

Der Photorefraktive Effekt an Polymer-eingebetteten Flüssigkristallen

(The photorefractive effect on polymer-dispersed liquid crystals)

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Abstract:

In this work, several organic photoconductors, sensitizers and liquid crystals have been studied concerning their suitability as components of a photorefractive polymer dispersed liquid crystal system.

From each of these groups, one substance was chosen: poly-[methyl-3-(9-carbazolyl)propyl)siloxane] as photoconducting matrix, Buckminsterfullerene C_{60} as sensitizer and the nematic liquid crystalline mixture TL202 as electrooptic component.

In order to study the photorefractive behavior of the selected system, a holographic apparatus has been constructed. With this set up, time-dependent two-beam-coupling experiments to determine the gain Γ and four-wave-mixing experiments to determine the diffraction efficiency η can be performed simultaneously. The moving grating experiment to determine the phaseshift φ of the written grating can also be performed.

Furthermore, a method for calculating the strength of the induced space-charge field from the measured modulation Δn of the refractive index has been developed.

With the selected system, a gain of $\Gamma = 100 \text{ cm}^{-1}$ has been measured at an applied field of $E_e = 16 \text{ V}/\mu\text{m}$ with the rise time of the grating formation being $\tau = 0,18 \text{ s}$.