

Technische Universität Graz

Institute of Solid State Physics

# 20. Microwave Engineering

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# Microwave engineering

Microwave frequencies are a few GHz

The wavelength is smaller than the circuit

Losses in metals increase with increasing frequency

Losses in dielectrics increase with increasing frequency

There is a characteristic length scale called the skin depth which tells us how far into a metal fields penetrate before they are reflected out.

# Skin depth $\omega \tau << 1$

$$\sigma(\omega) = ne\mu \left(\frac{1-i\omega\tau}{1+\omega^2\tau^2}\right) \approx ne\mu = \sigma_0 \qquad \omega\tau << 1$$
  
Ohm's law  
Take the curl  
$$\vec{J} = \sigma_0 \vec{E}$$
  
Faraday's law  
$$\nabla \times \vec{B} = \rho_0 \vec{J}$$
  
Faraday's law  
$$\nabla \times \vec{B} = \mu_0 \vec{J}$$
  
Ampere's law  
$$\frac{1}{\sigma_0 \mu_0} \nabla \times \nabla \times \vec{B} = -\frac{d\vec{B}}{dt}$$
  
Vector identity  
$$\nabla \times \nabla \times \vec{B} = \nabla \left(\nabla \cdot \vec{B}\right) - \nabla^2 \vec{B}$$
$$\frac{1}{\sigma_0 \mu_0} \nabla^2 \vec{B} = \frac{d\vec{B}}{dt}$$

### Skin depth

$$\frac{1}{\sigma_0 \mu_0} \nabla^2 \vec{B} = \frac{d\vec{B}}{dt}$$

Assume harmonic dependence

$$B_0 e^{i(kx-\omega t)}$$

$$\frac{k^2}{\sigma_0\mu_0} = i\omega$$

$$k = \sqrt{i\omega\sigma_{0}\mu_{0}} = \sqrt{\frac{\omega\sigma_{0}\mu_{0}}{2}} + i\sqrt{\frac{\omega\sigma_{0}\mu_{0}}{2}}$$
  
Skin depth  $\delta = \sqrt{\frac{2}{\mu_{0}\sigma_{0}\omega}}$   
Exponential decay

Light  $\omega < \omega_p$  is reflected out of a metal. The waves penetrate a length  $\delta$ .

### Skin depth

$$\vec{B} = B_0 e^{-x/\delta} e^{i(x/\delta - \omega t)} \hat{z}$$

$$\vec{J} = \frac{1}{\mu_0} \nabla \times \vec{B} = \vec{B} = \frac{B_0 (1-i)}{\mu_0 \delta} e^{-x/\delta} e^{i(x/\delta - \omega t)} \hat{y}$$



The electric field lags behind the magnetic field by 45 degrees.

### Surface resistance

At low frequencies:

$$R = \frac{\rho \ell}{wt} = \frac{\ell}{\sigma_0 wt}$$



Complex signal processing at high frequencies > 1 GHz is difficult because the losses increase with frequency.

Usually you mix down to a lower frequency as soon as possible.

### Superconducting filter



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# Multiferroics

simultaneously ferroelectric and ferromagnetic

### BiFeO<sub>3</sub>

If two magnetic sublattices have different charge, changing the magnetic field can change the polarization and changing the electric field can change the magnetization.

# Nitinol

Ni Ti alloy

Shape memory: If it is bent below a certain transition temperature and then heated above that temperature, it returns to its original shape.

Superelasticity: Just above the transition temperature, the material exhibits elasticity 10-30 times that of an ordinary metal.

Martisite - Austinite

# Phase change memory

Phase-change memory (PRAM) uses chalcogenide materials. These can be switched between a low resistance crystalline state and a high resistance amorphous state.

GeSbTe is melted by a laser in rewritable DVDs and by a current in PRAM.



# Phase change material

#### Electron diffraction in a TEM of a GeSbTe alloy.



http://web.stanford.edu/group/cui\_group/research.htm

# Laser-cutting/engraving







CUTTING AND/OR ENGRAVING of Plastic, Elastomers, Glass, Paper, Bio-derived materials, Metals, etc.

#### VLS 2.30 Universal Laser System

- laser source: 30 W CO<sub>2</sub> (wavelength 10.6 μm)
- equipped with: 2.0" lens (beam size at focus ~120 μm)
   High Power Density Focusing Optics (beam size at focus ~30 μm)
- cutting table dimensions: 406 x 305 mm

Patterning of conductive Laser Induced Graphene (photothermal process by laser scribing on polymer





# laser-induced pyrolysis of polymers



## laser-induced pyrolysis of polymers



# laser-induced pyrolysis of polymers

