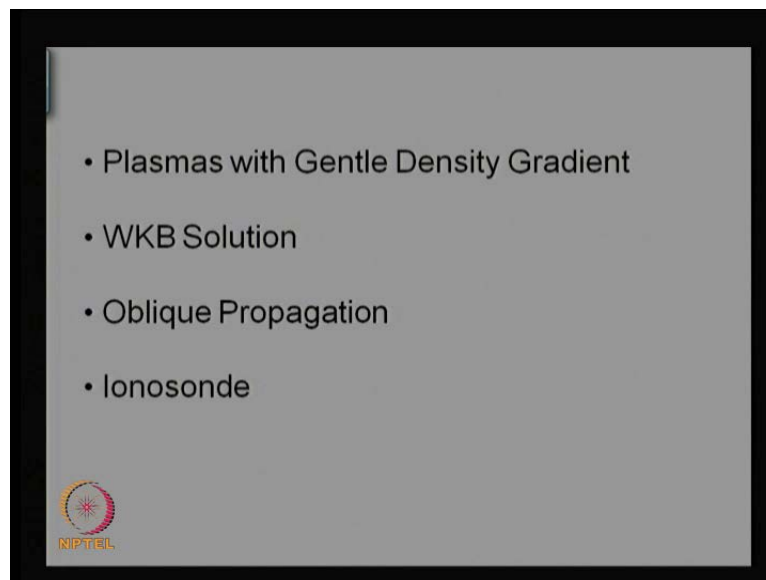


Plasma Physics
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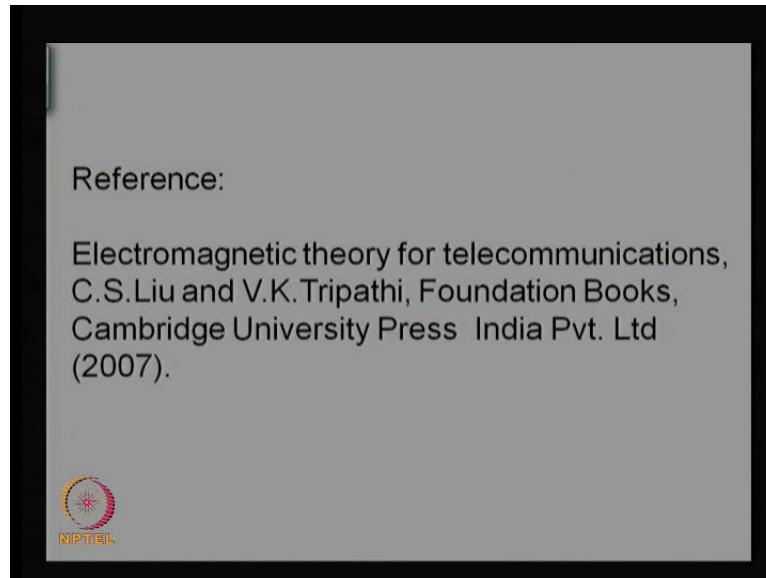
Lecture No. # 09
Electromagnetic Wave Propagation
Inhomogeneous Plasma

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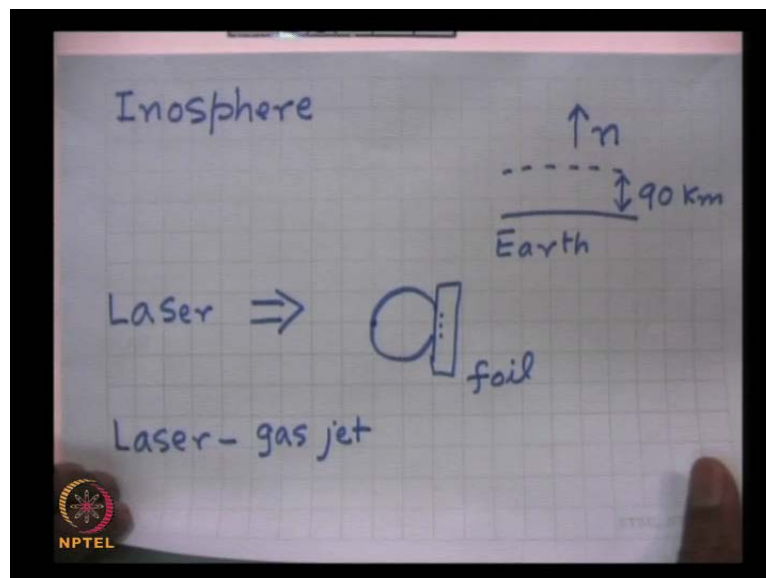
Today, I would like to discuss the propagation of electromagnetic waves in inhomogeneous plasmas. Well, I will discuss a few cases where plasmas with gentle density gradient are found, and then discuss the propagation of waves on the basis of WKB solution. And then I will consider the case of oblique propagation of an electromagnetic wave to a density gradient in a plasma, and finally I like to discuss the application of this analysis to a technique called ionosonde to determine the electron density profile in the earth ionosphere.

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The reference for today's presentation is the book electromagnetic theory for telecommunications, that professor C S Liu, and myself wrote and published by Cambridge university press.

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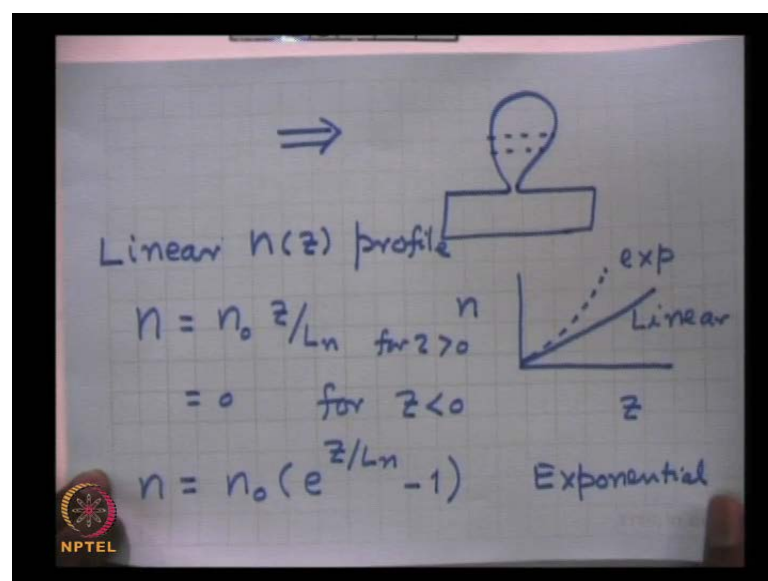
Well, let me cite a few example where realistic plasmas are of inhomogeneous density variation, for instance ionosphere look at the earth ionosphere earth ionosphere is the region of earth atmosphere which is ionized. So, if you take earth like this then the ionosphere starts at a height typically about 90 kilometers but, the density suddenly does

not change from zero in the atmosphere to finite value in the ionosphere, it gradually builds up rather the density increases as you go up so electron density end increases with height its nearly zero at the boundary and as you moves up it increases.

So, if you want to launch an electromagnetic wave from the ground based transmitter, the wave will penetrate into the ionosphere but, the ionosphere is not of constant density but, of gradual density variation, so this is a typical example of inhomogeneous plasma. Currently there is lot of interest in laser interaction with targets for instance consider a thin metal foil, if you launch a laser beam on the metal foil and the metal foil and the laser intensity is large, the laser penetrates just a little in the material but, it can convert this into a plasma and plasma expands in time. So, after a little while of onset of the laser, if you examine the density variation of or the character of plasma that is formed outside this is called a plasma plume.

The plasma is created at this boundary here and this is expanding outside, so if you look at this plasma plume, the density here is the minimum and as you move into the plume the density increases, so this is another example of gradual density variation. Third example which is of current interest is, what we call as laser, this is the example of a foil; metal foil and then there is an example of laser gas jet interaction. what you do in laser gas jet interaction?

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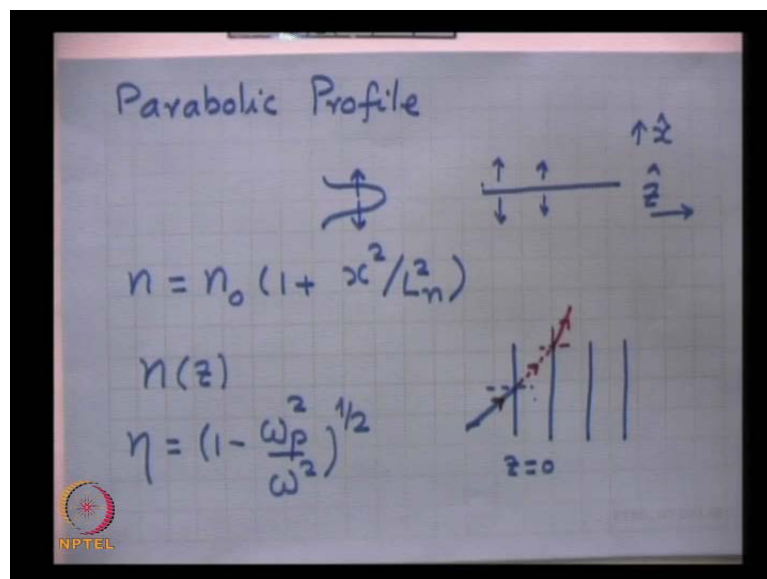


You have a container that has a gas at a high pressure and there is a small nozzle in here, through which the gas comes out, the gas forms sort of a plume here like this and you will shine a very high power laser into this gas then it forms a plasma here, in the region through which the laser propagates. If you look at the density in the plasma as you move from one end to the other end, the density varies at the edge here density variation is rather rapid but, then it becomes quite uniform then falls off. but its not that rapid it increases in several wave lengths. So, I can still treat the plasma boundary to be a diffuse boundary rather than a sharp boundary.

So this is another example, where density variation is important in many cases the density variation can be taken be linear, so we say that the density variation profile is linear n profile like density can vary like n is equal to $n_0 z$ upon L n means If I plot a density on the y axis electron density and z is that distance from the plasma boundary this I have written for z bigger than 0 and this is 0 for z less than 0.

So, if you have this kind of profile then the density if you plot this as a function of z will be a straight line like this in some cases you may have exponential density profile, where density varies as some constant n_0 exponential of z upon L n some constant L n minus 1 in that case the density will vary little more rapidly like this. So this is called exponential density profile, this is called linear density profile, this is exponential both kind of profiles are observed in realistic laboratory plasmas and as well as in space plasmas.

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Another important density variation that occurs especially in laser plasma interaction is called a parabolic profile, what you have for instance you have gas jet target and (()) laser here like this. This is the laser intensity variation, so when the laser travels through a gas jet it produces a plasma on the axis of the laser, whose density increases in this direction as well as in this direction this is say z axis and so I am considering a coordinate system where x axis is here and z axis is there.

So, in this situation density can vary with x and the profile usually that one considers say of this form density is minimum on the axis laser axis and it increases with x like $1 + x^2$ upon some constant $L n_0^2$, n_0 is the density on the laser axis really what happens that when the laser propagates through a plasma its intensity being largest on the axis and less outside it exerts a radiation pressure force on the electrons in these directions and the electrons move out, sometimes they can carry the ions also along with them.

So there is a reduction in plasma density on the axis, so this is called a parabolic density profile. And this has been found to be very suitable for guiding the laser. So, this is an important problem in plasma physics to examine the propagation of laser in inhomogeneous plasma.

Before, I go into discussing the wave theory of wave propagation, let me tell you something regarding the qualitative aspects or physical aspects of what do you expect really in such situations. What you can consider is to be simple, consider a general density variation with z for instance, what you can do? You can think as if suppose this is my z equal to 0 plane from where the plasma begins this is free space here and the density is increasing for instance with z.

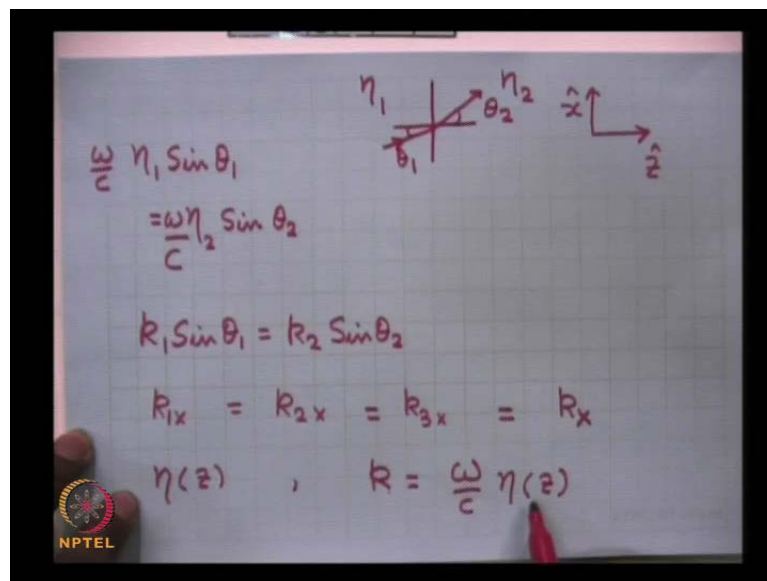
What you can do? Mathematically you can divide this plasma into many layers of increasing density but, in each layer the density is constant, you know the refractive index of a plasma is η which is $1 - \frac{\omega_p^2}{\omega^2}$ to the power half ω_p depends on electron density.

So when density changes from place to place ω_p also increases, as you z increases as a result η decreases. So if you are launching a wave in free space from here, at some angle for instance then this ray as it goes from a rarer medium optically rarer medium to

a denser medium **sorry** optically denser medium to optically rarer medium, because plasma is a rarer medium having refractive index less than 1.

So this will move away from the normal, I may draw this like this it will move towards this strikes the boundary between this layer and this layer again this will move further away from here so it may go like this. So the ray bends away from the normal as it goes from one medium to another medium this is what you physically expect, well one thing is very important in here and that is called the Snell's law.

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Which tells that if a ray goes from one medium at an angle theta 1 and then it gets out in second medium with angle of transmission equal to theta 2, if the refractive index of medium number 1 is eta 1 that of second medium is eta 2 then $n_1 \sin \theta_1$ is equal to $n_2 \sin \theta_2$ this is Snell's law, to which if you multiply omega by c, where omega is the frequency of the light of the e m wave that you are launching.

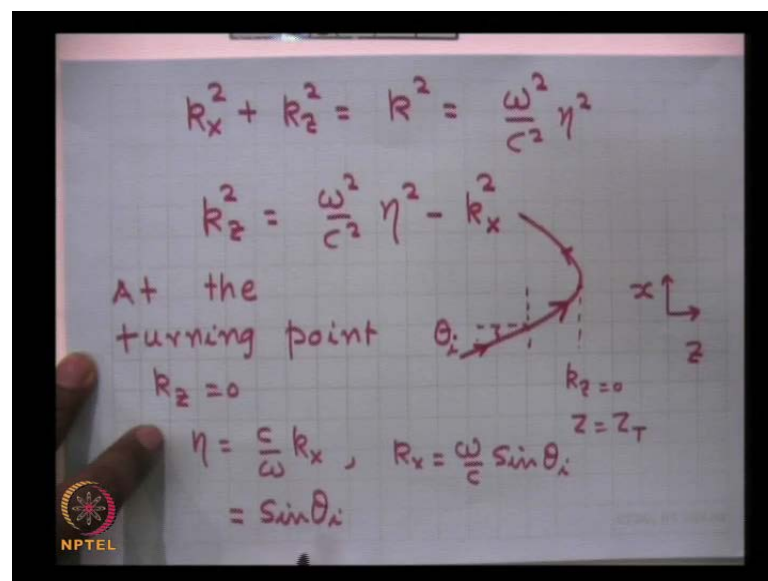
So then omega by c you multiplied here and multiply omega by c here you know the product of omega by c into refractive index is called k. So this equation is equivalent to saying that $k_1 \sin \theta_1$ is equal to $k_2 \sin \theta_2$, what is k 1? I am considering a situation where density is changing in z and plasma is uniform in the x direction.

So what you are seeing here, that $k_1 \sin \theta_1$ is the component of k vector of the wave along the interface or perpendicular to z axis. So I can call this is as k_{1x} is equal

to k_x . Similarly, if you apply the same Snell's law at the boundary between second layer and third layer this will be equal to k_3 and so on means as an electromagnetic wave moves from 1 medium to another medium this k_x , k_y , k_z will remain same.

So, I can call them as a simply k_x how about k_z in any **in any** layer, so in any layer suppose the refractive index is $\eta(z)$ then total k is ω/c into $\eta(z)$, so total k is decreasing as η decreases with increasing density but, k_x remains constant in order to have k_z vary k_z must change.

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So what you really have, because k_x square plus k_z square is equal to k square which is equal to ω square by c square into refractive index square this equation tells me that k_z square in any region, will be equal to ω square by c square η square minus k_x square this is a constant ω is a constant, η is the decreasing function of z if the plasma density is increasing function of z so k_z will decrease.

So, what you are having? If your medium begins at this point and if you are launching a ray here like this, the ray as it travels into a plasma of increasing density ray will bend like this and eventually will get out like this **this** is the direction of ray that we expect the issue is that at somewhere k_z will become 0, whenever k_x becomes equal to ω/c η then k_z becomes 0, so the point is called turning point where k_z becomes 0, the wave vector travels in the x direction at this point. This remember this is my z direction

this is my x direction. So at the turning point this is called turning point, I will call this z is equal to z t turning point.

k_z is 0 which means η becomes c upon ω into k_x , if the wave is coming from free space this is free space at an angle of incidence is θ_i then k_x can be written as ω by $c \sin \theta_i$ because the magnitude of k vector in free space is ω by c , if the angle of incidence is θ_i then the component of this k vector along x direction will be ω by $c \sin \theta_i$. So η becomes is equal to $\sin \theta_i$ at the turning point.

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$$\eta = \left(1 - \frac{\omega_p^2}{\omega^2}\right)^{1/2} = \sin \theta_i$$

$$\omega_p = \omega \cos \theta_i$$

$$\hat{n} : \text{direction of propagation} = \frac{\vec{R}}{R}$$

What is the consequence of this, what is η ? A refractive index of a plasma is η is equal to $1 - \omega_p^2 / \omega^2$ under root and I am saying put this is equal to $\sin \theta_i$. If, you solve this equation it gives you at the turning point plasma frequency is equal to $\omega \cos \theta_i$.

If, θ_i is large then this quantity will be smaller, so at large angle of incidence this is my boundary between free space and plasma and the ray trajectory is like this. And If I had a higher angle of incidence like this then this ray will come back early, this is the first ray, this is the second ray, the first ray was coming at a small angle of incidence this is angle of incidence, the second ray was coming at a large angle of incidence so it travels only a little in the plasma it comes out.

So this is an important consequence of physical consideration of the or application of Snell's law in the propagation of waves in an inhomogeneous plasma. Well one thing I would like to mention in here, that if you want to determine the rate trajectory the equation of that trajectory of the ray can also be deduced on physical grounds what you expect that a ray is travelling in a medium actually travels in the direction of propagation I will call the direction of propagation is \hat{n} vector, this is the direction of propagation which is the same thing as \hat{k} vector upon magnitude of k this is called the unit vector in the direction of wave propagation.

Here, so far we have discussed the propagation of waves with velocity v_p phase velocity we have not talked about group velocity, probably we will discuss it today or some other time the concept of group velocity. But, what really happens if you launch a wave into a plasma and the wave amplitude is limited in time it is not a continuous wave.

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Handwritten notes on a whiteboard:

$$\vec{E} = \vec{A}(t) e^{-i\omega t}$$

\vec{v}_g velocity of amplitude propagation

v_p vel. of phase propagation

$$v_p = \omega/k$$

$$\vec{v}_g = \partial\omega/\partial\vec{k} = \frac{\partial\omega}{\partial k} \frac{\partial k}{\partial\vec{k}}$$

NPTEL logo is visible in the bottom left corner of the whiteboard image.

If you launch a pulse, then you can write down the wave field at the entry point as some function of time and exponential minus $i\omega t$ then later when this wave propagates through a plasma then the phase changes with z it is amplitude also changes with z , the velocity of amplitude propagation is called group velocity. So we denote this quantity called v_g velocity of amplitude propagation, whereas the velocity of phase propagation is called v_p velocity of phase propagation.

There is a relationship between the $\nabla \omega$ is denoted as \mathbf{v}_g by k and \mathbf{v}_g will be shown to be equal to $\frac{\partial \omega}{\partial k}$ it is a vector sign put there and vector sign there. \mathbf{v}_g has three components v_{gx} , v_{gy} , v_{gz} $\frac{\partial \omega}{\partial k_x}$ is called v_{gx} , $\frac{\partial \omega}{\partial k_y}$ is called v_{gy} , $\frac{\partial \omega}{\partial k_z}$ is called v_{gz} . In an isotropic plasma ω does not depend on direction of k depends only on magnitude of k , so in that case this becomes $\frac{\partial \omega}{\partial k}$ is scalar into $\frac{\partial \omega}{\partial k}$ vector $\frac{\partial \omega}{\partial k}$ scale upon $\frac{\partial \omega}{\partial k}$ vector.

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The image shows a handwritten derivation on a grid background. At the top, the magnitude of the wave vector is given as $k = \sqrt{k_x^2 + k_y^2 + k_z^2}$. Below this, the partial derivatives of k with respect to its components are shown: $\frac{\partial k}{\partial k_x} = \frac{k_x}{k}$ and $\frac{\partial k}{\partial k_y} = \frac{k_y}{k}$. The group velocity vector is then defined as $\mathbf{v}_g = \frac{\partial \omega}{\partial \mathbf{k}}$. The components of the group velocity are derived as $\frac{dx}{dt} = v_{gx} = \frac{\partial \omega}{\partial k} \frac{k_x}{k}$ and $\frac{dz}{dt} = v_{gz} = \frac{\partial \omega}{\partial k} \frac{k_z}{k}$. To the right of the equations, a small diagram shows a 3D coordinate system with axes labeled \hat{x} and \hat{z} , and a vector \mathbf{k} pointing into the first octant.

And if you differentiate k to k vector, what do you get? Because k is equal to under root of k_x square plus k_y square in general plus k_z square, so if you obtain $\frac{\partial k}{\partial k_x}$, this will be equal to simply $\frac{k_x}{k}$. Similarly, $\frac{\partial k}{\partial k_y}$ turns out to be equal to $\frac{k_y}{k}$, and similarly $\frac{\partial k}{\partial k_z}$ you can write. So, what happens that the group velocity can be written as $\frac{\partial \omega}{\partial k}$ magnitude into $\frac{\partial \omega}{\partial k}$ vector, which is a unit vector the direction of a propagation in an isotropic plasma.

Well, what is the consequence of this? If your ray is travelling like this \mathbf{k} is the direction of your ray in a plasma, inhomogeneous plasma then suppose I am considering the wave propagation in xz plane this is my z direction and this is my x direction. So my wave is going in the xz plane, I am expecting that this velocity is in the xz plane also, \mathbf{v}_g

g has x component and z component also, what happens? I can write down the rate trajectory because when ray goes it the point moves from here to here.

So the distance travelled by the light by the electromagnetic wave in the x direction. I will call as $\frac{dx}{dz}$ is equal to $\frac{k_x}{k_z}$ the distance travelled by the ray in time dt will be dx this will be proportional to velocity put this is equal to $\frac{\Delta\omega}{\Delta k}$ into k_x upon k_z take x component. And similarly, $\frac{dz}{dt}$ is equal to $\frac{\Delta\omega}{\Delta k}$ which is equal to $\frac{\Delta\omega}{\Delta k}$ into k_z by k . If you divide these two equations you can write down $\frac{dx}{dz}$.

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$$\frac{dx}{dz} = \frac{k_x}{k_z}$$

$$\int k_z^{-1}(z) dz = k_x^{-1} \int dx + C_1 \quad \text{ray eq.}$$

$$k_z(z) = \left[\frac{\omega^2}{c^2} n^2(z) - k_x^2 \right]^{1/2}$$

And the result would be $\frac{dx}{dz}$ is equal to $\frac{k_x}{k_z}$. please remember I just mentioned if the plasma has variation in density along z axis then k_x is a constant only k_z depends on z. So you can easily integrate this equation and you can write down dz into k_z as a function of z that you know and integrate this is equal to k_x is a constant into dx plus a constant of integration. k_z let me write down explicitly k_z as a function of z is equal to $\frac{\omega^2}{c^2} n^2(z) - k_x^2$ under the roo.

So this equation can be easily integrated and this is called the ray, the equation of the ray. So I think based on Snell's law and physical considerations we have learnt that if we

know the profile of refractive index variation with position, we can deduce the ray equation by integrating this equation. And obviously we have to know the angle of incidence because k_x depends on the angle of incidence of the ray. Well with this in production let me go over to discuss the phenomenon of wave propagation in an inhomogeneous plasma.

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Wave Propagation in 1D

$$\omega_p^2(z)$$

$$\vec{E}|_{z=0} = \vec{A}_0 e^{-i\omega t} \rightarrow \nabla n \parallel \hat{z}$$

$$\vec{E}|_{z>0} = \hat{x} A(z) e^{-i\omega t}$$

I will consider the propagation of wave in one dimension first. In one dimension, what you have? That I have a plasma where ω_p^2 depends only on z and my wave is also going in the z direction, this is the direction where density is changing or ω_p is changing, so this is the gradient of n parallel to z and my wave is also going in the same direction.

My electromagnetic wave I can write down, E is equal to some amplitude exponential minus $i\omega t$ at z equal to 0, say for instance I would like to find out how much the field looks at higher values of z , to be specific i because I have already learnt that when a wave travels in a plasma then the electromagnetic wave is transverse. So the A vector the amplitude has to be either in the y direction or x direction, so without any loss of generality I choose my x axis along the amplitude of the wave or A in the direction of x .

So, I will choose this E for z greater than 0 let me call the initial amplitude to be A_0 and let the amplitude afterwards becomes A which is a function of z , I do not know what is

the x z dependence and time dependence I will take as $i\omega t$. So first let me deduce the equation governing A and then under certain approximations we will solve that equation.

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$$\nabla \times \vec{E} = -\frac{\partial \vec{B}}{\partial t} = i\omega\mu_0\vec{H}$$

$$\nabla \times \vec{H} = \vec{J} + \frac{\partial \vec{D}}{\partial t} = -i\omega\epsilon_0\epsilon_{eff}\vec{E}$$

$$\nabla \times (\nabla \times \vec{E}) = i\omega\mu_0\nabla \times \vec{H}$$

$$\nabla(\nabla \cdot \vec{E}) - \nabla^2 \vec{E} = \frac{\omega^2}{c^2}\epsilon_{eff}\vec{E}$$

$$\frac{\partial}{\partial z} \neq 0, \quad \frac{\partial}{\partial x} = 0, \quad \frac{\partial}{\partial y} = 0, \quad \vec{E} \parallel \hat{x}$$

The relevant Maxwell's equations are curl of E is equal to minus delta B upon delta t this is the third Maxwell equation, because the time variation I have a specified as exponential minus $i\omega t$, delta δt I replace by minus $i\omega$, so it becomes $i\omega\mu_0 H$. The fourth Maxwell equation is curl of H is equal to J plus delta D by delta t again replace delta delta t by minus $i\omega$ J by $i\omega$ as sigma E. So combine these two terms and you will get minus $i\omega\epsilon_0\epsilon_{eff}$ into E, this is how? The Maxwell's equations resemble a dielectric so this is the effective plasma permittivity.

Now, these two equations can be combined by taking curl of the first equation, so this becomes curl of curl of E right hand side becomes $i\omega\mu_0$ curl of H for curl of H, I use the second equation so the right hand side becomes ω^2 by c^2 epsilon effective into E and this I can break using vector identity into gradient divergence of E minus del square of E.

The issue is, what is the value of divergence of E? In my particular case because I am considering the wave propagation to be along z axis. So, I will choose delta delta z to be

non zero but, I will choose delta delta x to be 0 and delta delta y to be 0, regarding the electric field by incident electric field is in the z x direction, so I want to choose E parallel to x axis.

So, If I take the x component of this equation you know that del operator means delta delta x is 0, so this term vanishes means in this particular case of wave propagation along the density gradient this term does not contribute at all. So, thus and del square becomes how much D to d z square because other derivatives are 0, so then this equation in this particular case becomes a differential equation in one variable.

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$$\frac{\partial^2 E_x}{\partial z^2} + \frac{\omega^2}{c^2} \epsilon_{eff}(z) E_x = 0$$

$$E_x = A_1(z) e^{i\phi(z)}$$

$$\frac{1}{A_1} \frac{\partial A_1}{\partial z} \ll \frac{\partial \phi}{\partial z} \frac{1}{\phi}$$

$$\frac{\partial^2 A_1}{\partial z^2} \text{ is small}$$

And it becomes d to E x d z square plus omega square by c square epsilon effective which is a function of z into E x is equal to 0.

There is no approximation so far but, if epsilon effective is general function of z, a general solution of this equation is very difficult, if this quantity varies very gradually with z then one can solve this equation in one approximation that I write down E x into a terms of two functions; one called amplitude function. So, let me write down this quantity say A1 some function of z into e to the power some i another quantity phi some function of z, where A1 is purely real and phi is purely real. I can call actually there is no need to put may be subscript one here but, does not matter.

So if this is the kind of dependence no approximation, I am just writing any complex quantity E_x can be written as some amplitude which depends on z and some phase term but, from over a plane wave solution and a homogeneous medium we know amplitude is a constant this is a rapidly varying function of z as exponential of $i k z$.

So, here I am saying that when the plasma is inhomogeneous a still main z dependence comes through ϕ and $v z$ dependence comes through the amplitude. So I am going to assume that $\frac{\delta A_1}{\delta z}$ is small is much less than $\frac{\delta \phi}{\delta z}$, actually I should compare this with something so I will call this 1 upon A_1 and this as 1 upon ϕ . I will say that this is a much stronger z dependence than this 1 .

So when I substitute this expression in the wave equation, I will say that first derivative I will certainly retain of A_1 but, I will ignore the second order derivative of this so I am going to neglect $\frac{d^2 A_1}{dz^2}$, this neglect of second order of derivative of A_1 with respect to first order derivative of A_1 or second order derivative of ϕ with respect to z is called W K B approximation. So first of all, we will employ this approximation and obtain the values of A_1 and ϕ and then justify under what conditions this assumption is justified.

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$$E_x = A_1(z) e^{i\phi(z)} e^{-i\omega t}$$

$$\frac{\partial E_x}{\partial z} = \left[\frac{\partial A_1}{\partial z} + i \frac{\partial \phi}{\partial z} A_1 \right] e^{-i\omega t} e^{i\phi}$$

$$\frac{\partial^2 E_x}{\partial z^2} = \left[\frac{\partial^2 A_1}{\partial z^2} + i \frac{\partial^2 \phi}{\partial z^2} A_1 + 2i \frac{\partial \phi}{\partial z} \frac{\partial A_1}{\partial z} - \left(\frac{\partial \phi}{\partial z} \right)^2 A_1 \right] e^{-i\omega t} e^{i\phi}$$

$$= -\frac{\omega^2}{c^2} \epsilon_{eff} A_1 e^{-i\omega t} e^{i\phi}$$

So, let me substitute this if E_x , I am choosing is equal to a let me call A_1 a function of z exponential of $i \phi$ then differentiate with respect to z obviously there is a time

dependence is also there minus $i\omega t$ is already there. So ΔE_x by Δz will be how much this will be equal to ΔA_1 by Δz into this entire function plus $i\Delta\phi$ by Δz into exponential minus $i\omega t$ into exponential of $i\phi$ this is one derivative.

Second order derivative would be $d^2 E_x$ by Δz square is equal to $d^2 A_1$ by $d z$ square, which I am going to ignore in little while plus if you differentiate this you will get $i d^2 \phi$ by $d z$ square there is A_1 here also, I forgot this write A_1 here please write A_1 there into A_1 plus I will get $i\Delta\phi$ by Δz into ΔA_1 by Δz .

Then you start differentiating the exponential term, so you will get $i\Delta\phi$ by Δz into this terms so it becomes two times and then you multiply the differential coefficient of this with this term, so you will get minus d to ϕ $d z$ **sorry** $\Delta\phi$ by Δz whole square into A_1 multiplied by this exponential terms minus $i\omega t$ into exponential $i\phi$. And this has to be put equal to in the wave equation minus ω^2 by c^2 square epsilon effective into E_x which is equal to this whole expression so A_1 exponential of $i\phi$ minus $i\omega t$ exponential of $i\phi$.

Now, please remember there are this is a common factor on the right hand side as well as on the left hand side this factor is common. So they will cancel out this from here through here and from here through here, they just cancel each other on both sides cancel them and equate the real part on the left with the real part on the right and imaginary part of these terms on the left should be zero, because there is no left imaginary part on the right after these exponential have been canceled.

So what do you get, on equating the real part means this **this** I am ignoring this is called WKB approximations we ignore. So real parts is simply this term equate this term to this term and imaginary part is this term plus this term is zero.

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$$\frac{\partial \phi}{\partial z} = \frac{\omega}{c} \epsilon_{eff}^{1/2}$$
$$\phi = \frac{\omega}{c} \int \epsilon_{eff}^{1/2} dz$$
$$= \frac{\omega}{c} \int \eta dz$$
$$\frac{\partial^2 \phi}{\partial z^2} A_1^2 + 2 A_1 \frac{\partial \phi}{\partial z} \frac{\partial A_1}{\partial z} = 0$$
$$\frac{\partial}{\partial z} (A_1^2 \frac{\partial \phi}{\partial z}) = 0 \Rightarrow A_1^2 \frac{\partial \phi}{\partial z} = \text{const}$$

Let me write this **this** gives me delta phi by delta z is equal to omega by c epsilon effective to the power half. So phi can be easily obtained from this equation, so the phase of the wave a special part of the phase is omega by c under root of epsilon effective to the power half d z, because we had been calling this quantity as refractive index. I can also write this as omega by c refractive index into d z. If, the medium are homogeneous this is a constant you can take it out and d z simply becomes z integration, how about the this is by equating the real part on the left to the real part on the right.

When you equate the real imaginary parts, you will get imaginary parts give you d to phi by d z square of A plus twice delta phi by delta this is A1 rather actually this A1 everywhere. I made a mistake this is A1 into delta phi by delta z into delta A1 by delta z is equal 0, because there is no imaginary term on the right hand side these two equations can be combined into one, If I multiply both terms by a quantity called A1.

So, let me multiply this by A1, so If I multiply this by A1 this becomes A1 square and A1 i multiply here but, this 2 A1 into d A1 by d z becomes d 2 A square by d z and this can be written simply as delta delta z of A1 square delta phi by delta z is equal to 0, you can just check it, which means this is a constant term?

$A_1^2 \epsilon_{eff}^{1/2}$ by Δz is equal to constant, let me put the value of $\Delta \phi$ by Δz from this expression here its ω by c into ϵ_{eff} to the power half, which simply says that because ω by c is a constant.

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The whiteboard shows the following equations:

$$A_1^2 \epsilon_{eff}^{1/2} = \text{const} = A_0^2$$

$$A_1 = \frac{A_0}{\epsilon_{eff}^{1/4}} = \frac{A_0}{\eta^{1/2}} \checkmark$$

$$S_{av} = I = \frac{|E|^2}{2\mu_0 c} \eta \rightarrow + + +$$

$$= \frac{A_0^2}{2\mu_0 c}$$

An NPTEL logo is visible in the bottom left corner of the whiteboard image.

So this equation tells you that as the waves travels A_1^2 into ϵ_{eff} to the power half is equal to constant. Initially, if the wave started from free space I will call this quantity initial amplitude of the was A_0 and ϵ_{eff} was unity in free space.

So this is square A_0^2 for A_1 and this what you get? So what you are getting here the A_1 amplitude of the wave in the medium is initial amplitude A_0 divided by ϵ_{eff} to the power one-fourth or A_0 upon refractive index to the power 1 by 2.

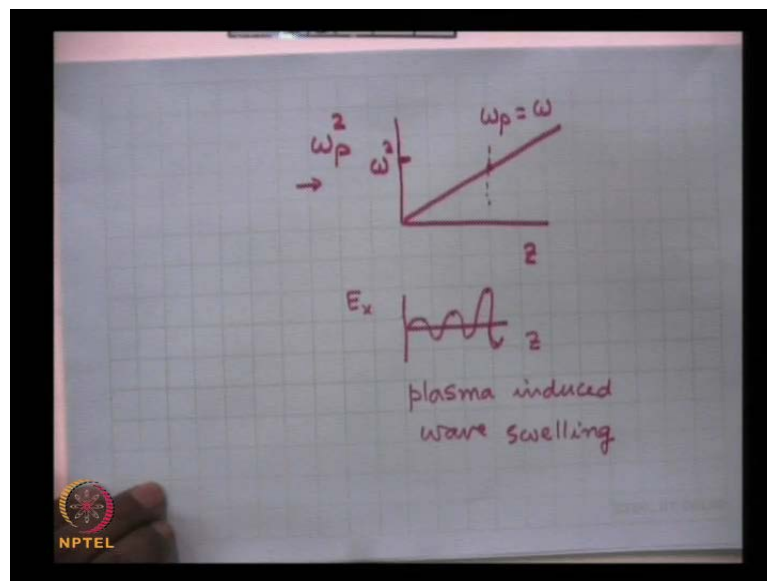
This expression can be physically understood, if you recall that as the that in a plasma, the time average pointing vector which is called intensity of the wave was equal to modulus of E square upon twice $\mu_0 c$ into refractive index. So, what is happening here? As E if you put the value of E it becomes simply A_1^2 , so it becomes A_0^2 upon η will cancel out because 1 upon η will be from here, and η will cancel upon twice $\mu_0 c$.

So, what is happening? If you are launching a wave into a plasma whose density is zero here, and density increasing in the interior then what you are expecting that the wave

amplitude after all total power of the wave if reflection is ignored passing through any unit area should remain constant. after all whatever electromagnetic energy is entering here must pass through **here must pass through here must pass through** here everywhere it must pass.

So, if there is no absorption as we are ignoring absorption here by taking η to be real as the wave travels its energy crossing should remain same. So, if this has to remain constant but, η is decreasing as the plasma density is increasing the refractive index decreases. So, E must increase that is why this amplitude is increasing so just by to converse the energy a denominator a refractive index under root comes in the denominator this ensure the energy conservation in the medium. So it is a important physical interpretation of this dependence.

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Well, it has a very important implication let me elaborate on this suppose I have a plasma whose density I am plotting like this, suppose the density is increasing like this.

So, If I plot ω_p here and plot z here ω_p^2 rather. because this is proportional to density so this is my density profile written in terms of plasma frequency square and suppose at some point ω_p becomes is equal to ω , so this point is called ω^2 means at this point. So, if the wave is coming from here it will penetrate up to this distance at this point ω_p becomes is equal to ω , up to this

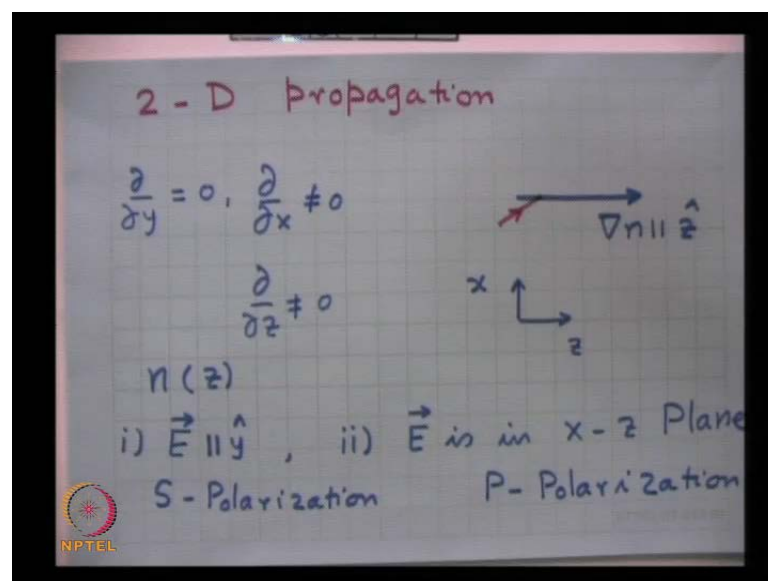
at this point your refractive index becomes zero beyond this refractive index is imaginary the wave does not travel.

So what is happening, If I plot the wave **wave** amplitude will be like this we have just seen, so the if the wave at a given instant of time if you see the oscillator electric field of the wave plot it will be like this.

Actually from W K B theory, when eta goes to zero your amplitude goes to infinity because eta to the power half comes in the denominator and there actually this theory fails, because the amplitude variation becomes quite rapid so d to a by $d z$ square that we had ignored its neglect cannot be justified so theory does not hold but, if you do a little more careful calculation then the amplitude is not infinite. But, it is contained but never the less as the wave travels, its amplitude becomes larger and larger this is called plasma swelling of plasma induced swelling of the wave amplitude.

Plasma induced wave swelling, I am plotting field at a given instant of time as a function of z wave swelling this is a important consequence of W K B theory that wave amplitude becomes stronger and stronger as the wave approaches the critical layer where plasma frequency equals the wave frequency.

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Now, a few remarks regarding the oblique propagation for that is called a 2 D propagation means, the wave is not traveling in the direction of density gradient but, at an angle to density gradient.

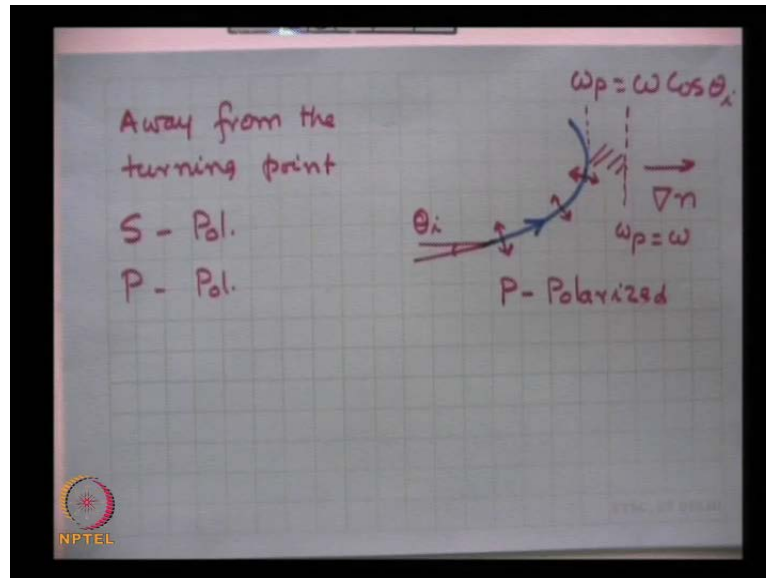
So, I have a plasma where density gradient is like this around z axis for instance but, my wave is coming at an angle I am launching a wave like this. So, I would like to find out as this wave travels into the medium, how does it its field vary with z. Well, let me specify the x axis also, I will choose this as the x axis and this is my z axis and I will choose my fields to vary in x and z but, being constant in y this is called two dimensional propagation.

So, I am choosing Δy to be 0 but, Δx is non zero and Δz is also non zero but, my properties of a medium the density of the plasma is a function of z alone. So from Snell's law we expect that the wave vector of the wave in the x direction will not change with distance it will remain the same as it was in the beginning this one thing that we can recall from there but, we should be able to deduced the same thing from the Maxwell's equations and we shall do that.

Another thing that I would like to mention here there are two possibilities that this wave may be polarized this wave may be polarized perpendicular to the x z plane means there are two possibilities; that the electric field of the wave is parallel to y axis and second possibility is the electric field is in the x z plane **is in the x z plane** there are two possibilities let us consider either of the two. For the sake of simplicity, I will consider the wave propagation with y axis this polarization is called S polarization and the other one is called P polarization plane of incidence polarization.

So, the issue is if my wave is travelling in with electric field in the y direction like this and the medium properties do not change with y, you will just see that the wave will maintain its y polarization whereas, if the electric field of the wave is in this direction and the wave travels something very different happens what happens lets physically see.

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When the wave travels in an inhomogeneous medium and it curves like this and if the electric field is polarized in the plane of incidence like this then as the ray bends this electric field also bends, because it has to remain perpendicular to the direction of propagation it bends like this and if at this point this becomes like this, so this is the case of P polarized light. Now, there is a gradual rotation of the electric field of the wave as it travels in the medium and as you know from physical considerations that this is a layer called a turning point, where ω_p is equal to $\omega \cos \theta_i$, where this wave was having an angle of incidence equal to θ_i .

This is not equal to $\omega_p = \omega$. But, what happens at the turning point, the electric field of the wave is parallel to the density gradient because this is the direction of the density gradient. So when the electrons oscillate parallel to the density gradient they always give rise to density oscillations.

Normally, we know that if the electromagnetic wave travels in a plasma it does not give rise to density oscillations but, because of the background gradient and density **density** gradient in background plasma density and when the electric field is parallel to the density gradient then it gives rise to density oscillations. We have learnt that a plasma has a natural frequency of oscillation equal to ω_p , so if this wave can tunnel from here to a region somewhere here there will be a region called $\omega_p = \omega$ critical layer.

So, if the gap between these two regions, these two layers is not large, then this wave can penetrate from here to here, and can resonantly excite a plasma wave there. So, there is a very special thing that happens here; therefore, P polarize light as the wave rotates or changes its orientation, the electric field also rotates and it may give rise to large density oscillations or the conversion of the wave into plasma wave can occur. Well certainly this is not within the limits of W K B theory, but this phenomena we shall discuss sometime during this course in some detail. So, this is a basic difference between the S polarized light, and P polarized light; the polarized light is polarized perpendicular to the ray like this, and its orientation does not change, it does not give rise to any density oscillations.

However, in the region away from the turning point like in this region etcetera, the W K B theory for P polarize light, and S polarize light is the same. So, we shall essentially consider or rather limit our discussion to region away from the critical layer or away from the turning point, away from the turning point S polarization, and P polarization have similar character. And the mathematical analysis will be taken up later to discuss the propagation of waves at oblique angle, in a inhomogeneous plasma. I think today, I stop at this stage. Thank you very much.