



UNIVERSITÀ DI PISA

Electromagnetic Radiations and Biological Interactions

***“Laurea Magistrale” in Biomedical Engineering
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Plane waves

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Lecture Content

➤ Plane waves

- Plane Waves in Time Domain
- Polarization
- Plane Waves in Frequency Domain (in dispersive and lossy media)

Introduction

- One of the most important consequences of Maxwell's equations is the existence of electric and magnetic field *perturbations* that travels with a *finite* velocity (in a material or even in free-space).

- A particular simple solution of Maxwell's equations is the plane wave solution; it allows introducing the fundamental parameters of electromagnetic wave propagation:
 - a. propagation constant, phase and attenuation constants
 - b. wavelength
 - c. phase velocity
 - d. medium characteristic impedance
 - e. polarization

- Plane waves are particularly important in applications where the electromagnetic field distribution, sufficiently far away from the source, can be effectively approximated by a *local* plane wave.

Plane Waves (time domain)

Assumptions: free-space medium (linear, isotropic, homogeneous and non dispersive) with no charges ($\rho=0$) and no currents ($\mathbf{j}=0$). A non-vanishing solution can be obtained due to the presence of sources located outside the volume where Maxwell's equations are going to be solved.

$$\epsilon_0 = 1/36\pi \cdot 10^{-9} F / m =$$

$$8.854 \cdot 10^{-12} F / m$$

$$\mu_0 = 4\pi \cdot 10^{-7} H / m$$

$$\left\{ \begin{array}{l} \underline{d}(\underline{r},t) = \epsilon_0 \underline{e}(\underline{r},t) \ \& \ \underline{b}(\underline{r},t) = \mu_0 \underline{h}(\underline{r},t) \\ \nabla \times \underline{e}(\underline{r},t) = -\mu_0 \frac{\partial}{\partial t} \underline{h}(\underline{r},t) \\ \nabla \times \underline{h}(\underline{r},t) = \epsilon_0 \frac{\partial}{\partial t} \underline{e}(\underline{r},t) \\ \nabla \cdot [\epsilon_0 \underline{e}(\underline{r},t)] = 0 \\ \nabla \cdot [\mu_0 \underline{h}(\underline{r},t)] = 0 \end{array} \right.$$

A further assumption: electric and magnetic fields are independent of x and y coordinates (looking for a solution only dependent on z: PLANE WAVE SOLUTION)

$$\underline{e}(z,t) \ \& \ \underline{h}(z,t) \ \Rightarrow \ \nabla \times \underline{e} = \begin{vmatrix} \underline{i}_x & \underline{i}_y & \underline{i}_z \\ 0 & 0 & \frac{\partial}{\partial z} \\ \underline{e}_x & \underline{e}_y & \underline{e}_z \end{vmatrix} = -\frac{\partial e_y}{\partial z} \underline{i}_x + \frac{\partial e_x}{\partial z} \underline{i}_y$$

$$\nabla \times \underline{A} = \left(\frac{\partial A_z}{\partial y} - \frac{\partial A_y}{\partial z} \right) \underline{i}_x + \left(\frac{\partial A_x}{\partial z} - \frac{\partial A_z}{\partial x} \right) \underline{i}_y + \left(\frac{\partial A_y}{\partial x} - \frac{\partial A_x}{\partial y} \right) \underline{i}_z$$

Plane Waves (time domain)

$$\begin{aligned} \nabla \times \underline{e}(z,t) &= -\mu_0 \frac{\partial}{\partial t} \underline{h}(z,t) \\ \nabla \times \underline{h}(z,t) &= \varepsilon_0 \frac{\partial}{\partial t} \underline{e}(z,t) \end{aligned} \Rightarrow \left\{ \begin{aligned} -\frac{\partial e_y}{\partial z} \underline{i}_x + \frac{\partial e_x}{\partial z} \underline{i}_y &= -\mu_0 \frac{\partial}{\partial t} (h_x \underline{i}_x + h_y \underline{i}_y + h_z \underline{i}_z) \\ -\frac{\partial h_y}{\partial z} \underline{i}_x + \frac{\partial h_x}{\partial z} \underline{i}_y &= \varepsilon_0 \frac{\partial}{\partial t} (e_x \underline{i}_x + e_y \underline{i}_y + e_z \underline{i}_z) \end{aligned} \right.$$

TWO **vector** equations

$$\Rightarrow \left\{ \begin{aligned} \frac{\partial e_y}{\partial z} &= \mu_0 \frac{\partial h_x}{\partial t} \\ \frac{\partial h_x}{\partial z} &= \varepsilon_0 \frac{\partial e_y}{\partial t} \end{aligned} \right. \& \left\{ \begin{aligned} \frac{\partial e_x}{\partial z} &= -\mu_0 \frac{\partial h_y}{\partial t} \\ -\frac{\partial h_y}{\partial z} &= \varepsilon_0 \frac{\partial e_x}{\partial t} \end{aligned} \right. \& \left\{ \begin{aligned} \frac{\partial e_z}{\partial t} &= 0 \\ \frac{\partial h_z}{\partial t} &= 0 \end{aligned} \right.$$

SIX **scalar** equations

$e_z = \text{const} \& h_z = \text{const}$ (static components)

we will assume $e_z = 0 \& h_z = 0$ (since looking for a dynamic solution)

Wave equation (D'Alembert's equation)

$$c = \frac{1}{\sqrt{\epsilon_0 \mu_0}}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \left\{ \begin{array}{l} \frac{\partial e_x}{\partial z} = -\mu_0 \frac{\partial h_y}{\partial t} \\ -\frac{\partial h_y}{\partial z} = \epsilon_0 \frac{\partial e_x}{\partial t} \end{array} \right. & \xrightarrow{\frac{\partial}{\partial z}} \left\{ \begin{array}{l} \frac{\partial^2 e_x}{\partial z^2} = -\mu_0 \frac{\partial^2 h_y}{\partial z \partial t} \\ -\frac{\partial^2 h_y}{\partial t \partial z} = \epsilon_0 \frac{\partial^2 e_x}{\partial t^2} \end{array} \right. \Rightarrow \boxed{\frac{\partial^2 e_x}{\partial z^2} = \epsilon_0 \mu_0 \frac{\partial^2 e_x}{\partial t^2}} \Rightarrow \frac{\partial^2 e_x}{\partial z^2} = \frac{1}{c^2} \frac{\partial^2 e_x}{\partial t^2} \\ \left\{ \begin{array}{l} \frac{\partial e_x}{\partial z} = -\mu_0 \frac{\partial h_y}{\partial t} \\ -\frac{\partial h_y}{\partial z} = \epsilon_0 \frac{\partial e_x}{\partial t} \end{array} \right. & \xrightarrow{\frac{\partial}{\partial t}} \left\{ \begin{array}{l} \frac{\partial^2 e_x}{\partial t \partial z} = -\mu_0 \frac{\partial^2 h_y}{\partial t^2} \\ -\frac{\partial^2 h_y}{\partial z^2} = \epsilon_0 \frac{\partial^2 e_x}{\partial z \partial t} \end{array} \right. \Rightarrow \boxed{\frac{\partial^2 h_y}{\partial z^2} = \epsilon_0 \mu_0 \frac{\partial^2 h_y}{\partial t^2}} \Rightarrow \frac{\partial^2 h_y}{\partial z^2} = \frac{1}{c^2} \frac{\partial^2 h_y}{\partial t^2} \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{cases} \frac{\partial^2 e_x}{\partial z^2} - \frac{1}{c^2} \frac{\partial^2 e_x}{\partial t^2} = 0 \\ \frac{\partial^2 h_y}{\partial z^2} - \frac{1}{c^2} \frac{\partial^2 h_y}{\partial t^2} = 0 \end{cases} \quad \underline{\text{D'Alembert's equation}}$$

Wave equation (D'Alembert's equation)

$$\begin{cases} \frac{\partial^2 e_x}{\partial z^2} - \frac{1}{c^2} \frac{\partial^2 e_x}{\partial t^2} = 0 \\ \frac{\partial^2 h_y}{\partial z^2} - \frac{1}{c^2} \frac{\partial^2 h_y}{\partial t^2} = 0 \end{cases} \Rightarrow \begin{cases} e_x(z,t) = f_1(z-ct) + f_2(z+ct) \\ h_y(z,t) = f_3(z-ct) + f_4(z+ct) \end{cases}$$

Backward wave ($z < 0$)

Forward wave ($z > 0$)

If considering *only* the forward wave which is function of $u = z - ct$

$$\frac{\partial h_y}{\partial z} = -\epsilon_0 \frac{\partial e_x}{\partial t} \iff \frac{\partial h_y}{\partial u} \frac{\partial u}{\partial z} = -\epsilon_0 \frac{\partial e_x}{\partial u} \frac{\partial u}{\partial t} \quad \Rightarrow \quad \frac{\partial h_y}{\partial u} = \epsilon_0 c \frac{\partial e_x}{\partial u}$$

$$\left. \begin{array}{l} \frac{\partial u}{\partial z} = 1 \text{ \& } \frac{\partial u}{\partial t} = -c \end{array} \right| \quad \Rightarrow \quad \frac{\partial}{\partial u} \left[h_y - \sqrt{\frac{\epsilon_0}{\mu_0}} e_x \right] = 0$$

$$\Downarrow$$

$$h_y(u) - \sqrt{\frac{\epsilon_0}{\mu_0}} e_x(u) = \text{const. w.r.t. } u$$

Due to the finite propagation velocity, the electromagnetic field will be zero at $t=t_0$ in an interval $[z_1, z_2]$ far from the source (if the latter is excited at $t=t_0$); then when u is in the interval $[u_1, u_2] = [z_1 - ct_0, z_2 - ct_0]$ field components are zero and above constant must be zero for any value of u .

$$h_y - \sqrt{\frac{\epsilon_0}{\mu_0}} e_x = \text{const} = 0 \quad e_x(z-ct) = \sqrt{\frac{\mu_0}{\epsilon_0}} h_y(z-ct) = \zeta_0 h_y(z-ct)$$

$$\zeta_0 = \sqrt{\frac{\mu_0}{\epsilon_0}} = 120\pi\Omega \cong 377\Omega \quad \text{Free-space characteristic impedance}$$

Plane Waves – properties (forward wave)

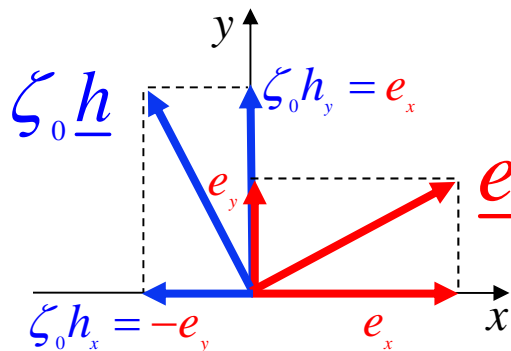
$$\left\{ \begin{array}{l} \frac{\partial e_x}{\partial z} = -\mu_0 \frac{\partial h_y}{\partial t} \\ -\frac{\partial h_y}{\partial z} = \epsilon_0 \frac{\partial e_x}{\partial t} \end{array} \right. \quad \& \quad z > 0 \quad (\text{forward wave})$$

$$\left\{ \begin{array}{l} \frac{\partial e_y}{\partial z} = \mu_0 \frac{\partial h_x}{\partial t} \\ \frac{\partial h_x}{\partial z} = \epsilon_0 \frac{\partial e_y}{\partial t} \end{array} \right. \quad \& \quad z > 0 \quad (\text{forward wave})$$

⇒

$$e_x(z-ct) = \sqrt{\frac{\mu_0}{\epsilon_0}} h_y(z-ct) = \zeta_0 h_y(z-ct)$$

$$e_y(z-ct) = -\sqrt{\frac{\mu_0}{\epsilon_0}} h_x(z-ct) = -\zeta_0 h_x(z-ct)$$



$$\frac{e_x(z-ct)}{h_y(z-ct)} = -\frac{e_y(z-ct)}{h_x(z-ct)} = \zeta_0$$

The instantaneous electric field can vary arbitrarily in time while magnetic field vector (amplitude and direction) will satisfy above conditions at any time and for any observation point

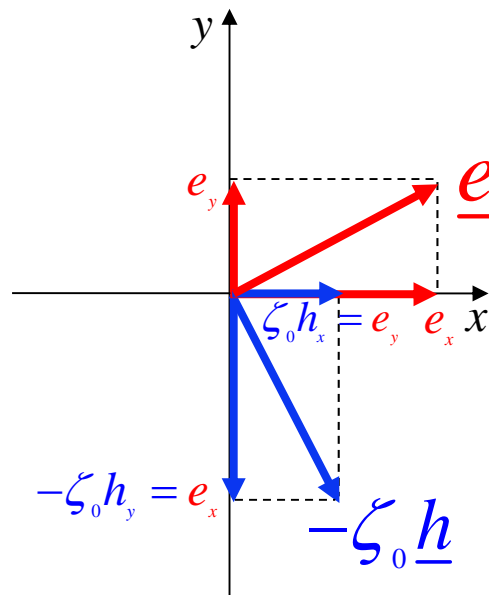
Plane Waves – properties (backward wave)

$$\begin{cases} \frac{\partial e_x}{\partial z} = -\mu_0 \frac{\partial h_y}{\partial t} \\ -\frac{\partial h_y}{\partial z} = \varepsilon_0 \frac{\partial e_x}{\partial t} \end{cases} \quad \& \quad z < 0 \quad (\text{backward wave})$$

$$\begin{cases} \frac{\partial e_y}{\partial z} = \mu_0 \frac{\partial h_x}{\partial t} \\ \frac{\partial h_x}{\partial z} = \varepsilon_0 \frac{\partial e_y}{\partial t} \end{cases} \quad \& \quad z < 0 \quad (\text{backward wave})$$

$$e_x(z+ct) = -\sqrt{\frac{\mu_0}{\varepsilon_0}} h_y(z+ct) = -\zeta_0 h_y(z+ct)$$

$$e_y(z+ct) = \sqrt{\frac{\mu_0}{\varepsilon_0}} h_x(z+ct) = \zeta_0 h_x(z+ct)$$



$$-\frac{e_x(z+ct)}{h_y(z+ct)} = \frac{e_y(z+ct)}{h_x(z+ct)} = \zeta_0$$

The instantaneous electric field can vary arbitrarily in time while magnetic field vector (amplitude and direction) will satisfy above conditions at any time and for any observation point

Plane Waves – properties

- ✓ Electric field and magnetic field are constant on any plane perpendicular to the plane wave propagation direction.
- ✓ The (finite) perturbation propagation velocity is $c = 1/\sqrt{\epsilon_0\mu_0}$
- ✓ The electric and magnetic fields are related by the medium characteristic impedance ζ_0

For each plane wave (forward or backward)

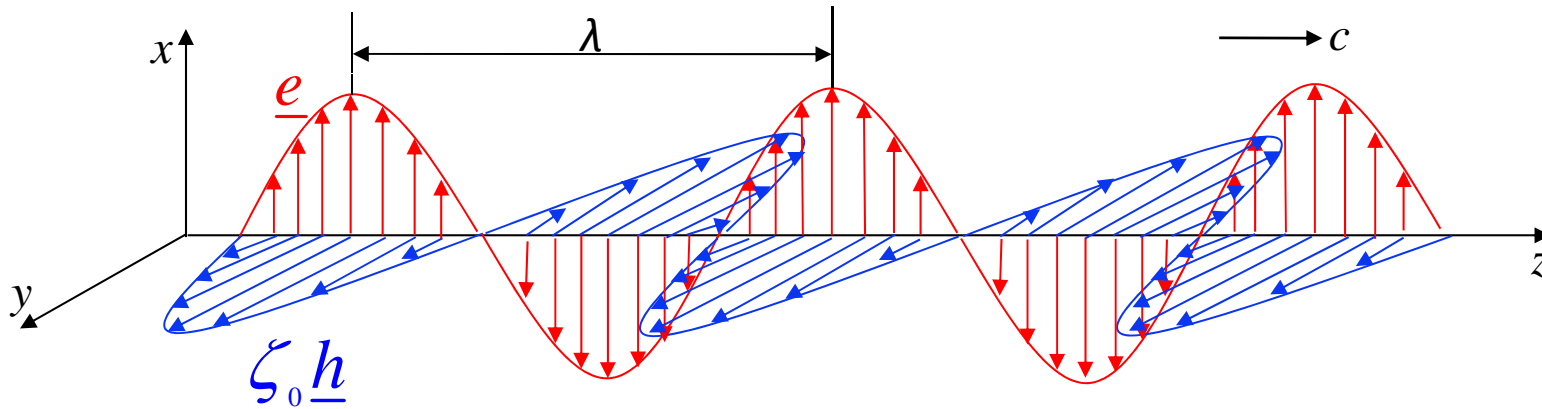
$$\left\{ \begin{array}{l} 1. \quad \underline{e} \perp \underline{h}, \forall(z,t) \quad (\underline{e} \cdot \underline{h} = e_x h_x + e_y h_y = \zeta_0 h_y h_x - \zeta_0 h_x h_y = 0) \\ 2. \quad \frac{|\underline{e}|}{|\underline{h}|} = \zeta_0, \forall(z,t) \quad (|\underline{e}| = \sqrt{|e_x|^2 + |e_y|^2} = \sqrt{|\zeta_0 e_x|^2 + |\zeta_0 e_y|^2} = \zeta_0 |\underline{h}|) \\ 3. \quad \left\{ \begin{array}{l} z > 0 \text{ (forward wave)} \rightarrow \underline{h} = \frac{1}{\zeta_0} \underline{i}_z \times \underline{e} \Rightarrow \underline{e} = \zeta_0 \underline{h} \times \underline{i}_z \\ z < 0 \text{ (backward wave)} \rightarrow \underline{h} = \frac{1}{\zeta_0} (-\underline{i}_z) \times \underline{e} \Rightarrow \underline{e} = \zeta_0 \underline{h} \times (-\underline{i}_z) \end{array} \right.$$

The physical properties of a plane wave are independent of the coordinate system and propagation direction. For any propagation direction denoted by the versor \underline{i} :

$$\forall(\underline{r}, t): \underline{e}(\underline{r} \cdot \underline{i} - ct) \& \underline{h}(\underline{r} \cdot \underline{i} - ct), \quad \underline{e} \cdot \underline{i} = 0 \quad \underline{h} = \frac{1}{\zeta_0} \underline{i} \times \underline{e}$$

or equivalently $\underline{h} \cdot \underline{i} = 0 \quad \underline{e} = \zeta_0 \underline{h} \times \underline{i}$

Plane Waves – example: sinusoidal signals



$$\begin{aligned}
 & \left. \begin{aligned}
 e_x &= b \cos \left[\frac{2\pi}{\lambda} (z - ct) \right] \\
 e_y &= 0; e_z = 0 \\
 c &= \frac{1}{\sqrt{\epsilon_0 \mu_0}}
 \end{aligned} \right\} \Rightarrow \left\{ \begin{aligned}
 e_x &= b \cos \left[\frac{2\pi}{\lambda} (z - ct) \right] = b \cos \left[\frac{2\pi}{\lambda} z - \frac{2\pi}{T} t \right] = b \cos(\omega t - \beta z) \\
 T &= \lambda / c \longrightarrow \text{time period} \quad \omega = 2\pi / T = 2\pi f \\
 \beta &= \frac{2\pi}{\lambda} \longrightarrow \text{phase constant}
 \end{aligned} \right. \\
 & e_x = b \cos(\omega t - \beta z) \rightarrow \left\{ \begin{aligned}
 z = 0 &\rightarrow e_x = b \cos(\omega t) \\
 z = \frac{\lambda}{4} = \frac{2\pi}{\beta} \cdot \frac{1}{4} &\rightarrow e_x = b \cos(\omega t - \pi/2) = b \sin(\omega t)
 \end{aligned} \right.
 \end{aligned}$$

For magnetic field:
 $h_x = 0; h_y = -\zeta_0 e_y; h_z = 0$

$$\lambda = \frac{2\pi}{\beta} = \frac{c}{f} \quad \text{Electromagnetic wavelength = spatial period}$$

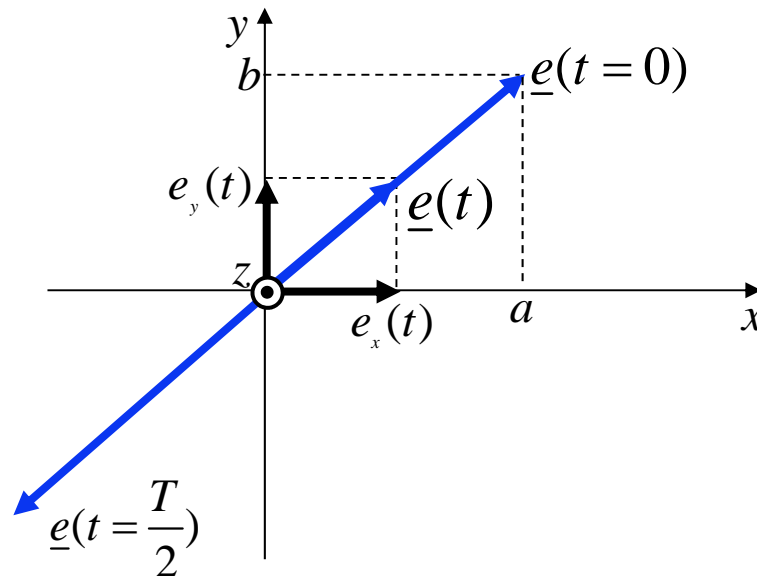
Linear Polarization

Polarization=determines the orientation of the electric field in a fixed spatial plane orthogonal to the direction of the propagation.

$$\text{Assume } z=0 \left\{ \begin{array}{l} e_x = a \cos(\omega t - \beta z) = a \cos(\omega t) \\ e_y = b \cos(\omega t - \beta z + \delta) = b \cos(\omega t + \delta) \end{array} \right. \Rightarrow \underline{e} = e_x \underline{i}_x + e_y \underline{i}_y = a \cos(\omega t) \underline{i}_x + b \cos(\omega t + \delta) \underline{i}_y$$

$$\boxed{\delta = 0} \rightarrow \text{Linear Polarization}$$

If e_x and e_y are in phase $\Rightarrow \underline{e}$ is linearly polarized along a direction given by the angle: $\alpha = \text{tg}^{-1} \left(\frac{e_y}{e_x} \right) = \text{tg}^{-1} \frac{b}{a}$

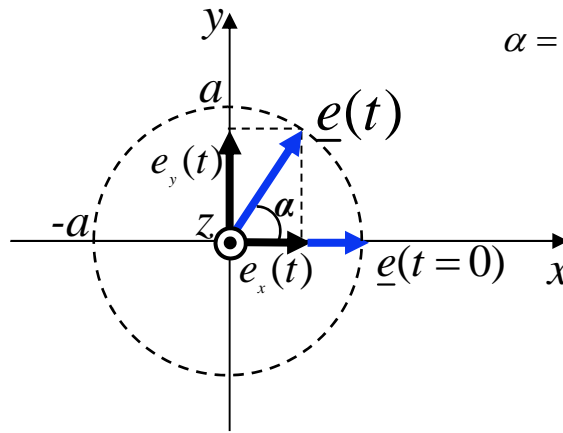


Circular Polarization

$$a = b \ \& \ \delta = \pm \pi / 2 \rightarrow \text{Circular Polarization}$$

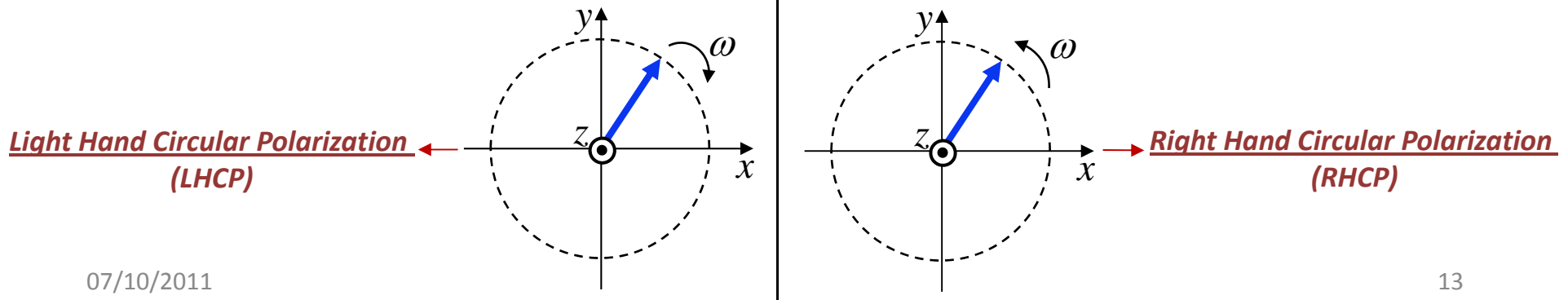
$$\underline{e} = a \cos(\omega t) \underline{i}_x + a \cos(\omega t \pm \frac{\pi}{2}) \underline{i}_y = a \cos(\omega t) \underline{i}_x \pm a \sin(\omega t) \underline{i}_y \Rightarrow |\underline{e}| = a \quad \forall t$$

$$\alpha = \text{tg}^{-1} \left(\frac{e_y}{e_x} \right) = \text{tg}^{-1} \left(\mp \frac{\sin \omega t}{\cos \omega t} \right) = \mp \omega t$$



$$\delta = \pi / 2$$

$$\delta = -\pi / 2$$

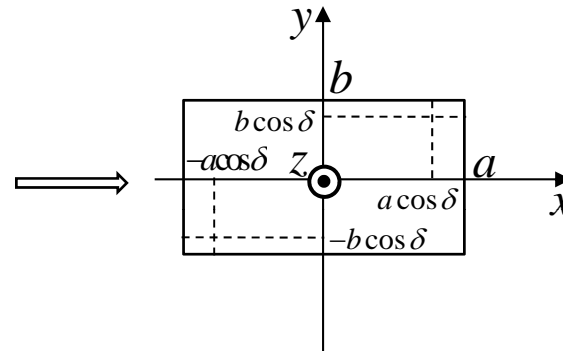


Elliptical Polarization

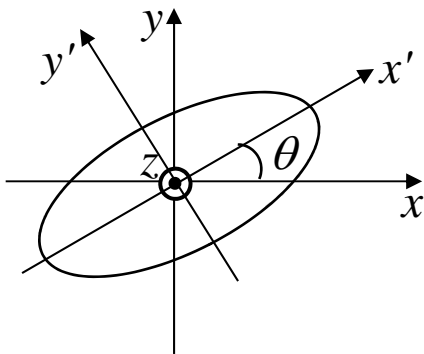
$$\boxed{a \neq b \ \& \ \delta \neq \pm \pi / 2} \rightarrow \text{Elliptical Polarization}$$

Consider $\begin{cases} e_x = a \cos(\omega t) \\ e_y = b \cos(\omega t + \delta) \end{cases} \Rightarrow \left(\frac{e_x}{a}\right)^2 + \left(\frac{e_y}{b}\right)^2 = \cos^2 \omega t + \cos^2(\omega t + \delta) \xrightarrow{-\cos \omega t} \left(\frac{e_x}{a}\right)^2 + \left(\frac{e_y}{b}\right)^2 - 2 \cos \delta \frac{e_x}{a} \frac{e_y}{b} - \sin^2 \delta = 0$

If: $\begin{cases} e_x = a \Rightarrow e_y = b \cos \delta \\ e_x = -a \Rightarrow e_y = -b \cos \delta \\ e_y = b \Rightarrow e_x = a \cos \delta \\ e_y = -b \Rightarrow e_x = -a \cos \delta \\ |e_x| < a \ \& \ |e_y| < b \end{cases}$



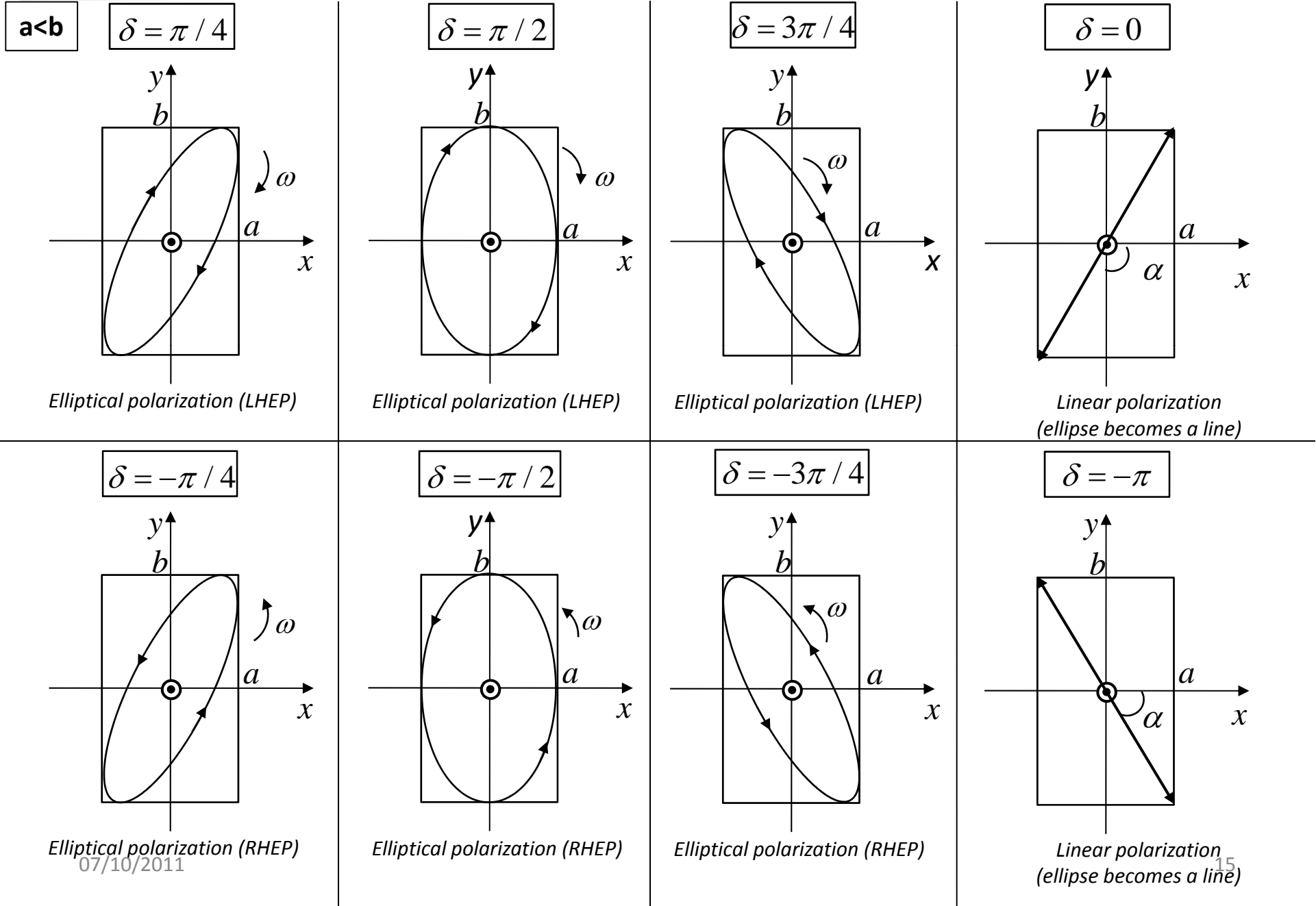
If the system xy is rotated by a θ angle: $tg 2\theta = \frac{2ab}{a^2 - b^2} \cos \delta \Rightarrow \boxed{\left(\frac{e_{x'}}{a'}\right)^2 + \left(\frac{e_{y'}}{b'}\right)^2 = 1} \rightarrow \text{Ellipse equation}$



$$\alpha = \angle(\underline{e}, x); \quad tg \alpha = \frac{e_y}{e_x} = \frac{b \cos(\omega t + \delta)}{a \cos(\omega t)}$$

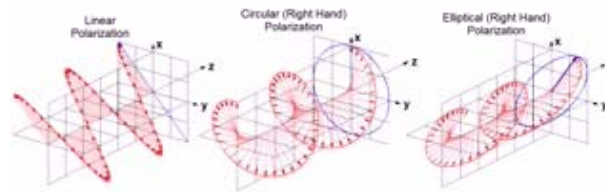
$$\text{Angular velocity: } \omega(t) = \frac{d\alpha}{dt} = -\omega \frac{ab \sin \delta}{e^2(t)}$$

Plane Wave Polarization



Plane Wave Polarization

Linear – Circular- Elliptical Polarization Animation



<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Q0qrU4nprB0>

Plane Waves – Frequency Domain solution

Frequency domain analysis allows to study EM propagation in dissipative and dispersive medium

Medium: linear,
homogeneous, isotropic,
dispersive in time and with
losses

$$\begin{cases} \underline{D}(\underline{r}, \omega) = \varepsilon(\omega) \underline{E}(\underline{r}, \omega) \\ \underline{B}(\underline{r}, \omega) = \mu(\omega) \underline{H}(\underline{r}, \omega) \end{cases}$$

$$\begin{cases} \varepsilon(\omega) = \varepsilon'(\omega) - j\varepsilon''(\omega) \\ \mu(\omega) = \mu'(\omega) - j\mu''(\omega) \end{cases}$$

In time domain it corresponds to a
temporal convolution

Dependence on ω accounts for
time-dispersion, while the
imaginary part is related to losses

Frequency domain Maxwell's equations

$$\begin{cases} \nabla \times \underline{E}(\underline{r}, \omega) = -j\omega \underline{B}(\underline{r}, \omega) \\ \nabla \times \underline{H}(\underline{r}, \omega) = j\omega \underline{D}(\underline{r}, \omega) + \underline{J}(\underline{r}, \omega) \\ \nabla \cdot (\underline{D}(\underline{r}, \omega)) = \rho(\underline{r}, \omega) \\ \nabla \cdot (\underline{B}(\underline{r}, \omega)) = 0 \end{cases}$$

$$\Rightarrow \begin{cases} \nabla \times \underline{E}(\underline{r}, \omega) = -j\omega \mu(\omega) \underline{H}(\underline{r}, \omega) \\ \nabla \times \underline{H}(\underline{r}, \omega) = j\omega \varepsilon(\omega) \underline{E}(\underline{r}, \omega) + \underline{J}(\underline{r}, \omega) \\ \nabla \cdot (\varepsilon(\omega) \underline{E}(\underline{r}, \omega)) = \rho(\underline{r}, \omega) \\ \nabla \cdot (\mu(\omega) \underline{H}(\underline{r}, \omega)) = 0 \end{cases}$$

$$\text{Medium homogeneity} \Rightarrow \begin{cases} \varepsilon(\omega) \nabla \cdot \underline{E}(\underline{r}, \omega) = 0 \\ \mu(\omega) \nabla \cdot \underline{H}(\underline{r}, \omega) = 0 \end{cases} \Rightarrow \begin{cases} \nabla \cdot \underline{E}(\underline{r}, \omega) = 0 \\ \nabla \cdot \underline{H}(\underline{r}, \omega) = 0 \end{cases}$$

Plane Waves – Frequency Domain solution

Assumption: $\underline{J}(\underline{r}, \omega) = 0$ & $\rho(\underline{r}, \omega) = 0 \Rightarrow$

$$\begin{cases} \nabla \times \underline{E}(\underline{r}, \omega) = -j\omega\mu(\omega)\underline{H}(\underline{r}, \omega) \\ \nabla \times \underline{H}(\underline{r}, \omega) = j\omega\varepsilon(\omega)\underline{E}(\underline{r}, \omega) \\ \nabla \cdot \underline{E}(\underline{r}, \omega) = 0 \\ \nabla \cdot \underline{H}(\underline{r}, \omega) = 0 \end{cases}$$

$$\begin{cases} \frac{-1}{j\omega\mu(\omega)} \nabla \times \underline{E}(\underline{r}, \omega) = \underline{H}(\underline{r}, \omega) \\ \frac{-1}{j\omega\mu(\omega)} \nabla \times (\nabla \times \underline{E}(\underline{r}, \omega)) = j\omega\varepsilon(\omega)\underline{E}(\underline{r}, \omega) \end{cases} \Rightarrow$$

$$(\nabla^2 \underline{A} = \nabla(\nabla \cdot \underline{A}) - \nabla \times (\nabla \times \underline{A}))$$

$$\begin{cases} -\nabla^2 \underline{E}(\underline{r}, \omega) + \nabla(\nabla \cdot \underline{E}(\underline{r}, \omega)) = \omega^2 \varepsilon(\omega)\mu(\omega)\underline{E}(\underline{r}, \omega) \\ \nabla \cdot \underline{E}(\underline{r}, \omega) = 0 \end{cases} \Rightarrow$$

$$\nabla^2 \underline{E}(\underline{r}, \omega) + \omega^2 \varepsilon(\omega)\mu(\omega)\underline{E}(\underline{r}, \omega) = 0$$

Plane Waves – Frequency Domain solution

$$\begin{cases} \nabla \times \underline{E}(\underline{r}, \omega) = -j\omega\mu(\omega)\underline{H}(\underline{r}, \omega) \\ \nabla \times \underline{H}(\underline{r}, \omega) = j\omega\varepsilon(\omega)\underline{E}(\underline{r}, \omega) \\ \nabla \cdot \underline{E}(\underline{r}, \omega) = 0 \\ \nabla \cdot \underline{H}(\underline{r}, \omega) = 0 \end{cases}$$

$$\begin{cases} \frac{1}{j\omega\varepsilon(\omega)} \nabla \times \underline{H}(\underline{r}, \omega) = \underline{E}(\underline{r}, \omega) \\ \frac{1}{j\omega\varepsilon(\omega)} \nabla \times (\nabla \times \underline{H}(\underline{r}, \omega)) = -j\omega\mu(\omega)\underline{H}(\underline{r}, \omega) \end{cases} \Rightarrow$$

$$(\nabla^2 \underline{A} = \nabla(\nabla \cdot \underline{A}) - \nabla \times (\nabla \times \underline{A}))$$

$$\begin{cases} -\nabla^2 \underline{H}(\underline{r}, \omega) + \nabla(\nabla \cdot \underline{H}(\underline{r}, \omega)) = \omega^2 \varepsilon(\omega)\mu(\omega)\underline{H}(\underline{r}, \omega) \\ \nabla \cdot \underline{H}(\underline{r}, \omega) = 0 \end{cases} \Rightarrow$$

$$\nabla^2 \underline{H}(\underline{r}, \omega) + \omega^2 \varepsilon(\omega)\mu(\omega)\underline{H}(\underline{r}, \omega) = 0$$

$$\begin{cases} \nabla^2 \underline{E}(\underline{r}, \omega) + k^2 \underline{E}(\underline{r}, \omega) = 0 \\ \nabla^2 \underline{H}(\underline{r}, \omega) + k^2 \underline{H}(\underline{r}, \omega) = 0 \end{cases}$$

Homogeneous Vector Helmholtz's Equations

$$k = \omega\sqrt{\varepsilon(\omega)\mu(\omega)}$$

Propagation constant

Helmholtz's equation solution

$$\nabla^2 \underline{E}(\underline{r}, \omega) + k^2 \underline{E}(\underline{r}, \omega) = 0$$

In a rectangular coordinate system: $\nabla^2 \underline{E}(\underline{r}, \omega) = \nabla^2 E_x(\underline{r}, \omega) \underline{i}_x + \nabla^2 E_y(\underline{r}, \omega) \underline{i}_y + \nabla^2 E_z(\underline{r}, \omega) \underline{i}_z$
 $(\nabla^2 \underline{A} = \nabla(\nabla \cdot \underline{A}) - \nabla \times (\nabla \times \underline{A}))$

Consider only the component along x:

$$\nabla^2 E_x(\underline{r}, \omega) + k^2 E_x(\underline{r}, \omega) = 0 \Rightarrow \frac{\partial^2 E_x(\underline{r}, \omega)}{\partial^2 x} + \frac{\partial^2 E_x(\underline{r}, \omega)}{\partial^2 y} + \frac{\partial^2 E_x(\underline{r}, \omega)}{\partial^2 z} + k^2 E_x(\underline{r}, \omega) = 0$$

$$\left(\nabla^2 \phi = \frac{\partial^2 \phi}{\partial^2 x} + \frac{\partial^2 \phi}{\partial^2 y} + \frac{\partial^2 \phi}{\partial^2 z} \right)$$

Assumption : $\underline{E}(\underline{r}, \omega) = \underline{E}(z, \omega)$

(looking for a solution only dependent on z: PLANE WAVE SOLUTION)

$$\frac{\partial^2 E_x(z, \omega)}{\partial z^2} + k^2 E_x(z, \omega) = 0 \Rightarrow E_x(z, \omega) = E_x^+ e^{-jkz} + E_x^- e^{jkz}$$

In a similar way, it can be shown that:

$$E_y(z, \omega) = E_y^+ e^{-jkz} + E_y^- e^{jkz}$$

$$H_x(z, \omega) = H_x^+ e^{-jkz} + H_x^- e^{jkz}$$

$$H_y(z, \omega) = H_y^+ e^{-jkz} + H_y^- e^{jkz}$$

Helmholtz's equation solution

$$\begin{cases} \nabla \times \underline{E}(z, \omega) = -j\omega\mu(\omega)\underline{H}(z, \omega) \\ \nabla \times \underline{H}(z, \omega) = j\omega\varepsilon(\omega)\underline{E}(z, \omega) \\ \nabla \cdot \underline{E}(z, \omega) = 0 \\ \nabla \cdot \underline{H}(z, \omega) = 0 \end{cases}$$

$$\nabla \times \underline{E}(z, \omega) = \begin{vmatrix} \underline{i}_x & \underline{i}_y & \underline{i}_z \\ 0 & 0 & \frac{\partial}{\partial z} \\ E_x & E_y & E_z \end{vmatrix} = -\frac{\partial E_y}{\partial z} \underline{i}_x + \frac{\partial E_x}{\partial z} \underline{i}_y = -j\omega\mu(\omega)\underline{H}(z, \omega)$$

$$\nabla \times \underline{H}(z, \omega) = \begin{vmatrix} \underline{i}_x & \underline{i}_y & \underline{i}_z \\ 0 & 0 & \frac{\partial}{\partial z} \\ H_x & H_y & H_z \end{vmatrix} = -\frac{\partial H_y}{\partial z} \underline{i}_x + \frac{\partial H_x}{\partial z} \underline{i}_y = j\omega\varepsilon(\omega)\underline{E}(z, \omega)$$

$$\Rightarrow E_z = 0 \quad H_z = 0$$

Field components along the propagation direction must vanish

Helmholtz's equation solution

$$\begin{cases} \frac{\partial E_x(z, \omega)}{\partial z} = -j\omega\mu H_y(z, \omega) \\ -\frac{\partial H_y(z, \omega)}{\partial z} = j\omega\varepsilon E_x(z, \omega) \end{cases}$$

$$\Rightarrow \begin{cases} E_x^+ = \zeta H_y^+ \\ E_x^- = -\zeta H_y^- \end{cases} \Rightarrow$$

$$\begin{aligned} E_x(z, \omega) &= E_x^+ e^{-jkz} + E_x^- e^{jkz} \\ H_y(z, \omega) &= \frac{E_x^+}{\zeta} e^{-jkz} - \frac{E_x^-}{\zeta} e^{jkz} \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{cases} \frac{\partial E_y(z, \omega)}{\partial z} = j\omega\mu H_x(z, \omega) \\ \frac{\partial H_x(z, \omega)}{\partial z} = j\omega\varepsilon E_y(z, \omega) \end{cases}$$

$$\Rightarrow \begin{cases} E_y^+ = -\zeta H_x^+ \\ E_y^- = \zeta H_x^- \end{cases} \Rightarrow$$

$$\begin{aligned} E_y(z, \omega) &= E_y^+ e^{-jkz} + E_y^- e^{jkz} \\ H_x(z, \omega) &= \frac{E_y^+}{\zeta} e^{-jkz} - \frac{E_y^-}{\zeta} e^{jkz} \end{aligned}$$

$$\zeta = \sqrt{\mu / \varepsilon} = R + jX \quad \text{Medium characteristic impedance}$$

$$k = \omega\sqrt{\varepsilon(\omega)\mu(\omega)} = \beta - j\alpha \quad \begin{cases} \beta - \text{Phase constant} \\ \alpha - \text{Attenuation constant} \end{cases}$$

$$\Rightarrow e^{-jkz} = e^{-j(\beta - j\alpha)z} = e^{-j\beta z} e^{-\alpha z}$$

$$\text{If } \alpha = 0 \text{ (lossless medium, } \mu \text{ and } \varepsilon \text{ real): } k = \omega\sqrt{\varepsilon\mu} = \beta$$

Plane Waves – phase velocity

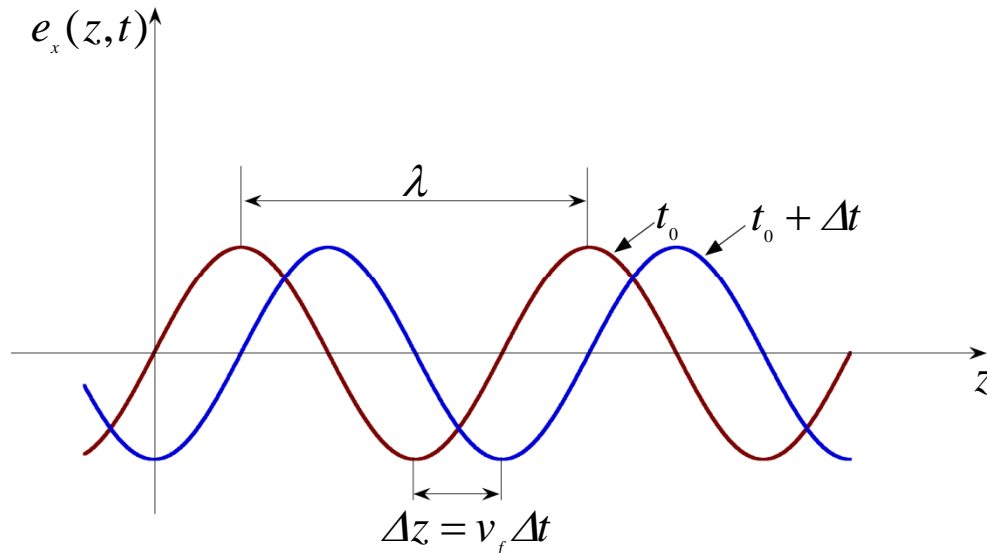
Back to
time domain:

$$e_x(z,t) = \text{Re} \{ E_x^+ e^{-jkz} e^{j\omega t} \} = \text{Re} \{ |E_x^+| e^{-\alpha z} e^{j\omega t} e^{-j\beta z} e^{-j\phi_x^+} \} = |E_x^+| e^{-\alpha z} \cos(\omega t - \beta z + \phi_x^+)$$

$\phi(z,t) = \omega t - \beta z + \phi_x^+$ (phase of $e_x(z,t)$) Consider ϕ at (z,t) and $(z+\Delta z, t+\Delta t)$:

$$\Delta\phi = [\omega(t_0 + \Delta t) - \beta(z + \Delta z)] - (\omega t_0 - \beta z) = \omega\Delta t - \beta\Delta z \quad \Delta\phi = 0 \Leftrightarrow \frac{\Delta z}{\Delta t} = \frac{\omega}{\beta}$$

$$v_f = \frac{\Delta z}{\Delta t} = \frac{\omega}{\beta}$$



Phase velocity $v_f = \frac{\omega}{\beta} = \frac{\omega}{\text{Re}\{k\}}$

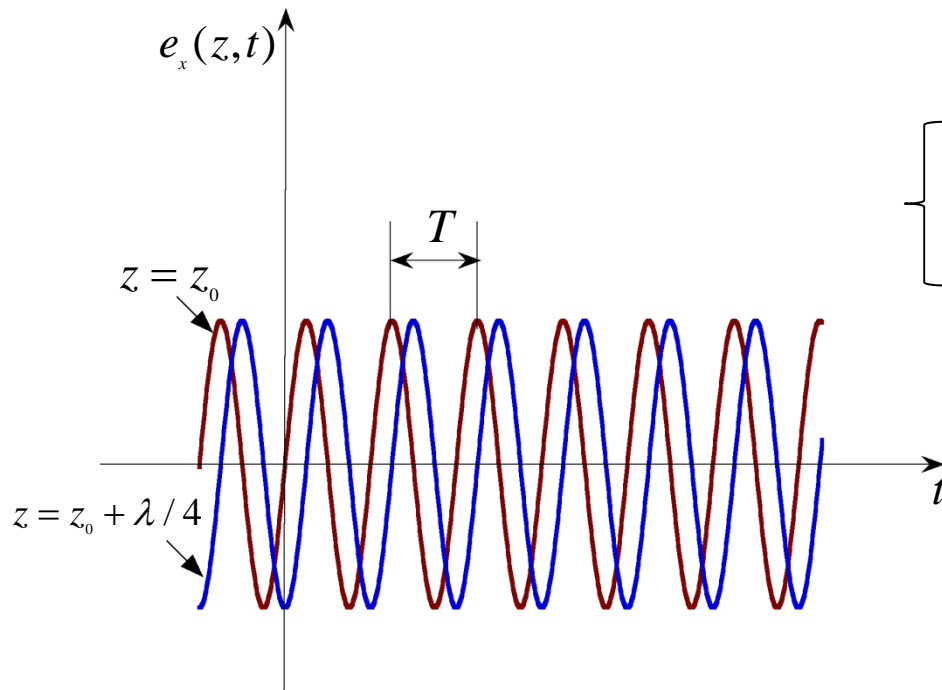
$$\lambda = \frac{2\pi}{\beta} = \frac{v_f}{f} \quad \text{Electromagnetic wavelength} = \text{spatial period}$$

Plane Waves – phase velocity

Back to
time domain:

$$e_x(z, t) = \text{Re} \{ E_x^+ e^{-jkz} e^{j\omega t} \} = \text{Re} \{ |E_x^+| e^{-\alpha z} e^{j\omega t} e^{-j\beta z} e^{-j\phi_x^+} \} = |E_x^+| e^{-\alpha z} \cos(\omega t - \beta z + \phi_x^+)$$

$$\phi(z, t) = \omega t - \beta z + \phi_x^+ \quad (\text{phase of } e_x(z, t))$$



$$\begin{cases} z=0 \rightarrow e_x = b \cos(\omega t) \\ z = \frac{\lambda}{4} = \frac{2\pi}{\beta} \cdot \frac{1}{4} \rightarrow e_x = b \cos(\omega t - \pi/2) = b \sin(\omega t) \end{cases}$$

Free-space $(\epsilon_0, \mu_0) \Rightarrow v_f = \frac{1}{\sqrt{\epsilon_0 \mu_0}} = c \cong 3 \cdot 10^8 \text{ m/sec}$

If $\alpha = 0$ (lossless medium, μ and ϵ are real): $v_f = \frac{\omega}{\omega \sqrt{\epsilon(\omega) \mu(\omega)}} = \frac{1}{\sqrt{\epsilon(\omega) \mu(\omega)}}$

Plane Waves – properties

$$E_x(z, \omega) = E_x^+ e^{-jkz} + E_x^- e^{jkz}$$

$$E_x^+ = \zeta H_y^+ \quad E_x^- = -\zeta H_y^-$$

$$H_y(z, \omega) = E_x^+ / \zeta e^{-jkz} - E_x^- / \zeta e^{jkz}$$

$$E_y(z, \omega) = E_y^+ e^{-jkz} + E_y^- e^{jkz}$$

$$E_y^+ = -\zeta H_x^+ \quad E_y^- = \zeta H_x^-$$

$$H_x(z, \omega) = -E_y^+ / \zeta e^{-jkz} + E_y^- / \zeta e^{jkz}$$

$$E_z = 0 \quad H_z = 0 \quad \zeta = \sqrt{\mu / \varepsilon} = R + jX$$

$$1. \quad \underline{E} \bullet \underline{H} = 0$$

$$2. \quad \frac{|\underline{E}|}{|\underline{H}|} = |\zeta|$$

$$3. \quad \begin{cases} z > 0 \text{ (forward wave)} \rightarrow \underline{H} = \frac{1}{\zeta} \underline{i}_z \times \underline{E} \Rightarrow E = \zeta \underline{H} \times \underline{i}_z \\ z < 0 \text{ (backward wave)} \rightarrow \underline{H} = \frac{1}{\zeta} (-\underline{i}_z) \times \underline{E} \Rightarrow E = \zeta \underline{H} \times (-\underline{i}_z) \end{cases}$$

$$k = \omega \sqrt{\varepsilon(\omega) \mu(\omega)} = \beta - j\alpha \quad \begin{cases} \beta - \text{Phase constant} & [\text{rad/m}] \\ \alpha - \text{Attenuation constant} & [\text{m}^{-1}] \text{ or } [\text{Neper/m}] \end{cases}$$

Dielectric medium
with μ and ε real:

$$\beta = \omega \sqrt{\varepsilon_0 \varepsilon_r \mu_0} \quad \lambda = \frac{2\pi}{\beta} = \frac{c}{f \sqrt{\varepsilon_r}} = \frac{\lambda_0}{\sqrt{\varepsilon_r}} \quad v_f = \frac{c}{\sqrt{\varepsilon_r}}$$

$$\zeta = \sqrt{\mu_0 / (\varepsilon_0 \varepsilon_r)} = \zeta_0 / \sqrt{\varepsilon_r}$$

Plane waves in a conductor

Dielectric: $\sigma=0$ $\nabla \times \underline{H} = j\omega\varepsilon \underline{E}$

Conductor: $\sigma \neq 0$ $\nabla \times \underline{H} = j\omega\varepsilon \underline{E} + \sigma \underline{E} = j\omega \left(\varepsilon + \frac{\sigma}{j\omega} \right) \underline{E} = j\omega \varepsilon_{\text{eff}} \underline{E}$

$$\varepsilon_{\text{eff}} = \varepsilon \left(1 + \frac{\sigma}{j\omega\varepsilon} \right)$$

$$E_x(z, \omega) = E_x^+ e^{-jkz} + E_x^- e^{jkz}$$

$$E_x^+ = \zeta H_y^+ \quad E_x^- = -\zeta H_y^-$$

$$H_y(z, \omega) = E_x^+ / \zeta e^{-jkz} - E_x^- / \zeta e^{jkz}$$

$$E_y(z, \omega) = E_y^+ e^{-jkz} + E_y^- e^{jkz}$$

$$E_y^+ = -\zeta H_x^+ \quad E_y^- = \zeta H_x^-$$

$$H_x(z, \omega) = -E_y^+ / \zeta e^{-jkz} + E_y^- / \zeta e^{jkz}$$

$$E_z = 0 \quad H_z = 0$$

$$\zeta = \sqrt{\mu / \varepsilon_{\text{eff}}} = \sqrt{\mu / \left[\varepsilon \left(1 + \frac{\sigma}{j\omega\varepsilon} \right) \right]} = R + jX$$

$$k = \omega \sqrt{\mu\varepsilon} = \omega \sqrt{\mu \left[\varepsilon \left(1 + \frac{\sigma}{j\omega\varepsilon} \right) \right]} = \beta - j\alpha$$

$\left\{ \begin{array}{l} \beta - \text{Phase constant} \\ \alpha - \text{Attenuation constant} \end{array} \right.$

Conductor propagation constant

$$\left\{ \begin{array}{l} \bullet \text{ characteristic impedance } \zeta = \sqrt{\frac{\mu}{\epsilon_{\text{eff}}}} = \sqrt{\frac{\mu_0}{\epsilon_0 \epsilon_r \left(1 - j \frac{\sigma_2}{\omega \epsilon_0 \epsilon_r}\right)}} \\ \bullet \text{ propagation constant } k = \omega \sqrt{\mu \epsilon_{\text{eff}}} = \omega \sqrt{\epsilon_0 \epsilon_r \mu_0 \left(1 - j \frac{\sigma}{\omega \epsilon_0 \epsilon_r}\right)} = \beta - j\alpha \end{array} \right.$$

$$\left(\sqrt{z} = \sqrt{\frac{|z| + \text{Re}(z)}{2}} - j \sqrt{\frac{|z| - \text{Re}(z)}{2}} \right)$$

$$\beta = \omega \sqrt{\frac{\mu_0 \epsilon_0 \epsilon_r}{2} \left(\sqrt{1 + \left(\frac{\sigma}{\omega \epsilon_0 \epsilon_r}\right)^2} + 1 \right)} \quad \Rightarrow \quad \lambda = \frac{2\pi}{\beta} = \frac{c/f}{\sqrt{\frac{\epsilon_r}{2} \sqrt{1 + \left(\frac{\sigma}{\omega \epsilon_0 \epsilon_r}\right)^2} + 1}}$$

$$\alpha = \omega \sqrt{\frac{\mu_0 \epsilon_0 \epsilon_r}{2} \left(\sqrt{1 + \left(\frac{\sigma}{\omega \epsilon_0 \epsilon_r}\right)^2} - 1 \right)} \quad \Rightarrow \quad \delta = 1/\alpha = \frac{c}{\omega \sqrt{\frac{\epsilon_r}{2} \left(\sqrt{1 + \left(\frac{\sigma}{\omega \epsilon_0 \epsilon_r}\right)^2} - 1 \right)}}$$

$$e^{-\alpha z} (z = \delta) = e^{-1} = 1/e \quad (\text{about } 0.37 \text{ or } -8.69\text{dB})$$

Good conductor

$$\left| \frac{\sigma}{\omega \epsilon_0 \epsilon_r} \right| \gg 1$$

propagation constant: $k = \omega \sqrt{\mu_0 \epsilon_0 \epsilon_r \left(1 - \frac{j\sigma}{\omega \epsilon_0 \epsilon_r} \right)} \cong \omega \sqrt{\frac{-j\sigma \mu_0}{\omega}} = \sqrt{\frac{\sigma \mu_0 \omega}{2}} \sqrt{-2j}$

characteristic impedance: $\zeta = \sqrt{\frac{\mu_0}{\epsilon_0 \epsilon_r \left(1 - j \frac{\sigma}{\omega \epsilon_0 \epsilon_r} \right)}} \cong \sqrt{\frac{\mu_0}{\left(-\frac{j\sigma}{\omega} \right)}} = \sqrt{\frac{\omega \mu_0}{2\sigma}} \sqrt{2j}$

$$(1-j)^2 = -2j \ \& \ (1+j)^2 = 2j \ \Rightarrow \left\{ \begin{array}{l} k \cong \sqrt{\frac{\sigma \mu_0 \omega}{2}} (1-j) = \beta - j\alpha \quad \beta = \alpha = \sqrt{\frac{\sigma \mu_0 \omega}{2}} \\ \zeta \cong \sqrt{\frac{\mu_0 \omega}{2\sigma}} (1+j) = \frac{1}{\sigma \delta} (1+j) = R_s (1+j) \end{array} \right.$$

$$\delta = \sqrt{\frac{2}{\omega \mu_0 \sigma}}$$

Good-conductor penetration depth

$$R_s = \frac{1}{\sigma \delta}$$

Good-conductor surface resistivity

Low losses material

$$\left| \frac{\sigma}{\omega \epsilon_0 \epsilon_r} \right| \ll 1$$

$$\left\{ \begin{array}{l} k = \omega \sqrt{\mu_0 \epsilon_0 \epsilon_r} \left(1 - \frac{j\sigma}{2\omega \epsilon_0 \epsilon_r} \right) \cong \frac{\omega}{c} \sqrt{\epsilon_r} - j \frac{\sigma}{2} \sqrt{\frac{\mu_0}{\epsilon_0 \epsilon_r}} \\ \zeta = \frac{\sqrt{\frac{\mu_0}{\epsilon_0 \epsilon_r}}}{\sqrt{\epsilon_0 \epsilon_r \left(1 - j \frac{\sigma}{\omega \epsilon_0 \epsilon_r} \right)}} \cong \sqrt{\frac{\mu_0}{\epsilon_0 \epsilon_r}} \left(1 + j \frac{\sigma}{2\omega \epsilon_0 \epsilon_r} \right) \cong \zeta_0 / \sqrt{\epsilon_r} \end{array} \right. \Rightarrow \left\{ \begin{array}{l} \lambda = \frac{2\pi}{\beta} \cong \frac{c/f}{\sqrt{\epsilon_r}} \\ \delta = \frac{1}{\alpha} \cong \frac{2}{\sigma} \sqrt{\frac{\epsilon_0 \epsilon_r}{\mu_0}} \end{array} \right.$$

Penetration Depth: examples

| Material | Frequency | Conductivity [S/m] | Depth penetration [mm] |
|-----------|-----------|--------------------|------------------------|
| Aluminum | 100Hz | $3.54 \cdot 10^7$ | 8.5 |
| | 10GHz | $3.54 \cdot 10^7$ | $0.85 \cdot 10^{-3}$ |
| Blood | 900MHz | 1.5379 | 27.8 |
| | 2.4GHz | 2.5024 | 0.0164 |
| Fat | 900MHz | 0.0510 | 244.12 |
| | 2.4GHz | 0.10235 | 119.56 |
| Sea water | 300Hz | 5 | 1300 |

*Penetration depth explains the **skin effect**: while the frequency increases, the penetration depth decreases, and the currents only flow on the conductor surface.*