

RESONANCE NONLINEAR REFLECTION FROM NEUTRON STAR AND ADDITIONAL RADIATION COMPONENTS OF CRAB PULSAR

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Additional high-frequency components of the pulsar radiation in Crab Nebula are considered as a result of the resonance with the surface electromagnetic wave at nonlinear reflection from of the neutron star surface. This stimulated scattering consists in generation of the surface periodic relief by the incident field and diffraction of the radiation of relativistic positrons on the relief which fly from magnetosphere to the star in the accelerating electric field of the polar gap.

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INTRODUCTION

Pulsars [1] and neutron stars [2] celebrated their 50th anniversary by international conferences in St Petersburg with a subtitle «50 years after» and in Cambridge with a subtitle «The Next Fifty Years»¹. The materials of these conferences include reviews and modern literature references. The references to the works mentioned below are contained also in the previous article of one of coauthors [3]. We use some texts from it in the introductory part of the present work.

Neutron stars, as it is known, were predicted by Landau², connected with supernova ones by Baade and Zwicky and discovered as pulsars by J. Bell and A. Hewish and their colleagues after a quarter of a century. Appearing as a result of the collapse at supernova explosion, they possess the strongest magnetic field 10^{12} Tc, rapid rotation (with a period from seconds to milliseconds), and are enveloped in the *magnetosphere* of the electron-positron pairs. The magnetosphere mainly rotates corotationally with the star, but it has a bundle of open magnetic field lines over the magnetic poles; the particles accelerate and electromagnetic radiation goes out along these lines [4]. Particles acceleration takes place in the gap under the area of open magnetic field lines where the strong accelerating electric field is caused by the magnetic field and rotation. The region of the polar cap is limited by the magnetic field lines that are tangent to light cylinder where the velocity of the corotational rotation equals to light velocity.

The neutron star itself [5] is known to correspond to the nuclear density accompanying the neutronization reaction $p + e^- \rightarrow n + \nu$. It contains layers possessing

superfluidity, and possibly superconductivity. The properties of matter at such nuclear densities have not been studied sufficiently, therefore, there are a number of differing theoretical models [6].

Very little is known about the properties of the surface of neutron stars. In the case of Crab Pulsar, it, apparently, has a solid crust undergoing to starquakes. Due to the colossal force of gravity, the surface is close to mirror one, but it can contain a regular structure of elevations caused by the influence of a strong magnetic (and electric) field. In the region of the polar cap the surface can be substantially perturbed by the incident radiation. In this region, the upper layer, heated by accelerated particles and radiation, can be in the liquid state (see references and discussion [4, p. 110; 6]). According to the references, we assume that the boundary resembles a metal with iron nuclei and collectivized degenerate electrons and it has high conductivity.

The mechanism of the radio emission of a pulsar in the Crab Nebula is based on the idea of reflection of radiation from the surface of a neutron star [7]. The radiation of positrons flying to a star from the magnetosphere is reflected. This reflected radiation predominates in the centimeter frequency range, where a shift of the interpulse (IP) occurs and high-frequency (hf) components HFC1 and HFC2 appear [8, 9]. We consider the observed shift of the IP as an argument in favor of good reflecting properties of the surface. The reciprocal motion of positrons arises in the accelerating electric field of the gap and was considered earlier in the context of star surface heating.

Most researchers believe that radio emission occurs in the interior of the magnetosphere or beyond, near the "light cylinder" [1, 4, 10]. We are interested in radiation emanating from the inner gap above the polar cap, for which there are a number of arguments.

In the model [7] the displacement of the IP is explained by the mirror reflection in the inclined magnetic field, and the shift of the IP to 7° means the slope of the field by 3.5° , which we will use below. The appearance of hf-components, according to [3], can be due to a nonlinear reflection consisting in the diffraction of the incident radiation by a periodic structure arising from the mixing of this radiation with a "material" surface wave (MSW), which is also excited by it. For definiteness, we

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²It is quite natural that word *neutron* is absent in Landau's work. The neutron was discovered by Chadwick the same year and Landau could not yet know about it. For the results of Landau work the specific role of the neutron was not so significant. In his work the possibility of existence of a macroscopic atomic nucleus controlled by gravity was proved. See for details ref [25].

give expressions for gravitational waves on a liquid surface.

The wave of "light pressure" arising at the boundary, bilinear in the amplitudes of the incident $E_0 \propto \exp[i(\mathbf{k}\mathbf{r} - \omega t)]$ and scattered $E_{\pm 1} \propto \exp[i(\mathbf{k} \pm \mathbf{q})\mathbf{r} - i(\omega \pm \Omega)t]$ combinational³ waves [14, 15]

$$p_{cs} \propto E_0 E_{-1}^* + E_0^* E_1 \propto \exp(i\mathbf{q}\mathbf{r} - i\Omega t), \quad (1)$$

in turn, swings the surface oscillations, leading to *stimulated scattering*.

For a liquid medium, solving the linearized equations of motion of the incompressible liquid

$$\rho \partial \mathbf{v} / \partial t = -\text{grad } p + \rho \mathbf{g},$$

taking into account the forces of electromagnetic fields, with boundary conditions at $z = \zeta$ (see [16]):

$$p'' - p' - \alpha(\partial^2 / \partial x^2 + \partial^2 / \partial y^2)\zeta = p_{cs},$$

$$p_{cs} \equiv \Pi_{nn}' - \Pi_{nn}'', \quad \partial \zeta / \partial t = v_n,$$

where $p \equiv p' - \rho(\partial \varepsilon / \partial \rho)E^2 / 8\pi$, Π_{nn} is the normal component of the Maxwell stress tensor, p' , \mathbf{v} , and α are the pressure, velocity and surface tension coefficient, \mathbf{g} is the gravitational acceleration, we find the Fourier component of the surface oscillation $\zeta_{q\Omega}$, which is expressed in terms of the Fourier component of the light pressure

$$\zeta_{q\Omega} = |q|(p_{cs})_{q\Omega} / (\rho' + \rho'') [\Omega_0^2(q) - \Omega^2], \quad (2)$$

where $\Omega_0(q)$ is the undisturbed dispersion law of surface waves. The amplitude of the pressure wave at frequency Ω is

$$p_{cs} = iq\zeta P \varepsilon' |E_0^i|^2 / 8\pi, \quad (3)$$

where the dimensionless pressure P given in [3, 14, 15] contains dependences on the wave vectors of electromagnetic and surface waves. We find the dispersion equation for surface waves on the irradiated surface, taking into account (1) and (3) and including attenuation due to (small) viscosity $\nu = \eta / \rho''$ ($\rho'' \gg \rho'$) in it:

$$\Omega(q) = \pm \Omega_0(q) - 2iq^2 \nu \mp \frac{iq^2 P \varepsilon' |E_0^i|^2}{16\pi \rho'' \Omega_0(q)}.$$

At the intensity of the incident field, larger than threshold, $I_0 > I_{th}$, that is

$$\varepsilon' \frac{|E_0^i|^2}{8\pi} > \frac{4\eta \Omega_0(q)}{|\text{Re } P|}, \quad (4)$$

growth of surface waves and stimulated scattering (SS) at them take place. The analysis is reduced to investigation of the quantity $\text{Re } P$ proportional to the light pressure.

1. RESONANCE WITH SURFACE ELECTROMAGNETIC WAVE

The stimulated combinational scattering under conditions of resonance with surface electromagnetic wave

(SEW) was considered in the work by Katz and Maslov [15]. The pressure analysis was carried out for a sliding wave with $k_{1z} = 0$. Index 1 indicates a combinational (anti-Stokes) wave of the first order with frequency $\omega + \Omega$. Below we consider the same combinational waves, but we omit this index in dimensionless quantities. As follows from the general expressions for scattering fields, small denominators of the form $1/(k_{1z} - k/\sqrt{\varepsilon})$ arise in light pressure in the vicinity of the sliding scattered wave with $k_{1z} = 0$ for large value $|\varepsilon| \gg 1$.

Large $|\varepsilon|$ arises at high conductivity, at that ε is complex quantity. It is convenient to use a complex surface impedance ξ , [16], where, $\xi \propto 1/\sqrt{\varepsilon}$, $|\xi| \ll 1$, instead of ε . We do not discuss the possible effect of magnetic permeability here. High conductivity corresponds to the concept of a boundary as a kind of high-density metal, where the iron nuclei are surrounded by free electron gas [5, 6]. Then the small denominator acquires a pole view, $1/(\beta + \xi)$, where $\beta = k_{1z}/k$ (see App. A).

a) Forward scattering.

Further on, we measure all the wave numbers in units of the wave number of the incident wave k . Then $\beta = \sqrt{1 - (k_x + q)^2}$. Here q is the wave number of the MSW, $k_x = \sin \theta$. The hf-component corresponds to the excitation of the MSW with the value of the (algebraic) wave number $-q$ and the combination scattering at it (for details see [3]). There is no fundamental difference from real values ε here. We explain the large width of the HFCI component below.

b) Backward scattering.

In this case, we denote the wave number of the MSW through g ; $\beta = \sqrt{1 - (k_x + g)^2}$. The presence of a pole results in maximum $\text{Re } P$ at purely imaginary value $\beta \equiv i\beta''$ corresponding to the resonance with SEW – the eigen wave of the surface. This purely inhomogeneous wave does not radiate into space, but we will see below that it can contribute to scattering at higher frequencies. The value of pressure at maximum $\beta'' = |\xi''|$ can be very large: $\text{Re } P_{max}^{res} \approx 1/\xi'$.

The second maximum $\text{Re } P$ arises for real $\beta \equiv \beta' = -(\xi'' + \xi')$ and corresponds to the propagating near-surface wave (see App. B): $\text{Re } P_{extr}^w \approx 1/\xi''$.

Finally, the special case is the Rayleigh point for $\beta = 0$, considered in [3]: $\text{Re } P^R \approx \sqrt{|\varepsilon|} \gg 1$. In terms of impedance $\text{Re } P^R \approx \xi'/|\xi|^2$.

All three characteristic features of $\text{Re } P$ are closely related to the so-called Wood anomalies⁴ and are basi-

³Combinational (Raman) scattering at the surface was considered in the classical papers by Mandelshtam, Andronov and Leontovich [12, 13].

⁴Wood's anomalies [17] received first physical explanation in the work by Rayleigh [18], who connected them with a sliding diffraction orders. See also the monograph [19].

cally generated by the diffraction peculiarities near Rayleigh angle of incidence for a certain diffraction order.

2. EXPLANATION OF THE HF-COMPONENTS WIDTH

The width of the hf-components reaches 30° , that is substantially greater than the width of the IP. This model presents a simple physical explanation for hf-components broadening.

Suppose that SS is realized at certain frequency ω_1 from the continuous spectrum of positron emission flying to the star. This means the excitation and buildup of the MSW with a certain value of the wave vector q_1 (for forward scattering, cf. Fig. 3 in [3]), or g_1 (for backward scattering, see Fig. 1 below). For a higher frequency ω_2 of positron emission, a near-surface propagating electromagnetic wave arises for combinational scattering on the same MSW g_1 if frequency difference $\omega_2 - \omega_1$ exceeds the (small) surface impedance (Fig. 1).

Thus, there is a contribution to the component HFC2 from the wide region of the positron emission spectrum, resulting in a large width of the component. Analogously, such pulse broadening occurs for HFC1 component due to MSW q_1 at forward scattering. If we assume that SS at frequency ω_1 occurs at the surface resonance that corresponds to non radiated non-uniform electromagnetic wave with a purely imaginary transverse wave number, then reflected propagating waves appear at higher frequencies ω_2 . The set of different frequency combinations explain the large width of the HF-component. The steeply falling energy spectrum in Crab Pulsar is an important argument in favor of such scenario.

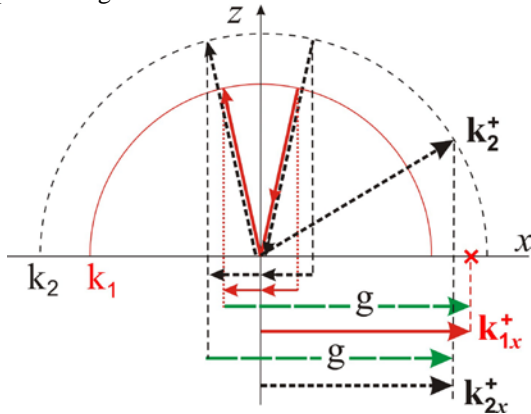


Fig. 1. A diagram explaining the contribution to the nonlinear reflection of combinational fields at higher frequency ω_2 from material surface waves (\mathbf{g}) excited via resonant stimulate scattering by the incident radiation at lower frequency ω_1 . For continuous spectrum of the radiation incident on the star this explains the large width of the hf-components. The details is in the text⁵

CONCLUSIONS

⁵Let us note that the wave corresponding to ω_1 is not emitted, it has a purely imaginary transverse wave number. The wave corresponding to $\omega_2 > \omega_1(1 + \xi^{n^2}/2)$ has a real transverse wave number and contributes to the reflection at the frequency ω_2 .

This work is based on the idea that the radiation of the return positrons is reflected from the surface of a neutron star, that was introduced by one of the authors and S.V. Trofimenko [7, 20 - 22]. The reflection in a magnetic field inclined to the surface star manifests itself in the IP shift and the appearance of additional hf-components discovered and investigated in [8 - 10] by Moffett, Hankins, Eilek and Jones. The possible effect of the combinational waves resonance with SEW of the sliding along the surface is discussed in this paper. The possibility of forming wide hf-components due to combinational scattering of a wide spectrum of radiation of positrons incident on the star surface is shown. This allows us (albeit ambiguously) to explain the observed drift of the HF-component and return, at least partly, to coupling each of the components to its pole [3]. In particular, backward scattering in the North Pole on a periodic structure excited at resonance with SEW gives such an opportunity, since it imitates "drift" towards the North Pole.

Indeed, let the MSW with a wave number g_1 (Fig. 1) be excited by a wave k_1 at resonance with SEW. Then $g_1 = k_1(1 + \sin \theta_N + \xi^{n^2}/2)$. In scattering the wave $k_2 > k_1$ on this structure, an anti-Stokes wave with a tangential component of the wave vector $k_{2x}^+ = g_1 - k_2 \sin \theta_N$ arises. At $k_{2x}^+ \leq k_2$ these waves will be propagating, and the equality $k_{2x}^+ = k_2$ corresponds to $\pi/2$ angle relative to normal. At higher frequencies, this angle φ_2 is

$$\varphi_2 = \arcsin(k_{2x}^+ / k_2)$$

or

$$\sin \varphi_2 = k_1(1 + \sin \theta_N + \xi^{n^2}/2) / k_2,$$

from which it can be seen that the angle decreases with increasing frequency k_2 . This corresponds to the observed "drift" of the component toward the N-pole [9].

At the South Pole (cf. the Fig. 3 in [3]) a similar "drift" may be occur due to scattering of lower frequencies and the angle φ_2^s also will increase in accordance with observations, but this will require the excitation of a wide range of material surface waves.

APPENDIX A

Consider the SEW (surface electromagnetic wave) in terms of the surface impedance. From the Maxwell equation for the H-wave $\text{rot}_x \mathbf{H} = -i \varepsilon^l(\omega/c) \mathbf{E}_x$, and the Leontovich boundary condition

$$\mathbf{E}_x = \sqrt{\mu / \varepsilon^{ll}} [\mathbf{H}, \mathbf{n}]_x,$$

\mathbf{n} is the normal to the surface, follows:

$$\partial H_y / \partial z = -ik \xi H_y.$$

where k is the wave number of electromagnetic wave in the first medium and ξ is a relative impedance.

SEW corresponds $H_y \propto \exp(-\kappa z)$ with $\kappa > 0$ (the axis z is directed into the first medium) whence the dispersion relation for SEW takes the form

$$\kappa = ik \xi,$$

which requires a purely imaginary impedance $\xi = i\xi''$, $\xi'' < 0$, corresponding to the negative $\varepsilon'' < 0$ (if μ and ε' are real and positive) [16]. By introducing a dimensionless transverse component of the wave vector, β , according to $k_z \equiv \beta k$ or $\kappa \equiv -i\beta k$ with $\text{Im} \beta \geq 0$, we rewrite the condition in the form

$$\beta + \xi = 0.$$

We emphasize that the SEW as eigen wave exists for real and negative value of ε'' only (with the remark made above). In the general case of the complex ε'' , small denominators of the form $(\beta + \xi)$ arise in the diffracted fields in the region of Wood anomalies. Respectively, resonance combinational field acquire a form

$$H^{\pm 1} \propto 1/(\beta + \xi).$$

Then the resonant part of the dimensionless radiation pressure, bilinear in the incident and combinational field, is

$$P \propto 1/(\beta + \xi),$$

and the real part $\text{Re} P$, which determines the instability increment, is equal to

$$\text{Re} P = \frac{\beta' + \xi'}{|\beta + \xi|^2} = \frac{\beta'}{|\beta + \xi|^2} + \frac{\xi'}{|\beta + \xi|^2}.$$

The above expression has a simple physical interpretation. The first term is proportional to the normal component of the energy flux density of the resonance spectrum

$$S_{out}^{\pm} \propto \beta' |H^{\pm}|^2 \propto \beta' / |\beta + \xi|^2,$$

carried away from the surface. The second term corresponds to the energy flux density directed to the surface,

$$S_{in}^{\pm} \propto \text{Re}[\mathbf{E}^* \mathbf{H}]_n^{\pm} \propto \xi' / |\beta + \xi|^2,$$

and this flux is completely absorbed by the medium. Thus, $\text{Re} P$ is proportional to the sum of radiative and dissipative losses. Accordingly, the maxima of $\text{Re} P$ correspond to the maxima of the total losses of the resonance spectrum. The corresponding extremal and singular points were given at the end of Section 3.

Note for certainty, the radiation (light) pressure used above is found from the solution of the electrodynamic problem using Leontovich boundary condition at the surface, perturbed by a material wave [14 - 15, 3].

APPENDIX B

We illustrate the influence of the sliding waves and Wood's anomalies by observing the reflection from diffraction grating (according to the data of [23]).

The mechanism of nonlinear reflection of radiation from the surface of a neutron star, described above, has much in common with the mechanism of the resonance diffraction of electromagnetic radiation on the periodic surface of the conducting medium in the vicinity of Wood's anomalies. As in the case considered above, the interaction between the diffraction components of the beam leads to an increase in the intensity of Stokes (or anti-Stokes) components, resulting in a bright near-surface wave and, correspondingly, decreasing of the intensity of the specularly reflected radiation (Fig. 2).

We present some results of the laboratory studies of the resonance diffraction of radiation on a corrugated metal surface [23]. The radiation source was HCN laser (wavelength $\lambda = 366.7 \mu\text{m}$, with beam radius at the laser output 6.7 mm, and beam divergence $\approx 0.9 \text{ deg}$ in $1/e$ intensity level.

The experiments were carried out with brass samples (Cu 60%), periodic structures (gratings) were prepared on their surfaces with grooves of different depths h : 16, 24 and 40 μm . The periods d of all gratings are the same: $d = 254 \mu\text{m}$.

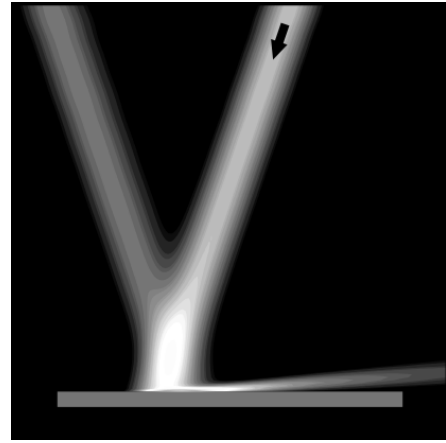


Fig. 2. Sliding near-surface wave against a background of incident and reflected waves (numerical simulation). The bright diffracted wave corresponds to a weakened reflected one [23]. Courtesy to the authors

The diffraction anomalies were studied in the vicinity of the incidence angle θ corresponding to the Rayleigh angle for the -1 -th diffraction order: $\theta \approx \theta_R^{(-1)} \equiv \arcsin[(\lambda/d) - 1]$. This geometry is preferable, since in this case there are only two propagating waves – specularly reflected and minus-first diffraction component. The remaining diffraction orders are inhomogeneous and have not been recorded in the experiment. The power of radiation was measured depending on the angle of incidence. At angles of incidence lower than Rayleigh one ($\theta < \theta_R^{(-1)}$), when Stokes wave H_{-1} was inhomogeneous, power of the specularly reflected radiation was measured, and for angles $\theta > \theta_R^{(-1)}$ the dependence of Stokes component power on the sliding angle ψ (between the grating plane and the recorded beam) was measured.

As follows from the theoretical consideration of the problem, the change in the power of the specularly reflected radiation has a quasi-resonance character. Near Rayleigh angle, the specularly reflected radiation is substantially suppressed, and the suppression increases with the deepening of the grating grooves. Respectively, the intensity of Stokes component increases. It is also seen that minimum of specular reflection at the incidence angle θ_{\min} corresponds to Stokes component maximum at sliding angle ψ_{\max} (in case of diffraction in the -1 -st order, these angles are related by $\cos \psi_{\max} + \sin \theta_{\min} = \lambda/d$). It should be noted that the shape of the curve depends on the depth of the grating

grooves. For shallow gratings ($h \ll d$) the angular dependence of reflectivity is almost symmetric and close to Lorentz curve. At the increase of the groove depth the symmetry of the wings disappears and the shape of the curve approaches a form characteristic for Fano resonance [24]. This is stipulated by the presence of two channels for signal formation: nonresonance (Fresnel) and resonance ones, caused by interaction of the diffracted order with the grating. The manifestation of this interaction is the above-mentioned redistribution of energy between the specularly reflected and Stokes components: the incident wave scattering at the grating generates Stokes component; in turn, scattering of the Stokes wave itself produces another component which propagates in the same direction as the specular reflected wave. Interference of this "additional" component with the specular reflected wave results in redistribution of energy between the diffraction components (which is illustrated by numerical simulation), and a change in the shape of the Fano resonance curve.

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**РЕЗОНАНСНОЕ НЕЛИНЕЙНОЕ ОТРАЖЕНИЕ ОТ НЕЙТРОННОЙ ЗВЕЗДЫ
И ДОПОЛНИТЕЛЬНЫЕ КОМПОНЕНТЫ В ИЗЛУЧЕНИИ ПУЛЬСАРА КРАБОВИДНОЙ
ТУМАННОСТИ**

В.М. Конторович, И.С. Сневак, В.К. Гавриков

Дополнительные высокочастотные компоненты излучения пульсара в Крабовидной туманности рассматриваются как результат резонанса с поверхностной электромагнитной волной при нелинейном отражении от поверхности нейтронной звезды. Это – вынужденное рассеяние, которое состоит в генерации падающим полем периодического рельефа поверхности и дифракции на нём излучения релятивистских позитронов, летящих из магнитосферы к звезде в ускоряющем электрическом поле полярного зазора.

**РЕЗОНАНСНЕ НЕЛІНІЙНЕ ВІДБИТТЯ ВІД НЕЙТРОННОЇ ЗІРКИ І ДОДАТКОВІ
КОМПОНЕНТИ У ВИПРОМІНЮВАННІ ПУЛЬСАРА КРАБОПОДІБНОЇ ТУМАННОСТІ**

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Додаткові високочастотні компоненти випромінювання пульсара в Крабоподібній туманності розглядаються як результат резонансу з поверхневою електромагнітною хвилею при нелінійному відбитті від поверхні нейтронної зірки. Це – вимушене розсіювання, яке складається в генерації падаючим полем періодичного рельєфу поверхні і дифракції на ньому випромінювання релятивістських позитронів, що летять з магнітосфери до зірки в електричному полі полярного зазору, яке їх прискорює.