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Analytical study of Phase Factor of Microstripline

K. B. Singh, Alok Kumar
Department of Physics, B R A Bihar University, Muzaffarpur, Bihar, India

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ABSTRACT

The planar Transmission Lines are: Stripline, Microstripline, Slot line, Coplanar Striplines & their different variant forms such as inverted and suspended striplines & microstriplines etc. Among these microstripline is the most suited due to its open structure, low losses in gigaharz range of frequency, reduced size, improved reliability and eventual cost reduction in mass production. The microstrip transmission line consists of a narrow strip conductor separated from a conducting ground plane by an intervening supporting dielectric substrate as studied by Wheeler and others [1, 2].

Keywords : Phase Factor, MIC's, Filter, Transmission line

1. INTRODUCTION

Now in the age of modern science & technology, radios, television, telegraphs, satellite, cell phones and mobiles are used for sending the message from one place to other places how far away these are. Lumped circuits, transmission lines, co-axial cables and waveguides are now the significant systems of communication. Microwave Integrated circuits (MIC'S) have changed these systems in the present days by replacing large scale waveguides and co-axial component arrays to small light weight assemblies. These introduced microwave striplines, microslotlines, coplanar strip lines and coplanar waveguide etc. The design system used for these circuits has also changed from the early "cut & try" methods, using "ruler and knife" to the computer aided design (CAD), photo-mechanical fabrication and optical fiber communication. The transmission lines, waveguide, co-axial cable, stripline and micro striplines are used for sending message signals from one place to another. Striplines and micro striplines are planer transmission structures having features as : Small in size, Low cost, Light weight, and Easily replaceable are widely used these days. Microstripline is an open structure and used in microwaves integrated circuits. There are various parameters like characteristics impedance, phase velocity, guide wavelengths and propagation parameters.

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2. FORMULATION OF CHARACTERISTICS IMPENDENCE OF MICROSTRIPLINE

The transmission structures like two parallel wire transmission line, co-axial cable, waveguide, stripline, microstripline, slotline and their different variants posses the different characteristics parameters like characterstics impedance, propagation constant, phase velocity and guide wavelength. All these parameters are the function of the width of the metal strips, height of the dielectric substrates and permittivity of these substrates. Here we concentrate only for the study of characteristics impedance and their variation with strip width, height and operating frequency of the wave to be propagated through the transmission structure.The characteristic impedance of TEM transmission line like stripline and microstripline is given by

$$Z_o = 1/V_P C_P \qquad ---1$$

Where, V_P= phase velocity of the wave traveling along the transmission structure.

C_P= capacitance per unit length of the structure.

C_P is given by the expression

$$Cp= (\epsilon re / C\eta) (w/h) + (2/3) (\epsilon re / C\eta) (w/h) (\epsilon re / C\eta).(2.7/Log4h/t) \qquad ---2$$

and Characteristics Impedance is giver by

$$Z_o=(\eta/\sqrt{\epsilon_{re}})[1/[(w/h)+(2w/3h)+(2.7/Log4h/t)]] \qquad ----3$$

Were w= width of microstripline, h= height of dielectric substrate, t= thickness of stripline and ϵr=permittivity of the dielectric substrate.

3. FORMULATION OF PHASE VELOCITY AND GUIDE WAVELENGTH

When a microwave source is connected to the stripline wave starts flowing. The velocity with which the wave propagates is called phase velocity which is the function of geometry of the stripline, height of the dielectric substrate and effective permittivity. The relation between phase velocity and effective permittivity is given for TEM mode as

$$Vp = c/\sqrt{\epsilon re} \qquad ---4$$

Where, c = velocity of the wave in free space= 3×10^8 m/sec

If λ_o is free space wavelength and λ_g is the Guide wavelength than If λ_g is given by the relation

$$\lambda_g = \lambda_o/\sqrt{\epsilon_{re}}$$

Where $\sqrt{\epsilon_{re}}$ is the effective permittivity of the dielectric substrate used in the microstripline structure.

4. STUDY OF PHASE SHIFT (B)

The Phase shift of a microstripline structure is important characteristic that indicate the phase change of the wave traveling through the microstripline structure. It is denoted by Phase factor

$$\beta= 2\pi/\lambda g \qquad ---5$$

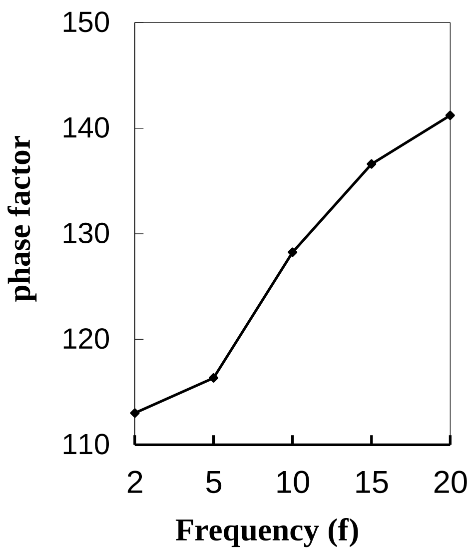
5. ANALYTICAL STUDY OF PHASE FACTOR

It is important to study the phase factor for the design of the microstrip transmission line, stripline couplers, oscillators, circulator, resonators and coupled cavities of high value. The losses in this structure are as: Dielectric loss, Metallic loss, Surface wave loss and Radiation loss. For the calculation of Phase factor we first study the characteristics impedance, phase velocity and guide wavelength and there variation with strip geometry substrate height and frequency various computational work have been performed and results obtained are placed in table 1, 2, 3. Also various graphs have been plotted by putting the variables w, h and f on x-axis and phase factor on y axis as shown in graphs accordingly.

Table1: Variation of Phase factor with frequency (f)

h = 100 mils, t = 0.01 mils, W = 50 mils

f (GHz)	Î$_r$ = 10.5		
	Z_0 (W)	λ_gx10^{-2}m	$\beta=2\pi/\lambda_g$ degree
2	62.50	5.56	112.98
5	65.70	5.40	116.33
10	70.29	4.90	128.20
15	72.40	4.60	136.50
20	73.50	4.45	141.10



6. DISCUSSION AND CONCLUSION

The variation of Phase factor with metal strip width reveals that with increase of strip width phase factor decreases sharply showing concentration of more & more energy below the strip in the dielectric medium. Also guide wave length shows a slight decrease with increase of strip width. Further variation of phase factor and propagation parameter of microstripline shows an increase with stripwidth and frequency. The rate of increase of propagation parameter with frequency is larger than the rate of increase of stripwidth. Thus propagation parameter is smaller for narrower strip and larger for wider strip. This concludes that phase factor is more useful for larger flow of power through the structure with smaller dissipation of power. But dispersion effect is smaller in lower GHz frequency range than the higher GHz range of frequency. This study helps in designing and fabricates a practical microstrip transmission structure which will be useful in design and fabricating microstripline coupler, filter, oscillator, and resonator and in antenna circuits. This work also posses the scope for future work.

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