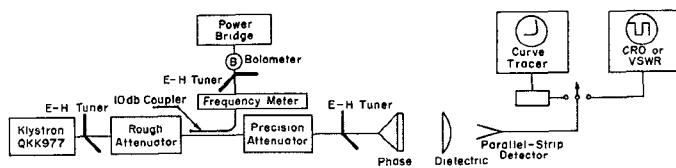


Fig. 1. Parallel-strip transmission line diode mount.

Fig. 2. Block diagram of experimental setup for video detection at $\lambda = 3.3$ mm.TABLE I
SENSITIVITIES OF DIODE DETECTORS AT $\lambda = 3.3$ MM

Diode Type	Semiconductor	Wire	NDS* (dBm)	TSS† (dBm)
Point-contact diode	Si from 1N53	Tungsten	-36	-41
Point-contact diode	GaAs (Se doped) $\rho = 7.10^{-4}$ ohm-cm.	Phosphor-bronze	-29	-39
Point-contact tunnel diode	GaAs (Se doped) ρ is unknown [5]	Zinc	-42	-22
Point-contact back diode	GaAs (Se doped) $\rho = 7.10^{-4}$ ohm-cm	Zinc	-32	-30
1N53 Cartridge	Si	Tungsten	-17	-29

* Video amplifier: HP 415B VSWR Meter (200-ohm input impedance, ~30 c/s bandwidth).

† Video amplifier: Tektronix Type E Preamplifier (10 Megohm input impedance, 50 μ V/cm sensitivity, 0.2 c/s to 20 kc/s bandwidth).TABLE II
RELATIVE SENSITIVITIES OF DIODE DETECTORS AT $\lambda = 2.1$ MM

Diode Type	Semi-conductor	Wire	*Relative Sensitivity
FXR wafer with point-contact diode	Si	Tungsten	0.0 dB
Point-contact diode	Si	Tungsten	6.0 dB
Point-contact tunnel-diode	GaAs	Zinc	2.5 dB
Point-contact diode	GaAs	Phosphor-bronze	<0.0 dB

* Sensitivity relative to FXR diode mount.

* Video Amplifier: Narda 441B VSWR Meter (200-ohm input impedance).

result of the impedance match between the particular diodes and the input of the diode amplifier. While less sensitive, gallium arsenide diodes and the gallium arsenide back-diodes gave improved performance when compared with a 1N53.

At $\lambda = 2.1$ mm, a comparison was made between the strip mount with different diodes and a silicon-tungsten in-guide mounted diode (FXR model 6638A) which was available in the laboratory. This waveguide mount does not represent an absolute standard because of the wide variation of performance which is common to point-contact diodes, but it did serve as a reference to indicate the performance of the new mount. The results are shown in Table II. No quantitative measurements were taken at $\lambda = 0.84$ mm but for detectors in the parallel-strip mount, silicon-tungsten diodes were more sensitive than the tunnel-diodes tested.

ACKNOWLEDGMENT

The authors would like to express their appreciation to Prof. P. Coleman of the University of Illinois for making available a carcinotron for measurements at $\lambda = 2.1$ mm and 0.84 mm.

M. A. GERDINE
Bell Telephone Labs., Inc.
Murray Hill, N. J.
F. S. BARNES
Dept. of Elec. Engrg.
University of Colorado
Boulder, Colo.

REFERENCES

- [1] M. A. Gerdine and F. S. Barnes, "A parallel strip millimeter wave tunnel diode receiver," presented at the 1964 International Conf. on Microwaves, Circuit Theory, and Information Theory, Tokyo, Japan.
- [2] C. A. Burrus, "Backward diodes for low-level millimeter wave detection," *IEEE Trans. on Microwave Theory and Techniques*, vol. MTT-11, pp. 357-362, September 1963.
- [3] J. W. Dees, "Detection and harmonic generation in the sub-millimeter wavelength region," presented at the 1964 International Conf. on Microwaves, Circuit Theory, and Information Theory, Tokyo, Japan.
- [4] P. E. Chose and K. K. N. Chang, "Tunnel diodes as millimeter wave detectors and mixers," *IEEE Trans. on Microwave Theory and Techniques*, vol. MTT-11, pp. 560-561, November 1963.
- [5] D. T. Young, C. A. Burrus, and R. C. Shaw, "High efficiency millimeter-wave tunnel-diode oscillators," *Proc. IEEE (Correspondence)*, vol. 52, pp. 1260-1261, October 1964.
- [6] M. A. Gerdine and F. S. Barnes, "High-frequency tunnel-diode oscillations using a new parallel-strip point-contact diode mount," *Electronic Letters*, vol. 1, pp. 75-76, May 1965.

A 150 Mc/s Circulator

The below-resonance operation of strip-line circulators at lower frequencies is not of interest as the low magnetic loss region is quite narrow on the magnetic field axis. Kittle's equation for resonance frequency is

$$f = \gamma \sqrt{[H_A - (N_Z - N_X)M][H_A - (N_Z - N_Y)M]} \quad (1)$$

$$N_X + N_Y + N_Z = 4\pi \quad (2)$$

where N is the demagnetization factor, γ is 2.8 Mc/oeersted, M is the magnetization, and H_A is the applied field. The demagnetization factor is negligible in the direction that the ferrite is relatively thick and the surface is small. Therefore, for a thin ferrite disc, N_x and N_y are zero then

$$H_A = \frac{f}{\gamma} + 4\pi M. \quad (3)$$

Below-resonance circulators with low insertion loss can be built for frequencies as low as about 750 Mc/s using available materials with a saturation magnetization of approximately 300 gauss.

For frequencies below 750 Mc/s, the

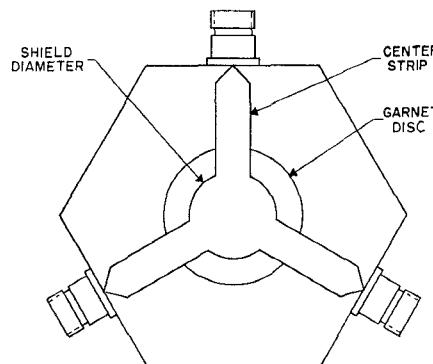


Fig. 1. Strip-line circulator at 150 Mc/s.

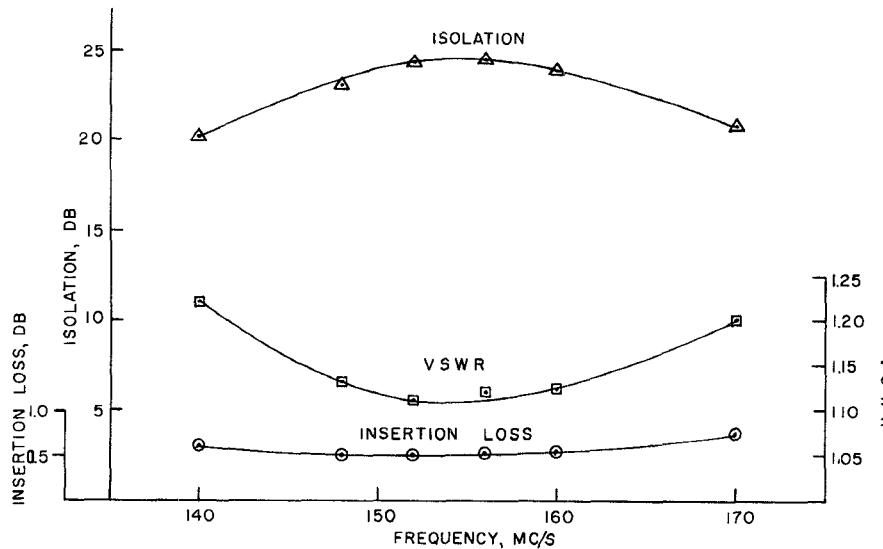


Fig. 2. Characteristics of 150 Mc/s circulator.

above resonance operation is utilized for low insertion loss circulators.

Buehler and Eikenberg¹ reported strip-line circulators for the 100 to 400 Mc/s region utilizing a magnesium ferrite with a Curie temperature of 100°C. For high-temperature performance, garnet materials have demonstrated a more satisfactory performance.

For above-resonance low insertion loss circulators, the required applied field is

$$H_A = \frac{f}{\gamma} + 4\pi M + n\Delta H \quad (4)$$

for $n=2$ which is the biasing point at two line widths above resonance; losses are sufficiently low.

Figure 1 shows the structure of a 150 Mc/s strip-line circulator using an Airtron garnet material. It was found empirically that the characteristics of the circulator can be optimized for $D_f/D_s=1.8$ where D_f is the ferrite diameter and D_s is the shield diameter.

Figure 2 shows the characteristics of this circulator. An isolation greater than 20 dB and an insertion loss of less than 0.75 dB

was achieved over a 20 percent band without use of a direct matching element.

The input impedance of the circulator plotted on a Smith chart indicated that a better match can be obtained by adding an inductive reactance before the ferrite disks. This inductive structure was introduced by reducing the width of the center conductor.

The characteristics of the circulator were improved and a return loss greater than 30 dB was measured, however; a reduction in bandwidth was observed. The high power requirement of the unit limited the type of matching structure which could be utilized.

Temperature Consideration: When the circulator is subjected to a high temperature environment, the saturation magnetization of the garnet will decrease. The change in saturation magnetization is much greater for the substituted magnesium manganese ferrites; nevertheless, to compensate for this reduction in saturation magnetization, (3) shows that the applied magnetic field should be reduced. In practice, this is achieved by using a compensating steel in series with the magnetic circuit. The permeability of the compensator reduces with an increase of temperature. This scheme is effective for low temperature as well.

For above-resonance circulators, the insertion loss increases rapidly with a reduc-

tion in temperature. Equation (3) shows that when $4\pi M$ is increased, the resonance frequency is shifted down, which would lower the insertion loss. However, the increase in insertion loss is due to broader line width.

The authors would like to acknowledge many helpful discussions with Dr. E. Wantuch.

B. MAHER
D. MITCHELL
A. REEVES
Airtron
Division of Litton
Precision Products, Inc.
Morris Plains, N. J.

Frequency Doublers Using Varactors Exhibiting "Punch-Through" Capacitance-Voltage Behavior

Recently, a number of authors¹⁻⁵ have given the analysis of the overdriven doubler for abrupt-junction, graded-junction, and stepwise-junction varactor doublers. All previous work has stimulated considerable interest in the prediction of power and efficiency of frequency doublers using varactors exhibiting a general nonlinearity. This discussion is concerned with the detailed analysis of the "punch-through" behavior varactor doubler to determine the conditions of optimum input and output resistances, maximum conversion efficiency, and power. The results will generally be determined by numerical techniques because of the algebraic complexity of the solutions. The analysis in this discussion assumes the varactor to be imbedded in a lossless tuned circuit.

Scarlett¹ and Rafuse² have made detailed analyses of the overdriven stepwise-junction varactor doubler and also point out that such an "ideal" diode will not multiply unless it is overdriven. In no case was a diode actually found to have such a stepwise-junction. However, varactors exhibiting "punch-through" capacitance-voltage behavior can usually be obtained. The broken line in Fig. 1 represents a stepwise-junction which has a constant elastance in the range of $0 < q + q_\phi \leq Q_B + q_\phi$ and the solid curve

Manuscript received June 17, 1965, revised August 26, 1965.

¹ R. M. Scarlett, "Harmonic generation with a capacitor exhibiting an abrupt capacitance change," *Proc. IEEE (Correspondence)*, vol. 52, pp. 612-613, May 1964.

² R. Rafuse, "Recent development in parametric multipliers," Research Lab. of Electronics, M.I.T., Cambridge, Mass., Quarterly Progress Rept. 72, pp. 281-293, January 15, 1964.

³ C. B. Burckhardt, "Analysis of varactor frequency multipliers for arbitrary capacitance variation and drive level," *Bell Syst. Tech. J.*, vol. 44, pp. 675-692, April 1965.

⁴ J. A. Davis, "The forward-driven varactor frequency doubler," S.M. Thesis, Dept. of Elec. Engrg., M.I.T., Cambridge, Mass., May 1963.

⁵ A. I. Grayzel, "Greater doubler efficiency using varactor diodes with small values of gamma," *Proc. IEEE (Correspondence)*, vol. 53, pp. 505-506, May 1965.

¹ G. V. Buehler and A. F. Eikenberg, "Stripline Y-circulators for the 100 to 400 Mc region," *Proc. IRE*, vol. 49, pp. 518-519, February 1961.