

Presented at the 2011 COMSOL
Conference

Multiphysics Modeling of Electro-Optic Devices

James E. Toney

SRICO, inc.

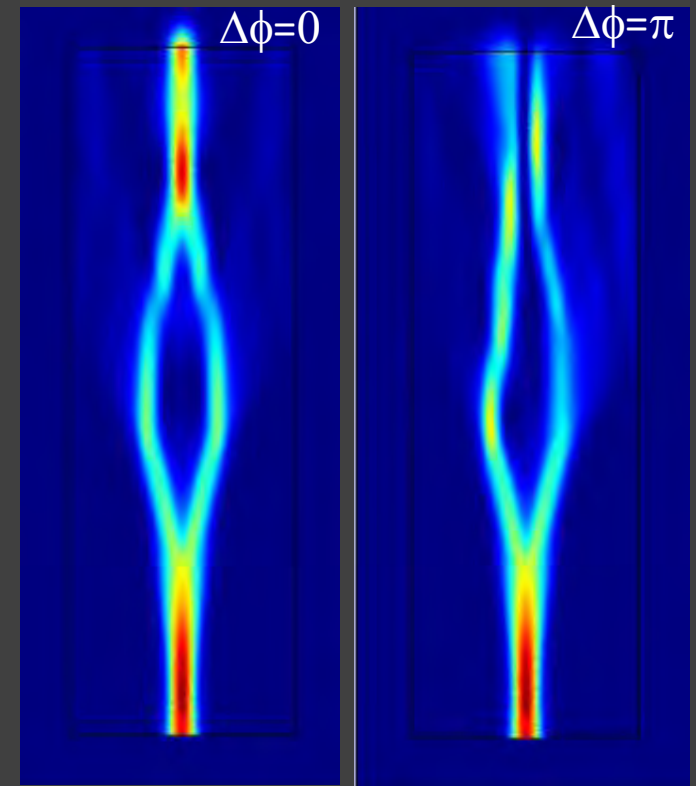
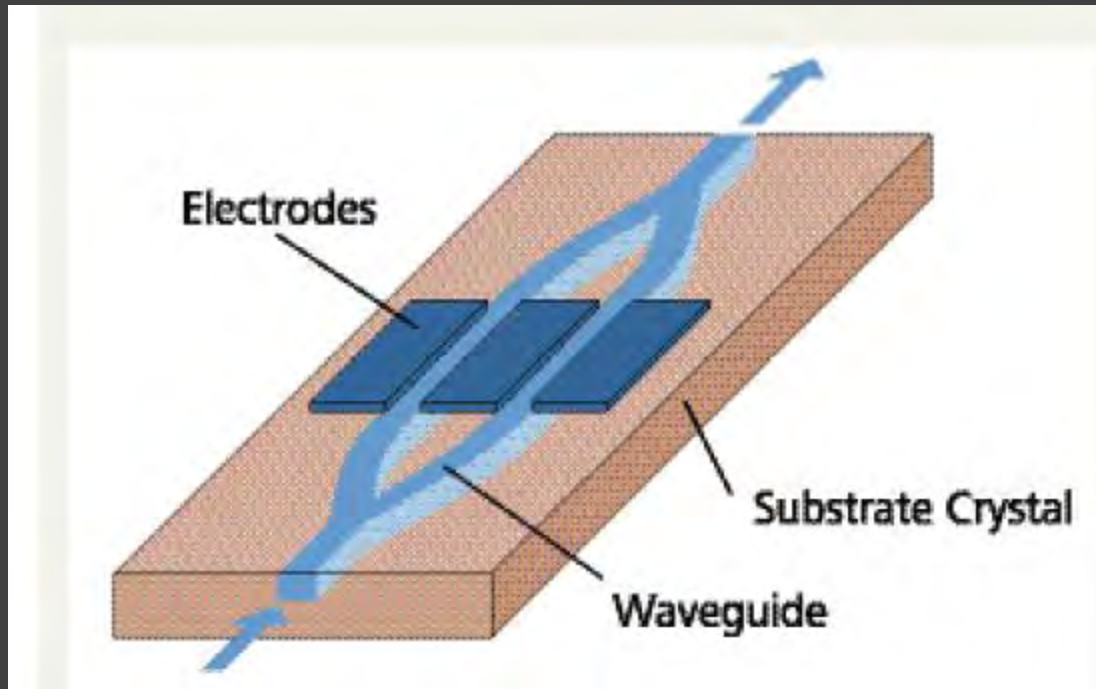
October 13, 2011



Outline

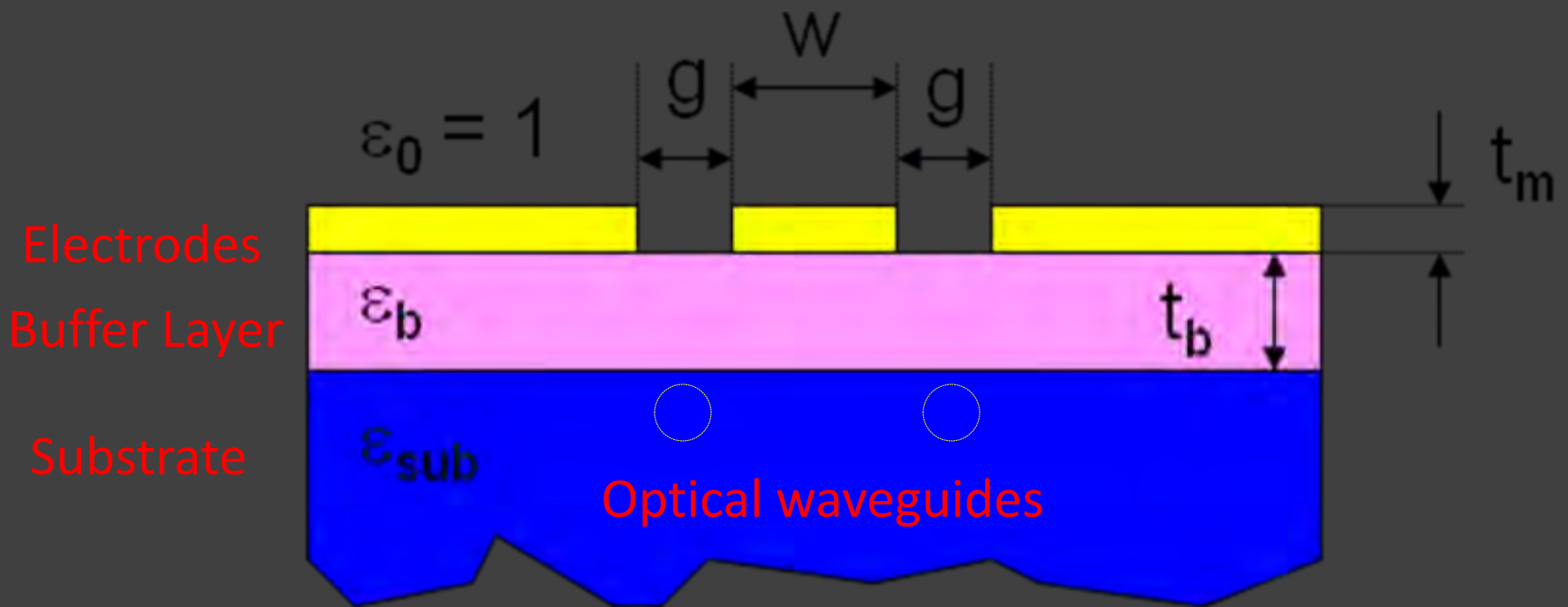
- Combined RF-Optical mode analysis
 - RF waveguide mode
 - Optical waveguide modes
 - Electro-optic interaction
- Combined wave propagation
 - Paraxial optical propagation
 - DC modulation
 - Time-dependent RF modulation

The Workhorse Electro-Optic Device: Mach-Zehnder Interferometer

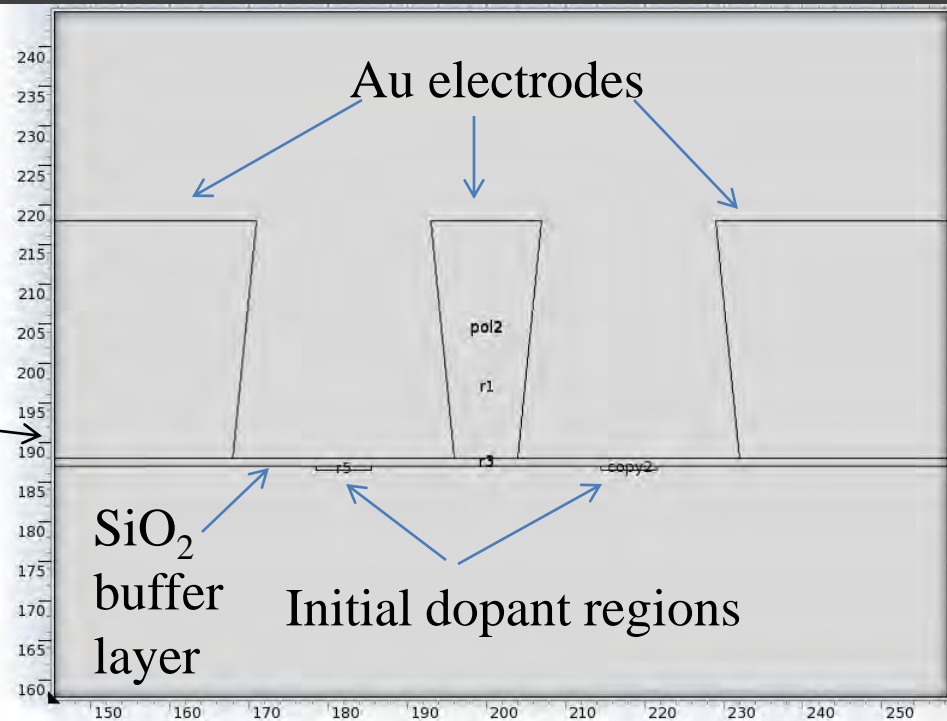
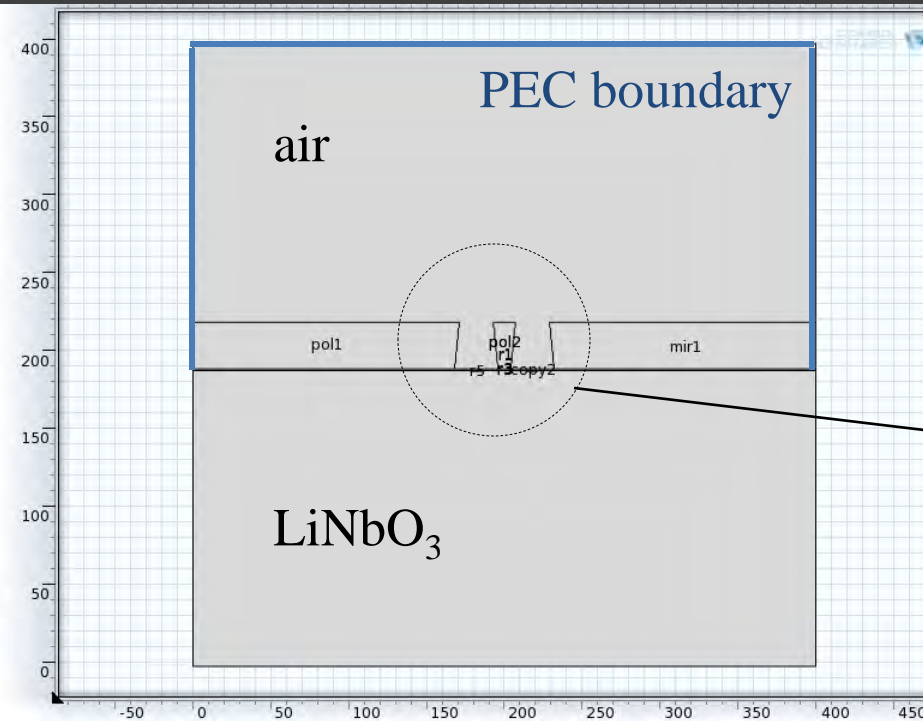


$$P_{out} = \frac{P_{in}}{2} \left[1 + \cos \frac{\pi(V_{DC} + V_{RF})}{V_{\pi}} \right]$$

Coplanar Waveguide Structure

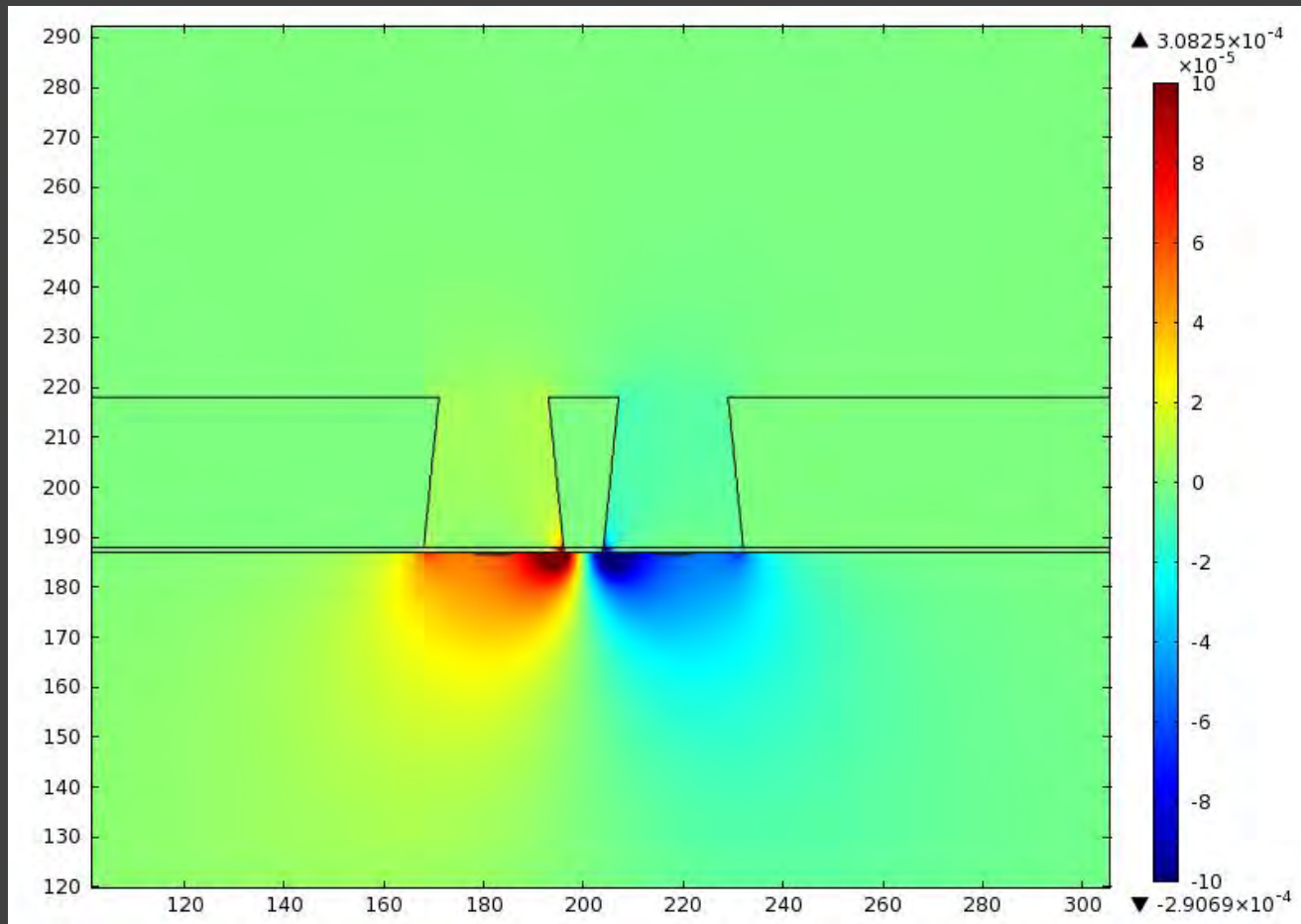


Geometry for RF and Optical Mode Solving in Comsol

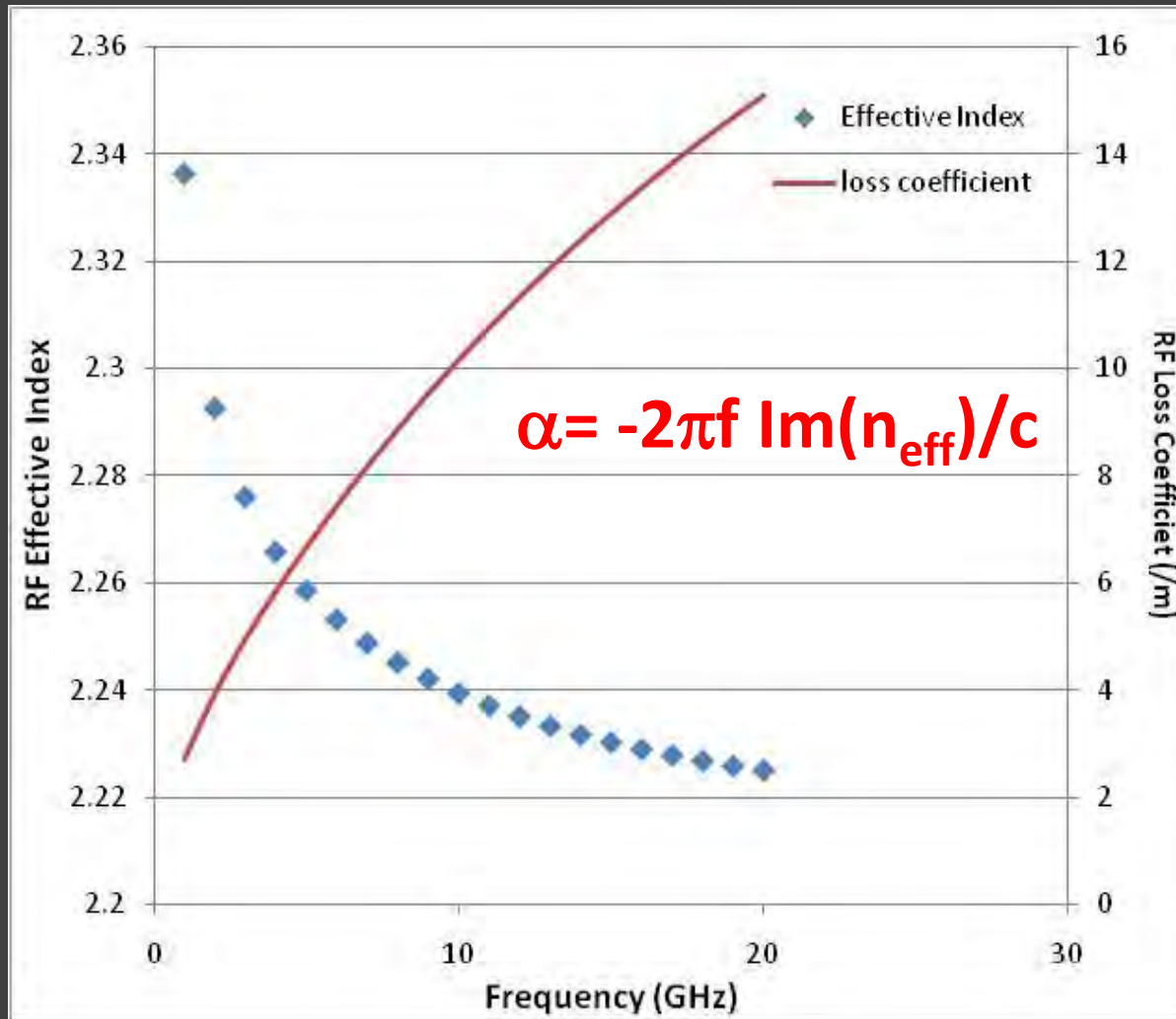


$w = 8 \mu\text{m}$, $g = 28 \mu\text{m}$, $t_m = 30 \mu\text{m}$, $t_b = 1 \mu\text{m}$, $\epsilon_b = 3.8$, $\epsilon_{\text{sub}} = [28, 44, 44]$
Optical waveguide profile is defined by diffusion equation

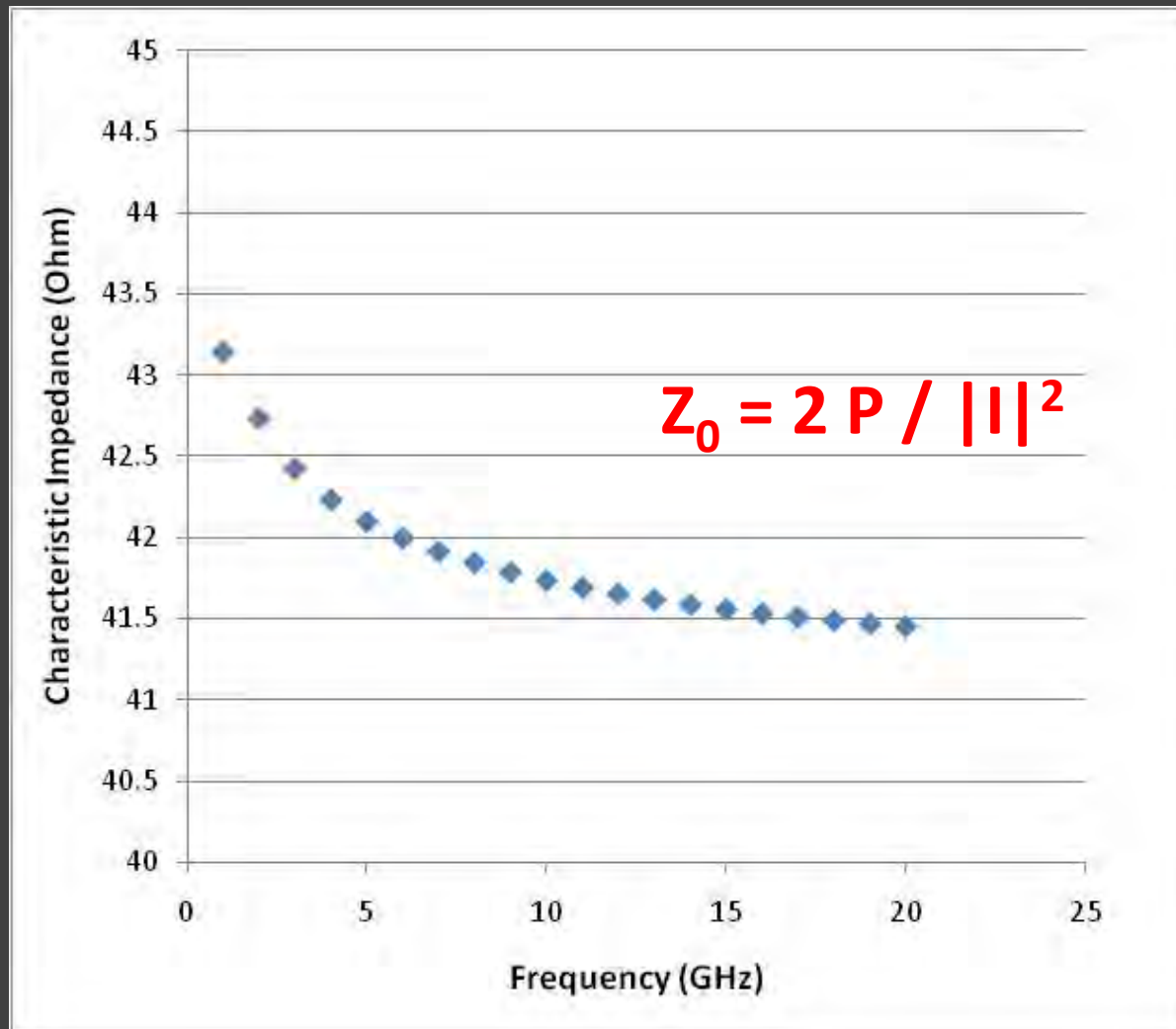
Electric Displacement Field (D_x) of RF Mode



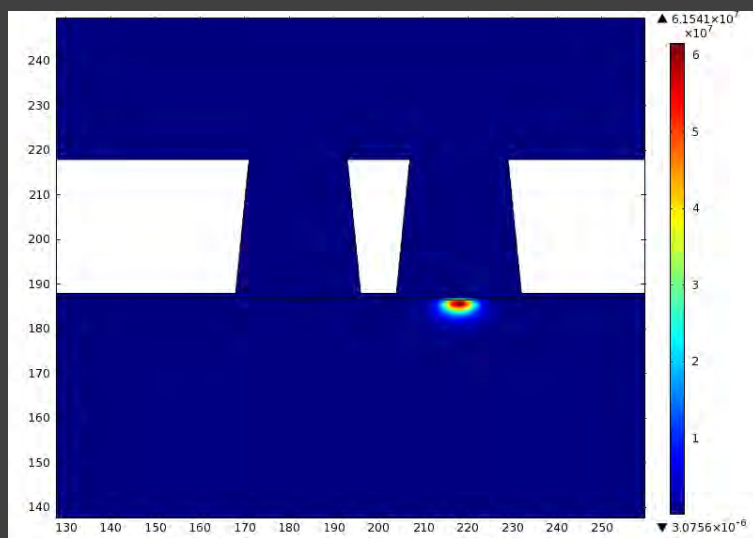
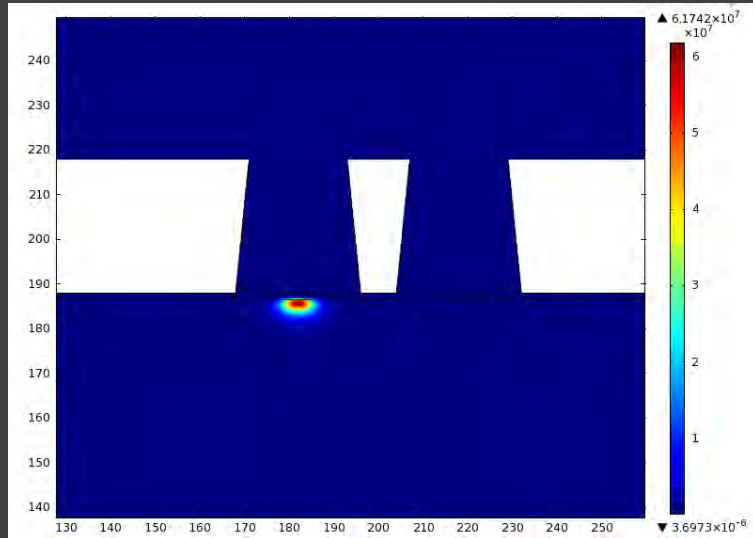
RF Mode Effective Index and Loss vs. Frequency



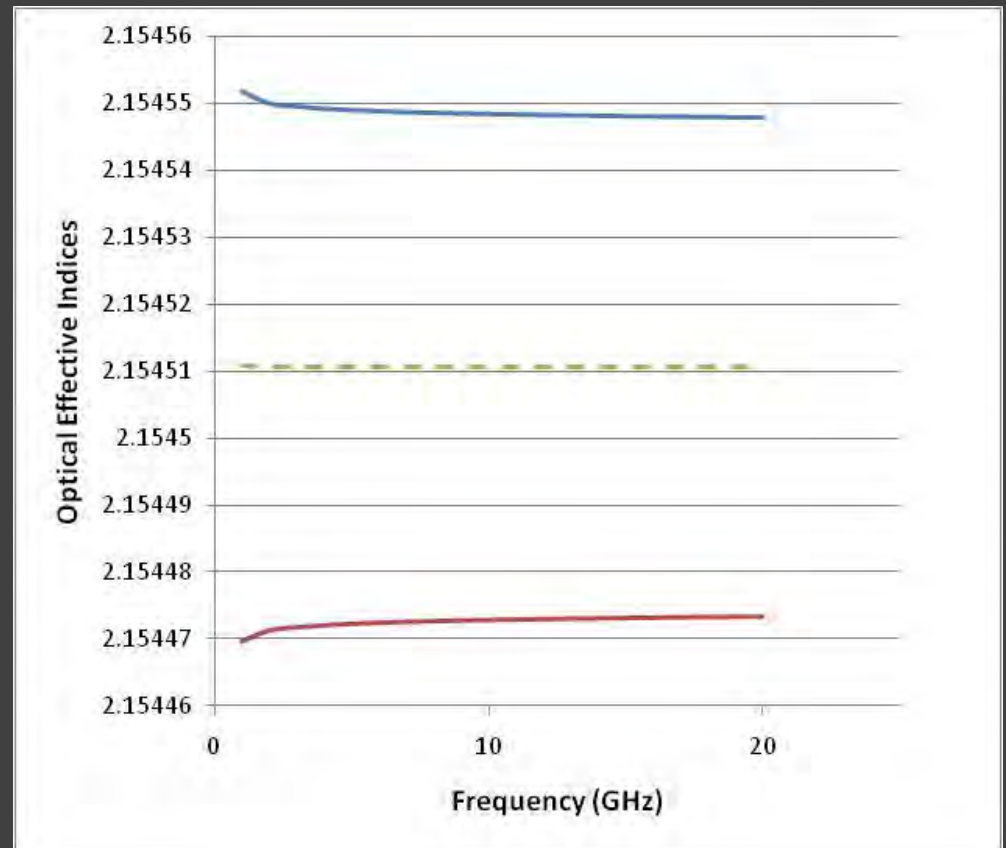
Characteristic Impedance vs. Frequency



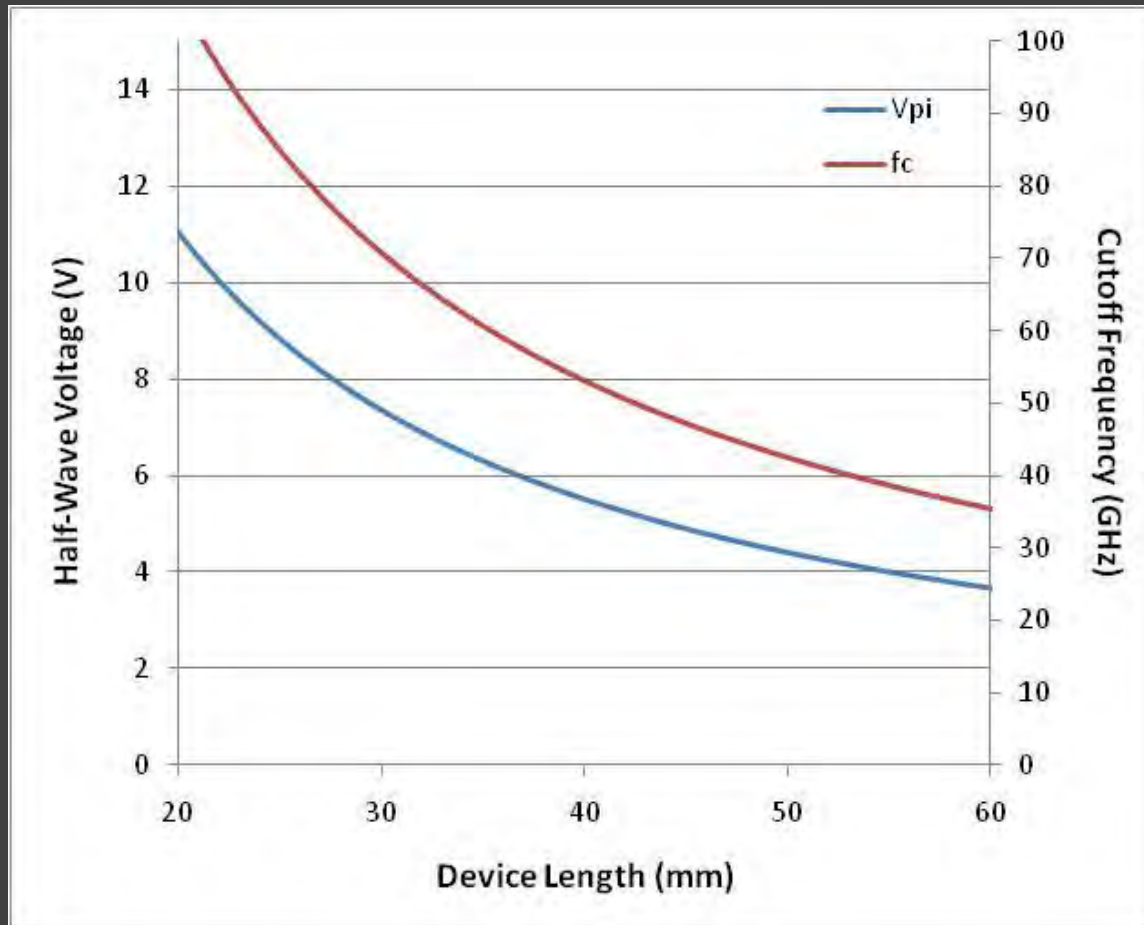
Optical Waveguide Mode Splitting with Applied E-Field



$$\Delta n_{o/e} = -\frac{1}{2} n_{o/e}^3 r_{i3} E_x$$



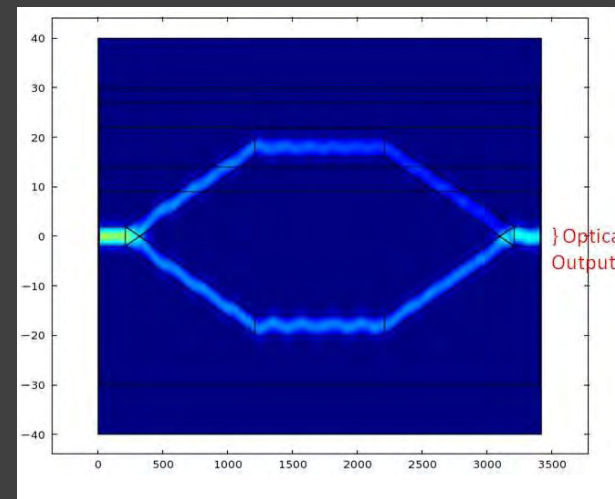
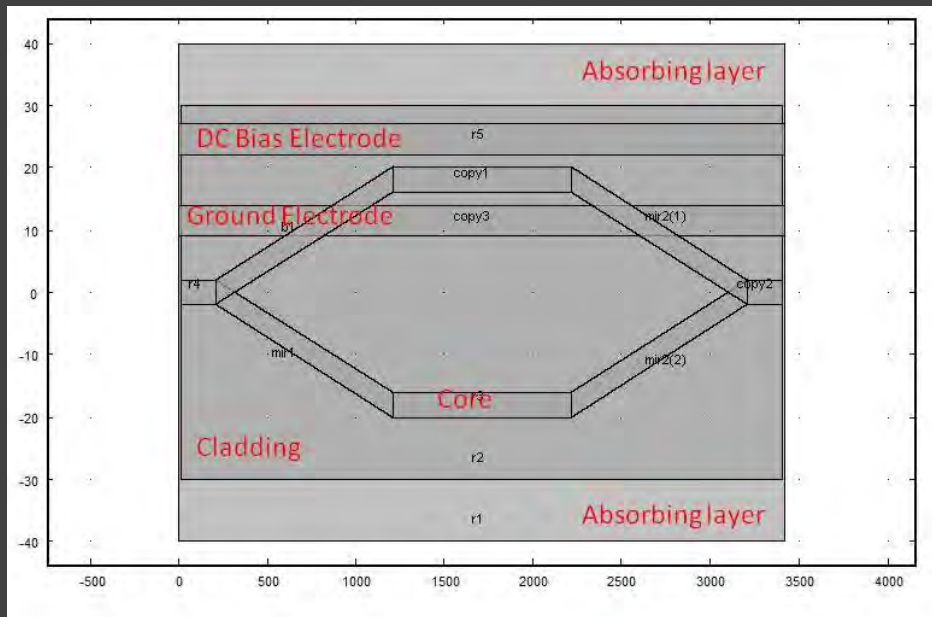
Velocity Matching Bandwidth and Half-Wave Voltage vs. Device Length



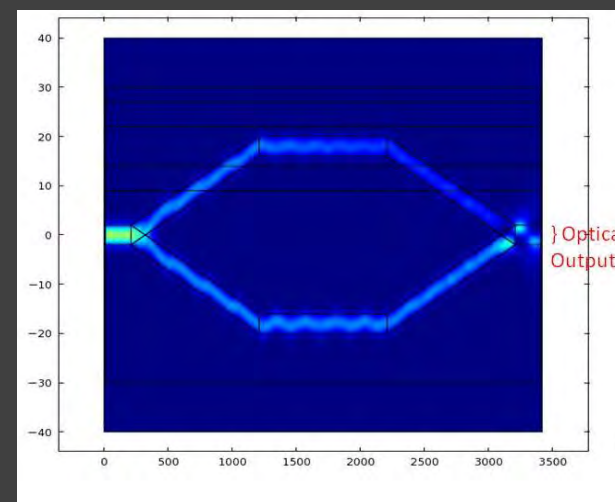
$$f_c = c / (2 n_m L \delta)$$
$$\delta = 1 - (n_o/n_m)$$
$$V_{\pi} = \lambda / [2 (\Delta n/V) L]$$

[does not incorporate electrode losses]

Simplified 2D MZI Model with DC Electrodes



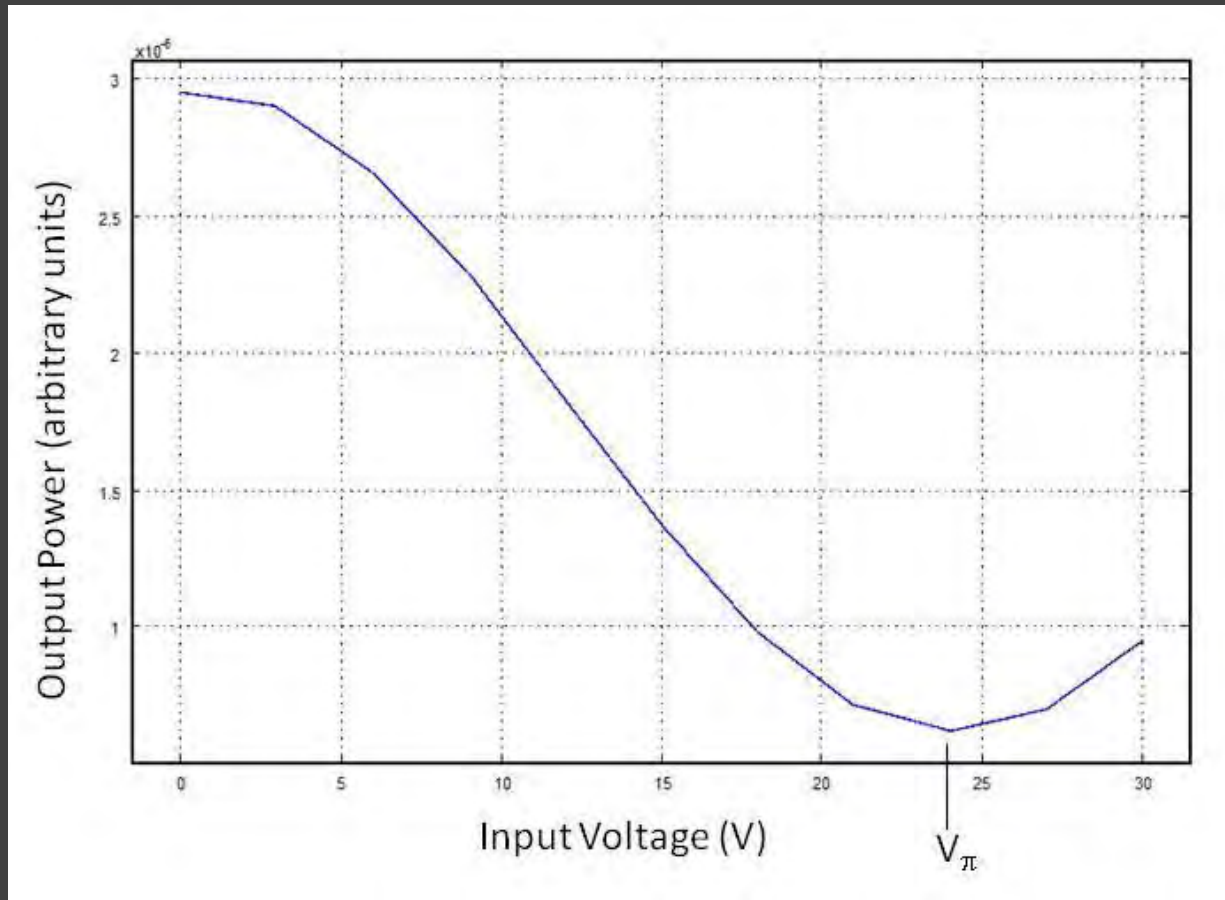
$V=0$



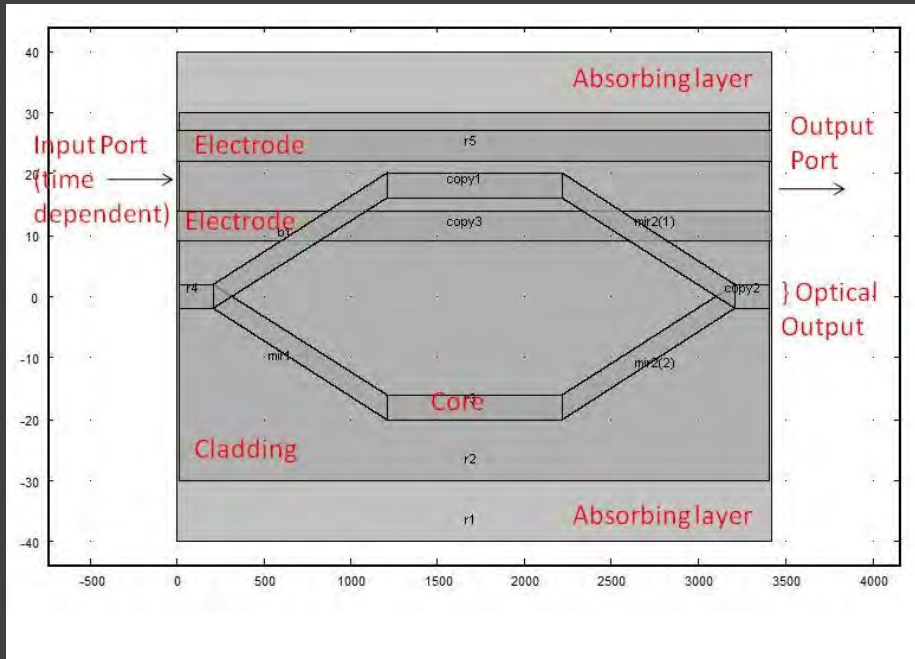
$V=24$ V

- Scalar Paraxial Wave Equation for Optics
- Electrostatics
- Stationary Solution

Transmission of 2D MZI Model vs. DC Voltage

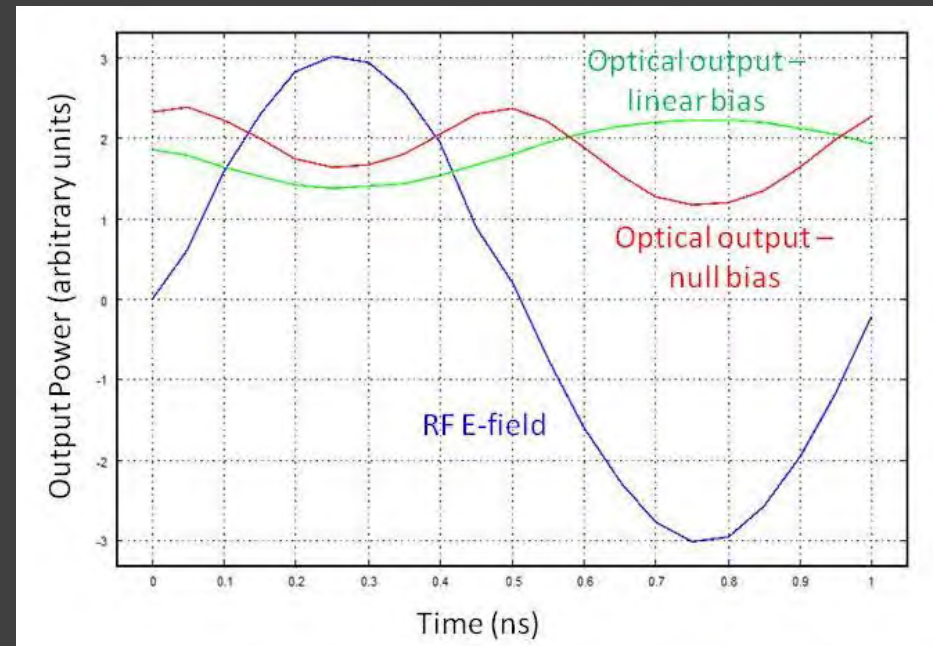


Simplified 2D MZI Model with RF Electrodes



Input/Output Waveforms
@ $f_{in} = 1$ GHz

- Time-Dependent EM Wave Propagation for RF
- Scalar Paraxial Wave for Optics (stationary solution at each time step)



Conclusions

- Comsol Multiphysics provides complete capabilities for modeling of electro-optic devices
- With adequate computational resources, 3D EO propagation models are possible