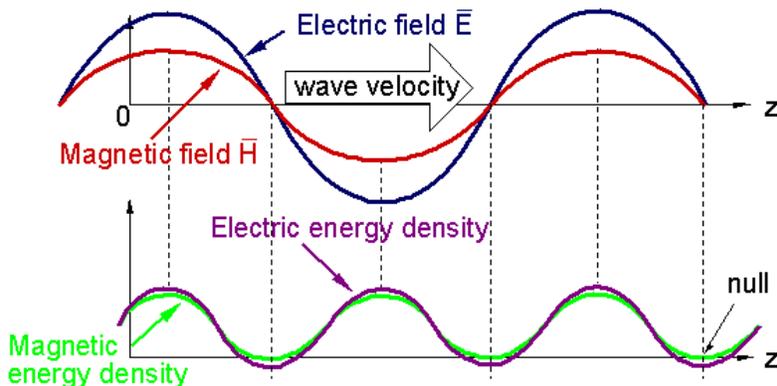


## WHAT ARE ELECTROMAGNETIC WAVES?

A “wave” is a periodic disturbance propagating through a medium  
**EM Waves Convey Undulations in EM Fields:**



**Electric and Magnetic Fields are Useful Fictions:**  
 Explain all classical electrical experiments with simple equations

4 Maxwell's equations plus the Lorentz force law

(quantum effects are separate)

L2-1

## WHAT ARE ELECTRIC AND MAGNETIC FIELDS?

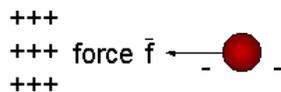
**Lorentz Force Law:**

$$\vec{f} = q(\vec{E} + \vec{v} \times \mu_0 \vec{H}) \text{ [Newtons]}$$

$\vec{E}$	Electric field	[volts/meter; V/m]
$\vec{H}$	Magnetic field	[amperes/meter; A/m]
$\vec{f}$	Mechanical force	[newtons; N]
$q$	Charge on a particle	[coulombs; C]
$\vec{v}$	Particle velocity vector	[meters/second; m/sec]
$\mu_0$	Vacuum permeability	[ $1.26 \times 10^{-6}$ Henries]

**Electric and Magnetic Fields are what Produce Force  $\vec{f}$ :**

$\vec{f} = q\vec{E}$  when  $\vec{v} = 0$ , defining  $\vec{E}$  via an observable  
 $\vec{f} = q\vec{v} \times \mu_0 \vec{H}$  when  $\vec{E} = 0$ , defining  $\vec{H}$  via an observable



L2-2

**Main points of L2:**

- $\vec{E}$  is electric field vector [ $\text{Vm}^{-1}$ ];  $\vec{H}$  is magnetic field vector [ $\text{Am}^{-1}$ ]
- $\epsilon_0, \mu_0$  are vacuum permittivity, permeability ( $8.854 \times 10^{-12}$  [ $\text{fm}^{-1}$ ],  $1.257 \times 10^{-6}$  [ $\text{hm}^{-1}$ ])
- Faraday's law:  $\nabla \times \vec{E} = -\partial \vec{B} / \partial t$  and  $\int_c \vec{E} \cdot d\vec{s} = -\int_A (\partial \vec{B} / \partial t) \cdot d\vec{a}$  [integral form]
- Ampere's law:  $\nabla \times \vec{H} = \vec{J} + \partial \vec{D} / \partial t$  and  $\int_c \vec{H} \cdot d\vec{s} = \int_A (\vec{J} + \partial \vec{D} / \partial t) \cdot d\vec{a}$  [integral form]
- Gauss's laws:  $\nabla \cdot \vec{D} = \rho$  [ $\text{Cm}^{-3}$ ] and  $\int_A \vec{D} \cdot d\vec{a} = \int_V \rho \, dv$ ;  $\nabla \cdot \vec{B} = 0$  and  $\int_A \vec{B} \cdot d\vec{a} = 0$
- "Del"  $\nabla \equiv \hat{x}\partial/\partial x + \hat{y}\partial/\partial y + \hat{z}\partial/\partial z$ ;  $\vec{A} \cdot \vec{B} = ; \vec{A} \times \vec{B} = ; \nabla \cdot \vec{A} = ; \nabla \times \vec{A} = ; \nabla \cdot (\nabla \phi) = \nabla^2 \phi$
- EM wave equation:  $\nabla^2 \vec{E} - \mu_0 \epsilon_0 \partial^2 \vec{E} / \partial t^2 = 0$ ; Many soln: e.g.  $E_y(z,t) = E_+(t - z/c)$  [ $\text{Vm}^{-1}$ ]
- WE soln:  $E_+(\bullet)$  can be arbitrary function of the argument, a linear combination of  $z, t$
- WE soln:  $(\mu_0 \epsilon_0)^{-0.5} = c \equiv 3 \times 10^8 \text{ ms}^{-1}$  in vacuum continued...

## MAXWELL'S EQUATIONS

**Differential Form:**

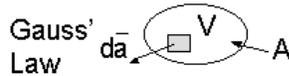
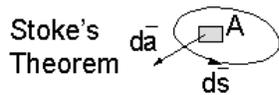
<sup>1</sup>Tesla = Webers/m<sup>2</sup> = 10<sup>4</sup> Gauss

Faraday's Law:  $\nabla \times \vec{E} = -\partial \vec{B} / \partial t$       Gauss's Laws  $\nabla \cdot \vec{D} = \rho$   
 Ampere's Law:  $\nabla \times \vec{H} = \vec{J} + \partial \vec{D} / \partial t$        $\nabla \cdot \vec{B} = 0$

$\vec{E}$	Electric field	[volts/meter; V/m]
$\vec{H}$	Magnetic field	[amperes/meter; A/m]
$\vec{B}$	Magnetic flux density	[Tesla; T] <sup>1</sup>
$\vec{D}$	Electric displacement	[coulombs/m <sup>2</sup> ; C/m <sup>2</sup> ]
$\vec{J}$	Electric current density	[amperes/m <sup>2</sup> ; A/m <sup>2</sup> ]
$\rho$	Electric charge density	[coulombs/m <sup>3</sup> ; C/m <sup>3</sup> ]

**Integral Form:**

$\int_C \vec{E} \cdot d\vec{s} = \int_A -(\partial \vec{B} / \partial t) \cdot d\vec{a}$        $\int_A \vec{D} \cdot d\vec{a} = \int_V \rho dv$   
 $\int_C \vec{H} \cdot d\vec{s} = \int_A (\vec{J} + \partial \vec{D} / \partial t) \cdot d\vec{a}$        $\int_A \vec{B} \cdot d\vec{a} = 0$



L2-3

## VECTOR OPERATORS $\nabla, \times, \cdot$

**"Del" ( $\nabla$ ) Operator:** Gradient of  $\phi$ :  $\nabla = \hat{x} \partial / \partial x + \hat{y} \partial / \partial y + \hat{z} \partial / \partial z$

**"Vector Cross Product":**  $\nabla \phi = \hat{x} \partial \phi / \partial x + \hat{y} \partial \phi / \partial y + \hat{z} \partial \phi / \partial z$

$\vec{A} = \hat{x} A_x + \hat{y} A_y + \hat{z} A_z$

$\vec{A} \times \vec{B} = \det \begin{vmatrix} \hat{x} & \hat{y} & \hat{z} \\ A_x & A_y & A_z \\ B_x & B_y & B_z \end{vmatrix} = \hat{x}(A_y B_z - A_z B_y) + \hat{y}(A_z B_x - A_x B_z) + \hat{z}(A_x B_y - A_y B_x)$

**"Vector Dot Product":**  $\vec{A} \cdot \vec{B} = A_x B_x + A_y B_y + A_z B_z$

**"Divergence of  $\vec{A}$ ":**  $\nabla \cdot \vec{A} = \partial A_x / \partial x + \partial A_y / \partial y + \partial A_z / \partial z$

**"Curl of  $\vec{A}$ ":**  $\nabla \times \vec{A} = \det \begin{vmatrix} \hat{x} & \hat{y} & \hat{z} \\ \partial / \partial x & \partial / \partial y & \partial / \partial z \\ A_x & A_y & A_z \end{vmatrix}$

**"Laplacian Operator":**  $\nabla \cdot (\nabla \phi) = \nabla^2 \phi = (\partial^2 / \partial x^2 + \partial^2 / \partial y^2 + \partial^2 / \partial z^2) \phi$

L2-4

**Main points of L2: (continued)**

- Sinusoidal WE soln: e.g.  $E_y(z,t) = E_+ \cos(\omega t - kz)$  where  $k = \omega/c = 2\pi/\lambda = \omega(\mu_0 \epsilon_0)^{0.5}$
- Can find  $\vec{H}$  from  $\vec{E}$  using  $\nabla \times \vec{E} = -\partial \vec{B} / \partial t$ ; e.g. here  $H_x = (-E_+ / \eta_0) \cos(\omega t - kz)$

## MAXWELL'S EQUATIONS: VACUUM SOLUTION

### Maxwell's Equations:

Faraday's Law:  $\nabla \times \vec{E} = -\partial \vec{B} / \partial t$       Gauss's Laws  $\nabla \cdot \vec{D} = \rho$   
 Ampere's Law:  $\nabla \times \vec{H} = \vec{J} + \partial \vec{D} / \partial t$        $\nabla \cdot \vec{B} = 0$   
 $\vec{B} = \mu_0 \vec{H}$   
 $\vec{D} = \epsilon_0 \vec{E}$

### EM Wave Equation:

Eliminate  $\vec{H}$ :  $\nabla \times (\nabla \times \vec{E}) = -\mu_0 (\partial / \partial t) (\nabla \times \vec{H})$   
 Use identity:  $\nabla \times (\nabla \times \vec{A}) = \nabla (\nabla \cdot \vec{A}) - \nabla^2 \vec{A}$   
 Yields:  $\nabla (\nabla \cdot \vec{E}) - \nabla^2 \vec{E} = -\mu_0 (\partial / \partial t) (\nabla \times \vec{H}) = -\mu_0 \epsilon_0 \partial^2 \vec{E} / \partial t^2$

**EM Wave Equation<sup>1</sup>  $\nabla^2 \vec{E} - \mu_0 \epsilon_0 \partial^2 \vec{E} / \partial t^2 = 0$**

Since:

Second derivative in space = const × second derivative in time,

**Solution is any  $f(\vec{r}, t)$  with identical space and time dependences**

<sup>1</sup>Homogeneous Vector Helmholtz Equation

L2-5

## WAVE EQUATION SOLUTION

### Wave Equation has Many Solutions!

$\nabla^2 \vec{E} - \mu_0 \epsilon_0 \partial^2 \vec{E} / \partial t^2 = 0$

Where  $\nabla^2 \phi = (\partial^2 / \partial x^2 + \partial^2 / \partial y^2 + \partial^2 / \partial z^2) \phi$

### Example:

Try:  $\vec{E} = \hat{y} E_y(z, t)$  [no x,y dependence, "UPW"]

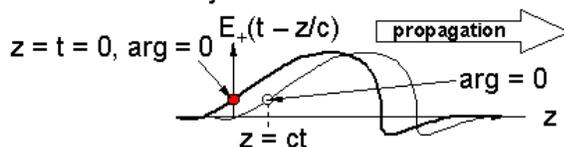
$(\partial^2 / \partial z^2) E_y - \mu_0 \epsilon_0 \partial^2 E_y / \partial t^2 = 0$

$E_y(z, t) = E_+(t - z/c)$ , where  $E_+(\cdot)$  is an arbitrary function

Test:  $(-c)^{-2} E_+(t - z/c) = \mu_0 \epsilon_0 E_+(t - z/c) \Rightarrow c = 1 / \sqrt{\mu_0 \epsilon_0}$

Generally:  $c \cong 3 \times 10^8$  [m/s] in vacuum

$E_y(z, t) = E_+(t - z/c) + E_-(t + z/c)$  more generally



The position ● where  $\arg = 0$  moves at velocity  $c$

L2-6

## UNIFORM PLANE WAVE IN Z-DIRECTION

**Electric Fields (Example):**  $E_y(z,t) = E_+(t - z/c)$  [V/m]

More specifically, let:  $E_y(z,t) = E_+ \cos \omega(t - z/c) = E_+ \cos(\omega t - kz)$ ,  
where  $k = \omega/c = \omega \sqrt{\mu_0 \epsilon_0}$

**Magnetic Fields:** Use Faraday's Law:  $\nabla \times \vec{E} = -\partial \vec{B} / \partial t$

$$\nabla \times \vec{E} = \det \begin{vmatrix} \hat{x} & \hat{y} & \hat{z} \\ \partial/\partial x & \partial/\partial y & \partial/\partial z \\ E_x & E_y & E_z \end{vmatrix} = -\hat{x} \partial E_+ \cos(\omega t - kz) / \partial z$$

$$= -\hat{x} k E_+ \sin(\omega t - kz)$$

$$\vec{H}(z,t) = \hat{x} (1/\mu_0) \int k E_+ \sin(\omega t - kz) dt \text{ [A/m]}$$

$$= -\hat{x} (k E_+ / \omega \mu_0) \cos(\omega t - kz) = -\hat{x} (E_+ / \eta_0) \cos(\omega t - kz)$$

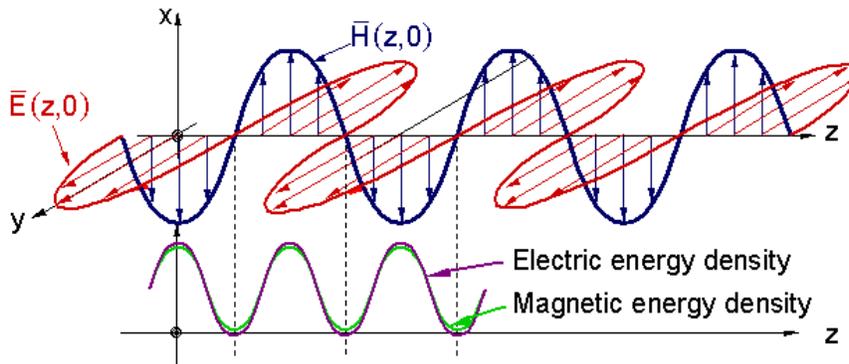
$$\left[ \frac{k}{\omega} = \frac{1}{c} = \sqrt{\mu_0 \epsilon_0} ; \eta_0 = \sqrt{\mu_0 / \epsilon_0} \right]$$

L2-7

## UNIFORM PLANE WAVE EM FIELDS

**EM Wave in z direction:**

$$\vec{E}(z,t) = \hat{y} E_+ \cos(\omega t - kz) , \quad \vec{H}(z,t) = -\hat{x} (E_+ / \eta_0) \cos(\omega t - kz)$$



L2-8