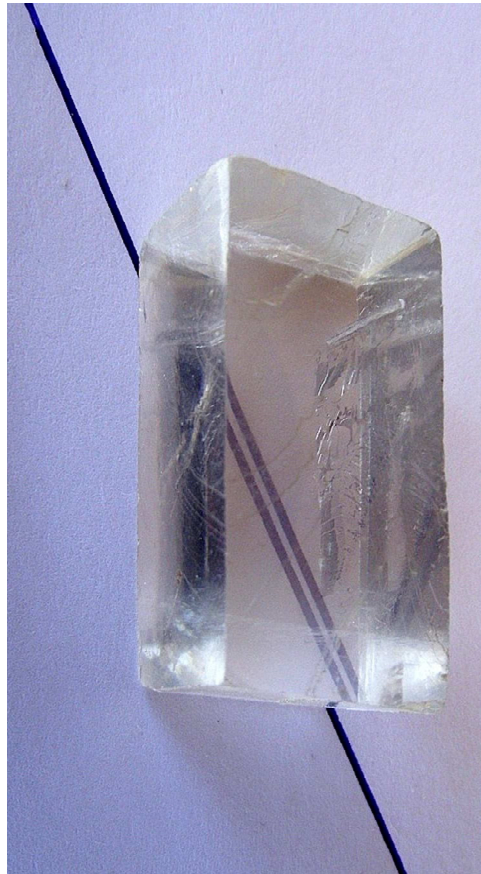


Calcite



- Experiment:
 - Draw a black dot on a piece of paper
 - Place calcite crystal on top
 - Rotate crystal
 - => observations
 - Look through polarized sunglasses at crystal
 - Rotate crystal or sunglasses
 - => observations

Experiments



- Experiments:
 - Place Scotch tape between crossed polarizers
 - Rotate Scotch tape
 - ⇒ observations



- Place a clear plastic object (e.g. protractor) between crossed polarizers
- ⇒ observations

Recall lecture 6

In an anisotropic medium:

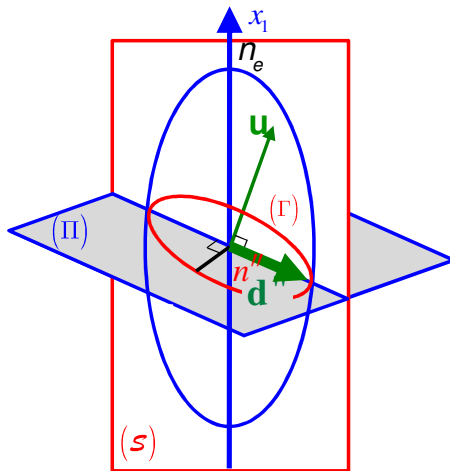
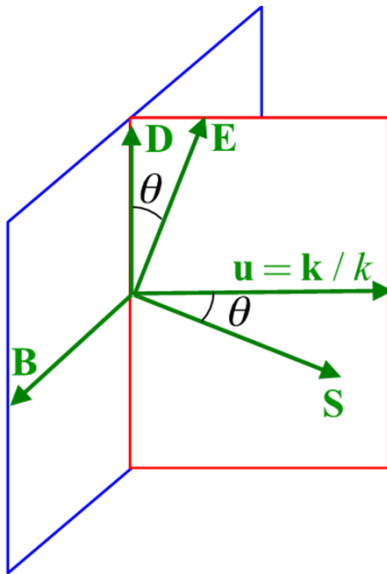
$$\mathbf{D} = \epsilon_0 \mathbf{E}$$

Tensor!

- Wave vector $\mathbf{k}$ is (in general) **NOT** in the same direction as the propagation of energy $\vec{S} = \vec{E} \times \vec{E}$

- Two waves! unless...

- Graphical method for finding indices and polarizations



$$\vec{D} = \epsilon \vec{E}$$

$$\hat{u} = \frac{\vec{k}}{|\vec{k}|}$$

$$\hat{u} \perp \vec{D}$$

$n', n'', \vec{d}', \vec{d}''$

Propagation in a uniaxial crystal: arbitrary $\mathbf{u}$

→ 1 seul axe optique

$$x_i = n \frac{\partial \phi}{\partial k_i}$$

($\mathcal{S}$) principal plane: formed by $\mathbf{u}$ and the optic axis

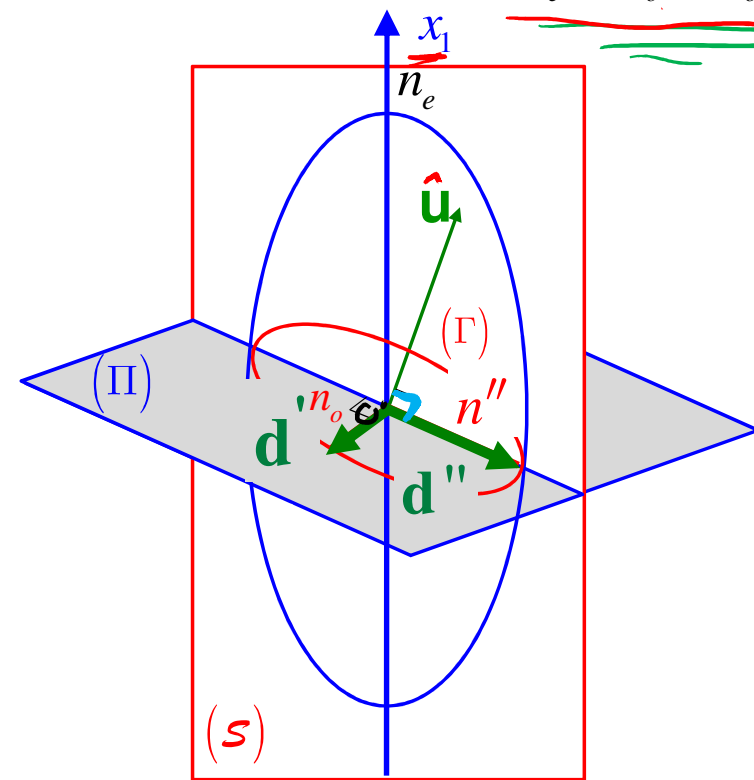
$n_2 = n_3 \equiv n_o$ "ordinary" index
 $n_1 \equiv n_e$ "extraordinary" index

x_1 : optic axis

ellipsoïde des indices

$$1 = \frac{x_1^2}{n_e^2} + \frac{x_2^2}{n_o^2} + \frac{x_3^2}{n_o^2}$$

- The index ellipsoid is symmetrical about the principal plane
- Plane Π : normal to $\mathbf{u}$
- Resulting elliptical cross-section Γ : symmetrical about ($\mathcal{S}$)
- Semi-axes of Γ :
 - One perpendicular to ($\mathcal{S}$): $n_o, \vec{d}'$
 - One parallel to ($\mathcal{S}$): $n'', \vec{d}''$



Propagation in a uniaxial crystal

- Semi-axes of Γ :
 - One perpendicular to $(\mathcal{S})$: $n_o, \mathbf{d}'$
 - One parallel to $(\mathcal{S})$: $n'', \mathbf{d}''$
 - No matter how $\mathbf{u}$ is tilted, perpendicular semi-axis always has the same length and direction
- 

Ordinary wave
- The length and direction of the parallel semi-axis depends on $\mathbf{u}$



Ordinary wave

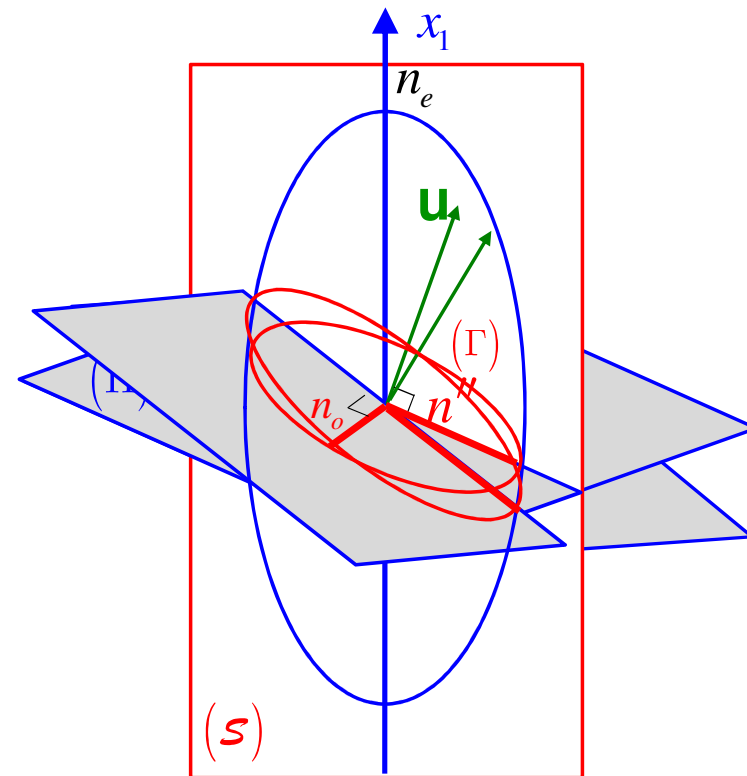


Extraordinary wave

$$\begin{array}{ll} n_2 = n_3 \equiv n_o & \text{"ordinary" index} \\ n_1 \equiv n_e & \text{"extraordinary" index} \end{array}$$

x_1 : optic axis

$$1 = \frac{x_1^2}{n_e^2} + \frac{x_2^2}{n_o^2} + \frac{x_3^2}{n_o^2}$$



$$\frac{x_1^2}{n_e^2} + \frac{x_2^2}{n_o^2} + \frac{x_3^2}{n_o^2} = 1$$

Propagation in a uniaxial crystal

determines par-crystal

Ordinary wave

$n_2 = n_3 \equiv n_o$ "ordinary" index
 $n_1 \equiv n_e$ "extraordinary" index

x_1 : optic axis

- $\mathbf{d}'$ is perpendicular to $(\mathcal{S})$
- $n' = n_o$ no matter the orientation of $\mathbf{u}$
- $\mathbf{d}'$ is in the (x_2, x_3) plane, and $\epsilon_{r2} = \epsilon_{r3} = n_o^2$

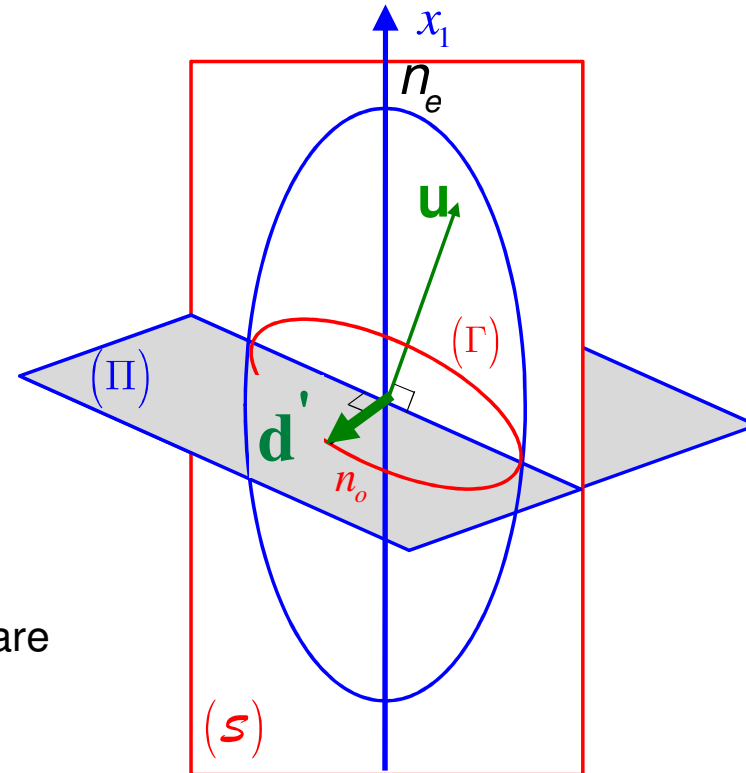


$$D_2 = \epsilon_0 n_o^2 E_2; \quad D_3 = \epsilon_0 n_o^2 E_3$$

D and E are parallel!

Poynting vector $\mathbf{S}$ and the wave normal $\mathbf{u}$ are also parallel

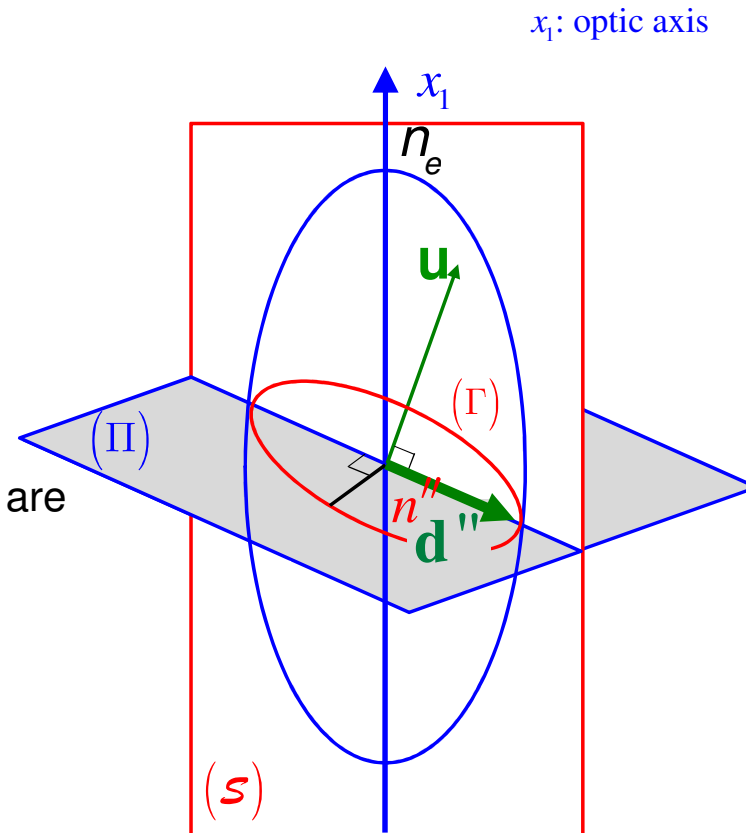
Wave behaves as if it is in an isotropic medium!



Propagation in a uniaxial crystal

Extraordinary wave

- $\mathbf{d}''$ is in the plane (S)
- n'' depends on the orientation of $\mathbf{u}$
- $\mathbf{D}$ and $\mathbf{E}$ are **NOT** parallel
- Poynting vector $\mathbf{S}$ and the wave normal $\mathbf{u}$ are **NOT** parallel
- Wave does NOT behave as if it is in an isotropic medium!



Propagation in a uniaxial crystal: determining n''

$$n' = n_o$$

x_1 : optic axis

- C : cross-section of the index ellipsoid in the principal plane
- n'' : length of the semi-axis of the ellipse (Γ)
- (Γ) is in the plane perpendicular to $\mathbf{u}$

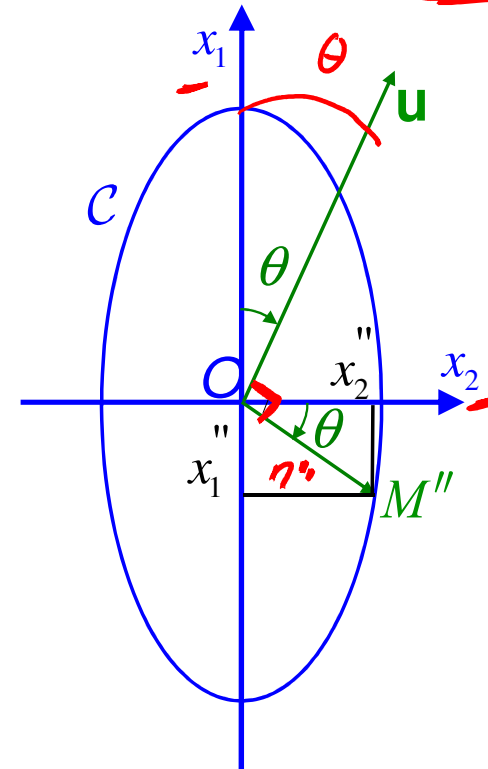


length of the vector $\mathbf{OM''}$

coordinates of $\mathbf{OM''}$: $x_2'' = n'' \cos \theta$; $x_1'' = n'' \sin \theta$ (A)

equation of ellipse C : $1 = \frac{x_1^2}{n_e^2} + \frac{x_2^2}{n_o^2}$ (B)

Plug (A) into (B) and solve for n''



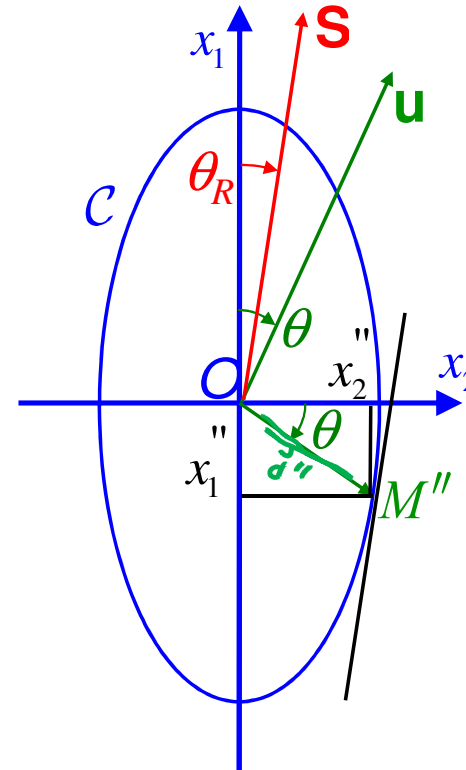
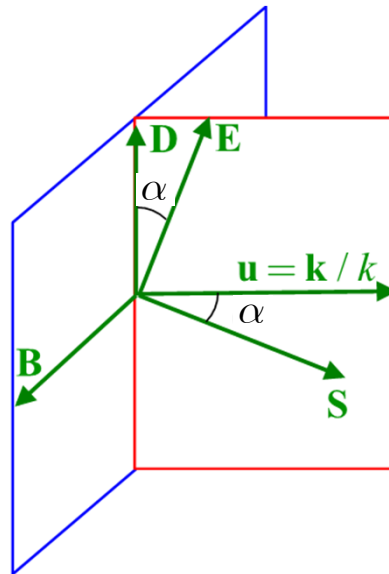
$$n'' = 1 / \sqrt{\frac{\sin^2 \theta}{n_e^2} + \frac{\cos^2 \theta}{n_o^2}}$$

Propagation in a uniaxial crystal: determining the direction of $\mathbf{S}$, the Poynting vector

- Recall: $\mathbf{S}$ in the same plane as $\mathbf{u}$, $\mathbf{E}$, $\mathbf{D}$, perpendicular to $\mathbf{B}$
- Recall: $\mathbf{S}$ is tangential to ellipsoid at M''



Want to find θ_R



Propagation in a uniaxial crystal: determining the direction of **S**, the Poynting vector

- Recall: **S** in the same plane as **u**, **E**, **D**, perpendicular to **B**
- Recall: **S** is tangential to ellipsoid at **M''**



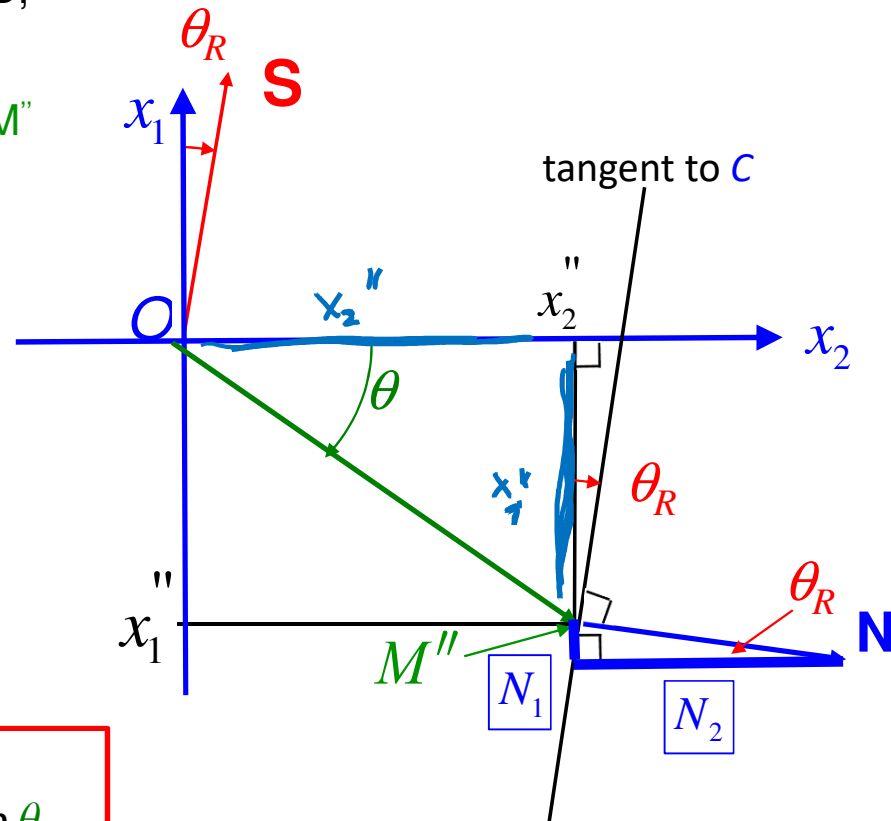
Want to find θ_R

- Find first the normal to **C** at **M''**

$$g(x_1, x_2) = \frac{x_1^2}{n_e^2} + \frac{x_2^2}{n_o^2} - 1$$

$$\mathbf{N} = \begin{pmatrix} \partial g / \partial x_1 \\ \partial g / \partial x_2 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 2x_1 / n_e^2 \\ 2x_2 / n_o^2 \end{pmatrix} \equiv \begin{pmatrix} N_1 \\ N_2 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$\tan \theta_R = \frac{N_1}{N_2} = \frac{x_1'' / n_e^2}{x_2'' / n_o^2} = \frac{n_o^2}{n_e^2} \tan \theta$$



Index ellipsoid and wave normal surfaces

Recall: **wave-normal surface**:

- For each $\mathbf{u}$, associate two vectors whose lengths are proportional to the two corresponding indices of refraction

n' and n''

➔ P'' is on the normal surface

➔ $\mathbf{S}$ is perpendicular to wave normal surface

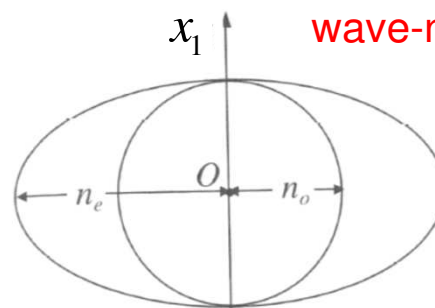
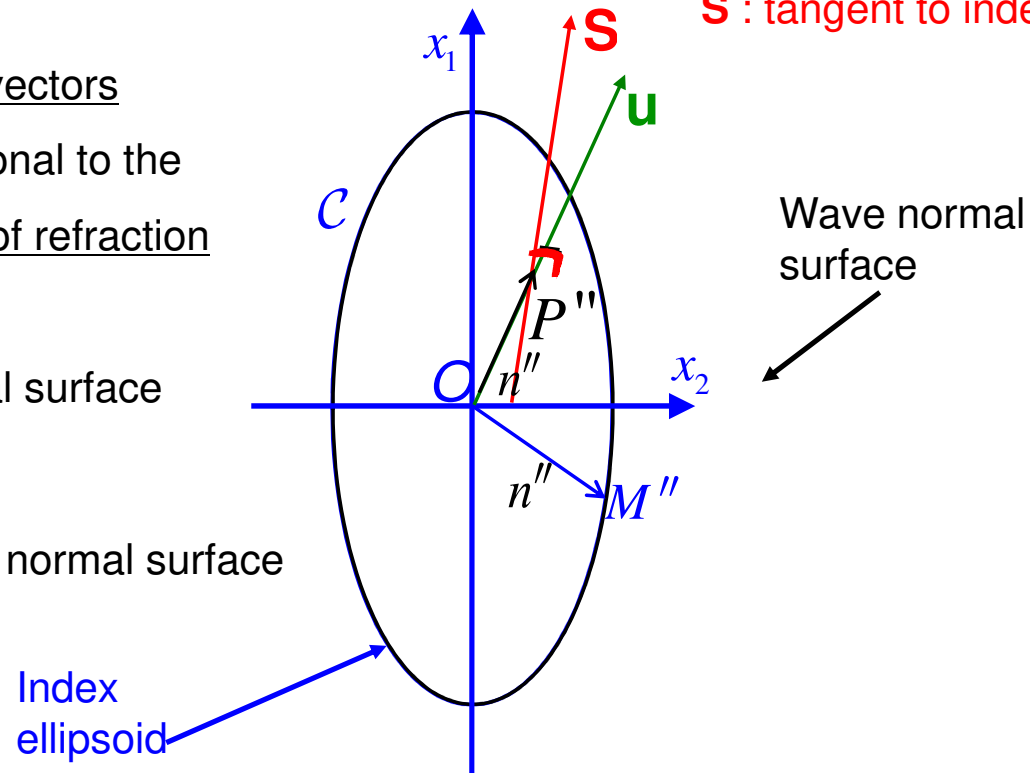
Wave normal surface:
the set of all points N
such that $\mathbf{ON} = n\mathbf{u}$

Index ellipsoid:

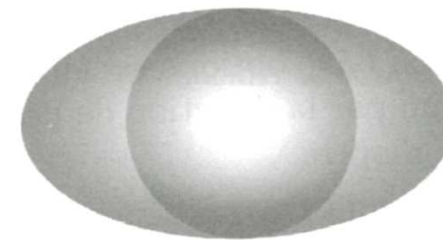
$$x_i \equiv n \frac{D_i}{\|\mathbf{D}\|}$$

surfaces des indices

$\mathbf{S}$: tangent to index ellipsoid



wave-normal surface



Experiment!

- Experiment:
 - Draw a black dot on a piece of paper
 - Place calcite crystal on top
 - Rotate crystal



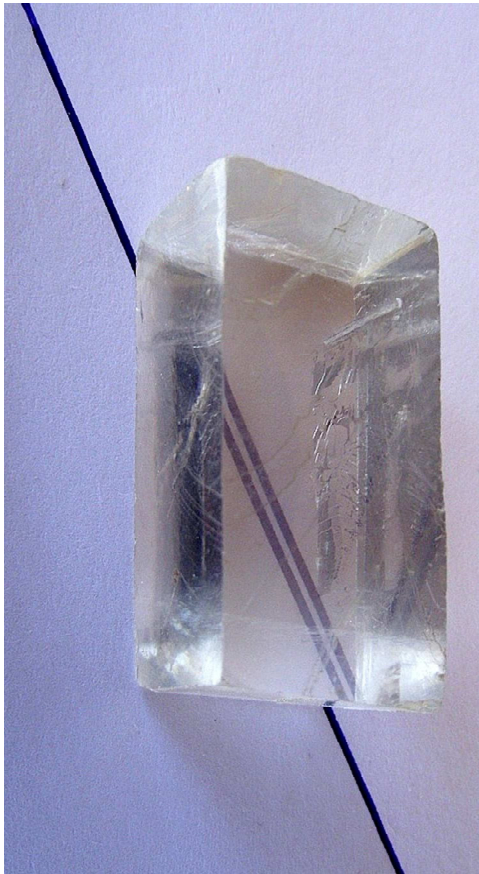
There are two dots! One is stationary, the other rotates as the crystal rotates.

Stationary dot: ordinary wave

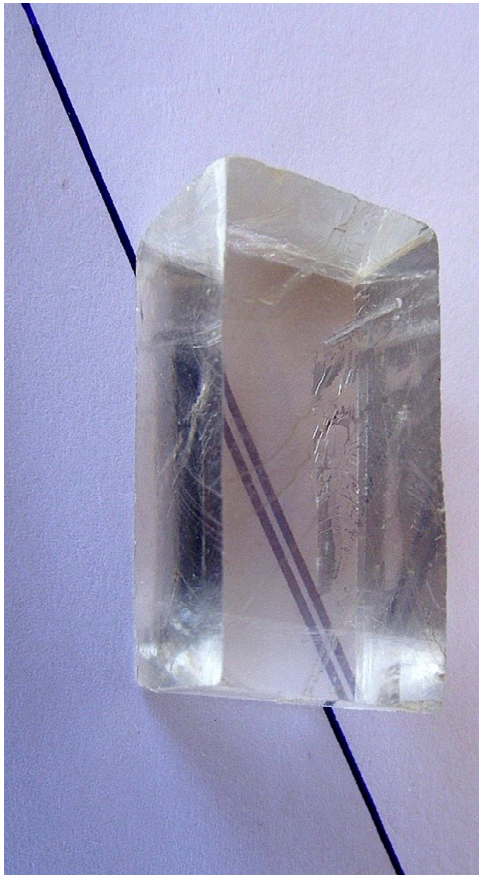
Rotating dot: extraordinary wave



Extraordinary wave Poynting vector changes direction as the optic axis direction is changed!



Experiment



- Experiment:
 - Look through a polarizer at crystal
 - Rotate polarizer



One or the other of the black dots is visible.



Polarization directions of the ordinary and extraordinary waves are perpendicular!!!

Snell's (Descartes'?) laws for anisotropic media

According to Dijksterhuis,^[12] "In *De natura lucis et proprietate* (1662) [Isaac Vossius](#) said that *Descartes had seen Snell's paper and concocted his own proof*. We now know this charge to be undeserved but it has been adopted many times since." *Both Fermat and Huygens repeated this accusation that Descartes had copied Snell*. In [French](#), Snell's Law is called "la loi de Descartes" or "loi de Snell-Descartes."

Wikipedia (*italics and underlining mine*)

Snell's laws

- Basic premise: the tangential component of the wave vector $\mathbf{k}$ must be continuous across an interface

$\Rightarrow$ conservation de quantité de mouvement
 $\Rightarrow$ conditions aux limites Maxwell

Recall Snell's laws for isotropic media:

- The wave normals ($\mathbf{u}$) of the *incident*, *refracted* waves and the normal to the interface are all in the same plane (the plane of incidence)

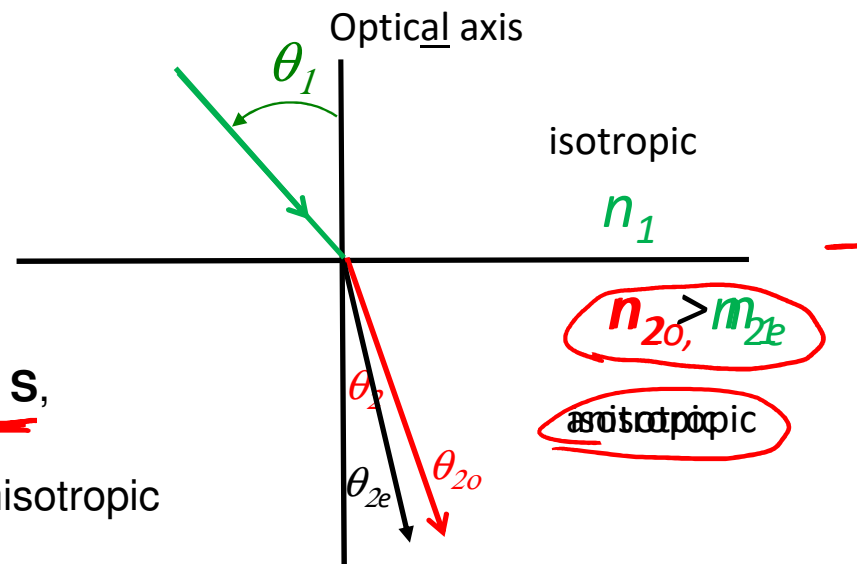
$$n_1 \sin \theta_1 = n_2 \sin \theta_2$$

Second medium anisotropic (uniaxial):

$$n_1 \sin \theta_1 = n_{2o} \sin \theta_{2o} = n_{2e} \sin \theta_{2e}$$

Note:

- Snell's laws apply to $\mathbf{k}$ and NOT to $\mathbf{S}$, the Poynting vector
- n'' changes with direction in the anisotropic medium!

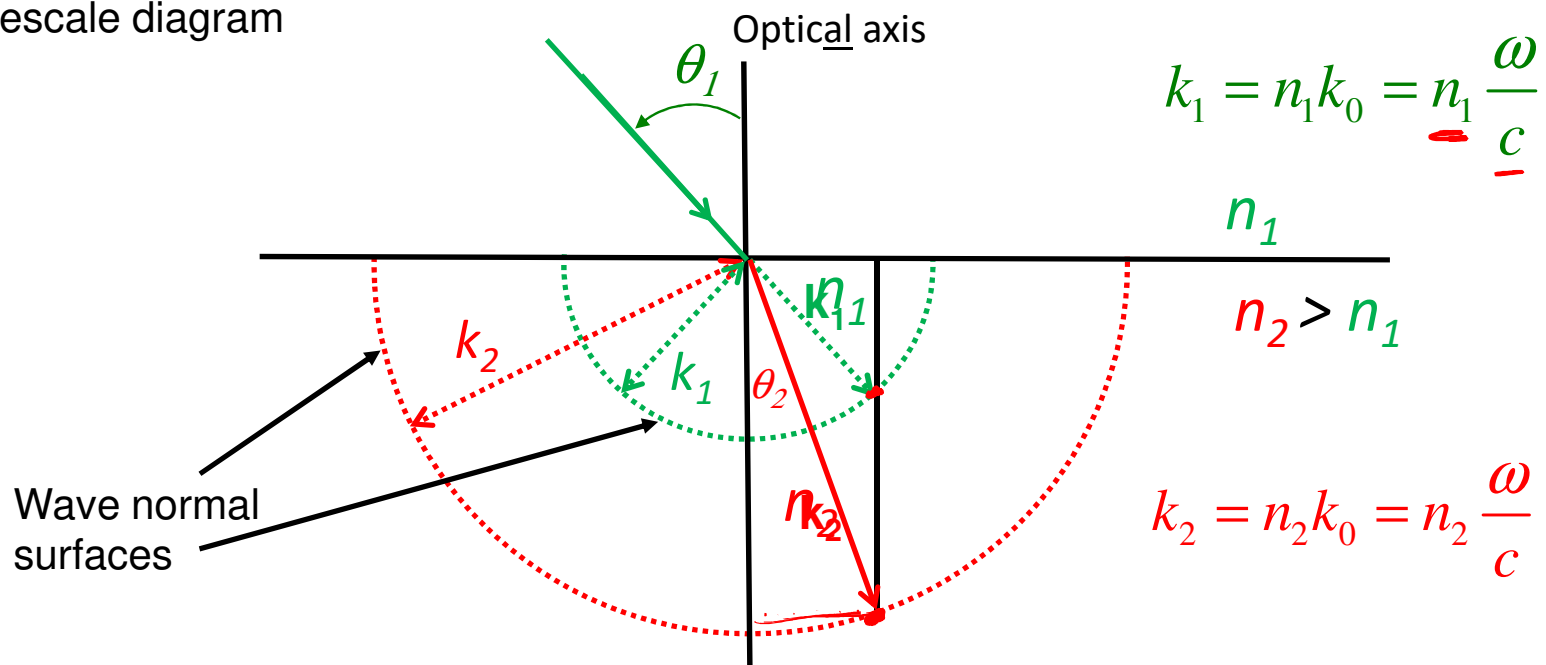


Graphical method for applying Snell's laws: two *isotropic* media

Method:

- Draw half circle with radius k_1  the tangential components are equal
- Draw half circle with radius k_2

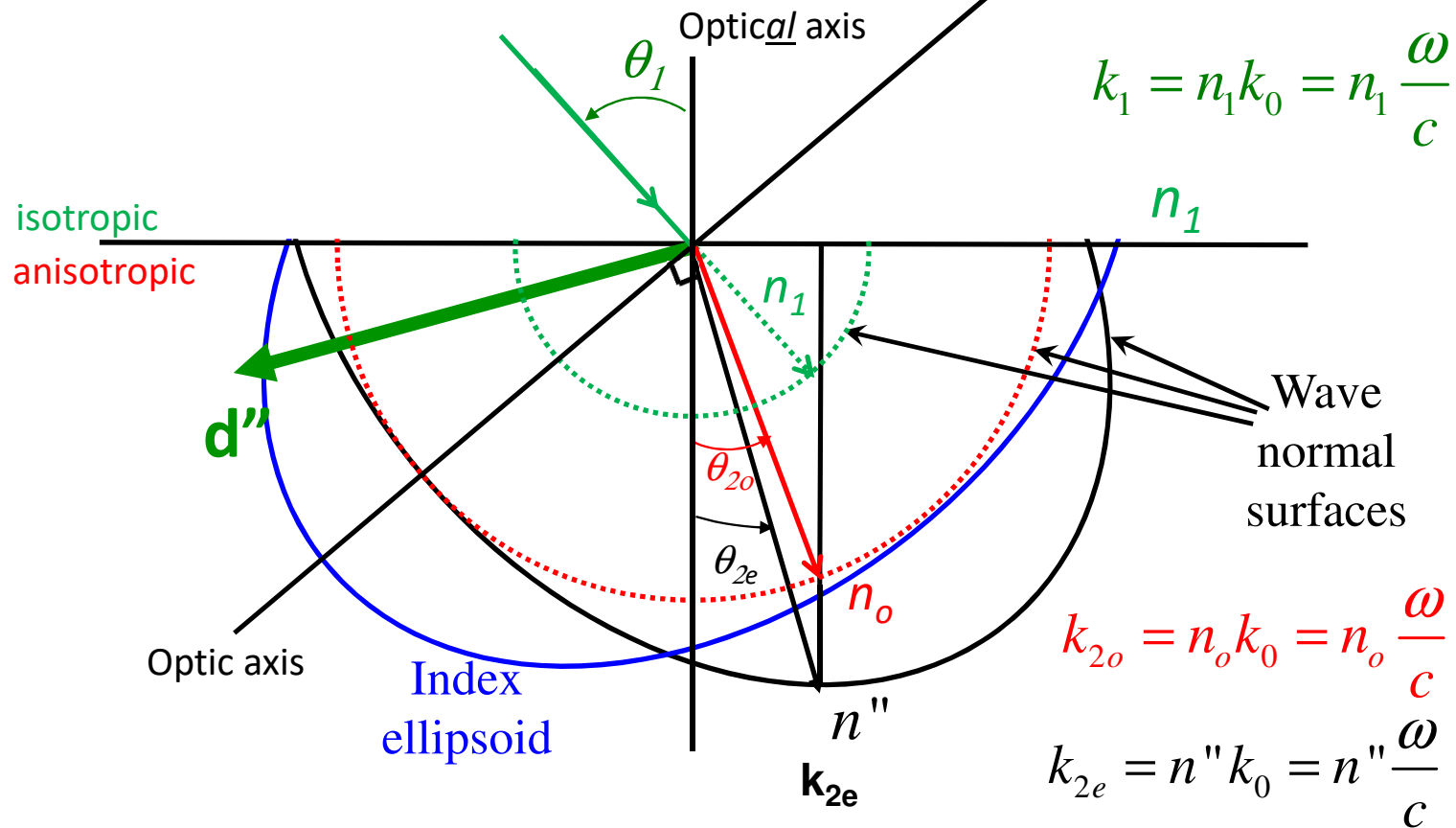
Rescale diagram



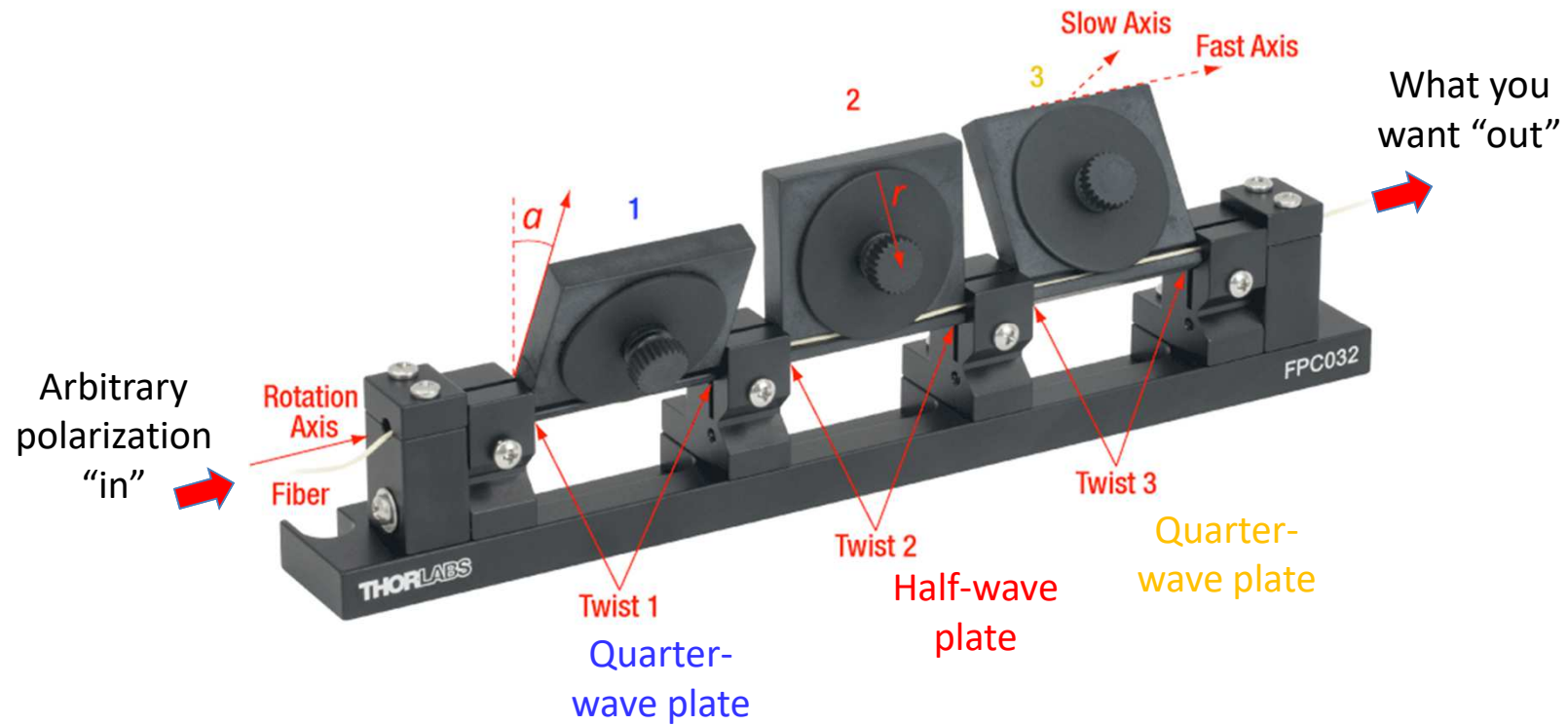
Graphical method for Snell's laws: an isotropic and a uniaxial *anisotropic* media

Ordinary wave: same result as for two isotropic media!

$$n_1 \sin \theta_1 = n_{2o} \sin \theta_{2o} = n_{2e} \sin \theta_{2e}$$

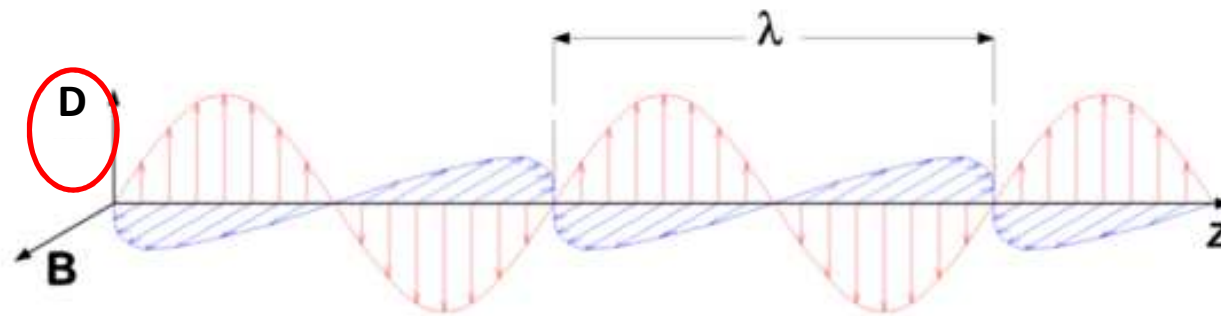


Controlling the polarization of light



Outline

- Polarization states of light—mathematical description
- Jones vectors
- Manipulation and control of the polarization of light



Polarization

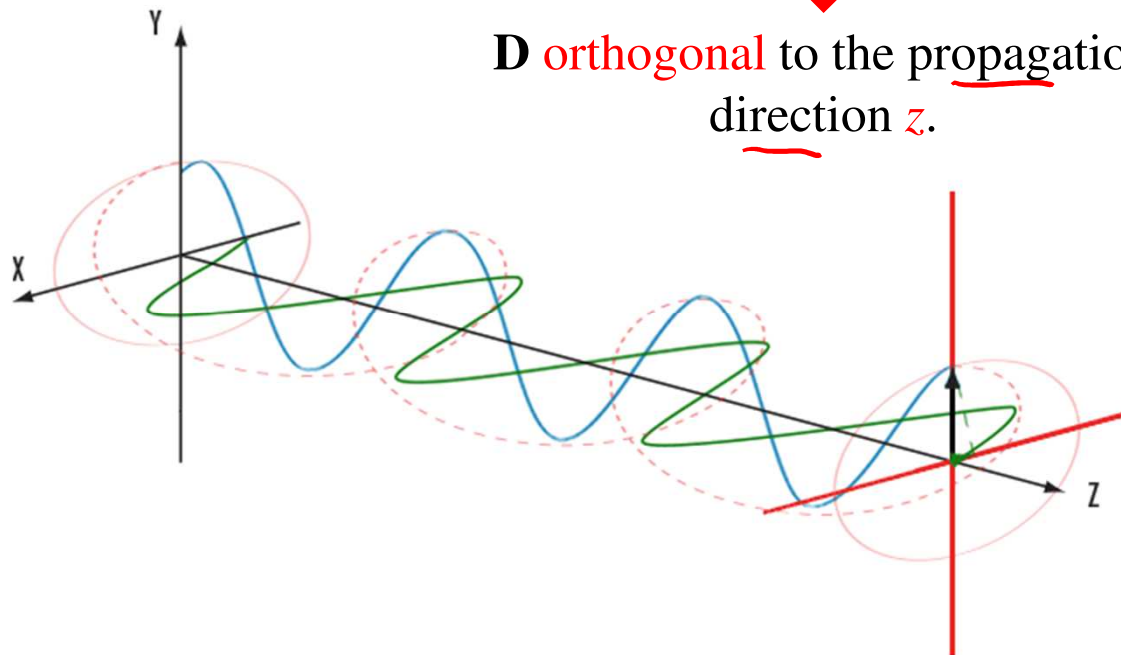
Polarization:

- direction and variation of the electric displacement vector **D** during propagation
- **Monochromatic plane wave** in a transparent medium



D orthogonal to the propagation
direction z.

$$\vec{k} \quad \left(\hat{u} = \frac{\vec{k}}{|\vec{k}|} \right)$$



<https://www.edmundoptics.com/resources/application-notes/optics/introduction-to-polarization/>

Polarization

- Monochromatic sinusoidal plane wave in a transparent medium



D orthogonal to propagation direction **z**.

$$D_x = D_{0x} \cos(\omega_0 t - kz - \psi_x)$$

$$D_y = D_{0y} \cos(\omega_0 t - kz - \psi_y)$$

$$D_{0x}, D_{0y} \geq 0$$

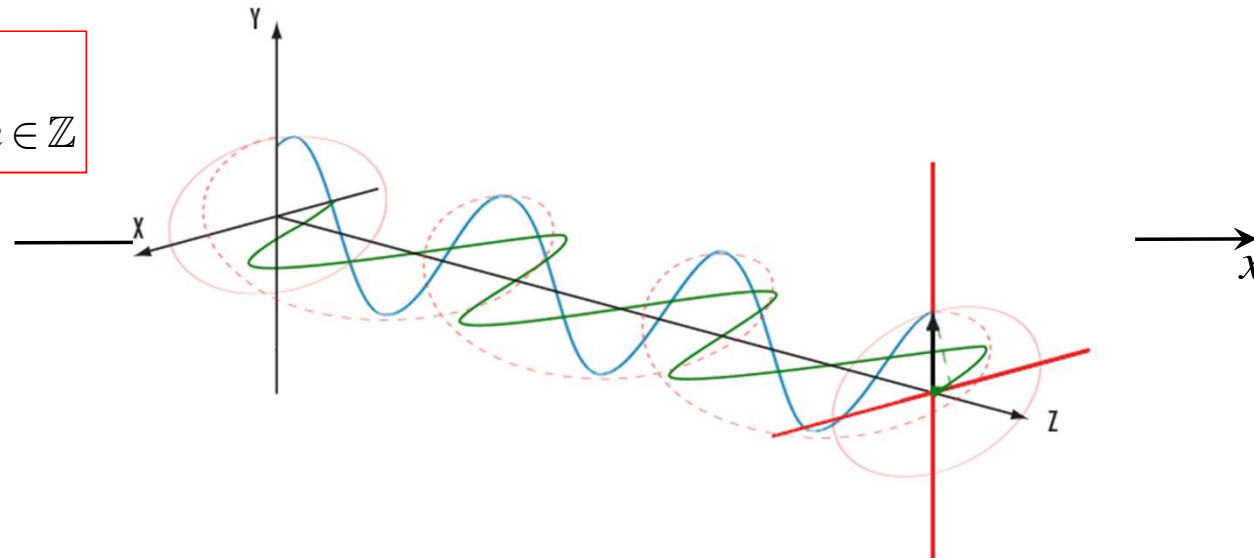
Amplitudes

$$\psi_x, \psi_y$$

Phases, constant

$$D_{0x} \neq D_{0y}$$

$$\psi_y - \psi_x \neq m\pi, m \in \mathbb{Z}$$



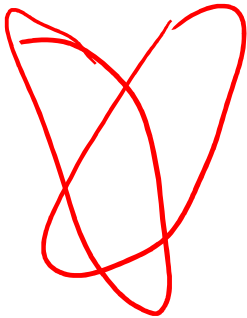
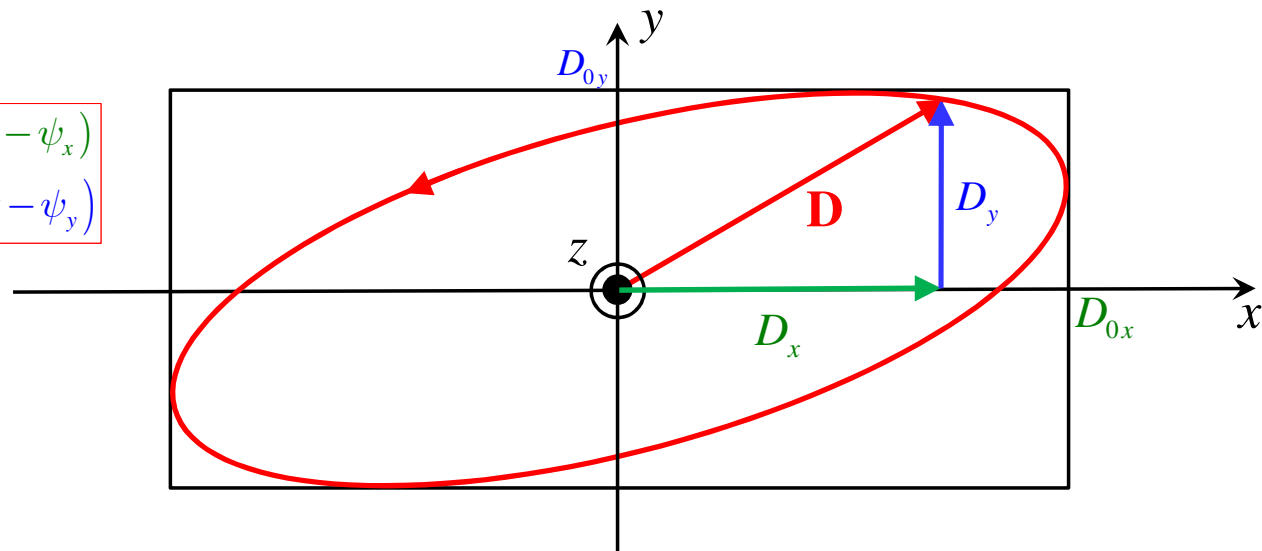
State of polarization

The *state of polarization* is determined by

- $\frac{D_{0y}}{D_{0x}}$
- OR
- $\frac{D_{0y}}{D_{0x}}$ • $\psi_y - \psi_x$
- angle of ellipse axis
- rotation *direction*

$$D_x = D_{0x} \cos(\omega_0 t - kz - \psi_x)$$

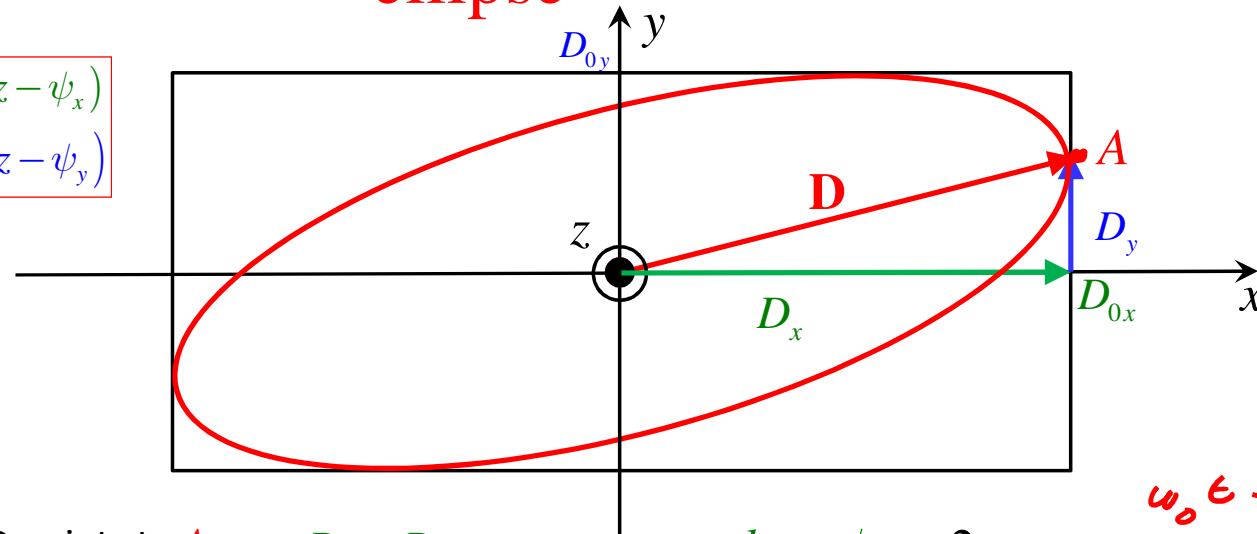
$$D_y = D_{0y} \cos(\omega_0 t - kz - \psi_y)$$



Determining the rotation direction of the polarization ellipse

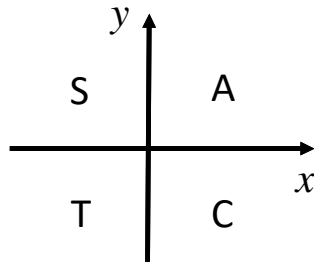
$$D_x = D_{0x} \cos(\omega_0 t - kz - \psi_x)$$

$$D_y = D_{0y} \cos(\omega_0 t - kz - \psi_y)$$



- Consider when **D** points to **A**: $D_x = D_{0x}$ $\omega_0 t - kz - \psi_x = 2m\pi$
- In order to know the rotation direction, we need to know the sign of $\frac{dD_y}{dt}$

$$\frac{dD_y}{dt} = -\omega_0 D_{0y} \sin(\omega_0 t - kz - \psi_y) = \omega_0 D_{0y} \sin(\psi_y - \psi_x)$$



$$0 < \psi_y - \psi_x < \pi \Leftrightarrow \text{left polarization}$$

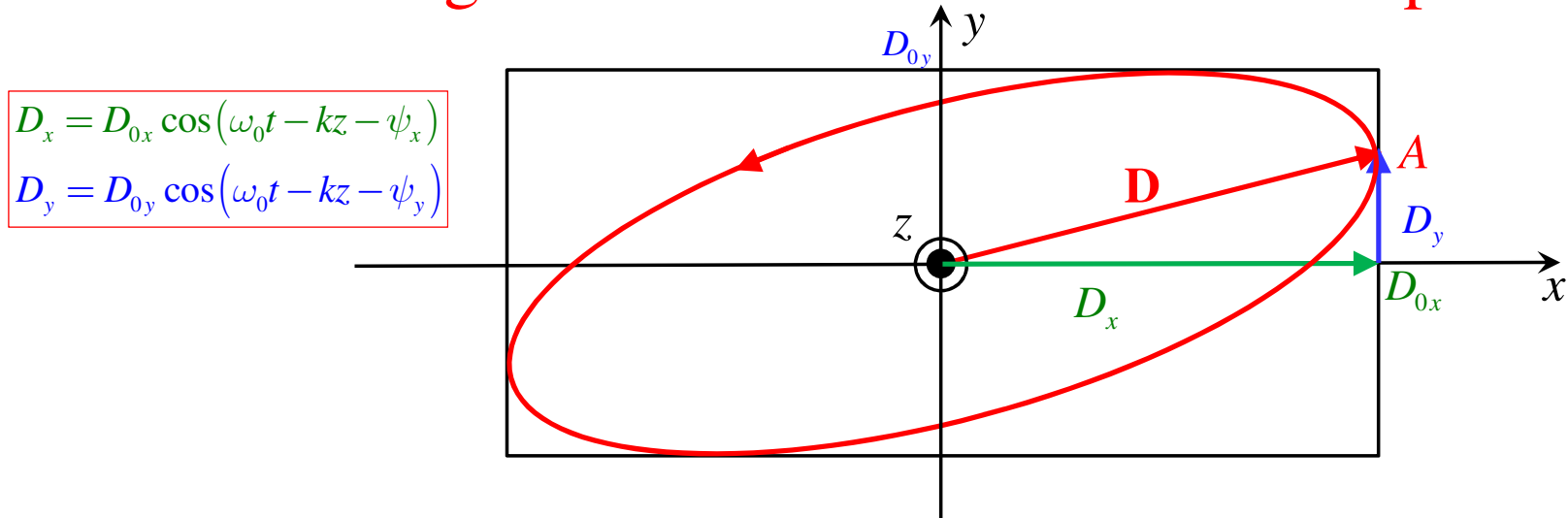
$$-\pi < \psi_y - \psi_x < 0 \Leftrightarrow \text{right polarization}$$

counter-clockwise

clockwise

La lumière
se propage vers
nous

Determining the rotation direction of the ellipse



$$\frac{dD_y}{dt} = -\omega_0 D_{0y} \sin(\omega_0 t - kz - \psi_y) = \omega_0 D_{0y} \sin(\psi_y - \psi_x)$$

$0 < \psi_y - \psi_x < \pi \Leftrightarrow$ left elliptically polarized

$-\pi < \psi_y - \psi_x < 0 \Leftrightarrow$ right elliptically polarized

counter-clockwise rotation as a function of time when the wave is travelling **towards** the observer

Polarization: special cases

$$D_x = D_{0x} \cos(\omega_0 t - kz - \psi_x)$$

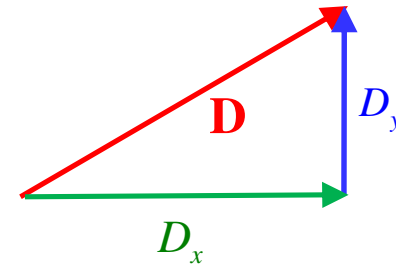
$$D_y = D_{0y} \cos(\omega_0 t - kz - \psi_y)$$

$$D_{0x}, D_{0y} \geq 0$$

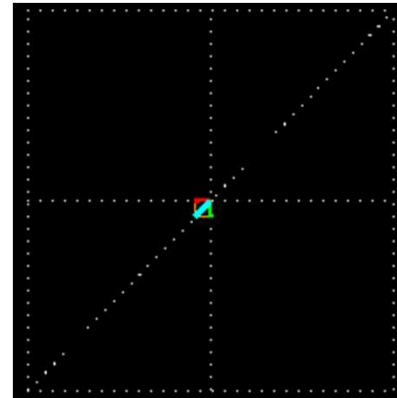
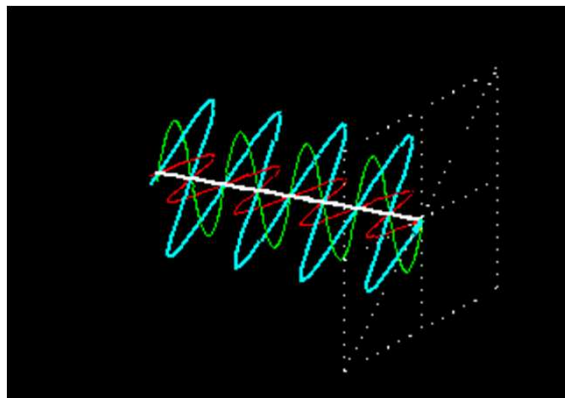
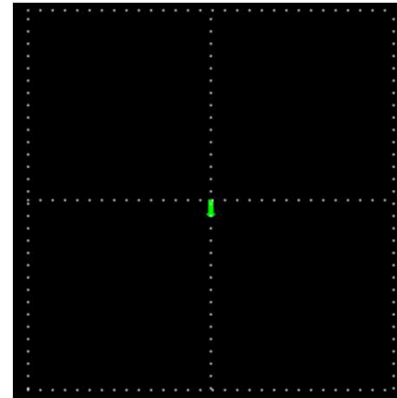
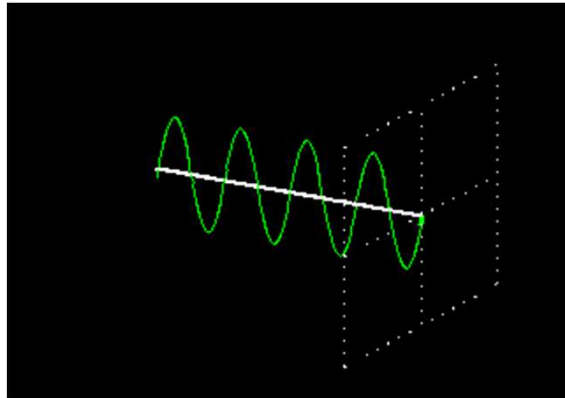
If $\psi_y - \psi_x = 0$ or π



components are in phase or out of phase



Linear polarization



<http://cddemo.szialab.org/>

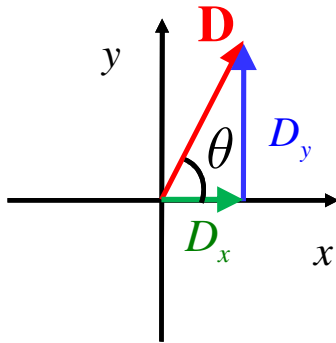
Linear polarization

$$D_x = D_{0x} \cos(\omega_0 t - kz - \psi_x)$$

$$D_y = D_{0y} \cos(\omega_0 t - kz - \psi_y)$$

$$D_{0x}, D_{0y} \geq 0$$

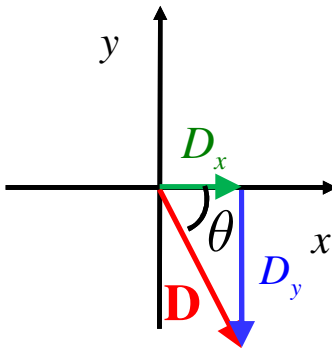
If $\psi_y - \psi_x = 0$:



$$\text{If } \psi_y - \psi_x = 0 : \tan \theta = \frac{D_y}{D_x} = \frac{D_{0y}}{D_{0x}}.$$

$$\text{If } \psi_y - \psi_x = \pi : \tan \theta = \frac{D_y}{D_x} = -\frac{D_{0y}}{D_{0x}}.$$

If $\psi_y - \psi_x = \pi$:



D makes an angle $\pm\theta$ with the x axis.

Circular polarization

What if $\psi_y - \psi_x = \pm \pi/2$ and $D_{0x} = D_{0y}$?

$$\begin{aligned} D_x &= D_{0x} \cos(\omega_0 t - kz - \psi_x) \\ D_y &= D_{0y} \cos(\omega_0 t - kz - \psi_y) \end{aligned}$$

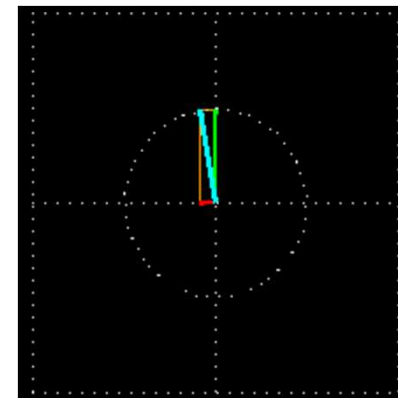
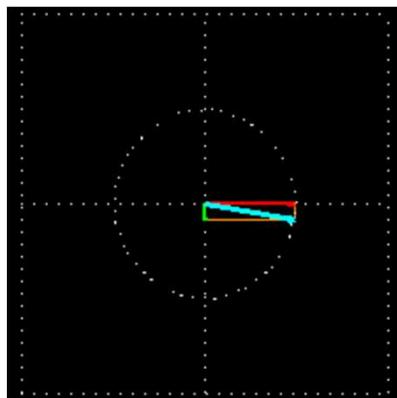
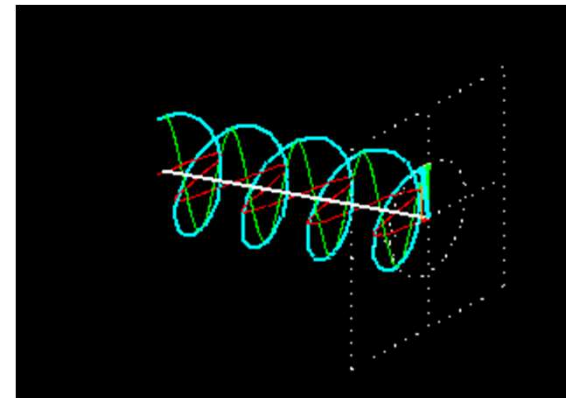
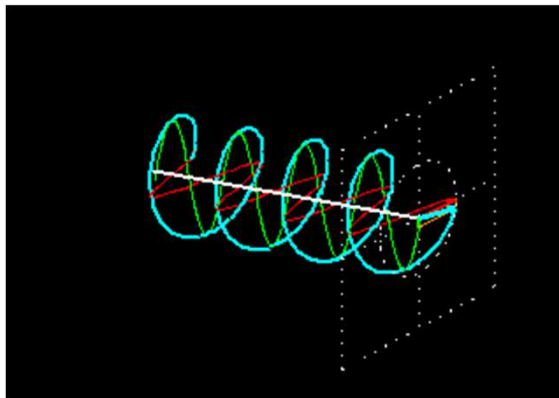


$$\begin{aligned} D_x &= +D_{0x} \cos(\omega_0 t - kz - \psi_x) \\ D_y &= \pm D_{0x} \sin(\omega_0 t - kz - \psi_x) \end{aligned}$$

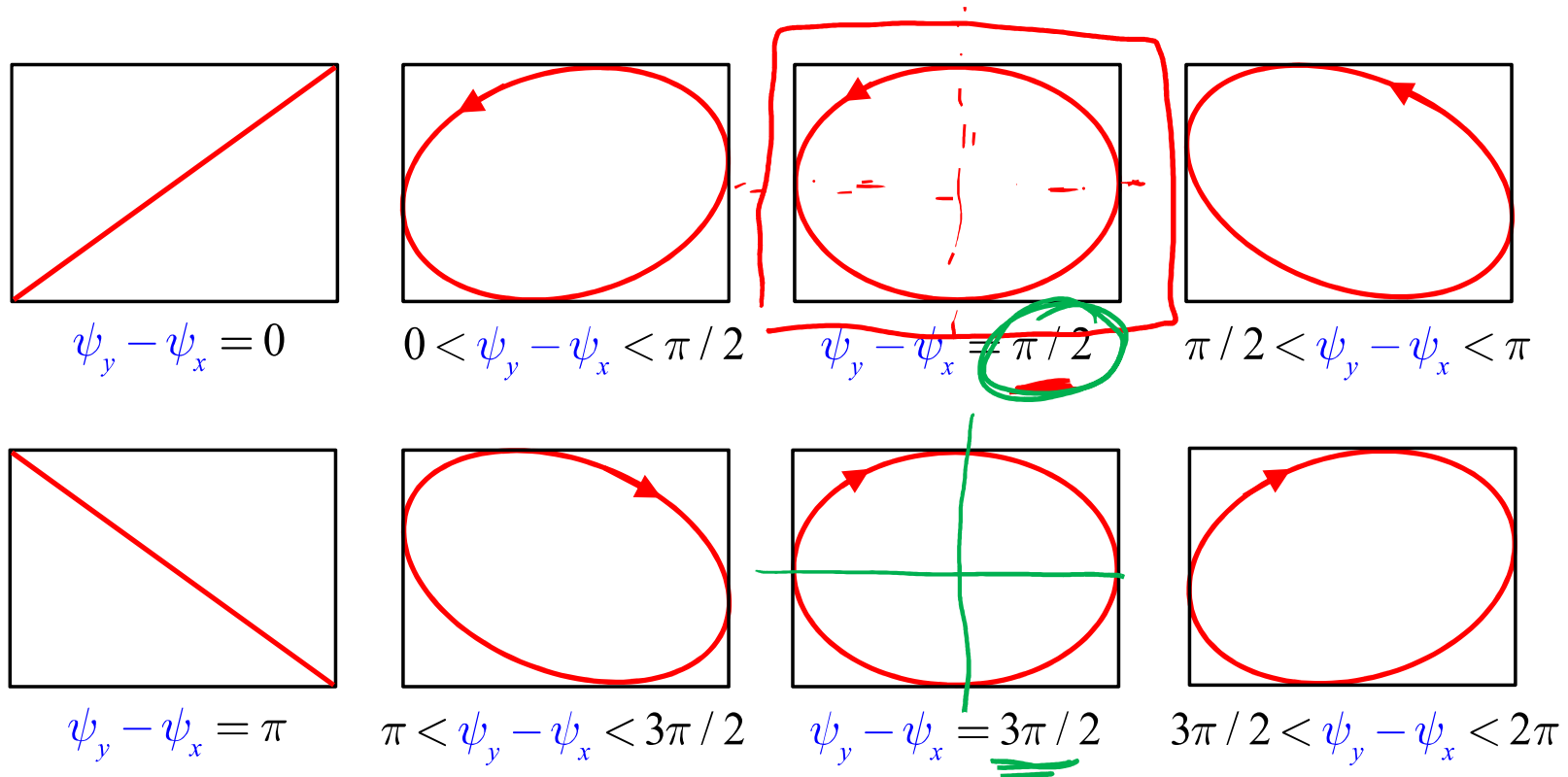
The end of $\mathbf{D}$ draws a circle of radius D_{0x} .

- If $\psi_y - \psi_x = + \pi/2$: left circular polarization
- If $\psi_y - \psi_x = - \pi/2$: right circular polarization

Circular polarization



Diverse polarization states



$$\begin{aligned} D_x &= D_{0x} \cos(\omega_0 t - kz - \psi_x) \\ D_y &= D_{0y} \cos(\omega_0 t - kz - \psi_y) \end{aligned}$$

Jones vectors

Handy mathematical formulism for describing and manipulating polarization states

Write $D_x = D_{0x} \cos(\omega_0 t - kz - \psi_x)$ in complex notation, i.e.,
 $D_y = D_{0y} \cos(\omega_0 t - kz - \psi_y)$

$$\mathcal{D}_x = D_{0x} \exp[i(kz - \omega t + \psi_x)]$$
$$\mathcal{D}_y = D_{0y} \exp[i(kz - \omega t + \psi_y)]$$

$$\mathcal{D}_{0x} \equiv D_{0x} \exp[i\psi_x]$$
$$\mathcal{D}_{0y} \equiv D_{0y} \exp[i\psi_y]$$

Define the Jones vector for the polarization state as:

$$\mathbf{u} = \begin{pmatrix} \mathcal{D}_{0x} \\ \mathcal{D}_{0y} \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} D_{0x} \exp[i\psi_x] \\ D_{0y} \exp[i\psi_y] \end{pmatrix}$$

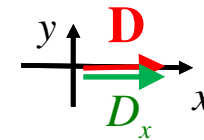
Jones vectors

$$\mathbf{u} = \begin{pmatrix} \mathcal{D}_{0x} \\ \mathcal{D}_{0y} \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} D_{0x} \exp[i\psi_x] \\ D_{0y} \exp[i\psi_y] \end{pmatrix}$$

Jones vectors for linear polarization:

Linear polarization oriented along the Ox axis:

$$\mathbf{u}_x = \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix}$$

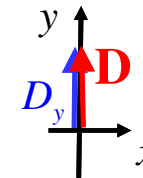


$$D_y = 0$$

$$\begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

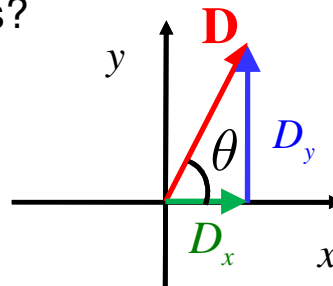
Linear polarization oriented along the Oy axis:

$$\mathbf{u}_y = \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix}$$



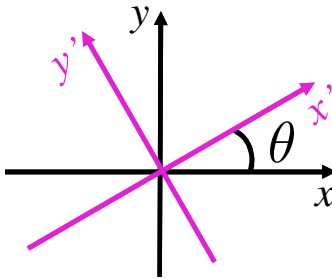
Orthonormal basis!

What is the Jones vector for linear polarization at an angle θ with respect to the Ox axis?



$$\mathbf{u}_\theta = \begin{bmatrix} \cos \theta \\ \sin \theta \end{bmatrix}$$

Jones vectors



Recall from math class:

$$R(\theta) \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} \cos \theta \\ \sin \theta \end{pmatrix}$$

$$R(\theta) \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} -\sin \theta \\ \cos \theta \end{pmatrix}$$



$$\mathbf{u} = \begin{pmatrix} \mathcal{D}_{0x} \\ \mathcal{D}_{0y} \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} D_{0x} \exp[i\psi_x] \\ D_{0y} \exp[i\psi_y] \end{pmatrix}$$

$$R(\theta) = \begin{pmatrix} \cos \theta & -\sin \theta \\ \sin \theta & \cos \theta \end{pmatrix}$$

Jones vector for linear polarization at an angle θ with respect to the Ox axis:



$$\mathbf{u}_\theta = R(\theta) \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} \cos \theta & -\sin \theta \\ \sin \theta & \cos \theta \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} \cos \theta \\ \sin \theta \end{pmatrix}$$

(normalized) Jones vectors for circular polarization?

Recall: $\psi_y - \psi_x = \pm \pi/2$ and $D_{0x} = D_{0y}$

$$\mathbf{u} = \begin{pmatrix} \mathcal{D}_{0x} \\ \mathcal{D}_{0y} \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} D_{0x} \exp[i\psi_x] \\ D_{0x} \exp[i\psi_x \pm \frac{\pi}{2}] \end{pmatrix} = D_{0x} \exp[i\psi_x] \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ e^{\pm i(\frac{\pi}{2})} \end{pmatrix} \propto \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ \pm i \end{pmatrix} \quad \text{circular polarization}$$

Jones vectors for circularly polarized light

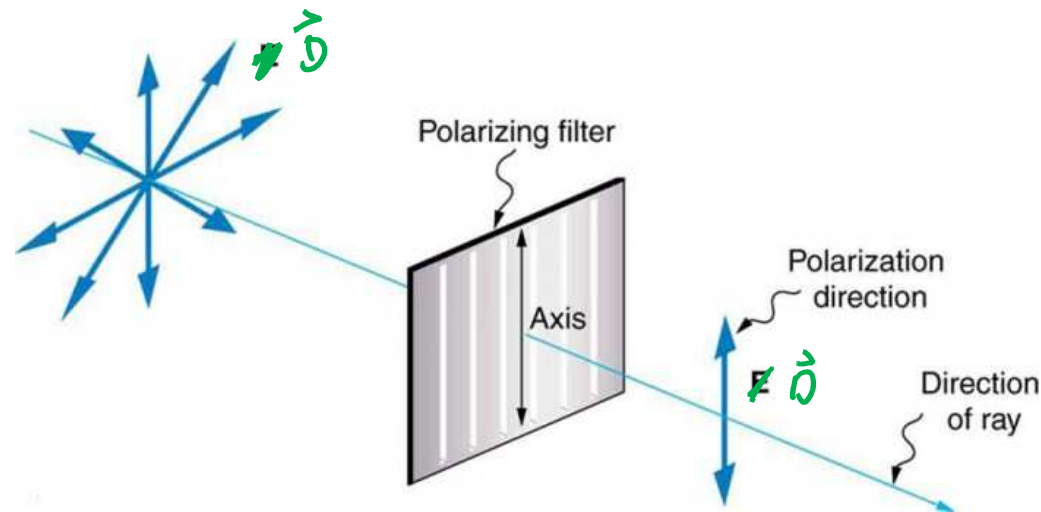
Left circular polarization: $\mathbf{u}_L = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ +i \end{pmatrix}$

Right circular polarization: $\mathbf{u}_R = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ -i \end{pmatrix}$



Orthonormal basis!

Polarizers and the Jones formulism



$$\begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} a \\ b \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} a \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

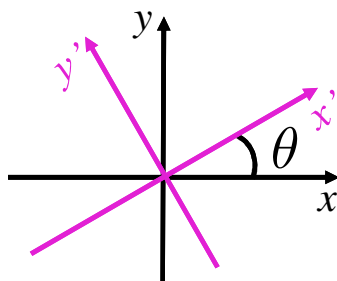
Ideal polarizer whose transmission axis is aligned with O_x :

$$\mathbf{P}_0 = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix}$$

What about the Jones matrix for an ideal polarizer whose transmission axis is at an angle θ to the O_x axis?

Polarizers in the Jones formalism

What about the Jones matrix for an ideal polarizer whose transmission axis is at an angle θ to the Ox axis?



Recall: $R(\theta) = \begin{pmatrix} \cos \theta & -\sin \theta \\ \sin \theta & \cos \theta \end{pmatrix}$ gives the coordinates of the new axes $Ox'y'$ in terms of the *old* coordinates Oxy

1. Find *old* axes in terms of the *new* coordinate system

$$R^{-1}(\theta) \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} \cos \theta \\ -\sin \theta \end{pmatrix}$$

$$R^{-1}(\theta) \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} \sin \theta \\ \cos \theta \end{pmatrix}$$

$$R^{-1}(\theta) = \begin{pmatrix} \cos \theta & \sin \theta \\ -\sin \theta & \cos \theta \end{pmatrix}$$

Thus, the incoming polarization $\begin{pmatrix} D_x \\ D_y \end{pmatrix}$ in terms of the coordinate system of the polarizer is

$$R^{-1}(\theta) \begin{pmatrix} D_x \\ D_y \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} \cos \theta & \sin \theta \\ -\sin \theta & \cos \theta \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} D_x \\ D_y \end{pmatrix}$$

Polarizers in the Jones formulism

2. Next, apply the effect of the polarizer:

$$\mathbf{P}_0 R^{-1}(\theta) \begin{pmatrix} D_x \\ D_y \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} \cos \theta & \sin \theta \\ -\sin \theta & \cos \theta \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} D_x \\ D_y \end{pmatrix}$$

3. Finally, express in terms of the original coordinate system

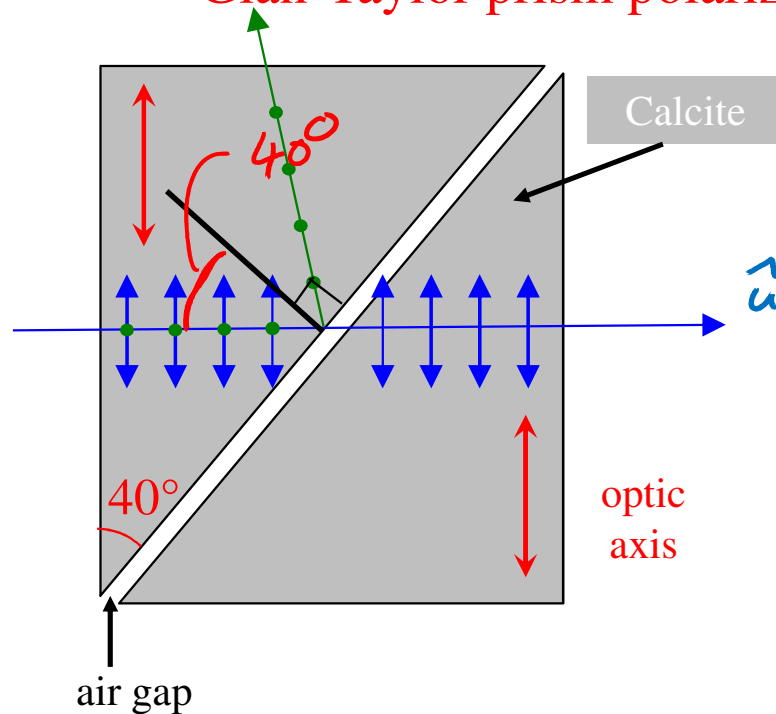
$$\begin{aligned} \mathbf{P}_\theta &= R(\theta) \mathbf{P}_0 R^{-1}(\theta) \\ &= \begin{pmatrix} \cos \theta & -\sin \theta \\ \sin \theta & \cos \theta \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} \cos \theta & \sin \theta \\ -\sin \theta & \cos \theta \end{pmatrix} \\ &= \begin{pmatrix} \cos^2 \theta & \cos \theta \sin \theta \\ \cos \theta \sin \theta & \sin^2 \theta \end{pmatrix} \end{aligned}$$

Jones matrix for an ideal polarizer whose transmission axis is at an angle θ to the Ox axis

Controlling the polarization

Goal: light with arbitrary polarization “in”, linearly polarized light “out”.

Glan-Taylor prism polarizer



Ordinary wave polarization:



out of screen

$$n_o = 1.658$$

Extraordinary wave polarization:



parallel to optic axis $n_e = 1.486$

Use total internal reflection to separate!!!

$$\theta_{crit-o} = \arcsin(1/n_o) = 37^\circ$$

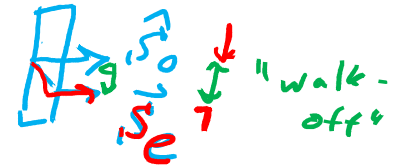
$$\theta_{crit-e} = \arcsin(1/n_e) = 42^\circ$$

Extraordinary wave continues!
Ordinary wave is reflected!

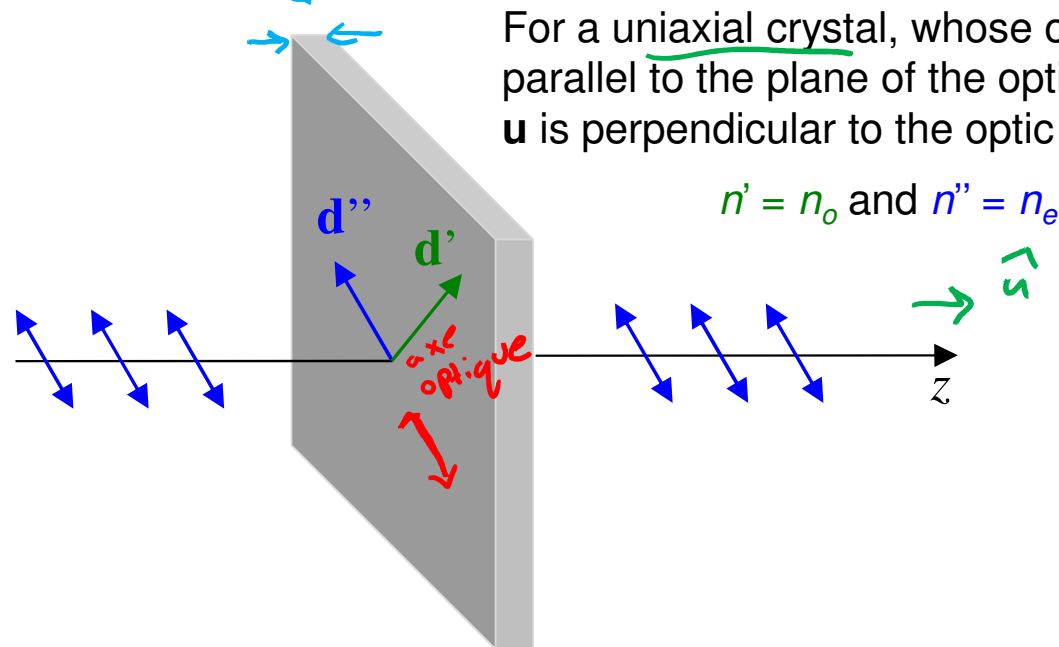
Controlling the polarization of light

- Use polarizers
- Use a birefringent optical flat
 - Normal incidence
 - Walk-off is negligible

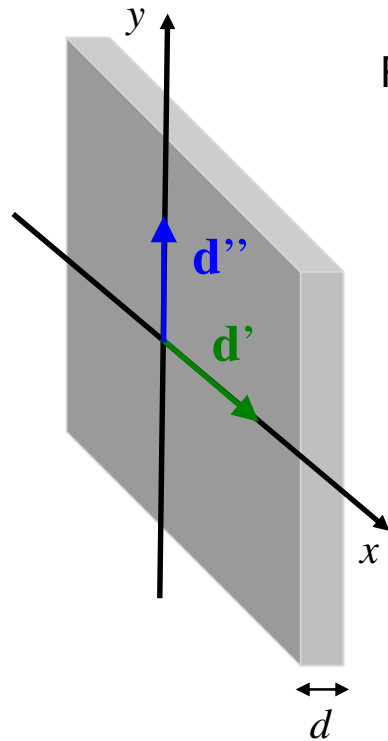
lame d'ondes



- Recall:
- $\mathbf{d}'$ and $\mathbf{d}''$, special polarization directions for which the polarization is maintained as the light propagates
 - associated indices n' and n''



What happens to the polarization as the light propagates through a birefringent crystal?



Choose x and y to be along $\mathbf{d}'$ and $\mathbf{d}''$ respectively

"lignes neutres"

Recall:

$$D_x = D_{0x} \cos(\omega_0 t - \overset{n' k_0}{kz} - \psi_x)$$

$$D_y = D_{0y} \cos(\omega_0 t - \overset{n'' k_0}{kz} - \psi_y)$$

$$\mathbf{u} = \begin{pmatrix} \mathcal{D}_{0x} \\ \mathcal{D}_{0y} \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} D_{0x} \exp[i\psi_x] \\ D_{0y} \exp[i\psi_y] \end{pmatrix}$$

$k_0 = 2\pi/\lambda = \omega/c$

Each component travels at a different speed!

$$\mathcal{D}_x = \mathcal{D}_{0x} \exp(ik'd) = \mathcal{D}_{0x} \exp\left(i \frac{2\pi}{\lambda} \overset{n'}{d}\right)$$

$$\mathcal{D}_y = \mathcal{D}_{0y} \exp(ik''d) = \mathcal{D}_{0y} \exp\left(i \frac{2\pi}{\lambda} \overset{n''}{d}\right)$$

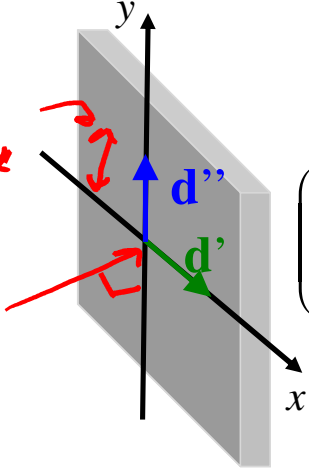
Note that if $n' < n''$, $\mathbf{d}'$ and $\mathbf{d}''$ are called the **fast** and **slow** axes respectively

$$v = \frac{c}{n}$$

What happens to the polarization as the light propagates through a birefringent crystal?

Find Jones matrix corresponding to propagation through a birefringent crystal of thickness d

arc optique



$$\begin{pmatrix} \mathcal{D}_x \\ \mathcal{D}_y \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} \mathcal{D}_{0x} \exp\left(i \frac{2\pi}{\lambda} n' d\right) \\ \mathcal{D}_{0y} \exp\left(i \frac{2\pi}{\lambda} n'' d\right) \end{pmatrix} = \exp\left(i \frac{2\pi}{\lambda} n' d\right) \begin{pmatrix} \mathcal{D}_{0x} \\ \mathcal{D}_{0y} \exp\left(i \frac{2\pi}{\lambda} (n'' - n') d\right) \end{pmatrix}$$

Let $\varphi = \frac{2\pi}{\lambda} (n'' - n') d$ Phase delay

*$n'' = n_c$
 $n' = n_o$*

$$\begin{pmatrix} \mathcal{D}_x \\ \mathcal{D}_y \end{pmatrix} = \exp\left(i \frac{2\pi}{\lambda} n' d\right) \begin{pmatrix} \mathcal{D}_{0x} \\ \mathcal{D}_{0y} e^{i\varphi} \end{pmatrix}$$

Jones matrix for a wave plate.

$$\mathbf{M} \propto \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & e^{i\varphi} \end{pmatrix}$$

$$\mathbf{M} \propto \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & e^{i\varphi} \end{pmatrix}$$

Quarter wave plate

A phase of 2π corresponds to so a quarter wave plate corresponds to a phase delay of

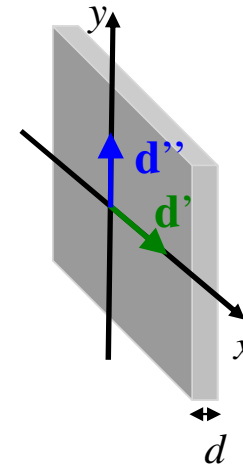
Choose thickness d such that

Phase delay:

$$\varphi = \frac{2\pi}{\lambda} (n_e - n_o) d = \frac{\pi}{2}$$

Example: quartz at 560 nm: $(n_e - n_o) = 0.0091$

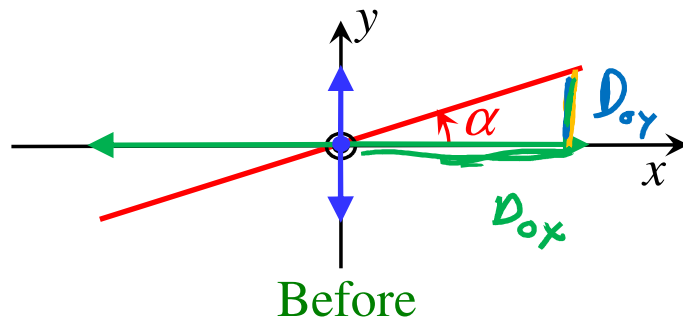
$$d = \frac{\lambda}{4(n_e - n_o)} = 15.4 \mu\text{m}$$



$$\mathbf{M} \propto \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & e^{i\varphi} \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & e^{i\frac{\pi}{2}} \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & i \end{pmatrix} \propto \begin{pmatrix} \exp(-i\pi/4) & 0 \\ 0 & \exp(i\pi/4) \end{pmatrix}$$

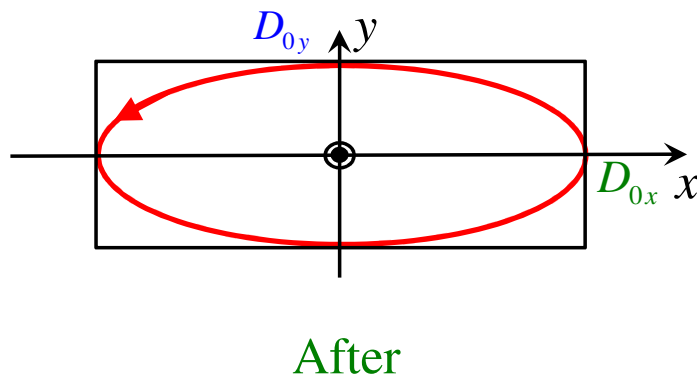
$$\varphi = \frac{\pi}{2}$$

How does a quarter wave plate change the polarization of a linearly polarized wave?



$$\varphi = \frac{2\pi}{\lambda}(n_e - n_o)d = \frac{\pi}{2}$$

$$\mathbf{M} = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & e^{i\frac{\pi}{2}} \end{pmatrix}$$



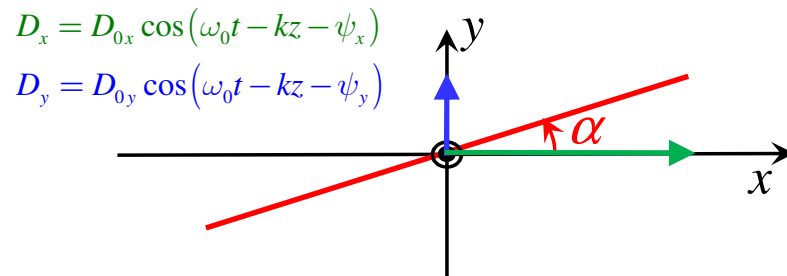
left elliptically polarized light!!!

$$\psi_y - \psi_x = \frac{\pi}{2}; \quad \tan \alpha = \frac{D_{0y}}{D_{0x}}$$

How does a quarter wave plate change the polarization of a linearly polarized wave?

$$\mathcal{D}_{0x} \equiv D_{0x} \exp[i\psi_x]$$

$$\mathcal{D}_{0y} \equiv D_{0y} \exp[i\psi_y]$$

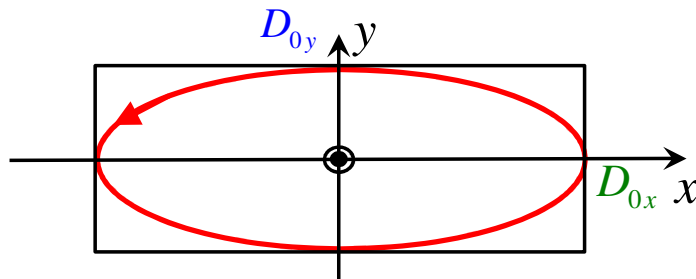


$$\varphi = \frac{2\pi}{\lambda} (n_e - n_o) d = \frac{\pi}{2} \quad \mathbf{M} = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & e^{i\frac{\pi}{2}} \end{pmatrix}$$

What is the Jones vector for the initial state?

Before

$$\begin{pmatrix} \mathcal{D}_x \\ \mathcal{D}_y \end{pmatrix} = R(\alpha) \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} \cos \alpha & -\sin \alpha \\ \sin \alpha & \cos \alpha \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} \cos \alpha \\ \sin \alpha \end{pmatrix}$$



elliptically polarized light

Apply the quarter wave plate:

After

$$\begin{pmatrix} \mathcal{D}_x \\ \mathcal{D}_y \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & i \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} \cos \alpha \\ \sin \alpha \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} \cos \alpha \\ i \sin \alpha \end{pmatrix}$$

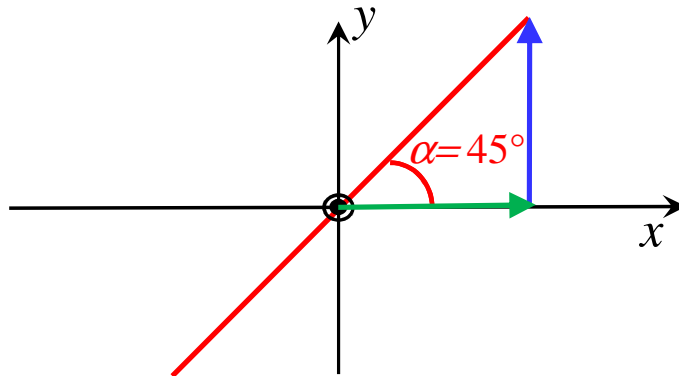
$$\begin{cases} \psi_x = 0 \\ \psi_y = \pi/2 \end{cases}$$

$$D_x = \cos \alpha \cos(\omega_0 t - kz - 0) = \cos \alpha \cos(\omega_0 t - kz)$$

$$D_y = \sin \alpha \cos\left(\omega_0 t - kz - \frac{\pi}{2}\right) = \sin \alpha \sin(\omega_0 t - kz)$$

$$\psi_y - \psi_x = \frac{\pi}{2}; \quad \tan \alpha = \frac{D_{0y}}{D_{0x}}$$

Quarter wave plate: special case, $\alpha = \pi/4$



$$\cos \alpha = \sin \alpha = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}$$

↓

amplitudes are equal!

Recall: quarter wave plate adds $\pi/2$ phase delay.

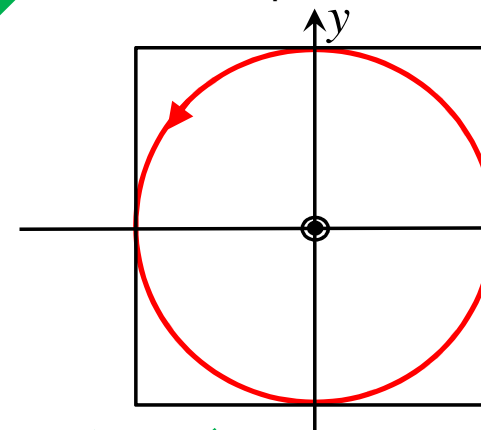
Equal amplitudes + $\pi/2$ phase delay gives



Circular polarization!

$$D_x = \cos \alpha \cos(\omega_0 t - kz - 0) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} \cos(\omega_0 t - kz)$$

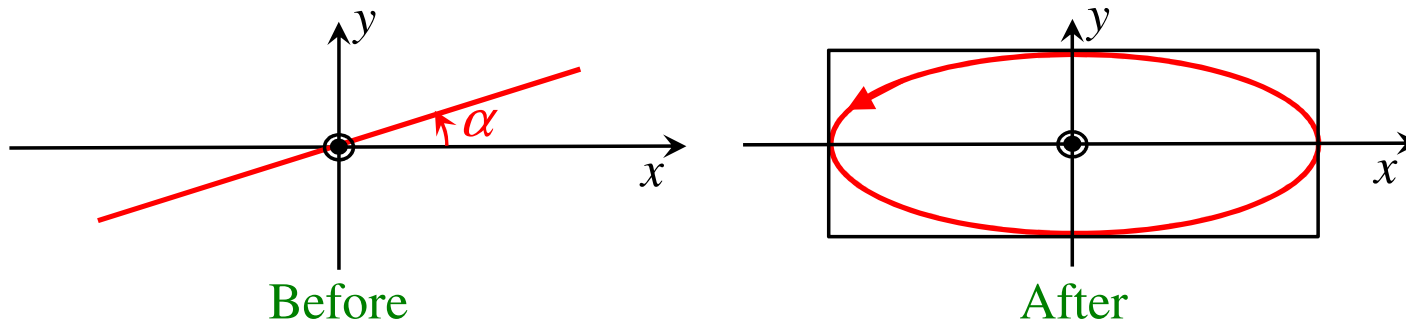
$$D_y = \sin \alpha \cos\left(\omega_0 t - kz - \frac{\pi}{2}\right) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} \sin(\omega_0 t - kz)$$



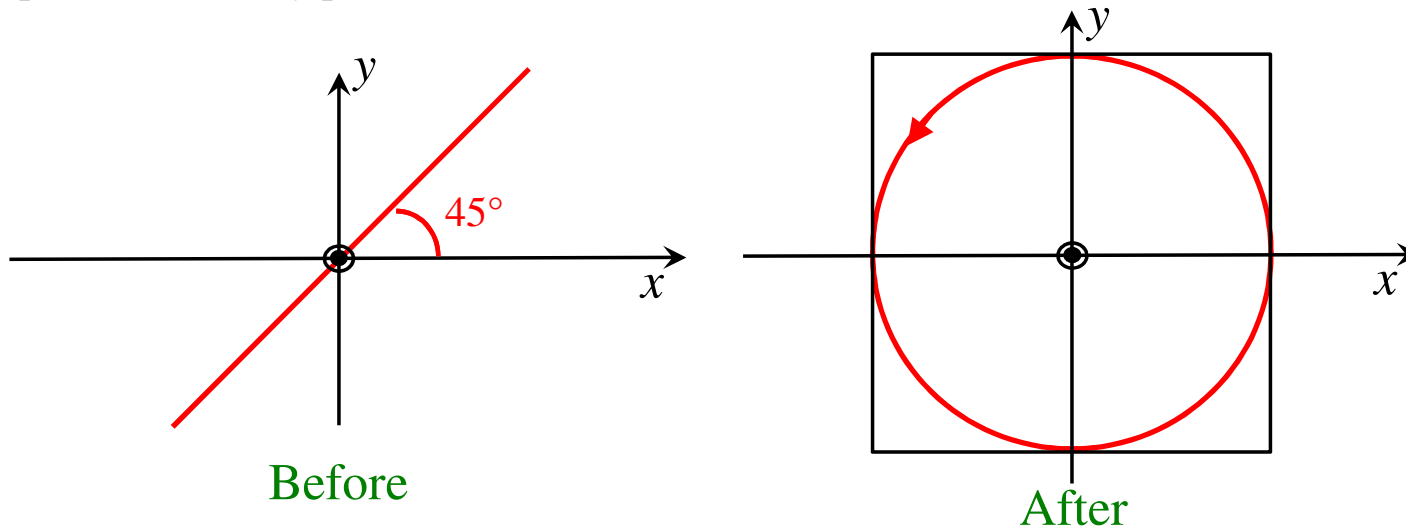
*C'est
comme
ceci qu'on
réalise des
faisceaux de
lumière
polarisée
circulairement.*

Quarter wave plate

Input wave linearly polarized:



Input wave linearly polarized, $\alpha=\pi/4$:



Half wave plate

A phase of 2π corresponds to
corresponds to a phase delay of

so a half wave plate

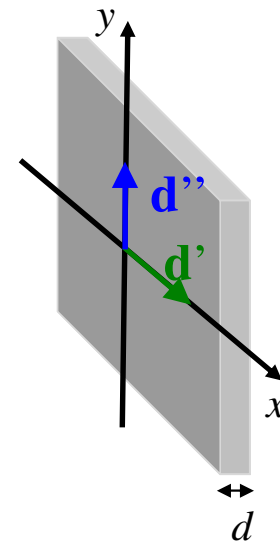
Choose thickness d such that

Phase delay:

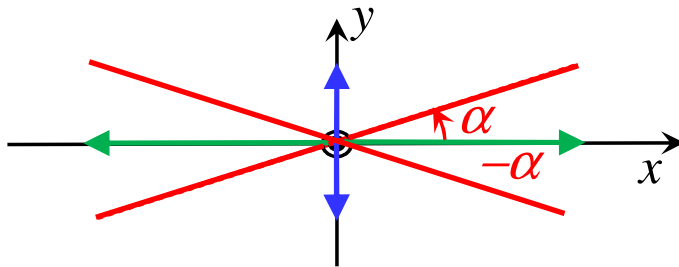
$$\varphi = \frac{2\pi}{\lambda}(n_e - n_o)d = \pi$$

$$\mathbf{M} \propto \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & e^{i\varphi} \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & e^{i\pi} \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & -1 \end{pmatrix} \propto \begin{pmatrix} -i & 0 \\ 0 & i \end{pmatrix}$$

$$\varphi = \pi$$



How does a half wave plate change the polarization of a linearly polarized wave?

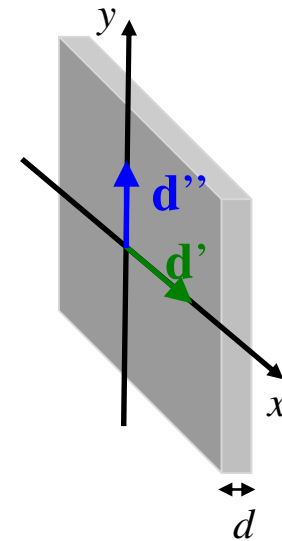


$$\varphi = \frac{2\pi}{\lambda} (n_e - n_o) d = \pi$$

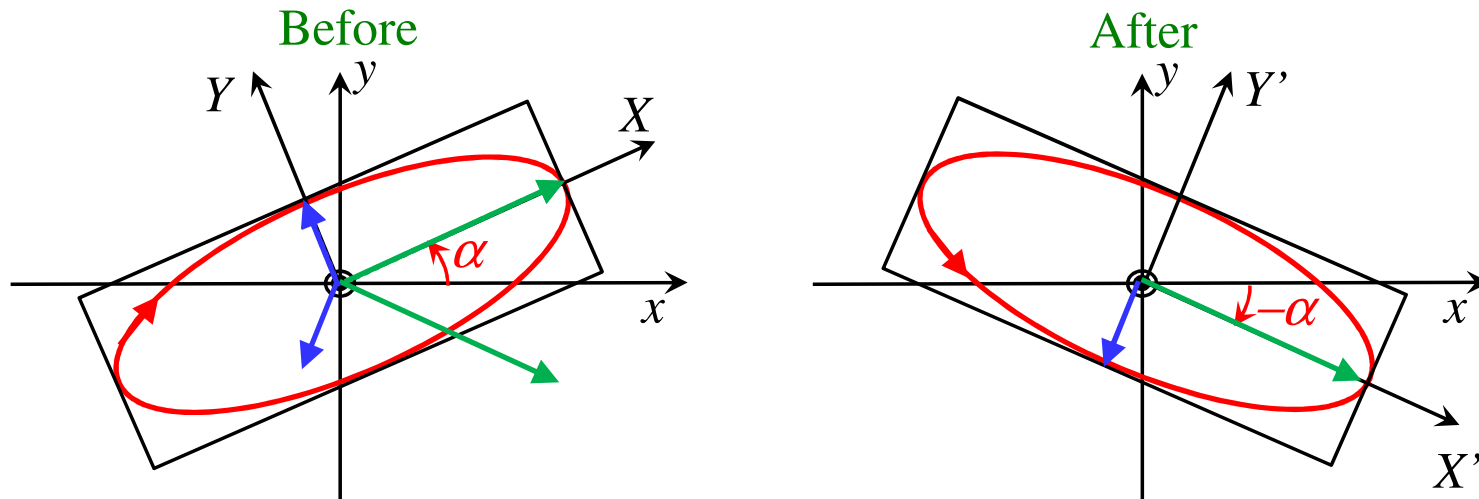
$$\mathbf{M} = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & e^{i\pi} \end{pmatrix}$$



Get **linearly** polarized light “rotated” by 2α
symmetrical with respect to $\mathbf{d}'$, $\mathbf{d}''$



How does a half wave plate change the polarization of an elliptically polarized wave?



- Consider elliptical polarization as a sum of two linear polarizations
- Submit each y component of each linear polarization to a π delay

- Right polarization becomes left and vice versa!

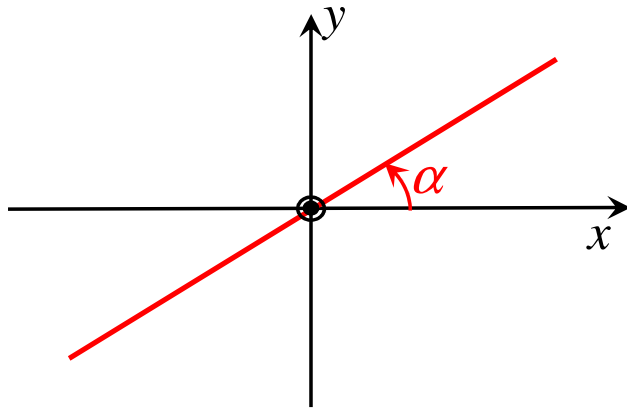
Half wave plate

Wave plate axes

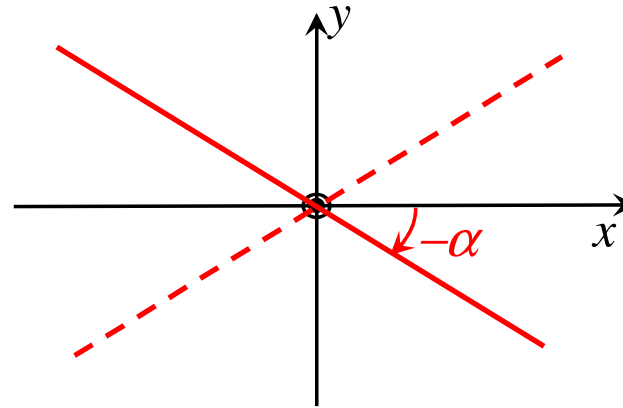
= x and y

= $\mathbf{d}'$, $\mathbf{d}''$

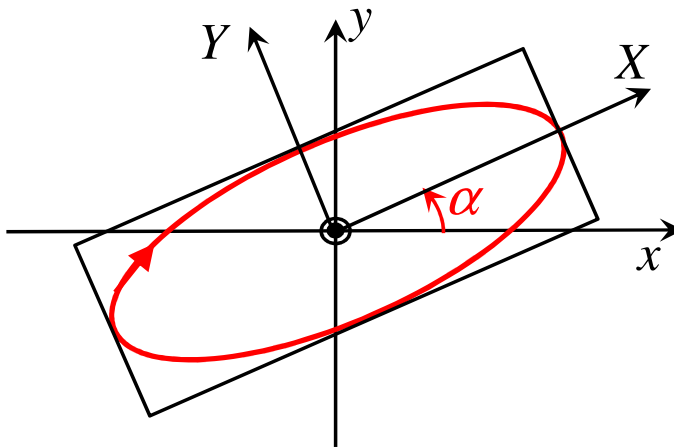
Before



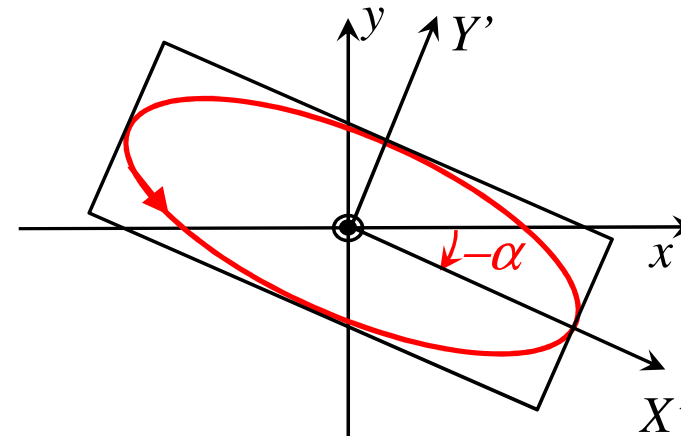
After



Before



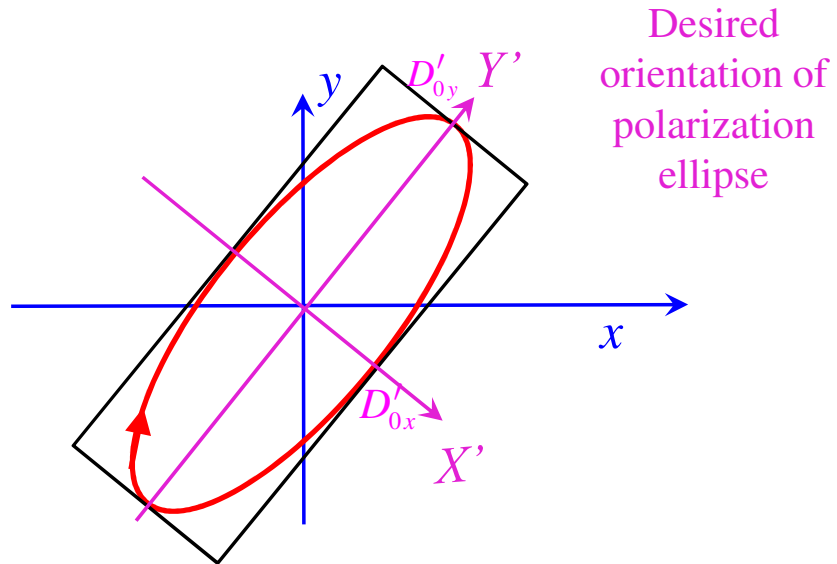
After



Symmetry with respect to $\mathbf{d}'$, $\mathbf{d}''$

Producing the desired state of polarization

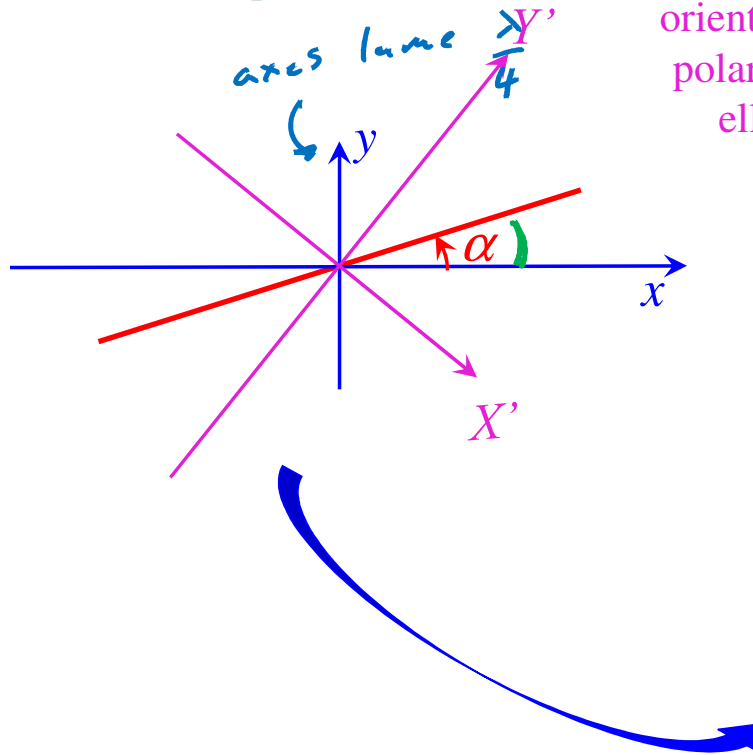
Goal: elliptical polarization with a specific orientation and axis ratio



$$\frac{D'_{0y}}{D'_{0x}} = r$$

Producing the desired state of polarization

1. Produce linearly polarized light with a polarizer

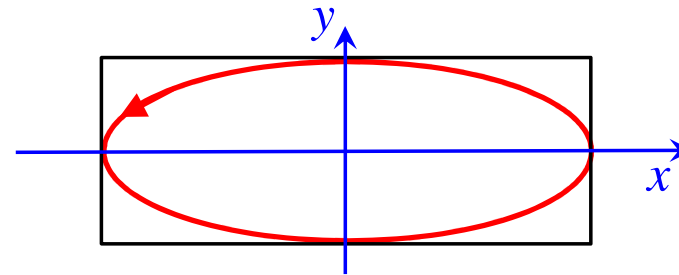


Desired orientation of polarization ellipse

2. Next step: use a quarter wave plate to change polarization to elliptical with the desired "aspect ratio" r

Orient quarter wave plate axes to get

$$\underline{\underline{r = \tan \alpha}}$$



Elliptical polarization with the right "shape" but wrong orientation

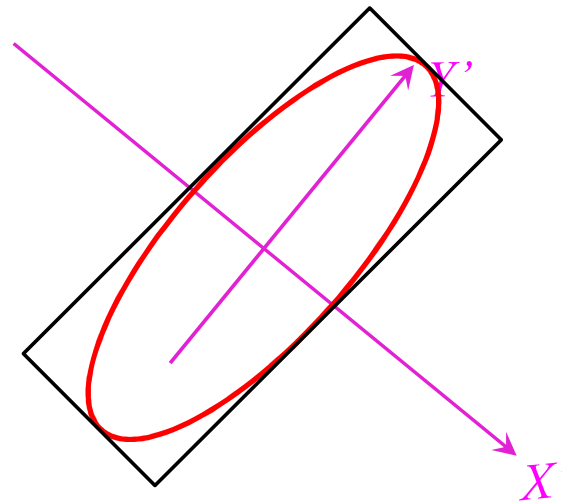
Producing the desired state of polarization

3. Next: use a half wave plate to change the polarization ellipse orientation

What should the half wave plate orientation be?

Half wave plate axis should bisect the angle between the current and desired ellipse axes!

Action of half wave plate



Polarization control in optical fibres

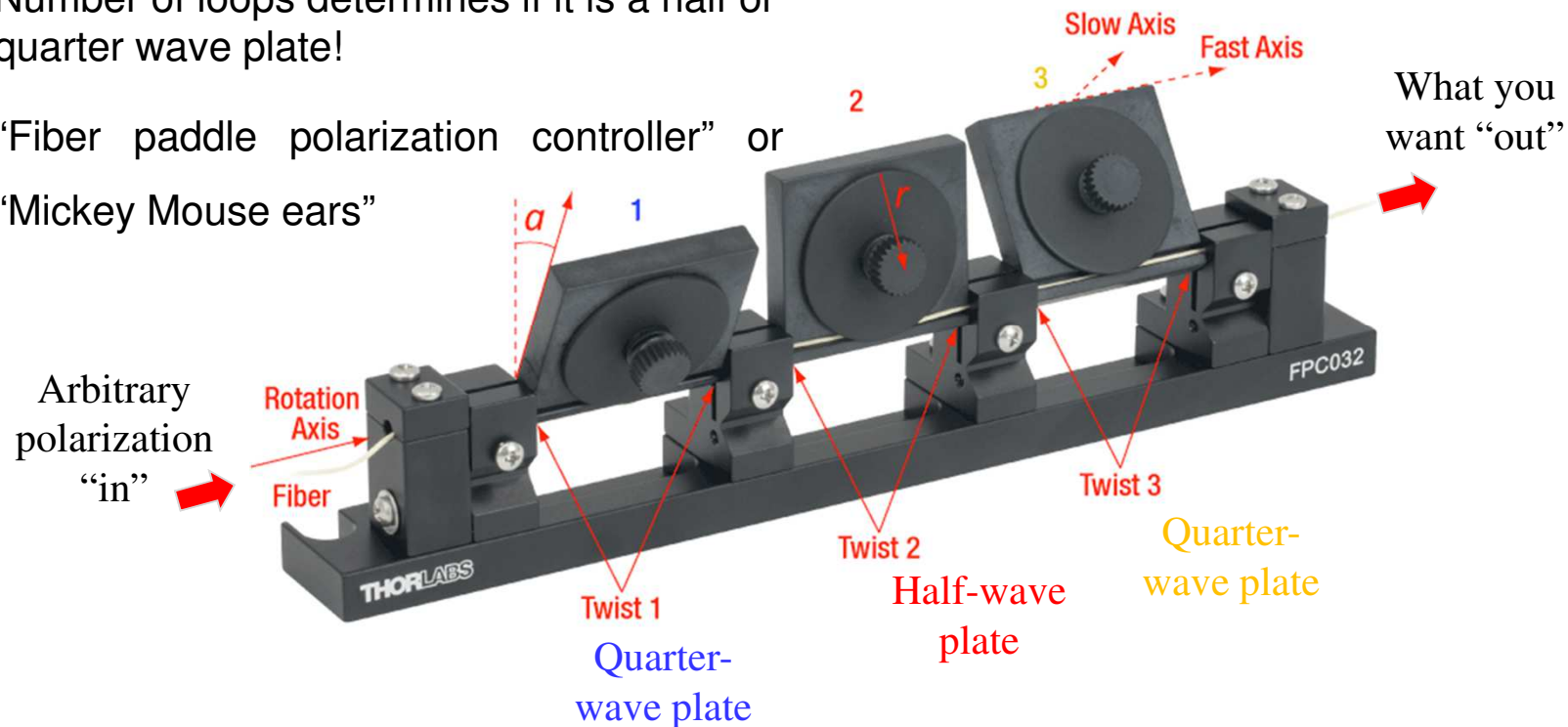
Optical fibres are made of isotropic media (glass). However, optical fibres exhibit stress-induced birefringence

When they are coiled (looped), they become anisotropic!

Can easily make quarter and half wave plates by looping fibre!

Number of loops determines if it is a half or quarter wave plate!

“Fiber paddle polarization controller” or
“Mickey Mouse ears”



<https://youtu.be/5O7TL2SUAlo>