

Characteristics of Inhomogeneous Broadside-Coupled Striplines

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A variational method for the analysis of inhomogeneous broadside-coupled striplines is described. The data for even- and odd-mode characteristic impedances, effective dielectric constants, and mode phase velocity ratios are presented. It is found that the phase velocity ratio may be varied over the range $1.14 \leq (V_{\text{sub } e} / V_{\text{sub } 0}) \leq 3.6$ for broadside-coupled suspended microstrip lines (BSML) and $0.36 \leq (V_{\text{sub } e} / V_{\text{sub } 0}) \leq 0.93$ for broadside-coupled inverted microstrip lines (BIML) using materials with dielectric constant less than 16 and $S/b \geq 0.05$, $W/b \leq 2.0$. The effect of nonzero strip thickness is also calculated. It is noticed that the effect of thickness is more pronounced for the odd-mode case than for the even mode. Losses are obtained using the incremental inductance rule of Wheeler. The odd-mode attenuation constant is always higher than the even-mode value.

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