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# Improved treatment of Fresnel equations 

M A B Whitaker<br>Department of Physics, New University of Ulster, Coleraine, N Ireland

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#### Abstract

Present treatments of the Fresnel equations are criticised. A full treatment without the defects is presented, the amplitudes and phases of the electric fields being calculated, and curves displayed for a variety of cases.


## 1. Introduction

The Fresnel equations, which describe the behaviour of an electromagnetic wave at a plane surface, have a fundamental importance in any study of electromagnetism, and also have many practical applications.

They are straightforward in principle, though not without subtleties in their detailed analysis. Nevertheless it is extremely surprising that there appears to be no treatment available which covers all cases in an adequate manner. Many works (e.g. Jeans 1925, Jackson 1962, Lorrain and Corson 1970), while presenting general analysis of the dielectric-dielectric boundary, specialise, for the dielectric-metal boundary, to the assumptions of normal incidence or high conductivity.

The treatments usually referred to as standard-those of Stratton (1941) (to be referred to as $\mathbf{S}$ ) and Born and Wolf (1965) - consider the metal-metal boundary for general angle of incidence and conductivity, but these treatments, which are virtually identical, are unsatisfactory as a number of quantities are incompletely defined, and the presence of these causes the expressions for the amplitudes and phases of the reflected and refracted waves to be ambiguous. It might also be mentioned that the form in which these authors present their results is extremely complex, so that their use is far from straightforward.

There seems therefore a need for a treatment such as that given in this paper, in which expressions are obtained for the various fields which are completely unambiguous. Although lengthy they are absolutely straightforward and are completely general, applying for example to the case of total internal reflection.

The technique has been used by Whitaker (1978) in the specific application of the Fresnel equations to the theory of angular photoemission. In the present paper the general analysis is presented, which includes magnetic media, and concentrates on reflected and refracted rays rather than Cartesian components of the total vector potential.

## 2. Conventions used in electromagnetism

It may be worth briefly reviewing the conventions used in electromagnetism, as a correct use of the convention chosen is vital in what follows.

The initial choice is the trivial one between time factors of the form of $\exp (-\mathrm{i} \omega t)$ and $\exp (+\mathrm{i} \omega t)$. The form of a plane wave moving in the $+z$ direction is then $\exp ( \pm \mathrm{i} k z \mp \mathrm{i} \omega t)$ and, since $k$ is equal to ( $\omega \bar{n} / c$ ), where $\bar{n}$ is the complex refractive index, to ensure attenuation $\bar{n}$ must be written as $n_{1} \pm \mathrm{i} n_{2}$ with $n_{2}$ positive, and $\bar{\epsilon}$ as $\epsilon_{1} \pm \mathrm{i} \epsilon_{2}$ with $\epsilon_{2}$ positive. Here we take time factors of the form $\exp (-\mathrm{i} \omega t)$, and so the dielectric constant is written as $\boldsymbol{\epsilon}_{1}+\mathrm{i} \boldsymbol{\epsilon}_{2}$.

## 3. The complex angle of refraction

Our notation is as follows. The radiation is incident on the surface of a metal of dielectric constant $\epsilon_{1 \mathrm{~m}}+\mathrm{i} \epsilon_{2 \mathrm{~m}}$, and permeability $\mu_{\mathrm{m}}$, from a dielectric of dielectric constant $\epsilon_{\mathrm{d}}$ and permeability $\mu_{\mathrm{d}}$. The angle of incidence is $\theta_{\mathrm{d}}$. The $z$ axis is along the normal to the surface, $z$ increasing as we move into the dielectric. The plane of incidence is the $y-z$ plane, and the incident wave vector has a component along $+y$.


Figure 1. Values of $\rho_{\text {ref }}$ for $s$ polarisation as a function of angle of incidence. The values of $\epsilon_{\mathrm{m}}$ in this and the other graphs are: A 0.1 ; B 0.5 ; C 0.99 ; D 1; E 1.01; F 2 ; G10; H 100 ; I $1+0.5 \mathrm{i} ; \mathrm{J} 1+10 \mathrm{i} ; \mathrm{K} 10+10 \mathrm{i} ; \mathrm{L} 100+100 \mathrm{i} ; \mathrm{M} 0 \cdot 1+0 \cdot 5 \mathrm{i} ; \mathrm{N} 0 \cdot 1+10 \mathrm{i} ; \mathrm{O} 0.5+0.5 \mathrm{i} ; \mathrm{P}$ $0.5+10 \mathrm{i} ; \mathrm{Q} 0.5+0.01 \mathrm{i}$.

The magnitudes of the wave vectors in dielectric and metal are given by

$$
\begin{align*}
& k_{\mathrm{d}}=(\omega / c) \epsilon_{\mathrm{d}}^{1 / 2} \mu_{\mathrm{d}}^{1 / 2} \\
& k_{\mathrm{m}}^{2}=\left(\omega^{2} / c^{2}\right)\left(\epsilon_{1 \mathrm{~m}}+\mathrm{i} \epsilon_{2 \mathrm{~m}}\right) \mu_{\mathrm{m}} . \tag{3.1}
\end{align*}
$$

The refracted wave must have the form

$$
\exp \left(-\mathrm{i} k_{\mathrm{m}} z \cos \theta_{\mathrm{m}}+\mathrm{i} k_{\mathrm{m}} y \sin \theta_{\mathrm{m}}\right)
$$

The product $k_{\mathrm{m}} \sin \theta_{\mathrm{m}}$ is easy to evaluate, as by Snell's Law it is equal to $k_{\mathrm{d}} \sin \theta_{\mathrm{d}}$ and is


Figure 2. Values of $\delta_{\text {refl }}$ for $s$ polarisation. Curve $P$ is omitted as it lies between $J$ and $N$.
thus real. Using Snell's Law again, we find that $k_{\mathrm{m}} \cos \theta_{\mathrm{m}}$ is equal to

$$
(\omega / c)\left(\epsilon_{1 m} \mu_{m}+i \epsilon_{2 m} \mu_{m}-\epsilon_{d} \mu_{d} \sin ^{2} \theta_{d}\right)^{1 / 2}
$$

but further consideration must be given to the choice of root of this complex number.
At this point Stratton (1941, p 501) writes $\cos \theta_{\mathrm{m}}$ as $\rho \exp$ (i $\gamma$ ) and gives expressions for $\rho$ and $\gamma$. However, $\gamma$ is defined only as modulo $\pi$ by his equations, and so he does not distinguish between two values of $\cos \theta_{\mathrm{m}}$ differing by a factor of -1 . Thus his quantities $p$ and $q$, real linear combinations of $\rho \cos \gamma$ and $\rho \sin \gamma$, are defined only in magnitude and not in sign (Stratton 1941, p 503). The values of the components of the electromagnetic fields subsequently found by Stratton are thus not determined uniquely.

We put

$$
\begin{equation*}
k_{\mathrm{m}} \cos \theta_{\mathrm{m}}=(\omega / c) S^{1 / 4}[\cos (\phi / 2)+\mathrm{i} \sin (\phi / 2)] \tag{3.2}
\end{equation*}
$$

where

$$
\begin{align*}
& S=\left(\epsilon_{1 \mathrm{~m}} \mu_{\mathrm{m}}-\epsilon_{\mathrm{d}} \mu_{\mathrm{d}} \sin ^{2} \theta_{\mathrm{d}}\right)^{2}+\epsilon_{2 \mathrm{~m}}^{2} \mu_{\mathrm{m}}^{2}  \tag{3.3}\\
& \cos \phi=\left(\epsilon_{1 \mathrm{~m}} \mu_{\mathrm{m}}-\epsilon_{\mathrm{d}} \mu_{\mathrm{d}} \sin ^{2} \theta_{\mathrm{d}}\right) / \mathrm{S}^{1 / 2} \\
& \sin \phi=\epsilon_{2 \mathrm{~m}} \mu_{\mathrm{m}} / S^{1 / 2} . \tag{3.4}
\end{align*}
$$

Since $\epsilon_{2 \mathrm{~m}}$ is positive, we know that $\pi \geqslant \phi \geqslant 0$. There are therefore two possible ranges for $\phi / 2: \pi / 2 \geqslant \phi / 2 \geqslant 0$, and $3 \pi / 2 \geqslant \phi / 2 \geqslant \pi$.

There are two conditions on $k_{\mathrm{m}} \cos \theta_{\mathrm{m}}$. First, so that the wave has a component in the $+z$ rather than the $-z$ direction, the real part must be positive. Secondly, for the wave to be attenuated, the imaginary part must be positive. Both considerations lead to the range for $\phi / 2$ being $\pi / 2 \geqslant \phi / 2 \geqslant 0$.

In equation (3.2), therefore, we need

$$
\begin{align*}
& \cos (\phi / 2)=\left[S^{1 / 2}+\left(\epsilon_{1 \mathrm{~m}} \mu_{\mathrm{m}}-\epsilon_{\mathrm{d}} \mu_{\mathrm{d}} \sin ^{2} \theta_{\mathrm{d}}\right)\right]^{1 / 2} /\left(S^{1 / 4} 2^{1 / 2}\right) \\
& \sin (\phi / 2)=\left[S^{1 / 2}-\left(\epsilon_{1 \mathrm{~m}} \mu_{\mathrm{m}}-\epsilon_{\mathrm{d}} \mu_{\mathrm{d}} \sin ^{2} \theta_{\mathrm{d}}\right)\right]^{1 / 2} /\left(S^{1 / 4} 2^{1 / 2}\right) \tag{3.5}
\end{align*}
$$

This value of $k_{\mathrm{m}} \cos \theta_{\mathrm{m}}$ will now be used in the Fresnel equations. (Only the product is needed; $k_{\mathrm{m}}$ and $\cos \theta_{\mathrm{m}}$ themselves can each only be defined to within a factor of -1 .)

## 4. General form of Fresnel equations

For each wave we initially define time-independent quantities; for example the electric field of the incident wave is written as

$$
\boldsymbol{E}_{0} \exp \left(-\mathrm{i} k_{\mathrm{d}} z \cos \theta_{\mathrm{d}}+\mathrm{i} k_{\mathrm{d}} y \sin \theta_{\mathrm{d}}\right) \exp (-\mathrm{i} \omega t)
$$

$\boldsymbol{E}_{0}$ is independent of time; for each mode of polarisation, one direction must be defined as the positive direction. For $s$ polarisation ( $\boldsymbol{E}$ normal to the plane of incidence) $E_{0}$, and the analagous quantities $E_{\text {refr }}$ and $E_{\text {reff }}$, are defined as positive when $\boldsymbol{E}_{0}, \boldsymbol{E}_{\text {refr }}$ and $\boldsymbol{E}_{\text {ref }}$ are in the $+x$ direction. $B_{0}$ and $B_{\text {refr }}$ are positive when the corresponding vectors have components in the $-y$ and $-z$ directions; for $B_{\text {refl }}$, the components must be in the $+y$ and $-z$ directions.

For $p$ polarisation ( $\boldsymbol{E}$ in the plane of incidence), it is convenient to define $B_{0}, B_{\text {refr }}$ and $B_{\text {ref }}$ as positive when the vectors lie in the $+x$ direction. $E_{0}$ and $E_{\text {refr }}$ are positive when the vectors have components in the $+y$ and $+z$ directions; for $E_{\text {ref }}$, the components must be in the $-y$ and $+z$ directions.
(Though these considerations may seem tedious and elementary, without explicit definitions algebraical results are meaningless; the diagrams of Stratton (1941, pp 493-494), for instance, seem less than completely satisfactory.)


Figure 3. Values of $\rho_{\text {refr }}$ for $s$ polarisation. Curves $N$ and $P$ are omitted as they lie extremely close to J.


Figure 4. Values of $\delta_{\text {refr }}$ for $s$ polarisation.

## 4.1. spolarisation

Applying the boundary conditions in the conventional manner, we find for $E_{\text {ref }}$ in this case

$$
\begin{equation*}
E_{\mathrm{ref}} / E_{0}=\left(\mu_{\mathrm{m}}^{2} \epsilon_{\mathrm{d}} \cos ^{2} \theta_{\mathrm{d}}-\mu_{\mathrm{d}} S^{1 / 2}-\mathrm{i} 2^{1 / 2} \mu_{\mathrm{m}} \mu_{\mathrm{d}}^{1 / 2} \epsilon_{\mathrm{d}}^{1 / 2} u_{-} \cos \theta_{\mathrm{d}}\right) / t_{1} \tag{4.1}
\end{equation*}
$$

where

$$
\begin{align*}
& t_{1}=\mu_{\mathrm{m}}^{2} \epsilon_{\mathrm{d}} \cos ^{2} \theta_{\mathrm{d}}+\mu_{\mathrm{d}} S^{1 / 2}+2^{1 / 2} \mu_{\mathrm{m}} \mu_{\mathrm{d}}^{1 / 2} \epsilon_{\mathrm{d}}^{1 / 2} u_{+} \cos \theta_{\mathrm{d}}  \tag{4.2}\\
& u_{ \pm}=\left[S^{1 / 2} \pm\left(\epsilon_{1 \mathrm{~m}} \mu_{\mathrm{m}}-\epsilon_{\mathrm{d}} \mu_{\mathrm{d}} \sin ^{2} \theta_{\mathrm{d}}\right)\right]^{1 / 2} \tag{4.3}
\end{align*}
$$

If $E_{\text {ref }}$ is written as

$$
\begin{equation*}
E_{\text {refi }}=E_{0} \rho_{\text {ref }} \exp \left(-i \delta_{\text {reff }}\right) \tag{4.4}
\end{equation*}
$$

then

$$
\begin{gather*}
\rho_{\text {ref }}=\left(\mu_{\mathrm{m}}^{2} \epsilon_{\mathrm{d}} \cos ^{2} \theta_{\mathrm{d}}+\mu_{\mathrm{d}} S^{1 / 2}-2^{1 / 2} \mu_{\mathrm{m}} \mu_{\mathrm{d}}^{1 / 2} \epsilon_{\mathrm{d}}^{1 / 2} u_{+} \cos \theta_{\mathrm{d}}\right)^{1 / 2} / t_{1}^{1 / 2}  \tag{4.5}\\
\tan \delta_{\text {reff }}=\frac{2^{1 / 2} \mu_{\mathrm{m}} \mu_{\mathrm{d}}^{1 / 2} \epsilon_{\mathrm{d}}^{1 / 2} u-\cos \theta_{\mathrm{d}}}{\mu_{\mathrm{m}}^{2} \epsilon_{\mathrm{d}} \cos ^{2} \theta_{\mathrm{d}}-\mu_{\mathrm{d}} S^{1 / 2}}  \tag{4.6}\\
\cos \delta_{\text {reff }}=\frac{\mu_{\mathrm{m}}^{2} \epsilon_{\mathrm{d}} \cos ^{2} \theta_{\mathrm{d}}-\mu_{\mathrm{d}} S^{1 / 2}}{\left[\mu_{\mathrm{m}}^{4} \epsilon_{\mathrm{d}}^{2} \cos ^{4} \theta_{\mathrm{d}}+\mu_{\mathrm{d}}^{2} S-2 \mu_{\mathrm{d}} \mu_{\mathrm{m}}^{2} \epsilon_{\mathrm{d}} \cos ^{2} \theta_{\mathrm{d}}\left(\epsilon_{1 \mathrm{~m}} \mu_{\mathrm{m}}-\epsilon_{\mathrm{d}} \mu_{\mathrm{d}} \sin ^{2} \theta_{\mathrm{d}}\right)\right]^{1 / 2}} . \tag{4.7}
\end{gather*}
$$

The corresponding quantity for the refracted wave, $E_{\text {refr }}$, is given by
$E_{\text {refr }} / E_{0}=2 \mu_{\mathrm{m}} \epsilon_{\mathrm{d}}^{1 / 2} \cos \theta_{\mathrm{d}}\left[\left(\mu_{\mathrm{m}} \epsilon_{\mathrm{d}}^{1 / 2} \cos \theta_{\mathrm{d}}+2^{-1 / 2} \mu_{\mathrm{d}}^{1 / 2} u_{+}\right)-\mathrm{i} 2^{-1 / 2} \mu_{\mathrm{d}}^{1 / 2} u_{-}\right] / t_{1}$.
With similar definitions as in equation (4.4)

$$
\begin{align*}
& \rho_{\text {refr }}=2 \mu_{\mathrm{m}} \epsilon_{\mathrm{d}}^{1 / 2} \cos \theta_{\mathrm{d}} / t_{1}^{1 / 2}  \tag{4.9}\\
& \tan \delta_{\mathrm{refr}}=\mu_{\mathrm{d}}^{1 / 2} u_{-} /\left(2^{1 / 2} \mu_{\mathrm{m}} \epsilon_{\mathrm{d}}^{1 / 2} \cos \theta_{\mathrm{d}}+\mu_{\mathrm{d}}^{1 / 2} u_{+}\right)  \tag{4.10}\\
& \cos \delta_{\mathrm{refr}}=\left(\mu_{\mathrm{m}} \epsilon_{\mathrm{d}}^{1 / 2} \cos \theta_{\mathrm{d}}+2^{-1 / 2} \mu_{\mathrm{d}}^{1 / 2} u_{+}\right) / t_{1}^{1 / 2} . \tag{4.11}
\end{align*}
$$

## 4.2. p polarisation

For this case, $E_{\text {ref }}$ is given by

$$
\begin{align*}
& E_{\mathrm{ref}} / E_{0}=\left\{\left[\mu_{\mathrm{d}} \mu_{\mathrm{m}}\left(\epsilon_{1 \mathrm{~m}}^{2}+\epsilon_{2 \mathrm{~m}}^{2}\right) \cos ^{2} \theta_{\mathrm{d}}-\mu_{\mathrm{m}} \epsilon_{\mathrm{d}} S^{1 / 2}\right]\right. \\
&\left.+\mathrm{i}\left[2^{1 / 2} \mu_{\mathrm{d}}^{1 / 2} \epsilon_{\mathrm{d}}^{1 / 2} \cos \theta_{\mathrm{d}} u_{-}\left(S^{1 / 2}-\epsilon_{\mathrm{d}} \mu_{\mathrm{d}} \sin ^{2} \theta_{\mathrm{d}}\right)\right]\right\} / t_{3} \tag{4.12}
\end{align*}
$$

where
$t_{3}=\mu_{\mathrm{d}} \mu_{\mathrm{m}}\left(\epsilon_{1 \mathrm{~m}}^{2}+\epsilon_{2 \mathrm{~m}}^{2}\right) \cos ^{2} \theta_{\mathrm{d}}+\mu_{\mathrm{m}} \epsilon_{\mathrm{d}} S^{1 / 2}+2^{1 / 2} \mu_{\mathrm{d}}^{1 / 2} \epsilon_{\mathrm{d}}^{1 / 2} u_{+} \cos \theta_{\mathrm{d}}\left(S^{1 / 2}+\epsilon_{\mathrm{d}} \mu_{\mathrm{d}} \sin ^{2} \theta_{\mathrm{d}}\right)$.


Figure 5. Values of $\rho_{\text {refl }}$ for $p$ polarisation.

With similar definitions again

$$
\begin{align*}
\rho_{\text {ref }}=\left\{\mu_{\mathrm{d}} \mu_{\mathrm{m}}( \right. & \left(\epsilon_{1 \mathrm{~m}}^{2}+\epsilon_{2 \mathrm{~m}}^{2}\right) \cos ^{2} \theta_{\mathrm{d}}+\mu_{\mathrm{m}} \epsilon_{\mathrm{d}} S^{1 / 2} \\
& \left.-2^{1 / 2} \mu_{\mathrm{d}}^{1 / 2} \epsilon_{\mathrm{d}}^{1 / 2} u_{+} \cos \theta_{\mathrm{d}}\left(S^{1 / 2}+\epsilon_{\mathrm{d}} \mu_{\mathrm{d}} \sin ^{2} \theta_{\mathrm{d}}\right)\right\}^{1 / 2} / t_{3}^{1 / 2}  \tag{4.14}\\
& \tan \delta_{\mathrm{ref}}=\frac{-2^{1 / 2} \mu_{\mathrm{d}}^{1 / 2} \epsilon_{\mathrm{d}}^{1 / 2} u_{-} \cos \theta_{\mathrm{d}}\left(S^{1 / 2}-\epsilon_{\mathrm{d}} \mu_{\mathrm{d}} \sin ^{2} \theta_{\mathrm{d}}\right)}{\mu_{\mathrm{d}} \mu_{\mathrm{m}}\left(\epsilon_{1 \mathrm{~m}}^{2}+\epsilon_{2 \mathrm{~m}}^{2}\right) \cos ^{2} \theta_{\mathrm{d}}-\mu_{\mathrm{m}} \epsilon_{\mathrm{d}} S^{1 / 2}} \tag{4.15}
\end{align*}
$$

$\cos \delta_{\text {reff }}=\left[\mu_{\mathrm{d}}\left(\epsilon_{1 \mathrm{~m}}^{2}+\epsilon_{2 \mathrm{~m}}^{2}\right) \cos ^{2} \theta_{\mathrm{d}}-\epsilon_{\mathrm{d}} S^{1 / 2}\right] /\left\{\mu_{\mathrm{d}}^{2} \cos ^{4} \theta_{\mathrm{d}}\left(\epsilon_{1 \mathrm{~m}}^{2}+\epsilon_{2 \mathrm{~m}}^{2}\right)^{2}\right.$

$$
\begin{equation*}
\left.+\epsilon_{\mathrm{d}}^{2} S+2 \mu_{\mathrm{d}} \epsilon_{\mathrm{d}} \cos ^{2} \theta_{\mathrm{d}}\left[-\epsilon_{1 \mathrm{~m}} \mu_{\mathrm{m}}\left(\epsilon_{1 \mathrm{~m}}^{2}+\epsilon_{2 \mathrm{~m}}^{2}\right)+\epsilon_{\mathrm{d}} \mu_{\mathrm{d}} \sin ^{2} \theta_{\mathrm{d}}\left(\epsilon_{1 \mathrm{~m}}^{2}-\epsilon_{2 \mathrm{~m}}^{2}\right)\right]\right\}^{1 / 2} . \tag{4.16}
\end{equation*}
$$

Discussion of the electric field of the refracted wave is a little more complex in this case. (Of course, if magnetic rather than electric fields are calculated, the modes of polarisation are interchanged apart from signs and constants.) It is convenient to start


Figure 6. Values of $\delta_{\text {refl }}$ for $p$ polarisation. Curve P is omitted as it lies between J and N .


Figure 7. Values of $\rho_{\mathrm{y}}$ for $p$ polarisation. Curves N and P are omitted as they lie extremely close to J.
from the refracted magnetic induction given by

$$
\begin{align*}
& \frac{B_{x(\text { refr })}}{B_{0}}=\frac{2 \mu_{\mathrm{m}}\left(\epsilon_{1 \mathrm{~m}}+\mathrm{i} \epsilon_{2 \mathrm{~m}}\right) \cos \theta_{\mathrm{d}}}{\mu_{\mathrm{d}}\left(\epsilon_{1 \mathrm{~m}}+\mathrm{i} \epsilon_{2 \mathrm{~m}}\right) \cos \theta_{\mathrm{d}}+\mu_{\mathrm{d}}^{1 / 2} \epsilon_{\mathrm{d}}^{1 / 2} S^{1 / 4}[\cos (\phi / 2)+\mathrm{i} \sin (\phi / 2)]} \\
& \times \exp \left[-\mathrm{i} S^{1 / 4} \cos (\phi / 2)(\omega / c) z\right] \exp \left[S^{1 / 4} \sin (\phi / 2)(\omega / c) z\right] \\
& \times \exp \left[\mathrm{i} k_{\mathrm{d}} y \sin \theta_{\mathrm{d}}\right] \exp (-\mathrm{i} \omega t) . \tag{4.17}
\end{align*}
$$



Figure 8. Values of $\delta_{y}$ for $p$ polarisation.

From Maxwell's equations the components of the electric field in the metal may be obtained. Because these are not in phase, they cannot be combined in a satisfactory way into an expression for a refracted wave, and will be given individually:

$$
\begin{align*}
E_{y} / E_{0}=\left\{2 \mu_{\mathrm{m}}\right. & \epsilon_{\mathrm{d}} S^{1 / 2}+2^{1 / 2} \mu_{\mathrm{d}}^{1 / 2} \epsilon_{\mathrm{d}}^{1 / 2} \cos \theta_{\mathrm{d}}\left[u_{+}\left(S^{1 / 2}+\epsilon_{\mathrm{d}} \mu_{\mathrm{d}} \sin ^{2} \theta_{\mathrm{d}}\right)\right. \\
& \left.\left.+\mathrm{i} u_{-}\left(\epsilon_{\mathrm{d}} \mu_{\mathrm{d}} \sin ^{2} \theta_{\mathrm{d}}-S^{1 / 2}\right)\right]\right\} \cos \theta_{\mathrm{d}} / t_{3}  \tag{4.18}\\
& \rho_{y}=\left\{4 \epsilon_{\mathrm{d}} \mu_{\mathrm{m}} \cos ^{2} \theta_{\mathrm{d}} S^{1 / 2} / t_{3}\right\}^{1 / 2}  \tag{4.19}\\
& \tan \delta_{y}=\frac{\mu_{\mathrm{d}}^{1 / 2} \cos \theta_{\mathrm{d}} u_{-}\left(S^{1 / 2}-\epsilon_{\mathrm{d}} \mu_{\mathrm{d}} \sin ^{2} \theta_{\mathrm{d}}\right)}{2^{1 / 2} \mu_{\mathrm{m}} \epsilon_{\mathrm{d}}^{1 / 2} S^{1 / 2}+\mu_{\mathrm{d}}^{1 / 2} u_{+} \cos \theta_{\mathrm{d}}\left(S^{1 / 2}+\epsilon_{\mathrm{d}} \mu_{\mathrm{d}} \sin ^{2} \theta_{\mathrm{d}}\right)} \tag{4.20}
\end{align*}
$$

$$
\begin{align*}
\cos \delta_{y}=\left[\mu_{\mathrm{d}}^{1 / 2} u_{+}( \right. & \left(S^{1 / 2}+\epsilon_{\mathrm{d}} \mu_{\mathrm{d}} \sin ^{2} \theta_{\mathrm{d}}\right) \cos \theta_{\mathrm{d}} \\
& \left.+2^{1 / 2} \epsilon_{\mathrm{d}}^{1 / 2} S^{1 / 2} \mu_{\mathrm{m}}\right] /\left\{2 ^ { 1 / 2 } S ^ { 1 / 4 } \mu _ { \mathrm { m } } ^ { 1 / 2 } \left[\mu_{\mathrm{d}} \mu_{\mathrm{m}} \cos ^{2} \theta_{\mathrm{d}}\left(\epsilon_{1 \mathrm{~m}}^{2}+\epsilon_{2 \mathrm{~m}}^{2}\right)\right.\right. \\
& \left.\left.+2^{1 / 2} \mu_{\mathrm{d}}^{1 / 2} \epsilon_{\mathrm{d}}^{1 / 2} u_{+} \cos \theta_{\mathrm{d}}\left(S^{1 / 2}+\epsilon_{\mathrm{d}} \mu_{\mathrm{d}} \sin ^{2} \theta_{\mathrm{d}}\right)+\epsilon_{\mathrm{d}} \mu_{\mathrm{m}} S^{1 / 2}\right]^{1 / 2}\right\} \tag{4.21}
\end{align*}
$$

$E_{z} / E_{0}=2 \mu_{\mathrm{d}}^{1 / 2} \mu_{\mathrm{m}} \epsilon_{\mathrm{d}} \cos \theta_{\mathrm{d}} \sin \theta_{\mathrm{d}}\left[\left(\mu_{\mathrm{d}}^{1 / 2} \epsilon_{1 \mathrm{~m}} \cos \theta_{\mathrm{d}}+\epsilon_{\mathrm{d}}^{1 / 2} 2^{-1 / 2} u_{+}\right)\right.$
$\left.-\mathrm{i}\left(\mu_{\mathrm{d}}^{1 / 2} \epsilon_{2 \mathrm{~m}} \cos \theta_{\mathrm{d}}+\epsilon_{\mathrm{d}}^{1 / 2} 2^{-1 / 2} u_{-}\right)\right] / t_{3}$.

$$
\begin{equation*}
\rho_{z}=2 \epsilon_{\mathrm{d}} \mu_{\mathrm{d}}^{1 / 2} \mu_{\mathrm{m}}^{1 / 2} \cos \theta_{\mathrm{d}} \sin \theta_{\mathrm{d}} / t_{3}^{1 / 2} \tag{4.22}
\end{equation*}
$$

$\tan \delta_{z}=\left(\epsilon_{\mathrm{d}}^{1 / 2} u_{-}+2^{1 / 2} \mu_{\mathrm{d}}^{1 / 2} \epsilon_{2 \mathrm{~m}} \cos \theta_{\mathrm{d}}\right) /\left(\epsilon_{\mathrm{d}}^{1 / 2} u_{+}+2^{1 / 2} \mu_{\mathrm{d}}^{1 / 2} \epsilon_{1 \mathrm{~m}} \cos \theta_{\mathrm{d}}\right)$

$$
\begin{equation*}
\cos \delta_{z}=\mu_{\mathrm{m}}^{1 / 2}\left(\mu_{\mathrm{d}}^{1 / 2} \epsilon_{1 \mathrm{~m}} \cos \theta_{\mathrm{d}}+2^{-1 / 2} u_{+} \epsilon_{\mathrm{d}}^{1 / 2}\right) / t_{3}^{1 / 2} \tag{4.24}
\end{equation*}
$$

## 5. Special cases

These formulae are completely general, and reduce in special cases to the simpler formulae.

## 5.1. $\epsilon_{2 m}=0$

For the case where $\epsilon_{2 \mathrm{~m}}$ is zero ( $\epsilon_{1 \mathrm{~m}}$ being positive), there are two types of situation. If $\epsilon_{1 \mathrm{~m}} \mu_{\mathrm{m}}>\epsilon_{\mathrm{d}} \mu_{\mathrm{d}} \sin ^{2} \theta_{\mathrm{d}}$ then

$$
\begin{align*}
& S^{1 / 2}=\epsilon_{1 \mathrm{~m}} \mu_{\mathrm{m}}-\epsilon_{\mathrm{d}} \mu_{\mathrm{d}} \sin ^{2} \theta_{\mathrm{d}}  \tag{5.1}\\
& \cos (\phi / 2)=1,  \tag{5.2}\\
& u_{+}=2^{1 / 2} S^{1 / 4}, \tag{5.3}
\end{align*} \quad \sin (\phi / 2)=0 . \quad u_{-}=0 .
$$

then, for $s$ polarisation

$$
\begin{align*}
& \rho_{\text {refr }}=2 \mu_{\mathrm{m}} \epsilon_{\mathrm{d}}^{1 / 2} \cos \theta_{\mathrm{d}} /\left[\mu_{\mathrm{m}} \epsilon_{\mathrm{d}}^{1 / 2} \cos \theta_{\mathrm{d}}+\mu_{\mathrm{d}}^{1 / 2}\left(\epsilon_{1 \mathrm{~m}} \mu_{\mathrm{m}}-\epsilon_{\mathrm{d}} \mu_{\mathrm{d}} \sin ^{2} \theta_{\mathrm{d}}\right)^{1 / 2}\right]  \tag{5.4}\\
& \delta_{\text {refr }}=0  \tag{5.5}\\
& \rho_{\text {refl }}=\left|\mu_{\mathrm{m}} \epsilon_{\mathrm{d}}^{1 / 2} \cos \theta_{\mathrm{d}}-\mu_{\mathrm{d}}^{1 / 2} S^{1 / 4}\right| /\left(\mu_{\mathrm{m}} \epsilon_{\mathrm{d}}^{1 / 2} \cos \theta_{\mathrm{d}}+\mu_{\mathrm{d}}^{1 / 2} S^{1 / 4}\right) \tag{5.6}
\end{align*}
$$

$\delta_{\text {reff }}$ is equal to zero if $\mu_{\mathrm{m}}^{2} \epsilon_{\mathrm{d}} \cos ^{2} \theta_{\mathrm{d}}+\mu_{\mathrm{d}}^{2} \epsilon_{\mathrm{d}} \sin ^{2} \theta_{\mathrm{d}}>\epsilon_{1 \mathrm{~m}} \mu_{\mathrm{m}} \mu_{\mathrm{d}}$, but there is a phase change of $\pi$ if this inequality is not obeyed.

For $p$ polarisation

$$
\begin{equation*}
\rho_{\text {ref }}=\left|\mu_{\mathrm{d}}^{1 / 2} \epsilon_{1 \mathrm{~m}} \cos \theta_{\mathrm{d}}-\epsilon_{\mathrm{d}}^{1 / 2} \boldsymbol{S}^{1 / 4}\right| /\left(\mu_{\mathrm{d}}^{1 / 2} \epsilon_{1 \mathrm{~m}} \cos \theta_{\mathrm{d}}-\boldsymbol{\epsilon}_{\mathrm{d}}^{1 / 2} S^{1 / 4}\right) . \tag{5.7}
\end{equation*}
$$

$\delta_{\text {ref }}$ is zero if $\mu_{\mathrm{d}} \epsilon_{1 \mathrm{~m}}^{2} \cos ^{2} \theta_{\mathrm{d}}+\epsilon_{\mathrm{d}}^{2} \mu_{\mathrm{d}} \sin ^{2} \theta_{\mathrm{d}}>\epsilon_{\mathrm{d}} \epsilon_{1 \mathrm{~m}} \mu_{\mathrm{m}}$ and there is a phase change of $\pi$ otherwise.

For the refracted wave, $E_{y}$ and $E_{z}$ are given by

$$
\begin{align*}
& E_{\mathrm{y}} / E_{0}=\left[2 \epsilon_{\mathrm{d}}^{1 / 2} \cos \theta_{\mathrm{d}}\left(\epsilon_{1 \mathrm{~m}} \mu_{\mathrm{m}}-\epsilon_{\mathrm{d}} \mu_{\mathrm{d}} \sin ^{2} \theta_{\mathrm{d}}\right)^{1 / 2}\right] / t_{4}  \tag{5.8}\\
& E_{z} / E_{0}=2 \epsilon_{\mathrm{d}} \mu_{\mathrm{d}}^{1 / 2} \cos \theta_{\mathrm{d}} \sin \theta_{\mathrm{d}} / t_{4} \tag{5.9}
\end{align*}
$$

where

$$
\begin{equation*}
t_{4}=\mu_{\mathrm{d}}^{1 / 2} \epsilon_{1 \mathrm{~m}} \cos \theta_{\mathrm{d}}+\epsilon_{\mathrm{d}}^{1 / 2}\left(\epsilon_{1 \mathrm{~m}} \mu_{\mathrm{m}}-\epsilon_{\mathrm{d}} \mu_{\mathrm{d}} \sin ^{2} \theta_{\mathrm{d}}\right)^{1 / 2} \tag{5.10}
\end{equation*}
$$

It is easy to show that $E_{y}$ and $E_{z}$ combine in this case to give a refracted wave at the appropriate angle given by Snell's Law.

If, however, $\epsilon_{1 \mathrm{~m}} \mu_{\mathrm{m}}<\epsilon_{\mathrm{d}} \mu_{\mathrm{d}} \sin ^{2} \theta_{\mathrm{d}}$, we are in the region of total internal reflection. Here

$$
\begin{align*}
& S^{1 / 2}=\epsilon_{\mathrm{d}} \mu_{\mathrm{d}} \sin ^{2} \theta_{\mathrm{d}}-\epsilon_{1 \mathrm{~m}} \mu_{\mathrm{m}}  \tag{5.11}\\
& \cos (\phi / 2)=0, \quad \sin (\phi / 2)=1  \tag{5.12}\\
& u_{+}=0, \quad u_{-}=2^{1 / 2} S^{1 / 4} \tag{5.13}
\end{align*}
$$

From equation (3.2), and the form of the refracted wave in § 3 , we see that the amplitudes of the field will indeed decay exponentially as we move into the 'metal'. It is obvious that $\rho_{\text {refl }}=1$, and $\rho_{\text {refr }}, \delta_{\text {ref }}$ and $\delta_{\text {refr }}$ may be found easily.


Figure 9. Values of $\rho_{\mathrm{z}}$ for $p$ polarisation. Curves $\mathrm{H}, \mathrm{J}, \mathrm{K}$ and L are omitted as all values are too small on this scale. Their form is similar to curve M for example. Curves N and P are omitted because they are extremely close to $G$.

### 5.2. Normal incidence

For normal incidence

$$
\begin{align*}
& S=\mu_{\mathrm{m}}^{2}\left(\epsilon_{1 \mathrm{~m}}^{2}+\epsilon_{2 \mathrm{~m}}^{2}\right)  \tag{5.14}\\
& u_{ \pm}=\mu_{\mathrm{m}}^{1 / 2}\left[\left(\epsilon_{1 \mathrm{~m}}^{2}+\epsilon_{2 \mathrm{~m}}^{2}\right)^{1 / 2} \pm \epsilon_{1 \mathrm{~m}}\right]^{1 / 2} \tag{5.15}
\end{align*}
$$

The interesting point about this case is that the two modes of polarisation should become identical. Calculation of the various quantities shows that this is indeed the case, except for $\delta_{\text {ref }}$ where there is a difference of $\pi$ between the two expressions. This is a direct result of our choices of positive direction at the beginning of $\S 4$. For $p$ polarisation, the positive direction for $E_{\text {ref }}$ is opposite to that for $E_{0}$ in this case, whereas for $s$ polarisation the directions are the same. There is no similar difficulty for the refracted wave if $\rho_{y}$ and $\delta_{y}$ are defined as $\rho_{\text {refr }}$ and $\delta_{\text {refr }}$.

### 5.3. High conductivity

In the case of high conductivity we have

$$
\begin{align*}
& S=\epsilon_{2 \mathrm{~m}}^{2} \mu_{\mathrm{m}}^{2}  \tag{5.16}\\
& \cos (\phi / 2)=\sin (\phi / 2)=2^{-1 / 2}  \tag{5.17}\\
& u_{+}=u_{-}=\epsilon_{2 \mathrm{~m}}^{1 / 2} \mu_{\mathrm{m}}^{1 / 2} . \tag{5.18}
\end{align*}
$$



Figure 10. Values of $\delta_{\mathbf{z}}$ for $p$ polarisation.

All the usual formulae may be obtained. For the case of $s$ polarisation, $\rho_{\text {refr }}$ is very small, while $\rho_{\text {ref }}$ is only just less than unity:

$$
\begin{align*}
& \rho_{\mathrm{refr}}=\left(2 \mu_{\mathrm{m}}^{1 / 2} \epsilon_{\mathrm{d}}^{1 / 2} \cos \theta_{\mathrm{d}}\right) /\left(\mu_{\mathrm{d}}^{1 / 2} \epsilon_{2 \mathrm{~m}}^{1 / 2}\right)  \tag{5.19}\\
& \rho_{\mathrm{reff}}=1-\left[2^{3 / 2} \mu_{\mathrm{m}}^{1 / 2} \epsilon_{\mathrm{d}}^{1 / 2} \cos \theta_{\mathrm{d}} / \mu_{\mathrm{d}}^{1 / 2} \epsilon_{2 \mathrm{~m}}^{1 / 2}\right] \tag{5.20}
\end{align*}
$$

$\delta_{\text {refr }}$ is $\pi / 4$, while $\delta_{\text {ref }}$ is $\pi$. Similar results are obtained for $p$ polarisation.

## 6. Conclusion

The various quantities have been evaluated for a number of cases. ( $\epsilon_{\mathrm{d}}, \mu_{\mathrm{d}}$ and $\mu_{\mathrm{m}}$ are put equal to unity.) A great variety of behaviour is displayed, although it could still not be claimed that the coverage is complete. No treatment in any way as comprehensive as this appears to be available.

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