refract ray

here is comment in Triangulate.refractRay() of project underwater-camera-calibration

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# - 'rayDir' is the vector of the incoming ray
# - 'planeNormal' is the plane normal of the refracting interface
# - 'n1' is the refraction index of the medium the ray travels
>FROM<
# - 'n2' is the refractio index of the medium the ray travels >TO<</pre>
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table of symbol

SMYBOL	MEANING
v_1	unit direction vector (FROM)
v_2	unit direction vector (TO)
n	unit normal vector of interface plane (FROM / TO)
n_1	refraction index (FROM)
n_2	refraction index (TO)
$ heta_1$	angle (FROM)
$ heta_2$	angle (TO)

analysis

We should notice that n is opposed to the incoming ray direction v_1 :

$$v_1^T n < 0, v_1^T v_1 = v_2^T v_2 = n^T n = 1$$

Now that we know all the parameters except v_2 , we need derive the expression of v_2 with other variables v_1, n, n_1, n_2

reconstruct vector

and notice cross product matrix $n \times n \times = nn^T - I$ and $n^T n = 1$:

$$egin{aligned} |v_1|\cos heta_1 &\equiv rac{-v_1^Tn}{|n|} = -v_1^Tn \ |v_1|^2\sin^2 heta_1 &\equiv \left|v_1-(-n)rac{(-n^Tv_1)}{n^Tn}
ight|^2 = \left|v_1-rac{nn^T}{n^Tn}v_1
ight|^2 = \left|(I-nn^T)v_1
ight|^2 \ &= \left|-n imes(n imes v_1)
ight|^2 = v_1^T(I-nn^T)^T(I-nn^T)v_1 \ &= v_1^T(I-nn^T)(I-nn^T)v_1 \ &= v_1^T(I-nn^T)v_1 = v_1^T[-n imes n imes v_1]v_1 \ &= v_1^Tv_1-[v_1^Tn]^2 \ v_1 &\equiv nn^Tv_1+(I-nn^T)v_1 = n(n^Tv_1)-n imes(n imes v_1) \ &= (-n)|v_1|\cos heta_1 + rac{[-n imes(n imes v_1)]}{|-n imes(n imes v_1)|}|v_1|\sin heta_1 \end{aligned}$$

Use $v_1^T v_1 = 1$:

$$egin{aligned} \sin heta_1 &= \sqrt{rac{v_1^T v_1 - [v_1^T n]^2}{v_1^T v_1}} = \sqrt{1 - [v_1^T n]^2} \ v_1 &= (-n) \cos heta_1 + rac{[-n imes (n imes v_1)]}{|-n imes (n imes v_1)|} \sin heta_1 \end{aligned}$$

For the same reason, $v_2^Tv_2=1$, and v_1,v_2,n in the same plane: $n\times v_1,n\times v_2$ are linear related, and $v_1^Tn<0,v_2^Tn<0$:

$$rac{[-n imes(n imes v_1)]}{|-n imes(n imes v_1)|} = rac{[-n imes(n imes v_2)]}{|-n imes(n imes v_2)|}$$

We want to reconstruct v_2 with n, v_1 , similarly: here is decomposition of orthogonal basis, because $n^T[n \times n \times v_1] = n^T[nn^T - I]v_1 = 0^Tv_1 = 0$

$$egin{aligned} v_2 &= (-n)\cos heta_2 + rac{[-n imes(n imes v_2)]}{|-n imes(n imes v_2)|}\sin heta_2 \ &= (-n)\cos heta_2 + rac{[-n imes(n imes v_1)]}{|-n imes(n imes v_1)|}\sin heta_2 \end{aligned}$$

Snell's Law

From previous formula, only things are missing to reconstruct v_2 is $\sin\theta_2,\cos\theta_2$

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

We want to express θ_1, θ_2 with parameters that we know v_1, n, n_1, n_2 ,

$$egin{aligned} \cos heta_1 &= -v_1^T n \ \sin heta_1 &= \sqrt{rac{v_1^T v_1 - [v_1^T n]^2}{v_1^T v_1}} = \sqrt{1 - [v_1^T n]^2} \ \sin heta_2 &= rac{n_1}{n_2} \sin heta_1 = rac{n_1}{n_2} \sqrt{1 - [v_1^T n]^2} \ \cos heta_2 &= \sqrt{1 - (rac{n_1}{n_2})^2 (1 - [v_1^T n]^2)} \end{aligned}$$

Represent $\frac{[-n\times(n\times v_1)]}{|-n\times(n\times v_1)|}$ with v_1,n :

$$egin{aligned} rac{[-n imes(n imes v_1)]}{|-n imes(n imes v_1)|} &= rac{v_1+n\cos heta_1}{\sin heta_1} \ rac{[-n imes(n imes v_1)]}{|-n imes(n imes v_1)|} \sin heta_2 &= v_1rac{\sin heta_2}{\sin heta_1} + nrac{\sin heta_2}{\sin heta_1}\cos heta_1 \ &= v_1(rac{n_1}{n_2}) - nn^Tv_1(rac{n_1}{n_2}) \ &= (I-nn^T)v_1(rac{n_1}{n_2}) \ &= -n imes(n imes v_1)(rac{n_1}{n_2}) \end{aligned}$$

Eventually, represent v_2 with v_1, n, n_1, n_2

$$egin{aligned} v_2 &= (-n)\cos heta_2 + rac{[-n imes(n imes v_1)]}{|-n imes(n imes v_1)|}\sin heta_2 \ &= nigg[-\sqrt{1-(rac{n_1}{n_2})^2(1-[v_1^Tn]^2)}igg] + v_1(rac{n_1}{n_2}) - nigg[n^Tv_1(rac{n_1}{n_2})igg] \ &= nigg[(rac{n_1}{n_2})[-n^Tv_1] - \sqrt{1-(rac{n_1}{n_2})^2(1-[v_1^Tn]^2)}igg] + v_1(rac{n_1}{n_2}) \end{aligned}$$

Consider all the possible values of v1

If the family of vector v_1 are always on the same plane, the unit normal vector of this plane is π , always holds:

$$\pi^T v_1 = 0$$

We want to prove always exist A,B
eq 0 for any v_1 that holds $\pi^T v_1 = 0$, make sure

$$\begin{split} (A\pi + Bn)^T v_2 &= 0 \\ &= A[\pi^T n] \left[(\frac{n_1}{n_2})[-n^T v_1] - \sqrt{1 - (\frac{n_1}{n_2})^2 (1 - [v_1^T n]^2)} \right] \\ &- B \sqrt{1 - (\frac{n_1}{n_2})^2 (1 - [v_1^T n]^2)} \\ &= A[\pi^T n] (\frac{n_1}{n_2})[-n^T v_1] \\ &- \left[A[\pi^T n] + B \right] \sqrt{1 - (\frac{n_1}{n_2})^2 (1 - [v_1^T n]^2)} \\ \frac{A[\pi^T n] + B}{A[\pi^T n]} &= \frac{(\frac{n_1}{n_2})[-n^T v_1]}{\sqrt{1 - (\frac{n_1}{n_2})^2 (1 - [v_1^T n]^2)}} \end{split}$$

So, constant A, B don't exist when v_1 keeps changing