INTRODUCTION

Extensive studies have been made of the reflection of light from ideal periodic multilayered media. Among the many uses of such structures are coatings for both high reflection and antireflection. Other proposals involve the use of these structures for phase matching in nonlinear optical applications and for obtaining optical birefringence in stratified media composed of isotropic or cubic materials.

In practice, however, it is not possible to fabricate perfect structures, and to date the standard deviation in layer thicknesses of commercially made mirrors is typically 2% when monitored optically, and even greater when measured mechanically. Great precision in layer thickness can be achieved by using new techniques such as molecular beam epitaxy, but these techniques are also costlier than the standard electron beam evaporation.

Although there is ample literature on periodic structures, the study of aperiodic structures has been rather limited. The primary effect of a slight aperiodicity is to decrease the amplitude and broaden the width of the reflectivity spectrum. It is the purpose of this paper to study the effect on reflectivity of a random fluctuation in layer thickness about an ideal thickness.

The case of a low reflectivity structure is easily handled using the undepleted incident wave approximation. Next a perturbation solution to the coupled mode equations is presented which gives results for arbitrarily large reflectances. Finally, a computer study is presented which uses the formalism of the matrix and translation operator developed by Yeh, Yariv, and Hong to predict the expectation value of reflectivity, and the probability distribution of manufacturing a sample of given reflection. An analytic expression is then presented for $p(|\rho|^2)$ which agrees well with the results from the computer experiment.

LOW-REFLECTIVITY LIMIT

We start by calculating the reflectivity of a mirror with $N$ cells in the limit of low reflectance. Assuming a constant incident wave of unit amplitude we obtain for the reflected wave

$$\rho = r_1(1 + \exp[2i(k_1x_1 + k_2x_1b_1)] + \exp[2i(k_1x_1(a_1 + a_2) + k_2x_1(b_1 + b_2))] + \cdots + \exp[2i(k_1x_1(a_1 + a_2 + \cdots + a_N) + k_2x_1(b_1 + b_2 + \cdots + b_N))]),$$

where

$$k_{1x} = (\omega/c)n_i \cos \theta_i, \quad i = 1, 2, \quad r_i = \frac{k_{1x} - k_{2x}}{k_{1x} + k_{2x}}.$$  

$\omega$ is the radian frequency of light, $c$ is the velocity of light, and $n_i$ is the index of refraction in a layer of material $i$, and $n_2$ is the index in a layer of material 2. $N$ is the number of unit cells and the number of dielectric interfaces is $2N + 1$, with $r_1$ representing the magnitude of the reflection from a single layer, $a_p$ is the thickness of the layer of index $n_1$ in the $p$th cell, and $b_p$ is the thickness of the layer of index $n_2$ in the $p$th cell (see Fig. 1).

We denote the random deviation of the layers' thickness by

$$\delta n = \frac{\delta n}{n}, \quad a_p = a_p(0) + \delta a_p, \quad p = 1, 2, \cdots N,$$

and $a_p, b_p$ are random variables with assumed Gaussian distribution and standard deviations $\sigma_a$ and $\sigma_b$.

In the process of taking the ensemble average of $r$ we use the following theorem: If $G$ is a random Gaussian variable with average value zero and standard deviation $\sigma_G$, then the ensemble average of $e^{iG} = \langle e^{iG} \rangle = e^{-1/2\sigma_G^2}$. This can easily be shown by expanding $e^{iG}$ in a Taylor series and averaging term by term.
A typical term in (1) is
\[
\exp \left[ 2i[k_{1x}a_1 + \cdots + a_p] + k_{2x}(b_1 + \cdots + b_p) \right] - \exp \left[ 2i[k_{1x}a_0^{(0)} + k_{2x}b_0^{(0)}] \right] \times \exp \left[ 2i[k_{1x}(u_1 + \cdots + u_p) + k_{2x}(v_1 + \cdots + v_p)] \right].
\]

The ensemble average of this term is
\[
\langle \rho \rangle = \frac{r_1}{1 - e^{2ik\Lambda} e^{-2k_2^2\sigma^2}} \times \frac{1 - e^{2(N+1)k_1^2\sigma^2} - e^{2k_{2x}b_0^{(0)}}}{1 - e^{2Nk\Lambda} e^{-2Nk^2\sigma^2}}.
\]

The magnitude of this quantity is plotted in Fig. 2 for the case \(N = 25\) and \(r_1 = 1.96 \times 10^{-3}\). We have taken \(k_2^2\sigma_0^2 = k_{1x}\sigma_0^2 = \frac{1}{2}k_2^2\sigma^2\) and \(p = 0.1\) for \(a = 0\) at the center of the band gap, as well as \(k_{2x}b_0^{(0)} = k_{1x}a_0^{(0)}\). It can be seen in Fig. 2 that the nonzero value of \(\sigma\) has the effect of broadening the response as well as lowering it, as expected. Figure 3 is a plot of \(\langle \rho \rangle\) as a function of \(k\sigma\) for various values of \(N\) at the condition \(k\Lambda = \pi\), indicating the increasing sensitivity of \(\langle \rho \rangle\) on \(\sigma\) for large \(N\) values. The parameters of each structure have been chosen to give a 10% reflectance for a perfect reflector. In the limit of \(Nk^2\sigma^2 \ll 1\), \(N \gg 1\), and \(e^{2k_{2x}b_0^{(0)}} = -1\), expression (4) reduces to
\[
\langle \rho \rangle = (2N + 1)r_1(1 - Nk^2\sigma^2) = r_0(1 - Nk^2\sigma^2).
\]

It is interesting to compare this expression to the well-known Debye-Waller factor for x-ray diffraction from a crystal at a finite temperature for which

\[
\langle \rho \rangle = r_0 e^{-G^2\sigma^2/6} = r_0 [1 - (G^2/6)\sigma^2],
\]

where \(G = k_{in} - k_{out}\) is the standard deviation in atomic position due to lattice vibration. Note that (5) does not depend on \(N\), the number of atomic layers, while the correction factor in (4a) does depend on \(N\).

The difference between (4a) and (5) can be reconciled. We consider a structure for which the thickness of each layer can be controlled precisely, but for which the surface of each layer is not perfect but is rough and uneven, then the reflection from the entire structure is reduced by a term similar to (5), that is, independent of \(N\). This can be seen as follows. The reflection from a rough surface is given by
\[
\rho_0 \exp \left[ -8\pi \sigma^2/\lambda^2 \right] \cos^2 \theta,
\]
where \(\rho_0\) is the reflection from a smooth surface, \(\lambda\) is the wavelength of light reflected, \(\sigma\) is the standard deviation of the surface from its average, and \(\theta\) is the angle of incidence. Again, taking the case where \(k_{2x}b_0^{(0)} = k_{1x}a_0^{(0)} = \pi/2\) we find

\[
\langle \rho \rangle = r_0 e^{-G^2\sigma^2/6} = r_0 [1 - (G^2/6)\sigma^2],
\]
that the reflection from each surface of a Bragg reflector is reduced by the factor \( \exp[-(\pi/2)\kappa r^2] \), where \( \sigma_r \) is the relative standard deviation, \( \sigma_{in} \) for layers of index \( n_1 \), and \( \sigma_{in} \) for layers of index \( n_2 \).

Thus for a structure of many layers, we have

\[
\langle \rho \rangle = \frac{1}{2} \rho_0 \left[ e^{-2(N/2)\kappa^2} - e^{-2(N/2)\kappa^2} \right] \approx \rho_0 \left[ 1 - \frac{(\pi/4)(\sigma_{in}^2 + \sigma_{in}^2) \right].
\]

The quantity \( \langle \rho \rangle \) can be calculated in a manner similar to \( \rho \). If we take, for simplicity, the case \( k \lambda = \pi \), we arrive at the rather complicated expression:

\[
\langle \rho \rangle^2 = |r_1|^2 \left[ N + 1 + \frac{2e^{2N\kappa^2\sigma^2}}{1 - e^{2\kappa^2\sigma^2}} \right] \left[ 1 - (N + 1) e^{2\kappa^2\sigma^2} 
\quad + N e^{2(N+1)\kappa^2\sigma^2} \right] \left[ 1 - (N - 1) e^{2\kappa^2\sigma^2} \right]
\quad \times \left[ 1 - N e^{2\kappa^2\sigma^2(N-1)} + (N - 1) e^{2N\kappa^2\sigma^2} \right]
\quad - \left( 2 \cos(2k_{2s}\beta^{(0)}_s) e^{-2\kappa^2\sigma^2} + e^{-2\kappa^2\sigma^2} \right)
\quad \times \frac{e^{-2(N-1)\kappa^2\sigma^2}}{(1 - e^{2\kappa^2\sigma^2})^2} \left[ 1 - N e^{2(N-1)\kappa^2\sigma^2} \right]
\quad \times \left[ N + 1 \right] e^{2N\kappa^2\sigma^2} + N \right] \right].
\]

In the limit of \( N\kappa^2\sigma^2 \ll 1 \), \( \langle \rho \rangle \) reduces to

\[
\langle \rho \rangle = |r_1|^2 \left[ 2(N^2 + 2N + 1)
\quad - 2(N^2 + N) \cos(2k_{2s}\beta^{(0)}_s) \right] - \kappa^2 \left[ \left( \frac{4}{3} N^3 + 2N^2 + \frac{2}{3}N \right)
\quad - 2 \left( \frac{2}{3} N^3 + N^2 + \frac{N}{3} \right) \cos(2k_{2s}\beta^{(0)}_s) \right].
\]

Equation (7) is plotted in Fig. 4 for various values of \( N \) under the same conditions as Fig. 3. Although Eq. (7) is quite complicated, it reduces to \( (2N + 1)r_1^2 \) for \( \kappa \sigma \rightarrow 0 \) and to \( (2N + 1)r_1^2 \) as \( k \sigma \rightarrow \infty \). This is to be expected, since as \( \sigma \rightarrow 0 \), the reflections from each dielectric interface are correlated and thus the amplitudes add. For large \( k \sigma \) values, the reflections from each interface are not correlated and the intensities from the \( 2N + 1 \) interfaces add.

**COUPLED MODE THEORY**

In many cases of practical interest, we deal with high reflectivities and the methods of the previous section are inappropriate. This problem can be overcome by using the coupled mode theory\(^{15,16}\) and the effects of a random statistical variation in layer thickness can be included by using a perturbation scheme similar to Streifer et al.\(^1\) but carried to higher order.

Consider a periodic structure that extends from \( z = -L/2 \) to \( z = L/2 \). A wave propagating in the \( z \) direction, \( R(z)e^{i\phi z} \), with time dependence \( e^{-i\omega t} \), will generate a contradirectional wave \( S(z)e^{-i\phi z} \). We take the dielectric constant as varying according to \( \cos[(2\pi z/\lambda_0) + \phi(z)] \), where \( \lambda_0 \) is the ideal period and \( \phi(z) \) describes the perturbation or deviation from this ideal period. Although the dielectric constant of a periodic slab guide does not vary sinusoidally, we can decompose the index variation into its Fourier components and allow coherent interaction with the propagating wave and the first Fourier harmonic of the structure.

The coupled mode equations at the Bragg condition \( \beta = \pi/\lambda_0 \) are

\[
R' = i \kappa e^{i\phi} S,
\]

\[
S' = -i \kappa e^{-i\phi} R,
\]

where the prime denotes derivative with respect to \( z \). In order to keep the results fairly simple we will solve the problem at the Bragg condition only. In Eqs. (9) and (10) \( \kappa \) is the coupling constant. It is seen from Eq. (10) that

\[
\kappa = \left| \frac{dS/dz}{R} \right| = \frac{\text{a.r./u.l.}}{\text{a.i.}}
\]

\[
= \frac{r_1}{\lambda_0/2} = \frac{2Nr_1}{L}
\]

where a.r. is amplitude reflected, u.l. unit length, and a.i. amplitude incident.

The boundary conditions are

\[
R(-L/2) = 1,
\]

\[
S(L/2) = 0.
\]

The filter function or reflection coefficient is defined

\[
\rho \left( \frac{L}{2} \right) = S \left( \frac{-L}{2} \right)/R \left( \frac{-L}{2} \right) = S \left( \frac{-L}{2} \right).
\]

Equations (9) and (10) can be combined to give

\[
R'' + i\phi' R' - \kappa^2 R = 0.
\]

Next we expand \( R \) in a power series in \( \epsilon \):

\[
R = R_0(z) + \epsilon R_1(z) + \epsilon^2 R_2(z) + \cdots.
\]

When this is substituted in Eq. (13) and powers of \( \epsilon \) are equated, we get

\[
R_0'' - \kappa^2 R_0 = 0,
\]

\[
R_1'' - \kappa^2 R_1 = i\phi' R_0,
\]

\[
R_2'' - \kappa^2 R_2 = 0,
\]

\[
\cdots.
\]
In the high-reflection limit
\[
\rho \left( -\frac{L}{2} \right) = ie^{-i\phi(-L/2)} \left( \tanh \kappa L - \frac{\epsilon^2 \Sigma^2 l}{8\kappa} \right),
\]
and
\[
\rho \left( -\frac{L}{2} \right) \rho^* \left( -\frac{L}{2} \right) = \kappa^2 L^2 \left( 1 - \frac{\epsilon^2 \Sigma^2 l}{6} \right).
\]

**CONNECTION BETWEEN \( \epsilon^2 \Sigma^2 \), \( I \) AND, \( a^{(0)} \), \( b^{(0)} \) AND \( \sigma^2 \) OF THE SLAB REFLECTOR CONSIDERED IN THE LOW-REFLECTIVITY LIMIT SECTION**

In order to apply the results of the last section which assumed a sinusoidal variation of the index to the case of multilayered mirrors with abrupt index discontinuities, we establish the connection between the parameters used in characterizing these systems.

We start by defining the local period through the relationship
\[
\int_{-l'}^l 2\pi \frac{\rho(x)}{A(x)} dx = \int_{-l'}^l 2\pi \frac{\rho(x)}{A(x)} dz = 2\pi \frac{\rho(x)}{A(x)} + \epsilon \phi(x),
\]
\[
\epsilon \phi(x) = -\frac{2\pi}{A_0} \delta \Lambda(z),
\]
where \( \delta \Lambda(z) \) is the local period variation.

Next we take the autocorrelation function of \( \delta \Lambda(z) \) to be
\[
R_{\delta \Lambda}(z_0) = \langle \delta \Lambda(z + z_0) \delta \Lambda(z) \rangle = S^2 \left( 1 - \frac{|z_0|}{l'} \right), \quad |z_0| \leq l'.
\]

From Eq. (27) we obtain
\[
\epsilon^2 \langle \phi'(z) \phi'(z + z_0) \rangle = \frac{4\pi^2}{A_0} \langle \delta \Lambda(z) \delta \Lambda(z + z_0) \rangle, \quad \epsilon^2 S^2 \left( 1 - \frac{|z_0|}{l'} \right).
\]

From Eq. (29) we see immediately that
\[
\epsilon^2 S^2 = \left( \frac{4\pi^2}{A_0^3} \right) S^2, \quad l' = l.
\]
Next we relate \( l \) to \( A_0 = a^{(0)} + b^{(0)} \) and \( S^2 \) to \( \sigma^2 \).

As shown in Appendix D the autocorrelation function for a slab reflector is given by
\[
\langle \Delta t(x) \Delta t(x + z_0) \rangle = \sigma^2 \left[ 1 - 2|z_0|/A_0 \right],
\]
\[
\sigma^2 = \frac{1}{2}(a^{(0)} + b^{(0)}), \quad A_0/2 = a^{(0)} \approx b^{(0)}.
\]

The quantity \( \Delta t(x) \) is the deviation in the slab located at \( z \) from its ideal thickness of \( A_0/2 \). Comparing Eqs. (29) and (32) we see that the correlation length \( l \) is equal to the slab thickness \( A_0/2 \). In order to find the connection between \( S^2 \) and \( \Sigma^2 \) (and thus \( S^2 \) through Eq. (30)), we compare either Eq.
(22) to Eq. (5) or alternatively Eq. (23) to Eq. (8) (in limit of large \(N\)). In either case for the equations to agree, we must take
\[
S^2 = (2\varphi)^2, \quad (33)
\]
\[
e^2\sum \alpha^2 = (4\pi^2/\lambda^2)(2\varphi)^2. \quad (34)
\]
Thus we have related the quantities \(\varphi^2\) and \(\alpha_0/2\) which are assumed known for our slab Bragg reflector to the quantities \(\varphi^2, \alpha\) and \(l\) which appear in Eqs. (20)–(25).

Also by comparing Eq. (5) to (22) or Eq. (8) to (23) (for large \(N\)) we again find
\[
\alpha = 2N\pi/l.
\]
After using Eq. (34) and \(l = \alpha_0/2\), Eqs. (20) and (21) become
\[
\frac{p(z) - \epsilon}{p(z) + \epsilon} = \tanh^2 KL - 4\Gamma^2 \rho^2L/G(x), \quad (36a)
\]
\[
\frac{p(z) - \epsilon}{p(z) + \epsilon} = \tanh^2 x - \frac{2\pi^2\varphi^2L}{\lambda^2} G(x), \quad (36b)
\]
The function \(G(x)\) is plotted in Fig. 5. For small \(x\), \(G(x) \approx (2/3)x^2\), while for large \(x\), \(G(x) \approx e^{-2x}\).

**ALTERNATIVE DERIVATION USING COUPLED MODE THEORY**

If Eqs. (9) and (10) are used directly and a series expansion is used in both \(R\) and \(S\), we can avoid having to use Eq. (13), which involves \(\phi^*\), and instead work only with the random variable \(\phi\). The procedure is outlined below:

\[
R' = ixe^{i\phi} S, \quad (37)
\]
\[
S' = -ixe^{-i\phi} R, \quad (38)
\]
\[
R' = iS + ixe^{i\phi} - 1) S, \quad (39)
\]
\[
S' = -ixR - ixe^{-i\phi} - 1) R, \quad (40)
\]
where
\[
\phi(z) = \frac{\omega}{c} \sum_{i=1}^{L/2} u_i + \frac{\omega}{c} \sum_{i=1}^{L/2} v_i \quad (41)
\]
[see Eq. (2) for definition of \(u_i\) and \(v_i\)] (boundaries of reflector between \(z = 0 \) and \(z = 1\)).

We define the random variable \(\chi = i\epsilon(e^{i\phi} - 1)\), assume it is small, and expand \(R\) and \(S\) in a series, with the \(n\)th term being of order \(\chi^n\)
\[
R = R_0 + R_1 + R_2 + \cdots, \quad (42)
\]
\[
S = S_0 + S_1 + S_2 + \cdots, \quad (43)
\]
with boundary conditions \(R_n(0) = \delta_{n0}, S_n(L) = 0\). After substituting (42) and (43) into (39) and (40) and collecting terms of order \(\chi\), we find
\[
R'_0 = i\epsilon S_0, \quad (44)
\]
\[
S'_0 = -i\epsilon R_0, \quad (45)
\]
\[
R'_n = i\epsilon S_n + \chi S_{n-1}, \quad n \geq 1 \quad (46)
\]
\[
S'_n = -i\epsilon R_n + \chi^* R_{n-1}, \quad n \geq 1. \quad (47)
\]

This system of equations can be solved iteratively for increasing \(n\). We will consider only first order and take the region of space containing the reflectors between \(z = 0 \) and \(z = L\):
\[
\rho = S_0(0) + S_1(0), \quad (48)
\]
Solving Eqs. (44) and (45), we find
\[
R_0(z) = \frac{\cosh(KL - z)}{C_1}, \quad (49)
\]
\[
S_0(z) = \frac{\operatorname{sgn}(KL - z)}{C_1}, \quad (50)
\]
Next we combine Eqs. (46) and (47) to find an equation for \(S_1\):
\[
S_1(z) = S_0(z) + S_1(z), \quad (51)
\]
Using the boundary conditions on \(S_1\), integrating by parts to get rid of the derivative of \(\chi\), and using Eqs. (49) and (50) we find
\[
S_1(z) = \frac{i\epsilon}{C_1} \int_0^L [\epsilon(e^{i\phi} - 1) \cosh 2\chi(L - z) - (e^{i\phi} - 1) \sinh 2\chi(L - z)] dz, \quad (52)
\]
\[ \rho^* = |S_0(0) + S_1(0)|^2 = |S_0|^2 + S_1S_0^* + S_1^*S_0 \]  
(53)

\[ \Delta r^2 = \rho^* - |S_0|^2 = S_0(S_1^* - S_1). \]  
(54)

After using Eqs. (50) and (52), we arrive at the result

\[ \Delta r^2 = -\kappa \tanh L \int_0^L \left( 2e^{-i\phi(z)} - e^{-i\phi(z)} \right) dz. \]  
(55)

Next we average the above equation, remembering from Eq. (41)

\[ \langle \Delta r^2 \rangle = \frac{-2\kappa \Delta L}{C_0^2} \int_0^L (1 - e^{-\Psi(\lambda)}) \, dz \]
\[ = \frac{-2\kappa \Delta L}{C_0^2} \left( \frac{\Psi e^{-\Psi} - 1}{\Psi} \right). \]  
(56)

Finally, the fractional decrease in average reflectivity is

\[ \frac{\langle \Delta r^2 \rangle}{r_0^2} = \frac{-2\kappa \Delta L}{\tanh L \cosh^2 L} \left( \frac{\Psi e^{-\Psi} - 1}{\Psi} \right). \]  
(57)

Although this formula is simpler than Eq. (36b), it is not as accurate, as we shall see in the next section. Greater accuracy could be obtained by including higher-order terms in \( S \).

### COMPUTER RESULTS

The analytic results of the last section are compared to calculated reflectivity values of a large number of computer-simulated stratified media. The multilayer samples were "fabricated" such that the thickness of each layer was a random variable assuming Gaussian distribution about predetermined thicknesses \( \sigma_0 \) and \( \sigma_0 \) of the \( n_1 \) and \( n_2 \) layers, respectively. The same relative standard deviation was used for all layers, i.e., \( \sigma_0/n = \sigma_0/\bar{n} \).

The reflectivity was calculated using the matrix multiplication method. (For a detailed discussion of the method, the reader is referred to Ref. 2.)

Samples of 50 cells each were prepared this way. The reflectivity values of stratified media of 5, 10, 15, 25, 30, 35, 40, 45, and 50 cells. There were 1500 such samples. The parameters used in the calculations were \( n_1 = 3.6, n_2 = 3.4, a^{(0)} = n_2A_0/(n_1 + n_2) = 0.4857, b^{(0)} = n_1A_0/(n_1 + n_2) = 0.5143, \) and normal incidence.

Each sample structure has a different reflection, but all are less than \( R_p \). The average reflection \( \langle R \rangle \) is then determined as well as \( \sigma(R) = \langle R^2 \rangle - \langle R \rangle^2 \), the standard deviation of the reflection. The standard deviation of the computed quantity \( \langle R \rangle \) is then determined by \( \sigma(R)/\sqrt{N} \), where \( N \) is the number of structures tested. The value \( N = 1500 \) was taken to insure sufficient accuracy in \( \langle R \rangle \).

The results of the computer experiment are presented in Table I. For comparison, results are also given for the two analytic theories. The results are plotted in Fig. 6. Values of \( \sigma_r = \sigma_0/a^{(0)} = \sigma_0/b^{(0)} = 0.02 \) were used.

In Fig. 7 are the results for a structure with 10 unit cells and various values of \( \sigma_r \). It can be seen that there is excellent agreement between the computer results and the second order theory using \( \phi' \) for small values of \( \sigma_r \). The first-order theory using \( \phi' \) also gives good results.

Finally, Figs. 8–13 illustrate the probability distribution function for various reflections. The points were determined by the computer routine, while the solid line represents the theoretical prediction which is described in the next section.

### Table I

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<tr>
<th>Number of cells</th>
<th>( r_0 )</th>
<th>( \phi' )</th>
<th>( \phi' )</th>
<th>( \phi' )</th>
<th>( \phi' )</th>
<th>( \phi' )</th>
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<td>0.7695</td>
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<td>6.11 + 0.00 + i0.67</td>
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<td>0.02 + 0.00 + i0.02</td>
<td>0.02 + 0.00 + i0.02</td>
<td>0.02 + 0.00 + i0.02</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>35</td>
<td>1.3942</td>
<td>2.2713</td>
<td>15.2 + 0.00 + i1.90</td>
<td>15.3 + 0.00 + i1.90</td>
<td>0.02 + 0.00 + i0.02</td>
<td>0.02 + 0.00 + i0.02</td>
<td>0.02 + 0.00 + i0.02</td>
<td>0.02 + 0.00 + i0.02</td>
</tr>
<tr>
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<td>2.5685</td>
<td>16.4 + 0.00 + i2.01</td>
<td>16.5 + 0.00 + i2.01</td>
<td>0.02 + 0.00 + i0.02</td>
<td>0.02 + 0.00 + i0.02</td>
<td>0.02 + 0.00 + i0.02</td>
<td>0.02 + 0.00 + i0.02</td>
</tr>
<tr>
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<td>2.8655</td>
<td>17.6 + 0.00 + i2.12</td>
<td>17.7 + 0.00 + i2.12</td>
<td>0.02 + 0.00 + i0.02</td>
<td>0.02 + 0.00 + i0.02</td>
<td>0.02 + 0.00 + i0.02</td>
<td>0.02 + 0.00 + i0.02</td>
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<td>3.1625</td>
<td>18.8 + 0.00 + i2.23</td>
<td>18.9 + 0.00 + i2.23</td>
<td>0.02 + 0.00 + i0.02</td>
<td>0.02 + 0.00 + i0.02</td>
<td>0.02 + 0.00 + i0.02</td>
<td>0.02 + 0.00 + i0.02</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

\( r_0 \) = \rho^* for perfect structure
\( \phi' = \phi^* \) for perfect structure
\( \sigma_r = \sigma_0/\bar{n} \)

FIG. 6. Plot of the data given in Table I (\( \sigma_r = 2\% \)).

FIG. 7. Comparison of computer experimental results and theory for a 10-cell structure with various values of \( \sigma_r \).
FIG. 8. Experimental distribution of $P(R)$ (circles) as compared to theoretical prediction (solid line) for $\sigma_f = 2\%$ for structures with 10 cells. The average reflectivity $\langle R \rangle$ and the reflectivity of a perfect structure $R_p$ are indicated by the thin vertical lines.

$P(R)\,dR$ gives the probability of a structure having reflection between $R$ and $R + dR$. The vertical axis on the right-hand side gives $P(R)$, while the vertical axis on the left-hand side gives $P(R)\,dR$ with $dR$ specified. Figures 8–10 give the probability distribution for 10, 25, and 50 cells with relative standard deviation of 2%. Notice how the distribution is broader for 25 cells than for 10 or 50 cells.

In Figs. 11–13 we take a structure of 25 cells and plot the probability distributions for relative standard deviations of 5%, 7.5%, and 10%. The same scale is used in these three figures and the broadening of $P(R)$ with standard deviation is readily seen.

A PHENOMENOLOGICAL EXPRESSION FOR $p(|\rho|^2)$

As seen from Figs. 8–13, the value of $\langle \rho \rho^* \rangle = \langle R \rangle$, while an important parameter of the reflector, does not describe the spread in distribution, or the most likely value of reflectivity. It also does not answer the following important question. If the value of $\sigma$ is allowed to increase, how many structures will no longer satisfy a given required reflectivity? For example, from Fig. 13 we see that although the reflectivity from a perfect structure is almost 80%, a substantial number of reflectors reflect less than 60%. Also, it may be desirable to relax the manufacturing tolerances if this does not lead to a large increase in the number of "bad" mirrors.

Based on Figs. 8–13 we will fit this data to the function

$$p(r) = \frac{C^{q-1} e^{c/(r_p-r)}}{\Gamma(q-1)(r_p-r)^q}.$$  

where $r = \rho \rho^*$ is the reflection, $\Gamma$ is the gamma function, $r_p$ is the reflection from a perfect structure, and the parameters $C$ and $q$ are determined from the average value and standard deviation of the distribution function.

It is easily shown that the parameters $C$ and $q$ are related to the average and standard deviation of $p(r)$ through

$$q = 3 + \frac{(r_p - \langle r \rangle)^2}{(r^2 - \langle r \rangle^2)^2},$$  

$$C = \frac{(r_p - \langle r \rangle)}{(r_p - \langle r \rangle)^2 + ((r^2 - \langle r \rangle^2))_2}. $$

From Eq. (55) we have

$$\langle r \rangle = \langle \rho \rho^* \rangle = r_p - (\alpha S_1/C_q^2) \langle f \rangle,$$

$$f = \int_0^L (2 - e^{i\phi(z)} - e^{-i\phi(z)}) \, dz,$$

$$\langle f \rangle = 2\lambda N \Psi + e^{-N \Psi} - 1 \div \Psi.$$

We need only use Eq. (55) to find $\langle r^2 \rangle.$ Before proceeding, an important point should be made. In the derivation of (58) we neglected terms of order $S_n \alpha(e^{i\phi} - 1)^n \sim (i\phi)^n$, where $n > 1$. The solution (58) is, however, of order $\phi^2$, indicating that terms of $S_2$ should have been retained.
Nevertheless the results are in good agreement with experiment as well as the more accurate second-order results, and because of its simplicity expression (55) will be used to compute \( \langle r^2 \rangle \) as well. Equation (55) gives us

\[
\langle r^2 \rangle - \langle r \rangle^2 = \left( \frac{\kappa S_1}{C_1^2} \right)^2 \left( \frac{\pi}{2} \right)^2 \left( \frac{\sigma}{\Lambda/2} \right)^2.
\]

Using the results of Appendix E we find

\[
\langle r^2 \rangle - \langle r \rangle^2 = \frac{2}{3} \frac{\sqrt{3}}{\gamma} \approx 1.15 \tag{66}
\]

We thus arrive at values for the parameters \( q \) and \( C \): \( q = \frac{15}{4} \), \( C = \frac{7}{4} \frac{\kappa S_1}{C_1^2} \frac{\pi}{2} \left( \frac{\sigma}{\Lambda/2} \right)^2 \), which, when used in (60), give

\[
p(r) = \frac{C^{11/4}}{\Gamma(11/4)} e^{C/(\sigma - r)}, \tag{67}
\]

or the interesting result

\[
\frac{\langle r^2 \rangle - \langle r \rangle^2}{\langle r_p - \langle r \rangle \rangle^2} = \frac{2}{3} \frac{\sqrt{3}}{\gamma} \approx 1.15
\]

CONCLUSION

The effect on reflectivity of a statistical variation in the thickness of layers in a Bragg reflector has been studied using the coupled mode equations. Closed-form expressions were obtained for the reduction in reflectivity, which agreed with a computer experiment. These expressions are accurate for small values of \( \sigma \), which is typical for most cases. A phenomenological expression for the reflectivity distribution function \( p(r) \) was presented which also agreed well with the experiment. Results for arbitrarily large \( \sigma \) values were obtained for low-reflectivity reflectors.

APPENDIX A

In this appendix we solve

\[
R_1 = \kappa^2 R_0 = 0 \tag{A 1}
\]

and

\[
R_n - \kappa^2 R_n = i\phi' R'_{n-1}, \quad n = 1, 2 \tag{A 2}
\]

subject to

\[
R(-\ell_{2L}) = 1 \tag{A 3}
\]

and

\[
S(\ell_{2L}) = 0, \tag{A 4}
\]

where

\[
R = R_0 + \epsilon R_1 + \epsilon^2 R_2 \tag{A 5}
\]

and

\[
S = -i e^{-i \phi} (R'/\kappa). \tag{A 6}
\]

The procedure for determining \( R_0 \) is straightforward and the solution is

\[
R_0(z) = \frac{\cosh[\kappa(\ell_{2L} - z)]}{\cosh(\kappa L)}.
\]

The boundary conditions on \( R' \) are, from (A 4) and (A 6)

\[
R'(-\ell_{2L}) = 0.
\]

Since these must hold for all values of \( \epsilon \) we have

\[
R_1 \left( -\frac{L}{2} \right) = R_2 \left( -\frac{L}{2} \right) = R_1 \left( \frac{L}{2} \right) = R_2 \left( \frac{L}{2} \right) = 0. \tag{A 7}
\]

A homogeneous solution to (A 2) is given by

\[
B_n \sinh[\kappa(\ell_{2L} + z)], \tag{A 8}
\]

\[
\Gamma \left( \frac{11}{4} \right) = \left( \frac{1}{4} \right)! \approx 1.608. \tag{70}
\]

The function \( p(r) \) is indicated in Figs. 8-13 by the solid line and agrees well with the computer results.

Finally, from Eq. (70) we find that the peak of the function \( p(r) \) occurs at the point

\[
r_{\text{peak}} = \frac{r_p - C}{q} = r_p - \frac{7}{15} \frac{\kappa S_1}{C_1^2} \frac{N}{L} \left( \frac{\pi}{2} \right)^2 \left( \frac{\sigma}{\Lambda/2} \right)^2, \tag{71}
\]

or

\[
\frac{r_p - r_{\text{peak}}}{r_p - \langle r \rangle} = \frac{7}{15}. \tag{72}
\]

FIG. 12. Same as Fig. 11, but for \( \sigma_r = 7.5\% \).

FIG. 13. Same as Fig. 11, but for \( \sigma_r = 10\% \). Note the expected broadening of the curve with increasing \( \sigma_r \).
where \( B_n \) is a constant to be determined. The particular solution is given by
\[
\frac{1}{k} \int_{-L/2}^{z} i \phi'(\eta) R_{n-1}(\eta) \sinh[k(z - \eta)] \, d\eta. \tag{A 9}
\]
This can be confirmed by differentiating (A 9) and substituting in (A 2).

The total solution is thus
\[
R_n(z) = B_n \sinh \left[ \kappa \left( \frac{L}{2} + z \right) \right]
+ \frac{1}{k} \int_{-L/2}^{z} i \phi'(\eta) R_{n-1}(\eta) \sinh[k(z - \eta)] \, d\eta.
\]

The boundary solution at \( z = -L/2 \) is also satisfied and \( B_n \) is determined through the boundary condition \( R_n(L/2) = 0 \). The result is given by Eq. (17).

**APPENDIX B**

We wish to solve for the expectation value of \( \rho(-L/2) \equiv \langle \rho(-L/2) \rangle \) given that \( \langle \phi'(z) \phi'(z + z_0) \rangle = \Sigma^2[1 - (|z_0|/l)] \) and
\[
\langle R'_2 \left( -\frac{L}{2} \right) \rangle = -\frac{i}{\kappa} \int \int \int \phi'(\xi) \phi'(\eta) \cosh \left[ \kappa \left( \frac{L}{2} - \xi \right) \right] \cosh(k(\xi - \eta)) \sinh \left[ \kappa \left( \frac{L}{2} - \eta \right) \right] \, d\xi \, d\eta.
\]

From Eq. 19 we have \( R_\phi(\xi - \eta) = \langle \phi'(\xi) \phi'(\eta) \rangle = \Sigma^2[1 - (|\xi - \eta|/l)] \).

The integration is quite involved unless we make the approximation
\[
R_\phi(\xi - \eta) \approx \Sigma^2 \delta(\xi - \eta), \tag{B 5}
\]
where \( \delta(x) \) is the Dirac delta function.

This is a quite reasonable approximation and is good whenever \( kx \ll 1 \). After using
\[
\int_{a}^{b} \delta(x)f(x) \, dx = f(0) \quad \text{for} \quad a < b \quad \text{(B 6)}
\]
and
\[
\int_{0}^{b} \delta(x)f(x) \, dx = \frac{1}{2} f(0) \quad \text{for} \quad b > 0, \quad \text{(B 7)}
\]
we find
\[
\langle R'_2 \left( -\frac{L}{2} \right) \rangle \approx \frac{\Sigma^2 k}{8C_1^2} \left( -C_1C_2 - C_1
+ 2C_1^2 + \kappa L S_1 - \frac{1}{4} S_1 S_4 \right). \tag{B 8}
\]

When this is combined with (B 1) and Eq. (18), we arrive at Eq. (20).

**APPENDIX C**

The expectation value of \( \rho(-L/2) \rho^*(L/2) \) is calculated in a fashion similar to \( \langle \rho(-L/2) \rangle \): using Eqs. 16–18:
\[
\langle R' \left( -\frac{L}{2} \right) \rangle = \langle R_0 \left( -\frac{L}{2} \right) \rangle
+ \epsilon \langle R'_1 \left( -\frac{L}{2} \right) \rangle + \epsilon^2 \langle R'_2 \left( -\frac{L}{2} \right) \rangle. \tag{B 1}
\]

After differentiating we find from Eq. (17)
\[
\langle R_1 \left( -\frac{L}{2} \right) \rangle = -\frac{i}{C_1} \int \int \phi'(\eta) R_0(\eta) \cosh \left[ \kappa \left( \frac{L}{2} - \eta \right) \right]
\]
\[
d\eta = 0 \quad \text{since} \quad \langle \phi(\eta) \rangle = 0 \quad \text{(B 2)}
\]

Equation (18) also gives
\[
\langle R'_2 \left( -\frac{L}{2} \right) \rangle = -\frac{i}{C_1} \int \int \phi'(\xi) R'_1(\xi) \cosh \left[ \kappa \left( \frac{L}{2} - \xi \right) \right] \, d\xi. \tag{B 3}
\]

We now use Eq. (17) to express \( R'_1 \) in terms of \( R_0 \) and \( \phi' \). The result is
\[
\langle \rho \left( -\frac{L}{2} \right) \rangle = -\frac{i}{\kappa} e^{-i\phi(-L/2)} \left[ R_0 \left( -\frac{L}{2} \right)
+ \epsilon R'_1 \left( -\frac{L}{2} \right) + \epsilon^2 R''_2 \left( -\frac{L}{2} \right) \right] \quad \text{(C 1)}
\]
\[
\langle \rho \left( -\frac{1}{2} L \right) \rho^* \left( -\frac{1}{2} L \right) \rangle = \frac{1}{\kappa^2} \left( R_0 R_0^* + \epsilon^2 (R'_1 R'_1)^* \right)
+ \epsilon^2 (R_0 R'_1 + R'_1 R'_1)^* \quad \text{(C 2)}
\]

All terms of order \( \epsilon \) do not contribute since \( \langle \phi' \rangle = 0 \) (see Appendix B):
\[
\langle R_0 R'_1 + R'_1 R'_1 \rangle = R_0(\phi'_1) + R'_1(\phi'_1). \tag{C 3}
\]

\( \langle R'_2 \rangle \), the expectation value of \( R'_2 \) has been calculated in Appendix B. Thus we need only determine \( \langle R'_1 R'_1 \rangle \)
\[
\langle R'_1 \left( -\frac{L}{2} \right) R'_1 \left( -\frac{L}{2} \right) \rangle = \frac{k^2}{C_1^2} \int \int \phi'(\eta) \phi'(\xi) \cosh \left[ \kappa \left( \frac{L}{2} - \eta \right) \right]
\times \sinh \left[ \kappa \left( \frac{L}{2} - \xi \right) \right]
\times \cosh \left[ \kappa \left( \frac{L}{2} - \eta \right) \right] \cosh \left[ \kappa \left( \frac{L}{2} - \xi \right) \right] \, d\eta \, d\xi. \tag{C 3}
\]

Using (B 5), this reduces to
\[
\langle R_1 \left( -\frac{L}{2} \right) R_1 \left( -\frac{L}{2} \right) \rangle = \frac{\epsilon \Sigma^2 k}{C_1^2} \left( \frac{1}{32} S_4 - \frac{1}{8} \kappa \right). \quad \text{(C 4)}
\]

After combining (C 2), (C 4), and (B 8), we arrive at Eq. (21).

**APPENDIX D**

In this appendix we solve
\[
R(t) = \langle \Delta t(z) \Delta t(z + z_0) \rangle
= \lim_{w \to +\infty} \frac{1}{2W} \int_{-W}^{W} \Delta t(z) \Delta t(z + z_0) \, dz. \tag{D 1}
\]
Equation (D 1) can be interpreted as
\[
\langle \Delta t(z) \Delta t(z + z_0) \rangle = \sigma_1^2 P_n(z_0) + \sigma_2^2 P_n(z_0),
\]
where \( P_n(z_0) \) is the probability that two points separated by a distance \( z_0 \) will both be in the same cell of index \( n \).

From Ref. 18 we have
\[
P_{n_1} = \frac{ao}{\Lambda_0} \left( 1 - \frac{|z_0|}{ao} \right) \quad \text{for} \quad |z_0| < ao,
\]
\[= 0 \quad \text{otherwise},
\]
\[
P_{n_2} = \frac{bo}{\Lambda_0} \left( 1 - \frac{|z_0|}{bo} \right) \quad \text{for} \quad |z_0| < bo,
\]
\[= 0 \quad \text{otherwise},
\]
where we have assumed \( ao/2, bo/\Lambda_0 < 1 \).

If we now combine Eqs. (D 2) and (D 3) and take \( ao \sim bo \sim \Lambda_0/2 \), we obtain
\[
\langle \Delta t(z) \Delta t(z + z_0) \rangle = \sigma^2 \left( 1 - \frac{|z_0|}{\Lambda_0/2} \right) \quad |z_0| < \Lambda_0/2,
\]
\[= 0 \quad \text{otherwise}.
\]

APPENDIX E

In this appendix we find an expression for \( \langle f^2 \rangle - \langle f \rangle^2 \) where
\[
f = \int_0^L (2 - e^{i\phi(z)} - e^{-i\phi(z)}) \, dz,
\]
\[\phi(z) = \frac{\omega}{c} n_1 \sum_{i=1}^N u_i + \frac{\omega}{c} n_2 \sum_{i=1}^P v_i.
\]

The variables \( u_i \) and \( v_i \) are Gaussian distributed as described in the main body of this paper:
\[
\langle f^2 \rangle = \int_0^L \int_0^L (2 - e^{i\phi(z)} - e^{-i\phi(z)}) (2 - e^{i\phi(z')})
\]
\[- e^{-i\phi(z')}) \, dz \, dz' = 4L^2 - 8L \int_0^L \langle e^{-i\phi(z)} \rangle \, dz + 2 \int_0^L \int_0^L \langle e^{i\phi(z) + \phi(z')} \rangle \, dz \, dz' + 2 \int_0^L \int_0^L \langle e^{i\phi(z) - \phi(z')} \rangle \, dz \, dz'.
\]

In arriving at (E 3) we used the fact that \( \langle e^{i\phi(z) + \phi(z')} \rangle = \langle e^{-i\phi(z) + \phi(z')} \rangle \), etc.

We now examine the second, third, and fourth terms on the right side of (E 3):
\[-8L \int_0^L \langle e^{-i\phi(z)} \rangle \, dz = -8L \int_0^L e^{i\phi(z)} \, dz \]
\[= -8L \int_0^L e^{\phi(z)/\Lambda} \, dz = -8L^2 \frac{N\Psi}{2} (e^{-N\Psi} - 1).\]

We now examine
\[2 \int_0^L \int_0^L \langle e^{i\phi(z) + \phi(z')} \rangle \, dz \, dz'.
\]

\(\phi(z)\) and \(\phi(z')\) are not independent. Over the region of integration where \( z > z' \) we can write \( \phi(z) + \phi(z') = 2\phi(z) + \Omega(z' - z) \), where \( \phi \) and \( \Omega \) are independent and \( \Omega(z) \) has the same probability distribution function as \( \phi(z) \). Thus
\[
\langle e^{i\phi(z) + \phi(z')} \rangle = e^{2i\phi(z) + \Omega(z' - z)} = e^{2\phi(z) + \Omega(z' - z)} = e^{-2\phi(z)} e^{-\Omega(z' - z)} = e^{-2\phi(z)} e^{-\Omega(z' - z)},
\]
with a symmetric expression for \( z > z' \). After integrating this third term we find
\[2 \int_0^L \int_0^L \langle e^{i\phi(z) + \phi(z')} \rangle \, dz \, dz' = \frac{4}{3} \frac{L^2}{N\Psi^2} \left( \frac{3}{4} - e^{-N\Psi} + \frac{1}{4} e^{-4N\Psi} \right).
\]

In a similar manner we find
\[2 \int_0^L \int_0^L \langle e^{i\phi(z) - \phi(z')} \rangle \, dz \, dz' = \frac{4}{N\Psi} \left( 1 + \frac{1}{N\Psi} (e^{-N\Psi} - 1) \right).
\]

After combining our results and expanding all expressions in a power series in \( N \), retaining terms up to order \( \Psi^2 \) we arrive at the desired result:
\[
\langle f^2 \rangle - \langle f \rangle^2 = \frac{4}{3} \left( \frac{NL\Psi^2}{N^2L^2} \right)^4 \cdot
\]

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10. Private communication with Steve Silver of OCLI, Santa Rosa, Calif.


