


§ 7.13 Time-harmonic fields



□ 1.concept

One of the most important cases of time-varying electromagnetic fields is the time-harmonic (sinusoidal) field. In this type of field, the excitation source varies sinusoidally in time with a single frequency. In a linear system, a sinusoidally varying source generates fields that also vary sinusoidally in time at all points in the system. If the electric field \vec{E} is given as




$$\vec{E}(x, y, z, t) = \vec{a}_x E_x(x, y, z, t) + \vec{a}_y E_y(x, y, z, t) + \vec{a}_z E_z(x, y, z, t)$$

the time-harmonic variations of these components may be written as

$$E_x(x, y, z, t) = E_x(r, t) = E_{x0}(r) \cos[\omega t + \varphi_x(r)]$$

$$E_y(x, y, z, t) = E_y(r, t) = E_{y0}(r) \cos[\omega t + \varphi_y(r)]$$

$$E_z(x, y, z, t) = E_z(r, t) = E_{z0}(r) \cos[\omega t + \varphi_z(r)]$$

where $E_{x0}(r)$, $E_{y0}(r)$ and $E_{z0}(r)$ are the amplitudes of the components of the \vec{E} field along the \vec{a}_x , \vec{a}_y and \vec{a}_z directions, respectively.



We have also used a shorthand notation (r) to imply that the fields are functions of space coordinates x, y and z . In addition, $\varphi_x(r), \varphi_y(r)$ and $\varphi_z(r)$ are the phase shifts of the x, y and z components of the field \vec{E} at a given point (x, y, z) in space.



The amplitude of each component is now a function of space only. We can also write each component as

$$E_x(x, y, z, t) = E_x(r, t) = E_{x0}(r) \cos[\omega t + \varphi_x(r)]$$

$$= \text{Re}[E_{x0}(r) e^{j\varphi_x(r)} e^{j\omega t}] = \text{Re}[\dot{E}_x(r) e^{j\omega t}]$$

$$\dot{E}_x(r) = E_{x0}(r) e^{j\varphi_x(r)}$$

$$E_y(x, y, z, t) = E_y(r, t) = E_{y0}(r) \cos[\omega t + \varphi_y(r)]$$

$$= \text{Re}[E_{y0}(r) e^{j\varphi_y(r)} e^{j\omega t}] = \text{Re}[\dot{E}_y(r) e^{j\omega t}]$$

$$\dot{E}_y(r) = E_{y0}(r) e^{j\varphi_y(r)}$$



$$E_x(x, y, z, t) = E_x(r, t) = E_{x0}(r) \cos[\omega t + \varphi_x(r)]$$

$$= \text{Re}[E_{x0}(r) e^{j\varphi_x(r)} e^{j\omega t}]$$

$$E_y(x, y, z, t) = E_y(r, t) = E_{y0}(r) \cos[\omega t + \varphi_y(r)] = \text{Re}[E_{y0}(r) e^{j\varphi_y(r)} e^{j\omega t}]$$

$$E_z(x, y, z, t) = E_z(r, t) = E_{z0}(r) \cos[\omega t + \varphi_z(r)]$$

$$= \text{Re}[E_{z0}(r) e^{j\varphi_z(r)} e^{j\omega t}]$$

where Re stands for the real part of the complex function enclosed in the brackets. If we define

$$\dot{E}_x(r) = E_{x0}(r) e^{j\varphi_x(r)}$$

$$\dot{E}_y(r) = E_{y0}(r) e^{j\varphi_y(r)}$$

$$\dot{E}_z(r) = E_{z0}(r) e^{j\varphi_z(r)}$$

(they are the complex functions of space only)

then the scalar components of the \vec{E} field can be written as



$$E_x(x, y, z, t) = E_x(r, t) = \text{Re}[\dot{E}_x(r)e^{j\omega t}]$$

$$E_y(x, y, z, t) = E_y(r, t) = \text{Re}[\dot{E}_y(r)e^{j\omega t}]$$

$$E_z(x, y, z, t) = E_z(r, t) = \text{Re}[\dot{E}_z(r)e^{j\omega t}]$$

the \vec{E} field can now be written as

$$\vec{E}(x, y, z, t)$$

$$= \bar{\mathbf{a}}_x E_x(x, y, z, t) + \bar{\mathbf{a}}_y E_y(x, y, z, t) + \bar{\mathbf{a}}_z E_z(x, y, z, t)$$

$$= \bar{\mathbf{a}}_x \text{Re}[\dot{E}_x(r)e^{j\omega t}] + \bar{\mathbf{a}}_y \text{Re}[\dot{E}_y(r)e^{j\omega t}] + \bar{\mathbf{a}}_z \text{Re}[\dot{E}_z(r)e^{j\omega t}]$$

$$= \text{Re}\{[\bar{\mathbf{a}}_x \dot{E}_x(r) + \bar{\mathbf{a}}_y \dot{E}_y(r) + \bar{\mathbf{a}}_z \dot{E}_z(r)]e^{j\omega t}\}$$

$$= \text{Re}[\dot{\vec{E}}(r)e^{j\omega t}]$$





$\dot{E}_x(r), \dot{E}_y(r)$ and $\dot{E}_z(r)$ are said to be the phasor equivalents of $E_x(r), E_y(r)$ and $E_z(r)$, while $\dot{\vec{E}}(r)$ is the phasor equivalent of \vec{E} the space dependency is included in $\dot{\vec{E}}(r)$ and the time dependency is retained in the implicit form.

Since the time rate of change of the \vec{E} field is

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{\partial \vec{E}(r, t)}{\partial t} &= \frac{\partial}{\partial t} \text{Re}[\dot{\vec{E}}(r) e^{j\omega t}] \\ &= \text{Re}[j\omega \dot{\vec{E}}(r) e^{j\omega t}] \end{aligned}$$



which states that the differentiation with respect to time in the time domain yields a factor $j\omega$ in the phasor domain. Similarly, we can show that the integration with respect to time becomes division by $j\omega$.



❖ Summary

$$E_x = \text{Re}[\dot{E}_x e^{j\omega t}]$$

$$E_y = \text{Re}[\dot{E}_y e^{j\omega t}]$$

$$E_z = \text{Re}[\dot{E}_z e^{j\omega t}]$$





$$\vec{E} = \text{Re}[\dot{\vec{E}} e^{j\omega t}]$$

$$\dot{\vec{E}} = \vec{a}_x \dot{E}_x + \vec{a}_y \dot{E}_y + \vec{a}_z \dot{E}_z$$

We can always express a field in the time domain by multiplying its counterpart in the phasor or frequency domain by $e^{j\omega t}$ and taking its real part only





□ 2. Maxwell's equations in phasor form

$$(1) \quad \nabla \times \bar{\mathbf{H}} = \bar{\mathbf{J}} + \frac{\partial \bar{\mathbf{D}}}{\partial t}$$

$$\nabla \times \text{Re}[\dot{\bar{\mathbf{H}}}e^{j\omega t}] = \text{Re}[\dot{\bar{\mathbf{J}}}e^{j\omega t}] + \frac{\partial}{\partial t} \text{Re}[\dot{\bar{\mathbf{D}}}e^{j\omega t}]$$

$$\nabla \times \text{Re}[\dot{\bar{\mathbf{H}}}e^{j\omega t}] = \text{Re}[\dot{\bar{\mathbf{J}}}e^{j\omega t}] + \text{Re}[j\omega \dot{\bar{\mathbf{D}}}e^{j\omega t}]$$

$$\text{Re}\{\nabla \times [\dot{\bar{\mathbf{H}}}e^{j\omega t}]\} = \text{Re}\{[\dot{\bar{\mathbf{J}}}e^{j\omega t}] + [j\omega \dot{\bar{\mathbf{D}}}e^{j\omega t}]\}$$

$$\text{Re}\{[\nabla \times \dot{\bar{\mathbf{H}}}]e^{j\omega t}\} = \text{Re}\{[\dot{\bar{\mathbf{J}}} + j\omega \dot{\bar{\mathbf{D}}}]e^{j\omega t}\}$$

$$\nabla \times \dot{\bar{\mathbf{H}}} = \dot{\bar{\mathbf{J}}} + j\omega \dot{\bar{\mathbf{D}}}$$





$$\text{Re}\{[\nabla \times \dot{\mathbf{H}}]e^{j\omega t}\} = \text{Re}\{[\dot{\mathbf{J}} + j\omega\dot{\mathbf{D}}]e^{j\omega t}\}$$

$$\text{Re}\{[x + jy]e^{j\omega t}\} = \text{Re}\{[x' + jy']e^{j\omega t}\}$$

$$\text{Re}\{[x + jy](\cos(\omega t) + j\sin(\omega t))\} = \text{Re}\{[x' + jy'](\cos(\omega t) + j\sin(\omega t))\}$$

$$x \cos(\omega t) - y \sin(\omega t) = x' \cos(\omega t) - y' \sin(\omega t)$$

Since time t always goes on, $0 \leq \cos(\omega t) \leq 1$,
 $0 \leq \sin(\omega t) \leq 1$, a large number of values within
[0,1], can be arbitrary.

Thus, $x = x'$; $y = y'$



the time rate of change $\frac{\partial}{\partial t} \Longrightarrow j\omega$

we can obtain the phasor forms of the four Maxwell's equations in the point (differential) and integral forms are

$$(1) \quad \nabla \times \dot{\mathbf{H}} = \dot{\mathbf{J}} + j\omega\dot{\mathbf{D}} \Longrightarrow \oint_l \dot{\mathbf{H}} \cdot d\vec{\mathbf{l}} = \int_s (\dot{\mathbf{J}} + j\omega\dot{\mathbf{D}}) \cdot d\vec{\mathbf{s}}$$

$$(2) \quad \nabla \times \dot{\mathbf{E}} = -j\omega\dot{\mathbf{B}} \Longrightarrow \oint_l \dot{\mathbf{E}} \cdot d\vec{\mathbf{l}} = -j\omega \int_s \dot{\mathbf{B}} \cdot d\vec{\mathbf{s}}$$

$$(3) \quad \nabla \cdot \dot{\mathbf{D}} = \dot{\rho}_v \Longrightarrow \oint_s \dot{\mathbf{D}} \cdot d\vec{\mathbf{s}} = \int_v \dot{\rho}_v dv$$

$$(4) \quad \nabla \cdot \dot{\mathbf{B}} = 0 \Longrightarrow \oint_s \dot{\mathbf{B}} \cdot d\vec{\mathbf{s}} = 0$$

$$(5) \quad \nabla \cdot \dot{\mathbf{J}} = -j\omega\dot{\rho}_v \Longrightarrow \oint_s \dot{\mathbf{J}} \cdot d\vec{\mathbf{s}} = -j\omega \int_v \dot{\rho}_v dv$$





the constitutive relationships in the phasor form are

$$(6) \quad \dot{\mathbf{D}} = \epsilon \dot{\mathbf{E}}$$

$$(7) \quad \dot{\mathbf{J}} = \sigma \dot{\mathbf{E}}$$

$$(8) \quad \dot{\mathbf{B}} = \mu \dot{\mathbf{H}}$$

3. Poynting Theorem in phasor form

In terms of mathematic knowledge , we have equation

$$\dot{\mathbf{E}} \cdot (\nabla \times \dot{\mathbf{H}}^*) - \dot{\mathbf{H}}^* \cdot (\nabla \times \dot{\mathbf{E}}) = -\nabla \cdot (\dot{\mathbf{E}} \times \dot{\mathbf{H}}^*)$$

we will understand these signs in the followings:

$$\dot{\vec{E}} \bullet (\nabla \times \dot{\vec{H}}^*) - \dot{\vec{H}}^* \bullet (\nabla \times \dot{\vec{E}}) = -\nabla \bullet (\dot{\vec{E}} \times \dot{\vec{H}}^*)$$



1) The scalar product of the conjugate of Maxwell's equation (1) with $\dot{\vec{E}}$ yields

$$\dot{\vec{E}} \bullet (\nabla \times \dot{\vec{H}}^*) = \dot{\vec{E}} \bullet (\dot{\vec{J}}^* - j\omega\dot{\vec{D}}^*) \quad (7.122)$$

where $*$ represents the conjugate of a field quantity.

2) Similarly, the scalar product of Maxwell's equation (2) with $\dot{\vec{H}}^*$ yields

$$\dot{\vec{H}}^* \bullet (\nabla \times \dot{\vec{E}}) = -j\omega\dot{\vec{H}}^* \bullet \dot{\vec{B}} \quad (7.121)$$

Subtracting equation(7.121) from equation(7.122), we obtain





$$\begin{aligned}\dot{\mathbf{E}} \bullet (\nabla \times \dot{\mathbf{H}}^*) - \dot{\mathbf{H}}^* \bullet (\nabla \times \dot{\mathbf{E}}) &= -\nabla \bullet (\dot{\mathbf{E}} \times \dot{\mathbf{H}}^*) \\ &= \dot{\mathbf{E}} \bullet (\dot{\mathbf{J}}^* - j\omega\dot{\mathbf{D}}^*) + j\omega\dot{\mathbf{H}}^* \bullet \dot{\mathbf{B}} \\ &= \dot{\mathbf{E}} \bullet \dot{\mathbf{J}}^* + j\omega(\dot{\mathbf{B}} \bullet \dot{\mathbf{H}}^* - \dot{\mathbf{E}} \bullet \dot{\mathbf{D}}^*)\end{aligned}$$

Is divided by 2 both sides, we can obtain

$$-\nabla \bullet \left(\frac{1}{2} \dot{\mathbf{E}} \times \dot{\mathbf{H}}^* \right) = \frac{1}{2} \dot{\mathbf{E}} \bullet \dot{\mathbf{J}}^* + j\omega \left(\frac{1}{2} \dot{\mathbf{B}} \bullet \dot{\mathbf{H}}^* - \frac{1}{2} \dot{\mathbf{E}} \bullet \dot{\mathbf{D}}^* \right)$$

**Using the definition of the complex Poynting vector
or complex power density**





$$\dot{\mathbf{S}} = \frac{1}{2} \dot{\mathbf{E}} \times \dot{\mathbf{H}}^*$$

we obtain

$$\begin{aligned} - \nabla \cdot \dot{\mathbf{S}} &= \frac{1}{2} \dot{\mathbf{E}} \cdot \dot{\mathbf{J}}^* + j\omega \left(\frac{1}{2} \dot{\mathbf{B}} \cdot \dot{\mathbf{H}}^* - \frac{1}{2} \dot{\mathbf{E}} \cdot \dot{\mathbf{D}}^* \right) \\ - \nabla \cdot \dot{\mathbf{S}} &= \frac{1}{2} \dot{\mathbf{E}} \cdot \dot{\mathbf{J}}^* + j2\omega \left(\frac{1}{4} \dot{\mathbf{B}} \cdot \dot{\mathbf{H}}^* - \frac{1}{4} \dot{\mathbf{E}} \cdot \dot{\mathbf{D}}^* \right) \end{aligned} \quad (7.125)$$

equation(7.125) is known as the complex Poynting theorem in the differential form. Integrating over volume v bounded by surfaces and applying the divergence theorem, we obtain the complex Poynting theorem in integral form as



$$-\oint_s \dot{\vec{S}} \cdot d\vec{s} = \int_v \left(\frac{1}{2} \dot{\vec{E}} \cdot \dot{\vec{J}}^* \right) dv + j2\omega \int_v \left(\frac{1}{4} \dot{\vec{B}} \cdot \dot{\vec{H}}^* - \frac{1}{4} \dot{\vec{E}} \cdot \dot{\vec{D}}^* \right) dv$$



(7.126)

for a time-vary field (\vec{E}, \vec{H}) the field changes with time.

For example,

$$\vec{E}(x, y, z, t) = \vec{a}_x E_x(x, y, z, t) + \vec{a}_y E_y(x, y, z, t) + \vec{a}_z E_z(x, y, z, t)$$

$$\begin{aligned} E_x(x, y, z, t) &= E_x(r, t) = E_{x0}(r) \cos[\omega t + \varphi_x(r)] \\ &= \text{Re}[E_{x0}(r) e^{j\varphi_x(r)} e^{j\omega t}] \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} E_y(x, y, z, t) &= E_y(r, t) = E_{y0}(r) \cos[\omega t + \varphi_y(r)] \\ &= \text{Re}[E_{y0}(r) e^{j\varphi_y(r)} e^{j\omega t}] \end{aligned}$$





$$\begin{aligned} E_z(x, y, z, t) &= E_z(r, t) = E_{z0}(r) \cos[\omega t + \varphi_z(r)] \\ &= \text{Re}[E_{z0}(r) e^{j\varphi_z(r)} e^{j\omega t}] \end{aligned}$$

That means that the magnitude and direction of the time-varying field **at time t_1** may be different from the magnitude and direction of the time-varying field **at another time t_2** . **thus, the energy density (W_e, W_m) and the power density (\vec{S}) also changes with time.**

In general, we should have the time-average energy density and the power density. That is,





$$\begin{aligned} W_{eave} &= \frac{1}{T} \int_0^T W_e(t) dt = \frac{1}{T} \int_0^T \left(\frac{1}{2} \epsilon E^2(t) \right) dt \\ &= \frac{1}{T} \int_0^T \left(\frac{1}{2} \epsilon E^2 \cos^2(\omega t + \varphi_E(r)) \right) dt \\ &= \frac{1}{4} \epsilon E^2 \\ &= \frac{1}{4} \epsilon \dot{\mathbf{E}} \bullet \dot{\mathbf{E}}^* = \frac{1}{4} \dot{\mathbf{D}} \bullet \dot{\mathbf{E}}^* = \frac{1}{4} \dot{\mathbf{E}} \bullet \dot{\mathbf{D}}^* \end{aligned}$$

(since the permittivity ϵ is a real number)





$$\begin{aligned} W_{\text{mave}} &= \frac{1}{T} \int_0^T W_m(t) dt = \frac{1}{T} \int_0^T \left(\frac{1}{2} \mu H^2(t) \right) dt \\ &= \frac{1}{T} \int_0^T \left(\frac{1}{2} \mu H^2 \cos^2(\omega t + \varphi_H(r)) \right) dt \\ &= \frac{1}{4} \mu H^2 \\ &= \frac{1}{4} \mu \dot{\mathbf{H}} \cdot \dot{\mathbf{H}}^* = \frac{1}{4} \dot{\mathbf{B}} \cdot \dot{\mathbf{H}}^* \end{aligned}$$

similarly, the time-average power dissipated within the conductive medium can also be given by





$$\begin{aligned} P_{lave} &= \frac{1}{T} \int_0^T P_l(t) dt = \frac{1}{T} \int_0^T \sigma E^2(t) dt \\ &= \frac{1}{T} \int_0^T \left(\sigma E^2 \cos^2(\omega t + \varphi_E(r)) \right) dt \\ &= \frac{1}{2} \sigma E^2 \\ &= \frac{1}{2} \sigma \dot{\mathbf{E}} \cdot \dot{\mathbf{E}}^* = \frac{1}{2} \dot{\mathbf{J}} \cdot \dot{\mathbf{E}}^* = \frac{1}{2} \dot{\mathbf{E}} \cdot \dot{\mathbf{J}}^* \end{aligned}$$

**(the conductivity σ is a real number,
Plave is a volume power density. W/m^3)**





$$\begin{aligned}\bar{\mathbf{S}}_{ave} &= \frac{1}{T} \int_0^T \bar{\mathbf{S}}(t) dt = \frac{1}{T} \int_0^T [\bar{\mathbf{E}}(t) \times \bar{\mathbf{H}}(t)] dt \\&= \frac{1}{T} \int_0^T [\text{Re}(\dot{\mathbf{E}} e^{j\omega t}) \times \text{Re}(\dot{\mathbf{H}} e^{j\omega t})] dt \\&= \frac{1}{T} \int_0^T \left(\frac{1}{2} \text{Re}[(\dot{\mathbf{E}} e^{j\omega t}) \times (\dot{\mathbf{H}} e^{j\omega t})^*] \right) dt \\&= \frac{1}{T} \int_0^T \left(\frac{1}{2} \text{Re}[(\dot{\mathbf{E}} e^{j\omega t}) \times (\dot{\mathbf{H}}^* e^{-j\omega t})] \right) dt \\&= \frac{1}{2} \text{Re}(\dot{\mathbf{E}} \times \dot{\mathbf{H}}^*) \\&= \text{Re}(\dot{\mathbf{S}})\end{aligned}$$



$\dot{\mathbf{S}} = \frac{1}{2} \dot{\mathbf{E}} \times \dot{\mathbf{H}}^*$ therefore, equation (7.125) and (7.126) can be rewritten as



$$-\nabla \bullet \dot{\mathbf{S}} = \frac{1}{2} \dot{\mathbf{E}} \bullet \dot{\mathbf{J}}^* + j\omega \left(\frac{1}{2} \dot{\mathbf{B}} \bullet \dot{\mathbf{H}}^* - \frac{1}{2} \dot{\mathbf{E}} \bullet \dot{\mathbf{D}}^* \right) \quad (7.125a)$$

$$-\nabla \bullet \dot{\mathbf{S}} = \frac{1}{2} \dot{\mathbf{E}} \bullet \dot{\mathbf{J}}^* + j2\omega \left(\frac{1}{4} \dot{\mathbf{B}} \bullet \dot{\mathbf{H}}^* - \frac{1}{4} \dot{\mathbf{E}} \bullet \dot{\mathbf{D}}^* \right) \quad (7.125a)$$

$$-\nabla \bullet \dot{\mathbf{S}} = P_{lave} + j2\omega (W_{mave} - W_{eave}) \quad (7.125b)$$

$$-\oint_s \dot{\mathbf{S}} \bullet d\bar{\mathbf{s}} = \int_v \left(\frac{1}{2} \dot{\mathbf{E}} \bullet \dot{\mathbf{J}}^* \right) dv + j2\omega \int_v \left(\frac{1}{4} \dot{\mathbf{B}} \bullet \dot{\mathbf{H}}^* - \frac{1}{4} \dot{\mathbf{E}} \bullet \dot{\mathbf{D}}^* \right) dv \quad (7.126a)$$

$$-\oint_s \dot{\mathbf{S}} \bullet d\bar{\mathbf{s}} = \int_v P_{lave} dv + j2\omega \int_v (W_{mave} - W_{eave}) dv \quad (7.126b)$$



□ 4. General wave equations



Let us consider a uniform but source-free medium having dielectric constant ϵ , magnetic permeability μ , and conductivity σ . The medium is considered to be **source free** as long as it does not contain the charges and currents necessary to generate the fields. However, **the conduction current density** as determined by Ohm's law($\vec{J} = \sigma \vec{E}$) can exist in a finitely conducting medium. Under these conditions, Maxwell's equations are

$$(1) \quad \nabla \times \vec{H} = \vec{J} + \frac{\partial}{\partial t} \vec{D} = \sigma \vec{E} + \frac{\partial}{\partial t} \vec{D}$$





$$(2) \quad \nabla \times \vec{E} = -\frac{\partial}{\partial t} \vec{B}$$

$$(3) \quad \nabla \cdot \vec{D} = 0$$

$$(4) \quad \nabla \cdot \vec{B} = 0$$

Instead of four variables, the preceding coupled equations are in terms of two variables(\vec{E}, \vec{H}) by applying the constitutive equations

$$\vec{D} = \epsilon \vec{E} \quad \text{and} \quad \vec{B} = \mu \vec{H}$$

$$(1) \quad \nabla \times \vec{H} = \sigma \vec{E} + \epsilon \frac{\partial}{\partial t} \vec{E}$$

$$(2) \quad \nabla \times \vec{E} = -\mu \frac{\partial}{\partial t} \vec{H}$$





$$(3) \quad \nabla \cdot \vec{E} = 0$$

$$(4) \quad \nabla \cdot \vec{H} = 0$$

Let us now obtain an equation in terms of one variable, say the \vec{E} field only. To do this, we take the curl of equation(2) and obtain

$$\begin{aligned} \nabla \times \nabla \times \vec{E} &= -\mu \frac{\partial}{\partial t} \nabla \times \vec{H} \\ &= -\mu \frac{\partial}{\partial t} \left(\sigma \vec{E} + \varepsilon \frac{\partial}{\partial t} \vec{E} \right) \\ &= -\mu \sigma \frac{\partial \vec{E}}{\partial t} - \mu \varepsilon \frac{\partial^2 \vec{E}}{\partial t^2} \end{aligned}$$





Using the vector identity

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

and substituting $\nabla \cdot \vec{E} = 0$, we have

$$\nabla^2 \vec{E} - \mu\sigma \frac{\partial \vec{E}}{\partial t} - \mu\epsilon \frac{\partial^2 \vec{E}}{\partial t^2} = 0 \quad (7.j1)$$

which is a set of three scalar equations, one for each component of the \vec{E} field, in a conducting medium. We can also obtain a similar set of

three scalar equations in terms of the \vec{H} field as

$$\nabla^2 \vec{H} - \mu\sigma \frac{\partial \vec{H}}{\partial t} - \mu\epsilon \frac{\partial^2 \vec{H}}{\partial t^2} = 0 \quad (7.j2)$$





the set of six independent equations given by (7.j1) and (7.j2) are known as the general wave equations. They govern the behavior of all electromagnetic fields in a uniform but source-free conducting medium.

❖ Discussion:

□ (1) the second-order term in the second-order differential equation indicates that the fields decay (lose energy) as they propagate through the medium. For this reason, a conducting medium is called a lossy medium.





- (2) The conduction current is almost nonexistent in comparison with the displacement current. Such a medium may be treated as a perfect dielectric or lossless medium ($\sigma = 0$). Thus, by setting $\sigma = 0$ in (7.j1) and (7.j2), we obtain the wave equations for a lossless medium as

$$\nabla^2 \vec{\mathbf{E}} - \mu\epsilon \frac{\partial^2 \vec{\mathbf{E}}}{\partial t^2} = 0$$

$$\nabla^2 \vec{\mathbf{H}} - \mu\epsilon \frac{\partial^2 \vec{\mathbf{H}}}{\partial t^2} = 0$$



- (3) The general wave equations in phasor form





Equation(2.6.5) can be rewritten in phasor form as

$$\nabla^2 \dot{\mathbf{E}} - j\omega\mu\sigma \dot{\mathbf{E}} - \mu\epsilon (j\omega)(j\omega) \dot{\mathbf{E}} = 0$$

$$\nabla^2 \dot{\mathbf{E}} - j\omega\mu\sigma \dot{\mathbf{E}} + \omega^2 \mu\epsilon \dot{\mathbf{E}} = 0$$

$$\nabla^2 \dot{\mathbf{E}} + \omega^2 \mu\epsilon_c \dot{\mathbf{E}} = 0$$

$$\nabla^2 \dot{\mathbf{E}} + k^2 \dot{\mathbf{E}} = 0 \quad (7.j3)$$

where ϵ_c is complex permittivity for the conducting medium, it can be written as

$$\epsilon_c = \epsilon - j\sigma/\omega$$





and where k is the propagation constant. It is a complex quantity.

$$K^2 = \omega^2 \mu \epsilon_c$$

Similarly, and equation(2.6.6) can be rewritten as

$$\nabla^2 \dot{\mathbf{H}} + k^2 \dot{\mathbf{H}} = 0 \quad (7.j4)$$

Equation(7.j3) and equation(7.j4) can also be derived from Maxwell's equations in phasor form.(Exercise 2.)

