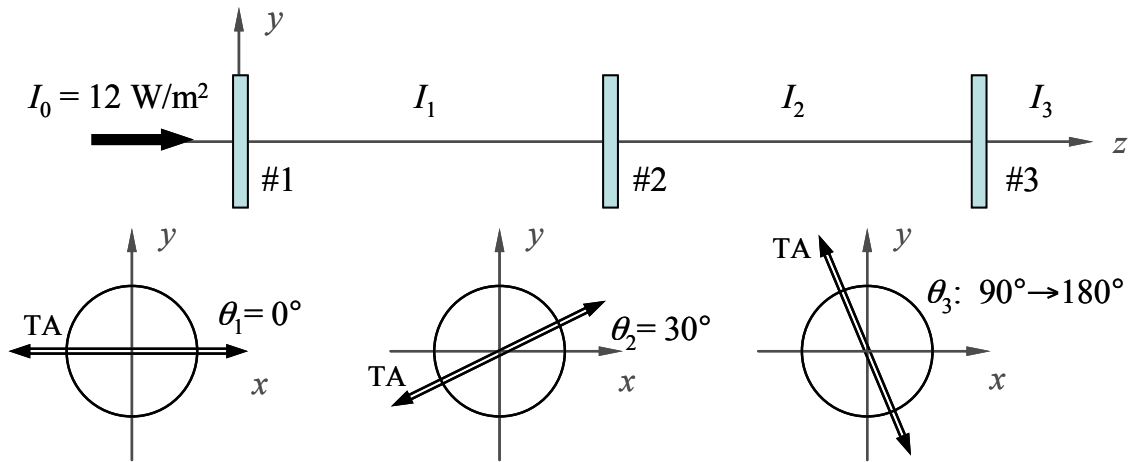


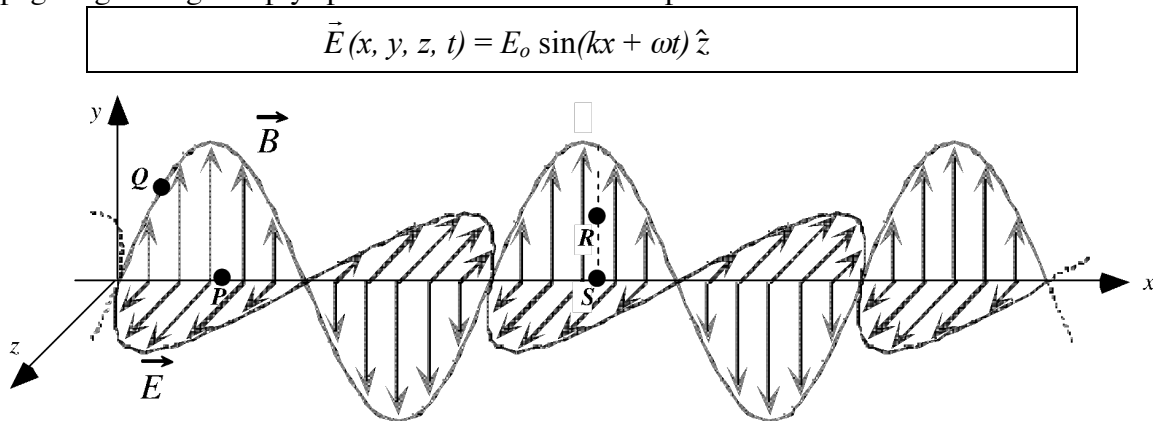
A beam of light of intensity  $I_0 = 12 \text{ W/m}^2$  is incident in the  $+z$  direction upon a set of three linear polarizers, each oriented perpendicular to the beam. The transmission axes (TA) of the first two polarizers make angles of  $\theta_1 = 0^\circ$  and  $\theta_2 = 30^\circ$  with respect to the  $x$  axis (see figure). The angle  $\theta_3$  of polarizer #3 can be varied from  $90^\circ$  to  $180^\circ$ .



1. Calculate the intensity  $I_1$  of the light after the first polarizer if the incident beam  $I_0$  is linearly polarized at an angle  $\theta = 25^\circ$  to the  $x$ -axis. [5]
2. The incident beam is now linearly polarized along the  $x$ -axis. Consider polarizer #3: are there any angles  $\theta_3$  between  $90^\circ$  and  $180^\circ$  for which the final intensity  $I_3$  will be zero? If so, what are they? (There may be only one, of course, or none.) [5]

3. The incident beam is again linearly polarized along the  $x$ -axis. At what angle  $\theta_3$  between  $90^\circ$  and  $180^\circ$  will the final intensity  $I_3$  be maximized? Determine both the angle and the maximum intensity. [5]

Shown below are mathematical and pictorial representations of an electromagnetic plane wave propagating through empty space. The electric field is parallel to the  $z$ -axis.



4. If  $E_o = 125 \text{ V/m}$ , what is the average intensity of the plane wave? [5]

## Q10A

1.  $I_1 = I_0 \cos^2(25^\circ) = 9.86 \text{ W/m}^2$  (5)

Correct formula but numerical error (4)

Use  $\sin\theta$  or  $\cos\theta$  instead of  $\cos^2\theta$  (2)

2.  $\theta_3 = \theta_2 \pm 90^\circ = 120^\circ$  (5)

Recognize  $\theta_3 - \theta_2 = 90^\circ$  but  $\theta_3 \neq 120^\circ$  (3)

Use of  $\theta_1$  (-2)

Angles in addition to 120 (-2)

3. True maximum would be obtained with  $\theta_3 = \theta_2 = 30^\circ$  but answer is restricted to  $90 \leq \theta_3 \leq 180^\circ$  so the best one can do is  $\theta_3 = 180^\circ$ .

$I_3 = I_0 \cos^2(\theta_2 = 30^\circ) \cos^2(\theta_3 - \theta_2 = 150^\circ) = (9/16)I_0 = 6.75 \text{ W/m}^2$  (5)

Numerical error (-1)

Correct attenuation by second polarizer (2)

Observe that true maximum would require  $\theta_3 = \theta_2 = 30^\circ$  (2)

Everything else correct but incorrect  $\theta_3$  (3)

4.  $I = \frac{c\epsilon_0 E_0^2}{2} = \frac{E_0^2}{2(Z_0 = 377\Omega)} = 20.7 \text{ W/m}^2$  (5)

Omit the  $\frac{1}{2}$  (-1)

Numerical error (-1)

Quadratic in  $E_0$  but some other error in the formula (2)