

Homework #3

1. Consider a plane polarized electromagnetic wave with an electrical field given by $\vec{E} = \hat{x} E_0 \cos(\omega t - kz)$.

(a) Find the associated magnetic field

(b) Find the energy density $u_{em}(z, t) = \frac{\epsilon_0 \vec{E} \cdot \vec{E}}{2} + \frac{\vec{B} \cdot \vec{B}}{2\mu_0}$

(c) Find the Poynting vector $\vec{S}(z, t)$. Do not average over time.

(d) Use your answers for (b) and (c) to show $\vec{\nabla} \cdot \vec{S} + \frac{\partial u_{em}}{\partial t} = 0$

(e) Use your answer for (c) and relations such as $\langle \cos^2 \omega t \rangle = \frac{1}{2}$ etc to show

$\langle \vec{S} \rangle = \frac{E_0^2}{2\mu_0 c} \hat{z} \approx \frac{E_0^2 \hat{z}}{2 \times 377 \text{ Ohms}}$. To get full credit be sure to demonstrate that $\mu_0 c$

has the units of impedance or Ohms and be careful to show

$\langle \cos^2 \omega t - kz \rangle = \frac{1}{2}$ independent of z

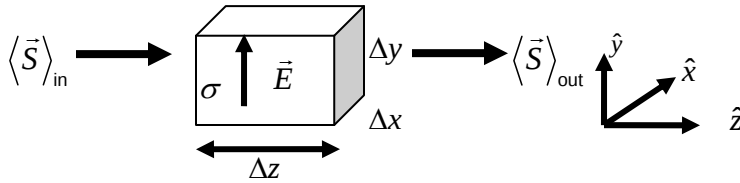
(f) Show you get the same result for $\langle \vec{S} \rangle$ as in part (e) using complex notation:

$\vec{E} = \hat{x} E_0 \exp(ikz - i\omega t)$ and $\langle \vec{S} \rangle = \frac{1}{2\mu_0} \text{Re} \{ \vec{E}^* \times \vec{B} \}$. Assume E_0 is real. Begin by

computing the complex $\vec{B}$ using Faraday' law assuming $\vec{B} \propto \exp(-i\omega t)$. What is $\vec{\nabla} \cdot \langle \vec{S} \rangle$? Is your $\vec{\nabla} \cdot \langle \vec{S} \rangle$ equal to $\vec{\nabla} \cdot \vec{S}$ of part (d)?

2. Griffiths problem 9.12 . Use the time averaged $\langle \vec{T} \rangle$ throughout.

3. Consider an electromagnetic wave with a time-averaged $\langle \vec{S} \rangle$ along the $\hat{z}$ direction. Assume this wave passes through an infinitesimal, conducting volume with conductivity σ , and dimensions $\Delta x, \Delta y, \Delta z$. Assume that the wave's electrical field while in the volume is given by $\vec{E} \propto \hat{y}$ as shown below:



- (a) Write the total time-averaged power flowing into the volume in terms of $\langle \vec{S}_{in} \rangle_z$, $\langle \vec{S}_{out} \rangle_z$, and $\Delta x, \Delta y$ as shown above.
- (b) The time-averaged power dissipated in heat within the volume is presumably: $\langle I^2 \rangle R$. Write the average power dissipated in heat in terms of the field within the volume $\vec{E}$, the conductivity σ , and the volume dimensions $\Delta x, \Delta y, \Delta z$. Hints – You can find I from $\vec{J} = \sigma \vec{E}$ and the resistance R can be computed from σ and the dimensions $\Delta x, \Delta y, \Delta z$.
- (c) By setting the time-averaged power flowing into volume that you computed in part (a) to the heat dissipated power that you computed in part (b) show that : $\vec{\nabla} \cdot \langle \vec{S} \rangle + \langle \vec{E} \cdot \vec{J} \rangle = 0$ which is the time-averaged version of Poynting's theorem.

Hint-- $\left[\langle \vec{S}_{in} \rangle_z - \langle \vec{S}_{out} \rangle_z \right] \propto \partial \langle S \rangle_z / \partial z$ in the infinitesimal limit.

4. A superposition of two electromagnetic waves traveling in vacuum has an electric field of the form $\vec{E} = E_0 \hat{z} e^{ikx - i\omega t} + E_0 \hat{z} e^{iky - i\omega t}$. For simplicity assume E_0 is real.

- (a) Find the associated magnetic field using Faraday's law.

(b) Construct the time-averaged Poynting vector using $\langle \vec{S} \rangle = \frac{\text{Re} \{ \vec{E}^* \times \vec{B} \}}{2\mu_0}$

(c) Compute the time-averaged intensity $I = \langle S \rangle$. Write the maximum possible intensity in terms of E_0 . Crudely sketch $I(x, y = 0, z = 0)$ and $I(x = y, z = 0)$ as a function of x . These are the intensities on the x axis and on the $x=y$ line.

(d) Find $\vec{\nabla} \cdot \langle \vec{S} \rangle$ using your answer to part (b). Did you get what you expect from Poynting's Theorem?