

LEC 29: DOUBLE SLIT EXPERIMENT. REFRACTIVE INDEX

LEC 30: DIFFRACTION GRATINGS

LEC 32: THIN FILM INTERFERENCE

LEC 31: DIFFRACTION OF LIGHT. RESOLVING POWER

CHAPTER 24: WAVE OPTICS

24.1: YOUNG'S DOUBLE-SLIT EXPERIMENT

24.2: REFRACTIVE INDEX, LIGHT SPEED, AND WAVE COHERENCE

24.3 GRATINGS: AN APPLICATION OF INTERFERENCE

24.5 DIFFRACTION OF LIGHT

24.6: RESOLVING POWER

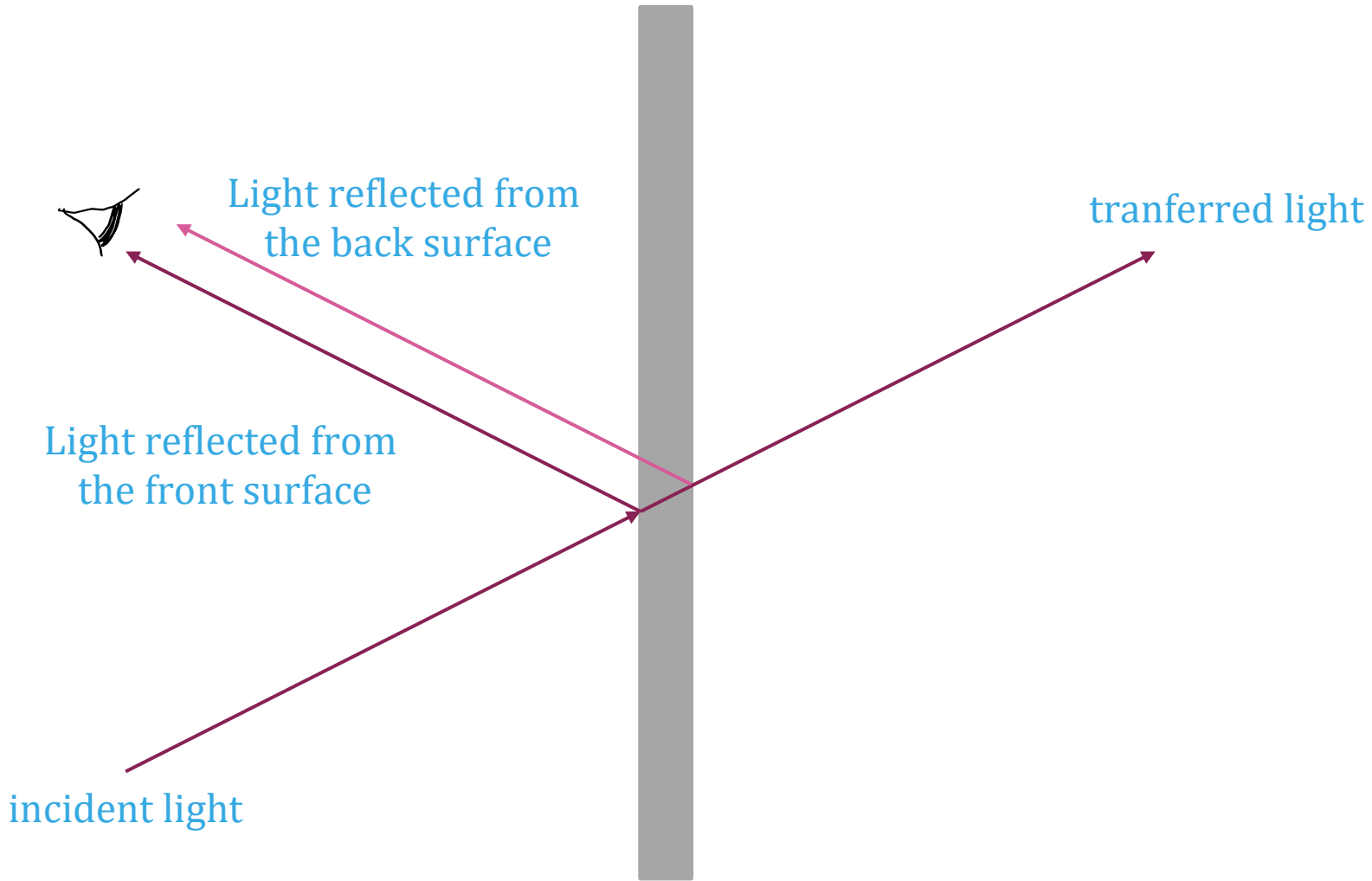
24.7 SKILLS FOR APPLYING THE WAVE MODEL OF LIGHT

24.4 THIN-FILMS INTERFERENCE*

REVIEW

Reflection from boundaries:

24.4 THIN FILM INTERFERENCE



24.4 THIN FILM INTERFERENCE – FREE STANDING FILM

Diagram illustrating thin film interference in a free-standing film. The film has thickness d and refractive index n . Incident light with wavelength λ in air ($n_i < n$) strikes the front surface. The path difference between the light reflected from the front and the light reflected from the back is $\delta = 2d$.

Two reflected beams are **out of phase with each other**, which means they interact constructively when the path difference is equal to the multiplication of **half of the wavelength**:

$$2d = \left(m + \frac{1}{2}\right) \lambda_{\text{medium}}$$

$$2d = \left(m + \frac{1}{2}\right) \frac{\lambda}{n}$$

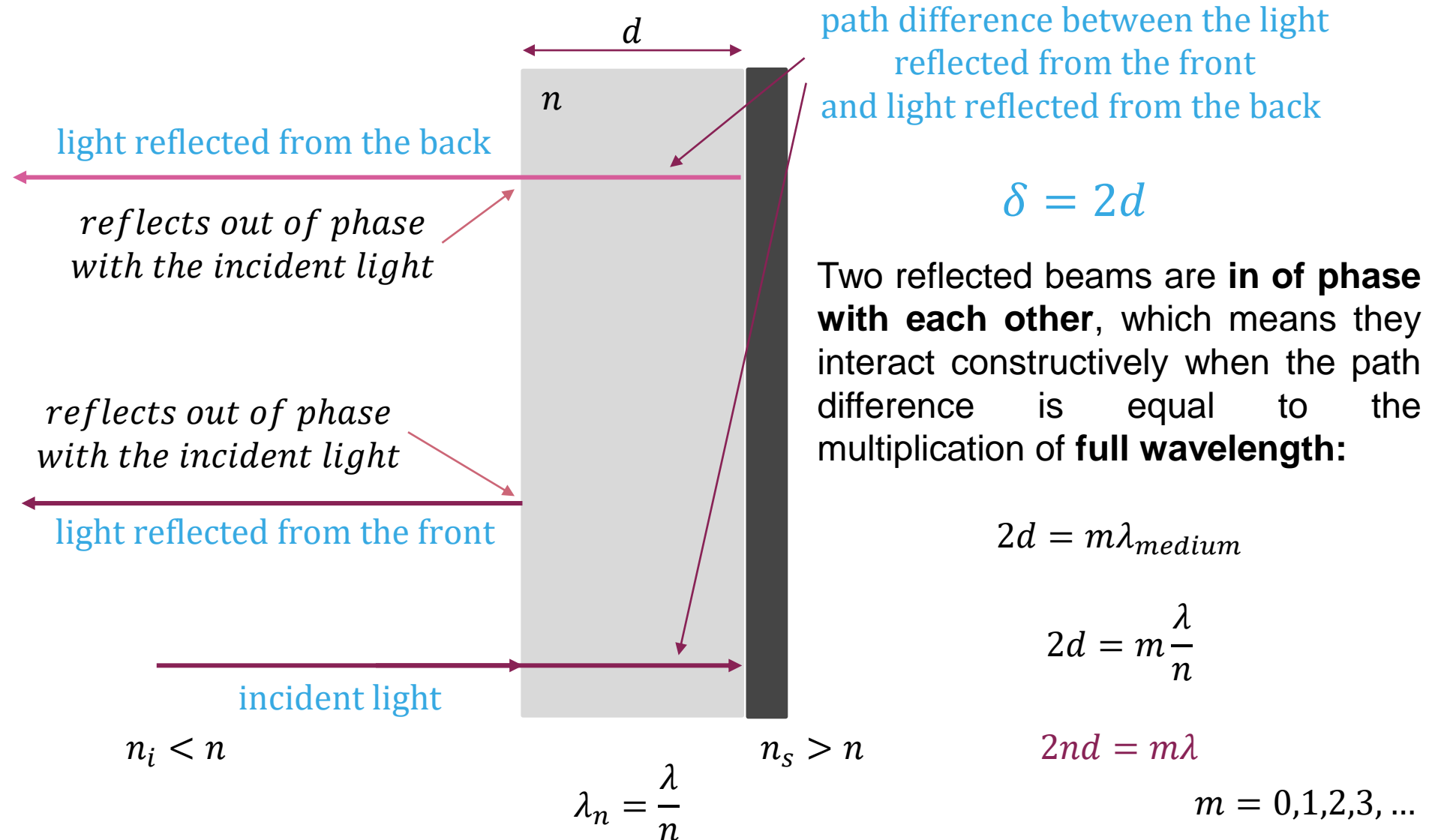
$$2nd = \left(m + \frac{1}{2}\right) \lambda$$

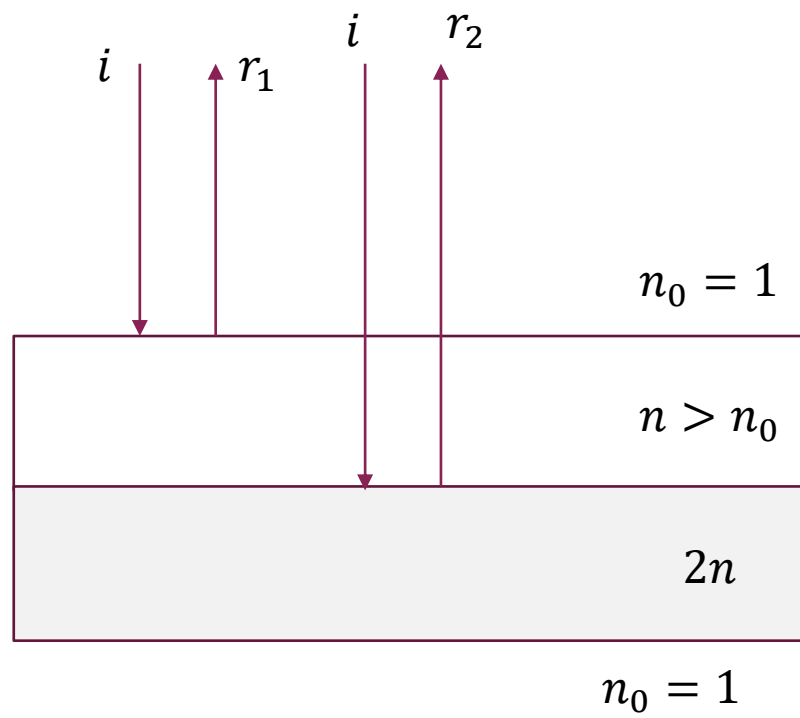
where $m = 0, 1, 2, 3, \dots$

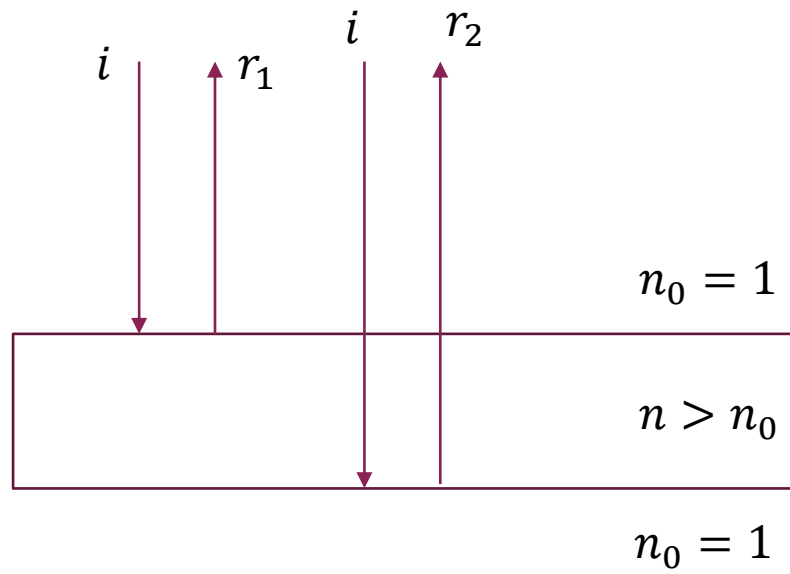
Additional labels in the diagram:

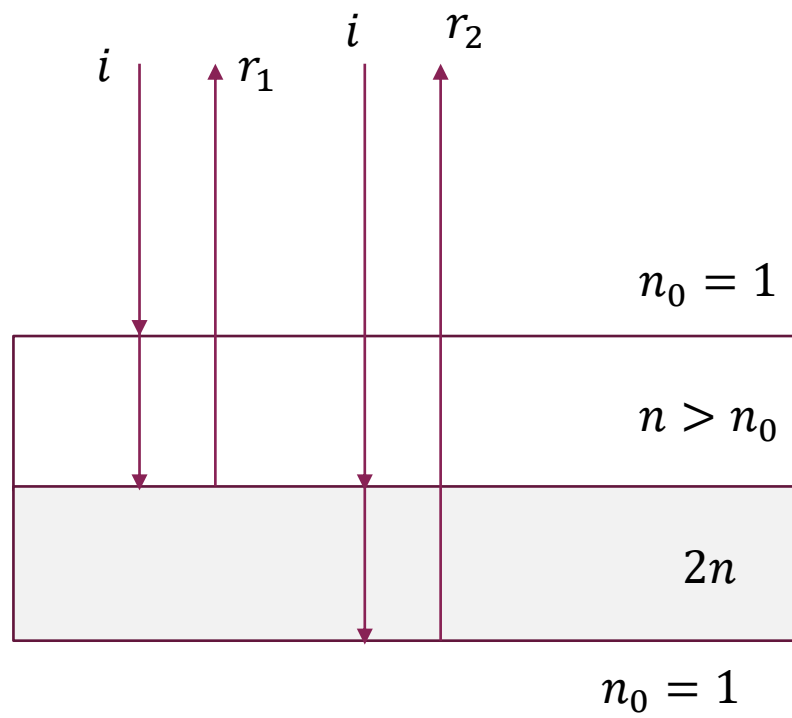
- light reflected from the back
- reflects in phase with the incident light
- reflects out of phase with the incident light
- light reflected from the front
- incident light
- $n_i < n$
- $\lambda_n = \frac{\lambda}{n}$
- $n_i < n$

24.4 THIN FILM INTERFERENCE – FREE STANDING FILM





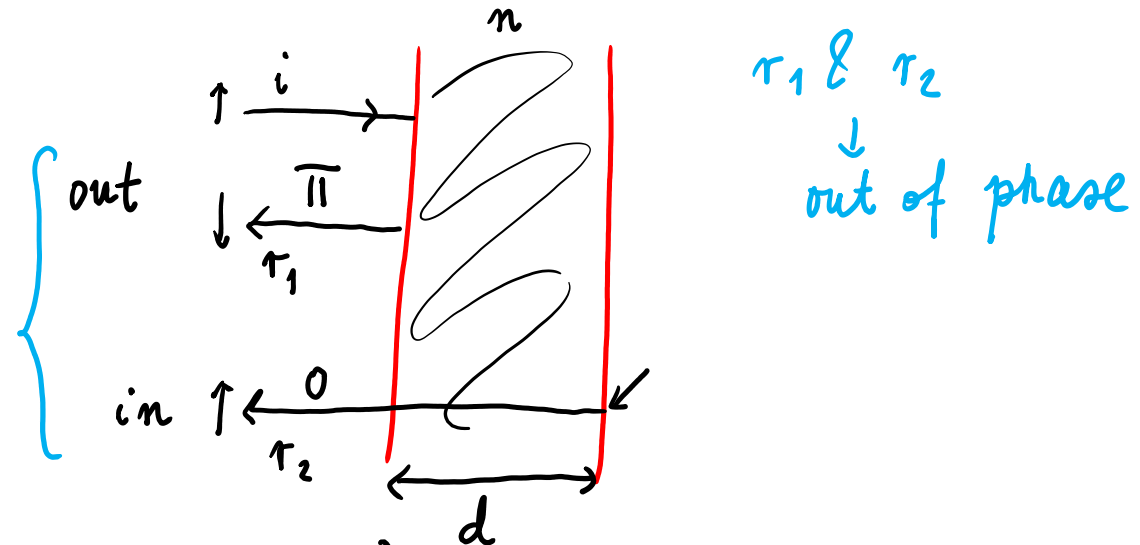




EXAMPLE 24 F

A soap bubble ($n=1.33$) floating in air has the shape of a spherical shell with a wall thickness of 120 nm.

What is the wavelength of visible light that is most strongly reflected?



$$2d \cdot n = \left(m + \frac{1}{2}\right) \lambda$$

$$2 \cdot 120 \text{ nm} \cdot 1.33 = \left(m + \frac{1}{2}\right) \lambda$$

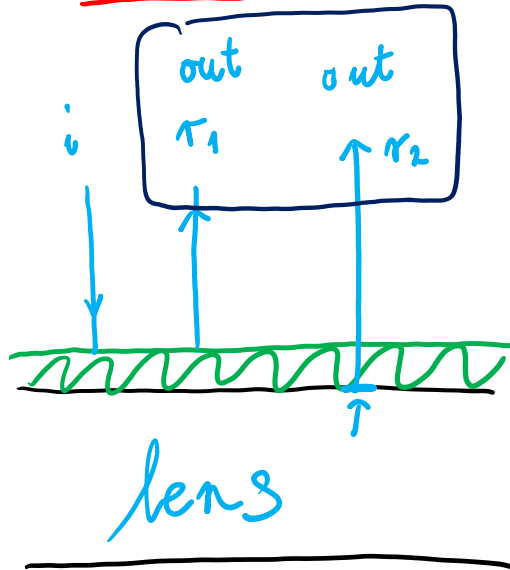
$$320 \text{ nm} = \left(m + \frac{1}{2}\right) \lambda$$

$$m=0 : \quad 320 \text{ nm} = \frac{1}{2} \lambda \rightarrow \boxed{\lambda = 640 \text{ nm}}$$

$$m=1. \quad 320 \text{ nm} = \frac{3}{2} \lambda \rightarrow \lambda = 213 \text{ nm}$$

EXAMPLE 24 G

A lens coated with a thin layer of material having a refractive index of 1.25 reflects the least amount of light at wavelength of 590 nm. What is the minimum thickness of the coating?



destructive!

$$\begin{aligned} \text{constructive} : & 2nd = m\lambda \\ \rightarrow \text{destructive} : & 2nd = \left(m + \frac{1}{2}\right)\lambda \end{aligned}$$

$$m = 0$$

$$2nd = \frac{1}{2}\lambda$$

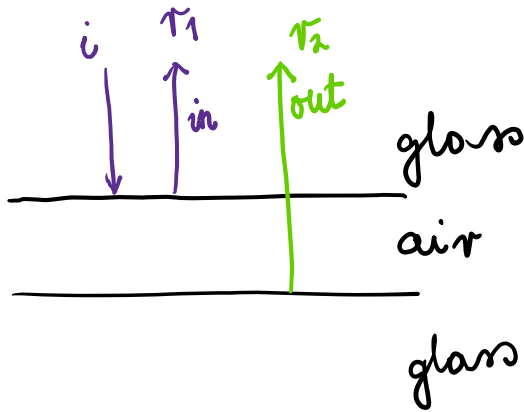
$$2 \times 1.25 d = \frac{1}{2} 590 \text{ nm}$$

$$d = \frac{1}{4} \cdot 590 \cdot \frac{1}{1.25}$$

EXAMPLE 24 H

Two flat glass surfaces are separated by a 150 nm gap of air.

What wavelengths of light would be reflected brightly from the gap?



reflective rays out of phase

$$2nd = \left(m + \frac{1}{2}\right)\lambda$$
$$m=0: 2d = \frac{1}{2}\lambda \rightarrow \lambda = 2 \cdot 2d = 600 \text{ nm} \leftarrow$$
$$m=1: 2d = 1.5\lambda \rightarrow \lambda = \frac{4}{3}d = 200 \text{ nm}$$

What is the longest wavelength that would be reflected brightly?

The one for $m=0$