

# Advanced Optics (PHYS690)

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HEEDEUK SHIN

Lecture 19

POHANG UNIVERSITY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY, KOREA





# Electro-Optic modulator

POSTECH  
Advanced Optics class

# Birefringence

the index ellipsoid:

$$\sum_{ij} \eta_{ij} x_i x_j = 1$$

is in the principal coordinate system:

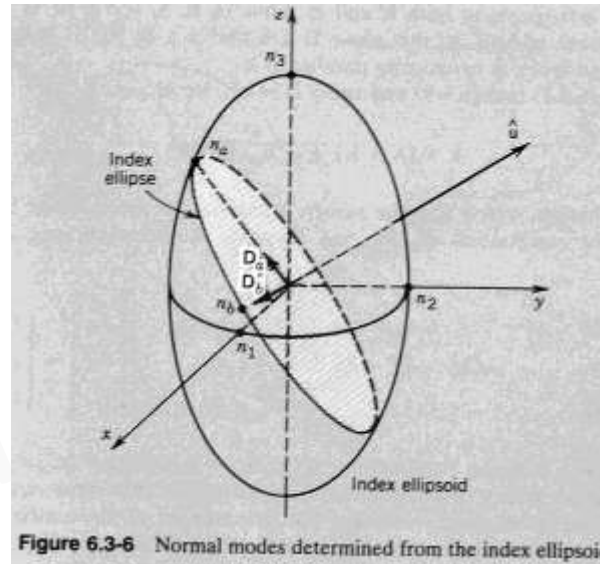
$$\frac{x_1^2}{n_1^2} + \frac{x_2^2}{n_2^2} + \frac{x_3^2}{n_3^2} = 1$$

uniaxial crystals ( $n_1=n_2 \neq n_3$ ):

$$\frac{1}{n^2(\theta)} = \frac{\cos^2(\theta)}{n_o^2} + \frac{\sin^2(\theta)}{n_e^2}$$

$$n_a = n_o$$

$$n_b = n(\theta) \quad n(0^\circ) = n_o \quad n(90^\circ) = n_e$$



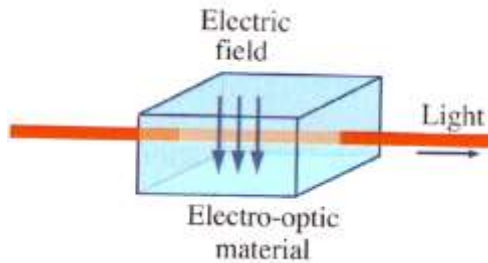
preferred crystals:

- LiNbO<sub>3</sub>
- LiTaO<sub>3</sub>
- KDP (KH<sub>2</sub>PO<sub>4</sub>)
- KD\*P (KD<sub>2</sub>PO<sub>4</sub>)
- ADP (NH<sub>4</sub>H<sub>2</sub>PO<sub>4</sub>)
- BBO (Beta-BaB<sub>2</sub>O<sub>4</sub>)

**TABLE 8.4 Electro-optic constants (room temperature,  $\lambda_0 = 546.1$  nm).**

Material	$r_{63}$ (units of $10^{-12}$ m/V)	$n_o$ (approx.)	$V_{\lambda/2}$ (in kV)
ADP (NH <sub>4</sub> H <sub>2</sub> PO <sub>4</sub> )	8.5	1.52	9.2
KDP (KH <sub>2</sub> PO <sub>4</sub> )	10.6	1.51	7.6
KDA (KH <sub>2</sub> AsO <sub>4</sub> )	~13.0	1.57	~6.2
KD*P (KD <sub>2</sub> PO <sub>4</sub> )	~23.3	1.52	~3.4

# Electro-Optic Effect



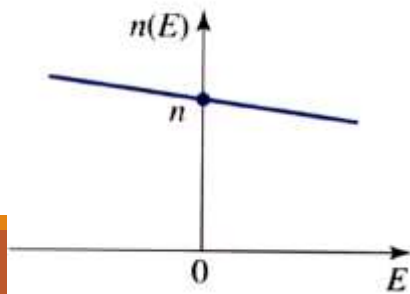
for certain materials  $n$  is a function of  $E$ ,  
as the variation is only slightly we can Taylor-expand  $n(E)$ :

$$n(E) = n + a_1 E + \frac{1}{2} a_2 E^2 + \dots$$

linear electro-optic effect  
(**Pockels effect**, 1893):

$$n(E) = n - \frac{1}{2} r \cdot n^3 E$$

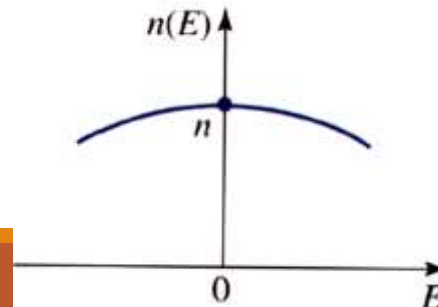
$$r = -2 \frac{a_1}{n^3}$$



quadratic electro-optic effect  
(**Kerr effect**, 1875):

$$n(E) = n - \frac{1}{2} s \cdot n^3 E^2$$

$$s = -\frac{a_2}{n^3}$$



# Kerr vs Pockels

the electric impermeability  $\eta(E)$ :

$$\eta = \frac{\epsilon_0}{\epsilon} = \frac{1}{n^2}$$

$$\Delta\eta(E) = \left( \frac{d\eta}{dn} \right) \cdot \Delta n = \left( \frac{-2}{n^3} \right) \cdot \left( -\frac{1}{2} r \cdot n^3 E - \frac{1}{2} s \cdot n^3 E^2 \right) = r \cdot E + s \cdot E^2$$

...explains the choice of r and s.

Pockels effect:

typical values for r:  $10^{-12}$  to  $10^{-10}$  m/V

$\Delta n$  for  $E=10^6$  V/m :  $10^{-6}$  to  $10^{-4}$  (crystals)

Kerr effect:

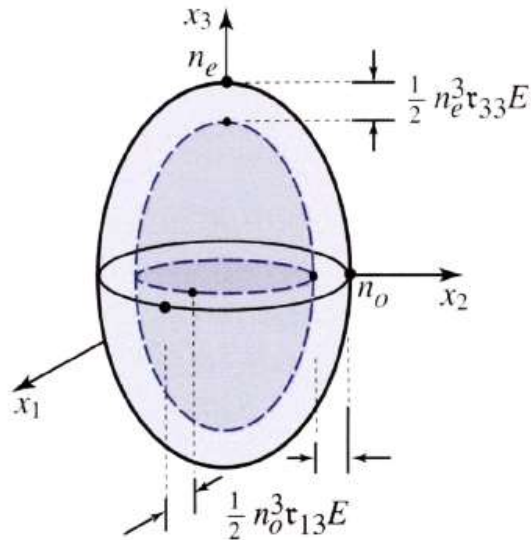
typical values for s:  $10^{-18}$  to  $10^{-14}$  m<sup>2</sup>/V<sup>2</sup>

$\Delta n$  for  $E=10^6$  V/m :  $10^{-6}$  to  $10^{-2}$  (crystals)  
 $10^{-10}$  to  $10^{-7}$  (liquids)

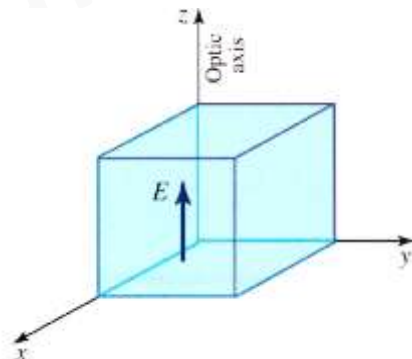
# Electro-Optic Effect

$$n_o(E) \approx n_o - \frac{1}{2} n_o^3 r_{13} E$$

$$n_e(E) \approx n_e - \frac{1}{2} n_e^3 r_{33} E$$



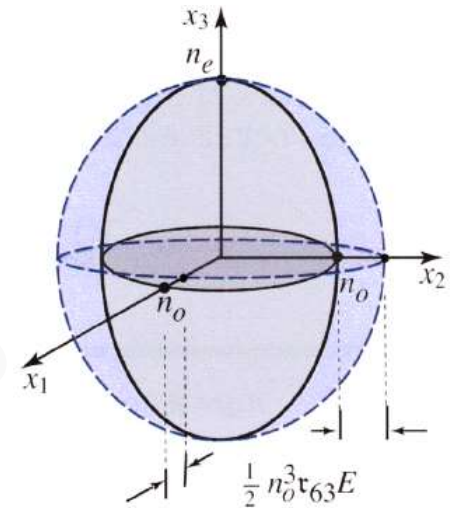
Modification of the index ellipsoid of a trigonal  $3m$  crystal such as  $\text{LiNbO}_3$ .



$$n_1(E) \approx n_o - \frac{1}{2} n_o^3 r_{63} E$$

$$n_2(E) \approx n_o + \frac{1}{2} n_o^3 r_{63} E$$

$$n_3(E) = n_e$$



Modification of the index ellipsoid of a uniaxial tetragonal  $\bar{4}2m$  crystal such as KDP.



# Pockels Cells

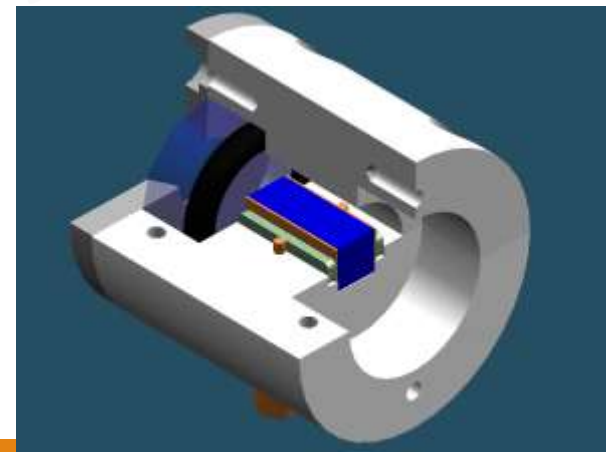
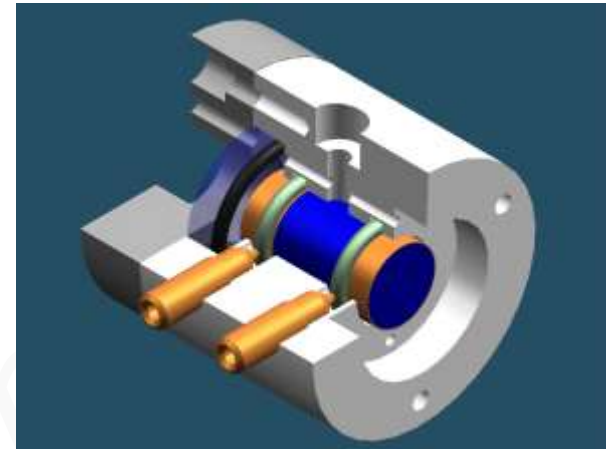
## Construction

### Longitudinal Pockels Cell (d=L)

- $V_{\pi} = \frac{\lambda}{r \cdot n^3}$
- $V_{\pi}$  scales linearly with  $\lambda$
- large apertures possible

### Transverse Pockels Cell

- $V_{\pi} = \frac{d}{L} \frac{\lambda}{r \cdot n^3}$
- $V_{\pi}$  scales linearly with  $\lambda$
- aperture size restricted



from Linos Corp.

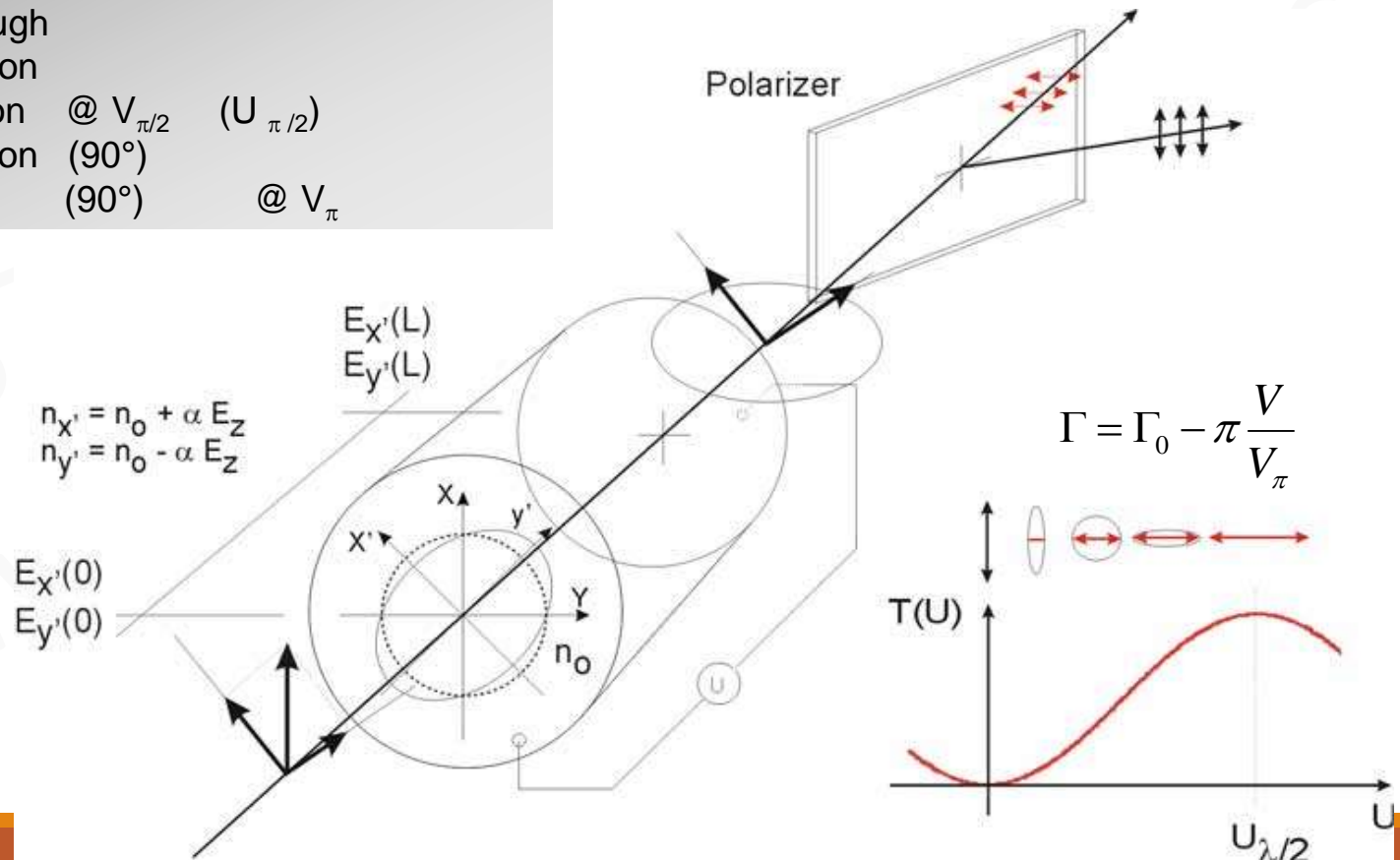
# Wave retarders

## Pockels Cells

Pockels Cell can be used as dynamic wave retarders

Input light is vertical, linear polarized with rising electric field (applied Voltage) the transmitted light goes through

- elliptical polarization
- circular polarization @  $V_{\pi/2}$  ( $U_{\pi/2}$ )
- elliptical polarization ( $90^\circ$ )
- linear polarization ( $90^\circ$ ) @  $V_\pi$





# Phase modulator

Phase modulation leads to **frequency modulation**

definition of frequency:

$$2\pi \cdot f(t) \equiv \frac{d\Phi(t)}{dt} = \omega \quad [15]$$

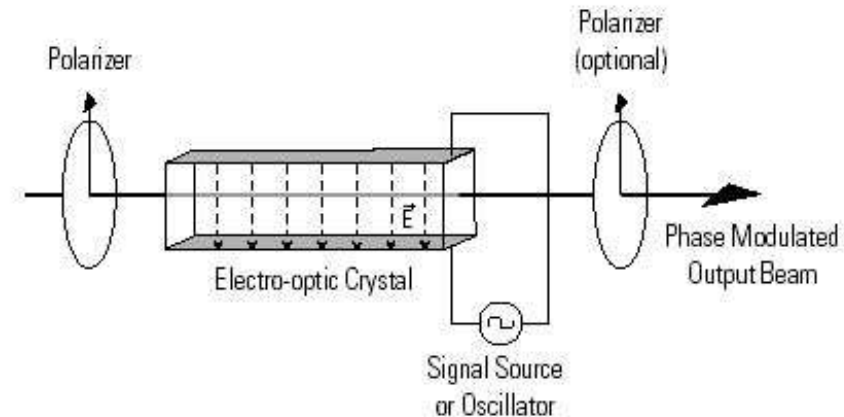
with a phase modulation

$$2\pi \cdot f(t) \equiv \frac{d\Phi(t)}{dt} = \omega + \frac{d\phi(t)}{dt}$$

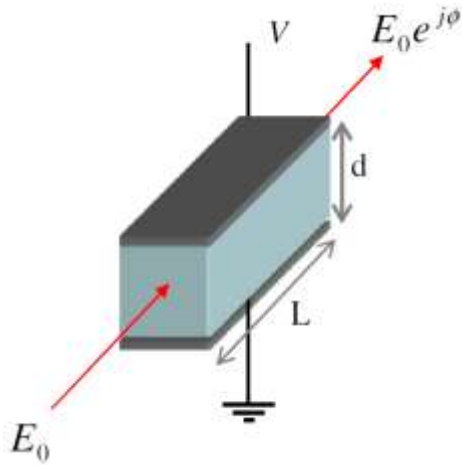
$$\phi(t) = m \sin(\Omega t) \quad \nearrow$$

⇒ frequency modulation at frequency  $\Omega$  with  $90^\circ$  phase lag and peak to peak excursion of  $2m\Omega$

⇒ Fourier components:  
power exists only at discrete optical frequencies  $\omega \pm k \Omega$



# Phase shift



$$\phi = k_0 (S + \Delta S) = k_0 (n_0 + \Delta n) L = \frac{2\pi}{\lambda_0} \left( n_0 - \frac{1}{2} n_0^3 r_{eff} E \right) L$$

$$= \phi_0 - \frac{\pi}{\lambda_0} n_0^3 r_{eff} \frac{V}{d} L$$

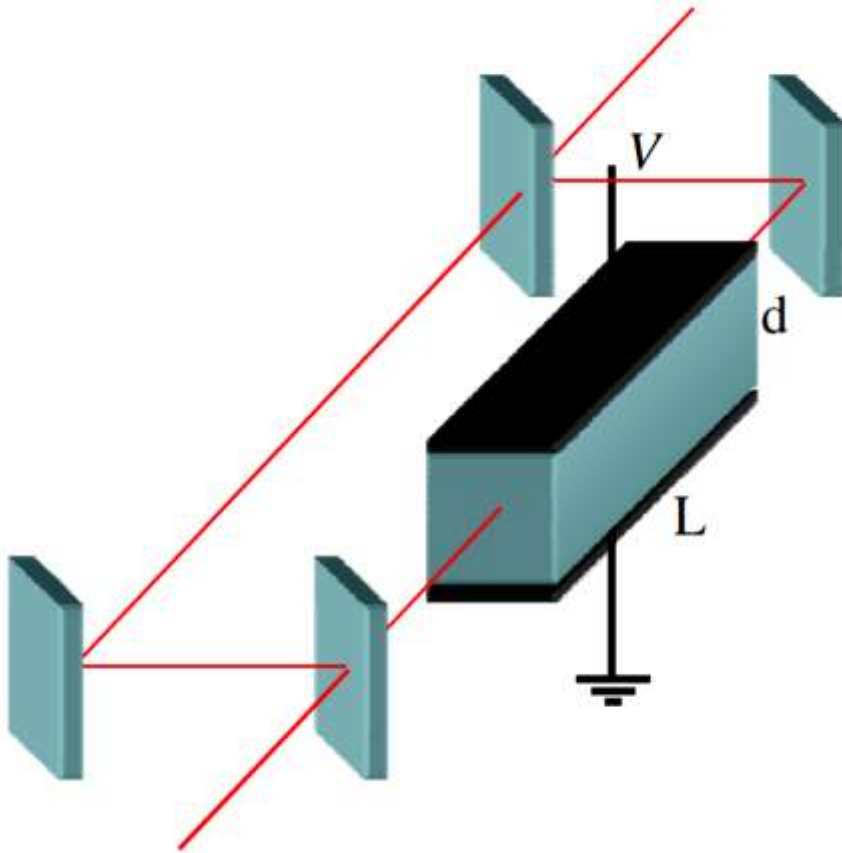
$$\equiv \phi_0 - \pi \frac{V}{V_\pi}$$

$$V_\pi \equiv \frac{d}{L} \frac{\lambda_0}{n_0^3 r_{eff}} \quad \text{“Half-wave voltage”}$$

Transit-time limited bandwidth

$$\approx \frac{1}{T} = \frac{c}{n_0 L}$$

# Mach-Zender modulator



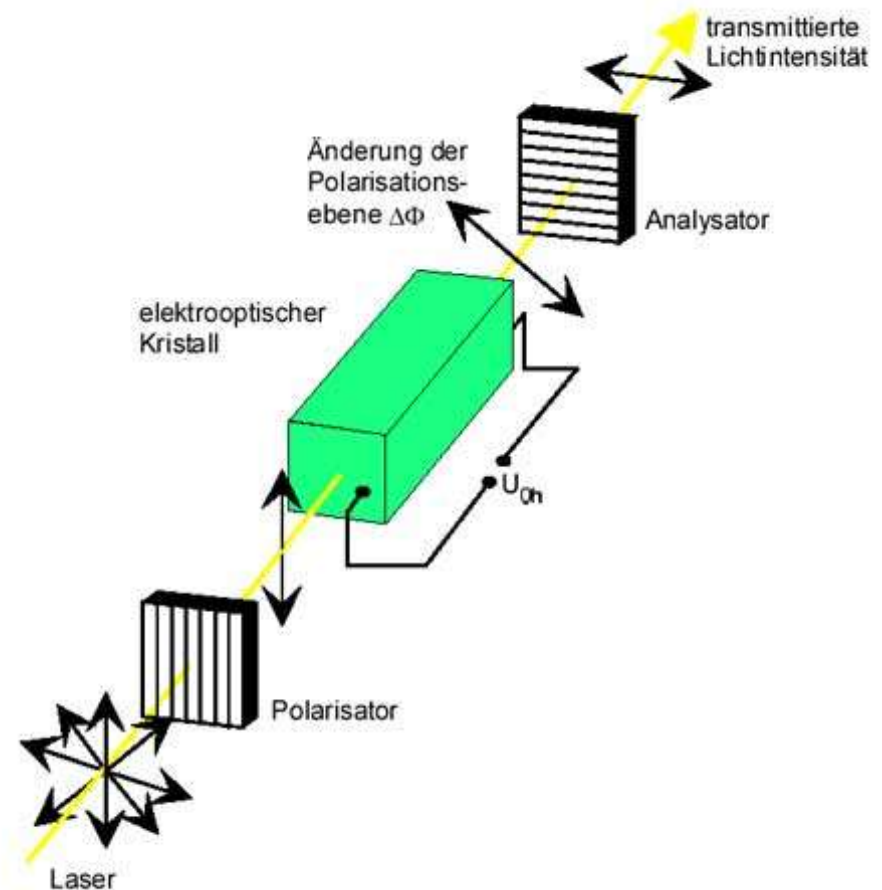
Phase-shifting Mach-Zender

$$T = \frac{1}{2} (1 + \cos \phi)$$

$$= \cos^2 \left( \frac{\phi_0}{2} - \frac{\pi V}{2 V_\pi} \right)$$

# Amplitude modulator

- Polarizer
- Electro-Optic Crystal  
acts as a variable waveplate
- Analyser  
transmits only the component that has been rotated  
→  $\sin^2$  transmittance characteristic



## Variable retarder between crossed polarizers

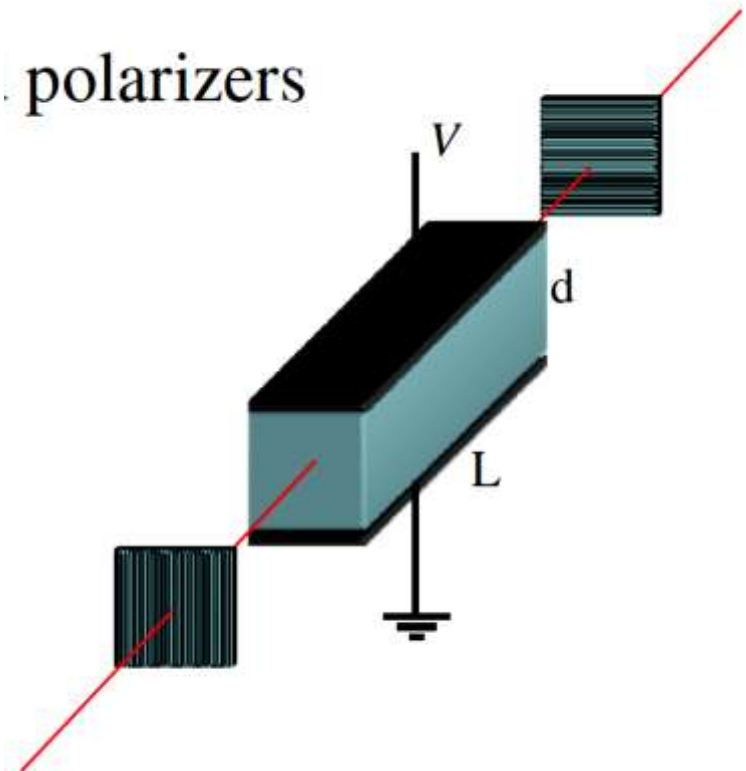
$$\Gamma(V) = k_0 [n_1(V) - n_2(V)] L$$

$$= k_0 [n_1 - n_2] L - \frac{\pi}{\lambda_0} (n_1^3 r_1 - n_2^3 r_2) \frac{V}{d} L$$

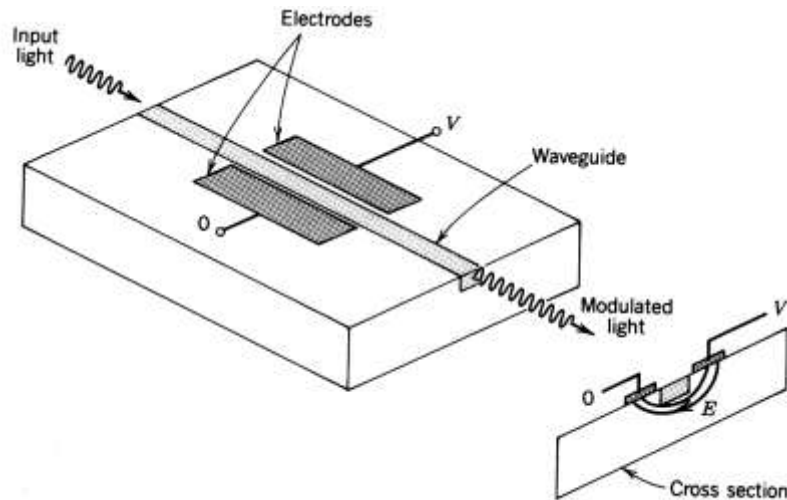
$$= \Gamma_0 - \pi \frac{V}{V_\pi}$$

$$V_\pi = \frac{d}{L} \frac{\lambda_0}{(n_1^3 r_1 - n_2^3 r_2)}$$

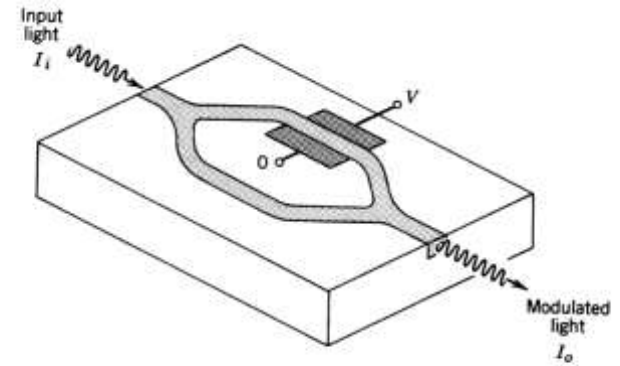
$$T = \sin^2 \left( \frac{\Gamma_0}{2} - \frac{\pi V}{2 V_\pi} \right)$$



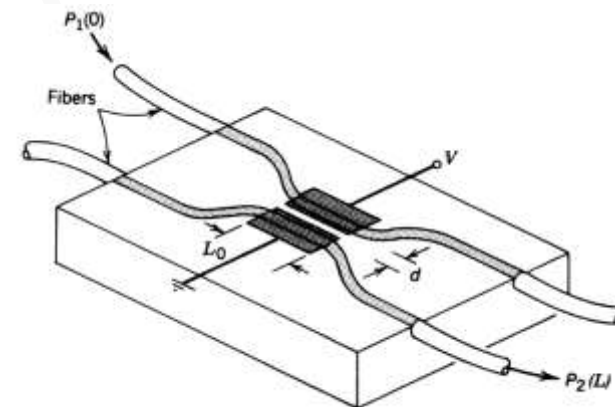
# Electro Optic Devices



**Figure 18.1-3** An integrated-optical phase modulator using the electro-optic effect.



**Figure 18.1-5** An integrated-optical intensity modulator (or optical switch). A Mach-Zehnder interferometer and an electro-optic phase modulator are implemented using optical waveguides fabricated from a material such as  $\text{LiNbO}_3$ .



**Figure 18.1-10** An integrated electro-optic directional coupler.

# Acousto-Optic modulator

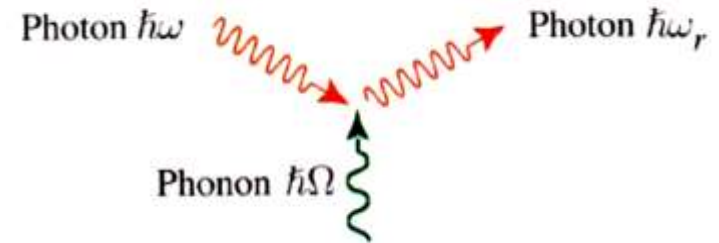
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# Acousto-optic modulator

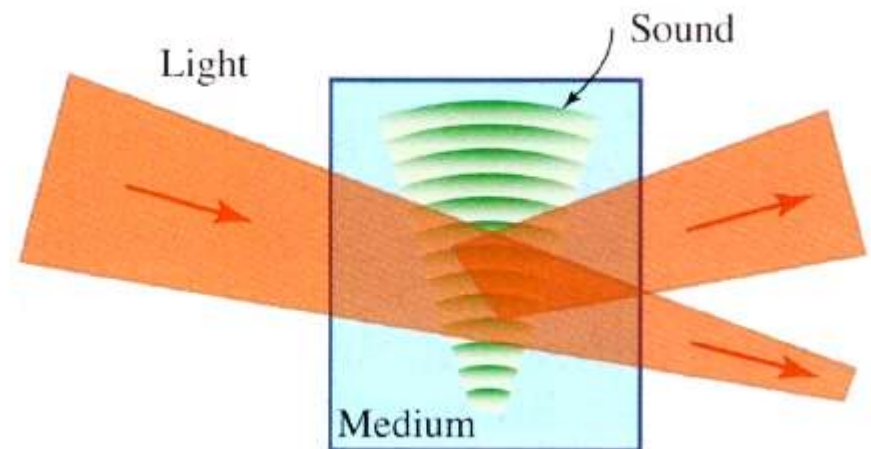
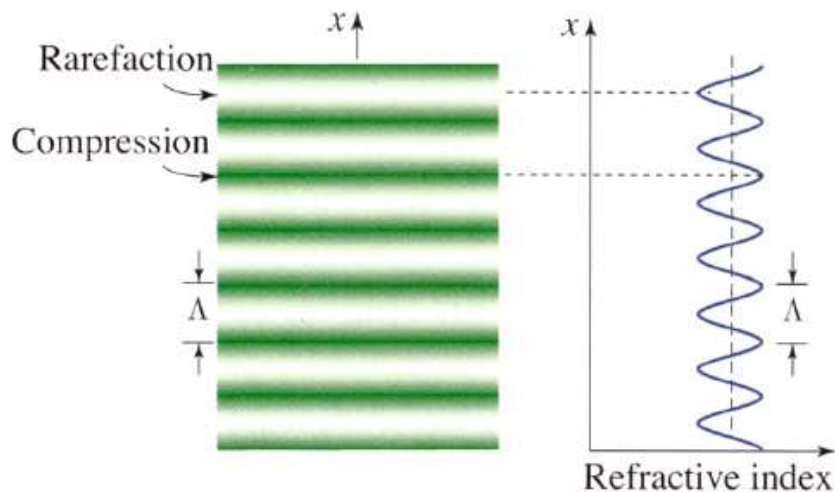
- The refractive index of an optical medium is altered by the presence of sound.
- Sound can control light.
- Acousto-optic effect.

## Photon-phonon interactions



$$\hbar\mathbf{k}_r = \hbar\mathbf{k} + \hbar\mathbf{q}$$

$$\hbar\omega_r = \hbar\omega + \hbar\Omega$$





# Photoelastic effect

- A strain is measure of deformation representing the displacement between particles in the body relative to a reference length.

The strain (relative displacement)

$S_0 = \frac{\partial(x-X)}{\partial X}$  where  $X$  is the reference position of material points

$$s(x, t) = S_0 \cos(\Omega t - qx) \quad q = 2\pi/\Lambda \quad \text{wavenumber}$$

The strain creates a proportional perturbation of the refractive index as,

$$\Delta n(x, t) = -\frac{1}{2}pn^3 s(x, t)$$

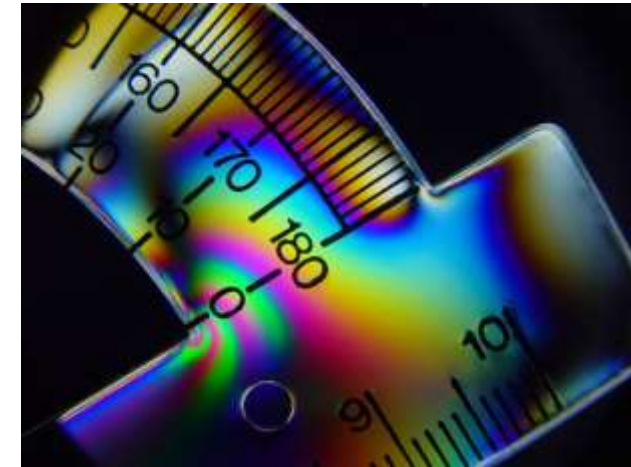
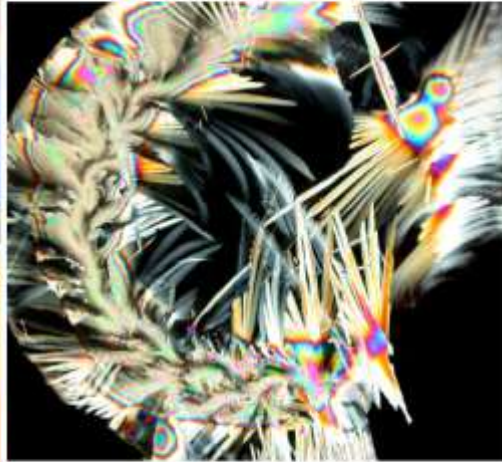
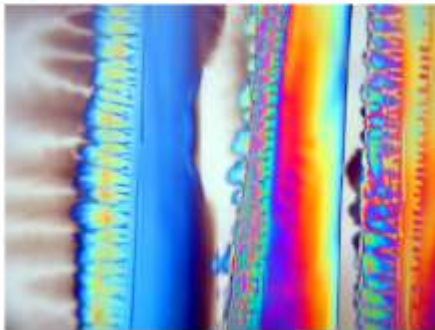
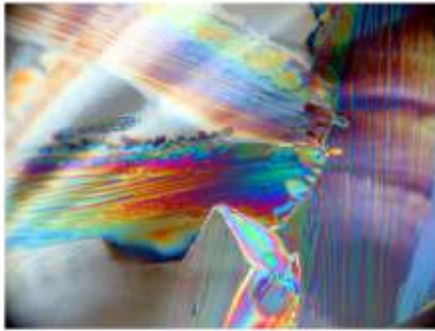
$p$  Phenomenological dimensionless coefficient known as the photo-elastic constant.

The medium has a time-varying inhomogeneous refractive index as

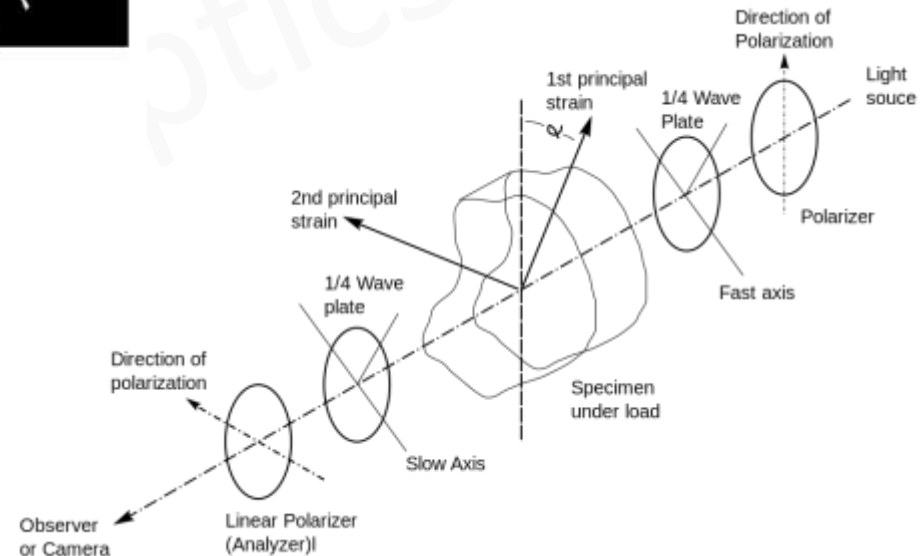
$$n(x, t) = n - \Delta n_0 \cos(\Omega t - qx), \quad \Delta n_0 = \frac{1}{2}pn^3 S_0.$$

# Photoelasticity

➤ NASA scientist Peter Wasilewski painting with ice and light: [Peter.J.Wasilewski.1@gsfc.nasa.gov](mailto:Peter.J.Wasilewski.1@gsfc.nasa.gov)



Stress induced birefringence



# Photoelastic effect

$$\eta_{ij}(s_{kl}) \approx \eta_{ij}(0) + \sum_{kl} p_{ijkl} s_{kl}, \quad i, j, l, k = 1, 2, 3,$$

- The electric impermeability tensor characterizes the optical properties of an anisotropic medium.

$$p_{ijkl} = \partial \eta_{ij} / \partial s_{kl}$$

- Strain-optic tensor or photoelastic tensor

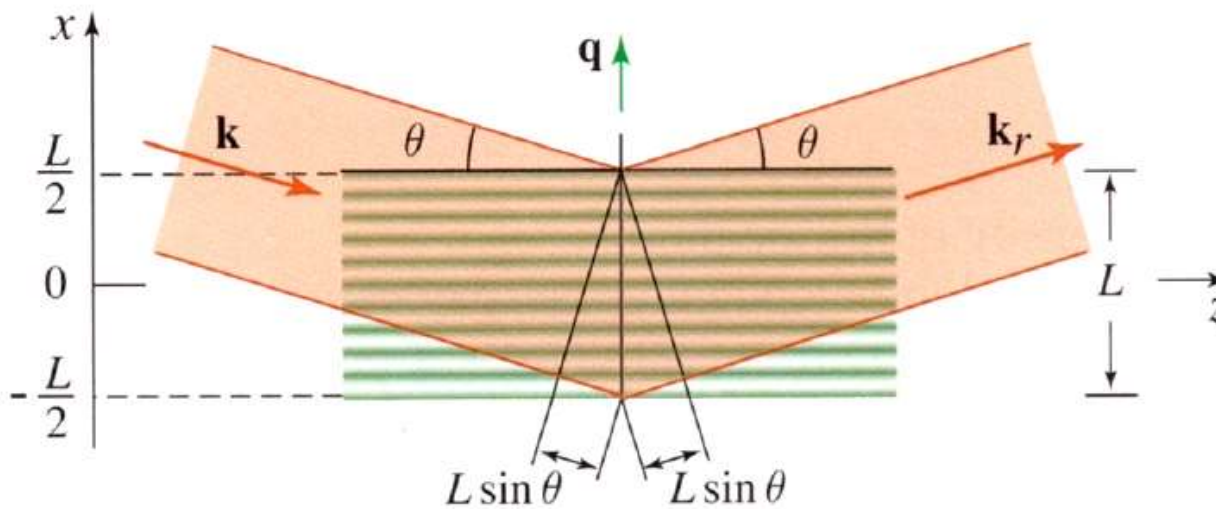
$$p_{IK} = \begin{bmatrix} p_{11} & p_{12} & p_{12} & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ p_{12} & p_{11} & p_{12} & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ p_{11} & p_{12} & p_{11} & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & p_{44} & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & p_{44} & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & p_{44} \end{bmatrix}$$

# Bragg reflection

Photo-elastic effect

$$n(x) = n - \Delta n_0 \cos(qx - \varphi), \quad \varphi = \Omega t$$

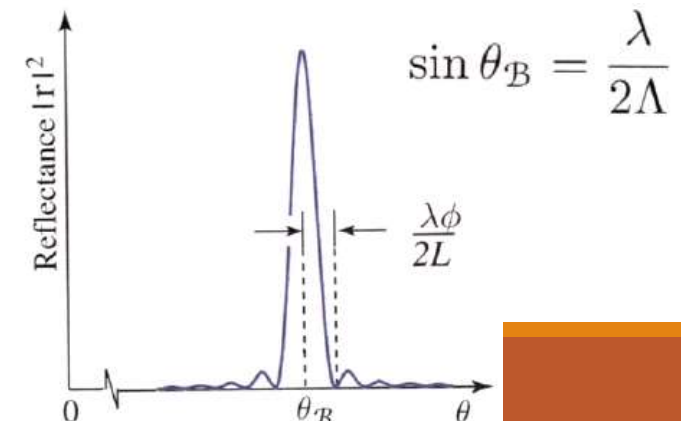
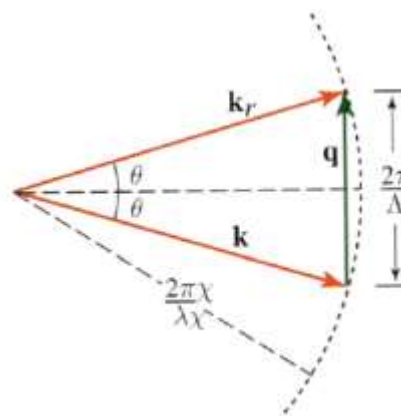
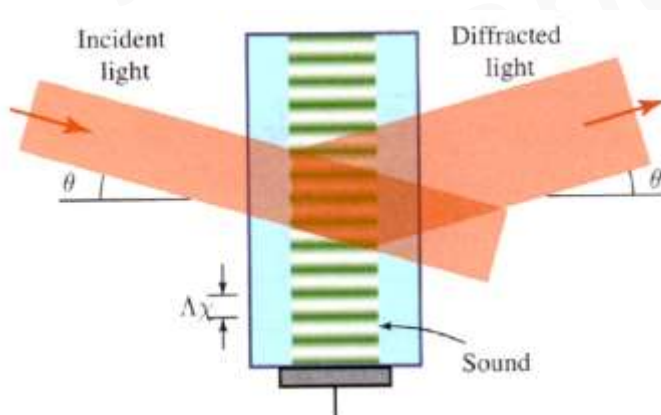
$$\Delta n = -\frac{1}{2} p n_0^3 S_0 \cos(\Omega t - \vec{K} \cdot \vec{r})$$



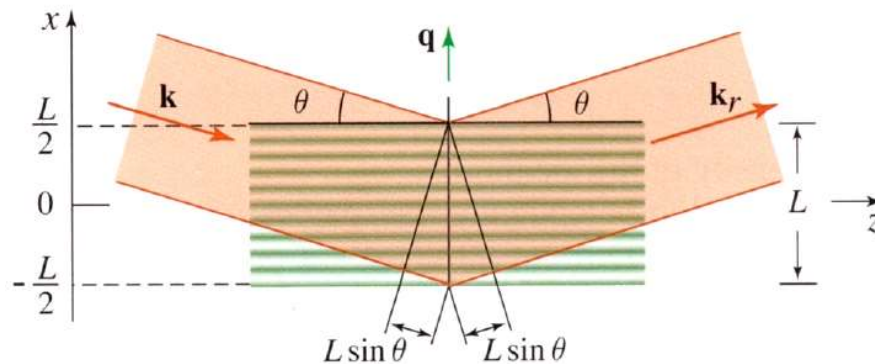
$$\sin \theta = \frac{\lambda}{2\Lambda}$$

$$\Lambda = v_s / f$$

Bragg condition



# Reflection



## Amplitude reflectance

$$r_{\pm} = \pm j r_0 \operatorname{sinc} \left[ (2k \sin \theta \mp q) \frac{L}{2\pi} \right] e^{\pm j \Omega t}$$

$$\operatorname{sinc}(x) \equiv \sin(\pi x) / (\pi x)$$

$$\mathcal{R} = 2\pi^2 n^2 \frac{L^2 \Lambda^2}{\lambda_o^4} \mathcal{M} I_s.$$

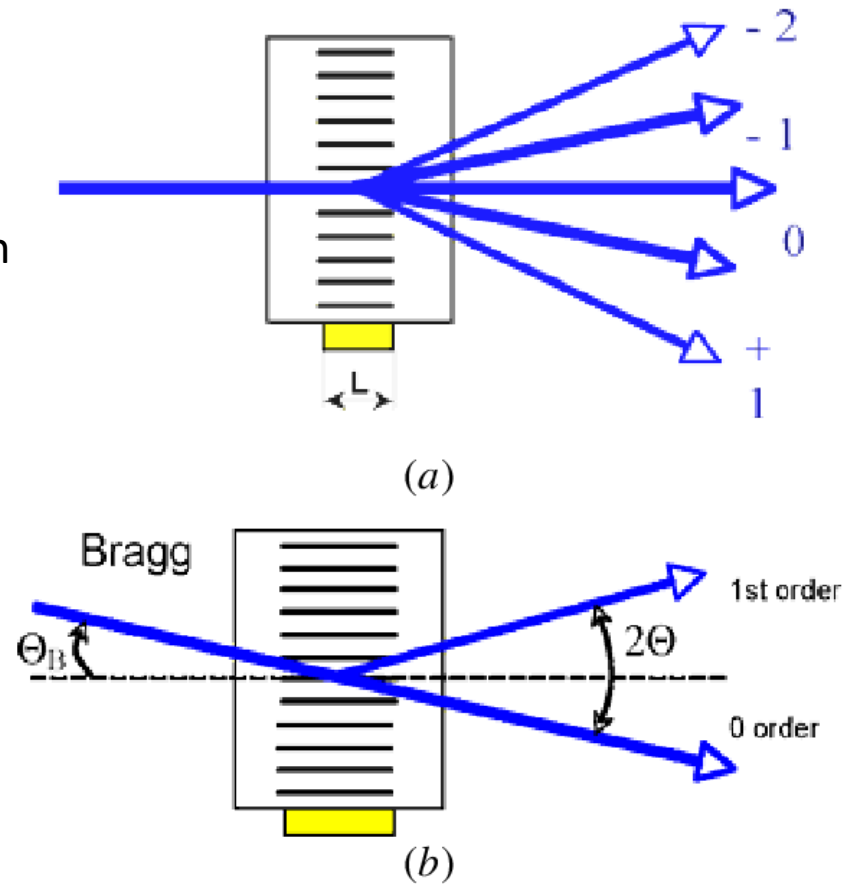
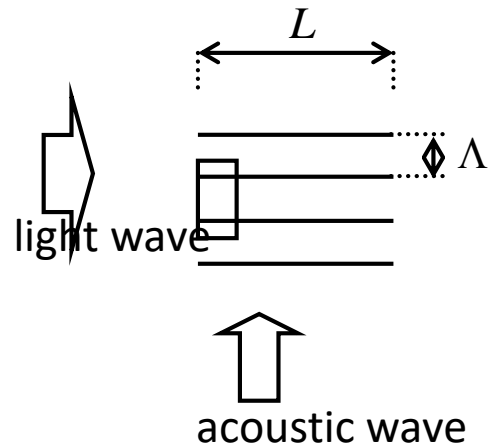
Power reflectance

$$\mathcal{M} = \frac{p^2 n^6}{\rho v_s^3}$$



## Acousto-Optic effect

### Bragg diffraction & Raman-Nath diffraction



# Dimensionless parameter :

$$Q = \frac{4\pi\theta_B}{\Phi} = \frac{2\pi\lambda L}{n\Lambda^2}$$

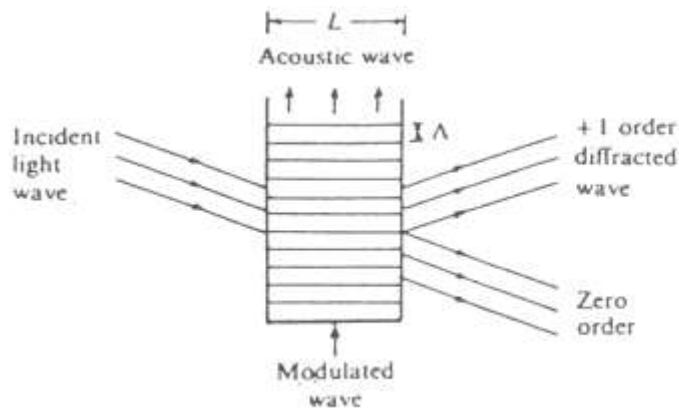
$> 1$  : Bragg diffraction  
 $< 1$  : Raman-Nath diffraction

Example) Water,  $n=1.33$ ,  $W=6\text{MHz}$  ( $v_s=1,500\text{ m/s}$ ),  $\lambda=632.8\text{ nm}$

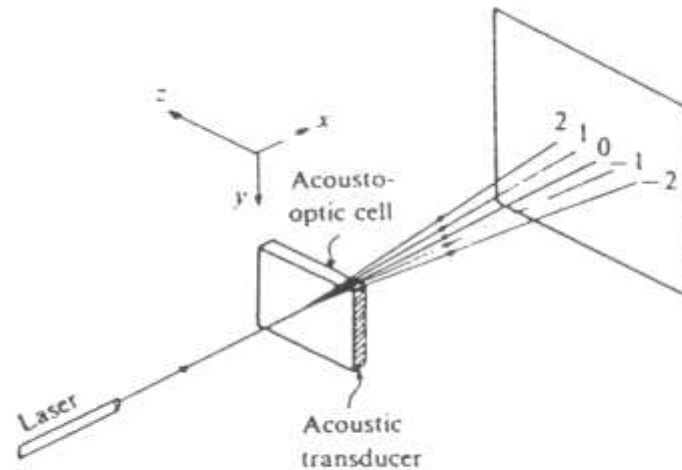
$$\Lambda = v_s / \Omega = 250\text{ }\mu\text{m}$$

$L \ll \Lambda^2 n / (2\pi\lambda) \approx 2\text{ cm}$ : Raman-Nath Regime

$\gg 2\text{ cm}$  : Bragg Regime



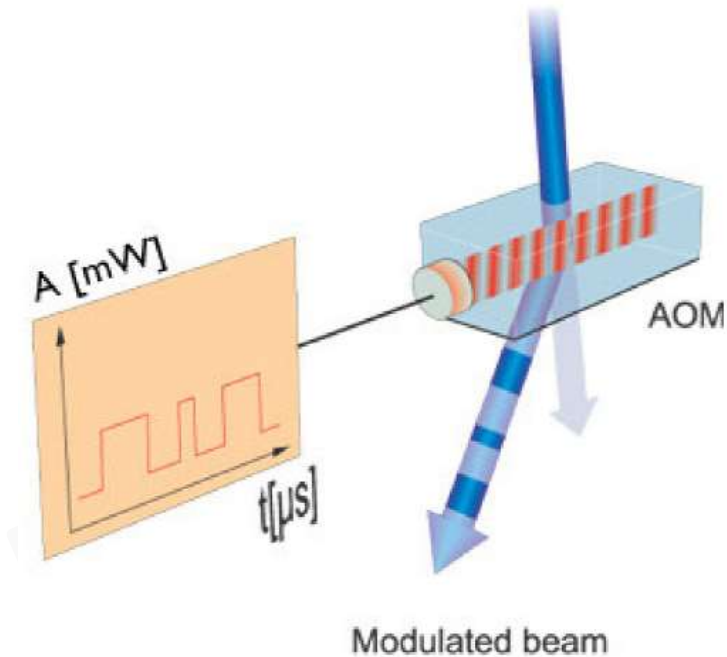
Bragg diffraction :  
Single order diffraction



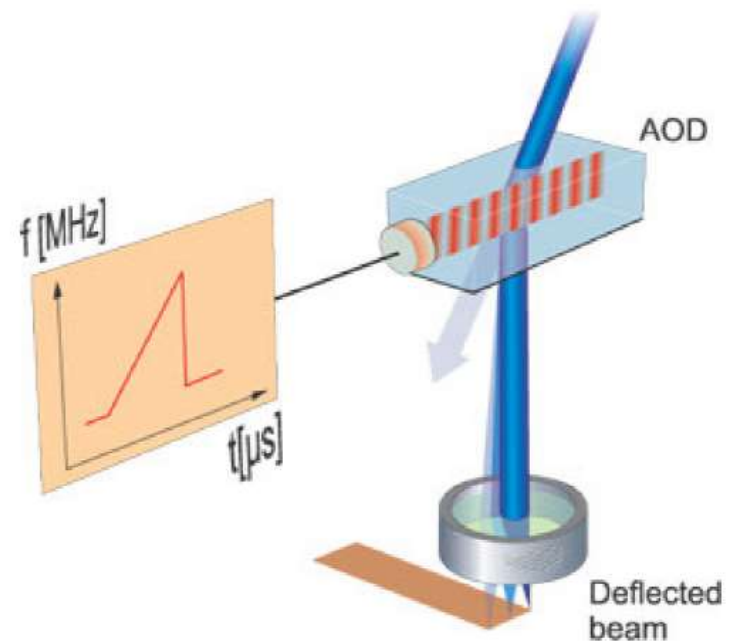
Raman-Nath diffraction :  
Multiple order diffraction

# Applications

## Modulator



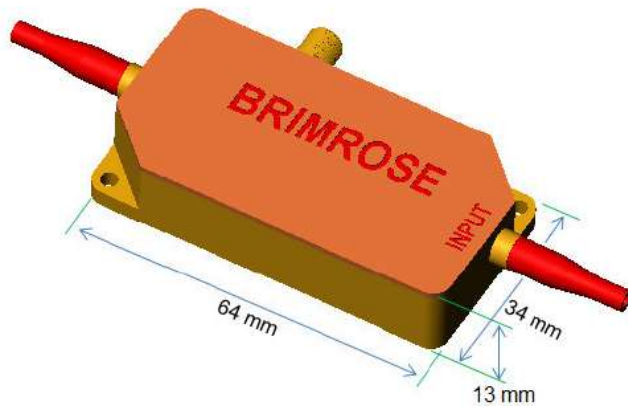
## Deflector



$$\theta = \sin^{-1} \frac{\lambda}{2\Lambda} = \sin^{-1} \frac{f\lambda}{2v_s} \approx \frac{\lambda}{2v_s} f$$



# Fiber pigtailed AOM



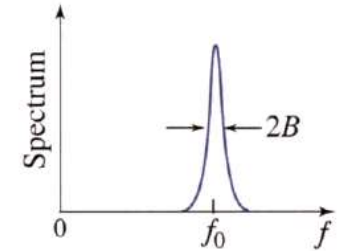
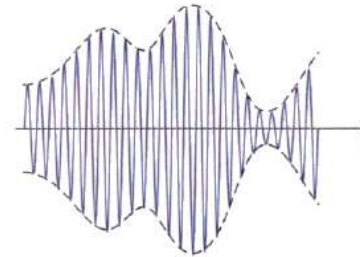
**Modulator**

**Frequency shifter**

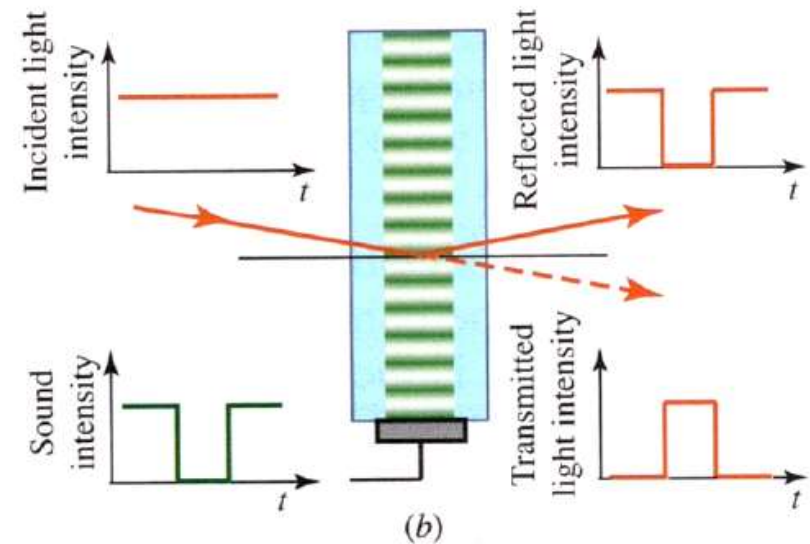
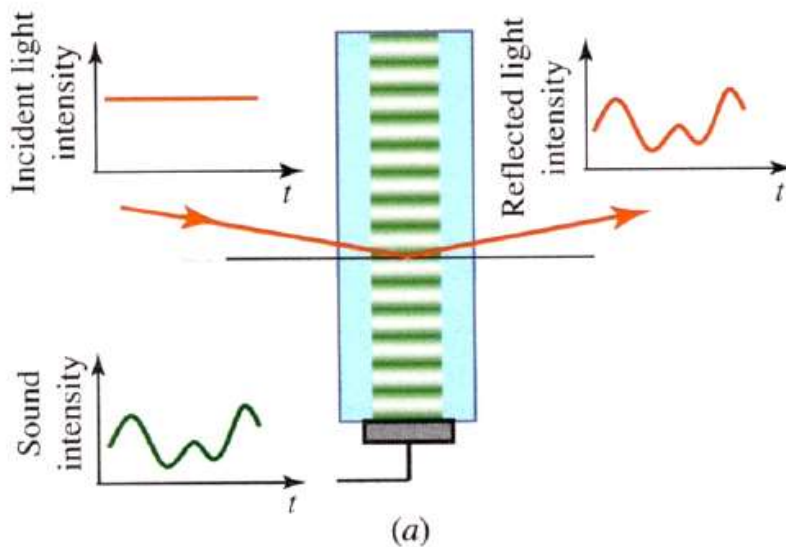
Wavelength of Operation	1550 nm
Optical Range	$\pm 25$ nm
Maximum Optical Power	230 mW
Frequency Shift	+75 MHz or -75 MHz
Frequency Shift Range (3dB)	5 MHz
Beam Diameter Inside the Crystal	0.4 mm
Rise Time	140 nsec
Digital Modulation Bandwidth	5 Mhz
Acoustic Velocity (m/sec)	$2.5 \times 10^3$
Maximum RF Power (Watt)	<0.5 W
RF Connector	SMB
Extinction Ratio	>50 dB
Input Impedance	50 ohms
V.S.W.R.	2.1:1
Optical Polarization	Linear
Case Type	2 Port Fiber Optically Pigtailed
Type of Fiber, Port 1 and 2	8 $\mu$ m core, 125 $\mu$ m cladding SM PM
Fiber Connector Type	FC
Polishing of the Fiber End	APC
Fiber Length	1 m
Fiber Jacket	900 $\mu$ m OD
Back Reflection*	40 dB
Total Insertion Loss**	3.0 - 4.0 dB at the center wavelength
PER	16 - 19 dB

# Modulators

- The amplitude of an acoustic wave of frequency  $f_0$
- A function of time by amplitude modulation
- A signal of bandwidth B.



$$\theta = \sin^{-1} \frac{\lambda}{2\Lambda} = \sin^{-1} \frac{f\lambda}{2v_s} \approx \frac{\lambda}{2v_s} f$$



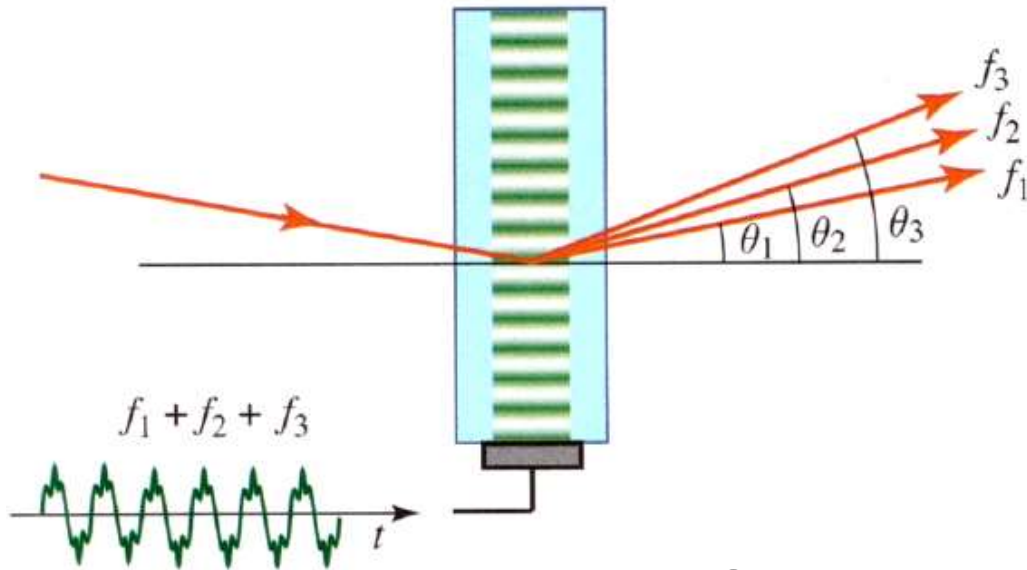


# Maximum rate of modulation

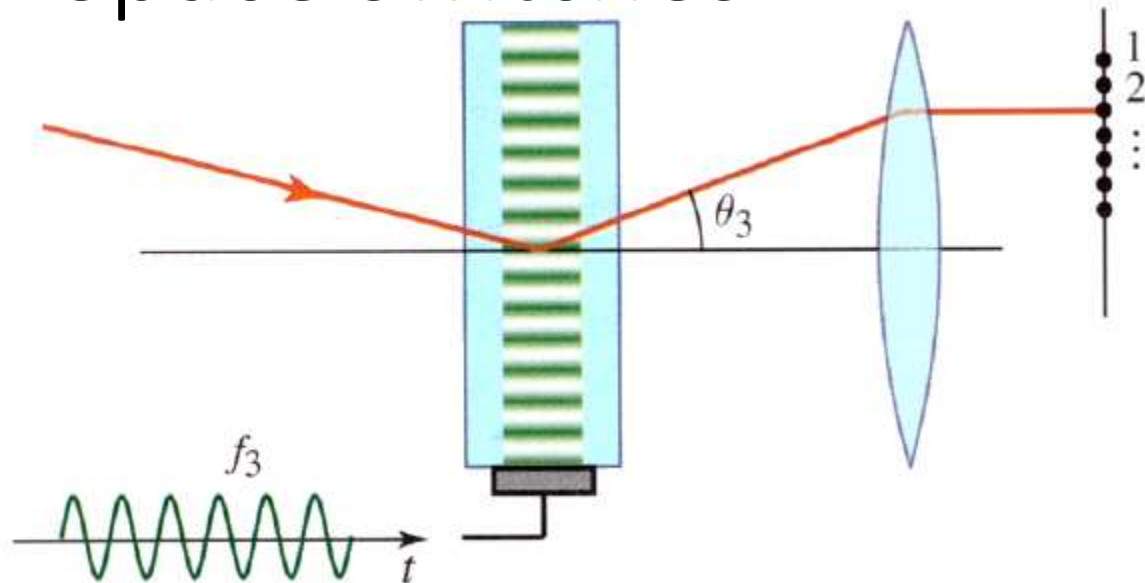
- $T$  is the transit time of sound across the waist of the light beam.
- It takes time  $T$  to change the amplitude of the sound wave at all points in the light-sound interaction region.
- The maximum rate of modulation is  $1/T$  Hz
- Beam width:  $D$

$$B = \frac{1}{T}, \quad T = \frac{D}{v_s}, \quad B = v_s \frac{\delta\theta}{\lambda} = \frac{v_s}{D},$$

# Spectrum analyzer



## Space switches

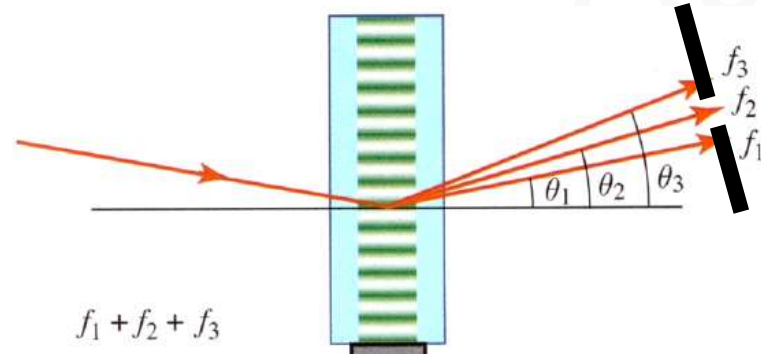
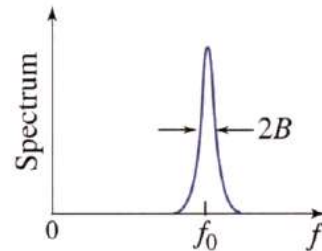
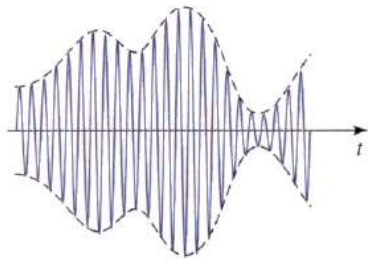


# Frequency shifters

$$r_{\pm} = \pm j r_0 \operatorname{sinc} \left[ (2k \sin \theta \mp q) \frac{L}{2\pi} \right] e^{\pm j \Omega t}$$

$$E_{\text{refl}} \propto E_{\text{in}} e^{\pm j \Omega t} = E_0 e^{j(\omega \pm \Omega)t}$$

## Tunable Acousto-Optic Filters



## Optical isolators

