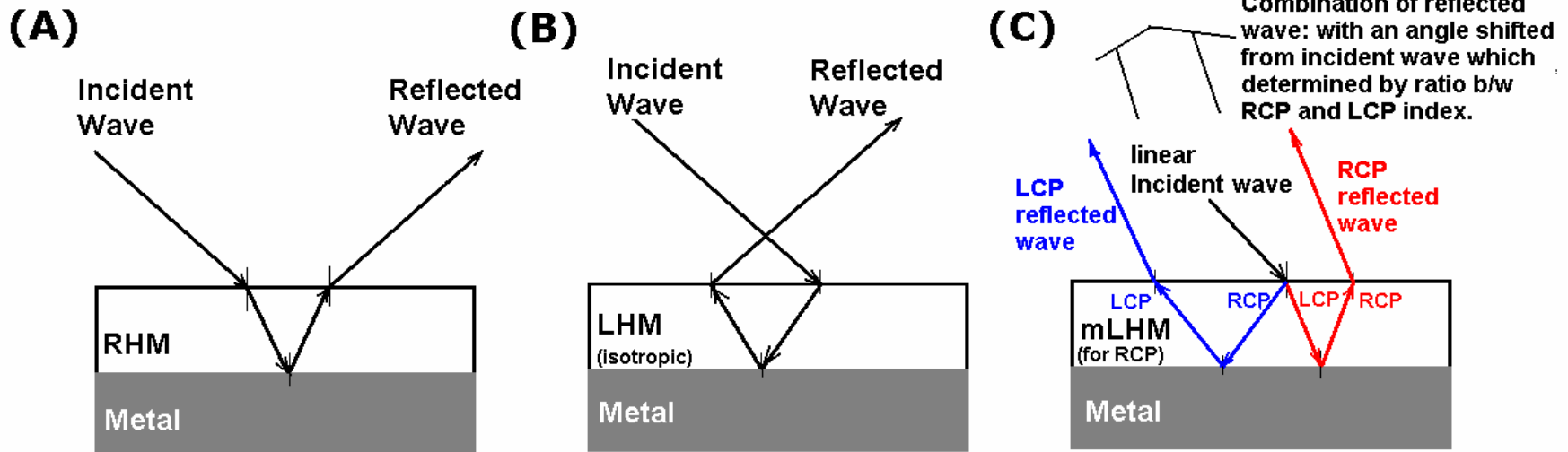
# Direct Prove of Negative Index in Open Space



Another open space experimental setup:  
Find focus point on the other side of a mLHM slab.



# Special Properties of Anisotropic and Chiral mLHM



**(A) RHM:**  
Standard reflection behaviors

**(B) Isotropic LHM (rings and rods) :**  
Same reflection behaviors as RHM

**(C) mLHM:**  
LHM for RCP & RHM for LCP along the magnetization direction. abnormal reflection is obtained.

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# Conclusion and Future Work

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- **Magnetic nanocomposites are potential LHM: mLHM.**
- **mLHM is different from current isotropic LHM: mLHM is anisotropic and chiral.**
- **mLHM can be achieved in bulk quantities and have special applications.**
- **Transmission spectra depends on the composition and external magnetic field.**
- **Loss can be minimized using small magnetic nanoparticles**
- **Future work: demonstration of the negative of index in mLHM**