

UNIT – IV

EM Wave Characteristics - I:

- Wave Equations for Conducting and Perfect Dielectric Media
- Uniform Plane Waves - Definition, Relation between E & H
- Wave Propagation in Lossless and Conducting Media
- Wave Propagation in Good Conductors and Good Dielectrics
- Illustrative Problems.

EM Wave Characteristics - II:

- Reflection and Refraction of Plane Waves - Normal for both perfect Conductor and Perfect dielectric

- Brewster Angle
- Critical Angle
- Total Internal Reflection
- Surface Impedance
- Poynting Vector
- Poynting Theorem
- Illustrative Problems.

Wave equations:

The Maxwell's equations in the differential form are

$$\nabla \times \vec{H} = \vec{J} + \frac{\partial \vec{D}}{\partial t}$$

$$\nabla \times \vec{E} = -\frac{\partial \vec{B}}{\partial t}$$

$$\nabla \cdot \vec{D} = \vec{\rho}$$

$$\nabla \cdot \vec{B} = 0$$

Let us consider a source free uniform medium having dielectric constant ϵ , magnetic permeability μ and conductivity σ . The above set of equations can be written as

$$\nabla \times \vec{H} = \sigma \vec{E} + \epsilon \frac{\partial \vec{E}}{\partial t} \quad (5.29(a))$$

$$\nabla \times \vec{E} = -\mu \frac{\partial \vec{H}}{\partial t} \quad (5.29(b))$$

$$\nabla \cdot \vec{E} = 0 \quad (5.29(c))$$

$$\nabla \cdot \vec{H} = 0 \quad (5.29(d))$$

Using the vector identity ,

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

We can write from 2

$$\begin{aligned} \nabla \times \nabla \times \vec{E} &= \nabla \cdot (\nabla \cdot \vec{E}) - \nabla^2 \vec{E} \\ &= -\nabla \times \left(\mu \frac{\partial \vec{H}}{\partial t} \right) \end{aligned}$$

Substituting $\nabla \times \vec{H}$ from 1

$$\nabla \cdot (\nabla \cdot \vec{E}) - \nabla^2 \vec{E} = -\mu \frac{\partial}{\partial t} \left(\sigma \vec{E} + \epsilon \frac{\partial \vec{E}}{\partial t} \right)$$

But in source free($\nabla \cdot \vec{E} = 0$) medium (eq3)

$$\nabla^2 \vec{E} = \mu \sigma \frac{\partial \vec{E}}{\partial t} + \mu \epsilon \frac{\partial^2 \vec{E}}{\partial t^2}$$

In the same manner for equation eqn 1

$$\begin{aligned} \nabla \times \nabla \times \vec{H} &= \nabla \cdot (\nabla \cdot \vec{H}) - \nabla^2 \vec{H} \\ &= \sigma (\nabla \times \vec{E}) + \epsilon \frac{\partial}{\partial t} (\nabla \times \vec{E}) \\ &= \sigma \left(-\mu \frac{\partial \vec{H}}{\partial t} \right) + \epsilon \frac{\partial}{\partial t} \left(-\mu \frac{\partial \vec{H}}{\partial t} \right) \end{aligned}$$

Since $\nabla \cdot \vec{H} = 0$ from eqn 4, we can write

$$\nabla^2 \vec{H} = \mu \sigma \left(\frac{\partial \vec{H}}{\partial t} \right) + \mu \epsilon \left(\frac{\partial^2 \vec{H}}{\partial t^2} \right)$$

These two equations

$$\nabla^2 \vec{E} = \mu\sigma \frac{\partial \vec{E}}{\partial t} + \mu\epsilon \frac{\partial^2 \vec{E}}{\partial t^2}$$

$$\nabla^2 \vec{H} = \mu\sigma \left(\frac{\partial \vec{H}}{\partial t} \right) + \mu\epsilon \left(\frac{\partial^2 \vec{H}}{\partial t^2} \right)$$

are known as wave equations.

Uniform plane waves:

A uniform plane wave is a particular solution of Maxwell's equation assuming electric field (and magnetic field) has same magnitude and phase in infinite planes perpendicular to the direction of propagation. It may be noted that in the strict sense a uniform plane wave doesn't exist in practice as creation of such waves are possible with sources of infinite extent. However, at large distances from the source, the wave front or the surface of the constant phase becomes almost spherical and a small portion of this large sphere can be considered to plane. The characteristics of plane waves are simple and useful for studying many practical scenarios

Let us consider a plane wave which has only E_x component and propagating along z . Since the plane wave will have no variation along the plane perpendicular to z

$$\frac{\partial E_x}{\partial x} = \frac{\partial E_x}{\partial y} = 0$$

i.e., xy plane, . The Helmholtz's equation reduces to,

$$\frac{d^2 E_x}{dz^2} + k^2 E_x = 0$$

The solution to this equation can be written as

$$E_x(z) = E_x^+(z) + E_x^-(z)$$

$$= E_0^+ e^{-jkz} + E_0^- e^{jkz}$$

E_0^+ & E_0^- are the amplitude constants (can be determined from boundary conditions).

In the time domain, $\epsilon_x(z, t) = \text{Re}(E_x(z) e^{j\omega t})$

$$\epsilon_x(z, t) = E_0^+ \cos(\omega t - kz) + E_0^- \cos(\omega t + kz)$$

assuming E_0^+ & E_0^- are real constants.

Here, $\epsilon_x^+(z, t) = E_0^+ \cos(\omega t - \beta z)$ represents the forward traveling wave. The plot of $\epsilon_x^+(z, t)$ for several values of t is shown in the Figure below

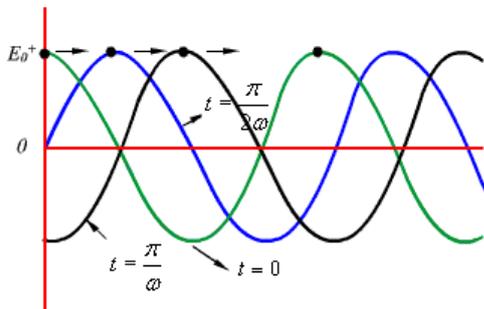


Figure : Plane wave traveling in the + z direction

As can be seen from the figure, at successive times, the wave travels in the +z direction.

If we fix our attention on a particular point or phase on the wave (as shown by the dot) i.e. ,
 $\omega t - kz = \text{constant}$

Then we see that as t is increased to $t + \Delta t$, z also should increase to $z + \Delta z$ so that

$$\omega(t + \Delta t) - k(z + \Delta z) = \text{constant} = \omega t - \beta z$$

$$\text{Or, } \omega \Delta t = k \Delta z$$

$$\frac{\Delta z}{\Delta t} = \frac{\omega}{k}$$

$$\text{Or, } \Delta z = \frac{\omega}{k} \Delta t$$

When $\Delta t \rightarrow 0$,

$$\text{we write } \lim_{\Delta t \rightarrow 0} \frac{\Delta z}{\Delta t} = \frac{dz}{dt} = \text{phase velocity } v_p .$$

$$\therefore v_p = \frac{\omega}{k}$$

If the medium in which the wave is propagating is free space i.e., $\epsilon = \epsilon_0$, $\mu = \mu_0$

$$\text{Then } v_p = \frac{\omega}{\omega \sqrt{\mu_0 \epsilon_0}} = \frac{1}{\sqrt{\mu_0 \epsilon_0}} = C$$

Where 'C' is the speed of light. That is plane EM wave travels in free space with the speed of light.

The wavelength λ is defined as the distance between two successive maxima (or minima or any other reference points).

$$\text{i.e., } (\omega t - kz) - [\omega t - k(z + \lambda)] = 2\pi$$

or,

$$k\lambda = 2\pi$$

$$\text{or, } \lambda = \frac{2\pi}{k}$$

or,

$$\text{Substituting } k = \frac{\omega}{v_p}, \quad \lambda = \frac{2\pi v_p}{2\pi f} = \frac{v_p}{f}$$

$$\text{or, } \lambda f = v_p$$

Thus wavelength λ also represents the distance covered in one oscillation of the wave. Similarly, $\vec{E}^-(z,t) = E_0^- \cos(\omega t + kz)$ represents a plane wave traveling in the -z direction.

The associated magnetic field can be found as follows:

From (6.4),

$$\begin{aligned} \vec{E}_x^+(z) &= E_0^+ e^{-jkz} \hat{a}_x \\ \vec{H} &= -\frac{1}{j\omega\mu} \nabla \times \vec{E} \\ &= -\frac{1}{j\omega\mu} \begin{vmatrix} \hat{a}_x & \hat{a}_y & \hat{a}_z \\ 0 & 0 & \frac{\partial}{\partial z} \\ E_0^+ e^{-jkz} & 0 & 0 \end{vmatrix} \\ &= \frac{k}{\omega\mu} E_0^+ e^{-jkz} \hat{a}_y \\ &= \frac{E_0^+}{\eta} e^{-jkz} \hat{a}_y = H_0^+ e^{-jkz} \hat{a}_y \end{aligned}$$

where $\eta = \frac{\omega\mu}{k} = \frac{\omega\mu}{\omega\sqrt{\mu\epsilon}} = \sqrt{\frac{\mu}{\epsilon}}$ is the intrinsic impedance of the medium.

When the wave travels in free space

$$\eta_0 = \sqrt{\frac{\mu_0}{\epsilon_0}} \cong 120\pi = 377\Omega \quad \text{is the intrinsic impedance of the free space.}$$

In the time domain,

$$\vec{H}^+(z,t) = \hat{a}_y \frac{E_0^+}{\eta} \cos(\omega t - \beta z)$$

Which represents the magnetic field of the wave traveling in the +z direction.

For the negative traveling wave,

$$\vec{H}^-(z,t) = -\hat{a}_y \frac{E_0^+}{\eta} \cos(\omega t + \beta z)$$

For the plane waves described, both the E & H fields are perpendicular to the direction of propagation, and these waves are called TEM (transverse electromagnetic) waves.

The E & H field components of a TEM wave is shown in Fig below

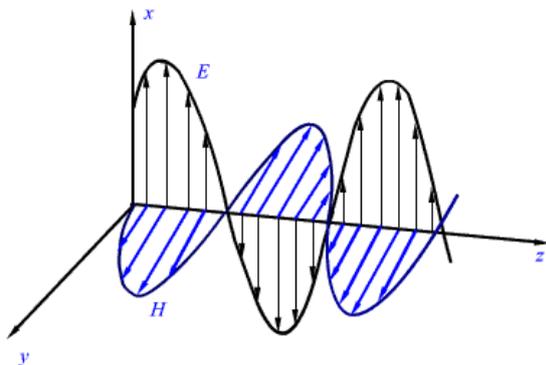


Figure : E & H fields of a particular plane wave at time t.

Poynting Vector and Power Flow in Electromagnetic Fields:

Electromagnetic waves can transport energy from one point to another point. The electric and magnetic field intensities associated with a travelling electromagnetic wave can be related to the rate of such energy transfer.

Let us consider Maxwell's Curl Equations:

$$\nabla \times \vec{E} = -\frac{\partial \vec{B}}{\partial t}$$

$$\nabla \times \vec{H} = \vec{J} + \frac{\partial \vec{D}}{\partial t}$$

Using vector identity

$$\nabla \cdot (\vec{E} \times \vec{H}) = \vec{H} \cdot \nabla \times \vec{E} - \vec{E} \cdot \nabla \times \vec{H}$$

the above curl equations we can write

$$\nabla \cdot (\vec{E} \times \vec{H}) = -\vec{H} \cdot \frac{\partial \vec{B}}{\partial t} - \vec{E} \cdot \left(\vec{J} + \frac{\partial \vec{D}}{\partial t} \right)$$

$$\text{or, } \nabla \cdot (\vec{E} \times \vec{H}) = -\vec{H} \cdot \frac{\partial \vec{B}}{\partial t} - \vec{E} \cdot \vec{J} - \vec{E} \cdot \frac{\partial \vec{D}}{\partial t} \dots\dots\dots(1)$$

In simple medium where ϵ, μ and σ are constant, we can write

$$\vec{H} \cdot \frac{\partial \vec{B}}{\partial t} = \frac{\partial}{\partial t} \left(\frac{1}{2} \mu H^2 \right)$$

$$\vec{E} \cdot \frac{\partial \vec{D}}{\partial t} = \frac{\partial}{\partial t} \left(\frac{1}{2} \mu E^2 \right) \quad \text{and} \quad \vec{E} \cdot \vec{J} = \sigma E^2$$

$$\therefore \nabla \cdot (\vec{E} \times \vec{H}) = -\frac{\partial}{\partial t} \left(\frac{1}{2} \epsilon E^2 + \frac{1}{2} \mu H^2 \right) - \sigma E^2$$

Applying Divergence theorem we can write,

$$\oint_{\mathcal{V}} (\vec{E} \times \vec{H}) \cdot d\vec{S} = -\frac{\partial}{\partial t} \int_{\mathcal{V}} \left(\frac{1}{2} \epsilon E^2 + \frac{1}{2} \mu H^2 \right) dV - \int_{\mathcal{V}} \sigma E^2 dV \dots\dots\dots(2)$$

The term $\frac{\partial}{\partial t} \int_{\mathcal{V}} \left(\frac{1}{2} \epsilon E^2 + \frac{1}{2} \mu H^2 \right) dV$ represents the rate of change of energy stored in the electric and magnetic fields and the term $\int_{\mathcal{V}} \sigma E^2 dV$ represents the power dissipation within the volume. Hence right hand side of the equation (6.36) represents the total decrease in power within the volume under consideration.

The left hand side of equation (6.36) can be written as $\oint_{\mathcal{V}} (\vec{E} \times \vec{H}) \cdot d\vec{S} = \oint_{\mathcal{V}} \vec{P} \cdot d\vec{S}$ where $\vec{P} = \vec{E} \times \vec{H}$ (W/mt²) is called the Poynting vector and it represents the power density vector associated with the electromagnetic field. The integration of the Poynting vector over any closed surface gives the net power flowing out of the surface. Equation (6.36) is referred to as Poynting theorem and it states that the net power flowing out of a given volume is equal to the time rate of decrease in the energy stored within the volume minus the conduction losses.

Poynting vector for the time harmonic case:

For time harmonic case, the time variation is of the form $e^{j\omega t}$, and we have seen that instantaneous value of a quantity is the real part of the product of a phasor quantity and $e^{j\omega t}$ when $\cos \omega t$ is used as reference. For example, if we consider the phasor

$$\vec{E}(z) = \hat{a}_x E_x(z) = \hat{a}_x E_0 e^{-j\beta z}$$

then we can write the instantaneous field as

$$\vec{E}(z, t) = \text{Re} \left[\vec{E}(z) e^{j\omega t} \right] = E_0 \cos(\omega t - \beta z) \hat{a}_x \dots\dots\dots(1)$$

when E_0 is real.

Let us consider two instantaneous quantities A and B such that

$$A = \text{Re} \left(A e^{j\omega t} \right) = |A| \cos(\omega t + \alpha) \dots\dots\dots(2)$$

$$B = \text{Re} \left(B e^{j\omega t} \right) = |B| \cos(\omega t + \beta)$$

where A and B are the phasor quantities.

i.e, $A = |A| e^{j\alpha}$

$$B = |B| e^{j\beta}$$

Therefore,

$$\begin{aligned} AB &= |A| \cos(\omega t + \alpha) |B| \cos(\omega t + \beta) \\ &= \frac{1}{2} |A| |B| \left[\cos(\alpha - \beta) + \cos(2\omega t + \alpha + \beta) \right] \dots\dots\dots(3) \end{aligned}$$

Since A and B are periodic with period $T = \frac{2\pi}{\omega}$, the time average value of the product form AB , denoted by \overline{AB} can be written as

$$\overline{AB} = \frac{1}{T} \int_0^T AB dt$$

$$\overline{AB} = \frac{1}{2} |A||B| \cos(\alpha - \beta) \dots\dots\dots(4)$$

Further, considering the phasor quantities A and B , we find that

$$AB^* = |A|e^{j\alpha} |B|e^{-j\beta} = |A||B|e^{j(\alpha-\beta)}$$

and $\text{Re}(AB^*) = |A||B| \cos(\alpha - \beta)$, where * denotes complex conjugate.

$$\therefore \overline{AB} = \frac{1}{2} \text{Re}(AB^*) \dots\dots\dots(5)$$

The Poynting vector $\vec{P} = \vec{E} \times \vec{H}$ can be expressed as

$$\vec{P} = \hat{a}_x (E_y H_z - E_z H_y) + \hat{a}_y (E_z H_x - E_x H_z) + \hat{a}_z (E_x H_y - E_y H_x) \dots\dots\dots(6)$$

If we consider a plane electromagnetic wave propagating in +z direction and has only E_x component, from (6.42) we can write:

$$\vec{P}_z = E_x(z,t) H_y(z,t) \hat{a}_z$$

Using (6)

$$\vec{P}_{zav} = \frac{1}{2} \text{Re} \left(E_x(z) H_y^*(z) \hat{a}_z \right)$$

$$\vec{P}_{zav} = \frac{1}{2} \text{Re} (E_x(z) \times H_y(z)) \dots\dots\dots(7)$$

where $\vec{E}(z) = E_x(z) \hat{a}_x$ and $\vec{H}(z) = H_y(z) \hat{a}_y$, for the plane wave under consideration.

For a general case, we can write

$$\vec{P}_{av} = \frac{1}{2} \text{Re} (\vec{E} \times \vec{H}^*) \dots\dots\dots(8)$$

We can define a complex Poynting vector

$$\vec{S} = \frac{1}{2} \vec{E} \times \vec{H}^*$$

and time average of the instantaneous Poynting vector is given by $\vec{P}_{av} = \text{Re}(\vec{S})$. 97

Polarization of plane wave:

The polarization of a plane wave can be defined as the orientation of the electric field vector as a function of time at a fixed point in space. For an electromagnetic wave, the specification of the orientation of the electric field is sufficient as the magnetic field components are related to electric field vector by the Maxwell's equations.

Let us consider a plane wave travelling in the +z direction. The wave has both E_x and E_y components.

$$\vec{E} = \left(\hat{a}_x E_{ox} + \hat{a}_y E_{oy} \right) e^{-j\beta z}$$

The corresponding magnetic fields are given by,

$$\begin{aligned} \vec{H} &= \frac{1}{\eta} \hat{a}_z \times \vec{E} \\ &= \frac{1}{\eta} \hat{a}_z \times \left(\hat{a}_x E_{ox} + \hat{a}_y E_{oy} \right) e^{-j\beta z} \\ &= \frac{1}{\eta} \left(-E_{oy} \hat{a}_x + E_{ox} \hat{a}_y \right) e^{-j\beta z} \end{aligned}$$

Depending upon the values of E_{ox} and E_{oy} we can have several possibilities:

1. If $E_{oy} = 0$, then the wave is linearly polarised in the x-direction.
2. If $E_{ox} = 0$, then the wave is linearly polarised in the y-direction.
3. If E_{ox} and E_{oy} are both real (or complex with equal phase), once again we get a linearly

polarised wave with the axis of polarisation inclined at an angle $\tan^{-1} \frac{E_{oy}}{E_{ox}}$, with respect to the x-axis. This is shown in fig1 below

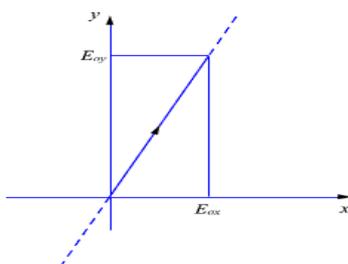


Fig1 : Linear Polarisation

4. If E_{ox} and E_{oy} are complex with different phase angles, \vec{E} will not point to a single spatial direction. This is explained as follows:

Let $E_{ox} = |E_{ox}| e^{j\alpha}$

$E_{oy} = |E_{oy}| e^{j\beta}$

Then,

$$E_x(z, t) = \text{Re} \left[|E_{ox}| e^{j\alpha} e^{-j\beta z} e^{j\omega t} \right] = |E_{ox}| \cos(\omega t - \beta z + \alpha)$$

and $E_y(z,t) = \text{Re} \left[|E_{oy}| e^{j\beta z} e^{-j\beta z} e^{j\omega t} \right] = |E_{oy}| \cos(\omega t - \beta z + b) \dots\dots\dots(2)$

To keep the things simple, let us consider $a = 0$ and $b = \frac{\pi}{2}$. Further, let us study the nature of the electric field on the $z = 0$ plain.

From equation (2) we find that,

$$E_x(o,t) = |E_{ox}| \cos \omega t$$

$$E_y(o,t) = |E_{oy}| \cos \left(\omega t + \frac{\pi}{2} \right) = |E_{oy}| (-\sin \omega t)$$

$$\therefore \left(\frac{E_x(o,t)}{|E_{ox}|} \right)^2 + \left(\frac{E_y(o,t)}{|E_{oy}|} \right)^2 = \cos^2 \omega t + \sin^2 \omega t = 1 \dots\dots\dots(3)$$

and the electric field vector at $z = 0$ can be written as

$$\vec{E}(o,t) = |E_{ox}| \cos(\omega t) \hat{a}_x - |E_{oy}| \sin(\omega t) \hat{a}_y \dots\dots\dots(4)$$

Assuming $|E_{ox}| > |E_{oy}|$, the plot of $\vec{E}(o,t)$ for various values of t is shown in figure 2

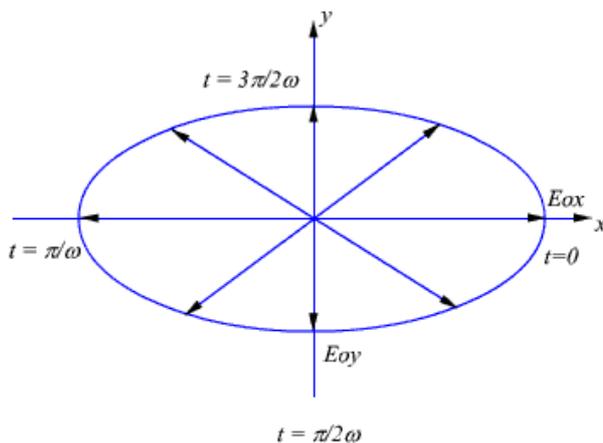


Figure 2 : Plot of $E(o,t)$

From equation (6.47) and figure (6.5) we observe that the tip of the arrow representing electric field vector traces an ellipse and the field is said to be elliptically polarised.

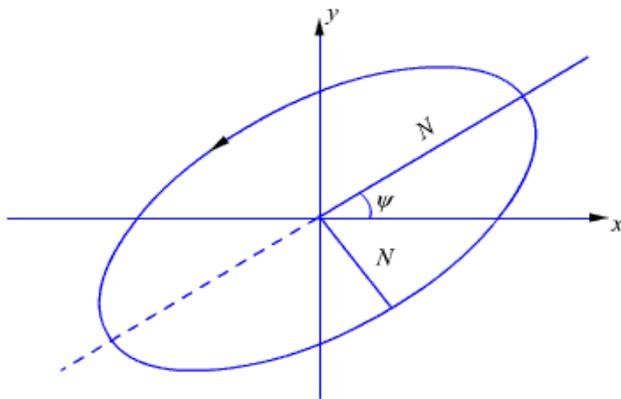


Figure 3: Polarisation ellipse

The polarisation ellipse shown in figure 3 is defined by its axial ratio (M/N , the ratio of semimajor to semiminor axis), tilt angle ψ (orientation with respect to x-axis) and sense of rotation (i.e., CW or CCW). Linear polarisation can be treated as a special case of elliptical polarisation, for which the axial ratio is infinite.

In our example, if $|E_{ox}| = |E_{oy}|$, from equation the tip of the arrow representing electric field vector traces out a circle. Such a case is referred to as Circular Polarisation. For circular polarisation the axial ratio is unity

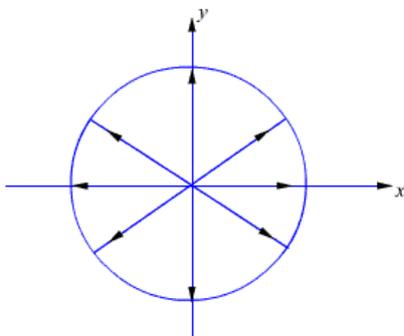


Figure 5: Circular Polarisation (RHCP)

Further, the circular polarisation is said to be right handed circular polarisation (RHCP) if the electric field vector rotates in the direction of the fingers of the right hand when the thumb points in the direction of propagation (same as CCW). If the electric field vector rotates in the opposite direction, the polarisation is said to be left hand circular polarisation (LHCP) (same as CW). In AM radio broadcast, the radiated electromagnetic wave is linearly polarised with the \vec{E} field vertical to the ground (vertical polarisation) where as TV signals are horizontally polarised waves. FM broadcast is usually carried out using circularly polarised waves. In radio communication, different information signals can be transmitted at the same frequency at orthogonal polarisation (one signal as vertically polarised other horizontally polarised or one as RHCP while the other as LHCP) to increase capacity. Otherwise, same signal can be transmitted at orthogonal polarisation to obtain diversity gain to improve reliability of transmission.

Behaviour of Plane waves at the interface of two media:

We have considered the propagation of uniform plane waves in an unbounded homogeneous medium. In practice, the wave will propagate in bounded regions where several values of ϵ, μ, σ will be present. When plane wave travelling in one medium meets a different medium, it is partly reflected and partly transmitted. In this section, we consider wave reflection and transmission at planar boundary between two media.

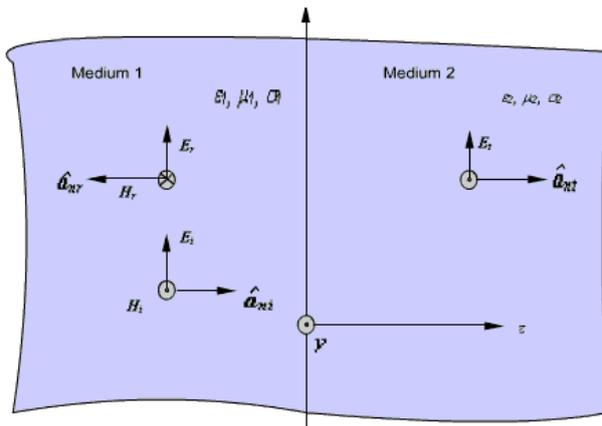


Fig 6 : Normal Incidence at a plane boundary

Case1: Let $z = 0$ plane represent the interface between two media. Medium 1 is characterised by $(\epsilon_1, \mu_1, \sigma_1)$ and medium 2 is characterized by $(\epsilon_2, \mu_2, \sigma_2)$. Let the subscripts 'i' denotes incident, 'r' denotes reflected and 't' denotes transmitted field components respectively. The incident wave is assumed to be a plane wave polarized along x and travelling in medium 1 along \hat{a}_z direction. From equation (6.24) we can write

$$\vec{E}_i(z) = E_{i0} e^{-\gamma_1 z} \hat{a}_x \dots\dots\dots(1)$$

$$\vec{H}_i(z) = \frac{1}{\eta_1} \hat{a}_z \times E_{i0} e^{-\gamma_1 z} = \frac{E_{i0}}{\eta_1} e^{-\gamma_1 z} \hat{a}_y \dots\dots\dots(2)$$

where $\gamma_1 = \sqrt{j\omega\mu_1(\sigma_1 + j\omega\epsilon_1)}$ and $\eta_1 = \sqrt{\frac{j\omega\mu_1}{\sigma_1 + j\omega\epsilon_1}}$.

Because of the presence of the second medium at $z = 0$, the incident wave will undergo partial reflection and partial transmission. The reflected wave will travel along \hat{a}_z in medium 1.

The reflected field components are:

$$\vec{E}_r = E_{r0} e^{\gamma_1 z} \hat{a}_x \dots\dots\dots(3)$$

$$\vec{H}_r = \frac{1}{\eta_1} \left(-\hat{a}_z \right) \times E_{r0} e^{\gamma_1 z} \hat{a}_x = -\frac{E_{r0}}{\eta_1} e^{\gamma_1 z} \hat{a}_y \dots\dots\dots(4)$$

The transmitted wave will travel in medium 2 along \hat{a}_z for which the field components are

$$\vec{E}_t = E_{t0} e^{-\gamma z} \hat{a}_x \dots\dots\dots(5)$$

$$\vec{H}_t = \frac{E_{t0}}{\eta_2} e^{-\gamma z} \hat{a}_y \dots\dots\dots(6)$$

where $\gamma_2 = \sqrt{j\omega\mu_2(\sigma_2 + j\omega\epsilon_2)}$ and $\eta_2 = \sqrt{\frac{j\omega\mu_2}{\sigma_2 + j\omega\epsilon_2}}$

In medium 1,

$$\vec{E}_1 = \vec{E}_i + \vec{E}_r \text{ and } \vec{H}_1 = \vec{H}_i + \vec{H}_r$$

and in medium 2,

$$\vec{E}_2 = \vec{E}_t \text{ and } \vec{H}_2 = \vec{H}_t$$

Applying boundary conditions at the interface $z = 0$, i.e., continuity of tangential field components and noting that incident, reflected and transmitted field components are tangential at the boundary, we can write

$$\vec{E}_i(0) + \vec{E}_r(0) = \vec{E}_t(0)$$

$$\& \vec{H}_i(0) + \vec{H}_r(0) = \vec{H}_t(0)$$

From equation 3 to 6 we get,

$$E_{i0} + E_{r0} = E_{t0} \dots\dots\dots(7)$$

$$\frac{E_{i0}}{\eta_1} - \frac{E_{r0}}{\eta_1} = \frac{E_{t0}}{\eta_2} \dots\dots\dots(8)$$

Eliminating E_{t0} ,

$$\frac{E_{i0}}{\eta_1} - \frac{E_{r0}}{\eta_1} = \frac{1}{\eta_2} (E_{i0} + E_{r0})$$

$$\text{or, } E_{i0} \left(\frac{1}{\eta_1} - \frac{1}{\eta_2} \right) = E_{r0} \left(\frac{1}{\eta_1} + \frac{1}{\eta_2} \right)$$

$$\text{or, } E_{r0} = \tau E_{i0}$$

$$\tau = \frac{\eta_2 - \eta_1}{\eta_2 + \eta_1} \dots\dots\dots(8)$$

is called the reflection coefficient.

From equation (8), we can write

$$2E_{i0} = E_{t0} \left[1 + \frac{\eta_1}{\eta_2} \right]$$

$$E_{z0} = \frac{2\eta_2}{\eta_1 + \eta_2} E_{i0} = TE_{i0}$$

or,

$$T = \frac{2\eta_2}{\eta_1 + \eta_2} \dots\dots\dots(9)$$

is called the transmission coefficient.

We observe that,

$$T = \frac{2\eta_2}{\eta_1 + \eta_2} = \frac{\eta_2 - \eta_1 + \eta_1 + \eta_2}{\eta_1 + \eta_2} = 1 + \tau \dots\dots\dots(10)$$

The following may be noted

(i) both τ and T are dimensionless and may be complex

(ii) $0 \leq |\tau| \leq 1$

Let us now consider specific cases:

Case I: Normal incidence on a plane conducting boundary

The medium 1 is perfect dielectric ($\sigma_1 = 0$) and medium 2 is perfectly conducting ($\sigma_2 = \infty$).

$$\therefore \eta_1 = \sqrt{\frac{\mu_1}{\epsilon_1}}$$

$$\eta_2 = 0$$

$$\begin{aligned} \gamma_1 &= \sqrt{(j\omega\mu_1)(j\omega\epsilon_1)} \\ &= j\omega\sqrt{\mu_1\epsilon_1} = j\beta_1 \end{aligned}$$

From (9) and (10)

$$\tau = -1$$

and T = 0

Hence the wave is not transmitted to medium 2, it gets reflected entirely from the interface to the medium 1.

$$\therefore \vec{E}_1(z) = E_{i0}e^{-j\beta_1 z} \hat{a}_x - E_{i0}e^{j\beta_1 z} \hat{a}_x = -2jE_{i0} \sin \beta_1 z \hat{a}_x$$

$$\& \therefore \vec{E}_1(z, t) = \text{Re} \left[-2jE_{i0} \sin \beta_1 z e^{j\omega t} \right] \hat{a}_x = 2E_{i0} \sin \beta_1 z \sin \omega t \hat{a}_x \dots\dots\dots(11)$$

Proceeding in the same manner for the magnetic field in region 1, we can show that,

$$\vec{H}_1(z, t) = \hat{a}_y \frac{2E_{i0}}{\eta_1} \cos \beta_1 z \cos \omega t \dots\dots\dots(12)$$

The wave in medium 1 thus becomes a **standing wave** due to the super position of a forward travelling wave and a backward travelling wave. For a given ' t ', both \vec{E}_1 and \vec{H}_1 vary sinusoidally with distance measured from z = 0. This is shown in figure 6.9.

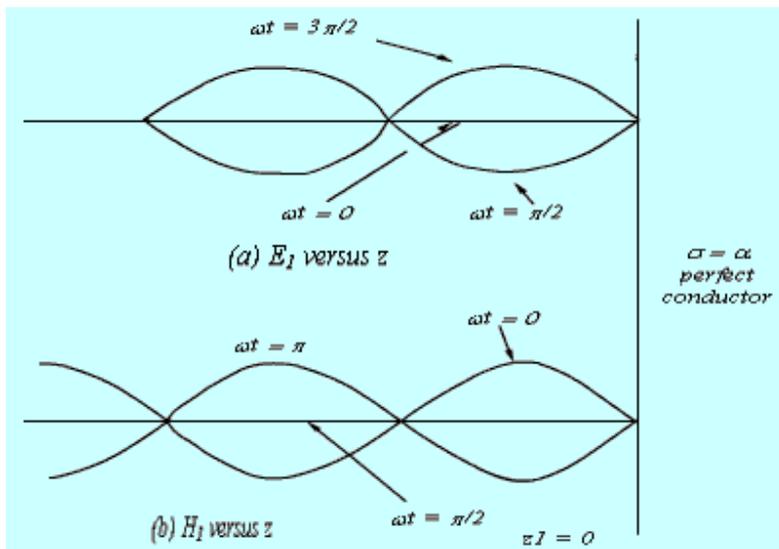


Figure 7: Generation of standing wave

Zeroes of $E_1(z,t)$ and Maxima of $H_1(z,t)$.

Maxima of $E_1(z,t)$ and zeroes of $H_1(z,t)$.

$$\left. \begin{array}{l} \text{occur at } \beta_1 z = -n\pi \quad \text{or } z = -n \frac{\lambda}{2} \\ \text{occur at } \beta_1 z = -(2n+1) \frac{\pi}{2} \quad \text{or } z = -(2n+1) \frac{\lambda}{4}, \quad n = 0, 1, 2, \dots \end{array} \right\}$$

Case2: Normal incidence on a plane dielectric boundary : If the medium 2 is not a perfect conductor (i.e. $\sigma_2 \neq \infty$) partial reflection will result. There will be a reflected wave in the medium 1 and a transmitted wave in the medium 2. Because of the reflected wave, standing wave is formed in medium 1.

From equation (10) and equation (13) we can write

$$\vec{E}_1 = E_0 \left(e^{-\gamma_1 z} + \Gamma e^{\gamma_1 z} \right) \hat{a}_x \dots\dots\dots(14)$$

Let us consider the scenario when both the media are dissipation less i.e. perfect dielectrics ($\sigma_1 = 0, \sigma_2 = 0$)

$$\begin{array}{ll} \gamma_1 = j\omega\sqrt{\mu_1\epsilon_1} = j\beta_1 & \eta_1 = \sqrt{\frac{\mu_1}{\epsilon_1}} \\ \gamma_2 = j\omega\sqrt{\mu_2\epsilon_2} = j\beta_2 & \eta_2 = \sqrt{\frac{\mu_2}{\epsilon_2}} \end{array} \dots\dots\dots(15)$$

In this case both η_1 and η_2 become real numbers.

$$\begin{aligned} \vec{E}_1 &= \hat{a}_x E_{i0} (e^{-j\beta_1 z} + \Gamma e^{j\beta_1 z}) \\ &= \hat{a}_x E_{i0} ((1+T)e^{-j\beta_1 z} + \Gamma(e^{j\beta_1 z} - e^{-j\beta_1 z})) \\ &= \hat{a}_x E_{i0} (Te^{-j\beta_1 z} + \Gamma(2j \sin \beta_1 z)) \end{aligned} \dots\dots\dots(16)$$

From (6.61), we can see that, in medium 1 we have a traveling wave component with amplitude TE_{i0} and a standing wave component with amplitude $2\Gamma E_{i0}$. The location of the maximum and the minimum of the electric and magnetic field components in the medium 1 from the interface can be found as follows. The electric field in medium 1 can be written as

$$\vec{E}_1 = \hat{a}_x E_{i0} e^{-j\beta_1 z} (1 + \Gamma e^{j2\beta_1 z}) \dots\dots\dots(17)$$

If $\eta_2 > \eta_1$ i.e. $\Gamma > 0$

The maximum value of the electric field is

$$|\vec{E}_1|_{\max} = E_{i0} (1+T) \dots\dots\dots(18)$$

and this occurs when

$$\begin{aligned} 2\beta_1 z_{\max} &= -2n\pi \\ z_{\max} &= -\frac{n\pi}{\beta_1} = -\frac{n\pi}{2\pi/\lambda_1} = -\frac{n}{2} \lambda_1 \end{aligned}$$

or $z_{\max} = -\frac{n}{2} \lambda_1, n = 0, 1, 2, 3, \dots\dots\dots(19)$

The minimum value of $|\vec{E}_1|$ is

$$|\vec{E}_1|_{\min} = E_{i0} (1-\Gamma) \dots\dots\dots(20)$$

And this occurs when

$$\begin{aligned} 2\beta_1 z_{\min} &= -(2n+1)\pi \\ z_{\min} &= -(2n+1)\frac{\lambda_1}{4} \end{aligned}$$

or $z_{\min} = -(2n+1)\frac{\lambda_1}{4}, n = 0, 1, 2, 3, \dots\dots\dots(21)$

For $\eta_2 < \eta_1$ i.e. $\Gamma < 0$

The maximum value of $|\vec{E}_1|$ is $E_{i0} (1-\Gamma)$ which occurs at the z_{\min} locations and the minimum value of $|\vec{E}_1|$ is $E_{i0} (1+\Gamma)$ which occurs at z_{\max} locations as given by the equations (6.64) and (6.66).

From our discussions so far we observe that $\frac{|E|_{\max}}{|E|_{\min}}$ can be written as

$$S = \frac{|E|_{\max}}{|E|_{\min}} = \frac{1+|\Gamma|}{1-|\Gamma|} \dots\dots\dots(22)$$

The quantity S is called as the standing wave ratio.

As $0 \leq |\Gamma| \leq 1$ the range of S is given by $1 \leq S \leq \infty$

From (6.62), we can write the expression for the magnetic field in medium 1 as

$$\vec{H}_1 = \hat{a}_y \frac{E_0}{\eta_1} e^{-j\beta_1 z} (1 - \Gamma e^{j2\beta_1 z}) \dots\dots\dots(23)$$

From (6.68) we find that $|\vec{H}_1|$ will be maximum at locations where $|\vec{E}_1|$ is minimum and vice versa.

In medium 2, the transmitted wave propagates in the + z direction.

Oblique Incidence of EM wave at an interface: So far we have discuss the case of normal incidence where electromagnetic wave traveling in a lossless medium impinges normally at the interface of a second medium. In this section we shall consider the case of oblique incidence. As before, we consider two cases

- i. When the second medium is a perfect conductor.
- ii. When the second medium is a perfect dielectric.

A plane incidence is defined as the plane containing the vector indicating the direction of propagation of the incident wave and normal to the interface. We study two specific cases when the incident electric field \vec{E}_i is perpendicular to the plane of incidence (perpendicular polarization) and \vec{E}_i is parallel to the plane of incidence (parallel polarization). For a general case, the incident wave may have arbitrary polarization but the same can be expressed as a linear combination of these two individual cases.

Critical angle:

In geometric optics, at a refractive boundary, the smallest angle of incidence at which total internal reflection occurs. The critical angle is given by

$$\theta_c = \sin^{-1} \left(\frac{n_1}{n_2} \right) ,$$

Where θ_c is the critical angle, n_1 is the refractive index of the less dense medium, and n_2 is the refractive index of the denser medium.

Angle of incidence: The angle between an incident ray and the normal to a reflecting or refracting surface

