

NONLINEAR OPTICS

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7 Lectures (7x1h30)

1 Homework

6 tutorial sessions

(including one in numerical simulation)

Lecture 1/7 : learning outcomes

By the end of this lecture, you will be able to ...

- cite nonlinear effects that arise in a 2nd and 3rd order nonlinear materials (K2)
- provide a classical description for the origin of the nonlinear susceptibilities (K3)

By the end of this lecture, you will start to understand ...

- the capability of light matter interactions in modifying light properties : frequency generation, optical rectification... (Q1)
- how a perturbative approach enables in describing and deriving a NON LINEAR problem in physics (Q2)
- the link between the microscopic and macroscopic terms in Maxwell's equations (induced dipole, macroscopic polarization and fields) (Q3)

Lecture 2 /7 : learning outcomes

By the end of this two lectures, you will know...

- the constitutive relations of nonlinear optics ($D = \epsilon_0 E + P$ and $P = \epsilon_0 \chi^{(1)} E + \epsilon_0 \chi^{(2)} EE + \epsilon_0 \chi^{(3)} EEE + \dots$) (K1)
- the basic properties of nonlinear susceptibility tensors (K4)

By the end of this lecture, you will be skilled at...

- deriving and solving the nonlinear wave equation in a parametric situation under the undepleted pump approximation (S3)

By the end of this lecture, you will understand ...

- Nonlinear effects are subject to phase matching conditions (U5)

Lecture 2 - Content

- **Field notation**
 - **Introduction to nonlinear susceptibility tensors**
 - **Nonlinear wave equation: application to SHG & Phase matching condition**

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**

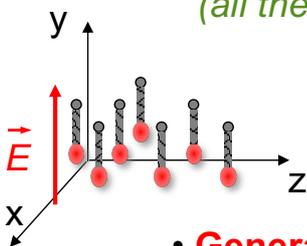
Notation :
 $P^*(\omega) = P(-\omega)$

Nonlinear susceptibility tensor - Definition

Case of the nonlinear interaction of 2 waves @ ω_1 and ω_2 in a 2nd order NL medium :

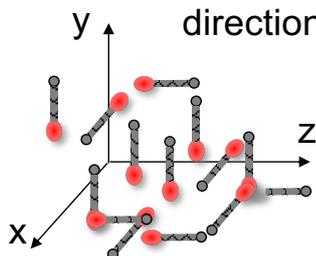
- Classical anharmonic oscillator : **scalar expression** of the polarization @ $\omega = \omega_1 + \omega_2$

(all the dipoles are supposed identically oriented along the linear polarization state of the applied field) :



$$P_y(\omega_1 + \omega_2) = \epsilon_0 \chi_{yyy}^{(2)}(\omega_1, \omega_2) E_y(\omega_1) E_y(\omega_2)$$

- **General description** : the array of dipoles are oriented along the 3 directions x, y et z + different oscillator parameters for each direction



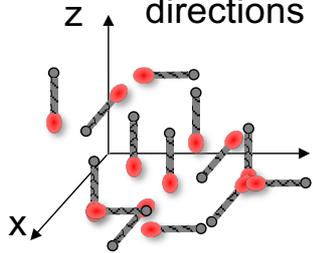
General relation :

$$P_i(\omega_1 + \omega_2) = \epsilon_0 \sum_{jk} \chi_{ijk}^{(2)}(\omega_1 + \omega_2; \omega_1, \omega_2) E_j(\omega_1) E_k(\omega_2)$$

Nonlinear susceptibility tensor - Definition

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Vector / Tensor notation :

$$\mathbf{P}(\omega_1 + \omega_2) = \epsilon_0 \underline{\underline{\chi}}^{(2)}(\omega_1 + \omega_2; \omega_1, \omega_2) \mathbf{E}(\omega_1) \mathbf{E}(\omega_2)$$

Diagram illustrating the vector/tensor notation for the general relation. The polarization vector \mathbf{P} is circled in green and labeled "Vector". The second-order susceptibility tensor $\underline{\underline{\chi}}^{(2)}$ is circled in orange and labeled "Tensor of rank 3". The two electric field vectors $\mathbf{E}(\omega_1)$ and $\mathbf{E}(\omega_2)$ are circled in green and labeled "Vectors".

Lecture 2 - Content

- Field notation
 - Introduction to nonlinear susceptibility tensors
- **Nonlinear wave equation: application to SHG & Phase matching condition**

NONLINEAR OPTICS

Nonlinear wave equation: application to SHG & Phase matching condition

- Maxwell's equations
- **Nonlinear wave equation in a isotropic material**
 - Application : Second Harmonic Generation (SHG)
 - Discussion about the phase matching condition
- Propagation in a linear anisotropic material
- Stationary nonlinear wave equation
- Phase Matching considerations

NONLINEAR OPTICS

Nonlinear wave equation: application to SHG & Phase matching condition

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Maxwell's Equations

Case of a Linear Dielectric material :

no free charges, no free currents, nonmagnetic

$$\begin{cases} \nabla \times \mathcal{E} = -\frac{\partial \mathcal{B}}{\partial t} & \nabla \cdot \mathcal{D} = 0 \\ \nabla \times \mathcal{H} = \frac{\partial \mathcal{D}}{\partial t} & \nabla \cdot \mathcal{B} = 0, \\ \mathcal{D} = \epsilon_0 \mathcal{E} + \mathcal{P} & \mathcal{B} = \mu_0 \mathcal{H} \end{cases}$$

macroscopic Polarization = source terme $\vec{P} = \epsilon_0 \underline{\chi^{(1)}} \vec{E} + \vec{P}_{NL}$ (Frequency domain)

$\vec{P}_{NL} = \epsilon_0 \underline{\chi^{(2)}} \vec{E}\vec{E} + \epsilon_0 \underline{\chi^{(3)}} \vec{E}\vec{E}\vec{E} + \dots$ (Frequency domain)

Maxwell's Equation

Wave equation

In the time domain

$$\nabla \times \nabla \times \mathcal{E}(\mathbf{r}, t) + \dots$$

In the frequency domain

$$\nabla \times \nabla \times \mathbf{E}(\mathbf{r}, \omega) - \dots$$

Maxwell's Equation

Wave equation

In the time domain

$$\nabla \times \nabla \times \mathbf{E}(\mathbf{r}, t) + \frac{1}{c^2} \frac{\partial^2 \mathbf{E}(\mathbf{r}, t)}{\partial t^2} = -\mu_0 \frac{\partial^2 \mathbf{P}^{(1)}(\mathbf{r}, t)}{\partial t^2} - \mu_0 \frac{\partial^2 \mathbf{P}^{(NL)}(\mathbf{r}, t)}{\partial t^2}$$

In the frequency domain

$$\nabla \times \nabla \times \mathbf{E}(\mathbf{r}, \omega) - \frac{\omega^2}{c^2} \mathbf{E}(\mathbf{r}, \omega) = \omega^2 \mu_0 \mathbf{P}^{(1)}(\mathbf{r}, \omega) + \omega^2 \mu_0 \mathbf{P}^{(NL)}(\mathbf{r}, \omega)$$

$$\mathbf{P}^{(1)}(\mathbf{r}, \omega) = \epsilon_0 \underline{\chi}^{(1)}(\mathbf{r}, \omega) \mathbf{E}(\mathbf{r}, \omega) \quad (\text{local response})$$

$$\underline{\epsilon}(\mathbf{r}, \omega) = 1 + \underline{\chi}^{(1)}(\mathbf{r}, \omega) \quad (\text{Relative permittivity})$$

$$\nabla \times \nabla \times \mathbf{E}(\mathbf{r}, \omega) = \frac{\omega^2}{c^2} \underline{\epsilon}(\mathbf{r}, \omega) \mathbf{E}(\mathbf{r}, \omega) + \omega^2 \mu_0 \mathbf{P}^{(NL)}(\mathbf{r}, \omega)$$

Nonlinear Wave Equation in isotropic material

$$\nabla \times \nabla \times \mathbf{E}(\mathbf{r}, \omega) = \nabla(\nabla \cdot \mathbf{E}) - \Delta \mathbf{E}$$

$$\nabla \cdot (\underline{\epsilon} \mathbf{E}) = 0$$

Homogeneous and Isotropic Material :

$$\nabla \cdot \mathbf{E} = 0$$

$$\Delta \mathbf{E}(\omega) + \frac{\omega^2}{c^2} \epsilon \mathbf{E}(\omega) = -\omega^2 \mu_0 \mathbf{P}_{NL}(\omega)$$

Considering the propagation of a plane wave along the direction z :

$$\mathbf{E}(z, \omega) = A(z) e^{ikz} \mathbf{e}$$

$$\frac{\partial^2 A(z)}{\partial z^2} + 2ik \frac{\partial A(z)}{\partial z} = -\frac{\omega^2}{\epsilon_0 c^2} \mathbf{e} \cdot \mathbf{P}_{NL}(z, \omega) e^{-ikz}$$

$$\text{As } k^2(\omega) = \frac{\omega^2}{c^2} \epsilon(\omega) \quad (\text{dispersion relation})$$

Slowly varying amplitude approximation :

$$\left| \frac{\partial^2 A(z)}{\partial z^2} \right| \ll \left| 2k \frac{\partial A(z)}{\partial z} \right|$$

$$\frac{\partial A(z)}{\partial z} = \frac{\omega}{2\epsilon_0 n c} \mathbf{e} \cdot \mathbf{P}_{NL}(z, \omega) e^{-ikz}$$



Conclusion

- Nonlinear wave equation :

$$P_{NL}(z, \omega) = \Pi_{NL}(z, \omega) e^{i\mathbf{k}_p(\omega) \cdot \mathbf{r}}$$

$$\frac{\partial A(z)}{\partial z} = \frac{\omega}{2\epsilon_0 n c} e \cdot P_{NL}(z, \omega) e^{-ikz}$$
$$\frac{\partial A(z)}{\partial z} = \frac{\omega}{2\epsilon_0 n c} e \cdot \Pi_{NL}(z, \omega) e^{-i\Delta k z}$$

- **Efficient Energy transfer requires :**

- Non-zero Nonlinear Polarization amplitude @ ω
- Non-zero projection between the electric field and the NL polarization

$$\vec{e} \cdot \vec{P}_{NL} \neq 0$$

- phase matching condition $\Delta k = 0$

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Nonlinear wave equation: application to SHG & Phase matching condition

- Maxwell's equations
- Nonlinear wave equation in a isotropic material

$$\frac{\partial A(z)}{\partial z} = \frac{\omega}{2\epsilon_0 n c} e \cdot P_{NL}(z, \omega) e^{-ikz}$$

- **Application : Second Harmonic Generation (SHG)**

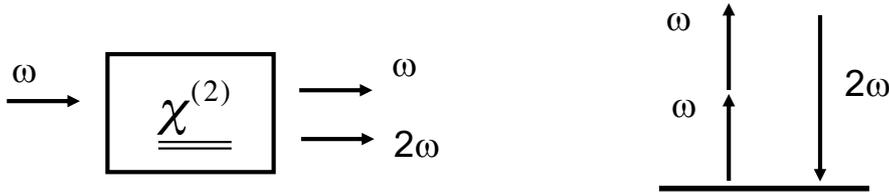
=> **SEE TUTORIAL n° 1**

- Discussion about the phase matching condition
- Propagation in a linear anisotropic material
- Stationary nonlinear wave equation

- Phase Matching considerations

2nd Harmonic Generation

Assumption : Lossless medium



1. Undepleted pump approximation regime $A_\omega(z)=Cste$

$$\begin{cases} \frac{dA_\omega(z)}{dz} = 0 \\ \frac{dA_{2\omega}(z)}{dz} = \frac{i(2\omega)}{2\epsilon_0 n_{2\omega} c} e_{2\omega} \cdot P_{NL}(z, 2\omega) e^{-ik_{2\omega} \cdot z} \end{cases}$$

$$\begin{aligned} P_{NL}(z, 2\omega) &= \epsilon_0 \underline{\chi}^{(2)}(2\omega; \omega, \omega) E(z, \omega) E(z, \omega) \\ &= \epsilon_0 \underline{\chi}^{(2)}(2\omega; \omega, \omega) e_\omega e_\omega A_\omega^2(z) e^{i2k_\omega \cdot z} \end{aligned} \Rightarrow \frac{dA_{2\omega}(z)}{dz} = \frac{i(2\omega)}{2n_{2\omega} c} \chi_{\text{eff}}^{(2)} A_\omega^2(z) e^{i\Delta k \cdot z}$$

Wavevector mismatch:

$$\Delta k = 2k_\omega - k_{2\omega}$$

Effective nonlinear susceptibility

$$\chi_{\text{eff}}^{(2)} = e_{2\omega} \cdot \underline{\chi}^{(2)}(2\omega; \omega, \omega) e_\omega e_\omega$$

2nd Harmonic Generation

1. Undepleted pump approximation regime

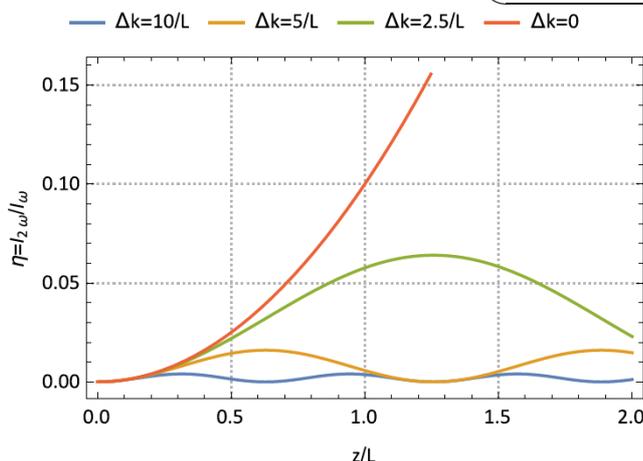
Solution : Intensity evolution

Field intensity :
 $I = 2nc\epsilon_0 |E_0|^2$,

$$\begin{aligned} I_{2\omega}(z) &= \frac{(2\omega)^2}{2\epsilon_0 n_\omega^2 n_{2\omega} c^3} |\chi_{\text{eff}}^{(2)}|^2 \sin^2\left(\frac{\Delta k}{2} z\right) \frac{I_\omega^2}{(\Delta k)^2} \\ &= \frac{(2\omega)^2}{8\epsilon_0 n_\omega^2 n_{2\omega} c^3} |\chi_{\text{eff}}^{(2)}|^2 \text{sinc}^2(\Delta k z / 2) I_\omega^2 z^2. \end{aligned}$$

SHG efficiency :

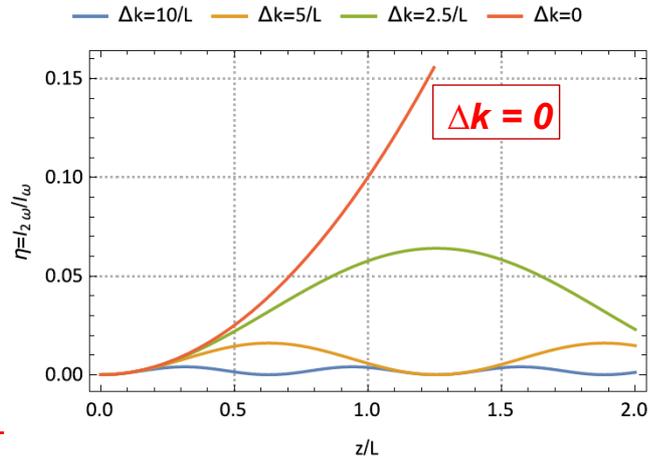
$$\eta_{\text{SHG}} = \frac{I_{2\omega}}{I_\omega} = \frac{(2\omega)^2}{8\epsilon_0 n_\omega^2 n_{2\omega} c^3} |\chi_{\text{eff}}^{(2)}|^2 \text{sinc}^2(\Delta k z / 2) I_\omega z^2.$$



2nd Harmonic Generation

1. Undepleted pump approximation regime

SHG efficiency :

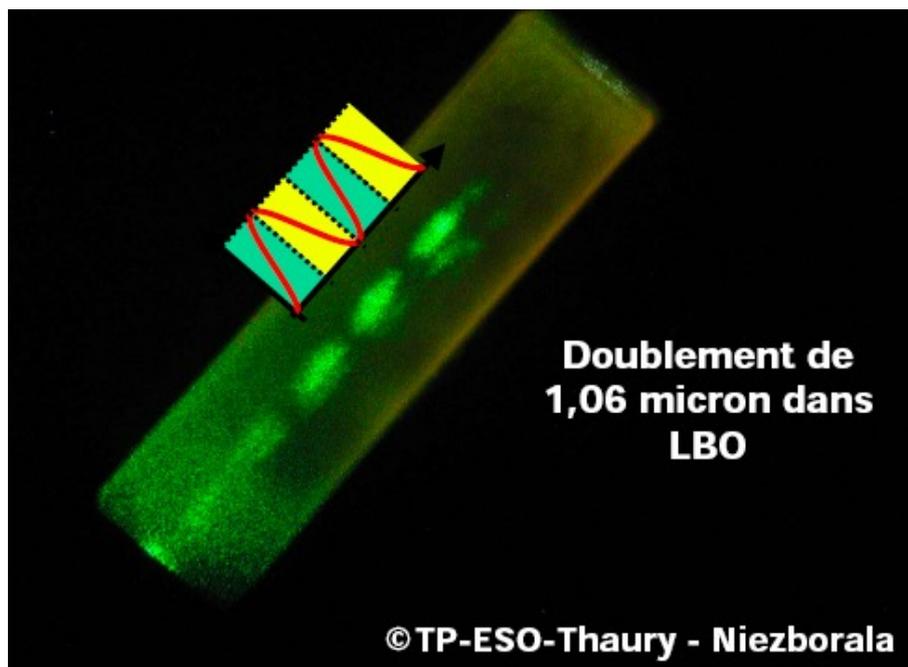


Conclusions :

- Non-phased situation : generation @ 2ω occurs on a typical length $L_{coh} = \pi / \Delta k$, called **coherent buildup length (coherence length)**
- Intensity @ 2ω is proportional to $I_\omega^2 / \Delta k^2$
- The conversion efficiency $I_{2\omega} / I_\omega$ is proportional to I_ω (need to focus the beam @ ω to increase the efficiency)
- **Efficiency Max. :** requires to fulfill the **phase-matching condition: $\Delta k = 0$**

2 - 2nd Harmonic Generation

Non-phased situation : $\Delta k \neq 0$



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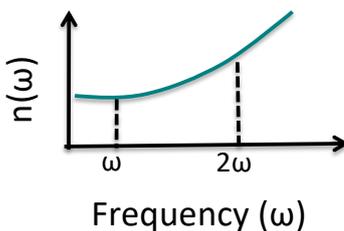
Nonlinear wave equation: application to SHG & Phase matching condition

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Phase matching condition

About the difficulty to achieve the phase matching condition :

In general, the refractive index for lossless materials shows a NORMAL DISPERSION : the refractive index is increasing with the frequency



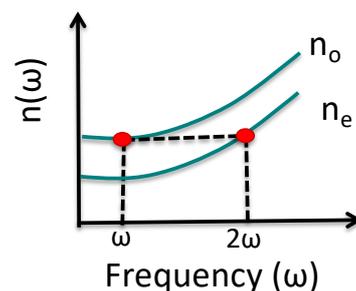
Case of 2nd Harm. Gen. :

Phase matching condition implies :
 $n(\omega) = n(2\omega)$

IMPOSSIBLE !

The most common procedure for achieving the phase matching condition :

Use of birefringence properties of crystals.



Phase matching condition

Nonlinear wave equation :
$$\frac{\partial A(z)}{\partial z} = \frac{\omega}{2\epsilon_0 n c} e \cdot P_{NL}(z, \omega) e^{-ikz}$$

Substituting $P_{NL}(z, \omega) = \Pi_{NL}(z, \omega) e^{ik_p(\omega) \cdot r}$
in the nonlinear wave equation :

$$\frac{\partial A(z)}{\partial z} = \frac{\omega}{2\epsilon_0 n c} e \cdot \Pi_{NL}(z, \omega) e^{-i\Delta kz}$$

The phase miss-match term $\Delta kz = (k_p - k) \cdot z$

Assumption : weak nonlinear interaction (or parametric approx)

$$\Pi_{NL}(z, \omega) \simeq \text{Const. along } z$$

Solution of the wave equation :

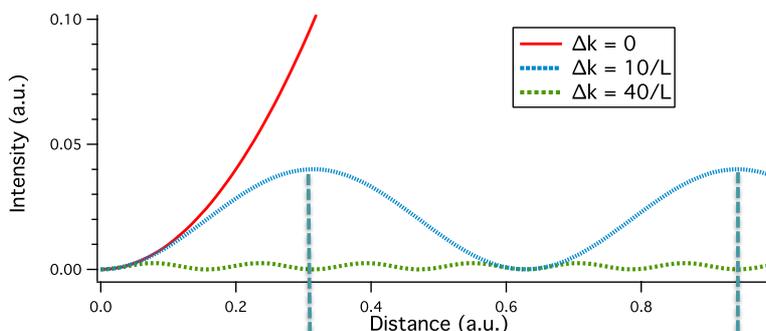
$$I(z) = \frac{\omega^2}{2nc\epsilon_0} |e \cdot \Pi_{NL}(\omega)|^2 \text{sinc}^2\left(\frac{\Delta k L}{2}\right) L^2$$

Phase matching condition

Nonlinear wave equation :
$$\frac{\partial A(z)}{\partial z} = \frac{\omega}{2\epsilon_0 n c} e \cdot P_{NL}(z, \omega) e^{-ikz}$$

Solution of the wave equation : under a weak nonlinear interaction

$$I(z) = \frac{\omega^2}{2nc\epsilon_0} |e \cdot \Pi_{NL}(\omega)|^2 \text{sinc}^2\left(\frac{\Delta k L}{2}\right) L^2$$



When $\Delta k \neq 0$, sinusoidal evolution of $I(z)$

When $\Delta k = 0$, $I(z)$ grows as z^2
(under the undepleted-pump approximation)

$L_c = \pi/\Delta k$: coherence length

A physical picture : Free and driven waves

- Phase Matching Condition

Nonlinear wave equation $\frac{d^2 E(\omega)}{dz^2} + k^2 E(\omega) = -\omega^2 \mu_0 \Pi_{NL}(\omega) e^{ik_p z}$

Complete solution $E = E_o(z) + E_f(z)$

With $E_o(z)$ solution of $\frac{d^2 E(\omega)}{dz^2} + k^2 \epsilon E(\omega) = 0$ = **FREE running WAVE**

and $E_f(z)$ driven solution of the wave equation = **DRIVEN WAVE**

• Sets of solution : general form

$$E_o(z) = e A_0 e^{ikz}$$

$$E_f(z) = e A_f e^{ik_p z}$$

With $A_f \simeq \text{const.}$ in **undepleted wave approximation**, considering $P_{NL}(\omega)$ independent of z

Free and Driven Waves...

- Solution for the driven wave

$$A_f \simeq \frac{\omega}{2\epsilon_0 n c \Delta k} e \cdot \Pi_{NL}$$

- Complete solution

$$E = e \left[A_0 e^{ikz} + A_f e^{ik_p z} \right]$$

Free wave + driven wave

- boundary condition $E(z = 0) = 0e \Rightarrow A_f = -A_o$

Intensity evolution

$$I(z) = \frac{\omega^2}{2nc\epsilon_0} |e \cdot \Pi_{NL}(\omega)|^2 \text{sinc}^2 \left(\frac{\Delta k L}{2} \right) L^2$$

INTERPRETATION

When $\Delta k \neq 0$, sinusoidal evolution of $I(z)$: successive constructive and destructive interference between the free wave and the driven wave (induced by P_{NL})

When $\Delta k = 0$, constructive interference and $I(z)$ behaves as z^2 (as long as the undepleted-pump approximation is valid)

Student activities

To complete, read the lecture notes :
→ sections 3.2 and 3.3

**Refresher about the
birefringence properties
of anisotropic materials**