Gaussian Beams & Resonators

Electro-Optics & Applications

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He-Ne Laser



https://wtamu.edu/~cbaird/sq/images/laser_red.png

Green Laser Pointer



https://images-na.ssl-images-amazon.com/images/I/51CVh6BKpUL._SL1000_.jpg

Necessity for an expression of an electromagnetic field with finite cross-sectional area \rightarrow Gaussian Beams

Gaussian Beams – TEM Solutions

Gauss' Law:

$$egin{aligned} ec{
abla} \cdot ec{D} &= 0 \Longrightarrow ec{
abla} \cdot ec{E} &= 0, \ ec{
abla} \cdot ec{E} &= 0 \Longrightarrow ec{
abla}_t \cdot ec{E}_t + rac{\partial E_z}{\partial z} &= 0, \ ec{E} &= ec{E}_t + E_z \hat{z}, \end{aligned}$$

Approximations:

$$\frac{\partial E_z}{\partial z} \simeq -j\frac{2\pi}{\lambda_0}nE_z,$$

$$\vec{\nabla}_t \cdot \vec{E}_t = \lim_{\Delta S \to 0} \left\{ \frac{1}{\Delta S} \oint_{\Delta \ell} \vec{E}_t \cdot \hat{\imath}_{\perp \ell} d\ell \right\} \simeq \lim_{D \to 0} \left\{ \frac{4}{\pi D^2} |\vec{E}_t| \pi D \right\} \simeq \frac{|\vec{E}_t|}{D},$$

TEM Approximation:

 $|E_z| \simeq \frac{\lambda_0}{2\pi nD} |\vec{E_t}|$

$$\frac{|E_z|}{|\vec{E_t}|} \simeq \frac{\lambda_0}{2\pi nD} < 10^{-3}$$

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2D Divergence



Gaussian Beams – TEM Solutions

TEM Approximation:

$$\vec{E}(x,y,z) = \hat{t}E_0\psi(x,y,z)\exp(-jkz)$$

Helmholtz Scalar Equation

$$abla^2 E + k_0^2 n^2 E = 0 \qquad \qquad
abla^2 \psi - j2k rac{\partial \psi}{\partial z} + rac{\partial^2 \psi}{\partial z^2} = 0$$

Paraxial Wave Equation

$$\nabla_t^2 \psi - j2k \frac{\partial \psi}{\partial z} \simeq 0, \quad \text{if} \quad \left| \frac{\partial^2 \psi}{\partial z^2} \right| \ll 2k \left| \frac{\partial \psi}{\partial z} \right|$$

Fundamental TEM Solution

$$rac{1}{r_{_T}}rac{\partial}{\partial r_{_T}}\left(r_{_T}rac{\partial\psi}{\partial r_{_T}}
ight)-j2krac{\partial\psi}{\partial z}=0. \hspace{1cm}\psi=\exp\left\{-j\left[P(z)+rac{kr_{_T}^2}{2q(z)}
ight]
ight\}$$

Gaussian Beams – TEM Solutions

Fundamental TEM Solution

$$\begin{cases} \left[\frac{k^2}{q^2(z)}\left(q'(z)-1\right)\right]r_T^2 & - 2k\left[P'(z)+\frac{j}{q(z)}\right]r_T^0 \\ \frac{dq}{dz} = q'(z) & = 1, \\ \frac{dP}{dz} = P'(z) & = -\frac{j}{q(z)}. \end{cases} \forall r_T$$

$$q(z) = z + j z_0$$
 $|\psi(r_T, z = 0)|^2 = \exp(-kr_T^2/z_0)$

Minimum Beam Waist and Rayleigh Distance

$$w_0^2 = \frac{2z_0}{k} = \frac{\lambda_0 z_0}{n\pi} \Longrightarrow z_0 = \frac{\pi n w_0^2}{\lambda_0} \qquad \psi = \exp\left\{-j\left[P(z) + \frac{kr_T^2}{2q(z)}\right]\right\}$$

$$jP(z) = \ln\left[1 - j\left(\frac{z}{z_0}\right)\right] = \ln\left[1 + \left(\frac{z}{z_0}\right)^2\right]^{1/2} - j\tan^{-1}\left(\frac{z}{z_0}\right)$$



Radial Profiles at various z Distances from Focal Plane



Electric Field Snapshot in Time



Intensity Snapshot in Time



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Gaussian Beam Divergence

$$w(z) \simeq \frac{w_0 z}{z_0} = \frac{\lambda_0 z}{\pi n w_0},$$
$$\tan \theta = \frac{dw(z)}{dz} = \frac{\lambda_0}{\pi n w_0} \Longrightarrow \Delta \theta = 2\theta \simeq \frac{2\lambda_0}{\pi n w_0} = \frac{4}{\pi} \frac{\lambda_0/n}{D_0}$$

Gaussian Beam Power

Gaussian Beam Radius of Curvature

Spherical Wave

$$E_{sph} = \frac{1}{r} \exp(-jkr), \text{ where}$$

$$r = \sqrt{x^2 + y^2 + z^2} = \sqrt{r_T^2 + z^2} = z\sqrt{1 + \frac{r_T^2}{z^2}},$$

$$r \simeq z + \frac{1}{2}\frac{r_T^2}{z} \simeq z + \frac{1}{2}\frac{r_T^2}{r}, \text{ and}$$

$$E_{sph} \simeq \frac{1}{r}\exp(-jkz)\exp\left(-j\frac{kr_T^2}{2r}\right).$$

Fundamental Gaussian Beam

$$E_{00}(r_{T},z) = E_{0} \underbrace{\frac{w_{0}}{w(z)} \exp\left[-\frac{r_{T}^{2}}{w^{2}(z)}\right]}_{\text{amplitude factor}} \underbrace{\exp\left\{-j\left[kz - \tan^{-1}\left(\frac{z}{z_{0}}\right)\right]\right\}}_{\text{longitudinal phase}} \underbrace{\exp\left[-j\frac{kr_{T}^{2}}{2R(z)}\right]}_{\text{radial phase}}$$

Fundamental Gaussian Beam



Gaussian Beam Radius of Curvature



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Gaussian Beam Radius of Curvature

$$R(z) \simeq \begin{cases} +\infty, & \text{centered at} \quad z_c = \mp \infty, & \text{for} \quad |z| \ll z_0, \\ \mp 2z_0, & \text{centered at} \quad z_c = \mp z_0 & \text{for} \quad |z| = z_0, \\ z, & \text{centered at} \quad z_c = 0, & \text{for} \quad |z| \gg z_0. \end{cases}$$

Gaussian Beam Longitudinal Phase Shift – Gouy's Shift



$$\Phi(z) = kz - \tan^{-1}(z/z_0)$$

Phase Velocity (exact)

Phase Velocity (approximate)

$$u_{p} = \frac{\omega}{d\Phi/dz} = \frac{\frac{c}{n}}{1 - \frac{\lambda_{0}z_{0}}{2\pi n} \frac{1}{z^{2} + z_{0}^{2}}}$$

$$u_p = \frac{\omega}{\Phi/z} = \frac{\frac{c}{n}}{1 - \frac{\lambda_0}{2\pi nz} \tan^{-1}\left(\frac{z}{z_0}\right)}.$$

Gaussian Beam Longitudinal Phase Shift – Gouy's Shift



Hermite-Gaussian Beams

$$E_{mp}(x, y, z) = E_{mp}^{HG} H_m\left(\frac{\sqrt{2}x}{w(z)}\right) H_p\left(\frac{\sqrt{2}y}{w(z)}\right) \frac{w_0}{w(z)} \exp\left[-\frac{x^2 + y^2}{w^2(z)}\right]$$
$$\exp\left\{-j\left[kz - (1+m+p)\tan^{-1}\left(\frac{z}{z_0}\right)\right]\right\} \exp\left[-j\frac{k(x^2+y^2)}{2R(z)}\right]$$

where,

$$\begin{split} w^2(z) &= w_0^2 \left(1 + \frac{z^2}{z_0^2} \right), \\ R(z) &= z \left(1 + \frac{z_0^2}{z^2} \right), \\ H_m(u) &= (-1)^m e^{u^2} \frac{d^m}{du^m} \left(e^{-u^2} \right), \\ H_{m+1}(u) &= 2u H_m(u) - 2m H_{m-1}(u), \quad \text{with} \quad H_0(u) = 1 \quad \text{and} \quad H_1(u) = u, \end{split}$$

Some Hermite Polynomials

$$H_0(x) = 1$$

$$H_1(x) = 2x$$

$$H_2(x) = 4x^2 - 2$$

$$H_3(x) = 8x^3 - 12x$$

$$H_4(x) = 16x^4 - 48x^2 + 12$$

Hermite-Gaussian Beams Patterns



Experimental Patterns of Gaussian Beams







TEM₂₀



TEM₃₀

TEM₆₀



TEM₄₀

TEM₇₀

TEM₂₂



TEM₅₀



TEMII



TEM₃₃

From A. Yariv and P. Yeh, "Photonics" 6th Ed. Oxford University Press, 2007

TEM₂₁

Hermite-Gaussian Beams Patterns



Laguerre-Gaussian Beams

$$E_{pm}(r_{T},\phi,z) = E_{pm}^{LG} \frac{w_{0}}{w(z)} \left(\frac{\sqrt{2}r_{T}}{w(z)}\right)^{|m|} L_{p}^{|m|} \left(\frac{2r_{T}^{2}}{w^{2}(z)}\right) \exp\left[-\frac{r_{T}^{2}}{w^{2}(z)}\right] \\ \exp\left\{-j\left[kz - (1+|m|+2p)\tan^{-1}\left(\frac{z}{z_{0}}\right)\right]\right\} \exp(jm\phi) \exp\left[-j\frac{kr_{T}^{2}}{2R(z)}\right]$$

where,

$$\begin{split} w^2(z) &= w_0^2 \left(1 + \frac{z^2}{z_0^2} \right), \\ R(z) &= z \left(1 + \frac{z_0^2}{z^2} \right), \\ L_p^m(u) &= \frac{e^u}{p!} u^{-m} \frac{d^p}{du^p} \left(e^{-u} u^{p+m} \right), \\ (k+1) L_{k+1}^p(u) &= (2k+1+p-u) L_k^p(u) - (k+p) L_{k-1}^p(u), \quad \text{with} \\ L_0^m(u) &= 1 \quad \text{and} \quad L_1^m(u) = -u + (m+1), \end{split}$$

Some Laguerre Polynomials

$$L_{0}^{m}(x) = 1$$

$$L_{1}^{m}(x) = -x + (m + 1)$$

$$L_{2}^{m}(x) = \frac{1}{2}[x^{2} - 2(m + 2)x + (m + 1)(m + 2)]$$

$$L_{3}^{m}(x) = \frac{1}{6}[-x^{3} + 3(m + 3)x^{2} - 3(m + 2)(m + 3)x + (m + 1)(m + 2)(m + 3)]$$
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Laguerre-Gaussian Beams Patterns

$TEM(0,0) - cos(m\phi)$



TEM(0,1) - cos(mφ)



TEM(0,1) - sin(mφ)



$\mathsf{TEM}(1,\!0) - \cos(m\varphi)$



 $\mathsf{TEM}(0,\!2) - \cos(m\varphi)$



 $TEM(0,2) - sin(m\phi)$



$\mathsf{TEM}(2,\!0) - \cos(m\varphi)$



TEM(1,1) - cos(mφ)



 $TEM(1,1) - sin(m\phi)$



Validity of Paraxial Approximation

$$\mathcal{P} = 1 - \frac{N+1}{k_0^2 n^2 w_0^2}$$
, where
 $N = m+p$, for Hermite-Gaussian beams,
 $N = 2p + |m|$, for Laguerre-Gaussian beams.

 $\mathcal{P} \simeq 1$ (the closer to 1 the better the paraxial approximation)

P. Vaveliuk et al, "Limits of the paraxial approximation in laser beams", Opt. Lett., 32, (927-929), 2007

Validity of Paraxial Approximation



https://www.comsol.com/blogs/understanding-the-paraxial-gaussian-beam-formula/

Gaussian Beams and ABCD Law





Fabry-Perot Interferometer



$$E_{r} = \sum_{m=1}^{\infty} E_{rm} = r_{12}E_{i} + t_{12}t_{21}r_{23}e^{-j\delta}E_{i}\left[1 + r_{21}r_{23}e^{-j\delta} + r_{21}^{2}r_{23}^{2}e^{-j2\delta} + \cdots\right] = r_{12}E_{i} + t_{12}t_{21}r_{23}e^{-j\delta}E_{i}\frac{1}{1 - r_{21}r_{23}e^{-j\delta}} = r_{12}E_{i} - (1 - r_{12}^{2})E_{i}\frac{r_{32}e^{-j\delta}}{1 - r_{12}r_{32}e^{-j\delta}}$$

E_r	_	$r_{12} - r_{32}e^{-j\delta}$
$\overline{E_i}$		$\overline{1-r_{12}r_{32}e^{-j\delta}}.$

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Stokes Relations



$$rt + r't = 0 \Longrightarrow r' = -r,$$

 $tt' + r^2 = 1.$

Fabry-Perot Interferometer



$E_t = \sum_{m=1}^{\infty} E_{tm} = t_{12} t_{23} E_i \left[1 + r_{21} r_{23} e^{-j\delta} + r_{21}^2 r_{23}^2 e^{-j2\delta} + \cdots \right]$ $\frac{E_t}{E_i} = \frac{t_{12} t_{23}}{1 - r_{12} r_{32} e^{-j\delta}}$

Transmitted Waves

Transmitted Waves

$$\begin{split} \frac{I_r}{I_i} &= \frac{P_r}{P_i} = \frac{|E_r|^2}{|E_i|^2} = \frac{|r_{12}|^2 + |r_{32}|^2 - 2|r_{12}||r_{32}|\cos\delta}{1 + |r_{12}|^2|r_{32}|^2 - 2|r_{12}||r_{32}|\cos\delta} = \\ &= \frac{(|r_{12}| - |r_{32}|)^2 + 4|r_{12}||r_{32}|\sin^2(\delta/2)}{(1 - |r_{12}||r_{32}|)^2 + 4|r_{12}||r_{32}|\sin^2(\delta/2)} = \frac{(\sqrt{R_1} - \sqrt{R_2})^2 + 4\sqrt{R_1R_2}\sin^2(\delta/2)}{(1 - \sqrt{R_1R_2})^2 + 4\sqrt{R_1R_2}\sin^2(\delta/2)}, \\ \frac{I_t}{I_i} &= \frac{P_t}{P_i} = \frac{n_3\cos\theta_3}{n_1\cos\theta_1}\frac{|E_t|^2}{|E_i|^2} = \frac{|t_{12}|^2|t_{23}|^2}{1 + |r_{12}|^2|r_{32}|^2 - 2|r_{12}||r_{32}|\cos\delta}, \\ &\text{using Eqs. (118) or (119)} \\ &|t_{12}|^2 &= \frac{n_1\cos\theta_1}{n_2\cos\theta_2}\left(1 - |r_{12}|^2\right), \\ &|t_{23}|^2 &= \frac{n_2\cos\theta_2}{n_3\cos\theta_3}\left(1 - |r_{32}|^2\right), \\ &\text{results in,} \\ \frac{I_t}{I_i} &= \frac{(1 - |r_{12}|^2)(1 - |r_{32}|^2)}{1 + |r_{12}|^2|r_{32}|\cos\delta} = \\ &\frac{(1 - |r_{12}|^2)(1 - |r_{32}|^2)}{(1 - |r_{12}||r_{32}|)^2 + 4|r_{12}||r_{32}|\sin^2(\delta/2)} = \frac{(1 - R_1)(1 - R_2)}{(1 - \sqrt{R_1R_2})^2 + 4\sqrt{R_1R_2}\sin^2(\delta/2)} \end{split}$$

Fabry-Perot Interferometer





Transmitted Waves

 $\mathbf{n_1} = \mathbf{n_3} = \mathbf{n_0} \text{ and } \mathbf{n_2} = \mathbf{n_f} \qquad r_{12} = r_{32} = r \ (\phi_{12} = \phi_{32} = 0) \qquad R_1 = R_2 = R = r^2$ $\delta = k_0 \Delta, \qquad \Delta = 2dn_2 \cos \theta_2, \qquad R = r^2$ $\boxed{\frac{I_t}{I_i} = \frac{(1 - r^2)^2}{1 + r^4 - 2r^2 \cos \delta} = \frac{(1 - R)^2}{(1 - R)^2 + 4R \sin^2(\delta/2)}}{\frac{I_r}{I_i} = \frac{2r^2(1 - \cos \delta)}{1 + r^4 - 2r^2 \cos \delta} = \frac{4R \sin^2(\delta/2)}{(1 - R)^2 + 4R \sin^2(\delta/2)}}$

Electromagnetic Analysis of Fabry-Perot Interferometer



Transmitted Wave

$$H_{1x} = \frac{1}{Z_1} \left[-E_i \cos \theta_1 e^{-jk_0 n_1 (x \sin \theta_1 + z \cos \theta_1)} + E_r \cos \theta_1 e^{-jk_0 n_1 (x \sin \theta_1 - z \cos \theta_1)} \right],$$

$$H_{2x} = \frac{1}{Z_2} \left[-E_{2t} \cos \theta_2 e^{-jk_0 n_2 (x \sin \theta_2 + z \cos \theta_2)} + E_{2r} \cos \theta_2 e^{-jk_0 n_1 (x \sin \theta_2 - z \cos \theta_2)} \right],$$

$$H_{3x} = -\frac{1}{Z_3} E_t \cos \theta_3 e^{-jk_0 n_3 (x \sin \theta_3 + (z - d) \cos \theta_3)}.$$

Electromagnetic Analysis of Fabry-Perot Interferometer



Electromagnetic Analysis of Fabry-Perot Interferometer



$$\begin{split} &\frac{I_r}{I_i} &= |r|^2 = \frac{|m_{21}|^2}{|m_{22}|^2}, \\ &\frac{I_t}{I_i} &= \frac{n_3 \cos \theta_3}{n_1 \cos \theta_1} |t|^2 = \frac{n_3 \cos \theta_3}{n_1 \cos \theta_1} \left[|m_{11}|^2 + \frac{|m_{12}|^2 |m_{21}|^2}{|m_{22}|^2} - 2 \operatorname{Re} \left\{ \frac{m_{11}^* m_{12} m_{21}}{m_{22}} \right\} \right] \end{split}$$

Fabry-Perot Interferometer

 $\delta = 2k_0 n_2 d\cos\theta_2$



Asymmetric Fabry-Perot Interferometer with Gain or Loss

 $G = e^{\gamma d}$

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{I_t}{I_i} &= \frac{G(1-R_1)(1-R_2)}{(1-G\sqrt{R_1R_2})^2 + 4G\sqrt{R_1R_2}\sin^2(\delta/2)} \\ \frac{I_r}{I_i} &= \frac{(\sqrt{R_1} - \sqrt{R_2})^2 + 4G\sqrt{R_1R_2}\sin^2(\delta/2)}{(1-G\sqrt{R_1R_2})^2 + 4G\sqrt{R_1R_2}\sin^2(\delta/2)} \end{aligned}$$

Loss







Resonant Frequencies

 $\delta = 2k_0n_2d\cos\theta_2$

$$\frac{I_t}{I_i} = \frac{(1-R)^2}{(1-R)^2 + 4R\sin^2(\delta/2 - \phi)} = \frac{1}{1+F\sin^2(\delta/2 - \phi)},$$

$$F = \frac{4R}{(1-R)^2},$$
 Symmetric Fabry-Perot Case.

Coefficient of Finesse



Coefficient of Finesse

$$F = \frac{4R}{(1-R)^2}$$

Minimum Wavelength Separation





Fabry-Perot Interferometer



Two-Mirror Laser Resonator



http://www.optique-ingenieur.org/en/courses/OPI_ang_M01_C03/co/Contenu_11.html

 $R_1 = Infinite$ $R_2 = 1m (R_2 > 0)$













 $z_0 = 0.5m$, $w_0 = 317.35\mu m$, $z_1 = 0$, $z_2 = 0.5m$

 $R_1 = 0.3m (R_1 > 0)$ $R_2 = 0.5m (R_2 > 0)$









 $R_1 = 0.3m$ (>0), $R_2 = 0.5m$ (>0), L = 0.6m

R₁ = 0.3m (>0), R₂ = 0.5m (>0), L = 0.2m





 $R_1 = -0.3m$ (<0), $R_2 = 0.5m$ (>0), L = 0.25m





Different Laser Resonator Geometries



http://www.optique-ingenieur.org/en/courses/OPI_ang_M01_C03/co/Contenu_12.html

Cavity Lifetime – Approximate Approach



Assume N round-trips in the cavity:

$$\frac{I_0 (R_1 R_2)^N e^{-2N\alpha \ell}}{I_0} = e^{-1} \to t_N = \frac{2\ell N}{c/n} = t_c$$

$$t_c = \frac{n/c}{\alpha - \frac{1}{\ell} \ln\left(\sqrt{R_1 R_2}\right)}$$

Cavity Lifetime – Accurate Approach



Rate of decrease in intensity (or number of photons) in the cavity:

$$\begin{split} \frac{dI}{dt} &= -\frac{1 - R_1 R_2 e^{-2\alpha \ell}}{\tau_{_{RT}}} I = -\frac{1}{t_c} I\\ &I(t) = I_0 e^{t/t_c} \longrightarrow t_c = \frac{\tau_{_{RT}}}{1 - R_1 R_2 e^{-2\alpha \ell}} = \frac{\tau_{_{RT}}}{1 - S} \end{split}$$
 Survival Ratio: $S = R_1 R_2 e^{-2\alpha \ell}$

Round-Trip Time: $\tau_{_{RT}}=\frac{2\ell}{c/n}$