

Finite-Element Formulation for Lossy Waveguides

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Abstract — An efficient computer-aided solution procedure based on the finite-element method is developed for solving general waveguiding structures composed of lossy materials. In this procedure, a formulation in terms of transverse magnetic-field component is adopted and the eigenvalue of the final matrix equation corresponds to the propagation constant itself. Thus, one can avoid the unnecessary iteration using complex frequencies. To demonstrate the strength of the present method, numerical results for a rectangular waveguide filled with lossy dielectric are presented and compared with exact solutions. As more advanced applications of the present method, a shielded image line composed of a lossy anisotropic material and a lossy dielectric-loaded waveguide with impedance walls are analyzed and evaluated.

I. INTRODUCTION

COMPUTER-AIDED numerical analysis has become a necessary tool for designing microwave and optical waveguiding structures such as image line, microstrip line, optical channel guide, and optical fiber [1]. Increasing complexities of modern wave functional devices, particularly in monolithic integrated circuit form, have created a critical need for more accurate and efficient computer-aided analysis techniques.

Among several methods, the finite-element method (FEM) enables one to predict accurately the modal characteristics of a waveguide system with an arbitrary cross section. To date almost all of the applications of the FEM have been focused on a loss-free system. On the other hand, attempts have been made for a lossy system, using the axial electromagnetic-field ($E_z - H_z$) formulation [2]–[5] and the scalar approximation [6], [7].¹ However, they have some crucial drawbacks. In the $E_z - H_z$ formulation, spurious solutions appear because of singularity of the operator and they are coupled with physical solutions. Furthermore, unnecessary iterations are involved until the imaginary part of complex frequency is negligible because the eigenvalue of the final matrix equation corresponds to the frequency. On the other hand, in the scalar approximation,

spurious solutions do not appear and iterations are not involved. However, this approximation is applicable only to weakly guiding structures such as optical waveguides.

In this paper, an efficient computer-aided solution procedure based on the vectorial finite-element method is developed for solving general waveguiding structures composed of lossy materials. In this procedure, a formalism in terms of transverse magnetic-field component established for a loss-free system [10] is extended to a lossy system. The main advantage of this approach is that one can avoid the unnecessary iteration using complex frequencies because the eigenvalue of the final matrix equation to be solved corresponds to the propagation constant itself. To demonstrate the strength of the present method, numerical results for a rectangular waveguide filled with lossy dielectric are presented and compared with exact solutions. As more advanced applications of the present method, a shielded image line composed of a lossy anisotropic material and a lossy dielectric-loaded waveguide with impedance walls are analyzed and evaluated.

II. BASIC EQUATIONS

We consider a three-dimensional dielectric waveguide with an arbitrary cross section Ω in the xy plane (Fig. 1), whose relative permittivity tensor $[\epsilon]$ is

$$[\epsilon] = \begin{bmatrix} \epsilon_x & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & \epsilon_y & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & \epsilon_z \end{bmatrix} \quad (1)$$

$$\epsilon_i = \epsilon'_i - j\epsilon''_i, \quad i = x, y, z \quad (2)$$

where ϵ'_i and ϵ''_i are the real and the imaginary part of the complex relative permittivity ϵ_i , respectively.

With a time dependence of the form $\exp(j\omega t)$ being implied, from Maxwell's equations the following vectorial wave equation is obtainable:

$$\nabla \times ([\epsilon]^{-1} \nabla \times \mathbf{H}) - k_0^2 \mathbf{H} = 0 \quad (3)$$

where k_0 is the free-space wavenumber.

The divergence-free constraint $\nabla \cdot \mathbf{H} = 0$ can be written

$$H_z = \gamma^{-1} (\partial H_x / \partial x + \partial H_y / \partial y) \quad (4)$$

where

$$\gamma = \alpha + j\beta. \quad (5)$$

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¹Recently, Matsuhara *et al.* [8] have extended the finite-element formulation in terms of the transverse electric and magnetic field components [9] to the waveguide with loss or gain.

Here, α , β , and γ are the attenuation, phase, and propagation constants, respectively.

III. FINITE-ELEMENT FORMULATION

Dividing the cross section Ω of the guide into a number of second-order triangular finite elements as shown in Fig. 1, the magnetic fields within each element are defined in terms of those at the corner and midside nodal points:

$$\mathbf{H} = [\mathbf{N}]^T \{ \mathbf{H} \}_e \exp(-\gamma z) \quad (6)$$

where

$$[\mathbf{N}] = \begin{bmatrix} \{ \mathbf{N} \} & \{ 0 \} & \{ 0 \} \\ \{ 0 \} & \{ \mathbf{N} \} & \{ 0 \} \\ \{ 0 \} & \{ 0 \} & j\{ \mathbf{N} \} \end{bmatrix} \quad (7)$$

and

$$\{ \mathbf{H} \}_e = \begin{bmatrix} \{ \mathbf{H}_x \}_e \\ \{ \mathbf{H}_y \}_e \\ \{ \mathbf{H}_z \}_e \end{bmatrix}. \quad (8)$$

Here, $\{ \mathbf{N} \}$ is the shape function vector; $\{ 0 \}$ is a null vector; T , $\{ \cdot \}$, and $\{ \cdot \}^T$ denote a transposition, a column vector, and a row vector, respectively; and $\{ \mathbf{H}_x \}_e$, $\{ \mathbf{H}_y \}_e$, and $\{ \mathbf{H}_z \}_e$ are complex magnetic-field vectors corresponding to the nodal points within each element e .

Application of the standard finite-element technique via a Galerkin procedure to (3) gives the following global matrix equation:

$$[\mathbf{S}]\{\mathbf{H}\} + k_0[\mathbf{T}']\{\mathbf{H}\} - k_0^2[\mathbf{T}]\{\mathbf{H}\} = \{0\} \quad (9)$$

where

$$[\mathbf{S}] = \sum_e \int_e \int_e [\mathbf{B}'(\gamma)] [\epsilon]_e^{-1} [\mathbf{B}(\gamma)]^T dx dy \quad (10)$$

$$[\mathbf{T}'] = j(Z_n/Z_0) \sum_{e'} \int_{e'} [\mathbf{N}]^* [\mathbf{N}(\theta)]^T d\Gamma \quad (11)$$

$$[\mathbf{T}] = \sum_e \int_e \int_e [\mathbf{N}]^* [\mathbf{N}]^T dx dy \quad (*: \text{complex conjugate}) \quad (12)$$

$$[\mathbf{B}(\gamma)] = \begin{bmatrix} \{ 0 \} & -\gamma\{ \mathbf{N} \} & -\partial\{ \mathbf{N} \}/\partial y \\ \gamma\{ \mathbf{N} \} & \{ 0 \} & \partial\{ \mathbf{N} \}/\partial x \\ j\partial\{ \mathbf{N} \}/\partial y & -j\partial\{ \mathbf{N} \}/\partial x & \{ 0 \} \end{bmatrix} \quad (13a)$$

$$[\mathbf{B}'(\gamma)] = \begin{bmatrix} \{ 0 \} & \gamma\{ \mathbf{N} \} & -\partial\{ \mathbf{N} \}/\partial y \\ -\gamma\{ \mathbf{N} \} & \{ 0 \} & \partial\{ \mathbf{N} \}/\partial x \\ -j\partial\{ \mathbf{N} \}/\partial y & j\partial\{ \mathbf{N} \}/\partial x & \{ 0 \} \end{bmatrix} \quad (13b)$$

$$[\mathbf{N}(\theta)] = \begin{bmatrix} \sin^2\theta\{ \mathbf{N} \} & -\sin\theta\cos\theta\{ \mathbf{N} \} & \{ 0 \} \\ -\sin\theta\cos\theta\{ \mathbf{N} \} & \cos^2\theta\{ \mathbf{N} \} & \{ 0 \} \\ \{ 0 \} & \{ 0 \} & j\{ \mathbf{N} \} \end{bmatrix}. \quad (14)$$

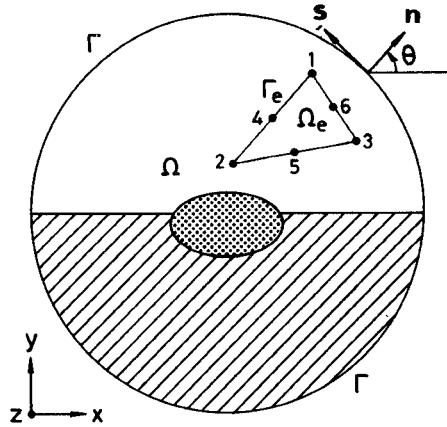


Fig. 1. Geometry of problem. \mathbf{n} : unit normal vector; \mathbf{s} : unit tangential vector; θ : angle between \mathbf{n} and x axis; Ω : waveguide cross section; Γ : impedance wall.

Here, Σ_e and $\Sigma_{e'}$ stand for summation over all elements related to the domain Ω and the boundary Γ , respectively, and Z_n and Z_0 are the surface impedance [11] of Γ and the intrinsic impedance of vacuum, respectively. (The derivation of (9) is given in Appendix I.) Provided that Γ is a perfect electric or magnetic wall, the second term of the left-hand side of (9) is dropped [12].

The solutions of (9) are known to involve many spurious solutions which do not satisfy the divergence relation (4) [12]. In what follows, we adopt the same procedure developed for the loss-free system in [10] to avoid such unnecessary solutions.

Using the finite-element method based on a Galerkin procedure on (4), the following matrix relation is obtained [10]:

$$\{ \mathbf{H} \} = [\mathbf{D}] \{ \mathbf{H}_t \} \quad (15)$$

where

$$[\mathbf{D}] = \begin{bmatrix} [\mathbf{U}] \\ [\mathbf{D}_z]^{-1} [\mathbf{D}_t] \end{bmatrix} \quad (16)$$

$$[\mathbf{D}_z] = \sum_e \int_e \int_e [\mathbf{N}] [\mathbf{N}]^T dx dy \quad (17)$$

$$[\mathbf{D}_t] = -j\gamma^{-1} \sum_e \int_e \int_e [\{ \mathbf{N} \} \partial\{ \mathbf{N} \}^T / \partial x \\ \{ \mathbf{N} \} \partial\{ \mathbf{N} \}^T / \partial y] dx dy \quad (18)$$

$$\{ \mathbf{H}_t \} = \begin{bmatrix} \{ \mathbf{H}_x \} \\ \{ \mathbf{H}_y \} \end{bmatrix}. \quad (19)$$

Here, the components of vectors $\{ \mathbf{H}_x \}$ and $\{ \mathbf{H}_y \}$ are the values of H_x and H_y at nodal points in Ω , respectively, and $[\mathbf{U}]$ is a unit matrix.

Substituting (15) into (9) and operating $[\mathbf{D}]^T$ on the left [10], the following matrix equation with the complex trans-

verse magnetic-field component $\{H_t\}$ is derived:

$$[\tilde{S}_{tt}]\{H_t\} + k_0[\tilde{T}'_{tt}]\{H_t\} - k_0^2[\tilde{T}_{tt}]\{H_t\} = \{0\} \quad (20)$$

where

$$[\tilde{S}_{tt}] = [D]^T[S][D] \quad (21)$$

$$[\tilde{T}'_{tt}] = [D]^T[T'][D] \quad (22)$$

$$[\tilde{T}_{tt}] = [D]^T[T][D]. \quad (23)$$

Note that in (20) the divergence relation (4) is considered [10]. However, (20) is a matrix eigenvalue problem whose eigenvalue corresponds to k_0 ; it is therefore necessary to iterate on α or β until the imaginary part of k_0 becomes negligible. Similarly, the imaginary part of the dielectric, which depends on ω , will need to be iterated until $\epsilon'' = \sigma/\omega$ for a medium of relative conductivity σ . To avoid such inefficiency, in what follows we modify (20) into a convenient form to be γ^2 as an eigenvalue.

Substituting (10)–(12) and (16)–(18) into (20)–(23) and rearranging (20) into a desirable form, the following final matrix equation is derived:

$$\lambda^2[A]\{H_t\} + \lambda[B]\{H_t\} + [C]\{H_t\} = \{0\} \quad (24)$$

where

$$\lambda = -\gamma^2 \quad (25)$$

$$[A] = \begin{bmatrix} [G_6^y] & [0] \\ [0]^T & [G_6^x] \end{bmatrix} \quad ([0]: \text{null matrix}) \quad (26)$$

$$[B] = \begin{bmatrix} [B_{xx}] & [B_{xy}] \\ [B_{xy}]^T & [B_{yy}] \end{bmatrix} \quad (27)$$

Here, $[G_1]$ – $[G_6]$, $[G'_1]$, and $[G'_1]$ – $[G'_6]$ ($i = x, y, z$) are defined by

$$[G_1] = \sum_e \int \int_e (\partial \{N\} / \partial x) (\partial \{N\}^T / \partial x) dx dy \quad (35)$$

$$[G_2] = \sum_e \int \int_e (\partial \{N\} / \partial y) (\partial \{N\}^T / \partial y) dx dy \quad (36)$$

$$[G_3] = \sum_e \int \int_e (\partial \{N\} / \partial x) (\partial \{N\}^T / \partial y) dx dy \quad (37)$$

$$[G_4] = \sum_e \int \int_e (\partial \{N\} / \partial x) \{N\}^T dx dy \quad (38)$$

$$[G_5] = \sum_e \int \int_e (\partial \{N\} / \partial y) \{N\}^T dx dy \quad (39)$$

$$[G_6] = \sum_e \int \int_e \{N\} \{N\}^T dx dy \quad (40)$$

$$[G'_1] = \sum_e \int \int_e \epsilon_{i,e}^{-1} (\partial \{N\} / \partial x) (\partial \{N\}^T / \partial x) dx dy \quad (41)$$

$$[G'_2] = \sum_e \int \int_e \epsilon_{i,e}^{-1} (\partial \{N\} / \partial y) (\partial \{N\}^T / \partial y) dx dy \quad (42)$$

$$[G'_3] = \sum_e \int \int_e \epsilon_{i,e}^{-1} (\partial \{N\} / \partial x) (\partial \{N\}^T / \partial y) dx dy \quad (43)$$

$$[G'_4] = \sum_e \int \int_e \epsilon_{i,e}^{-1} (\partial \{N\} / \partial x) \{N\}^T dx dy \quad (44)$$

$$[G'_5] = \sum_e \int \int_e \epsilon_{i,e}^{-1} (\partial \{N\} / \partial y) \{N\}^T dx dy \quad (45)$$

$$[G'_6] = \sum_e \int \int_e \epsilon_{i,e}^{-1} \{N\} \{N\}^T dx dy. \quad (46)$$

The derivation of (24) is given in Appendix II.

$$[B_{xx}] = [G_2^z] - [G_4^y]^T [G_6]^{-1} [G_4]^T - [G_4][G_6]^{-1} [G_4^y] - k_0^2 [G_6] + k_0 (jZ_n/Z_0) \sin^2 \theta [G'_6] \quad (28)$$

$$[B_{xy}] = -[G_3^z]^T - [G_4^y]^T [G_6]^{-1} [G_5]^T - [G_4][G_6]^{-1} [G_5^y] - k_0 (jZ_n/Z_0) \sin \theta \cos \theta [G'_6] \quad (29)$$

$$[B_{yy}] = [G_1^z] - [G_5^x]^T [G_6]^{-1} [G_5]^T - [G_5][G_6]^{-1} [G_5^x] - k_0^2 [G_6] + k_0 (jZ_n/Z_0) \cos^2 \theta [G'_6] \quad (30)$$

$$[C] = \begin{bmatrix} [C_{xx}] & [C_{xy}] \\ [C_{xy}]^T & [C_{yy}] \end{bmatrix} \quad (31)$$

$$[C_{xx}] = [G_4][G_6]^{-1} ([G_1^y] + [G_2^x]) [G_6]^{-1} [G_4]^T - k_0^2 [G_4][G_6]^{-1} [G_4]^T + k_0 (jZ_n/Z_0) [G_4][G_6]^{-1} [G'_6][G_6]^{-1} [G_4]^T \quad (32)$$

$$[C_{xy}] = [G_4][G_6]^{-1} ([G_1^y] + [G_2^x]) [G_6]^{-1} [G_5]^T - k_0^2 [G_4][G_6]^{-1} [G_5]^T + k_0 (jZ_n/Z_0) [G_4][G_6]^{-1} [G'_6][G_6]^{-1} [G_5]^T \quad (33)$$

$$[C_{yy}] = [G_5][G_6]^{-1} ([G_1^y] + [G_2^x]) [G_6]^{-1} [G_5]^T - k_0^2 [G_5][G_6]^{-1} [G_5]^T + k_0 (jZ_n/Z_0) [G_5][G_6]^{-1} [G'_6][G_6]^{-1} [G_5]^T. \quad (34)$$

Since (24) is a complex quadratic eigenvalue problem, it can be reduced to the following standard form [13]:

$$\begin{bmatrix} [0] & [U] \\ -[A]^{-1}[C] & -[A]^{-1}[B] \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} \{H_t\} \\ \{\bar{H}_t\} \end{bmatrix} = \lambda \begin{bmatrix} \{H_t\} \\ \{\bar{H}_t\} \end{bmatrix} \quad (48)$$

where

$$\{\bar{H}_t\} = \lambda \{H_t\}. \quad (49)$$

Although (48) shows a little complexity in comparison with previous formulations [2]–[5], it is a standard eigenvalue problem whose eigenvalue directly corresponds to the propagation constant γ . Thus, one can avoid unnecessary iterations using complex frequencies. The only disadvantage of this form is that it involves $4N_p$ unknown components in each eigenvector compared with $2N_p$ components in the original system, where N_p is the number of nodal points.

IV. NUMERICAL EXAMPLES

In this section, we present computed results obtained by (48). In numerical computations, the HITAC S-810/10 supercomputer is used and double precision is adopted to avoid roundoff errors. The inverse matrices, $[G_6]^{-1}$ and $[A]^{-1}$, are computed via the Gauss–Jordan method. As an eigenvalue solution method, the LR algorithm is applied; eigenvectors are computed via the inverse iteration.

A. Dielectric-Filled Rectangular Waveguide

Fig. 2(a) shows the relative error of the computed propagation constant for the fundamental (TE_{10}) and first higher order (TE_{01}) modes in a rectangular metallic waveguide filled with lossy isotropic dielectric of relative permittivity $\epsilon = 1.5 - j1.5$. Four divisions, $(N_E, N_p) = (4, 15)$, $(16, 45)$, $(36, 91)$, and $(64, 153)$, are chosen in the numerical computations, and storage requirements are 0.3, 2.4, 9.6, and 27.0 MB, respectively.

The relative error e is defined by

$$e = \begin{cases} (\alpha - \bar{\alpha})/\bar{\alpha} & \text{for attenuation constant} \\ (\beta - \bar{\beta})/\bar{\beta} & \text{for phase constant} \end{cases} \quad (50)$$

where (α, β) and $(\bar{\alpha}, \bar{\beta})$ are the computed and exact solutions, respectively. The exact solutions are

$$\bar{\beta}/k_0 = \left[\{p + (p^2 + q^2)^{1/2}\}/2 \right]^{1/2} \quad (51)$$

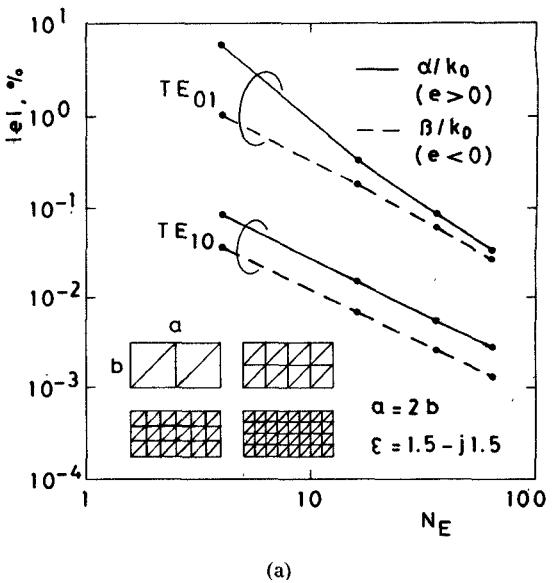
$$\bar{\alpha}/k_0 = (q/2)(\bar{\beta}/k_0)^{-1} \quad (52)$$

where

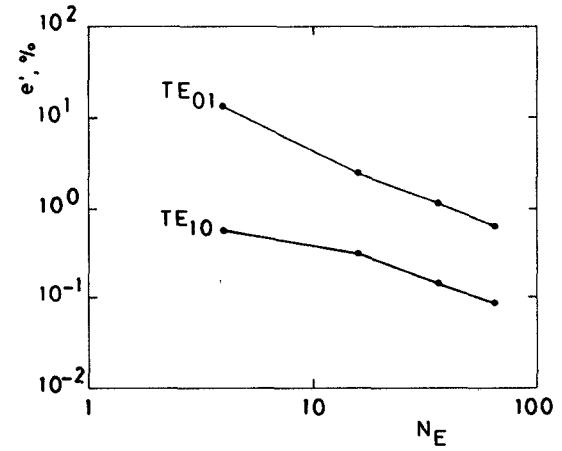
$$p = \epsilon' - \{m\pi/(k_0 a)\}^2 - \{n\pi/(k_0 b)\}^2, \quad q = \epsilon''. \quad (53)$$

Here, m and n stand for the mode indices for the x and y directions, respectively.

It is readily seen from Fig. 2(a) that the relative error decreases as the number of elements N_E increases. Also, it



(a)



(b)

Fig. 2. Convergence of solutions ($k_0 b = 3.0$). (a) Eigenvalues. (b) Eigenvectors.

is interesting to note that the directions of convergence are opposite between the real and imaginary parts of the propagation constant; i.e., $e > 0$ for α whereas $e < 0$ for β . Investigation of the near-cutoff frequency for the TE_{10} mode ($k_0 b = 0.01$) has been carried out as well. Also in this case, the relative error decreases as N_E increases. However, the same direction of convergence, $e < 0$, is observed for both α and β .

Fig. 2(b) shows the relative error of the computed eigenvectors for Fig. 2(a). Since exact analytical solutions give $H_y \equiv 0$ and $H_x \equiv 0$ for the TE_{10} and TE_{01} modes, respectively, the following definitions are adopted as a measure of error involved in eigenvectors:

$$e' = \begin{cases} \|H_y\|/\|H_x\| & \text{for } TE_{10} \text{ mode} \\ \|H_x\|/\|H_y\| & \text{for } TE_{01} \text{ mode} \end{cases} \quad (54)$$

$$\|H_i\| = \sqrt{\{\bar{H}_i\}^\dagger \{H_i\}} \quad (i = x, y) \quad (55)$$

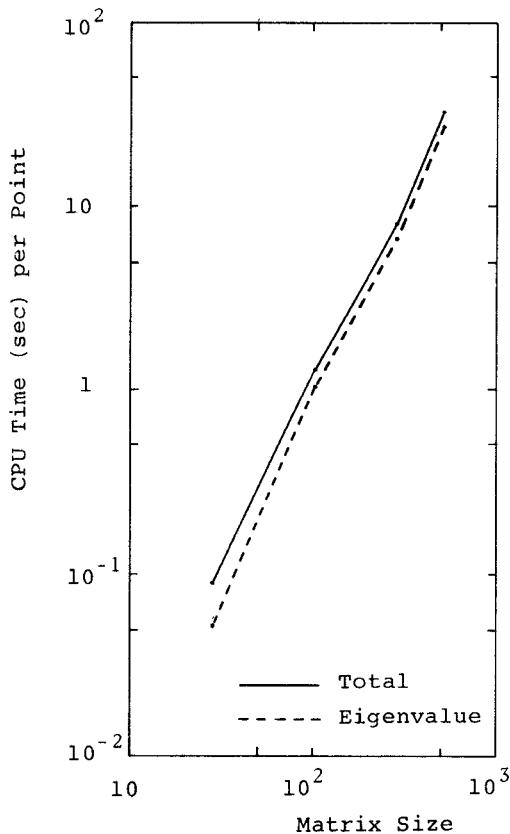


Fig. 3. Computing time necessary to obtain one point in propagation diagram. The solid line shows total CPU time, whereas the broken line shows CPU time necessary to solve the eigenvalue problem (48).

where \dagger denotes complex conjugate and transpose. It is found from Fig. 2(b) that the relative error decreases as N_E increases.

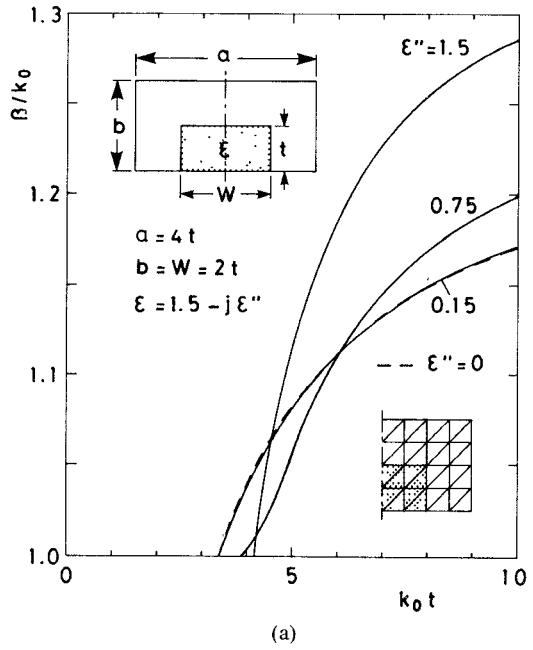
Fig. 3 displays the computing time necessary to obtain one point in a propagation diagram, where the abscissa means the dimension of the final matrix equation (48). Comparison between the solid and broken lines indicates that in the present program the greater part of the computing time is spent on solving (48).

B. Shielded Image Guide

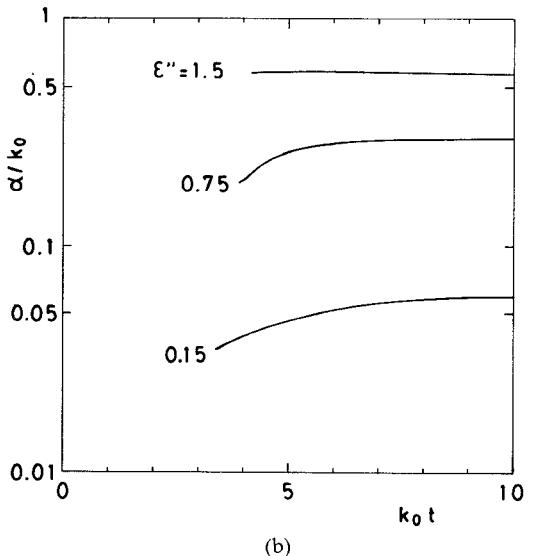
As an advanced application of the present program, we next consider a lossy image guide shielded with a perfectly conducting box ($Z_n = 0$). We subdivide only half of the cross section of a guide into second-order triangular elements; the plane of symmetry is assumed to be a magnetic wall. The storage requirement is 7.6 MB in this division.

Fig. 4 shows the dispersion characteristics in the slow-wave region for the E_{11}^y mode of a lossy isotropic image guide, taking the imaginary part of relative permittivity, ϵ'' , as a parameter. As is seen from Fig. 4(a), the phase constant β for $\epsilon'' = 0.15$ (loss tangent: $\tan \delta = 0.1$) is almost the same as that for $\epsilon'' = 0$, i.e., the loss-free case.

Since the relative permittivity tensor assumed in this paper is arbitrarily diagonal as shown in (1), we can consider a lossy anisotropic waveguide whose principal axis coincides with one of the coordinate axes.



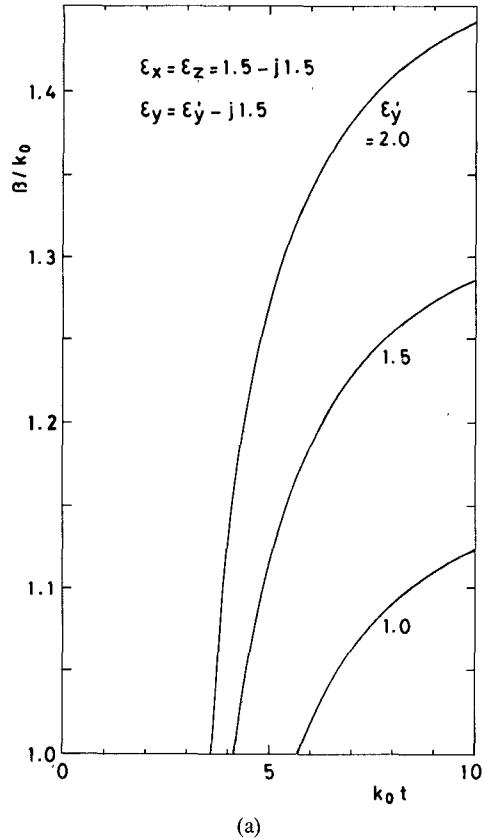
(a)



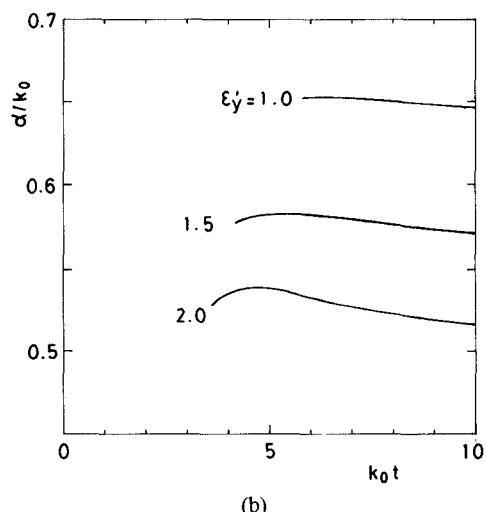
(b)

Fig. 4. Dispersion characteristics for shielded image guide composed of lossy isotropic dielectric (E_{11}^y mode). (a) Normalized phase constant. (b) Normalized attenuation constant.

Figs. 5 and 6 show the dispersion characteristics in the slow-wave region for the E_{11}^y mode of a lossy anisotropic image guide whose cross-sectional shape is the same as that in Fig. 4. The real part of ϵ_y, ϵ'_y , is chosen as a parameter in Fig. 5 ("dielectric anisotropy"), whereas the imaginary part of ϵ_y, ϵ''_y , is chosen in Fig. 6 ("conductivity anisotropy"). Comparison between Fig. 5(a) and Fig. 6(a) clearly shows that a similar effect is seen in the phase behavior from the two types of anisotropy. On the contrary, as is found from the comparison between Fig. 5(b) and Fig. 6(b), the opposite effect is seen in the attenuation behavior from the above two types of anisotropy. That is, the attenuation becomes smaller as ϵ'_y increases while it becomes larger as ϵ''_y increases.



(a)



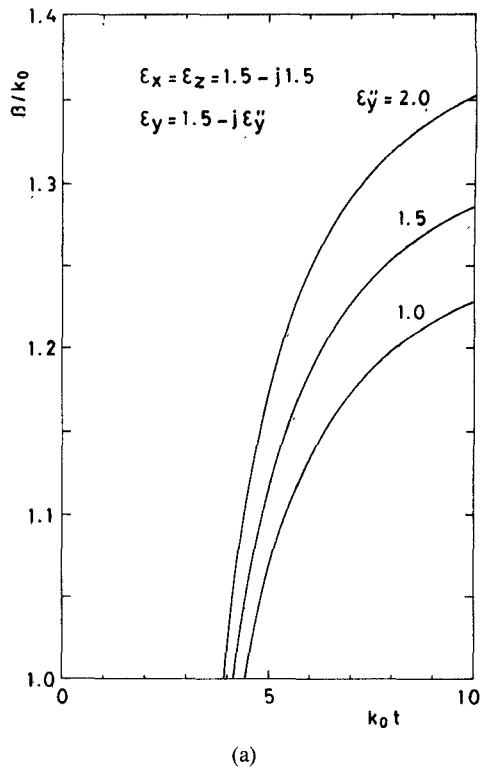
(b)

Fig. 5. Dispersion characteristics for shielded image guide composed of lossy anisotropic dielectric (E_{11}^y mode). The real part of dielectric is assumed to be anisotropic. (a) Normalized phase constant. (b) Normalized attenuation constant.

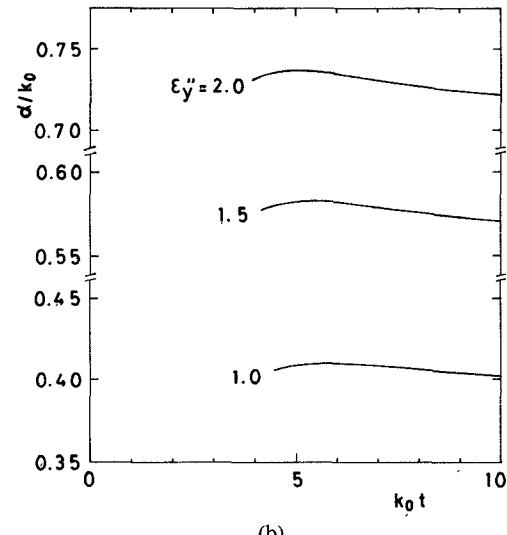
C. Dielectric-Loaded Waveguide with Impedance Walls

As an example of the guide with the impedance walls characterized by the surface impedance, we consider a dielectric-loaded waveguide surrounded by a medium with the surface impedance Z_n . We subdivide the entire cross section of the guide into second-order triangular elements ($N_E = 16$, $N_p = 45$); the storage requirement is 2.5 MB.

Fig. 7 shows the dispersion characteristics for the first five modes of a lossy dielectric-loaded rectangular wave-



(a)



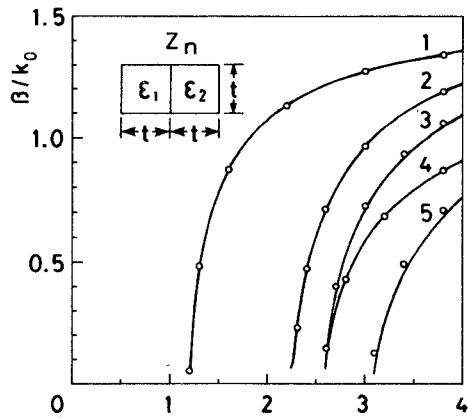
(b)

Fig. 6. Dispersion characteristics for shielded image guide composed of lossy anisotropic dielectric (E_{11}^y mode). The imaginary part of dielectric is assumed to be anisotropic. (a) Normalized phase constant. (b) Normalized attenuation constant.

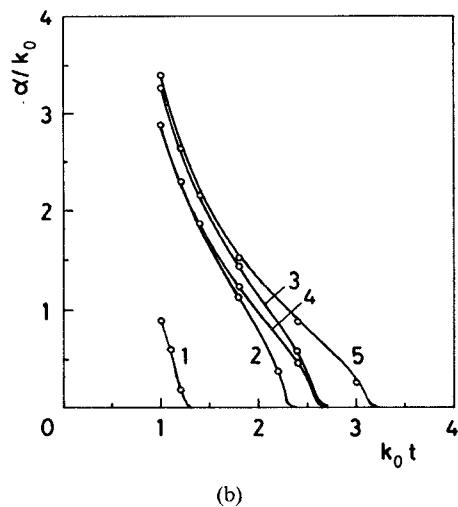
guide with impedance walls ($Z_n/Z_0 = 10^{-3}(1 + j)$). Our results agree well with those computed by Matsuhara *et al.* [8] for both attenuation and phase.

V. CONCLUSIONS

A powerful computer-aided solution procedure based on the finite-element method has been developed for solving general waveguiding structures composed of arbitrarily lossy media. In this procedure, a formulation in terms of



(a)



(b)

Fig. 7. Dispersion characteristics for lossy dielectric-loaded waveguide with impedance walls. $\epsilon_1 = 2.25(1 - j0.01)$, $\epsilon_2 = 1.0$, $Z_n/Z_0 = 10^{-3}(1 + j)$. — present method; \circ Matsuura *et al.* (a) Normalized phase constant. (b) Normalized attenuation constant.

transverse magnetic-field component established for a general loss-free system has been extended to a lossy system. The main advantage of the present scheme is that one can avoid the unnecessary iteration by means of complex frequencies because the eigenvalue of the final matrix equation to be solved corresponds to the propagation constant itself.

Although we have considered dielectric waveguides within a conducting box, one can straightforwardly apply the present approach to open, unbounded dielectric waveguides with the help of the virtual boundary walls [6], [7], [10], [12] or the infinite elements [14]. Application to the case of curved metallic boundaries is also straightforward provided that they are replaced by a number of straight lines and appropriate boundary conditions [15] are imposed on each line. Furthermore, the present method can be extended to the case of arbitrary permittivity tensor with off-diagonal elements.

APPENDIX I DERIVATION OF (9)

Application of the standard finite-element method [12] based on a Galerkin procedure to (3) yields the following matrix equation including boundary integral term along Γ :

$$[S]\{H\} - k_0^2[T]\{H\} + j(k_0/Z_0)$$

$$\cdot \int_{\Gamma} (e^{\gamma z} [N]^*) (\mathbf{n} \times \mathbf{E}) d\Gamma = \{0\} \quad (A1)$$

where the Maxwell's curl equation

$$\nabla \times \mathbf{H} = j\omega\epsilon_0[\epsilon]\mathbf{E} \quad (\epsilon_0: \text{vacuum permittivity}) \quad (A2)$$

has been utilized.

If a highly conductive material is assumed outside Γ , the following boundary conditions derived from the plane-wave approximation [11] hold:

$$E_s = Z_n H_z, \quad E_z = -Z_n H_s \quad \text{on } \Gamma. \quad (A3)$$

Using (A3), $\mathbf{n} \times \mathbf{E}$ in (A1) is evaluated as

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbf{n} \times \mathbf{E} &= Z_n(sH_s + zH_z) \\ &= Z_n \left\{ x(H_x \sin^2 \theta - H_y \sin \theta \cos \theta) \right. \\ &\quad \left. + y(-H_x \sin \theta \cos \theta \right. \\ &\quad \left. + H_y \cos^2 \theta) + zH_z \right\} \end{aligned} \quad (A4)$$

where

$$s = -x \sin \theta + y \cos \theta \quad (A5)$$

and

$$H_s = -H_x \sin \theta + H_y \cos \theta \quad (A6)$$

have been used. Here, x , y , and z are unit vectors for x , y , and z directions, respectively.

Substituting (6) into (A4) and (A1), (9) is derivable.

APPENDIX II DERIVATION OF (24)

Using the notations (35)–(47), $[S]$, $[T']$, and $[T]$ are explicitly written as

$$[S] = \begin{bmatrix} [S_{tt}] & [S_{tz}] \\ [S_{tz}]^T & [S_{zz}] \end{bmatrix} \quad (A7)$$

$$[S_{tt}] = \begin{bmatrix} [S_{xx}] & [S_{xy}] \\ [S_{xy}]^T & [S_{yy}] \end{bmatrix}, \quad [S_{tz}] = \begin{bmatrix} [S_{xz}] \\ [S_{yz}] \end{bmatrix} \quad (A8)$$

$$[S_{xx}] = [G_2^z] - \gamma^2 [G_6^y] \quad (A9)$$

$$[S_{xy}] = -[G_3^z]^T \quad (A10)$$

$$[S_{yy}] = [G_1^z] - \gamma^2 [G_6^x] \quad (A11)$$

$$[S_{xz}] = -j\gamma [G_4^y]^T \quad (A12)$$

$$[S_{yz}] = -j\gamma [G_5^x]^T \quad (A13)$$

$$[S_{zz}] = [G_1^y] + [G_2^x] \quad (A14)$$

$$[T'] = \begin{bmatrix} [T_{tt}'] & [0] \\ [0]^T & [T_{zz}] \end{bmatrix} \quad (A15)$$

$$[T_{tt}'] = \begin{bmatrix} [T_{xx}'] & [T_{xy}'] \\ [T_{xy}]^T & [T_{yy}'] \end{bmatrix} \quad (A16)$$

$$[T_{xx}'] = j(Z_n/Z_0) \sin^2 \theta [G_6'] \quad (A17)$$

$$[T_{xy}'] = -j(Z_n/Z_0) \sin \theta \cos \theta [G_6'] \quad (A18)$$

$$[T_{yy}'] = j(Z_n/Z_0) \cos^2 \theta [G_6'] \quad (A19)$$

$$[T_{zz}] = j(Z_n/Z_0) [G_6'] \quad (A20)$$

$$[T] = \begin{bmatrix} [T_{tt}] & [0] \\ [0]^T & [T_{zz}] \end{bmatrix} \quad (A21)$$

$$[T_{tt}] = \begin{bmatrix} [T_{xx}] & [0] \\ [0]^T & [T_{yy}] \end{bmatrix} \quad (A22)$$

$$[T_{xx}] = [T_{yy}] = [T_{zz}] = [G_6]. \quad (A23)$$

Similarly, $[D_t]$ and $[D_z]$ in (16) are

$$[D_t] = -j\gamma^{-1} [G_4]^T [G_5]^T \quad (A24)$$

$$[D_z] = [G_6]. \quad (A25)$$

Substituting (16), (A7), (A15), and (A21) into (21)–(23), we can obtain

$$\begin{aligned} [\tilde{S}_{tt}] &= [S_{tt}] + [S_{tz}] [D_z]^{-1} [D_t] + ([S_{tz}] [D_z]^{-1} [D_t])^T \\ &\quad + [D_t]^T [D_z]^{-1} [S_{zz}] [D_z]^{-1} [D_t] \end{aligned} \quad (A26)$$

$$[\tilde{T}_{tt}'] = [T_{tt}'] + [D_t]^T [D_z]^{-1} [T_{zz}] [D_z]^{-1} [D_t] \quad (A27)$$

$$[\tilde{T}_{tt}] = [T_{tt}] + [D_t]^T [D_z]^{-1} [T_{zz}] [D_z]^{-1} [D_t]. \quad (A28)$$

Substituting (A8)–(A14), (A16)–(A20), and (A22)–(A25) into (A26)–(A28) and (20), and rearranging the left-hand side of (20) as a polynomial of γ^2 , we can derive (24).

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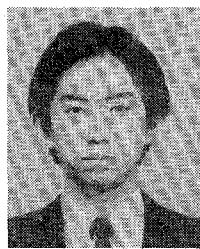
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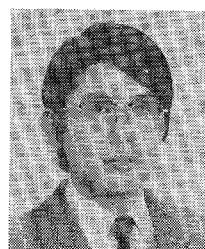


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