

ELECTROMAGNETISM

Professor D P Hampshire – Summary notes for lectures 18+19+20

14 Electromagnetic fields and waves crossing interfaces

Pauli: “God made the bulk, but the devil has the surfaces”

14.1 Boundary Conditions across the interfacial plane between two dielectrics

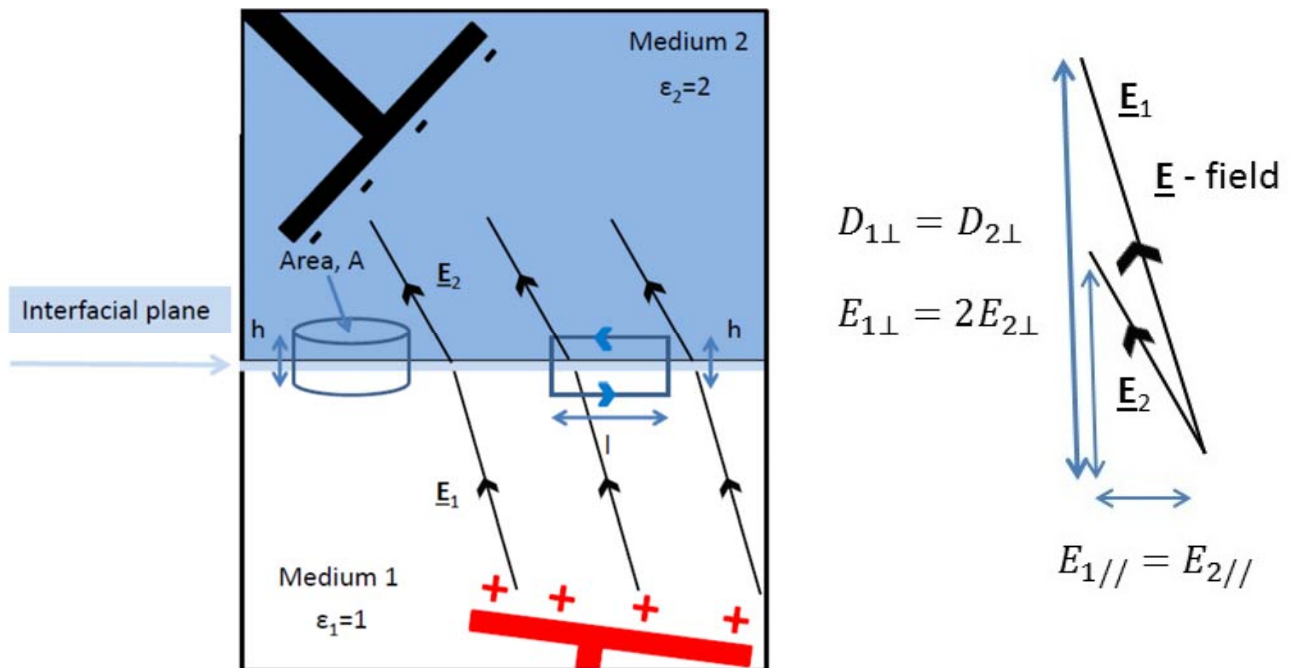


Figure 1 : (LHS) Two charged capacitor plates immersed in two dielectrics. The direction and magnitude of a dc. electric field is different from one side of the dielectric interface to the other. The arrows give the direction of the dc. E-fields on either side of the interfacial plane (Nb. This is not a ray diagram). (RHS). Maxwell’s equations require that the displacement field orthogonal to the interfacial plane is continuous (i.e. $D_{1\perp} = D_{2\perp}$ or equivalently $\epsilon_1 E_{1\perp} = \epsilon_2 E_{2\perp}$) and that the electric field parallel to the interfacial plane is continuous (i.e. $E_{1\parallel} = E_{2\parallel}$).

A) For an insulating material Maxwell I

$$\underline{\nabla} \cdot \underline{D} = \rho_{\text{free}} = 0 \quad 14-1$$

$$\oint \underline{D}_1 \cdot d\underline{S} = - \oint \underline{D}_2 \cdot d\underline{S} \Rightarrow D_{1\perp} = D_{2\perp} \quad 14-2$$

or equivalently

$$\epsilon_1 E_{1\perp} = \epsilon_2 E_{2\perp} \quad (\underline{D} = \epsilon_0 \epsilon_r \underline{E}) \quad 14-3$$

B) Using Maxwell III (consider path B)

$$\underline{\nabla} \times \underline{E} = -\frac{\partial \underline{B}}{\partial t} \quad 14-4$$

$$\oint \underline{E} \cdot d\underline{l} = -\frac{\partial}{\partial t} \int \underline{B} \cdot d\underline{S} \quad 14-5$$

$$E_{1//} l - E_{2//} l = -\frac{\partial \phi}{\partial t} = 0 \quad 14-6$$

The loop area tends to zero

$$\Rightarrow E_{1//} = E_{2//} \quad 14-7$$

D_{\perp} (or equivalently $\epsilon_r E_{\perp}$) and $E_{//}$ are continuous across the interfacial plane between two dielectrics.

14.2 Boundary Conditions across the interfacial plane between two magnetic materials

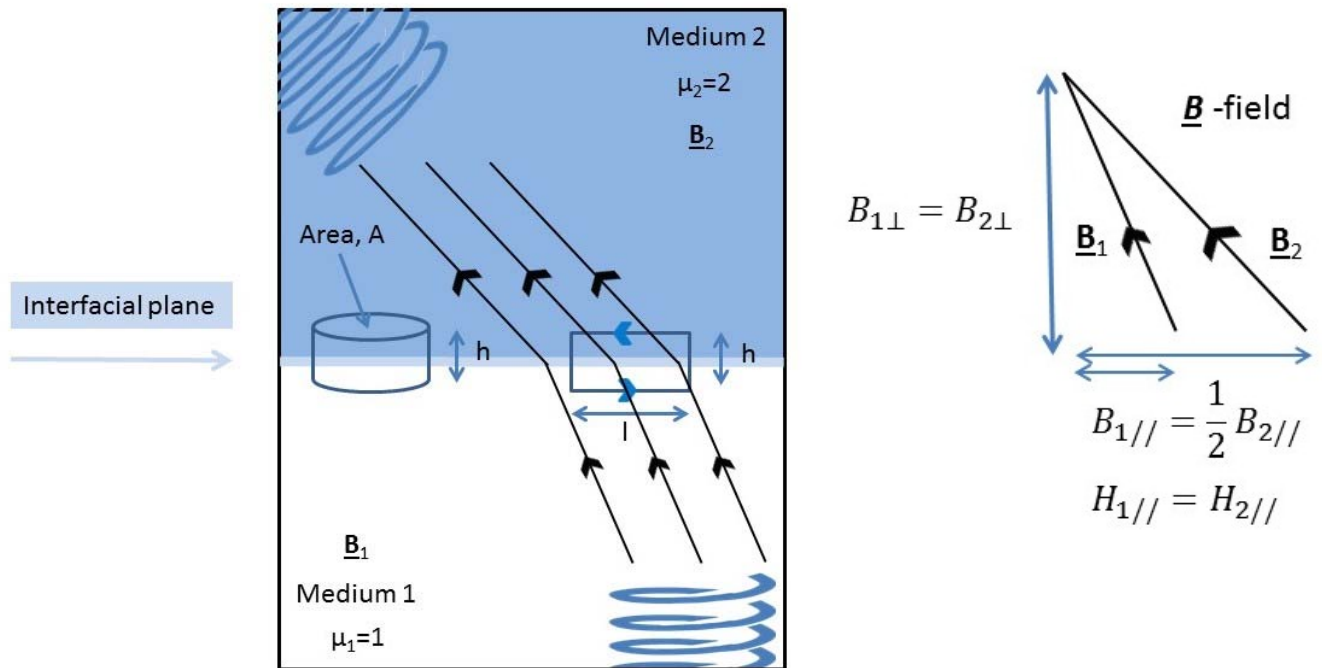


Figure 2 Two magnets immersed in two magnetic materials. The direction and magnitude of a dc. magnetic field from one side of the magnetic interface to the other. The arrows give the direction of the dc. B-field on either side of the interfacial plane (Nb. This is not a ray diagram). (RHS). Maxwell's equations require that the magnetic field orthogonal to the interfacial plane is continuous (i.e. $B_{1\perp} = B_{2\perp}$) and that the field strength parallel to the interfacial plane is continuous (i.e. $H_{1//} = H_{2//}$ or equivalently $B_{1//}/\mu_1 = B_{2//}/\mu_2$).

Maxwell II

$$\int \underline{B} \cdot d\underline{S} = 0 \Rightarrow B_{1\perp} = B_{2\perp} \quad 14-8$$

Maxwell IV

$$\underline{\nabla} \times \underline{B} = \mu_0 \underline{J}_{\text{total}} + \mu_0 \epsilon_0 \frac{\partial \underline{E}}{\partial t} \quad 14-9$$

$$\underline{\nabla} \times \underline{H} = \underline{J}_{\text{free}} + \frac{\partial \underline{D}}{\partial t} \quad 14-10$$

$$\int (\underline{\nabla} \times \underline{H}) \cdot d\underline{S} = \oint \underline{H} \cdot d\underline{l} = \underbrace{\int \underline{J}_{\text{free}} \cdot d\underline{S}}_{\substack{\text{--no free current density} \\ \text{--no free charge density}}} + \int \frac{\partial \underline{\nabla} \cdot \underline{D}}{\partial t} \cdot dV \quad 14-11$$

$$\Rightarrow H_{1//} l = H_{2//} l \Rightarrow H_{1//} = H_{2//} \quad 14-12$$

$\therefore B_{\perp}, H_{//}$ are continuous across the boundary.

14.3 The Laws of geometrical optics

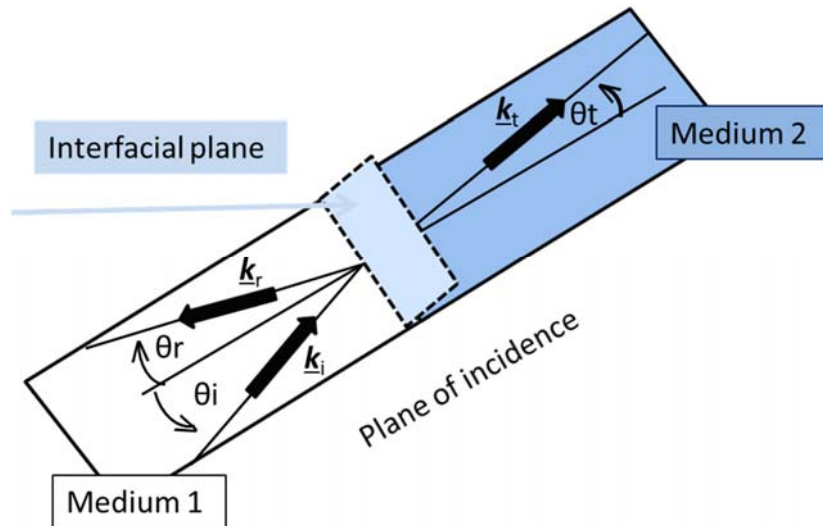


Figure 3 : An electromagnetic wave incident on an interface – it is partially reflected and partially transmitted.

$$\tilde{\underline{E}}_i(\underline{r}, t) = \underline{E}_{0i} \exp(i(\underline{k}_i \cdot \underline{r} - \omega_i t)) \quad 14-13$$

$$\tilde{\underline{E}}_r(\underline{r}, t) = \underline{E}_{0r} \exp(i(\underline{k}_r \cdot \underline{r} - \omega_r t)) \quad 14-14$$

$$\tilde{\underline{E}}_t(\underline{r}, t) = \underline{E}_{0t} \exp(i(\underline{k}_t \cdot \underline{r} - \omega_t t)) \quad 14-15$$

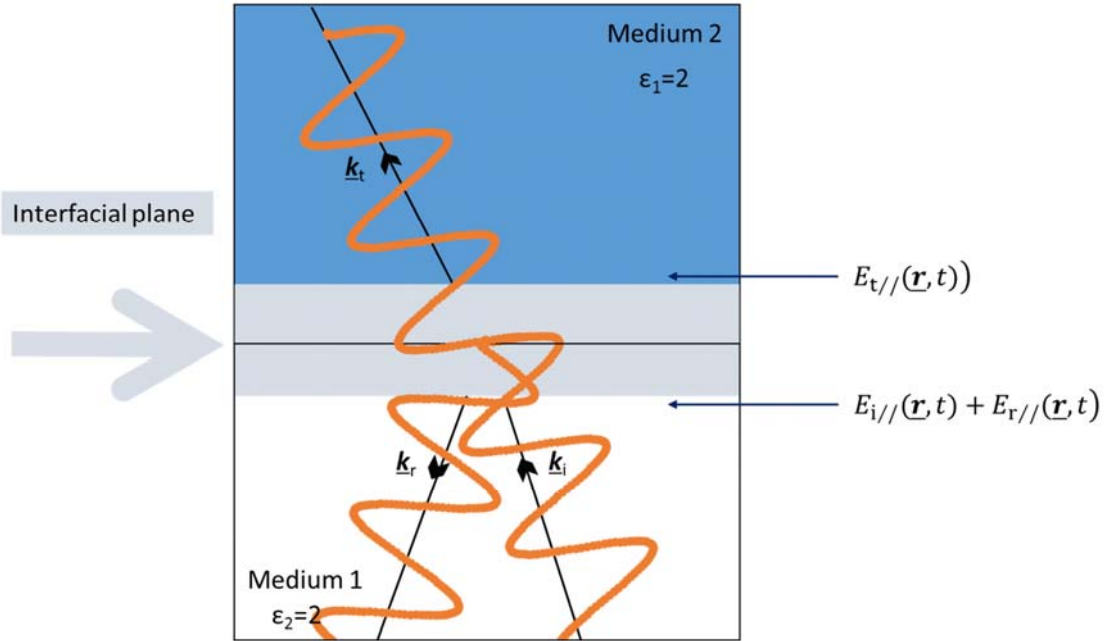


Figure 4 : An electromagnetic wave incident on an interface. After the incident and reflected waves have left the interfacial plane, they superimpose in medium 1. The transmitted wave is the only wave in medium 2.

Across the interfacial plane, the general condition for the continuity of $E_{//}$ (i.e E parallel to the interface) requires:

$$E_{i//}(\underline{r}, t) + E_{r//}(\underline{r}, t) = E_{t//}(\underline{r}, t) \quad 14-16$$

a) $\underline{r} = 0$

$$E_{0i//} e^{-i\omega_i t} + E_{0r//} e^{-i\omega_r t} = E_{0t//} e^{-i\omega_t t} \quad 14-17$$

where

$$E_{0i//}, \quad E_{0r//}, \quad E_{0t//} \quad \text{are all real constants} \quad 14-18$$

$$E_{oi//} \cos \omega_r t + E_{or//} \cos \omega_i t = E_{ot//} \cos \omega_t t \quad 14-19$$

$$\Rightarrow \omega_i = \omega_r = \omega_t \quad 14-20$$

b) $t = 0$

$$E_{oi//} e^{i\mathbf{k}_i \cdot \mathbf{r}} + E_{or//} e^{i\mathbf{k}_r \cdot \mathbf{r}} = E_{ot//} e^{i\mathbf{k}_t \cdot \mathbf{r}} \quad 14-21$$

$$\Rightarrow \mathbf{k}_i \cdot \mathbf{r} = \mathbf{k}_r \cdot \mathbf{r} = \mathbf{k}_t \cdot \mathbf{r} \quad 14-22$$

Consider reflection (i.e. $\mathbf{k}_i \cdot \mathbf{r} = \mathbf{k}_r \cdot \mathbf{r}$):

$$(\mathbf{k}_i - \mathbf{k}_r) \cdot \mathbf{r} = 0 \quad 14-23$$

$$\Rightarrow (\mathbf{k}_i - \mathbf{k}_r) \text{ is normal to the interface} \quad 14-24$$

$$k_{//i} = k_{//r} \quad 14-25$$

$$|\mathbf{k}_i| = |\mathbf{k}_r| \quad 14-26$$

$$\Rightarrow \theta_i = \theta_r - \text{1st law of geometrical optics: Angle of incidence} \\ = \text{Angle of reflection.} \quad 14-27$$

Consider transmission (i.e. $\mathbf{k}_i \cdot \mathbf{r} = \mathbf{k}_t \cdot \mathbf{r}$):

$$(\mathbf{k}_i - \mathbf{k}_t) \cdot \mathbf{r} = 0 \quad 14-28$$

$$\Rightarrow k_{//i} = k_{//t} \quad 14-29$$

$$k_i \sin \theta_i = k_t \sin \theta_t \quad 14-30$$

Using the definition of the refractive index, $n_i = \frac{ck_i}{\omega}$ and $n_t = \frac{ck_t}{\omega}$.

$$\Rightarrow \frac{n_i}{n_t} = \frac{k_i}{k_t} = \frac{\sin \theta_t}{\sin \theta_i} - \text{2nd law of geometrical optics} - \text{Snell's law.} \quad 14-31$$

Note that Snell's law is valid for all polarisations.

From Snell's law, one can if $n_i > n_t$, given $\sin \theta_t \leq 1$

$$\sin \theta_i = \frac{n_t}{n_i} - \text{is the condition for the critical angle.} \quad 14-32$$

Further analysis shows one has an attenuated (evanescent) waves.

Since we can also write down $\underline{k}_r \cdot \underline{r} = \underline{k}_t \cdot \underline{r}$

$$(\underline{k}_r - \underline{k}_t) \cdot \underline{r} = 0 \quad 14-33$$

which gives

$$k_r \sin \theta_r = k_t \sin \theta_t \quad 14-34$$

The constraints on the components of the incident, reflected and transmitted wavevectors parallel to the interfacial plane leads and on the magnitude of the wavevectors in both media leads to:

- 3rd law of geometrical optics. The incident, reflected and transmitted wave are all in the plane of incidence:

14.4 Fresnel's equations - E-field normal to the plane of incidence.

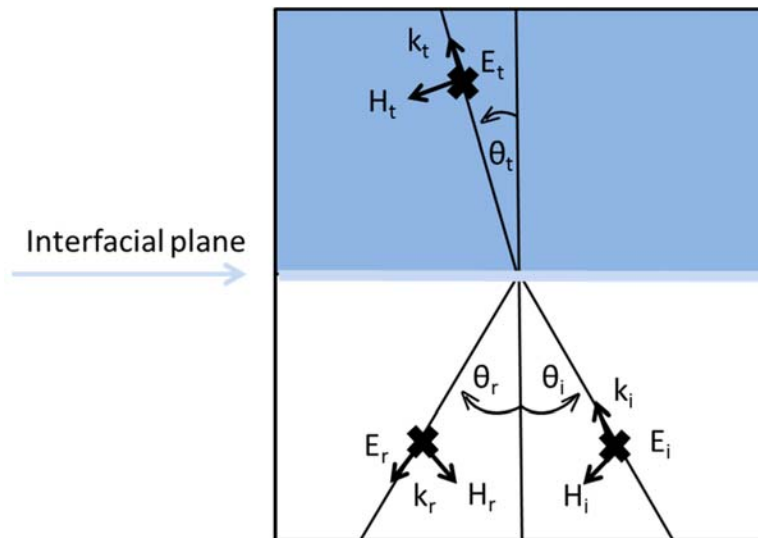


Figure 5 :An electromagnetic wave incident on an interfacial plane where \underline{E} is normal to the plane of incidence.

The continuity of \underline{E} parallel to interfacial plane gives (with $\underline{r} = 0$, $t = 0$)

$$E_{0i} + E_{0r} = E_{0t} \quad (1) \quad 14-35$$

The continuity of \underline{H} parallel to the interfacial plane gives:

$$H_{0i} \cos \theta_i - H_{0r} \cos \theta_r = H_{0t} \cos \theta_t \quad (2) \quad 14-36$$

Using $\underline{\nabla} \times \underline{E} = -\frac{\partial \underline{B}}{\partial t} \Rightarrow \underline{k} \times \underline{E} = \omega \underline{B}$:

$$B = \frac{E}{v_{\text{phase}}} \quad 14-37$$

The refractive index, n , by definition is:

$$n = \frac{c}{v_{\text{phase}}} = \sqrt{\epsilon_r \mu_r} \quad 14-38$$

Using $\underline{B} = \mu_r \mu_0 \underline{H} = \mu \underline{H}$:

$$H = \frac{En}{c\mu}. \quad (3) \quad 14-39$$

$$(n_i E_{0i} - n_r E_{0r}) \cos \theta_i = n_t E_{0t} \cos \theta_t \quad (4) \quad 14-40$$

$$\frac{E_{0r}}{E_{0i}} = \frac{n_i \cos \theta_i - n_t \cos \theta_t}{n_i \cos \theta_i + n_t \cos \theta_t} \quad 14-41$$

$$\frac{E_{0t}}{E_{0i}} = \frac{2n_i \cos \theta_i}{n_i \cos \theta_i + n_t \cos \theta_t} \quad 14-42$$

Fresnel's first 2 equations – \underline{E} normal to plane of incidence.

14.5 Fresnel's equations - E-field parallel to the plane of incidence

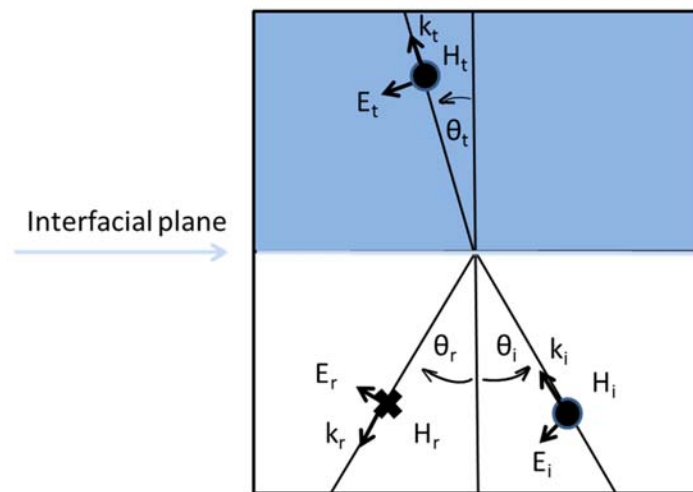


Figure 6 : An electromagnetic wave incident on an interfacial plane where \underline{E} is parallel to the plane of incidence

The continuity equations for H_{\parallel} and E_{\parallel} are now,

$$(E_{0i} + E_{0r}) \cos \theta_i = E_{0t} \cos \theta_t \quad 14-43$$

and

$$H_{0i} - H_{0r} = H_{0t} \quad 14-44$$

Substituting in for H_0 :

$$\Rightarrow n_i(E_{0i} - E_{0r}) = n_t E_{0t} \quad 14-45$$

Again eliminating E_{0t} , E_{0r} in turn gives,

$$\frac{E_{0r}}{E_{0i}} = \frac{n_i \cos \theta_t - n_t \cos \theta_i}{n_i \cos \theta_t + n_t \cos \theta_i} \quad 14-46$$

$$\frac{E_{0t}}{E_{0i}} = \frac{2n_i \cos \theta_i}{n_i \cos \theta_t + n_t \cos \theta_i} \quad 14-47$$

Fresnel's equations for $E_{//}$ to the plane of incidence

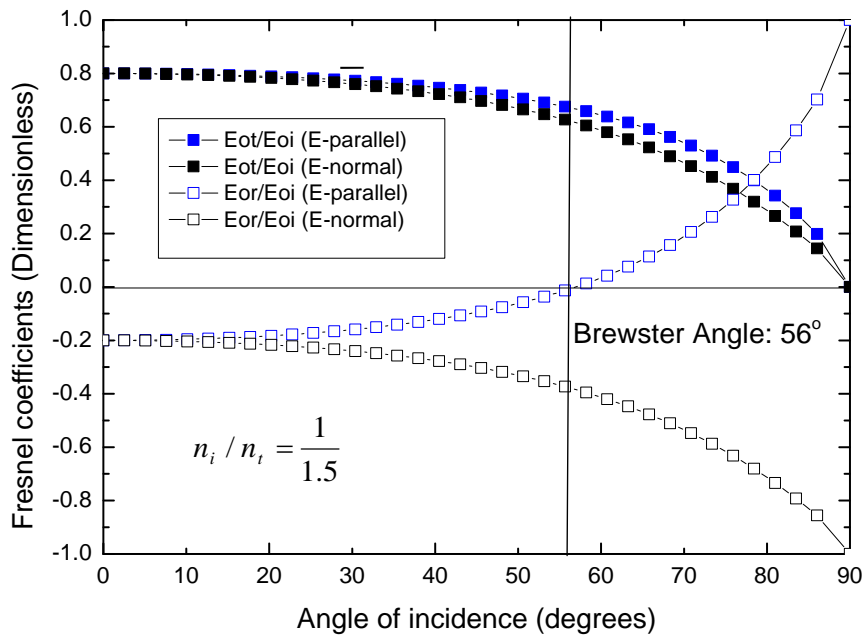


Figure 7 : The Fresnel coefficients as a function of the angle of incidence for the \underline{E} - field parallel and normal to the plane of incidence. The Brewster angle is 56 degrees for an air/glass boundary

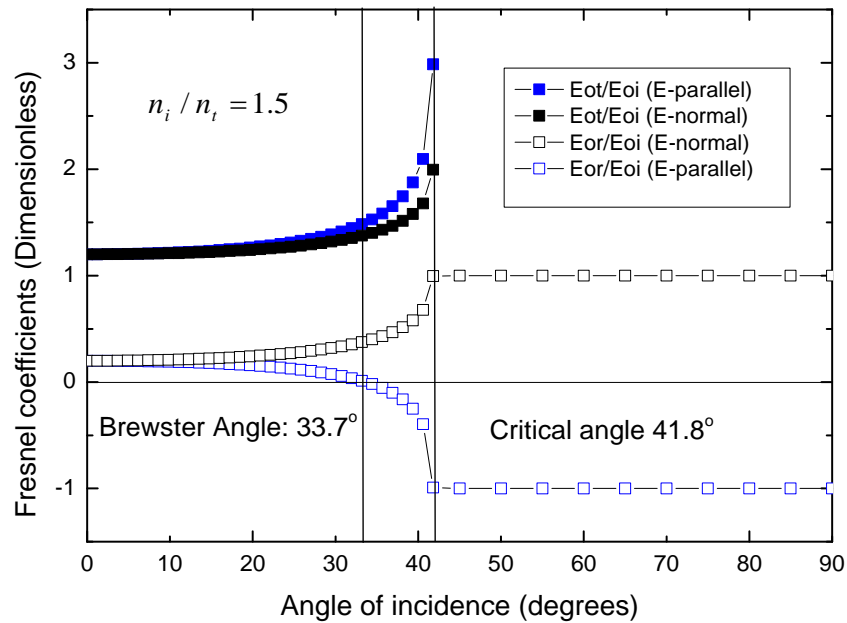


Figure 8 : The Fresnel coefficients as a function of the angle of incidence for the **E** - field parallel and normal to the plane of incidence. The Brewster angle is 33.7 degrees for an glass/air boundary. Above the critical angle of 41.8 degrees, there is no transmission.

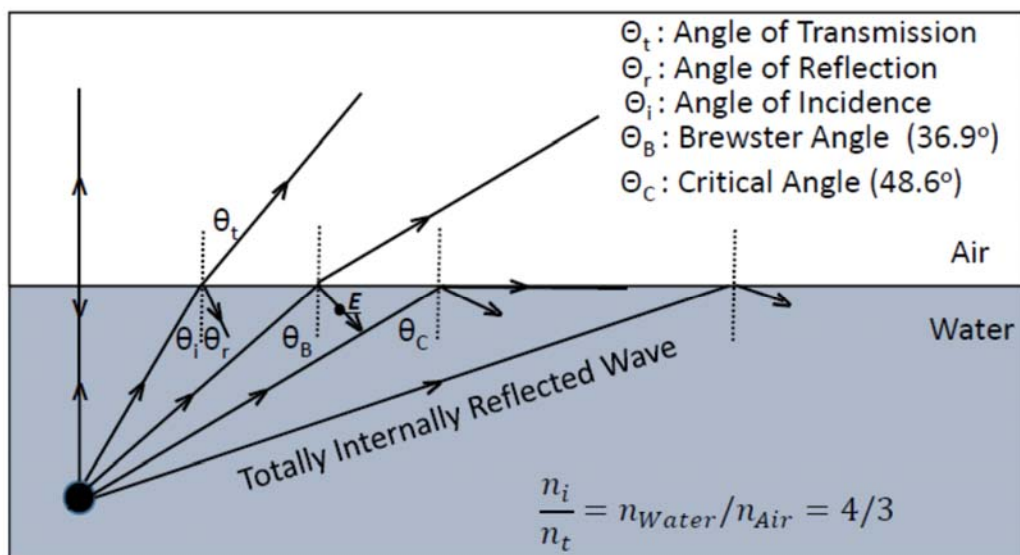


Figure 9 : The reflection and transmission of light into the air that has originated in the water. The Brewster angle is 36.9 degrees for an glass/air boundary so the light that is reflected is polarized normal to the angle of incidence. Above the critical angle of 48.6 degrees, there is no transmission.