

# ELEN E3401: Electromagnetics

Spring 2025

Prof. Keren Bergman  
Department of Electrical Engineering  
Columbia University

Lecture #1



# Course Outline

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## Lecture and Recitation:

Lectures: Mondays/Wednesdays 2:40pm – 3:55pm; Mudd 829

Recitations: Will be held as needed on Fridays 12:30pm – 2:00pm; Mudd 1300  
Attendance in recitations is encouraged but not required

## Contacts and Office Hours:

Prof. Keren Bergman, Schapiro/CEPSR 806, 212-853-1657 ([bergman@ee.columbia.edu](mailto:bergman@ee.columbia.edu))

Office hours: Tuesdays 2:00pm – 3:00pm and by appointment.

TA: Brett George, CEPSR 821 ([bcg2133@columbia.edu](mailto:bcg2133@columbia.edu))

Office hours: Mondays and Wednesdays 1:00pm – 2:00pm and by appointment

OH location: CEPSR 8<sup>th</sup> Floor Lounge

## Textbook:

**Fundamentals of Applied Electromagnetics**, 8<sup>th</sup> Edition, Ulaby and Ravaioli

Textbook Website: <http://em8e.eecs.umich.edu/>

## Recommended References:

**Elements of Engineering Electromagnetics**, Nannapaneni Narayana Rao, 6<sup>th</sup> Edition

**Engineering Electromagnetics**, William H. Hayt, John A. Buck

# Course Outline

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## Grading Structure:

- |                       |     |
|-----------------------|-----|
| 1. Problems sets (9): | 36% |
| 2. Exams (2):         | 50% |
| 3. Project:           | 14% |

## Grading Policy:

Problem sets must be submitted by 6pm to the TA on due date to be eligible for full credit. Late problem sets will be deducted 25% for day 1 and 50% for day 2. No problem sets will be accepted after 2 days. Exams are given during the regularly scheduled class time.

# Course Schedule

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## Schedule

- |                  |                                                                 |
|------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------|
| 1. Jan. 22 Wed.  | Introduction, Electric and Magnetic fields (1-3 to 1-5)         |
| 2. Jan. 27 Mon.  | Traveling waves, complex domain and phasors (1-6, 1-7)          |
| 3. Jan. 29 Wed.  | Transmission lines, lumped element model (2-1, 2-2)             |
| 4. Jan. 31 Fri.  | <u>Assign: prob. set #1</u>                                     |
| 5. Feb. 3 Mon.   | Transmission line equations, wave propagation (2-3, 2-4)        |
| 6. Feb. 5 Wed.   | Lossless transmission line, microstrip (2-5, 2-6)               |
| 7. Feb. 7 Fri.   | <u>Problem set #1 due; Assign: prob. Set #2</u>                 |
| 8. Feb. 10 Mon.  | Complex reflection coefficient, standing waves (2-6)            |
| 9. Feb. 12 Wed.  | Wave impedance of lossless line (2-7)                           |
| 10. Feb. 14 Fri. | <u>Problem set #2 due; Assign: prob. Set #3</u>                 |
| 11. Feb. 17 Mon. | Special cases, Impedance matching, power flow (2-8, 2-9)        |
| 12. Feb. 19 Wed. | Transmission line transients; Vector fields (2-12; 3-1 to 3-7)  |
| 13. Feb. 21 Fri. | <u>Problem set #3 due; Assign: prob. Set #4</u>                 |
| 14. Feb. 24 Mon. | Maxwell's eq, Electrostatics, Gauss's Law (4-1 to 4-4)          |
| 15. Feb. 26 Wed. | Electric scalar potential; Conductors, dielectrics (4-5 to 4-7) |
| 16. Feb. 28 Fri. | <u>Problem set #4 due; Assign: prob. Set #5</u>                 |

# Course Schedule

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17. March 3 Mon.	Electric boundary conditions; capacitance, (4-8)
18. March 5 Wed.	Capacitance, Electrostatic potential energy (4-9, 4-10)
19. March 7 Fri.	<u>Problem set #5 due</u>
20. March 10 Mon.	Exam 1 review
21. March 12 Wed.	<b>Exam 1</b>
22. March 17 Mon.	SPRING BREAK
23. March 19 Wed.	SPRING BREAK
24. March 24 Mon.	Magnetic forces and Torques (5-1); <u>Project assignment</u>
25. March 26 Wed.	Magnetic fields, current distributions (5-2)
26. March 28 Fri.	<u>Project team and topic due; Assign: prob. Set #6</u>
27. March 31 Mon.	Magnetostatics, inductance (5-3, 5-7)
28. April 2 Wed.	Maxwell time-varying fields, Faraday's Law (6-1, 6-2)
29. April 4 Fri.	<u>Problem set #6 due, Assign: prob. Set #7</u>
30. April 7 Mon.	Transformer; moving conductor in magnetic field (6-3, 6-4) <u>Project proposals due</u>

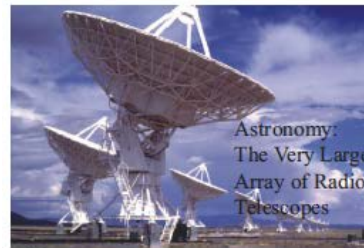
# Course Schedule

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31. April 9 Wed.	Electromagnetic generator (6-5, 6-6)
32. April 11 Fri.	<u>Problem set #7 due, Assign: prob. Set #8</u>
33. April 14 Mon.	Time-harmonic fields, plane wave propagation (7-1, 7-2)
34. April 16 Wed.	Wave equation, polarization, lossy media (7-3, 7-4)
35. April 18 Fri.	<u>Problem set #8 due, Assign: prob. Set #9</u>
36. April 21 Mon.	Current flow in conductors, power density (7-5, 7-6)
37. April 23 Wed.	Waves at boundary, lossy media, TL analogy (8-1)
38. April 25 Fri.	<u>Problem set #9 due</u>
39. April 28 Mon.	Exam 2 review
40. April 30 Wed.	<b>Exam 2</b>
41. May 5 Mon.	Final projects presentations (part 1)
42. May 6 Tues	Final projects presentations (part 2)
43. May 9 Fri.	<u>Project reports due</u>

# Numerous Systems and Applications

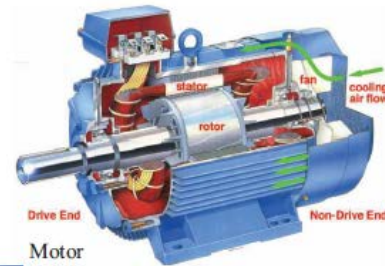
OLEDs



Astronomy:  
The Very Large  
Array of Radio  
Telescopes



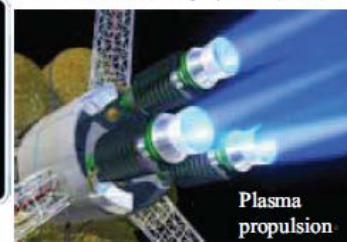
Global Positioning System (GPS)



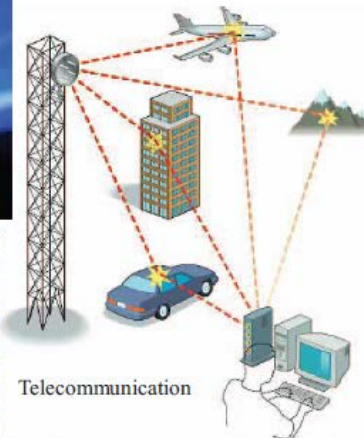
Motor



Radar



Plasma  
propulsion



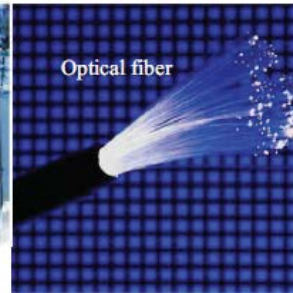
Telecommunication



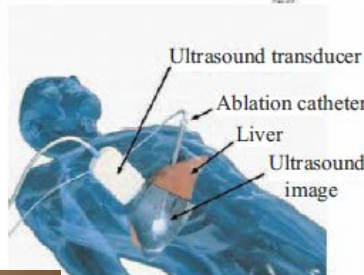
LiDAR



Electromagnetic sensors



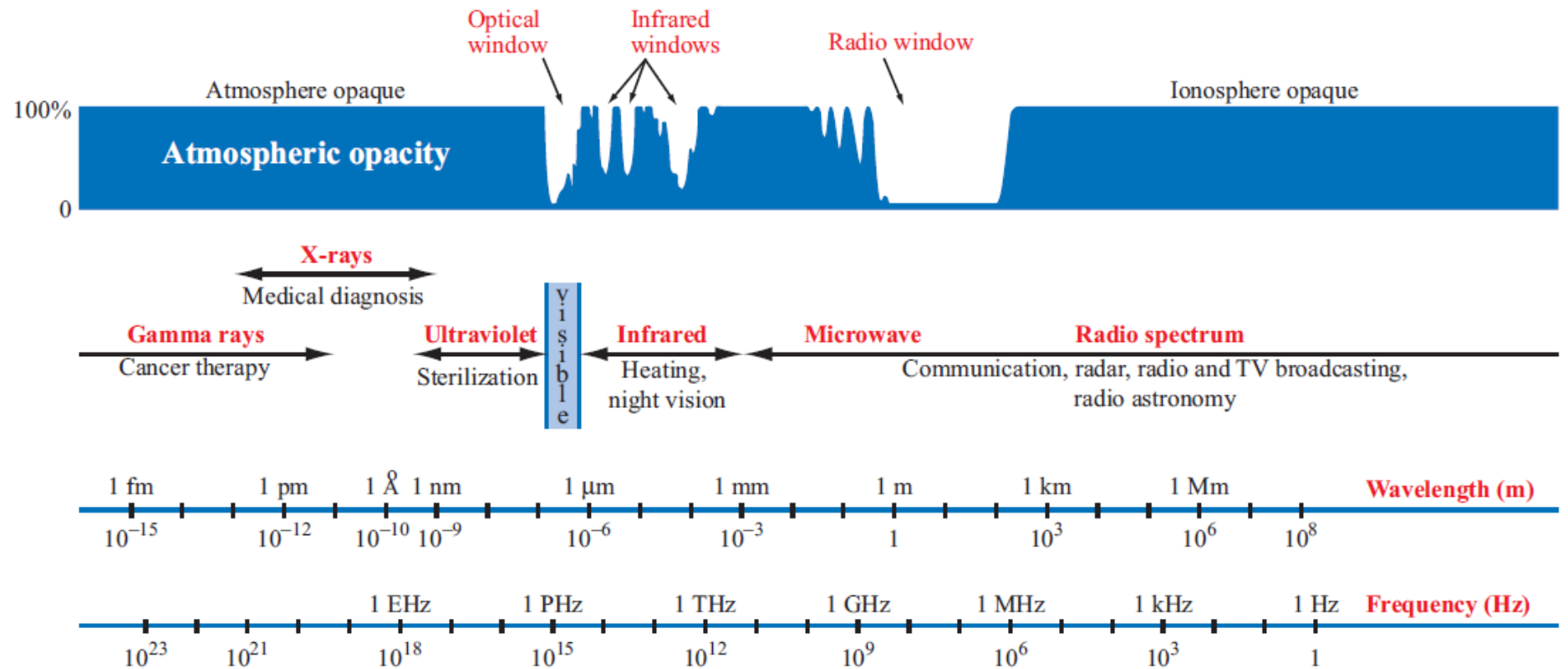
Optical fiber



Microwave ablation for  
liver cancer treatment



# The EM Spectrum



$$\lambda = \frac{c}{f}$$

# Dimensions and Units

**Table 1-1:** Fundamental SI units.

Dimension	Unit	Symbol
Length	meter	m
Mass	kilogram	kg
Time	second	s
Electric Current	ampere	A
Temperature	kelvin	K
Amount of substance	mole	mol

**Table 1-2:** Multiple and submultiple prefixes.

Prefix	Symbol	Magnitude
exa	E	$10^{18}$
peta	P	$10^{15}$
tera	T	$10^{12}$
giga	G	$10^9$
mega	M	$10^6$
kilo	k	$10^3$
milli	m	$10^{-3}$
micro	$\mu$	$10^{-6}$
nano	n	$10^{-9}$
pico	p	$10^{-12}$
femto	f	$10^{-15}$
atto	a	$10^{-18}$

# Charge: Electrical property of particles

## Units: coulomb

One coulomb: amount of charge accumulated in one second by a current of one ampere.

1 coulomb represents the charge on  $\sim 6.241 \times 10^{18}$  electrons

The coulomb is named for a French physicist, Charles-Augustin de Coulomb (1736-1806), who was the first to measure accurately the forces exerted between electric charges.

## Charge of an electron

$$e = 1.602 \times 10^{-19} \text{ C}$$

## Charge conservation

Cannot create or destroy charge, only transfer

# Electrical Force

$q_e = -e$  (electron)

$q_p = e$  (proton)

Force exerted on charge 2 by charge 1

$$\vec{F}_{e_{21}} = \hat{R}_{12} \frac{q_1 q_2}{4\pi\epsilon_0 R_{12}^2} \quad [N]$$

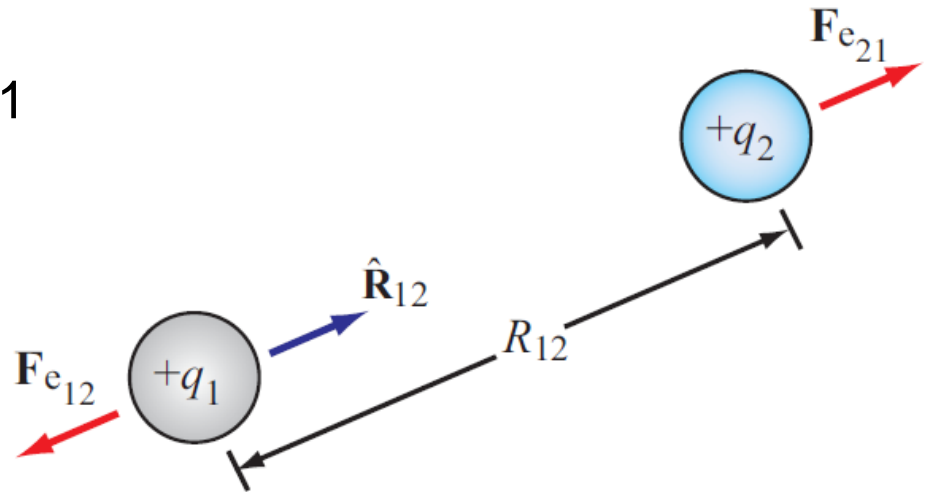
(free space)

$R_{12}$  = distance between the 2 charges

$\hat{R}_{12}$  = unit vector pointing from  $q_1$  to  $q_2$

Force exerted on charge 2 by charge 1

$$\vec{F}_{e_{21}} = -\vec{F}_{e_{12}} \text{ equal magnitude, opposite direction}$$



# Electric Field In Free Space

Force exerted on any point charge  $q'$  present in an electric field (due to other charges) will experience a force:

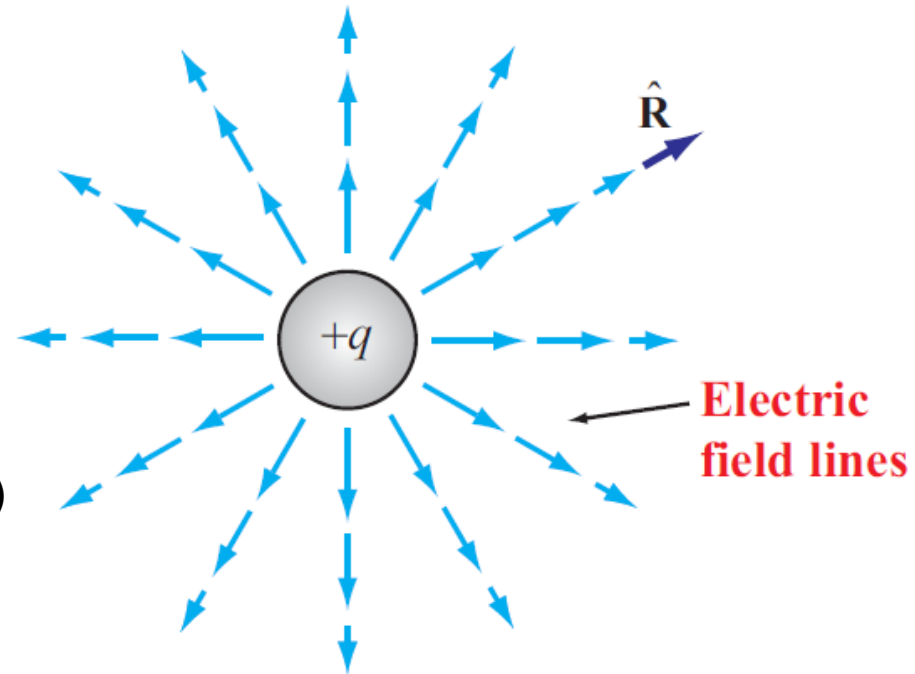
$$\vec{F}_e = q' \vec{E}$$

$\vec{E}$  = Electric Field

$$\vec{E} = \hat{R} \frac{q}{4\pi\epsilon_0 R^2} \left[ \frac{V}{m} \right] \text{ (in free space)}$$

Permittivity of free space

- Due to any charge in free space
- Charge force acts at a distance



$$\epsilon_0 \approx 8.854 \times 10^{-12} \left[ \frac{F}{m} \right]$$

# Electric Field

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- Law of electric charge conservation

Net electric charge cannot be created or destroyed

Net charge remains unchanged

$$q = n_p e - n_e e = (n_p - n_e) e \quad [C]$$

- Principle of superposition

Total vector electric field at a point in space due to a system of charges is equal to the vector sum of electric field at that point due to the individual charges

Allows computing  $\vec{E}$  due to complex charge distributions!

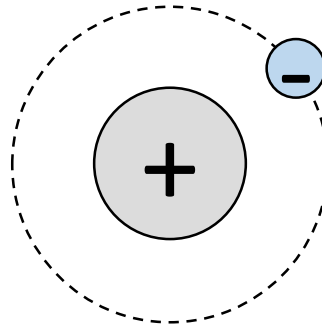
# Dielectric Materials

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The electric field due to a point charge in a material

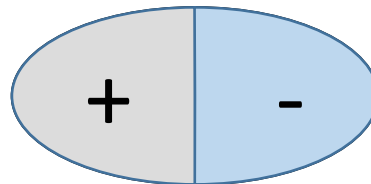
- Without charge

Material is neutral, each atom represented as:



- With field from charge

Atoms are polarized. Polarized atom leads to electric dipole:

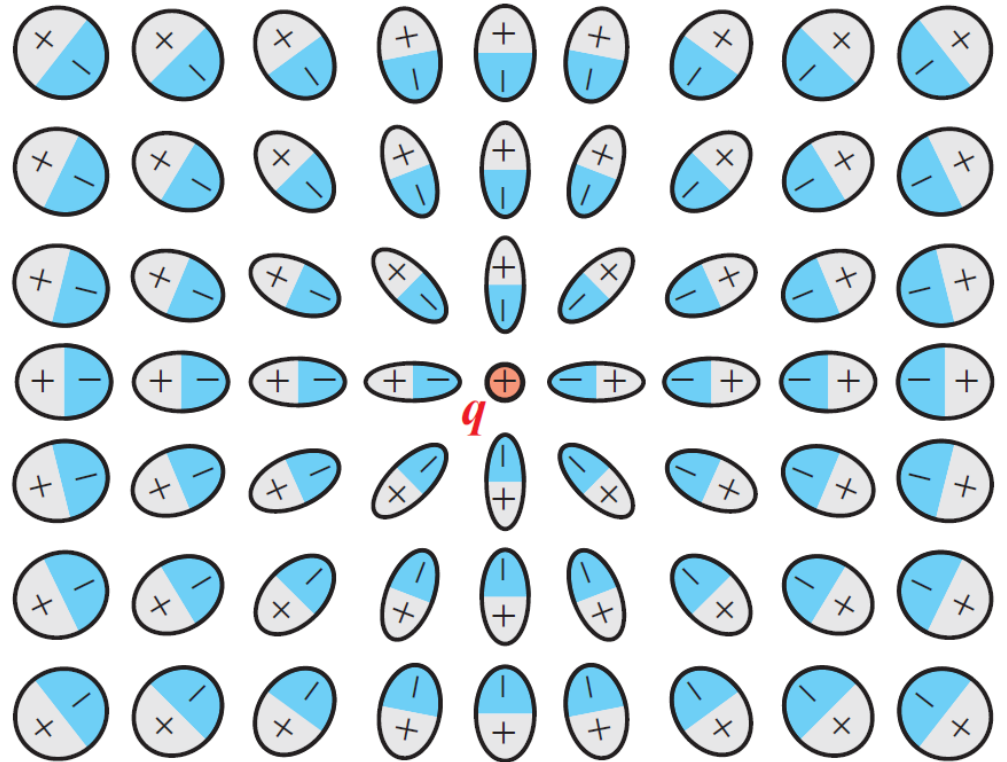


# Electric Field Inside Dielectric Material

- Point charge  $q$  polarizes atoms in material.
- Electric field of dipoles will counteract field produced by point charge.

$$\vec{E} = \hat{R} \frac{q}{4\pi\epsilon R^2} \left[ \frac{V}{m} \right]$$

$\epsilon$  = material permittivity



# Relative permittivity and Electric Flux

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$$\epsilon = \epsilon_r \epsilon_0 \quad \left[ \frac{F}{m} \right]$$

$\epsilon_r$  =relative/dielectric permittivity

Vacuum	$\epsilon_r = 1$
Air	$\epsilon_r = 1.0006$
Paper	$\epsilon_r = 2 - 4$
Water (Distilled)	$\epsilon_r = 81$

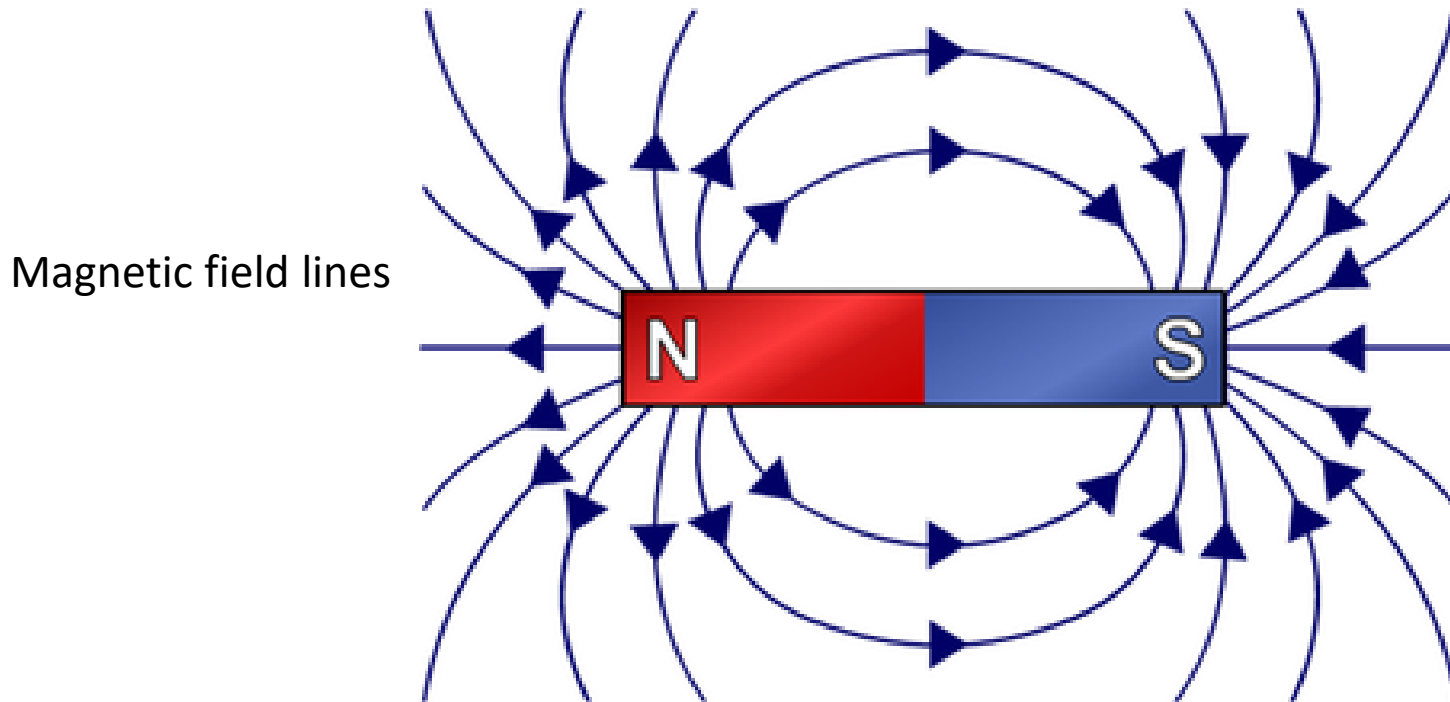
$\vec{D}$  = Electric flux density

$$\vec{D} = \epsilon \vec{E} \quad \left[ \frac{C}{m^2} \right]$$

# Magnetic Fields

Magnetic materials - Magnets

Magnetic poles always exist in pairs



Magnetic field circulates from N to S

Magnetic force attracts/repels north-south poles

# Magnetic Field

$\vec{B}$  = Magnetic Flux Density

$$\vec{B} = \hat{\phi} \frac{\mu_0 I}{2\pi r} \quad [T]$$

Magnetic field induced by current  $I$  in a long wire

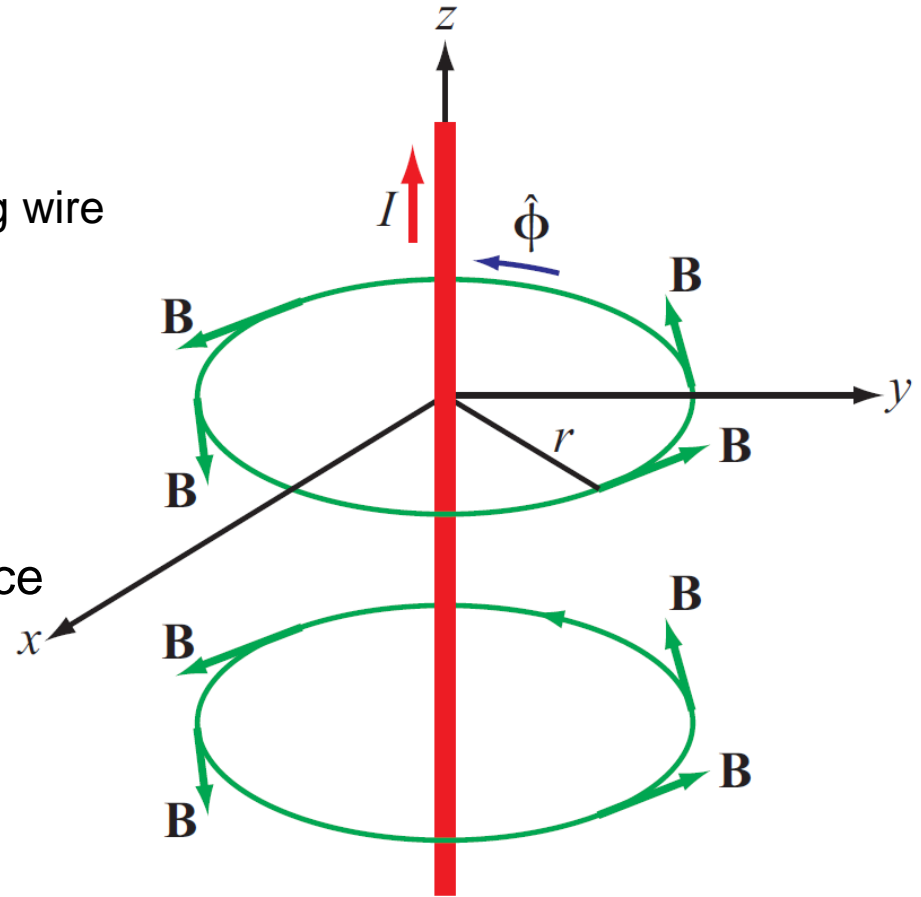
- $I$  = constant current
- $r$  = radial distance from wire
- $\hat{\phi}$  = azimuthal unit vector

$\mu_0$  = Magnetic permeability of free space

$$\mu_0 = 4\pi \times 10^{-7} \quad \left[ \frac{H}{m} \right]$$

Electric and magnetic fields connected through the speed of light  $c$

$$c = \frac{1}{\sqrt{\mu_0 \epsilon_0}} = 3 \times 10^8 \quad \left[ \frac{m}{s} \right]$$



# Magnetic Force

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Magnetic Force :  $\vec{F}_m \rightarrow q'$  will experience magnetic force in magnetic flux **only** if charge is moving in non-parallel direction to  $\vec{B}$

- $\vec{F}_m$  is  $\perp$  (perpendicular) to both  $\vec{B}$  and charge velocity  $\vec{u}$

$\mu = \mu_r \mu_0 \left[ \frac{H}{m} \right]$  - magnetic permeability

$\vec{B} = \mu \vec{H}$        $\vec{H}$  = magnetic field intensity

Most materials not magnetic ( $\mu_r \approx 1$ )

Vacuum & Dielectrics	$\mu_r = 1$
Purified Iron	$\mu_r \approx 200,000$
Cobalt	$\mu_r = 250$
Iron (pure)	$\mu_r \approx 4,000 - 5,000$

# Static vs Dynamic Fields

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Static – does not vary with time (DC)

- $\vec{E}$  – governed by  $q$
- $\vec{B}$  – governed by  $I = \frac{\partial q}{\partial t}$

DC case:

$$I = \text{constant} \rightarrow \frac{\partial q}{\partial t} \neq 0 \rightarrow \frac{\partial I}{\partial t} = 0$$

$\rightarrow \vec{B}$  not coupled to  $\vec{E}$

# Static Fields

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## Electrostatics: Stationary Charges

$$\frac{\partial q}{\partial t} = 0$$

$$\vec{E} \quad \left[ \frac{V}{m} \right]$$

$$\vec{D} = \epsilon \vec{E}$$

$$\vec{D} \quad \left[ \frac{C}{m^2} \right]$$

## Magnetostatics: Steady Currents (DC)

$$\frac{\partial I}{\partial t} = 0$$

$$\vec{B} \quad [T]$$

$$\vec{B} = \mu \vec{H}$$

$$\vec{H} \quad \left[ \frac{A}{m} \right]$$

# Dynamic Fields

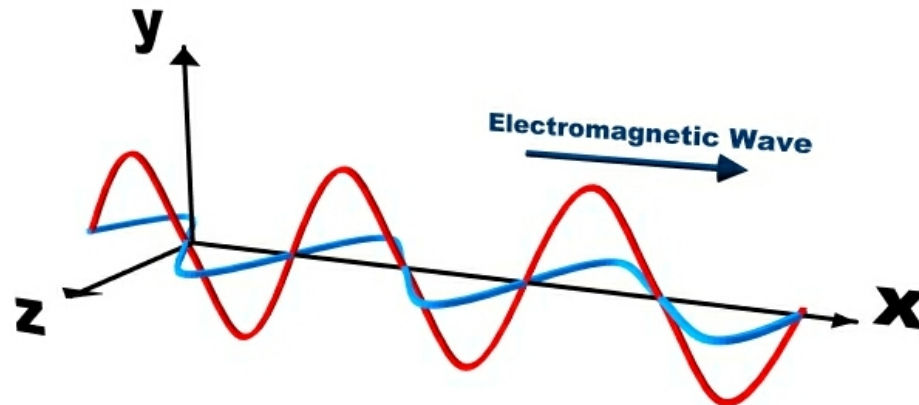
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Dynamics: Time-varying fields/current (AC)

$$\frac{\partial I}{\partial t} \neq 0$$

$(\vec{E}, \vec{D})$  coupled to  $(\vec{B}, \vec{H})$

Time varying  $\vec{E} \leftrightarrow$  generates  $\leftrightarrow$  Time varying  $\vec{H}$



# Static vs. Dynamic Summary

**Table 1-3:** The three branches of electromagnetics.

Branch	Condition	Field Quantities (Units)
<b>Electrostatics</b>	Stationary charges ( $\partial q / \partial t = 0$ )	Electric field intensity <b>E</b> (V/m) Electric flux density <b>D</b> (C/m <sup>2</sup> ) <b>D</b> = $\epsilon$ <b>E</b>
<b>Magnetostatics</b>	Steady currents ( $\partial I / \partial t = 0$ )	Magnetic flux density <b>B</b> (T) Magnetic field intensity <b>H</b> (A/m) <b>B</b> = $\mu$ <b>H</b>
<b>Dynamics</b> (Time-varying fields)	Time-varying currents ( $\partial I / \partial t \neq 0$ )	<b>E, D, B, and H</b> ( <b>E, D</b> ) coupled to ( <b>B, H</b> )

Under static conditions, electric and magnetic fields are independent, but under dynamic conditions, they become coupled.

# Material Properties

<u>Parameter</u>	<u>Symbol</u>	<u>Value</u>	<u>Units</u>
Electrical Permittivity (Free Space)	$\epsilon_0$	$\approx 8.854 \times 10^{-12}$ $\approx \frac{1}{36\pi} \times 10^{-9}$	$\frac{F}{m}$
Magnetic Permeability (Free Space)	$\mu_0$	$= 4\pi \times 10^{-7}$	$\frac{H}{m}$
Conductivity (Free Space or Perfect Dielectric)	$\sigma$	$= 0$	$\frac{S}{m}$
Conductivity (Perfect Conductor)	$\sigma$	$= \infty$	$\frac{S}{m}$

Constitutive parameters

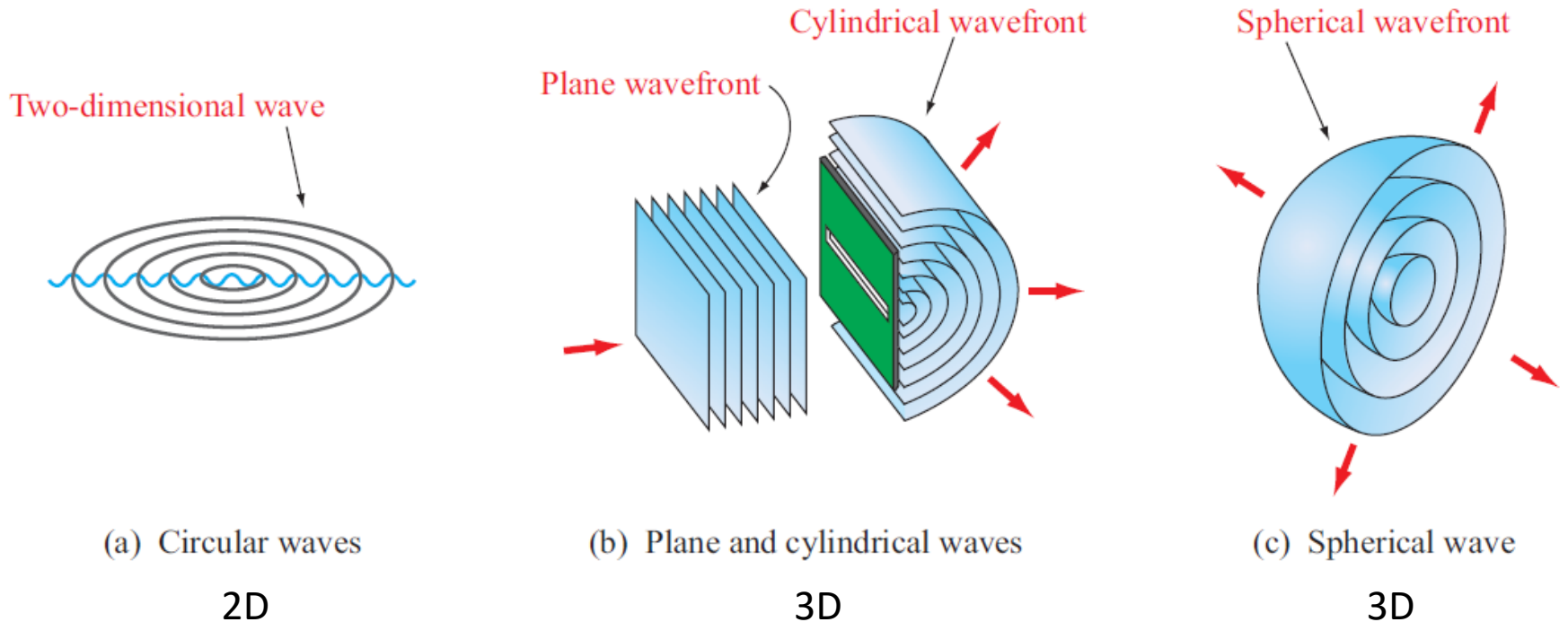
# Traveling Waves

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- Waves carry energy
- Waves have velocity
- Many waves are linear: they do not affect the passage of other waves; they can pass right through them
- **Transient waves:** caused by sudden disturbance
- **Continuous periodic waves:** repetitive source

# Traveling Waves

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Vacuum velocity of EM Wave

$$c_0 = 2.99792458 \times 10^8 \approx 3 \times 10^8 \left[ \frac{m}{s} \right]$$

# Wave propagation

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Consider a 2D wave, sinusoidal, in a lossless medium:

$$y(x, t) = A \cos \left( \frac{2\pi t}{T} - \frac{2\pi x}{\lambda} + \phi_0 \right)$$

$A$  = Amplitude

$T$  = Time Period [s]  $\left( f = \frac{1}{T} \quad \left[ \frac{1}{s} \text{ or Hz} \right] \right)$

$\lambda$  = Spatial Wavelength [m]

$\phi_0$  = Reference Phase [rad]

*A medium is said to be **lossless** if it does not attenuate the amplitude of the wave traveling within it or on its surface.*

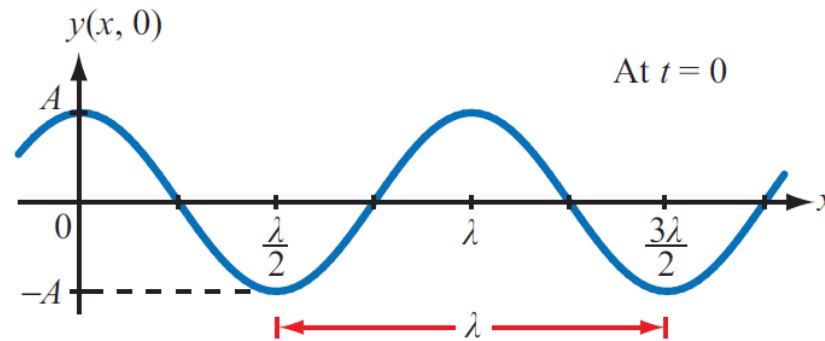
# 2D Sinusoidal wave in lossless medium

$y$  = height of water surface

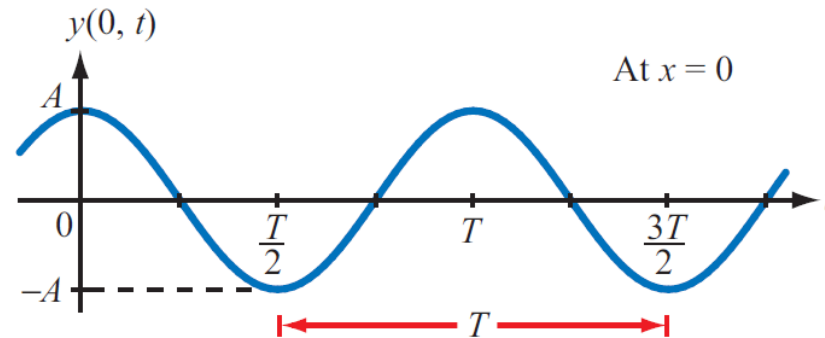
$x$  = distance

$$y(x, t) = A \cos\left(\frac{2\pi t}{T} - \frac{2\pi x}{\lambda} + \phi_0\right)$$

Let  $\phi_0 = 0$



(a)  $y(x, t)$  versus  $x$  at  $t = 0$



(b)  $y(x, t)$  versus  $t$  at  $x = 0$

# Wave propagation – phase velocity

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Consider 2D wave:

$$y(x, t) = A \cos\left(\frac{2\pi t}{T} - \frac{2\pi x}{\lambda} + \phi_0\right) = A \cos(\phi(x, t))$$

Wave peaks at:  $\phi(x, t) = n \times 2\pi$  ( $n$  is integer)

$$\phi(x, t) = \frac{2\pi t}{T} - \frac{2\pi x}{\lambda} + \phi_0 = 2n\pi$$

$$\phi(x, t) = 2n\pi$$

$$\rightarrow y(x, t) = \text{constant} = y_0$$

In general, the constant phase is:  $\cos^{-1}\left(\frac{y_0}{A}\right) = \left(\frac{2\pi t}{T} - \frac{2\pi x}{\lambda}\right)$

# Wave propagation – phase velocity

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What is the velocity of the wave front (constant phase):

$$\frac{\partial}{\partial t} \left( \frac{2\pi t}{T} - \frac{2\pi x}{\lambda} \right) = \frac{2\pi}{T} - \frac{2\pi}{\lambda} \frac{\partial x}{\partial t} = 0$$
$$\frac{\partial x}{\partial t} = \frac{\lambda}{T}$$

We define, phase velocity,  $u_p$ :

$$u_p = \frac{\partial x}{\partial t} = \frac{\lambda}{T} = f\lambda = \frac{\omega}{\beta} \quad \left[ \frac{m}{s} \right]$$

Angular Frequency,  $\omega$

$$\omega = 2\pi f \quad \left[ \frac{rad}{s} \right]$$

Phase Constant,  $\beta$ :

$$\beta = \frac{2\pi}{\lambda} \quad \left[ \frac{rad}{m} \right]$$

$$y(x, t) = A \cos(\omega t - \beta x + \phi_0)$$

$$y(x, t) = A \cos(\omega t + \beta x + \phi_0)$$

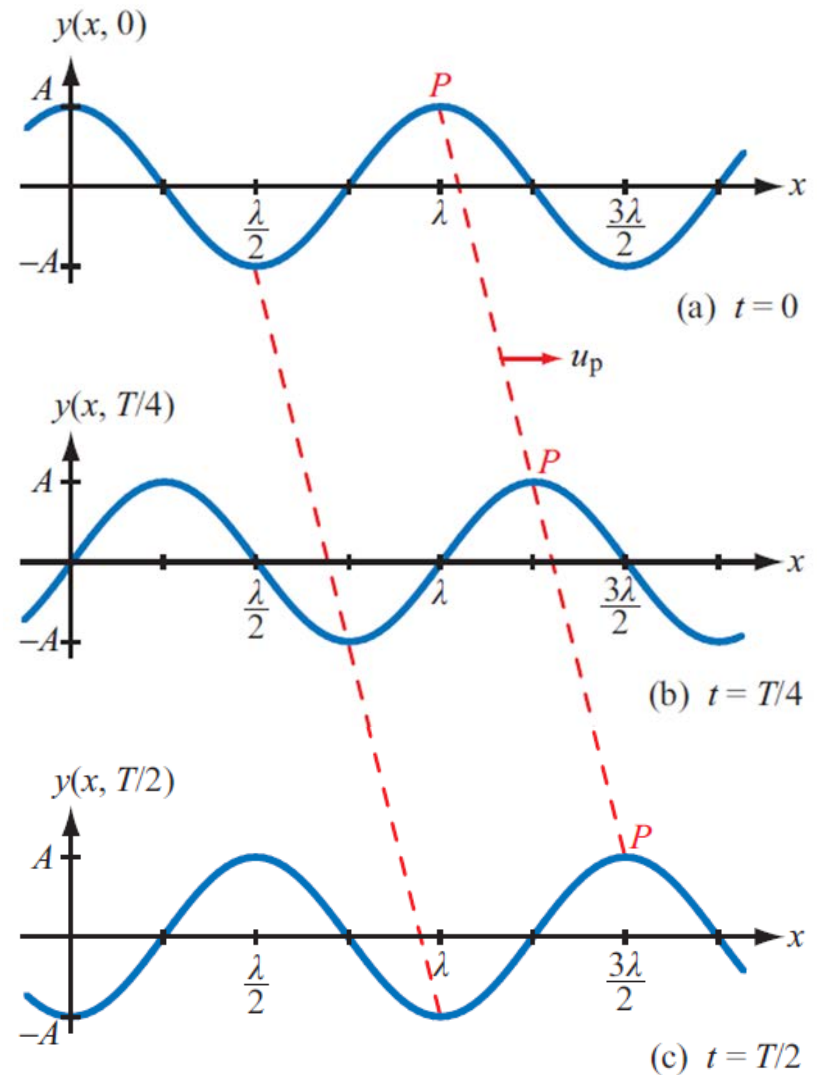
Wave traveling in  $+\hat{x}$  direction:

$-\hat{x}$  direction:

# Phase velocity

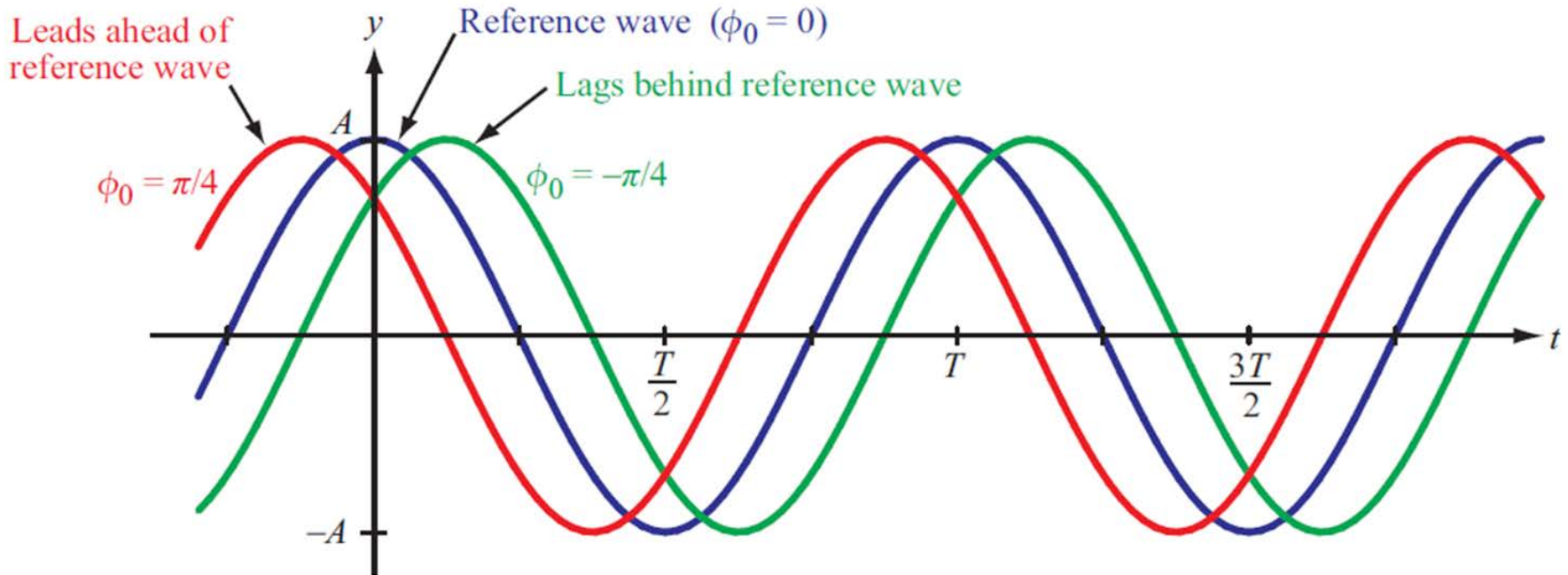
$$y(x, t) = A \cos(\phi(x, t))$$

$$\phi(x, t) = \left( \frac{2\pi t}{T} - \frac{2\pi x}{\lambda} + \phi_0 \right)$$



# Phase Lead and Lag

$$y(0, t) = A \cos(2\pi t/T + \phi_0) \quad 3 \text{ values for } \phi_0$$



$$y(z, t) = A \cos(\omega t - \beta z + \phi_0)$$

Positive reference phase,  $\phi_0$ , corresponds to a phase lead, while negative  $\phi_0$  corresponds to a phase lag

# Lossy Medium

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Attenuation Factor

$$y(z, t) = A \overbrace{e^{-\alpha z}}^{\text{Attenuation Factor}} \cos(\omega t - \beta z + \phi_0) \quad \alpha = \text{attenuation constant} \left[ \frac{Np}{m} \right]$$

