

Solution to Problem 9.3

* just use $\cos(\alpha + \beta) = \cos(\alpha)\cos(\beta) - \sin(\alpha)\sin(\beta)$ backwards & forth

$$* A_1 \cos(kz - \omega t + \delta_1) + A_2 \cos(kz - \omega t + \delta_2)$$

$$= \cos(kz - \omega t) [A_1 \cos(\delta_1) + A_2 \cos(\delta_2)] - \sin(kz - \omega t) [A_1 \sin(\delta_1) + A_2 \sin(\delta_2)]$$

$$* [A_1 \cos(\delta_1) + A_2 \cos(\delta_2)]^2 + [A_1 \sin(\delta_1) + A_2 \sin(\delta_2)]^2$$

$$= A_1^2 + 2A_1 A_2 \cos(\delta_1 - \delta_2) + A_2^2 \equiv A_3^2$$

$$\circ\circ A_1 \cos(kz - \omega t + \delta_1) + A_2 \cos(kz - \omega t + \delta_2) = A_3 \cos(kz - \omega t + \delta_3)$$

where

$$A_3 \equiv \sqrt{A_1^2 + 2A_1 A_2 \cos(\delta_1 - \delta_2) + A_2^2}$$

$$\delta_3 \equiv \tan^{-1} \left[\frac{A_1 \sin(\delta_1) + A_2 \sin(\delta_2)}{A_1 \cos(\delta_1) + A_2 \cos(\delta_2)} \right]$$

* NB of course you get the same result using complex analysis:

$$A_1 \cos(kz - \omega t + \delta_1) + A_2 \cos(kz - \omega t + \delta_2) = \text{Re} \left[A_1 e^{i(kz - \omega t + \delta_1)} + A_2 e^{i(kz - \omega t + \delta_2)} \right]$$

$$= \text{Re} \left\{ e^{i(kz - \omega t)} [A_1 e^{i\delta_1} + A_2 e^{i\delta_2}] \right\}$$

$$* |A_1 e^{i\delta_1} + A_2 e^{i\delta_2}|^2 = A_1^2 + 2A_1 A_2 \cos(\delta_1 - \delta_2) + A_2^2 \equiv A_3^2$$