

Polariton spin transport in a microcavity channel: A mean-field modeling

M.Yu.Petrov¹ and A.V.Kavokin^{1,2}

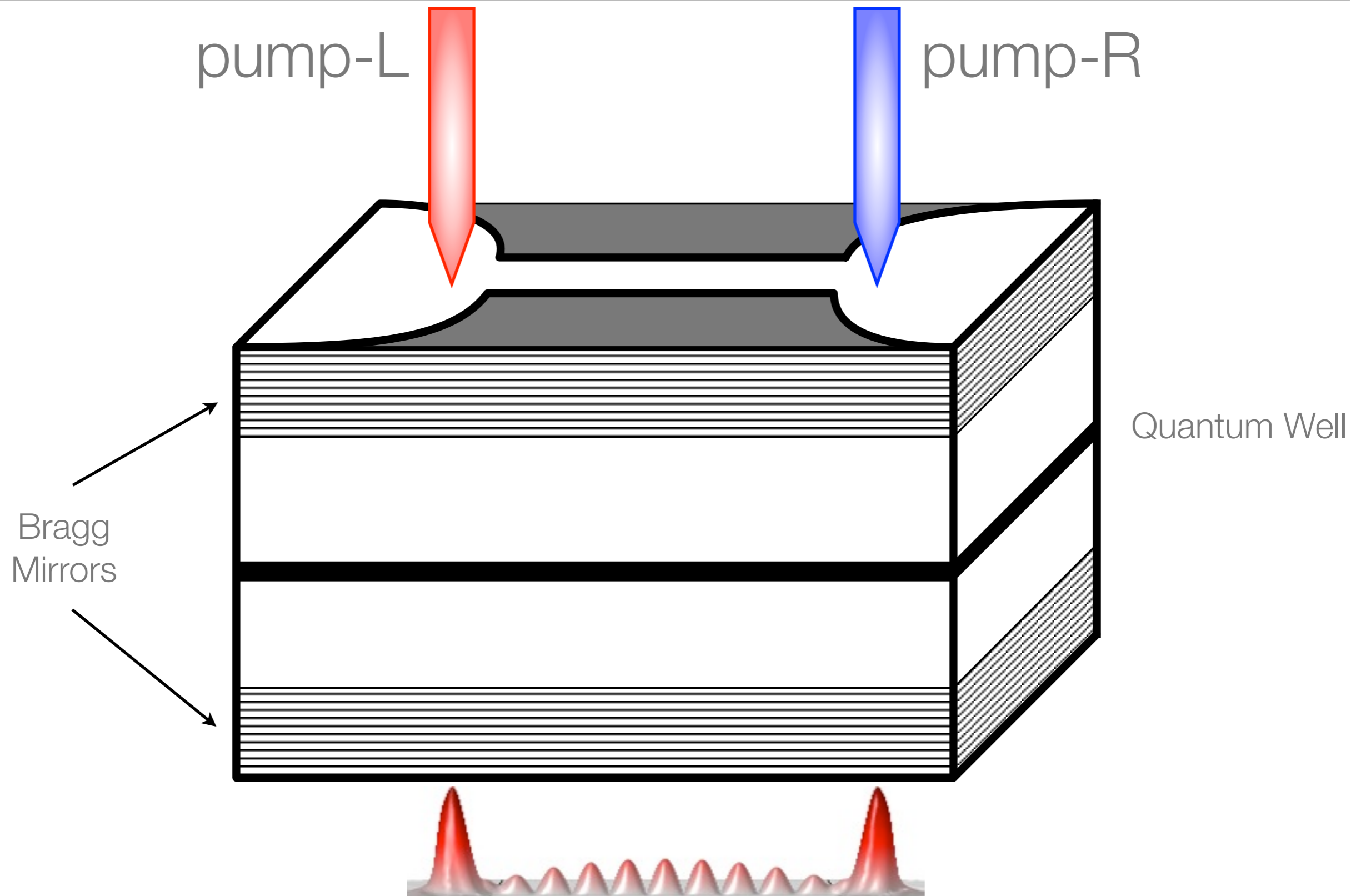
¹*Spin Optics Laboratory, Saint Petersburg State University, Russia*

²*Physics and Astronomy School, University of Southampton, UK*

Outline

- Motivation for experimentalists
- Mean-field model and its numerical implementation
- Results of modeling
 - Interference of two flows in a channel
 - Spin-polarized polariton transport in a channel
 - Interpretation in terms of spin conductivity
- Summary and further steps

Motivation for experimentalists



Mean-field model

$$\alpha_2 = -0.1\alpha_1$$

$$\begin{cases} i\hbar \frac{\partial}{\partial t} \psi_+(\mathbf{x}, t) = \left(-\frac{\hbar^2}{2m} \nabla^2 + \alpha_1 |\psi_+(\mathbf{x}, t)|^2 + \alpha_2 |\psi_-(\mathbf{x}, t)|^2 - \frac{i\hbar}{2\tau} \right) \psi_+(\mathbf{x}, t) + p_+(\mathbf{x}, t) \\ i\hbar \frac{\partial}{\partial t} \psi_-(\mathbf{x}, t) = \left(-\frac{\hbar^2}{2m} \nabla^2 + \alpha_1 |\psi_-(\mathbf{x}, t)|^2 + \alpha_2 |\psi_+(\mathbf{x}, t)|^2 - \frac{i\hbar}{2\tau} \right) \psi_-(\mathbf{x}, t) + p_-(\mathbf{x}, t) \end{cases}$$

$$m \simeq 3 \times 10^{-5} m_0$$

$$\tau \simeq 10\text{ps}$$

$$p_{\pm}(\mathbf{x}, t) = p_{\pm}^L e^{-\frac{(\mathbf{x}-\mathbf{x}_L)^2}{\delta x^2}} e^{i\omega_L t + i\mathbf{k}_L \cdot \mathbf{x}} + p_{\pm}^R e^{-\frac{(\mathbf{x}-\mathbf{x}_R)^2}{\delta x^2}} e^{i\omega_R t + i\mathbf{k}_R \cdot \mathbf{x}}$$

Numerical implementation

- Spatial discretization by using **Finite Element Method**

- Quadratic elements

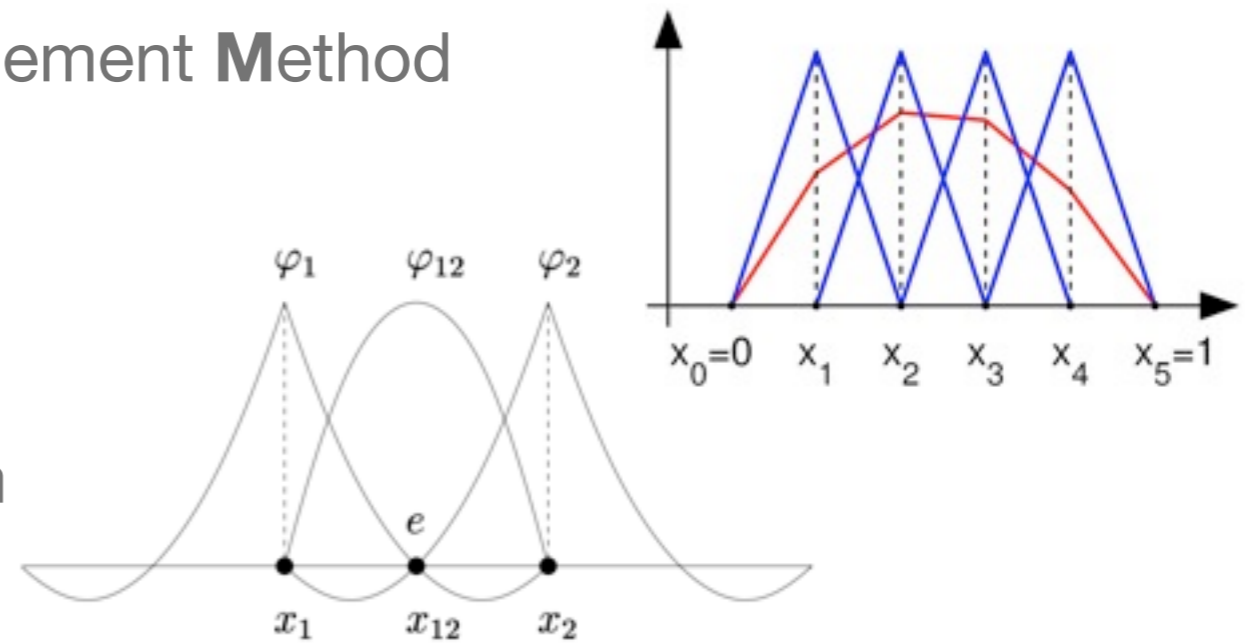
- Grid size: $\Delta x < 0.25 \mu\text{m}$ @ $L_{\text{ch}} \sim 100 \mu\text{m}$

- Time discretization

- 5-step **Backward Differentiation Formula**

- Max time step: $\Delta t < 100 \text{fs}$ @ $\tau = 10 \text{ps}$

- Implementation using Comsol (2D and 1D) and a private software (1D)

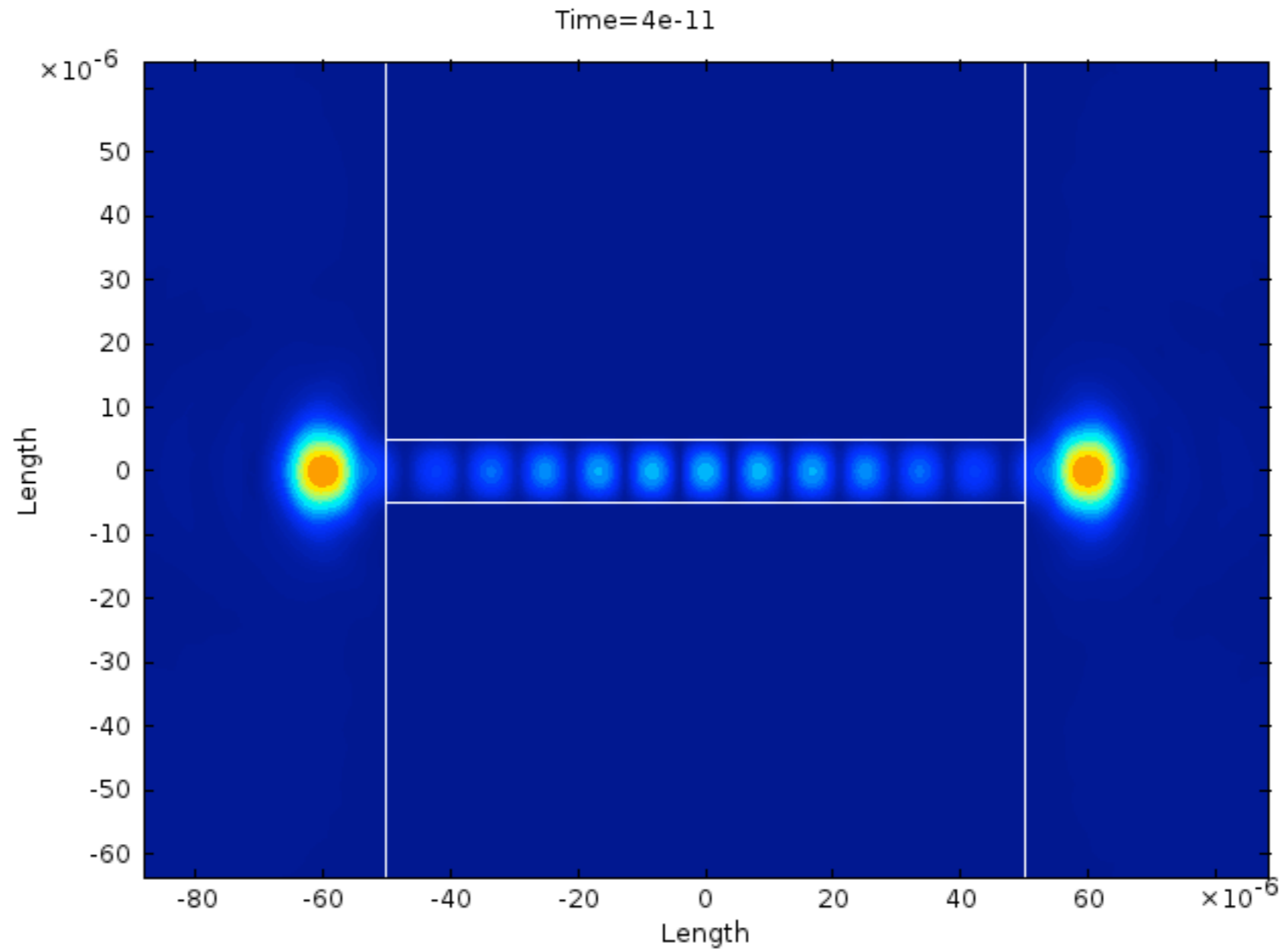


$$u' = f(t, u), \quad u(t_0) = u_0;$$

$$\sum_{k=1}^s a_k u_{n+k} = h\beta f(t_{n+s}, u_{n+s});$$

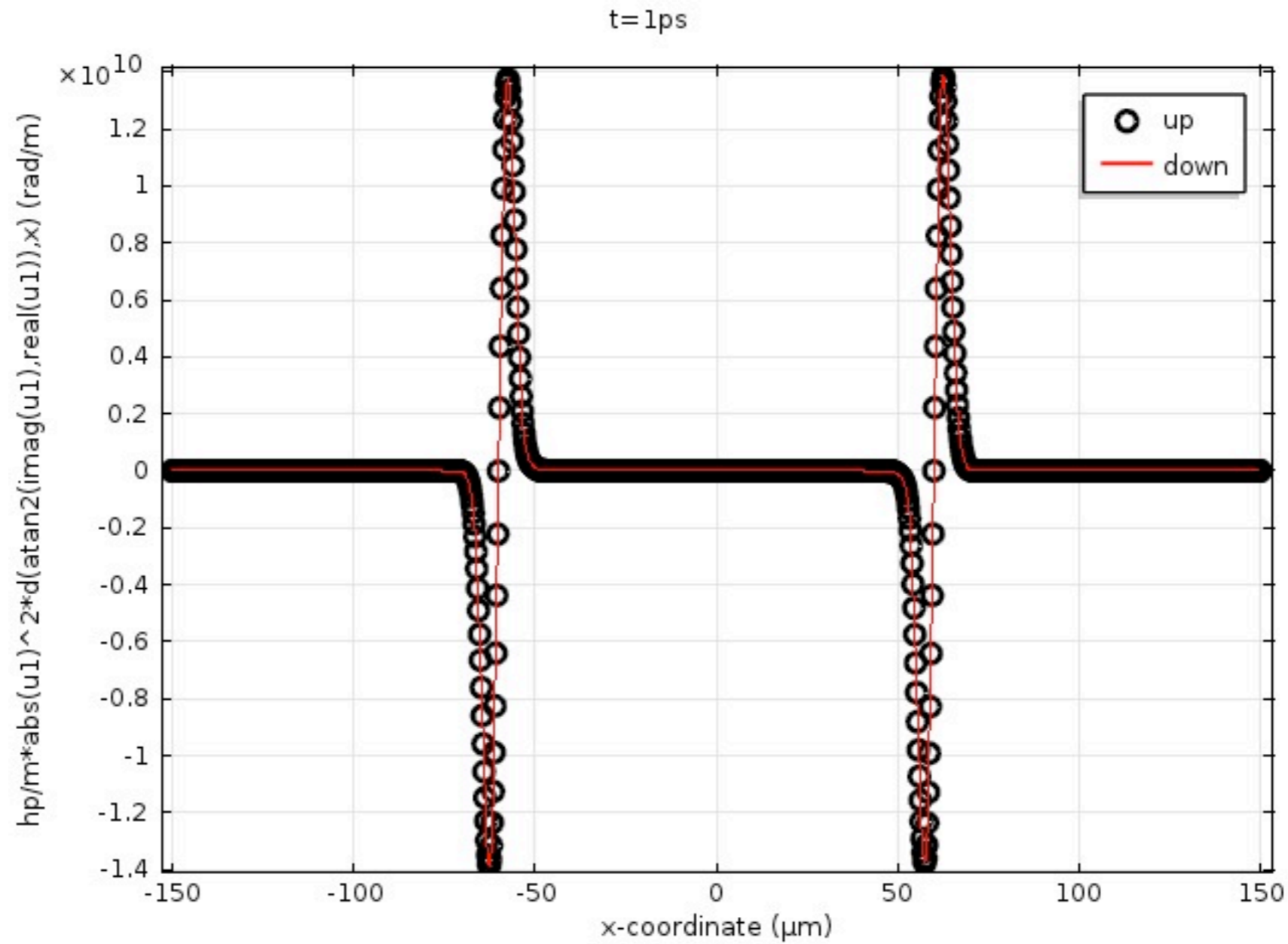
$$t_n = t_0 + nh.$$

Interference of two pump pulses



Interference of two pump pulses (2)

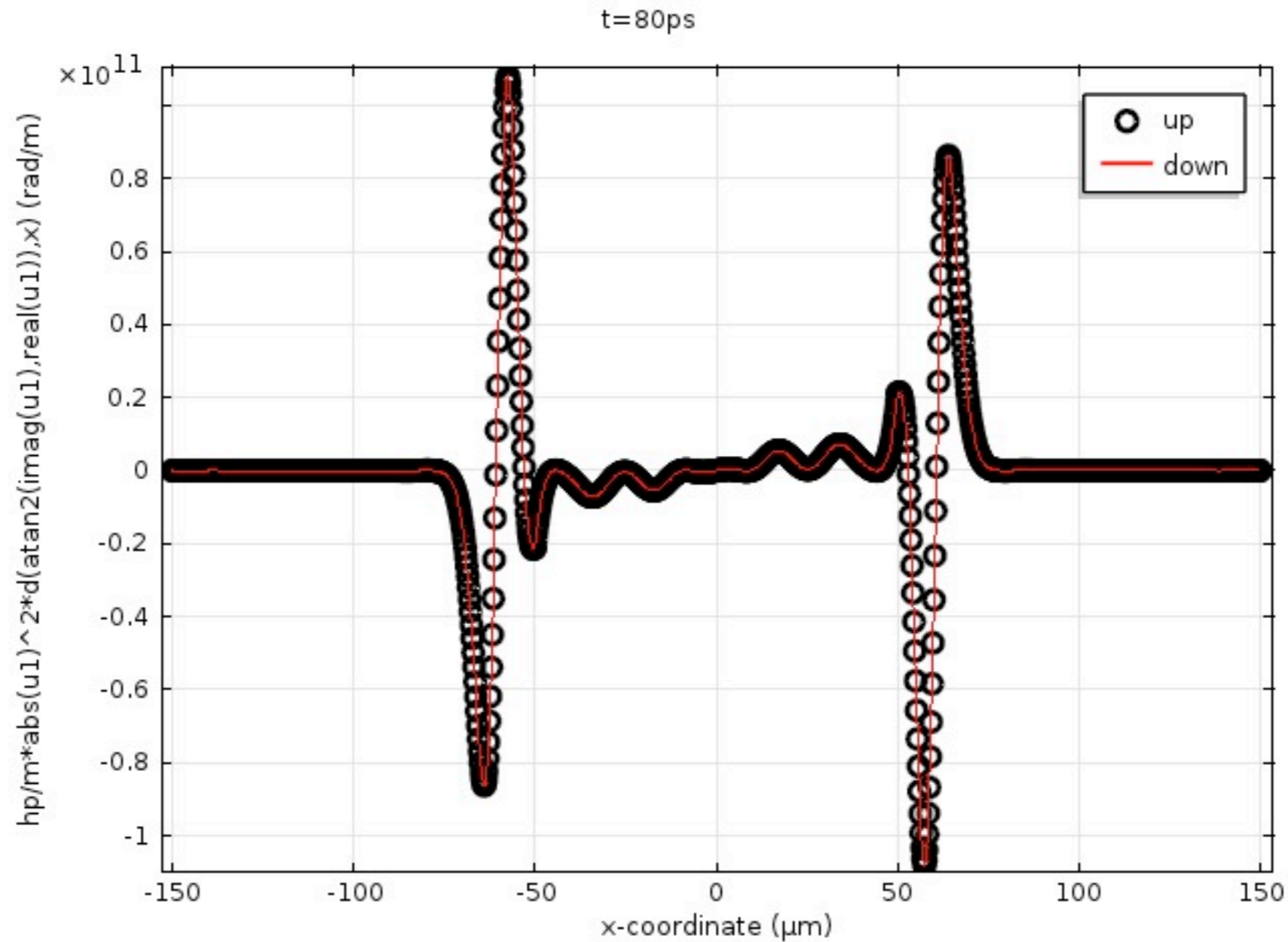
current density



$$\mathbf{j} = -\frac{i\hbar}{2m} (\psi_{\pm}^* \nabla \psi_{\pm} - \psi_{\pm} \nabla \psi_{\pm}^*)$$

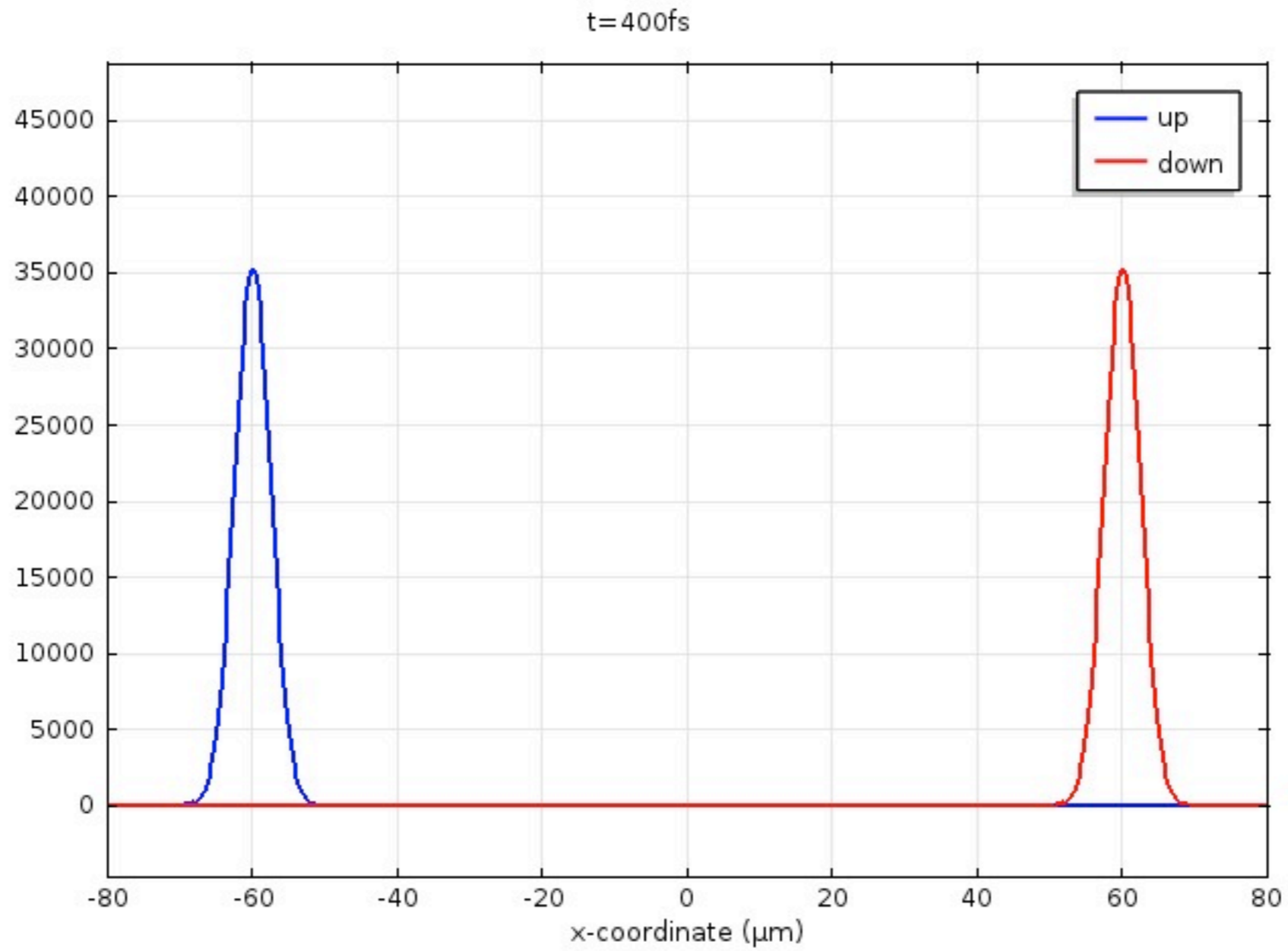
Interference of two pump pulses (2)

current density

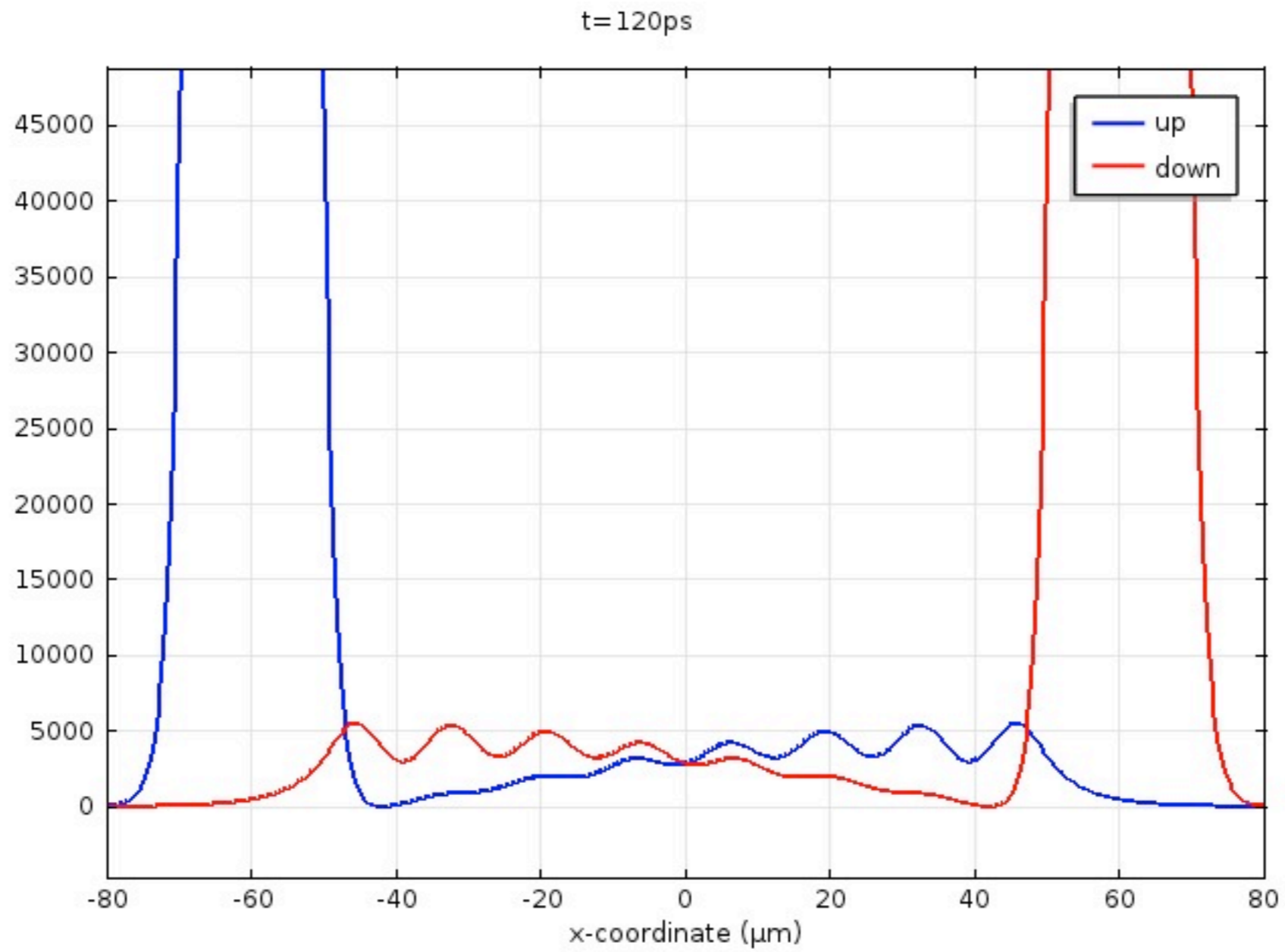


$$\mathbf{j} = -\frac{i\hbar}{2m} (\psi_{\pm}^* \nabla \psi_{\pm} - \psi_{\pm} \nabla \psi_{\pm}^*)$$

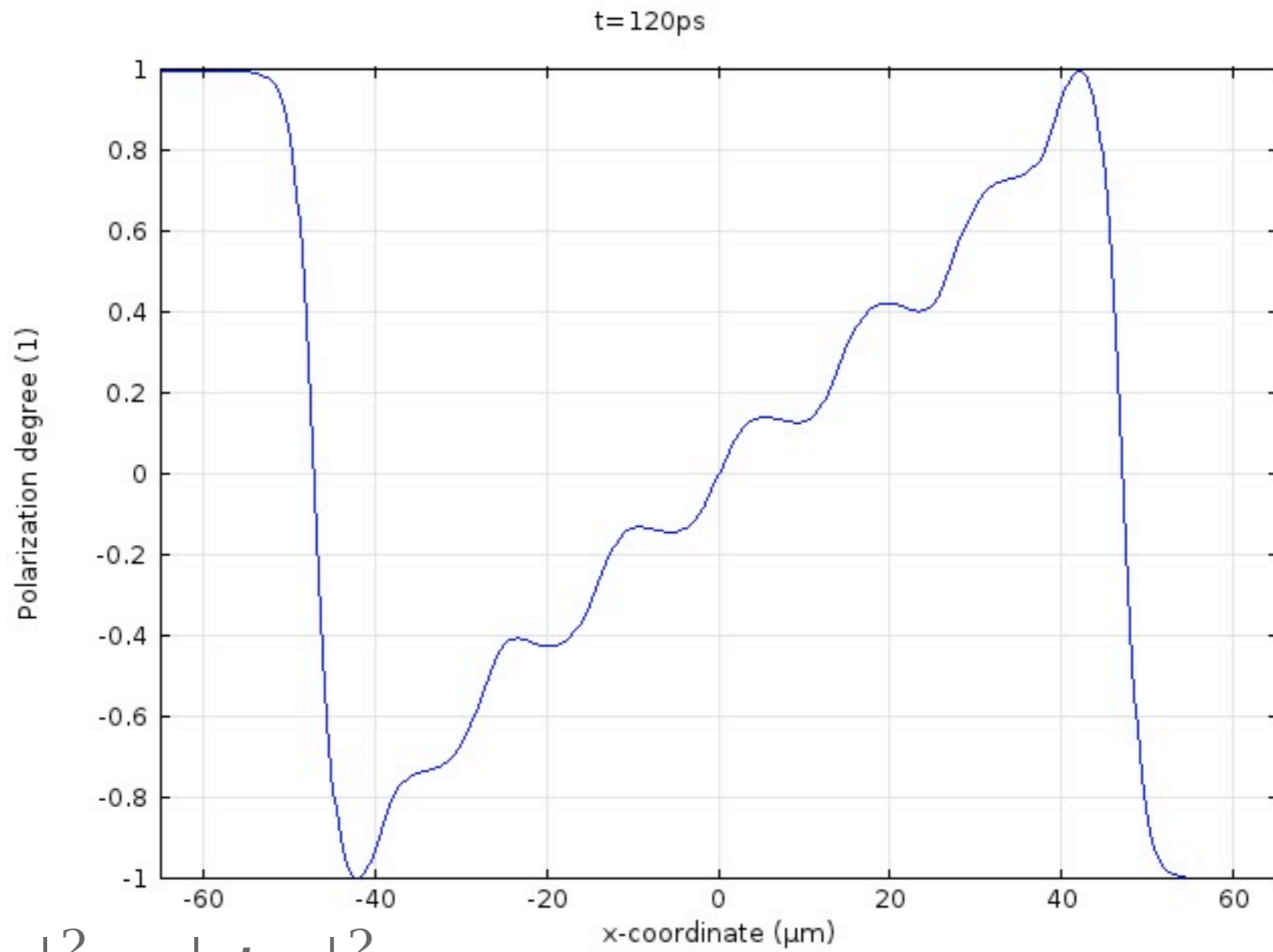
Spin-polarized polariton transport



Spin-polarized polariton transport



Spin-polarized polariton transport



$$\rho_c = \frac{|\psi_+|^2 - |\psi_-|^2}{|\psi_+|^2 + |\psi_-|^2}$$

Conductivity tensor

$$i\hbar \frac{\partial}{\partial t} \psi_{\pm} = \left(-\frac{\hbar^2}{2m} \nabla^2 + \alpha_1 |\psi_{\pm}|^2 + \alpha_2 |\psi_{\mp}|^2 - \frac{i\hbar}{2\tau} \right) \psi_{\pm} + P_{\pm}$$

$$\psi_{\pm} = \sqrt{n_{\pm}} e^{i\varphi_{\pm}}$$

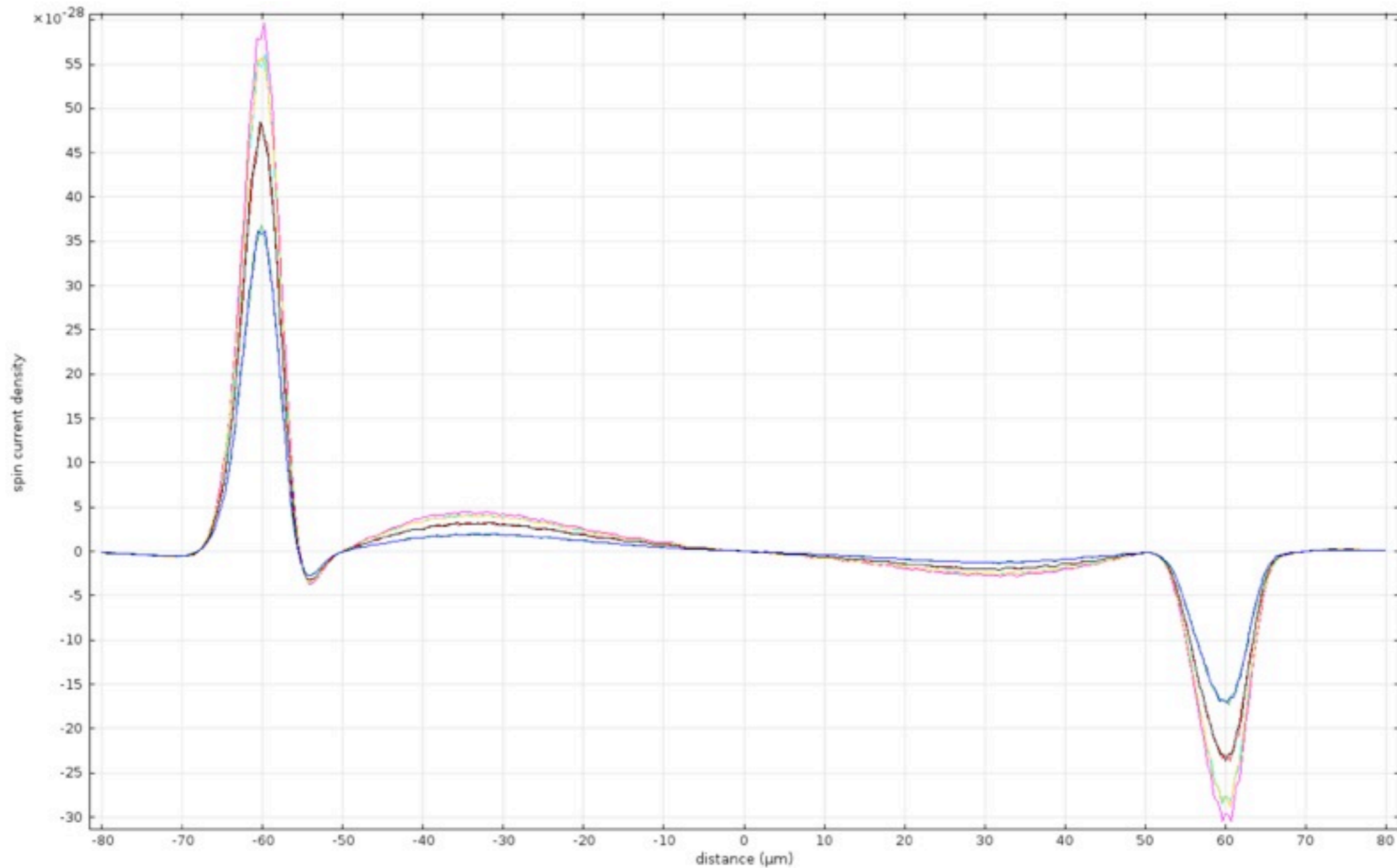
Imaginary part of GP eq. decomposition gives: $\frac{\partial n_{\pm}}{\partial t} + \mathbf{div} \mathbf{j} = 0$

$$\mathbf{j} = \frac{\hbar}{m} \begin{bmatrix} n_+ \nabla \varphi_+ \\ n_- \nabla \varphi_- \end{bmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} \sigma_{++} & \sigma_{+-} \\ \sigma_{-+} & \sigma_{--} \end{pmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} \mu_R^+ - \mu_L^+ \\ \mu_R^- - \mu_L^- \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\psi_{\pm}(\mathbf{x}, t) = \psi_{\pm}(\mathbf{x}) e^{i\mu_{\pm} t / \hbar} \quad P_{\pm} = p_0 e^{-\frac{(\mathbf{x}-\mathbf{x}_0)^2}{\delta^2}} e^{i\omega_{\pm} t / \hbar + i\mathbf{k}_{\pm} \cdot \mathbf{x}}$$

$$-\mu_{\pm} \psi_{\pm}(\mathbf{x}) = \left(-\frac{\hbar^2}{2m} \nabla^2 + \alpha_1 |\psi_{\pm}|^2 + \alpha_2 |\psi_{\mp}|^2 - \frac{i\hbar}{2\tau} \right) \psi_{\pm}(\mathbf{x}) + P'_{\pm}(\mathbf{x})$$

Spin-current density with diferent pump-pulses



$$\mathbf{j} = \frac{\hbar}{m} \begin{bmatrix} n_+ \nabla \varphi_+ \\ n_- \nabla \varphi_- \end{bmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} \sigma_{++} & \sigma_{+-} \\ \sigma_{-+} & \sigma_{--} \end{pmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} \mu_R^+ - \mu_L^+ \\ \mu_R^- - \mu_L^- \end{bmatrix}$$

Summary and further steps

- A mean-field model describing polariton spin transport based on coupled Gross-Pitaevskii equations is developed
 - Numerical implementation of the model demonstrates interference of two flows stimulated by CW excitation near both boundaries of a channel
 - If pumps are cross-polarized the effect can be emphasized by detection of circular polarization degree
- Further steps
 - Possibility of experimental observation