

Outline

- 1 Electromagnetic Waves
- 2 Quasi-Monochromatic Light
- 3 Electromagnetic Waves Across Interfaces
- 4 Snell's law

Fundamentals of Polarized Light

Electromagnetic Waves in Matter

- *Maxwell's equations* \Rightarrow electromagnetic waves
- optics: interaction of electromagnetic waves with matter as described by *material equations*
- polarization of electromagnetic waves are integral part of optics

Maxwell's Equations in Matter

$$\begin{aligned}\nabla \cdot \vec{D} &= 4\pi\rho \\ \nabla \times \vec{H} - \frac{1}{c} \frac{\partial \vec{D}}{\partial t} &= \frac{4\pi}{c} \vec{j} \\ \nabla \times \vec{E} + \frac{1}{c} \frac{\partial \vec{B}}{\partial t} &= 0 \\ \nabla \cdot \vec{B} &= 0\end{aligned}$$

Symbols

\vec{D} electric displacement
 ρ electric charge density
 \vec{H} magnetic field
 c speed of light in vacuum
 \vec{j} electric current density
 \vec{E} electric field
 \vec{B} magnetic induction
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Linear Material Equations

$$\vec{D} = \epsilon \vec{E}$$

$$\vec{B} = \mu \vec{H}$$

$$\vec{j} = \sigma \vec{E}$$

Symbols

ϵ dielectric constant

μ magnetic permeability

σ electrical conductivity

Isotropic and Anisotropic Media

- isotropic media: ϵ and μ are scalars
- anisotropic media: ϵ and μ are tensors of rank 2
- isotropy of medium broken by
 - anisotropy of material itself (e.g. crystals)
 - external fields (e.g. Kerr effect)

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Wave Equation in Matter

- for most materials: $\rho = 0, \mu = 1$
- combine Maxwell, material equations \Rightarrow differential equations for damped (vector) wave

$$\nabla^2 \vec{E} - \frac{\epsilon}{c^2} \frac{\partial^2 \vec{E}}{\partial t^2} - \frac{4\pi\sigma}{c^2} \frac{\partial \vec{E}}{\partial t} = 0$$

$$\nabla^2 \vec{H} - \frac{\epsilon}{c^2} \frac{\partial^2 \vec{H}}{\partial t^2} - \frac{4\pi\sigma}{c^2} \frac{\partial \vec{H}}{\partial t} = 0$$

- damping controlled by conductivity σ
- \vec{E} and \vec{H} are equivalent \Rightarrow sufficient to consider \vec{E}
- interaction with matter almost always through \vec{E}
- but: at interfaces, boundary conditions for \vec{H} are crucial

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Plane-Wave Solutions

- Plane Vector Wave ansatz $\vec{E} = \vec{E}_0 e^{i(\vec{k}\cdot\vec{x}-\omega t)}$
 - \vec{k} spatially and temporally constant *wave vector*
 - \vec{k} normal to surfaces of constant phase
 - $|\vec{k}|$ *wave number*
 - \vec{x} spatial location
 - ω *angular frequency* ($2\pi \times$ frequency)
 - t time
 - \vec{E}_0 (generally complex) vector independent of time and space
- could also use $\vec{E} = \vec{E}_0 e^{-i(\vec{k}\cdot\vec{x}-\omega t)}$
- damping if \vec{k} is complex
- real electric field vector given by real part of \vec{E}

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Complex Index of Refraction

- temporal derivatives \Rightarrow Helmholtz equation

$$\nabla^2 \vec{E} + \frac{\omega^2}{c^2} \left(\epsilon + i \frac{4\pi\sigma}{\omega} \right) \vec{E} = 0$$

- dispersion relation* between \vec{k} and ω

$$\vec{k} \cdot \vec{k} = \frac{\omega^2}{c^2} \left(\epsilon + i \frac{4\pi\sigma}{\omega} \right)$$

- complex index of refraction*

$$\tilde{n}^2 = \epsilon + i \frac{4\pi\sigma}{\omega}, \quad \vec{k} \cdot \vec{k} = \frac{\omega^2}{c^2} \tilde{n}^2$$

- split into real (n : *index of refraction*) and imaginary parts (k : *extinction coefficient*)

$$\tilde{n} = n + ik$$

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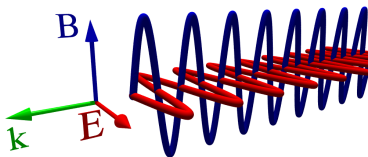
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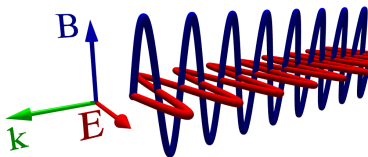


- plane-wave solution must also fulfill Maxwell's equations

$$\vec{E}_0 \cdot \vec{k} = 0, \quad \vec{H}_0 \cdot \vec{k} = 0, \quad \vec{H}_0 = \tilde{n} \frac{\vec{k}}{|\vec{k}|} \times \vec{E}_0$$

- isotropic media: electric, magnetic field vectors normal to wave vector \Rightarrow transverse waves
- \vec{E}_0 , \vec{H}_0 , and \vec{k} orthogonal to each other, right-handed vector-triple
- conductive medium \Rightarrow complex \tilde{n} , \vec{E}_0 and \vec{H}_0 out of phase
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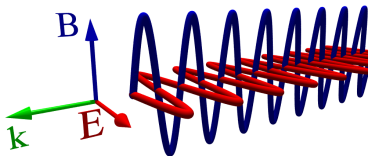


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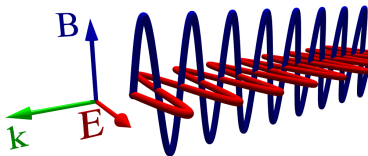


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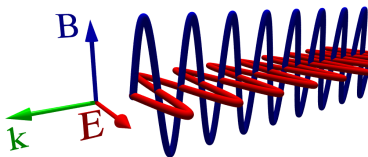


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Energy Propagation in Isotropic Media

- *Poynting vector*

$$\vec{S} = \frac{c}{4\pi} (\vec{E} \times \vec{H})$$

- $|\vec{S}|$: energy through unit area perpendicular to \vec{S} per unit time
- direction of \vec{S} is direction of energy flow
- time-averaged Poynting vector given by

$$\langle \vec{S} \rangle = \frac{c}{8\pi} \text{Re} (\vec{E}_0 \times \vec{H}_0^*)$$

Re real part of complex expression

* complex conjugate

$\langle \cdot \rangle$ time average

- energy flow parallel to wave vector (in isotropic media)

$$\langle \vec{S} \rangle = \frac{c}{8\pi} |\tilde{n}| |E_0|^2 \frac{\vec{k}}{|\vec{k}|}$$

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Quasi-Monochromatic Light

- monochromatic light: purely theoretical concept
- monochromatic light wave always fully polarized
- real life: light includes range of wavelengths \Rightarrow *quasi-monochromatic light*
- quasi-monochromatic: superposition of mutually incoherent monochromatic light beams whose wavelengths vary in narrow range $\delta\lambda$ around central wavelength λ_0

$$\frac{\delta\lambda}{\lambda} \ll 1$$

- measurement of quasi-monochromatic light: integral over measurement time t_m
- amplitude, phase (slow) functions of time for given spatial location
- *slow*: variations occur on time scales much longer than the mean period of the wave

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Polarization of Quasi-Monochromatic Light

- electric field vector for quasi-monochromatic plane wave is sum of electric field vectors of all monochromatic beams

$$\vec{E}(t) = \vec{E}_0(t) e^{i(\vec{k}\cdot\vec{x}-\omega t)}$$

- can write this way because $\delta\lambda \ll \lambda_0$
- measured intensity of quasi-monochromatic beam

$$\langle \vec{E}_x \vec{E}_x^* \rangle + \langle \vec{E}_y \vec{E}_y^* \rangle = \lim_{t_m \rightarrow \infty} \frac{1}{t_m} \int_{-t_m/2}^{t_m/2} \vec{E}_x(t) \vec{E}_x^*(t) + \vec{E}_y(t) \vec{E}_y^*(t) dt$$

$\langle \dots \rangle$: averaging over measurement time t_m

- measured intensity independent of time
- quasi-monochromatic: frequency-dependent material properties (e.g. index of refraction) are constant within $\Delta\lambda$

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Polychromatic Light or White Light

- wavelength range comparable wavelength ($\frac{\delta\lambda}{\lambda} \sim 1$)
- incoherent sum of quasi-monochromatic beams that have large variations in wavelength
- cannot write electric field vector in a plane-wave form
- must take into account frequency-dependent material characteristics
- intensity of polychromatic light is given by sum of intensities of constituting quasi-monochromatic beams

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Fields at Interfaces

- classical optics due to interfaces between 2 different media
- from Maxwell's equations in integral form at interface from medium 1 to medium 2

$$(\vec{D}_2 - \vec{D}_1) \cdot \vec{n} = 0$$

$$(\vec{B}_2 - \vec{B}_1) \cdot \vec{n} = 0$$

$$(\vec{E}_2 - \vec{E}_1) \times \vec{n} = 0$$

$$(\vec{H}_2 - \vec{H}_1) \times \vec{n} = 0$$

\vec{n} normal on interface, points from medium 1 to medium 2

- normal components of \vec{D} and \vec{B} are continuous across interface
- tangential components of \vec{E} and \vec{H} are continuous across interface

Fields at Interfaces

- classical optics due to interfaces between 2 different media
- from Maxwell's equations in integral form at interface from medium 1 to medium 2

$$(\vec{D}_2 - \vec{D}_1) \cdot \vec{n} = 0$$

$$(\vec{B}_2 - \vec{B}_1) \cdot \vec{n} = 0$$

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\vec{n} normal on interface, points from medium 1 to medium 2

- normal components of \vec{D} and \vec{B} are continuous across interface
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Plane of Incidence

- plane wave onto interface
- incident (i), reflected (r), and transmitted (t) waves

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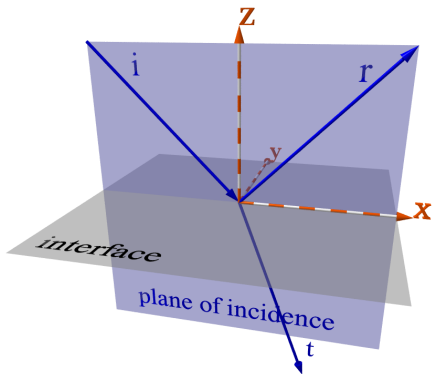
$$\vec{H}^{i,r,t} = \frac{c}{\omega} \vec{k}^{i,r,t} \times \vec{E}^{i,r,t}$$

- interface normal $\vec{n} \parallel z$ -axis

- spatial, temporal behavior at interface the same for all 3 waves

$$(\vec{k}^i \cdot \vec{x})_{z=0} = (\vec{k}^r \cdot \vec{x})_{z=0} = (\vec{k}^t \cdot \vec{x})_{z=0}$$

- valid for all \vec{x} in interface \Rightarrow all 3 wave vectors in one plane, *plane of incidence*



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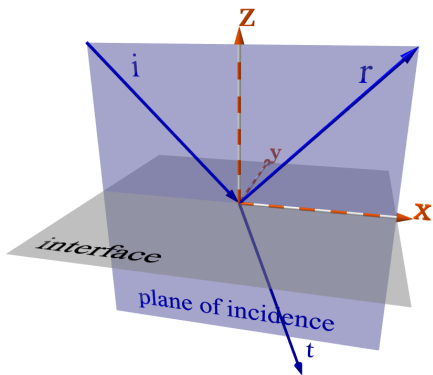
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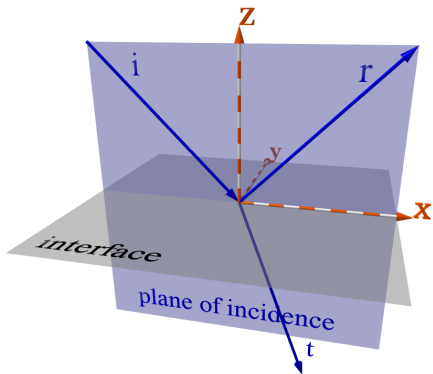
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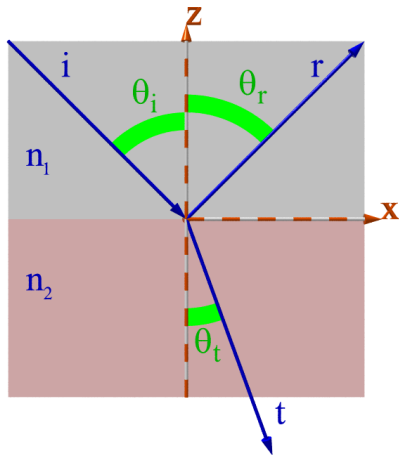
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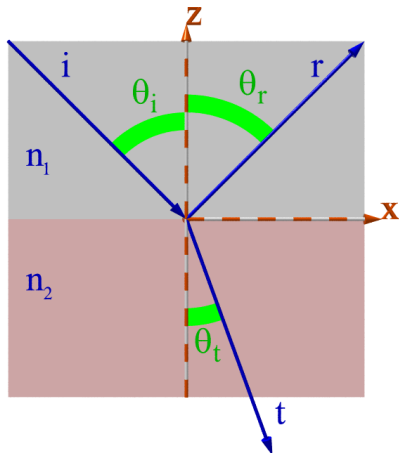
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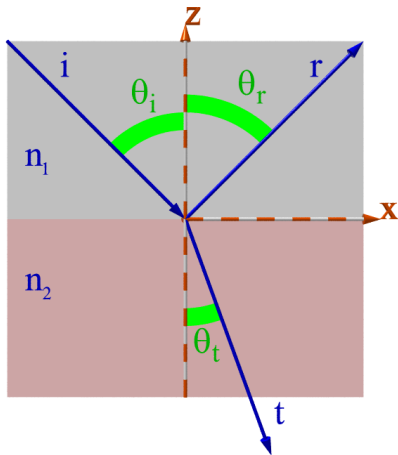
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Monochromatic Wave at Interface

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- boundary conditions for monochromatic plane wave:

- 4 equations are not independent
- only need to consider last two equations (tangential components of \vec{E}_0 and \vec{H}_0 are continuous)

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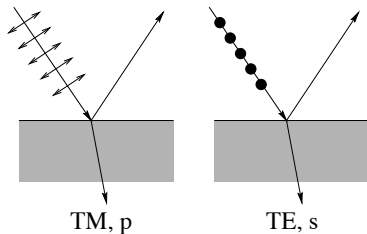
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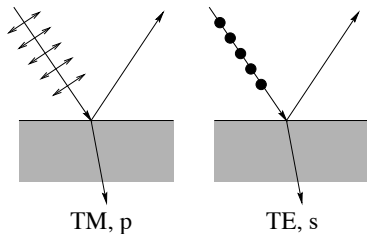
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Two Special Cases



- 1 electric field **p**arallel to plane of incidence \Rightarrow magnetic field is transverse to plane of incidence (TM)
- 2 electric field **p**articular (German: **senkrecht**) or transverse to plane of incidence (TE)
 - general solution as (coherent) superposition of two cases
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