

# EE-446 Antennas

Prof. Romain Fleury – EPFL Laboratory of Wave Engineering

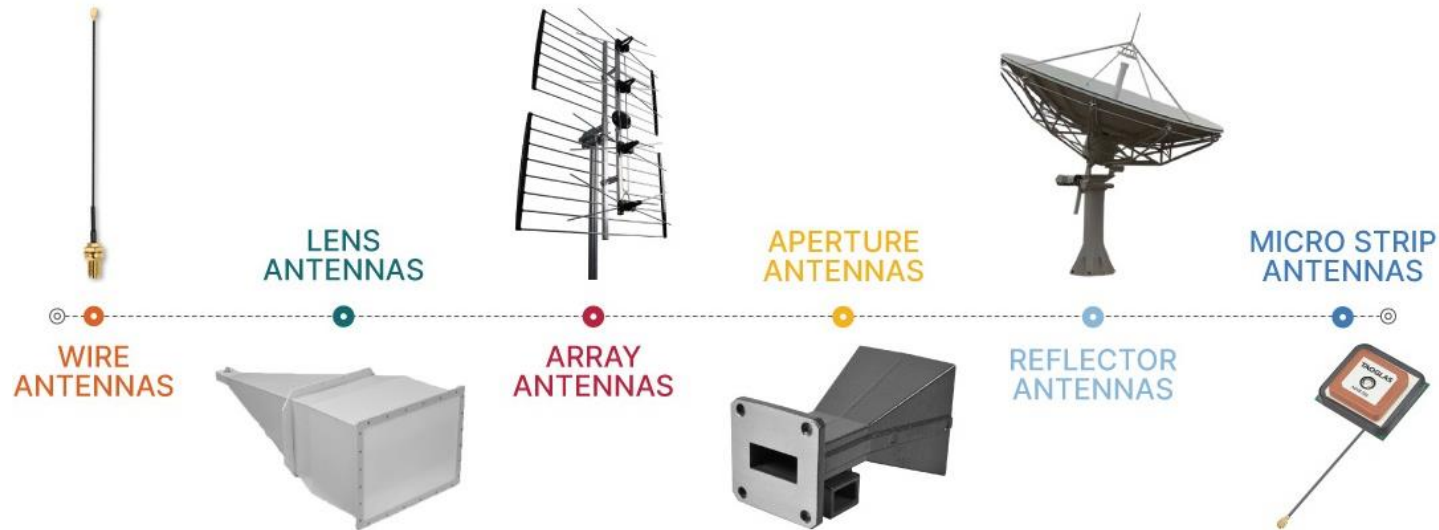
Prof. Anja Skrivervik – EPFL Microwave and Antenna group

Dr Amir Jafargholi – EPFL Laboratory of Wave Engineering

# Practical information

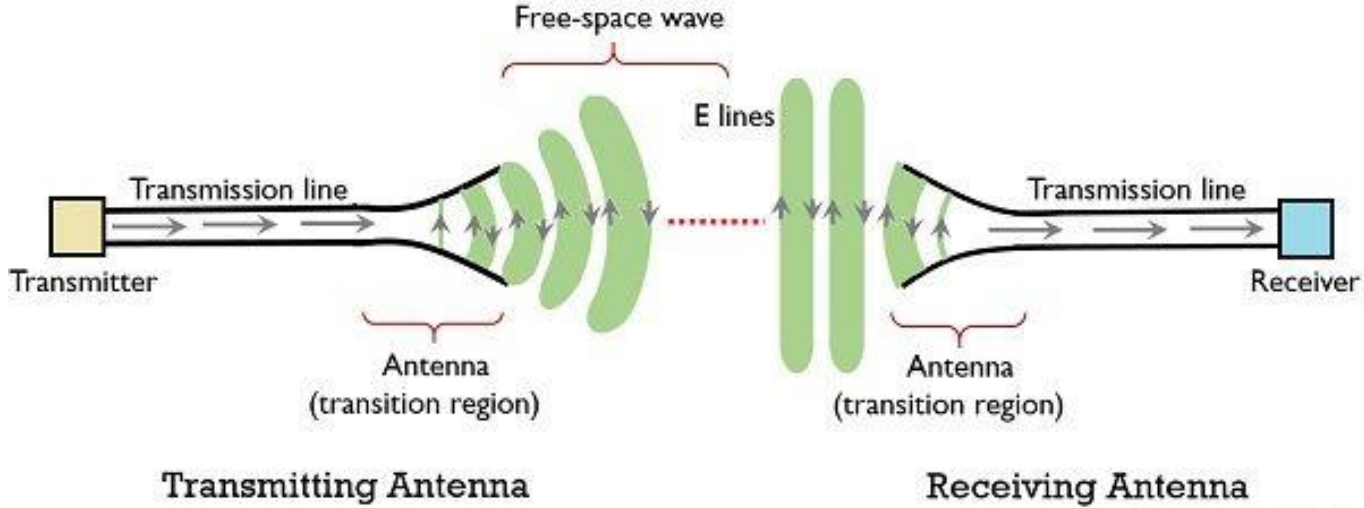
- Useful information and documents on the Moodle site of the course
- Our emails: [romain.fleury@epfl.ch](mailto:romain.fleury@epfl.ch), [amir.jafargholi@epfl.ch](mailto:amir.jafargholi@epfl.ch), [anja.skrivervik@epfl.ch](mailto:anja.skrivervik@epfl.ch)
- Assistants: [karim.kouny@epfl.ch](mailto:karim.kouny@epfl.ch), [adrian.fernandezcarnicero@epfl.ch](mailto:adrian.fernandezcarnicero@epfl.ch)
- Evaluation:
  - Midterm on the theoretical part: November 12th, 13:15- 16:00
  - Project presentations: December 17th, 13:15-17:15
- Electromagnetic simulations will be used for exercises and for the project. It is important to install the simulator on your computer asap. The tutorial on Moodle helps you doing so. If you have difficulties installing the software, please contact the IT manager of the Microwave and Antenna Group, Jiajun Li [jiajun.li@epfl.ch](mailto:jiajun.li@epfl.ch)

# What this course is about



An antenna (American English) or aerial (British English) is **an electronic device that converts an alternating electric current into radio waves.** *source Wikipedia (en), article "Antenna (radio)"*

# Antennas as transducers



**Circuit theory**  
*Voltage and current*

**Transmission-line theory**  
*Voltage and current waves*

**Antenna**  
*From circuit to free-space*

**Electromagnetic theory (Maxwell)**  
*Electric and Magnetic fields*

# Example of Antenna science: emitting antennas from the circuit side/excitation problem

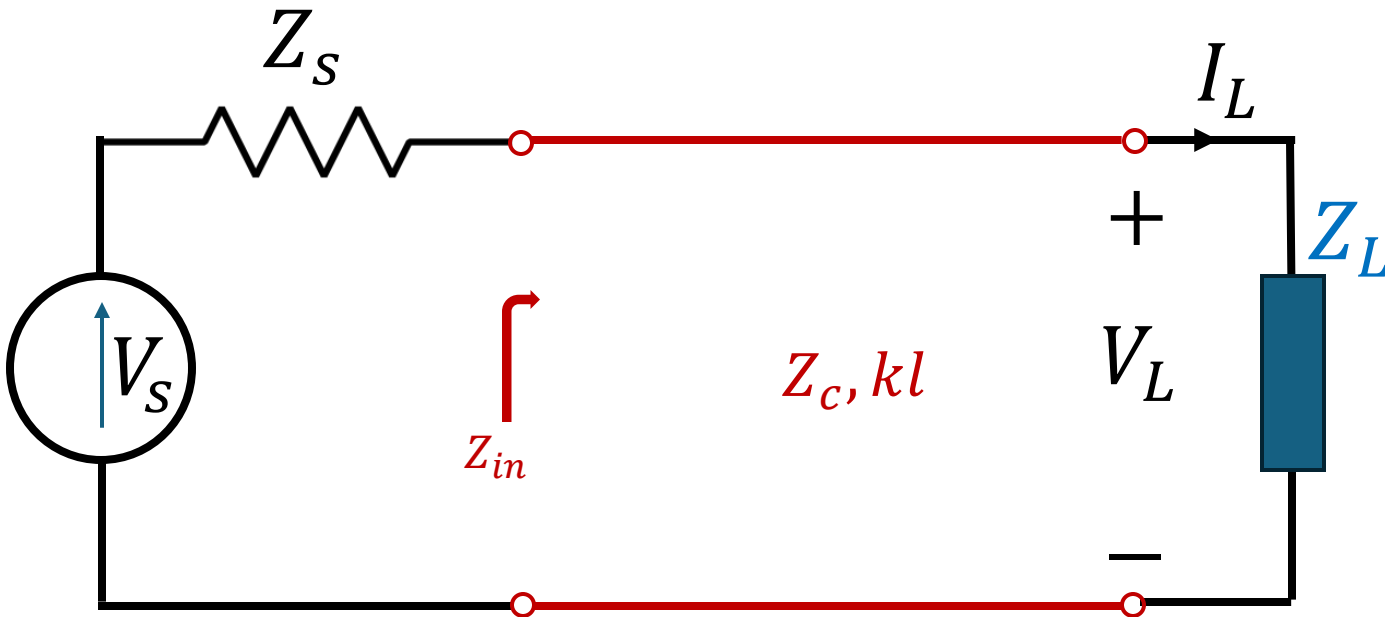
**Circuit theory**  
Voltage and current

**Transmission-line theory**  
Voltage and current waves

**Antenna**  
From circuit to free-space

**Electromagnetic theory (Maxwell)**  
Electric and Magnetic fields

describe all this with an impedance  $Z_L(\omega)$   
requires measurement or solving Maxwell's equations



then use transmission line theory (cf. EE-200) to calculate  $V_L$  and  $I_L$ :

$$I_L = V_L / Z_L$$

$$V_L = V^+ (1 + \Gamma_L)$$

$$\Gamma_L = (Z_L - Z_c) / (Z_L + Z_c)$$

$$V^+ = \frac{Z_{in} V_S}{(Z_{in} + Z_S) e^{jkl} (1 + \Gamma_L e^{-2jkl})}$$

$$Z_{in} = Z_c \frac{Z_L + jZ_c \tan kl}{Z_c + jZ_L \tan kl}$$

impedance matching:  $Z_L = Z_c$   
reduce reflection

conjugate matching:  $Z_{in} = Z_S^*$   
more power out of source

# Example of antenna science: Antennas from the free-space side/the radiation problem

## Circuit theory

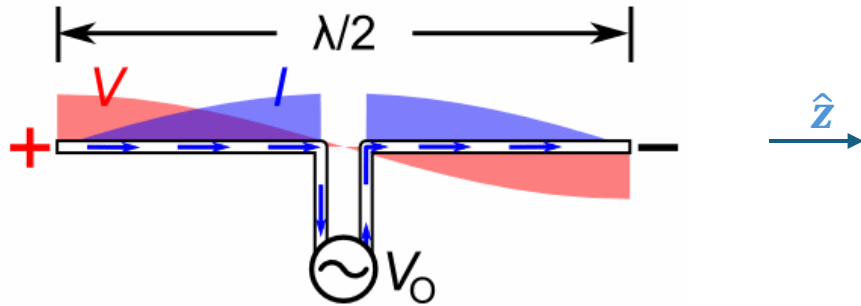
Voltage and current

## Transmission-line theory

Voltage and current waves

Assume you know the strength of the radiating current  $I_L$  and its distribution (guessed or simulated)

$$J(\mathbf{r}') = \hat{\mathbf{z}} I_L \cos\left(\frac{2\pi x}{\lambda}\right) \delta(y)\delta(z) \text{ when } |x| < \lambda/4$$



half wave antenna

## Antenna

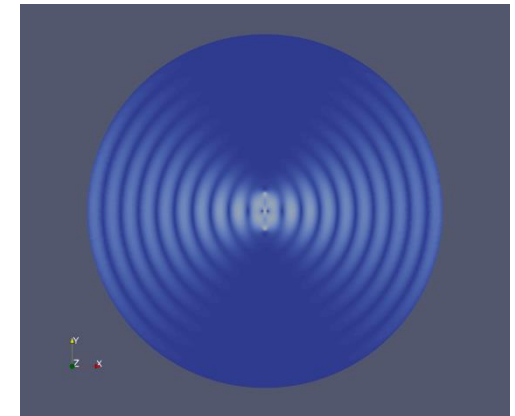
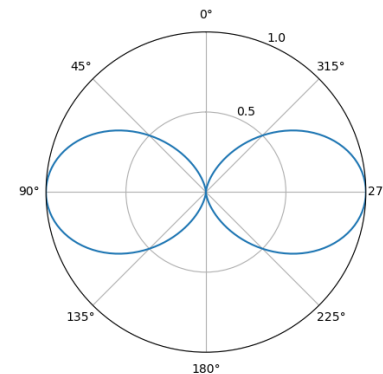
From circuit to free-space

## Electromagnetic theory (Maxwell)

Electric and Magnetic fields

then use far-field integrals to calculate the electromagnetic field in all directions (we'll learn this!)

$$E_\theta = Z_0 I_L \frac{\cos\left(\frac{\pi}{2} \cos \theta\right)}{\sin \theta} \sin\left(\frac{\pi}{2} - kr\right)$$



# Course outline

## **Part I : Learn the basics (weeks 1-7)**

1. Reminder of Electromagnetic theory (2 hours): Maxwell equations and important results
2. Antenna definitions: gain, directivity, Friis formula, efficiency (2 hours)
3. System aspect of Antennas: link budget, SNR, gain (2 hours)
4. Antenna families: patch, apertures, horn, slot and arrays (8 hours)

*Exam*

## **Part II : Apply your knowledge (weeks 8-14)**

1. Work in groups
2. Design an antenna
3. Build it
4. Test it

*Presentations and brief report*

# Reminders on Electromagnetic theory

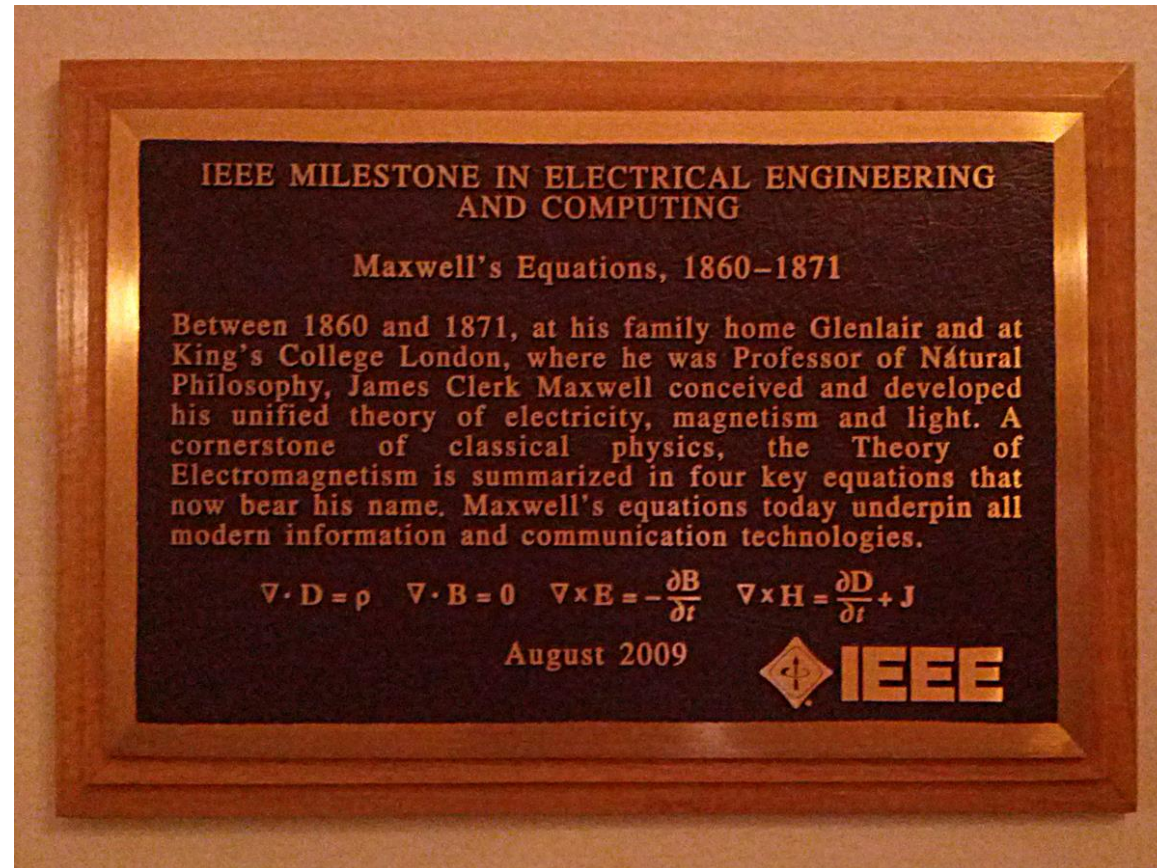


It requires a much higher degree of imagination to understand the electromagnetic field than to understand invisible angels.... I speak of the E and B fields and wave my arms and you may imagine that I can see them... [but] I cannot really make a picture that is even nearly like the true waves.

— *Richard P. Feynman* —

**AZ QUOTES**

# 1) Reminders on Maxwell's equations



# Postulates of Electromagnetic theory

## Classical mechanics

$$m\mathbf{a} = \sum \mathbf{F}_{ext}$$

## Lorentz force

$$\mathbf{F} = q(\mathbf{E} + \mathbf{v} \times \mathbf{B}) \quad \text{force on a particle with charge } q \text{ [C] and velocity } \mathbf{v} \text{ [m/s]}$$

$\mathbf{E}$  : electric field [V/m]

$\mathbf{B}$  : magnetic flux density [T or Wb/m]

## Maxwell's equations (in vacuum)

$$\nabla \cdot \mathbf{D} = \rho$$

$$\nabla \cdot \mathbf{B} = 0$$

$$\nabla \times \mathbf{E} = -\frac{\partial \mathbf{B}}{\partial t}$$

$$\nabla \times \mathbf{H} = \mathbf{J} + \frac{\partial \mathbf{D}}{\partial t}$$

$\mathbf{D} = \epsilon_0 \mathbf{E}$ : Electric flux density [C/m]

$\rho = \sum_i \rho_i \delta(\mathbf{r} - \mathbf{r}_i)$ : electric charge density [C/m<sup>3</sup>]

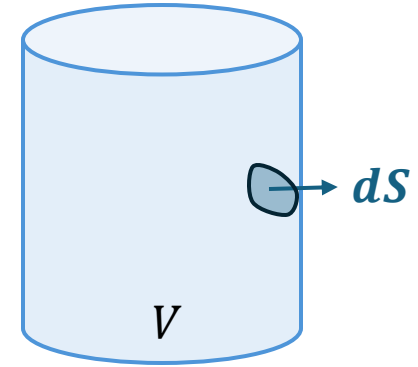
$\frac{\mathbf{B}}{\mu_0} = \mathbf{H}$ : Magnetic field [A/m]

$\mathbf{J} = \sum_i \rho_i \mathbf{v}_i \delta(\mathbf{r} - \mathbf{r}_i)$ : electric current density [A/m<sup>2</sup>]

# Two useful mathematical theorems

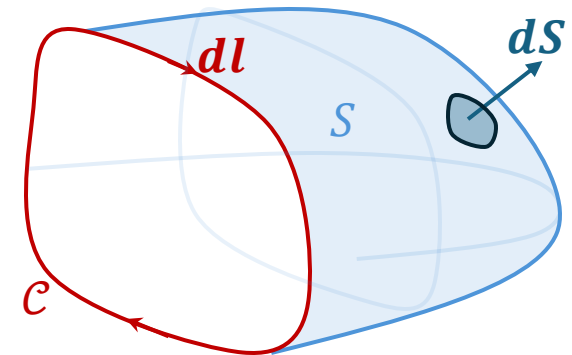
divergence theorem:

$$\iiint_V \nabla \cdot \mathbf{u} \, dV = \iint_S \mathbf{u} \cdot d\mathbf{S}$$



Stokes theorem:

$$\begin{aligned} & \int_C \mathbf{u} \cdot d\mathbf{l} \\ &= \iint_S (\nabla \times \mathbf{u}) \cdot d\mathbf{S} \end{aligned}$$



# Integral Maxwell equations

Differential (local) form:

$$\nabla \cdot \mathbf{D} = \rho$$

$$\nabla \cdot \mathbf{B} = 0$$

$$\nabla \times \mathbf{E} = -\frac{\partial \mathbf{B}}{\partial t}$$

$$\nabla \times \mathbf{H} = \mathbf{J} + \frac{\partial \mathbf{D}}{\partial t}$$

Integral form, on closed  $S$  or  $\mathcal{C}$ :

$$\iint_S \mathbf{D} \cdot d\mathbf{S} = Q_{int}$$

$$\iint_S \mathbf{B} \cdot d\mathbf{S} = 0$$

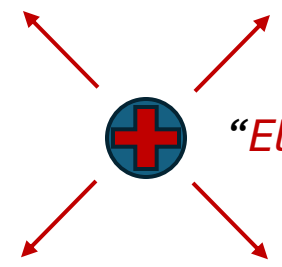
$$\int_{\mathcal{C}} \mathbf{E} \cdot d\mathbf{l} = -\frac{\partial}{\partial t} \iint_S \mathbf{B} \cdot d\mathbf{S}$$

$$\int_{\mathcal{C}} \mathbf{H} \cdot d\mathbf{l} = I + \frac{\partial}{\partial t} \iint_S \mathbf{D} \cdot d\mathbf{S}$$

# Interpretation

$$\nabla \cdot \mathbf{D} = \rho$$

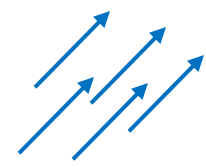
Maxwell-Gauss



“*Electric field* diverges only around charges”

$$\nabla \cdot \mathbf{B} = 0$$

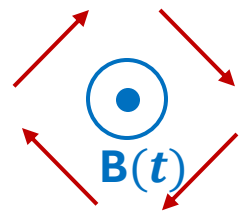
Magnetic flux law



“*Magnetic field* never diverges”

$$\nabla \times \mathbf{E} = -\frac{\partial \mathbf{B}}{\partial t}$$

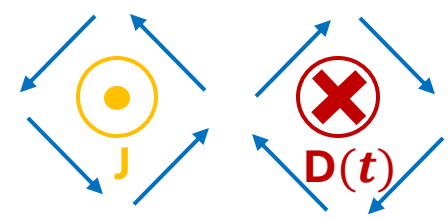
Maxwell-Faraday



“*Electric field* circulates around a *time-varying magnetic field*”

$$\nabla \times \mathbf{H} = \mathbf{J} + \frac{\partial \mathbf{D}}{\partial t}$$

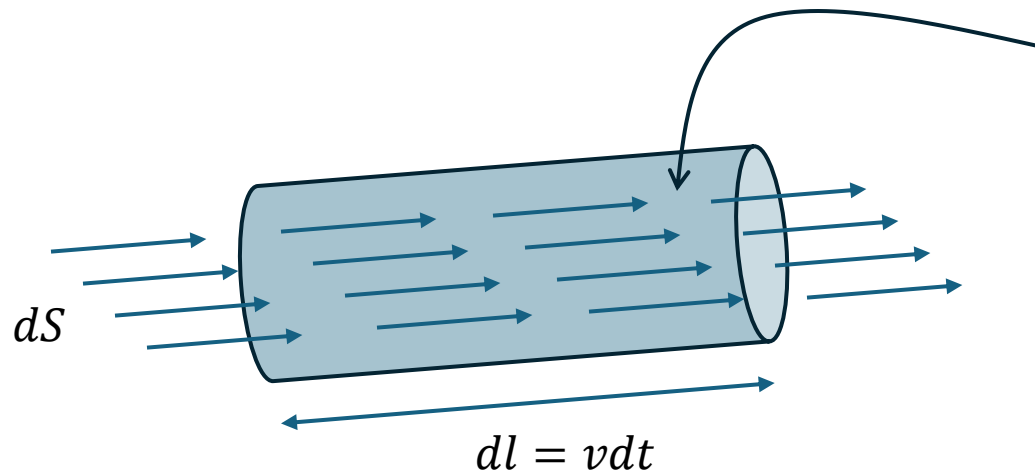
Maxwell-Ampère



“*Magnetic field* circulates around a *moving charges* or a *time-varying electric field*”

# The surface current density

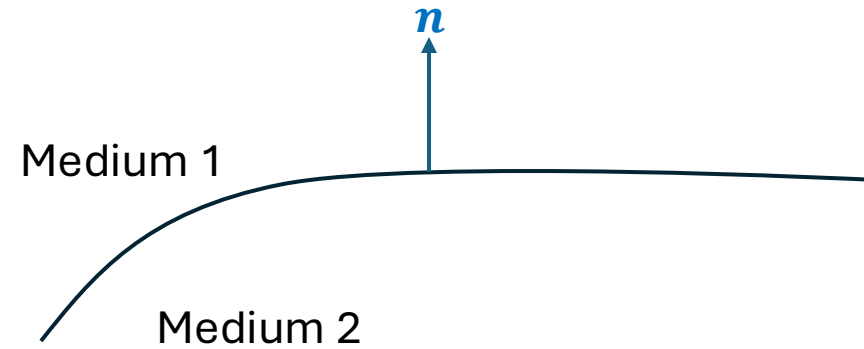
$$\mathbf{J} = \sum_i \rho_i \mathbf{v}_i \delta(\mathbf{r} - \mathbf{r}_i): \text{ electric current density [A/m}^2\text{]}$$



$$\begin{aligned} I_{tot,dS} &= \frac{\text{number of charges through } dS \text{ in } dt}{dt} \\ &= \frac{\rho \times dS \times dl}{dt} \\ &= \frac{\rho \times dS \times v dt}{dt} \\ &= J dS \end{aligned}$$

Generalization:  $\iint_S \mathbf{J} \cdot d\mathbf{S} = I_{tot,S}$

# Boundary conditions



$$\mathbf{n} \cdot (\mathbf{D}_1 - \mathbf{D}_2) = \rho_S$$

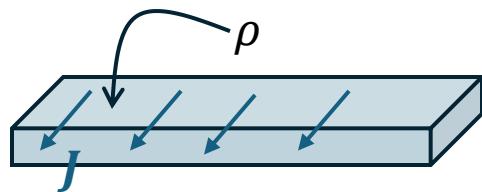
$$\mathbf{n} \cdot (\mathbf{B}_1 - \mathbf{B}_2) = 0$$

$$\mathbf{n} \times (\mathbf{E}_1 - \mathbf{E}_2) = \mathbf{0}$$

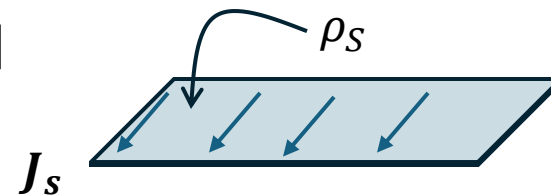
$$\mathbf{n} \times (\mathbf{H}_1 - \mathbf{H}_2) = \mathbf{J}_S$$

$$\rho_S = \lim \rho \Delta z [\Delta z \rightarrow 0]$$

$$\mathbf{J}_S = \lim \mathbf{J} \Delta z [\Delta z \rightarrow 0]$$



$$[\Delta z \rightarrow 0]$$
$$\Rightarrow$$



# Complex Maxwell equations

Only for time-harmonic solutions oscillating at the pulsation  $\omega$ ,  $\mathbf{E}(\mathbf{t}) = \text{Re}[\mathbf{E}(\omega)e^{j\omega t}]$

The complex vector  $\mathbf{E}(\omega)$  is called a phasor (it's a Fourier transform)

$$\begin{aligned} \text{ex: } \mathbf{E}(\mathbf{t}) &= 2 \cos(\omega t + 3z) \mathbf{x} \\ \mathbf{E}(\omega) &= 2e^{j3z} \mathbf{x} \end{aligned}$$

When transposing the equations from real fields to phasors, temporal derivatives become products by  $j\omega$ :

$$\nabla \cdot \mathbf{D}(\omega) = \rho(\omega)$$

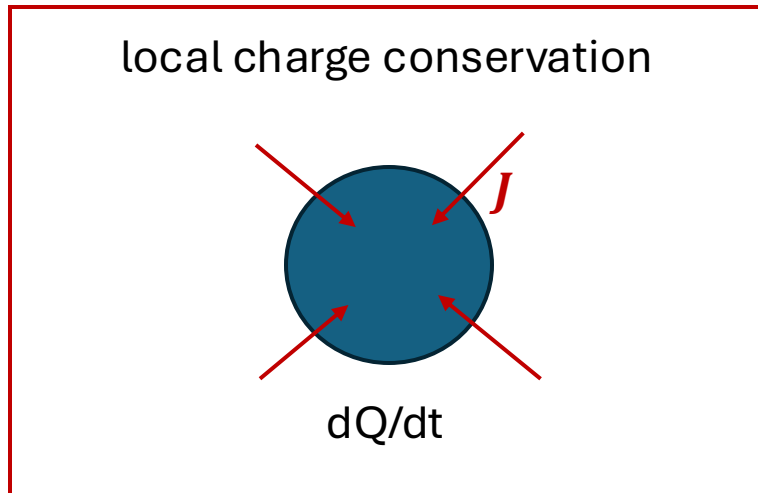
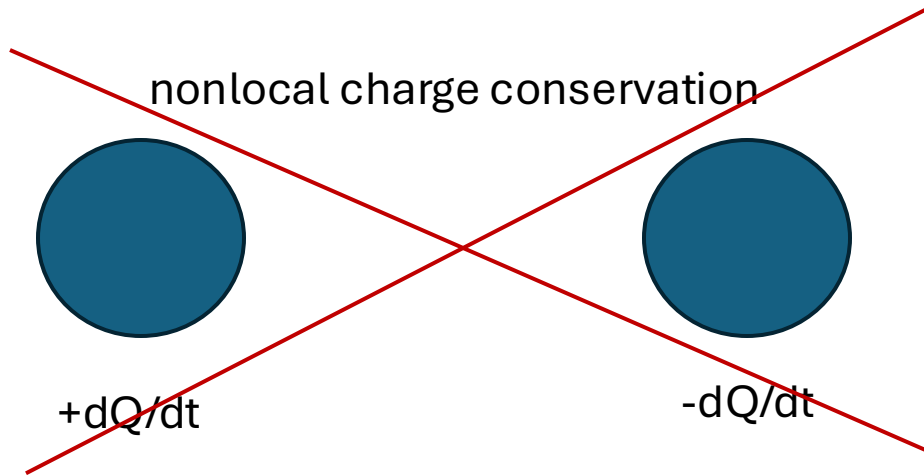
$$\nabla \cdot \mathbf{B}(\omega) = 0$$

$$\nabla \times \mathbf{E}(\omega) = -j\omega \mathbf{B}(\omega)$$

$$\nabla \times \mathbf{H}(\omega) = \mathbf{J}(\omega) + j\omega \mathbf{D}(\omega)$$

we will omit to explicit the  $(\omega)$  dependency of phasors unless needed for clarity

# Local charge conservation



$$\nabla \cdot \mathbf{D} = \rho$$
$$\nabla \cdot (\nabla \times \mathbf{H} = \mathbf{J} + \frac{\partial \mathbf{D}}{\partial t})$$

$$\nabla \cdot \mathbf{J} = -\frac{\partial \rho}{\partial t}$$

Integral version via divergence theorem:

$$\nabla \cdot \mathbf{J} = -\frac{\partial \rho}{\partial t} \Rightarrow \iiint_V \nabla \cdot \mathbf{J} dV = -\frac{\partial}{\partial t} \iiint_V \rho dV$$
$$\Rightarrow \iint_S \mathbf{J} \cdot d\mathbf{S} = -\frac{\partial}{\partial t} Q_{tot}$$

# The sources of the field

$$\rho = \sum_i \rho_i \delta(\mathbf{r} - \mathbf{r}_i): \text{electric charge density [C/m}^3\text{]}$$

$$\mathbf{J} = \sum_i \rho_i \mathbf{v}_i \delta(\mathbf{r} - \mathbf{r}_i): \text{electric current density [A/m}^2\text{]}$$

$$\nabla \cdot \mathbf{J} = -\frac{\partial \rho}{\partial t} \quad \Rightarrow \quad \nabla \cdot \mathbf{J} = -j\omega\rho \quad \Rightarrow \quad \rho = \frac{j}{\omega} \nabla \cdot \mathbf{J}$$

$\rho$  and  $\mathbf{J}$  are linked: we can keep only  $\mathbf{J}$  and « forget » about  $\nabla \cdot \mathbf{D} = \rho$

$$\nabla \times \mathbf{E}(\omega) = -j\omega\mathbf{B}(\omega)$$

$$\nabla \times \mathbf{H}(\omega) = \mathbf{J}(\omega) + j\omega\mathbf{D}(\omega)$$

The two curl equations contain the important information about the dynamics. The divergence equations contain information about charge densities only.

# Magnetic charges and currents

Generalized Maxwell's equations:

$$\nabla \cdot \mathbf{D} = \rho = \rho_e$$

$$\nabla \cdot \mathbf{B} = 0 = \rho_m$$

$$\nabla \times \mathbf{E} = -j\omega\mathbf{B} = -\mathbf{M} - j\omega\mathbf{B}$$

$$\nabla \times \mathbf{H} = \mathbf{J} + j\omega\mathbf{D}$$

$$\nabla \cdot \mathbf{J} = -j\omega\rho_e$$

$$\nabla \cdot \mathbf{M} = -j\omega\rho_m$$

Duality= form of symmetry between electricity/magnetism

= invariance of Maxwell's equations on the transformation:

Electric quantity  $(\mathbf{D}, \mathbf{E}, \rho_e, \mathbf{J}) \rightarrow$  Magnetic quantity  $(\mathbf{B}, \mathbf{H}, \rho_m, \mathbf{M})$

Magnetic quantity  $(\mathbf{B}, \mathbf{H}, \rho_m, \mathbf{M}) \rightarrow -$  Electric quantity  $(-\mathbf{D}, -\mathbf{E}, -\rho_e, -\mathbf{J})$

« Once a solution of Maxwell's equation is found, another one is found but in the dual world»

NB: The dual world has different (dual) sources, fields and materials. It represents a different electromagnetic situation.

# From vacuum to materials

Vacuum

$$\mathbf{D} = \varepsilon_0 \mathbf{E}, \varepsilon_0 = 8.85 \cdot 10^{-12} [F/m]$$

$$\mathbf{B} = \mu_0 \mathbf{H}, \mu_0 = 4\pi \cdot 10^{-7} [H/m]$$

$$\rho = \rho_{ext} = \rho_{source}$$

$$\mathbf{J} = \mathbf{J}_{ext} = \mathbf{J}_{source}$$

Non-dispersive dielectrics

$$\mathbf{D} = \varepsilon \mathbf{E}$$

$$\mathbf{B} = \mu \mathbf{H}$$

$$\rho = \rho_{ext} = \rho_{source}$$

$$\mathbf{J} = \mathbf{J}_{ext} = \mathbf{J}_{source}$$

Metals

$$\mathbf{D} = \varepsilon_0 \mathbf{E}$$

$$\mathbf{B} = \mu_0 \mathbf{H}$$

$$\mathbf{J}_{ind} = \sigma \mathbf{E}$$

$$\rho = \rho_{source}$$

$$\mathbf{J} = \mathbf{J}_{source} + \mathbf{J}_{ind}$$

Dispersive dielectrics

$$\mathbf{D}(\omega) = \varepsilon(\omega) \mathbf{E}(\omega)$$

$$\mathbf{B}(\omega) = \mu(\omega) \mathbf{H}(\omega)$$

$$\rho(\omega) = \rho_{ext} = \rho_{source}$$

$$\mathbf{J}(\omega) = \mathbf{J}_{ext} = \mathbf{J}_{source}$$

# Alternative description of metals

Metals

$$\mathbf{D} = \varepsilon_0 \mathbf{E}$$

$$\mathbf{B} = \mu_0 \mathbf{H}$$

$$\mathbf{J}_{ind} = \sigma \mathbf{E}$$

$$\rho = \rho_{source}$$

$$\mathbf{J} = \mathbf{J}_{source} + \mathbf{J}_{ind}$$

description 1:  
conductivity model

$$\nabla \times \mathbf{H} = \mathbf{J} + j\omega\varepsilon_0 \mathbf{E}$$

$$= \mathbf{J}_{source} + \mathbf{J}_{ind} + j\omega\varepsilon_0 \mathbf{E}$$

$$= \mathbf{J}_{source} + \sigma \mathbf{E} + j\omega\varepsilon_0 \mathbf{E}$$

$$= \mathbf{J}_{source} + j\omega\left(\varepsilon_0 - j\frac{\sigma}{\omega\varepsilon_0}\right) \mathbf{E}$$

$$= \mathbf{J}_{source} + j\omega\varepsilon_{eff}(\omega) \mathbf{E}$$

Metals

$$\mathbf{D} = \varepsilon_{eff}(\omega) \mathbf{E}$$

$$\mathbf{B} = \mu_0 \mathbf{H}$$

$$\varepsilon_{eff}(\omega) = \varepsilon_0 - j\frac{\sigma}{\omega\varepsilon_0}$$

$$\rho = \rho_{source}$$

$$\mathbf{J} = \mathbf{J}_{source}$$

description 2:  
dispersive lossy  
dielectric model

Both descriptions are equivalent and used.

In the second description as dielectric and metals are described by the same Maxwell equations and we can transpose results from dielectrics to metals by assuming complex permittivity.

In the second description more complex permittivity dispersions are allowed (Drude-Lorentz, etc)

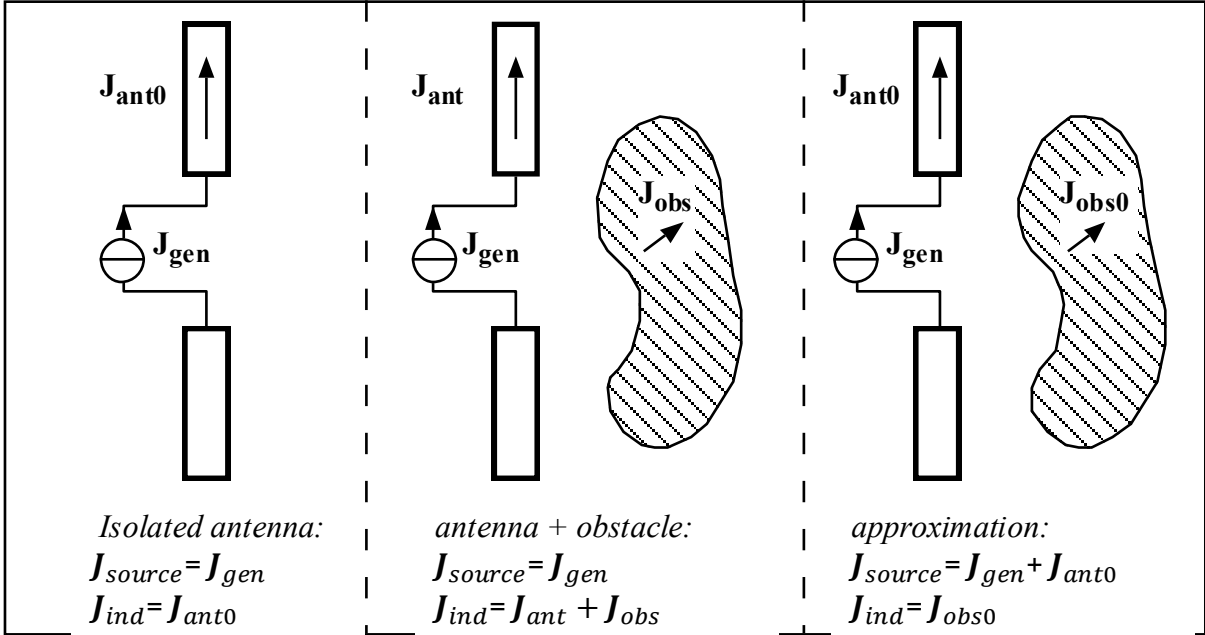
# Application: Complex Maxwell equations for antennas

$$\nabla \cdot \mathbf{D} = \rho_{source}$$

$$\nabla \cdot \mathbf{B} = 0$$

$$\nabla \times \mathbf{E} = -j\omega\mu_0\mathbf{H}$$

$$\nabla \times \mathbf{H} = \mathbf{J}_{source} + j\omega\epsilon(\mathbf{r}, \omega)\mathbf{E}$$

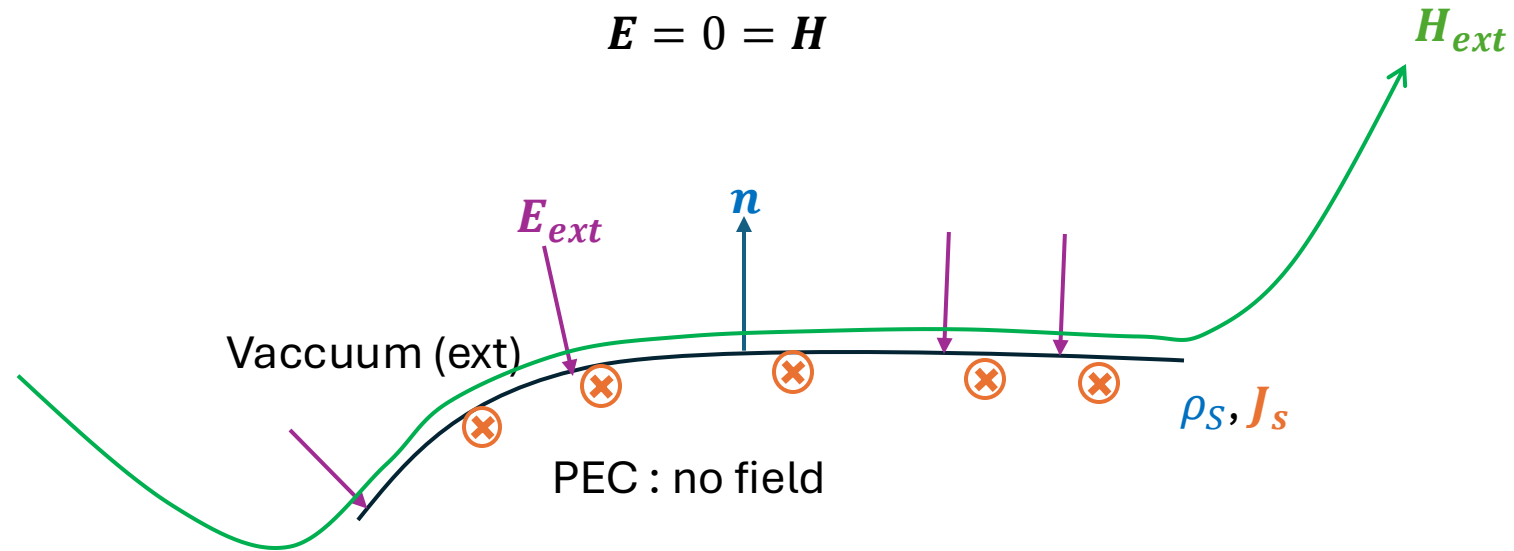


- $\epsilon(\mathbf{r}, \omega)$  is a distribution of permittivity describing the antenna (metals with induced currents, dielectric, etc) and its environment (also possibly with induced currents).
- The source currents (and charge) distribution are usually non-zero only on a small portion of the antenna called the port (like the end of the coaxial cable or small wires where the generator is applied).
- But other choices are possible especially when making approximations of the currents around the port and on the antenna.

# Perfect electrical conductors (PEC)

$$J_{ind} = \sigma \mathbf{E} \text{ with } \sigma \rightarrow \infty$$

$$\mathbf{E} = 0 = \mathbf{H}$$



$$\mathbf{n} \times (\mathbf{E}_{ext} - \mathbf{E}_{in}) = \mathbf{n} \times \mathbf{E}_{ext} = \mathbf{0}$$

$$\mathbf{n} \cdot (\mathbf{D}_{ext} - \mathbf{D}_{in}) = \mathbf{n} \cdot \mathbf{D}_{ext} = \rho_S$$

$$\mathbf{n} \cdot (\mathbf{B}_{ext} - \mathbf{B}_{in}) = \mathbf{n} \cdot \mathbf{B}_{ext} = 0$$

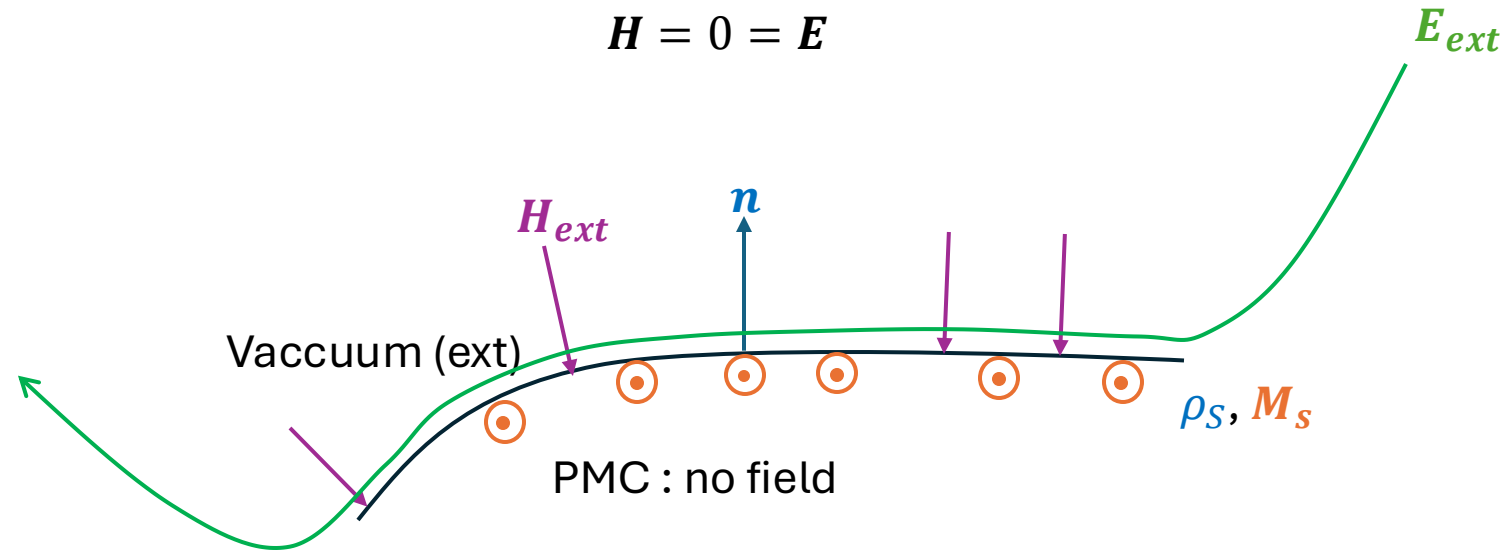
$$\mathbf{n} \times (\mathbf{H}_{ext} - \mathbf{H}_{in}) = \mathbf{n} \times \mathbf{H}_{ext} = \mathbf{J}_S$$

# Perfect magnetic conductors (PMC)

The dual of Perfect Electric conductors

$$\mathbf{M}_{ind} = \sigma \mathbf{H} \text{ with } \sigma \rightarrow \infty$$

$$\mathbf{H} = 0 = \mathbf{E}$$



$$\mathbf{n} \times (\mathbf{H}_{ext} - \mathbf{H}_{in}) = \mathbf{n} \times \mathbf{H}_{ext} = \mathbf{0}$$

$$\mathbf{n} \cdot (\mathbf{B}_{ext} - \mathbf{B}_{in}) = \mathbf{n} \cdot \mathbf{B}_{ext} = \rho_{ms}$$

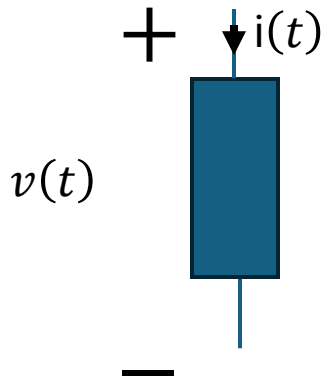
$$\mathbf{n} \cdot (\mathbf{D}_{ext} - \mathbf{D}_{in}) = \mathbf{n} \cdot \mathbf{D}_{ext} = 0$$

$$\mathbf{n} \times (\mathbf{E}_{ext} - \mathbf{E}_{in}) = \mathbf{n} \times \mathbf{H}_{ext} = -\mathbf{M}_s$$

## 2) A couple useful theorems



# Instantaneous and average power in a circuit



Harmonic signals:

$$v(t) = v_0 \cos(\omega t + \varphi_v)$$

$$i(t) = i_0 \cos(\omega t + \varphi_i)$$

$$P(t) = v(t) i(t)$$

Complex Phasors:

$$V = v_0 e^{j\varphi_v}$$

$$I = i_0 e^{j\varphi_i}$$

$$P_{av} = \int_0^{T=2\pi/\omega} P(t) dt = \frac{1}{2} v_0 i_0 \cos(\varphi_v - \varphi_i) = \frac{1}{2} \text{Re}(VI^*)$$

Power  
absorbed/provided to  
the charges

# Instantaneous and average power (density) in the field

Harmonic signals:

$$\mathbf{E}(t) = \mathbf{E}_0 \cos(\omega t + \varphi_E)$$

$$\mathbf{J}(t) = \mathbf{J}_0 \cos(\omega t + \varphi_J)$$

$$p(t) = \mathbf{E}(t) \cdot \mathbf{J}(t)$$

Complex Phasors:

$$\mathbf{E} = \mathbf{E}_0 e^{j\varphi_E}$$

$$\mathbf{J} = \mathbf{J}_0 e^{j\varphi_J}$$

$$-p_{av} = - \int_0^{T=\frac{2\pi}{\omega}} P(t) = -\frac{1}{2} \mathbf{E}_0 \cdot \mathbf{J}_0 \cos(\varphi_v - \varphi_i) = -\frac{1}{2} \text{Re}(\mathbf{E} \cdot \mathbf{J}^*)$$

Power provided by the charges to the field =  
-Power absorbed/provided to the charges by the field

# Complex Poynting theorem

$$p_{av} = -\frac{1}{2} \text{Re}(\mathbf{E} \cdot \mathbf{J}^*)$$

$$(\nabla \times \mathbf{E} = -j\omega \mathbf{B}) \cdot \mathbf{H}^*$$

$$\mathbf{H}^* \cdot \nabla \times \mathbf{E} - \mathbf{E} \cdot \nabla \times \mathbf{H}^* = \nabla \cdot (\mathbf{E} \times \mathbf{H}^*)$$

$$- (\nabla \times \mathbf{H} = \mathbf{J} + j\omega \mathbf{D})^* \cdot \mathbf{E}$$

$$\nabla \cdot (\mathbf{E} \times \mathbf{H}^*) = -j\omega \mathbf{B} \cdot \mathbf{H}^* + j\omega \mathbf{E} \cdot \mathbf{D}^* - \mathbf{E} \cdot \mathbf{J}^*$$

Assume free-space:

$$\mathbf{D} = \epsilon_0 \mathbf{E}$$

$$\mathbf{B} = \mu_0 \mathbf{H}$$

$$\Rightarrow \frac{1}{2} \nabla \cdot (\mathbf{E} \times \mathbf{H}^*) = -\frac{j\omega}{2} (\mu_0 \mathbf{H} \cdot \mathbf{H}^* - \epsilon_0 \mathbf{E} \cdot \mathbf{E}^*) - \frac{1}{2} \mathbf{E} \cdot \mathbf{J}^*$$

Complex Poynting theorem

Real part : real power balance

Im part: reactive power balance

Take the real part:

$$p_{av} = -\frac{1}{2} \text{Re}(\mathbf{E} \cdot \mathbf{J}^*) = \frac{1}{2} \nabla \cdot \text{Re}(\mathbf{E} \times \mathbf{H}^*)$$

Integrate over volume:

$$P_{av} = - \int_V \frac{1}{2} \text{Re}(\mathbf{E} \cdot \mathbf{J}^*) = \oint_S \text{Re} \left[ \frac{1}{2} (\mathbf{E} \times \mathbf{H}^*) \right] \cdot d\mathbf{S}$$

Power provided by  
the currents in V

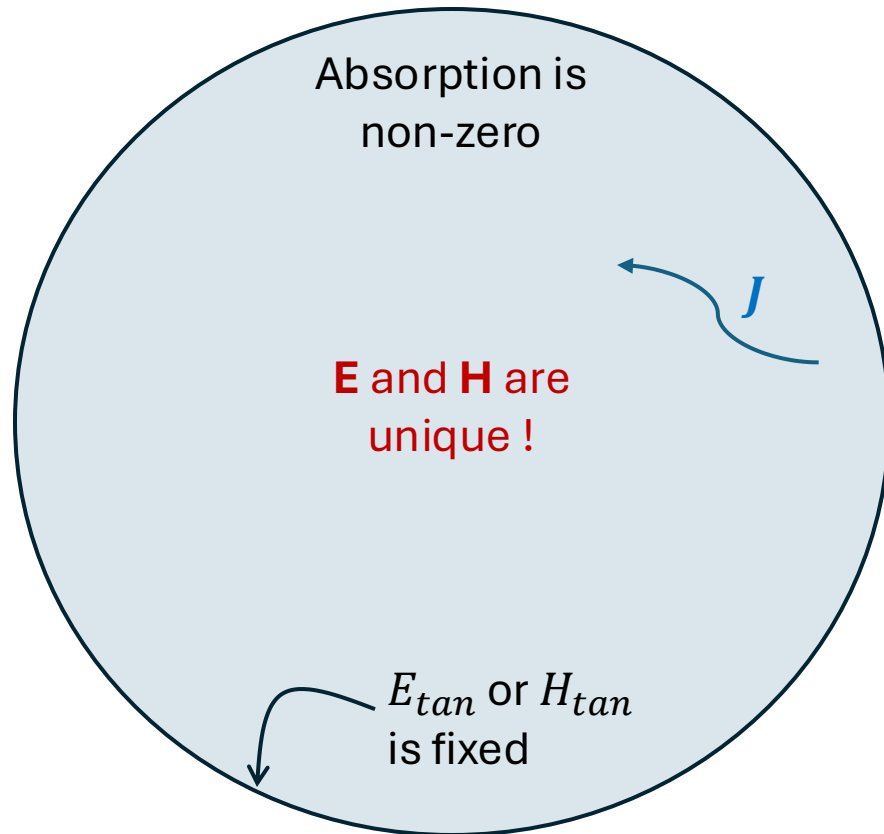
Power oozing out  
of S

$$\mathbf{S} = \text{Re} \left[ \frac{1}{2} (\mathbf{E} \times \mathbf{H}^*) \right]$$

Poynting vector (W/m<sup>2</sup>)

# Unicity

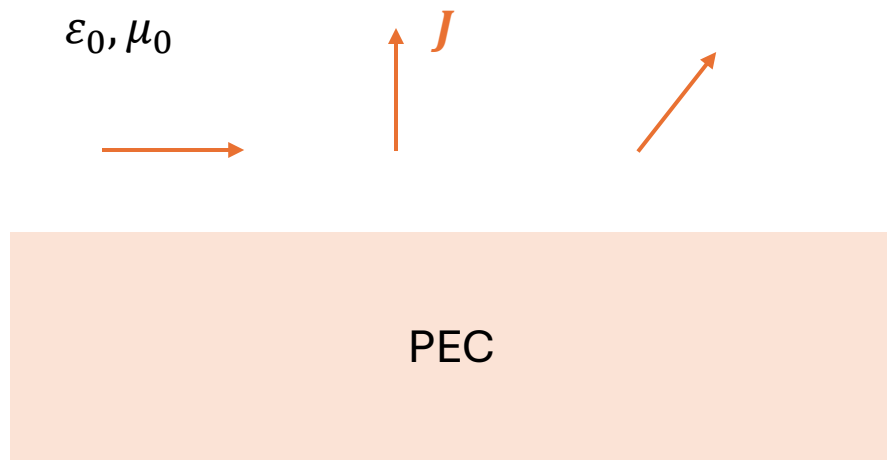
From Maxwell's equations, we can prove that (see e.g. EE-201 for a demo):



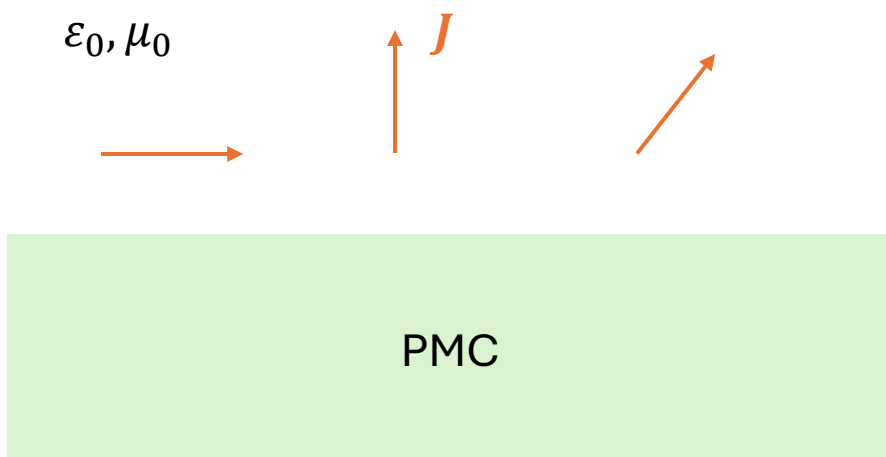
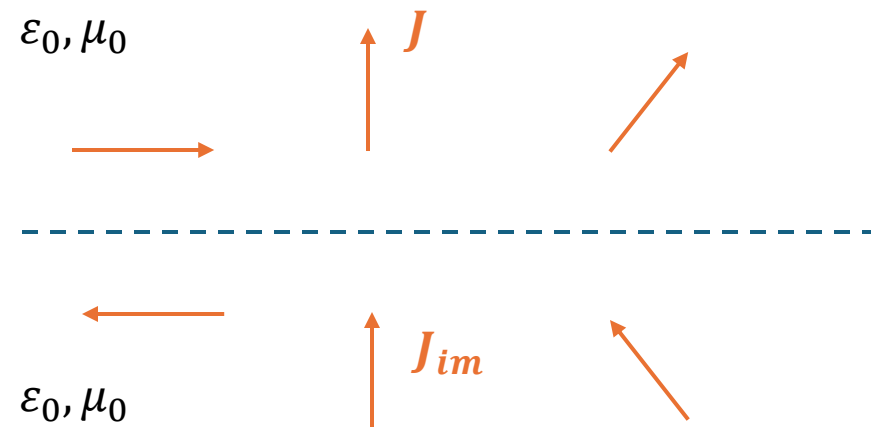
The solutions to Maxwell equations is unique in a volume  $V$  iif:

- 1) Proper boundary conditions are set. Any of the following:
  - The tangential E field is specified on the boundary  $S$  of the volume
  - The tangential H field is specified on the boundary  $S$  of the volume
  - The tangential E field is specified in part of the boundary  $S$  of the volume, and the tangential H is specified on the rest of the boundary.
- 2) There exist absorption in the volume  $V$ , at least a tiny bit.

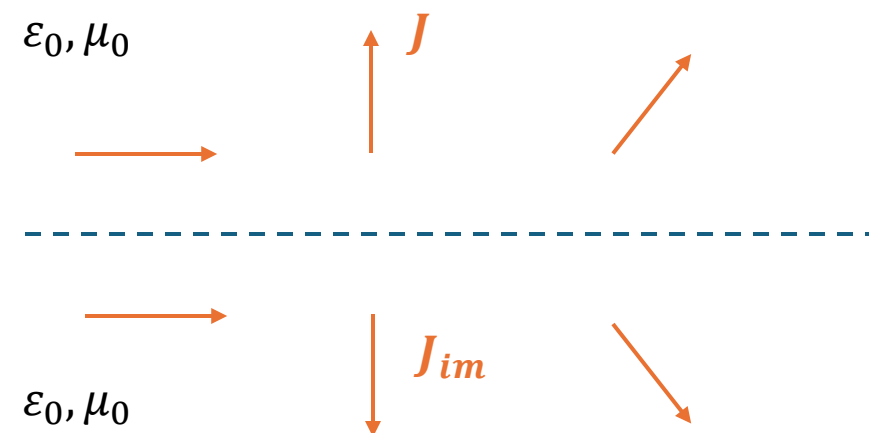
# Image theorems for electric currents



$\Leftrightarrow$

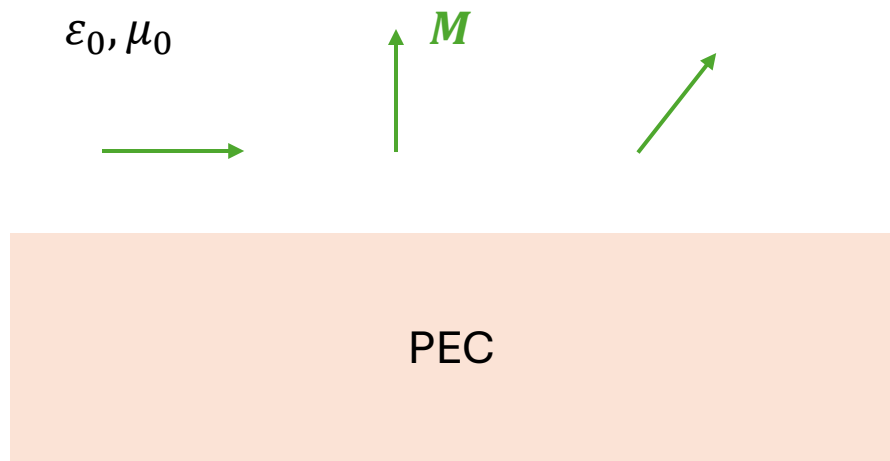


$\Leftrightarrow$

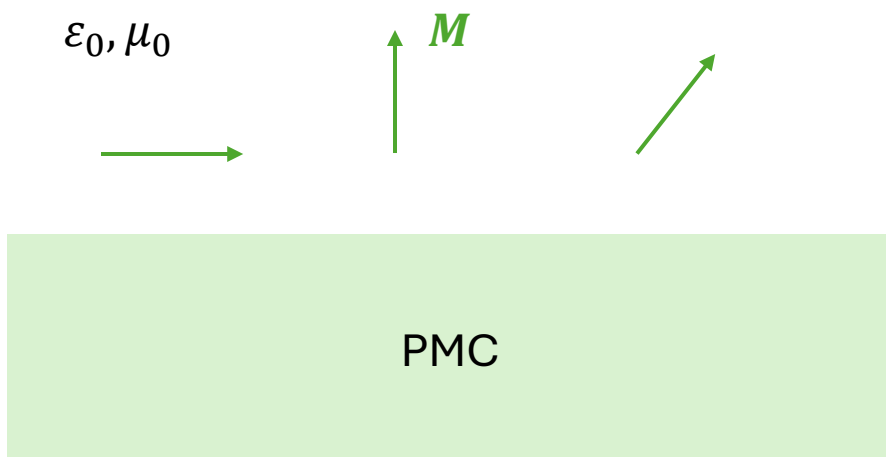
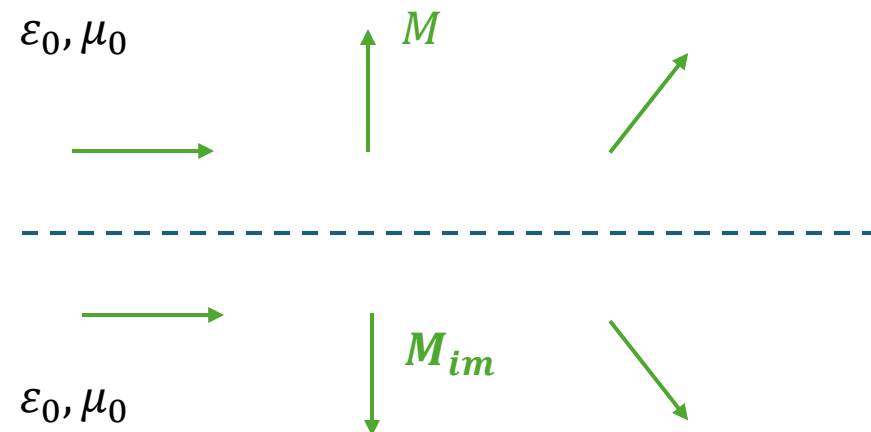


Proof: use the unicity theorem !

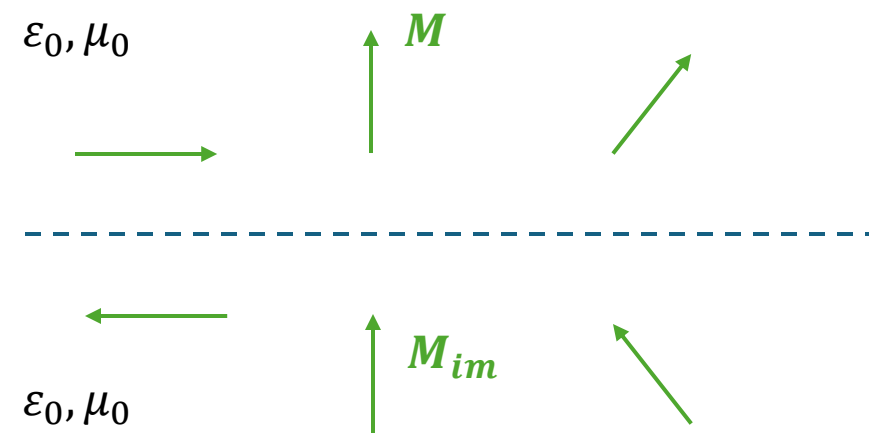
# Image theorems for magnetic currents



$\Leftrightarrow$



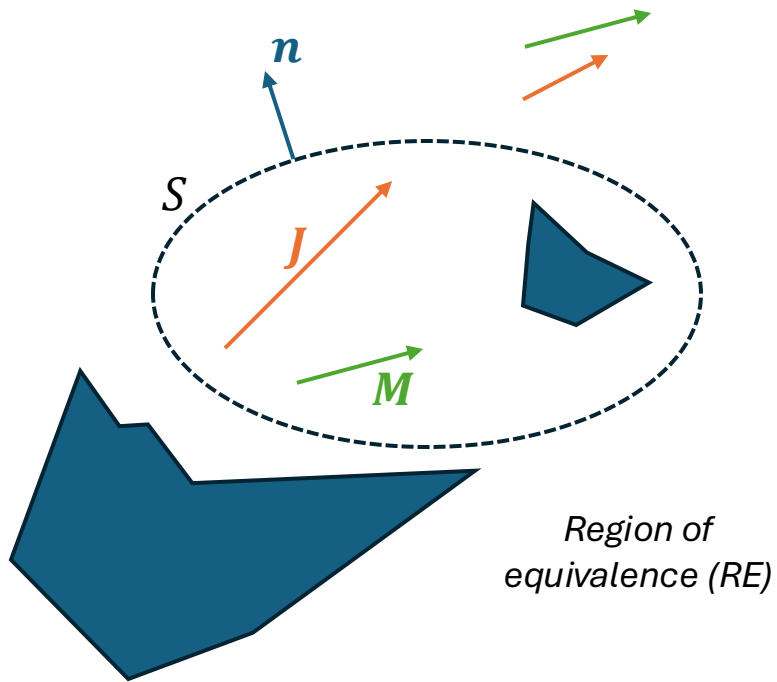
$\Leftrightarrow$



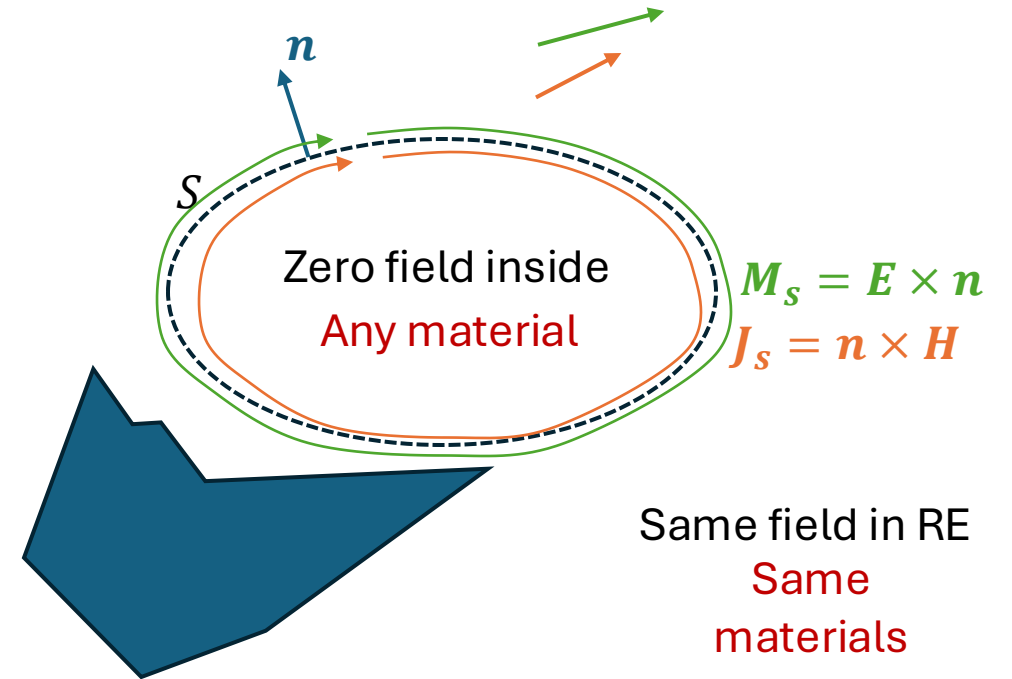
Proof: use the unicity theorem !

# Huyghens equivalence principle

Initial problem

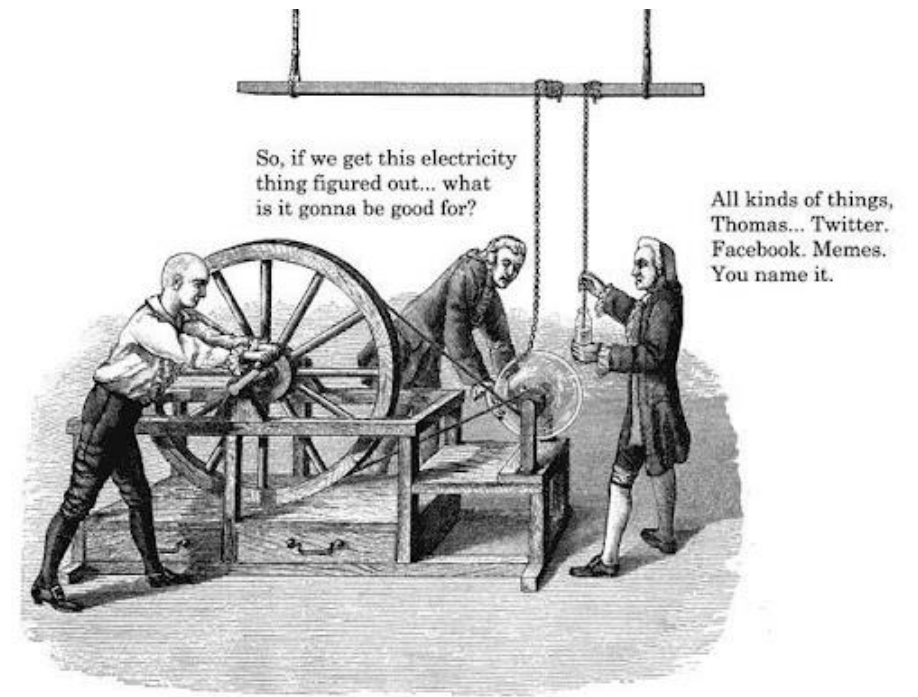


Equivalent problem



- 1) Choose  $S$ , put  $n$  towards RE
- 2) Cut and paste everything in the RE
- 3) Put the Huygens sources on  $S$
- 4) Choose whatever material(s) inside  $S$  (vacuum PEC, PMC, your choice)

### 3) Solving the equations... ...in a homogenous medium



# Source-free solutions: the case of plane waves

Free space  $\epsilon, \mu \in \mathbb{R}^*$

$$\begin{aligned} \nabla \times \mathbf{E} &= -j\omega\mu\mathbf{H} \\ \nabla \times \mathbf{H} &= j\omega\epsilon\mathbf{E} \end{aligned}$$

$$\nabla \times \nabla \times \mathbf{E} = \nabla(\nabla \cdot \mathbf{E}) - \nabla^2 \mathbf{E} \quad \Rightarrow \quad \nabla^2 \mathbf{E} + \omega^2 \mu \epsilon \mathbf{E} = 0 \quad \text{Helmholtz equation}$$

Plane-wave solutions:  $\mathbf{E} = \mathbf{e} E_0 e^{-jk \cdot \mathbf{r}} \quad \mathbf{H} = \frac{1}{Z_0} (\mathbf{k} \times \mathbf{E})$  with  $\mathbf{e} \cdot \mathbf{k} = 0, \mathbf{k} \cdot \mathbf{k} = \omega^2 \mu \epsilon$  and  $Z_0 = \sqrt{\frac{\mu}{\epsilon}}$

Example:  $\mathbf{E} = (xE_{0x} + yE_{0y})e^{-jkz}$ , with  $E_{0x}, E_{0y} \in \mathbb{C}$

- If  $E_{0x}, E_{0y}$  are in phase or anti-phase: linear polarization
- If  $|E_{0x}| = |E_{0y}|$ , and are in phase quadrature ( $\pm\pi/2$ ): circular polarization (RH or LH)
- General case: elliptical polarization
  - Right handed part:  $E_R = \frac{1}{2}(E_{0x} + jE_{0y}) = |E_R|e^{j\theta_R}$
  - Left handed part:  $E_L = \frac{1}{2}(E_{0x} - jE_{0y}) = |E_L|e^{j\theta_L}$
  - aspect ratio:  $\frac{a}{b} = \frac{|E_R| + |E_L|}{||E_R| - |E_L||}$
  - inclination angle wrt x-axis:  $\varphi = \frac{\theta_R - \theta_L}{2}$

$$E = e E_0 e^{-jk.r}$$

# The dispersion relation

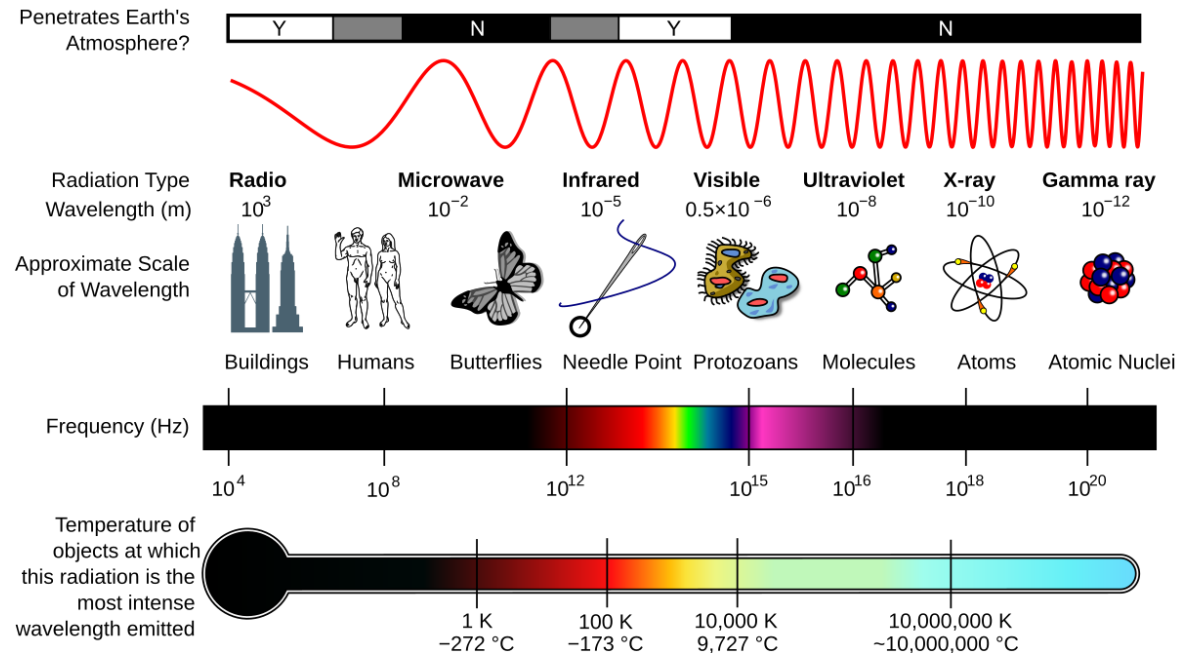
$$k \cdot k = \omega^2 \mu \epsilon$$

$$k = kz \Rightarrow k = \pm \omega \sqrt{\mu \epsilon} = \frac{2\pi}{\lambda}$$

$$v_\phi = \frac{1}{\sqrt{\mu \epsilon}}$$

$$k = \omega \sqrt{\mu \epsilon} = 2\pi f \frac{1}{v_\phi} = \frac{2\pi}{\lambda}$$

$$\Rightarrow \lambda = \frac{v_\phi}{f}$$



GPS: 1.5 GHz  
Wi-fi: 2.4GHz / 5 GHz

# The Vector Potential

Free space  
 $\epsilon, \mu \in \mathbb{R}^*$

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

$$\nabla \times \mathbf{H} = j\omega\epsilon\mathbf{E} + \mathbf{J}$$

$$\nabla \times \nabla \times \mathbf{E} = \nabla(\nabla \cdot \mathbf{E}) - \nabla^2 \mathbf{E}$$

= not 0 anymore != complicated

Alternative: Simplify things first using the *Helmoltz partition theorem (HPT)*

$\forall \mathbf{U}$  sufficiently well-behaved (smooth and decaying, simply connected space):  
 $\exists (\mathbf{V}, W)$  such that  $\mathbf{U} = \nabla \times \mathbf{V} - \nabla W$

$$W(\mathbf{r}) = \frac{1}{4\pi} \int d^3\mathbf{r}' \frac{\nabla' \cdot \mathbf{U}(\mathbf{r}')}{|\mathbf{r} - \mathbf{r}'|}$$

$$V(\mathbf{r}) = \frac{1}{4\pi} \int d^3\mathbf{r}' \frac{\nabla' \times \mathbf{U}(\mathbf{r}')}{|\mathbf{r} - \mathbf{r}'|}$$

And a corollary (HPTc):

To define such a well-behaved field  $\mathbf{U}$  it is required to fix both  $\nabla \times \mathbf{U}$  and  $\nabla \cdot \mathbf{U}$

Apply HPT to  $\mathbf{B}$ :  $\exists (\mathbf{A}, W)$  such that  $\mathbf{B} = \nabla \times \mathbf{A} - \nabla W$ . But since  $\nabla \cdot \mathbf{B} = 0$ , then  $W = 0$ .

Conclusion:  $\exists \mathbf{A}$  such that  $\mathbf{B} = \nabla \times \mathbf{A}$ .  $\mathbf{A}$  is not yet uniquely defined, we still need to fix  $\nabla \cdot \mathbf{A}$ .

Fixing  $\nabla \cdot \mathbf{A}$  is called making a Gauge choice.  $\mathbf{A}$  is called the vector potential

# The scalar potential

Free space  
 $\varepsilon, \mu \in \mathbb{R}^*$

$$\nabla \times \mathbf{E} = -j\omega\mathbf{B} = -j\omega(\nabla \times \mathbf{A})$$
$$\nabla \times \mathbf{H} = j\omega\varepsilon\mathbf{E} + \mathbf{J}$$

$$\nabla \times (\mathbf{E} + j\omega\mathbf{A}) = \mathbf{0}$$

$\mathbf{E} + j\omega\mathbf{A}$  is a pure gradient ! (by TPH or, if one prefers, by Poincaré lemma)

Conclusion:  $\exists \Phi$ , defined up to a constant, such that  $\mathbf{E} + j\omega\mathbf{A} = -\nabla\Phi$ .  
 $\Phi$  is called the scalar potential. It becomes the electrostatic potential when  $\omega = 0$ .

$\mathbf{E}, \mathbf{H}$  = 6 variables  $\longrightarrow$   $\Phi, \mathbf{A}$  = 4 variables

# Lorentz gauge

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbf{B} &= \nabla \times \mathbf{A} \\ \nabla \cdot \mathbf{A} &= TBD \\ \mathbf{E} &= -\nabla\Phi - j\omega\mathbf{A} \end{aligned}$$

Free  
homogenous  
space  
 $\epsilon, \mu \in \mathbb{R}^*$

$$\nabla \times \mathbf{E} = -j\omega\mathbf{B} = -j\omega(\nabla \times \mathbf{A})$$

$$\nabla \times \mathbf{H} = j\omega\epsilon\mathbf{E} + \mathbf{J}$$

$$\Rightarrow \nabla \times \nabla \times \mathbf{A} = \omega^2\mu\epsilon\mathbf{A} - j\omega\mu\epsilon\nabla\Phi + \mu\mathbf{J}$$

$$\Rightarrow \nabla(\nabla \cdot \mathbf{A}) - \nabla^2\mathbf{A} = k^2\mathbf{A} - j\omega\mu\epsilon\nabla\Phi + \mu\mathbf{J}$$

$$\Rightarrow \nabla^2\mathbf{A} + k^2\mathbf{A} = -\mu\mathbf{J} \quad \text{Helmholtz equation}$$

Choose  $\nabla \cdot \mathbf{A} = -j\omega\mu\epsilon\Phi$  (Lorentz Gauge) !

We get three uncoupled Helmholtz equations !

$$\nabla^2 A_x + k^2 A_x = -\mu J_x$$

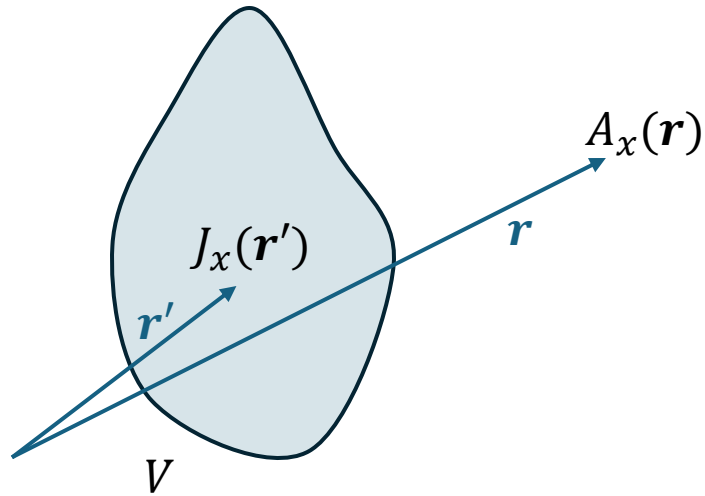
$$\nabla^2 A_y + k^2 A_y = -\mu J_y$$

$$\nabla^2 A_z + k^2 A_z = -\mu J_z$$

How to solve ? do  $J_x$  alone first

$$\nabla^2 A_x + k^2 A_x = -\mu J_x$$

# Green's function is all you need



Let  $g(\mathbf{r}, \mathbf{r}')$  be the vector potential created at  $\mathbf{r}$  by a unity current source located at  $\mathbf{r}'$ :

$$\nabla^2 g(\mathbf{r}, \mathbf{r}') + k^2 g(\mathbf{r}, \mathbf{r}') = -\delta(\mathbf{r} - \mathbf{r}')$$

By linearity, we would then have:

$$A_x(\mathbf{r}) = \iiint_V d^3 \mathbf{r}' \mu J_x(\mathbf{r}') g(\mathbf{r}, \mathbf{r}')$$

All we need is  $g(\mathbf{r}, \mathbf{r}')$ . We will show in the exercise session that:

$$g(\mathbf{r}, \mathbf{r}') = g(|\mathbf{r} - \mathbf{r}'|) = \frac{e^{-jk|\mathbf{r} - \mathbf{r}'|}}{4\pi|\mathbf{r} - \mathbf{r}'|}$$

# Summary: exact solutions of Maxwells equations

1) Start from a known current distribution  $\mathbf{J}(\mathbf{r}')$

2) Compute the vector potential:  $\mathbf{A}(\mathbf{r}) = \frac{\mu}{4\pi} \iiint_V \mathbf{J}_x(\mathbf{r}') \frac{e^{-jk|\mathbf{r}-\mathbf{r}'|}}{|\mathbf{r}-\mathbf{r}'|} d^3\mathbf{r}'$

3) Calculate  $\mathbf{B} = \nabla \times \mathbf{A}$

4) Calculate  $\Phi = \frac{j}{\omega\mu\epsilon} \nabla \cdot \mathbf{A}$

5) Calculate  $\mathbf{E} = -\nabla\Phi - j\omega\mathbf{A}$

Exercise: The exact field radiated by an infinitesimal dipole