

EC-9 Elliptical Polarisation :-

12-02-25 When the field components E_x and E_y have different magnitude but have 90° phase diff. then the resultant field envelopes results is elliptical polarisation.

We know that,

$$\vec{E} = E_x \vec{e}_x + E_y \vec{e}_y$$

Let the magnitude of E_x and E_y be E_{m_2} and respectively, therefore

$$E_x = E_{m_2} \sin \omega t \quad \text{--- (1)}$$

$$E_y = E_{m_2} (90^\circ - \omega t) = E_{m_2} \cos \omega t \quad \text{--- (2)}$$

$$\therefore \vec{E} = E_{m_2} \sin \omega t \vec{e}_x + E_{m_2} \cos \omega t \vec{e}_y$$

$$|E| = (E_{m_2} \sin \omega t)^2 + (E_{m_2} \cos \omega t)^2$$

$$= E_x^2 + E_y^2$$

Now, from eq. (1) and (2), we get,

$$\frac{E_x}{E_{m_2}} = \sin \omega t \quad \text{and} \quad \frac{E_y}{E_{m_2}} = \cos \omega t$$

$$\therefore \sin^2 \omega t + \cos^2 \omega t = 1 = \frac{E_x^2}{E_{m_2}^2} + \frac{E_y^2}{E_{m_2}^2} \quad \text{--- (3)}$$

Thus, the locus of the above eq. (3) is ellipse. This is why it is called elliptically polarised.