## ANGLE OF DEVIATION IN PRISM

### Net Angle Of Deviation In Prism

i: Angle of incidence

e: Angle of emergence

 $\delta_1$  : Angle of deviation at the  $1^{\text{st}}\,$  refracting surface (C.W.)

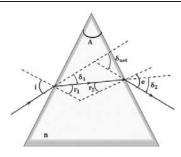
 $\delta_2$  : Angle of deviation at the  $2^{nd}\,$  refracting surface (C.W.)

 $r_1$ : Angle of refraction on the  $1^{st}\,$  refracting surface

 $r_2$ : Angle of incidence on the  $2^{nd}$  refracting surface

n: Refractive index of the prism

A : Angle of prism



 $n = \sqrt{3}$ 

For 
$$\triangle$$
 BCD,  $\angle$ DBC =  $r_1$  and  $\angle$ BDC =  $r_2$   
 $\angle$ BCD =  $[180^\circ - (r_1 + r_2)]$   
 $\Box$  ABCD,  $\angle$ ABC =  $90^\circ$ ,  $\angle$ ADC =  $90^\circ$   
 $\angle$ BCD =  $[180^\circ - (r_1 + r_2)]$   
Therefore, for  $\Box$  ABCD,  
 $\angle$ BAC +  $\angle$ ABC +  $\angle$ BCD +  $\angle$ ADC =  $360^\circ$   
A +  $90^\circ$  +  $[180^\circ - (r_1 + r_2)]$  +  $90^\circ$  =  $360^\circ$   
A +  $180^\circ - (r_1 + r_2)$  =  $180^\circ$   
A =  $(r_1 + r_2)$  ... ... (i)

Angle of deviation at the 1 st refracting surface:  $\delta_1 = (i - r_1)$  (C.W.) Angle of deviation at the 1 st refracting surface:  $\delta_2 = (e - r_2)$  (C.W.) Therefore, net angle of deviation in clockwise direction is,

$$\begin{split} \delta_{nd} &= \delta_1 + \delta_2 \\ &= i - r_1 + e - r_2 \\ &= i + e - (r_1 + r_2) \\ \delta_{net} &= i + e - A \end{split}$$

From equation (i), we have  $[A = (r_1 + r_2)]$ 

**Note:** In the majority of cases, the values of i, A, and n will be provided. The subsequent steps must be followed to determine the total angle of deviation of the prism.

Step 1: Determine  $r_1$  by applying Snell's law  $(n_s \sin i = n_p \sin r_1)$  where ns and dp represent the refractive indices of the surroundings and the prism respectively.

Step 2: Calculate  $r_2$  using  $[A = (r_1 + r_2)]$ 

Step 3: Calculate e using Snell's law  $(n_p \sin r_2 = n_s \sin e)$ 

Step 4: Use  $\delta_{net} = i + e - A$ 

**Ex.** If a ray of light passes through a triangular glass prism of refractive index  $n = \sqrt{3}$  at an angle  $i = 60^{\circ}$  as shown, find the net deviation of the ray.

**Sol.** Given, 
$$i = 60^{\circ} A = 60^{\circ} n = \sqrt{3}$$

Step 1: Calculate  $r_1$  using Snell's law  $(n_s sin i = n_p sin r_1)$  [where  $n_s$  and  $n_p$  are R.I of surroundings and the prism] Here, assume  $n_s = 1$ . Thus

$$1 \cdot \sin 60^{\circ} = \sqrt{3} \operatorname{Sinr}_{1}$$
$$r_{1} = 30^{\circ}$$

Step 2: Calculate 
$$r_2$$
 using  $[A = (r_1 + r_2)]r_1 + r_2 = A$ 

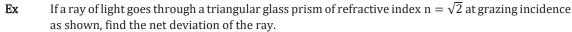
$$\mathbf{r}_2 = 30^{\circ} [\text{Since A} = 60^{\circ} \text{ and } \mathbf{r}_1 = 30^{\circ}]$$

Step 3: Calculate e using Snell's law  $(n_p \sin r_2 = n_s \sin e)$ 

$$\sqrt{3}\sin 30^\circ = 1 \times \sin e \Rightarrow \frac{\sqrt{3}}{2} = \sin e \Rightarrow e = 60^\circ$$

Step 4: Use 
$$\delta_{net} = i + e - A$$

$$S = 60^{\circ} + 60^{\circ} - 60^{\circ} = 60^{\circ} \text{C} \cdot \omega$$



$$i \approx 90^{\circ} A = 15^{\circ} n = \sqrt{2}$$

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Step 1: Calculate  $r_1$  using Snell's law  $(n_s \sin i = n_p \sin r_1)$  [where ns and np are R.I of surroundings and the prism] Here, assume  $n_s = 1$ . Thus,

$$1 \cdot \sin 90^\circ = \sqrt{2} \cdot \sin r_1$$

$$r_1 = 45^{\circ}$$

Step 2: Calculate  $r_2$  using  $[A = (r_1 + r_2)]$ 

$$r_1 + r_2 = 15^\circ$$

$$45^{\circ} + r_2 = 15^{\circ}$$

$$r_2 = -30^{\circ}$$

 $r_2$  negative means the angle forms at the opposite side to the normal than the usual one. Usually  $r_2$  makes the angle above the normal. So, here it will make the angle below the normal, as shown in the figure.

Step 3: Calculate e using Snell's law  $(n_p \sin r_2 = n_s \sin e)$ 

$$\sqrt{2} \cdot \text{Sin}30^{\circ} = 1 \cdot \text{Sine}$$
  
e = 45°

Angle of deviation at the 2<sup>nd</sup> refracting surface:

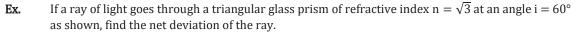
$$\delta_2 = (45^\circ - 30^\circ) = 15^\circ \text{ (A.C.W.)}$$

Angle of deviation at the 1st refracting surface:

$$\delta_1 = (i - r_1) = (90^{\circ} - 45^{\circ}) = 45^{\circ} (C.W.)$$

Therefore, net angle of deviation in clockwise direction is,

$$\begin{split} S_{net} &= \delta_1 + \delta_2 \\ \delta_{net} &= 4S - 15^\circ = 30^\circ (c \cdot 0 \cdot) \end{split}$$



**Sol.** Given, 
$$i = 60^{\circ} n = \sqrt{3}$$

Step 1: Calculate  $r_1$  using Snell's law  $(n_s \sin i = n_p \sin r_1)$ 

$$1 \cdot \sin 60^\circ = \sqrt{3} \cdot \sin r_1 r_1 = 30^\circ$$

Angle of deviation at the 1st refracting surface:

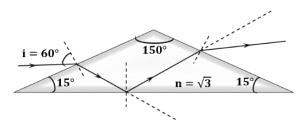
$$\delta_1 = (i - r_1) = (60^\circ - 30^\circ) = 30^\circ \text{ (C.W.)}$$

For 
$$\triangle$$
 ABD,  $\angle$ ABC = 15° and  $\angle$ BAD = (90° + 30°) = 120°

$$\angle BDA = [180^{\circ} - (120^{\circ} + 15^{\circ})] = 45^{\circ}$$

The critical angle at point D is,

$$\theta_c = \sin^{-1}\left(\frac{n_r}{n_d}\right) = \sin^{-1}\left(\frac{1}{\sqrt{3}}\right) < \sin^{-1}\left(\frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}\right)$$
$$\theta_c < 45^{\circ}$$



Since at point D, angle of incidence  $(45^{\circ})$  is greater than the critical angle, total internal reflection will take place.

At point D, the angle of deviation is given by,

$$\delta_2 = (180^\circ - 2i) = (180^\circ - [2 \times 45^\circ]) = 90^\circ \text{ (A.C.W.)}$$

For  $\triangle$  PDQ,  $\angle$ PQD = 15° and  $\angle$ PDQ = 45°

$$\angle DPQ = [180^{\circ} - (45^{\circ} + 15^{\circ})] = 120^{\circ}$$

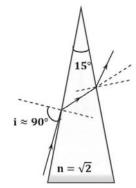
Therefore, angle of incidence on the surface RQ is,

$$r_2 = (120^\circ - 90^\circ) = 30^\circ$$

Hence, angle of emergence from the surface RQ is,

$$\sqrt{3} \sin 30^\circ = 1 \times \sin e$$

$$\frac{\sqrt{3}}{2} = \sin e \Rightarrow e = 60^{\circ}$$



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At point P, the angle of deviation is given by,

$$\delta_3 = (60^\circ - 30^\circ) = 30^\circ \text{ (C.W.)}$$

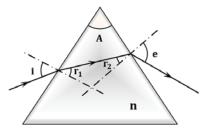
Therefore, net angle of deviation in clockwise direction is,

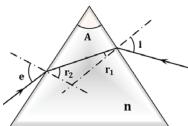
$$\begin{split} \delta_{net} &= \delta_1 + \delta_2 + \delta_3 \\ \delta_{net} &= 30^\circ \text{ (C.W.) } + 90^\circ \text{ (A.C.W.) } + 30^\circ \text{ (C.W.)} \\ \delta_{net} &= 30^\circ \text{ (A.C.W.)} \end{split}$$

## Angle of deviation

If *i* and *e* switch places, the angle of deviation remains unchanged.

$$\delta_{net}\,=i+e-A$$





Let's presume the prism's surrounding medium is air, with a refractive index of 1, while the prism itself has a refractive index of n.

Apply Snell's law on the  $1^{st}$  refracting surface:

$$1 \sin i = n \sin r_1$$

$$r_1 = \sin^{-1} \left(\frac{1}{n} \sin i\right)$$

We know: 
$$A = (r_1 + r_2) \Rightarrow r_2 = (A - r_1)$$

Apply Snell's law on the 2<sup>nd</sup> refracting surface:

$$\begin{split} n sin \, r_2 &= 1 sin \, e \\ e &= sin^{-1} (n sin (A - r_1)) \\ e &= sin^{-1} (n sin (A - sin^{-1} (\frac{sin \, i}{n}))) \end{split}$$

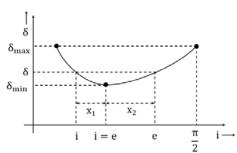
Therefore, net angle of deviation is

$$\delta = i + e - A$$

$$\delta = i + \sin^{-1}(\operatorname{nsin}(A - \sin^{-1}(\frac{\sin i}{n}))) - A$$

### Angle of deviation: Graphical Representation of $\delta$ and i

- Not parabola
- Doesn't extend to infinity
- $\triangleright$  Range:  $\delta_{max} < \delta < \delta_{min}$
- $\delta = \delta_{\min} \text{ at } i = e$
- $\delta = \delta_{\text{max}} \text{ at } i = \frac{\pi}{2} \text{ or } e = \frac{\pi}{2}$
- Asymmetric graph  $(x_2 > x_1)$  $\delta = i + \sin^{-1}(n\sin(A - \sin^{-1}(\frac{\sin i}{n}))) - A$



- **Ex.** For a prism given below, angle of incidence for angle of minimum deviation is 35°. If the angle of incidence of the ray on the prism is 31° then the angle of emergence (e) of the ray is:
  - (a) 37°
- (b) 38°
- (c) 39°
- (d) 40

Sol. Given,

The angle of incidence for minimum angle of deviation,  $i_{\text{min}}=35^{\circ}$ 

The angle of incidence,  $i = 31^{\circ}$ 

Therefore.

$$x_1 = 4^{\circ}$$

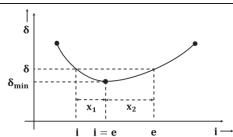
Since  $\delta$  vs i graph is an asymmetric graph,  $x_2 > x_1$ . Thus,

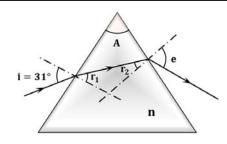
$$x_2 > (35^{\circ} + 4^{\circ})$$

$$x_2 > 39^{\circ}$$

$$x_2 > 39^{\circ}$$

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Hence, the angle of emergence,  $e > 39^{\circ}$ 

In these type of questions, we can use elimination of options method. As  $e > 39^{\circ}$  and there is only one option above 39°, option (d) is the correct answer.

Ex. If angle of prism is 75° for given prism, then find out the angle of maximum deviation  $(\delta_{max})$  for the prism.

Sol. We know that the maximum deviation occurs when i or e becomes equal to  $90^\circ$ . Let i =  $90^\circ$  i.e., grazing incidence For grazing incidence of a ray from rarer to denser medium, the angle of refraction becomes equal to the critical angle.

Therefore,

$$\sin \theta_{c} = \sin r_{1} = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}$$

$$r_{1} = 45^{\circ}$$

$$r_{1} + r_{2} = A$$

$$r_{2} = A - r_{1} = 75^{\circ} - 45^{\circ} = 30^{\circ}$$

Apply Snell's law on the 2<sup>nd</sup> refracting surface:

$$\begin{aligned} &n_p \sin r_2 = n_s \sin e \\ &\sqrt{2} \sin 30^\circ = 1 \sin e \\ &\sin e = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} \Rightarrow e = 45^\circ \end{aligned}$$

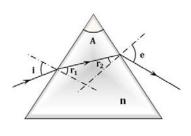
The angle of maximum deviation  $(\delta_{\text{max}}$  ) for the prism is,

$$\delta_{\rm m} = 90^{\circ} + 45^{\circ} - 75^{\circ}$$
  
= 60°(C · W)

# Angle of deviation

For 
$$\delta_{minimum}$$

$$\begin{split} i &= e \Rightarrow r_1 = r_2 \Rightarrow r_1 = r_2 = \frac{A}{2} \\ \delta &= i + e - A\delta_m \\ \delta_n &= i + i - A = 2i - A \\ i &= \frac{\delta_m + A}{2} \\ n_s \cdot \sin i &= n_p \cdot \sin r_1 \\ n_s \cdot \sin(\frac{\delta_m + A}{2}) &= n_p \cdot \sin\frac{A}{2} \\ \frac{n_p}{n_S} &= \frac{\sin(\frac{\delta_m + A}{2})}{\sin\frac{A}{2}} \end{split}$$



If surroundings medium of prism is air (i.e.,  $n_s = 1$ ) and R.I. of the prism is  $n_s = n$ , then the above formula becomes.

$$n = \frac{\sin(\frac{A + \delta_{\min}}{2})}{\sin(\frac{A}{2})}$$

**Ex.** If angle of minimum deviation is 30° for given equilateral prism, then find out the refractive index (n) of the prism.

Sol. Given,

The angle of minimum deviation,  $\delta_{min}=30^\circ$ 

The angle of prism,  $A = 60^{\circ}$ 

The refractive index (n) of the prism

$$n = \frac{\sin(\frac{A + \delta_{\min}}{2})}{\sin(\frac{A}{2})} = \frac{\sin(\frac{60^{\circ} + 30^{\circ}}{2})}{\sin(\frac{60}{2})} = \frac{1/\sqrt{2}}{1/2} = \sqrt{2}$$

