

RL Chap 2

Astr 74

Emily Boudreaux

Fall 2024



2.1 Review of E&M (P.51-54)

- Recall Maxwell's equations in free space (in a vacuum) and in some media (In the non-relativistic case)

- first in some media

$$\vec{\nabla} \cdot \vec{D} = 4\pi\rho$$

↑ charge density

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

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

current density

$$\vec{\nabla} \times \vec{H} = \frac{4\pi}{c} \vec{j} + \frac{1}{c} \frac{\partial \vec{D}}{\partial t}$$

dielectric constant
 $D = \epsilon \vec{E}$
 $B = \mu \vec{H}$
magnetic Permeability

- So then in free space (which is what we will almost always be working in during this class) we note that $\epsilon = \mu = 1$ (in cgs units)

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

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

- These imply conservation of charge

We can split up these terms to simplify our lives $\rightarrow \vec{\nabla} \cdot (\vec{\nabla} \times \vec{B}) = \vec{\nabla} \cdot \left(\frac{4\pi}{c} \vec{j} + \frac{1}{c} \frac{\partial \vec{E}}{\partial t} \right)$

$$\vec{\nabla} \cdot (\vec{\nabla} \times \vec{B}) = \left(\frac{\partial}{\partial x} \frac{4\pi}{c} \vec{j} + \frac{\partial}{\partial y} \frac{4\pi}{c} \vec{j} + \frac{\partial}{\partial z} \frac{4\pi}{c} \vec{j} \right) + \vec{\nabla} \cdot \frac{1}{c} \frac{\partial \vec{E}}{\partial t}$$

$$\vec{\nabla} \cdot (\vec{\nabla} \times \vec{B}) = \frac{4\pi}{c} (\vec{\nabla} \cdot \vec{j}) + \vec{\nabla} \cdot \frac{1}{c} \frac{\partial \vec{E}}{\partial t}$$

$$\vec{\nabla} \cdot (\vec{\nabla} \times \vec{B}) = \frac{4\pi}{c} (\vec{\nabla} \cdot \vec{j}) + \frac{1}{c} \frac{\partial}{\partial t} \vec{\nabla} \cdot \vec{E}$$

$$\vec{\nabla} \cdot (\vec{\nabla} \times \vec{B}) = \frac{4\pi}{c} (\vec{\nabla} \cdot \vec{j})$$

Recall that the divergence of a curl is always 0

0 in free-space $\frac{\partial^2 f(x,y)}{\partial x^2} = \frac{\partial^2 f(x,y)}{\partial y^2}$

- for a smooth and continuous function $f(x,y)$

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

conservation of charge
for a finite volume element

- P. 53 uses this to derive the Poynting Vector we will not go through that during class

$$\vec{S} = \frac{c}{4\pi} \vec{E} \times \vec{B}$$

Poynting vector in free space in cgs units.

- The Poynting Vector tells one the direction energy is propagating and how much energy passes through an area at a given time.

2.2 Plane Electromagnetic Waves (P. 55-59)

- We can derive the vector wave equation from Maxwell's equations

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

$$\vec{\nabla} \times (\vec{\nabla} \times \vec{E}) = -\frac{1}{c} \frac{\partial}{\partial t} \vec{\nabla} \times \vec{B}$$

$$\vec{\nabla} \times (\vec{\nabla} \times \vec{E}) = -\frac{1}{c} \frac{\partial}{\partial t} \frac{1}{c} \frac{\partial \vec{E}}{\partial t}$$

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

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

Note the vector identity

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

In free space
this is 0

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

Vector Wave Equation

There is an identical equation

- Solutions take the form

$$\vec{E} = \hat{a}_1 E_0 e^{i(\vec{k} \cdot \vec{r} - \omega t)}$$

$$\vec{B} = \hat{a}_2 B_0 e^{i(\vec{k} \cdot \vec{r} - \omega t)}$$

unit vector perpendicular to \hat{a}_1 and \vec{k}

- We can then use these to build up the most general solution to Maxwell's equations in free space

$$i\vec{k} \cdot \hat{a}_1 E_0 = 0 \quad i\vec{k} \cdot \hat{a}_2 B_0 = 0$$

$$i\vec{k} \times \hat{a}_1 E_0 = \frac{i\omega}{c} \hat{a}_2 B_0 \quad i\vec{k} \times \hat{a}_2 B_0 = -\frac{i\omega}{c} \hat{a}_1 E_0$$

- from here we can relate E_0 and B_0 and then through those we can relate ω and k

$$E_0 = \frac{\omega}{kc} B_0 \quad B_0 = \frac{\omega}{kc} E_0$$

$$E_0 = \left(\frac{\omega}{kc} \right)^2 E_0$$

$$\omega^2 = k^2 c^2 \quad \text{However we can constrain } \omega, k > 0$$

$$E_0 = \frac{kc}{\omega} B_0 \quad \therefore E_0 = B_0$$

- Recall that the Phase Velocity of a wave, $v_{ph} = \omega/k$, therefore the wave will propagate at

$$v_{ph} = \frac{\omega c}{k} = c$$

- which makes as the phase velocity of light is c
 - note the group velocity is only c in free space.

- The Poynting Vector oscillates w/time; However, we will normally care more about the time averaged Poynting Vector and Energy densities.

$$E(t) = E_0 e^{i\omega t} \quad B(t) = B_0 e^{i\omega t}$$

- By Problem 2.1 the time average of Real components $\langle \text{Re}(E(t)) \cdot \text{Re}(B(t)) \rangle = \frac{1}{2} \text{Re}(E_0 B_0)$ oscillate as a function of time

$$\vec{S} = \frac{c}{4\pi} \vec{E} \times \vec{B}$$

complex conjugate Recall: $x = a + bi$
 $\bar{x} = a - bi$

$$|\vec{S}| = \frac{c}{4\pi} |\vec{E}| |\vec{B}| \sin\left(\frac{\pi}{2}\right)$$

$$\langle S \rangle = \frac{c}{4\pi} \underbrace{\langle \text{Re}(E(t)) \text{Re}(B(t)) \rangle}_{\frac{1}{2} E_0 B_0}$$

but we also know $E_0 = B_0$
 so $\frac{1}{2} E_0^2$ or $\frac{1}{2} B_0^2$

$$\boxed{\langle S \rangle = \frac{c}{8\pi} |E_0|^2 = \frac{c}{8\pi} |B_0|^2}$$

- However we also recall Egn 2.11 which gives the energy density per unit volume

$$U_{field} = \frac{1}{8\pi} (E^2 + B^2) \quad \text{- using our complex and oscillating } E \text{ and } B \text{ fields}$$

$$\langle U_{field} \rangle = \frac{1}{8\pi} (\langle \text{Re}(E(t)) \text{Re}(E(t)) \rangle + \langle \text{Re}(B(t)) \text{Re}(B(t)) \rangle)$$

$$\langle U_{field} \rangle = \frac{1}{8\pi} \left(\frac{1}{2} \text{Re}(E_0 E_0) + \frac{1}{2} \text{Re}(B_0 B_0) \right)$$

$$\langle U_{field} \rangle = \frac{1}{16\pi} (E_0^2 + B_0^2)$$

$$\boxed{\langle U_{field} \rangle = \frac{2E_0^2}{16\pi} = \frac{E_0^2}{8\pi} = \frac{B_0^2}{8\pi}}$$

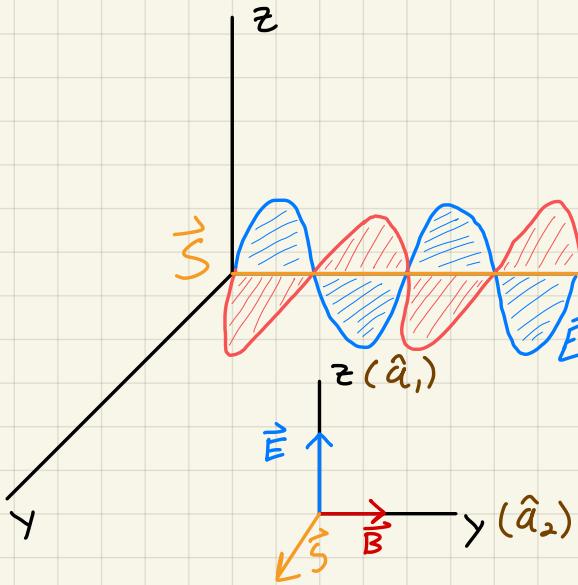
- finally then we can find the velocity of energy transport

$$\boxed{\frac{\langle S \rangle}{\langle u \rangle} = c}$$

2.4 Polarization and Stokes Parameters (P.62-69)

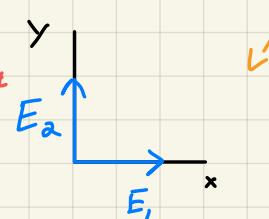
Polarization: The orientation of oscillation

- In the previous section we worked with linearly polarized waves (i.e. The electric vector oscillates in the direction of \hat{a} , along some single unit vector)



- The most general case of polarization is found by considering the superposition of 2 solutions to the vector wave eqn. Which are perpendicular to one another

$$\vec{E} = (E_1 \hat{x} + E_2 \hat{y}) e^{-i\omega t} = \vec{E}_0 e^{-i\omega t}$$



- We can then ask what E_1 and E_2 are

- Generally these are some complex amplitudes

$$E_1 = E_1 e^{i\phi_1}, \quad E_2 = E_2 e^{i\phi_2}$$

- Then we can select just the real component to find the physical field in \hat{x} and \hat{y}

$$E_x = \text{Re}(E_1 e^{-i\omega t})$$

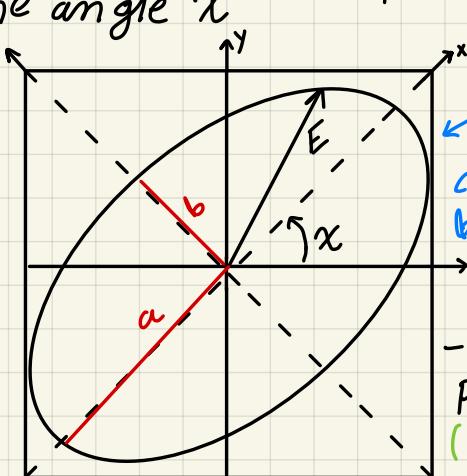
$$E_x = \text{Re}(E_1 e^{i\phi_1} e^{-i\omega t})$$

$$E_x = \text{Re}(E_1 e^{i(\phi_1 - \omega t)})$$

$$E_x = E_1 \cos(\phi_1 - \omega t) \quad \text{cos}(x) = \cos(-x)$$

$$E_x = E_1 \cos(\phi_1 - \omega t) \quad \text{therefore}$$

$$E_x = E_1 \cos(\omega t - \phi_1), \quad E_y = E_2 \cos(\omega t - \phi_2)$$



In general
a tilted ellipse
can be described
by

$$E_x' = E_0 \cos \beta \cos \omega t, \quad E_y' = -E_0 \sin \beta \sin \omega t \quad (\frac{\pi}{2} \leq \beta \leq \frac{\pi}{2})$$

- This ellipse will be traced out by \vec{E} as the wave propagates. When $\beta > 0$ the trace will run clockwise (negative helicity) and for $\beta < 0$ the trace will run counter clockwise (positive helicity)

Special cases

Elliptical polarization is most general \leftarrow wave helicity (handedness)

$\beta = \pm \pi/4$: Then the ellipse becomes a circle (circularly polarized) \leftarrow

$\beta = 0$ or $\pm \pi/2$: The ellipse collapses to a line (linearly polarized) \leftarrow does not have helicity
Connecting E_x' , E_y' to this ellipse

- We need to rotate E_x' and E_y' to the x and y axis (through an angle χ)

$$E_x = E_0 (\cos \beta \cos \chi \cos \omega t + \sin \beta \sin \chi \sin \omega t) \quad E_y = E_0 (\cos \beta \sin \chi \cos \omega t - \sin \beta \cos \chi \sin \omega t)$$

- Now we can recognize that these have a very similar form to the other expression for E_x and E_y which we have found

$$\text{trig ident. } E_1 \cos(\omega t - \phi_1) = E_0 (\cos \beta \cos \chi \cos \omega t + \sin \beta \sin \chi \sin \omega t)$$

$$\hookrightarrow E_1 \cos \omega t \cos \phi + E_1 \sin \omega t \sin \phi = E_0 \cos \beta \cos \chi \cos \omega t + E_0 \sin \beta \sin \chi \sin \omega t$$

- set the two terms = one
and other

$$E_1 \cos \omega t \cos \phi = E_0 \cos \beta \cos \chi \cos \omega t$$

$$E_1 \cos \phi = E_0 \cos \beta \cos \chi$$

$$E_1 \sin \phi = E_0 \sin \beta \sin \chi$$

$$E_2 \cos \phi_2 = E_0 \cos \beta \sin \chi$$

$$E_2 \sin \phi_2 = -E_0 \sin \beta \cos \chi$$

) going through the same procedure for both terms in Both E_x and E_y

- Generally we might know E_1 , ϕ_1 , E_2 and ϕ_2 . If you do you can solve for E_0 , β and χ . We call forms of these solutions **Stokes Parameters**. These fully describe monochromatic elliptical Polarization.

$$I \equiv E_1^2 + E_2^2 = E_0^2 \quad U \equiv 2E_1 E_2 \cos(\phi_1 - \phi_2) = E_0^2 \cos 2\beta \sin 2\chi$$

$$Q \equiv E_1^2 - E_2^2 = E_0^2 \cos 2\beta \cos 2\chi \quad V \equiv 2E_1 E_2 \sin(\phi_1 - \phi_2) = E_0^2 \sin 2\beta$$

- alternate forms can be expressed by combining the above relations

$$E_0 = \sqrt{I} \quad \sin 2\beta = \frac{V}{I} \quad \tan 2\chi = \frac{U}{Q}$$

I - Relates to the Flux
V - circularity Parameter ratio of a/b . If $V=0$ then the Wave is linearly Polarized

U/Q - Orientation of ellipse to X axis
 $U=Q=0$ is the condition for circular Polarization.

- All four Stokes Parameters are related

$$I^2 = V^2 + U^2 + Q^2$$

$$I \equiv \langle E_1^2 + E_2^2 \rangle \quad U \equiv \langle 2E_1 E_2 \cos(\phi_1 - \phi_2) \rangle$$

$$Q \equiv \langle E_1^2 - E_2^2 \rangle \quad V \equiv \langle 2E_1 E_2 \sin(\phi_1 - \phi_2) \rangle$$

only fully correct when E_1 , E_2 , ϕ_1 , and ϕ_2 are time independant

- finally, mostly in astro we deal with unpolarized light. We get Polarized light from scattering mostly (off dust for example) and from magnetic field interactions.

- The specific reason we use Stokes Parameters is historical and basically boils down to how Stokes had an observational setup built (i.e. the orientation of Polarized Plates (see)).