Refraction:



Absolute Index of Refraction:

Equation

- n = index of refraction (no units)
- c = speed of light in a vacuum = 3.00 x 10⁸ m/s
- v = speed of light in any medium (m/s)

Example: What is the speed of light in plastic if its index of refraction is 1.456?

Cause of Refraction:





Apparent Depth:

Example 1: Calculate the index of refraction for a substance where the angle of incidence is 30.0° and the angle of refraction is 50.0°, and the index of refraction for the second substance is 1.50

Example 2: Calculate the angle of refraction and draw the path of the refracted ray entering the cornea (n=1.3375) from air (n=1.000277) when the angle of incidence is 25°

Refraction Phenomena & Applications

Total Internal Reflection (TIR):

The Critical Angle:

Example: What is the critical angle for light travelling from diamond (n=2.42) to air (n=1.00)?

TIR Examples:

Dipersion:



Reflected Light Waves

Reflection at the Critical Angle

n(2) > n(1)

Aqueous



