

## Final Review

Last time: introduction to quantum field theory

Like QM, but field is quantum variable  
rather than  $x, p$  for particle

Understand photons, noise, weird quantum states

Today:

Summarize everything

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Outline:

- Final exam format
- Summary, key points
- Questions

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# Final Exam

In class: Friday December 9, 2:00-5:00 PM

Eight problems, 10 points each

Partial credit on all

Can use:

- Lecture notes
- Homework assignments and solutions
- Textbook

Bring a calculator

Scratch paper provided or bring your own

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Problems have varying difficulty:

do easy ones first!

No long calculations

(if you know what you're doing)

Don't waste time on algebra:

Explain what you want to do and move on

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Content:

Comprehensive, over full course

Roughly 1/4 from before midterm

3/4 from after midterm

All drawn from lectures,  
but book useful for a few questions

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## Review

I. Maxwell's Equations

II. Ray Optics

III. Fourier Optics

IV. Interference

V. Polarization and photons

Review key points from each

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# I. Maxwell's Equations

## A. Maxwell → wave equation

Light is a wave

- Electric and magnetic fields oscillate
- Energy related to field amplitudes

$$I = \frac{|E_0|^2}{2\eta_0}$$

- Simplest solution = plane wave

Complex representation  $\mathbf{E} = \mathbf{E}_0 e^{i(\mathbf{k}\cdot\mathbf{r} - \omega t)}$

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## B. Light in matter: Two pictures

Index of refraction and scattered waves

Index:  $v = c/n$

$$\lambda = \lambda_0/n$$

$$\mathbf{k} = n\mathbf{k}_0$$

Easy way to include wave scattered by medium

Gives correct results

Scattering:  $E_{\text{tot}} = E_{\text{inc}} + E_{\text{scat}}$

Scattered field produced at  $\mathbf{r} \propto E(\mathbf{r})$

Sometimes easier to understand

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## C. Interfaces

Snell's Law, Law of Reflection:

Direction of transmitted, reflected waves

Understand both with Fermat's Principle

Fresnel equations:

Amplitude of transmitted, reflected waves

Generally complex:

- Total internal reflection
- Metallic media

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## II. Ray Optics

A. Thin lenses (paraxial limit)

$$\frac{1}{s_i} + \frac{1}{s_o} = \frac{1}{f}$$

Sign conventions important

Curved mirror  $\approx$  lens with  $f = -R/2$

B. Stops

Set field of view and brightness of image

When cascading systems, want exit pupil of first  
and entrance pupil of second to coincide

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## C. Optical Systems

- Cascade multiple elements with ray matrices

$$\mathcal{M}_{\text{tot}} = \mathcal{M}_N \mathcal{M}_{N-1} \dots \mathcal{M}_2 \mathcal{M}_1$$

$$\mathbf{v}_{\text{out}} = \mathcal{M}_{\text{tot}} \mathbf{v}_{\text{in}}$$

- System ray matrix also gives thick lens picture:

Arb. system like thin lens

“Input” at front principle plane

“Output” at back principle plane

- Aberrations limit performance

Calculate with exact ray tracing

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## III. Fourier Optics

### A. Fourier transform

$$\mathcal{E}(\mathbf{k}) = \iiint E(\mathbf{r}) e^{-i\mathbf{k}\cdot\mathbf{r}} d^3r$$

$$E(\mathbf{r}) = \frac{1}{(2\pi)^3} \iiint \mathcal{E}(\mathbf{k}) e^{i\mathbf{k}\cdot\mathbf{r}} d^3k$$

Express any field as sum of plane waves

Evaluate using tables and shifting properties

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## B. Propagation

Given  $E(x, y, 0) = A(x, y)$ , get  $\mathcal{A}(k_x, k_y)$

Each component  $e^{i(k_x x + k_y y)} \rightarrow e^{i(k_x x + k_y y + \kappa z)}$

$$\text{with } \kappa = \sqrt{k^2 - k_x^2 - k_y^2}$$

Convolution form:

$$E(x, y, z) = \iint A(X, Y) h(X - x, Y - y) dX dY$$

with  $h =$  inverse transform of  $e^{i\kappa z}$

Either way,  $E(x, y, z)$  determined by  $A(x, y)$

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## C. Diffraction

- Fresnel: small angle (paraxial)

$$\kappa \approx k - \frac{k_x^2 + k_y^2}{2k}$$

- Fraunhofer: large distance

Get

$$E(x, y, d) \approx -\frac{i}{\lambda d} e^{i\phi} \mathcal{A}\left(\frac{kx}{d}, \frac{ky}{d}\right)$$

So  $k_x \rightarrow kx/d = k\theta_x$  and  $k_y \rightarrow ky/d = k\theta_y$

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## D. Applications

- Grating: sharp lines good for spectroscopy
- Lens: Fraunhofer pattern in focal plane
- Fourier filter: use aperture to modify transform
- Holography: make aperture function to create arbitrary diffracted field

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## IV. Interference

### A. Gaussian Beams

Good approximation to laser beam

Characteristic  $I(\rho) = I_0 e^{-2\rho^2/w^2}$

Remains focussed over length  $z_0 = \pi w_0^2/\lambda$

Propagate using  $q = z - iz_0$

Optical system:  $q_{\text{in}}$  and  $q_{\text{out}}$  related by ray matrix

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## B. Interferometers

Device that exhibits interference

Basic equation:  $E_{\text{tot}} = E_1 + E_2$

$$\Rightarrow I_{\text{tot}} = I_1 + I_2 + 2\sqrt{I_1 I_2} \cos \phi$$

$\phi$  = phase difference between  $E_1$  and  $E_2$

Examples:

- Two slits: simplest
- Michelson: most common
- Fabry-Perot: multiple reflections  
Useful for spectroscopy

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## C. Coherence Theory

Theory of random waves

Temporal: when  $E(t)$  fluctuates

Polychromatic light

Spatial: when  $E(\mathbf{r})$  fluctuates

Extended light source

Generally have both fluctuations

Handle with  $\Gamma_{12}(\tau) = \langle E(\mathbf{r}_1, t + \tau) E^*(\mathbf{r}_2, t) \rangle$

Gives contrast of interference pattern

Also  $\Gamma_{11}(\tau) \rightarrow S(\omega)$  power spectral density

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## V. Polarization and photons

### A. Polarization

Vector nature of electric field

Polarization states:

- Linear:  $\mathbf{E}$  oscillates in plane
- Circular:  $\mathbf{E}$  rotates in circle
- Elliptical:  $\mathbf{E}$  traces out ellipse (most general)

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Polarization components:

- Polarizer: transmits one state  
blocks orthogonal state
- Quarter-wave plate:  
converts linear  $\leftrightarrow$  circular
- Half-wave plate:  
rotates plane of linear polarization

Calculate effects with Jones matrices

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## B. Quantum Optics

Light comes in packets called photons

$$\text{Energy} = \hbar\omega$$

But photons still propagate as wave

Typically have noise  $\propto N^{1/2}$

Quantum field theory:

Not on final

Questions?