

**EE750**  
**Advanced Engineering Electromagnetics**  
**Lecture 8**

# The Inhomogeneous Vector Potential Wave Equation

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- Consider an infinitesimal current source  $J_z$  placed at the origin

- For this configuration we have

$$\nabla^2 A_z + \beta^2 A_z = -\mu J_z \quad (\text{at source point})$$

$$\nabla^2 A_z + \beta^2 A_z = 0 \quad (\text{at all other points})$$

- We must have  $A_z = A_z(r)$  because source is infinitesimal

- It follows that at a general point we have

$$\nabla^2 A_z + \beta^2 A_z = \frac{1}{r^2} \frac{\partial}{\partial r} \left( r^2 \frac{\partial A_z}{\partial r} \right) + \beta^2 A_z = 0$$



$$d^2 A_z / d r^2 + (2 / r) d A_z / d r + \beta^2 A_z(r) = 0$$

## The Inhomogenous Vector Equation (Cont'd)

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- This equation has the general solution

$$A_z(r) = C_1 \frac{e^{-j\beta r}}{r} + C_2 \frac{e^{j\beta r}}{r}$$

Only the outward wave is a valid solution for our source

- For the corresponding static problem ( $\beta=0$ ), we have

$$d^2 A_z / d r^2 + (2 / r) d A_z / d r = 0 \implies A_z(r) = \frac{C_1}{r}$$

- It follows that the solutions of time-harmonic problems can be obtained from the corresponding static solutions by multiplying by the phase retardation factor  $\exp(-j\beta r)$  for each source point

## The Inhomogenous Vector Equation (Cont'd)

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- Using similarity with the solution of the static charge equation we obtain for an arbitrary current distribution

$$A_z = \frac{\mu}{4\pi} \iiint_{V'} \frac{J_z}{r} dV'$$

- For the time-harmonic case, we have

$$A_z = \frac{\mu}{4\pi} \iiint_{V'} \frac{J_z}{r} e^{-j\beta r} dV'$$

- For sources with different orientation, we have

$$\nabla^2 A_x + \beta^2 A_x = -\mu J_x \quad \Longrightarrow \quad A_x = \frac{\mu}{4\pi} \iiint_{V'} \frac{J_x}{r} e^{-j\beta r} dV'$$

$$\nabla^2 A_y + \beta^2 A_y = -\mu J_y \quad \Longrightarrow \quad A_y = \frac{\mu}{4\pi} \iiint_{V'} \frac{J_y}{r} e^{-j\beta r} dV'$$

## The Inhomogenous Vector Equation (Cont'd)

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- In general, we have 
$$\mathbf{A} = \frac{\mu}{4\pi} \iiint_{V'} \frac{\mathbf{J}}{r} e^{-j\beta r} dV'$$

- It follows that for a general source and observation point

$$\mathbf{A}(x, y, z) = \frac{\mu}{4\pi} \iiint_{V'} \frac{\mathbf{J}(x', y', z')}{R} e^{-j\beta R} dV'$$

$$R = \sqrt{(x-x')^2 + (y-y')^2 + (z-z')^2}$$

- Similarly, the electric vector potential may be expressed as

$$\mathbf{F}(x, y, z) = \frac{\varepsilon}{4\pi} \iiint_{V'} \frac{\mathbf{M}(x', y', z')}{R} e^{-j\beta R} dV'$$

## The Inhomogenous Vector Equation (Cont'd)

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- Notice that the volume integral reduces to a surface or line integrals if we have surface or linear current densities, respectively

$$\mathbf{A}(x, y, z) = \frac{\mu}{4\pi} \iint_{S'} \frac{\mathbf{J}_s(x', y', z')}{R} e^{-j\beta R} dS'$$

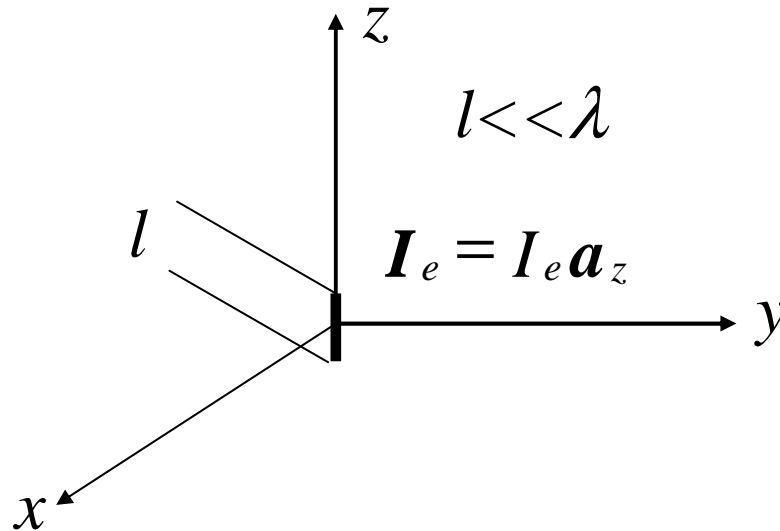
$$\mathbf{F}(x, y, z) = \frac{\varepsilon}{4\pi} \iint_{S'} \frac{\mathbf{M}_s(x', y', z')}{R} e^{-j\beta R} dS'$$

$$\mathbf{A}(x, y, z) = \frac{\mu}{4\pi} \int_C \frac{\mathbf{I}_e(x', y', z')}{R} e^{-j\beta R} d\ell'$$

$$\mathbf{F}(x, y, z) = \frac{\varepsilon}{4\pi} \int_C \frac{\mathbf{I}_m(x', y', z')}{R} e^{-j\beta R} d\ell'$$

## Example: An Infinitesimal Dipole

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- We start by obtaining the magnetic vector potential

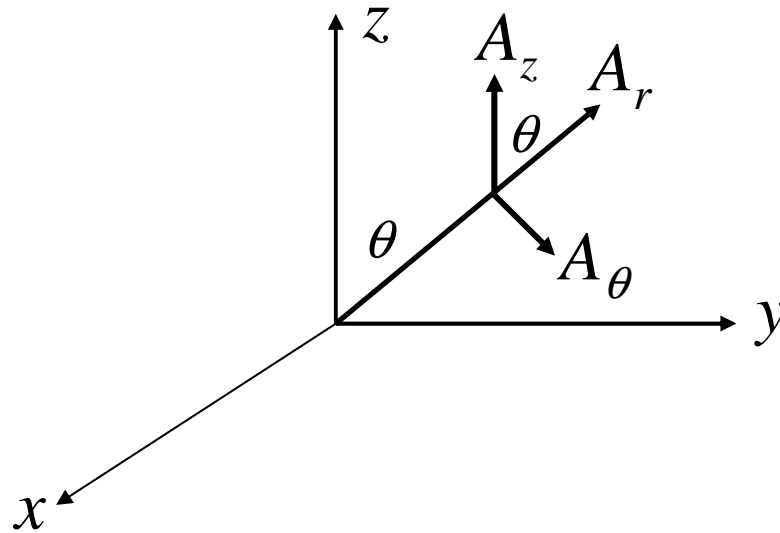
$$A_z(x, y, z) = \frac{\mu}{4\pi} \int_{-l/2}^{l/2} \frac{\mathbf{a}_z I_e(x', y', z')}{R} e^{-j\beta R} dz'$$

↓

$$A_z(x, y, z) = \frac{\mathbf{a}_z \mu I_e}{4\pi r} e^{-j\beta r} \int_{-l/2}^{l/2} dz' = \frac{\mathbf{a}_z \mu I_e l}{4\pi r} e^{-j\beta r}$$

## Example: An Infinitesimal Dipole (Cont'd)

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- For spherical wave we usually utilize spherical coordinates

$$A_r = A_z \cos\theta = \frac{\mu I_e l}{4\pi r} e^{-j\beta r} \cos\theta$$

$$A_\theta = -A_z \sin\theta = \frac{-\mu I_e l}{4\pi r} e^{-j\beta r} \sin\theta$$

$$A_\phi = 0$$



## Example: An Infinitesimal Dipole (Cont'd)

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- We then proceed to obtain the magnetic and electric fields

$$\mathbf{H} = \frac{1}{\mu} \nabla \times \mathbf{A} \implies \mathbf{H} = \mathbf{a}_\phi \frac{1}{\mu r} \left( \frac{\partial}{\partial r} (r A_\theta) - \frac{\partial A_r}{\partial \theta} \right)$$

$$H_\phi = \frac{j\beta I_e l}{4\pi r} \sin\theta \left( 1 + \frac{1}{j\beta r} \right) e^{-j\beta r}, \quad H_r = H_\theta = 0$$

$$\mathbf{E} = -j\omega\mathbf{A} - \frac{j}{\omega\mu\epsilon} \nabla(\nabla \cdot \mathbf{A})$$

$$E_r = \frac{\eta I_e l}{2\pi r^2} \cos\theta \left( 1 + \frac{1}{j\beta r} \right) e^{-j\beta r}$$

$$E_\theta = \frac{j\eta\beta I_e l}{4\pi r} \sin\theta \left( 1 + \frac{1}{j\beta r} - \frac{1}{(\beta r)^2} \right) e^{-j\beta r}, \quad E_\phi = 0$$

## Example: An Infinitesimal Dipole (Cont'd)

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- For far fields we keep only the  $(1/r)$  terms. It follows that we have

$$H_{\phi} \approx \frac{j\beta I_e l}{4\pi r} \sin\theta e^{-j\beta r}$$

$$E_r \approx 0$$

$$E_{\theta} \approx \frac{j\eta\beta I_e l}{4\pi r} \sin\theta e^{-j\beta r}$$

$$E_{\theta} / H_{\phi} = \eta$$

# One-Dimensional Finite Differences (FD)

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- Our target is to solve a given differential equation
- The computational domain is filled with a mesh and we care only about the values of the unknown function at these grid points  $x_i=ih$ ,  $f_i=f(ih)$
- Derivatives are then approximated by their finite-differences

$$f'(x) = \frac{f(x+h) - f(x)}{h} + o(h) \quad \text{forward difference}$$

$$f'(x) = \frac{f(x) - f(x-h)}{h} + o(h) \quad \text{backward difference}$$

$$f'(x) = \frac{f(x+h) - f(x-h)}{2h} + o(h^2) \quad \text{central difference}$$

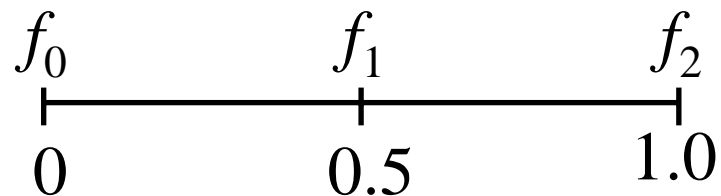
$$f''(x) = \frac{f(x+h) - 2f(x) + f(x-h)}{h^2} + o(h^2)$$

## One-Dimensional Example

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- Solve  $d^2f/dx^2+4f=0$ , for  $0 \leq x \leq 1.0$

Subject to the boundary conditions  $f(0)=0, f(1)=1$



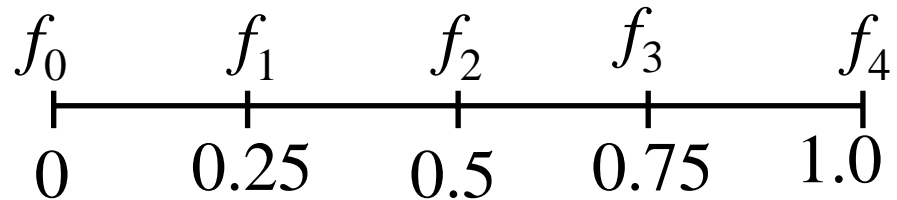
For the shown discretization, we have only one unknown and we need one equation

$$\frac{f_2 - 2f_1 + f_0}{0.5^2} + 4f_1 = 0 \quad \Rightarrow \quad f_1 = f_0 + f_2$$

$$f_1 = 1$$

## One-Dimensional Example (Cont'd)

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For the shown finer discretization, we have only three unknowns and we need three equations

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{f_2 - 2f_1 + f_0}{0.25^2} + 4f_1 &= 0 \\ \frac{f_3 - 2f_2 + f_1}{0.25^2} + 4f_2 &= 0 \\ \frac{f_4 - 2f_3 + f_2}{0.25^2} + 4f_3 &= 0 \end{aligned} \quad \left. \vphantom{\begin{aligned} \frac{f_2 - 2f_1 + f_0}{0.25^2} + 4f_1 &= 0 \\ \frac{f_3 - 2f_2 + f_1}{0.25^2} + 4f_2 &= 0 \\ \frac{f_4 - 2f_3 + f_2}{0.25^2} + 4f_3 &= 0 \end{aligned}} \right\} \begin{array}{l} \text{three equations in three} \\ \text{unknowns} \end{array}$$

## One-Dimensional Example (Cont'd)

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- For the shown fine discretization, we have only  $(N-1)$  unknowns and we need  $(N-1)$  equations
- The equation of the  $i$ th node is

$$\frac{f_{i+1} - 2f_i + f_{i-1}}{h^2} + 4f_i = 0$$

- We then solve the  $(N-1)$  equations in the  $(N-1)$  unknowns

## Two-Dimensional FD

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- The computational domain is filled with a two-dimensional mesh and we care only about the values of the unknown function at these grid points  $x_i=ih, y_j=jh \quad f_{i,j}=f(ih, jh)$
- Derivatives are then approximated by finite-differences

$$\frac{df}{dx} \approx \frac{f(x+h, y) - f(x, y)}{h}$$

$$\frac{df}{dx} \approx \frac{f(x, y) - f(x-h, y)}{h}$$

$$\frac{df}{dx} \approx \frac{f(x+h, y) - f(x-h, y)}{2h}$$

$$\frac{d^2f}{dx^2} \approx \frac{f(x+h, y) - 2f(x, y) + f(x-h, y)}{h^2}$$

$$\frac{df}{dy} \approx \frac{f(x, y+h) - f(x, y)}{h}$$

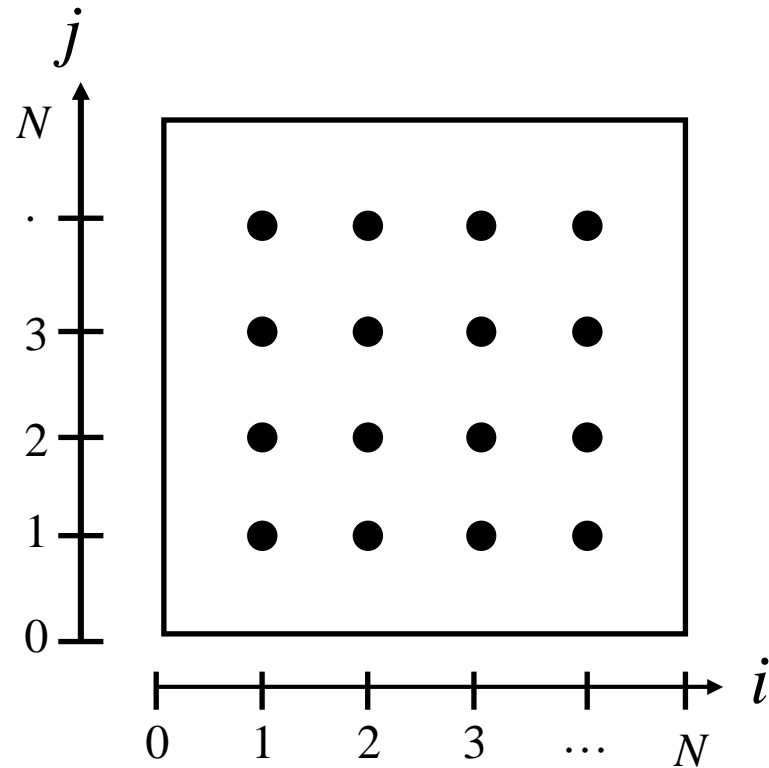
$$\frac{df}{dy} \approx \frac{f(x, y) - f(x, y-h)}{h}$$

$$\frac{df}{dy} \approx \frac{f(x, y+h) - f(x, y-h)}{2h}$$

$$\frac{d^2f}{dy^2} \approx \frac{f(x, y+h) - 2f(x, y) + f(x, y-h)}{h^2}$$

# Two-Dimensional FD Example

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- Solve the Laplace equation  $\frac{\partial^2 f}{\partial x^2} + \frac{\partial^2 f}{\partial y^2} = 0$   
subject to mixed Dirichlet and Neumann Boundary conditions



## Two-Dimensional FD Example (Cont'd)

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- At an arbitrary point  $(ih, jh)$ , the FD scheme is

$$\frac{\partial^2 f}{\partial x^2} + \frac{\partial^2 f}{\partial y^2} \approx \frac{f(x+h, y) - 2f(x, y) + f(x-h, y)}{h^2} + \frac{f(x, y+h) - 2f(x, y) + f(x, y-h)}{h^2} = 0$$

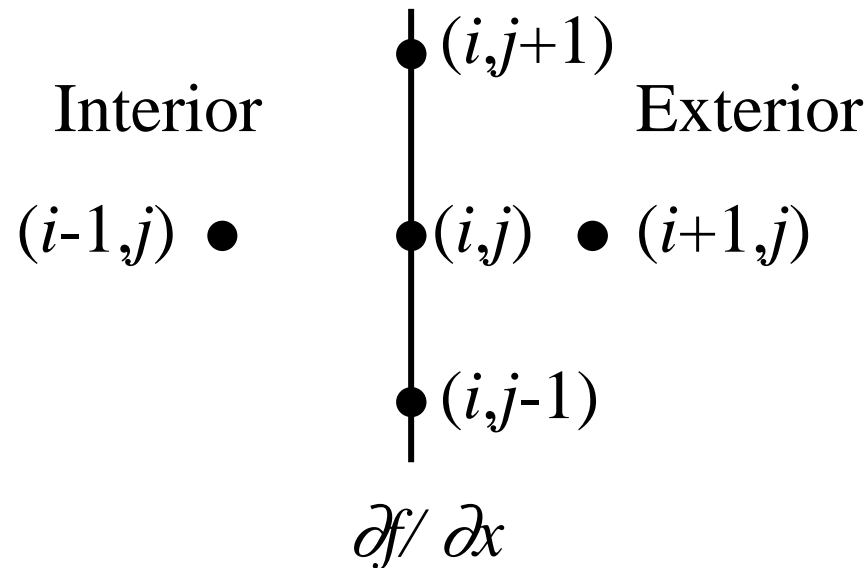


$$\left( \frac{\partial^2 f}{\partial x^2} + \frac{\partial^2 f}{\partial y^2} \right)_{ih, jh} \approx \frac{f_{i+1, j} + f_{i-1, j} + f_{i, j+1} + f_{i, j-1} - 4f_{i, j}}{h^2} = 0$$

- This FD scheme works fine for all interior points and Dirichlet boundary points
- Neumann boundary points add more unknowns

## Two-Dimensional FD Example (Cont'd)

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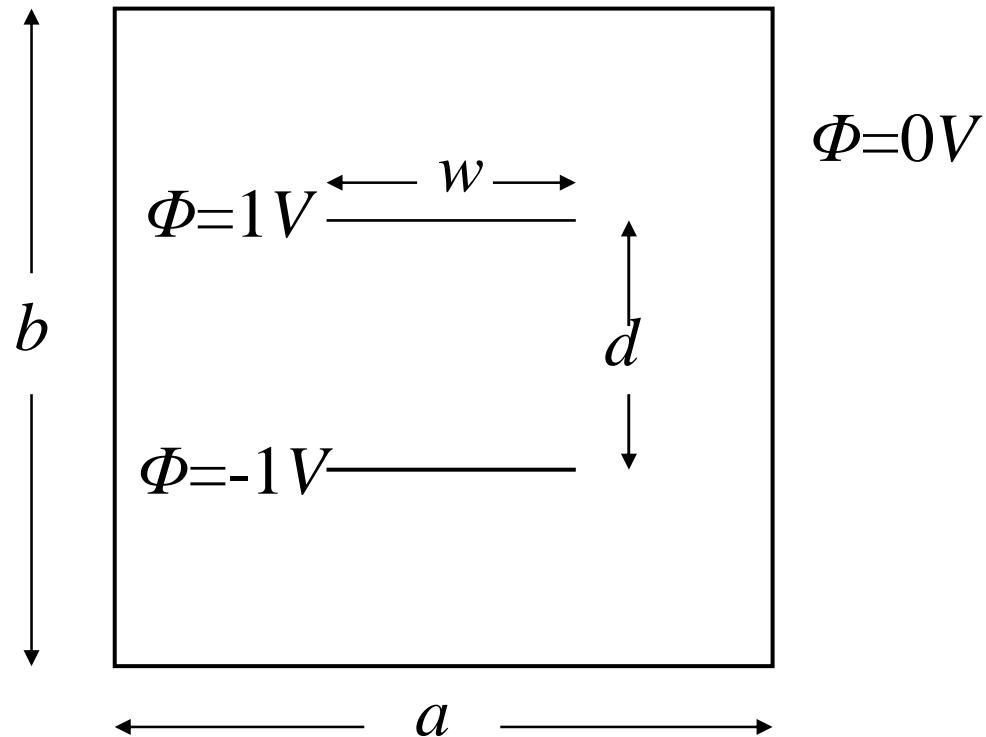


- At any Neumann boundary point  $(i,j)$ , we add a fictitious external node satisfying  $f_{i+1,j} = f_{i-1,j}$
- An equation is then added for each Neumann point

$$\left( \frac{\partial^2 f}{\partial x^2} + \frac{\partial^2 f}{\partial y^2} \right)_{ih,jh} \approx \frac{2f_{i-1,j} + f_{i,j+1} + f_{i,j-1} - 4f_{i,j}}{h^2} = 0$$

# Application

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- Obtain the electric potential everywhere