

Lecture 9.

Polariser: (Lecture 7)

$$\begin{pmatrix} A'_x \\ A'_y \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} \cos^2 \theta & \sin \theta \cos \theta \\ \sin \theta \cos \theta & \sin^2 \theta \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} A_x \\ A_y \end{pmatrix}$$

$A'$  — emergent  $P_\theta$   $A$  — incident

$$A' = P_\theta \cdot A$$

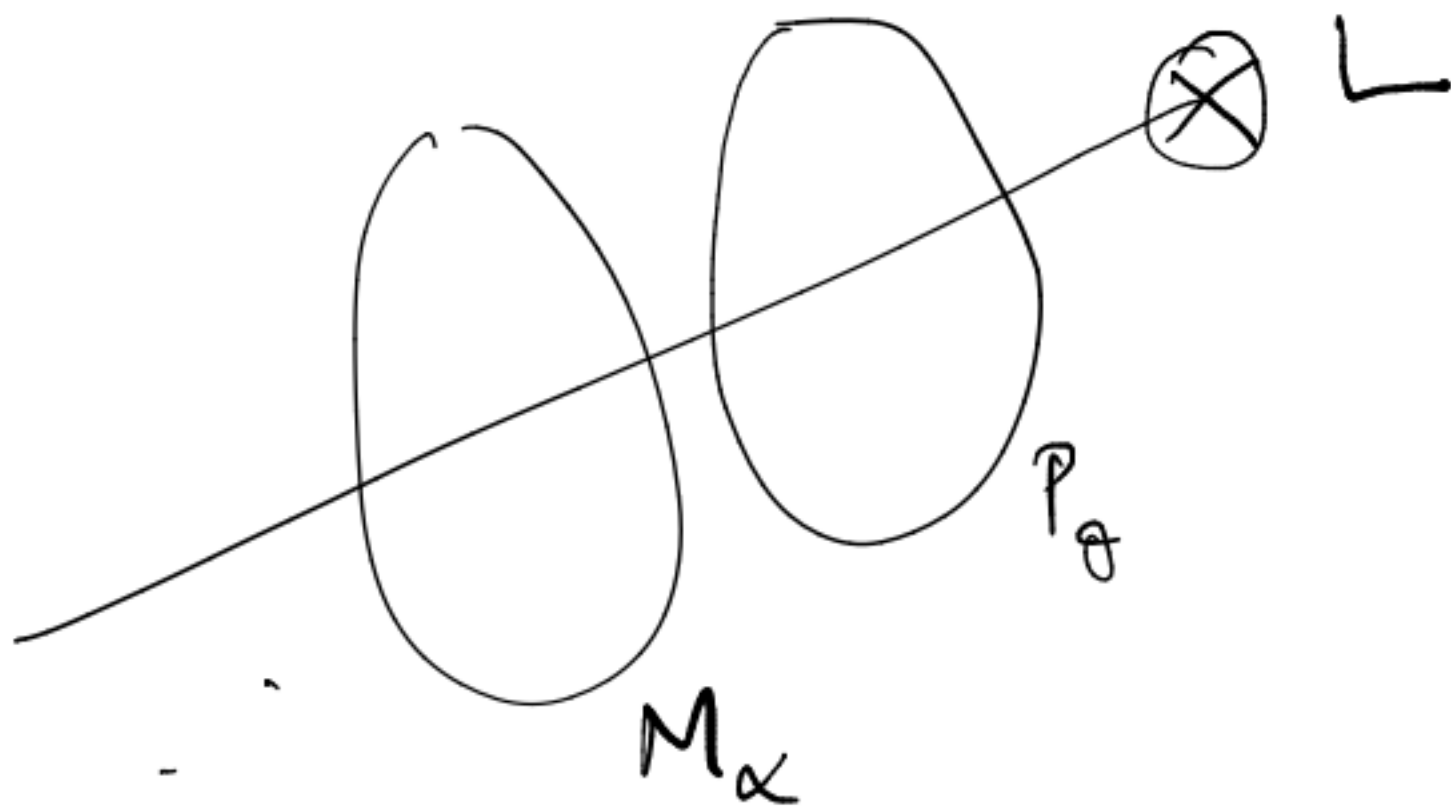
Birefringent plate (Lecture 8)

$$\begin{pmatrix} A'_x \\ A'_y \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} \cos^2 \alpha + e^{i\delta} \sin^2 \alpha & (1 - e^{i\delta}) \sin \alpha \cos \alpha \\ (1 - e^{i\delta}) \sin \alpha \cos \alpha & \sin^2 \alpha + e^{i\delta} \cos^2 \alpha \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} A_x \\ A_y \end{pmatrix}$$

$A'$  — emergent  $M_\alpha$   $A$  — incident

$$A' = M_\alpha \cdot A$$

An optical system =



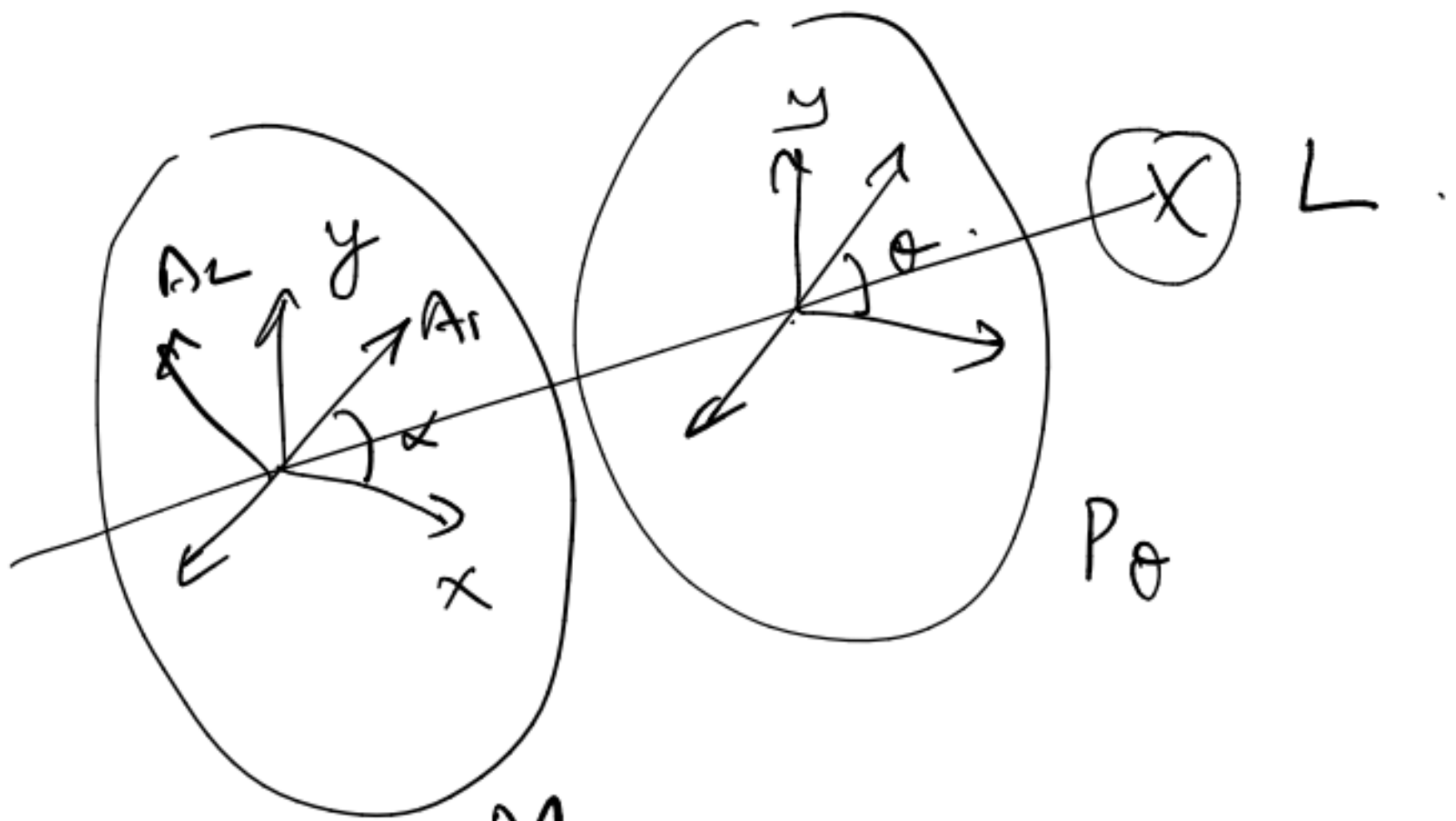
$$A' = M_\alpha P_\theta A$$

complex amplitudes of light from L.

emergent wave from the polariser.

emergent light from the birefringent sheet

Optical system to produce  
circularly polarised light:



For  $D = \frac{\pi}{2}$  (Quarter wave plate) of the Birefringent sheet, we will get circularly polarised light, provided

OR  $\theta = 0, \alpha \neq 0 \text{ or } \frac{\pi}{2}$   
 $\theta = \frac{\pi}{2}, \alpha = (0, \text{ or } \frac{\pi}{2})$ .

For circularly polarised light,  
 recall.  $\begin{pmatrix} A'_x \\ A'_y \end{pmatrix} = A \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ \pm i \end{pmatrix}$  ... (1)

$$\begin{pmatrix} A'_x \\ A'_y \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & \mp i \\ \mp i & 1 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} A_x \\ A_y \end{pmatrix}$$

↑  
 Quarter wave  
 plate

$$= \begin{pmatrix} \mp i \\ 1 \end{pmatrix} A_y$$

$$= \begin{pmatrix} \mp 1 \\ i \end{pmatrix} A_y \dots (2)$$

Compare (1) & (2) to see that a circularly polarised light beam

emerges from the quarter wave plate.

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Elliptically polarised light

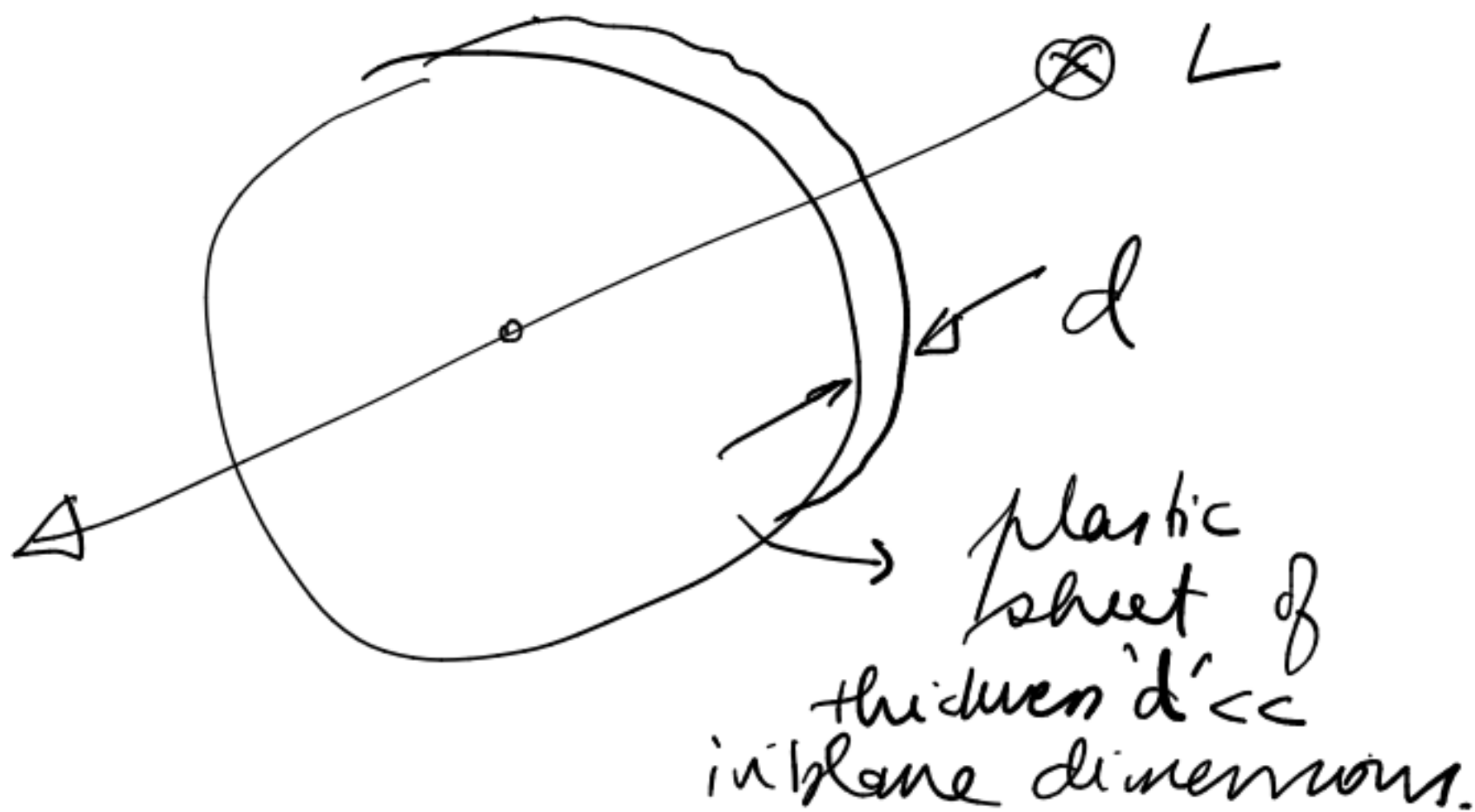
→ set  $\alpha \neq 0$  or  $\frac{\pi}{4}$  or  $\frac{\pi}{2}$ .

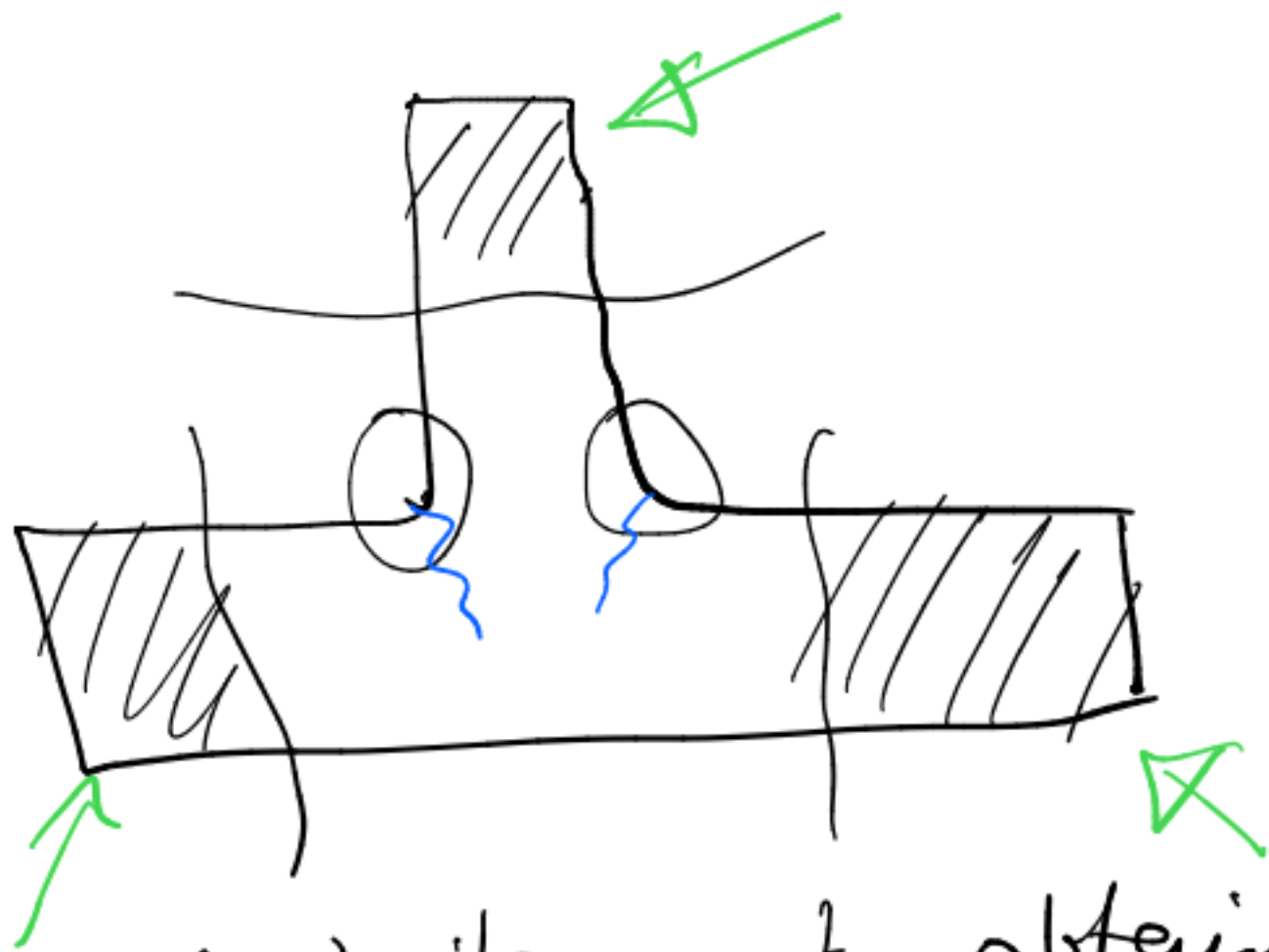
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Refractive indices

of stressed transparent

materials





① Photoelasticity — to obtain critical stresses in non-slender components

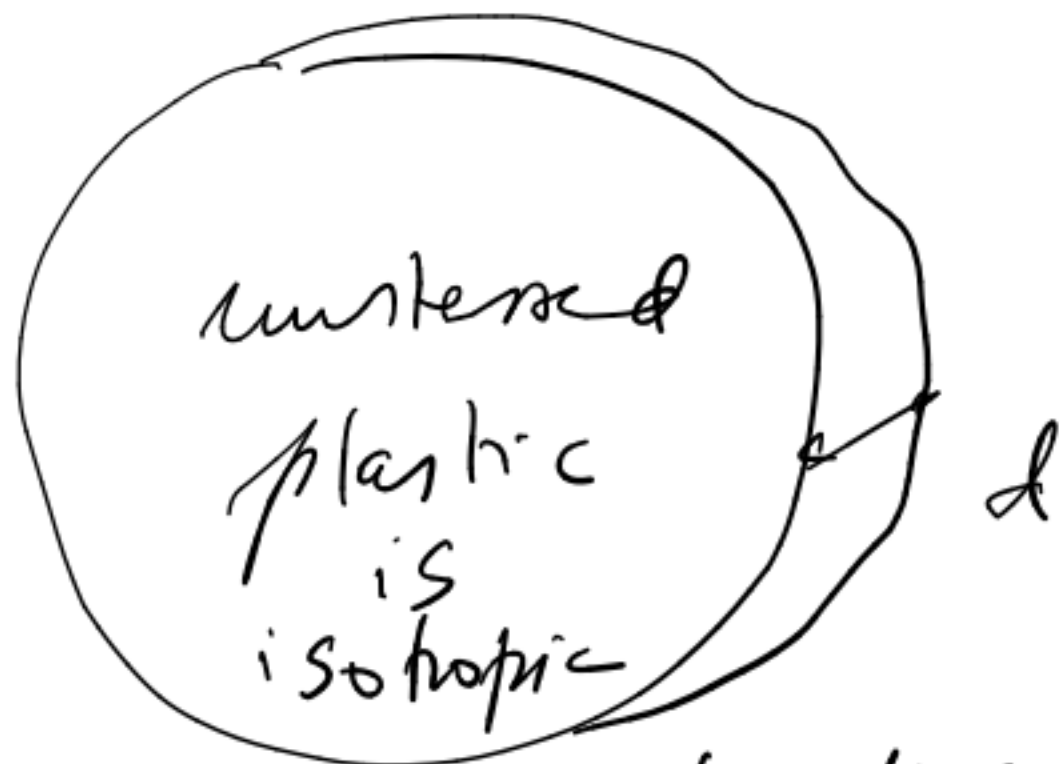
② Photoelasticity is not used for this purpose anymore because FEM has totally replaced it.

③ When photoelastic analysis was used, a scaled replica of the relevant structure would

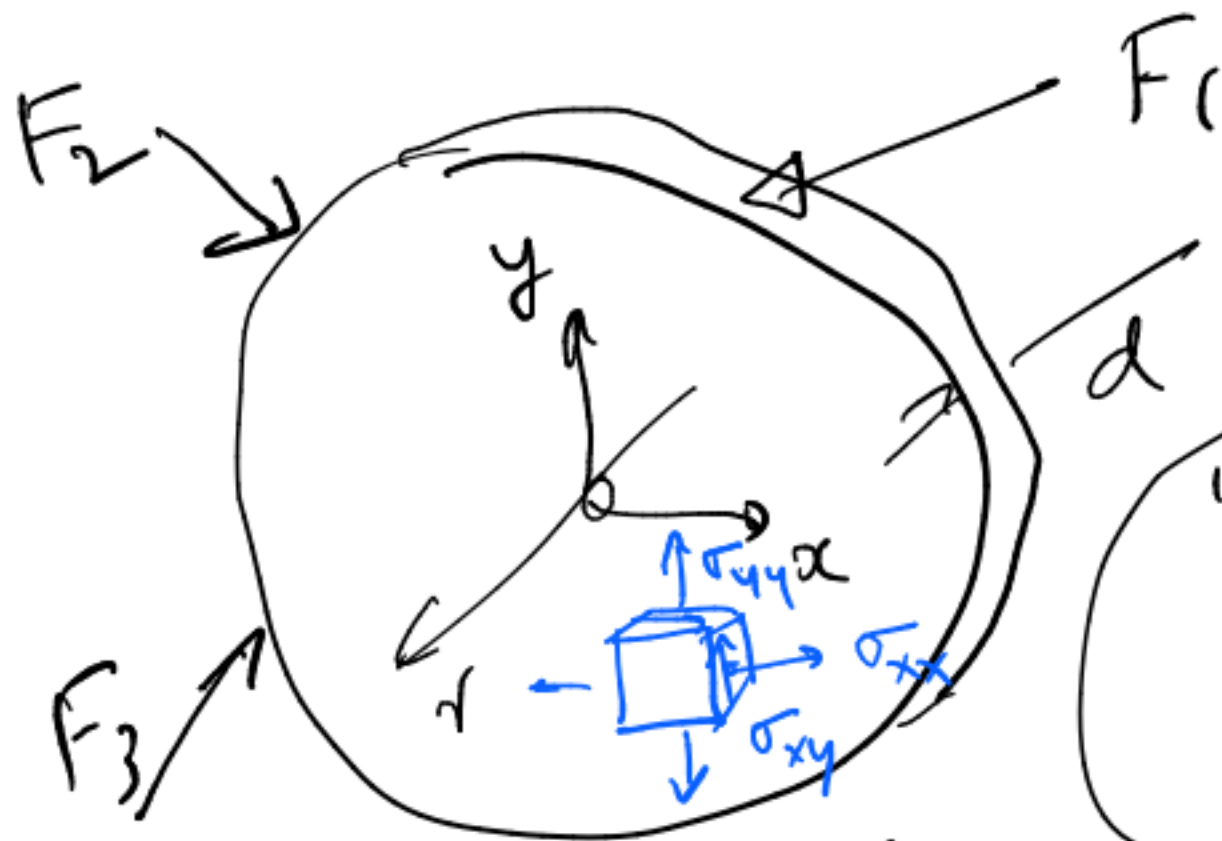
be prepared in plastic, loaded,  
photo elasticity would yield  
stress values, these values  
would be scaled to the  
original component.

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How does stress change the  
refractive indices of thin  
plastic sheets?



Let  $n_0$  be its refractive index.



"plane stress"

Stressed plastic becomes optically anisotropic.

$$\begin{aligned} \sigma_{zz} &= 0 \\ \sigma_{zx} &= 0 \\ \sigma_{zy} &= 0. \end{aligned}$$

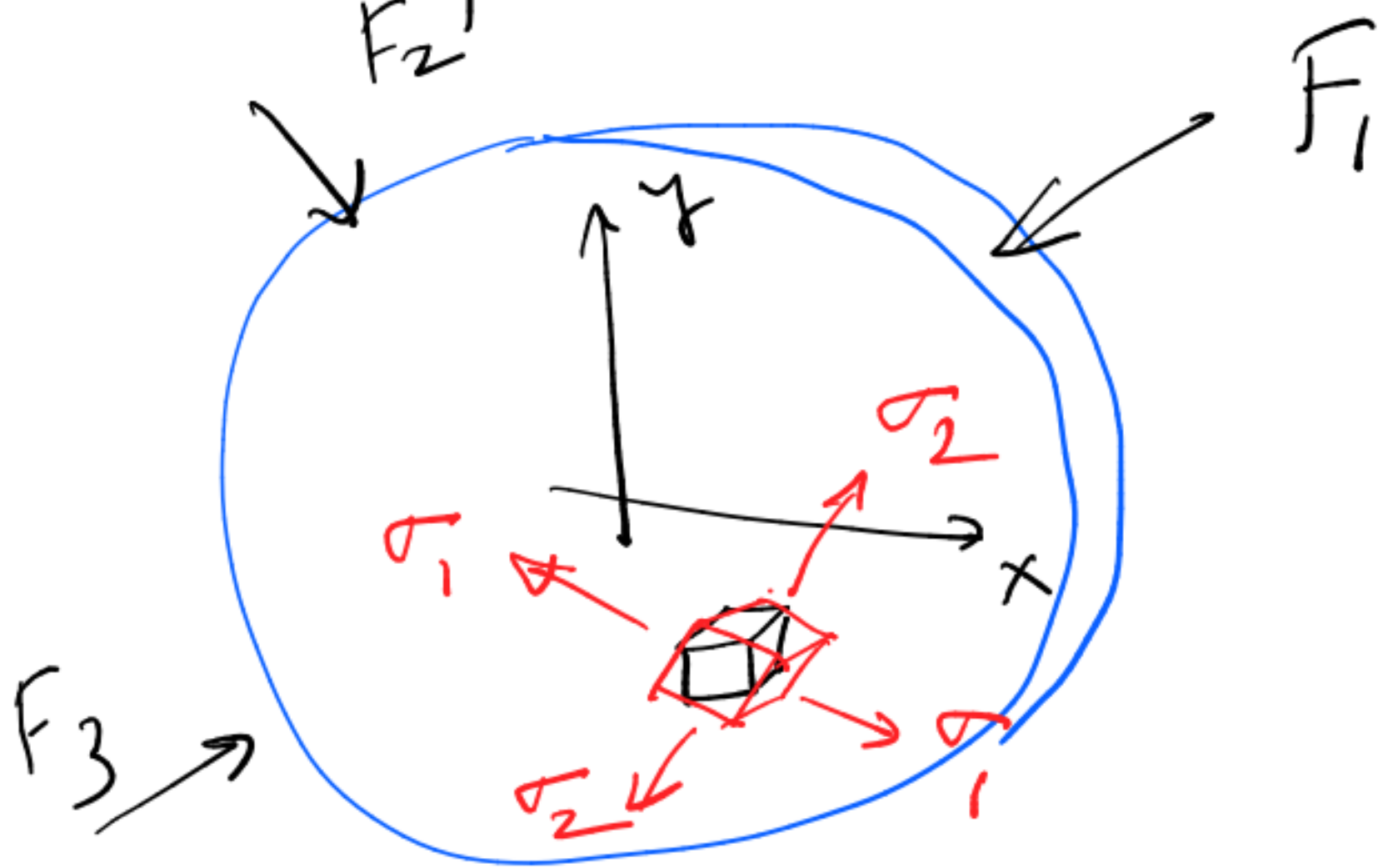
Optical anisotropy cannot depend on  $\sigma_{xx}, \sigma_{yy}, \sigma_{xy}$

$$\begin{aligned} \sigma_{xx} &\neq 0 \\ \sigma_{yy} &\neq 0 \\ \sigma_{xy} &\neq 0 \end{aligned}$$

because  $x$  &  $y$  are dependant on the observer & not on the phenomenon of stress generate.



Optical anisotropy must depend only on the principal stresses & the principal directions developed @ each & every pt. in the plate.



red element aligned w/  $\sigma_1, \sigma_2$   
 $\sigma_1, \sigma_2$  principal axes play  
 the role of  $A_1, A_2$  in the  
 birefringent filter we studied earlier.

The light polarized along  $\sigma_1$   
&  $\sigma_2$  experience different  
refractive indices.

How?

Let  $\sigma_1, \sigma_2, \sigma_3$  be the 3 principal  
stresses @ a point.

Then, Material constants

$$\begin{aligned} \text{(a)} \quad n_1 - n_0 &= c_1 \sigma_1 + c_2 (\sigma_2 + \sigma_3) \\ \text{(b)} \quad n_2 - n_0 &= c_1 \sigma_2 + c_2 (\sigma_3 + \sigma_1) \\ \text{(c)} \quad n_3 - n_0 &= c_1 \sigma_3 + c_2 (\sigma_1 + \sigma_2) \end{aligned}$$

$n_0$  = refractive index of the  
unstressed state.

$c_1, c_2$  = stress-optic coefficients  
= Material constants.

To eliminate no. do

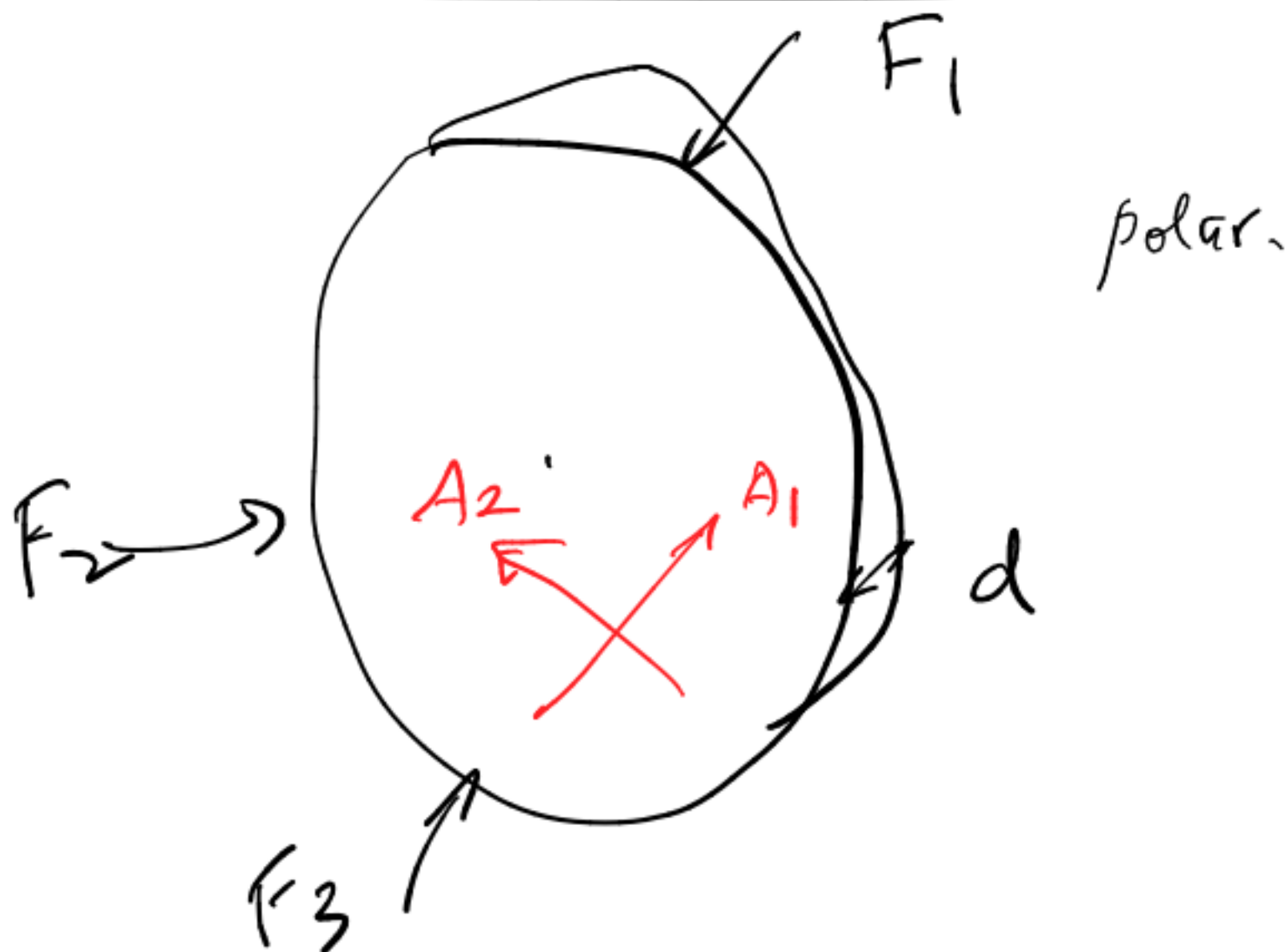
(a)-(b), (b)-(c), (c)-(a):

$$n_2 - n_1 = (\sigma_1 - \sigma_2) (c_2 - c_1)$$

$$n_3 - n_2 = (\sigma_2 - \sigma_3) (c_2 - c_1)$$

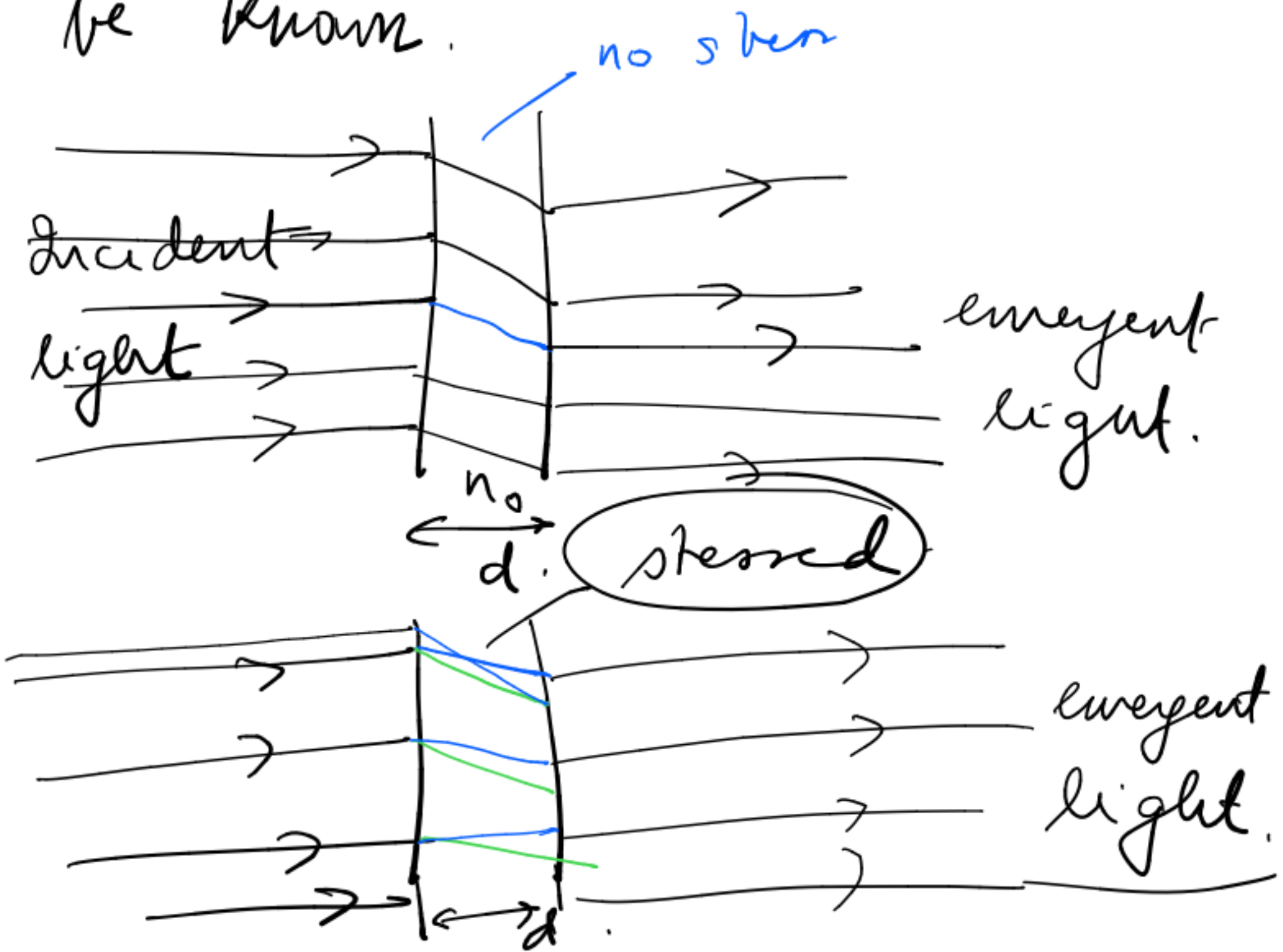
$$n_1 - n_3 = (\sigma_3 - \sigma_1) (c_2 - c_1)$$

→ (3)



If  $\sigma_1, \sigma_2$  & principal directions  
 were known, then  $\alpha$  is  
 also known.

But to fully characterize  
 birefringence of the loaded  
 plastic sheet  $\Delta$  must also  
 be known.



The differently polarised light beams @ each point travel @ different speeds.

$$\parallel^e \sigma_1 \longrightarrow v_1$$

$$\parallel \sigma_2 \longrightarrow v_2.$$

time difference to travel through the sheet of thickness  $d =$

$$t_2 - t_1 = \frac{d}{v_2} - \frac{d}{v_1}$$

$$= \frac{d}{c} \left\{ \frac{c}{v_2} - \frac{c}{v_1} \right\}$$

$$t_2 - t_1 = \frac{d}{c} (n_2 - n_1).$$

The phase lag corresponding to this time lag is:

$$\Delta = \frac{2\pi}{\lambda} c (t_2 - t_1)$$

$$= \frac{2\pi}{\lambda} \cancel{c} \frac{d}{\cancel{c}} (n_2 - n_1)$$

$$\Delta = \frac{2\pi}{\lambda} d (n_2 - n_1)$$

(4)