

**Problem 7.56)** a) Denoting the magnitude of the  $k$ -vector in free space by  $k_0 = \omega/c$ , we have

$$\mathbf{k} = k_x \hat{\mathbf{x}} + k_y \hat{\mathbf{y}} + k_z \hat{\mathbf{z}} = (k_0 \sin \theta \cos \phi) \hat{\mathbf{x}} + (k_0 \sin \theta \sin \phi) \hat{\mathbf{y}} + (k_0 \cos \theta) \hat{\mathbf{z}},$$

$$\mathbf{E}_0 = E_{x0} \hat{\mathbf{x}} + E_{y0} \hat{\mathbf{y}} + E_{z0} \hat{\mathbf{z}},$$

$$\mathbf{H}_0 = H_{x0} \hat{\mathbf{x}} + H_{y0} \hat{\mathbf{y}} + H_{z0} \hat{\mathbf{z}}.$$

$$\text{b) } \nabla \cdot \mathbf{E} = 0 \quad \rightarrow \quad \mathbf{k} \cdot \mathbf{E}_0 = 0 \quad \rightarrow \quad k_x E_{x0} + k_y E_{y0} + k_z E_{z0} = 0$$

$$\rightarrow \quad E_{z0} = -(k_x E_{x0} + k_y E_{y0})/k_z.$$

$$\nabla \times \mathbf{E} = -\partial \mathbf{B} / \partial t \quad \rightarrow \quad i \mathbf{k} \times \mathbf{E}_0 = i \omega \mu_0 \mathbf{H}_0$$

$$\rightarrow \quad \mathbf{H}_0 = (\mu_0 \omega)^{-1} \mathbf{k} \times \mathbf{E}_0 = (\mu_0 \omega)^{-1} (k_x \hat{\mathbf{x}} + k_y \hat{\mathbf{y}} + k_z \hat{\mathbf{z}}) \times (E_{x0} \hat{\mathbf{x}} + E_{y0} \hat{\mathbf{y}} + E_{z0} \hat{\mathbf{z}})$$

$$\rightarrow \quad H_{x0} = (k_y E_{z0} - k_z E_{y0}) / (\mu_0 \omega),$$

$$H_{y0} = (k_z E_{x0} - k_x E_{z0}) / (\mu_0 \omega),$$

$$H_{z0} = (k_x E_{y0} - k_y E_{x0}) / (\mu_0 \omega).$$

The field components  $E_{z0}, H_{x0}, H_{y0}, H_{z0}$  are thus determined once the components  $E_{x0}$  and  $E_{y0}$  are specified.

$$\begin{aligned} \text{c) } \mathbf{S}(\mathbf{r}, t) &= \text{Re} \{ \mathbf{E}_0 \exp[i(\mathbf{k} \cdot \mathbf{r} - \omega t)] \} \times \text{Re} \{ \mathbf{H}_0 \exp[i(\mathbf{k} \cdot \mathbf{r} - \omega t)] \} \\ &= [E'_0 \cos(\mathbf{k} \cdot \mathbf{r} - \omega t) - E''_0 \sin(\mathbf{k} \cdot \mathbf{r} - \omega t)] \times [H'_0 \cos(\mathbf{k} \cdot \mathbf{r} - \omega t) - H''_0 \sin(\mathbf{k} \cdot \mathbf{r} - \omega t)] \\ &= (\mathbf{E}'_0 \times \mathbf{H}'_0) \cos^2(\mathbf{k} \cdot \mathbf{r} - \omega t) + (\mathbf{E}''_0 \times \mathbf{H}''_0) \sin^2(\mathbf{k} \cdot \mathbf{r} - \omega t) \\ &\quad - (\mathbf{E}'_0 \times \mathbf{H}''_0 + \mathbf{E}''_0 \times \mathbf{H}'_0) \sin(\mathbf{k} \cdot \mathbf{r} - \omega t) \cos(\mathbf{k} \cdot \mathbf{r} - \omega t) \\ &= \frac{1}{2} (\mathbf{E}'_0 \times \mathbf{H}'_0 + \mathbf{E}''_0 \times \mathbf{H}''_0) + \frac{1}{2} (\mathbf{E}'_0 \times \mathbf{H}'_0 - \mathbf{E}''_0 \times \mathbf{H}''_0) \cos[2(\mathbf{k} \cdot \mathbf{r} - \omega t)] \\ &\quad - \frac{1}{2} (\mathbf{E}'_0 \times \mathbf{H}''_0 + \mathbf{E}''_0 \times \mathbf{H}'_0) \sin[2(\mathbf{k} \cdot \mathbf{r} - \omega t)]. \end{aligned}$$

Noting that  $\mathbf{k}$  is a real-valued vector, we will have

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbf{E}'_0 \times \mathbf{H}'_0 \pm \mathbf{E}''_0 \times \mathbf{H}''_0 &= (\mu_0 \omega)^{-1} [\mathbf{E}'_0 \times (\mathbf{k} \times \mathbf{E}'_0) \pm \mathbf{E}''_0 \times (\mathbf{k} \times \mathbf{E}''_0)] \\ &= (\mu_0 \omega)^{-1} [(\mathbf{E}'_0 \cdot \mathbf{E}'_0) \mathbf{k} - (\mathbf{k} \cdot \mathbf{E}'_0) \mathbf{E}'_0 \pm (\mathbf{E}''_0 \cdot \mathbf{E}''_0) \mathbf{k} \mp (\mathbf{k} \cdot \mathbf{E}''_0) \mathbf{E}''_0] \\ &= (\mu_0 \omega)^{-1} (\mathbf{E}'_0 \cdot \mathbf{E}'_0 \pm \mathbf{E}''_0 \cdot \mathbf{E}''_0) \mathbf{k} \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbf{E}'_0 \times \mathbf{H}''_0 + \mathbf{E}''_0 \times \mathbf{H}'_0 &= (\mu_0 \omega)^{-1} [\mathbf{E}'_0 \times (\mathbf{k} \times \mathbf{E}''_0) + \mathbf{E}''_0 \times (\mathbf{k} \times \mathbf{E}'_0)] \\ &= 2(\mu_0 \omega)^{-1} (\mathbf{E}'_0 \cdot \mathbf{E}''_0) \mathbf{k} \end{aligned}$$

Therefore,

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbf{S}(\mathbf{r}, t) &= \frac{1}{2} (\mu_0 \omega)^{-1} \{ (\mathbf{E}'_0 \cdot \mathbf{E}'_0 + \mathbf{E}''_0 \cdot \mathbf{E}''_0) + (\mathbf{E}'_0 \cdot \mathbf{E}'_0 - \mathbf{E}''_0 \cdot \mathbf{E}''_0) \cos[2(\mathbf{k} \cdot \mathbf{r} - \omega t)] \\ &\quad - 2(\mathbf{E}'_0 \cdot \mathbf{E}''_0) \sin[2(\mathbf{k} \cdot \mathbf{r} - \omega t)] \} \mathbf{k}. \end{aligned}$$

d) The electromagnetic momentum density in free space is given by  $\mathbf{p}(\mathbf{r}, t) = \mathbf{S}(\mathbf{r}, t)/c^2$ .

e) Assuming that  $\mathbf{E}_0$  is real-valued, we may write the energy-density of the  $E$ -field as follows:

$$\begin{aligned}\mathcal{E}_E(\mathbf{r}, t) &= \frac{1}{2}\epsilon_0 \text{Re}\{\mathbf{E}_0 \exp[i(\mathbf{k} \cdot \mathbf{r} - \omega t)]\} \cdot \text{Re}\{\mathbf{E}_0 \exp[i(\mathbf{k} \cdot \mathbf{r} - \omega t)]\} \\ &= \frac{1}{2}\epsilon_0 \mathbf{E}'_0 \cos(\mathbf{k} \cdot \mathbf{r} - \omega t) \cdot \mathbf{E}'_0 \cos(\mathbf{k} \cdot \mathbf{r} - \omega t) \\ &= \frac{1}{2}\epsilon_0 \mathbf{E}'_0 \cdot \mathbf{E}'_0 \cos^2(\mathbf{k} \cdot \mathbf{r} - \omega t) \\ &= \frac{1}{4}\epsilon_0 \mathbf{E}'_0 \cdot \mathbf{E}'_0 + \frac{1}{4}\epsilon_0 \mathbf{E}'_0 \cdot \mathbf{E}'_0 \cos[2(\mathbf{k} \cdot \mathbf{r} - \omega t)].\end{aligned}$$

Similarly, the energy-density of the  $H$ -field is given by

$$\begin{aligned}\mathcal{E}_H(\mathbf{r}, t) &= \frac{1}{2}\mu_0 \text{Re}\{\mathbf{H}_0 \exp[i(\mathbf{k} \cdot \mathbf{r} - \omega t)]\} \cdot \text{Re}\{\mathbf{H}_0 \exp[i(\mathbf{k} \cdot \mathbf{r} - \omega t)]\} \\ &= \frac{1}{4}\mu_0 \mathbf{H}'_0 \cdot \mathbf{H}'_0 + \frac{1}{4}\mu_0 \mathbf{H}'_0 \cdot \mathbf{H}'_0 \cos[2(\mathbf{k} \cdot \mathbf{r} - \omega t)].\end{aligned}$$

The above expression for the  $H$ -field energy-density may be further simplified by noting that

$$\begin{aligned}\mathbf{H}'_0 \cdot \mathbf{H}'_0 &= (\mu_0 \omega)^{-2} (\mathbf{k} \times \mathbf{E}'_0) \cdot (\mathbf{k} \times \mathbf{E}'_0) = (\mu_0 \omega)^{-2} [(\mathbf{k} \cdot \mathbf{k})(\mathbf{E}'_0 \cdot \mathbf{E}'_0) - \cancel{(\mathbf{k} \cdot \mathbf{E}'_0)^2}] \\ &= (\mu_0 \omega)^{-2} (\mathbf{k} \cdot \mathbf{k})(\mathbf{E}'_0 \cdot \mathbf{E}'_0) = (\epsilon_0/\mu_0) \mathbf{E}'_0 \cdot \mathbf{E}'_0.\end{aligned}$$

It is seen that  $\mathcal{E}_H(\mathbf{r}, t) = \mathcal{E}_E(\mathbf{r}, t)$ . The total energy-density of the fields is, therefore, given by

$$\mathcal{E}(\mathbf{r}, t) = \mathcal{E}_E(\mathbf{r}, t) + \mathcal{E}_H(\mathbf{r}, t) = \frac{1}{2}\epsilon_0 \mathbf{E}'_0 \cdot \mathbf{E}'_0 + \frac{1}{2}\epsilon_0 \mathbf{E}'_0 \cdot \mathbf{E}'_0 \cos[2(\mathbf{k} \cdot \mathbf{r} - \omega t)].$$

f) Poynting's theorem asserts that, in free space,  $\nabla \cdot \mathbf{S}(\mathbf{r}, t) + \partial \mathcal{E}(\mathbf{r}, t)/\partial t = 0$ . Recalling that  $\mathbf{E}''_0 = 0$ , the results obtained in parts (c) and (e) above now yield

$$\begin{aligned}\nabla \cdot \mathbf{S}(\mathbf{r}, t) &= \nabla \cdot \left\{ \frac{1}{2}(\mu_0 \omega)^{-1} (\mathbf{E}'_0 \cdot \mathbf{E}'_0) \{1 + \cos[2(\mathbf{k} \cdot \mathbf{r} - \omega t)]\} \mathbf{k} \right\} \\ &= \frac{1}{2}(\mu_0 \omega)^{-1} (\mathbf{E}'_0 \cdot \mathbf{E}'_0) \nabla \cdot \left\{ \{1 + \cos[2(\mathbf{k} \cdot \mathbf{r} - \omega t)]\} (k_x \hat{\mathbf{x}} + k_y \hat{\mathbf{y}} + k_z \hat{\mathbf{z}}) \right\} \\ &= -(\mu_0 \omega)^{-1} (\mathbf{E}'_0 \cdot \mathbf{E}'_0) (k_x^2 + k_y^2 + k_z^2) \sin[2(\mathbf{k} \cdot \mathbf{r} - \omega t)] \\ &= -\epsilon_0 \omega \mathbf{E}'_0 \cdot \mathbf{E}'_0 \sin[2(\mathbf{k} \cdot \mathbf{r} - \omega t)].\end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}\partial \mathcal{E}(\mathbf{r}, t)/\partial t &= \partial \left\{ \frac{1}{2}\epsilon_0 \mathbf{E}'_0 \cdot \mathbf{E}'_0 + \frac{1}{2}\epsilon_0 \mathbf{E}'_0 \cdot \mathbf{E}'_0 \cos[2(\mathbf{k} \cdot \mathbf{r} - \omega t)] \right\} / \partial t \\ &= \epsilon_0 \omega \mathbf{E}'_0 \cdot \mathbf{E}'_0 \sin[2(\mathbf{k} \cdot \mathbf{r} - \omega t)].\end{aligned}$$

The energy continuity equation (i.e., Poynting's theorem) is thus seen to be satisfied.

**Digression:** This problem can be solved in the general case when  $\mathbf{E}''_0 \neq 0$ , although the algebra is a bit tedious. Below we derive the energy densities of the  $E$ - and  $H$ -fields in the general case.

$$\begin{aligned}\mathcal{E}_E(\mathbf{r}, t) &= \frac{1}{2}\epsilon_0 \text{Re}\{\mathbf{E}_0 \exp[i(\mathbf{k} \cdot \mathbf{r} - \omega t)]\} \cdot \text{Re}\{\mathbf{E}_0 \exp[i(\mathbf{k} \cdot \mathbf{r} - \omega t)]\} \\ &= \frac{1}{2}\epsilon_0 [\mathbf{E}'_0 \cos(\mathbf{k} \cdot \mathbf{r} - \omega t) - \mathbf{E}''_0 \sin(\mathbf{k} \cdot \mathbf{r} - \omega t)] \cdot [\mathbf{E}'_0 \cos(\mathbf{k} \cdot \mathbf{r} - \omega t) - \mathbf{E}''_0 \sin(\mathbf{k} \cdot \mathbf{r} - \omega t)] \\ &= \frac{1}{2}\epsilon_0 [(\mathbf{E}'_0 \cdot \mathbf{E}'_0) \cos^2(\mathbf{k} \cdot \mathbf{r} - \omega t) + (\mathbf{E}''_0 \cdot \mathbf{E}''_0) \sin^2(\mathbf{k} \cdot \mathbf{r} - \omega t) \\ &\quad - 2(\mathbf{E}'_0 \cdot \mathbf{E}''_0) \sin(\mathbf{k} \cdot \mathbf{r} - \omega t) \cos(\mathbf{k} \cdot \mathbf{r} - \omega t)] \\ &= \frac{1}{4}\epsilon_0 \{(\mathbf{E}'_0 \cdot \mathbf{E}'_0 + \mathbf{E}''_0 \cdot \mathbf{E}''_0) + (\mathbf{E}'_0 \cdot \mathbf{E}'_0 - \mathbf{E}''_0 \cdot \mathbf{E}''_0) \cos[2(\mathbf{k} \cdot \mathbf{r} - \omega t)]\}\end{aligned}$$

$$-2\mathbf{E}'_0 \cdot \mathbf{E}''_0 \sin[2(\mathbf{k} \cdot \mathbf{r} - \omega t)]\}.$$

Similarly,

$$\begin{aligned}\mathcal{E}_H(\mathbf{r}, t) &= \frac{1}{2}\mu_0 \text{Re}\{\mathbf{H}_0 \exp[i(\mathbf{k} \cdot \mathbf{r} - \omega t)]\} \cdot \text{Re}\{\mathbf{H}_0 \exp[i(\mathbf{k} \cdot \mathbf{r} - \omega t)]\} \\ &= \frac{1}{4}\mu_0 \{(\mathbf{H}'_0 \cdot \mathbf{H}'_0 + \mathbf{H}''_0 \cdot \mathbf{H}''_0) + (\mathbf{H}'_0 \cdot \mathbf{H}'_0 - \mathbf{H}''_0 \cdot \mathbf{H}''_0) \cos[2(\mathbf{k} \cdot \mathbf{r} - \omega t)] \\ &\quad - 2\mathbf{H}'_0 \cdot \mathbf{H}''_0 \sin[2(\mathbf{k} \cdot \mathbf{r} - \omega t)]\}.\end{aligned}$$

Now

$$\begin{aligned}\mathbf{H}'_0 \cdot \mathbf{H}'_0 \pm \mathbf{H}''_0 \cdot \mathbf{H}''_0 &= (\mu_0 \omega)^{-2} [(\mathbf{k} \times \mathbf{E}'_0) \cdot (\mathbf{k} \times \mathbf{E}'_0) \pm (\mathbf{k} \times \mathbf{E}''_0) \cdot (\mathbf{k} \times \mathbf{E}''_0)] \\ &= (\mu_0 \omega)^{-2} [(\mathbf{k} \cdot \mathbf{k})(\mathbf{E}'_0 \cdot \mathbf{E}'_0) - \cancel{(\mathbf{k} \cdot \mathbf{E}'_0)^2} \pm (\mathbf{k} \cdot \mathbf{k})(\mathbf{E}''_0 \cdot \mathbf{E}''_0) \mp \cancel{(\mathbf{k} \cdot \mathbf{E}''_0)^2}] \\ &= (\mu_0 \omega)^{-2} (\mathbf{k} \cdot \mathbf{k}) [(\mathbf{E}'_0 \cdot \mathbf{E}'_0) \pm (\mathbf{E}''_0 \cdot \mathbf{E}''_0)] \\ &= (\varepsilon_0 / \mu_0) [(\mathbf{E}'_0 \cdot \mathbf{E}'_0) \pm (\mathbf{E}''_0 \cdot \mathbf{E}''_0)] \\ \mathbf{H}'_0 \cdot \mathbf{H}''_0 &= (\mu_0 \omega)^{-2} (\mathbf{k} \times \mathbf{E}'_0) \cdot (\mathbf{k} \times \mathbf{E}''_0) \\ &= (\mu_0 \omega)^{-2} [(\mathbf{k} \cdot \mathbf{k})(\mathbf{E}'_0 \cdot \mathbf{E}''_0) - \cancel{(\mathbf{k} \cdot \mathbf{E}'_0)(\mathbf{k} \cdot \mathbf{E}''_0)}] \\ &= (\mu_0 \omega)^{-2} (\mathbf{k} \cdot \mathbf{k})(\mathbf{E}'_0 \cdot \mathbf{E}''_0) \\ &= (\varepsilon_0 / \mu_0)(\mathbf{E}'_0 \cdot \mathbf{E}''_0).\end{aligned}$$

As before, the energy densities of the  $E$ - and  $H$ -fields are seen to be equal. We will have

$$\begin{aligned}\mathcal{E}_E(\mathbf{r}, t) + \mathcal{E}_H(\mathbf{r}, t) &= \frac{1}{2}\varepsilon_0 \{(\mathbf{E}'_0 \cdot \mathbf{E}'_0 + \mathbf{E}''_0 \cdot \mathbf{E}''_0) + (\mathbf{E}'_0 \cdot \mathbf{E}'_0 - \mathbf{E}''_0 \cdot \mathbf{E}''_0) \cos[2(\mathbf{k} \cdot \mathbf{r} - \omega t)] \\ &\quad - 2\mathbf{E}'_0 \cdot \mathbf{E}''_0 \sin[2(\mathbf{k} \cdot \mathbf{r} - \omega t)]\}.\end{aligned}$$

The Poynting vector was already derived in part (c) for the general case of  $\mathbf{E}''_0 \neq 0$ . Verification of the energy continuity equation now follows the same steps as in part (f).

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