

# A Concise Summary of Wave Optics

Condensed notes of the material covered in the third-year undergraduate course *Optika* (Optics) at the Faculty of Mathematics and Physics at the University of Ljubljana in the academic year 2020-21. The course covers wave optics at an undergraduate level.

*Disclaimer:* This document will inevitably contain some mistakes—both simple typos and legitimate errors. Keep in mind that these are the notes of an undergraduate student in the process of learning the material himself, so take what you read with a grain of salt. If you find mistakes and feel like telling me, I will be grateful and happy to hear from you, even for the most trivial of errors. You can reach me by email, in English, Slovene, or Spanish, at [ejmastnak@gmail.com](mailto:ejmastnak@gmail.com).

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# Review of Geometrical Optics

Assumptions: light consists of rays that..

- propagate in straight-line paths in *homogeneous* media,
- change direction, and may split in two, at the interface between two media with *different optical properties*,
- propagate in curved paths in a media with a *continuously-changing* refractive index, and
- may be absorbed and reflected.

$c_0 \approx 3.0 \text{ ms}^{-1}$  (speed of light in vacuum)  
 $c = c_0/n$  (light speed in medium with refractive index  $n$ )  
 $n = n(\mathbf{r}, \omega)$  is a material-dependent property and may change with light frequency  $\omega$ .

## Fermat's Principle

Light travels between any two points  $\mathbf{r}_1$  and  $\mathbf{r}_2$  along the path minimizing the travel time between the two points.

$$\mathcal{S} \equiv \int_{s_1}^{s_2} n(\mathbf{r}(s)) ds = c_0 \int_{t_1}^{t_2} dt \quad (\text{optical path length})$$

$$\mathcal{S} = \int_{s_1}^{s_2} (\mathbf{r}(s)) ds = \min \quad (\text{Fermat's principle})$$

## The Eikonal Ray Equation

Consider light propagating through a material with position-dependent refractive index  $n = n(\mathbf{r})$ .

$$\nabla n = \frac{d}{ds} \left( n \frac{d\mathbf{r}}{ds} \right) \quad (\text{ray equation})$$

## Deriving the Ray Equation

(Source: <https://www.fields.utoronto.ca/programs/scientific/12-13/Marsden/FieldsSS2-FinalSlidesJuly2012.pdf>)

By Fermat's principle, the path taken by a light ray between two points  $\mathbf{r}_1$  and  $\mathbf{r}_2$  leaves the optical path length  $\mathcal{S}$  stationary under variations in the family of paths  $\mathbf{r}(s, \varepsilon)$  connecting  $\mathbf{r}_1$  and  $\mathbf{r}_2$  that vary smoothly with the parameter  $\varepsilon$ .

$$0 \equiv \delta \mathcal{S} = \frac{d}{d\varepsilon} \left[ \int_{s_1}^{s_2} n(\mathbf{r}(s, \varepsilon)) ds \right]_{\varepsilon=0} \quad (\text{Fermat's principle})$$

$$\mathbf{r}(s, 0) = \mathbf{r}(s) \quad (\text{assume vanishing } \varepsilon \text{ recovers path } \mathbf{r}(s))$$

$$\mathbf{r}(s_1, \varepsilon) = \mathbf{r}(s_1) \text{ for all } \varepsilon \quad (\text{fixed endpoints})$$

$$\mathbf{r}(s_2, \varepsilon) = \mathbf{r}(s_2) \text{ for all } \varepsilon \quad (\text{fixed endpoints})$$

$$\delta \mathbf{r}(s) \equiv \frac{d}{d\varepsilon} \left[ \mathbf{r}(s, \varepsilon) \right]_{\varepsilon=0} \quad (\text{variation in path})$$

$$\dot{\mathbf{r}} \equiv \frac{d\mathbf{r}}{ds} \quad (\text{shorthand notation})$$

$$|\dot{\mathbf{r}}| = \sqrt{\dot{\mathbf{r}} \cdot \dot{\mathbf{r}}} = \sqrt{\frac{d\mathbf{r}}{ds} \cdot \frac{d\mathbf{r}}{ds}}$$

$$0 \equiv \delta \mathcal{S} = \delta \int_{s_1}^{s_2} n(\mathbf{r}(s)) |\dot{\mathbf{r}}| ds \quad (\text{alternate fomulation of FP})$$

$$= \int_{s_1}^{s_2} \left[ |\dot{\mathbf{r}}| \frac{\partial n}{\partial \mathbf{r}} \cdot \delta \mathbf{r} + \left( n(\mathbf{r}(s)) \frac{\dot{\mathbf{r}}}{|\dot{\mathbf{r}}|} \right) \cdot \delta \dot{\mathbf{r}} \right] ds \quad (\text{product rule})$$

$$= \int_{s_1}^{s_2} \left[ \frac{\partial n}{\partial \mathbf{r}} \cdot \delta \mathbf{r} + n(\mathbf{r}(s)) \dot{\mathbf{r}} \cdot \delta \dot{\mathbf{r}} \right] ds \quad (\text{using } |\dot{\mathbf{r}}| = 1)$$

$$I \equiv \int_{s_1}^{s_2} \left[ n(\mathbf{r}(s)) \dot{\mathbf{r}} \cdot \delta \dot{\mathbf{r}} \right] ds \quad (\text{second integral})$$

Use integration by parts with  $dv = \delta \dot{\mathbf{r}} ds$  to get...

$$I = \left[ n(\mathbf{r}(s)) \dot{\mathbf{r}} \cdot \delta \mathbf{r} \right]_{s_1}^{s_2} - \int_{s_1}^{s_2} \left\{ \frac{d}{ds} [n(\mathbf{r}(s)) \dot{\mathbf{r}}] \right\} \cdot \delta \mathbf{r} ds$$

$$= 0 - \int_{s_1}^{s_2} \left\{ \frac{d}{ds} [n(\mathbf{r}(s)) \dot{\mathbf{r}}] \right\} \cdot \delta \mathbf{r} ds \quad (\text{stationary endpoints})$$

$$\Rightarrow \delta \mathcal{S} = \int_{s_1}^{s_2} \left\{ \frac{\partial n}{\partial \mathbf{r}} - \frac{d}{ds} [n(\mathbf{r}(s)) \dot{\mathbf{r}}] \right\} \cdot \delta \mathbf{r} ds \equiv 0$$

$$\Rightarrow \frac{\partial n}{\partial \mathbf{r}} - \frac{d}{ds} [n(\mathbf{r}(s)) \dot{\mathbf{r}}] = 0 \quad (\text{ray equation})$$

$$\nabla n = \frac{d}{ds} [n(\mathbf{r}(s)) \frac{d\mathbf{r}}{ds}] \quad (\text{in original form})$$

## Paraxial Approximation

Assume light propagates through the  $xz$  plane.

The paraxial approximation, with  $\hat{\mathbf{z}}$  as the optical axis, holds if  $\frac{dx}{dz} \ll 1$  for all  $z$  (**paraxial approximation**)

$$\theta \equiv \frac{dx}{dz} \quad (\text{angle between tangent to ray path and optical axis})$$

$$\sin \theta \approx \theta, \quad \tan \theta \approx \theta, \quad \cos \theta \approx 1$$

$$ds \equiv \sqrt{(dx)^2 + (dz)^2} \approx dz \quad (\text{path length differential})$$

$$\frac{d^2x}{dz^2} = \frac{1}{n(x)} \frac{dn}{dx} \quad (\text{ray equation for } n = n(x) \text{ and } \frac{dx}{dz} \ll 1)$$

## Optical Transfer Matrices

Assume light propagates through the  $xz$  plane.

Assume paraxial approximation with  $\hat{\mathbf{z}}$  as optical axis.

$$\theta = \frac{dx}{dz} \quad (\text{angle between tangent to ray path and optical axis})$$

Represent rays with the coordinates  $(x, \theta)$ .

Goal: given initial ray position  $(x_1, \theta_1)$ , find position  $(x_2, \theta_2)$  after the ray passes through an optical medium.

$$x_2 = Ax_1 + B\theta_1$$

$$\theta_2 = Cx_1 + D\theta_1$$

$$\begin{pmatrix} x_2 \\ \theta_2 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} A & B \\ C & D \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} x_1 \\ \theta_1 \end{pmatrix} \equiv \mathbf{M} \begin{pmatrix} x_1 \\ \theta_1 \end{pmatrix}$$

The determinant of a transfer matrix between e.g. material 1 and 2 equals the ratio of refractive indices:  $\det \mathbf{M} = (n_1)/(n_2)$ .

## Common Transfer Matrices

$$\begin{pmatrix} 1 & L \\ 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix} \quad (\text{through homogeneous material of length } L)$$

$$\begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & \frac{n_1}{n_2} \end{pmatrix} \quad (\text{through straight interface})$$

$$\begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ \frac{n_1 - n_2}{n_2 R} & \frac{n_1}{n_2} \end{pmatrix} \quad (\text{through curved interface of radius } R)$$

$$\begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ -\frac{1}{f} & 1 \end{pmatrix} \quad (\text{through thin lens with focus } f = \frac{R}{2(n-1)})$$

$$\begin{pmatrix} x_n \\ \theta_n \end{pmatrix} = \mathbf{M}_n \mathbf{M}_{n-1} \cdots \mathbf{M}_2 \mathbf{M}_1 \begin{pmatrix} x_1 \\ \theta_1 \end{pmatrix} \quad (n \text{ consecutive interfaces})$$

# Light as Electromagnetic Waves

## Notation

$\mathbf{E}$  and  $\mathbf{B}$  are electric and magnetic field.

$\mathbf{D}$  and  $\mathbf{H}$  are “ $\mathbf{D}$ ” and “ $\mathbf{H}$ ” field.

$\rho$  and  $\rho_f$  are total and free electric charge density.

$\mathbf{j}$  and  $\mathbf{j}_f$  are total and free electric current density.

$\varepsilon_0 = 8.85 \cdot 10^{-12} \text{ F m}^{-1}$  (vacuum permittivity)

$\mu_0 = 4\pi \cdot 10^{-7} \text{ H m}^{-1}$  (vacuum permeability)

## Maxwell Equations In Free Space

$$\nabla \cdot \mathbf{E} = \frac{\rho}{\varepsilon_0}$$

$$\nabla \cdot \mathbf{B} = 0$$

$$\nabla \times \mathbf{E} = -\frac{\partial \mathbf{B}}{\partial t}$$

$$\nabla \times \mathbf{B} = \mu_0 \mathbf{j} + \mu_0 \varepsilon_0 \frac{\partial \mathbf{E}}{\partial t}$$

## Maxwell Equations In Matter

$$\nabla \cdot \mathbf{D} = \rho_f$$

$$\nabla \cdot \mathbf{B} = 0$$

$$\nabla \times \mathbf{E} = -\frac{\partial \mathbf{B}}{\partial t}$$

$$\nabla \times \mathbf{H} = \mathbf{j}_f + \frac{\partial \mathbf{D}}{\partial t}$$

## Electric Field in Matter

$\mathbf{P}$  is a material's electric polarization.

$\rho_b$  is a material's bound electric charge density.

$\varepsilon$  is a material's relative permittivity.

$$\rho_b = -\nabla \cdot \mathbf{P} \quad (\text{implicit definition for polarization})$$

$$\mathbf{D} = \varepsilon_0 \mathbf{E} + \mathbf{P} \quad (\text{definition of } \mathbf{D} \text{ field})$$

$$\mathbf{P} = \mathbf{P}(\mathbf{D}) \quad (\text{general constitutive relation})$$

$$\mathbf{P}(\mathbf{D}) \approx \chi_E \mathbf{D} + \mathcal{O}(\mathbf{D}^2) \quad (\text{linear approximation of CR})$$

$$\chi_E = 1 - \frac{1}{\varepsilon} \quad (\text{electric susceptibility})$$

$$\mathbf{D} = \varepsilon \varepsilon_0 \mathbf{E} \quad (\text{in linear, isotropic matter})$$

$$\mathbf{P} = \varepsilon_0 (\varepsilon - 1) \mathbf{E} \quad (\text{in linear, isotropic matter})$$

## Magnetic Field in Matter

$\mathbf{M}$  is a material's magnetization.

$\mathbf{j}_b$  is a material's bound electric current density.

$\mu$  is a material's relative permeability.

$$\mathbf{j}_b = \nabla \times \mathbf{M} + \frac{\partial \mathbf{P}}{\partial t} \quad (\text{implicit definition for magnetization})$$

$$\mathbf{H} = \frac{\mathbf{B}}{\mu_0} - \mathbf{M} \quad (\text{definition of } \mathbf{H} \text{ field})$$

$$\mathbf{M} = \mathbf{M}(\mathbf{H}) \quad (\text{general constitutive relation})$$

$$\mathbf{M}(\mathbf{H}) \approx \chi_M \mathbf{H} + \mathcal{O}(\mathbf{H}^2) \quad (\text{linear approximation of CR})$$

$$\chi_M = \mu - 1 \quad (\text{magnetic susceptibility})$$

$$\mathbf{B} = \mu \mu_0 \mathbf{H} \quad (\text{in linear, isotropic matter})$$

$$\mathbf{M} = \left(1 - \frac{1}{\mu}\right) \frac{\mathbf{B}}{\mu_0} \quad (\text{in linear, isotropic matter})$$

## Simplifying Assumptions

We assume the matter in which we will analyze EM waves is...

- (i) homogeneous: the material's properties are identical throughout the material (so  $\varepsilon \neq \varepsilon(\mathbf{r})$  and  $\mu \neq \mu(\mathbf{r})$ ),
- (ii) isotropic: the material's properties are identical for all orientations of the material (so  $\varepsilon$  and  $\mu$  are scalars and not rank-two tensors)
- (iii) nondispersive: the material's properties are independent of EM wave frequency (so  $\varepsilon \neq \varepsilon(\omega)$  and  $\mu \neq \mu(\omega)$ ),
- (iv) charge-free: the material is free of net electric charge (so  $\rho = 0$ ),
- (v) nonconducting: an electric field in the material does not establish electric currents (so  $\mathbf{j} = \mathbf{0}$ ), and
- (vi) linear:  $\mathbf{D} = \varepsilon \varepsilon_0 \mathbf{E}$  and  $\mathbf{B} = \mu \mu_0 \mathbf{H}$ .

## Maxwell Equations Under Above Assumptions

$$\nabla \cdot \mathbf{D} = 0$$

$$\nabla \cdot \mathbf{B} = 0$$

$$\nabla \times \mathbf{E} = -\frac{\partial \mathbf{B}}{\partial t}$$

$$\nabla \times \mathbf{H} = \frac{\partial \mathbf{D}}{\partial t}$$

## Electromagnetic Wave Equation

Consider material with relative permittivity  $\varepsilon$  and relative permeability  $\mu$ , so that  $\varepsilon_0 \rightarrow \varepsilon \varepsilon_0$  and  $\mu_0 \rightarrow \mu \mu_0$ .

Begin derivation for  $\mathbf{E}$  with  $\nabla \times \mathbf{E} = -\frac{\partial \mathbf{B}}{\partial t}$ .

$$\nabla \times (\nabla \times \mathbf{E}) = -\frac{\partial (\nabla \times \mathbf{B})}{\partial t} = -\mu \mu_0 \varepsilon \varepsilon_0 \frac{\partial^2 \mathbf{E}}{\partial t^2} \quad (\text{assuming } \mathbf{j} = \mathbf{0})$$

$$\nabla \times (\nabla \times \mathbf{E}) = \nabla (\nabla \cdot \mathbf{E}) - \nabla^2 \mathbf{E} \quad (\text{general identity})$$

$$= -\nabla^2 \mathbf{E} \quad (\text{assuming } \nabla \cdot \mathbf{E} = 0)$$

Begin derivation for  $\mathbf{B}$  with  $\nabla \times \mathbf{B} = \mu \mu_0 \varepsilon \varepsilon_0 \frac{\partial \mathbf{E}}{\partial t}$ .

$$\nabla \times (\nabla \times \mathbf{B}) = \mu \mu_0 \varepsilon \varepsilon_0 \frac{\partial (\nabla \times \mathbf{E})}{\partial t} \quad (\text{assuming } \mathbf{j} = \mathbf{0})$$

$$= -\mu \mu_0 \varepsilon \varepsilon_0 \frac{\partial^2 \mathbf{B}}{\partial t^2}$$

$$\nabla \times (\nabla \times \mathbf{B}) = \nabla (\nabla \cdot \mathbf{B}) - \nabla^2 \mathbf{B} \quad (\text{general identity})$$

$$= -\nabla^2 \mathbf{B} \quad (\text{using } \nabla \cdot \mathbf{B} = 0)$$

$$\nabla^2 \mathbf{E} = \varepsilon \varepsilon_0 \mu \mu_0 \frac{\partial^2 \mathbf{E}}{\partial t^2} \quad (\text{wave equation for } \mathbf{E})$$

$$\nabla^2 \mathbf{B} = \varepsilon \varepsilon_0 \mu \mu_0 \frac{\partial^2 \mathbf{B}}{\partial t^2} \quad (\text{wave equation for } \mathbf{B})$$

$$c = 1/\sqrt{\varepsilon \varepsilon_0 \mu \mu_0} \quad (\text{EM wave speed})$$

$$c_0 = 1/\sqrt{\varepsilon_0 \mu_0} \approx 3.0 \cdot 10^8 \text{ m s}^{-1} \quad (\text{EM wave speed in vacuum})$$

## Plane Wave Solutions to the Wave Eq.

### Mathematical Solutions

Mathematically, the EM wave equation has complex plane wave solutions:

$$\mathbf{E}(\mathbf{r}, t) = \mathbf{E}_0 e^{i(\mathbf{k} \cdot \mathbf{r} - \omega t)} \quad (\mathbf{E}_0 \in \mathbb{C}^3)$$

$$\mathbf{B}(\mathbf{r}, t) = \mathbf{B}_0 e^{i(\mathbf{k} \cdot \mathbf{r} - \omega t)} \quad (\mathbf{B}_0 \in \mathbb{C}^3)$$

$$\mathbf{E}_0 = (E_x, E_y, E_z) \in \mathbb{C}^3$$

$$E_x = |E_x| e^{i\phi_x}, E_y = |E_y| e^{i\phi_y}, E_z = |E_z| e^{i\phi_z}$$

### Physically Observable Solutions

But only the real part of the the plane wave solutions are physically observable:

$$\mathbf{E}(\mathbf{r}, t) = \text{Re} [\mathbf{E}_0 e^{i(\mathbf{k} \cdot \mathbf{r} - \omega t)}] = \text{Re}[\mathbf{E}_0] \cos(\mathbf{k} \cdot \mathbf{r} - \omega t)$$

$$\mathbf{B}(\mathbf{r}, t) = \text{Re} [\mathbf{B}_0 e^{i(\mathbf{k} \cdot \mathbf{r} - \omega t)}] = \text{Re}[\mathbf{B}_0] \cos(\mathbf{k} \cdot \mathbf{r} - \omega t)$$

### Plane Waves Traveling Along the $z$ Axis

Align coordinate system so that the  $z$  axis aligns with the direction of EM wave propagation, i.e.  $\mathbf{k} = k \hat{\mathbf{e}}_z$ .

$$\mathbf{E}(z, t) = \text{Re} [\mathbf{E}_0 e^{i(kz - \omega t)}] = \text{Re}[\mathbf{E}_0] \cos(kz - \omega t)$$

$$\mathbf{B}(z, t) = \text{Re} [\mathbf{B}_0 e^{i(kz - \omega t)}] = \text{Re}[\mathbf{B}_0] \cos(kz - \omega t)$$

At any *fixed time*  $t$ ,  $\mathbf{E}$  and  $\mathbf{B}$  are sinusoidal functions of position  $z$  with wavelength  $\lambda = 2\pi/k$ .

At any *fixed position*  $z$ ,  $\mathbf{E}$  and  $\mathbf{B}$  are sinusoidal functions of time  $t$  with frequency  $\nu = \omega/2\pi$ .

### Phase and Wave Fronts

Let  $\phi \equiv \mathbf{k} \cdot \mathbf{r} - \omega t$ .

Constant  $\phi \implies$  constant EM wave phase.

$$\phi = \text{constant} \implies \mathbf{k} \cdot \mathbf{r} = \phi + \omega t_0 = \text{constant} \quad (\text{at } t = t_0)$$

$\mathbf{k} \cdot \mathbf{r} = \text{constant}$  defines a plane of constant phase at  $t = t_0$

Planes of constant EMW phase are called *wave fronts*.

Wave fronts are normal to  $\mathbf{k}$  by construction  $\mathbf{k} \cdot \mathbf{r} = \text{constant}$ .

### Phase Velocity

Phase velocity is the velocity at which wave fronts move through space.

$$v_p = \omega/k \quad (\text{definition of phase velocity})$$

Substitute  $\mathbf{E} = \mathbf{E}_0 e^{i(\mathbf{k} \cdot \mathbf{r} - \omega t)}$  into wave equation and get...

$$v_p = \frac{1}{\sqrt{\varepsilon_0 \mu_0}} \frac{1}{\sqrt{\varepsilon \mu}} \quad (\text{for plane wave solutions to EM wave eq.})$$

$$c_0 = \frac{1}{\sqrt{\varepsilon_0 \mu_0}} \quad (\text{EM wave phase velocity in vacuum})$$

$$v_p \equiv c = \frac{c_0}{\sqrt{\varepsilon \mu}} \equiv \frac{c_0}{n} \quad (\text{EM wave phase velocity in matter})$$

$$n = \sqrt{\varepsilon \mu} \quad (\text{refractive index})$$

$$\nu_{\text{vacuum}} = \nu_{\text{matter}} \equiv \nu \quad (\text{frequency preserved in all matter})$$

$$\lambda = \lambda_0/n = \frac{c_0}{n\nu} \quad (\text{wavelength decreases in matter})$$

$$k_0 \equiv \omega/c_0 \quad (\text{wave vector in vacuum})$$

$$k = nk_0 \quad (\text{wave vector increases in matter})$$

## Directions of the Vectors $\mathbf{E}$ , $\mathbf{B}$ and $\mathbf{k}$

Assumptions as in [Simplifying Assumptions](#).

Assume plane wave solutions to EM wave eq. of the form...

$$\mathbf{E}(\mathbf{r}, t) = \mathbf{E}_0 e^{i(\mathbf{k} \cdot \mathbf{r} - \omega t)}$$

$$\mathbf{B}(\mathbf{r}, t) = \mathbf{B}_0 e^{i(\mathbf{k} \cdot \mathbf{r} - \omega t)}$$

$$\mathbf{E} \cdot \mathbf{k} = 0 \implies \mathbf{k} \perp \mathbf{E} \quad (\text{from } \nabla \cdot \mathbf{D} = 0 \text{ and } \mathbf{D} = \varepsilon \varepsilon_0 \mathbf{E})$$

$$\mathbf{B} \cdot \mathbf{k} = 0 \implies \mathbf{k} \perp \mathbf{B} \quad (\text{from } \nabla \cdot \mathbf{B} = 0)$$

$$\mathbf{k} \times \mathbf{E} = \omega \mathbf{B} \quad (\text{from } \nabla \times \mathbf{E} = -\frac{\partial \mathbf{B}}{\partial t})$$

$$\mathbf{k} \perp \mathbf{E} \text{ and } \mathbf{k} \perp \mathbf{B} \implies \text{EM waves are transverse waves!}$$

$$\mathbf{k} \times \mathbf{E} \propto \mathbf{B} \text{ and } \mathbf{E} \perp \mathbf{k} \implies \mathbf{E}, \mathbf{B}, \mathbf{k} \text{ are mutually orthogonal!}$$

## Ratio of Field Amplitudes

Assumptions as in [Simplifying Assumptions](#).

$$\mathbf{k} \times \mathbf{E} = \omega \mathbf{B} \text{ and } \mathbf{k} \perp \mathbf{E} \perp \mathbf{B} \implies kE_0 = \omega B_0$$

$$E_0 = \frac{\omega}{k} B_0 = cB_0$$

$$Z \equiv \frac{E_0}{H_0} = \frac{\mu \mu_0 E_0}{B_0} = \mu \mu_0 c = \sqrt{\frac{\mu \mu_0}{\varepsilon \varepsilon_0}} \quad (\text{impedance})$$

$$Z_0 = \sqrt{\frac{\mu_0}{\varepsilon_0}} \approx 377 \, \Omega \quad (\text{impedance of free space})$$

## EM Energy and Power

$$u_E = \frac{\varepsilon \varepsilon_0}{2} E^2 \quad (\text{electric field energy density})$$

$$u_B = \frac{1}{2\mu \mu_0} B^2 \quad (\text{magnetic field energy density})$$

$$u_{EM} = u_E + u_B \quad (\text{EM field energy density})$$

$$\mathbf{j}(\mathbf{r}, t) = u_{EM} c \hat{\mathbf{c}} \quad (\text{instantaneous energy current density})$$

$c$  and  $\hat{\mathbf{c}}$  are speed and direction of EM energy propagation.

$\hat{\mathbf{c}} \parallel \mathbf{k}$  in isotropic, linear, charge-free materials.

## Energy Density for Sinusoidal Solutions

Assumptions as in [Simplifying Assumptions](#).

Assume sinusoidal solutions to the EM wave eq. of the form...

$$\mathbf{E}(\mathbf{r}, t) = \text{Re} [\mathbf{E}_0 e^{i(\mathbf{k} \cdot \mathbf{r} - \omega t)}]$$

$$\mathbf{B}(\mathbf{r}, t) = \text{Re} [\mathbf{B}_0 e^{i(\mathbf{k} \cdot \mathbf{r} - \omega t)}]$$

$$u_{EM} = \varepsilon \varepsilon_0 E_0^2 \cos^2(\mathbf{k} \cdot \mathbf{r} - \omega t) \quad (\text{from } E_0 = cB_0; c = \frac{1}{\sqrt{\varepsilon \varepsilon_0 \mu \mu_0}})$$

$$\langle u_{EM} \rangle = \frac{\varepsilon \varepsilon_0}{2} E_0^2 \quad (\text{average EM energy density})$$

## Energy Current Density

Assumptions as in “[Energy Density for Sinusoidal Solutions](#)”

$$\langle \mathbf{j} \rangle = \langle u_{EM} \rangle c \hat{\mathbf{c}} = \frac{\varepsilon \varepsilon_0}{2} c E_0^2 \hat{\mathbf{c}} \quad (\text{average energy current density})$$

$$\langle \mathbf{j} \rangle = \langle u_{EM} \rangle c = \frac{\varepsilon \varepsilon_0}{2} c E_0^2 \quad (\text{EM energy current density})$$

$$\mathbf{S} \equiv \frac{1}{\mu_0} \mathbf{E} \times \mathbf{B} \quad (\text{Poynting vector})$$

$$\mathbf{S} \equiv \mathbf{E} \times \mathbf{H} \quad (\text{Poynting vector, alternate definition})$$

$$\langle |\mathbf{S}| \rangle = \langle |\mathbf{j}| \rangle = \frac{\varepsilon \varepsilon_0}{2} c E_0^2$$

## Polarization

Polarization refers to the geometrical orientation of the electric and magnetic field's oscillations.

### Complex Analysis of Polarization

Assumptions as in [Simplifying Assumptions](#).

Assume plane wave solutions to EM wave equation.

$$\mathbf{E}(\mathbf{r}, t) = \mathbf{E}_0 e^{i(\mathbf{k} \cdot \mathbf{r} - \omega t)}$$

$$\mathbf{B}(\mathbf{r}, t) = \mathbf{B}_0 e^{i(\mathbf{k} \cdot \mathbf{r} - \omega t)}$$

Assume non-dispersive material with  $\omega = c|\mathbf{k}|$ .

$\mathbf{E}_0 \in \mathbb{C}$  and  $\mathbf{B}_0 \in \mathbb{C}$  are *polarization vectors*.

$B_0$  is fully determined by  $E_0$  and  $c$  (from  $E_0 = cB_0$ )

$\mathbf{B}_0/B_0$  is fully determined by  $\mathbf{E}$  and  $\mathbf{k}$  (from  $\mathbf{k} \perp \mathbf{E} \perp \mathbf{B}$ )

$\implies \mathbf{B}$  is fully determined by  $\mathbf{E}$ ,  $\mathbf{k}$  and  $c$

Define coordinate system so that  $\hat{\mathbf{e}}_z \parallel \mathbf{k}$ .

Notation: to distinguish complex and real field amplitudes, we will denote complex quantities with an underline.

$$\underline{\mathbf{E}}_0 = (\underline{E}_x, \underline{E}_y, \underline{E}_z) \in \mathbb{C}^3 \quad (\text{in general})$$

$$\underline{\mathbf{E}}_0 = (\underline{E}_x, \underline{E}_y, 0) \in \mathbb{C}^3 \quad (\text{if } \hat{\mathbf{e}}_z \parallel \mathbf{k})$$

$$\mathbf{E} = \mathbf{E}(z, t) = \mathbf{E}_0 e^{i(kz - \omega t)} \quad (\text{if } \hat{\mathbf{e}}_z \parallel \mathbf{k})$$

$$\underline{E}_x = E_x e^{i\phi_x} \quad (\text{complex component in polar form})$$

$$\underline{E}_y = E_y e^{i\phi_y} \quad (\text{complex component in polar form})$$

Define phase difference  $\phi = \phi_x - \phi_y$  and global phase  $\Phi$ .

$$\underline{E}_x = E_x e^{i\Phi} \quad (\text{in terms of global phase})$$

$$\underline{E}_y = E_y e^{i(\Phi + \phi)} \quad (\text{in terms of global phase})$$

$$\mathbf{E}(z, t) = (E_x e^{i\Phi} \hat{\mathbf{e}}_x + E_y e^{i(\Phi + \phi)} \hat{\mathbf{e}}_y) e^{i(kz - \omega t)}$$

### Real Analysis of Polarization

Assumptions as in [Complex Analysis of Polarization](#).

Define coordinate system so that  $\hat{\mathbf{e}}_z \parallel \mathbf{k}$ .

$$\mathbf{E}(z, t) = E_x \cos(kz - \omega t + \phi_x) \hat{\mathbf{e}}_x \quad (\text{if } \hat{\mathbf{e}}_z \parallel \mathbf{k})$$
$$+ E_y \cos(kz - \omega t + \phi_y) \hat{\mathbf{e}}_y \quad (E_x, E_y \in \mathbb{R})$$

Define phase difference  $\phi = \phi_x - \phi_y$  and global phase  $\Phi$ .

$$\mathbf{E}(z, t) = E_x \cos(kz - \omega t + \Phi) \hat{\mathbf{e}}_x \quad (\text{in terms of global phase})$$
$$+ E_y \cos(kz - \omega t + \Phi + \phi) \hat{\mathbf{e}}_y$$

### Linear Polarization

$$\phi = \phi_x - \phi_y = n\pi, \quad n \in \mathbb{Z} \quad (\text{definition of linear polarization})$$

Choose global phase  $\Phi = 0$ .

$$\underline{E}_x = E_x \in \mathbb{R} \quad (\text{in general if } \Phi = 0)$$

$$\underline{E}_y = \pm E_y \in \mathbb{R} \quad (\text{for linear polarization } \phi = n\pi)$$

$$\mathbf{E}_0 = (E_x, \pm E_y, 0) \in \mathbb{R}^3 \quad (\mathbf{E}_0 \text{ is real for LP})$$

$$\mathbf{E}(z, t) = (E_x \hat{\mathbf{e}}_x + E_y \hat{\mathbf{e}}_y) \cos(kz - \omega t) \quad (\text{if } n \text{ is even})$$

$$\mathbf{E}(z, t) = (E_x \hat{\mathbf{e}}_x - E_y \hat{\mathbf{e}}_y) \cos(kz - \omega t) \quad (\text{if } n \text{ is odd})$$

$$E_0 = \sqrt{E_x^2 + E_y^2} \quad (\text{field magnitude})$$

$$\hat{\mathbf{e}}_E = \frac{1}{E_0} (E_x, \pm E_y, 0) \quad (\text{field direction})$$

Find  $\hat{\mathbf{e}}_B$  by rotating  $\hat{\mathbf{e}}_E$  by  $+\pi/2$  in the  $xy$  plane.

$$\mathbf{B} = (E_0/c) \cos(kz - \omega t) \hat{\mathbf{e}}_B \quad (\text{magnetic field for LP})$$

### Circular Polarization

$$\phi = \phi_x - \phi_y = \frac{\pi}{2} + n\pi, \quad n \in \mathbb{Z} \quad (\text{definition of CP})$$

$$E_x = E_y \equiv E_0 \quad (\text{definition of CP})$$

Choose global phase  $\Phi = 0$ .

$$\underline{E}_x = E_0 \in \mathbb{R} \quad (\text{for } \Phi = 0 \text{ and } E_x = E_0)$$

$$\underline{E}_y = \pm E_0 \quad (\text{for CP with } \phi = \frac{\pi}{2} + n\pi)$$

$$\mathbf{E}_0 = E_0(1, \pm i, 0)$$

$$\mathbf{E} = E_0(1, \pm i, 0) e^{i(kz - \omega t)}$$

$$\text{Re}[\mathbf{E}] = E_0 (\cos(kz - \omega t), \mp \sin(kz - \omega t), 0)$$

### Left-Hand Circular Polarization (LHC)

(Definitions vary, the one used in this course appears below.)

For an observer at fixed position  $z$  *facing* the source of EM waves,  $\mathbf{E}$  rotates *counterclockwise* with respect to *time* in the plane perpendicular to the direction of EM wave propagation.

$$\mathbf{E}_{\text{lhc}} = E_0 (e^{i(kz - \omega t)}, +ie^{i(kz - \omega t)}, 0) \in \mathbb{C}^3$$

$$\text{Re}[\mathbf{E}_{\text{lhc}}] = E_0 (\cos(kz - \omega t), -\sin(kz - \omega t), 0)$$

$$\text{Re}[\mathbf{E}_{\text{lhc}}]_x = E_0 \cos(\omega t) \quad (\text{with respect to time at } z = 0)$$

$$\text{Re}[\mathbf{E}_{\text{lhc}}]_y = E_0 \sin(\omega t) \quad (\text{with respect to time at } z = 0)$$

LHC polarization occurs when  $n$  is even;  $\phi = \pi/2 + 2\pi k$ ,  $k \in \mathbb{Z}$

### Right-Hand Circular Polarization (RHC)

For an observer at fixed position  $z$  *facing* the source of EM waves,  $\mathbf{E}$  rotates *clockwise* with respect to *time* in the plane perpendicular to the direction of EM wave propagation.

$$\mathbf{E}_{\text{rhc}} = E_0 (e^{i(kz - \omega t)}, -ie^{i(kz - \omega t)}, 0) \in \mathbb{C}^3$$

$$\text{Re}[\mathbf{E}_{\text{rhc}}] = E_0 (\cos(kz - \omega t), \sin(kz - \omega t), 0)$$

$$\text{Re}[\mathbf{E}_{\text{rhc}}]_x = E_0 \cos(\omega t) \quad (\text{with respect to time at } z = 0)$$

$$\text{Re}[\mathbf{E}_{\text{rhc}}]_y = -E_0 \sin(\omega t) \quad (\text{with respect to time at } z = 0)$$

RHC polarization occurs when  $n$  is odd;  $\phi = -\pi/2 + 2\pi k$ ,  $k \in \mathbb{Z}$

### Combining Polarizations

$$\mathbf{E}_{\text{lhc}} + \mathbf{E}_{\text{rhc}} = 2E_0 (\cos(kz - \omega t), 0, 0) = 2\mathbf{E}_{\text{lin-x}} \quad (\text{real parts})$$

$$\mathbf{E}_{\text{rhc}} - \mathbf{E}_{\text{lhc}} = 2E_0 (0, \sin(kz - \omega t), 0) = 2\mathbf{E}_{\text{lin-y}} \quad (\text{real parts})$$

Any LP can be constructed from a linear combination of CP!

### Elliptical Polarization

$$|E_x| \neq |E_y| \quad (\text{definition of EP})$$

$$\phi = \phi_x - \phi_y \text{ is an arbitrary real constant} \quad (\text{definition of EP})$$

Choose global phase  $\Phi = 0$

$$\underline{E}_x = E_x \in \mathbb{R} \quad (\text{for } \Phi = 0)$$

$$\underline{E}_y = E_y e^{i\phi} \quad (E_y \text{ and } \phi \text{ are arbitrary})$$

$$\mathbf{E}_0 = (E_x, E_y e^{i\phi}, 0)$$

$$\mathbf{E} = (E_x, E_y e^{i\phi}, 0) e^{i(kz - \omega t)}$$

$\text{Re}[\mathbf{E}] = E_x \cos(kz - \omega t) \hat{\mathbf{e}}_x + E_y \cos(kz - \omega t + \phi) \hat{\mathbf{e}}_y$   
 $\mathbf{E}(z, t)$  traces out an ellipse in the plane perpendicular to the direction of wave propagation; the orientation of the ellipse itself is fixed in the  $xy$  plane.

### Geometry of Elliptical Polarization

$\hat{\mathbf{e}}_a$  is the direction of the ellipse's semi-major axis.  
 $\hat{\mathbf{e}}_b$  is the direction of the ellipse's semi-minor axis.  
 $\theta$  is angle of  $\hat{\mathbf{e}}_a$  and  $\hat{\mathbf{e}}_b$  relative to  $\hat{\mathbf{e}}_x$  and  $\hat{\mathbf{e}}_y$ .

$$E_0 \equiv \sqrt{E_x^2 + E_y^2}$$

$$\tan(2\theta) = \frac{2E_x E_y}{E_0^2} \cos \phi$$

If  $\phi = \frac{\pi}{2} + n\pi$ ,  $n \in \mathbb{Z}$  then  $\hat{\mathbf{e}}_a$  and  $\hat{\mathbf{e}}_b$  align with  $\hat{\mathbf{e}}_x$  and  $\hat{\mathbf{e}}_y$ .

$$\frac{b}{a} = \frac{E_y \cos \theta \sin \phi}{E_x \cos \theta + E_y \sin \theta \cos \phi} \quad (\text{ratio of elliptical axes})$$

## Jones Calculus

Assumptions as in [Simplifying Assumptions](#).

Define coordinate system so that  $\hat{\mathbf{e}}_z \parallel \mathbf{k}$ .

### Jones Vector

Jones vectors encode the polarization state of EM plane waves.

$$\mathbf{E}(z, t) = (E_x \hat{\mathbf{e}}_x + E_y \hat{\mathbf{e}}_y e^{i\phi}) e^{i(kz - \omega t)} \quad (\text{general polarization})$$

$$\mathbf{E}(z, t) = e^{i(kz - \omega t)} \begin{pmatrix} E_x \\ E_y e^{i\phi} \end{pmatrix} \quad (\text{vector representation in } xy \text{ plane})$$

$$E_0 \equiv \sqrt{E_x^2 + E_y^2} \quad (\text{for shorthand})$$

$$\mathbf{J} \equiv \frac{1}{E_0} \begin{pmatrix} E_x \\ E_y e^{i\phi} \end{pmatrix} \quad (\text{definition of Jones vector})$$

### Jones Vectors for Common Polarizations

$$\mathbf{J}_{\text{lin-x}} = \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix} \quad (\text{linear polarization along } \hat{\mathbf{e}}_x)$$

$$\mathbf{J}_{\text{lin-y}} = \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix} \quad (\text{linear polarization along } \hat{\mathbf{e}}_y)$$

$$\mathbf{J}_{\text{lin-}\theta} = \begin{pmatrix} \cos \theta \\ \sin \theta \end{pmatrix} \quad (\text{LP at angle } \theta \text{ relative to } \hat{\mathbf{e}}_x)$$

$$\mathbf{J}_{\text{lh-c}} = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ +i \end{pmatrix} \quad (\text{left-hand circular polarization})$$

$$\mathbf{J}_{\text{rh-c}} = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ -i \end{pmatrix} \quad (\text{right-hand circular polarization})$$

### Jones Matrices for Common Polarizing Elements

$$\mathbf{M}_{\text{lin-x}} = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix} \quad (\text{transmission axis along } \hat{\mathbf{e}}_x)$$

$$\mathbf{M}_{\text{lin-y}} = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix} \quad (\text{transmission axis along } \hat{\mathbf{e}}_y)$$

$$\mathbf{M}_{\text{lin-}\theta} = \begin{pmatrix} \cos^2 \theta & \cos \theta \sin \theta \\ \cos \theta \sin \theta & \sin^2 \theta \end{pmatrix} \quad (\text{TA at angle } \theta \text{ relative to } \hat{\mathbf{e}}_x)$$

$$\mathbf{M}_{\text{lh-c}} = \frac{1}{2} \begin{pmatrix} 1 & -i \\ i & 1 \end{pmatrix} \quad (\text{transmits LHC polarized light})$$

$$\mathbf{M}_{\text{rh-c}} = \frac{1}{2} \begin{pmatrix} 1 & i \\ -i & 1 \end{pmatrix} \quad (\text{transmits RHC polarized light})$$

### Phase Retarders

Phase retarders are made from uniaxial birefringent materials.  
Let  $\hat{\mathbf{e}}_x$ ,  $\hat{\mathbf{e}}_y$ , and  $\hat{\mathbf{e}}_z$  be the principal axes of the uniaxial material's dielectric tensor.

Define dielectric tensor eigenvalues so that  $n_x = n_y \neq n_z$ .

$$n_x = n_y \equiv n_o \quad (\text{ordinary refractive index})$$

$$n_z \equiv n_e \quad (\text{extraordinary refractive index})$$

Fast axis is axis with slower  $n$  (and faster phase velocity).

Slow axis is axis with larger  $n$  (and slower phase velocity).

Negative uniaxial crystals have  $n_e$  as fast axis and  $n_e < n_o$ .

Positive uniaxial crystals have  $n_e$  as slow axis and  $n_e > n_o$ .

### Jones Matrices For Common Phase Retarders

QWPs introduce phase difference  $\pm\pi/2$  between  $E_x$  and  $E_y$ .

QWPs transform linear polarization into elliptical polarization (and linear polarization with  $E_x = E_y$  into circular polarization).

$$\mathbf{M}_{\text{qw}} = e^{\pm i\frac{\pi}{4}} \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & \mp i \end{pmatrix} \quad (\text{quarter waveplate})$$

$$\mathbf{M}_{\text{qw-}\theta} = e^{\pm i\frac{\pi}{4}} \begin{pmatrix} \cos^2 \theta + i \sin^2 \theta & (1-i) \sin \theta \cos \theta \\ (1-i) \sin \theta \cos \theta & \sin^2 \theta \mp i \cos^2 \theta \end{pmatrix}$$

HWPs introduce phase difference  $\pm\pi$  between  $E_x$  and  $E_y$ .

HWPs transform RHC polarization into LHC polarization and reflect linear polarization about the coordinate axes.

$$\mathbf{M}_{\text{hw}} = e^{\pm i\frac{\pi}{2}} \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & -1 \end{pmatrix} \quad (\text{half waveplate})$$

$$\mathbf{M}_{\text{hw-}\theta} = e^{\pm i\frac{\pi}{2}} \begin{pmatrix} \cos^2 \theta - \sin^2 \theta & 2 \sin \theta \cos \theta \\ 2 \sin \theta \cos \theta & \sin^2 \theta - \cos^2 \theta \end{pmatrix}$$

## EM Waves in Conductive Materials

### Simplifying Assumptions in Conductors

We assume conducting matter in which we analyze EM waves is...

- (i) homogeneous: the material's properties are identical throughout the material (so  $\epsilon \neq \epsilon(\mathbf{r})$  and  $\mu \neq \mu(\mathbf{r})$ ),
- (ii) isotropic: the material's properties are identical for all orientations of the material (so  $\epsilon$  and  $\mu$  are scalars and not rank-two tensors),
- (iii) charge-free: the material is free of net electric charge (so  $\rho = 0$ ),
- (iv) linear:  $\mathbf{D} = \epsilon \epsilon_0 \mathbf{E}$  and  $\mathbf{B} = \mu \mu_0 \mathbf{H}$ , and
- (v) an Ohmic conductor:  $\mathbf{j}_f = \sigma_E \mathbf{E}$ .

$\sigma_E$  is the conducting material's electrical conductivity.

### Maxwell Equations Under Above Assumptions

$$\nabla \cdot \mathbf{D} = 0$$

$$\nabla \cdot \mathbf{B} = 0$$

$$\nabla \times \mathbf{E} = -\frac{\partial \mathbf{B}}{\partial t}$$

$$\nabla \times \mathbf{H} = \mathbf{j}_f + \frac{\partial \mathbf{D}}{\partial t} = \sigma_E \mathbf{E} + \frac{\partial \mathbf{D}}{\partial t}$$

### "Wave Equations" in Conducting Material

$$\nabla^2 \mathbf{E} = \mu \mu_0 \left( \sigma_E \frac{\partial \mathbf{E}}{\partial t} + \epsilon \epsilon_0 \frac{\partial^2 \mathbf{E}}{\partial t^2} \right) \quad (\mathbf{E} \text{ in conducting media})$$

$$\nabla^2 \mathbf{B} = \mu \mu_0 \left( \sigma_E \frac{\partial \mathbf{B}}{\partial t} + \epsilon \epsilon_0 \frac{\partial^2 \mathbf{B}}{\partial t^2} \right) \quad (\mathbf{B} \text{ in conducting media})$$

$$\mathbf{E}(\mathbf{r}, t) = \mathbf{E}_0 e^{i(\mathbf{K} \cdot \mathbf{r} - \omega t)} \quad (\text{ansatz; } \mathbf{E}_0, \mathbf{K} \in \mathbb{C}^3)$$

$$\mathbf{B}(\mathbf{r}, t) = \mathbf{B}_0 e^{i(\mathbf{K} \cdot \mathbf{r} - \omega t)} \quad (\text{ansatz; } \mathbf{B}_0, \mathbf{K} \in \mathbb{C}^3)$$

$$\mathcal{K}^2 = k_0^2 \left( \epsilon \mu + i \frac{\sigma_E \mu}{\epsilon_0 \omega} \right), \quad k_0 = \omega / c_0 \quad (\text{wave vector in conductors})$$

### Refractive Index in Conducting Material

$$\mathcal{N}^2 \equiv \epsilon \mu + i \frac{\sigma_E \mu}{\epsilon_0 \omega} \quad (\text{refractive index in conductors; } \mathcal{N} \in \mathbb{C})$$

$$\mathcal{N} \equiv n_{\text{Re}} + i n_{\text{Im}}$$

$$n_{\text{Re}}^2 = \frac{1}{2} \left( \epsilon \mu + \sqrt{(\epsilon \mu)^2 + \left( \frac{\sigma_E \mu}{\epsilon_0 \omega} \right)^2} \right)$$

$$n_{\text{Im}}^2 = \frac{1}{2} \left( -\epsilon \mu + \sqrt{(\epsilon \mu)^2 + \left( \frac{\sigma_E \mu}{\epsilon_0 \omega} \right)^2} \right)$$

### Limit Cases in a Good Conductor

Consider limit case of EM waves in a material with...

- (i)  $\mu = 1$  (a non-magnetic material)
- (ii)  $\frac{\sigma_E}{\epsilon_0 \omega} \gg \epsilon$  (good conductor; low frequencies)

$$n_{\text{Re}}^2 \approx \frac{1}{2} \left( +\epsilon + \frac{\sigma_E}{\epsilon_0 \omega} \right) \approx \frac{\sigma_E}{2\epsilon_0 \omega}$$

$$n_{\text{Im}}^2 \approx \frac{1}{2} \left( -\epsilon + \frac{\sigma_E}{\epsilon_0 \omega} \right) \approx \frac{\sigma_E}{2\epsilon_0 \omega}$$

### Electric Field Solution in Conducting Material

Align coordinate system so  $\hat{\mathbf{e}}_z$  aligns with direction of wave front propagation.

$$\mathbf{E} = \mathbf{E}(z, t) = \mathbf{E}_0 e^{i(\mathcal{K}z - \omega t)}$$

$$\mathbf{E}(z, t) = \mathbf{E}_0 e^{i(n_{\text{Re}} k_0 z - \omega t)} e^{-n_{\text{Im}} k_0 z} \quad (\text{using } \mathcal{K} = \mathcal{N} k_0 \in \mathbb{C})$$

$$z_0 \equiv \frac{1}{k_0 n_{\text{Im}}} = \frac{c_0}{\omega n_{\text{Im}}} \quad (\text{definition of skin depth})$$

$$z_0 \approx \sqrt{\frac{2}{\sigma_E \mu_0 \omega}} \quad (\text{limit case in good conductors})$$



# Reflection and Refraction

## Maxwell Equations In Matter (for review)

$$\nabla \cdot \mathbf{D} = \rho_f$$

$$\nabla \cdot \mathbf{B} = 0$$

$$\nabla \times \mathbf{E} = -\frac{\partial \mathbf{B}}{\partial t}$$

$$\nabla \times \mathbf{H} = \mathbf{j}_f + \frac{\partial \mathbf{D}}{\partial t}$$

## Boundary Conditions

Consider a boundary btwn. two materials with different  $\mu$  and  $\varepsilon$ .  
 $\hat{\mathbf{n}}$  is normal vector to boundary from material 2 to material 1.

### Boundary Condition for $\mathbf{B}$

$\mathbf{B}_1$  and  $\mathbf{B}_2$  are the fields in material 1 and 2, respectively

$$\nabla \cdot \mathbf{B} = 0 \implies \iiint_V \nabla \cdot \mathbf{B} d^3\mathbf{r} = \oint \mathbf{B} \cdot d\mathbf{S} = 0$$

Consider Gaussian pillbox of height  $d\mathbf{h} \rightarrow \mathbf{0}$  enclosing boundary.

$$\iint_{S_1} \mathbf{B}_1 \cdot \hat{\mathbf{n}} dS - \iint_{S_2} \mathbf{B}_2 \cdot \hat{\mathbf{n}} dS + 0 = 0$$

$$(\mathbf{B}_1 - \mathbf{B}_2) \cdot \hat{\mathbf{n}} = 0 \quad (\text{BC on } \mathbf{B} \text{ field})$$

$$B_1^\perp = B_2^\perp \quad (\text{alternate formulation})$$

$B_\perp$  is magnitude of  $\mathbf{B}$  normal to boundary.

### Boundary Condition for $\mathbf{D}$

$\mathbf{D}_1$  and  $\mathbf{D}_2$  are the fields in material 1 and 2, respectively.

$$\nabla \cdot \mathbf{D} = \rho_f \implies \iiint_V \nabla \cdot \mathbf{D} d^3\mathbf{r} = \oint \mathbf{D} \cdot d\mathbf{S} = \rho_f$$

Consider Gaussian pillbox of height  $d\mathbf{h} \rightarrow \mathbf{0}$  enclosing boundary.

$$\iint_{S_1} \mathbf{D}_1 \cdot \hat{\mathbf{n}} dS - \iint_{S_2} \mathbf{D}_2 \cdot \hat{\mathbf{n}} dS + 0 = \iint_S \sigma_f dS$$

$$(\mathbf{D}_1 - \mathbf{D}_2) \cdot \hat{\mathbf{n}} = \sigma_f \quad (\text{BC on } \mathbf{D} \text{ field})$$

$$D_1^\perp - D_2^\perp = \sigma_f \quad (\text{alternate formulation})$$

$\sigma_f$  is free charge density along boundary.

### Boundary Condition for $\mathbf{E}$

$\mathbf{E}_1$  and  $\mathbf{E}_2$  are the fields in material 1 and 2, respectively.

$$\nabla \times \mathbf{E} = -\frac{\partial \mathbf{B}}{\partial t}$$

$$\iint_S \nabla \times \mathbf{E} \cdot d\mathbf{S} = \oint_{\partial S} \mathbf{E} \cdot d\mathbf{s} = -\frac{\partial}{\partial t} \iint_S \mathbf{B} \cdot d\mathbf{S}$$

Consider rectangular surface of length  $l$  and width  $a \rightarrow 0$ .

$\hat{\mathbf{t}}_1$  and  $\hat{\mathbf{t}}_2$  are tangents to perimeter in material 1 and 2

$$\int_l (\mathbf{E}_1 \cdot \hat{\mathbf{t}}_1 + \mathbf{E}_2 \cdot \hat{\mathbf{t}}_2) dl + 0 + 0 = -\frac{\partial}{\partial t} \iint_S \mathbf{B} \cdot d\mathbf{S} \rightarrow 0$$

$$\mathbf{E}_1 \cdot \hat{\mathbf{t}}_1 + \mathbf{E}_2 \cdot \hat{\mathbf{t}}_2 = 0 \quad (\text{BC on } \mathbf{E} \text{ field})$$

$$E_1^\parallel = E_2^\parallel \quad (\text{alternate formulation})$$

$$(\mathbf{E}_1 - \mathbf{E}_2) \times \hat{\mathbf{n}} = \mathbf{0} \quad (\text{alternate formulation})$$

### Boundary Condition for $\mathbf{H}$

$\mathbf{H}_1$  and  $\mathbf{H}_2$  are the fields in material 1 and 2, respectively.

$$\nabla \times \mathbf{H} = \mathbf{j}_f - \frac{\partial \mathbf{D}}{\partial t}$$

$$\iint_S \nabla \times \mathbf{H} \cdot d\mathbf{S} = \oint_{\partial S} \mathbf{H} \cdot d\mathbf{s} = \iint_S \mathbf{j}_f \cdot d\mathbf{S} - \frac{\partial}{\partial t} \iint_S \mathbf{D} \cdot d\mathbf{S}$$

Consider rectangular surface of length  $l$  and width  $a \rightarrow 0$ .

$\hat{\mathbf{t}}_1$  and  $\hat{\mathbf{t}}_2$  are tangents to perimeter in material 1 and 2.

$$\int_l (\mathbf{H}_1 \cdot \hat{\mathbf{t}}_1 + \mathbf{H}_2 \cdot \hat{\mathbf{t}}_2) dl + 0 + 0 = 0 + \int_l \mathbf{K} \cdot d\mathbf{l}$$

$\mathbf{K}$  is surface current density in boundary (units  $\text{A m}^{-1}$ ).

$$\mathbf{H}_1 \cdot \hat{\mathbf{t}}_1 + \mathbf{H}_2 \cdot \hat{\mathbf{t}}_2 = \mathbf{K} \quad (\text{BC on } \mathbf{H} \text{ field})$$

$$H_1^\parallel - H_2^\parallel = K \quad (\text{alternate formulation})$$

$$(\mathbf{H}_1 - \mathbf{H}_2) \times \hat{\mathbf{n}} = \mathbf{K} \quad (\text{alternate formulation})$$

### Boundary Conditions In Dielectrics

Assume both material 1 and 2 are ideal dielectrics.

$$\sigma_f = 0 \quad (\text{no surface charge density along boundary})$$

$$\mathbf{K} = \mathbf{0} \quad (\text{no surface current density along boundary})$$

$$(\mathbf{B}_1 - \mathbf{B}_2) \cdot \hat{\mathbf{n}} = 0 \implies B_1^\perp = B_2^\perp$$

$$(\mathbf{D}_1 - \mathbf{D}_2) \cdot \hat{\mathbf{n}} = 0 \implies D_1^\perp = D_2^\perp$$

$$(\mathbf{E}_1 - \mathbf{E}_2) \times \hat{\mathbf{n}} = \mathbf{0} \implies E_1^\parallel = E_2^\parallel$$

$$(\mathbf{H}_1 - \mathbf{H}_2) \times \hat{\mathbf{n}} = \mathbf{0} \implies H_1^\parallel = H_2^\parallel$$

## Reflection and Refraction

Consider a plane wave incident on a planar interface from material 1 with refractive indices  $n_1$  into material 2 with refractive index  $n_2$ .

Assume both material 1 and 2 are ideal dielectrics.

Let interface lie in  $xy$  plane.

Let  $z$  axis point from material 1 into material 2.

### Notation

The subscript <sub>i</sub> denotes incident quantities.

The subscript <sub>r</sub> denotes reflected quantities.

The subscript <sub>t</sub> denotes transmitted quantities.

$$\mathbf{E}_i(\mathbf{r}, t) = \mathbf{E}_{i0} e^{i(\mathbf{k}_i \cdot \mathbf{r} - \omega_i t + \phi_i)} \quad (\text{incident wave})$$

$$\mathbf{E}_r(\mathbf{r}, t) = \mathbf{E}_{r0} e^{i(\mathbf{k}_r \cdot \mathbf{r} - \omega_r t + \phi_r)} \quad (\text{reflected wave})$$

$$\mathbf{E}_t(\mathbf{r}, t) = \mathbf{E}_{t0} e^{i(\mathbf{k}_t \cdot \mathbf{r} - \omega_t t + \phi_t)} \quad (\text{transmitted wave})$$

### Applying Boundary Conditions

$E_i^\parallel + E_r^\parallel = E_t^\parallel$  for all  $\mathbf{r} = (x, y, 0)$  in interface and for all  $t$

$$E_{i0} e^{i\phi_i} + E_{r0} e^{i\phi_r} = E_{t0} e^{i\phi_t} \quad (\text{for } x = y = z = 0 \text{ and } t = 0)$$

$$\implies \phi_i = \phi_r = \phi_t \equiv \phi \quad (\text{phases are equal})$$

$$E_{i0} e^{-i\omega_i t} e^{i\phi} + E_{r0} e^{-i\omega_r t} e^{i\phi} = E_{t0} e^{-i\omega_t t} e^{i\phi} \quad (\text{for } \mathbf{r} = \mathbf{0})$$

$$\implies \omega_i = \omega_r = \omega_t \equiv \omega \quad (\text{frequencies are equal})$$

$$E_{i0} e^{i\mathbf{k}_i \cdot \mathbf{r}} e^{i\phi} + E_{r0} e^{i\mathbf{k}_r \cdot \mathbf{r}} e^{i\phi} = E_{t0} e^{i\mathbf{k}_t \cdot \mathbf{r}} e^{i\phi} \quad (\text{for } t = 0)$$

$$\implies \mathbf{k}_i \cdot \mathbf{r} = \mathbf{k}_r \cdot \mathbf{r} = \mathbf{k}_t \cdot \mathbf{r} = \text{constant}$$

Geometrically:  $\mathbf{k}_i$ ,  $\mathbf{k}_r$  and  $\mathbf{k}_t$  lie in the same *plane of incidence*.

Convention: plane of incidence is  $xz$  plane for interface in  $xy$  plane.

### Geometry of Reflection and Refraction

Let interface lie in  $xy$  plane.

Let plane of incidence lie in  $xz$  plane.

Let  $z$  axis point from material 1 into material 2.

$\theta_i$  is angle of incidence.

$\theta_r$  is angle of reflection.

$\theta_t$  is angle of transmission.

All angles measured with respect to interface normal vector  $\hat{\mathbf{n}}$ .

$$\mathbf{k}_i = k_0 n_1 (\sin \theta_i, 0, \cos \theta_i) \quad (\text{incident wave vector})$$

$$\mathbf{k}_r = k_0 n_1 (\sin \theta_r, 0, -\cos \theta_r) \quad (\text{reflected wave vector})$$

$$\mathbf{k}_t = k_0 n_2 (\sin \theta_t, 0, \cos \theta_t) \quad (\text{transmitted wave vector})$$

### Laws of Reflection and Refraction

Substitute  $\mathbf{k}_i$ ,  $\mathbf{k}_r$  into  $\mathbf{k}_i \cdot \mathbf{r} = \mathbf{k}_r \cdot \mathbf{r}$ ; apply  $\mathbf{r} = (x, y, 0)$

$$\implies \theta_i = \theta_r \quad (\text{law of reflection})$$

Substitute  $\mathbf{k}_i$ ,  $\mathbf{k}_t$  into  $\mathbf{k}_i \cdot \mathbf{r} = \mathbf{k}_t \cdot \mathbf{r}$ ; apply  $\mathbf{r} = (x, y, 0)$

$$\implies n_1 \sin \theta_i = n_2 \sin \theta_t \quad (\text{law of refraction})$$

### Transverse Electric (TE) Polarization

$\mathbf{E}_i$ ,  $\mathbf{E}_r$  and  $\mathbf{E}_t$  are normal (*transverse*) to the plane of incidence and tangent to boundary interface.

$\mathbf{B}_i$ ,  $\mathbf{B}_r$  and  $\mathbf{B}_t$  lie in the plane of incidence and are perpendicular to  $\mathbf{E}_i, \mathbf{k}_i / \mathbf{E}_r, \mathbf{k}_r / \mathbf{E}_t, \mathbf{k}_t$ .

TE polarized-quantities are denoted by the subscript <sub>s</sub>.

### Transverse Magnetic (TM) Polarization

$\mathbf{B}_i$ ,  $\mathbf{B}_r$  and  $\mathbf{B}_t$  are normal (*transverse*) to the plane of incidence and tangent to boundary interface.

$\mathbf{E}_i$ ,  $\mathbf{E}_r$  and  $\mathbf{E}_t$  lie in the plane of incidence and are perpendicular to  $\mathbf{B}_i, \mathbf{k}_i / \mathbf{B}_r, \mathbf{k}_r / \mathbf{B}_t, \mathbf{k}_t$ .

TM polarized-quantities are denoted by the subscript <sub>p</sub>.

## Fresnel Equations

Situation as in “Reflection and Refraction”

Additionally assume  $\mu_1 = \mu_2 = 1$ .

$$r \equiv \frac{E_{r0}}{E_{i0}} \quad (\text{definition of reflection coefficient})$$

$$t \equiv \frac{E_{t0}}{E_{i0}} \quad (\text{definition of transmission coefficient})$$

### Fresnel Equations for TE Waves

$$E_i^\parallel + E_r^\parallel = E_t^\parallel \quad (\text{general boundary condition})$$

$$E_{i0} + E_{r0} = E_{t0} \quad (\text{for TE-polarized waves})$$

$$H_i^\parallel + H_r^\parallel = H_t^\parallel \quad (\text{general boundary condition})$$

$$B_i^\parallel + B_r^\parallel = B_t^\parallel \quad (\text{from } \mathbf{B} = \mu_0 \mathbf{H})$$

$$(B_{r0} - B_{i0}) \cos \theta_i = B_{t0} \cos \theta_t \quad (\text{after geometry})$$

$$(E_{r0} - E_{i0})n_1 \cos \theta_i = E_{t0}n_2 \cos \theta_t \quad (\text{after } E_0 = cB_0)$$

$$r_s = \frac{E_{r0}}{E_{i0}} = \frac{n_1 \cos \theta_i - n_2 \cos \theta_t}{n_1 \cos \theta_i + n_2 \cos \theta_t} \quad (\text{Fresnel equation for } r_s)$$

$$t_s = \frac{E_{t0}}{E_{i0}} = 1 + r_s \quad (\text{Fresnel equation for } t_s)$$

### Alternate Formulations

$$r_s = -\frac{\sin(\theta_i - \theta_t)}{\sin(\theta_i + \theta_t)} \quad (\text{using Snell's law})$$

$$r_s = \frac{n_1 \cos \theta_i - n_2 \sqrt{1 - \left(\frac{n_1}{n_2}\right)^2 \sin^2 \theta_i}}{n_1 \cos \theta_i + n_2 \sqrt{1 - \left(\frac{n_1}{n_2}\right)^2 \sin^2 \theta_i}} \quad (\text{Snell's law and trig. identities})$$

### Fresnel Equations for TM Waves

$$H_i^\parallel + H_r^\parallel = H_t^\parallel \quad (\text{general boundary condition})$$

$$B_i^\parallel + B_r^\parallel = B_t^\parallel \quad (\text{from } \mathbf{B} = \mu_0 \mathbf{H})$$

$$B_{i0} + B_{r0} = B_{t0} \quad (\text{for TM-polarized waves})$$

$$E_{i0}n_1 + E_{r0}n_1 = E_{t0}n_2 \quad (\text{after } E_0 = cB_0)$$

$$E_i^\parallel + E_r^\parallel = E_t^\parallel \quad (\text{general boundary condition})$$

$$(E_{i0} - E_{r0}) \cos \theta_i = E_{t0} \cos \theta_t \quad (\text{after geometry})$$

$$r_p = \frac{E_{r0}}{E_{i0}} = \frac{n_2 \cos \theta_i - n_1 \cos \theta_t}{n_2 \cos \theta_i + n_1 \cos \theta_t} \quad (\text{Fresnel equation for } r_p)$$

$$t_p = \frac{E_{t0}}{E_{i0}} = \frac{n_1}{n_2} (1 + r_p) \quad (\text{Fresnel equation for } t_p)$$

### Alternate Formulations

$$r_p = \frac{\sin \theta_i \cos \theta_i - \sin \theta_t \cos \theta_t}{\sin \theta_i \cos \theta_i + \sin \theta_t \cos \theta_t} \quad (\text{using Snell's law})$$

$$r_p = \frac{\tan(\theta_i - \theta_t)}{\tan(\theta_i + \theta_t)} \quad (\text{Snell's law and trig. identities})$$

$$r_p = \frac{n_2 \cos \theta_i - n_1 \sqrt{1 - \left(\frac{n_1}{n_2}\right)^2 \sin^2 \theta_i}}{n_2 \cos \theta_i + n_1 \sqrt{1 - \left(\frac{n_1}{n_2}\right)^2 \sin^2 \theta_i}} \quad (\text{Snell's law and trig. identities})$$

### Power Coefficients

Situation and assumptions as in [Fresnel Equations](#).

Let  $\mathbf{j}_i$ ,  $\mathbf{j}_r$ , and  $\mathbf{j}_t$  denote incident, reflected, and transmitted energy current densities, respectively.

Let  $\hat{\mathbf{z}}$  denote normal to boundary (from material 1 into material 2).

$$\mathbf{j} \parallel \mathbf{k} \quad (\text{in isotropic materials})$$

$$\langle \mathbf{j} \rangle = \frac{1}{2} \varepsilon \varepsilon_0 c E_0^2 \hat{\mathbf{k}} \quad (\text{in isotropic materials})$$

$$\langle \mathbf{j} \rangle = \frac{1}{2} \varepsilon_0 c_0 n E_0^2 \hat{\mathbf{k}} \quad (\text{assuming } \mu = 1 \implies \varepsilon = n^2)$$

$$\langle \mathbf{j}_i \rangle \cdot \hat{\mathbf{z}} = \frac{1}{2} \varepsilon_0 c_0 n_1 E_{i0}^2 \cos \theta_i$$

$$\langle \mathbf{j}_r \rangle \cdot \hat{\mathbf{z}} = -\frac{1}{2} \varepsilon_0 c_0 n_1 E_{r0}^2 \cos \theta_i \quad (\text{using } \theta_r = \theta_i)$$

$$\langle \mathbf{j}_t \rangle \cdot \hat{\mathbf{z}} = \frac{1}{2} \varepsilon_0 c_0 n_2 E_{t0}^2 \cos \theta_t$$

$$R \equiv \frac{|\langle \mathbf{j}_r \rangle \cdot \hat{\mathbf{z}}|}{|\langle \mathbf{j}_i \rangle \cdot \hat{\mathbf{z}}|} = \left( \frac{E_{r0}}{E_{i0}} \right)^2 = |r|^2 \quad (\text{reflectance})$$

$$T \equiv \frac{|\langle \mathbf{j}_t \rangle \cdot \hat{\mathbf{z}}|}{|\langle \mathbf{j}_i \rangle \cdot \hat{\mathbf{z}}|} = \frac{n_2 \cos \theta_t}{n_1 \cos \theta_i} \left( \frac{E_{t0}}{E_{i0}} \right)^2 = \frac{n_2 \cos \theta_t}{n_1 \cos \theta_i} |t|^2 \quad (\text{transmittance})$$

$$R + T = 1$$

$$\mathbf{J}_r = \begin{pmatrix} r_s & 0 \\ 0 & r_p \end{pmatrix} \mathbf{J}_i \quad (\text{Jones vectors; general polarization})$$

$$\mathbf{J}_t = \begin{pmatrix} t_s & 0 \\ 0 & t_p \end{pmatrix} \mathbf{J}_i \quad (\text{Jones vectors; general polarization})$$

## Passage into Optically Denser Material

“Optical density” refers to value of refractive index  $n$ .

Optically denser material  $\iff$  material larger  $n$ .

Optically less dense material  $\iff$  material smaller  $n$ .

Passage into optically denser material  $\implies n_2 > n_1$ .

### TE Polarization: Reflection Coefficients

$$r_s(\theta_i) = \frac{n_1 \cos \theta_i - n_2 \sqrt{1 - \left(\frac{n_1}{n_2}\right)^2 \sin^2 \theta_i}}{n_1 \cos \theta_i + n_2 \sqrt{1 - \left(\frac{n_1}{n_2}\right)^2 \sin^2 \theta_i}} \quad n_2 > n_1 \implies r_s < 0$$

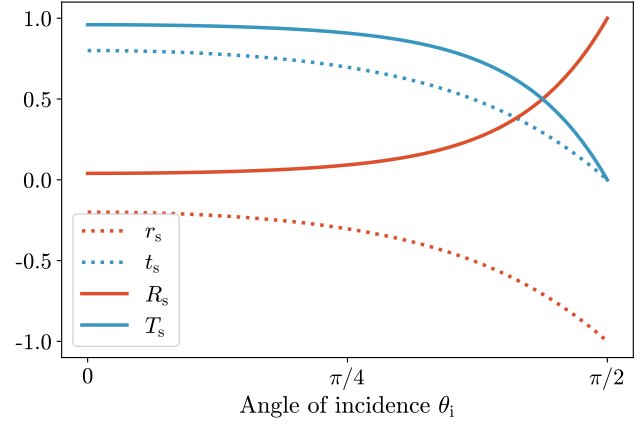
$$r_s \in [r_{\max} < 0, -1] \quad \text{for } \theta_i \in [0, \pi/2]$$

$$t_s \in [t_{\max} > 0, 0] \quad \text{for } \theta_i \in [0, \pi/2]; \quad t_s = 1 + r_s$$

$$R_s \in [R_{\min}, 1] \quad \text{for } \theta_i \in [0, \pi/2]; \quad R_s = |r_s|^2$$

$$T_s \in [T_{\max}, 0] \quad \text{for } \theta_i \in [0, \pi/2]; \quad T_s = 1 - R_s$$

### TE Into More Dense Material



### TM Polarization: Brewster's Angle

Brewster's angle  $\theta_B$ : angle of incidence  $\theta_i$  at which  $r_p = 0$ .

$$r_p = \frac{\tan(\theta_i - \theta_t)}{\tan(\theta_i + \theta_t)} \quad (\text{for TM polarization in general})$$

$$\theta_i + \theta_t = \pi/2 \implies \theta_i \equiv \theta_B = \pi/2 - \theta_t \quad (\text{for } r_p = 0)$$

$$\sin \theta_t = \sin(\pi/2 - \theta_B) = \cos \theta_B$$

$$\theta_B = \tan^{-1} \frac{n_2}{n_1} \quad (\text{from Snell's law})$$

### TM Polarization: Reflection Coefficients

$$r_p(\theta_i) = \frac{n_2 \cos \theta_i - n_1 \sqrt{1 - \left(\frac{n_1}{n_2}\right)^2 \sin^2 \theta_i}}{n_2 \cos \theta_i + n_1 \sqrt{1 - \left(\frac{n_1}{n_2}\right)^2 \sin^2 \theta_i}}$$

$$r_p \in [r_{\max} > 0, -1] \quad \text{for } \theta_i \in [0, \pi/2]$$

$$t_p \in [t_{\max} > 0, 0] \quad \text{for } \theta_i \in [0, \pi/2]$$

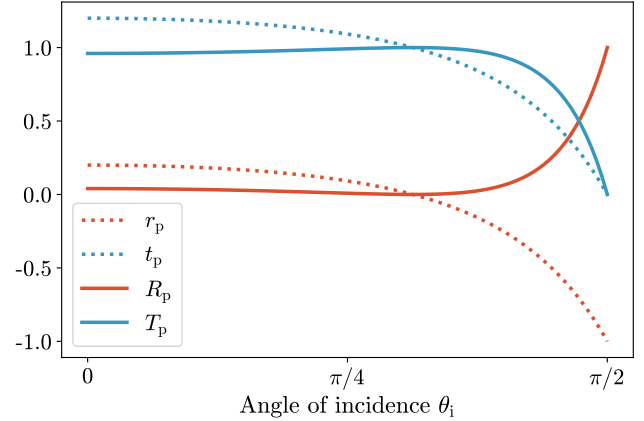
$$R_p \in [R_0, 0] \quad \text{for } \theta_i \in [0, \theta_B]$$

$$R_p \in [0, 1] \quad \text{for } \theta_i \in [\theta_B, \theta_c]$$

$$T_p \in [T_0, 1] \quad \text{for } \theta_i \in [0, \theta_B]$$

$$T_p \in [1, 0] \quad \text{for } \theta_i \in [\theta_B, \theta_c]$$

### TM Into More Dense Material



## Passage into Less Dense Material

Passage into optically less dense material  $\implies n_1 > n_2$ .

### Total Internal Reflection

$$\theta_t = \sin^{-1} \left( \frac{n_1}{n_2} \sin \theta_i \right) \quad (\text{from Snell's law})$$

Critical angle: angle of incidence  $\theta_i$  beyond which all incident light is reflected (*total internal reflection*).

$$\theta_c \equiv \sin^{-1} \frac{n_2}{n_1} \quad (\text{critical angle})$$

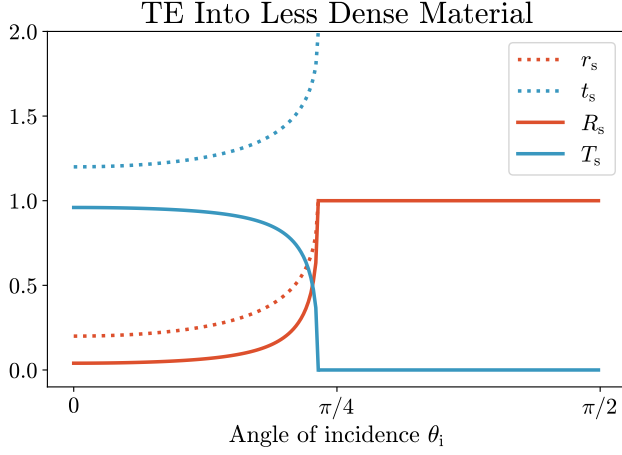
### TE Polarization: Reflection Coefficients

$$r_s(\theta_i) = \frac{n_1 \cos \theta_i - n_2 \sqrt{1 - \left(\frac{n_1}{n_2}\right)^2 \sin^2 \theta_i}}{n_1 \cos \theta_i + n_2 \sqrt{1 - \left(\frac{n_1}{n_2}\right)^2 \sin^2 \theta_i}} \quad r_s \in \mathbb{C} \text{ for } \theta_i > \theta_c$$

$$r_s(\theta_i) \equiv \frac{n_1 \cos \theta_i - i n_2 \kappa}{n_1 \cos \theta_i + i n_2 \kappa} \quad (r_s \text{ for } \theta_i > \theta_c)$$

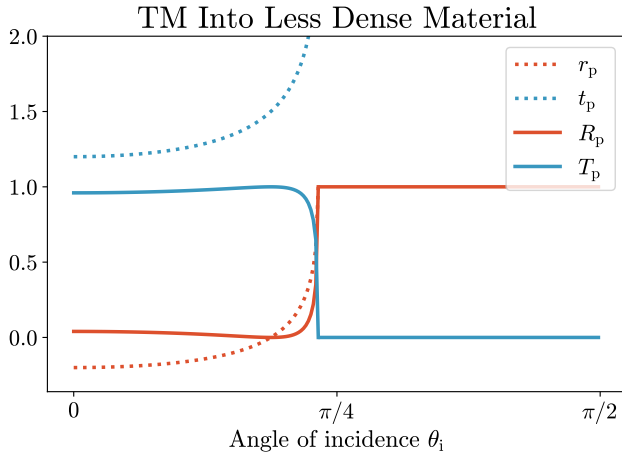
$$\kappa \equiv \sqrt{\left(\frac{n_1}{n_2}\right)^2 \sin^2 \theta_i - 1} = \sqrt{\left(\frac{\sin \theta_i}{\sin \theta_c}\right)^2 - 1}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
R_s &= |r_s|^2 = r_s r_s^* = 1 & (\text{for } \theta_i > \theta_c) \\
r_s &\in [r_{\min} > 0, 1] \text{ for } \theta_i \in [0, \theta_c] \\
t_s &\in [t_{\min} > 1, 2] \text{ for } \theta_i \in [0, \theta_c] \\
R_s &\in [R_{\min}, 1] \text{ for } \theta_i \in [0, \theta_c] \\
R_s &= 1 \text{ for } \theta_i \in [\theta_c, \pi/2] \\
T_s &\in [T_{\max}, 0] \text{ for } \theta_i \in [0, \theta_c] \\
T_s &= 0 \text{ for } \theta_i \in [\theta_c, \pi/2]
\end{aligned}$$



### TM Polarization: Reflection Coefficients

$$\begin{aligned}
r_p(\theta_i) &= \frac{n_2 \cos \theta_i - n_1 \sqrt{1 - \left(\frac{n_1}{n_2}\right)^2 \sin^2 \theta_i}}{n_2 \cos \theta_i + n_1 \sqrt{1 - \left(\frac{n_1}{n_2}\right)^2 \sin^2 \theta_i}} & r_p \in \mathbb{C} \text{ for } \theta_i > \theta_c \\
r_p(\theta_i) &\equiv \frac{n_2 \cos \theta_i - i n_1 \kappa}{n_2 \cos \theta_i + i n_1 \kappa} & (r_s \text{ for } \theta_i > \theta_c) \\
\kappa &\equiv \sqrt{\left(\frac{n_1}{n_2}\right)^2 \sin^2 \theta_i - 1} = \sqrt{\left(\frac{\sin \theta_i}{\sin \theta_c}\right)^2 - 1} \\
R_p &= |r_p|^2 = r_p r_p^* = 1 & (\text{for } \theta_i > \theta_c) \\
r_p &\in [r_{\min} < 0, 0] \text{ for } \theta_i \in [0, \theta_B] \\
r_p &\in [0, 1] \text{ for } \theta_i \in [\theta_B, \theta_c] \\
t_p &\in [t_{\min} > 1, t_{\max} > 2] \text{ for } \theta_i \in [0, \theta_c] \\
R_p &\in [R_0, 0] \text{ for } \theta_i \in [0, \theta_B] \\
R_p &\in [0, 1] \text{ for } \theta_i \in [\theta_B, \theta_c] \\
R_p &= 1 \text{ for } \theta_i \in [\theta_c, \pi/2] \\
T_p &\in [T_0, 1] \text{ for } \theta_i \in [0, \theta_B] \\
T_p &\in [1, 0] \text{ for } \theta_i \in [\theta_B, \theta_c] \\
T_p &= 0 \text{ for } \theta_i \in [\theta_c, \pi/2]
\end{aligned}$$



### Evanescent Field for TE Polarization

Situation as in [Geometry of Reflection and Refraction](#).

Assume  $n_2 < n_1$  (passage into optically less dense material).

$$\mathbf{k}_t = k_0 n_2 (\sin \theta_t, 0, \cos \theta_t) \quad (\text{in general})$$

$$\mathbf{k}_t = k_0 (n_1 \sin \theta_i, 0, n_2 \cos \theta_t) \quad (\text{after Snell's law})$$

$$\mathbf{k}_t = k_0 (n_1 \sin \theta_i, 0, i n_2 \kappa) \quad (\text{after } \cos \theta_t \rightarrow i \kappa)$$

$$r_s(\theta_i) = \frac{n_1 \cos \theta_i - n_2 \sqrt{1 - \left(\frac{n_1}{n_2}\right)^2 \sin^2 \theta_i}}{n_1 \cos \theta_i + n_2 \sqrt{1 - \left(\frac{n_1}{n_2}\right)^2 \sin^2 \theta_i}}$$

$$r_s(\theta_i) \equiv \frac{n_1 \cos \theta_i - i n_2 \kappa}{n_1 \cos \theta_i + i n_2 \kappa} \quad (r_s \text{ for } \theta_i > \theta_c)$$

$$\kappa \equiv \sqrt{\left(\frac{n_1}{n_2}\right)^2 \sin^2 \theta_i - 1} = \sqrt{\left(\frac{\sin \theta_i}{\sin \theta_c}\right)^2 - 1}$$

$$\mathbf{E}_t = \mathbf{E}_{t0} e^{i k_0 (n_1 x \sin \theta_i + i n_2 \kappa z)} e^{-i \omega t} \quad (\text{transmitted } \mathbf{E} \text{ field})$$

$$\mathbf{E}_t = \mathbf{E}_{t0} e^{i k_0 n_1 x \sin \theta_i} e^{-z/z_0} e^{-i \omega t} \quad (\text{in terms of skin depth})$$

$$z_0 \equiv \frac{1}{n_2 \kappa k_0} \quad (\text{skin depth})$$

$$z_0 = \frac{\lambda_0}{2\pi} \frac{1}{\sqrt{n_1^2 \sin^2 \theta_i - n_2^2}}; \quad \lambda_0 = 2\pi/k_0 \quad (\text{alternate expression})$$

$$z_0 \rightarrow \frac{\lambda_0}{2\pi} \frac{1}{\sqrt{n_1^2 - n_2^2}} \quad (\text{as } \theta_i \rightarrow \pi/2)$$

$$z_0 \rightarrow \infty \quad (\text{regular transmission as } \theta_i \rightarrow \theta_c^+)$$

### Reflected and Transmitted Field for TE Polarization

Situation, assumptions as in [Evanescent Field for TE Pol.](#)

$\hat{\mathbf{E}}_y \parallel \hat{\mathbf{e}}_y$  (for TE polarization and  $xz$  plane of incidence)

Assume  $E_{r0} = E_{i0}$  and get define  $E_0 \equiv E_{r0} = E_{i0}$ .

$$\mathbf{E}_1 = \mathbf{E}_i + \mathbf{E}_r = 2E_0 e^{i k_0 n_1 \sin \theta_i x} \cos[k_0 n_1 z \cos \theta_i] e^{-i \omega t} \hat{\mathbf{e}}_y$$

$$\text{Re } \mathbf{E}_1 = 2E_0 \cos[k_0 n_1 x \sin \theta_i - \omega t] \cos[k_0 n_1 z \cos \theta_i] \hat{\mathbf{e}}_y$$

$$E_t^{\parallel} = E_i^{\parallel} + E_r^{\parallel} \quad (\text{general boundary condition})$$

$$E_{t0} = E_{i0} + E_{r0} \quad (\text{for TE-polarized waves})$$

$$\mathbf{E}_t = 2E_0 \cos(k_0 n_1 x \sin \theta_i - \omega t) e^{-z/z_0} \hat{\mathbf{e}}_y \quad (E_{t0} = 2E_0)$$

### Reflected and Transmitted TE Poynting Vectors

Situation, assumptions as in [Evanescent Field for TE Pol.](#)

Assume non-magnetic materials with  $\mathbf{B} = \mu_0 \mathbf{H}$ .

$$\mathbf{E}_t = E_{t0} \cos(k_0 n_1 x \sin \theta_i - \omega t) e^{-z/z_0} \hat{\mathbf{e}}_y \quad (\text{transmitted } \mathbf{E} \text{ field})$$

$$\nabla \times \mathbf{E}_t = -\frac{\partial \mathbf{B}_t}{\partial t} = -\mu_0 \frac{\partial \mathbf{H}_t}{\partial t} \implies \dots$$

$$\mathbf{H}_t = \frac{E_{t0}}{\mu_0} \left[ \frac{1}{\omega z_0} \sin(k_x x - \omega t) \hat{\mathbf{e}}_x + \frac{k_x}{\omega} \cos(k_x x - \omega t) \hat{\mathbf{e}}_z \right] e^{-z/z_0}$$

$$\mathbf{S}_t = \mathbf{E}_t \times \mathbf{H}_t = \frac{E_{t0}^2}{\mu_0 \omega} [k_x \cos^2(k_x x - \omega t) \hat{\mathbf{e}}_x - \frac{1}{z_0} \sin(k_x x - \omega t) \cos(k_x x - \omega t) \hat{\mathbf{e}}_z] e^{-2z/z_0}$$

$$\langle \mathbf{S}_t \rangle = \frac{E_{t0}^2}{\mu_0 \omega} \frac{k_x}{2} e^{-2z/z_0} \hat{\mathbf{e}}_x \quad (\text{note that } \langle \mathbf{S}_t \rangle \cdot \hat{\mathbf{e}}_z = 0)$$

$$\langle |\mathbf{S}_t| \rangle = \frac{E_{t0}^2}{\mu_0 \omega} \frac{k_0 n_1}{2} e^{-2z/z_0} \sin \theta_i \quad (\text{using } k_x = k_0 n_1 \sin \theta_i)$$

$$\langle |\mathbf{S}_t| \rangle = \frac{1}{2} \varepsilon_0 c_0 n_1 E_{t0}^2 \sin \theta_i e^{-2z/z_0} \quad (\text{using } \varepsilon_0 \mu_0 = 1/c_0^2)$$

### Phase Shift During Reflection

Situation and assumptions as in [Fresnel Equations](#).

#### Phase Shift During Regular Reflection

$\phi$  is phase shift between incident and reflected light.

$$\phi_s = 0 \text{ if } r_s > 0$$

$$\phi_s = \pi \text{ if } r_s < 0$$

$$\phi_p = \pi \text{ if } r_p > 0$$

$$\phi_p = 0 \text{ if } r_p < 0$$

### TE Phase Shift During Total Internal Reflection

Assume  $\theta_i > \theta_c = \arcsin(n_2/n_1)$ .

$$r_s(\theta_i) \equiv \frac{n_1 \cos \theta_i - i n_2 \kappa}{n_1 \cos \theta_i + i n_2 \kappa}$$

$$\kappa \equiv \sqrt{\left(\frac{n_1}{n_2}\right)^2 \sin^2 \theta_i - 1} = \sqrt{\left(\frac{\sin \theta_i}{\sin \theta_c}\right)^2 - 1}$$

$$r_s = e^{-i \phi_s} \quad (\text{in complex polar form})$$

$$|r_s| = 1$$

$$\phi_s = 2 \arctan \frac{n_2 \kappa}{n_1 \cos \theta_i} = 2 \arctan \left[ \frac{n_2}{n_1 \cos \theta_i} \cdot \sqrt{\left(\frac{\sin \theta_i}{\sin \theta_c}\right)^2 - 1} \right]$$

$$\phi_s = 0 \text{ at } \theta_i = \theta_c \text{ and increases to } \phi_s \rightarrow \pi \text{ as } \theta_i \rightarrow \pi/2$$

### TM Phase Shift During Total Internal Reflection

Assume  $\theta_i > \theta_c = \arcsin(n_2/n_1)$ .

$$r_p(\theta_i) \equiv \frac{n_2 \cos \theta_i - i n_1 \kappa}{n_2 \cos \theta_i + i n_1 \kappa}$$

$$r_p = e^{-i \phi_p} \quad (\text{in complex polar form})$$

$$|r_p| = 1$$



$$\phi_p = 2 \arctan \frac{n_1 \kappa}{n_2 \cos \theta_i} = 2 \arctan \left[ \frac{n_1}{n_2 \cos \theta_i} \cdot \sqrt{\left( \frac{\sin \theta_i}{\sin \theta_c} \right)^2 - 1} \right]$$

$\phi_p = 0$  at  $\theta_i = \theta_c$  and increases to  $\phi_p \rightarrow \pi$  as  $\theta_i \rightarrow \pi/2$   
 $\phi_p > \phi_s$  for  $\theta_i \in (\theta_c, \pi/2)$  (because  $n_1 > n_2$ )

## Reflection From Metals

Suppose light is incident from dielectric onto metal.

Material 1 is a non-conducting dielectric with RI  $n_1$ .

Material 2 is a conducting metal with conductivity  $\sigma_2$ .

### For TE Polarization

$\mathcal{K} = (\mathcal{K}_x, 0, \mathcal{K}_z) \in \mathbb{C}$  (transmitted wave vector in metal)

$\mathcal{K}_x = k_{i_x} = k_0 n_1 \sin \theta_i$  ( $x$  component preserved)

$\mathcal{K}_z \equiv k_{t_z} + i\kappa_{t_z}$  (Re and Im components)

$\mathcal{N}^2 = \varepsilon\mu + i\frac{\sigma_E\mu}{\varepsilon_0\omega}$  (refractive index in metal)

$|\mathcal{K}| = \mathcal{K} = \mathcal{N}k_0$

$|\mathcal{K}|^2 = \mathcal{K}_x^2 + (k_z + i\kappa_{t_z})^2 = \mathcal{N}^2 k_0^2$

$$k_{t_z}^2 = \frac{1}{2} \left[ \sqrt{(k_0^2 \varepsilon_2 - \mathcal{K}_x^2)^2 + \left( \frac{\sigma_2 k_0^2}{\varepsilon_0 \omega} \right)^2} + k_0^2 \varepsilon_2 - \mathcal{K}_x^2 \right] \quad (\text{if } \mu = 1)$$

$$\kappa_{t_z}^2 = \frac{1}{2} \left[ \sqrt{(k_0^2 \varepsilon_2 - \mathcal{K}_x^2)^2 + \left( \frac{\sigma_2 k_0^2}{\varepsilon_0 \omega} \right)^2} - k_0^2 \varepsilon_2 + \mathcal{K}_x^2 \right] \quad (\text{if } \mu = 1)$$

### Coefficients for TE Polarization

We quote the following results without derivation...

$$ik_{i_z} E_{i_0} - ik_{i_z} E_{r_0} = (ik_{t_z} + \kappa) E_{0_t} \quad (\text{boundary conditions})$$

$$k_{i_z} E_{i_0} - k_{i_z} E_{r_0} = (k_{t_z} - i\kappa) E_{0_t} \quad (\text{after rearranging})$$

$$r_s = \frac{E_{r_0}}{E_{i_0}} = \frac{k_{i_z} - k_{t_z} - i\kappa}{k_{i_z} + k_{t_z} + i\kappa} \quad (\text{using } E_{t_0} = E_{i_0} + E_{r_0})$$

$$r_s = \frac{n_1 \cos \theta_i - \mathcal{N}_2 \cos \theta_t}{n_1 \cos \theta_i + \mathcal{N}_2 \cos \theta_t} \quad (\text{alternate formulation})$$

$$r_s = \frac{n_1 \cos \theta_i - n_2 \cos \theta_t}{n_1 \cos \theta_i + n_2 \cos \theta_t} = \frac{k_{i_z} - k_{t_z}}{k_{i_z} + k_{t_z}} \quad (\text{dielectric to dielectric})$$

### Coefficients For TM Polarization

We quote the following result without derivation...

$$r_p = \frac{\mathcal{N}_2 \cos \theta_i - n_1 \cos \theta_t}{\mathcal{N}_2 \cos \theta_i + n_1 \cos \theta_t} \quad (\text{alternate formulation})$$

### Normal Incidence

Let  $\mathcal{N} \equiv n_{\text{Re}} + in_{\text{Im}}$ .

$$r_s = \frac{n_1 - \mathcal{N}}{n_1 + \mathcal{N}} = \frac{n_1 - n_{\text{Re}} - in_{\text{Im}}}{n_1 + n_{\text{Re}} + in_{\text{Im}}}$$

$$r_p = \frac{\mathcal{N} - n_1}{\mathcal{N} + n_1} = -r_s$$

$$R = |r_s|^2 = |r_p|^2 = \frac{(n_1 - n_{\text{Re}})^2 + n_{\text{Im}}^2}{(n_1 + n_{\text{Re}})^2 + n_{\text{Im}}^2}$$

$$R \rightarrow \frac{n_1^2 + n_{\text{Im}}^2}{n_1^2 + n_{\text{Im}}^2} = 1 \text{ as } n_{\text{Re}} \rightarrow 0 \quad (\text{in good conductors})$$

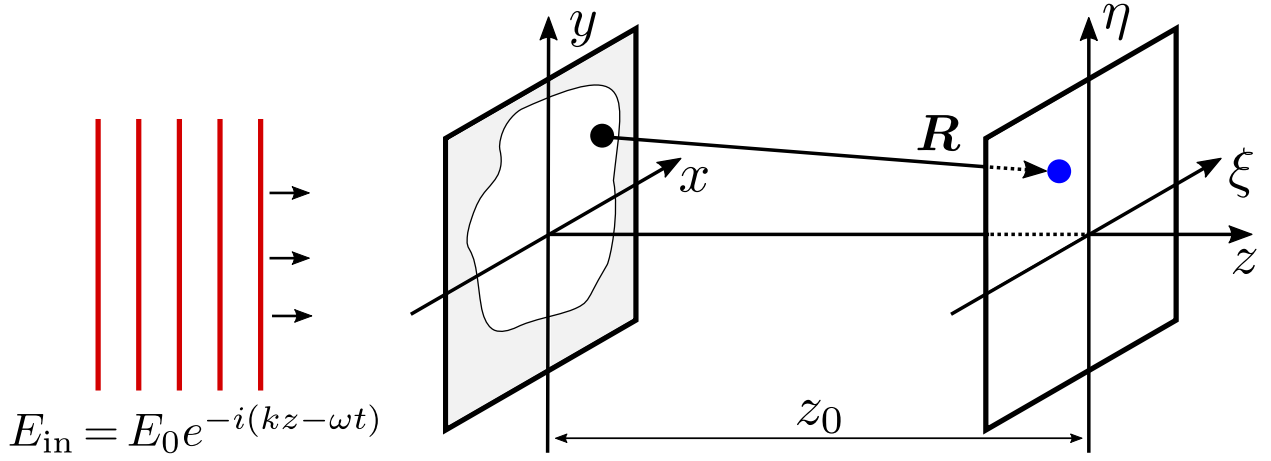


Figure 1: Geometry of Fraunhofer diffraction.

## Diffraction

Light undergoes diffraction when incident on, or passing through, obstacles or openings with characteristic linear dimensions comparable to the light's wavelength.

### Situation, Geometry, and Coordinate System

Monochromatic plane waves with  $\mathbf{k} \parallel \hat{\mathbf{e}}_z$  and amplitude  $E_0$  are normally incident on a diffracting aperture in the  $xy$  plane.

Goal: determine spatial distribution of electric field magnitude on a distant observation screen as a function of electric field magnitude  $E(x, y)$  in diffracting aperture.

$z$  axis is optical axis.

$S_a$  is the planar diffracting aperture.

Origin is the intersection of aperture plane and optical axis.

Observation screen is parallel to  $xy$  plane at  $z = z_0$ .

$(x, y)$  are coordinates in diffracting aperture.

$(\xi, \eta)$  are coordinates in observation screen.

$\mathbf{R}$  points from arbitrary point in aperture to arbitrary point in observation screen.

$$R = |\mathbf{R}| = \sqrt{(\xi - x)^2 + (\eta - y)^2 + z_0^2}$$

$$f_a(x, y) \equiv \begin{cases} 1 & (x, y) \in S_a \\ 0 & \text{otherwise} \end{cases} \quad (\text{aperture function})$$

### Diffraction Integral

Assume  $R$  is much larger than aperture's linear dimensions.

$|\mathbf{E}(\mathbf{r})| \equiv E_0$  for all  $\mathbf{r}$  in  $S_a$  (for plane waves incident on  $S_a$ )

Huygen's principle: Every point in  $S_a$  acts as a source of secondary spherical EM waves whose amplitude is determined by the plane waves incident on  $S_a$ .

$$E(r) = \frac{A}{r} e^{i(kr - \omega t)} \quad (\text{a general spherical wave})$$

$$E(\xi, \eta) = \frac{1}{i\lambda} \iint_{S_a} E_0 \frac{e^{ikR}}{R} dS \quad (\text{field at observation screen})$$

$$= \frac{1}{i\lambda} \iint f_a(x, y) E_0 \frac{e^{ikR}}{R} dS$$

## Fraunhofer Diffraction

See “Situation, Geometry, and Coordinate System”

$$R_0 \equiv \xi^2 + \eta^2 + z_0^2 \quad (\text{distance from origin to obs. screen})$$

$$R = \sqrt{(\xi - x)^2 + (\eta - y)^2 + z_0^2} \quad (\text{in general})$$

Assume  $R_0 \gg (x^2 + y^2)$

$$R \approx R_0 - \frac{\xi x}{R_0} - \frac{\eta y}{R_0} \quad (\text{Fraunhofer diffraction approximation})$$

$$\frac{e^{ikR}}{R} \approx \frac{1}{R_0} \exp \left[ ik \left( R_0 - \frac{\xi x}{R_0} - \frac{\eta y}{R_0} \right) \right]$$

$$E(\xi, \eta) = \frac{1}{i\lambda} \frac{E_0 e^{ikR_0}}{R_0} \iint_{S_a} \exp \left[ -ik \left( \frac{\xi x}{R_0} + \frac{\eta y}{R_0} \right) \right] dx dy \quad (\text{FraD})$$

$$= \frac{1}{i\lambda} \frac{E_0 e^{ikR_0}}{R_0} \iint f_a(x, y) \exp \left[ -ik \left( \frac{\xi x}{R_0} + \frac{\eta y}{R_0} \right) \right] dx dy$$

### Fraunhofer Diffraction, Alternate Expression

$$\sin \theta_\xi \equiv \frac{\xi}{R_0}; \quad \theta_\xi \approx \frac{\xi}{R_0} \quad (\text{for } R_0 \gg \xi)$$

$$\sin \theta_\eta \equiv \frac{\eta}{R_0}; \quad \theta_\eta \approx \frac{\eta}{R_0} \quad (\text{for } R_0 \gg \eta)$$

$$\kappa_\xi \equiv k \sin \theta_\xi = \frac{2\pi \sin \theta_\xi}{\lambda}$$

$$\kappa_\eta \equiv k \sin \theta_\eta = \frac{2\pi \sin \theta_\eta}{\lambda}$$

$$E(\kappa_\xi, \kappa_\eta) = \frac{1}{i\lambda} \frac{E_0 e^{ikR_0}}{R_0} \iint_{S_a} e^{-i(\kappa_\xi x + \kappa_\eta y)} dx dy$$

$$= \frac{1}{i\lambda} \frac{E_0 e^{ikR_0}}{R_0} \iint f_a(x, y) e^{-i(\kappa_\xi x + \kappa_\eta y)} dx dy$$

### Fresnel Number and Validity of Fraunhofer Diffraction

Fraunhofer approximation neglects the  $\frac{x^2 + y^2}{2R_0}$  term in  $R$ .

$$\exp \left( ik \frac{x^2 + y^2}{2R_0} \right) \quad (\text{phase contribution of neglected term})$$

$$k \frac{x^2 + y^2}{2R_0} \ll 2\pi \text{ for all } (x, y) \in S_a \quad (\text{condition for Fra. approx.})$$

$$L^2 \equiv \max [x^2 + y^2]_{(x, y) \in S_a} \quad (\text{characteristic aperture size})$$

$$\frac{kL^2}{2R_0} = \frac{2\pi}{\lambda} \frac{L^2}{2R_0} \ll 2\pi \quad (\text{condition in terms of } L)$$

$$\frac{L^2}{\lambda z_0} \ll 1 \quad (\text{using } R_0 \sim z_0 \text{ and } 2 \sim 1)$$

$$F \equiv \frac{L^2}{\lambda z_0} \quad (\text{definition of Fresnel number})$$

$$F \ll 1 \quad (\text{condition for Fraunhofer approx})$$

### Fraunhofer Diffraction; Thin Slit

Consider monochromatic plane wave light of wavelength  $\lambda$  normally incident on a thin slit of width  $a$  in the  $xy$  plane.

Let the slit width span  $x \in [-a/2, a/2]$ .

Assume translational invariance along the  $y$  axis.

$$f_a(x) = \begin{cases} 1 & x \in [-a/2, a/2] \\ 0 & \text{otherwise} \end{cases} \quad (\text{aperture function})$$

$$E(\kappa_\xi) = \frac{1}{i\lambda} \frac{E_0 e^{ikR_0}}{R_0} \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} f_a(x) e^{-i\kappa_\xi x} dx$$

$$\equiv A \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} f_a(x) e^{-i\kappa_\xi x} dx \quad \left( A \equiv \frac{1}{i\lambda} \frac{E_0 e^{ikR_0}}{R_0} \right)$$

$$= Aa \operatorname{sinc} \frac{\kappa_\xi a}{2}$$

$$E(\theta_\xi) = Aa \operatorname{sinc} \left( \frac{\pi a \sin \theta_\xi}{\lambda} \right) \quad (\text{alternate expression})$$

$$\sin \theta_{\min} = \frac{n\lambda}{a}; \quad n \in \mathbb{Z} \quad (\text{diffraction pattern minima})$$

### Fraunhofer Diffraction; Rectangular Aperture

Consider monochromatic plane wave light of wavelength  $\lambda$  normally incident on a rectangular aperture of width  $a$  and height  $b$  in the  $xy$  plane.

Let the aperture width span  $x \in [-a/2, a/2]$ .

Let the aperture height span  $y \in [-b/2, b/2]$ .

$$f_a(x, y) = \begin{cases} 1 & x \in [-a/2, a/2] \text{ and } y \in [-b/2, b/2] \\ 0 & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

$$E(\kappa_\xi, \kappa_\eta) = A \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} dx \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} dy f_a(x, y) e^{-i(\kappa_\xi x + \kappa_\eta y)}$$

$$= Aab \operatorname{sinc} \frac{\kappa_\xi a}{2} \operatorname{sinc} \frac{\kappa_\eta b}{2}$$

$$E(\theta_\xi, \theta_\eta) = Aab \operatorname{sinc} \left( \frac{\pi a \sin \theta_\xi}{\lambda} \right) \operatorname{sinc} \left( \frac{\pi b \sin \theta_\eta}{\lambda} \right)$$

### Fraunhofer Diffraction; Diffraction Grating

Consider monochromatic plane wave light of wavelength  $\lambda$  normally incident on a series of  $N$  thin slits of width  $a$ , uniformly separated by distance  $D$ , in the  $xy$  plane.

Assume translational invariance along the  $y$  axis.

Assume width of central slit spans  $x \in [-a/2, a/2]$ .

$$E(\kappa_\xi) = A \sum_{n=0}^N \int_{nD-a/2}^{nD+a/2} e^{-in\kappa_\xi x} dx$$

$$= Aa \operatorname{sinc} \frac{\kappa_\xi a}{2} \sum_{n=0}^N (e^{-i\kappa_\xi D})^n$$

$$= Aa \operatorname{sinc} \frac{\kappa_\xi a}{2} \frac{1 - e^{-i\kappa_\xi D N}}{1 - e^{-i\kappa_\xi D}}$$

$$E(\theta) = Aa \operatorname{sinc} \frac{ka \sin \theta}{2} \frac{1 - e^{-ikDN \sin \theta}}{1 - e^{-ikD \sin \theta}} \quad (\text{using } \theta \equiv \theta_\xi)$$

$$j(\theta) \propto (Aa)^2 \operatorname{sinc}^2 \frac{ka \sin \theta}{2} \cdot \frac{\sin^2 \left( \frac{kDN \sin \theta}{2} \right)}{\sin^2 \left( \frac{kD \sin \theta}{2} \right)} \quad (\text{intensity})$$

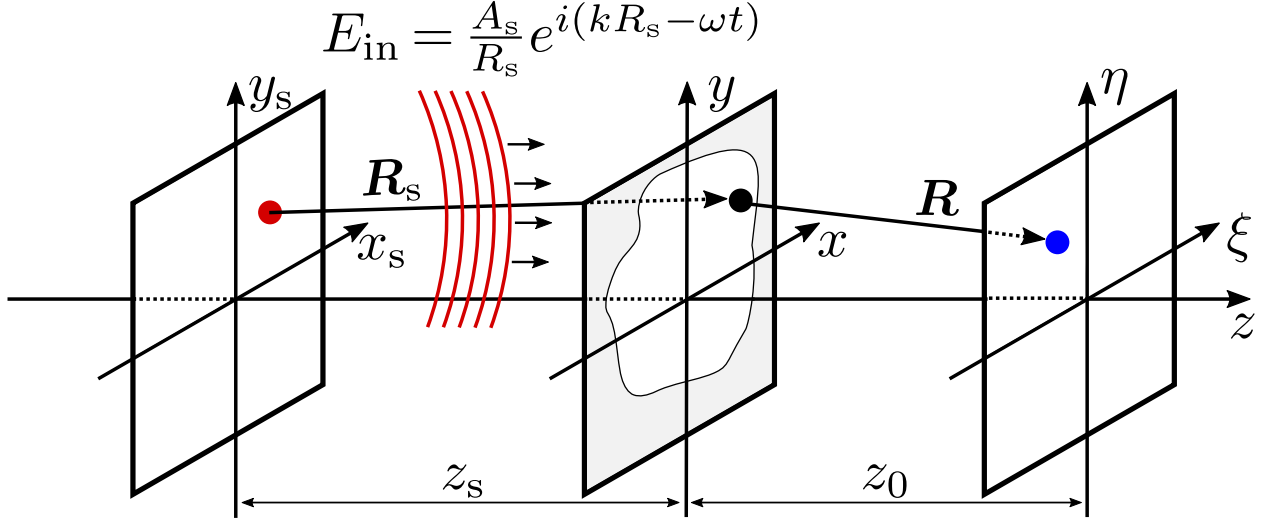


Figure 2: Geometry of Fresnel diffraction.

## Fresnel Diffraction

See “**Situation, Geometry, and Coordinate System**”

Assume light originates from a point source of spherical waves.

Source lies in plane parallel to  $xy$  plane at  $z = -z_s$ .

$(x_s, y_s)$  are coordinates in source plane.

$\mathbf{R}_s$  points from arbitrary point in source plane to arbitrary point in diffracting aperture.

$$R_s = |\mathbf{R}_s| = \sqrt{(x_s - x)^2 + (y_s - y)^2 + z_s^2}$$

$\mathbf{R}$  points from arbitrary point in aperture to arbitrary point in observation screen.

$$R = |\mathbf{R}| = \sqrt{(\xi - x)^2 + (\eta - y)^2 + z_0^2}$$

$$E_0 = E_0(x, y) \quad (\text{electric field may vary in diffracting aperture})$$

$$E_0(x, y) = \frac{A_s}{R_s} e^{ikR_s} \quad (\text{field amplitude in aperture})$$

### Distance Approximations

$$R = \sqrt{(\xi - x)^2 + (\eta - y)^2 + z_0^2} \quad (\text{in general})$$

$$R_s = \sqrt{(x_s - x)^2 + (y_s - y)^2 + z_s^2} \quad (\text{in general})$$

$$R \approx z_0 \left( 1 + \frac{(x - \xi)^2}{2z_0^2} + \frac{(y - \eta)^2}{2z_0^2} \right) \quad (\text{Fresnel approximation})$$

$$R_s \approx z_s \left( 1 + \frac{(x - x_s)^2}{2z_s^2} + \frac{(y - y_s)^2}{2z_s^2} \right) \quad (\text{Fresnel approximation})$$

### Fresnel Diffraction Integral

$$E(\xi, \eta) = \frac{1}{i\lambda} \iint_{S_a} E_0 \frac{e^{ikR}}{R} dS \quad (\text{general diffraction integral})$$

$$E(\xi, \eta) = \frac{A_s}{i\lambda} \iint_{S_a} \frac{e^{ikR_s}}{R_s} \frac{e^{ikR}}{R} dS \quad (\text{for above } E_0(x, y))$$

$$E(\xi, \eta, x_s, y_s) = \frac{A_s}{i\lambda} \frac{e^{ik(z_s + z_0)}}{R_s R} \iint_{S_a} e^{\frac{ik}{2z_s} [(x - x_s)^2 + (y - y_s)^2]} \times e^{\frac{ik}{2z_0} [(x - \xi)^2 + (y - \eta)^2]} dx dy$$

### Validity of the Fresnel Approximation

$$a^2 \equiv (x - \xi)^2 + (y - \eta)^2$$

$$R = z_0 \sqrt{1 + a^2/z_0^2} \quad (\text{origin-observation screen distance})$$

$$R \approx z_0 + \frac{a^2}{2z_0} - \frac{a^4}{8z_0^3} \quad (\text{for } a \ll z_0)$$

Fresnel approximation neglects the  $\frac{a^4}{8z_0^3}$  term.

$$\exp\left(ik \frac{a^4}{8z_0^3}\right) \quad (\text{phase contribution of neglected term})$$

$$k \frac{a^4}{8z_0^3} \ll 2\pi \quad (\text{condition for Fresnel approximation})$$

$$\frac{a^4}{z_0^3} \ll \frac{8\lambda}{z_0} \quad (\text{alternate expression})$$

### Fresnel Diffraction; Circular Aperture

Consider aperture of radius  $a$  centered on  $z$  (optical) axis.

Source lies on optical axis a distance  $z_s$  from aperture.

Observation point centered on OA a distance  $z_0$  from aperture.

Let  $1/L \equiv (1/z_0) + (1/z_s)$ .

$$E = \frac{A_s}{i\lambda} \frac{e^{ik(z_0 + z_s)}}{R R_s} \iint_{S_a} e^{\frac{ik}{2z_0} (x^2 + y^2)} e^{\frac{ik}{2z_s} (x^2 + y^2)} dx dy$$

$$= 2\pi \frac{A_s}{i\lambda} \frac{e^{ik(z_0 + z_s)}}{R R_s} \int_0^a \rho e^{\frac{ik\rho^2}{2L}} d\rho \quad (\text{polar coordinates})$$

$$E(z_0) \approx 2\pi \frac{A_s}{i\lambda} \frac{e^{ik(z_0 + z_s)}}{z_0 + z_s} e^{i \frac{ka^2}{4L}} \sin \frac{ka^2}{4L} \quad (z_0 \approx R, z_s \approx R_s)$$

$$I(z_0) \propto 4\pi^2 \frac{A_s^2}{(z_0 + z_s)^2} \sin^2 \frac{ka^2}{4L} \quad (\text{intensity})$$

### Fresnel Zones

Reconsider the intensity from the circular aperture...

$$I = 4I_0 \sin^2 \frac{ka^2}{4L}; \quad I_0 = \frac{\varepsilon_0 c}{2} \frac{A_s^2}{(z_0 + z_s)^2}$$

$I_0$  is intensity at observation point of the same point source *without* a diffracting screen placed between source and OP.

$I$  oscillates with aperture radius  $a$  between  $0 \cdot I_0$  and  $4I_0$ .

Values of  $a$  for which  $I$  attains maxima and minima define the boundaries of *Fresnel zones*—concentric annuli centered on the circular aperture.

$$a_{n-1} = \sqrt{(n-1)\lambda L} \quad (\text{inner radius of } n\text{-th FZ})$$

$$a_n = \sqrt{n\lambda L} \quad (\text{outer radius of } n\text{-th FZ})$$

### Phase

Situation as in [Fresnel Diffraction; Circular Aperture](#).

Assume  $z_s \rightarrow \infty \implies L = z_0$ .

Consider light from (a) aperture center to observation point and (b) radial distance  $a$  in aperture to observation point.

$$R_a = z_0$$

$$R_b = \sqrt{z_0^2 + a^2} \approx z_0 + \frac{a^2}{2z_0}$$

$$\phi_a = kz_0$$

$$\phi_b \approx kz_0 + \frac{ka^2}{2z_0}$$

$$\Delta\phi = \phi_b - \phi_a \approx \frac{ka^2}{2z_0}$$

$\Delta\phi < \pi \implies$  constructive interference between (a) and (b)

$\Delta\phi > \pi \implies$  destructive interference between (a) and (b)

Covering every other Fresnel zone produces a Fresnel lens.

$$\frac{1}{f} = \frac{1}{z_0} \approx \frac{1}{L} \implies f \approx L \quad (\text{focus, assuming } z_s \rightarrow \infty)$$

$$f = a_1^2/\lambda \quad (\text{from } a_1 = \sqrt{\lambda L})$$

$$a_1^2 = a_{n+1}^2 - a_n^2 = (a_{n+1} + a_n)(a_{n+1} - a_n) \approx 2a_n \Delta a_n$$

(assuming  $a_{n+1} + a_n \approx 2a_n$  for large  $n$ )

$$f \approx \frac{2a_n \Delta a_n}{\lambda} \quad (\text{focus for multi-zone lens})$$

# Interference

Both diffraction and interference are fundamentally the same phenomenon: superposition of electromagnetic waves.

Superposition of vector field  $\mathbf{E}$  applies in general.

Superposition of scalar field  $E = |\mathbf{E}|$  applies only for EM waves with equal polarizations.

Simplification: we consider only scalar electric field magnitude.

Resulting restriction: all light in this section's analyses must have the same polarization to apply superposition principles.

Assumption: we consider only superposition of *plane* waves.

Assumption: consider EM waves only in nonmagnetic materials with  $\mu = 1 \implies n = \sqrt{\epsilon}$ .

## Superposition of Plane Waves

Consider the two plane waves with equal frequency  $\omega$ .

$$E_1 = E_{10} e^{i(\mathbf{k}_1 \cdot \mathbf{r}_1 - \omega t + \phi_1)} \quad (\text{assume } E_{10} \in \mathbb{R})$$

$$E_2 = E_{20} e^{i(\mathbf{k}_2 \cdot \mathbf{r}_2 - \omega t + \phi_2)} \quad (\text{assume } E_{20} \in \mathbb{R})$$

$$E_1 = E_{10} e^{i(\Phi_1 - \omega t)} \quad (\text{alternate expression; } \Phi_1 \equiv \mathbf{k}_1 \cdot \mathbf{r}_1 - \phi_1)$$

$$E_2 = E_{20} e^{i(\Phi_2 - \omega t)} \quad (\text{alternate expression; } \Phi_2 \equiv \mathbf{k}_2 \cdot \mathbf{r}_2 - \phi_2)$$

$$E = E_{10} e^{i(\Phi_1 - \omega t)} + E_{20} e^{i(\Phi_2 - \omega t)} \quad (\text{superposed wave})$$

$$\langle j \rangle = \frac{1}{2} \epsilon \epsilon_0 c |E|^2 = \frac{1}{2} \epsilon_0 n c_0 |E|^2 \quad (\text{if } \epsilon = n^2)$$

$$|E| = E_{10}^2 + E_{20}^2 + E_{10} E_{20} (e^{i(\Phi_1 - \Phi_2)} + e^{-i(\Phi_1 - \Phi_2)})$$

$$= E_{10}^2 + E_{20}^2 + 2 E_{10} E_{20} \cos \Delta \Phi \quad (\Delta \Phi \equiv \Phi_1 - \Phi_2)$$

$$\langle j \rangle = \frac{1}{2} \epsilon_0 n c_0 (E_{10}^2 + E_{20}^2 + 2 E_{10} E_{20} \cos \Delta \Phi)$$

$$= \langle j_1 \rangle + \langle j_2 \rangle + 2 \sqrt{\langle j_1 \rangle \langle j_2 \rangle} \cos \Delta \Phi \quad (\text{and not } \langle j_1 \rangle + \langle j_2 \rangle!)$$

$$\nu \equiv \frac{j_{\max} - j_{\min}}{j_{\max} + j_{\min}} \in (0, 1) \quad (\text{interferometric visibility})$$

$2 \sqrt{\langle j_1 \rangle \langle j_2 \rangle} \cos \Delta \Phi$  is observed only if  $\Delta \Phi$  is *constant*!

$\Delta \Phi = \text{constant} \implies$  light must be *coherent* to observe interference

## Superposition of Equal-Amplitude Plane Waves

Situation as in [Superposition of Plane Waves](#).

Additionally assume  $E_{10} = E_{20} \equiv E_0$ .

$$\langle j_1 \rangle = \langle j_2 \rangle \equiv \langle j_0 \rangle = \frac{1}{2} \epsilon_0 n c_0 E_0^2 \quad (\text{if } E_{10} = E_{20})$$

$$\langle j \rangle = 2 \langle j_0 \rangle (1 + \cos \Delta \Phi) \quad (\text{superposed intensity})$$

$$= 4 \langle j_0 \rangle \cos^2 \frac{\Delta \Phi}{2} \quad (\text{superposed intensity})$$

$$\langle j \rangle = 4 j_0 \cos^2 \frac{\Delta \Phi}{2} = 2 j_0 \quad (\text{conservation of energy})$$

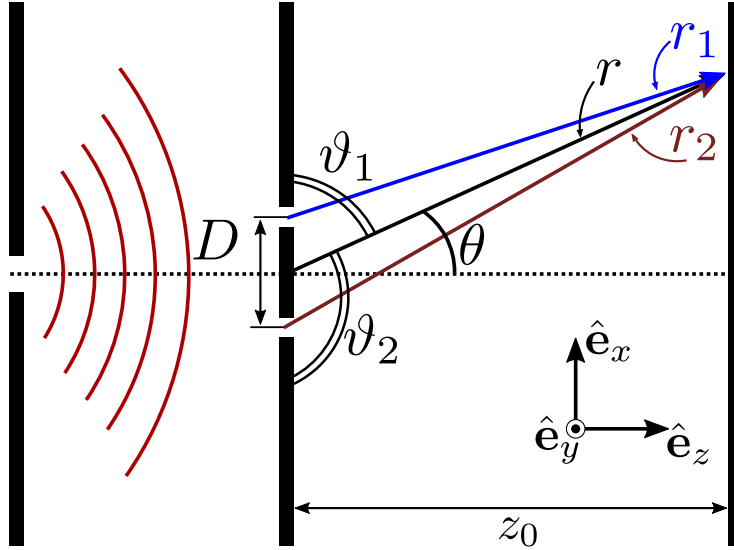


Figure 3: Geometry of Young's double slit experiment.

## Young's Double-Slit Experiment

Principle: interference via wavefront splitting

Assume monochromatic point source with well-defined phase.

### Young's Double-Slit Experiment

Consider two slits separated by distance  $D$  in  $xy$  plane.

$z$  (optical) axis points from source to midpoint between slits

Let slit width run along  $x$  axis.

Work in  $xz$  plane; assume translational invariance along  $y$  axis.

Principle: thin slits split point source's spherical wavefront.

Because slits are symmetrically spaced about optical axis, light leaving each slit has equal phase.

Observe interference between light from slits on distance screen.

### Geometry

$r_1$  and  $r_2$  are distances from each slit to observation point.

$r$  is distance from midpoint between slits to observation point.

$\theta$  is angle between optical axis and  $r$ .

$\vartheta_1$  is angle between  $+\hat{\mathbf{e}}_x$  and  $r$ .

$\vartheta_2$  is angle between  $-\hat{\mathbf{e}}_x$  and  $r$ .

$$\vartheta_1 + \vartheta_2 = \pi \implies \cos \vartheta_2 = -\cos \vartheta_1 \quad (\text{by construction})$$

$$\vartheta_1 + \theta = \pi/2 \implies \cos \vartheta_1 = \sin \theta \quad (\text{by construction})$$

$$r_1^2 = r^2 + (D/2)^2 - 2r(D/2) \cos \vartheta_2 \quad (\text{law of cosines})$$

$$r_2^2 = r^2 + (D/2)^2 - 2r(D/2) \cos \vartheta_1 \quad (\text{law of cosines})$$

$$r_1^2 - r_2^2 = 2rD \cos \vartheta_1 \quad (\cos \vartheta_2 = -\cos \vartheta_1)$$

$$= 2rD \sin \theta \quad (\cos \vartheta_1 = \sin \theta)$$

Assume  $r_1, r_2 \gg D \implies r_1 + r_2 \approx 2r$ .

$$2rD \sin \theta = (r_1 + r_2)(r_1 - r_2) \approx 2r\Delta r$$

$$\Delta r \approx D \sin \theta \quad (\text{difference in optical path lengths to OP})$$

### Intensity

$$\Delta \Phi = k(r_1 - r_2) \approx kD \sin \theta \quad (\text{phase difference at OP})$$

For shorthand let  $j_0 \equiv \langle j_0 \rangle$ .

$$\langle j \rangle = 4j_0 \cos^2 \frac{\Delta \Phi}{2} \quad (\text{superposed intensity at OP})$$

$$= 4j_0 \cos^2 \left( \frac{kD \sin \theta}{2} \right) \quad (\text{superposed intensity at OP})$$

$$\frac{kD \sin \theta}{2} = \frac{k\Delta r}{2} = m\pi \quad (\text{condition for intensity maxima})$$

$$r_1 - r_2 = m\lambda \quad (\text{path difference for maxima})$$

$$\frac{kD \sin \theta}{2} = \frac{k\Delta r}{2} = \frac{\pi}{2} + m\pi \quad (\text{condition for intensity minima})$$

$$r_1 - r_2 = \lambda(m + 1/2) \quad (\text{path difference for minima})$$

$$\Delta \theta \approx \frac{\lambda}{D} \quad (\text{approx. angular spacing btwn. extrema})$$

$$\Delta x \approx \frac{\lambda z_0}{D} \quad (\text{approx. position spacing btwn. extrema})$$

### Relationship to Two-Slit Fraunhofer Diffraction

$$j(\theta) = j_0 \text{sinc}^2 \left( \frac{ka \sin \theta}{2} \right) \frac{\sin^2 \left( \frac{kD \sin \theta}{2} \right)}{\sin^2 \left( \frac{kD \sin \theta}{2} \right)} \quad (N \text{ slits of width } a)$$

$$j(\theta) \approx j_0 \frac{\sin^2 \left( \frac{2kD \sin \theta}{2} \right)}{\sin^2 \left( \frac{kD \sin \theta}{2} \right)} \quad (\text{for } \theta \ll 1 \text{ and two slits})$$

$$= j_0 \frac{4 \sin^2 \frac{kD \sin \theta}{2} \cos^2 \frac{kD \sin \theta}{2}}{\sin^2 \frac{kD \sin \theta}{2}} \quad (\text{trig. identities})$$

$$= 4j_0 \cos^2 \left( \frac{kD \sin \theta}{2} \right) \quad (\text{same as in Young's experiment!})$$

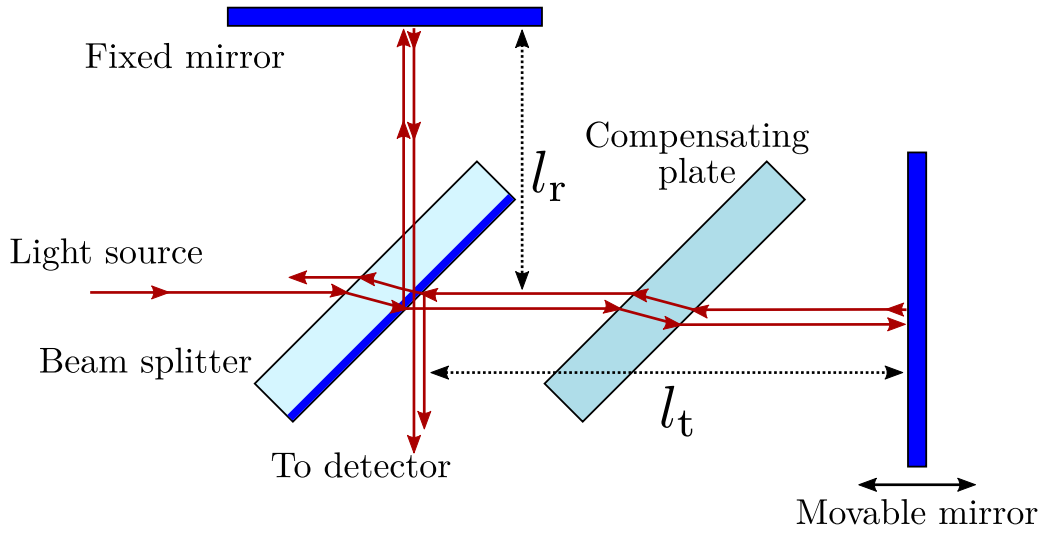


Figure 4: Geometry of a Michelson interferometer.

## Interference via Amplitude Splitting

Principle: split a single incident beam into two equal parts with beam splitter. The split beams create an interference pattern.

### Michelson Interferometer

Consider plane wave light incident on a beam splitter with  $R = T = 0.5$ . Transmitted light travels through compensator to movable mirror and back, then reflects to detector. Reflected light travels to fixed mirror and back, then on to detector. Compensator ensures reflected and transmitted beams travel equal optical paths.

$l_t$  is distance btwn. beam splitter and mirror for transmitted beam.  
 $l_r$  is distance btwn. beam splitter and mirror for reflected beam.

Transmitted and reflected beam interfere.

$$\langle j_{\text{det}} \rangle = 4j_0 \cos^2 \frac{\Delta\Phi}{2} \quad (\text{superposed intensity at detector})$$

$$\Delta\Phi = 2k(l_1 - l_2) \equiv 2k\Delta l \quad (\text{phase difference between beams})$$

$$\Delta l = \frac{m\pi}{k} = \frac{\lambda m}{2}; \quad m \in \mathbb{N} \quad (\text{interference maxima condition})$$

Variation: *Twynman-Green interferometer*: light source is always a point source. Source light is first expanded with diverging lens, then collimated into a parallel beam incident on beam splitter.

### Sagnac Interferometer

Mirrors arranged periodically around a circular loop.

Incident beam passes through beam splitter. Reflected and transmitted beams travel in opposite directions around the interferometer into detector, guided by mirrors.

In an inertial frame: transmitted and reflected beams travel equal optical paths. No phase difference and perfect constructive interference at detector.

Rotating frame: beams travel different optical path lengths around interferometer. Beams have difference phase at detector  $\Rightarrow$  some destructive interference and weaker signal.

### Sagnac Interferometer: Analysis

$R$  is interferometer radius.

$\Omega$  is angular speed of interferometer rotation relative to inertial reference frame. Typically  $\omega R \sim 1 \text{ ms}^{-1}$ .

$\omega$  is angular frequency of light waves.

$t_1$  is time required for beam traveling *opposite* direction of interferometer rotation to circumvent interferometer.

$l_1$  is orbital distance traced out by intf. edge in time  $t_1$ .

$$t_1 = \frac{2\pi R - l_1(\Omega)}{c}$$

$$l_1(\Omega) = \Omega R t_1$$

$$t_1 = \frac{2\pi R}{c + \Omega R} \quad (\text{using } l_1 = \Omega R t_1)$$

$t_2$  is time required for beam traveling *in* direction of interferometer rotation to circumvent interferometer.

$l_2$  is orbital distance traced out by intf. edge in time  $t_2$ .

$$t_2 = \frac{2\pi R + l_2(\Omega)}{c}$$

$$l_2 = \Omega R t_2$$

$$t_2 = \frac{2\pi R}{c - \Omega R}$$

$$\Delta t = t_2 - t_1$$

$$\Delta\Phi = \omega \Delta t$$

$$(\text{using } l_2 = \Omega R t_2)$$

$$(\text{time btwn. beams reach detector})$$

$$(\text{phase difference btwn. beams at detector})$$

$$\Delta\Phi = \frac{4\pi R^2 \omega \Omega}{c^2 - \Omega^2 R^2} \approx \frac{4\pi S \Omega}{c^2}$$

$$(S = \pi R^2; \quad c \gg \Omega R)$$

## Thin Film Interference

Consider plane waves with amplitude  $E_0$  incident at an angle  $\alpha$  on a thin film of width  $a$  and refractive index  $n_2$  surrounded on either side by a material with refractive index  $n_1$ .

The incident plane wave undergoes both reflection and refraction at both film surfaces.

Goal: determine average transmitted intensity  $\langle j \rangle$  on an observation screen on the opposite side of the film.

Subscript <sub>12</sub> denotes transition from  $n_1$  (surroundings) to  $n_2$  (film).

Subscript <sub>21</sub> denotes transition from  $n_2$  (film) to  $n_1$  (surroundings).

### Reflection and Refraction at Boundaries

Assumption: consider only light with TE polarization

$$r_{12} = \frac{n_1 \cos \alpha - n_2 \cos \beta}{n_1 \cos \alpha + n_2 \cos \beta} \quad (\text{surroundings into film})$$

$$r_{21} = \frac{n_2 \cos \beta - n_1 \cos \alpha}{n_2 \cos \beta + n_1 \cos \alpha} \quad (\text{film into surroundings})$$

$$r_{12} = -r_{21}$$

$$t_{12} = 1 + r_{12}$$

$$t_{21} = 1 + r_{21} = 1 - r_{12}$$

$$E_1 = t_{21} t_{12} E_0 \quad (\text{after passing directly through film})$$

$$E_2 = t_{21} (r_{21} r_{21} e^{i\Phi}) t_{12} E_0 \quad (\text{after one internal reflection})$$

$$E_{m+1} = t_{21} r_{21}^{2m} e^{im\Phi} t_{12} E_0 \quad (\text{after } m+1 \text{ internal reflections})$$

$$\Delta L = 2a \cos \beta \quad (\text{difference in optical path length between adjacent transmitted waves})$$

$$\Phi = 2n_2 k_0 a \cos \beta \quad (\text{phase shift btwn. adjacent trans. waves})$$

$$\Phi = n_2 k_0 \Delta L \quad (\text{in terms of OPL difference})$$

$$E_t = \sum_m E_m \quad (\text{total transmitted field passing through film})$$

$$= t_{21} t_{12} E_0 (1 + r_{21}^2 e^{i\Phi} + r_{21}^4 e^{i2\Phi} + \dots)$$

$$= \frac{t_{21} t_{12} E_0}{1 - r_{21}^2 e^{i\Phi}} \quad (\text{assuming } m \rightarrow \infty)$$

### Transmittance of Thin Films

$$T = \frac{n_{\text{out}} \cos \theta_{\text{out}}}{n_{\text{in}} \cos \theta_{\text{in}}} |t|^2 \quad (\text{general transmittance})$$

$$\theta_{\text{in}} = \theta_{\text{out}} = \alpha \text{ and } n_{\text{in}} = n_{\text{out}} = n_1 \quad (\text{for a single thin film})$$

$$T_f = |t| = \left| \frac{E_t}{E_i} \right|^2 = \frac{1}{E_0^2} \cdot \left| \frac{t_{21} t_{12} E_0}{1 - r_{21}^2 e^{i\Phi}} \right|^2 \quad (\text{thin film's transmittance})$$

$$= \frac{(1 - R)^2}{1 + R^2 - 2R \cos \Phi} \quad (R \equiv |r_{12}|^2 = |r_{21}|^2)$$

$$= \frac{1}{1 + \frac{4R^2}{(1-R)^2} \sin^2(\Phi/2)} \quad (\text{using } \cos \Phi = 1 - 2 \sin^2 \frac{\Phi}{2})$$

$$\equiv \frac{1}{1 + F \sin^2(\Phi/2)} \quad (F \equiv \frac{4R}{(1-R)^2} \text{ is film's finesse coefficient})$$

### Thin Film as a Frequency Filter

$$T_f = \frac{1}{1 + F \sin^2(\Phi/2)} \quad (\text{thin film's transmittance})$$



$$T_f = 1 \text{ when } \Phi = 2\pi m; m \in \mathbb{N} \quad (\text{maximum transmittance})$$

$$2a \cos \beta = m\lambda_2; \lambda_2 = \lambda_0/n_2 \quad (\text{max. transmittance condition})$$

### Fabry-Perot Interferometer

Principle: thin film with adjustable thickness  $a$ . Observe transmittance  $T$  of incident light as a function of  $a$ .

$$\Phi = 2n_2 k_0 a \cos \beta \quad (\text{phase shift btwn. adjacent trans. waves})$$

$$= \frac{2\omega}{c_0} n_2 a \cos \beta \quad (\text{in terms of wave frequency } \omega)$$

Free spectral range  $\Delta\omega_{\text{FSR}}$  is frequency spacing between adjacent transmittance peaks in  $T(\omega)$  plot.

$$\Delta\omega_{\text{FSR}} = \frac{\pi c_0}{n_2 a \cos \beta} \quad (\text{found by setting } \Delta\Phi = 2\pi)$$

$$\Delta\lambda_{\text{FSR}} = \frac{\lambda^2}{2n_2 a \cos \beta}$$

$\Delta\lambda_{\text{FSR}}$  may be e.g.  $\sim 1 \text{ nm}$  in practice.

### Multiple Thin Films

Consider plane waves with amplitude  $E_{\text{in}}$  incident on a sequence of films of width  $a_m$  and refractive index  $n_m$  surrounded by a material with refractive index  $n_0$ .

Subscript  $lm$  denotes transition from film  $l$  to film  $m$ .

Restriction: consider only normal incidence ( $\alpha = \beta = 0$ ).

$$r_{ml} = \frac{n_m - n_l}{n_m + n_l} \quad (\text{TE polarization; normal incidence})$$

$$r_{lm} = \frac{n_l - n_m}{n_l + n_m} = -r_{ml} \quad (\text{TE polarization; normal incidence})$$

$$t_{ml} = 1 + r_{ml}$$

$$t_{lm} = 1 + r_{lm} = 1 - r_{ml}$$

### Notation

$\rightarrow$  denotes plane waves moving to the right.

$\leftarrow$  denotes plane waves moving to the left.

Superscript  $(r)$  denotes quantities on far right of a film.

Superscript  $(\ell)$  denotes quantities on far left of a film.

Numerical subscript  $m$  denotes index of thin film.

### Analysis

Consider interface between first two film layers.

$$\vec{E}_2^{(\ell)} = t_{12} \vec{E}_1^{(r)} + r_{21} \vec{E}_2^{(\ell)}$$

$$\vec{E}_1^{(r)} = t_{21} \vec{E}_2^{(\ell)} + r_{12} \vec{E}_1^{(r)}$$

$$\vec{E}_2^{(\ell)} = \frac{1}{t_{21}} \left[ (t_{12} t_{21} - r_{21} r_{12}) \vec{E}_1^{(r)} + r_{21} \vec{E}_1^{(r)} \right]$$

$$= \frac{1}{t_{21}} (\vec{E}_1^{(r)} + r_{21} \vec{E}_1^{(r)}) \quad (\text{using } t_{12} t_{21} - r_{21} r_{12} = 1)$$

$$\phi_m = n_m k_0 a_m \quad (\text{phase shift through film } m)$$

$$\vec{E}_m^{(r)} = \vec{E}_m^{(\ell)} e^{i\phi_m} \quad (\text{L of film } m \rightarrow \text{R of film } m)$$

$$\vec{E}_m^{(\ell)} = \vec{E}_m^{(r)} e^{-i\phi_m} \quad (\text{R of film } m \rightarrow \text{L of film } m)$$

### Matrix Formalism

$$\begin{pmatrix} \vec{E}_2^{(\ell)} \\ \vec{E}_2^{(r)} \end{pmatrix} = \frac{1}{t_{21}} \begin{pmatrix} 1 & r_{21} \\ r_{21} & 1 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} \vec{E}_1^{(r)} \\ \vec{E}_1^{(\ell)} \end{pmatrix} \quad (\text{R of film 1} \rightarrow \text{L of film 2})$$

$$\begin{pmatrix} \vec{E}_m^{(\ell)} \\ \vec{E}_m^{(r)} \end{pmatrix} = \frac{1}{t_{m,m-1}} \begin{pmatrix} 1 & r_{m,m-1} \\ r_{m,m-1} & 1 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} \vec{E}_{m-1}^{(r)} \\ \vec{E}_{m-1}^{(\ell)} \end{pmatrix} \quad (\text{generally})$$

$$\begin{pmatrix} \vec{E}_1^{(r)} \\ \vec{E}_1^{(\ell)} \end{pmatrix} = \frac{1}{t_{12}} \begin{pmatrix} 1 & r_{12} \\ r_{12} & 1 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} \vec{E}_2^{(\ell)} \\ \vec{E}_2^{(r)} \end{pmatrix} \quad (\text{L of film 2} \rightarrow \text{R of film 1})$$

$$\begin{pmatrix} \vec{E}_{m-1}^{(r)} \\ \vec{E}_{m-1}^{(\ell)} \end{pmatrix} = \frac{1}{t_{m-1,m}} \begin{pmatrix} 1 & r_{m-1,m} \\ r_{m-1,m} & 1 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} \vec{E}_m^{(\ell)} \\ \vec{E}_m^{(r)} \end{pmatrix} \quad (\text{generally})$$

$$\mathbf{M}_{m-1,m} \equiv \frac{1}{t_{m-1,m}} \begin{pmatrix} 1 & r_{m-1,m} \\ r_{m-1,m} & 1 \end{pmatrix} \quad (\text{transfer matrix})$$

$$\begin{pmatrix} \vec{E}_m^{(\ell)} \\ \vec{E}_m^{(r)} \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} e^{-i\phi_m} & 0 \\ 0 & e^{i\phi_m} \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} \vec{E}_m^{(r)} \\ \vec{E}_m^{(\ell)} \end{pmatrix} \quad (\text{phase shift in film } m)$$

$$\mathbf{P}_m \equiv \begin{pmatrix} e^{-i\phi_m} & 0 \\ 0 & e^{i\phi_m} \end{pmatrix} \quad (\text{phase shift matrix})$$

$$\begin{pmatrix} \vec{E}_0^{(r)} \\ \vec{E}_0^{(\ell)} \end{pmatrix} = \mathbf{M}_{0,1} \mathbf{P}_1 \mathbf{M}_{1,2} \mathbf{P}_2 \cdots \mathbf{P}_N \mathbf{M}_{N,\text{out}} \begin{pmatrix} E_{\text{out}} \\ 0 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$\equiv \mathbf{M} \begin{pmatrix} E_{\text{out}} \\ 0 \end{pmatrix} \quad (\text{transfer through } N \text{ films})$$

$$\begin{pmatrix} \vec{E}_0^{(r)} \\ \vec{E}_0^{(\ell)} \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} \mathbf{M}_{11} & \mathbf{M}_{12} \\ \mathbf{M}_{21} & \mathbf{M}_{22} \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} E_{\text{out}} \\ 0 \end{pmatrix} \quad (\text{by components})$$

$$t_f = \frac{E_{\text{out}}}{\vec{E}_0^{(r)}} = \frac{E_{\text{out}}}{E_{\text{in}}} = \frac{1}{\mathbf{M}_{11}} \quad (\text{film's transmission coefficient})$$

$$r_f = \frac{\vec{E}_0^{(\ell)}}{\vec{E}_0^{(r)}} = \frac{\mathbf{M}_{21}}{\mathbf{M}_{11}} \quad (\text{film's reflection coefficient})$$

### Single Thin Film with Matrix Formalism

Consider a single film of width  $a$  and refractive index  $n_2$  between a material with refractive index  $n_1$ .

Plane waves with amplitude  $E_{\text{in}}$  are normally incident on film.

$$\begin{pmatrix} \vec{E}_0^{(r)} \\ \vec{E}_0^{(\ell)} \end{pmatrix} = \mathbf{M}_{12} \mathbf{P}_2 \mathbf{M}_{21} \begin{pmatrix} E_{\text{out}} \\ 0 \end{pmatrix} \quad (\text{for normal incidence})$$

$$\mathbf{M}_{12} \mathbf{P}_2 \mathbf{M}_{21} = \frac{1}{t_{12} t_{21}} \begin{pmatrix} e^{-i\phi} + r_{12} r_{21} e^{i\phi} & r_{21} e^{-i\phi} + r_{12} e^{i\phi} \\ r_{12} e^{-i\phi} + r_{21} e^{i\phi} & r_{12} r_{21} e^{-i\phi} + e^{i\phi} \end{pmatrix}$$

$$t_f = \frac{E_{\text{out}}}{E_{\text{in}}} = \frac{1 - r_{12}^2}{e^{-i\phi}(1 - r_{12}^2 e^{2i\phi})} \quad (\text{transmission coefficient})$$

Let  $\Phi \equiv 2\phi = 2n_2 a k_0$  and  $R \equiv |r_{12}|^2 = |r_{21}|^2$

$$T_f = |t_f|^2 = \cdots = \frac{1}{1 + \frac{4R^2}{(1-R)^2} \sin^2(\Phi/2)}$$

Matrix formalism agrees with result in [Transmittance of Thin Films](#).

### Anti-Reflective Coating

Plane waves normally incident from air ( $n = 1$ ) onto film of width  $a$  and  $n = n_2$  pass into material with  $n = n_3$ .

Goal: find film parameters minimizing film reflectance  $R_f$ .

$$\begin{pmatrix} \vec{E}_0^{(r)} \\ \vec{E}_0^{(\ell)} \end{pmatrix} = \mathbf{M}_{12} \mathbf{P}_2 \mathbf{M}_{23} \begin{pmatrix} E_{\text{out}} \\ 0 \end{pmatrix} \quad (\text{for normal incidence})$$

$$R_f = |r_f|^2 = \left| \frac{\mathbf{M}_{12}}{\mathbf{M}_{11}} \right|^2$$

$$\mathbf{M}_{12} \mathbf{P}_2 \mathbf{M}_{23} = \frac{1}{t_{12} t_{23}} \begin{pmatrix} e^{-i\phi} + r_{12} r_{23} e^{i\phi} & r_{23} e^{-i\phi} + r_{12} e^{i\phi} \\ r_{12} e^{-i\phi} + r_{23} e^{i\phi} & r_{12} r_{23} e^{-i\phi} + e^{i\phi} \end{pmatrix}$$

Let  $\Phi \equiv 2\phi = 2n_2 a k_0$  (twice phase shift through film)

$$t_f = \frac{1}{\mathbf{M}_{11}} = \frac{t_{12} t_{23}}{e^{-i\phi}(1 + r_{12} r_{23} e^{i\Phi})} \quad (\text{transmission coefficient})$$

$$T_f = \frac{n_3}{n_1} |t_f|^2 = \frac{t_{12}^2 t_{23}^2}{1 + r_{12}^2 r_{23}^2 + 2r_{12} r_{23} \cos \Phi} \frac{n_3}{n_1} \quad (\text{transmittance})$$

$\Phi = (2m+1)\pi$  (minimum denominator  $\Rightarrow$  maximum  $T_f$ )

$$a_m = \frac{(2m+1)\pi}{2k_0 n_2} = \frac{(2m+1)}{4} \frac{\lambda_0}{n_2} \quad (\text{condition for max. } T_f)$$

$$T_{\text{max}} = \frac{t_{12}^2 t_{23}^2}{(1 - r_{12} r_{23})^2} \frac{n_3}{n_1} \quad (\text{when max } T_f \text{ condition is met})$$

$$R_f = |r_f|^2 = \left| \frac{\mathbf{M}_{12}}{\mathbf{M}_{11}} \right|^2 = \frac{r_{12}^2 + r_{23}^2 + 2r_{12} r_{23} \cos \Phi}{1 + r_{12}^2 r_{23}^2 + 2r_{12} r_{23} \cos \Phi} \quad (\text{reflectance})$$

$$R_{\text{min}} = \frac{(r_{12} - r_{23})^2}{(1 - r_{12} r_{23})^2} \quad (\text{when max } T_f \text{ condition is met})$$

$$R_f = 0 \text{ if } r_{12} = r_{23}$$

$$\frac{n_1 - n_2}{n_1 + n_2} = \frac{n_2 - n_3}{n_2 + n_3} \quad (r_{12} = r_{23} \text{ for TE and normal incidence})$$

$$n_2 = \sqrt{n_1 n_3} \quad (\text{condition for } R_f = 0)$$

( $R_f = 0$  only holds at the wavelength  $\lambda_0$  and film thickness  $a$  required to give  $\Phi = (2m+1)\pi$ .)

# Scattering

Goal: explain how light is affected by three-dimensional obstacles placed along the optical path.

Light attenuation in matter results from (i) scattering and (ii) absorption. We will consider only light attenuation from scattering.

## Scattering Cross Section

Consider a scattering object with *geometric* cross section  $S$ .

$\sigma \equiv QS$  (the object's *scattering* cross section)

$Q$  is the object's (dimensionless) scattering efficiency.

Interpretation:  $\sigma$  is the (hypothetical) cross-sectional area of an ideal black-body absorber that would cause equivalent attenuation from absorption as the scatterer does from scattering.

## Exponential Attenuation From Scattering

Consider light of intensity  $j$  incident on a material cross section  $S$  and number density  $n_s$  of scatterers with SCS  $\sigma$ .

$dP_0 = \sigma j$  (power dissipated by one scatterer)

$dP_N = N dP_0$  (power dissipated by  $N$  scatterers)

$$= (n_s S dz) \cdot (\sigma j)$$

$dP = -dP_N$  (decrease in incident light's intensity)

$j(z) = j_0 e^{-\sigma n_s z} \equiv j_0 e^{-\mu z}$  (using  $dj = (dP)/S$  and  $\mu \equiv \sigma n_s$ )

$\mu \equiv \sigma n_s$  is material's attenuation coefficient.

$j_0 = j(z)|_{z=0}$  is incident intensity.

## Rayleigh Scattering

Rayleigh scattering is scattering of EM waves by particles with characteristic linear dimension  $R$  much less than the EM wave wavelength  $\lambda$ .

$R \ll \lambda \implies kR \ll 1$  (condition for Rayleigh scattering)

Approximation:  $E$  is constant throughout particle volume.

Principle: incident EM waves induce electric polarization of scattering particles, which emit dipole EM radiation.

$\mathbf{D} = \varepsilon_0 \mathbf{E} + \mathbf{P}$  (in general)

Assumption: polarized material is linear:  $\mathbf{D} = \varepsilon \varepsilon_0 \mathbf{E}$ .

Assumption: polarized material is nonmagnetic:  $\mathbf{B} = \mu_0 \mathbf{H}$ .

## Dipole Scattering

Consider spherical scattering particles with radius  $R$  and dielectric constant  $\varepsilon_2$  in a medium with dielectric constant  $\varepsilon_1$ .

Let  $\Delta\varepsilon \equiv \varepsilon_2 - \varepsilon_1$ .

$\mathbf{E}_{\text{in}}(\mathbf{r}, t) = E_{\text{in}}(\mathbf{r}) e^{-i\omega t} \hat{\mathbf{e}}_{\text{in}}$  (ansatz for incident field)

$\mathbf{P} = \varepsilon_0 \Delta\varepsilon \mathbf{E}_{\text{in}}$  (particle polarization relative to medium)

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbf{p} &= V \mathbf{P} = \frac{4\pi}{3} R^3 \mathbf{P} && \text{(particle electric dipole moment)} \\ &= \varepsilon_0 \Delta\varepsilon \frac{4\pi}{3} R^2 E_{\text{in}}(\mathbf{r}) e^{-i\omega t} \hat{\mathbf{e}}_{\text{in}} \\ &\equiv \mathbf{p}_0 e^{-i\omega t} && (\mathbf{p}_0 \text{ is dipole moment amplitude}) \end{aligned}$$

## Dipole Antenna

Align coordinate system so that  $\mathbf{p}_0 \parallel \hat{\mathbf{e}}_z$ .

$\mathbf{E}_{\text{rad}}(\mathbf{r}, t) = \frac{\omega^2 \mathbf{p}_0}{4\pi \varepsilon_0 c_0^2 r} e^{i(kr - \omega t)} \sin \theta \hat{\mathbf{e}}_\theta$  (radiated dipole field)

$\mathbf{H}_{\text{rad}}(\mathbf{r}, t) = \frac{\omega^2 \mathbf{p}_0}{4\pi c_0 r} e^{i(kr - \omega t)} \sin \theta \hat{\mathbf{e}}_\varphi$  (assuming  $E_0 = c_0 B_0$ )

$\langle \mathbf{j}_{\text{rad}} \rangle = \langle \mathbf{S}_{\text{rad}} \rangle = \langle \mathbf{E}_{\text{rad}} \times \mathbf{H}_{\text{rad}} \rangle = \frac{\omega^4 p_0^2 \sin^2 \theta}{32\pi^2 \varepsilon_0 c_0^3} \frac{\hat{\mathbf{e}}_r}{r^2} \propto \frac{1}{\lambda^4} \hat{\mathbf{e}}_r$

Conclusion:  $\langle \mathbf{j}_{\text{rad}} \rangle$  falls with 4-th power of incident wavelength.

$Q_s \sim \left(\frac{R}{\lambda}\right)^4$  (scattering efficiency for Rayleigh scattering)

## Angular Dependence of Radiated Intensity

Goal: determine position/direction dependence of  $\mathbf{j}_{\text{rad}}$ .

Assume  $\mathbf{k}_{\text{in}} \parallel \hat{\mathbf{e}}_z$  and  $\mathbf{E}_{\text{in}} \parallel \hat{\mathbf{e}}_x$ .

$\implies xy$  plane is equatorial plane for dipole radiation.

Observe scattered light with wave vector  $\mathbf{k}_s$  at a detector.

Let  $\theta_s$  (*scattering angle*) denote angle between  $\mathbf{k}_s$  and  $\hat{\mathbf{e}}_x$ .

Assume incident light is unpolarized.

Decompose incident light into transverse and tangent polarizations relative to plane containing  $\mathbf{k}_{\text{in}}$  and  $\mathbf{k}_s$ .

For transverse polarization: detector lies in equatorial plane  $\implies \theta = \pi/2$  and  $\mathbf{j}_{\text{rad}}$  is constant with respect to  $\theta_s$ .

For tangent polarization:  $\theta = \pi/2 - \theta_s$  and  $\mathbf{j}_{\text{rad}}$  depends on  $\theta_s$ .

$$\begin{aligned} j_{\text{rad}}^{(\text{total})} &= j_{\text{rad}}^\perp + j_{\text{rad}}^\parallel && \text{(total radiated intensity)} \\ &= j_{\text{rad}0} + j_{\text{rad}0} \sin^2 \left( \frac{\pi}{2} - \beta \right) \\ &= j_{\text{rad}0} (1 + \cos^2 \theta_s) \end{aligned}$$

## Mie Scattering (in passing)

Mie scattering is scattering of EM waves by particles with characteristic linear dimension  $R$  of the order of the EM wave wavelength  $\lambda$ .

$R \sim \lambda \implies kR \sim 1$  (condition for Mie scattering)

Electric field phase varies throughout scatterer (b/c  $R \sim \lambda$ ).

Analysis: compute electric field inside and outside scatterer; connect fields with boundary conditions.

$E(\mathbf{r}, t) = E_0(r, \theta, \varphi) e^{i\omega t}$  (ansatz)

$\nabla^2 \mathbf{E} + k^2 \mathbf{E} = \mathbf{0}$  (Helmholtz equation)

$E_{lm}(r, \theta, \varphi) = E_0 e^{im\varphi} P_l^m(\cos \theta) z_l(kr)$  (eigenfunctions)

$P_l^m$  are associated Legendre polynomials.

$Z_l$  are spherical Bessel functions.

$E = \sum_{l,m} A_{lm} E_{lm}$  (general solution)

# Coherence

Coherence is a well-defined relationship between the phases of EM waves at different points in space and time.

Perfectly coherent light has an electric field *exactly known at all points in space and time*.

$$E(\mathbf{r}, t) = E_0(\mathbf{r}, t)e^{i\phi(\mathbf{r}, t)} \quad (\text{perfect coherence; } E_0 \in \mathbb{R})$$

## Temporal Coherence

Consider monochromatic EM waves of frequency  $\omega$  with respect to time at a fixed position  $\mathbf{r}_0$ .

Principle: given field  $E(\mathbf{r}, t) = E_0 e^{-i\omega t} e^{i\phi(\mathbf{r}, t)}$  at some time  $t$ , determine field  $E(\mathbf{r}_0, t + \tau) = E_0 e^{-i\omega(t+\tau)} e^{i\phi(\mathbf{r}_0, t+\tau)}$  at some later time  $t + \tau$  where  $\tau \in \mathbb{R}$ .

### Classes of Temporal Coherence

$$\phi(\mathbf{r}_0, t + \tau) = f(\mathbf{r}_0, \tau, \phi(\mathbf{r}_0, t)) \text{ for all } \tau \quad (\text{perfect coherence})$$

$$\phi(\mathbf{r}_0, t + \tau) = \begin{cases} f(\mathbf{r}_0, \tau, \phi(\mathbf{r}_0, t)) & \tau < \tau_c \\ \text{unknown} & \tau > \tau_c \end{cases} \quad (\text{partial coherence})$$

$$\phi(\mathbf{r}_0, t + \tau) \text{ unknown for all } \tau \in \mathbb{R} \quad (\text{incoherent light})$$

$\tau_c$  is *coherence time*.

$\tau_c \rightarrow \infty$  for perfect temporal coherence.

$\tau_c \sim 1 \cdot 10^{-14}$  s for a typical gas (e.g. neon-based) light.

### Measuring Temporal Coherence

Principle: vary the mirror separation in a Michelson interferometer and observe when interferogram begins to fade.

Assumption: beam splitter has balanced  $R = T = 0.5$ .

$\Delta l$  is distance of movable mirror from equilibrium position.

$\Delta L = 2\Delta l$  is difference in distance traveled between interfering beams at detector.

$\tau = \Delta L/c$  is separation in time, relative to mutual source, between interfering beams at detector.

$$E_{\text{det}}(t) = E(t) + E(t + \tau) \quad (\text{electric field at detector})$$

$$j_{\text{det}}(t) \propto |E_{\text{det}}(t)|^2 \quad (\text{intensity at detector})$$

Observe detector for time  $T \dots$

$$\langle j_{\text{det}} \rangle \propto \frac{1}{T} \int_{-T/2}^{T/2} |E_{\text{det}}(t)|^2 dt \quad (\text{average intensity})$$

$$\propto 2 \langle |E(t)|^2 \rangle + \frac{1}{T} \int_{-T/2}^{T/2} 2 \operatorname{Re} [E(t)E^*(t + \tau)] dt$$

$$G^{(1)}(\tau) \equiv \langle E(t)E^*(t + \tau) \rangle \quad (\text{autocorrelation function})$$

$$= \lim_{T \rightarrow \infty} \frac{1}{T} \int_{-T/2}^{T/2} E(t)E^*(t + \tau) dt$$

$$\langle j_{\text{det}} \rangle = 2 \langle |E(t)|^2 \rangle + 2 \operatorname{Re} G^{(1)}(\tau) \quad (\text{for } T \gg \tau_c)$$

Principle: estimate  $\Delta L_c$  when  $\langle j_{\text{det}} \rangle \rightarrow 2 \langle |E(t)|^2 \rangle$ .

$$\tau_c = \Delta L_c / c \quad (\text{estimate of coherence time})$$

### Measuring Temporal Coherence with Plane Waves

Situation as in [Measuring Temporal Coherence](#).

$$E(t) = E_0 e^{-i\omega t} \quad (\text{assume } E_0 \in \mathbb{R})$$

$$E(t + \tau) = E_0 e^{-i\omega(t+\tau)}$$

$$G^{(1)}(\tau) = E_0^2 e^{i\omega\tau}$$

$$\langle j_{\text{det}} \rangle \propto 2 \langle |E(t)|^2 \rangle + 2 \operatorname{Re} G^{(1)}(\tau) = 2E_0^2(1 + \cos \omega\tau)$$

$$\langle j_{\text{det}} \rangle = 2j_0(1 + \cos \omega\tau) \quad (\text{alternate formulation})$$

$$\tau = \Delta L / c \quad (\text{time shift between beams at detector})$$

$$\omega\tau = \omega\Delta L / c = k\Delta L = \Delta\phi \quad (\text{phase shift btwn. beams at det.})$$

$$\langle j_{\text{det}} \rangle = 2j_0(1 + \cos \Delta\phi) = 4j_0 \cos^2 \frac{\Delta\phi}{2}$$

$\langle j_{\text{det}} \rangle$  agrees with result from [Michelson Interferometer](#).

$$\langle \cos \Delta\phi \rangle \rightarrow 0 \text{ as } \Delta L \gg \tau_c c$$

$$\langle j_{\text{det}} \rangle \rightarrow 2j_0 \text{ as } \Delta L \gg \tau_c c$$

### Wiener-Khinchin Theorem

The autocorrelation function  $G^{(1)}(\tau)$  and power spectral density of a (sufficiently well-behaved) signal are Fourier transform pairs.

$$S(\omega) \propto \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} G^{(1)}(\tau) e^{-i\omega\tau} d\tau$$

$$G^{(1)}(\tau) \propto \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} S(\omega) e^{+i\omega\tau} d\omega$$

## Spatial Coherence

Consider monochromatic EM waves of frequency  $\omega$  at fixed time  $t_0$  with respect position  $\mathbf{r}$ .

Principle: given field  $E(\mathbf{r}, t_0) = E_0 e^{-i\omega t_0} e^{i\phi(\mathbf{r}, t_0)}$  at some position  $\mathbf{r}$ , determine field  $E(\mathbf{r} + \Delta\mathbf{r}, t_0) = E_0 e^{-i\omega t_0} e^{i\phi(\mathbf{r} + \Delta\mathbf{r}, t)}$  at some shifted position  $\mathbf{r} + \Delta\mathbf{r}$ .

### Classes of Spatial Coherence

$$\phi(\mathbf{r} + \Delta\mathbf{r}, t_0) \text{ known for all } \Delta\mathbf{r} \in \mathbb{R}^3 \quad (\text{perfect coherence})$$

$$\phi(\mathbf{r} + \Delta\mathbf{r}, t_0) = \begin{cases} \text{known} & \mathbf{r} + \Delta\mathbf{r} \in \Omega_c \\ \text{unknown} & \mathbf{r} + \Delta\mathbf{r} \notin \Omega_c \end{cases} \quad (\text{partial coherence})$$

$$\phi(\mathbf{r} + \Delta\mathbf{r}, t_0) \text{ unknown for all } \Delta\mathbf{r} \in \mathbb{R}^3 \quad (\text{incoherent light})$$

$\Omega_c \subset \mathbb{R}^3$  is a “coherence region” in position space centered on  $\mathbf{r}$ .  $\Omega_c \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^3$  for perfect spatial coherence.

### Measuring Spatial Coherence

Principle: vary the separation between slits in a Young’s double slit experiment and observe when interferogram begins to fade.

Similar to [Young’s Double-Slit Experiment](#)

Difference: finite-size light source with characteristic linear dimension replaces single slit and point source.

Consider two slits separated by distance  $D$  in  $xy$  plane.

$z$  (optical) axis points from source to midpoint between slits.

Center of source is symmetrically placed between slits.

Let slit width run along  $x$  axis.

Work in  $xz$  plane; assume translational invariance along  $y$  axis.

$L$  is characteristic linear dimension of light source.

$\theta_s$  is angle between optical axis and line from slits’ midpoint to source’s top.

$\theta_0$  is angle between optical axis and line from slits’ midpoint to observation point.

### Measuring Spatial Coherence: Analysis

$\Delta\phi_s \approx kD \sin \theta_s$  (phase shift from source to slits between light from source center and light from source top)

$\Delta\phi_0 \approx kD \sin \theta_0$  (phase shift from slits to observation point between light from top and bottom slits)

$$\theta_0 \approx \sin \theta_0 = \xi / z_0 \quad (\text{assuming } z_0 \gg \xi)$$

$$\theta_s \approx \sin \theta_s = x_s / z_s \quad (\text{assuming } z_s \gg x_s)$$

$$\Delta\Phi = \Delta\phi_s + \Delta\phi_0 \quad (\text{phase shift from source to obs. point})$$

$$\langle j \rangle = 2j_0(1 + \cos \Delta\Phi) \quad (\text{intensity at obs. point})$$

$$\Delta\Phi_0 = \Delta\phi_0 \quad (\text{for light from source’s center with } x_s = 0) \\ = kD \sin \theta_0$$

$$\theta_0 = m\pi, m \in \mathbb{N} \quad (\text{extrema for light from source’s center})$$

Condition for vanishing interference: slit spacing  $D_c$  such that minima of light from source top at  $x_s = L/2$  overlaps with maxima of light from source’s center at  $x_s = 0$ .

$$\Delta\phi_s = kD_c \sin \theta_s \approx kD_c \frac{L}{2z_s} = m\pi \quad (\text{condition for } \langle j \rangle \rightarrow 2j_0)$$

$$D_c = \frac{2\pi z_s}{kL} = \frac{z_s \lambda}{L} \quad (\text{setting } m = 1)$$

Principle: set up double slit experiment with finite-sized light source and increase  $D$  until reaching  $D_c$  at which interference pattern disappears.

### Application: Measuring Star Size

Principle: use a double-slit experiment with star as source and measure  $D_c$  at which interference pattern vanishes.

Assume distance  $z_s$  from star to Earth is known.

Assume wavelength  $\lambda$  of starlight is known.

$$D_c = \frac{z_s \lambda}{L} \quad (\text{from } \text{Measuring Spatial Coherence: Analysis})$$

$$L \sim 2R = \frac{z_s \lambda}{D_c} \quad (\text{estimate for star radius } R)$$

# Refractive Index

$n^2 = \varepsilon\mu$  (a material's refractive index)  
 Both  $\varepsilon$  and  $\mu$  in general depend on the frequency  $\omega$  of EM waves in the material.  
 $\varepsilon = \varepsilon(\omega)$  (general dispersion relation)  
 $\mu = \mu(\omega)$  (general dispersion relation)  
 Restriction: we consider only non-magnetic materials with  $\mu = 1$ .

## Lorentz Model

Principle: Model material molecules (atoms) as a fixed sphere of positive charge (nucleus) connected to a mobile sphere of negative charge (electrons) by a classical spring.

Spheres' COM align in the absence of an external EM field.

External EM field causes negative sphere to oscillate.

Let  $x_0$  denote equilibrium position of negative sphere.

Expand molecular potential about equilibrium  $x_0$  to get...

$$U(x) = U(x_0) + (x - x_0) \left( \frac{dU}{dx} \right)_{x_0} + \frac{(x - x_0)^2}{2} \left( \frac{d^2U}{dx^2} \right)_{x_0} + \mathcal{O}(x^3)$$

$$U(x) = U(x_0) + \frac{1}{2} k^2 (x - x_0)^2 \quad (\text{since } \left( \frac{dU}{dx} \right)_{x_0} = 0)$$

$$= U(x_0) + \frac{1}{2} k^2 x^2 \quad (\text{if } x_0 = 0)$$

## Forces on (a Single) Electron

Align  $x$  axis with external electric field.

$$\mathbf{E}(t) = E_0 e^{-i\omega t} \hat{\mathbf{e}}_x \equiv E(t) \hat{\mathbf{e}}_x \quad (\text{external electric field})$$

$$\mathbf{F}_s = -kx \hat{\mathbf{e}}_x \quad (\text{spring force})$$

$$\mathbf{F}_d = -\gamma m \dot{x} \hat{\mathbf{e}}_x \quad (\text{dissipative force; } m \equiv m_e)$$

$$\mathbf{F}_e(t) = -e_0 \mathbf{E}(t) = -e_0 E(t) \hat{\mathbf{e}}_x \quad (\text{electric force})$$

$$m \ddot{x} = -kx - \gamma m \dot{x} - e_0 E(t) \quad (\text{Newton's law for electron})$$

$$\ddot{x} + \gamma \dot{x} + \omega_0^2 x = -\frac{e_0}{m} E(t)$$

$\omega_0^2 \equiv k/m$  is electron's natural oscillation frequency.

$x(t) = x_0(\omega) e^{-i\omega t}$  (ansatz for electron position)

$x_0 = -\frac{e_0}{m} \frac{E_0}{\omega_0^2 - \omega^2 - i\gamma\omega}$  (electron's oscillation amplitude)

$$x(t) = -\frac{e_0}{m} \frac{E_0 e^{-i\omega t}}{\omega_0^2 - \omega^2 - i\gamma\omega} = -\frac{e_0}{m} \frac{E(t)}{\omega_0^2 - \omega^2 - i\gamma\omega}$$

## Induced Polarization

Consider a non-magnetic ( $\mu = 1$ ) linear ( $\mathbf{D} = \varepsilon \varepsilon_0 \mathbf{E}$ ) material exposed to an external electric field  $\mathbf{E}(t) = E_0 e^{-i\omega t} \hat{\mathbf{e}}_x$ .

$$\mathbf{p}(t) = -e_0 x(t) \hat{\mathbf{e}}_x \quad (\text{induced dipole moment of one molecule})$$

$$= \frac{e_0^2}{m} \frac{\mathbf{E}(t)}{\omega_0^2 - \omega^2 - i\gamma\omega}$$

$n_e$  is the number density of microscopic molecular electric dipoles in the material.

$$\mathbf{P} = n_e \mathbf{p} = \frac{e_0^2 n_e}{m} \frac{\mathbf{E}(t)}{\omega_0^2 - \omega^2 - i\gamma\omega} \quad (\text{material's polarization})$$

$$\mathbf{P} = \varepsilon_0(\varepsilon - 1) \mathbf{E} \quad (\text{in general, if } \mathbf{D} = \varepsilon_0 \varepsilon \mathbf{E})$$

$$\varepsilon = 1 + \frac{e_0^2 n_e}{m \varepsilon_0} \frac{1}{\omega_0^2 - \omega^2 - i\gamma\omega} \quad (\text{material's dielectric constant})$$

$$\equiv 1 + \frac{\omega_p^2}{\omega_0^2 - \omega^2 - i\gamma\omega}$$

$\omega_p \equiv \frac{e_0^2 n_e}{m \varepsilon_0}$  is material's *plasma frequency*.

## Refractive Index

$$\mathcal{N}^2 = \varepsilon \in \mathbb{C} \quad (\text{material's refractive index assuming } \mu = 1)$$

$$\mathcal{N} = n_{\text{Re}} + i n_{\text{Im}} \quad (\text{decomposition into Re and Im components})$$

$$\mathcal{N}^2 = (n_{\text{Re}} + i n_{\text{Im}})^2 = 1 + \frac{\omega_p^2}{\omega_0^2 - \omega^2 - i\gamma\omega} \quad (\text{eq. for } n_{\text{Re}} \text{ and } n_{\text{Im}})$$

$$= 1 + \underbrace{\frac{\omega_p^2(\omega_0^2 - \omega^2)}{(\omega_0^2 - \omega^2)^2 + \gamma^2 \omega^2}}_{\equiv \varepsilon_{\text{Re}}} + i \underbrace{\frac{\gamma \omega \omega_p^2}{(\omega_0^2 - \omega^2)^2 + \gamma^2 \omega^2}}_{\equiv \varepsilon_{\text{Im}}}$$

$$n_{\text{Re}}^2 = \frac{1}{2} \left( \varepsilon_{\text{Re}} + \sqrt{\varepsilon_{\text{Re}}^2 + \varepsilon_{\text{Im}}^2} \right)$$

$$n_{\text{Im}}^2 = \frac{1}{2} \left( -\varepsilon_{\text{Re}} + \sqrt{\varepsilon_{\text{Re}}^2 + \varepsilon_{\text{Im}}^2} \right)$$

## Low-Density Material Approximation

Consider materials with low number density  $n_e$  (e.g. gases).

$$|\mathcal{N}|^2 \approx 1 \quad (\text{from experiment})$$

$$\mathcal{N}^2 = 1 + \frac{\omega_p^2}{\omega_0^2 - \omega^2 - i\gamma\omega} \quad (\text{for general linear materials with } \mu = 1)$$

$$\left| \frac{\omega_p^2}{\omega_0^2 - \omega^2 - i\gamma\omega} \right| \ll 1 \quad (\text{if } |\mathcal{N}|^2 \approx 1)$$

Taylor expand square root in  $\mathcal{N}$  and get...

$$\mathcal{N} \approx 1 + \frac{\omega_p^2}{2(\omega_0^2 - \omega^2 - i\gamma\omega)} \quad (\text{if } |\mathcal{N}|^2 \approx 1)$$

$$= 1 + \underbrace{\frac{1}{2} \frac{\omega_p^2(\omega_0^2 - \omega^2)}{(\omega_0^2 - \omega^2)^2 + \gamma^2 \omega^2}}_{\equiv n_{\text{Re}}} + \underbrace{\frac{1}{2} \frac{i\gamma\omega\omega_p^2}{(\omega_0^2 - \omega^2)^2 + \gamma^2 \omega^2}}_{\equiv i n_{\text{Im}}}$$

$$n_{\text{Re}} = 1 + \frac{1}{2} \frac{\omega_p^2(\omega_0^2 - \omega^2)}{(\omega_0^2 - \omega^2)^2 + \gamma^2 \omega^2} \quad (\text{if } |\mathcal{N}|^2 \approx 1)$$

$$n_{\text{Im}} = \frac{1}{2} \frac{i\gamma\omega\omega_p^2}{(\omega_0^2 - \omega^2)^2 + \gamma^2 \omega^2} \quad (\text{if } |\mathcal{N}|^2 \approx 1)$$

$$E(t) = E_0 e^{i(k_0 \mathcal{N} z - \omega t)} \quad (\text{EM waves in material})$$

$$= E_0 e^{i(k_0 n_{\text{Re}} z - \omega t)} e^{-i k_0 n_{\text{Im}} z}$$

$n_{\text{Im}}$  is maximum at  $\omega = \omega_0 \implies$  EM waves with frequency  $\omega = \omega_0$  are maximally absorbed in the material.

$$\frac{dn_{\text{Re}}}{d\omega} > 0 \text{ or } \frac{dn_{\text{Re}}}{d\lambda} < 0 \quad (\text{normal dispersion})$$

$$\frac{dn_{\text{Re}}}{d\omega} < 0 \text{ or } \frac{dn_{\text{Re}}}{d\lambda} > 0 \quad (\text{anomalous dispersion})$$

## Materials with Multiple Resonances

Real atoms/molecules have multiple resonance frequencies  $\omega_{0j}$ . Each resonance has a corresponding damping coefficient  $\gamma_j$ .

$$\mathcal{N}^2 = \varepsilon \rightarrow 1 + \sum_j \frac{f_j \omega_p^2}{\omega_{0j}^2 - \omega^2 - i\gamma_j \omega} \quad (\text{for multiple resonances})$$

$f_j$  are dimensionless coefficients for strength of each resonance.

## Transparent Materials Far From Resonance

Transparent materials have no damping of EM waves.

$$\gamma \rightarrow 0 \quad (\text{in transparent materials})$$

$$n_{\text{Im}} \rightarrow 0 \text{ so } \mathcal{N}^2 \rightarrow n_{\text{Re}}^2 \quad (\text{because } \gamma \rightarrow 0)$$

In the regime of normal dispersion (far from resonance)...

$$n_{\text{Re}}^2 = 1 + \sum_j \frac{f_j \omega_p^2}{\omega_{0j}^2 - \omega^2} \quad (\text{approximation as } \gamma \rightarrow 0)$$

$$n_{\text{Re}}^2 = 1 + \sum_j \frac{B_j}{\lambda^2 - C_j} \quad (\text{Sellmeier equation})$$

$\sqrt{C_j}$  are resonant wavelengths (i.e.  $C_j \iff \lambda_{0j}^2$ ).

$B_j$  are coefficients for strength of each resonance.

$$n_{\text{Re}}(\lambda) = A + \frac{B}{\lambda^2} + \frac{C}{\lambda^4} + \dots \quad (\text{Cauchy equation})$$

$A, B, C, \dots$  are empirically-determined coefficients.

## Drude Model for Free Electrons

Model: nearly-free electron gas in a fixed lattice of positive charge.

$$k \rightarrow 0 \quad (\text{free electrons are not bound to atoms})$$

$$\omega_0 \rightarrow 0 \quad (\text{because } k \rightarrow 0)$$

$$\mathcal{N}^2 = 1 + \frac{\omega_p^2}{\omega_0^2 - \omega^2 - i\gamma\omega} \quad (\text{for general linear materials with } \mu = 1)$$

$$\mathcal{N}^2 = 1 - \frac{\omega_p^2}{\omega^2 + i\gamma\omega} \quad (\text{refractive index of free electron gas})$$

$$\mathcal{N}^2 \approx 1 - \frac{\omega_p^2}{\omega^2} \quad (\text{for negligible electron damping } \gamma \rightarrow 0)$$

$$\mathcal{N} \approx \sqrt{1 - \frac{\omega_p^2}{\omega^2}} \quad (\text{assuming } \gamma \rightarrow 0)$$

$\implies \mathcal{N} \in \mathbb{R}$  for  $\omega > \omega_p$  and material is transparent

$\implies \mathcal{N} \in \mathbb{C}$  for  $\omega < \omega_p$  and EM waves attenuate in material

## Dense Materials

Consider a non-magnetic ( $\mu = 1$ ) linear ( $\mathbf{D} = \varepsilon \varepsilon_0 \mathbf{E}$ ) material exposed to an external electric field  $\mathbf{E}_{\text{in}}(t) = E_0 e^{-i\omega t} \hat{\mathbf{e}}_x$ .

Assume each molecule is closely surrounded by other molecules;  $\implies$  the polarization of each molecule depends on the polarization of surrounding molecules.

$$\mathbf{E}_{\text{tot}} = \mathbf{E}_{\text{in}} + \frac{\mathbf{P}}{3\varepsilon_0} \quad (\text{total electric field in material})$$

$\frac{\mathbf{P}}{3\varepsilon_0}$  is correction from internal polarization.

$$\mathbf{P} = \varepsilon_0(\varepsilon - 1) \mathbf{E}_{\text{in}} \quad (\text{polarization in general linear material})$$

$$\mathbf{E}_{\text{tot}} = \frac{\varepsilon + 2}{3} \mathbf{E}_{\text{in}} \quad (\text{using } \mathbf{P} = \varepsilon_0(\varepsilon - 1) \mathbf{E}_{\text{in}})$$

$$\mathbf{P} = \frac{\varepsilon + 2}{3} \frac{e_0^2 n_e}{m} \frac{\mathbf{E}_{\text{in}}(t)}{\omega_0^2 - \omega^2 - i\gamma\omega} \quad (\text{material's polarization})$$

$$\frac{\varepsilon - 1}{\varepsilon + 2} = \frac{e_0^2 n_e}{m \varepsilon_0} \frac{1}{\omega_0^2 - \omega^2 - i\gamma\omega} \quad (\text{material's dielectric constant})$$

$$\equiv \frac{1}{3} \frac{\omega_p^2}{\omega_0^2 - \omega^2 - i\gamma\omega}$$

$\omega_p^2 \equiv \frac{e_0^2 n_e}{m \varepsilon_0}$  is material's *plasma frequency*.

# Optical Activity

Optical activity is a phenomenon in which the direction of linearly polarized light changes as the light passes through matter. Consider linearly polarized light traveling in the  $\hat{\mathbf{e}}_z$  direction normally incident on material of length  $L$ .

Let  $\hat{\mathbf{e}}_x$  align with direction of incident light's polarization.

$$\mathbf{J}_{\text{in}} = \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix} \quad (\text{incident polarization})$$

$$\mathbf{J}_{\text{out}} = \begin{pmatrix} \cos \Delta\phi \\ \sin \Delta\phi \end{pmatrix} \quad (\text{polarization on exiting matter})$$

Convention:  $\phi$  is measured in  $xy$  plane relative to  $x$  axis by an observer looking towards source of incident EM waves.

## Analysis: Optical Activity

Optical activity can be explained with a model in which LHC and RHC polarizations experience different refractive indices in the optically active material. First decompose linearly polarized incident light into RHC and LHC components:

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbf{J}_{\text{in}} &= \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix} \quad (\text{incident polarization}) \\ &= \frac{1}{2} \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ i \end{pmatrix} + \frac{1}{2} \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ -i \end{pmatrix} \quad (\text{decomposed into RHC and LHC}) \end{aligned}$$

Model: in optically active materials, RHC- and LHC-polarized light experience difference refractive indices  $n_{\text{RHC}}$  and  $n_{\text{LHC}}$ .

$$\begin{aligned} e^{in_{\text{RHC}}k_0L} & \quad (\text{phase shift of RHC light in material}) \\ e^{in_{\text{LHC}}k_0L} & \quad (\text{phase shift of LHC light in material}) \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbf{J}_{\text{out}} &= \frac{1}{2} \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ i \end{pmatrix} e^{in_{\text{LHC}}k_0L} + \frac{1}{2} \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ -i \end{pmatrix} e^{in_{\text{RHC}}k_0L} \\ \bar{n} &= \frac{1}{2}(n_{\text{RHC}} + n_{\text{LHC}}) \quad (\text{average refractive index}) \\ \Delta n &= n_{\text{RHC}} - n_{\text{LHC}} \quad (\text{difference of refractive indices}) \\ 2\Delta\phi &\equiv \Delta n k_0 L \quad (\text{phase shift between RHC and LHC}) \\ \mathbf{J}_{\text{out}} &= \frac{e^{i\bar{n}k_0L}}{2} \left[ \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ i \end{pmatrix} e^{-i\Delta n k_0 L/2} + \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ -i \end{pmatrix} e^{i\Delta n k_0 L/2} \right] \\ &= e^{i\bar{n}k_0L} \begin{pmatrix} \cos \Delta\phi \\ \sin \Delta\phi \end{pmatrix} \end{aligned}$$

Conclusion: Transmitted light is linearly polarized at an angle  $\Delta\phi$  relative to direction of incident polarization. The angle  $\Delta\phi$  is proportional to the refractive index difference  $\Delta n$  and to the length  $L$  traveled through the optically active material.

## The Faraday Effect

The Faraday effect is a phenomenon in which an external magnetic field applied to a dielectric material causes the material to become optically active for light traveling through the material in the direction of the field.

Consider a dielectric material exposed to a homogeneous external magnetic field  $\mathbf{B}_0$ ; align coordinate system so  $\mathbf{B}_0 = B_0 \hat{\mathbf{e}}_z$ . Assume incident EM wave has wave vector  $\mathbf{k} \parallel \hat{\mathbf{e}}_z \parallel \mathbf{B}_0$ .

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbf{E} &= (E_x, 0, 0) \quad (\text{assume linear polarization}) \\ 2\Delta\phi &= k_0 L (n_{\text{RHC}} - n_{\text{LHC}}) \quad (\text{general optical activity}) \\ \Delta\phi &\equiv V L \frac{B_0}{\mu\mu_0} \quad (\text{model for Faraday effect}) \end{aligned}$$

$V$  is material's *Verdet constant*.

$\Delta\phi$  is (approximately) proportional to external field  $B_0$ .

## Sommerfeld's Analysis

Follows Arnold Sommerfeld's *Optics*, Section 20 on Magnetic rotation in the plane of polarization.

Consider material in external homogeneous magnetic field  $\mathbf{B}_0 = B_0 \hat{\mathbf{e}}_z$ . The equation of motion for an electron is...

$$m\ddot{\mathbf{r}} + K\mathbf{r} = -e_0(\mathbf{E} + \dot{\mathbf{r}} \times \mathbf{B}_0)$$

Divide by  $m$ , define  $\omega_0^2 = K/m$  and rearrange to get...

$$\ddot{\mathbf{r}} + \frac{e_0}{m} \dot{\mathbf{r}} \times \mathbf{B}_0 + \omega_0^2 \mathbf{r} = \frac{e_0}{m} \mathbf{E}$$

Evaluate vector product and separate into components to

get...

$$\ddot{x} + \frac{e_0}{m} \dot{y} B_0 + \omega_0^2 x = -\frac{e_0}{m} E_x$$

$$\ddot{y} - \frac{e_0}{m} \dot{x} B_0 + \omega_0^2 y = -\frac{e_0}{m} E_y$$

Multiply  $y$  equation by  $\pm i$  and add equations to get...

$$(\ddot{x} + i\ddot{y}) + \frac{e_0}{m} B_0 (\dot{y} - i\dot{x}) + \omega_0^2 (x + iy) = -\frac{e_0}{m} (E_x + iE_y)$$

$$(\ddot{x} - i\ddot{y}) + \frac{e_0}{m} B_0 (\dot{y} + i\dot{x}) + \omega_0^2 (x - iy) = -\frac{e_0}{m} (E_x - iE_y)$$

Rearrange the  $i$  factor in the  $e_0 B_0/m$  terms to get

$$(\ddot{x} + i\ddot{y}) - i\frac{e_0}{m} B_0 (\dot{x} + i\dot{y}) + \omega_0^2 (x + iy) = -\frac{e_0}{m} (E_x + iE_y)$$

$$(\ddot{x} - i\ddot{y}) + i\frac{e_0}{m} B_0 (\dot{x} - i\dot{y}) + \omega_0^2 (x - iy) = -\frac{e_0}{m} (E_x - iE_y)$$

Define amplitudes  $z_+ \equiv x + iy$ ,  $z_- \equiv x - iy$  and field components  $E_+ \equiv E_x + iE_y$ ,  $E_- \equiv E_x - iE_y$  to get...

$$\ddot{z}_+ - i\frac{e_0}{m} B_0 \dot{z}_+ + \omega_0^2 z_+ = -\frac{e_0}{m} E_+ \quad (1)$$

$$\ddot{z}_- + i\frac{e_0}{m} B_0 \dot{z}_- + \omega_0^2 z_- = -\frac{e_0}{m} E_- \quad (2)$$

For review, general linear polarization is decomposed into circular polarization as

$$E_x = \frac{1}{2}(E_+ + E_-) \quad E_y = \frac{1}{2}(E_+ - E_-)$$

Physically: the transition to complex quantities corresponds to an analysis in terms of circular rather than linear polarization.

Assume ansatzes for circular polarizations of the form

$$E_{\pm} = E_0 e^{i(k_{\pm} z - \omega t)}$$

where  $E_0 \in \mathbb{R}$  is field amplitude; note  $|E_+| = |E_-| = E_0$ .

Assume incident light is linearly polarized in the  $x$  direction:

$$E_x = E_0 \cos \omega t \quad \text{and} \quad E_y = 0$$

Return to Equations 1 and 2 and use ansatzes of the form...

$$z_{\pm} = z_0 e^{-i\omega t} \quad (\text{electron displacement})$$

Substitute into eq. of motion and solve for displacement to get

$$z_{\pm} = \frac{e_0}{m} \frac{E_{\pm}}{\omega^2 \pm (e_0/m) B_0 \omega - \omega_0^2}$$

Consider material's polarization  $\mathbf{P}$  and define complex polarizations of the form  $P_{\pm} = P_x \pm iP_y$ .

Electric dipole moment is related to electron amplitude by  $\mathbf{p}(t) = -e_0 \mathbf{r}(t)$ , and polarization is related to electric dipole moment by  $\mathbf{P} = n_e \mathbf{p}$ , where  $n_e$  is the number density of microscopic electric dipoles in the material. Combining  $\mathbf{P} = -n_e e_0 \mathbf{r}$  with  $z_{\pm}$  gives

$$P_{\pm} = -\frac{e_0^2 n_e}{m} \frac{E_{\pm}}{\omega^2 \pm (e_0/m) B_0 \omega - \omega_0^2}$$

which is used (how?) to determine wave vectors

$$k_{\pm}^2 = \frac{\omega^2}{c^2} \left( 1 + \frac{e_0^2 n_e}{m} \frac{\mu_0 c^2}{\omega_0^2 \mp \frac{e_0}{m} B_0 \omega - \omega^2} \right)$$

Assume the linear relationship  $\epsilon = 1 + \frac{P}{\epsilon_0 E}$  and combine with  $E_{\pm}$  and  $P_{\pm}$  to get the dielectric constants...

$$\epsilon_{\pm} = 1 - \frac{e_0^2 n_e}{\epsilon_0 m} \frac{E_{\pm}}{\omega^2 \pm (e_0/m) B_0 \omega - \omega_0^2}$$

Finally assume  $\mu = 1 \implies n_{\pm}^2 = \epsilon_{\pm}$  and rearrange minus signs:

$$n_{\pm}^2 = 1 + \frac{e_0^2 n_e}{\epsilon_0 m} \frac{E_{\pm}}{\omega_0^2 \mp (e_0/m) B_0 \omega - \omega^2}$$

## Tensor Analysis of the Faraday Effect

Follows Grant R. Fowles' *Introduction to Modern Optics 2nd Edition*, Section 6.9 on optical activity.

### Wave Equation in Material

Goal: first derive a form of the wave equation in matter that will be useful for analyzing optical activity.

Begin with the macroscopic Maxwell equations...

$$\nabla \times \mathbf{E} = -\mu_0 \frac{\partial \mathbf{H}}{\partial t} \quad \text{and} \quad \nabla \times \mathbf{H} = \epsilon_0 \frac{\partial \mathbf{E}}{\partial t} + \frac{\partial \mathbf{P}}{\partial t} + \mathbf{j}$$

Take the curl of the  $\nabla \times \mathbf{E}$  equation, combine with the  $\nabla \times \mathbf{H}$  equation, and eliminate  $\mathbf{H}$  to get the wave equation

$$\nabla \times (\nabla \times \mathbf{E}) + \frac{1}{c^2} \frac{\partial^2 \mathbf{E}}{\partial t^2} = -\mu_0 \frac{\partial^2 \mathbf{P}}{\partial t^2} - \mu_0 \frac{\partial \mathbf{j}}{\partial t}$$

Combine with the tensor relation  $\mathbf{P} = \epsilon_0 \chi \mathbf{E}$ , where  $\chi$  is a material's susceptibility tensor, and assume  $\frac{\partial \mathbf{j}}{\partial t} = \mathbf{0}$  to get...



$$\nabla \times (\nabla \times \mathbf{E}) + \frac{1}{c^2} \frac{\partial^2 \mathbf{E}}{\partial t^2} = -\frac{1}{c^2} \chi \frac{\partial^2 \mathbf{E}}{\partial t^2}$$

For plane waves of the form  $\mathbf{E}(t) \propto e^{i(\mathbf{k} \cdot \mathbf{r} - \omega t)}$  this becomes

$$\mathbf{k} \times (\mathbf{k} \times \mathbf{E}) + \frac{\omega^2}{c^2} \mathbf{E} = -\frac{\omega^2}{c^2} \chi \mathbf{E}.$$

In component form, this reads

$$\begin{aligned} \left(-k_y^2 - k_z^2 + \frac{\omega^2}{c^2}\right) E_x + k_x k_y E_y + k_x k_z E_z &= -\frac{\omega^2}{c^2} \chi_{1j} E_j \\ k_y k_x E_x + \left(-k_x^2 - k_z^2 + \frac{\omega^2}{c^2}\right) E_y + k_y k_z E_z &= -\frac{\omega^2}{c^2} \chi_{2j} E_j \\ k_z k_x E_x + k_z k_y E_y + \left(-k_x^2 - k_y^2 + \frac{\omega^2}{c^2}\right) E_z &= -\frac{\omega^2}{c^2} \chi_{3j} E_j. \end{aligned}$$

### Susceptibility Tensor in Optically Active Material

The susceptibility tensor of an optically active takes the form...

$$\chi = \begin{pmatrix} \chi_{11} & i\chi_{12} & 0 \\ -i\chi_{12} & \chi_{11} & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & \chi_{33} \end{pmatrix} \quad (\text{in an optically active material})$$

To prove this is the correct susceptibility tensor in an optically active material, evaluate the  $x$ ,  $y$ , and  $z$  components of the above-derived wave equation for the above  $\chi$  and a wave propagating in the  $z$  direction with  $\mathbf{k} = k \hat{\mathbf{e}}_z$  to get...

$$\begin{aligned} \left(-k^2 + \frac{\omega^2}{c^2}\right) E_x &= -\frac{\omega^2}{c^2} (\chi_{11} E_x + i\chi_{12} E_y) \\ \left(-k^2 + \frac{\omega^2}{c^2}\right) E_y &= -\frac{\omega^2}{c^2} (-i\chi_{12} E_x + \chi_{11} E_y) \\ \frac{\omega^2}{c^2} E_z &= -\frac{\omega^2}{c^2} \chi_{33} E_z \end{aligned}$$

The  $z$  component equation gives  $E_z = 0$ ; require determinant of coefficients of  $x$  and  $y$  component equations be nonzero to get...

$$\det \begin{pmatrix} -k^2 + (\omega^2/c^2)(1 + \chi_{11}) & i(\omega^2/c^2)\chi_{12} \\ -i(\omega^2/c^2)\chi_{12} & -k^2 + (\omega^2/c^2)(1 + \chi_{11}) \end{pmatrix} = 0,$$

which leads to the dispersion relation...

$$k = \frac{\omega}{c} \sqrt{1 + \chi_{11} \pm \chi_{12}}$$

Substitute this  $k$  into the  $x$  or  $y$  component equations to get...

$E_x = \pm i E_y$ , corresponding to RHC and LHC polarized light.

The associated refractive indices are...

$$n_{\text{RHC}} = \sqrt{1 + \chi_{11} + \chi_{12}} \text{ and } n_{\text{LHC}} = \sqrt{1 + \chi_{11} - \chi_{12}}$$

The difference in refractive indices comes out to...

$$\begin{aligned} \Delta n &= n_{\text{RHC}} - n_{\text{LHC}} = \sqrt{1 + \chi_{11} + \chi_{12}} - \sqrt{1 + \chi_{11} - \chi_{12}} \\ &= \sqrt{1 + \chi_{11}} \left( \sqrt{1 + \frac{\chi_{12}}{1 + \chi_{11}}} - \sqrt{1 - \frac{\chi_{12}}{1 + \chi_{11}}} \right) \\ &\approx \sqrt{1 + \chi_{11}} \left[ 1 + \frac{\chi_{12}}{2(1 + \chi_{11})} - \left( 1 - \frac{\chi_{12}}{2(1 + \chi_{11})} \right) \right] \\ &= \frac{\chi_{12}}{\sqrt{1 + \chi_{11}}} \end{aligned}$$

$$\Delta\phi = \Delta n \frac{\omega L}{2c} \approx \frac{\chi_{12} \omega L}{2c \sqrt{1 + \chi_{11}}} \quad (\text{rotation of polarization})$$

### Faraday Effect In Terms of Susceptibility Tensor

As in the [Lorentz model](#), model dielectric material's molecules as mobile negative charges (i.e. electrons) bound to stationary positive charges (e.g. nuclei). Let  $\mathbf{r}$  denote displacement of negative charge from equilibrium.

Ignoring (i) damping of electrons and (ii) the effect of the optical magnetic field, the equation of motion for an electron is...

$$\ddot{\mathbf{r}} + K\mathbf{r} = -e_0(\mathbf{E} + \dot{\mathbf{r}} \times \mathbf{B}_0)$$

$$\ddot{\mathbf{r}} + \omega_0^2 \mathbf{r} = -\frac{e_0}{m}(\mathbf{E} + \dot{\mathbf{r}} \times \mathbf{B}_0) \quad (\text{in terms of } \omega_0)$$

$\omega_0^2 = K/m$  is molecular resonance frequency.

Assume plane wave ansatzs  $\mathbf{E} = \mathbf{E}_0 e^{-i\omega t}$  and  $\mathbf{r} = \mathbf{r}_0 e^{-i\omega t}$ ; substitute ansatzs into equation of motion and simplify to get...

$$-\omega^2 \mathbf{r} + \omega_0^2 \mathbf{r} = -\frac{e_0}{m} \mathbf{E} + i \frac{\omega e_0}{m} \mathbf{r} \times \mathbf{B}$$

The material's polarization is  $\mathbf{P} = -n_e e_0 \mathbf{r}$ , where  $n_e$  is the number density of electrons in the material. In terms of  $\mathbf{P}$  the electron equation of motion reads...

$$-\frac{\mathbf{P}}{n_e e_0} (-\omega^2 + \omega_0^2) = -\frac{e_0}{m} \mathbf{E} - i \frac{\omega}{m n_e} \mathbf{P} \times \mathbf{B}$$

$$(-\omega^2 + \omega_0^2) \mathbf{P} = \frac{n_e e_0^2}{m} \mathbf{E} + i \frac{\omega e_0}{m} \mathbf{P} \times \mathbf{B} \quad (\text{rearranged})$$

Assume  $\mathbf{B} = B_0 \hat{\mathbf{e}}_z$ . and define cyclotron frequency  $\omega_c = \frac{e_0 B_0}{m}$ .

Write equation in component form and solve for  $\mathbf{P}$  to get

$$(-\omega^2 + \omega_0^2) P_x = \frac{n_e e_0^2}{m} E_x + i \omega \omega_c P_y$$

$$(-\omega^2 + \omega_0^2) P_y = \frac{n_e e_0^2}{m} E_y - i \omega \omega_c P_x$$

$$(-\omega^2 + \omega_0^2) P_z = \frac{n_e e_0^2}{m} E_z.$$

Solve for  $\mathbf{P}$ 's components in terms of  $\mathbf{E}$ 's components to get

$$P_x = \frac{N(-\omega^2 + \omega_0^2)}{(w^2 - \omega_0^2)^2 - (\omega \omega_c)^2} E_x - \frac{N \cdot (-i \omega \omega_c)}{(w^2 - \omega_0^2)^2 - (\omega \omega_c)^2} E_y$$

$$P_y = \frac{N \cdot (-i \omega \omega_c)}{(w^2 - \omega_0^2)^2 - (\omega \omega_c)^2} E_x + \frac{N(-\omega^2 + \omega_0^2)}{(w^2 - \omega_0^2)^2 - (\omega \omega_c)^2} E_y$$

$$P_z = \frac{n_e e_0^2}{(-\omega^2 + \omega_0^2)m} E_z$$

Let  $\chi$  denote material's susceptibility tensor; compare above components to general tensor relation  $\mathbf{P} = \varepsilon_0 \chi \mathbf{E}$ , or

$$P_x = \varepsilon_0 (\chi_{xx} E_x + \chi_{xy} E_y + \chi_{xz} E_z)$$

$$P_y = \varepsilon_0 (\chi_{yx} E_x + \chi_{yy} E_y + \chi_{yz} E_z)$$

$$P_z = \varepsilon_0 (\chi_{zx} E_x + \chi_{zy} E_y + \chi_{zz} E_z),$$

to conclude that...

$$\chi = \begin{pmatrix} \chi_{11} & +i\chi_{12} & 0 \\ -i\chi_{12} & \chi_{11} & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & \chi_{33} \end{pmatrix}$$

where the components are...

$$\chi_{11} = \frac{n_e e_0^2}{\varepsilon_0 m} \left( \frac{\omega_0^2 - \omega^2}{(\omega_0^2 - \omega^2)^2 - (\omega \omega_c)^2} \right)$$

$$\chi_{12} = \frac{n_e e_0^2}{\varepsilon_0 m} \left( \frac{\omega \omega_c}{(\omega_0^2 - \omega^2)^2 - (\omega \omega_c)^2} \right)$$

$$\chi_{33} = \frac{n_e e_0^2}{\varepsilon_0 m} \left( \frac{1}{\omega_0^2 - \omega^2} \right)$$

The material's susceptibility tensor exactly matches the susceptibility tensor of an optically active material, showing the Faraday effect is analogous to magnetically-induced optical activity. The general optical activity result  $\Delta\phi = \Delta n \frac{\omega L}{2c} \approx \frac{\chi_{12} \omega L}{2c \sqrt{1 + \chi_{11}}}$  then lets one find the rotation of polarization in the Faraday effect.

# Optically Anisotropic Materials

Optically anisotropic materials exhibit different optical properties for light traveling in different spatial directions.

## Assumptions for Anisotropic Materials

We restrict our analysis to anisotropic material that are...

- (i) magnetically isotropic (so  $\mu = 1 \in \mathbb{R}$ ),
- (ii) homogeneous: the material's properties are identical throughout the material (so  $\epsilon \neq \epsilon(\mathbf{r})$  and  $\mu \neq \mu(\mathbf{r})$ ),
- (iii) charge-free: the material is free of net electric charge (so  $\rho = 0$ ),
- (iv) nonconducting: an electric field in the material does not establish electric currents (so  $\mathbf{j} = \mathbf{0}$ ), and
- (v) linear:  $\mathbf{D} \propto \mathbf{E}$ ,  $\mathbf{P} \propto \mathbf{E}$  and  $\mathbf{B} \propto \mathbf{H}$ .

## Maxwell Equations in Matter Under Above Assumptions

$$\nabla \cdot \mathbf{D} = 0$$

$$\nabla \cdot \mathbf{B} = 0$$

$$\nabla \times \mathbf{E} = -\frac{\partial \mathbf{B}}{\partial t}$$

$$\nabla \times \mathbf{H} = \frac{\partial \mathbf{D}}{\partial t}$$

## Tensor Relations

$$\mathbf{P}_i = \epsilon_0 \chi_{ij} \mathbf{E}_j \quad (\text{in linear materials})$$

$$\mathbf{P} = \epsilon_0 \chi \mathbf{E} \quad (\text{in coordinate-free form})$$

$$\mathbf{D}_i = \epsilon_0 \epsilon_{ij} \mathbf{E}_j \quad (\text{in linear materials})$$

$$\mathbf{D} = \epsilon \mathbf{E} \quad (\text{in coordinate-free form})$$

$\chi$  is the rank-two susceptibility tensor.

$\epsilon$  is the rank-two dielectric tensor.

$\mathbf{P}$  and  $\mathbf{E}$  are not parallel in anisotropic materials!

$\mathbf{D}$  and  $\mathbf{E}$  are not parallel in anisotropic materials!

## Refractive Index in Anisotropic Materials

Consider plane waves with wave vector  $\mathbf{k}$  propagating through an anisotropic material with properties as in [Assumptions for Anisotropic Materials](#).

Goal: find refractive index experienced by waves in the material as a function wave vector  $\mathbf{k}$  and wave polarization.

## Ansatzes for Anisotropic Materials

Assume plane-wave ansatzes for field quantities in the anisotropic material.

$$\mathbf{E} = \mathbf{E}_0 e^{i(\mathbf{k} \cdot \mathbf{r} - \omega t)}$$

$$\mathbf{D} = \mathbf{D}_0 e^{i(\mathbf{k} \cdot \mathbf{r} - \omega t)}$$

$$\mathbf{B} = \mu_0 \mathbf{H} = \mathbf{B}_0 e^{i(\mathbf{k} \cdot \mathbf{r} - \omega t)} \quad (\text{assuming } \mu = 1)$$

$$\mathbf{S} = \mathbf{E} \times \mathbf{H} = \mathbf{S}_0 e^{i(\mathbf{k} \cdot \mathbf{r} - \omega t)}$$

## Directions of $\mathbf{k}$ and Field Quantities

In anisotropic materials for above assumptions and ansatzes...

$$\mathbf{k} \perp \mathbf{D} \quad (\text{from } \nabla \cdot \mathbf{D} = 0 \implies i\mathbf{k} \cdot \mathbf{D}_0 = 0)$$

$$\mathbf{k} \perp \mathbf{B} \quad (\text{from } \nabla \cdot \mathbf{B} = 0 \implies i\mathbf{k} \cdot \mathbf{B}_0 = 0)$$

$$\mathbf{B} \perp \mathbf{E} \quad (\text{from } \nabla \times \mathbf{E} = -\frac{\partial \mathbf{B}}{\partial t} \implies i\mathbf{k} \times \mathbf{E}_0 = i\omega \mathbf{B}_0)$$

$$\mathbf{B} \perp \mathbf{D} \quad (\text{from } \nabla \times \mathbf{H} = \frac{\partial \mathbf{D}}{\partial t} \implies i\mathbf{k} \times \mathbf{B}_0 = -i\omega \mathbf{D}_0)$$

$$\mathbf{B} \parallel \mathbf{H} \quad (\text{from assumption } \mathbf{B} = \mu_0 \mathbf{H})$$

$$\mathbf{S} \perp \mathbf{E} \quad (\text{from } \mathbf{S} = \mathbf{E} \times \mathbf{H})$$

$$\mathbf{S} \perp \mathbf{H}, \mathbf{S} \perp \mathbf{B} \quad (\text{from } \mathbf{S} = \mathbf{E} \times \mathbf{H} \text{ and } \mathbf{B} \parallel \mathbf{H})$$

Conclusion:  $\mathbf{k} \perp \mathbf{D} \perp \mathbf{B}$  but not  $\mathbf{k} \perp \mathbf{E} \perp \mathbf{H}$ .

In particular:  $\mathbf{E} \cdot \mathbf{D} \neq 0$ ,  $\mathbf{E} \cdot \mathbf{k} \neq 0$  and  $\mathbf{S} \cdot \mathbf{k} \neq 0$ .

## Equation for $\mathbf{E}$ in Anisotropic Materials

Assumptions as in [Assumptions for Anisotropic Materials](#).

Ansatzes as in [Ansatzes for Anisotropic Materials](#).

$$\nabla \times \mathbf{E} = -\frac{\partial \mathbf{B}}{\partial t} \quad (\text{Maxwell equation})$$

$$\nabla \times \mathbf{B} = \mu_0 \frac{\partial \mathbf{D}}{\partial t} \quad (\text{from } \mathbf{B} = \mu_0 \mathbf{H})$$

$$\mathbf{D} = \epsilon_0 \epsilon \mathbf{E} \quad (\text{linear tensor relation})$$

$$\begin{aligned} \nabla \times (\nabla \times \mathbf{E}) &= -\frac{\partial (\nabla \times \mathbf{B})}{\partial t} = -\mu_0 \epsilon_0 \frac{\partial^2 (\epsilon \mathbf{E})}{\partial t^2} = -\frac{1}{c_0^2} \frac{\partial^2 (\epsilon \mathbf{E})}{\partial t^2} \\ &= \frac{\omega^2}{c_0^2} \epsilon \mathbf{E} = k_0^2 \epsilon \mathbf{E} \quad (\text{using } k_0 = \omega/c_0) \end{aligned}$$

$$\nabla \times (\nabla \times \mathbf{A}) = \nabla (\nabla \cdot \mathbf{A}) - \nabla^2 \mathbf{A} \quad (\text{general vector identity})$$

$$\nabla \times (\nabla \times \mathbf{E}) = -(\mathbf{k} \cdot \mathbf{E}) \mathbf{k} + k^2 \mathbf{E} \quad (\text{using identity})$$

$$(\mathbf{k} \cdot \mathbf{E}) \mathbf{k} = k^2 \mathbf{E} - k_0^2 \epsilon \mathbf{E} \quad (\text{equation for } \mathbf{E} \text{ in AM})$$

## Refractive Index

Simplification: perform all analyses in  $\epsilon$ 's system of principal axes.

Let  $\hat{\mathbf{e}}_x$ ,  $\hat{\mathbf{e}}_y$ , and  $\hat{\mathbf{e}}_z$  align with  $\epsilon$ 's principal axes.

$$\epsilon = \begin{pmatrix} \epsilon_{xx} & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & \epsilon_{yy} & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & \epsilon_{zz} \end{pmatrix} \quad (\text{in } \epsilon\text{'s system of principal axes})$$

Convention: choose axes so  $\epsilon_{xx} \leq \epsilon_{yy} \leq \epsilon_{zz}$ .

$$(\mathbf{k} \cdot \mathbf{E}) \mathbf{k} = k^2 \mathbf{E} - k_0^2 \epsilon \mathbf{E} \quad (\text{in linear AMs in general})$$

$$(\mathbf{k} \cdot \mathbf{E}) k_x = (k^2 - k_0^2 \epsilon_{xx}) E_x \quad (\text{in system of PA})$$

$$(\mathbf{k} \cdot \mathbf{E}) k_y = (k^2 - k_0^2 \epsilon_{yy}) E_y \quad (\text{in system of PA})$$

$$(\mathbf{k} \cdot \mathbf{E}) k_z = (k^2 - k_0^2 \epsilon_{zz}) E_z \quad (\text{in system of PA})$$

$$n = k/k_0 \quad (\text{refractive index})$$

$$(\mathbf{k} \cdot \mathbf{E}) \left( \sum_j \frac{k_j^2}{k_0^2 (n^2 - \epsilon_{jj})} \right) = \mathbf{k} \cdot \mathbf{E} \quad (\text{after rearranging, adding})$$

$$\sum_j \frac{k_j^2}{k_0^2 (n^2 - \epsilon_{jj})} = 1 \quad (\text{canceling } \mathbf{k} \cdot \mathbf{E})$$

$$\sum_j \frac{s_j^2}{n^2 - \epsilon_{jj}} = \frac{1}{n^2} \quad (\text{using } \hat{\mathbf{s}} \equiv \mathbf{k}/|\mathbf{k}|)$$

This equation has two positive solutions for  $n$ , called principal indices of refraction.

Conclusion: Light in an anisotropic material experiences *two* refractive indices depending on  $\epsilon_{jj}$  (property of material) and  $\hat{\mathbf{s}}$  (direction of light in material).

## Index Ellipsoid

$$\begin{aligned} \langle u_{\text{EM}} \rangle &= \frac{1}{2} \mathbf{D}_0 \cdot \mathbf{E}_0 \quad (\text{energy density in linear material, } \mu = 1) \\ &= \frac{1}{2\epsilon_0} \mathbf{D}_0 (\epsilon^{-1} \mathbf{D}_0) \quad (\text{in terms of } \epsilon) \end{aligned}$$

$$\epsilon^{-1} = \begin{pmatrix} 1/\epsilon_{xx} & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1/\epsilon_{yy} & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1/\epsilon_{zz} \end{pmatrix} \quad (\text{in system of principal axes})$$

$$2\epsilon_0 \langle u_{\text{EM}} \rangle = \frac{D_x^2}{\epsilon_{xx}} + \frac{D_y^2}{\epsilon_{yy}} + \frac{D_z^2}{\epsilon_{zz}} \quad (\text{in system of PA})$$

$$\mathbf{r} \equiv \frac{\mathbf{D}}{\sqrt{2\epsilon_0 \langle u_{\text{EM}} \rangle}} \quad (\text{new dimensionless variable})$$

$$\implies \frac{x^2}{\epsilon_{xx}} + \frac{y^2}{\epsilon_{yy}} + \frac{z^2}{\epsilon_{zz}} = 1 \quad (\text{index ellipsoid})$$

## Using the Index Ellipsoid

The index ellipsoid is used to graphically determine the principal refractive indices  $n_1$ ,  $n_2$  and principal polarizations  $\mathbf{D}_1$ ,  $\mathbf{D}_2$  for light with wave vector  $\mathbf{k}$  in an anisotropic material with dielectric tensor eigenvalues  $\epsilon_{jj}$ .

1. Construct a crystal's index ellipsoid using known  $\epsilon_{jj}$ .
2. In the (dimensionless) space of the index ellipsoid, draw the unit vector  $\hat{\mathbf{s}} = \mathbf{k}/|\mathbf{k}|$  of an incident wave vector.
3. Draw the plane that is (i) perpendicular to  $\hat{\mathbf{s}}$  and (ii) passes through the ellipsoid's center (origin). Identify the ellipse formed by the intersection of the index ellipsoid and the thus-constructed plane.
4. The lengths of the ellipse's semi-major and semi-minor axes are  $n_1$  and  $n_2$ ; the corresponding directions of the major and minor axes give the directions of  $\mathbf{D}_1$  and  $\mathbf{D}_2$ .

## Wave Vector Surface

$$(\mathbf{k} \cdot \mathbf{E}) \mathbf{k} = (k^2 - k_0^2 \epsilon) \mathbf{E}$$

Separate into components and rearrange to get...

$$(k_0^2 \epsilon_{xx} - k_y^2 - k_z^2) E_x + k_x k_y E_y + k_x k_z E_z = 0$$

$$k_x k_y E_x + (k_0^2 \epsilon_{yy} - k_x^2 - k_z^2) E_y + k_y k_z E_z = 0$$

$$k_x k_z E_x + k_z k_y E_y + (k_0^2 \epsilon_{zz} - k_x^2 - k_y^2) E_z = 0$$

In matrix form, this reads...

$$\begin{pmatrix} (k_0^2 \varepsilon_{xx} - k_y^2 - k_z^2) & k_x k_y & k_x k_z \\ k_y k_x & (k_0^2 \varepsilon_{yy} - k_x^2 - k_z^2) & k_y k_z \\ k_z k_x & k_z k_y & (k_0^2 \varepsilon_{zz} - k_x^2 - k_y^2) \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} E_x \\ E_y \\ E_z \end{pmatrix} = 0$$

Let  $\mathbf{K}$  denote the above wave vector matrix.

For a non-trivial solution for  $\mathbf{E}$ , we require...

$$0 \equiv \det \mathbf{K} = k_0^4 - k_0^2 \left( \frac{k_x^2 + k_y^2}{\varepsilon_{zz}} + \frac{k_x^2 + k_z^2}{\varepsilon_{yy}} + \frac{k_y^2 + k_z^2}{\varepsilon_{xx}} \right) + \left( \frac{k_x^2}{\varepsilon_{yy} \varepsilon_{zz}} + \frac{k_y^2}{\varepsilon_{xx} \varepsilon_{zz}} + \frac{k_z^2}{\varepsilon_{xx} \varepsilon_{yy}} \right) (k_x^2 + k_y^2 + k_z^2) \equiv 0$$

### Uniaxial Material

Choose  $n_x = n_y = n_0$  and  $n_z = n_e$ .

$$\det \mathbf{K} = \left( \frac{k_x^2}{n_0^2} + \frac{k_y^2}{n_0^2} + \frac{k_z^2}{n_e^2} - k_0^2 \right) \left( \frac{k_x^2}{n_e^2} + \frac{k_y^2}{n_e^2} + \frac{k_z^2}{n_0^2} - k_0^2 \right) \equiv 0$$

### Example: Wave Vectors in the $xy$ Plane

Assume  $\mathbf{k} = (k_x, k_y, 0)$ .

$$\mathbf{K} = \begin{pmatrix} k_0^2 \varepsilon_{xx} - k_y^2 & k_x k_y & 0 \\ k_x k_y & k_0^2 \varepsilon_{yy} - k_x^2 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & k_0^2 \varepsilon_{zz} - k_x^2 - k_y^2 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$\det \mathbf{K} = (k_0^2 \varepsilon_{zz} - k_x^2 - k_y^2) [(k_0^2 \varepsilon_{xx} - k_y^2)(k_0^2 \varepsilon_{yy} - k_x^2) - k_x^2 k_y^2]$$

Let  $\kappa_\alpha \equiv k_\alpha / k_0$  for  $\alpha \in \{x, y, z\}$ . (normalized components)

$$\kappa_x^2 + \kappa_y^2 = \varepsilon_{zz} \quad (\text{circular solution})$$

$$\frac{\kappa_x^2}{\varepsilon_{yy}} + \frac{\kappa_y^2}{\varepsilon_{xx}} = 1 \quad (\text{elliptical solution})$$

Ellipse is inside circle. (assuming  $\varepsilon_{xx} < \varepsilon_{yy} < \varepsilon_{zz}$ )

### Example: Wave Vectors in the $xz$ Plane

Assume  $\mathbf{k} = (k_x, 0, k_z)$ .

$$\mathbf{K} = \begin{pmatrix} k_0^2 \varepsilon_{xx} - k_z^2 & 0 & k_x k_z \\ 0 & k_0^2 \varepsilon_{yy} - k_x^2 - k_z^2 & 0 \\ k_x k_z & 0 & k_0^2 \varepsilon_{zz} - k_x^2 - k_z^2 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$\det \mathbf{K} = (k_0^2 \varepsilon_{yy} - k_x^2 - k_z^2) [(k_0^2 \varepsilon_{xx} - k_z^2)(k_0^2 \varepsilon_{zz} - k_x^2 - k_z^2) - k_x^2 k_z^2]$$

Let  $\kappa_\alpha \equiv k_\alpha / k_0$  for  $\alpha \in \{x, y, z\}$ . (normalized components)

$$\kappa_x^2 + \kappa_z^2 = \varepsilon_{yy} \quad (\text{circular solution})$$

$$\frac{\kappa_x^2}{\varepsilon_{zz}} + \frac{\kappa_z^2}{\varepsilon_{xx}} = 1 \quad (\text{elliptical solution})$$

Circle and ellipse intersect. (assuming  $\varepsilon_{xx} < \varepsilon_{yy} < \varepsilon_{zz}$ )

### Example: Wave Vectors in the $yz$ Plane

Assume  $\mathbf{k} = (0, k_y, k_z)$ .

$$\mathbf{K} = \begin{pmatrix} k_0^2 \varepsilon_{xx} - k_y^2 - k_z^2 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & k_0^2 \varepsilon_{yy} - k_z^2 & k_y k_z \\ 0 & k_y k_z & k_0^2 \varepsilon_{zz} - k_y^2 - k_z^2 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$\det \mathbf{K} = (k_0^2 \varepsilon_{xx} - k_y^2 - k_z^2) [(k_0^2 \varepsilon_{yy} - k_z^2)(k_0^2 \varepsilon_{zz} - k_y^2 - k_z^2) - k_y^2 k_z^2]$$

Let  $\kappa_\alpha \equiv k_\alpha / k_0$  for  $\alpha \in \{x, y, z\}$ . (normalized components)

$$\kappa_y^2 + \kappa_z^2 = \varepsilon_{xx} \quad (\text{circular solution})$$

$$\frac{\kappa_y^2}{\varepsilon_{zz}} + \frac{\kappa_z^2}{\varepsilon_{yy}} = 1 \quad (\text{elliptical solution})$$

Circle is inside ellipse. (assuming  $\varepsilon_{xx} < \varepsilon_{yy} < \varepsilon_{zz}$ )

### Circular Solution

Consider only solutions for  $\mathbf{k}$  confined to a 2D plane.

$\mathbf{E}$  perpendicular to plane containing  $\mathbf{k}$ .

$\mathbf{E}$ 's direction is independent of light direction  $\hat{\mathbf{s}}$ .

### Elliptical Solution

Consider only solutions for  $\mathbf{k}$  confined to a 2D plane.

$\mathbf{E}$  lies in the plane containing  $\mathbf{k}$ .

$\mathbf{E}$ 's direction depends on light direction  $\hat{\mathbf{s}}$ .

### Optic Axis

Consider  $\mathbf{k}$  confined to the  $xz$  plane. Physically: recall  $\hat{\mathbf{e}}_x$  corresponds to crystal's smallest eigenvalue  $\varepsilon_{xx}$  and  $\hat{\mathbf{e}}_z$  corresponds to crystal's largest eigenvalue  $\varepsilon_{zz}$ .

Definition: for light with direction  $\hat{\mathbf{s}}$  parallel to the optic axis, the light's two principle polarizations (as determined by  $\varepsilon_{jj}$  and  $\hat{\mathbf{s}}$ ) experience the same refractive index.

Result: both incident polarizations travel through the anisotropic material with equal phase velocity, so the light's

incident polarization is preserved in the material.

In general anisotropic materials have two optic axes inclined at equal and opposite polar angles  $\pm \theta_{\text{oa}}$  relative to  $\hat{\mathbf{e}}_z$ .

### Direction of Optic Axis

Consider  $\mathbf{k}$  confined to the  $xz$  plane.

$$k_x^2 + k_z^2 = k_0^2 \varepsilon_{yy} \quad (\text{circular solution})$$

$$k_x^2 + k_z^2 = |\mathbf{k}|^2 \implies k^2 = \varepsilon_{yy} k_0^2 \quad (\text{for } \mathbf{k} \text{ in } xz \text{ plane})$$

Compare to general relationship  $k^2 = n k_0^2$ ...

$$n_1 = \varepsilon_{yy} \quad (\text{1st principle refractive index})$$

$$\frac{k_x^2}{\varepsilon_{zz}} + \frac{k_z^2}{\varepsilon_{xx}} = k_0^2 \quad (\text{elliptical solution})$$

$$\frac{(n_2 s_x k_0)^2}{\varepsilon_{zz}} + \frac{(n_2 s_z k_0)^2}{\varepsilon_{xx}} = k_0^2 \quad (\text{using } \mathbf{k} = n k_0 \hat{\mathbf{s}})$$

$$\frac{1}{n_2} = \sqrt{\frac{s_x^2}{\varepsilon_{zz}} + \frac{s_z^2}{\varepsilon_{xx}}} \quad (\text{2nd principle refractive index})$$

Let  $\theta$  denote angle between  $\hat{\mathbf{s}}$  and  $z$  axis.

$$\hat{\mathbf{s}} = (s_x, 0, s_z) = (\sin \theta, 0, \cos \theta) \quad (\text{in terms of } \theta)$$

$$\frac{1}{n_2} = \sqrt{\frac{\sin^2 \theta}{\varepsilon_{zz}} + \frac{\cos^2 \theta}{\varepsilon_{xx}}} \quad (\text{in terms of } \theta)$$

$$n_1 \equiv n_2 \implies \frac{1}{n_1^2} = \frac{1}{n_2^2} \quad (\text{along optic axis, by definition})$$

$$\implies \frac{1}{\varepsilon_{yy}} = \frac{\sin^2 \theta_{\text{oa}}}{\varepsilon_{zz}} + \frac{\cos^2 \theta_{\text{oa}}}{\varepsilon_{xx}} \quad (\text{implicit equation for } \theta_{\text{oa}})$$

$$\sin^2 \theta_{\text{oa}} = \frac{1}{\varepsilon_{zz} - \varepsilon_{xx}} \left( \varepsilon_{zz} - \frac{\varepsilon_{xx} \varepsilon_{zz}}{\varepsilon_{yy}} \right) \quad (\text{using } \cos^2 x = 1 - \sin^2 x)$$

### Direction of $\mathbf{E}$ Field for $\mathbf{k}$ in $xy$ Plane

Assume  $\mathbf{k} = (k_x, k_y, 0)$ .

$$\begin{pmatrix} k_0^2 \varepsilon_{xx} - k_y^2 & k_x k_y & 0 \\ k_x k_y & k_0^2 \varepsilon_{yy} - k_x^2 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & k_0^2 \varepsilon_{zz} - k_x^2 - k_y^2 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} E_x \\ E_y \\ E_z \end{pmatrix} = 0$$

$$E_z (k_0^2 \varepsilon_{zz} - k_x^2 - k_y^2) = 0 \quad (\text{from } z \text{ component})$$

$$k_x^2 + k_y^2 = k_0^2 \varepsilon_{zz} \quad (\text{circular solution})$$

The  $z$  component equation  $E_z (k_0^2 \varepsilon_{zz} - k_x^2 - k_y^2) = 0$  is satisfied for arbitrary  $E_z$  for the circular solution, while  $E_x, E_y \equiv 0$  to satisfy  $\mathbf{KE} = 0$  for arbitrary  $\mathbf{k}$ .

$$\mathbf{E}_1 \parallel \hat{\mathbf{e}}_z \quad (\text{first polarization; circular solution})$$

$$\frac{E_y}{E_x} = \frac{1}{k_x k_y} (k_y^2 - k_0^2 \varepsilon_{xx}) \quad (\text{from } x \text{ component})$$

$$\frac{E_x}{E_y} = \frac{1}{k_x k_y} (k_x^2 - k_0^2 \varepsilon_{yy}) \quad (\text{from } y \text{ component})$$

$$\frac{k_x^2}{\varepsilon_{yy}} + \frac{k_y^2}{\varepsilon_{xx}} = k_0^2 \quad (\text{elliptical solution})$$

$$\frac{E_y}{E_x} = -\frac{\varepsilon_{xx} s_x}{\varepsilon_{yy} s_y} \quad (\text{combining } x/y \text{ comp. and ellip. solution})$$

The  $x$  and  $y$  component equations are satisfied for  $E_x$  and  $E_y$  satisfying  $\frac{E_y}{E_x} = -\frac{\varepsilon_{xx} s_x}{\varepsilon_{yy} s_y}$  while  $E_z = 0$  to satisfy  $\mathbf{KE} = 0$  for arbitrary  $\mathbf{k}$ .

$$\mathbf{E}_2 = E_{2x} \hat{\mathbf{e}}_x + E_{2y} \hat{\mathbf{e}}_y \quad (\text{second polarization; elliptical solution})$$

### Direction of $\mathbf{E}$ Field for $\mathbf{k}$ in $xz$ Plane

Assume  $\mathbf{k} = (k_x, 0, k_z)$ .

$$\begin{pmatrix} k_0^2 \varepsilon_{xx} - k_z^2 & 0 & k_x k_z \\ 0 & k_0^2 \varepsilon_{yy} - k_x^2 - k_z^2 & 0 \\ k_x k_z & 0 & k_0^2 \varepsilon_{zz} - k_x^2 - k_z^2 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} E_x \\ E_y \\ E_z \end{pmatrix} = 0$$

$$E_y (k_0^2 \varepsilon_{yy} - k_x^2 - k_z^2) = 0 \quad (\text{from } y \text{ component})$$

$$k_x^2 + k_z^2 = k_0^2 \varepsilon_{yy} \quad (\text{circular solution})$$

The  $y$  component equation  $E_y (k_0^2 \varepsilon_{yy} - k_x^2 - k_z^2) = 0$  is satisfied for arbitrary  $E_y$  for the circular solution, while  $E_x, E_z \equiv 0$  to satisfy  $\mathbf{KE} = 0$  for arbitrary  $\mathbf{k}$ .

$$\mathbf{E}_1 \parallel \hat{\mathbf{e}}_y \quad (\text{first polarization; circular solution})$$

$$\frac{E_z}{E_x} = \frac{1}{k_x k_z} (k_z^2 - k_0^2 \varepsilon_{xx}) \quad (\text{from } x \text{ component})$$

$$\frac{E_x}{E_z} = \frac{1}{k_x k_z} (k_x^2 - k_0^2 \varepsilon_{zz}) \quad (\text{from } z \text{ component})$$

$$\frac{k_x^2}{\varepsilon_{zz}} + \frac{k_z^2}{\varepsilon_{xx}} = k_0^2 \quad (\text{elliptical solution})$$

$$\frac{E_z}{E_x} = -\frac{\varepsilon_{xx} s_x}{\varepsilon_{zz} s_z} \quad (\text{combining } x/z \text{ comp. and ellip. solution})$$

The  $x$  and  $z$  component equations are satisfied for  $E_x$  and  $E_z$  satisfying  $\frac{E_z}{E_x} = -\frac{\varepsilon_{xx} s_x}{\varepsilon_{zz} s_z}$  while  $E_y = 0$  to satisfy  $\mathbf{KE} = 0$  for arbitrary  $\mathbf{k}$ .

$$\mathbf{E}_2 = E_{2x} \hat{\mathbf{e}}_x + E_{2z} \hat{\mathbf{e}}_z \quad (\text{second polarization; elliptical solution})$$

### Direction of $\mathbf{E}$ Field for $\mathbf{k}$ in $yz$ Plane

Assume  $\mathbf{k} = (0, k_y, k_z)$ .

$$\begin{pmatrix} k_0^2 \varepsilon_{xx} - k_y^2 - k_z^2 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & k_0^2 \varepsilon_{yy} - k_z^2 & k_y k_z \\ 0 & k_y k_z & k_0^2 \varepsilon_{zz} - k_y^2 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} E_x \\ E_y \\ E_z \end{pmatrix} = \mathbf{0}$$

$$E_x (k_0^2 \varepsilon_{xx} - k_y^2 - k_z^2) = 0 \quad (\text{from } x \text{ component})$$

$$k_y^2 + k_z^2 = k_0^2 \varepsilon_{xx} \quad (\text{circular solution})$$

The  $x$  component equation  $E_x (k_0^2 \varepsilon_{xx} - k_y^2 - k_z^2) = 0$  is satisfied for arbitrary  $E_x$  for the circular solution, while  $E_y, E_z \equiv 0$  to satisfy  $\mathbf{KE} = \mathbf{0}$  for arbitrary  $\mathbf{k}$ .

$$\mathbf{E}_1 \parallel \hat{\mathbf{e}}_x \quad (\text{first polarization; circular solution})$$

$$\frac{E_x}{E_y} = \frac{1}{k_y k_z} (k_z^2 - k_0^2 \varepsilon_{yy}) \quad (\text{from } y \text{ component})$$

$$\frac{E_y}{E_z} = \frac{1}{k_y k_z} (k_y^2 - k_0^2 \varepsilon_{zz}) \quad (\text{from } z \text{ component})$$

$$\frac{k_y^2}{\varepsilon_{zz}} + \frac{k_z^2}{\varepsilon_{yy}} = k_0^2 \quad (\text{elliptical solution})$$

$$\frac{E_z}{E_y} = -\frac{\varepsilon_{yy} s_y}{\varepsilon_{zz} s_z} \quad (\text{combining } y/z \text{ comp. and ellip. solution})$$

The  $y$  and  $z$  component equations are satisfied for  $E_y$  and  $E_z$  satisfying  $\frac{E_z}{E_y} = -\frac{\varepsilon_{yy} s_y}{\varepsilon_{zz} s_z}$  while  $E_x = 0$  to satisfy  $\mathbf{KE} = \mathbf{0}$  for arbitrary  $\mathbf{k}$ .

$$\mathbf{E}_2 = E_{2y} \hat{\mathbf{e}}_y + E_{2z} \hat{\mathbf{e}}_z \quad (\text{second polarization; elliptical solution})$$

### Angle Between $\mathbf{E}$ and $\mathbf{D}$ for $\mathbf{k}$ in $xy$ Plane

Assume  $\mathbf{k} = (k_x, k_y, 0)$ .

$$\mathbf{E}_1 \parallel \mathbf{D}_1 \quad (\text{for circular solution})$$

Let  $\theta$  be angle between  $\hat{\mathbf{s}} = \mathbf{k}/|\mathbf{k}|$  and  $\hat{\mathbf{e}}_y$ .

$$\hat{\mathbf{s}} = (\sin \theta, \cos \theta, 0) \quad (\text{expression for } \hat{\mathbf{s}})$$

$$D_2/|D_2| = (-\cos \theta, 0, \sin \theta) \quad (\text{because } \mathbf{k} \perp \mathbf{D})$$

$$\mathbf{E}_2 = E_{2x} \hat{\mathbf{e}}_x + E_{2y} \hat{\mathbf{e}}_y \quad (\text{elliptical solution})$$

$$\frac{E_{2y}}{E_{2x}} = -\frac{\varepsilon_{xx} s_x}{\varepsilon_{yy} s_y} = -\frac{\varepsilon_{xx} \sin \theta}{\varepsilon_{yy} \cos \theta} \quad (\text{elliptical solution})$$

$$\mathbf{E}_2 = \left( E_{2x}, -\frac{\varepsilon_{xx} \sin \theta}{\varepsilon_{yy} \cos \theta} E_{2x}, 0 \right)$$

$$E_2/|E_2| = \frac{1}{\sqrt{1 + \frac{\varepsilon_{xx}^2 \sin^2 \theta}{\varepsilon_{yy}^2 \cos^2 \theta}}} \left( 1, 0, -\frac{\varepsilon_{xx} \sin \theta}{\varepsilon_{yy} \cos \theta} \right)$$

$$\cos \gamma = \frac{\mathbf{E} \cdot \mathbf{D}}{|\mathbf{E}| |\mathbf{D}|} = \frac{\varepsilon_{yy} \cos^2 \theta + \varepsilon_{xx} \sin^2 \theta}{\sqrt{\varepsilon_{yy}^2 \cos^2 \theta + \varepsilon_{xx}^2 \sin^2 \theta}} \quad (\text{angle btwn. } \mathbf{E} \text{ and } \mathbf{D})$$

### Angle Between $\mathbf{E}$ and $\mathbf{D}$ for $\mathbf{k}$ in $xz$ Plane

Assume  $\mathbf{k} = (k_x, 0, k_z)$ .

$$\mathbf{E}_1 \parallel \mathbf{D}_1 \quad (\text{for circular solution})$$

Let  $\theta$  be angle between  $\hat{\mathbf{s}} = \mathbf{k}/|\mathbf{k}|$  and  $\hat{\mathbf{e}}_z$ .

$$\hat{\mathbf{s}} = (\sin \theta, 0, \cos \theta) \quad (\text{expression for } \hat{\mathbf{s}})$$

$$D_2/|D_2| = (-\cos \theta, 0, \sin \theta) \quad (\text{because } \mathbf{k} \perp \mathbf{D})$$

$$\mathbf{E}_2 = E_{2x} \hat{\mathbf{e}}_x + E_{2z} \hat{\mathbf{e}}_z \quad (\text{elliptical solution})$$

$$\frac{E_{2z}}{E_{2x}} = -\frac{\varepsilon_{xx} s_x}{\varepsilon_{zz} s_z} = -\frac{\varepsilon_{xx} \sin \theta}{\varepsilon_{zz} \cos \theta} \quad (\text{elliptical solution})$$

$$\mathbf{E}_2 = \left( E_{2x}, 0, -\frac{\varepsilon_{xx} \sin \theta}{\varepsilon_{zz} \cos \theta} E_{2x} \right)$$

$$E_2/|E_2| = \frac{1}{\sqrt{1 + \frac{\varepsilon_{xx}^2 \sin^2 \theta}{\varepsilon_{zz}^2 \cos^2 \theta}}} \left( 1, 0, -\frac{\varepsilon_{xx} \sin \theta}{\varepsilon_{zz} \cos \theta} \right)$$

$$\cos \gamma = \frac{\mathbf{E} \cdot \mathbf{D}}{|\mathbf{E}| |\mathbf{D}|} = \frac{\varepsilon_{zz} \cos^2 \theta + \varepsilon_{xx} \sin^2 \theta}{\sqrt{\varepsilon_{zz}^2 \cos^2 \theta + \varepsilon_{xx}^2 \sin^2 \theta}} \quad (\text{angle btwn. } \mathbf{E} \text{ and } \mathbf{D})$$

### Angle Between $\mathbf{E}$ and $\mathbf{D}$ for $\mathbf{k}$ in $yz$ Plane

Assume  $\mathbf{k} = (0, k_y, k_z)$ .

$$\mathbf{E}_1 \parallel \mathbf{D}_1 \quad (\text{for circular solution})$$

Let  $\theta$  be angle between  $\hat{\mathbf{s}} = \mathbf{k}/|\mathbf{k}|$  and  $\hat{\mathbf{e}}_z$ .

$$\hat{\mathbf{s}} = (0, \sin \theta, \cos \theta) \quad (\text{expression for } \hat{\mathbf{s}})$$

$$D_2/|D_2| = (0, -\cos \theta, \sin \theta) \quad (\text{because } \mathbf{k} \perp \mathbf{D})$$

$$\mathbf{E}_2 = E_{2y} \hat{\mathbf{e}}_y + E_{2z} \hat{\mathbf{e}}_z \quad (\text{elliptical solution})$$

$$\frac{E_{2z}}{E_{2y}} = -\frac{\varepsilon_{yy} s_y}{\varepsilon_{zz} s_z} = -\frac{\varepsilon_{yy} \sin \theta}{\varepsilon_{zz} \cos \theta} \quad (\text{elliptical solution})$$

$$\mathbf{E}_2 = \left( E_{2y}, 0, -\frac{\varepsilon_{yy} \sin \theta}{\varepsilon_{zz} \cos \theta} E_{2y} \right)$$

$$E_2/|E_2| = \frac{1}{\sqrt{1 + \frac{\varepsilon_{yy}^2 \sin^2 \theta}{\varepsilon_{zz}^2 \cos^2 \theta}}} \left( 1, 0, -\frac{\varepsilon_{yy} \sin \theta}{\varepsilon_{zz} \cos \theta} \right)$$

$$\cos \gamma = \frac{\mathbf{E} \cdot \mathbf{D}}{|\mathbf{E}| |\mathbf{D}|} = \frac{\varepsilon_{zz} \cos^2 \theta + \varepsilon_{yy} \sin^2 \theta}{\sqrt{\varepsilon_{zz}^2 \cos^2 \theta + \varepsilon_{yy}^2 \sin^2 \theta}} \quad (\text{angle btwn. } \mathbf{E} \text{ and } \mathbf{D})$$

## Optically Uniaxial Materials

Uniaxial materials have two equal dielectric tensor eigenvalues.

$$n_x = n_y \equiv n_o \text{ and } n_z \equiv n_e. \quad (\text{in uniaxial materials})$$

$n_o$  is called *ordinary refractive index*.

$n_e$  is called *extraordinary refractive index*.

### Optic Axis

Let  $\theta_{oa}$  denote angle between optic axis and  $z$  axis.

$$\sin^2 \theta_{oa} = \frac{1}{\varepsilon_{zz} - \varepsilon_{xx}} \left( \varepsilon_{zz} - \frac{\varepsilon_{xx} \varepsilon_{zz}}{\varepsilon_{yy}} \right) \quad (\text{in general})$$

$$\theta_{oa} = 0 \quad (\text{in uniaxial materials since } \varepsilon_{xx} = \varepsilon_{yy})$$

Conclusion: in uniaxial materials, both optic axes join into a single optic axis parallel to the  $z$  axis.

$$\hat{\mathbf{e}}_{oa} \parallel \hat{\mathbf{e}}_z \quad (\text{in uniaxial materials})$$

### Wave Vector Surface

$$(\mathbf{k} \cdot \mathbf{E}) \mathbf{k} = (k^2 I - k_0^2 \epsilon) \mathbf{E} \quad (\text{in general in anisotropic materials})$$

In matrix form in  $\epsilon$ 's system of principal axes, this reads...

$$\begin{pmatrix} (k_0^2 \varepsilon_{xx} - k_y^2 - k_z^2) & k_x k_y & k_x k_z \\ k_y k_x & (k_0^2 \varepsilon_{yy} - k_x^2 - k_z^2) & k_y k_z \\ k_z k_x & k_z k_y & (k_0^2 \varepsilon_{zz} - k_x^2 - k_y^2) \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} E_x \\ E_y \\ E_z \end{pmatrix} = \mathbf{0}$$

Let  $\mathbf{K}$  denote the above wave vector matrix.

For a non-trivial solution for  $\mathbf{E}$ , we require...

$$0 \equiv \det \mathbf{K} = k_0^4 - k_0^2 \left( \frac{k_x^2 + k_y^2}{\varepsilon_{zz}} + \frac{k_x^2 + k_z^2}{\varepsilon_{yy}} + \frac{k_y^2 + k_z^2}{\varepsilon_{xx}} \right) \quad (\text{in general})$$

$$+ \left( \frac{k_x^2}{\varepsilon_{yy} \varepsilon_{zz}} + \frac{k_y^2}{\varepsilon_{xx} \varepsilon_{zz}} + \frac{k_z^2}{\varepsilon_{xx} \varepsilon_{yy}} \right) (k_x^2 + k_y^2 + k_z^2) \equiv 0$$

In uniaxial materials, this simplifies to...

$$\det \mathbf{K} = \left( \frac{k_x^2}{n_o^2} + \frac{k_y^2}{n_o^2} + \frac{k_z^2}{n_o^2} - k_0^2 \right) \left( \frac{k_x^2}{n_e^2} + \frac{k_y^2}{n_e^2} + \frac{k_z^2}{n_e^2} - k_0^2 \right) \equiv 0$$

Without loss of generality (because of rotational symmetry about  $\hat{\mathbf{e}}_z$ ) we may resolve an arbitrary  $\mathbf{k}$  into a component  $k_{\parallel}$  parallel to  $\hat{\mathbf{e}}_z$  and a component  $k_{\perp}$  perpendicular to  $\hat{\mathbf{e}}_z$ .

Let  $k_x \equiv k_{\perp}$  and  $k_z \equiv k_{\parallel}$ .

$$\det \mathbf{K} = \left( \frac{k_{\perp}^2}{n_o^2} + \frac{k_{\parallel}^2}{n_o^2} - k_0^2 \right) \left( \frac{k_{\perp}^2}{n_e^2} + \frac{k_{\parallel}^2}{n_e^2} - k_0^2 \right) \quad (\mathbf{k} = (k_{\perp}, 0, k_{\parallel}))$$

### Ordinary Polarization

$$k_{\perp}^2 + k_{\parallel}^2 = n_o^2 k_0^2 \quad (\text{solution to } \det \mathbf{K} = 0)$$

Use  $k^2 = k_{\perp}^2 + k_{\parallel}^2$  and compare to  $k = n_1 k_0$  to get...

$$n_1 = n_o \quad (\text{ordinary refractive index})$$

$$\mathbf{D}_1 \parallel \mathbf{E}_1 \quad (\text{for ordinary polarization})$$

$$\mathbf{S}_1 \parallel \mathbf{k} \quad (\text{for ordinary polarization})$$

$n_1$  and direction of  $\mathbf{E}_1$  are independent of  $\hat{\mathbf{s}}$ .

### Extraordinary Polarization

$$\frac{k_{\perp}^2}{n_e^2} + \frac{k_{\parallel}^2}{n_o^2} = k_0^2 \quad (\text{solution to } \det \mathbf{K} = 0)$$

$$\mathbf{k} = (k_{\perp}, 0, k_{\parallel}) \quad (\text{in general uniaxial materials})$$

$$\hat{\mathbf{s}} = \mathbf{k}/|\mathbf{k}| = (s_{\perp}, 0, s_{\parallel}) \quad (\text{in general uniaxial materials})$$

Let  $\theta$  denote angle between  $\hat{\mathbf{e}}_z$  and  $\hat{\mathbf{s}}$ .

$$\hat{\mathbf{s}} = (\sin \theta, 0, \cos \theta)$$

$$\frac{n_o^2 \sin^2 \theta}{n_e^2} + \frac{n_o^2 \cos^2 \theta}{n_o^2} = 1 \quad (\text{using } k = n_2 k_0)$$

$$\frac{1}{n_2^2} = \frac{\sin^2 \theta}{n_e^2} + \frac{\cos^2 \theta}{n_o^2} \quad (\text{extraordinary refractive index})$$

$$\mathbf{S}_2 \nparallel \mathbf{k}; \angle(\mathbf{S}_2, \mathbf{k}) = \angle(\mathbf{E}_2, \mathbf{D}_2)$$

### Angle Between $\mathbf{E}$ and $\mathbf{D}$

Assume  $\mathbf{k} = (k_{\perp}, 0, k_{\parallel})$

$$\mathbf{E}_1 \parallel \mathbf{D}_1 \quad (\text{for ordinary polarization})$$

Let  $\theta$  be angle between  $\hat{\mathbf{s}} = \mathbf{k}/|\mathbf{k}|$  and  $\hat{\mathbf{e}}_z$ .

$$\hat{\mathbf{s}} = (\sin \theta, 0, \cos \theta)$$

$$D_2/|D_2| = (-\cos \theta, 0, \sin \theta) \quad (\text{because } \mathbf{k} \perp \mathbf{D})$$

$$\mathbf{E}_2 = E_2^{\perp} \hat{\mathbf{e}}_{\perp} + E_2^{\parallel} \hat{\mathbf{e}}_{\parallel} \quad (\text{extraordinary polarization})$$

$$\frac{E_2^{\parallel}}{E_2^{\perp}} = -\frac{\varepsilon_o s_{\perp}}{\varepsilon_e s_{\parallel}} = -\frac{\varepsilon_o \sin \theta}{\varepsilon_e \cos \theta} \quad (\text{extraordinary polarization})$$

$$\mathbf{E}_2 = \left( E_2^{\perp}, 0, -\frac{\varepsilon_o \sin \theta}{\varepsilon_e \cos \theta} E_2^{\perp} \right)$$

$$E_2/|E_2| = \frac{1}{\sqrt{1 + \frac{\varepsilon_o^2 \sin^2 \theta}{\varepsilon_e^2 \cos^2 \theta}}} \left( 1, 0, -\frac{\varepsilon_o \sin \theta}{\varepsilon_e \cos \theta} \right)$$

$$\cos \gamma = \frac{\mathbf{E} \cdot \mathbf{D}}{|\mathbf{E}| |\mathbf{D}|} = \frac{\varepsilon_e \cos^2 \theta + \varepsilon_o \sin^2 \theta}{\sqrt{\varepsilon_e^2 \cos^2 \theta + \varepsilon_o^2 \sin^2 \theta}} \quad (\text{angle btwn. } \mathbf{E} \text{ and } \mathbf{D})$$

# From Isotropic into Uniaxial Material

Consider EM plane waves incident at an angle  $\theta_i$  from isotropic material with refractive index  $n_o$  into uniaxial material with refractive indices  $n_o$  and  $n_e$ .

## Review from Applying Boundary Conditions

$$\begin{aligned}
 E_i^{\parallel} + E_r^{\parallel} &= E_t^{\parallel} \text{ for all } \mathbf{r} = (x, y, 0) \text{ in interface and for all } t \\
 E_{i0}^{\parallel} e^{i\phi_i} + E_{r0}^{\parallel} e^{i\phi_r} &= E_{t0}^{\parallel} e^{i\phi_t} \quad (\text{for } x = y = z = 0 \text{ and } t = 0) \\
 \implies \phi_i &= \phi_r = \phi_t \equiv \phi \quad (\text{phases are equal}) \\
 E_{i0}^{\parallel} e^{-i\omega_i t} e^{i\phi} + E_{r0}^{\parallel} e^{-i\omega_r t} e^{i\phi} &= E_{t0}^{\parallel} e^{-i\omega_t t} e^{i\phi} \quad (\text{for } \mathbf{r} = \mathbf{0}) \\
 \implies \omega_i &= \omega_r = \omega_t \equiv \omega \quad (\text{frequencies are equal}) \\
 E_{i0}^{\parallel} e^{i\mathbf{k}_i \cdot \mathbf{r}} e^{i\phi} + E_{r0}^{\parallel} e^{i\mathbf{k}_r \cdot \mathbf{r}} e^{i\phi} &= E_{t0}^{\parallel} e^{i\mathbf{k}_t \cdot \mathbf{r}} e^{i\phi} \quad (\text{for } t = 0) \\
 \implies \mathbf{k}_i \cdot \mathbf{r} &= \mathbf{k}_r \cdot \mathbf{r} = \mathbf{k}_t \cdot \mathbf{r} = \text{constant}
 \end{aligned}$$

Geometrically:  $\mathbf{k}_i$ ,  $\mathbf{k}_r$  and  $\mathbf{k}_t$  lie in the same *plane of incidence*.  
Convention: plane of incidence is  $xz$  plane for interface in  $xy$  plane.

## Geometry

Let interface lie in  $xy$  plane.  
Let plane of incidence lie in  $xz$  plane.  
Let  $z$  axis point from isotropic to uniaxial material.  
 $\theta_i$  is angle of incidence.  
 $\theta_r$  is angle of reflection.  
 $\theta_t$  is angle of transmission.  
All angles measured with respect to interface normal vector  $\hat{\mathbf{n}}$ .  
 $\mathbf{k}_i = k_0 n_o (\sin \theta_i, 0, \cos \theta_i)$  (incident wave vector)  
 $\mathbf{k}_{r1,2} = k_0 n_{1,2} (\sin \theta_r, 0, -\cos \theta_r)$  (reflected wave vector)  
 $\mathbf{k}_{t1,2} = k_0 n_{1,2} (\sin \theta_{t1,2}, 0, \cos \theta_{t1,2})$  (transmitted wave vector)  
Substitute  $\mathbf{k}_i$ ,  $\mathbf{k}_t$  into  $\mathbf{k}_i \cdot \mathbf{r} = \mathbf{k}_t \cdot \mathbf{r}$ ; apply  $\mathbf{r} = (x, y, 0)$   
 $\implies n_o \sin \theta_i = n_1 \sin \theta_{t1}$  (for ordinary ray)  
 $\implies n_o \sin \theta_i = n_2(\theta_{t2}) \sin \theta_{t2}$  (for extraordinary ray)  
 $n_2 = n_2(\theta_{t2})$  depends on direction of the uniaxial material's optic axis, the values of  $n_o$  and  $n_e$ , and on the direction of light in the material, given by the transmission angle  $\theta_{t2}$ .

## Optic Axis Tangent to Boundary

Light is incident at  $\theta_i$  from isotropic onto uniaxial material.  
Optic axis is tangent to the boundary plane.

### Ordinary Polarization

$$\begin{aligned}
 n_1 &= n_o & (\text{for ordinary polarization in general}) \\
 n_o \sin \theta_i &= n_o \sin \theta_{t1} & (\text{using } n_1 = n_o) \\
 \vartheta_1 &= \pi/2 - \theta_{t1} & (\text{angle between ordinary ray and optic axis})
 \end{aligned}$$

### Extra Ordinary Polarization

$$\begin{aligned}
 \theta_{t2} &\text{ is angle between EO ray and boundary normal} \\
 \vartheta_2 &= \pi/2 - \theta_{t2} & (\text{angle between EO ray and optic axis}) \\
 \frac{1}{n_2^2} &= \frac{\sin^2 \vartheta_2}{n_e^2} + \frac{\cos^2 \vartheta_2}{n_o^2} & (\text{EO refractive index}) \\
 &= \frac{\cos^2 \theta_{t2}}{n_e^2} + \frac{\sin^2 \theta_{t2}}{n_o^2} & (\text{using } \vartheta_2 = \pi/2 - \theta_{t2}) \\
 \sin \theta_{t2} &= \frac{n_o}{n_2} \sin \theta_i & (\text{transmitted direction of EO ray}) \\
 &= \frac{n_o \sin \theta_i}{\sqrt{n_e^2 + \left(1 - \frac{n_e^2}{n_o^2}\right) n_o^2 \sin^2 \theta_i}}
 \end{aligned}$$

## Optic Axis Tangent to Boundary; Normal Incidence

Consider plane EM waves with wave vector  $\mathbf{k}_0$  normally incident from isotropic material with refractive index  $n_o$  on a uniaxial material of thickness  $L$ .

$$\begin{aligned}
 \theta_i &= 0 & (\text{normal incidence}) \\
 \theta_{t1} = \theta_{t2} &= 0 & (\text{from } n_o \sin \theta_i = n_{1,2} \sin \theta_{t1,2}) \\
 \mathbf{k}_{t1} \parallel \mathbf{k}_{t2} \parallel \mathbf{k}_0 & & (\text{because } \theta_{t1} = \theta_{t2} = 0) \\
 \mathbf{S}_1 \parallel \mathbf{S}_2 \parallel \mathbf{k}_{t0,1,2} & & (\text{because optic axis tangent to boundary}) \\
 n_1 &= n_o & (\text{for general ordinary polarization}) \\
 n_2 &= n_e & (\text{only because } \theta_i = 0) \\
 n_1 \neq n_2 &\implies v_1 \neq v_2 & (\text{O and EO ray have different speeds}) \\
 \phi_1 &= n_1 k_0 L & (\text{phase accumulated by O ray in crystal}) \\
 \phi_2 &= n_2 k_0 L & (\text{phase accumulated by EO ray in crystal}) \\
 \Delta\Phi &= \phi_2 - \phi_1 = k_0 L (n_2 - n_1) & (\text{phase difference btwn. rays}) \\
 &= k_0 L (n_e - n_o)
 \end{aligned}$$

## Arbitrary Optic Axis; Normal Incidence

Consider plane EM waves with wave vector  $\mathbf{k}_0$  normally incident from isotropic material with refractive index  $n_o$  on a uniaxial material of thickness  $L$ .

$$\begin{aligned}
 \theta_i &= 0 & (\text{normal incidence}) \\
 \theta_{t1} = \theta_{t2} &= 0 & (\text{from } n_o \sin \theta_i = n_{1,2} \sin \theta_{t1,2}) \\
 \mathbf{k}_{t1} \parallel \mathbf{k}_{t2} \parallel \mathbf{k}_0 & & (\text{because } \theta_{t1} = \theta_{t2} = 0) \\
 \mathbf{S}_1 \parallel \mathbf{k}_{t1} & & (\text{in general for ordinary polarization}) \\
 \mathbf{S}_2 \nparallel \mathbf{k}_{t2} & & (\text{because optic axis is angled relative to boundary})
 \end{aligned}$$



# Introduction to Lasers

## Maxwell-Boltzmann Statistics

Assumptions: particles are non-interacting, in thermal equilibrium, and quantum effects are negligible.

We will use these assumptions to describe sparse gases.

Let  $\beta \equiv 1/k_B T$ .

The average number  $\langle N_i \rangle$  of particles with energy  $E_i$  in a system of  $N_{\text{tot}}$  particles with partition function  $Z$  is...

$$\langle N_i \rangle = g_i \frac{N_{\text{tot}}}{Z} e^{-\beta E_i} \quad (\text{Maxwell-Boltzmann statistics})$$

$g_i$  is degeneracy of  $i$ -th energy level.

$$N_{\text{tot}} = \sum_i N_i \quad (\text{total number of particles in system})$$

$$Z = \sum_i g_i e^{-\beta E_i} \quad (\text{partition function})$$

$$\frac{\langle N_j \rangle}{\langle N_i \rangle} = \frac{g_j}{g_i} e^{-\beta(E_j - E_i)} \quad (\text{occupation ratio at different energies})$$

The average number  $\langle N_\alpha \rangle$  of particles in the (potentially degenerate)  $\alpha$ -th state is...

$$\langle N_\alpha \rangle = \frac{N_{\text{tot}}}{Z} e^{-\beta E_\alpha} \quad (\text{average occupation of } \alpha\text{-th state})$$

## Bose-Einstein Statistics

Assumptions: particles are non-interacting, indistinguishable bosons. Quantum effects are permitted.

We will use these assumptions to describe photons.

The average number  $\langle N_i \rangle$  of particles with energy  $E_i$  in a system with chemical potential  $\mu$  is...

$$\langle N_i \rangle = \frac{g_i}{e^{\beta(E_i - \mu)}}$$

$g_i$  is degeneracy of  $i$ -th energy level.

## Black-Body Cavity

Consider gas in a black-body cavity in thermal equilibrium at temperature  $T$  and admitting discrete quantum energy levels  $E_0, E_1, \dots$

The energy density per unit frequency  $w$  of black-body radiation emitted by the cavity walls is given by Planck's law:

$$w(\omega) d\omega = \frac{\hbar \omega^3}{\pi^2 c_0^3} \frac{d\omega}{e^{\beta \hbar \omega} - 1} \quad (\text{energy density of BB radiation})$$

BB radiation interacts with gas atoms in cavity via:

1. spontaneous emission,
2. absorption, and
3. stimulated emission.

## Spontaneous Emission

Consider a system with energy levels  $E_1$  and  $E_2 > E_1$ .

$$E_2 \rightarrow E_1 + \hbar \omega_{21} \quad (\text{spontaneous emission})$$

$$\hbar \omega_{21} = E_2 - E_1$$

$$\frac{dN_{\text{sp}}}{dt} = A_{21} N_2 \quad (\text{rate of spontaneous emission})$$

$N_2$  is total number of atoms in cavity in state  $|2\rangle$ .

$$A_{21} = \frac{P_{\text{dipole}}}{\hbar \omega_{21}} = \frac{1}{\hbar \omega_{21}} \frac{\omega_{21}^4 e_0^2 \langle (2|\mathbf{r}|1) \rangle^2}{3\pi \epsilon_0 c_0^3}$$

$P_{\text{dipole}}$  is power from dipole radiation of emitted photons

Typically  $A_{21} \sim 1 \cdot 10^9 \text{ Hz} \Rightarrow \tau_{21} \sim 1 \text{ ns}$ .

Stimulated emission photons are emitted isotropically.

## Absorption

$$E_1 + \hbar \omega_{21} \rightarrow E_2 \quad (\text{absorption})$$

$$\hbar \omega_{21} = E_2 - E_1$$

$$\frac{dN_{\text{abs}}}{dt} = B_{12} w(\omega_{21}) N_1 \quad (\text{rate of spontaneous emission})$$

$N_1$  is total number of atoms in cavity in state  $|1\rangle$ .

## Stimulated Emission

$$E_2 + \hbar \omega_{21} \rightarrow E_1 + 2\hbar \omega_{21}$$

Atom in  $|2\rangle$  interacts with incident photon  $\hbar \omega_{21}$  and relaxes into  $E_1$  by emitting photon  $\hbar \omega_{21}$  identical to incident photon

$$\frac{dN_{\text{stim}}}{dt} = B_{21} w(\omega_{21}) N_2$$

Important: frequency, direction, phase, etc... of emitted photon are identical to incident photon.

Result: stimulated emission produces two coherent photons.

## Relationship Among Coefficients

Assumption: both  $E_1$  and  $E_2$  have equal degeneracy.

Assumption: transitions occur only btwn. states  $|1\rangle$  and  $|2\rangle$ ;  
 $\Rightarrow N_1 + N_2 \equiv N = \text{constant}$   
 $\frac{dN_1}{dt} = -\frac{dN_2}{dt}$  (because  $N_1 + N_2 = \text{constant}$ ).

$$\frac{dN_1}{dt} = \frac{dN_{\text{sp}}}{dt} + \frac{dN_{\text{stim}}}{dt} - \frac{dN_{\text{abs}}}{dt}$$

$$\frac{dN_2}{dt} = \frac{dN_{\text{abs}}}{dt} - \frac{dN_{\text{sp}}}{dt} - \frac{dN_{\text{stim}}}{dt}$$

Assumption: gas and cavity are in thermal equilibrium.

$$\frac{dN_1}{dt} = \frac{dN_2}{dt} = 0 \quad (\text{assuming thermal equilibrium})$$

$$A_{21} N_2 + B_{21} w(\omega_{21}) N_2 - B_{12} w(\omega_{21}) N_1 = 0 \quad (\text{in th. eq.})$$

$$\frac{N_1}{N_2} = e^{-\beta(E_2 - E_1)} = e^{+\beta \hbar \omega_{21}} \quad (\text{Boltzmann occupation ratio})$$

$$\Rightarrow w(\omega_{21}) = \frac{A_{21}}{B_{12} \cdot (N_1/N_2) - B_{21}}$$

$$= \frac{A_{21}}{B_{12} \cdot e^{\beta \hbar \omega_{21}} - B_{21}}$$

$$w(\omega) = \frac{\hbar \omega^3}{\pi^2 c_0^3} \frac{1}{e^{\beta \hbar \omega} - 1} \quad (\text{general energy density of BB radiation})$$

Equate  $w(\omega_{21})$  to general BB expression  $w(\omega)|_{\omega=\omega_{21}}$  to get...

$$\frac{A_{21}}{B(e^{\beta \hbar \omega_{21}} + 1)} = \frac{\hbar \omega_{21}^3}{\pi^2 c_0^3} \frac{1}{e^{\beta \hbar \omega_{21}} - 1} \quad (\text{letting } B_{12} = B_{21} \equiv B)$$

$$B_{21} = B_{21} \equiv B \quad (\text{to satisfy } w(\omega_{21}) = w(\omega)|_{\omega=\omega_{21}})$$

$$A_{21}/B \equiv A/B = \frac{\hbar \omega_{21}^3}{\pi^2 c_0^3} \quad (\text{in thermal equilibrium})$$

## Interactions in an Optical Resonator

$g(\omega)$  is spectral line shape for emission and absorption.

$$\int_{-\infty}^{\infty} g(\omega) d\omega = 1$$

$$\frac{dN_{\text{abs}}}{dt} = B_{12} N_1 w(\omega_{21}) \rightarrow B_{12} N_1 \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} g(\omega) w(\omega) d\omega$$

$$\frac{dN_{\text{stim}}}{dt} = B_{21} N_2 w(\omega_{21}) \rightarrow B_{21} N_2 \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} g(\omega) w(\omega) d\omega$$

Assumption: optical resonator has a single resonance at  $\omega_r$ .

Assumption: optical resonator's energy density spectral peak is much more narrow than characteristic width of  $g(\omega)$ ;

$\Rightarrow g(\omega)$  is approximately constant relative to  $w(\omega)$ .

$$\frac{dN_{\text{abs}}}{dt} \approx B_{12} N_1 g(\omega_r) \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} w(\omega) d\omega = B_{12} N_1 g(\omega_r) w_{\text{EM}}$$

$$\frac{dN_{\text{stim}}}{dt} \approx B_{21} N_2 g(\omega_r) \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} w(\omega) d\omega = B_{21} N_2 g(\omega_r) w_{\text{EM}}$$

In practice:  $g(\omega)$  is approximately Gaussian or Lorentzian and is approximated with a box function.

## Optical Amplification

Principle: shine beam with power  $P_{\text{in}}$  on a material; material outputs beam with power  $P_{\text{out}} > P_{\text{in}}$ .

Consider thin plate of thickness  $dz$  and cross-sectional area  $S$ .

Assume light is incident on plate. The incident light's power...

- decreases from absorption, and
- increases from stimulated and spontaneous emission.

Assume light is normally incident on plate along  $z$  axis.

$N$  quantities refer to atoms in optical resonator.

$N'$  quantities refer to atoms in plate.

$$dP = \hbar \omega \left( \frac{dN'_{\text{stim}}}{dt} - \frac{dN'_{\text{abs}}}{dt} + \frac{dN'_{\text{sp}}}{dt} \right) \quad (\text{power change in plate})$$

Assumption: neglect spontaneous emission  $\frac{dN'_{\text{sp}}}{dt}$  from plate.

Justification: we consider only light along axis of incident beam.

All stimulated emission photons (which have same direction as incident photons) travel along beam axis, while only a negligible portion of spontaneous emission photons (emitted isotropically) will travel along beam axis.

$$dP \approx \hbar \omega \left( \frac{dN'_{\text{stim}}}{dt} - \frac{dN'_{\text{abs}}}{dt} \right) \quad (\text{neglecting } \frac{dN'_{\text{sp}}}{dt})$$

$$= \hbar \omega [N'_2 B g(\omega_r) u_{\text{EM}} - N'_1 B g(\omega_r) u_{\text{EM}}]$$

$$= \hbar \omega B g(\omega_r) u_{\text{EM}} (N'_2 - N'_1)$$

$$j = u_{\text{EM}} c \quad (\text{energy current density in cavity})$$

$$dP = \frac{\hbar B j}{c} g(\omega_r) (N'_2 - N'_1) \quad (\text{in terms of } j)$$

Keep in mind that  $u_{\text{EM}} = u_{\text{EM}}(\omega_r)$  and so  $j = j(\omega_r)$ , i.e.  $j$  is a function of the resonator's resonance frequency  $\omega_r$ .

## Intermezzo: Some Useful Expressions

Let  $V$  denote volume of entire resonator cavity.

$$N'_1 = \frac{N_1}{V} S dz \quad (\text{in terms of resonator number density } N_1/V)$$

$$\begin{aligned}
N'_2 &= \frac{N_2}{V} S dz \quad (\text{in terms of resonator number density } N_2/V) \\
dP &= \frac{\hbar B j}{c} g(\omega_r) \frac{N_2 - N_1}{V} S dz \quad (\text{in terms of } N \text{ and } V) \\
dj &= \frac{dP}{S} = \frac{\hbar B j}{c} g(\omega_r) \frac{N_2 - N_1}{V} dz \quad (\text{in terms of } N \text{ and } V)
\end{aligned}$$

### Intermezzo: Absorption/Emission Cross Section

$$\begin{aligned}
\sigma(\omega) &\equiv \frac{\hbar \omega g(\omega) B}{c} \quad (\text{absorption and emission cross section}) \\
dj &= \sigma(\omega_r) \frac{N_2 - N_1}{V} j dz \quad (\text{in terms of } \sigma) \\
\gamma(\omega) &\equiv \sigma(\omega) \frac{N_2 - N_1}{V} \quad (\text{amplification constant}) \\
dj &= \gamma j dz \quad (\text{in terms of } \gamma) \\
\gamma > 1 &\implies N_2 > N_1 \quad (\text{condition for amplification})
\end{aligned}$$

$N_2 > N_1$  is called *inverted occupation* and refers to a state with more occupation at higher energy than at lower energy; Inverted occupation it is inherently unstable and requires an external energy source to maintain.

### Amplification in a Three State System

Inverted occupation is possible only in a system with three or more energy levels.

Consider a system with states  $|0\rangle$ ,  $|1\rangle$  and  $|2\rangle$  and corresponding non-degenerate energies  $E_0 < E_1 < E_2$ .

$N = N_0 + N_1 + N_2$  (total number of particles in system)

Assumption: most particles are in ground state  $|0\rangle$ ;

$\implies N_0 \gg N_1$  and  $N_0 \gg N_2$

$N \approx N_0$  (assuming  $N_0 \gg N_1, N_2$ )

Goal: amplify EM waves with frequency  $\hbar \omega_{21} = E_2 - E_1$ .

### Occupation Equations

Assume external pump mechanism (e.g. external light source) excites particles from  $|0\rangle$  to  $|2\rangle$ .

Let  $N_p$  denote atoms “pumped” from  $|0\rangle$  to  $|2\rangle$ .

$$\begin{aligned}
\frac{dN_p}{dt} &= r N_0 \quad (\text{pumping dynamics, } r \in \mathbb{R}) \\
\frac{dN_2}{dt} &= \frac{dN_p}{dt} - \frac{dN_{sp}^{(20)}}{dt} - \frac{dN_{sp}^{(21)}}{dt} + \frac{dN_{abs}^{(12)}}{dt} - \frac{dN_{stim}^{(21)}}{dt} \\
&= r N_0 - A_{20} N_2 - A_{21} N_2 + B_{21} u_{EM}(\omega_{21}) g(\omega_{21}) (N_1 - N_2) \\
\frac{dN_1}{dt} &= -\frac{dN_{sp}^{(10)}}{dt} + \frac{dN_{sp}^{(21)}}{dt} - \frac{dN_{abs}^{(12)}}{dt} + \frac{dN_{stim}^{(21)}}{dt} \\
&= -A_{10} N_1 + A_{21} N_2 - B_{21} u_{EM}(\omega_{21}) g(\omega_{21}) (N_1 - N_2) \\
\frac{dN_0}{dt} &= -\frac{dN_p}{dt} + \frac{dN_{sp}^{(20)}}{dt} + \frac{dN_{sp}^{(10)}}{dt} \\
&= -r N_0 + A_{20} N_2 + A_{10} N_1
\end{aligned}$$

Approximation: neglect spontaneous emission from  $|2\rangle \rightarrow |0\rangle$  (i.e. let  $A_{20} \approx 0$ ).

Approximation:  $N_0 \approx N$ . (most atoms in ground state)

$$\begin{aligned}
\frac{dN_2}{dt} &= r N - A_{21} N_2 + B_{21} u_{EM}(\omega_{21}) g(\omega_{21}) (N_1 - N_2) \\
\frac{dN_1}{dt} &= -A_{10} N_1 + A_{21} N_2 - B_{21} u_{EM}(\omega_{21}) g(\omega_{21}) (N_1 - N_2) \\
\frac{dN_0}{dt} &= -r N + A_{10} N_1
\end{aligned}$$

### Equilibrium State

Consider an equilibrium state in which  $\frac{dN_0}{dt} = \frac{dN_1}{dt} = \frac{dN_2}{dt} = 0$ .

First set  $\frac{dN_1}{dt} = 0$  and rearrange to get...

$$\begin{aligned}
[B_{21} u_{EM}(\omega_{21}) g(\omega_{21}) + A_{21}] N_2 &= [B_{21} u_{EM}(\omega_{21}) g(\omega_{21}) + A_{10}] N_1 \\
\frac{N_2 - N_1}{V} &= \frac{A_{10} - A_{21}}{B_{21} u_{EM}(\omega_{21}) g(\omega_{21}) + A_{21}} \frac{N_1}{V} \quad (\text{after rearranging}) \\
N_1 &= \frac{r N}{A_{10}} \quad (\text{from equation for } \frac{dN_0}{dt}) \\
\frac{N_2 - N_1}{V} &= \frac{A_{10} - A_{21}}{B_{21} u_{EM}(\omega_{21}) g(\omega_{21}) + A_{21}} \frac{r N}{V A_{10}} \quad (\text{using } N_1 = \frac{r N}{A_{10}})
\end{aligned}$$

Conclusion: inverted occupation is possible if  $A_{10} > A_{21}$ .

### Limit of $A_{10} \gg A_{21}$

Assume  $A_{10} \gg A_{21}$ .

Interpretation: use laser materials for which atoms stay in  $|2\rangle$  for a long time, eventually relax to  $|0\rangle$ , then relax rapidly to  $|0\rangle$ .

$$\begin{aligned}
\frac{N_2 - N_1}{V} &\approx \frac{1}{B_{21} u_{EM}(\omega_{21}) g(\omega_{21}) + A_{21}} \frac{r N}{V} \quad (\text{assuming } A_{10} \gg A_{21}) \\
&= \frac{r N}{V A_{21}} \left( \frac{1}{1 + \frac{B_{21} g(\omega_{21})}{A_{21}} u_{EM}(\omega_{21})} \right)
\end{aligned}$$

$$= \frac{r N}{V A_{21}} \left( \frac{1}{1 + \frac{B_{21} g(\omega_{21})}{c A_{21}} j(\omega_{21})} \right) \quad (\text{using } j = c u_{EM})$$

$$j_s(\omega_{21}) \equiv \frac{A_{21} c}{B_{21} g(\omega_{21})} \quad (\text{saturation current})$$

Shorthand:  $j \rightarrow j(\omega_{21})$  and  $j_s \rightarrow j_s(\omega_{21})$

$$\frac{N_2 - N_1}{V} = \frac{r N}{V A_{21}} \left( \frac{1}{1 + j/j_s} \right) \quad (\text{in terms of } j_s)$$

### Lower-Power Amplification

$$\sigma(\omega) \equiv \frac{\hbar \omega g(\omega) B}{c} \quad (\text{for review from earlier})$$

$$dj = \sigma(\omega_r) \frac{N_2 - N_1}{V} j(\omega_r) dz \quad (\text{for review from earlier})$$

Assume resonator frequency at  $\omega_r = \omega_{21}$ .

Shorthand: abbreviate  $j \rightarrow j(\omega_{21})$  and  $j_s \rightarrow j_s(\omega_{21})$ .

$$dj = \sigma(\omega_{21}) \frac{r N}{V A_{21}} \left( \frac{1}{1 + j/j_s} \right) j dz \quad (\text{energy current density in cavity})$$

$$G \equiv \sigma(\omega_{21}) \frac{r N}{V A_{21}} \quad (\text{low power amplification coefficient})$$

$$dj = \frac{G j}{1 + j/j_s} dz \quad (\text{in terms of } G)$$

### General Relationship

$$dj = \frac{G j}{1 + j/j_s} dz \quad (\text{general differential equation})$$

$$\frac{dj}{dj} \left( 1 + \frac{j}{j_s} \right) = G dz \quad (\text{after rearranging})$$

$$\int_{j_0}^j \frac{dj'}{j'} \left( 1 + \frac{j'}{j_s} \right) = \int_0^z G dz'$$

$$\ln \frac{j}{j_0} + \frac{j - j_0}{j_s} = G z \quad (\text{in principle, this equation defines } j(z))$$

### Limit Cases

$$dj = \frac{G j}{1 + j/j_s} dz \quad (\text{general differential equation})$$

$$dj \approx G j dz \quad (\text{if } j \ll j_s; \text{ low power limit})$$

$$j = j_0 e^{G z} \quad (\text{low power limit})$$

$$dj \approx G j_s dz \quad (\text{if } j \gg j_s; \text{ high power limit})$$

$$j = j_0 + G j_s z \quad (\text{high power limit})$$

$$\begin{aligned}
G j_s &= \left( \sigma(\omega_{21}) \frac{r N}{V A_{21}} \right) \cdot \frac{A_{21} c}{B_{21} g(\omega_{21})} \quad (\text{from original definition}) \\
&= \frac{\hbar \omega_{21} g(\omega_{21}) B_{21}}{c} \cdot \frac{r N}{V A_{21}} \cdot \frac{A_{21} c}{B_{21} g(\omega_{21})} \\
&= r \hbar \omega_{21} \frac{N}{V}
\end{aligned}$$

Conclusion:  $G j_s$  is bounded above by number  $N$  of atoms in system.

$$j = j_0 + r \hbar \omega_{21} \frac{N}{V} z \quad (\text{in terms of simplified } G j_s)$$

## Laser

The basic components of a laser are...

1. an optical amplification module,
2. a pumping mechanism to achieve inverted occupation, and
3. an optical resonator to establish stimulated emission.

Let  $V$  denote resonator volume.

Let  $L_r$  denote resonator length.

Let  $L_a$  denote amplifier length.

Resonator has one mirror with  $R = 1$  and one mirror with  $R < 1$  to allow transmission of laser light.

### Condition for Steady State Functionality

Consider one cycle of light from one resonator wall to the other and back (two passes of a wavefront through amplifier).

$$U_{EM} = u_{EM} V = \frac{j V}{c} \quad (\text{EM energy in resonator})$$

$$U_s = \frac{j_s V}{c} \quad (\text{EM energy at saturation current})$$

$$\Delta j \approx G j \frac{2 L_a}{1 + U/U_s} \quad (\text{change in } j \text{ after one cycle})$$

$$\Delta U_a \approx G U \frac{2 L_a}{1 + U/U_s} \quad (\text{increase in } U_{EM} \text{ from amplification})$$

$$\Delta U_{loss} \equiv -\Lambda U \quad (\text{decrease in } U_{EM} \text{ from energy losses})$$

$\Lambda$  is a constant encoding energy loss per cycle.

$$\Delta U_a + U_{loss} = 0 \quad (\text{condition for steady state})$$

$$G U \frac{2 L_a}{1 + U/U_s} = \Lambda U \quad (\text{steady state condition})$$

$$U = U_s \left( \frac{2 L_a G}{\Lambda} - 1 \right) \quad (\text{after solving for } U)$$

$$G_{th} \equiv \frac{\Lambda}{2 L_a} \quad (\text{threshold amplification constant})$$

$$U = U_s \left( \frac{G}{G_{th}} - 1 \right) \quad (\text{in terms of } G_{th})$$

Laser shines for  $G > G_{th}$ .

Laser does not shine for  $G < G_{th}$ .

$$P_{out} = \frac{T_{out}}{L_r/c} U_s \left( \frac{G}{G_{th}} - 1 \right) \quad (\text{outputted power})$$

$T_{out}$  is transmittance of transmitting mirror.