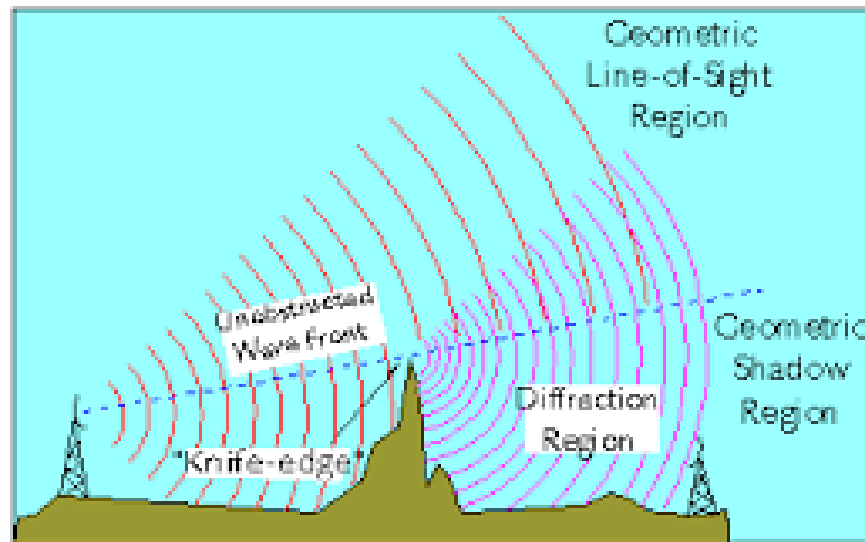




19EC601 – Wireless Communication

Unit -2
Mobile Radio Propagation
Knife Edge Diffraction Model

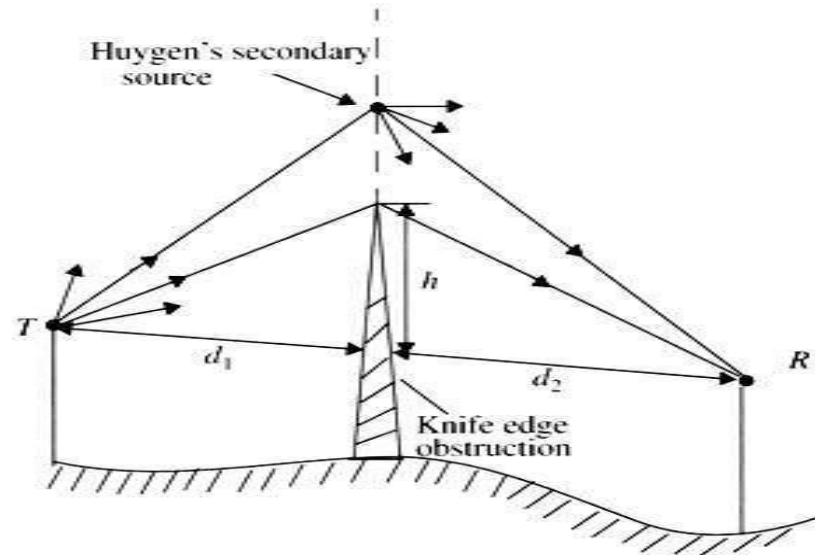




Knife-edge Diffraction Model

- **Estimating** the signal attenuation caused by **diffraction** of radio waves **over hills and buildings** is essential in predicting the **field strength** in a given service area.
- As a starting point, the **limiting case of propagation over a knife edge** gives good insight into the order of magnitude diffraction loss.
- When shadowing is **caused by a single object** such as a building, the attenuation caused by diffraction **can be estimated by treating the obstruction as a diffracting knife edge**

Consider a receiver at point R located in the shadowed region. The field strength at point R is a vector sum of the fields due to all of the secondary Huygens sources in the plane above the knife edge.





- The difference between the direct path and diffracted path, call *excess path length*

$$\Delta = \frac{h^2 (d_1 + d_2)}{2 d_1 d_2}$$

The corresponding phase difference

$$\phi = \frac{2\pi\Delta}{\lambda} = \frac{2\pi}{\lambda} \frac{h^2 (d_1 + d_2)}{2 d_1 d_2}$$

- *Fresnel-Kirchoff* diffraction parameter is used to normalize the phased term and given as

$$v = h \sqrt{\frac{2(d_1 + d_2)}{\lambda d_1 d_2}} = \alpha \sqrt{\frac{2d_1 d_2}{\lambda(d_1 + d_2)}}$$

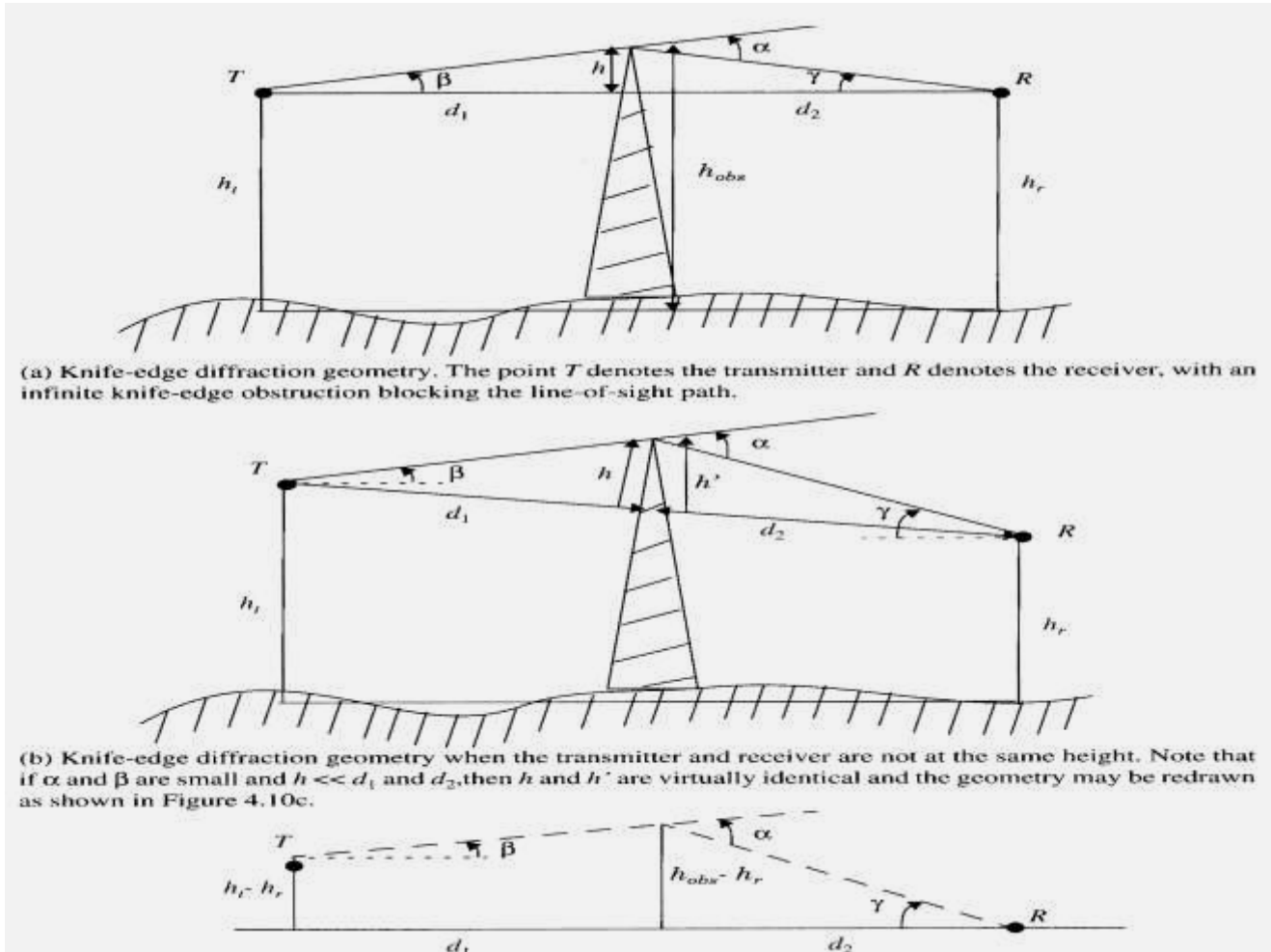
Which gives

$$\phi = \frac{\pi}{2} v^2$$

- where $\alpha = h(d_1 + d_2 / d_1 d_2)$

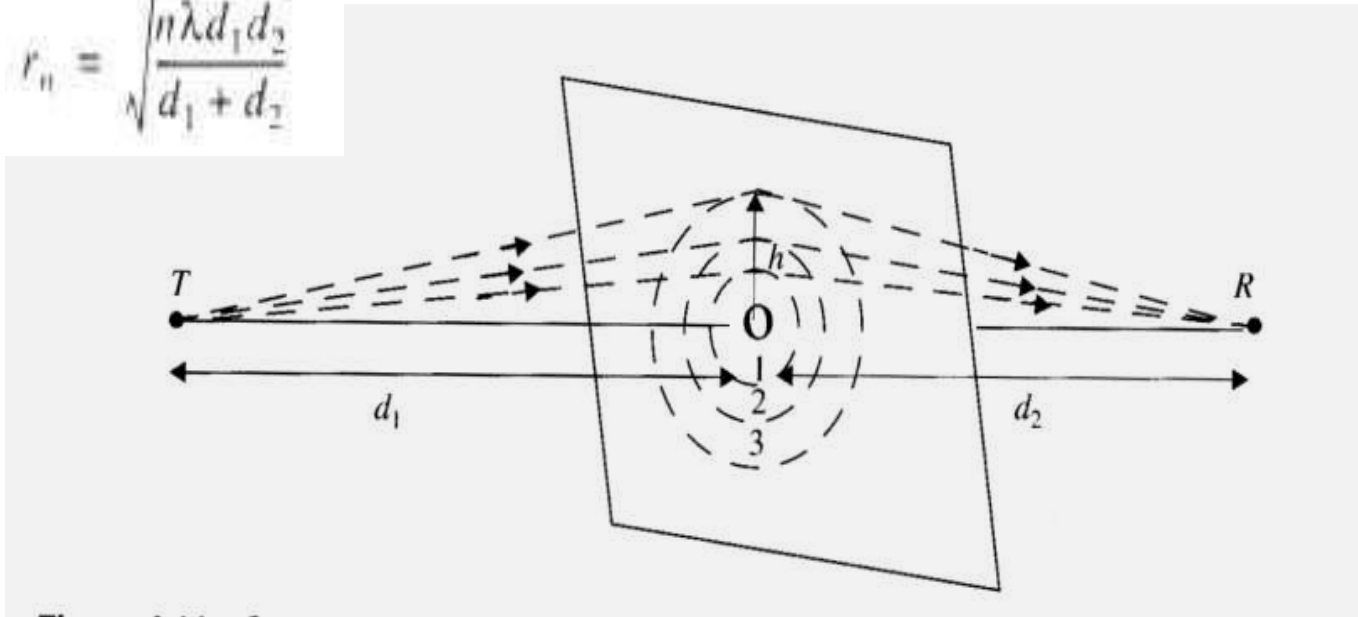


Knife-edge Diffraction Model

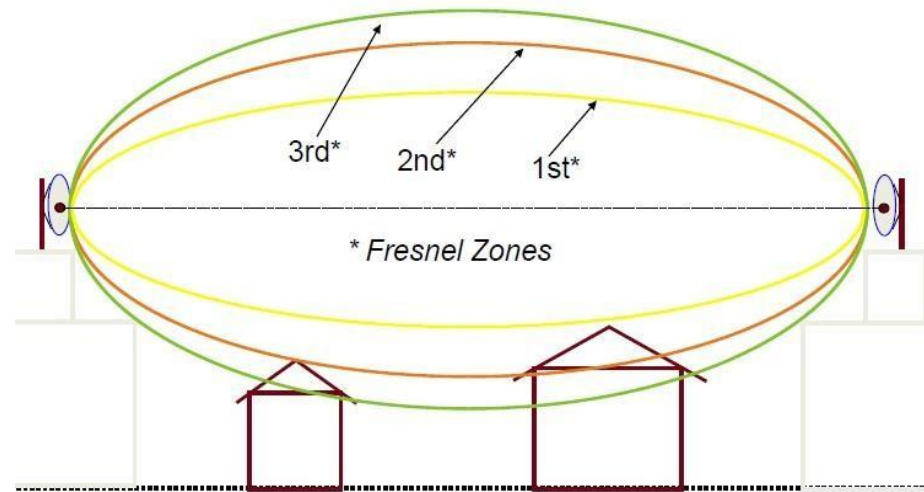


Fresnel zones

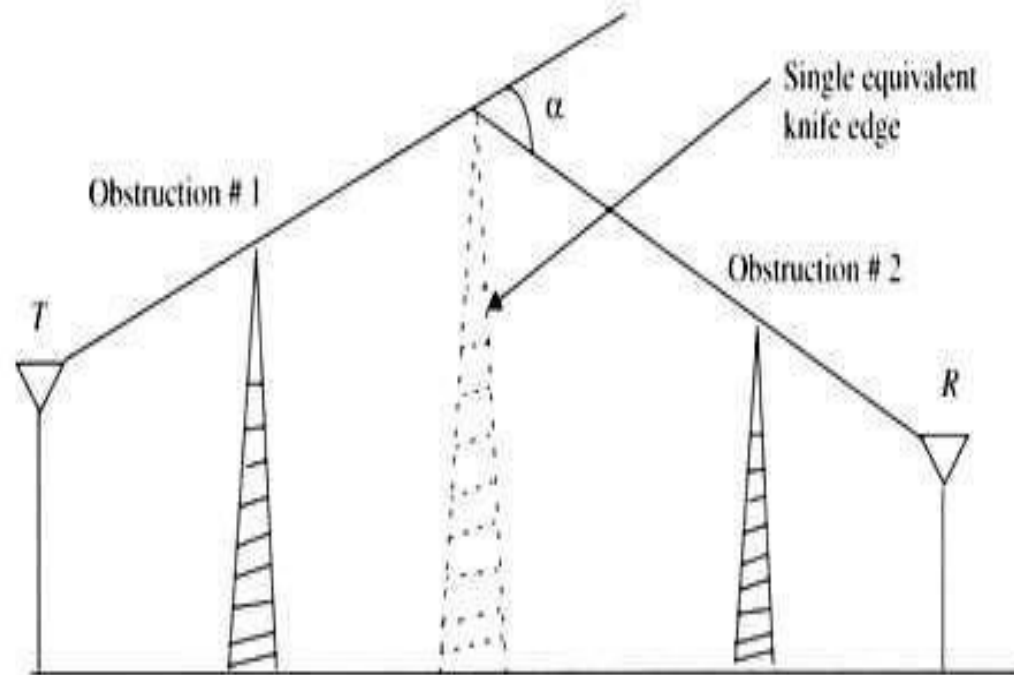
$$r_n = \sqrt{\frac{n\lambda d_1 d_2}{d_1 + d_2}}$$



Fresnel zones represent **successive regions** where secondary waves have a **path length from** the TX to the RX which are **$n\lambda/2$ greater** in path length **than** of the **LOS path**. The plane below illustrates successive Fresnel zones



Multiple Knife Edge Diffraction





Scattering

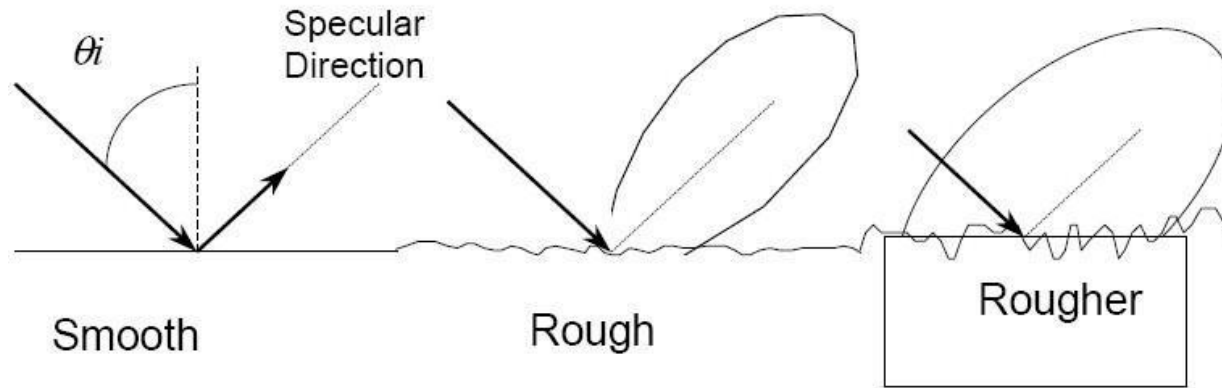
- Scattering occurs when the medium through which the wave travels consists of objects with **dimensions that are small** compared to the **wavelength**, and where the number of per unit volume is large.
 - Scattered waves are produced by **rough surfaces**, **small objects**,
or by other **irregularities** in the channel.
 - Scattering is caused by trees, lamp posts, towers, etc.

- **Received** signal strength is often **stronger** than that predicted by reflection/diffraction models alone
- The EM wave incident upon a rough or complex surface is **scattered** in **many** directions and **provides more energy at a receiver**
energy that would have been absorbed is instead reflected to the Rx.
- flat surface → EM reflection (one direction)
- rough surface → EM scattering (many directions)



Scattering

Rough Surface Scattering



Roughness depends on :

- Surface height range
- Angle of incidence
- Wavelength

14

© S.R. Saunders, 1999





Thank
you

