#### Leibniz Institute for Solid State and Materials Research (IFW) Dresden, Germany



#### R. Schäfer

### THE EUROPEAN SCHOOL ON MAGNETISM









### Describes:

### Magneto-Optics

- The influence of magnetic field or spontaneous magnetization
  - on the emission and propagation
    - of light in matter









### Can be used for:

## Magneto-Optics

















#### Light control: Faraday rotator, isolator, modulator



## Magneto-Optics













### Can be used for:

#### Magnetometry and domain imaging









### Can be used for:



From: I. Soldatov, R.S., J. Appl. Phys. 122, 153906 (2017)



### Magneto-Optical effects (for domain imaging)



#### Kerr effect



From: W. Kuch, R.S., P. Fischer and U. Hillebrecht: Magnetic Microscopy of Layered Structures. Springer (2015)

#### **Reflection:**

#### Voigt & Gradient effect



#### Gradient effect



Iron sheet, (100) surface

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#### **Reflection:**

#### Voigt & Gradient effect



#### Gradient effect



Iron sheet, (100) surface

#### For reading:

### Magneto-Optical effects



Commonality of all those mo effects: they lead to transformation of linearly polarized light into rotated, elliptically polarized light in dependence on magnetization direction





### Light-matter interaction



### atter

- Absorption
- Diffraction
- Dispersion
- Birefringence
  - Dichroism
- Optical activity
- Magneto-optic interaction
  - etc.

#### Transmitted light



- 1. Optical Basics
  - 1.1 Electrodynamic Theory
  - 1.2 Polarized Light
- 2. Magneto-Optical Effects
  - 2.1 Dielectric Tensor
  - 2.2 Solutions
  - 2.3 Faraday Effect
  - 2.4 Kerr Effect
  - 2.5 Voigt Effect
  - 2.6 Gradient Effect
- 3. MOKE Magnetometry
- 4. Magneto-Optical Kerr Microscopy
- 5. MOIF Microscopy



#### Theoretical





# 1. Optical Basics



Light is a transverse electromagnetic wave



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#### Electrodynamic theory

Maxwell equa

 $\operatorname{div} \boldsymbol{D} = \nabla \cdot \boldsymbol{D} =$ 

 $\operatorname{div} \boldsymbol{B} = \nabla \cdot \boldsymbol{B} =$ 

 $\operatorname{rot} \boldsymbol{E} = \nabla \times \boldsymbol{E} =$ 

 $\operatorname{rot} \boldsymbol{H} = \nabla \times \boldsymbol{H}$ 

 $\nabla \times$  denotes curl operator

tions	Material equations
-ρ	$\boldsymbol{D} = \epsilon_0 \epsilon_{\mathrm{r}} \boldsymbol{E} = \epsilon_0 \boldsymbol{E} + \boldsymbol{P}$
= 0	$\boldsymbol{B} = \mu_0  \mu_{\rm r}  \boldsymbol{H} = \mu_0  (\boldsymbol{H} + \boldsymbol{M})$
= – <b>B</b>	$\boldsymbol{j} = \sigma \boldsymbol{E}$
$= j + \dot{D}$	

- $\nabla$  denotes 3-dimensional gradient operator,
- $\nabla \cdot$  denotes divergence operator,

- *E* : electric field
- **D** : displacement field
- *H* : magnetic field
- **B** : magnetic induction
- *M* : magnetization
- *P* : electric polarization
- *j* : electric current density
- $\rho$  : electric charge density
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tions	Material equations
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= 0	$\boldsymbol{B} = \mu_0  \mu_{\rm r}  \boldsymbol{H} = \mu_0  (\boldsymbol{H} + \boldsymbol{M})$
$=-\dot{B}$	$\boldsymbol{j} = \sigma \boldsymbol{E}$
$= i + \dot{D}$	

Assumption: Electrically neutral media, i.e.  $\rho(\mathbf{r},t) = 0$ 

- *E* : electric field
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- $\omega$ : angular frequency =  $2\pi f$







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Wave equation

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= ()	$\boldsymbol{B} = \mu_0  \mu_{\rm r}  \boldsymbol{H} = \mu_0  (\boldsymbol{H} + \boldsymbol{M})$
$=-\dot{B}$	$\boldsymbol{j} = \sigma \boldsymbol{E}$
$= i + \dot{D}$	

Assumption: Electrically neutral media, i.e.  $\rho(\mathbf{r},t) = 0$ 

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Plane-wave solution (harmonic in time and space)







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#### Electrodynamic theory

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Wave equation

Plane-wave solution (harmonic in time and space)

 $\exp(i\theta) = \cos\theta + i\sin\theta$ 







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#### **Electrodynamic theory**

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$$\nabla \times (\nabla \times B) = \mu$$
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$$\Downarrow$$
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$$\mu_0 \mu_r \nabla \times (\nabla \times H) = \mu_0 \mu_r \left[ \sigma(\nabla \times E) + \epsilon_0 \epsilon_r \frac{\partial}{\partial t} (\nabla \times E) \right]$$

#### B

$$\left(\sigma \frac{\partial \boldsymbol{B}}{\partial t} + \epsilon_0 \epsilon_r \frac{\partial^2 \boldsymbol{B}}{\partial t^2}\right) \implies \boldsymbol{B}(\boldsymbol{r}, t) = \boldsymbol{B}^0 \exp[i(\boldsymbol{k} \cdot \boldsymbol{r} - \boldsymbol{\omega} t)]$$







$$\nabla \times E = -\dot{B} \implies k \times E = \omega B \implies E \perp B$$

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$$\nabla \times (\nabla \times B) = \mu$$

$$\nabla (\nabla \cdot B) - \nabla^2$$

$$\downarrow$$

$$\nabla^2 B = -\mu_0 \mu_r$$

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Differential operators  $\Longrightarrow$  algebraic fcts:  $\nabla \cdot \Longrightarrow i k \cdot ; \nabla \times \Longrightarrow i k \times ; \frac{\partial}{\partial t} \Longrightarrow - i \omega$ 

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#### Electrodynamic theory

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Assumptions: isotropic medium and  $\rho(\mathbf{r},t) = 0$ 

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$$\nabla \times (\nabla \times E) = \nabla \times (-B) = -\mu_0 \mu_r (\nabla \times H) =$$

$$\nabla (\nabla \cdot E) - \nabla^2 E$$

$$\downarrow$$

$$\nabla^2 E = -\mu_0 \mu_r \left(\sigma \frac{\partial E}{\partial t} + \epsilon_0 \epsilon_r \frac{\partial^2 E}{\partial t^2}\right)$$

$$\downarrow$$

$$(k \cdot k) E = \mu_0 \mu_r \left(i\sigma \omega E + \epsilon_0 \epsilon_r \omega^2 E\right)$$

$$\boxed{k^2 = \mu_0 \mu_r \epsilon_0 (\epsilon_r + \frac{i\sigma}{\epsilon_0 \omega}) \omega^2}$$

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Assumptions: isotropic medium and  $\rho(\mathbf{r},t) = 0$ 

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#### Dispersion relation

(with 
$$|k| = \frac{2\pi}{\lambda}$$









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$$\nabla \times (\nabla \times E) = \nabla \times (-B) = -\mu_0 \mu_r (\nabla \times H) = -\mu_0 \mu_r \frac{\partial}{\partial t} (J + D)$$

$$\mu_0 : \text{ permeability of free space}$$

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$$k : \text{ propagation vector}$$

$$\omega : \text{ angular frequency} = 2\pi f$$

$$(k \cdot k)E = \mu_0 \mu_r (i\sigma \omega E + \epsilon_0 \epsilon_r \omega^2 E)$$

$$k^2 = \mu_0 \mu_r \epsilon_0 (\epsilon_r + \frac{i\sigma}{\epsilon_0 \omega}) \omega^2$$

$$\widetilde{\epsilon_r} \quad \text{effective permittivity, is complex in case of metals}$$

#### Electrodynamic theory

ations	Material equations
$=\rho$	$\boldsymbol{D} = \epsilon_0 \epsilon_{\mathrm{r}} \boldsymbol{E} = \epsilon_0 \boldsymbol{E} + \boldsymbol{P}$
= ()	$\boldsymbol{B} = \mu_0  \mu_{\rm r}  \boldsymbol{H} = \mu_0  (\boldsymbol{H} + \boldsymbol{M})$
$=-\dot{B}$	$j = \sigma E$
$= i + \dot{D}$	

Assumptions: isotropic medium and  $\rho(\mathbf{r},t) = 0$ 

$$\nabla \times (-\dot{B}) = -\mu_0 \mu_r (\nabla \times \dot{H}) = -\mu_0 \mu_r \frac{\partial}{\partial t} (j + \dot{D})$$
  
E

- *E* : electric field
- **D** : displacement field
- *H* : magnetic field
- **B** : magnetic induction
- *M* : magnetization
- *P*: electric polarization
- *j* : electric current density
- $\rho$  : electric charge density
- $\sigma$ : electric conductivity
- $\epsilon_{\rm r}$ : relative electr. permittivity
- $\epsilon_0$ : electr. permitt. of free space
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Differential operators  $\Longrightarrow$  algebraic fcts:  $\nabla \cdot \Longrightarrow i k \cdot ; \nabla \times \Longrightarrow i k \times ; \frac{\partial}{\partial t} \Longrightarrow - i \omega$ 

Maxwell equa

 $\operatorname{div} \boldsymbol{D} = \nabla \boldsymbol{\cdot} \boldsymbol{D} =$ 

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 $\operatorname{rot} \boldsymbol{E} = \nabla \times \boldsymbol{E}$ 

 $\operatorname{rot} H = \nabla \times H = j + D$ 

$$\bigvee \times (\bigvee \times E) = \bigvee$$
$$\bigvee \times (\bigvee \times E) = \bigvee$$
$$\bigvee$$
$$\bigvee$$
$$\bigvee$$
$$\bigvee$$
$$\bigvee$$
$$\bigvee$$
$$\nabla^{2}E = -\mu_{0}\mu_{r} (\bigvee$$
$$\bigcup$$
$$(k \cdot k)E =$$

 $k^{2} =$ 

#### Electrodynamic theory

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-2 - -

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 $\mu_0 \mu_r (i \sigma \omega E + \epsilon_0 \epsilon_r \omega^2 E)$ Dispersion relation (with  $|k| = \frac{2\pi}{\lambda}$ )  $\mathbf{k}^{2} = \mu_{0}\mu_{r}\epsilon_{0}(\epsilon_{r} + \frac{i\sigma}{\epsilon_{0}\omega})\omega^{2}$  $\widetilde{\epsilon_{\mathrm{r}}}$ effective permittivity, is complex in case of metals

 $\widetilde{k} = k' + ik''$  wave vector is complex for metals







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Refraction index n:

Vacuum: |k

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$= \mathbf{j} + \mathbf{\dot{D}}$	

Assumptions: isotropic medium and  $\rho(\mathbf{r},t) = 0$ 

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$$m{k} = k_0 = \frac{\omega}{c_0}$$
, with  $c_0 = \frac{1}{\sqrt{\epsilon_0 \mu_0}}$   
 $m{k}^2 = \mu_0 \mu_r \epsilon_0 \widetilde{\epsilon_r} \, \omega^2$ 

**Dispersion** relation

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- **k** : propagation vector
- $\omega$ : angular frequency =  $2\pi f$

 $c_0$ : speed of light in vacuum

- v : speed of light in medium
- *n* : refraction index






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 $\widetilde{k} = k' + ik''$  wave vector is complex for metals

$$|k| = k_0 = \frac{\omega}{c_0}$$
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Refraction index n:

Vacuum: |k

Matter: | *k* 

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$$\begin{aligned} \dot{x} &= k_0 = \frac{\omega}{c_0} , \text{ with } c_0 = \frac{1}{\sqrt{\epsilon_0 \mu_0}} \\ \dot{x} &= n k_0 = \frac{\omega}{\upsilon} , \text{ with } \upsilon = \frac{1}{\sqrt{\epsilon_0 \widetilde{\epsilon_r} \mu_0 \widetilde{\mu_r}}} \\ \Rightarrow n = \frac{c_0}{\upsilon} = \frac{\sqrt{\epsilon_0 \widetilde{\epsilon_r} \mu_0 \widetilde{\mu_r}}}{\sqrt{\epsilon_0 \mu_0}} = \sqrt{\widetilde{\epsilon_r} \widetilde{\mu_r}} \end{aligned}$$

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### Electrodynamic theory

 $\widetilde{n} = n' + in''$  refractive index is complex for metals

*n*': true refraction index *n*": extinction coefficient

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Electrodynamic theory  $\widetilde{n} = n' + in''$  refractive index is complex for metals  $E = E^0 e^{i(k \cdot z - \omega t)}$  plane wave in z-direction  $\iint k_0 = \frac{\omega}{c_0}$  $\boldsymbol{E} = \boldsymbol{E}^0 \mathrm{e}^{\mathrm{i}\left[\frac{\omega}{c_0}\right]} ($ 

*n*': true refraction index *n*'': extinction coefficient

and 
$$|\widetilde{k}| = nk_0 = \frac{\omega}{\upsilon}$$

$$(n'+in'')z-\omega t] = E^0 e^{-\frac{\omega}{c_0}n'z} e^{i\left[\frac{\omega}{c_0}n'z-\omega t\right]}$$

amplitude, is exponentially attenuated as wave progresses in conductor

wave advances in z-direction with speed  $c_0/n'$  as if n'were usual index of refraction

energy of wave is absorbed in case of conductive medium





Electrodynamic theory  $\widetilde{n} = n' + in''$  refractive index is complex for metals  $E = E^0 e^{i(k \cdot z - \omega t)}$  plane wave in z-direction  $k_0 = \frac{\omega}{c_0}$  $\boldsymbol{E} = \boldsymbol{E}^0 \mathrm{e}^{\mathrm{i}\left[\frac{\omega}{c_0}\right]} ($ 

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(remember: 
$$k^2 = \mu_0 \mu_r \epsilon_0 (\epsilon_r + \underbrace{i\sigma}_{\epsilon_0 \omega}) \omega^2$$
 Dispersion relation  
 $\widetilde{\epsilon_r}$   
 $\widetilde{n} = \frac{c_0}{v} = \sqrt{\widetilde{\epsilon_r} \widetilde{\mu_r}} = n' + in''$ 







$$\widetilde{n} = n' + in''$$

$$\boldsymbol{E} = \boldsymbol{E}^0 \mathrm{e}^{\mathrm{i}(\boldsymbol{k} \cdot \boldsymbol{z})}$$

$$\downarrow k_0 = \frac{\omega}{c_0}$$

$$\boldsymbol{E} = \boldsymbol{E}^{0} e^{i\left[\frac{\omega}{c_{0}}(n'+in'')z-\omega t\right]} = \boldsymbol{E}^{0} e^{-\frac{\omega}{c_{0}}n'z} e^{i\left[\frac{\omega}{c_{0}}n'z-\omega t\right]}$$

Irradiance:

### Electrodynamic theory

refractive index is complex for metals

*n*': true refraction index *n*'': extinction coefficient

 $z - \omega t$ ) plane wave in z-direction

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$$(r) = \text{amplitude}^2 = I_0 e^{-\alpha z}$$
 with  $\alpha = \frac{2\omega n''}{c_0}$  absorption coef

Power of electromagnetic radiation (radiative flux)







$$\widetilde{n} = n' + in''$$

$$\boldsymbol{E} = \boldsymbol{E}^0 \mathrm{e}^{\mathrm{i}(\boldsymbol{k} \cdot \boldsymbol{z})}$$

$$\downarrow k_0 = \frac{\omega}{c_0}$$

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Irradiance: 
$$I(r) = \text{amplitude}^2 = I_0 e^{-\alpha z}$$
 with  $\alpha = \frac{2\omega n''}{c_0}$  absorption coef  
 $\implies$  radiative flux drops by factor  $e^{-1} = 1/3$   
after wave has propagated distance of  $1/\alpha$ 

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refractive index is complex for metals

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 $z - \omega t$ ) plane wave in z-direction

and 
$$|\widetilde{k}| = nk_0 = \frac{\omega}{v}$$

amplitude, is exponentially attenuated as wave progresses in conductor

wave advances in z-direction with speed  $c_0/n'$  as if n' were usual index of refraction

energy of wave is absorbed in case of conductive medium

penetration depth or skin depth, around 40 nm











### Electrodynamic theory

### 1) Conventional Magnet-Optics: Visible light

Frequency of visible light (~ 500 THz) >> Larmor frequency (~ 100 GHz)

⇒ Magnetic moments cannot follow the alternating magnetic field of light wave

 $\implies \mu_r \approx 1$  , only electric field component relevant

$$\epsilon_0 \widetilde{\epsilon_r} E$$
 is relevant (not **B** =  $\mu_0 \mu_r H$ )

Nonetheless, all magnetic information is acounted for (see later)





M



## Electrodynamic theory

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$$\widetilde{\epsilon_0} \widetilde{\epsilon_r} E$$
 is relevant (not  $B = \mu_0 \mu_r H$ )

Nonetheless, all magnetic information is acounted for (see later)

 $\implies$  D (= elect. field in material) must not be in direction of incoming E

 $\omega_b$ 









$$\widetilde{\epsilon_{r}}E$$
 is relevant (not **B** =  $\mu_{0}\mu_{r}H$ )











### Electrodynamic theory

• Light is transverse electromagnetic wave, described by oscillating electric and magnetic fields







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• Light is transverse electromagnetic wave, described by oscillating electric and magnetic fields

• Electric field acts much stronger with matter  $\implies$  polarization direction of light wave is conventionally described by its Evector or by its D-vector in case of anisotropic media

• All relations, derived by electrodynmaic theory, are valid for both, transparent (dielectric) media as well as absorbing (conductive) materials

 Conductivity is simply taken into account by introducing complex dielectric constant and refraction index

• Due to transverse nature: variation of E-vector is confined to plane perpendicular to  $k \implies$  express wave in 2D-basis with x-and y-directions as unit vectors ...









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• All relations, derived by electrodynmaic theory, are valid for both, transparent (dielectric) media as well as absorbing (conductive) materials

 Conductivity is simply taken into account by introducing complex dielectric constant and refraction index

• Due to transverse nature: variation of E-vector is confined to plane perpendicular to  $k \implies$  express wave in 2D-basis with x-and y-directions as unit vectors ...



















**Polarized light (general)**  

$$E_j(z,t) = \operatorname{Re}(e_j E_j^0 \exp[i(k_z z - \omega t)]) j$$
  
with  $E_j^0 = E_j^{\max} \exp[i\delta_j]) e_x, e_y$ : unit along z

 $\delta_i$ : phase retardations Representation by Jones vector:

$$\mathbf{J} = \begin{bmatrix} E_x \\ E_y \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} |E_x^{\max}| \mathbf{e}^{\mathbf{i} \delta_x} \\ |E_y^{\max}| \mathbf{e}^{\mathbf{i} \delta_y} \end{bmatrix} \exp[\mathbf{i}(\mathbf{k}_z z - \omega t)]$$

### Linear polarization

$$E_x^{\max} = E_y^{\max} = E_0$$

$$\delta_x = \delta_y$$

$$I_{45} = E_0 e^{4X \partial_x} \begin{bmatrix} 1\\1 \end{bmatrix}$$

After proper normalization:

$$\mathbf{I}_{45} = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} \begin{bmatrix} 1\\1 \end{bmatrix}$$



 $= \{x, y\}$ vectors x- and y



**Polarized light (general)**  

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### **Circular polarization**

$$E_x \stackrel{\text{max}}{=} = E_y \stackrel{\text{max}}{=} = E_0$$
  
*E*-component leads *x*-component  
by 90°:  $\delta_y = \delta_x - \pi/2$ 

$$\mathbf{V}_{\mathbf{R}} \stackrel{E}{=} {}^{\mathbf{X}} E_0 \, \mathbf{e}^{\mathbf{i} \, \delta_x} \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ \mathbf{e}^{-\mathbf{i} \, \pi/2} \end{bmatrix}$$

After normalization:

$$\mathbf{J}_{\mathbf{R}} = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} \mathbf{E} \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ -i \end{bmatrix} \frac{\mathbf{Right}}{\mathbf{circular light}}$$







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### Polarized light (general)

 $E_{\rm x}^{\rm max}$ 

 $E_{\rm y}^{\rm max}$ 

$$E_{j}(z,t) = \operatorname{Re}\left(e_{j}E_{j}^{0}\exp\left[i(k_{z}z-\omega t)\right]\right) \qquad j$$
  
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### Special cases:

### **Circular polarization**

$$E_x^{\max} = E_y^{\max} = E_0$$
  
E-component leads x-component  
by 90°:  $\delta_y = \delta_x - \pi/2$   
E =  $\sum_{x \to \infty} \left[ -\frac{1}{2} \right]$ 

$$\mathbf{J}_{\mathbf{R}} \stackrel{E}{=} {}^{\mathbf{X}} E_0 \, \mathbf{e}^{\mathbf{i} \, \delta_x} \left[ \begin{array}{c} \mathbf{I} \\ \mathbf{e}^{-\mathbf{i} \, \pi/2} \end{array} \right]$$

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$$\mathbf{J}_{\mathbf{R}} = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} \mathbf{E} \begin{bmatrix} 1\\ -i \end{bmatrix} \frac{\mathbf{Right}}{\mathbf{circular light}}$$







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Equal amplitude and equal phase:

 $\implies$  linearly polarized wave along x-axis

## 1. Optical Basics - 1.2 Polarized Light





Equal amplitude, but different phase:  $\implies$  linearly polarized wave along tilted axis

Phase difference: caused by different refraction indices for partial waves  $\implies$  different velocities

In general, a material that displays two different indices of refraction is said to be **birefringent** 







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commons.wikimedia.org/ wiki/File:Optical-rotation.svg

### **Optical activity**

On traveling through material: continuous increase of rotation —











Same phase, but different amplitude:

 $\implies$  elliptically polarized wave along x-axis

Amplitude difference:

caused by different absorption of circular partial waves In general, a material that displays different absorption of partial waves is said to be dichroic

## 1. Optical Basics - 1.2 Polarized Light





Different phase and different amplitude:  $\implies$  rotated elliptically polarized wave

 $\implies$  dichroism and birefringence



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### Components for magneto-optical experiment



25

### Components for magneto-optical experiment



### Components for magneto-optical experiment




#### Linear polarizer:

#### Example: wire-grid polarizer



- grid of parallel conducting wires
- resolve E-field into 2 orthogonal components ( $\parallel$  and  $\perp$  to wires)
- $E_v$  drives conduction electrons along wire length  $\implies E_v$ -component is reflected back
- little electron motion along  $E_x \Longrightarrow E_x$  is unaltered and goes trough  $\implies$  Transmission axis  $\perp$  to wires
- Similar principle for Absorptive Polarizers (stretched plastic foils with aligned molecule chains)

### 1. Optical Basics - 1.2 Polarized Light





#### like polarizer



Malus' law:  $I(\Theta) = I(\Theta) \cos^2 \Theta$ 

### 1. Optical Basics - 1.2 Polarized Light





### 1. Optical Basics - 1.2 Polarized Light



Slow axis



### 1. Optical Basics - 1.2 Polarized Light



#### Example: Quarter-wave plate

- birefringent, uniaxial crystal (like guartz, mica)
- incident light is decomposed into 2 rays that are mutually perpendicularly polarized (ordinary and extra-ordinary rays)
- both rays feel different refraction indices  $\implies$  fast and slow axes
- retardation  $R(\Theta) = \frac{\pi}{2} \sin(2\Theta)$
- example:  $\Theta = 45^{\circ} \Longrightarrow R(\Theta) = 90^{\circ} \Longrightarrow$  circular light
- inversely: any phase shift can be linearized or otherwise adjusted







Analyser: COS  $\Gamma_{an} =$ 

### 1. Optical Basics - 1.2 Polarized Light

#### Description by Jones matrix algebra

ave plate:  

$$os(-\alpha_{comp}) \quad sin(-\alpha_{comp}) \\ sin(-\alpha_{comp}) \quad cos(-\alpha_{comp}) \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} e^{-\frac{i\pi}{4}} & 0 \\ 0 & e^{+\frac{i\pi}{4}} \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} cos\alpha_{comp} & sin\alpha_{comp} \\ -sin\alpha_{comp} & cos\alpha_{comp} \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} cos\alpha_{comp} & sin\alpha_{comp} \\ 0 & e^{+\frac{i\pi}{4}} \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} cos\alpha_{comp} & sin\alpha_{comp} \\ -sin\alpha_{comp} & cos\alpha_{comp} \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} cos\alpha_{comp} & sin\alpha_{comp} \\ 0 & e^{+\frac{i\pi}{4}} \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} cos\alpha_{comp} & sin\alpha_{comp} \\ -sin\alpha_{comp} & cos\alpha_{comp} \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} cos\alpha_{comp} & sin\alpha_{comp} \\ 0 & e^{+\frac{i\pi}{4}} \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} cos\alpha_{comp} & sin\alpha_{comp} \\ -sin\alpha_{comp} & cos\alpha_{comp} \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} cos\alpha_{comp} & sin\alpha_{comp} \\ -sin\alpha_{comp} & cos\alpha_{comp} \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} cos\alpha_{comp} & sin\alpha_{comp} \\ 0 & e^{+\frac{i\pi}{4}} \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} cos\alpha_{comp} & sin\alpha_{comp} \\ -sin\alpha_{comp} & cos\alpha_{comp} \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} cos\alpha_{comp} & sin\alpha_{comp} \\ -sin\alpha_{comp} & cos\alpha_{comp} \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} cos\alpha_{comp} & sin\alpha_{comp} \\ -sin\alpha_{comp} & cos\alpha_{comp} \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} cos\alpha_{comp} & sin\alpha_{comp} \\ -sin\alpha_{comp} & cos\alpha_{comp} \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} cos\alpha_{comp} & sin\alpha_{comp} \\ -sin\alpha_{comp} & cos\alpha_{comp} \\ -sin\alpha_{comp} & cos\alpha_{comp} \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} cos\alpha_{comp} & sin\alpha_{comp} \\ -sin\alpha_{comp} & cos\alpha_{comp} \\ -sin\alpha_{comp} & cos\alpha_{comp} \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} cos\alpha_{comp} & sin\alpha_{comp} \\ -sin\alpha_{comp} & cos\alpha_{comp} \\$$

of relation plate

transformation back to xy-coordinates

$$\begin{pmatrix} \alpha_{ap} & -\sin\alpha_{ap} \\ \alpha_{ap} & \cos\alpha_{ap} \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} \cos\alpha_{ap} & \sin\alpha_{ap} \\ -\sin\alpha_{ap} & \cos\alpha_{ap} \end{pmatrix}$$













































### Description by Jones matrix algebra















(strongly exaggerated)

#### Description by Jones matrix algebra



 $\alpha_{\rm comp} = 90^{\circ} + \Theta$ 











Jones matrixes for reflection and transmission  $\begin{pmatrix} E_{\rm x}^{\rm refl} \\ E_{\rm y}^{\rm refl} \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} r_{\rm xx} & r_{\rm xy} \\ r_{\rm yx} & r_{\rm yy} \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} E_{\rm x}^{\rm in} \\ E_{\rm y}^{\rm in} \end{pmatrix} ; \quad \begin{pmatrix} E_{\rm x}^{\rm trans} \\ E_{\rm y}^{\rm trans} \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} t_{\rm xx} & t_{\rm xy} \\ t_{\rm yx} & t_{\rm yy} \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} E_{\rm x}^{\rm in} \\ E_{\rm y}^{\rm in} \end{pmatrix} ;$ out







Jones matrixes for reflection and transmission

$$\begin{pmatrix} E_{x}^{\text{refl}} \\ E_{y}^{\text{refl}} \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} r_{xx} & r_{xy} \\ r_{yx} & r_{yy} \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} E_{x}^{\text{in}} \\ E_{y}^{\text{in}} \end{pmatrix} ; \quad \begin{pmatrix} E_{x}^{\text{trans}} \\ E_{y}^{\text{trans}} \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} t_{xx} & t_{xy} \\ t_{yx} & t_{yy} \end{pmatrix}$$

Example: incident wave, polarized along x

$$\begin{pmatrix} E_{x}^{\text{refl}} \\ E_{y}^{\text{refl}} \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} r_{xx} & r_{xy} \\ r_{yx} & r_{yy} \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} E_{x}^{\text{in}} \\ 0 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} r_{xx} & E_{x}^{\text{in}} \\ r_{yx} & E_{x}^{\text{in}} \end{pmatrix}$$

If  $r_{yx} = 0$ :  $\implies$  Reflected wave is polarized along incident wave

If  $r_{yx} \neq 0$ :  $\Longrightarrow E_y^{\text{refl}} \neq 0$  $\implies$  Reflected wave is rotated







Jones matrixes for reflection and transmission

$$\begin{pmatrix} E_{x}^{\text{refl}} \\ E_{y}^{\text{refl}} \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} r_{xx} & r_{xy} \\ r_{yx} & r_{yy} \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} E_{x}^{\text{in}} \\ E_{y}^{\text{in}} \end{pmatrix}; \qquad \begin{pmatrix} E_{x}^{\text{trans}} \\ E_{y}^{\text{trans}} \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} t_{xx} & t_{xy} \\ t_{yx} & t_{yy} \end{pmatrix}$$
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Jones matrixes for reflection and transmission

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(s)-polarization



















# 1. Optical Basics

All material-specific properties of light propagation (including absorption, dispersion, optical anisotropy and optical activity,

### $D = \epsilon E$

```
Summary:
```

```
Maxwell and material equations
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General wave equation,
solutions of which describe propagable light waves in medium
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as well as the magneto-optical effects)
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are completely included in the complex dielectric \epsilon-tensor
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### $D = \epsilon E$

- All material-specific properties of light propagation (including absorption, dispersion, optical anisotropy and optical activity, as well as the magneto-optical effects) are completely included in the complex dielectric  $\epsilon$ -tensor
- General wave equation, solutions of which describe propagable light waves in medium
- Maxwell and material equations

#### Summary:



# 2 Magneto-Optical Effects

### $D = \epsilon E$



For materials with cubic crystal symmetry:

$$\boldsymbol{\epsilon} = \epsilon_{\rm iso} \begin{pmatrix} 1 & -\mathrm{i}Q_{\rm V}m_3 & \mathrm{i}Q_{\rm V}m_2 \\ \mathrm{i}Q_{\rm V}m_3 & 1 & -\mathrm{i}Q_{\rm V}m_1 \\ -\mathrm{i}Q_{\rm V}m_2 & \mathrm{i}Q_{\rm V}m_1 & 1 \end{pmatrix}$$

Faraday and Kerr effects

 $Q_V$  and  $B_i$ : complex (i.e.  $Q_V = Q'_V + iQ''_V$  etc.) and frequency-dependent parameters

#### $D = \epsilon E$

 $+ \begin{pmatrix} B_1 m_1^2 & B_2 m_1 m_2 & B_2 m_1 m_3 \\ B_2 m_1 m_2 & B_1 m_2^2 & B_2 m_2 m_3 \\ B_2 m_1 m_3 & B_2 m_2 m_3 & B_1 m_3^2 \end{pmatrix}$ 

(Intrinsic) Voigt effect



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Faraday and Kerr effects

 $Q_V$  and  $B_i$ : complex (i.e.  $Q_V = Q'_V + iQ''_V$  etc.) and frequency-dependent parameters

Assumption: no magneto-optical effects ( $B_i = Q_V = 0$ , or m = 0)

$$\epsilon = \epsilon_{\rm iso} \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix}$$

#### $D = \epsilon E$

 $+ \begin{pmatrix} B_1 m_1^2 & B_2 m_1 m_2 & B_2 m_1 m_3 \\ B_2 m_1 m_2 & B_1 m_2^2 & B_2 m_2 m_3 \\ B_2 m_1 m_3 & B_2 m_2 m_3 & B_1 m_3^2 \end{pmatrix}$ (Intrinsic) Voigt effect

$$\implies \begin{pmatrix} D_{\rm x} \\ D_{\rm y} \\ D_{\rm z} \end{pmatrix} = \epsilon_{\rm iso} \begin{pmatrix} E_{\rm x} \\ E_{\rm y} \\ E_{\rm z} \end{pmatrix}$$



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Faraday and Kerr effects

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$$\epsilon = \epsilon_{iso} \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix}$$

⇒ magneto-optical effects (rotation and ellipticity) require off-diagonal elements

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Wave equation:  $-\nabla^2 E + \mu_0 \mu (\sigma \frac{\partial E}{\partial t} + \epsilon_0 \epsilon \frac{\partial^2 E}{\partial t^2}) = 0$ 





Wave equation:  $-\nabla^2 E + \mu_0 \mu (\sigma \frac{\partial E}{\partial t} + \epsilon_0 \epsilon \frac{\partial^2 E}{\partial t^2}) = 0$  $\parallel$  with  $\nabla \cdot \Rightarrow \mathrm{i} \boldsymbol{k} \cdot$ ,  $-\widetilde{m{k}}^2m{E} + \mu_0\epsilon_0m{\mu}\,\omega^2\,\widetilde{m{\epsilon}}\,m{E} = 0$  with  $m{\epsilon} + \mathrm{i}m{\sigma}/(\epsilon_0\omega) = \widetilde{m{\epsilon}}$ 

$$\nabla \times \Rightarrow \mathrm{i} \mathbf{k} \times$$
,  $\frac{\partial}{\partial t} \Rightarrow -\mathrm{i} \omega$ 



lations for 3 vector components  $E_{i}$ 

 $= \widetilde{\epsilon}$ 





Wave equation:  $-\nabla^2 E + \mu_0 \mu (\sigma \frac{\partial E}{\partial t} + \epsilon_0 \epsilon \frac{\partial^2 E}{\partial t^2}) = 0$ with  $\nabla \cdot \Rightarrow \mathrm{i} k \cdot$ ,  $-\widetilde{m{k}}^2m{E} + \mu_0\epsilon_0m{\mu}\,\omega^2\,\widetilde{m{\epsilon}}\,m{E} = 0$  with  $m{\epsilon} + \mathrm{i}m{\sigma}/(\epsilon_0\omega) = \widetilde{m{\epsilon}}$  $\Downarrow$  with  $\mu=1$  $-\widetilde{\boldsymbol{k}}^2 E_{\mathbf{i}} + \sum_{j=1}^3 k_0^2 \,\widetilde{\epsilon}_{\mathbf{ij}} \, E_{\mathbf{j}} = 0$ 

$$\nabla \times \Rightarrow \mathrm{i} \mathbf{k} \times$$
,  $\frac{\partial}{\partial t} \Rightarrow -\mathrm{i} \omega$ 



Wave equation:

$$-\widetilde{\boldsymbol{k}}^2 E_{\mathbf{i}} + \sum_{j=1}^3 k_0^2 \,\widetilde{\epsilon}_{\mathbf{ij}} \, E_{\mathbf{j}} = 0$$



Wave equation: 
$$-\widetilde{k}^2 E_{\rm i} + \sum_{j=1}^3 k_0^2 \,\widetilde{\epsilon}_{\rm ij} \, E_{\rm j} = 0$$

Assumption: light incidence, m and surface normal || z-axis

$$m_3\,=\,m_{
m z}\,=\,|oldsymbol{m}|\,=\,1$$
 and  $k_3\,=\,$ 



=  $k_{\mathrm{z}}$  =  $|\boldsymbol{k}|$ 



Wave equation: 
$$-\widetilde{k}^2 E_{\rm i} + \sum_{j=1}^3 k_0^2 \,\widetilde{\epsilon}_{\rm ij} \, E_{\rm j} = 0$$

Assumption: light incidence, m and surface normal || z-axis



Wave equation: 
$$-\widetilde{k}^2 E_{\rm i} + \sum_{j=1}^3 k_0^2 \,\widetilde{\epsilon}_{\rm ij} \, E_{\rm j} = 0$$

Assumption: light incidence, m and surface normal || z-axis



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#### ninant of coefficient matrix vanishes

 $(\epsilon_{iso} + B_1)[(\epsilon_{iso} - k_z^2/k_0^2)^2 - (Q_V \epsilon_{iso})^2] = 0$  (characteristic equation for  $k_z$ )

Wave equation: 
$$-\widetilde{k}^2 E_{\rm i} + \sum_{j=1}^3 k_0^2 \widetilde{\epsilon}_{\rm ij} E_{\rm j} = 0$$

Assumption: light incidence, m and surface normal || z-axis (polar effect)



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#### ninant of coefficient matrix vanishes

 $(\epsilon_{iso} + B_1)[(\epsilon_{iso} - k_z^2/k_0^2)^2 - (Q_V \epsilon_{iso})^2] = 0$  (characteristic equation for  $k_z$ )

- $\cdot E_{z} = 0$
- $\cdot E_z = 0$
- = 0

- polar effect  $\int k$  $y \xrightarrow{x}$
- ninant of coefficient matrix vanishes
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- polar effect  $\int k$  $\begin{array}{c} \mathcal{Y} \textcircled{\bullet}_{\mathcal{X}} \\ \downarrow_{\mathcal{Z}} \end{array}$
- ninant of coefficient matrix vanishes
- $|_{iso})^2| = 0$  (characteristic equation for  $k_z$ )

e (eigenmodes):


polar effect 
$$\bigvee$$
  
 $y \xrightarrow{x} \qquad \bigvee$ 

nishes

ation for  $k_z$ )



polar effect 
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 $y \xrightarrow{x} \qquad \bigvee$ 

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$$\begin{aligned} &(k_0^2 \epsilon_{iso} - k_z^2) E_x - k_0^2 \epsilon_{iso} i Q_V E_y + 0 \cdot E_z = 0 \\ &k_0^2 \epsilon_{iso} i Q_V E_x + (k_0^2 \epsilon_{iso} - k_z^2) E_y + 0 \cdot E_z = 0 \\ &0 \cdot E_x + 0 \cdot E_y + (k_0^2 \epsilon_{iso} + B_1) E_z = 0 \\ && & & & \\ & & & & \\ & & & & \\$$

polar effect 
$$\bigvee$$

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 $E_{\rm y} = \pm i E_{\rm x}$ 



42

#### $n_{\pm} = \sqrt{\epsilon_{\rm iso}} (1 \pm Q_{\rm V}/2)$

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#### Summary:

- For light propagating along magnetization: normal modes are left- and right circularly polarized waves
- They are propagating as though the magnetic material has refractive indices  $n_+$  for left- and  $n_-$  for right-circularly polarized radiation







#### Assumption: light propagates perpendicular to *m*

 $m_1 = m_x = |\mathbf{m}| = 1$  and  $k_3 = k_z = |\mathbf{k}| = nk_0$ 







Assumption: light propagates perpendicular to *m*  $m_1 = m_x = |\mathbf{m}| = 1$  and  $k_3 = k_z = |\mathbf{k}| = nk_0$  $\|$  with magneto-optical tensors  $(\epsilon_{\rm iso} + B_1 - n^2)E_{\rm x} + 0 \cdot E_{\rm v} + 0 \cdot E_{\rm z} = 0$  $0 \cdot E_{\mathbf{x}} + (\epsilon_{\mathrm{iso}} - n^2) E_{\mathbf{v}} - \epsilon_{\mathrm{iso}} \,\mathrm{i} \, Q_{\mathrm{V}} E_{\mathbf{z}} = 0$  $0 \cdot E_{\mathbf{x}} + \epsilon_{\mathrm{iso}} \,\mathrm{i} \, Q_{\mathrm{V}} E_{\mathbf{v}} + \epsilon_{\mathrm{iso}} E_{\mathbf{z}} = 0 \,,$  $(\epsilon_{\rm iso} + B_1 - n^2) [\epsilon_{\rm iso} (1 - Q_V^2) - n^2] = 0$ (characteristic equation)  $\bigcup_{\substack{n \\ \parallel}} n_{\parallel}^2 = \epsilon_{\rm iso} + B_1, \quad \boldsymbol{E} = \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix}$ 







nd 
$$n_{\perp}^2 = \epsilon_{\rm iso}(1 - Q_{\rm V}^2)$$
,  $\boldsymbol{E} = \begin{pmatrix} 0\\ 1\\ -iQ_{\rm V} \end{pmatrix}$  $|iQ_{\rm V}| \ll 1$ 



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#### Summary:

- For light propagating perpendicular to magnetization: normal modes are linearly polarized waves with polarization planes parallel and perpendicular to magnetization direction
- They are propagating as though the magnetic material has refractive indices  $\,n_{||}$  and  $n_{\perp}$





Polar configuration





#### Polar configuration







• Remember: linearly polarized light = superposition of right- and lefthanded circularly polarized waves with equal amplitude and phase



- Polar configuration Sample ET  $\bigotimes m$ y E

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- •
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For light propagating along magnetization: normal modes are left- and right circularly polarized waves, i.e. linear light entering medium is resolved into these 2 modes which travel without interaction

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#### Faraday rotation: Circular birefringence

$$\theta_{\rm F} = -\frac{\pi}{\lambda_0} \left( n'_+ - n'_- \right) l$$

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# Polar configuration Sample $\bigotimes m$ E

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#### Polar configuration







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#### 2. Magneto-Optical Effects - 2.4 Kerr Effect





magnetization within thin surface layer given by penetration depth of light

#### 2. Magneto-Optical Effects - 2.4 Kerr Effect

• Like Faraday effect, but in reflection on absorbing media and much weaker as light only interacts with



## 2. Magneto-Optical Effects - 2.4 Kerr Effect

- magnetization within thin surface layer given by penetration depth of light
- All changes of light due to magneto-optic interaction are contained in reflection coefficients r of reflection matrix:

$$\begin{pmatrix} E_{\rm x}^{\rm refl} \\ E_{\rm y}^{\rm refl} \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} r_{\rm xx} \ r_{\rm xy} \\ r_{\rm yx} \ r_{\rm yy} \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} E_{\rm x}^{\rm in} \\ E_{\rm y}^{\rm in} \end{pmatrix}$$

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• Further assumption: perpendicular magnetization  $\implies$  normal modes of propagation are left- and right circularly polarized waves with refractive indices  $n_+$  and  $n_-$ 

$$r(n_+) = r_{xx} + i r_{yx}$$
 and  $r(n_-) = r_{xx} - i r_{yx}$ 



yx

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$$\begin{split} r(n_{+}) &= r_{\rm xx} + \mathrm{i} \, r_{\rm yx} \quad \text{and} \quad r(n_{-}) = r_{\rm xx} - \mathrm{i} \, r_{\rm yx} \\ & \downarrow \\ r_{\rm xx} &= \frac{1}{2} \left[ r(n_{+}) + r(n_{-}) \right] \\ r_{\rm yx} &= \frac{1}{2} \left[ r(n_{+}) - r(n_{-}) \right] \end{split} \quad \text{with Fresnel equations,} \\ n_{\pm} &= \sqrt{\epsilon_{\rm iso}} (1 \pm Q_{\rm V}/2) \\ & \bar{n} = \frac{1}{2} \left( n_{+} + n_{-} \right) \qquad \Longrightarrow \quad r_{\rm xx} = \frac{1 - \bar{n}}{1 + \bar{n}} \equiv N \quad \begin{array}{c} \text{Coefficient of nor} \\ \text{reflected light} \\ r_{\rm yx} &= \frac{-\mathrm{i} \, \bar{n} \, Q_{\rm V}}{(1 + \bar{n})^2} \equiv K \quad \text{Kerr coefficient} \end{array}$$





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- Summary:

  - impinging linear wave, polarized along  $x \implies$  generates reflected wave that has small y-component • x-component = regularly reflected amplitude  $R_N \mid y$ -component = Kerr amplitude  $R_K$

zed along x  
= 
$$\begin{pmatrix} NE_{x}^{in} \\ KE_{y}^{in} \end{pmatrix} \equiv \begin{pmatrix} R_{N} \\ R_{K} \end{pmatrix}$$
  $\begin{pmatrix} m \\ \downarrow m \\ \downarrow z \end{pmatrix}$ 

$$\begin{split} r_{\rm xx} &= \frac{1 - \bar{n}}{1 + \bar{n}} \equiv N & \begin{array}{c} \text{Coefficient of no}\\ \text{reflected light} \\ r_{\rm yx} &= \frac{-\mathrm{i}\,\bar{n}\,Q_{\rm V}}{(1 + \bar{n})^2} \equiv K & \begin{array}{c} \text{Kerr coefficien} \\ \end{array} \end{split}$$





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• General case of oblique incidence: better use sp-coordinates

$$\begin{pmatrix} E_{\rm p}^{\rm refl} \\ E_{\rm s}^{\rm refl} \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} r_{\rm pp} \ r_{\rm ps} \\ r_{\rm sp} \ r_{\rm ss} \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} E_{\rm p}^{\rm in} \\ E_{\rm s}^{\rm in} \end{pmatrix}$$

### 2. Magneto-Optical Effects - 2.4 Kerr Effect





• General case of oblique incidence: better use sp-coordinates





• General case of oblique incidence: better use sp-coordinates

Reflection coefficients:

$$r_{\rm pp} = \frac{n_0 \cos \vartheta_1 - n_1 \cos \vartheta_0}{n_1 \cos \vartheta_0 + n_0 \cos \vartheta_1} - \frac{i 2n_0 n_1 \cos \vartheta_0 \sin \vartheta_0}{(n_1 \cos \vartheta_0 + n_0 \cos \vartheta_1)}$$
$$r_{\rm sp} = \frac{i n_0 n_1 \cos \vartheta_0 (m_z \cos \vartheta_1 + m_y \sin \vartheta_1)}{(n_1 \cos \vartheta_0 + n_0 \cos \vartheta_1)(n_0 \cos \vartheta_0 + n_1 \cos \vartheta_1)(n_0 \cos \vartheta_0 + n_1 \cos \vartheta_1)}$$
$$r_{\rm ss} = \frac{n_0 \cos \vartheta_0 - n_1 \cos \vartheta_1}{n_0 \cos \vartheta_0 + n_1 \cos \vartheta_1},$$
$$r_{\rm ps} = -\frac{i n_0 n_1 \cos \vartheta_0 (m_z \cos \vartheta_1 - m_y \sin \vartheta_1)}{(n_1 \cos \vartheta_0 + n_0 \cos \vartheta_1)(n_0 \cos \vartheta_0 + n_1 \cos \vartheta_1)(n_0 \cos \vartheta_0 + n_1 \cos \vartheta_1)}$$



 $\frac{(\vartheta_1)Q_V}{\cos\vartheta_1)\cos\vartheta_1}$ 

#### $\checkmark Z$

• General case of oblique incidence: better use sp-coordinates

Reflection coefficients:

$$\begin{aligned} r_{\rm pp} &= \frac{n_0 \cos \vartheta_1 - n_1 \cos \vartheta_0}{n_1 \cos \vartheta_0 + n_0 \cos \vartheta_1} - \frac{\mathrm{i} \, 2n_0 n_1 \cos \vartheta_0 \sin \vartheta_1 m_{\rm x} Q_{\rm V}}{(n_1 \cos \vartheta_0 + n_0 \cos \vartheta_1)^2} \,, \\ r_{\rm sp} &= \frac{\mathrm{i} \, n_0 n_1 \cos \vartheta_0 (m_{\rm z} \cos \vartheta_1 + m_{\rm y} \sin \vartheta_1) Q_{\rm V}}{(n_1 \cos \vartheta_0 + n_0 \cos \vartheta_1) (n_0 \cos \vartheta_0 + n_1 \cos \vartheta_1) \cos \vartheta_1} \,, \\ r_{\rm ss} &= \frac{n_0 \cos \vartheta_0 - n_1 \cos \vartheta_1}{n_0 \cos \vartheta_0 + n_1 \cos \vartheta_1} \,, \\ r_{\rm ps} &= -\frac{\mathrm{i} \, n_0 n_1 \cos \vartheta_0 (m_{\rm z} \cos \vartheta_1 - m_{\rm y} \sin \vartheta_1) Q_{\rm V}}{(n_1 \cos \vartheta_0 + n_0 \cos \vartheta_1) (n_0 \cos \vartheta_0 + n_1 \cos \vartheta_1) \cos \vartheta_1} \,, \end{aligned}$$

Complex Kerr rotation = ratio of off-diagonal to diagonal elements of reflection matrix:





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 Assumption: s-polarized, oblique incidence, perpendicular magnetization ( $m_z = 1, m_x = m_y = 0$ )

 $(\vartheta_1)Q_{
m V}$  $\cos\vartheta_1)\cos\vartheta_1$ 

$$\theta_{\rm K}^{\rm s} \equiv \frac{r_{\rm ps}}{r_{\rm ss}}$$





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$$(\theta_{\rm K}^{\rm s})^{\rm pol} = \left(\frac{r_{\rm ps}}{r_{\rm ss}}\right)^{\rm pol} = \frac{-i n_0 n_1 c}{(n_1 \cos \vartheta_0 + n_0 \cos \vartheta_1)(r_{\rm ss})}$$

 $(\vartheta_1)Q_{
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#### $\implies$ Polar Kerr effect

- $\cos\vartheta_0 Q_{\rm V}$
- $(n_0\cos\vartheta_0 n_1\cos\vartheta_1)$





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# $\cos \vartheta_0 Q_{\rm V}$

 $n_0 \cos \vartheta_0 - n_1 \cos \vartheta_1$ 



#### tion:

- light is s-polarized, resulting in p-polarized Kerr 2
- f light, which penetrates into metal ( $t_{ss}^{01}$ ), generates litude
- Kerr amplitude depends on  $Q_{
  m V}$  and incidence angle  $artheta_0$ ed Kerr amplitude has to leave metal, described by transmission coefficient  $(t_{pp}^{01})$

$$r_{\rm ss} = \frac{n_0 \cos \vartheta_0 - n_1 \cos \vartheta_1}{n_0 \cos \vartheta_0 + n_1 \cos \vartheta_1},$$
  
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Generalized amplitudes:  $+R_{\rm K}^{\rm tra}\sin\alpha_{\rm pol}\cos\alpha_{\rm an}\,m_{\rm tra}$ .

#### Domain Intensities:

 $I_1 = [A_N \sin(\alpha_{an}) I_2 = [A_N \sin(\alpha_{an}) +$ 

Optimum contrast depends on:

- not on Kerr rotation

 $\implies$  Figure of merit = Kerr amplitude (not Kerr rotation)

#### Kerr contrast

 $A_{\rm N} = R_{\rm N}^{\rm p} \sin \alpha_{\rm pol} \cos \alpha_{\rm an} - R_{\rm N}^{\rm s} \cos \alpha_{\rm pol} \sin \alpha_{\rm an} ,$  $A_{\rm K} = R_{\rm K}^{\rm pol} \cos\left(\alpha_{\rm an} - \alpha_{\rm pol}\right) m_{\rm pol} - R_{\rm K}^{\rm lon} \cos\left(\alpha_{\rm an} + \alpha_{\rm pol}\right) m_{\rm lon}$ 

$$A_{\rm K} \cos(\alpha_{\rm an})]^2 + I_0$$
$$A_{\rm K} \cos(\alpha_{\rm an})]^2 + I_0$$

 $\bigcup C = (I_2 - I_1)/(I_2 + I_1)$  , optimization  $C_{\rm opt} \approx \frac{A_{\rm K}}{\sqrt{(A_{\rm K}^2 + I_0)}}$  with  $\alpha_{\rm an} >> \theta_{\rm K}$ 

• background intensity  $I_0$  and Kerr amplitude  $A_{\rm K}$ ,





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### Contrast enhancement in Kerr microscopy by Antireflection Coating

 $heta_{
m K}$ 



Amorphous ribbon



without interference layer

with ZnS interference layer





#### Interpretation in terms of Lorentz concept



$$\boldsymbol{\epsilon} \boldsymbol{E} = \varepsilon_0 n^2 \begin{pmatrix} 1 & -\mathrm{i} Q_{\mathrm{V}} m_3 & \mathrm{i} Q_{\mathrm{V}} m_2 \\ \mathrm{i} Q_{\mathrm{V}} m_3 & 1 & -\mathrm{i} Q_{\mathrm{V}} m_1 \\ -\mathrm{i} Q_{\mathrm{V}} m_2 & \mathrm{i} Q_{\mathrm{V}} m_1 & 1 \end{pmatrix} \boldsymbol{E}$$

 $=\varepsilon_0 n^2 [\boldsymbol{E} + \mathrm{i} Q_\mathrm{V} (\boldsymbol{m} \times \boldsymbol{E})]$ 





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 $= \varepsilon_0 n^2 [\boldsymbol{E} + i Q_V(\boldsymbol{m} \times \boldsymbol{E})]$ 

- diffraction index  $n_{\text{metal}} \approx 3$  (Fe)
- $m_{\text{pol}} \times E >> m_{\text{long}} \times E$
- component of Eperpendicular to *m* counts

 $\implies$  polar magnetization much easier to measure







### Microscopic description

#### Conventional magneto-optical effects



Conduction band

k  $\rightarrow$ 

### Compare: X-ray Magnetic Circular Dichroism









### Microscopic description



Orbital quantum number , (p-states: l = 1, d-states: l = 2)

Magnetic quantum number

Spin orientation

Selection rules for electric dipole transitions, excited by circular photons:

- Electron spin is conserved:  $\Delta s = 0$
- · Total orbital momentum is conserved:  $\Delta l = \pm 1$
- Total orbital momentum along quantization axis is conserved Fermi
  - energy • right circular:  $\Delta m = +1$
  - left circular:  $\Delta m = -1$



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## Microscopic description



Strong dichroism = difference in absorption for left and right-handed polarization





## Microscopic description





## Microscopic description





## Microscopic description

• Imaginary part of the complex dielectric constant can be related to the electronic transitions by

$$\epsilon_{\pm}^{\prime\prime}(\omega) \propto \frac{1}{\omega^2} \sum_{i,f} f(\mathcal{E}_i) \left[1 - f(\mathcal{E}_f)\right] \left| \langle i|p_{\pm}|f \rangle \right|^2 \delta(\omega_f - \omega_i - \omega_i)$$





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Summation overall initial and final states in k-space





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Summation overall initial and final states in k-space

Occupancy of initial and final states (Fermi-Dirac distribution)





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Imaginary part of the complex dielectric constant can be related to the electronic transitions by •

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$$\int_{\text{initial and final states (Fermi-Dirac distribution)}}^{\text{Occupancy of}} \int_{\text{initial and final states (Fermi-Dirac distribution)}}^{\text{Transition}} \int_{\text{polarized light}}^{\text{Transition}} \int_{\text{conservation}}^{\text{Energy conservation}}$$

### after: P. Vavassori, ESM 2018







## Microscopic description

Imaginary part of the complex dielectric constant can be related to the electronic transitions by •

$$\epsilon_{\pm}^{\prime\prime}(\omega) \propto \frac{1}{\omega^2} \sum_{i,f} f(\mathcal{E}_i) \left[1 - f(\mathcal{E}_f)\right] \left| \langle i | p_{\pm} | f \rangle \right|^2 \delta(\omega_f - \omega_i - \omega_i)$$
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Connection of microscopic to classical description:

$$\bar{n} = \frac{1}{2} \left( n_+ + n_- \right)$$







- For light propagating along magnetization: normal modes are left- and right circularly polarized waves
- They are propagating as though the magnetic material has refractive indices  $n_+$  for leftand  $n_{-}$  for right-circularly polarized radiation

For the second seco





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- For light propagating perpendicular to magnetization: normal modes are linearly polarized waves with polarization planes parallel and perpendicular to magnetization direction
- They are propagating as though the magnetic material has refractive indices  $n_{||}$  and  $n_{\perp}$ 
  - $\rightarrow$  Both modes propagate with different velocities
  - $\rightarrow$  modes are shifted in phase
  - $\rightarrow$  after leaving the sample they unify to elliptical wave
    - Jinear magnetic birefringence (Voigt effect)









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  - $\rightarrow$  modes are shifted in phase
  - $\longrightarrow$  after leaving the sample they unify to elliptical wave
    - > Linear magnetic birefringence (Voigt effect)





 ${m k}$ 

M

• Dielectric tensors, for materials with cubic crystal symmetry:

$$\boldsymbol{\epsilon} = \epsilon_{\rm iso} \begin{pmatrix} 1 & -\mathrm{i}Q_{\rm V}m_3 & \mathrm{i}Q_{\rm V}m_2 \\ \mathrm{i}Q_{\rm V}m_3 & 1 & -\mathrm{i}Q_{\rm V}m_1 \\ -\mathrm{i}Q_{\rm V}m_2 & \mathrm{i}Q_{\rm V}m_1 & 1 \end{pmatrix}$$

### Kerr effect

20 µm (100) Fe3%Si sheet

### Kerr Effect

- polarizer
- oblique incidence

 $+ \begin{pmatrix} B_1 m_1^2 & B_2 m_1 m_2 & B_2 m_1 m_3 \\ B_2 m_1 m_2 & B_1 m_2^2 & B_2 m_2 m_3 \\ B_2 m_1 m_3 & B_2 m_2 m_3 & B_1 m_3^2 \end{pmatrix}$ 

Voigt effect is quadratic in magnetization

(Intrinsic) Voigt effect



Voigt Effect

- polarizer: 45° to m
- perpendicular incidence, compensator







• Dielectric tensors, for materials with cubic crystal symmetry:

$$\boldsymbol{\epsilon} = \epsilon_{iso} \begin{pmatrix} 1 & -iQ_V m_3 & iQ_V m_2 \\ iQ_V m_3 & 1 & -iQ_V m_1 \\ -iQ_V m_2 & iQ_V m_1 & 1 \end{pmatrix}$$
  
Kerr effect

• Quadratic effect, derived from gyrotropic interaction  $m \times E$  (like Kerr effect):







### Kerr effect

• Quadratic effect, derived from gyrotropic interaction  $m \times E$  (like Kerr effect):



Matching of phase of one  $E_y$  component with  $E_x$  by compensator  $\implies$  black-white contrast of domain boundary

## 2. Magneto-Optical Effects - 2.5 Voigt Effect

Reflection:  $\uparrow E_y$  and  $\downarrow E_y$ 

Application: Imaging of domains in transparent garnet crystals



Wall contrast due to polar Faraday effect



Jia Xu<sup>1</sup>, Chao Zhou<sup>1</sup>, Mengwen Jia<sup>1</sup>, Dong Shi<sup>1</sup>, Changqing Liu<sup>1</sup>, Haoran Chen<sup>1</sup>, Gong Chen<sup>2</sup>, Guanhua Zhang<sup>3</sup>, Yu Liang<sup>3</sup>, Junqin Li<sup>4</sup>, Wei Zhang<sup>5</sup>\*, Yizheng Wu<sup>1,6</sup>\*

## Imaging of domains in antiferromagnets

#### **Imaging Antiferromagnetic Domains in Nickel-oxide Thin Films by**

#### Magneto-optical Voigt Effect

https://arxiv.org/pdf/1906.06844.pdf

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### (Longitudinal) Kerr effect

Voigt-











### (Longitudinal) Kerr effect











### Voigt- and Gradient effect



### (Longitudinal) Kerr effect



### Voigt- and Gradient effect









### (Longitudinal) Kerr effect



### Voigt- and Gradient effect











Polarizer





• Component of dielectric tensor:  $D_y = P(-\partial m_y/\partial y)E_x$ 

 $\bigcirc \bigoplus$ 





 $D_{\rm y}=0$ 

#### Primary Lorentz motions





• Component of dielectric tensor:  $D_y = P(-\partial m_y/\partial y)E_x$ 



- Reflection:  $\uparrow E_y$  and  $\downarrow E_y$
- Matching of phase of one  $E_y$  component with  $E_x$  by compensator  $\implies$  black-white contrast of domain boundary

Primary Lorentz motions





#### Crosstie wall in NiFe-film (50 nm thick)



Kerrcontrast



### Voigt- and Gradient-Contrast

## Application:

FeSi (111) surface



Kerrcontrast

Gradient-Contrast

10 *µ*m





Michael Fo (1791-1

1849: small change of to magneto-optic intera circular birefringence

John K (1824-1 1877: small change of to magneto-optic inter circular birefri

> Woldema (1850-

1898: small change of p to magneto-optic interv linear birefring







araday .867)	
polarization plane due action in transmission, e & dichroism, ~ M	Fowler and Fryer, 1956
(err 907) polarization plane due	Williams et al., 1951;
raction in reflection,	Fowler and Fryer,
ingence, ~ M	1952
r Voigt	Transmission:
1919)	Dillon, 1958
olarization state due	Reflection,
action in reflection,	together with Gradient effe
gence, ~ M <sup>2</sup>	R.S. and Hubert, 1990



effect:

## 2. Magneto-Optical Effects - Summary

Michael Fo (1791-1

1849: small change of to magneto-optic intera circular birefringence

John K (1824 - 1)1877: small change of to magneto-optic inter circular birefri

> Woldema (1850-

1898: small change of p to magneto-optic interd linear birefringence, ~ M<sup>2</sup>







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with Gradient effect: R.S. and Hubert, 1990



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• Principle: measure and plot Kerr intensity as function of H



76

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- Noise suppression by lock-in technique: feed split-off part of laser as reference signal into Lock-in amplifier, and modulate polarization of light by a spinning analyser or electro-optical device  $\rightarrow$  virtually unlimited sensitivity



76

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   Direct
  - Quasi-static and dynamic measurements

  - Optical measurements can be performed on-line during preparation or treatment of a material inside vacuum chamber



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- Advantages:
   Direct
  - Quasi-static and dynamic measurements

  - Optical measurements can be performed on-line during preparation or treatment of a material inside vacuum chamber
- Use of transverse Kerr effect (T-MOKE)
  - Polarizer set parallel to the plane of incidence and analyser omitted
  - *M*-component perpendicular to the plane of incidence causes variation of the reflected intensity, which can be detected electronically
  - Fits nicely into electromagnet



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# Magneto-optical Kerr microscopy

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## 4. Magneto-Optical Kerr Microscopy

### Wide-field Kerr microscope



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## 4. Magneto-Optical Kerr Microscopy

### Wide-field Kerr microscope



### First Kerr images

#### Magnetic Domains on Silicon Iron by the Longitudinal Kerr Effect\*

C. A. FOWLER, JR., AND E. M. FRYER Department of Physics, Pomona College, Claremont, California (Received March 14, 1952)

TSE of the normal Kerr magneto-optic effect to observe domain patterns in ferromagnetic substances having free surface poles has been described by Williams, Foster, and Wood.<sup>1</sup> Since plane polarized light reflected normally from a polished magnetic surface is not affected by magnetization in the plane of the surface, oblique reflection using the longitudinal Kerr magneto-optic effect<sup>2</sup> has been investigated as a means of observing

FIG. 2. Oblique photographs of the (100) surface of the crystal. In (a) and (b) the crystal is unmagnetized. An external field in the direction shown was applied in (c).

#### Observation of Magnetic Domains by the Kerr Effect

H. J. WILLIAMS, F. G. FOSTER, AND E. A. WOOD Bell Telephone Laboratories, Murray Hill, New Jersey (Received January 18, 1951)

MAGNETIC domains have been observed by means of the Kerr magneto-optic effect on surfaces perpendicular and inclined to the c axis of hexagonal cobalt. The direction of easy magnetization in cobalt is along the c axis, so the domains are












#### Wide-field Kerr microscope



#### Today: Digital contrast enhancement (difference image technique)



#### Original image



#### Reference image

Amorphous ribbon



#### Difference image

Schmidt et al. (1985)

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#### Wide-field Kerr microscope



#### Today: Digital contrast enhancement (difference image technique)



#### Original image



Reference image

Amorphous ribbon



Important: Difference Imaging in real time !

Schmidt et al. (1985)

Difference image







## Digitally enhanced wide-field Kerr microscope: flexible technique

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## Digitally enhanced wide-field Kerr microscope: flexible technique

 Application of in-plane and perpendicular magnetic fields up to Tesla range

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### Digitally enhanced wide-field Kerr microscope: flexible technique

 Application of in-plane and perpendicular magnetic fields up to Tesla range

## 4. Magneto-Optical Kerr Microscopy



Imaging courtesy Ivan Soldatov, IFW





## Digitally enhanced wide-field Kerr microscope: flexible technique

- Application of in-plane and perpendicular magnetic fields up to Tesla range
- Sample manipulation, e.g. by mechanical stress

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## Digitally enhanced wide-field Kerr microscope: flexible technique

- Application of in-plane and perpendicular magnetic fields up to Tesla range
- Sample manipulation, e.g. by mechanical stress
- Application of electrical currents:



Courtesy: Wanjun Jiang, Suzanne Velthuis, Axel Hoffmann, Argonne National Lab.



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- Application of in-plane and perpendicular magnetic fields up to Tesla range
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Courtesy: Wanjun Jiang, Suzanne Velthuis, Axel Hoffmann, Argonne National Lab. Application of high- and low temperature
(4 K up to 800 K)





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Courtesy: Wanjun Jiang, Suzanne Velthuis, Axel Hoffmann, Argonne National Lab. Application of high- and low temperature
(4 K up to 800 K)

Diluted magnetic semiconductor MnGaAs



I. V. Soldatov, et al., Phys. Rev. B 90, 104423 (2014)



## Digitally enhanced wide-field Kerr microscope: flexible technique

- Application of in-plane and perpendicular magnetic fields up to Tesla range
- Sample manipulation, e.g. by mechanical stress
- Application of electrical currents:



Courtesy: Wanjun Jiang, Suzanne Velthuis, Axel Hoffmann, Argonne National Lab.

 Application of high- and low temperature (4 K up to 800 K)



#### La(FeCoSi)13 magnetocaloric material, Tc = 260 K

0.23 ml

 $0.29\,m$ 











### Combination with MOKE magnetometry

Sputtered metallic films with  $\perp$  anisotropy



Sample courtesy D. Makarov, IFW Dresden

Sample courtesy P. He and S.M. Zhou, Fudan







Sample courtesy M. Shibihan and S.M. Zhou, Tongji

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Sputtered metallic films with  $\perp$  anisotropy



Sample courtesy D. Makarov, IFW Dresden

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### Combination with MOKE magnetometry





### Combination with MOKE magnetometry





### Kerr-contrast law

Kerr contrast is proportional to magnetization component along propagation direction of reflected light beam



#### Longitudinal Kerr effect

(sensitive to in-plane and out-of-plane magnetization)



### Kerr-contrast law

Kerr contrast is proportional to magnetization component along propagation direction of reflected light beam



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#### Longitudinal Kerr effect

(sensitive to in-plane and out-of-plane magnetization)





**Illumination path** 





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84



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#### Monochromatic





I. Soldatov and R.S., Rev. Sci. Instrum. 88, 073701 (2017)

## 4. Magneto-Optical Kerr Microscopy

Dichromatic







Microscope

T. v. Hofe, et al., APL 103, 142410 (2013)







## 4. Magneto-Optical Kerr Microscopy



Sample: Permalloy film, 240 nm thick







## 4. Magneto-Optical Kerr Microscopy



Sample: Permalloy film, 240 nm thick







50 µm

### Monochromatic

#### Pulsing of LEDs, synchronous with camera



Sample: Permalloy film, 40 nm thick, courtesy Peter Savin, Ural Federal University, Russia

## 4. Magneto-Optical Kerr Microscopy



Sample: Permalloy film, 240 nm thick



## Wide-field Kerr-microscope: sensitivity selection & Sensitivity enhancement





Sample: Permalloy film, 240 nm thick

I. Soldatov and R.S., Rev. Sci. Instrum. 88, 073701 (2017)

Pulsing of LEDs, synchronous with camera

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## Wide-field Kerr-microscope: sensitivity selection & Sensitivity enhancement





Sample: Permalloy film, 240 nm thick

I. Soldatov and R.S., Rev. Sci. Instrum. 88, 073701 (2017)

Pulsing of LEDs, synchronous with camera



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## Wide-field Kerr-microscope: sensitivity selection & Sensitivity enhancement



MOKE loop and domains on 150 nm Permalloy on paper





Topography

#### Domains

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## Wide-field Kerr-microscope: sensitivity selection & Sensitivity enhancement



MOKE loop and domains on 150 nm Permalloy on paper





Topography

#### Domains

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## Wide-field Kerr-microscope: sensitivity selection Separation of polar and planar magnetization

Addition



surface || texture axis

Interaction domains in fine-grained NdFeB material







H

## Wide-field Kerr-microscope: sensitivity selection Separation of polar and planar magnetization

Addition



surface || texture axis

Interaction domains in fine-grained NdFeB material







H

## Wide-field Kerr-microscope: sensitivity selection Separation of polar and planar magnetization





(accepted for Acta Mat)



## Wide-field Kerr-microscope: sensitivity selection Separation of polar and planar magnetization





(accepted for Acta Mat)



## Wide-field Kerr-microscope: sensitivity selection Separation of polar and planar magnetization



(accepted for Acta Mat)





## Wide-field Kerr-microscope: sensitivity selection Separation of polar and planar magnetization

## $Pt(5 nm) [Co(0.3 nm)/Pt(0.7 nm)]_3$



Addition





Subtraction





## Wide-field Kerr-microscope: sensitivity selection Separation of polar and planar magnetization

## $Pt(5 nm) [Co(0.3 nm)/Pt(0.7 nm)]_3$



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## Wide-field Kerr-microscope: sensitivity selection Separation of polar and planar magnetization

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## Wide-field Kerr-microscope: sensitivity selection Separation of polar and planar magnetization

## $Pt(5 nm) [Co(0.3 nm)/Pt(0.7 nm)]_3$



Addition





Subtraction



























H



100 µm



I. Soldatov and R.S., Phys. Rev. B. 95, 014426 (2017)













H



100 µm



I. Soldatov and R.S., Phys. Rev. B. 95, 014426 (2017)







360°

100 *J*m







## Quantitative Kerr-microscopy

100 µm



I. Soldatov and R.S., Phys. Rev. B. 95, 014426 (2017)







## Time-resolved Kerr-microscopy



## Single-shot mode



## Time-resolved Kerr-microscopy

## Single-shot mode





## Time-resolved Kerr-microscopy

## Single-shot mode

Probing with short time window, e.g. by using high-speed camera





## Time-resolved Kerr-microscopy

## Single-shot mode

Probing with short time window, e.g. by using high-speed camera



Requires sufficient repetition rate and sufficient signal



## Time-resolved Kerr-microscopy

## Single-shot mode

Probing with short time window, e.g. by using high-speed camera





(a)





Requires sufficient repetition rate and sufficient signal





Time-resolved Kerr-microscopy Stroboscopic mode

## If signal and repetition rate are limited:

- $\rightarrow$  no single-shot imaging possible
- $\rightarrow$  accumulation of large number of independent events necessary (at fixed time delay)





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### Probing with defined time-delay ᆚᄂ ᆚᄂ ᆚᄂ



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#### → Requires repetitive process

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# Probing with defined time-delay







## Time-resolved Kerr-microscopy Stroboscopic mode

## If signal and repetition rate are limited:

- $\rightarrow$  no single-shot imaging possible
- $\rightarrow$  accumulation of large number of independent events necessary (at fixed time delay)

#### → Requires repetitive process

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# Probing with defined time-delay

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## FeSi Goss sheet



Periodic magnetic field excitation

50 Hz excitation Probing at 0° delay, averaging of 100 images



#### Sheet edge



## Time-resolved Kerr-microscopy Stroboscopic mode

### Spin waves in NiFe square, stroboscopically imaged

10 µm



#### 1 GHz



#### 3 GHz





From: N.O.Urs et al., AIP Advances 6, 055605 (2016)

Static





3.5 GHz







4 GHz





## Depth selective Kerr-microscopy

## Domain analysis in multilayers

## Co/Si/GdCo trilayer



#### Together with A. Svalov and G. Kurlyandskaya, Ekaterinburg A. Svalov et al., J. Alloys and Compounds 615 (2014)



























## Depth selective Kerr-microscopy





Mixed Kerr signal



Co layer


### Depth selective Kerr-microscopy





Mixed Kerr signal



Co layer



## Depth selective Kerr-microscopy

Advantage of layer-selective Kerr microscopy: different composition of layers not required

### X-ray Magnetic Circular Dichroism

Absorption of circularly polarized x-rays depends on orientation of M-direction with respect to helicity of the X-rays, change of sign by reversing M

Initial states are well defined inner-core levels

- $\rightarrow$  XMCD is element selective
- $\rightarrow$  layer selective imaging requires different compositions of layers







R. S., et al., PRB 65, 144405 (2003)





### **Resolution of Kerr-microscopy**



- **Resolution of optical microscopy** is determined by constructive interference
  - Diffraction limited image formation
  - Abbe limit:  $d = \frac{\Lambda}{NA}$
- d = separation between particles, still allowing to see them
- $\lambda$  = wavelength

NA = numerical aperture of objective

Numerical aperture:  $NA = n \sin \theta$ 



 $\theta$  = half the cone angle of light accepted by objective

n = refraction index of mediumbetween sample and objective

best around 350 nm (Abbe) best around 220 nm (Rayleigh) best around 170 nm (Sparrow)





### **Resolution of Kerr-microscopy**

100/1.3 oil50x/0.8350 nm575 nm

### Amorphous ribbon

FeSi sheet





Wall width =

20x/0.5 920 nm



I. Soldatov et al., APL 112, 262404 (2018)

### Integrated wall intensity Maximum domain intensity



### **Resolution of Kerr-microscopy**

100/1.3 oil50x/0.8350 nm575 nm

### Amorphous ribbon

FeSi sheet





Wall width =

20x/0.5 920 nm 10x/0.25 1840 nm



I. Soldatov et al., APL 112, 262404 (2018)

### Integrated wall intensity Maximum domain intensity



### **Resolution of Kerr-microscopy**

100/1.3 oil 50x/0.8 350 nm 575 nm

### Amorphous ribbon

FeSi sheet





Wall width =

20x/0.5 920 nm

10x/0.25 1840 nm



I. Soldatov et al., APL 112, 262404 (2018)

Integrated wall intensity Maximum domain intensity

### Amorphous ribbon:

wall width = 310 nm  $\rightarrow$  15% of resolution still visible 100x/1.3 oil objective with 350 nm resolution ₩ 50 nm wide walls should be visible









## **Resolution of Kerr-microscopy** High-resolution observations

Positive remanence Negative remanence



### Nanowires (50 and 100 nm wide, 2 $\mu$ m long) of magnetic film system with perpendicular anisotropy

(sample courtesy Jimmy Zhu and Matt Moneck, Carnegie Mellon University, Pittsburgh)

Demagnetized



## **Resolution of Kerr-microscopy** Ultra-high-resolution Kerr microscopy



10 µm



## **Resolution of Kerr-microscopy** Ultra-high-resolution Kerr microscopy



10 µm



### **Resolution of Kerr-microscopy** Ultra-high-resolution Kerr microscopy



```
FePt layer (16 nm thick),
sample courtesy P. He and S.M. Zhou, Fudan
```

Image is folded by pointspread-function of microscope  $\rightarrow$  loss of information  $\rightarrow$  recovery of lost information by mathematical deconvolution  $\rightarrow$  enhancement of resolution down to 50 nm regime

together with N.Gorn & D.Berkov, Innovent Jena (under development)



### **Resolution of Kerr-microscopy** Ultra-high-resolution Kerr microscopy



```
FePt layer (16 nm thick),
sample courtesy P. He and S.M. Zhou, Fudan
```



### Deconvoluted



### Resolution of Kerr-microscopy Band-, Bubble domains and Skyrmions

Demagnetized in perpendicular field





[Pt(1.5 nm)/Co(1 nm)/Ir(1 nm)]5Pt(15 nm)
(sample: A. Hoffmann & group, Argonne)

After in-plane field pulse





Demagnetized in in-plane field



Néel bubble



### Bubble collapse in perpendicular field



Skyrmion





## Resolution of Kerr-microscopy Ultra-high-resolution Kerr microscopy



[Pt(1.5 nm)/Co(1 nm)/Ir(1 nm)]5Pt(15 nm)
(sample: A. Hoffmann & group, Argonne)

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## Resolution of Kerr-microscopy Ultra-high-resolution Kerr microscopy



[Pt(1.5 nm)/Co(1 nm)/Ir(1 nm)]5Pt(15 nm)
(sample: A. Hoffmann & group, Argonne)

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## Resolution of Kerr-microscopy Ultra-high-resolution Kerr microscopy



[Pt(1.5 nm)/Co(1 nm)/Ir(1 nm)]5Pt(15 nm)
(sample: A. Hoffmann & group, Argonne)

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## Resolution of Kerr-microscopy Ultra-high-resolution Kerr microscopy



[Pt(1.5 nm)/Co(1 nm)/Ir(1 nm)]5Pt(15 nm)
(sample: A. Hoffmann & group, Argonne)

### Deconvoluted



### **Resolution of Kerr-microscopy** Ultra-high-resolution Kerr microscopy

### $[Pt(3 nm)/Co(0.9 nm)/Ta(4 nm)]_{15}$

Imaged by STXM (Scanning Transmission X-ray Microscopy), based on XMCD



S. Woo, et al., Nature Materials 15, 501 (2016)

### Deconvoluted

2 µm





# MOIF microscopy







- Transparent substrate (GGG)
- Indicator film (magnetic garnet film)
- Sample with







- Transparent substrate (GGG)
- Indicator film (magnetic garnet film)
- Sample with

Co/Ru/Co trilayer (courtesy R. Shull, NIST)













- Transparent substrate (GGG)
- Indicator film (magnetic garnet film)

## o/Ru/Co trilayer (courtesy R. Shull, NIST)

## but limited sensitivity













H. Richert et al., Steel Res. Int. 87 (2015)

perpendicular band domains

High Resolution:  $sub - \mu m$  range, but limited sensitivity





1000 *µ*m

H. Richert et al., Steel Res. Int. 87 (2015)

**MOIF** with perpendicular band domains Mirror - Indedikatossehight dersporteblerificent

> Together with M. Antal and P. Rauscher, Fraunhofer IWS, Dresden

Transformer steel with insulation coating, laser treated









1000 *µ*m

H. Richert et al., Steel Res. Int. 87 (2015)

**MOIF** with perpendicular band domains Mirror - Indedikatossehight dersporteblerificent

> Together with M. Antal and P. Rauscher, Fraunhofer IWS, Dresden

Transformer steel with insulation coating, laser treated

> Resolution: order of  $\mu m$ , high sensitivity







## 5. MOIF Microscopy

### Transformer steel with polished surface, overview microscope



10 mm



### Transformer steel with polished surface, overview microscope







### Transformer steel with polished surface, overview microscope

















### FeSi Goss sheet, polished

JMMM 474 (2019)

### 114











### FeSi Goss sheet, polished

JMMM 474 (2019)

### 114











### FeSi Goss sheet, polished

JMMM 474 (2019)

### 114











### FeSi Goss sheet, polished

JMMM 474 (2019)

### 114











### FeSi Goss sheet, polished

JMMM 474 (2019)

### 114











FeSi Goss sheet, polished

JMMM 474 (2019)

### FeSi electrical steel with coating, 50 Hz single-shot imaging:



## 114











FeSi Goss sheet, polished

JMMM 474 (2019)

### FeSi electrical steel with coating, 50 Hz single-shot imaging:



## 114










Single shot, 50 Hz, 30 A/m

FeSi Goss sheet, polished

JMMM 474 (2019)

## FeSi electrical steel with coating, 50 Hz single-shot imaging:



### 114

# R.S. et al.,