

Chapter 1

Non imaging optics

This chapter provides the notions of illumination optics needed in this thesis. We start explaining the difference between radiometry and photometry. In particular, we focus on the photometric variables defining them both in three and two dimensions. The reflection and refraction laws and the phenomenon of total internal reflection are explained. The last paragraph of the chapter gives a brief introduction of Fresnel equations.

1.1 Radiometric and photometric variables

Radiometry is the measurement of the electromagnetic radiation across the entire electromagnetic spectrum. Photometry is the subfield of radiometry that takes into account only the portion of the electromagnetic spectrum corresponding to the visible light, [1]. Radiometry deals with radiometric quantities. An important radiometric quantity is the radiant flux Φ_r (unit watt, [W]) which is the total energy emitted from a source or received by a target per unit time:

$$\Phi_r = \frac{dQ}{dT}, \quad (1.1.1)$$

where Q is the energy and T the time.

In Illumination optics the measurement of light is given in terms of the impression that it gives on the human eyes. Therefore, illumination optics deals with the photometric variables. The most important photometric variables are defined as in the following. The luminous flux Φ (unit lumen, [lm]) is defined as the perceived power of light by the human eye, [2]. The radiant and the luminous flux are related by the luminous efficacy function, unit [lm/W], that tells us how many lumen there are for each Watt of power at a given wavelength. The luminous efficacy reaches its maximum at a wavelength of 555 nm where it is equal to 683 lm/W. We may normalize the luminous efficacy function with its maximum value of 683. This normalized function is the dimensionless luminosity function $\bar{y}(\lambda)$ shown in Figure 1.1 where λ is the wavelength.

The luminous flux corresponding to one Watt of radiation power at any wavelength is given by the product of 683 lm/W and the luminosity function at the same wavelength,

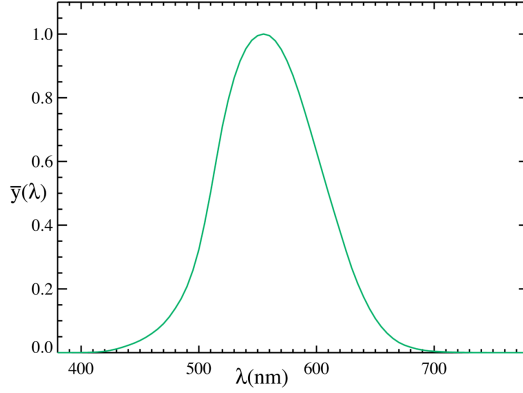


Figure 1.1: Luminosity function $\bar{y}(\lambda)$: relation between the eye's sensitivity and the wavelength of the light. The luminous function is dimensionless, [3].

i.e. $683 \bar{y}(\lambda)$. Hence, Φ has unit lumen [lm] and it is defined as:

$$\Phi = 683 \int_0^\infty \Phi_r(\lambda) \bar{y}(\lambda) d\lambda . \quad (1.1.2)$$

The luminous flux $d\Phi$ falling on a surface is called illuminance E (unit [lm/m²]) and is defined as:

$$E = \frac{d\Phi}{dA} , \quad (1.1.3)$$

where dA is an infinitesimal area receiving energy.

A beam of light can be described as a collection of light rays, where a light ray can be seen as a path along which the energy travels. The density of light emitted by a point source in a given direction is determined by the solid angle. The solid angle subtended by the light is defined by the infinitesimal surface area dA^* of a sphere subtended by the radius of that sphere and by the rays emitted by the point source. The solid angle is indicated with Ω and the dimensionless unit of solid angles is the steradian [sr], [4]. Indicating with r the radius of the sphere, the infinitesimal solid angle $d\Omega$ defined by dA^* is given by:

$$d\Omega = \frac{dA^*}{r^2} \quad (1.1.4)$$

The luminous intensity I (unit candela (cd), [cd = lm/sr]) is defined as the luminous flux $d\Phi$ per solid angle $d\Omega$ and is given by:

$$I = \frac{d\Phi}{d\Omega} . \quad (1.1.5)$$

The luminance L (unit [cd/m²]) is the luminous flux per unit solid angle $d\Omega$ and per unit projected area $\cos\theta, dA$ where θ is the angle that the normal ν to area dA makes with the direction of the solid angle $d\Omega$, as shown in Figure 1.2. L is given by:

$$L = \frac{d\Phi}{\cos\theta dA d\Omega} . \quad (1.1.6)$$

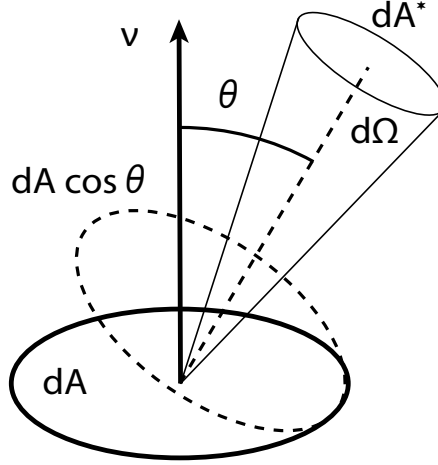


Figure 1.2: Solid angle $d\Omega$ in a direction making an angle θ with the normal to the area dA .

Note that from (1.1.5) and (1.1.6) we can derive a relation between the intensity and the luminance. The infinitesimal intensity dI emitted by the area element dA is given by:

$$dI = \frac{d\Phi}{d\Omega} = L(x, \theta) \cos \theta dA. \quad (1.1.7)$$

When the luminance is uniform over a finite area A , the luminous intensity emitted in the direction θ is equal to:

$$I(\theta) = L(\theta) A \cos \theta. \quad (1.1.8)$$

Thus, when $L(x, \theta)$ does not depend on the position and the direction (i.e. $L(x, \theta) = L$), we deduce Lambert's cosine law:

$$I(\theta) = I_0 \cos \theta. \quad (1.1.9)$$

where $I_0 = I(0) = LA$.

Finally the étendue U (unit $[m \cdot sr]$) describes the ability of a source to emit light or the capability of an optical system to receive light, [5]. The quantity dU is defined as:

$$dU = n^2 \cos \theta dA d\Omega. \quad (1.1.10)$$

where n is the index of refraction of the medium in which the surface A is immersed. In optics the étendue is considered to be a volume in phase space (or an area for two-dimensional systems). This concept will be clarified in Chapter 3 where we treat the phase space in more details. An important property of the étendue is that it is conserved within an optical system where the flux is constant. We now show, using the same approach of J. Chaves in [2], how the conservation of this quantity can be derived. Consider a light ray emitted from an infinitesimal area dA_1 to the area dA_2 located at a distance d from dA_1 , see Figure 1.3. Indicating with ν_1 and ν_2

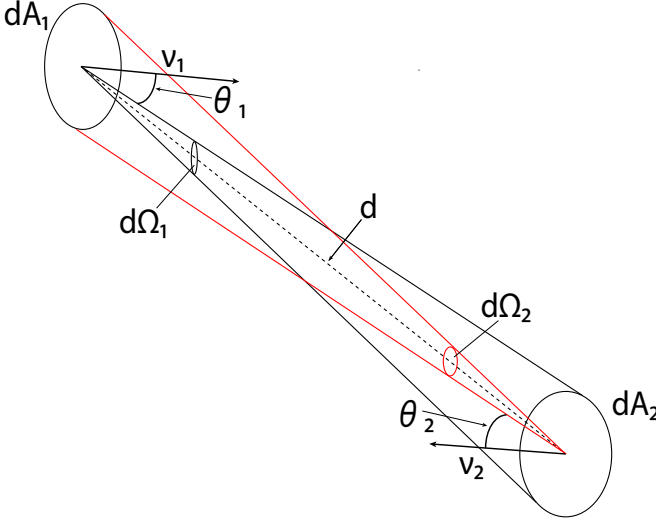


Figure 1.3: dA_1 and dA_2 are two surfaces with normals ν_1 and ν_2 , respectively. They are located at a distance d . θ_1 and θ_2 are the angles made by the central ray with the normals ν_1 and ν_2 , respectively.

the normals to the surfaces dA_1 and dA_2 , respectively and with θ_1 and θ_2 the angles that the central ray forms with ν_1 and ν_2 , respectively, the flux passing through dA_2 coming from dA_1 is defined as:

$$d\Phi_1 = L \cos \theta_1 dA_1 d\Omega_1 \quad (1.1.11)$$

where $d\Omega_1$ is defined at the area dA_1 by the area dA_2 and it is given by

$$d\Omega_1 = \frac{dA_2 \cos(\theta_2)}{d^2}. \quad (1.1.12)$$

Similarly, the flux passing through dA_1 coming from dA_2 is equal to:

$$d\Phi_2 = L \cos \theta_2 dA_2 d\Omega_2 \quad (1.1.13)$$

and

$$d\Omega_2 = \frac{dA_1 \cos \theta_1}{d^2}. \quad (1.1.14)$$

Then

$$dU_1 = n^2 dA_1 \cos \theta_1 d\Omega_1 = \frac{n^2 dA_1 \cos \theta_1 dA_2 \cos \theta_2}{d^2}, \quad (1.1.15)$$

and

$$dU_2 = n^2 dA_2 \cos \theta_2 d\Omega_2 = \frac{n^2 dA_2 \cos \theta_2 dA_1 \cos \theta_1}{d^2}. \quad (1.1.16)$$

From equation (1.1.15) and (1.1.16) we see that $dU_1 = dU_2$. For a light beam, all the light passing through dA_1 coincides with the light passing through dA_2 , hence $dU =$

dU_1 . Moreover, for the same light beam, all the light passing from dA_2 corresponds to the light emitted from dA_1 , then $dU = dU_2$. Finally we can conclude that the étendue dU is conserved along a beam of light. Since also the flux through the areas dA_1 and dA_2 is conserved, the following relation holds:

$$L := n \frac{d\Phi}{dU} = \text{constant}. \quad (1.1.17)$$

In the optical systems we will consider in this work, the source and the target are located in the same medium (air) with $n = 1$, so the luminance L equals the basic luminance $L^* = L/n$ at the source and the target of the system.

In this thesis we consider two-dimensional optical systems. Hence, we need to find two-dimensional analogies for the definitions given above. In two dimensions the illuminance (unit $[\text{lm}/\text{m}]$) denotes the luminous flux falling on an infinitesimal line segment of length dx and it is given by:

$$E = \frac{d\Phi}{dx}. \quad (1.1.18)$$

The luminous intensity (unit $[\text{lm}/\text{rad}]$) is the luminous flux per angle $d\theta$:

$$I = \frac{d\Phi}{d\theta}. \quad (1.1.19)$$

Thus the following relation holds:

$$dI = L \cos \theta dx. \quad (1.1.20)$$

The 2D luminance (unit $[\text{lm}/(\text{rad m})]$) is given by:

$$(1.1.21)$$

The étendue dU (unit $[m \cdot \text{rad}]$) in 2D is given by:

$$dU = n \cos \theta dx d\theta. \quad (1.1.22)$$

In order to determine the light distribution on a certain surface and to compute the photometric variables on that surface, we need to understand how the light emitted from the source propagates. In the field of geometric optics the light propagation is described by light rays. The propagation of a light ray traveling through different media is determined by the reflection and refraction law. In the following we introduce these two laws and we explain the total internal reflection phenomenon.

1.2 Reflection and refraction law

A light ray is described by a position vector \mathbf{x} and a direction vector \mathbf{t} and can be parameterized by the arc length s . Light rays travel in an homogeneous medium along straight lines, once they hit a reflective surface their direction changes. Denoting with \mathbf{t}_i the direction of the incident ray and with $\boldsymbol{\nu}$ the unit normal to the surface at the location of the incidence, the direction \mathbf{t}_r of the reflected ray is given by:

$$\mathbf{t}_r = \mathbf{t}_i - 2(\mathbf{t}_i, \boldsymbol{\nu})\boldsymbol{\nu}, \quad (1.2.1)$$

where the vectors \mathbf{t}_i and $\boldsymbol{\nu}$ are unit vectors. From Eq. (1.2.1) it follows that the vector \mathbf{t}_r is a unit vector too, indeed considering the scalar product $(\mathbf{t}_r, \mathbf{t}_i)$ it holds:

$$(\mathbf{t}_r, \mathbf{t}_i) = (\mathbf{t}_r, \mathbf{t}_i) - 4(\mathbf{t}_r, \boldsymbol{\nu})(\mathbf{t}_i, \boldsymbol{\nu}) + 4(\mathbf{t}_i, \boldsymbol{\nu})^2(\boldsymbol{\nu}, \boldsymbol{\nu}) = 1. \quad (1.2.2)$$

Denoting the incident angle with θ_i and the reflective angle with θ_r such that

$$\cos \theta_i = -\mathbf{t}_i \cdot \boldsymbol{\nu} \quad \text{and} \quad \cos \theta_r = \mathbf{t}_r \cdot \boldsymbol{\nu}, \quad (1.2.3)$$

the reflection law states that θ_i equals θ_r which are measured counterclockwise with respect to the normal $\boldsymbol{\nu}$ of the surface, see Fig. 1.4.

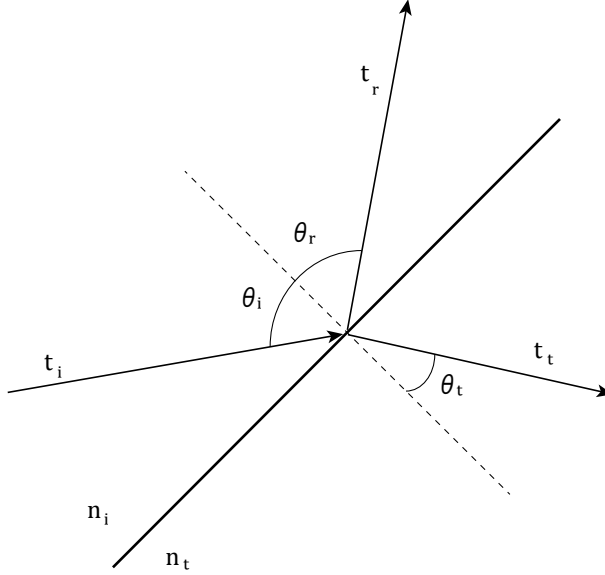


Figure 1.4: Propagation of a ray through two different media with index of refraction n_i and n_t .

When a ray propagates through two different media, its direction changes according to refraction law. Indicating with n_i the index of refraction of the medium in which the incident ray travels and with n_t the index of refraction of the medium of the transmitted ray, the direction \mathbf{t}_t of the transmitted ray is given by:

$$\mathbf{t}_t = n_{i,t} \mathbf{t}_i + \left[\sqrt{1 - n_{i,t}^2 + n_{i,t}^2 (\boldsymbol{\nu}, \mathbf{t}_i)^2} - n_{i,t} (\boldsymbol{\nu}, \mathbf{t}_i) \right] \boldsymbol{\nu}, \quad (1.2.4)$$

where $n_{i,t} = n_i/n_t$. Note that in Eq. (1.2.1) the direction of the normal $\boldsymbol{\nu}$ to the surface is not relevant for the computation of the direction of the reflective ray, since:

$$\mathbf{t}_r = \mathbf{t}_i - 2(\mathbf{t}_i, \boldsymbol{\nu})\boldsymbol{\nu} = \mathbf{t}_i - 2(\mathbf{t}_i, -\boldsymbol{\nu})(-\boldsymbol{\nu}), \quad (1.2.5)$$

while this is not the case of Eq. (1.2.4), therefore in the latter case we need to specify the direction of $\boldsymbol{\nu}$ which is usually chosen in such a way that the angle that it forms

with the incident ray \mathbf{t}_i is smaller than or equal to $\pi/2$. Hence, if $(\mathbf{t}_i, \boldsymbol{\nu}) \geq 0$ the normal $\boldsymbol{\nu}$ directed inside the same medium in which travels the incident ray is taken, otherwise the normal $-\boldsymbol{\nu}$ directed inside the same medium in which the transmitted ray will travel has to be considered. Eq. (1.2.4) is only valid for

$$\begin{aligned} 1 - n_{i,t}^2 + n_{i,t}^2(\boldsymbol{\nu}, \mathbf{t}_i)^2 &\geq 0 \Rightarrow \frac{n_t}{n_i} \geq \sqrt{1 - (\boldsymbol{\nu}, \mathbf{t}_i)^2} \\ \Rightarrow n_t &\geq n_i \sqrt{1 - \cos^2 \theta_i} \Rightarrow n_t \geq n_i \sin \theta_i \end{aligned} \quad (1.2.6)$$

The angle for which the equality holds is

$$\theta_c = \arcsin\left(\frac{n_t}{n_i}\right) \quad (1.2.7)$$

and it is called the critical angle, [2]. Note that the condition $\frac{n_t}{n_i} < 1$ is verified as in this case $\sin(\theta_i) < 1$. When the incident angle θ_i is exactly equal to the critical angle θ_c the refractive ray propagates parallel to the refractive surface, when $\theta_i > \theta_c$ the light ray is no longer refracted but it is only reflected by the surface. This phenomenon is called total internal reflection (TIR). When TIR occurs, the 100% of light is reflected and there is no loss of energy. Therefore, optical systems designed such that TIR is always verified are very efficient. In general, light that hits a normal refractive mirror can be both reflected and refracted. Therefore, some part of the energy is transmitted and some part is reflected. The amount of light that is reflected and refracted is determined by the Fresnel's coefficients. In the next paragraph an overview of Fresnel equations is given.

1.3 Fresnel equations

In order to derive Fresnel's equations we need to describe light as an electromagnetic wave. It is therefore useful to study the light propagation from the perspective of Electromagnetic Theory which gives information about the incident, reflected and transmitted radiant flux density that are denoted with E_i , E_r and E_t , respectively. Any component of the electric field \mathcal{E} can be written as

$$\mathcal{E}(\mathbf{x}, T) = \mathcal{E}_0(\mathbf{x})e^{i(\omega T - \mathbf{k} \cdot \mathbf{x})} \quad (1.3.1)$$

where \mathbf{x} is the position vector and T is the time. The amplitude $\mathcal{E}_0(\mathbf{x})$ is constant in time and $\omega = \frac{ck}{n}$ is the value of the angular frequency with c the velocity of the light and n the index of refraction in which the wave is traveling that is the ratio of the speed of light v in the material and the speed of light c in vacuum. The vector \mathbf{k} has the same direction of the wave and its absolute value $|\mathbf{k}| = k = \frac{2\pi}{\lambda}$ is the wave number in vacuum, with λ the wavelength. Similarly, the magnetic field has the form:

$$\mathcal{B}(\mathbf{x}, T) = \mathcal{B}_0(\mathbf{x})e^{i(\omega T - \mathbf{k} \cdot \mathbf{x})} . \quad (1.3.2)$$

In the field of electromagnetism a very important concept is the Poynting vector \mathbf{P} . It defines the energy flux of an electromagnetic field, it is measured in $[W/m^2]$ and it is given by:

$$\mathbf{P} = \frac{1}{\mu} (\mathcal{E} \times \mathcal{B}) \quad (1.3.3)$$

where $\mu = \frac{1}{\varepsilon v^2}$ is the permeability and ε the permittivity. In the following, the vacuum parameters are indicated with the subscript 0. All the quantities defined in the media of the incident, reflective and transmitted light are indicated with the subscripts i , r and t , respectively. Optical rays are perpendicular to the wave front of an electromagnetic wave and parallel to the Poynting vector, [6]. The irradiance E is defined as the average energy that crosses in unit time a unit area A perpendicular to the direction of the energy flow. Therefore:

$$\mathbf{E} = \langle \mathbf{P} \rangle_T = \frac{c}{2\mu_0} \mathcal{E}_0^2, \quad (1.3.4)$$

where $\langle \cdot \rangle_T$ indicates the average in time. Considering a beam of light that hit a surface such that an area A is illuminated, the incident, reflected and transmitted beams are $\mathbf{E}_i A \cos \theta_i$, $\mathbf{E}_r A \cos \theta_r$ and $\mathbf{E}_t A \cos \theta_t$, respectively. The reflectance \mathcal{R} is the ratio of the reflected power to the incident power:

$$\mathcal{R} = \frac{\mathbf{E}_r A \cos \theta_r}{\mathbf{E}_i A \cos \theta_i}. \quad (1.3.5)$$

Similarly, the transmittance \mathcal{T} is the ratio between the transmitted to the incident power:

$$\mathcal{T} = \frac{\mathbf{E}_t A \cos \theta_t}{\mathbf{E}_i A \cos \theta_i}. \quad (1.3.6)$$

Note that, since $\mathbf{E}_r/\mathbf{E}_t = (v_r \varepsilon_r \mathcal{E}_{0r}^2/2)/(v_i \varepsilon_i \mathcal{E}_{0i}^2/2)$, Eq. (1.3.5) becomes

$$\mathcal{R} = \left(\frac{\mathcal{E}_{0r}}{\mathcal{E}_{0i}} \right)^2, \quad (1.3.7)$$

while Eq. (1.3.6) gives:

$$\mathcal{T} = \frac{n_t \cos \theta_t}{n_i \cos \theta_i} \left(\frac{\mathcal{E}_{0t}}{\mathcal{E}_{0i}} \right)^2 \quad (1.3.8)$$

where we assumed that $\mu_i = \mu_t = \mu_0$ and we used the fact that $\mu_0 v_t \varepsilon_t = n_t/c$. Employing the total energy conservation, that is:

$$\mathbf{E}_i A \cos \theta_i = \mathbf{E}_r A \cos \theta_r + \mathbf{E}_t A \cos \theta_t, \quad (1.3.9)$$

it can be easily proved that:

$$\mathcal{R} + \mathcal{T} = 1. \quad (1.3.10)$$

The values $r = \left(\frac{\mathcal{E}_{0r}}{\mathcal{E}_{0i}} \right)$ and $t = \left(\frac{\mathcal{E}_{0t}}{\mathcal{E}_{0i}} \right)$ are called the amplitude coefficients. The intensity of the reflected and transmitted light depends not only on the angle of incidence but also on the polarization of the electromagnetic field. By convention, we refer to the polarization of electromagnetic waves as the direction of the electric field \mathcal{E} , [7]. When \mathcal{E} is perpendicular to the plane of incidence, light is called *s*-polarized, when \mathcal{E} is parallel to the plane of incidence, it is said that light is *p*-polarized. For *s*-polarized light the perpendicular components r_s and t_s of r and t are defined. For *p*-polarized light the parallel components r_p and t_p of r and t are given. Those coefficients are obtained considering the Maxwell's equations and the boundaries conditions due to the

conservation of energy. For the first case (*s*-polarization), the boundaries conditions are given by the conservation of the tangent component of \mathcal{E} and of the normal component of \mathcal{B} . For the second case (*p*-polarization), the boundaries conditions are given by the conservation of the tangential component \mathcal{E} and of the tangent component of \mathcal{B} . These conditions together with Maxwell's equations lead to four equations with four unknowns. Solving those equations the Fresnel coefficients are derived. It is out of this work to show the details of Fresnel equations as they are widely explained in the literature. In the following we provide Fresnel coefficients and we briefly explain their physical interpretation. We refer the reader to [8, 9] for more details. Fresnel's coefficients can also be derived using a different approach that does not involves Marxwell's equations, this method is explained in [10]. In case \mathcal{E} is perpendicular to the plane of incidence the following results are obtained:

$$\begin{aligned} r_s &= \frac{n_i \cos \theta_i - n_t \cos \theta_t}{n_i \cos \theta_i + n_t \cos \theta_t} \\ t_s &= \frac{2n_i \cos \theta_i}{n_i \cos \theta_i + n_t \cos \theta_t} \end{aligned} \quad (1.3.11)$$

In case \mathcal{E} is parallel to the plane of incidence the amplitude coefficients are:

$$\begin{aligned} r_p &= \frac{n_t \cos \theta_i - n_i \cos \theta_t}{n_i \cos \theta_t + n_t \cos \theta_i} \\ t_p &= \frac{2n_i \cos \theta_i}{n_i \cos \theta_t + n_t \cos \theta_i}. \end{aligned} \quad (1.3.12)$$

Using Snell's Law, Equations (1.3.11) and (1.3.12) are simplified as in the following:

$$\begin{aligned} r_s &= -\frac{\sin(\theta_i - \theta_t)}{\sin(\theta_i + \theta_t)} \\ r_p &= +\frac{\tan(\theta_i - \theta_t)}{\theta_i + \theta_t} \\ t_s &= -\frac{2 \sin \theta_t \cos \theta_i}{\sin(\theta_i + \theta_t)} \\ t_p &= +\frac{2 \sin \theta_t \cos \theta_i}{\sin(\theta_i + \theta_t) \cos(\theta_i - \theta_t)}. \end{aligned} \quad (1.3.13)$$

It can be show that

$$\begin{aligned} t_s + (-r_s) &= 1 \\ t_p + r_p &= 1 \end{aligned} \quad (1.3.14)$$

The amplitude coefficients are shown in Fig. 1.5 for the case in which light travels from a less dense to a more dense medium ($n_i < n_t$), that is external reflection. In Fig. 1.6 the reflection coefficients are shown for the case in which $n_i > n_t$, that is internal reflection. Note from Fig. 1.5 that r_p approaches to 0 when θ_i approaches to θ_p and it gradually decreases reaching -1 for an incident angle $\theta_i = 90^\circ$. The angle θ_p is called Brewster's angle or polarization angle as only the component perpendicular to the incident ray is reflected at that angle and therefore light is perfectly polarized. Similarly, Fig. 1.6 shows that $r_p = 0$ for $\theta_i = \theta_{p'}$. It can be show that $\theta_p + \theta_{p'} = 90^\circ$.

Both r_p and r_s reach 1 when $\theta_i = \theta_c$. θ_c is called the critical angle. Light that hits the incident plane with an incident angle equal to or greater than the critical angle is totally reflected back and no transmitted light is observed. This phenomenon is called total internal reflection.

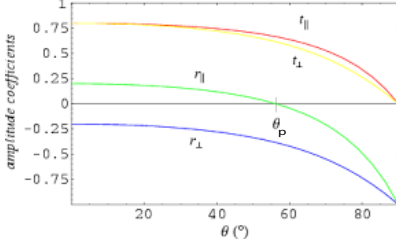


Figure 1.5: Amplitude coefficients of reflection and transmission as a function of the incident angle θ_i in the case of external reflection, i.e. $n_t < n_i$ ($n_t = 1$ and $n_i = 1.5$). θ_p is the polarization angle, [9].

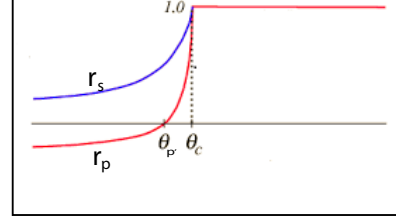


Figure 1.6: Reflection coefficients as a function of the incident angle θ_i in the case of internal reflection, i.e. $n_t > n_i$ ($n_t = 1.5$ and $n_i = 1$). $\theta_{p'}$ is the polarization angle and θ_c is the critical angle, [9].

The parallel and perpendicular components of \mathcal{R} and \mathcal{T} are:

$$\begin{aligned}\mathcal{R}_p &= r_p^2 \\ \mathcal{T}_p &= \frac{n_t \cos \theta_t}{n_t \cos \theta_i} t_p^2 \\ \mathcal{R}_s &= r_s^2 \\ \mathcal{T}_s &= \frac{n_t \cos \theta_t}{n_t \cos \theta_i} t_s^2\end{aligned}\tag{1.3.15}$$

it can be show that

$$\begin{aligned}\mathcal{R}_s + \mathcal{R}_p &= 1 \\ \mathcal{T}_s + \mathcal{T}_p &= 1.\end{aligned}\tag{1.3.16}$$

For normal incidence, i.e. $\theta_i = 0$, there is no polarization and Eqs. (1.3.15) lead to:

$$\mathcal{R} = \mathcal{R}_p = \mathcal{R}_s = \left(\frac{n_i - n_t}{n_t + n_i} \right)^2\tag{1.3.17}$$

and

$$\mathcal{T} = \mathcal{T}_p = \mathcal{T}_s = \frac{4n_i n_t}{(n_t + n_i)^2}.\tag{1.3.18}$$

Chapter 2

Ray tracing

Chapter 3

Ray tracing on phase space

3.1 Phase space concept

3.2 The edge-ray principle

3.3 Phase space ray tracing

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