

*Do all types of electromagnetic waves propagate with same speed?*

**Answer:**

In a vacuum electromagnetic waves always propagate with the same speed - speed of light. In other mediums, like air or glass, the speed of propagation is slower. If the speed of light in a vacuum is given the symbol  $c_0$ , and the speed in some a medium is  $c$ , we can define the index of refraction,  $n$  as:

$$n = \frac{c_0}{c} > 1.$$

*What is the phase difference between electric field and magnetic field vibrations?*

**Answer:**

In natural light the phase difference between such components changes continuously and randomly. In completely polarized light this phase difference is strictly constant.

One such case is linear polarization; the phase difference here is 0 or  $k\pi$ , where  $k$  is an integer. The other case is circular polarization, where the phase difference is  $\pm \frac{(2k+1)\pi}{2}$ .

*Does the direction of electromagnetic wave propagation same as the direction of vibration of electromagnetic waves?*

**Answer:**

No, because electromagnetic waves are transverse waves. In a transverse wave, the direction of particle displacement occurs perpendicular to the direction of wave propagation.