

Lect 18, Nov 1, 2018, W. C. Chew

Homomorphism of Uniform Plane Waves and Transmission Lines

For uniform plane wave, we know that

$$\vec{\beta} \times \vec{E} = \omega \mu \vec{H} \quad (1)$$

$$\vec{\beta} \times \vec{H} = -\omega \epsilon \vec{E} \quad (2)$$

Assuming a TE wave travelling in z direction, $\vec{E} = \hat{y} E_y$, then we have from (1)

$$\beta_z E_y = -\omega \mu H_x, \quad \beta_x E_y = \omega \mu H_z \quad (3)$$

From (2), we have

$$\beta_z H_x - \beta_x H_z = -\omega \epsilon E_y \quad (4)$$

Then, expressing H_z in terms of E_y from (3), we can show that

$$\beta_z H_x = -\omega \epsilon \cos \theta E_y \quad (5)$$

where $\beta \cos \theta = \beta_z$. E_y (3) and (5) can be written to look like the telegrapher's equation

$$\frac{\partial}{\partial z} E_y = -j \omega \mu H_x \quad (6)$$

$$\frac{\partial}{\partial z} H_x = j \omega \epsilon \cos \theta E_y \quad (7)$$

If we let $E_y \rightarrow V$, $H_x \rightarrow -I$, $\mu \rightarrow L$, $\epsilon \cos^2 \theta \rightarrow C$, the above is exactly the telegrapher's equation. The characteristic impedance of this equation is then

$$Z_0 = \sqrt{\frac{L}{C}} = \sqrt{\frac{\mu}{\epsilon \cos^2 \theta}} = \sqrt{\frac{\mu}{\epsilon}} \frac{1}{\cos \theta} = \sqrt{\frac{\mu}{\epsilon}} \frac{\beta}{\beta_z} = \frac{\omega \mu}{\beta_z} \quad (8)$$

$$Z_{01} = \frac{\omega \mu_1}{\beta_{1z}} \quad Z_{02} = \frac{\omega \mu_2}{\beta_{2z}}$$

We can use the above to find Γ_{12} as given by

$$\Gamma_{12} = \frac{Z_{02} - Z_{01}}{Z_{02} + Z_{01}} = \frac{(\mu_2/\beta_{2z}) - (\mu_1/\beta_{1z})}{(\mu_2/\beta_{2z}) + (\mu_1/\beta_{1z})} \quad (9)$$

The above is the same as the Fresnel reflection coefficients we have found earlier;

For the TM polarization, from duality principle, the corresponding equations are, from (6) and (7),

$$\frac{\partial}{\partial z} H_y = -j\omega \epsilon E_x \quad (10)$$

$$\frac{\partial}{\partial z} E_x = -j\omega \mu \cos \theta H_y \quad (11)$$

Just for consistency of units, we may choose the following map to convert the above into the telegrapher's equations, viz;

$$E_x \rightarrow V, H_y \rightarrow I, \mu \cos \theta \rightarrow L, \epsilon \rightarrow C. \quad (12)$$

Then, the characteristic impedance is now

$$Z_0 = \sqrt{\frac{L}{C}} = \sqrt{\frac{\mu}{\epsilon}} \cos \theta = \frac{\beta_z}{\omega \epsilon} \quad (13)$$

Now,

$$\Gamma_{12} = \frac{(\beta_{z2}/\epsilon_2) - (\beta_{z1}/\epsilon_1)}{(\beta_{z2}/\epsilon_2) + (\beta_{z1}/\epsilon_1)} \quad (14)$$

Notice that (14) has a sign difference from the definition of R^{TM} . The reason is that R^{TM} is for the reflection coefficient of magnetic field while Γ_{12} above is for the reflection coefficient of electric field. This difference is also seen in the definition for transmission coefficients.

Because of the above homomorphism, one can easily use multi-section transmission line formula to study electromagnetic waves in layered media.

Layered Medium Problems - Homomorphism with Transmission Line Problems

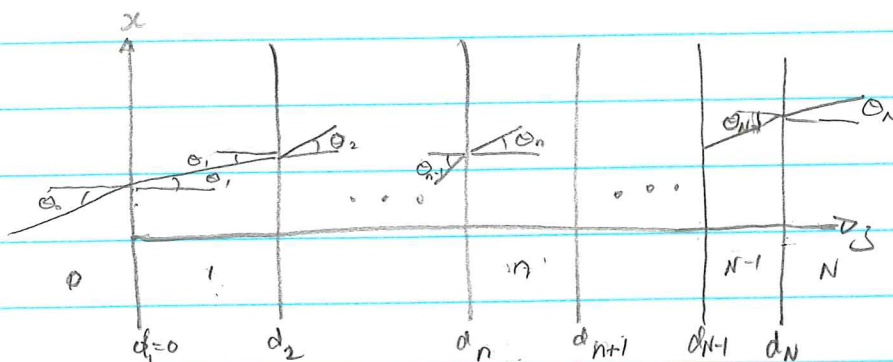


Fig. 1.

For a layered medium problem, due to phase matching condition, all the fields in the layers have the same $e^{j\beta_x x}$ dependence. For the TE problem, we can factor out the x dependence and write the field in each region as

$$\vec{E}(\vec{r}) = \vec{E}(z) e^{j\beta_x x} = \hat{y} E(z) e^{j\beta_x x} \quad (1)$$

The field in a region can be expressed as

$$\vec{E}_0(z) = \hat{y} E_0 \left(e^{-j\beta_{0z} z} + \tilde{R}_{01} e^{+j\beta_{0z} z} \right) \quad (2)$$

In general,

$$\vec{E}_n(z) = \hat{y} E_n \left(e^{-j\beta_{nz} z} + \tilde{R}_{n,n+1} e^{+j\beta_{nz} (z - d_{n+1})} \right) \quad (3)$$

The corresponding tangential H_x field is

$$H_x = \frac{1}{j\omega\mu} \frac{\partial}{\partial z} E(z) e^{j\beta_x x} = h_x(z) e^{j\beta_x x} \quad (4)$$

Hence, we see that

$$j\omega\mu h_x(z) = \frac{\partial}{\partial z} E_y(z) \quad (5)$$

Similarly, we can derive that

$$j\omega\epsilon E_y(z) = \frac{\partial}{\partial z} h_x(z) \quad (6)$$

Wave Polarization

We can write a ^{general} uniform plane wave propagating in the z direction as

$$\vec{E} = \hat{x} E_x(z, t) + \hat{y} E_y(z, t) \quad (1)$$

Clearly, $\nabla \cdot \vec{E} = 0$, and $E_x(z, t)$ and $E_y(z, t)$ are solutions to the one-D wave equation. For a time harmonic field, we have in general

$$E_x(z, t) = E_1 \cos(\omega t - \beta z) \quad (2)$$

$$E_y(z, t) = E_2 \cos(\omega t - \beta z + \alpha) \quad (3)$$

We shall study how this wave behaves for different α .

We set $z=0$ to observe this field. Then

$$\vec{E} = \hat{x} E_1 \cos(\omega t) + \hat{y} E_2 \cos(\omega t + \alpha). \quad (4)$$

For $\alpha = \frac{\pi}{2}$,

$$E_x = E_1 \cos(\omega t), \quad E_y = E_2 \cos(\omega t + \frac{\pi}{2}) \quad (5)$$

We evaluate the above for different ωt 's.

$$\omega t = 0, \quad E_x = E_1, \quad E_y = 0 \quad (6)$$

$$\omega t = \pi/4, \quad E_x = E_1/\sqrt{2}, \quad E_y = -E_2/\sqrt{2} \quad (7)$$

$$\omega t = \pi/2, \quad E_x = 0, \quad E_y = -E_2 \quad (8)$$

$$\omega t = 3\pi/4, \quad E_x = -E_1/\sqrt{2}, \quad E_y = -E_2/\sqrt{2} \quad (9)$$

$$\omega t = \pi, \quad E_x = -E_1, \quad E_y = 0 \quad (10)$$

The tip of the vector field $\vec{E}$ traces out an ellipse as shown in Fig. 1. With the thumb pointing in the z direction, and the wave rotating in the direction of the fingers, such a wave is called left-hand elliptically polarized wave.

$$\alpha = \alpha$$

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When $E_1 = E_2$, the ellipse becomes a circle, we have a left-hand circularly polarized wave. When $\alpha = -\pi/2$, the wave rotates in the counter-clockwise direction, and the wave is either right-hand elliptically polarized, or right-hand circularly polarized wave depending on the ratio of E_1/E_2 .

For the general case for arbitrary α , we let

$$E_x = E_1 \cos \alpha, \quad E_y = E_2 \cos(\omega t + \alpha) = E_2 (\cos \omega t \cos \alpha - \sin \omega t \sin \alpha) \quad (11)$$

Then

$$E_y = \frac{E_2}{E_1} E_x \cos \alpha - E_2 \left[1 - \left(\frac{E_x}{E_1} \right)^2 \right]^{1/2} \sin \alpha. \quad (12)$$

Rearranging and squaring, we get

$$a E_x^2 - b E_x E_y + c E_y^2 = 1. \quad (13)$$

where

$$a = \frac{1}{E_1^2 \sin^2 \alpha}, \quad b = \frac{2 \cos \alpha}{E_1 E_2 \sin \alpha}, \quad c = \frac{1}{E_2^2 \sin^2 \alpha}. \quad (14)$$

Equation (13) is of the form

$$ax^2 - bxy + cy^2 = 1$$

The equation of an ellipse in its self coordinates is

$$\left(\frac{x'}{A} \right)^2 + \left(\frac{y'}{B} \right)^2 = 1 \quad (15)$$

We can transform the above back to the (x, y) coordinates

by letting

$$x' = x \cos \theta - y \sin \theta \quad (16)$$

$$y' = x \sin \theta + y \cos \theta \quad (17)$$

to get

$$x^2 \left(\frac{\cos^2 \theta}{A^2} + \frac{\sin^2 \theta}{B^2} \right) - xy \sin 2\theta \left(\frac{1}{A^2} - \frac{1}{B^2} \right) + y^2 \left(\frac{\sin^2 \theta}{A^2} + \frac{\cos^2 \theta}{B^2} \right) = 1 \quad (18)$$

Comparing (13) and (18), one gets

$$\Theta = \frac{1}{2} \tan^{-1} \left(\frac{2 \cos \alpha E_1 E_2}{E_2^2 - E_1^2} \right) \quad (19)$$

$$AR = \left(\frac{1+\Delta}{1-\Delta} \right)^{\frac{1}{2}} > 1 \quad (20)$$

where AR is the axial ratio where

$$\Delta = \left(1 - \frac{4E_1^2 E_2^2 \sin^2 \alpha}{E_1^2 + E_2^2} \right)^{\frac{1}{2}} \quad (21)$$

It is to be noted that in the phasor world, (1) becomes

$$\bar{E}(z, \omega) = \hat{x} E_1 e^{-j\beta z} + \hat{y} E_2 e^{-j\beta z + j\alpha} \quad (22)$$

For LHCP,

$$\bar{E}(z, \omega) = e^{-j\beta z} (\hat{x} E_1 + j \hat{y} E_2) \quad (23)$$

where for LHCP,

$$\bar{E}(z, \omega) = e^{-j\beta z} E_1 (\hat{x} + j \hat{y}) \quad (24)$$

For RHCP, the above becomes

$$\bar{E}(z, \omega) = e^{-j\beta z} (\hat{x} E_1 - j \hat{y} E_2) \quad (25)$$

where for RHCP,

$$\bar{E}(z, \omega) = e^{-j\beta z} E_1 (\hat{x} - j \hat{y}) \quad (26)$$

For a linearly polarized wave,

$$\vec{S}(t) = \bar{E} \times \bar{H} = \hat{z} \frac{E_0^2}{\eta} \cos^2(\omega t - \beta z) \quad (27)$$

For a circularly polarized wave,

$$\bar{E} = (\hat{x} \pm j \hat{y}) E_0 e^{-j\beta z} \quad (28)$$

$$\bar{H} = (\mp \hat{x} - j \hat{y}) j \frac{E_0}{\eta} e^{-j\beta z} \quad (29)$$

Then

$$\vec{E}(t) = \hat{x} E_0 \cos(\omega t - \beta z) \pm \hat{y} E_0 \sin(\omega t - \beta z) \quad (20)$$

$$\vec{H}(t) = \mp \hat{x} \frac{E_0}{\eta} \sin(\omega t - \beta z) + \hat{y} \frac{E_0}{\eta} \cos(\omega t - \beta z) \quad (21)$$

Then

$$\begin{aligned} \bar{S}(t) &= \vec{E}(t) \times \vec{H}(t) = \hat{z} \frac{E_0^2}{\eta} \cos^2(\omega t - \beta z) + \hat{z} \frac{E_0^2}{\eta} \sin^2(\omega t - \beta z) \\ &= \hat{z} \frac{E_0^2}{\eta} \end{aligned} \quad (22)$$

A CP wave delivers constant power.

It is to be noted that in cylindrical coordinates,

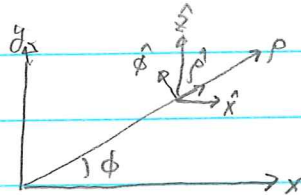


Fig. 2

$\hat{x} = \hat{\rho} \cos \phi - \hat{\phi} \sin \phi$, $\hat{y} = \hat{\rho} \sin \phi + \hat{\phi} \cos \phi$, then

$$(\hat{x} \pm j\hat{y}) = \hat{\rho} e^{\pm j\phi} \pm j\hat{\phi} e^{\pm j\phi} \quad (33)$$

Hence, the $\hat{\rho}$ and $\hat{\phi}$ of a CP is also a travelling wave in the $\hat{\phi}$ direction in addition to being a travelling wave $e^{j\beta z}$ in the $\hat{z}$ direction. Hence, the wave possesses angular momentum called the spin angular momentum (SAM), just as a travelling wave $e^{j\beta z}$ possesses linear angular momentum in the $\hat{z}$ direction.