

Example using Bessel functions– Sp 2012

Circular wave guide

This wave guide has a circular cross-section of radius a . The z -axis runs along the cylinder axis. As usual we take

$$\vec{E} \propto e^{ikz} e^{-i\omega t}$$

to obtain the differential equation for the TM mode (waveguide notes eqn 19)

$$(\nabla_t^2 + \gamma^2) E_z = 0$$

Then (waveguide notes eqn 18)

$$\vec{E}_t = \frac{ik}{\gamma^2} \vec{\nabla}_t E_z \quad (1)$$

with (waveguide notes eqn 20)

$$\gamma^2 = \frac{\omega^2}{c^2} - k^2 \quad (2)$$

In polar coordinates the differential equation takes the form

$$\frac{1}{\rho} \frac{\partial}{\partial \rho} \left(\rho \frac{\partial E_z}{\partial \rho} \right) + \frac{1}{\rho^2} \frac{\partial^2 E_z}{\partial \phi^2} + \gamma^2 E_z = 0$$

We look for a solution of the form

$$E_z = R(\rho) W(\phi)$$

and separate:

$$\frac{\rho}{R} \frac{\partial}{\partial \rho} \left(\rho \frac{\partial R}{\partial \rho} \right) + \frac{1}{W} \frac{\partial^2 W}{\partial \phi^2} + \gamma^2 \rho^2 = 0$$

The middle term is a function of ϕ only, while the other two terms are a function of ρ only. Thus, setting the middle term equal to $-m^2$, we get

$$W = e^{im\phi}$$

and the remaining equation for R is Bessel's equation of order m . (Lea eqn 8.69 with $k \rightarrow \gamma$) We need a solution that is finite at $\rho = 0$, so we choose J . Thus the solutions are

$$E_z = J_m(\gamma\rho) e^{im\phi}$$

The boundary condition is (waveguide notes eqn 8)

$$E_z = 0 \quad \text{for } \rho = a$$

so γa must be one of the roots x_{mn} of $J_m(x)$. Then

$$E_z = \sum_{m,n} A_{mn} J_m \left(x_{mn} \frac{\rho}{a} \right) e^{im\phi} e^{ikz} e^{-i\omega t} \quad (3)$$

We would need more information about how the guide is excited to find the coefficients A_{mn} .

Then we find the other field components from (equation 1)

$$\begin{aligned}
\vec{E}_{t,mn} &= i \frac{k}{\gamma^2} \vec{\nabla}_t E_z = i \frac{ka^2}{x_{mn}^2} \left(\frac{\partial E_z}{\partial \rho} \hat{\rho} + \frac{1}{\rho} \frac{\partial E_z}{\partial \phi} \hat{\phi} \right) \\
&= i \frac{ka^2}{x_{mn}^2} A_{mn} \left(\frac{x_{mn}}{a} J'_m \left(x_{mn} \frac{\rho}{a} \right) e^{im\phi} \hat{\rho} + \frac{im}{\rho} J_m \left(x_{mn} \frac{\rho}{a} \right) e^{im\phi} \hat{\phi} \right) e^{ikz} e^{-i\omega t} \\
&= \frac{ka}{x_{mn}} A_{mn} \left(i J'_m \left(x_{mn} \frac{\rho}{a} \right) e^{im\phi} \hat{\rho} - \frac{m}{x_{mn}} \frac{a}{\rho} J_m \left(x_{mn} \frac{\rho}{a} \right) e^{im\phi} \hat{\phi} \right) e^{ikz} e^{-i\omega t} \quad (4)
\end{aligned}$$

The roots are: $x_{0n} = 2.4, 5.5, 8.6, \dots$

$x_{1n} = 3.8, 7.0, \dots$ etc (Jackson p114).

The lowest root is $x_{01} = 2.4$. Thus the cutoff frequency ($k = 0$) for the TM modes is (from eqn.2 with $k = 0$)

$$\frac{\omega_c}{c} = \gamma_{\min} = \frac{x_{\min}}{a} = \frac{x_{01}}{a} = \frac{2.4}{a}$$

The lowest frequency ($m = 0$) mode has no ϕ dependence and \vec{E}_t is purely radial. Since $J'_0 = -J_1$ and $J_1(0) = 0$, $\vec{E}_{t,0n} \rightarrow 0$ at the center of the guide, as it must. (Remember: field lines can't cross.)

$$\begin{aligned}
\vec{E}_{01} &= \text{Re } A_{01} \left\{ J_0 \left(2.4 \frac{\rho}{a} \right) \hat{z} + \frac{ka}{2.4} i J'_0 \left(2.4 \frac{\rho}{a} \right) \hat{\rho} \right\} e^{ikz} e^{-i\omega t} \\
&= A_{01} \left\{ J_0 \left(2.4 \frac{\rho}{a} \right) \hat{z} \cos(kz - \omega t) + \frac{ka}{2.4} J_1 \left(2.4 \frac{\rho}{a} \right) \hat{\rho} \sin(kz - \omega t) \right\}
\end{aligned}$$

with (eqn 2)

$$k = \sqrt{\frac{\omega^2}{c^2} - \frac{2.4^2}{a^2}}$$

The next highest cutoff is for $m = 1, n = 1$ with $\omega_c = 3.8c/a$. The fields in the $m = 1, n = 1$ mode are

$$\begin{aligned}
\vec{E}_{11} &= \text{Re } A_{11} \left\{ J_1 \left(3.8 \frac{\rho}{a} \right) \hat{z} + \frac{ka}{3.8} \left(i J'_1 \left(3.8 \frac{\rho}{a} \right) \hat{\rho} - \frac{1}{3.8} \frac{a}{\rho} J_1 \left(3.8 \frac{\rho}{a} \right) \hat{\phi} \right) \right\} e^{i\phi} e^{ikz} e^{-i\omega t} \\
&= A_{11} \left\{ J_1 \left(3.8 \frac{\rho}{a} \right) \hat{z} \cos(\phi + kz - \omega t) \right. \\
&\quad \left. - \frac{ka}{3.8} \left(\frac{J_0 \left(3.8 \frac{\rho}{a} \right) - J_2 \left(3.8 \frac{\rho}{a} \right)}{2} \hat{\rho} \sin(\phi + kz - \omega t) + \frac{1}{3.8} \frac{a}{\rho} J_1 \left(3.8 \frac{\rho}{a} \right) \hat{\phi} \cos(\phi + kz - \omega t) \right) \right\}
\end{aligned}$$

where we used Lea eqn 8.90 for J'_1 , and with

$$k = \sqrt{\frac{\omega^2}{c^2} - \frac{3.8^2}{a^2}}$$

At the guide center, $\rho = 0$, (to evaluate the ϕ component, remember that $J_1(x) = \frac{x}{2} + \dots$ and take the limit $x \rightarrow 0$).

$$\begin{aligned}
\vec{E}_{01}(0) &= A_{11} \left\{ -\frac{ka}{3.8} \left(\frac{1}{2} \hat{\rho} \sin(\phi + kz - \omega t) + \frac{1}{2} \hat{\phi} \cos(\phi + kz - \omega t) \right) \right\} \\
&= -\frac{ka}{7.6} A_{11} \left\{ \hat{\rho} [\sin \phi \cos(kz - \omega t) + \cos \phi \sin(kz - \omega t)] \right. \\
&\quad \left. + \hat{\phi} [\cos \phi \cos(kz - \omega t) - \sin \phi \sin(kz - \omega t)] \right\} \\
&= -\frac{ka}{7.6} A_{11} \left\{ \cos(kz - \omega t) (\hat{\rho} \sin \phi + \hat{\phi} \cos \phi) + \sin(kz - \omega t) (\hat{\rho} \cos \phi - \hat{\phi} \sin \phi) \right\} \\
&= -\frac{ka}{7.6} A_{11} \{ \hat{y} \cos(kz - \omega t) + \hat{x} \sin(kz - \omega t) \}
\end{aligned}$$

The field makes an angle $kz - \omega t$ with the y axis and, at a fixed z , rotates counter-clockwise in time.

If $\omega > 3.8c/a$, ω is also $> 2.4c/a$, and so the $m = 0, n = 1$ mode will exist as well. However, we are still below the cutoff for the $m = 0, n = 2$ mode. until $\omega > 5.5c/a$.

Convince yourself that we have satisfied all the boundary conditions and that the fields make sense. I will leave it to you to calculate \vec{B} .

The diagram shows \vec{E} in the $m = 0, n = 1$ mode. Note that the field lies along the axis at $\rho = 0$ and is perpendicular to the surface at $\rho = a$.

