Coupled Resonator Diplexer without External Junctions

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ABSTRACT

A coupled resonator diplexer has been designed, fabricated, and tested. The design is based on synthesis of coupling matrix of a 3-port coupled resonator circuit using optimization. Unlike conventional diplexers, the presented diplexer configuration does not include any separate junctions for distribution of energy. The diplexer has been implemented at X-band with waveguide cavity resonators, and its measured response is in good agreement with the simulated response.

Keywords: Coupled-Resonator, Coupling Matrix, Diplexer, Optimization

1. Introduction

Microwave diplexers are widely used in communication systems to connect two networks operating at different frequencies to a common port. Conventional diplexers consist of two channel filters connected to an energy distribution network. Such a network can be a waveguide manifold [1], a T-junction [2], a Y-junction [3], or a circulator [4]. A common approach for the diplexer synthesis is based on firstly designing the channel filters independently of the diplexer, and then using numerical optimization for the whole diplexer structure. This approach can be very time consuming for large diplexer structures and the convergence of the cost function might be problematic. In [5, 6], an approach to the synthesis of diplexers that takes into account a three-port junction in the initial synthesis of the two channel filters was presented. This approach provides a very good starting point for the optimization of the whole structure, so the convergence can be achieved with few iterations. Diplexers/Multiplexers employing resonant junctions (an extra resonator in addition to the resonators of the channel filters) have also been reported in [5, 7].

Multiplexers/diplexers based on coupled resonator circuits with multiple outputs have been reported in [8-11]. In [8], coupled resonator circuits with multiple outputs were first patented. In [9, 10], the synthesis of multiport coupled resonator networks based on a procedure analogous to filters has been reported. The proposed configurations in these papers do not employ any external junctions for distribution of energy, and hence, the components can be miniaturized. The diplexer proposed in [9], however, may present difficulties in implementation, since the common port is directly coupled to two resonators.

In [12], we presented a design procedure for coupled resonator diplexers that do not employ any external junctions. The proposed diplexers have novel topologies that can be implemented by any type of resonators, and their synthesis is based on coupling matrix optimization. In this paper, we present a coupled resonator diplexer that has been synthesized using coupling matrix optimization. The diplexer has non-contiguous bands with symmetrical channels, and it is implemented at X-band using twelve waveguide cavity resonators to verify our design approach in [12]. The proposed diplexer is miniaturized when compared to the conventional diplexers, since it does not contain external junctions. In addition, miniaturization is improved by using a folded structure.

2. Diplexer Synthesis

The synthesis is based on optimization of the coupling matrix for multiple coupled resonators arranged in a 3-port network. A general matrix [4], derived for a multiport coupled-resonator circuit, in terms of the coupling coefficients and the external quality factors is given in (1) [12, 13], where $q_{ei}$ is the normalized external quality factor of resonator $i$, $P$ is the complex lowpass frequency variable, $m_{ij}$ is the Normalized coupling coefficient between resonators $i$ and $j$, and the diagonal entries $m_{ii}$ account for asynchronous tuning.
\[ A = \begin{bmatrix} \frac{1}{q_{11}} & \cdots & 0 & 0 \\ \vdots & \ddots & \vdots & \vdots \\ 0 & \cdots & \frac{1}{q_{(n-1)(n-1)}} & 0 \\ 0 & \cdots & 0 & \frac{1}{q_{nn}} \end{bmatrix} + P \begin{bmatrix} 1 & \cdots & 0 & 0 \\ \vdots & \ddots & \vdots & \vdots \\ 0 & \cdots & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & \cdots & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix} \]

(1)

\[ [A]_{ik} = \begin{cases} \frac{1}{q_{ik}} & \text{if } i = k \\ -j & \text{if } i \neq k \end{cases} \]

\[ m_1, \ldots, m_{(n-1)(n-1)}, m_{nn} \]

\[ m_{(n-1)1}, \ldots, m_{(n-1)(n-1)}, m_{(n-1)pp} \]

\[ m_{11}, \ldots, m_{nn} \]

\[ S_{ij} = 1 - \frac{2}{q_{ij}} [A]_{ij}^{-1} \]

\[ S_{21} = \frac{2}{\sqrt{q_{ee}q_{aa}}} [A]_{e1}^{-1}, \quad S_{31} = \frac{2}{\sqrt{q_{ee}q_{bb}}} [A]_{b1}^{-1} \]

(2)

The optimization of the coupling matrix \([m]\) is based on minimization of a cost function that is evaluated at the frequency locations of the reflection and transmission zeros. The cost function used here is given as [12],

\[ \Omega = \sum_{k=1}^{n} \frac{1}{\sqrt{q_{ee}q_{aa}}} \text{cof}_{le} \left( \left[ A(s_{ke}) \right] \right) \]

\[ + \sum_{k=1}^{n} \frac{1}{\sqrt{q_{ee}q_{bb}}} \text{cof}_{le} \left( \left[ A(s_{ke}) \right] \right) \]

\[ + \sum_{l=1}^{p} \Delta_{l} (s_{l}) \frac{2\text{cof}_{l1} \left( \left[ A(s_{l}) \right] \right)}{q_{l1}} \]

\[ + \sum_{i=1}^{n-1} \text{cof}_{le} \left( \left[ A(s_{le}) \right] \right) \frac{1}{q_{le} \Delta_{1} (s_{le})} - \frac{10}{20} \]

(3)

where \(\text{cof}_{le} \left( \left[ A(s = x) \right] \right)\) is the cofactor of matrix \([A]\) evaluated by removing the \(k\)-row and the \(h\)-column of \([A]\) and calculating the determinant of the resulting matrix at \(s = x\). \(\Delta_{1}\) is the determinant of the matrix \([A]\). \(s_{11}, s_{ik}\) are the frequency locations of transmission zeros of \(S_{21}, S_{31}\) respectively. \(T_{1}, T_{2}\) are the numbers of the transmission zeros of \(S_{21}, S_{31}\) respectively, and \(R\) is the total number of resonators. \(L_{k}\) is the specified return loss in dB (\(L_{k} < 0\)), and \(s_{j}\) and \(s_{p}\) are the frequency locations of the return zeros and the peaks’ frequency values of \(S_{11}\) in the passband. The last term in the cost function is used to set \(S_{11}\) peaks to the specified value of \(L_{k}\).
4. Fabrication and Measurement

The diplexer has been made of two mirror-image pieces of copper, and a photograph of the physical structure of the diplexer is shown in Figure 4. Metal screws have been used to tune both the resonant frequencies of the cavities and the coupling coefficients. The simulated and measured results of the diplexer are depicted in Figure 5. The tuned measured response is in very good agreement with the simulated response. The measurements show that the passband of channel 1 has maximum return loss of ~18 dB and minimum insertion loss of 0.42 dB, and that the passband of channel 2 has maximum return loss of 22 dB and minimum insertion loss of 0.4 dB.

5. Conclusions

An X-band coupled resonator diplexer has been presented, and its synthesis is based on coupling matrix optimization. The diplexer structure consists of resonators coupled together, and it does not involve any external junctions for distribution of energy. This enables miniaturization in comparison to the conventional diplexers. The diplexer has been implemented with waveguide cavity resonators, and the measured results showed a good agreement with the simulated results.

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