

WAVE PROPAGATION IN LOSSY DIELECTRICS

Introduction

➤ Our goal is to **derive EM wave motion** in the following media:

1. Free space ($\sigma = 0, \varepsilon = \varepsilon_0, \mu = \mu_0$)
2. Lossless dielectrics ($\sigma = 0, \varepsilon = \varepsilon_r \varepsilon_0, \mu = \mu_r \mu_0$ or $\sigma \ll \omega \varepsilon$)
3. Lossy dielectrics ($\sigma \neq 0, \varepsilon = \varepsilon_r \varepsilon_0, \mu = \mu_r \mu_0$)
4. Good conductors ($\sigma \approx \infty, \varepsilon = \varepsilon_0, \mu = \mu_r \mu_0$ or $\sigma \gg \omega \varepsilon$)

➤ where ω is the angular frequency of the wave

➤ Case 3, for lossy dielectrics, is the most general case and will be considered first

➤ Remaining cases derived by changing the values of σ, ε , and μ

Introduction

- Wave propagation in lossy dielectrics is a **general case** from which wave propagation in other types of media can be derived as special cases
- A **lossy dielectric** is a medium in which an EM wave loses power as it propagates due to **partial conduction**
- In other words, a lossy dielectric is a **partially conducting** medium (imperfect dielectric or imperfect conductor) with $\sigma \neq 0$
- We will consider a linear, isotropic, homogeneous, lossy dielectric medium that is charge free ($\rho_v = 0$)

Maxwell's Equations in Phasor Form

- The wave equation will be obtained from Maxwell's equations for time-varying fields
- Maxwell's equations in the **phasor form will be used** by removing the time-varying quantity
- Once we have the solution of the vector wave equation, the time varying quantity will be added back
- A sinusoidal current $I(t) = I_o \cos(\omega t + \theta)$, for example, equals the **real part of $I_o e^{j\theta} e^{j\omega t}$**

Maxwell's Equations in Phasor Form

- In performing mathematical operations, we must be consistent in our use of either the **real part** or the **imaginary part** of a quantity
- The current $I'(t) = I_o \sin(\omega t + \theta)$, which is the imaginary part of $I_o e^{j\theta} e^{j\omega t}$, can also be represented as the **real part** of $I_o e^{j\theta} e^{j\omega t} e^{-j90^\circ}$ because $\sin \alpha = \cos(\alpha - 90^\circ)$
- The complex term $I_o e^{j\theta}$, which results from dropping the time factor $e^{j\omega t}$ in $I(t)$ is called the **phasor current**, denoted by I_s :

$$I_s = I_o e^{j\theta} = I_o \angle \theta$$

Maxwell's Equations in Phasor Form

- Thus $I(t) = I_o \cos(\omega t + \theta)$, the instantaneous form, can be expressed as:

$$I(t) = \text{Re} (I_s e^{j\omega t})$$

- If a vector $\mathbf{A}(x, y, z, t)$ is a time-harmonic field, the phasor form of \mathbf{A} is $\mathbf{A}_s(x, y, z)$; the two quantities are related as:

$$\mathbf{A} = \text{Re} (\mathbf{A}_s e^{j\omega t})$$

- For example, if $\mathbf{A} = A_o \cos(\omega t - \beta x) \mathbf{a}_y$, we can write \mathbf{A} as:

$$\mathbf{A} = \text{Re} (A_o e^{-j\beta x} \mathbf{a}_y e^{j\omega t})$$

- Therefore, the **phasor form of \mathbf{A}** is:

$$\mathbf{A}_s = A_o e^{-j\beta x} \mathbf{a}_y$$

Maxwell's Equations in Phasor Form

- From the previous discussion:

$$\begin{aligned}\frac{\partial \mathbf{A}}{\partial t} &= \frac{\partial}{\partial t} \operatorname{Re} (\mathbf{A}_s e^{j\omega t}) \\ &= \operatorname{Re} (j\omega \mathbf{A}_s e^{j\omega t})\end{aligned}$$

- Therefore:

$$\frac{\partial \mathbf{A}}{\partial t} \rightarrow j\omega \mathbf{A}_s$$

- Similarly:

$$\int \mathbf{A} \, dt \rightarrow \frac{\mathbf{A}_s}{j\omega}$$

- We shall now apply the phasor concept to time-varying EM fields

Maxwell's Equations in Phasor Form

- The fields quantities $\mathbf{E}(x, y, z, t)$, $\mathbf{D}(x, y, z, t)$, $\mathbf{H}(x, y, z, t)$, $\mathbf{B}(x, y, z, t)$, $\mathbf{J}(x, y, z, t)$, and $\rho_v(x, y, z, t)$ and their derivatives can be expressed in phasor form
- In phasor form, Maxwell's equations for time-harmonic EM fields in a linear, isotropic, and homogeneous medium can be written as:

$$\nabla \cdot \mathbf{E}_s = 0$$

$$\nabla \cdot \mathbf{H}_s = 0$$

$$\nabla \times \mathbf{E}_s = -j\omega\mu\mathbf{H}_s$$

$$\nabla \times \mathbf{H}_s = (\sigma + j\omega\epsilon)\mathbf{E}_s$$

Wave Propagation in Lossy Dielectrics


- Taking curl on both sides of the Maxwell's equation, we get:

$$\nabla \times \nabla \times \mathbf{E}_s = -j\omega\mu \nabla \times \mathbf{H}_s$$

- We have the vector identity:

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

- Applying the vector identity to the left side of the equation and by substituting Maxwell's remaining equations, we get:

$$\cancel{\nabla (\nabla \cdot \mathbf{E}_s)} - \nabla^2 \mathbf{E}_s = -j\omega\mu(\sigma + j\omega\epsilon)\mathbf{E}_s$$


- Or: $\nabla^2 \mathbf{E}_s - \gamma^2 \mathbf{E}_s = 0$

- Where: $\gamma^2 = j\omega\mu(\sigma + j\omega\epsilon)$

Wave Propagation in Lossy Dielectrics

- The quantity γ is called the **propagation constant** (in per meter) of the medium
- By a similar procedure, it can be shown that for the \mathbf{H} field:

$$\nabla^2 \mathbf{H}_s - \gamma^2 \mathbf{H}_s = 0$$

- These equations for \mathbf{E} and \mathbf{H} are known as homogeneous vector Helmholtz 's equations or simply **vector wave equations**
- In Cartesian coordinates, the wave equation for \mathbf{E} , for example, is equivalent to three scalar wave equations, one for each component of \mathbf{E} along \mathbf{a}_x , \mathbf{a}_y , and \mathbf{a}_z

Wave Propagation in Lossy Dielectrics

- Since γ is a complex quantity, we may write it as:

$$\gamma = \alpha + j\beta$$

- We obtain α and β from the previous equations as:

$$-\text{Re } \gamma^2 = \beta^2 - \alpha^2 = \omega^2 \mu \epsilon$$

- And:

$$|\gamma^2| = \beta^2 + \alpha^2 = \omega \mu \sqrt{\sigma^2 + \omega^2 \epsilon^2}$$

- From the above equations we obtain:

$$\alpha = \omega \sqrt{\frac{\mu \epsilon}{2} \left[\sqrt{1 + \left[\frac{\sigma}{\omega \epsilon} \right]^2} - 1 \right]}$$

$$\beta = \omega \sqrt{\frac{\mu \epsilon}{2} \left[\sqrt{1 + \left[\frac{\sigma}{\omega \epsilon} \right]^2} + 1 \right]}$$

Wave Propagation in Lossy Dielectrics

- For simplicity, we assume that the wave propagates along $+\mathbf{a}_z$ and that \mathbf{E}_s has only an x-component, then:

$$\mathbf{E}_s = E_{xs}(z)\mathbf{a}_x$$

- Substituting the above into the wave equation, we get:

$$(\nabla^2 - \gamma^2)E_{xs}(z)$$

- Therefore:

$$\underbrace{\frac{\partial^2 E_{xs}(z)}{\partial x^2}}_0 + \underbrace{\frac{\partial^2 E_{xs}(z)}{\partial y^2}}_0 + \frac{\partial^2 E_{xs}(z)}{\partial z^2} - \gamma^2 E_{xs}(z) = 0$$

- Or:

$$\left[\frac{d^2}{dz^2} - \gamma^2 \right] E_{xs}(z) = 0$$

Wave Propagation in Lossy Dielectrics

- This is a scalar wave equation, a **linear homogeneous differential equation**, with solution:

$$E_{xs}(z) = E_o e^{-\gamma z} + E'_o e^{\gamma z}$$

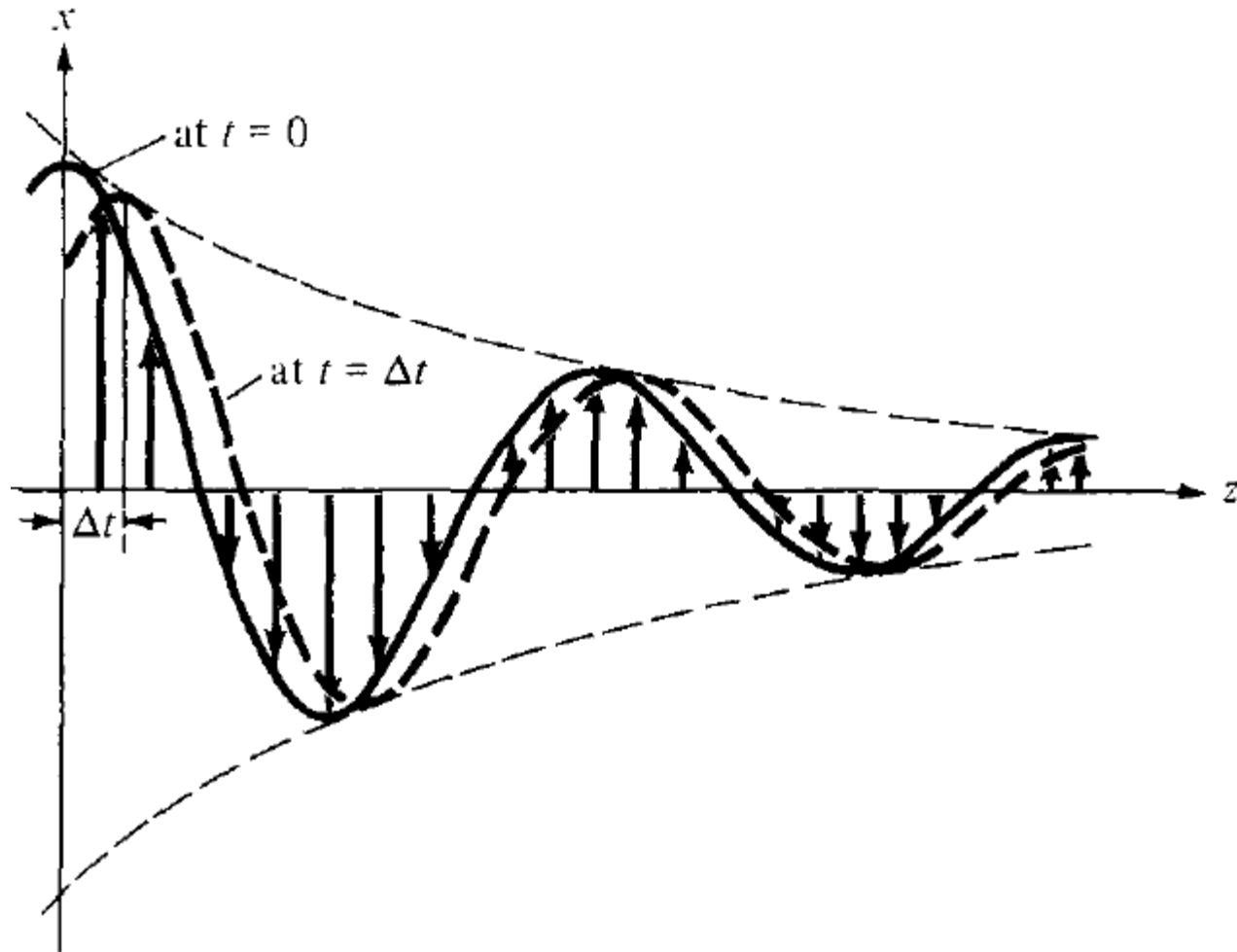
- where E_o and E'_o are constants
- The fact that the field must be finite at infinity requires that $E'_o = 0$
- Alternatively, because $e^{\gamma z}$ denotes a wave traveling along $-\mathbf{a}_z$ whereas we assume wave propagation along \mathbf{a}_z , $\Rightarrow E'_o = 0$
- Inserting the time factor $e^{j\omega t}$ into the above equation and using value of γ , we obtain:

$$\mathbf{E}(z, t) = \text{Re} [E_{xs}(z) e^{j\omega t} \mathbf{a}_x] = \text{Re} (E_o e^{-\alpha z} e^{j(\omega t - \beta z)} \mathbf{a}_x)$$

Wave Propagation in Lossy Dielectrics

➤ Or:
$$\mathbf{E}(z, t) = E_0 e^{-\alpha z} \cos(\omega t - \beta z) \mathbf{a}_x$$

- A sketch of $|\mathbf{E}|$ at times $t = 0$ and $t = \Delta t$ is shown, where it is evident that \mathbf{E} has only an x-component and it is traveling along the +z-direction



Problem-1

- The equation of $\mathbf{E}(z,t)$ for an EM wave in a lossy dielectric medium is given below. Determine the equation for $\mathbf{H}(z,t)$ for the same EM wave.

$$\mathbf{E}(z, t) = \text{Re} [E_{xs}(z)e^{j\omega t}\mathbf{a}_x] = \text{Re} (E_0e^{-\alpha z}e^{j(\omega t-\beta z)}\mathbf{a}_x)$$

Problem-1

We will use the phasor form of Maxwell's equations:-

$$\text{So } \vec{E} = \text{Re} [E_{xs}(z) e^{j\omega t} \vec{a}_x]$$

$$\Rightarrow \vec{E}_s = E_0 e^{-(\alpha + j\beta)z} \quad \text{or } \vec{E}_s = E_{xs} \vec{a}_x$$

From Maxwell's equation, we have

$$\vec{\nabla} \times \vec{E}_s = -j\omega \mu \vec{H}_s$$

$$\text{or } \vec{H}_s = \frac{\vec{\nabla} \times \vec{E}_s}{-j\omega \mu}$$

$$\nabla \times \vec{E}_s = \begin{vmatrix} \vec{a}_x & \vec{a}_y & \vec{a}_z \\ \frac{\partial}{\partial x} & \frac{\partial}{\partial y} & \frac{\partial}{\partial z} \\ E_{xs} & 0 & 0 \end{vmatrix} = 0 \vec{a}_x - \vec{a}_y \left(-\frac{\partial E_{xs}}{\partial z} \right) + \vec{a}_z \left(-\frac{\partial E_{xs}}{\partial y} \right) \rightarrow 0$$

Problem-1

$$\vec{\nabla} \times \vec{E}_s = \frac{\partial E_{xs}}{\partial z} \vec{a}_y = -E_0(\alpha + j\beta) e^{-(\alpha + j\beta)z} \vec{a}_y$$

$$\vec{H}_s = \left(\frac{\alpha + j\beta}{j\omega\mu} \right) E_0 e^{-(\alpha + j\beta)z} \vec{a}_y$$

now $\alpha + j\beta = \gamma = \sqrt{j\omega\mu(\sigma + j\omega\epsilon)}$

$$\frac{\alpha + j\beta}{j\omega\mu} = \frac{\sqrt{\sigma + j\omega\epsilon}}{j\omega\mu} = \frac{1}{\eta}$$

where $\eta = \text{intrinsic impedance in ohms of the medium}$

$$\vec{H}_s = \frac{E_0}{\eta} e^{-(\alpha + j\beta)z} \vec{a}_y$$

OR

$$\text{or } \vec{H}(z, t) = \text{Re} \left[\frac{E_0}{\eta} e^{-\alpha z} e^{j(\omega t - \beta z)} \vec{a}_y \right]$$

Wave Propagation in Lossy Dielectrics

- Since η is a complex quantity, it may be written as:

$$\eta = \sqrt{\frac{j\omega\mu}{\sigma + j\omega\epsilon}} = |\eta| \angle \theta_\eta = |\eta| e^{j\theta_\eta}$$

- With:

$$|\eta| = \frac{\sqrt{\mu/\epsilon}}{\left[1 + \left(\frac{\sigma}{\omega\epsilon}\right)^2\right]^{1/4}}, \quad \tan 2\theta_\eta = \frac{\sigma}{\omega\epsilon}$$

- Where:

$$0 \leq \theta_\eta \leq 45^\circ$$

- Therefore, using the above quantities, \mathbf{H} may be written as:

$$\mathbf{H} = \text{Re} \left[\frac{E_o}{|\eta| e^{j\theta_\eta}} e^{-\alpha z} e^{j(\omega t - \beta z)} \mathbf{a}_y \right] \quad \text{OR} \quad \mathbf{H} = \frac{E_o}{|\eta|} e^{-\alpha z} \cos(\omega t - \beta z - \theta_\eta) \mathbf{a}_y$$