

Plane Electromagnetic Wave Propagation.

EMWP-510

Reflection and Refraction at the boundary of two non-conducting media.

Normal incidence:

Let us a plane EM-wave travelling along the z -direction with \vec{E}_1 & \vec{H}_1 as the incident field vectors travelling in medium-1 with ϵ_1, μ_1 permittivity & permeability of medium-1 respectively. While \vec{E}_2 & \vec{H}_2 describe the

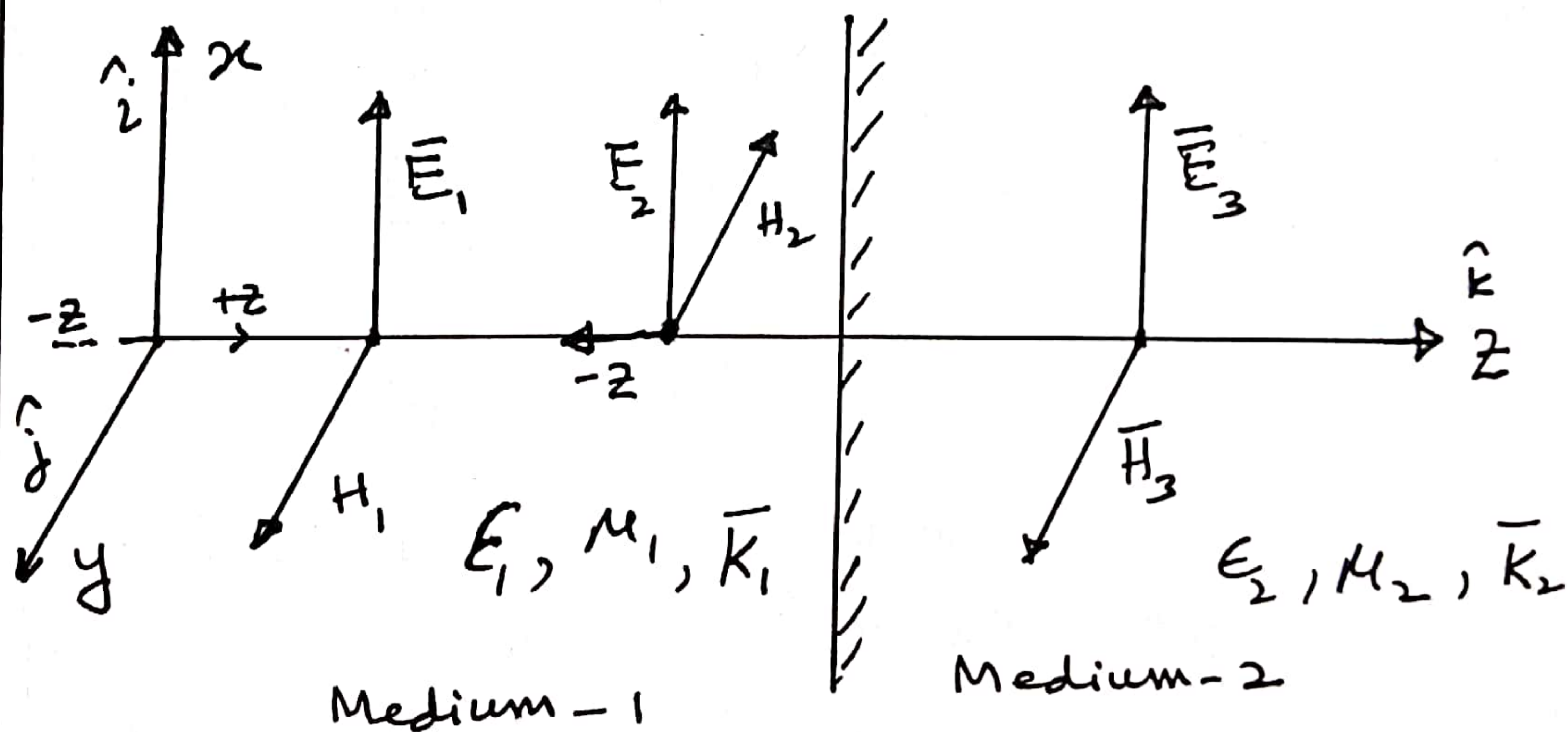


Fig: Reflection and Refraction of plane EM-Waves at the boundary of two non-conducting media

reflected waves travelling in the -ve of z -axis. The field vectors \vec{E}_3 & \vec{H}_3

(continued)

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represents the transmitted or refracted field vectors in medium-2. Let ϵ_2 & μ_2 be the permittivity and permeability of the medium-2 respectively.

The interface at $z=0$ is coincident with the xy -plane the electric fields are polarized in the x -direction. \bar{E} is everywhere parallel to the x -axis and are given as:

$$\bar{E}_1 = \hat{i} E_{1,0} e^{j(k_1 z - \omega t)} \quad (a)$$

$$\bar{E}_2 = \hat{i} E_{2,0} e^{-j(k_1 z + \omega t)} \quad (b)$$

$$\bar{E}_3 = \hat{i} E_{3,0} e^{j(k_2 z - \omega t)} \quad (c)$$

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In the above equations \bar{k}_1 & \bar{k}_2 are the wave vectors in the medium-1 & medium-2 respectively. While $E_{1,0}$, $E_{2,0}$ & $E_{3,0}$ are the amplitudes.

The magnetic field associated with the electric field is given as:

$$\bar{B}_{(z,t)} = \sqrt{\epsilon \mu} \hat{k} \times \bar{E}_0 e^{j(kz - \omega t)}$$

$$\text{or } \bar{H} = \sqrt{\frac{\epsilon}{\mu}} \hat{k} \times \hat{i} E_0 e^{j(kz - \omega t)}$$

Hence the magnetic field vectors in medium-1 & medium-2 are expressed as;

$$\begin{aligned} \vec{H}_1 &= \hat{j} \sqrt{\frac{\epsilon_1}{\mu_1}} \vec{E}_{1,0} e^{j(k_1 z - \omega t)} && \text{(a)} \\ \vec{H}_2 &= -\hat{j} \sqrt{\frac{\epsilon_1}{\mu_1}} \vec{E}_{2,0} e^{-j(k_1 z - \omega t)} && \text{(b)} \\ \vec{H}_3 &= \hat{j} \sqrt{\frac{\epsilon_2}{\mu_2}} \vec{E}_{3,0} e^{j(k_2 z - \omega t)} && \text{(c)} \end{aligned} \quad (2)$$

Since the normal components of the field vanishes and only tangential components of the electric and magnetic fields are considered as per boundary conditions for the EM-wave propagation.

Since the medium-1 & medium-2 are non-conducting for which we take conductivities $\sigma_1 = \sigma_2 = 0$ for both media

At the interface $z=0$ the above equations (1) & (2) are reduced to the following forms:

(Continued)

$$\begin{aligned} \bar{E}_1 &= \hat{z} E_{1,0} e^{-j\omega t} & (a) \\ \bar{E}_2 &= \hat{z} E_{2,0} e^{-j\omega t} & (b) \\ \bar{E}_3 &= \hat{z} E_{3,0} e^{-j\omega t} & (c) \end{aligned} \quad \left. \vphantom{\begin{aligned} \bar{E}_1 \\ \bar{E}_2 \\ \bar{E}_3 \end{aligned}} \right\} (1-a)$$

As boundary condition, \bar{E} field vector, in medium-1 & in medium-2 must be continuous i.e. the field vector sum in medium-1 is equal to the field vector in medium-2

Hence

$$\bar{E}_1 + \bar{E}_2 = \bar{E}_3 \quad (1-b)$$

Putting the values from eq (1-a)

in the above equation we get

$$\hat{z} E_{1,0} e^{-j\omega t} + \hat{z} E_{2,0} e^{-j\omega t} = \hat{z} E_{3,0} e^{-j\omega t}$$

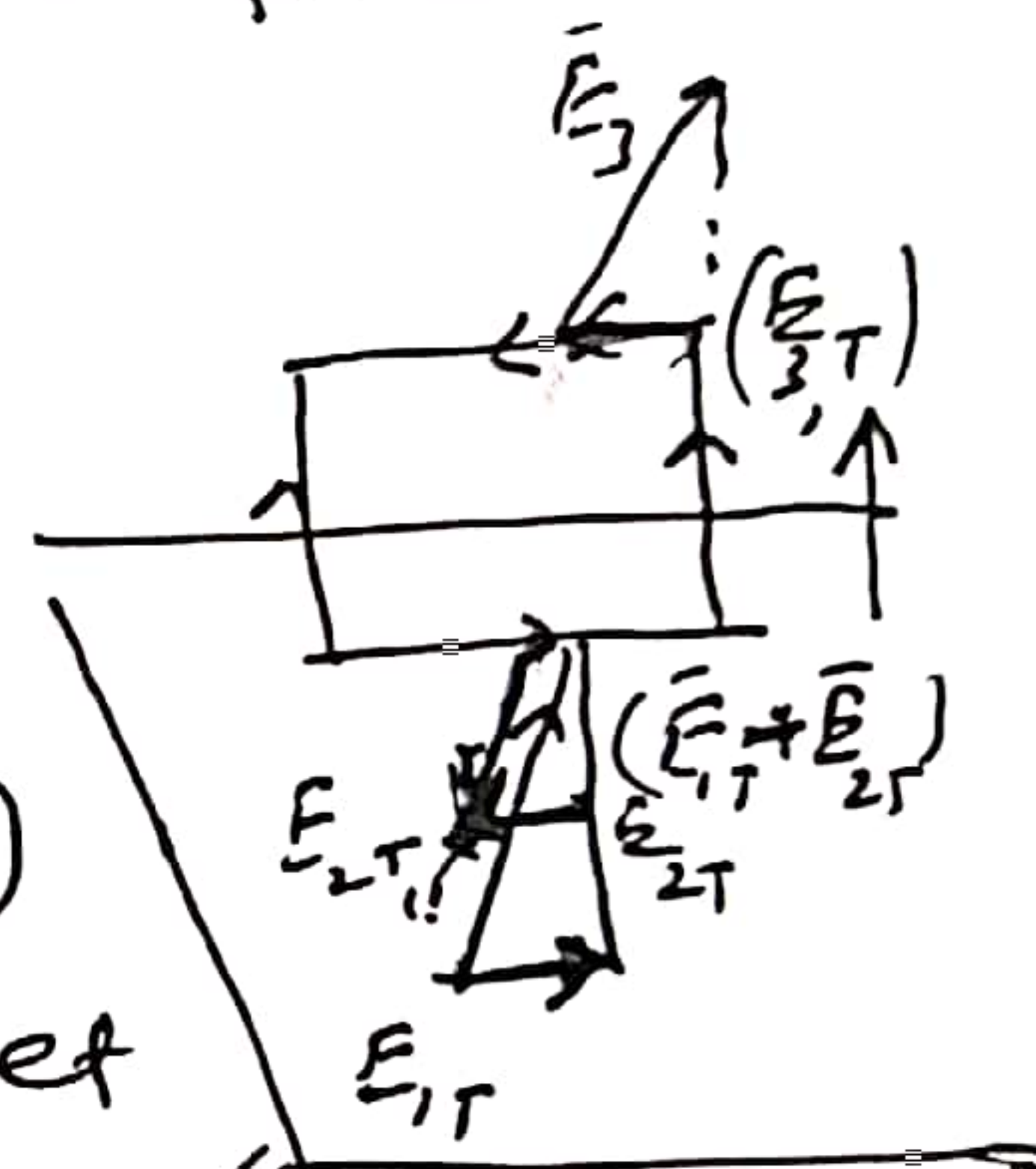
Taking only the magnitude of the amplitudes

$$E_{1,0} + E_{2,0} = E_{3,0} \quad (3)$$

Similarly at $z=0$ the magnetic field, wave equations are given as

$$\bar{H}_1 + \bar{H}_2 + \bar{H}_3 = \quad (3a)$$

(Continued)



$$\begin{aligned} \bar{H}_1 &= \hat{j} \sqrt{\frac{\epsilon_1}{\mu_1}} E_{1,0} e^{-j\omega t} \quad \text{--- (a)} \\ \bar{H}_2 &= -\hat{j} \sqrt{\frac{\epsilon_1}{\mu_1}} E_{2,0} e^{-j\omega t} \quad \text{--- (b)} \\ \bar{H}_3 &= \hat{j} \sqrt{\frac{\epsilon_2}{\mu_2}} E_{3,0} e^{j\omega t} \quad \text{--- c} \end{aligned} \quad \left. \vphantom{\begin{aligned} \bar{H}_1 \\ \bar{H}_2 \\ \bar{H}_3 \end{aligned}} \right\} \text{--- (2-a)}$$

In the above equations \hat{j} is the unit vector for y-axis while "j" in the exponent term $e^{-j\omega t}$ is the complex "j = $\sqrt{-1}$ " also called j-operator in the complex vector algebra.

putting the above terms of equation (2a) in the equation (3a) we get

$$\hat{j} \sqrt{\frac{\epsilon_1}{\mu_1}} (E_{1,0} - E_{2,0}) e^{-j\omega t} = \hat{j} \sqrt{\frac{\epsilon_2}{\mu_2}} E_{3,0} e^{j\omega t}$$

Considering the magnitude terms only ;

$$\sqrt{\frac{\epsilon_1}{\mu_1}} (E_{1,0} - E_{2,0}) = \sqrt{\frac{\epsilon_2}{\mu_2}} E_{3,0} \quad \text{--- (4)}$$

Let us substitute the $E_{3,0}$ from equation (3) as $E_{3,0} = E_{1,0} + E_{2,0}$ in eq (4)

and re-arranging

$$\sqrt{\frac{\epsilon_1}{\mu_1}} E_{1,0} + \sqrt{\frac{\epsilon_1}{\mu_1}} E_{2,0} = \sqrt{\frac{\epsilon_2}{\mu_2}} E_{1,0} + \sqrt{\frac{\epsilon_2}{\mu_2}} E_{2,0}$$

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$$E_{1,0} \left[\sqrt{\frac{\epsilon_1}{\mu_1}} - \sqrt{\frac{\epsilon_2}{\mu_2}} \right] = E_{2,0} \left[\sqrt{\frac{\epsilon_1}{\mu_1}} + \sqrt{\frac{\epsilon_2}{\mu_2}} \right]$$

$$E_{2,0} = E_{1,0} \frac{\sqrt{\frac{\epsilon_1}{\mu_1}} - \sqrt{\frac{\epsilon_2}{\mu_2}}}{\sqrt{\frac{\epsilon_1}{\mu_1}} + \sqrt{\frac{\epsilon_2}{\mu_2}}} \quad (5)$$

Now putting $E_{2,0} = E_{3,0} - E_{1,0}$ from equation (3) in equation (4) we have

$$\sqrt{\frac{\epsilon_1}{\mu_1}} E_{1,0} - \sqrt{\frac{\epsilon_1}{\mu_1}} E_{3,0} + \sqrt{\frac{\epsilon_1}{\mu_1}} E_{1,0} = \sqrt{\frac{\epsilon_2}{\mu_2}} E_{3,0}$$

Re-arranging the above equations

$$2\sqrt{\frac{\epsilon_1}{\mu_1}} E_{1,0} = E_{3,0} \left[\sqrt{\frac{\epsilon_1}{\mu_1}} + \sqrt{\frac{\epsilon_2}{\mu_2}} \right]$$

$$\text{or } E_{3,0} = E_{1,0} \left[\frac{2\sqrt{\frac{\epsilon_1}{\mu_1}}}{\sqrt{\frac{\epsilon_1}{\mu_1}} + \sqrt{\frac{\epsilon_2}{\mu_2}}} \right] \quad (6)$$

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The equations (5) & (6) determine the electric field of the reflected and transmitted/refracted in terms of the incident field waves.

If the values of these equations are substituted in equations (1) & (2)

we have vector field terms

$$\vec{E}_2 = \hat{i} E_{1,0} \left[\frac{\sqrt{\epsilon_1} - \sqrt{\epsilon_2}}{\sqrt{\mu_1} + \sqrt{\mu_2}} \right] e^{-j(k_2 z + \omega t)} \quad \text{--- (a)}$$

$$\vec{E}_3 = \hat{i} E_{1,0} \left[\frac{2\sqrt{\epsilon_1}}{\sqrt{\mu_1} + \sqrt{\mu_2}} \right] e^{j(k_2 z - \omega t)} \quad \text{--- (b)}$$

$$\vec{H}_1 = \hat{i} E_{1,0} e^{i(k_1 z - \omega t)} \quad \text{--- (c)}$$

Similarly for Magnetic field vectors

$$\vec{H}_1 = \hat{j} \sqrt{\frac{\epsilon_1}{\mu_1}} E_{1,0} e^{j(k_1 z - \omega t)} \quad \text{--- (a)}$$

$$\vec{H}_2 = -\hat{j} E_{1,0} \sqrt{\frac{\epsilon_1}{\mu_1}} \left[\frac{\sqrt{\epsilon_1} - \sqrt{\epsilon_2}}{\sqrt{\mu_1} + \sqrt{\mu_2}} \right] e^{-j(k_2 z + \omega t)} \quad \text{--- (b)}$$

(Contd.)

$$\vec{H}_3 = 2 \hat{j} E_{110} \left[\frac{\left(\sqrt{\frac{\epsilon_1}{\mu_1}} \right) \left(\sqrt{\frac{\epsilon_2}{\mu_2}} \right)}{\sqrt{\frac{\epsilon_1}{\mu_1}} + \sqrt{\frac{\epsilon_2}{\mu_2}}} \right] \frac{j(k_2 z - \omega t)}{e^{-i(k_2 z - \omega t)}} \quad (8)$$

Refractive Index: "n"

The refractive index of a medium is defined as, it is the ratio between the velocity / speed of light in vacuum to the speed of the wave in the medium through which it travels. It is denoted by "n". So $n = \frac{c}{u}$ (in vacuum) where "c" is the speed of light & "u" is the phase velocity in the medium.

$$n = \frac{\text{Speed of light in vacuum}}{\text{Speed of wave in the medium}}$$

for optically transparent medium

$$\mu_1 = \mu_2 = \mu_0$$

For free space or vacuum $\epsilon_1 = \epsilon_0 \epsilon_r$

$$\epsilon_2 = \epsilon_0 \epsilon_r \quad \& \quad \epsilon_3 = \epsilon_0 \epsilon_r$$

The phase velocity $n = \frac{1}{\sqrt{\epsilon \mu}} = \frac{1}{\sqrt{\epsilon \mu_0}}$ As $\mu = \mu_0$

$$\text{While } c = \frac{1}{\sqrt{\epsilon_0 \mu_0}}$$