Manipulating Light at the Nanoscale



NATO-ASI Summer school on Nano-Optics: Principles Enabling Basic Research And Applications Centro Ettore Majorana Erice, Italy, 8–9 July 2015



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for a copy of these slides:

http://ericmazur.com



Outline

- optical properties of materials
- dispersion of pulses
- nonlinear optics
- waveguiding
- engineering the index

Linear optics:

$$\vec{P} = \chi \vec{E}$$

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and so:

$$P = P^{(1)} + P^{(2)} + P^{(3)} + \dots$$
$$P^{(2)} \approx P^{(1)} \text{ when } E = E_{at} \approx \frac{e}{a} \text{, and so } \chi^{(n)} \approx \frac{\chi^{(1)}}{E_{at}^{n-1}}$$

Nonlinear polarization can drive new field:

$$\nabla^2 \vec{E} + \frac{n^2}{c^2} \frac{\partial^2 \vec{E}}{\partial t^2} = \frac{4\pi}{c^2} \frac{\partial^2 \vec{P}}{\partial t^2}$$

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Invert all vectors:

$$-\vec{P}^{(2)} = \chi^{(2)}:(-\vec{E})(-\vec{E})$$

and so $\chi^{(2)} = -\chi^{(2)} = 0$.

Consider oscillating electric field:

 $E(t) = E e^{i\omega t} + \text{c.c.}$

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Second-order polarization:

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Physical interpretation:



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- Q: Silicon atoms are arranged in this way. Does bulk silicon generate second harmonic?

- 1. Yes, silicon is not centrosymmetric (as the unit cell shows)
- 2. No, the crystal as a whole is centrosymmetric
- 3. No, any radiation at the second harmonic is absorbed
- 4. Other

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3 frequencies, 3 terms + c.c.: complicated! In general

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$$n = \sqrt{\epsilon} = \sqrt{1 + \chi_{eff}} \approx \sqrt{1 + \chi^{(1)}} + \frac{1}{2} \frac{\chi^{(3)}I}{\sqrt{1 + \chi^{(1)}}} = n_o + n_2 I$$

$$n = n_o + n_2 I$$



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Phase:

$$\frac{\phi}{2\pi} = \frac{nL}{\lambda}$$

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dt

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Frequency change: $\Delta \omega = -\frac{d\phi}{dt}$

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- **Q:** Sketch the time dependence of the frequency shift for a Gaussian pulse and determine which is true (assume $n_2 > 0$):
 - 1. Leading edge is blue shifted, trailing edge red shifted
 - 2. Leading and trailing edge blue shifted, center red shifted
 - 3. Leading edge is red shifted, trailing edge blue shifted
 - Leading and trailing edge red shifted, center blue shifted
 Other

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$$\frac{\phi}{2\pi} = \frac{nL}{\lambda}$$
 $\phi = \frac{2\pi}{\lambda} L(n_o + n_2 I)$
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Leading and trailing edge red shifted, center blue shifted
 Other

Phase:

$$\frac{\phi}{2\pi} = \frac{nL}{\lambda}$$

$$=\frac{2\pi}{\lambda}L(n_o+n_2I)$$

Frequency change:

$$\Delta \omega = -\frac{d\phi}{dt} = \frac{-2\pi}{\lambda} Ln_2 \frac{dI}{dt}$$

Φ





$$n = n_o + n_2 I$$



$$n = n_o + n_2 I$$



self-focusing



but susceptibility is complex!

| susceptibility | real part | imaginary part |
|----------------|---------------------|------------------------|
| linear | refraction | absorption |
| nonlinear | SHG, SFG, DFG, THG, | multiphoton absorption |

$$\alpha = \alpha_o + \beta I + \gamma I^2 + \dots$$

Key points

- at high intensities, polarization no longer proportional to E
- nonlinearity can produce radiation at new frequencies
- nonlinearity causes index to depend on instensity of pulse

Outline

- optical properties of materials
- dispersion of pulses
- nonlinear optics
- waveguiding
- engineering the index



two crossed planar waves...



Waveguiding

... cause an interference pattern



Waveguiding

E = 0 on the nodal lines



Waveguiding

...satisfying boundary conditions for planar-mirror waveguide





transverse standing wave, traveling along axis





transverse standing wave, traveling along axis





change angle of incident waves...





change angle of incident waves...





change angle of incident waves...
































































boundary conditions only satisfied for certain θ



standing wave in y-direction, traveling in z-direction



consider wave incident at angle θ





twice-reflected wave



self consistency:

$$AC - AB = 2d \sin \theta = m\lambda \quad (m = 1, 2,)$$



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number of modes:

$$M = \frac{2d}{\lambda}$$





now consider a planar dielectric waveguide



rays incident at angle $\theta > \pi/2 - \theta_c$ are unguided



rays incident at angle $\theta < \pi/2 - \theta_c$ are guided



rays incident at angle $\theta < \pi/2 - \theta_c$ are guided



self consistency:

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SO:

$$\tan\left(\frac{\pi d}{\lambda}\sin\theta - m\frac{\pi}{2}\right) = \left(\frac{\sin^2(\pi/2 - \theta_c)}{\sin^2\theta} - 1\right)^{1/2}$$

1 10





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number of modes:

$$M \doteq \frac{\sin(\pi/2 - \theta_c)}{\lambda/2d}$$


number of modes:

$$M \doteq \frac{\sin(\pi/2 - \theta_c)}{\lambda/2d}$$

or:

$$M \doteq 2 \frac{d}{\lambda} (n_1^2 - n_2^2)^{1/2}$$



propagation constant of guided wave:

$$\beta_m^2 = k^2 - k_y^2 = k^2 - \frac{m^2 \pi^2}{d^2}$$

group velocity:

$$v_m = c \cos \theta_m$$



single mode condition for 600-nm light:

planar mirror
$$M = \frac{2d}{\lambda}$$
 $300 < d < 600 \text{ nm}$

dielectric
$$M \doteq 2 \frac{d}{\lambda} (n_1^2 - n_2^2)^{1/2}$$
 $d < 268 \text{ nm}$



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can make *d* larger by making $n_1 - n_2$ smaller!



$$\nabla^2 \vec{A} + \omega^2 \mu_o \epsilon \vec{A} = -i\omega\mu_o \nabla \epsilon \Phi$$



$$\nabla^2 \vec{A} + \omega^2 \mu_o \epsilon \vec{A} = 0$$



$$\nabla^2 \vec{A} + \omega^2 \mu_o \epsilon \vec{A} = 0$$

Substituting

$$\vec{A} = yu(x,y)e^{-i\beta z}$$



$$\nabla^2 \vec{A} + \omega^2 \mu_o \epsilon \vec{A} = 0$$

Substituting

$$\vec{A} = \hat{y}u(x,y)e^{-i\beta z}$$

yields:

$$\nabla_T^2 u + \left[-\beta^2 + \omega^2 \mu \epsilon(r)\right] u = 0$$



$$\nabla^2 \vec{A} + \omega^2 \mu_o \epsilon \vec{A} = 0$$

Substituting

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Compare to time-independent Schrödinger equation:

$$\nabla^2 \psi + \frac{2m}{\hbar^2} [E - V(r)] \psi = 0$$





















single mode condition for 600-nm light:

$$M \doteq 2 \frac{d}{\lambda} (n_1^2 - n_2^2)^{1/2}$$

without cladding:

d < 268 nm

single mode condition for 600-nm light:

$$M \stackrel{\cdot}{=} 2 \frac{d}{\lambda} (n_1^2 - n_2^2)^{1/2}$$

without cladding: d < 268 nm

Add cladding with 0.4% index difference:

 $d < 5 \ \mu m$

commercial single-mode fiber (Corning Titan[®])



operating wavelength: $\lambda = 1310 \text{ nm}/1550 \text{ nm}$



drawbacks of clad fibers:

weak confinement

no tight bending



Poynting vector profile for 200-nm nanowire





























 $L = 4 \ \mu m$







Key points

- finite structures support a discrete set of modes
- each mode determined by boundary condition and extent
- each mode has unique field distribution
- modes unchanged as they propagage

Outline

- optical properties of materials
- dispersion of pulses
- nonlinear optics
- waveguiding
- engineering the index
how to optimize manipulation of light at nanoscale?













dielectric constant due to polarization of atoms



metal-dielectric composite



metal-dielectric composite





polarization of metal particles increases dielectric constant



provided $d \le \lambda_{eff}$ can use effective dielectric constant



can also do this with dielectric composite



what if we let $\varepsilon = 0$?

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if $\varepsilon = 0$, then n = 0!

Q: If n = 0, which of the following is true?

- 1. the frequency goes to zero.
- 2. the phase velocity becomes infinite.
- 3. both of the above.
- 4. neither of the above.

wave equation

$$\nabla^2 \vec{E} - \frac{\mu \epsilon}{c^2} \frac{\partial^2 \vec{E}}{\partial t^2} = 0$$

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solution

$$\vec{E} = \vec{E}_o e^{i(kx - \omega t)}$$

wave equation

$$\nabla^2 \vec{E} - \frac{\mu \epsilon}{c^2} \frac{\partial^2 \vec{E}}{\partial t^2} = 0$$

solution

$$\vec{E} = \vec{E}_o e^{i(kx - \omega t)}$$

$$\frac{\omega}{k} = \frac{1}{\sqrt{\epsilon\mu}} c = \frac{1}{n} c$$



wave equation



solution

$$\vec{E} = \vec{E}_o e^{i(kx - \omega t)}$$

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wave equation



solution

$$\vec{E} = \vec{E}_o \ e^{i (kx - \omega t)} \longrightarrow \vec{E} = \vec{E}_o \ e^{-i\omega t}$$

$$\frac{\omega}{k} = \frac{1}{\sqrt{\epsilon\mu}} c = \frac{1}{n} c$$



wave equation



solution

$$\vec{E} = \vec{E}_o \ e^{i (kx - \omega t)} \longrightarrow \vec{E} = \vec{E}_o \ e^{-i\omega t}$$

$$\frac{\omega}{k} = \frac{1}{\sqrt{\epsilon\mu}} c = \frac{1}{n} c \longrightarrow \infty$$

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how?

$$n = \sqrt{\varepsilon \mu}$$

how?

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but ϵ and μ also determine reflectivity

$$r = \frac{Z_2 - Z_1}{Z_2 + Z_1}$$

how?

$$n = \sqrt{\varepsilon \mu}$$

but ϵ and μ also determine reflectivity

$$r = \frac{Z_2 - Z_1}{Z_2 + Z_1}$$

$$Z = \sqrt{\frac{\mu}{\varepsilon}}$$

how?

$$\varepsilon \to 0$$
 $n = \sqrt{\varepsilon \mu} \to 0$

but ϵ and μ also determine reflectivity

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how?

$$\varepsilon \to 0$$
 $n = \sqrt{\varepsilon \mu} \to 0$

but ϵ and μ also determine reflectivity

$$r = \frac{Z_2 - Z_1}{Z_2 + Z_1} \longrightarrow 1$$

$$Z = \sqrt{\frac{\mu}{\varepsilon}} \quad \longrightarrow \infty$$

how?

$$\mu \to 0 \qquad \qquad n = \sqrt{\varepsilon \mu} \to 0$$

but ϵ and μ also determine reflectivity

$$r = \frac{Z_2 - Z_1}{Z_2 + Z_1}$$

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$$Z = \sqrt{\frac{\mu}{\varepsilon}} \longrightarrow 0$$

how?

$$\mu \to 0 \qquad \qquad n = \sqrt{\varepsilon \mu} \to 0$$

but ϵ and μ also determine reflectivity

$$r = \frac{Z_2 - Z_1}{Z_2 + Z_1} \longrightarrow -1$$

$$Z = \sqrt{\frac{\mu}{\varepsilon}} \longrightarrow 0$$

how?

$$\varepsilon, \mu \to 0$$
 $n = \sqrt{\varepsilon \mu} \to 0$

but ϵ and μ also determine reflectivity

$$r = \frac{Z_2 - Z_1}{Z_2 + Z_1}$$

$$Z = \sqrt{\frac{\mu}{\varepsilon}} \qquad \text{finite!}$$

but $\mu \neq 1$ requires a magnetic response!





















How can we produce coupled *E* and *B*-fields?



but... metallic losses & not easily made in 3D

instead, use array of dielectric rods



incident electromagnetic wave ($\lambda_{eff} \approx d$)



produces an electric response...



... but different electric fields front and back...



...induce different polarizations on opposite sides...



...causing a current loop...



...which, in turn, produces an induced magnetic field



...which, in turn, produces an induced magnetic field



(but it's still a dielectric, so there's an electric response too!)

adjust design so electrical and magnetic resonances coincide



adjust design so electrical and magnetic resonances coincide



(adjustable parameters: n, d, and a)





















at design wavelength (1590 nm)





below design wavelength (1530 nm)




above design wavelength (1650 nm)









































SU8 slab waveguide

prism

Si waveguide

SU8 calibration waveguide





















Wavelength dependence of index



Wavelength dependence of index



unambiguous demonstration of on-chip zero-index material!

Q: What happens when a beam of light at the wavelength for which n = 0 strikes a side of a zero-index prism at an angle away from the normal?



- 1. beats occur inside and around the prism.
- 2. the beam comes out at the same angle on the other facets.
- 3. the beam is perfectly reflected.
- 4. the beam is transmitted only for certain (nonzero) angles.
- 5. it couples perfectly, regardless of angle.

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Engineering the index

Key points

- tune optical properties using composite materials
- zero index requires a magnetic response
- produce magnetic response in dielectrics
- demonstrated on-chip impedance-matched *n* = 0



A very special thanks to

Phil Muñoz

Yang Li

Orad Reshef

Funding:

Air Force Office of Scientific Research Natural Sciences and Engineering Research Council of Canada Harvard Quantum Optics Center

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