

Jackson

Linear Polarization basis

7.1 (a)

$$s_0 + s_1 = 2a_1^2$$

$$s_0 - s_1 = 2a_2^2$$

$$a_1 = 1, \quad a_2 = \sqrt{2}.$$

$$\delta_2 - \delta_1 = \cos^{-1} \left[\frac{s_2}{2a_1 a_2} \right] = \cos^{-1} \left[\frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} \right] = \frac{\pi}{4}$$

WLOG, let $\delta_1 = 0$, $\delta_2 = \frac{\pi}{4}$

$$\text{Then } \vec{E}_1 = a_1 \hat{x} = \boxed{1} \quad \vec{E}_2 = \boxed{\sqrt{2} e^{i\pi/4} \hat{y}}$$

$$\vec{E} = \text{Re} \left[(\vec{E}_1 \hat{x} + \vec{E}_2 \hat{y}) e^{i\vec{k} \cdot \vec{x} - i\omega t} \right]$$

$$\approx \text{Re} \left[(\hat{x} + \sqrt{2} e^{i\pi/4} \hat{y}) e^{-i\omega t} \right] \quad \text{for fixed } \vec{x}.$$

$$\Rightarrow E_x = \cos(-\omega t), \quad E_y = \sqrt{2} \cos(-\omega t + \frac{\pi}{4})$$

To find how much the principle axes of the ellipse is rotated, solve for when

$$|\vec{E}|^2 = \cos^2(-\omega t) + 2 \cos^2(-\omega t + \frac{\pi}{4})$$

is an extremum.

Letting $\theta = \omega t$, then $|E|^2(\theta) = \cos^2(-\theta) + 2\cos^2(-\theta + \frac{\pi}{4})$

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{d|E|^2}{d\theta} &= 2\cos(-\theta)(-\sin(-\theta))(-1) + 4\cos(-\theta + \frac{\pi}{4})\sin(-\theta + \frac{\pi}{4}) \\ &= 2\cos(-\theta)\sin(-\theta) + 4\cos(-\theta + \frac{\pi}{4})\sin(-\theta + \frac{\pi}{4}) = 0. \end{aligned}$$

$$\Rightarrow \cos(-\theta)\sin(-\theta) = -2\cos(-\theta + \frac{\pi}{4})\sin(-\theta + \frac{\pi}{4})$$

$$\frac{1}{2}\sin(-2\theta) = -\sin(-2\theta + \frac{\pi}{2})$$

$$\frac{1}{2}\sin(-2\theta) = -\cos(-2\theta)$$

$$\tan(-2\theta) = -2$$

$$\theta = -\frac{1}{2}\tan^{-1}(-2)$$

$$= 0.553 \approx \boxed{31.7^\circ}$$

$$|E|^2 \Big|_{\theta=31.7^\circ} = \cos^2(0.553) + 2\cos^2(0.553 + \frac{\pi}{4})$$

$$\approx 0.7241 + 1.8939 = 2.618$$

$$\Rightarrow \text{The principal axis is } \sqrt{2.618} = \boxed{1.618}, \text{ and } \sqrt{3-2.618} = \boxed{0.618}$$

~~\Rightarrow The~~

elliptical polarization basis.

$$S_0 + S_3 = 2a_+^2, \quad S_0 - S_3 = 2a_-^2$$

$$\Rightarrow a_+ = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}, \quad a_- = \sqrt{\frac{5}{2}}$$

$$\delta_- - \delta_+ = \cos^{-1} \left[\frac{S_1}{2a_+a_-} \right]$$

$$= \cos^{-1} \left[\frac{-1}{2 \frac{\sqrt{5}}{2}} \right]$$

$$= \cos^{-1} \left[-\frac{1}{\sqrt{5}} \right] \approx 2.03 \equiv \alpha$$

WLOG, let $\delta_+ = 0$, then $\delta_- = \alpha = 2.03$

$$\Rightarrow \boxed{E_+ = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}}, \quad \boxed{E_- = \sqrt{\frac{5}{2}} e^{i\alpha}}$$

Ratio of semimajor axes given by $\left| \frac{1 + \sqrt{5}}{1 - \sqrt{5}} \right| \approx 2.618$

$$a^2 + b^2 = 3, \quad \left(a^2 + a^2 \frac{b^2}{a^2} \right) = 3$$

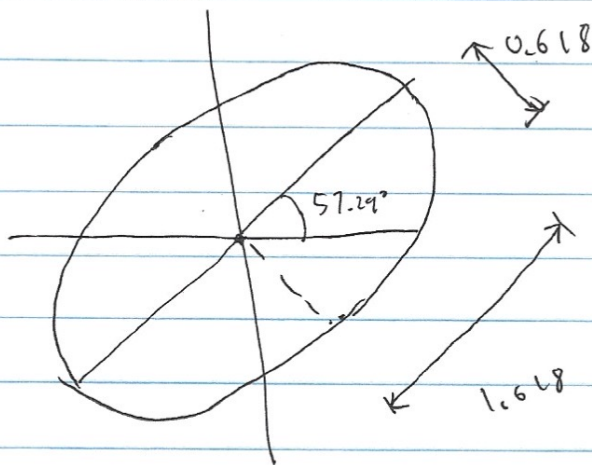
$$a^2 \left[1 + \left(\frac{b}{a} \right)^2 \right] = 3$$

$$a^2 = 3 / \left[1 + (2.618)^2 \right]$$

$$\Rightarrow \boxed{a = 0.618}, \quad \boxed{b = 1.618}$$

The major axis has length 1.618, minor axis has length 0.618.

The phase difference is $\alpha \approx 2.03$, thus the ellipse is rotated by $\alpha/2 \approx 1.01 \approx 57.29^\circ$



Jackson

7.1(b)

Linear polarization basis.

$$a_1 = \sqrt{\frac{25}{2}}, \quad a_2 = \sqrt{\frac{25}{2}}$$

⇒ The polarization has equal max amplitude in x, y .

$$\delta_2 - \delta_1 = \cos^{-1} \left[\frac{s_2}{2a_1 a_2} \right] = \cos^{-1} \left[\frac{24}{25} \right] \approx 28^\circ$$

$$\equiv \alpha \approx 16^\circ$$

WLOG, $\delta_1 = 0$, $\delta_2 = \alpha$, then

$$\boxed{E_1 = \sqrt{\frac{25}{2}}} \quad \boxed{E_2 = \sqrt{\frac{25}{2}} e^{i\alpha}}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \vec{E}(\text{fixed } \vec{r}, t) &= \text{Re} \sqrt{\frac{25}{2}} \left(\hat{x} + e^{i\alpha} \hat{y} \right) e^{-i\omega t} \\ &= \sqrt{\frac{25}{2}} \left[\cos(-\omega t) \hat{x} + \cos(-\omega t + \alpha) \hat{y} \right] \end{aligned}$$

Solve for $|\vec{E}|^2$ is extremized:

$$|\vec{E}|^2 \propto \cos^2(-\theta) + \cos^2(-\theta + \alpha)$$

$$\frac{d|\vec{E}|^2}{d\theta} = 2\cos(-\theta)\sin(-\theta) + 2\cos(-\theta + \alpha)\sin(-\theta + \alpha) = 0.$$

$$\sin(-2\theta) = -\sin(-2\theta + 2\alpha)$$

$$\sin(-2\theta) = \sin(2\theta - 2\alpha)$$

$$-2\theta = 2\theta - 2\alpha,$$

$$\boxed{\theta = \frac{\alpha}{2}}$$

$$|E|^2 \Big|_{\theta = \frac{\alpha}{2}} = \frac{25}{2} \left[\cos^2\left(-\frac{\alpha}{2}\right) + \cos^2\left(-\frac{\alpha}{2} + \alpha\right) \right]$$

$$= \frac{25}{2} \left[2 \cos^2\left(\frac{\alpha}{2}\right) \right]$$

$$\approx \frac{25}{2} \left[2 \cos^2(0.14) \right]$$

$$= 25 \cos^2(0.14) \approx \boxed{24.513}$$

\Rightarrow The semi-major axis is $\sqrt{24.513} = 4.95$,
the semi-minor axis is $\sqrt{25 - 24.513} = 0.698$

Elliptical Polarization basis.

$$S_0 + S_3 = 2a_+^2, \quad S_0 - S_3 = 2a_-^2$$

$$\Rightarrow a_+ = 4, \quad a_- = 3$$

$$\delta_- - \delta_+ = \cos^{-1} \left[\frac{S_1}{2a_+ a_-} \right] = \frac{\pi}{2}$$

$$\text{WLOG, } \delta_+ = 0, \quad \delta_- = \frac{\pi}{2}, \quad E_+ = 4, \quad E_- = 3e^{i\pi/2}.$$

$$\Rightarrow \vec{E}(\vec{r}, t) = \text{Re} \left[4\vec{e}_+ + 3e^{i\pi/2} \vec{e}_- \right] e^{i\vec{k} \cdot \vec{r} - i\omega t}$$

~~For fixed \vec{r} , \vec{E}_x~~

Solving for \vec{r} ratio of semimajor axis to semiminor axis
gives $\frac{1+3/4}{1-3/4} = 7$.

\Rightarrow Semimajor axis has length 4.95,
Semiminor axis has length 0.698.

