

# LECTURE 10

## THE FDTD METHOD – PART II

## 9. Some excitation functions (sources)

The problem of choosing the proper space-time dependence of the excitation  $g(x,y,z,t)$  requires special attention. Here, we confine our attention to the time-dependence of the sources and their discretization.

### Sinusoidal excitation

$$\sin(\omega t) = \sin\left(n \frac{2\pi}{T} \Delta t\right), \quad n = 0, 1, 2, 3, \dots$$

Assuming that  $\Delta t = T / 32 \Rightarrow g^n = \sin\left(\frac{\pi}{16} n\right), \quad n = 0, 1, 2, \dots$

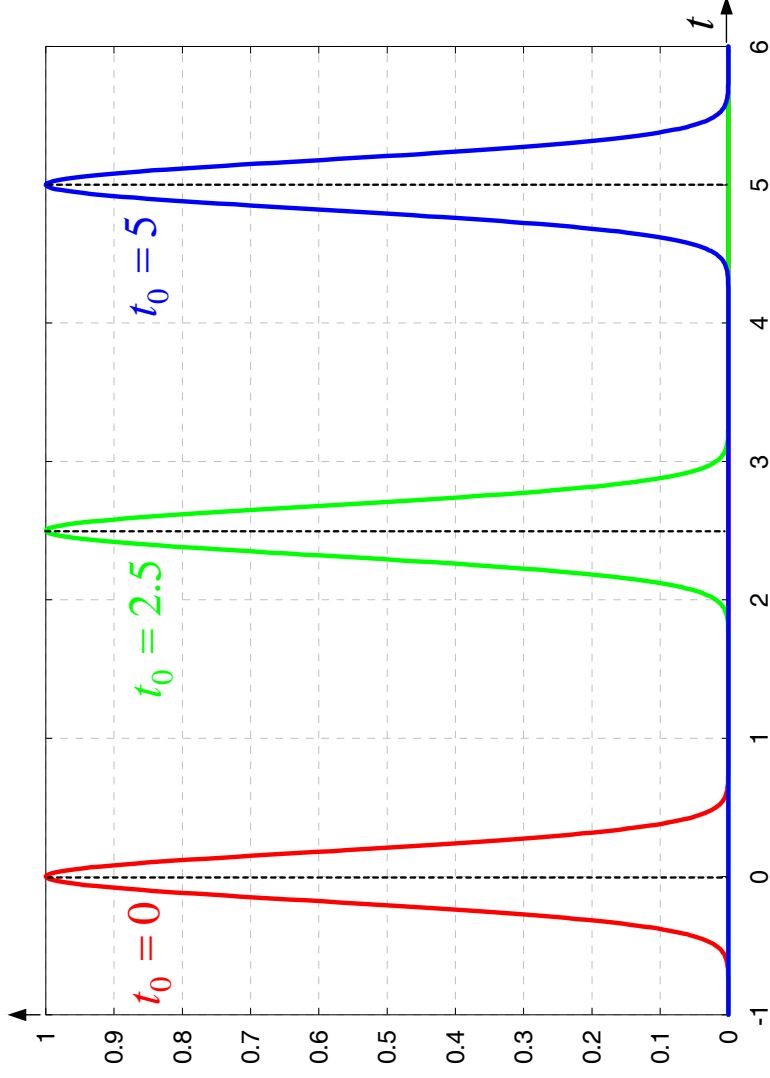
### Gaussian pulse

$$g(t) = e^{-\alpha(t-t_0)^2}$$

## 9. Some excitation functions (sources) – cont.

### Gaussian pulse

$$g(t) = e^{-\alpha(t-t_0)^2}$$

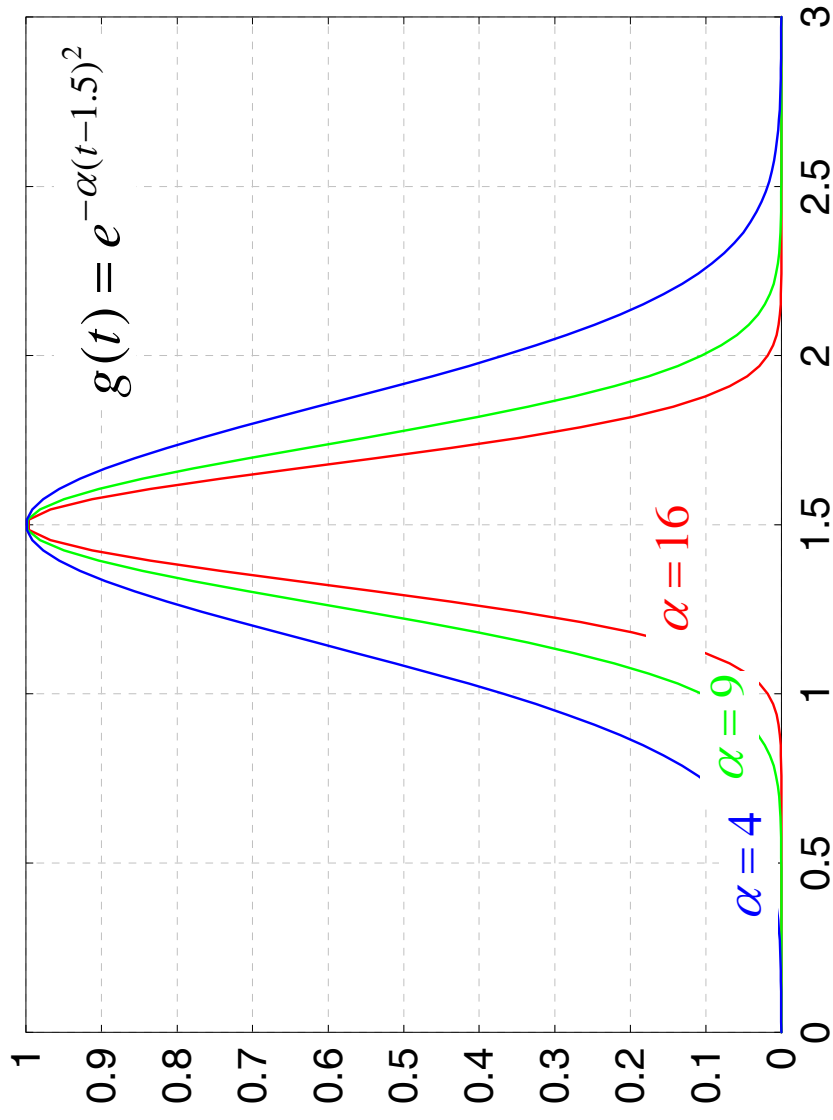


$$f(t) = e^{-16(t-t_0)^2}$$

## 9. Some excitation functions (sources) – cont.

### Gaussian pulse

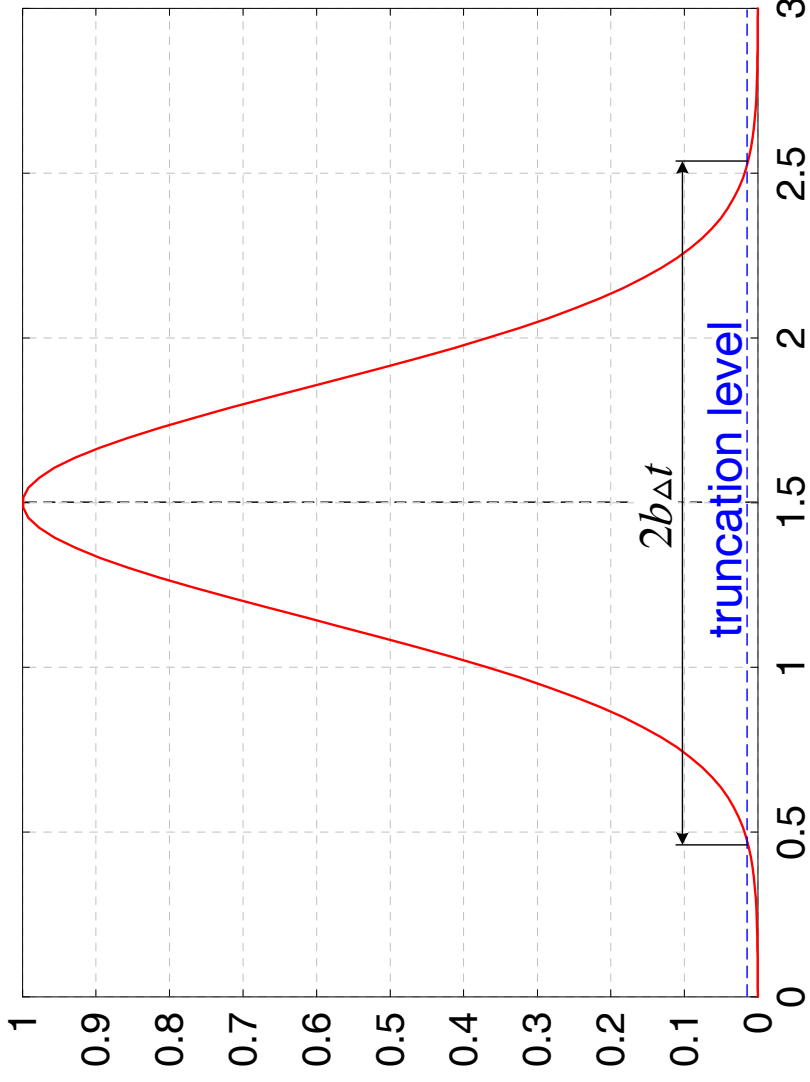
$$g(t) = e^{-\alpha(t-t_0)^2}$$



## 9. Some excitation functions (sources) – cont.

$$g^n = e^{-\alpha \Delta t^2 (n-n_0)^2}$$

The discrete Gaussian excitation is controlled by two numerical constants:  $\alpha$  and  $b$ , where  $b$  denotes the half pulse width. Recommended  $b : b > 30$ .



## 9. Some excitation functions (sources) – cont.

At the truncation level:  $|n - n_0| = b$

Set truncation level at  $e^{-\eta^2}$

$$e^{-\alpha_{\Delta} t^2 b^2} = e^{-\eta^2} \Rightarrow \boxed{\alpha_{\Delta} t^2 = A = (\eta / b)^2} \quad \Rightarrow \quad g^n = e^{-A(n-n_0)^2}$$

The truncation level should be comparable with the precision of numbers. For single precision (6 significant digits), recommended value is  $\eta = 4$ . This corresponds to truncation at  $\exp(-16)$ . For double precision (12 significant digits),  $\eta = 5$ .

The pulse width in terms of  $b$  is determined according to the desired width of the excitation frequency spectrum.

## 9. Some excitation functions (sources) – cont.

The Fourier transform of the Gaussian pulse is a Gaussian function of frequency.

$$\tilde{g}(f) \simeq e^{-\pi^2 f^2 / \alpha}$$

We require that the spectral value at the highest frequency of interest is at 0.3 of the maximum:

$$e^{-\pi^2 f_{\max}^2 / \alpha} = 0.3$$

$$-\frac{\pi^2 f_{\max}^2}{\alpha} = \ln 0.3 \Rightarrow A = \frac{\pi^2 f_{\max}^2 \Delta t^2}{\ln(10/3)} = \left(\frac{\eta}{b}\right)^2$$

$$\Rightarrow b = \frac{\eta \sqrt{\ln(10/3)}}{\pi f_{\max} \Delta t}$$

If we set  $f_{\max} \Delta t = \Delta t / T_{\min} = 1/32$  then  $b = \frac{\eta 32 \sqrt{\ln(10/3)}}{\pi}$

## 9. Some excitation functions (sources) – cont.

Typically, the spatial step is first determined according to the finest detail of the structure

$$b = \frac{\eta \sqrt{\ln(10/3)} \lambda_{\min}}{\pi \alpha \Delta h}, \quad \alpha = \frac{c \Delta t}{\Delta h} \leq 1 / \sqrt{D}$$

where  $D$  denotes the dimensionality of the problem ( $D=1,2,3$ ).

### Band-limited excitations

(a) sine wave modulated with a Gaussian pulse

$$g(t) = e^{-\alpha(t-t_0)^2} \sin(\omega t)$$



## 9. Some excitation functions (sources) – cont.

(b) sine wave modulated by a Blackman-Harris window

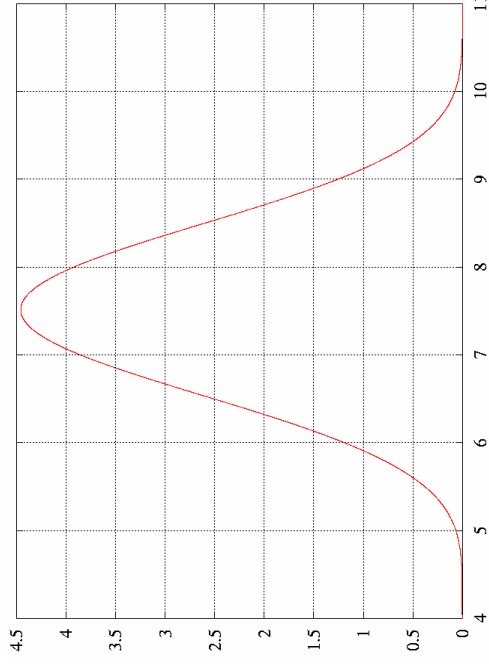
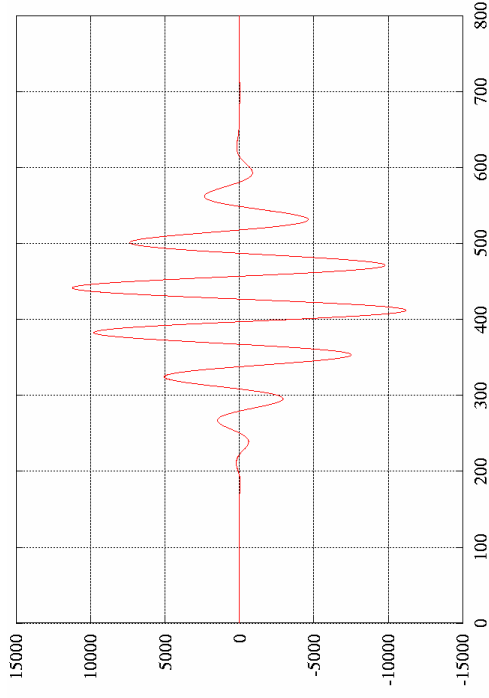
$$g(t) = B(t) \sin(\omega t),$$

$$B(t) = a_0 - a_1 \cdot \cos(\omega_w t) + a_2 \cdot \cos(2\omega_w t) - a_3 \cdot \cos(3\omega_w t),$$

$$\omega_w = \omega / N \quad (N = 7 \dots 10)$$

$$a_0 = 0.35875 \quad a_1 = 0.48829 \quad a_2 = 0.14128 \quad a_3 = 0.01168$$

$N$  controls the bandwidth of the spectrum.



## 10. Time-domain Maxwell equations for a dispersion-free medium

The FDTD algorithm is based on the Maxwell curl equations

$$\begin{aligned} -\nabla \times \mathbf{E}(\mathbf{r}, t) &= \frac{\partial \mathbf{B}(\mathbf{r}, t)}{\partial t} + \mathbf{J}_m(\mathbf{r}, t) + \mathbf{J}_m^i(\mathbf{r}, t) \\ \nabla \times \mathbf{H}(\mathbf{r}, t) &= \frac{\partial \mathbf{D}(\mathbf{r}, t)}{\partial t} + \mathbf{J}_e(\mathbf{r}, t) + \mathbf{J}_e^i(\mathbf{r}, t) \end{aligned}$$

constitutive relations

$$\mathbf{D} = \mathbf{F}_D \{ \mathbf{E}, \mathbf{H} \}$$

$$\mathbf{B} = \mathbf{F}_B \{ \mathbf{E}, \mathbf{H} \}$$

$$\mathbf{J}_e = \mathbf{F}_J^e \{ \mathbf{E}, \mathbf{H} \}$$

$$\mathbf{J}_m = \mathbf{F}_J^m \{ \mathbf{E}, \mathbf{H} \}$$

in dispersion-free isotropic medium

$$\mathbf{D}(\mathbf{r}, t) = \epsilon \mathbf{E}(\mathbf{r}, t)$$

$$\mathbf{B}(\mathbf{r}, t) = \mu \mathbf{H}(\mathbf{r}, t)$$

$$\mathbf{J}_e(\mathbf{r}, t) = \sigma_e \mathbf{E}(\mathbf{r}, t)$$

$$\mathbf{J}_m(\mathbf{r}, t) = \sigma_m \mathbf{H}(\mathbf{r}, t)$$

## 10. Time-domain Maxwell equations for a dispersion-free medium – cont.

$$\begin{aligned} -\nabla \times \mathbf{E}(\mathbf{r}, t) &= \mu \frac{\partial \mathbf{H}(\mathbf{r}, t)}{\partial t} + \sigma_m \mathbf{H}(\mathbf{r}, t) + \mathbf{J}_m^i(\mathbf{r}, t) \\ \nabla \times \mathbf{H}(\mathbf{r}, t) &= \varepsilon \frac{\partial \mathbf{E}(\mathbf{r}, t)}{\partial t} + \sigma_e \mathbf{E}(\mathbf{r}, t) + \mathbf{J}_e^i(\mathbf{r}, t) \end{aligned}$$

In rectangular coordinates, the above is written as

$$\begin{aligned} \mu \frac{\partial H_x}{\partial t} + \sigma_m H_x &= - \left( \frac{\partial E_z}{\partial y} - \frac{\partial E_y}{\partial z} \right) - J_{mx}^i \\ \mu \frac{\partial H_y}{\partial t} + \sigma_m H_y &= - \left( \frac{\partial E_x}{\partial z} - \frac{\partial E_z}{\partial x} \right) - J_{my}^i \\ \mu \frac{\partial H_z}{\partial t} + \sigma_m H_z &= - \left( \frac{\partial E_y}{\partial x} - \frac{\partial E_x}{\partial y} \right) - J_{mz}^i \end{aligned}$$

## 10. Time-domain Maxwell equations for a dispersion-free medium – cont.

$$\begin{aligned}\epsilon \frac{\partial E_x}{\partial t} + \sigma_e E_x &= \frac{\partial H_z}{\partial y} - \frac{\partial H_y}{\partial z} - J_{ex}^i \\ \epsilon \frac{\partial E_y}{\partial t} + \sigma_e E_y &= \frac{\partial H_x}{\partial z} - \frac{\partial H_z}{\partial x} - J_{ey}^i \\ \epsilon \frac{\partial E_z}{\partial t} + \sigma_e E_z &= \frac{\partial H_y}{\partial x} - \frac{\partial H_x}{\partial y} - J_{ez}^i\end{aligned}$$

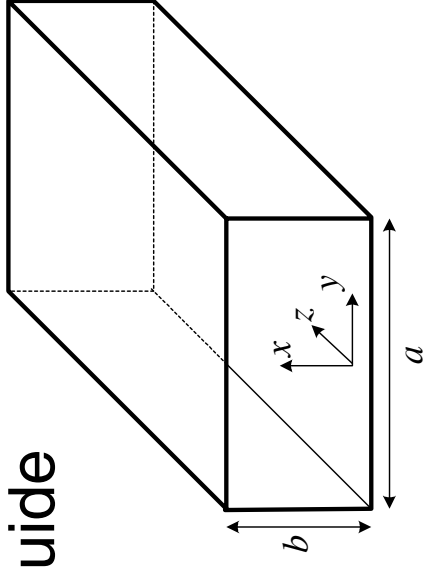
### Reduction to 2-D problems

Consider a field and its sources, which *do not depend on one of the spatial coordinates*, e.g., the  $x$  coordinate. Maxwell's equation then reduce to two decoupled systems of equations, each of which involves only three field components.

# 10. Time-domain Maxwell equations for a dispersion-free medium – cont.

$$\boxed{\frac{\partial}{\partial x} = 0}$$

example: TE<sub>0m</sub> modes in a rectangular waveguide



$$\mu \frac{\partial H_x}{\partial t} + \sigma_m H_x = - \left( \frac{\partial E_z}{\partial y} - \frac{\partial E_y}{\partial z} \right) - J_{mx}^i$$

$$\mu \frac{\partial H_y}{\partial t} + \sigma_m H_y = - \frac{\partial E_x}{\partial z} - J_{my}^i$$

$$\mu \frac{\partial H_z}{\partial t} + \sigma_m H_z = \frac{\partial E_x}{\partial y} - J_{mz}^i$$

$$\epsilon \frac{\partial E_x}{\partial t} + \sigma_e E_x = \frac{\partial H_z}{\partial y} - \frac{\partial H_y}{\partial z} - J_{ex}^i$$

$$\epsilon \frac{\partial E_y}{\partial t} + \sigma_e E_y = \frac{\partial H_x}{\partial z} - J_{ey}^i$$

$$\epsilon \frac{\partial E_z}{\partial t} + \sigma_e E_z = - \frac{\partial H_x}{\partial y} - J_{ez}^i$$

## 10. Time-domain Maxwell equations for a dispersion-free medium – cont.

TM<sub>x</sub> modes

$$\varepsilon \frac{\partial E_x}{\partial t} + \sigma_e E_x = \frac{\partial H_z}{\partial y} - \frac{\partial H_y}{\partial z} - J_{ex}^i$$

$$\mu \frac{\partial H_y}{\partial t} + \sigma_m H_y = -\frac{\partial E_x}{\partial z} - J_{my}^i$$

$$\mu \frac{\partial H_z}{\partial t} + \sigma_m H_z = \frac{\partial E_x}{\partial y} - J_{mz}^i$$

TE<sub>x</sub> modes

$$\mu \frac{\partial H_x}{\partial t} + \sigma_m H_x = -\left( \frac{\partial E_z}{\partial y} - \frac{\partial E_y}{\partial z} \right) - J_{mx}^i$$

$$\varepsilon \frac{\partial E_y}{\partial t} + \sigma_e E_y = \frac{\partial H_x}{\partial z} - J_{ey}^i$$

$$\varepsilon \frac{\partial E_z}{\partial t} + \sigma_e E_z = -\frac{\partial H_x}{\partial y} - J_{ez}^i$$

## 10. Time-domain Maxwell equations for a dispersion-free medium – cont.

**Important note:** The field decomposition into TE and TM modes in 2-D problems is different from the 3-D TE and TM decomposition you know from waveguide theory!

Consider the  $TE_z$  and  $TM_z$  modes in a waveguide and the  $TE_z$  and  $TM_z$  modes in a 2-D problem.

- (a) In 2-D problems – the field is independent of  $z$ .
- (b) In a waveguide – the field depends on  $z$ .
- (c) In 2-D problems – the 2-D field has only 3 nonzero components ( $TE_z$ :  $E_x, E_y, H_z$ ;  $TM_z$ :  $H_x, H_y, E_z$ ).
- (d) In a waveguide – the 3-D modal field has 5 nonzero components ( $TE_z$ :  $E_z=0$ ;  $TM_z$ :  $H_z=0$ )

## 10. Time-domain Maxwell equations for a dispersion-free medium – cont.

The 2-D TE<sub>z</sub> mode

$$\mu \frac{\partial H_z}{\partial t} + \sigma_m H_z = - \left( \frac{\partial E_y}{\partial x} - \frac{\partial E_x}{\partial y} \right)$$

$$\varepsilon \frac{\partial E_x}{\partial t} + \sigma_e E_x = \frac{\partial H_z}{\partial y} - J_{ex}^i$$

$$\varepsilon \frac{\partial E_y}{\partial t} + \sigma_e E_y = - \frac{\partial H_z}{\partial x} - J_{ey}^i$$

The 3-D TE<sub>z</sub> mode

$$\mathbf{F} = \hat{\mathbf{z}}F(x, y, z, t)$$

$$\mathbf{E} = -\nabla \times \mathbf{F}$$

$$\mu \frac{\partial \mathbf{H}}{\partial t} + \sigma_m \mathbf{H} = \nabla \times \nabla \times \mathbf{F}$$

$$E_z = 0$$

$$E_x = -\frac{\partial F}{\partial y}; \quad E_y = \frac{\partial F}{\partial x}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \mu \frac{\partial H_z}{\partial t} + \sigma_m H_z &= \frac{\partial^2 F}{\partial z^2} - \frac{1}{c^2} \frac{\partial^2 F}{\partial t^2} \\ &= - \left( \frac{\partial^2 F}{\partial x^2} + \frac{\partial^2 F}{\partial y^2} \right) \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \mu \frac{\partial H_x}{\partial t} + \sigma_m H_x &= \frac{\partial^2 F}{\partial x \partial z} \\ \mu \frac{\partial H_y}{\partial t} + \sigma_m H_y &= \frac{\partial^2 F}{\partial y \partial z} \end{aligned}$$



## 10. Time-domain Maxwell equations for a dispersion-free medium – cont.

The 2-D TM<sub>z</sub> mode

$$\epsilon \frac{\partial E_z}{\partial t} + \sigma_e E_z = \frac{\partial H_y}{\partial x} - \frac{\partial H_x}{\partial y} - J_{ez}^i$$

$$\mu \frac{\partial H_x}{\partial t} + \sigma_m H_x = -\frac{\partial E_z}{\partial y}$$

$$\mu \frac{\partial H_y}{\partial t} + \sigma_m H_y = \frac{\partial E_z}{\partial x}$$

The 3-D TM<sub>z</sub> mode

$$\mathbf{A} = \hat{\mathbf{z}}A(x, y, z, t)$$

$$\mathbf{H} = \nabla \times \mathbf{A}$$

$$\epsilon \frac{\partial \mathbf{E}}{\partial t} + \sigma_e \mathbf{E} = \nabla \times \nabla \times \mathbf{A}$$

$$H_z = 0$$

$$H_x = \frac{\partial A}{\partial y}; \quad H_y = -\frac{\partial A}{\partial x}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \epsilon \frac{\partial E_z}{\partial t} + \sigma_e E_z &= \frac{\partial^2 A}{\partial z^2} - \frac{1}{c^2} \frac{\partial^2 A}{\partial t^2} \\ &= -\left( \frac{\partial^2 A}{\partial x^2} + \frac{\partial^2 A}{\partial y^2} \right) \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \epsilon \frac{\partial E_x}{\partial t} + \sigma_e E_x &= \frac{\partial^2 A}{\partial x \partial z} \\ \epsilon \frac{\partial E_y}{\partial t} + \sigma_e E_y &= \frac{\partial^2 A}{\partial y \partial z} \end{aligned}$$

# 10. Time-domain Maxwell equations for a dispersion-free medium – cont.

Take as an example the  $TE_{z0m}$  waveguide modes

$$E_z = 0$$

$$E_x = -\frac{\partial F}{\partial y}; \quad E_y = \frac{\partial F}{\partial x} = 0$$

$$\mu \frac{\partial H_y}{\partial t} + \sigma_m H_y = \frac{\partial^2 F}{\partial y \partial z}$$

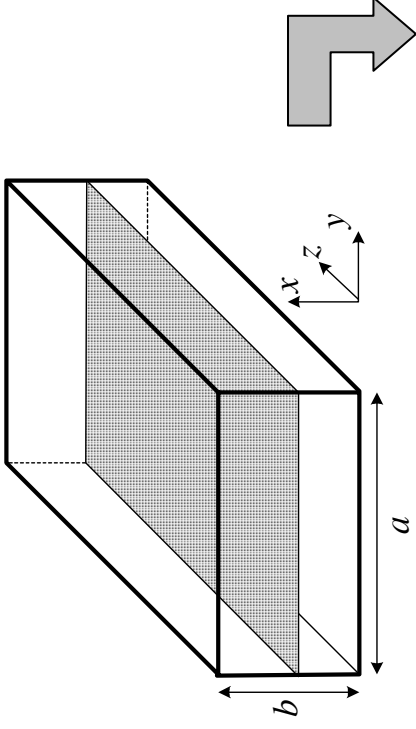
$$\mu \frac{\partial H_x}{\partial t} + \sigma_m H_x = \frac{\partial^2 F}{\partial x \partial z} = 0$$

$$\mu \frac{\partial H_z}{\partial t} + \sigma_m H_z = \frac{\partial^2 F}{\partial z^2} - \frac{1}{c^2} \frac{\partial^2 F}{\partial t^2}$$

$$= -\left( \frac{\partial^2 F}{\partial x^2} + \frac{\partial^2 F}{\partial y^2} \right)$$

$E_x, H_y, H_z$

This is a 2-D  $TM_x$  mode!



PEC BC:  $E_x = 0$

2-D  $TM_x$  computational domain

PEC BC:  $E_x = 0$

port 2

## 10. Time-domain Maxwell equations for a dispersion-free medium – cont.

There are no  $\text{TM}_{z0m}$  waveguide modes

$\frac{\partial A_z}{\partial x} = 0$  and the boundary conditions

$$A_z(x=0) = 0, A_z(x=b) = 0$$

make only the trivial solution possible:

$$A_z(x, y, z, t) = 0$$

