

5-10

### Problem 3: Waves

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Consider an electromagnetic wave propagating in a vacuum where there are no charges or electric currents, with electric field of  $\vec{E}(z, t) = E_0 e^{i(kz - \omega t)} \hat{x}$ .

- ✓ 1. Show that three of Maxwell's equations can be combined to give  $\nabla^2 \vec{E} = \mu_0 \epsilon_0 \frac{\partial^2 \vec{E}}{\partial t^2}$  for a region with no charges or electric currents. Show that three of Maxwell's equations can also lead to an analogous equation for the magnetic field  $\vec{B}$ . *Hint:* Start by calculating  $\nabla \times (\nabla \times \vec{E})$ . [2 points]
- ✓ 2. In the equation for  $\vec{E}(z, t)$  how are  $\omega$  and  $k$  related to  $\mu_0$  and  $\epsilon_0$ ? What is the equation for  $\vec{B}(z, t)$  of the electromagnetic wave? Be explicit about how the amplitude, direction and phase of  $\vec{B}$  are related to those of  $\vec{E}$ . [3 points]
3. Now suppose the wave propagates from vacuum into a dielectric material with permittivity of  $\epsilon = \kappa \epsilon_0$ , where  $\kappa$  is a positive constant. Assuming a normal angle of incidence at the vacuum/dielectric interface, calculate the amplitude of the electric field in the dielectric material. Express your answer in terms of  $E_0$  and  $\kappa$ . [3 points]
- ✓ 4. What fraction of the incident energy is transmitted across the boundary? [2 points]

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# E + M #3

a) In Gaussian units, Maxwell's eqns are:

$$① \nabla \cdot \vec{E} = 4\pi \rho$$

$$③ \nabla \cdot \vec{B} = 0$$

$$② \nabla \times \vec{E} + \frac{1}{c} \frac{\partial \vec{B}}{\partial t} = 0$$

$$④ \nabla \times \vec{B} - \frac{1}{c} \frac{\partial \vec{E}}{\partial t} = \frac{4\pi}{c} \vec{J}$$

\* If we take  $\nabla \times ②$

$$\nabla \times \nabla \times \vec{E} + \nabla \times \left( \frac{1}{c} \frac{\partial \vec{B}}{\partial t} \right) = \nabla \times 0$$

$$\nabla(\nabla \cdot \vec{E}) - \nabla^2 \vec{E} + \frac{1}{c} \frac{\partial}{\partial t} (\nabla \times \vec{B}) = 0$$

$$\nabla(4\pi \rho) - \nabla^2 \vec{E} + \frac{1}{c} \frac{\partial}{\partial t} \left( \frac{4\pi}{c} \vec{J} + \frac{1}{c} \frac{\partial \vec{E}}{\partial t} \right) = 0$$

\* Since we are in a vacuum,  $\rho = 0$ ,  $\vec{J} = 0$

$$-\nabla^2 \vec{E} + \frac{1}{c^2} \frac{\partial^2 \vec{E}}{\partial t^2} = 0 \checkmark$$

$$* \text{Note: } c^2 = \frac{1}{\mu_0 \epsilon_0}$$

b) \* From Jackson,  $\frac{\omega}{k} = \frac{c}{n} = \frac{1}{\sqrt{\mu \epsilon}}$

$$\hookrightarrow \frac{\omega}{k} = \frac{1}{\sqrt{\mu_0 \epsilon_0}} \text{ in a vacuum}$$

\* To calculate  $\vec{B}$ , we simply plug  $\vec{E}$  into Maxwell's eqns

$\hookrightarrow$  Remember, in SI units (forced by problem), Maxwell's eqns are:

$$\nabla \cdot \vec{E} = \frac{\rho}{\epsilon_0}$$

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

$$\nabla \times \vec{E} + \frac{\partial \vec{B}}{\partial t} = 0$$

$$\nabla \times \vec{B} - \frac{1}{c^2} \frac{\partial \vec{E}}{\partial t} = \mu_0 \vec{J}$$

$$\nabla \times \vec{E} = \begin{vmatrix} \hat{x} & \hat{y} & \hat{z} \\ \frac{\partial}{\partial x} & \frac{\partial}{\partial y} & \frac{\partial}{\partial z} \\ E_x & 0 & 0 \end{vmatrix} = \langle 0, \frac{\partial}{\partial z} E_x, 0 \rangle$$

$$= \langle 0, ik E_0 \exp[i(kz - \omega t)], 0 \rangle$$

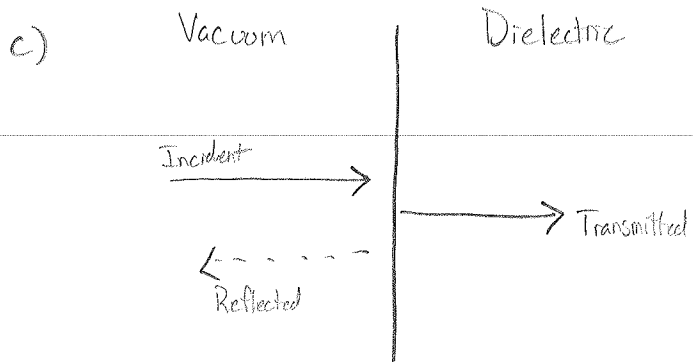
$$\Rightarrow ik E_0 \exp[i(kz - \omega t)] \hat{y} = - \frac{\partial \vec{B}}{\partial t}$$

$$\int ik E_0 \exp[i(kz - \omega t)] \hat{y} dt = - \vec{B}$$

$$-\frac{k}{\omega} E_0 \exp[i(kz - \omega t)] \hat{y} = - \vec{B}$$

$$\therefore \vec{B} = \sqrt{\mu_0 \epsilon_0} E_0 \exp[i(kz - \omega t)] \hat{y}$$

### #3 (cont.)



\* Across all boundaries,

$$\epsilon_1 E_{1,\perp} = \epsilon_2 E_{2,\perp}$$

$$E_{1,\parallel} = E_{2,\parallel}$$

$$B_{1,\perp} = B_{2,\perp}$$

$$\frac{1}{\mu_1} B_{1,\parallel} = \frac{1}{\mu_2} B_{2,\parallel}$$