

$$f = f^*$$

If $f(x)$ is a real function, then

$$\begin{aligned} \tilde{f}(-k) &= \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \frac{dx}{2\pi} f(x) e^{+ikx} = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \frac{dx}{2\pi} f(x)^* (e^{-ikx})^* \\ &= \left(\int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \frac{dx}{2\pi} f(x) e^{-ikx} \right)^* = \tilde{f}^*(k) \end{aligned}$$

$$\boxed{\tilde{f}(k) = \tilde{f}^*(k)}$$

For a function of 3-dim space,

$$f(x, y, z) = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} dk_x dk_y dk_z \tilde{f}(k_x, k_y, k_z) e^{ik_x x} e^{ik_y y} e^{ik_z z}$$

$$\text{or } f(\vec{r}) = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} d^3k \tilde{f}(\vec{k}) e^{i\vec{k} \cdot \vec{r}}$$

$$\text{where } \tilde{f}(\vec{k}) = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \frac{d^3r}{(2\pi)^3} f(\vec{r}) e^{-i\vec{k} \cdot \vec{r}}$$

For function of \vec{r} and t

$$f(\vec{r}, t) = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} d^3k \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} d\omega \tilde{f}(\vec{k}, \omega) e^{i(\vec{k} \cdot \vec{r} - \omega t)}$$

where

$$\tilde{f}(\vec{k}, \omega) = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \frac{d^3r}{(2\pi)^3} \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \frac{dt}{2\pi} f(\vec{r}, t) e^{-i(\vec{k} \cdot \vec{r} - \omega t)}$$

Fourier transforms are of enormous help in solving partial differential equations.

General solution to wave equation

$$\square^2 f(\vec{r}, t) = 0 \quad \text{subst. in F.T.}$$

$$\square^2 \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} d^3k \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} d\omega \tilde{f}(\vec{k}, \omega) e^{i(\vec{k} \cdot \vec{r} - \omega t)}$$

$$= \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} d^3k \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} d\omega \tilde{f}(\vec{k}, \omega) \left[\nabla^2 - \frac{1}{v^2} \frac{\partial^2}{\partial t^2} \right] e^{i(\vec{k} \cdot \vec{r} - \omega t)}$$

$$\nabla^2 e^{i\vec{k} \cdot \vec{r}} = \vec{\nabla} \cdot \left(\vec{\nabla} e^{i\vec{k} \cdot \vec{r}} \right) = \vec{\nabla} \cdot \begin{pmatrix} \frac{\partial}{\partial x} e^{i(k_x x + k_y y + k_z z)} \\ \frac{\partial}{\partial y} e^{i(k_x x + k_y y + k_z z)} \\ \frac{\partial}{\partial z} e^{i(k_x x + k_y y + k_z z)} \end{pmatrix}$$

$$= \vec{\nabla} \cdot \begin{pmatrix} ik_x \\ ik_y \\ ik_z \end{pmatrix} e^{i\vec{k} \cdot \vec{r}} = \vec{\nabla} \cdot (i\vec{k} e^{i\vec{k} \cdot \vec{r}}) = i\vec{k} \cdot \vec{\nabla} e^{i\vec{k} \cdot \vec{r}}$$

product rule:

$$= i\vec{k} \cdot \vec{\nabla} e^{i\vec{k} \cdot \vec{r}} = (i\vec{k}) \cdot (i\vec{k}) e^{i\vec{k} \cdot \vec{r}} = -k^2 e^{i\vec{k} \cdot \vec{r}}$$

$$\frac{\partial^2}{\partial t^2} e^{-i\omega t} = -\omega^2 e^{-i\omega t}$$

$$\Rightarrow \left[\nabla^2 - \frac{1}{v^2} \frac{\partial^2}{\partial t^2} \right] e^{i(\vec{k} \cdot \vec{r} - \omega t)} = \left(-k^2 + \frac{\omega^2}{v^2} \right) e^{i(\vec{k} \cdot \vec{r} - \omega t)}$$

So wave eqn is

$$\int_{-\infty}^{\infty} d^3k \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} d\omega \tilde{f}(\vec{k}, \omega) \left(-k^2 + \frac{\omega^2}{v^2} \right) e^{i(\vec{k} \cdot \vec{r} - \omega t)} = 0$$

$\Rightarrow \tilde{f}(\vec{k}, \omega) \left(-k^2 + \frac{\omega^2}{v^2} \right) = 0$: if a function = 0, then its F.T. = 0 (all Fourier coefficients = 0)

either

$\Rightarrow \tilde{f}(\vec{k}, \omega) = 0$, i.e. there is no such (\vec{k}, ω) component

or $k^2 v^2 = \omega^2$, i.e. for each \vec{k} , only $\omega = v|\vec{k}|$ is present

So most general solution is

$$f(\vec{r}, t) = \int d^3k \tilde{f}(\vec{k}) e^{i(\vec{k} \cdot \vec{r} - \omega t)} \quad \text{where } \omega^2 = v^2 k^2$$

[no longer integrate over ω since for each \vec{k} , ω fixed by \vec{k} and $\tilde{f}(\vec{k})$ is anything]

General solution is ~~sum~~ linear combination of sinusoidal waves.

In most problems therefore, it will be enough to determine how plane ^{sinusoidal} waves with wavevector \vec{k} behave. The general solution can then always be represented as a linear combination of these plane sinusoidal waves.

Note, if we know $\vec{f}(\vec{r}, t=0)$, and we know $f(\vec{r}, t)$ solves the wave equation, then we can use the above to find how f evolves in time, i.e. the initial condition determines the propagation of the wave.

$$\text{Let } f(\vec{r}, t=0) = f_0(\vec{r})$$

$$\text{Define } \tilde{f}_0(\vec{k}) = \int \frac{d^3r}{(2\pi)^3} f_0(\vec{r}) e^{-i\vec{k}\cdot\vec{r}}$$

$$\text{and so } f_0(\vec{r}) = \int d^3k \tilde{f}_0(\vec{k}) e^{i\vec{k}\cdot\vec{r}}$$

$$\text{Now } f(\vec{r}, 0) = \int d^3k \tilde{f}_0(\vec{k}) e^{i\vec{k}\cdot\vec{r}}$$

but under the wave equation each sinusoidal wave must propagate as $e^{i(\vec{k}\cdot\vec{r} - \omega t)}$ where $\omega = v|\vec{k}|$.

So we then must have

$$f(\vec{r}, t) = \int d^3k \tilde{f}_0(\vec{k}) e^{i(\vec{k}\cdot\vec{r} - \omega t)}$$

and the initial condition $f_0(\vec{r}) = f(\vec{r}, t=0)$ determines the future evolution of the wave

Inhomogeneous wave equation

$$\square^2 f(\vec{r}, t) = g(\vec{r}, t) \quad \text{where } g \text{ is a given source function}$$

$$f(\vec{r}, t) = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} d^3k \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} d\omega \tilde{f}(\vec{k}, \omega) e^{i(\vec{k}\cdot\vec{r} - \omega t)}$$

$$g(\vec{r}, t) = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} d^3k \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} d\omega \tilde{g}(\vec{k}, \omega) e^{i(\vec{k}\cdot\vec{r} - \omega t)}$$

substitute in

$$\square^2 f = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} d^3k \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} d\omega \tilde{f}(\vec{k}, \omega) \left[-k^2 + \frac{\omega^2}{v^2} \right] e^{i(\vec{k}\cdot\vec{r} - \omega t)}$$

$$= \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} d^3k \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} d\omega \tilde{g}(\vec{k}, \omega) e^{i(\vec{k}\cdot\vec{r} - \omega t)}$$

equate Fourier components (if two functions are equal, then their Fourier transforms are equal)

$$\Rightarrow \tilde{f}(\vec{k}, \omega) \left[-k^2 + \frac{\omega^2}{v^2} \right] = \tilde{g}(\vec{k}, \omega)$$

$$\Rightarrow \tilde{f}(\vec{k}, \omega) = \frac{\tilde{g}(\vec{k}, \omega)}{\frac{\omega^2}{v^2} - k^2}$$

$$f(\vec{r}, t) = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} d^3k \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} d\omega \frac{\tilde{g}(\vec{k}, \omega)}{\frac{\omega^2}{v^2} - k^2} e^{i(\vec{k}\cdot\vec{r} - \omega t)}$$

$$= \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} d^3k \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} d\omega \frac{e^{i(\vec{k}\cdot\vec{r} - \omega t)}}{\frac{\omega^2}{v^2} - k^2} \cdot \underbrace{\frac{1}{(2\pi)^4} \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} d^3r' \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} dt' g(\vec{r}', t') e^{-i(\vec{k}\cdot\vec{r}' - \omega t')}}_{\tilde{g}(\vec{k}, \omega)}$$

$$f(\vec{r}, t) = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} d^3r' \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} dt' g(\vec{r}', t') \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} d^3k \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} d\omega \frac{1}{(2\pi)^4} e^{i\vec{k}\cdot(\vec{r}-\vec{r}') - i\omega(t-t')} \frac{e}{(\omega^2 - k^2)}$$

Green's function for wave eqn

$G(\vec{r}-\vec{r}', t-t')$ - independent of the source $g(\vec{r}, t)$

$$f(\vec{r}, t) = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} d^3r' \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} dt' G(\vec{r}-\vec{r}', t-t') g(\vec{r}', t')$$

Same form as solution to Poisson's Eqn

$$-\nabla^2 V = \rho/\epsilon_0 \Rightarrow V(\vec{r}) = \int d^3r' \frac{\rho(\vec{r}')}{\epsilon_0} G(\vec{r}, \vec{r}')$$

$$G(\vec{r}, \vec{r}') = \frac{1}{4\pi} \frac{1}{|\vec{r}-\vec{r}'|}$$

Green's function for Poisson's eqn

Polarization

vector wave $\vec{f}(\vec{r}, t) = \vec{A} e^{-i(\vec{k} \cdot \vec{r} - \omega t)}$

where $\vec{A} = A \hat{m}$, A may be complex number to include phase factor.

if $\hat{m} \parallel \hat{k}$ we have longitudinal polarization
 " $\hat{m} \perp \hat{k}$ " " transverse polarization

$$\begin{aligned} \vec{\nabla} \cdot \vec{E} &= \rho \\ \vec{\nabla} \times \vec{E} &= -\frac{\partial \vec{B}}{\partial t} \end{aligned}$$

Circular polarization: sum of orthogonal transverse polarizations, $\pi/2$ out of phase

Consider $\vec{f}(\vec{r}, t) = A \hat{m}_1 e^{i(\vec{k} \cdot \vec{r} - \omega t)} + i A \hat{m}_2 e^{i(\vec{k} \cdot \vec{r} - \omega t)}$
 $A \hat{m}_2 e^{i(\vec{k} \cdot \vec{r} - \omega t + \pi/2)}$

where $\hat{m}_1 \perp \hat{m}_2 \perp \hat{k}$ is right handed coord system

$$\vec{f} = A(\hat{m}_1 + i\hat{m}_2) e^{i(\vec{k} \cdot \vec{r} - \omega t)}$$

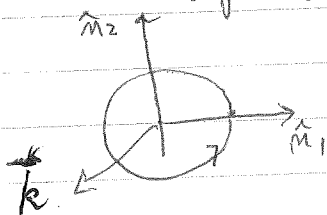
to get physical field, take Real part of complex form

$$\begin{aligned} \Rightarrow \vec{f} &= A \hat{m}_1 \cos(\vec{k} \cdot \vec{r} - \omega t) - A \hat{m}_2 \sin(\vec{k} \cdot \vec{r} - \omega t) \\ &= A \hat{m}_1 \cos(\omega t - \vec{k} \cdot \vec{r}) + A \hat{m}_2 \sin(\omega t - \vec{k} \cdot \vec{r}) \end{aligned}$$

$$|\vec{f}|^2 = A^2 \cos^2(\vec{k} \cdot \vec{r} - \omega t) + A^2 \sin^2(\vec{k} \cdot \vec{r} - \omega t) = A^2$$

amplitude constant,

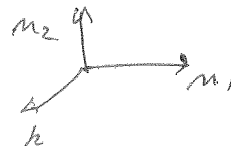
but direction of \vec{f} rotates in time counter clockwise with frequency ω .



$$\vec{F} = A(\hat{m}_1 + i\hat{m}_2) e^{i(\vec{k} \cdot \vec{r} - \omega t)}$$

is a "Right handed" circularly polarized wave

, where $\hat{m}_1, \hat{m}_2, \hat{k}$ form right handed coord system



$$\vec{F} = A(\hat{m}_1 - i\hat{m}_2) e^{i(\vec{k} \cdot \vec{r} - \omega t)}$$

is a "Left handed" circularly polarized wave - direction of \vec{F} rotates in time clockwise

Plane EM waves in a vacuum

$$\begin{aligned}\vec{\nabla} \cdot \vec{E} &= 0 & \vec{\nabla} \cdot \vec{B} &= 0 \\ \vec{\nabla} \times \vec{E} &= -\frac{\partial \vec{B}}{\partial t} & \vec{\nabla} \times \vec{B} &= \mu_0 \epsilon_0 \frac{\partial \vec{E}}{\partial t}\end{aligned}$$

Assume solutions of form

$$\begin{aligned}\vec{E} &= \vec{E}_0 e^{i(\vec{k} \cdot \vec{r} - \omega t)} \\ \vec{B} &= \vec{B}_0 e^{i(\vec{k} \cdot \vec{r} - \omega t)}\end{aligned}$$

where

$$\omega = \frac{1}{\sqrt{\mu_0 \epsilon_0}} k = ck$$

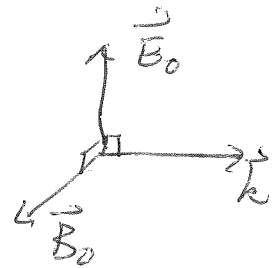
Maxwell's eqns become

$$\begin{aligned}1) \quad i\vec{k} \cdot \vec{E}_0 &= 0 & 2) \quad i\vec{k} \cdot \vec{B}_0 &= 0 \\ 3) \quad i\vec{k} \times \vec{E}_0 &= +i\omega \vec{B}_0 & 4) \quad i\vec{k} \times \vec{B}_0 &= \mu_0 \epsilon_0 (-i\omega) \vec{E}_0\end{aligned}$$

(1) and (3) \Rightarrow EM waves are transverse polarized.
 \vec{E}_0 and \vec{B}_0 both \perp to \vec{k} .

$$2) \Rightarrow \vec{B}_0 = \frac{\vec{k} \times \vec{E}_0}{\omega} = \frac{1}{c} \hat{k} \times \vec{E}_0 \Rightarrow \vec{B}_0 \perp \vec{E}_0$$

$$|\vec{B}_0| = \frac{1}{c} |\vec{E}_0|$$



\uparrow very important factor $\frac{1}{c}$!

Since Lorentz force is $\vec{F} = q(\vec{E} + \vec{v} \times \vec{B})$, the force on a charged particle due to an electromagnetic wave is predominantly from the electric field \vec{E} . The force due to the magnetic field $\sim v B_0 = \left(\frac{v}{c}\right) E_0$, is reduced by a factor $\left(\frac{v}{c}\right) \ll 1$, unless charge is moving relativistically fast.