

# Analysis of Rectangular Waveguide Junctions by the Method of Lines

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**Abstract**—A novel discretization on two crossed line systems is introduced in the method of lines to analyze junctions in rectangular waveguides. This discretization is one-dimensional and replaces the two-dimensional discretization otherwise necessary for such structures. Hence the matrices encountered are small compared with other approaches. Equivalent circuits for the right-angle  $E$ -plane corner and scattering parameters for the asymmetric T-junction are presented, which agree very well with literature.

## I. INTRODUCTION

THE MODE matching technique is the classical method for the analysis of junctions in rectangular waveguides [1]–[3]. By the method of lines (MoL) [4], [5], a variety of planar and dielectric waveguide structures has been investigated (for a comprehensive description see [6]). It has also been applied to discontinuities in rectangular waveguides [5], [7]–[9].

In this paper the MoL is adapted for the efficient analysis of junctions in rectangular waveguides. For its application to  $E$ -plane or  $H$ -plane junctions (Fig. 1), we use the known field behavior in one transverse direction and discretize the wave equation in the other transverse direction only [8]. In order to avoid two-dimensional discretization normally necessary for waveguide junctions, a novel approach is introduced, where the potential and the fields are evaluated on two line systems perpendicular to each other. Each line system represents a one-dimensional discretization as it is used to model, for example, a step discontinuity yielding two independent solutions of the wave equation. Additionally, the potential at the interfaces between different waveguide regions (Fig. 2) is suitably matched. Finally, the generalized scattering matrix is computed. Cascaded junctions are analyzed by combining the matrices relating the incoming and outgoing waves.

In the following, the approach is applied to various  $E$ -plane junctions. Equivalent circuits for the right-angle corner and scattering parameters for the asymmetric T-junction are presented. A generalization to  $H$ -plane structures is straightforward.

## II. CROSSED LINE SYSTEMS FOR THE ANALYSIS OF WAVEGUIDE JUNCTIONS

Generally, junctions in rectangular waveguides, as in Fig. 2, are divided into the waveguide regions  $i$  ( $i = 1, \dots, 4$ ) and

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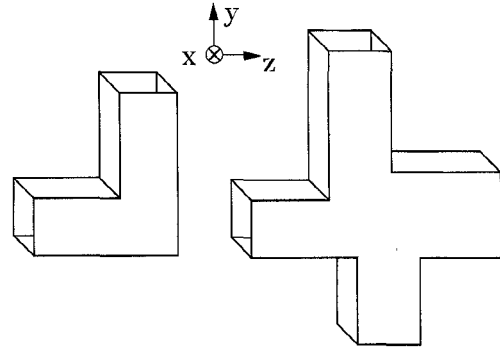


Fig. 1. Junctions in rectangular waveguides.

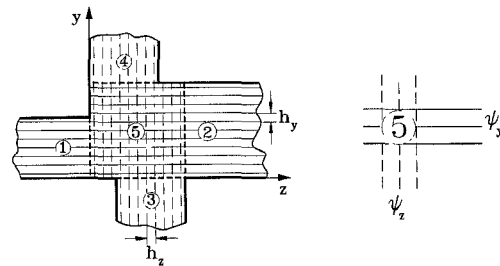


Fig. 2. Discretization of a waveguide junction on two crossed line systems.

the resonator region 5, similar to the resonator method after Kühn [1]. In case of a two port consisting of the regions 1 and 2 only, the problem is reduced to the analysis of discontinuities, as presented in [8]. The procedure described in this section employs the novel approach of the two crossed line systems (Fig. 2) to extend the method for the investigation of multiports. In what follows, formulas already developed for discontinuities are only summarized, and the reader is referred to [8] for a more comprehensive derivation.

For  $TE_{1n}$ -to- $x$  modes, which are the only modes arising from the junctions of Fig. 1 by excitation with  $TE_{10}$ -to- $x$  waves, the electromagnetic fields in all five regions are derived from the potential  $\psi$  by

$$\begin{aligned} E_x &= 0 & \eta_0 H_x &= (\epsilon_r - \bar{\lambda}_x^2) \sin \bar{\lambda}_x \bar{x} \cdot \psi \\ E_y &= -j \sin \bar{\lambda}_x \bar{x} \cdot \frac{\partial \psi}{\partial \bar{z}} & \eta_0 H_y &= \bar{\lambda}_x \cos \bar{\lambda}_x \bar{x} \cdot \frac{\partial \psi}{\partial \bar{y}} \\ E_z &= j \sin \bar{\lambda}_x \bar{x} \cdot \frac{\partial \psi}{\partial \bar{y}} & \eta_0 H_z &= \bar{\lambda}_x \cos \bar{\lambda}_x \bar{x} \cdot \frac{\partial \psi}{\partial \bar{z}} \end{aligned} \quad (1)$$

with a time dependence  $\exp(j\omega t)$  and  $\bar{\lambda}_x = \pi/\bar{a}$ . The waveguide width  $a$  is assumed to be constant for the whole structure, and all lengths are normalized by  $\bar{x} = k_0 x$ , etc. The

potential  $\psi$  must fulfill the Neumann condition at all metallic boundaries.

### A. Discretization and Transformed Potentials

In the resonator region 5, the potential  $\psi$  is discretized on two crossed line systems running in  $z$  and  $y$  direction, as shown in Fig. 2, such that the potential is decomposed into two parts

$$\psi = \psi_y + \psi_z. \quad (2)$$

$\psi_y$  is defined on the horizontal lines and corresponds to the  $\psi$  for the step discontinuity, whereas  $\psi_z$  is defined on the vertical lines and fulfills the Neumann condition on the left and right boundary.

As in [8], we discretize the Helmholtz equation

$$\frac{\partial^2 \psi}{\partial \bar{z}^2} + \frac{\partial^2 \psi}{\partial \bar{y}^2} - \bar{\lambda}_x^2 \psi + \varepsilon_r \psi = 0 \quad (3)$$

but separately for  $\psi_y$  and  $\psi_z$  and obtain, for example, for the potential  $\psi_z$

$$\frac{d^2 \psi_z}{d\bar{y}^2} - \left( -(\bar{h}_z)^{-2} D_{zz} + (\bar{\lambda}_x^2 - \varepsilon_r) I \right) \psi_z = 0. \quad (4)$$

The difference operator  $D_{zz}$  is transformed to principal axes by

$$(\bar{h}_z)^{-2} T_z^t D_{zz} T_z = -\bar{\lambda}_z^2. \quad (5)$$

We obtain the general solution for the transformed potential

$$\bar{\psi}_z = T_z^t \psi_z = \exp(-\Gamma_y \bar{y}) A_z + \exp(\Gamma_y \bar{y}) B_z \quad (6)$$

with the diagonal propagation matrix in  $y$  direction

$$\Gamma_y = \text{diag}(\gamma_{yk}) = \left( \bar{\lambda}_x^2 + (\bar{\lambda}_x^2 - \varepsilon_r) \right)^{\frac{1}{2}}. \quad (7)$$

For the two potentials  $\psi_y$  and  $\psi_z$ , two different kinds of discretization distances  $h_{y,z}$ , line numbers  $N_{y,z}$ , transformation matrices  $T_{y,z}$ , wave vectors  $A_{y,z}$ ,  $B_{y,z}$ , and propagation matrices  $F_{y,z}$  are introduced in the resonator region 5 where, for example,  $T_y$  is the transformation matrix for  $\psi_y$ . Only  $F_y$  belongs to  $\psi_z$  because it stands for the propagation in  $y$  direction. The waveguide region  $i$  is treated as for the step discontinuity with the according potentials  $\psi_i$ , and the quantities  $N_i$ ,  $T_i$ ,  $A_i$ ,  $B_i$ , and  $F_i$  belonging to it.

### B. Field Matching at the Terminal Planes

We have to match the transverse electromagnetic field at each terminal plane  $i$ , which is the interface between waveguide  $i$  and the resonator region 5. First we establish the matching equations at terminal 1. Here  $E_y$  and  $H_x$ , that means  $\psi$  and  $\partial\psi/\partial\bar{z}$ , must be matched. If  $\psi$  is matched on all the discretization lines,  $\partial\psi/\partial\bar{y}$  and thus  $H_y$  is also matched.

For the derivative of the first potential  $\partial\psi_y/\partial\bar{z}$  we obtain a completely analogous equation as for the step discontinuity since the derivative of the second potential  $\partial\psi_z/\partial\bar{z}$  vanishes because of the Neumann condition

$$R_1 (A_1 - B_1) = A_y - B_y \quad (8)$$

with

$$R_1 = \Gamma_z^{-1} T_{y \rightarrow 1}^t T_1 \Gamma_1$$

where  $T_{y \rightarrow 1}$  is an  $N_1 \times N_y$  matrix which consists of those elements of  $T_y$  corresponding to the common aperture of regions 1 and 5.

So far the analysis was equal to that for the step discontinuity [8]. For the matching of the potential  $\psi$  itself, however,  $\psi_z$  must be considered as an additional term

$$T_1 (A_1 + B_1) = T_{y \rightarrow 1} (A_y + B_y) + \underbrace{(G_{z \rightarrow 1}^+ A_z + G_{z \rightarrow 1}^- B_z)}_{\psi_z} \quad (9)$$

where  $G_{z \rightarrow 1}^\pm$  is an  $N_1 \times N_z$  matrix, namely the Fourier matrix for extrapolation of  $\psi_z$  from region 5 to terminal 1 (see the Appendix)

$$(G_z^\pm)_{ik} = \sqrt{\frac{2 - \delta_{0k}}{N_z}} \exp(\pm \gamma_{yk} \bar{y}_i) \quad (k = 0 \dots N_z - 1). \quad (10)$$

Analogous equations result for terminal 2

$$R_2 (B_2 - A_2) = F_y^- A_y - F_y^+ B_y \quad (11)$$

$$T_2 (B_2 + A_2) = T_{y \rightarrow 2} (F_y^- A_y + F_y^+ B_y) + \underbrace{(G_{z \rightarrow 2}^- V_z A_z + G_{z \rightarrow 2}^+ V_z B_z)}_{\psi_z} \quad (12)$$

where the normalized distance  $\bar{l}_z$  between terminal 1 and 2 is taken into account by the Fourier matrix  $F_y$  and the sign matrix  $V_z$  defined by

$$F_y^\pm = \exp(\pm \Gamma_z \bar{l}_z) \\ V_z = \text{diag}((-1)^k) \quad (k = 0 \dots N_z - 1). \quad (13)$$

For terminals 3 and 4, we use (8)–(13) with  $y$  and  $z$  interchanged.

### C. Determination of the Scattering Matrix

To compute the scattering matrix, we have to establish a relation between the wave vectors  $A_i$  and  $B_i$  by eliminating  $A_y$ ,  $B_y$  and  $A_z$ ,  $B_z$  from (8)–(12). First, we calculate the wave vectors  $A_y$ ,  $B_y$  in region 5 from (8) and (11)

$$\begin{bmatrix} A_y \\ B_y \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} F_y^+ & I \\ F_y^- & I \end{bmatrix} (F_y^+ - F_y^-)^{-1} \begin{bmatrix} R_1 (A_1 - B_1) \\ R_2 (A_2 - B_2) \end{bmatrix}. \quad (14)$$

This equation is valid only for

$$(F_y^+ - F_y^-)_i = 2(\sinh \Gamma_z \bar{l}_z)_i \neq 0 \quad (15)$$

that means

$$\bar{l}_z \neq 0 \quad \text{and} \quad -j\gamma_{zi} = k_{zi} \neq n\pi/\bar{l}_z$$

which is the case if no resonance occurs. The wave vectors  $A_z$ ,  $B_z$  of the potential  $\psi_z$  are computed completely analogously from  $A_3$ ,  $B_3$  and  $A_4$ ,  $B_4$ .

Now we substitute  $A_y$ ,  $B_y$  and  $A_z$ ,  $B_z$  into (9) and (12) and thus obtain (16)–(18), shown at the top of the next page. The coupling matrices  $G_i$  must be reduced to the appropriate line

$$\begin{bmatrix} T_1 (\mathbf{A}_1 + \mathbf{B}_1) \\ T_2 (\mathbf{A}_2 + \mathbf{B}_2) \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} T_{y \rightarrow 1} (\tanh \Gamma_z \bar{l}_z)^{-1} & T_{y \rightarrow 1} (\sinh \Gamma_z \bar{l}_z)^{-1} \\ T_{y \rightarrow 2} (\sinh \Gamma_z \bar{l}_z)^{-1} & T_{y \rightarrow 2} (\tanh \Gamma_z \bar{l}_z)^{-1} \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} R_1 (\mathbf{A}_1 - \mathbf{B}_1) \\ R_2 (\mathbf{A}_2 - \mathbf{B}_2) \end{bmatrix} \\ + \begin{bmatrix} \mathcal{G}_{3 \rightarrow 1} & \mathcal{G}_{4 \rightarrow 1} \\ \mathcal{G}_{3 \rightarrow 2} \mathbf{V}_z & \mathcal{G}_{4 \rightarrow 2} \mathbf{V}_z \end{bmatrix} (\sinh \Gamma_y \bar{l}_y)^{-1} \begin{bmatrix} R_3 (\mathbf{A}_3 - \mathbf{B}_3) \\ R_4 (\mathbf{A}_4 - \mathbf{B}_4) \end{bmatrix} \quad (16)$$

with the coupling matrices

$$\begin{aligned} \mathcal{G}_1 &= \frac{1}{2} (\mathbf{G}_y^- \mathbf{F}_y^+ + \mathbf{G}_y^+ \mathbf{F}_y^-) & \mathcal{G}_3 &= \frac{1}{2} (\mathbf{G}_z^- \mathbf{F}_z^+ + \mathbf{G}_z^+ \mathbf{F}_z^-) \\ \mathcal{G}_2 &= \frac{1}{2} (\mathbf{G}_y^- + \mathbf{G}_y^+) & \mathcal{G}_4 &= \frac{1}{2} (\mathbf{G}_z^- + \mathbf{G}_z^+) \end{aligned} \quad (17)$$

namely

$$\begin{aligned} (\mathcal{G}_1)_{ik} &= \sqrt{\frac{2-\delta_{0k}}{N_z}} \cosh \gamma_{zk} (\bar{l}_z - \bar{z}_i) & (\mathcal{G}_3)_{ik} &= \sqrt{\frac{2-\delta_{0k}}{N_y}} \cosh \gamma_{yk} (\bar{l}_y - \bar{y}_i) \\ (\mathcal{G}_2)_{ik} &= \sqrt{\frac{2-\delta_{0k}}{N_z}} \cosh \gamma_{zk} \bar{z}_i & (\mathcal{G}_4)_{ik} &= \sqrt{\frac{2-\delta_{0k}}{N_y}} \cosh \gamma_{yk} \bar{y}_i \end{aligned} \quad (18)$$

numbers; for example,  $\mathcal{G}_{3 \rightarrow 1}$  is an  $N_1 \times N_3$  matrix containing the corresponding elements of  $\mathcal{G}_3$ . If the terminals in  $y$  and  $z$  direction are interchanged, that is,  $1 \leftrightarrow 3$  and  $2 \leftrightarrow 4$ , (16) is replaced by a completely analogous one.

For the determination of the **scattering matrix**, we compute the outgoing waves  $\mathbf{B}_i$  from the incoming ones  $\mathbf{A}_i$  and obtain the desired system of equations

$$\begin{bmatrix} T_1^+ & T_{12} & W_{13} & W_{14} \\ T_{21} & T_2^+ & W'_{23} & W'_{24} \\ W_{31} & W_{32} & T_3^+ & T_{34} \\ W'_{41} & W'_{42} & T_{43} & T_4^+ \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} B_1 \\ B_2 \\ B_3 \\ B_4 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} T_1^- & T_{12} & W_{13} & W_{14} \\ T_{21} & T_2^- & W'_{23} & W'_{24} \\ W_{31} & W_{32} & T_3^- & T_{34} \\ W'_{41} & W'_{42} & T_{43} & T_4^- \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} A_1 \\ A_2 \\ A_3 \\ A_4 \end{bmatrix}. \quad (19)$$

The submatrices of the first two columns are determined as shown in (20) at the bottom of the page. The submatrices of the last two columns ( $n = 3, 4$ ) are obtained changing  $y$  to  $z$  in (20) and vice versa.

#### D. Waveguide Corner

In the case of the rectangular waveguide corner we can simplify the above results. We delete the second and fourth row and column in (19) and obtain

$$\begin{bmatrix} T_1^+ & W_{13} \\ W_{31} & T_3^+ \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} B_1 \\ B_3 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} T_1^- & W_{13} \\ W_{31} & T_3^- \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} A_1 \\ A_3 \end{bmatrix}. \quad (21)$$

If we have  $N_z = N_1$  and  $N_y = N_3$  as in the plain corner, the respective  $T$  and  $F$  matrices are equal, namely

$$\begin{aligned} T_y &= T_1 & T_z &= T_3 \\ \Gamma_z &= \Gamma_1 & \Gamma_y &= \Gamma_3 \end{aligned} \quad (22)$$

and hence  $R_k = I$ , which simplifies the submatrices  $T$  and  $W$  in (20) according to, for example

$$\begin{aligned} T_1^\pm &= T_1 (\pm I + (\tanh \Gamma_z \bar{l}_z)^{-1}) \\ W_{13} &= \mathcal{G}_3 (\sinh \Gamma_z \bar{l}_z)^{-1}. \end{aligned} \quad (23)$$

We can now rewrite (21) in the form

$$\begin{bmatrix} F_z^+ & T_1^+ \mathcal{G}_3 \\ T_3^+ \mathcal{G}_1 & F_y^+ \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} B_1' \\ B_3' \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} F_z^- & T_1^- \mathcal{G}_3 \\ T_3^- \mathcal{G}_1 & F_y^- \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} A_1' \\ A_3' \end{bmatrix} \quad (24)$$

with

$$\mathbf{A}_1' = (\sinh \Gamma_z \bar{l}_z)^{-1} \mathbf{A}_1$$

and so on.

The scattering parameters are obtained by solving (21) or (24) for the outgoing wave vectors  $\mathbf{B}_i$ .

#### E. Cascaded Junctions

To demonstrate the approach, we consider a series connection of a general junction and a step discontinuity (Fig. 3). In the junction, the incoming wave  $\mathbf{A}_2$  is unknown. We use the transmission matrix equation (19) for the general junction and additionally the transmission matrix equation for the step discontinuity [8] (15) in adapted form

$$\begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{A}_7 \\ \mathbf{0} \\ \mathbf{B}_7 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} \tilde{T}_+ & \tilde{T}_- \\ T_2^c \Gamma_2 & -T_2^c \Gamma_2 \\ \tilde{T}_- & \tilde{T}_+ \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} F_+ \mathbf{A}_2 \\ F_- \mathbf{B}_2 \end{bmatrix} \quad (25)$$

with the submatrices

$$\tilde{T}_\pm = \frac{1}{2} (T_7^t T_{2 \rightarrow 7} \pm \Gamma_7^{-1} T_7^t T_{7 \rightarrow 2} \Gamma_2). \quad (26)$$

$T_2^c$  corresponds to the front plate of the step discontinuity and the propagation is given by the Fourier matrices  $F_\pm =$

$$\begin{aligned} T_n^\pm &= T_{y \rightarrow n} (\tanh \Gamma_z \bar{l}_z)^{-1} R_n \pm T_n & (n = 1, 2) \\ T_{mn} &= T_{y \rightarrow m} (\sinh \Gamma_z \bar{l}_z)^{-1} R_n & (m, n = 1, 2) \\ W_{mn} &= \mathcal{G}_{n \rightarrow m} (\sinh \Gamma_z \bar{l}_z)^{-1} R_n & (m = 3, 4; n = 1, 2) \\ W'_{mn} &= \mathcal{G}_{n \rightarrow m} \mathbf{V}_z (\sinh \Gamma_z \bar{l}_z)^{-1} R_n & (m = 3, 4; n = 1, 2). \end{aligned} \quad (20)$$

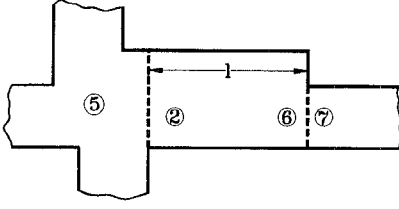


Fig. 3. Series connection of a general waveguide junction and a step discontinuity.

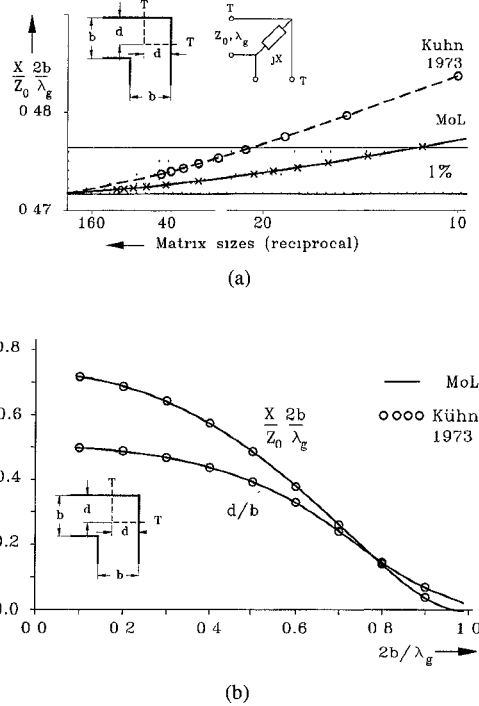


Fig. 4. Symmetric rectangular *E*-plane corner. (a) Convergence behavior of the normalized shunt reactance  $X/Z_0 \cdot 2b/\lambda_g$  with respect to reciprocal matrix size. (b) Normalized shunt reactance  $X/Z_0 \cdot 2b/\lambda_g$  and its location  $d/b$  as a function of normalized frequency. ( $\lambda_g$  guide wavelength,  $Z_0$  characteristic impedance)  $\circ \circ \circ$  MMT [1].

$\exp(\pm \Gamma \bar{l})$  where  $\bar{l}$  is the normalized distance between the junction and the step discontinuity. We eliminate  $\mathbf{A}_2$  and solve for the outgoing wave coefficients  $\mathbf{B}$  to compute the scattering matrix as above.

### III. RESULTS

To verify the analysis of single and cascaded junctions, the scattering parameters or the resulting equivalent circuit parameters for two exemplary structures have been computed and compared with results of the mode matching technique (MMT).

Fig. 4 shows the equivalent circuit parameters for a symmetric rectangular *E*-plane corner [1]. The equivalent circuit is valid for the fundamental mode only. The network parameters are computed from the scattering coefficients  $S_{11}$  and  $S_{21}$  by the following relations

$$\begin{aligned} jB_1 Z_0 &= \frac{2}{1 + S_{11} + S_{21}} - 1 \\ jB_2 Z_0 &= \frac{2S_{21}}{(1 + S_{11})^2 - S_{21}^2} \end{aligned} \quad (27)$$

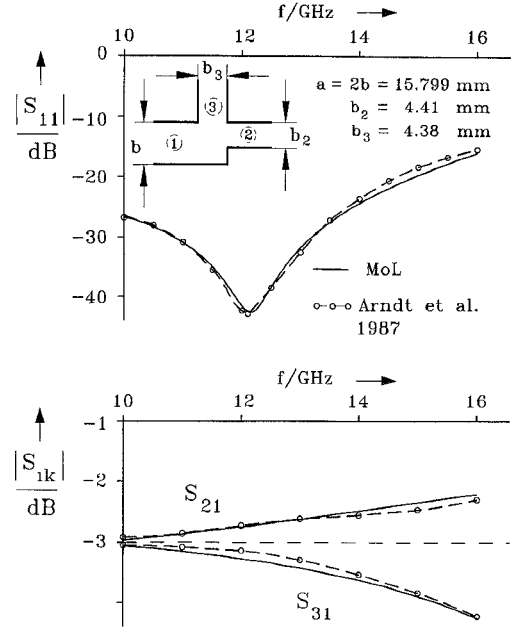


Fig. 5. Asymmetric *E*-plane T-junction. Magnitude of the scattering coefficients as a function of frequency  $\circ \circ \circ$  MMT [2].

and

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{X}{Z_0} &= - \left( 2B_1 Z_0 + \frac{(B_1 Z_0)^2 + 1}{B_2 Z_0} \right)^{-1} \\ \frac{d}{b} &= 1 + \frac{1}{\gamma_0 b} \tan^{-1} (B_1 Z_0 + 2B_2 Z_0)^{-1}. \end{aligned} \quad (28)$$

The guide wavelength runs  $\lambda_g = 2\pi/\gamma_0 k_0$  and  $Z_0$  is the characteristic impedance of the  $H_{10}$  mode.

In Fig. 4(a) the convergence behavior of the normalized shunt reactance  $X/Z_0 \cdot 2b/\lambda_g$  with respect to the reciprocal matrix sizes is given. As in the method of lines, not the whole system matrix in (24) must be inverted, but only two half-size matrices, the comparable matrix dimension is smaller for the same accuracy. In Fig. 4(b) the normalized shunt reactance and its location  $d/b$  are presented as a function of normalized frequency. Both curves exactly coincide with the reference values.

As an example for cascaded discontinuities, the scattering coefficients of an asymmetric *E*-plane T-junction are presented in Fig. 5 as a function of frequency, which are also in very good agreement with MMT results [2].

### IV. SUMMARY

For general junctions in rectangular waveguides the potential is computed on *two crossed line systems*. In the central (resonator) region it is represented by a superposition of two potentials with a one-dimensional discretization for each of them. They are evaluated by field matching at the terminals after suitable extrapolation to the boundaries of the respective line systems. Finally, matrix equations are derived for the incoming and outgoing waves to compute the scattering parameters. Cascaded junctions are easily analyzed by combining the matrix equations.

The scattering parameters for the asymmetric T-junction are in good agreement with literature. For the  $E$ -plane corner, the convergence of the MoL is better than for the mode matching technique with respect to the matrix sizes.

#### APPENDIX

EXTRAPOLATION OF THE POTENTIAL  $\psi_z$  TO  $z = 0$  AND  $z = l_z$

The potential in spatial domain

$$\psi_z = T_z \bar{\psi}_z$$

is calculated by means of the transformation matrix

$$(T_z)_{ik} = \sqrt{\frac{2 - \delta_{0k}}{N_z}} \cos \frac{(i + \frac{1}{2})k\pi}{N_z} \quad (k = 0 \dots N_z - 1)$$

on the lines  $z = (i + \frac{1}{2})h_z$  giving

$$\psi_z(z) = \sum_{k=0}^{N_z-1} \sqrt{\frac{2 - \delta_{0k}}{N_z}} \cos \left( \frac{k\pi}{l_z} z \right) \bar{\psi}_{zk}. \quad (29)$$

We extrapolate this formula to  $z = 0$ , where the cosine terms become 1.

After discretization in  $y$  direction we obtain

$$\psi_{zi} = \sum_{k=0}^{N_z-1} \sqrt{\frac{2 - \delta_{0k}}{N_z}} \left( \exp(-\gamma_{yk} \bar{y}_i) A_{zk} + \exp(\gamma_{yk} \bar{y}_i) B_{zk} \right) \quad (i = 0 \dots N_y - 1) \quad (30)$$

with  $\bar{y}_i = (i + \frac{1}{2})\bar{h}_y$ .

At the extrapolation to  $z = l_z$ , the cosine terms in (29) become  $(-)^k$ ; hence, at this position (30) is valid with this additional sign. Using (30), we finally obtain (9) and (12) with (10).

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