

130Y/140Y

L21, p5

Dispersion + Prisms

→ index of refraction
- can vary w/ λ

$$n = n(\lambda)$$

→ e.g. ^{dispersed} ~~dispersed~~ varies by
~ 1% over visible
wavelengths
"disperses in"

→ different n 's refracted
to diff angles



macrochroma



→ will see violet light
deviate most, red least
→ rainbows exist between sun
& water shower

130Y/140Y

L21, p6

Total Internal Reflection

if $n_1 > n_2$

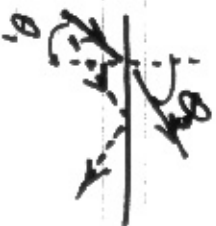
critical angle

→ refracted

lighter @

$$\theta = 90^\circ$$

→ what is θ , here?



- shallower angles
→ obey law of reflection
use Snell's law:

$$n_1 \sin \theta_1 = n_2 \sin \theta_2$$

$$\sin \theta_c = \frac{n_2}{n_1} \text{ (for } n_1 > n_2 \text{)}$$

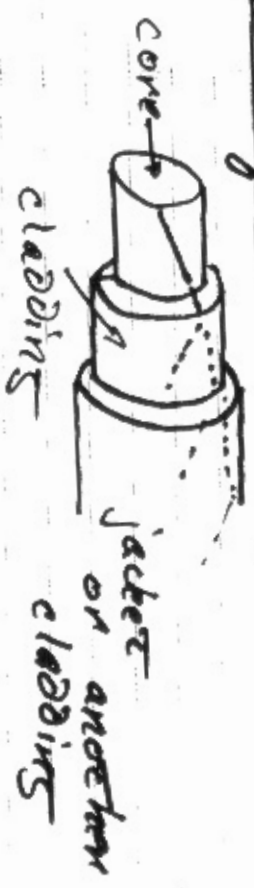
→ since $\sin \theta \leq 1$, $n_2 \leq n_1$

→ so to lower index
of refraction

1303/1404

L21, p7

optical fiber



→ at each boundary: $n_{out} < n_{in}$

→ a B_c → keep light in

→ cladding keeps more light

→ particle physics

→ ~~optical~~ readout

→ phones with bandwidth

→ cardiac catheterization

→ look at inaccessible locations

1304/1404

L21

Fermat's Principle

- when light ray travels between any two points, its path is the one that requires the smallest time interval!