Simple Method to Realize Axicon Lens Using Liquid Crystal

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Axicon lens also known as conical lens or rotationally symmetric prism is widely used in different scientific research and application. It can be used to convert a parallel laser beam into a ring, to create a non-diffractive Bessel beam or to focus a parallel beam into long focus depth. Generally, the spot size of a Bessel beam is fixed for a given experimental setup. To change the Bessel beam spot size, the apex angle of axicon must be changed. It has been reported to fabricate axicon lenses using liquid crystal materials [1, 2]. In this paper, we report a simple method to realize an axicon lens using liquid crystal. [3].

The basic structure of the device is illustrated in Fig. 1.

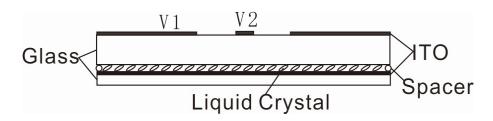


Fig. 1 Cell structure

The distribution of phase retardation is shown in Fig. 2.

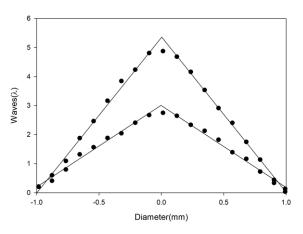


Fig. 2 Phase retardation

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