Microwave and mm-Wave Band-Wise Microstrip Lineto-Waveguide Transitions: A Review

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*Abstract –***This study presents a detailed comparative review of microwave and mm-wave band-wise microstrip-to-waveguide transitions for MMIC/MIC interconnect transmitter/receiver front-end connections in microwave, mm-wave, and sub-mmwave applications. All microwave band microstrip-torectangular waveguide transitions from 4 GHz (C-band) to 325 GHz (Y-band) have been reviewed and compared in terms of their performance parameters like return loss (RL), insertion loss (IL), and their relative or fractional bandwidth. This survey also highlights the requirement for appropriate substrates for distinct operating bands in PCB fabrication, which include extracted dielectric permittivity, loss tangents, and necessary thicknesses. The literature also strongly talks about the suitable rectangular waveguide needed for a particular waveguide with its dimensional information. The comparison also talks about the type of transitions (inline or vertical), and the and the coupling methodology used for transitions merits and demerits along with their applications. The outcome of this detailed review is that it describes all the methodological steps involved, along with mathematical expressions and their performance parameters, for new researchers and scientists in this particular area.**

Keywords – **Coaxial cable, Interconnects, Launcher, Microstrip antenna, Microstrip line, Microwave bands, Rectangular waveguide, Transition.**

I. INTRODUCTION

The significant number of RF and microwave activities in the sub-millimeter and mm-wave frequency ranges in areas such as communications, imaging, automotive radar, and tracking radar has raised the demand for systems and components in this range. Waveguide-based components are employed as a power feed network to fulfill the high-power requirements in these frequency ranges. Waveguides frequently replace coaxial cables as the primary transmission line in mm-wave due to their ease of manufacture and reduced loss. Planar-technology components, such as monolithic microwave integrated circuits (MMICs), are essential. As a result, for these purposes, a low insertion loss and broadband transition between both the microstrip line and waveguide are critical. Furthermore, due to a scarcity of connections at millimetres and terahertz frequencies, most measurement equipment is waveguide-based, necessitating the switch.

There are several types of microstrip-to-waveguide transitions, depending on their applications; Such designs include those based on ridged waveguides, antipodal fin lines, coupling probes, dipole antennas, substrate-integrated

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waveguides (SIW), iris coupling, among others. To communicate a signal, transmission lines transport energy from input to output ports. Waveguides, coaxial lines, planar transmission lines, microstrip lines, coplanar waveguide lines, and slot lines are some examples. For the effective deployment of microwave systems, engineers use a variety of transmission line types, coupling the electromagnetic wave from one type to another via appropriate transitions. For any of these transitions, transmission and reflection losses must be \log

The main objective of this paper is to present a userfriendly microwave band-wise survey from C-band (4 GHz–8 GHz) to Sub-mm Wave Y-band (220 GHz–325 GHz) in terms of performance parameters (return loss, insertion loss, and bandwidth) with detailed coupling methodology used and main features of the transitions to reduce tedious studies. Also, another aim of this article is to address the different confusing definitions of relative bandwidth, fractional bandwidth, and absolute bandwidth, return loss, insertion loss, reflection coefficients, and transmission coefficients.

II. LITERATURE REVIEW

To communicate a signal, transmission lines transport energy from input to output ports. Waveguides, coaxial lines, planar transmission lines, microstrip lines, coplanar waveguide lines, and slot lines are some examples. Engineers utilize various types of transmission lines to effectively deploy microwave systems, coupling the electromagnetic wave from one type to another through appropriate transitions. For any of these transitions, transmission and reflection losses must be low. This blog article addresses the hybrid microstrip to waveguide transition, one of several types of transitions that are commonly used in microwave circuit design:

(i) Transition from waveguide to planar

(ii) Transition from coaxial to waveguide

(iii) Transition from Rectangular Waveguide to elliptical waveguides.

Waveguides are a good choice for high-power, low-loss transmission, but they are also big and costly. Microstrip lines, for example, have found popularity in the microwave field because of their small dimensions and ease of integration with transistors and diodes to produce microwave-integrated circuits (MICs). For these reasons, a transition from a waveguide to a planar transmission line is appropriate for a wide range of microwave systems.

Transitions from a waveguide to a planar transmission line may be roughly categorized into three types: in-line (0°) transitions, aperture coupling transitions, and transverse transitions (90˚). In inline, transition takes place in the direction of propagation of the waveguide [1, 2, 4, 10, 11, 14,

28, 30, and 31]. In aperture-coupled transitions, energy is coupled to the planar transmission line via the aperture, which can be located on the waveguide's end wall or broad wall [8], whereas in transverse transitions, the probe is transverse to the waveguide's propagation direction [5, 13, 20 and 23]. Consequently, these transitions sometimes refer to these transitions as 'broadside' and 'narrow side' wall transitions. In comparison to inline transitions, these take up significantly more space and volume. Despite this, these transitions have a lower return loss and a wider bandwidth. The intricacy of these structures is their sole downside [3, 6-9, 12, 14-17, 21, 22, 24-27, and 29]. A microstrip antenna is used as an energy coupling element in the rectangular waveguide. As a result, the microstrip antenna serves as an energy launcher within the waveguide and is an essential subset of the transitions. Most widely, Quasi-Ygai Uda, bow-tie launcher, radial probe coupled, semi-circular loop coupled, dipole, rectangular, circular, patch, monopole, slot, etc. antennas are used as microstrip launchers in the rectangular waveguide [5, 18, 20, 21, 23, 26, 46]. The slot coupling, magnetic coupling, and aperture coupling are generally used coupling methods for MS-to-WG transitions [5, 13, 21, 34]. The most widely transmitted mode of the waveguide is transverse electric mode (TE_{10}) [25]. Air-filled, dielectric-filled, tapered ridges, and multi-stepped ridge rectangular waveguides (RWG) are utilized for energy output components in the transitions [13, 20, 40, and 44]. Multi-step probe coupling is the most commonly used coupling technique [25, 52]. Complementary split ring resonator (CSRR) patches and comb-like structures were used to broaden the bandwidth and enhance the coupling efficiency [21, 41]. An embedded wafer-level ball grid array (eWLB) and electronic band gap (EBG) patches are used to reduce parallel mode and radiation losses [50, 51]. Detailed comparative studies of MS-to-RWG transitions for microwave, mm-wave and RADAR applications have been discussed in reference [53]. The drawback of that survey is that a lengthy table and mixed band details are presented. No transition had been designed in L-band or S-band. That's why a new study for a band always needs to separate information extraction from the table by reworking that. From the researcher's point of view, a more user-friendly microwave and mm-wave band-wise survey from C-band to Y-band has been presented in this article, with a greater collection of literature for microwave, mm-wave, and sub-mm-wave applications.

III. TRANSITION DESIGN AND METHODOLOGY

To design an MS-to-RWG transition, first choose the applications, and as per the application, select the desired microwave band and suitable substrate waveguide type (WR-XX), then evaluate all the related waveguide secondary parameters using formulas given in references [37, 53]. Then evaluate the microstrip line secondary parameters using the chosen substrate dielectric constants, thickness, and loss tangent for the operating frequency band using formulas given in references [36, 53]. A slot is placed from the quarter wavelength $\left(\frac{8}{4}\right)$ $\frac{\lambda_g}{\lambda_g}$ apart from the back-short distance of the

waveguide in case of transverse, transitions as represented in Figure 1(a) [25, 52]. Sometimes transition designs eliminate

Fig. 1. Transverse Transition: (a) With Back-Short MS-to-WG Transverse E-Plane Transition [54], (b) back short-less MS-to-WG Transverse E-Plane Transition with EBG structure [39]

Fig. 2. (a) Inline transition (launcher), (b) matching impedance structures [31]

the need for waveguide back-shorting and reduce the need for hardware and, therefore cost. Simply put, we can say that the microstrip is placed transverse to the direction of propagation at the bottom end of the rectangular waveguide, and the output is taken from the far end of the waveguide, as represented in Figure 1(b) [39]. Similarly, in the case of inline transitions, no need for waveguide back-short as depicted in Figure 2 [1, 2, 4, 10, 11, 14, 28, 30, and 31]. The planar microstrip line has a low impedance (50 Ω) as compared to air-filled, dielectric, or ridge rectangular waveguides (400 Ω-500 Ω). Thus, impedance matching is one of the biggest challenges for the design of MS-to-WG transitions. Yet another challenge of this transition design is to match the modes of wave propagation since both transmission lines have different modes (quasi-TEM mode in the MS line, whereas transverse electric, TE_{10} dominant mode in RWG). For impedance matching purposes, many of the quarter-wave, multi-stepped, and Chebyshev's impedance matching transformer techniques are used. The mode matching among the two transmission lines has been achieved by a change in the slot/aperture/window/iris size of the waveguide geometry and the use of a multi-stepped/dielectric-filled waveguide. We changed the sizes of all the transition geometries within the chosen microwave band of transition based on sensitivity, with the goal of getting the least number of reflections and the most transmission within a reasonable fractional bandwidth. We will end the planned software optimization procedure (HFSS, CST-MW Studio, Feko, MATLAB) when we obtain the lowest reflection and highest transmission values for a fair quantity of -10 dB bandwidth. Band-by-band MS-to-RWG Tables (1–13) show the parametric comparison of transitions.

A. Transition Design Formulas

For any band microstrip line and waveguide transition design, the following design equations are used for the analysis:

(i) Microstrip Calculations

The following conventional equations are used for the microstrip analysis [36]:

Effective dielectric constant:

$$
\varepsilon_{eff} = \frac{\varepsilon_r + 1}{2} + \frac{\varepsilon_r - 1}{2} \left(1 + 12 \frac{h}{w} \right)^{-0.5}.
$$
 (1)

Characteristics Impedance:

$$
Z_0 = \frac{60}{\sqrt{\varepsilon_{eff}}} \ln\left(\frac{8h}{w} + \frac{w}{4h}\right); \quad \frac{w}{h} \le 1
$$
 (2)

$$
Z_0 = \frac{120\pi}{\sqrt{\varepsilon_{eff} \left[\frac{w}{h} + 1.393 + 0.677 \ln \left(\frac{w}{h} + 1.444 \right) \right]}}; \frac{w}{h} \le 1(3)
$$

Microstrip width:

$$
W = \frac{c}{f_0} \sqrt{\frac{2}{\epsilon_r + 1}},
$$
\n(4)

Width of substrate and ground; $W_{sub.}$ = 9 to 10 times width of microstrip

$$
W_{sub}=9w \text{ or } 10w. \tag{5}
$$

(ii) Rectangular Waveguide Calculations

The conventional rectangular waveguide expressions are used for the rectangular waveguide analysis for the dominant mode TE_{10} mode transmission [37]; Wavelength:

$$
\lambda = \frac{c}{f_0} \,. \tag{6}
$$

Dominant modes; $TE_{mn} = TE_{10}$

Cut-off frequency:

$$
f_c = \frac{c}{2\sqrt{\varepsilon_r} \mu_r} \sqrt{\left(\frac{m}{a}\right)^2 + \left(\frac{n}{b}\right)^2},\tag{7}
$$

Guided wavelength:

$$
\lambda_g = \frac{\lambda}{\sqrt{1 - \left(\frac{f_c}{f_0}\right)^2}},\tag{8}
$$

Waveguide impedance:

$$
Z_g = \frac{\eta}{\sqrt{1 - \left(\frac{f_c}{f_0}\right)^2}}; \text{ for TE mode (where } \eta = \sqrt{\frac{\mu}{\epsilon}}), (9)
$$

Waveguide section length:

$$
L = \frac{\lambda_g}{4},\tag{10}
$$

Waveguide length:

$$
L_{WG} = N \frac{\lambda_g}{4} \,. \tag{11}
$$

(iii) Microstrip Patch Calculations

In most modern microstrip to waveguide transition design the microistrip patch antennas are used as EM energy launcher and receiver. The following microstrip rectangular patch antenna expressions are used for the parameters dimensions estimations [63]. Patch width:

$$
W_p = \frac{c}{2f_0} \sqrt{\frac{2}{\varepsilon_r + 1}}\,,\tag{12}
$$

Patch length:

$$
L_p = L - 2. \Delta L, \tag{13}
$$

where,
$$
L = \frac{\lambda_g}{4}
$$
, (14)

$$
\lambda_g = \frac{\lambda_0}{\sqrt{\varepsilon_{\text{eff}}}}\,,\tag{15}
$$

$$
L = 0.412h \frac{\left(\varepsilon_{eff} + 0.3\right)}{\left(\varepsilon_{eff} - 0.258\right)} \frac{\left(\frac{W_p}{h} + 0.264\right)}{\left(\frac{W_p}{h} + 0.8\right)}.
$$
 (16)

B. Transition Design Steps

All the design steps of the microstrip to rectangular waveguide transitions are implemented using the flow diagram as illustrated in Fig. 3.

Fig. 3. Flow diagram of design transitions steps

IV. RESULT AND DISCUSSIONS

The transition results have been explained in this section for the complete knowledge of the transitions.

A. Transition Performance Parameters

A microstrip-to-waveguide transition tested for good performance is analyzed in terms of its reflection coefficient/return loss (RL), transmission/coupling coefficient or insertion losses, and -10 dB relative, absolute, and fractional bandwidths [36, 55].

Return Loss: The standing wave ratio (SWR) and the reflection coefficient (*Γ*) are both related to return loss. A lower SWR leads to an increase in return loss. The metric of return loss measures the effectiveness of matching devices or transmission lines. If the return loss is significant, the match is excellent. We prefer a high return loss because it leads to a smaller insertion loss. A transmission line discontinuity reflects the signal strength relative to the return loss. A mismatch between the line's characteristic impedance and the connected termination or load might create this discontinuity. It is commonly stated as a decibel ratio (dB).

$$
Return Loss(dB) = \frac{P_i}{P_r},
$$
\n(17)

where P_i is the incident power, P_r is the reflected power and RL (dB) is the return loss in dB. Therefore, RL is a positive. Where P_i is the incident power, P_r is the reflected power and RL (dB) is the return loss in dB. Therefore, RL is a positive quantity, whereas the reflection coefficient is negative [55].

Insertion Loss: The term insertion loss (IL) can also refer to coupling or transmission coefficients. Insertion loss refers to the loss of signal power resulting from the insertion of a device into a transmission line.

Insertion Loss (dB) =
$$
\frac{P_t}{P_r}
$$
, (18)

where P_r is the power that a load receives after insertion, P_i represents the transmitted power, and IL (dB) represents the insertion loss in decibels.

Bandwidth: In regards to the MS-to-WG transition, three types of bandwidths are in trend, namely, absolute bandwidth, relative bandwidth (RBW), and fractional bandwidth (FBW). Absolute bandwidth is defined as the difference of the frequencies corresponding to the -10 dB points in the return loss curve. Fractional bandwidth is defined as the ratio of the absolute bandwidth to the operating microwave band's center frequency. Relative bandwidth is defined as the ratio of the absolute bandwidth to the operating microwave bands. Mathematically, these three bandwidths are expressed by equations (19) to (21) .

-10 dB bandwidth (BW) =
$$
f_H - f_L
$$
, (19)

% Fractional bandwidth =
$$
\frac{f_H - f_L}{f_n} \times 100 ,
$$
 (20)

% Relative bandwidth $= \frac{-10 \text{ dB} \text{ bandwidth}}{\text{Target hand}} \times 100$. (21) Target ban d

B. Return Loss and Insertion loss

Figure 4 displays the return loss and insertion loss plots for the W-band MS-to-RWG transition.

Fig. 4. S-Parameters of W-band MS line-to-RWG transition [60]

The figure shows that the return loss is well below the -10 dB level, while the insertion loss lies between 0 and -0.50 dB. The fractional bandwidth (FBW) for this transition is ∽8% [60].

C. Propagation Constants

The propagation constant (y) of any electromagnetic wave is given by

$$
\gamma = \alpha + j\beta, \qquad (22)
$$

where, α = Attenuation Constant and β = Phase Constant.

Therefore, the propagation constant provides information about the traveling modes, cutoff frequency, dominant mode, phase constant, and their attenuation constants, as shown in Figs. 5 and 6 [59, 60]. Attenuation values become zero after the cut-off frequency, and the phase constant value starts growing after the cut-off frequency.

The TE10 is the dominant mode of the rectangular waveguide, while the other higher order modes of the waveguides are TE01, TE11, TE20, and TM11 as illustrated in the Figs. $6(b)$ and $6(c)$.

Fig. 5. S-Parameters of W-band MS line-to-RWG transition [59]

Fig. 6. Different modes of MS-to-WR10 transition: (a) propagation constant (real), (b) propagation constant (imaginary) and (c) different modes of W-band transition [60]

D. Prototype of Microstrip to Rectangular Waveguide Transitions

The prototype models of the microstrip line to rectangular waveguide transitions for W-band and Ka-band are shown in Fig. 7 (a–b).

Fig. 7. Prototype of MS-toWg transitions (a) W-band [60], and (b) Ka-band [59]

E. The general RLC equivalent of the Transitions

The T-equivalent and π -equivalent circuits are the same for any two-port microstrip line to rectangular waveguide transitions [59]. Check out Figures 8(a) and 8(b) for examples. The researchers can extract these circuits from the knowledge of the simulated S-parameters. The conversion formulas [36] transform the S-parameters into the two-port *Z*-parameters and *Y*-parameters. After that, these equivalent *Z*-parameters are converted into the T-equivalent circuit using equations (23) and (25),

$$
Z_A = Z_{11} - Z_{12}, \t\t(23)
$$

$$
Z_B = Z_{12},\tag{24}
$$

$$
Z_C = Z_{22} - Z_{12}.\tag{25}
$$

Then these T-equivalent impedance values $Z=R+jX_L$ or $Z=R+jX_C$ are compared with $(R+j\omega L)$ or $(R-1/j\omega C)$. Where, $\omega = 2\pi f_r$ and f_r is the resonance frequency.

For π -equivalent circuit the *Y*-parameters are converted using the following relationships of Equations (26) to (28),

$$
Y_A = Y_{11} - Y_{12},\tag{26}
$$

$$
Y_B = -Y_{12},\tag{27}
$$

$$
Y_C = Y_{22} - Y_{12}.\tag{28}
$$

Then these π -equivalent admittance values $Y = G + jB$ are compared with $(G+j\omega C \text{ or } (G-1/j\omega L)$. Where, $\omega=2\pi f_r$ and f_r is the resonance frequency.

Fig. 8. RLC electric equivalent circuit of E-plane microstrip-to-WR28 Ka-band transitions: (a) T-equivalent circuit, (b) π -equivalent circuit [59]

V. COMPARATIVE STUDY OF TRANSITIONS

The complete range of microwave bands is generally defined from 300 MHz to 300 GHz [36]. Microwave bands mainly comprise VHF, UHF, SHF, L, S, C, X, Ku, and Ka bands (from 300 MHz to 40 GHz), mm-wave bands, Q, U, V, E, D, and W bands (from 33 GHz to 170 GHz), and submillimetre wave bands (from 170 GHz to 325 GHz) [36]. The microwave bands above 300 GHz normally fall in the THz wave band. In the starting RF frequency bands from 300 MHz to 4 GHz, which mostly comprise VHF, UHF, SHF, Lband, and S-band, the waveguide to coaxial cable connectors and transitions are the most popular ones. However, with the technological advancement and miniaturization of MMIC circuits, devices and components demand new types of lowloss transition compatible with planar circuits. Thus, the development of waveguide to microstrip line interconnects and vice versa is necessarily required, and coaxial transitions fail at these higher frequencies above 10 GHz. Thus, MS-to-WG transitions work well above 4 GHz. A complete coverage of microwave, mm-wave, and THz waves' microstrip line to waveguide transitions from 4 GHz to 325 GHz is illustrated in tables from Table 1 to Table 13.

Ref.	Substrate Used for MSL	RWG Type $(a \text{ mm} \times$ b mm) and wall Thickness $(t \text{ mm})$	RL \langle (dB)	Π . >(dB)	FBW (%)	Coupling Method and Features	Applications
[4] X. Huang and K.-L. Wu May 2012	Rogers Duroid 5870, $\varepsilon_r = 2.33$ $h_1 = 1.58$ mm $h_2 = h_3 = 0.60$ mm $tan\delta=0.0012$	WR-137 $(34.85\times$ 15.80) $t=1.625$	15	0.30	13.33 (FBW)	. The transition is made up of an open- circuited microstrip quarter-wavelength resonator and a resonant U-shaped slot on the top broadside wall of a short-circuited waveguide . Longitudinal inline (0°) multi-layered . wide bandwidth . compact in size . convenient for mass production easy integration of multilayer structure . via less highly compatible with planar circuits	. In commercial and military communication systems for microwave and mm-wave applications

TABLE 1 C-BAND (4 GHZ-8 GHZ) TRANSITIONS

TABLE 2 X-BAND (8 GHZ-12 GHZ) TRANSITIONS

Ref.	Substrate Used for MSL	RWG Type $(a \text{ mm} \times$ b mm) and wall Thickness $(t$ mm)	RL \langle dB)	Π . >(dB)	FBW (%)	Coupling Method and Features	Applications
$[2]$ Y. Ren et al. 2019	F4BM $\varepsilon_r = 2.65$ $h=1.58$ mm $tan\delta = 0.001$	WR-90 $(22.86 \times$ 10.16) $t=1.27$	15	0.50	35 (Relative BW)	\therefore End inserted 90 $^{\circ}$. Inline . Magnetic coupling . uses Impedance transformer . microstrip probe 21 number of complementary split ring resonators (CSRRs) has been loaded in the patches to broaden the bandwidth and increase efficiency . moderate bandwidth . high efficiency . light weight . Economic small size . simple processing methods	Wireless communication, . radar. . Remote sensing. and . electronic warfare has been operated in microwave and millimeter-wave frequencies
$[5]$ N. Kaneda et al. Dec. 1999	Duroid $\varepsilon_r = 10.2$ $h=0.635$ mm $tan\delta = 0.002$ Alumina $\varepsilon_r = 9.9$ $h=0.635$ mm $tan\delta = 0.0002$	WR-90 $(22.86 \times$ 10.16 $t=1.27$	12 (Duroid) 15 (Alumina)	0.40 (Duroid) 0.15 (Alumina)	34(Relative BW (Duroid) 30(Relative BW) (Alumina)	End inserted (inline 90°) H-Plane . Transition using Quasi-Yagi antenna radiator launcher (antenna), consists of two dipole antennas, a truncated ground plane, and a MS- CPS balun. . The antenna is inserted in the E- plane of the waveguide. . low insertion loss . moderate bandwidth . small size . low-cost fabrication . single layered substrate . Both designs have the same dimensions	. Essential components in many microwaves and millimetre-wave application systems

Ref.	Substrate Used for MSL	RWG Type $(a \text{ mm} \times$ b mm) and wall Thickness $(t \text{ mm})$	RI. \langle (dB)	Π . >(dB)	FBW (%)	Coupling Method and Features	Applications
$[14]$ Zahid Yaqoob Malik et al. Jan. 2010	Rogers's 4350B $\varepsilon_r = 3.66$ $h=0.762$ mm $tan\delta = 0.0037$	WR-62 (15.80×7.90) $t=1.015$	14	0.50	9 (FBW)	. End launch, transverse wall (Improved right-angle transition with amplification) . Transition was achieved by passing a portion of a microstrip through an aperture in a transverse wall of a waveguide. . Aperture coupled . no need for waveguide tees or other components . realizable on inexpensive substrates . the assembly directly picks the signal from the antenna and provides an amplified signal for down-conversion	. It can be used for radar systems, . EW systems and compact communication Systems.
$[33]$ Z. Liu, et al. Jan. 2019	Manufactured and designed with different thicknesses of substrates RO4350B $\varepsilon_r = 3.66$ $h=0.508$ mm RT-duroid 5880 $h=0.508$ mm RT-duroid 5880 $h=0.254$ mm	WR-62 (15.80×7.90) $t=1.015$	21	0.415	61.67 (Relative BW)	. Back-to-back Inline MS line to empty SIW transition . Dielectric taper has been eliminated in SIW . broad BW . low attenuation has been achieved by introducing air cut in empty SIW . the simple and planar structure . no need for a dielectric taper . broad bandwidth	. Successfully applied to design various microwave and mm-wave passive components, such as filters, phase shifters, directional couplers horn antenna, etc. . Integrate ESIW circuits with active devices such as amplifiers

TABLE 3 KU-BAND (12 GHZ-18 GHZ) TRANSITIONS

TABLE 4 K-BAND (18 GHZ-26 GHZ) TRANSITIONS

$[13]$ J. H.C. Van Heu- ven March 1976	Silica $\varepsilon_r = 3.8$ $h=0.5$ mm	WR-42 $(10.67 \times$ 4.32) $t=1.015$	26	0.25	46 (Relative BW)	. End inserted (Inline) E-plane (90°) . The basic idea is the use of gradually tapered ridges at opposite sides of a dielectric substrate, concentrating and rotating the electrical field into a parallel line. . The symmetrical line is matched by a balancing transformer (balun) to the asymmetrical microstrip. An outline of the substrate is inserted into the waveguide. The ridges and the ground plane of the microstrip are connected to the wall of the guide along the line length . low reflection . low attenuation . wide band . reproducible performance , sensitive to small variations in the dimensions	. Especially useful at frequencies above 10 GHz.
$[21]$ Aliak- barian et al. 2010	Three Substrates RT5880 $\varepsilon_r = 2.2$ $h_1 = 0.7874$ mm RO4003 $\varepsilon_r = 3.38$ $h_1 = 0.508$ mm RT6010 $\varepsilon_r = 10.2$ $h_1 = 1.27$ mm	WR-51 $(12.95 \times$ 5.7) $t=1.27$	16	4.0	31.5 (RT5880) 15 (RO4003) 4.5 (RT6010) (FBW)	. End-wall slot coupling, waveguide splitter and three- port . It consists of an end-wall connection between a simple metal waveguide and a double- sided etched substrate. There is a double slit in the ground of the substrate, coupling the wave to two microstrip ports. Also, two stubs are added to the microstrip line. . easy manufacturing structure . low cost . small size . less complex . wideband bandwidth . non-tilted pattern	. The transition is applied to a dual- band 1×2 array and is Suitable for use in series-fed microstrip arrays

TABLE 5 KA-BAND (26 GHZ-40 GHZ) TRANSITIONS

$[57]$ А. Varshne y, et. al. 2022	RT-Duriod 5880 $\varepsilon_r = 2.2$ $h=0.127$ mm $tan\delta \approx 0.0009$	WR-28 $(7.112\times$ 3.556 $t=1.015$	34	0.10	72 (FBW)	. E-plane probe inserted . Impedance transformer-based back short transition . simple . compact . mass production via-less	. modern mobile devices such as smartphones
$[59]$ A. Varshne y, et. al. 2023	RT-Duriod 5880 $\varepsilon_r = 2.2$ $h=0.127$ mm $tan\delta \approx 0.0009$	WR-28 $(7.112\times$ 3.556) $t=1.015$	20	0.50	66.15 (FBW)	. Broadside wall inserted, . E-plane, .90° fishtail shaped probe insertion, . compact, easy fabrication of PCB	. K-band (23.52 GHz to 26) GHz), O-band (33 GHz to 45 GHz). and U-band (40 GHz to 45) GHz)

TABLE 6 Q-BAND (33 GHZ-50 GHZ) TRANSITIONS

TABLE 7 U-BAND (40 GHZ-60 GHZ) TRANSITIONS

Ref.	Substrate Used for MSL	RWG Type $(a \text{ mm} \times$ b mm) and wall Thickness $(t \text{ mm})$	RL \langle (dB)	IL >(dB)	FBW $(\%)$	Coupling Method and Features	Applications
$[46]$ S. Kumari 2017	RT-Duriod 5880 $\varepsilon_r = 2.2$ $h=0.127$ mm	WR-19 $(4.7752 \times$ 2.3876) $t=1.015$ mm	20	0.27	40	. E-plane probe along length . Monopole antenna as probe . symmetrical ground sleeves	radar systems . utilized in millimeter wave communication systems in U- band . Future in astrophysics, or atmospheric sounding and remote sensing.

TABLE 8 V-BAND (50GHZ-75GHZ) TRANSITIONS

TABLE 9 E-BAND (60 GHZ-90 GHZ) TRANSITIONS

Ref.	Substrate Used for MSL	RWG Type $(a \text{ mm} \times$ b mm) and wall Thickness $(t \text{ mm})$	RL \langle dB)	${\rm IL}$ >(dB)	FBW $(\%)$	Coupling Method and Features	Applications
$[7]$ W. Grap- her et al. Sept. 1994	Alumina $\varepsilon_{r1} = 9.8$ $h_1 = 0.154$ mm $tan\delta = 0.006$ Fused Quartz $\varepsilon_{r2} = 3.75$ $h_2 = 0.11$ mm for radiating element	WR-12 $(3.10 \times$ 1.55) $t=1.015$	15	0.30	10 (FBW)	. Broadside wall inserted (90°) . Slot-coupled microstrip antennas radiating into the waveguide . low bandwidth . compact . small size	. This type of transition is suited for mm-wave system applications for example, in traffic applications.
$[15]$ Sakakibara. K. et al. 2008	Teflon (top and bottom layers) $\varepsilon_r = 3.48$ $h=0.127$ mm $tan\delta = 0.0035$ Adhesive substrate (Middle Layer) $\varepsilon_r = 3.54$ $h=0.127$ mm $tan\delta=0.004$	$WR-10$ $(2.54 \times$ 1.27) $t=1.015$	20	0.71	32.5 (Relative BW)	. End inserted probe transition (90°) . The transition was developed by applying a multi-layer substrate to remove the upper back- short waveguide on the substrate. . A probe at one end of the microstrip line is inserted into the waveguide whose one end is short-circuited . multi-layered . uses via holes . flat and planar transition . broad bandwidth . system and cost of millimeter-wave device will gradually decrease	. Millimeter-wave wireless applications, . Automotive radar system (most cars will equip this), . broadband and Gbit high- speed wireless communication systems whose performance can exceed MIMO and UWB systems in the microwave band. . for connection between waveguide and RF circuit or antenna module.
$[27]$ Azzemi Ariffin et al. May 2016	Liquid Crystal Polymer (LCP) ε_r = 3.16 $h=0.10$ mm $tan\delta = 0.0045$	WR-12 $(3.10 \times$ 1.55) $t=1.015$	20	1.41	61.9 (Relative BW)	. Wideband 90° transition . Transitions using the radial probe and extended GND planes . simple probe . wideband bandwidth uses via-holes	. Broadband ultra-high-speed wireless communication systems such as . Broadband radio links for the backhaul networking of cellular base stations, . Giga wireless LAN, . Gigabit Ethernet networks, . 77GHz automotive RADAR systems and . Inter-vehicle communications

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TABLE 10 W-BAND (75 GHZ-110 GHZ) TRANSITIONS

		RWG					
Ref.	Substrate Used for MSL	Type $(a \text{ mm} \times$ b mm) and wall Thickness $(t \text{ mm})$	RL \langle dB)	IL >(dB)	FBW $(\%)$	Coupling Method and Features	Applications
[6] Y.C. Shih et al. 1988	RT-Duriod 5880 $\varepsilon_r = 2.2$ $h=0.127$ mm $tan\delta \approx 0.0009$	$WR-10$ $(2.54 \times$ 1.27) $t=1.015$	15	1.0 to 2.0	40 (FBW)	. Microstrip probe inserted into the broad wall of waveguide through aperture cut and impedance transformer . Simple . compact . low insertion loss . wide bandwidth . Broadside wall inserted right- angled (90°)	. Useful for devices and circuits characterization of MICs and MMICs
$[9]$ F. J. Ville-gas et al. Jan. 1999	Quartz $\varepsilon_r = 4.7$ $h=0.127$ mm $tan\delta \approx 0.0002$ and Fused Silica $\varepsilon_r = 3.8$ $h=0.127$ mm $tan\delta \approx 0.00015$	WR-10 $(2.54 \times$ 1.27) $t=1.015$	15 (Quartz) 15 (Fused Silica)	0.30 (Quartz) 0.20 (Fused Silica)	12 (Quartz) (FBW) 11 (Fused Silica) (FBW)	. Broadside E-plane right-angled (90°) . a single-layer substrate . new matching topology . new cavity enclosure . hermetic sealing of the interface . low-cost . New design methodology based on iris coupling implementation . more affordable . package-integrable transitions	. Amplifiers and transceivers in military and commercial systems, . especially for millimeter-wave (mm-wave) applications.
$[11]$ Jose M. Pérez- Escu-dero et al. Sep. 2020	Rogers CuClad 233 $\varepsilon_r = 2.35$ $h=0.100$ mm $tan\delta \approx 0.0009$	WR-10 $(2.54 \times$ 1.27) $t=1.015$	15	0.50	77 (Relative BW)	. Based on ridge and groove gap waveguides . Transition utilizes a multi- section (each of length λ /4) Chebyshev transformer implemented in groove gap waveguide section . Inline, H-plane cut along the length of groove gap RW . simpler and easier to manufacture . no microstrip line taper is required . the microstrip substrate does not enter the bed of the nail area . wide bandwidth . no need for soldering . uses a bed of pin nails	. Uses for sub- millimeter and millimeter frequency applications
$[16]$ B.D. Nguyen et al. Dec. 2005	Alumina $\varepsilon_r = 9.18$ $h=0.127$ mm $tan\delta = 0.0045$ Gold metallization $=1.5 \mu m$	WR-10 $(2.54 \times$ 1.27) $t=1.015$	23	0.60	12 (FBW)	. E-mode coupling-based transition developed by inserting a small microstrip disk sector antenna inside a standard W- band waveguide . End launch, transverse wall (right angle transition) . small compact size . low insertion loss . narrow bandwidth . no need for a quarter-wave transformer	. Often used for antenna or filter design, . for connecting the different parts of circuits.

TABLE 11 D-BAND (110 GHz-170 GHz) TRANSITIONS

Ref.	Substrate Used for MSL	RWG Type $(a \text{ mm} \times$ b mm) and Wall Thickness $(t \text{ mm})$	RL \langle dB)	$_{\rm IL}$ >(dB)	FBW (%)	Coupling Method and Features	Applications
$[34]$ P. Hügler, et al. Feb. 2020	RO3003 $\epsilon = 3.0$, $h=0.254$ mm	WR-6 (1.70×0.83) $t=0.99$	10	1.2, 1.8	25 (Relative BW)	. DMSL to waveguide is built for a mixed multilayer PCB consisting of three substrates with the thicknesses of 127, 254, and 500 µm . Inline (0°) H-plane, end inserted differential MSL-to-WG transitions . multi-layered PCB . complex design . costly . uses via holes	. Specially applicable at mm- waves applications . These layers could also be used for digital signals or power planes in future designs
$[47]$ Hassona. A 2018	SiC $\varepsilon = 9.66$ $h = 0.075$ mm $tan\delta = 0.003$	WR-6 (1.70×0.83) $t=0.99$	10	2.0 and 0.67 (min.)	22.85 (FBW)	. E-plane interconnect realized using a unilateral inline structure . No need for any galvanic contacts and any special processing . low-loss . wide-bandwidth	. mm-Wave systems . can be used in any MMIC technology
$[48]$ Hassona, A., et al.2020	Roger's RO4350B $\varepsilon_r = 3.48$ $h = 0.45$ mm $tan\delta = 0.0037$	WR-6 (1.70×0.83) $t=0.99$	10	2.0	17.14 $(-3dB$ FBW $)$. Transition used an eWLB packaging technology . For suppressing parallel plate modes and minimizing field leakage transition utilizes an EBG structure . mushroom-shaped EBG patches are used to suppress field leakage in undesired directions . drawback of the transition is that an air gap is present between the eWLB surface and the waveguide opening	. mm-Wave systems . can be used in any MMIC technology
$[49]$ Xu, W., et al. 2016	Roger RT Duroid 5880 $h:0.127$ mm tanδ=0.0009	WR-6 (1.70×0.83) $t=0.99$	10	0.13	42 $(-3dB)$ FBW)	. E-plane probe transition . Simple . Easy to integrate and fabricate . Single layered PCB . Compact and low cost.	. Suitable for mm- wave applications
$[50]$ Hassona. A., et al. 2017	Roger's RO4350B $\varepsilon_r = 3.2$ h :0.45 \rm{mm} $tan\delta = 0.0037$	WR-6 (1.70×0.83) $t=0.99$	10	3.0	$22\,$ $(-3dB)$ FBW)	. Interconnection is achieved through the use of embedded wafer-level ball grid array (eWLB) packaging technology . An EBG structure is used in the transition to suppress parallel plate modes and reduce field leakage. . Also uses Ball grid arrays (BGAs). . Mushroom-type EBG is fabricated in two two-layer substrates.	.mm-wave MMIC interconnects beyond 100GHz

$[51]$ Hassona. A., et al. 2017	Roger's RO4350B $\varepsilon_r = 3.2$ $h:0.45$ mm $tan\delta = 0.0037$	WR-6 (1.70×0.83) $t=0.99$	10	3.4	26 $(-3dB)$ FBW)	. transition realize using slot antenna . utilized eWLB packaging process is suitable for low- cost high-volume production and allows heterogeneous integration with other technologies . cost-effective . multi layered PCB	. mm-Wave systems . can be used in any MMIC technology
[61] A ₁ Varshney, et al. 2022	Roger _{RT} Duroid 5880 $\varepsilon_r = 2.2$ $h:0.127$ mm $tan\delta = 0.0009$	$WR-7$ $(1.651 \times$ 0.8255 $t=0.127$	10	1.8	18.5 (FBW)	. Multi-Step (5) Impedance Transformer	. most suitable for mm-wave communication, . interconnects for front end in receivers/transmitter s, MMIC, MIC circuits
	Roger _{RT} Duroid 5880 $h:0.127$ mm tanδ=0.0009	WR-7 $(1.651 \times$ 0.8255 $t=0.127$	10	0.92	10.6 (FBW)	Three-Step Impedance Transformer	. most suitable for mm-wave communication, . interconnects for front end in receivers/transmitter s, MMIC, MIC circuits
	Roger _{RT} Duroid 5880 $h:0.127$ mm $tan\delta = 0.0009$	WR-7 $(1.651 \times$ 0.8255 $t=0.127$	10	1.73	5.02 (FBW)	Using PIN Diode (ON State)	. most suitable for mm-wave communication, . interconnects for front end in receivers/transmitter s, MMIC, MIC circuits
	Roger _{RT} Duroid 5880 $h:0.127$ mm $tan\delta = 0.0009$	$WR-7$ $(1.651 \times$ 0.8255 $t=0.127$	10	1.48	3.6 (FBW)	Using resister	. most suitable for mm-wave communication, . interconnects for front end in receivers/transmitter s, MMIC, MIC circuits

TABLE 12 G-BAND (140 GHZ-220 GHZ) TRANSITIONS

$[42]$ O. Donadio et al. 2011	semi-insulating gallium arsenide $(SI-GaAs)$ $\varepsilon_r = 12.9$ $h = 0.630$ mm to 0.050 mm $tan\delta = 0.0001$	$WR-5$ (1.30×0.66) $t=0.635$ mm	10	4.0	27.77	. E-plane probe, used in the transition No need for any extra matching network . back-to-back configuration . The substrate is parallel to the E-field and is aligned along the direction of propagation of the waveguide . The housing was fabricated in split blocks of brass using a CAT-3D computer-numerically- controlled (CNC) milling machine. Standard MIL-F-3922- 67B flanges . reduced size and reduced costs in fabrication and assembly	. elevated probe is suitable for direct integration with monolithic microwave integrated circuits
$[43]$ E. Daniel et al. 2002	Alumina $(MS-to-WG)$ $\varepsilon_r = 9.8$ $h=0.0508$ mm CuFlon (copper on Teflon@ from Polyflon) $\varepsilon_r = 2.2$ $h=0.0508$ mm (For WG-to- antipodal Fin line)	WR-5 (1.30×0.66) $t=0.635$ mm	10	1.1 (alumina) 1.3 (Teflon) @165GHz	24.25	. Two MMIC-waveguide transitions: E-plane probe and antipodal fin line	. For THz frequency mixers and Amplifiers
$[44]$ A. Tessmann et al. 2006	Ouartz substrate $\varepsilon_r = 3.8$ $h = 0.050$ mm $tan\delta = 0.0001$ at 500 GHz Gold as metallization h_{end} =0.05mm	$WR-5$ (1.30×0.66) $t=0.635$ mm	12	2.9 (Back-to- back) < 1.5 (Single Transition)	44.44	. back-to-back configuration .longitudinal mounted case . quartz substrate enters the waveguide through a window on the longer side of the waveguide	. 220 GHz Low- Noise Amplifier Modules for Radiometric Imaging Applications . G-band radiometer system used to generate passive millimetre-wave images
$[45]$ Η. Aliakbarian et al. 2014	Rogers 5880 $\varepsilon_r = 2.22$ $h = 0.064$ mm	WR-4 $(1.09 \times$ 0.56) $t = 0.51$ mm	10	2.5	27.77	. fully micro-machined double- slot grounded coplanar waveguide (GCPW) to rectangular hollow waveguide transition . radiation loss has been minimized . reduce the coupling insertion loss	. MM-wave and Sub-mm wave applications

TABLE 13 Y-BAND (220 GHZ-325 GHZ) TRANSITIONS

VI. CONCLUSIONS

This review article provides an overview of various hybrid transition types. The author has proposed the most widely used microstrip to rectangular waveguide transitions for defence and satellites. All transitions have been covered in this work, which enables users to find the research gap, create their objectives, and also find some novel transition geometry. The study's design steps and mathematical expressions are interesting to use. In short, a complete method of generating RLC equivalent circuits from the S-parameters and resonance frequencies has been described. The article describes the detailed comparative study and review of the microstrip-towaveguide transitions as per microwave bands from 4 GHz to 325 GHz. The article covers MS line-to-WG transitions in the microwave bands from the C-band (4 GHz–8 GHz) to the submm wave band (220 GHz–325 GHz). The article also provides knowledge of dispersion parameters, i.e., the propagation constant. These help to evaluate the group velocity and phase velocities of dominant modes as well as higher-order modes. All confusing and similar definitions of the performance parameters of the microwave transitions have been defined more easily. A separate band-wise review has been illustrated in tabular form in terms of their performance parameter, a suitable substrate for the designated band, waveguide needed, coupling methodology used, mathematical expressions involved, their features based on merits and demerits, and their applications for microwave, mm-wave, sub-mm-wave, microwave imaging, automotive RADAR, satellite communications, MMIC, and planar circuits as interconnects for transmitters and receivers, power dividers, combiners, detectors, etc.

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