On some behavioral peculiarities of magnetic-type eigenmodes of a spherical particle with arbitrarily valued material parameters

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Subject and Purpose. The spectral characteristics (eigenfrequencies, eigenmodes, Q-factors) of a spherical particle with arbitrarily valued permittivity and permeability are considered to take a further look into some important features of their behavior. The real and imaginary parts of the material parameters of the particle can be both positive and negative. The emphasis is on magnetic-type modes.

Methods and Methodology. The spectral problem is solved using the electromagnetic field expansion in vector spherical wave functions.

Results. The first eigenfrequencies of a spherical particle have been calculated depending on its relative permittivity \( \varepsilon_1 \) and relative permeability \( \mu_1 \) whose real and imaginary parts can take both positive and negative values. The eigenmodes split into two, internal and external, eigenmode families. The internal eigenmodes bear an independent, associated with eigenmode structure labeling in each quadrant of the plane \( (\mu_1, \varepsilon_1) \). The external eigenmodes, on the contrary, have a uniform labeling throughout the whole \( (\mu_1, \varepsilon_1) \) plane and bear a structural resemblance to surface plasmon oscillations distributed in the vicinity of the particle surface or outside it. In the first quadrant of the plane \( (\mu_1, \varepsilon_1) \), the external eigenmodes can interact with the internal eigenmodes, leading to either mode hybridization or mode type exchange. In the third quadrant of the plane \( (\mu_1, \varepsilon_1) \), the external eigenmodes can interact with one another. The anomalous behavior of the spectral characteristics of a spherical particle corresponds to the already known phenomenon of wave mode coupling described in the scientific literature well enough.

Conclusion. The performed study has revealed some new behavioral patterns as to the spectral characteristics of a spherical particle with arbitrarily valued permittivity and permeability. Fig. 5. Ref.: 13 items.

Key words: spherical particle, dielectric ball, metamaterial, eigenfrequencies, eigenmodes.

The study of spherical particles with arbitrarily valued material parameters is facilitated by the fact that any formula obtained for an ordinary matter can be applied to the case when permittivity and permeability can take arbitrary values. The eigenfrequency equations of spherical dielectric resonators were first obtained by Mie and Debye in 1908–1909 [1, 2]. Over a wide permittivity range, numerical calculations of complex-valued eigenfrequencies were first performed in [3]. An excellent eigenmode analysis of an isotropic spherical dielectric resonator was carried out in [4]. The electrodynamic properties of a spherical particle with arbitrary real-valued material parameters were first considered in [5]. That time the particle resonant properties were studied by analysis of reflection coefficient resonances at a real-valued wave number. In [4, 5], it was noted, in particular, that in the particle of the kind, there are modes demonstrating abnormal (i.e. qualitatively different from normal or ordinary) behavior of the spectral curves. The described in [4, 5] abnormal behavior of electric-type mode spectral curves was thoroughly studied in [6] for a dielectric ball and in [7] for a spherical particle with simultaneously negative permittivity and permeability. The spectral curves reported in [4–7] belong to the spectral curve class of electrodynamic structures under the
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is adopted. The final results coincide with the data obtained by other algorithms of the refractive index calculation [10] (in view of the active media comments in [10]).

Mathematical problems arise in the refractive index sign determination and refer to the question of complex square root calculation because the complex plane can be cut into two Riemannian surface sheets in different ways, each suitable for a certain medium type. In the general case, however, it is hard to choose one. The mentioned ambiguity prevents us from linking a proper value of the refractive index to one of the two branches of the complex square root function. Therefore the refractive index sign determination should be performed based on some additional physical considerations. Normally, refractive index sign is sought in conjunction with complex impedance sign. A condition is proposed [11] that the sign of the refractive index imaginary part and the sign of the loss or gain energy density be coincident.

1. Calculation method. Let us consider a spherical particle of radius \( a \) (Fig. 1), relative permittivity \( \varepsilon_1 = \varepsilon'_1 + i \varepsilon''_1 \) and relative permeability \( \mu_1 = \mu'_1 + i \mu''_1 \). The relative permittivity and the relative permeability of the surrounding space are, respectively, \( \varepsilon_0 > 0 \) and \( \mu_0 > 0 \). The wave number inside and outside the particle is \( k_i = k_0 \sqrt{\varepsilon_i \mu_i} \), \( s = 0,1 \), where \( k = \omega / c \) is the wave number in vacuum. A spherical coordinate system \( (r, \theta, \phi) \) with the origin at the center of the particle is introduced, where \( \mathbf{r} \) is the radius-vector of the observation point. The electromagnetic field inside and outside the particle (in the incident field absence) is sought as

\[
(\tilde{E}, \tilde{H}) = \begin{cases} 
(\tilde{E}^0, \tilde{H}^0), & r > a, \\
(\tilde{E}^1, \tilde{H}^1), & r < a,
\end{cases}
\]

where

\[
\tilde{E}^0(\mathbf{r}) = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \sum_{m=-n}^{n} \sum_{\mu_0}^{\infty} \tilde{D}^{0}_{mn}(\mathbf{r}, k_0) = \\
\tilde{H}^0(\mathbf{r}) = \frac{k_0}{i k \mu_0} \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \sum_{m=-n}^{n} \sum_{\mu_0}^{\infty} \tilde{N}^{0}_{mn}(\mathbf{r}, k_0) = \\
\tilde{E}^1(\mathbf{r}) = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \sum_{m=-n}^{n} \sum_{\mu_1}^{\infty} \tilde{D}^{1}_{mn}(\mathbf{r}, k_1) = \\
\tilde{H}^1(\mathbf{r}) = \frac{k_1}{i k \mu_1} \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \sum_{m=-n}^{n} \sum_{\mu_1}^{\infty} \tilde{N}^{1}_{mn}(\mathbf{r}, k_1) =
\]

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\[
\tilde{\varepsilon}^0(\mathbf{r}) = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \sum_{m=-n}^{n} \sum_{\mu_0}^{\infty} \tilde{D}^{0}_{mn}(\mathbf{r}, k_0) = \\
\tilde{\mu}^0(\mathbf{r}) = \frac{k_0}{i k \mu_0} \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \sum_{m=-n}^{n} \sum_{\mu_0}^{\infty} \tilde{N}^{0}_{mn}(\mathbf{r}, k_0) = \\
\tilde{\varepsilon}^1(\mathbf{r}) = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \sum_{m=-n}^{n} \sum_{\mu_1}^{\infty} \tilde{D}^{1}_{mn}(\mathbf{r}, k_1) = \\
\tilde{\mu}^1(\mathbf{r}) = \frac{k_1}{i k \mu_1} \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \sum_{m=-n}^{n} \sum_{\mu_1}^{\infty} \tilde{N}^{1}_{mn}(\mathbf{r}, k_1) =
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coefficients. The vector spherical wave functions \( \tilde{N}^{(l)}_{mn}(\vec{r}, k_z) \) and \( \tilde{M}^{(l)}_{mn}(\vec{r}, k_z) \) and the even and odd vector spherical wave functions \( \tilde{N}^{o(l)}_{mn}(\vec{r}, k_z) \) and \( \tilde{M}^{e(l)}_{mn}(\vec{r}, k_z) \) \([12, 13]\) entering (1)–(3) accurate to the normalization factors adopted in the work are defined in \([6, 7]\). From here on, the time dependence of the fields is assumed to be \( \exp(-i \omega t) \).

With the boundary condition that the tangential components of the \( E \) and \( H \) fields are continuous on the particle surface \( (r = a) \), we obtain the dispersion equation of the magnetic-type eigenmodes (the \( TE \) or \( H \) modes)

\[
\frac{k_0}{k_1} \psi_n(k_1 a) \zeta_n(k_0 a) - \frac{\mu_0}{\mu_1} \psi_n(k_1 a) \zeta_n(k_0 a) = 0, \quad (4)
\]

where \( \psi_n(z) = \sqrt{\frac{\pi}{2}} J_{n+1/2}(z) \) and \( \zeta_n(z) = \sqrt{\frac{\pi}{2}} H^{(1)}_{n+1/2}(z) \) are the Riccati-Bessel functions of the first and third kind and \( J_{n+1/2}(z) \) and \( H^{(1)}_{n+1/2}(z) \) are the Bessel and Hankel functions of a half-integer index. Assuming \( D_{mn}^1 \) known, we find

\[
D_{mn}^0 = \frac{k_0}{k_1} \psi_n(k_1 a) \zeta_n(k_0 a) D_{mn}.
\]

Care should be taken of the following points. First, the natural area of the analytical continuation of the boundary value problem solution in wave number is the complex plane except for \( k = 0 \) (Ricatti-Bessel functions are analytic in this area). Second, as the arguments of the functions in (4) involve \( \sqrt{E_1 \mu_1} \), a question of proper choice of the root sign arises. We will calculate \( \sqrt{E_1 \mu_1} \) by the formula \([11]\) (see above)

\[
\sqrt{E_1 \mu_1} = \sqrt{E_1} \sqrt{\mu_1} \text{sign} \left[ \text{Re} \left( \frac{\sqrt{E_1}}{\sqrt{\mu_1}} \right) \right],
\]

where the square roots are considered in the principal value sense when the cut is along the negative half-axis of the real axis \( (\sqrt{\bar{z}} \geq 0, \ z \) is a non-negative real number). This principal value selection is used to advantage in the most important mathematical Application Packages.

2. Brief eigenmode analysis. A distinctive feature of magnetic-type modes is a nonzero radial component \( H_r \) of the magnetic field \( (E_r = 0) \). Accordingly, magnetic type modes are described (see (1)–(3)) by the vectors \( \tilde{M}^{(l)}_{mn}(\vec{r}, k_z) \) and \( \tilde{N}^{(l)}_{mn}(\vec{r}, k_z) \) (the radial component present). The eigenfrequencies of these modes come from (4). That the azimuthal index \( m \) does not enter equation (4) means the eigenmode degeneracy with respect to \( m \). The degeneracy rate is \( 2n + 1 \), which follows from (2), (3) in terms of the even and odd vector spherical wave functions. For the \( TE \)-modes, the modes \( TE_{mnq}^e \ (m = 0, \ldots, n) \) described by the fields \( \tilde{E}_{mnq}^e(\vec{r}) = B_{mnq}^e(\tilde{N}_{mnq}^{e(l)}(\vec{r}) \) and \( \tilde{H}_{mnq}^e(\vec{r}) = i k \mu_s \) \( \tilde{M}_{mnq}^{e(l)}(\vec{r}) \) and the modes \( TE_{mnq}^o \ (m = 1, \ldots, n) \) given by the fields \( \tilde{E}_{mnq}^o(\vec{r}) = \) \( i B_{mnq}^o(\tilde{N}_{mnq}^{o(l)}(\vec{r}) \) and \( \tilde{H}_{mnq}^o(\vec{r}) = k \mu_s \) \( i B_{mnq}^o(\tilde{M}_{mnq}^{o(l)}(\vec{r}) \) correspond to the normalized eigenfrequency \( k_{mnq} a = \frac{\omega_{mnq}}{c} \) \( a \), where \( q \) is the root number of equation (4). For certainty, the eigenmodes \( TE_{0nq}^e \ (TE_{0nq}^o) \) will be analyzed. The \( TE_{0nq}^e \) modes have the three components \( E_\varphi, H_r, \) and \( H_\theta \), with \( H_r \) and \( H_\theta \) calculated through the only electric field component \( E_\varphi \). Hence, while on the subject of the \( TE_{0nq} \) mode structure, the spatial distribution of the \( E_\varphi \) component is meant.

The eigenmode spectrum of a spherical particle splits into internal (the field inside the particle) and external (the field in the vicinity of the particle surface and outside it) modes (Fig. 2). It consists of two families determined by different dependences on the particle permittivity. So, the roots of the characteristic equations of the internal and external modes are suitable to label differently. To avoid confusion, we leave the labeling \( TE_{mnq} \) to the inter-
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Fig. 3. Re(ka) (a) and lg(Q) (b) depending on $\mu'_1$ for the eigenmodes $TE_{011'}$ (1), $TE_{011}$ (2), $TE_{012}$ (3), and $TE_{013}$ (4) ($\varepsilon'_1 = 1.5$, $\varepsilon''_1 = \mu'_1 = 0$)

Fig. 4. Re(ka) depending on $\mu'_1$ and $\varepsilon'_1$ for the eigenmodes $TE_{011'}$ (gray colored), $TE_{011}$ (black bottom surface) and $TE_{012}$ (black top surface) ($\mu''_1 = \varepsilon''_1 = 0$). The surface section with the plane $\varepsilon'_1 = 1.5$ is shown in Fig. 3, the eigenmode type indicated

3. Behavioral peculiarities of spectral characteristics. Let us consider the eigenfrequency behavior in the first quadrant of the plane $(\mu'_1, \varepsilon'_1)$ with $\mu''_1 = \varepsilon''_1 = 0$ ($\mu_0 = \varepsilon_0 = 1$). Fig. 3 presents the (normalized) eigenfrequency real parts $Re(ka)$ and the $Q$-factor logarithms $lg(Q)$ ($Q = 0.5 Re(ka)/In(ka)$) for the eigenmodes $TE_{011'}$, $TE_{011}$, $TE_{012}$, and $TE_{013}$ as $\mu'_1$ functions at different $\varepsilon'_1$ values: $1.0$ (a), $1.5$ (b), $2.0$ (c), $3.0$ (d), and $4.0$ (e). The symbols like $3 + 1$ – or $3$ – mark hybrid-type eigenmodes [6]. The plots are similar to those obtained for electric-type modes in [6]. We claim that the discovered and investigated in [6] phenomenon of wave mode coupling in a dielectric sphere with $\mu'_1 = 1$ ($\mu''_1 = \varepsilon''_1 = 0$) takes place for magnetic-type modes, too. The sphere relative permeability $\mu'_1$ is a control parameter of this phenomenon (with $\varepsilon'_1$ fixed). The external mode $TE_{011'}$ comes into interaction with the internal modes.

The $Re(ka)$ and $lg(Q)$ of the modes $TE_{011'}$, $TE_{011}$, and $TE_{012}$ are plotted in Fig. 4 as functions of two, $\mu'_1$ and $\varepsilon'_1$, variables. As seen, in the vicinities of some points of the plane $(\mu'_1, \varepsilon'_1)$, two eigenfrequencies locally form a single double-sheet surface. The cuts of this surface by the $\varepsilon'_1 = \text{const}$ plane show that the real and imaginary parts of the eigenmodes behave differently, as described in [6]. In particular, both mode hybridization and mode type exchange are locally seen. Fig. 4 shows multiple mode transformations in the plane $(\mu'_1, \varepsilon'_1)$. It is safe to assume that via a proper $\mu''_1$ and $\varepsilon''_1$ selection, the eigenmode degeneration in the complex frequency domain can be achieved [4].

In Fig. 3, one can also observe $lg(Q)$ resonance minima. As $\mu'_1$ $\mu_0$ ($\mu'_1 > \mu_0$, $\varepsilon'_1 = \varepsilon_0$), the $Q$-factor of the dielectric ball oscillations tends to

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zero \((\log(Q) \to -\infty)\), and the field is ejected out of the resonator as vacuum is approached (the oscillation amplitude therewith tends to zero). As \(\varepsilon'_1\) increases, this limiting case is drawn away. The field is partially ejected from the dielectric sphere, causing \(\log(Q)\) minima. As \(\varepsilon'_1\) increases, these minima gradually fade. The oscillations in the \(Q\) minimum vicinity resemble the \(TE_{011}\) and the \(TE_{010}\) mode structure (depending on the extent to which the antinodes of the original eigenmodes \(TE_{011}\) and \(TE_{010}\) are ejected out of the resonator). In this connection, they are called hybrid modes. When moving away from the \(\log(Q)\) minimum towards smaller \(\mu'_1\) values, hybrid oscillations with the \(TE_{010}\) and \(TE_{011}\) mode features appear, too. These oscillations have antinodes inside the ball and an antinode with a significantly lower amplitude in the ball surface vicinity. These two hybridity types fundamentally differ from the oscillation hybridity under the wave mode coupling condition when hybrid oscillations have features of two oscillations entering wave mode coupling.

Equation (4) finds the eigenfrequencies \(ka\) whose real parts give electromagnetic field eigen-frequency values and whose imaginary parts describe attenuation of the modes. Calculations of the eigenfrequencies in the third quadrant of the plane \((\mu'_1, \varepsilon'_1)\) show that extra solutions corresponding to electromagnetic field modes not decaying with time are possible. The result is unexpected but it, unfortunately, takes place. In this connection, physically correct solutions are necessary to select based on the condition \(\text{Im}(ka) < 0\). The introduction, for example, the \(\mu''_0 > 0\) and \(\varepsilon''_0 > 0\) values into the calculations only worsens the result. The introduction of \(\mu''_0 < 0\) and \(\varepsilon''_0 < 0\) shows (Fig. 5) that as \(\mu'_1 < 0\) increases in absolute value, then, starting with a certain point, the \(ka\) imaginary part gets negative, suggesting that the solution becomes physically correct. It should also be noted that the existence of physically incorrect solutions of (4) leads to resonances of the Mie coefficients [5], which enables the author of [5] to draw a conclusion about internal mode existence in the third quadrant of the plane \((\mu'_1, \varepsilon'_1)\). Physically incorrect solutions arise in the first quadrant, too, as soon as \(\mu''_0 < 0\) and \(\varepsilon''_0 < 0\) are introduced into the calculations: as \(\mu'_1 > 0\) increases, then starting with some \(\mu'_1\) value, the \(ka\) imaginary part becomes positive.

The plasmon oscillation \(TE_{011}\) deserves special attention. Unlike the internal eigenmodes, it occurs in all the quadrants of the plane \((\mu'_1, \varepsilon'_1)\), and its eigenfrequency is characterized by important patterns (Figs. 3–5). Let a point belonging to the first quadrant of the plane \((\mu'_1, \varepsilon'_1)\) describe a simple curve starting from the first quadrant and bypassing the origin clockwise. Then as the parameters \((\mu'_1, \varepsilon'_1)\) vary along this curve, the eigenfrequency of the eigenmode \(TE_{011}\) at \(\varepsilon'_1 < \varepsilon_0\), \(\mu'_1 > \mu_0\) (the first quadrant) first passes to the fourth quadrant, then to the third and second quadrants.
and, finally, returns to the first quadrant (but now with a zero-valued real part). That is, this eigenmode frequency behaves as if it belonged to some helical surface with its axis at the point \((\mu_0, \varepsilon_0)\).

In this case, during the passage from the fourth to the third quadrant (over some \(\mu_1^*\) variation interval), as well as during the passage from the second to the first quadrant, the eigenfrequency real part vanishes. The eigenfrequency behavior in the first quadrant (at \(\varepsilon_1^* \geq \varepsilon_0\)) was described above (Figs. 3 and 4). During the passage from the first quadrant of the plane \((\mu_1^*, \varepsilon_1^*)\) to the fourth one, the eigenmode \(TE_{011}^*\) field is increasingly pressed to the surface as \(\varepsilon_1^*\) decreases. During the fourth to the third quadrant passage, the field is completely ejected out of the particle at the point \((\mu_1^*)\), where the \(\text{Im}(ka)\) is at its minimum. With a further \(\mu_1^*\) decrease, the field is restored and has a form of a “classical” plasmon eigenmode whose \(Q\)-factor increases during the passage to the second quadrant.

We have considered some behavioral peculiarities of the \(n = 1\) eigenmodes, the simplest to analyze. As \(n\) increases, the eigenfrequency and eigenmode behavior can get more complexity (from the visualization standpoint), especially under wave mode coupling conditions. Thus, by analogy with electric-type modes [7], it has been found that the \(TE_{011}^*\) and \(TE_{032}^*\) eigenmodes come into interaction in the third quadrant of the plane \((\mu_1^*, \varepsilon_1^*)\). As a consequence, when the particle material parameters vary in the critical point vicinity [7], either mode hybridization or mode type exchange is locally observed. Unlike the \(TE_{011}^*\) oscillation, the real part of the plasmon oscillation frequency in the fourth to the third quadrant passage is other than zero, the imaginary part of the frequency therewith has a minimum, as for the \(TE_{011}^*\) oscillation. In the \((\mu_0, \varepsilon_0)\) point vicinity, the \(TE_{031}^*\) oscillation frequency changes into the \(TE_{032}^*\) oscillation frequency as if it followed a helical path with the axis at the point \((\mu_0, \varepsilon_0)\).

**Conclusions.** The spectral problem solution for a spherical particle has been obtained, based on the electromagnetic field expansion in vector spherical wave functions.

The first eigenfrequencies (magnetic-type eigenmodes) of a spherical particle have been calculated depending on its relative permittivity \(\varepsilon_1\) and relative permeability \(\mu_1^*\), whose real and imaginary parts can take both positive and negative values. The eigenmodes split into two, internal and external, eigenmode families. The internal eigenmodes in each quadrant of the plane \((\mu_1, \varepsilon_1)\) have a local, independent labeling based on the oscillation structure. Unlike the internal eigenmodes, the external eigenmodes bear a single labeling throughout the plane \((\mu_1, \varepsilon_1)\).

The external eigenmodes structurally resemble surface plasmon oscillations. In the first quadrant of the plane \((\mu_1, \varepsilon_1)\), they repeatedly come into the interaction with the internal eigenmodes, resulting in either eigenmode hybridization or eigenmode type exchange. In the third quadrant of the plane \((\mu_1, \varepsilon_1)\), the external eigenmodes can interact with one another. The anomalous behavior of the spectral characteristics of a spherical particle corresponds to the wave mode coupling phenomenon well described in the scientific literature.

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Про деякі особливості поведінки власних коливань магнітного типу сферичної частинки з довільними значеннями матеріальних параметрів

Предмет і мета роботи. Розглядається поведінка спектральних характеристик (власних частот, власних коливань, добротностей власних коливань) сферичної частинки з довільними значеннями діелектричної і магнітної проникності. Метою цієї роботи є вивчення деяких важливих закономірностей поведінки спектральних характеристик частинки як з додатними, так і від’ємними значеннями дійсних та уявних частин матеріальних параметрів. Акцент робиться на коливаннях магнітного типу.

Методи і методологія роботи. Для досягнення поставленої мети наведено розв’язання відповідної спектральної задачі. Метод розв’язання заснований на зображенні електромагнітного поля у вигляді розкладення за векторними сферичними хвильовими функціями.

Результати роботи. Розраховано залежності перших власних частот сферичної частинки від відносної діелектричної ε₁ і відносної магнітної μ₁ проникностей, дійсних та уявних частин яких можуть набувати як додатних, так і від’ємних значень. Коливання поділяються на два сімейства – внутрішні і зовнішні. Внутрішні коливання в кожному з квадрантів площин (μ₁, ε₁) мають незалежну класифікацію, засновану на структурі коливань. На відміну від внутрішніх, зовнішні коливання мають єдину класифікацію в площині (μ₁, ε₁). За свою структурою зовнішні коливання мають вигляд поверхневих плазмонних коливань, які розподілені в околі поверхні частинки або поза нею. У першому квадранті площин (μ₁, ε₁) вони багато разів вступають у взаємодію з внутрішніми коливаннями, що призводить або до гібридизації коливань, або до обміну типами коливань. У третьому квадранті площин (μ₁, ε₁) зовнішні коливання можуть вступати у взаємодію одне з одним. Аномальна поведінка спектральних характеристик сферичної частинки відповідає вже відомому і добре описаному в науковій літературі явищу міжтипового зв’язку коливань.

Висновок. Результати проведених досліджень дозволили встановити нові закономірності поведінки спектральних характеристик сферичної частинки з довільними значеннями її діелектричної і магнітної проникності.

Ключові слова: сферична частинка, діелектрична куля, метаматеріал, власні частоти, власні коливання.