

Project
ELG3106 – Fall 2025

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Table of Contents

1. INTRODUCTION:	3
PART 1	5
PART 2	5
PART 3	5
PART 4	5
2. RESULTS AND DISCUSSION:	7
PART 1 – (A).....	7
PART 1 – (B).....	7
PART 1 – (C).....	10
PART 1 – (D).....	10
PART 2 – (A).....	11
PART 2 – (B).....	12
PART 2 – (C).....	13
PART 3 – (A).....	16
PART 3 – (B).....	16
PART 3 – (C).....	17
PART 4 – (A).....	18
PART 4 – (B).....	21
PART 4 – (C).....	21
3. CONCLUSION:	22
4. REFERENCES:	23
5. APPENDIX:	24
<i>Part 1 – (d) – Code, Flowchart and Virtual Simulations.....</i>	24
<i>Part 2 – (a) - Code, Flowchart and Virtual Simulations</i>	27
<i>Part 2 – (b) – Code, Flowchart and Virtual Simulations.....</i>	31
<i>Part 2 – (c) – Code, Flowchart and Virtual Simulations</i>	37
<i>Part 3 – (c) – Code, Flowchart and Virtual Simulations</i>	51
<i>Part 4 – (a) and (b)– Code, Flowchart and Virtual Simulations</i>	54
APPENDIX A:.....	63
APPENDIX B:.....	65
<i>Phase Thickness and Propagation Matrices.....</i>	65
<i>Reflection Coefficient and Reflectance</i>	66
APPENDIX C:.....	67

1. Introduction:

This design study examines how broadband antireflection (AR) coatings on a solar cell affect overall electrical power production. This experiment will compare double-layer and triple-layer coatings, and show how layer refractive indices and quarter-wave thicknesses change the wavelength-dependent reflectivity/transmissivity and, through the solar spectrum, the integrated power delivered to the cell. Beyond photovoltaics, the same multilayer-coating principles are used in camera lenses, optical sensors, displays, laser cavities, and telecommunications filters, where minimizing reflection for specific wavelengths is critical.

Incident sunlight is modeled as a normally-incident uniform plane wave with an idealized solar spectral irradiance (“blackbody-like”):

$$I(\lambda) = \frac{6.16 \times 10^{15}}{\lambda^5 \left(\exp\left(\frac{2484}{\lambda}\right) - 1 \right)} \text{ (W/m}^2/\text{nm}),$$

With λ in nm. The cell is idealized to convert all transmitted light to electricity, so electrical power density is

$$P = \int_{\lambda_1}^{\lambda_2} T(\lambda) I(\lambda) d\lambda. \quad , \lambda_1 = 200 \text{ nm}, \quad \lambda_2 = 2200 \text{ nm}.$$

$$\text{For } T(\lambda) = 1, \quad P = 1000 \frac{\text{W}}{\text{m}^2}$$

In all designs, each coating layer uses a quarter-wave optical thickness at the center wavelength $\lambda_c = 650$ nm:

$$d_m = \frac{\lambda_c}{4 n_m} \text{ (normal incidence).}$$

Theory: Transfer Matrix Method (TMM) at normal incidence

Consider N lossless dielectric layers between semi-infinite media n_0 (incidence) and n_{N+1} (substrate). Let E_m^+ and E_m^- be forward/backward field amplitudes just to the left of interface m .

Interface (“dynamical”) matrix:

At the interface between media m and $m + 1$,

$$\begin{bmatrix} E_m^+ \\ E_m^- \end{bmatrix} = Q_{m,m+1} \begin{bmatrix} E_{m+1}^+ \\ E_{m+1}^- \end{bmatrix}, \quad Q_{m,m+1} = \frac{1}{\tau_{m,m+1}} \begin{bmatrix} 1 & \Gamma_{m,m+1} \\ \Gamma_{m,m+1} & 1 \end{bmatrix},$$

With Fresnel coefficients (normal incidence)

$$\Gamma_{m,m+1} = \frac{n_m - n_{m+1}}{n_m + n_{m+1}}, \quad \tau_{m,m+1} = \frac{2n_m}{n_m + n_{m+1}}.$$

Propagation matrix (layer m)

Within layer m of thickness d_m and refractive index n_m , the forward/backward waves acquire a phase δ_m :

$$\begin{bmatrix} E_m^{+'} \\ E_m^{-'} \end{bmatrix} = P_m \begin{bmatrix} E_m^+ \\ E_m^- \end{bmatrix}, \quad P_m = \begin{bmatrix} e^{j\delta_m} & 0 \\ 0 & e^{-j\delta_m} \end{bmatrix}, \quad \delta_m = \frac{2\pi n_m d_m}{\lambda}.$$

(Primes denote fields on the layer's far side.)

Total transfer matrix and global coefficients:

Cascading the N layers and $N+1$ interfaces gives the system matrix

$$\begin{bmatrix} E_0^+ \\ E_0^- \end{bmatrix} = T \begin{bmatrix} E_{N+1}^+ \\ E_{N+1}^- \end{bmatrix}, \quad T = \prod_{m=0}^N (Q_{m,m+1} P_{m+1}) \quad (\text{with } P_{N+1} := I \text{ for the substrate}).$$

With an incident wave $E_0^+ = E_i$, reflected $E_0^- = E_r$, and transmitted $E_{N+1}^+ = E_t$ into the substrate (no backward wave there), the overall reflection and transmission coefficients are obtained from

$$T = \begin{bmatrix} T_{11} & T_{12} \\ T_{21} & T_{22} \end{bmatrix}:$$

$$\Gamma = \frac{E_r}{E_i} = \frac{T_{21}}{T_{11}}, \quad \tau = \frac{E_t}{E_i} = \frac{1}{T_{11}}.$$

Power reflectance and transmittance (for nonmagnetic, lossless media) are

$$R(\lambda) = |\Gamma|^2, \quad T(\lambda) = \frac{n_{N+1}}{n_0} |\tau|^2, \quad R(\lambda) + T(\lambda) = 1.$$

These relations are the basis for computing spectra and the power integral P .

Part 1

We frame the optical problem at normal incidence: an incident plane wave is shined on a two-layer anti-reflective coating on a solar cell. Using the transfer-matrix method (TMM), we derive closed-form expressions for reflection Γ , transmission τ , and the resulting power reflectance/transmittance $R(\lambda) = |\Gamma|^2$, $T(\lambda) = \frac{n_{\text{cell}}}{n_0} |\tau|^2$. At the design wavelength λ_c (quarter-wave condition), we work out the analytical reflectivity for the double-layer coating and the semiconductor interface to see how the coating changes the boundary conditions. We then translate that theory into a short MATLAB routine that evaluates $R(\lambda)$ near λ_c and confirms the algebra numerically. Finally, with a fixed n_1 (e.g., constrained by available material), we derive the closed-form relationship for n_2 that cancels reflection at λ_c and compare it to our simulation for consistency.

Part 2

Next, we move beyond a single wavelength and compute the full reflectivity spectrum over a visible/near-IR band (e.g., 400–1400 nm). Using the same TMM approach, we generate $R(\lambda)$ and convert it to transmitted power by weighting with the provided solar irradiance model $I(\lambda)$ and integrating $P = \int T(\lambda) I(\lambda) d\lambda$ over one or more wavelength ranges (e.g., 200–2200 nm and 400–1400 nm). We then experiment by adjusting n_1 , n_2 , and/or the layer thickness (kept quarter-wave at λ_c , or slightly detuned) to see whether the power increases. Using the plots for power and reflectance, we can observe and create a more optimized model by varying the refractive index and the layer thickness.

Part 3

We repeat the analytic treatment for a triple-layer coating. Under the quarter-wave condition, we cascade three interface matrices and three propagation matrices to form the total matrix T . Setting $\Gamma(\lambda_c) = 0$ yields a symbolic condition that relates the three film indices to n_0 and n_{cell} . With one or two indices fixed (material constraints), we solve for the remaining index (often n_2) and report its value (e.g., to two significant digits). We also discuss the “impedance-taper” choice (geometric progression of indices) that often broadens the low-reflectance band, and we contrast that with the fixed-material case used earlier.

For Part 3, we can repeat the same approach as for Part 1 but considering an additional layer. We must first describe the relationship for n_2 analytically at the center wavelength $\lambda_c = 650\text{nm}$

Part 4

We implement the three-layer TMM in code and wrap it with a sweep/optimization over the free index (commonly n_2) and, if allowed, small detunes in layer thicknesses while keeping n_0 , n_1 , n_3 , and n_{cell} fixed. For each candidate, we compute the spectrum, convert it to transmitted power with the same $I(\lambda)$, and pick the arg-max design. We then compare the numerically optimal index with the analytic prediction from Part 3 at λ_c . If they differ, we

explain the difference in terms of broadband weighting (the power integral depends on the whole spectrum, not just the single-wavelength null), manufacturing constraints, or dispersion.

2. Results and Discussion:

Part 1 – (a)

Given $n_{cell} = 3.5$, $n_0 = 1$ (air) and $\lambda_c = 650nm$, we can calculate the transmitted power with no anti-reflective coating specifically at the central wavelength.

$$\begin{aligned}\Gamma &= \frac{n_{cell} - n_0}{n_{cell} + n_0} \quad (\text{at normal incidence}) \\ \Gamma &= \frac{3.5 - 1}{3.5 + 1} \approx 0.556 \\ R &= |\Gamma|^2 = |0.556|^2 \approx 0.309. \quad (\text{reflectivity}) \\ P &= T(\lambda)I(\lambda) = \frac{(1 - R)6.16 \times 10^{15}}{\lambda_c^5 \left(\exp\left(\frac{2484}{\lambda_c}\right) - 1 \right)} \approx 0.8212 \frac{W}{m^2}\end{aligned}$$

Table 1: Analytical Results for Reflectivity, Transmittivity and Transmitted Power

Reflectivity	0.309	31%
Transmittivity	0.691	69%
Transmitted Power	.82 W/m ²	-

Part 1 – (b)

The Transfer Matrix Method (TMM) can be used to solve for the overall reflection and transmission of a multi-layer coating of thin dielectric layers at normal incidence as shown below in *Figure 2.1*.

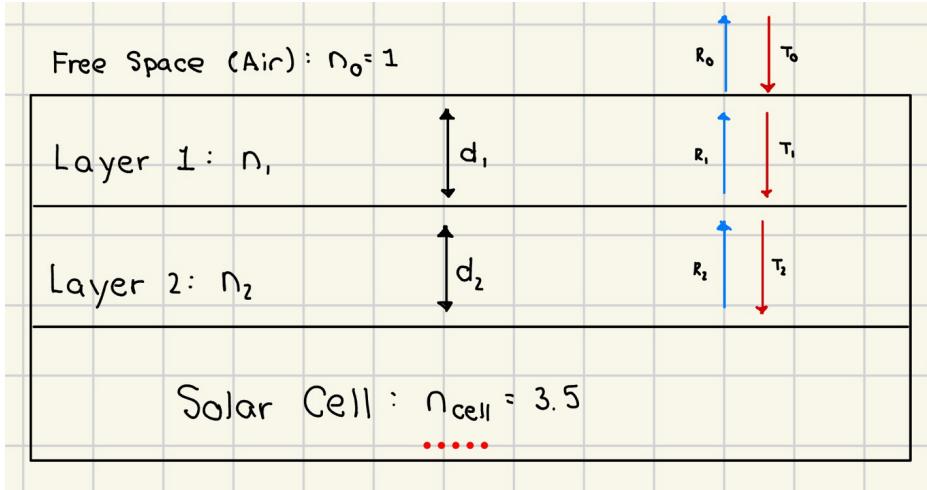


Figure 2.1: Double-layer coating 2-D model with specified parameters.

Each layer, and interface can be represented by a simple 2x2 matrix that relates the forward and backward electric field amplitudes on both sides of each layer. By multiplying these matrices in the correct order, the total system matrix T can be obtained. This allows us to compute the overall reflection and transmission coefficients.

For a multilayer system (e.g., air \rightarrow layer 1 \rightarrow layer 2 \rightarrow cell), the total field relationship can be expressed as:

$$\begin{bmatrix} E_0^+ \\ E_0^- \end{bmatrix} = T \begin{bmatrix} E_{N+1}^+ \\ E_{N+1}^- \end{bmatrix}$$

where,

$$T = Q_{01}P_1Q_{12}P_2Q_{23}.$$

Important definitions:

- Q_{mn} - interface matrix between the medias m and n , containing the reflection and transmission coefficients Γ_{mn} and τ_{mn} pertaining to the particular layer:

$$Q_{mn} = \frac{1}{\tau_{mn}} \begin{bmatrix} 1 & \Gamma_{mn} \\ \Gamma_{mn} & 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

- P_i - propagation matrix for layer i , which also accounts for the phase delay across that particular layer:

$$P_i = \begin{bmatrix} e^{j\delta_i} & 0 \\ 0 & e^{-j\delta_i} \end{bmatrix}, \quad \delta_i = \frac{2\pi n_i d_i}{\lambda}.$$

The overall reflection and transmission of the entire system can be calculated from the elements of the total matrix T :

$$\Gamma = \frac{T_{21}}{T_{11}}, \quad \tau = \frac{1}{T_{11}},$$

the corresponding reflectivity and transmissivity are

$$R = |\Gamma|^2, \quad T = \frac{n_{\text{cell}}}{n_0} |\tau|^2.$$

The in-depth mathematical solving's can be found in *Appendix A*.

MATLAB Implementation:

1. Define material parameters:

Assign the refractive indices for each medium:
 $n_0 = 1.0$ (air), $n_1, n_2, n_{\text{cell}} = 3.5$.

2. Compute the interface matrices Q_{mn} :

Using the Fresnel formulas for Γ_{mn} and τ_{mn} .

3. Compute the propagation matrices P_i :

Each layer's phase delay $\delta_i = \frac{2\pi n_i d_i}{\lambda}$ is evaluated for the center wavelength (or later across the spectrum).

4. Compute T matrix:

Multiply $Q_{01} P_1 Q_{12} P_2 Q_{23}$ in order to obtain the system matrix T .

5. Obtain coefficients:

From T we can calculate $\Gamma = T_{21}/T_{11}$ and $\tau = 1/T_{11}$.

6. Compute reflectivity and transmissivity:

Solve $R = |\Gamma|^2$ and $T = (n_{\text{cell}}/n_0) |\tau|^2$ to find how much power is reflected and transmitted.

Part 1 – (c)

Calculations to be found in *Appendix B*

$$n_2 = \sqrt{n_{\text{cel}} n_1^2}$$

$$\textcolor{blue}{n_2} = \sqrt{3.5 * 1.4^2} \approx 2.62$$

Part 1 – (d)

Using the formula obtained in Part 1 – (c), we can verify this result by plotting the Reflectivity (as a percentage) vs. different refractive indices for n_2 . We can observe that our analytical theory is in-line with the experiment. This can be found in *Figure 2.2 and 2.3* below.

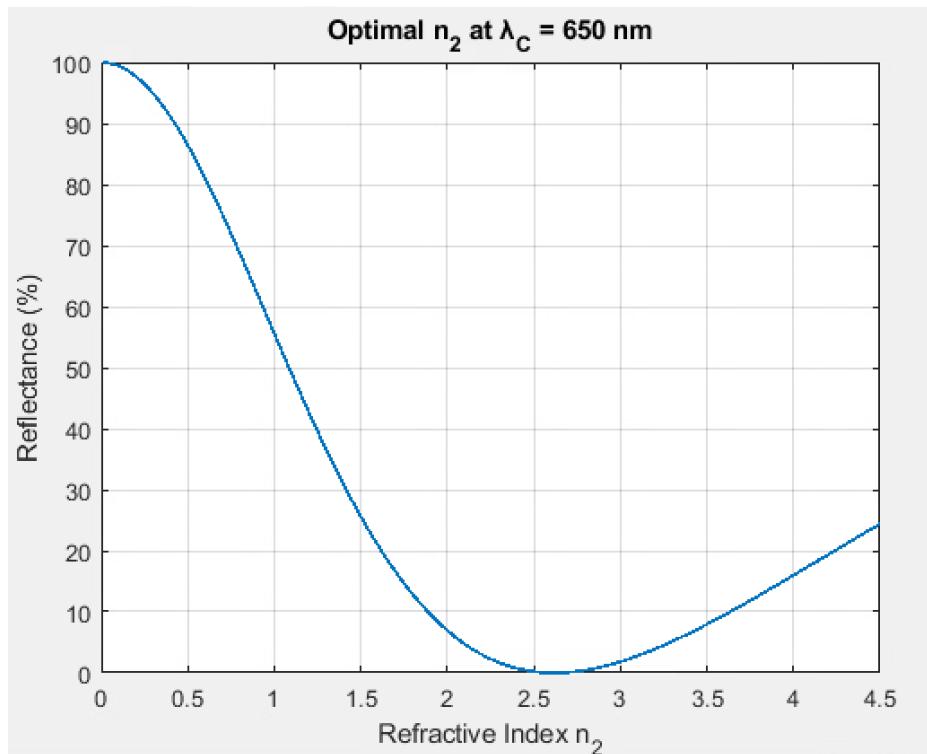


Figure 2.2: Plot of the Reflectivity (as percentage) vs. n_2 for optimal value of n_2 (double-layer).

`n_1 = 1.40`

`Optimal n_2 = 2.62 (minimum reflectance)`

Figure 2.3: Simulated optimal value of n_2 (double-layer)

Part 2 – (a)

Figure 2.4 below displays the relation of the Reflectivity (as a percentage) vs. the wavelength. We can observe that due to our choice of $n_2 = 2.62$ for the previous parts, we are able to obtain a very low reflectivity at the center wavelength. This is beneficial as we can design our system to be more efficient depending on the wavelengths needed to be received.

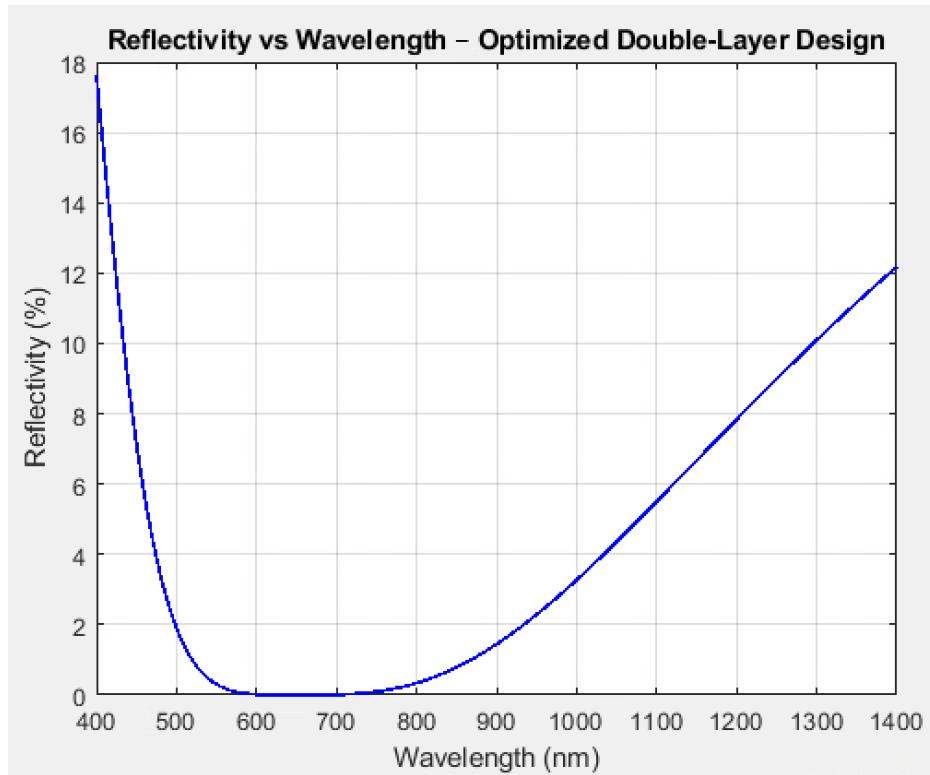


Figure 2.4: Plot of the reflectivity (%) vs. wavelength for the range 400-1400nm

Part 2 – (b)

Using the power equation defined in the introduction, we can utilize this to compute the total power over the defined wavelength interval. The total power for the range from $\lambda_1 = 400\text{nm}$ to $\lambda_2 = 1400\text{nm}$ was calculated to be 751.202W. The total power for the range from $\lambda_1 = 200\text{nm}$ to $\lambda_2 = 2200\text{nm}$ was calculated to be 929.592W. The plots of these can be found in *Figure 2.5* below and the values are displayed in *Figure 2.6* and *2.7*.

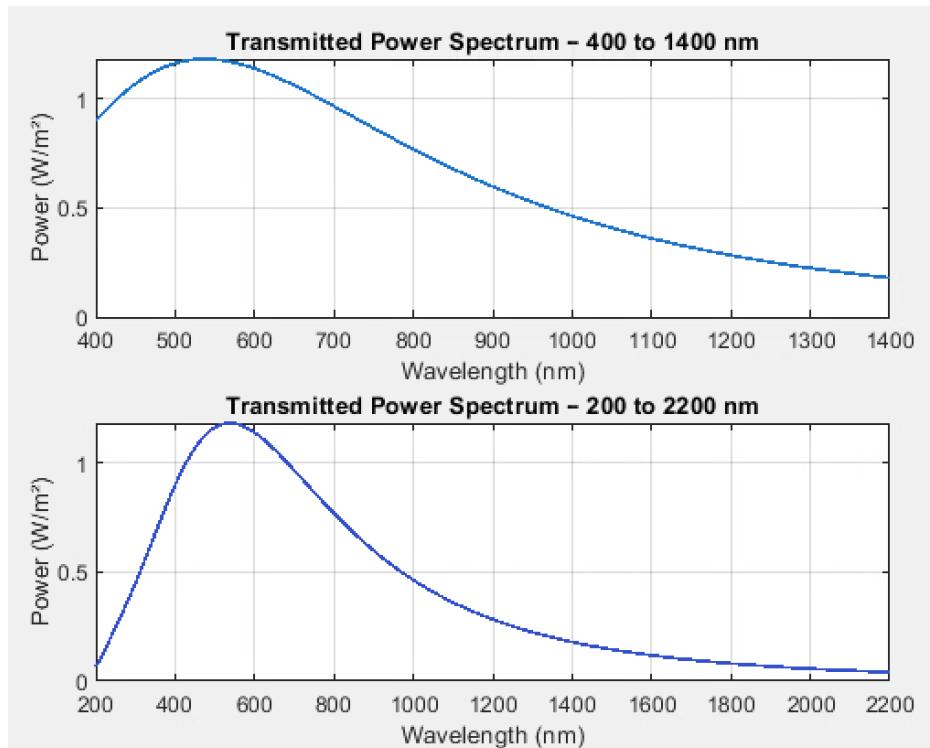


Figure 2.5: Plots of the Transmitted Power vs. Wavelength for 400-1400nm and 200-2200nm (double-layer).

Total Power in Watts = 751.202068

Figure 2.6: Simulated result of the Transmitted Power vs. Wavelength for 400-1400nm.

Total Power in Watts = 929.591599

Figure 2.7: Simulated result of the Transmitted Power vs. Wavelength for 200-2200nm.

Part 2 – (c)

Refractive indexes and center wavelength used in the optimized configuration *Part 2 – (b)*.

$$n_1 = 1.4, \quad n_2 = 2.62, \quad n_3 = 3.5, \quad \lambda_c = 650 \text{ nm},$$

Each coating behaves approximately as a quarter-wave plate which minimizes reflection at the designated wavelength ($\lambda_c = 650 \text{ nm}$). As observed in *Figure 2.5.*, the design already yields a high-power transmission in the visible range ($\sim 400 - 700 \text{ nm}$), but this can be further improved by adjusting either the refractive indices or the optical thicknesses of the layers.

1. Varying Refractive Indices

The ideal anti-reflective behavior occurs when the refractive index of each layer satisfies the geometric mean condition (Raut, Venkatesan, Nair, & Ramakrishna, 2011):

$$n_1 = (n_0 n_2)^{\frac{1}{2}}, \quad n_2 = (n_1 n_3)^{\frac{1}{2}}.$$

This ensures that the impedances between interfaces match and that we have minimal reflection across each interface. In the optimized design, $n_1 = 1.4$ and $n_2 = 2.62$ already approximate this condition. However, if materials with slightly different indices are chosen—e.g.,

$$n_1 = 1.5, \quad n_2 = 2.3,$$

The reflectivity spectrum slightly shifts, and the reflectivity minimum will broaden around the visible band. This broader bandwidth slightly increases the integrated power across the solar spectrum (400–1400 nm).

2. Adjusting Layer Thickness

The thickness d_i of each layer determines the path that light travels:

$$\delta_i = \frac{2\pi n_i d_i}{\lambda}.$$

In the original design, both coatings are quarter-wave layers ($\delta_i = \pi/2$) at 650 nm. If we adjust the thicknesses so that the destructive interference condition occurs at slightly shorter wavelengths (e.g., $\lambda_c = 600$ nm), the transmittivity increases and centers itself closer to the EM waves of the solar spectrum, which contains more energy. This will then increase the overall transmitted power when integrated over the designated spectrum.

Simulation Results:

We were effectively able to optimize these parameters within our code for the wavelength interval from 400-1400nm which revealed interesting data. When comparing *Figure 2.8 to Figure 2.5*, we notice an increase in power of 7.686W. The behaviour of the optimized plot changes significantly around our center frequency. This is due to the effect of maximizing the power transmission. The sun doesn't uniformly emit these wavelengths and instead has specific wavelengths where its emissions are more concentrated. We can also observe that the reflectivity over the entire spectrum has slightly decreased for our optimized version which also leads to this additional power consumption.

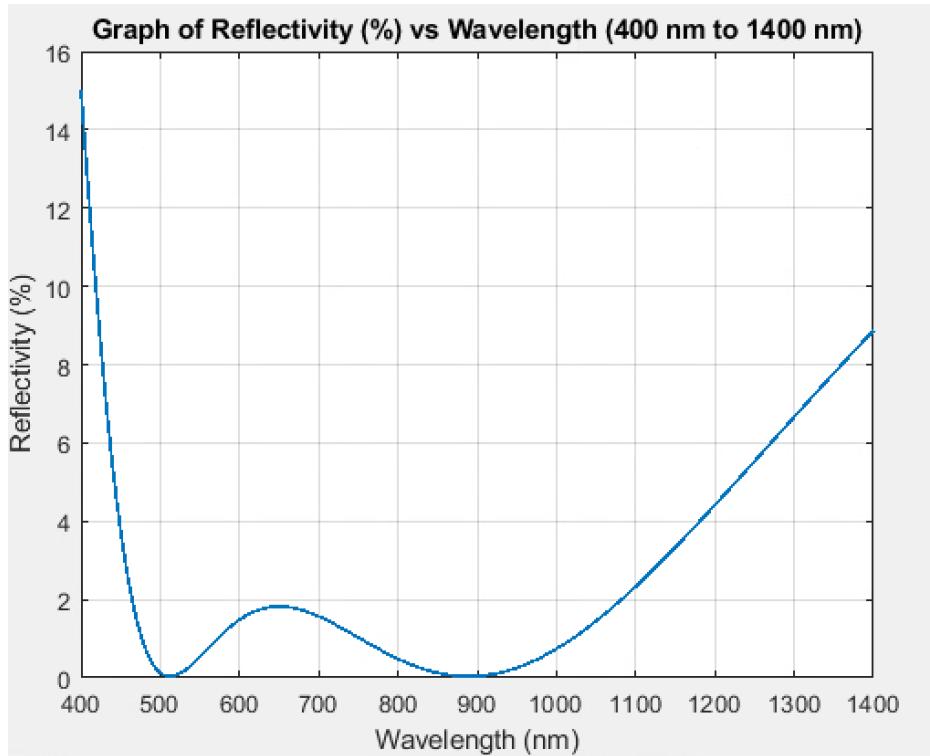


Figure 2.8: Plot of the Transmitted Power vs. Wavelength for 400-1400nm for optimized power (double-layer).

Part2_c (400-1400nm)

n_1 = 1.45

n_2 = 2.40

Total Power in Watts = 758.8876

Figure 2.9: Results of the Transmitted Power vs. Wavelength for 400-1400nm for optimized power (double-layer).

Part 3 – (a)

In Part 3, we begin implementing a third layer and observing how an additional layer can assist in optimizing the power and reflection. We can use a method similar to that of the 2-layer system and continue using the transfer matrix method to determine the overall transmission. The *Figure 2.10* below demonstrates the new model with the additional layer.

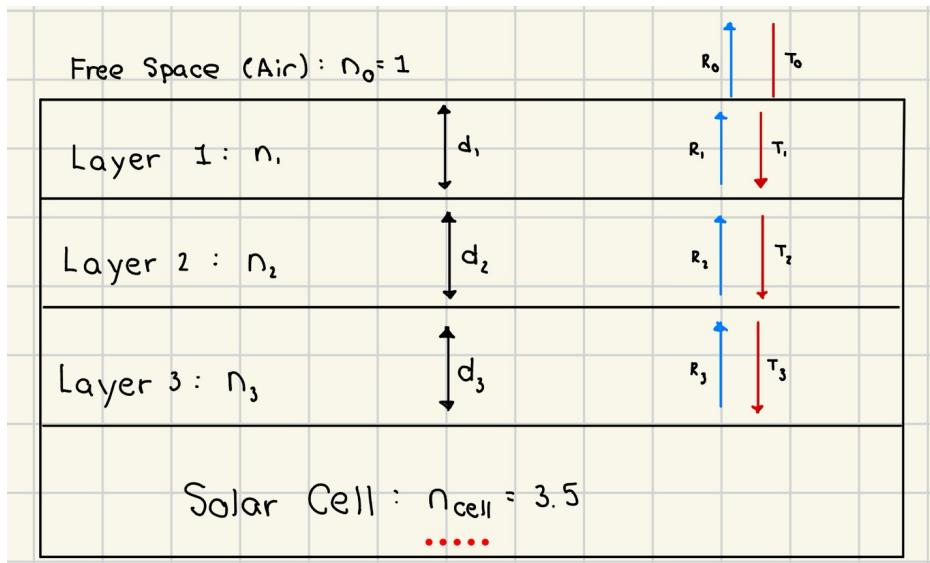


Figure 2.10: Triple-layer coating 2-D model with specified parameters.

The calculations to find n_2 can be found in *Appendix C*.

$$n_2 = \frac{n_1 n_3}{\sqrt{n_0 n_4}}$$

Part 3 – (b)

We can use the derivations found in *Part 3 – (a)* to determine a numerical value for n_2 that optimizes reflectivity at the center wavelength. Given $n_0 = 1$ (air), $n_1 = 1.4$ and $n_3 = 3.15$ and $n_{cell} = 3.5$:

$$n_2 = \frac{1.4 * 3.15}{\sqrt{1 * 3.5}} = 2.36$$

The value at which n_2 is minimized at the central wavelength is 2.36.

Part 3 – (c)

Using the derivation from *Part 3 – (a)* and the numerical value from *Part - 3 (c)*, we can verify this using a simulation that sweeps over all the values of n_2 . The plot below in Figure 2.11 confirms our findings from the previous steps that our optimal refractive index at the center wavelength should be 2.4 (for 2 significant digits).

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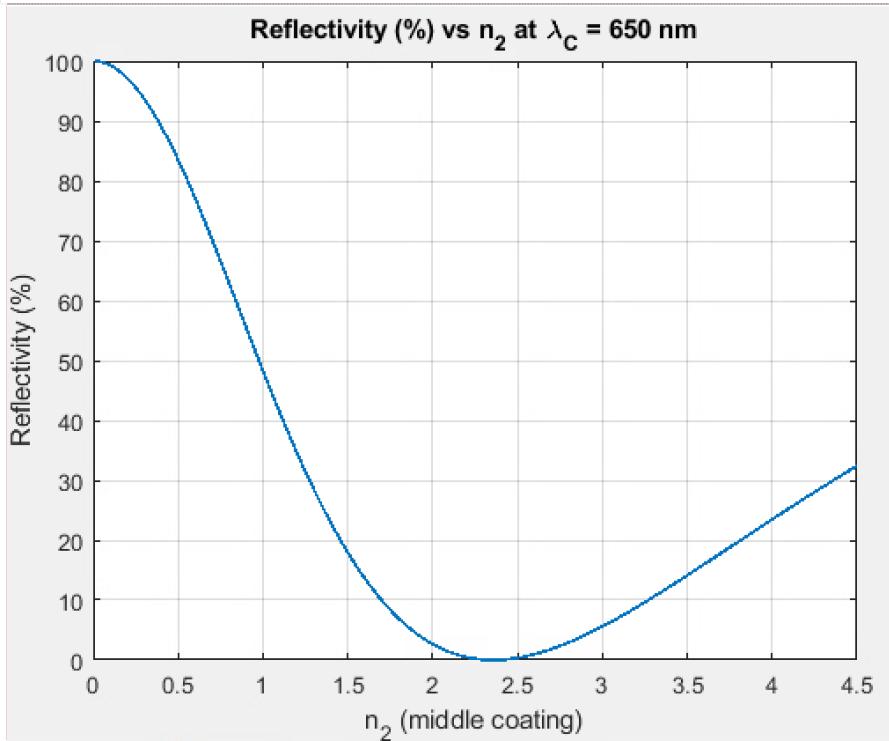


Figure 2.11: Plot of the Reflectivity (as a percentage) vs. n_2 for optimal value of n_2 (triple-layer).

Part3_c

n_1 = 1.40

n_2 = 3.15

Minimum reflectivity at n_2 = 2.36

Figure 2.12: Result of the Reflectivity (as a percentage) vs. n_2 for optimal value of n_2 (triple-layer).

Part 4 – (a)

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Using the refractive indices obtained in the previous parts, we will now sweep n_2 to determine where the maximum power occurs. After simulating, we notice a parabolic shape where the maximum power can be defined at a distinct value for n_2 . These observations can be determined from *Figure 2.13* below

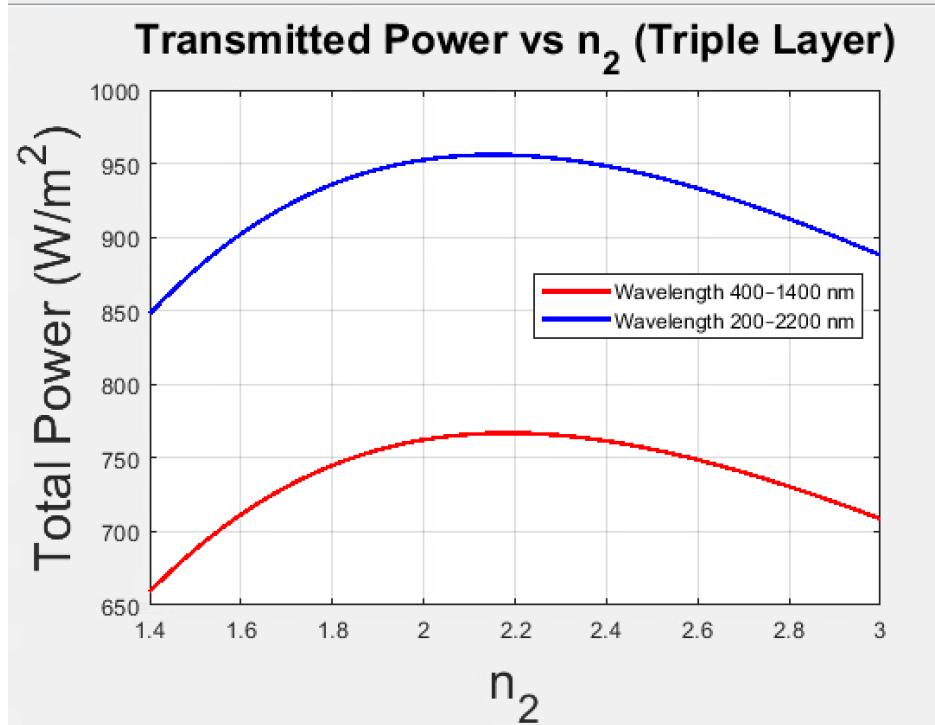


Figure 2.13: Plot of Total Transmitted Power vs. n_2 to determine maximum power (triple-layer)

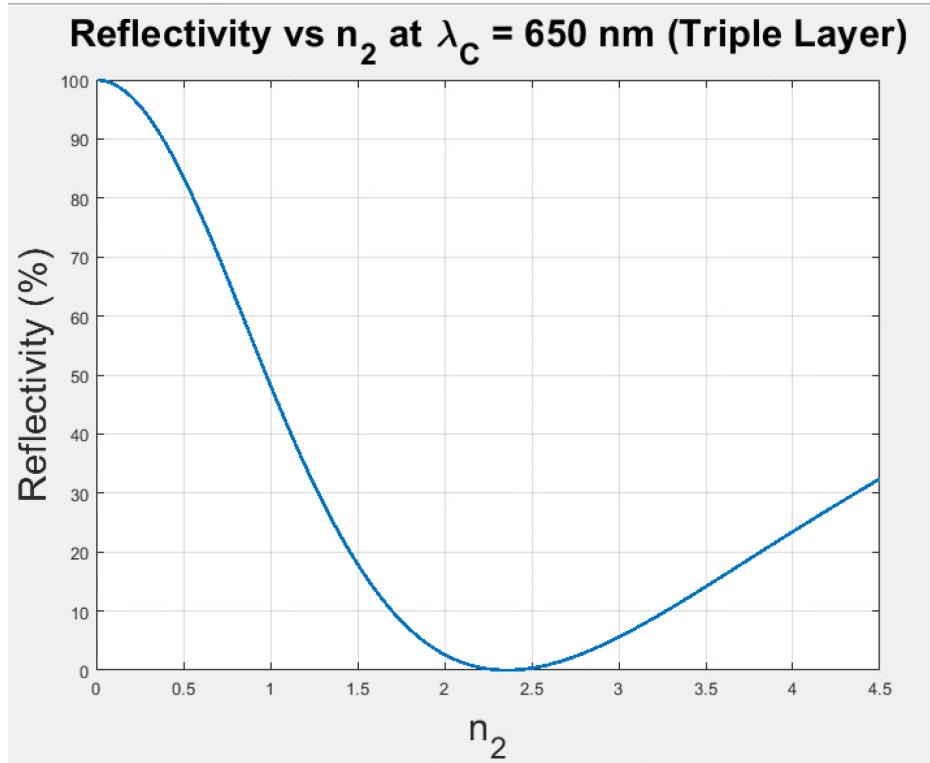


Figure 2.13: Plot of Reflectivity vs. n_2 to determine optimal n_2 (triple layer)

Part 4 – (b)

Based on *Figure 2.13* above and the results on *Figure 2.14* below, we can observe that this occurs at the 2.18 range for 400-1400nm and 2.15 for 200-2200nm.

```
n_1 = 1.40, n_3 = 3.15, n_4 = 3.50  
Minimum Reflectivity at λ_C: n_2 = 2.36
```

```
Max Power (400-1400 nm): 766.95 W/m^2 at n_2 = 2.18
```

```
Max Power (200-2200 nm): 955.95 W/m^2 at n_2 = 2.15
```

Figure 2.14: Results of the maximum power obtained for different values of n_2 for 400-1400nm and 200-2200nm.

Part 4 – (c)

The values obtained for n_2 that yield the maximum transmitted power differ from those predicted by the analytical approach. This discrepancy arises from several factors. In the analytical method, the anti-reflective layer was optimized specifically for the central wavelength $\lambda_c = 650$ nm. While optimizing at this wavelength ensures strong transmission at that point, it does not represent the performance across the entire spectrum. In contrast, the simulated optimization program evaluates the full wavelength range and incorporates a significantly larger number of parameters in the power calculation, resulting in more comprehensive and accurate results.

3. Conclusion:

This project investigated the performance of anti-reflective coatings for solar cells using both double-layer and triple-layer configurations, analyzed through the Transfer Matrix Method (TMM) and MATLAB simulations.

In the initial single-interface model between air and the semiconductor, approximately 31% of incident light was reflected which confirmed the need for coatings to improve light transmission. When a double-layer anti-reflective coating was applied and optimized for the central wavelength of $\lambda_C = 650$ nm, reflectivity decreased significantly at that specific wavelength. However, when analyzing the entire solar spectrum, this improvement did not translate to maximum power transmission. Similarly, the triple-layer system produced even lower reflectivity around the design wavelength but did not maximize total transmitted power across all wavelengths.

For *Part 4(c)*, the refractive indices obtained from the analytical model and the MATLAB optimization were found to differ. The analytical method produced a minimum reflectivity at $n_2 = 2.36$ for $\lambda_C = 650$ nm, while the spectrum-based optimization yielded $n_2 = 2.18$ for 400–1400 nm and $n_2 = 2.15$ for 200–2200 nm. This discrepancy occurs because the analytical method optimizes only at the central wavelength under idealized conditions, whereas the MATLAB program integrates power over the entire wavelength range, accounting for the full solar spectrum. As a result, the simulation provides a more realistic evaluation of the coating's overall performance and better reflects real-world solar conditions.

These findings demonstrate that while wavelength-specific optimization can effectively minimize reflection at a single frequency, it does not necessarily maximize energy output over the solar spectrum. A full-spectrum approach is therefore essential when designing anti-reflective coatings for solar cells to ensure optimal power generation.

Although this study was primarily theoretical and computational, it highlights the importance of bridging the gap between analytical models and practical implementation. Future work should include non-ideal spectral irradiance, material absorption, temperature variations, and oblique incidents effects to further improve the accuracy and applicability of these designs.

In summary, this project establishes that the most effective anti-reflective coating design is achieved through spectrum-wide optimization rather than single-wavelength tuning. By considering the entire solar spectrum, coatings can be designed to significantly enhance solar cell efficiency and energy conversion in real-world conditions.

4. References

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5. Appendix:

Part 1 – (d) – Code, Flowchart and Virtual Simulations

Flow Chart for *Figure 5.1-5.3*

1. Define material refractive indices:
 - n_{air} (incident medium),
 - n_1 (first coating layer),
 - n_3 (second coating layer),
 - n_{cell} (substrate).
2. Define the center wavelength $\lambda_C = 650 \text{ nm}$.
3. Compute reflection and transmission coefficients for **Interface 0–1 (Air → Layer 1)**:
 - Calculate r_{01} and t_{01} .
 - Build the interface matrix Q_{01} .
4. Compute reflection and transmission coefficients for **Interface 3–Substrate (Layer 3 → Cell)**:
 - Calculate r_{35} and t_{35} .
 - Build the interface matrix Q_{35} .
5. Define the **phase matrix P** for a quarter-wave layer:
 - Compute phase shift $\Delta = \pi / 2$.
 - Construct $P = [\exp(j\Delta) 0; 0 \exp(-j\Delta)]$.
6. Initialize a sweep over possible refractive indices for the middle layer (n_2):
 - Define $n_2_values = 0 : 0.01 : 4.5$.
 - Preallocate an array “Reflectance” with zeros.
7. Begin loop: for each n_2 in n_2_values →
 - a. Compute reflection and transmission coefficients for **Interface 1–2 (Layer 1 → Layer 2)**.
 - b. Build corresponding matrix Q_{12} .
 - c. Compute reflection and transmission coefficients for **Interface 2–3 (Layer 2 → Layer 3)**.
 - d. Build corresponding matrix Q_{23} .
 - e. Build the total transfer matrix for the system in order:
Air → Layer 1 → Layer 2 → Layer 3 → Substrate, including propagation phases.
 $T_{total} = Q_{01} \times P \times Q_{12} \times P \times Q_{23} \times P \times Q_{35}$.
 - f. Compute overall reflection coefficient $\Gamma = T_{total}(2,1)/T_{total}(1,1)$.
 - g. Compute reflectance = $|\Gamma|^2$ and store in the array Reflectance(k).
 8. End the loop when all n_2 values have been tested.
 9. Identify the index where Reflectance is minimum.
 10. Determine the optimal n_2 corresponding to that minimum reflectance.
 11. Print the optimal refractive index n_2 and its corresponding parameters.
 12. Plot Reflectance (%) versus refractive index n_2 .

Code for *Figure 5.1-5.3*

```

7 clear; clc; close all;
8
9 %Material refractive indices
10 n_air = 1.0; % Refractive index of air (incident medium)
11 n_1 = 1.4; % First coating layer
12 n_3 = 3.5; % Second coating layer
13 n_cell = 3.5; % Solar cell (substrate) refractive index
14
15 lambdaC = 650; % Center wavelength (nm)
16
17 %Interface 0-1: Air to first layer
18 r01 = (n_air - n_1) / (n_air + n_1); % Reflection coefficient
19 t01 = 2 * n_air / (n_air + n_1); % Transmission coefficient
20 Q01 = (1 / t01) * [1 r01; r01 1]; % Interface (dynamical) matrix
21
22 %Interface 3-Substrate
23 r35 = (n_3 - n_cell) / (n_3 + n_cell);
24 t35 = 2 * n_3 / (n_3 + n_cell);
25 Q35 = (1 / t35) * [1 r35; r35 1];
26
27 %Phase matrix for quarter-wave layer
28 Delta = pi / 2; % Optical phase thickness ( $\lambda/4$ )
29 P = [exp(1j*Delta) 0; 0 exp(-1j*Delta)];
30
31 %Sweep  $n_2$  to locate minimum reflectance
32 n2_values = 0:0.01:4.5; % Candidate refractive indices
33 Reflectance = zeros(size(n2_values));% Allocate results
34
35 for k = 1:numel(n2_values)
36     n_2 = n2_values(k); % Current test refractive index
37

```

Figure 5.1: Code for optimal n_2 using double-layer – (1 of 3)

```

38 %Interface 1-2
39 r12 = (n_1 - n_2) / (n_1 + n_2);
40 t12 = 2 * n_1 / (n_1 + n_2);
41 Q12 = (1 / t12) * [1 r12; r12 1];
42
43 %Interface 2-3
44 r23 = (n_2 - n_3) / (n_2 + n_3);
45 t23 = 2 * n_2 / (n_2 + n_3);
46 Q23 = (1 / t23) * [1 r23; r23 1];
47
48 % Build total transfer matrix for system
49 % Order: Air->1->2->3->Substrate, including propagation phases
50 T_total = Q01 * P * Q12 * P * Q23 * P * Q35;
51
52 %Calculate overall reflection coefficient (gamma)
53 Gamma = T_total(2,1) / T_total(1,1);
54
55 % Store reflectance (|gamma|^2)
56 Reflectance(k) = abs(Gamma)^2;
57 end
58
59 %Find index that gives minimum reflectivity
60 [~, idx_min] = min(Reflectance);
61 opt_n2 = n2_values(idx_min);
62
63 %Display and plot results
64 fprintf('n_1 = %.2f\nOptimal n_2 = %.2f (minimum reflectance)\n', n_1, opt_n2);
65
66 figure;
67 plot(n2_values, Reflectance * 100, 'LineWidth', 1.3);
68 xlabel('Refractive Index n_2');

```

Figure 5.2: Code for optimal n_2 using double-layer – (2 of 3)

```

69 ylabel('Reflectance (%)');
70 title(sprintf('Optimal n_2 at λ_C = %d nm', lambdaC));
71 grid on;

```

Figure 5.3: Code for optimal n_2 using double-layer – (3 of 3)

Virtual Simulations for *Figure 5.4 and 5.5*

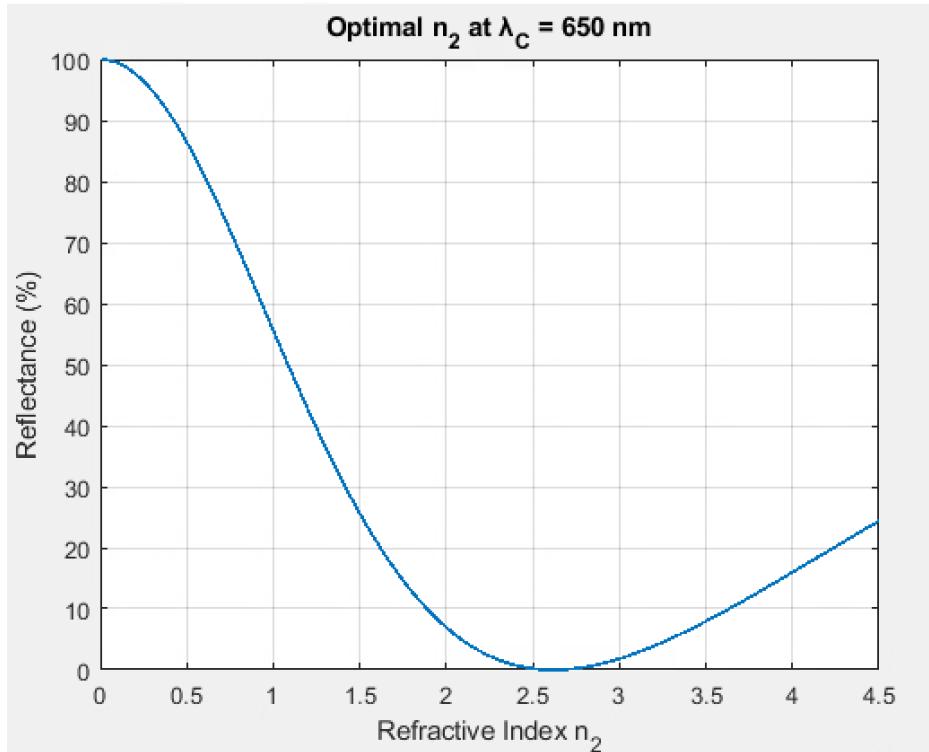


Figure 5.4: Plot of the Reflectivity (as percentage) vs. n_2 for optimal value of n_2 (double-layer).

```

n_1 = 1.40
Optimal n_2 = 2.62 (minimum reflectance)

```

Figure 5.5: Simulated optimal value of n_2 (double-layer)

Part 2 – (a) - Code, Flowchart and Virtual Simulations

Flow Chart for *Figure 5.6-5.8*

1. Define the imaginary constant $j_{\text{const}} = 1j$.
2. Define optical parameters and constants:
- n_{air} (air or incident medium),
- n_{layer1} (first coating layer),

- n_{layer2} (second coating layer, optimized),
 - n_{cell} (solar cell substrate).
3. Define wavelength parameters:
 - $\lambda_{central} = 650$ nm (design wavelength),
 - $\lambda_{min} = 400$ nm (minimum wavelength),
 - $\lambda_{max} = 1400$ nm (maximum wavelength),
 - $\lambda_{range} = \lambda_{min} : \lambda_{max}$ (vector of wavelengths),
 - num_lambda = number of wavelength samples.
 4. Compute Fresnel reflection and transmission coefficients (independent of wavelength):
 - $r_{air_1}, r_{1_2}, r_{2_cell}$,
 - $t_{air_1}, t_{1_2}, t_{2_cell}$.
 5. Initialize arrays to store results:
 - reflectivity (vs wavelength),
 - transmitted_power (vs wavelength).
 6. Begin loop over each wavelength λ in λ_{range} :
 - a. Set $\lambda =$ current wavelength.
 - b. Compute phase delay based on quarter-wave condition:

$$\Delta = (\pi/2) \times (\lambda_{central} / \lambda).$$
 - c. Build the propagation matrix P for the phase delay.
 - d. Build interface matrices:

$$Q_{air_1}, Q_{1_2}, Q_{2_cell}.$$
 - e. Compute total transfer matrix T_{total} using the ordered multiplication sequence:

$$T_{total} = ((Q_{air_1} \times P) \times Q_{1_2}) \times (P \times Q_{2_cell}).$$
 - f. Compute overall reflection and transmission coefficients:

$$\Gamma = T_{total}(2,1) / T_{total}(1,1),$$

$$\tau = 1 / T_{total}(1,1).$$
 - g. Compute reflectivity = $|\Gamma|^2$.
 - h. Compute transmissivity = $|\tau|^2 \times (n_{cell} / n_{air})$.
 - i. Model solar irradiance using idealized spectral intensity formula:

$$I(\lambda) = (6.16 \times 10^{15}) / [\lambda^5 \times (\exp(2484 / \lambda) - 1)].$$
 - j. Compute transmitted power into the cell:

$$transmitted_power = transmissivity \times irradiance.$$
 - k. Store reflectivity and transmitted power for current wavelength.
 7. End the loop after all wavelengths are processed.
 8. Plot reflectivity (in %) versus wavelength.

Code for *Figure 5.6-5.8*

```

7 clear; clc; close all;
8
9 j_const = 1j; % Imaginary unit
10
11 %Optical Parameters and Constants
12 n_air = 1.0; % Air (incident medium)
13 n_layer1 = 1.4; % First coating layer
14 n_layer2 = 2.62; % Second coating layer (optimized)
15 n_cell = 3.5; % Solar cell substrate
16
17 lambda_central = 650; % Design wavelength (nm)
18 lambda_min = 400; % Lower wavelength limit (nm)
19 lambda_max = 1400; % Upper wavelength limit (nm)
20 lambda_range = lambda_min:lambda_max; % Wavelength vector
21 num_lambda = numel(lambda_range);
22
23 % Fresnel Reflection ( $\Gamma$ ) and Transmission ( $t$ ) Coefficients
24 % Computed once (independent of wavelength)
25 r_air_1 = (n_air - n_layer1) / (n_air + n_layer1);
26 r_1_2 = (n_layer1 - n_layer2) / (n_layer1 + n_layer2);
27 r_2_cell = (n_layer2 - n_cell) / (n_layer2 + n_cell);
28
29 t_air_1 = 2 * n_air / (n_air + n_layer1);
30 t_1_2 = 2 * n_layer1 / (n_layer1 + n_layer2);
31 t_2_cell = 2 * n_layer2 / (n_layer2 + n_cell);
32
33 %Initialize Storage for Results
34 reflectivity = zeros(1, num_lambda); % Reflectivity vs wavelength
35 transmitted_power = zeros(1, num_lambda); % Transmitted power vs wavelength
36
37 % Compute Matrices and Results (Main Loop)

```

Figure 5.6: Code for the plot of reflectivity (%) vs. wavelength for 400-1400nm – (1 of 3)

```

37 % Compute Matrices and Results (Main Loop)
38
39 for idx = 1:num_lambda
40     lambda = lambda_range(idx);
41
42     %Phase Delay (quarter-wave condition)
43     delta_val = (pi / 2) * (lambda_central / lambda);
44
45     %Propagation Matrix
46     P_matrix = [exp(j_const * delta_val) 0; 0 exp(-j_const * delta_val)];
47
48     % Interface Matrices
49     Q_air_1 = (1 / t_air_1) * [1 r_air_1; r_air_1 1];
50     Q_1_2 = (1 / t_1_2) * [1 r_1_2; r_1_2 1];
51     Q_2_cell = (1 / t_2_cell) * [1 r_2_cell; r_2_cell 1];
52
53     % Compute Transfer Matrix (Reordered Multiplication Sequence)
54     % Grouped differently to vary structure: ((Q_air_1 * P) * Q_1_2) * (P * Q_2_cell)
55     T_total = ((Q_air_1 * P_matrix) * Q_1_2) * (P_matrix * Q_2_cell);
56
57     %Reflection and Transmission Coefficients
58     Gamma = T_total(2,1) / T_total(1,1); % Overall reflection coefficient
59     tau = 1 / T_total(1,1); % Overall transmission coefficient
60
61     %Reflectivity and Transmissivity
62     reflectivity(idx) = abs(Gamma)^2;
63     transmissivity = abs(tau)^2 / (n_air / n_cell);
64
65     % Solar Irradiance Model
66     % Idealized spectral intensity: I(λ) = 6.16×10^15 / [λ^5(e^(2484/λ) - 1)]
67     irradiance = (6.16e15) / ((lambda^5) * (exp(2484 / lambda) - 1));
68
69     %Power Transmitted into the Cell

```

Figure 5.7: Code for the plot of reflectivity (%) vs. wavelength for 400-1400nm – (2 of 3)

```

69 %Power Transmitted into the Cell
70     transmitted_power(idx) = transmissivity * irradiance;
71 end
72
73 % Plot Results
74 figure;
75 plot(lambda_range, reflectivity * 100, 'b-', 'LineWidth', 1.3);
76 xlabel('Wavelength (nm)');
77 ylabel('Reflectivity (%)');
78 title('Reflectivity vs Wavelength - Optimized Double-Layer Design');
79 xlim([lambda_min, lambda_max]);
80 grid on;

```

Figure 5.8: Code for the plot of reflectivity (%) vs. wavelength for 400-1400nm – (3 of 3)

Virtual Simulations for *Figure 5.9*

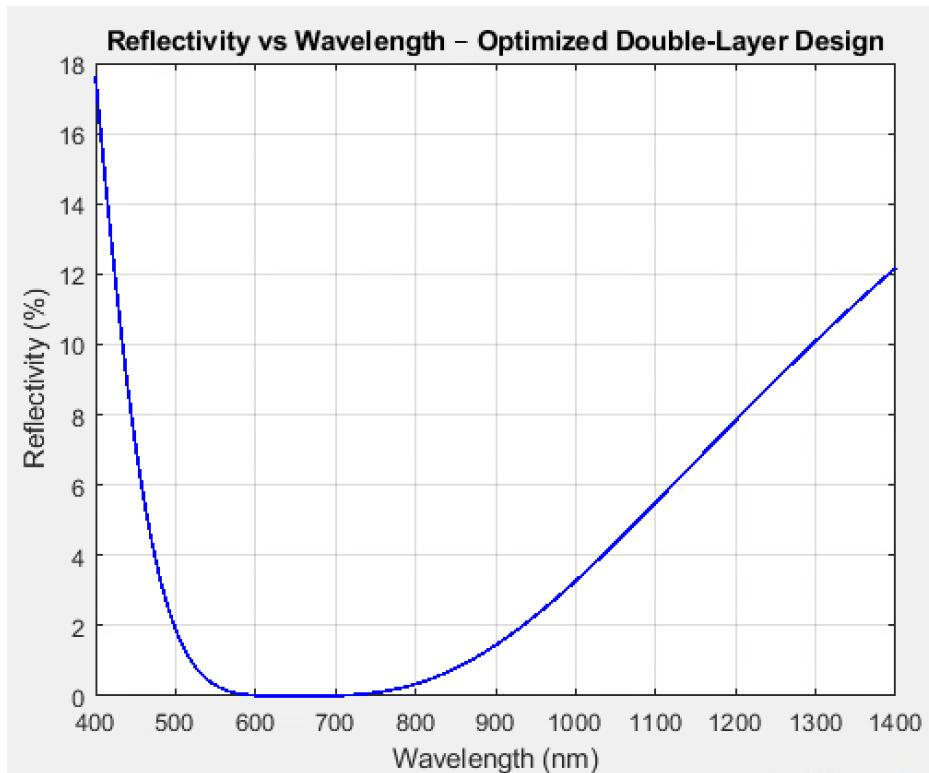


Figure 5.9: Plot of the reflectivity (%) vs. wavelength for the range 400-1400nm

Part 2 – (b) – Code, Flowchart and Virtual Simulations

Flow Chart for *Figure 5.10-5.12*

1. Define the imaginary constant $j_const = 1j$ (for complex exponentials).
2. Define optical refractive indices (in reverse order from bottom to top):
 - $n_cell = 3.5$ (semiconductor substrate),
 - $n_layer2 = 2.6192$ (second coating layer, closest to cell),
 - $n_layer1 = 1.4$ (first coating layer, outer layer),
 - $n_air = 1.0$ (air, incident medium).
3. Define wavelength parameters:
 - $\lambda_central = 650$ nm (design wavelength),
 - $\lambda_full = 200 : 1 : 2200$ nm (entire wavelength range),

- $\lambda_{\text{visible}} = 400 : 1 : 1400$ nm (subrange of interest),
 - num_points = number of wavelength samples.
4. Compute Fresnel reflection (Γ) and transmission (τ) coefficients:
 - $\Gamma_{12}, \Gamma_{01}, \Gamma_{23}$ for the three interfaces,
 - $\tau_{12}, \tau_{01}, \tau_{23}$ corresponding to transmission coefficients.
 5. Construct interface matrices (Q):
 - Q_{01}, Q_{12}, Q_{23} .
 6. Initialize the result array transmitted_power with zeros (size = num_points).
 7. Begin main loop over each wavelength λ in λ_{full} :
 - a. Assign current $\lambda = \lambda_{\text{full}}(k)$.
 - b. Compute phase delay for both layers (quarter-wave scaling):

$$\Delta = (\pi/2) \times (\lambda_{\text{central}} / \lambda)$$
 - c. Build the propagation matrix for both layers:

$$P_{\text{matrix}} = [\exp(j\Delta) \ 0; 0 \ \exp(-j\Delta)]$$
 - d. Compute total transfer matrix with new grouping:

$$T_{\text{total}} = ((Q_{01} \times Q_{12}) \times P_{\text{matrix}}) \times (Q_{23} \times P_{\text{matrix}})$$
 - e. Compute total reflection coefficient:

$$\Gamma_{\text{total}} = T_{\text{total}}(2,1) / T_{\text{total}}(1,1)$$
 - f. Compute reflectivity = $|\Gamma_{\text{total}}|^2$.
 - g. Compute irradiance using the spectral irradiance model:

$$I(\lambda) = (6.16 \times 10^{15}) / [\lambda^5 \times (\exp(2484/\lambda) - 1)]$$
 - h. Compute transmitted power at this wavelength:

$$P_{\text{transmitted}} = (1 - \text{Reflectivity}) \times I(\lambda)$$
 - i. Store transmitted_power(k) = $P_{\text{transmitted}}$.
 8. End the loop after all wavelengths have been processed.
 9. Integrate total transmitted power over two wavelength ranges:
 - Identify visible range indices ($400 \leq \lambda \leq 1400$).
 - Compute total_power_visible = sum(transmitted_power over visible range).
 - Compute total_power_full = sum(transmitted_power over full range).
 10. Create a figure window for visualization.
 11. Create Subplot 1 (400–1400 nm range):
 - Plot transmitted power vs wavelength.
 12. Create Subplot 2 (200–2200 nm range):
 - Plot transmitted power vs wavelength.

Code for *Figure 5.10-5.12*

```

7 clear; clc; close all;
8
9 j_const = 1j; % Imaginary unit for complex exponentials
10
11 %Optical Refractive Indices (Reordered Definition)
12 n_cell = 3.5; % Semiconductor substrate (bottom)
13 n_layer2 = 2.6192; % Second coating layer (closest to cell)
14 n_layer1 = 1.4; % First coating layer (outer layer)
15 n_air = 1.0; % Air (incident medium)
16
17 %Wavelength Parameters
18 lambda_central = 650; % Design (central) wavelength (nm)
19 lambda_full = 200:1:2200; % Full wavelength range (200-2200 nm)
20 lambda_visible = 400:1:1400; % Subrange of interest (400-1400 nm)
21 num_points = numel(lambda_full);
22
23 %Fresnel Coefficients: Reflection (gamma) & Transmission (tau)
24 Gamma_12 = (n_layer1 - n_layer2) / (n_layer1 + n_layer2);
25 Gamma_01 = (n_air - n_layer1) / (n_air + n_layer1);
26 Gamma_23 = (n_layer2 - n_cell) / (n_layer2 + n_cell);
27
28 tau_12 = 2 * n_layer1 / (n_layer1 + n_layer2);
29 tau_01 = 2 * n_air / (n_air + n_layer1);
30 tau_23 = 2 * n_layer2 / (n_layer2 + n_cell);
31
32 %Interface Matrices (Q)
33 Q_01 = (1 / tau_01) * [1 Gamma_01; Gamma_01 1];
34 Q_12 = (1 / tau_12) * [1 Gamma_12; Gamma_12 1];
35 Q_23 = (1 / tau_23) * [1 Gamma_23; Gamma_23 1];
36

```

MATLA

Figure 5.10: Plots of the Power vs. Wavelength for 400-1400nm and 200-2200nm - (1 of 3)

```
37 %Initialize Storage for Results
38 transmitted_power = zeros(1, num_points); % Power spectrum (W/m^2)
39
40 %Main Loop: Compute Transmitted Power vs Wavelength
41
42 for k = 1:num_points
43     lambda = lambda_full(k);
44
45     %Phase delay for each layer (quarter-wave scaling)
46     delta_phase = (pi / 2) * (lambda_central / lambda);
47
48     %Propagation matrix for both layers
49     P_matrix = [exp(j_const * delta_phase) 0; 0 exp(-j_const * delta_phase)];
50
51     %Compute total transfer matrix (new sequence grouping)
52     % Structure differs: ((Q_01 * Q_12) * P) * (Q_23 * P)
53     T_total = ((Q_01 * Q_12) * P_matrix) * (Q_23 * P_matrix);
54
55     %Reflection coefficient gamma_total
56     Gamma_total = T_total(2,1) / T_total(1,1);
57     Reflectivity = abs(Gamma_total)^2;
58
59     %Irradiance computation
60     irradiance = (6.16e15) / ((lambda^5) * (exp(2484 / lambda) - 1));
61
62     %Transmitted power at this wavelength
63     transmitted_power(k) = (1 - Reflectivity) * irradiance;
64 end
65
66 % Power Integration
67 % Integrate total transmitted power in both given ranges
68 visible_idx = find(lambda_full >= 400 & lambda_full <= 1400);
```

Figure 5.11: Plots of the Power vs. Wavelength for 400-1400nm and 200-2200nm - (2 of 3)

```
69 total_power_visible = sum(transmitted_power(visible_idx));
70 total_power_full = sum(transmitted_power);
71
72 % Visualization using Subplots
73 figure('Name', 'Transmitted Power Spectra', 'NumberTitle', 'off');
74
75 % Subplot 1: 400-1400 nm range
76 subplot(2,1,1);
77 plot(lambda_full, transmitted_power, 'LineWidth', 1.3, 'Color', [0.1 0.45 0.8]);
78 xlim([400, 1400]);
79 xlabel('Wavelength (nm)');
80 ylabel('Power (W/m2)');
81 title('Transmitted Power Spectrum - 400 to 1400 nm');
82 grid on;
83
84 % Subplot 2: Full 200-2200 nm range
85 subplot(2,1,2);
86 plot(lambda_full, transmitted_power, 'LineWidth', 1.3, 'Color', [0.2 0.3 0.8]);
87 xlim([200, 2200]);
88 xlabel('Wavelength (nm)');
89 ylabel('Power (W/m2)');
90 title('Transmitted Power Spectrum - 200 to 2200 nm');
91 grid on;
```

Figure 5.12: Plots of the Power vs. Wavelength for 400-1400nm and 200-2200nm - (3 of 3)

Virtual Simulations for *Figure 5.13-5.15*

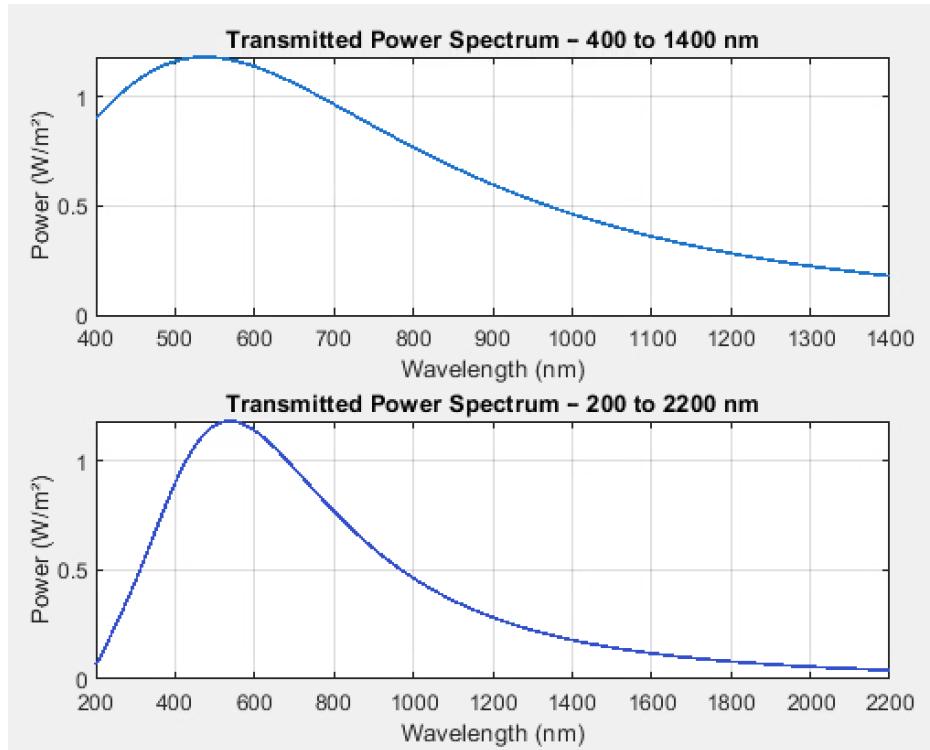


Figure 5.13: Plots of the Transmitted Power vs. Wavelength for 400-1400nm and 200-2200nm (double-layer).

Total Power in Watts = 751.202068

Figure 5.14: Result of the Transmitted Power vs. Wavelength for 400-1400nm and (double-layer).

Total Power in Watts = 929.591599

Figure 5.15: Result of the Transmitted Power vs. Wavelength for and 200-2200nm (double-layer).

Part 2 – (c) – Code, Flowchart and Virtual Simulations

Flow Chart for *Figure 5.16-5.20*

1. Define constants:
 - $j = 1j$ (imaginary unit),
 - $n_0 = 1.0$ (air, incident medium),
 - $n_3 = 3.5$ (semiconductor substrate),
 - $\lambda_C = 650 \text{ nm}$ (center wavelength),
 - $\lambda_{\text{range}} = 400 : 1 : 1400 \text{ nm}$ (wavelength range),
 - $\text{num_lambda} = \text{number of wavelength samples.}$
2. Define irradiance and exponential constants:
 - $\text{IRRAD_Const} = 6.16 \times 10^{15}$,
 - $\text{Exp_Const} = 2484$.
3. Define search ranges for optimization:
 - n_1_{min} to $n_1_{\text{max}} = [1.0, 3.0]$,
 - n_2_{min} to $n_2_{\text{max}} = [1.0, 3.0]$,
 - $\text{Step_Size} = 0.4$,
 - $\text{Max_Iteration} = 5$.
4. Preallocate storage arrays:
 - Total_Power ,
 - n_1_{record} ,
 - n_2_{record} .
5. Begin **optimization loop** ($\text{Iter} = 1$ to Max_Iteration):
 - a. Set index counter $\text{idx} = 1$.
 - b. For each n_1 in $[n_1_{\text{min}} : \text{Step_Size} : n_1_{\text{max}}]$:
 - i. For each n_2 in $[n_2_{\text{min}} : \text{Step_Size} : n_2_{\text{max}}]$:
 - Initialize R_{vals} and P_{vals} arrays (for each wavelength).
 - Compute **Fresnel reflection and transmission coefficients:**
 r_{01}, r_{12}, r_{23} and t_{01}, t_{12}, t_{23} .
 - Build **interface matrices** Q_{01}, Q_{12}, Q_{23} .
 - For each wavelength in λ_{range} :
 1. Compute phase shift $\Delta = (\pi/2) \times (\lambda_C / \lambda)$.
 2. Construct phase matrix $P = [\exp(j\Delta) \ 0; 0 \ \exp(-j\Delta)]$.
 3. Compute total transfer matrix $T = Q_{01} \times P \times Q_{12} \times P \times Q_{23}$.
 4. Calculate reflection and transmission coefficients:
 $\Gamma = T(2,1) / T(1,1)$, $\tau = 1 / T(1,1)$.
 5. Compute reflectivity $R = |\Gamma|^2$ and transmittance $\text{Trans} = |\tau|^2 \times (n_0 / n_3)$.
 6. Compute irradiance $I = \text{IRRAD_Const} / [\lambda^5 \times (\exp(\text{Exp_Const} / \lambda) - 1)]$.
 7. Compute transmitted power $P = \text{Trans} \times I$.
 8. Store $R_{\text{vals}}(i)$ and $P_{\text{vals}}(i)$.
 - After wavelength loop ends, record total results:
 $n_1_{\text{record}}(\text{idx}) = n_1$,
 $n_2_{\text{record}}(\text{idx}) = n_2$,
 $\text{Total_Power}(\text{idx}) = \text{sum}(P_{\text{vals}})$.
 - Increment idx by 1.

- ii. End of n_2 loop.
- iii. End of n loop.
- c. Find **best combination** for current iteration:
 - Identify maximum Total_Power and its position.
 - Set Best_n1 and Best_n2 to the refractive indices at that position.
- d. Refine search range for the next iteration (if Iter < Max_Iteration):
 - Narrow n_1 and n_2 ranges around their best values,
 - Reduce Step_Size by half (but not below 0.01).
- 6. End optimization loop.
- 7. Initialize arrays for final results:
 - R_final, P_final.
- 8. Using the optimized refractive indices (Best_n1, Best_n2), perform a **final sweep** across λ _range:
 - a. For each wavelength:
 - i. Compute Fresnel coefficients using Best_n1 and Best_n2.
 - ii. Compute interface matrices Q_{01} , Q_{12} , Q_{23} and phase matrix P.
 - iii. Calculate total transfer matrix $T_{\text{total}} = Q_{01} \times P \times Q_{12} \times P \times Q_{23}$.
 - iv. Compute reflection coefficient $\Gamma = T_{\text{total}}(2,1)/T_{\text{total}}(1,1)$.
 - v. Compute reflectivity = $|\Gamma|^2$.
 - vi. Compute transmittance and irradiance.
 - vii. Compute final transmitted power $P_{\text{final}} = \text{Trans} \times I$.
 - viii. Store R_final and P_final for plotting.
- 9. End final wavelength sweep.
- 10. Subplot 1: Plot optimized reflectivity vs wavelength (400–1400 nm).
- 11. Subplot 2: Plot transmitted power vs wavelength (400–1400 nm).

Code for *Figure 5.16-5.20*

```
8 clear; clc; close all;
9
10 %Constant parameters
11 j = 1j; % Imaginary unit
12 n_0 = 1.0; % Air (incident medium)
13 n_3 = 3.5; % Semiconductor substrate
14 lambda_C = 650; % Center wavelength [nm]
15 lambda_range = 400:1400; % Wavelength range [nm]
16 num_lambda = length(lambda_range);
17
18 IRRAD_Const = 6.16e15;% Irradiance constant
19 Exp_Const = 2484;% Exponential term constant
20
21 %Search range
22 n1_min = 1.0; n1_max = 3.0;
23 n2_min = 1.0; n2_max = 3.0;
24 Step_Size = 0.4;
25 Max_Iteration = 5;
26
27 % Preallocation
28 Total_Power = [];
29 n1_record = [];
30 n2_record = [];
31
32 %OPTIMIZATION LOOP
33 for Iter = 1:Max_Iteration
34     idx = 1;
```

Figure 5.16: Plots of the Power vs. Wavelength for 400-1400nm for optimized power - (1 of 5)

```

35   for n_1 = n1_min:Step_Size:n1_max
36     for n_2 = n2_min:Step_Size:n2_max
37
38       R_vals = zeros(1, num_lambda);
39       P_vals = zeros(1, num_lambda);
40
41       % Fresnel coefficients for each interface
42       r01 = (n_0 - n_1) / (n_0 + n_1);
43       r12 = (n_1 - n_2) / (n_1 + n_2);
44       r25 = (n_2 - n_3) / (n_2 + n_3);
45
46       t01 = 2 * n_0 / (n_0 + n_1);
47       t12 = 2 * n_1 / (n_1 + n_2);
48       t25 = 2 * n_2 / (n_2 + n_3);
49
50       % Interface matrices
51       Q01 = (1/t01) * [1 r01; r01 1];
52       Q12 = (1/t12) * [1 r12; r12 1];
53       Q25 = (1/t25) * [1 r25; r25 1];
54
55       % Sweep through wavelength range
56       for i = 1:num_lambda
57         lambda = lambda_range(i);
58         delta = (pi/2) * (lambda_C / lambda);
59         P = [exp(j*delta) 0; 0 exp(-j*delta)];
60
61         % Transfer matrix across layers
62         T = Q01 * P * Q12 * P * Q25;
63
64         % Reflection ( $\Gamma$ ) and transmission ( $\tau$ )
65         Gamma = T(2,1)/T(1,1);
66         Tau = 1/T(1,1);
67

```

Figure 5.17: Plots of the Power vs. Wavelength for 400-1400nm for optimized power - (2 of 5)

```

68 % Reflectivity and transmitted power
69 R_vals(i) = abs(Gamma)^2;
70 Trans = abs(Tau)^2 / (n_0/n_3);
71 Irrad = IRRAD_Const / ((lambda^5) * (exp(Exp_Const/lambda) - 1));
72 P_vals(i) = Trans * Irrad;
73 end
74
75 % Store integrated results
76 n1_record(idx) = n_1;
77 n2_record(idx) = n_2;
78 Total_Power(idx) = sum(P_vals);
79 idx = idx + 1;
80 end
81
82 % Best combination for this iteration
83 [Best_Power, pos] = max(Total_Power);
84 Best_n1 = n1_record(pos);
85 Best_n2 = n2_record(pos);
86
87 % Refinement
88 if Iter < Max_Iteration
89     n1_min = max(Best_n1 - Step_Size*2, 1.0);
90     n1_max = min(Best_n1 + Step_Size*2, 3.0);
91     n2_min = max(Best_n2 - Step_Size*2, 1.0);
92     n2_max = min(Best_n2 + Step_Size*2, 3.0);
93     Step_Size = max(Step_Size / 2, 0.01);
94 end
95
96 end
97
98 %Final Results
99 R_final = zeros(1, num_lambda);
100 P_final = zeros(1, num_lambda);

```

Figure 5.18: Plots of the Power vs. Wavelength for 400-1400nm for optimized power - (3 of 5)

```

101
102 for k = 1:num_lambda
103     lambda = lambda_range(k);
104     delta = (pi/2) * (lambda_C / lambda);
105
106     r01 = (n_0 - Best_n1)/(n_0 + Best_n1);
107     r12 = (Best_n1 - Best_n2)/(Best_n1 + Best_n2);
108     r25 = (Best_n2 - n_3)/(Best_n2 + n_3);
109
110     t01 = 2 * n_0 / (n_0 + Best_n1);
111     t12 = 2 * Best_n1 / (Best_n1 + Best_n2);
112     t25 = 2 * Best_n2 / (Best_n2 + n_3);
113
114     Q01 = (1/t01) * [1 r01; r01 1];
115     Q12 = (1/t12) * [1 r12; r12 1];
116     Q25 = (1/t25) * [1 r25; r25 1];
117     P = [exp(j*delta) 0; 0 exp(-j*delta)];
118
119     T_total = Q01 * P * Q12 * P * Q25;
120     Gamma = T_total(2,1)/T_total(1,1);
121     Tau = 1/T_total(1,1);
122
123     R_final(k) = abs(Gamma)^2;
124     Trans = abs(Tau)^2 / (n_0/n_3);
125     Irrad = IRRAD_Const / ((lambda^5) * (exp(Exp_Const/lambda) - 1));
126     P_final(k) = Trans * Irrad;
127 end
128
129 %Plotting
130 figure('Color','w');
131
132 subplot(2,1,1);
133 plot(lambda_range, R_final*100, 'r', 'LineWidth', 1.2);
134 title('Optimized Reflectivity vs Wavelength (400-1400 nm)');

```

Figure 5.19: Plots of the Power vs. Wavelength for 400-1400nm for optimized power - (4 of 5)

```

135 xlabel('Wavelength (nm)');
136 ylabel('Reflectivity (%)');
137 grid on; xlim([400 1400]);
138
139 subplot(2,1,2);
140 plot(lambda_range, P_final, 'b', 'LineWidth', 1.2);
141 title('Transmitted Power vs Wavelength (400-1400 nm)');
142 xlabel('Wavelength (nm)');
143 ylabel('Power (W/m^2)');
144 grid on; xlim([400 1400]);
145
146 sgttitle('Optimized Double-Layer Coating Performance (400-1400 nm)');

```

Figure 5.20: Plots of the Power vs. Wavelength for 400-1400nm for optimized power - (5 of 5)

Virtual Simulations for *Figure 5.21 and 5.22*

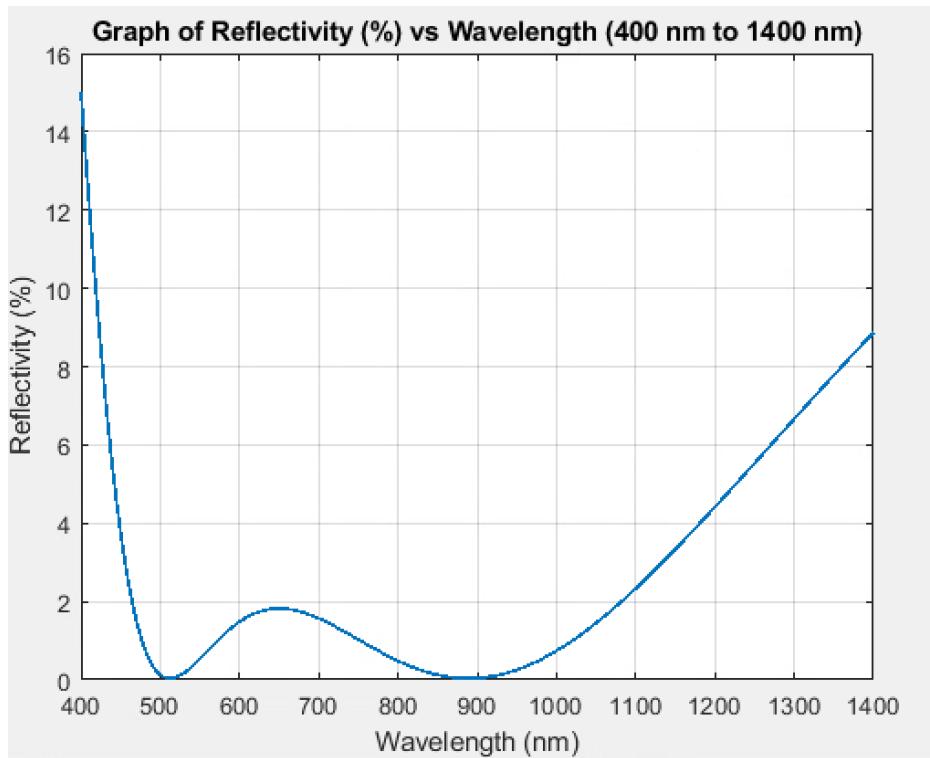


Figure 5.21: Plot of the Transmitted Power vs. Wavelength for 400-1400nm for optimized power (double-layer).

Part2_c (400-1400nm)

n_1 = 1.45

n_2 = 2.40

Total Power in Watts = 758.8876

Figure 5.22: Result of the Transmitted Power vs. Wavelength for 400-1400nm for optimized power (double-layer).

Flow Chart for Figure 5.23-5.27

1. Define constants and base parameters:
 - $j = 1i$ (imaginary unit),
 - $\lambda_c = 650 \text{ nm}$ (center wavelength),
 - $n_{\text{air}} = 1.0$ (air refractive index),
 - $n_{\text{sub}} = 3.5$ (semiconductor substrate),
 - $\lambda_{\text{span}} = 200 : 1 : 2200 \text{ nm}$ (spectrum range),
 - L_{count} = number of wavelength samples.
2. Define irradiance constants:
 - $C_{\text{irrad}} = 6.16 \times 10^{15}$,
 - $C_{\text{exp}} = 2484$.
3. Define the **search grid** parameters:
 - n_1 range: $1.0 \rightarrow 3.0$,
 - n_2 range: $1.0 \rightarrow 3.0$,
 - $\text{step_init} = 0.4$,
 - $\text{refine_max} = 5$ (maximum refinement cycles).
4. Initialize data matrices for recording:
 - all_power , map_{n1} , map_{n2} (empty arrays).
5. Begin **main optimization loop** ($\text{ref} = 1 \rightarrow \text{refine_max}$):
 - a. Set counter = 1.
 - b. For each n_1 in search. n_1 range:
 - For each n_2 in search. n_2 range:
 - i. Initialize Rset and Pset arrays (size = L_{count}).
 - ii. For each wavelength L in λ_{span} :
 1. Assign current wavelength L and compute phase shift:
 $\Delta\phi = (\pi/2) \times (\lambda_c / L)$.
 2. Compute **Fresnel reflection and transmission coefficients**:
 r_{01}, r_{12}, r_{25} and t_{01}, t_{12}, t_{25} .
 3. Construct **interface matrices**:
 Q_{01}, Q_{12}, Q_{25} .
 4. Construct **phase matrix**:
 $P_m = [\exp(j\Delta\phi) \ 0; 0 \ \exp(-j\Delta\phi)]$.
 5. Compute **total transfer matrix** through all layers:
 $T_{\text{net}} = Q_{01} \times P_m \times Q_{12} \times P_m \times Q_{25}$.
 6. Compute **reflection and transmission coefficients**:
 $\Gamma = T_{\text{net}}(2,1)/T_{\text{net}}(1,1)$, $\tau = 1/T_{\text{net}}(1,1)$.
 7. Compute **reflectance and transmitted power**:
 $R_{\text{set}}(\text{idx}) = |\Gamma|^2$,
 $T_{\text{ratio}} = |\tau|^2 \times (n_{\text{air}} / n_{\text{sub}})$.
 8. Compute spectral irradiance at this wavelength:
 $I_{\lambda} = C_{\text{irrad}} / [L^5 \times (\exp(C_{\text{exp}} / L) - 1)]$.
 9. Compute power transmitted:
 $P_{\text{set}}(\text{idx}) = T_{\text{ratio}} \times I_{\lambda}$.
 - iii. End wavelength loop.
 - iv. Compute integrated total power for this n_1/n_2 pair:

- ```

map_n1(counter) = n1,
map_n2(counter) = n2,
all_power(counter) = sum(Pset).
v. Increment counter.
End of nested n2 loop.
c. Find best combination for this iteration:
 - Locate maximum(all_power).
 - Extract corresponding best_n1, best_n2, and best_power.
d. Print iteration summary (optional).
e. If current refinement < refine_max:
 - Narrow the n1 and n2 ranges around best values,
 - Reduce step_init by half for finer resolution,
 - Ensure bounds remain between 1 and 3.
6. End optimization loop.
7. Display final optimization results:
 - Print best_n1, best_n2, and best total transmitted power.
8. Initialize R_final array for storing reflectivity.
9. For each wavelength in λ_span (final spectrum computation):
 a. Compute updated Fresnel coefficients using best_n1 and best_n2.
 b. Build corresponding interface matrices and phase matrix.
 c. Compute total transfer matrix T_all = Q01 × P × Q12 × P × Q25.
 d. Compute reflection coefficient G = T_all(2,1)/T_all(1,1).
 e. Compute reflectivity = |G|^2 and store in R_final(k).
10. Plot final reflectivity spectrum:.

```

Code for *Figure 5.23-5.27*

```
8 clc; clear; close all
9
10 %Base Parameters
11 j = 1i; % Imaginary unit
12 lambda_c = 650; % Center design wavelength [nm]
13 n_air = 1.0; % Air refractive index
14 n_sub = 3.5; % Substrate (semiconductor cell)
15 lambda_span = 200:1:2200; % Spectrum range
16 L_count = length(lambda_span);
17
18 % Irradiance constants
19 C_irrad = 6.16e15;
20 C_exp = 2484;
21
22 %Searching grid
23 search.n1 = linspace(1.0, 3.0, 6);
24 search.n2 = linspace(1.0, 3.0, 6);
25 step_init = 0.4;
26 refine_max = 5;
27
28 % Data matrix
29 all_power = [];
30 map_n1 = [];
31 map_n2 = [];
32
33 %Main Loop
34 for ref = 1:refine_max
```

Figure 5.23: Plots of the Power vs. Wavelength for 200-2200nm for optimized power - (1 of 5)

```

35 -
36 counter = 1;
37
38 for n1 = search.n1
39 for n2 = search.n2
40
41 Rset = zeros(1, L_count);
42 Pset = zeros(1, L_count);
43
44 for idx = 1:L_count
45 L = lambda_span(idx);
46 dphi = (pi/2)*(lambda_c/L);
47
48 % Fresnel terms (recomputed inside to allow per-layer tuning)
49 r01 = (n_air - n1)/(n_air + n1);
50 r12 = (n1 - n2)/(n1 + n2);
51 r25 = (n2 - n_sub)/(n2 + n_sub);
52
53 t01 = 2*n_air/(n_air + n1);
54 t12 = 2*n1/(n1 + n2);
55 t25 = 2*n2/(n2 + n_sub);
56
57 % Interface matrices
58 Q01 = (1/t01)*[1 r01; r01 1];
59 Q12 = (1/t12)*[1 r12; r12 1];
60 Q25 = (1/t25)*[1 r25; r25 1];
61
62 % Phase propagation
63 Pm = [exp(j*dphi) 0; 0 exp(-j*dphi)];
64
65 % Total transfer through all layers
66 T_net = Q01 * Pm * Q12 * Pm * Q25;

```

Figure 5.24: Plots of the Power vs. Wavelength for 200-2200nm for optimized power - (2 of 5)

```

66
67 T_net = Q01 * Pm * Q12 * Pm * Q2S;
68
69 % Reflection / Transmission coefficients
70 Gamma = T_net(2,1)/T_net(1,1);
71 Tau = 1/T_net(1,1);
72
73 % Reflectance and transmitted power
74 Rset(idx) = abs(Gamma)^2;
75 T_ratio = abs(Tau)^2 / (n_air/n_sub);
76 I_lambda = C_irrad / ((L^5)*(exp(C_exp/L)-1));
77 Pset(idx) = T_ratio * I_lambda;
78
79 % Store the integrated total power for this n1/n2 pair
80 map_n1(counter) = n1;
81 map_n2(counter) = n2;
82 all_power(counter) = sum(Pset);
83 counter = counter + 1;
84
85
86
87 %Best combination for this iteration
88 [best_power, pos] = max(all_power);
89 best.n1 = map_n1(pos);
90 best.n2 = map_n2(pos);
91
92 % Adjust refinement window
93 if ref < refine_max
94 search.n1 = best.n1-0.8*step_init : step_init/2 : best.n1+0.8*step_init;
95 search.n2 = best.n2-0.8*step_init : step_init/2 : best.n2+0.8*step_init;
96 search.n1 = search.n1(search.n1>=1 & search.n1<=3);
97 search.n2 = search.n2(search.n2>=1 & search.n2<=3);
98 step_init = step_init/2;

```

Figure 5.25: Plots of the Power vs. Wavelength for 200-2200nm for optimized power - (3 of 5)

```

100 end
101
102 %Results and plotting
103 fprintf('\n[OPTIMIZATION RESULTS]\n');
104 fprintf('Best n1 = %.3f\n', best.n1);
105 fprintf('Best n2 = %.3f\n', best.n2);
106 fprintf('Maximum Total Power = %.4f W\n\n', best_power);
107
108 % Final reflectivity spectrum for best combination
109 R_final = zeros(1, L_count);
110 for k = 1:L_count
111 lam = lambda_span(k);
112 phi = (pi/2)*(lambda_c/lam);
113
114 r01 = (n_air - best.n1)/(n_air + best.n1);
115 r12 = (best.n1 - best.n2)/(best.n1 + best.n2);
116 r25 = (best.n2 - n_sub)/(best.n2 + n_sub);
117
118 t01 = 2*n_air/(n_air + best.n1);
119 t12 = 2*best.n1/(best.n1 + best.n2);
120 t25 = 2*best.n2/(best.n2 + n_sub);
121
122 Q01 = (1/t01)*[1 r01; r01 1];
123 Q12 = (1/t12)*[1 r12; r12 1];
124 Q25 = (1/t25)*[1 r25; r25 1];
125
126 Pm = [exp(j*phi) 0; 0 exp(-j*phi)];
127 T_all = Q01*Pm*Q12*Pm*Q25;
128 G = T_all(2,1)/T_all(1,1);
129 R_final(k) = abs(G)^2;
130 end
131
132 % Plot final reflectivity

```

Figure 5.26: Plots of the Power vs. Wavelength for 200-2200nm for optimized power - (4 of 5)

```

136 xlabel('Wavelength (nm)');
137 ylabel('Reflectivity (%)');
138 xlim([200 2200]); grid on; box on;
139

```

Figure 5.27: Plots of the Power vs. Wavelength for 200-2200nm for optimized power - (5 of 5)

Virtual Simulations for *Figure 5.28-5.29*

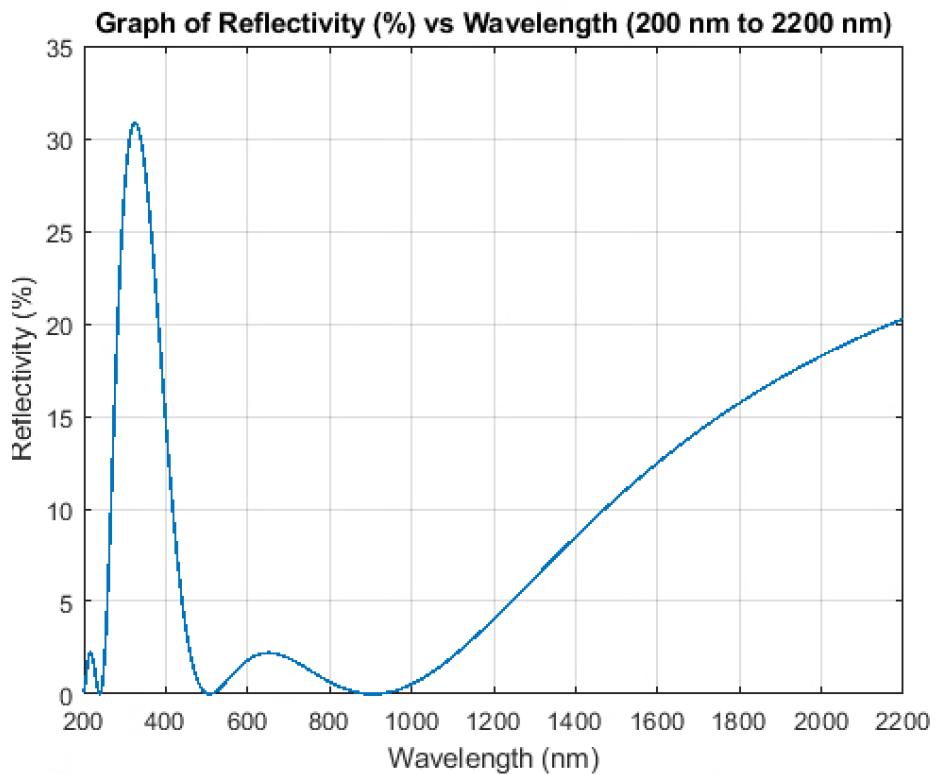


Figure 5.28: Plot of the Transmitted Power vs. Wavelength for 200-2200nm for optimized power (double-layer).

**Part2\_c (200-2200nm)**

**n1 = 1.475**

**n2 = 2.375**

**Maximum Total Power = 941.4174 W**

Figure 5.29: Result of the Transmitted Power vs. Wavelength for 200-2200nm for optimized power (double-layer).

Part 3 – (c) – Code, Flowchart and Virtual Simulations

Flow Chart for *Figure 5.30 and 5.31*

Commented [RG3]: Add code

1. Define **material and wavelength parameters**:
  - $n_{inc} = 1.0$  (incident medium, air),
  - $n_{top} = 1.4$  (top fixed coating),
  - $n_{bot} = 3.15$  (bottom fixed coating adjacent to the cell),
  - $n_{cell} = 3.5$  (substrate),
  - $\lambda_C = 650 \text{ nm}$  (design wavelength).
2. Compute **fixed interface Fresnel terms** for the air–top and bottom–cell interfaces:
  - $r_{inc\_top}$ ,  $t_{inc\_top}$ , and matrix  $Q_{inc\_top}$ ,
  - $r_{bot\_cell}$ ,  $t_{bot\_cell}$ , and matrix  $Q_{bot\_cell}$ .
3. Define **quarter-wave propagation matrix** for  $\lambda_C$ :
  - $\Delta = \pi/2$ ,
  - $Pq = [\exp(j\Delta) \ 0; \ 0 \ \exp(-j\Delta)]$ .
4. Define  **$n_2$  sweep range** for the middle coating layer:
  - $n_2\_grid = 0.00 : 0.01 : 4.50$ .
5. Create an **anonymous helper function** `reflectance_of` that takes  $n_2$  as input and returns its reflectivity using the local function.
6. Use arrayfun to evaluate reflectance over all  $n_2$  values:
  - $R\_vec = \text{arrayfun}(\text{reflectance\_of}, n_2\_grid)$ .
7. Determine **optimum  $n_2$**  (minimum reflectance):
  - $[\sim, idx\_min] = \text{min}(R\_vec)$ ,
  - $n_2\_opt = n_2\_grid(idx\_min)$ .
8. Create a **plot of reflectivity vs  $n_2$** :
  - a. Plot  $100 \times R\_vec$  versus  $n_2\_grid$ .
  - b. Label x-axis as “ $n_2$  (middle coating)” and y-axis as “Reflectivity (%)”.
  - c. Add title: “Reflectivity (%) vs  $n_2$  at  $\lambda_C = 650 \text{ nm}$ ”.
  - d. Enable grid and set limits based on  $n_2$  range.
9. Display results in the command window:
  - Print  $n_{top}$ ,  $n_{bot}$ , and the optimal  $n_2$  with minimum reflectivity.
10. Define **local function  $R = \text{function}_R(...)$**  to calculate reflectivity for a given  $n_2$ :
  - a. Compute **Fresnel terms** for:
    - top–middle interface ( $r_{top\_mid}$ ,  $t_{top\_mid}$ ),
    - middle–bottom interface ( $r_{mid\_bot}$ ,  $t_{mid\_bot}$ ).
  - b. Build **interface matrices**  $Q_{top\_mid}$  and  $Q_{mid\_bot}$ .
  - c. Compute **total transfer matrix** across all layers:
 
$$T = Q_{inc\_top} \times Pq \times Q_{top\_mid} \times Pq \times Q_{mid\_bot} \times Pq \times Q_{bot\_cell}.$$
  - d. Calculate **overall reflection coefficient**:
 
$$\Gamma = T(2,1) / T(1,1).$$
  - e. Compute **reflectance**  $R = |\Gamma|^2$ .
  - f. Return  $R$ .

Code for *Figure 5.30 and 5.31*

```

7 %Materials and design wavelength
8 n_inc = 1.0; % incident medium (air)
9 n_top = 1.4; % first coating (fixed)
10 n_bot = 3.15; % second coating (fixed, adjacent to cell)
11 n_cell = 3.5; % substrate (cell)
12 lambda_C = 650;% design wavelength [nm]
13
14 %Fixed interface Fresnel terms (air=top, bot=cell)
15 r_inc_top = (n_inc - n_top) / (n_inc + n_top);
16 t_inc_top = 2 * n_inc / (n_inc + n_top);
17 Q_inc_top = (1 / t_inc_top) * [1, r_inc_top; r_inc_top, 1];
18
19 r_bot_cell = (n_bot - n_cell) / (n_bot + n_cell); %bot
20 t_bot_cell = 2 * n_bot / (n_bot + n_cell);
21 Q_bot_cell = (1 / t_bot_cell) * [1, r_bot_cell; r_bot_cell, 1];
22
23 %Quarter-wave propagation at lambda_C (same for each layer in this model)
24 Delta = pi/2;
25 Pq = [exp(1i*Delta), 0; 0, exp(-1i*Delta)];
26
27 % n2 sweep (middle coating index)
28 n2_grid = 0.00 : 0.01 : 4.50;
29
30 % Anonymous helper: reflectance for a given n2
31 reflectance_of = @(n2) ...
32 (
33 ...
34 function_R(n2, n_top, n_bot, n_inc, n_cell, Q_inc_top, Q_bot_cell, Pq) ...
35);
36
37 % Evaluate reflectance over the grid (vectorized via arrayfun)
38 R_vec = arrayfun(reflectance_of, n2_grid);
39
40 % Find optimum n2 (minimum reflectance)

```

Figure 5.30: Code of the Transmitted Power vs. Wavelengths for the optimized power – (1 of 2)

```

41 [~, idx_min] = min(R_vec);
42 n2_opt = n2_grid(idx_min);

43 % Plot
44 figure;
45 plot(n2_grid, 100*R_vec, 'LineWidth', 1.3);
46 grid on; xlim([min(n2_grid) max(n2_grid)]);
47 title('Reflectivity (%) vs n_2 at \lambda_C = 650 nm');
48 xlabel('n_2 (middle coating)');
49 ylabel('Reflectivity (%)');

50 % Report
51 fprintf('\nPart3_c\n');
52 fprintf('n_1 = %.2f\n', n_top);
53 fprintf('n_2 = %.2f\n', n_bot);
54 fprintf('Minimum reflectivity at n_2 = %.2f\n', n2_opt);

55 %Local function (kept in the same file)
56 function R = function_R(n2, n_top, n_bot, n_inc, n_cell, Q_inc_top, Q_bot_cell, Pq)
57 % Fresnel terms for top=n2 and n2=bot
58 r_top_mid = (n_top - n2) / (n_top + n2);
59 t_top_mid = 2 * n_top / (n_top + n2);
60 Q_top_mid = (1 / t_top_mid) * [1, r_top_mid; r_top_mid, 1];

61 r_mid_bot = (n2 - n_bot) / (n2 + n_bot);
62 t_mid_bot = 2 * n2 / (n2 + n_bot);
63 Q_mid_bot = (1 / t_mid_bot) * [1, r_mid_bot; r_mid_bot, 1];

64 % Total transfer matrix: inc → top → n2 → bot → cell
65 T = Q_inc_top * Pq * Q_top_mid * Pq * Q_mid_bot * Pq * Q_bot_cell;

66 % Overall reflection coefficient Γ = T21 / T11; R = |Γ|^2
67 Gamma = T(2,1) / T(1,1);
68 R = abs(Gamma)^2;

```

Figure 5.31: Code of the Transmitted Power vs. Wavelengths for the optimized power – (2 of 2)

### Virtual Simulations for Figure 5.32 and 5.33

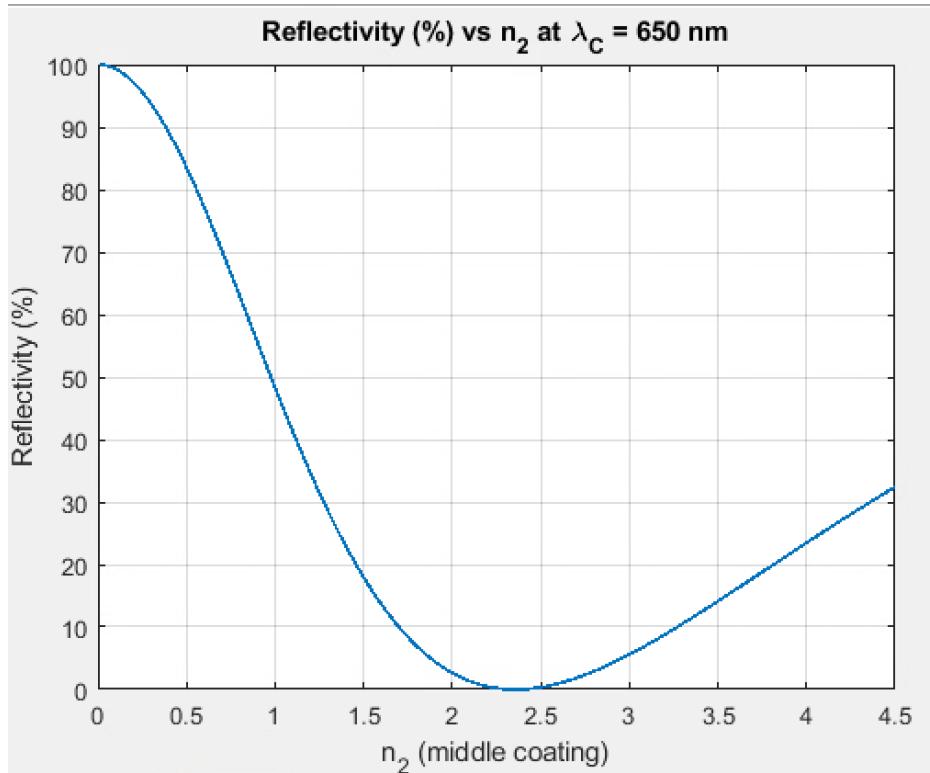


Figure 5.32: Plot of the Reflectivity (as a percentage) vs.  $n_2$  for optimal value of  $n_2$  (triple-layer).

**Part3\_c**

**n\_1 = 1.40**

**n\_2 = 3.15**

**Minimum reflectivity at n\_2 = 2.36**

Figure 5.33: Simulated optimal value of  $n_2$  (triple-layer)

Part 4 – (a) and (b)– Code, Flowchart and Virtual Simulations

Flow Chart for *Figure 5.34-5.37*

1. Start the program.
2. Clear all variables, the command window, and any open figures.
3. Define constants:
  - o Set the refractive indices for air, the first coating, the second coating, and the substrate.
  - o Define the design wavelength (650 nm).
  - o Assign the imaginary unit  $j$  for later use in complex calculations.
4. Calculate Fresnel coefficients for fixed boundaries:
  - o Compute the reflection and transmission behavior at the air–first-coating interface.
  - o Compute the same properties for the second-coating–substrate interface.
  - o Store both results in  $2 \times 2$  matrices that describe how light reflects and transmits at these surfaces.
5. Define quarter-wave propagation at the design wavelength:
  - o Create a propagation matrix that represents how light travels through a single optical layer at  $\lambda = 650$  nm.
6. Create the  $n_2$  sweep range:
  - o Generate a range of possible middle-layer refractive-index values (from 0 to 4.5).
  - o Prepare an empty array to store the reflectivity results for each  $n_2$  value.
7. Loop through all possible  $n_2$  values:
  - o For each  $n_2$  in the range:
    - a. Calculate how light reflects and transmits between each adjacent layer (first-to-middle and middle-to-second).
    - b. Build interface matrices for those transitions.
    - c. Combine all matrices (interfaces + propagation) to form a full system that represents the entire optical stack.
    - d. Determine how much light is reflected overall.
    - e. Save that reflectivity result in the array.
8. Identify the minimum reflectivity:
  - o Scan through all stored values to find which  $n_2$  gives the smallest reflectivity.
  - o Save that optimal  $n_2$  value for reporting.
9. Plot the results:
  - o Display reflectivity (as %) versus the middle-layer index  $n_2$ .
  - o Label the axes and show a clear title indicating  $\lambda_C = 650$  nm.
  - o Add gridlines for readability.
10. Print numerical results:
  - o Output the fixed layer indices ( $n_1, n_3, n_4$ ).
  - o Report the specific  $n_2$  value where minimum reflectivity occurs.
11. Set parameters for transmission analysis:
  - o Define how many samples of  $n_2$  will be evaluated.
  - o Create a linear range of  $n_2$  values between 1.4 and 3.0.
12. Compute total transmitted power:
  - o Run a helper function to calculate total transmitted power across all wavelengths for two cases:
    - One limited to 400–1400 nm (visible + near IR).

- Another extended 200–2200 nm (broader solar spectrum).
- Each computation determines how much light passes through the stack at each  $n_2$  value.
13. Plot the transmitted-power results:
- Plot both wavelength-range results on the same figure for comparison.
  - Use distinct colors and labels to differentiate the two ranges.
  - Add a title, axis labels, legend, and grid.
14. Print key results:
- Display the maximum transmitted power and the  $n_2$  value where it occurs for both wavelength ranges.
15. Set up wavelength and irradiance arrays:
- Create a wavelength range between the start and end limits.
  - Compute a matching array of phase shifts and solar spectral irradiance.
  - Initialize storage for total-power results.
16. Loop through each  $n_2$  value:
- For every  $n_2$ :
    - a. Calculate how light reflects and transmits between layers.
    - b. Create propagation matrices for each wavelength to represent optical travel within the film.
    - c. Combine all interface and propagation matrices to simulate the full system.
    - d. Determine how much light passes through (transmission).
    - e. Multiply by the solar irradiance at each wavelength to find total transmitted power.
    - f. Store that total power for this  $n_2$  value.
17. Return total-power data:
- Send back the computed power values so they can be plotted and analyzed in the main script.

Code for *Figure 5.34-5.37*

```

1 clc; clear; close all;
2
3 %Constants
4 n_0 = 1.0; % Incident medium (air)
5 n_1 = 1.4; % First coating (fixed)
6 n_3 = 3.15;% Second coating (fixed, adjacent to substrate)
7 n_4 = 3.5; % Substrate (cell)
8 Lambda_C = 650; % Center wavelength [nm]
9 j = 1i; % Imaginary unit
10
11 % (A) Reflectivity vs. n2 at λC = 650 nm
12 % Fresnel coefficients for fixed boundaries
13 r01 = (n_0 - n_1) / (n_0 + n_1);
14 t01 = 2 * n_0 / (n_0 + n_1);
15 Q01 = (1 / t01) * [1 r01; r01 1];
16
17 r35 = (n_3 - n_4) / (n_3 + n_4);
18 t35 = 2 * n_3 / (n_3 + n_4);
19 Q35 = (1 / t35) * [1 r35; r35 1];
20
21 % Quarter-wave propagation at λC
22 Delta = pi / 2;
23 P = [exp(j * Delta) 0; 0 exp(-j * Delta)];
24
25 % Sweep n2 from 0 to 4.5
26 n_2_range = 0:0.01:4.50;
27 Store_Reflectance = zeros(1, numel(n_2_range));
28
29 % Loop over all possible n2 values
30 for i = 1:numel(n_2_range)
31 n_2 = n_2_range(i);
32
33 % Intermediate Fresnel terms
34 r12 = (n_1 - n_2) / (n_1 + n_2);

```

Figure 5.34: Code for minimum reflectivity and maximum power transmission using a refractive index sweep – (1 of 4)

```

35 t12 = 2 * n_1 / (n_1 + n_2);
36 Q12 = (1 / t12) * [1 r12; r12 1];
37
38 r23 = (n_2 - n_3) / (n_2 + n_3);
39 t23 = 2 * n_2 / (n_2 + n_3);
40 Q23 = (1 / t23) * [1 r23; r23 1];
41
42 % Transfer matrix chain: air → n1 → n2 → n3 → substrate
43 T = Q01 * P * Q12 * P * Q23 * P * Q3S;
44
45 % Reflection coefficient Γ and reflectivity R = |Γ|^2
46 Gamma = T(2,1) / T(1,1);
47 Store_Reflectance(i) = abs(Gamma)^2;
48
49
50 % Minimum reflectivity and corresponding n2
51 [~, Min_Index] = min(Store_Reflectance);
52 min_n_2 = n_2_range(Min_Index);
53
54 % Plot Results
55 figure;
56 plot(n_2_range, Store_Reflectance * 100, 'LineWidth', 2);
57 grid on;
58 title('Reflectivity vs n_2 at λ_C = 650 nm (Triple Layer)', 'FontSize', 22);
59 xlabel('n_2', 'FontSize', 22);
60 ylabel('Reflectivity (%)', 'FontSize', 22);
61
62 %Print Results
63 fprintf('n_1 = %.2f, n_3 = %.2f, n_4 = %.2f\n', n_1, n_3, n_4);
64 fprintf('Minimum Reflectivity at λ_C: n_2 = %.2f\n', min_n_2);
65
66 % (B) Total Transmitted Power vs. n2 for two wavelength ranges
67

```

Figure 5.35: Code for minimum reflectivity and maximum power transmission using a refractive index sweep – (2 of 4)

```

68 num_N_2 = 300; % Number of discrete n_2 samples
69 Store_n_2 = linspace(1.4, 3.0, num_N_2);
70
71 % Compute total transmitted power for each n_2
72 Store_Total_Power_400_1400 = computeTotalPower(...
73 400, 1400, Q01, Q3S, n_0, n_1, n_3, n_4, Lambda_C, num_N_2, Store_n_2);
74
75 Store_Total_Power_200_2200 = computeTotalPower(...
76 200, 2200, Q01, Q3S, n_0, n_1, n_3, n_4, Lambda_C, num_N_2, Store_n_2);
77
78 %Plot Results
79 figure;
80 plot(Store_n_2, Store_Total_Power_400_1400, 'r', 'LineWidth', 1.8); hold on;
81 plot(Store_n_2, Store_Total_Power_200_2200, 'b', 'LineWidth', 1.8);
82 grid on;
83 title('Transmitted Power vs n_2 (Triple Layer)', 'FontSize', 18);
84 xlabel('n_2', 'FontSize', 22);
85 ylabel('Total Power (W/m^2)', 'FontSize', 22);
86 legend('Wavelength 400-1400 nm', 'Wavelength 200-2200 nm', 'Location', 'best');
87
88 %Print Results
89 [max_Power_1, idx1] = max(Store_Total_Power_400_1400);
90 fprintf('Max Power (400-1400 nm): %.2f W/m^2 at n_2 = %.2f\n', ...
91 max_Power_1, Store_n_2(idx1));
92
93 [max_Power_2, idx2] = max(Store_Total_Power_200_2200);
94 fprintf('Max Power (200-2200 nm): %.2f W/m^2 at n_2 = %.2f\n', ...
95 max_Power_2, Store_n_2(idx2));
96
97
98 % Helper Function - Compute Total Transmitted Power
99 function Store_Total_Power = computeTotalPower(Lambda_Start, Lambda_End, ...
100 Q01, Q3S, n_0, n_1, n_3, n_4, Lambda_C, numN2, Store_n_2)
101

```

Figure 5.36: Code for minimum reflectivity and maximum power transmission using a refractive index sweep – (3 of 4)

```

102 % Wavelength and irradiance arrays
103 Lambda_Array = Lambda_Start:Lambda_End;
104 Delta_Array = (pi / 2) * (Lambda_C ./ Lambda_Array);
105 IRRAD_Array = 6.16e15 ./ (Lambda_Array.^5 .* (exp(2484 ./ Lambda_Array) - 1));
106
107 Store_Total_Power = zeros(1, numN2);
108
109 % Loop over each n2 value
110 for idx = 1:numN2
111 n_2 = Store_n_2(idx);
112
113 % Fresnel terms for layer transitions
114 r12 = (n_1 - n_2) / (n_1 + n_2);
115 r23 = (n_2 - n_3) / (n_2 + n_3);
116 t12 = 2 * n_1 / (n_1 + n_2);
117 t23 = 2 * n_2 / (n_2 + n_3);
118 Q12 = (1 / t12) * [1 r12; r12 1];
119 Q23 = (1 / t23) * [1 r23; r23 1];
120
121 % Propagation phase matrix elements
122 Pcol = [exp(1j * Delta_Array); exp(-1j * Delta_Array)];
123 Tcol = zeros(2, numel(Lambda_Array)); % Holds field values per λ
124
125 % Loop through wavelength spectrum
126 for k = 1:numel(Lambda_Array)
127 P = [Pcol(1, k) 0; 0 Pcol(2, k)];
128 Tcol(:, k) = Q01 * P * Q12 * P * Q23 * P * Q35 * [1; 0];
129 end
130
131 % Transmission and total power calculation
132 Tau = 1 ./ Tcol(1, :);
133 Trans = (abs(Tau).^2) * (n_4 / n_0);
134 Store_Total_Power(idx) = sum(Trans .* IRRAD_Array);
135 end

```

Figure 5.37: Code for minimum reflectivity and maximum power transmission using a refractive index sweep – (4 of 4)

## Virtual Simulations for *Figure 5.38-5.40*

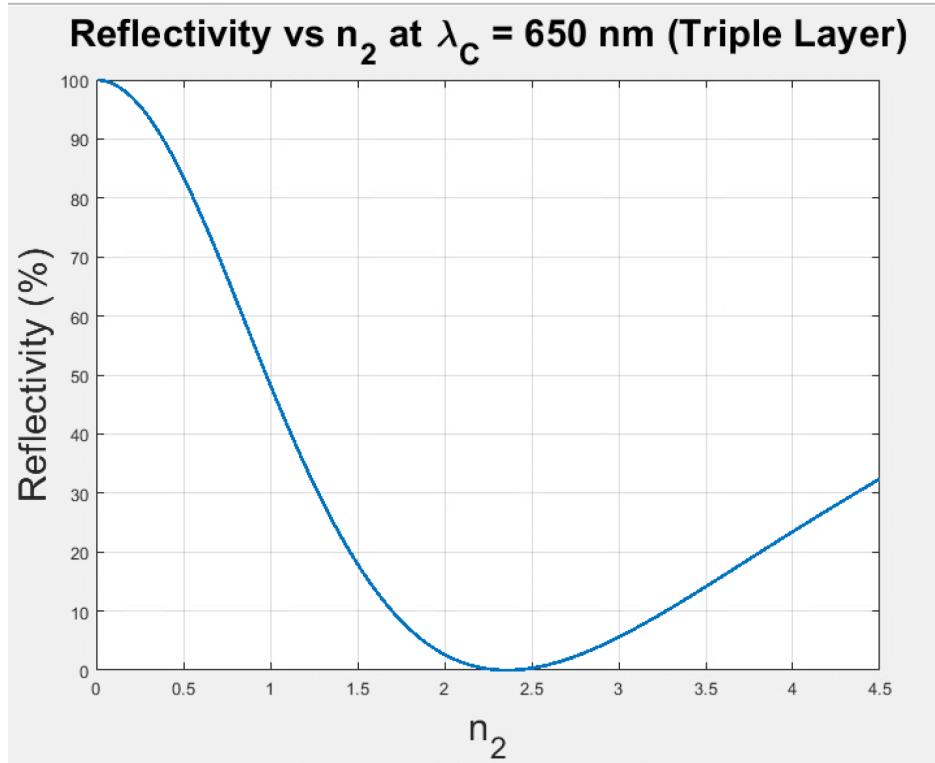


Figure 5.38: Plot of Reflectivity (%) vs.  $n_2$  for triple-layer to identify minimum reflectivity.

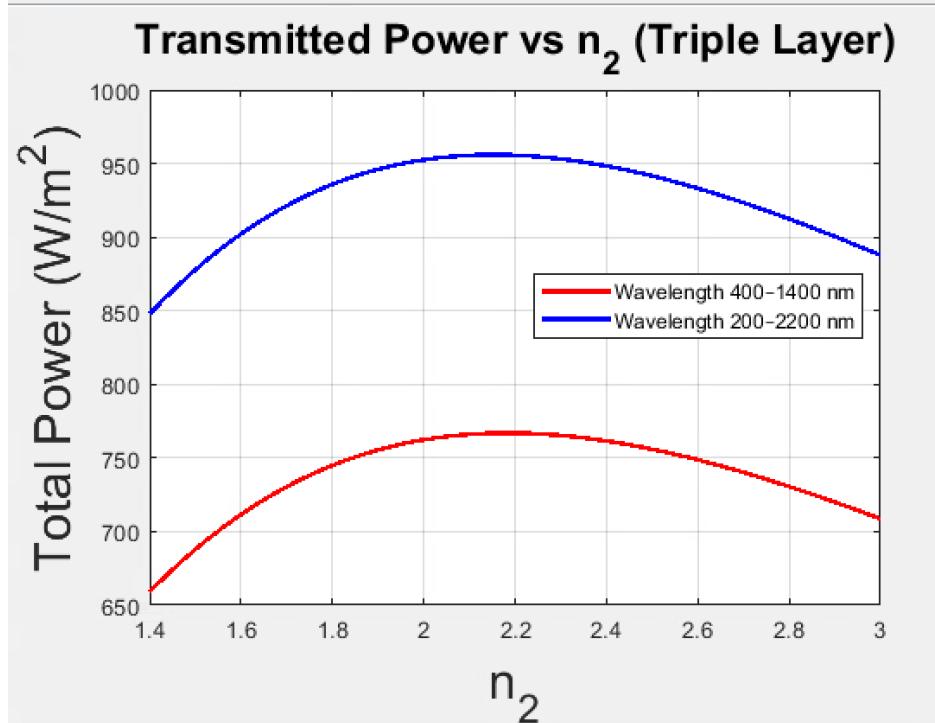


Figure 5.39: Plot of Total Transmitted Power vs.  $n_2$  for triple-layer.

```

n_1 = 1.40, n_3 = 3.15, n_4 = 3.50
Minimum Reflectivity at λ_C: n_2 = 2.36

```

```

Max Power (400-1400 nm): 766.95 W/m² at n_2 = 2.18
Max Power (200-2200 nm): 955.95 W/m² at n_2 = 2.15

```

Figure 5.40: Result of Total Transmitted Power vs.  $n_2$  for triple-layer.

## Appendix A:

Hence, the transmissivity,  $\Gamma$ , and reflectivity,  $\tau$ , coefficients across the double-layer system can be calculated using the refractive indices, as seen below:

$$\begin{aligned}\Gamma_{0,1} &= \frac{n_0 - n_1}{n_0 + n_1}, & \tau_{0,1} &= \frac{2n_0}{n_0 + n_1} \\ \Gamma_{1,2} &= \frac{n_1 - n_2}{n_1 + n_2}, & \tau_{1,2} &= \frac{2n_1}{n_1 + n_2} \\ \Gamma_{2,3} &= \frac{n_2 - n_3}{n_2 + n_3}, & \tau_{2,3} &= \frac{2n_2}{n_2 + n_3}\end{aligned}$$

The transmissivity,  $\Gamma$ , and reflectivity,  $\tau$ , coefficients for the dynamic matrices  $Q$  can be calculated by:

$$\begin{aligned}Q_{0,1} &= \frac{1}{\tau_{0,1}} \begin{bmatrix} 1 & \Gamma_{0,1} \\ \Gamma_{0,1} & 1 \end{bmatrix} \\ Q_{1,2} &= \frac{1}{\tau_{1,2}} \begin{bmatrix} 1 & \Gamma_{1,2} \\ \Gamma_{1,2} & 1 \end{bmatrix} \\ Q_{2,3} &= \frac{1}{\tau_{2,3}} \begin{bmatrix} 1 & \Gamma_{2,3} \\ \Gamma_{2,3} & 1 \end{bmatrix}\end{aligned}$$

Additionally, the phase thickness  $\delta_m$  is given by:

$$\delta_m = \frac{2\pi n_m d_m}{\lambda} \text{ where } d_m = \frac{\lambda_c}{4n_m}$$

The thickness of each layer of the anti-reflective coating is given by  $d_m$ . It is stated that:

$$\delta_m = \frac{\pi}{2} \text{ at the center wavelength } \lambda_c = 650 \text{ nm.}$$

Hence, two propagation matrices  $P$  are calculated using:

$$P_m = \begin{bmatrix} \exp(j\delta_m) & 0 \\ 0 & \exp(-j\delta_m) \end{bmatrix}$$

$P_1$  and  $P_2$  are given by the following matrices:

$$P_1 = \begin{bmatrix} \exp(j\delta_1) & 0 \\ 0 & \exp(-j\delta_1) \end{bmatrix} \quad P_2 = \begin{bmatrix} \exp(j\delta_2) & 0 \\ 0 & \exp(-j\delta_2) \end{bmatrix}$$

We can implement these formulas into the transfer matrix  $T$ .

## Appendix B:

### Phase Thickness and Propagation Matrices

Taking the phase thickness  $\delta_m$  at the central wavelength  $\lambda_c = 650$  nm, we have:

$$\delta_m = \frac{2\pi n_m}{\lambda_c} \times \frac{\lambda_c}{4n_m} = \frac{\pi}{2}$$

We now calculate matrices  $P_1$  and  $P_2$ :

$$P_1 = \begin{bmatrix} \exp(j\frac{\pi}{2}) & 0 \\ 0 & \exp(-j\frac{\pi}{2}) \end{bmatrix} = j \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & -1 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$P_2 = \begin{bmatrix} \exp(j\frac{\pi}{2}) & 0 \\ 0 & \exp(-j\frac{\pi}{2}) \end{bmatrix} = j \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & -1 \end{bmatrix}$$

### Dynamic Matrices $Q$

The dynamic matrices  $Q$  can be calculated by:

$$Q_{0,1} = \frac{1}{\tau_{0,1}} \begin{bmatrix} 1 & \Gamma_{0,1} \\ \Gamma_{0,1} & 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$Q_{1,2} = \frac{1}{\tau_{1,2}} \begin{bmatrix} 1 & \Gamma_{1,2} \\ \Gamma_{1,2} & 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$Q_{2,3} = \frac{1}{\tau_{2,3}} \begin{bmatrix} 1 & \Gamma_{2,3} \\ \Gamma_{2,3} & 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

We now calculate the transfer matrix  $T$ :

$$T = Q_{0,1} P_1 Q_{1,2} P_2 Q_{2,3}$$

Implementing  $P_1$ ,  $P_2$ ,  $Q_{0,1}$ ,  $Q_{1,2}$ , and  $Q_{2,3}$  into the transfer matrix  $T$ :

$$T = \frac{j^2}{\tau_{0,1}\tau_{1,2}\tau_{2,3}} \begin{bmatrix} 1 & \Gamma_{0,1} \\ \Gamma_{0,1} & 1 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & -1 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} 1 & \Gamma_{1,2} \\ \Gamma_{1,2} & 1 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & -1 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} 1 & \Gamma_{2,3} \\ \Gamma_{2,3} & 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

Simplifying:

$$\begin{aligned} T &= \begin{bmatrix} 1 - \Gamma_{0,1}\Gamma_{1,2} & \Gamma_{0,1} - \Gamma_{1,2} \\ \Gamma_{0,1} - \Gamma_{1,2} & 1 - \Gamma_{0,1}\Gamma_{1,2} \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} 1 & \Gamma_{2,3} \\ \Gamma_{2,3} & 1 \end{bmatrix} \\ T &= \begin{bmatrix} 1 - \Gamma_{0,1}\Gamma_{1,2} + (\Gamma_{0,1} - \Gamma_{1,2})\Gamma_{2,3} & (1 - \Gamma_{0,1}\Gamma_{1,2})\Gamma_{2,3} + \Gamma_{0,1} - \Gamma_{1,2} \\ \Gamma_{0,1} - \Gamma_{1,2} + (1 - \Gamma_{0,1}\Gamma_{1,2})\Gamma_{2,3} & (\Gamma_{0,1} - \Gamma_{1,2})\Gamma_{2,3} + 1 - \Gamma_{0,1}\Gamma_{1,2} \end{bmatrix} \end{aligned}$$

### Reflection Coefficient and Reflectance

We now calculate the reflection coefficient  $R$ :

$$R = |\Gamma|^2 = \left| \frac{T_{2,1}}{T_{1,1}} \right|^2 = \left| \frac{\Gamma_{0,1} - \Gamma_{1,2} + (1 - \Gamma_{0,1}\Gamma_{1,2})\Gamma_{2,3}}{1 - \Gamma_{0,1}\Gamma_{1,2} + (\Gamma_{0,1} - \Gamma_{1,2})\Gamma_{2,3}} \right|^2$$

In order to find  $n_2$ , we extrapolate from the following:

$$T = \frac{T_{2,1}}{T_{1,1}}$$

Where:

$$\begin{aligned} T_{1,1} &= 1 - \Gamma_{0,1}\Gamma_{1,2} + (\Gamma_{0,1} - \Gamma_{1,2})\Gamma_{2,3} \\ T_{2,1} &= \Gamma_{0,1} - \Gamma_{1,2} + (1 - \Gamma_{0,1}\Gamma_{1,2})\Gamma_{2,3} \end{aligned}$$

We can derive the following relationship:

$$\begin{aligned} n_0 n_2^2 &= \frac{n_{\text{cell}} n_1^2}{n_0} \\ n_2 &= \sqrt{\frac{n_{\text{cell}} n_1^2}{n_0}} \end{aligned}$$

For  $n_0 = 1$ :

$$n_2 = \sqrt{n_{\text{cell}} n_1^2}$$

## Appendix C:

### Derivation for Analytical $n_2$ for 3-Layer Coating

Using our previous 2-layer model for the Total Matrix T, we can extend this out to a 3<sup>rd</sup> layer:

$$T = Q_{0,1} P_1 Q_{1,2} P_2 Q_{2,3} P_3 Q_{3,4}$$

$$\begin{aligned} T &= \frac{j^3}{\tau_{0,1}\tau_{1,2}\tau_{2,3}} \begin{bmatrix} 1 & \Gamma_{0,1} \\ \Gamma_{0,1} & 1 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ \Gamma_{1,2} & 1 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ \Gamma_{2,3} & 1 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ \Gamma_{3,4} & 1 \end{bmatrix} \\ T &= \begin{bmatrix} 1 - \Gamma_{0,1}\Gamma_{1,2} & \Gamma_{0,1} - \Gamma_{1,2} \\ \Gamma_{0,1} - \Gamma_{1,2} & 1 - \Gamma_{0,1}\Gamma_{1,2} \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} 1 & \Gamma_{2,3} \\ \Gamma_{2,3} & 1 \end{bmatrix} \\ T &= \begin{bmatrix} 1 - \Gamma_{0,1}\Gamma_{1,2} + (\Gamma_{0,1} - \Gamma_{1,2})\Gamma_{2,3} & (\Gamma_{0,1} - \Gamma_{1,2})\Gamma_{2,3} + \Gamma_{0,1} - \Gamma_{1,2} \\ \Gamma_{0,1} - \Gamma_{1,2} + (1 - \Gamma_{0,1}\Gamma_{1,2})\Gamma_{2,3} & (\Gamma_{0,1} - \Gamma_{1,2})\Gamma_{2,3} + 1 - \Gamma_{0,1}\Gamma_{1,2} \end{bmatrix} \\ T_{21} &= (\Gamma_{0,1} - \Gamma_{1,2})(1 - \Gamma_{2,3}\Gamma_{3,4}) + (1 - \Gamma_{0,1}\Gamma_{1,2})(\Gamma_{2,3} - \Gamma_{3,4}) \\ T_{11} &= (\Gamma_{0,1}\Gamma_{1,2})(1 - \Gamma_{2,3}\Gamma_{3,4}) + (\Gamma_{0,1} - \Gamma_{1,2})(\Gamma_{2,3} - \Gamma_{3,4}) \end{aligned}$$

We can note that  $\Gamma = 0$  when we want to maximize transmission:

$$\Gamma = \frac{T_{21}}{T_{11}} = \frac{(\Gamma_{0,1} - \Gamma_{1,2})(1 - \Gamma_{2,3}\Gamma_{3,4}) + (1 - \Gamma_{0,1}\Gamma_{1,2})(\Gamma_{2,3} - \Gamma_{3,4})}{(\Gamma_{0,1}\Gamma_{1,2})(1 - \Gamma_{2,3}\Gamma_{3,4}) + (\Gamma_{0,1} - \Gamma_{1,2})(\Gamma_{2,3} - \Gamma_{3,4})} = 0$$

Calculation for  $\Gamma$  for each layer:

$$\begin{aligned} \Gamma_{0,1} &= \frac{n_0 - n_1}{n_0 + n_1}, \Gamma_{1,2} = \frac{n_1 - n_2}{n_1 + n_2}, \Gamma_{2,3} = \frac{n_2 - n_3}{n_2 + n_3}, \Gamma_{3,4} = \frac{n_3 - n_4}{n_3 + n_4} \\ T_{21} &= \Gamma_{0,1} - \Gamma_{0,1}\Gamma_{1,2}\Gamma_{3,4} - \Gamma_{1,2} + \Gamma_{1,2}\Gamma_{2,3}\Gamma_{3,4} + \Gamma_{2,3} - \Gamma_{3,4} \\ &\quad - \Gamma_{0,1}\Gamma_{1,2}\Gamma_{2,3} + \Gamma_{0,1}\Gamma_{1,2}\Gamma_{3,4} \\ &= \frac{n_0 - n_1}{n_0 + n_1} - \frac{n_0 - n_1}{n_0 + n_1} \frac{n_2 - n_3}{n_2 + n_3} \frac{n_3 - n_4}{n_3 + n_4} - \frac{n_1 - n_2}{n_1 + n_2} \\ &\quad + \frac{n_1 - n_2}{n_1 + n_2} \frac{n_2 - n_3}{n_2 + n_3} \frac{n_3 - n_4}{n_3 + n_4} + \frac{n_2 - n_3}{n_2 + n_3} - \frac{n_3 - n_4}{n_3 + n_4} \\ &\quad - \frac{n_0 - n_1}{n_0 + n_1} \frac{n_1 - n_2}{n_1 + n_2} \frac{n_2 - n_3}{n_2 + n_3} + \frac{n_0 - n_1}{n_0 + n_1} \frac{n_1 - n_2}{n_1 + n_2} \frac{n_3 - n_4}{n_3 + n_4} \\ 2n_0 n_4 n_2^2 - 2n_1^2 n_3^2 &= 0 \\ n_2^2 &= \frac{n_1^2 n_3^2}{n_0 n_4} \end{aligned}$$

The above expression can be simplified to:

$$n_2 = \frac{n_1 n_3}{\sqrt{n_0 n_4}}.$$