

FLOW of ELECTROMAGNETIC POWER

Electromagnetic power is transported between two points in space by electromagnetic waves as follows:

Derivation of POYNTING's Theorem in Time Domain:

Consider a travelling EM wave with fields $\vec{E}(\vec{r}, t)$ and $\vec{H}(\vec{r}, t)$ which satisfy Maxwell's equations in a linear medium with parameters ϵ and μ .

$$\begin{aligned}\vec{\nabla} \times \vec{E} &= -\frac{\partial \vec{B}}{\partial t} & \vec{D} &= \epsilon \vec{E} \\ \vec{\nabla} \times \vec{H} &= \vec{J} + \frac{\partial \vec{D}}{\partial t} & \vec{B} &= \mu \vec{H}\end{aligned}$$

Consider the vector identity:

$$\begin{aligned}\vec{\nabla} \cdot (\vec{E} \times \vec{H}) &= \vec{H} \cdot (\underbrace{\vec{\nabla} \times \vec{E}}_{-\frac{\partial \vec{B}}{\partial t}}) - \vec{E} \cdot (\underbrace{\vec{\nabla} \times \vec{H}}_{\vec{J} + \frac{\partial \vec{D}}{\partial t}}) \\ &= -\mu \vec{H} \cdot \frac{\partial \vec{H}}{\partial t} - \epsilon \vec{E} \cdot \frac{\partial \vec{E}}{\partial t} - \vec{E} \cdot \vec{J}\end{aligned}$$

$$\left(\begin{array}{l} \text{Using:} \\ \frac{\partial}{\partial t} (\vec{A} \cdot \vec{B}) = \vec{A} \cdot \frac{\partial \vec{B}}{\partial t} + \vec{B} \cdot \frac{\partial \vec{A}}{\partial t} \\ \text{For } \vec{A} = \vec{B} \Rightarrow \frac{\partial}{\partial t} (\vec{A} \cdot \vec{A}) = 2 \vec{A} \cdot \frac{\partial \vec{A}}{\partial t} \end{array} \right)$$

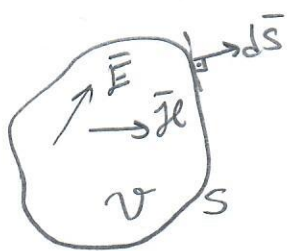
$$\vec{\nabla} \cdot (\vec{E} \times \vec{H}) = -\frac{\mu}{2} \frac{\partial}{\partial t} (\underbrace{\vec{H} \cdot \vec{H}}_{|\vec{H}|^2 = H^2}) - \frac{\epsilon}{2} \frac{\partial}{\partial t} (\underbrace{\vec{E} \cdot \vec{E}}_{|\vec{E}|^2 = E^2}) - \vec{E} \cdot \vec{J}$$

$$-\nabla \cdot (\vec{E} \times \vec{H}) = \frac{\partial}{\partial t} \left[\frac{1}{2} \mu H^2 + \frac{1}{2} \epsilon E^2 \right] + \vec{E} \cdot \vec{J} \quad (*)$$

Define $\left\{ \begin{array}{l} \omega_M \triangleq \frac{1}{2} \mu H^2 : \text{magnetic energy density (joule/m}^3\text{)} \\ \omega_E \triangleq \frac{1}{2} \epsilon E^2 : \text{electric energy density (joule/m}^3\text{)} \end{array} \right.$

$$-\nabla \cdot (\vec{E} \times \vec{H}) = \frac{\partial}{\partial t} (\omega_M + \omega_E) + \vec{E} \cdot \vec{J} \quad (**)$$

Integrate both sides of (*) or (**) over a volume \mathcal{V}



$$-\int_{\mathcal{V}} \nabla \cdot (\vec{E} \times \vec{H}) d\mathcal{V} = \int_{\mathcal{V}} \left[\frac{\partial}{\partial t} (\omega_M + \omega_E) + \vec{E} \cdot \vec{J} \right] d\mathcal{V}$$

$\oint_S (\vec{E} \times \vec{H}) \cdot d\vec{S}$ using the Stoke's Thm.

$$\Rightarrow -\oint_S (\vec{E} \times \vec{H}) \cdot d\vec{S} = \underbrace{\frac{\partial}{\partial t} \int_{\mathcal{V}} \frac{1}{2} \mu H^2 d\mathcal{V}}_{W_M \text{ magnetic energy term}} + \underbrace{\frac{\partial}{\partial t} \int_{\mathcal{V}} \frac{1}{2} \epsilon E^2 d\mathcal{V}}_{W_E \text{ electric energy term}} + \underbrace{\int_{\mathcal{V}} \vec{E} \cdot \vec{J} d\mathcal{V}}_{\text{power dissipated}}$$

$$-\oint_S (\vec{E} \times \vec{H}) \cdot d\vec{S} = \frac{\partial}{\partial t} (W_M + W_E) + \int_{\mathcal{V}} \vec{E} \cdot \vec{J} d\mathcal{V} \quad (\text{Watts})$$

rate of change
of total EM energy
stored in volume \mathcal{V}
(i.e. a power term)

power dissipated
in volume \mathcal{V}

EM energy enters into
the volume \mathcal{V} through
the closed surface S by
EM waves.

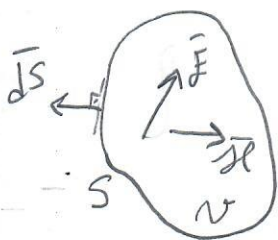
POYNTING'S THEOREM

Starting from Maxwell Equations in time domain, we can derive the following equation:

$$\textcircled{1} \quad - \oint_S (\vec{E} \times \vec{H}) \cdot d\vec{S} = \frac{\partial}{\partial t} \int_V \frac{\mu}{2} |\vec{H}|^2 dV + \frac{\partial}{\partial t} \int_V \frac{\epsilon}{2} |\vec{E}|^2 dV + \int_V \vec{E} \cdot \vec{J} dV$$

This equation is the mathematical statement of the conservation of electromagnetic power.

(*) Each term in this equation has the units of power (Watt)



$\oint_S (\vec{E} \times \vec{H}) \cdot d\vec{S}$: Electromagnetic power leaving the volume V through its closed surface S , in Watts.

Define:

$$\vec{P} = \vec{E} \times \vec{H} \quad \left(\frac{\text{Watts}}{\text{m}^2} \right) : \text{Power flow per unit area in the direction specified by the cross product } \vec{E} \times \vec{H}$$

\downarrow \downarrow \swarrow
 V/m A/m

Instantaneous Poynting's Vector (Power flow density vector)

(*) Note that $\vec{P} = \vec{P}(\vec{r}, t)$ is defined as a time-domain vector.

(*) Also note that for a plane wave $\vec{E} \perp \vec{H}$, $\vec{E} \perp \hat{n}$, $\vec{H} \perp \hat{n}$

$\Rightarrow \vec{E} \times \vec{H} = \vec{P} \parallel \hat{n} \rightarrow$ Power flow is in the direction of propagation. ($\vec{P} \perp \vec{E}$ and $\vec{P} \perp \vec{H}$)

In addition to the "Instantaneous Poynting's Vector", we also define the "Complex Poynting's Vector" and the "Time-Averaged Poynting's Vector" as follows:

Let:

$\vec{E}(\vec{r}, t), \vec{H}(\vec{r}, t)$: time-domain monochromatic fields

$\vec{E}(\vec{r}), \vec{H}(\vec{r})$: corresponding phasor fields

$\vec{P}(\vec{r}, t) \triangleq \vec{E}(\vec{r}, t) \times \vec{H}(\vec{r}, t)$: Instantaneous Poynting's Vector

$\vec{P}(\vec{r}) \triangleq \vec{E}(\vec{r}) \times \vec{H}^*(\vec{r})$: Complex Poynting's Vector
complex conjugate

Then,

$$\vec{P}_{av}(\vec{r}) \triangleq \frac{1}{T} \int_{t=0}^{t=T} \vec{P}(\vec{r}, t) dt$$

where

$$T = \frac{1}{f} = \frac{2\pi}{\omega}$$

↓
period of the monochromatic wave

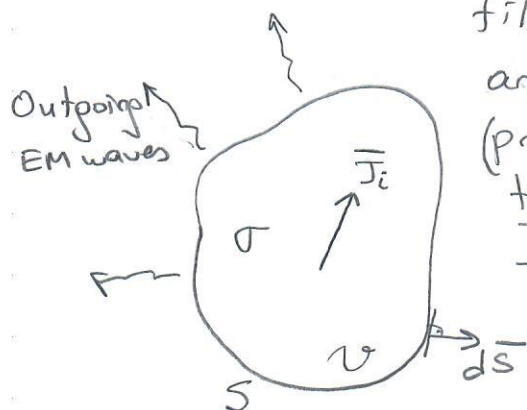
or

$$\vec{P}_{av}(\vec{r}) \triangleq \frac{1}{2} \operatorname{Re}\{\vec{P}\} = \frac{1}{2} \operatorname{Re}\{\vec{E} \times \vec{H}^*\} \quad (\text{W/m}^2)$$

where \vec{P}_{av} is the Time-Averaged Poynting's Vector

Problem:

Assume that a region of volume V is filled with a lossy material of conductivity σ and contains an impressed current \vec{J}_i (A/m²) (produced by external sources such as a transmitting antenna). Apply the Poynting's Theorem to this "Transmitter Case".



Set $\vec{J} = \vec{J}_i + \vec{J}_c = \vec{J}_i + \sigma \vec{E}$ in eqn. (1)

$$-\oint_S (\vec{E} \times \vec{H}) \cdot d\vec{S} = \frac{\partial}{\partial t} \int_V \underbrace{\frac{\mu}{2} H^2}_{W_M} dV + \frac{\partial}{\partial t} \int_V \underbrace{\frac{\epsilon}{2} E^2}_{W_E} dV + \int_V \vec{E} \cdot \underbrace{\vec{J}}_{\vec{J}_i + \sigma \vec{E}} dV$$

W_M : magnetic energy W_E : electric energy

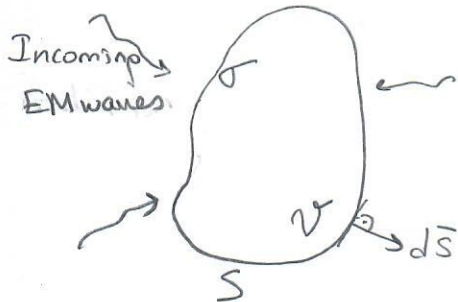
$$-\oint_S \vec{P} \cdot d\vec{S} = \frac{\partial}{\partial t} \underbrace{(W_M + W_E)}_{W_T} + \int_V \vec{E} \cdot \underbrace{\vec{J}_i}_{\text{external source}} dV + \int_V \sigma \vec{E} \cdot \vec{E} dV$$

W_T : Total EM energy $E^2 \triangleq |\vec{E}|^2$

Reorganize this equation as

$-\int_V \vec{E} \cdot \vec{J}_i dV = \frac{\partial}{\partial t} (W_T) + \oint_S \vec{P} \cdot d\vec{S} + \int_V \sigma E^2 dV$
<div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-between;"> <div style="width: 24%;"> <p>Power supplied by the sources to volume V (LHS > 0)</p> </div> <div style="width: 24%;"> <p>Rate of change of total EM energy stored in volume V.</p> </div> <div style="width: 24%;"> <p>Power leaving the volume V (Radiated power)</p> </div> <div style="width: 24%;"> <p>Ohmic Loss due to $\sigma \neq 0$ in the medium (Joule heating)</p> </div> </div>

Problem: Assume that a region of volume V is filled with a lossy material of conductivity σ and it is source-free ($\rho_v = 0, J_i = 0$).



Apply the Poynting's Theorem to this "Receiver Case".

Set $\vec{J} = \vec{J}_i + \sigma \vec{E} = \sigma \vec{E}$ in Eqn. (1)

$$-\oint_S (\vec{E} \times \vec{H}) \cdot d\vec{S} = \frac{\partial}{\partial t} (\underbrace{W_M + W_E}_{W_T}) + \int_V \vec{E} \cdot (\sigma \vec{E}) dV$$

$$-\oint_S \vec{P} \cdot d\vec{S} = \frac{\partial}{\partial t} (W_T) + \int_V \sigma \vec{E}^2 dV$$

Total power carried into the volume V by incoming EM waves

Rate of change of total EM energy stored in volume V

Ohmic Loss (due to $\sigma \neq 0$) in volume V .

(*) Note that if the medium is lossless ($\sigma = 0$), last term (Ohmic loss) is zero. Then all the power carried into the volume by EM waves is stored in the volume.

(*) If $\sigma \neq 0$ in the static case (where $\frac{\partial}{\partial t} \equiv 0$ no time variation) eqn. above reduces to $-\oint_S \vec{P} \cdot d\vec{S} = \int_V \sigma \vec{E}^2 dV$ which means that all the power carried into V is dissipated in the volume due to Joule heating mechanism.

(**) Study solved example (7-5) in your textbook (page = 300-301)

Example: Assume a uniform plane wave propagating in a lossy medium for which

$$\gamma = \alpha + j\beta \quad \text{and} \quad \vec{E} = E_0 e^{-\alpha z} e^{-j\beta z} \hat{a}_x$$

where E_0 is a real constant.

- write down the phasor \vec{H} .
- Find the complex Poynting's vector \vec{P} .
- Find the time-averaged Poynting's vector \vec{P}_{av} by two methods.

Solution:

- The intrinsic impedance for this lossy medium is

$$\eta = \sqrt{\frac{j\omega\mu}{\sigma + j\omega\epsilon}} = |\eta| e^{j\theta} \quad \text{and} \quad \eta = \frac{E_x}{H_y}$$

$$\Rightarrow \boxed{\vec{H} = \frac{E_0}{|\eta| e^{j\theta}} e^{-\alpha z} e^{-j\beta z} \hat{a}_y} \quad \text{in the phasor domain.}$$

- $\vec{P} = \vec{E} \times \vec{H}^*$ is the complex Poynting's vector where \vec{E} and \vec{H} are phasors. * ← complex conjugate

$$\begin{aligned} \vec{P} &= (E_0 e^{-\alpha z} e^{-j\beta z} \hat{a}_x) \times \left(\frac{E_0}{|\eta| e^{j\theta}} e^{-\alpha z} e^{-j\beta z} \hat{a}_y \right)^* \\ &= (E_0 e^{-\alpha z} e^{-j\beta z} \hat{a}_x) \times \left(\frac{E_0}{|\eta| e^{j\theta}} e^{-\alpha z} e^{+j\beta z} \hat{a}_y \right) \end{aligned}$$

$$\boxed{\vec{P} = \frac{E_0^2}{|\eta|} e^{-2\alpha z} e^{j\theta} \hat{a}_z \quad \text{Watts/m}^2}$$

$$\textcircled{c} \quad \vec{P}_{av} = \frac{1}{2} \text{Re} \{ \vec{P} \} = \frac{1}{2} \text{Re} \left\{ \frac{E_0^2}{|\eta|} e^{-2\alpha z} e^{j\theta} \hat{a}_z \right\}$$

$$\boxed{\vec{P}_{av} = \frac{1}{2} \frac{E_0^2}{|\eta|} e^{-2\alpha z} \cos \theta \hat{a}_z \quad \text{W/m}^2}$$

$$\downarrow$$

$$\cos \theta + j \sin \theta$$

is the time-averaged Poynting's vector.

\bar{P}_{av} can also be computed from

$$\bar{P}_{av} = \frac{1}{T} \int_0^T \bar{P}(\bar{r}, t) dt \quad \text{where} \quad \bar{P}(\bar{r}, t) = \underbrace{\bar{E}(\bar{r}, t)}_{\substack{\text{instantaneous} \\ \text{Poynting's vector}}} \times \underbrace{\bar{H}(\bar{r}, t)}_{\substack{\text{Time-domain} \\ \text{quantities}}}$$

$$\text{using } \begin{cases} \bar{E}(\bar{r}, t) = \text{Re} \{ \bar{E}(\bar{r}) e^{j\omega t} \} = E_0 e^{-\alpha z} \cos(\omega t - \beta z) \hat{a}_x \\ \bar{H}(\bar{r}, t) = \text{Re} \{ \bar{H}(\bar{r}) e^{j\omega t} \} = \frac{E_0}{|\eta|} e^{-\alpha z} \cos(\omega t - \beta z - \theta) \hat{a}_y \end{cases}$$

$$\Rightarrow \bar{P}(\bar{r}, t) = \frac{E_0^2}{|\eta|} e^{-2\alpha z} \underbrace{\cos(\omega t - \beta z) \cos(\omega t - \beta z - \theta)}_{\frac{1}{2} [\cos(2\omega t - 2\beta z - \theta) + \cos(\theta)]} \hat{a}_z$$

(using $\cos(A+B)$ and $\cos(A-B)$ expansions)

$$\Rightarrow \bar{P}_{av}(\bar{r}) = \frac{1}{T} \int_0^T \frac{E_0^2}{2|\eta|} e^{-2\alpha z} [\cos(2\omega t - 2\beta z - \theta) + \cos \theta] \hat{a}_z dt$$

$$= \frac{E_0^2}{2|\eta|T} e^{-2\alpha z} \hat{a}_z \left[\underbrace{\int_0^T \cos(2\omega t - 2\beta z - \theta) dt}_0 + \underbrace{\int_0^T \cos \theta dt}_{\cos \theta \int_0^T dt = T \cos \theta} \right]$$

$$\Rightarrow \boxed{\bar{P}_{av}(\bar{r}) = \frac{1}{2} \frac{E_0^2}{|\eta|} e^{-2\alpha z} \cos \theta \hat{a}_z \text{ W/m}^2} \text{ as found earlier.}$$

Special Case: In a lossless medium, $\gamma = j\beta$ as $\alpha = 0$
and $\beta = k$. Also, $\eta = \sqrt{\frac{\mu}{\epsilon}} = |\eta|$ with $\theta = 0$

$$\Rightarrow \bar{P}_{av, \text{lossless}}(\bar{r}) = \frac{1}{2} \frac{E_0^2}{\eta} \hat{a}_z \text{ W/m}^2$$

Let $\bar{P}_{av} = 2 \text{ W/m}^2$ in free space where $\eta = \eta_0 \approx 377 \Omega = 120 \pi (\Omega)$

$$\Rightarrow E_0 = \sqrt{2\eta_0 \bar{P}_{av}} = \sqrt{2 \times 377 \times 2} \approx 38.8 \text{ V/m. and } H_0 = \frac{E_0}{\eta} = \frac{38.8}{377} \approx 0.103 \text{ A}$$

Example: Remember the problem which was largely solved earlier:

$$\bar{E}(\bar{r}) = 3(j\hat{a}_x + A\hat{a}_y + \sqrt{2}\hat{a}_z) e^{-j60\pi(x-y)} = \bar{E}_0 e^{-j\bar{k} \cdot \bar{r}}$$

is the phasor E-field expression for a uniform plane wave propagating in a simple, lossless medium ($\sigma=0, \epsilon, \mu$) with $f=1 \text{ GHz}$.

a) Find \hat{n} ! $\Rightarrow \bar{k} \cdot \bar{r} = 60\pi(x-y) \Rightarrow \bar{k} = 60\pi(\hat{a}_x - \hat{a}_y) \text{ rad/m}$
 $\Rightarrow \hat{n} = \frac{\bar{k}}{|\bar{k}|} = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}(\hat{a}_x - \hat{a}_y)$

b) Determine A! \Rightarrow Using $\bar{E} \perp \hat{n}$ for a u.p.w
 $\Rightarrow \bar{E}_0 \cdot \hat{n} = 0 \Rightarrow \boxed{A=j}$

c) Find $\bar{F}(\bar{r}, t)$! $\bar{F}(\bar{r}, t) = \text{Re}\{\bar{E}(\bar{r})e^{j\omega t}\}$

$$\Rightarrow \bar{F}(\bar{r}, t) = 3\sqrt{2} \cos(\omega t - 60\pi(x-y))\hat{a}_z - 3(\hat{a}_x + \hat{a}_y) \sin(\omega t - 60\pi(x-y)) \text{ (V/m)}$$

d) Phase velocity $v=?$ $v = \frac{\omega}{k} = \frac{2\pi f}{k} = \frac{\sqrt{2}}{6} \times 10^8 \text{ (m/s)}$

e) Wavelength $\lambda=?$ $\lambda = \frac{2\pi}{k} = \frac{v}{f} = \frac{\sqrt{2}}{60} \text{ m.}$

f) If $\mu_r=1$, find ϵ_r ! $v = \frac{1}{\sqrt{\epsilon\mu}} = \frac{c}{\sqrt{\epsilon_r\mu_r}} = \frac{3 \times 10^8}{\sqrt{\epsilon_r}} = \frac{\sqrt{2}}{6} \times 10^8 \text{ m/s}$
 $\Rightarrow \sqrt{\epsilon_r} = \frac{18}{\sqrt{2}} = 9\sqrt{2} \Rightarrow \boxed{\epsilon_r \approx 162}$

g) Find phasor $\bar{H}(\bar{r})$.

Use either $\bar{H}(\bar{r}) = \frac{1}{-j\omega\mu} \nabla \times \bar{E}(\bar{r})$ (Maxwell's Eqn. - always useful)

or $\bar{H}(\bar{r}) = \frac{1}{\eta} \hat{n} \times \bar{E}(\bar{r})$ where $\eta = \sqrt{\frac{\mu}{\epsilon}}$ to get the answer.

$$\boxed{\eta = \frac{\eta_0}{\sqrt{\epsilon_r}} = \frac{120\pi}{9\sqrt{2}} \text{ (}\Omega\text{)}}$$

(h) Determine the type and sense of polarization for this up.w.

$$\vec{E}(\vec{r}, t) \Big|_{x=y=z=0} = 3\sqrt{2} \cos \omega t \hat{a}_z - 3(\hat{a}_x + \hat{a}_y) \sin \omega t = \vec{E}(\vec{r}=0, t)$$

(at the origin, for example)

$$\Rightarrow \left. \begin{aligned} E_x &= -3 \sin \omega t \\ E_y &= -3 \sin \omega t \\ E_z &= 3\sqrt{2} \cos \omega t \end{aligned} \right\} |\vec{E}(0, t)| = \sqrt{E_x^2 + E_y^2 + E_z^2}$$

$$= \sqrt{9 \sin^2 \omega t + 9 \sin^2 \omega t + 18 \cos^2 \omega t}$$

$$= \sqrt{18 \sin^2 \omega t + 18 \cos^2 \omega t} = \sqrt{18} = 3\sqrt{2}$$

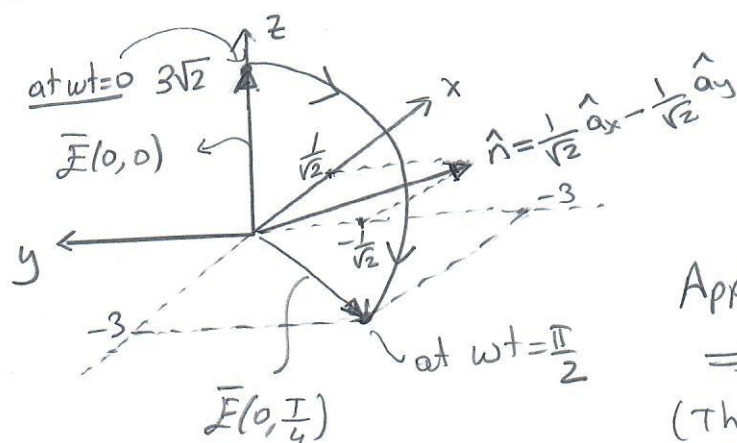
As $|\vec{E}(\vec{r}=0, t)| = 3\sqrt{2}$ (constant vector length) for all time t , it is clear that we have a circular polarization.

To determine the sense of polarization, sketch the $\vec{E}(0, t)$

vector for a few time instants:

$$\omega = 2\pi f = 2\pi/T$$

t	ωt	$E_x = -3 \sin \omega t$	$E_y = -3 \sin \omega t$	$E_z = 3\sqrt{2} \cos \omega t$
0	0	0	0	$3\sqrt{2}$
$T/8$	$\pi/4$	$-3 \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}$	$-3 \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}$	$3\sqrt{2} \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} = 3$
$T/4$	$\pi/2$	-3	-3	0



Apply Right Hand Rule
 \Rightarrow (RHCP) Right Hand Circular Pol.
 (Thumb shows \hat{n} direction)

i) Find the time-average Poynting's vector \bar{P}_{av} !

$$\bar{P}_{av} = \frac{1}{2} \text{Re} \{ \bar{E} \times \bar{H}^* \} = \frac{1}{2} \text{Re} \left\{ \bar{E}_0 e^{j\bar{k} \cdot \bar{r}} \times \left(\frac{1}{\eta} \hat{n} \times \bar{E}_0 e^{-j\bar{k} \cdot \bar{r}} \right)^* \right\}$$

↳ real here.

$$= \frac{1}{2} \text{Re} \left\{ \bar{E}_0 e^{j\bar{k} \cdot \bar{r}} \times \left(\frac{1}{\eta} \hat{n} \times \bar{E}_0^* e^{-j\bar{k} \cdot \bar{r}} \right) \right\}$$

$$= \frac{1}{2\eta} \text{Re} \{ \bar{E}_0 \times (\hat{n} \times \bar{E}_0^*) \}$$

Using $\bar{A} \times (\bar{B} \times \bar{C}) = (\bar{A} \cdot \bar{C}) \bar{B} - (\bar{A} \cdot \bar{B}) \bar{C}$

$$\Rightarrow \bar{E}_0 \times (\hat{n} \times \bar{E}_0^*) = \underbrace{(\bar{E}_0 \cdot \bar{E}_0^*)}_{|\bar{E}_0|^2} \hat{n} - \underbrace{(\bar{E}_0 \cdot \hat{n})}_{0 \text{ for plane waves}} \bar{E}_0^*$$

$$\Rightarrow \bar{P}_{av} = \frac{1}{2\eta} \text{Re} \left\{ \underbrace{\hat{n}}_{\text{real}} |\bar{E}_0|^2 \right\} \quad \text{where } \hat{n} = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} (\hat{a}_x - \hat{a}_y) \text{ is real!}$$

$$\bar{E}_0 = 3 (j\hat{a}_x + j\hat{a}_y + \sqrt{2} \hat{a}_z)$$

$$\Rightarrow |\bar{E}_0|^2 = \bar{E}_0 \cdot \bar{E}_0^* = 3(j\hat{a}_x + j\hat{a}_y + \sqrt{2} \hat{a}_z) \cdot 3(-j\hat{a}_x - j\hat{a}_y + \sqrt{2} \hat{a}_z) \\ = 9(1 + 1 + 2) = 36$$

$$\Rightarrow \boxed{\bar{P}_{av} = \frac{1}{2\eta} |\bar{E}_0|^2 \hat{n}}$$

In this lossless simple medium

Numerically,

$$\bar{P}_{av} = \frac{1}{2} \frac{36}{\frac{120\pi}{9\sqrt{2}}} \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} (\hat{a}_x - \hat{a}_y)$$

$$\boxed{\bar{P}_{av} \approx 0.43 (\hat{a}_x - \hat{a}_y) \text{ (W/m}^2\text{)}}$$

Example:

Due to various effects, human exposure to electromagnetic radiation is considered to be harmful above a certain time-average value of the Poynting's vector. This threshold value depends on frequency, and differs greatly among different countries in the world. A commonly accepted limit for power flux density is $\frac{f}{2000}$ (mW/cm²) where f is the frequency of radiation in MHz. For example, at $f = 1 \text{ GHz}$, this threshold value is $\frac{1000 \text{ MHz}}{2000} = 0.5 \text{ (mW/cm}^2\text{)}$.

Assume that the following $|\vec{E}|$ field values are measured around certain GSM base stations. Assuming plane waves at the measurement points, so using $\bar{P}_{\text{av}} = \frac{1}{2} \frac{|\vec{E}_0|^2}{\eta_0} \hat{n}$ with $\eta_0 \approx 377 \Omega$ for air, determine for each measurement point whether the safety limits are exceeded or not.

GSM Base Station No.	$ \vec{E} $ (V/m)	f (MHz)	Threshold $\frac{f}{2000}$ (mW/cm ²)	P_{av} - computed mW/cm ²	Is $P_{\text{av}} \leq \text{Threshold}$
1	5	900	0.45	$\frac{1}{2} \frac{(5)^2}{377} \times 10^3 \approx 0.0033$	✓
2	10	900	0.45	~ 0.0133	✓
3	44	900	0.45	~ 0.256	✓
4	21	1800	0.90	~ 0.058	✓
5	50	1800	0.90	~ 0.332	✓

Although all of the P_{av} power flux density measurements are below the safety limits, measurement made for the base station # 3 gives the relatively worse result.