

# A Dispersion Optimized Mimetic Finite Difference Method for Maxwells Equations in Linear Dispersive Media

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## Maxwell's Equations

- Let  $\Omega \subset \mathbb{R}^d$  be a bounded domain,  $d = 2, 3$ . Let  $T > 0$ . On  $\Omega \times (0, T]$

$$\mathbf{D}_t = \mathbf{curl} \mathbf{H} \quad (\text{Amperé's Law})$$

$$\mathbf{B}_t = -\mathbf{curl} \mathbf{E} \quad (\text{Faraday's Law})$$

$$\nabla \cdot \mathbf{D} = 0 \quad (\text{Poisson/Gauss Law})$$

$$\nabla \cdot \mathbf{B} = 0 \quad (\text{Gauss Law})$$

$$\mathbf{E} = \text{Electric field vector} \quad \mathbf{D} = \text{Electric flux density}$$

$$\mathbf{H} = \text{Magnetic field vector} \quad \mathbf{B} = \text{Magnetic flux density}$$

- On  $\partial\Omega \times [0, T]$

$$\mathbf{E} \times \mathbf{n} = \mathbf{0}, \quad (\text{Perfect Electric Conducting Condition})$$

with  $\mathbf{n}$  the unit outward normal vector to  $\partial\Omega$ .

- Appropriate initial conditions.

## Linear Dispersive Materials: Polarization Laws

- Maxwell's equations are completed by **constitutive laws** that describe the response of the medium to the electromagnetic field.
- Linear Dispersive Material: Characterized by physical dispersion: frequency dependent speed of propagation. Modeled by the **macroscopic polarization  $\mathbf{P}$** .

$$\mathbf{D} = \epsilon_0 \epsilon_r \mathbf{E} + \mathbf{P}$$

$$\mathbf{B} = \mu_0 \mathbf{H}$$

$\mathbf{P} =$  Polarization                       $\epsilon_0 =$  vacuum electric permittivity

$\epsilon_r =$  Relative permittivity               $\mu_0 =$  vacuum magnetic permeability

## Linear Dispersive Materials: Complex permittivity

- We can define  $\mathbf{P}$  in terms of a convolution [Taflove & Hagness 2000]

$$\mathbf{P}(\mathbf{x}, t) = g * \mathbf{E}(\mathbf{x}, t) = \int_0^t g(\mathbf{x}, t - s; \mathbf{q}) \mathbf{E}(\mathbf{x}, s) ds,$$

where  $g$  is the **dielectric response function** (DRF).

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- The model for EM wave propagation in the material is given by Maxwell's equations along with ODEs for the dynamic evolution of  $\mathbf{P}$ .
- To obtain a numerical method for simulating wave propagation in these materials we have to simultaneously discretize the hybrid PDE-ODE system.

## 1. Maxwells Equations in Cold Plasma: 2D Formulation

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- First order formulation on  $\Omega \subset \mathbb{R}^2$ . Eliminate  $\mathbf{D}$ .

$$\begin{cases} \mathbf{E}_t = -\epsilon_0^{-1} \mathbf{J} + c_0^2 \operatorname{curl} B \\ B_t = -\operatorname{curl} \mathbf{E} \\ \mathbf{J}_t = \epsilon_0 \omega_p^2 \mathbf{E} - \omega_{icf} \mathbf{J} \end{cases} \quad \text{in } \Omega \times (0, T]$$

$$\mathbf{E} \times \mathbf{n} = 0 \quad \text{on } \partial\Omega \times (0, T]$$

$\mathbf{J}$  – polarization current density;

$c_0$  – the speed of light;

$\omega_{icf}$  – ion collision frequency;

$\omega_p$  – plasma frequency;

Subject to appropriate initial conditions.

## 2. Maxwells Equations in Cold Plasma

Second order formulation (eliminating  $\mathbf{B}$ )

$$\begin{cases} \mathbf{E}_{tt} + \epsilon_0^{-1} \mathbf{J}_t &= -c_0^2 \operatorname{curl} \operatorname{curl} \mathbf{E} \\ \mathbf{J}_t &= -\omega_{icf} \mathbf{J} + \epsilon_0 \omega_p^2 \mathbf{E} \end{cases} \quad \text{in } \Omega \times (0, T]$$

$$\mathbf{E} \times \mathbf{n} = 0 \quad \text{on } \partial\Omega \times (0, T]$$

$\mathbf{E}$  – electric field intensity;  $\mathbf{J}$  – polarization current density;

$c_0$  – the speed of light;  $\epsilon_0$  – the electric permittivity of free space;

$\omega_{icf}$  – ion collision frequency;  $\omega_p$  – plasma frequency;

$\mathbf{n}$  – unit outward normal to the boundary  $\Omega \subset \mathbb{R}^2$ .

Subject to appropriate initial conditions.

MFD discretization will be based on this formulation.

## FDTD/FEM for Linear Dispersive Media

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- Nédélec 1980: Mixed FEM for ME. ([Peter Monk], [Jichun Li])
- Mimetic Finite Differences: Generalization of Yee scheme to polygonal, polyhedral meshes. ([Hyman & Shashkov], [Beirao da Veiga, Lipnikov and Manzini]).

## Goal and Outline of Talk

Goal: Construct a mimetic finite difference method (MFD) for the cold plasma model that has better dispersion properties than the Yee/FDTD method using the MFD methodology.

- 1 Build Mimetic Finite Difference (MFD) discretization in space – parameterized family of methods
- 2 Exponential time difference discretization
- 3 Compute Dispersion relation (in general form) for parameterized family.
- 4 **M-adaptation**: Pick the member of parameterized family with lowest numerical dispersion error.
- 5 Numerical tests.

# 1. MFD discretization in Space

**Weak formulation:** find  $\mathbf{E}, \mathbf{J} \in \mathcal{E} := H_0(\text{curl}, \Omega)$  s.t. for any  $\phi, \psi \in \mathcal{E}$

$$\begin{cases} [\mathbf{E}_{tt}, \phi]_{\mathcal{E}} + c_0^2 [\text{curl } \mathbf{E}, \text{curl } \phi]_{\mathcal{F}} + \epsilon_0^{-1} [\mathbf{J}_t, \phi]_{\mathcal{E}} & = 0, \\ [\mathbf{J}_t, \psi]_{\mathcal{E}} + \omega_{\text{icf}} [\mathbf{J}_t, \psi]_{\mathcal{E}} - \epsilon_0 \omega_p^2 [\mathbf{J}_t, \psi]_{\mathcal{E}} & = 0, \end{cases}$$

where

$$[\mathbf{J}, \mathbf{E}]_{\mathcal{E}} := \int_{\Omega} \mathbf{J} \cdot \mathbf{E} \, d\Omega \quad [J, E]_{\mathcal{F}} := \int_{\Omega} J E \, d\Omega.$$

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**Semi-discrete formulation,** Finite Element viewpoint on MFD:

$$\begin{cases} [\mathbf{E}_{tt}^h, \phi^h]_{\mathcal{E}_h} + c_0^2 [\text{curl}^h \mathbf{E}^h, \text{curl}^h \phi^h]_{\mathcal{F}_h} + \epsilon_0^{-1} [\mathbf{J}_t^h, \phi^h]_{\mathcal{E}_h} & = 0, \\ [\mathbf{J}_t^h, \psi^h]_{\mathcal{E}_h} + \omega_{\text{icf}} [\mathbf{J}_t^h, \psi^h]_{\mathcal{E}_h} - \epsilon_0 \omega_p^2 [\mathbf{J}_t^h, \psi^h]_{\mathcal{E}_h} & = 0. \end{cases}$$

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Need to define:

- $\mathcal{F}_h$  with  $[\cdot, \cdot]_{\mathcal{F}_h}$ ,
- $\mathcal{E}_h$  with  $[\cdot, \cdot]_{\mathcal{E}_h}$  and
- $\text{curl}_h : \mathcal{E}_h \rightarrow \mathcal{F}_h$ .

# 1. Face/Cell based Approximation Space $\mathcal{F}_h$ with $[\cdot, \cdot]_{\mathcal{F}_h}$

- Standard assembly of  $\mathcal{F}_h$  with  $[\cdot, \cdot]_{\mathcal{F}_h}$  from the local  $\mathcal{F}_E$  with  $[\cdot, \cdot]_{\mathcal{F}_E}$  on each element  $E$ .

- Interpolation operator  $\mathcal{I}^{\mathcal{F}_E}$

**Degrees of Freedom:**

$$\mathcal{I}^{\mathcal{F}_E}[p] = \frac{1}{|E|} \int_E p \, dE \quad - \text{ constant on } E.$$



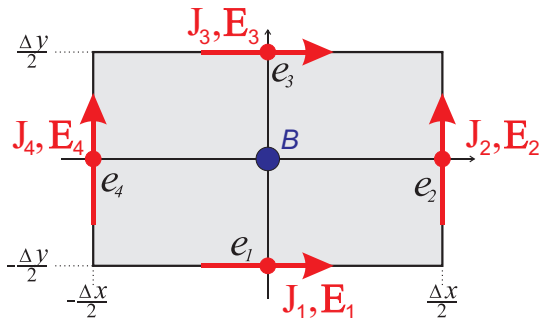
- Inner product:**  $[\mathcal{I}^{\mathcal{F}_E}[p], \mathcal{I}^{\mathcal{F}_E}[q]]_{\mathcal{F}_E} = |E| \mathcal{I}^{\mathcal{F}_E}[p] \mathcal{I}^{\mathcal{F}_E}[q].$

# 1. Edge-based approximation space $\mathcal{E}_h$

- Interpolation operator  $\mathcal{I}^{\mathcal{E}_h}$
- Degrees of Freedom:

$$\mathcal{I}^{\mathcal{E}_e}[\mathbf{p}] = \frac{1}{|e|} \int_e \mathbf{p} \cdot \boldsymbol{\tau}_e \, de \quad - \text{constant on } e.$$

$\boldsymbol{\tau}_e$  – unit tangent to  $e$ .



## 1. Inner product $[\cdot, \cdot]_{\mathcal{E}_h}$

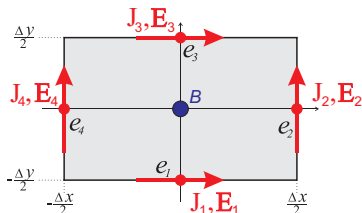
- **MFD Construction is non-unique** and leads to parameterized family of methods with equivalent properties such as base convergence rate. We obtain a matrix with 3 free parameters  $\omega_1, \omega_2, \omega_3$ .
- **Non-standard Mass Lumping**: Instead of computing  $\mathbb{M}_{\mathcal{E}_E}$  associated with the inner product  $[\cdot, \cdot]_{\mathcal{E}_E}$  we will compute its inverse  $\mathbb{W}_{\mathcal{E}_E} \approx \mathbb{M}_{\mathcal{E}_E}^{-1}$

$$\mathbb{W}_{\mathcal{E}_E} = \frac{1}{4\Delta x \Delta y} \begin{bmatrix} 1 + 4\omega_1 & 4\omega_2 & 1 - 4\omega_1 & -4\omega_2 \\ 4\omega_2 & 1 + 4\omega_3 & -4\omega_2 & 1 - 4\omega_3 \\ 1 - 4\omega_1 & -4\omega_2 & 1 + 4\omega_1 & 4\omega_2 \\ -4\omega_2 & 1 - 4\omega_3 & 4\omega_2 & 1 + 4\omega_3 \end{bmatrix}.$$

- E.g.  $\omega_1 = \omega_3 = \frac{1}{4}$ ,  $\omega_2 = 0$  gives the **Yee-FDTD** scheme.
- **M-adaptation** – optimize the choice of free parameters  $\omega_1, \omega_2, \omega_3$  for selected criteria – reduction of numerical dispersion.



# 1. $\text{curl}_E : \mathcal{E}_E \rightarrow \mathcal{F}_E$



$$\int_E \text{curl } \mathbf{J} \, dE = \int_{\partial E} \mathbf{J} \cdot \boldsymbol{\tau} \, de.$$

$$\left( \frac{1}{|E|} \int_E \text{curl } \mathbf{J} \, dE \right) = \frac{1}{|E|} \sum_{e \in \partial E} |e| \left( \frac{1}{|e|} \int_e \mathbf{J} \cdot \boldsymbol{\tau} \, de \right).$$

- $\bullet \text{curl}_E : \mathcal{E}_E \rightarrow \mathcal{F}_E$

$$\text{curl}_E = \frac{1}{\Delta x \Delta y} \begin{bmatrix} \Delta x & \Delta y & -\Delta x & -\Delta y \end{bmatrix}.$$

## 2. Time discretization

- **Dispersion reduction** will be achieved by **cancelling temporal and spatial errors** at the leading orders (by a proper choice of the MFD parameters).
- Standard leapfrog discretization DOES NOT allow for dispersion reduction beyond second order for linear dispersive media. However, for non-dispersive materials it does.
- Thus, the correct choice of time discretization is crucial for M-adaptation. We use **Exponential time differences (ETD)** as our time discretization.

## 2. Exponential time differencing (ETD)

- Integrating factor  $e^{-ct}$ :

$$(e^{-ct}u)_t = e^{-ct}(u_t - cu).$$

- For a first-order **scalar ODE**:

$$\dot{u} = cu + F(u, t)$$

the exponential time difference scheme yields

$$u^{n+1} = e^{ct}u^n + c^{-1}(e^{c\Delta t} - 1)F^{n+1/2}.$$

- For a **vector ODE** with invertible  $\mathbb{X}$

$$\dot{\mathbf{u}} = \mathbb{X}\mathbf{u} + \mathbf{F}(\mathbf{u}, t)$$

the exponential time difference scheme yields

$$\mathbf{u}^{n+1} = e^{\mathbb{X}\Delta t}\mathbf{u}^n + \mathbb{Y}\mathbf{F}^{n+1/2}, \quad \mathbb{Y} := \mathbb{X}^{-1} \left( e^{\mathbb{X}\Delta t} - \mathbb{I} \right).$$

## 2. Semi-discrete formulation: ETD

- Original first-order formulation:

$$\begin{cases} \mathbf{E}_t = & -\epsilon_0^{-1} \mathbf{J} + c_0^2 \operatorname{curl} B \\ \mathbf{J}_t = & \epsilon_0 \omega_p^2 \mathbf{E} - \omega_{icf} \mathbf{J} \\ B_t = & -\operatorname{curl} \mathbf{E} \end{cases} \quad \text{in } \Omega \times (0, T]$$

- Matrix form:

$$\begin{cases} \mathbf{u}_t = & \mathbb{X} \mathbf{u} + \mathbf{F} \\ B_t = & -\operatorname{curl} \mathbf{E} \end{cases} \quad \text{in } \Omega \times (0, T]$$

$$\mathbf{u} = \begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{E} \\ \mathbf{J} \end{bmatrix} \quad \mathbb{X} = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & -\epsilon_0^{-1} \\ \epsilon_0 \omega_p^2 & -\omega_{icf} \end{bmatrix} \quad \mathbf{F} = \begin{bmatrix} c_0^2 \operatorname{curl} B \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

- Time discretization:

$$\begin{cases} \mathbf{u}^{n+1} = & e^{\mathbb{X} \Delta t} \mathbf{u}^n + \mathbb{Y} \mathbf{F}^{n+1/2} \\ B^{n+1/2} = & B^{n-1/2} - \Delta t \operatorname{curl} \mathbf{E}^n \end{cases}$$

## 2. Semi-discrete formulation: ETD

- Eliminate  $B$  by considering  $\mathbf{u}^{n+1} - \mathbf{u}^n$ :

$$\begin{cases} (\mathbf{u}^{n+1} - \mathbf{u}^n) &= e^{\mathbb{X}\Delta t}(\mathbf{u}^n - \mathbf{u}^{n-1}) + \mathbb{Y}(\mathbf{F}^{n+\frac{1}{2}} - \mathbf{F}^{n-\frac{1}{2}}) \\ B^{n+\frac{1}{2}} - B^{n-\frac{1}{2}} &= -\Delta t \operatorname{curl} \mathbf{E}^n \end{cases}$$

$$\mathbf{F}^{n+\frac{1}{2}} - \mathbf{F}^{n-\frac{1}{2}} = \begin{bmatrix} c_0^2 \operatorname{curl}(B^{n+\frac{1}{2}} - B^{n-\frac{1}{2}}) \\ 0 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} c_0^2 \Delta t \operatorname{curl} \operatorname{curl} \mathbf{E}^n \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}.$$

- Second order formulation:

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{1}{\Delta t} \mathbb{Y}^{-1} \left( \begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{E}^{n+1} \\ \mathbf{J}^{n+1} \end{bmatrix} - (\mathbb{I} + e^{\mathbb{X}\Delta t}) \begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{E}^n \\ \mathbf{J}^n \end{bmatrix} + e^{\mathbb{X}\Delta t} \begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{E}^{n-1} \\ \mathbf{J}^{n-1} \end{bmatrix} \right) &= \\ &= -c_0^2 \begin{bmatrix} \operatorname{curl} \operatorname{curl} \mathbf{E}^n \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}. \end{aligned}$$

$$\mathbb{Y} := \mathbb{X}^{-1} (e^{\mathbb{X}\Delta t} - \mathbb{I}).$$

### 3. Dispersion Relations

- *Dispersion relation* – relation between the wave frequency  $\omega$  and the wave number  $\mathbf{k}$  for a plane wave

$$e^{i(\mathbf{k}\cdot\mathbf{x}-\omega t)}\mathbf{u}_0 = e^{i\mathbf{k}\cdot\left(\mathbf{x}-\frac{\mathbf{k}}{k}\frac{\omega}{k}t\right)}\mathbf{u}_0, \quad k = |\mathbf{k}|.$$

Wave speed  $c := \frac{\omega}{k}$ .

- *Symbols* – generalized eigenvalues of the temporal and the spatial operators for a plane wave eigenfunction  $e^{i(\mathbf{k}\cdot\mathbf{x}-\omega t)}\mathbf{u}_0$ .

Continuous symbols:  $\mathcal{T}(\omega)$  and  $\mathcal{S}(\mathbf{k})$ .

Discrete symbols:  $\mathcal{T}_{\Delta t}(\omega)$  and  $\mathcal{S}_h(\mathbf{k})$ .

- Dispersion relations using symbols:

$$\mathcal{T}(\omega) = \mathcal{S}(\mathbf{k}) \quad - \text{fully continuous,}$$

$$\mathcal{T}(\omega) = \mathcal{S}_h(\mathbf{k}) \quad - \text{continuous in time, discrete in space,}$$

$$\mathcal{T}_{\Delta t}(\omega) = \mathcal{S}(\mathbf{k}) \quad - \text{discrete in time, continuous in space,}$$

$$\mathcal{T}_{\Delta t}(\omega) = \mathcal{S}_h(\mathbf{k}) \quad - \text{fully discrete,}$$

### 3. Discrete symbols

- **Discrete temporal symbol** for ETD formulation:

$$\begin{aligned} \mathcal{T}_{\Delta t}(\omega) &= \frac{1}{\Delta t} \mathbb{Y}^{-1} \left( e^{i\Delta t\omega} \mathbb{I} - (\mathbb{I} + e^{\Delta t\mathbb{X}}) + e^{-i\Delta t\omega} e^{\Delta t\mathbb{X}} \right) = \\ &= (-\omega^2 \mathbb{I} + i\omega \mathbb{X}) + \frac{\Delta t^2}{12} (-\omega^2 \mathbb{I} + i\omega \mathbb{X})^2 + \mathcal{O}(\Delta t^4). \end{aligned}$$

- **Discrete spatial symbol:**

$$\begin{aligned} \mathcal{S}_h(\mathbf{k}) &= -c_0^2 \text{trace}(\overline{\mathbb{W}}_{\varepsilon} \overline{\mathbb{A}}_h) = \\ &= -\frac{4c_0^2}{\Delta x^2} \sin^2 \left( \frac{k_x \Delta x}{2} \right) \left( 1 + (1 - 4\omega_3) \sin^2 \left( \frac{k_x \Delta x}{2} \right) \right) - \\ &\quad - \frac{32c_0^2}{\Delta x \Delta y} \omega_2 \sin^2 \left( \frac{k_x \Delta x}{2} \right) \sin^2 \left( \frac{k_y \Delta y}{2} \right) - \\ &\quad - \frac{4c_0^2}{\Delta y^2} \sin^2 \left( \frac{k_y \Delta y}{2} \right) \left( 1 + (1 - 4\omega_1) \sin^2 \left( \frac{k_y \Delta y}{2} \right) \right). \end{aligned}$$

### 3. Discrete spatial symbol (continued)

- Taylor expansion in  $h = dx$ ,  $(\gamma \Delta y / dx)$ :

$$\begin{aligned} \mathcal{S}_h(\mathbf{k}) = & -(c_0 k)^2 \left\{ 1 + \right. \\ & + \left( \frac{3\omega_3 - 1}{3} \cos^4(\theta) + 2\gamma\omega_2 \cos^2(\theta) \sin^2(\theta) + \frac{\gamma^2(3\omega_1 - 1)}{3} \sin^4(\theta) \right) k^2 h^2 + \\ & \left. + \mathcal{O}(h^4) \right\}. \end{aligned}$$

- Eliminate angular dependence through parameter choice:

$$\frac{3\omega_3 - 1}{3} = \gamma\omega_2 = \frac{\gamma^2(3\omega_1 - 1)}{3} \quad \Rightarrow \quad \begin{cases} \omega_1 = \frac{3\omega_2\gamma^{-1} + 1}{3} \\ \omega_3 = \frac{3\omega_2\gamma + 1}{3} \end{cases}$$

- Result:

$$\mathcal{S}_h(\mathbf{k}) = -(c_0 k)^2 \left\{ 1 + \gamma\omega_2 k^2 h^2 + \mathcal{O}(h^4) \right\}.$$



## 4. Final step: M-adaptation

- Combining temporal and spatial symbols:

$$(\mathcal{T}_{\Delta t}(\omega) - \mathcal{S}_h(\mathbf{k})\mathbb{P}_1) \begin{bmatrix} E_0 \\ J_0 \end{bmatrix} = \frac{h^2}{12c_0}(\nu^2 + 12\gamma\omega_2)c_0^4 k^4 \mathbb{P}_1 + \mathcal{O}(h^4).$$

- Last parameter:

$$\omega_2 = -\frac{\nu^2}{12\gamma} \quad \Rightarrow \quad (\nu^2 + 12\gamma\omega_2) = 0 \quad \Rightarrow$$

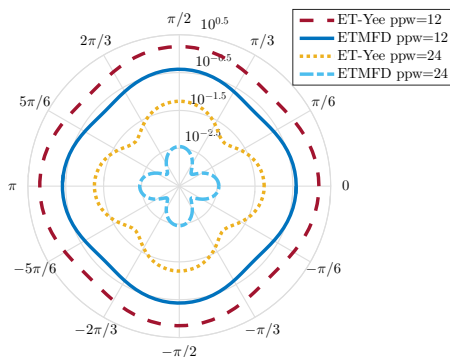
$$(\mathcal{T}_{\Delta t}(\omega) - \mathcal{S}_h(\mathbf{k})\mathbb{P}_1) \begin{bmatrix} E_0 \\ J_0 \end{bmatrix} = \mathcal{O}(h^4).$$

## 5. Numerical results: Experiment 1

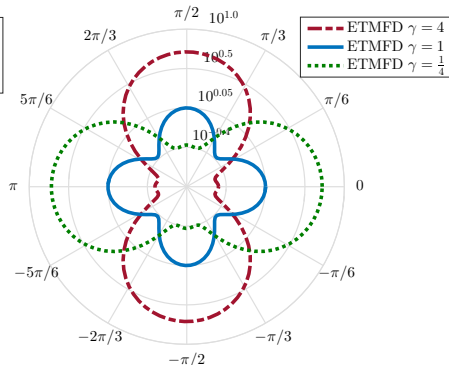
Cold isotropic plasma with  $\omega_p = 1$  and  $\omega_{icf}$ .

Relative dispersion error:

$$\gamma = 1, \nu = \frac{1}{2}.$$



$$\gamma = 4, 1, 4^{-1}, \nu = \frac{1}{2}, \Delta x \Delta y \text{-const.}$$



## 5. Numerical results: Experiment 2

Exact solution:

$$\mathbf{E}(x, y, t) = e^{at} \cos(bt) \begin{bmatrix} -k_y \cos(k_x x) \sin(k_y y) \\ k_x \sin(k_x x) \cos(k_y y) \end{bmatrix}$$

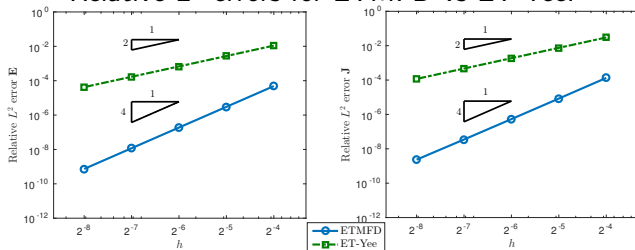
$$\mathbf{J}(x, y, t) = \epsilon_0 \omega_p^2 \frac{(a + \omega_{icf}) \cos(bt) + b \sin(bt)}{b^2 + (a + \omega_{icf})^2} \mathbf{E}(x, y, t)$$

$a + ib = \omega$  – complex root of the disp. relation.

$\epsilon_0$  – the electric permittivity of free space;

$\omega_{icf}$  – ion collision frequency;  $\omega_p$  – plasma frequency;

Relative  $L^2$  errors for ETMFD vs ET Yee:



## Conclusions

- MFD discretization of Maxwell's equation in cold plasma.
- Generalized mass lumping for efficiency of time integration on rectangular meshes.
- Using standard leapfrog time discretization does not allow to reduce the numerical dispersion.
- Exponential time differencing (integration factor) allows to perform m-adaptation. Numerical dispersion reduced from 2nd to 4th order.
- The choice of the parameters in the MFD mass matrix is the same as in the vacuum  $\Rightarrow$  generalization.
- FUTURE: Analyze divergence-free condition.

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