## Transmission lines: wave propagation



A transmission line is a physical structure with the crosssection ( $x-y$ plane) of definite shape and the developing indefinitely along the normal direction ( $z$ ).
At each coordinate $z$ the voltage $V(z)$ and the current $I(z)$ are represented as a combination of waves propagating along the positive and negative direction of $z$ :

$$
v(z)=v^{+}(z)+v^{-}(z), \quad i(z)=i^{+}(z)+i^{-}(z)
$$

## Physical parameters of the line


$R, L, C, G$, are the physical parameters of a transmission line. They depend on the geometry of the transmission line and on the materials used for the conductors and dielectric medium .

Through the physical parameters and the Kirckoff laws the Telegraphist Equations can be derived, whose solution is the voltage (current) wave propagating along the line:

$$
v^{+}(z)=\left(V_{0} e^{j \omega_{0} t}\right) \cdot e^{-\gamma \cdot z}
$$

## Meaning of propagation constant $\gamma$

Given $\gamma=\alpha+\mathrm{j} \beta$, it has:

$$
v^{+}(z)=\left[\left(V_{0} e^{j \omega t}\right) \cdot e^{-\alpha \cdot z}\right] \cdot e^{-j \beta \cdot z}
$$

- Attenuation constant $\alpha$ : it defines the rate of reduction (in space) of the wave amplitude. It is measured in Neper/m or dB/m ( $1 \mathrm{~Np}=8.686 \mathrm{~dB}$ )
- Phase constant $\beta$ : it is the rate of variation of the phase of the wave along the $z$ coordinate (for $t=c o s t$ ). It is related to the wavelength and to radian frequency: $\beta=2 \pi / \lambda_{0}=\omega / v$ ( $v$ represents the phase velocity determined by the medium). $\beta$ is measured in $\mathrm{rad} / \mathrm{m}$ (or $\% \mathrm{~m}$ ).


## Characteristic impedance

- In general there are two waves in a transmission line, one propagating toward positive $z$ and the other toward negative $z$
- The amplitude of the two waves depend on the impedance terminating the line
- There is a particular value of this impedance for which there is only the wave in positive $z$ direction
- This impedance depends on the line and it is called Characteristic Impedance $\left(Z_{c}\right)$. It is a real number for sufficiently high frequencies ( $>10 \mathrm{MHz}$ )


## Secondary Parameters

- Characteristic Impedance $\left(Z_{c}\right)$ : it is defined as the input impedance of a line with infinite length (i.e. there is only the wave propagating along the positive $z$ direction)
- Propagation constant $\gamma=\alpha+j \beta$

Formulas relating physical and secondary parameters:

$$
Z_{c}=\sqrt{\frac{L}{C}}, \quad \alpha=\frac{1}{2} \frac{R}{Z_{c}}+\frac{1}{2} G \cdot Z_{c}, \quad \beta=\omega \cdot \sqrt{L \cdot C}
$$

These relations are valid for $\omega \gg R / L, G / C$; transmission lines used at microwave frequencies always satisfy these conditions

## Voltage and current on the line


$v^{+}, i^{+}$: Incident waves

$$
\begin{aligned}
& V(z)=v^{+}(z)+v^{-}(z)=\mathrm{V}_{0}^{+} e^{-j \beta z}+\mathrm{V}_{0}^{-} e^{+j \beta z} \\
& I(z)=i^{+}(z)+i^{-}(z)=\frac{\mathrm{V}_{0}^{+}}{\mathrm{Z}_{\mathrm{c}}} e^{-j \beta z}-\frac{\mathrm{V}_{0}^{-}}{\mathrm{Z}_{\mathrm{c}}} e^{+j \beta z}
\end{aligned}
$$

$v, i:$ Reflected waves

The sign of the reflected wave of voltage is the same of the incident wave; the sign of reflected wave of current is instead opposite to that of the incident wave. In any case (incident or reflected), the ratio between the wave of voltage and the wave of current is equal to Zc in magnitude. A reflected wave is produced by a discontinuity in the transmission line structure (as for instance the termination with a load). The reflected wave is eliminated by assigning $Z_{L}$ equal $Z_{C}$.

## Reflection Coefficient

$$
\begin{aligned}
& \Gamma(z)=\frac{\text { Reflected Wave }}{\text { Incident wave }}= \\
& =\frac{V_{0}^{-} e^{+j \beta z}}{V_{0}^{+} e^{-j \beta z}}=\frac{V_{0}^{-}}{V_{0}^{+}} e^{+j 2 \beta z}=\Gamma_{0} e^{+j 2 \beta z}=\Gamma_{0} e^{+j 2 \pi \frac{z}{\lambda / 2}}
\end{aligned}
$$

## Properties of $\Gamma(z)$ with $\alpha=0$ :

- The magnitude does not depend on $z$ (it is constant along the line)
- The phase is periodic in z (period equal to $\lambda / 2$ )

The magnitude is always less than 1 with a passive load (the reflected power must be less than the incident one).

## $|V(z)|$ as a function of $z$



$$
\begin{aligned}
& V(z)=v^{+}(z)+v^{-}(z)=v^{+}(z) \cdot[1+\Gamma(z)] \\
& |V(z)|=\left|V_{O}^{+}\right|\left|1+\Gamma_{0} \cdot e^{+j 2 \beta z}\right|= \\
& \left|V_{O}^{+}\right|\left\{1+2\left|\Gamma_{0}\right| \cdot \cos (2 \beta z)+\left|\Gamma_{0}\right|^{2}\right\}^{1 / 2}
\end{aligned}
$$

The magnitude of V is periodic (same period of $\Gamma$ ) with maxima and minima given by:

$$
V_{\max } \div 1+|\Gamma| \quad, \quad V_{\min } \div 1-|\Gamma|
$$

The Voltage Standing Wave Ratio (VSWR) is defined as the ratio of these voltages:

$$
V S W R=\frac{V_{\max }}{V_{\min }} \quad=1 \text { for perfect matched line }(\Gamma=0)
$$

## Impedance along the line



There is a biunivocal relationship between the reflection coefficient and the impedance (normalized to Zc ) seen along the line (in the load direction):

$$
\frac{Z(z)}{Z_{c}}=\frac{1}{Z_{c}} \frac{V(z)}{I(z)}=\frac{V^{+}(z)+V^{-}(z)}{V^{+}(z)-V^{-}(z)}=\frac{1+\Gamma(z)}{1-\Gamma(z)}
$$

Inverse relation:

$$
\Gamma(z)=\frac{Z(z) / Z_{c}-1}{Z(z) / Z_{c}+1}
$$

## Impedance as a function of the load



Particular cases (stubs):
$\mathrm{Z}_{\mathrm{L}}=0$ (short circuit) $\Rightarrow Z_{i n}=\frac{V_{i n}}{I_{i n}}=j Z_{c} \tan (\beta \cdot L)=j Z_{c} \tan \left(2 \pi \frac{L}{\lambda_{0}}\right)$
$\mathrm{Z}_{\mathrm{L}}=\propto$ (open circuit) $\Longleftrightarrow Z_{i n}=\frac{V_{\text {in }}}{I_{i n}}=-j Z_{c} \cot (\beta \cdot L)=-j Z_{c} \cot \left(2 \pi \frac{L}{\lambda_{0}}\right)$

## Stub as a circuit component

At high frequencies it is difficult to realize lumped components like inductors and capacitors. It is much easier to use stubs which realize the same reactance (susceptance) of the lumped component:
$Z_{c}=\frac{X_{\text {lump }}}{\tan \left(\beta_{0} L\right)}=\frac{\omega_{0} L_{s}}{\tan \left(\frac{\omega_{0}}{v} L\right)}$

$$
Y_{c}=\frac{B_{\text {lump }}}{\tan \left(\beta_{0} L\right)}=\frac{\omega_{0} C_{p}}{\tan \left(\frac{\omega_{0}}{v} L\right)}
$$

Note: The equivalence is correct at fixed frequency. When the frequency varies the two components behavior is greatly different (lumped: monotonic, distributed: periodic)

## Example



## Transmission Lines Classification

TEM Lines (Transverse Electric

Magnetic)

- Coaxial
- Stripline
non-TEM Lines
- Rectangular waveguide
- Circular waveguide
- Fin-line
${ }^{5}$ quasi_TEM Lines
-Microstrip
-Suspended Stripline
-Inverted Stripline
-Coplanar Lines


## TEM Lines

- They are constituted by two (at least) independent conductors (a voltage can be applied among them), embedded in a homogeneous medium
- Electric and magnetic fields of the propagating wave are orthogonal each other and do not have components in the direction of propagation
- A TEM transmission line is characterized by:
- A univocal and frequency independent characteristic impedance
- A constant phase velocity lower than or equal to the light velocity C:

$$
v=\frac{c}{\sqrt{\varepsilon_{r}}}
$$

with $\varepsilon_{\mathrm{r}}$ relative dielectric constant of the medium.

## non-TEM Lines

- The electromagnetic field of a generic transmission line can assume specific configurations called modes. The modes are characterized by a minimum frequency (cutoff frequency), below of which they cannot propagate. The mode with the smallest cutoff frequency is called dominant mode and it is the most used in the practice. For line supporting TEM mode the cutoff frequency on the dominant mode (also called principal mode) is zero
- Non-TEM lines are constituted by a single hollow conductor having a section of arbitrary shape, generally called waveguide
- The modes in non-TEM lines are generally classified in:
- TE modes: the electric field has no components in the propagation direction
- TM modes: the magnetic field has no components in the propagation direction
- The characteristic impedance of non-TEM mode is not univocally defined
- Also voltage and current are not univocally defined


## quasi-TEM Lines

- These lines consist of two (or more) conductors, surrounded by a non homogeneous medium
- As a consequence there is at least one component of $E$ or $H$ field in the direction of wave propagation. To difference of non-TEM modes, the dominant mode of quasi-TEM lines has the cutoff frequency equal to zero
- The rigorous study of this kind of lines is rather complex; has been then developed an approximate (much easier to compute) model, based on the concept of equivalent TEM line.
- The equivalent TEM model of a quasi-TEM line differs from a ideal TEM line in the fact that the characteristic impedance and the phase velocity depend on the frequency


## Attenuation in transmission lines

Power along a matched line (positive z direction):

$$
P(z)=\frac{1}{2} \frac{\left|v^{+}(z)\right|^{2}}{Z_{c}}=\frac{1}{2} \frac{\left|v_{0}^{+}\right|^{2}}{Z_{c}} e^{-2 \alpha z}
$$

The power lost per unit length is then:

$$
\frac{\partial P}{\partial z}=-2 \alpha\left[\frac{1}{2} \frac{\left|v_{0}^{+}\right|^{2}}{Z_{c}} e^{-2 \alpha z}\right]=-2 \alpha P(z)=-P_{\text {diss }}
$$

The definition of $\alpha$ then results:

$$
\alpha=\frac{P_{\text {diss }}}{2 P}=\frac{\text { Dissipated power p.u.l }}{\text { Carried power }}
$$

## Sources of attenuation in transmission lines

- Attenuation $\alpha_{J}$ due to losses in the conductors
- Attenuation $\alpha_{D}$ due to losses in the medium (dielectric)

The overall attenuation $\alpha$ is the sum of the above contributes:

$$
\alpha=\alpha_{J}+\alpha_{D}
$$

## Attenuation in the conductors $\alpha_{\underline{J}}$

- It is caused by the finite conductivity of the conductor material employed. In TEM lines $\alpha_{J}$ increases with frequency as the square root of $f$ (skin effect).
- The actual conductivity of a material depends, other that its physical properties, also on the surface roughness determined by the fabrication process adopted. Without a suitable processing of the surfaces (polishing, lapping and plating), the degradation of conductivity due to the surface roughness may be even less $50 \%$ of the ideal value

Attenuation in the dielectric medium $\alpha_{\underline{D}}$

- In a real dielectric medium under sinusoidal excitation, some energy must be supplied for aligning the elementary dipoles of the material along the electric field direction. As a consequence the dielectric constant of the medium become a complex number
- A parameter called tan $\delta$ is introduced for characterizing dielectric losses, which represents the ratio between the imaginary and real part of the dielectric constant. This parameter is practically independent on the frequency (at microwave frequencies).
- Expressions of $\alpha_{D}$ as function of $\tan \delta$ :

$$
\begin{aligned}
& \alpha_{d}=\frac{\pi}{\lambda_{0}} \tan \delta \quad \quad \text { (TEM Lines) } \\
& \alpha_{d}=\frac{\pi}{\lambda_{0}} \frac{\tan \delta}{\sqrt{1-\frac{f_{c}^{2}}{f^{2}}}} \quad \text { (non }-T E M \text { Lines) }
\end{aligned}
$$

## General expression of Zc and $\alpha$ for TEM lines

General definition of the characteristic impedance of a TEM line:

$$
Z_{c}=\frac{\Delta V}{I}=\frac{\int_{P_{1}}^{P_{2}} E_{t} \cdot d l}{\oint_{\text {cont. }} H_{t} d s}=Z_{w} \cdot F_{z} \quad Z_{w}=\frac{377}{\sqrt{\varepsilon_{r}}} \Omega
$$

$F_{z}=\underline{\text { Form Factor of the line (depends on the line geometry) }}$

Attenuation of a TEM line:

$$
\alpha_{J}=\left(\frac{R_{s}}{2 Z_{w}}\right) F_{J} \quad \begin{aligned}
& F_{J}=\text { Attenuation Factor of the line } \\
& \text { (depends on the line geometry) }
\end{aligned}
$$

Wheeler's rule:

$$
F_{J}=\frac{1}{F_{z}} \frac{\partial F_{z}}{\partial n}
$$

The direction $n$ represents the direction orthogonal to the conductors surface (entering into)

## High order modes in TEM lines

- Also in TEM lines may exist propagating waves with components of E or H in the propagating direction (higher order modes)
- This modes are characterized by their cutoff frequency and can propagate only if the frequency is higher than this
- In practical application it is requested that only one mode can propagate (the one with the lowest cutoff frequency)
- TEM line must be dimensioned in order that the first nonTEM mode is above the maximum operating frequency


## Coaxial Line

$$
\begin{gathered}
r_{z}=\frac{\ln \left(\frac{r_{2}}{r_{1}}\right)}{2 \pi} \\
\frac{1}{F_{z}} \frac{\partial F_{z}}{\partial n}=\frac{1}{F_{z}}\left[\frac{\partial F_{z}}{\partial r_{2}}-\frac{\partial F_{z}}{\partial r_{1}}\right]=\frac{2 \pi}{\ln \left(\frac{r_{2}}{r_{1}}\right)}\left(\frac{1 / r_{2}+1 / r_{1}}{2 \pi}\right) \\
F_{J}=\frac{1 / r_{2}+1 / r_{1}}{\ln \left(\frac{r_{2}}{r_{1}}\right)}
\end{gathered}
$$

## Coaxial Line dimensioning

Given Zc:

$$
\frac{r_{2}}{r_{1}}=\exp \left(2 \pi \frac{Z_{c}}{Z_{0}}\right) \simeq \exp \left(2 \pi \sqrt{\varepsilon_{r}} \frac{Z_{c}}{377}\right)
$$

$$
Z_{c}=50 \Omega \text { for } r_{2} / r_{1} \cong 2.3 \text { in air }
$$

Single-mode propagation up to $f_{\text {max }}$ :

$$
f_{\max }=\frac{v}{\pi\left(r_{2}+r_{1}\right)} \Rightarrow r_{2}<\frac{v}{\pi f_{\max }} \frac{r_{2} / r_{1}}{1+r_{2} / r_{1}}
$$

Minimum attenuation assigned the external radius: $\quad F_{J}=\left(1 / r_{2}\right) \frac{1+r_{2} / r_{1}}{\ln \left(r_{2} / r_{1}\right)}$

$$
\frac{\partial F_{J}}{\partial\left(r_{2} / r_{1}\right)}=\frac{1}{r_{2}} \frac{\partial}{\partial\left(r_{2} / r_{1}\right)} \frac{1+r_{2} / r_{1}}{\ln \left(\frac{r_{2}}{r_{1}}\right)}=0 \Rightarrow \frac{r_{2}}{r_{1}} \simeq 3.6 \quad\left(Z_{c} \simeq 76 \Omega \text { in air }\right)
$$

Minimum attenuation assigned $f_{\text {max }}: \quad F_{J}=\left(\frac{1}{r_{1}+r_{2}}\right) \frac{2+r_{2} / r_{1}+r_{1} / r_{2}}{\ln \left(r_{2} / r_{1}\right)}$

$$
\frac{\partial F_{J}}{\partial\left(r_{2} / r_{1}\right)}=\frac{1}{r_{1}+r_{2}} \frac{\partial}{\partial\left(r_{2} / r_{1}\right)} \frac{2+r_{2} / r_{1}+r_{1} / r_{2}}{\ln \left(r_{2} / r_{1}\right)}=0 \Rightarrow \frac{r_{2}}{r_{1}} \simeq 4.45 \quad\left(Z_{c} \simeq 97 \Omega \text { in air }\right)
$$

## Other TEM lines



Slabline


$$
\begin{array}{ll}
F_{z}=\frac{1}{2 \pi} \ln \left[1+2 y^{2}+y \sqrt{(2 y)^{2}+\pi^{2}}\right][2.54] \\
y=\frac{2 b}{a^{\prime}}, a^{\prime}=a+q t[2.55] & F_{J}=\frac{2}{b} \frac{\exp \left(-2 \pi F_{z}\right)}{2 \pi F_{z}} M N 2 y^{2} \\
q=\frac{1}{\pi} \ln \frac{4 e}{\sqrt{\left(\frac{2 t}{b}\right)^{2}+\left(\frac{t / \pi}{a+1,1 t}\right)^{2}}} & M=\left[\left[1+\frac{\pi^{2}}{4 y^{2}}\right]^{1 / 4}+\left[1+\frac{\pi^{2}}{4 y^{2}}\right]^{-1 / 4}\right]^{2} \\
N=1+y\left[\frac{\pi(q+1)-1}{2 \pi}+G\right], \\
G=\frac{t}{2 b} \frac{4,2 r^{3}-1 /(\pi)}{1+r^{2}}, r=t /[2 \pi(a+1,1 t)]
\end{array}
$$

Linea a striscia schermata stripline (fig. 2.7)

$$
\begin{array}{l|l}
\hline F_{z}=\frac{K\left(k^{\prime}\right)}{4 K(k)} \quad[2.38] & F_{J} \cong \frac{4}{b^{\prime}} \frac{\exp \left[-4 \pi F_{z}\right]}{4 \pi F_{z}} 2 y^{2} M N \\
k=\tanh \left(\frac{2}{y}\right), k^{\prime}=\sqrt{1-k^{2}} \\
F_{z}=\frac{1}{4 \pi} \ln \left[1+2 y^{2}+\sqrt{4 y^{2}+6,27}\right] \quad[2.42] & M=\left[\left[1+\frac{6,27}{4 y^{2}}\right]^{1 / 4}+\left[1+\frac{6,27}{4 y^{2}}\right]^{-1 / 4}\right]^{2}  \tag{2.42}\\
y=\frac{4}{\pi} \frac{b^{\prime}}{a^{\prime}}, a^{\prime}=a+q t, b^{\prime}=b-t[2.43] & N=1+\frac{\pi}{4} y\left[\frac{\pi(1+q)-1}{2 \pi}+G\right] \\
q \cong 1 \quad(a \gg t) & G=\frac{t}{2 b-t} \frac{4,2 r^{3}-3 /(2 \pi)}{1+r^{2}} \\
& r=\frac{(2 b-1)}{4 \pi(a+1.1 t)} \\
\hline
\end{array}
$$

## Slabline (fig. 2.6)

$F_{z}=\frac{1}{2 \pi} \ln \left[\frac{4 b}{\pi d Q}\right] \quad[2.72]$
$F_{J}=\frac{2}{\mathrm{~d}} \frac{1+(d / b)}{\ln \left[\frac{4 b}{\pi d Q}\right]}\left[1+\frac{3 \ln (Q)}{1-\frac{477}{630}\left(\frac{d}{b}\right)^{3}}\right] \quad[2.74]$
$Q \cong \exp \left[\frac{31}{630} \frac{(d / b)^{3}}{1-(477 / 630)(d / b)^{3}}\right] \quad[2.73]$

Linea bifilare (fig. 2.21)

$$
\begin{aligned}
& F_{z}=\frac{\arccos \left(\frac{d}{2 r}\right)}{\pi}= \\
& =\frac{1}{\pi} \ln \left[\frac{d}{2 r}+\sqrt{\left(\frac{d}{2 r}\right)^{2}-1}\right]
\end{aligned}
$$

$$
F_{J}=\frac{\frac{1}{r}}{\operatorname{arccosh}\left(\frac{d}{2 r}\right)} \cdot \frac{1}{\sqrt{1-\left(\frac{2 r}{d}\right)^{2}}}
$$

## quasi-TEM Lines

A quasi-TEM line is obtained when a inhomogeneous medium is used in a TEM line. As a consequence the electromagnetic field is no more transverse with respect the direction of propagation.
Strictly speaking it is no possible in this case to define uniquely the voltages and currents. In the practice the quasi-TEM approximation is introduced. This consists in assuming an equivalent homogeneous medium characterized by an effective dielectric constant $\varepsilon_{\text {r, eff }}$, defined as:

$$
\begin{aligned}
& \varepsilon_{r, \text { eff }}=C_{m} / C_{0} \\
& \mathrm{C}_{\mathrm{m}} \text { : Capacitance p.u.l. of non-homogenous line } \\
& \mathrm{C}_{0} \text { : Capacitance p.u.l. of the line with } \varepsilon_{\mathrm{r}}=1 \text { (air } \\
& \text { everywhere) }
\end{aligned}
$$

Note that $\varepsilon_{r \text { reff }}$ is in general a function of the frequency. Also $Z_{c}$ e $v_{f}$ are then functions of frequency and can be expressed as:

$$
Z_{c}=\frac{377}{\sqrt{\varepsilon_{r, e f f}}} F_{z}, \quad v_{f}=\frac{c}{\sqrt{\varepsilon_{r, e f f}}}
$$

## Microstrip

The most important quasi-TEM line in practical applications is the microstrip. It belongs to the category of planar structures.

$\square$ Dielettric
$\square$ Conductor

- $h$ substrate thickness
- $w$ strip width
- $\varepsilon_{\mathrm{r}}$ relative dielectric constant of substrate
- $t$ metallic thickness


## Formulas for microstrip

Quasi-static ( $\mathrm{t}=0$ ):

$$
\frac{60}{\sqrt{\varepsilon_{r, e f f}}} \ln (8 h / w+0.25 w / h)
$$

$$
w / h \leq 1
$$

$Z_{c}=$

$$
\frac{120 \pi}{\sqrt{\varepsilon_{r, e f f}}}[1.393+w / h+0.667 \ln (w / h+1.444)]^{-1} \quad w / h>1
$$

con: $\quad \varepsilon_{r, \text { eff }}=\frac{\varepsilon_{r}+1}{2}+\frac{\varepsilon_{r}-1}{2 \sqrt{1+10 h / w}}, \quad v=\frac{300}{\sqrt{\varepsilon_{\text {eff }}}} \mathrm{cm} / \mathrm{sec}$

Finite metallic thickness:
For taking into account the finite value of $t$, an effective strip width $\left(W_{e}\right)$ is introduced:

$$
\begin{aligned}
\frac{w}{h}+\frac{1.25 \cdot t}{\pi h}\left(1+\ln \left(\frac{4 \pi w}{t}\right)\right) & w / h \leq 0.159 \\
w_{e} / h= & \\
\frac{w}{h}+\frac{1.25 \cdot t}{\pi h}\left(1+\ln \left(\frac{2 h}{t}\right)\right) & w / h>0.159
\end{aligned}
$$

A simple model for introducing the frequency variation in $\varepsilon_{r, \text { eff }}$ is given by:

$$
\varepsilon_{r, \text { eff }}\left(f_{G H z}\right)=\varepsilon_{r}-\frac{\varepsilon_{r}-\varepsilon_{r, e f f}(0)}{1+\left(h_{m m} / Z_{c}\right)^{1.33}\left(0.43 f_{G H z}^{2}-0.009 f_{G H z}^{3}\right)}
$$

## CAD tool for evaluating Zc



## Graphic representation of $\Gamma$

$\Gamma$ is a complex number in the polar plane:


For the properties of $\Gamma$, assuming the line terminated with a passive load, the point in the polar plane must be within the circle with unit radius


## Graphic representation of $\Gamma$

The curve in the polar plane representing the reflection coefficient on a lossless line terminated with a passive load is a circle with radius equal to $|\Gamma|$. The phase changes by $2 \pi$ with a variation of $z$ of $\lambda / 2$


Characteristic points:
Matched line $\Gamma=0$ ( centre of the chart)
Open circuit $\Gamma=1$ (a)
Short circuit $\Gamma=1$ (d)
Maximum of voltage (b) ( $\Gamma$ real and positive)
Minimum of voltage (c) ( $\Gamma$ real and negative)

## Smith Chart

- On the polar plane of $\Gamma$ the curves representing the locus of points where the real (or imaginary) part of $z_{n}=Z / Z_{c}$ is constant are defined by:

$$
\begin{aligned}
& \operatorname{Re}\left\{Z_{\text {in }}\right\}=\operatorname{Re}\left\{\frac{\Gamma(z)+1}{\Gamma(z)-1}\right\}=\operatorname{cost}(r) \\
& \operatorname{Im}\left\{Z_{\text {in }}\right\}=\operatorname{Im}\left\{\frac{\Gamma(z)+1}{\Gamma(z)-1}\right\}=\operatorname{cost}(x)
\end{aligned}
$$

- These curves are circles, whose center and radius depend on $r$ (or $x$ ). The Smith Chart is the graphic representation of such circles. It allows to solve graphically several problems related to the transmission lines used in microwave circuits.



## Admittance representation of the Smith Chart



Impedance at $\Gamma: \quad z_{n}=\frac{1+\Gamma}{1-\Gamma}$
Impedance at $\Gamma^{\prime}$ :

$$
z_{n}^{\prime}=\frac{1+\Gamma^{\prime}}{1-\Gamma^{\prime}}=\frac{1+|\Gamma| e^{j(-\pi+\phi)}}{1-|\Gamma| e^{j(-\pi+\phi)}}=\frac{1-|\Gamma| e^{j \phi}}{1+|\Gamma| e^{i \phi}}=\frac{1-\Gamma}{1+\Gamma}=\frac{1}{z_{n}}
$$

The diametrically opposite point presents the inverse impedance (i.e. the admittance) with respect the original point. As a consequence, the Smith Chart can be used for representing either impedances or admittances

# Smith Chart <br> <br> Moving at $\Gamma=$ const 

 <br> <br> Moving at $\Gamma=$ const}


$$
\left\{\begin{array}{l}
\Gamma(x)=\Gamma_{0} \cdot e^{j 2 \beta x}=\left|\Gamma_{0}\right| e^{j\left\langle\Gamma_{0}\right.} \cdot e^{j 4 \pi \cdot(x / \lambda)} \\
\Gamma(d)=\Gamma_{L} \cdot e^{-j 2 \beta d}=\left|\Gamma_{L}\right| e^{j / \Gamma_{L}} \cdot e^{-j 4 \pi \cdot(d / \lambda)}
\end{array}\right.
$$

Displacement on a lossless line:
Movement on a circle with constant radius
Displacement:
$>$ from source $\rightarrow x$ increasing

$$
\angle \Gamma(x)=\angle \Gamma_{0}+2 \beta x \quad \rightarrow \text { counterclockwise rotation }
$$

$>$ from load $\rightarrow d$ increasing

$$
\angle \Gamma(x)=\angle \Gamma_{L}-2 \beta d \quad \rightarrow \text { Clockwise rotation }
$$

NOTE: $\underline{\Gamma(z) \text { is a periodic function of } z(d) \text { with period } \lambda / 2}$

## Smith Chart

## Displacement at r ( or x ) constant

Displacement at $x$ costant


$$
z_{i n}=\left(r_{L}+r\right)+j x_{L}
$$



Displacement at $r$ costant


## Smith Chart

## Displacement at g (or b) constant

Displacement at $b=$ const


Displacement at $g=$ const


## Smith Chart

## Example of graphical solution


$\Gamma_{L}=\frac{Z_{L}-Z_{c}}{Z_{L}+Z_{c}}=0.62 \angle 97.1^{\circ}$
$\Gamma_{B}=0.75 \angle-116.6^{\circ}$
$2 \beta d=40 \pi d=3.77[\mathrm{rad}]=216.0^{\circ}$
$\Gamma_{A}=0.75 \angle 27.4^{\circ}$
$\Gamma_{\text {in }}=0.51 \angle 31.1^{\circ} \Rightarrow Z_{i n}=Z_{c} \frac{1+\Gamma_{i n}}{1-\Gamma_{i n}} \cong 96+j 68[\Omega]$

