

Problem 7.72) a) The E -field energy-density is $\frac{1}{2}\epsilon_0|\mathbf{E}|^2$. Since the E -field oscillates with frequency ω_0 , time-averaging yields the average E -field energy-density as $\frac{1}{4}\epsilon_0 E_0^2$. Multiplying this into the volume cTA of the pulse, we obtain the E -field energy of the pulse as $\frac{1}{4}\epsilon_0 cTAE_0^2$. Similarly, the amplitude of the H -field of the light is $H_0 = E_0/Z_0$. Since the time-averaged magnetic energy density in vacuum is given by $\frac{1}{4}\mu_0 H_0^2 = \frac{1}{4}\epsilon_0 E_0^2$, the magnetic energy of the pulse is equal to its electric energy. The total energy is thus given by $\frac{1}{2}\epsilon_0 cTAE_0^2$.

Alternatively, we may compute the time-averaged Poynting vector as follows:

$$\langle \mathbf{S} \rangle = \frac{1}{2} \text{Re}(\mathbf{E} \times \mathbf{H}^*) = \frac{1}{2} E_0 H_0 \hat{\mathbf{z}} = [E_0^2 / (2Z_0)] \hat{\mathbf{z}}.$$

This is the rate of flow of energy per unit area per unit time at any given cross-section of the light pulse. Multiplication with A and T then yields the total energy of the pulse as $ATE_0^2 / (2Z_0)$. Considering that $\epsilon_0 c = 1/Z_0$, the two expressions obtained above for the total pulse energy are exactly the same.

b) The reflected pulse has the same frequency ω_0 and the same wavelength $\lambda_0 = 2\pi c / \omega_0$ as the incident pulse. Its polarization state is also linear and in the same direction as the incident polarization. The pulse duration and cross-sectional area remain T and A , respectively. The only things that change are the field amplitudes E_0 and H_0 , which are multiplied by the Fresnel reflection coefficient $\rho = (1-n)/(1+n)$. The reflected pulse energy is therefore given by ρ^2 times the incident pulse energy, that is, $(1-n)^2 ATE_0^2 / [2Z_0(1+n)^2]$.

c) The Fresnel transmission coefficient at the entrance facet of the glass slab is $\tau = 1 + \rho = 2/(1+n)$. This means that the E -field amplitude inside the glass slab is $2E_0/(1+n)$. The H -field amplitude is n times the E -field amplitude divided by Z_0 , that is, $H_0 = 2nE_0/[Z_0(1+n)]$. Therefore, the z -component of the Poynting vector inside the slab is $\langle S_z \rangle = 2nE_0^2/[Z_0(1+n)^2]$. Since the pulse duration T and the cross-sectional area A inside the slab remain the same as outside, the total energy of the transmitted pulse is $2nATE_0^2/[Z_0(1+n)^2]$. Other properties of the transmitted pulse are: frequency = ω_0 , wavelength $\lambda = \lambda_0/n$, pulse length = cT/n , polarization state = linear and in the same direction as the incident pulse.

Alternatively, one may evaluate the energy densities of the E and H fields separately, then add them together. We find

$$\text{Time-averaged } E\text{-field energy density} = \frac{1}{4} \epsilon_0 \epsilon (\tau E_0)^2 = \frac{1}{4} \epsilon_0 n^2 [2E_0/(1+n)]^2 = \epsilon_0 n^2 E_0^2 / (1+n)^2.$$

$$\text{Time-averaged } H\text{-field energy density} = \frac{1}{4} \mu_0 (n \tau E_0 / Z_0)^2 = \frac{1}{4} \mu_0 \{2nE_0/[Z_0(1+n)]\}^2 = \epsilon_0 n^2 E_0^2 / (1+n)^2.$$

Adding the above energy densities, then multiplying by the pulse volume cAT/n yields the same result as before, namely, transmitted pulse energy = $2\epsilon_0 c n ATE_0^2 / (1+n)^2$.

d) Reflected plus transmitted pulse energy =

$$(1-n)^2 ATE_0^2 / [2Z_0(1+n)^2] + 2nATE_0^2 / [Z_0(1+n)^2] = ATE_0^2 / (2Z_0).$$

This is the same as the incident pulse energy; therefore, energy is conserved.