

Index

- A_p stars, 31
 accretion disc, 37
 accuracy, 7, 71, 79, 80
 photometric, 89
 achromatic systems, 103
 achromatic wave plates, *see* retarder, achromatic
 active galaxies, 35
 active regions, *see* magnetically active regions
 AIPS, 89
 AIPS++, 89
 amplitude, 10, 12, 15, 58, 74
 amplitude superposition, *see* coherent sum
 anisotropy, 2
 astronomical signals, polarization of, 27
 asymmetry, 2, 13, 27, 28, 69, 71, 82
 attenuation, 39
 average, 20, 21
 axial ratio, 13, 14, 16, 17, 61
 azimuth, 16, 61

 beam ellipticity, 83
 birefringence, 17, 19, 39, 43, 44, 51, 60, 68, 96
 black holes, 37
 blue sky, 79, 86, 126
 Bragg reflection, 121

 calcite plate, 99
 calibration, 76
 carrier frequency, 107
 carrier wave, 8, 12
 circular birefringence, *see* birefringence
 circular polarization, 2, 12, 16, 22, 49
 interstellar, 43
 circular polarizer, 94
 coherency matrix, 61
 coherency vector, 62
 coherent sum, 26, 62
 common light, 21
 complex amplitude, 57
 complex correlator, *see* correlator, complex
 complex notation, 38, 57
 complex plane, 67
 complex refractive index, 39

 complex visibility, *see* visibility, complex
 corona, 44
 correlation, 74
 correlation interferometer, 48, 62, 64, 78, 84, 86,
 110, 113, 116
 correlator, 61, 110
 complex, 116
 digital, 110
 output of, 116
 correlator polarimetry, *see* polarimetry, correlator
 CP representation, 54
 Crab Nebula, 35
 crystal polarimeter, *see* polarimeter, crystal

 degree of circular polarization, 22
 degree of linear polarization, 22
 degree of polarization, 2, 22, 23, 73, 79, 94
 complex, 23
 maximum, *see* polarization, astronomical
 depolarization, 70, 79
 Faraday, *see* Faraday depolarization
 depolarizer, 52
 linear, 53
 Lyot, 52
 detectors, 8, 93
 deterministic Mueller matrices, *see* Mueller
 matrices, pure
 diagonalized Mueller matrix, *see* Mueller matrices,
 diagonalized
 diattenuation, 60, 69
 dichroism, 39, 41, 42
 differential extinction, 42
 differential measurement, 73, 106
 direction of propagation, *see* propagation
 direction of vibration, 79
 dual-sideband receiver, 110, 113

 efficiency
 modulation, *see* polarimetric efficiency
 polarimetric, *see* polarimetric efficiency
 eigenmodes, 18, 19
 elliptical, 44
 elliptical birefringence, *see* birefringence

- elliptical polarization, 2, 13, 16, 22
- energy, radiant, *see* radiant energy
- ensemble-average, *see* average
- errors, 74, 76, 83
 - photometric, 27, 53, 89, 90
 - polarization, 76
 - Zeeman polarimetry, 87
- etheral displacements, 17
- extinction, 42
- Faraday depolarization, 43, 53, 88
- Faraday rotation, 19, 34, 36, 43, 53, 68, 79, 81, 88, 110, 128, 130
- Faraday screen, 53
- feed antenna, 74, 79, 83, 111
 - polarized, *see* polarized feed antenna
- field pattern, electric, 9
- FIGARO, 89
- frequency
 - carrier, 107
 - intermediate, 109
 - local oscillator, 109
 - signal, 8
- Fresnel rhomb, *see* retarder, achromatic
- γ -ray polarimetry, *see* polarimetry, γ -ray
- gauss, 28
- graphical representation, 22, 25, 54, 64, 67
- grazing incidence, 69, 70
- halfwave plate, *see* retarder
- halo, 125
- handedness, 12, 13
- Hanle effect, 30
- helix, polarization, 9
- history, 17, 25, 46
- history of polarimetry, 5
- image frequency, 110
- image rejecting mixer, 110
- imaging polarimetry, *see* polarimetry, imaging
- incoherent sum, 20, 25, 26, 62
- independent modes, 11, 13, 17
- independent solutions, 21
- infrared polarimetry, *see* polarimetry, infrared
- instrumental polarization, 71, 80, 120, 126
- intensity, *see* radiometry
- intensity superposition, *see* incoherent sum
- interferometer, *see* correlation interferometer
- intermediate frequency, 109
- interstellar grains, 42, 43
- ionosphere, 44, 81, 88
- IRAF, 89
- Jones calculus, 57, 58
 - three-dimensional, 61
- Jones matrices, 57, 62, 77
- Jones N-matrices, 61
- Jones vector, 57, 58, 62
- left-hand-circular, 12, 13
- LHC, *see* left-hand-circular
- linear birefringence, *see* birefringence
- linear polarization, 10, 16, 22, 48
- linear polarizer, 48, 49, 51, 94, 95, 99
 - two-beam, 99
- linear transformations, *see* transformations
- local oscillator, 79
- local oscillator frequency, 109
- Lyot depolarizer, 52
- magnetic field, 28, 34, 42, 43, 67, 79, 83, 87, 128, 130
- magnetic field structure, 30
- magnetic induction, 28
- magnetically active regions, 30
- maser, 34
- matrix
 - complex 2×2 , *see* Jones matrices
 - 4×4 , *see* Mueller matrices
 - Jones, *see* Jones matrices
 - Mueller, *see* Mueller matrices
 - Mueller–Stokes, *see* Mueller matrices
 - reflection, 68
 - rotation, *see* rotator matrix
- matrix algebra, 48
- Maxwell's equations, 11, 21
- methods, computational, 2
- MIDAS, 89
- mixed state of polarization, 22
- modes
 - independent, *see* independent modes
 - orthogonal, *see* orthogonal modes
- modulation, 73, 92, 93
- modulation efficiency, *see* polarimetric efficiency
- modulation polarimeters, 101
- modulator
 - electro-optic, 95
 - photo-elastic, 95, 96
 - rotating-wave-plate, 94, 99, 106
- monochromatic signal, 10–13
- Moon, 78
- Mueller matrices, 45, 62, 64, 77, 86, 93, 100
 - astrophysical, 64
 - astrophysical use of, 67
 - diagonalized, 54
 - pure, 64
 - standard, 48
 - structure of, 48
- natural radiation, 21
- NEWSTAR, 89
- NOD2, 89
- noise
 - correlated, 80
 - extinction, 94
 - photon, 94, 107
 - scintillation, 94, 101
- noise-like signals, 11, 12, 14, 15
- nomenclature, 13
- non-depolarizing Mueller matrices, *see* Mueller matrices, pure
- normal modes, *see* eigenmodes

- opposite polarization forms, *see* orthogonal modes
- optical polarimetry, *see* polarimetry, optical
- orientation, 10, 13
 - principal, *see* principal orientation
- orthogonal modes, 14, 17, 20, 26, 59, 65

- Pancharatnam wave plate, *see* retarder, achromatic
- partial polarization, *see* polarization, partial
- path length, optical, 39
- phase, 10, 15, 22, 58
- phase difference, 12, 19, 51
- photometric errors, *see* errors, photometric
- pictorial representation, 9
- plane of polarization, 11
- plane polarized wave, 11
- planets, 37, 90, 125
- plasma, 44
- Poincaré sphere, 22, 24, 64, 67
 - used for design, 64
- polarimeter
 - correlation, 110
 - crystal, 121
 - fibre scintillator, 123
 - graphite, 121
 - hard X-ray, 124
 - lithium, 122
 - modulation, 93
 - radio, 111
 - Thomson scattering, 123
- polarimetric accuracy, *see* accuracy
- polarimetric efficiency, 79, 106, 123
- polarimetry
 - A_p stars, 31
 - active galaxies, 35
 - beam-switching, 128
 - correlator, 107, 110, 113
 - Crab Nebula, 35
 - Galactic, 34
 - γ-ray, 124
 - H₂O masers, 34
 - history of, 5
 - imaging, 37, 102, 126–8
 - infrared, 92, 117
 - jets, 36
 - millimetre, 119, 130
 - OH masers, 34
 - optical, 92, 125–7
 - precision of, *see* accuracy
 - pulsars, 34
 - quasars, 35
 - radar, 41
 - radio-, 106, 128
 - reasons for, 1
 - single-dish, 116, 128
 - solar, 127
 - sub-millimetre, 119, 130
 - polarimetry and the Sun, 30
 - synthesis, 54, 78, 83, 86, 88, 107, 110, 113, 116, 128
 - time-resolved, 31
 - ultraviolet, 119, 130
 - VLBI, 35, 117
 - white dwarfs, 31
 - X-ray, 120
- polarization
 - 100%, 10, 62
 - astronomical levels of, 6
 - in astronomy, 2, 27
 - background, 78, 126
 - circular, *see* circular polarization
 - data reduction, 88
 - degree of, *see* degree of polarization
 - maximum, *see* polarization, astronomical
 - difference signal, 1
 - elliptical, *see* elliptical polarization
 - linear, *see* linear polarization
 - mathematics of, 2
 - maximum, *see* polarization, astronomical
 - nature of, 8
 - partial, 2, 3, 21, 23, 25, 45, 57, 61, 64, 67
 - spurious, 27
 - techniques of measurement, 3
 - by telescopes, 69
 - typical level, 1
- polarization angle, 10, 11, 13, 16, 78
- polarization conversion, 86
- polarization ellipse, 13
- polarization helix, 9
- polarization interferometer, 116
- polarization lines, 23
- polarization modulation, 93
- polarization profiles, 30
- polarization radiative transfer, 67, 90
- polarization ray-tracing, 61, 64
- polarization receiver, 111
- polarization sidelobes, 83, 85
- polarization vectors, 23
- polarized feed antenna, 111
- polarized intensity, *see* radiometry
- polarized radiation, 8
 - astronomical, 1
- polarizer, 66, 79, 86, 103
 - calibration, 78, 80
 - linear, *see* linear polarizer
- polarizing ground reflections, 85
- polychromatic signal, 8, 10, 12, 14, 58
- position angle, *see* polarization angle
- precision, polarimetric, *see* accuracy
- principal orientation, 51
- propagation, 18
- pseudo-depolarization, 79
- pseudo-depolarizer, *see* depolarizer
- pulsars, 34, 44
- pure Mueller matrices, *see* Mueller matrices, pure
- pure state of polarization, 22

- quarterwave plate, *see* retarder
- quasars, 35
- quasi-longitudinal, 44
- quasi-monochromatic, 8, 10, 12, 13, 58
- quasi-transverse, 44

- radiance, 16
- radiant energy, 9, 12–14, 22, 45, 58
- radiant intensity, 16
- radiation mechanisms, 31
- radiation, scattered, *see* scattering
- radio interferometer, *see* correlation interferometer
- radiometry, 16
- radio-polarimetry, *see* polarimetry, radio-
- rebinning, 76, 89
- reflection, total-internal, 70
- refractive index, 37, 38, 43, 60, 69
 - complex, 39
- representation
 - pictorial, 9
 - snapshot, *see* snapshot
- resolution, 92
- retardance, 51, 60, 69
- retarder, 51, 52, 60, 65, 79, 86, 94, 103
 - achromatic, 53, 104, 106
 - superachromatic, 106
- RHC, *see* right-hand-circular
- right-hand-circular, 12, 13
- rotation axis, 11
- rotation, Faraday, *see* Faraday rotation
- rotator matrix, 50, 60
- scale, degree of polarization, 79
- scattering, 28, 36, 68, 79, 90
 - multiple, 68
 - Raman, 38
 - Rayleigh, 38
 - Thomson, 38
- scattering plane, 11, 36
- scattering polarimeter, *see* polarimeter, Thomson
- scattering
 - scattering
- scintillation noise, 74, 99
- Seyfert nuclei, 37, 41
- sidebands, 8
- sidelobes, polarization, *see* polarization sidelobes
- sign conventions, 13, 16
- signal frequency, 8
- signals, noise-like, *see* noise-like signals
- single-dish polarimetry, *see* polarimetry, single-dish
- single-sideband receiver, 110
- slow variations, *see* variations, slow
- snapshot, 9
- spectro-photometry, polarization errors in, 89
- spectro-polarimeter, 100, 103, 126, 127
- spectro-polarimetry, 38
- standard source, 79
- statistics, 74
- stereographic projection, 67
- Stokes parameters, 14, 17, 20, 24, 25, 46, 58, 61
 - equivalent forms, 61
 - formulas for, 15, 61
 - normalized, 25, 73, 76
- Stokes plot, 23
- Stokes polarimetry, full, 98
- Stokes transformations, *see* transformations
- Stokes vector, 14, 25, 45, 46, 48, 62
- Stokes visibilities, *see* visibilities, Stokes
- superposition
 - amplitude, *see* coherent sum
 - intensity, *see* incoherent sum
- symmetry, 2, 13, 27, 69, 70, 82
- symmetry axis, 11
- synchrotron emission, 34–6, 68
- synthesis polarimetry, *see* polarimetry, synthesis
- telescopes, 69
 - alt-azimuth, 81, 86
 - polarization-free, 71
 - rotationally symmetric, 70
- tesla, 28
- time average, *see* average
- total internal reflection, *see* retarder, achromatic
- totally polarizing Mueller matrices, *see* Mueller matrices, pure
- transformations, 45, 46, 57
- transverse wave, 8
- ultraviolet polarimetry, *see* polarimetry, ultraviolet
- units, 16
- unpolarized radiation, 20, 23, 27
- variations
 - slow, 9, 10, 12, 14, 20, 58
 - very slow, 10, 14
- vector, Stokes, *see* Stokes vector
- velocity of propagation, *see* propagation
- visibilities, Stokes, 54, 116
- visibility, complex, 57, 116
- VLA, 70
- VLBI polarimetry, *see* polarimetry, VLBI
- wave duration, 10, 12
- wave plate, *see* retarder
- Westerbork, 71
- white dwarfs, 31
- Wollaston prism, 99
- Wood's anomalies, 89
- X-ray polarimetry, *see* polarimetry, X-ray
- Zeeman effect, 28, 30, 31, 67, 83, 87
- zero-polarization source, 27
- zeropoint
 - degree of polarization, 80
 - polarization angle, 78