Announcements

Final exam day events (Friday, May 12, 10:00am to 12:00pm)

- 50-point multiple choice end-material test (covering material from chapters 33-36). (You get a free 8-point question!)

- 200 point comprehensive final exam, all problems (no multiple choice), about 50% emphasis on chapters 33-36

You may take neither, one, or both of these tests. Your choice. No one admitted after 10:15am!

You may spend your two hours however you see fit (all on end-material, all on final exam, some mix).

Final Exam and End Material Test
Friday, May 12, 10:00-12:00

Test rooms:

Instructor	Sections	Room
Dr. Hale	F, H	104 Physics
Dr. Kurter	B, N	125 BCH
Dr. Madison	K, M	B-10 Bertelsmeyer
Dr. Parris	J	St. Pats Ballroom
Dr. Parris	L	112 Bertelsmeyer
Mr. Upshaw	A, C, E, G	St. Pats Ballroom
Dr. Waddill	D	120 BCH
Special Accommodations		Testing Center

(Contact me a.s.a.p. if you need accommodations different than for exam 3)

LEAD Tutors/Peer Instructors Needed!

You can tutor or be a PLC peer instructor if you have at least a 3.6 GPA and get an “A” in the course you want to tutor.

Contact me or go to http://lead.mst.edu/ to fill out the application form.

It looks good on your resume, pays well, and is fun!

Today's agenda: Thin Film Interference.

Phase Change Due to Reflection.

You must be able to determine whether or not a phase change occurs when a wave is reflected.

Phase Change Due to Path Length Difference.

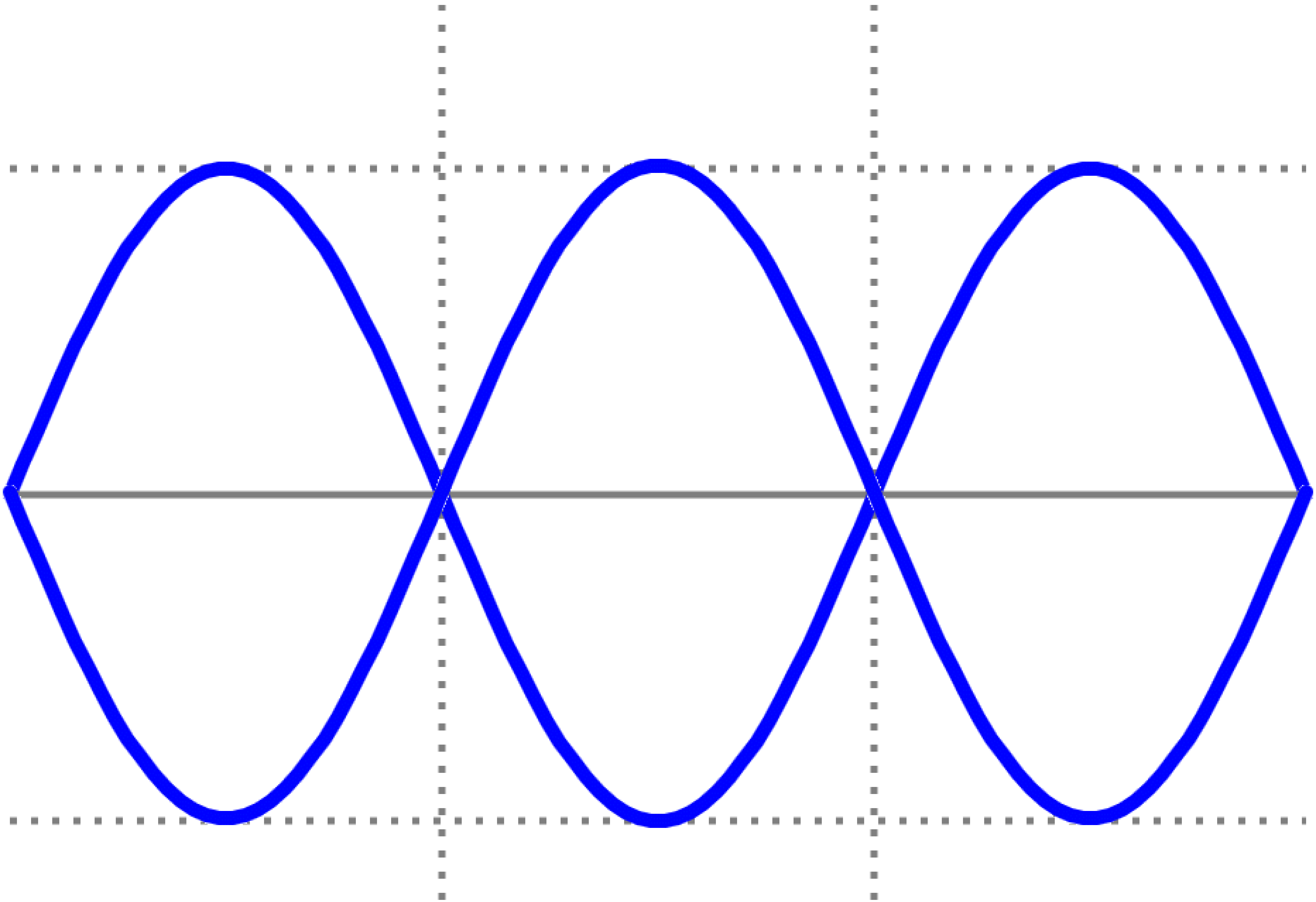
You must be able to calculate the phase difference between waves reflecting of the "front" and "back" surfaces of a thin film.

Thin Film Interference.

You must be able to calculate thin film thicknesses for constructive or destructive interference.

Examples.

You must be able to solve problems similar to these examples.

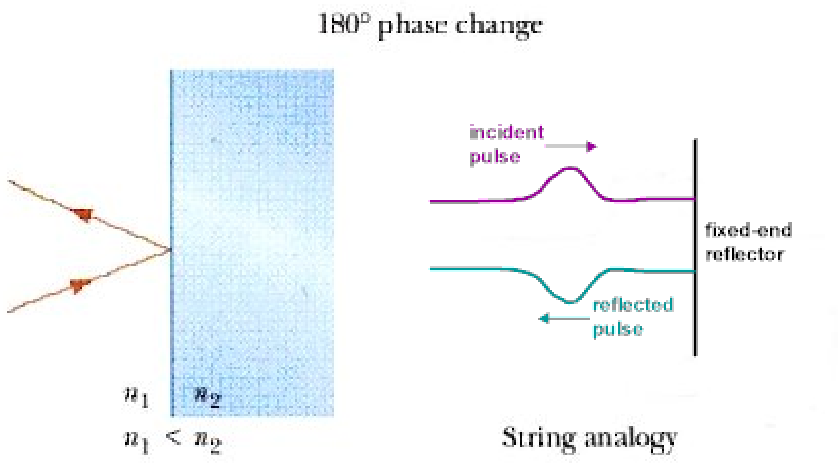


$$y = A \sin(kx - \omega t)$$

Interference from Reflection

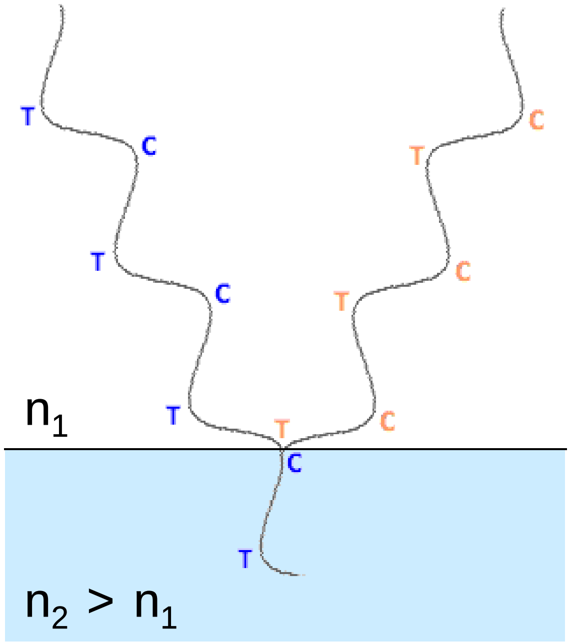
Thin Film Interference: Phase Change Due to Reflection

Light undergoes a phase change of 180° (π radians) upon reflection from a medium that has a higher index of refraction than the one in which the wave is traveling. Applet.

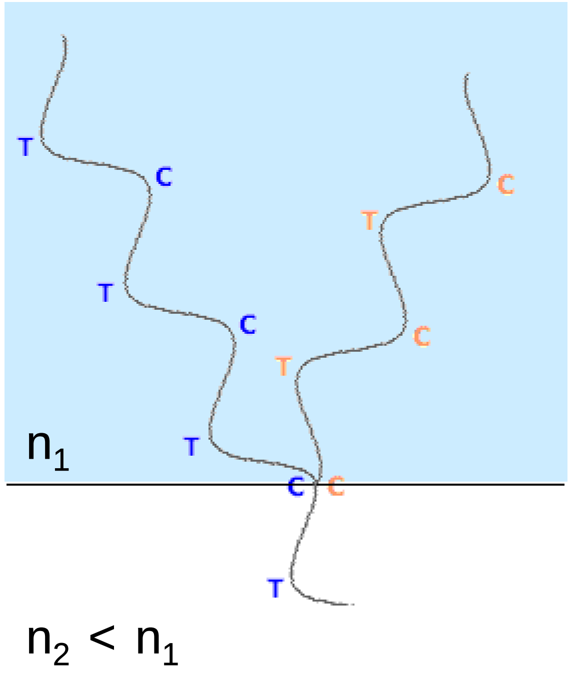


"string analogy" graphics from http://dev.physicslab.org/Document.aspx?doctype=3&filename=PhysicalOptics_ThinFilmInterference.xml

Thin Film Interference: Phase Change Due to Reflection



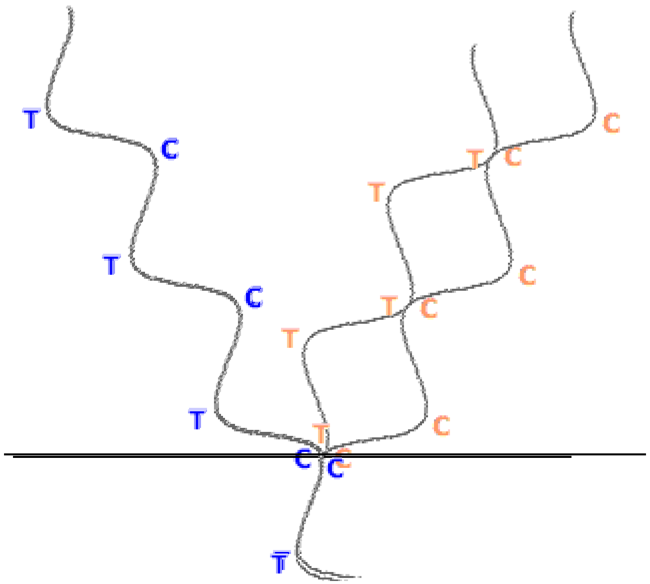
Crest (blue) is reflected as a trough (orange): π phase change.



Crest (blue) is reflected as a crest (orange): no phase change.

graphics from http://dev.physicslab.org/Document.aspx?doctype=3&filename=PhysicalOptics_ThinFilmInterference.xml
(good source of self-study material!)

Thin Film Interference: Phase Change Due to Reflection



The two cases overlaid: notice how the two reflected waves differ in phase by ½ of a wavelength.

graphics from http://dev.physicslab.org/Document.aspx?doctype=3&filename=PhysicalOptics_ThinFilmInterference.xml
(good source of self-study material!)

Thin Film Interference: Phase Change Due to Reflection

How to remember the phase change:

"Low to high, change is π."

(© 2001, D. M Sparlin)

Today’s agenda: Thin Film Interference.

Phase Change Due to Reflection.

You must be able to determine whether or not a phase change occurs when a wave is reflected.

Phase Change Due to Path Length Difference.

You must be able to calculate the phase difference between waves reflecting of the “front” and “back” surfaces of a thin film.

Thin Film Interference.

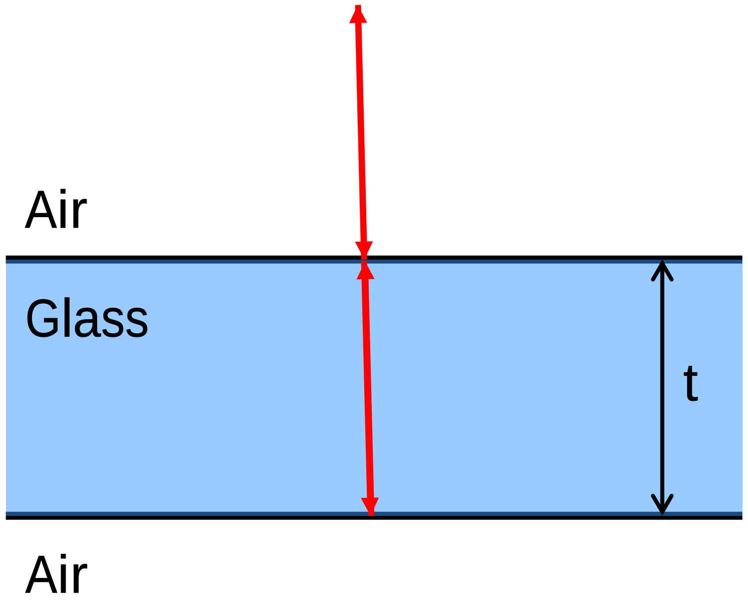
You must be able to calculate thin film thicknesses for constructive or destructive interference.

Examples.

You must be able to solve problems similar to these examples.

Thin Film Interference: Effect of Path Length Difference

Example: light of wavelength 600 nm in air is perpendicularly incident on a piece of glass 4.1 μm thick. The index of refraction of glass is 1.5. Some of the light is reflected off the “back” surface of the glass. How many light waves are contained along the path of this light through the glass?



Light passes through the glass...

reflects off the “back” surface...

...passes back through the glass and exits the glass...

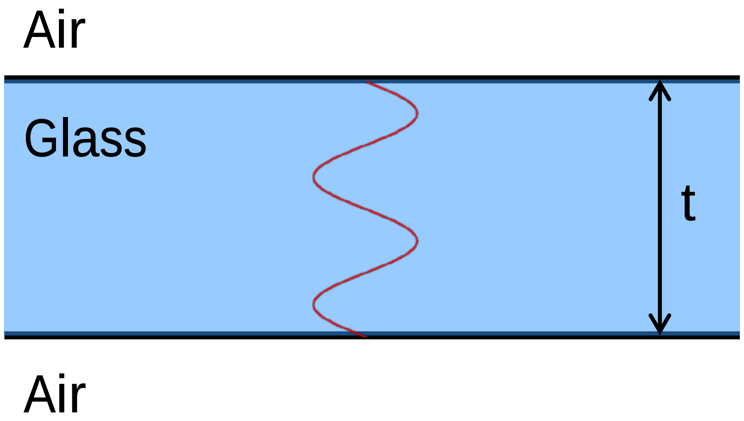
Some probably passes through the second glass surface, but we are not talking about that light.

Some probably reflects back off the front glass surface, but we are not talking about that light.

Thin Film Interference: Path Length Difference

How many light waves are contained along the path of this light through the glass?

How many “waves” can fit in the path of length 2t?



$$\lambda_{glass} = \frac{\lambda_{air}}{n_{glass}} = \frac{600\ \text{nm}}{1.5} = 400\ \text{nm}$$

$$\text{path length} = 2\,t = 8.2\ \mu\text{m} = 8200\ \text{nm}$$

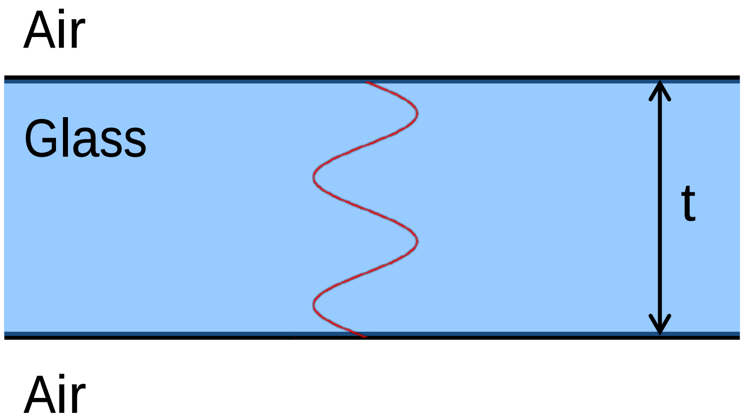
$$\text{number of waves} = \frac{2\,t}{\lambda_{glass}}$$

$$\text{number of waves} = \frac{8200\ \text{nm}}{400\ \text{nm}} = 20.5$$

Thin Film Interference: Path Length Difference

Are the outgoing waves in phase or out of phase with the incoming waves

Note: if you look down at the glass, your eye sees only the reflected waves; you will not see interference of the incident and reflected waves, so you are not being asked if interference between incident and reflected waves will take place.



$$\text{number of waves} = \frac{8200\text{ nm}}{400\text{ nm}} = 20.5$$

The outgoing waves would differ in phase by ½ wavelength from the incoming waves...

...except that you must also consider phase shift due to reflection (so we can't give the answer just yet).

Today’s agenda: Thin Film Interference.

Phase Change Due to Reflection.

You must be able to determine whether or not a phase change occurs when a wave is reflected.

Phase Change Due to Path Length Difference.

You must be able to calculate the phase difference between waves reflecting of the “front” and “back” surfaces of a thin film.

Thin Film Interference.

You must be able to calculate thin film thicknesses for constructive or destructive interference.

Examples.

You must be able to solve problems similar to these examples.

Thin Film Interference

Thin film interference is caused by...

http://www.photographyblog.com/gallery/showphoto.php?photo=5545

...phase difference of reflected waves due to path length differences...

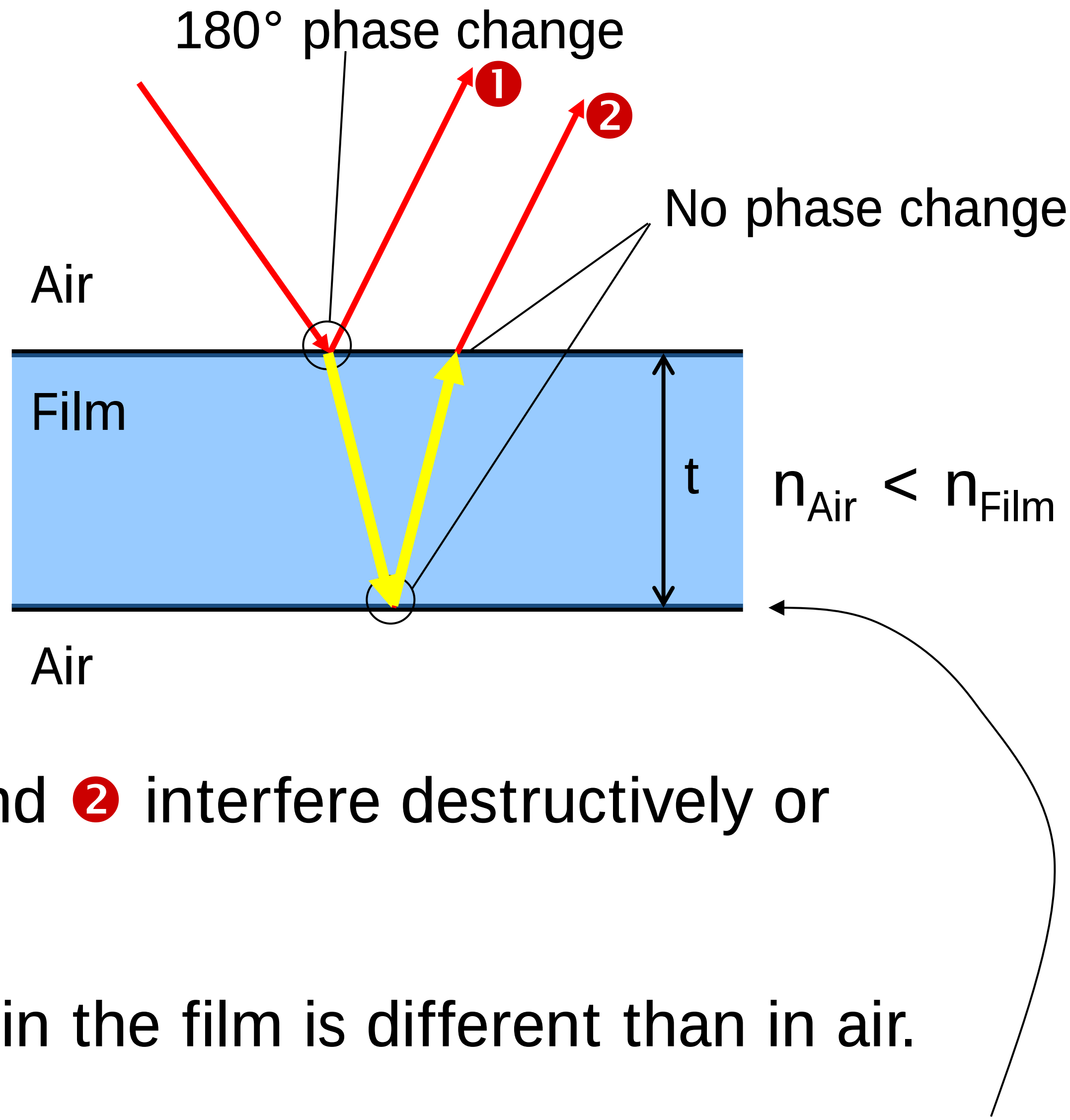
...and phase difference of reflected waves due to reflection off a higher-n material.

Thin Film Interference, Including Reflection

Ray ❶ undergoes a phase change on reflection.

Ray ❷ does not undergo a phase change on reflection..

Ray ❷ has a phase change due to the path difference.



Do the reflected rays ❶ and ❷ interfere destructively or constructively?

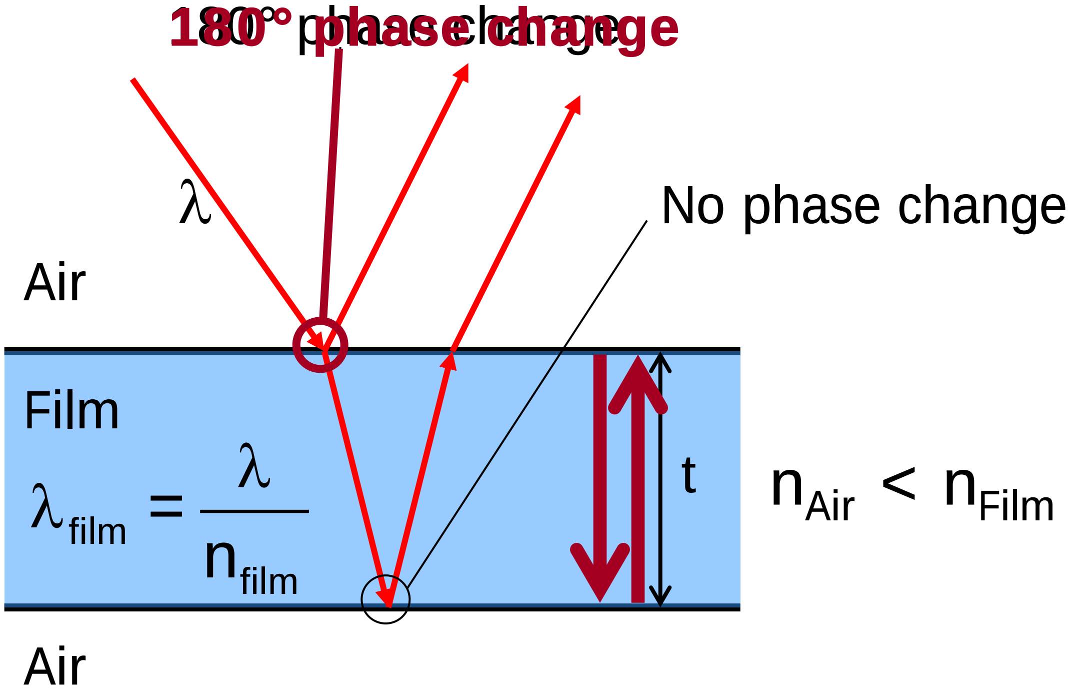
Caution! The wavelength in the film is different than in air.

Dark lines in drawings are there to help you see the boundaries, and are not a separate medium.

Assume the incident light is nearly perpendicular to the film surface.

The path length difference is approximately 2t.

There is a 180° phase difference (½ of a wavelength) due to the first reflection.

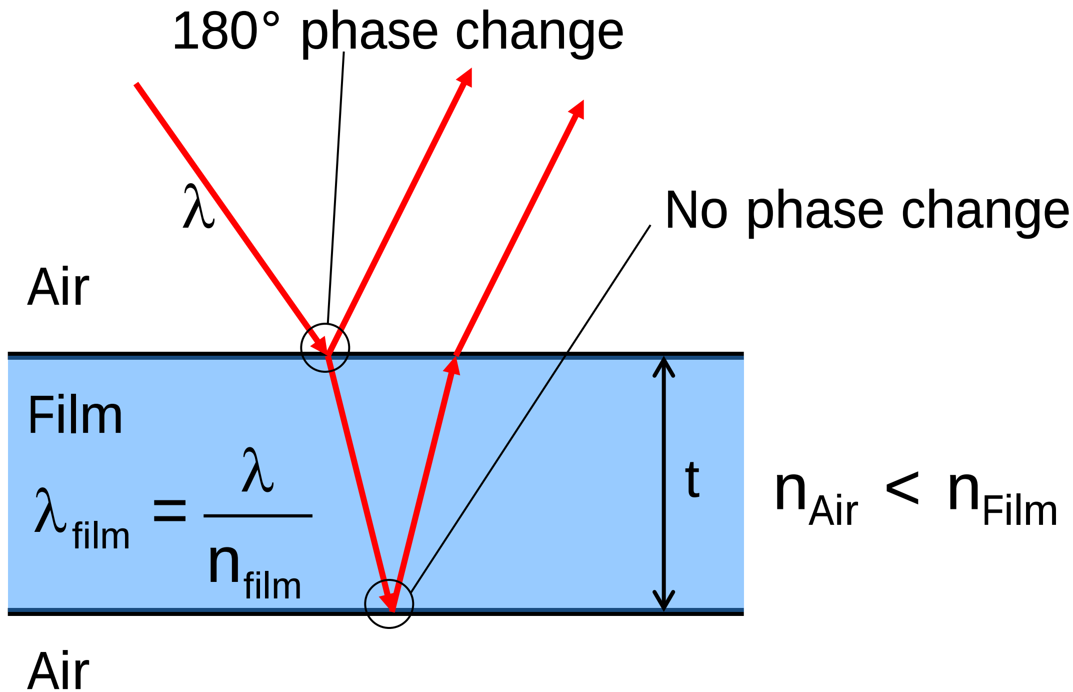


We will get **destructive interference** when the path difference is an integral number of wavelengths:

$$2t = m\lambda_{film} = m\frac{\lambda}{n_{film}} \Rightarrow 2n_{film}t = m\lambda, \quad m = 0, 1, 2\ldots$$

Assume the incident light is nearly perpendicular to the film surface.

We get constructive interference when the path difference is $\lambda_{film}/2$, $3\lambda_{film}/2$, $5\lambda_{film}/2$, etc.

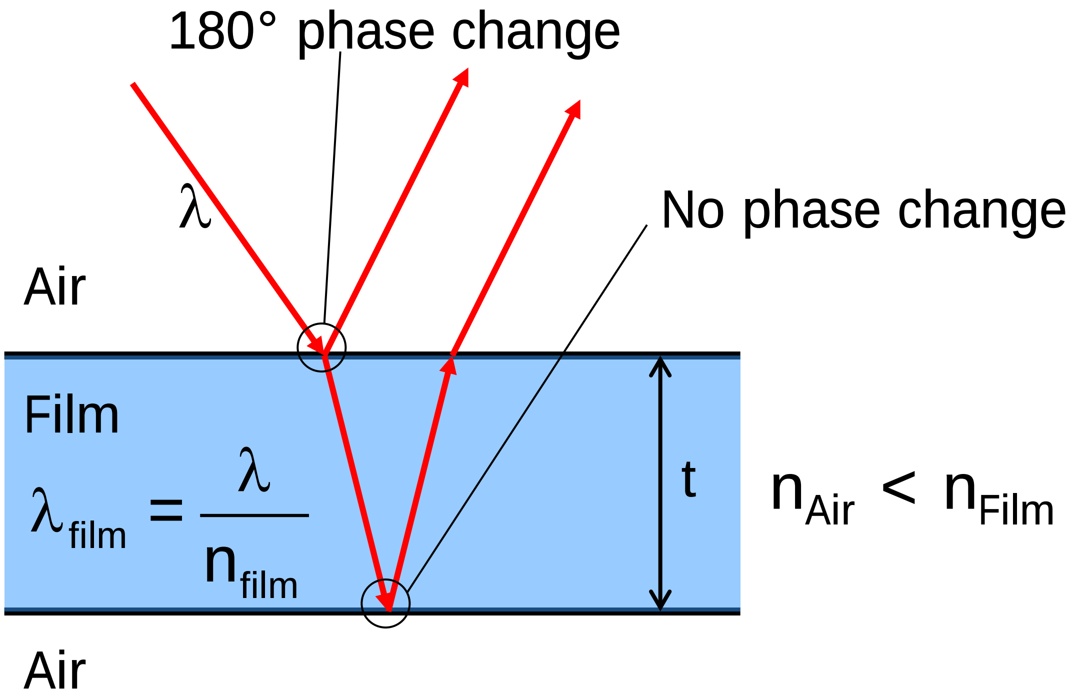


We will get **constructive interference** when the path difference is a half-integral number of wavelengths:

$$2t = \left(m + \frac{1}{2}\right)\lambda_{film} = \left(m + \frac{1}{2}\right)\frac{\lambda}{n_{film}} \quad \Rightarrow \quad 2n_{film}t = \left(m + \frac{1}{2}\right)\lambda, \quad m = 0,1,2\ldots$$

The equations below are not on your starting equation sheet.

You need to apply the reasoning used here in deriving them to each of your thin film interference problems.



$$2n_{film}t = m\lambda, \quad m = 0,1,2\ldots$$

$$2n_{film}t = \left(m + \frac{1}{2}\right)\lambda, \quad m = 0,1,2\ldots$$

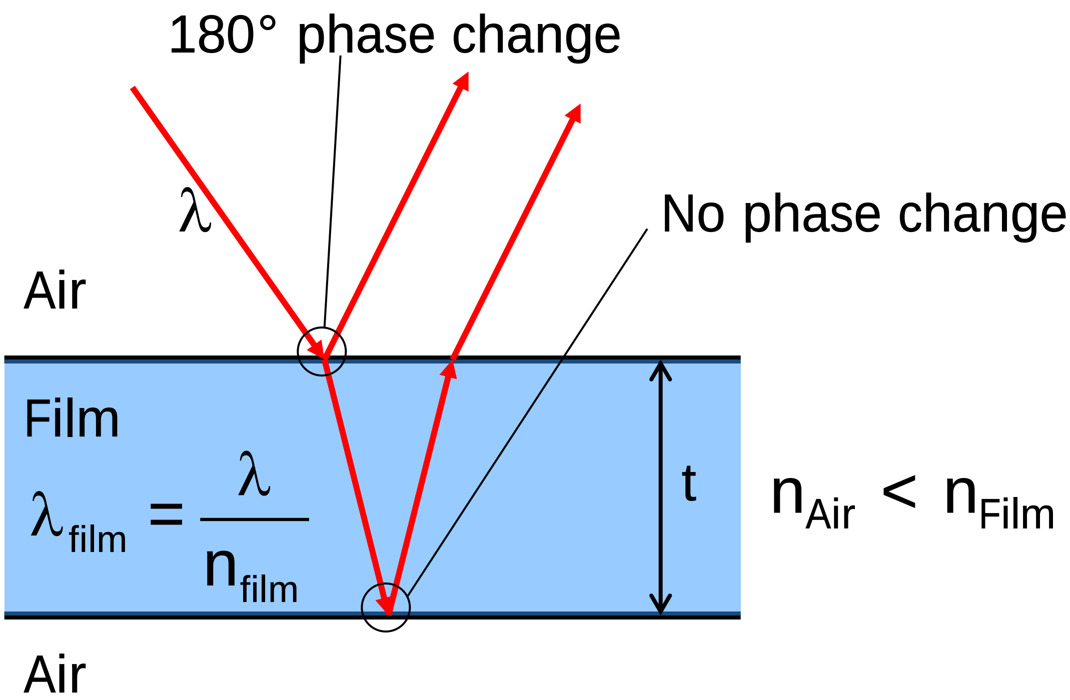
These are only true when the film is surrounded by a medium with lower index of refraction than the film!

Caution!

These are valid when the light is incident almost perpendicular to the film:

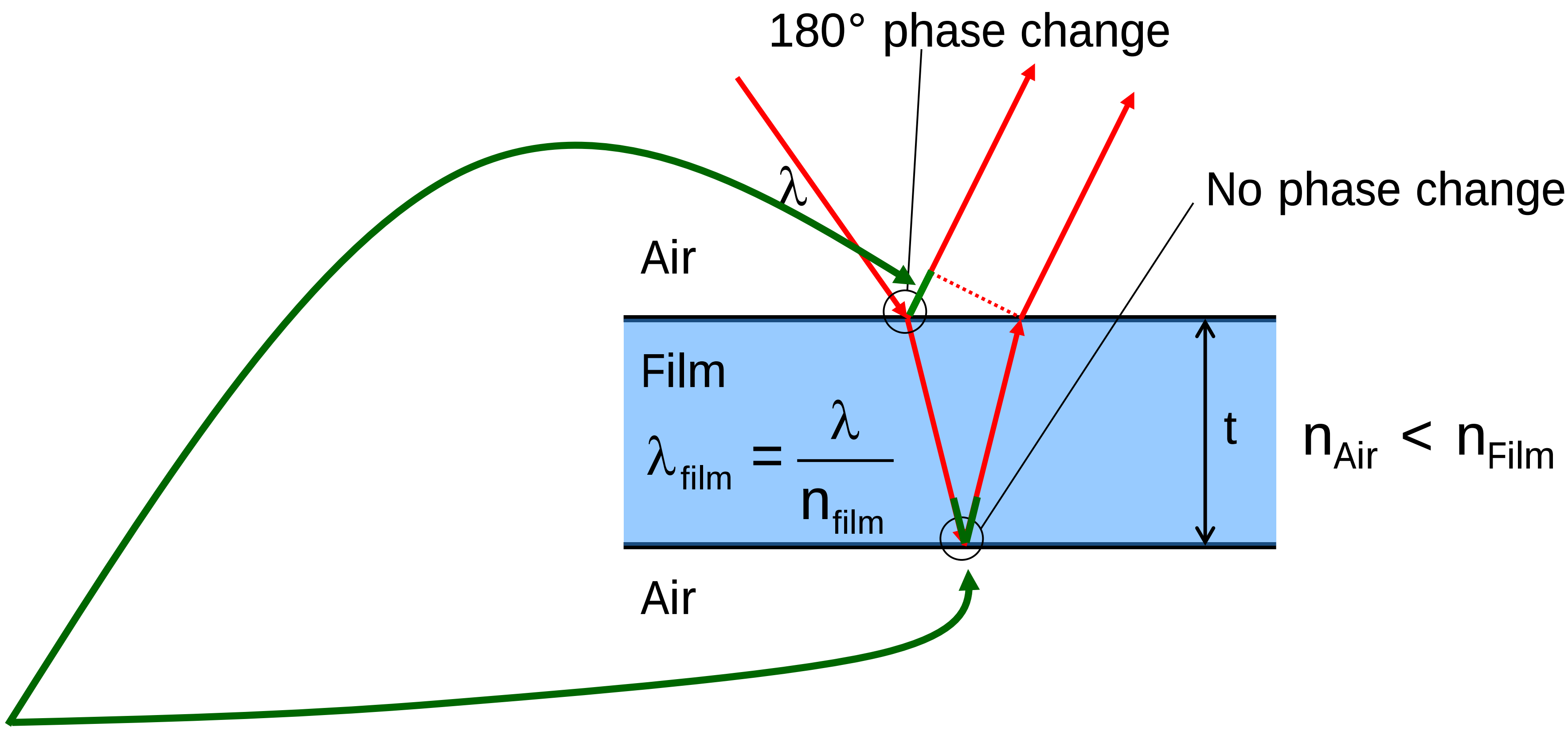
$$2n_{film}t = m\lambda$$

$$2n_{film}t = \left(m + \frac{1}{2}\right)\lambda$$



The incident ray in the diagram clearly does not qualify visually as “almost perpendicular.” That’s because the angle relative to the normal is exaggerated for viewing convenience.

Caution!



For truly non-perpendicular incidence, you have to take into account the extra path length of the ray reflected at the air-film interface, as well as the extra path length inside the film because the path is not perpendicular to the surfaces.

Let's look at a couple of applets.

Thin film interference.

Antireflective coatings.

Thin Film Interference Problem Solving Tips

- Identify the thin film causing the interference.

- Phase differences have two causes: (1) path differences and (2) phase changes upon reflection (low to high, change is π).

- Determine the phase difference due to reflection between the portion of the wave reflected at the upper surface and the portion reflected at the lower surface.

- Determine the phase difference due to the path length difference (in the thin film).

- When the total phase difference is an integer multiple of the wavelength (λ, 2λ, 3λ, etc.) the interference is constructive, and when it is a half-integer multiple of the wavelength ($\lambda/2$, $3\lambda/2$, $5\lambda/2$, etc.) it is destructive.

Today’s agenda: Thin Film Interference.

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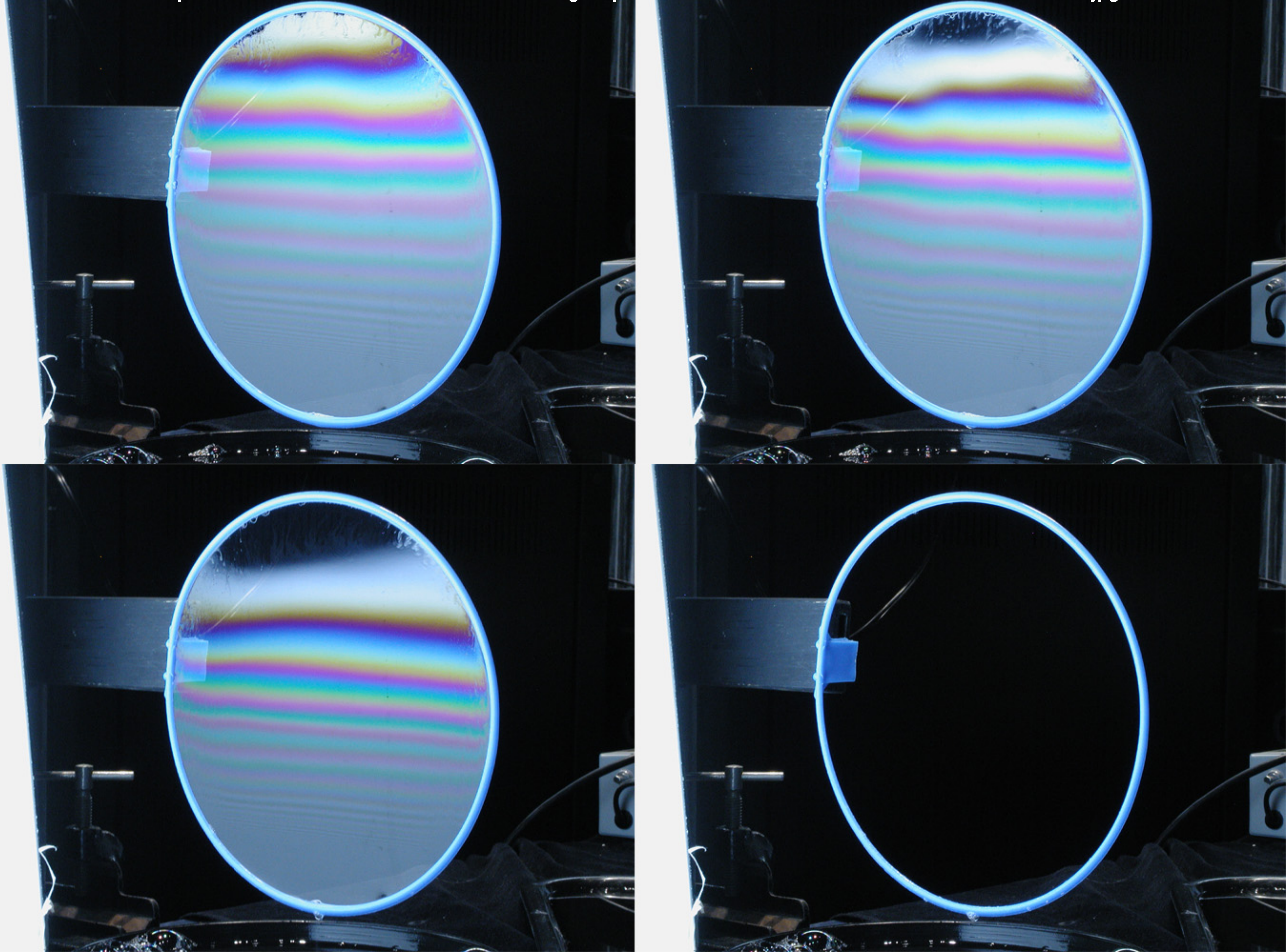
Examples.

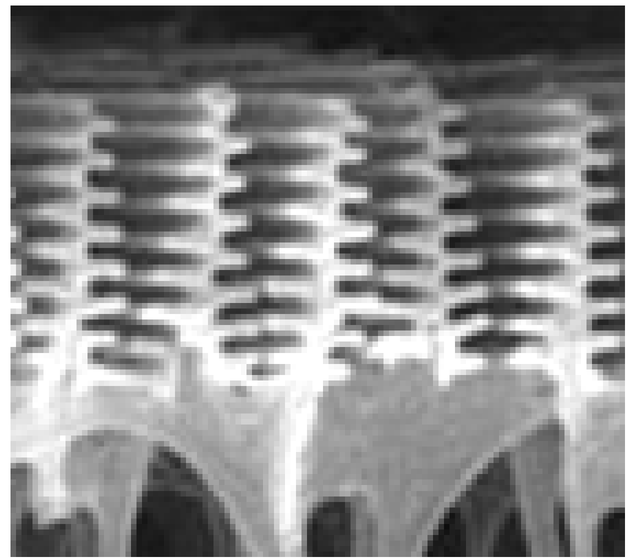
You must be able to solve problems similar to these examples.

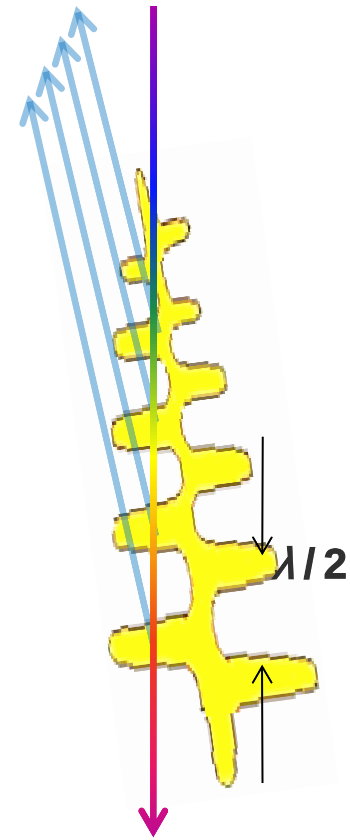
http://www.fas.harvard.edu/~scdiroff/lds/LightOptics/ThinFilmInterference/ThinFilmInterference04.jpg

http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/File:Dieselrainbow.jpg http://www.fas.harvard.edu/~scdiroff/lds/LightOptics/ThinFilmInterference/ThinFilmInterference02.jpg



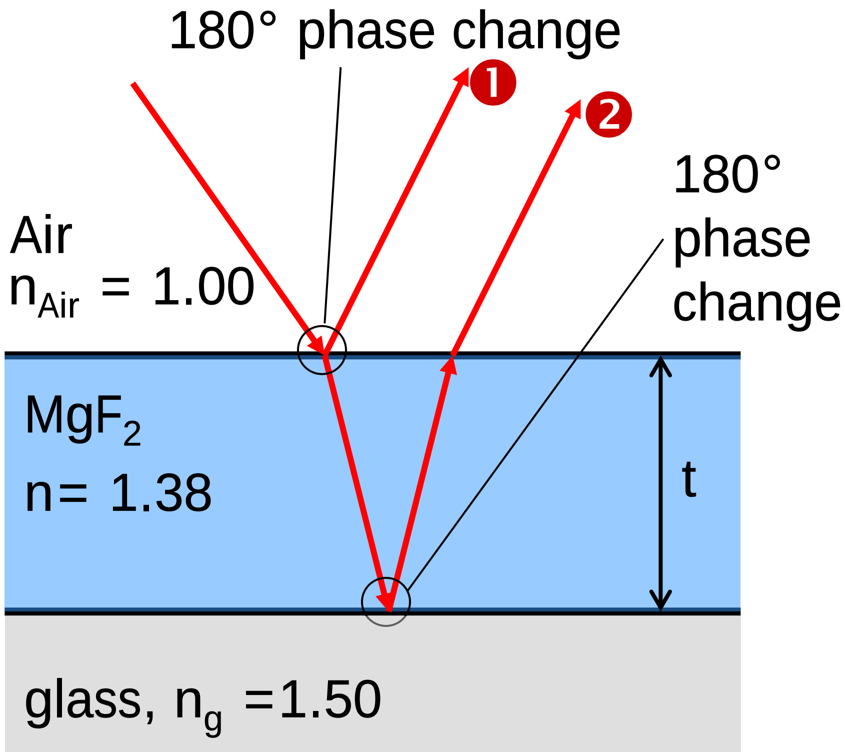
http://www.tufts.edu/as/tampl/projects/micro_rs/theory.html#thinfilm




λ / 2

Example: a glass lens is coated on one side with a thin film of MgF_2 to reduce reflection from the lens surface. The index of refraction for MgF_2 is 1.38 and for glass is 1.50. What is the minimum thickness of MgF_2 that eliminates reflection of light of wavelength λ = 550 nm? Assume approximately perpendicular angle of incidence for the light.

Both rays ❶ and ❷ experience a 180° phase shift on reflection so the total phase difference is due to the path difference of the two rays.



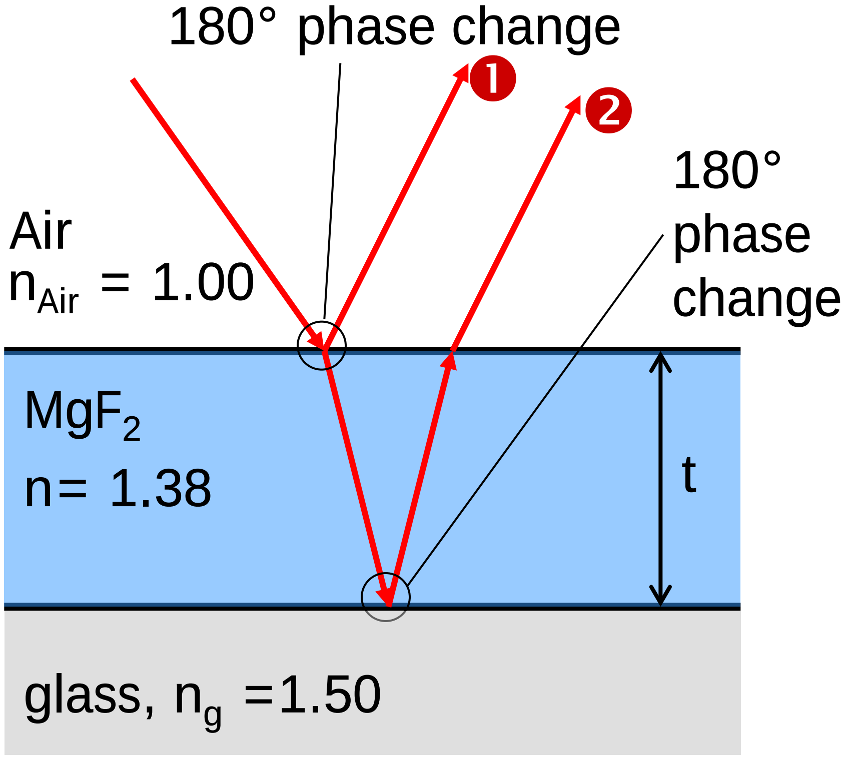
The reflected light is minimum when the two light rays meet the condition for destructive interference: the path length difference is a half-integral multiple of the light wavelength in MgF_2.

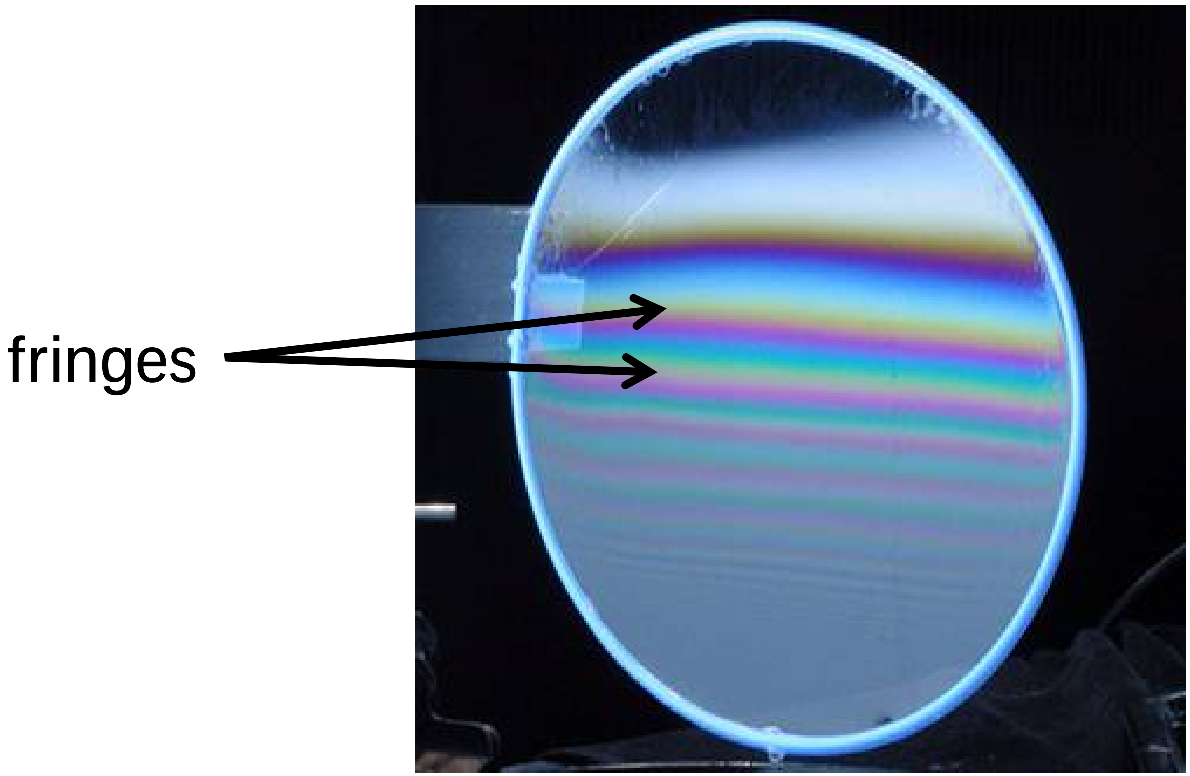
$$2t = \left(m + \frac{1}{2}\right)\frac{\lambda}{n_{MgF2}}, \quad m = 0, 1, 2\ldots$$

The minimum thickness is for m=0.

$$2t_{min} = \frac{\lambda}{2n_{MgF2}}$$

$$t_{min} = \frac{\lambda}{4n_{MgF2}} = \frac{550\text{ nm}}{4(1.38)} = 99.6\text{ nm}$$

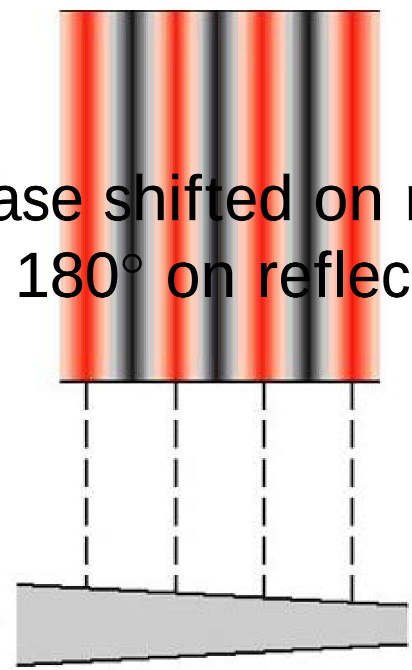




Color pattern occurs because incident light is not monochromatic.

Example: two glass plates 10 cm long are in contact on one side and separated by a piece of paper 0.02 mm thick on the other side. What is the spacing between the interference fringes? Assume monochromatic light with a wavelength in air of λ = 500 nm incident perpendicular to the slides.

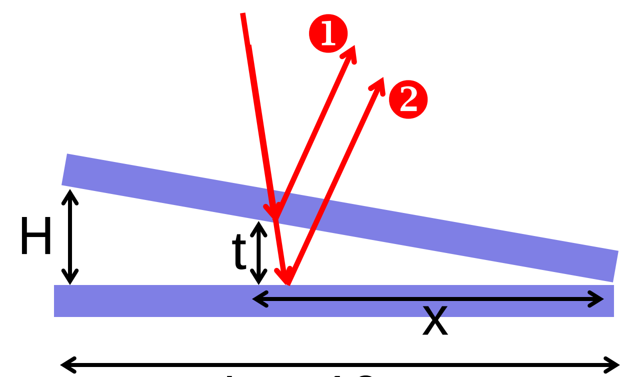
The light that is reflected from the top and bottom of the very thin air wedge is responsible for the interference*



Ray ❶ is not phase shifted on reflection.
Ray ❷ is shifted 180° on reflection.

For destructiv

$2t = m\lambda, \quad m =$



L = 10 cm

H = 2×10^{-5} m

*This reference explains why there is no visible interference due to the relatively thick glass plates themselves.

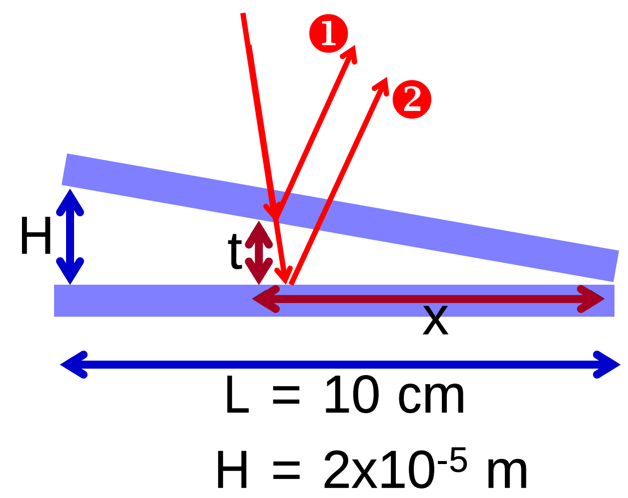
$$2t = m\lambda, \quad m = 0, 1, 2\ldots$$

$$\frac{t}{x} = \frac{H}{L} \quad \Rightarrow \quad t = \frac{Hx}{L}$$

$$2\frac{Hx}{L} = m\lambda \quad \Rightarrow \quad x = m\frac{L\lambda}{2H} = m\frac{(0.1\ \text{m})(500\ \text{nm})}{2(2\times10^{-5}\ \text{m})} = m(1.25\ \text{mm})$$

x is the distance from the contact point to where destructive interference takes place.

Successive dark fringes are separated by 1.25 mm.

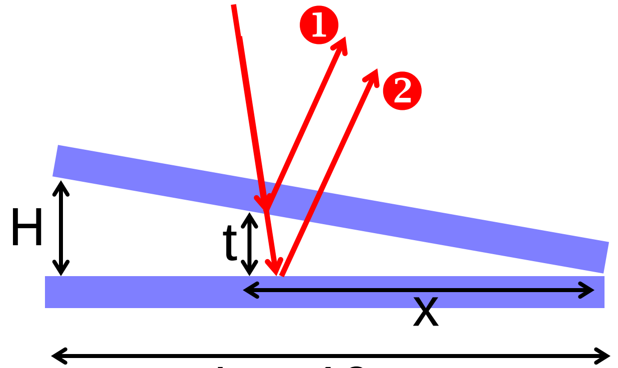


For constructive interference $2t = \left(m + \frac{1}{2}\right)\lambda, \quad m = 0, 1, 2\ldots$

$$\frac{t}{x} = \frac{H}{L} \quad \Rightarrow \quad t = \frac{Hx}{L}$$

$$2\frac{Hx}{L} = \left(m + \frac{1}{2}\right)\lambda \quad \Rightarrow \quad x = \left(m + \frac{1}{2}\right)\frac{L\lambda}{2H}$$

Successive bright fringes occur for $m+½$ and $(m+1)+½$.



L = 10 cm

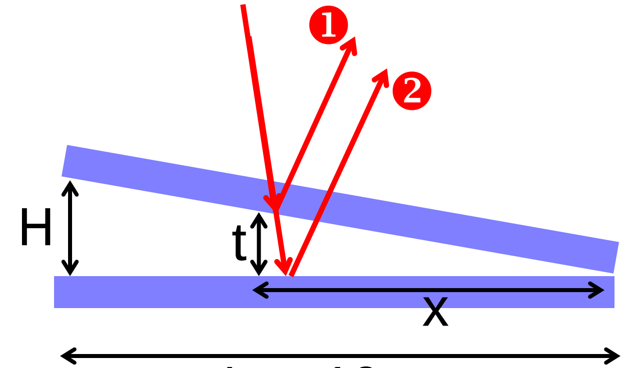
H = $2\text{x}10^{-5}$ m

Successive bright fringes occur for m+½ and (m+1)+½.

$$x\left(m+1+\frac{1}{2}\right)-x\left(m+\frac{1}{2}\right)=\left(m+\frac{3}{2}\right)\frac{L\lambda}{2H}-\left(m+\frac{1}{2}\right)\frac{L\lambda}{2H}$$

$$x\left(m+1+\frac{1}{2}\right)-x\left(m+\frac{1}{2}\right)=\frac{L\lambda}{2H}=1.25\,\text{mm}$$

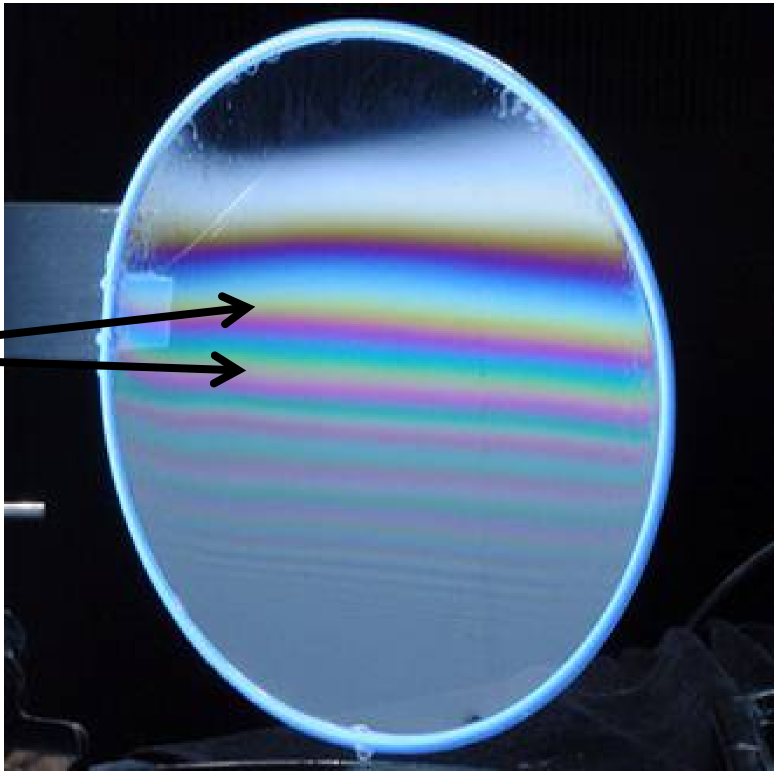
Successive bright fringes are also separated by 1.25 mm.



$L = 10$ cm

$H = 2\text{x}10^{-5}$ m

fringes



Non-uniform fringe spacing occurs because
“air wedge” is not triangular.

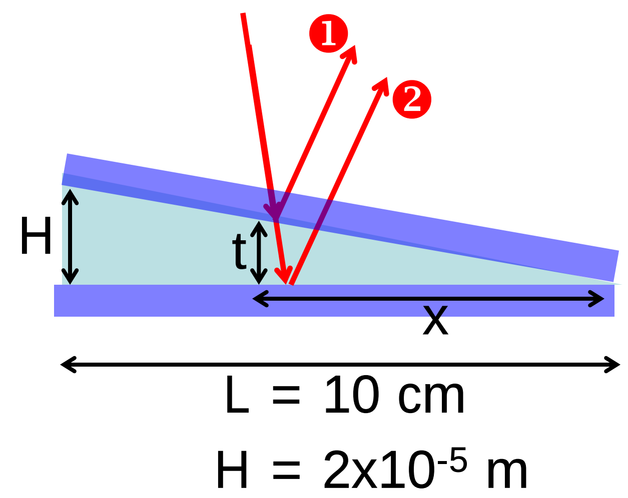
Example: suppose the glass plates have n_g = 1.50 and the space between them contains water (n_w = 1.33). What happens now?

Ray ❶ is not phase shifted on reflection. Ray ❷ is shifted 180° on reflection. Both are the same as before.

For destructive interference $2t = m\lambda, \;\; m = 0, 1, 2 \ldots$

But the path difference now occurs in water, where the light will have a wavelength

$$\frac{\lambda}{n_{water}}$$



Repeat the calculation, using λ_{water}.

For destructive interference, we now have

$$x = m\frac{L\lambda_{water}}{2H} = m\frac{(0.1\text{ m})(500\text{ nm}/1.33)}{2\left(2\times 10^{-5}\text{ m}\right)} = m(0.94\text{ mm})$$

Successive dark fringes are separated by 0.94 mm.