Introduction:

 A microwave network is formed when several microwave devices are connected together by transmission lines for transmission of microwave signals

1- Port microwave network:

 One port network: A general microwave one port network is defined by a device for which power can enter and leave from only one transmission line or a waveguide

- We assume that the one port network is defined by a surface S which is perfectly conducting except for an opening at the terminal connection from where the input signal comes to the microwave device also known as port (see Fig. (a))
- In Fig. (b), an example of 1-port network microwave device is shown
- It is basically an open ended microstrip line with port 1 as input port

 Fig. (a) General representation of 1-port network microwave device (b) An example of 1-port microwave device



- Impedance & admittance matrix representations of 2-port and N-port microwave networks:
- Two port networks are usually used to represent a microwave device
- A general 2-port microwave device is depicted in Fig. (a) and Fig. (b) and Fig. (c) are respectively the impedance and admittance matrix representation of this 2-port microwave network.

• Fig. (a) A 2-port microwave device and its (b) Z-matrix and (c) Y-matrix representations



• For this case, we can simply write the relation between the port currents and voltages as follows: $V_1 = Z_{11}I_1 + Z_{12}I_2$

$$V_2 = Z_{21}I_1 + Z_{22}I_2$$

• In matrix form, port voltages are expressed in terms of port currents as follows:

$$\begin{bmatrix} V_1 \\ V_2 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} z_{11} & z_{12} \\ z_{21} & z_{22} \end{pmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} I_1 \\ I_2 \end{bmatrix} \quad \text{for a two port device}$$

$$\begin{bmatrix} V_1 \\ \vdots \\ V_N \end{bmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} Z_{11} & \dots & Z_{1N} \\ \vdots & \ddots & \vdots \\ Z_{N1} & \cdots & Z_{NN} \end{pmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} I_1 \\ \vdots \\ I_N \end{bmatrix} \quad \text{for an N-port device}$$

where Z_{ij} is defined as $\frac{V_i}{I_j}\Big|_{I_i=0,k\neq j}$ for any N-port microwave device

 Similarly for the admittance matrix representations for an N port microwave device is:

Analysis of Microwave Networks $\begin{bmatrix} I_{1} \\ \vdots \\ I_{N} \end{bmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} Y_{11} & \cdots & Y_{1N} \\ \vdots & \ddots & \vdots \\ Y_{N1} & \cdots & Y_{NN} \end{pmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} V_{1} \\ \vdots \\ V_{N} \end{bmatrix}$ where Y_{ij} is defined as $\frac{I_{i}}{V_{j}}\Big|_{V_{i}=0 \ k=i}$

Transmission Matrix Representation:

 In transmission matrix representations also called as [ABCD] matrix, we try to get the voltages & currents of 1st port in terms of 2nd port voltages & currents of the networks

Fig. (a) A two-port microwave device and its
(b) transmission matrix representation



- Note that the current direction convention of I₂, is opposite to that of the previous two port networks to get a positive values of B & D parameters of the transmission matrix
- The relation between port 1 and port 2 voltages and current are as follows:

$$V_{1} = A V_{2} + B I_{2} \qquad \underbrace{V_{1}}_{I_{2}} = 0 \qquad \underbrace{V_{1}}_{I_{2}} = 0 \qquad \underbrace{V_{1}}_{I_{2}} = 0$$

 ABCD matrix representations of some common two-port microwave components(a)



Fig. (a) Series impedance (b) Shunt impedance (c) (c) Lossless transmission line

• Series impedance

$$V_{1} = I_{2}Z + V_{2} = V_{2} + I_{2}Z$$
$$I_{1} = I_{2} = 0 \times V_{2} + I_{2}$$
$$\Rightarrow \begin{pmatrix} A & B \\ C & D \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & Z \\ 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix}$$

• Shunt impedance

$$\begin{split} V_1 &= V_2 \\ I_1 &= V_2 Y + I_2 \\ \Rightarrow \begin{pmatrix} A & B \\ C & D \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ Y & 1 \end{pmatrix} \end{split}$$

• Lossless transmission lines

Noting that $\theta = 2\pi \ell / \lambda$ $V_1 = V_2 e^{i\theta} = V_2 \cos\theta + jV_2 \sin\theta = V_2 \cos\theta + jI_2 Z_0 \sin\theta$ $I_1 = I_2 e^{i\theta} = I_2 \cos\theta + jI_2 \sin\theta = I_2 \cos\theta + jV_2 Y_0 \sin\theta$ $\Rightarrow \begin{pmatrix} A & B \\ C & D \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} \cos\theta & jZ_0 \sin\theta \\ jY_0 \sin\theta & \cos\theta \end{pmatrix}$

• For lossy case, we can simply write

 $\begin{pmatrix} A & B \\ C & D \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} \cosh \gamma \ell & Z_0 \sinh \gamma \ell \\ Y_0 \sinh \gamma \ell & \cosh \gamma \ell \end{pmatrix}$

- Series connection of two port networks:
- In practice, many networks consist of a series connection of two or more two port networks

 We will assume that the overall two port ABCD matrix of two or more two port networks can be found by simply multiplying the two port networks of the individual two port networks

$$\begin{bmatrix} V_1 \\ I_1 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} A_1 & B_1 \\ C_1 & D_1 \end{pmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} V_2 \\ I_2 \end{bmatrix}$$
 for microwave device 1
$$\begin{bmatrix} V_2 \\ I_2 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} A_2 & B_2 \\ C_2 & D_2 \end{pmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} V_3 \\ I_3 \end{bmatrix}$$
 for microwave device 2

• Fig. Series connection of two 2-port microwave devices



• Hence

$$\begin{bmatrix} V_1 \\ I_1 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} A_1 & B_1 \\ C_1 & D_1 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} A_2 & B_2 \\ C_2 & D_2 \end{pmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} V_3 \\ I_3 \end{bmatrix}$$
$$= \begin{pmatrix} A & B \\ C & D \end{pmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} V_3 \\ I_3 \end{bmatrix}$$

 It is very convenient way of representing microwave networks

Scattering matrix representations:

- Practical problems exist when trying to measure voltages and currents at microwave frequencies
- Direct measurements can't be done since all are EM waves at high frequencies
- It is an abstract idea
- A more appropriate representation is scattering matrix representation since we can directly measure reflected, transmitted and incident waves

- Scattering matrix relates the incident, transmitted & reflected waves at the ports
- Scattering matrix can be directly measured with a Network Analyzer
- Once the parameters are known they can be converted to any other matrix parameters for the analysis of the microwave network

Two Port Network:

 If denote the amplitude of incident voltage wave at port 1 and the amplitude of reflected voltage wave from port 1, then scattering parameters are expressed as:

$$V_{1}^{-} = S_{11}V_{1}^{+} + S_{12}V_{2}^{+}$$
$$V_{2}^{-} = S_{21}V_{1}^{+} + S_{22}V_{2}^{+}$$

- where V₂⁻ and V₂⁺ are respectively the amplitudes of incident & reflected voltage wave at the port 2
- In matrix form,

$$\begin{bmatrix} V_1^- \\ V_2^- \end{bmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} S_{11} & S_{12} \\ S_{21} & S_{22} \end{pmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} V_1^+ \\ V_1^+ \\ V_2^+ \end{bmatrix}$$

 Fig. Incident and reflected voltage waves in a 2-port network



• For N- Port network:

$$\begin{bmatrix} V_{1}^{-} \\ V_{2}^{-} \\ \vdots \\ V_{N}^{-} \end{bmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} S_{11} & S_{12} & \cdots & S_{1N} \\ S_{21} & S_{22} & \cdots & S_{2N} \\ \vdots & \vdots & \ddots & \vdots \\ S_{N1} & S_{N2} & \cdots & S_{NN} \end{pmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} V_{1}^{+} \\ V_{2}^{+} \\ \vdots \\ V_{N}^{+} \end{bmatrix}$$

ere S_{ij} is defined as $\frac{V_{i}^{-}}{V_{j}^{+}} \Big|_{V_{k}^{=0,k^{1}j}}$

• It means that it is the ratio of amplitude of voltage wave reflected at the port i when a voltage wave of amplitude V_j^+ is incident at the port j

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Reciprocal Microwave Network:

- Reciprocal Network:
- If the port 1 & 2 are interchanged for a two port network and the performance of the microwave device is still the same then we call that network as reciprocal network
- [Z] matrix for a reciprocal network is symmetric

Correspondingly, since $[Z] = [Y]^{-1}, [Y]$ matrix is also symmetric i.e. [Z] = [Z]' and [Y] = [Y]' for a reciprocal network

- What is the property of [S] matrix for reciprocal networks?
- To do this, let us find the relation between [Z] and [S] matrix
- Let us assume that all the ports have same characteristic impedance, i.e.,

$$Z_{01} = Z_{02} = Z_{03} = \cdots = Z_{0N} = Z_0$$

• For an nth port of the microwave network,

$$\begin{split} V_n &= V_n^+ + V_n^- \to (1) \\ I_n &= I_n^+ - I_n^- \\ &= \frac{V_n^+}{Z_0} - \frac{V_n^-}{Z_0} \to (2) \end{split}$$

• In matrix form,

$$\begin{split} &[V] = [V^+] + [V^-] \\ &= [Z][I] \\ &= [Z]([I^+] - [I^-]) \\ &= [Z]\frac{1}{Z_0}([V^+] - [V^-]) \\ &\Rightarrow \left([U] + \frac{1}{Z_0}[Z] \right) [V^-] = \left(\frac{1}{Z_0}[Z] - [U] \right) [V^+] \\ &\Rightarrow [S] = \frac{[V^-]}{[V^+]} = ([Z] + Z_0[U])^{-1} ([Z] - Z_0[U]) \\ &\xrightarrow{\text{Microwave Engineering}} \end{split}$$

EC 441

- which gives the scattering matrix in terms of Z matrix
- Similarly,

$$[Z][S] + (Z_0)[S] = [Z] - (Z_0)[U]$$

$$\Rightarrow [Z]([S] - [U]) = - (Z_0)[S] - (Z_0)[U]$$

$$\Rightarrow [Z] = (Z_0)([S] + [U])([U] - [S])^{-1}$$

- which gives Z matrix in terms of scattering parameters
- By adding 1 & 2, we get

$$V_n^{+} = \frac{1}{2} (V_n + Z_0 I_n)$$

• And by subtracting 1 & 2, we have

$$V_n^{-} = \frac{1}{2} (V_n - Z_0 I_n)$$

• In matrix form,

$$\begin{bmatrix} V^{+} \end{bmatrix} = \frac{1}{2} (\begin{bmatrix} V \end{bmatrix} + Z_{0} \begin{bmatrix} I \end{bmatrix}) \qquad \begin{bmatrix} V^{-} \end{bmatrix} = \frac{1}{2} (\begin{bmatrix} V \end{bmatrix} - Z_{0} \begin{bmatrix} I \end{bmatrix}) \\ = \frac{1}{2} (\begin{bmatrix} Z \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} I \end{bmatrix} + Z_{0} \begin{bmatrix} I \end{bmatrix}) \qquad = \frac{1}{2} (\begin{bmatrix} Z \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} I \end{bmatrix} - Z_{0} \begin{bmatrix} I \end{bmatrix}) \\ = \frac{1}{2} (\begin{bmatrix} Z \end{bmatrix} + Z_{0} \begin{bmatrix} U \end{bmatrix}) \begin{bmatrix} I \end{bmatrix} \qquad = \frac{1}{2} (\begin{bmatrix} Z \end{bmatrix} - Z_{0} \begin{bmatrix} U \end{bmatrix}) \begin{bmatrix} I \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\frac{\begin{bmatrix} V & - \\ \hline V & + \end{bmatrix}}{\begin{bmatrix} V & + \end{bmatrix}} = \begin{bmatrix} S \end{bmatrix} = (\begin{bmatrix} Z \end{bmatrix} - \begin{bmatrix} Z & 0 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} U \end{bmatrix}) (\begin{bmatrix} Z \end{bmatrix} + \begin{bmatrix} Z & 0 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} U \end{bmatrix})^{-1}$$

$$\therefore \begin{bmatrix} S \end{bmatrix}' = ((\begin{bmatrix} Z \end{bmatrix} + \begin{bmatrix} Z & 0 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} U \end{bmatrix})^{-1})' (\begin{bmatrix} Z \end{bmatrix} - \begin{bmatrix} Z & 0 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} U \end{bmatrix})'$$

$$= (\begin{bmatrix} Z \end{bmatrix} + z_0 \begin{bmatrix} U \end{bmatrix})^{-1} (\begin{bmatrix} Z \end{bmatrix} - z_0 \begin{bmatrix} U \end{bmatrix})$$

$$= \begin{bmatrix} S \end{bmatrix}$$

• Since all the matrix components in the RHS of the previous equation is symmetric, hence the scattering matrix is also symmetric

Reciprocal and lossless network:

- If a network is lossless, no real power can be delivered to the network.
- Proof:

$$P_{av} = \frac{1}{2} \operatorname{Re}(V \, j \, [I])$$

 $[V] = \begin{vmatrix} V_1 \\ V_2 \\ V_3 \\ \vdots \\ V_N \end{vmatrix}, [I] = \begin{vmatrix} I_1 \\ I_2 \\ I_3 \\ \vdots \\ I_N \end{vmatrix}, [Z] = \begin{vmatrix} Z_{11} & Z_{12} & \cdots & Z_{1N} \\ Z_{21} & Z_{22} & \cdots & Z_{2N} \\ \vdots & \vdots & \ddots & \vdots \\ Z_{N1} & Z_{N1} & \cdots & Z_{NN} \end{vmatrix}$ where $=\frac{1}{2}\operatorname{Re}\left(\left[I\right]'\left[Z\right]'\left[I\right]^{*}\right)$ $=\frac{1}{2}\operatorname{Re}\left\{I_{1}Z_{11}I_{1}^{*}+I_{1}Z_{12}I_{2}^{*}+I_{2}Z_{21}I_{1}^{*}+\cdots\cdots\right\}$ $=\frac{1}{2}\operatorname{Re}\left\{\sum_{n}^{N}\sum_{n}^{N}I_{m}Z_{mn}I_{n}^{*}\right\}$

Microwave Engineering

- Since [I_n] are independent, we could set all port elements equal to zero except at the nth port current
- Hence

$$\operatorname{Re}\left\{I_{m}Z_{mn}I_{n}^{*}\right\} = 0 = |I_{n}|^{2}\operatorname{Re}\left\{Z_{nn}\right\} = 0$$

 $\Rightarrow \operatorname{Re} \{Z_{nn}\} = 0$. Hence, Z_{nn} is purely imaginary

- Now let us set all the port elements equal to zero except at the mth and nth ports
- In that case,

$$\operatorname{Re}\left\{I_{m}Z_{mn}I_{n}^{*}+I_{n}Z_{nm}I_{m}^{*}+\left|I_{n}\right|^{2}Z_{nn}+\left|I_{m}\right|^{2}Z_{mm}\right\}=0$$

• For a reciprocal network,

$$:: Z_{nm} = Z_{mn}$$

$$\Rightarrow \operatorname{Re} \left\{ I_m Z_{mn} I_n^{*} + I_n Z_{nm} I_m^{*} \right\} = 0$$

$$\Rightarrow \operatorname{Re} \left\{ \left\{ I_m I_n^{*} + I_n I_m^{*} \right\} Z_{nm} \right\} = 0$$

$$:: I_m I_n^{*} + I_n I_m^{*} \text{ is purely a real number}$$

$$\Rightarrow \operatorname{Re} \left\{ Z_{nm} \right\} = 0$$
- Hence, the impedance matrix is purely imaginary for a lossless network
- Similarly, the admittance matrix is also purely imaginary
- What is the characteristic of [S] matrix for a lossless network?

$$\begin{split} P_{av} &= \frac{1}{2} \operatorname{Re} \left(\left[V \right]' \left[I \right]^* \right) \\ &= \frac{1}{2} \operatorname{Re} \left\{ \left(\left[V^+ \right]' + \left[V^- \right]' \right) \frac{1}{Z_0} \left(\left[V^+ \right]^* - \left[V^- \right]^* \right) \right\} \\ &= \frac{1}{2Z_0} \operatorname{Re} \left\{ \left(\left[V^+ \right]' \left[V^+ \right]^* - \left[V^+ \right]' \left[V^- \right]^* + \left[V^- \right]' \left[V^+ \right]^* - \left[V^- \right]' \right]^* \right) \right\} \\ &= \frac{1}{2Z_0} \operatorname{Re} \left\{ \left(\left[V^+ \right]' \left[V^+ \right]^* - \left[V^- \right]' \left[V^- \right]^* \right) \right\} \end{split}$$

- where the first term is the incident power and the second term is the reflected power
- Note:

1. $[V^{-}]'[V^{+}]^{*} - [V^{+}]'[V^{-}]^{*}$ is purely imaginary. Proof:

$$\begin{bmatrix} V^{-} \end{bmatrix}' = \begin{bmatrix} V_{1}^{-} & V_{2}^{-} & \cdots & V_{N}^{-} \end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix} V^{+} \end{bmatrix}^{*} = \begin{bmatrix} V_{1}^{+*} \\ V_{2}^{+*} \\ V_{3}^{+*} \\ \vdots \\ V_{N}^{+*} \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\begin{bmatrix} V^+ \end{bmatrix}' = \begin{bmatrix} V_1^+ & V_2^+ & \cdots & V_N^+ \end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix} V^- \end{bmatrix}^* = \begin{bmatrix} V_1^{-*} \\ V_2^{-*} \\ \vdots \\ V_3^{-*} \\ \vdots \\ V_N^{-*} \end{bmatrix}$$

 $\therefore [V^{-}]' [V^{+}]^{*} - [V^{+}]' [V^{-}]^{*}$ $= V_{1}^{-}V_{1}^{+*} + V_{2}^{-}V_{1}^{+*} + \dots + V_{N}^{-}V_{N}^{+*}$ $-V_{1}^{+}V_{1}^{-*} - V_{2}^{+}V_{2}^{-*} - \dots - V_{N}^{+}V_{N}^{-*}$ $= \left(V_{1}^{-}V_{1}^{+*} - V_{1}^{+}V_{1}^{-*}\right) + \left(V_{2}^{-}V_{2}^{+*} - V_{2}^{+}V_{2}^{-*}\right) + \dots + \left(V_{N}^{-}V_{N}^{+*} - V_{N}^{+}V_{N}^{-*}\right)$ All the terms are purely imaginary

2.
$$[V^+]' [V^+]^*$$
 and $[V^-]' [V^-]^*$ are purely real
 $[V^+]' [V^+]^* = V_1^+ V_1^{+*} + V_2^+ V_2^{+*} + \dots + V_N^+ V_N^{+*}$
 $= |V_1^+|^2 + |V_2^+|^2 + |V_3^+|^2 + \dots + |V_N^+|^2$
which is a real number

Similarly, $[V^{-}]' [V^{-}]^{*} = |V_{1}^{-}|^{2} + |V_{2}^{-}|^{2} + |V_{3}^{-}|^{2} + \dots + |V_{N}^{-}|^{2}$ which is a real number

For a lossless network,

$$P_{av} = 0$$

$$\Rightarrow [V^+]' [V^+]^* = [V^-]' [V^-]^*$$

$$[V^+]' [V^+]^* = [V^+]' [S]' [V^-]^* \Rightarrow \sum_{k=1}^N S_{Ki} S_{Kj} = \delta_{ij}$$

$$= [V^+]' [S]' [S]^* [V^+]^* \qquad \text{where } \delta_{ij} \text{ is the Kroneckar delta function}$$

$$\Rightarrow [S]' [S]^* = U$$

[S] is a unitary matrix

Network matrices transformations

- (a) Relationship between transfer or transmission and impedance matrix
- From the definition of ABCD matrix,

$$\begin{split} V_1 &= A \, V_2 + B I_2 \quad \text{and} \quad I_1 = C V_2 + D I_2 \\ &= A \left(\frac{I_1 - D I_2}{C} \right) + B I_2 \\ &= \frac{A}{C} I_1 - \left(\frac{A \, D - B \, C}{C} \right) I_2 \\ &= Z_{11} I_1 - Z_{12} I_2 \end{split}$$

- Note that I₂ direction is opposite for [Z] & [ABCD] matrix representations
- Similarly,

$$\begin{aligned} V_2 &= \frac{I_1 - DI_2}{C} \\ &= \frac{1}{C} I_1 - \frac{D}{C} I_2 \\ &= Z_{21} I_1 - Z_{22} I_2 \\ \therefore [Z] &= \begin{pmatrix} Z_{11} & Z_{12} \\ Z_{21} & Z_{22} \end{pmatrix} = \frac{1}{C} \begin{bmatrix} A & AD - BC \\ 1 & D \end{bmatrix} \end{aligned}$$

For a symmetrical network,

$$Z_{11}=Z_{22} \Rightarrow A=D$$

For a reciprocal network,

$$Z_{12} = Z_{21} \therefore \frac{AD - BC}{C} = \frac{1}{C} \Rightarrow AD - BC = 1$$

(b) Relationship between scattering and impedance matrix

• It will be derived in the next section,

$$\begin{split} & \left[S\right] = \left(\!\left[Z\right] - Z_0 \left[U\right]\!\right) \! \left(\!\left[Z\right] + Z_0 \left[U\right]\!\right)^{-1} \\ & \left[S\right] = \begin{pmatrix}S_{11} & S_{12} \\ S_{21} & S_{22}\end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix}Z_{11} - Z_0 & Z_{12} \\ Z_{21} & Z_{22} - Z_0\end{pmatrix} \! \left(\!\begin{array}{cc}Z_{11} + Z_0 & Z_{12} \\ Z_{21} & Z_{22} + Z_0\end{array}\!\right)^{-1} \\ & = \begin{pmatrix}Z_{11} - Z_0 & Z_{12} \\ Z_{21} & Z_{22} - Z_0\end{pmatrix} \frac{1}{\det\left(\!\left[Z\right] + Z_0 \left[U\right]\!\right)} \begin{pmatrix}Z_{22} + Z_0 & -Z_{12} \\ -Z_{21} & Z_{11} + Z_0\end{matrix}\right) \\ & \det\left(\!\left[Z\right] + Z_0 \left[U\right]\!\right) = (Z_{22} + Z_0)(Z_{11} + Z_0) - Z_{12}Z_{21} = Z_D \\ & \therefore \left[S\right] = \frac{1}{Z_D} \begin{bmatrix}(Z_{22} + Z_0)(Z_{11} - Z_0) - Z_{12}Z_{21} & 2Z_0Z_{12} \\ 2Z_0Z_{12} & (Z_{22} - Z_0)(Z_{11} + Z_0) - Z_{12}Z_{21}\end{bmatrix} \end{split}$$

Similarly the inverse relation |Z| in terms of |S| is given by

$$\begin{split} \left[Z \right] &= Z_0 \left(\begin{bmatrix} S \end{bmatrix} + \begin{bmatrix} U \end{bmatrix} \right) \left(\begin{bmatrix} U \end{bmatrix} - \begin{bmatrix} S \end{bmatrix} \right)^{-1} \\ &= Z_0 \begin{pmatrix} S_{11} + 1 & S_{12} \\ S_{21} & S_{22} + 1 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} 1 - S_{11} & -S_{12} \\ -S_{21} & 1 - S_{22} \end{pmatrix}^{-1} \\ &= \frac{Z_0}{S_D} \begin{pmatrix} S_{11} + 1 & S_{12} \\ S_{21} & S_{22} + 1 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} 1 - S_{22} & S_{12} \\ S_{21} & 1 - S_{11} \end{pmatrix} \\ &= \frac{Z_0}{S_D} \begin{pmatrix} (S_{11} + 1)(1 - S_{22}) + S_{12}S_{21} & 2S_{12} \\ 2S_{21} & (1 - S_{11})(S_{22} + 1) + S_{12}S_{21} \end{pmatrix} \\ & \text{EC AWHere} \ S_D = (1 - S_{11}) \left(\frac{1}{Microwave} S_{\text{FIGD}} \right) + S_{12}S_{21} & 48 \end{split}$$

Equivalent circuit extraction

- A reciprocal two-port network can be represented by either a T- or π- network as shown in Fig.
- In this figure, port 1 is assumed to be at z=0 and port 2 at z=h

• Fig. (a) π-network (b) T-network



 The elements of a two-port network can be calculated from transmission matrix by a simple transformation as below:

$$Z_a = \frac{A-1}{C} \qquad Z_b = \frac{D-1}{C} \qquad Z_c = \frac{1}{C}$$
$$Y_a = \frac{1}{B} \qquad Y_b = \frac{A-1}{B} \qquad Y_c = \frac{D-1}{B}$$

• The transmission matrix can be obtained from scattering matrix as follows:

$$A = \frac{(1+s_{11})(1-s_{22})+s_{12}s_{21}}{2s_{21}} \qquad B = \frac{Z_0(1+s_{11})(1+s_{22})-s_{12}s_{21}}{2s_{21}}$$
$$C = \frac{(1-s_{11})(1-s_{22})-s_{12}s_{21}}{2Z_0s_{21}} \qquad D = \frac{(1-s_{11})(1+s_{22})+s_{12}s_{21}}{2s_{21}}$$

RF ENGINEERING - BASIC CONCEPTS

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ABSTRACT

The concept of describing RF circuits in terms of waves is discussed and the S matrix and related matrices are defined. The signal flow graph (SFG) is introduced as a graphical means to visualise how waves propagate in an RF network. The properties of the most relevant passive RF devices (hybrids, couplers, non-reciprocal elements, etc.) are delineated and the corresponding S parameters are given. For microwave integrated circuits (MICs) planar transmission lines such as the microstrip line have become very important. A brief discussion on the Smith Chart concludes this paper.

1. INTRODUCTION

For the design of RF and microwave circuits a practical tool is required. The linear dimensions of the elements that are in use may be of the order of one wavelength or even larger. In this case the equivalent circuits which are commonly applied for lower frequencies lead to difficulties in the definition of voltages and currents. A description in terms of waves becomes more meaningful. These waves are scattered (reflected, transmitted) in RF networks. Having introduced certain definitions of the relation between voltages, currents and waves we discuss the S and T matrices such for the description of 2-port networks. Nowadays the calculation of complex microwave networks is usually carried out by means of computer codes. These apply matrix descriptions and conversions extensively. Another way to analyze microwave networks is by taking advantage of the signal flow graph (SFG). The SFG is a graphical representation of a system linear equations and permits one to visualise how, for example, an incident wave propagates through the network. However, for a systematic analysis of large networks the SFG is not very convenient; computer codes implementing the matrix formulation are generally used these days. In a subsequent section the properties of typical microwave n-ports (n = 1, 2, 3, 4) are discussed. The n-ports include power dividers, directional couplers, circulators and 180° hybrids. Historically many microwave elements have been built first in waveguide technology. Today waveguide technology is rather restricted to high-power applications or for extremely high frequencies. Other less bulky types of transmission lines have been developed such as striplines and micro striplines. They permit the realisation of microwave integrated circuits (MICs) or, if implemented on a semiconductor substrate, the monolithic microwave integrated circuits (MMICs). This paper concludes with a description of the Smith Chart, a graphical method of evaluating the complex reflection coefficient for a given load. Several examples including the coupling of single-cell resonators are mentioned.

2. S PARAMETERS

The abbreviation *S* has been derived from the word *scattering*. For high frequencies, it is convenient to describe a given network in terms of *waves* rather than voltages or currents. This permits an easier definition of reference planes. For practical reasons, the description in terms of in- and outgoing waves has been introduced. Now, a 4-pole network becomes a 2-port and a 2n-pole becomes an n-port. In the case of an odd pole number (e.g. 3-pole), a common reference point may be chosen, attributing one pole equally to two ports. Then a 3-pole is converted into a (3+1) pole corresponding to a 2-port. As a general conversion rule for an odd pole number one more pole is added.



Fig. 1 Example for a 2-port network: A series impedance Z.

Let us start by considering a simple 2-port network consisting of a single impedance *Z* connected in series (Fig. 1). The generator and load impedances are Z_G and Z_L , respectively. If Z = 0 and $Z_L = Z_G$ (for real Z_G) we have a matched load, i.e. *maximum available power* goes into the load and $U_1 = U_2 = U_0/2$. Please note that *all the voltages and currents are peak values*. The lines connecting the different elements are supposed to have zero electrical length. Connections with a finite electrical length are drawn as double lines or as heavy lines. Now we would like to relate U_0 , U_1 and U_2 with *a* and *b*.

Definition of "power waves"

The *waves* going *towards* the n-port are $\mathbf{a} = (a_1, a_2, ..., a_n)$, the *waves* travelling *away* from the n-port are $\mathbf{b} = (b_1, b_2, ..., b_n)$. By definition currents going *into* the n-port are counted positively and currents flowing out of the n-port negatively. The wave a_1 is going into the n-port at port 1 is derived from the voltage wave going into a matched load.

In order to make the definitions consistent with the conservation of energy, the voltage is normalized to $\sqrt{Z_0}$. Z_0 is in general an arbitrary reference impedance, but usually the characteristic impedance of a line (e.g. $Z_0 = 50 \Omega$) is used and very often $Z_G = Z_L = Z_0$. In the following we assume Z_0 to be real. The definitions of the waves a_1 and b_1 are

$$a_{1} = \frac{U_{0}}{2\sqrt{Z_{0}}} = \frac{\text{incident voltage wave (port 1)}}{\sqrt{Z_{0}}} = \frac{U_{1}^{\text{inc}}}{\sqrt{Z_{0}}}$$

$$b_{1} = \frac{U_{1}^{\text{refl}}}{\sqrt{Z_{0}}} = \frac{\text{reflected voltage wave (port 1)}}{\sqrt{Z_{0}}}$$
(2.1)

Note that **a** and **b** have the dimension \sqrt{power} [1].

The power travelling towards port 1, P_1^{inc} , is simply the available power from the source, while the power coming out of port 1, P_1^{refl} , is given by the reflected voltage wave.

$$P_{1}^{inc} = \frac{1}{2} |a_{1}|^{2} = \frac{\left|U_{1}^{inc}\right|^{2}}{2Z_{0}} = \frac{\left|I_{1}^{inc}\right|^{2}}{2} Z_{0}$$

$$P_{1}^{refl} = \frac{1}{2} |b_{1}|^{2} = \frac{U_{1}^{refl}}{2Z_{0}} = \frac{\left|I_{1}^{refl}\right|^{2}}{2} Z_{0}$$

$$(2.2)$$

Please note the factor 2 in the denominator, which comes from the definition of the voltages and currents as peak values ("European definition"). In the "US definition" effective values are used and the factor 2 is not present, so for power calculations it is important to check how the voltages are defined. For most applications, this difference does not play a role since ratios of waves are used.

In the case of a mismatched load Z_L there will be some power reflected towards the 2-port from Z_L

$$P_2^{inc} = \frac{1}{2} |a_2|^2 \tag{2.3}$$

There is also the outgoing wave of port 2 which may be considered as the superimposition of a wave that has gone through the 2-port from the generator and a reflected part from the mismatched load. We have defined $a_1 = U_0 / (2\sqrt{Z_0}) = U^{inc}/Z_0$ with the incident voltage wave U^{inc} . In analogy to that we can also quote $a_1 = I^{inc}Z_0$ with the incident current wave I^{inc} . We obtain the general definition of the waves a_i travelling into and b_i travelling out of an n-port:

$$a_{i} = \frac{U_{i} + I_{i}Z_{0}}{2\sqrt{Z_{0}}}$$

$$b_{i} = \frac{U_{i} - I_{i}Z_{0}}{2\sqrt{Z_{0}}}$$
(2.4)

Solving these two equations, U_i and I_i can be obtained for a given a_i and b_i as

$$U_{i} = \sqrt{Z_{0}} (a_{i} + b_{i}) = U_{i}^{inc} + U_{i}^{refl}$$

$$I_{i} = \frac{1}{\sqrt{Z_{0}}} (a_{i} - b_{i}) = \frac{U_{i}^{refl}}{Z_{0}}$$
(2.5)

For a harmonic excitation $u(t) = \text{Re}\{Ue^{j\omega_t}\}$ the power going *into* port *i* is given by

$$P_{i} = \frac{1}{2} Re \left\{ U_{i} I_{i}^{*} \right\}$$

$$P_{i} = \frac{1}{2} Re \left\{ \left(a_{i} a_{i}^{*} - b_{i} b_{i}^{*} \right) + \left(a_{i}^{*} b_{i} - a_{i} b_{i}^{*} \right) \right\}$$

$$P_{i} = \frac{1}{2} \left(a_{i} a_{i}^{*} - b_{i} b_{i}^{*} \right)$$
(2.6)

The term $(a_i^*b_i - a_ib_i^*)$ is a purely imaginary number and vanishes when the real part is taken.

The S matrix

The relation between a_i and b_i (i = 1...n) can be written as a system of n linear equations (a_i being the independent variable, b_i the dependent variable)

$$b_1 = S_{11}a_1 + S_{12}a_2 b_2 = S_{21}a_1 + S_{22}a_2$$
(2.7)

or, in matrix formulation

$$\mathbf{b} = \mathbf{S}\mathbf{a} \tag{2.8}$$

The physical meaning of S_{11} is the input reflection coefficient with the output of the network terminated by a matched load ($a_2 = 0$). S_{21} is the forward transmission (from port 1 to port 2), S_{12} the reverse transmission (from port 2 to port 1) and S_{22} the output reflection coefficient.

When measuring the S parameter of an n-port, *all* n ports must be terminated by a matched load (not necessarily equal value for all ports), including the port connected to the generator (matched generator).

Using Eqs. 2.4 and 2.7 we find the reflection coefficient of a single impedance Z_L connected to a generator of source impedance Z_0 (Fig. 1, case $Z_G = Z_0$ and Z = 0)

$$S_{11} = \frac{b_1}{a_1}\Big|_{a_2=0} = \frac{U_1 - I_1 Z_0}{U_1 + I_1 Z_0} = \frac{Z_L - Z_0}{Z_L + Z_0} = \rho = \frac{(Z_L / Z_0) - 1}{(Z_L / Z_0) + 1}$$
(2.9)

which is the familiar formula for the reflection coefficient ρ (often also denoted Γ).

Let us now determine the S parameters of the impedance Z in Fig. 1, assuming again $Z_G = Z_L = Z_0$. From the definition of S_{11} we have

$$S_{11} = \frac{b_1}{a_1} = \frac{U_1 - I_1 Z_0}{U_1 + I_1 Z_0}$$

$$U_1 = U_0 \frac{Z_0 + Z}{2Z_0 + Z}, \quad U_2 = U_0 \frac{Z_0}{2Z_0 + Z}, \quad I_1 = \frac{U_0}{2Z_0 + Z} = -I_2$$

$$\Rightarrow S_{11} = \frac{Z}{2Z_0 + Z}$$
(2.10)

and in a similar fashion we get

$$S_{21} = \frac{b_2}{a_1} = \frac{U_2 - I_2 Z_0}{U_1 + I_1 Z_0} = \frac{2Z_0}{2Z_0 + Z}$$
(2.11)

Due to the symmetry of the element $S_{22} = S_{22}$ and $S_{12} = S_{21}$. Please note that for this case we obtain $S_{11} + S_{21} = 1$. The full S matrix of the element is then

$$\mathbf{S} = \begin{pmatrix} \frac{Z}{2Z_0 + Z} & \frac{Z_0 + Z}{2Z_0 + Z} \\ \frac{Z_0 + Z}{2Z_0 + Z} & \frac{Z}{2Z_0 + Z} \end{pmatrix}$$
(2.12)

The transfer matrix

The S matrix introduced in the previous section is a very convenient way to describe an n-port in terms of waves. It is very well adapted to measurements. However, it is not well suited to for characterizing the response of a number of cascaded 2-ports. A very straightforward manner for the problem is possible with the T matrix (transfer matrix), which directly relates the waves on the input and on the output [2]

$$\begin{pmatrix} b_1 \\ a_1 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} T_{11} & T_{12} \\ T_{21} & T_{22} \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} a_2 \\ b_2 \end{pmatrix}$$
(2.13)

The conversion formulae between S and T matrix are given in Appendix I. While the S matrix exists for any 2-port, in certain cases, e.g. no transmission between port 1 and port 2, the T matrix is not defined. The T matrix T_M of *m* cascaded 2-ports is given by (as in [2, 3]):

$$\mathbf{T}_{\mathbf{M}} = \mathbf{T}_{\mathbf{1}} \mathbf{T}_{\mathbf{2}} \dots \mathbf{T}_{\mathbf{m}} \tag{2.14}$$

Note that in the literature different definitions of the T matrix can be found and the individual matrix elements depend on the definition used.

3. SIGNAL FLOW GRAPH (SFG)

The SFG is a graphical representation of a system of linear equations having the general form:

$$\mathbf{y} = \mathbf{M}\mathbf{x} + \mathbf{M}'\mathbf{y} \tag{3.1}$$

where *M* and *M'* are square matrices with *n* rows and columns, **x** represents the *n* independent variables (sources) and **y** the *n* dependent variables. The elements of **M** and **M'** appear as transmission coefficients of the signal path. When there are no direct signal loops, as is generally the case in practise, the previous equation simplifies to $\mathbf{y} = \mathbf{M}\mathbf{x}$, which is equivalent to the usual S parameter definition

$$\mathbf{b} = \mathbf{S}\mathbf{a} \tag{3.2}$$

The SFG can be drawn as a directed graph. Each wave a_i and b_i is represented by a node, each arrow stands for an S parameter (Fig. 5).

For general problems the SFG can be solved for applying Mason's rule (see Appendix II). For not too complicated circuits, a more intuitive way is to simplify step-by-step the SFG by applying the following three rules (Fig. 4):

- 1. Add the signal of parallel branches
- 2. Multiply the signals of cascaded branches
- 3. Resolve loops



Fig. 4: The three rules for simplifying signal flow charts.

Care has to be taken applying the third rule, since loops can be transformed to forward and backward oriented branches. No signal paths should be interrupted when resolving loops.

Examples

We are looking for the input reflection coefficient b_1/a_1 of a two-port with a non-matched load ρ_L and a matched generator (source $\rho_S = 0$), see Fig. 5.



Fig. 5: A 2-port with a non-matched load

The loop at port 2 involving S_{22} and ρ_L can be resolved, given a branch from b_2 to a_2 with the signal $\rho_L *(1-\rho_L*S_{22})$. Applying the cascading rule and the parallel branch rule then yields

$$\frac{b_1}{a_1} = S_{11} + S_{21} \frac{\rho_L}{1 - S_{22}\rho_L} S_{12}$$
(3.3)

As a more complicated example one may add a mismatch to the source (ρ_5 = dashed line in Fig. 5) and ask for b_1/b_s .

As before, first the loop consisting of S_{22} and ρ_L can be resolved. Then the signal path via b_2 and a_2 is added to S_{11} , yielding a loop with ρ_S . Finally one obtains

$$\frac{b_1}{b_s} = \frac{\left(S_{11} + S_{21}S_{12}\rho_L \frac{1}{1 - \rho_L S_{22}}\right)}{1 - \left(S_{11} + S_{21}S_{12}\rho_L \frac{1}{1 - \rho_L S_{22}}\right)\rho_s}.$$
(3.4)

The same results would have been found applying Mason's rule on this problem.

As we have seen in this rather easy configuration, the SFG is a convenient tool for the analysis of *simple* circuits [8, 12]. For more complex networks there is a considerable risk that a signal path may be overlooked and the analysis soon becomes complicated. When applied to S-matrices, the solution may sometimes be read directly from the diagram. The SFG is also a useful way to gain insight into other networks, such as feedback systems. But with the availability of powerful computer codes using the matrix formulations, the need to use the SFG has been reduced.



b) Active one-port

$$\begin{array}{c} \mathbf{a}_{i} \\ \mathbf{b}_{i} \end{array} \qquad \qquad S = \begin{pmatrix} S_{11} & S_{12} \\ S_{21} & S_{22} \end{pmatrix} \qquad \qquad \begin{array}{c} \mathbf{a}_{1} \\ \mathbf{b}_{1} \\ \mathbf{b}_{1} \\ \mathbf{b}_{2} \\ \mathbf{b}_{1} \\ \mathbf{b}_{1} \\ \mathbf{c}_{12} \\$$

c) Passive two-port



d) Lossless line (length ℓ) matched



e) Passive 3-port



S₁₂

f) Passive n-port

Fig. 6: SFG and S matrices of different multiports (reproduced from [12] with the permission of the publisher)

4. PROPERTIES OF THE S MATRIX OF AN N-PORT

A generalized n-port has n^2 scattering coefficients. While the S_{ij} may be all independent, in general due to symmetries etc the number of independent coefficients is much smaller.

- An n-port is *reciprocal* when $S_{ij} = S_{ji}$ for all *i* and *j*. Most passive components are reciprocal (resistors, capacitors, transformers, . . . , except for structures involving ferrites, plasmas etc, active components such as amplifiers are generally non-reciprocal.
- A two-port is *symmetric*, when it is reciprocal $(S_{21} = S_{12})$ and when the input and output reflection coefficients are equal $(S_{22} = S_{11})$.
- An N-port is *passive and lossless* if its **S** matrix is *unitary*, i.e. $S^{\dagger}S = 1$, where $x^{\dagger} = (x^{*})^{T}$ is the conjugate transpose of **x**. For a two-port this means

$$\begin{pmatrix} S^* \end{pmatrix}^T S = \begin{pmatrix} S_{11}^* & S_{21}^* \\ S_{12}^* & S_{22}^* \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} S_{11} & S_{12} \\ S_{21} & S_{22} \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix}$$
(4.1)

which yields three conditions

$$\frac{|S_{11}|^2 + |S_{21}|^2 = 1}{|S_{12}|^2 + |S_{22}|^2 = 1}$$
(4.2)

$$S_{11}^*S_{12} + S_{21}^*S_{22} = 0 \tag{4.3}$$

Splitting up the last equation in the modulus and argument yields

$$|S_{11}||S_{12}| = |S_{21}||S_{22}| \quad \text{and} -\arg S_{11} + \arg S_{12} = -\arg S_{21} + \arg S_{22} + \pi$$
(4.4)

where arg(x) is the argument (angle) of the complex variable *x*. Combining Eq. 4.2 with the first of Eq. 4.4 then gives

$$\begin{aligned} |S_{11}| &= |S_{22}|, \quad |S_{12}| = |S_{21}| \\ |S_{11}| &= \sqrt{1 - |S_{12}|^2} \end{aligned}$$
(4.5)

Thus any lossless 2-port can be characterized by one modulus and three angles.

In general the S parameters are complex and frequency dependent. Their phases change when the reference plane is moved. Often the S parameters can be determined from considering symmetries and, in case of lossless networks, energy conservation.

Examples of S-matrices

1-ports

•	Ideal short	$S_{11} = -1$
•	Ideal termination	$S_{11} = 0$
•	Active termination (reflection amplifier)	$ S_{11} > 1$

2-ports

• Ideal transmission line of length *l*

$$\mathbf{S} = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & e^{-\gamma t} \\ e^{-\gamma t} & 0 \end{pmatrix}$$

where $\gamma = \alpha + j\beta$ is the complex propagation constant, α the line attenuation in [Neper/m] and $\beta = 2\pi/\lambda$ with the wavelength λ . For a lossless line $|S_{21}| = 1$.

• Ideal phase shifter

$$\mathbf{S} = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & e^{-j\varphi_{12}} \\ e^{-j\varphi_{21}} & 0 \end{pmatrix}$$

For a reciprocal phase shifter $\varphi_{12} = \varphi_{21}$, while for the gyrator $\varphi_{12} = \varphi_{21} + \pi$. An ideal gyrator is lossless (**S**⁺**S** = **1**), but it is not reciprocal. Gyrators are often implemented using active electronic components, however in the microwave range passive gyrators can be realized using magnetically saturated ferrite elements.

• Ideal, reciprocal attenuator

$$\mathbf{S} = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & e^{-\alpha} \\ e^{-\alpha} & 0 \end{pmatrix}$$

with the attenuation α in Neper. The attenuation in Decibel is given by A = -20*log₁₀(S₂₁), 1 Np = 8.686 dB. An attenuator can be realized e.g. with three resistors in a T circuit. The values of the required resistors are



where *k* is the voltage attenuation factor and Z_0 the reference impedance, e.g. 50 Ω .

• Ideal isolator

$$\mathbf{S} = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 \\ 1 & 0 \end{pmatrix}$$

The isolator allows transmission in one directly only, it is used e.g. to avoid reflections from a load back to the generator.

• Ideal amplifier

$$\mathbf{S} = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 \\ G & 0 \end{pmatrix}$$

with the gain G > 1.

3-ports

Several types of 3-ports are in use, e.g. power dividers, circulators, T junctions, etc. It can be shown that a 3-port cannot be lossless, reciprocal and matched at all three ports at the same time. The following three components have two of the above characteristics:

• Resistive power divider: It consists of a resistor network and is reciprocal, matched at all ports but lossy. It can be realized with three resistors in a triangle configuration. When port 3 connected to ground, the resulting circuit is similar to a 2-port attenuator but not matched any more at port 1 and port 2.

$$\mathbf{S} = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & \frac{1}{2} & \frac{1}{2} \\ \frac{1}{2} & 0 & \frac{1}{2} \\ \frac{1}{2} & \frac{1}{2} & 0 \end{pmatrix}$$
 Port 1 $Z_{q}/3$ $Z_{q}/3$ Port 2 $Z_{q}/3$ Port 2 $Z_{q}/3$ $Z_{q}/3$ Port 3

• The T splitter is reciprocal and lossless but not matched at all ports.



Fig. 7: The two versions of the H₁₀ waveguide T splitter: H-plane and E-plane splitter

Using the losslessness condition and symmetry considerations one finds, for appropriate reference planes for H and E plane splitters

$$S_{H} = \frac{1}{2} \begin{pmatrix} 1 & -1 & \sqrt{2} \\ -1 & 1 & \sqrt{2} \\ \sqrt{2} & \sqrt{2} & 0 \end{pmatrix} \qquad \qquad S_{E} = \frac{1}{2} \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 1 & \sqrt{2} \\ 1 & 1 & -\sqrt{2} \\ \sqrt{2} & -\sqrt{2} & 0 \end{pmatrix}$$

The ideal circulator is lossless, matched at all ports, but not reciprocal. A signal entering the ideal circulator at one port is transmitted *exclusively* to the next port in the sense of the arrow (Fig. 8).



Fig. 8: 3-port circulator and 2-port isolator. The circulator can be converted into isolator by putting matched load to port 3.

Accordingly, the S matrix of the isolator has the following form:

$$\mathbf{S} = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 & 1 \\ 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 \end{pmatrix}$$

When port 3 of the circulator is terminated with a matched load we get a two-port called isolator, which lets power pass only from port 1 to port 2 (see section about 2-ports). A circulator, like the gyrator and other passive non-reciprocal elements contains a volume of ferrite. This ferrite is normally magnetized into saturation by an external magnetic field. The magnetic properties of a saturated RF ferrite have to be characterized by a μ -tensor. The real and imaginary part of each complex element μ are μ' and μ'' . They are strongly dependent on the bias field. The μ + and μ -represent the permeability seen by a right- and left-hand circular polarized wave traversing the ferrite (Fig. 9).



Fig. 9 The real part μ' (left) and imaginary part μ'' (right) of the complex permeability μ . The rightand left-hand circularly polarized waves in a microwave ferrite are μ + and μ -. At the gyromagnetic resonance the right-hand polarized has high losses, as can be seen from the peak in the right image.

In Figs. 10 and 11 practical implementations of circulators are shown. The magnetically polarized ferrite provides the required nonreciprocal properties. As a result, power is only transmitted from port 1 to port 2, from port 2 to port 3 and from port 3 to port 1. A detailed discussion of the different working principles of circulators can be found in the literature [2,13].



Fig. 11 Stripline circulator

The Faraday rotation isolator uses the TE_{10} mode in a rectangular waveguide, which has a vertically polarized H field in the waveguide on the left (Fig. 12). After a transition to a circular waveguide, the polarization of the waveguide mode is rotated counter clockwise by 45° by a

ferrite. Then follows a transition to another rectangular waveguide which is rotated by 45° such that the rotated forward wave can pass unhindered. However, a wave coming from the other side will have its polarization rotated by 45° *clockwise* as seen from the right side. In the waveguide on the left the backward wave arrives with a horizontal polarization. The horizontal attenuation foils dampen this mode, while they hardly affect the forward wave. Therefore the Faraday isolator allows transmission only from port 1 to port 2.



Fig. 12: Faraday rotation isolator

The frequency range of ferrite-based, non-reciprocal elements extends from about 50 MHz up to optical wavelengths (Faraday rotator) [13]. Finally, it is shall be noted that all non-reciprocal elements can be made from a combination of an ideal gyrator (non-reciprocal phase shifter) and other passive, reciprocal elements, e.g. 4-port T-hybrids or magic tees.

The S matrix of a 4-port

As a first example let us consider a combination of E-plane and H-plane waveguide 'T's (Fig. 13). This configuration is called a Magic 'T' and has the S matrix:



Fig. 13: Hybrid 'T', Magic 'T', 180° hybrid. Ideally there is no crosstalk between port 3 and port 4 nor between port 1 and port 2.

As usual the coefficients of the S matrix can be found by using the unitary condition and mechanical symmetries. Contrary to 3-ports a 4-port may be lossless, reciprocal and matched at all ports simultaneously. With a suitable choice of the reference planes the very simple S matrix given above results.

In practice, certain measures are required to make out the 'T' a 'magic' one, such as small matching stubs in the center of the 'T'. Today, T-hybrids are often produced not in waveguide technology, but as coaxial lines and printed circuits. They are widely used for signal combination or splitting in pickups and kickers for particle accelerators. In a simple vertical-loop pickup the signal outputs of the upper and lower electrodes are connected to arm 1 and arm 2, and the sum (Σ) and difference (Δ) signals are available from the H arm and E arm, respectively. This is shown in Fig. 13 assuming two generators connected to the collinear arms of the magic T. The signal from generator 1 is split and fed with equal amplitudes into the E and H arm, which correspond to the Δ and Σ ports. The signal from generator 2 propagates in the same way. Provided that both generators have equal amplitude and phase, the signals cancel at the Δ port and the sum signal shows up at the Σ port. The bandwidth of a waveguide magic 'T' is around one octave or the equivalent H₁₀-mode waveguide band. Broadband versions of 180° hybrids may have a frequency range from a few MHz to some GHz.

Another important element is the directional coupler. A selection of possible waveguide couplers is depicted in Fig. 14.



Fig. 14: Waveguide directional couplers: (a) single-hole, (b,c) double-hole and (d,e) multiple-hole types.

There is a common principle of operation for all directional couplers: we have two transmission lines (waveguide, coaxial line, strip line, microstrip), and coupling is adjusted such that part of the power linked to a travelling wave in line 1 excites travelling waves in line 2. The coupler is

directional when the coupled energy mainly propagates in a single travelling wave, i.e. when there is no equal propagation in the two directions.

The single-hole coupler (Fig. 14), also known as a Bethe-coupler, takes advantage of the electric and magnetic polarizability of a small (d<< λ) coupling hole. A propagating wave in the main line excites electric and magnetic currents in the coupling hole. Each of these currents gives rise to travelling waves in both directions. The electric coupling is independent of the angle α between the waveguides (also possible with two coaxial lines at an angle α). In order to get directionality, at least two coupling mechanisms are necessary, i.e. two coupling holes or electric and magnetic coupling. For the Bethe coupler the electric coupling does not depend on the angle α between the waveguides, while the magnetic coupling is angle-dependent. It can be shown that for $\alpha = 30^{\circ}$ the electric and magnetic coupling is angle-dependent. It can be shown that for $\alpha = 30^{\circ}$ the electric and magnetic coupler. The physical mechanism for the other couplers shown in Fig. 14 is similar. Each coupling hole excites waves in both directions but the superposition of the waves coming from all coupling holes leads to a preference for a particular direction.

Example: the 2-hole, \lambda/4 coupler

For a wave incident at port 1 two waves are excited at the positions of the coupling holes in line 2 (top of Fig. 14b). For a backwards coupling towards port 4 these two wave have a phase shift of 180°, so they cancel. For the forward coupling the two waves add up in phase and all the power coupled to line 2 leaves at port 3. Optimum directivity is only obtained in a narrow frequency range where the distance of the coupling holes is roughly $\lambda/4$. For larger bandwidths, multiple hole couplers are used. The holes need not be circular; they may be longitudinally or transversely orientated slots, crosses, etc.

Besides waveguide couplers there exists a family of printed circuit couplers (stripline, microstrip) and also lumped element couplers (like transformers). To characterize directional couplers, two important figures are always required, the *coupling* and the *directivity*. For the elements shown in Fig. 14, the coupling appears in the S matrix as the coefficient

$$|S_{13}| = |S_{31}| = |S_{42}| = |S_{24}|$$

with $\alpha_c = -20 \log |S_{13}|$ in dB being the coupling attenuation.

The *directivity* is the ratio of the desired coupled wave to the *undesired* (i.e. wrong direction) coupled wave, e.g.

$$\alpha_d = 20 \log \frac{|S_{31}|}{|S_{41}|} \quad directivity [dB].$$

Practical numbers for the coupling are 3 dB, 6 dB, 10 dB, and 20 dB with directivities usually better than 20 dB. Note that the ideal 3 dB coupler (like most directional couplers) often has a $\pi/2$ phase shift between the main line and the coupled line (90° hybrid). The following relations hold for an ideal directional coupler with properly chosen reference planes

$$S_{11} = S_{22} = S_{33} = S_{44} = 0$$

$$S_{21} = S_{12} = S_{43} = S_{34}$$
(4.6)

$$S_{31} = S_{13} = S_{42} = S_{24}$$

$$S_{41} = S_{14} = S_{32} = S_{23}$$

$$S = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & \sqrt{1 - |S_{13}|^2} & \pm j |S_{13}| & 0 \\ \sqrt{1 - |S_{13}|^2} & 0 & 0 & \pm j |S_{13}| \\ \pm j |S_{13}| & 0 & 0 & \sqrt{1 - |S_{13}|^2} \\ 0 & \pm j |S_{13}| & \sqrt{1 - |S_{13}|^2} & 0 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$(4.7)$$

and for the 3 dB coupler (π /2-hybrid)

$$S_{3dB} = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 1 & \pm j & 0 \\ 1 & 0 & 0 & \pm j \\ \pm j & 0 & 0 & 1 \\ 0 & \pm j & 1 & 0 \end{pmatrix}$$
(4.8)

As further examples of 4-ports, the 4-port circulator and the one-to-three power divider should be mentioned.

For more general cases, one must keep in mind that a port is assigned to each waveguide or TEMmode considered. Since for waveguides the number of propagating modes increases with frequency, a network acting as a 2-port at low frequencies will become a 2*n*-port at higher frequencies (Fig. 15), with *n* increasing each time a new waveguide mode starts to propagate. Also a TEM line beyond cutoff is a multiport. In certain cases modes below cutoff may be taken into account, e.g. for calculation of the scattering properties of waveguide discontinuities, using the S matrix approach.

There are different technologies for realizing microwave elements such as directional couplers and T-hybrids. Examples are the stripline coupler shown in Fig. 16, the 90°, 3 dB coupler in Fig. 17 and the printed circuit magic T in Fig. 18.



Fig. 15: Example of a multiport comprising waveguide ports. At higher frequencies more waveguide modes can propagate; the port number increases correspondingly.



Fig. 16: Two-stage stripline directional coupler. curve 1: 3 dB coupler, curve 2: broadband 5 dB coupler, curve 3: 10 dB coupler (cascaded 3-dB and 10-dB coupler) [2].



Fig. 17: 90° 3-dB coupler [2]



Fig. 18: Magic T in a printed circuit version [2]

- Resonator in "detuned short" position
- o Marker format: $Re{S_{11}} + jIm{S_{11}}$
- $\circ \quad \text{Search for the two points where } |\text{Im}\{S_{11}\}| \rightarrow \text{max} \Rightarrow f_1 \text{ and } f_2$
- The external Q_E can be calculated from f_3 and f_4 . Condition: $Z = \pm j$ in detuned open position, which is equivalent to $Y = \pm j$ in detuned short position.
 - Resonator in "detuned open" position
 - Marker format: Z
 - Search for the two points where $Z = \pm j \Rightarrow f_3$ and f_4

There are three ranges of the coupling factor β defined by

$$\beta = \frac{Q_0}{Q_{ext}} \tag{6.6}$$

or, using Eq. 6.6

$$Q_L = \frac{Q_0}{1+\beta} \tag{6.6}$$

This allows us to define:

- **Critical Coupling**: $\beta = 1$, $Q_L = Q_0/2$. The locus of ρ touches the center of the SC. At resonance all the available generator power is coupled to the resonance circuit. The phase swing is 180°.
- Undercritical Coupling: (0 < β < 1). The locus of ρ in the detuned short position is left of the center of the SC. The phase swing is smaller than 180°.
- Overcritical coupling: (1 < β < ∞). The center of the SC is inside the locus of ρ. The phase swing is larger than 180°.

When using a network analyzer with a Cartesian display for $|\rho|$ one cannot decide whether the coupling is over- or undercritical; the phase of the complex reflection factor ρ is required to make the distinction.

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Appendix I

The T matrix (transfer matrix), which directly relates the waves on the input and on the output, is defined as [2]

$$\begin{pmatrix} b_1 \\ a_1 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} T_{11} & T_{12} \\ T_{21} & T_{22} \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} a_2 \\ b_2 \end{pmatrix}$$
(AI.1)

As the transmission matrix (T matrix) simply links the in- and outgoing waves in a way different from the S matrix, one may convert the matrix elements mutually

$$T_{11} = S_{12} - \frac{S_{22}S_{11}}{S_{21}}, \quad T_{12} = \frac{S_{11}}{S_{21}}$$

$$T_{21} = -\frac{S_{22}}{S_{21}}, \quad T_{22} = \frac{1}{S_{21}}$$
(AI.2)

The T matrix T_M of *m* cascaded 2-ports is given by a matrix multiplication from the 'left' to the right as in [2, 3]:

$$\mathbf{T}_{\mathbf{M}} = \mathbf{T}_{\mathbf{1}}\mathbf{T}_{\mathbf{2}}\dots\mathbf{T}_{\mathbf{m}} \tag{AI.3}$$

There is another definition that takes a_1 and b_1 as independent variables.

$$\begin{pmatrix} b_2 \\ a_2 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} \tilde{T}_{11} & \tilde{T}_{12} \\ \tilde{T}_{21} & \tilde{T}_{22} \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} a_1 \\ b_1 \end{pmatrix}$$
(AI.4)

and for this case

$$\begin{split} \tilde{T}_{11} &= S_{21} - \frac{S_{22}S_{11}}{S_{12}}, \quad \tilde{T}_{12} = \frac{S_{22}}{S_{12}} \\ \tilde{T}_{21} &= -\frac{S_{11}}{S_{12}}, \quad \tilde{T}_{22} = \frac{1}{S_{12}} \end{split} \tag{AI.5}$$

Then, for the cascade, we obtain

$$\widetilde{\mathbf{T}}_{\mathbf{M}} = \widetilde{\mathbf{T}}_m \widetilde{\mathbf{T}}_{m-1} \dots \widetilde{\mathbf{T}}_1$$
(AI.6)

i.e. a matrix multiplication from 'right' to 'left'.

In the following, the definition using Eq. AI.1 will be applied.
In practice, after having carried out the T matrix multiplication, one would like to return to S parameters

$$S_{11} = \frac{T_{12}}{T_{22}}, \quad S_{12} = T_{11} - \frac{T_{12}T_{21}}{T_{22}}$$

$$S_{21} = \frac{1}{T_{22}}, \quad S_{12} = -\frac{T_{21}}{T_{22}}$$
(AI.7)

For a reciprocal network ($S_{ij} = S_{ji}$) the T-parameters have to meet the condition det T = 1

$$T_{11}T_{22} - T_{12}T_{21} = 1 \tag{AI.8}$$

So far, we have been discussing the properties of the 2-port mainly in terms of incident and reflected waves **a** and **b**. A description in voltages and currents is also useful in many cases. Considering the current I_1 and I_2 as independent variables, the dependent variables U_1 and U_2 are written as a Z matrix:

$$U_1 = Z_{11}I_1 + Z_{12}I_2$$

$$U_2 = Z_{21}I_1 + Z_{22}I_2$$
 or $(U) = (Z) \cdot (I)$ (AI.9)

where Z_{11} and Z_{22} are the input and output impedance, respectively. When measuring Z_{11} , the all other ports have to be open, in contrast to the S parameter measurement, where matched loads are required.

In an analogous manner, a Y matrix (admittance matrix) can be defined as

$$I_1 = Y_{11}U_1 + Y_{12}U_2$$

$$I_2 = Y_{21}U_1 + Y_{22}U_2$$
 or $(I) = (Y) \cdot (U)$ (AI.10)

Similarly to the S matrix, the Z- and Y-matrices are not easy to apply for cascaded 4-poles (2-ports). Thus, the so-called ABCD matrix (or A matrix) has been introduced as a suitable cascaded network description in terms of voltages and currents (Fig. 1)

$$\begin{pmatrix} U_1 \\ I_1 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} A & B \\ C & D \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} U_2 \\ -I_2 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} A_{11} & A_{12} \\ A_{21} & A_{22} \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} U_2 \\ -I_2 \end{pmatrix}$$
(AI.11)

With the direction of I_2 chosen in Fig. 1 a minus sign appears for I_2 of a first 4-pole becomes I_1 in the next one.

It can be shown that the ABCD matrix of two or more cascaded 4-poles becomes the matrix product of the individual ABCD-matrices [3]

$$\begin{pmatrix} A & B \\ C & D \end{pmatrix}_{K} = \begin{pmatrix} A & B \\ C & D \end{pmatrix}_{1} \begin{pmatrix} A & B \\ C & D \end{pmatrix}_{2} \cdots \begin{pmatrix} A & B \\ C & D \end{pmatrix}_{k}$$
(AI.12)

In practice, the normalized ABCD matrix is usually applied. It has dimensionless elements only and is obtained by dividing *B* by Z_0 the reference impedance, and multiplying *C* with Z_0 . For example, the impedance *Z* (Fig. 1) with $Z_G = Z_L = Z_0$ would have the normalized ABCD matrix [3, 4]

$$\begin{pmatrix} A & B \\ C & D \end{pmatrix}_N = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & Z/Z_0 \\ 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix}$$

The elements of the S matrix are related as

$$S_{11} = \frac{A + B - C - D}{A + B + C + D}, \quad S_{12} = \frac{2 \det A}{A + B + C + D}$$

$$S_{12} = \frac{2}{A + B + C + D}, \quad S_{22} = \frac{-A + B - C + D}{A + B + C + D}$$
(AI.13)

to the elements normalized of the ABCD matrix. Furthermore, the H matrix (hybrid) and G (inverse hybrid) will be mentioned as they are very useful for certain 2-port interconnections [3].

$$U_{1} = H_{11}I_{1} + H_{12}U_{2}$$

$$I_{2} = H_{21}I_{1} + H_{22}U_{2}$$

or
$$\begin{pmatrix} U_{1} \\ I_{2} \end{pmatrix} = (H) \cdot \begin{pmatrix} I_{1} \\ U_{2} \end{pmatrix}$$
(AI.14)

and

$$I_{1} = G_{11}U_{1} + G_{12}I_{2}$$

or $\begin{pmatrix} I_{1} \\ U_{2} \end{pmatrix} = (G) \cdot \begin{bmatrix} U_{1} \\ I_{2} \end{bmatrix}$
 $U_{1} = G_{12}U_{1} + G_{22}I_{2}$ (AI.15)

All these different matrix forms may appear rather confusing, but they are applied in particular, in computer codes for RF and microwave network evaluation. As an example, in Fig. 2, the four basic possibilities of interconnecting 2-ports (besides the cascade) are shown. In simple cases, one may work with S-matrices directly, eliminating the unknown waves at the connecting points by rearranging the S parameter equations.



- Fig. 2 Basic interconnections of 2-ports [1].
 - a) Parallel-parallel connection; add Y matrix
 - b) Series-series connection; add Z matrix
 - c) Series-parallel connection; add H matrix
 - d) Parallel-series connection; add G matrix [3].

Figure 3 shows ABCD-, S- and T-matrices (reproduced with the permission of the publisher [3]).

Element	ABCD matrix	S matrix		T matrix	
1. A transmission line section $ \frac{z_{o} z \gamma l z_{o}}{ } $	$\begin{bmatrix} Ch & Z Sh \\ \\ \frac{Sh}{Z} & Ch \end{bmatrix}$	$\frac{1}{D_{s}} \begin{bmatrix} \left(Z^{2} - Z_{0}^{2}\right)Sh \\ 2ZZ_{0} \end{bmatrix}$	$2ZZ_0$ $(Z^2 - Z_0^2)Sh$	$\begin{bmatrix} Ch - \frac{Z^2 + Z_0^2}{2ZZ_0} Sh \\ - \frac{Z^2 - Z_0^2}{2ZZ_0} Sh \end{bmatrix}$	$\frac{\frac{Z^2 - Z_0^2}{2ZZ_0}Sh}{Ch + \frac{Z^2 + Z_0^2}{2ZZ_0}Sh}$
	where Sh = sinh $\gamma\ell$, Ch = cosh $\gamma\ell$ and D _s = 2ZZ ₀ Ch + (Z ² + Z ₀ ²) Sh				
2. A series impedance $\overline{z_1}$ $\overline{z_2}$ $\overline{z_2}$	$\begin{bmatrix} 1 & Z \\ & \\ 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$	$\frac{1}{D_s} \begin{bmatrix} Z + Z_2 - Z_1 \\ \\ 2\sqrt{Z_1 Z_2} \end{bmatrix}$	$2\sqrt{Z_1Z_2}$ $Z + Z_1 - Z_2$	$\frac{1}{D_{t}} \begin{bmatrix} Z_{1} + Z_{2} - Z \\ \\ \\ Z_{2} - Z_{1} - Z \end{bmatrix}$	$\begin{bmatrix} Z_2 - Z_1 + Z \end{bmatrix}$ $Z_1 + Z_2 - Z \end{bmatrix}$
	where $D_s = Z + Z_1 + Z_2$	and $D_t = 2\sqrt{Z_1 Z_2}$			
3. A shunt admittance Y_1 Y_2	$\begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ & \\ Y & 1 \end{bmatrix}$	$\frac{1}{D_s} \begin{bmatrix} Y_1 - Y_2 - Y \\ \\ 2\sqrt{Y_1Y_2} \end{bmatrix}$	$\sqrt{2Y_1Y_2}$ $Y_2 - Y_1 - Y$	$\frac{1}{D_t} \begin{bmatrix} Y_1 + Y_2 - Y \\ \\ Y_1 - Y_2 + Y \end{bmatrix}$	$ \begin{array}{c} \mathbf{Y}_1 - \mathbf{Y}_2 - \mathbf{Y} \\ \\ \mathbf{Y}_1 + \mathbf{Y}_2 + \mathbf{Y} \end{array} $
	where $D_s = Y + Y_1 + Y_2$ and $D_t = 2\sqrt{Y_1Y_2}$				

$$\begin{array}{c} \text{4. A shunt-connected} \\ \text{open-ended stub} \\ \hline \textbf{Z}_{o} \\ \hline$$

where T = $tan\beta\ell$ and D_s = 1 + 2jZT/Z₀



4.

٩٢



jT Z





where T = $tan\beta\ell$ and D_s = -1 + 2jZ/(Z₀T)

$$\underbrace{\begin{array}{c} \begin{array}{c} \text{ideal transformer} \\ \text{ideal transformer} \\ \text{n} \\ \text{n}$$

6. An

Z₀ =1

$$\begin{array}{c} \bullet \\ \mathsf{Y}_{0} \\ \mathsf{Y}_{1} \\ \mathsf{Y}_{1} \\ \mathsf{Y}_{3} \\ \mathsf{Y}_{2} \\ \mathsf{Y}_{3} \\$$

$$\begin{bmatrix} 1 + \frac{Y_2}{Y_3} & \frac{1}{Y_3} \\ \frac{D}{Y_3} & 1 + \frac{Y_1}{Y_3} \end{bmatrix} \qquad \frac{1}{D_s} \begin{bmatrix} Y_0^2 - PY_0 - D & 2Y_0Y_3 \\ \\ 2Y_0Y_3 & Y_0^2 + PY_0 - D \end{bmatrix} \qquad \frac{1}{2Y_0Y_3} \begin{bmatrix} -Y_0^2 + QY_0 - D & Y_0^2 - PY_0 - D \\ \\ -Y_0^2 - PY_0 + D & Y_0^2 + QY_0 + D \end{bmatrix}$$

where $D_s = Y_0^2 + QY_0 + D$, $D = Y_1Y_2 + Y_2Y_3 + Y_3Y_1$, $Q = Y_1 + Y_2 + 2Y_3$ and $P = Y_1 - Y_2$

8. T-network

 $\begin{bmatrix} 1 + \frac{Z_1}{Z_3} & \frac{D}{Z_3} \\ \frac{1}{Z_3} & 1 + \frac{Z_2}{Z_3} \end{bmatrix} \qquad \qquad \underbrace{1}_{D_s} \begin{bmatrix} -Z_0^2 + PZ_0 + D & 2Z_0Z_3 \\ & & \\ 2Z_0Z_3 & -Z_0^2 - PZ_0 + D \end{bmatrix} \qquad \underbrace{1}_{2Z_0Z_3} \begin{bmatrix} -Z_0^2 + QZ_0 - D & -Z_0^2 + PZ_0 + D \\ & & \\ Z_0^2 + PZ_0 - D & Z_0^2 + QZ_0 + D \end{bmatrix}$

where $D_s = Z_0^2 + QZ_0 + D$, $D = Z_1Z_2 + Z_2Z_3 + Z_3Z_1$, $Q = Z_1 + Z_2 + 2Z_3$ and $P = Z_1 - Z_2$

9. A transmission line junction

1

0

$$\begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} \qquad \frac{1}{D_{s}} \begin{bmatrix} Z_{2} - Z_{1} & 2\sqrt{Z_{1}Z_{2}} \\ 2\sqrt{Z_{1}Z_{2}} & Z_{1} - Z_{2} \end{bmatrix} \qquad \frac{1}{D_{t}} \begin{bmatrix} Z_{1} + Z_{2} & Z_{2} - Z_{1} \\ Z_{2} - Z_{1} & Z_{1} + Z_{2} \end{bmatrix}$$

where
$$D_s = Z_1 + Z_2$$
 and $D_t = 2\sqrt{Z_1Z_2}$

10. An
$$\alpha$$
-db attenuator



$$\begin{bmatrix} \frac{A+B}{2} & Z_0\left(\frac{A-B}{2}\right) \\ \frac{A-B}{2Z_0} & \frac{A+B}{2} \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} 0 & B \\ B & 0 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} -A & 0 \\ 0 & A \end{bmatrix}$$

where A =
$$10^{\alpha/20}$$
 and B = $1/A$

Fig. 3 (continued) ABCD-, S- and T-matrices for the elements shown.

Appendix II

The SFG is a graphical representation of a system of linear equations having the general form:

$$\mathbf{y} = \mathbf{M}\mathbf{x} + \mathbf{M}'\mathbf{y} \tag{AII.1}$$

where *M* and *M'* are square matrices with *n* rows and columns, **x** represents the *n* independent variables (sources) and **y** the *n* dependent variables. The elements of **M** and **M'** appear as transmission coefficients of the signal path. When there are no direct signal loops, as is generally the case in practise, the previous equation simplifies to $\mathbf{y} = \mathbf{M}\mathbf{x}$, which is equivalent to the usual S parameter definition

$$\mathbf{b} = \mathbf{S}\mathbf{a}$$
 (AII.2)

The purpose of the SFG is to visualize physical relations and to provide a solution algorithm of Eq. AII.2 by applying a few rather simple rules:

- 1. The SFG has a number of points (nodes) each representing a single wave a_i or b_i .
- 2. Nodes are connected by branches (arrows), each representing one S parameter and indicating direction.

3. A node may be the beginning or the end of a branch (arrow).

All other nodes are dependent signal nodes.

all branches entering it.

- 6. The transmission coefficients of parallel signal paths are to be added.
- 7. The transmission coefficients of cascaded signal paths are to be multiplied.
- 8. An SFG is feedback-loop free if a numbering of all nodes can be found such that every branch points from a node of lower number towards one of higher number.
- 9. A first-order loop is the product of branch transmissions, starting from a node and going along the arrows back to that node without touching the same node more than once. A second-order loop is the product of two non-touching first-order loops, and an *n*th-order loop is the product of any n non-touching first-order loops.
- 10. An elementary loop with the transmission coefficient *S* beginning and ending at a node *N* may be replaced by a branch (1-S)⁻¹ between two nodes N₁ and N₂, going from N₁ to N₂. N₁ has all signals (branches) previously entering N, and N₂ is linked to all signals previously leaving from N.

4. Nodes showing no branches pointing towards them are *source nodes*. 5. Each node signal represents the sum of the signals carried by

In order to determined the ratio *T* of a dependent to an independent variable the so-called 'non-touching loop rule', also known as Mason's rule, may be applied [11]

$$T = \frac{P_1 \left[1 - \sum L(1)^{(1)} + \sum L(2)^{(1)} - \dots \right] + P_2 \left[1 - \sum L(1)^{(2)} \dots \right]}{1 - \sum L(1) + \sum L(2) - \sum L(3) + \dots}$$
(AII.3)

where:

- \triangleright $P_{\rm n}$ are the different signal paths between the source and the dependent variable.
- > $\Sigma L(1)^{(1)}$ represents the sum of all first-order loops not touching path 1, and $\Sigma L(2)^{(1)}$ is the sum of all second-order loop not touching path 1.
- Analogously $\Sigma L(1)^{(2)}$ is the sum of all first-order loops in path 2.
- > The expressions $\Sigma L(1)$, $\Sigma L(2)$ etc. in the denominator are the sums of all first-, second-, etc. order loops in the network considered.

Examples

We are looking for the input reflection coefficient of a e-port with a non-matched load ρ_L and a matched generator (source) ($\rho_S = 0$) to start with. ρ_L , ρ_S are often written as Γ_L , Γ_S .



Fig. 1 2-port with non-matched load

By reading directly from the SFG (Fig. 1) we obtain

$$\frac{b_1}{a_1} = S_{11} + S_{21} \frac{\rho_L}{1 - S_{22}\rho_L} S_{12}$$
(AII.4)

or by formally applying Mason's rule in Eq. AII.3

$$\frac{b_1}{a_1} = \frac{S_{11}(1 - S_{22}\rho_L) + S_{21}\rho_L S_{12}}{1 - S_{22}\rho_L}$$
(AII.5)

As a more complicated example one may add a mismatch to the source (ρ_s = dashed line in Fig. 1) and ask for b_1/b_s

$$\frac{b_1}{b_8} = \frac{S_{11}(1 - S_{22}\rho_S) + S_{21}\rho_S S_{12}}{1 - (S_{11}\rho_S + S_{22}\rho_L + S_{12}\rho_L S_{21}\rho_S) + S_{11}\rho_{22}S_{22}\rho_L}$$
(AII.6)