

Exercise 3 : polarization mode dispersion and chromatique dispersion in a single mode fiber**Part 1 : birefringence and polarization mode dispersion**

One can show that the normalized phase birefringence B_ϕ of an optical fiber having an optical core and working in the single mode regime depends on the wavelength following the relation : $B_\phi = \sigma \lambda^2$ where σ is a constant.

1) What is the relation existing between B_ϕ and the effective indices n_{ex} and n_{ey} of the two polarization modes (HE_{11x} and HE_{11y} , x and y being the directions of the two neutral axes (or eigen axes) of the fiber)?

2) show that the beat length L_B between these two modes can be written : $L_B = \frac{\lambda}{B_\phi}$.

3) We work at $\lambda = 1.55 \mu\text{m}$. The effective index of the mode polarized along one of the eigen axis is 1.4455 and $L_B = 3 \text{ mm}$. Calculate the constant σ (USI) and deduce the possible values of the effective index of the mode polarized in the orthogonal direction, rounded to the nearest 10^{-5} .

4) show that, for this fiber, the group birefringence B_G can be expressed very simply versus B_ϕ . Give its value at $\lambda = 1.55 \mu\text{m}$.

5) The group index of the mode polarized in the direction ① is $N_{g①} = 1.4722$ (① = x or y). Calculate $N_{g②}$ (② = y or x , respectively) to the nearest 10^{-5} , $N_{g②}$ being the group index of the mode polarized in the orthogonal direction, knowing that $N_{g②} > N_{g①}$.

6) A short light pulse with a triangular $P(t)$ shape, P being the power, is emitted by a laser. The full width at half maximum (FWHM) of this pulse is 1 ps. The pulse is launched into the studied fiber after crossing a polarizer oriented at 45° to the neutral axes of the fiber. What proportion of the energy propagating in the fiber is carried by the HE_{11x} mode and by the HE_{11y} mode?

We neglect the effects of the chromatic dispersion and we consider that the fiber behaves as a polarization maintaining fiber: represent the temporal shape of the signal detected at the output, after a 10 m long propagation in the fiber.

Part 2 : chromatique dispersion

A silica step index fiber is used for a high bit rate transmission @ $\lambda_T = 1.55 \mu\text{m}$. This fiber is single mode at the working wavelength λ_T . The effective index of the fundamental mode can take the following form around λ_T : $n_e(\lambda) = A_2 \lambda^2 + A_1 \lambda + A_0$ where A_2 , A_1 and A_0 are constant values.

1/ A short pulse centered at λ_T takes exactly 0,491317 ns for travelling over a distance of 100 km in the fiber.

- a- What is the value of the group velocity in the fiber @ λ_T ?
- b- Calculate the group index at λ_T , with a precision of 10^{-5} .

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2/ a- Show that the expression of the group index as a function of the effective index n_e and the wavelength is $n_g = n_e - \lambda \frac{dn_e}{d\lambda}$

b- express the group index versus A_2 , A_1 , A_0 and λ .

c- the parameter A_0 is equal to 1,47. Show that $A_2 = -16,45 \cdot 10^{-4} \mu\text{m}^{-2}$

3/ The chromatic dispersion D of the fundamental mode can be expressed under the form $D_c = \frac{1}{c} \frac{dn_g}{d\lambda}$

a- Show that $D_c = -\frac{\lambda}{c} \frac{d^2 n_e}{d\lambda^2}$

b- Calculate the chromatic dispersion of the fiber at λ_T , expressed in the usual unit system: ps/(km.nm).

4/ At λ_T , the dispersion of silica is $D_m = 22$ ps/(km.nm).

a- Why is the chromatic dispersion of the fiber different from the dispersion of silica ($D_c \neq D_m$) ?

b- With what means can the manufacturers adjust the chromatic dispersion of the guided mode, at a given wavelength?

5/ Calculate the propagation length L at the end of which a pulse having an initial duration $\Delta t = 150$ ps and a spectral width equal to $\sigma_\lambda = 0,3\text{nm}$ will have its duration increased by 50%.

Some formulas which can be useful in part 1 or in part 2

Phase velocity: $v_\varphi = \frac{\omega}{\beta}$ Group velocity : $v_g = \frac{d\omega}{d\beta}$

Group index : $N_g = n_e - \lambda \frac{dn_e}{d\lambda}$ (n_e = effective index for the considered mode)

Phase birefringence : $b_\varphi = |\beta_x - \beta_y|$ where β_x and β_y are the propagation constants of the HE_{11x} and HE_{11y} modes, respectively.

Normalized phase birefringence : $B_\varphi = \frac{b_\varphi}{k_0}$, k_0 being the modulus of the wave vector in the vacuum
