

### HW#7 solutions

30% of this HW is extra credit, but try some parts of each problem!

1.

Plane-polarized EM wave incident normally on flat surface of non-permeable medium of conductivity  $\sigma$  + permittivity  $\epsilon$ . Show that for a good conductor, the power reflection coeff is approximately,

$$R \approx 1 - \frac{2\omega\sigma}{c}; \text{ where } \delta \equiv \text{skin depth}$$

Normal incidence:

$$R = \left( \frac{n_1 - n_2}{n_1 + n_2} \right)^2; \mu_1 = \mu_2 = \mu_0$$

We take  $n_1 = 1$  and  $\tilde{n}_2 = \frac{\tilde{k}}{\omega/c} = \frac{k(1+i)}{\omega/c}$

$$\tilde{n}_2 = \frac{\sqrt{\frac{\mu_0\sigma\omega}{2}}}{\omega/c} (1+i)$$

$$= c \sqrt{\frac{\mu_0\sigma}{2\omega}} (1+i)$$

For a good conductor  $\sigma$  is large and  $\tilde{n}_2$  is large. So expand  $R$  in powers of  $n_1/n_2$ :

$$R = \left| \frac{n_1 - n_2}{n_1 + n_2} \right|^2 \approx \left| \frac{1 - n_1/n_2}{1 + n_1/n_2} \right|^2$$

$$\approx \left| \frac{1 - 2n_1/n_2 + \dots}{1 + 2n_1/n_2 + \dots} \right|^2$$

Take  $x = 2n_1/n_2$ ,  $f(x) = \frac{1-x}{1+x}$

Taylor expand about  $x=0$ :

$$f(x) \approx f(0) + f'(x)|_{x=0} x + \dots$$

$$\approx 1 + \left[ \frac{-1}{1+x} - \frac{(1-x)}{(1+x)^2} + \dots \right] \Big|_{x=0} x$$

$$\approx 1 + \left. \frac{(-1-x-1+x)}{(1+x)^2} \right|_{x=0} x \approx 1 - 2x$$

$$\Rightarrow \left| \frac{1 - 2n_1/n_2}{1 + 2n_1/n_2} \right| \approx \left| 1 - 4 \frac{n_1}{n_2} \right|$$

$$\approx \left| 1 - \frac{4}{\frac{1}{\delta} \frac{c}{\omega} (1+i)} \right|$$

where we've used the fact that the skin depth in a good conductor is  $\delta = \frac{\lambda_c}{2\pi} = \frac{1}{k_2}$

$$k_2 = \sqrt{\frac{\mu_0 \sigma \omega}{2}}$$

$$\Rightarrow R \approx \left| 1 - 4 \frac{\delta \omega}{c} \frac{(1-i)}{2} \right| = \left| \frac{1-i}{2} \right|^2$$

$A + iB$

$$\approx \left| 1 - 2\frac{\delta\omega}{c} + 2i\frac{\delta\omega}{c} + \dots \right|$$

$$\approx \sqrt{\left(1 - 2\frac{\delta\omega}{c}\right)^2 + \left(2\frac{\delta\omega}{c}\right)^2}$$

$$\approx \sqrt{1 - 4\frac{\delta\omega}{c} + 16\left(\frac{\delta\omega}{c}\right)^2} \approx (1+x)^{1/2}$$

$$\approx 1 + \frac{1}{2}x \approx 1 + \frac{1}{2}\left(-4\frac{\delta\omega}{c} + 16\left(\frac{\delta\omega}{c}\right)^2\right)$$

$$\boxed{R \approx 1 - 2\frac{\delta\omega}{c} + 8\left(\frac{\delta\omega}{c}\right)^2}$$

- see # 4, they were identical
- Silver as a conductor:

### Silver as a conductor

D.C. conductivity  $\sigma_0 = 6.17 \times 10^7 \text{ } \Omega^{-1} \text{ m}^{-1}$

Ag: Density (at STP)  $\sim 10.5 \text{ g/cm}^3 \cong 10^4 \text{ kg/m}^3 = \rho_M$   
Valence electrons: 1

$$\text{Number density} = N_e = \rho_M \frac{1}{\text{mass Ag}}$$

Atomic weight Ag: 108 amu, 1 amu = mass of proton =  $1.7 \times 10^{-27} \text{ kg}$   
 $\Rightarrow m_{\text{Ag}} = 1.83 \times 10^{-25} \text{ kg}$

$$\therefore N = \left(10^4 \frac{\text{kg}}{\text{m}^3}\right) \left(\frac{1}{1.83 \times 10^{-25} \text{ kg}}\right) = 5.5 \times 10^{28} \text{ m}^{-3}$$

The D.C. conductivity  $\sigma_0 = \frac{f N e^2}{m_e \gamma}$

$f = \# \text{ of free electrons/atom} = 1$

$$\Rightarrow \text{Collision rate } \gamma = \frac{N e^2}{m_e \sigma_0} = \frac{(5.5 \times 10^{28} \text{ m}^{-3}) (1.6 \times 10^{-19} \text{ C})^2}{(6.17 \frac{10^7}{\text{ohm m}}) (9.1 \times 10^{-31} \text{ kg})}$$

$$\Rightarrow \boxed{\gamma = 2.5 \times 10^{13} \text{ s}^{-1}} \quad \frac{\gamma}{2\pi} = 4 \times 10^{12} \text{ Hz (infra-red)}$$

Plasma frequency:  $\omega_p \cong \sqrt{\frac{N e^2}{\epsilon_0 m_e}} = \sqrt{\frac{\gamma \sigma_0}{\epsilon_0}}$

$$\Rightarrow \omega_p = \sqrt{\frac{(2.5 \times 10^{13} \text{ s}^{-1}) (6.17 \times 10^7 \frac{\text{Coul}}{\text{s Volt m}})}{(8.85 \times 10^{-12} \frac{\text{Coul}}{\text{m Volt}})}}$$

$$\Rightarrow \boxed{\omega_p = 1.3 \times 10^{16} \text{ s}^{-1}}$$

$$\frac{\omega_p}{2\pi} = 2.1 \times 10^{15} \text{ Hz}$$

(Ultraviolet)

(b) In the Drude model, the conductivity is

$$\tilde{\sigma}(\omega) = \frac{f N e^2 m}{\gamma - i\omega} = \frac{\sigma_0}{1 - i\frac{\omega}{\gamma}}$$

• For frequencies small compared to the collision rate  $\frac{\omega}{\gamma} \ll 1$  we essentially have the D.C. conductivity  $\tilde{\sigma}(\omega) \approx \sigma_0$

• For frequencies large compared to the collision rate  $\frac{\omega}{\gamma} \gg 1$  the conductivity become imaginary and the metal looks like a plasma

$$\tilde{\sigma}(\omega) \approx i \frac{\sigma_0 \gamma}{\omega} = i \frac{\omega_p^2}{\omega} \epsilon_0$$

The general complex index of refraction is

$$n(\omega) = \frac{c}{\omega} \tilde{k} = \frac{c}{\omega} \sqrt{\mu_0 \epsilon_0 \omega^2 + i\omega \tilde{\sigma} \mu_0} \quad (\text{Taking } \epsilon = \epsilon_0, \mu = \mu_0)$$

$$\Rightarrow \tilde{n}(\omega) = \sqrt{1 + i \frac{\tilde{\sigma}(\omega)}{\omega \epsilon_0}}$$

• Typical microwave frequency:  $\nu = 5 \times 10^{10} \text{ Hz} = \omega$

$$\omega = 3.1 \times 10^{11} \text{ s}^{-1} \ll \gamma$$

$\Rightarrow \tilde{\sigma}(\omega) \approx \sigma_0$ . Furthermore  $\frac{\sigma_0}{\omega \epsilon_0} \gg 1$  (Excellent conductor)

$$\therefore \tilde{n}(\omega) \approx \sqrt{i \frac{\sigma_0}{\omega \epsilon_0}} \approx \sqrt{\frac{\sigma_0}{2\omega \epsilon_0}} (1+i) = 4.7 \times 10^3 (1+i)$$

• Typical visible frequency:  $\nu = 5 \times 10^{14} \text{ Hz}$

$$\omega = 3.1 \times 10^{15} \text{ s}^{-1} \gg \gamma$$

$\Rightarrow \tilde{\sigma}(\omega) \approx i \frac{\omega_p^2}{\omega} \epsilon_0 \Rightarrow n(\omega) \approx \sqrt{1 - \frac{\omega_p^2}{\omega^2}}$  Plasma dispersion

Since  $\omega < \omega_p$ , below cutoff  $\Rightarrow \tilde{n}(\omega) = i \sqrt{\frac{\omega_p^2}{\omega^2} - 1} = 4i$

• Typical X-ray frequency  $\nu = 5 \times 10^{18}$  Hz

$$\Rightarrow \omega = 3.1 \times 10^{19} \text{ s}^{-1} \gg \gamma$$

$$\tilde{\sigma}(\omega) \approx i \frac{\omega_p^2}{\omega} \epsilon_0 \Rightarrow \tilde{n}(\omega) \approx \sqrt{1 - \frac{\omega_p^2}{\omega^2}} \text{ Plasma}$$

Since  $\omega_p \ll \omega$  this plasma is excited well above cutoff

$$\Rightarrow \tilde{n}(\omega) \approx 1 - \frac{1}{2} \left( \frac{\omega_p}{\omega} \right)^2 = 1 - 8.8 \times 10^{-8}$$

So at X-ray frequencies this simple model says that Silver is essentially transparent. Of course there are lots of other effects we have neglected such as absorption by bound electrons and Bragg-scattering.

(c) At a radio frequency  $\nu = 1$  MHz

$$\omega = 6.2 \times 10^7 \text{ s}^{-1} \ll \gamma \quad \text{and} \quad \frac{\sigma_0}{\omega \epsilon_0} \gg 1 \text{ (Good Conductor)}$$

$$\Rightarrow \tilde{\sigma}(\omega) \approx \sigma_0 \quad \tilde{n}(\omega) \approx \sqrt{\frac{\sigma_0}{2\omega \epsilon_0}} (1+i)$$

Skin depth (distance field decays to  $1/e$ )

$$d = \frac{1}{k_{\pm}} = \frac{1}{\frac{\omega}{c} \tilde{n}(\omega)} = \frac{1}{\sqrt{\frac{\sigma_0 \mu_0}{2}}} = 6 \times 10^{-5} \text{ m} = 60 \mu\text{m}$$

4. Waves in Plasmas:

Waves in Plasmas. Neutral plasma with electron density  $N_e$ . At high  $\nu$ 's ions are very heavy & can be considered fixed;  $e^-$ 's carry current.  
 (a) Using Maxwell's Eqns derive the wave eqn for  $\vec{E}$ :

$$\left( \nabla^2 - \frac{1}{c^2} \frac{\partial^2}{\partial t^2} \right) \vec{E} = \mu_0 \frac{\partial \vec{J}}{\partial t}$$

For our case of a neutral plasma we have

$$\rho = 0 \quad (\text{no net charge})$$

$$\vec{J} = \rho_e \vec{v}_e = N_e e \vec{v}_e; \quad \text{current is carried by } e^- \text{'s.}$$

$$\Rightarrow \vec{\nabla} \cdot \vec{E} = 0 \quad \vec{\nabla} \cdot \vec{B} = 0$$

$$\vec{\nabla} \times \vec{E} = -\frac{\partial \vec{B}}{\partial t} \quad \vec{\nabla} \times \vec{B} = \mu_0 \vec{J} + \mu_0 \epsilon_0 \frac{\partial \vec{E}}{\partial t}$$

$$\vec{\nabla} \times (\vec{\nabla} \times \vec{E}) = \vec{\nabla} (\vec{\nabla} \cdot \vec{E}) - \nabla^2 \vec{E} = -\frac{\partial \vec{\nabla} \times \vec{B}}{\partial t}$$

$$-\nabla^2 \vec{E} = -\mu_0 \frac{\partial \vec{J}}{\partial t} - \mu_0 \epsilon_0 \frac{\partial^2 \vec{E}}{\partial t^2}$$

$$\rightarrow \left[ \nabla^2 - \frac{1}{c^2} \frac{\partial^2}{\partial t^2} \right] \vec{E} = \mu_0 \frac{\partial \vec{J}}{\partial t}$$

(b) Monochromatic plane wave  $\vec{E} = \text{Re} [\vec{\tilde{E}} e^{-i\omega t}]$  and ignoring collisions between  $e^-$ 's, show that

$$\left(\nabla^2 + \frac{\omega^2}{c^2}\right) \vec{E} = \frac{\omega_p^2}{c^2} \vec{E}; \quad \omega_p = \sqrt{\frac{N_e e^2}{\epsilon_0 m_e}}$$

We can use the wave eqn but need relationship between  $\vec{E}$  &  $\vec{J}$ . Recall that

$$\vec{J} = N_e e \vec{v}_e \quad \text{and the eqn of}$$

motion for the  $e^-$ 's, that are collisionless, is:

$$m_e \frac{d\vec{v}_e}{dt} = e \vec{E} \quad \text{(no restoring force because } e^- \text{'s are free)}$$

This yields:

$$\frac{d\vec{v}_e}{dt} = \frac{e}{m_e} \vec{E}$$

or

$$e N_e \frac{d\vec{v}_e}{dt} = \frac{\partial \vec{J}}{\partial t} \quad \text{(from above)} = \frac{e^2 N_e}{m_e} \vec{E} = \epsilon_0 \omega_p^2 \vec{E}$$

Now we can use wave eqn:

$$\left[\nabla^2 - \frac{1}{c^2} \frac{\partial^2}{\partial t^2}\right] \vec{E} = \mu_0 \frac{\partial \vec{J}}{\partial t} = \mu_0 \epsilon_0 \omega_p^2 \vec{E} = \frac{\omega_p^2}{c^2} \vec{E}$$

Sub-ing our soln for the monochromatic waves:

$$\boxed{\left(\nabla^2 - \frac{(-i\omega)^2}{c^2}\right) \vec{E} = \left(\nabla^2 + \frac{\omega^2}{c^2}\right) \vec{E} = \frac{\omega_p^2}{c^2} \vec{E}}$$



© Derive the dispersion relation:

$$k = \sqrt{\omega^2 - \omega_p^2} / c \quad \text{+ sketch graph of } \omega(k)$$

Using our boxed eqn, we substitute a plane wave sol<sup>n</sup>:

$$\vec{E} = \vec{E}_0 e^{i(\vec{k} \cdot \vec{r} - \omega t)}$$

$$\Rightarrow -k^2 + \frac{\omega^2}{c^2} = \frac{\omega_p^2}{c^2} \quad \text{from which we get}$$

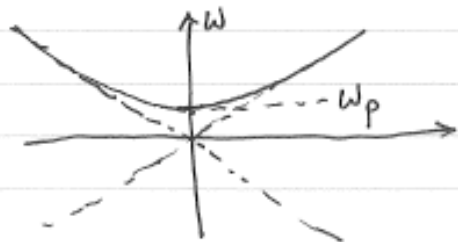
$$k = \frac{\sqrt{\omega^2 - \omega_p^2}}{c}$$

If  $\omega < \omega_p$ ,  $k = i\beta$  with  $\beta = \sqrt{\omega_p^2 - \omega^2} / c$  and we get attenuation:

$$\vec{E} = \text{Re}(\vec{E}_0 e^{-\beta z} e^{-i\omega t})$$

$$\vec{E} = \vec{E}_0 e^{-\beta z} \cos(\omega t) \quad (\text{evanescent wave})$$

Plot of  $\omega(k) = \sqrt{c^2 k^2 + \omega_p^2}$



phase vel.  $v =$   
 Here:  $\frac{\omega}{k} = c \left(1 + \left(\frac{\omega_p}{k}\right)^2\right)^{1/2} > c$

But  $\frac{d\omega}{dk} = \frac{c}{\left(1 + \left(\frac{\omega_p}{k}\right)^2\right)^{1/2}} < c$   
 group vel.

5)

### Anomalous Dispersion in Dielectrics.

Group vel in an absorptive ~~dielectric~~ dispersive medium:

$$v_g = \frac{1}{\frac{dk_R(\omega)}{d\omega}} ; k_R(\omega) \equiv \text{real part of wave \# .}$$

(a) Show that  $v_g(\omega) = \frac{c}{n_R(\omega) + \omega (dn_R/d\omega)}$

Use:

$$k(\omega) = \frac{\omega}{c} n_R(\omega) ; n_R(\omega) \equiv \text{real part of index of refraction}$$

$$\rightarrow \frac{dk_R}{d\omega} = \frac{n_R}{c} + \frac{\omega}{c} \frac{dn_R}{d\omega}$$

$$\rightarrow \boxed{v_g = \frac{c}{n_R(\omega) + \omega dn_R/d\omega}}$$

b) For a single resonance in the Lorentz Model we found

$$n_R(\omega) = 1 + \frac{\omega_p^2 (\omega_0^2 - \omega^2)}{(\omega_0^2 - \omega^2)^2 + \omega^2 \Gamma^2}$$

or, near resonance:  $n_R(\omega) \approx 1 + A \left( \frac{-\Delta}{\Delta^2 + \Gamma^2/4} \right)$

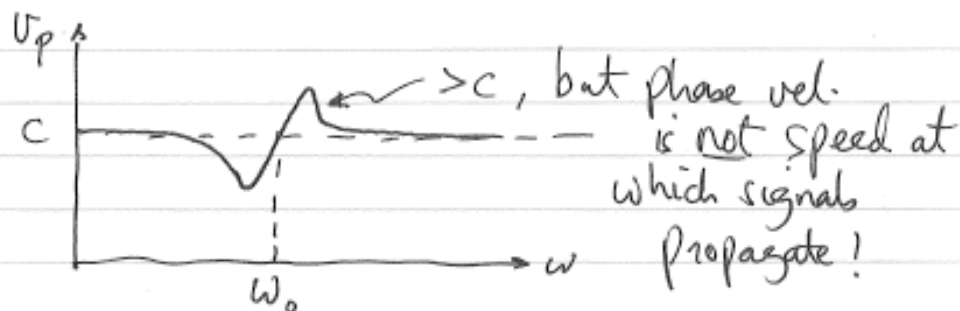
with

$$\Delta \equiv \omega - \omega_0 \text{ and } A = \frac{\omega_p^2}{2\omega_0}$$

Phase velocity:

$$v_p(\omega) = \frac{c}{n_R(\omega)} = \frac{c}{1 + A \left( \frac{-\Delta}{\Delta^2 + \Gamma^2/4} \right)}$$

Sketch:



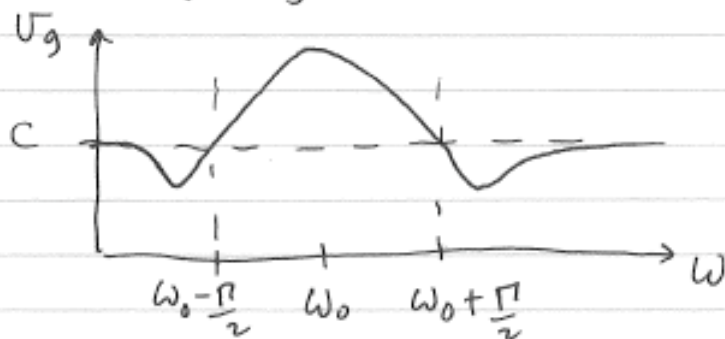
- (c) Show that in the region of anomalous dispersion, i.e. when  $dn_R/d\omega < 0$ , even the group vel  $v_g > c$ ! What is the condition on  $n_R(\omega)$ ?

$$v_g(\omega) = \frac{c}{n_R(\omega) + \omega \left( \frac{dn_R}{d\omega} \right)}$$

and near resonance, where anomalous dispersion occurs, we use

$$n_R(\omega) \approx 1 + A \left( \frac{-\Delta}{\Delta^2 + \Gamma^2/4} \right) \quad (\text{part b})$$

Sketch of  $v_g(\omega)$  near  $\omega = \omega_0$ :



Condition for  $v_g > c$  is simply :

$$n_r(\omega) + \omega \frac{dn_r}{d\omega} < 1$$

The region within  $\omega_0 - \frac{\Gamma}{2} < \omega < \omega_0 + \frac{\Gamma}{2}$  is within the absorption line. <sup>2</sup> References <sup>2</sup> for further reading on this:

- L. Brillouin, "Wave Propagation + Group Velocity" (Academic Press, NY, 1952)
- R.-Y. Chiao et al., Proc. of the Conference, "Fundamental Problems in Quantum Theory" (Ann. NY Acad. Sci. 1994)