

Homework No. 07

Lecture introduced characteristic modes as solutions to specific eigenvalue problems. In this homework, the evaluation of characteristic modes of a cylindrical dipole is practiced.

Setup: Assume a dipole placed along the z -axis ($z \in (-L/2, L/2)$) which has a form of a thin-wall perfectly electrically conducting (PEC) tube. No cap is assumed at the end of the dipole. Assume that the dipole is described by an equivalent current density¹

$$\mathbf{J}_e = I(z) \frac{\delta(\rho - a)}{2\pi\rho} \mathbf{z}_0, \quad z \in (-L/2, L/2). \quad (1)$$

Electrodynamics of this system is described by impedance matrix $\mathbf{Z}_0 = \mathbf{R}_0 + j\mathbf{X}_0$, which can be evaluated as

$$Z_{0,mn} = -\langle \mathbf{E}_e(\boldsymbol{\psi}_m), \boldsymbol{\psi}_n \rangle, \quad (2)$$

where it is assumed that equivalent current density is expanded as

$$\mathbf{J}_e = \sum_{n=1}^N I_n \boldsymbol{\psi}_n, \quad (3)$$

with

$$\boldsymbol{\psi}_n = \frac{\delta(\rho - a)}{2\pi\rho} \sin\left(n\pi\left(\frac{z}{L} - \frac{1}{2}\right)\right) \mathbf{z}_0, \quad z \in (-L/2, L/2) \quad (4)$$

and where $\mathbf{E}_e(\mathbf{J}_e)$ is electric field generated by current density $\mathbf{J}_e$. The current expansion (3) is equivalent to

$$I(z) = \sum_{n=1}^N I_n f_n(z) \quad (5)$$

with

$$f_n(z) = \sin\left(n\pi\left(\frac{z}{L} - \frac{1}{2}\right)\right), \quad z \in (-L/2, L/2). \quad (6)$$

Based on the previous homework, there is

$$\mathbf{z}_0 \cdot \mathbf{E}_e(\boldsymbol{\psi}_m, \rho > a, z) = -\frac{kZ}{8\pi} \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \left(1 - \frac{k_z^2}{k^2}\right) \tilde{f}_m(k_z) H_0^{(2)}(k_\rho \rho) J_0(k_\rho a) e^{jk_z z} dk_z, \quad (7)$$

where Z is the free-space impedance, $\tilde{f}_m(k_z) = \mathcal{F}_z\{f_m(z)\}$ is the Fourier's transform of the current basis function, $H_n^{(2)}$ is Hankel's function of second kind and order n and $k_\rho^2 = k^2 - k_z^2$ with $\text{Im}\{k_\rho\} < 0$. This leads to

$$Z_{0,mn} = \frac{kZ}{8\pi} \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \tilde{f}_m(k_z) \tilde{f}_n^*(k_z) \left(1 - \frac{k_z^2}{k^2}\right) H_0^{(2)}(k_\rho a) J_0(k_\rho a) dk_z. \quad (8)$$

¹It is assumed that potential excitation does not break the angular symmetry.

Task No. 1: Knowing the impedance matrix $\mathbf{Z}_0$, evaluate characteristic modes

$$\mathbf{X}_0 \mathbf{I} = \lambda \mathbf{R}_0 \mathbf{I}. \quad (9)$$

Plot current profiles of the first five characteristic modes at electrical size $kL \approx 0.9\pi$ and ratio $L/a = 50$. Comment on their composition via basis functions. Numerically check the orthogonality relations

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbf{I}_m^H \mathbf{R}_0 \mathbf{I}_n &= \mathbf{I}_n^H \mathbf{R}_0 \mathbf{I}_m \delta_{mn}, \\ \mathbf{I}_m^H \mathbf{X}_0 \mathbf{I}_n &= \mathbf{I}_n^H \mathbf{X}_0 \mathbf{I}_m \delta_{mn}. \end{aligned} \quad (10)$$

Task No. 2: Try to evaluate frequency sweep of the first five (smallest in magnitude) characteristic numbers λ for electrical size $kL \in (0.1, 2.0)\pi$ and the same ratio L/a as above. Notice that when characteristic number is positive / negative, the mode predominantly carries magnetic / electric energy (inductive / capacitive mode). When characteristic number passes through zero, the mode is at resonance. At that frequency, the excited current distribution is typically dominated by this characteristic mode.