

# EEM 323

## ELECTROMAGNETIC WAVE THEORY II

# PLANE ELECTROMAGNETIC WAVE PROPAGATION – 1

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### **DERS KİTABI**

- [1] David Keun Cheng, *Fundamentals of Engineering Electromagnetics*, Addison-Wesley Publishing, Inc., 1993. veya David Keun Cheng, Çeviri: Adnan Köksal, Birsen Saka, *Mühendislik Elektromanyetiğinin Temelleri – Fundamentals of Engineering Electromagnetics*, Palme Yayıncılık.

### **KAYNAK / YARDIMCI KİTAPLAR:**

- [2] David Keun Cheng, *Field and Wave Electromagnetics*, Addison-Wesley Publishing, Inc. veya David Keun Cheng, Çeviri: Mithat İdemen, *Elektromanyetik Alan Teorisinin Temelleri – Field and Wave Electromagnetics*, Literatür Yayıncılık.
- [3] Stanley V. Marshall, Richard E. DuBroff, Gabriel G. Skitek, *Electromagnetic Concepts and Applications*, Dördüncü Basım, Prentice Hall International, Inc., 1996.
- [4] Joseph A. Edminister, *Elektromanyetik*, 2. Baskıdan çeviri, Çevirenler: M. Timur Aydemir, E. Afacan, K. C. Nakipoğlu, Schaum's Outlines, McGraw Hill Inc., Nobel Yayın Dağıtım, Ankara, 2000.

## TIME-HARMONIC FIELDS

### Plane wave propagation in the $z$ direction:

Let us start by analyzing the scalar wave equation in simple media (linear, isotropic, source-free and lossless).

In cartesian coordinates

$$\nabla^2 \mathbf{E} = (\partial^2 / \partial x^2 + \partial^2 / \partial y^2 + \partial^2 / \partial z^2) \mathbf{E}$$

Helmholtz wave equation in lossless and simple media

$$\nabla^2 \mathbf{E} + k^2 \mathbf{E} = (\partial^2 / \partial x^2 + \partial^2 / \partial y^2 + \partial^2 / \partial z^2 + k^2) \mathbf{E} = 0$$

Assume

$$\mathbf{E} = \mathbf{a}_x E_x \quad \text{and} \quad (\partial^2 / \partial x^2) \mathbf{E} = 0, \quad (\partial^2 / \partial y^2) \mathbf{E} = 0.$$

EM wave equation simplifies to

$$(d^2 / dz^2 + k^2) E_x = 0$$

The solution is an  $x$  polarized plane wave propagating in the  $z$  direction.

$$\begin{aligned} E_x(z) &= E_x^+(z) + E_x^-(z) \\ &= E_0^+(z) e^{-jkz} + E_0^-(z) e^{+jkz} \end{aligned}$$

## Plane wave solution (taking the +z travelling wave only)

$$\begin{aligned}\mathbf{E}(z, t) &= \mathbf{a}_x \operatorname{Re}\{E_0^+(z)e^{-jkz}e^{j\omega t}\} \\ &= \mathbf{a}_x E_0^+ \cos(\omega t - kz)\end{aligned}$$

EM wave travelling in positive  $z$  direction with linear  $x$  polarization.

[Ex. 8–1, D. K. Cheng, Fundamentals of Engineering Electromagnetics, Addison-Wesley Inc. 1993]

## TRANSVERSE ELECTROMAGNETIC WAVES

### Plane wave propagation in arbitrary direction:

Our analysis of the wave equation for the  $z$  – travelling plane wave is also valid for a plane wave travelling in an arbitrary direction defined by

$$\mathbf{R} = \alpha \mathbf{a}_x + \beta \mathbf{a}_y + \gamma \mathbf{a}_z$$

where

$$|\mathbf{R}|^2 = \alpha^2 \mathbf{a}_x + \beta^2 \mathbf{a}_y + \gamma^2 \mathbf{a}_z \quad \text{where} \quad \alpha^2 + \beta^2 + \gamma^2 = 1$$

and where

$\mathbf{R}$  is the unit direction vector,

$\alpha, \beta$  and  $\gamma$  are called the **three direction cosines**.

[D. K. Cheng, Fundamentals of Engineering Electromagnetics]

Unit direction vector and wave normal to a phase front of a **uniform plane wave**.

# TRANSVERSE ELECTROMAGNETIC WAVES

## Uniform phasefronts

The keyword now we would like to examine is **uniform**

What if the plane wave is not uniform?

→ Wavefront will not be planar.

How can we define a planar surface?

[R. D. Guenter, Modern Optics]

It is defined by the equation (Note that D. K. Cheng prefers the notation  $R$  and R. D. Guenter prefers  $\mathbf{r}$  instead)

$$\mathbf{r} \cdot \mathbf{n} = s \quad (\mathbf{n} \text{ will be placed by } \mathbf{a}_s \text{ in the following slides}).$$

Note that  $s$  is the distance between two points on two different wavefronts.

- Wavefront is a surface where the phase of wave at those points are equal to some value  $s (2\pi/\lambda) = ks$  (given in radians).
  - Note that for  $s = \text{multiples of } \lambda$  then the phase is **the same multiples of  $2\pi$**
- $S(\mathbf{r})$  function defines the wavefront of wave
- The outward propagating wave can now be defined by

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbf{E}(\mathbf{r}, t) &= \mathbf{a}_p \operatorname{Re}\{E_0^+(\mathbf{r})e^{-jk(\mathbf{r} \cdot \mathbf{n})}e^{j\omega t}\} \\ &= \mathbf{a}_p E_0^+ \cos(\omega t - S(\mathbf{r})) \end{aligned}$$

for some polarization vector  $\mathbf{a}_p$  perpendicular to  $\mathbf{n}$ .

[R. D. Guenter, Modern Optics]

$$\mathbf{E}(\mathbf{r}, t) = \mathbf{a}_p E_0^+ \cos(\omega t - S(\mathbf{r}))$$

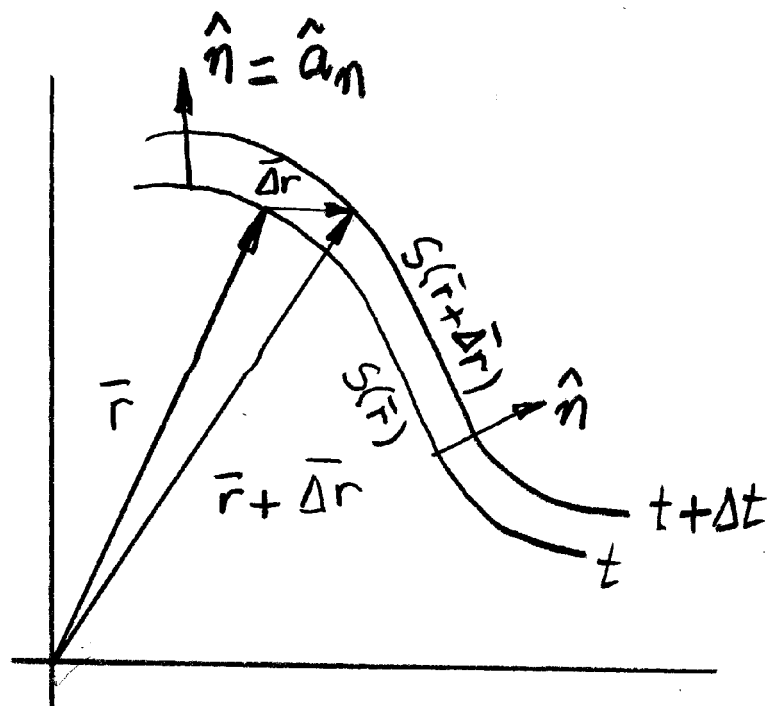
Now we are ready to calculate **the phase velocity** of the wavefront.

## When wave propagates

- Time parameter  $t$  increases
- Recalling the equation  $\mathbf{E}(z, t) = \mathbf{a}_x E_0^+ \cos(\omega t - kz)$   
wave propagates along the  $z$  – axis
- Then, distance from the reference  $z$  increases
- Wave propagates along the  $z$  – axis in time.

**Question:** What happens to  $(\omega t - S(\mathbf{r}))$  ?

Now let us assume that we are at a point on the wave stationary on some wavefront of constant phase, propagating with the wave !..



- Scalar time parameter  $t$  increases to  $t + \Delta t$
- Distance vector parameter  $\mathbf{r}$  increases to  $\mathbf{r} + \Delta \mathbf{r}$

Note that the unit vector  $\mathbf{a}_s$  is in the direction of maximum increase of phase.

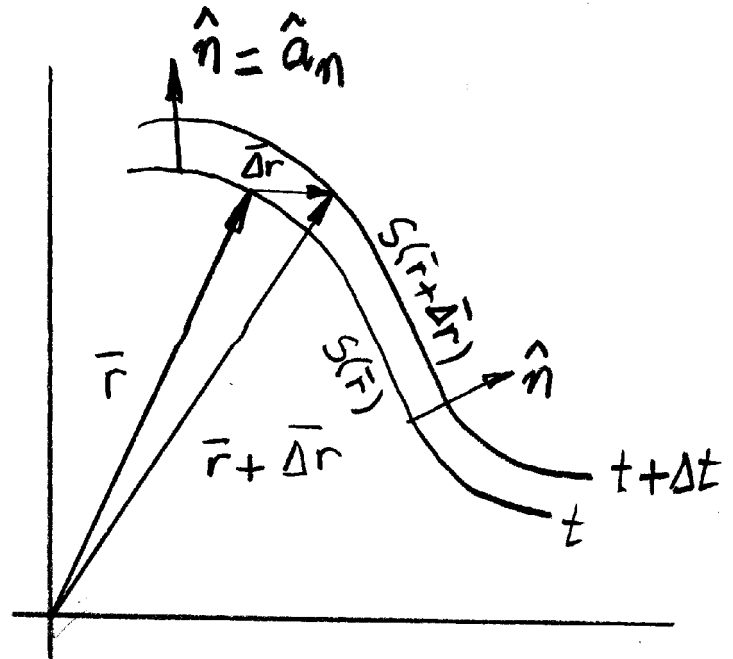
## Phase velocity:

Note that we are stationary on the wavefront travelling along the wave with the same velocity of increasing phase.

Then, the phase in

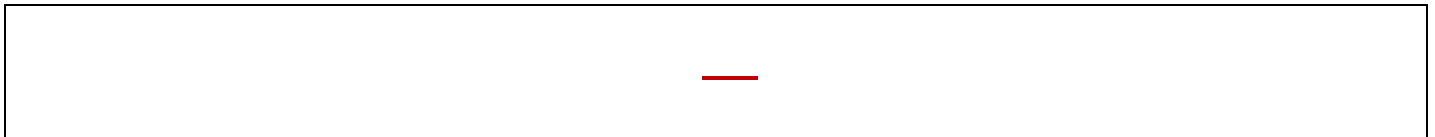
, the cosine term;

should be constant.



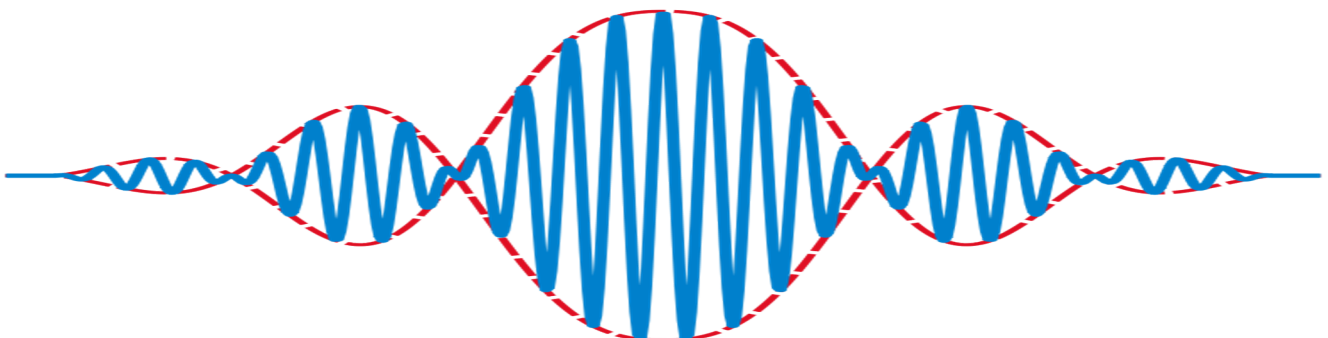
## A note on the definition of Phase ‘velocity’

Phase velocity is clearly a scalar



In physics, speed is scalar and velocity is vector.

But, **phase velocity is a scalar !..**





Constant phase (travelling along with the wave),

Phase at  $(\mathbf{r}, t)$  should be equal to the phase at

$(\mathbf{r} + \Delta\mathbf{r}, t + \Delta t)$

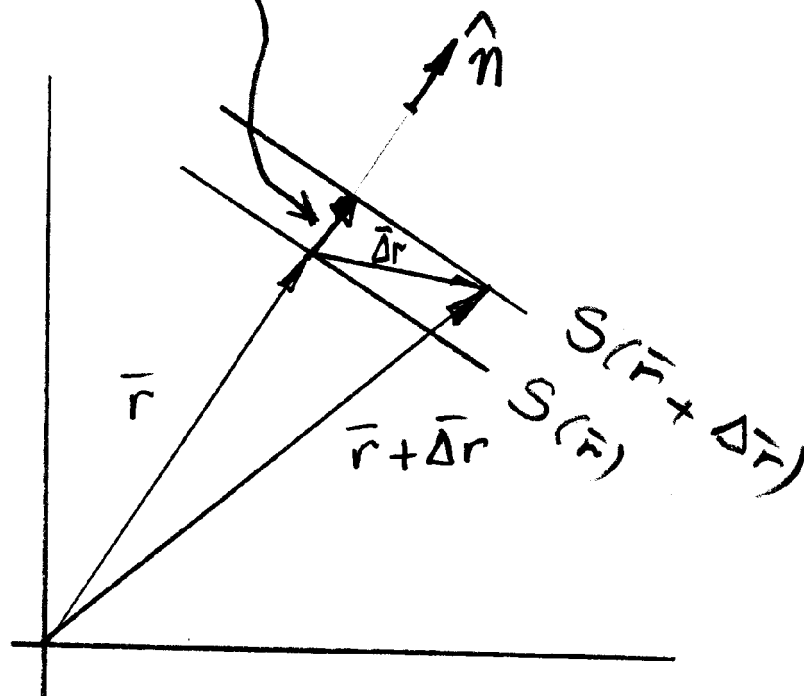
$$\omega t - S(\mathbf{r}) = \omega t + \omega \Delta t - S(\mathbf{r} + \Delta\mathbf{r})$$

Phase at time  $t$  = Phase at time  $t + \Delta t$

$$\omega \Delta t - [S(\mathbf{r} + \Delta\mathbf{r}) - S(\mathbf{r})] = 0$$

$$\Delta\mathbf{r} \cdot \mathbf{a}_s = \Delta s$$

$$\bar{\Delta\mathbf{r}} \cdot \hat{\mathbf{n}} = \Delta s$$



## RAY APPROXIMATION FOR PLANE EM WAVES

To be able to visualize vectors clearly, let us be interested in the instantaneous values by assuming limiting case  $\Delta t \rightarrow 0$  such that it is also true that  $\Delta \mathbf{r} \rightarrow 0$ .

Then, wavefront at point  $\mathbf{r}$ , will be almost planar as shown in Figure.

Define,  $\Delta S(\mathbf{r}) = S(\mathbf{r} + \Delta \mathbf{r}) - S(\mathbf{r})$  as the phase difference between wavefronts in radians. And,  $\Delta s$  is the physical distance between wavefronts in meters.

Note that  $\Delta S(\mathbf{r}) =$  the directional derivative of the scalar field function  $S(\mathbf{r})$  in the direction defined by the unit vector  $\mathbf{n}$ .

Recalling the definition (see D. K. Cheng's textbook)

$$\Delta S(\mathbf{r}) = \text{grad}(S(\mathbf{r})) \bullet (\mathbf{a}_s) ds = (\nabla S(\mathbf{r}) \bullet \mathbf{a}_s) ds$$

For the case  $\Delta t \rightarrow 0$  and  $\Delta \mathbf{r} \rightarrow 0$ , we can rename

$$\Delta t \rightarrow dt \text{ and } \Delta \mathbf{r} \rightarrow d\mathbf{r}$$

Then, we have

$$\omega dt - [S(\mathbf{r} + d\mathbf{r}) - S(\mathbf{r})] ds = 0$$

$$\omega dt - (\nabla S(\mathbf{r}) \bullet \mathbf{a}_s) ds = 0$$

and since  $\mathbf{n}$  points in the same direction with  $\nabla S(\mathbf{r})$  (simply  $\nabla S$ )

$$\mathbf{a}_s = \frac{\nabla S}{|\nabla S|} \rightarrow \nabla S \cdot \mathbf{a}_s = |\nabla S|$$

Recalling, phase velocity

$$v_p = ds/dt$$

**Phase velocity:**

$$v_p = \frac{\omega}{|\nabla S(\mathbf{r})|}$$

We now know that

Phase Velocity is maximum in the direction of  $\nabla S(\mathbf{r})$

or namely,  $\mathbf{a}_s$ .

But what is its amplitude;  $|\nabla S(\mathbf{r})|$  ?

We can substitute our wave solution (locally planar wave structure)

$$\mathbf{E} = \mathbf{a}_E A e^{(jks)}$$

into Helmholtz equation

Related notes from the Book:

[R. D. Guenter, Modern Optics, pp.131–132]

[R. D. Guenter, Modern Optics, pp.131–132]

Helmholtz equation relates  $\nabla S(\mathbf{r})$  with the index of refraction  $n$

$$|\nabla S(\mathbf{r})|^2 = (k/k_0)^2 = n^2$$

$$|\nabla S(\mathbf{r})| = n$$

Its direction is along the unit vector  $\mathbf{a}_s$ , then

**Eikonal Equation:**  $\nabla S(\mathbf{r}) = n \mathbf{a}_s$

**It states that,**

- **equal phase surfaces form wavefronts,**
- **wavefronts are perpendicular to the direction of propagation**
- **accurate for large wavenumbers**

Eikonal equation:

$\mathbf{r}$        $\mathbf{r}$  is the position vector of the wavefront

$\mathbf{a}_s$       is the unit vector in the direction of propagation

If  $n$  varies in space,

then the dielectric constant  $\epsilon$  is a function of position

then the **rays are curved**.

When is  $k$  large? Recall  $k = 2\pi/\lambda$

If  $k$  is large

Then, wavelength  $\lambda$  is very small

Then, frequency is  $f$  is very large

For  $\lambda \rightarrow \infty$  (limit of Helmholtz equation)

Then electromagnetic wave can accurately be assumed as **rays**.

Wave propagation is local and acts as small **plane waves**, as first proposed by Christiaan Huygens.

Eikonal equation is mostly accurate for lasers.



## Fermat's Principle:

Remember the Eikonal Equation:

$$\nabla S(\mathbf{r}) = n \mathbf{a}_s$$

The time  $T$  that a point of the electromagnetic wave needs to cover a path between the points  $a$  and  $b$  is given by:

$$T = \int_a^b dt = \frac{1}{c} \int_a^b \frac{c}{v} \frac{ds}{dt} dt = \frac{1}{c} \int_a^b n ds$$

$c$  is the speed of light in vacuum,  $ds$  is an infinitesimal displacement along the ray,  $v=ds/dt$  the speed of light in a medium and  $n = c/v$  the refractive index of that medium.

**The optical path length** of a ray from a point A to a point B is defined by:

**The optical path length:**  $S = \int_a^b n ds$

and it is related to

**The travel time:**  $T = S/c$

The optical path length is a purely geometrical quantity since time is not considered in its calculation.

## French mathematician Pierre de Fermat (1601 – 1665):

*“An extremum in the light travel time between two points  $a$  and  $b$  is equivalent to an extremum of the optical path length between those two points.”*

The historical form proposed by French mathematician Pierre de Fermat is incomplete.

**A complete modern statement of the variational Fermat principle** is that;

“The optical length of the path followed by light between two fixed points,  $a$  and  $b$ , is an extremum. The optical length is defined as the physical length multiplied by the refractive index of the material.”

[Int: wikipedia.com]

[R. Marques, F. Martin, and M. Sorolla. Metamaterials with Negative Parameters. Wiley, 2008]