

## X-ray Diffraction

Photons can have very short wavelengths.

visible light...  $\lambda = 500\text{nm}$

diffraction grating  $\approx$  few  $\lambda$  spacing

X-rays...  $\lambda \sim 0.1\text{nm}$

array of atoms separated by  
 $\approx$  few nanometers

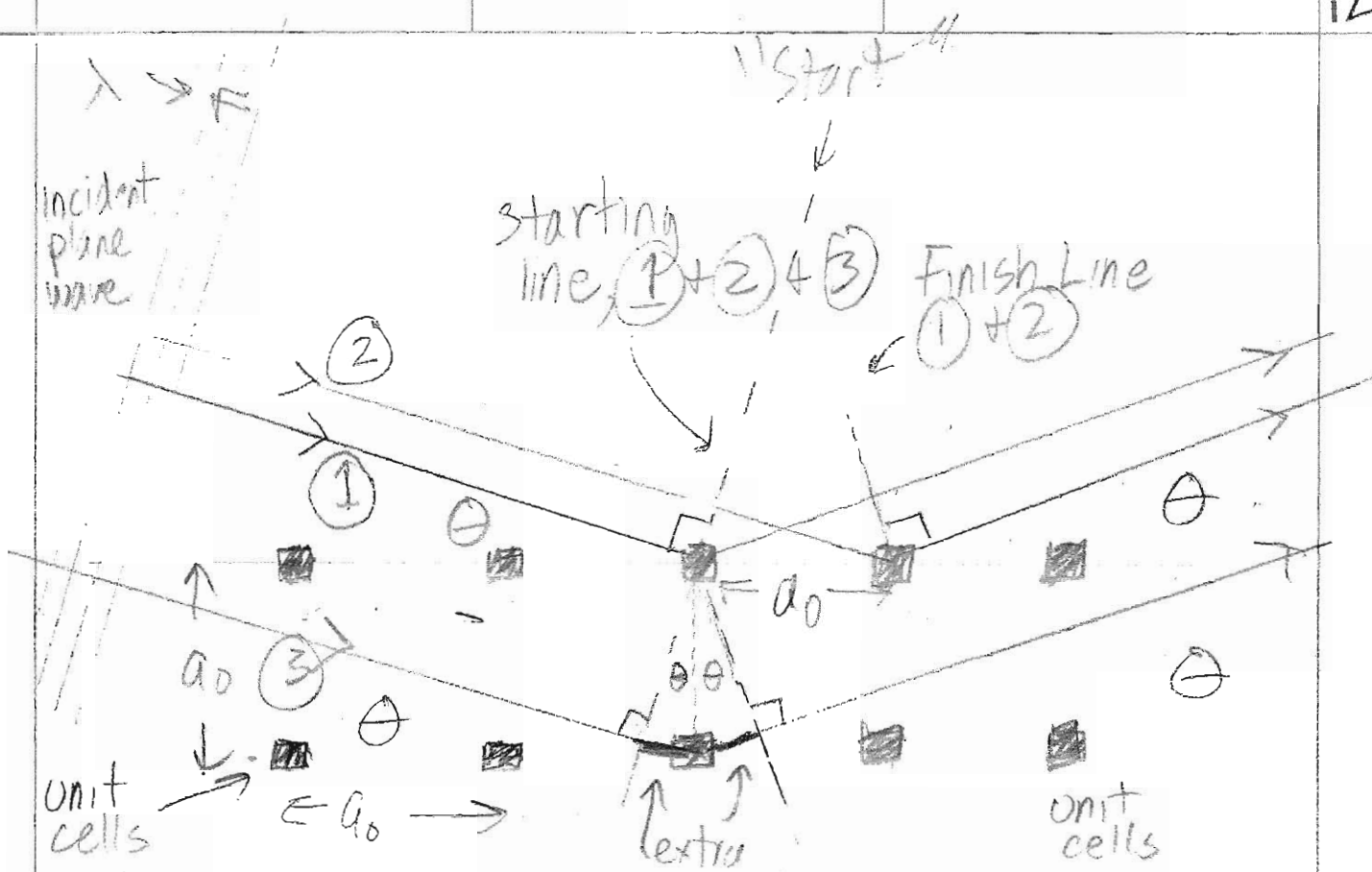
Complications : • generally see effect in reflection

• details of how photons actually interact a bit involved... just accept that recurring patterns of atoms ("unit cells") scatter X-rays in all directions; some directions see constructive interference..

• geometry a bit different because of non 1-d nature of the crystal

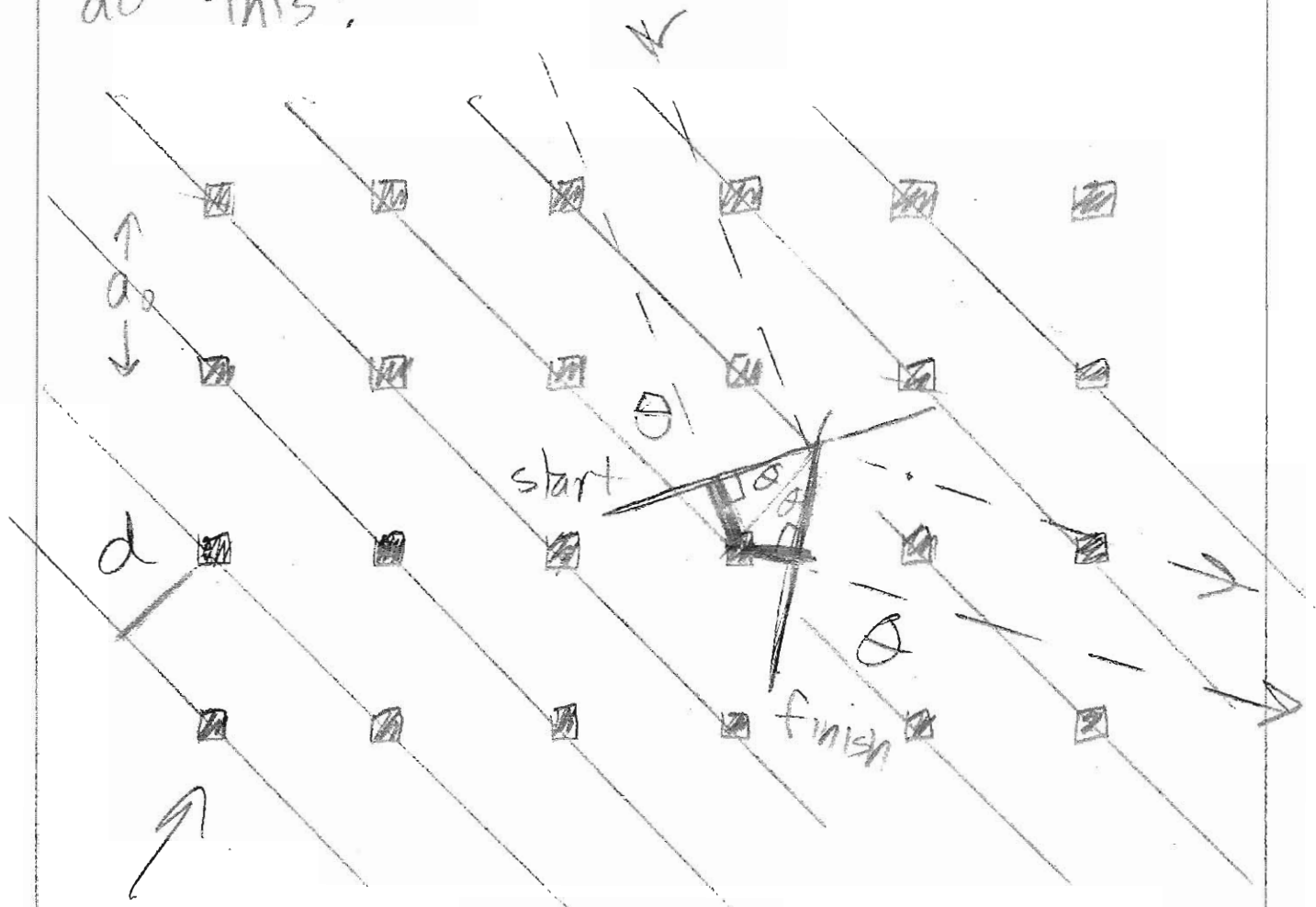
• look at.. different paths that end up going in same final direction - get path difference.

• look for a variety of "planes" of "unit cells"



- Note:  $\theta$  not with respect to vertical... convention in this work
- Wave fronts along different rays all "start" at the same line above.
- $(1) + (2)$  hit there finish line after each has traveled  $a_0 \cdot \cos \theta$ ... difference in path length is 0! CENTRAL MAX
- $(1) + (3)$  ...  $(3)$  goes EXTRA  $2 \times a_0 \cdot \sin \theta$   
 bigger max:  $\rightarrow 2a_0 \sin \theta = m \lambda$   $m = \text{integer}$   
 first occurrence of Bragg's Law!

Many other planes of atoms can do this!



these planes:  $d = \frac{a_0}{\sqrt{2}}$

• more generally, 1 step down, b steps over (b=1 above)

$$d = a_0 \cos(\text{angle})$$

$$b \rightarrow \infty, d = a_0$$

$$d = a_0 \cdot \frac{b}{\sqrt{1+b^2}}$$

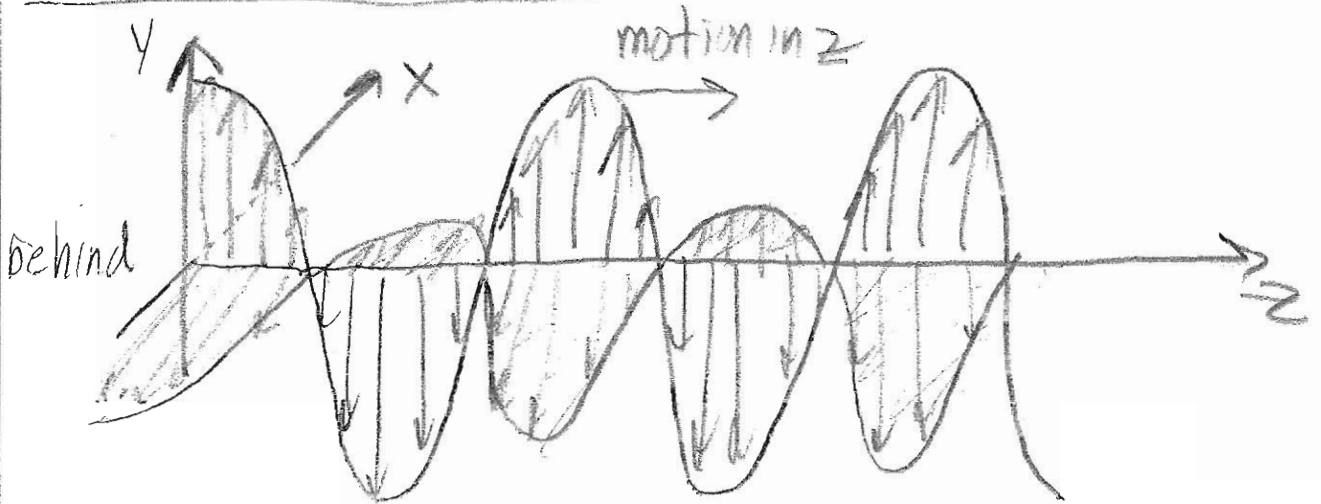
• look at plane crossings.. extra distance (Bragg).  
 $= 2d \sin \theta = m\lambda$

# Polarization of Light + EM Radiation

Linear : what we've learned so far

- 2 linear polarizations... "span the space" like vertical + horizontal! (can tilt)

$\vec{E} \times \vec{B} = \text{direction of motion}$



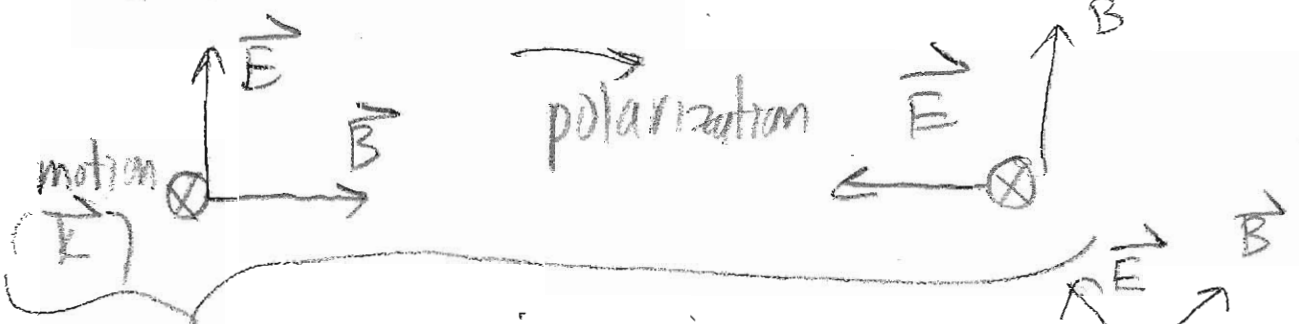
which is  $\vec{E}$  ? Answer... vertical

$\vec{B}$  ? Answer... horizontal!

else motion OTHER WAY!

From behind

other



• can make simple linear combo: for example.

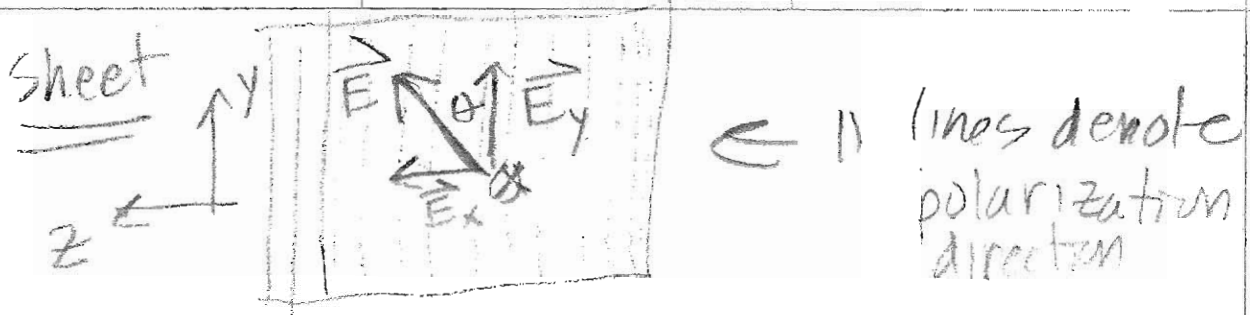
• can delay maximum of one, relative to other circular polarization.

Some wonderful animations on  
 Wikipedia (Circular Polarization)  
 Youtube (Linear, Circular, and Elliptical -).  
 Q0qrU4npr80

Polarization is like a "hidden variable" with light, EM radiation.

- Sunlight from blue sky is polarized
- Light that reflects off shiny surfaces is polarized  $\parallel$  to surface.
- Polaroid Sunglasses. Use polarization
- Some birds, insects use polarization to navigate.
- Radio + WiFi want to be unpolarized, better penetration past random obstacles... problem is, antennas tend to emit polarized light
- Polarization of starlight helps to reconstruct galactic magnetic fields
- 3-D glasses these days use circular polarization.

Polarizing Sheets : • block component of  $\vec{E} \perp$  to their direction  
 • transmit  $\parallel$

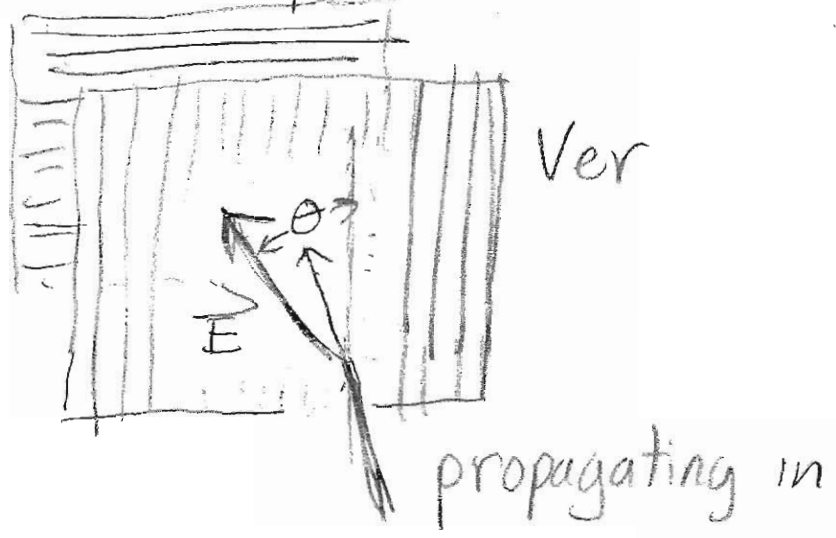


only  $\vec{E}_y$  penetrates,  $\vec{E}_x$  blocked.

$$|\vec{E}_y| = |\vec{E}| \cos \theta$$

$$I = I_m \cos^2 \theta$$

Now imagine crossed polarizers...



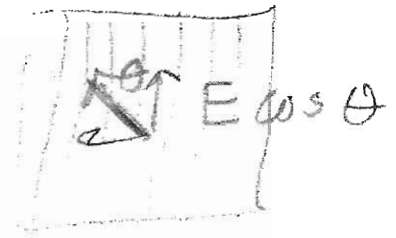
Does any light penetrate, for any  $\theta$ ? NO  
 What happens if.. a third polarizer is inserted at  $45^\circ$ , between?

$\Rightarrow$  Light gets through!

Take it in steps:

Step #1

Incident  
 $\vec{E}$  full strength



Step #2

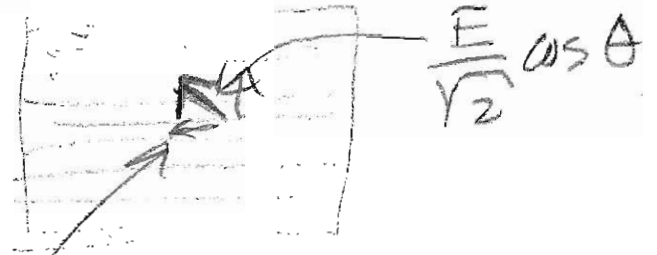
Approach 45°

$$E \cos \theta \times \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}$$



Step #3

Approach final horizontal



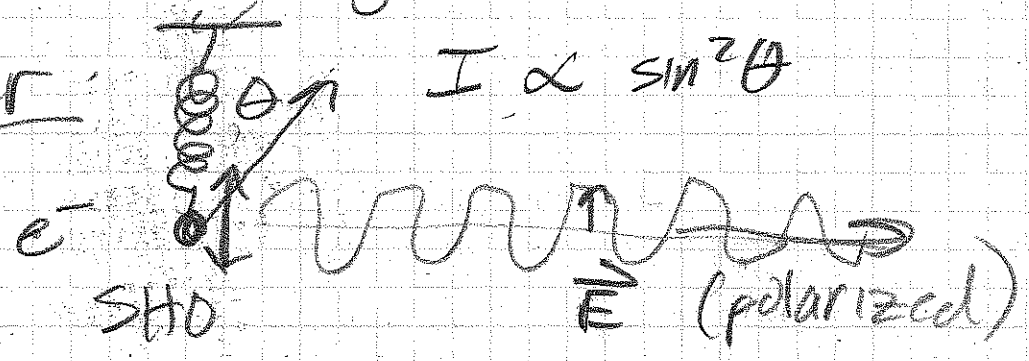
$$\frac{E}{\sqrt{2}} \cos \theta \times \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} = \frac{1}{2} E \cos \theta$$

penetrates

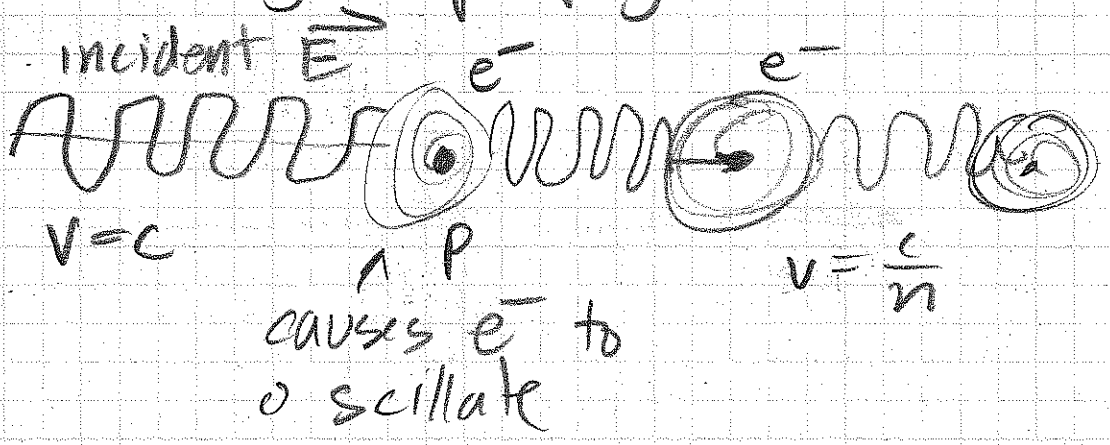
$$I \propto \frac{1}{4} I_m \cos^2 \theta$$

# Polarization By Reflection (Brewster's Angle)

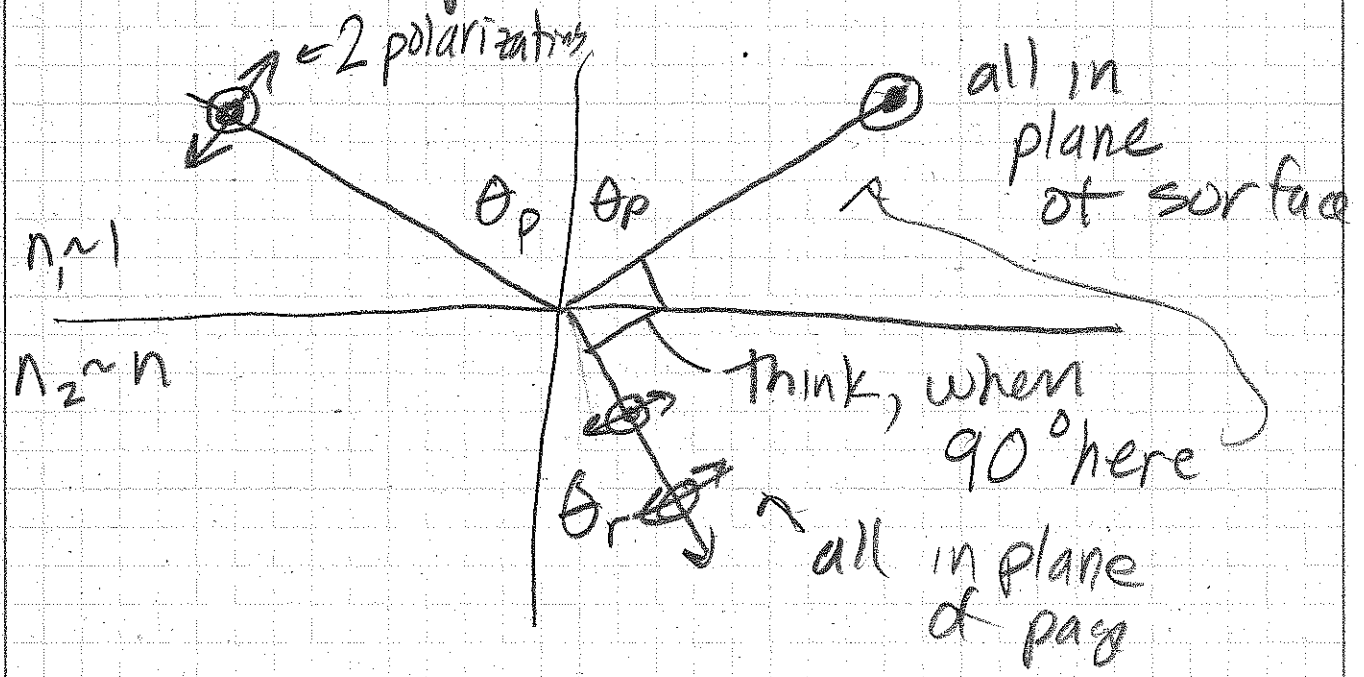
Remember:  $I \propto \sin^2 \theta$



How light propagates



Consider 2 polarizations





$$n \sin \theta_r = \sin \theta_p$$

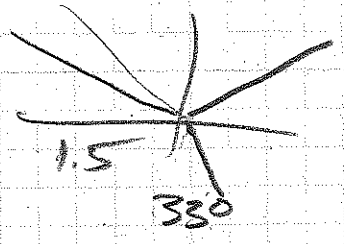
$$\theta_p + \theta_r = 90^\circ$$

$$\theta_r = 90^\circ - \theta_p$$

$$n \sin(90^\circ - \theta_p) = n \cos \theta_p = \sin \theta_p$$

$$\boxed{\tan \theta_p = n}$$

n=1.5 :  $\theta_p = 56.3^\circ$   
 $\theta_r = 90 - 56.3 = 33.7^\circ$



## Birefringence / Double Refraction

When molecules go wonky

2 polarizations in some directions have different speeds. . . . . optic axis

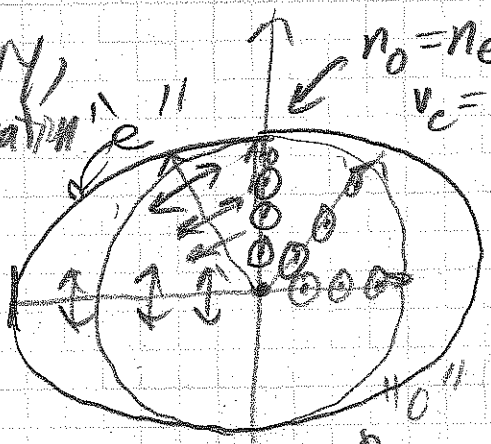
extraordinary, angle of polarization changes  
 $n_o = n_e(\theta)$  absence:  $\vec{E} \parallel$   
 $v_c = \frac{c}{n_e}$  for all

$$n_e < n_o \rightarrow$$

calculate:

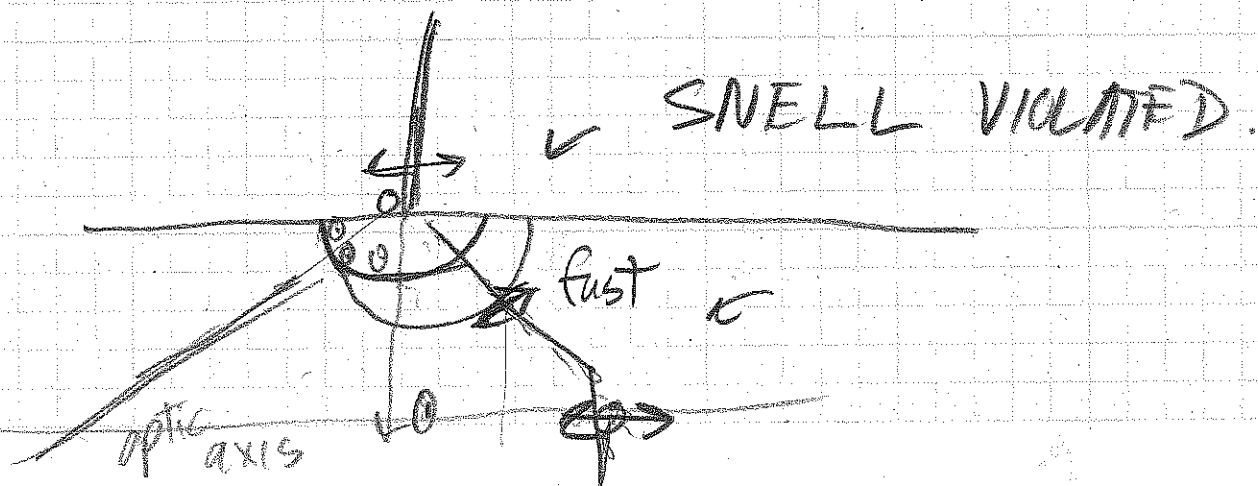
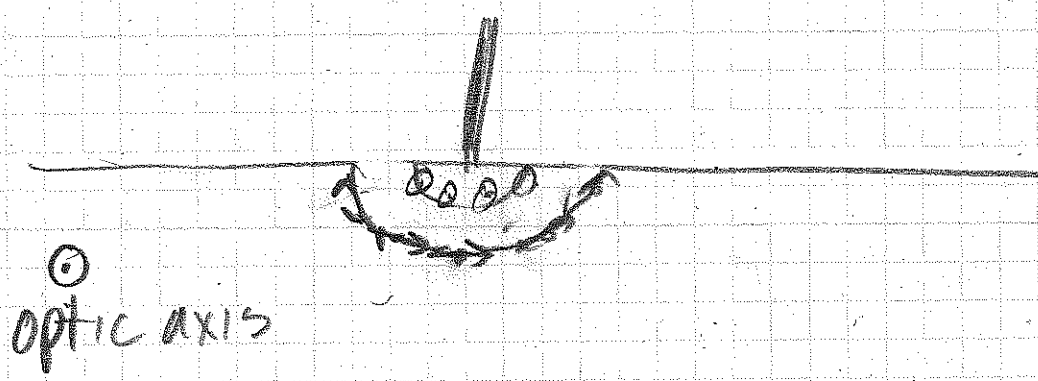
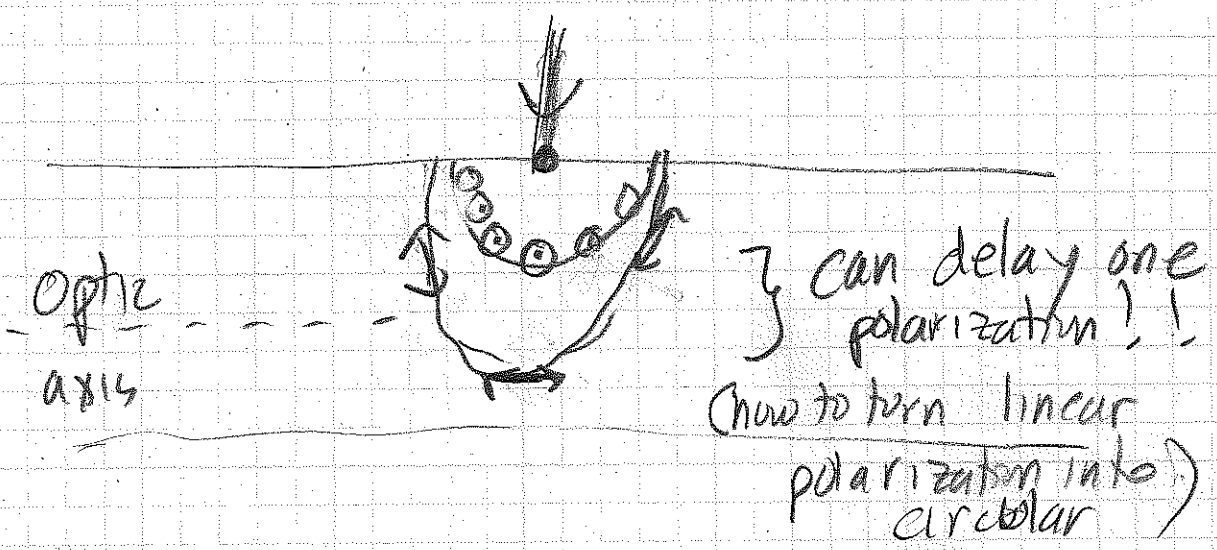
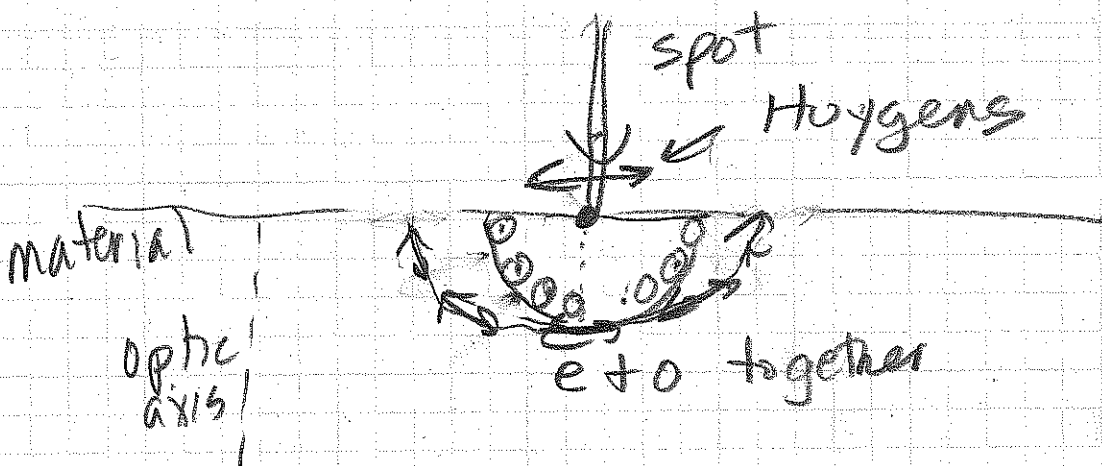
$$n_o = 1.658$$

$$n_e = 1.486$$



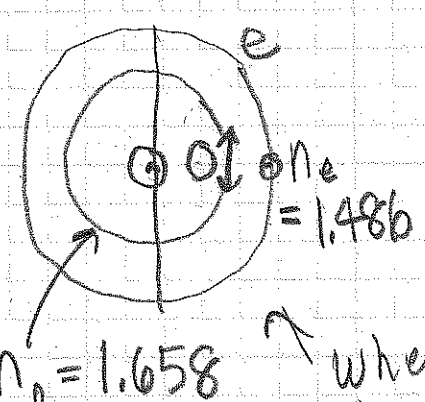
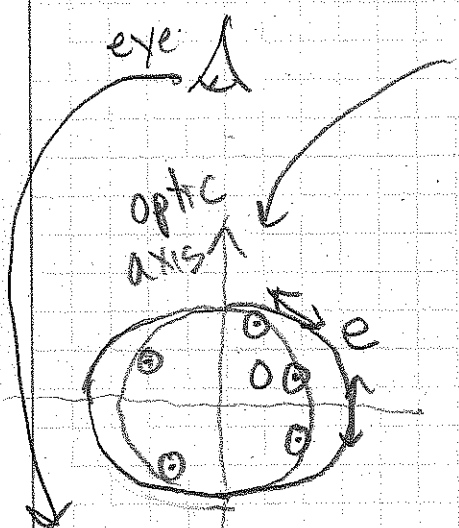
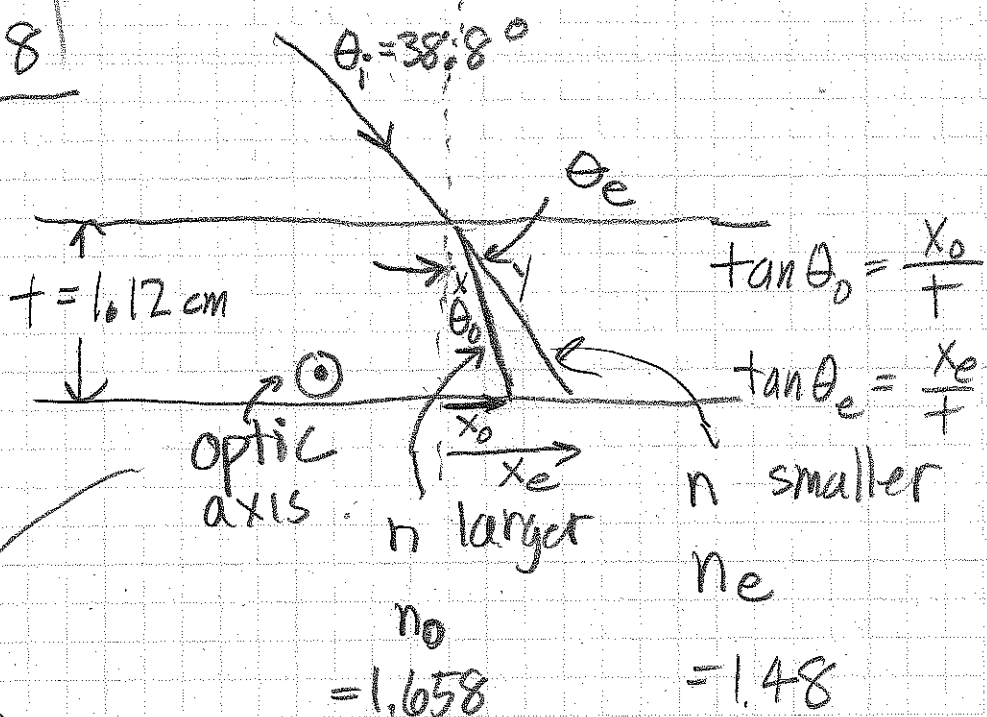
$$v_o = \frac{c}{n_o}$$

speed, ordinary ray, isotropic



Chapter 48  
Problem 18

(a)



$$\sin \theta_i = n_o \sin \theta_o$$

$$\sin \theta_i = n_e \sin \theta_e$$

$$\sin \theta_o = \frac{\sin \theta_i}{n_o}$$

$$\sin \theta_e = \frac{\sin \theta_i}{n_e}$$

$$\tan \theta_o = \frac{\sin \theta_i}{\sqrt{n_o^2 - \sin^2 \theta_i}}$$

$$\tan \theta_e = \frac{\sin \theta_i}{\sqrt{n_e^2 - \sin^2 \theta_i}}$$

when circular, snell respected

$$x_o = t \tan \theta_o = \frac{t \sin \theta_i}{\sqrt{n_o^2 - \sin^2 \theta_i}}$$

$$x_e = t \tan \theta_e = \frac{t \sin \theta_i}{\sqrt{n_e^2 - \sin^2 \theta_i}}$$

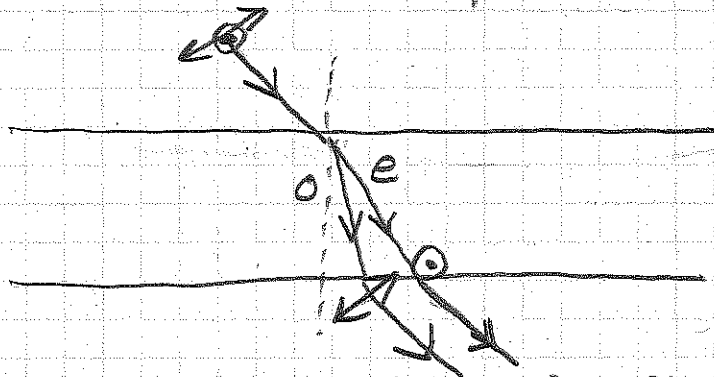
$$x_o = 0.457 \text{ cm}$$

$$x_e = 0.521 \text{ cm}$$

$$\text{distance} = x_e - x_o = 0.064 \text{ cm}$$

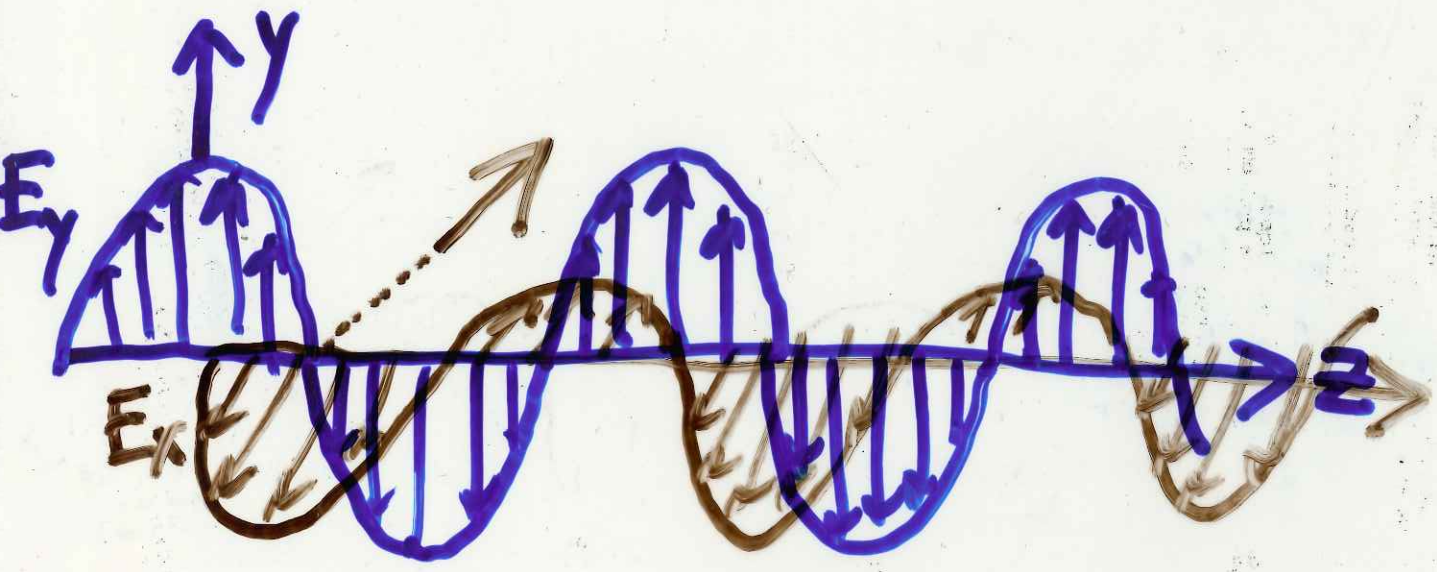
(b) o-ray has bigger index, bent more, so,  
o-ray was x, e-ray was y

(c)



(d) would see a polarization if polarizer in  
the plane of page, e if  $\perp$  to plane of page

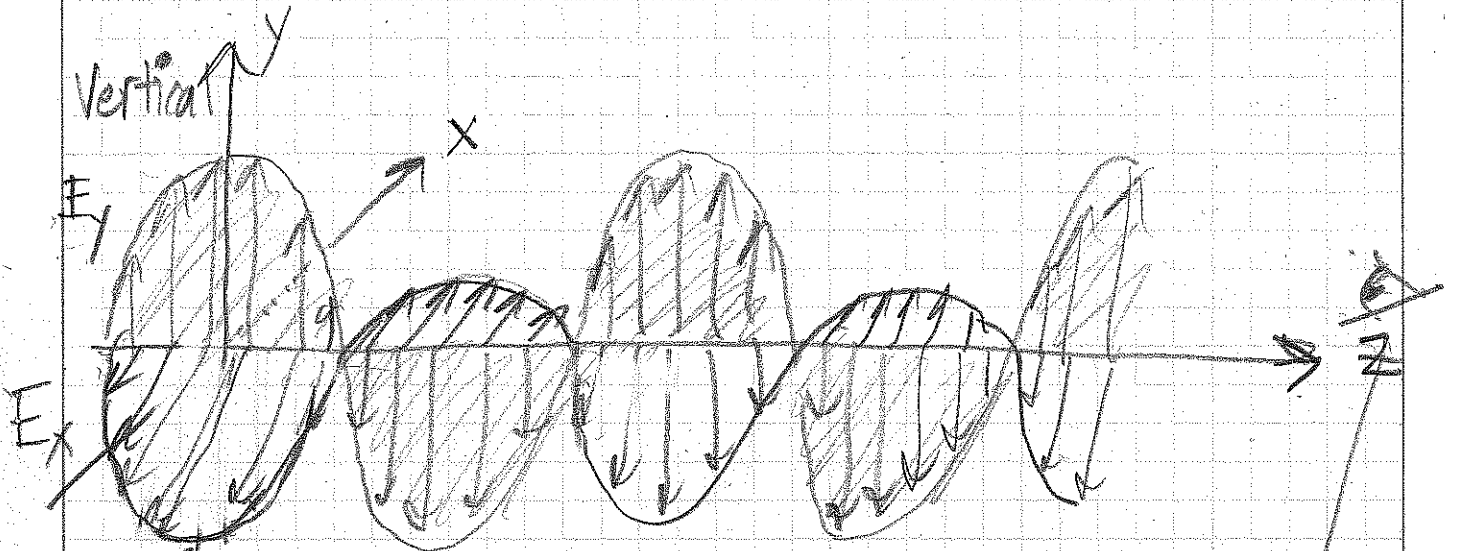




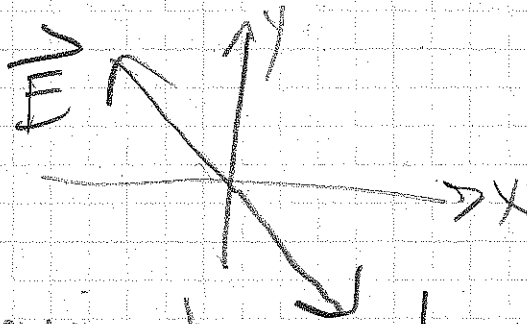


# Circular Polarization

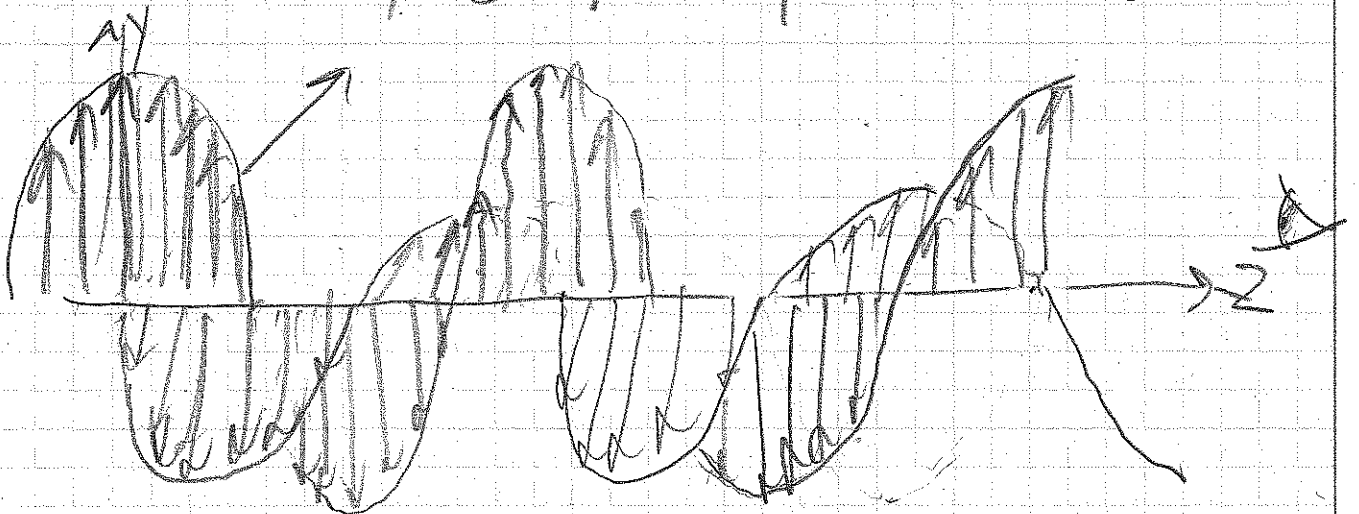
Just draw  $\vec{E}$  for 2 polarization

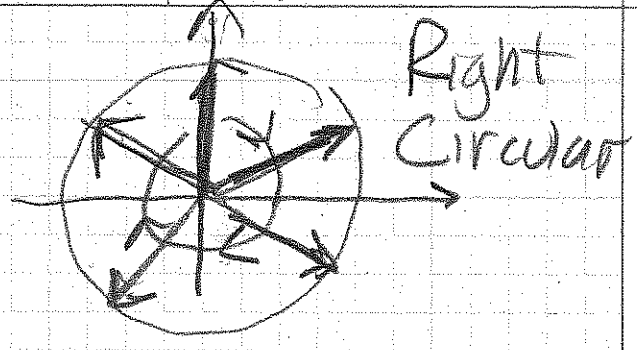
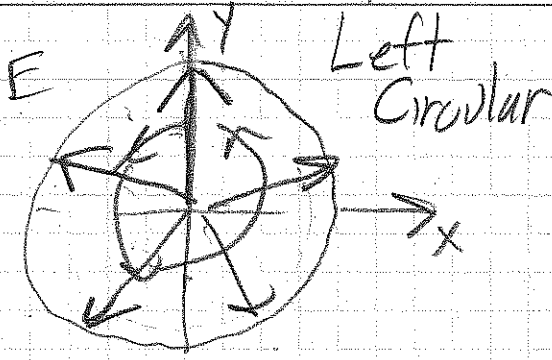


in phase

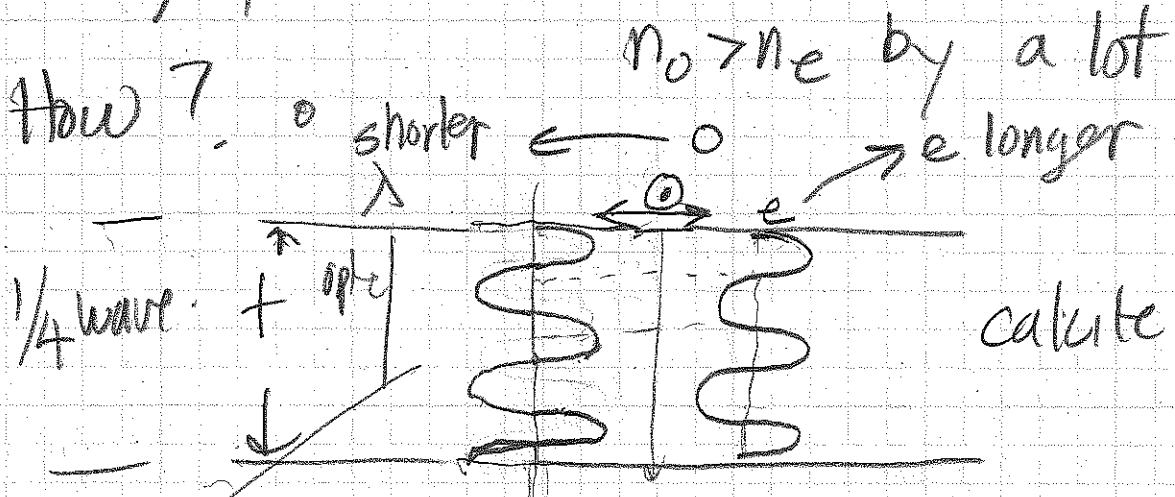


Imagine delaying by  $\frac{1}{4}$  wave length





x advanced by  $\frac{1}{4}$  wave



$$\frac{+}{(\lambda/n_o)} - \frac{+}{(\lambda/n_e)}$$

$$= \frac{1}{4}$$

$$\text{or } (n_o - n_e) \frac{1}{\lambda} = \frac{1}{4}$$