

## Fresnel Equations - reflection + refractions

• Applies to a step-change in refr. index  $n$

• method: take solutions of wave equation in both media  
use boundary conditions to match  $\vec{E}, \vec{H}$   
express reflected, transmitted amplitudes in  
terms of incident amplitudes

• result: ratios  $r_{\perp}, t_{\perp}$  and  $r_{\parallel}, t_{\parallel}$

$r, t$  depend on polarization direction relative to  
interface.

$r, t$  are complex,  $R \propto |r|^2$ ,  $T \propto |t|^2$  for power or intensity.

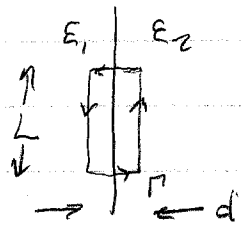
• Applications

method is used in calculating  $\vec{E}(\vec{r})$  in waveguides,  
resonators, multilayer structures.

Fresnel eqns are used to design polarization optics,  
multilayer coatings, interferometers

Boundary conditions: dielectric interface re HM 1.8

$\vec{E}$  tangential component continuous shorthand:  $\vec{E} \times \hat{n}$



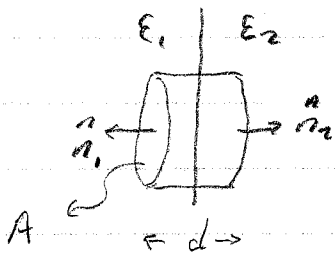
$$\nabla \times \vec{E} = -\frac{1}{c} \frac{\partial \vec{B}}{\partial t}$$

$$\oint \vec{E} \cdot d\vec{l} = -\frac{1}{c} \frac{d}{dt} \oint \vec{B} \cdot \hat{n} da$$

limit  $d \rightarrow 0$

$$(\vec{E}_1 \times \hat{n}_1 - \vec{E}_2 \times \hat{n}_2) L = 0, \vec{E}_1^{\parallel} = \vec{E}_2^{\parallel}$$

$\vec{D}$  normal component continuous



$$\nabla \cdot \vec{D} = \rho \quad (\text{no free charges})$$

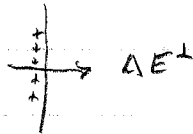
$$\oint \vec{D} \cdot \hat{n} da = 0 \quad \text{limit } d \rightarrow 0$$

$$= (\vec{D}_1 \cdot \hat{n}_1 + \vec{D}_2 \cdot \hat{n}_2) A = 0$$

$$\text{let } \hat{n} = \hat{n}_1 = -\hat{n}_2$$

$$\vec{D}_1 \cdot \hat{n} = \vec{D}_2 \cdot \hat{n} \quad \text{or } \epsilon_1 E_1^{\perp} = \epsilon_2 E_2^{\perp}$$

here, jump in  $E^{\perp}$  b/c of bound charges.



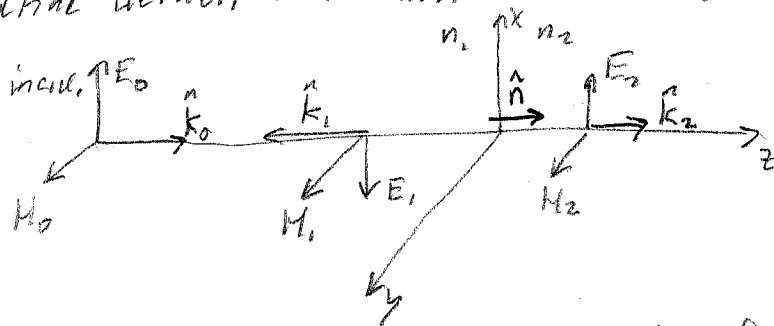
similarly,

$\vec{B}$  normal comp. contin. (from  $\nabla \cdot \vec{B} = 0$ )

$\vec{H}$  tang. comp. contin. (no surface currents)

# Reflection + transmission: Normal incidence

1) define default orientation of the fields



tangential E, H are continuous at interface

note conventions vary here: sign of  $n$  is relative to how fields are set up.

2) write wave solutions in different regions

incident:  $\vec{E}_0 = E_0^0 \hat{x} e^{i(k_0 z - \omega t)}$

refl.  $\vec{E}_1 = E_1^0 (-\hat{x}) e^{i(-k_0 z - \omega t)}$

transm  $\vec{E}_2 = E_2^0 \hat{x} e^{i(k_0 n_2 z - \omega t)}$

similar for  $\vec{H}$  (all in  $+\hat{y}$  direction)

set  $t=0$ : in this formulation, all is time-independent

3) match at boundary  $z=0$

$$E_0^0 - E_1^0 = E_2^0$$

$$H_0^0 + H_1^0 = H_2^0$$

take  $E \rightarrow H$   $\nabla \times \vec{E} = -\frac{1}{c} \frac{\partial \vec{B}}{\partial t} \rightarrow \vec{k} \times \vec{E} = \frac{\omega}{c} \mu \vec{H}$

$$k = k_0 n_i = \frac{\omega}{c} n_i \rightarrow H^0 = \frac{n_i}{\mu} E^0$$

let  $\mu=1$

$$\rightarrow n_1 (E_0^0 + E_1^0) = n_2 E_2^0$$

4) solve for  $E_1^0, E_2^0$  in terms of  $E_0^0$

$$n_1 E_0^0 + n_2 E_1^0 = n_2 E_0^0 - n_2 E_1^0$$

reflected  $E_1^0 = E_0^0 \frac{(n_2 - n_1)}{n_1 + n_2} \equiv r E_0^0$

$\hookrightarrow$  ampl. reflection coeff.

transm.  $E_2^0 = E_0^0 - E_0^0 \frac{n_2 - n_1}{n_1 + n_2} = \frac{2n_1}{n_1 + n_2} E_0^0 \equiv t E_0^0$

Comments:

• for  $n_2 > n_1$  e.g. air to glass  $-r > 0$  but  $E$  changes sign on reflection

• for  $n_2 < n_1$   $r < 0$  ∴ no sign change in  $E$

At normal incidence,  $r, t$  are real

Power / Intensity reflection coefficients

$$R \equiv \frac{\langle \vec{S}_1 \rangle \cdot (-\hat{n})}{\langle \vec{S}_0 \rangle \cdot \hat{n}} = \frac{\frac{c}{8\pi} \text{Re}(\vec{E}_1 \times \vec{H}_1^*) \cdot (-\hat{n})}{\frac{c}{8\pi} \text{Re}(\vec{E}_0 \times \vec{H}_0^*) \cdot \hat{n}} \quad \text{with } \vec{H}_i = n_i \hat{n} \times \vec{E}_i$$

$$= \frac{n_1 |E_1|^2}{n_1 |E_0|^2} = |r|^2 = \left( \frac{n_2 - n_1}{n_2 + n_1} \right)^2$$

$$T = \frac{n_2 |E_2|^2}{n_1 |E_1|^2} = \frac{n_2}{n_1} |t|^2 = \frac{4n_1 n_2}{(n_1 + n_2)^2}$$

$$R + T = 1 \quad (\text{note } r^2 + t^2 \neq 1!)$$

the extra factor of  $\frac{n_2}{n_1}$  comes from the fact that the intensity is higher in a medium with  $n > 1$

$$I = v_{ph} \langle U \rangle = \frac{c}{n} \cdot \epsilon \frac{|E|^2}{8\pi} = \frac{1}{8\pi} n c |E|^2$$

$U \uparrow$  by  $n^2$

$v_p \downarrow$  by  $1/n$