Optoelectronics-I

Chapter-6

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Recommended books





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Polarization Optics

Objectives

When you finish this lesson you will be able to:

- ✓ Describe the Polarization
- ✓ Define polarization types
- ✓ Explain the linear, circular and elliptical polarizations
- ✓ Define the mathematical description of polarizations
- ✓ Explain the matrix representation with the Jones Vector
- ✓ Define the orthogonal polarizations

The meaning of the Polarization

Polarization is a fundamental property of light . The polarization of the wave is the description of the behaviour of the vector E in the plane x,y, perpendicular to the direction of propagation z.

The plane of polarization is defined as the plane containing the propagation vector, i.e. the z axis, and the electric field vector.

Consider a plane wave traveling z direction. The electric field lies in the x-y plane. If the direction of E changes randomly with time, the wave is said to be randomly polarized, or unpolarized.



The meaning of the Polarization

Polarization is controlled by the electric field direction in the x-y plane of the light traveling in z direction.



Note that it is not mandatory for the wave to travel only in z direction. The wave (Electric field) can propagate in any r direction. However, we chose the light traveling in +z direction for to be easily understood.

Linear Polarization

The electric field of light is confined to a single plane along the direction of propagation. All the electric field vectors oscillate in the same plane. They parallel to a fixed direction referred to as the polarization direction.



Linear Polarization

Exercise:

Suppose that an electric field propagating in the positive z direction and linearly polarized in the x direction. Calculate the magnetic filed vector \vec{H} and pointing vector \vec{S} .

$$\vec{E} = E_0 \sin(kz - \omega t)\hat{x} \quad \text{or} \quad \vec{E} = E_0 \sin(kz - \omega t)\hat{i}$$
$$\vec{\nabla} \times \vec{E} = \begin{vmatrix} \hat{i} & \hat{j} & \hat{k} \\ \frac{\partial}{\partial x} & \frac{\partial}{\partial y} & \frac{\partial}{\partial z} \end{vmatrix} = \hat{i}(0 - 0) - \hat{j}(0 - \frac{\partial}{\partial z}E_x) + \hat{k}(0 - \frac{\partial}{\partial y}E_x)$$

$$\vec{\nabla} \times \vec{E} = \hat{j}(\frac{\partial E_x}{\partial z}) = \hat{j}[kE_{ox}\cos(kz - \omega t + \phi)]$$

$$\vec{H} = -\frac{1}{\mu_o} \int \left[kE_o \cos(kz - \omega t + \phi) \hat{j} \right] dt = \frac{k}{\omega} \left(\frac{E_o}{\mu_o}\right) \sin(kz - \omega t + \phi) \hat{j}$$

Linear Polarization

Remember that
$$c = \frac{\omega}{k} = \frac{1}{(\varepsilon_o \mu_o)^{1/2}}$$

 $\vec{H} = (\frac{\varepsilon_o}{\mu_o})^{1/2} E_o \sin(kz - \omega t + \phi) \hat{j} = H_o \sin(kz - \omega t + \phi) \hat{j}$
 $H_o \equiv (\varepsilon_o / \mu_o)^{1/2} E_o$
 $\frac{|\vec{E}_o|}{|\vec{H}_o|} = (\frac{\mu_o}{\varepsilon_o})^{1/2} \equiv \eta_o$
Free space impedance $\eta_o = (\frac{\mu_o}{\varepsilon_o})^{1/2} \cong 120\pi \cong 377\Omega$
 $\vec{S} = \vec{E} \times \vec{H} \Rightarrow \vec{S} = |\vec{E}_o \times \vec{H}_o| \hat{k} \qquad |\vec{S}| = \frac{|\vec{E}|^2}{\eta_o} = \sqrt{\frac{\varepsilon_o}{\mu_o}} |\vec{E}|^2 = c\varepsilon_o |\vec{E}|^2$
 $\vec{S} = \varepsilon_0 c E_0^2 \sin(kz - \omega t) \hat{z}$

The Mathematical description of Polarization

Assume that an EM wave propagating along z direction shown in the figure.

The electric field of this wave at the origin of the axis system can be defined as,

$$\vec{E} = E_x \hat{x} + E_y \hat{y}$$

The complex amplitude vectors,

$$E_x = E_{0x}e^{i(kz-\omega t+\varphi_x)} \text{ and } E_y = E_{0y}e^{i(kz-\omega t+\varphi_y)}$$

The real amplitude vector of electric field

$$\vec{E} = E_{ox}\cos(kz - \omega t + \varphi_x)\hat{x} + E_{oy}\cos(kz - \omega t + \varphi_y)\hat{y}$$
$$\vec{E} = E_{ox}\cos(kz - \omega t)\hat{x} + E_{oy}\cos(kz - \omega t \pm \delta)\hat{y} \qquad \delta \equiv \varphi_y - \varphi_x$$



The Mathematical description of Polarization

$$\vec{E} = E_{ox}\cos(kz - \omega t)\hat{x} + E_{oy}\cos(kz - \omega t \pm \delta)\hat{y}$$

$$\delta \equiv \varphi_y - \varphi_x$$

When amplitudes and phase differences are compared,



Exercise:

The frequency of a plane electromagnetic wave is 600×10^{12} Hz. It is propagating along positive x direction in vacuum and has an electric field amplitude of 43.42 V/m The wave is linearly polarized such that the oscillation plane is at 45° to the x-z plane. Obtain the vector \vec{E} and \vec{H} .



Matrix Representation with the Jones Vector

A monochromatic plane wave traveling in the z direction is completely characterized by the complex envelopes given below,

$$\vec{E} = \hat{i}E_{ox} + \hat{j}E_{oy}$$

$$y = \begin{vmatrix} x \\ i \\ y \end{vmatrix} k$$

$$E_{ox} = |E_{ox}|e^{i\varphi_x}$$

$$E_{oy} = |E_{oy}|e^{i\varphi_y}$$

This monochromatic plane wave can be expressed in matrix form.

$$\vec{E} = \begin{bmatrix} E_{ox} \\ E_{oy} \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} |E_{ox}| e^{i\varphi_x} \\ |E_{oy}| e^{i\varphi_y} \end{bmatrix}$$

The form of column matrix known as **Jones vector**. we can determine the total intensity of the wave,

$$I = \left(\left| E_{ox} \right|^2 + \left| E_{oy} \right|^2 \right) / 2\eta$$

Where, η is the impedance of the medium.

Matrix Representation with the Jones Vector



For example, the Jones vector for linearly polarized wave with θ =45°

$$\vec{E} = \begin{bmatrix} E_o \\ E_o \end{bmatrix} = \frac{E_o}{\sqrt{2}} \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}$$



Orthogonal Polarizations

Suppose that two polarization states represented by the Jones vectors J_1 and J_2 . If the inner product between J_1 and J_2 is zero, this state is called as *orthogonal*.

The inner product is defined as,

$$(\mathbf{J}_1, \mathbf{J}_2) = A_{1x}A_{2x}^* + A_{1y}A_{2y}^*$$

$$\mathbf{J} = \begin{bmatrix} A_x \\ A_y \end{bmatrix}$$

Here, the symbol (*) represents the complex conjugate.

Exercise:

Show that the linearly polarized wave with plane of polarization making an angle θ with the *x* axis is equivalent to a superposition of right and left circularly polarized waves with weights $(1/\sqrt{2})e^{-j\theta}$ and $(1/\sqrt{2})e^{j\theta}$, respectively.

 $J_1 = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} \begin{bmatrix} 1\\i \end{bmatrix}$

Solution:

Right circularly polarized waves have a Jones vector given by

And left circularly polarized waves have $J_2 = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ -i \end{bmatrix}$ The weight α_1 attached to J_1 $\alpha_1 = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} \left(e^{-i\theta} \right)$ The weight α_2 attached to J_2 $\alpha_2 = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} \left(e^{i\theta} \right) \implies J = \alpha_1 J_1 + \alpha_2 J_2$ $J = \frac{1}{2} \begin{pmatrix} e^{-i\theta} \\ ie^{ie^{-i\theta}} \end{pmatrix} + \frac{1}{2} \begin{pmatrix} e^{i\theta} \\ -ie^{i\theta} \end{pmatrix} \implies J = \frac{1}{2} \begin{pmatrix} e^{-i\theta} + e^{i\theta} \\ ie^{-i\theta} - ie^{i\theta} \end{pmatrix}$ $I = \frac{1}{2} \begin{pmatrix} \cos \theta \\ \sin \theta \end{pmatrix}$ Remember that $\cos \theta = \frac{e^{-i\theta} + e^{i\theta}}{2i}$

The Jones Matrix Representation of Polarization Devices



Optical system

Consider the transmission of a plane wave of arbitrary polarization through an optical system. The optical system can alter the polarization of a plane wave as shown in the figure.

The relationship between the polarization states at the input and output of the system can be defined by a matrix as follows.

$$\begin{bmatrix} A_{2x} \\ A_{2y} \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} T_{11} & T_{12} \\ T_{21} & T_{22} \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} A_{1x} \\ A_{1y} \end{bmatrix}$$

T is the Jones Matrix of the optical system

If the input and output waves are described by the Jones vectors $\rm J_1$ and $\rm J_2$, we can write the equation as follows

$$J_2 = T J_1$$

The Jones Matrix Representation of Polarization Devices

Linear Polarizer
along x Direction
$$T = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\frac{Wave-Retarder}{(Fast Axis along x Direction)} T = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & exp(-j\Gamma) \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\frac{1}{x \text{ Direction}} T = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & exp(-j\Gamma) \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\frac{1}{x \text{ Direction}} T = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & exp(-j\Gamma) \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\frac{1}{x \text{ Wave retarder (half wave)}}$$
Rotation the plane of polarization
of a linearly polarized wave by an angle θ

$$T = \begin{bmatrix} \cos \theta & -\sin \theta \\ \sin \theta & \cos \theta \end{bmatrix}$$
Polarization Rotator
$$T = \begin{bmatrix} \cos \theta & -\sin \theta \\ \sin \theta & \cos \theta \end{bmatrix}$$

$$T = \begin{bmatrix} \cos \theta & -\sin \theta \\ \sin \theta & \cos \theta \end{bmatrix}$$

The Jones Matrix Representation of Cascaded Systems



The Jones Matrix Representation of Polarization Devices

Linear Polarizer along x Direction $\mathbf{T} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$	Linear Polarizer $\mathbf{T} = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$
Quarter-wave retarderAxis x is the fast axis of $\mathbf{T} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & i \end{bmatrix}$ the retarder.	Quarter-wave retarder Axis y is the slow axis of the retarder. $\mathbf{T} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & -i \end{bmatrix}$
Circular Polarizer Left handed $\mathbf{T} = \frac{1}{2} \begin{bmatrix} 1 & -i \\ i & 1 \end{bmatrix}$	Circular Polarizer Right handed $\mathbf{T} = \frac{1}{2} \begin{bmatrix} 1 & i \\ -i & 1 \end{bmatrix}$

Exercise:

Show that the Jones matrix of a polarizer making an angle θ =45° with the *x* axis is equivalent to

$$\mathbf{T} = \frac{1}{2} \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1 \\ 1 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$$