

Waves at Higher Frequency - Dispersion

$$\nabla \cdot \mathbf{E} = \rho_{\text{mat}}$$

$$\nabla \times \mathbf{B} = \frac{\mathbf{j}_{\text{mat}}}{c} + \frac{1}{c} \partial_t \mathbf{E}$$

$$\nabla \cdot \mathbf{B} = 0$$

$$\nabla \times \mathbf{E} = -\frac{1}{c} \partial_t \mathbf{B}$$

Generally have been assuming $\omega \ll \frac{1}{\tau_{\text{micro}}}$

$$k \ll \frac{1}{l_{\text{micro}}} \quad \text{or} \quad \lambda \gg l_{\text{micro}}$$

Certainly this is far from clear in the optical range

$$h\omega = hc \frac{\omega}{c} = hc \frac{2\pi}{\lambda}$$

$$= 197 \text{ eV} \cdot \text{nm} \cdot \frac{2\pi}{600 \text{ nm}}$$

for $\lambda = 600 \text{ nm}$

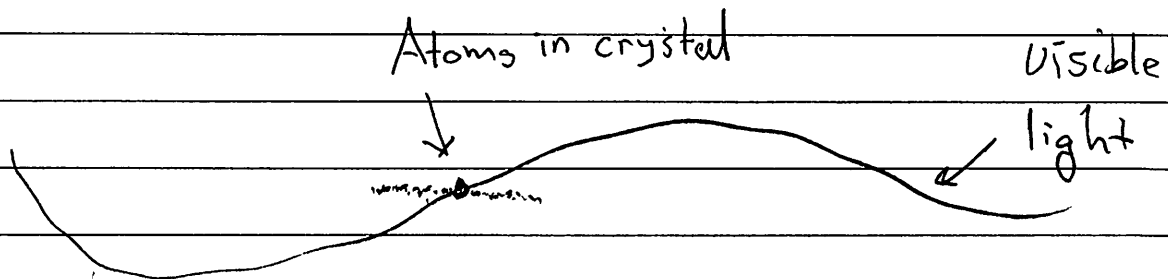
$$h\omega = 2.0 \text{ eV} \quad \text{of order atomic energies}$$

However, note

$$\lambda \sim 600 \text{ nm} \sim 6000 \text{ \AA}$$

That $\lambda \gg$ atomic sizes $\sim 0.5 \text{ \AA}$

So we can still expand the current in spatial gradients but need



to consider the atomic response times.

$$\nabla \cdot E = \rho_{\text{mat}}(t)$$

$$\nabla \times B = \frac{j_{\text{mat}}(t)}{c} + \frac{1}{c} \partial_t E$$

$$\nabla \cdot B = 0$$

$$\nabla \times E = -\frac{1}{c} \partial_t B$$

What is j_{mat} ?

Linear Response for $\vec{j}_{\text{mat}}(t)$

In general:

- $\vec{j}(t, x)$ Depends on the fields
Work in a linear approximation

Then the most general form involving no derivatives is

$$\vec{j}(t) = \int dt \underbrace{\sigma(t-t')}_{\text{response function}} \vec{E}(t') + \text{spatial gradients}$$

Clearly for a causal system, $\vec{j}(t)$ depends on $E(t')$ for $t' < t$. Thus at minimum

$$\sigma(t) = 0 \quad \text{for } t < 0$$

Then in frequency space, since the fourier transform of a convolution is a product

$$\vec{j}(\omega) = \sigma(\omega) \vec{E}(\omega)$$

frequency dependent conductivity

General Expectations for $\sigma(\omega)$:

(1) For a conductor, $\vec{j} = \sigma \vec{E}$.

for $\omega \ll 1/\tau_{\text{micro}}$. And thus

$\sigma(\omega) \approx \sigma_0$ at small frequencies.

(2) For an insulator

$\vec{j} = \chi_e \vec{P}$ at small frequencies

$$\vec{j}(\omega) \approx -i\omega \vec{P}$$

$\vec{j}(\omega) \approx -i\omega \chi_e \vec{E}$ at small frequencies

Thus we sometimes define for insulators

$$\sigma(\omega) \equiv -i\omega \chi_e(\omega)$$

and $\sigma(\omega) \vec{E}(\omega) \equiv -i\omega \vec{P}(\omega)$

Maxwell Eqs @ Dispersion

Can continue and add the first derivatives:

$$\mathbf{j}(\omega) = -i\omega \chi_e(\omega) \vec{E}(\omega) + c \chi_m^B(\omega) \nabla \times \mathbf{B}(\omega)$$

Then from $\partial_t \rho + \nabla \cdot \mathbf{j} = 0$ $\rho(\omega) = \nabla \cdot \mathbf{j} / -i\omega$
we have:

$$\rho(\omega) = -\chi_e(\omega) \nabla \cdot \mathbf{E}$$

Thus the only difference between this and before is that now χ_e and χ_m are functions of ω , always complex fcn's.

Find

$$\uparrow \quad \epsilon(\omega) \nabla \cdot \mathbf{E} = 0$$

$$\nabla \times \mathbf{B} = \frac{\epsilon(\omega) \mu(\omega)}{c^2} (-i\omega \mathbf{E})$$

$$\nabla \cdot \mathbf{B} = 0$$

$$\downarrow \quad \nabla \times \mathbf{E} = +i\omega \frac{\mathbf{B}}{c}$$

Same as before but now $\epsilon(\omega)$ is a function of ω .

Maxwell Eqs. @ Dispersion pg. 2

Look for plane wave solutions

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

Then:

$$\epsilon(\omega) \vec{k} \cdot \vec{E}_0 = 0 \iff E_0 \text{ is transverse}$$

unless $\epsilon(\omega) = 0$

$$\vec{k} \times \vec{B}_0 = \epsilon \mu \frac{(-\omega E_0)}{c^2}$$

$$\vec{k} \cdot \vec{E}_0 = 0$$

$$\vec{k} \cdot \vec{B}_0 = 0$$

$$\vec{k} \times \vec{E}_0 = \frac{\omega}{c} \vec{B}_0$$

Transverse modes: $\vec{E}_0 \cdot \vec{k} = 0$

$$\vec{k} \times (\vec{k} \times \vec{E}_0) = \frac{\omega}{c} \vec{k} \times \vec{B}_0$$

$$\vec{k} (\vec{k} \cdot \vec{E}_0) - k^2 \vec{E}_0 = -\frac{\omega^2}{c^2} \epsilon(\omega) \mu(\omega) \vec{E}_0$$

$$k^2 \vec{E}_0 = \frac{\omega^2}{c^2} \epsilon(\omega) \mu(\omega) \vec{E}_0$$

Determines

$$k^2 = \frac{\omega^2}{c^2} n^2(\omega)$$

complex and
frequency dep

$$n^2(\omega) = \epsilon(\omega) \mu(\omega)$$

↑ index of refraction

Propagation of Waves in Dispersive Medium

- The real part of $\epsilon(\omega)$ can be interpreted as the index of refraction
- The imaginary part is absorption

To see this set $\mu=1$, then the index of refraction is complex

$$n = [\text{Re } n] + i[\text{Im } n] = \sqrt{\epsilon} \approx \sqrt{\text{Re } \epsilon} \left(1 + i \frac{\text{Im } \epsilon}{2 \text{Re } \epsilon} \right)$$

Then looking at the Helmholtz equation:

$$\left[\nabla^2 + \left(\frac{\omega n}{c} \right)^2 \right] E_T = 0$$

with a trial solution $E_T = A e^{iKx}$,
we see that:

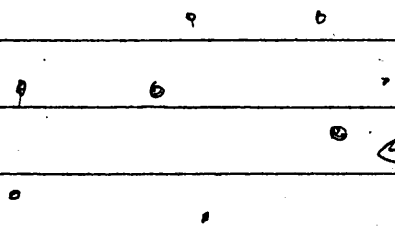
$$-K^2 + \left(\frac{\omega n}{c} \right)^2 = 0 \quad K = \frac{\omega}{c} (\text{Re } n + i \text{Im } n)$$

And then

$$E_T \approx A e^{i \frac{\omega [\text{Re } n]}{c} x} e^{-\frac{\omega [\text{Im } n]}{c} x}$$

Simple model for $\sigma(\omega)$ for a dielectric:

Lets go back and revive the oscillator model



← Atoms electrons harmonically bound to protons

$$m \frac{d^2x}{dt^2} + m\gamma \frac{dx}{dt} + m\omega_0^2 x = eE e^{-i\omega t}$$

Find $x = x_\omega e^{-i\omega t}$

$$\left[-m\omega^2 - im\gamma\omega + m\omega_0^2 \right] x_\omega = eE_\omega$$

So

$$x_\omega = \frac{(e/m) E_\omega}{-\omega^2 + \omega_0^2 - i\omega\gamma}$$

And $j_\omega = eN(-i\omega)x_\omega$ $j = eNv(t)$

$$j_\omega = \frac{(Ne^2/m)}{-\omega^2 + \omega_0^2 - i\omega\gamma} (-i\omega E)$$

Lorentz model for Dielectric

So



$$\chi_e(\omega) = \frac{(Ne^2/m)}{-\omega^2 + \omega_0^2 - i\omega\gamma}$$

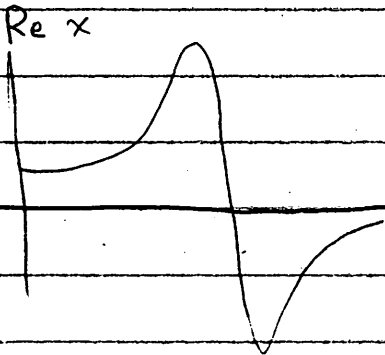
Find

$$\chi_e(\omega) = \text{Re } \chi_e + i \text{Im } \chi_e$$

$$\chi_e = \frac{(Ne^2/m) (\omega_0^2 - \omega^2)}{[(\omega^2 - \omega_0^2)^2 + (\omega\gamma)^2]}$$

$$+ \frac{(Ne^2/m) i\omega\gamma}{[(\omega^2 - \omega_0^2)^2 + (\omega\gamma)^2]}$$

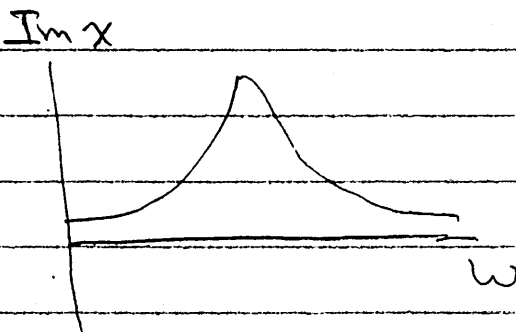
So



$$\epsilon \equiv 1 + \chi_e$$

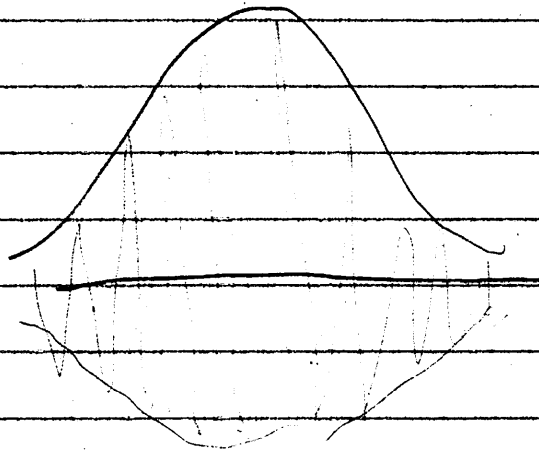
$$\text{Re } \epsilon(\omega) = 1 + \text{Re } \chi_e$$

$$\text{Im } \epsilon(\omega) = \text{Im } \chi_e$$



Wave Packets

- So far we have been considering individual plane waves. A general wave is a superposition of plane waves



The wave packet should also be a solution to the equations of motion, which means for every \vec{k} there is an $\omega(\vec{k})$. We will assume $\omega(\vec{k})$ real. In general $\omega(\vec{k}) = i\Gamma/2(\vec{k})$.

Then:

$$u(x, t) = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \frac{dk}{2\pi} A(k) e^{ikx - \omega(k)t}$$

The shape of the initial packet determines $A(k)$

$$u(x, 0) = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \frac{dk}{2\pi} A(k) e^{ikx} \Rightarrow A(k) = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} dx u(x, 0) e^{-ikx}$$

Wave packets pg. 2

Then the uncertainty relation says that

$$\Delta k \Delta x \geq \frac{1}{2}$$

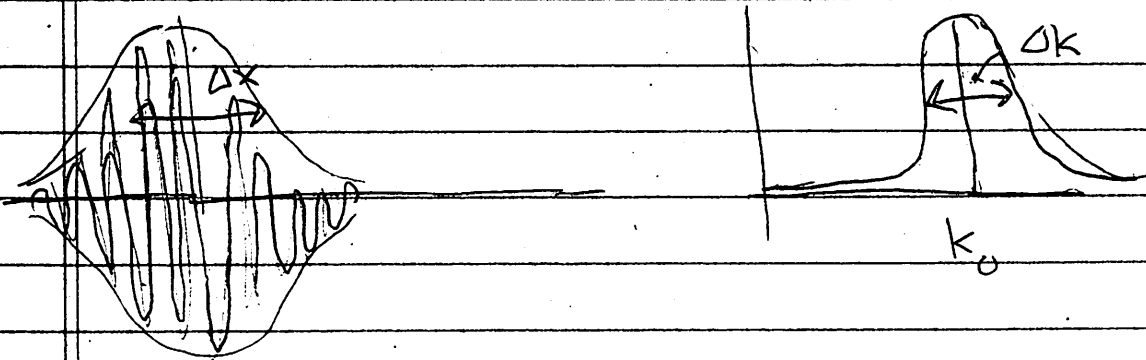
Where

$$(\Delta k)^2 = \int \frac{dk}{2\pi} |A(k)|^2 (k - \bar{k})^2$$

$$(\Delta x)^2 = \int dx |u(x, 0)|^2 (x - \bar{x})^2$$

For a wave shown:

$u(x)$



- The width $\Delta k \ll k_0$

Wave Packets (pg. 3)

Then

$$u(x,t) = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \frac{dk}{2\pi} A(k) e^{ikx - i\omega(k)t}$$

And we expand

$$\omega(k) \approx \omega(k_0) + \frac{d\omega}{dk} (k - k_0) + \dots$$

So

$$u(x,t) = \underbrace{e^{i\left[\frac{d\omega}{dk}(k_0)k_0 - \omega(k_0)\right]t}}_{\equiv \phi} \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \frac{dk}{2\pi} e^{ikx - \frac{d\omega}{dk}(k_0)kt}$$

$$u(x,t) = e^{i\phi_0 t} \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \frac{dk}{2\pi} e^{ik\left(x - \frac{d\omega}{dk}(k_0)t\right)}$$

$$u(x,t) = e^{i\phi_0 t} u\left(x - \frac{d\omega}{dk}(k_0)t\right)$$

Thus we see that apart from an irrelevant phase the wave packet travels with a speed given by

$$V_g = \left. \frac{d\omega}{dk} \right|_{k_0}$$

Wave packets pg. 4

For

$$\omega(k) = \frac{ck}{n(k)}$$

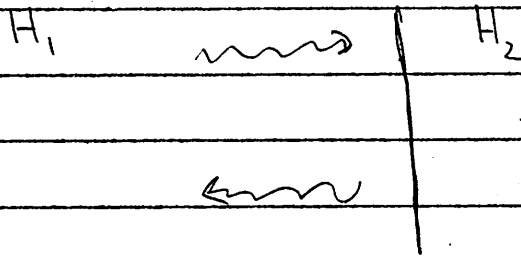
$$\frac{d\omega}{dk} = \frac{c}{n(k)} - \frac{ck}{n^2} \frac{dn}{dk} \frac{d\omega}{dk}$$

$$\text{So } \frac{d\omega}{dk} = \frac{c/n(\omega)}{1 + \frac{\omega}{n} \frac{dn}{d\omega}}$$

$$\frac{d\omega}{dk} = \frac{c}{n(\omega) + dn/d\omega}$$

Problem

- When analyzing the reflection of light off metal:



We showed that:

$$H_1 = H_I e^{ikz - i\omega t} + H_R e^{-ikz - i\omega t}$$

where

$$\frac{H_R}{H_I} = 1 - \sqrt{\frac{4\mu\omega}{\sigma}} \frac{1-i}{\sqrt{2}}$$

$$= 1 - \sqrt{\frac{2\mu\omega}{\sigma}} + i \sqrt{\frac{2\mu\omega}{\sigma}}$$

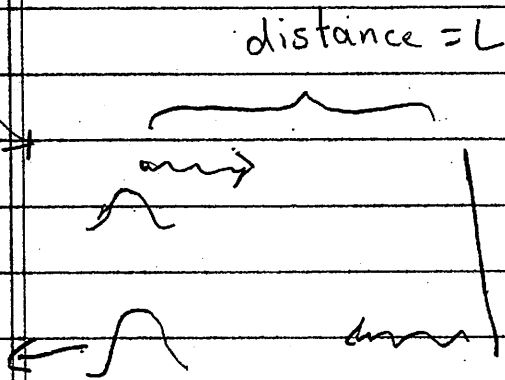
$$\approx \left(1 - \sqrt{\frac{2\mu\omega}{\sigma}}\right) e^{i\phi}$$

- where $\tan\phi \approx \sin\phi \approx \phi = \sqrt{\frac{2\mu\omega}{\sigma}}$

Now study a wave packet propagating into the metal.

- Show that the phase is irrelevant for the reflection coefficient
- But, show that the phase causes to a time delay between the naive (geometric optic) arrival time and actual arrival time of the reflected pulse. Compute the time delay.

• Interpret your result:



The time it takes before the pulse returns is

$$\Delta t = \frac{2L}{c} + \text{bit}$$

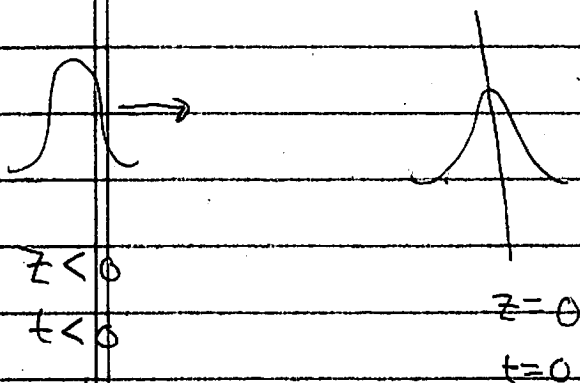
↑
determine this.

Solution:

The incoming wave packet has

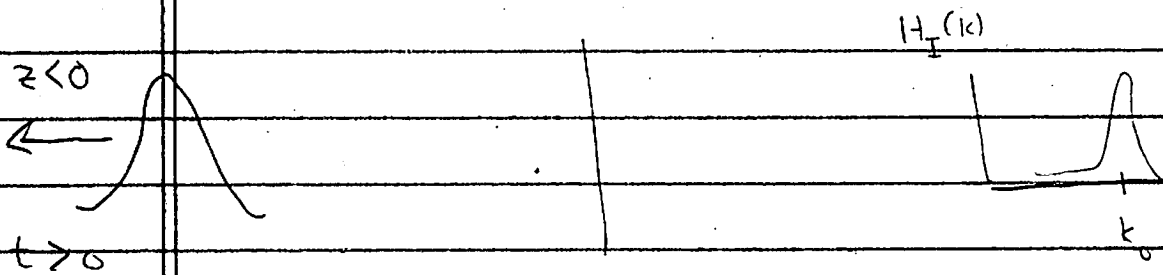
$$H_I(x,t) = \int \frac{dk}{2\pi} e^{ikz - i\omega t} H_I(k)$$

The phases are chosen so that the pulse hits the metal at $z=0$ and $t=0$



$$H_I^0 \equiv H_I(x,0) = \int \frac{dk}{2\pi} H_I(k) e^{ikx}$$

= gaussian



$$\text{Then } H_R(x,t) = \int \frac{dk}{2\pi} e^{-ikz - i\omega t} H_I(k) r(k) e^{i\phi(k)}$$

where

$$r(k) = 1 - \sqrt{\frac{2\mu\omega}{\sigma}} \quad \phi(k) = \sqrt{\frac{2\mu\omega}{\sigma}}$$