Design of Balanced SIW Filter with Transmission Zeroes and Linear Phase

Q. Xiao and C. X. Zhou

Ministerial Key Laboratory of JGMT
Nanjing University of Science and Technology, Nanjing, 210094, China
850127498@qq.com, zhouchx1010@gmail.com

Abstract — This paper provides a design method for balanced bandpass filters (BPFs) with high performance based on substrate integrated waveguide (SIW) structure. A novel balanced SIW filter with the characteristics of transmission zeroes, linear phase and wideband common-mode suppression is proposed. By analyzing the equivalent circuits of the proposed SIW filter under differential-mode (DM) and common-mode (CM) excitations, the DM transmission with CM suppression characteristic of the filter is demonstrated. The source-load coupled microstrip lines are introduced to realize the negative coupling and the design method for filters with source-load coupling is given. Good agreement is demonstrated between the simulated and the measured ones.

Index Terms — Balanced filter, linear phase, substrate integrated waveguide (SIW), transmission zeroes.

I. INTRODUCTION

Balanced circuits have drawn much attention as they have higher immunity to environmental noise and low electromagnetic interference compared with single-ended circuits. As the key components, various balanced filters have been widely studied and demonstrated [1-7]. In the early times, the microwave differential filters were developed by microstrip line structures, such as the stretched or coupled transmission lines, the coupled stepped impedance resonators (SIR), the stepped impedance slotline multiple-mode resonators (MMR) and the double-sided parallel-strip lines (DSPSL) [1-5]. To overcome the drawbacks of high radiation loss, low power handling capability, low-factor, and maintain the benefits of low-cost, compact size and good integration, the substrate integrated waveguide (SIW) balanced filters was proposed [6,7]. In [6], the balanced bandpass filters (BPFs) are realized by the structures of half-mode substrate integrated waveguide (HMSIW) and folded HMSIW. The common-mode (CM) suppression is achieved by applying a non-coupling slot and the spectral separation of differential-mode (DM)-CM resonances in the HMSIW and folded HMSIW cases, respectively. The proposed BPFs can achieve the CM rejection level more than 40 dB over a wide frequency range. To improve the filter selectivity, a differential BPF with two transmission zeros is presented in [7] based on SIW structure. The CM suppression is realized by a new balanced SIW section on single-layer substrate technology. However, to meet stringent requirements imposed on the most recent wireless standards, a flat group delay filter response should be guaranteed to avoid signal blur besides sharp rejection.

This paper proposes a balanced SIW BPF with transmission zeroes, linear phase and wideband common-mode suppression. By analyzing the equivalent circuits of the proposed SIW filter under DM and CM excitations, the DM transmission with CM suppression characteristic of the filter is demonstrated. Another innovative point of the paper is that the source-load coupled microstrip lines are introduced and the design method for filters with source-load coupling is given. To the best of our knowledge, there is no reported work done so far on balanced BPFs with both linear phase and highly selectivity. The proposed balanced BPF is designed using the SIW scheme at 10 GHz and can achieve almost perfectly flat group delay over the central 60% of the pass band.

II. BALANCED FILTER DESIGN

The balanced filter is designed on F4B substrate, with thickness of 0.5 mm, relative permittivity of 2.65, and dielectric loss tangent of 0.001 (at 10 GHz). The geometry of the proposed balanced BPF is shown in Fig. 1 (a). The four-port circuit is ideally symmetric with respect to the vertical and horizontal symmetry plane. It is composed of six SIW cavities which are represented by \( R_1, R_2, R_3, R_4, R_1', \) and \( R_4' \), respectively.

A. Common-mode analysis

Under CM operation, the vertical symmetry plane becomes a perfect magnetic wall and the CM equivalent circuit is shown in Fig. 1 (b). \( R_1 \) and \( R_4 \) are the original resonators of the proposed balanced BPF, which operate in TE\(_{01}\) for the first resonant mode. The cavity 2(\( C_2 \) and cavity 3(\( C_3 \) are half of the original resonators \( R_2 \) and \( R_3 \) with the vertical symmetry plane being a magnetic wall.
and the other three sidewalls being electric wall. In this case, the modes for \( R_2 \) and \( R_3 \) are TE\(_{101} \) for the first resonant mode. As \( R_1 \) and \( R_4 \) are designed to resonant at the operating frequencies, the resonant frequencies of \( C_2 \) and \( C_3 \) with similar size of \( R_1 \) and \( R_4 \) will not be in the operating pass-band. Thus, it performs a bandstop characteristic under CM excitations. To verify the above inference, simulated frequency responses under CM excitations are given in Fig. 2. We can see that the CM transmission is suppressed to be lower than -17 dB in a wideband.

![Fig. 1. Geometry and schematic topologies of the proposed balanced SIW filter: (a) geometry of the balanced BPF, (b) equivalent 2-port half bisection under CM operation, and (c) equivalent 2-port half bisection under DM operation.](image)

**B. Differential-mode analysis**

While for DM operation, the vertical symmetry plane becomes a perfect electric wall, and the DM circuit can be obtained as shown in Fig. 1 (c). \( D_2 \) and \( D_3 \) are half of \( R_2 \) and \( R_3 \) with all four sidewalls being the electric wall. In this case, the modes for \( R_2 \) and \( R_3 \) are TE\(_{102} \) for the first resonant mode.

A 2-port 4-pole generalized chebyshev filter with both high selectivity and linear phase is synthesized with zeros \([2.5j,-2.5j,1.4,-1.4]\). Zeros \([2.5j,-2.5j]\) in the imaginary axis are used to produce transmission zeros and zeros \([1.4,-1.4]\) in the real axis are used to improve the phase. The synthesized S-parameters including magnitude and group delay with center frequency of \( f_0=10 \) GHz and bandwidth of \( BW=400 \) MHz are plotted as the dotted curves in Fig. 3, with the coupling matrix [8]:

\[
\begin{bmatrix}
S & 1 & 2 & 3 & 4 & L \\
1 & 1.0425 & 0 & 0.9226 & 0 & 0.1471 & 0 \\
2 & 0 & 0.9226 & 0 & 0.6488 & 0 & 0 \\
3 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0.6488 & 0 & 0.9266 & 0 \\
4 & 0 & 0.1471 & 0 & 0.9226 & 0 & 1.4025 \\
L & -0.0298 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 1.4025 & 0
\end{bmatrix}
\]

![Fig. 2. Simulated results of the CM response.](image)

![Fig. 3. Synthesized and simulated frequency responses of the equivalent 2-port half bisection under DM operation: (a) S-parameters and (b) group delay.](image)

The dimensions of \( d_1, d_2, d_3 \) and \( l_m \) in Fig. 1 (a) for the required \( M_{14}, M_{12}, M_{23} \) and \( M_{51} \) can be determined from Fig. 4 (a)-(c) with the method in [9] respectively. The 50-\( \Omega \) coupled microstrip lines in Fig. 1 (a) are proposed to realize the source-load coupling in this paper. While magnetic coupling (positive coupling in the coupling matrix) can be achieved with an inductive window between two adjacent SIW resonators [10], the coupled microstrip lines can achieve the electric coupling (negative coupling in the coupling matrix). Thus, both positive and negative couplings can be
realized in the same plane. However, there is no relative handling with the source-load coupling $M_{SL}$ in the existing literature. The proposed 50-Ω coupled microstrip lines to realize the source-load coupling are treated as two coupled resonators in this paper shown in Fig. 5 (a) for the first time. The relationship between the source-load coupling $M_{SL}$ and the distance $g_t$ between the coupled microstrip lines is shown in Fig. 5 (b). Then the dimension of $g_t$ for the required $M_{SL}$ can be determined from Fig. 5 (b) [9].

![Fig. 5. Geometry of the source-load coupling and the design curve: (a) geometry of the source-load coupling and (b) relationship between the source-load coupling coefficient $M_{SL}$ and the distance $g_t$ between microstrip lines.](image)

After optimization, the simulated results of the 2-port BPF are plotted as the solid curves in Fig. 3. The mismatch of the group delay in the stop-band is due to the existence of the transmission zeroes. In addition to this, good agreement can be achieved between the synthesized results and the simulated ones.

**C. Design of the balanced filter**

The procedure for the design of the balanced SIW filter with both transmission zeroes and linear phase is outlined as follows:

- **Step 1)** **Determine the requirement of the balanced filter.** Based on the desired frequency response, center frequency, bandwidth and transmission zeroes can be determined.

- **Step 2)** **Design the 2-port filter.** The 2-port filter is synthesized according to the requirement in step 1 and the coupling matrix are calculated [8]. Then, the dimensions of the 2-port filter can be determined from the extracted design curves with the method in [9].

- **Step 3)** **Realize the balance filter.** By duplicating the 2-port filter along the vertical symmetry plane, the balanced filter can be achieved.

Based on the above analysis of the CM and DM operations, a balanced BPF with transmission zeroes, linear phase and wideband common-mode suppression can be achieved with the main design parameters: $g_t=1.4$ mm, $l_w=3.29$ mm, $l_1=12.87$ mm, $l_2=25.28$ mm, $w=13$
mm, $w_{in} = 1.35$ mm, $d_1 = 1.9$ mm, $d_2 = 4.5$ mm, $d_3 = 4.08$ mm. The simulated results of the balanced BPF under DM and CM operations are plotted as the dotted curves in Figs. 6 (a) and (b), respectively. The group delay responses of the balanced BPF are plotted as the dotted curves in Fig. 6 (c).

![Graphs showing measured and simulated responses of the filter](image)

Fig. 6. Measured and simulated responses of the filter: (a) DM responses, (b) CM responses, and (c) group delay responses.

### III. RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

Figure 7 shows the photograph of the fabricated filter. The simulated and measured results of the filter are plotted in Fig. 6. The measured central frequency is 10.02 GHz, and 3-dB bandwidth is 400 MHz. The in-band insertion loss and return loss are better than -3.5 dB and -12 dB, respectively. The two transmission zeroes are located at 9.55 GHz and 10.5 GHz. The group delay equalization is over 60% of the pass-band. The measured results include the influence of the limited fabrication precision and measurement errors, thus they are somewhat worse than the simulated results.

![Photograph of the fabricated differential filter](image)

Fig. 7. Photograph of the fabricated differential filter.

### IV. CONCLUSIONS

In this paper, a new balanced SIW BPF with high performances is proposed. The design of the balanced filter is simplified through designing a 2-port filter with high performance and duplicating it along the vertical symmetry plane. The source-load coupled microstrip lines are introduced and the design method for filters with source-load coupling is given. Simulated and measured results show that the presented filter has the performances of linear phase, high out-of-band rejection, and good common suppression which can be applied to the microwave system of high quality.

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### REFERENCES


Q. Xiao was born in Shandong Province, China, in 1990. She received the B.S. degree in Electronic Information Science and Technology from Dezhou University, Shandong, China, in 2012, and is currently working toward the master degree at Nanjing University of Science and Technology. Her research interests is RF/microwave circuit designs.

C. X. Zhou was born in Jiangsu Province, China, in 1985. She received the B.S. degree in Electronic Information Science and Technology from Nankai University, Tianjin, China, in 2007, and the Ph.D. degree at Nankai University. She has been a Lecture at Nanjing University of Science and Technology since 2012. From September 2010 to February 2012, she is a Visiting Student in the Department of Electrical and Computer Engineering, National University of Singapore, Singapore. Her research interests include RF/microwave circuit designs and integration.