

EEE345/6084 exam 2014: exam questions and model solutions

1. Maxwell's equations in general physics

10 points

- a. Using both Maxwell equations for the rotation operators of the electrical and magnetic fields, the materials equations relating corresponding fluxes and fields, and the mathematical identity $\text{rot rot } \underline{E} = \text{grad div } \underline{E} - \nabla^2 \underline{E}$ show that in vacuum the electric field vector \underline{E} obeys a wave equation.

Solution (similar to lecture where the same was shown for \underline{B}):

The relevant Maxwell equations are:

$$\text{rot } \underline{E} = -\partial \underline{B} / \partial t \quad (\text{i}) \text{ and}$$

$$\text{rot } \underline{H} = \underline{j} + \partial \underline{D} / \partial t \quad (\text{ii}) \text{ where}$$

$$\underline{B} = \mu_0 \mu_r \underline{H} \quad (\text{iii}) \text{ and}$$

$$\underline{D} = \epsilon_0 \epsilon_r \underline{E} \quad (\text{iv}).$$

Applying the rot operator to (i) inserting (iii), then (ii) and finally (iv) yields:

$$\begin{aligned} \text{rot rot } \underline{E} &= -\text{rot } \partial \underline{B} / \partial t = -\mu_0 \mu_r \text{rot } \partial \underline{H} / \partial t = -\mu_0 \mu_r \partial / \partial t (\text{rot } \underline{H}) \\ &= -\mu_0 \mu_r [\partial / \partial t \underline{j} + \partial^2 \underline{D} / \partial t^2] \\ &= -\mu_0 \mu_r [\partial / \partial t \underline{j} + \epsilon_0 \epsilon_r \partial^2 \underline{E} / \partial t^2] \quad (\text{v}) \end{aligned}$$

In vacuum, $\mu_r = 1 = \epsilon_r$ (vi)

and without any currents $\underline{j} = 0$ (vii),

hence the right side $= -\mu_0 \epsilon_0 \partial^2 \underline{E} / \partial t^2$.

The left side is

$$\begin{aligned} \text{rot rot } \underline{E} &= \text{grad div } \underline{E} - \nabla^2 \underline{E} = (\text{provided above}) \\ &= \text{grad } \rho / \epsilon_0 - \nabla^2 \underline{E} \end{aligned}$$

where $\text{div } \underline{E} = \rho / \epsilon_0$ (viii) has been used, with the charge density vanishing in empty space, i.e. $\rho = 0$, (ix) we get for the left side:

$$\text{rot rot } \underline{E} = -\nabla^2 \underline{E}$$

Hence, $\nabla^2 \underline{E} = \mu_0 \epsilon_0 \partial^2 \underline{E} / \partial t^2$, which is the desired wave equation (x).

6 points

- b. Use Maxwell's equation for the rotation of the magnetic field, together with Ohm's Law and complex expressions for both the dielectric constant ϵ_r and a planar wave of form $\underline{E} = \underline{E}_0 \exp(j\omega t)$ to derive an expression for ϵ_r . Interpret the imaginary part of ϵ_r physically: what does it mean?

Solution:

Starting from

$$\epsilon_0 \epsilon_r \partial \underline{E} / \partial t = \text{rot } \underline{H} = \underline{j} + \partial \underline{D} / \partial t \quad (\text{i})$$

$$= \sigma \underline{E} + \epsilon_0 \epsilon_r \partial \underline{E} / \partial t \quad (\text{ii})$$

For $\underline{E} = \underline{E}_0 \exp(j\omega t)$ we get $\partial \underline{E} / \partial t = j\omega \underline{E}$ (iii).

Inserting this yields, for complex $\epsilon_r = \epsilon_r' + j \epsilon_r''$ (iv)

$$j\epsilon_0 (\epsilon_r' + j \epsilon_r'') \omega \underline{E} = (\sigma + j\omega \epsilon_0 \epsilon_r') \underline{E}$$

Comparing coefficients yields for the real part: $\epsilon_r' = \epsilon_r$

and for the purely imaginary part: $\epsilon_r'' = -\sigma / (\omega \epsilon_0)$ (v)

The imaginary part of the dielectric constant means an exponential dampening of the planar wave if the material has finite conductivity. (vi)

4 points

- c. Using Maxwell's modification of Ampere's Law calculate the divergence of the current density and interpret the result in terms of changes of the electrical charge.

Solution:

Maxwell's modification of Ampere's Law states: $\text{rot } \underline{H} = \underline{j} + \partial \underline{D} / \partial t$

Applying the div operator to both sides yields

$$\text{div } \text{rot } \underline{H} = \text{div } \underline{j} + \text{div } \partial \underline{D} / \partial t$$

As $\text{div } \text{rot } (\text{any vector}) = 0$ and $\text{div } \underline{D} = q_{\text{free}}$ this yields $\text{div } \underline{j} = - \partial q_{\text{free}} / \partial t$.

Any source of current density means a change in the free charge density, which guarantees charge conservation.

2. Transmission Lines

9 points

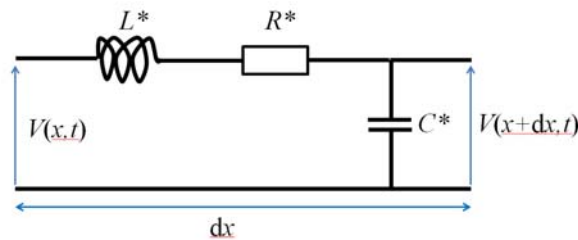
- a. Sketch and annotate a short elementary length dx of a lossy transmission line where the only resistive component to be considered is the Ohmic resistance R^* per unit length along the line.

Show that the propagation constant k' for a fixed frequency source ω is approximately given by the expression

$$k' = \omega (L^* C^*)^{1/2} [1 - j R^*/(2\omega L^*)]$$

where ω is the angular frequency, L^* the inductance per unit length and C^* the capacitance per unit length.

Solution (similar to 2011 exam)



(i)

voltage drop along the line: $-dV/dx = L^* dI/dt + R^* I$ (ii)

current drop between the lines: $-dI/dx = C^* dV/dt$ (iii)

differentiation of (ii) w.r.t. x yields: $d^2V/dx^2 = -L^* d^2I/(dx dt) - R^* dI/dx$

differentiation of (iii) w.r.t. t yields: $d^2I/(dt dx) = -C^* d^2V/dt^2$ (iv)

insert (v) and (iii) into (iv):

$$d^2V/dx^2 = L^* C^* d^2V/dt^2 + R^* C^* dV/dt \quad (v)$$

Ansatz: $V = V_0 \exp[j(\omega t - k'x)]$ (vi)

double differentiation yields: $d^2V/dx^2 = -k'^2 V$ and $d^2V/dt^2 = -\omega^2 V$ (vii)

Inserting into (vii) gives: $-k'^2 = -\omega^2 L^* C^* + j\omega R^* C^*$

Hence, $k'^2 = \omega^2 L^* C^* - j\omega R^* C^* = \omega^2 L^* C^* [1 - jR^*/(\omega L^*)]$ (viii)

Taking the square root of both sides: $k' = \omega (L^* C^*)^{1/2} \sqrt{[1 - jR^*/(\omega L^*)]}$

Using the approximation $\sqrt{1-x} \approx 1 - x/2$ for small x (ix)

gives the desired result: $k' \approx \omega (L^* C^*)^{1/2} [1 - jR^*/(2\omega L^*)]$

4 points

- b. A 50Hz signal is fed into the lossy transmission line with the characteristic given in Question 2a above with $C^*=1\text{nF/m}$, $L^*=1\text{mH/m}$, $R^*=1\Omega/\text{m}$. Over what length can the signal be transferred so that at the end of the cable at least 95% of the voltage of the input signal arrives?

Solution:

Use $\omega = 2\pi f$ where $f=50\text{Hz}$ and insert numbers in above equation and get

$k' = \omega (L^* C^*)^{1/2} [1 - j R^*/(2\omega L^*)] = 3.142 \times 10^{-4} \text{ m}^{-1} (1 - 1.592j)$. If $k' = k_1 - jk_2$ with real components k_1 and $k_2 = 5.002 \times 10^{-4} \text{ m}^{-1}$, then $0.95 = |V/V_0| = |\exp[j(\omega t - k'x)]| = |\exp[j(\omega t - k_1x)]| |\exp(-k_2x)| = \exp(-k_2x)$. This yields $x = -(\ln 0.95)/k_2 = 102.54\text{m}$

7 points

- c. A 30cm short coaxial cable with inner and outer cable diameters of 0.5mm and 3mm, respectively, and a non-magnetic dielectric with a relative permittivity

(dielectric constant) of $\epsilon_r=2$ is to be used for high frequency measurements. Write down equations for and calculate:

- i) its capacity,
- ii) its inductance,
- iii) its approximate real-valued impedance in the lossless case and
- iv) the voltage reflection coefficient for Ohmic loads of $Z_L=50$ or $Z_L=75\Omega$. Which of the two loads would be the better termination choice and why?

Solution:

i) $C=2\pi\epsilon_0\epsilon_r l / \ln (R/r)=18.63$ pF (equation derived and discussed in lecture 3)

ii) $L=\mu_0\mu_r l \ln (R/r) / (2\pi)=0.108$ μ H (with $\mu_r=1$ for non-magnetic material)

iii) $Z_0 \approx (L^*/C^*)^{1/2} = (L/C)^{1/2} = 75.96 \Omega \approx 76 \Omega$ (cf. lecture 4)

iv) $\Gamma=(Z_L-Z_0)/(Z_L+Z_0)$

$\Gamma(Z_L=50\Omega) = -0.206$ and $\Gamma(Z_L=75\Omega) = -0.006$. The 75Ω termination will be much better, as less than 1% of the signal will be reflected, whereas for the smaller resistor about 20% of the voltage amplitude would be reflected.

3. Electric potential and electronic devices

6 points

- a. The electric potential in a region of free space may be given as
 $V(x,y,z) = (x^3 + 2y^3 + 2z^2) \times 100\text{V}$.
 (i) determine whether it satisfies the Laplace equation.
 (ii) Calculate the electric field strength E and the charge density ρ at the point
 $(x,y,z) = (1,2,3)\text{m}$ for a permittivity of $\epsilon_0 = 8.8542 \times 10^{-12} \text{ As/(Vm)}$.

Solution (similar to 2010 exam, but with proper units):

(i) Calculate second derivatives:

$$\partial^2 V / \partial x^2 = 6x \times 100\text{V/m}^2, \quad \partial^2 V / \partial y^2 = 12y \times 100\text{V/m}^2, \quad \partial^2 V / \partial z^2 = 400\text{V/m}^2$$

The Laplace equation would demand $\nabla^2 V = 0$.

We get $\nabla^2 V = (\partial^2 V / \partial x^2 + \partial^2 V / \partial y^2 + \partial^2 V / \partial z^2) = (6x, 12y, 4) \times 100\text{V} \neq 0$, so this potential does not satisfy the Laplace equation $\nabla^2 V = 0$.

(ii) $\underline{E} = -\text{grad } V$

Differentiation gives for the individual components:

$$E_x = -\partial V / \partial x = -3x^2 \times 100\text{V/m}$$

$$E_y = -\partial V / \partial y = -6y^2 \times 100\text{V/m}$$

$$E_z = -\partial V / \partial z = -4z \times 100\text{V/m}$$

At point $(x=1, y=2, z=3)\text{m}$ this yields $\underline{E} = -(300, 2400, 1200) \text{ V/m}$

$\text{div } \underline{E} = \rho / \epsilon_0$ is Coloumb's Law, hence

$$\rho = \epsilon_0 (\partial E_x / \partial x + \partial E_y / \partial y + \partial E_z / \partial z) = -(6x + 12y + 4) \times 100\text{V/m}^2 \epsilon_0$$

At point $(x=1, y=2, z=3)\text{m}$ this yields $\rho = -3 \times 10^{-8} \text{ As/(m}^3) = -30 \text{ nC/m}^3$

7 points

- b. Show that the function $V(x) = (2ax - x^2) \rho_{\text{free}} / (2\epsilon_0 \epsilon_r)$ solves the 1-dimensional Poisson equation for a semiconducting pn-junction of total depletion layer width $2a$ along the x -direction.

Calculate

(i) the voltage drop across the whole junction and

(ii) the junction capacitance

for a depletion layer width of 100nm , a free charge density of 8000C/m^3 , a dielectric constant of 9 and a cross-sectional area of 10^{-8} m^2 . Assume $\epsilon_0 = 8.8542 \times 10^{-12} \text{ F/m}$.

(iii) Compare the junction capacitance quantitatively to that of a standard plate capacitor.

Solution (similar to 2012 exam):

Poisson's equation $\nabla^2 V = -\rho / \epsilon_0$ in x -direction means $d^2 V / dx^2 = -\rho / \epsilon_0$. (i)

The obvious solution by double integration would be a 2nd order polynomial of form $V(x) = Ax^2 + Bx + C$ where the constants are given by the boundary conditions ($V(0) = 0$ and $E(\pm a) = -dV/dx$ (at $\pm a) = 0$). Alternatively, directly differentiating the given $V(x)$ twice solves the Poisson equation,

$$\text{as } dV/dx = (2a - 2x) \rho_{\text{free}} / (2\epsilon_0 \epsilon_r)$$

and

$$d^2 V / dx^2 = -\rho_{\text{free}} / (\epsilon_0 \epsilon_r) = -\rho / \epsilon_0.$$

Finally, use $\rho_{\text{free}} = \text{div } \underline{D} = \epsilon_0 \epsilon_r \text{div } \underline{E} = \epsilon_0 \epsilon_r \rho / \epsilon_0 = \epsilon_r \rho$ for the free charge. (ii)

(i) the voltage drop across the whole pn-junction is
 $\Delta V = V(a) - V(-a) [a^2 - (-3a^2)] \rho_{\text{free}} / (2\epsilon_0 \epsilon_r) = 2a^2 \rho_{\text{free}} / (\epsilon_0 \epsilon_r)$. (iii)
 Inserting numbers ($a=50\text{nm}$) yields 0.5V . (iv)

(ii) The charge contained at either side of the pn-junction is $Q = \rho a A = \rho_{\text{free}} a A / \epsilon_r$ (v)
 The capacitance is $C = Q / \Delta V = [\rho_{\text{free}} a A / \epsilon_r] / [2a^2 \rho_{\text{free}} / (\epsilon_0 \epsilon_r)] = \epsilon_0 A / (2a) = 0.89\text{pF}$. (vi)
 This is the capacitance of a plate capacitor with $\epsilon_r=1$ and effective (average) plate distance $2a$. (vii)

7 points

- c. The potential of a static electric dipole consisting of a pair of two charges $-q$ and $+q$ is given by the equation

$$V(\underline{r}) = \underline{p} \cdot \underline{r} / (4\pi\epsilon_0 r^3)$$

where $r = |\underline{r}|$ is the distance from charge $+q$ and $\underline{p} = q \underline{ds}$ is defined as the dipole moment where the vector \underline{ds} points from $-q$ to $+q$. Provide a sketch of the dipole geometry and calculate its electric field vector, using the identity $\text{grad}(\underline{r}^n) = n \underline{r}^{n-1} \underline{e}_r$ where $\underline{e}_r = \underline{r}/r$ is the radial unity vector pointing outwards. Compare the electric field along and perpendicular to the dipole axis.

Solution:

$$\begin{aligned} \underline{E} &= -\text{grad } V(\underline{r}) = -1/(4\pi\epsilon_0) \text{grad } (\underline{p} \cdot \underline{r} / r^3) \\ &= -1/(4\pi\epsilon_0) [1/r^3 \text{grad } (\underline{p} \cdot \underline{r}) + \underline{p} \cdot \underline{r} \text{grad } (1/r^3)] \\ &= -1/(4\pi\epsilon_0) [1/r^3 \underline{p} \cdot \underline{e}_r \text{grad } \underline{r} + \underline{p} \cdot \underline{r} \text{grad } (1/r^3)] \end{aligned}$$

Now use $\text{grad } \underline{r} = \underline{e}_r$, $\underline{e}_r \cdot \underline{e}_r = 1$ and $\text{grad } (1/r^3) = \text{grad } r^{-3} = -3r^{-4} \underline{e}_r$

$$\begin{aligned} \underline{E} &= -1/(4\pi\epsilon_0) [1/r^3 \underline{p} - 3 \underline{p} \cdot \underline{r} \underline{e}_r / r^4] \\ &= 1/(4\pi\epsilon_0) [3(\underline{p} \cdot \underline{r}) \underline{r} / r^5 - \underline{p} / r^3] \end{aligned}$$

The first term in the bracket points along \underline{e}_r , i.e. outwards, the second along $\underline{p} = q \underline{ds}$, i.e. along the dipole axis.

Along the dipole axis \underline{r} is parallel to \underline{p} , so $\underline{p} \cdot \underline{r} = p r$ and the bracket yields $(3p/r^3 - p/r^3) = +2p/r^3$

Perpendicular to the dipole axis when $\underline{r} \perp \underline{p}$ we get $\underline{p} \cdot \underline{r} = 0$ and the bracket is simply $-p/r^3$. This is half as small as along the dipole axis, and the direction is reversed.

4. Waves

5 points

- a. Which of the following $f(x,t)$ functions (where x = spatial coordinate , t =time, a,b,c =constants, h =any function) represent travelling or standing waves? Explain your answers.
- (i) $f(x,t) = \sin(4xt+a)$
 - (ii) $f(x,t) = b \cos(2x+t^2)$
 - (iii) $f(x,t) = \exp j(3at-bx)$
 - (iv) $f(x,t) = \sin(4x) \exp(-3x)$
 - (v) $f(x,t) = [g(bt-x)]^2$
 - (vi) $f(x,t) = g(at+x^2)$

Solution:

A wave travelling in $+x$ -direction must be of form $f(x,t)=g(vt-x)$ where v is the velocity. A standing wave has no time dependence anymore and is only periodic in x . Hence, (iii) and (v) are travelling waves and (iv) is a damped standing wave.

7 points

- b. Show explicitly by double differentiation that the function $f(r,t)=[\exp j(\omega t-kr)]/r$ fulfils the wave equation, using the mathematical operator identity $\nabla_r^2 = 1/r^2 [\partial/\partial r (r^2 \partial/\partial r)]$ for the radial component of the second derivative ∇^2 in spherical coordinates. What is the physical meaning of $f(r,t)$ if \underline{r} is the usual radial vector with $r=|\underline{r}|$?

Solution:

$$\partial^2 f / \partial t^2 = -\omega^2 f(r,t)$$

and

$$\partial f / \partial r = \exp j(\omega t-kr) (-1/r^2 -jk/r) = -f(r,t) (1/r+jk)$$

Multiplication with r^2 yields

$$r^2 \partial f / \partial r = -\exp j(\omega t-kr) (1+jkr)$$

Another differentiation gives:

$$\begin{aligned} \partial/\partial r (r^2 \partial/\partial r) f &= -\exp j(\omega t-kr) (-jk) (1+jkr) - \exp j(\omega t-kr) jk \\ &= \exp j(\omega t-kr) [jk (1+jkr) - jk] \\ &= \exp j(\omega t-kr) (-k^2 r) \end{aligned}$$

Division by r^2 then finally yields for the radial component:

$$\begin{aligned} \nabla_r^2 f(r,t) &= 1/r^2 [\partial/\partial r (r^2 \partial/\partial r) f] \\ &= \exp j(\omega t-kr) (-k^2)/r \\ &= f(r,t) (-k^2) \end{aligned}$$

All other second derivatives are functions of angles θ and φ and therefore vanish.

Hence, $\partial^2 f / \partial t^2 = (-\omega^2)/(-k^2) \nabla^2 f(r,t) = (\omega/k)^2 \nabla^2 f(r,t)$.

That's a wave equation with $\omega/k = (2\pi f)/(2\pi/\lambda) = \lambda f = v$ where v is the wave velocity.

The function f describes a spherical wave emanating from the point of origin, as for given time t the phase is constant on a spherical shell around the origin and only depends on the distance r .

8 points

- c. For an oscillating electric dipole \underline{p} the magnetic flux in the far field at position \underline{r} is given by the equation

$$\underline{B}_f \approx \mu_0 (\ddot{\underline{p}} \times \underline{e}_r) / (4\pi cr)$$

where $\ddot{\underline{p}} = \partial^2 \underline{p} / \partial t^2$ and $\underline{e}_r = \underline{r} / r$ is the radial unit vector. Using the additional relationships

$$\underline{E}_f = c \underline{B}_f \times \underline{e}_r \quad \text{and} \quad \underline{B}_f = \underline{e}_r \times \underline{E}_f / c$$

between the electrical field and the magnetic flux in the far field, calculate the Poynting vector. Express the result in terms of the angle θ between \underline{p} and \underline{r} and interpret the result physically.

Solution:

the Poynting vector is

$$\underline{S} = \underline{E} \times \underline{H} = 1/\mu_0 \underline{E} \times \underline{B}$$

For the far-field components we get here

$$\underline{S} = 1/\mu_0 \underline{E}_f \times \underline{B}_f = c/\mu_0 (\underline{B}_f \times \underline{e}_r) \times \underline{B}_f = -c/\mu_0 \underline{B}_f \times (\underline{B}_f \times \underline{e}_r)$$

Use $\underline{B}_f \times (\underline{B}_f \times \underline{e}_r) = \underline{B}_f (\underline{B}_f \cdot \underline{e}_r) - \underline{e}_r (\underline{B}_f \cdot \underline{B}_f) = -\underline{e}_r \underline{B}_f^2$ and get

$$\underline{S} = c/\mu_0 \underline{e}_r \underline{B}_f^2$$

Now insert $\underline{B}_f^2 \approx \mu_0^2 (\ddot{\underline{p}} \times \underline{e}_r)^2 / (16\pi^2 c^2 r^2)$ to get

$$\underline{S} = \mu_0 / (16\pi^2 c r^2) (\ddot{\underline{p}} \times \underline{e}_r)^2 \underline{e}_r$$

Now $(\underline{p} \times \underline{e}_r)^2 = |\underline{p} \times \underline{e}_r|^2 = (|\underline{p}| |\underline{e}_r| \sin\theta)^2 = p^2 \sin^2\theta$, hence

$$\underline{S} = \mu_0 / (16\pi^2 c r^2) \ddot{\underline{p}}^2 \sin^2\theta \underline{e}_r$$

This means the energy is radiated non-isotropically: virtually none along the dipole axis (where $\sin\theta = \sin 0^\circ = 0$) and most perpendicular to the dipole ($\sin \pm 90^\circ = \pm 1$). The radiation reduces with distance from the source as $1/r^2$. The physical reason for the radiation is the acceleration of the charge (second time derivative!).

Alternative part solution:

Consider that $\underline{B}_f \times \underline{e}_r$ is perpendicular to both vectors, i.e. $\underline{S} = -c/\mu_0 \underline{B}_f \times (\underline{B}_f \times \underline{e}_r)$.

With angle θ between them,

$$S = |\underline{S}| = c/\mu_0 |\underline{B}_f|^2 \sin^2\theta = \mu_0 / (16\pi^2 c r^2) (\partial^2 \underline{p} / \partial t^2)^2 \sin^2\theta.$$