

Loss Increases in Multimode Rectangular Infrared Waveguides Due to Helical Deformations

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The coupling coefficients for all TE/_{pq} and TM/_{pq} modes of multimode rectangular waveguides, caused by elementary rotations about the three axes of symmetry, are calculated in the microwave approximation. The modes *b* coupled to a common mode *a* by these independent rotations form three nonoverlapping families. Furthermore if a deformation consisting of no more than two of these rotations is considered, none of the modes *b* are coupled to each other by that deformation. These properties lead, in the case of mild deformations, to the formulation of a multimode coupling theory which shows that the loss increase due to such deformations can then be viewed as the result of multiple two-mode coupling. Explicit formulas are derived for the loss increase of TE/_{p0} due to mild circular bending. Qualitative features of twists and helical deformations are also brought out.

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