

In general, the following equation is called as a Wave Equation:

$$\frac{\partial^2 f}{\partial u^2} + \frac{1}{v^2} \frac{\partial^2 f}{\partial t^2} = 0$$

A scalar or vector function $f(u, t)$ satisfying the above equation is a wave. It can be shown that $f(u, t) = f(u \pm vt)$ satisfies the wave equation.

Maxwell's Equations can be used to show that time varying electric and time-varying magnetic field satisfies the wave equation:

$\nabla \times \vec{E} = -\frac{\partial \vec{B}}{\partial t}$	Faraday's Law
$\nabla \times \vec{H} = \vec{J} + \frac{\partial \vec{D}}{\partial t}$	Ampere's Law
$\nabla \cdot \vec{D} = \rho_v$	Gauss' Law
$\nabla \cdot \vec{B} = 0$	No isolated magnetic charge exists

$$\nabla \times \nabla \times \vec{E} = \nabla(\nabla \cdot \vec{E}) - \nabla^2 \vec{E}$$

$$\nabla \times \nabla \times \vec{E} = \nabla(\nabla \cdot \vec{E}) - \nabla^2 \vec{E} = \nabla \times \left(-\frac{\partial \vec{B}}{\partial t}\right)$$

$$\nabla(\nabla \cdot \vec{E}) - \nabla^2 \vec{E} = \left(-\nabla \times \frac{\partial \vec{B}}{\partial t}\right)$$

$$\nabla(\nabla \cdot \vec{E}) - \nabla^2 \vec{E} = \left(-\frac{\partial}{\partial t} \nabla \times \vec{B}\right)$$

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

$$\nabla(\nabla \cdot \vec{E}) - \nabla^2 \vec{E} = \left(-\frac{\partial}{\partial t} \nabla \times \mu \vec{H}\right)$$

$$\nabla(\nabla \cdot \vec{E}) - \nabla^2 \vec{E} = \left(-\frac{\partial}{\partial t} \mu \nabla \times \vec{H}\right)$$

$$\nabla(\nabla \cdot \vec{E}) - \nabla^2 \vec{E} = -\mu \left(\frac{\partial}{\partial t} (\nabla \times \vec{H})\right)$$

$$\nabla(\nabla \cdot \vec{E}) - \nabla^2 \vec{E} = -\mu \left(\frac{\partial}{\partial t} \left(\vec{J} + \frac{\partial \vec{D}}{\partial t}\right)\right)$$

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

$$\nabla \cdot \vec{D} = \rho_v$$

$$\nabla \cdot \epsilon \vec{E} = \rho_v$$

$$\epsilon \nabla \cdot \vec{E} = \rho_v$$

$$\nabla \cdot \vec{E} = \frac{\rho_v}{\epsilon}$$

$$\nabla(\nabla \cdot \vec{E}) - \nabla^2 \vec{E} = -\mu \left(\frac{\partial}{\partial t} \vec{J} + \frac{\partial \epsilon \vec{E}}{\partial t} \right)$$

$$\nabla(\nabla \cdot \vec{E}) - \nabla^2 \vec{E} = -\mu \left(\frac{\partial}{\partial t} \vec{J} + \epsilon \frac{\partial \vec{E}}{\partial t} \right)$$

$$\nabla(\nabla \cdot \vec{E}) - \nabla^2 \vec{E} = -\mu \left(\frac{\partial}{\partial t} \vec{J} + \left(\epsilon \frac{\partial \vec{E}}{\partial t} \right) \right)$$

$$\nabla(\nabla \cdot \vec{E}) - \nabla^2 \vec{E} = -\mu \frac{\partial \vec{J}}{\partial t} - \mu \frac{\partial}{\partial t} \left(\epsilon \frac{\partial \vec{E}}{\partial t} \right)$$

$$\nabla(\nabla \cdot \vec{E}) - \nabla^2 \vec{E} = -\mu \frac{\partial \vec{J}}{\partial t} - \mu \epsilon \frac{\partial^2 \vec{E}}{\partial t^2}$$

$$\nabla \left(\frac{\rho_v}{\epsilon} \right) - \nabla^2 \vec{E} = -\mu \frac{\partial \vec{J}}{\partial t} - \mu \epsilon \frac{\partial^2 \vec{E}}{\partial t^2}$$

$$\frac{\nabla(\rho_v)}{\epsilon} - \nabla^2 \vec{E} = -\mu \frac{\partial \vec{J}}{\partial t} - \mu \epsilon \frac{\partial^2 \vec{E}}{\partial t^2}$$

$$\nabla^2 \vec{E} - \mu \epsilon \frac{\partial^2 \vec{E}}{\partial t^2} = \mu \frac{\partial \vec{J}}{\partial t} + \frac{\nabla(\rho_v)}{\epsilon}$$

In the source free region $\vec{J} = 0$ and $\rho_v = 0$

$$\nabla^2 \vec{E} - \mu \epsilon \frac{\partial^2 \vec{E}}{\partial t^2} = 0$$

This equation is in the same form with the wave equation that we have defined in the beginning. As a result, \vec{E} satisfies the wave equation.

Again starting from Maxwell's Equations:

$\nabla \times \vec{E} = -\frac{\partial \vec{B}}{\partial t}$	Faraday's Law
$\nabla \times \vec{H} = \vec{J} + \frac{\partial \vec{D}}{\partial t}$	Ampere's Law
$\nabla \cdot \vec{D} = \rho_v$	Gauss' Law
$\nabla \cdot \vec{B} = 0$	No isolated magnetic charge exists

$$\nabla \times \nabla \times \vec{H} = \nabla(\nabla \cdot \vec{H}) - \nabla^2 \vec{H}$$

$$\nabla \times \nabla \times \vec{H} = \nabla(\nabla \cdot \vec{H}) - \nabla^2 \vec{H} = \nabla \times \left(\vec{J} + \frac{\partial \vec{D}}{\partial t} \right)$$

$$\nabla(\nabla \cdot \vec{H}) - \nabla^2 \vec{H} = \nabla \times \vec{J} + \nabla \times \left(\frac{\partial \vec{D}}{\partial t} \right)$$

$$\nabla(\nabla \cdot \vec{H}) - \nabla^2 \vec{H} = \nabla \times \vec{J} + \left(\frac{\partial}{\partial t} \nabla \times \vec{D} \right)$$

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

$$\nabla(\nabla \cdot \vec{H}) - \nabla^2 \vec{H} = \nabla \times \vec{J} + \frac{\partial}{\partial t} (\nabla \times \epsilon \vec{E})$$

$$\nabla(\nabla \cdot \vec{H}) - \nabla^2 \vec{H} = \nabla \times \vec{J} + \frac{\partial}{\partial t} \epsilon (\nabla \times \vec{E})$$

$$\nabla(\nabla \cdot \vec{H}) - \nabla^2 \vec{H} = \nabla \times \vec{J} + \epsilon \frac{\partial}{\partial t} (\nabla \times \vec{E})$$

$$\nabla(\nabla \cdot \vec{H}) - \nabla^2 \vec{H} = \nabla \times \vec{J} + \epsilon \frac{\partial}{\partial t} \left(-\frac{\partial \vec{B}}{\partial t} \right)$$

$$\nabla(\nabla \cdot \vec{H}) - \nabla^2 \vec{H} = \nabla \times \vec{J} - \epsilon \frac{\partial^2 \vec{B}}{\partial t^2}$$

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

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

$$\nabla(\nabla \cdot \left(\frac{\vec{B}}{\mu}\right)) - \nabla^2 \vec{H} = \nabla \times \vec{J} - \epsilon \frac{\partial^2 \vec{B}}{\partial t^2}$$

$$\nabla\left(\frac{1}{\mu}(\nabla \cdot \vec{B})\right) - \nabla^2 \vec{H} = \nabla \times \vec{J} - \epsilon \frac{\partial^2 \vec{B}}{\partial t^2}$$

$$- \nabla^2 \vec{H} = \nabla \times \vec{J} - \epsilon \frac{\partial^2 (\mu \vec{H})}{\partial t^2}$$

$$- \nabla^2 \vec{H} = \nabla \times \vec{J} - \mu \epsilon \frac{\partial^2 \vec{H}}{\partial t^2}$$

$$\nabla^2 \vec{H} - \mu \epsilon \frac{\partial^2 \vec{H}}{\partial t^2} = -\nabla \times \vec{J}$$

In the source free region $\vec{J} = 0$

$$\nabla^2 \vec{H} - \mu \epsilon \frac{\partial^2 \vec{H}}{\partial t^2} = 0$$

This equation is in the same form with the wave equation that we have defined in the beginning. As a result, \vec{H} satisfies the wave equation.