# ECE 3317 Applied Electromagnetic Waves

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# Notes 19

# **Waveguiding Structures**







A waveguiding structure is one that carries a signal (or power) from one point to another without having energy escape.

There are three common types:

- Transmission lines
- Fiber-optic guides
- Waveguides (hollow pipes)

An alternative to a waveguiding system is a <u>wireless system</u> using antennas.

# Waveguiding Structures (cont.)

### Three common types of waveguiding structures:

- Transmission lines
- Fiber-optic guides
- Waveguides (hollow pipes)







# **Transmission lines**

### **Properties**

- Has two conductors running parallel
- Can propagate a signal at any frequency (in theory)
- Becomes lossy at high frequency
- Can handle low or moderate amounts of power
- Has signal distortion due to loss
- May or may not be immune to interference
- Does not have  $E_z$  or  $H_z$  components of the fields (TEM<sub>z</sub>)



$$\gamma = \alpha + j\beta = \sqrt{(R + j\omega L)(G + j\omega C)}$$

$$k_z = -j\gamma = \beta - j\alpha$$



#### Lossless:

$$k_z = \omega \sqrt{LC} = \omega \sqrt{\mu \varepsilon} = k = k_0 \sqrt{\varepsilon_r}$$
 (nonmagnetic filling)

# **Fiber-Optic Guide**

## Properties

- Has a single dielectric rod
- Can propagate a signal at any frequency (in theory)
- Can be made very low loss (no metal + low-loss glass)
- Has minimal signal distortion
- Very immune to interference
- Not suitable for high power
- Has both  $E_z$  and  $H_z$  components of the fields ("hybrid mode")







# Fiber-Optic Guide (cont.)

### Two types of fiber-optic guides:

#### 1) Single-mode fiber

Carries a single mode. Requires the fiber diameter to be small relative to a wavelength. This is the lowest loss type of fiber.

#### 2) Multi-mode fiber

Has a fiber diameter that is large relative to a wavelength. It operates on the principle of total internal reflection (critical angle effect).

# **Multi-Mode Fiber**





http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Optical\_fiber

# Multi-Mode Fiber (cont.)

There is a maximum angle  $\theta_{max}$  at which the beam can be incident from outside the rod. At the critical angle  $\theta_{max}$   $\theta_{max}$   $\theta_{max}$   $\theta_{max}$   $\theta_{max}$   $\theta_{max}$   $\theta_{max}$   $\theta_{max}$   $\theta_{max}$   $\theta_{max}$ 

At left end of rod (input), Snell's law gives us:

$$n_{\rm air} \sin \theta_{\rm max} = n_{\rm rod} \sin \left( \frac{\pi}{2} - \theta_c \right)$$



$$n_{\rm rod} \sin \theta_c = n_{\rm air} \sin \left(90^\circ\right) = 1$$
  

$$\Rightarrow \theta_c = \sin^{-1} \left(1/n_{\rm rod}\right)$$
  

$$\Rightarrow \cos \theta_c = \sqrt{1 - \sin^2 \theta_c} = \sqrt{1 - \left(1/n_{\rm rod}^2\right)}$$

$$\sin \theta_{\rm max} = n_{\rm rod} \sqrt{1 - \left(1 / n_{\rm rod}^2\right)}$$

 $\sin\theta_{\rm max} = n_{\rm rod}\cos\theta_c$ 

### **Properties**

- Waveguide
- Has a single hollow metal pipe
- Can propagate a signal only at high frequency:  $f > f_c$
- The width *a* must be at least one-half of a wavelength  $\lambda_d$
- Has signal distortion, even in the lossless case
- Immune to interference
- Can handle large amounts of power
- Has low loss (compared with a transmission line)
- Has either  $E_z$  or  $H_z$  component of the fields (TM<sub>z</sub> or TE<sub>z</sub>)



**Note:** The pipe may be filled with a material having  $\mathcal{E}_r$ .  $\left(\lambda_d = \lambda_0 / \sqrt{\mathcal{E}_r}\right)$ 

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Waveguide\_(radio\_frequency)



Inside microwave oven



# Waveguide (cont.)

### Waveguide vs. Coax

- The coax has higher loss and is more susceptible to dielectric breakdown (can handle less power).
  - The electric field and surface current of the coax are concentrated near the narrow inner conductor (very strong electric field and current density there). This gives more loss and also more susceptibility to dielectric breakdown.
  - > The waveguide is usually hollow, and thus has no dielectric loss.



# Waveguide (cont.)

Wavenumber inside a waveguide (derived later):

$$k_z = \left(k^2 - k_c^2\right)^{1/2}$$

#### where

 $k = \omega \sqrt{\mu \varepsilon}$  (wavenumber of material inside waveguide)  $k_c = \pi / a$  for dominant TE<sub>10</sub> mode

Cutoff frequency  $f_c$  for a lossless waveguide (*k* is real): frequency for which  $k = k_c$ 

$$f > f_c$$
:  $k_z = \sqrt{k^2 - k_c^2}$  = real (propagation)  
 $f < f_c$ :  $k_z = -j\sqrt{k_c^2 - k^2}$  = imaginary (evanescent decay)

## **Field Expressions for a Guided Wave**

### **Statement:**

All six field components of a <u>guided wave</u> can be expressed in terms of the two fundamental field components  $E_z$  and  $H_z$ .

"Guided-wave theorem"

### **Assumption:**

 $\underline{E}(x, y, z) = \underline{E}_0(x, y) e^{-jk_z z}$  $\underline{H}(x, y, z) = \underline{H}_0(x, y) e^{-jk_z z}$ 

(This is the definition of a guided wave.)

### A proof of this "statement" is given in Appendix A.

See the table on the next slide for the results.

# Field Expressions of a Guided Wave (cont.)

### Summary of Fields

$$\begin{split} E_x &= \left(\frac{-j\omega\mu}{k^2 - k_z^2}\right) \frac{\partial H_z}{\partial y} - \left(\frac{jk_z}{k^2 - k_z^2}\right) \frac{\partial E_z}{\partial x} \\ E_y &= \left(\frac{j\omega\mu}{k^2 - k_z^2}\right) \frac{\partial H_z}{\partial x} - \left(\frac{jk_z}{k^2 - k_z^2}\right) \frac{\partial E_z}{\partial y} \\ H_x &= \left(\frac{j\omega\varepsilon}{k^2 - k_z^2}\right) \frac{\partial E_z}{\partial y} - \left(\frac{jk_z}{k^2 - k_z^2}\right) \frac{\partial H_z}{\partial x} \\ H_y &= \left(\frac{-j\omega\varepsilon}{k^2 - k_z^2}\right) \frac{\partial E_z}{\partial x} - \left(\frac{jk_z}{k^2 - k_z^2}\right) \frac{\partial H_z}{\partial y} \end{split}$$



Assume a TEM<sub>z</sub> wave: 
$$\begin{aligned} E_z &= 0\\ H_z &= 0 \end{aligned}$$

To avoid having a completely zero field (see table on previous slide):

$$k^2 - k_z^2 = 0$$

$$\mathsf{TEM}_z \quad \longleftrightarrow \quad k_z = k$$



#### **Examples of TEM**<sub>z</sub> waves:

- A wave on a transmission line\*
- A plane wave

\* Exactly true if there is no conductor loss.

#### In each case the fields do not have a *z* component !



**TEM<sub>z</sub> Wave (cont.)** 

### **Relation Between** $\underline{E}$ and $\underline{H}$ for any TEM<sub>z</sub> Mode:

$$\underline{E} = -\eta \left( \underline{\hat{z}} \times \underline{H} \right)$$

$$\eta = \sqrt{\frac{\mu}{\varepsilon}} = \eta_0 \sqrt{\frac{\mu_r}{\varepsilon_r}} \quad \left(\eta_0 = 376.7303 \left[\Omega\right]\right) \quad \text{(intrinsic impedance of filling material)}$$

The electric and magnetic fields of a TEM<sub>z</sub> wave are perpendicular to each other, and the amplitudes of them are related by  $\eta$ .

A proof is given in Appendix B.

Waveguide Modes

### In a waveguide, the fields $\underline{cannot}$ be $TEM_z$ .



# Waveguide Modes (cont.)

In a waveguide (hollow pipe of metal), there are two types of modes:

$$TM_z: H_z = 0, \quad E_z \neq 0$$
$$TE_z: E_z = 0, \quad H_z \neq 0$$

Each type of mode can exist independently.

## **Appendix A**

### **Proof of Guided Wave Theorem**

(illustrated for  $E_{y}$ )

$$\nabla \times \underline{H} = j \,\omega \,\varepsilon \underline{E}$$
$$\Longrightarrow \quad E_{y} = \frac{1}{j \,\omega \varepsilon} \left( -\frac{\partial H_{z}}{\partial x} + \frac{\partial H_{x}}{\partial z} \right)$$

or

$$E_{y} = \frac{1}{j\omega\varepsilon} \left( -\frac{\partial H_{z}}{\partial x} - jk_{z}H_{x} \right)$$

Now solve for  $H_x$ :

$$\nabla \times \underline{E} = -j \,\omega \mu \,\underline{H}$$

**Appendix A (cont.)** 

$$\nabla \times \underline{E} = -j \,\omega \mu \,\underline{H}$$

$$\begin{array}{c} \longrightarrow \\ H_{x} = -\frac{1}{j\omega\mu} \left( \frac{\partial E_{z}}{\partial y} - \frac{\partial E_{y}}{\partial z} \right) \\ = -\frac{1}{j\omega\mu} \left( \frac{\partial E_{z}}{\partial y} + jk_{z}E_{y} \right) \end{array}$$

Substituting this into the equation for  $E_{\nu}$  yields the result

$$E_{y} = \frac{1}{j\omega\varepsilon} \left[ -\frac{\partial H_{z}}{\partial x} - jk_{z} \left[ \left( -\frac{1}{j\omega\mu} \right) \left( \frac{\partial E_{z}}{\partial y} + jk_{z}E_{y} \right) \right] \right]$$

Next, multiply by  $-j\omega\mu(j\omega\varepsilon) = k^2$ 

# Appendix A (cont.)

This gives us

$$k^{2} E_{y} = j\omega\mu \frac{\partial H_{z}}{\partial x} - jk_{z} \frac{\partial E_{z}}{\partial y} + k_{z}^{2} E_{y}$$

Combining terms,

$$(k^{2}-k_{z}^{2})E_{y} = j\omega\mu\frac{\partial H_{z}}{\partial x} - jk_{z}\frac{\partial E_{z}}{\partial y}$$

Solving for  $E_{v}$ , we have:

$$E_{y} = \left(\frac{j\omega\mu}{k^{2} - k_{z}^{2}}\right) \frac{\partial H_{z}}{\partial x} - \left(\frac{jk_{z}}{k^{2} - k_{z}^{2}}\right) \frac{\partial E_{z}}{\partial y}$$

The other three components  $E_x$ ,  $H_x$ ,  $H_y$  may be found similarly.

### **Appendix B**

### Relation Between $\underline{E}$ and $\underline{H}$ for any TEM<sub>z</sub> Mode

Faraday's Law:  $\nabla \times \underline{E} = -j\omega\mu\underline{H}$ 

Take the *x* component of both sides:

$$\frac{\partial E_z}{\partial y} - \frac{\partial E_y}{\partial z} = -j\omega\mu H_x$$

Assume that the field varies as  $E_y(x, y, z) = E_{y0}(x, y)e^{-jkz}$ 

Hence, 
$$-(-jk)E_y = -j\omega\mu H_x$$
  
Therefore, we have  $\frac{E_y}{H_x} = -\frac{\omega\mu}{k} = -\frac{\omega\mu}{\omega\sqrt{\mu\varepsilon}} = -\sqrt{\frac{\mu}{\varepsilon}} = -\eta$ 

Appendix B (cont.)

$$\nabla \times \underline{E} = -j\omega\mu\underline{H}$$

Now take the *y* component of both sides:

$$-\frac{\partial E_z}{\partial x} + \frac{\partial E_x}{\partial z} = -j\omega\mu H_y$$

Hence, 
$$(-jk)E_x = -j\omega\mu H_y$$

Therefore, we have

$$\frac{E_x}{H_y} = \frac{\omega\mu}{k} = \frac{\omega\mu}{\omega\sqrt{\mu\varepsilon}} = \sqrt{\frac{\mu}{\varepsilon}} = \eta$$

Hence, 
$$\frac{E_x}{H_y} = \eta$$

**Appendix B (cont.)** 

Summary: 
$$\frac{E_y}{H_x} = -\eta$$
  $\frac{E_x}{H_y} = \eta$ 

These two equations may be written as a single vector equation:

$$\underline{E} = -\eta \left( \underline{\hat{z}} \times \underline{H} \right)$$

The electric and magnetic fields of a TEM<sub>z</sub> wave are perpendicular to each other, and the amplitudes of them are related by  $\eta$ .