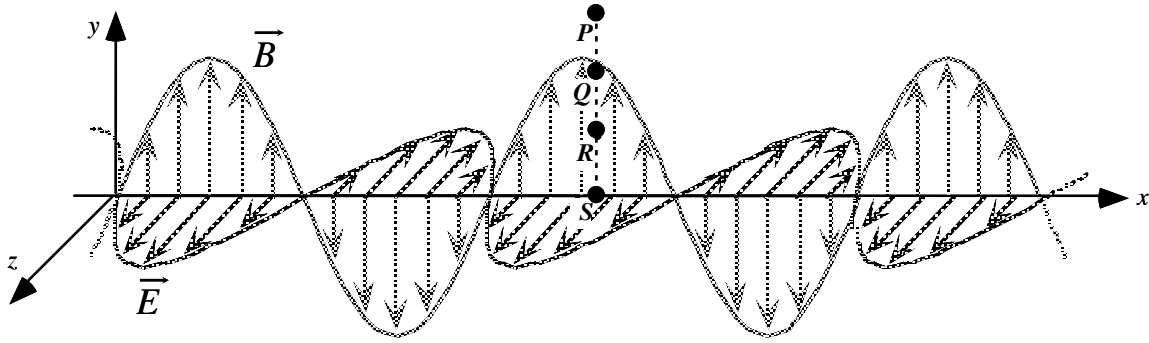


Shown below are mathematical and pictorial representations of an electromagnetic plane wave propagating through empty space. The electric field is parallel to the  $z$ -axis.

$$\vec{B}(x, y, z, t) = B_o \sin(kx + \omega t) \hat{y}$$



The points  $P$ ,  $Q$ ,  $R$ , and  $S$  in the diagram above lie in the  $x$ - $y$  plane. Each of the questions relates to the instant shown.

1. Which statement below correctly relates the magnitude of the *electric field* at points  $P$  and  $S$ ? [3]

- |                    |                    |                    |
|--------------------|--------------------|--------------------|
| a) $E_P > E_S > 0$ | b) $E_P > E_S = 0$ | c) $E_P = E_S > 0$ |
| d) $E_P = E_S = 0$ | e) $E_S > E_P > 0$ | f) $E_S > E_P = 0$ |

2. Explain your reasoning. [2]

3. Which statement below correctly relates the magnitude of the *electric field* at points  $Q$  and  $R$ ? [3]

- |                    |                    |                    |
|--------------------|--------------------|--------------------|
| a) $E_Q > E_R > 0$ | b) $E_Q > E_R = 0$ | c) $E_Q = E_R > 0$ |
| d) $E_Q = E_R = 0$ | e) $E_R > E_Q > 0$ | f) $E_R > E_Q = 0$ |

4. Explain your reasoning. [2]

5. Write an expression for the electric field  $\mathbf{E}(x,y,z,t)$ . (Remember to express the amplitude of the electric field in terms of the amplitude of the magnetic field.) [4]

6. In which direction is the wave traveling? [3]

7. Suppose that the diagram above represents a radio wave. In order to obtain the best reception with a radio, how would you orient the antenna? Remember, the optimal orientation to maximize reception is with the antenna parallel (or antiparallel) to the electric field. [3]

- a. parallel to the  $x$ -axis
- b. parallel to the  $y$ -axis
- c. parallel to the  $z$ -axis
- d. parallel to the  $y$ - $z$  plane and at an angle of  $45^\circ$  with respect to the  $y$ -axis
- e. any orientation parallel to the  $y$ - $z$  plane.

## Q9B

- 1) Only the  $x$  position matters. P at the same  $x$  as S is, so  $E_P = E_S$ . Neither = 0. (3)  
 $E_P = E_S$  (2)  
 Neither = 0. (1)  
 No explanation required. (That's question 2.)
- 2) Give the reasoning above (2)
- 3) Same logic as 1).  $E_Q = E_R$ . Neither = 0. (3)  
 $E_Q = E_R$  (2)  
 Neither = 0. (1)  
 No explanation required. (That's question 4.)
- 4) Give the reasoning above (2)
- 5)  $\vec{E}(x, y, z, t) = c\vec{B}_0 \sin(kx + \omega t)\hat{z}$  (4)  
 $E_0 = cB_0$  (1)  
 Direction of  $E$  (1)  
 $\sin(kx + \omega t)$  (2)
- 6) Linear polarization. (3)  
 No part credit
- 7) This is probably a give-away. Antenna should point along  $z$ . (3)  
 No part credit.