Laboratory research №4.7.3 on «Polarization»

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Our aims in this work

- the observation of polarization phenomenon;
- studing the methods of getting a polarized light;
- looking at the aspects of polarization and some magic.

The experiment setup

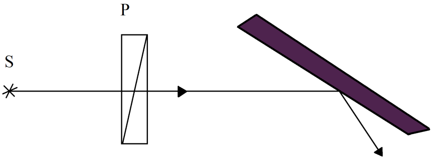

Figure 1: We put a polaroid P and a mirror (violet one) on the way of light.

Now we can make a rough estimation of polarization direction. And by adding the second polaroid we can also etimate it's polarization direction.

$$P_1 : \ -4^\circ$$

$$P_2 : 291^\circ$$

The experiment photos

Figure 2: With the mirror.

Figure 3: The second polaroid.

Theory behind the phenomenon

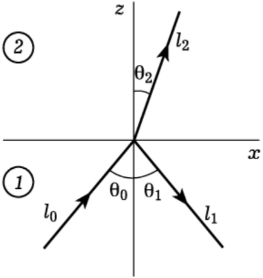

Figure 4: 0 stands for a in-going wave, 1 stands for a transmitted wave, 2 stand for a reflected wave.

The angular encounter of the light with a plane is described as

$$\begin{aligned} R_\perp &= \frac{sin^2(\theta_2 - \theta_0)}{\sin^2(\theta_2 + \theta_0)}, \\ R_\parallel &= \frac{\mathrm{tg}^2(\theta_2 - \theta_0)}{\mathrm{tg}^2(\theta_2 + \theta_0)}. \end{aligned} \tag{1}$$

The main formula

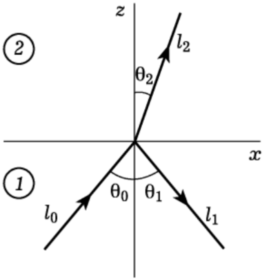

Figure 5: 0 stands for a in-going wave, 1 stands for a transmitted wave, 2 stand for a reflected wave.

An incredible aspect describes the $\theta_p = \theta_0$ wich gives $\theta_0 + \theta_2 = \pi/2$. With this and Snell's law we obtain:

$$\operatorname{tg} \theta_p = \sqrt{\frac{\varepsilon_2}{\varepsilon_1}} = n. \qquad (2)$$

Where θ_p is the angle of polarization or *Brewster's angle.*

Our measurements

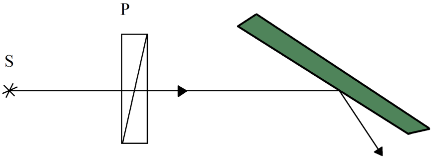

Figure 6: By rotating green ebonite plain we obtain several angles.

name	θ_p	$tg(\theta_p)$
K	240	1.73
E	237	1.54
K	237	1.54
E	238	1.60
K	236	1.48
E	239	1.66

The measurements were taken apart from each other.

Results

Figure 7: Do not repeat this with a laser beam!

The average refraction coefficient with the formula

$$\boxed{n = 1.59 \pm 0.04}$$

Is pretty close to the real $n_{\text{eb}} = 1.5 - 1.7$.

Observation of reflected and rejected light

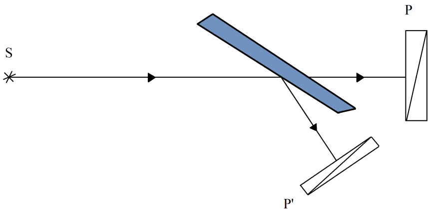

Figure 8: The beam goes right to the stack of glass (light blue) and then splits to two polaroids that we investigate before.

Here we have to observe the with the polaroids from previous observation the direction of vector E.

The polaroids were crossed when:

$$P_1 : 98^\circ$$

$$P_2 : 26^\circ$$

Results

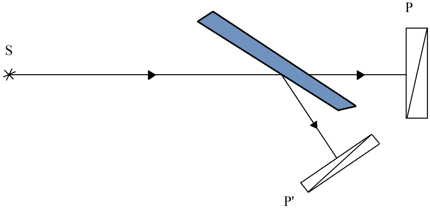

Figure 9: The beam goes right to the stack of glass (light blue) and then splits to two polaroids that we investigate before.

So as was expected the reflected and transmitted light had an orthogonal E.
The polaroids are crossed

$$P_1 : 98^\circ$$

$$P_2 : -265^\circ$$

Pleasant to look at results

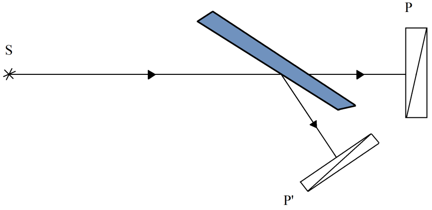

Figure 10: The beam goes right to the stack of glass (light blue) and then splits to two polaroids that we investigate before.

Now we synchronize them by adding the period (2π):

$$P_1 : 98^\circ$$
$$P_2 : 95^\circ$$

So the polaroids are again synchronized, as we expected it to be for transmitted and reflected light.

Experimental set up 1

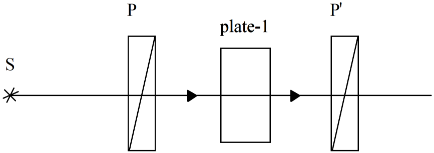

Figure 11: We add two crossed polaroids and the double refracting plate between them.

So, when the polarizations match we observe maximum, and otherwise minimum of intensity.

$$\text{max}: 227^\circ$$

$$\text{min}: 275^\circ$$

Experimental set up 2

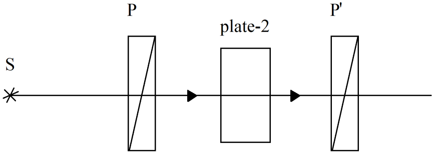

Figure 12: We add two crossed polaroids and the double refracting plate between them.

So, when the polarizations match we observe maximum, and otherwise minimum of intensity.

$$\max: 86^\circ$$
$$\min: 43^\circ$$

The crystal plate

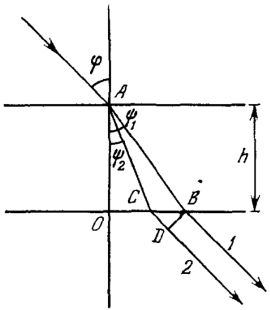

Figure 13: The crystal refract the beam differently.

Going through the crystal plate the light gains the phase difference of

$$\Delta = h(n_2 \cos\psi_2 - n_1 \cos\psi_1),$$

for different refraction coefficient and refracting angles that have a small difference, so

$$\Delta = h \cos\psi (n_2 - n_1).$$

Finding $\lambda/4$

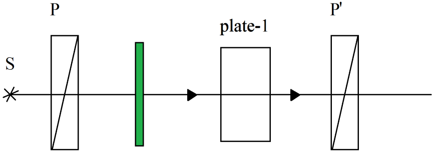

Figure 14: To the previous setup we add a green light-filter. And rotate the first polaraid so it is horizontal and the plate is angled as 45°.

By rotating the polaroid we obtain that plate-1 is $\lambda/4$, because it does not change the intensity, but it changes its polarization and creates phase difference $\pi/2$.

Finding $\lambda/2$

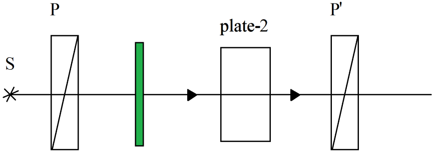

Figure 15: To the previous setup we add a green light-filter. And rotate the first polaraid so it is horizontal and the plate is angled as 45°.

By rotating the polaroid we obtain that plate-2 is $\lambda/2$, due to observing just fluctuating of its intensity. So no color changing here, no magical video then.

Adding λ-plate

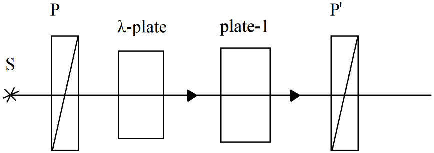

Figure 16: Now we remove green light-filter and add a plate with the arrow on it.

- with green filter and only arrow between we see no result in previous experiment.
- removing the filter with crossed polaroids we see that the arrow is purple.

$\Gamma N \Phi K A$

- with $\lambda/4$ plate added we can observe the color change when rotating the base of the arrow holder.

Investigating the cells

$3\lambda/4$	$\lambda/2$	$3\lambda/4$
$\lambda/4$		$\lambda/4$
λ	$3\lambda/4$	$\lambda/$

Conclusions and thoughts