

Problem 1. A conducting slab

A plane polarized electromagnetic wave $\mathbf{E} = \mathbf{E}_I e^{ikz - \omega t}$ is incident normally on a flat uniform sheet of an *excellent* conductor ($\sigma \gg \omega$) having thickness D . Assume that in space and in the conducting sheet $\mu = \epsilon = 1$, discuss the reflection and transmission of the incident wave.

- (a) Show that the amplitudes of the reflected and transmitted waves, correct to first order in $(\omega/\sigma)^{1/2}$, are:

$$\frac{E_R}{E_I} = \frac{-(1 - e^{-2\lambda})}{(1 - e^{-2\lambda}) + \gamma(1 + e^{-2\lambda})} \quad (1)$$

$$\frac{E_T}{E_I} = \frac{2\gamma e^{-\lambda}}{(1 - e^{-2\lambda}) + \gamma(1 + e^{-2\lambda})} \quad (2)$$

where

$$\gamma = \sqrt{\frac{2\omega}{\sigma}}(1 - i) = \frac{\omega\delta}{c}(1 - i) \quad (3)$$

$$\lambda = (1 - i)D/\delta \quad (4)$$

and $\delta = \sqrt{2/\omega\mu\sigma}$ is the skin depth.

- (b) Verify that for zero thickness and infinite skin depth you obtain the proper limiting results.
- (c) **Optional:** Show that, except for sheets of very small thickness, the transmission coefficient is

$$T = \frac{8(\text{Re}\gamma)^2 e^{-2D/\delta}}{1 - 2e^{-2D/\delta} \cos(2D/\delta) + e^{-4D/\delta}} \quad (5)$$

Sketch $\log T$ as a function of D/δ , assuming $\text{Re}\gamma = 10^{-2}$. Define “very small thickness”.

Problem 2. In class problems

- (a) Consider an incoming plane wave of light propagating in vacuum

$$\mathbf{E}_I = E_0 e^{ikz - i\omega t} \boldsymbol{\epsilon}. \quad (6)$$

The light is normally incident (i.e. with angle of incidence $\theta_I = 0$) upon a semi-infinite slab of dielectric with $\mu = 1$ and dielectric constant ϵ , which fills the half of space with $z > 0$. Use the reflection and transmission coefficients discussed in class to show that the (time-averaged) force per area on the front face of the dielectric is *away* from the dielectric (i.e. in the $-\hat{\mathbf{z}}$ direction) and is equal in magnitude to

$$\frac{|F^z|}{A} = \frac{1}{2} E_0^2 \left(\frac{n-1}{n+1} \right) \quad (7)$$

- (b) Consider an incoming plane wave of light propagating in vacuum

$$\mathbf{E}_I = E_0 e^{ikz - i\omega t} \boldsymbol{\epsilon}. \quad (8)$$

The light is normally incident upon a slab of metal with conductivity in σ and $\mu = \epsilon = 1$. In class, we evaluated the (time-averaged) Poynting vector just inside the metal and computed the (time-averaged) energy flux into the metal per area per time:

$$\langle \mathbf{S} \cdot \mathbf{n} \rangle = c \sqrt{\frac{2\omega}{\sigma}} |E_0|^2 \quad (9)$$

Show that this energy flux is equal to (time-averaged) Joule heating in the metal. (Hint: for ohmic material the energy dissipated as heat per volume per time is $\mathbf{E} \cdot \mathbf{J}$ – I understand this result as $q\mathbf{E} \cdot \mathbf{v}/\Delta V = (\text{force} \times \text{velcoity})/(\text{Volume}).$)

Problem 3. Snell's law in a crystal

Consider light of frequency ω in vacuum incident upon a uniform dielectric material filling the space $y > 0$. The light is polarized in plane (as shown below) and has incident angle θ_1 . The dielectric material has uniform permittivity ϵ and $\mu = 1$.

- (a) Derive Snell's law from the boundary conditions of electrodynamics.

Consider light propagating in a crystal with $\mu = 1$ and dielectric tensor ϵ_{ij} . Along the principal crystalline axes ϵ_{ij} is given by

$$\epsilon_{ij} = \begin{pmatrix} \epsilon_1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & \epsilon_2 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & \epsilon_3 \end{pmatrix}, \quad (10)$$

and thus, along the axes $D_i = \epsilon_i E_i$ (no sum over i).

- (b) Starting directly from the Maxwell equations in the dielectric medium, show that the frequency and wave numbers of the plane wave solutions $\mathbf{E}(t, \mathbf{r}) = \mathbf{E} e^{i\mathbf{k}\cdot\mathbf{r} - i\omega t}$ in the crystal are related by

$$\det \left(k_i k_j - k^2 \delta_{ij} + \frac{\omega^2 \epsilon_i}{c^2} \delta_{ij} \right) = 0 \quad (\text{no sum over } i). \quad (11)$$

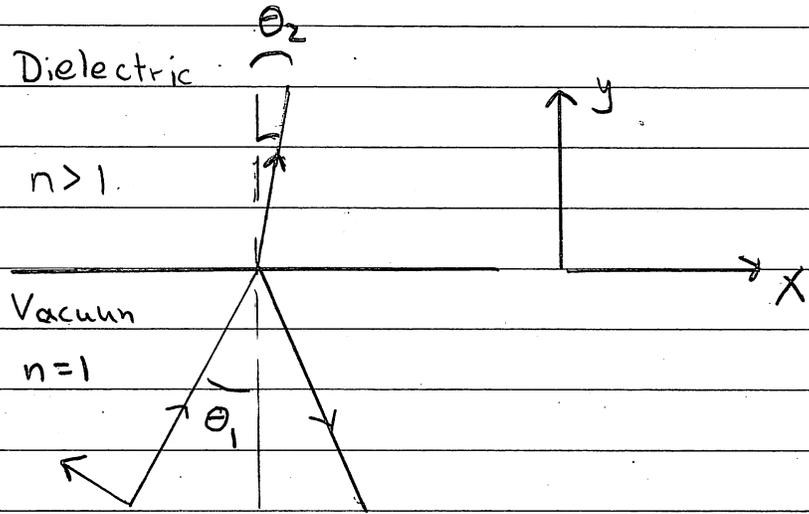
Now consider light of frequency ω in vacuum incident upon a dielectric crystal. The light has incident angle θ_1 , and propagates in the $x - y$ plane, *i.e.* $k_z = 0$. The incident light is also polarized in $x - y$ plane, and the axes of the dielectric crystal are aligned with the x, y, z axes (see below). Only the y axis of the crystal has a slightly larger dielectric constant than the remaining two axes,

$$\epsilon_{ij} = \begin{pmatrix} \epsilon & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & \epsilon(1 + \delta) & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & \epsilon \end{pmatrix}, \quad (12)$$

with $\delta \ll 1$.

- (c) Determine angle of refraction (or $\sin \theta_2$) including the first order in δ correction to Snell's law.
- (d) Is the refracted angle smaller or larger than in the isotropic case? Explain physically. Does the angular dependence of your correction makes physical sense? Explain physically.
- (e) If the incident light is polarized along the z axis (out of the $x - y$ plane), what is the deviation from Snell's law? Explain physically.

Part a



Part c

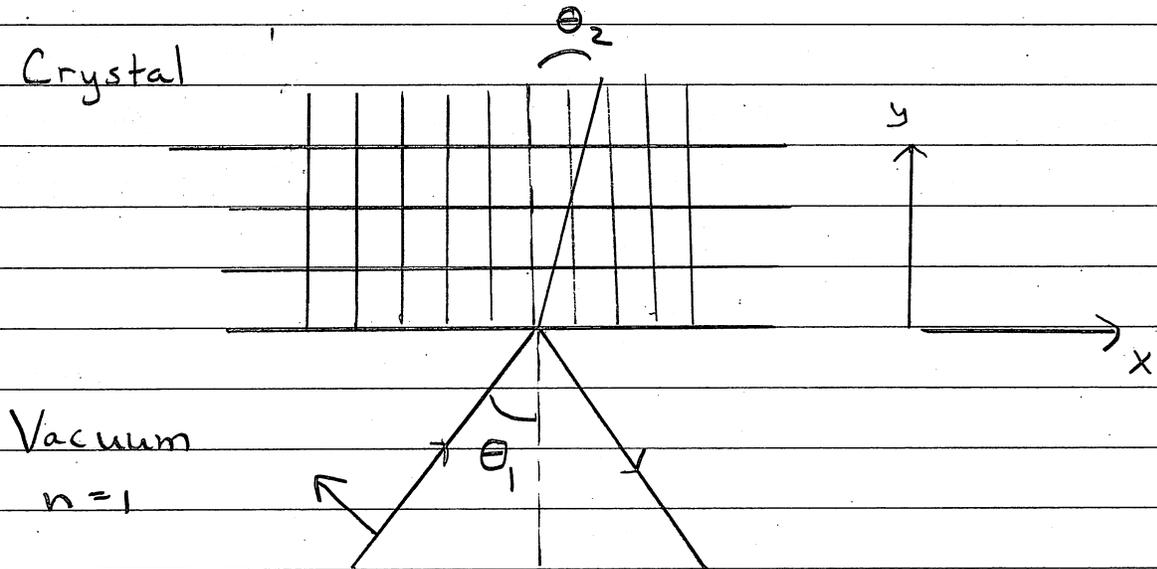
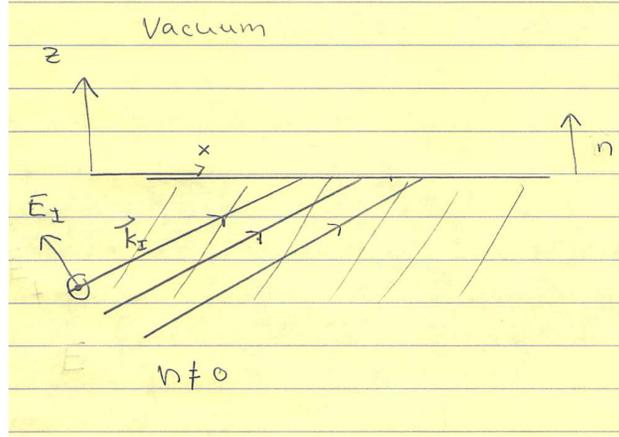


Figure 1: Snell's law geometry

Problem 4. Analysis of the Good-Hänchen effect

A “ribbon” beam¹ of in plane polarized radiation of wavelength λ is totally internally reflected at a plane boundary between a non-permeable (i.e. $\mu = 1$) dielectric media with index of refraction n and vacuum (see below). The critical angle for total internal reflection is θ_I^0 , where $\sin \theta_I^0 = 1/n$. First assume that the incident wave takes the form $\mathbf{E}(t, \mathbf{r}) = \mathbf{E}_I e^{i\mathbf{k} \cdot \mathbf{r} - i\omega t}$ of a pure plane wave polarized in plane and study the transmitted and reflected waves.



- (a) Starting from the Maxwell equations, show that for $z > 0$ (i.e. in vacuum) the electric field takes the form:

$$\mathbf{E}_2(x, z) = \mathbf{E}_2 e^{-\frac{\omega}{c}(\sqrt{n^2 \sin^2 \theta_I^0 - 1})z} e^{i\frac{\omega n \sin \theta_I^0}{c}x} \quad (13)$$

- (b) Starting from the Maxwell equations, show that for $\theta_I > \theta_I^0$ the ratio of the reflected amplitude to the incident amplitude is a pure phase

$$\frac{E_R}{E_I} = e^{i\phi(\theta_I, \theta_I^0)} \quad (14)$$

and determine the phase angle. Thus the reflection coefficient $R = |E_R/E_I|^2 = 1$. However, phase has consequences.

- (c) Show that for a monochromatic (i.e. constant $\omega = ck$) ribbon beam of radiation in the z direction with a transverse electric field amplitude, $E(x)e^{ik_z z - i\omega t}$, where $E(x)$ is smooth and finite in the transverse extent (but many wavelengths broad), the lowest order approximation in terms of plane waves is

$$\mathbf{E}(x, z, t) = \epsilon \int \frac{d\kappa}{(2\pi)} A(\kappa) e^{i\kappa x + ikz - i\omega t} \quad (15)$$

where $k = \omega/c$. Thus, the finite beam consists of a sum plane waves with a small range of angles of incidence, centered around the geometrical optics value.

¹By a “ribbon” beam I mean a beam which has finite transverse extent in the direction perpendicular \mathbf{k}_I lying in the x - z plane as drawn above. But, the beam is infinite in extent in the y direction (coming out of page in the figure above). Thus the incoming and outgoing “ribbon” beams form a kind of wedge.

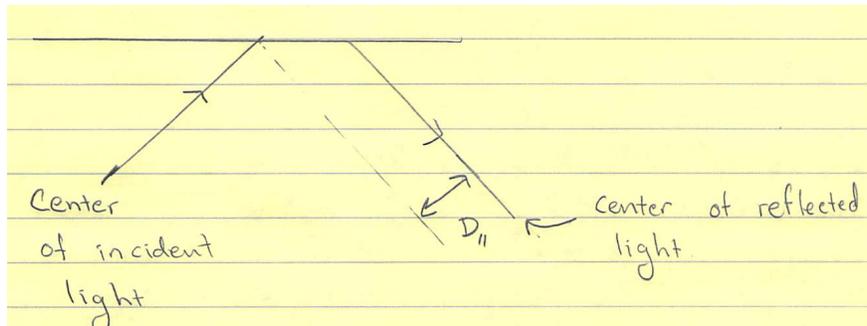
- (d) Consider a reflected ribbon beam and show that for $\theta_I > \theta_I^o$ the electric field can be expressed approximately as

$$\mathbf{E}_R = \boldsymbol{\epsilon}_R E(x'' - \delta x) e^{i\mathbf{k}_R \cdot \mathbf{r} - i\omega t + i\phi(\theta_I, \theta_I^o)} \quad (16)$$

where $\boldsymbol{\epsilon}_R$ is a polarization vector, x'' is the coordinate perpendicular to the reflected wave vector \mathbf{k}_R , and the displacement $\delta x = -\frac{1}{k} \frac{d\phi}{d\theta_I}$ is determined by phase shift.

- (e) Using the phase shift you computed, show that the lateral shift of the reflected in plane polarized beam is

$$D_{\parallel} = \frac{\lambda}{\pi} \frac{\sin \theta_I}{\sqrt{\sin^2 \theta_I - \sin^2 \theta_I^o}} \frac{\sin^2 \theta_I^o}{\sin \theta_I^2 - \cos \theta_I^2 \sin^2 \theta_I^o} \quad (17)$$



Problem 5. Reflection of a Gaussian Wave Packet Off a Metal Surface:

In class we showed that the amplitude reflection coefficient from a good conductor ($\omega \ll \sigma$) for a plane wave of wavenumber $k = \omega/c$ is

$$\frac{H_R(k)}{H_I(k)} = 1 - \sqrt{\frac{2\mu\omega}{\sigma}}(1 - i) \simeq \left(1 - \sqrt{\frac{2\mu\omega}{\sigma}}\right) e^{i\phi(\omega)}, \quad (18)$$

where the phase is for $\omega \ll \sigma$:

$$\phi(\omega) \simeq \sqrt{\frac{2\mu\omega}{\sigma}}. \quad (19)$$

Consider a Gaussian wave packet with average wave number k_o centered at $z = -L$ at time $t = -L/c$ which travels towards a metal plane located at $z = 0$ and reflects. Show that the time at which the center of the packet returns to $z = -L$ is given by

$$t = \frac{L}{c} + \frac{\mu\delta_o}{2c} \quad (20)$$

where the time delay is due to the phase shift $d\phi(\omega_o)/d\omega$, and $\delta_o = \sqrt{2c/\sigma\mu k_o}$ is the skin depth.