

1. (20 points) **Symmetry of the conductivity tensor**

- (a) (10 points) Construct a symmetric tensor A^s and an asymmetric one A^a by A such that

$$A^s = \frac{A + A^T}{2} \quad \text{and} \quad A^a = \frac{A - A^T}{2},$$

where “ T ” denotes the transpose operation, *i.e.*, $(A^T)_{ij} = (A)_{ji}$ ($i \neq j$). Therefore, one finds that $(A^s)_{ij} = (A^s)_{ji}$ ($i \neq j$) and $(A^a)_{ij} = -(A^a)_{ji}$ ($i \neq j$) with $(A^a)_{ii} = 0$, so that

$$A = A^s + A^a.$$

It shows that any second-rank tensor A can be always expressed by the sum of A^s and A^a .

- (b) (10 points) We know from the result of (a) that $\tilde{\sigma}$ can be written the sum of its symmetric part $\tilde{\sigma}^s$ and asymmetric one $\tilde{\sigma}^a$. Then,

$$\begin{aligned} P &= \mathbf{E} \cdot \tilde{\sigma} : \mathbf{E} \\ &= (\mathbf{E})_i (\tilde{\sigma})_{ij} (\mathbf{E})_j \\ &= (\mathbf{E})_i [(\tilde{\sigma}^s)_{ij} + (\tilde{\sigma}^a)_{ij}] (\mathbf{E})_j \\ &= (\mathbf{E})_i (\tilde{\sigma}^s)_{ij} (\mathbf{E})_j, \end{aligned}$$

because $(\mathbf{E})_i (\tilde{\sigma}^a)_{ij} (\mathbf{E})_j = 0$ as $(\tilde{\sigma}^s)_{ij} = (\tilde{\sigma}^s)_{ji}$ ($i \neq j$) and $(\tilde{\sigma}^a)_{ij} = -(\tilde{\sigma}^a)_{ji}$ ($i \neq j$) with $(\tilde{\sigma}^a)_{ii} = 0$. Once again, Einstein’s convention is understood here. Therefore, we prove that only the symmetric part of $\tilde{\sigma}$, $\tilde{\sigma}^s$, contributes to the power dissipation.

2. (10 points) **Time-reversal symmetry of the electric polarization vector**

$$\mathbf{P}(\mathbf{r}, -\omega) = \int_{-\infty}^{+\infty} dt \mathbf{P}(\mathbf{r}, t) e^{-i\omega t} = \int_{+\infty}^{-\infty} dt \mathbf{P}(\mathbf{r}, -t) e^{i\omega t}.$$

Since the time-reversed process goes from $+\infty$ to $-\infty$, the above result indicates that $\mathbf{P}(\mathbf{r}, -\omega)$ corresponds to the time-reversal form of $\mathbf{P}(\mathbf{r}, t)$ with $\omega \rightarrow -\omega$.

3. (10 points) **Symmetry of the complex electric susceptibility tensor**

The condition that $\Re[i\omega \mathbf{E}(\mathbf{r}, \omega) \cdot \epsilon_0 \tilde{\chi}_e^*(\mathbf{r}, \omega) \mathbf{E}^*(\mathbf{r}, \omega)] = 0$ can be translated into the condition that $\Im[\mathbf{E}(\mathbf{r}, \omega) \cdot \epsilon_0 \tilde{\chi}_e^*(\mathbf{r}, \omega) \mathbf{E}^*(\mathbf{r}, \omega)] = 0$ (\Im means an imaginary part). Thus,

$$\Im[\mathbf{E} \cdot \tilde{\chi}_e^* \mathbf{E}^*] = \Im[E_i (\tilde{\chi}_e^*)_{ij} E_j^*] = \Im[E_i^2 (\tilde{\chi}_e^*)_{ii} + E_i E_j^* (\tilde{\chi}_e^*)_{ij}] = 0,$$

where a summation over a repeated index i is understood (Einstein’s convention). Since $(\tilde{\chi}_e)_{ii}$ (a diagonal element) is real for lossless media, The above equation can be rewritten as

$$\Im[E_i E_j^* (\tilde{\chi}_e^*)_{ij}] = \frac{1}{2} [E_i E_j^* (\tilde{\chi}_e^*)_{ij} - E_i^* E_j (\tilde{\chi}_e)_{ij}] = 0,$$

where the relation that $\Im(A) = 1/2(A - A^*)$ for any complex variable A is used. Since i and j are interchangeable due to the summation over i and j , we obtain

$$E_i E_j^* [(\tilde{\chi}_e^*)_{ij} - (\tilde{\chi}_e)_{ji}] = 0,$$

implying that $(\tilde{\chi}_e^*)_{ij} = (\tilde{\chi}_e)_{ji}$, *i.e.*, $\tilde{\chi}_e(\mathbf{r}, \omega)$ is Hermitian.