

Lecture 13 Wave propagation in Free Space II

Energy in plane waves

Energy density: $u = \frac{|\vec{E}(\vec{x}, t)|^2 + |\vec{B}(\vec{x}, t)|^2}{8\pi}$

Poynting vector: $\vec{S} = c \frac{\vec{E}(\vec{x}, t) \times \vec{B}(\vec{x}, t)}{4\pi}$

For ~~plan~~ monochromatic field oscillating like ω , typically only time averaged effects over a period ~~with~~ oscillation

Aside: Given two functions oscillating with same frequency ω

$$f(t) = f_0 \cos(\omega t + \phi_1), \quad g(t) = g_0 \cos(\omega t + \phi_2)$$

$$= (\tilde{f}_0 e^{-i\omega t}) \quad ; \quad = \text{Re}(\tilde{g}_0 e^{-i\omega t})$$

Complex amplitudes $\tilde{f}_0 = f_0 e^{i\phi_1}$; $\tilde{g}_0 = g_0 e^{i\phi_2}$

Time average: $\langle f(t)g(t) \rangle = \int_0^T f(t)g(t) dt = \frac{1}{2} \text{Re}(\tilde{f}_0 \tilde{g}_0^*) = \frac{1}{2} \text{Re}(\tilde{f}_0 \tilde{g}_0^*)$

Proof left to class

Plane wave $\vec{E}(\vec{x}, t) = \text{Re} \left\{ \vec{E}_0(\vec{x}) e^{-i\omega t} \right\} = \text{Re} \left\{ \vec{E}_0 e^{i\vec{k} \cdot \vec{x} - \omega t} \right\}$

$$\vec{B}(\vec{x}, t) = \text{Re} \left\{ \vec{B}_0(\vec{x}) e^{i\omega t} \right\} \quad \vec{B}_0 = \hat{k} \times \vec{E}_0$$

$$\Rightarrow \langle u \rangle = \frac{1}{2} \text{Re} \left(\frac{\vec{E}_0 \cdot \vec{E}_0^*}{8\pi} + \frac{\vec{B}_0 \cdot \vec{B}_0^*}{8\pi} \right) = \frac{|\vec{E}_0|^2}{8\pi} \quad \text{Uniform}$$

Intensity $\langle \vec{S} \rangle = \frac{1}{2} \text{Re} \left(\frac{c}{4\pi} \vec{E}_0 \times \vec{B}_0^* \right) = \frac{c}{8\pi} |\vec{E}_0|^2 \hat{k} = \frac{c}{8\pi} |\vec{E}_0|^2$
 $= c u \hat{k}$ (uniform as flux density)

Note: Total energy in a plane wave is infinite
Unphysical \Rightarrow Must consider wave packet

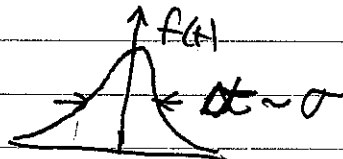
Review of Fourier Transform

Scalar function $f(t) = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \frac{d\omega}{2\pi} \tilde{f}(\omega) e^{-i\omega t}$

$\tilde{f}(\omega) = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} dt f(t) e^{+i\omega t}$: Fourier transform
Project out component oscillating as $e^{-i\omega t}$

Orthogonal function expansion $\int \frac{dt}{2\pi} e^{zi(\omega-\omega')t} = \delta(\omega-\omega')$

Completeness $\int \frac{d\omega}{2\pi} e^{zi\omega(t-t')} = \delta(t-t')$

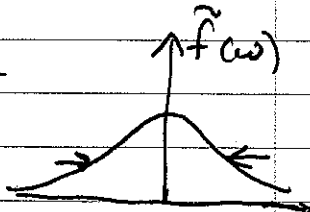
Example: $f(t) = A e^{-\frac{t^2}{2\sigma^2}}$ Gaussian 

$\tilde{f}(\omega) = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} dt f(t) e^{i\omega t} = A \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} dt \exp\left\{i\omega t - \frac{t^2}{2\sigma^2}\right\}$

Complete the square: $-\frac{t^2}{2\sigma^2} + i\omega t = -\frac{(t^2 - 2i\sigma^2\omega t)}{2\sigma^2}$

$= -\frac{(t - i\sigma^2\omega)^2}{2\sigma^2} - \frac{\sigma^2\omega^2}{2}$

$\Rightarrow \tilde{f}(\omega) = A e^{-\frac{\sigma^2\omega^2}{2}} \underbrace{\int_{-\infty}^{\infty} dt e^{-(t - i\sigma^2\omega)^2 / 2\sigma^2}}_{\sqrt{2\pi\sigma^2}}$

Gaussian  $\Delta\omega \sim \frac{1}{\sigma} = \frac{1}{\Delta t}$

Fourier Uncertainty Principle $\Delta\omega \Delta t \sim 1$

General features of the Fourier transform

- If $f(t)$ is real

$$\tilde{f}^*(\omega) = \left[\int dt f(t) e^{+i\omega t} \right]^* = \tilde{f}(-\omega)$$

$$\Rightarrow \operatorname{Re}[\tilde{f}(\omega)] = \operatorname{Re}[\tilde{f}(-\omega)] \quad (\text{symmetric function})$$

$$\operatorname{Im}[\tilde{f}(\omega)] = -\operatorname{Im}[\tilde{f}(-\omega)] \quad (\text{antisymmetric})$$

- Convolution theorem

$$\tilde{\mathcal{F}}[f(t)g(t)] = \int \frac{d\omega'}{2\pi} \tilde{f}(\omega - \omega') \tilde{g}(\omega')$$

$$\tilde{\mathcal{F}}^{-1}[\tilde{f}(\omega) \tilde{g}(\omega)] = \int dt' f(t-t') g(t')$$

- Translation \Leftrightarrow phase shift

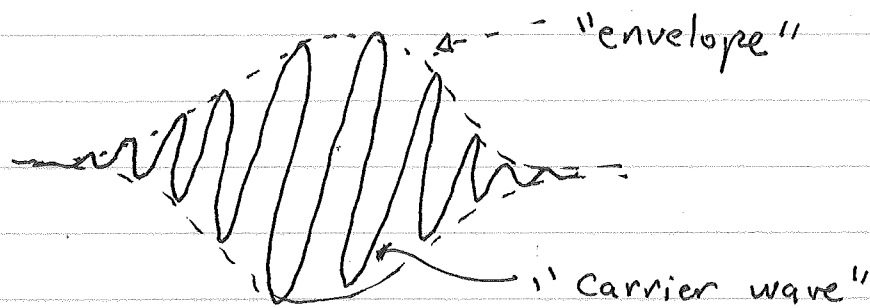
$$\tilde{\mathcal{F}}[f(t-t_0)] = \tilde{f}(\omega) e^{i\omega t_0}$$

$$\tilde{\mathcal{F}}^{-1}[\tilde{f}(\omega - \omega_0)] = f(t) e^{-i\omega_0 t}$$

- Parseval's theorem

$$\int_{-\infty}^{\infty} dt f^*(t)g(t) = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \frac{d\omega}{2\pi} \tilde{f}^*(\omega) \tilde{g}(\omega) \quad \left(\begin{array}{l} \text{Inner product} \\ \text{of two functions} \end{array} \right)$$

Example: Quasimonochromatic Wavepacket (Pulse)



$$F(t) = \underbrace{A e^{-\frac{t^2}{2\Delta t^2}}}_{f(t) \leftarrow \text{envelope}} \cos \omega_0 t \quad \text{carrier}$$

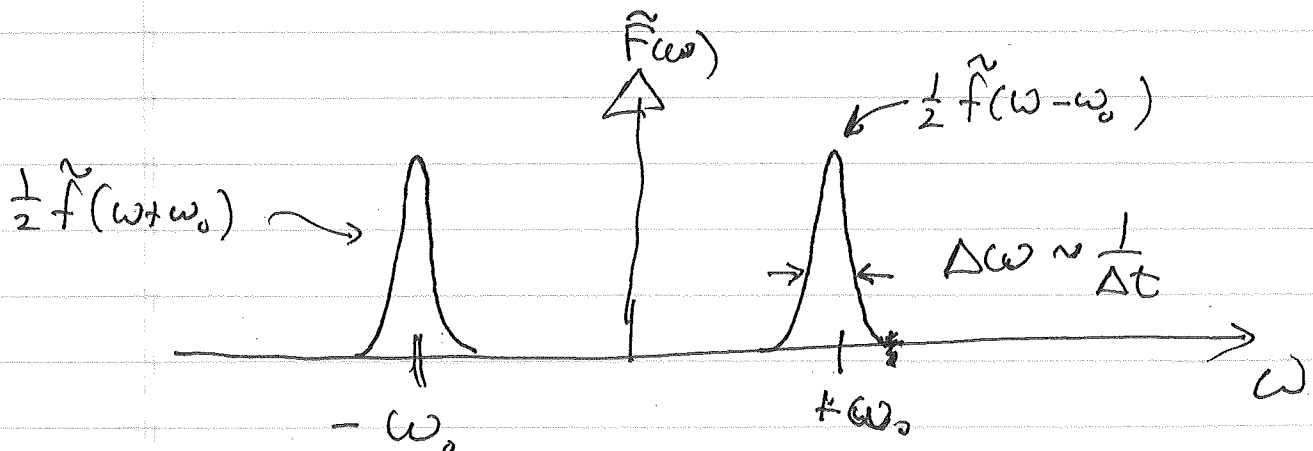
$$\Rightarrow F(t) = \frac{1}{2} f(t) e^{-i\omega_0 t} + \frac{1}{2} f(t) e^{+i\omega_0 t}$$

Quasimonochromatic when $\Delta t \gg \frac{2\pi}{\omega_0} = T$

Fourier transform

$$\tilde{F}(\omega) = \frac{1}{2} \left(\tilde{f}[\omega - \omega_0] + \tilde{f}[\omega + \omega_0] \right)$$

$$\Rightarrow \tilde{F}(\omega) = \frac{1}{2} \tilde{f}(\omega - \omega_0) + \frac{1}{2} \tilde{f}(\omega + \omega_0)$$



Application to \vec{E}, \vec{B} waves

- Periodic in both space and time
- Vector wave
- Transverse in free space
- Dispersion relation $\omega^2 + c^2 |\vec{k}|^2 = 0$

General wave in free space

$$\vec{E}(\vec{x}, t) = \sum_{\mu} \int \frac{d\omega d^3k}{(2\pi)^4} \tilde{E}_{\mu}(\vec{k}, \omega) \vec{e}_{\mu}(\vec{k}) e^{i(\vec{k} \cdot \vec{x} - \omega t)} \delta(\omega^2 - c^2 |\vec{k}|^2)$$

$$\vec{k} \cdot \vec{e}_{\mu}(\vec{k}) = 0$$

$$\vec{B}(\vec{x}, t) = \sum_{\mu} \int \frac{d\omega d^3k}{(2\pi)^4} \tilde{B}_{\mu}(\vec{k}, \omega) \hat{k} \times \vec{e}_{\mu}(\vec{k}) e^{i(\vec{k} \cdot \vec{x} - \omega t)} \delta(\omega^2 - c^2 |\vec{k}|^2)$$

Note: $\delta(\omega^2 - c^2 |\vec{k}|^2) = \delta(\omega - c|\vec{k}|) + \delta(\omega + c|\vec{k}|)$

$$\Rightarrow \vec{E}(\vec{x}, t) = \sum_{\mu} \int \frac{d^3k}{(2\pi)^3} \frac{\tilde{E}_{\mu}(\vec{k}, \omega = c|\vec{k}|)}{2\pi} \vec{e}_{\mu}(\vec{k}) e^{i(\vec{k} \cdot \vec{x} - \omega_k t)}$$

$$+ \sum_{\mu} \int \frac{d^3k}{(2\pi)^3} \frac{\tilde{E}_{\mu}(\vec{k}, \omega = -c|\vec{k}|)}{2\pi} \vec{e}_{\mu}(\vec{k}) e^{i(\vec{k} \cdot \vec{x} + \omega_k t)}$$

$$\omega_k = c|\vec{k}|$$

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Aside:
$$\sum_{\mu} \int \frac{d^3 \vec{k}}{(2\pi)^3} \frac{\tilde{E}_{\mu}(\vec{k}, \omega = -c|\vec{k}|)}{(2\pi)} \hat{e}_{\mu}^{\uparrow}(\hat{k}) e^{i(\vec{k} \cdot \vec{x} + \omega_k t)}$$

$$\vec{k} \rightarrow -\vec{k} = \sum_{\mu} \int \frac{d^3 \vec{k}}{(2\pi)^3} \frac{\tilde{E}_{\mu}(-\vec{k}, \omega = -c|\vec{k}|)}{(2\pi)} \hat{e}_{\mu}^{\uparrow}(\hat{k}) e^{-i(\vec{k} \cdot \vec{x} - \omega_k t)}$$

$$= \sum_{\mu} \int \frac{d^3 \vec{k}}{(2\pi)^3} \frac{\tilde{E}_{\mu}^*(\vec{k}, \omega = c|\vec{k}|)}{(2\pi)} \hat{e}_{\mu}^{\uparrow*}(\hat{k}) \left(e^{i(\vec{k} \cdot \vec{x} - \omega_k t)} \right)^*$$

$$\therefore \vec{E}(\vec{x}, t) = \vec{E}^{(+)}(\vec{x}, t) + \vec{E}^{(-)}(\vec{x}, t)$$

\uparrow "Positive freq component" \uparrow "Negative freq. component"

$$\vec{E}^{(+)}(\vec{x}, t) \equiv \sum_{\mu} \int \frac{d^3 \vec{k}}{(2\pi)^3} \tilde{E}_{\mu}(\vec{k}) \hat{e}_{\mu}^{\uparrow}(\hat{k}) e^{i(\vec{k} \cdot \vec{x} - \omega t)}$$

$$\vec{E}^{(-)}(\vec{x}, t) = \vec{E}^{(+)}(\vec{x}, t)^*$$

Similarly for \vec{B}

One dimensional propagation for polarized field

$$\vec{E}(z,t) = \hat{e} \int \frac{dk d\omega}{(2\pi)^2} \tilde{E}(k,\omega) e^{i(kz - \omega t)} \delta(\omega^2 - c^2 k^2)$$

$$(i) = \hat{e} \int \frac{d\omega}{2\pi} \left[\frac{\tilde{E}(k=\frac{\omega}{c}, \omega)}{2\pi} e^{-i\omega(t - \frac{z}{c})} + \frac{\tilde{E}(k=-\frac{\omega}{c}, \omega)}{2\pi} e^{-i\omega(t + \frac{z}{c})} \right]$$

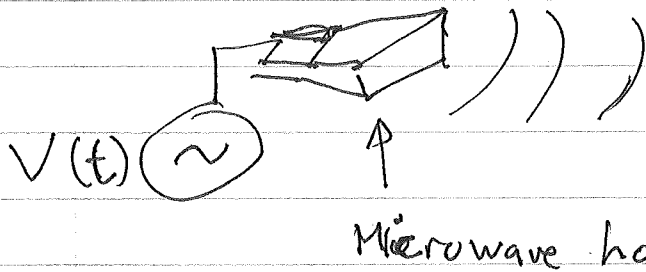
$$(ii) = \hat{e} \int \frac{dk}{2\pi} \left[\frac{\tilde{E}(k, \omega=ck)}{2\pi} e^{ik(z-ct)} + \frac{\tilde{E}(k, \omega=-ck)}{2\pi} e^{ik(z+ct)} \right]$$

(i) Given $E(z=0, t) + \dot{E}(z=0, t)$
Propagate in z away from $z=0$

(ii) Given $E(z, t=0) + \frac{\partial E}{\partial z}(z, t=0)$

Propagate in time away from $t=0$

(i) Signal generator function of t



(ii) Given pulse as function of z ; evolve in t

Note: Unlike a wave packet of a massive particle in free space propagating according to the Schrödinger equation, an electromagnetic pulse does not spread

General expression for energy & momentum in field

$$\vec{E}(\vec{x}, t) = \sum_{\mu} \int \frac{d^3k}{(2\pi)^3} \left(E_{\mu}(\vec{k}) \hat{e}_{\mu}(\vec{k}) e^{i(\vec{k} \cdot \vec{x} - \omega_{\vec{k}} t)} + c.c. \right)$$

$$\vec{B}(\vec{x}, t) = \# \left(E_{\mu}(\vec{k}) \hat{k} \times \hat{e}_{\mu}(\vec{k}) + c.c. \right)$$

Energy in field $\langle U \rangle = \frac{1}{8\pi} \int d^3x \langle (|\vec{E}|^2 + |\vec{B}|^2) \rangle$

$$\langle \vec{E} \cdot \vec{E} \rangle = 2 \langle \vec{E}^{(+)} \cdot \vec{E}^{(-)} \rangle + \langle \vec{E}^{(+)} \cdot \vec{E}^{(+)} \rangle + \langle \vec{E}^{(-)} \cdot \vec{E}^{(-)} \rangle$$

$$\langle U_E \rangle \Rightarrow \frac{1}{4\pi} \int d^3x \langle \vec{E}^{(+)} \cdot \vec{E}^{(-)} \rangle \stackrel{\text{Parseval}}{=} \frac{1}{4\pi} \int \frac{d^3k}{(2\pi)^3} |\vec{E}_{\mu}(\vec{k})|^2$$

Parseval

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$$\langle U_B \rangle = \frac{1}{4\pi} \int d^3x \langle \vec{B}^{(+)} \cdot \vec{B}^{(-)} \rangle = \frac{1}{4\pi} \int \frac{d^3k}{(2\pi)^3} |\tilde{E}_\mu(\vec{k})|^2$$

$$\Rightarrow \frac{\text{Energy density}}{\text{mode}} = \frac{|\tilde{E}_\mu(\vec{k})|^2}{2\pi} = u_{\vec{k}, \mu}$$

Note: For one photon in the mode, volume V

$$u_{\vec{k}, \mu} = \frac{\hbar \omega_{\vec{k}}}{V}$$

\Rightarrow Electric field strength of photon

$$|\tilde{E}_\mu(\vec{k})| = \sqrt{\frac{2\pi \hbar \omega_{\vec{k}}}{V}}$$

Momentum

$$\vec{P} = \int \frac{\vec{S}}{c^2} d^3x, \quad \vec{S} = \frac{c}{4\pi} (\vec{E} \times \vec{B})$$

Plane wave

$$\langle \vec{S} \rangle_{\vec{k}, \mu} = u_{\vec{k}, \mu} c \hat{k}$$

$$\Rightarrow \langle \vec{P} \rangle = \sum_{\mu} \int \frac{d^3k}{(2\pi)^3} u_{\vec{k}, \mu} \hat{k}$$

Note: From relativity $E^2 = p^2 c^2 + (m_0 c^2)^2$

Photon $m=0 \Rightarrow E = pc \Rightarrow p = E/c$

Momentum density/photon = $\frac{\hbar \omega_{\vec{k}}}{V} \hat{k} = \frac{\hbar \vec{k}}{V}$