

NONLINEAR OPTICS

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7 Lectures (7x1h30)

1 Mini-Project

6 tutorial sessions

(including one in numerical simulation)

Optics in nonlinear regime ?

- Introduction to OPTICS in NONLINEAR REGIME
 - Which applications ?
 - Physical origin of the nonlinearities ?

Optics in nonlinear regime ?

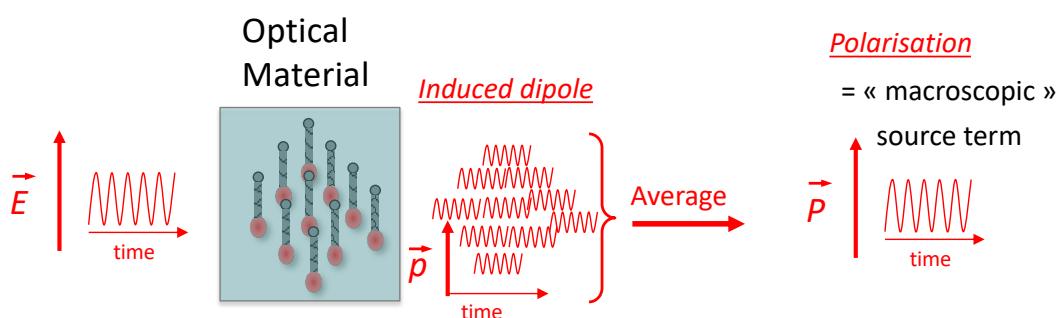
- Introduction to OPTICS in NONLINEAR REGIME

- Which applications ?

- Physical origin of the nonlinearities ?

Introduction to Nonlinear Optics

- Response of a material subject to an incident EM wave at ω



$$E(t) = A \cos(\omega t - kz) \xrightarrow{\text{LINEAR REGIME}} P(t) \propto R^{(1)} \cos(\omega t - kz)$$

LINEAR RESPONSE of the material

WHAT HAPPENS WHEN increasing the MAGNITUDE of electric field amplitude ?

Introduction to Nonlinear Optics

- Case of a **NONLINEAR MEDIUM** :

The nonlinear response of the medium can be expressed as

$$\begin{aligned}
 P(t) &= \epsilon_0 \chi^{(1)} E(t) + \epsilon_0 \chi^{(2)} E(t)E(t) + \epsilon_0 \chi^{(3)} E(t)E(t)E(t) \\
 &= \underbrace{\epsilon_0 \chi^{(1)} E(t)}_{\text{Linear response}} + \underbrace{\epsilon_0 \chi^{(2)} E^2(t) + \epsilon_0 \chi^{(3)} E^3(t)}_{\text{2nd Order + 3rd Order Nonlinear Response}} + \dots
 \end{aligned}$$

(we have assumed that the medium have an instantaneous response - Case of a lossless and a dispersionless medium) :

IMPORTANT COMMENT : Nonlinear interactions are governed by the magnitude of the electric fields

Introduction to Nonlinear Optics

- Case of a **NONLINEAR MEDIUM**

The nonlinear response of the medium can be expressed as

$$\begin{aligned}
 P(t) &= \epsilon_0 \chi^{(1)} E(t) + \epsilon_0 \chi^{(2)} E(t)E(t) + \epsilon_0 \chi^{(3)} E(t)E(t)E(t) \\
 &= \underbrace{\epsilon_0 \chi^{(1)} E(t)}_{\text{Linear response}} + \underbrace{\epsilon_0 \chi^{(2)} E^2(t) + \epsilon_0 \chi^{(3)} E^3(t)}_{\text{2nd Order + 3rd Order Nonlinear Response}} + \dots
 \end{aligned}$$

1st Order

$$P(t) \propto \chi^{(1)} A \cos(\omega t + kz)$$

Source term @ ω

2nd Order

$$\begin{aligned}
 P(t) &\propto \chi^{(2)} A^2 \cos^2(\omega t + kz)^2 \\
 &\propto \chi^{(2)} A^2 \cos(2\omega t + 2kz) + \chi^{(2)} A^2
 \end{aligned}$$

Source term @ 2ω !!!

Considering a z propagative EM wave @ ω

$$E(t) = A \cos(\omega t + kz)$$

Introduction to Nonlinear Optics

- Case of a **NONLINEAR MEDIUM**

The nonlinear response of the medium can be expressed as :

$$P(t) = \epsilon_0 \chi^{(1)} E(t) + \epsilon_0 \chi^{(2)} E(t)E(t) + \epsilon_0 \chi^{(3)} E(t)E(t)E(t)$$

$$= \epsilon_0 \chi^{(1)} E(t) + \epsilon_0 \chi^{(2)} E^2(t) + \epsilon_0 \chi^{(3)} E^3(t) + \dots$$

Linear response

2nd Order + 3rd Order Nonlinear Response

Considering a z propagative EM wave @ ω

1st Order

3rd Order

$$P(t) \propto \chi^{(1)} A \cos(\omega t + kz)$$

Source term @ ω

$$E(t) = A \cos(\omega t + kz)$$

$$P_{NL}(t) \propto \chi^{(3)} A^3 \cos^3(\omega t + kz)$$

$$\propto \chi^{(3)} A^3 \cos(3\omega t + 3kz) + \chi^{(3)} A^2 A \cos(\omega t + kz) + \dots$$

Source term @ 3ω
Third harmonic generation

Source term @ ω
Optical Kerr effect

Example : Optical Kerr Effect

✓ Variation of the refractive index

$$P(t) = \epsilon_0 \chi^{(1)} E(t) + \epsilon_0 \chi^{(3)} E^3(t)$$

Case of a lossless medium

$$P(t) = P_L(t) + P_{NL}(t) \propto \chi^{(1)} A \cos(\omega t + kz) + \chi^{(3)} A^2 A \cos(\omega t + kz)$$

$$P(t) \propto \left(\chi^{(1)} + \chi^{(3)} A^2 \right) A \cos(\omega t + kz) \quad \text{NONLINEAR Regime}$$

$$P_L(t) \propto \chi^{(1)} A \cos(\omega t + kz) \quad \text{LINEAR Regime}$$

Directly related to the refractive index

Considering a z propagative EM wave @ ω

Kerr effect induces a variation of the refractive index directly proportional to the wave intensity.

$$E(t) = A \cos(\omega t + kz)$$

$$I \propto A^2 \quad \text{Wave intensity}$$

Field notation

We assume that the electric field vector can be expressed as a plane wave (or as a projection of plane waves, i.e through a Fourier transformation) :

$$\mathcal{E}(t) = \mathbf{E}(\omega)e^{i(-\omega t + \mathbf{k} \cdot \mathbf{r})} + \mathbf{E}^*(\omega)e^{-i(-\omega t + \mathbf{k} \cdot \mathbf{r})} \quad \text{With : } \mathbf{E}(\omega) = \begin{pmatrix} E_i(\omega) \\ E_j(\omega) \\ E_k(\omega) \end{pmatrix}$$

$$\mathcal{E}(t) = E(\omega)e^{i(-\omega t + \mathbf{k} \cdot \mathbf{r})} \mathbf{e} + CC$$

→ **Purely REAL quantity**

Polarization state

Notation :

$$E^*(\omega) = E(-\omega)$$

Similarly for the macroscopic polarization :

$$\mathcal{P}(t) = P(\omega)e^{i(-\omega t + \mathbf{k} \cdot \mathbf{r})} \mathbf{e} + P^*(\omega)e^{-i(-\omega t + \mathbf{k} \cdot \mathbf{r})} \mathbf{e}$$

→ **Purely REAL quantity**

Notation :

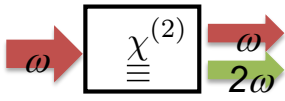
$$P^*(\omega) = P(-\omega)$$

Optics in nonlinear regime ?

- Introduction to OPTICS in NONLINEAR REGIME
 - Which applications ?
 - Physical origin of the nonlinearities ?

2nd order nonlinear interactions

Second Harmonic Generation

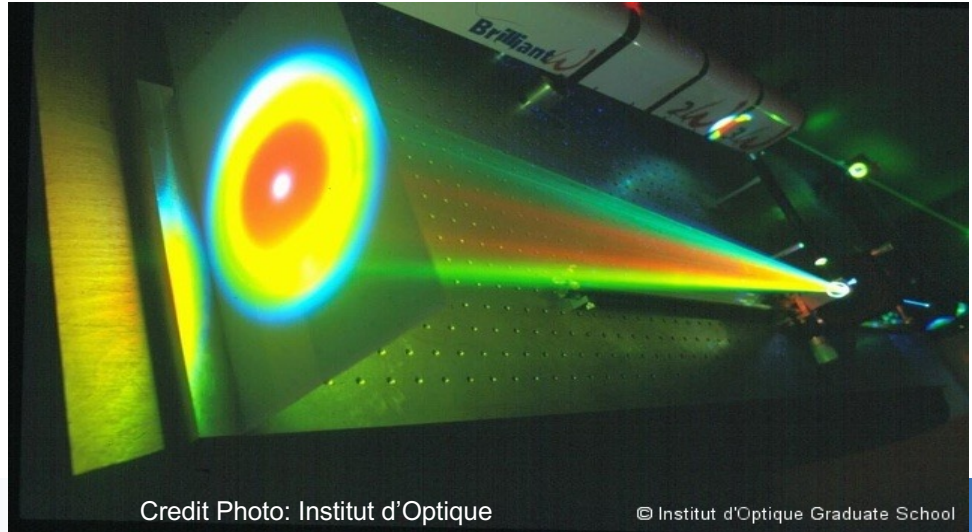


Application: Green Laser Pointer



Optical Parametric Fluorescence & Amplification

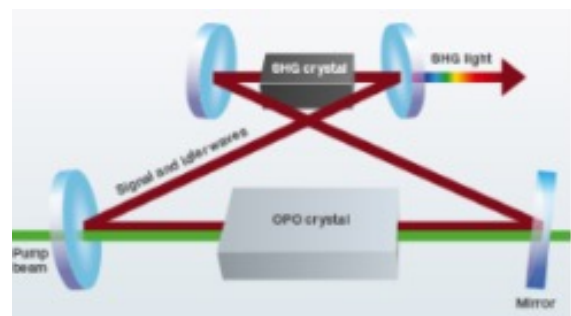
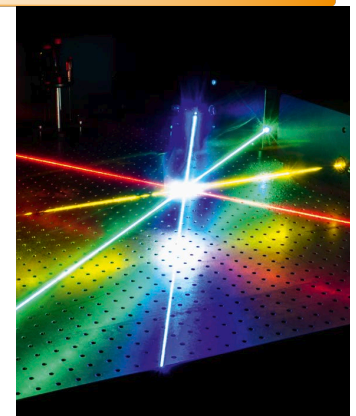
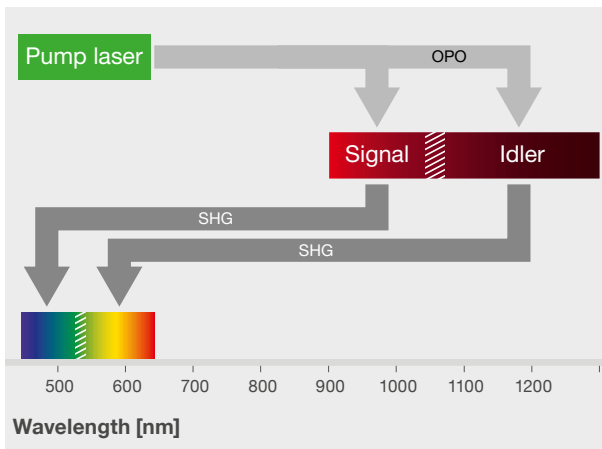
Optical source with a wide frequency tunability



2nd order nonlinear interactions

Optical Parametric Oscillator

Optical source with broad wavelength tunability

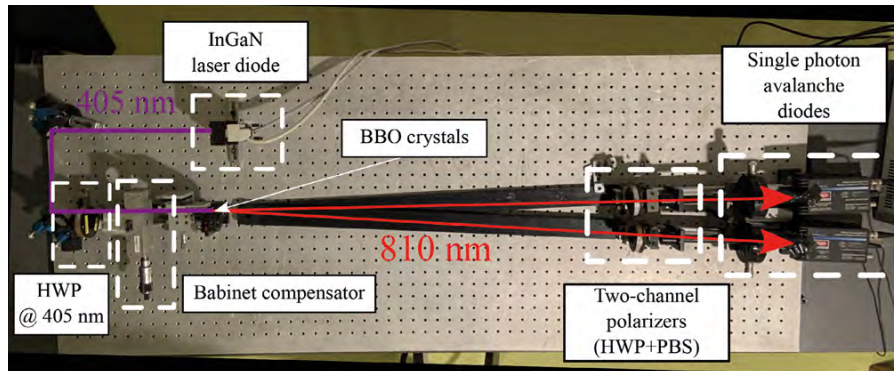


<https://www.hubner-photonics.com>

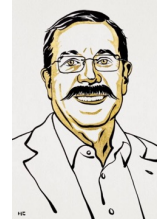
2nd order nonlinear interactions

Optical Parametric Fluorescence effect
Source of polarization entangled state pairs of photons

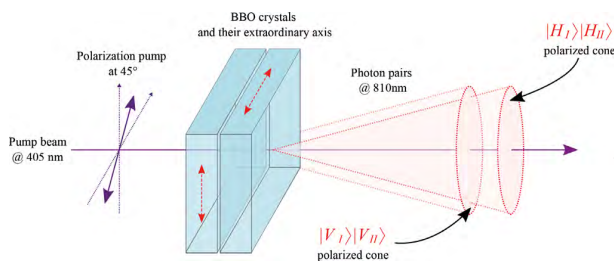
Quantum Optics



Experiment to test the violation of the Bell's inequalities (Labwork @ IOGS)



Alain Aspect
Nobel Prize in Physics 2022

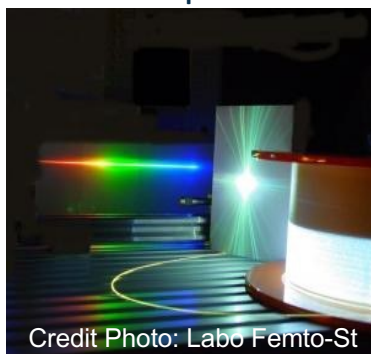


Generation of photon pairs in the superposition state :

$$|\psi_{2ph}\rangle = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} (|V_I\rangle|V_{II}\rangle + e^{i\varphi_0}|H_I\rangle|H_{II}\rangle)$$

3rd order nonlinear interactions

Supercontinuum Generation in nonlinear optical fibers



Credit Photo: Labo Femto-St

Raman scattering in a hollow-core photonic crystal fibre filled with liquid or gas

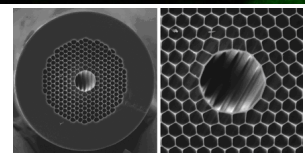
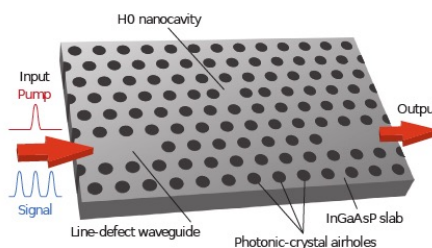


Credit Photo: Institut d'Optique

Optical Kerr Effect

Refractive index variation \propto Optical Intensity

All-optical switching in a μ cavity with pump energy of 10 fJ !



Hollow-core fibre

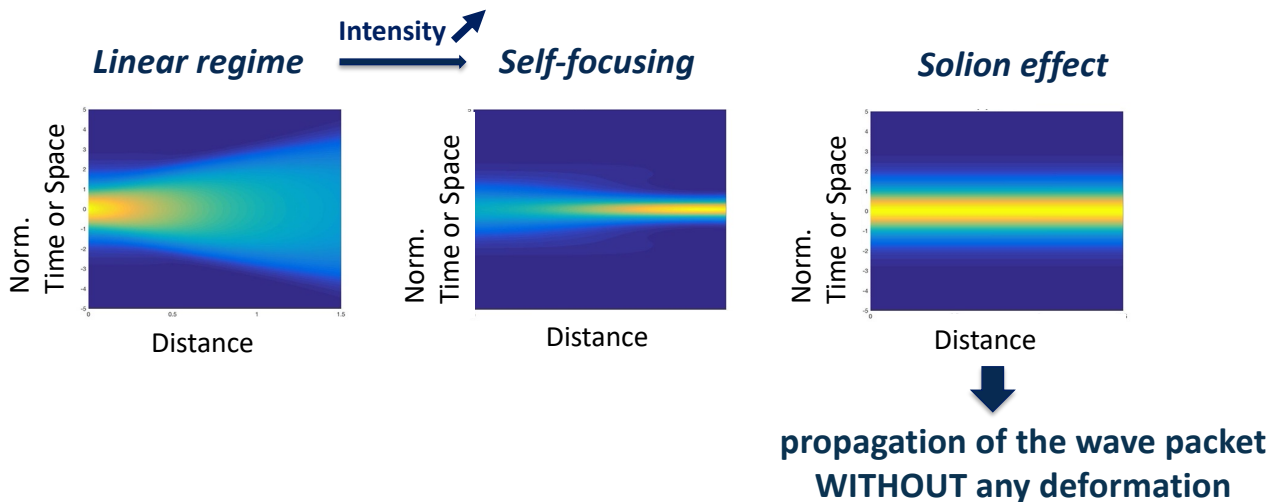
Raman scattering



3rd order nonlinear interactions

Optical solitons

propagation of a wave packet (pulse or spatial beam) through a pure Kerr medium \Rightarrow *refractive index variation proportional to the wave intensity.*
 \Rightarrow *Optical Kerr lens effect (in time or space) !!*



3rd order nonlinear interactions

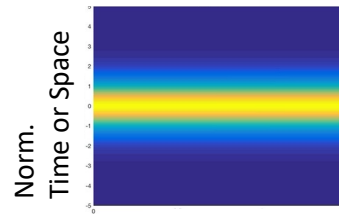
Optical solitons

propagation of a wave packet (pulse or spatial beam) through a pure Kerr medium \Rightarrow *refractive index variation proportional to the wave intensity.*
 \Rightarrow *Optical Kerr lens effect (in time or space) !!*



Droits d'auteur : Guillaume Bonnaud@Sudouest

Soliton effect



propagation of the wave packet **WITHOUT** any deformation

3rd order nonlinear interactions

Generation of optical Frequency Combs in nonlinear micro-cavities

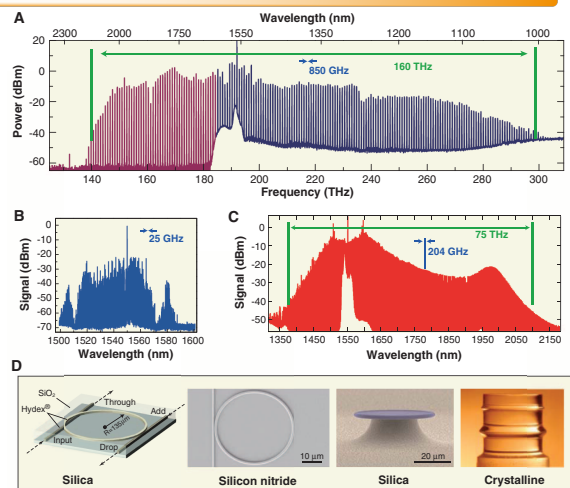
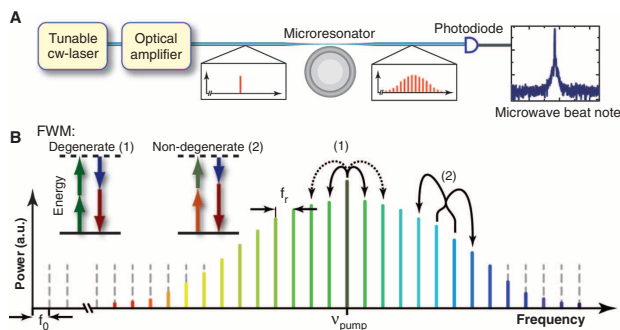
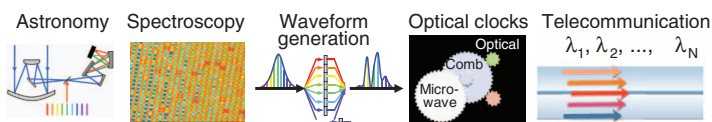


Fig. 3. Microresonator-based frequency combs. (A) Spectrum of an octave-spanning frequency comb generated using a silica microtoroidal resonator (24). (B) An optical frequency comb generated using a crystalline CaF_2 resonator with a mode spacing of 25 GHz (27). (C) Optical spectrum covering two-thirds of an octave (with a mode spacing of 204 GHz) generated using an integrated SiN resonator (31). (D) Experimental systems in which frequency combs have been generated (from left to right): Silica waveguides on a chip (Hydex glass) (32), chip-based silicon nitride (SiN) ring resonators (30) and waveguides, ultrahigh Q toroidal microresonators (24) on a silicon chip, and ultrahigh Q millimeter-scale crystalline resonators (27).

Applications :



From Kippenberg, Science (2011)

Optics in nonlinear regime ?

- Introduction to OPTICS in NONLINEAR REGIME
 - Which applications ?
 - **Physical origin of the nonlinearities ?**

Nonlinear Optics

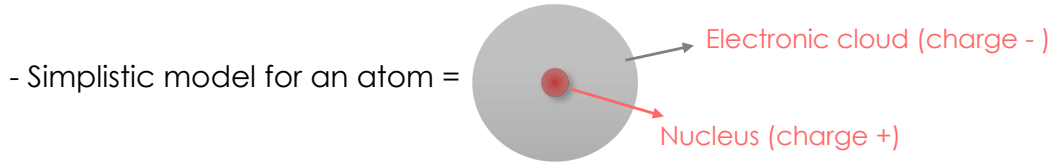
- **First descriptions**
 - Expression of the macroscopic polarization in terms of a power series in the field strength :
$$\mathcal{P}(t) = \chi_1 \mathcal{E}(t) + \chi_2 \mathcal{E}(t) \mathcal{E}(t) + \chi_3 \mathcal{E}(t) \mathcal{E}(t) \mathcal{E}(t) + \dots,$$
 - Origin of the nonlinearities : classical anharmonic oscillator (classical model)



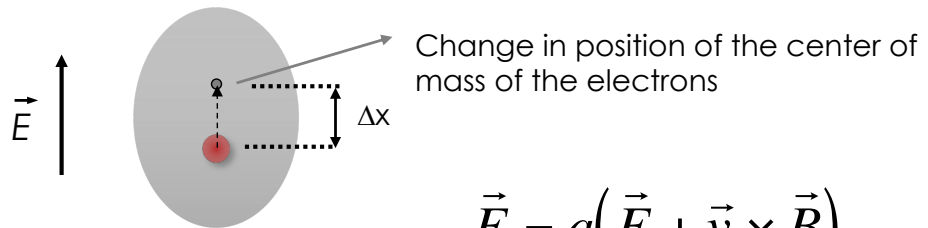
Induced dipole and macroscopic polarization

✓ Microscopic scale

A simplistic description of the interaction between a wave and an atom :



- An applied static electric field acts on the electrons trajectories



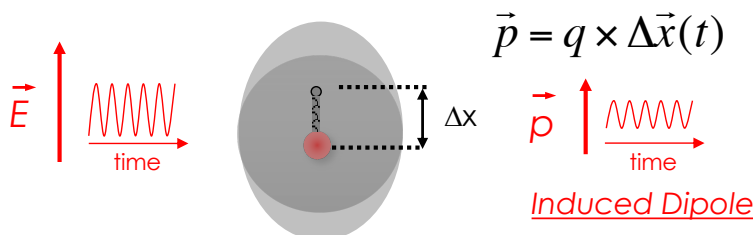
$$\vec{F} = q(\vec{E} + \vec{v} \times \vec{B})$$

Lorentz Force

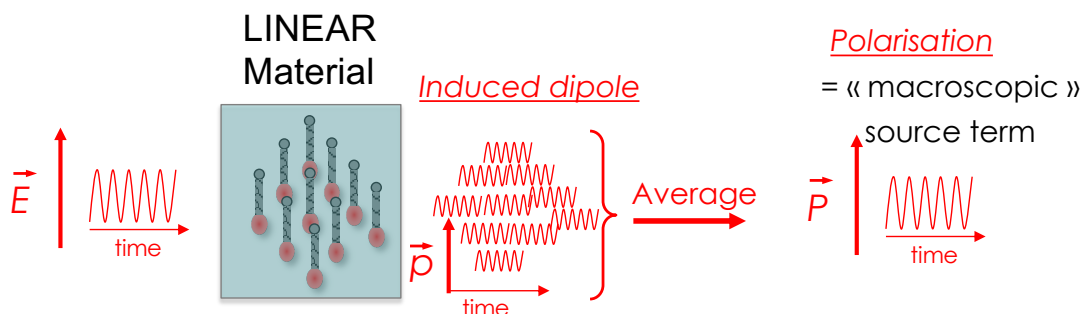
Induced dipole and macroscopic polarization

The magnetic part of the Lorentz force is negligible

- With an applied EM fields = temporal deformation of the electronic cloud



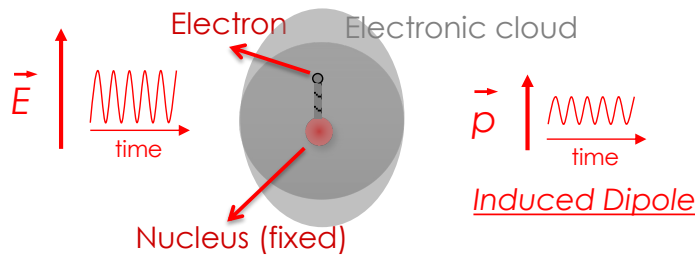
- **LINEAR MEDIUM** case made of N atoms (N identical dipoles)



$$E(t) = A \cos(\omega t - kz) \longrightarrow P(t) \propto R^{(1)} \cos(\omega t - kz)$$

Classical harmonic oscillator model

- Classical anharmonic oscillator - Description



Induced dipole (microscopic quantity) : $p(z, t) = -e x(z, t) \mathbf{x}$
 Polarization (MACROscopic quantity) : $\mathcal{P}(z, t) = N p(z, t)$ } $x(z, t) ??$

- Equation of motion

$$\underbrace{\frac{d^2 x}{dt^2}}_{\text{Damping term}} + \underbrace{\alpha \frac{dx}{dt}}_{\text{Restoring force}} + \underbrace{\omega_0^2 x}_{\text{Driven Coulomb force}} = \frac{-e}{m} \mathbf{x} \cdot \mathcal{E}(z, t)$$

Linear polarization

Harmonic oscillator : equation of motion

$$\frac{d^2 x}{dt^2} + \alpha \frac{dx}{dt} + \omega_0^2 x = \frac{-e}{m} \left[A(\omega) e^{-i(\omega t - kz)} + A(-\omega) e^{+i(\omega t - kz)} \right] \mathbf{x} \cdot \mathbf{x}$$

Driven solution $x^{(1)}(z, t) = a(\omega) e^{-i(\omega t - kz)} + a(-\omega) e^{+i(\omega t - kz)}$

Induced dipole $p^{(1)}(z, t) = \alpha^{(1)}(\omega) A(\omega) e^{-i(\omega t - kz)} \mathbf{x} + CC$

Linear polarizability (microscopic quantity) $\alpha^{(1)} = \frac{e^2}{m \mathcal{D}(\omega)}$ $\mathcal{D}(\omega) = \omega_0^2 - \omega^2 - i\alpha\omega$

Macroscopic Polarization

Linear susceptibility

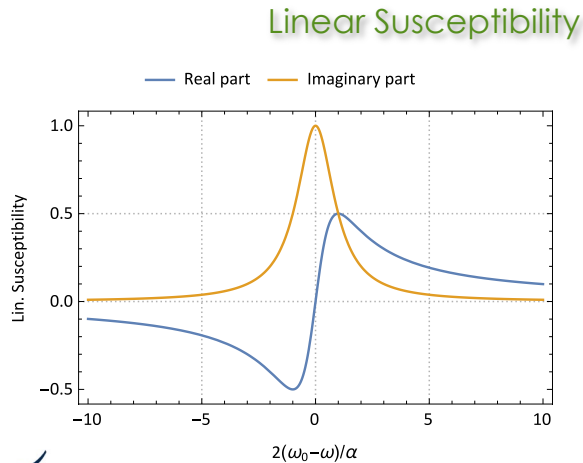
$$\mathcal{P}^{(1)}(z, t) = \epsilon_0 \chi^{(1)}(\omega) \mathbf{E}(\omega) e^{-i\omega t} + CC$$

Linear polarization

Harmonic oscillator : equation of motion

$$\frac{d^2 x}{dt^2} + \alpha \frac{dx}{dt} + \omega_0^2 x = \frac{-e}{m} \left[A(\omega) e^{-i(\omega t - kz)} + A(-\omega) e^{+i(\omega t - kz)} \right] \mathbf{x} \cdot \mathbf{x}.$$

$$\mathcal{P}^{(1)}(z, t) = \epsilon_0 \chi^{(1)}(\omega) \mathbf{E}(\omega) e^{-i\omega t} + CC.$$



$$\chi^{(1)}(\omega) = \frac{Ne^2}{\epsilon_0 m (\omega_0^2 - \omega^2 - i\alpha\omega)}$$

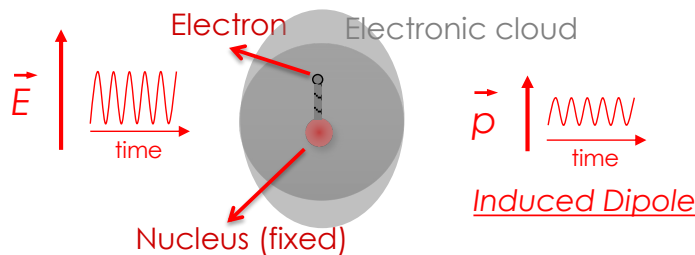
$$\chi^{(1)}(\omega) = \chi'(\omega) + i\chi''(\omega)$$

Dispersion

Absorption
(or amplification)
Lorentzian line shape

Classical anharmonic oscillator model

• Classical anharmonic oscillator - Description



Induced dipole (microscopic quantity) : $\mathbf{p}(z, t) = -e x(z, t) \mathbf{x}$

Polarization (MACROscopic quantity) : $\mathcal{P}(z, t) = N \mathbf{p}(z, t)$

} $x(z, t) ??$

• Equation of motion

$$\frac{d^2 x}{dt^2} + \alpha \frac{dx}{dt} + \omega_0^2 x + \beta x^2 + \gamma x^3 + \dots = \frac{-e}{m} \mathbf{x} \cdot \mathcal{E}(z, t)$$

Classical anharmonic oscillator model

- Equation of motion

$$\frac{d^2x}{dt^2} + \alpha \frac{dx}{dt} + \omega_0^2 x + \beta x^2 + \gamma x^3 + \dots = \frac{-e}{m} x \cdot \mathcal{E}(z, t)$$

Damping term

Restoring force

Driven Coulomb force

Solution : perturbation method, taking into account $\omega_0^2 x \gg \beta x^2 \gg \gamma x^3$

$$x = \lambda x^{(1)} + \lambda^2 x^{(2)} + \lambda^3 x^{(3)} + \dots$$

$$x^{(1)} \gg x^{(2)} \gg x^{(3)}$$

2nd Order Nonlinear Polarization

Anharmonic oscillator : equation of motion

$$\frac{d^2x}{dt^2} + \alpha \frac{dx}{dt} + \omega_0^2 x + \beta x^2 = \frac{-e}{m} x \cdot \mathcal{E}(z, t)$$

Driven solution

$$x(z, t) = \lambda x^{(1)}(z, t) + \lambda^2 x^{(2)}(z, t) + \dots$$

$$\frac{d^2x^{(2)}}{dt^2} + \alpha \frac{dx^{(2)}}{dt} + \omega_0^2 x^{(2)} = -\beta \left(x^{(1)}\right)^2$$

$$x^{(2)}(z, t) = b(0) + b(2\omega)e^{-2i(\omega t - kz)} + b(-2\omega)e^{+2i(\omega t - kz)}$$

$$\rightarrow \begin{cases} b(0) = \frac{-2\beta e^2 |A|^2(\omega)}{m^2 \mathcal{D}(0) \mathcal{D}(\omega) \mathcal{D}(-\omega)} \\ b(\pm 2\omega) = \frac{-\beta e^2 A^2(\pm\omega)}{m^2 \mathcal{D}(\pm 2\omega) \mathcal{D}(\pm\omega) \mathcal{D}(\pm\omega)} \end{cases}$$

With :

$$D(\omega) = \omega_0^2 - \omega^2 - i\alpha\omega$$

2nd Order Nonlinear Polarization

Anharmonic oscillator : equation of motion

$$\begin{aligned}\mathcal{P}(z, t) &= \mathcal{P}^{(1)}(z, t) + \mathcal{P}^{(2)}(z, t) \\ &= P^{(2)}(0) + P^{(1)}(\omega)e^{-i\omega t} + P^{(2)}(2\omega)e^{-2i\omega t} + CC.\end{aligned}$$

$$P^{(2)}(0) = 2\epsilon_0 \chi^{(2)}(\omega, -\omega) E(\omega) E(-\omega) x$$

$$P^{(2)}(2\omega) = \epsilon_0 \chi^{(2)}(\omega, \omega) E(\omega) E(\omega) x$$

Optical RECTIFICATION
(induces static electric field)

2nd Harmonic Generation
creation of an electric field with
a 2ω frequency component

2nd order Nonlinear Susceptibility

$$\chi^{(2)}(\omega_1, \omega_2) = \frac{N \alpha^{(2)}(\omega_1, \omega_2)}{\epsilon_0}$$

$$\alpha^{(2)}(\omega_1, \omega_2) = \frac{\beta e^3}{m^2 \mathcal{D}(\omega_1 + \omega_2) \mathcal{D}(\omega_1) \mathcal{D}(\omega_2)}$$

2nd Order Nonlinear Polarization

Anharmonic oscillator : equation of motion

Conclusion & Comments

- The macroscopic polarization induced inside the material is then given

by the sum :

$$\begin{aligned}P(z, t) &= P^{(1)}(z, t) + P^{(2)}(z, t) \\ &= P^{(2)}(0) + P^{(1)}(\omega)e^{-i(\omega t - kz)} + P^{(2)}(2\omega)e^{-2i(\omega t - kz)} + CC.\end{aligned}$$

With :

$$P^{(2)}(0) = 2\epsilon_0 \chi^{(2)}(\omega, -\omega) E(\omega) E(-\omega) x$$

$$P^{(2)}(2\omega) = \epsilon_0 \chi^{(2)}(\omega, \omega) E(\omega) E(\omega) x$$

(Complex amplitudes)

$$\chi^{(2)}(\omega_3; \omega_1, \omega_2) = \frac{N e^3 \beta}{\epsilon_0 m^2 \mathcal{D}(\omega_3) \mathcal{D}(\omega_1) \mathcal{D}(\omega_2)}$$

With :

$$\omega_3 = \omega_1 + \omega_2$$

$$D(\omega) = \omega_0^2 - \omega^2 - i\alpha\omega$$

- For **non-resonant interactions** ($\omega \ll \omega_0$) $\Rightarrow \chi^{(2)}$ is real and independent of the frequency
- On the other hand, strong enhancement of the nonlinear susceptibility is expected once ω or 2ω (or both) is close to a material transition ($@\omega_0$) (but with detrimental additional absorption)
- Phase mismatching between the polarization component @ 2ω and the free propagative wave @ $2\omega \Rightarrow$ wavevector related to $P(2\omega) \neq$ wavevector of $E(2\omega)$

$$2k(\omega) \neq k(2\omega)$$

3rd Order Nonlinear Polarization

Anharmonic oscillator : equation of motion

$$\frac{d^2 x}{dt^2} + \alpha \frac{dx}{dt} + \omega_0^2 x + \gamma x^3 = \frac{-e}{m} x \cdot \mathcal{E}(z, t)$$

Case of a centro-symmetric material

Driven solution

$$x(z, t) = \lambda x^{(1)}(z, t) + \lambda^2 x^{(2)}(z, t) + \lambda^3 x^{(3)}(z, t) \quad \rightarrow \quad x^{(2)} = 0$$

Linear and Nonlinear Polarization

$$\begin{aligned} \mathcal{P}(z, t) &= \mathcal{P}^{(1)}(z, t) + \mathcal{P}^{(3)}(z, t) \\ &= P(\omega)e^{-i\omega t} + P(3\omega)e^{-3i\omega t} + CC \end{aligned}$$

3rd Harmonic generation

$$P^{(3)}(3\omega) = \epsilon_0 \chi^{(3)}(\omega, \omega, \omega) E(\omega) E(\omega) E(\omega) x$$

Optical Kerr Effect

$$P^{(3)}(\omega) = 3\epsilon_0 \chi^{(3)}(\omega, -\omega, \omega) E(\omega) E(-\omega) E(\omega) x$$

$$\chi^{(3)}(\omega_1, \omega_2, \omega_3) = \frac{-N\gamma e^4}{\epsilon_0 m^3 \mathcal{D}(\omega_1 + \omega_2 + \omega_3) \mathcal{D}(\omega_1) \mathcal{D}(\omega_2) \mathcal{D}(\omega_3)}$$

3rd Order Nonlinear Polarization

Conclusion & Comments

- The macroscopic polarization induced inside the material is then given by the sum :

$$\begin{aligned} P(z, t) &= P^{(1)}(z, t) + P^{(3)}(z, t) \\ &= P(0) + P(\omega)e^{-i(\omega t - kz)} + P(3\omega)e^{-3i(\omega t - kz)} + CC. \end{aligned}$$

With : $P^{(3)}(3\omega) = \epsilon_0 \chi^{(3)}(\omega, \omega, \omega) E(\omega) E(\omega) E(\omega) x$ (Complex amplitudes)

$$P^{(3)}(\omega) = 3\chi^{(3)}(\omega, -\omega, \omega) E(\omega) E(-\omega) E(\omega) x$$

$$\chi^{(3)}(\omega_1, \omega_2, \omega_3) = \frac{-N\gamma e^4}{\epsilon_0 m^3 \mathcal{D}(\omega_1 + \omega_2 + \omega_3) \mathcal{D}(\omega_1) \mathcal{D}(\omega_2) \mathcal{D}(\omega_3)} \quad \mathcal{D}(\omega) = \omega_0^2 - \omega^2 - i\alpha\omega$$

- For **non-resonant interactions** ($\omega \ll \omega_0$)
 $\Rightarrow \chi^{(3)}$ is real and independent of the frequency
- Strong enhancement of the nonlinear susceptibility is expected once ω or 3ω (or both) is close to a material transition ($@\omega_0$)
- Phase mismatching between the polarization component @ 3ω and the free propagative wave @ 3ω : $3k(\omega) \neq k(3\omega)$