

We have:

ϵ_a = air dielectric constant
 ϵ_m = metal "

ϵ_p = prism dielectric constant. ①

Spp dispersion: $k_x = k_0 \sqrt{\frac{\epsilon_a \epsilon_m}{\epsilon_a + \epsilon_m}}$ ①, $\omega = k_{spp} c$

Within the prism: $\omega = \frac{c}{\sqrt{\epsilon_p}} k_p$, $k_p = \sqrt{\epsilon_p} k_0$

② $\Rightarrow k_x = \sqrt{\epsilon_p} k_0 \sin \theta_c \rightarrow$ x component of incident wavevector.

Coupling occurs when: ① = ②

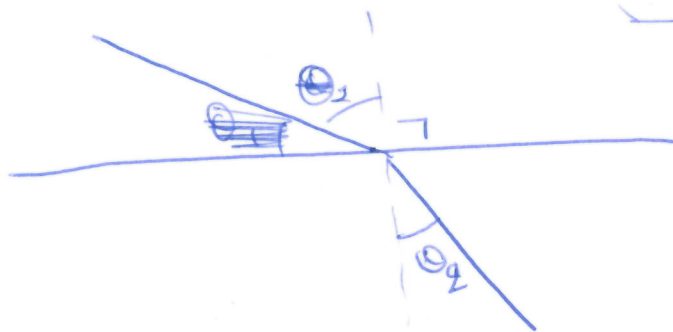
$\Rightarrow k_0 \sqrt{\frac{\epsilon_a \epsilon_m}{\epsilon_a + \epsilon_m}} = \sqrt{\epsilon_p} k_0 \sin \theta_c$, θ_c : coupling angle within the prism.

$\Rightarrow \sin \theta_c = \sqrt{\frac{\epsilon_a \epsilon_m}{(\epsilon_a + \epsilon_m) \epsilon_p}}$ ③, $0 \leq \theta_c \leq 90^\circ$

Snell's law:

$n_1 \sin \theta_1 = n_2 \sin \theta_2$ ④

$n = \sqrt{\epsilon}$



Coupling at a certain frequency ω :

To have coupling, the angle of incidence within the prism needs to be θ_c , given by ③.

- Surface needs to be such that for any angle of incidence θ_0 with respect to the bottom of the prism, light is refracted in a way to get a transmitted ray at angle θ_c .