## ECE 451 Advanced Microwave Measurements

# **Circular and Coaxial Waveguides**

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#### **Circular Waveguide - Fields** For a waveguide with arbitrary cross section, it is known that

**TE Modes** 
$$\frac{\partial^2 H_z}{\partial x^2} + \frac{\partial^2 H_z}{\partial y^2} = \left[\beta_z^2 - \omega^2 \mu \varepsilon\right] H_z \quad (1)$$
**TM Modes** 
$$\frac{\partial^2 E_z}{\partial x^2} + \frac{\partial^2 E_z}{\partial y^2} = \left[\beta_z^2 - \omega^2 \mu \varepsilon\right] E_z \quad (2)$$

We first assume TM modes in cylindrical coordinates:

$$\frac{\partial^{2} E_{z}}{\partial r^{2}} + \frac{1}{r} \frac{\partial E_{z}}{\partial r} + \frac{1}{r^{2}} \frac{\partial^{2} E_{z}}{\partial \phi^{2}} + (\gamma^{2} + \omega^{2} \mu \varepsilon) E_{z} = 0$$

$$\underbrace{\nabla_{tr}^{2} E_{z}}^{\nabla_{tr}^{2} E_{z}} \qquad \gamma = \pm j \beta_{z}$$

See Reference [6].



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Solution will be in the form

 $E_{z}(r,\phi) = f(r)g(\phi)$ 

Which after substitution gives

$$\frac{r}{f}\frac{d}{dr}\left(r\frac{df}{dr}\right) + h^2r^2 = -\frac{1}{g}\frac{d^2g}{d\phi^2}$$
(3)

where  $h^2 = \gamma^2 + \omega^2 \mu \varepsilon$ 

For equality in (3) to hold, both sides must be equal to the same constant say  $n^2$  where *n* is an integer in view of the azimuthal symmetry since the fields must be periodic in  $\phi$ .



$$\frac{d^{2}g}{d\phi^{2}} + n^{2}g = 0 \quad (4)$$

$$\frac{d^{2}f}{dr^{2}} + \frac{1}{r}\frac{df}{dr}\left(h^{2} - \frac{n^{2}}{r^{2}}\right)f = 0 \quad (5)$$

Solution of (4) is of the form

$$g(\phi) = C_1 \cos(n\phi) + C_2 \sin(n\phi) \quad (6)$$

(5) is Bessel's equation and has solution

$$f(r) = C_3 J_n(hr) + C_4 Y_n(hr)$$
(7)

 $J_n$  and  $Y_n$  are the  $n^{th}$  order Bessel functions of the first and second kinds respectively



#### **Bessel Functions of the First Kind**





 $Y_n$  has singularity at 0 and must consequently be discarded  $\Rightarrow C_4 = 0$ . The general solution then becomes

$$E_{z}(r,\phi) = C_{3}J_{n}(hr)\left[C_{1}\cos(n\phi) + C_{2}\sin(n\phi)\right]$$

Since the origin for  $\phi$  is arbitrary, the expression can be written as:

$$E_{z}(r,\phi) = C_{n}J_{n}(hr)\cos(n\phi)$$

where  $C_n$  is a constant. The boundary condition  $E_{tan} = 0$  requires that

$$E_z(r,\phi) = 0$$
 for  $r = a$ 

Solution exists for only discrete values of *h* such that

$$J_n(ha)=0$$



*ha* must be a root of the  $n^{th}$  order Bessel function. If we assume that  $t_{nl}$  is the  $l^{th}$  root of  $J_{n}$ , we can define a set of eigenvalues  $h_{nl}$  for the TM modes so that:

$$h_{TM_{nl}} = \frac{t_{nl}}{a}$$

 $l^{th}$  root of  $J_n(.)=0$ 

n	<b>1</b> ↓		0	1	2
		1	2.405	3.832	5.136
		2	5.520	7.016	8.417
		3	8.654	13.323	11.620

Each choice of *n* and *l* specifies a particular solution or *mode* 

# *n* is related to the number of circumferential variations and *l* describes the number of radial variations of the field.



The propagation constant of the *nl*<sup>th</sup> propagating TM mode is:

$$\beta_{TM_{nl}} = \left[\omega^2 \mu \varepsilon - \left(\frac{t_{nl}}{a}\right)^2\right]^{1/2}$$

The propagation occurs for  $\lambda < \lambda_{cTMnl}$  or  $f > f_{cTMnl}$  where the cutoff frequency and wavelength can be found from  $\gamma = 0$  as:

$$\lambda_{cTMnl} = \frac{2\pi a}{t_{nl}} \qquad \qquad f_{cTMnl} = \frac{t_{nl}}{2\pi a \sqrt{\mu \varepsilon}}$$

The other field components can be obtained from  $E_z$ 

$$E_{z} = C_{n} J_{n} \left(\frac{t_{nl}}{a} r\right) \cos(n\phi) e^{-j\beta_{nl}z}$$



The solutions for the TE modes can be found in a similar manner except that we solve for  $H_z(r, \phi)$  to get:

$$H_{z}(r,\phi) = C_{n}J_{n}(hr)\cos(n\phi)$$

To apply the boundary condition  $E_{tan} = 0$ , we require

$$\frac{\partial H_z}{\partial r}$$
 to be 0 at  $r = a$ 

We must have 
$$\hat{n} \cdot \nabla_{tr} H_z = \frac{\partial H_z}{\partial r} = 0$$
 at  $r = a$ 

For this, we need the zeros of  $J_n'(u)$  given by  $s_{nl}$ . The propagation constant, cutoff frequency and wavelength have the same expressions as in the TM case with  $t_{nl} \rightarrow s_{nl}$ .



The propagation constant of the *nl*<sup>th</sup> propagating TE mode is:

$$\beta_{TE_{nl}} = \left[\omega^2 \mu \varepsilon - \left(\frac{s_{nl}}{a}\right)^2\right]^{1/2}$$

#### $l^{th}$ root of $J_n'(.)=0$

n			0	1	2
		1	3.832	1.841	3.054
		2	7.016	5.331	6.706
		3	10.173	8.536	9.969

From the tables, it can be seen that the lowest cutoff frequency is the  $TE_{11}$  mode.

and for TE modes,

$$H_{z} = C_{n}J_{n}\left(\frac{s_{nl}}{a}r\right)\cos\left(n\phi\right)e^{-j\beta_{nl}z}$$







#### **TE**<sub>11</sub> **Mode in Circular Waveguide**









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#### **Example: Circular Waveguide Design**

Design an air-filled circular waveguide such that only the dominant mode will propagate over a bandwidth of 10 GHz.

Solution: the cutoff frequency of the  $TE_{11}$  mode is the lower bound of the bandwidth.

$$f_{cTE_{11}} = \frac{1.8412c}{2\pi a}$$

The next mode is the TM<sub>01</sub> with cutoff frequency:

$$f_{cTM_{01}} = \frac{2.4049c}{2\pi a}$$



#### **Example: Circular Waveguide Design**

The BW is the difference between these two frequencies

$$BW = f_{cTM_{01}} - f_{cTE_{11}} = \frac{c}{2\pi a} (2.4049 - 1.8412) = 10GHz$$

From which we find *a* = 0.269 cm

So that

$$f_{cTE_{11}} = 32.7 \text{ GHz and } f_{cTM_{11}} = 42.76 \text{ GHz}$$



#### **Coaxial Waveguide**



- Most common two-conductor transmission system
- Dielectric filling in most microwave applications is polyethylene or Teflon



#### **Coaxial Waveguide – TEM Mode**



- Tangential E-field and normal H field must be 0 in conductor surfaces

$$E_{\phi} = 0$$
 and  $H_r = 0$  at  $r = a, b$ 



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#### **Coaxial Waveguide – TEM Mode**

TEM solution can exist only with

$$E = \hat{r}E_r(r,z)$$
 and  $H = \hat{\phi}H_{\phi}(r,z)$ 

with no *\u03c6* dependence because of azimuthal symmetry

we get

$$-\frac{\partial H_{\phi}}{\partial z} = j\omega E_r \to j\beta H_{\phi}^o(r) = j\omega \varepsilon E_r^o(r)$$
$$-\frac{1}{r}H_{\phi} + \frac{\partial H_{\phi}}{\partial r} = 0 \to -\frac{1}{r}H_{\phi}^o(r) + \frac{\partial H_{\phi}^o}{\partial r} = 0$$

#### Where propagation in *z* direction is assumed.



#### **Coaxial Waveguide – TEM Mode**

We get

$$\mathbf{H} = \hat{\phi} \frac{H_o}{r} e^{-j\beta z} \qquad \qquad \mathbf{E} = \hat{r} \frac{H_o \eta}{r} e^{-j\beta z}$$

where  $H_o$  is a constant. No cutoff condition for TEM mode. The voltage between the two conductors is given by  $V(z) = -\eta H_o \ln(b/a) e^{-j\beta z}$ 

The current in the inner conductor is given by

$$I(z) = 2\pi H_o e^{-j\beta z}$$

The characteristic impedance  $Z_o$  is thus given by

$$Z_o = \eta \frac{\ln(b/a)}{2\pi}$$



TE and TM modes may also exist in addition to TEM. In a coaxial line, they are generally undesirable.

For TM modes, we have:

$$E_{z}^{o}(r,\phi) = \left[C_{3}J_{n}(hr) + C_{4}Y_{n}(hr)\right]\cos(n\phi)$$

For TE modes, we have:

$$H_{z}^{o}(r,\phi) = \left[C_{3}^{'}J_{n}(hr) + C_{4}^{'}Y_{n}(hr)\right]\cos(n\phi)$$

With boundary conditions at *r* =*a*, *b* of

$$E_{z}(r,\phi) = 0 \quad \text{for TM modes}$$
$$\frac{\partial H_{z}}{\partial r} = 0 \quad \text{for TE modes}$$



These conditions lead to

 $J_n(ha)Y_n(hb) = J_n(hb)Y_n(ha)$  for TM modes

 $J'_{n}(ha)Y'_{n}(hb) = J'_{n}(hb)Y'_{n}(ha)$  for TE modes

Solutions of these transcendental equations determine the eigenvalues of h for given a, b. As in the circular waveguide case, the modes for coaxial waveguide are denoted TE<sub>nl</sub> and TM<sub>nl</sub>.



The mode with the lowest cutoff frequency is the  $TE_{11}$  mode for which the eigenvalue *h* is approximated as:

$$h = \frac{2}{a+b}$$

The cutoff frequency and cutoff wavelength are given by

$$\lambda_{c11} = \frac{2\pi}{h} \simeq \pi (a+b) \text{ and } f_{c11} \simeq \frac{1}{\pi (a+b)\sqrt{\mu\varepsilon}}$$







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#### References

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