

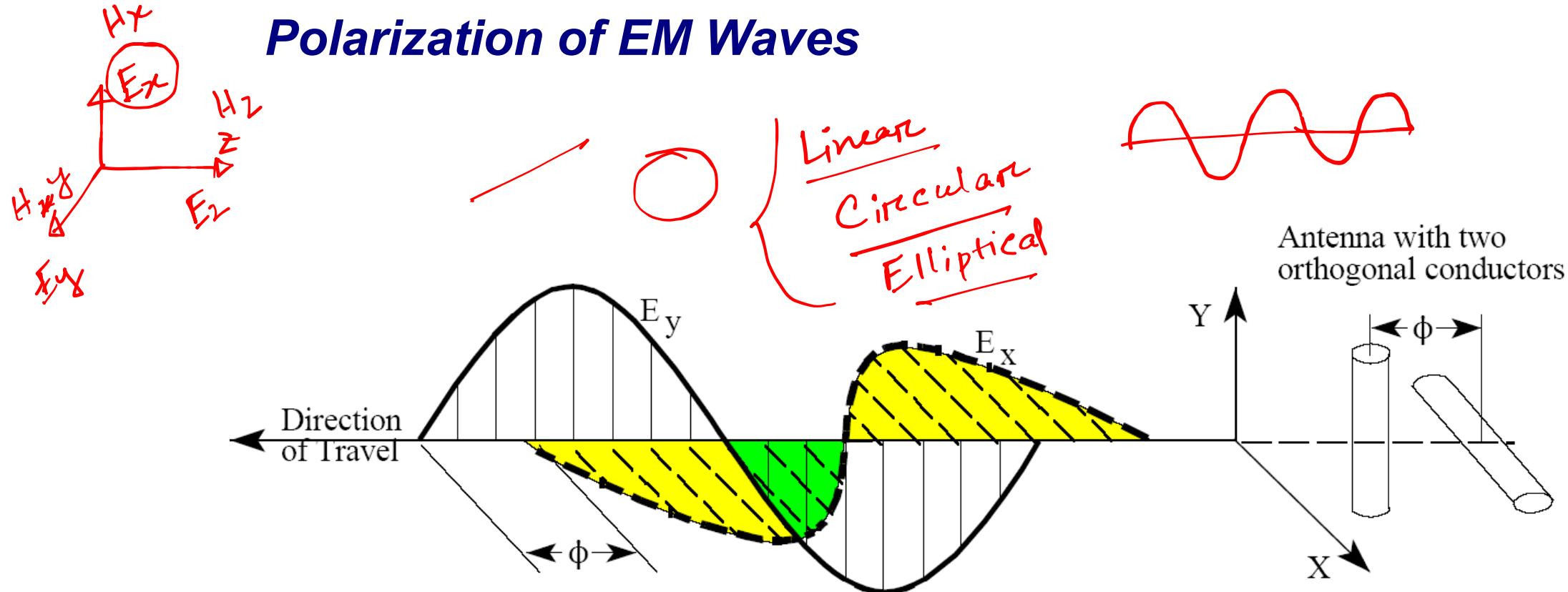
# Lecture 8

## Polarization

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# Polarization of EM Waves

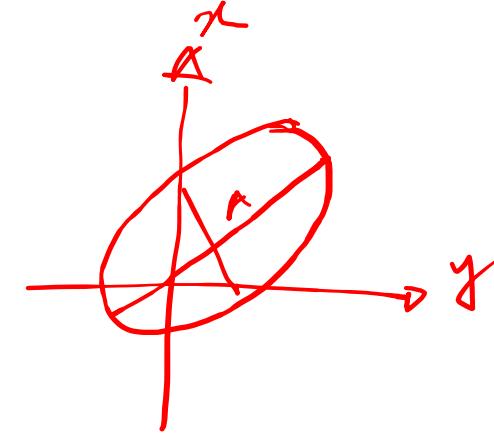
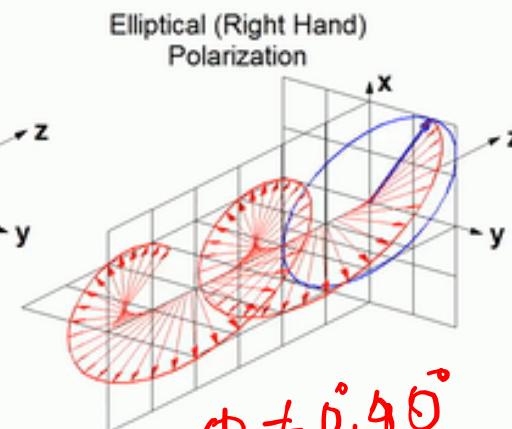
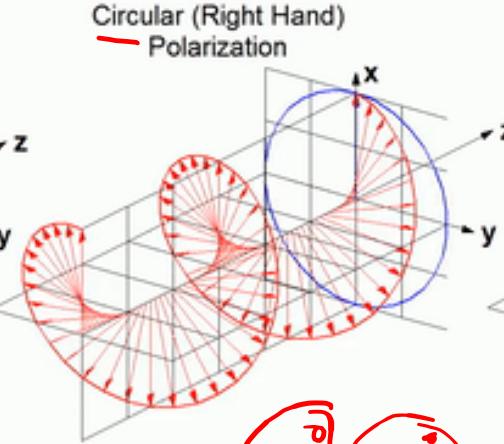
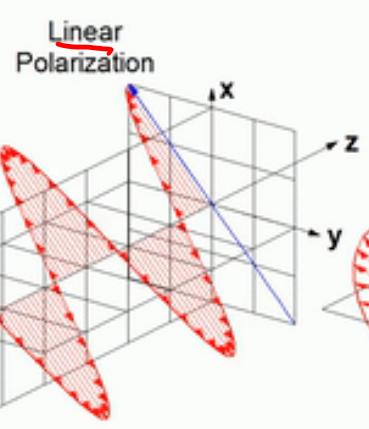


The sum of the E field vectors determines the sense of polarization

**Polarization** is the property of wave that can oscillate with more than one orientation. A light wave that is vibrating in more than one plane is referred to as unpolarized light. The process of transforming unpolarized light into polarized light is known as **polarization of light**.

# Polarization

RHCP      clockwise



$$\left\{ \begin{array}{l} E_x = A \cos(\omega t - k_z z) \\ E_y = B \cos(\omega t - k_z z + \varphi) \end{array} \right.$$

$$\varphi = 0^\circ, 180^\circ$$

$$\varphi = 90^\circ, 270^\circ$$

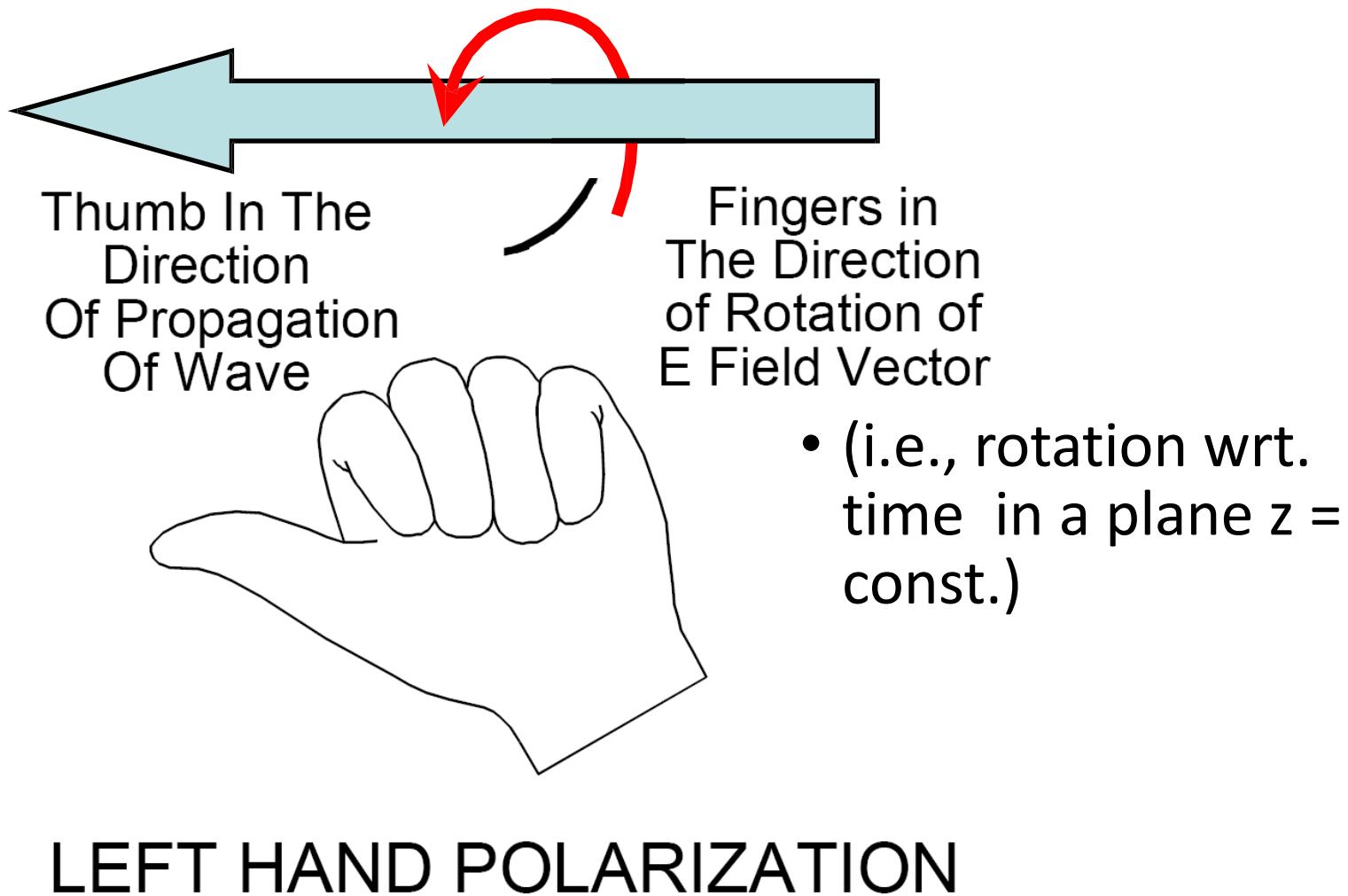
$$\varphi \neq 0, 90^\circ$$
  
$$A > B$$

Linear polarization: When an ordinary (unpolarized) light is reflected from a polished surface or transmission through certain materials, the electric fields vector oscillates along a straight line in one plane, and the light is said to be linearly polarized.

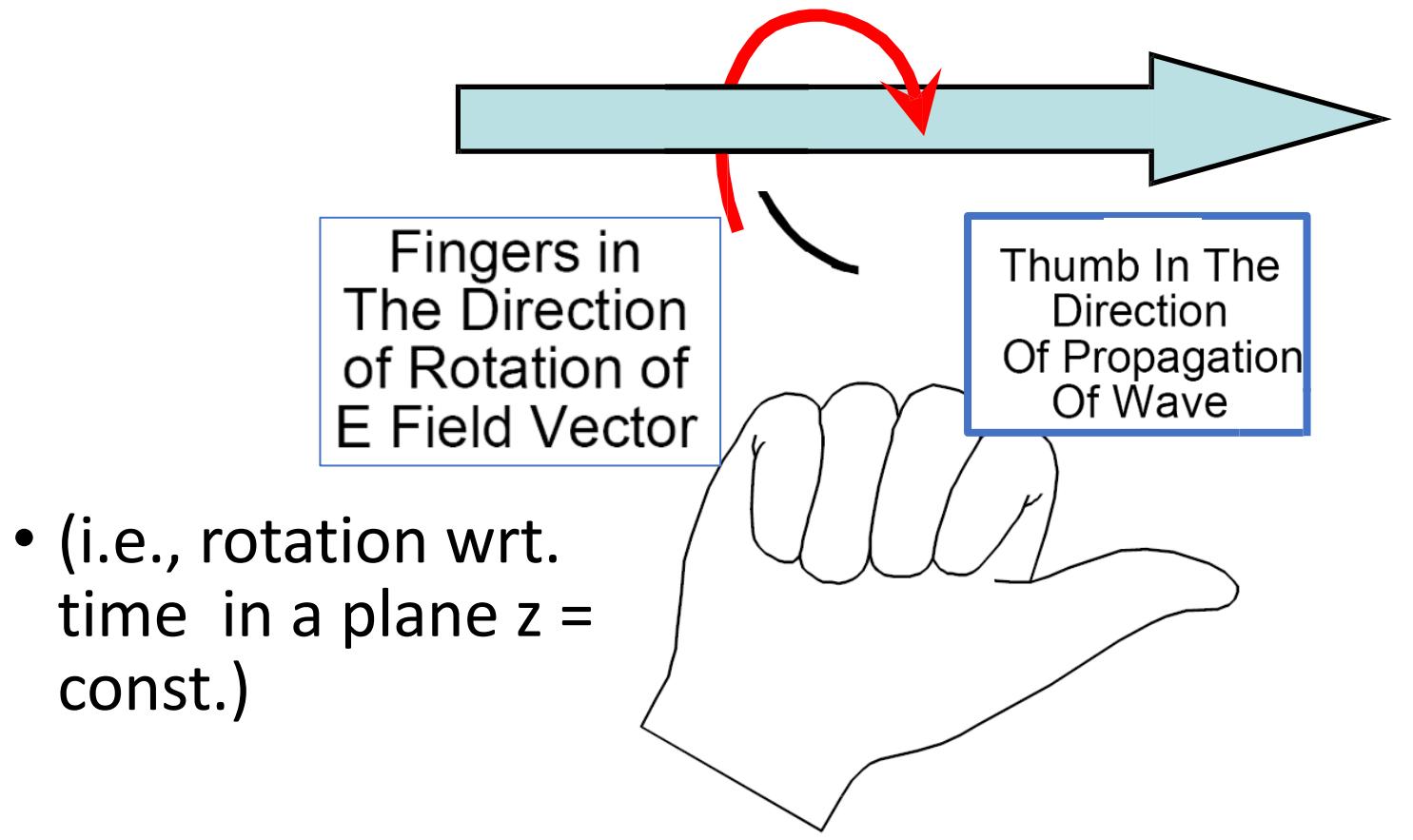
Circular polarization: The electric field of light consists of two linear components that are perpendicular to each other, equal in amplitude, but have a phase difference of  $\pi/2$ . The resulting electric field rotates in a circle around the direction of propagation and, depending on the rotation direction, is called left- or right-hand circularly polarized light.

Elliptical polarization: The electric field of light describes an ellipse. This results from the combination of two linear components with differing amplitudes or a phase difference that is not  $\pi/2$ .

## Polarization of EM Waves



## Polarization of EM Waves



RIGHT HAND POLARIZATION

# Polarization of EM Waves

TE  
TM  
TEM

$$E_z = 0, H_z = 0$$

$$E_x = A \cos(\omega t - k_z z)$$

$$E_y = B \cos(\omega t - k_z z + \varphi)$$

\*\*TEM wave propagating harmonically in the z - direction

$$u = \omega t - k_z z_0 + \frac{\varphi}{2}$$

$$\begin{aligned} E_x/A &= \cos(u - \varphi/2) = \cos u \cos \frac{\varphi}{2} + \sin u \sin \frac{\varphi}{2} \quad \text{---(I)} \\ E_y/B &= \cos(u + \varphi/2) = \cos u \cos \frac{\varphi}{2} - \sin u \sin \frac{\varphi}{2} \quad \text{---(II)} \end{aligned}$$

Adding and subtracting both equations yields

I + II

$$E_x/A + E_y/B = 2 \cos u \cos \frac{\varphi}{2} \quad \text{---(III)}$$

$$E_x/A - E_y/B = 2 \sin u \sin \frac{\varphi}{2} \quad \text{---(IV)}$$

Now we divide the first equation by  $2 \cos \frac{\varphi}{2}$  and the second by  $2 \sin \frac{\varphi}{2}$ :

$$\frac{E_x}{2A \cos \frac{\varphi}{2}} + \frac{E_y}{2B \cos \frac{\varphi}{2}} = \cos u$$

$$\frac{E_x}{2A \sin \frac{\varphi}{2}} - \frac{E_y}{2B \sin \frac{\varphi}{2}} = \sin u$$

$\sqrt{a^2 + b^2} = 1$   
 $a^2 + b^2 = 1$   
 Ellipse

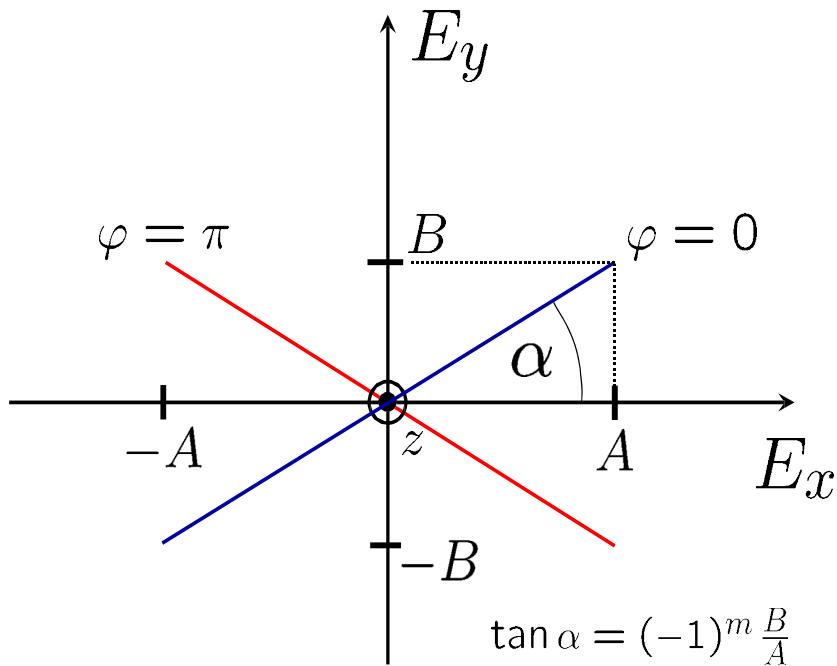
$$\cos^2 u + \sin^2 u = 1$$

$$\left( \frac{E_x}{2A \cos \frac{\varphi}{2}} + \frac{E_y}{2B \cos \frac{\varphi}{2}} \right)^2 + \left( \frac{E_x}{2A \sin \frac{\varphi}{2}} - \frac{E_y}{2B \sin \frac{\varphi}{2}} \right)^2 = 1$$

\*\*\*Equation of an elliptically polarized plane TEM wave

# Linear Polarization

$$\phi = 2\pi$$



$$E_x = A \cos(\omega t - k_z z)$$

$$E_y = B \cos(\omega t - k_z z + \varphi)$$

$$\checkmark E_x/A + E_y/B = 2 \cos u \cos \frac{\varphi}{2}$$

$$\checkmark E_x/A - E_y/B = 2 \sin u \sin \frac{\varphi}{2}$$

1.)  $\varphi = \pm m\pi, m = 0, 1, 2, \dots \Rightarrow$  linearly polarized wave, linear polarization  
The direction of  $\vec{E}$  (i.e., the  $\vec{E}$  plane) is fixed.

1a)  $m = 0 \Rightarrow \varphi = 0, \sin \frac{\varphi}{2} = 0, \cos \frac{\varphi}{2} = 1$

$0, 2\pi, 4\pi \rightarrow$

Blue line  
From (ii)

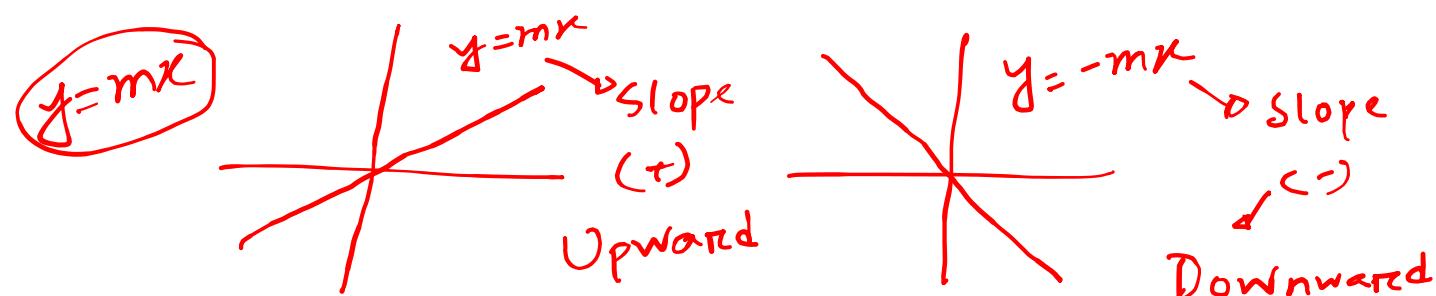
$$E_x/A - E_y/B = 0$$

1b)  $m = 1 \Rightarrow \varphi = \pi, \sin \frac{\varphi}{2} = 1, \cos \frac{\varphi}{2} = 0$

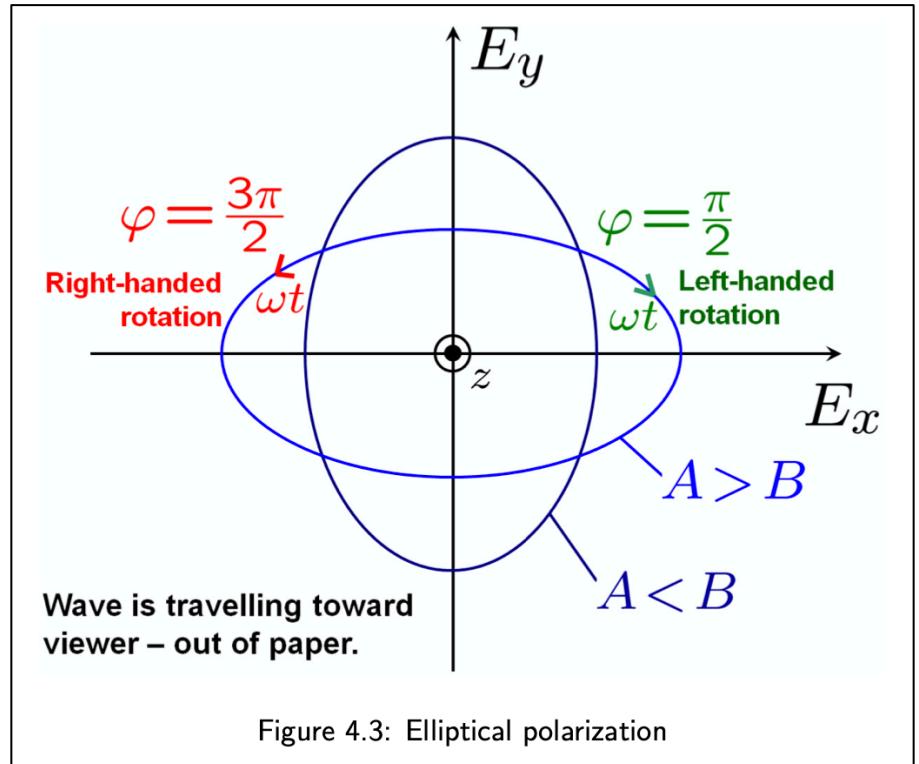
$\pi, 3\pi, 5\pi \rightarrow$

$$E_x/A + E_y/B = 0$$

red line  
From (i)



# Elliptical Polarization



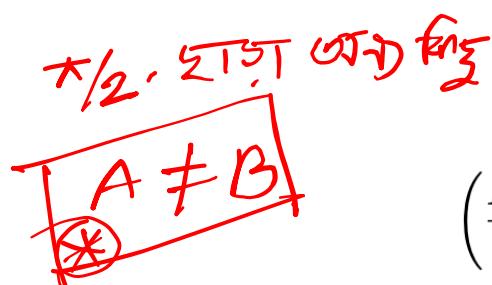
$$E_x = A \cos(\omega t - k_z z)$$

$$E_y = B \cos(\omega t - k_z z + \varphi)$$

$$\left( \frac{E_x}{2A \cos \frac{\varphi}{2}} + \frac{E_y}{2B \cos \frac{\varphi}{2}} \right)^2 + \left( \frac{E_x}{2A \sin \frac{\varphi}{2}} - \frac{E_y}{2B \sin \frac{\varphi}{2}} \right)^2 = 1$$

— (1)

2.)  $\varphi = m\frac{\pi}{2}$ ,  $m = \pm 1, \pm 3, \dots \Rightarrow$  elliptical polarization with the ellipse's main axes in  $x$ - and  $y$ -direction (see Fig. 4.3).



$$\sin^2 \frac{\varphi}{2} = \cos^2 \frac{\varphi}{2} = \frac{1}{2}$$

$$\left( \frac{E_x}{A} + \frac{E_y}{B} \right)^2 + \left( \frac{E_x}{A} - \frac{E_y}{B} \right)^2 = 2$$

[① ↗ value  
plugin  $2\pi/3$ ]

$$\left( \frac{E_x}{A} \right)^2 + \left( \frac{E_y}{B} \right)^2 = 1$$

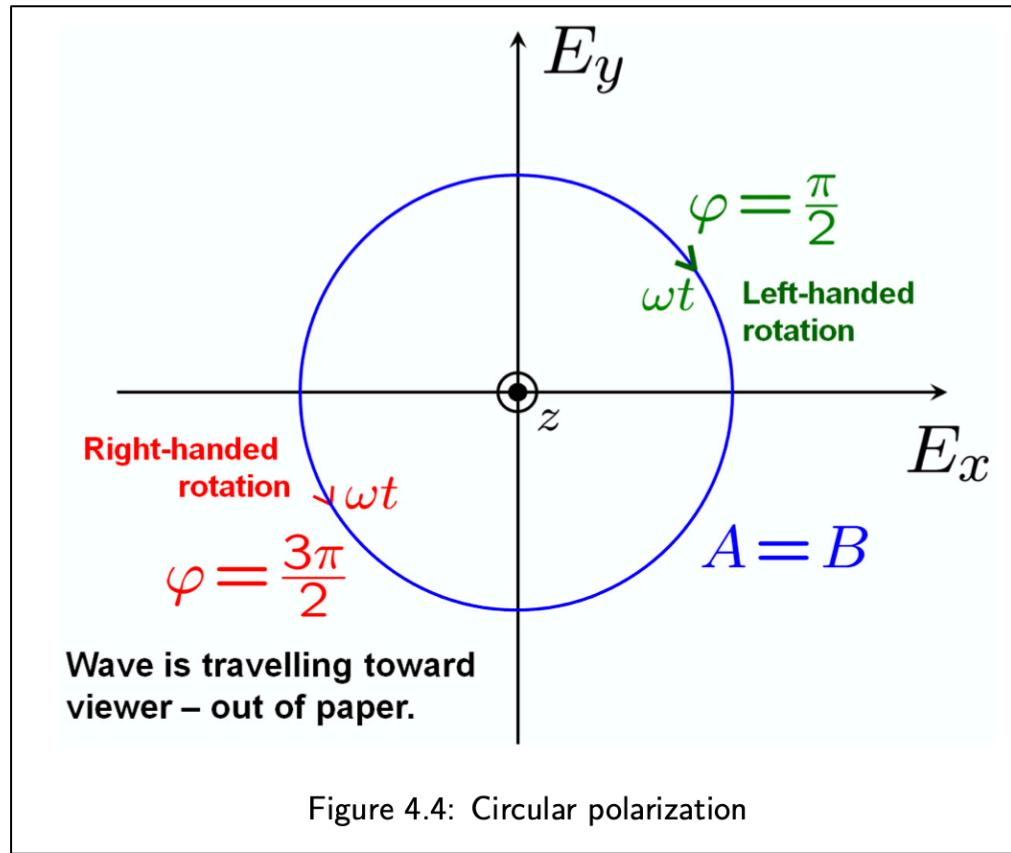
$$\frac{x^2}{a^2} + \frac{y^2}{b^2} = 1$$

✓

left-hand circular polarization (LHCP):  $\varphi = \frac{\pi}{2}$   
 right-hand circular polarization (RHCP):  $\varphi = \frac{3\pi}{2} = -\frac{\pi}{2}$

# Circular Polarization

$A=B$

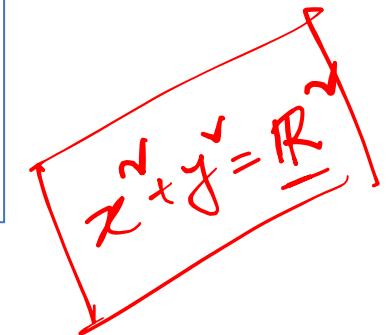


$$E_x = \underline{A} \cos(\omega t - k_z z)$$

$$E_y = \underline{B} \cos(\omega t - k_z z + \varphi)$$

$$\sin^2 \frac{\varphi}{2} = \cos^2 \frac{\varphi}{2} = \frac{1}{2}$$

$$\left( \frac{E_x}{A} + \frac{E_y}{B} \right)^2 + \left( \frac{E_x}{A} - \frac{E_y}{B} \right)^2 = 2$$



$$\left( \frac{E_x}{A} \right)^2 + \left( \frac{E_y}{B} \right)^2 = 1$$

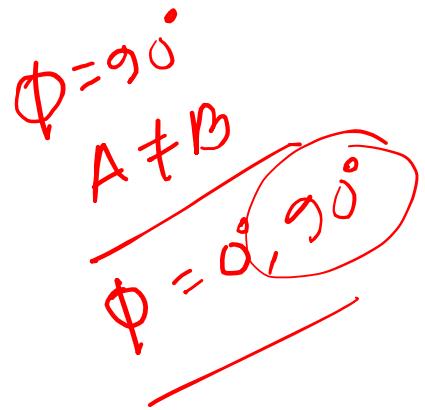
3.)  $\varphi = m \frac{\pi}{2}$ ,  $m = \pm 1, \pm 3, \dots$  and  $A = B \Rightarrow$  **circular polarization**

$$\rightarrow E_x^2 + E_y^2 = A^2 \checkmark$$

left-hand circular polarization (LHCP):  $\varphi = \frac{\pi}{2}$

right-hand circular polarization (RHCP):  $\varphi = \frac{3\pi}{2} = -\frac{\pi}{2}$

# Elliptical Polarization (RHEP)



**Wave is travelling toward viewer – out of paper/wall/screen.**

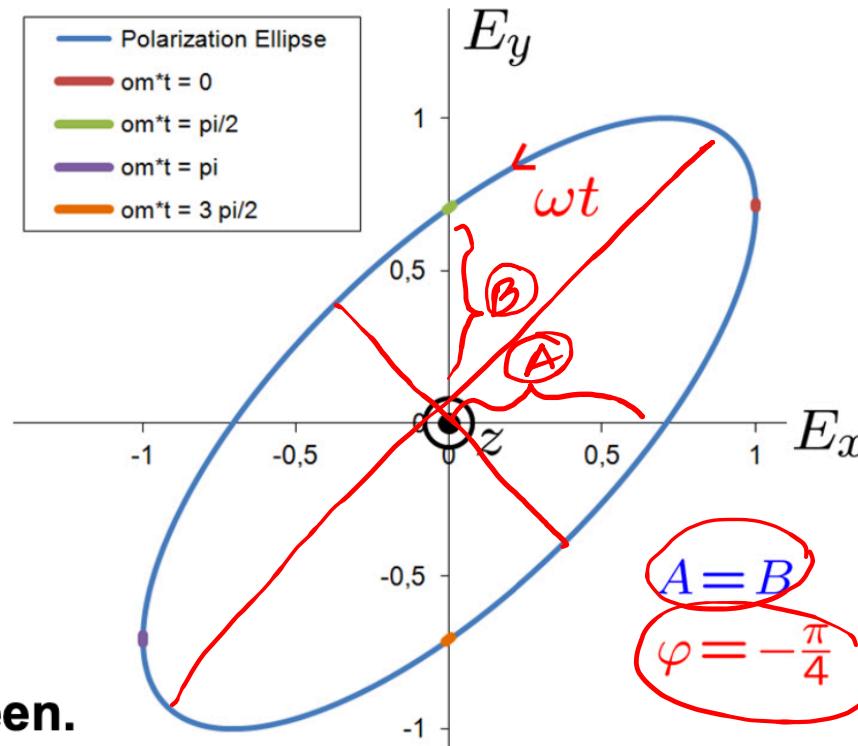


Figure 4.5: Elliptical polarization (RHEP) with  $A = B$  and  $\varphi = -45^\circ$

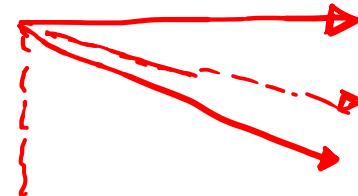
Please note that even if both magnitudes are equal ( $A = B$ ), the polarization becomes elliptical if angle  $\varphi$  is not equal  $\pm 90^\circ$ . Fig. 4.5 shows this clearly for a phase shift of  $\varphi = -45^\circ$  and  $A = B$ , the polarization is right-hand elliptical (RHEP).

RHEP – Right-hand elliptical

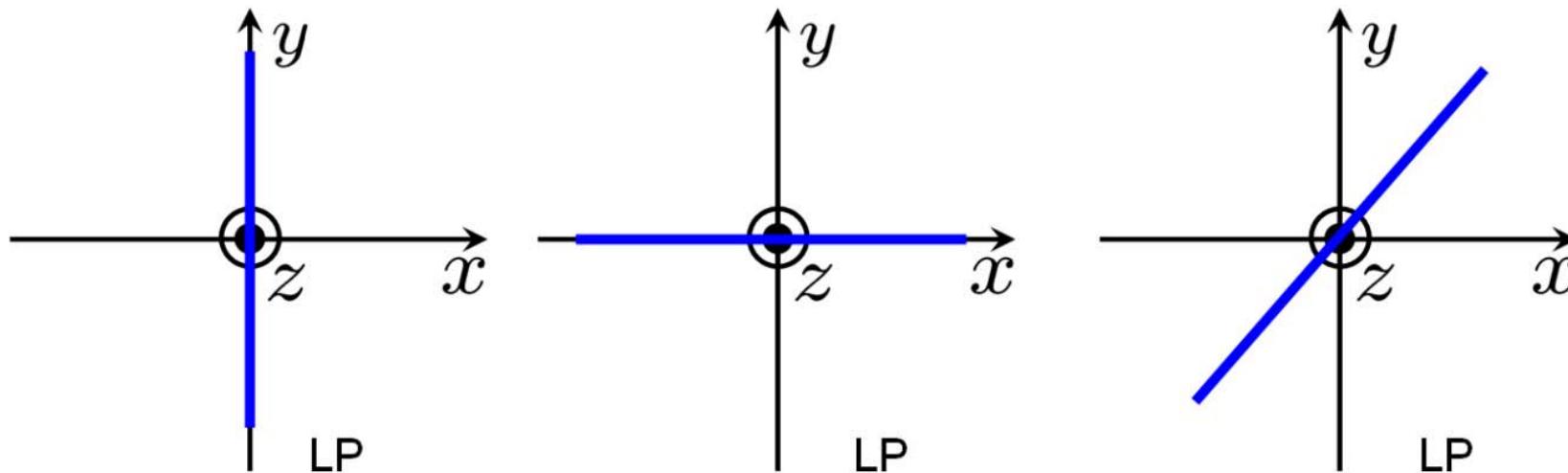
$$E_x = A \cos(\omega t - k_z z)$$

$$E_y = B \cos(\omega t - k_z z + \varphi)$$

$-\pi/4$

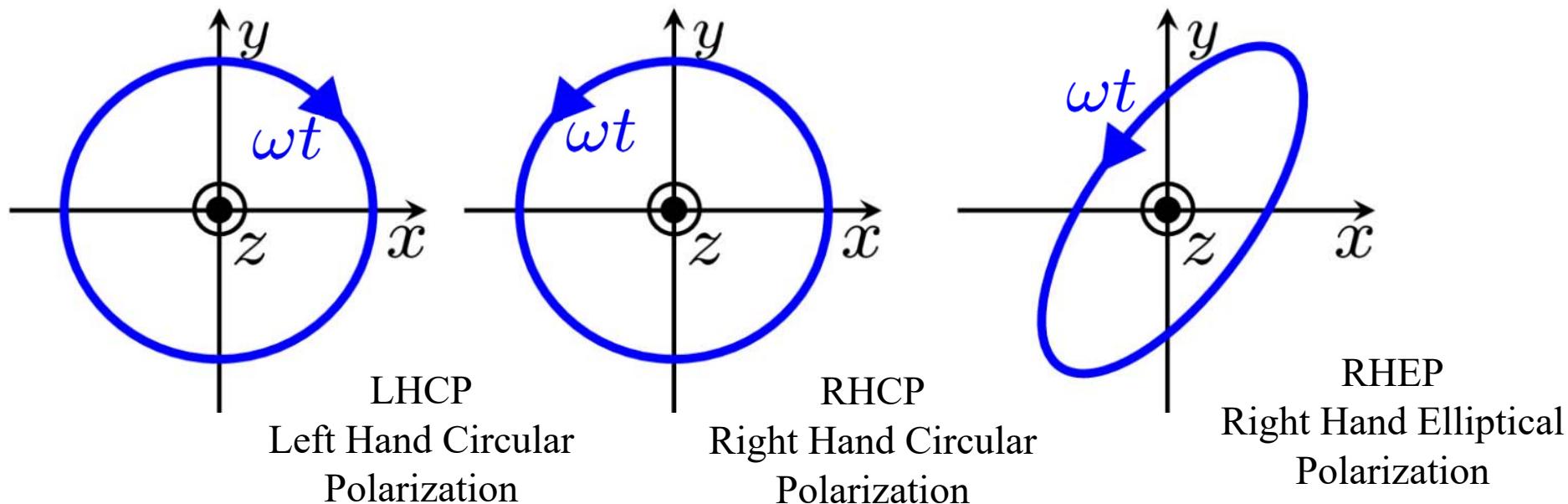


# **Linear, Elliptical, and Circular Polarization**

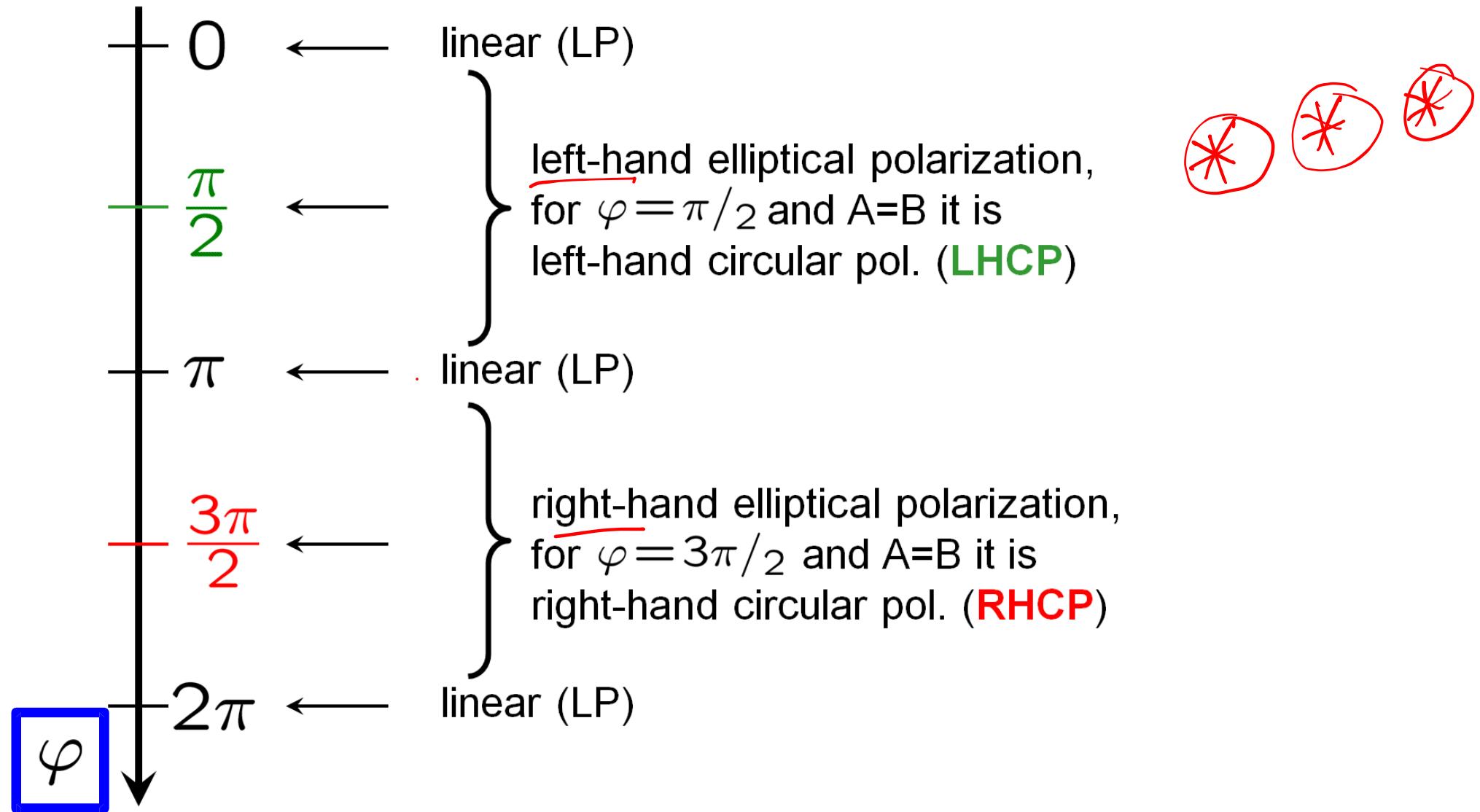


**Wave is travelling toward viewer – out of paper.**

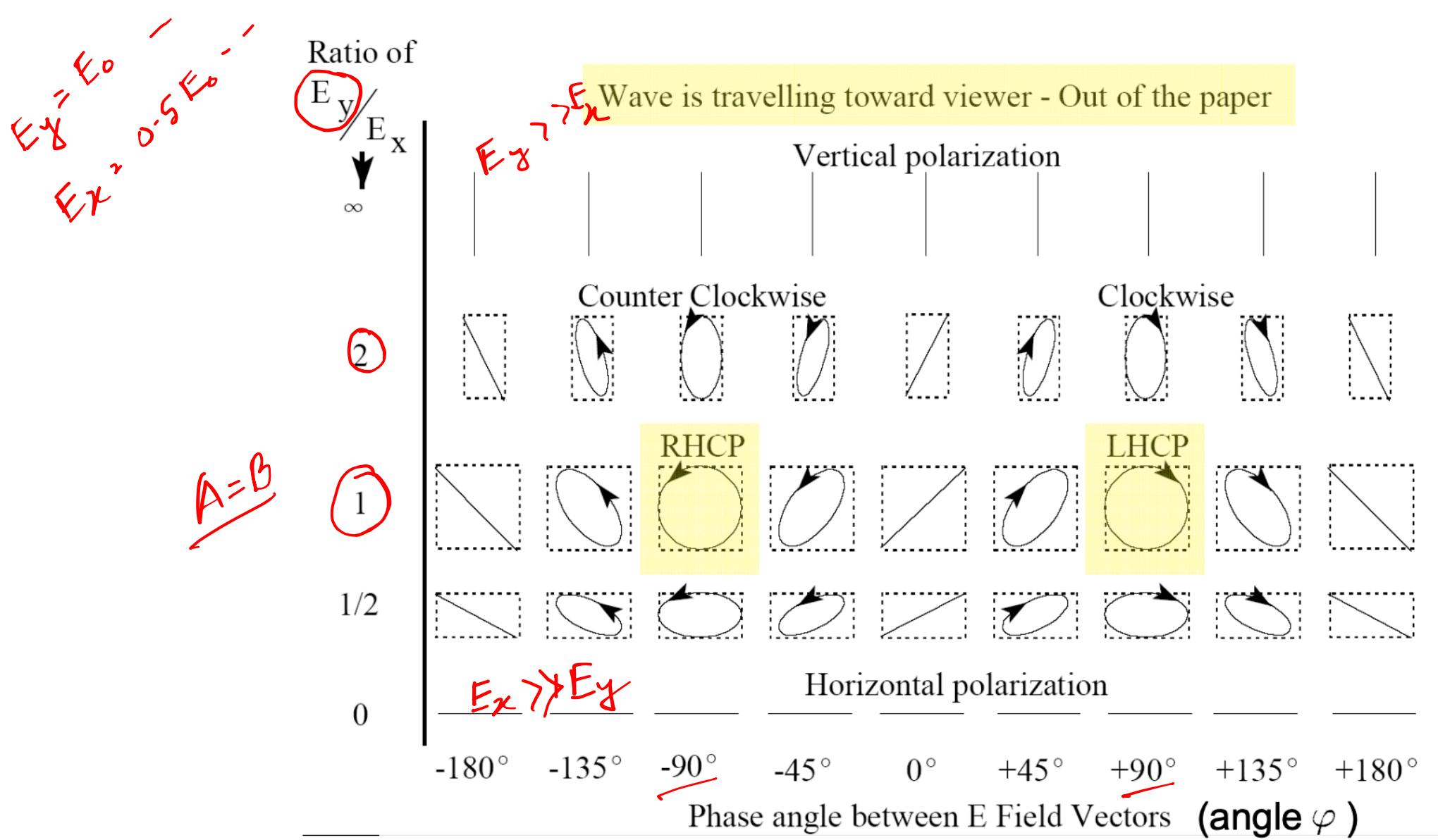
**Check Test!!!**



# **Linear, Elliptical, and Circular Polarization**



# Polarization of EM Waves



## Axial Ratio

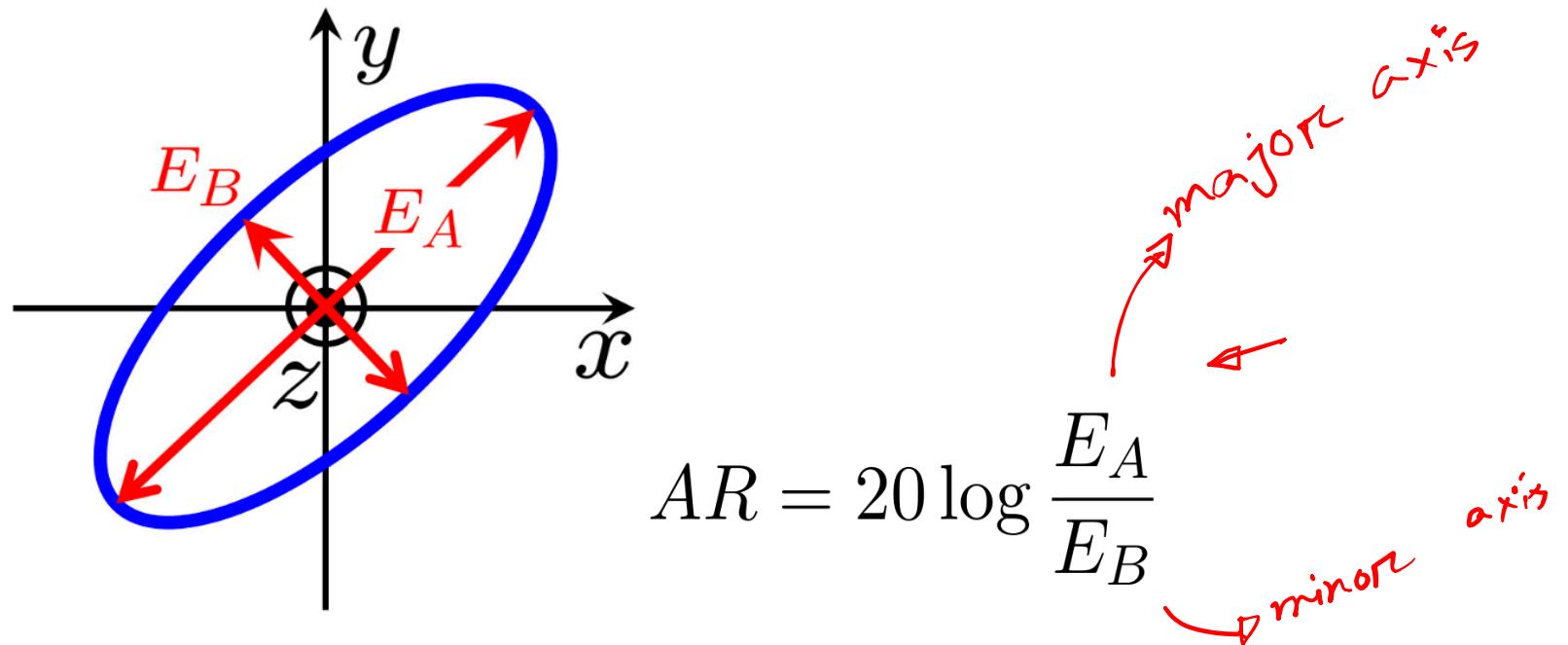
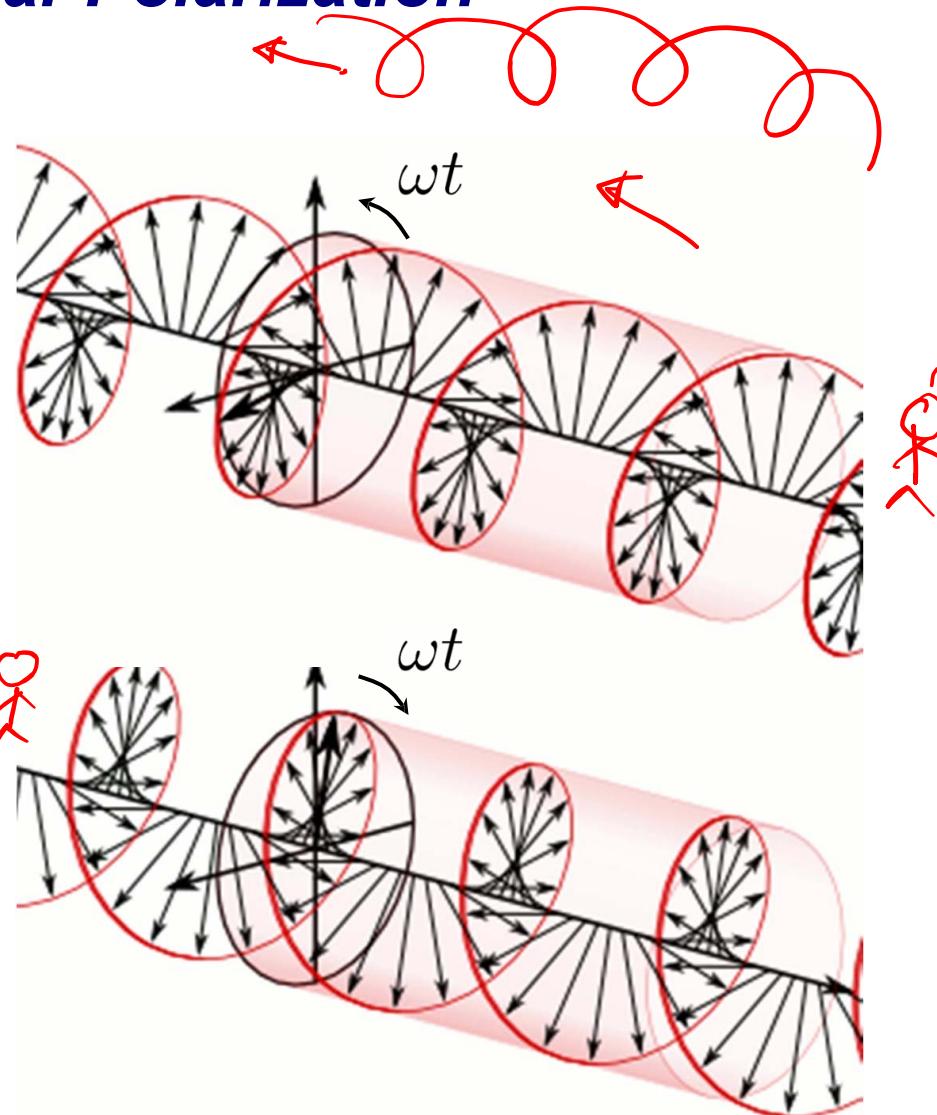


Figure 4.9: Polarization ellipse and axial ratio

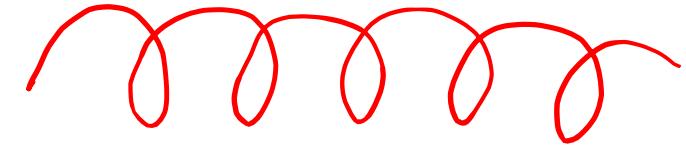
- Axial Ratio (AR) is the ratio of the main axes  $E_A$  and  $E_B$  of the non-perfect (i.e., non-circular) polarization ellipse.
- Typically, the AR is given in dB.
- Typical AR values are in a range of 0dB and 6dB.
- A linear polarization the axial ratio becomes infinity.

# Circular Polarization

Helices can be either right-handed or left-handed. With the line of sight along the helix's axis, if a clockwise screwing motion moves the helix away from the observer, then it is called a right-handed helix; if towards the observer, then it is a left-handed helix.



[http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Circular\\_polarization](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Circular_polarization)



RHCP

(and spatial helix is left-handed)



LHCP

(and spatial helix is right-handed)

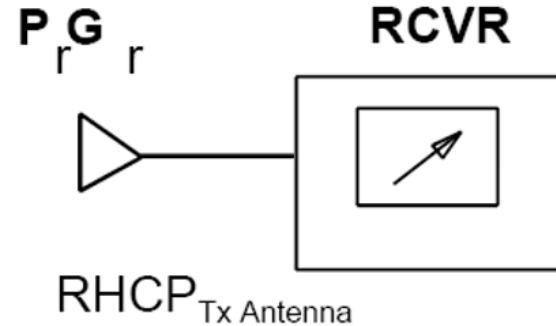
Sense of rotation is according to IEEE convention, i.e., from the point of view of the wave's source.

# Polarization of EM Waves

## Transmitter



## Receiver

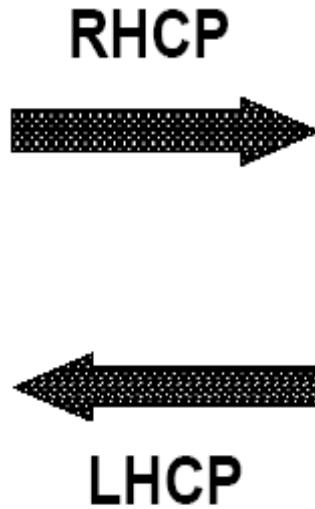
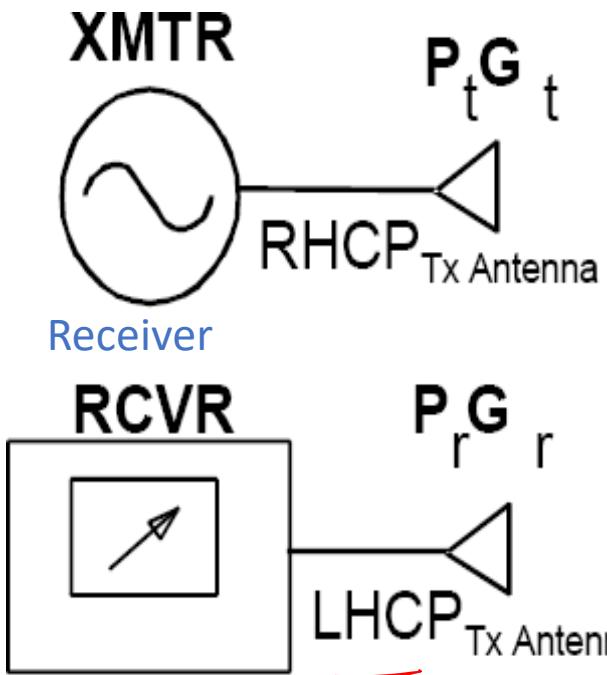


NOTE: This figure depicts an example only, all polarizations can be reversed.  
In either case, the antennas should be identical.

Wave propagation between two identical antennas is analogous to being able to thread a nut from one bolt to an identical opposite-facing bolt.

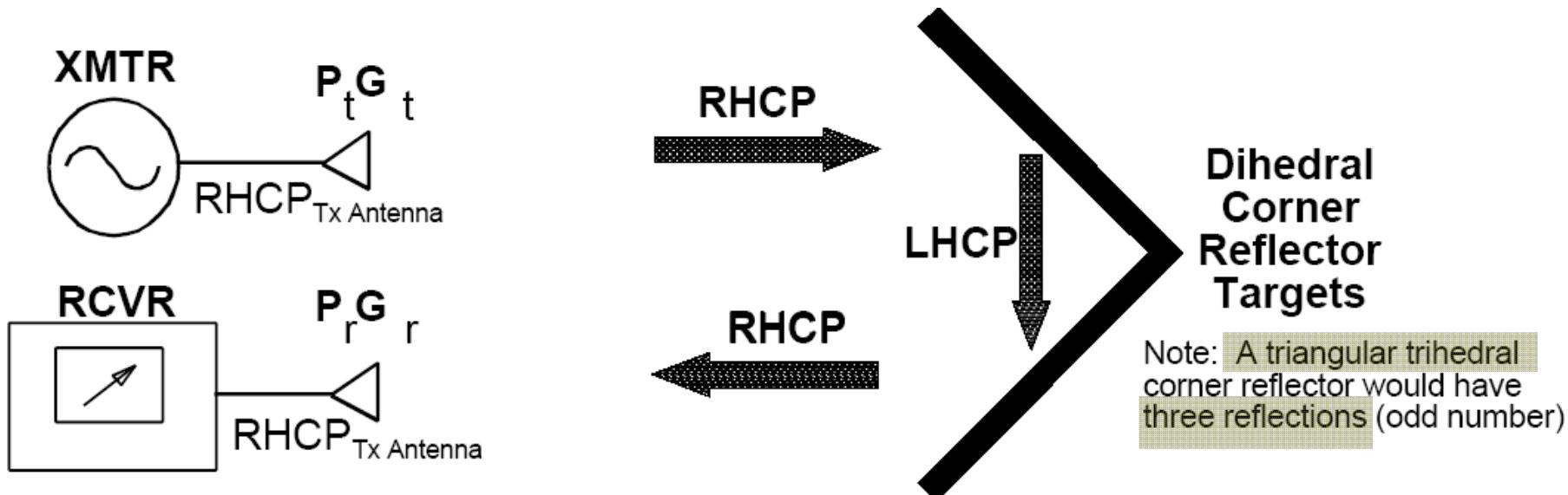
# Polarization of EM Waves

Transmitter



**NOTE:** This figure depicts an example only, all polarizations can be reversed.  
In either case, the antennas should have opposite polarization.

# Polarization of EM Waves



NOTE: This figure depicts an example only, all polarizations can be reversed.  
In either case, the antennas should be identical.

# Polarization of EM Waves

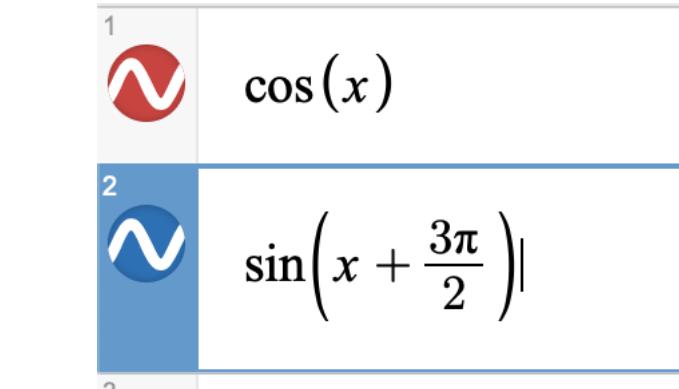
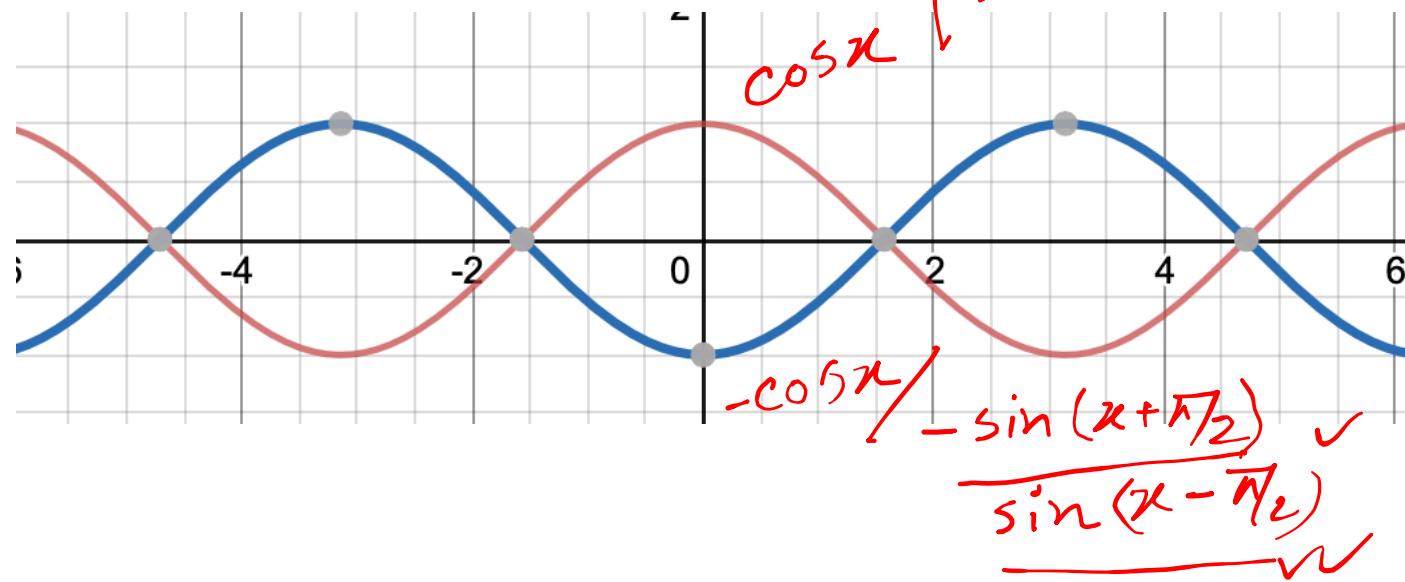
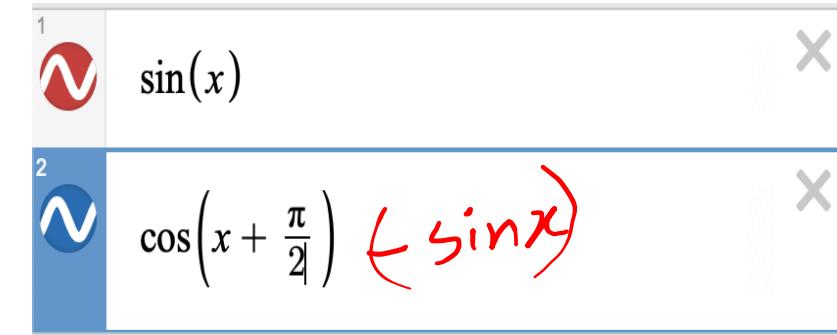
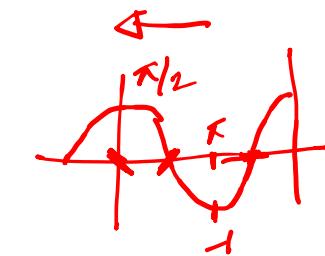
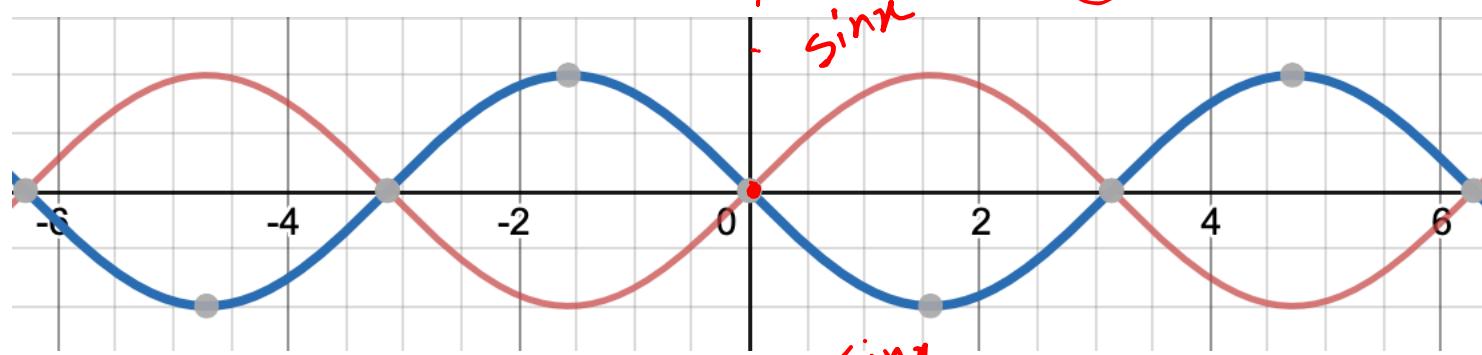
**Table 1.** Polarization Loss for Various Antenna Combinations

Transmit Antenna Polarization	Receive Antenna Polarization	Ratio of Power Received to Maximum Power					
		Theoretical		Practical Horn		Practical Spiral	
		Ratio in dB	as Ratio	Ratio in dB	as Ratio	Ratio in dB	as Ratio
Vertical	Vertical	0 dB	1	*	*	N/A	N/A
Vertical	Slant (45° or 135°)	-3 dB	½	*	*	N/A	N/A
Vertical	Horizontal	-∞ dB	0	-20 dB	1/100	N/A	N/A
Vertical	Circular (right-hand or left-hand)	-3 dB	½	*	*	*	*
Horizontal	Horizontal	0 dB	1	*	*	N/A	N/A
Horizontal	Slant (45° or 135°)	-3 dB	½	*	*	N/A	N/A
Horizontal	Circular (right-hand or left-hand)	-3 dB	½	*	*	*	*
Circular (right-hand)	Circular (right-hand)	0 dB	1	*	*	*	*
Circular (right-hand)	Circular (left-hand)	-∞ dB	0	-20 dB	1/100	-10 dB	1/10
Circular (right or left)	Slant (45° or 135°)	-3 dB	½	*	*	*	*

\* Approximately the same as theoretical

$$\begin{aligned}\sin 0 &= 0 \\ \cos 0 &= 1\end{aligned}$$

## Graph Test



#### 4.4 Problem 4

~~Q~~

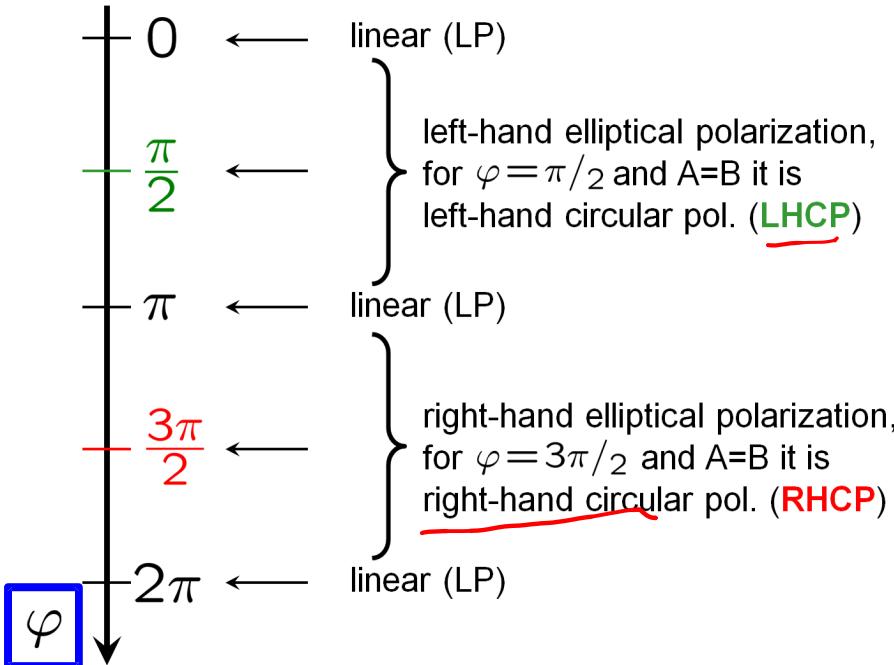
- a) Determine the polarization of the following plane waves.

$$\rightarrow \vec{E}_1 = E_0 \cos(\omega t + kz) \vec{e}_x + E_0 \sin(\omega t + kz) \vec{e}_y \quad \checkmark$$

$$\vec{E}_2 = E_0 \cos(\omega t + kz) \vec{e}_x - E_0 \sin(\omega t + kz) \vec{e}_y$$

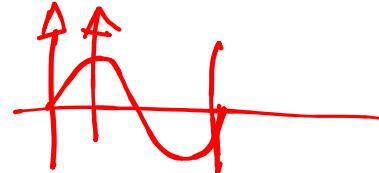
$$\vec{E}_3 = E_0 \cos(\omega t + kz) \vec{e}_x - 2E_0 \sin(\omega t + kz - \frac{\pi}{4}) \vec{e}_y$$

- b) It is given the magnetic field intensity  $\vec{H} = -H_1 \cos(\omega t - kz + \theta) \vec{e}_x + H_2 \cos(\omega t - kz) \vec{e}_y$ . Show that the tip of the electric field vector may trace a line, a circle, or an ellipse over time in a fixed plane  $z = \text{const}$ . Depict and rationalize your answers.
- c) Show that a linearly polarized wave can be obtained as the superposition of two circularly polarized waves rotating in opposite directions but at the same angular rate.



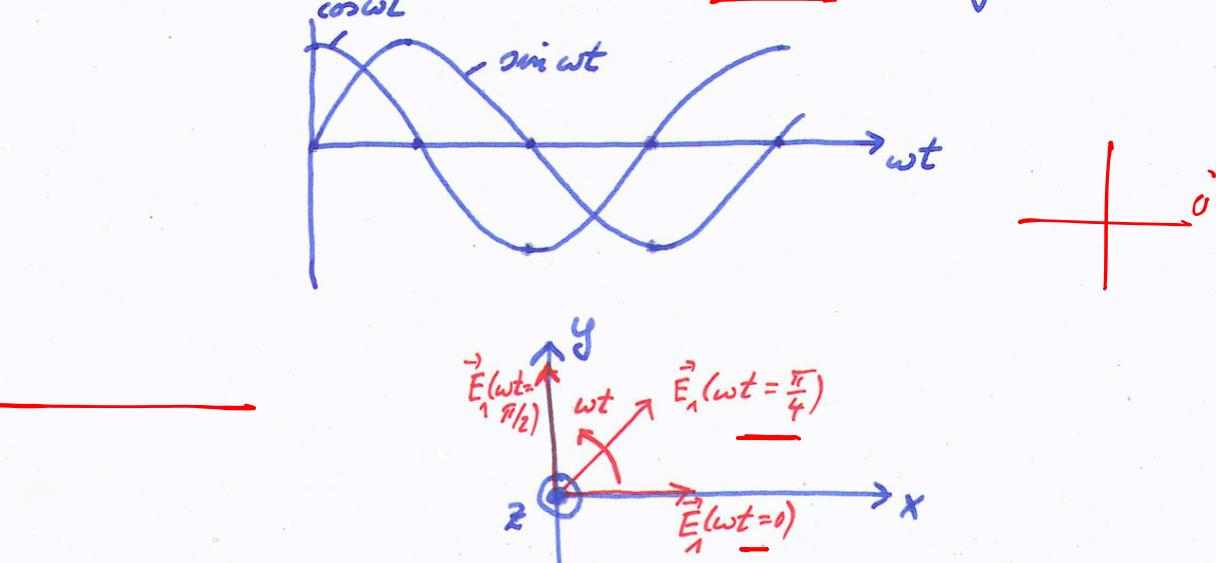
$$E_x = A \cos(\omega t - k_z z) \quad \checkmark$$

$$E_y = B \cos(\omega t - k_z z + \varphi) \quad \checkmark$$



a) All waves  $\vec{E}_1, \vec{E}_2, \vec{E}_3$  propagate in negative z-direction!

$$\vec{E}_1 = E_0 \cos(\underline{\omega t + kz}) \vec{e}_x + E_0 \sin(\underline{\omega t + kz}) \vec{e}_y$$



Because the wave propagates in negative z-direction its sense of polarization is left-handed  $\Rightarrow$  LHCP.

## 4.4 Problem 4

a) Determine the polarization of the following plane waves.



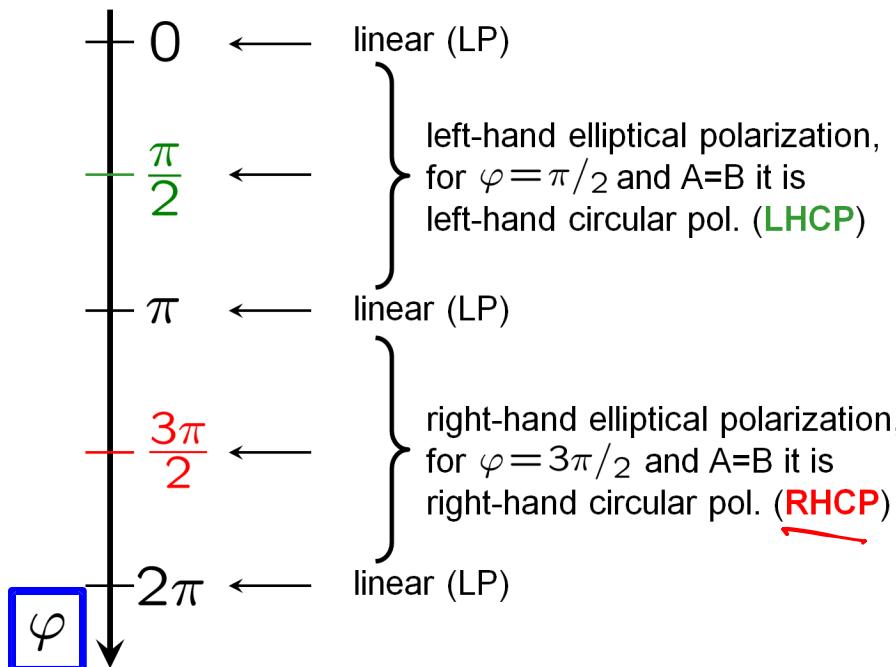
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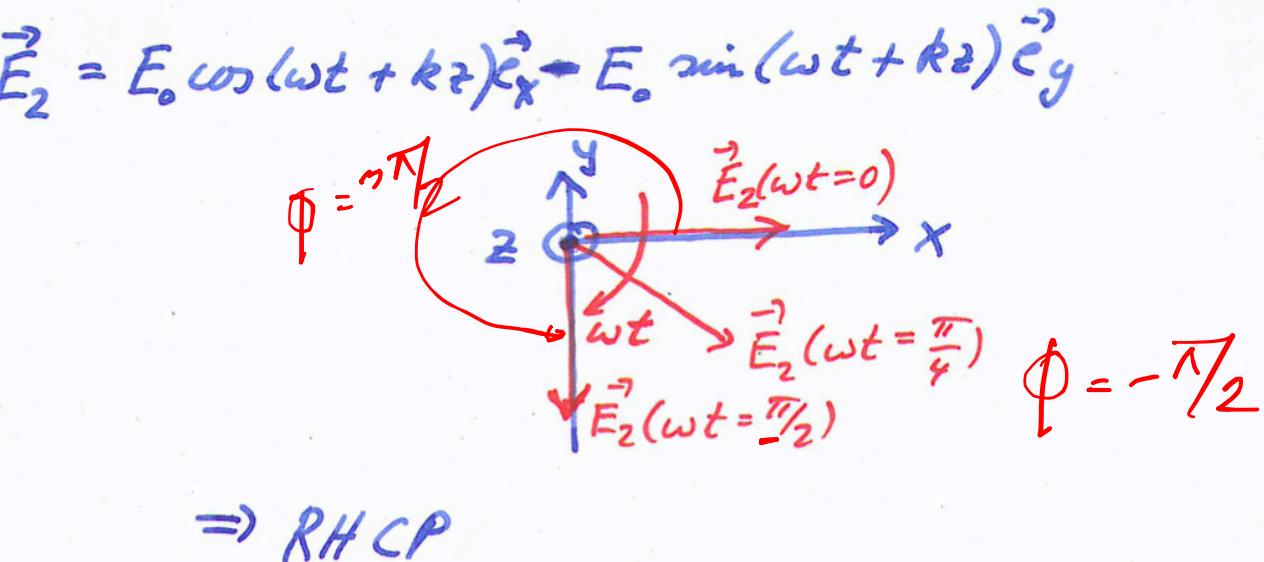
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c) Show that a linearly polarized wave can be obtained as the superposition of two circularly polarized waves rotating in opposite directions but at the same angular rate.

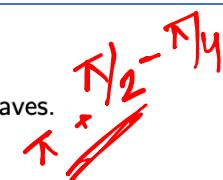


$$\begin{aligned} E_x &= A \cos(\omega t - k_z z) \\ E_y &= B \cos(\omega t - k_z z + \varphi) \end{aligned}$$



#### 4.4 Problem 4

a) Determine the polarization of the following plane waves.

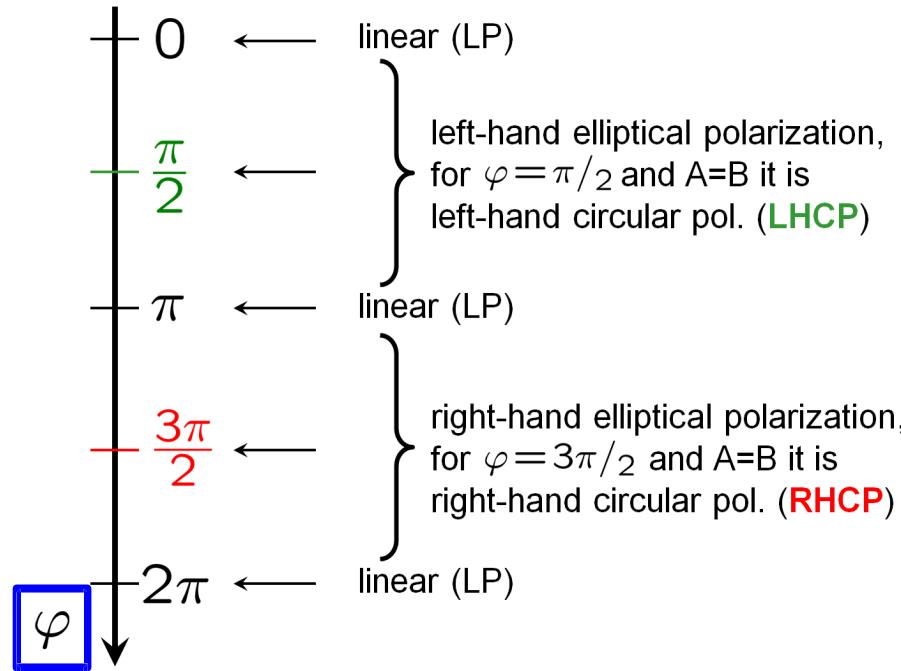


$$\vec{E}_1 = E_0 \cos(\omega t + kz) \vec{e}_x + E_0 \sin(\omega t + kz) \vec{e}_y$$

$$\vec{E}_2 = E_0 \cos(\omega t + kz) \vec{e}_x - E_0 \sin(\omega t + kz) \vec{e}_y$$

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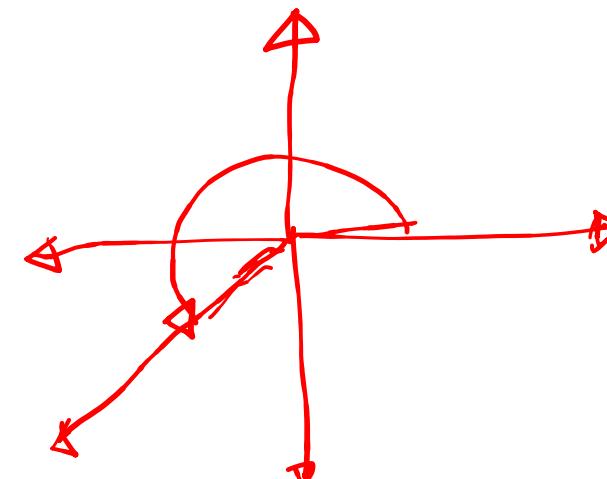
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 c) Show that a linearly polarized wave can be obtained as the superposition of two circularly polarized waves rotating in opposite directions but at the same angular rate.



$$E_x = A \cos(\omega t - k_z z)$$

$$E_y = B \cos(\omega t - k_z z + \varphi)$$

Handmade Graph!



#### 4.4 Problem 4

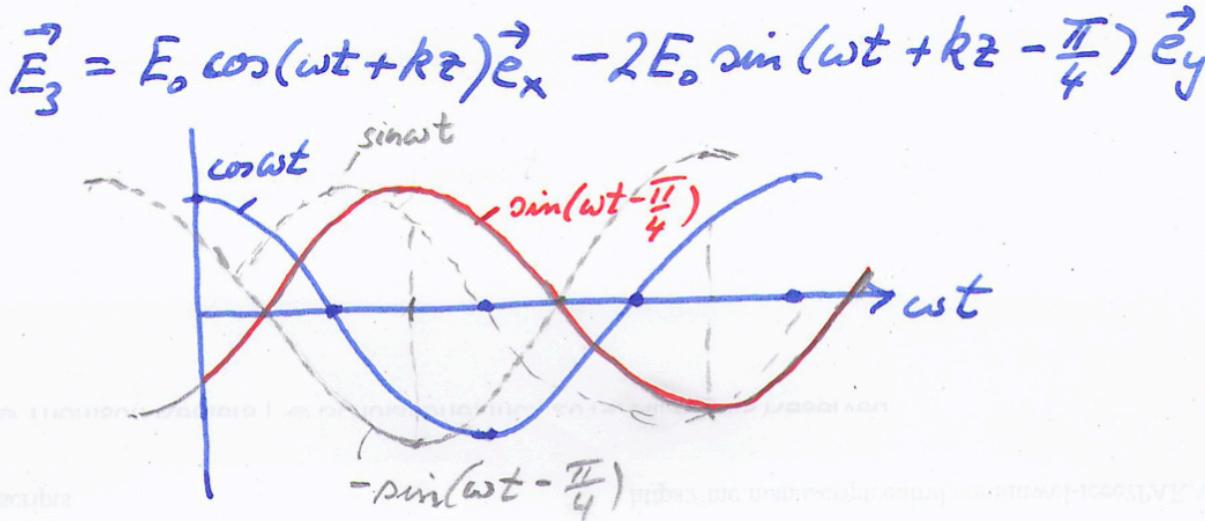
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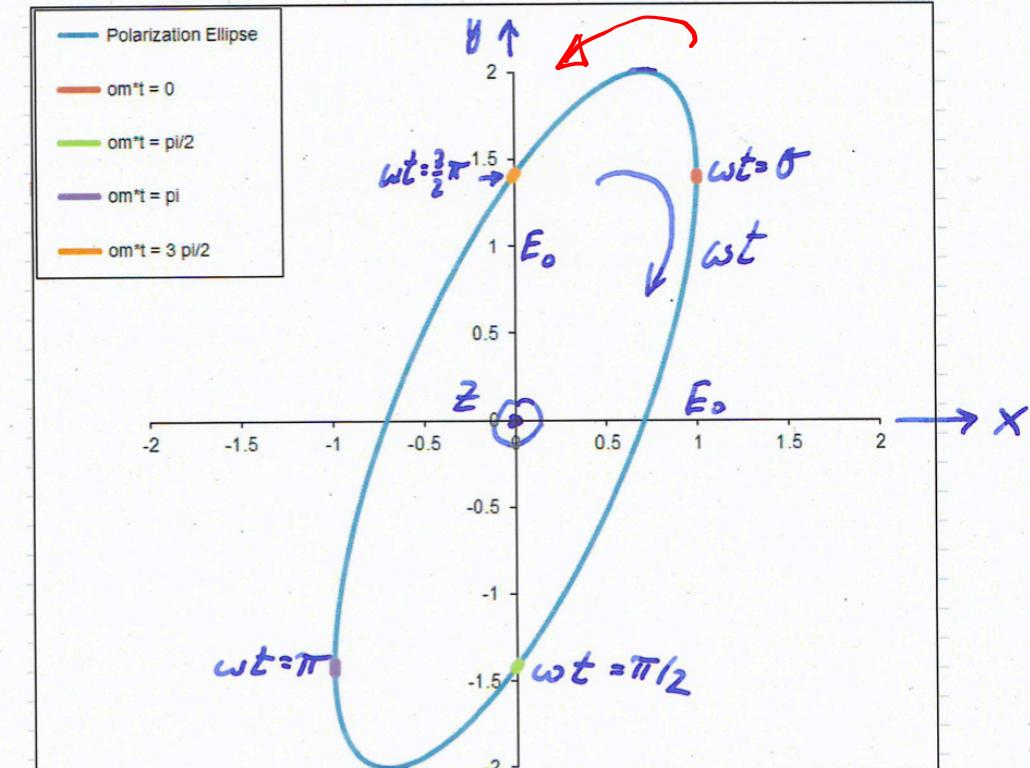
$$\vec{E}_2 = E_0 \cos(\omega t + kz) \vec{e}_x - E_0 \sin(\omega t + kz) \vec{e}_y$$

$$\rightarrow \vec{E}_3 = E_0 \cos(\omega t + kz) \vec{e}_x - 2E_0 \sin(\omega t + kz - \frac{\pi}{4}) \vec{e}_y$$

- b) It is given the magnetic field intensity  $\vec{H} = -H_1 \cos(\omega t - kz + \theta) \vec{e}_x + H_2 \cos(\omega t - kz) \vec{e}_y$ . Show that the tip of the electric field vector may trace a line, a circle, or an ellipse over time in a fixed plane  $z = \text{const}$ . Depict and rationalize your answers.
- c) Show that a linearly polarized wave can be obtained as the superposition of two circularly polarized waves rotating in opposite directions but at the same angular rate.



$$AR = 20 \log \frac{E_A}{E_B}$$



$\Rightarrow \text{RHEP ; Axial Ratio} = 10.17 \text{dB}$

#### 4.4 Problem 4

a) Determine the polarization of the following plane waves.

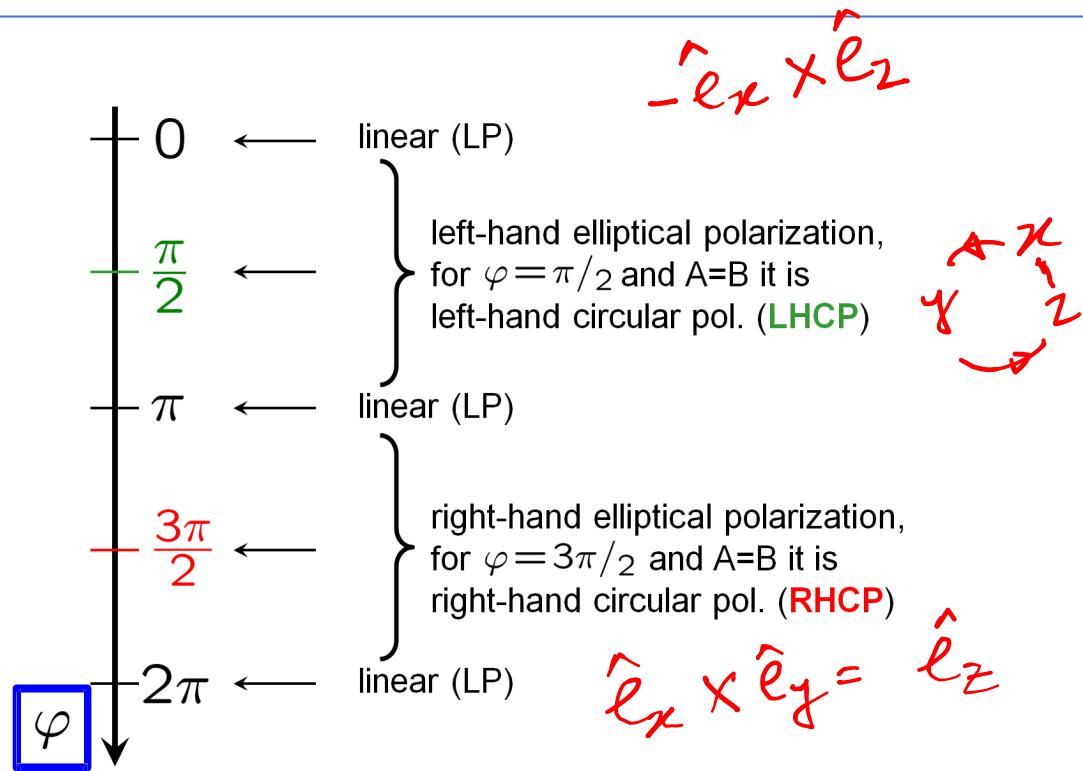
$$\vec{E}_1 = E_0 \cos(\omega t + kz) \hat{e}_x + E_0 \sin(\omega t + kz) \hat{e}_y$$

$$\vec{E}_2 = E_0 \cos(\omega t + kz) \hat{e}_x - E_0 \sin(\omega t + kz) \hat{e}_y$$

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- c) Show that a linearly polarized wave can be obtained as the superposition of two circularly polarized waves rotating in opposite directions but at the same angular rate.



$$E_x = A \cos(\omega t - k_z z)$$

$$E_y = B \cos(\omega t - k_z z + \varphi)$$

$$\vec{E} \times \vec{H} = \vec{S}$$

$$\vec{E}/\vec{H} = \vec{Z}_F$$

$$\vec{E} = \vec{Z} \cdot \vec{H}$$

4.46  $\vec{H} = -H_1 \cos(\omega t - kz + \Theta) \hat{e}_x + H_2 \cos(\omega t - kz) \hat{e}_y$

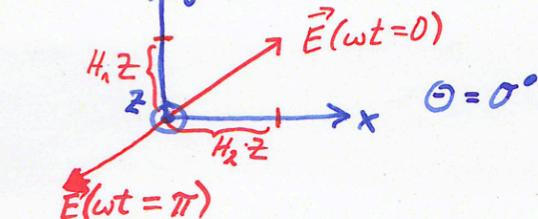
The wave propagates in positive z-direction.

$$\begin{aligned} \vec{S} &= \vec{E} \times \vec{H} = \vec{Z} \cdot \vec{e}_z \\ \Rightarrow \vec{H} \times \vec{e}_z &\text{ is parallel to } \vec{E} \\ \Rightarrow \vec{E} &= Z \cdot (\vec{H} \times \vec{e}_z) \text{ with } Z \text{ being} \end{aligned}$$

the impedance of the wave.

$$\vec{E} = Z \begin{pmatrix} -H_1 \cos(\omega t - kz + \Theta) \\ H_2 \cos(\omega t - kz) \\ 0 \end{pmatrix} \times \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix} = Z \cdot \begin{pmatrix} H_2 \cos(\omega t - kz) \\ H_1 \cos(\omega t - kz + \Theta) \\ 0 \end{pmatrix}$$

The tip of  $\vec{E}$  traces a line if  $\Theta = 0^\circ$  or  $\Theta = 180^\circ$ , i.e., linear polarization



#### 4.4 Problem 4

a) Determine the polarization of the following plane waves.

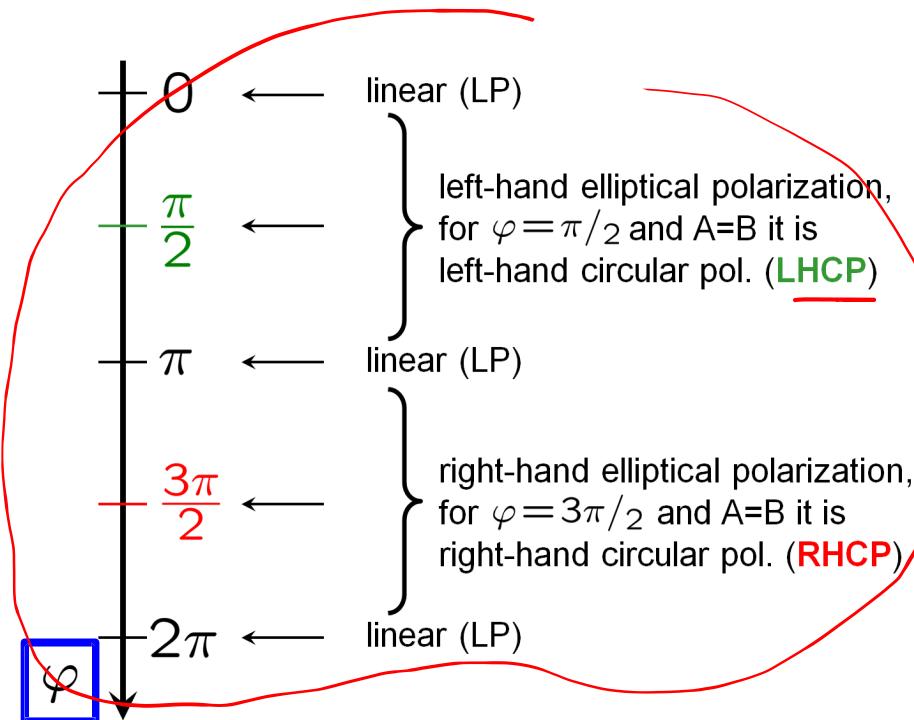
$$\vec{E}_1 = E_0 \cos(\omega t + kz) \vec{e}_x + E_0 \sin(\omega t + kz) \vec{e}_y$$

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b) It is given the magnetic field intensity  $\vec{H} = -H_1 \cos(\omega t - kz + \theta) \vec{e}_x + H_2 \cos(\omega t - kz) \vec{e}_y$ . Show that the tip of the electric field vector may trace a line, a circle, or an ellipse over time in a fixed plane  $z = \text{const}$ . Depict and rationalize your answers.

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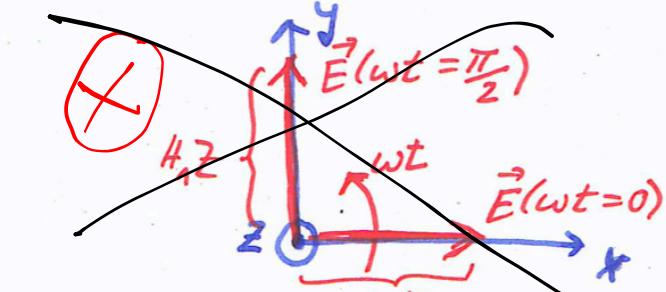


$$E_x = A \cos(\omega t - k_z z)$$

$$E_y = B \cos(\omega t - k_z z + \varphi)$$



$$\theta = -\frac{\pi}{2} : \cos(\omega t - kz - \frac{\pi}{2}) = \sin(\omega t - kz)$$



$$\vec{E} = z \begin{pmatrix} H_2 \cos(\omega t - kz) \\ H_1 \sin(\omega t - kz) \\ 0 \end{pmatrix}$$

if  $H_1 = H_2 \Rightarrow \text{RHCPL}$  (circular pol.)

if  $H_1 \neq H_2 \Rightarrow \text{RHEP}$  (elliptical pol.)

#### 4.4 Problem 4

a) Determine the polarization of the following plane waves.

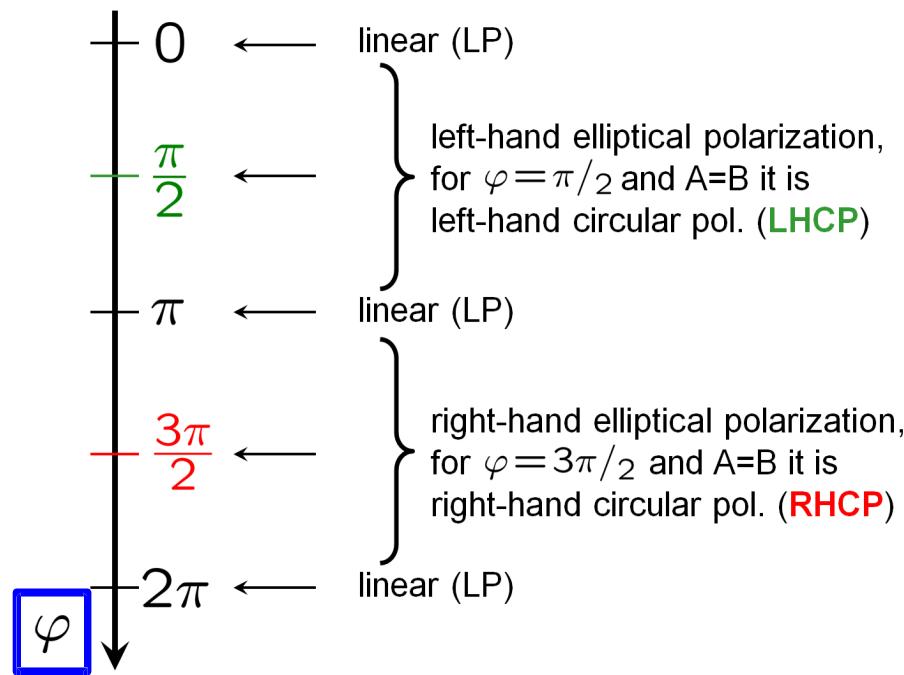
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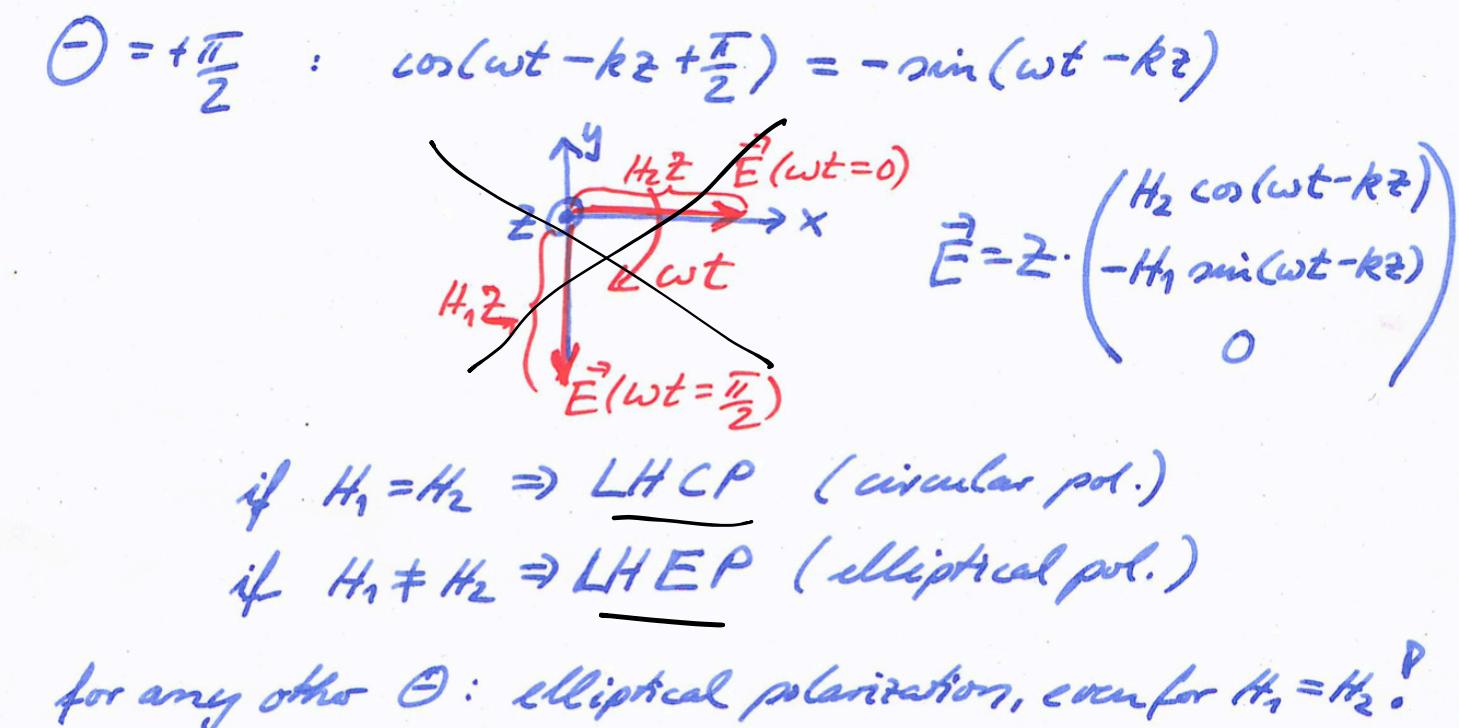
b) It is given the magnetic field intensity  $\vec{H} = -H_1 \cos(\omega t - kz + \theta) \vec{e}_x + H_2 \cos(\omega t - kz) \vec{e}_y$ . Show that the tip of the electric field vector may trace a line, a circle, or an ellipse over time in a fixed plane  $z = \text{const}$ . Depict and rationalize your answers.

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#### 4.4 Problem 4

a) Determine the polarization of the following plane waves.

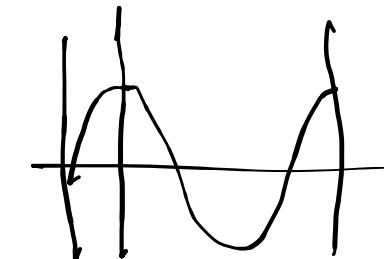
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c) Show that a linearly polarized wave can be obtained as the superposition of two circularly polarized waves rotating in opposite directions but at the same angular rate.



$E_x = 2 E_0 \cos(\omega t - \sqrt{k^2 - \theta^2})$

LHCP + RHCP

4.4c

$$\vec{E}_1 = E_0 \underbrace{\begin{pmatrix} \cos(\omega t - kz) \\ \cos(\omega t - kz - \pi/2) \\ 0 \end{pmatrix}}_{\text{RHCP}}$$

$$\vec{E}_2 = E_0 \underbrace{\begin{pmatrix} \cos(\omega t - kz) \\ \cos(\omega t - kz + \pi/2) \\ 0 \end{pmatrix}}_{\text{LHCP}}$$

$$\vec{E} = \vec{E}_1 + \vec{E}_2 = E_0 \begin{pmatrix} 2 \cos(\omega t - kz) \\ \cos(\omega t - kz - \pi/2) + \cos(\omega t - kz + \pi/2) \\ 0 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$= E_0 \begin{pmatrix} 2 \cos(\omega t - kz) \\ \underline{\sin(\omega t - kz)} \\ 0 \end{pmatrix} - \underline{\sin(\omega t - kz)}$$

$$= 2 E_0 \begin{pmatrix} \cos(\omega t - kz) \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix}$$

i.e., LP