

Chapter 33

Light

Reflection - Refraction –

Total internal reflection, Dispersion, Polarization

Geometric Optics

Ch.34

Mirrors and Lenses

Wave Optics

Ch.35-36

Interference and Diffraction

Quantum Optics

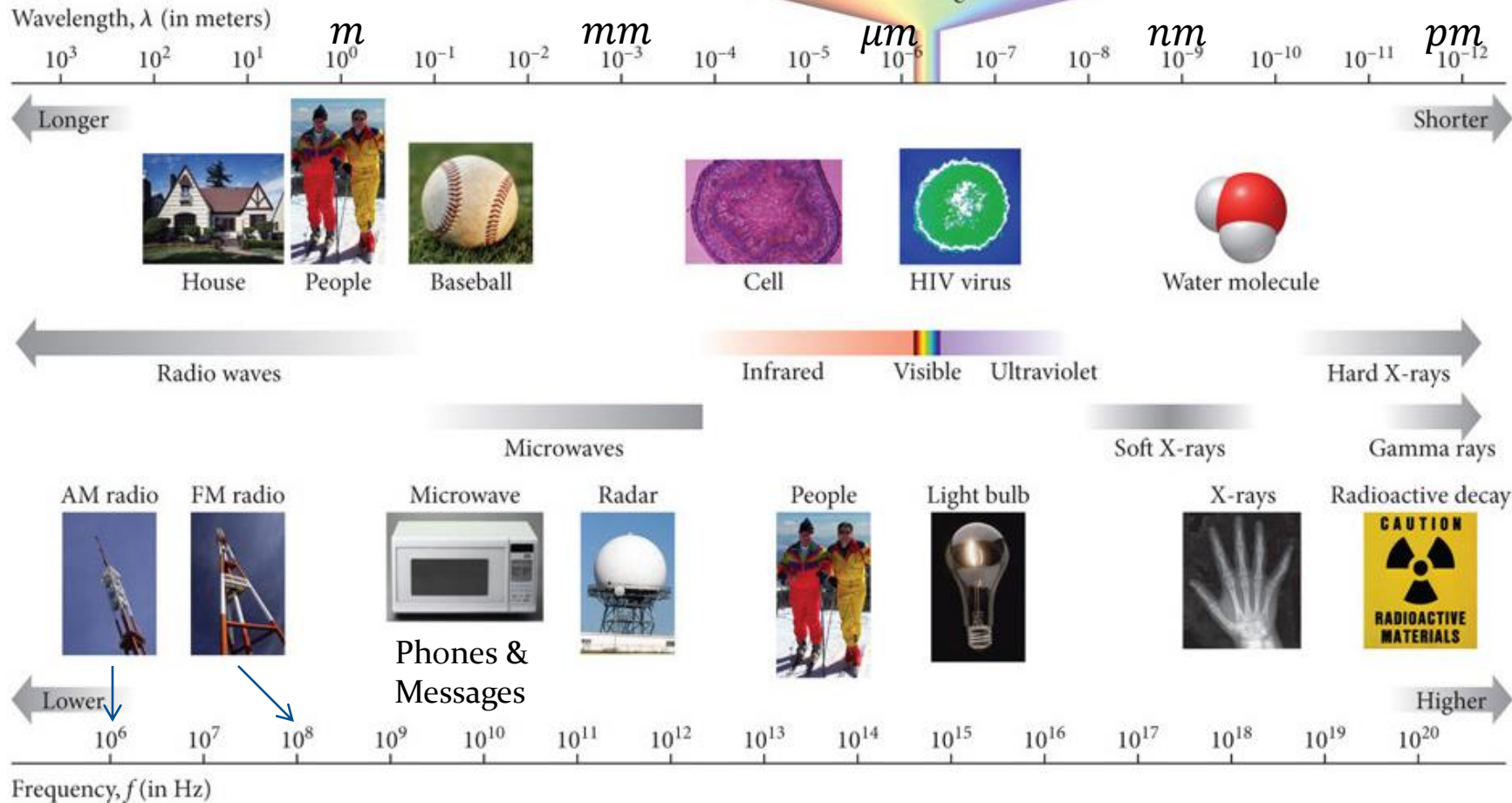
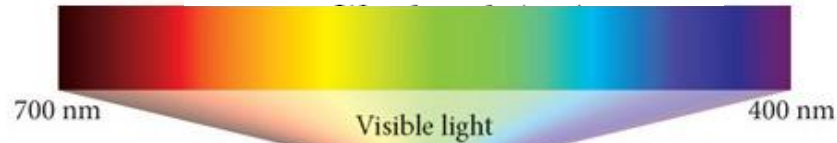
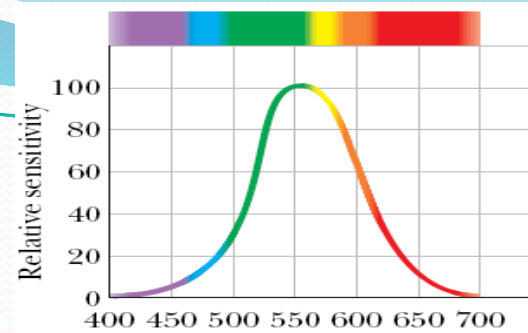
Ch.38-39

Light as particles and Particles as Waves

Electromagnetic Spectrum

Maxwell's Rainbow

$$c = \lambda f = 3 \cdot 10^8 \frac{m}{s}$$



Wave Fronts and Light Rays

Light = visible el.mg. waves

$$\lambda = 400 - 700 \text{ nm}$$

$$f = 7.5 - 4.3 \cdot 10^{14} \text{ Hz}$$

$$c = \lambda f$$

Geometric optics $\lambda \ll \text{objects}$

Light rays (LR) = imaginary line along the direction of propagation

Homogeneous isotropic material – LR are *straight* lines \perp to WF

Wave fronts (WF) =

locus of adjacent points with same phase

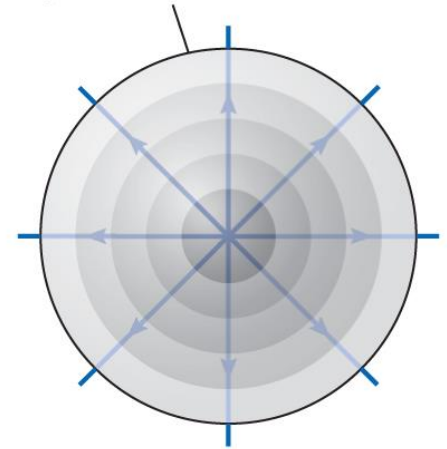
same instantaneous \vec{E} value

Point sources WF = concentric spheres

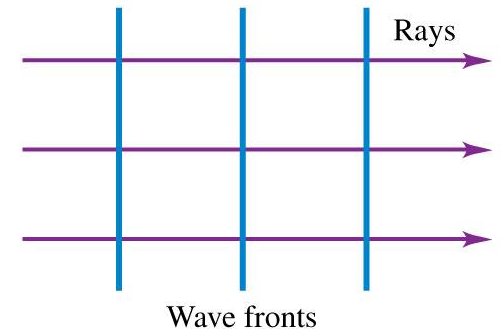
Far from point source WF are planar

e.g. $9 \cdot 10^7 \text{ miles}$ Sun-Earth

Spherical wavefronts



When wave fronts are planar, the rays are perpendicular to the wave fronts and parallel to each other.



Reflection and Images

Diffuse reflection – scattered reflection from rough surface

Specular reflection – reflection at a definite angle



Mirror – surface that reflects light in one direction
(w/out much scattering and absorption)

Real mirrors absorb ~1% - images get dimmer

Perfect mirror – reflects 100% of incident light

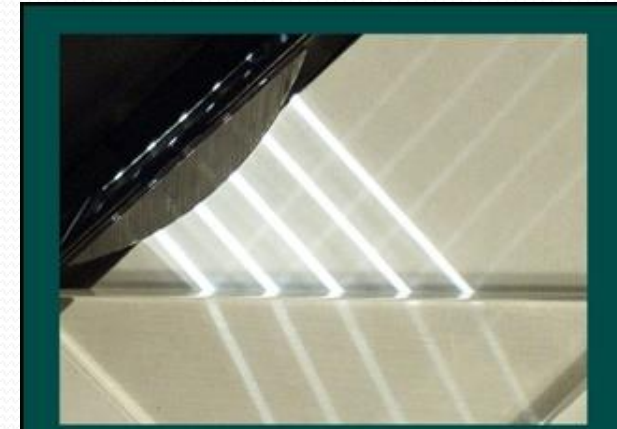
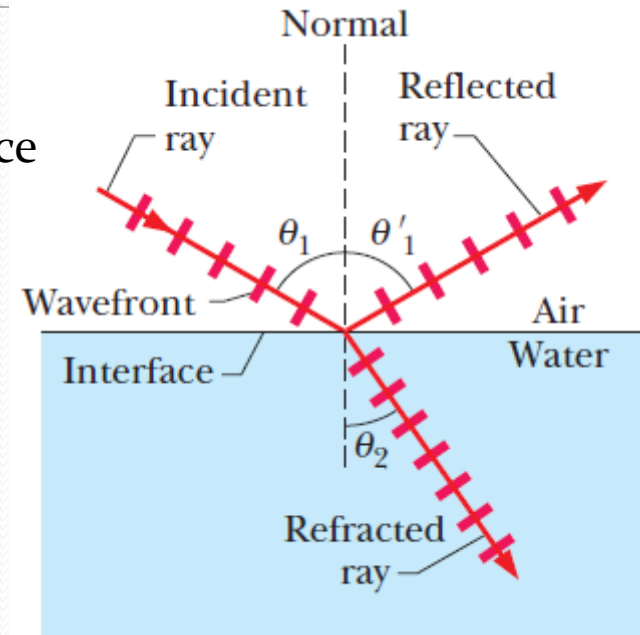
Speed of light in material

$$v = \frac{1}{\sqrt{\epsilon \mu}} < c$$

Index of refraction

$$n = \frac{c}{v} > 1$$

air	$n = 1.0003$
water	$n = 1.3$
glass	$n = 1.5$
diamond	$n = 2.4$



Reflection and Refraction

Snellius – 17th c

all three beams and normal to surface are in one plane

Law of *reflection*

$$\theta_1 = \theta'_1$$

Law of *refraction*

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

Can use Maxwell's equations

to find amplitude, intensity, phase, polarization

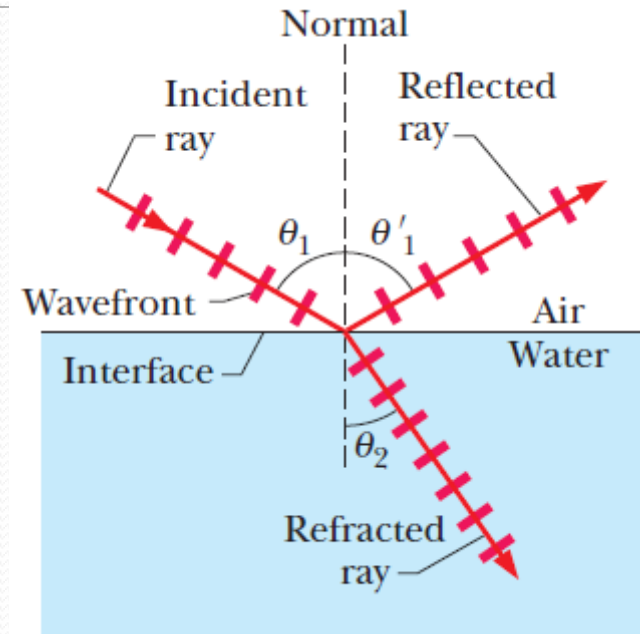
The frequency is the same $f_n = f$

We perceive color by frequency (rather than wavelength)

Wavelength is different

$$\lambda_n = \frac{\lambda}{n}$$

$$\lambda_n = \frac{v}{f_n} = \frac{c/n}{f} = \frac{c}{f} n = \frac{\lambda}{n}$$



Total Internal Reflection

Condition for total internal reflection

$$n_2 < n_1 \text{ (water or glass to air)}$$

$$n_1 \sin \theta_c = n_2 \sin 90^\circ$$

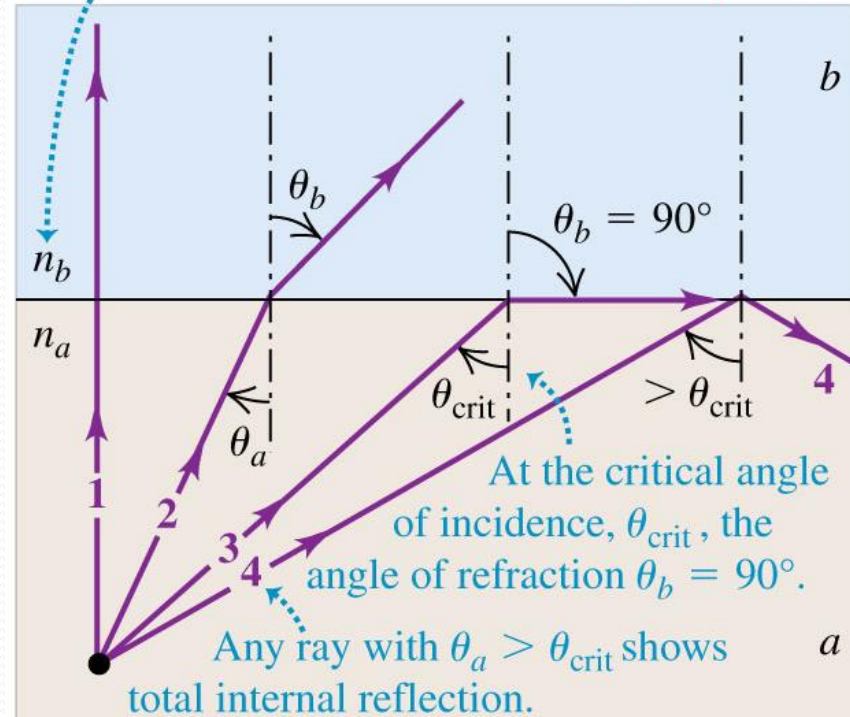
$$\sin \theta_c = \frac{n_2}{n_1} < 1$$

Critical angle =

Angle of incidence for which the refracted ray emerges tangent to the surface

If $\theta_1 > \theta_c$
 Then $\sin \theta_2 > \frac{n_1}{n_2} \sin \theta_c = 1$ not possible

Total internal reflection occurs only if $n_b < n_a$.



Total Internal Reflection

$n_2 < n_1$ (water/glass to air)

$$\sin\theta_c = \frac{n_2}{n_1}$$

Critical angle

Example:

glass

$n = 1.52$

$\theta_c = 41.1^\circ$

Applications:

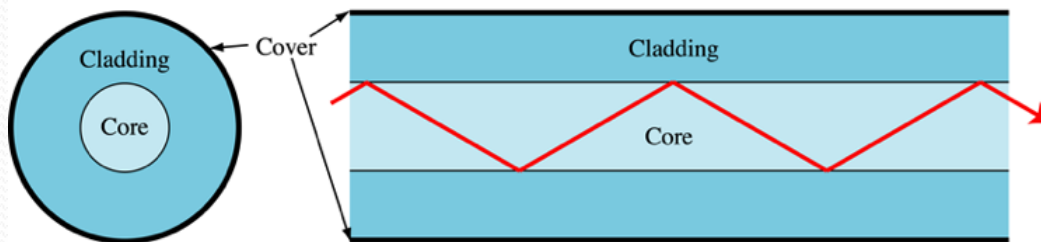
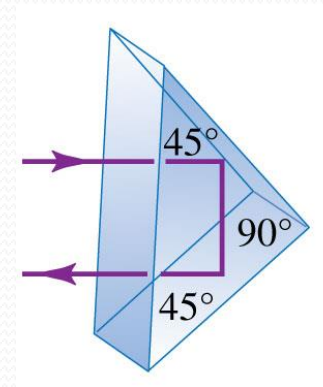
Porro prism

45-45-90

optical fibers

medical endoscopes

communications



Chromatic Dispersion

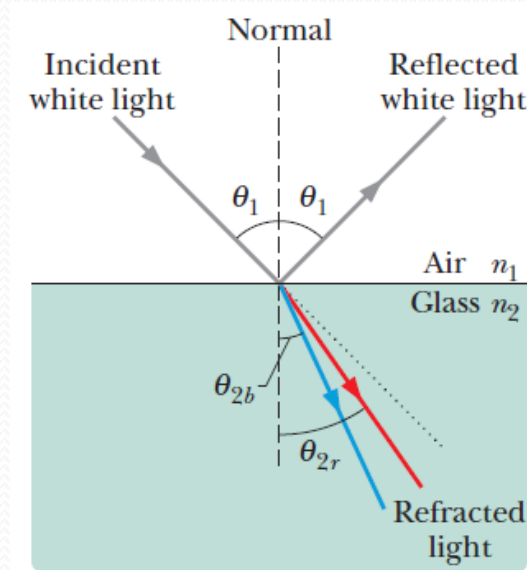
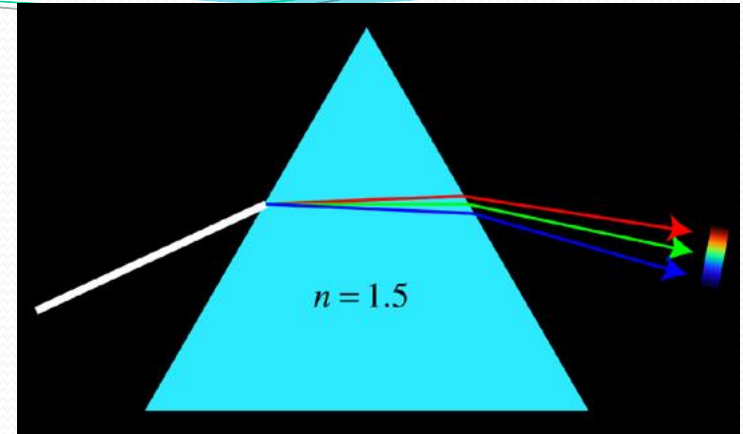
Dispersion = spreading of the light according to

$$n = n(\lambda)$$

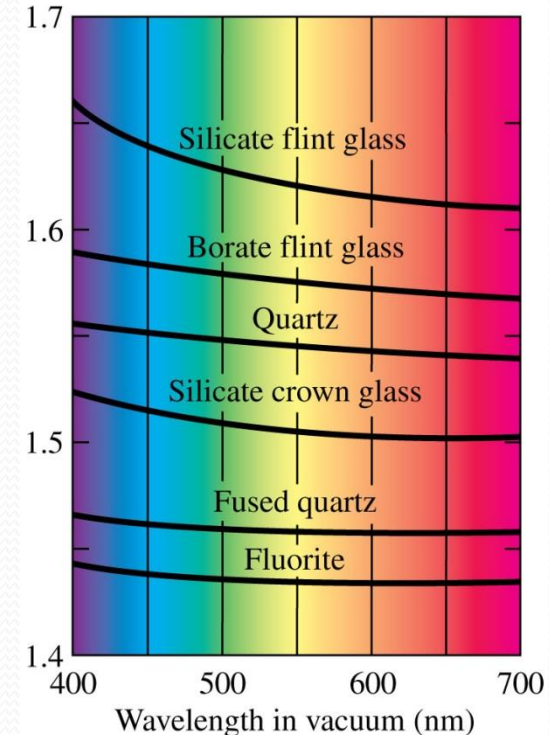
$$n_{blue} > n_{red} \quad \rightarrow \quad \theta_{blue} < \theta_{red}$$

Blue (lower λ) bends more than red (higher λ)

Prism enhances separation



Index of refraction (n)

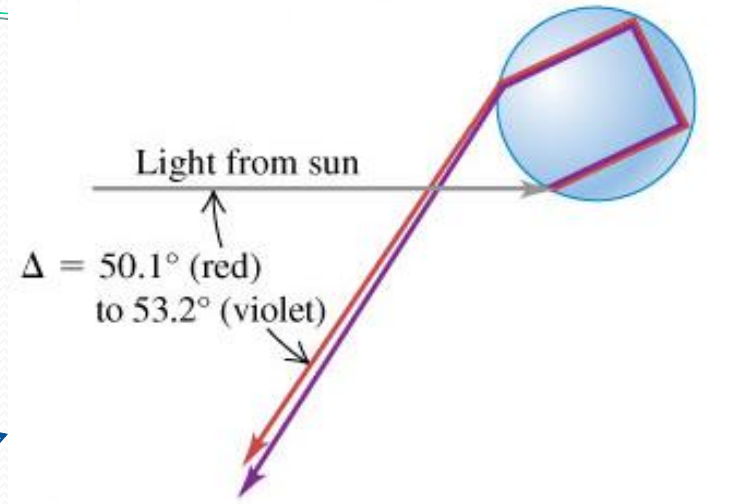


Chromatic Dispersion

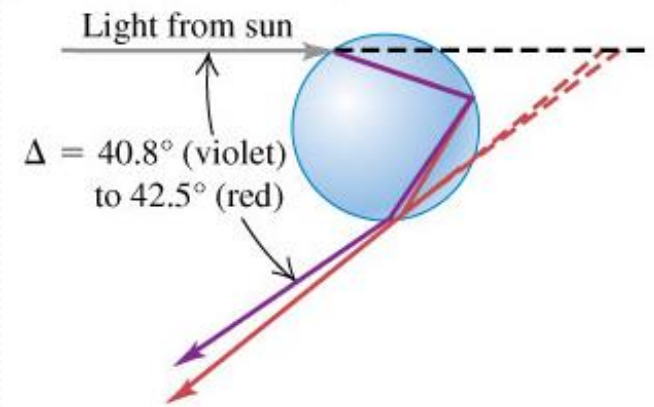


$$n_{red} = 1.331$$

$$n_{blue} = 1.337$$



Secondary rainbow =
2 refractions + 2 internal reflection



Primary rainbow =
2 refractions + 1 internal reflection

Polarization

All transverse waves can be polarized

Mechanical wave on string

$$y(x, t) = A \sin(kx - \omega t + \varphi) = A \sin \left[2\pi \left(\frac{x}{\lambda} - \frac{t}{T} \right) + \varphi \right]$$

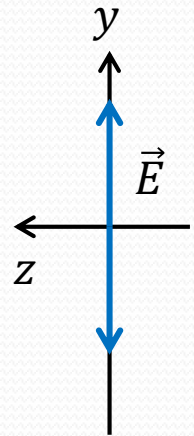
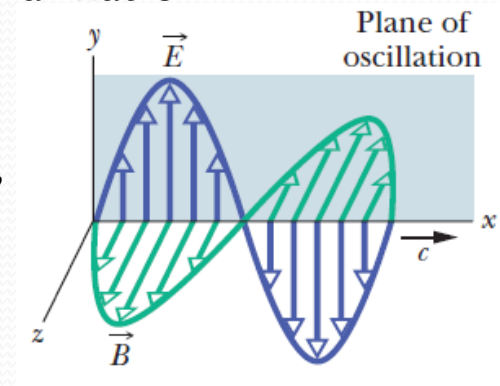
Travels on x and is *linearly* polarized on y , i.e. has displacement only in the y direction

El.mg. waves – use \vec{E} to define the direction of polarization

$$\vec{E} = E_{max} \sin(\kappa x - \omega t) \hat{j}$$

$$\vec{B} = B_{max} \sin(\kappa x - \omega t) \hat{k}$$

Travels on x and is *linearly* polarized in the y direction,
i.e. electric field oscillates only in y direction



OR

$$\vec{E} = E_{max} \sin(\kappa x - \omega t) \hat{e}$$

where $\hat{e} \in (y, z) \text{ plane}$

$$E_y = E \cos \theta$$

$$E_z = E \sin \theta$$

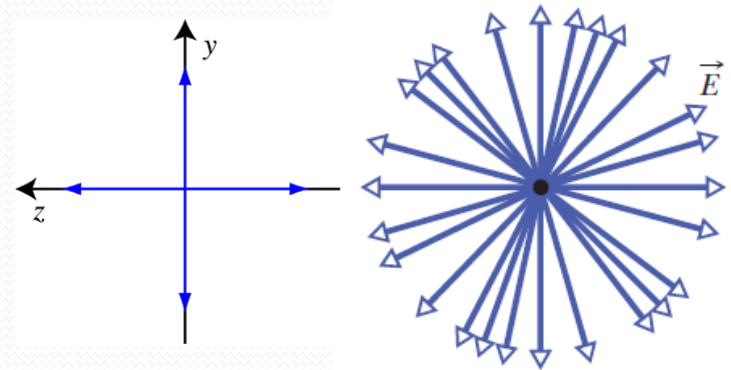
Ex: TV, radiobroadcast

Polarization

Un-polarized light

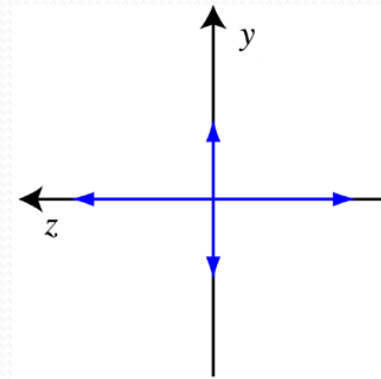
each wave has \vec{E} oscillating in a different plane – still $\perp \hat{x}$

Ex: sun, light bulb (most natural sources)
due to random orientation of molecules



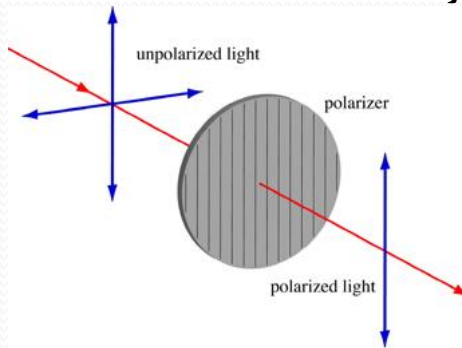
Partially polarized light

one direction has more net polarization

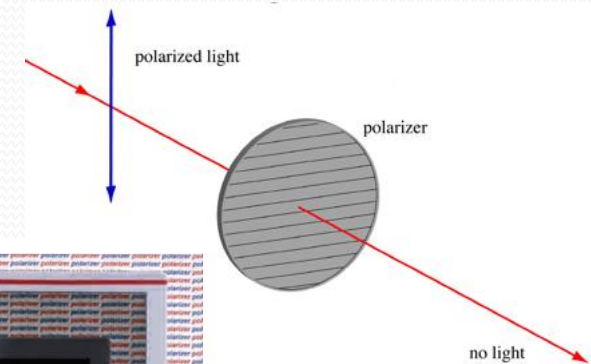
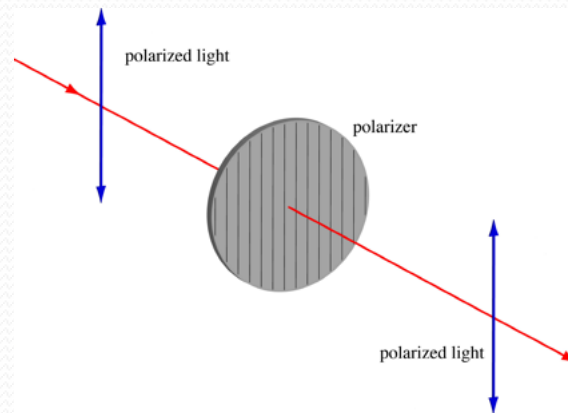


Polarization

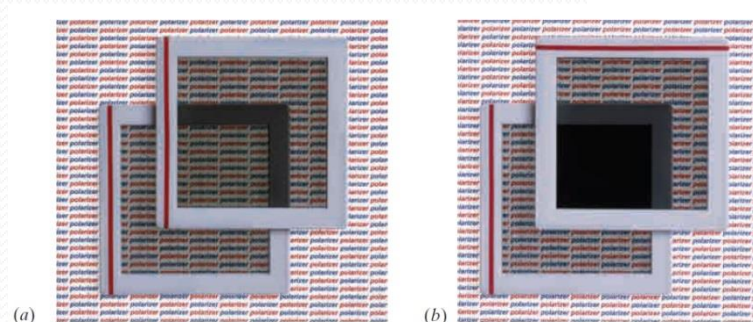
Polarizer – transforms un-polarized light to polarized light by absorption
 transmits only one component of the electric field vector and absorbs the rest
 reduces intensity depending on polarization of incident wave
 e.g. long \parallel chains of molecules
 characterized by direction of polarization



$$I = \frac{1}{2} I_0$$



“One-half” rule
 Valid only for un-polarized I_0



Polarization

Intensity of un-polarized light passed through one polarizer

$$I = \frac{1}{2} I_0$$

“One-half” rule

Valid only for incident un-polarized I_0

Polarized light passing through polarizer at an angle θ

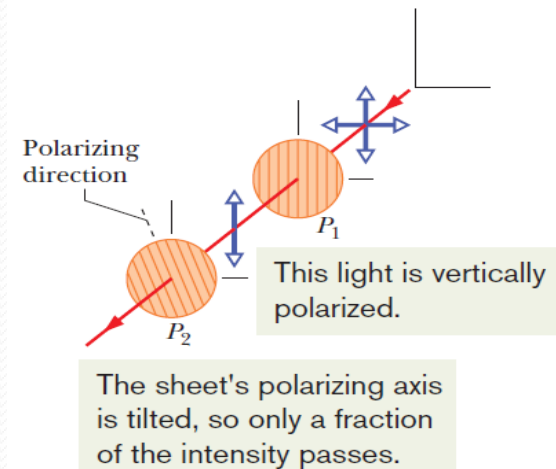
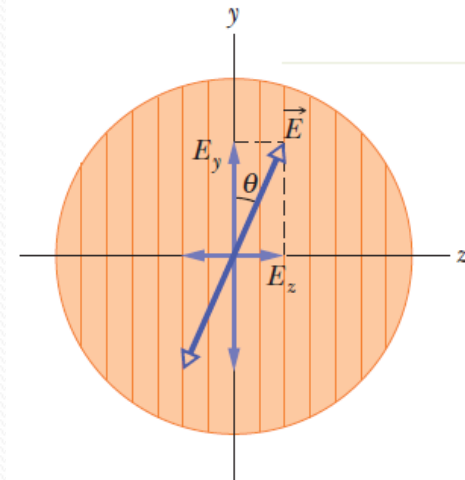
$$E_t = E_y = E \cos \theta \text{ transmitted field}$$

$$I_t = I \cos^2 \theta$$

transmitted intensity

“Cosine-squared rule” OR Malus’ Law
valid only incident polarized light

$$I_t = \frac{1}{c \mu_0} E_{rms,t}^2 = \frac{1}{c \mu_0} \frac{E_t^2}{2} = \frac{1}{c \mu_0} \frac{E^2}{2} \cos^2 \theta = I \cos^2 \theta$$



Polarization by Reflection

Reflected light is *totally* or *partially* polarized

stronger polarization for $\vec{E} \perp$ plane of incidence (\parallel to reflecting surface)

Plane of incidence (POI)=plane of the page

Brewster angle (polarizing angle)

Light with $\vec{E} \parallel$ POI is completely refracted

Light with $\vec{E} \perp$ POI is reflected and refracted

Result:

Reflected light is *totally* polarized \perp POI

Refracted light is partially polarized \parallel POI

$$\theta_B + \theta_r = 90^\circ$$

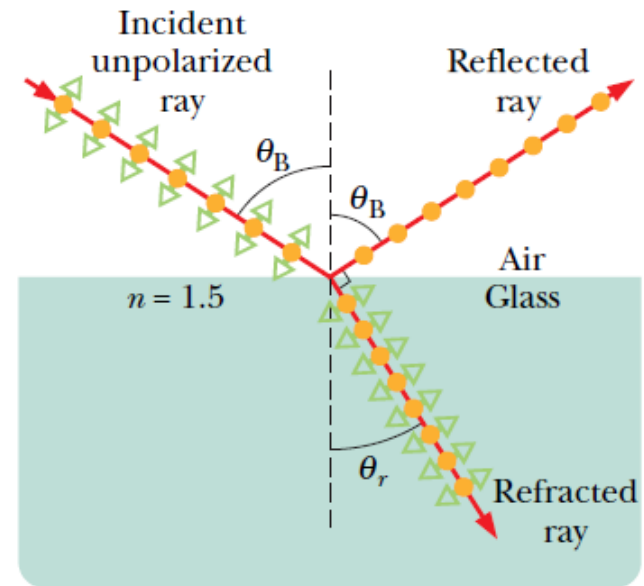
reflected rays \perp refracted rays

$$n_1 \sin \theta_B = n_2 \sin \theta_r = n_2 \sin(90^\circ - \theta_B) = n_2 \cos \theta_B$$

$$\tan \theta_B = \frac{n_1}{n_2}$$

Brewster's Law (1812)

Application: sunglasses – vertical polarizing axes



- Component perpendicular to page
- ↔ Component parallel to page