PHYS2202 Nonlinear Optics

Problem Set 1

Due at the beginning of class on Tuesday, March 10, 2020

1. (20 points) Third order anharmonic response

Consider a classical electron centered on an immobile ion and bound about the position x=0 by an anharmonic potential

$$U(x) = \frac{1}{2}m\omega_0^2 x^2 + \frac{1}{3}v_a x^3 + \frac{1}{4}v_b x^4.$$

What is the response at frequency $2\omega_2-\omega_1$ to a driving electric field

$$E(x = 0, t) = E_1 \cos(\omega_1 t) + E_2 \cos(\omega_2 t) + E_3 \cos(\omega_3 t),$$

where $\omega_3 > \omega_2 > \omega_1$.