

# A crucial pillar in physics

## Fundamental forces in nature

#### **Gravitational**



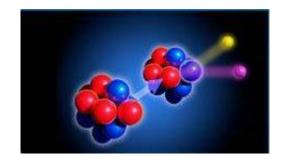
Why apples fall

### **Electromagnetic**



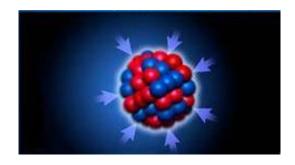
Ubiquitous in nature

#### Weak



Radioactive decay

### **Strong**



Holds proton and neutron together

## **Mechanics**

How a system would behave when subjected to a given force?

Classical mechanics: normal objects in daily life

- Newtonian mechanics
- Electrodynamics
  - Most well established, least controversial
  - Highly relevant and can be extended to other three types of mechanics

**Quantum mechanics**: small objects

**Special relativity**: objects moving at fast speeds

**Quantum field theory**: small objects moving at fast speeds

# **Topics**

#### 1. Vector calculus

#### 2. Electrostatics

- Charge, electric force, electric field
- Electric potential
- Electric fields in matter

### 3. Magnetostatics

- Current, magnetic force, magnetic field
- Magnetic vector potential
- Magnetic fields in matter

#### 4. Electrodynamics

- Electromotive force
- Electromagnetic induction
- Maxwell's equations

#### 5. Electromagnetic waves

- EM waves in vacuum
- EM waves in matter
- Guided EM waves
- Radiation

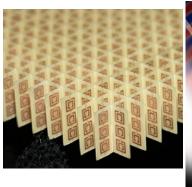
#### 6. Relativity

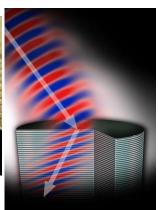
- Theory of special relativity
- Relativistic mechanics
- Relativistic electrodynamics

# Research frontier

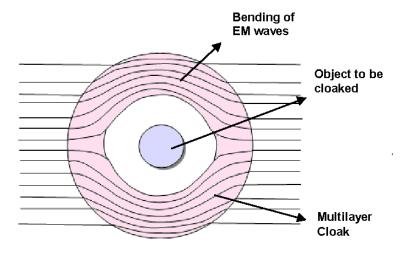
# Metamaterials and plasmonics

#### **Negative refractive index**





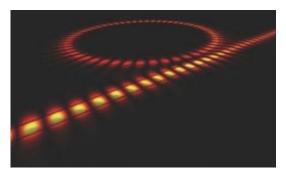
### **Invisibility cloak**



#### **Plasmonics**

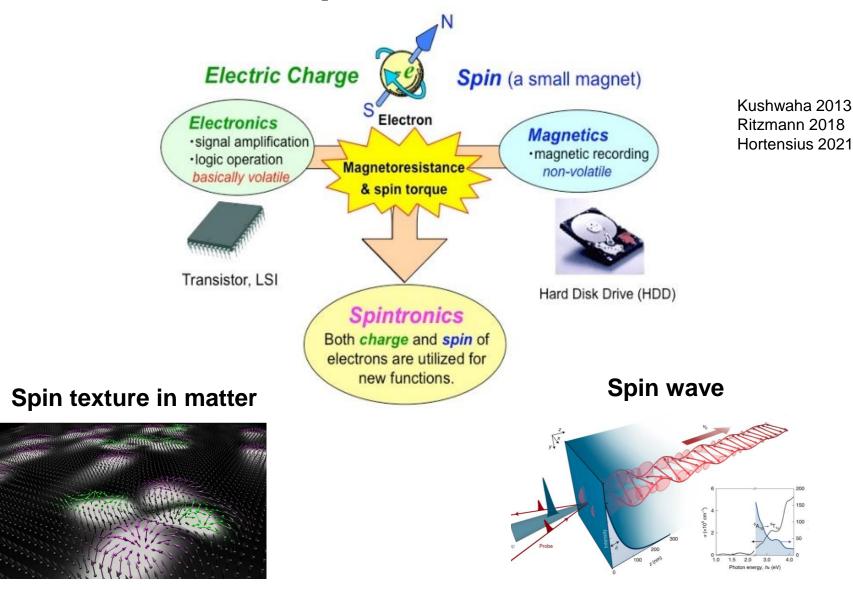






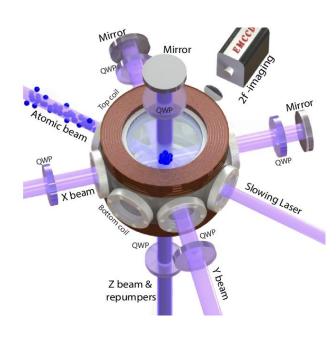
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# **Spintronics**



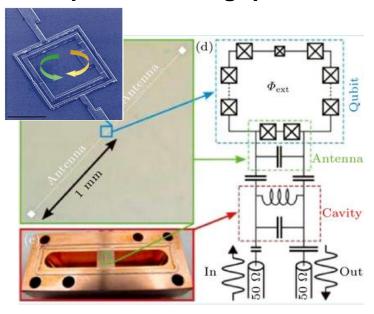
## **Quantum computing**

#### **Cold atoms**



Magnetic optical trap (at NUS CQT)

### **Superconducting qubits**



Fluxonium

Su 2022

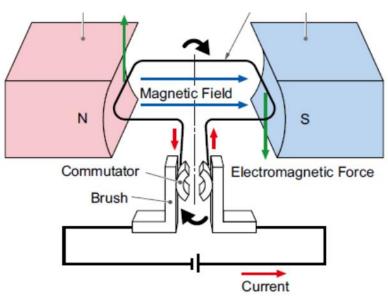
# **Applications**

# **Daily applications**

Resistor-Inductor-Capacitor



Electric motors



### Magnetic compass



## Faraday cage

Electrical isolation enclosure that protects human and sensitive equipment from lightning strikes

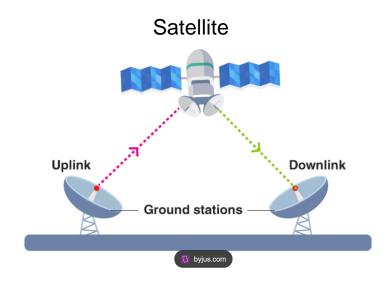


## **Telecommunication**



Optical fiber



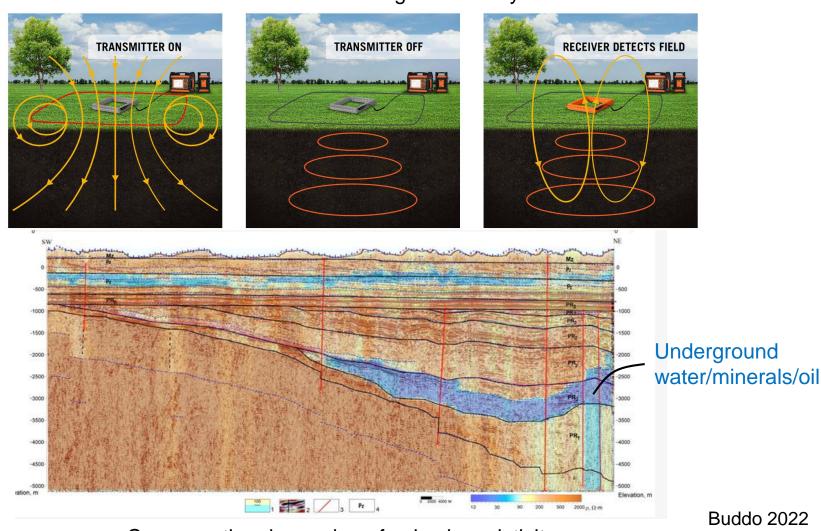


Radar



# **Geophysical techniques**

Transient electromagnetic survey

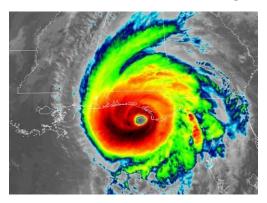


Cross-sectional mapping of seismic resistivity

## **Mathematical tools**

# Vector calculus, linear algebra, ordinary differential equations, partial differential equations

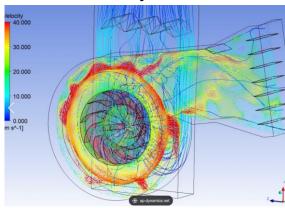
Weather forecasting



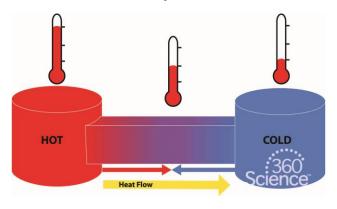
Financial market



Fluid dynamics



Thermal problems



# **Course facts**

| Term:        | 2024 Sem1           | Lecture days: Mon. & Thurs.       |
|--------------|---------------------|-----------------------------------|
| Instructor:  | Li Xinwei           | <b>Lecture time:</b> 10 am – Noon |
| Email:       | xinweili@nus.edu.sg | Venue: M: LT29, T: LT27           |
| Office hour: | By appointment      | TA: Yang Hengxing                 |
|              |                     | (hengxing@u.nus.edu)              |

## Instructor: Li Xinwei (office: S12-02-08)

# Lab of light-matter interaction https://www.lixinweigroup.com/



Asst/Prof @ NUS Physics

July 2023 -

Postdoc @ Caltech Physics 2019 - 2023

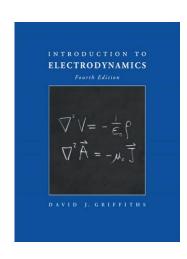
Ph.D. @ Rice ECE 2014 - 2019

B.Sc. @ Fudan Physics 2010 - 2014

## **Textbooks**

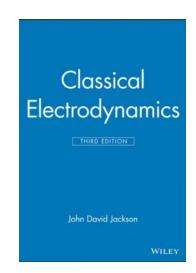
#### Main:

• David J. Griffiths. *Introduction to Electrodynamics*. 4th ed., Pearson Education, Inc., 2013. ISBN: 978-0-321-85656-2



#### Supplementary:

- John David Jackson. Classical Electrodynamics. New York, John Wiley & Sons, Inc., 1998. ISBN: 978-0-471-30932-1
- Landau and Lifshitz. Electrodynamics of continuous media., Oxford: Pergamon Press Ltd., 1961.





## **Assessment components**

| Component          | Weight | Description                        |
|--------------------|--------|------------------------------------|
| Lecture attendance | 12 %   | 4 – 6 times, randomly called upon  |
|                    |        | throughout semester                |
| Homework           | 40%    | 4-6 sets                           |
| Final exam         | 40%    | Closed book test (with one A4 help |
|                    |        | sheet), in the exam week           |
| Mini-project       | 8%     | Surveying open-ended questions     |
|                    |        | and writing project report         |

## **Assessment components**

#### Lecture attendance (12%)

- 4 6 times, randomly called throughout semester
- In the form of unannounced quizzes, to be turned in at the end of class
- Fully count as long as name is properly signed

### Homework (40%)

- 4 6 sets of assignment questions
- Submit to Canvas in .pdf format (typed or scanned handwritten copy)
- Late submissions without excuse penalized proportional to lateness

## **Assessment components**

### Final exam (40%)

- Covers all course contents throughout semester
- Closed book, with an A4 help sheet (both sides)
- Nonprogrammable calculator

### Mini-project (8%)

- Open-ended questions to investigate
- Topics to be introduced in class, or can self-propose projects
- Analytical derivation, literature review, programming, simulation...
- Turn in project reports individually or in groups of 2 (voluntarily)
- o In exceptional cases, may be invited to give a talk in class ©

## **Academic integrity**

#### **NUS** code of student conduct

"The University takes a strict view of cheating in any form, deceptive fabrication, plagiarism and violation of intellectual property and copyright laws. Any student who is found to have engaged in such misconduct will be subject to disciplinary action by the University. Such misconduct will include, but is not limited to, the misuse of content or language generated by artificial intelligence (AI) computer programs."