

Problem 7.69)

$$\text{a) } \quad \mathbf{E}_1(\mathbf{r}, t) = E_0 \cos[n(\omega_1)(\omega_1/c)z - \omega_1 t] \hat{\mathbf{x}}, \quad (1a)$$

$$\mathbf{H}_1(\mathbf{r}, t) = n(\omega_1) Z_0^{-1} E_0 \cos[n(\omega_1)(\omega_1/c)z - \omega_1 t] \hat{\mathbf{y}}. \quad (1b)$$

Similarly,

$$\mathbf{E}_2(\mathbf{r}, t) = E_0 \cos[n(\omega_2)(\omega_2/c)z - \omega_2 t] \hat{\mathbf{x}}, \quad (2a)$$

$$\mathbf{H}_2(\mathbf{r}, t) = n(\omega_2) Z_0^{-1} E_0 \cos[n(\omega_2)(\omega_2/c)z - \omega_2 t] \hat{\mathbf{y}}. \quad (2b)$$

Here $c = 1/\sqrt{\mu_0 \epsilon_0}$ is the speed of light in vacuum, while $Z_0 = \sqrt{\mu_0/\epsilon_0}$ is the impedance of free space.

b) The rate of flow of electromagnetic (EM) energy is given by the Poynting vector, as follows:

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbf{S}(\mathbf{r}, t) &= \mathbf{E}(\mathbf{r}, t) \times \mathbf{H}(\mathbf{r}, t) = E_0 \{ \cos[n(\omega_1)(\omega_1/c)z - \omega_1 t] + \cos[n(\omega_2)(\omega_2/c)z - \omega_2 t] \} \hat{\mathbf{x}} \\ &\quad \times Z_0^{-1} E_0 \{ n(\omega_1) \cos[n(\omega_1)(\omega_1/c)z - \omega_1 t] + n(\omega_2) \cos[n(\omega_2)(\omega_2/c)z - \omega_2 t] \} \hat{\mathbf{y}} \\ &= Z_0^{-1} E_0^2 \{ n(\omega_1) \cos^2[n(\omega_1)(\omega_1/c)z - \omega_1 t] + n(\omega_2) \cos^2[n(\omega_2)(\omega_2/c)z - \omega_2 t] \\ &\quad + [n(\omega_1) + n(\omega_2)] \cos[n(\omega_1)(\omega_1/c)z - \omega_1 t] \cos[n(\omega_2)(\omega_2/c)z - \omega_2 t] \} \hat{\mathbf{z}} \\ &= \frac{1}{2} Z_0^{-1} E_0^2 \{ [n(\omega_1) + n(\omega_2)] + n(\omega_1) \cos[2\omega_1 n(\omega_1)(z/c) - 2\omega_1 t] + n(\omega_2) \cos[2\omega_2 n(\omega_2)(z/c) - 2\omega_2 t] \\ &\quad + [n(\omega_1) + n(\omega_2)] \cos\{[\omega_1 n(\omega_1) + \omega_2 n(\omega_2)](z/c) - (\omega_1 + \omega_2)t\} \\ &\quad + [n(\omega_1) + n(\omega_2)] \cos\{[\omega_1 n(\omega_1) - \omega_2 n(\omega_2)](z/c) - (\omega_1 - \omega_2)t\} \} \hat{\mathbf{z}}. \end{aligned} \quad (3)$$

c) In the preceding expression, the terms with frequencies $2\omega_1$, $2\omega_2$, and $(\omega_1 + \omega_2)$ are rapidly-oscillating functions of time which quickly average to zero. The first term, however, is a constant, and the last term, which varies slowly with time, co-propagates with the envelope of the beat signal. Dropping the rapidly-oscillating terms, we will have

$$\begin{aligned} S_z(\mathbf{r}, t) &\approx \frac{1}{2} [n(\omega_1) + n(\omega_2)] Z_0^{-1} E_0^2 \{ 1 + \cos\{[\omega_2 n(\omega_2) - \omega_1 n(\omega_1)](z/c) - (\omega_2 - \omega_1)t\} \} \\ &\approx [n(\omega_1) + n(\omega_2)] Z_0^{-1} E_0^2 \cos^2 \left\{ \frac{1}{2} \Delta\omega \left(\frac{d[\omega n(\omega)]}{c d\omega} \Big|_{\omega_0} z - t \right) \right\}. \end{aligned} \quad (4)$$

In the above equation, the rate-of-flow of the beat signal's EM energy is seen to travel along the z -axis at the constant velocity c/n_g , where $n_g = d[\omega n(\omega)]/d\omega|_{\omega=\omega_0}$ is the group refractive index of the medium at the center frequency ω_0 of the beat signal. The energy flow-rate is thus seen to propagate along the z -axis at the group velocity $V_g = c/n_g$. Note that the final expression obtained in Eq.(4) is positive everywhere, whereas the rapidly-oscillating terms that were dropped from Eq.(3) keep switching direction (between $+z$ and $-z$) at very high frequencies.