## Optoelectronics-I

## Chapter-6

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Lecture Notes - 2018

Recommended books



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## Polarization Optics

## Objectives

When you finish this lesson you will be able to:
$\checkmark$ Describe the Polarization
$\checkmark$ Define polarization types
$\checkmark$ Explain the linear, circular and elliptical polarizations
$\checkmark$ Define the mathematical description of polarizations
$\checkmark$ Explain the matrix representation with the Jones Vector
$\checkmark$ Define the orthogonal polarizations

## Polarization

## 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.


## Polarization

## 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.

There are three different types of polarization.

1-Linear Polarization

a

2-Circular Polarization

b

3-Elliptical Polarization


C

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.

## Polarization

## 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.

Direction of the electric field vector=direction of polarization



polarization direction


## Polarization

## 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 $\vec{S}$.

$$
\begin{gathered}
\vec{E}=E_{0} \sin (k z-\omega t) \hat{x} \quad \text { or } \quad \vec{E}=E_{0} \sin (k z-\omega t) \hat{i} \\
\vec{\nabla} \times \overrightarrow{\boldsymbol{E}}=\left|\begin{array}{ccc}
\hat{\boldsymbol{i}} & \hat{\boldsymbol{j}} & \hat{\boldsymbol{k}} \\
\frac{\partial}{\partial x} & \frac{\partial}{\partial y} & \frac{\partial}{\partial z} \\
E_{x} & 0 & 0
\end{array}\right|=\hat{\boldsymbol{i}}(0-0)-\hat{\boldsymbol{j}}\left(0-\frac{\partial}{\partial z} E_{x}\right)+\hat{\boldsymbol{k}}\left(0-\frac{\partial}{\partial y} E_{x}\right) \\
\vec{\nabla} \times \overrightarrow{\boldsymbol{E}}=\hat{\boldsymbol{j}}\left(\frac{\partial E_{x}}{\partial z}\right)=\hat{\boldsymbol{j}}\left[k E_{o x} \cos (k z-\omega t+\phi)\right] \\
\overrightarrow{\boldsymbol{H}}=-\frac{1}{\mu_{o}} \int\left[k E_{o} \cos (k z-\omega t+\phi) \hat{j}\right] d t=\frac{k}{\omega}\left(\frac{E_{o}}{\mu_{o}}\right) \sin (k z-\omega t+\phi) \hat{j}
\end{gathered}
$$

## Polarization

## Linear Polarization

Remember that $c=\frac{\omega}{k}=\frac{1}{\left(\varepsilon_{o} \mu_{o}\right)^{1 / 2}}$

$$
\overrightarrow{\boldsymbol{H}}=\left(\frac{\varepsilon_{o}}{\mu_{o}}\right)^{1 / 2} E_{o} \sin (k z-\omega t+\phi) \hat{j}=H_{o} \sin (k z-\omega t+\phi) \hat{j}
$$

$H_{o} \equiv\left(\varepsilon_{o} / \mu_{o}\right)^{1 / 2} E_{o}$

$$
\frac{\left|\vec{E}_{o}\right|}{\left|\vec{H}_{o}\right|}=\left(\frac{\mu_{o}}{\varepsilon_{o}}\right)^{1 / 2} \equiv \eta_{o}
$$



Free space impedance $\longrightarrow \eta_{o}=\left(\frac{\mu_{o}}{\varepsilon_{o}}\right)^{1 / 2} \cong 120 \pi \cong 377 \Omega$
$\overrightarrow{\boldsymbol{S}}=\overrightarrow{\boldsymbol{E}} \times \overrightarrow{\boldsymbol{H}} \Rightarrow \overrightarrow{\boldsymbol{S}}=\left|\overrightarrow{\boldsymbol{E}}_{o} \times \overrightarrow{\boldsymbol{H}}_{o}\right| \hat{k} \quad|\overrightarrow{\boldsymbol{S}}|=\frac{|\overrightarrow{\boldsymbol{E}}|^{2}}{\eta_{o}}=\sqrt{\frac{\varepsilon_{o}}{\mu_{o}}}|\overrightarrow{\boldsymbol{E}}|^{2}=c \varepsilon_{o}|\overrightarrow{\boldsymbol{E}}|^{2}$

$$
\vec{S}=\varepsilon_{0} c E_{0}^{2} \sin ^{2}(k z-\omega t) \hat{z}
$$

## Polarization

## 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,


The real amplitude vector of electric field

$$
\begin{aligned}
& \vec{E}=E_{o x} \cos \left(k z-\omega t+\varphi_{x}\right) \hat{x}+E_{o y} \cos \left(k z-\omega t+\varphi_{y}\right) \hat{y} \\
& \quad \vec{E}=E_{o x} \cos (k z-\omega t) \hat{x}+E_{o y} \cos (k z-\omega t \pm \delta) \hat{y} \quad \delta \equiv \varphi_{y}-\varphi_{x}
\end{aligned}
$$

## Polarization

## The Mathematical description of Polarization

$$
\vec{E}=E_{o x} \cos (k z-\omega t) \hat{x}+E_{o y} \cos (k z-\omega t \pm \delta) \hat{y} \quad \delta \equiv \varphi_{y}-\varphi_{x}
$$

When amplitudes and phase differences are compared,


## Polarization

## Exercise:

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

## Polarization



## Polarization

## Matrix Representation with the Jones Vector

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

$$
\begin{gathered}
\vec{E}=\hat{i} E_{o x}+\hat{j} E_{o y} \\
E_{o x}=\left.\left|E_{o x}\right|\right|^{i \varphi_{x}} \quad E_{o y}=\left|E_{o y}\right| e^{i \varphi_{y}}
\end{gathered}
$$



This monochromatic plane wave can be expressed in matrix form.

$$
\vec{E}=\left[\begin{array}{l}
E_{o x} \\
E_{o y}
\end{array}\right]=\left[\begin{array}{l}
\left|E_{o x}\right| e^{i \varphi_{x}} \\
\left|E_{o y}\right| e^{i \varphi_{y}}
\end{array}\right]
$$

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

$$
I=\left(\left|E_{o x}\right|^{2}+\left|E_{o y}\right|^{2}\right) / 2 \eta
$$

Where, $\eta$ is the impedance of the medium.

## Polarization

## Matrix Representation with the Jones Vector

Linearly polarized light in $x$ direction


$$
\vec{E}=\left[\begin{array}{c}
E_{o} \\
0
\end{array}\right]=E_{o}\left[\begin{array}{l}
1 \\
0
\end{array}\right]
$$

Linearly polarized light in $y$ direction


$$
\vec{E}=\left[\begin{array}{c}
0 \\
E_{o}
\end{array}\right]=E_{o}\left[\begin{array}{l}
0 \\
1
\end{array}\right]
$$

Linearly polarized wave, plane of polarization making angle $\theta$ with x axis


$$
\vec{E}=E_{o}\left[\begin{array}{c}
\cos (\theta) \\
\sin (\theta)
\end{array}\right]
$$

For example, the Jones vector for linearly polarized wave with $\theta=45^{\circ}$

$$
\vec{E}=\left[\begin{array}{l}
E_{o} \\
E_{o}
\end{array}\right]=\frac{E_{o}}{\sqrt{2}}\left[\begin{array}{l}
1 \\
1
\end{array}\right]
$$

## Polarization

## Matrix Representation with the Jones Vector



Elliptical Polarization
Left handed


$$
\vec{E}=\frac{E_{o}}{\sqrt{5}}\left[\begin{array}{c}
1 \\
2 i
\end{array}\right]
$$

Elliptical Polarization
Right handed


$$
\begin{aligned}
& E_{\text {ox }}=2 E_{\text {oy }}=2 E_{o} \\
& \delta=-\pi / 2
\end{aligned}
$$

$$
\vec{E}=\frac{E_{o}}{\sqrt{5}}\left[\begin{array}{c}
2 \\
-i
\end{array}\right]
$$

## Polarization

## Orthogonal Polarizations

Suppose that two polarization states represented by the Jones vectors $\mathrm{J}_{1}$ and $\mathrm{J}_{2}$. If the inner product between $\mathrm{J}_{1}$ and $\mathrm{J}_{2}$ is zero, this state is called as orthogonal.

The inner product is defined as,

$$
\left(\mathbf{J}_{1}, \mathbf{J}_{2}\right)=A_{1 x} A_{2 x}^{*}+A_{1 y} A_{2 y}^{*} \quad \mathbf{J}=\left[\begin{array}{l}
A_{x} \\
A_{y}
\end{array}\right]
$$

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

## Polarization

## Exercise:

Show that the linearly polarized wave with plane of polarization making an angle $\theta$ 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.

## Solution:

Right circularly polarized waves have a Jones vector given by $\quad J_{1}=\frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}\left[\begin{array}{l}1 \\ i\end{array}\right]$ And left circularly polarized waves have $J_{2}=\frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}\left[\begin{array}{c}1 \\ -i\end{array}\right]$
The weight $\alpha_{1}$ attached to $\mathrm{J}_{1} \quad \alpha_{1}=\frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}\left(e^{-i \theta}\right)$
The weight $\alpha_{2}$ attached to $J_{2} \quad \alpha_{2}=\frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}\left(e^{i \theta}\right) \quad \square J=\alpha_{1} J_{1}+\alpha_{2} J_{2}$

$$
\begin{aligned}
J=\frac{1}{2}\binom{e^{-i \theta}}{i e^{i e^{-i \theta}}}+\frac{1}{2}\binom{e^{i \theta}}{-i e^{i \theta}} \Longrightarrow \quad J=\frac{1}{2}\binom{e^{-i \theta}+e^{i \theta}}{i e^{-i \theta}-i e^{i \theta}} \\
J=\binom{\cos \theta}{\sin \theta} \quad \begin{array}{c}
\sin \theta=\frac{e^{i \theta}-e^{-i \theta}}{2 i} \\
\text { Remember that } \\
\cos \theta=\frac{e^{-i \theta}+e^{i \theta}}{2}
\end{array}
\end{aligned}
$$

## Polarization

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.

$$
\left[\begin{array}{l}
A_{2 x} \\
A_{2 y}
\end{array}\right]=\underbrace{\left[\begin{array}{ll}
T_{11} & T_{12} \\
T_{21} & T_{22}
\end{array}\right]}_{\boldsymbol{T}}\left[\begin{array}{l}
A_{1 x} \\
A_{1 y}
\end{array}\right] \quad \begin{aligned}
& T \text { is the Jones Matrix of the } \\
& \text { optical system }
\end{aligned}
$$

If the input and output waves are described by the Jones vectors $\mathrm{J}_{1}$ and $\mathrm{J}_{2}$, we can write the equation as follows

$$
J_{2}=T J_{1}
$$

## Polarization

The Jones Matrix Representation of Polarization Devices

Linear Polarizer along $x$ Direction

$$
\mathbf{T}=\left[\begin{array}{ll}
1 & 0 \\
0 & 0
\end{array}\right]
$$

| Wave-Retarder <br> (Fast Axis along <br> $x$ Direction) |
| ---: |\(\quad \mathbf{T}=\left[\begin{array}{cc}1 \& 0 <br>

0 \& \exp (-j \Gamma)\end{array}\right]\)


Rotation the plane of polarization of a linearly polarized wave by an angle $\theta$

$$
\begin{array}{r}
\mathbf{T}=\left[\begin{array}{cc}
\cos \theta & -\sin \theta \\
\sin \theta & \cos \theta
\end{array}\right] \\
\text { Polarization Rotator }
\end{array}
$$



The Linear Polarizer


$$
\pi / 2 \text { wave retarder (quarter wave) }
$$


$\pi$ wave retarder (half wave)

## Polarization

The Jones Matrix Representation of Cascaded Systems


$$
\left[\begin{array}{l}
A^{\prime} \\
B^{\prime}
\end{array}\right]=\left[\begin{array}{ll}
a^{\prime} & b^{\prime} \\
c^{\prime} & d^{\prime}
\end{array}\right]\left[\begin{array}{l}
A \\
B
\end{array}\right]
$$

## Polarization

The Jones Matrix Representation of Polarization Devices

| Linear Polarizer along $x$ Direction $\mathbf{T}=\left[\begin{array}{ll} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 \end{array}\right]$ | $\underset{\text { along y Direction }}{\text { Linear Polarizer }} \quad \mathbf{T}=\left[\begin{array}{ll}0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1\end{array}\right]$ |
| :---: | :---: |
| Quarter-wave retarder Axis $x$ is the fast axis of the retarder. $\mathbf{T}=\left[\begin{array}{ll} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & i \end{array}\right]$ | Quarter-wave retarder $\begin{aligned} & \text { Axis } y \text { is the slow axis of } \\ & \text { the retarder. }\end{aligned} \mathbf{T}=\left[\begin{array}{cc}1 & 0 \\ 0 & -i\end{array}\right]$ |
| Circular Polarizer <br> Left handed$\quad \mathbf{T}=\frac{1}{2}\left[\begin{array}{cc}1 & -i \\ i & 1\end{array}\right]$ | $\underset{\text { Right handed }}{\text { Circular Polarizer }}$ Rig $\quad \mathbf{T}=\frac{1}{2}\left[\begin{array}{cc}1 & i \\ -i & 1\end{array}\right]$ |

## Exercise:

Show that the Jones matrix of a polarizer making an angle $\theta=45^{\circ}$ with the $x$ axis is equivalent to

$$
\mathbf{T}=\frac{1}{2}\left[\begin{array}{ll}
1 & 1 \\
1 & 1
\end{array}\right]
$$

