

Maxwell's Equations to the wave equation

- The induced polarization, \mathbf{P} , contains the effect of the medium:

$$\vec{\nabla} \cdot \mathbf{E} = 0 \quad \vec{\nabla} \times \mathbf{E} = -\frac{\partial \mathbf{B}}{\partial t}$$

$$\vec{\nabla} \cdot \mathbf{B} = 0 \quad \vec{\nabla} \times \mathbf{B} = \mu_0 \frac{\partial \mathbf{D}}{\partial t}$$

Define the displacement vector

$$\mathbf{D} = \epsilon_0 \mathbf{E} + \mathbf{P}$$

- Derive the wave equation:

$$\rightarrow \vec{\nabla} \times \mathbf{B} = \mu_0 \frac{\partial \mathbf{D}}{\partial t} = \frac{1}{c^2} \frac{\partial \mathbf{E}}{\partial t} + \mu_0 \frac{\partial \mathbf{P}}{\partial t}$$

$$\vec{\nabla} \times (\vec{\nabla} \times \mathbf{E}) = -\vec{\nabla} \times \frac{\partial \mathbf{B}}{\partial t} = -\frac{\partial}{\partial t} (\vec{\nabla} \times \mathbf{B})$$

$$\vec{\nabla} \times (\vec{\nabla} \times \mathbf{E}) = \vec{\nabla} (\vec{\nabla} \cdot \mathbf{E}) - \nabla^2 \mathbf{E} = -\nabla^2 \mathbf{E}$$

Using: $\vec{\nabla} \cdot \mathbf{E} = 0$

Maxwell's Equations to the wave equation

- Finish derivation of the wave equation

$$\vec{\nabla} \times (\vec{\nabla} \times \mathbf{E}) = -\nabla^2 \mathbf{E} = -\frac{\partial}{\partial t} (\vec{\nabla} \times \mathbf{B})$$

$$-\frac{\partial}{\partial t} (\vec{\nabla} \times \mathbf{B}) = -\frac{\partial}{\partial t} \left(\frac{1}{c^2} \frac{\partial \mathbf{E}}{\partial t} + \mu_0 \frac{\partial \mathbf{P}}{\partial t} \right) = -\left(\frac{1}{c^2} \frac{\partial^2 \mathbf{E}}{\partial t^2} + \mu_0 \frac{\partial^2 \mathbf{P}}{\partial t^2} \right)$$

$$\boxed{\nabla^2 \mathbf{E} - \frac{1}{c^2} \frac{\partial^2 \mathbf{E}}{\partial t^2} = \mu_0 \frac{\partial^2 \mathbf{P}}{\partial t^2}}$$

“Inhomogeneous
Wave Equation”

- For a plane wave traveling in the z-direction,

$$\frac{\partial^2 \mathbf{E}}{\partial z^2} - \frac{1}{c^2} \frac{\partial^2 \mathbf{E}}{\partial t^2} = \mu_0 \frac{\partial^2 \mathbf{P}}{\partial t^2}$$

Other geometries dictate how to deal with the Laplacian operator

Maxwell's Equations in a Medium

- The induced polarization, \mathbf{P} , contains the effect of the medium:

$$\vec{\nabla}^2 \mathbf{E} - \frac{1}{c^2} \frac{\partial^2 \mathbf{E}}{\partial t^2} = \mu_0 \frac{\partial^2 \mathbf{P}}{\partial t^2}$$

- Sinusoidal waves of all frequencies are solutions to the wave equation
- For linear response, \mathbf{P} will oscillate at the same frequency as the input.

$$\mathbf{P}(t) = \epsilon_0 \chi \mathbf{E}(t) \quad \rightarrow \quad \vec{\nabla}^2 \mathbf{E} - \frac{1}{c^2} \frac{\partial^2 \mathbf{E}}{\partial t^2} = \mu_0 \epsilon_0 \chi \frac{\partial^2 \mathbf{E}}{\partial t^2}$$

- Then once we know the susceptibility χ , we can calculate the dielectric constant and the refractive index:

$$\rightarrow \vec{\nabla}^2 \mathbf{E} - \frac{1}{c^2} (1 + \chi) \frac{\partial^2 \mathbf{E}}{\partial t^2} = 0 \qquad \epsilon_0 (1 + \chi) = \epsilon_0 \epsilon_r = \epsilon_0 n^2$$

$$\vec{\nabla}^2 \mathbf{E} - \frac{n^2}{c^2} \frac{\partial^2 \mathbf{E}}{\partial t^2} = 0$$

Linear WE, anisotropic medium

- If the medium is *anisotropic*, i.e. birefringent, the magnitude of the induced polarization is still proportional to the incident field

- But now the susceptibility is a tensor

$$\mathbf{P}(\mathbf{E}) = \varepsilon_0 \vec{\chi} \cdot \mathbf{E}, \quad \mathbf{D} = \varepsilon_0 \mathbf{E} + \mathbf{P} = \varepsilon_0 (1 + \vec{\chi}) \cdot \mathbf{E} = \varepsilon_0 \vec{\varepsilon} \cdot \mathbf{E}$$

- In this case, the medium re-orientates the direction of the displacement vector

- If the coordinate system is chosen to diagonalize the dielectric tensor,

$$\vec{\varepsilon} = \begin{pmatrix} \varepsilon_{xx} & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & \varepsilon_{yy} & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & \varepsilon_{zz} \end{pmatrix} \quad \vec{\chi} = \begin{pmatrix} \chi_{xx} & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & \chi_{yy} & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & \chi_{zz} \end{pmatrix}$$

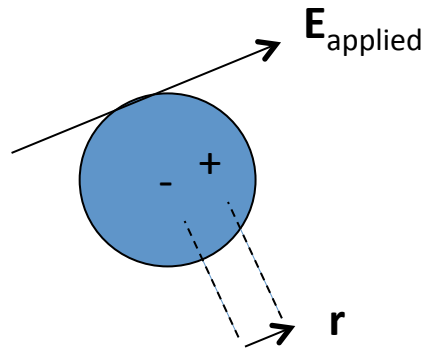
Connecting the macroscopic to the microscopic response

So determining the gain or loss coefficient depends on calculating the macroscopic induced polarization \mathbf{P} or equivalently the susceptibility χ .

$$\mathbf{P}(\mathbf{E}) = \epsilon_0 \chi \mathbf{E} = N_a \mathbf{p}$$

Note that the *macroscopic* polarization is really a density of individual dipole moments on the *microscopic* scale.

Recall: $\mathbf{p} = q \mathbf{r}$



So if the electric field is linearly polarized in the x-direction, then

$$\mathbf{P}(t) = N_a \mathbf{p}(t) = -N_a e x(t)$$

Here we treat $x(t)$ as the position of the *electron*.

Spring model for dipole response

- Model: driven SHO with damping

$$m_e \ddot{x}(t) = -eE(t) - m_e \omega_0^2 x(t) - 2m_e \gamma \dot{x}(t)$$

$$m_e \ddot{x}(t) + m_e \gamma \dot{x}(t) + m_e \omega_0^2 x(t) = -eE_0 e^{-i\omega t}$$

Radiation damping term γ

Restoring force, resonant at ω_0

External driving field, specific ω

let $x(t) = x_0 e^{-i\omega t}$ x must oscillate at driving frequency, not at resonance frequency

$$-m_e \omega^2 x_0 - i\omega m_e \gamma x_0 + m_e \omega_0^2 x_0 = -eE_0 \quad e^{-i\omega t} \text{ drops out}$$

$$x_0(\omega) = -\frac{e}{m_e} E_0 \frac{1}{\omega_0^2 - i\omega\gamma - \omega^2} \equiv -\frac{eE_0}{m_e} \frac{1}{D(\omega)}$$

x is fcn of t , but the amplitude x_0 depends on ω

Spring model for dispersion

- Now we can go from the microscopic response $x(t)$ to the macroscopic χ and n

$$P(t) = -N_a e x(t) = \epsilon_0 \chi^{(1)} E(t)$$

$$\rightarrow \chi^{(1)} = -\frac{N_a e x(t)}{\epsilon_0 E(t)} = -\frac{N_a e x_0(\omega) e^{-i\omega t}}{\epsilon_0 E_0 e^{-i\omega t}}$$

$$x_0(\omega) = -\frac{e}{m_e} E_0 \frac{1}{\omega_0^2 - i\omega\gamma - \omega^2} \equiv -\frac{e E_0}{m_e} \frac{1}{D(\omega)}$$

$$\chi^{(1)}(\omega) = -\frac{N_a e}{\epsilon_0} \left(-\frac{e E_0}{m_e D(\omega)} \right) \frac{1}{E_0} = \frac{N_a e^2}{\epsilon_0 m_e} \frac{1}{D(\omega)}$$

Note that this gives us the *frequency response* of the system.

Spring model: refractive index

- Linear susceptibility yields the refractive index:

$$n^2(\omega) = 1 + \chi^{(1)}(\omega) = 1 + \frac{N_a e^2}{\epsilon_0 m_e} \frac{1}{D(\omega)}$$

$$n^2(\omega) = 1 + \frac{N_a e^2}{\epsilon_0 m_e} \frac{1}{\omega_0^2 - i\omega\gamma - \omega^2}$$

Refractive index is a *complex* quantity.

- Solve for the Re and Im parts:

$$n^2(\omega) = 1 + \frac{N_a e^2}{\epsilon_0 m_e} \frac{\omega_0^2 - \omega^2 + i\omega\gamma}{(\omega_0^2 - \omega^2)^2 + \omega^2 \gamma^2} = 1 + \frac{N_a e^2}{\epsilon_0 m_e} \frac{(\omega_0 + \omega)(\omega_0 - \omega) + i\omega\gamma}{(\omega_0 + \omega)^2 (\omega_0 - \omega)^2 + \omega^2 \gamma^2}$$

- Near a resonance, $\omega_0 + \omega \approx 2\omega_0$ $\omega\gamma \approx \omega_0\gamma$

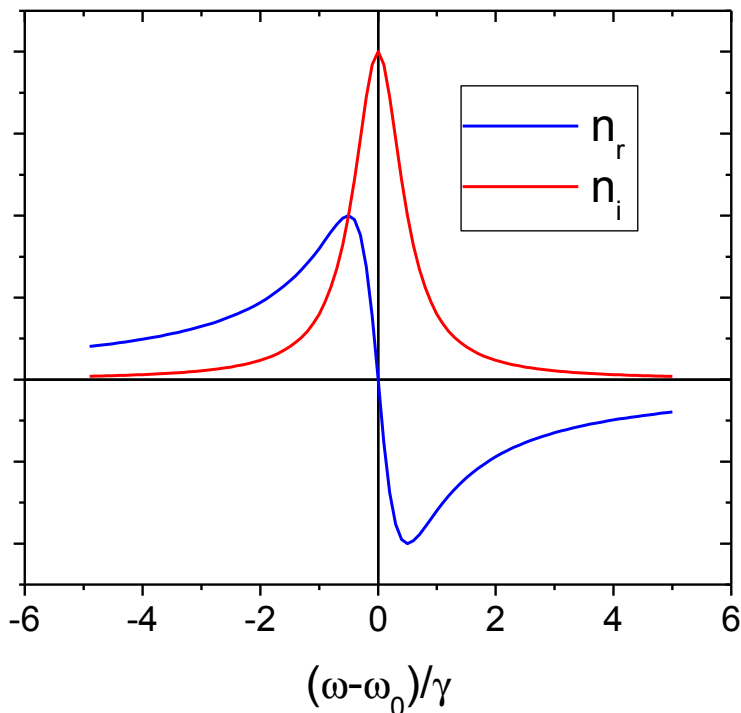
$$n^2(\omega) \approx 1 + \frac{N_a e^2}{\epsilon_0 m_e} \frac{2\omega_0(\omega_0 - \omega) + i\omega_0\gamma}{4\omega_0^2(\omega_0 - \omega)^2 + \omega_0^2\gamma^2} = 1 + \frac{N_a e^2}{2\omega_0 \epsilon_0 m_e} \frac{(\omega_0 - \omega) + i\gamma/2}{(\omega_0 - \omega)^2 + (\gamma/2)^2}$$

Complex refractive index near resonance

$$n(\omega) \approx \sqrt{1 + \frac{N_a e^2}{2\omega_0 \epsilon_0 m_e} \frac{(\omega_0 - \omega) + i\gamma/2}{(\omega_0 - \omega)^2 + (\gamma/2)^2}}$$

- For low atomic density (e.g. gas) $n \approx 1$

Normalized plot of $n-1$ and k versus $\omega - \omega_0$



$$n(\omega) \approx 1 + \frac{N_a e^2}{4\omega_0 \epsilon_0 m_e} \frac{(\omega_0 - \omega) + i\gamma/2}{(\omega_0 - \omega)^2 + (\gamma/2)^2}$$

$$n_i(\omega) \approx \frac{N_a e^2}{4\omega_0 \epsilon_0 m_e} \frac{\gamma/2}{(\omega_0 - \omega)^2 + (\gamma/2)^2}$$

$$n_R(\omega) \approx 1 + \frac{N_a e^2}{4\omega_0 \epsilon_0 m_e} \frac{\omega_0 - \omega}{(\omega_0 - \omega)^2 + (\gamma/2)^2}$$

Lorentzian: FWHM = γ

Complex refractive index

- When the incident light is near resonance, both Re and Im parts of $n(\omega)$ are important.
 - What is the meaning of a complex refractive index?
 - For a plane wave propagating in the z-direction:

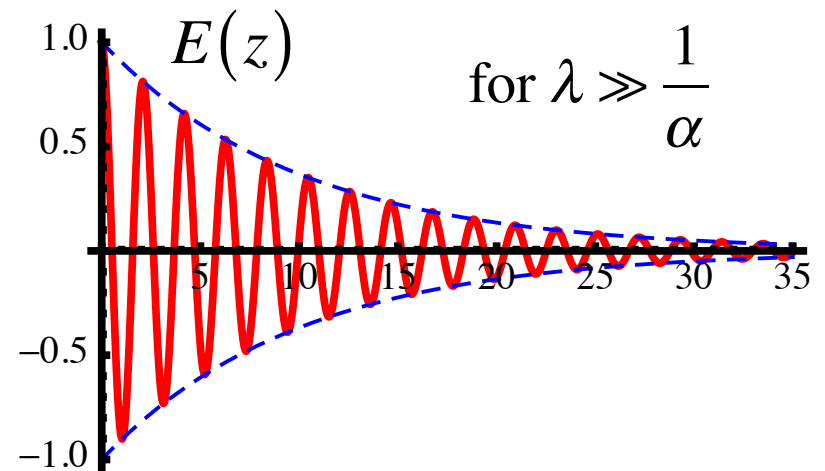
$$E(z,t) = E_0 e^{i(kz - \omega t)} = E_0 e^{i\left(\frac{\omega}{c}(n_R + i n_I)z - \omega t\right)} = E_0 e^{i\left(\frac{\omega}{c}n_R z - \omega t\right)} e^{-\frac{\omega}{c}n_I z}$$

For $n_I > 0$, absorption coefficient is

$$\alpha = \frac{\omega n_I}{2c}$$

For $n_I < 0$, gain coefficient is

$$g = \frac{\omega |n_I|}{2c}$$



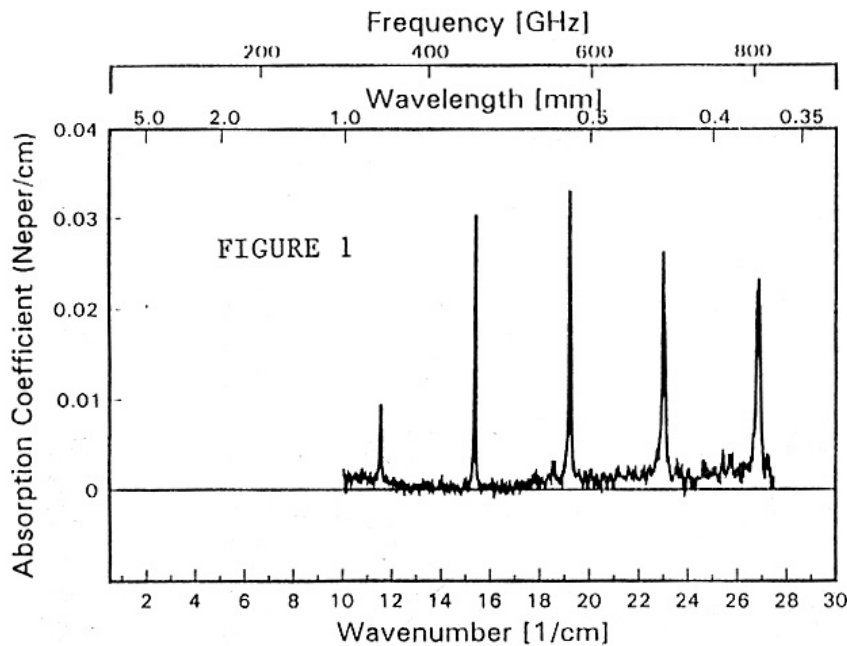
refractive index for real gases

- In a real atom or molecule, there are many resonances

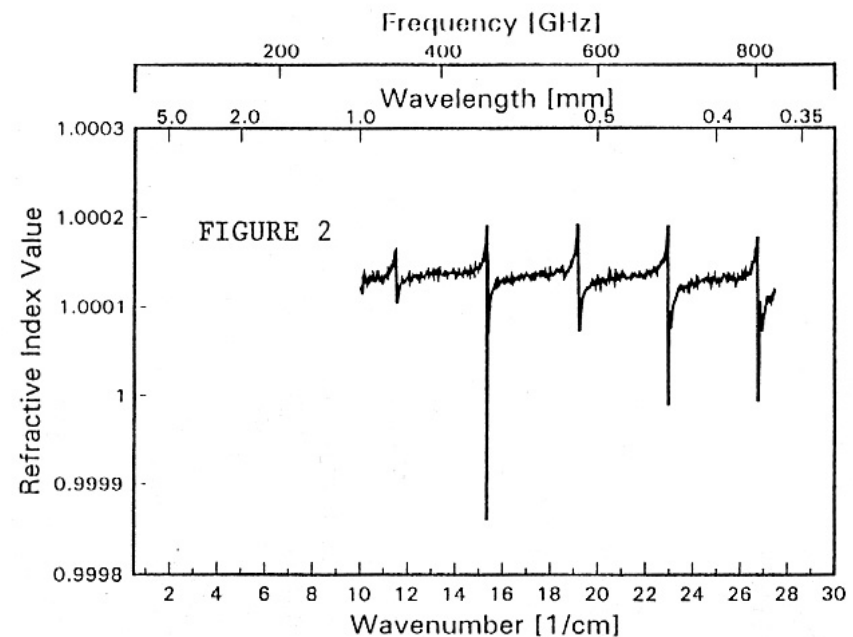
$$n^2 = 1 + \frac{N_a e^2}{\epsilon_0 m_e} \sum_j \frac{f_j}{(\omega_j^2 - \omega^2 - i\omega\gamma_j)}$$

f = oscillator strength

$$\sum_j f_j = Z$$



High Resolution Spectrum of Absorption Coeff. of Carbon Monoxide for 957mm path length(250 torr)



High Resolution spectrum of Refractive Index of Carbon Monoxide for 957mm path length(250 torr)

Transfer function and impulse response

- Treat the material as a linear system

$$E(z, \omega) = E_0(\omega) e^{ik(\omega)z} = E_0 e^{i\frac{\omega}{c}(n_R(\omega) + in_I(\omega))z} = E_0 e^{i\frac{\omega}{c}n_R(\omega)z} e^{-\alpha(\omega)z}$$

- We could treat the whole expression in blue as the frequency response. But then it would be nonlinear with respect to z .
- For a physical interpretation, it is better to look at the impulse response of the microscopic system:

$$\mathbf{P}(\mathbf{E}) = \varepsilon_0 \chi(\omega) \mathbf{E}(\omega) = N_a \mathbf{p}(\omega)$$

$$\chi(\omega) = \frac{N_a e^2}{\varepsilon_0 m_e} \frac{1}{\omega_0^2 - i\omega\gamma - \omega^2}$$

Complex Lorentzian

Tilted window: ray propagation

- Calculate phase shift caused by the insertion of the window into an interferometer.
- Ray optics:
 - Add up optical path for each segment
 - Subtract optical path w/o window

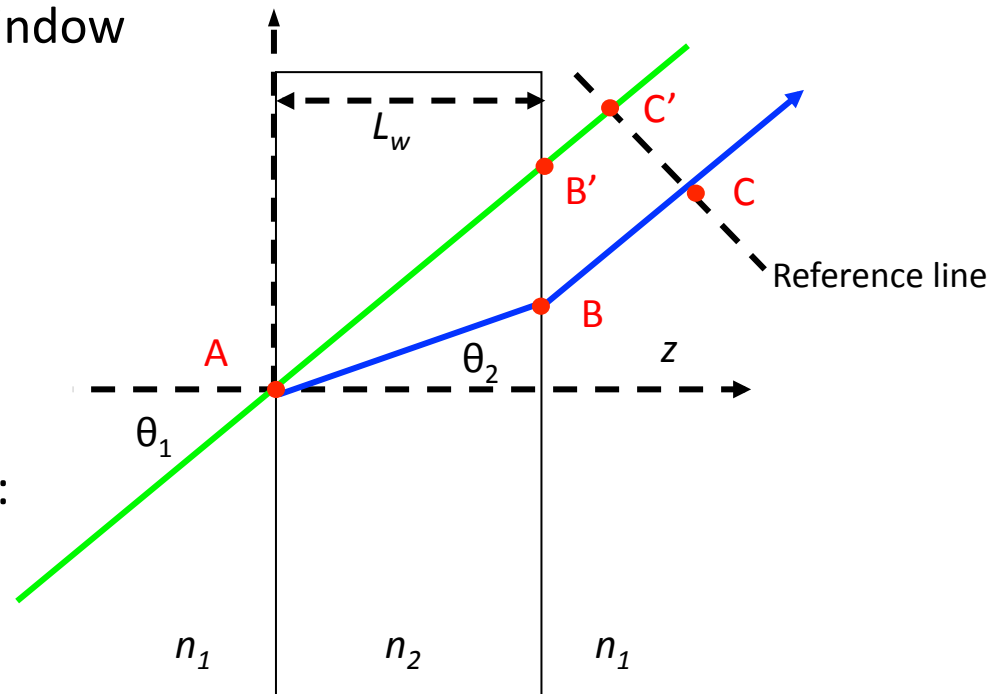
$$\Delta d = nL_{AB} + L_{BC} - L_{AB'} - L_{B'C'}$$

$$L_{AB} = \frac{L_w}{\cos \theta_2} \quad L_{AB'} = \frac{L_w}{\cos \theta_1}$$

$$L_{BC} = L_{B'C'} + L_{BB'} \sin \theta_1$$

- Use Snell's Law to reduce to:

$$\Delta d = nL_w \cos \theta_2 - L_w \cos \theta_1$$



Tilted window: wave propagation

- Write expression for tilted plane wave

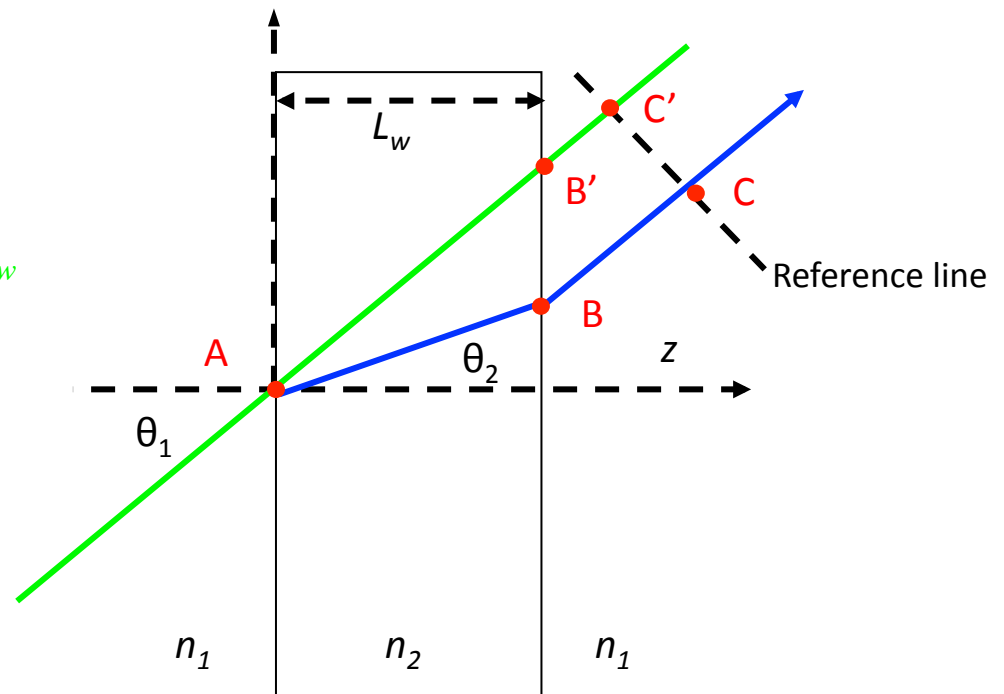
$$E(x, z) = E_0 \exp\left[i(k_x x + k_z z)\right] = E_0 \exp\left[i \frac{\omega}{c} n(x \sin \theta_2 + z \cos \theta_2)\right]$$

- Snell's Law: phase across surfaces is conserved

$$k_x x = \frac{\omega}{c} n \sin \theta \quad \text{is constant}$$

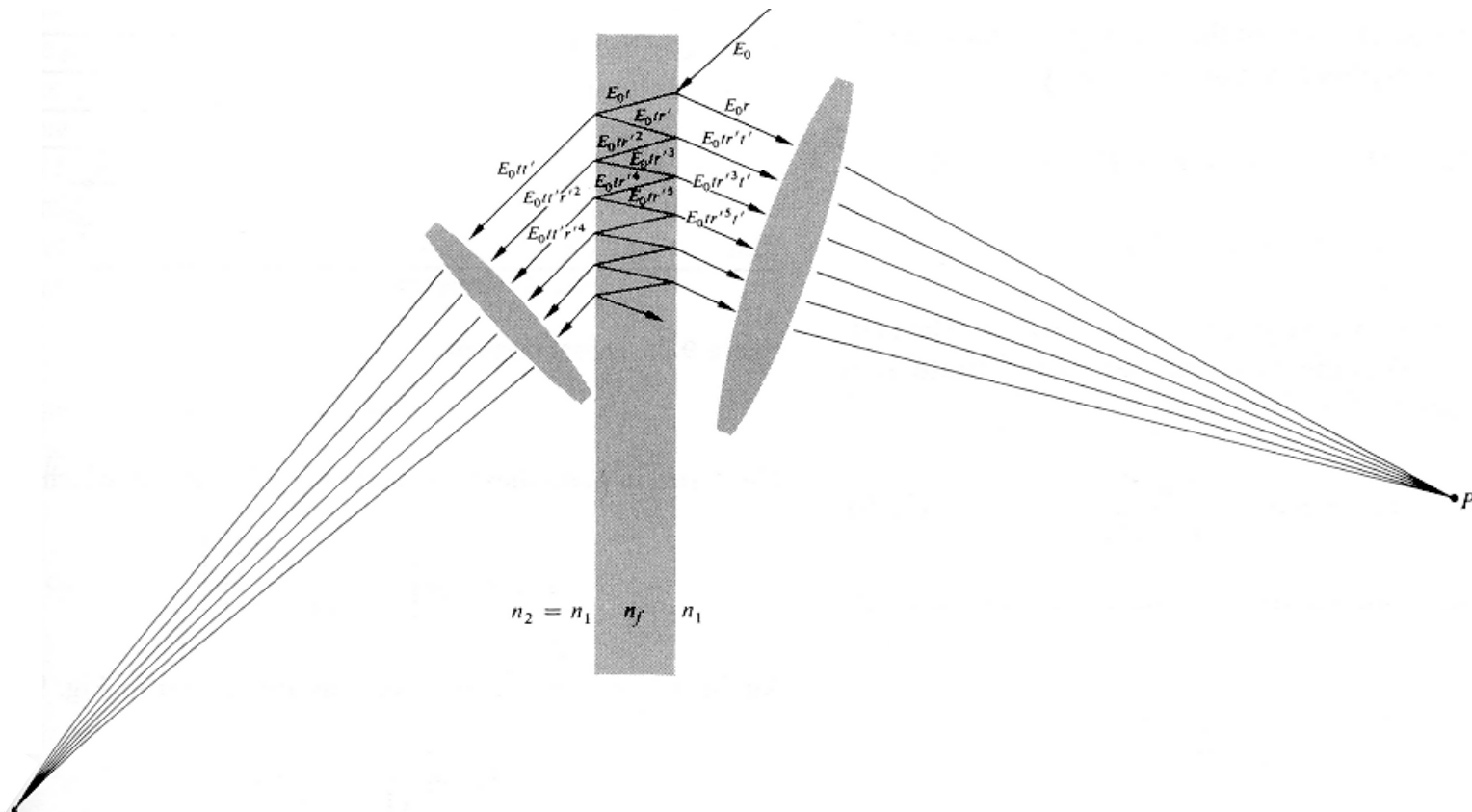
$$\Delta\phi = (k_2 \cos \theta_2) L_w - (k_1 \cos \theta_1) L_w$$

- This approach can be used to calculate phase of prism pairs and grating pairs



Multiple-beam interference: The Fabry-Perot Interferometer or Etalon

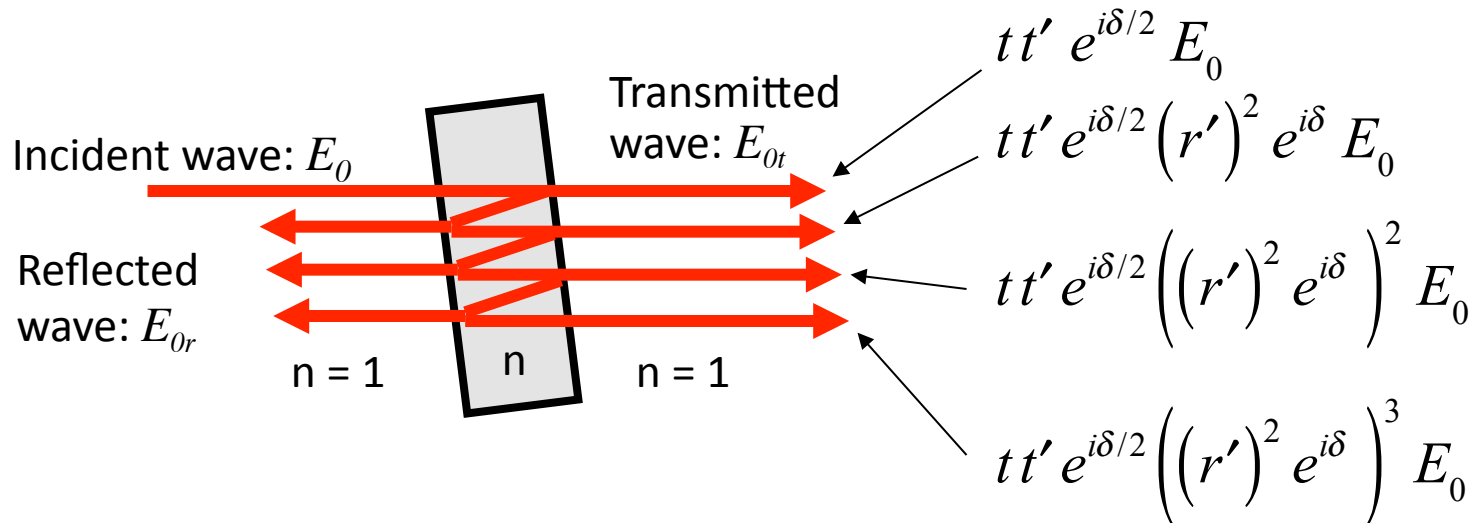
A Fabry-Perot interferometer is a pair of **parallel** surfaces that reflect beams back and forth. An etalon is a type of Fabry-Perot etalon, and is a piece of glass with parallel sides. The transmitted wave is an infinite series of multiply reflected beams.



Linear systems approach to the FP

- As with any linear device, we can represent its action in either the temporal or frequency domain
 - Frequency domain: $H(\omega)$ = transfer function
 - Time domain: $h(t)$ = impulse response
- First we will start with the conventional approach:
 - Incident monochromatic plane wave
 - Calculate transmitted amplitude and phase for $H(\omega)$
- Then we should be able to calculate impulse response:
 - $h(t) = \text{FT}^{-1}\{ H(\omega) \}$

Calculation of the FP frequency response



r, t = reflection, transmission coefficients from air to glass
 r', t' = " " " from glass to air

δ = round-trip phase delay inside medium = $k_0(2 n L \cos \theta_t)$

$$\delta(\omega) = \omega \frac{2nL}{c} \cos \theta_t(\omega) \approx \omega \frac{2L}{c} \cos \theta_i \quad \text{for } n=1$$

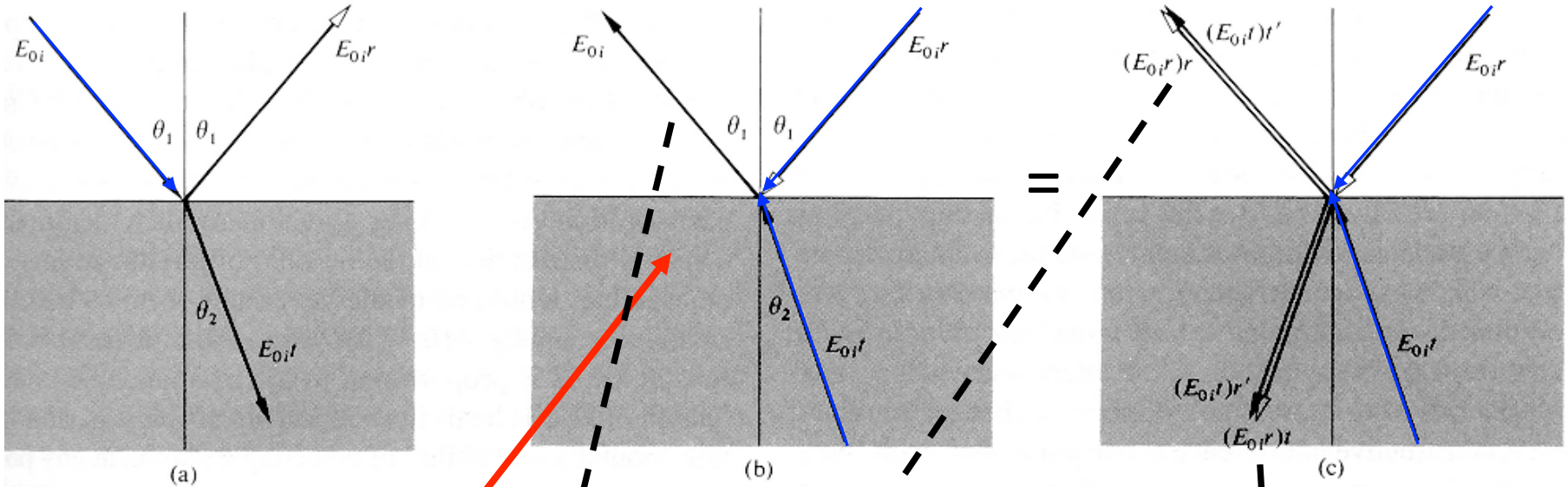
Transmitted wave:

$$E_{0t} = tt' e^{i\delta/2} E_0 \left(1 + (r')^2 e^{i\delta} + \left((r')^2 e^{i\delta} \right)^2 + \left((r')^2 e^{i\delta} \right)^3 + \dots \right)$$

Reflected wave:

$$E_{0r} = rE_0 + tt'r'e^{i\delta} E_0 + tt'r' \left((r')^2 e^{i\delta} \right)^2 E_0 + \dots$$

Stokes relations for reflection and transmission



“Time reversal:”
Same amplitudes,
reversed propagation
direction

$$E_{oi} = (E_{oi}r)r + (E_{oi}t)t'$$

$$\therefore tt' = 1 - r^2$$

$$(E_{oi}t)r' + (E_{oi}r)t = 0$$

$$\therefore r' = -r$$

Notes:

- relations apply to angles connected by Snell's Law
- true for any polarization, but not TIR
- convention for which interface experiences a sign change can vary

Fabry-Perot transfer function

Stokes'
relations

$$r' = -r$$

$$r'^2 = r^2$$

$$tt' = 1 - r^2$$

The transmitted wave field is:

$$E_{0t} = tt'e^{i\delta/2} E_0 \left(1 + (r')^2 e^{i\delta} + \left((r')^2 e^{i\delta} \right)^2 + \left((r')^2 e^{i\delta} \right)^3 + \dots \right)$$

$$= tt'e^{i\delta/2} E_0 \left(1 + r^2 e^{i\delta} + \left(r^2 e^{i\delta} \right)^2 + \left(r^2 e^{i\delta} \right)^3 + \dots \right)$$

Perform sum over infinite series:

Let

$$x = r^2 e^{i\delta} \quad E_{0t} = tt'e^{i\delta/2} E_0 \sum_{m=0}^{\infty} \left(r^2 e^{i\delta} \right)^m = (1 - r^2) e^{i\delta/2} E_0 \sum_{m=0}^{\infty} x^m$$

$$\text{For } |x| < 1: \quad \sum_{m=0}^{\infty} x^m = 1 + x + x^2 + x^3 + \dots = (1 - x)^{-1}$$

$$\Rightarrow E_{0t} = E_0 \frac{(1 - r^2) e^{i\delta/2}}{1 - r^2 e^{i\delta}} = E_0(\omega) \frac{(1 - r^2) \exp \left[i\omega \frac{L}{c} \cos \theta_i \right]}{1 - r^2 \exp \left[i\omega \frac{2L}{c} \cos \theta_i \right]} \equiv E_0(\omega) H(\omega)$$

FP impulse response

- Simple case: $n = 1$, normal incidence

$$H(\omega) = \frac{(1-r^2) \exp\left[i\omega \frac{L}{c} \cos\theta_i\right]}{1-r^2 \exp\left[i\omega \frac{2L}{c} \cos\theta_i\right]} \rightarrow \frac{1-r^2}{1-r^2 e^{i\omega T_{RT}}}$$

Dropping common term:

$$e^{i\omega T_{RT}/2}$$

$$T_{RT} = 2L / c$$

- FT⁻¹ to get impulse response

$$H(\omega) = \frac{1-r^2}{1-r^2 e^{i\omega T_{RT}}} = (1-r^2) \sum_{m=0}^{\infty} (r^2 e^{i\omega T_{RT}})^m$$

$$h(t) = FT^{-1}\{H(\omega)\} = (1-r^2) \sum_{m=0}^{\infty} r^{2m} FT^{-1}\{e^{im\omega T_{RT}}\}$$

$$h(t) = (1-r^2) \sum_{m=0}^{\infty} r^{2m} \delta(t - mT_{RT})$$

FP impulse response in high reflectivity limit

- When the reflectivity is high, very little is transmitted through the output on each reflection

$$r^2 = R \quad \text{Power reflectivity}$$

Logarithmic cavity loss (single pass)

$$R^m = (1 - T)^m \approx (1 - mT) \approx e^{-2m\gamma}$$

$$\gamma = -\ln T = -\ln(1 - R)$$

- We can represent this as a time dependent loss function:

$$L(t) = e^{-t/\tau_c} \quad \text{Cavity lifetime:} \quad \tau_c = T_{RT} / 2\gamma$$

$$h(t) = (1 - r^2) \sum_{m=0}^{\infty} r^{2m} \delta(t - mT_{RT}) \rightarrow (1 - r^2) \Theta(t) e^{-t/\tau_c} \text{comb}(t / T_{RT})$$

$$\text{where } \text{comb}(t / T) \equiv \sum_{n=-\infty}^{\infty} \delta(t - nT)$$

Fabry-Perot power transmission

$$E_{0t} = E_0 \frac{1-r^2}{1-r^2 e^{i\delta}} e^{i\delta/2}$$

Power transmittance: $T \equiv \left| \frac{E_{0t}}{E_0} \right|^2 = \left| \frac{(1-r^2) e^{i\delta/2}}{1-r^2 e^{i\delta}} \right|^2 = \frac{(1-r^2)^2}{(1-r^2 e^{+i\delta})(1-r^2 e^{-i\delta})}$

$$= \left[\frac{(1-r^2)^2}{\{1+r^4-2r^2 \cos(\delta)\}} \right] = \left[\frac{(1-r^2)^2}{\{1+r^4-2r^2[1-2\sin^2(\delta/2)]\}} \right] = \left[\frac{(1-r^2)^2}{\{1-2r^2+r^4+4r^2 \sin^2(\delta/2)\}} \right]$$

Dividing numerator and denominator by $(1-r^2)^2$

$$T = \frac{1}{1+F \sin^2(\delta/2)}$$

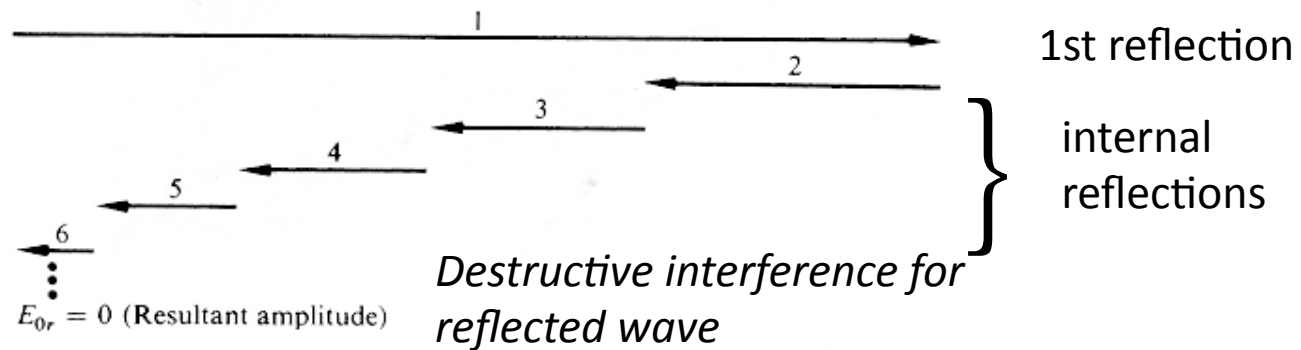
where: $F = \left[\frac{2r}{1-r^2} \right]^2$

Multiple-beam interference: simple limits

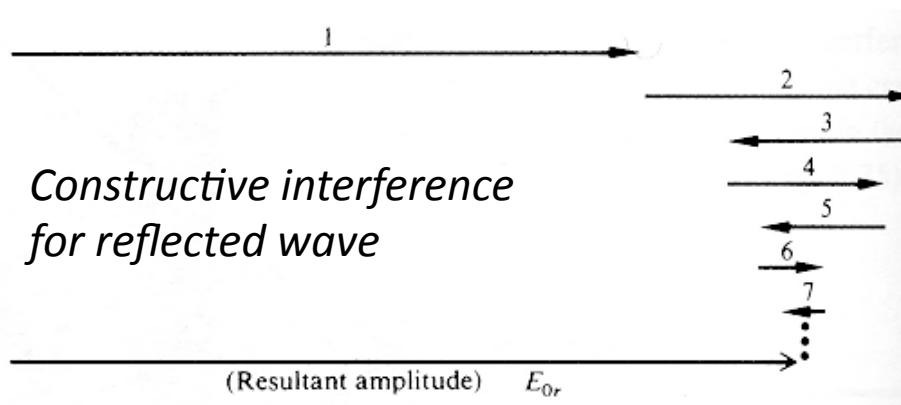
Reflected waves

$$T = \frac{1}{1 + F \sin^2(\delta / 2)}$$

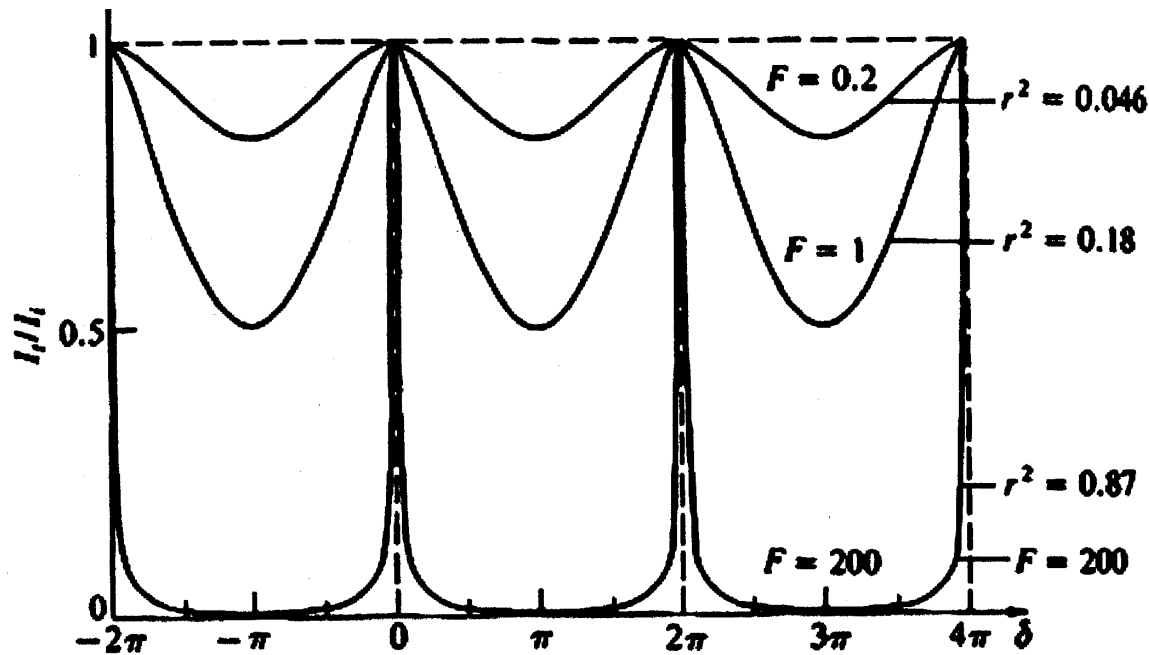
Full transmission: $\sin(\delta) = 0, \delta = 2\pi m$



Minimum transmission: $\sin(\delta) = 1, \delta = 2\pi(m + 1/2)$



Etalon transmittance vs. thickness, wavelength, or angle



$$T = \frac{1}{1 + F \sin^2(\delta / 2)}$$

Transmission max: $\sin(\delta / 2) = 0$, $d = 2\pi m$

$$\delta = \frac{\omega}{c} 2nL \cos[\theta_t] = 2\pi m$$

At normal incidence:

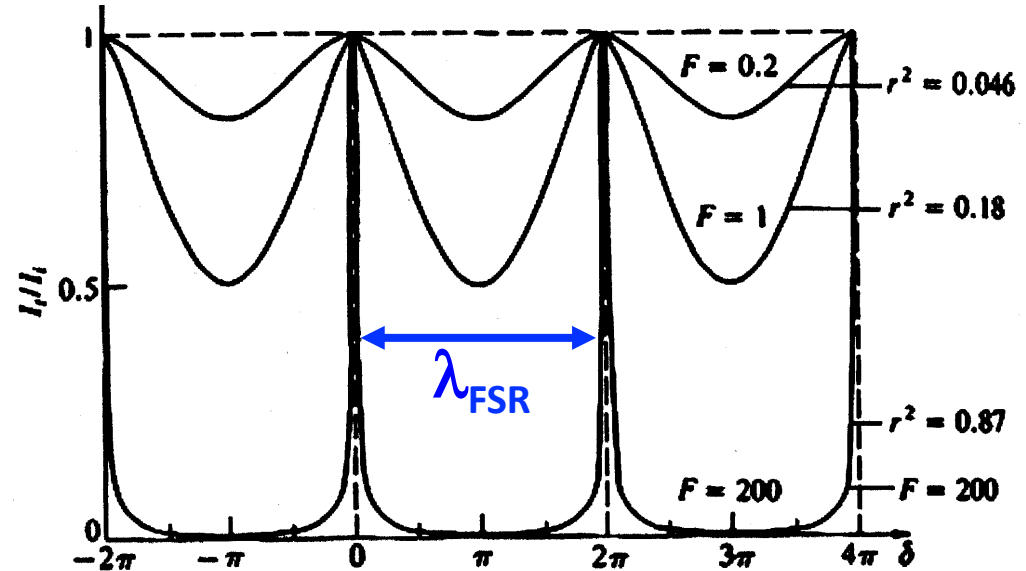
$$\lambda_m = \frac{2nL}{m} \quad \text{or} \quad nL = m \frac{\lambda_m}{2}$$

- The transmittance varies significantly with thickness or wavelength.
- We can also vary the incidence angle, which also affects δ .
- As the reflectance of each surface ($R=r^2$) approaches 1, the widths of the high-transmission regions become very narrow.

The Etalon Free Spectral Range

The Free Spectral Range is the wavelength range between transmission maxima.

$\lambda_{FSR} =$
Free Spectral
Range



For neighboring orders:

$$\frac{4\pi nL}{\lambda_1} - \frac{4\pi nL}{\lambda_2} = 2\pi \Rightarrow \frac{1}{\lambda_1} - \frac{1}{\lambda_2} = \frac{1}{2nL} = \frac{\lambda_2 - \lambda_1}{\lambda_1 \lambda_2}$$

$$\lambda_2 - \lambda_1 = \lambda_{FSR}$$

$$\lambda_2 \lambda_1 \approx \lambda^2$$

$$\lambda_{FSR} \approx \frac{\lambda^2}{2nL}$$

$$\frac{\lambda_{FSR}}{\lambda} = \frac{\lambda}{2nL} = \frac{\nu_{FSR}}{\nu}$$

$$\nu_{FSR} \approx \frac{c}{2nL}$$

1/(round trip time)

Etalon Linewidth

The **Linewidth** δ_{LW} is a transmittance peak's full-width-half-max (FWHM).

$$T = \frac{1}{1 + F \sin^2(\delta / 2)}$$

A maximum is where $\delta / 2 \approx \pi + \delta' / 2$ $\sin^2(\delta / 2) \approx \delta' / 2$

Under these conditions (near resonance),

$$T = \frac{1}{1 + F \delta'^2 / 4}$$

This is a Lorentzian profile, with FWHM at:

$$\frac{F}{4} \left(\frac{\delta_{LW}}{2} \right)^2 = 1 \quad \Rightarrow \quad \delta_{LW} \approx 4 / \sqrt{F}$$

This transmission linewidth corresponds to the minimum resolvable wavelength.

Etalon Finesse

The Finesse, \mathfrak{F} , is the ratio of the Free Spectral Range and the Linewidth:

$$\mathfrak{F} \equiv \frac{\delta_{FSR}}{\delta_{FW}} = \frac{2\pi}{4/\sqrt{F}} = \frac{\pi\sqrt{F}}{2}$$

$\delta = 2\pi$ corresponds to one FSR

Using:
$$F = \left[\frac{2r}{1-r^2} \right]^2$$

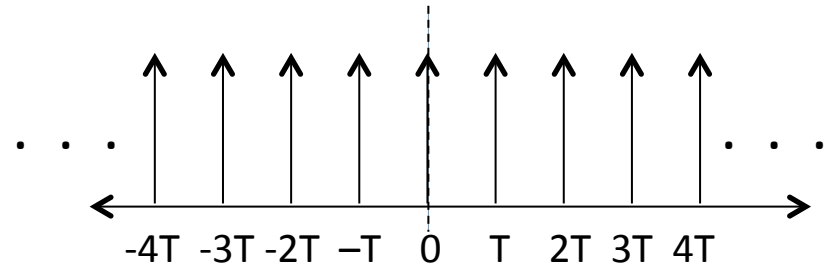
$$\mathfrak{F} = \frac{\pi}{1-r^2} \quad \text{taking } r \approx 1$$

The Finesse is the number of wavelengths the interferometer can resolve.

Comb function

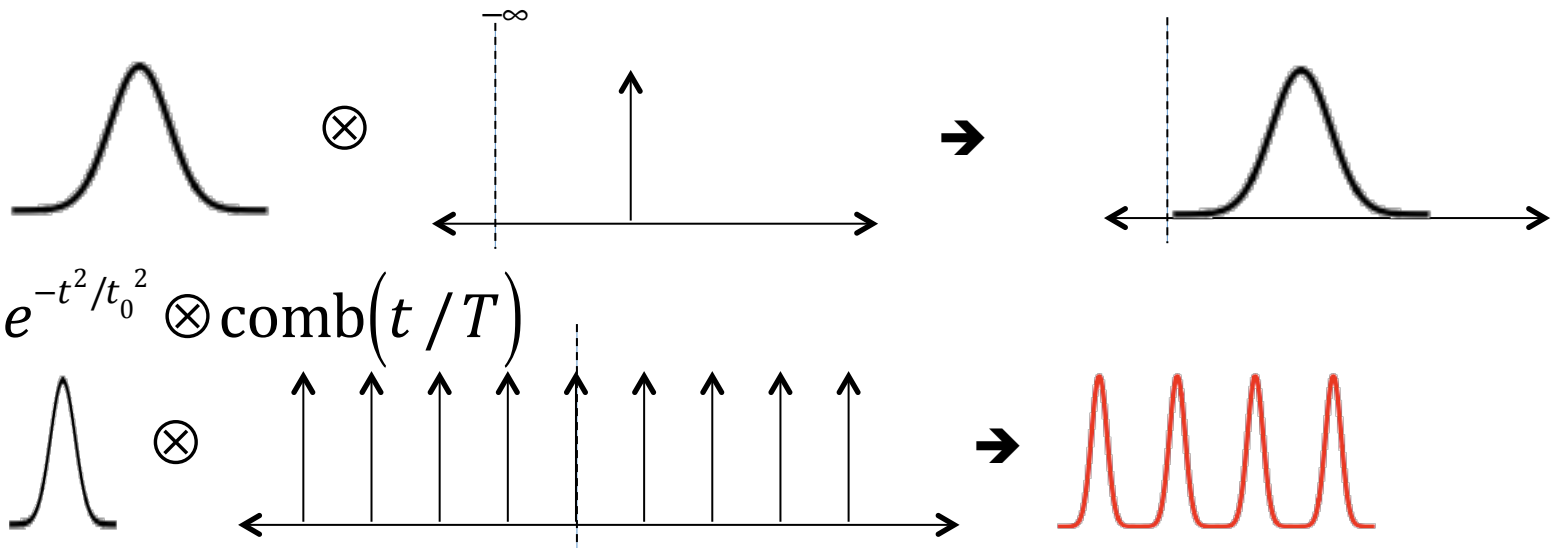
- Define the comb function

$$\text{comb}(t/T) \equiv \sum_{n=-\infty}^{\infty} \delta(t - nT)$$



- A pulse train can be written as a convolution

$$f(t) \otimes \delta(t - T) = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} f(t - t') \delta(t' - T) dt' = f(t - T)$$



Array theorem: FT of comb()

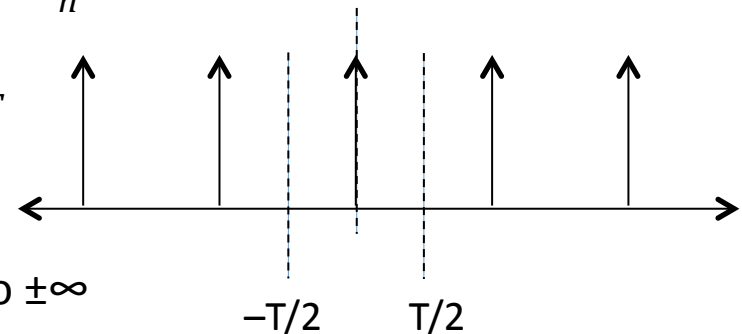
- Basic FT is straightforward:

$$f(t) = \text{comb}(t/T) \equiv \sum_{n=-\infty}^{\infty} \delta(t - nT) \quad F(\omega) = \sum_{n=-\infty}^{\infty} FT\{\delta(t - nT)\} = \sum_{n=-\infty}^{\infty} e^{i\omega nT}$$

- This is actually a comb function also
- Since comb() is a periodic function (period T), we can write as a Fourier series:

$$f(t) = \sum_n c_n e^{i2\pi nt/T}$$

$$c_n = \frac{1}{T} \int_{-T/2}^{T/2} f(t) e^{-i2\pi nt/T} dt = \frac{1}{T} \int_{-T/2}^{T/2} \delta(t) e^{-i2\pi nt/T} dt$$



Integrate over one period, but we can extend integral to $\pm\infty$

$$c_n = \frac{1}{T} \quad \therefore \text{comb}(t/T) = \frac{1}{T} \sum_{n=-\infty}^{\infty} e^{i2\pi nt/T}$$

Array theorem (cont)

- Now take FT:

$$f(t) = \text{comb}(t/T) = \frac{1}{T} \sum_{n=-\infty}^{\infty} e^{2\pi n t / T}$$

$$F(\omega) = \frac{1}{T} \sum_{n=-\infty}^{\infty} FT\left\{e^{2\pi n t / T}\right\} = \frac{1}{T} \sum_{n=-\infty}^{\infty} 2\pi \delta\left(\omega + \frac{2\pi n}{T}\right)$$

$$F(\omega) = \frac{2\pi}{T} \text{comb}\left(\frac{\omega}{2\pi/T}\right)$$

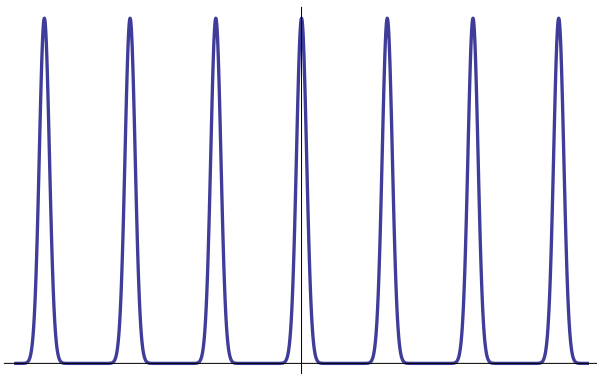
- So $FT\{\text{comb}\} = \text{comb}$
 - Frequency spacing $\Delta\omega = 2\pi/T$ or $\Delta\nu = 1/T$

Spectrum of a pulse train

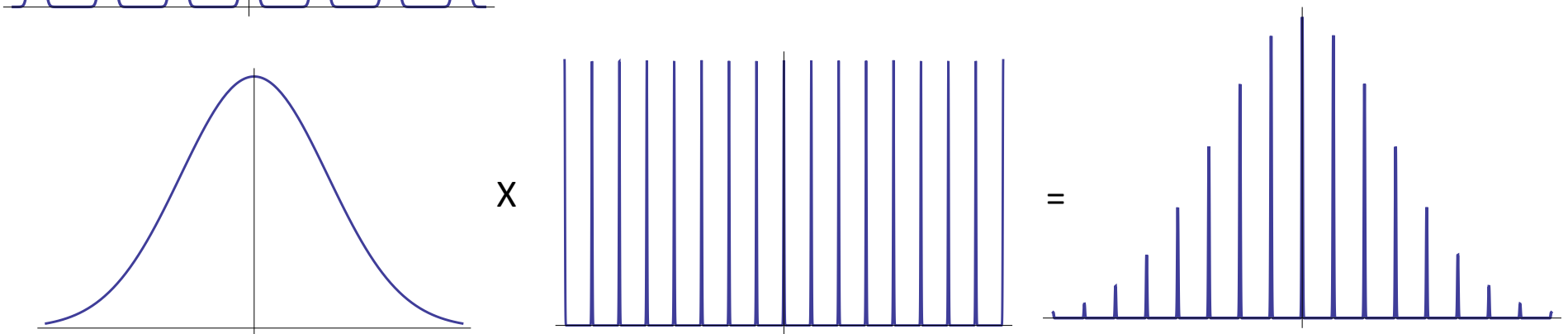
- Gain envelope on longitudinal mode spectrum

$$e^{-t^2/t_0^2} \otimes \text{comb}(t/T)$$

$$FT \left\{ e^{-t^2/t_0^2} \otimes \text{comb}(t/T) \right\} \\ = e^{-t_0^2 \omega^2 / 4} \text{comb}(\omega / \Delta\omega)$$

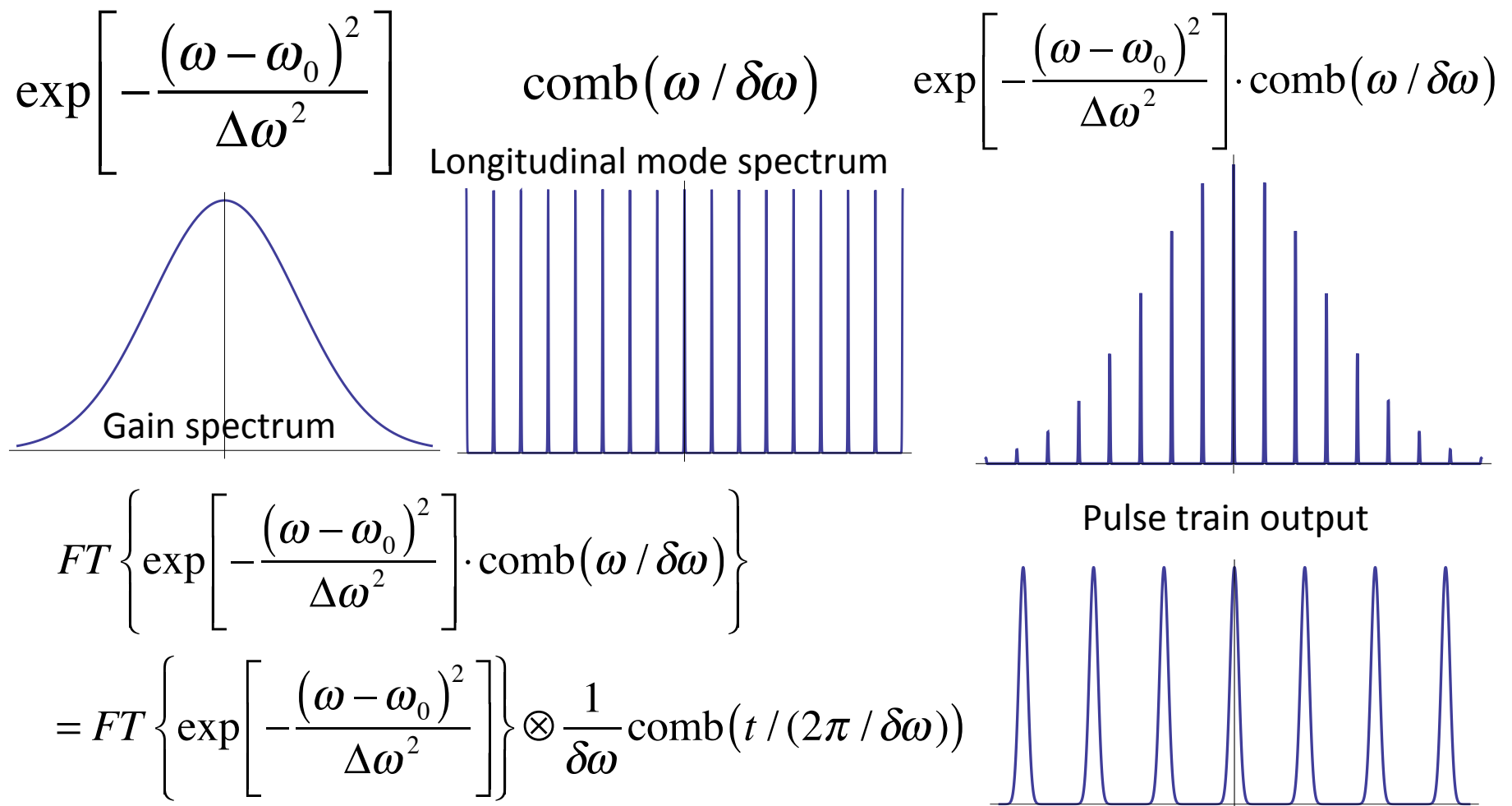


T is pulse spacing = round trip time in laser resonator
 $\Delta\nu = 1/T$ = spacing of peaks in frequency
 = longitudinal mode spectrum



Spectrum of a pulse train

- Reverse reasoning: multiply gain envelope on longitudinal mode spectrum



Another calculation of the transfer function

- With this low cavity loss representation of the impulse response, FT to get to $H(\omega)$

$$h(t) = (1 - r^2) \Theta(t) e^{-t/\tau_c} \text{comb}(t / T_{RT}) = (1 - r^2) f(t) g(t)$$

$$H(\omega) = FT \{ h(t) \} = (1 - r^2) \frac{1}{2\pi} F(\omega) \otimes G(\omega)$$

$$F(\omega) = \int_0^{\infty} e^{-t/\tau_c} e^{i\omega t} dt = \frac{e^{-t/\tau_c + i\omega t}}{-1/\tau_c + i\omega} \Big|_0^{\infty} = \frac{1}{1/\tau_c - i\omega} \quad \text{Complex Lorentzian}$$

$$G(\omega) = FT \{ \text{comb}(t / T_{RT}) \} = \frac{2\pi}{T_{RT}} \text{comb} \left(\frac{\omega}{2\pi / T_{RT}} \right)$$