

# Table of contents

<b>General Introduction</b>	<b>1</b>
<b>I THz components</b>	<b>5</b>
<b>1 Introduction</b>	<b>7</b>
1.1 Motivation . . . . .	7
1.2 Objectives . . . . .	8
1.3 Methodology . . . . .	12
1.4 Structure . . . . .	14
<b>2 State of the art</b>	<b>17</b>
2.1 The THz band . . . . .	17
2.1.1 Definition . . . . .	17
2.1.2 Historical background . . . . .	18
2.1.3 THz band fundamental characteristics . . . . .	19
2.2 THz Applications . . . . .	20
2.2.1 Spectroscopy . . . . .	20
2.2.1.1 Remote Space Study . . . . .	21
2.2.1.2 Atmosphere Characterization . . . . .	24
2.2.1.3 Molecular Spectroscopy . . . . .	24
2.2.2 Plasma Fusion Diagnostic Applications . . . . .	30
2.2.3 Imaging Applications . . . . .	31
2.2.3.1 Security . . . . .	32
2.2.3.2 Medicine . . . . .	33
2.2.3.3 Pharmacology . . . . .	35
2.2.3.4 Biology . . . . .	37
2.2.3.5 Industry . . . . .	38
2.2.3.6 Art & Cultural Heritage Imaging . . . . .	42
2.2.3.7 THz Time Domain Spectroscopy Imaging (THz-TDSI) .	48
2.2.4 Radar Applications . . . . .	51
2.2.5 Communications Applications . . . . .	55
2.3 THz Technology . . . . .	57
2.3.1 THz Sensors . . . . .	58
2.3.1.1 Photon detectors . . . . .	58

## TABLE OF CONTENTS

---

2.3.1.2	Thermal detectors . . . . .	62
2.3.1.3	Heterodyne (Coherent) vs. Direct (Incoherent Detection) . . . . .	64
2.3.2	THz Sources . . . . .	68
2.3.2.1	Electronic Sources . . . . .	70
2.3.2.2	Optical Sources . . . . .	75
2.3.3	THz Waveguides . . . . .	87
2.3.3.1	Metallic (Microwave) Waveguides and Transmission Lines . . . . .	88
2.3.3.2	Dielectric (Optic) Waveguides . . . . .	112
2.3.3.3	Periodic and Electromagnetic Bandgap Structures .	126
2.3.3.4	Surface and Plasmonic Waveguides . . . . .	135
2.3.3.5	Planar Surface and Plasmonic Waveguides . . . . .	149
<b>3</b>	<b>Wire-type Waveguides</b>	<b>157</b>
3.1	Surface Waveguide Theory: . . . . .	157
3.1.1	Imperfect Dielectrics . . . . .	157
3.1.2	Boundary Conditions . . . . .	159
3.1.2.1	Boundary at the interface between two mediums .	159
3.1.2.2	Radiation condition . . . . .	166
3.1.3	Debye potentials and scalar wave equation . . . . .	167
3.1.4	Formal treatment of a surface waveguide problem . . . . .	172
3.1.5	The impedance concept . . . . .	175
3.1.6	The dispersion diagram . . . . .	177
3.1.7	Efficient excitation and curves . . . . .	179
3.2	Metal properties in the THz band . . . . .	181
3.2.1	Classical skin-depth model and relaxation-effect model (Drude Model) . . . . .	181
3.2.2	Comparison and examples . . . . .	185
3.3	Dielectric cylinder with real $\epsilon_r$ . . . . .	189
3.3.1	Modal analysis . . . . .	189
3.3.2	Power analysis and attenuation . . . . .	206
3.4	Dielectric cylinder with complex $\epsilon_r$ . . . . .	215
3.4.1	Modal analysis equations . . . . .	215
3.4.2	Solutions for $\epsilon_r$ real positive in the complex plane $\gamma = \alpha + j\beta$ .	222
3.4.2.1	The root-finding problem in the complex plane described by $\gamma$ . . . . .	226
3.4.3	Solutions for lossy dielectrics: $\epsilon_r$ in the 4th quadrant of the complex plane $\gamma = \alpha + j\beta$ . . . . .	227
3.4.4	Solutions for $\epsilon_r$ real and negative . . . . .	235
3.4.5	Solutions for metals: $\epsilon_r$ in the 3th quadrant of the complex plane $\gamma = \alpha + j\beta$ . . . . .	242
3.5	Single Wire Waveguide (SWW) . . . . .	250
3.5.1	Modal Spectrum . . . . .	252
3.5.1.1	Surface modes . . . . .	254
3.5.1.2	Bulk modes . . . . .	260
3.5.1.3	Conclusions and important remarks . . . . .	263

---

**TABLE OF CONTENTS**

3.5.2	Fundamental Mode . . . . .	266
3.5.2.1	Attenuation . . . . .	266
3.5.2.2	Power distribution . . . . .	268
3.5.2.3	Dispersion . . . . .	274
3.5.2.4	Conclusions and important remarks . . . . .	276
3.6	Dielectric-Coated Single Wire Waveguide (DCSWW) . . . . .	277
3.6.0.1	Justification of the waveguide model . . . . .	278
3.6.1	Modal analysis equations . . . . .	279
3.6.2	Modal spectrum . . . . .	290
3.6.2.1	Monomode conditions . . . . .	297
3.6.3	Power analysis and attenuation . . . . .	298
3.6.4	Fundamental mode . . . . .	300
3.6.4.1	Effect of the coating . . . . .	302
<b>4</b>	<b>Radiation Problems and Proposed Solutions</b>	<b>313</b>
4.1	Problem Description . . . . .	314
4.2	Solution A: Reduction of the wire radius . . . . .	315
4.2.1	Strict monomode condition . . . . .	315
4.2.2	Numerical simulations and validation of the models . . . . .	319
4.2.2.1	Conclusions and important remarks . . . . .	325
4.3	Solution B: Control of the curvature phase shift . . . . .	326
4.4	SWW-DCSWW transitions . . . . .	333
4.4.1	Tapered coating . . . . .	334
4.4.2	Tapered wire and coating . . . . .	343
<b>5</b>	<b>Experimental results</b>	<b>349</b>
5.1	Ka-band prototypes results . . . . .	350
5.1.1	Previous considerations . . . . .	350
5.1.2	Measurements of straight path losses . . . . .	352
5.1.3	First curved path measurements . . . . .	355
5.1.4	Second curved path measurements . . . . .	357
5.2	THz prototypes results . . . . .	362
5.2.1	Measurement setup . . . . .	363
5.2.2	Excitation system . . . . .	364
5.2.3	SWW measurements . . . . .	368
5.2.4	DCSWW measurements . . . . .	370
<b>6</b>	<b>Conclusions and future Work</b>	<b>375</b>
6.1	Conclusions . . . . .	375
6.2	Future Lines . . . . .	390
<b>II</b>	<b>mm-wave band components</b>	<b>393</b>
<b>7</b>	<b>Introduction</b>	<b>395</b>
7.1	Motivation . . . . .	395
7.2	Objectives . . . . .	396

---

## TABLE OF CONTENTS

---

7.3	Methodology . . . . .	400
7.4	Structure . . . . .	402
<b>8</b>	<b>State of the art</b>	<b>403</b>
8.1	The mm-wave band . . . . .	403
8.1.1	Definition . . . . .	403
8.1.2	Historical background . . . . .	406
8.1.3	Characteristics . . . . .	408
8.1.3.1	Antenna beamwidth . . . . .	408
8.1.3.2	Propagation characteristics of usual channels . . . . .	409
8.1.3.3	Frequency bandwidth and regulation: . . . . .	413
8.1.4	Applications . . . . .	416
8.1.4.1	Radar . . . . .	416
8.1.4.2	Communications . . . . .	420
8.1.4.3	Imaging . . . . .	428
8.1.4.4	Radiometry . . . . .	432
8.1.5	Technological problems . . . . .	435
8.1.5.1	Hollow metallic waveguides . . . . .	435
8.1.5.2	Planar transmission lines . . . . .	438
8.1.5.3	Narrow-band filters . . . . .	442
8.2	Gap Waveguide Technology . . . . .	444
8.2.1	Gap waveguides . . . . .	444
8.2.1.1	Ridge Gap Waveguide (RGW) . . . . .	445
8.2.1.2	Suspended-Strip Gap Waveguide (SSGW) . . . . .	447
8.2.1.3	Groove Gap Waveguide (GGW) . . . . .	447
8.2.2	Overview of Gap Waveguide Technology . . . . .	449
8.2.2.1	Study of losses . . . . .	455
8.2.2.2	Antennas . . . . .	458
8.2.2.3	Filters and diplexers . . . . .	468
8.2.2.4	Transition and flanges . . . . .	473
8.2.2.5	High frequency designs and manufacturing techniques	478
8.2.2.6	Modeling and analysis methods . . . . .	482
8.2.2.7	Packaging . . . . .	491
<b>9</b>	<b>Suspended Strip Gap Waveguide (SSGW) components</b>	<b>499</b>
9.1	Impedance Analysis . . . . .	499
9.1.1	Transmission line theory . . . . .	499
9.1.1.1	The lossless transmission line . . . . .	502
9.1.1.2	The terminated lossless transmission line . . . . .	503
9.1.1.3	Short circuit terminated line . . . . .	507
9.1.2	Proposed analysis method . . . . .	507
9.1.2.1	Basis of the method . . . . .	508
9.1.2.2	Error analysis . . . . .	511
9.1.2.3	Validation of the method . . . . .	514
9.2	Constant Impedance SSGWs . . . . .	515
9.3	SSGW coupled lines . . . . .	522
9.3.1	Coupled transmission lines theory . . . . .	522

---

**TABLE OF CONTENTS**

9.3.2	Analysis . . . . .	525
9.3.3	Practical example: SSGW coupled-line filter . . . . .	530
9.3.3.1	Filter design . . . . .	530
9.3.3.2	Results . . . . .	531
<b>10</b>	<b>Groove Gap Waveguide (GGW) components</b>	<b>535</b>
10.1	Analysis . . . . .	536
10.1.1	Groove Gap Waveguide Propagation characteristics . . . . .	537
10.1.1.1	Operation above cutoff . . . . .	537
10.1.1.2	Operation below cutoff . . . . .	539
10.2	Proposed Analysis Model . . . . .	544
10.2.1	Analysis Method . . . . .	544
10.2.2	Results . . . . .	546
10.2.2.1	Cutoff frequency . . . . .	546
10.2.2.2	Dispersion diagram . . . . .	546
10.2.2.3	Extreme GGW geometries . . . . .	548
10.2.2.4	Computation efficiency evaluation . . . . .	551
10.2.3	Experimental validation . . . . .	552
10.3	Groove Gap Waveguide filters . . . . .	555
10.3.1	Narrow-band filter design basic theory and procedure . . . . .	556
10.3.1.1	Chebyshev filters . . . . .	556
10.3.1.2	Resonance frequency . . . . .	558
10.3.1.3	Coupling coefficient . . . . .	558
10.3.1.4	External quality factor . . . . .	560
10.3.1.5	Optimization process . . . . .	562
10.3.2	GGW all-pole filter topology . . . . .	563
10.3.3	Resonating element: GGW cavities . . . . .	563
10.3.4	Coupling element: GGW inductive windows . . . . .	564
10.3.5	Feeding element: Cavity inserted coaxial cable . . . . .	565
10.3.6	Design 1: 4 <sup>th</sup> -order Ka-band filter at $f = 40$ GHz . . . . .	566
10.3.6.1	Filter specifications . . . . .	567
10.3.6.2	Filter design . . . . .	568
10.3.6.3	Manufactured prototype and measurements . . . . .	570
10.3.7	Design 2: 5 <sup>th</sup> -order V-band filter at $f = 61$ GHz . . . . .	578
10.3.7.1	Filter specifications . . . . .	579
10.3.7.2	Filter design . . . . .	580
10.3.7.3	Manufacturing errors sensitivity analysis . . . . .	583
10.3.7.4	Manufactured prototype and measurements . . . . .	591
10.3.8	Design 3: 5 <sup>th</sup> -order V-band filter at $f = 60$ GHz, including post-manufacture tuning metal insertions . . . . .	594
10.3.8.1	Filter specifications . . . . .	595
10.3.8.2	Tuning insertions topology . . . . .	595
10.3.8.3	Aggressive Space Mapping (ASM) . . . . .	597
10.3.8.4	Simulated response . . . . .	601
10.3.8.5	Manufacturing and correction process results . . . . .	601
10.3.9	Comparative with rectangular waveguide technology at V-band	606
10.3.9.1	Rectangular waveguide filter topology . . . . .	607

## TABLE OF CONTENTS

---

10.3.9.2 Filter design . . . . .	609
10.3.9.3 Manufactured prototype, measurements and comparative . . . . .	613
10.3.9.4 Re-assembling robustness test: . . . . .	615
10.3.10 Results in the context of V-band NBFs state of the art . . . . .	617
<b>11 Conclusions and future Work</b>	<b>623</b>
11.1 Conclusions . . . . .	623
11.2 Future Lines . . . . .	632
<b>General Conclusions</b>	<b>635</b>
<b>A Publications</b>	<b>637</b>
A.1 Indexed JCR journals . . . . .	637
A.2 International Conferences . . . . .	637
A.3 National Conferences . . . . .	640
A.4 Other Publications . . . . .	642
A.4.1 Indexed JCR journals . . . . .	642
A.4.2 International Conferences . . . . .	642
A.4.3 National Conferences . . . . .	643
<b>References</b>	<b>645</b>