# Casimir actuation between real materials towards chaotic behavior

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#### Gecko adhesive system







#### Stickybot



Z-MAN project DARPA (Army): Demo 2012: 16-inch<sup>2</sup> Geckskin → support ~<u>660 pounds</u>



#### NASA: clean the trash in space



Gecko Gripper sticking power is not affected by temperature, pressure, or radiation





A. W. Rodriguez et al. Nature Photonics (2011)



Interaction area ~1  $m^2 \rightarrow$  $F_{cas/vdW}$ ~5x10<sup>4</sup>N? <u>5 tons</u>!

Broer, PRB (2013)









MEMS examples with stiction problems between components as the arrows indicate

# 1->Casimir /vdW - Lifshitz Force...

QED says vacuum is full with fluctuating fields: "vacuum fluctuations"

#### H. Casimir (1948) .... Perfectly reflecting plates



1909-2000



For a pair of parallel plates the force is described by:

$$F = \frac{\pi^2}{240} \, \frac{\hbar c}{d^4} \, A$$

c is the speed of light, d the plate spacing and A the plate surface area.

First high accuracy measurement in 1997 by S. Lamoreaux



# No perfect reflectors in nature → "real dissipative" matter: Lifshitz theory



A. W. Rodriguez et al. Nature Photonics (2011)

#### **Fluctuation dissipation theorem (FDT):** fluctuating currents ↔ dissipation

$$\langle J_{\alpha}(\omega, \mathbf{r}) J_{\beta}^{*}(\omega', \mathbf{r}') \rangle = \omega \varepsilon''(\omega) \left( \frac{\hbar \omega}{2} + \frac{\hbar \omega}{e^{\hbar \omega/kT} - 1} \right) \times \delta(\omega - \omega') \delta(\mathbf{r} - \mathbf{r}') \delta_{\alpha\beta}$$

$$Im[?(?)]$$

$$I$$



E.g. plasma wavelength metals ?p ??100-150 nm ...these 'two forces' are ultimately derived from the same cause .....

# power laws of the force...

The scaling exponent m of the Casimir force versus separation distance,  $F \sim d^{-m}$  for the sphere-plate

Interacting materials/surfaces	Separation range	Exponent $m$		
Au–Au <sup>35</sup>	25–100 nm	m = 2.5		
Au–Au <sup>38</sup>	160–500 nm	m = 2.71		
	500–750 nm	m = 2.84		
	160–750 nm	m = 2.76		
Au–Au <sup>40</sup>	98–300 nm	m = 2.79		
	98–200 nm	m = 2.67		
$Ge-Ge^{41}$	550–1500 nm	m = 2.84		
Au–ITO <sup>42</sup>	70–200 nm	m = 2.75		
Au–AIST $(A)^{43}$	$55{-}130 \text{ nm}$	m = 2.49		
Au–AIST $(C)^{43}$	$55{-}130 \text{ nm}$	m = 2.43		
Au–Au <sup>43</sup>	$55{-}130 \text{ nm}$	m = 2.55		
$Au - Au^{45,46}$	$65{-}350 \text{ nm}$	m = 2.61		
$Au-HOPG^{45,46}$	$65{-}350 \text{ nm}$	m = 2.67		
Au-Au <sup>47-50</sup>	30–1000 nm	m = 2.64		

#### concensus among various groups......

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International Journal of Modern Physics B Vol. 24, No. 31 (2010) 6013–6042

# Real materials.....





#### Material optical properties: Fundamental constraints



Indirect integral dependence on the physical frequency  $\varepsilon(i\zeta) = 1 + \frac{2}{\pi} \int_{0}^{\infty} d\omega \frac{\omega \varepsilon''(\omega)}{\omega^{2} + \zeta^{2}} \int_{0}^{\zeta_{ch}=c/2a} Important \zeta \sim \zeta_{ch}$  but which  $\omega$  are important? It depends on the material.

For metals  $\varepsilon''(\omega) \rightarrow \frac{4\pi\sigma}{\omega} \gg 1$  when  $\omega \rightarrow 0$  Direct consequence of Ohm's law!

$$\Delta \times \mathbf{H} = \frac{4\pi}{c} \mathbf{j} - i\frac{\omega}{c} \mathbf{D},$$
  

$$\mathbf{j} = \sigma \mathbf{E}, \qquad \mathbf{D} = \varepsilon_0 \mathbf{E}$$
  
Ohm's law static permittivity 
$$\varepsilon(\omega) = \varepsilon_0 + i\frac{4\pi\sigma}{\omega}, \qquad \omega \to 0$$

### Comparison with theory, Decca et al.







# Drude Casimir ? Plasma Casimir ?

Important contribution to Casimir force from imaginary frequencies  $\rightarrow \zeta_{ch} = c/2a$ .



Svetovoy et al., PRB (2008)



# Contact mode AFM force measurement



Zwoll et al., PRB (2008) do: Distance upon contact due to roughness



Zwoll et al., PRB (2008), Svetovoy-Palasantzas Adv. Coll. Interface Sci. 2016

#### Grass and trees model



Number of high peaks  $d_1 < h < d_0$ 

w: rms roughness **[?]**: correlation length Average distance between high peaks l >> ??

#### If l > d the peaks can be accounted additively $\longrightarrow$ condition on $d_1$

Typically  $d_1 \gtrsim 3w$ , but close to 3w



Broer et al., EPL (2012), PRB (2008), Svetovoy-Palasantzas Adv. Coll. Interface Sci. 2016



Broer et al., EPL (2012), PRB (2008), Svetovoy-Palasantzas Adv. Coll. Interface Sci.

#### $F_{e1} = X(z)(V - V_0)^2$ V<sub>0</sub>: Contact potential

Energy band diagram

Electrostatics....contact potentials ....















02 400 398 Energy (eV)

536 534 532 Binding Energy (eV)

(e)





Work in progress.....!

#### **Topological Insulators**





Signatures of the exotic metallic surface states in topological insulators. Theoretical ideal electronic structure of Bi2Se3





#### Dynamic actuation MEMS: Conservative system ?=0



# Dynamic driven nononservative MEMS

$$m\ddot{x} = \kappa (L_0 - x) - F_{\text{Cas}}(x) - \epsilon \gamma \dot{x} + \epsilon F_0 \cos \omega t.$$

Broer et al., PHYSICAL REVIEW APPLIED 4, 054016 (2015)

 $(\epsilon = 1)$ 



#### **<u>Chaotic system</u>:** can not long term actuation state

Broer et al., PHYSICAL REVIEW APPLIED 4, 054016 (2015)

#### Stronger Casimir force→ ...more chaoticity...



Phys. Rev. A 2010, New Scientist July 2, 2010, Adv. Funct. Mat. 2012

#### Melnikov analysis





#### 100 oscillations

## decrease ? ? Increase chaoticity

Tajik et al., Phys. Rev. E (2017)

#### Higher conductivity material $\rightarrow$ More chaotic.....



**Drude model**  $\rightarrow$  conductivity ratio:  $\omega \downarrow p \uparrow 2 / \omega \downarrow \tau$  $\omega \downarrow \tau$  plasma frequency

 $\omega \downarrow \tau$  damping factor

- $\omega \downarrow p$  12 /  $\omega \downarrow \tau \mid \downarrow Au$  ?1600 eV
- ω↓*p* ↑2 / ω↓*τ* |↓AIST(*C*) =10.1 eV
- $\omega \downarrow p \uparrow 2 / \omega \downarrow \tau | \downarrow SiC = 0.4 eV$

Tajik et al., Eur. J. Phys. B (2018)

### Melnikov analysis



#### V=0 ? ? decreases



Tajik et al., Eur. J. Phys. B (2018)

# Voltage application → strong effect depending on material



TABLE II. The Drude parameters determined by different methods described in the text. In all cases the statistical errors in the parameters are on the same level: 0.01-0.03 meV for  $\omega_p$  and 0.2-0.5 meV for  $\omega_{\tau}$ . The last column shows the values of the parameters averaged on different methods and the corresponding rms errors.

Sample	Parameter	Joint e', e"	Joint n, k	KK $\varepsilon'$	KK n	Average
1	$\omega_p [eV]$	6.70	6.87	6.88	6.83	$6.82 \pm 0.08$
400 nm/Si	$\omega_{\tau}$ [meV]	38.4	43.3	40.2	39.9	$40.5 \pm 2.1$
2	$\omega_p$	6.78	7.04	6.69	6.80	$6.83 \pm 0.15$
200 nm/Si	$\omega_{ au}$	40.7	45.3	36.1	36.0	$39.5 \pm 4.4$
3	$\omega_p$	7.79	7.94	7.80	7.84	$7.84 \pm 0.07$
100 nm/Si	$\omega_{ au}$	48.8	52.0	47.9	47.4	$49.0 \pm 2.1$
4	$\omega_p$	7.90	8.24	7.95	7.90	$8.00 \pm 0.16$
120 nm/Si	$\omega_{ au}$	37.1	41.4	35.2	29.2	$35.7 \pm 5.1$
5	$\omega_p$	8.37	8.41	8.27	8.46	$8.38 \pm 0.08$
120 nm/mica	$\omega_{ au}$	37.1	37.7	34.5	39.1	37.1±1.9

#### Sensitivity of chaotic behavior: Plasma-Drude model......







# **Conclusions**.....

**Real materials are promissing** for applications in Casimir driven devices but many "ToDos" Still :

- Optical properties & theory uncertaities
- Electrostatics
- Surface roughness
- Chaotic motion Device predictability

#### Acknowledgements & people involved:

Senior: V. B. Svetovoy, B. J. Kooi, J. Knoester, H. Waalkens, C. Binns, M. Wuttig PhDs: P. Van Zwol, W. Broer, M. Sedighi, F. Tajik, Z. Babamahdi