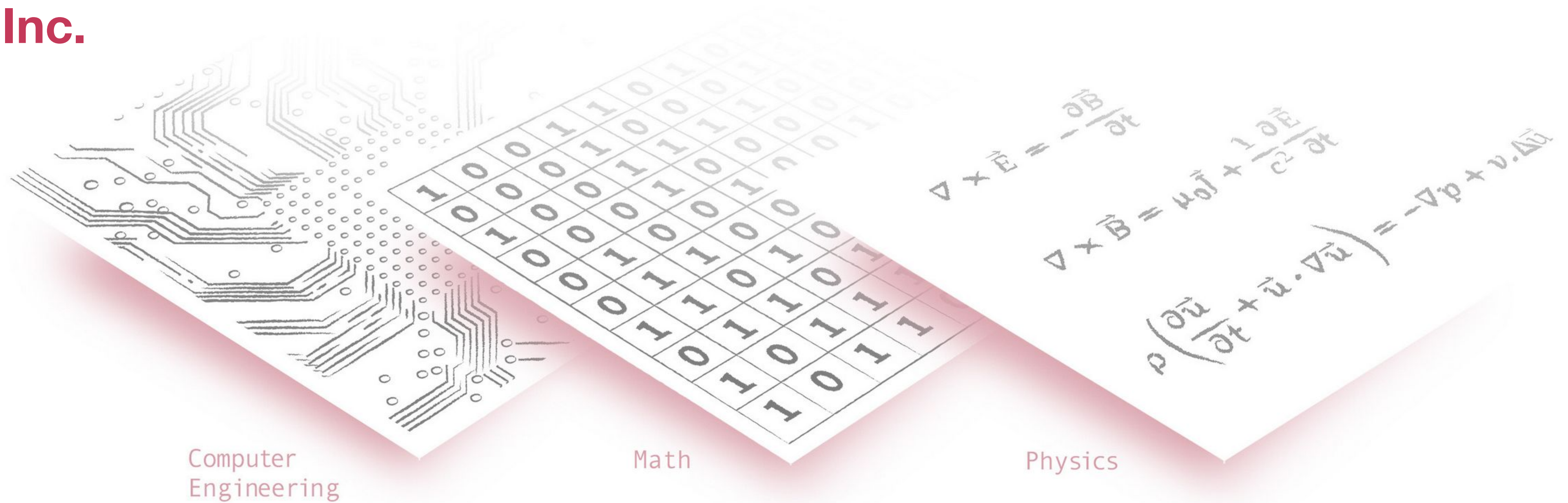




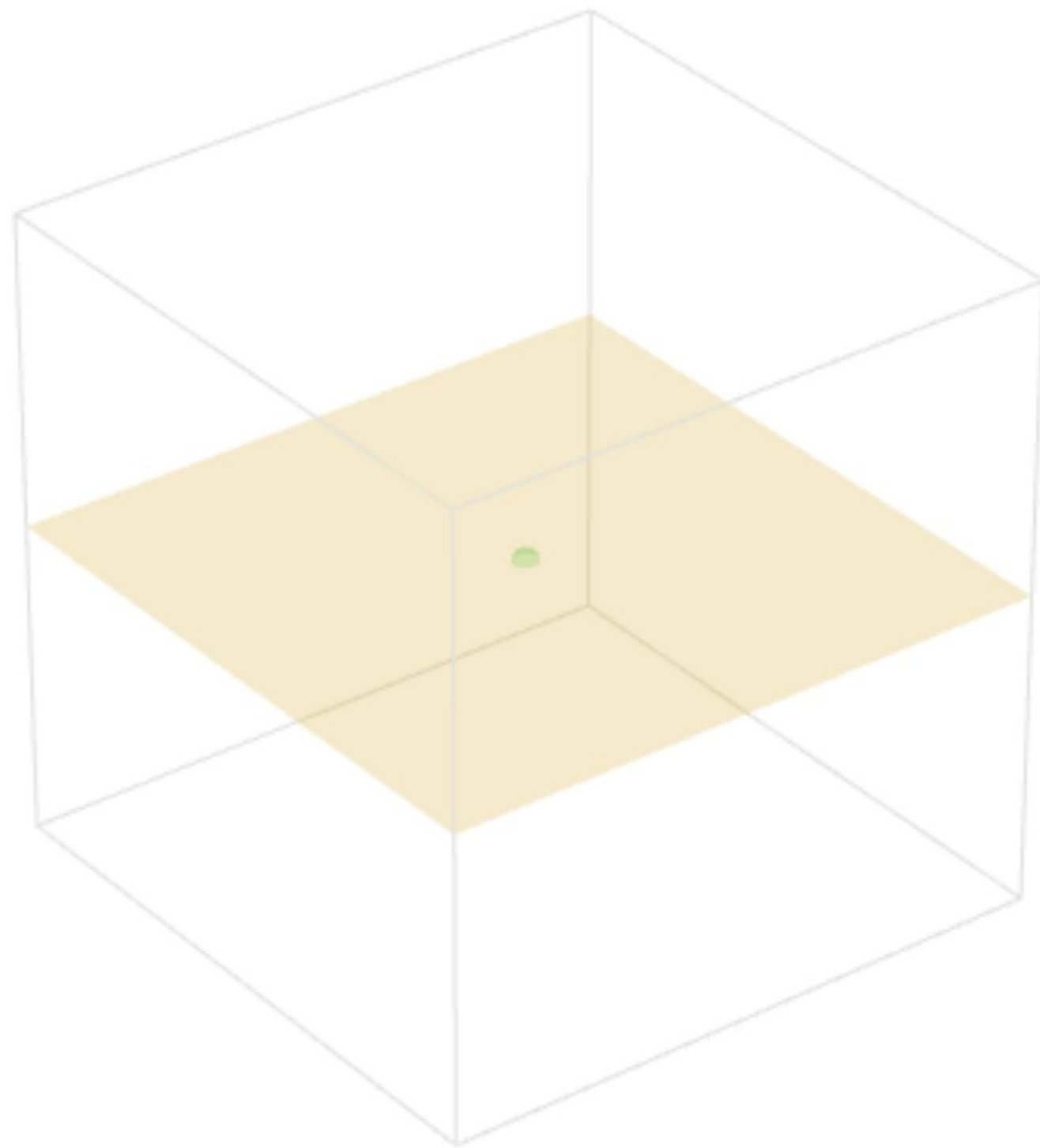
INTRO TO FDTD (6)

Flexcompute Inc.

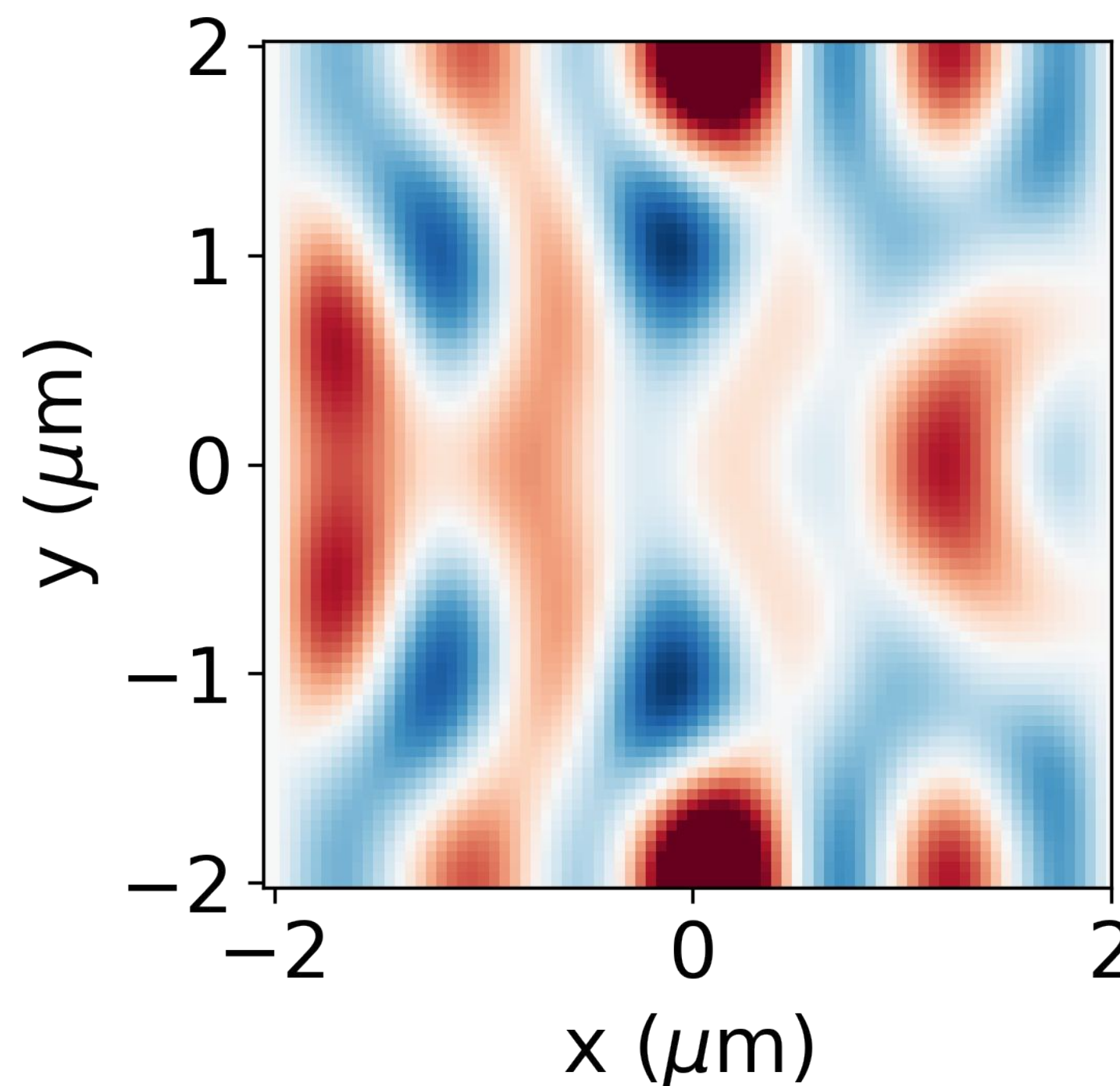


How to truncate unbounded spatial domain?

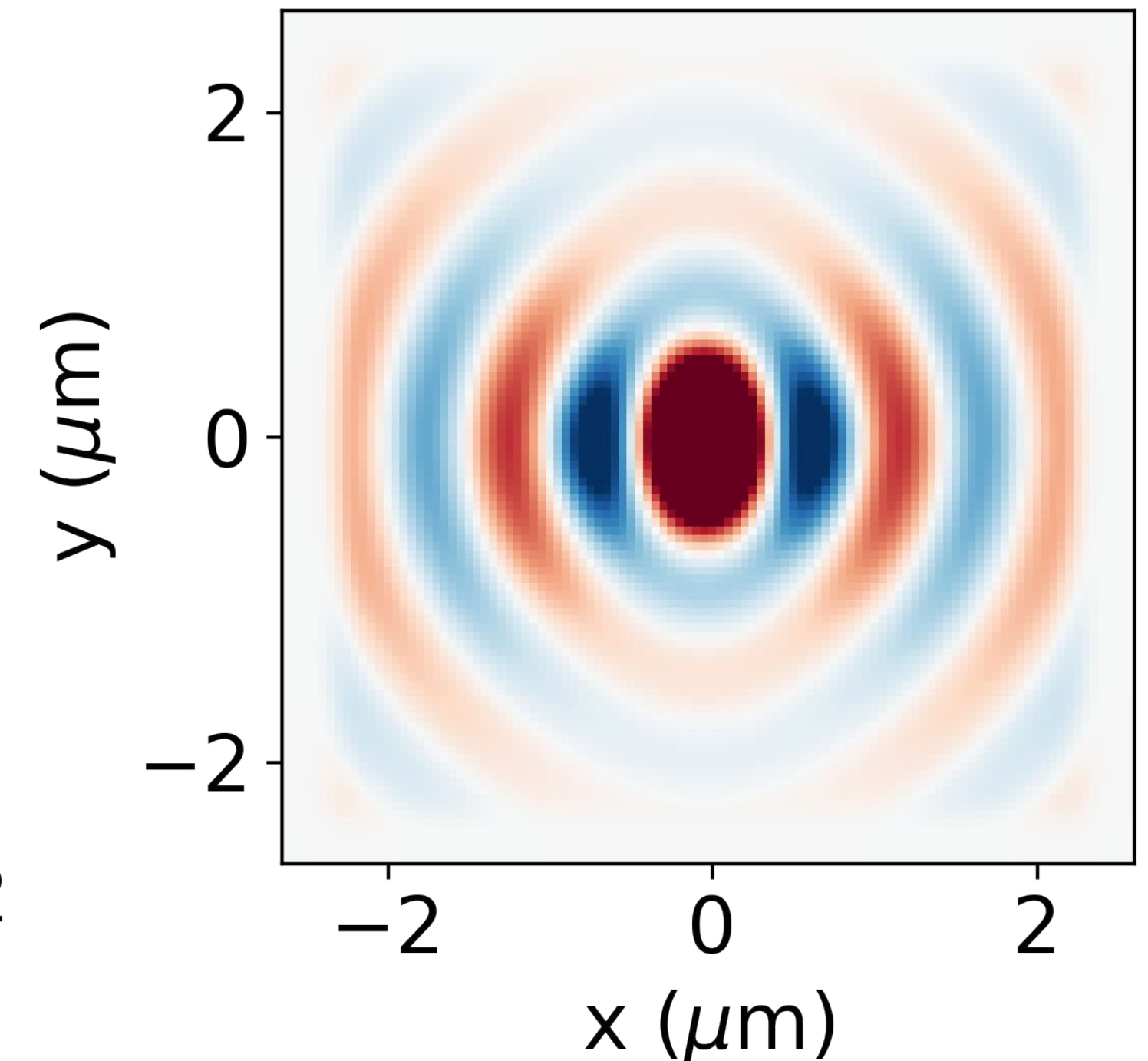
- Requirement: no reflection for incidence over all angles at the boundary.



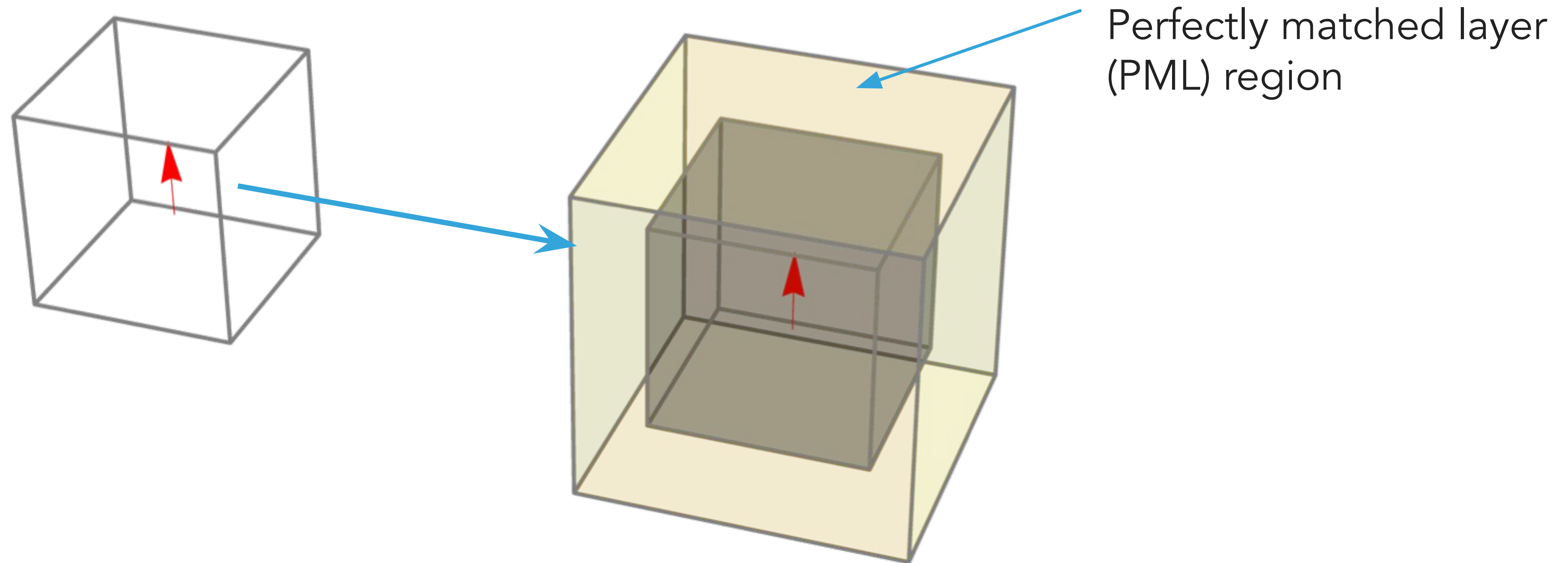
Dipole in free space



PEC boundary



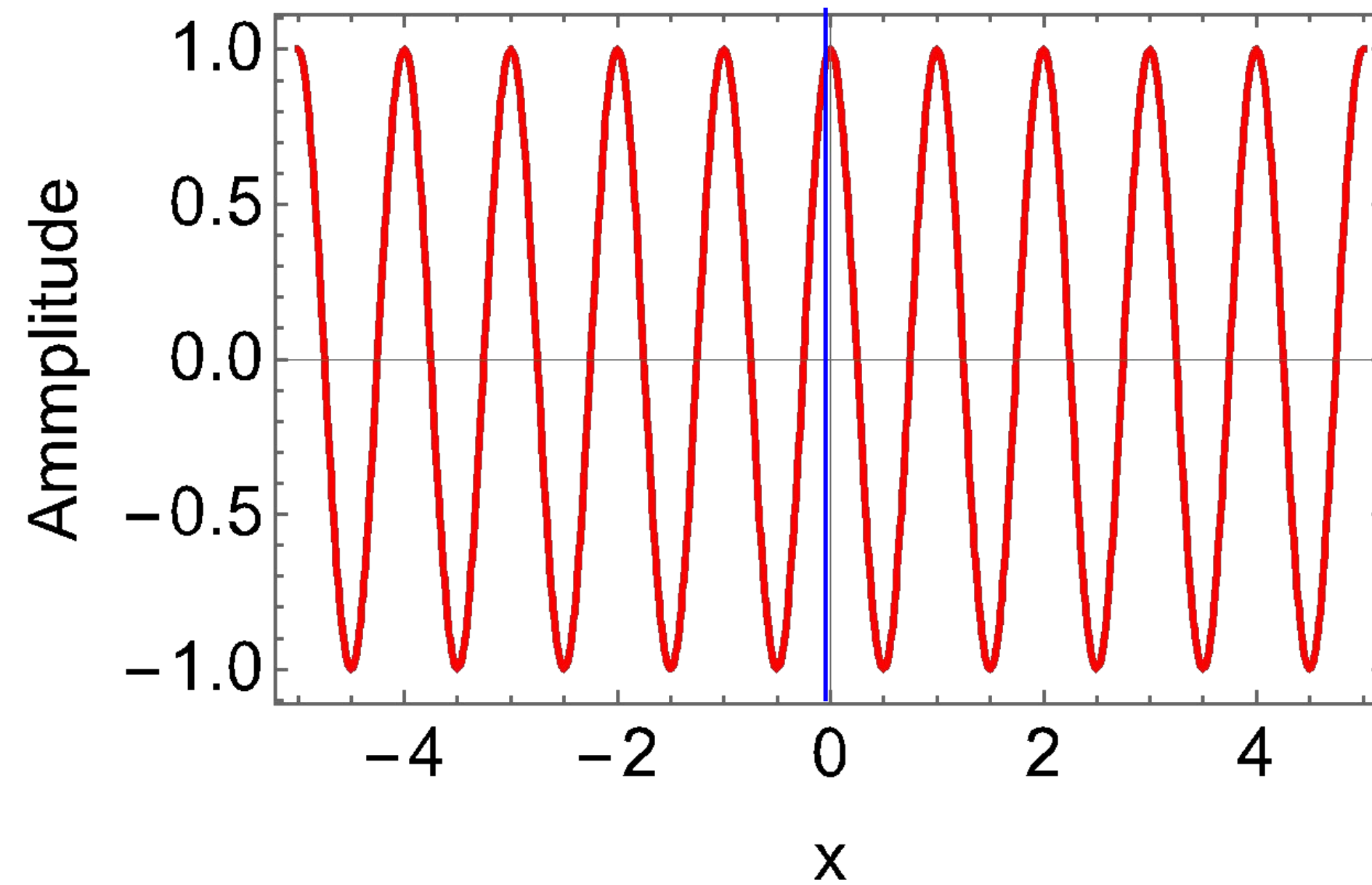
Expected field pattern



PML: A lossy material that completely absorbs incoming wave from all angles of the incidence without any reflection.

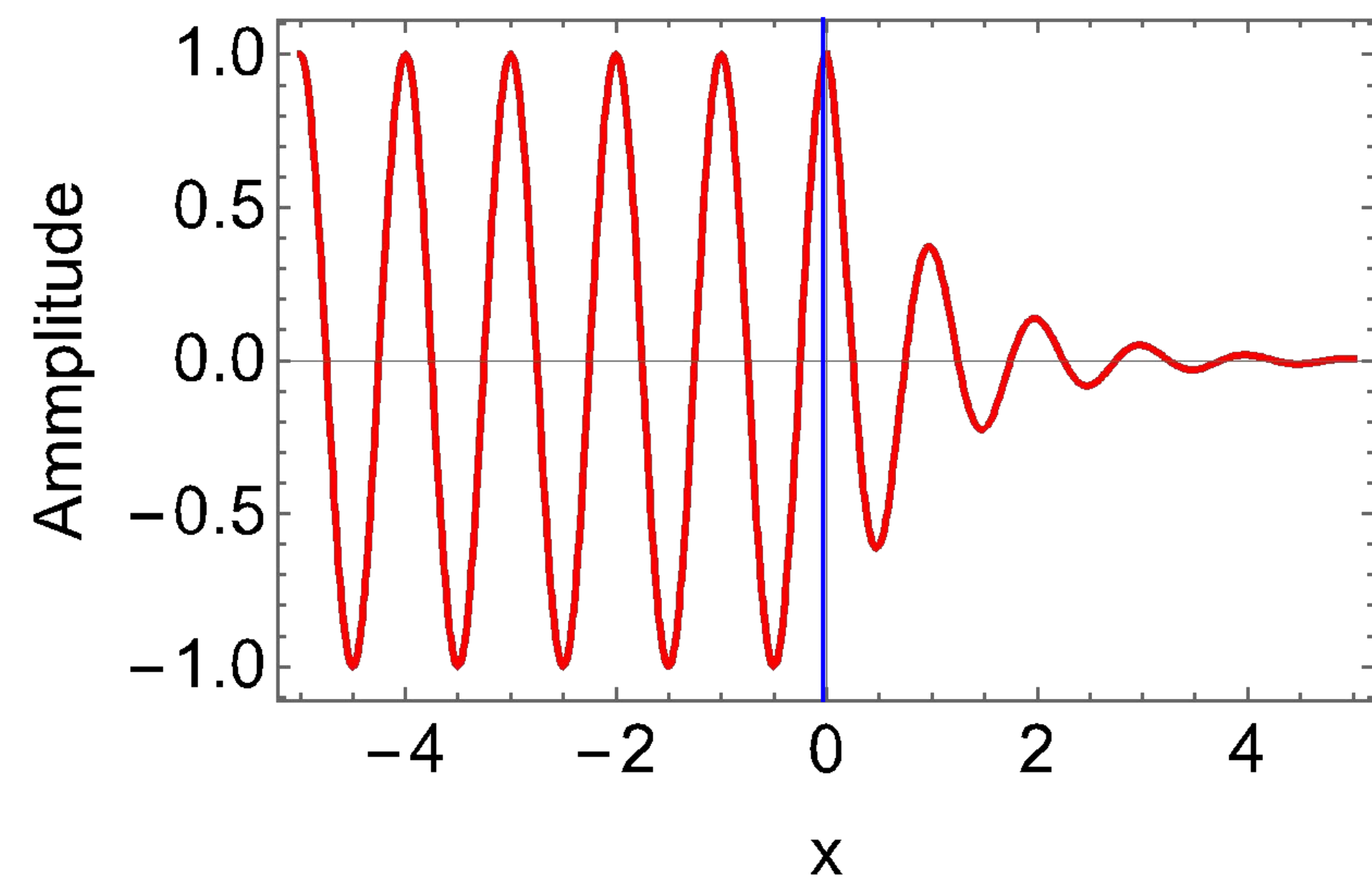
Idea for PML: Coordinate transformation

Vacuum



Vacuum

PML



Use coordinate transformation to transform a propagating wave into an attenuating wave

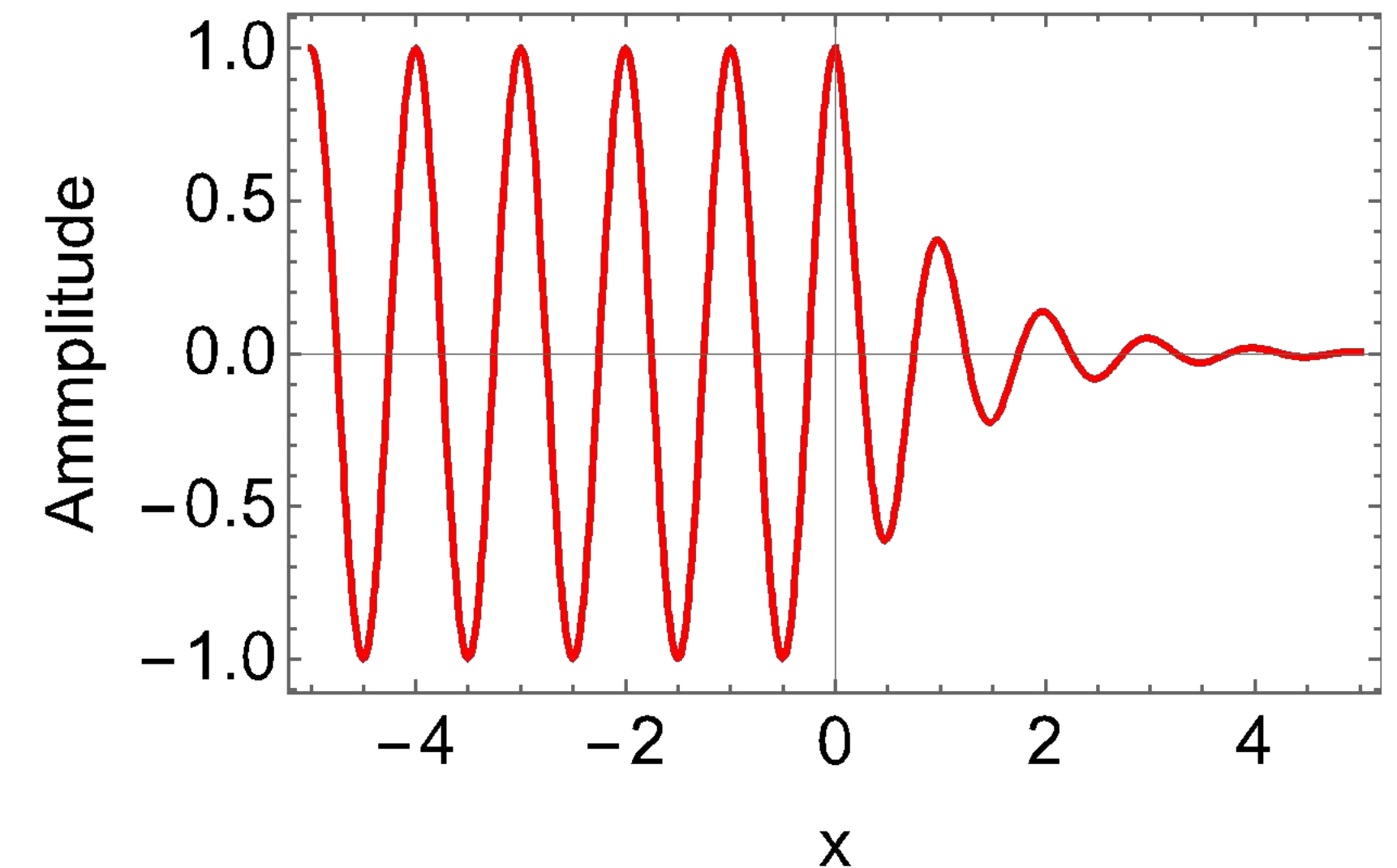
1D illustration:

- Consider a transformed wave equation: $\left(\left(\frac{1}{s(x)} \frac{\partial}{\partial x} \right)^2 - \frac{1}{c^2} \frac{\partial^2}{\partial t^2} \right) E = 0$

$$\text{where } s(x) = \begin{cases} 1, & x < 0 \\ 1 - \frac{\sigma}{i\omega\epsilon_0}, & x > 0 \end{cases}$$

- Solution:

$$E(x) = e^{i[k \int^x s(x') dx' - \omega t]} = \begin{cases} e^{i(kx - \omega t)}, & x < 0 \\ e^{i(kx - \omega t)} \times e^{-\frac{\sigma}{c\epsilon_0} x}, & x > 0 \end{cases}$$



- No reflection
- Frequency-independent exponential attenuation

[W. C. Chew and W. H. Weedon, Microwave and Optical Tech. Lett., 7 (13), 599, 1994; S. Johnson, arXiv 2108.05348, 2021]

Higher dimensional case:

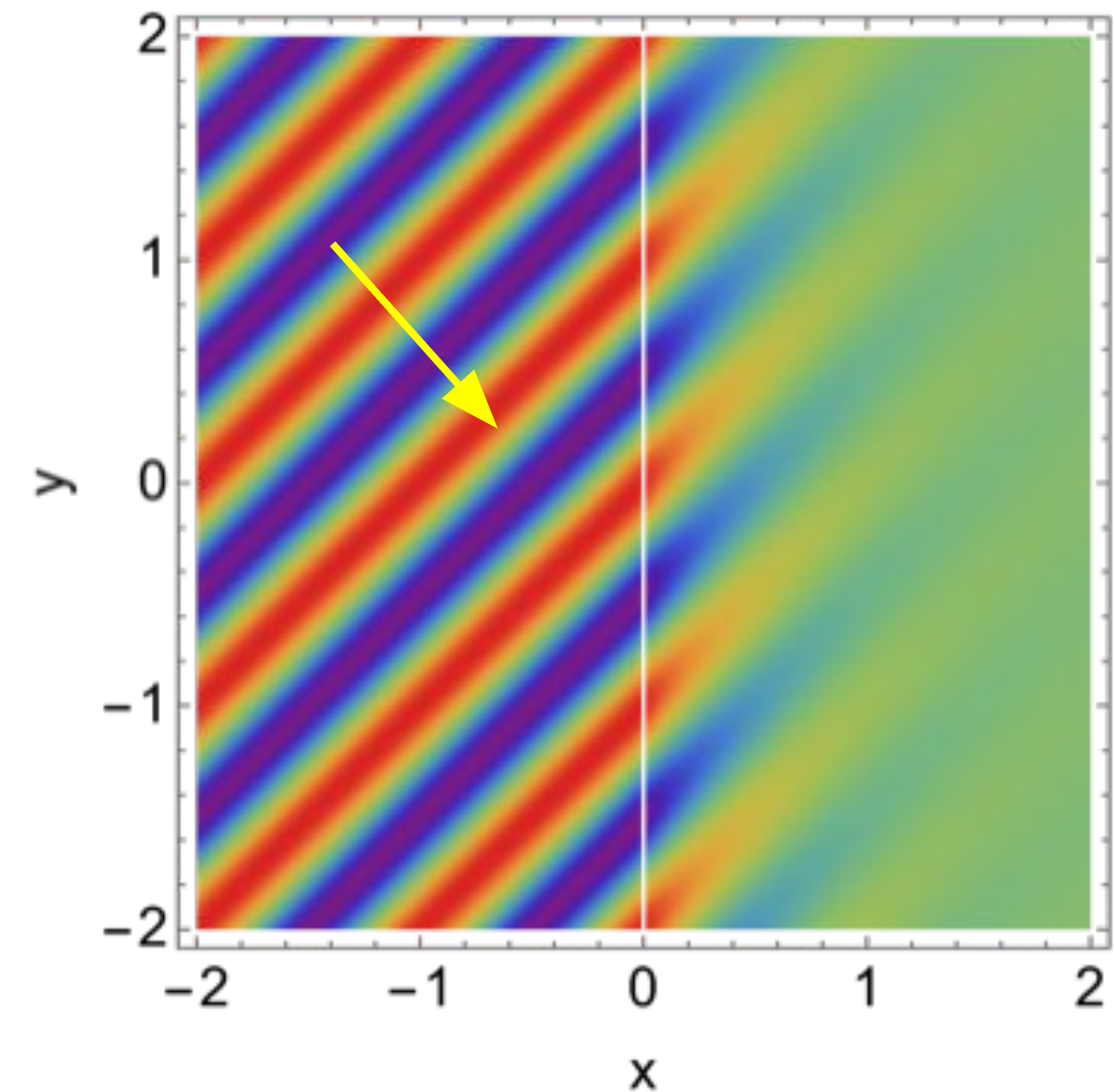
- Consider a transformed wave equation:
$$\left(\left(\frac{1}{s(x)} \frac{\partial}{\partial x} \right)^2 + \frac{\partial^2}{\partial y^2} + \frac{\partial^2}{\partial z^2} - \frac{1}{c^2} \frac{\partial^2}{\partial t^2} \right) E = 0$$

where $s(x) = \begin{cases} 1, & x < 0 \\ 1 - \frac{\sigma}{i\omega\epsilon_0}, & x > 0 \end{cases}$

- Solution:

$$E(x) = e^{i[k_x \int^x s(x') dx' + k_y y + k_z z - \omega t]}$$

- No reflection for every angle of incidence
- Attenuation in the PML for every angle of incidence



Practical considerations:

- PML is reflectionless in the exact wave equation even with a discontinuous jump in conductivity, but reflection is introduced in solving for the discretized problem.

Solution: tapering the conductivity profile in real space.

- Finite truncation of PML region: the exponential field tail can reflect off the boundary.

Solution: more PML layers.

- Many different PML formulations: for example, complex-frequency shifted PML

$$s(x) = \kappa(x) + \frac{\sigma(x)}{\alpha(x) - j\omega\epsilon_0}$$

❖ σ : attenuation

❖ κ : scaling factor.

❖ α : complex frequency shift for evanescent wave attenuation.

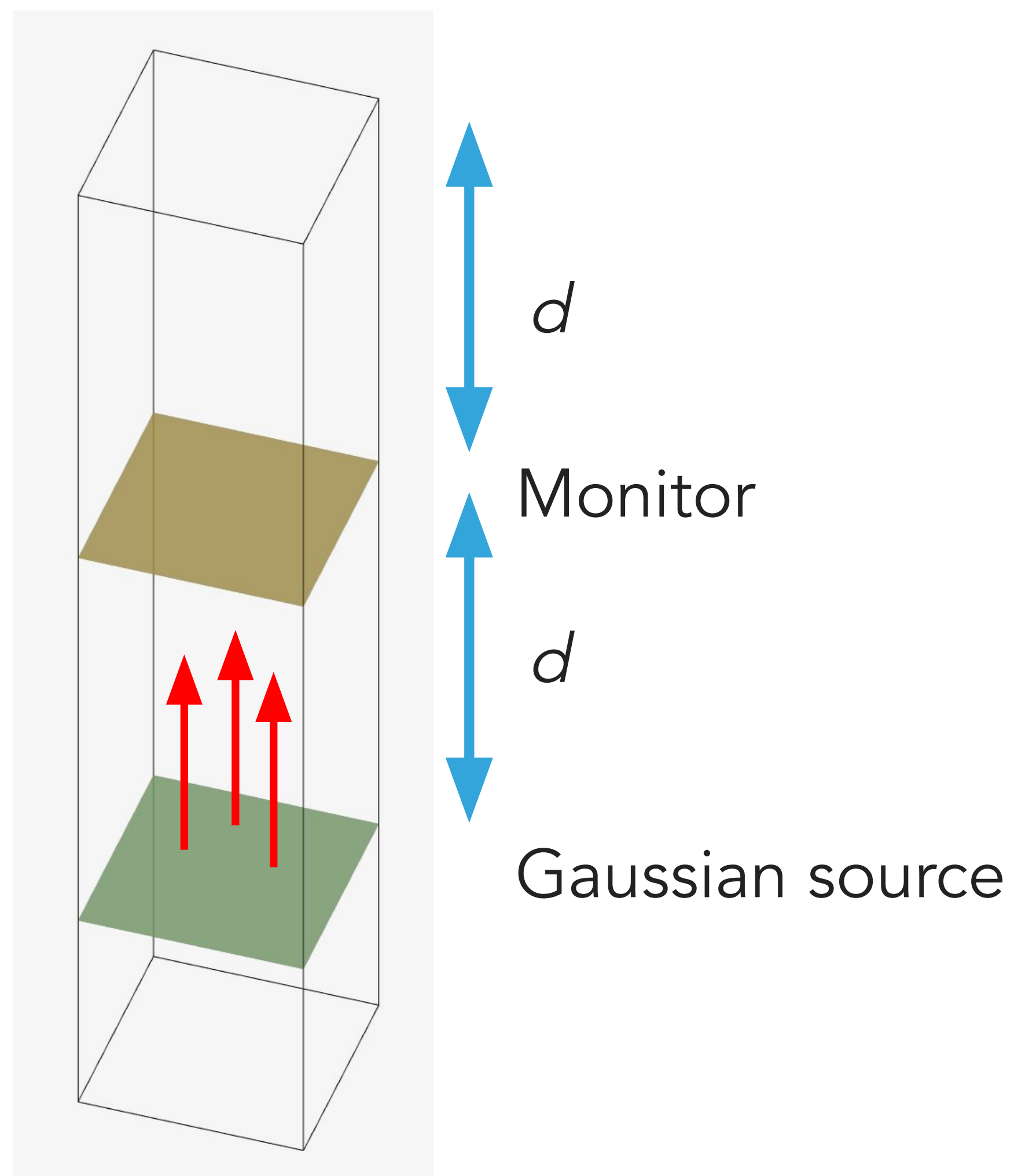
Impact of parasitic reflection on computation:

- $F \propto |\mathbf{E}|^2$
- $F' \propto |\mathbf{E} + \delta\mathbf{E}|^2 = F + 2\text{Re}[\mathbf{E}^* \cdot \delta\mathbf{E}] + |\delta\mathbf{E}|^2$

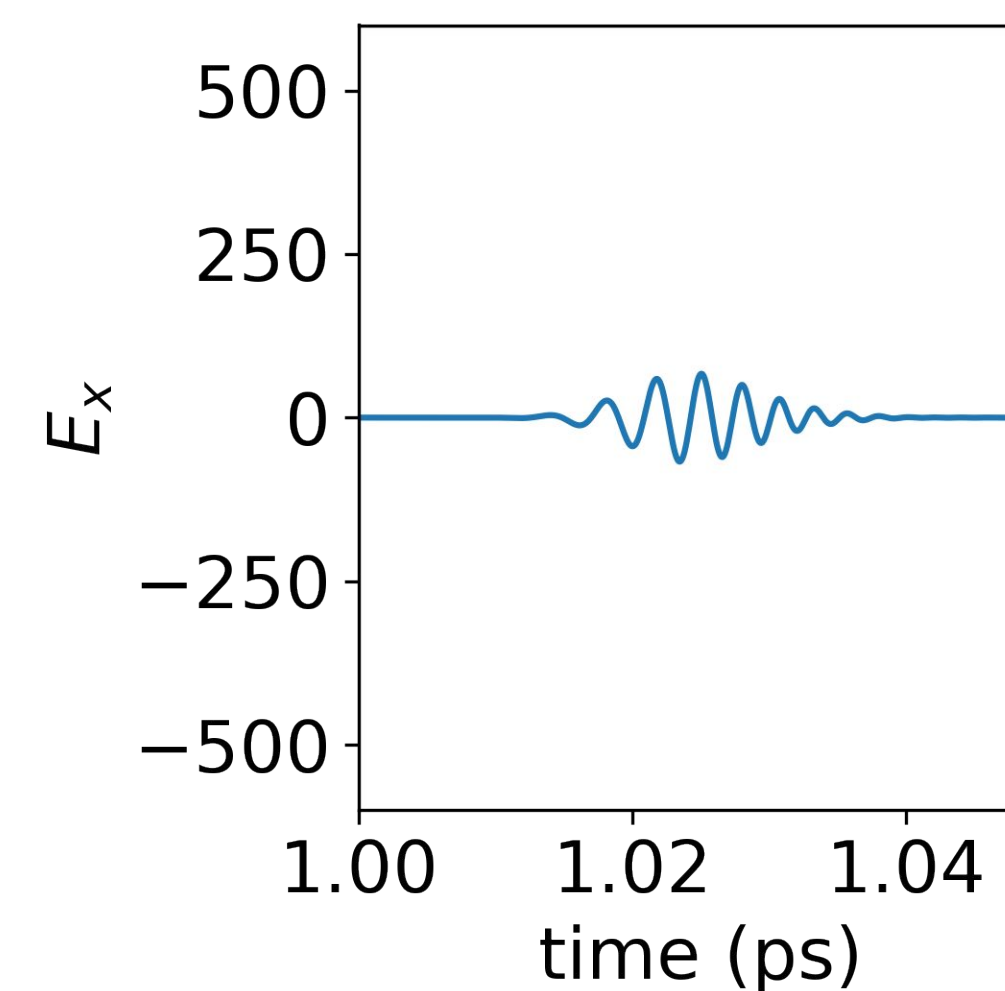
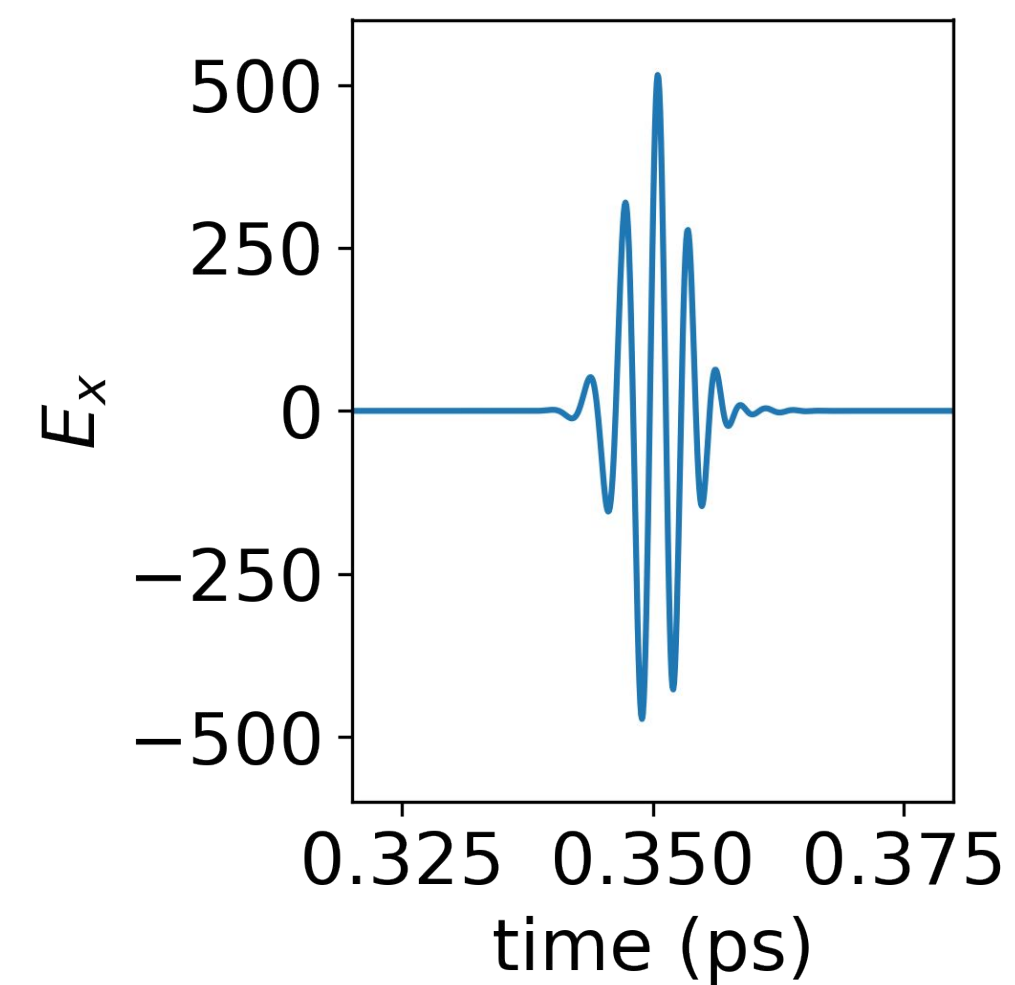
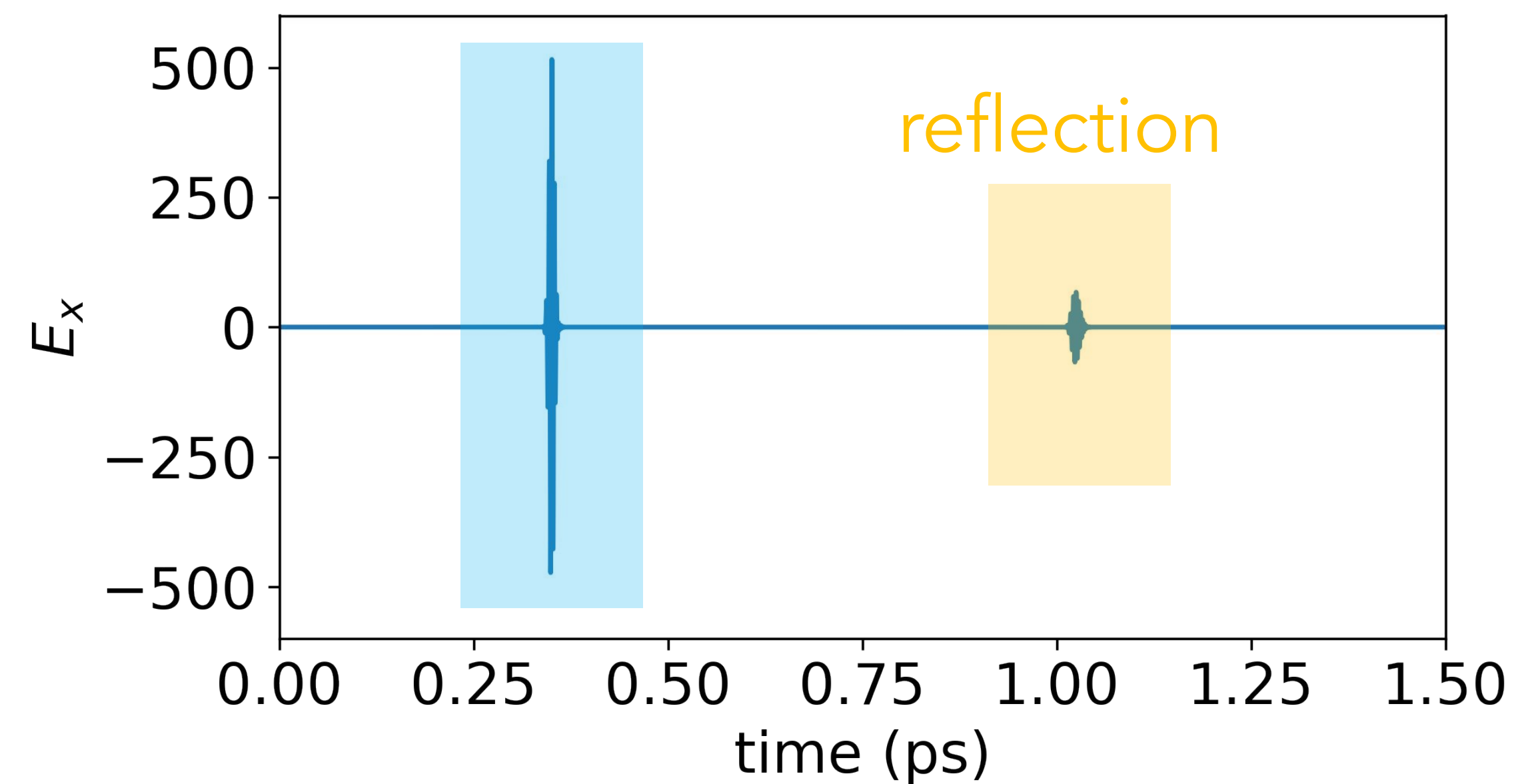


Error is proportional to reflection amplitude!

Measure reflection at the PML boundary

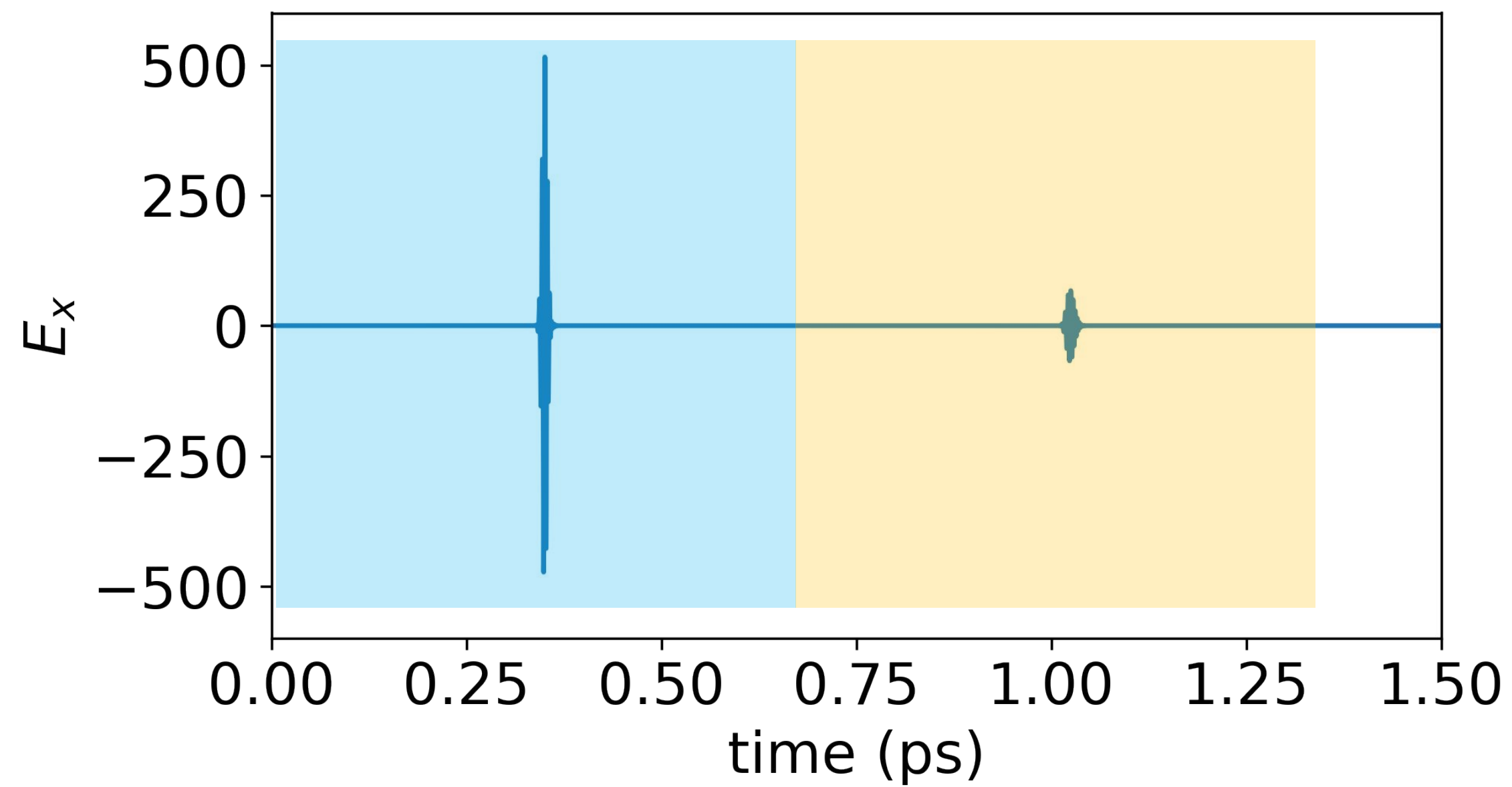


Number of PML layers: 2

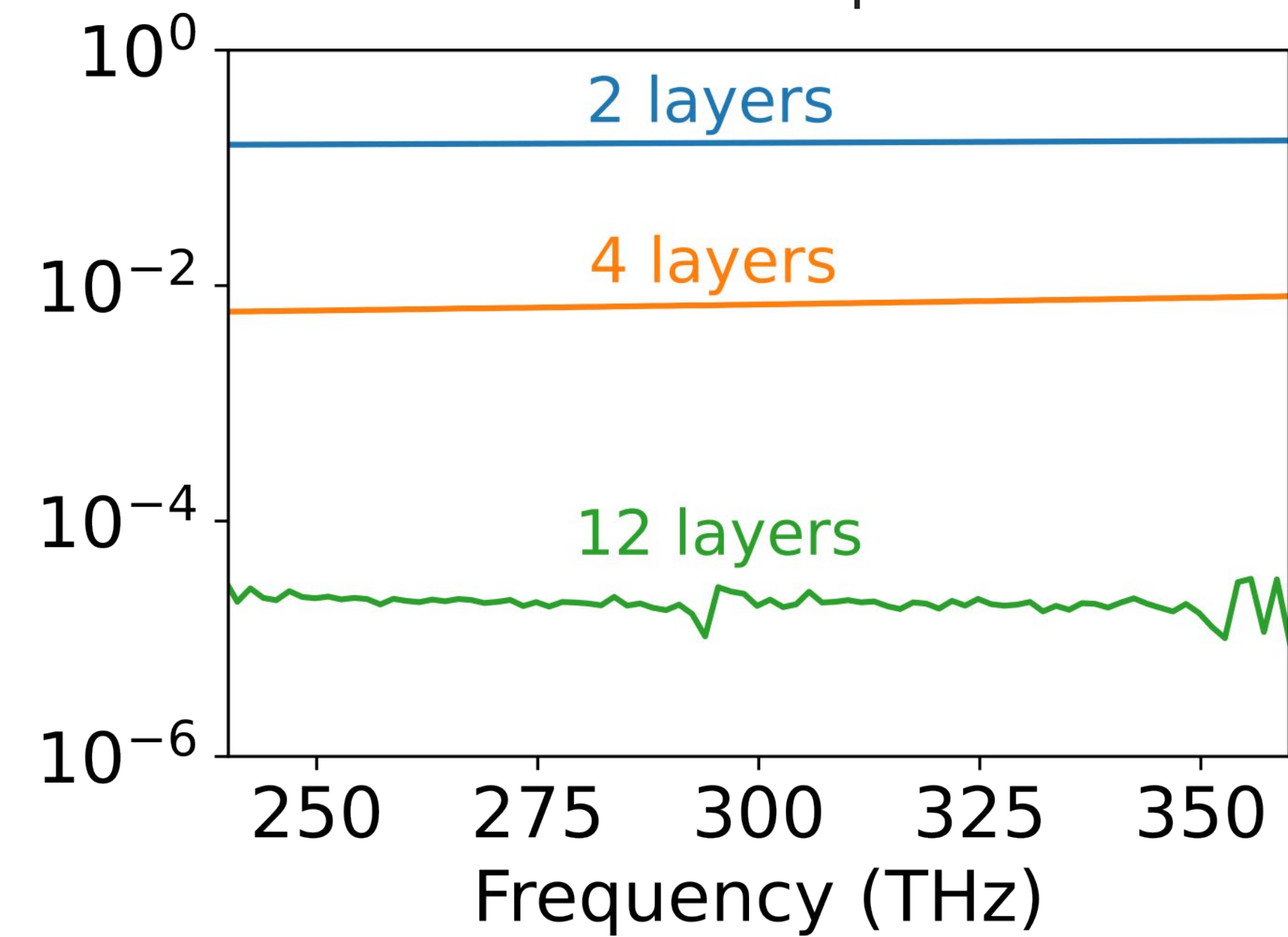


Reflection amplitude measurement

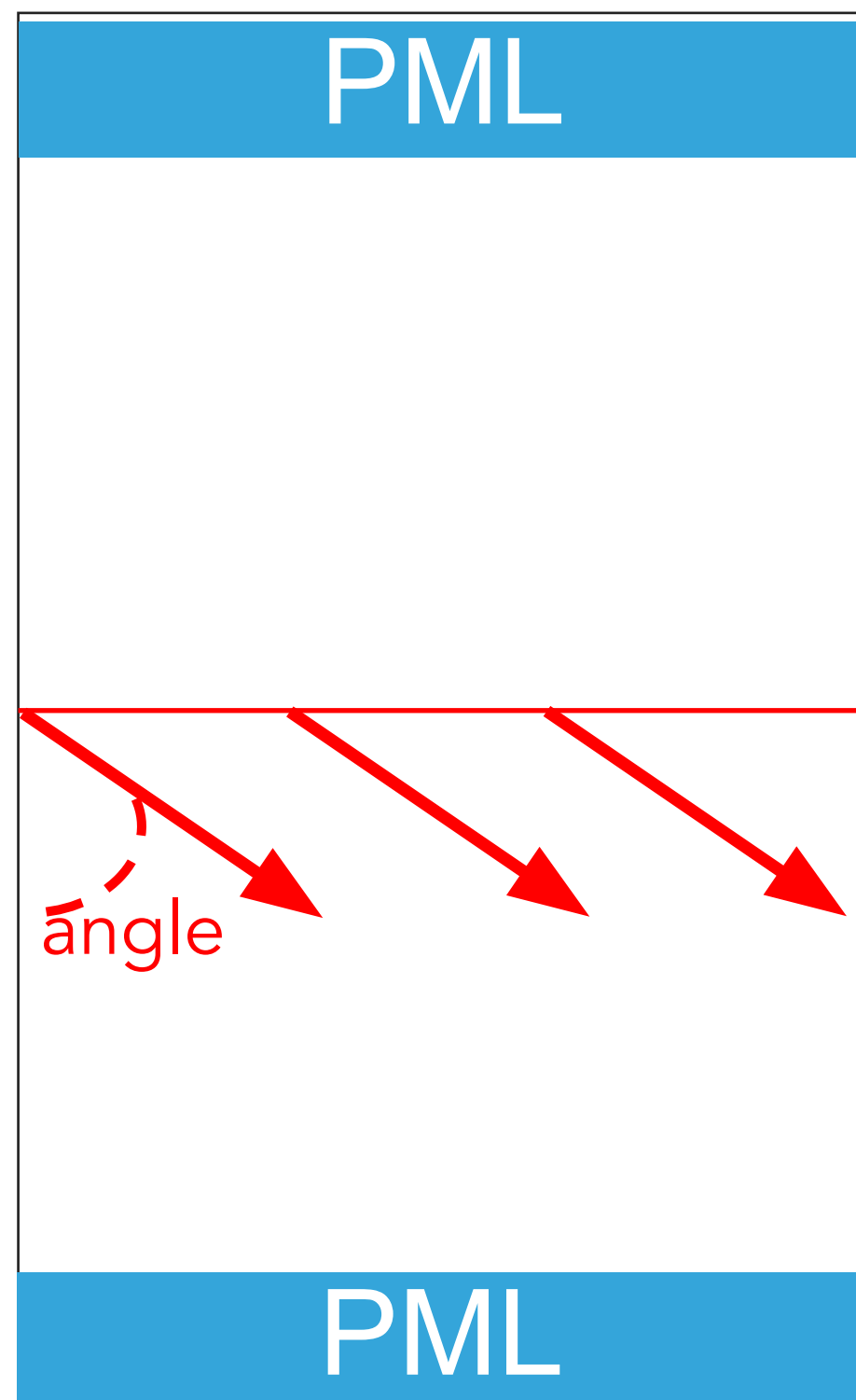
Normal incidence

Fourier
analysis

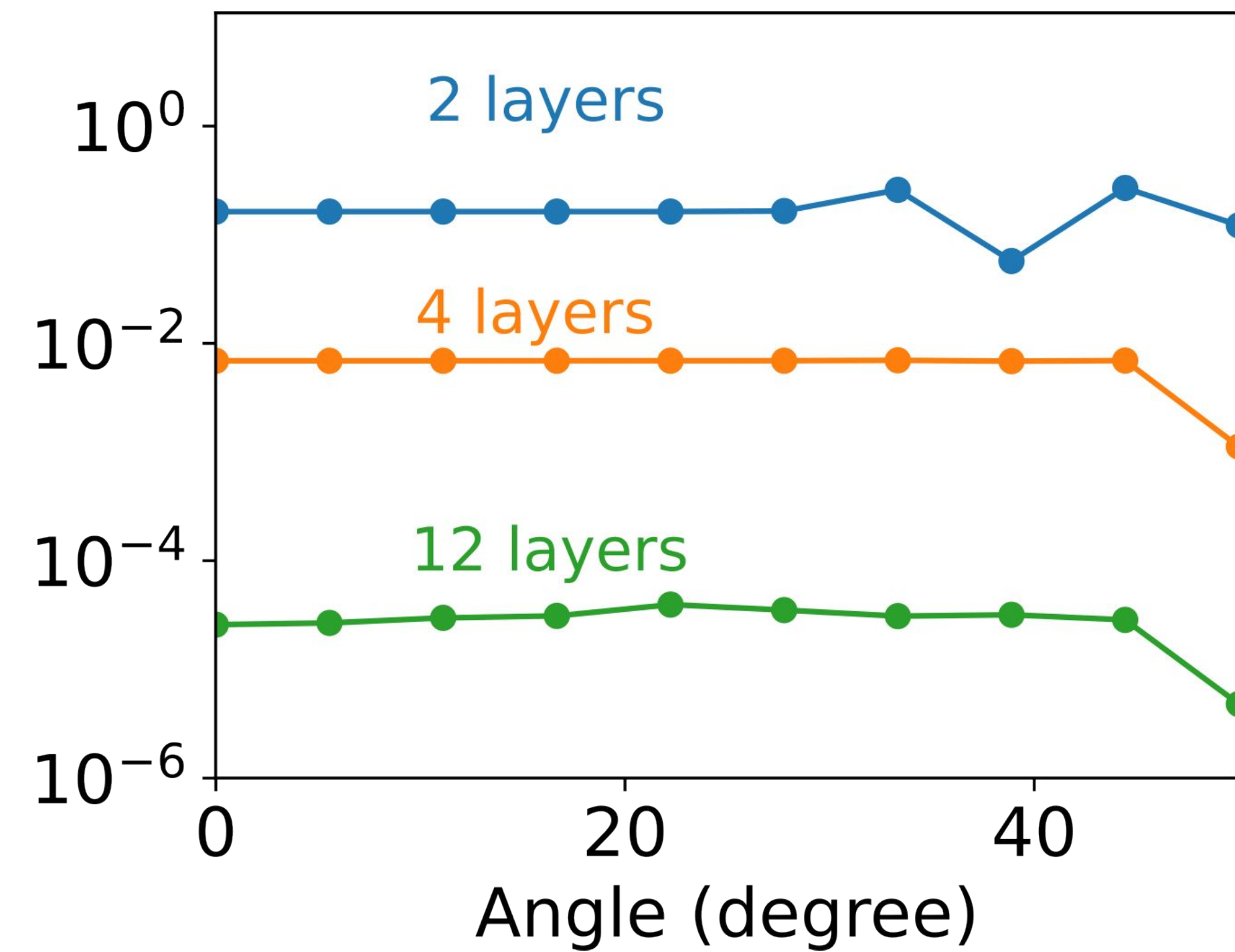
Reflection amplitude



Angled incidence



Reflection amplitude



Impact of reflection from PML in simulations of a Fabry-Perot cavity

