

Equating the real and the imaginary parts of (7) results in

$$\frac{2\delta f}{f_0} = \frac{\iiint_{\Delta V} \frac{\omega_p^2}{\omega_0^2} |E_0|^2 dV}{\iiint_V |E_0|^2 dV} \quad (8)$$

and

$$\frac{Q_0 - Q_1}{Q_0 Q_1} = \frac{\iiint_{\Delta V} \frac{\omega_p^2 \nu}{\omega_0^3} |E_0|^2 dV}{\iiint_V |E_0|^2 dV} \quad (9)$$

Eqs. (8) and (9) are the most general results as they allow for a density variation, hence also a collision frequency variation, both in the transverse and in the longitudinal directions. One could now perform these integrations using an assumed spatial distribution in both the transverse and longitudinal directions.

As an example, consider a uniform density plasma slab of infinite cross section placed in the resonator. One obtains upon integrating (8) and (9)

$$\frac{2\Delta f}{f_0} = \frac{\Delta L}{L} \frac{\omega_p^2}{\omega_0^2} \quad (10)$$

$$\frac{Q_0 - Q_1}{Q_0 Q_1} = -\frac{\Delta L}{L} \frac{\omega_p^2 \nu}{\omega_0^3} \quad (11)$$

Using the measured change in resonant frequency, (10) may now be solved for the number density. Using the measured change in the cavity Q , (11) will yield the collision frequency. Eq. (10) is identical to (8) of Primich and Hayami with ΔN replaced by $-\omega_p^2/2\omega^2$ which is shown later in their text.

Experimental comparison with Langmuir probe measurements made in a toroidal octupole plasma confinement device⁵ verify the above theory. At 10 Gc the resonator measured a number density of 5×10^9 el/cm³ as also did the probe.

The parameters Δf and f_0 can be measured to a greater precision using a dual mode⁶ cavity. The ratio $\Delta f/f_0$ has been measured as 3×10^{-8} at 35 Gc, hence the diagnostic capability in this frequency range would be to measure number densities from 10^6 el/cm³ to 10^{14} el/cm³.

The collision frequency relation (9) could alternatively be derived by considering the transmission line analog of a resonant cavity, solving for the attenuation constant which would depend on the collision frequency of such a line, relating it to the Q 's of the filled and unfilled cavities, and finally solving for the collision frequency.

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⁵ W. E. Wilson and D. M. Meade, "Langmuir probe measurements on plasma in a toroidal octupole magnetic field," *Bull. Am. Phys. Soc.*, to be published.

⁶ E. H. Scheibe, "Surface Wave and Antenna Engineering Research Study," University of Wisconsin, Madison, Tenth Quarterly Progress Report, Contract No. DA-36-039-sc-85188; March 31, 1964.

Step-Twist Diode Switch

Two X-band diode switches have been combined with a step-twist waveguide section to form a very compact broad-band step-twist diode switch.

The device shown in Fig. 1 can replace a step twist in a system when it is necessary to add a switch to the system.

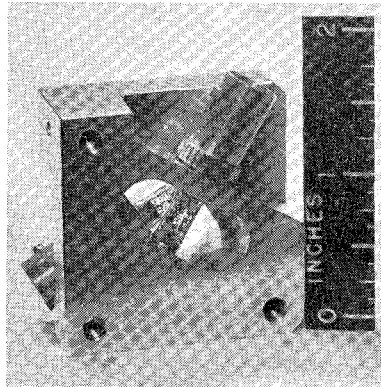


Fig. 1—Step-twist diode switch.

The step twist consists of equal length equiangular twisted sections cut quite inexpensively with a 0.400 inch diameter mill. The VSWR of the step twist alone is shown in Fig. 2.

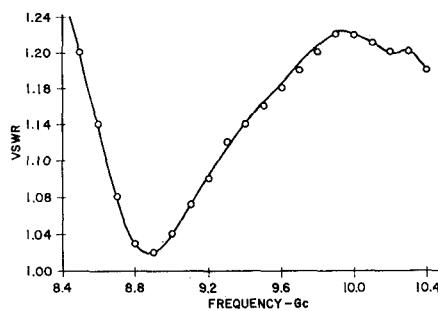


Fig. 2—Step-twist characteristics.

The diode switch consists of two 1N263 diodes centered in each step. The switching voltage is delivered to the diodes through modified BNC connectors. The isolation of two diode switches is a maximum when they are about a quarter wavelength apart. These diodes are a quarter wavelength apart at 10.2 Gc but a capacitive step separates them, lowering the frequency slightly. From Fig. 3 it can be seen that the isolation is greater than 40 db from 8.4 Gc to 10.4 Gc peaking at 9.9 Gc. The insertion loss is less than 3 db from 9.2 Gc to 10.4 Gc. Although the diodes used are limited to switching powers below 50 mw, any of the wide selection of higher power X-band diode switches could be used in this structure.

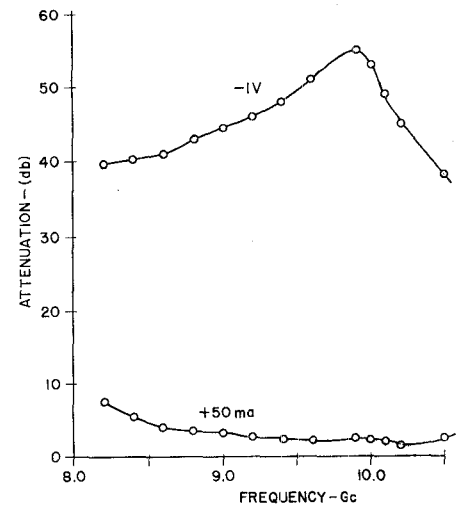


Fig. 3—Frequency dependence of the isolation and insertion loss of the step-twist diode switch.

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Dielectric Resonators for Microwave Applications

The purpose of this communication is to report certain test results recently obtained with resonators made of single crystal rutile. Since rutile has a very high dielectric constant and a very low loss factor, microwave resonators made of rutile have several desirable characteristics. Compared to metallic resonators it is possible to reduce the size of the rutile resonator, which is especially useful at lower microwave frequencies. The Q factor of rutile resonators is very high and at room temperature may be of the order of several thousand, while at liquid helium temperature it may even reach 10^5 . It can be shown that the ratio of electric and magnetic field strengths of dielectric cavity to metallic cavity is proportional to $(E)^{1/4}$ and $(E)^{3/4}$, respectively. Therefore, with the same available power, an increase in field intensity can be obtained. Furthermore, these fields are not confined to the inside of the rutile resonator but extend beyond the dielectric surface into free space. Because of these characteristics rutile resonators are finding useful applications in traveling-wave masers, in harmonic generators (in conjunction with varactor diodes), in novel RF Hall-effect-devices, and in experiments with parametric superconducting devices.

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