

Department of Electronics & Communication Engg.

Course : Microwave and Antennas -15EC71. Sen

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Introduction

- Microwaves have frequencies > 1 GHz approx.
- Stray reactances are more important as frequency increases
- Transmission line techniques must be applied to short conductors like circuit board traces
- Device capacitance and transit time are important
- Cable losses increase: waveguides often used instead

Waveguides

- Pipe through which waves propagate
- Can have various cross sections
 - Rectangular
 - Circular
 - Elliptical
- Can be rigid or flexible
- Waveguides have very low loss



Modes

- Waves can propagate in various ways
- Time taken to move down the guide varies with the mode
- Each mode has a cutoff frequency below which it won't propagate
- Mode with lowest cutoff frequency is dominant mode

Multimode Propagation



Low-Order Mode: Faster Propagation
 High-Order Mode: Slower Propagation

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Mode Designations

TE: transverse electric

- Electric field is at right angles to direction of travel
- TM: transverse magnetic
 - Magnetic field is at right angles to direction of travel
- TEM: transverse electromagnetic
 - Waves in free space are TEM

Rectangular Waveguides

- Dominant mode is TE₁₀
 - 1 half cycle along long dimension (a)
 - No half cycles along short dimension (b)
 - Cutoff for $a = \lambda c/2$
- Modes with next higher cutoff frequency are TE₀₁ and TE₂₀
 - Both have cutoff frequency twice that for TE₁₀

TE Modes in Rectangular Waveguide





(a) TE₁₀

(b) TE₂₀



(c) TE₁₁ Transparency 252 (Figure 19.3)



(d) TE₂₁

Cutoff Frequency

• For TE_{10} mmode in rectangular waveguide with a = 2 b

Usable Frequency Range

- Single mode propagation is highly desirable to reduce dispersion
- This occurs between cutoff frequency for TE₁₀ mode and twice that frequency
- It's not good to use guide at the extremes of this range

Example Waveguide

- RG-52/U
- Internal dimensions 22.9 by 10.2 mm
- Cutoff at 6.56 GHz
- Use from 8.2-12.5 GHz

Group Velocity

- Waves propagate at speed of light c in guide
- Waves don't travel straight down guide
- Speed at which signal moves down guide is the group velocity and is always less than c

Variation of Group Velocity with Frequency



Phase Velocity

- Not a real velocity (>c)
- Apparent velocity of wave along wall
- Used for calculating wavelength in guide
 - For impedance matching etc.

Variation of Phase Angle along a Waveguide



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Characteristic Impedance

• Z_o varies with frequency



Guide Wavelength

 Longer than free-space wavelength at same frequency



Impedance Matching

- Same techniques as for coax can be used
- Tuning screw can add capacitance or inductance

Coupling Power to Guides

3 common methods

 Probe: at an E-field maximum
 Loop: at an H-field maximum
 Hole: at an E-field maximum

Coupling Power to a Waveguide





Directional Coupler

- Launches or receives power in only 1 direction
- Used to split some of power into a second guide
- Can use probes or holes

Two-Hole Directional Coupler

Main Waveguide



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Passive Components

- Bends
 - Called E-plane or H-Plane bends depending on the direction of bending
- Tees
 - Also have E and H-plane varieties
 - Hybrid or magic tee combines both and can be used for isolation

Waveguide Bends





(a) E-Plane Bend

(b) H–Plane Bend



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Resonant Cavity

- Use instead of a tuned circuit
- Very high Q



Attenuators and Loads

- Attenuator works by putting carbon vane or flap into the waveguide
- Currents induced in the carbon cause loss
- Load is similar but at end of guide



(a) Flap

(b) Rotating Vane

Circulator and Isolator

- Both use the unique properties of ferrites in a magnetic field
- Isolator passes signals in one direction, attenuates in the other
- Circulator passes input from each port to the next around the circle, not to any other port





(b) Electron

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Gunn Device

- Slab of N-type GaAs (gallium arsenide)
- Sometimes called Gunn diode but has no junctions
- Has a negative-resistance region where drift velocity decreases with increased voltage
- This causes a concentration of free electrons called a domain

Drift Velocity in Gallium Arsenide



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Transit-time Mode

- Domains move through the GaAs till they reach the positive terminal
- When domain reaches positive terminal it disappears and a new domain forms
- Pulse of current flows when domain disappears
- Period of pulses = transit time in device

Gunn Device (Cross Section)



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Gunn Oscillator Frequency

- *T=d/v*
 - T = period of oscillationd = thickness of devicev = drift velocity, about 1 \times 10⁵ m/s
- f = 1/T

IMPATT Diode

- IMPATT stands for Impact Avalanche And Transit Time
- Operates in reverse-breakdown (avalanche) region
- Applied voltage causes momentary breakdown once per cycle
- This starts a pulse of current moving through the device
- Frequency depends on device thickness



Gallium Arsenide

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PIN Diode

- P-type --- Intrinsic --- N-type
- Used as switch and attenuator
- Reverse biased off
- Forward biased partly on to on depending on the bias



Gallium Arsenide

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Microwave Tubes

- Used for high power/high frequency combination
- Tubes generate and amplify high levels of microwave power more cheaply than solid state devices
- Conventional tubes can be modified for low capacitance but specialized microwave tubes are also used

Klystron

- Used in high-power amplifiers
- Electron beam moves down tube past several cavities.
- Input cavity is the *buncher*, output cavity is the *catcher*.
- *Buncher* modulates the velocity of the electron beam



Velocity Modulation

- Electric field from microwaves at buncher alternately speeds and slows electron beam
- This causes electrons to bunch up
- Electron bunches at catcher induce microwaves with more energy
- The cavities form a slow-wave structure

Velocity Modulation



Buncher

Time

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Distance

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Microwave Antennas

- Conventional antennas can be adapted to microwave use
- The small wavelength of microwaves allows for additional antenna types
- The parabolic dish already studied is a reflector not an antenna but we saw that it is most practical for microwaves

Horn Antennas

- Not practical at low frequencies because of size
- Can be E-plane, H-plane, pyramidal or conical
- Moderate gain, about 20 dBi
- Common as feed antennas for dishes

Horn Antennas



3.2 Helical Antennas

Geometry of Helical Antennas

Geometry L_0 $C = \pi D$ Of Helical Antenna 2aFig. 10.13 11

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➢Normal (Broadside)

Axial (End-fire) – Most practical

Circular polarization can be achieved over a wider bandwidth (usually 2:1)

More efficient



End-fire Mode



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Chapter 10 Traveling Wave and Broadband Antennas

Important Parameters

$$\alpha = \tan^{-1} \begin{bmatrix} S \\ \pi D \end{bmatrix} = \tan^{-1} \begin{bmatrix} S \\ C \end{bmatrix}$$

 $\alpha = 0^{\circ}$ (flat loop)

 $\alpha = 90^{\circ}$ (linear wire)

$$L_0 = \sqrt{S^2 + C^2}$$

$$L_n = NL_0 = N\sqrt{S^2 + C^2}$$

Parameters for End-fire Mode

$$HPBW \approx \frac{52\lambda_0^{3/2}}{C\sqrt{NS}}$$

$$FNBW (deg) \approx \frac{115\lambda_0^{3/2}}{C\sqrt{NS}}$$

 $R \approx 140 \frac{C}{\lambda_0}$

 $D_o \approx 15N \frac{C^2 S}{\lambda_0^3}$

$$AR = \frac{2N+1}{2N}$$

