

EE540 Advance Electromagnetic Theory & Antennas

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Helmholtz Wave Equation

- *Spherical waves*
 - Like in cylindrical waves case
 - We will consider TE^r and TM^r spherical waves
- For TE^r spherical waves
 - $\vec{F} = F_r(r, \theta, \varphi)\hat{r}, \vec{A} = 0$
 - Note that $E_r = 0$ for TE^r modes since $\vec{E} = -\frac{1}{\epsilon}(\nabla \times \vec{F})$
- Solving the source free region, for this case,
 - $\nabla \times \nabla \times \vec{F} - \omega^2 \mu \epsilon \vec{F} = -j\omega \mu \epsilon \nabla \Phi_m$
- We get,
 - $(\nabla^2 + \beta^2) \frac{F_r}{r} = 0$
- Hence $\frac{F_r}{r}$ (not F_r) satisfies Helmholtz wave equation

TE^r spherical waves

$$\vec{F} = F_r(r, \theta, \varphi)\hat{r}, \vec{A} = 0$$



For source free region, $\frac{F_r}{r}$ satisfies Helmholtz wave equation and find the fields

$$(\nabla^2 + \beta^2) \frac{F_r}{r} = 0$$

Helmholtz Wave Equation



- Solve $\frac{F_r}{r}$ by solving Helmholtz wave equation and find
 - \vec{E}
 - $\vec{E} = \vec{E}_F + \vec{E}_A = -\frac{1}{\epsilon}(\nabla \times \vec{F}) + \frac{\nabla \times \nabla \times \vec{A}}{j\omega\mu\epsilon}$
 - \vec{H}
 - $\vec{H} = \vec{H}_F + \vec{H}_A = \frac{\nabla \times \nabla \times \vec{F}}{j\omega\mu\epsilon} + \frac{1}{\mu}(\nabla \times \vec{A})$
- Let us solve Helmholtz wave equation for
 - Scalar function Ψ which could be equated to
 - either $\frac{F_r}{r}$ or $\frac{A_r}{r}$
 - for TE^r and TM^r modes respectively

For source free region, solve Helmholtz wave equation for Ψ which could be equated to either $\frac{F_r}{r}$ or $\frac{A_r}{r}$ for TE^r and TM^r modes respectively

Find electric field (\vec{E}_A) and magnetic field (\vec{H}_A) as

$$\vec{E} = -\frac{1}{\epsilon}(\nabla \times \vec{F}) + \frac{\nabla \times \nabla \times \vec{A}}{j\omega\mu\epsilon}$$
$$\vec{H} = \frac{\nabla \times \nabla \times \vec{F}}{j\omega\mu\epsilon} + \frac{1}{\mu}(\nabla \times \vec{A})$$

Helmholtz Wave Equation



- Wave equation:

- $\nabla^2 \Psi + \beta^2 \Psi = 0$

- Laplacian in General curvilinear coordinates

$$\nabla^2 \psi = \nabla \cdot \nabla \psi = \frac{1}{s_1 s_2 s_3} \left[\frac{\partial}{\partial a_1} \left(\frac{s_2 s_3}{s_1} \frac{\partial \psi}{\partial a_1} \right) + \frac{\partial}{\partial a_2} \left(\frac{s_1 s_3}{s_2} \frac{\partial \psi}{\partial a_2} \right) + \frac{\partial}{\partial a_3} \left(\frac{s_1 s_2}{s_3} \frac{\partial \psi}{\partial a_3} \right) \right]$$

- For Laplacian in spherical coordinates:

- Substitute

- $s_1 = 1, s_2 = r, s_3 = r \sin \theta$

- $a_1 = r, a_2 = \theta, a_3 = \varphi$

- Wave equation becomes

- $\frac{1}{r^2} \frac{\partial}{\partial r} \left(r^2 \frac{\partial \Psi}{\partial r} \right) + \frac{1}{r^2 \sin \theta} \frac{\partial}{\partial \theta} \left(\sin \theta \frac{\partial \Psi}{\partial \theta} \right) + \frac{1}{r^2 \sin^2 \theta} \frac{\partial^2 \Psi}{\partial \varphi^2} + \beta^2 \Psi = 0$



Helmholtz Wave Equation

- Multiplying by $r^2 \sin^2 \theta$
 - $\sin^2 \theta \frac{\partial}{\partial r} \left(r^2 \frac{\partial \Psi}{\partial r} \right) + \sin \theta \frac{\partial}{\partial \theta} \left(\sin \theta \frac{\partial \Psi}{\partial \theta} \right) + \frac{\partial^2 \Psi}{\partial \varphi^2} + \beta^2 r^2 \sin^2 \theta \Psi = 0$
- Applying method of separation of variables
 - Substitute $\Psi = R(r)\Theta(\theta)\Phi(\varphi)$
 - $\Theta\Phi \sin^2 \theta \frac{\partial}{\partial r} \left(r^2 \frac{\partial R}{\partial r} \right) + R\Phi \sin \theta \frac{\partial}{\partial \theta} \left(\sin \theta \frac{\partial \Theta}{\partial \theta} \right) + R\Theta \frac{\partial^2 \Phi}{\partial \varphi^2} + \beta^2 r^2 \sin^2 \theta (R\Theta\Phi) = 0$
- Dividing by $\Psi = R(r)\Theta(\theta)\Phi(\varphi)$, we have
- $\frac{1}{R} \sin^2 \theta \frac{\partial}{\partial r} \left(r^2 \frac{\partial R}{\partial r} \right) + \frac{\sin \theta}{\Theta} \frac{\partial}{\partial \theta} \left(\sin \theta \frac{\partial \Theta}{\partial \theta} \right) + \frac{1}{\Phi} \frac{\partial^2 \Phi}{\partial \varphi^2} + \beta^2 r^2 \sin^2 \theta = 0$



Helmholtz Wave Equation

- Since the third term is dependent of φ
- but all other terms of independent of φ
 - $\frac{1}{\Phi} \frac{\partial^2 \Phi}{\partial \varphi^2} = -m^2$
 - where $-m^2$ is an arbitrary constant
- Hence,
 - $\frac{1}{R} \sin^2 \theta \frac{\partial}{\partial r} \left(r^2 \frac{\partial R}{\partial r} \right) + \frac{\sin \theta}{\Theta} \frac{\partial}{\partial \theta} \left(\sin \theta \frac{\partial \Theta}{\partial \theta} \right) - m^2 + \beta^2 r^2 \sin^2 \theta = 0$
- Divide by $\sin^2 \theta$, we have,
 - $\frac{1}{R} \frac{\partial}{\partial r} \left(r^2 \frac{\partial R}{\partial r} \right) + \frac{1}{\Theta \sin} \frac{\partial}{\partial \theta} \left(\sin \theta \frac{\partial \Theta}{\partial \theta} \right) - \frac{m^2}{\sin^2 \theta} + \beta^2 r^2 = 0$



Helmholtz Wave Equation

- First and 4th term dependent on r
- 2nd and 3rd term dependent on φ
- Can be converted into two equations as
 - $\frac{1}{R} \frac{\partial}{\partial r} \left(r^2 \frac{\partial R}{\partial r} \right) + \beta^2 r^2 = n(n + 1)$
 - $\frac{1}{\sin \theta} \frac{\partial}{\partial \theta} \left(\sin \theta \frac{\partial \Theta}{\partial \theta} \right) - \frac{m^2}{\sin^2 \theta} = -n(n + 1)$
 - where $n(n + 1)$ is an arbitrary constant
- Rewritten as
 - $\frac{\partial}{\partial r} \left(r^2 \frac{\partial R}{\partial r} \right) + \{\beta^2 r^2 - n(n + 1)\}R = 0$
 - Spherical Bessel Equations



Helmholtz Wave Equation

- *First solution:*
 - $R(r) = a_1 j_n(\beta r) + b_1 y_n(\beta r)$
 - Note the small letter symbol of j_n and y_n
 - They are called Spherical Bessel functions of first and second kind
- Spherical Bessel functions represent
 - radial standing waves
 - Related to regular Bessel function as
 - $j_n(\beta r) = \sqrt{\frac{\pi}{2\beta r}} J_{n+\frac{1}{2}}(\beta r)$
 - $y_n(\beta r) = \sqrt{\frac{\pi}{2\beta r}} Y_{n+\frac{1}{2}}(\beta r)$

Helmholtz Wave Equation



- *Second solution:*

- $R(r) = a_2 h_n^{(1)}(r) + b_2 h_n^{(2)}(r)$

- They are called Spherical Hankel functions of first and second kind

- radial propagating waves

- Related to regular Hankel function as

- $h_n^{(1)}(\beta r) = \sqrt{\frac{\pi}{2\beta r}} H_{n+\frac{1}{2}}^{(1)}(\beta r)$

- $h_n^{(2)}(\beta r) = \sqrt{\frac{\pi}{2\beta r}} H_{n+\frac{1}{2}}^{(2)}(\beta r)$



Helmholtz Wave Equation

- Legendre's equations

- $$\frac{1}{\sin\theta} \frac{\partial}{\partial\theta} \left(\sin\theta \frac{\partial\Theta}{\partial\theta} \right) + \left\{ n(n+1) - \frac{m^2}{\sin^2\theta} \right\} \Theta = 0$$

- whose solutions are associated Legendre functions

- $\Theta = e_1 P_n^m(\cos\theta) + f_1 Q_n^m(\cos\theta)$

- where P_n^m and Q_n^m are associated Legendre functions of first and second kind

- n is degree and m is the order

- e_1 and f_1 are any arbitrary constants

- Note that

- $P_n^m(\cos\theta)$ is finite for $\theta = 0, \pi$ only if n is an integer

- $Q_n^m(\cos\theta)$ tends to infinity for $\theta = 0, \pi$



Helmholtz Wave Equation

- When n is an integer ($n=0,1,2,\dots$)
 - $P_n^m(\cos\theta)$ also called as associated Legendre polynomial
 - can be obtained from Legendre polynomial $P_n(x)$ for $-n \leq m \leq n$ as
 - $P_n^m(x) = (-1)^m (1-x^2)^{\frac{m}{2}} \frac{d^m}{dx^m} (P_n(x)) = \frac{1}{2^n n!} (1-x^2)^{\frac{m}{2}} \frac{d^{n+m}}{dx^{n+m}} ((x^2-1)^n)$
 - Note that m is the order of derivative of $P_n(x)$ w.r.t. x ($m=0$, it reduce to $P_n(x)$)
 - Also Legendre polynomial can be obtained from Rodriguez formula as
 - $P_n(x) = \frac{1}{2^n n!} \frac{d^n}{dx^n} ((x^2-1)^n)$
 - Note that n is the degree of derivative of $(x^2-1)^n$ w.r.t. x
 - and $P_n(x)$ is a polynomial of degree n
 - and it can be obtained from recurrence relation as well
 - $P_n(x)$ form an orthogonal set of polynomials on $[-1, 1]$



Helmholtz Wave Equation

- Typical solutions of Ψ
 - Fields inside a sphere
 - with finite fields for $r=0$ and $\theta = 0, \pi$
 - $\Psi(r, \theta, \varphi) = C_{mn1} j_n(\beta r) P_n^m(\cos\theta) \times (C_1 \cos(m\varphi) + D_1 \sin(m\varphi))$
 - Fields outside a sphere
 - with finite fields for $r=0$ and $\theta = 0, \pi$
 - $\Psi(r, \theta, \varphi) = C_{mn2} h_n^{(2)}(\beta r) P_n^m(\cos\theta) \times (C_1 \cos(m\varphi) + D_1 \sin(m\varphi))$