ISC meeting

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Polarization issue in PRC

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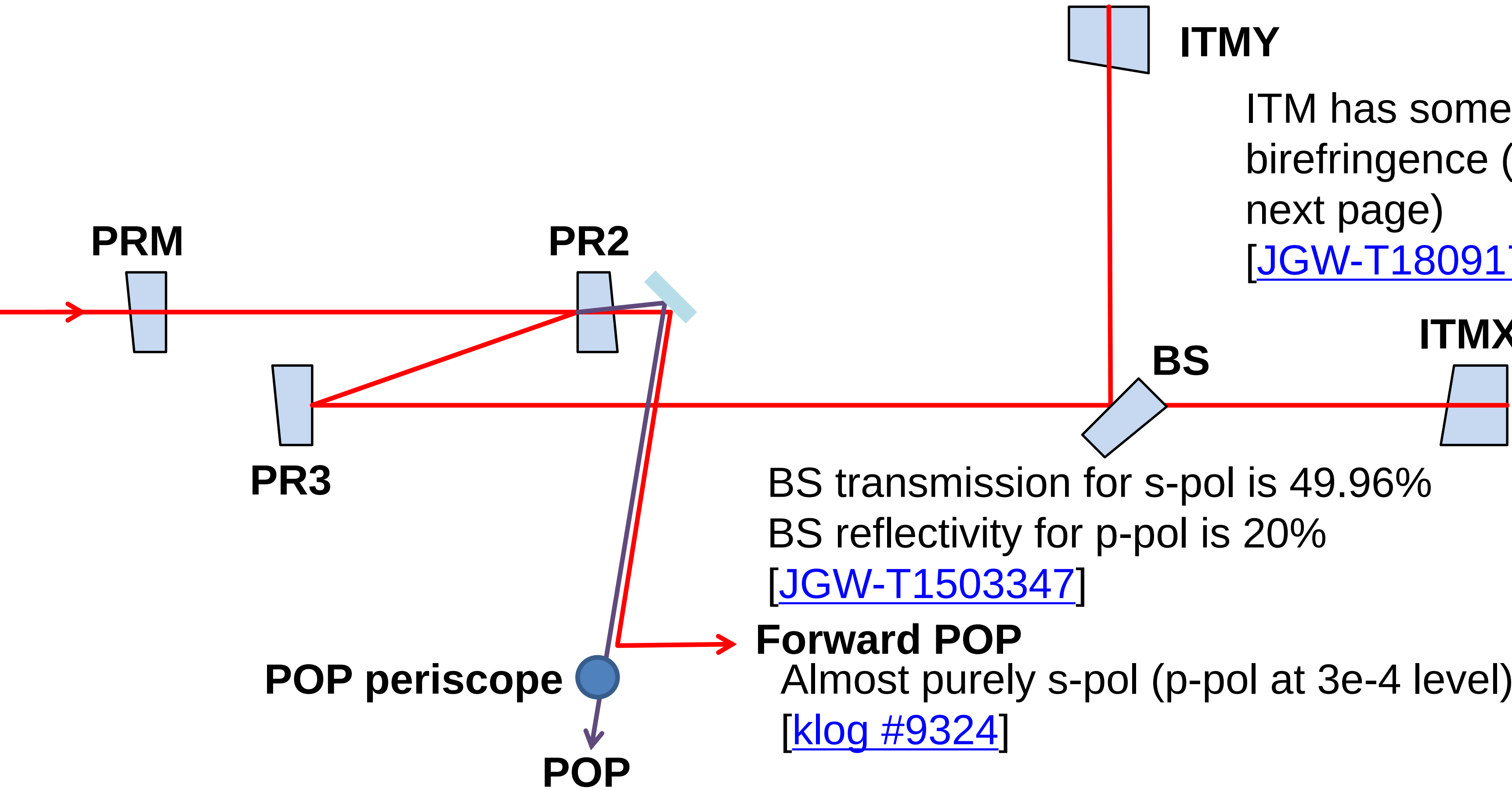
The Situation

- ITM reflection has some p-pol, while forward beam is almost purely s-pol



ITM has some birefringence (see next page) [JGW-T1809173]

BS transmission for s-pol is 49.96%
BS reflectivity for p-pol is 20%
[JGW-T1503347]

Forward POP
Almost purely s-pol (p-pol at 3e-4 level)
[klog #9324]

POP
9.4 % p-pol from ITMX single bounce
4.6 % p-pol from ITMY single bounce [klog #9314]

ITM Birefringence

- Vendor measured transmission wavefront error (TWE) with circular polarization, but TWE measured with s-pol was different

JGW-T1809173

	specification	vendor report	measured
ITMX	< 6nm	3.47	25.9nm
ITMY	< 6nm	4.07	30.1nm

Table 6. figure error of TWE at 140mm aperture

- This suggests that ITM has some birefringence
- Optical path length difference between two polarizations Δl_{b} gives phase difference of

$$\alpha = 2\pi \Delta l_{\mathrm{b}} / \lambda$$

ITM Birefringence

- If we treat RMS linearly, $\Delta l_{\rm b}$ can be written as
  $$\Delta l_{\rm b} = l_{\rm o} - l_{\rm e'} = 2l_{\rm u} - 2l_{\rm e'}$$
  where $l_{\rm u/o/e'}$ are the optical path length measured with circular polarization (~5 nm RMS by vendor) and polarization aligned with o/e' axes (~30 nm RMS by Caltech)
- *Maximum* power loss due to s-pol turning into p-pol is $\rho = (1-\cos 2\alpha)/2 \simeq \alpha^2$ (2 for round-trip in ITM)
- The power loss will be 7.0% for X and 9.5% for Y
- This corresponds to the power ratio at POP (p/(s+p)) of 10.8 % for X and 4.0 % for Y (note that BS reflectivity is different between polarizations) * corrected on June 30
- This seems to (amazingly) agree with the measurement (9.4% for X and 4.8% for Y)

Implications

- We need both uniform $l_{\rm s}$ and small $\Delta l_{\rm b}$ but this cannot be achieved by surface corrections
- Using ordinary and extraordinary refractive indices, $\Delta l_{\rm b}$ can be written as

$$\Delta l_{\rm b} = d n_o (n_o^2 - n_e^2)\theta^2/(2n_e^2)$$

where θ is angle between c-axis and beam axis, JGW-T0400030 and d is ITM thickness (15cm)

For sapphire @ 1064 nm

$$n_e = 1.747$$

$$n_o = 1.754$$

Note that they are different in cryogenic temperatures and there might be additional birefringence due to stress or something

- If we require loss to be smaller than a threshold,

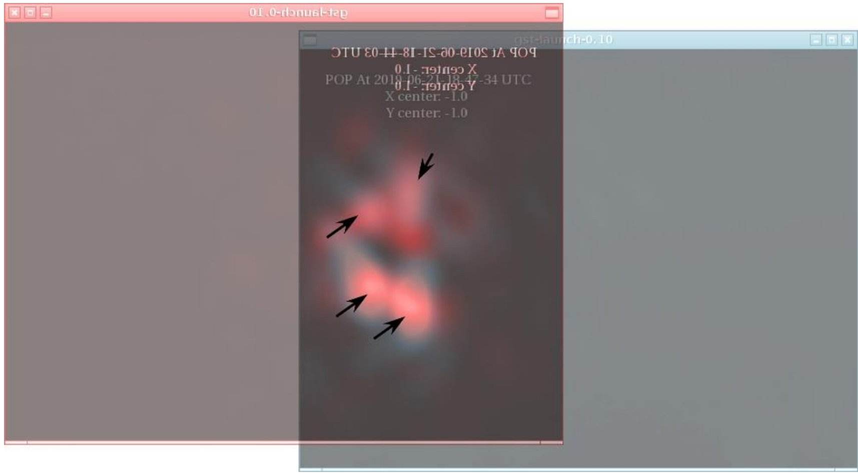
$$\Delta l_{\rm b} < \sqrt{\lambda^2 \rho_{\rm th}/(2\pi)^2}$$

$$\theta < \sqrt{\frac{2n_e^2\sqrt{\lambda^2\rho_{\rm th}/(2\pi)^2}}{d n_o (n_o^2 - n_e^2)}}$$

For 10% (1000ppm) loss, these will be 54 nm (5.4 nm) and 0.41 deg (0.13 deg)

Other Possibilities

- The shape of p-pol beams from ITMX and ITMY seems similar which implies common p-pol generation? [klog #9329]
  Common stress due to suspension?



- Beam height changes could create p-pol beam? (we have 1/300 inclination)
- Beam clipping creates p-pol beam somehow?
- Birefringence in ITM coating? (might be able to check by measuring the amount of p-pol at room temperature)

Sapphire Axes

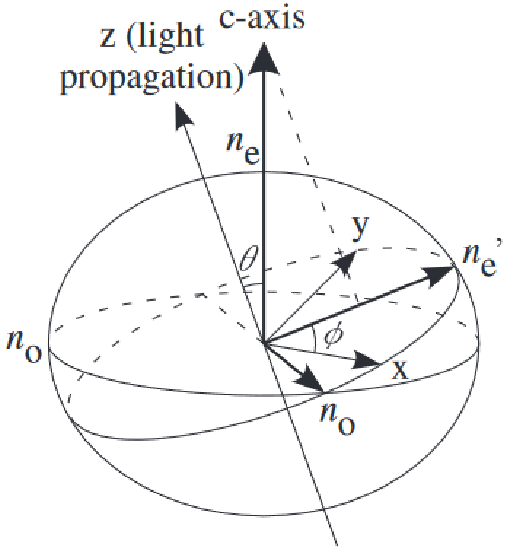
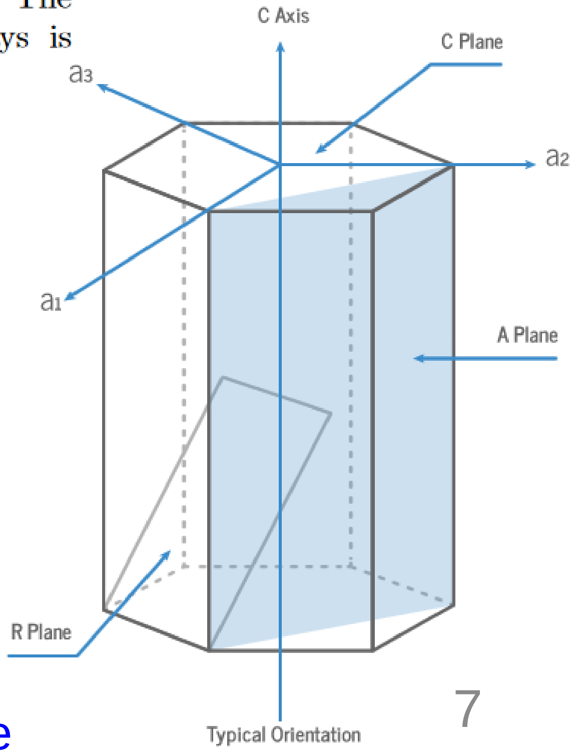


Figure 1. If the c-axis of the sapphire sample inclines by an angle θ from the z-axis, the phase speed of light propagating along the z-axis depends on the direction of its electric field vector **E**. The phase speed of a beam whose electric field is parallel to the projection of the c-axis onto the xy-plane, which inclines by an angle ϕ from the x-axis, is c/n_e' and the phase speed of a beam whose electric field is perpendicular to the direction is c/n_o. The phase retardation between these two rays is given by Eq. 2.

Tokunari+, [JPCS 32, 432 (2006)]

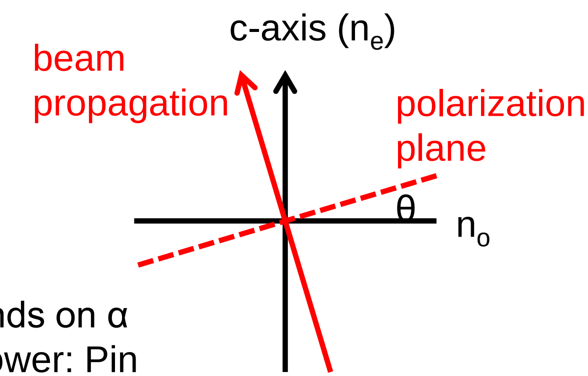


[http://jp.rubicontechnology.com/company/sapphire]

Calculation Details

- Phase difference between o-axis and e'-axis

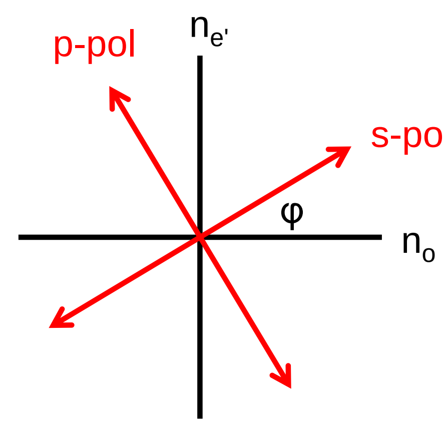
$$\alpha = 2\pi d(n_o - n_{e'})/\lambda$$



- p-pol power after ITM reflection

$$P_p/P_{\rm in} = (1-\cos^2 2\phi)(1-\cos 2\alpha)/2$$
$$\leq (1-\cos 2\alpha)/2$$
$$\simeq \alpha^2$$

s-pol power depends on α
Maximum s-pol power: Pin
Minimum s-pol power: Pin*cos^2(2φ)



- Transmission wavefront error

$$d(n_o - n_{e'}) = 2(d(n_o + n_{e'})/2 - dn_{e'})$$

Measured with circular polarization, and this is minimized by polishing

Not directly measured. RMS measured with s-pol shows small dependence on mirror orientation, and this suggests $dn_{e'}$ map is similar to dn_o map in RMS

θ < 0.2 deg (JGW-T1809173)
But φ is totally unknown