
Calculation of parameters for arbitrary retarders using a sequence of spatial light modulators

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This workbook refers to the content of the manuscript “Arbitrary complex retarders using a sequence of spatial light modulators” by Qi Hu, Chao He, and Martin J Booth, University of Oxford.

A selection of randomly chosen retarder properties is used to test the correspondence between the different derivations shown in the manuscript in order to validate the presented results.

Section and equation numbers used here refer to the manuscript.

Define retarder properties

The expressions used in the manuscript are valid for retardance in range $-\frac{\pi}{2} < \Psi \leq \frac{\pi}{2}$, angle in range $-\pi < \theta \leq \pi$, and elliptical parameter $-\frac{\pi}{2} < \alpha \leq \frac{\pi}{2}$

Define elliptical retarder properties: retardance Ψ , orientation θ , elliptical parameter α . Create table of N_{sample} sets of random sampled data over range of validity, listed in order Ψ, θ, α

```
In[1]:= Nsamples = 10;
```

```
In[2]:=  $\Psi\theta\alpha$ samples = Table[ { RandomReal[ { - $\frac{\pi}{2}$ ,  $\frac{\pi}{2}$  } ],  
RandomReal[ { - $\pi$ ,  $\pi$  } ], RandomReal[ { - $\frac{\pi}{2}$ ,  $\frac{\pi}{2}$  } ] }, {dummy, 1, Nsamples} ];
```

Reference lists of randomly chosen parameters Ψ, θ, α

```
In[3]:=  $\Psi$ list =  $\Psi\theta\alpha$ samples[[All, 1]]
```

```
Out[3]= { -0.20064, 1.45344, -1.48768, -1.42422, -0.260246,  
0.313109, -0.400972, -0.0702045, 0.361852, 0.622332 }
```

```
In[4]:=  $\theta$ list =  $\Psi\theta\alpha$ samples[[All, 2]]
```

```
Out[4]= { -1.60779, -0.560071, -2.13897, -2.9638,  
0.392827, 0.0198596, 2.64628, 2.66304, 2.57679, -2.56078 }
```

```
In[5]:=  $\alpha$ list =  $\Psi\theta\alpha$ samples[[All, 3]]
```

```
Out[5]= { 1.48547, 0.719531, 0.757004, -0.814232,  
1.00683, -0.489, -1.41777, 1.28259, 0.805716, -1.54159 }
```

Calculate SLM retardance settings and corresponding dynamic phase

Use analytical expressions from sections 3 and 4 to derive angle β and then SLM settings

ψ_1, ψ_2, ψ_3 .

Eq. 25:

```
In[6]:=  $\beta[\Psi_, \theta_] := \text{ArcTan}[\text{Tan}[\Psi / 2] \text{Cos}[2 \theta]]$ 
```

Eq. 26:

```
In[7]:=  $\psi_1[\alpha_, \beta_] := \beta - \alpha$ 
```

Eq. 19:

```
In[8]:=  $\psi_2[\Psi_, \theta_] := 2 \text{ArcSin}[\text{Sin}[\Psi / 2] \text{Sin}[2 \theta]]$ 
```

Eq. 27:

```
In[9]:=  $\psi_3[\alpha_, \beta_] := \beta + \alpha$ 
```

Calculate SLM settings for each set of randomly chosen retarder parameters

```
In[10]:=  $\psi_1\text{test} = \psi_1[\#[[3]], \beta[\#[[1]], \#[[2]]] \& /@ \Psi\theta\alpha\text{samples}$ 
```

```
Out[10]:= {-1.38542, -0.350091, -0.387489, 0.133903,
-1.09907, 0.645433, 1.30683, -1.30281, -0.727762, 1.66885}
```

```
In[11]:=  $\psi_3\text{test} = \psi_3[\#[[3]], \beta[\#[[1]], \#[[2]]] \& /@ \Psi\theta\alpha\text{samples}$ 
```

```
Out[11]:= {1.58552, 1.08897, 1.12652, -1.49456, 0.914579,
-0.332567, -1.5287, 1.26237, 0.883671, -1.41433}
```

```
In[12]:=  $\psi_2\text{test} = \psi_2[\#[[1]], \#[[2]]] \& /@ \Psi\theta\alpha\text{samples}$ 
```

```
Out[12]:= {-0.0148059, -1.28222, -1.32278, -0.458982, -0.183809,
0.0123825, 0.334679, 0.0573899, -0.326873, 0.569454}
```

Use analytical expressions to find dynamic phase Θ .

Eq. 28:

```
In[13]:=  $\Theta[\beta_, \theta_] := \beta + \text{ArcTan}[\text{Tan}[2 \theta] \text{Sin}[\beta]]$ 
```

```
In[14]:=  $\Theta\text{test} = \Theta[\beta[\#[[1]], \#[[2]]], \#[[2]]] \& /@ \Psi\theta\alpha\text{samples}$ 
```

```
Out[14]:= {0.0926442, -0.271671, -0.291874, -0.90982, -0.184152,
0.162624, 0.0564018, 0.00847416, -0.085482, 0.411987}
```

Calculate retardance and dynamic phase from Jones matrix expressions

From the expressions in section 2.2, form the Jones matrix for combination of SLMs using ψ_1 , ψ_2 , ψ_3 , calculate eigenvalues, then equivalent retardance.

Eq. 1, 2:

```
In[15]:=  $J_1[\phi_1_] := \begin{pmatrix} \text{Exp}[\text{i} \phi_1] & 0 \\ 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix};$ 
```

```
 $J_2[\phi_2_] := \begin{pmatrix} \frac{e^{\text{i} \phi_2}}{2} + \frac{1}{2} & \frac{e^{\text{i} \phi_2}}{2} - \frac{1}{2} \\ \frac{e^{\text{i} \phi_2}}{2} - \frac{1}{2} & \frac{e^{\text{i} \phi_2}}{2} + \frac{1}{2} \end{pmatrix};$ 
```

```
 $J_3[\phi_3_] := \begin{pmatrix} \text{Exp}[\text{i} \phi_3] & 0 \\ 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix};$ 
```

```
 $JT[\phi_1_, \phi_2_, \phi_3_] := J_3[\phi_3] \cdot J_2[\phi_2] \cdot J_1[\phi_1]$ 
```

Create set of total Jones matrices based upon the previously calculated set of SLM settings.

```
In[18]:=  $JT\text{test} = \text{Table}[JT[\psi_1\text{test}[[n]], \psi_2\text{test}[[n]], \psi_3\text{test}[[n]]], \{n, 1, N\text{samples}\}];$ 
```

Calculate retardance as the argument of the conjugate product of the two eigenvalues

$$\Psi = \arg(\mu_1 \mu_2^*)$$

```
In[19]:=  $\Psi$ Jones = ((Arg[#[[1]] Conjugate[#[[2]]]]) &[Eigenvalues[#]]) & /@ JTtest
```

```
Out[19]:= {0.20064, 1.45344, 1.48768, -1.42422, -0.260246,
           0.313109, -0.400972, -0.0702045, -0.361852, 0.622332}
```

Compare with input list (note that sign changes can occur through the above calculation because of the random ordering of eigenmodes when the two eigenvalues have the same magnitude).

```
In[20]:=  $\Psi$ list
```

```
Out[20]:= {-0.20064, 1.45344, -1.48768, -1.42422, -0.260246,
           0.313109, -0.400972, -0.0702045, 0.361852, 0.622332}
```

Check dynamic phase Θ .

Eq. 5:

```
In[21]:=  $\Theta$ Jones =  $\left(\frac{1}{2} \text{Arg}[\text{Det}[\#]]\right)$  & /@ JTtest
```

```
Out[21]:= {0.0926442, -0.271671, -0.291874, -0.90982, -0.184152,
           0.162624, 0.0564018, 0.00847416, -0.085482, 0.411987}
```

Compare with list from earlier section

```
In[22]:=  $\Theta$ test
```

```
Out[22]:= {0.0926442, -0.271671, -0.291874, -0.90982, -0.184152,
           0.162624, 0.0564018, 0.00847416, -0.085482, 0.411987}
```

Calculate retardance and dynamic phase from explicit expression

These calculations of retardance use the expressions in Eq. 12 and Eq. 21 of the manuscript, which are direct functions of the three SLM settings ψ_1 , ψ_2 , ψ_3 .

Eq. 12:

```
In[23]:=  $\Psi$ slms[ $\psi_1$ _,  $\psi_2$ _,  $\psi_3$ _] := 2 ArcCos[Cos[ $\psi_2$  / 2] Cos[( $\psi_1$  +  $\psi_3$ ) / 2]]
```

Eq. 5:

```
In[24]:=  $\Theta$ slms[ $\psi_1$ _,  $\psi_2$ _,  $\psi_3$ _] := ( $\psi_1$  +  $\psi_2$  +  $\psi_3$ ) / 2
```

```
In[25]:=  $\Psi$ slmstest = Table[ $\Psi$ slms[ $\psi_1$ test[[n]],  $\psi_2$ test[[n]],  $\psi_3$ test[[n]]], {n, 1, Nsamples}]
```

```
Out[25]:= {0.20064, 1.45344, 1.48768, 1.42422, 0.260246,
           0.313109, 0.400972, 0.0702045, 0.361852, 0.622332}
```

Compare with the input list (note that signs above are all positive; this is due to the ambiguity in the calculation of the term $\arccos(\pm Y)$).

```
In[26]:=  $\Psi$ list
```

```
Out[26]:= {-0.20064, 1.45344, -1.48768, -1.42422, -0.260246,
           0.313109, -0.400972, -0.0702045, 0.361852, 0.622332}
```

Check dynamic phase Θ .

```
In[27]:= Θslmstest = Table[Θslms[ψ1test[[n]], ψ2test[[n]], ψ3test[[n]]], {n, 1, Nsamples}]
```

```
Out[27]:= {0.0926442, -0.271671, -0.291874, -0.90982, -0.184152,
          0.162624, 0.0564018, 0.00847416, -0.085482, 0.411987}
```

Compare with list from earlier section

```
In[28]:= Θtest
```

```
Out[28]:= {0.0926442, -0.271671, -0.291874, -0.90982, -0.184152,
          0.162624, 0.0564018, 0.00847416, -0.085482, 0.411987}
```

Calculate retardance and dynamic phase using Pancharatnam calculations

Using spherical triangle expressions for elliptical retarders from Appendix C, input values from α, β, θ and check retardance.

Vector definitions from the manuscript:

Eq. 49:

```
In[29]:= A = {Cos[2 θ], Sin[2 θ] Cos[α], Sin[2 θ] Sin[α]};
B = {Cos[2 θ], Sin[2 θ] Cos[β], Sin[2 θ] Sin[β]};
CC = {Cos[2 θ], Sin[2 θ] Cos[β], -Sin[2 θ] Sin[β]};
Qd = {-1, 0, 0};
Rd = {0, -1, 0};
```

Here we define $f1e = \phi_1 + \phi_2 + \phi_3 + \phi_4$ and $f2e = \phi_1' + \phi_2' + \phi_3' + \phi_4' = \phi_1' + \phi_2' + \phi_3' - \phi_4$

```
In[34]:= f1e[θ_, α_, β_] =
  ArcTan[1 + A.B + B.Qd + Qd.A, A.Qd × B] + ArcTan[1 + B.CC + CC.Rd + Rd.B, B.Rd × CC] +
  ArcTan[1 + CC.A + A.Qd + Qd.CC, CC.Qd × A] + ArcTan[1 + CC.B + B.A + A.CC, A.B × CC]
Out[34]:= ArcTan[1 - 2 Cos[2 θ] + Cos[2 θ]2 + Cos[α] Cos[β] Sin[2 θ]2 - Sin[α] Sin[β] Sin[2 θ]2,
  Cos[β] Sin[α] Sin[2 θ]2 + Cos[α] Sin[β] Sin[2 θ]2] +
  ArcTan[1 - 2 Cos[2 θ] + Cos[2 θ]2 + Cos[α] Cos[β] Sin[2 θ]2 + Sin[α] Sin[β] Sin[2 θ]2,
  -Cos[β] Sin[α] Sin[2 θ]2 + Cos[α] Sin[β] Sin[2 θ]2] +
  ArcTan[1 + Cos[2 θ]2 - 2 Cos[β] Sin[2 θ] + Cos[β]2 Sin[2 θ]2 - Sin[β]2 Sin[2 θ]2,
  2 Cos[2 θ] Sin[β] Sin[2 θ]] + ArcTan[
  1 + 3 Cos[2 θ]2 + 2 Cos[α] Cos[β] Sin[2 θ]2 + Cos[β]2 Sin[2 θ]2 - Sin[β]2 Sin[2 θ]2,
  2 Cos[α] Cos[2 θ] Sin[β] Sin[2 θ]2 - 2 Cos[β] Cos[2 θ] Sin[β] Sin[2 θ]2]
```

```

In[35]:= f2e[θ_, α_, β_] =
  ArcTan[1 + A.B - B.Qd - Qd.A, A.Qd × B] + ArcTan[1 + B.CC - CC.Rd - Rd.B, B.Rd × CC] +
  ArcTan[1 + CC.A - A.Qd - Qd.CC, CC.Qd × A] - ArcTan[1 + CC.B + B.A + A.CC, A.B × CC]
Out[35]= ArcTan[1 + 2 Cos[2 θ] + Cos[2 θ]2 + Cos[α] Cos[β] Sin[2 θ]2 - Sin[α] Sin[β] Sin[2 θ]2,
  Cos[β] Sin[α] Sin[2 θ]2 + Cos[α] Sin[β] Sin[2 θ]2] +
  ArcTan[1 + 2 Cos[2 θ] + Cos[2 θ]2 + Cos[α] Cos[β] Sin[2 θ]2 + Sin[α] Sin[β] Sin[2 θ]2,
  -Cos[β] Sin[α] Sin[2 θ]2 + Cos[α] Sin[β] Sin[2 θ]2] +
  ArcTan[1 + Cos[2 θ]2 + 2 Cos[β] Sin[2 θ] + Cos[β]2 Sin[2 θ]2 - Sin[β]2 Sin[2 θ]2,
  2 Cos[2 θ] Sin[β] Sin[2 θ]] - ArcTan[
  1 + 3 Cos[2 θ]2 + 2 Cos[α] Cos[β] Sin[2 θ]2 + Cos[β]2 Sin[2 θ]2 - Sin[β]2 Sin[2 θ]2,
  2 Cos[α] Cos[2 θ] Sin[β] Sin[2 θ]2 - 2 Cos[β] Cos[2 θ] Sin[β] Sin[2 θ]2]

```

For calculation of retardance use f1e-f2e

Eq. 51:

```

In[36]:= fTe[θ_, α_, β_] := f1e[θ, α, β] - f2e[θ, α, β]
In[37]:= Ξtrianglestest = fTe[#[[2]], #[[3]], β[#[[1]], #[[2]]]] & /@ Ξθasamples
Out[37]= {-0.20064, 1.45344, -1.48768, -1.42422, -0.260246,
  0.313109, -0.400972, -0.0702045, 0.361852, 0.622332}

```

Compare with the input list

```

In[38]:= Ξlist
Out[38]= {-0.20064, 1.45344, -1.48768, -1.42422, -0.260246,
  0.313109, -0.400972, -0.0702045, 0.361852, 0.622332}

```

Check dynamic phase Θ.

For calculation of dynamic phase use 0.5(f2e+f1e),

Eq. 52:

```

In[39]:= dynTe[θ_, α_, β_] :=  $\frac{1}{2}$  (f2e[θ, α, β] + f1e[θ, α, β])
In[40]:= Θtrianglestest = dynTe[#[[2]], #[[3]], β[#[[1]], #[[2]]]] & /@ Ξθasamples
Out[40]= {0.0926442, -0.271671, -0.291874, -0.90982, -0.184152,
  0.162624, 0.0564018, 0.00847416, -0.085482, 0.411987}

```

Compare against reference list

```

In[41]:= Θtest
Out[41]= {0.0926442, -0.271671, -0.291874, -0.90982, -0.184152,
  0.162624, 0.0564018, 0.00847416, -0.085482, 0.411987}

```