

Modulation of terahertz radiation using liquid crystal π -cells

G. V. Simonenko and A. F. A. Mulamakhavsh

Saratov National Research State University named after N. G. Chernyshevsky
83 Astakhanskaya st., Saratov, 410012, Russia
E-mail: simonenkogv@sgu.ru

Received 7.03.2024; revised 1.04.2024; accepted 7.04.2024

In this work, a new design of a liquid crystal modulator for the terahertz range was studied using a computer method. The proposed design consists of a set of thin standard π -cells, each of which has its own electrical control, and the entire set is placed between the polarizer and the analyzer. If the initial terahertz radiation is linearly polarized, then there is no input polarizer in the device, which significantly increases the total transmittance of the modulator. The number of standard liquid crystal π -cells is determined by the thickness of one such cell and the condition for the maximum transmittance of the interference of polarized waves. The total response time of such a modulator is determined by the speed of one standard π -cell and is several milliseconds. In this case, the transmittance coefficient for a wavelength not exceeding 30 microns of such a device can be at least 15 %. It is possible to increase the total transmittance of a liquid crystal modulator by optimizing the optical parameters of a standard liquid crystal cell, which will simultaneously increase the modulation range of THz radiation.

Keywords: liquid crystals, modulators, terahertz radiation.

REFERENCES

1. Chanana A., Zhai Y., Baniya S., Zhang C., Vardeny Z. V. and Nahata A., *Nat. Commun.* **8** (1), 1328 (2017).
2. Tonouchi M., *Nat. Photonics* **1** (2), 97–105 (2007).
3. Wang C., Qin J. Y., Xu W. D., Chen M., Xie L. J. and Ying Y. B., *Trans. ASABE* **61** (2), 411–424 (2018).
4. Hangyo M., *Jpn. J. Appl. Phys.* **54** (12), 120101 (2015).
5. Chen H. M., Su J., Wang J. L. and Zhao X. Y., *Opt. Express* **19**, 3559–3603 (2011).
6. Louise H., Michael P., Philip T., *Nat. Photon.* **2**, 541–544 (2008).
7. Li J. S., *Opt. Commun.* **269**, 98–101 (2007).
8. Li J. S., *Optik* **125**, 4543–4549 (2014).
9. Gavdush A. A., Chernomyrdin N. V., Lavrukhin D. V., Cao Yang, Komandin G. A., Spektor I. E., Perov A. N., Dolganova I. N., Katyba G. M., Kurlov V. N., Ponomarev D. S., Skorobogatiy M., Reshetov I. V. and Zaytsev K. I., *Optics Express*. **28** (18), 26228–26238 (2020).
10. Ruan J.-F., Lan F., Tao Z., Meng Z.-F. and Ji S.-W., *Physics letters A* **421**, 127705 (2022).
11. Ling F., Huang R., Meng Q., Li W. and Zhang B., *Proceeding of SPIE* **10250**, 102500X_1–102500X_5 (2017).
12. Huang Y., He Q., Zhang D. and Kanamori Y., *Optical review* **28**, 92–98 (2021).
13. Odit M. A., Controlled THz-band filter. *Proceedings of the All-Russian conference "Microwave microelectronics"*, 2012, pp. 335–339.
14. Jiang M., Hu F., Qiu Y. and Zhang L., *Journal of Physics D: Applied Physics* **53** (6), 1–8 (2019).
15. Li S., Liu H., Sun Q. and Huang N., *IEEE Photonics Technology Letters* **27** (7), 752–754 (2015).
16. Chen S., Fan F., Chang S. and Miao Y., *Optics Express* **22** (6), 6313–6321 (2014).
17. Wu H. Y., Hsieh C. F., Tang T. T., Pan R. P. and Pan C. L., *IEEE Photonics Technol. Lett.* **18** (6), 1488–1490 (2006).
18. Pan C. L., Hsieh C. F., Pan R. P., Tanaka M., Miyamaru F., Tani M. and Hangyo M., *Opt. Express* **13**, 3921–3930 (2005).
19. Belyaev V., *Microwave electronics*, № 5, 96–98 (2020).
20. Wilk R., Vieweg N., Kopschinski O. and Koch M., *Opt. Express* **17** (9), 7377–7382 (2009).
21. Chigrinov V. G. *Liquid crystal devices: Physics and applications*. Boston-London, Artech House, 1999.
22. Bos P. J. and Beran K. R., *Mol. Cryst. Liq. Cryst.* **113**, 329–339 (1984).
23. Simonenko G. V., *Computer simulation of characteristics of high-speed classical modulators based on liquid crystals*, Saratov, Saratov University, 2018 [in Russian].
24. Sukhariy A. S., *Liquid crystal indicators*, Moscow, Radio i svyaz, 1991 [in Russian].
25. Hongkyu P., Fan F., Parront E. P. J. and Han H., *Opt. Express* **20** (11), 11899 (2012).
26. Li X., Tan N., Pivnenko M., Sibik J., Zeitler J. A. and Chtn D., *Liquid crystal* **43** (7), 955–962 (2016).
27. Chigrinov V. G., Simonenko G. V., Yakovlev D. A. and Podjachev Yu. B., *Mol. Cryst. Liq. Cryst.* **351**, 17–25 (2000).
28. Kurchatkin S. P., *Surface phenomena and structure of thermotropic liquid crystals in capillary volumes*. PhD thesis (Chem.). Saratov, 2001 [in Russian].
29. Azzam R. M. A. and Bashara N. M., *Ellipsometry and Polarized Light*, North-Holland, Amsterdam, 1977.