

CHAPTER 7. Plane Electromagnetic Waves

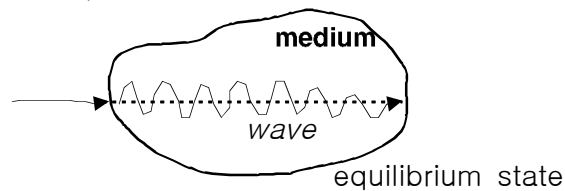
Reading assignments: Cheng Ch.7, Ulaby Ch.6,
Hayt Chs.12, 13, Halliday Chs.33, 34

1. Plane Waves in Lossless Media

A. Representation of Waves

1) General definitions of waves

- a) **Waves** = Externally-excited oscillating or propagating perturbations about an equilibrium state



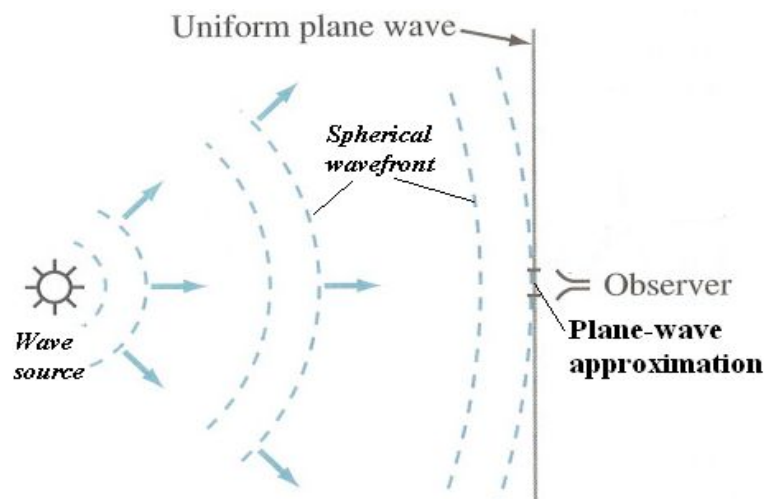
(e.g.) Sound wave, Elastic wave, Spring wave, Water wave, EM wave

Any physical field perturbed by wave can be expressed as

$$g(\mathbf{R}, t) = g_o(\mathbf{R}) + g_1(\mathbf{R}, t) , \quad |g_1| \ll |g_o| \quad (1)$$

- b) **Uniform plane wave** = Wave with uniform properties (same direction, same magnitude, same phase, ...) at all points in the plane tangent to the wavefront (surface of constant phase)

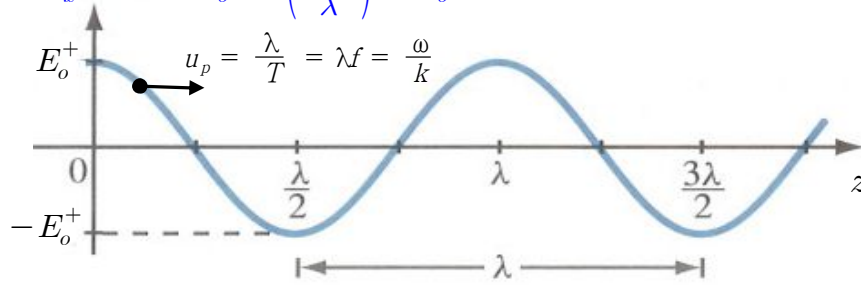
Note) A uniform plane wave ideally exists in a source infinite in extent, but in practice it can be approximated by a spherical wave far away from a source



2) Mathematical representation of waves

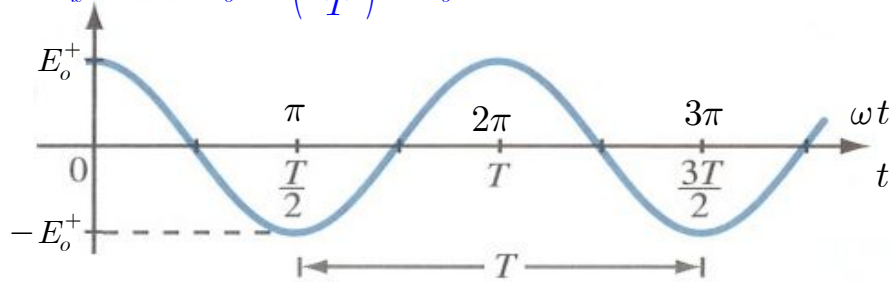
a) A 1-D uniform plane wave E_x travelling in positive z -direction

$$E_x^+(z, 0) = E_o^+ \cos\left(\frac{2\pi z}{\lambda}\right) = E_o^+ \cos kz$$



(a) $E_x^+(z, t)$ versus z at $t = 0$

$$E_x^+(0, t) = E_o^+ \cos\left(\frac{2\pi t}{T}\right) = E_o^+ \cos \omega t$$



(b) $E_x^+(z, t)$ versus t at $z = 0$

$$E_x^+(z, t) = E_o^+ \cos\left(\frac{2\pi t}{T} - \frac{2\pi z}{\lambda}\right) = E_o^+ \cos(\omega t - kz)$$

$$= \text{Re}[E_o^+ e^{j(\omega t - kz)}] = \text{Re}[E_x^+(z) e^{j\omega t}]$$

(7-9)*

where $k \equiv 2\pi/\lambda$ (rad/m) : wavenumber (propagation constant) (7-11)

$\omega \equiv 2\pi/T = 2\pi f$ (rad/s) : angular frequency

$\phi(z, t) \equiv \frac{2\pi t}{T} - \frac{2\pi z}{\lambda} = \omega t - kz$ (rad) : phase of the wave

Phase velocity = velocity of a constant phase point

$$\omega t - kz = \text{const} \Rightarrow \frac{d}{dt}(\omega t - kz) = 0 \Rightarrow u_p = \frac{dz}{dt} = \frac{\omega}{k} = \lambda f = \frac{\lambda}{T} \text{ (m/s)}$$

(7-10)

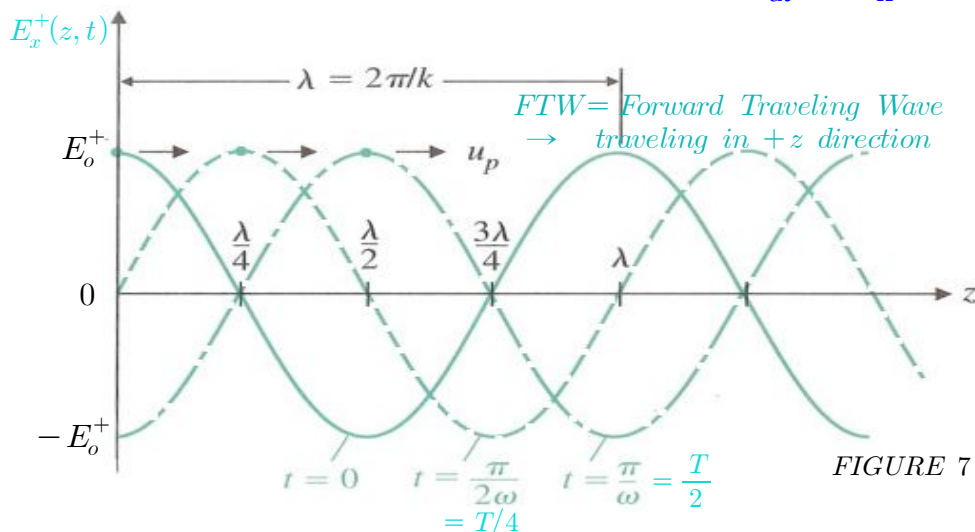
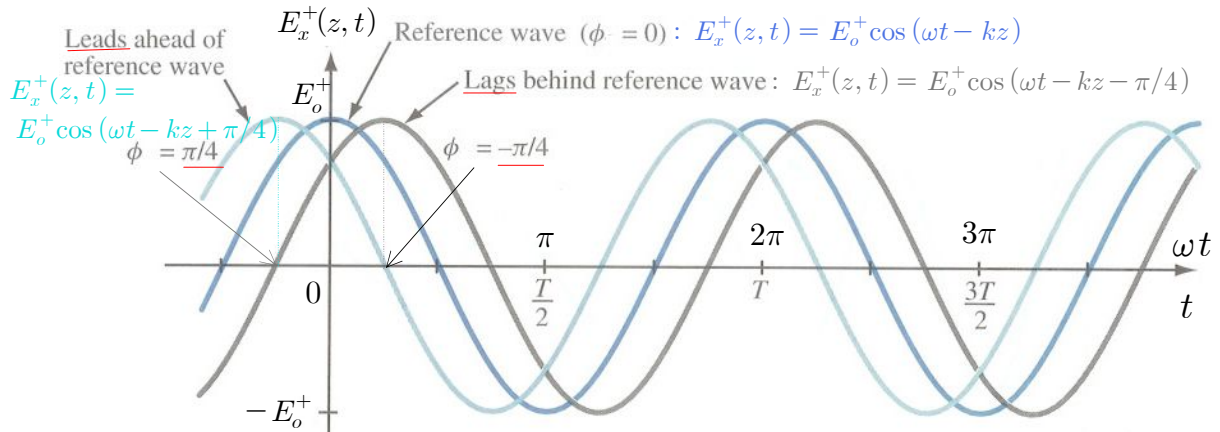


FIGURE 7-1

b) A 1-D uniform plane wave E_x with a reference phase ϕ at $t = 0$



$$\begin{aligned}
 E_x^+(z, t) &= E_o^+ \cos\left(\frac{2\pi t}{T} - \frac{2\pi z}{\lambda} + \phi\right) = E_o^+ \cos(\omega t - kz + \phi) \\
 &= \text{Re}[E_o^+ e^{j(\omega t - kz + \phi)}] = \text{Re}[(E_o^+ e^{j\phi}) e^{j(\omega t - kz)}] = \text{Re}[E_{xs}^+(z) e^{j\omega t}] \\
 &= E_o^+ \angle \phi : \text{complex amplitude (7-9)**}
 \end{aligned}$$

c) General representation of a monochromatic harmonic sinusoidal wave
(Fourier component)

$$\mathbf{g}_1 = \overline{\mathbf{g}}_1 e^{j(\omega t \mp \mathbf{k} \cdot \mathbf{R})} \quad \begin{array}{l} - \text{ FTW } (u_p = \omega/k > 0) \\ + \text{ BTW } (u_p = \omega/k < 0) \end{array} \quad (2)$$

where $\overline{\mathbf{g}}_1$ is a complex amplitude with a phase $\phi = \tan^{-1}(\overline{g}_{1i} / \overline{g}_{1r})$

Any waves can be represented by Fourier superposition principle :

- i) Fourier series representation for a periodic wave over an infinite range $(-\infty, \infty)$ or a non-periodic wave over a limited range $[a, b]$

$$\mathbf{g}_1 = \sum \overline{\mathbf{g}}_{1\mathbf{k}} e^{j(\omega t - \mathbf{k} \cdot \mathbf{R})} \quad (3)$$

- ii) Fourier integral representation for a non-periodic wave over an infinite range $(-\infty, \infty)$

$$\mathbf{g}_1 = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi}} \int \overline{\mathbf{g}}_1(\mathbf{k}) e^{j(\omega t - \mathbf{k} \cdot \mathbf{R})} d\mathbf{k} \quad (4)$$

Notes) Type of waves

Longitudinal wave : $\mathbf{g}_1 \parallel \mathbf{k} \Rightarrow \mathbf{k} \times \mathbf{g}_1 = \mathbf{0}$

Transverse wave : $\mathbf{g}_1 \perp \mathbf{k} \Rightarrow \mathbf{k} \cdot \mathbf{g}_1 = \mathbf{0}$

Electrostatic wave : $\mathbf{E}_1 \neq \mathbf{0}, \quad \mathbf{B}_1 = \mathbf{0} \quad (5)$

Electromagnetic wave : $\mathbf{E}_1 \neq \mathbf{0}, \quad \mathbf{B}_1 \neq \mathbf{0}$

Acoustic (Sound) wave : $\nabla p_1 \neq \mathbf{0}$

External \mathbf{B} fields can couple these waves (O, X, R, L, ...)

B. Plane Waves in Lossless Media

1) Electromagnetic Waves in Unbounded Lossless Media

a) Transverse electromagnetic (TEM) wave along +z direction

In source-free ($\rho_{vs}=0, \mathbf{J}=0$) lossless ($\sigma=0$) unbounded simple media, Helmholtz's equation (6-98) by omitting a subscript s :

$$\nabla^2 \mathbf{E} + k^2 \mathbf{E} = 0 \quad (7-3)$$

$$\text{where } k = \omega \sqrt{\mu\epsilon} = \frac{\omega}{u_p} \quad (7-4)$$

In Cartesian coordinates (x, y, z) , consider a 1-D uniform plane wave traveling along +z direction ($\partial^2 E_x / \partial x^2 = 0$ & $\partial^2 E_x / \partial y^2 = 0$)

$$(7-3) \Rightarrow \frac{d^2 E_x}{dz^2} + k^2 E_x = 0 \quad (7-6)$$

General solution :

$$E_x(z) = E_o^+ e^{-jkz} + E_o^- e^{+jkz} \equiv E_x^+(z) + E_x^-(z) \quad (7-7)$$

where E_o^+, E_o^- are integration constants to be determined by B.C.s

$$\therefore \text{Electric phasor: } \mathbf{E}(z) = \hat{\mathbf{x}}[E_x^+(z) + E_x^-(z)] = \hat{\mathbf{x}}[E_o^+ e^{-jkz} + E_o^- e^{+jkz}] \quad (7-8)$$

For a cosine reference, the **instantaneous** electric wave :

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbf{E}(z, t) &= \hat{\mathbf{x}}[E_x^+(z, t) + E_x^-(z, t)] = \hat{\mathbf{x}} e^{j\omega t} [E_x^+(z) + E_x^-(z)] \\ &= \hat{\mathbf{x}} \text{Re} [E_o^+ e^{j(\omega t - kz)} + E_o^- e^{j(\omega t + kz)}] : \text{FTW} + \text{BTW} \\ &= \hat{\mathbf{x}} [E_o^+ \cos(\omega t - kz) + E_o^- \cos(\omega t + kz)] : \text{FTW} + \text{BTW} \end{aligned}$$

In unbounded media, only FTW exists.

$$\therefore \mathbf{E}(z, t) = \hat{\mathbf{x}} E_x^+(z, t) = \hat{\mathbf{x}} E_x^+(z) e^{j\omega t} = \hat{\mathbf{x}} \text{Re} [E_o^+ e^{j(\omega t - kz)}] = \hat{\mathbf{x}} E_o^+ \cos(\omega t - kz) \quad (7-9)$$

Notes)

$$\text{i) } \nabla \rightarrow -j\mathbf{k}, \quad \nabla^2 \rightarrow -k^2$$

$$\text{ii) (6-80c) } \Rightarrow \nabla \cdot \mathbf{E}_s = 0$$

$$\Rightarrow \mathbf{k} \cdot \mathbf{E} = 0 \text{ i.e., } \mathbf{k} \perp \mathbf{E} : \text{Transverse E wave}$$

$$\text{iii) (6-80a) } \Rightarrow \nabla \times \mathbf{E}_s = -j\omega\mu \mathbf{H}_s$$

$$\Rightarrow \mathbf{k} \times \mathbf{E} = \omega\mu \mathbf{H} \text{ i.e., } \mathbf{H} \perp \mathbf{k} \perp \mathbf{E} : \text{Transv. EM (TEM) wave}$$

\mathbf{E} and \mathbf{H} are in phase

The associated magnetic wave can be found from (6-80a) :

$$(7-9) \text{ in (6-80a) } \nabla \times \mathbf{E}_s = -j\omega\mu \mathbf{H}_s$$

$$\Rightarrow \mathbf{H}(z, t) = \hat{\mathbf{y}} H_y^+(z, t) = \hat{\mathbf{y}} \text{Re} [H_o^+ e^{j(\omega t - kz)}] = \hat{\mathbf{y}} \frac{E_o^+}{\eta} \cos(\omega t - kz) \quad (7-15)$$

where $\eta = \sqrt{\mu/\epsilon} = |\mathbf{E}|/|\mathbf{H}|$ (Ω): **Intrinsic impedance** of medium (7-14)

In free space (or air), $\eta_o = \sqrt{\mu_o/\epsilon_o} = 120\pi = 377$ (Ω)

(e.g. 7-1)

A uniform plane wave $\mathbf{E} = \hat{\mathbf{x}} E_x(z, t)$ propagating along +z-direction ($\mathbf{k} \parallel \hat{\mathbf{z}}$)
 in $\epsilon_r = 4$, $\mu_r = 1$, $\sigma = 0$ with $f = 100$ MHz, $E_o^+(1/8, 0) = 10^{-4}$ (V/m)

a) $\mathbf{E}(z, t) = ?$ b) $\mathbf{H}(z, t) = ?$ c) $z_m = ?$ where $E_x = +\text{max.}$ at $t = 10^{-8}$ s

Solutions)

$$k = \omega \sqrt{\mu\epsilon} = \frac{\omega}{c} \sqrt{\mu_r \epsilon_r} = \frac{2\pi 10^8}{3 \times 10^8} \sqrt{1 \cdot 4} = \frac{4\pi}{3} \quad (\text{rad/m})$$

$$\lambda = 2\pi/k = 3/2 \quad (\text{m})$$

$$\left. \begin{aligned} \text{a) } \mathbf{E}(z, t) &= \hat{\mathbf{x}} E_x(z, t) = \hat{\mathbf{x}} 10^{-4} \cos(2\pi 10^8 t - kz + \phi) \\ E_x(1/8, 0) &= 10^{-4} \end{aligned} \right\}$$

$$\Rightarrow 2\pi 10^8 t - \frac{4\pi}{3} z + \phi = 0 \quad \Rightarrow \quad \phi = \pi/6$$

$$\therefore \mathbf{E}(z, t) = \hat{\mathbf{x}} 10^{-4} \cos \left[2\pi 10^8 t - \frac{4\pi}{3} \left(z - \frac{1}{8} \right) \right] \quad (\text{V/m})$$

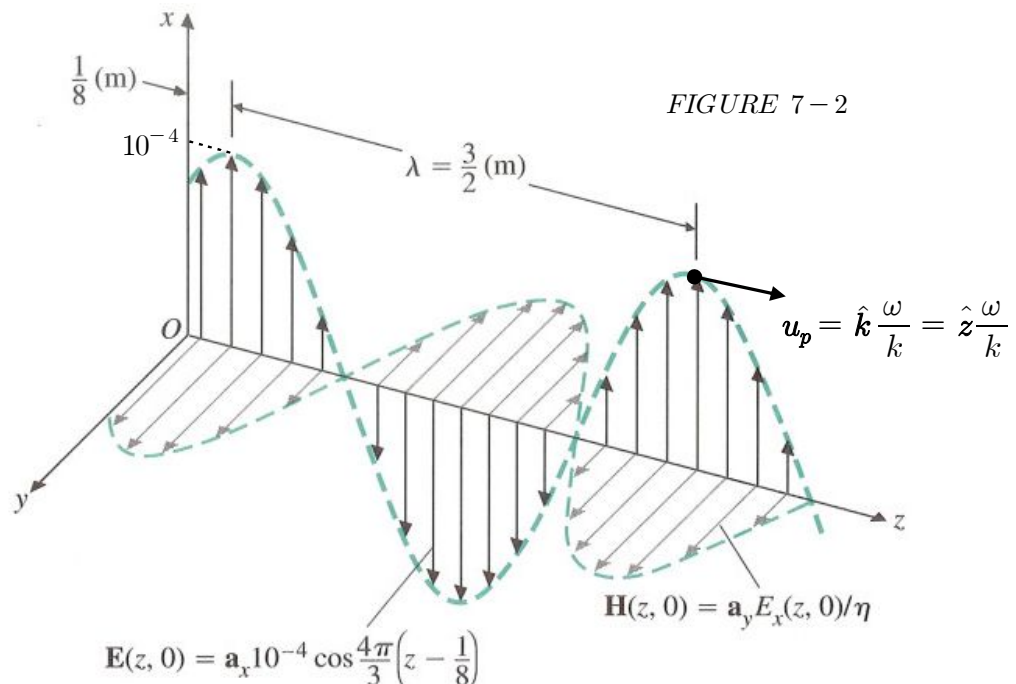
$$\text{b) } \eta = \sqrt{\mu/\epsilon} = \eta_o/\sqrt{\epsilon_r} = 120\pi/\sqrt{4} = 60\pi \quad (\Omega)$$

$$\mathbf{H}(z, t) = \hat{\mathbf{y}} \frac{E_x}{\eta} = \hat{\mathbf{y}} \frac{10^{-4}}{60\pi} \cos \left[2\pi 10^8 t - \frac{4\pi}{3} \left(z - \frac{1}{8} \right) \right] \quad (\text{A/m})$$

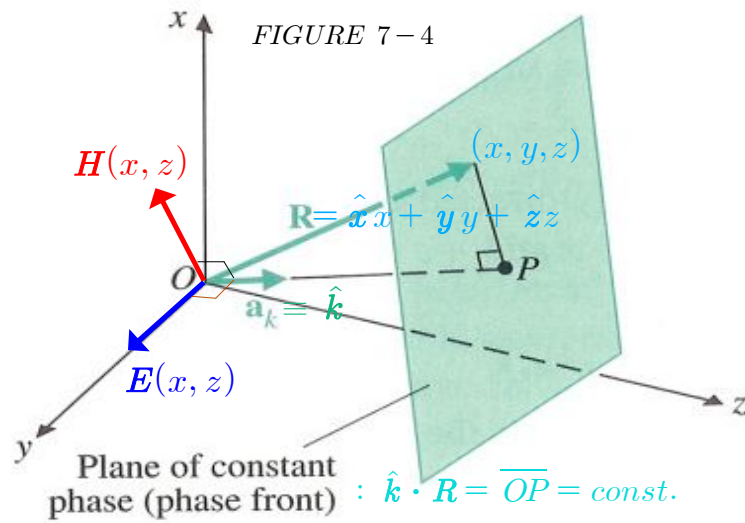
$$\text{c) } E_x(z_m) = +\text{max. at } t = 10^{-8} \text{ s}$$

$$\Rightarrow 2\pi 10^8 (10^{-8}) - \frac{4\pi}{3} \left(z_m - \frac{1}{8} \right) = \pm 2n\pi, \quad n=0, 1, 2, \dots$$

$$\Rightarrow z_m = \frac{13}{8} \pm \frac{3}{2} n = \frac{13}{8} \pm n\lambda \quad (\text{m})$$



b) Transverse electromagnetic (TEM) wave along an arbitrary direction



Consider a uniform plane **E-wave** propagating in k -direction.

$$\mathbf{E}(x, z) = \hat{y} E_0 e^{-j(k_x x + k_z z)} = \hat{y} E_0 e^{-j\mathbf{k} \cdot \mathbf{R}} = \hat{y} E_0 e^{-j\mathbf{k} \cdot \mathbf{R}} \quad (7-20, 23)$$

where $\mathbf{k} = \hat{x} k_x + \hat{z} k_z = \hat{k} k$: wavenumber vector (7-21)

The associated **H-wave** can be found from (6-80a) :

(7-20) in (6-80a) $\mathbf{H} = -\frac{1}{j\omega\mu} \nabla \times \mathbf{E}$

$$\Rightarrow \mathbf{H}(x, z) = \frac{E_0}{\omega\mu} (-\hat{x} k_z + \hat{z} k_x) e^{-j(k_x x + k_z z)} \quad (7-24)$$

or (7-23) in (6-80a) with $\nabla \rightarrow -j\mathbf{k}$

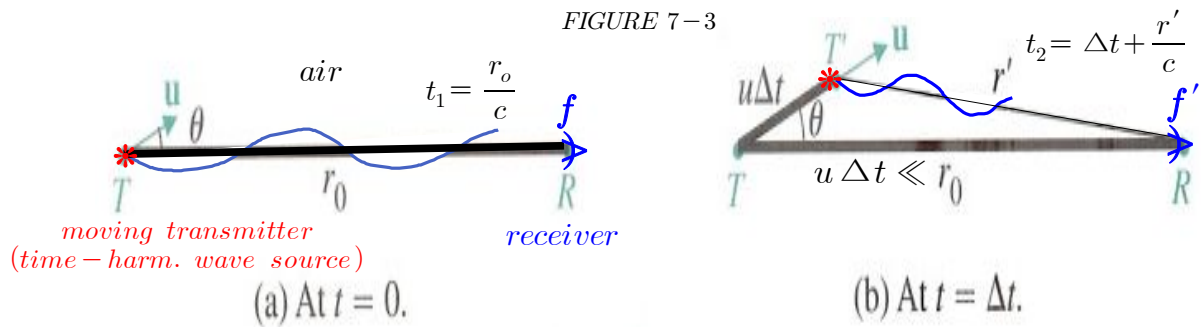
$$\Rightarrow \mathbf{H} = \frac{\mathbf{k} \times \mathbf{E}}{\omega\mu} = \frac{\hat{k} \times \mathbf{E}}{\eta} \quad (\mathbf{H} \text{ and } \mathbf{E} \text{ are in phase}) \quad (7-25)$$

$$\frac{k}{\omega\mu} = \frac{\sqrt{\mu\epsilon}}{\mu} = \sqrt{\frac{\epsilon}{\mu}} = \frac{1}{\eta}$$

$\Rightarrow \mathbf{H} \perp \mathbf{k} \perp \mathbf{E}$: Transverse EM (TEM) wave
 \mathbf{E} and \mathbf{H} are in phase.

C. Doppler Effect

= Frequency shift detected by a receiver from a transmitter when there is relative motion between them.



Time elapsed at R while T is moving during Δt :

$$\Delta t' = t_2 - t_1 = \left(\Delta t + \frac{r'}{c} \right) - \frac{r_0}{c} \underset{u \Delta t \ll r_0}{\cong} \Delta t \left(1 - \frac{u}{c} \cos \theta \right) \quad (7-18)$$

For the time-harmonic source of f , let $\Delta t = 1/f$,

then, the frequency received at R from the moving transmitter is

$$f' = \frac{1}{\Delta t'} = \frac{f}{\left(1 - \frac{u}{c} \cos \theta \right)} \cong f \left(1 + \frac{u}{c} \cos \theta \right) \quad (7-19)$$

Doppler shift of the received frequency at R :

$$\Delta f \equiv f' - f \cong f \frac{u}{c} \cos \theta \quad (7-19)^*$$

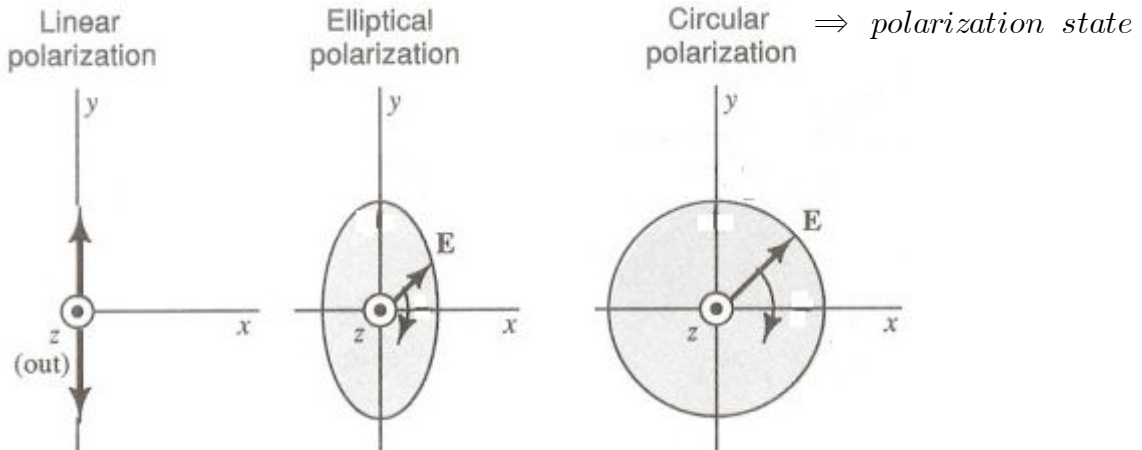
Notes)

- i) For approaching T and/or R ($0 \leq \theta < \pi/2$), $\Delta f > 0$: Increasing f .
For receding T and/or R ($\pi/2 \leq \theta \leq \pi$), $\Delta f < 0$: Decreasing f .
- ii) Application \Rightarrow Doppler radar speed gun : $u \propto \Delta f$
- iii) Red shift = Lower-frequency light spectrum (red) emitted by a receding star

D. Polarization of Plane Waves

1) Polarization State

Polarization of wave = Shape and locus of the tip of the wave vector moved at a fixed location in space during a period $T = 2\pi/\omega$



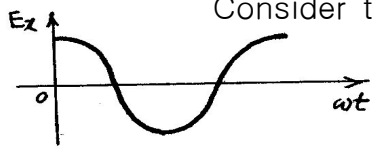
Consider transverse electric wave traveling in the z-direction

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbf{E}(z,t) &= \text{Re}[\mathbf{E}(z) e^{j\omega t}] = \text{Re}\{[\hat{\mathbf{x}}E_x(z) + \hat{\mathbf{y}}E_y(z)] e^{j\omega t}\} \\ &= \text{Re}\{[\hat{\mathbf{x}}E_{x0} e^{j\phi_x} + \hat{\mathbf{y}}E_{y0} e^{j\phi_y}] e^{j(\omega t - kz)}\} \\ &= \hat{\mathbf{x}}E_{x0} \cos(\omega t - kz + \phi_x) + \hat{\mathbf{y}}E_{y0} \cos(\omega t - kz + \phi_y) \end{aligned} \quad (6)$$

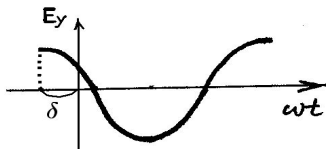
Real wave at a fixed plane $z=0$

$$\mathbf{E}(0,t) = \hat{\mathbf{x}}E_{x0} \cos(\omega t + \phi_x) + \hat{\mathbf{y}}E_{y0} \cos(\omega t + \phi_y) \quad (7), (7-27)^*$$

Consider two components of $\mathbf{E}(0,t)$ for $\phi_x = 0$, $\phi_y = \delta$

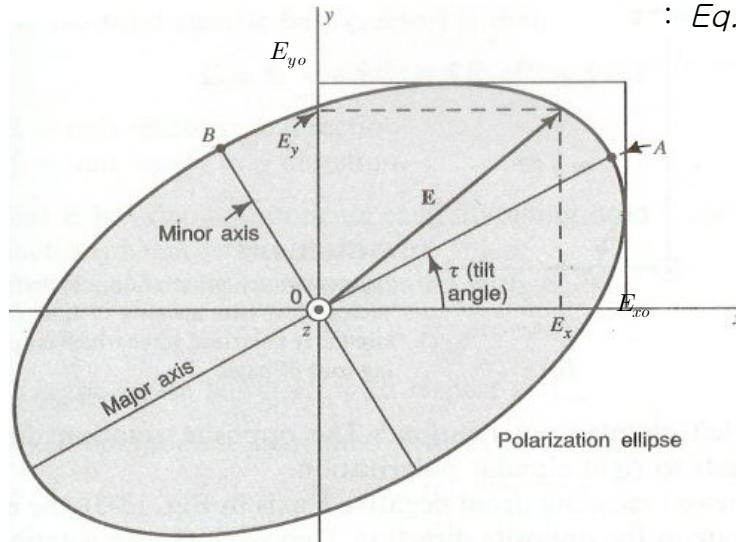


$$\begin{cases} E_x = E_{x0} \cos \omega t \\ E_y = E_{y0} \cos(\omega t + \delta) = E_{y0} (\cos \omega t \cos \delta - \sin \omega t \sin \delta) \end{cases} \quad (8)$$



$$\Rightarrow \frac{E_x^2}{E_{x0}^2} + \frac{E_y^2}{E_{y0}^2} - \frac{2E_x E_y}{E_{x0} E_{y0}} \cos \delta = \sin^2 \delta$$

: Eq. of ellipse (9)(7-28)*



Axial ratio :

$$AR = \frac{\text{major axis}}{\text{minor axis}}$$

$$1 \leq AR < \infty$$

circle linear line

2) Linear Polarization

a) Linear polarization with a positive slope

For $\delta = 0$ ($\phi_x = \phi_y$: same phase) (or $\pm 2n\pi$, $n = 0, 1, \dots$)

$$(9) \Rightarrow \left(\frac{E_x}{E_{x0}} - \frac{E_y}{E_{y0}} \right)^2 = 0 \Rightarrow \frac{E_x}{E_{x0}} = \frac{E_y}{E_{y0}} : \text{Eq. of straight line (9L+)}$$

$$(7) \Rightarrow \mathbf{E}(0,t) = (\hat{x} E_{x0} + \hat{y} E_{y0}) \cos \omega t \quad (7L+)(7-32)$$

$$(8) \Rightarrow E_x = E_{x0} \cos \omega t \quad \text{and} \quad E_y = E_{y0} \cos \omega t : \text{in-phase (8L+)}$$

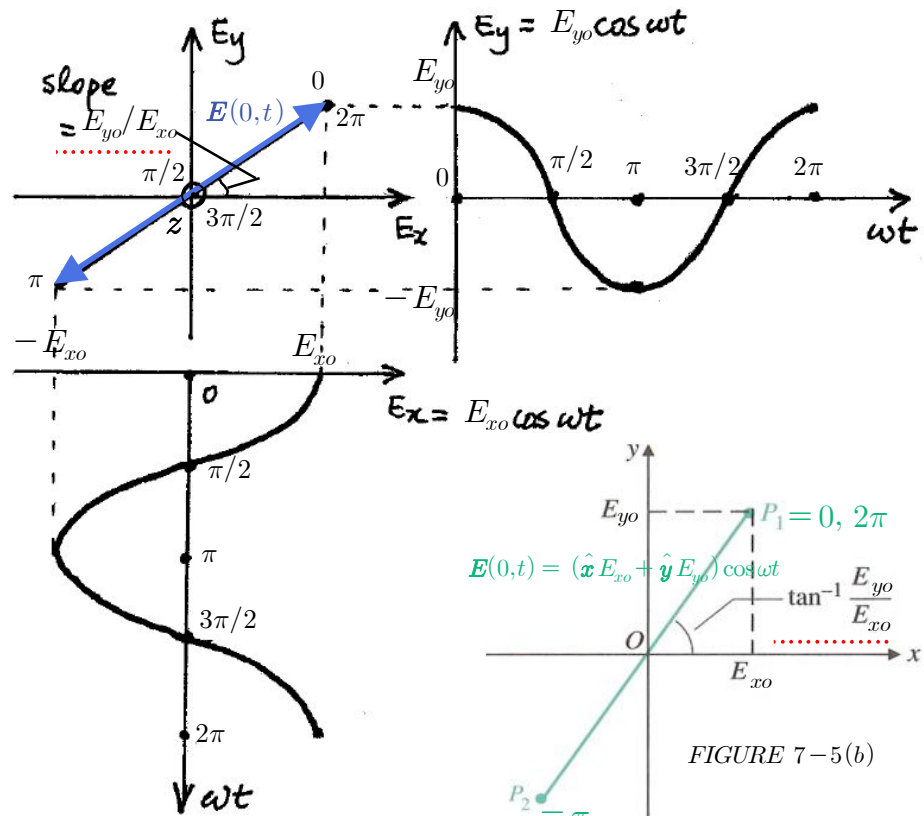


FIGURE 7-5(b)

b) Linear polarization with a negative slope

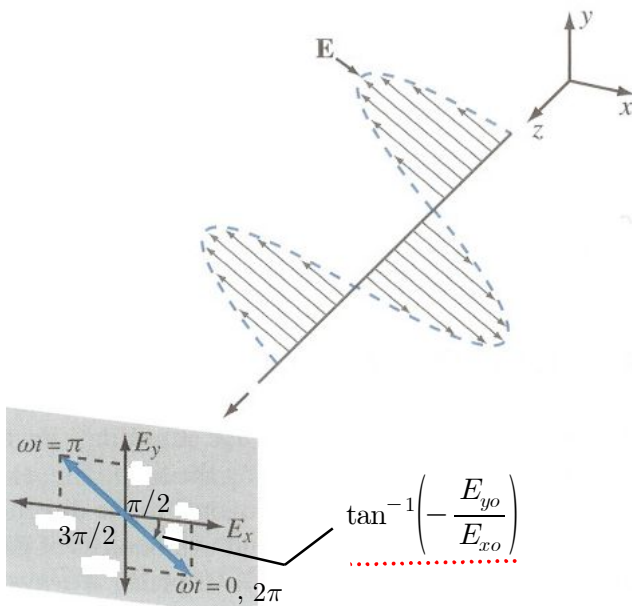
For $\delta = \pi$ [or $\pm(2n-1)\pi$, $n = 1, 2, \dots$]

$$\frac{E_x}{E_{x0}} = -\frac{E_y}{E_{y0}} \quad (9L-)$$

$$\mathbf{E}(0,t) = \hat{x} E_{x0} \cos \omega t + \hat{y} E_{y0} \cos(\omega t + \pi) \quad (7L-)$$

$$E_x = E_{x0} \cos \omega t \quad \text{and} \quad E_y = -E_{y0} \cos \omega t \quad (8L-)$$

: out-of-phase



3) Circular polarization

a) Right-hand (or positive) circularly polarized wave

For phase difference $\delta = -\frac{\pi}{2}$ [or $\delta = -\left(n - \frac{1}{2}\right)\pi$, $n = 1, 2, \dots$]

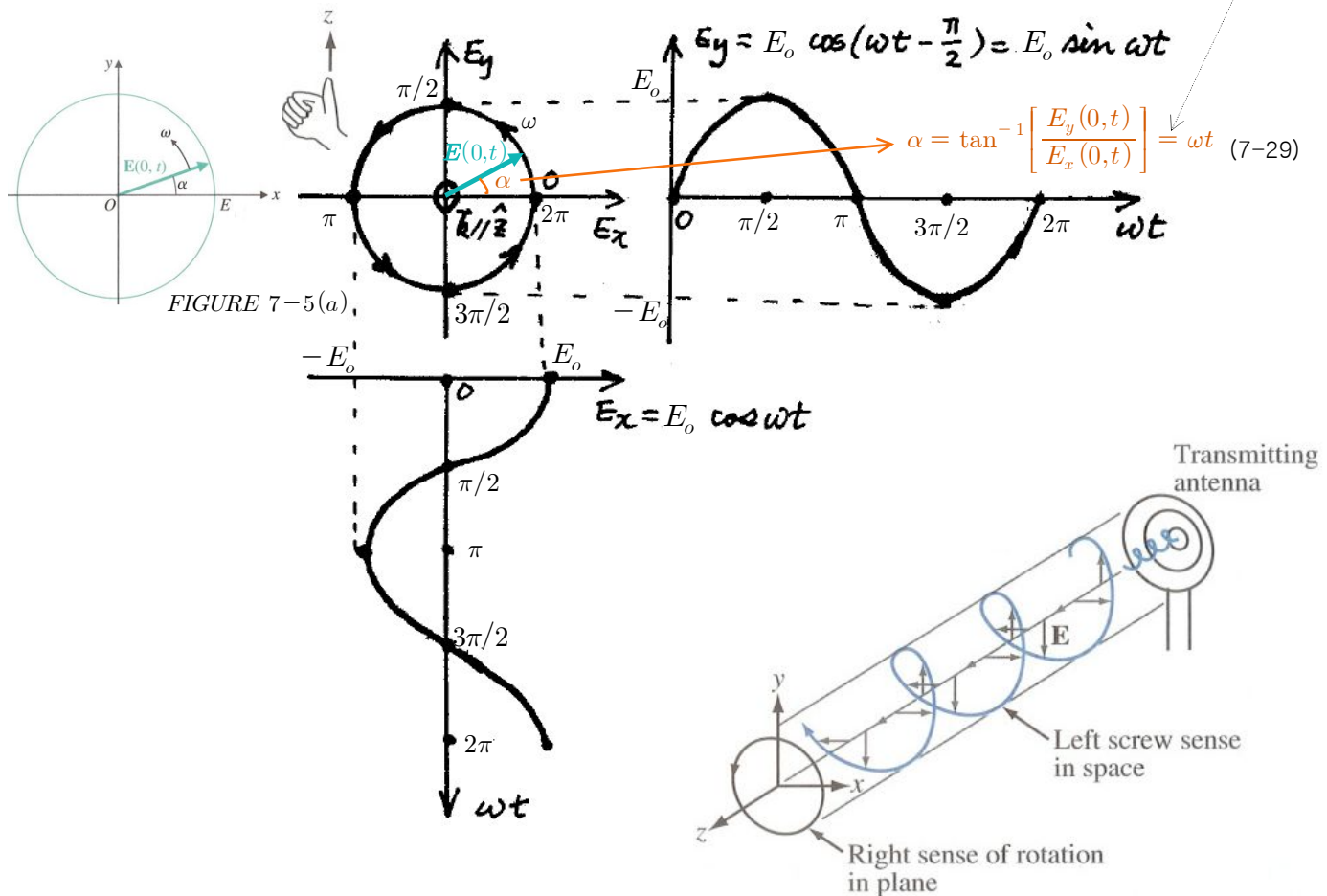
and $E_{x0} = E_{y0} \equiv E_0$ (same amplitude)

$$(9) \Rightarrow \frac{E_x^2}{E_{x0}^2} + \frac{E_y^2}{E_{y0}^2} = 1 \Rightarrow E_x^2 + E_y^2 = E_0^2: \text{Eq. of circle} \quad (9RCP)(7-28)$$

$$(7) \Rightarrow \mathbf{E}(0,t) = \hat{x} E_0 \cos \omega t + \hat{y} E_0 \cos \left(\omega t - \frac{\pi}{2}\right) = \hat{x} E_0 \cos \omega t + \hat{y} E_0 \sin \omega t \quad (7RCP)(7-27)$$

$$(8) \Rightarrow E_x = E_0 \cos \omega t \quad \text{and} \quad E_y = E_0 \sin \omega t : \text{lags by } \pi/2 \quad (8RCP)$$

\Rightarrow Right-hand Circular Polarization (RCP)



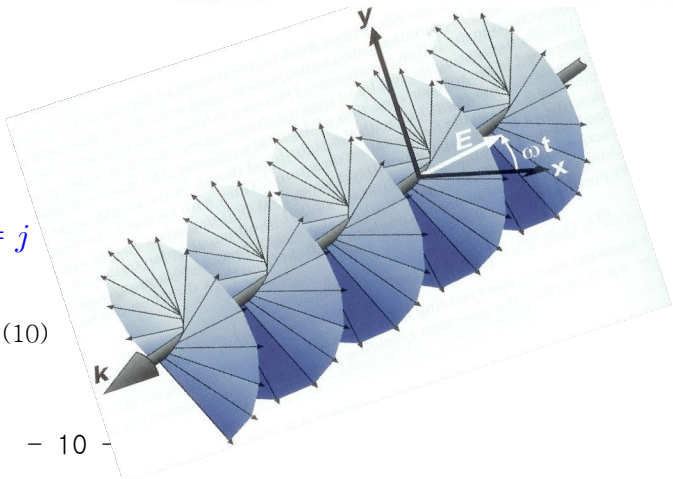
Note)

$$\mathbf{E}(0,t) = \hat{x} E_0 \cos \omega t + \hat{y} E_0 \cos \left(\omega t - \frac{\pi}{2}\right)$$

$$= \text{Re} \left[(\hat{x} E_0 + \hat{y} E_0 e^{-j\frac{\pi}{2}}) e^{j\omega t} \right]$$

$$\Rightarrow \frac{E_x}{E_y} = \frac{E_{x0}}{E_{y0} e^{-j(\pi/2)}} = \frac{E_0}{-j E_0} = j$$

$$\text{or } \frac{j E_x}{E_y} = -1 \text{ for RCP} \quad (10)$$



b) Left-hand (or negative) circularly polarized wave

For phase difference $\delta = +\frac{\pi}{2}$ [or $\delta = -\left(n + \frac{1}{2}\right)\pi$, $n = 1, 2, \dots$]

and $E_{x0} = E_{y0} \equiv E_o$ (same amplitude)

$$(9) \Rightarrow \frac{E_x^2}{E_{x0}^2} + \frac{E_y^2}{E_{y0}^2} = 1 \Rightarrow E_x^2 + E_y^2 = E_o^2: \text{Eq. of circle} \quad (9LCP)(7-28)$$

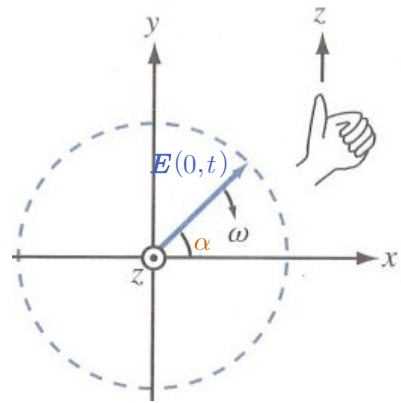
$$(7) \Rightarrow \mathbf{E}(0,t) = \hat{x}E_o \cos \omega t + \hat{y}E_o \cos\left(\omega t + \frac{\pi}{2}\right) = \hat{x}E_o \cos \omega t - \hat{y}E_o \sin \omega t \quad (7LCP)(7-31)$$

$$(8) \Rightarrow E_x = E_o \cos \omega t \quad \text{and} \quad E_y = -E_o \sin \omega t : \text{leads by } \pi/2 \quad (8LCP)$$

\Rightarrow Left-hand Circular Polarization (LCP)

Note)

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbf{E}(0,t) &= \hat{x}E_o \cos \omega t + \hat{y}E_o \cos\left(\omega t + \frac{\pi}{2}\right) \\ &= \text{Re}[(\hat{x}E_o + \hat{y}E_o e^{+j\frac{\pi}{2}})e^{j\omega t}] \\ \Rightarrow \frac{E_x}{E_y} &= \frac{E_{x0}}{E_{y0} e^{j(\pi/2)}} = \frac{E_o}{jE_o} = -j \\ \text{or } \frac{jE_x}{E_y} &= +1 \text{ for LCP} \quad (11) \end{aligned}$$

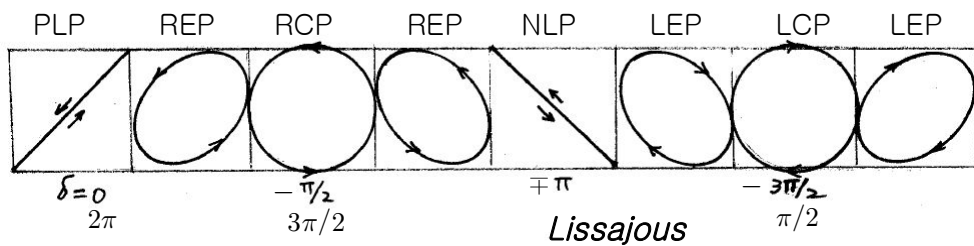


4) Elliptical polarization

For $\delta \neq 0$ and $E_{x0} \neq E_{y0}$ [$\delta \rightarrow$ shape, $E_{y0}/E_{x0} \rightarrow$ tilt angle (τ)]



Notes) For same amplitudes ($E_{x0} = E_{y0}$)



phase, amplitude, frequency

Tilt angle (τ)	$-\frac{\pi}{2}$	$-\frac{\pi}{4}$	0	$\frac{\pi}{4}$	$\frac{\pi}{2}$
LCP					
LEP					
LP					
REP					
RCP					

(e.g. 7-2)

LP plane wave = (RCP + LCP) waves of equal amplitude

(Proof)

From (10) $\frac{jE_x}{E_y} = -1$ for RCP and (11) $\frac{jE_x}{E_y} = +1$ for LCP,

$$E_{RCP}(z) = (\hat{x} E_x + \hat{y} E_y) e^{-jkz} = \frac{E_o}{2} (\hat{x} - j\hat{y}) e^{-jkz} \quad \textcircled{1}$$

$$E_{LCP}(z) = (\hat{x} E_x + \hat{y} E_y) e^{-jkz} = \frac{E_o}{2} (\hat{x} + j\hat{y}) e^{-jkz} \quad \textcircled{2}$$

$$\textcircled{1} + \textcircled{2} \Rightarrow E_{RCP}(z) + E_{LCP}(z) = \hat{x} E_o e^{-jkz} = E_{LP}(z) \quad \text{///}$$