

B.Sc. Part-2 physics (Hons), Paper-III<sup>rd</sup>.  
Lecture-9

17/04/20

1.

Wave Equations  $\Rightarrow$

The wave equation is an important second order linear partial differential equation for description of the wave.

Such as mechanical wave or light wave.

ex 
$$\frac{\partial^2 \psi}{\partial x^2} = \frac{1}{c^2} \frac{\partial^2 \psi}{\partial t^2}$$
 wave equation,

Electromagnetic wave in Dielectric media  $\Rightarrow$

Maxwell's Equation in charge free region

$$\rho = 0, \quad J = 0$$

$$\vec{\nabla} \cdot \vec{E} = 0 \quad \text{--- (i)}$$

$$\vec{\nabla} \cdot \vec{B} = 0 \quad \text{--- (ii)}$$

$$\vec{\nabla} \times \vec{E} = -\frac{\partial \vec{B}}{\partial t} \quad \text{--- (iii)}$$

$$\vec{\nabla} \times \vec{B} = \mu_0 \epsilon_0 \frac{\partial \vec{E}}{\partial t} \quad \text{--- (iv)}$$

where  $\mu$  and  $\epsilon$  are the permeability and permittivity of the medium.

Now take the curl of equation (iii) we get

$$\vec{\nabla} \times (\vec{\nabla} \times \vec{E}) = -\frac{\partial}{\partial t} (\vec{\nabla} \times \vec{B})$$

$$\nabla \cdot (\vec{\nabla} \cdot \vec{E}) - \nabla^2 \vec{E} = -\frac{\partial}{\partial t} \left( \mu_0 \epsilon_0 \frac{\partial \vec{E}}{\partial t} \right)$$

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

$$+\nabla^2 \vec{E} = +\mu\epsilon \frac{\partial^2 \vec{E}}{\partial t^2}$$

$$\boxed{\nabla^2 \vec{E} - \mu\epsilon \frac{\partial^2 \vec{E}}{\partial t^2} = 0} \quad \text{--- (V)}$$

Similarly we can write ~~the~~ wave equation in term of magnetic field  $\vec{B}$ .

$$\nabla^2 \vec{B} = \mu\epsilon \frac{\partial^2 \vec{B}}{\partial t^2}$$

$$\boxed{\nabla^2 \vec{B} - \mu\epsilon \frac{\partial^2 \vec{B}}{\partial t^2} = 0} \quad \text{--- (VI)}$$

The equations (V) and (VI) are necessary, but not sufficient constraints on the possible functions  $\vec{E}(\vec{r}, t)$  and  $\vec{B}(\vec{r}, t)$ .

The solution of the wave equations also satisfy Maxwell's Equations.

By writing the vectors  $\vec{E}_0$  and  $\vec{k}$  (propagation vector) in term of components,

$$\vec{E}_0 = (E_{0x}, E_{0y}, E_{0z})$$

$$\vec{k} = (k_x, k_y, k_z)$$

$$\vec{E}(\vec{r}, t) = \vec{E}_0 \cos(\omega t - \vec{k} \cdot \vec{r} + \phi_0)$$

$$\nabla \cdot \vec{E} = 0$$

$$\vec{k} \cdot \vec{E}_0 \sin(\omega t - \vec{k} \cdot \vec{r} + \phi_0) = 0$$

$$\vec{k} \cdot \vec{E}_0 = 0$$

The field is perpendicular to the direction of motion it is a transverse plane wave.

Now  $\nabla \times \vec{E} = -\frac{\partial \vec{B}}{\partial t}$ ,  $\nabla \times \vec{B} = \mu_0 \frac{\partial \vec{E}}{\partial t}$

$$\vec{E} = \vec{E}_0 \cos(\omega t - \vec{k} \cdot \vec{r} + \phi_0)$$

$$\vec{B} = \vec{B}_0 \cos(\omega t - \vec{k} \cdot \vec{r} + \phi_0)$$

From the above Maxwell's Equations we can write

$$\nabla \times \vec{E}_0 = -\frac{\partial \vec{B}}{\partial t}$$

$$\boxed{\vec{k} \times \vec{E}_0 = \omega \vec{B}_0}$$

and

$$\nabla \times \vec{B} = \mu_0 \frac{\partial \vec{E}}{\partial t}$$

$$\boxed{\vec{k} \times \vec{B}_0 = -\mu_0 \omega \vec{E}_0}$$

These constraints can be satisfied if the vector  $\vec{k}$ ,  $\vec{E}_0$  and  $\vec{B}_0$  are mutually perpendicular.

The behaviour of a wave at a boundary between two media depends on the ratio of the electric field  $\vec{E}$  and magnetic field intensity  $\vec{H}$ .

The ratio of the amplitude of the electric field to the amplitude of the magnetic field intensity is called impedance "Z" of the medium.

using  $B_0 = \mu_0 H_0$ ,  $Z_0 = \frac{E_0}{H_0} = \sqrt{\frac{\mu_0}{\epsilon_0}}$

$$\boxed{Z_0 = \sqrt{\frac{\mu_0}{\epsilon_0}}}$$

The impedance of free space is physically constant with value  $Z_0 \approx 376.7 \Omega$ .