

Wave propagation in Lossy Media

wave equation: $\nabla^2 \tilde{E} - \gamma^2 \tilde{E} = 0$

$$\gamma^2 = -\omega^2 \mu \epsilon_c = -\omega^2 \mu (\epsilon' - j\epsilon'') \quad \begin{matrix} \swarrow \epsilon' = \epsilon \\ \nwarrow \epsilon'' = \frac{\sigma}{\omega} \end{matrix}$$

$$\gamma = \alpha + j\beta$$

$$(\alpha + j\beta)^2 = (\alpha^2 - \beta^2) - j2\alpha\beta = -\omega^2 \mu \epsilon' + j\omega^2 \mu \epsilon''$$

solve for α and β :

$$\alpha = \omega \left[\frac{\mu \epsilon'}{2} \left[\sqrt{1 + \left(\frac{\epsilon''}{\epsilon'} \right)^2} - 1 \right] \right]^{1/2}$$

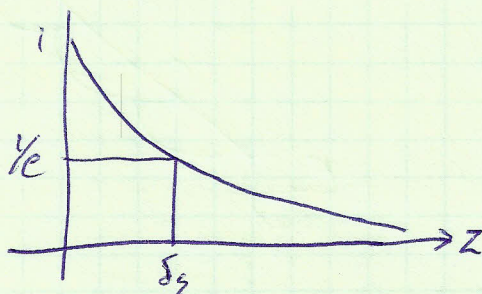
$$\beta = \omega \left[\frac{\mu \epsilon'}{2} \left[\sqrt{1 + \left(\frac{\epsilon''}{\epsilon'} \right)^2} + 1 \right] \right]^{1/2}$$

$$\tilde{E}(z) = \hat{x} \tilde{E}_x(z) = \hat{x} E_{x0} e^{-\gamma z} = \hat{x} E_{x0} e^{-\alpha z} e^{-j\beta z}$$

get H by $\nabla \times \tilde{E} = -j\omega \mu \tilde{H}$ or $\tilde{H} = (\mathbf{k} \times \tilde{E}) / \eta_c$

where $\eta_c = \sqrt{\frac{\mu}{\epsilon_c}} = \sqrt{\frac{\mu}{\epsilon'}} \left(1 - j \frac{\epsilon''}{\epsilon'} \right)^{1/2}$

Skin depth $\delta_s = \frac{1}{\alpha}$



• Low-Loss Dielectric

$$\gamma = j\omega \sqrt{\mu\epsilon'} \left(1 - j\frac{\epsilon''}{\epsilon'}\right)^{1/2}$$

$$\text{for } |x| \ll 1, (1-x)^{1/2} \approx 1 - \frac{x}{2}$$

$$\gamma \approx j\omega \sqrt{\mu\epsilon'} \left(1 - j\frac{\epsilon''}{2\epsilon'}\right)$$

$$\beta \approx \omega \sqrt{\mu\epsilon'} = \omega \sqrt{\mu\epsilon}$$

$$\alpha \approx \frac{\omega\epsilon''}{2} \sqrt{\frac{\mu}{\epsilon'}} = \frac{\sigma}{2} \sqrt{\frac{\mu}{\epsilon}} \quad \leftarrow \text{use } \epsilon'' = \frac{\sigma}{\omega}$$

note that β is nearly identical to lossless case

$$\eta_c \approx \sqrt{\frac{\mu}{\epsilon'}} \left(1 + j\frac{\epsilon''}{2\epsilon'}\right) \approx \sqrt{\frac{\mu}{\epsilon}}$$

• Good Conductor

$$\frac{\epsilon''}{\epsilon'} \gg 100$$

$$\alpha \approx \omega \sqrt{\frac{\mu\epsilon''}{2}} = \omega \sqrt{\frac{\mu\sigma}{2\omega}} = \sqrt{\pi f \mu \sigma} \quad \left(\text{and } \delta_s = \frac{1}{\alpha}\right)$$

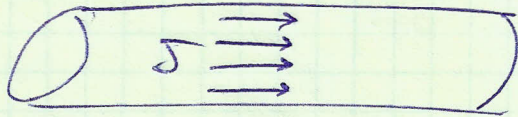
$$\beta \approx \alpha$$

$$\eta_c \approx \sqrt{j\frac{\mu}{\epsilon'}} = (1+j) \sqrt{\frac{\pi f \mu}{\sigma}} = (1+j) \frac{\alpha}{\sigma}$$

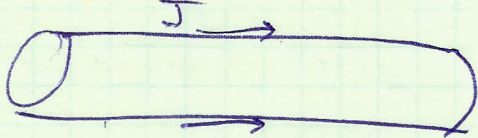
for perfect conductor: $\alpha = \beta = 0$, $\eta_c = 0$

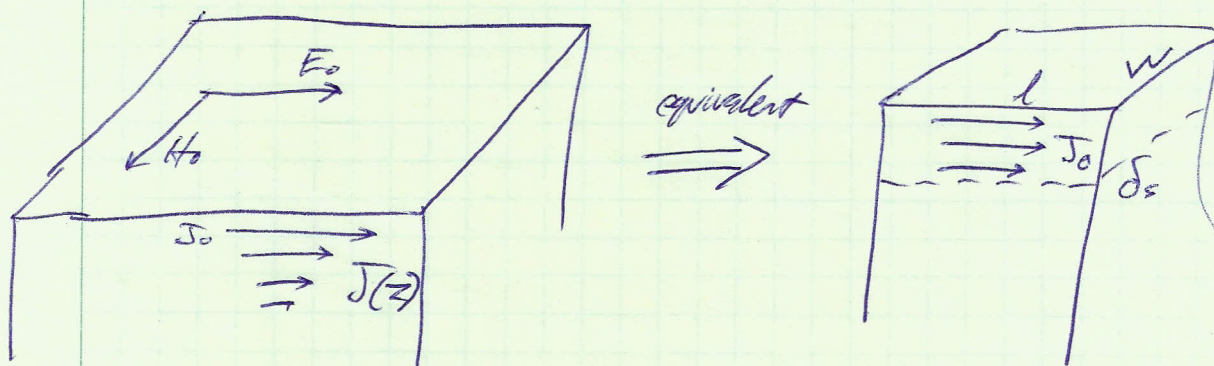
for real conductor, impedance has inductive component equal to resistive part!

Current flow in a good conductor

uniform  DC case

$e^{-\alpha z}$  AC case

infinitesimal surface current  Perfect conductor case



$$E(z) = \hat{x} E_0 e^{-\alpha z} e^{-j\beta z}$$

for good conductor, $\alpha \approx \beta = 1/\delta_s$

$$\tilde{J}_x(z) = \sigma E_0 e^{-\alpha z} e^{-j\beta z} = J_0 e^{-\alpha z} e^{-j\beta z}$$

$$\tilde{J}_x(z) = J_0 e^{-(1+j)z/\delta_s}$$

$$I = w \int_0^\infty \tilde{J}_x(z) dz = w \int_0^\infty J_0 e^{-(1+j)z/\delta_s} dz = \frac{J_0 w \delta_s}{(1+j)}$$

Voltage across length l is $E_0 l = \frac{J_0}{\sigma} l$

$$Z = \frac{\tilde{V}}{I} = \frac{1+j}{\sigma \delta_s} \cdot \frac{l}{w} \quad \text{or} \quad Z = Z_s \frac{l}{w}$$

$$Z_s = \frac{1+j}{\sigma \delta_s} = \text{surface impedance}$$

$$Z_s = R_s + j\omega L_s$$

$$R_s = \frac{1}{\sigma \delta_s} = \sqrt{\frac{\mu f \mu}{\sigma}}$$

resistance equivalent to slab
of thickness δ_s with conductivity σ

$$L_s = \frac{1}{\omega \sigma \delta_s} = \frac{1}{2} \sqrt{\frac{\mu}{\omega \sigma}}$$

• Electromagnetic Power Density

Poynting Vector $\vec{S} = \vec{E} \times \vec{H}$ (W/m²)

$$P = \int_A \vec{S} \cdot \hat{n} dA \quad \text{total power through surface } A$$

similar to

$$P(z,t) = V(z,t) i(z,t)$$

$$\vec{S}_{av} = \frac{1}{2} \text{Re}[\tilde{\vec{E}} \times \tilde{\vec{H}}^*] \quad \text{average power density}$$

similar to

$$P_{av}(z) = \frac{1}{2} \text{Re}[\tilde{V}(z) \tilde{I}^*]$$

• In a lossless medium:

$$|\tilde{\vec{E}}| = (\tilde{\vec{E}} \cdot \tilde{\vec{E}}^*)^{1/2}$$

$$\tilde{\vec{H}} = \frac{1}{\eta} \hat{k} \times \tilde{\vec{E}}$$

$$\vec{S}_{av} = \hat{k} \frac{|\tilde{\vec{E}}|^2}{2\eta}$$

• In a lossy medium:

$$\tilde{\vec{E}}(z), \quad \tilde{\vec{H}}(z) = \frac{1}{\eta_c} \hat{k} \times \tilde{\vec{E}} e^{-\alpha z} e^{-j\beta z}$$

$$= \tilde{\vec{E}} e^{-\alpha z} e^{-j\beta z}$$

$$\vec{S}_{av}(z) = \frac{1}{2} \text{Re}[\tilde{\vec{E}} \times \tilde{\vec{H}}^*] = \hat{k} \frac{|\tilde{E}_0|^2}{2} e^{-2\alpha z} \text{Re}\left(\frac{1}{\eta_c^*}\right)$$

note $\vec{E}$ and $\vec{H}$ decay as $e^{-\alpha z}$, but S decays as $e^{-2\alpha z}$