

[lex108] Helmholtz equation for wave guide II: TM modes

Consider TM modes in a wave guide with a cross section of arbitrary shape \mathcal{C} . From [lex104] we know that the ansatz,

$$\mathbf{B}(\mathbf{x}, t) = -\nabla \times \left[\psi(x, y) e^{i(kz - \omega t)} \hat{\mathbf{k}} \right],$$

satisfies the wave equation if the function $\psi(x, y)$ satisfies the Helmholtz equation,

$$\nabla^2 \psi = -\gamma^2 \psi, \quad \gamma^2 = +\frac{\omega^2}{c^2} - k^2.$$

(a) Use Ampère's law to show that the associated magnetic field is

$$\mathbf{E}(\mathbf{x}, t) = \frac{c^2 k}{\omega} \left[\nabla \psi(x, y) - i \frac{\gamma^2}{k} \psi(x, y) \hat{\mathbf{k}} \right] e^{i(kz - \omega t)}.$$

(b) Show that the boundary conditions, $\mathbf{B}_\perp = 0$ and $\mathbf{E}_\parallel = 0$ are encoded in $\psi = 0$ for points on \mathcal{C} .

Solution: