Physics 1C: Reflection & Refraction of Light

Monday, 27 April 2015





Reminders & Information

- Quiz #2 results...
- grading info now available on the TED course website: remember that quiz scores are out of 9 pts, participation out of 10
- note: my office hours will be on Wednesday, not today, this week
- if you want to do extra credit assignment, it's due Friday
- if you're interested: "CIRCUS: Science Under the Big Top" exhibition from Toronto will be at Fleet Science Center starting this Saturday

a quick note on citizen science

 CosmoQuest: Mars Mappers, Moon Mappers, Mercury Mappers, other projects... <u>http://cosmoquest.org/</u>



 Galaxy Zoo/Zooniverse: variety of projects including Snapshot Serengeti, Cell Slider, Old Weather...
 <u>http://galaxyzoo.org</u>, <u>http://www.zooniverse.org</u>





International Year of Light



Dual Nature of Light

- wave nature of light discovered in 17th century by Dutch physicist & astronomer, Christian Huygens
- light usually acts as an electromagnetic wave, but *in some instances* acts as a particle, such as with "gravitational lensing," which pulls photons around massive objects
- recent discovery by Danish physicist Lene Hau (Harvard): it's possible to slow or stop light – turning it into atomic waves and then back into light!







ray model in geometric optics

- "geometric optics": the study of the propagation of light
- a **ray**, or beam of light, is a straight line drawn along direction of propagation of the wave
- ray approximation: assume waves move through a medium in a straight line (in direction of its rays)



ray model in geometric optics

$\lambda \ll d$, ray model applies



wave under reflection

Reflection

"specular reflection" off a smooth surface







wave under reflection

"diffuse reflection" off a rough surface





law of reflection

- the law of reflection:
 angle of incidence (θ_i) =
 angle of reflection (θ_r)
- note that all angles are measured with respect to the "normal"

The incident ray, the reflected ray, and the normal all lie in the same plane, and $\theta'_1 = \theta_1$.



example of law of reflection

Two mirrors make an angle of 120° with each other. A ray is incident on mirror M_1 at an angle 65° to the normal. Find the direction of the ray after it is reflected from mirror M_2 . [Remember that $\theta_{i=}\theta_r$.]



example of law of reflection

Two mirrors make an angle of 120° with each other. A ray is incident on mirror M_1 at an angle 65° to the normal. Find the direction of the ray after it is reflected from mirror M_2 . [Remember that $\theta_{i=}\theta_r$.]

 $\delta = 90^{\circ} - 65^{\circ} = 25^{\circ}$

then $\gamma = 180^{\circ} - 120^{\circ} - \delta = 35^{\circ}$

then θ_2 must be 90°–35° = 55°



wave under refraction

- when a light ray encounters a boundary leading to another transparent medium, part of the energy is reflected and part enters the second medium
- the part that enters the second medium is bent at the boundary due to *refraction*



wave under refraction

- the part that enters the second medium is bent at the boundary due to *refraction*
- index of refraction: $n = c/v_{\text{medium}}$
- refracted ray is bent toward the normal because v₂<v₁, but its frequency remains constant
- angle of refraction θ₂ depends on the material and the angle of incidence θ₁

$$\frac{\sin \theta_2}{\sin \theta_1} = \frac{v_2}{v_1}$$

All rays and the normal lie in the same plane, and the refracted ray is bent toward the normal because $v_2 < v_1$.



wave under refraction

- index of refraction: $n = c/v_{\text{medium}}$
- light travels slower in a medium than in a vacuum, where c = 299,792,458 m/s
- note that *n*>1!
- some refraction indices... glass: n=1.52; water ice: 1.309; water: 1.333; room temperature air: 1.0003
- so when light enters a block of glass, v drops to 2.0×10⁸ m/s, and then its speed increases to its original value when it re-emerges into the air



example: index of refraction

- Red light travels from water (n=1.33) to air (n=1.00). When considering the light wave, which of the following is the *SAME* for the parts of the electromagnetic wave in water and the parts of the electromagnetic wave in air? [Recall that n = c/v_{medium}.]
 - A. frequency
 - B. wavelength
 - C. both frequency and wavelength
 - D. neither frequency nor wavelength

example: index of refraction

Red light travels from water (n=1.33) to air (n=1.00).
 When considering the light wave, which of the following is the *SAME* for the parts of the electromagnetic wave in water and the parts of the electromagnetic wave in air?
 [Recall that n = c/v_{medium}.]

A. frequency

when *n* increases, *v* decreases, and since $v = \lambda f$, that means λ decreases too: $\lambda_1 n_1 = \lambda_2 n_2$

refraction: Snell's Law
RefractionSnell's law: $n_1 \sin\theta_1 = n_2 \sin\theta_2$ Snell's law: $n_1 \sin\theta_1 = n_2 \sin\theta_2$

where all angles are measured with respect to permal



Snell's Law

"Snell's" law of refraction

n:
$$n_1 \sin \theta_1 = n_2 \sin \theta_2$$

named after Dutch astronomer Willebrord Snellius (17th cent.), it was first discovered by Arabic physicist Ibn Sahl in Baghdad in 10th cent.



example: refracted ray

Someone underwater shines a light toward the air. Let's determine the refracted ray...



 $n_1 \sin\theta_1 = n_2 \sin\theta_2$, $({}^{1}s{}^{33}s{}^{\circ}(1.33)s{}^{\circ}s{}^{-1}s{}^{0}(1.00)s{}^{\circ}s{}^{-1}(1.00)s{}^{\circ}s{}^{-1}(1.00)s{}^{\circ}s{}^{-1}(1.00)s{}^{\circ}s{}^{-1}s{}^{\circ}s{}^{\circ}s{}^{-1}s{}^{\circ}s{}^{-1}s{}^{\circ}s{}^{-1}s{}^{\circ}s{}^{-1}s{}^{\circ}s{}^{-1}s{}^{\circ}s{}^{-1}s{}^{\circ}s{}^{-1}s{}^{\circ}s{}^{\circ}s{}^{-1}s{}^{\circ}s{}^{\circ}s{}^{-1}s{}^{\circ}s{}^{\circ}s{}^{-1}s{}^{\circ}s{}^{\circ}s{}^{-1}s{}^{\circ}s{}^{\circ}s{}^{-1}s{}^{\circ}s{}^{\circ}s{}^{-1}s{}^{\circ}s{}^{\circ}s{}^{\circ}s{}^{-1}s{}^{\circ}s{}^{\circ}s{}^{\circ}s{}^{-1}s{}^{\circ}s{$

example: refracted ray

remember...

- high $n \rightarrow \text{low } n$: angle goes away from the normal
- low $n \rightarrow$ high n: angle goes toward the normal



another example of refracted ray

Someone underwater shines a light toward the air, but at a larger angle. Let's determine the refracted ray...



then $\sin\theta_2 = 1.15$, so $\theta_2 = ???$ this is *total internal reflection!*

total internal reflection

If the incident angle is larger than the critical angle θ_c , we have total internal reflection.

If the incident angle is smaller than the critical angle, refraction will occur.

 $\sin \theta_c = n_2/n_1$

REFRACTION REVIEW

index of refraction: $n = c/v_{medium}$ (and λ is modified too because $v = \lambda f$, but *f*=const.)

Snell's law: $n_1 \sin \theta_1 = n_2 \sin \theta_2$

total internal reflection: $\sin \theta_c = n_2/n_1$

A ray of light travels from air into the glass (n=1.50) prism shown below. The triangle is isosceles with the top angle=20°. Determine the refracted ray...



B. plexiglass C. they have the same speed D. there is not enough information to determine

A horizontal ray travels from air to a medium with n=1.60. At what angle does the ray exit the right side of the triangle? and the bottom? what about the left side?



 $1 heta_3$



- make sure you understand the laws of reflection and refraction
- 2. read the next few sections of chapter 25 (up to 25.7)
- 3. start working on the HW problems