

### Answer on question #69089 – Physics / Electromagnetism

A sinusoidal plane electromagnetic wave propagates from water ( $n_w = 1.33$ ) to glass ( $n_g = 1.5$ ). Calculate the reflection and transmission coefficients for this wave at the interface of the two media. Show that when an electromagnetic wave enters from one dielectric medium to the other, its frequency remains unchanged.

#### Solution

By definition the reflection and transmission coefficients are

$$r = \frac{n_1 - n_2}{n_1 + n_2}, t = \frac{2n_2}{n_1 + n_2}$$

Using these formulas we get

$$r = \frac{1.5 - 1.33}{1.5 + 1.33} = 0.06$$

$$t = \frac{2 * 1.33}{1.5 + 1.33} = 0.94$$

Let us have two electromagnetic waves from two sides of the interface. Their energies are  $E_1 = \frac{h}{2\pi} \omega_1$  and  $E_2 = \frac{h}{2\pi} \omega_2$ . Due to conservation of energy we have  $E_1 = E_2$ , hence  $\omega_1 = \omega_2$ .

**Answer** reflection coefficient  $r = 0.06$ , transmission coefficient  $t = 0.94$ .

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