

# <u>Lecture – 11</u>

# Date: 06.02.2017

- Impedance Matching using Lumped Components
- Forbidden Region, Frequency Response, Quality Factor



# Introduction – Impedance Transformation

One of the most important and fundamental two-port networks that microwave engineers design is a **lossless matching network** (otherwise known as an **impedance transformer**).

**Q:** In high frequency circuits, a source and load are connected by a TL. Can we implement matching networks in transmission line circuits?

Furthermore, these matching networks seem too good to be true—can we **really** design and construct them to provide a **perfect** match?

A: We can easily provide a near perfect match at precisely one frequency

But, since lossless matching and transmission lines are made of entirely reactive elements (not to mention the reactive components of source and load impedance), we find that changing the frequency will typically "unmatch" our circuit!

### **Introduction – Impedance Transformation (contd.)**

Therefore, a difficult challenge for any RF/microwave design engineer is to design a **wideband** matching network—a matching network that provides an **"adequate"** match over a wide range of frequencies.

• Generally speaking, matching network design requires a **tradeoff** between following parameters for desirable attributes:

1. Bandwidth; 2. Complexity; 3. Implementation; 4. Adjustability

## Matching with Lumped Components

we begin with the simplest solution: An L-network, consisting of a single capacitor and a single inductor.

**Q:** Just **two** elements! That seems simple enough. Do we **always** use these L-networks when constructing lossless matching networks?

- A: Nope. L-networks have **two** major drawbacks:
- 1. They are narrow-band.
- 2. Capacitors and inductors are difficult to make at microwave frequencies!

Soon we will see how these L-networks actually work

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### **Matching Network Analysis**

Consider following circuit where a passive load is attached to an active source:



It will absorb power — power that is delivered to it by the source → given by expression

 $P_L = \frac{1}{2} \left\{ V_L I_L^* \right\}$ 

the power delivered to the load will be **maximized** (for a given  $V_g$  and  $Z_g$ ) **if** the load impedance is equal to the **complex conjugate** of the source impedance ( $Z_L = Z_g^*$ )

• We call the maximized power, the **available power**  $P_{avl}$  from the source  $\rightarrow$  it is, after all, the **largest** amount of power that the source can **ever** deliver!

$$P_{L}^{\max} \doteq P_{avl} = \frac{1}{2} |V_{g}|^{2} \frac{R_{g}}{|Z_{g} + Z_{g}^{*}|^{2}} = \frac{1}{2} |V_{g}|^{2} \frac{R_{g}}{|2R_{g}|^{2}} = \frac{|V_{g}|^{2}}{8R_{g}}$$

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 $P_L \leq P_{avl}$ 

## Matching Network Analysis (contd.)

- Note the available power of the source is dependent on source parameters only (i.e., V<sub>g</sub> and R<sub>g</sub>). This makes sense! Do you see why?
- we must make the load impedance the complex conjugate of the source impedance to "take full advantage" of all the available power of the source,
- Otherwise, the power delivered to the load will be less than power made available by the source! In other "words":

## **Matching Networks and TLs**

**Note:** we can construct a network to transform the **input impedance** of the transmission line into the complex conjugate of **the source impedance**:

**Q:** But, do we have to place the matching network between the source and the transmission line?  $Z_{a}$ 

A: Nope! We could **also** place a (different) matching network between the transmission line and the load.





## Matching Networks and Transmission Lines (contd.)

**Q:** So **which** method should we choose? Do engineers typically place the matching network between the source and the transmission line, **or** place it between the transmission line and the load?

A: Actually, the typical solution is to do **both**!

• We find that often there is a matching network between the a source and the transmission line, **and** between the line and the load.



**Q:** Yikes! Why would we want to build **two** separate matching networks, instead of just **one**?

A: By using two separate matching networks, we can **decouple** the design problem. Recall that the design of a **single** matching network solution would depend on four separate parameters:

- 1. the source impedance Z<sub>g</sub>
- 2. load impedance Z<sub>L</sub>
- 3. the TL characteristic impedance Z<sub>0</sub>
- 4. the TL length *l*

### Matching Networks and Transmission Lines (contd.)

- Alternatively, the design of the network matching the **source** and **transmission line** depends on **only**:
- In addition, the design of the network matching the load and transmission line depends on only:

the source impedance Z<sub>g</sub>
 the transmission line characteristic impedance Z<sub>0</sub>
 the source impedance Z<sub>1</sub>
 the transmission line characteristic impedance Z<sub>0</sub>

Note that **neither** design depends on the transmission line **Length** *l*!

**Q:** How is that possible? **A:** Remember the case where  $Z_g = Z_0 = Z_L$ . For that special case, we found that a conjugate match was the result—regardless of the transmission line length.

Thus, by matching the source to line impedance Z<sub>0</sub> **and** likewise matching the load to the line impedance, a conjugate match is **assured**—but the **length** of the transmission line does **not** matter!

In fact, the typical problem for microwave engineers is to match a load (e.g., device input impedance) to a **standard** transmission line impedance (typically  $Z_0 = 50\Omega$ ); **or** to independently match a source (e.g., device output impedance) to a **standard** line impedance.

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### Matching Networks and Transmission Lines (contd.)

A **conjugate match** is thus obtained by connecting the two with a transmission line of **any length**!

## **L-Network Analysis**

 consider the first matching L-network, and denote it as matching network (A):

Note that this matching network consists of just **two** lumped elements, which must be **purely reactive** — in other words, a **capacitor** and an **inductor**!

 To make Γ<sub>in</sub> = 0, the input impedance of the network must be:

$$Z_{in} = Z_0$$

• Using **basic** circuit analysis we can find that:  

$$Z(z=0) = Z_{in} = jX + \frac{(1/jB)Z_L}{(1/jB) + Z_L} = jX + \frac{Z_L}{1+jBZ_L}$$



 $Z_0$ 



 $\mathbf{X} = -\mathbf{X}_1 = -\operatorname{Im}\left\{\frac{Z_L}{Z_L + iBZ_L}\right\}$ 

### L-Network Analysis (contd.)

• Thus if B is properly selected:

$$Z = jX$$
  

$$Z_{0}, \beta$$

$$\Gamma(0) = \Gamma_{in}$$

$$Z_{1} = Z_{0}$$

**Part 2: Selecting Z = jX:** Note that the impedance  $Z_1$ =  $Z_L \mid \mid (1/jB)$  has the ideal real value of  $Z_0$ . However,  $X_1 = \text{Im}\{Z_1\} = \text{Im}\{\frac{Z_L}{Z_L + jBZ_L}\}$ it also posses an **annoying** imaginary part of:

 However, this imaginary component can be easily removed by setting the series element Z =jX to its equal but opposite value!



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### L-Network Analysis (contd.)

 we can solve the preceding equations for the required values X and B to satisfy these two equations — to create a matched network!

$$B = \frac{X_{L} \pm \sqrt{R_{L} / Z_{0}} \sqrt{R_{L}^{2} + X_{L}^{2} - Z_{0} R_{L}}}{R_{L}^{2} + X_{L}^{2}}$$
$$X = \frac{1}{B} + \frac{X_{L} Z_{0}}{R_{L}} - \frac{Z_{0}}{B R_{L}}$$
 Where,  $Z_{L} = R_{L} + j X_{L}$ 

**Note:** 1) Because of the  $\pm$ , there are **two** solutions for B (and thus X) 2) For jB to be purely imaginary (i.e., reactive), B must be **real**  $\rightarrow$  R<sub>L</sub> **must** be greater than Z<sub>0</sub> (R<sub>L</sub> > Z<sub>0</sub>) to insure that B and thus X is real.

In other words, this matching network **(type-A)** can only be used when  $R_L > Z_0$ . Notice that this condition means that the normalized load  $z_L'$  lies **inside** the r = 1 circle on the Smith Chart!





# L-Network Analysis (contd.)

• It is apparent that a perfect match will occur if the shunt element Y = jB is set to "cancel" the reactive component of  $Y_1$ :

$$\mathbf{B} = -\operatorname{Im}\left\{Y_{1}\right\} = -\operatorname{Im}\left\{\frac{1}{jX + Z_{L}}\right\}$$

So that: 
$$Y_{in} = Y + Y_1 = -jB_1 + (Y_0 + jB_1) = Y$$
  
Perfect Match!!!

 we can solve the preceding equations for the required values X and B to satisfy these two equations — to create a matched network!

$$=Y_{0}$$

$$Z_{0},\beta$$

$$\Gamma(0) = \Gamma_{in}$$

$$Z(0) = Z_{in}$$

$$Y_{in} = Y_{0}$$

$$Z = 0$$

$$K = \pm \frac{\sqrt{(Z_{0} - R_{L}) / R_{L}}}{Z_{0}}$$

$$X = \pm \sqrt{R_{L}(Z_{0} - R_{L})} - X_{L}$$
Where,
$$Z_{L} = R_{L} + jX_{L}$$

Note: 1) Because of the ± , there are two solutions for B (and thus X)

- 2) For jB and jX to be purely imaginary (i.e., reactive), B and X must be real
- $\rightarrow$  R<sub>L</sub> **must** be less than Z<sub>0</sub> (R<sub>L</sub> < Z<sub>0</sub>) to insure that B and X are real.

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### L-Network Analysis (contd.)

In other words, this matching network (type-B) can only be used when  $R_L < Z_0$ . Notice that this condition means that the normalized load  $z_L'$ lies **outside** the r = 1 circle on the Smith Chart!

 Once the values of X and B are found, determine the required values of L and/or C, for the signal frequency ω<sub>0</sub>!



As a result, we see that the reactance or susceptance of the elements of our L-network will have the proper values for matching at precisely **one and only one frequency!** 

And this frequency **better be the signal frequency**  $\omega_0$  !



## L – Type Matching Network (contd.)

If the signal frequency changes from the design frequency, the reactance and susceptance of the matching network inductors and capacitors will change  $\rightarrow$  As a result the circuit will no longer be matched

Therefore the L-Type matching network has a narrow bandwidth!



In addition; it becomes very difficult to build quality lumped elements with useful values past 1 or 2 GHz. L-network solutions Thus, are generally applicable only in the relatively low RF region (i.e., < 2GHz).



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Interdigital

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Spiral inductor

Planar resistor

Chip resistor

Loop inductor







Metal-insulatormetal capacitor

Chip capacitor



### Example – 1

The output impedance of a transmitter operating at a frequency of **2GHz** is  $Z_T = (150 + j75)\Omega$ . Design an L–Type matching network, as shown below, such that maximum power is delivered to the antenna whose input impedance is  $Z_A = (75 + j15) \Omega$ .





### Example – 1 (contd.)

$$\frac{R_{T} + jX_{T}}{1 + jB_{C}(R_{T} + jX_{T})} + jX_{L} = R_{A} - jX_{A}$$
  
Simplification gives:  
$$R_{T} = R_{A}(1 - B_{C}X_{T}) + (X_{A} + X_{L})B_{C}R_{T}$$
$$R_{T} = R_{T}R_{A}B_{C} - (1 - B_{C}X_{T})(X_{A} + X_{L})$$
$$R_{C} = \frac{X_{T} \pm \sqrt{\frac{R_{T}}{R_{A}}(R_{T}^{2} + X_{T}^{2}) - R_{T}^{2}}}{R_{T}^{2} + X_{T}^{2}}$$

In this example, R<sub>T</sub> > R<sub>A</sub>; therefore the square root is +ve and therefore for positive B<sub>C</sub> (capacitor) we must choose the plus sign in this expression.

**Therefore:** 

$$X_{L} = \frac{1}{B_{C}} - \frac{R_{A}(1 - B_{C}X_{T})}{B_{C}R_{T}} - X_{A}$$

• Insert the given values in the obtained expressions to get:

$$B_C = 9.3mS \Rightarrow C = \frac{B_C}{\omega} = 0.73\,pF$$
  $X_L = 76.9\Omega \Rightarrow L = \frac{X_L}{\omega} = 6.1nH$ 

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# Example – 1 (contd.)

**Smith Chart Based Approach** 

**Series Connection of Inductance** 

Before we tread this path, let us have a look on Smith chart navigation when series/shunt reactances are added to any impedance (Z)

# to a given Impedance





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#### Normalize the transmitter and antenna impedances

• Since no  $Z_0$  is given, one can choose any. In this example,  $Z_0 = 75\Omega$  makes simplification easier.

$$z_T = Z_T / Z_0 = 2 + j1$$
  $z_A = Z_A / Z_0 = 1 + j0.2$ 

- C is in shunt with  $Z_T \rightarrow$  the movement will be downward on a constant conductance circle  $\rightarrow$  starting point will be  $z_T'$  and the end point will be its intersection with  $z_M = 1 j0.2$  circle
- Then the movement will be upward on a constant resistance circle (from  $z_M = (z_A')^* = 1 j0.2$ )  $\rightarrow$  to account for the series inductance L





# Example – 1 (contd.)

Therefore, the normalized susceptance jb<sub>c</sub> is:

$$jb_c = y_{TC} - y_T = 0.4 + j0.49 - (0.4 - j0.2) = j0.69$$

Similarly, the normalized reactance  $jx_L$  is:

$$jx_L = z_A^{*'} - z_{TC} = 1 - j0.2 - (1 - j1.22) = j1.02$$

Finally,

$$L = \frac{x_L Z_0}{\omega} = 6.09 nH$$
$$C = \frac{b_c}{\omega Z_0} = 0.73 pF$$



# L – Type Matching Network (contd.)

### **Various configurations**



Their usefulness is regulated by the specified source and load impedances and the associated matching requirements



# L – Type Matching Network (contd.)

**Design procedure for two element L – Type matching Network** 

- 1. Find the normalized source and load impedances.
- 2. In the Smith chart, plot circles of constant resistance and conductance that pass through the point denoting the source impedance.
- 3. Plot circles of constant resistance and conductance that pass through the point of the complex conjugate of the load impedance  $(z_M = z_L^*)$ .
- 4. Identify the intersection points between the circles in steps 2 and 3. The number of intersection points determine the number of possible L-type matching networks.
- 5. Find the values of normalized reactances and susceptances of the inductors and capacitors by tracing a path along the circles from the source impedance to the intersection point and then to the complex conjugate of the load impedance.
- 6. Determine the actual values of inductors and capacitors for a given frequency.

## Example – 2

Using the Smith chart, design all possible configurations of discrete two-element matching networks that match the source impedance  $Z_s = (50+j25)\Omega$  to the load  $Z_L = (25-j50)\Omega$ . Assume a characteristic impedance of  $Z_0 = 50\Omega$  and an operating frequency of f = 2 GHz





## Example – 2 (contd.)

4. The intersection points of these circles are A, B, C and D with the normalized impedances and inductances as:

$$z_A = 0.5 + j0.6$$
  $y_A = 0.8 - j1$ 

 $z_c = 1 - j1.2$   $y_c = 3 + j0.5$ 

$$z_B = 0.5 - j0.6$$
  $y_B = 0.8 + j1$   
 $z_D = 1 + j1.2$   $y_D = 3 - j0.5$ 

5. There are four intersection points and therefore four L-type matching circuit configurations are possible.

$$z_{s} \rightarrow z_{A} \rightarrow (z_{L})^{*}$$
 Shunt L, Series L  
 $z_{s} \rightarrow z_{C} \rightarrow (z_{L})^{*}$  Series C, Shunt L

$$z_{S} \rightarrow z_{B} \rightarrow (z_{L})^{*}$$
 Shunt C, Series L  
 $z_{S} \rightarrow z_{D} \rightarrow (z_{L})^{*}$  Series L, Shunt L

6. Find the actual values of the components

### In the first case:

 $z_{S} \rightarrow z_{A} : \text{the normalized} \\ \text{admittance is changed by} \qquad jb_{L_{2}} = y_{A} - y_{S} = -j0.6 \qquad \Rightarrow L_{2} = -\frac{Z_{0}}{b_{L_{2}}\omega} = 6.63nH \\ z_{A} \rightarrow z_{L} : \text{the normalized} \\ \text{impedance is changed by} \qquad jx_{L_{1}} = (z_{L})^{*} - z_{A} = j0.4 \qquad \Rightarrow L_{1} = \frac{x_{L_{1}}Z_{0}}{\omega} = 1.59nH$ 



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## Example – 2 (contd.)



### **Similarly:**





# Forbidden Region, Frequency Response, and Quality Factor

### **<u>Self Study</u>** - Section 8.1.2 in the Text Book

- The L-type matching networks can be considered as resonance circuits with  $f_0$  being the resonance frequency.
- These networks can be described by a loaded quality factor,  $Q_L$ , given by:



- However, analysis of matching circuit based on bandpass filter concept is complex
   → In addition, it only allows approximate estimation of the bandwidth.
- More simpler and accurate method is design and analysis through the use of nodal quality factor,  $Q_n$ .
- During L-type matching network analysis it was apparent that at each node the impedance can be expressed in terms of equivalent series impedance  $Z_s = R_s + jX_s$  or admittance  $Y_P = G_P + jB_P$ .
- Therefore, at each node we can define  $Q_n$  as the ratio of the absolute value of reactance  $X_s$  to the corresponding resistance  $R_s$ .





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For any L-matching network

networks,  $Q_1 = Q_n$ 

 $Q_L = \frac{Q_n}{2}$  For more complicated

## **Nodal Quality Factor**

- The "nodal quality factor" and loaded quality factor are related as:
- Bandwidth of the matching network can be easily estimated once the "nodal quality factor" is known.
- To simplify the matching network design process even further, we can draw constant  $Q_n$  contours in the Smith chart.



## Nodal Quality Factor (contd.)

- From section 8.1.2, it will be apparent that Q of matching network is extremely important.
- For example, broadband amplifier requires matching circuit with low-Q, while oscillators require high-Q networks to eliminate harmonics in the output signal.
- It will also be apparent that L-type matching networks have no control over the values of  $Q_n \rightarrow \text{Limitation}!!!$
- To gain more freedom in choosing the values of Q or Q<sub>n</sub>, another element in the matching network is incorporated → results in T- or Pi-network

## **T- and Pi- Matching Networks**

- The knowledge of nodal quality factor  $(Q_n)$  of a network enables estimation of loaded quality factor  $\rightarrow$  hence the Band Width (BW).
- The addition of third element into the matching network allows control of  $Q_L$  by choosing an appropriate intermediate impedance.

### Example – 1

• Design a T-type matching network that transforms  $Z_L = (60 - j30)\Omega$  into  $Z_{in} = (10 + j20)\Omega$  and that has a maximum  $Q_n$  of 3. Compute the values for the matching network components, assuming that matching is required at f = 1GHz.



• Network needs to have a  $Q_n$  of  $3 \rightarrow$  we should choose impedance in such a way that  $Z_B$  is located on the **intersection** of constant resistance circle  $r = r_{in}$  and  $Q_n = 3$  circle  $\rightarrow$  helps in the determination of  $Z_3$ 



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## Example – 1 (contd.)

- The constant resistance circle of  $z_{in}$  intersects the  $Q_n = 3$  circle at point **B**. This gives value of  $Z_3$ .
- The constant resistance circle  $r = r_L$  and a constant conductance circle that passes through B helps in the determination of  $Z_2$  and  $Z_1$ .







### Example – 2

• For a broadband amplifier, it is required to develop a Pi-type matching network that transforms a  $Z_L = (10 - j10)\Omega$  into  $Z_{in} = (20 + j40)\Omega$ . The design should involve the lowest possible  $Q_n$ . Compute the values for the matching network components, assuming that matching is required at f = 2.4GHz.

### Example – 2 (contd.) Solution

 Several Configurations possible (including the forbidden!). One such is :



- Since the load and source impedances are fixed, we can't develop a matching network that has Q<sub>n</sub> lower than the values at locations Z<sub>1</sub> and Z<sub>in</sub>
- <u>Therefore in this example</u>, the minimum value of  $Q_n$  is determined at the input impedance location as  $Q_n = |X_{in}|/R_{in} = 40/20 = 2$

- In the design, we first plot constant conductance circle g =  $g_{in}$  and find its intersection with  $Q_n=2$  circle (point B)  $\rightarrow$ determines the value of  $Z_3$
- Next find the intersection point (labeled as A) of the  $g=g_L$  circle and constantresistance circle that passes through B  $\rightarrow$ determines value of Z<sub>2</sub> and Z<sub>1</sub>







- It is important to note that the relative positions of Z<sub>in</sub> and Z<sub>L</sub> allows only one optimal Pi-type network for a given specification.
- All other realizations will result in higher  $Q_n \rightarrow essentially smaller BW!$
- Furthermore, for smaller Z<sub>L</sub> the Pi-matching isn't possible!

It is thus apparent that BW can't be enhanced arbitrarily by reducing the  $Q_n$ . The limits are set by the desired complex  $Z_{in}$  and  $Z_L$ .

With increasing frequency and correspondingly reduced wavelength the influence of parasitics in the discrete elements are noticeable → distributed matching networks overcome most of the limitations (of discrete components) at high frequency