

In[1]:= (* Example 3-- nx=1.2, ny = 1.3, nz = 1.4,
what is n in the (1,1,0) direction? *)

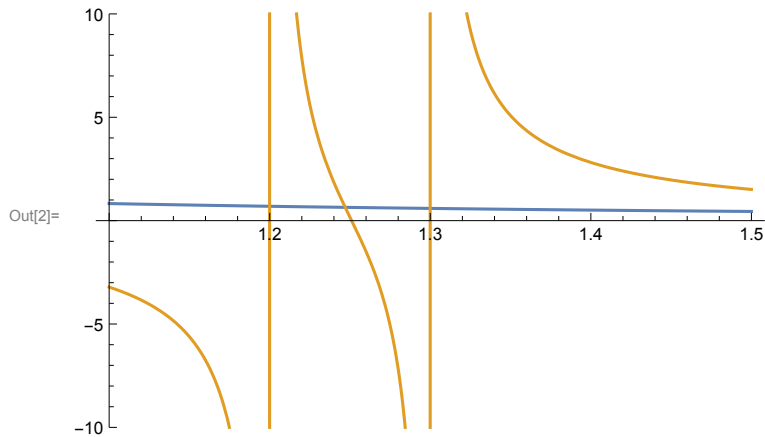
(* After identifying n = 1.4 as a solution, Fresnel's Eq becomes this *)
Solve[$1/n^2 == (1/2)/(n^2 - 1.2^2) + (1/2)/(n^2 - 1.3^2)$, n]

Solve::ratnz : Solve was unable to solve the system with inexact coefficients.

The answer was obtained by solving a corresponding exact system and numericizing the result. >>

Out[1]= {{n -> -1.247}, {n -> 1.247}}

In[2]:= Plot[{ $1/n^2$, $(1/2)/(n^2 - 1.2^2) + (1/2)/(n^2 - 1.3^2)$ },
{n, 1.1, 1.5}, PlotRange -> {-10, 10}]



In[3]:= FindRoot[$1/n^2 == (1/2)/(n^2 - 1.2^2) + (1/2)/(n^2 - 1.3^2)$, {n, 1.25}]

Out[3]= {n -> 1.247}

In[4]:= (* Using the limit method to get both roots at once. Assume
the direction is close to (1,1,0) but not quite exactly.
For example, let u = 1/sqrt(20001) * (100,100,1). *)

Solve[$1/n^2 == (10000/20001)/(n^2 - 1.2^2) +$
 $(10000/20001)/(n^2 - 1.3^2) + (1/20001)/(n^2 - 1.4^2)$, n]

Solve::ratnz : Solve was unable to solve the system with inexact coefficients.

The answer was obtained by solving a corresponding exact system and numericizing the result. >>

Out[4]= {{n -> -1.39999}, {n -> -1.247}, {n -> 1.247}, {n -> 1.39999}}