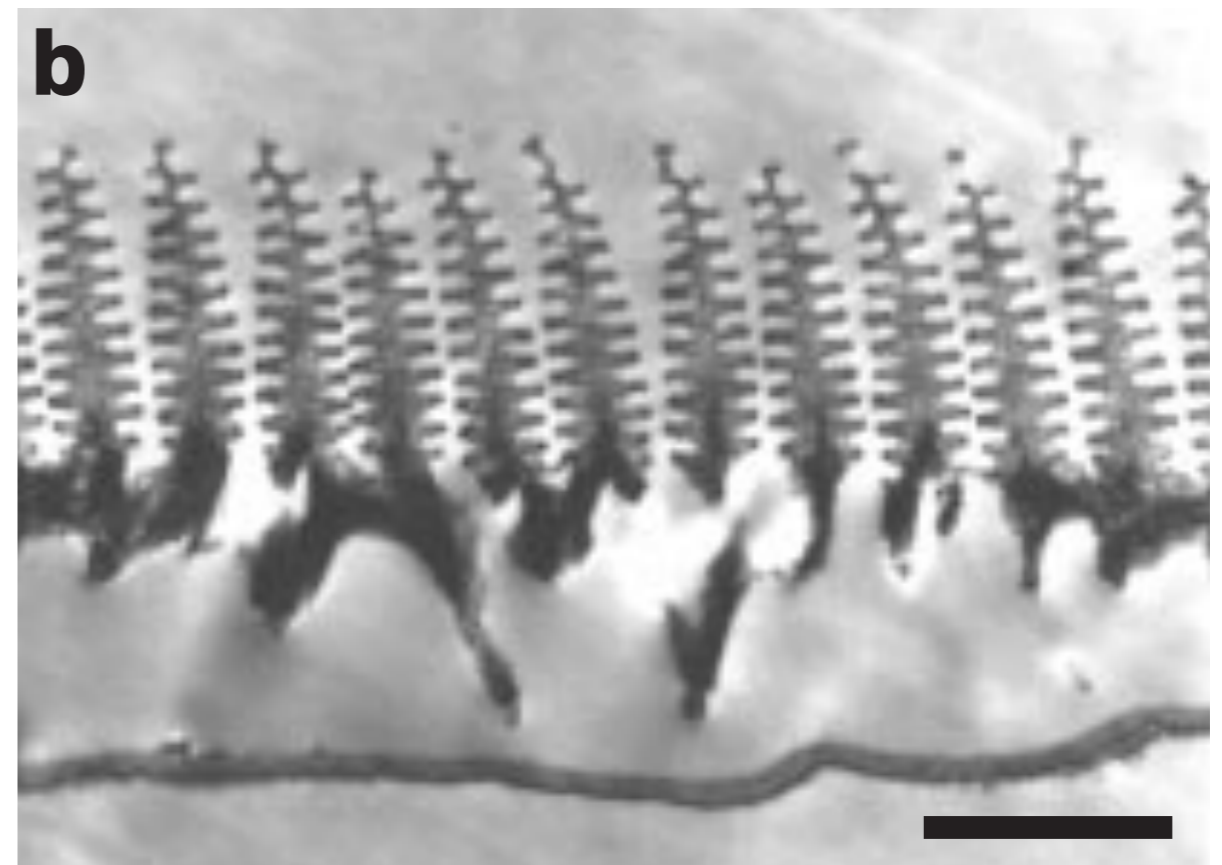


MAE 545: Lecture 2 (2/8)

Structural colors



1.7 μm

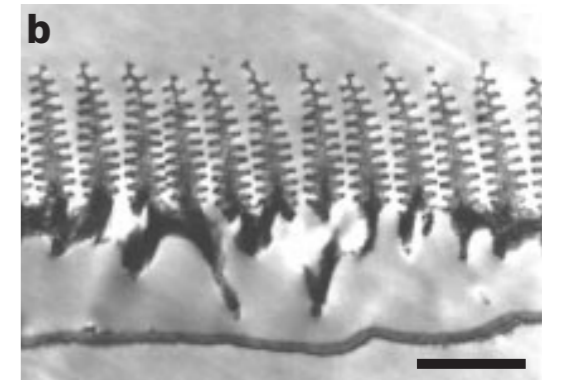
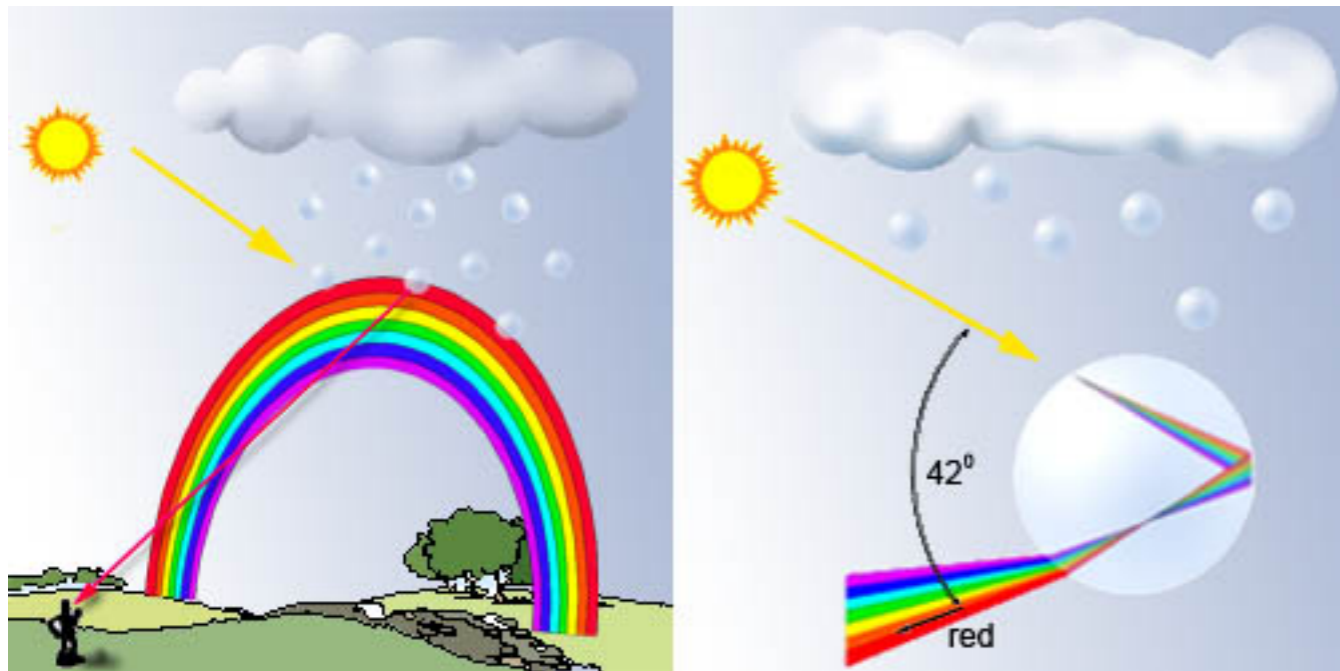
Structural color

Structural colors of animals and plants appear due to the selective reflection of ambient light on structural features underneath the surface.

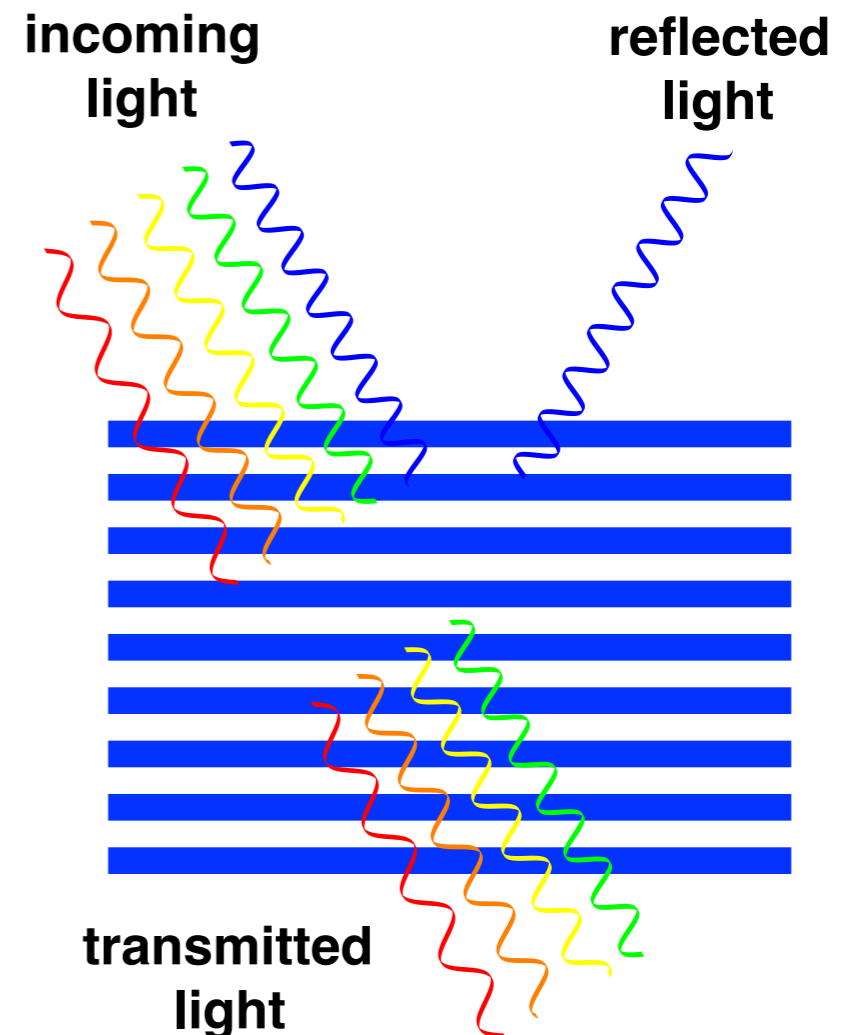
structural color

White light coming from the sun consists of all colors.

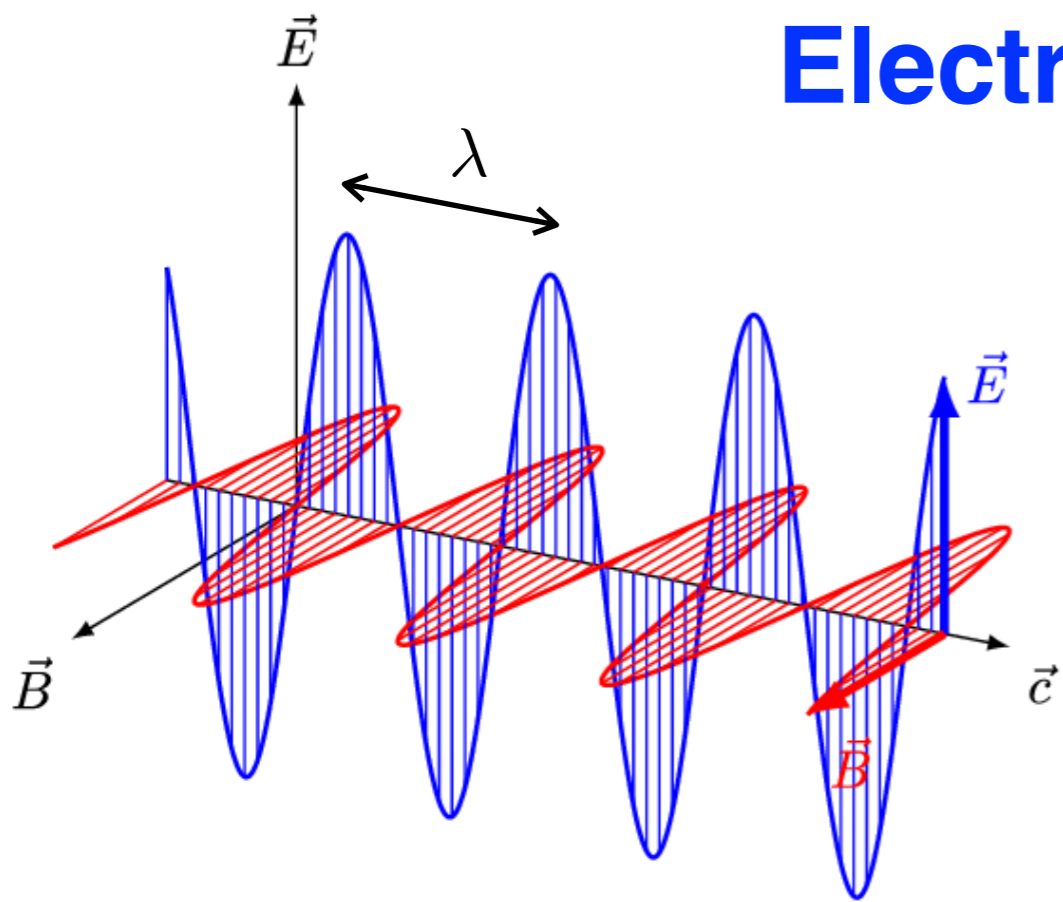
rainbow



1.7 μm



Electromagnetic waves



electric field

magnetic field

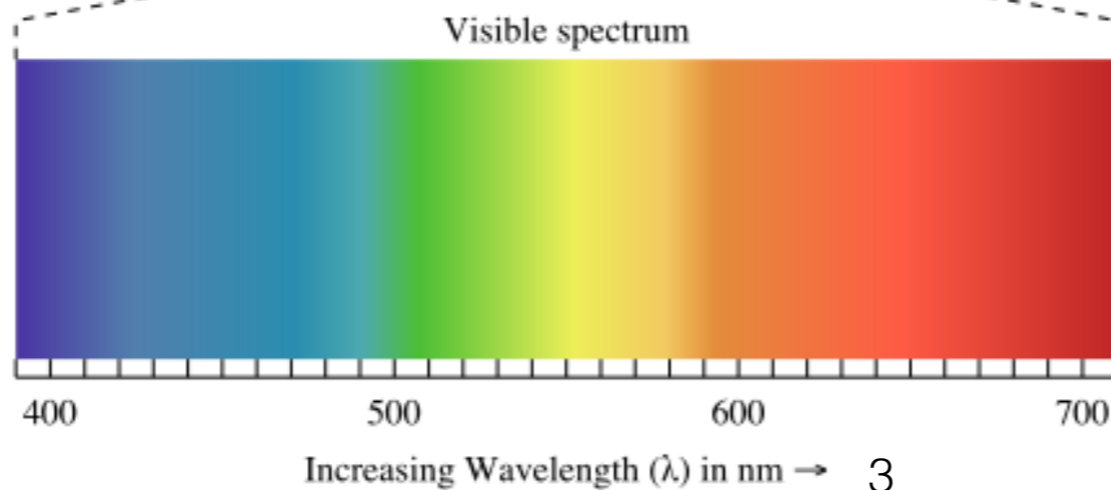
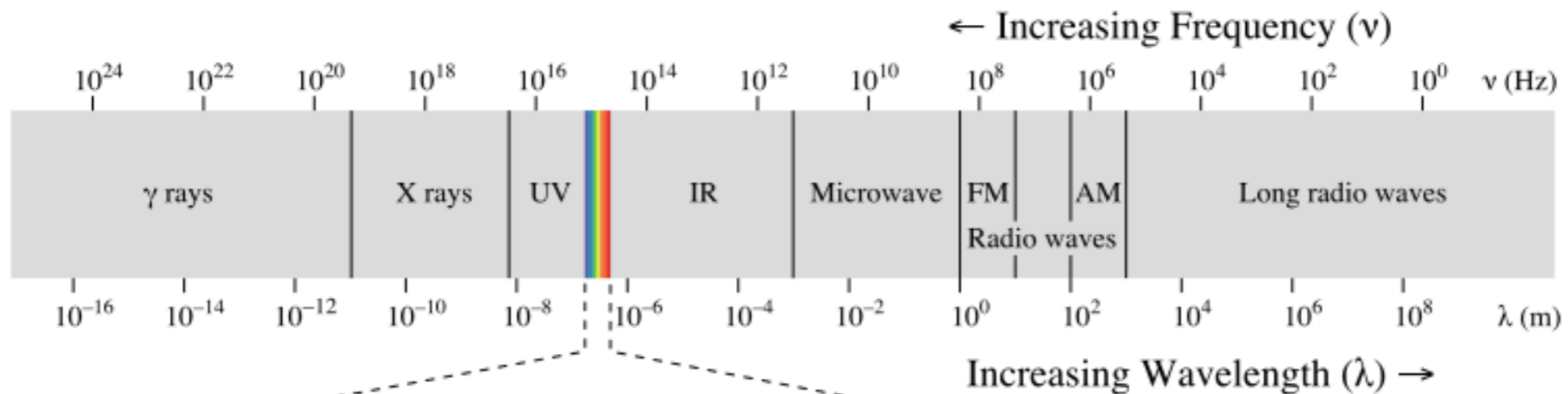
$$c^2 \vec{B}_0 = \vec{c} \times \vec{E}_0$$

speed of light

$$c_0 = \lambda \nu = 3 \times 10^8 \text{ m/s}$$

wavelength λ

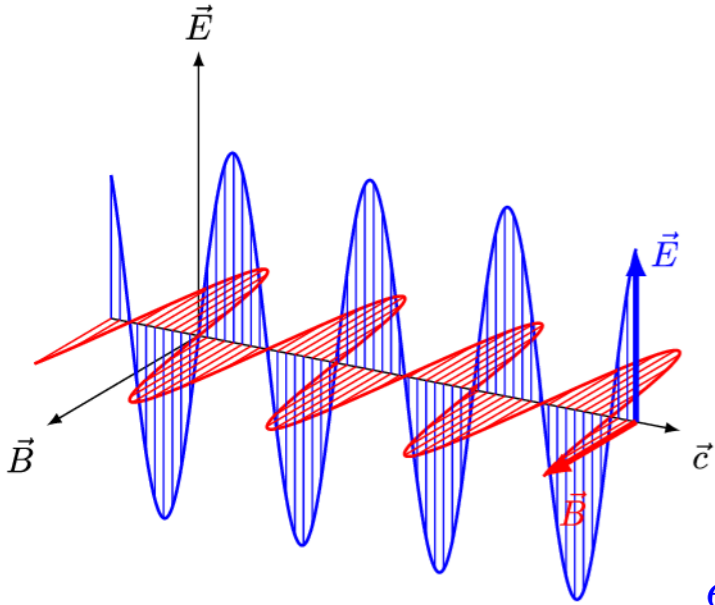
frequency ν



White light coming from the sun contains electromagnetic waves of all wavelengths!

Wave equation

electromagnetic waves



$$c = \frac{1}{\sqrt{\epsilon\mu}}$$

ϵ permittivity
 μ permeability

$$\frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial t^2} = c^2 \nabla^2 u$$

Solutions are traveling waves with velocity c .

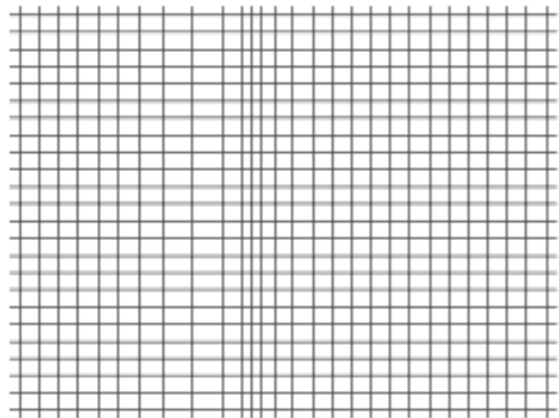
waves in ropes under tension



$$c = \sqrt{\frac{F}{\rho A}}$$

F tensile force
 ρ mass density
 A cross-section area

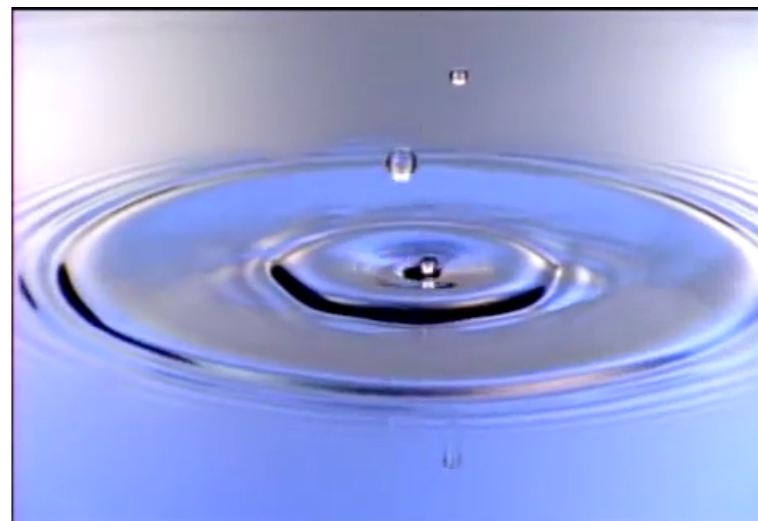
sound waves



$$c = \sqrt{\frac{K}{\rho}}$$

K bulk modulus
 ρ mass density

waves on liquid surfaces



shallow water

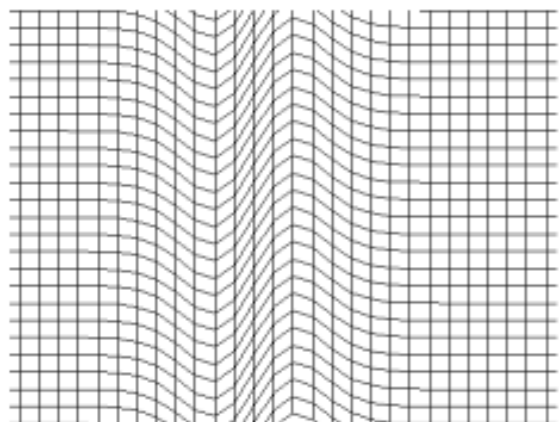
$$c = \sqrt{gh}$$

deep water

$$c = \sqrt{\frac{g\lambda}{2\pi}}$$

g gravitational const.
 h water depth
 λ wavelength

shear waves



$$c = \sqrt{\frac{\mu}{\rho}}$$

μ shear modulus
 ρ mass density

Plane waves

Solutions of wave equation can be described as a linear superposition of plane waves:

$$u(x, t) = \sum_{\vec{k}} A_{\vec{k}} e^{i(\vec{k} \cdot \vec{r} - \omega t)}$$

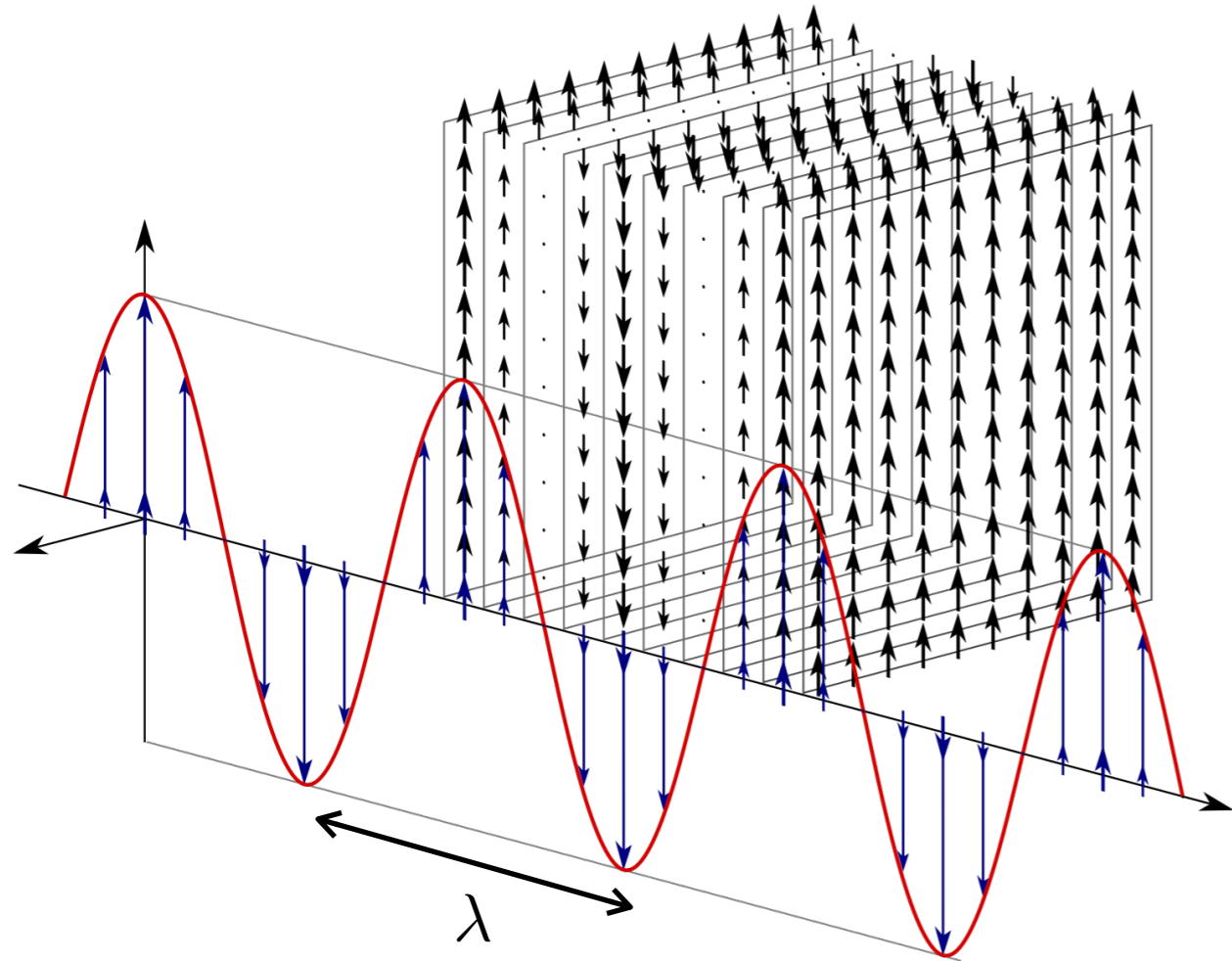
$$k = \frac{2\pi}{\lambda} \quad \text{wavevector}$$

$$\omega = 2\pi\nu \quad \text{angular frequency}$$

Plane waves travel in direction of \vec{k} with velocity:

$$c = \frac{\omega}{k} = \lambda\nu$$

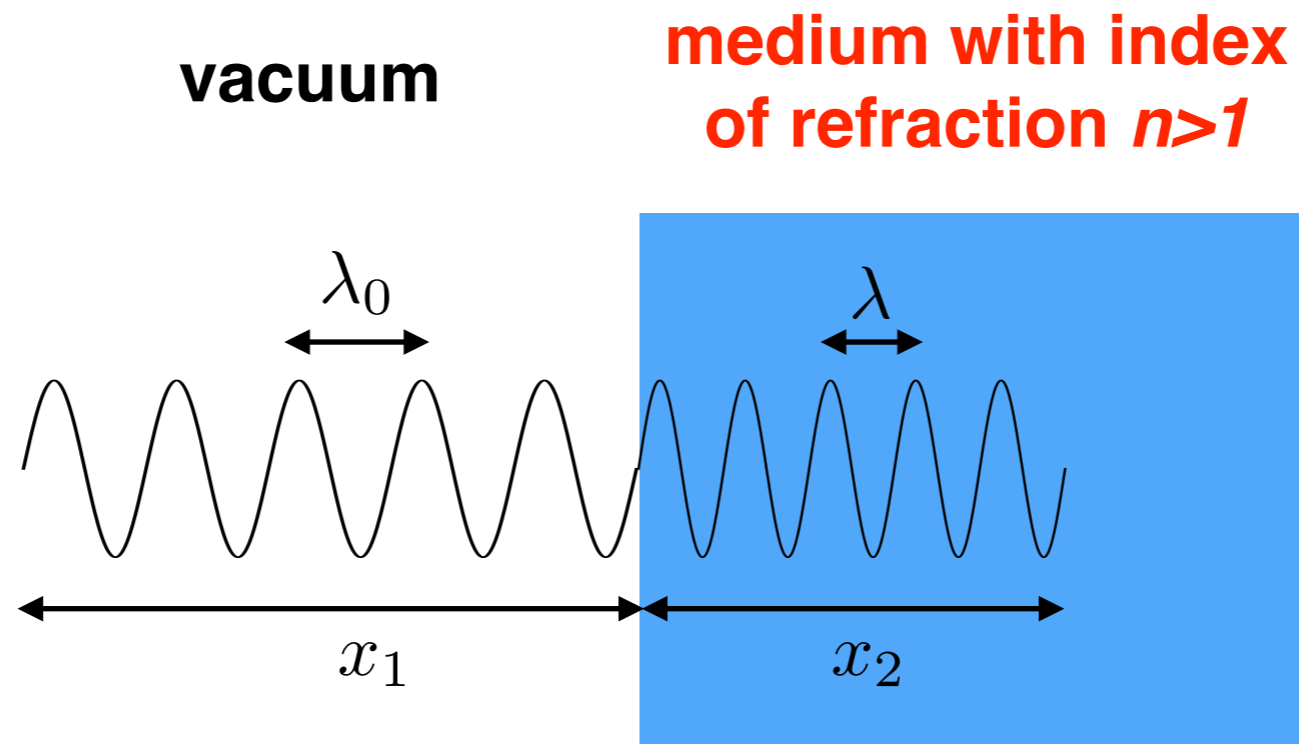
Note: velocity of plane waves may depend on the wavevector $c(\vec{k})$!



Planes of constant phases:

$$\vec{k} \cdot \vec{r} = \text{const}$$

Propagation of light in medium



speed of light

$$c_0 = 3 \times 10^8 \text{ m/s}$$

$$c = c_0/n$$

frequency

$$\nu_0$$

$$\nu = \nu_0$$

wavelength

$$\lambda_0$$

$$\lambda = \lambda_0/n$$

$$c_0 = \nu_0 \lambda_0$$

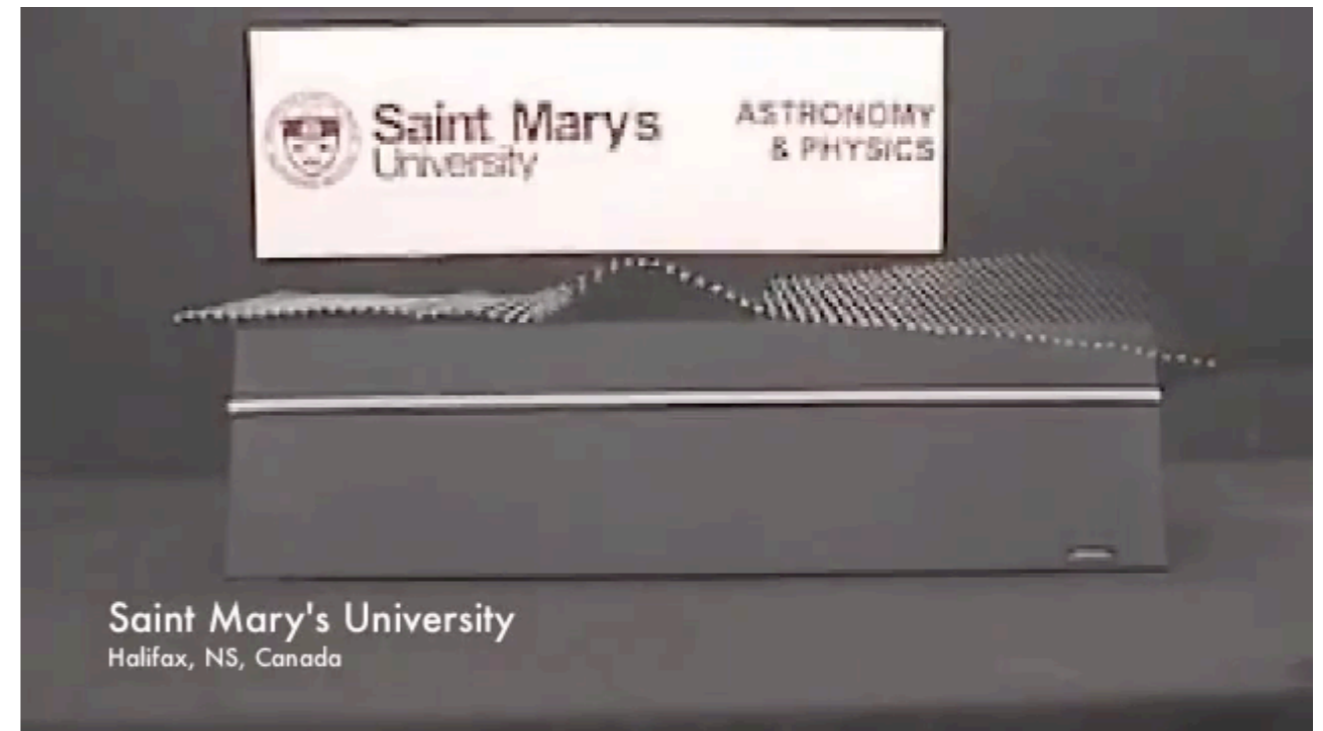
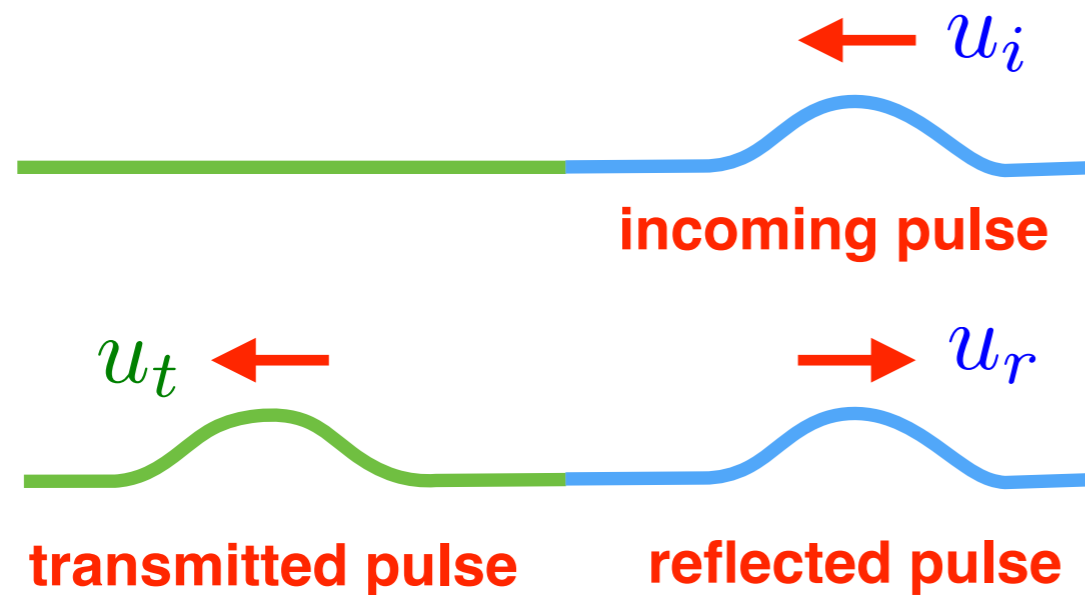
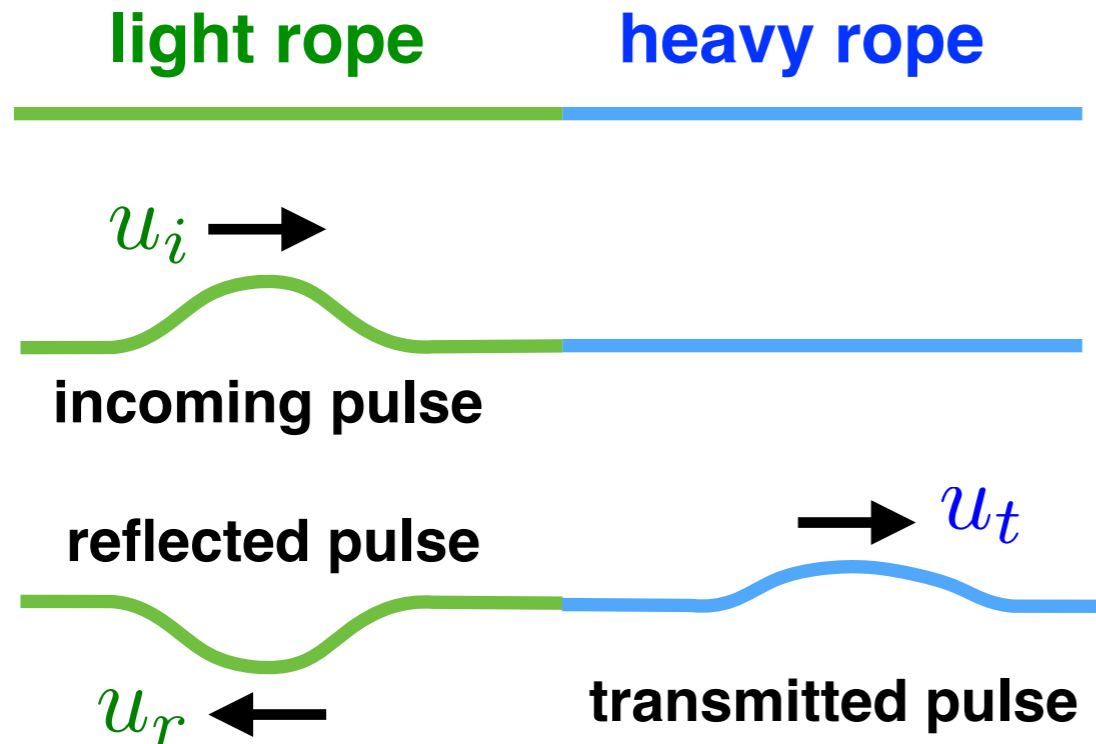
$$c = \nu \lambda$$

total number of cycles

$$\frac{x_1}{\lambda_0} + \frac{x_2}{\lambda} = \frac{x_1 + n x_2}{\lambda_0}$$

Optical path length is geometric distance multiplied by the index of refraction!

Reflection of waves



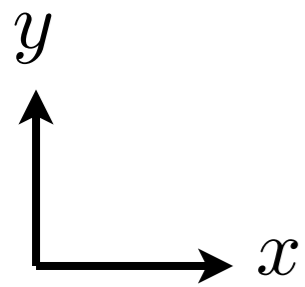
amplitude of reflected pulse

$$\frac{u_r}{u_i} = \frac{c_2 - c_1}{c_1 + c_2}$$

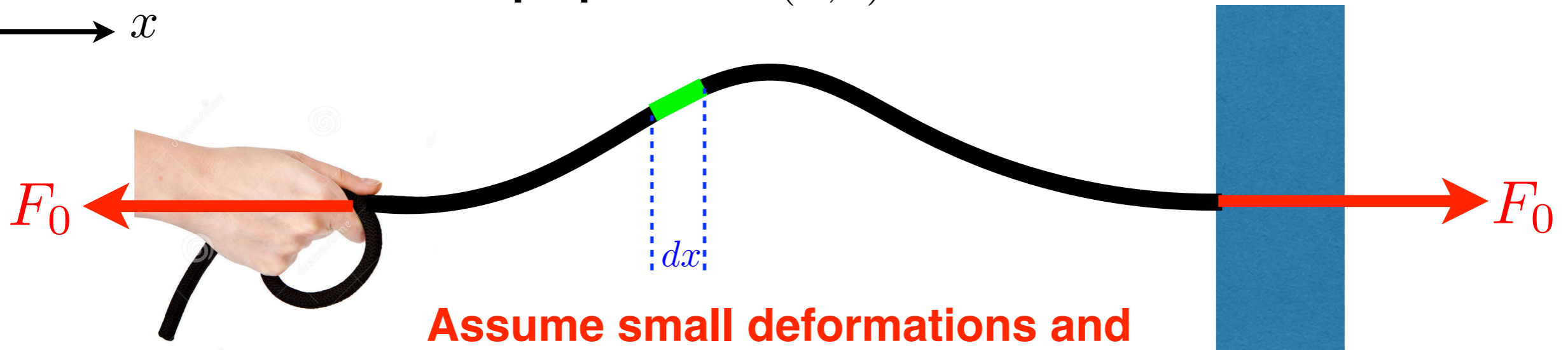
amplitude of transmitted pulse

$$\frac{u_t}{u_i} = \frac{2c_2}{c_1 + c_2}$$

Wave equation for rope under tension



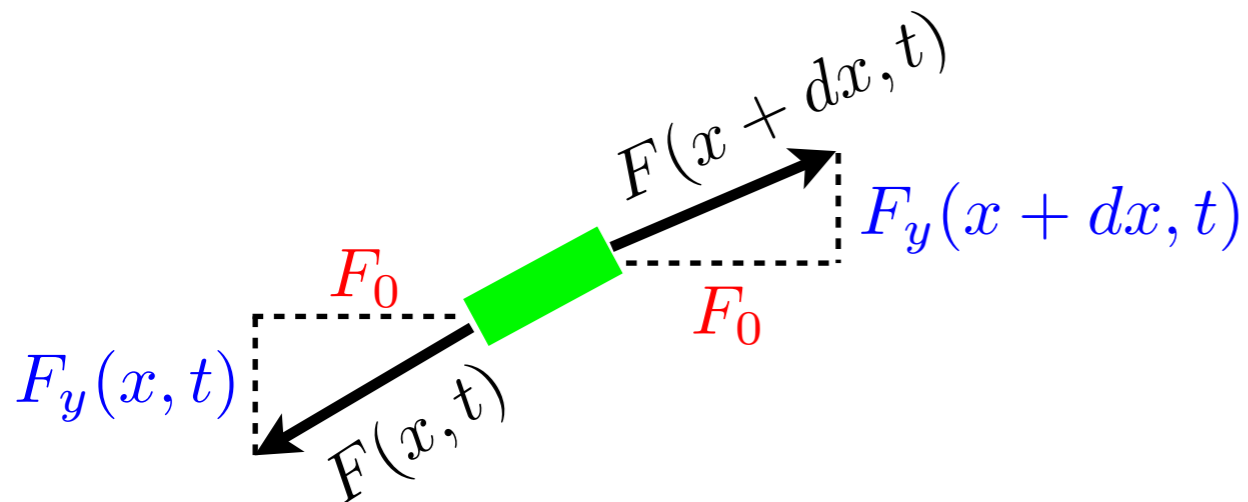
shape profile: $h(x, t)$



Assume small deformations and ignore movement in x direction!

Forces acting on a small rope element:

Second Newton's law for a small rope element:



$$\rho A dx \frac{\partial^2 h}{\partial t^2} = F_y(x + dx, t) - F_y(x, t)$$

$$\rho A \frac{\partial^2 h}{\partial t^2} = \frac{\partial F_y}{\partial x} = F_0 \frac{\partial^2 h}{\partial x^2}$$

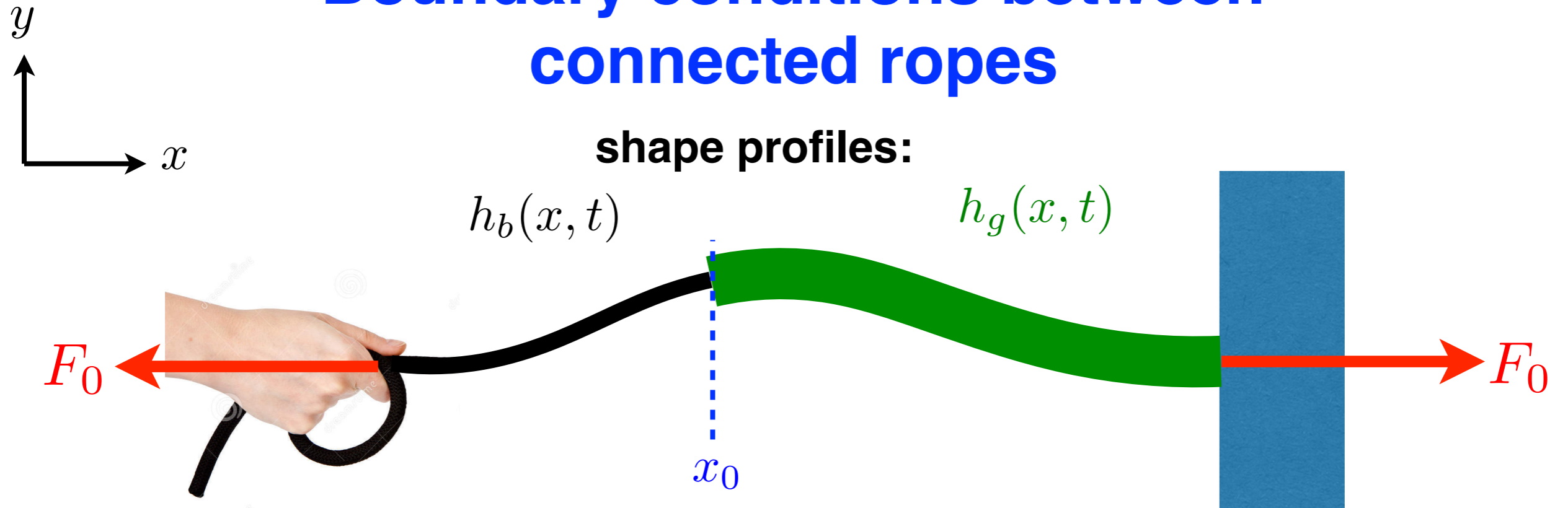
Forces act only in direction of the rope:

Wave equation:

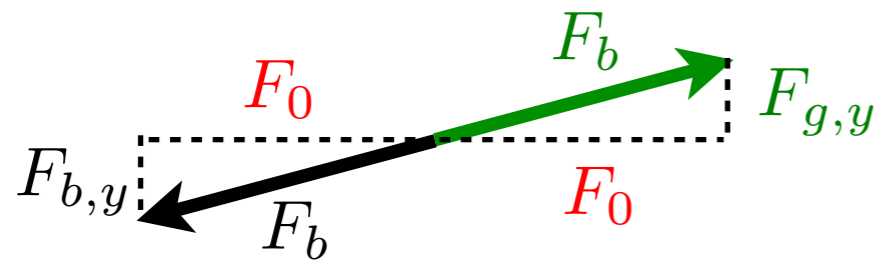
$$\frac{F_y(x, t)}{F_0} = \frac{\partial h(x, t)}{\partial x}$$

$$\frac{\partial^2 h}{\partial t^2} = \frac{F_0}{\rho A} \frac{\partial^2 h}{\partial x^2} \equiv c^2 \frac{\partial^2 h}{\partial x^2}$$

Boundary conditions between connected ropes



Forces acting on the massless point, where ropes are connected:



Newton's law for this massless point:

$$F_{g,y} - F_{b,y} = ma = 0$$



Continuity: ropes are connected

$$h_b(x_0, t) = h_g(x_0, t)$$

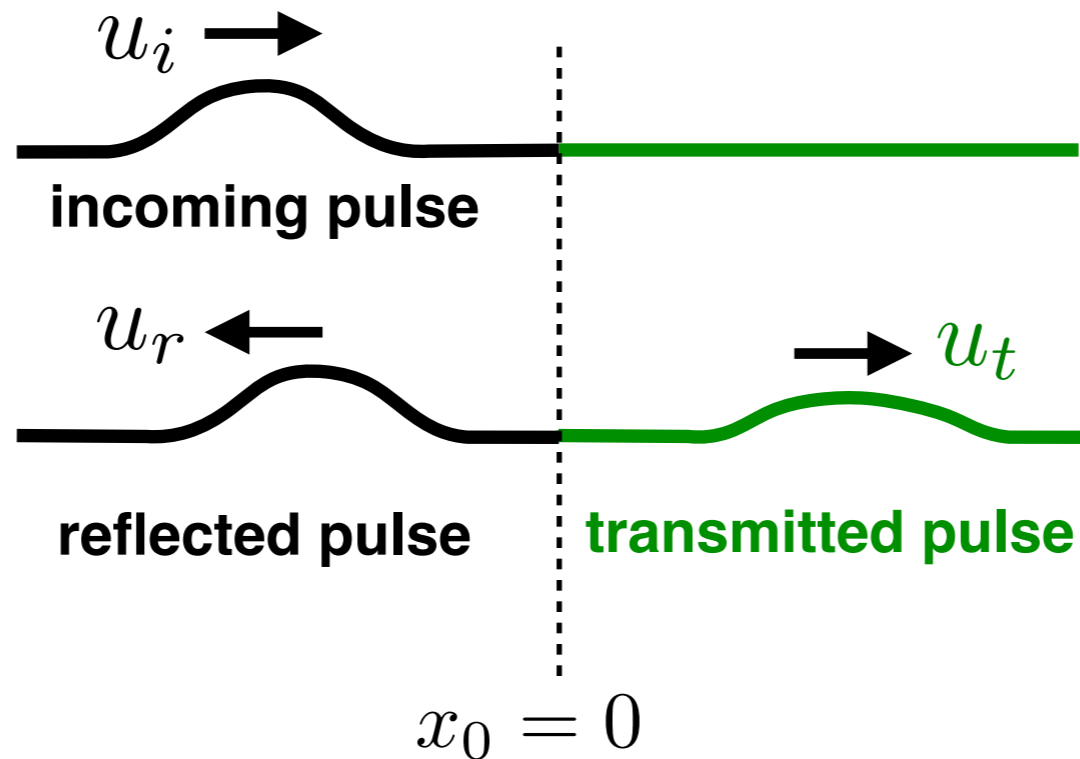
Force balance:

$$\frac{\partial h_b}{\partial x}(x_0, t) = \frac{\partial h_g}{\partial x}(x_0, t)$$

Reflection of waves on ropes

wave speed in black rope

$$c_1 = \frac{\omega}{k_1}$$



wave speed in green rope

$$c_2 = \frac{\omega}{k_2}$$

Solutions of wave equations can be expanded in Fourier series:

$$u_b(x, t) = \sum_{\omega} \left(\begin{array}{l} \text{incoming pulse} \\ A_{\omega} e^{i(k_1 x - \omega t)} \end{array} + \begin{array}{l} \text{reflected pulse} \\ B_{\omega} e^{i(-k_1 x - \omega t)} \end{array} \right)$$

$$u_g(x, t) = \sum_{\omega} \left(\begin{array}{l} \text{transmitted pulse} \\ C_{\omega} e^{i(k_2 x - \omega t)} \end{array} \right)$$

amplitudes of reflected and transmitted waves:

boundary conditions:

$$u_b(0, t) = u_g(0, t)$$

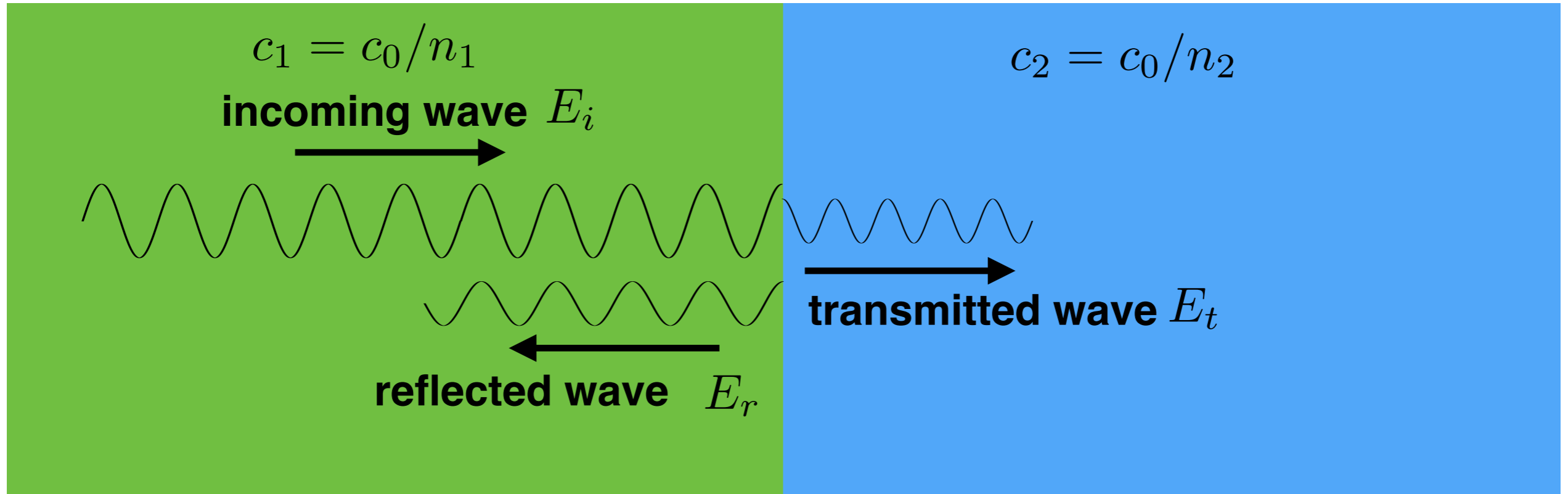
$$A_{\omega} + B_{\omega} = C_{\omega}$$

$$\frac{\partial u_b}{\partial x}(0, t) = \frac{\partial u_g}{\partial x}(0, t)$$

$$ik_1(A_{\omega} - B_{\omega}) = ik_2 C_{\omega}$$

$$\begin{aligned} B_{\omega} &= A_{\omega} \frac{(c_2 - c_1)}{(c_1 + c_2)} \\ C_{\omega} &= A_{\omega} \frac{2c_2}{(c_1 + c_2)} \end{aligned}$$

Reflection of light at the interface between two media



boundary conditions for incident waves normal to the interface:

$$E_1 = E_2 \quad H_1 = H_2 \rightarrow \frac{\partial E_1}{\partial x} = \frac{\partial E_2}{\partial x}$$

amplitude of reflected electric field

$$r \equiv \frac{E_r}{E_i} = \frac{n_1 - n_2}{n_1 + n_2}$$

amplitude of transmitted electric field

$$t \equiv \frac{E_t}{E_i} = \frac{2n_1}{n_1 + n_2}$$

energy density of electromagnetic waves

$$\propto n|E|^2$$

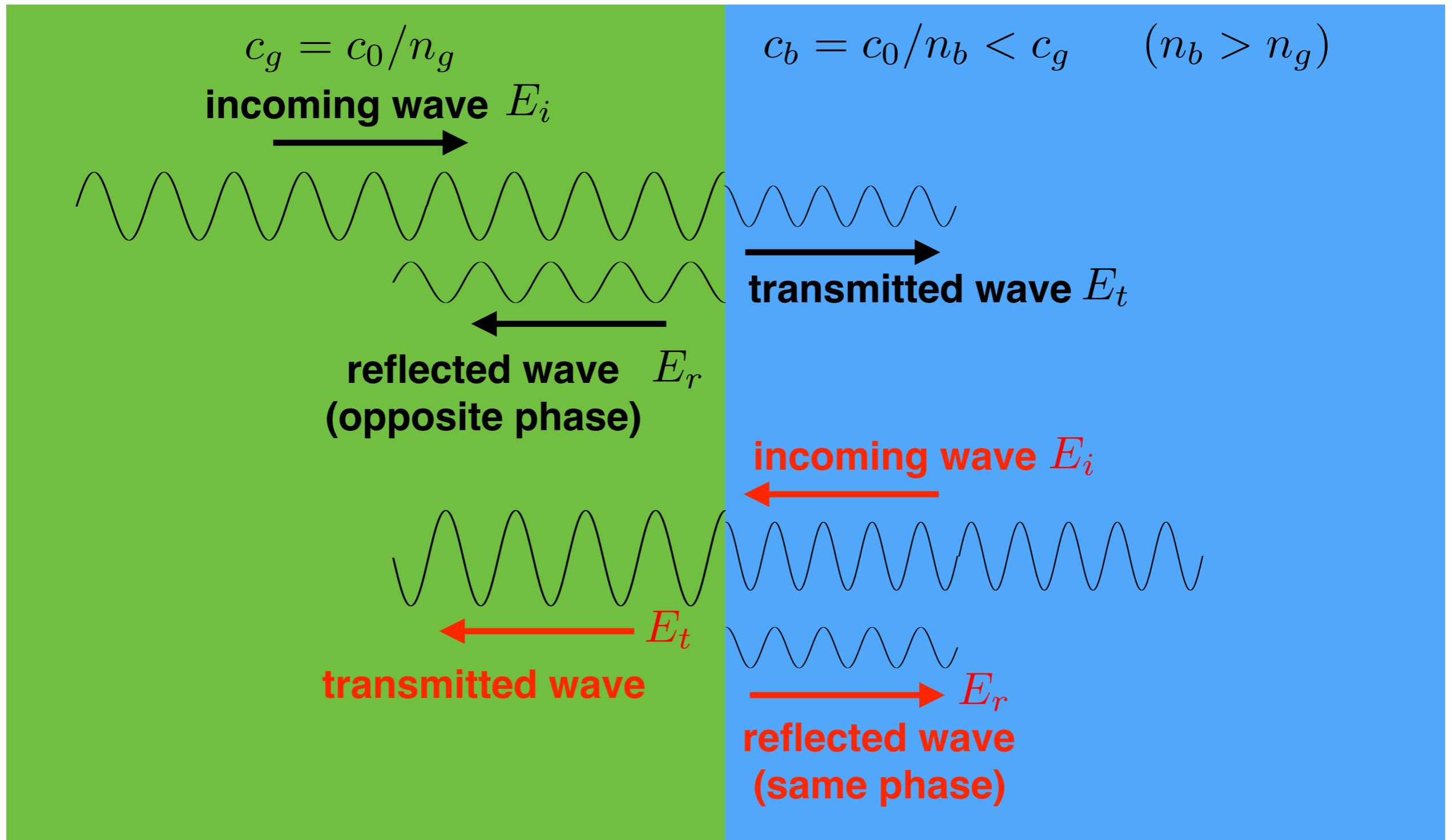
reflectance

$$R \equiv \frac{n_1 |E_r|^2}{n_1 |E_i|^2} = |r|^2$$

transmittance

$$T \equiv \frac{n_2 |E_t|^2}{n_1 |E_i|^2} = |t|^2 \frac{n_2}{n_1} = 1 - R$$

Reflection of light at the interface between two media



amplitude of reflected electric field

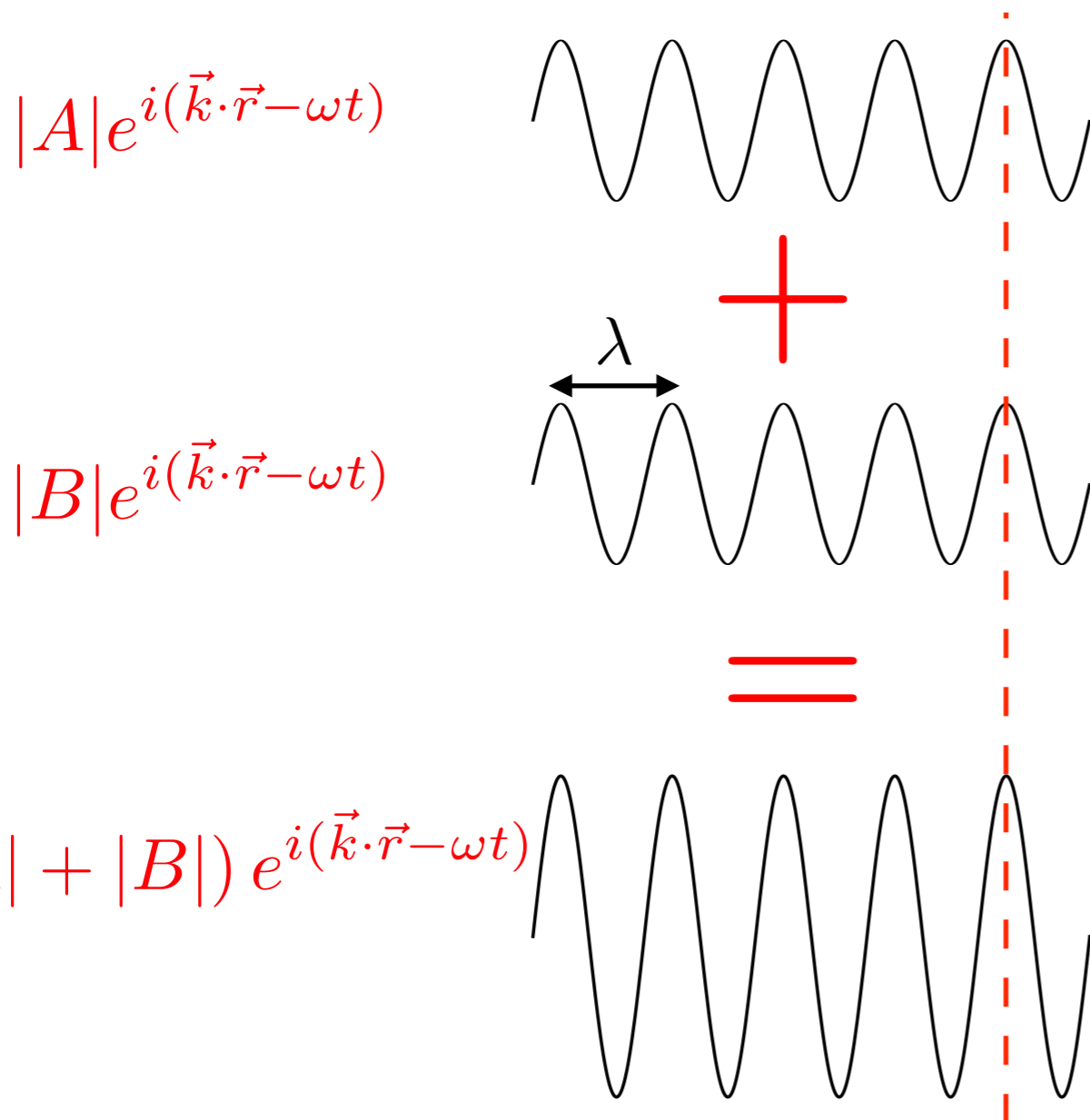
$$\frac{E_r}{E_i} = \frac{n_1 - n_2}{n_1 + n_2}$$

amplitude of transmitted electric field

$$\frac{E_t}{E_i} = \frac{2n_1}{n_1 + n_2}$$

Interference

**constructive
interference**



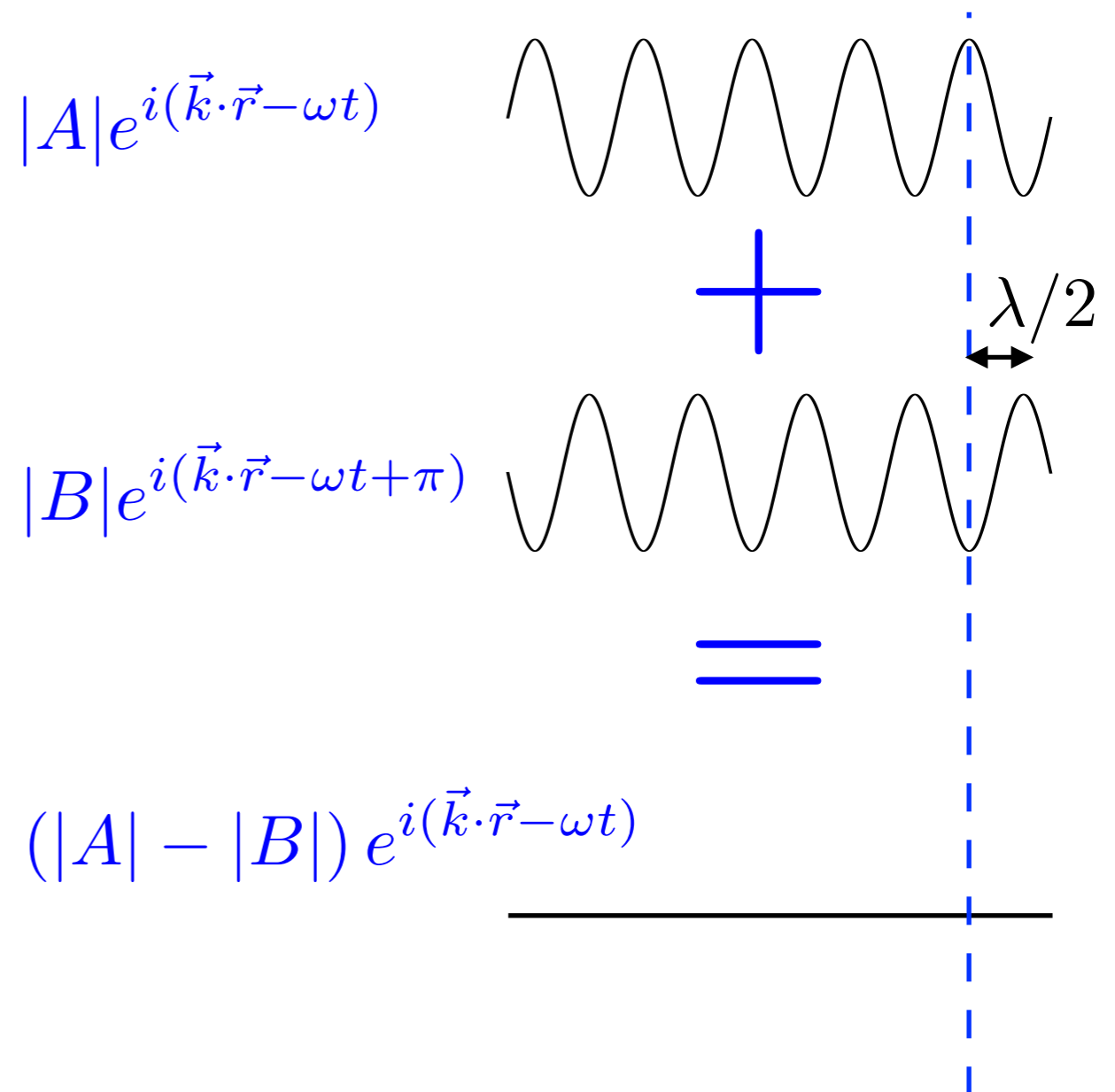
**Constructive interference occurs
when the two waves are in phase:**

waves offset by $m\lambda$,

$$m = 0, \pm 1, \pm 2, \dots$$

$$e^{ikm\lambda} = e^{i2\pi m} = +1$$

**destructive
interference**



**Destructive interference occurs when
the two waves are out of phase:**

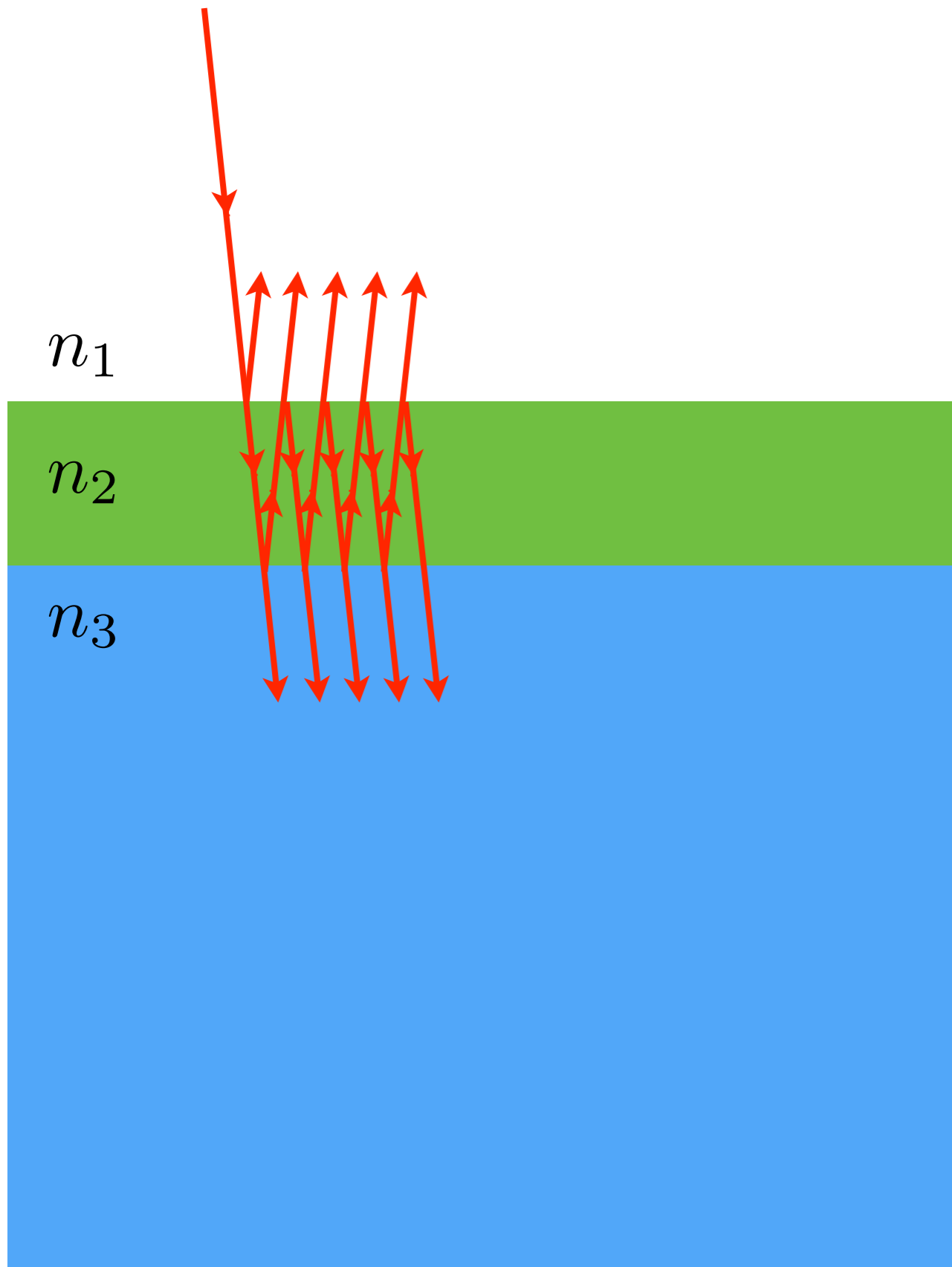
waves offset by $(m + 1/2)\lambda$,

$$m = 0, \pm 1, \pm 2, \dots$$

$$e^{ik(m+1/2)\lambda} = e^{i(2\pi m + \pi)} = -1$$

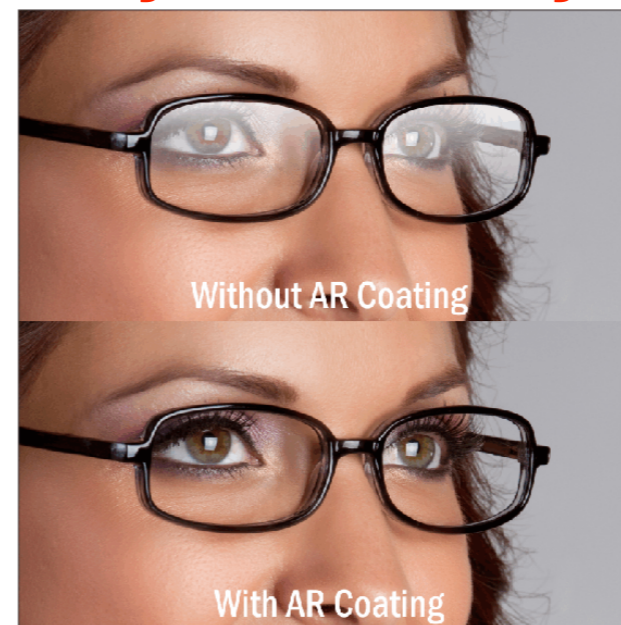
Interference on thin films

Constructive interference of reflected rays results in strongly reflected rays with very little transmission.



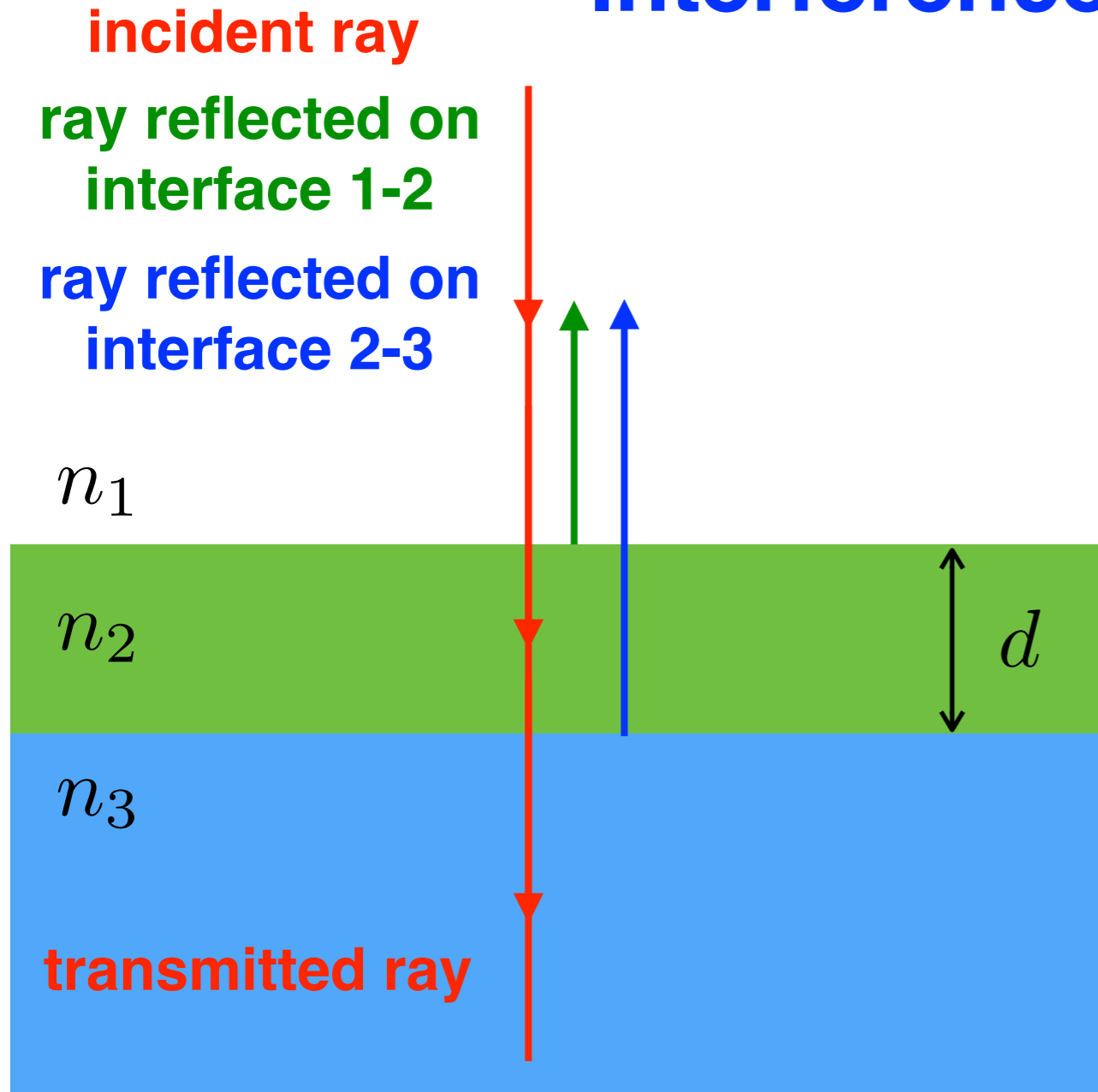
mirrors

Deconstructive interference of reflected rays results in almost perfectly transmitted rays with very little reflection.



antireflective coatings

Interference on thin films



incident ray
ray reflected on interface 1-2
ray reflected on interface 2-3

transmitted ray

difference between optical path lengths of the two reflected rays

$$OPD = 2n_2d$$

$$n_1 < n_2 < n_3 \quad n_1 > n_2 > n_3$$

no additional phase difference due to reflections

constructive interference of reflected rays

$$OPD = m\lambda$$

destructive interference of reflected rays

$$OPD = \left(m + \frac{1}{2}\right) \lambda$$

$$m = 0, \pm 1, \pm 2, \dots$$

$$n_1 > n_2 < n_3 \quad n_1 < n_2 > n_3$$

additional π phase difference due to reflections

constructive interference of reflected rays

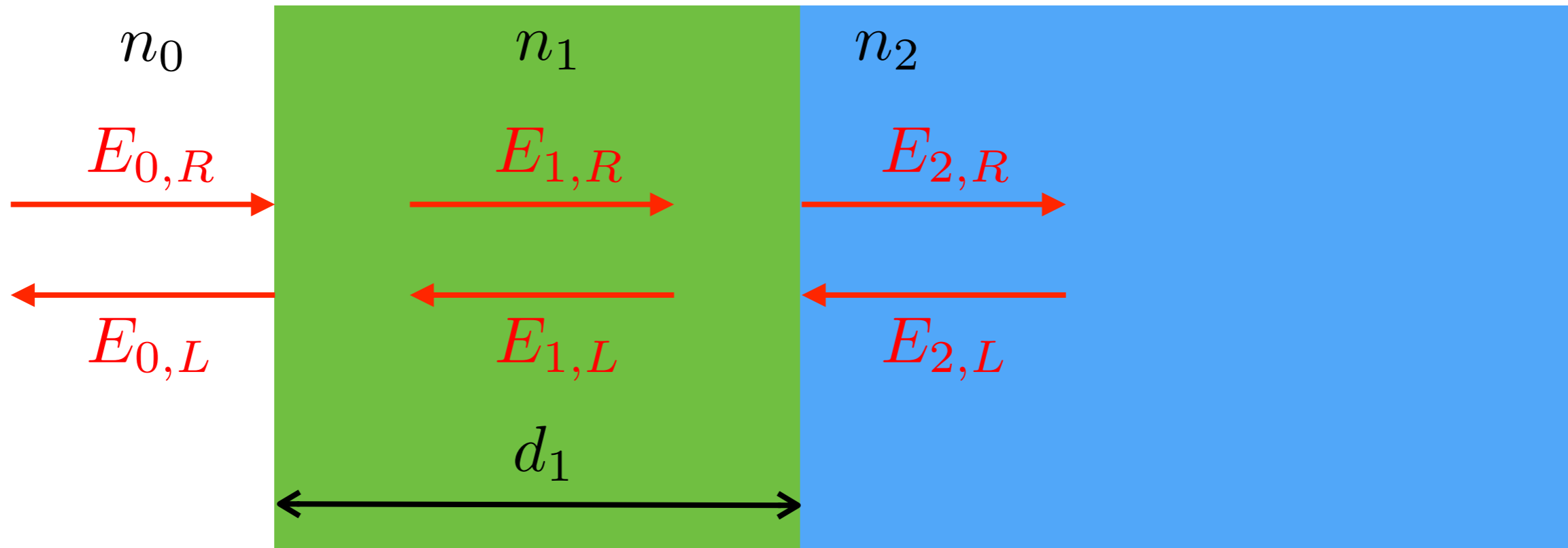
$$OPD = \left(m + \frac{1}{2}\right) \lambda$$

destructive interference of reflected rays

$$OPD = m\lambda$$

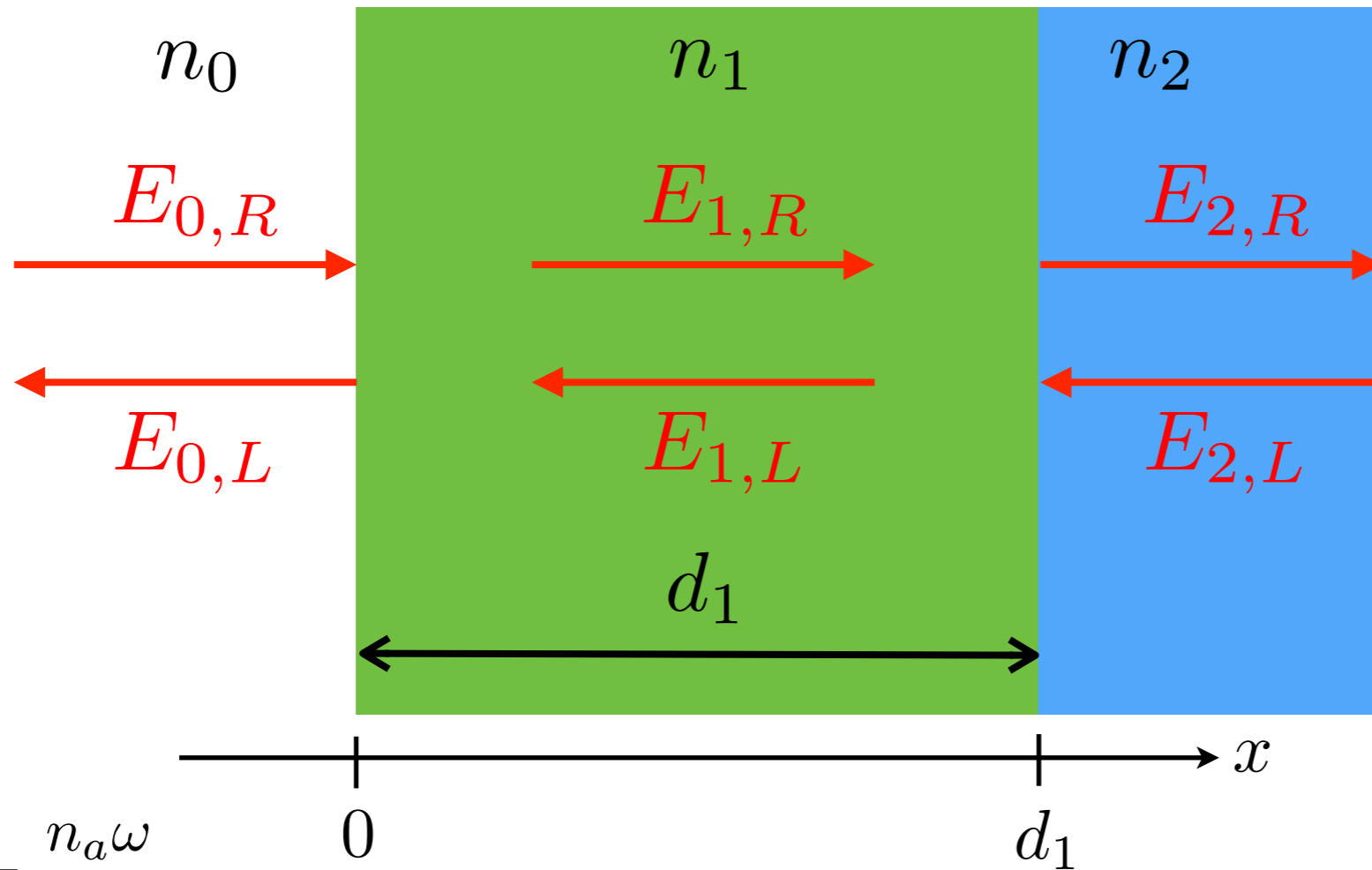
What happens for other wavelengths?

Transfer matrices



How can we relate the amplitudes of electromagnetic waves in the region 0 (white) to the amplitudes of electromagnetic waves in the region 2 (blue)?

Transfer matrices



$$k_a = \frac{2\pi n_a}{\lambda} = \frac{n_a \omega}{c_0}$$

Electromagnetic waves in different regions:

$$E_0(x, t) = E_{0,R} e^{i(k_0 x - \omega t)} + E_{0,L} e^{i(-k_0 x - \omega t)}$$

$$E_1(x, t) = E_{1,R} e^{i(k_1 x - \omega t)} + E_{1,L} e^{i(-k_1 x - \omega t)}$$

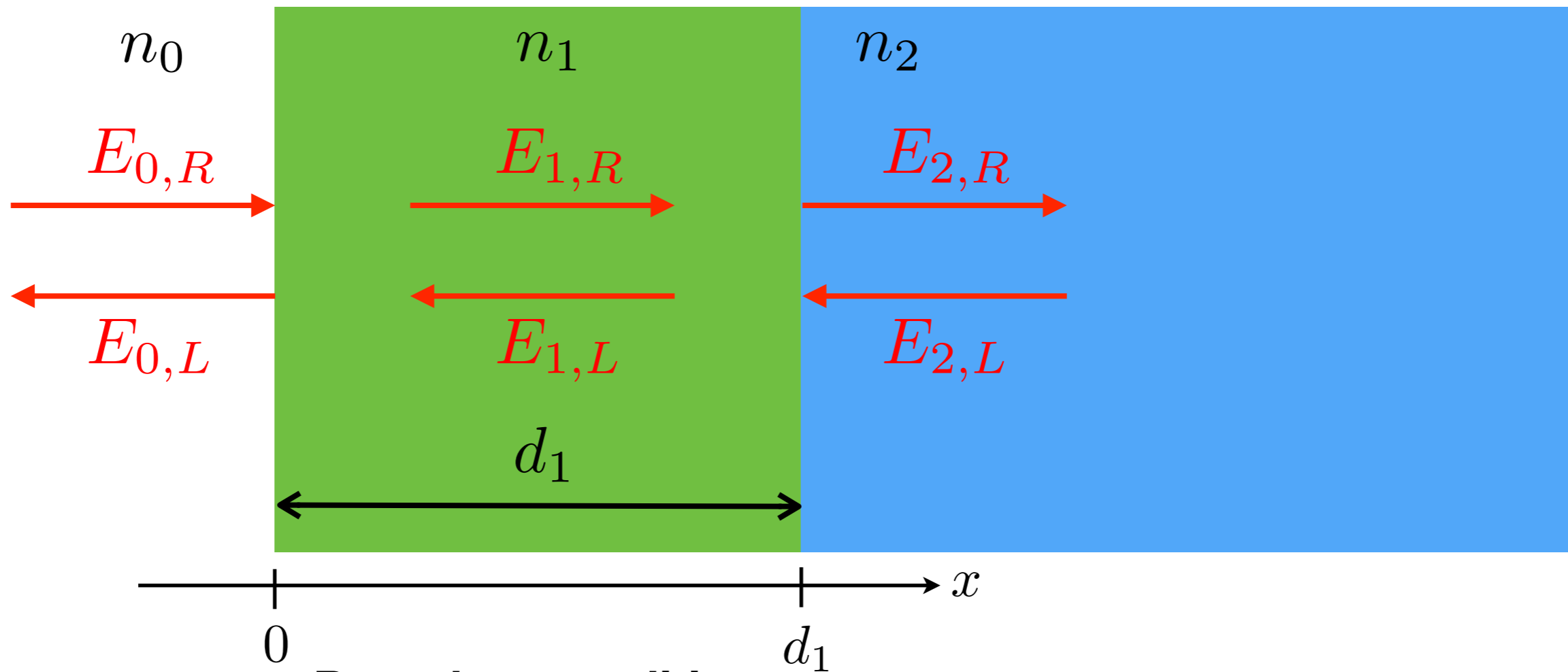
$$E_2(x, t) = E_{2,R} e^{i(k_2 x - \omega t)} + E_{2,L} e^{i(-k_2 x - \omega t)}$$

Boundary conditions:

$$E_0(0, t) = E_1(0, t) \qquad E_1(d_1, t) = E_2(d_1, t)$$

$$\frac{\partial E_0}{\partial x}(0, t) = \frac{\partial E_1}{\partial x}(0, t) \qquad \frac{\partial E_1}{\partial x}(d_1, t) = \frac{\partial E_2}{\partial x}(d_1, t)$$

Transfer matrices



Boundary conditions:

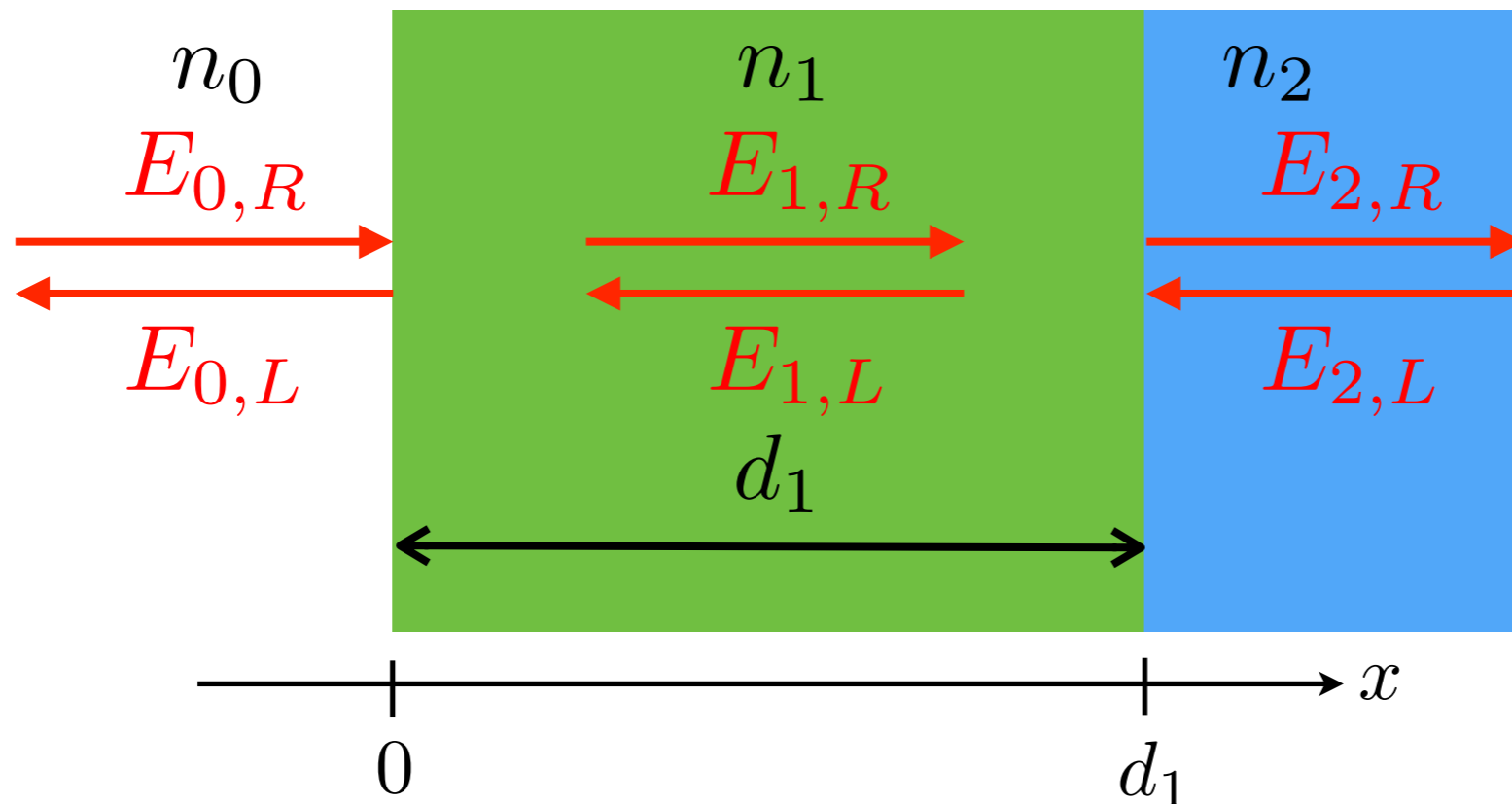
$$E_0(0, t) = E_1(0, t) \quad E_1(d_1, t) = E_2(d_1, t)$$

$$\frac{\partial E_0}{\partial x}(0, t) = \frac{\partial E_1}{\partial x}(0, t) \quad \frac{\partial E_1}{\partial x}(d_1, t) = \frac{\partial E_2}{\partial x}(d_1, t)$$

We would like to relate boundary conditions at two different interfaces via a transfer matrix M_1 :

$$\begin{pmatrix} E_2(d_1, t) \\ \frac{\partial E_2}{\partial x}(d_1, t) \end{pmatrix} = M_1 \begin{pmatrix} E_0(0, t) \\ \frac{\partial E_0}{\partial x}(0, t) \end{pmatrix}$$

Transfer matrices



Electromagnetic waves in regions 1:

$$E_1(x, t) = E_{1,R}e^{i(k_1x - \omega t)} + E_{1,L}e^{i(-k_1x - \omega t)}$$

Relation between boundary conditions:

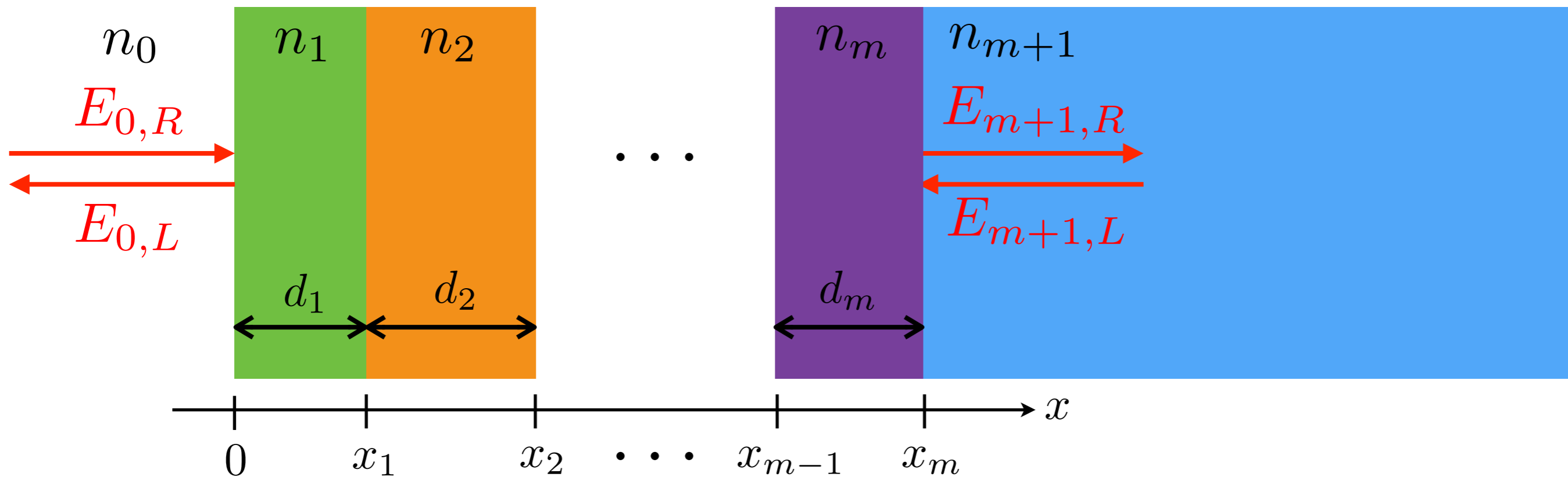
$$\begin{pmatrix} E_1(d_1, t) \\ \frac{\partial E_1}{\partial x}(d_1, t) \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} E_2(d_1, t) \\ \frac{\partial E_2}{\partial x}(d_1, t) \end{pmatrix} = M_1 \begin{pmatrix} E_0(0, t) \\ \frac{\partial E_0}{\partial x}(0, t) \end{pmatrix} = M_1 \begin{pmatrix} E_1(0, t) \\ \frac{\partial E_1}{\partial x}(0, t) \end{pmatrix}$$

$$\begin{pmatrix} E_{1,R}e^{ik_1d_1} + E_{1,L}e^{-ik_1d_1} \\ ik_1E_{1,R}e^{ik_1d_1} - ik_1E_{1,L}e^{-ik_1d_1} \end{pmatrix} = M_1 \begin{pmatrix} E_{1,R} + E_{1,L} \\ ik_1E_{1,R} - ik_1E_{1,L} \end{pmatrix}$$

Transfer matrix M_1 can be obtained by solving equations above:

$$M_1 = \begin{pmatrix} \cos(k_1d_1), & \frac{\sin(k_1d_1)}{k_1} \\ -k_1 \sin(k_1d_1), & \cos(k_1d_1) \end{pmatrix}$$

Transfer matrices



Transfer matrix for m layers:

$$\begin{pmatrix} E_{m+1}(x_m, t) \\ \frac{\partial E_{m+1}}{\partial x}(x_m, t) \end{pmatrix} = M_m \begin{pmatrix} E_m(x_{m-1}, t) \\ \frac{\partial E_m}{\partial x}(x_{m-1}, t) \end{pmatrix} = M_m M_{m-1} \begin{pmatrix} E_{m-1}(x_{m-2}, t) \\ \frac{\partial E_{m-1}}{\partial x}(x_{m-2}, t) \end{pmatrix} = \dots$$

$$\begin{pmatrix} E_{m+1}(x_m, t) \\ \frac{\partial E_{m+1}}{\partial x}(x_m, t) \end{pmatrix} = M \begin{pmatrix} E_0(0, t) \\ \frac{\partial E_0}{\partial x}(0, t) \end{pmatrix}$$

$$M = M_m \cdot \dots \cdot M_2 \cdot M_1$$

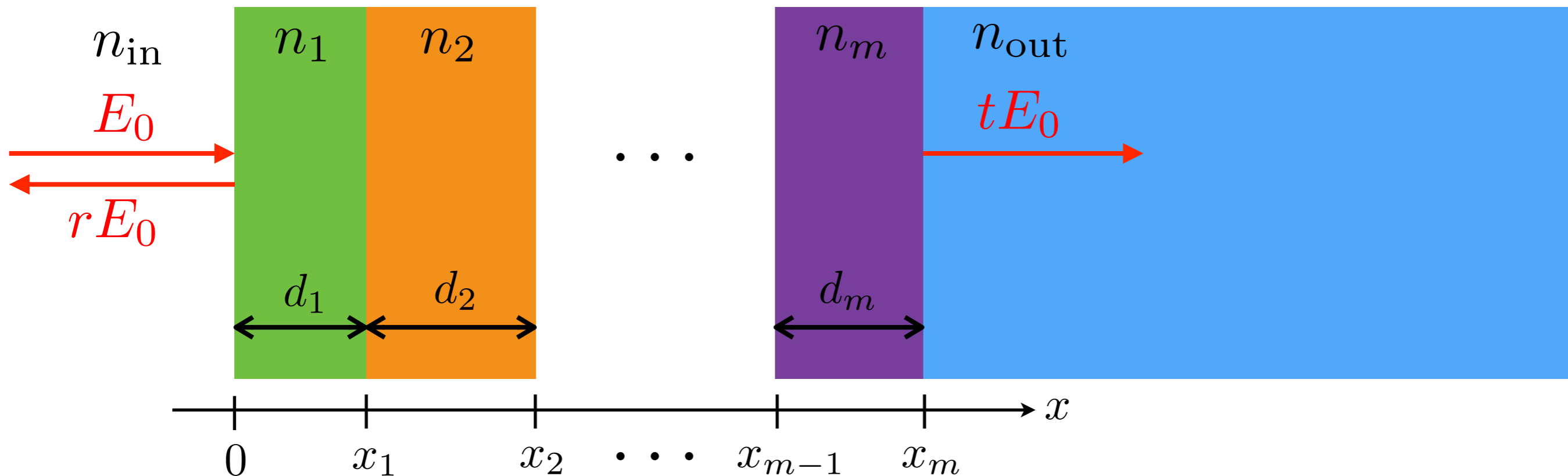
Note:

$$M_a = \begin{pmatrix} \cos(k_a d_a), & \frac{\sin(k_a d_a)}{k_a} \\ -k_a \sin(k_a d_a), & \cos(k_a d_a) \end{pmatrix}$$

$$\det(M) = \det(M_a) = 1$$

$$k_a = \frac{2\pi n_a}{\lambda} = \frac{n_a \omega}{c_0}$$

Transfer matrices



Incoming and outgoing electromagnetic waves:

$$E_{\text{in}}(x, t) = E_0 e^{i(k_{\text{in}}x - \omega t)} + r E_0 e^{i(-k_{\text{in}}x - \omega t)}$$

$$E_{\text{out}}(x, t) = t E_0 e^{i(k_{\text{out}}x - \omega t)}$$

$$\begin{pmatrix} E_{\text{out}}(x_m, t) \\ \frac{\partial E_{\text{out}}}{\partial x}(x_m, t) \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} M_{11} & M_{12} \\ M_{21} & M_{22} \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} E_{\text{in}}(0, t) \\ \frac{\partial E_{\text{in}}}{\partial x}(0, t) \end{pmatrix}$$

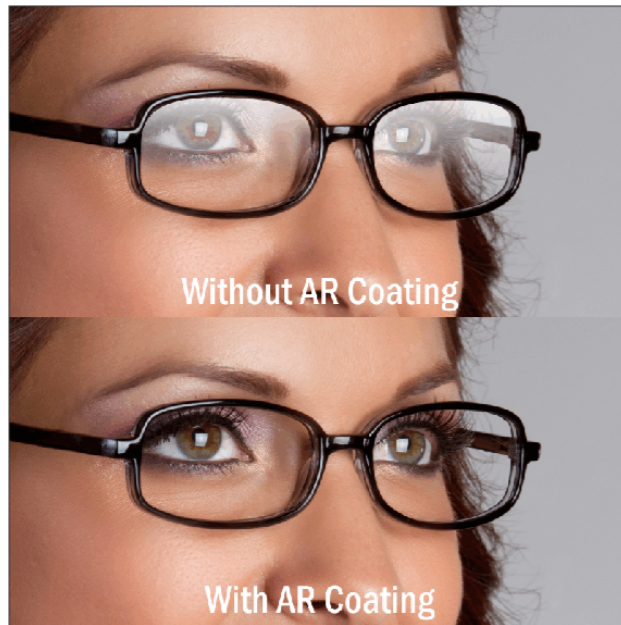
Amplitudes of reflected and transmitted waves:

$$r = \frac{(M_{21} + k_{\text{in}}k_{\text{out}}M_{12}) + i(k_{\text{in}}M_{22} - k_{\text{out}}M_{11})}{(-M_{21} + k_{\text{in}}k_{\text{out}}M_{12}) + i(k_{\text{out}}M_{11} + k_{\text{in}}M_{22})}$$

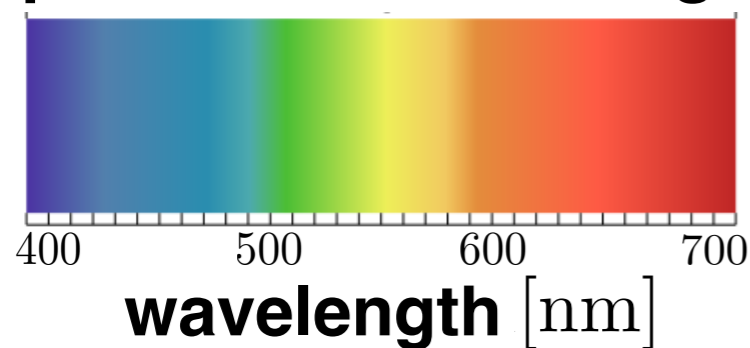
$$t = \frac{2ik_{\text{in}}e^{-ix_mk_{\text{out}}}}{(-M_{21} + k_{\text{in}}k_{\text{out}}M_{12}) + i(k_{\text{out}}M_{11} + k_{\text{in}}M_{22})}$$

Example: antireflective coating

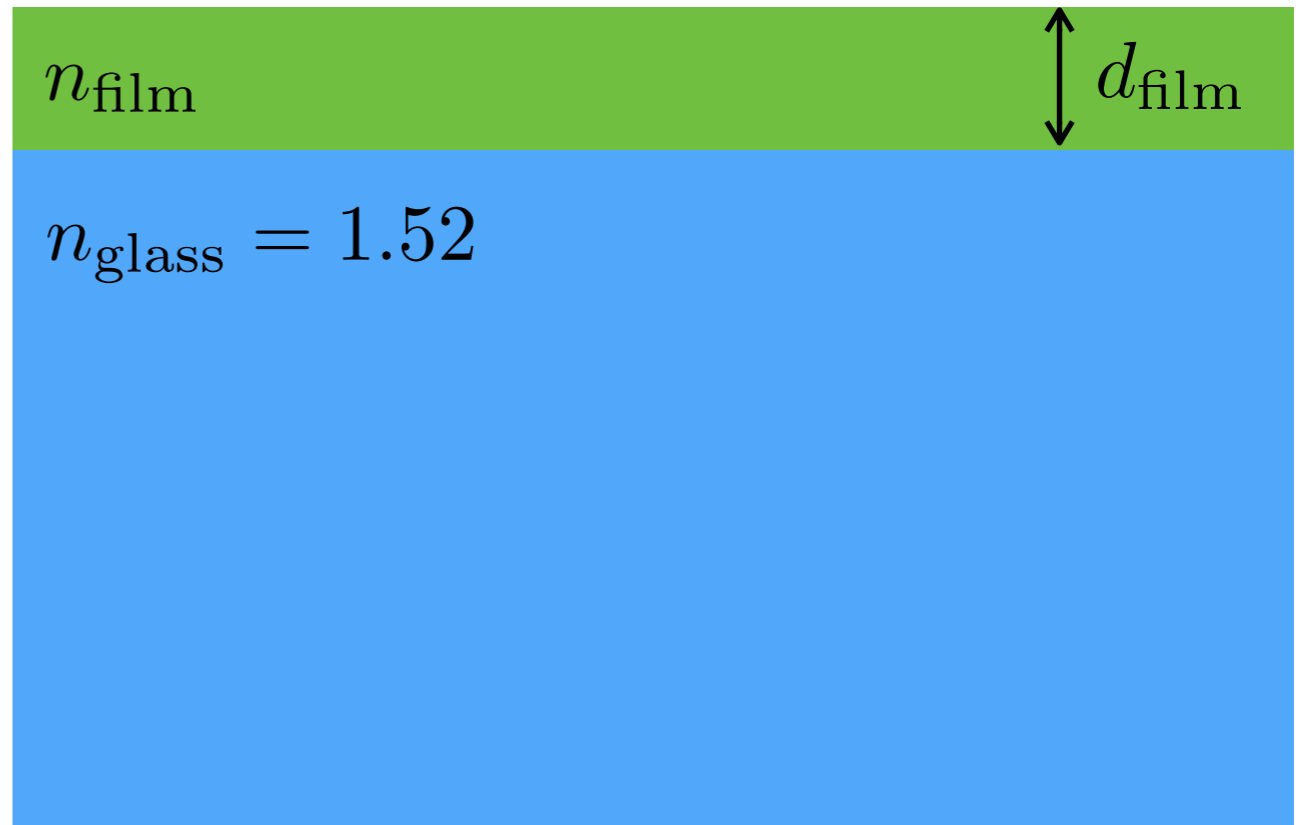
We would like to design a thin film coating for glasses that minimizes reflection of visible light.



spectrum of visible light



$$n_{\text{air}} \approx 1$$



Assume that thin film is made of MgF_2 that can be easily applied with physical vapor deposition:

$$n_{\text{film}} = 1.38$$

Note: the condition for destructive interference of reflected rays can be satisfied only for discrete set of wavelengths λ_0 :

$$2d_{\text{film}}n_{\text{film}} = \left(m + \frac{1}{2}\right)\lambda_0$$
$$m = 0, 1, 2, \dots$$

Example: antireflective coating

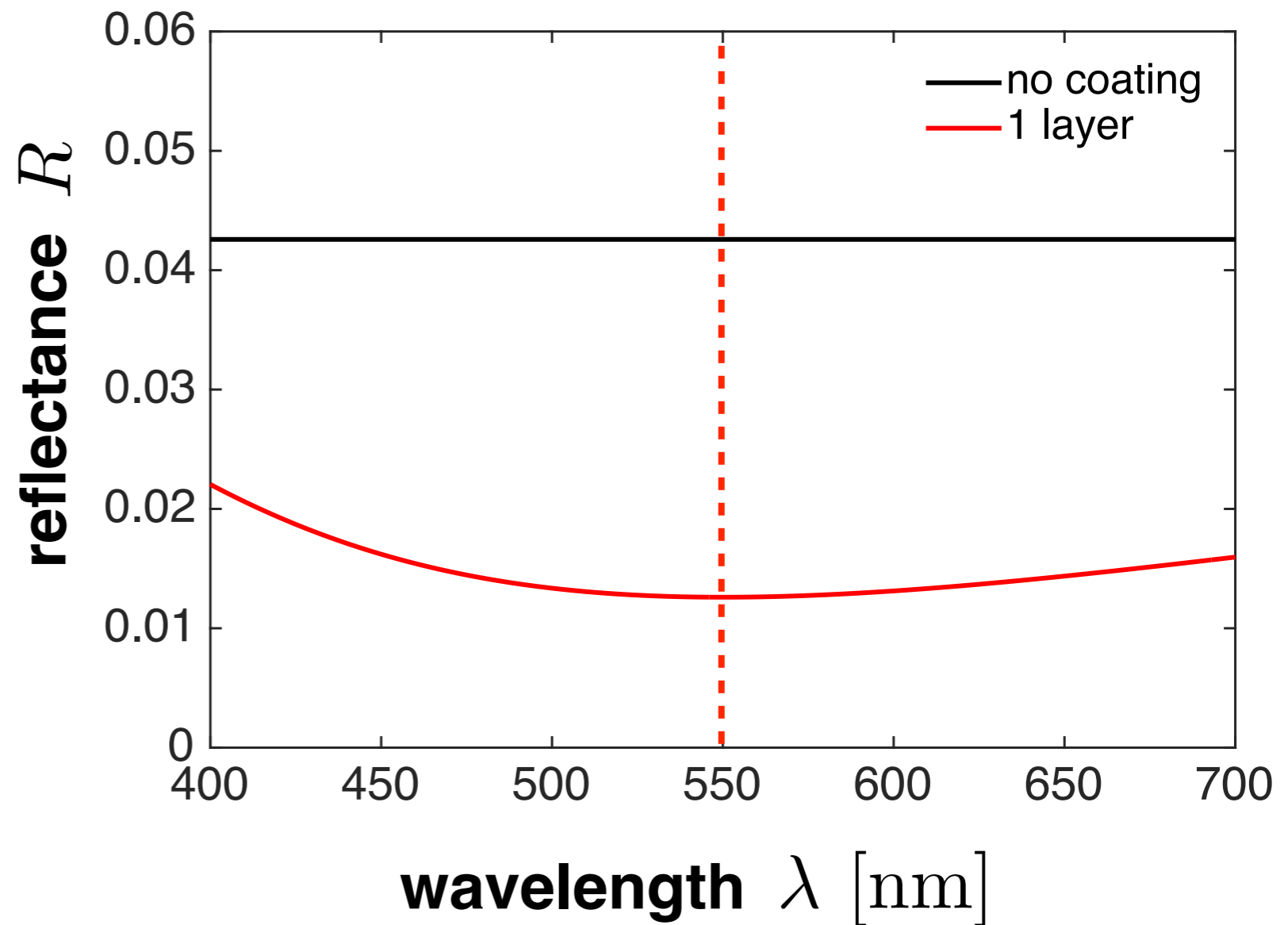
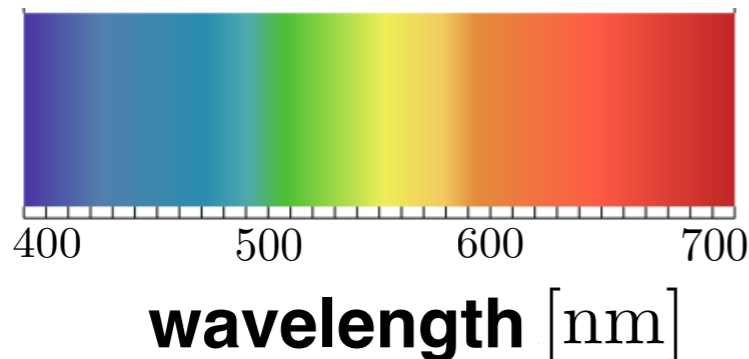
$$n_{\text{air}} \approx 1$$

$$n_{\text{film}} = 1.38$$

$$n_{\text{glass}} = 1.52$$

d_{film}

spectrum of visible light



Use film thickness that corresponds to the destructive interference for the wavelength in the middle of the visible spectrum $\lambda_{\text{target}} = 550$ nm:

$$d_{\text{film}} = \frac{\lambda_{\text{target}}}{4n_{\text{film}}} = 100 \text{ nm}$$

Example: antireflective coating

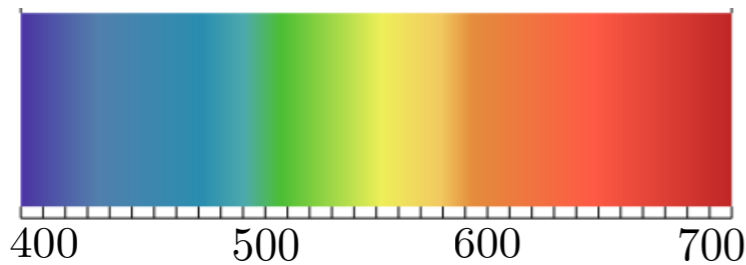
$$n_{\text{air}} \approx 1$$

$$n_{\text{film}} = 1.38$$

 d_{film}

$$n_{\text{glass}} = 1.52$$

spectrum of visible light



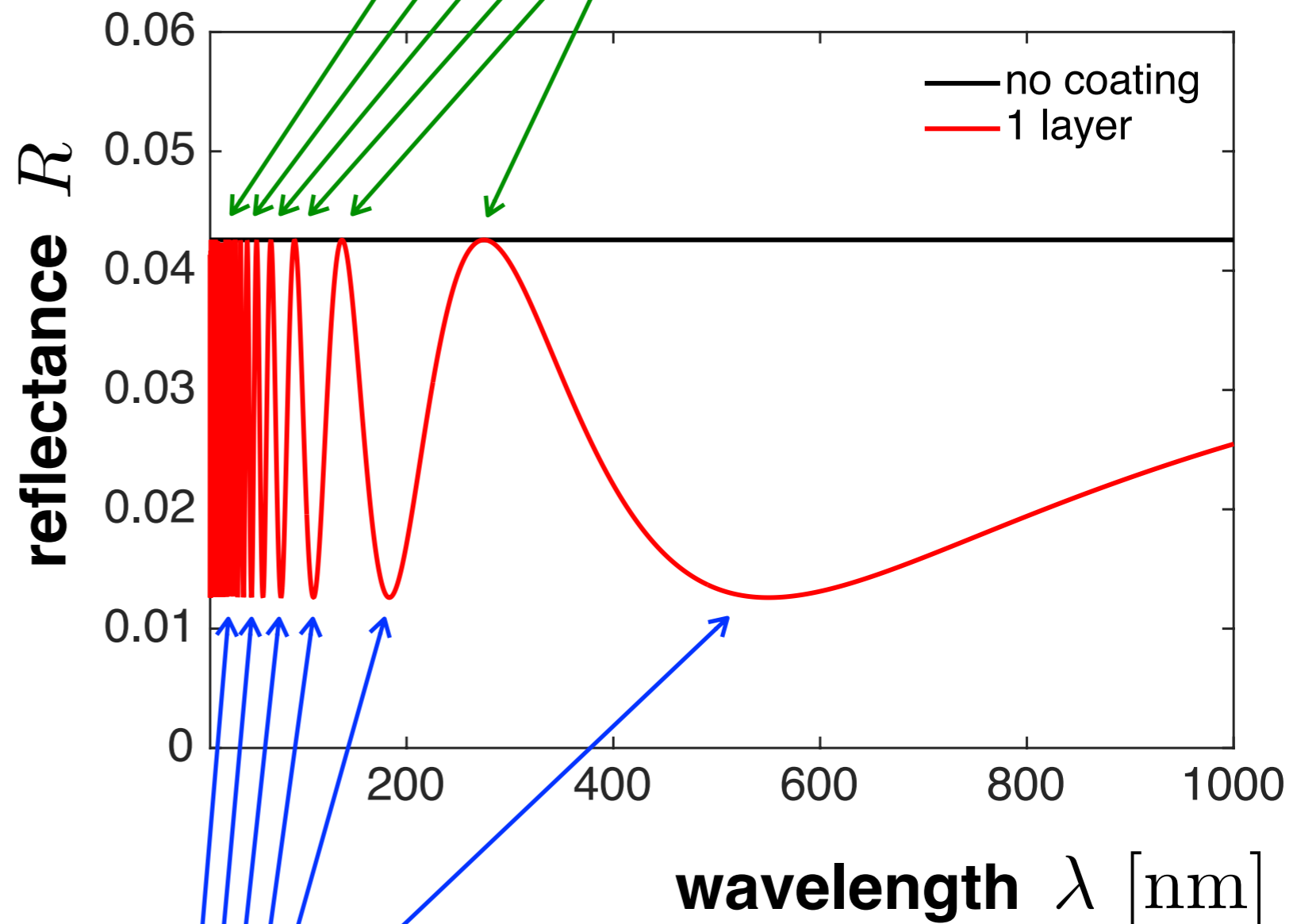
wavelength [nm]

$$\lambda_{\text{target}} = 550 \text{ nm}$$

$$d_{\text{film}} = \frac{\lambda_{\text{target}}}{4n_{\text{film}}} = 100 \text{ nm}$$

constructive interference

$$2n_{\text{film}}d_{\text{film}} = m\lambda$$

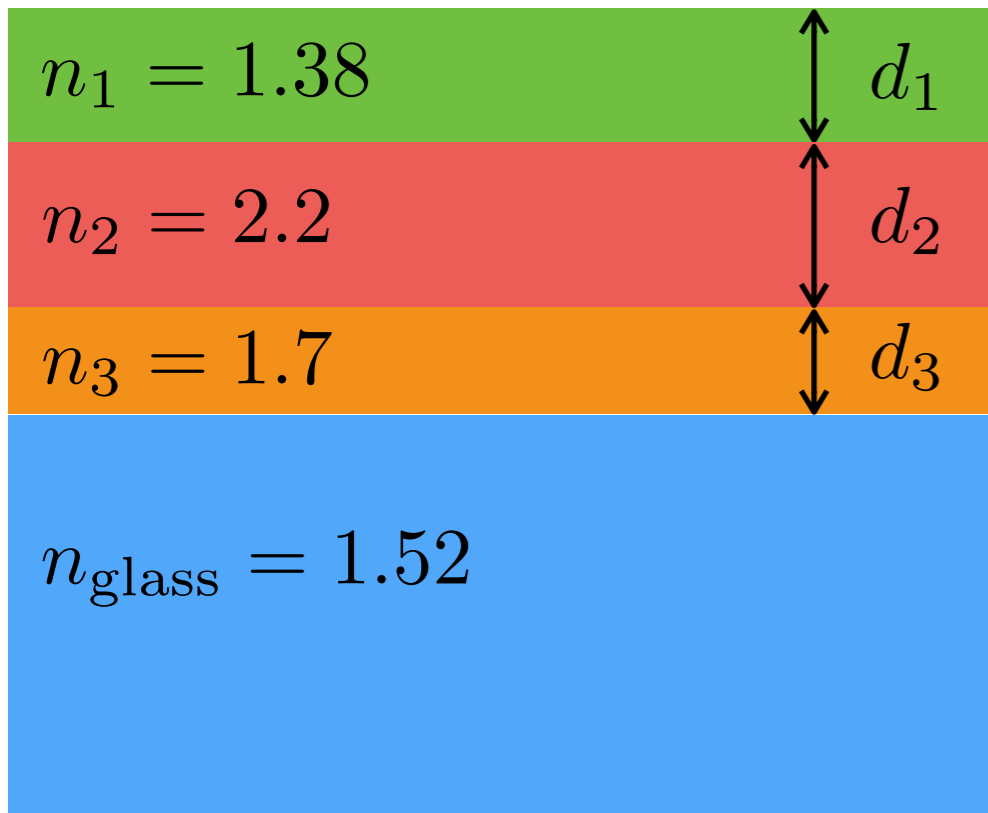


deconstructive interference

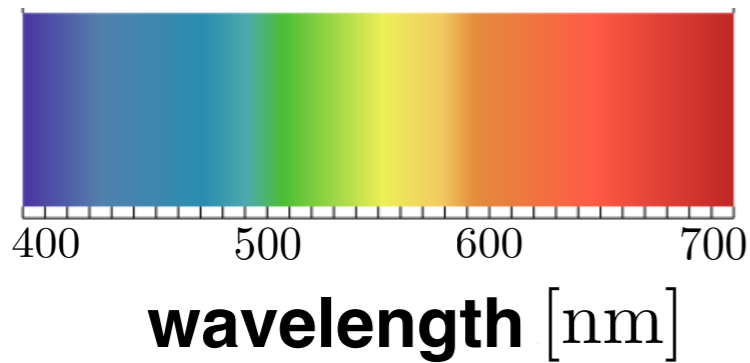
$$2n_{\text{film}}d_{\text{film}} = (m + 1/2)\lambda$$

Example: antireflective coating

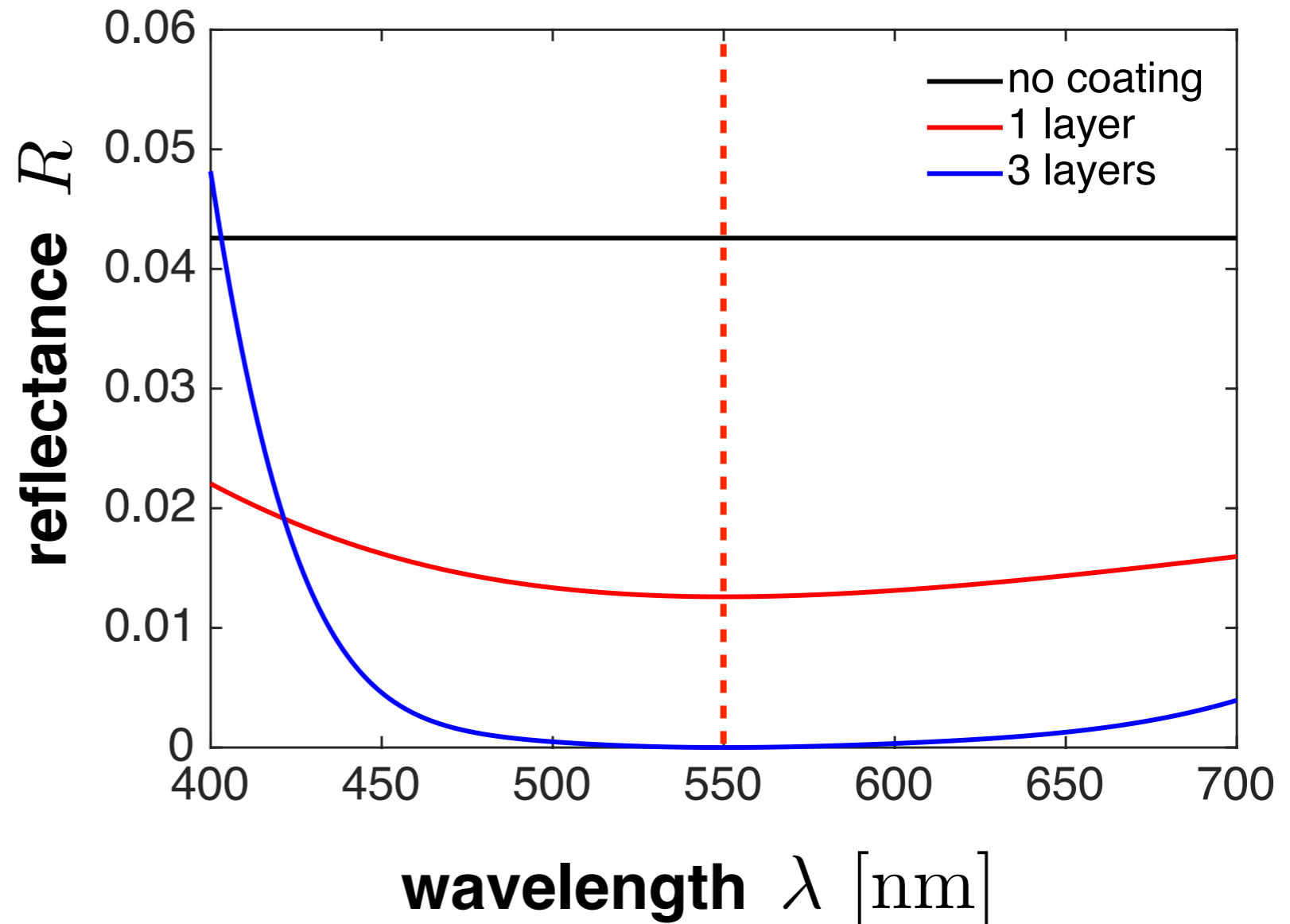
$$n_{\text{air}} \approx 1$$



spectrum of visible light



Multiple layers of coating significantly reduce the reflectance of visible spectrum!



Use film thicknesses that correspond to the destructive interference for the wavelength in the middle of the visible spectrum $\lambda_{\text{target}} = 550 \text{ nm}$:

$$d_1 = \lambda_{\text{target}} / (4n_1)$$

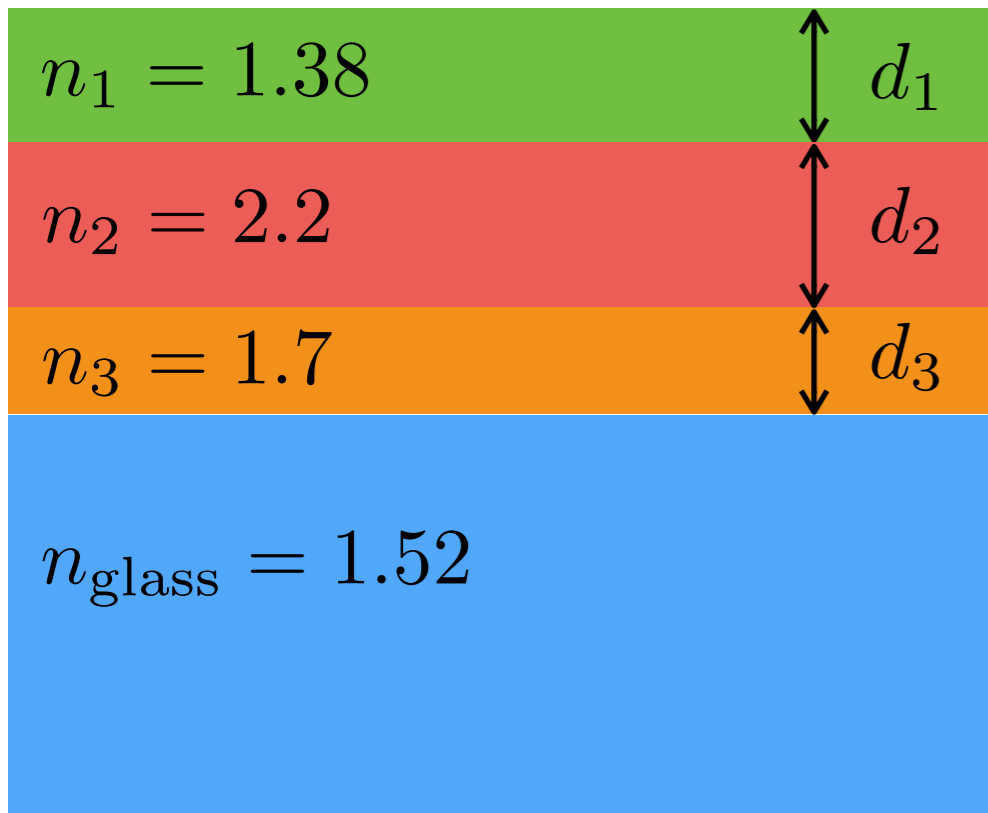
$$d_2 = \lambda_{\text{target}} / (2n_2)$$

$$d_3 = \lambda_{\text{target}} / (4n_3)$$

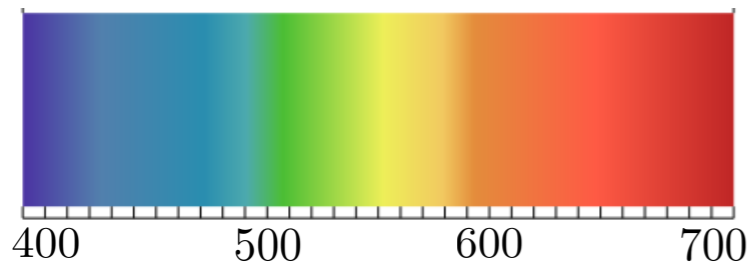
note the additional phase difference!

Example: antireflective coating

$$n_{\text{air}} \approx 1$$



spectrum of visible light



wavelength [nm]

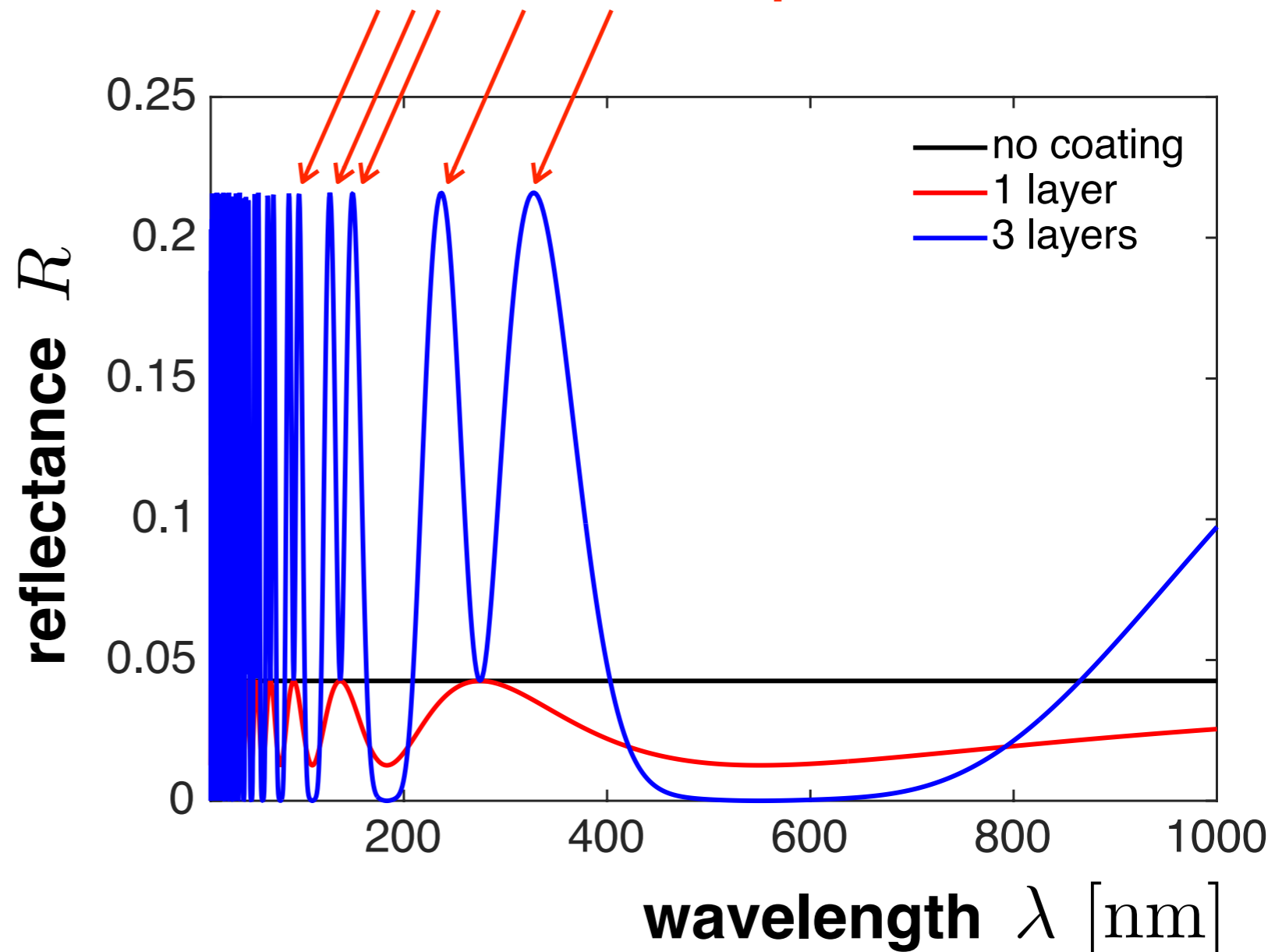
$$\lambda_{\text{target}} = 550 \text{ nm}$$

$$d_1 = \lambda_{\text{target}} / (4n_1)$$

$$d_2 = \lambda_{\text{target}} / (2n_2)$$

$$d_3 = \lambda_{\text{target}} / (4n_3)$$

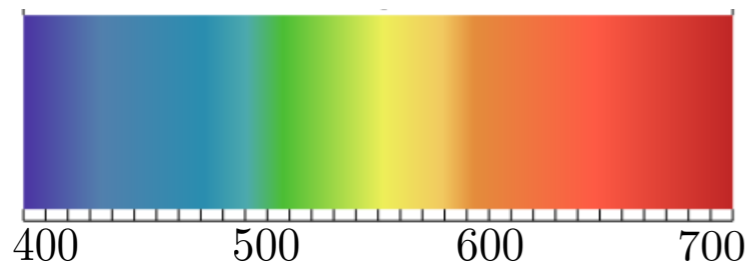
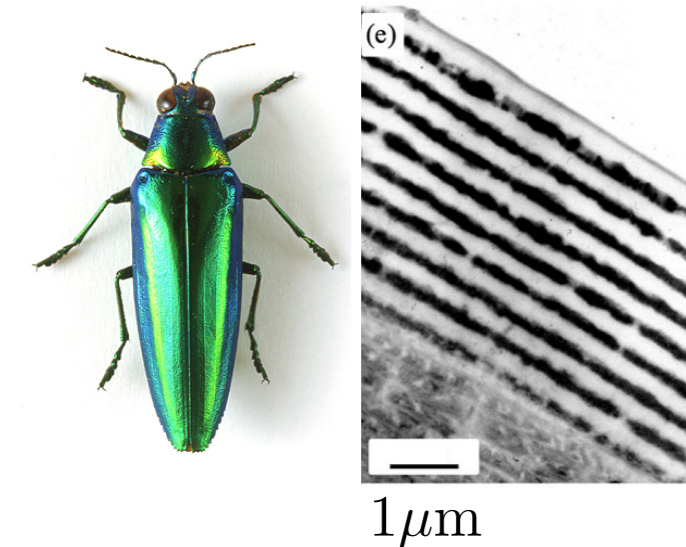
Multiple layers of coating significantly enhance reflectance of certain wavelengths outside the visible spectrum!



Additional peaks (minima) correspond to the constructive (deconstructive) interference for rays scattered on different combination of interfaces.

Example: structural color

Chrysochroa raja beetle



wavelength [nm]

Typical refraction indices:

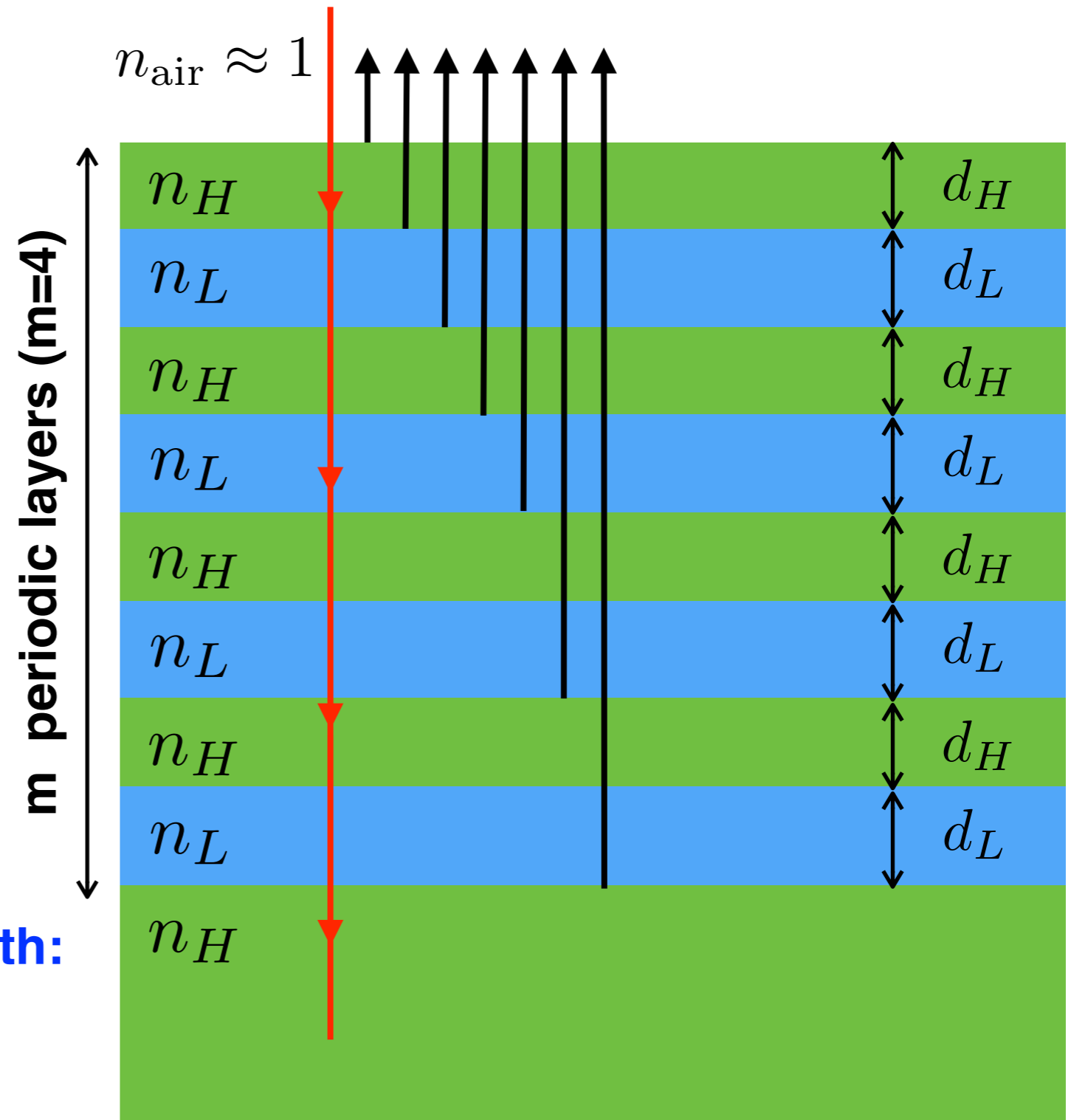
$$n_H = 1.69 \quad n_L = 1.56$$

Constructive interference of reflected rays can be achieved with:

$$d_H = \frac{\lambda_0}{4n_H} = 74 \text{ nm}$$

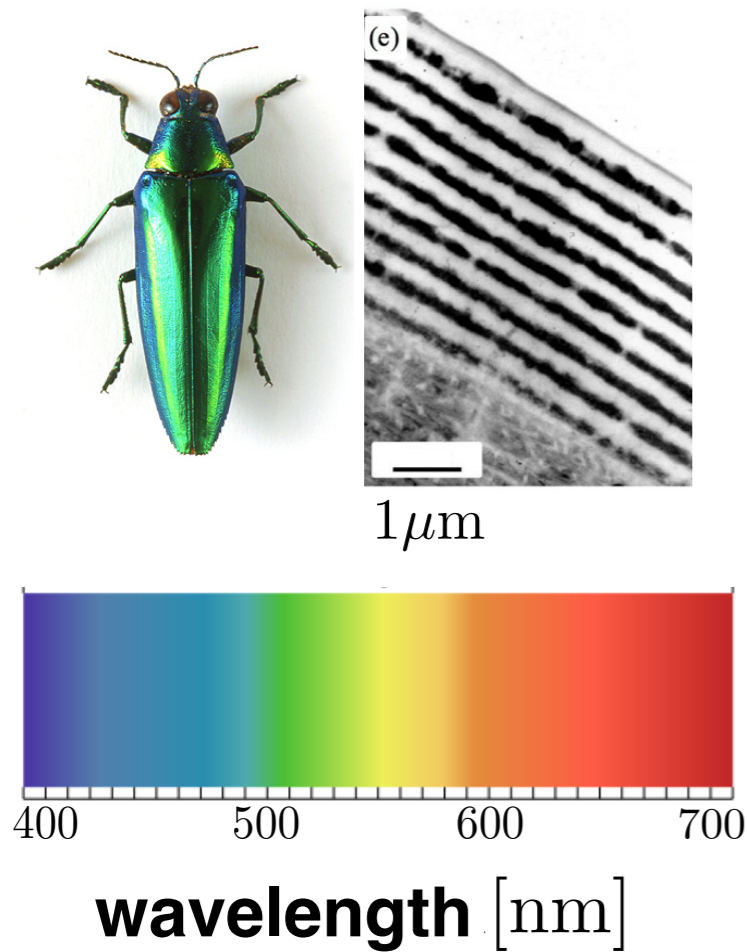
$$d_L = \frac{\lambda_0}{4n_L} = 80 \text{ nm}$$

We would like to design periodic structure, which preferentially reflects green color with $\lambda_0 = 500 \text{ nm}$.

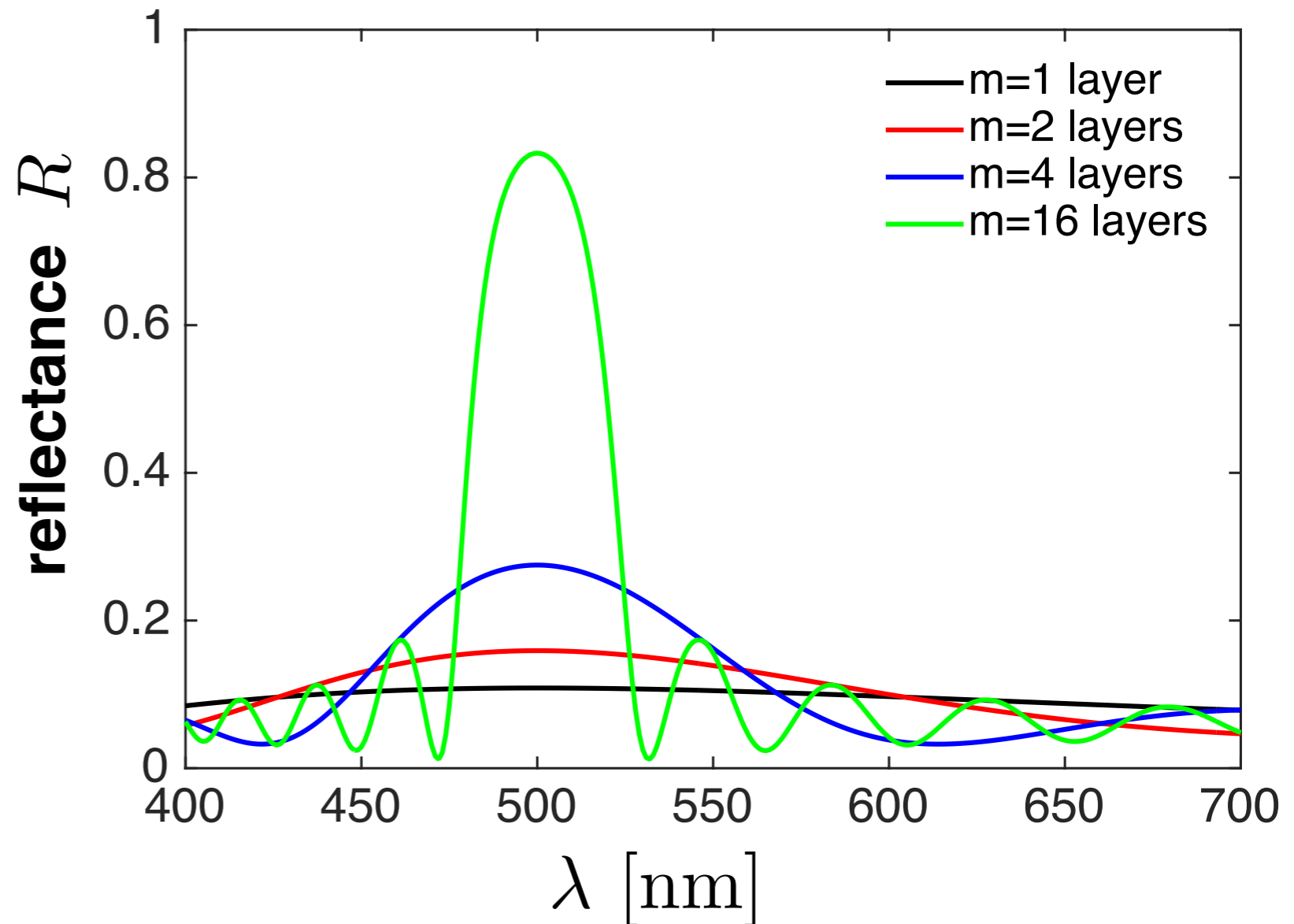


Example: structural color

Chrysochroa raja beetle



Multiple periodic layers increase the reflectance of target wavelength $\lambda_0 = 500\text{ nm}$!



In periodic structures high reflectance is achieved for a range of wavelengths around the target wavelength. This range is called band gap.