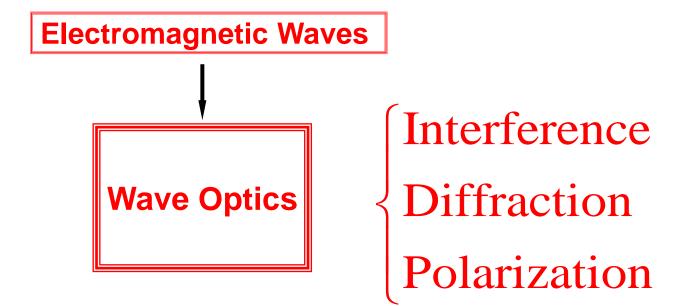


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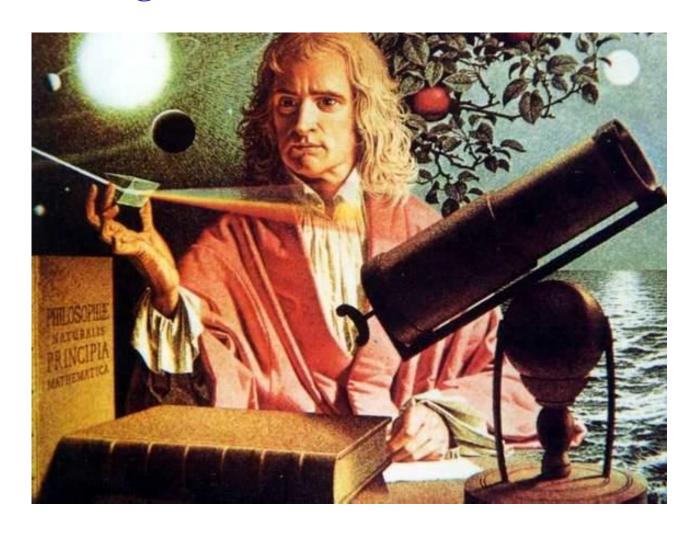


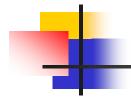


Chapter 30-A Light Waves



We all know light, but we don't really know what is light.





§ 1 The Nature of Light



What is light?

Models

- Physicists devise various conceptual models to understand nature.
- → The worth of a model lies not in whether it is "true" but in whether it is useful.
- → A good model not only is consistent with and explains observations, but also predicts what may happen.

The Nature of Light



- What is light —— the particle model or the wave model?
 - Huygens' wave model:

Light is a wave that has the characteristic properties of interference and diffraction.

Newton's particle model:

Light is a stream of particles (called corpuscles) emitted by light sources.

Maxwell's viewpoint:

Light is a form of high-frequency electromagnetic waves.

No need to travel through a medium. Light travel through vacuum with the same speed:

$$c = \frac{1}{\sqrt{\varepsilon_0 \mu_0}} = 3 \times 10^8 \,\text{m/s}$$



The Nature of Light



▶ In modern viewpoint: wave-particle duality

In some cases light acts like a wave and in others it acts like a particle.

The propagation of light is best described by the wave model, but understanding emission and absorption requires the particle approach.



Albert Einstein (1879 ~ 1955)



Louis Victor de Broglie (1892 ~ 1987)



Erwin Schrödinger (1887 ~ 1961)



Review: Maxwell's Equations



Gauss's law for electricity

$$\bigoplus_{S} \overrightarrow{B} \cdot d\overrightarrow{A} = 0$$

Gauss's law for magnetism

$$\oint_{L} \overrightarrow{E} \cdot d\overrightarrow{l} = -\frac{d\Phi_{B}}{dt} = -\iint_{S} \frac{\partial \overrightarrow{B}}{\partial t} \cdot d\overrightarrow{A}$$
 Faraday's law of induction

$$\oint_{L} \vec{B} \cdot d\vec{l} = \mu_{0} I_{\text{encl}} + \varepsilon_{0} \mu_{0} \frac{d\Phi_{E}}{dt} = \mu_{0} I_{\text{encl}} + \varepsilon_{0} \mu_{0} \iint_{S} \frac{\partial \vec{E}}{\partial t} \cdot d\vec{A}$$

Ampére-Maxwell law

Maxwell's equations and Lorentz force give the fundamental relations of electromagnetism! They are fundamental in the sense that Newton's three laws are for mechanics.

Derivation of the electromagnetic wave equation



Consider a plane wave.

(a)
$$\vec{E}$$
 \vec{E} $\vec{E$

$$\oint \vec{E} \cdot d\vec{l} = E_y(x + \Delta x, t)a - E_y(x, t)a$$
$$= a[E_y(x + \Delta x, t) - E_y(x, t)]$$

$$-\frac{d\Phi_B}{dt} = -\frac{\partial B_z(x,t)}{\partial t}a(\Delta x)$$

$$a[E_{y}(x+\Delta x,t)-E_{y}(x,t)] = -\frac{\partial B_{z}(x,t)}{\partial t}a(\Delta x)$$

$$\frac{E_{y}(x + \Delta x, t) - E_{y}(x, t)}{\Delta x} = -\frac{\partial B_{z}(x, t)}{\partial t}$$

$$\oint \vec{E} \cdot d\vec{l} = -\frac{d\Phi_B}{dt},$$

$$\frac{\partial E_{y}(x,t)}{\partial x} = -\frac{\partial B_{z}(x,t)}{\partial t}$$

Faraday's law applied to a rectangle with height a and width Δx parallel to the xy-plane.

De

Derivation of the electromagnetic wave equation



(a)
$$\oint \vec{B} \cdot d\vec{l} = -B_z(x + \Delta x, t)a + B_z(x, t)a$$

$$= a[-B_z(x + \Delta x, t) + B_z(x, t)]$$

$$\varepsilon_0 \mu_0 \frac{d\Phi_E}{dt} = \varepsilon_0 \mu_0 \frac{\partial E_y(x, t)}{\partial t} a(\Delta x)$$

$$a[-B_z(x + \Delta x, t) + B_z(x, t)] = \varepsilon_0 \mu_0 \frac{\partial E_y(x, t)}{\partial t} a(\Delta x)$$

$$\frac{-B_z(x + \Delta x, t) + B_z(x, t)}{\Delta x} = \varepsilon_0 \mu_0 \frac{\partial E_y(x, t)}{\partial t}$$

$$\oint \vec{B} \cdot d\vec{l} = \mu_0 I_{\text{encl}} + \varepsilon_0 \mu_0 \frac{d\Phi_E}{dt}, \qquad -\frac{\partial B_z(x,t)}{\partial x} = \varepsilon_0 \mu_0 \frac{\partial E_y(x,t)}{\partial t}$$

Ampere's law applied to a rectangle with height a and width Δx parallel to the xz-plane.



Derivation of the electromagnetic wave equation



$$\frac{\partial E_{y}(x,t)}{\partial x} = -\frac{\partial B_{z}(x,t)}{\partial t}, \qquad -\frac{\partial B_{z}(x,t)}{\partial x} = \varepsilon_{0}\mu_{0}\frac{\partial E_{y}(x,t)}{\partial t}$$

$$\frac{\partial^{2} E_{y}(x,t)}{\partial x^{2}} = -\frac{\partial^{2} B_{z}(x,t)}{\partial x \partial t}, \qquad -\frac{\partial^{2} B_{z}(x,t)}{\partial x \partial t} = \varepsilon_{0}\mu_{0}\frac{\partial^{2} E_{y}(x,t)}{\partial t^{2}}$$

$$\frac{\partial^{2} E_{y}(x,t)}{\partial x^{2}} = \varepsilon_{0}\mu_{0}\frac{\partial^{2} E_{y}(x,t)}{\partial t^{2}}$$

$$\frac{\partial^{2} B_{z}(x,t)}{\partial x^{2}} = \varepsilon_{0}\mu_{0}\frac{\partial^{2} B_{z}(x,t)}{\partial t^{2}}$$

$$\frac{\partial^{2} B_{z}(x,t)}{\partial x^{2}} = \varepsilon_{0}\mu_{0}\frac{\partial^{2} B_{z}(x,t)}{\partial t^{2}}$$

Electromagnetic wave equation in vacuum!

$$\frac{1}{v^2} = \varepsilon_0 \mu_0, \qquad v = \frac{1}{\sqrt{\varepsilon_0 \mu_0}}$$



▶ The wave equation:

From Maxwell's equations, we can obtain the wave equation for a wave which propagates in x-direction

$$\frac{\partial^2 E}{\partial x^2} = \varepsilon_0 \mu_0 \frac{\partial^2 E}{\partial t^2}, \qquad \frac{\partial^2 B}{\partial x^2} = \varepsilon_0 \mu_0 \frac{\partial^2 B}{\partial t^2}$$

▶ The wave speed:

Generally, the wave equation

$$\frac{\partial^2 \Psi(x,t)}{\partial x^2} = \frac{1}{v^2} \frac{\partial^2 \Psi(x,t)}{\partial t^2}$$

$$v = \frac{1}{\sqrt{\varepsilon_0 \mu_0}} = 2.997 \times 10^8 \text{ m/s} = c$$



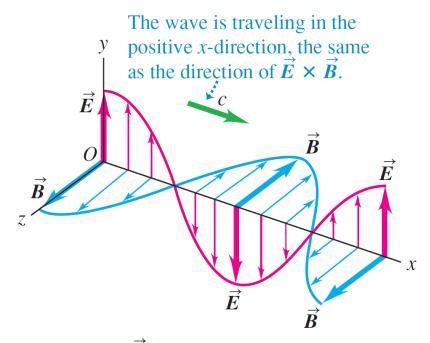
This speed is precisely the same as the speed of light in empty space.



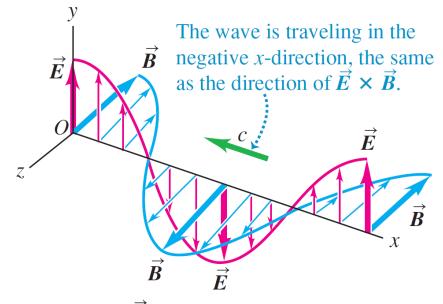
The sinusoidal plane wave is the simplest solution of the wave equations

$$E = E_{\text{max}} \cos(\omega t - kx),$$

$$B = B_{\text{max}} \cos(\omega t - kx)$$



 \vec{E} : y-component only \vec{B} : z-component only

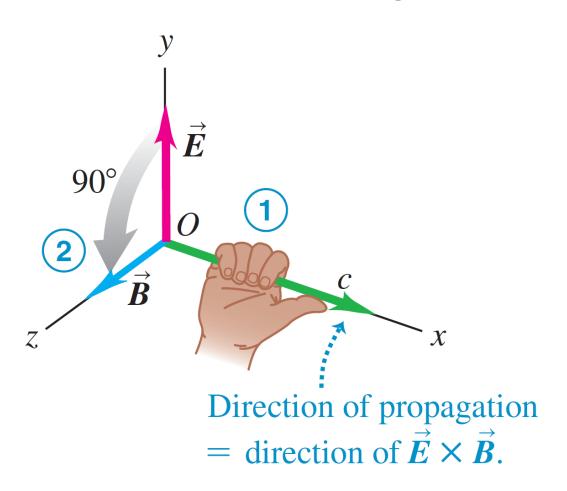


 \vec{E} : y-component only \vec{B} : z-component only





Right-hand rule for an electromagnetic wave







$$E = E_{\text{max}} \cos(\omega t - kx), \quad B = B_{\text{max}} \cos(\omega t - kx)$$

→ The wave is transverse.

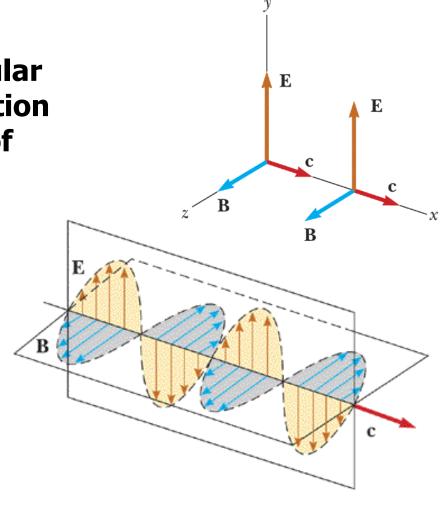
Both \overrightarrow{E} and \overrightarrow{B} are perpendicular to each other, and to the direction of propagation. The direction of propagation is $E \times B$

 $ightharpoonup \overrightarrow{E}$ and \overrightarrow{B} are in phase, and has a definite ratio

$$\frac{E}{B} = \frac{E_{\text{max}}}{B_{\text{max}}} = c, \qquad E = cB$$

$$E = cB$$

$$\sqrt{\varepsilon_0}E = \frac{B}{\sqrt{\mu_0}}$$



4

The important features of electromagnetic waves



Poynting vector: energy current density vector.

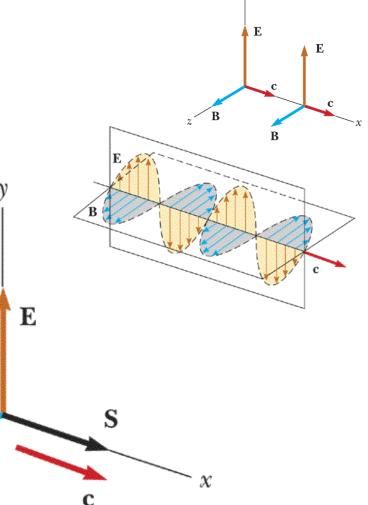
The total energy density:

$$u = u_E + u_B = \frac{1}{2} \varepsilon_0 E^2 + \frac{B^2}{2\mu_0} = \frac{EB}{\mu_0 c}$$

The energy current density:

$$S = uc = \frac{EB}{\mu_0}$$

$$\vec{S} = \frac{1}{\mu_0} \vec{E} \times \vec{B}$$

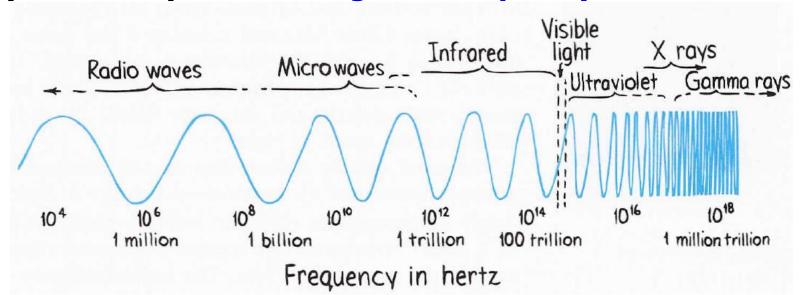


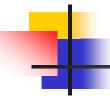


§ 2 The Electromagnetic Spectrum



- A broad range of different kinds of radiation from a variety of sources.
 - Even though these radiations differ greatly in their properties, in their means of production, and in the ways we observe them, they share other features in common: they all can be described in term of electric and magnetic fields, and they all travel through vacuum with the same speed c.
- They differ only in wavelength or frequency.



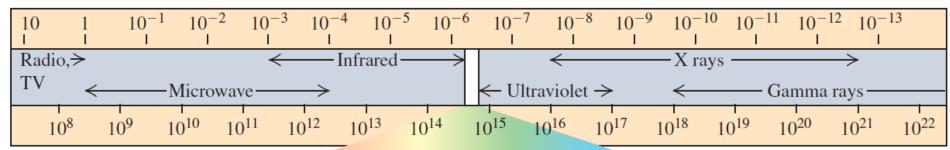


The Electromagnetic Spectrum



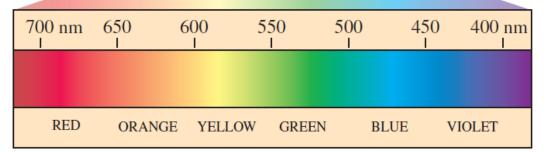
$$\lambda f = c$$

Wavelengths in m



Visible light

Frequencies in Hz





The Visible Light



color	λ/nm	f/Hz	$\lambda_{ m centre}/{ m nm}$
red	760~622	$3.9 \times 10^{14} \sim 4.8 \times 10^{14}$	660
orange	622~597	$4.8 \times 10^{14} \sim 5.0 \times 10^{14}$	610
yellow	597~577	$5.0 \times 10^{14} \sim 5.4 \times 10^{14}$	570
green	577~492	$5.4 \times 10^{14} \sim 6.1 \times 10^{14}$	540
cyan	492~470	$6.1 \times 10^{14} \sim 6.4 \times 10^{14}$	480
blue	470~455	$6.4 \times 10^{14} \sim 6.6 \times 10^{14}$	460
violet	455~400	$6.6 \times 10^{14} \sim 7.5 \times 10^{14}$	430



§ 3 Optical Intensity



To describe energy flow of electromagnetic wave (energy current density), we use Poynting vector

$$\vec{S} = \frac{1}{\mu} \vec{E} \times \vec{B}$$

At optical frequencies ($\approx 10^{15} Hz$), S is an extremely rapid varying function of time, its instantaneous value would be an impractical quantity to measure directly.

Generally we must employ an average procedure.

Any optical device, such as a photocell, a film plate, or the retina (视网膜) of a human eye, can only sense the light energy during some finite interval of time.

Optical intensity



lacktriangle We define the light intensity as the average value of S over a period of electromagnetic wave T:

$$I = \langle S \rangle = \frac{1}{T} \int_{-T/2}^{T/2} S \, dt = \frac{1}{T} \int_{-T/2}^{T/2} \frac{EB}{\mu} \, dt$$

Recall that for a electromagnetic wave $\sqrt{\varepsilon}E = \frac{B}{\sqrt{\mu}}$

$$\frac{EB}{\mu} = \frac{\sqrt{\varepsilon\mu}}{\mu} E^2 = \frac{n}{c} \frac{1}{\mu} E^2 = \frac{n}{c\mu_0} E^2, \text{ for optical medium } \mu_r \approx 1$$

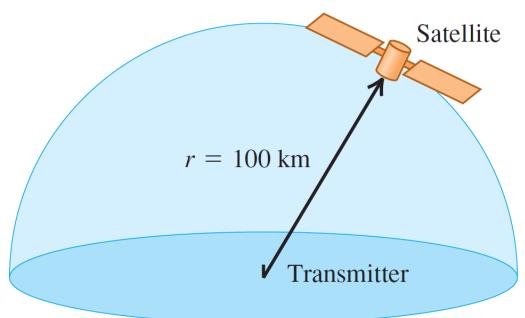
$$v = \frac{1}{\sqrt{\varepsilon \mu}} = \frac{1}{\sqrt{\varepsilon_0 \varepsilon_r \mu_0 \mu_r}} = \left(\frac{1}{\sqrt{\varepsilon_0 \mu_0}}\right) \frac{1}{\sqrt{\varepsilon_r \mu_r}} = \frac{c}{n}$$

$$I = \frac{n}{c\mu_0} \frac{1}{T} \int_{-T/2}^{T/2} E_0^2 \cos^2(\omega t - kz + \phi) dt = \frac{1}{2} \frac{n}{c\mu_0} E_0^2 \propto E_0^2$$

Ex. energy in a sinusoidal wave



A radio station on the earth's surface emits a sinusoidal wave with average total power 50 kW. Assuming that the transmitter radiates equally in all directions above the ground (which is unlikely in real situations), find the electric-field and magnetic-field amplitudes E_{max} and B_{max} detected by a satellite 100 km from the antenna.



Ex. Energy in a sinusoidal wave



Satellite

r = 100 km

Solution:

$$I = \frac{P}{A} = \frac{P}{2\pi R^2} = \frac{5.00 \times 10^4 \text{ W}}{6.28 \times (1.00 \times 10^5 \text{ m})^2} = 7.96 \times 10^{-7} \text{ W/m}^2$$

$$I = \frac{1}{2} \frac{n}{c\mu_0} E_0^2, \quad n = 1$$

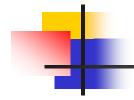
$$E_{\text{max}} = \sqrt{2\mu_0 cI}$$

$$= \sqrt{2(4\pi \times 10^{-7} \text{ T} \cdot \text{m/A})(3.00 \times 10^8 \text{ m/s})(7.96 \times 10^{-7} \text{ W/m}^2)}$$

$$= 2.45 \times 10^{-2} \text{ V/m}$$

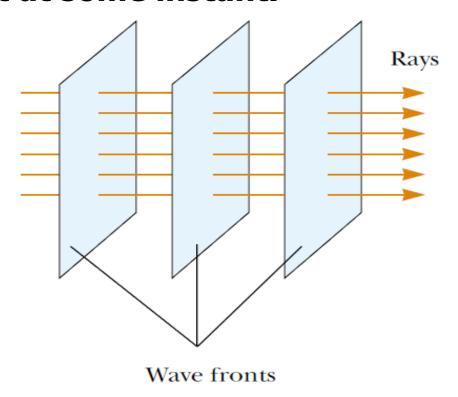
$$B_{\text{max}} = \frac{E_{\text{max}}}{c} = 8.17 \times 10^{-11} \text{ T}$$







→ A geometric construction for using knowledge of an earlier wave front to determine the position of a new wave front at some instant.

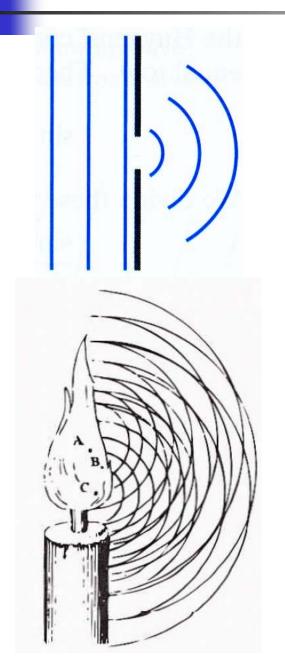




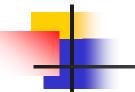
Christian Huygens, Dutch Physicist and Astronomer (1629– 1695)

Huygens' Principle



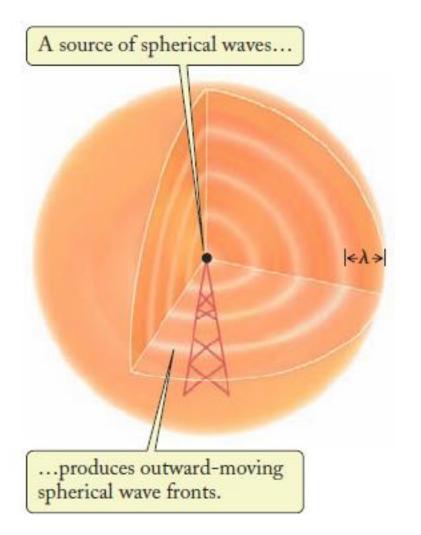


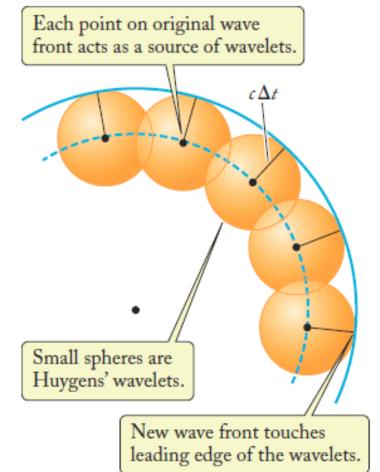
Every point on a given wavefront can be considered as a source of tiny spherical secondary waves, called wavelets (子波) that spread out in the forward direction at the speed of the wave itself. After a time Δt the new wavefront is the envelope of all the wavelets—that is the tangent to all these secondary wavelets. (1678)



Huygens's construction

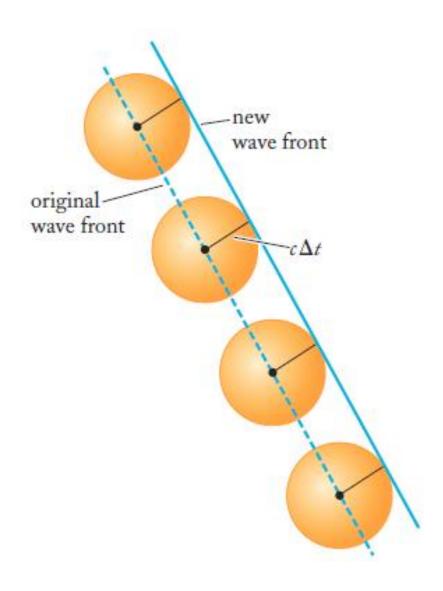






Huygens's construction

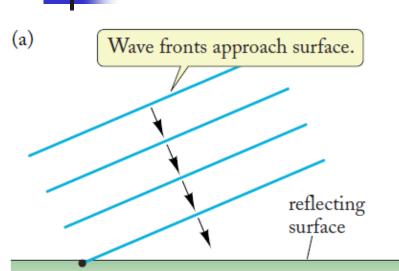


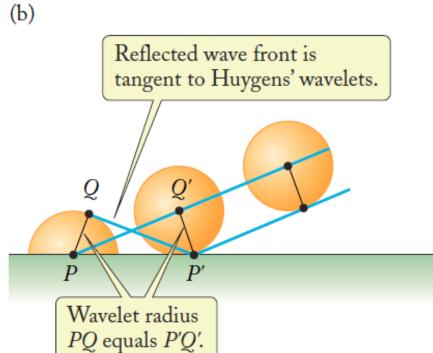


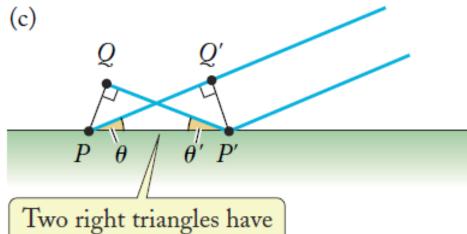
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Reflection and Huygens's Principle









common side PP'

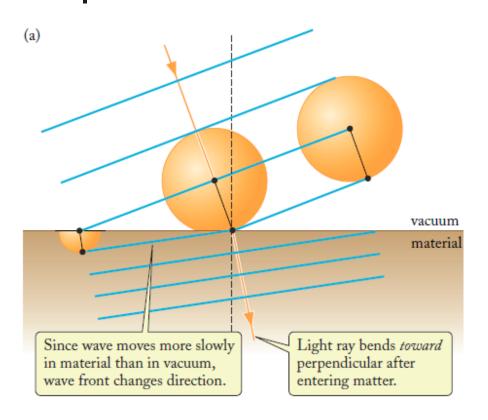
$$PQ = P'Q' = c\Delta t$$

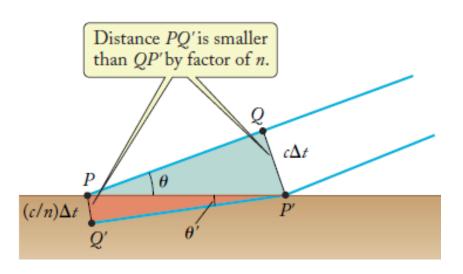
$$\theta = \theta'$$



Refraction and Huygens's Principle







$$\sin\theta = \frac{c\Delta t}{PP'},$$

$$\sin\theta' = \frac{(c/n)\Delta t}{PP'},$$

$$\frac{\sin\theta}{\sin\theta'} = \frac{c}{c/n},$$

Snell's law of refraction

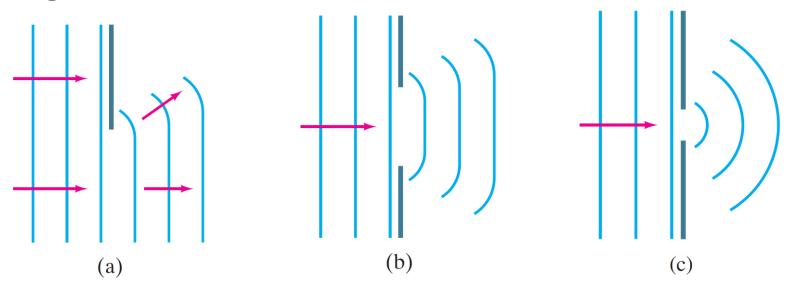
$$\sin \theta = n \sin \theta'$$

$$n_1 \sin \theta_1 = n_2 \sin \theta_2$$

Huygens' principle



- Huygens' principle used to explain diffraction phenomenon
 - Diffraction: When the waves impinge on an obstacle, the waves will bend behind the obstacle into the "shadow region".

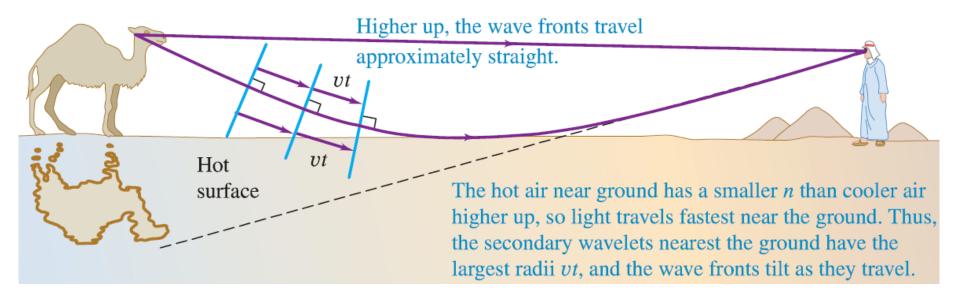


→ The diffraction is one of unique phenomena for all kinds of waves, not for particles.



Mirages

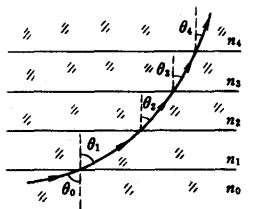




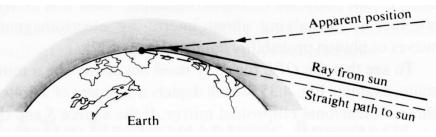
Applications of optical path length

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- The bending of rays through inhomogeneous medium
 - ▶ Bending trend of rays.
 Considering a material composed of a series of layers with index n₀<n₁<n₂<n₃<n₄<...,
 a ray tends to bend towards the direction with higher index of refraction.

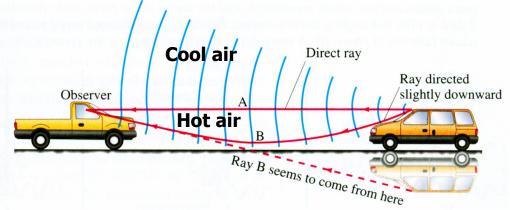


→ The phenomena of bending of rays Sunset: At the moment we see the sun getting down, the sun has been already down in a period of time.



Highway mirage on a hot day: It is seem to have water over roadway.





§ 5 Dispersion and Prisms



Dispersion:

The dependence of the index of refraction on wavelength.

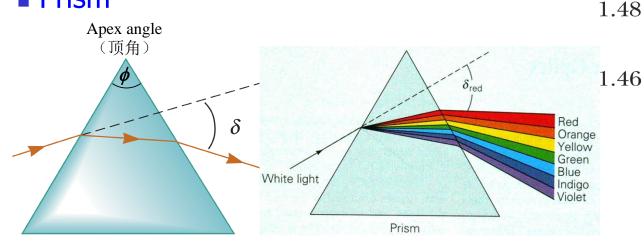
$$n = n(\lambda)$$

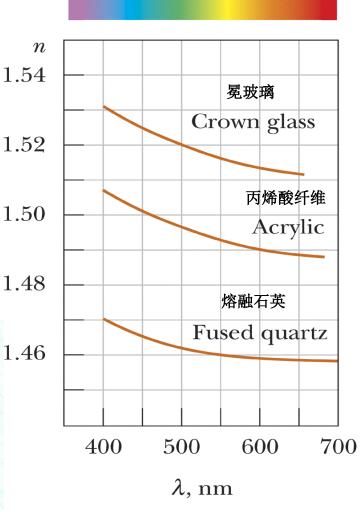
$$n = n(\lambda)$$
 $v = \frac{c}{n(\lambda)} = v(\lambda)$ 1.52

→ Generally,

 $\frac{dn}{d\lambda}$ < 0 (normal dispersion)

Prism





angle of deviation δ

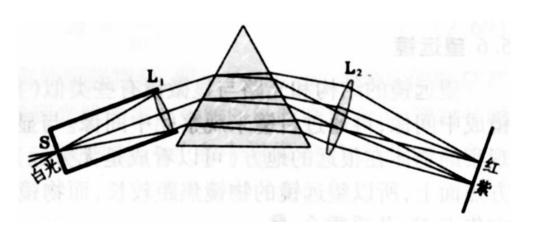
Prism spectrum analyzer



Prism (Cont'd)

→ The prism can be employed as the key component in

spectrum analyzer.



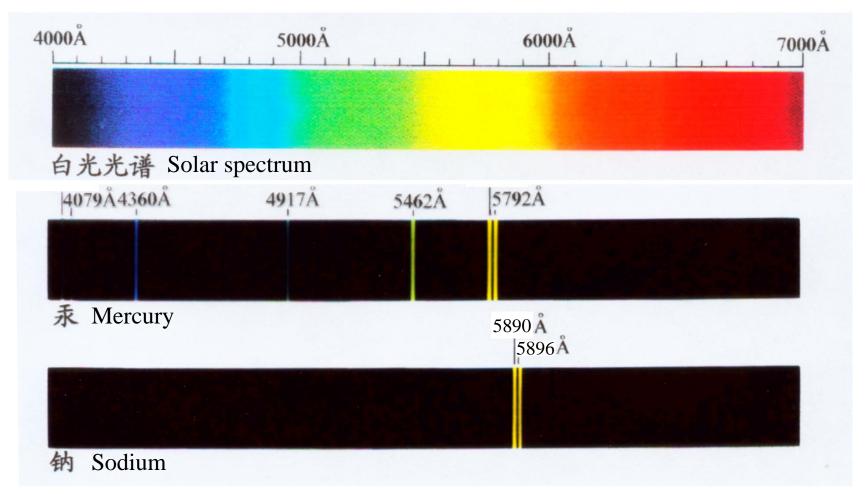
Prism spectrum analyzer



Some typical spectrums



Some typical spectrums in visible range of light sources measured by Prism spectrum analyzer:

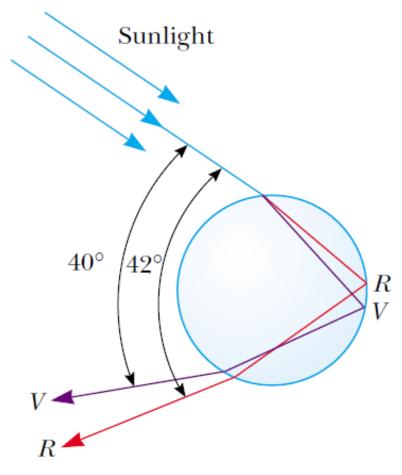


Rainbow



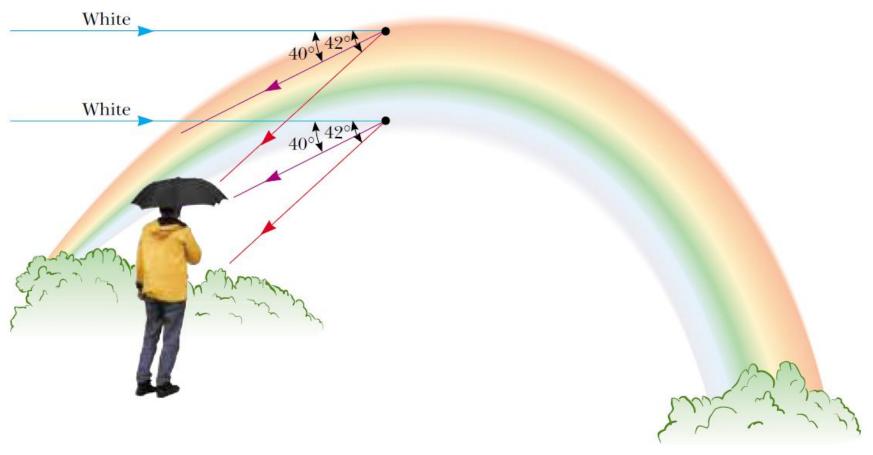


- The formation of rainbow can be explained by the dispersion of light.
- → A ray of light passing overhead strikes a spherical drop of water in the atmosphere. The exit angle is 42° for the red light and 40° for the violet light.



Rainbow





→ The red portion of the rainbow seen by an observer is supplied by drops upper in the sky, and the violet portion of the rainbow is supplied by drops lower in the sky.



* § 6 Fermat's Principle



"Nature always acts by the shortest course."

▶ When a light ray travels between any two points, its path is the one that requires the smallest time interval.



Pierre de Fermat, French lawyer (1607—1665)

Fermat's principle and Snell's law



$$t = \frac{r_1}{v_1} + \frac{r_2}{v_2} = \frac{\sqrt{a^2 + x^2}}{c/n_1} + \frac{\sqrt{b^2 + (d - x)^2}}{c/n_2}$$

$$\frac{dt}{dx} = \frac{n_1}{c} \frac{d}{dx} \sqrt{a^2 + x^2} + \frac{n_2}{c} \frac{d}{dx} \sqrt{b^2 + (d - x)^2} \qquad a \mid \theta_1 \rangle$$

$$= \frac{n_1}{c} \left(\frac{1}{2}\right) \frac{2x}{(a^2 + x^2)^{1/2}} + \frac{n_2}{c} \left(\frac{1}{2}\right) \frac{2(d - x)(-1)}{[b^2 + (d - x)^2]^{1/2}}$$

$$= \frac{n_1 x}{c (a^2 + x^2)^{1/2}} - \frac{n_2 (d - x)}{c [b^2 + (d - x)^2]^{1/2}} = 0$$

$$\frac{n_1 x}{(a^2 + x^2)^{1/2}} = \frac{n_2 (d - x)}{[b^2 + (d - x)^2]^{1/2}}$$

$$\sin \theta_1 = \frac{x}{(a^2 + x^2)^{1/2}} \qquad \sin \theta_2 = \frac{d - x}{[b^2 + (d - x)^2]^{1/2}}$$

$$n_1 \sin \theta_1 = n_2 \sin \theta_2$$