

The goal of this document is to provide detailed explanation for Jackson section 6.8, in particular the steps leading to 6.126 for a harmonic field with time-varying amplitude.

1. About linearity of the media

The linearity of the media in response to the electric field is a linear relationship in the frequency domain

$$\mathbf{D}(\mathbf{x}, \omega) = \epsilon(\omega) \mathbf{E}(\mathbf{x}, \omega) \quad (1)$$

By the convolution theorem of Fourier transform, this implies a convolution relationship in the time domain

$$\mathbf{D}(\mathbf{x}, t) = \int \epsilon(t - t') \mathbf{E}(\mathbf{x}, t') dt' \quad (2)$$

which signifies the non-instantaneous response of the material's polarization to the external field.

2. Complex field notation

For the remaining discussion, we try to obtain 6.126 for a field

$$\mathbf{E}(t) = \mathbf{A}(t) \cos(\omega_0 t + \alpha) \quad (3)$$

where the amplitude $\mathbf{A}(t)$ changes slowly compared to ω_0 . Rewriting (3) in equivalent form

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbf{E}(t) &= \mathbf{A}_r(t) \cos \omega_0 t + \mathbf{A}_i(t) \sin \omega_0 t \\ &= \text{Re} \left[\underbrace{(\mathbf{A}_r + i\mathbf{A}_i)}_{\equiv \tilde{\mathbf{A}}(t)} (\cos \omega_0 t - i \sin \omega_0 t) \right] \\ &= \text{Re} [\tilde{\mathbf{A}}(t) e^{-i\omega_0 t}] \end{aligned} \quad (4)$$

we see that the field is the real part of complex harmonic field with time-varying, complex amplitude. This form is more friendly for Fourier transform manipulations.

3. Derivation of 6.126

Let the Fourier transform of the time-varying complex amplitude $\tilde{\mathbf{A}}(t)$ be

$$\tilde{\mathbf{A}}(t) = \int \tilde{\mathbf{A}}(\nu) e^{-i\nu t} d\nu \quad (5)$$

Then the field $\mathbf{E}(t)$ can be written as

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbf{E}(t) &= \text{Re} \int \tilde{\mathbf{A}}(\nu) e^{-i(\omega_0 + \nu)t} d\nu && \text{let } \omega = \omega_0 + \nu \\ &= \text{Re} \int \tilde{\mathbf{A}}(\omega - \omega_0) e^{-i\omega t} d\omega \end{aligned} \quad (6)$$

which is the Fourier transform of the whole field $\tilde{\mathbf{A}}(t) e^{-i\omega_0 t}$ (i.e., not just the amplitude).

With the linear response assumption, we have

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbf{D}(t) &= \text{Re} \int \epsilon(\omega) \tilde{\mathbf{A}}(\omega - \omega_0) e^{-i\omega t} d\omega \\ &= \text{Re} \int \epsilon(\omega_0 + \nu) \tilde{\mathbf{A}}(\nu) e^{-i(\omega_0 + \nu)t} d\nu \end{aligned} \quad (7)$$

whose time derivative is

$$\frac{\partial \mathbf{D}(t)}{\partial t} = \text{Re} \int -i(\omega_0 + \nu) \epsilon(\omega_0 + \nu) \tilde{\mathbf{A}}(\nu) e^{-i(\omega_0 + \nu)t} d\nu \quad (8)$$

Since the amplitude is changing slowly compared to ω_0 , i.e., $\tilde{\mathbf{A}}(\nu)$ has support in the region $\nu \ll \omega_0$, we can expand the function $\omega\epsilon(\omega)$ around ω_0 to the first order and get

$$\begin{aligned}\frac{\partial \mathbf{D}(t)}{\partial t} &\approx \text{Re} \int -i \left[\omega_0 \epsilon(\omega_0) + \nu \frac{d(\omega\epsilon)}{d\omega} \Big|_{\omega_0} \right] \tilde{\mathbf{A}}(\nu) e^{-i(\omega_0+\nu)t} d\nu \\ &= \text{Re} [-i\omega_0 \epsilon(\omega_0) \tilde{\mathbf{A}}(t) e^{-i\omega_0 t}] + \text{Re} \left[\frac{d(\omega\epsilon)}{d\omega} \Big|_{\omega_0} \cdot \frac{\partial \tilde{\mathbf{A}}(t)}{\partial t} e^{-i\omega_0 t} \right]\end{aligned}\quad (9)$$

Our goal is to calculate the time average of the quantity $\mathbf{E}(t) \cdot \partial \mathbf{D}(t) / \partial t$ over a period $2\pi/\omega_0$, where $\mathbf{E}(t)$ is given by (4) and $\partial \mathbf{D}(t) / \partial t$ is given by (9).

In general, for any complex $\tilde{x}(t), \tilde{y}(t)$ whose time variances are slow in the period $2\pi/\omega_0$, we have

$$\begin{aligned}\langle \text{Re} [\tilde{x}(t) e^{-i\omega_0 t}] \cdot \text{Re} [\tilde{y}(t) e^{-i\omega_0 t}] \rangle &= \langle [x_r(t) \cos \omega_0 t + x_i(t) \sin \omega_0 t] [y_r(t) \cos \omega_0 t + y_i(t) \sin \omega_0 t] \rangle \\ &= \frac{1}{2} [x_r(t) y_r(t) + x_i(t) y_i(t)] \\ &= \frac{1}{2} \text{Re} [\tilde{x}^*(t) \tilde{y}(t)]\end{aligned}\quad (10)$$

Here we have treated $x_r(t)$ etc., as constants over the period for which we take the average.

Using (10), we have

$$\left\langle \mathbf{E}(t) \cdot \frac{\partial \mathbf{D}(t)}{\partial t} \right\rangle = \frac{1}{2} \text{Re} \{ \tilde{\mathbf{A}}^*(t) \cdot [-i\omega_0 \epsilon(\omega_0) \tilde{\mathbf{A}}(t)] \} + \frac{1}{2} \text{Re} \left\{ \tilde{\mathbf{A}}^*(t) \cdot \left[\frac{d(\omega\epsilon)}{d\omega} \Big|_{\omega_0} \frac{\partial \tilde{\mathbf{A}}(t)}{\partial t} \right] \right\} \quad (11)$$

Note that

$$\tilde{\mathbf{A}}^*(t) \cdot \tilde{\mathbf{A}}(t) = \mathbf{A}_r^2 + \mathbf{A}_i^2 = 2 \langle |\mathbf{E}(t)|^2 \rangle \quad \text{and} \quad \tilde{\mathbf{A}}^*(t) \cdot \frac{\partial \tilde{\mathbf{A}}(t)}{\partial t} = \frac{\partial}{\partial t} \langle |\mathbf{E}(t)|^2 \rangle \quad (12)$$

are both real, (11) becomes

$$\begin{aligned}\left\langle \mathbf{E}(t) \cdot \frac{\partial \mathbf{D}(t)}{\partial t} \right\rangle &= \text{Re} [-i\omega_0 \epsilon(\omega_0) \langle |\mathbf{E}(t)|^2 \rangle] + \frac{1}{2} \text{Re} \left[\frac{d(\omega\epsilon)}{d\omega} \Big|_{\omega_0} \frac{\partial}{\partial t} \langle |\mathbf{E}(t)|^2 \rangle \right] \\ &= \omega_0 \text{Im} \epsilon(\omega_0) \langle |\mathbf{E}(t)|^2 \rangle + \frac{1}{2} \text{Re} \left[\frac{d(\omega\epsilon)}{d\omega} \Big|_{\omega_0} \right] \frac{\partial}{\partial t} \langle |\mathbf{E}(t)|^2 \rangle\end{aligned}\quad (13)$$

We recover 6.126 by putting in the magnetic counterpart.

The comments after 6.127 is a very good summary of the local conservation of electromagnetic energy. I could not paraphrase better than what's already stated there.