

Cornell Notes

Name Paola Ramirez / Fragoso


Date 2/21/12

Topic Ch. 15 Notes: Refraction of Light

Class/Subject Physics P. 4

Tomorrow →
11:15
Outside Activity
Sunlight.
Light Bulb
Refraction of Light
Refraction.
Speed of light in vacuum.
 $c = 3.0 \times 10^8$

* Meet in Computer Lab tomorrow!

Look at the sun through Spectroscope.
purple, blue, green, yellow, red.

Solid ~~light~~ lines, similar to sunlight but sharp lights (lines)
• The bending of light as it travels from one medium to another is called refraction.
• As a light ray travels from one medium into another medium where its speed is different, the light ray will change its direction unless it travels along the normal.
• Refraction can be explained in terms of the wave model of light.
• The speed of light in a vacuum, c , is an important constant used by physicists.
• Inside of other mediums, such as air, glass, or water, the speed of light is diff. and is

The speed of light is constant in a vacuum. In other mediums, it is slower.

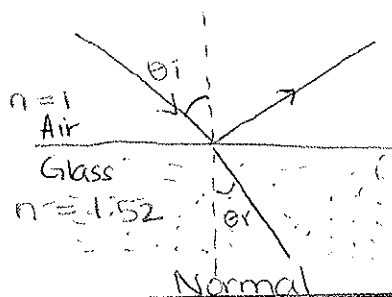
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The Law of Refraction

~~Index~~
 n = index of refraction

IOR =
 Index of Refraction



From Air to Glass →

Usually less than c

- ~~Light~~ Light travels faster in air, slower in solids.

Index of refraction =

$$\frac{\text{speed of light in a vacuum}}{\text{speed of light in medium}}$$

$$n = \frac{c}{v}$$

~~Examples~~

Air	index of refr.	is	1.00
Water	" "	is	1.33
Glass, crown	" "	is	1.52
Glass, flint	" "	is	1.66

The highest the value for n , the slower it travels

- When light passes from a medium w/ a smaller index of refraction to one w/ a larger index of refraction (like from air to glass), the ray bends toward the normal.
- When light passes from a medium w/ a larger IOR to one w/ a smaller IOR (like from glass to air) the ray bends away the normal

From a lower to higher n , the ray bends toward the normal. From a higher to lower n , the ray bends ~~away~~ away from the normal.

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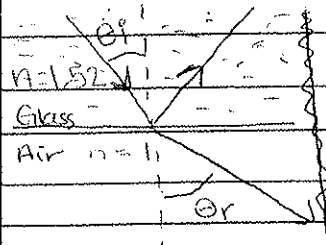
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From
Glass to Air



n_i = index of refraction of incident medium

(where light is coming from)

n_r = index of refraction of refracted medium

(where light is going to.)

θ_i = ~~the~~ incident \angle

θ_r = refracted \angle

~~Object~~

Snell's Law

Determines the angle of refraction

$$n_i \sin \theta_i = n_r \sin \theta_r$$

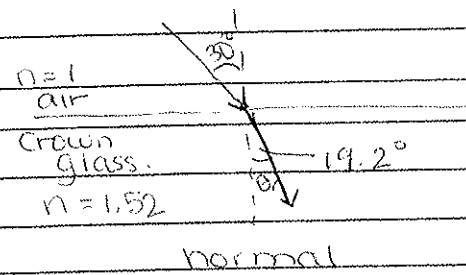
A light ray of wavelength 589 nm (produced by a sodium lamp) traveling through air strikes a smooth, flat slab of crown glass at an angle of 30.0° to the normal. Find the angle of refraction. θ_r

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Solution

Incident medium - air
 refracted medium - crown glass.



$$n_i \sin \theta_i = n_r \sin \theta_r$$

$$1(\sin 30^\circ) = 1.52(\sin \theta_r)$$

$$\frac{1}{2} = 1.52(\sin \theta_r)$$

$$\frac{1}{2 \cdot 1.52} = \sin \theta_r$$

$$0.32894 = \sin \theta_r$$

$$\boxed{19.2^\circ = \theta_r}$$

Complete the missing info in the table (Snell's Law)

$$n_i \sin \theta_i = n_r \sin \theta_r$$

From (medium)	To (medium)	θ_i	θ_r
a) Flint Glass	Crown Glass	25°	?
b) Air	?	14.5°	9.80°
c) Air	Diamond	?	12.5°

$$a) \frac{1.66 \sin 25^\circ}{1.52} = \frac{1.52 \sin \theta_r}{1.52}$$

$$0.4615 = \sin \theta_r$$

$$27.5 = \theta_r$$

cont....

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HW.

None.

b) $1(\sin 14.5^\circ) = n_r(\sin 9.80^\circ)$
 $\frac{\sin 14.5^\circ}{\sin 9.80^\circ} = n_r$

c) $1(\sin \theta_i) = 2.418(\sin 12.5^\circ)$
 $\sin \theta_i =$
 $\theta_i = 31.57^\circ = 31.6^\circ$

No Homework Today!

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