

Microwave couplers

- Theoretical approach
- Ideal coupler
- Real coupler
- Applications :
 - Hybrid ring
 - Hybrid coupler

4-port scattering matrix

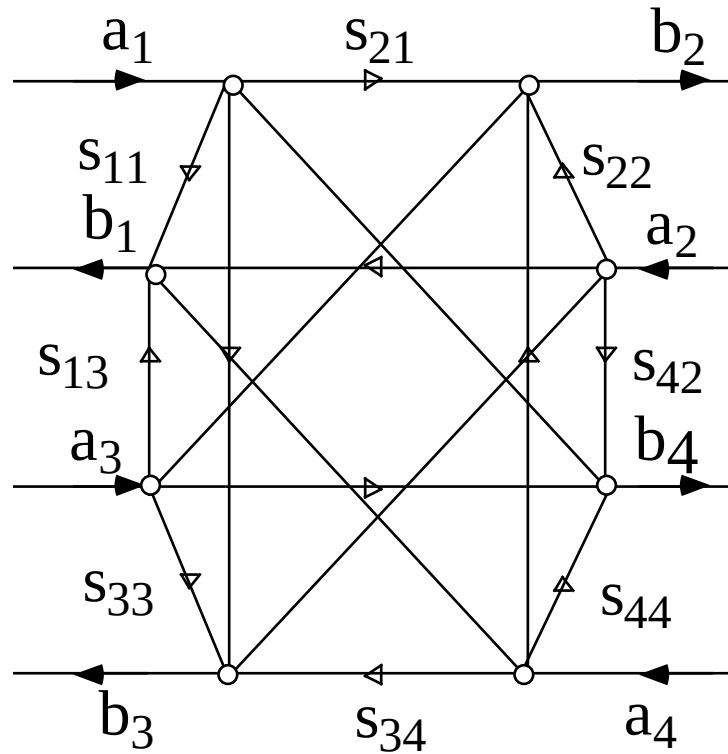
$$\begin{bmatrix} S_{11} & S_{12} & S_{13} & S_{14} \\ S_{21} & S_{22} & S_{23} & S_{24} \\ S_{31} & S_{32} & S_{33} & S_{34} \\ S_{41} & S_{42} & S_{43} & S_{44} \end{bmatrix}$$

General

$$\begin{bmatrix} 0 & S_{12} & S_{13} & S_{14} \\ S_{12} & 0 & S_{23} & S_{24} \\ S_{13} & S_{23} & 0 & S_{34} \\ S_{14} & S_{24} & S_{34} & 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

matched and reciprocal

flow chart



adapted and reciprocal and lossless 4-port

$$\begin{bmatrix} 0 & s_{12}^* & s_{13}^* & s_{14}^* \\ s_{12}^* & 0 & s_{23}^* & s_{24}^* \\ s_{13}^* & s_{23}^* & 0 & s_{34}^* \\ s_{14}^* & s_{24}^* & s_{34}^* & 0 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} 0 & s_{12} & s_{13} & s_{14} \\ s_{12} & 0 & s_{23} & s_{24} \\ s_{13} & s_{23} & 0 & s_{34} \\ s_{14} & s_{24} & s_{34} & 0 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

What does it mean ?

$$s_{13}^* s_{14} + s_{23}^* s_{24} = 0$$

(line 3 x column 4)

$$\times s_{14}^*$$

$$s_{13}^* s_{23} + s_{14}^* s_{24} = 0$$

(line 1 x column 2)

$$\times s_{23}^*$$

—

$$s_{13}^* \left(|s_{14}|^2 - |s_{23}|^2 \right) = 0$$

$$s_{13}^* \left(|s_{14}|^2 - |s_{23}|^2 \right) = 0$$

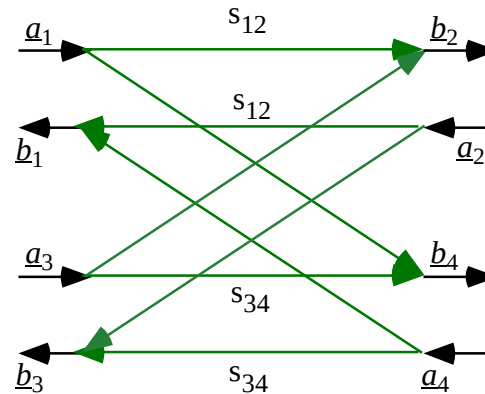
1st solution :

$$s_{13} = 0, s_{14} \neq 0, s_{23} \neq 0$$

thus :

$$s_{13}^* s_{14} + s_{23}^* s_{24} = 0 \Rightarrow s_{24} = 0$$

$$\begin{bmatrix} 0 & s_{12} & 0 & s_{14} \\ s_{12} & 0 & s_{23} & 0 \\ 0 & s_{23} & 0 & s_{34} \\ s_{14} & 0 & s_{34} & 0 \end{bmatrix}$$



$$s_{13}^* \left(|s_{14}|^2 - |s_{23}|^2 \right) = 0$$

2 nd solution : $|s_{14}| = |s_{23}|$

selection of reference planes : $s_{14} = s_{23} = j\beta$

$$|s_{12}|^2 + |s_{13}|^2 + |s_{14}|^2 = 1 \quad (\text{line 1 x column 1})$$

$$|s_{13}|^2 + |s_{23}|^2 + |s_{34}|^2 = 1 \quad (\text{line 3 x column 3})$$

thus : $s_{12} = s_{34} = \alpha$ with adequate ref. planes

2nd solution

$$s_{12}^* s_{24} + s_{13}^* s_{34} = 0 = \alpha (s_{24} + s_{13}^*)$$

(line 1 x column 4)

$$s_{13}^* s_{14} + s_{23}^* s_{24} = 0 = \beta (s_{13}^* - s_{24})$$

(line 3 x column 4)



$$\alpha = 0, \beta = 0$$



$$s_{13} = s_{24} = 0$$

$$\begin{bmatrix} 0 & 0 & s_{13} & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & s_{24} \\ s_{13} & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & s_{24} & 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\begin{bmatrix} 0 & s_{12} & 0 & s_{14} \\ s_{12} & 0 & s_{23} & 0 \\ 0 & s_{23} & 0 & s_{34} \\ s_{14} & 0 & s_{34} & 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

Ideal coupler

$$\begin{bmatrix} 0 & s_{12}^* & 0 & s_{14}^* \\ s_{12}^* & 0 & s_{23}^* & 0 \\ 0 & s_{23}^* & 0 & s_{34}^* \\ s_{14}^* & 0 & s_{34}^* & 0 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} 0 & s_{12} & 0 & s_{14} \\ s_{12} & 0 & s_{23} & 0 \\ 0 & s_{23} & 0 & s_{34} \\ s_{14} & 0 & s_{34} & 0 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$|s_{12}|^2 + |s_{14}|^2 = 1$$

$$s_{12}s_{23}^* + s_{14}s_{34}^* = 0$$

$$|s_{12}|^2 + |s_{23}|^2 = 1$$

$$s_{12}s_{14}^* + s_{23}s_{34}^* = 0$$

$$|s_{23}|^2 + |s_{34}|^2 = 1$$

$$|s_{14}|^2 + |s_{34}|^2 = 1$$

Ideal coupler

$$|s_{12}| = |s_{34}| = \alpha$$

$$|s_{14}| = |s_{23}| = \beta$$

$$\alpha^2 + \beta^2 = 1$$

$$s_{12} = \alpha e^{j\varphi}$$

$$s_{34} = \alpha e^{j\eta}$$

$$s_{14} = \beta e^{j\psi}$$

$$s_{23} = \beta e^{j\theta}$$

with

$$(\varphi + \eta) = \pi + (\psi + \theta) + 2n\pi$$

and

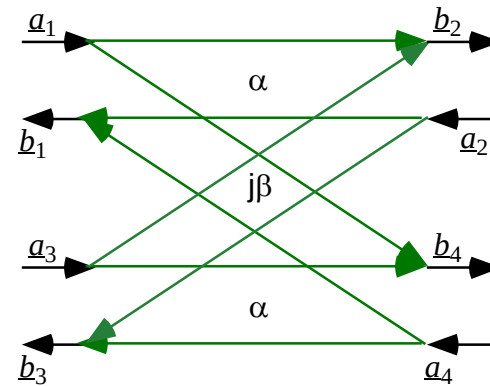
$$\alpha > \beta$$

by convention

symmetric coupler

$$\psi = \theta = \pi/2$$

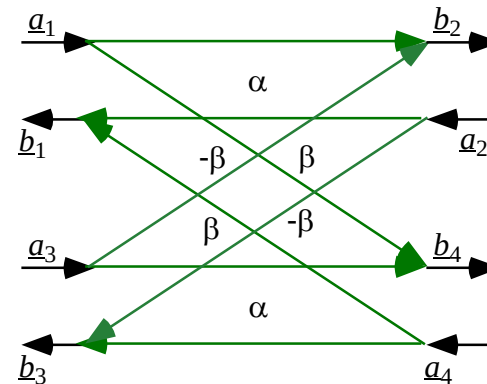
$$\begin{bmatrix} 0 & \alpha & 0 & j\beta \\ \alpha & 0 & j\beta & 0 \\ 0 & j\beta & 0 & \alpha \\ j\beta & 0 & \alpha & 0 \end{bmatrix}$$



asymmetric coupler

$$\psi = 0, \theta = \pi$$

$$\begin{bmatrix} 0 & \alpha & 0 & \beta \\ \alpha & 0 & -\beta & 0 \\ 0 & -\beta & 0 & \alpha \\ \beta & 0 & \alpha & 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

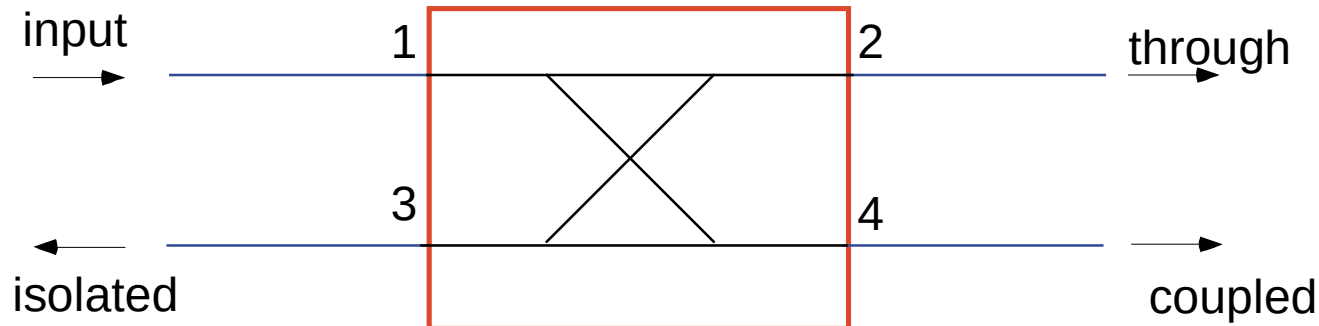
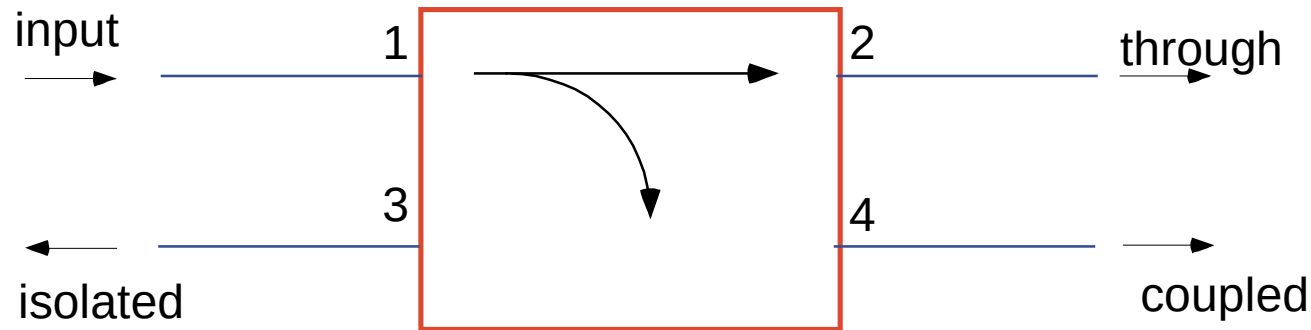


Summary : ideal coupler

Coupling : $LC = -20\log_{10} \beta$

Attenuation : $LA = -20\log_{10} \alpha$

$$\alpha \geq \beta$$

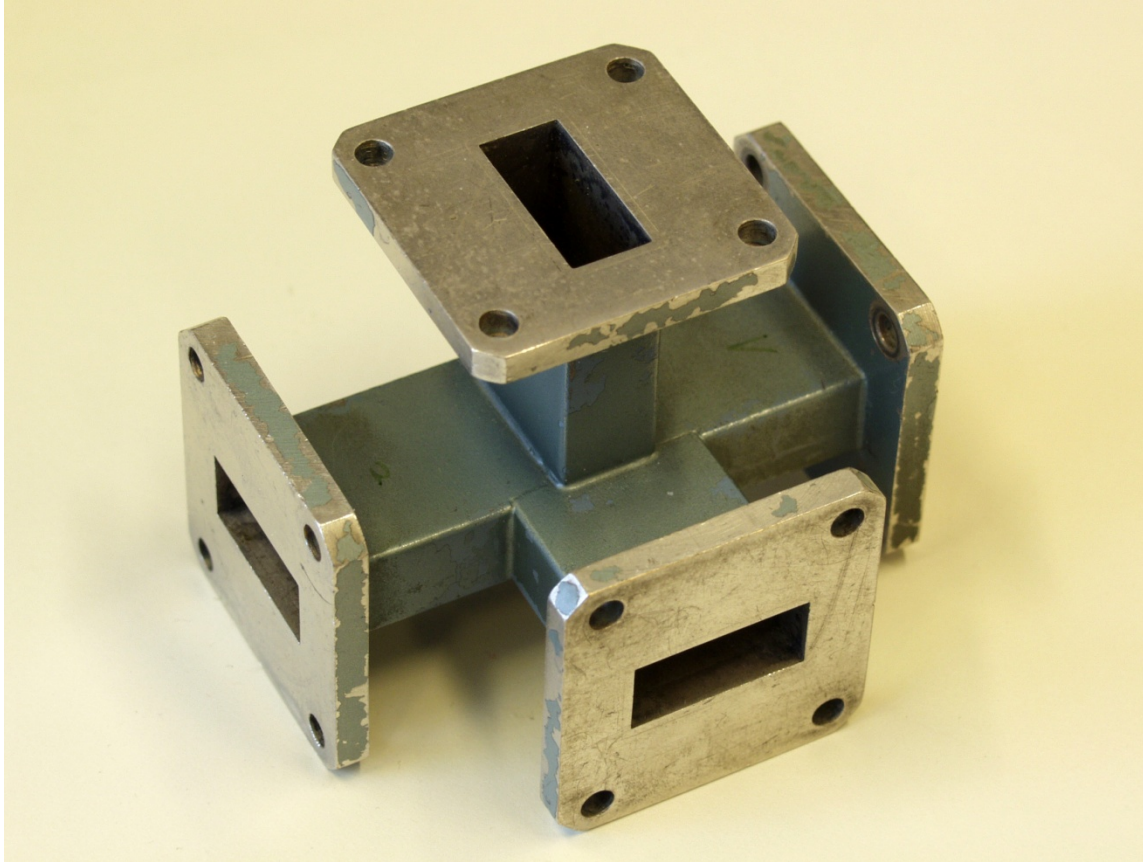


- $\alpha \geq \beta$
- Attenuation : $LA = -20\log_{10} \alpha$
- Coupling : $LC = -20\log_{10} \beta$
- Isolation : $LI_{31} = -20\log_{10} |s_{31}|$
- Isolation : $LI_{24} = -20\log_{10} |s_{24}|$
- Directivity : $LD_{31} = LI_{31} - LC = -20\log_{10} |s_{31}|/\beta$
- Directivity : $LD_{24} = LI_{24} - LC = -20\log_{10} |s_{24}|/\beta$

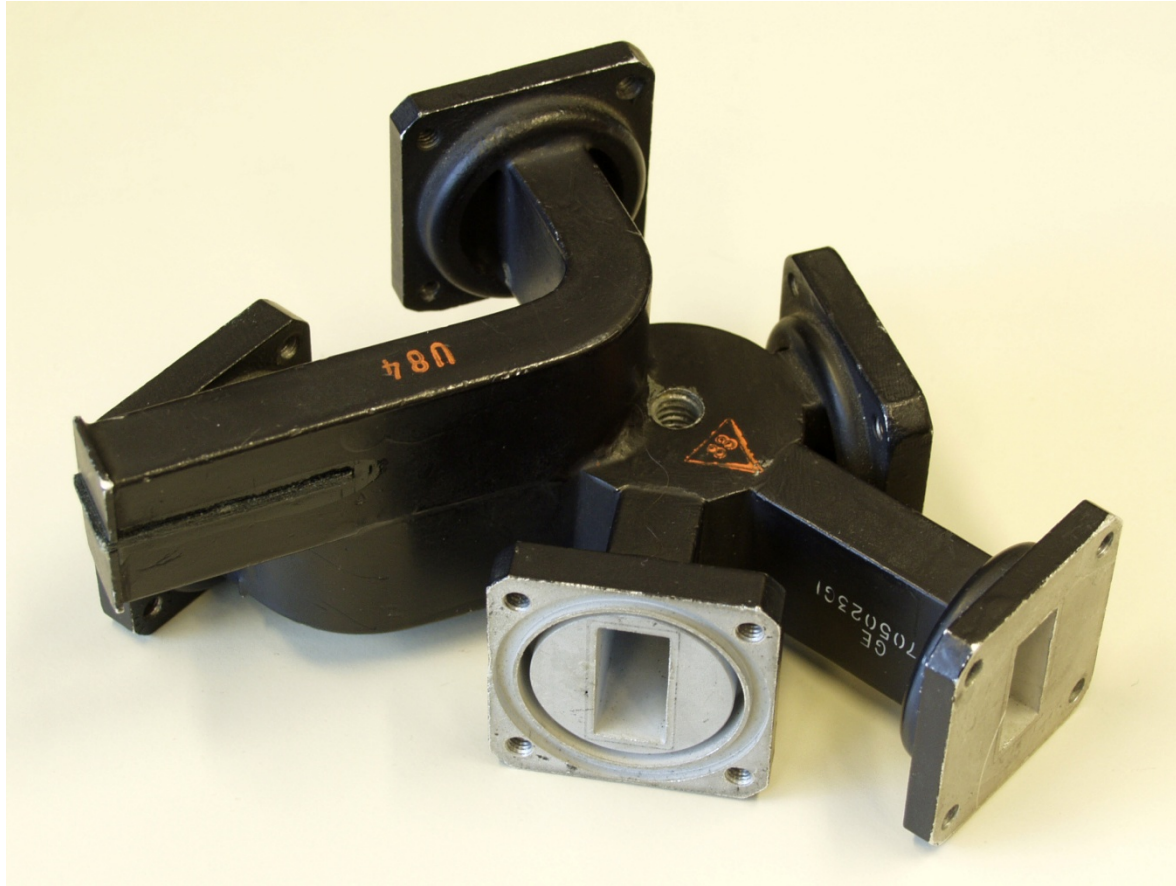
example : 10 dB waveguide coupler



example : magic T



example : magic T combined with 10dB
coupler



Example : E Band 10 dB coupler



Example

LC [dB]	β	α	LA[dB]
40	0.01	0.99995	0.0004
30	0.0316	0.9995	0.004
20	0.1	0.995	0.04
10	0.316	0.948	0.45
3	0.707	0.707	3

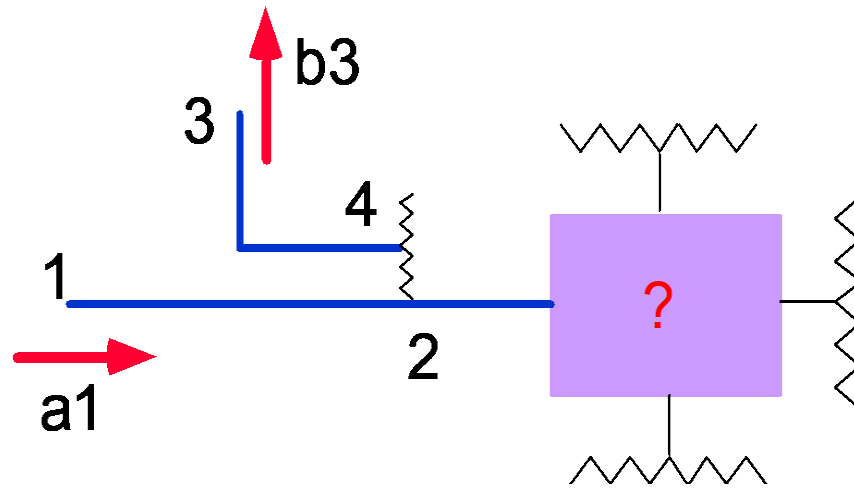
Directivity : measure of quality

- Microstrip hybrid coupler : 30 dB
- Multihole waveguide couplers : 40 dB
- Waveguide couplers used in metrology : 50-60 dB

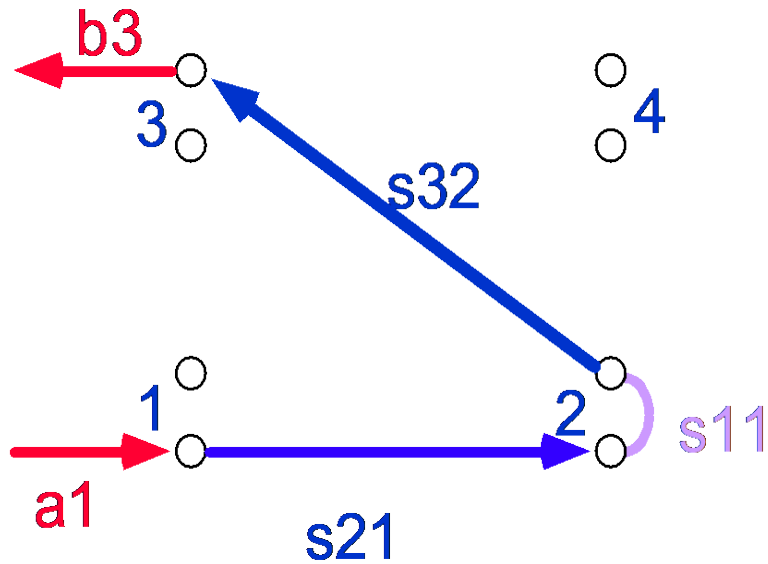
Couplers used in measurement

- with 1 coupler
 - amplitude measurements
- with 2 couplers
 - precision measurements
 - phase and amplitude measurements

1 coupler reflectometry

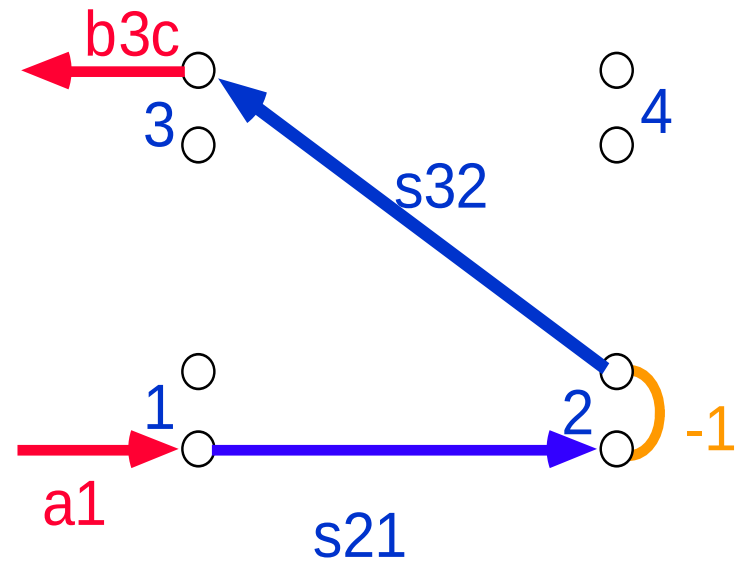


1 coupler reflectometry



$$b_3 = s_{21}s_{ii}s_{32}a_1$$

$$\frac{b_3}{b_{3c}} = -s_{ii}$$

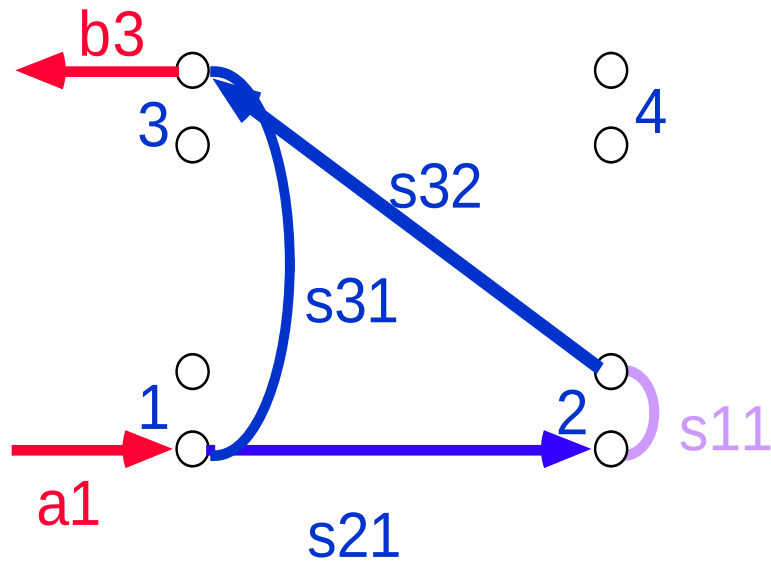


$$b_{3c} = -s_{21}s_{32}a_1$$

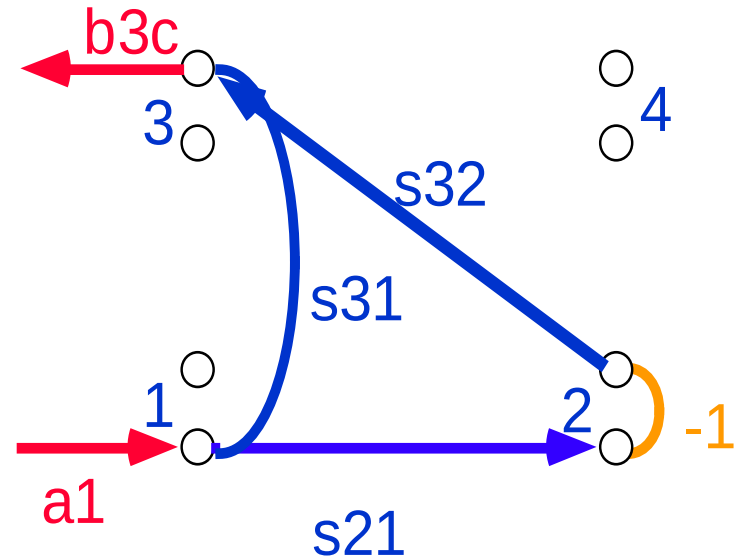
real coupler

- S_{ii} , S_{13} , $S_{24} \ll 1$, but non equal to zero
- we need :
 - coupling $LC = -20 \log \beta$
 - isolation $LI_{13} = -20 \log |s_{13}|$
 - $LI_{14} = -20 \log |s_{24}|$
- The quality of the coupler is given by :
 - directivity $LD_{13} = LI_{13} - LC = -20 \log |s_{13}| / \beta$
 - $LD_{24} = LI_{24} - LC = -20 \log |s_{24}| / \beta$

1 coupler reflectometry



$$b_3 = a_1 (s_{21}s_{11}s_{32} + s_{31})$$



$$b_{3c} = a_1 (-s_{21}s_{32} + s_{31})$$

$$\frac{b_3}{b_{3c}} = \frac{s_{21}s_{11}s_{32} + s_{31}}{-s_{21}s_{32} + s_{31}}$$

1 coupler reflectometry

- s_{31} is non negligible at the numerator if $s_{ii} \ll 1$
- s_{31} is negligible at the denominator if the couple is of good quality :
$$\frac{b_3}{b_{3c}} = -s_{ii} - \frac{s_{31}}{s_{21}s_{32}}$$
- The phases of the signals are not known

$$\left| \frac{b_3}{b_{3c}} \right| - \left| \frac{s_{31}}{s_{21}s_{32}} \right| \leq s_{ii} \leq \left| \frac{b_3}{b_{3c}} \right| + \left| \frac{s_{31}}{s_{21}s_{32}} \right|$$

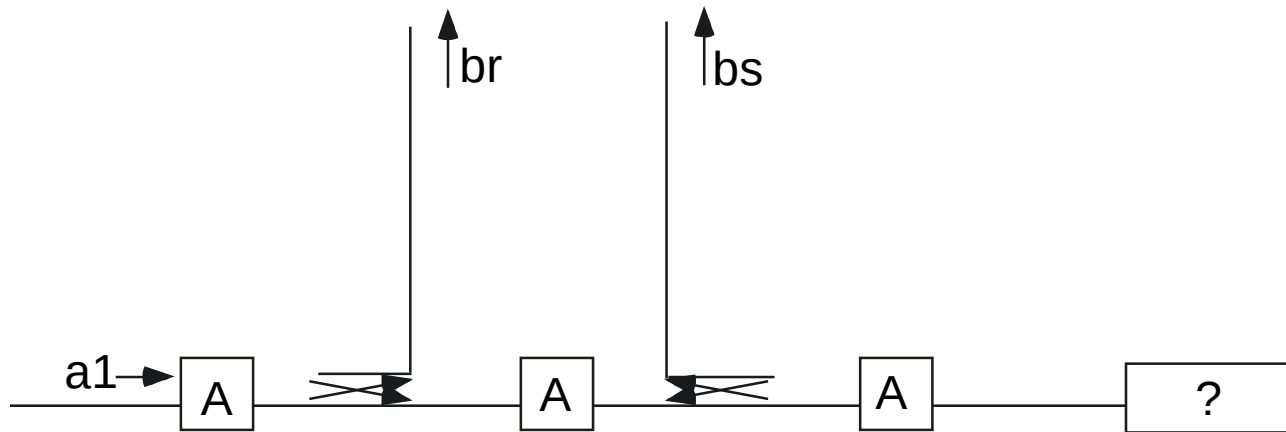
1 coupler reflectometry

- For a weak coupling (LC large) $S_{21} \approx 1$
- The error term is directly the directivity of the coupler :

$$\left| \frac{b_3}{b_{3c}} \right| - \left| \frac{s_{31}}{s_{32}} \right| \leq s_{ii} \leq \left| \frac{b_3}{b_{3c}} \right| + \left| \frac{s_{31}}{s_{32}} \right|$$

•	LD [dB]	$ s_{31}/s_{32} $
•	10	0.3162
•	20	0.1
•	30	0.03162
•	40	0.01
•	50	0.003162
•	60	0.001

2 coupler reflectometry



$$\frac{b_s}{b_r} = \frac{As_{ii} + B}{Cs_{ii} + D}$$

$$A = s_{21}s_{32} - s_{31}s_{22}$$

$$B = s_{31}$$

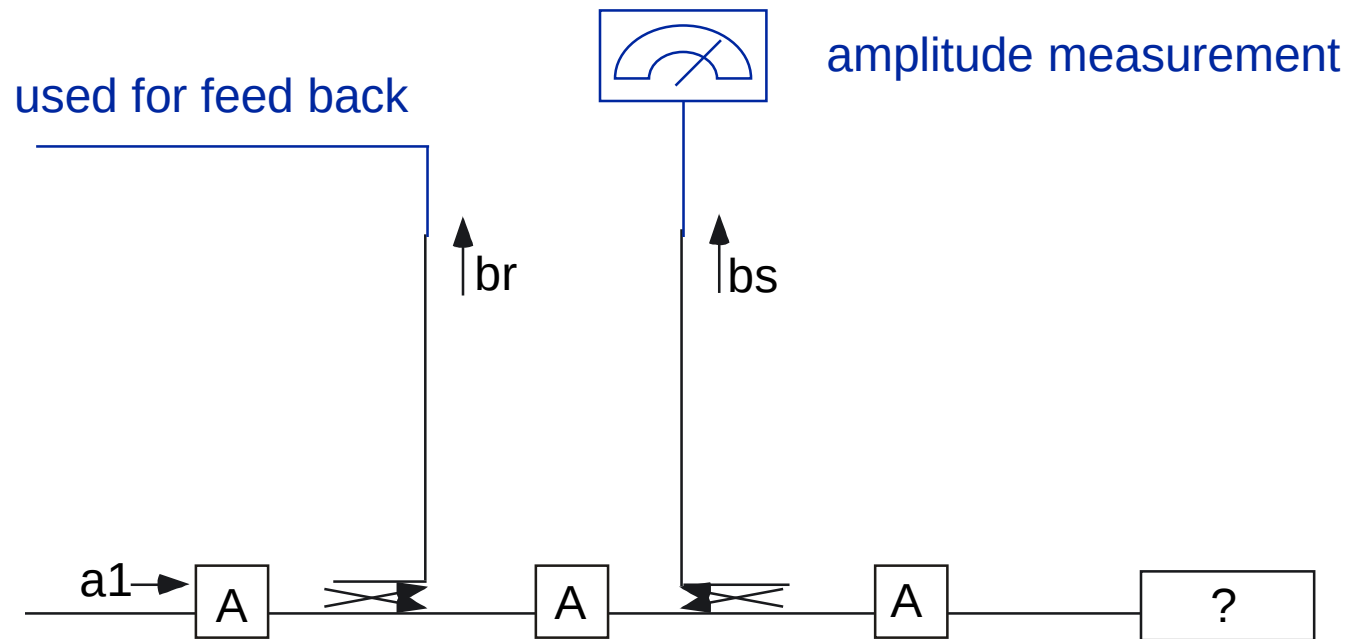
$$C = s_{21}s_{42} - s_{41}s_{22}$$

$$D = s_{41}$$

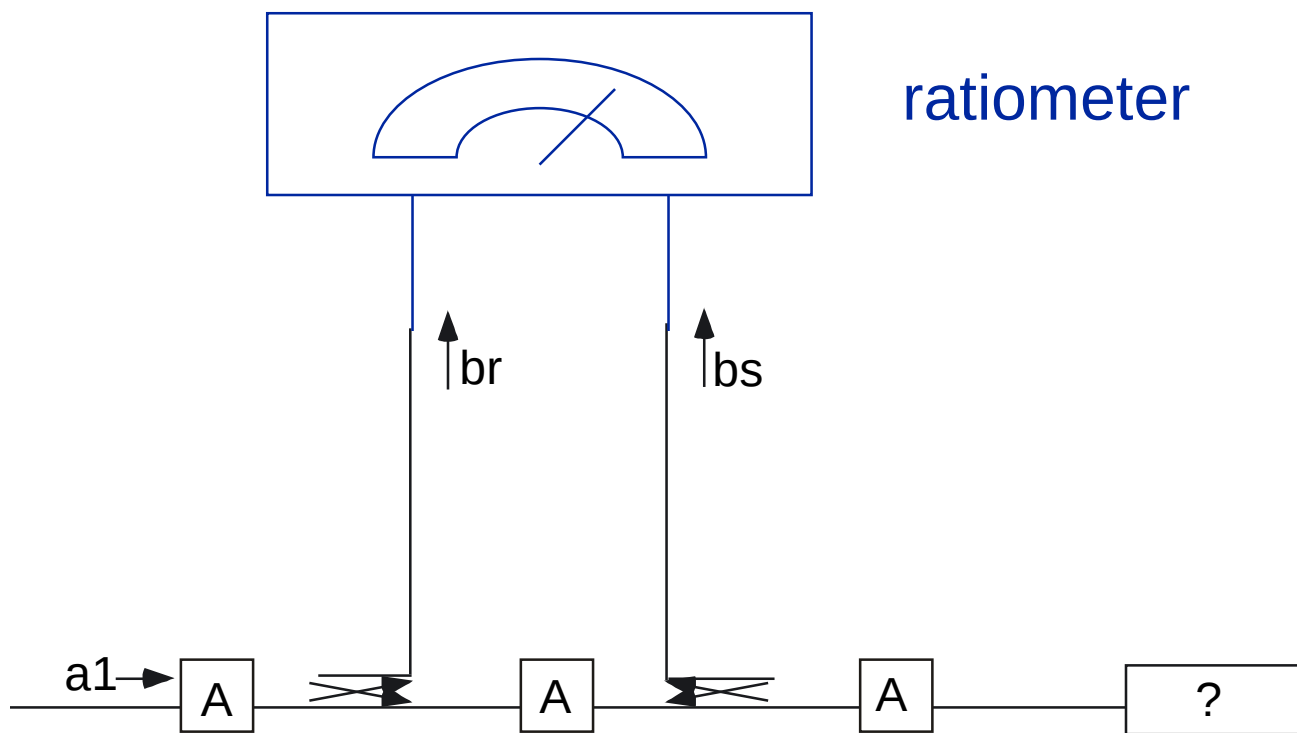
Use adapters to put
B=C=0

$$\frac{b_s}{b_r} = \frac{s_{21}s_{ii}s_{32}}{s_{41}}$$

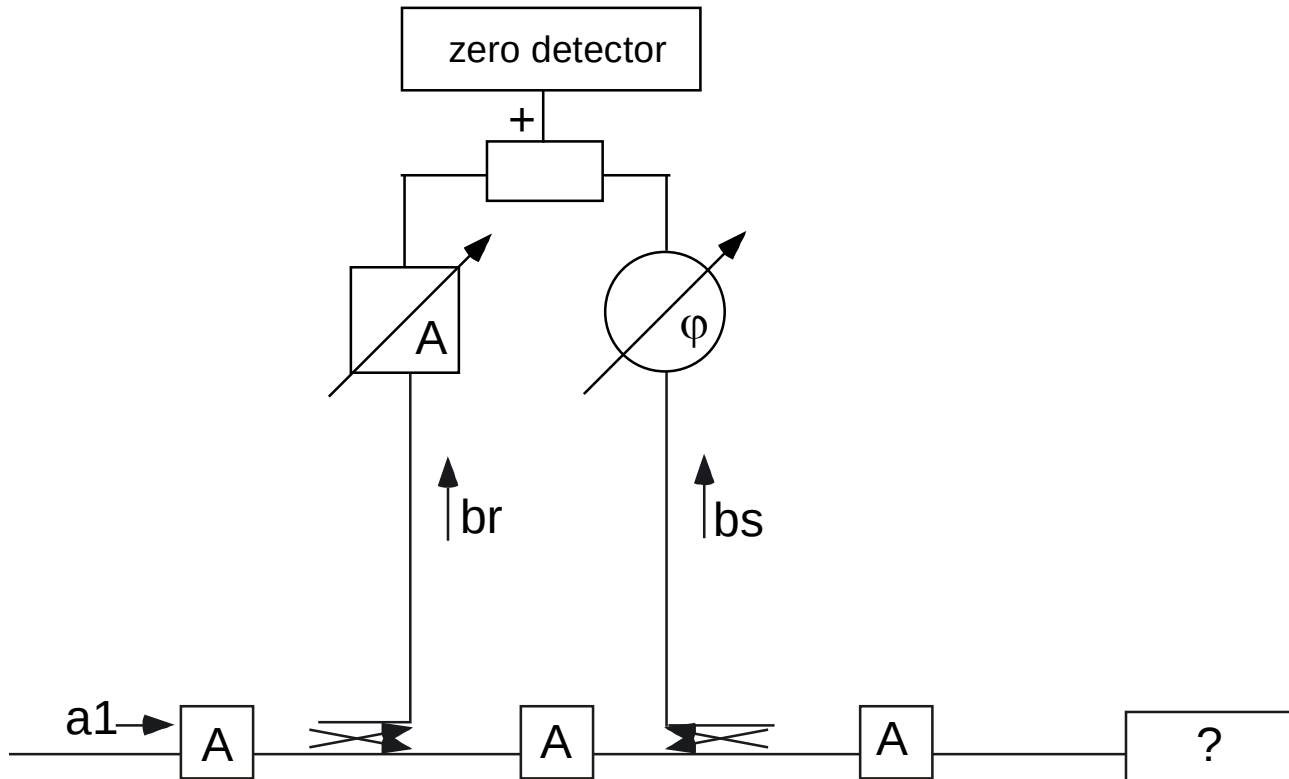
2 coupler reflectometry



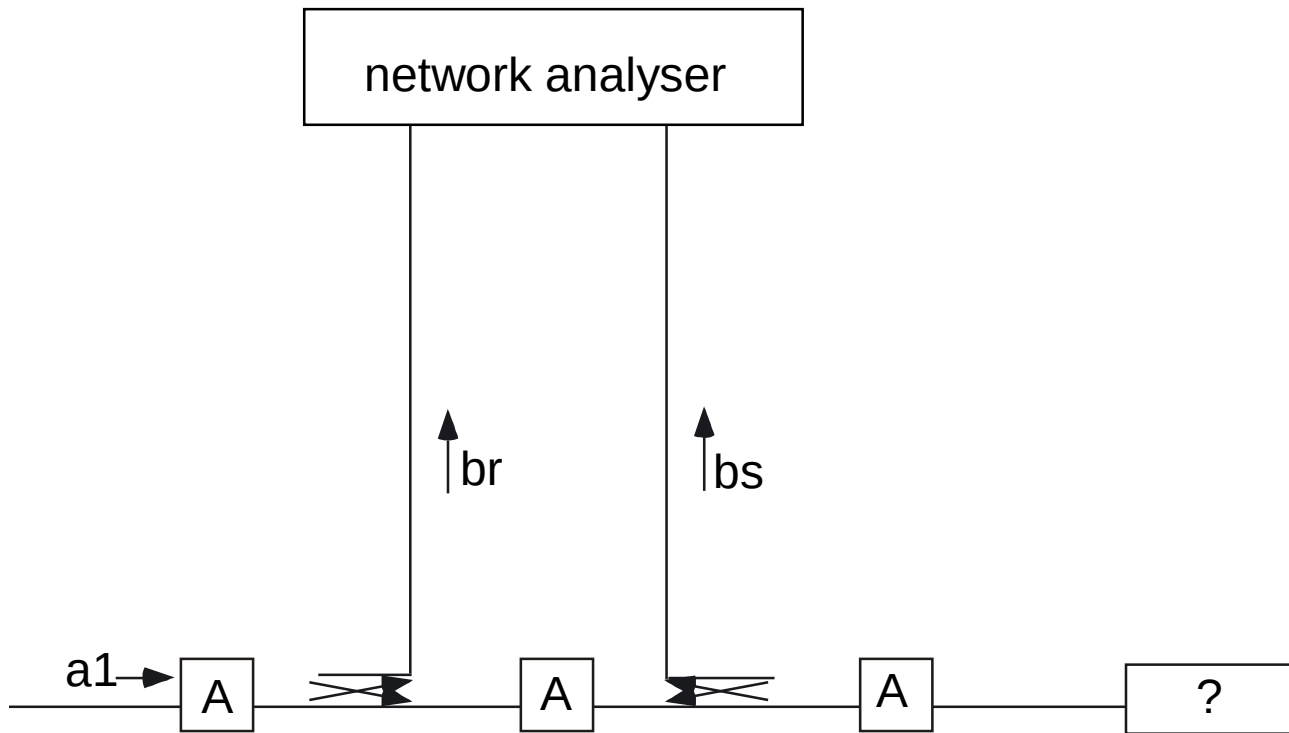
2 coupler reflectometry



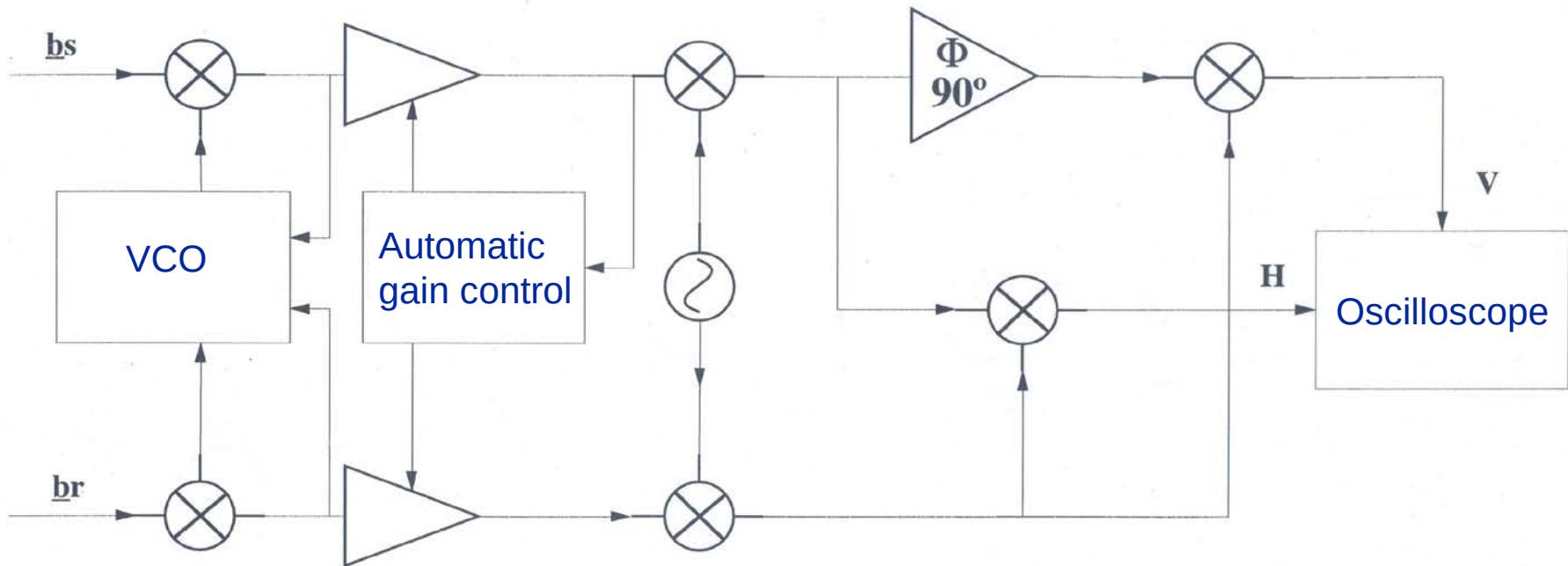
2 coupler reflectometry



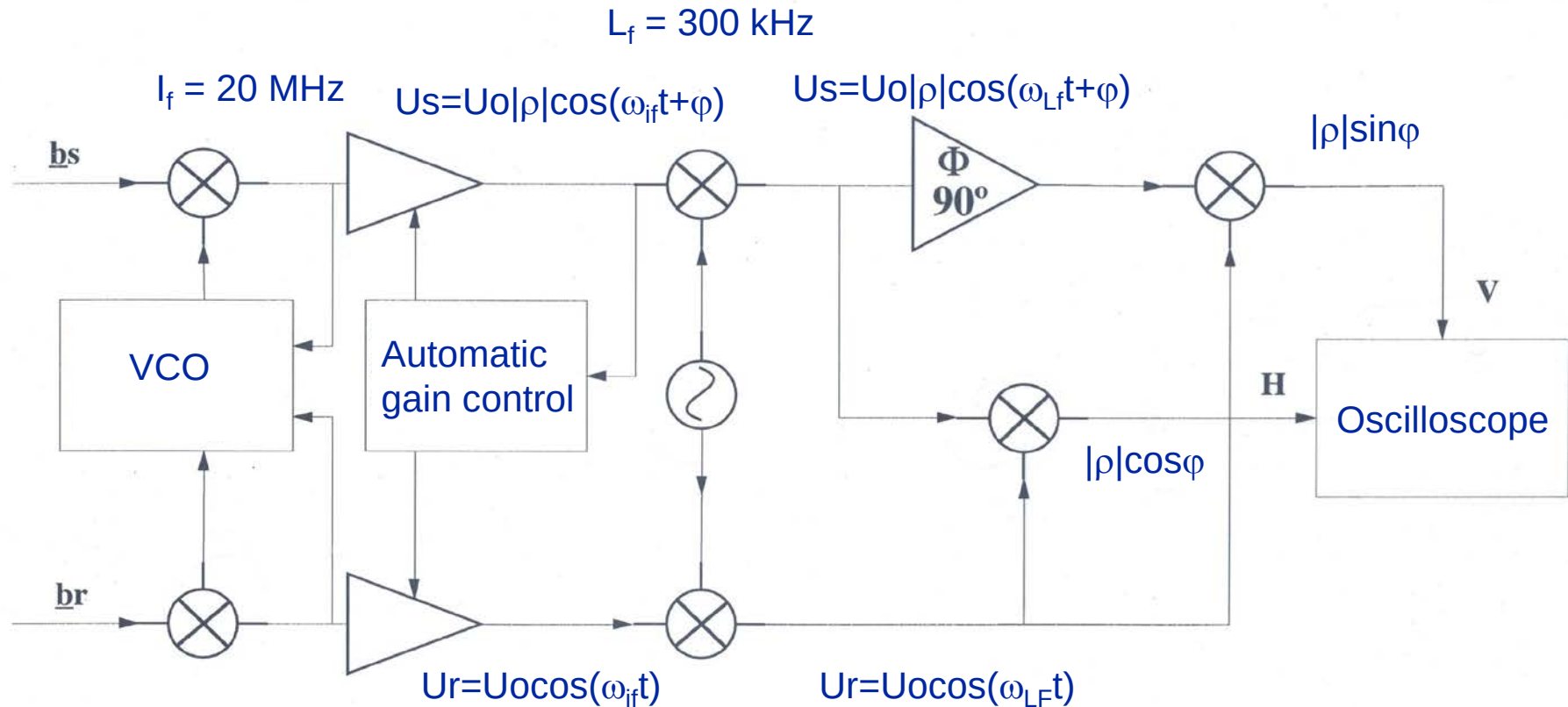
2 coupler reflectometry



Network analyser (principle)



Network analyser (principle)



Transmission measurements

(Attenuation measurements)

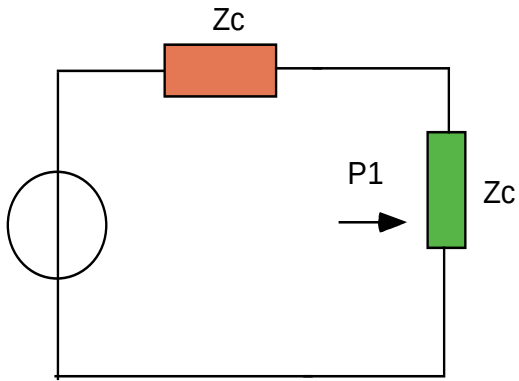
Transmission measurements

- Attenuation (very common)
- Phase (more seldom)

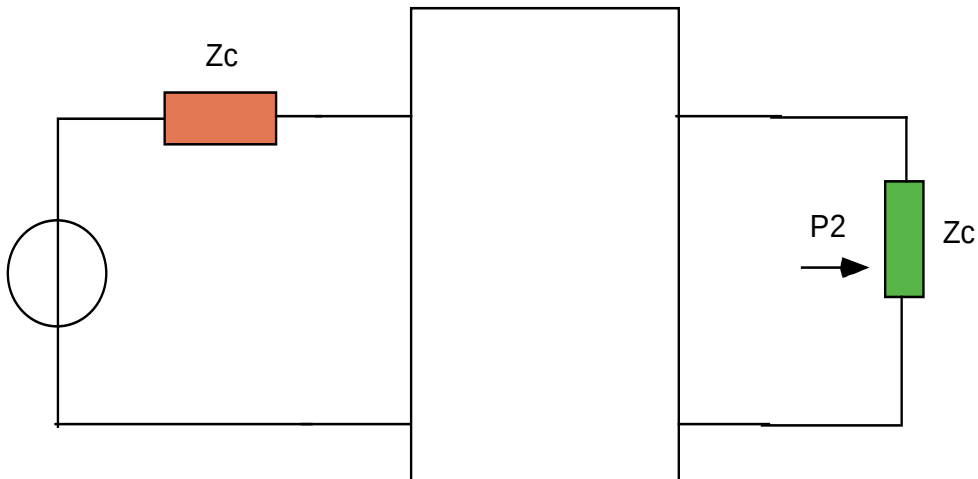
Causes of attenuation

- Absorption in the component
- Mismatch of the component

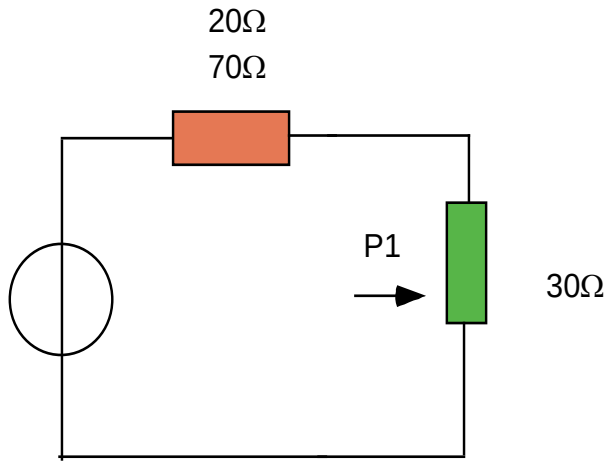
Attenuation



$$LA = -10 \log(P_2/P_1) \quad \text{dB}$$

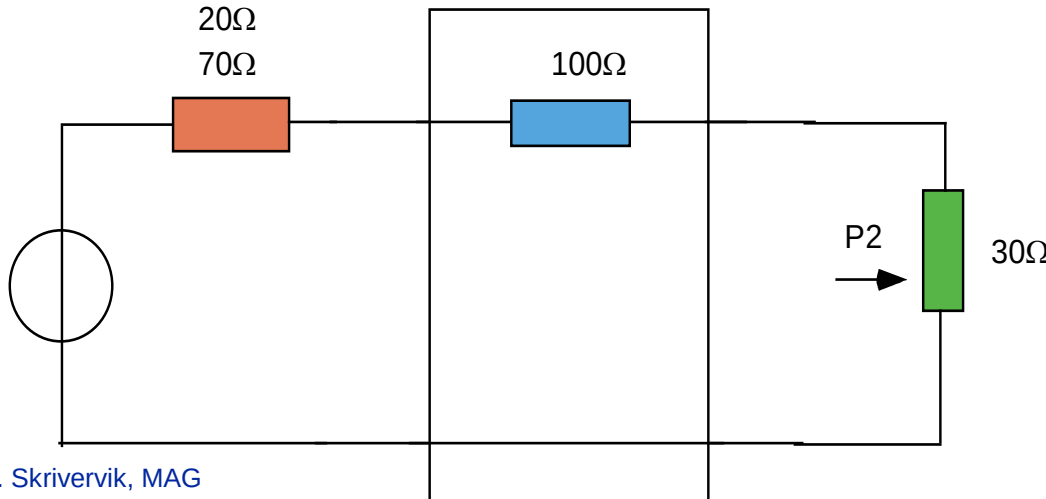


Attenuation : example



$$LA = -10 \log(P2/P1) \quad \text{dB}$$

$$a) R_g = 20 \, \Omega$$

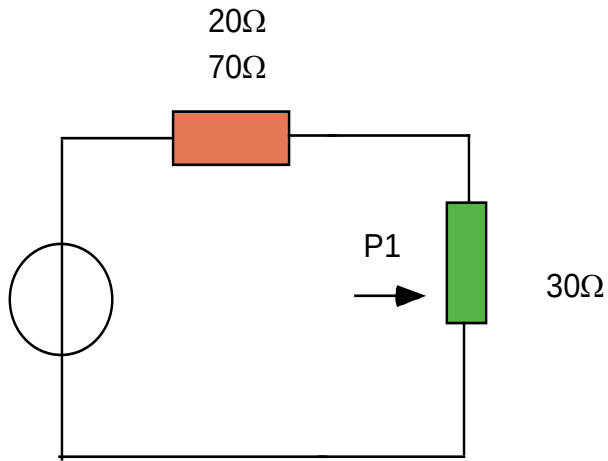


$$P_1 = \left(\frac{100}{20 + 30} \right)^2 30 = 120W$$

$$P_2 = \left(\frac{100}{20 + 30 + 100} \right)^2 30 = \frac{40}{3}W$$

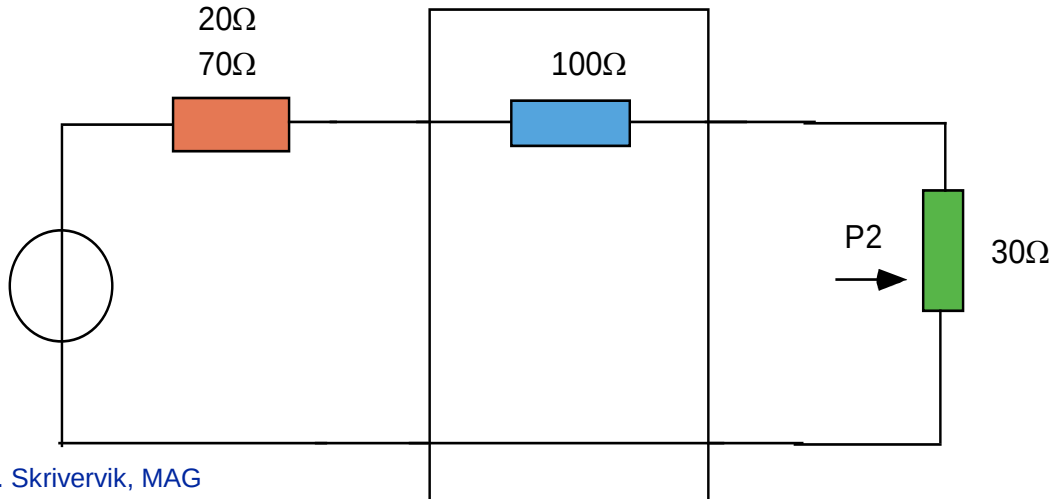
$$LA = 10 \log 9 = 9.5dB$$

Attenuation : example



$$LA = -10 \log(P2/P1) \quad \text{dB}$$

$$\text{b) } R_g = 70 \, \Omega$$

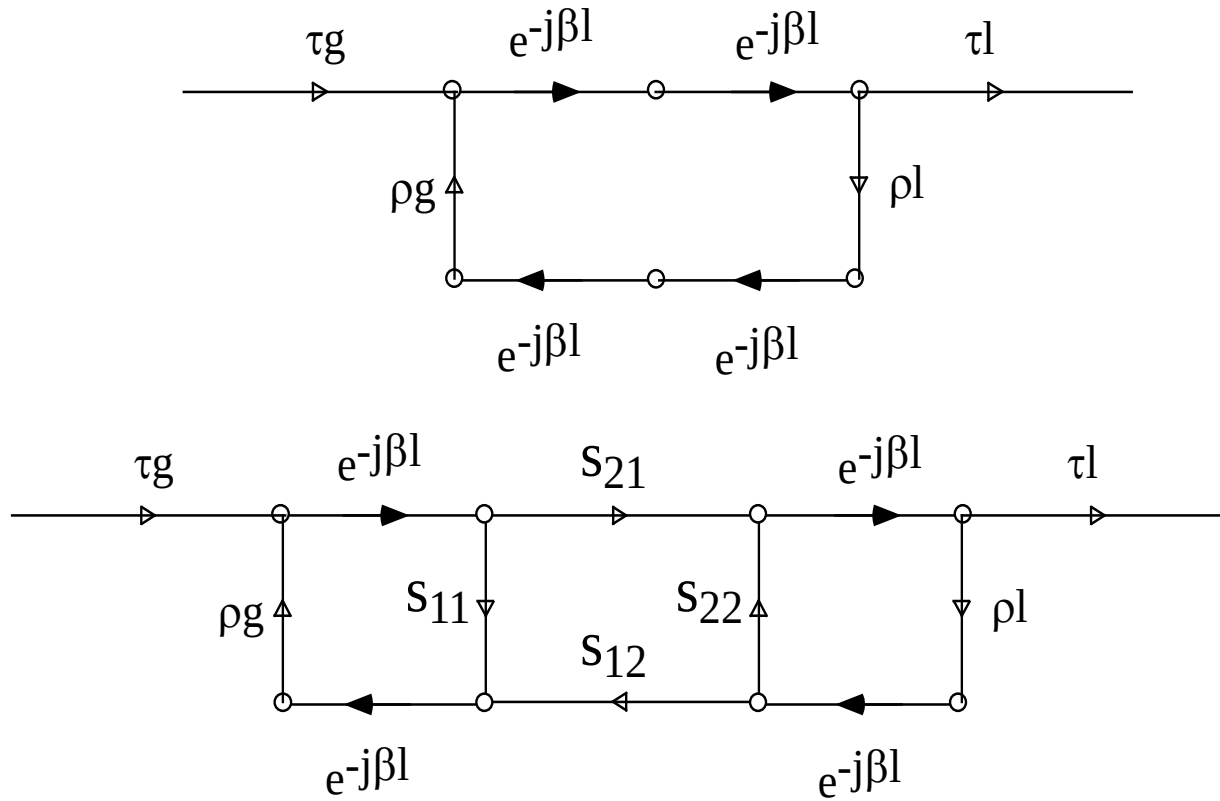


$$P_1 = \left(\frac{100}{70 + 30} \right)^2 30 = 30W$$

$$P_2 = \left(\frac{100}{70 + 30 + 100} \right)^2 30 = \frac{30}{4}W$$

$$LA = 10 \log 4 = 6dB$$

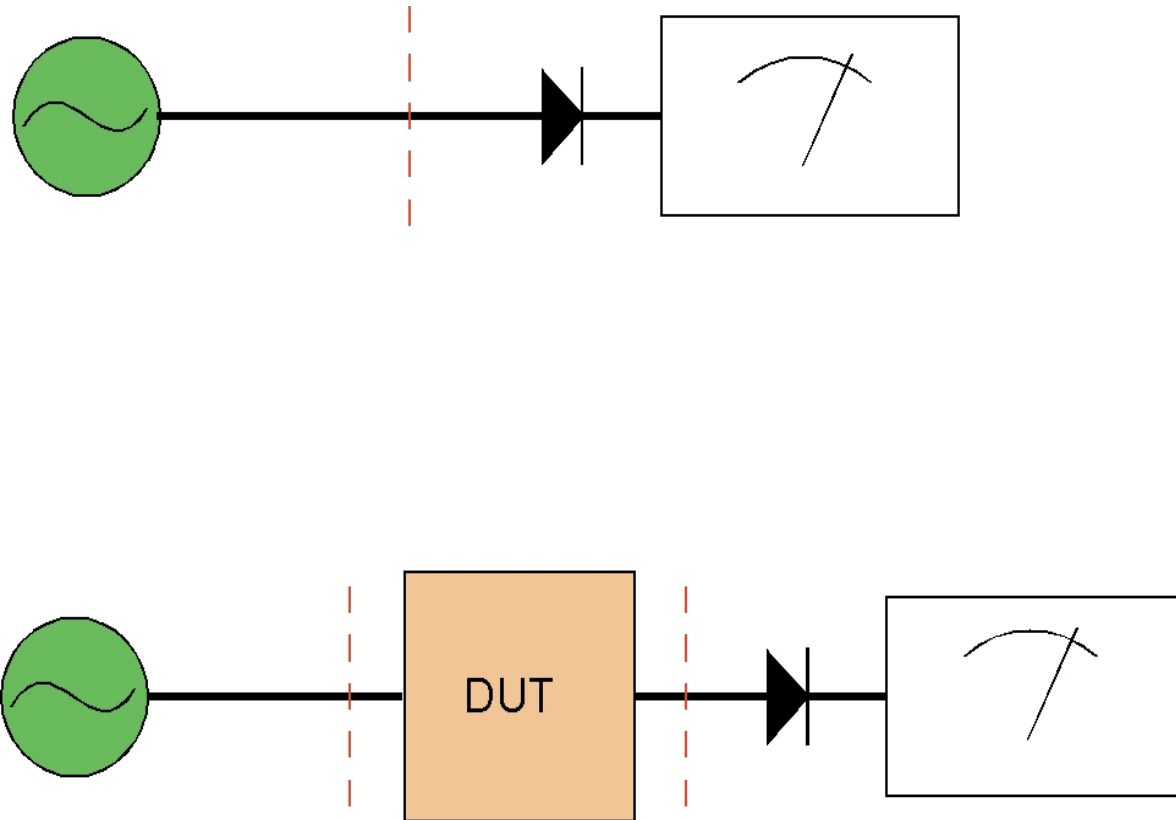
Effet of the mismatch of the source and the load



Methods

- Direct measurement
- Substitution measurement
- Measurement through reflection measurement
- Method using couplers

Direct measurement

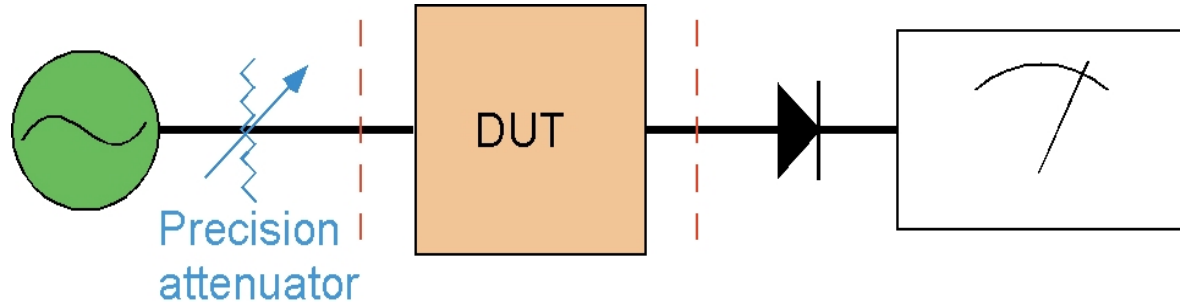


Direct measurement

- The detector should be adapted (use attenuator or isolator)
- The detector should be quadratic (limited dynamic range)
- The connexions should be reproducible (sometimes difficult)
- The generator should deliver a signal which is stable over time

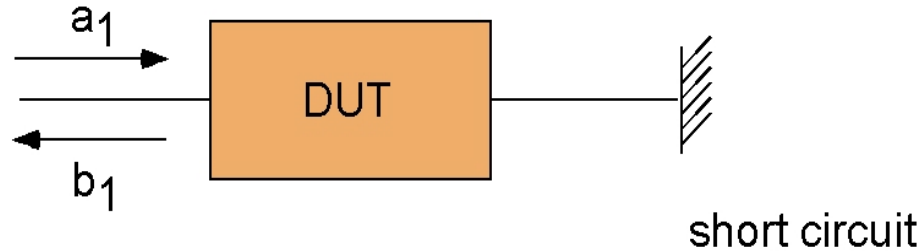
Cheap , but not very precise and quite limited !!!

Substitution measurements

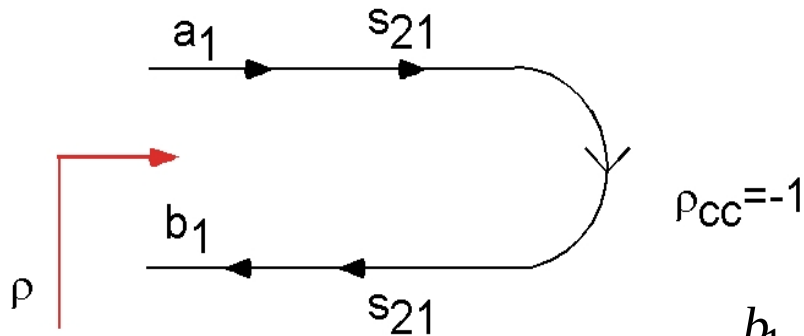


- The precision attenuator (rotative blade) allows a measurement precision of 1-2%, over a 60 dB dynamic range
- Only for waveguides
- No precision attenuators for coaxial cables

Measurement through reflection measurement



1) the device is matched but reciprocal

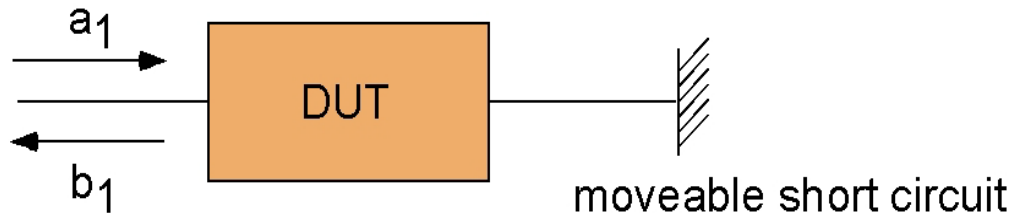


$$\rho = \frac{b_1}{a_1} = s_{21}^2 \rho_{cc} \approx s_{21}^2$$

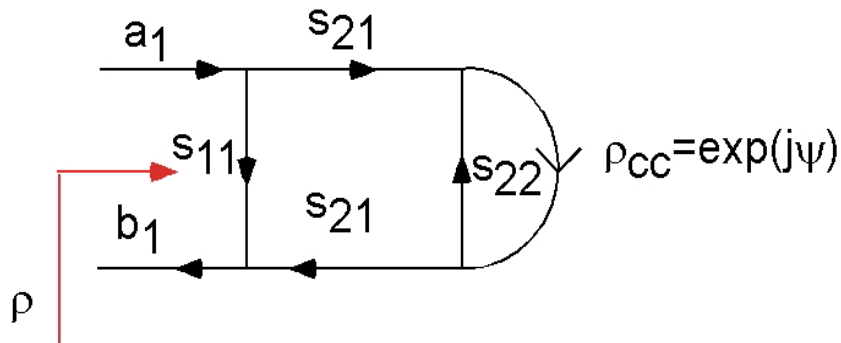
$$LA = -10 \log |\rho| + 10 \log |\rho_{cc}| \approx -10 \log |\rho|$$

$$\varphi = \frac{1}{2} \arg(\rho) - \frac{1}{2} \arg(\rho_{cc}) \pm n\pi \approx \frac{1}{2} \arg(\rho) + \frac{\pi}{2} \pm n\pi$$

Measurement through reflection measurement



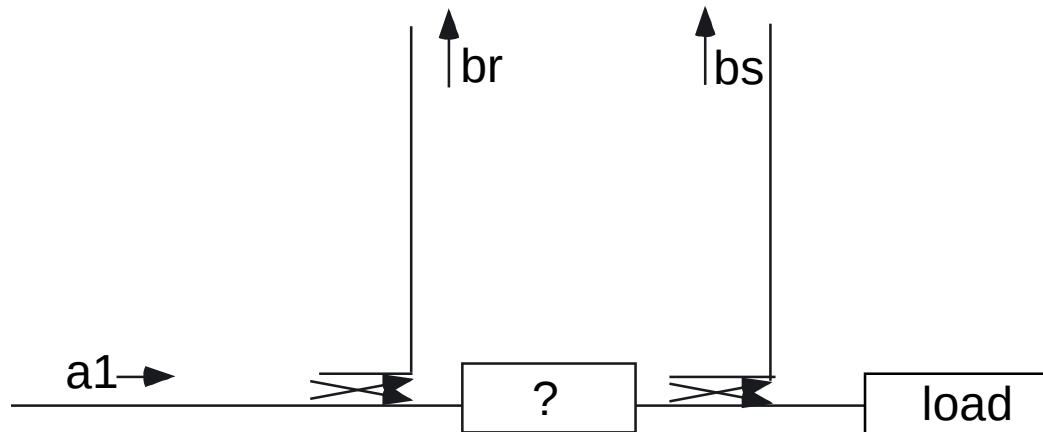
2) the device is mis-matched but reciprocal



$$\rho = \frac{b_1}{a_1} = s_{11} + \frac{s_{21}^2 e^{-j\psi}}{1 - s_{21} e^{-j\psi}}$$

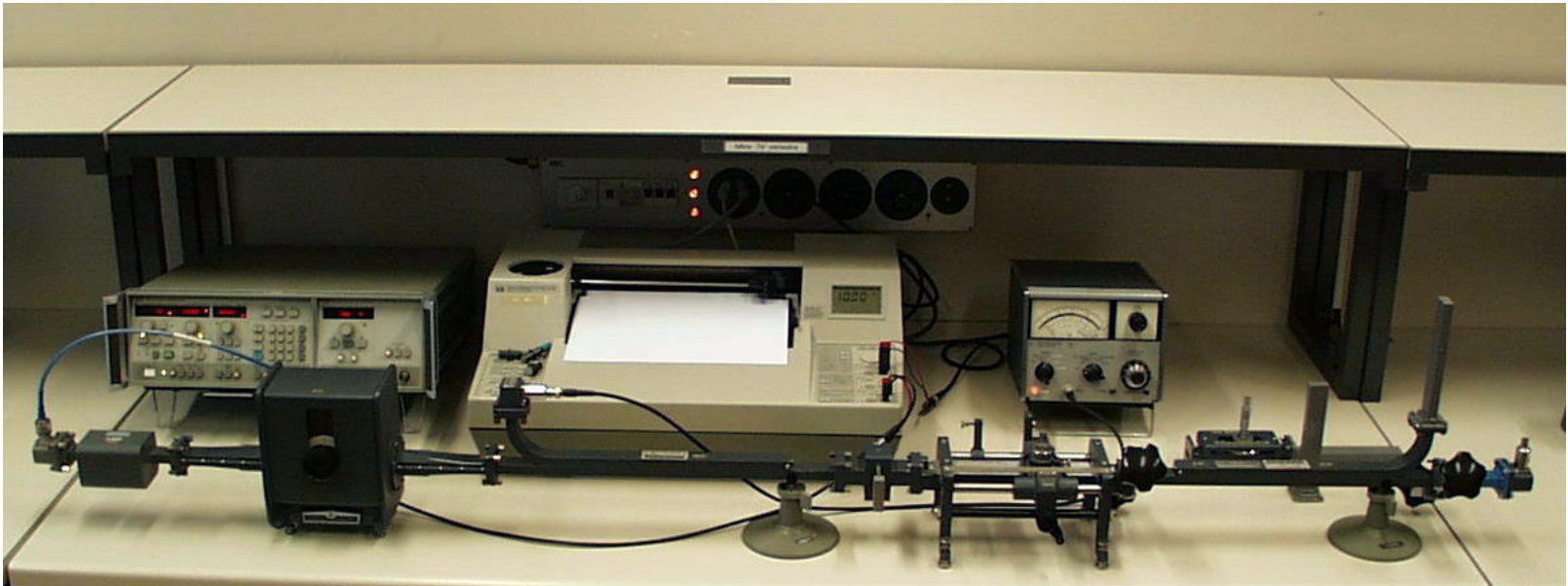
$f(\psi)$ is a circle on the Smith chart

Attenuation measurement



Same principle than reflectometry

Microwave measurements



Network Analyser

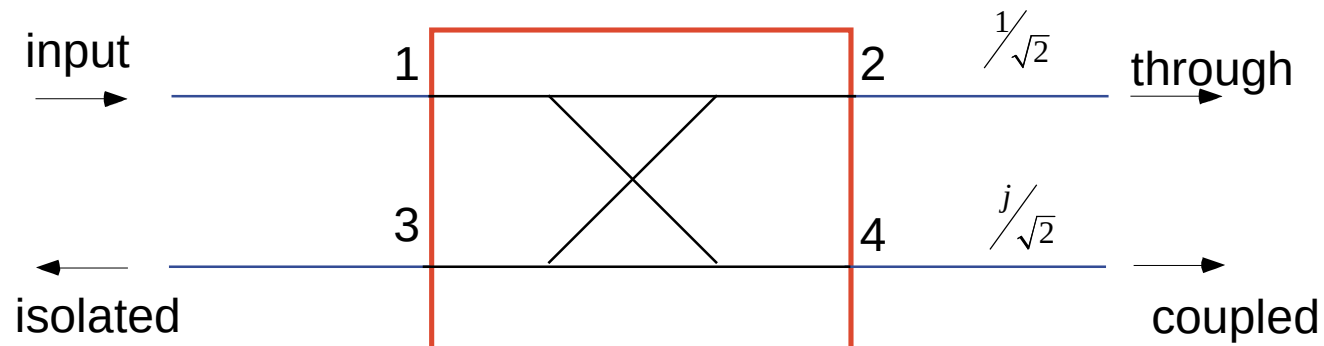
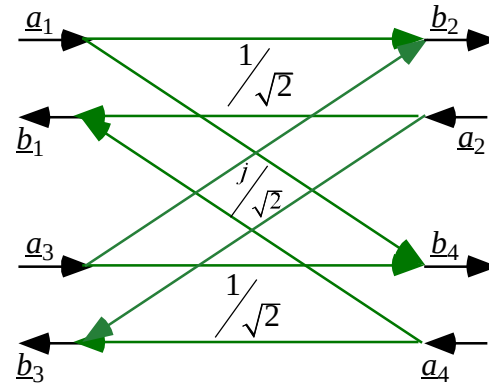


Examples of couplers in printed technology

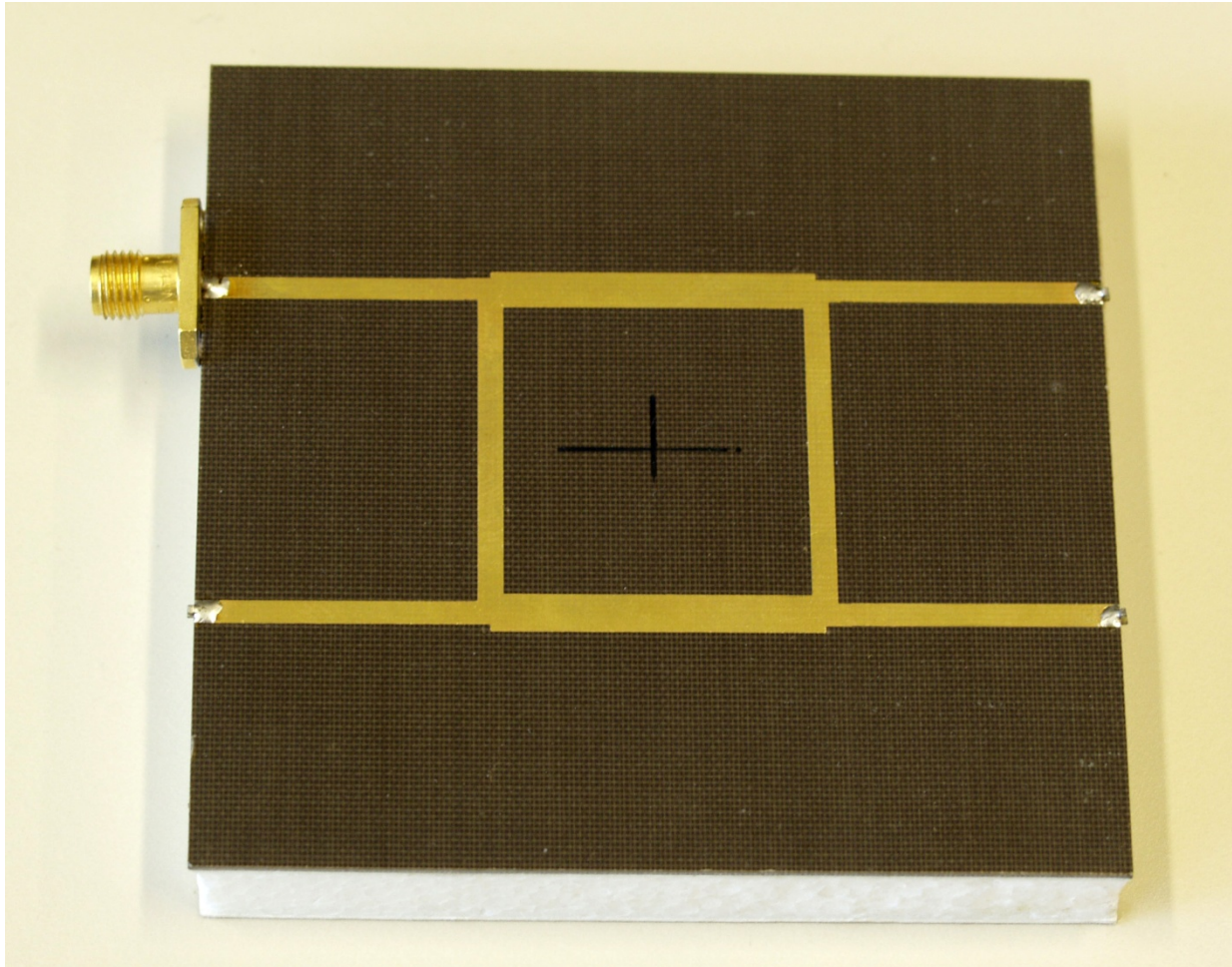
- the quadrature hybrid
- the 180° hybrid
- examples of utilization

The quadrature hybrid

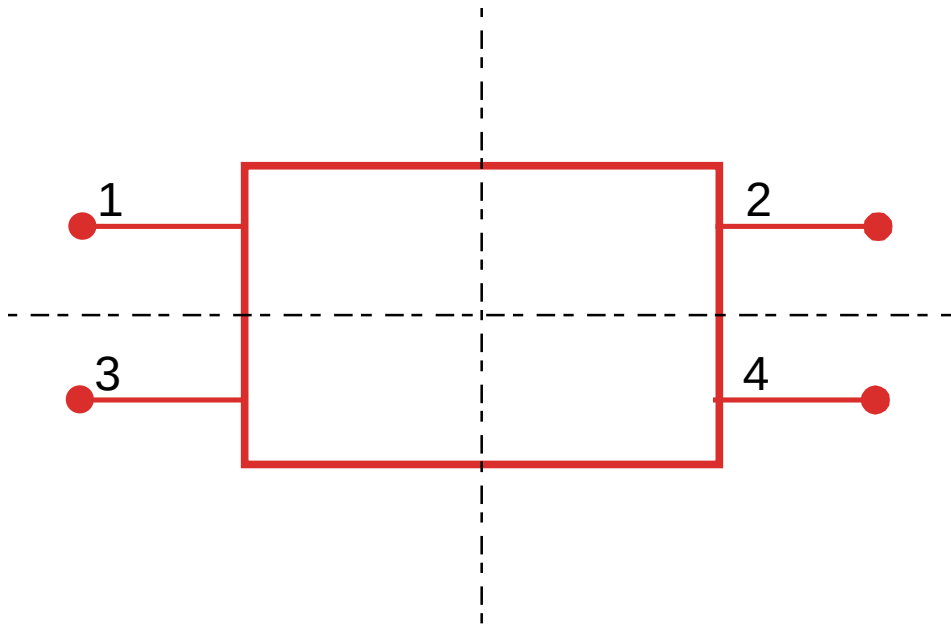
$$[S] = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 1 & 0 & j \\ 1 & 0 & j & 0 \\ 0 & j & 0 & 1 \\ j & 0 & 1 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$$



The quadrature hybrid



quadriports with double symmetry (1)



$$\begin{bmatrix} S_1 & S_2 & S_3 & S_4 \\ S_2 & S_1 & S_4 & S_3 \\ S_3 & S_4 & S_1 & S_2 \\ S_4 & S_3 & S_2 & S_1 \end{bmatrix}$$

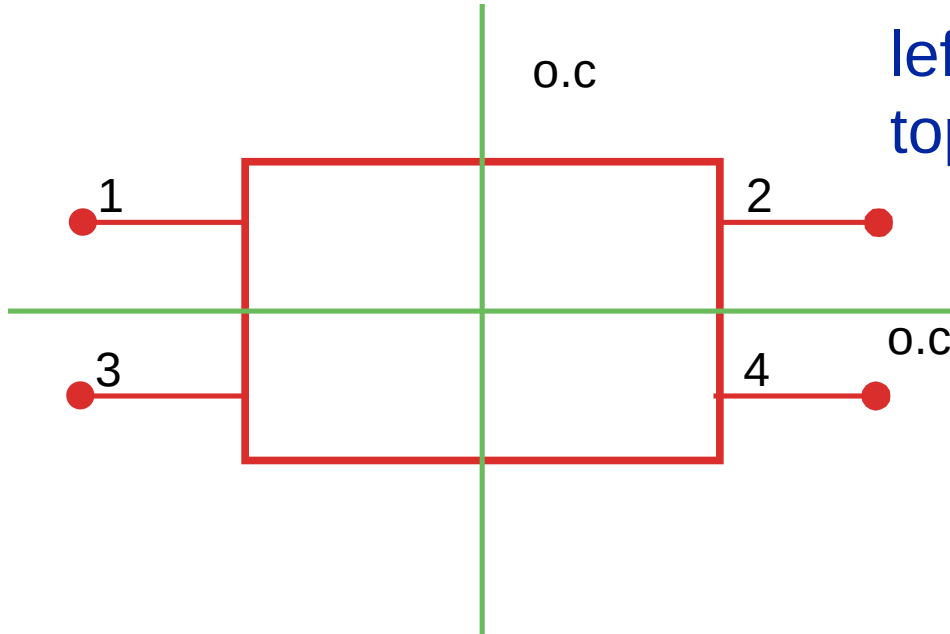
$$S_1 = S_{11} = S_{22} = S_{33} = S_{44}$$

$$S_2 = S_{12} = S_{21} = S_{34} = S_{43}$$

$$S_3 = S_{13} = S_{31} = S_{42} = S_{24}$$

$$S_4 = S_{14} = S_{41} = S_{32} = S_{23}$$

quadriports with double symmetry (2)



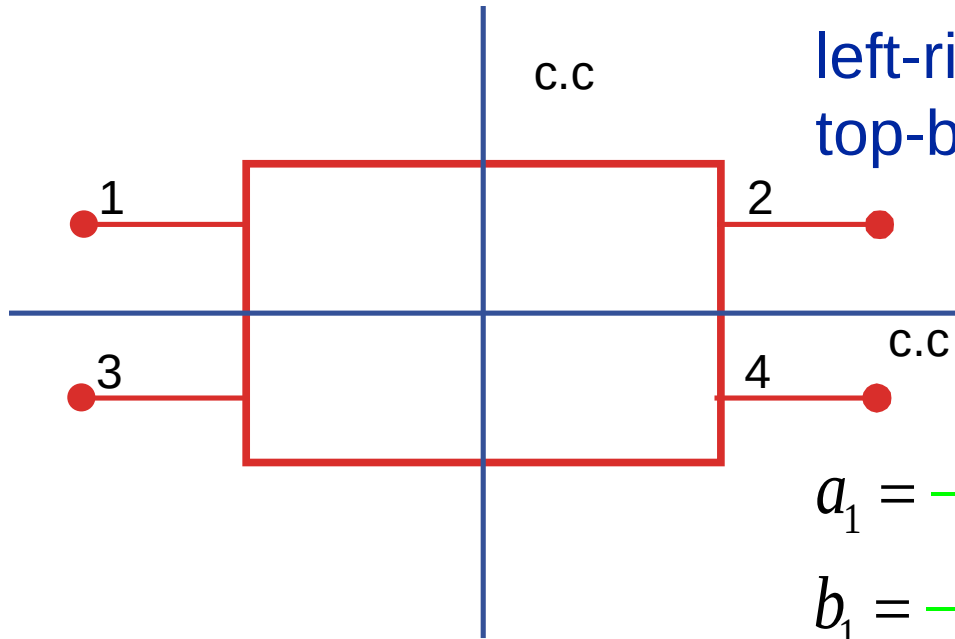
left-right : symmetric excitation
top-bottom : symmetric excitation

$$a_1 = a_2 = a_3 = a_4$$

$$b_1 = b_2 = b_3 = b_4$$

$$\rho_{ss} = \frac{b_{ss}}{a_{ss}} = s_1 + s_2 + s_3 + s_4$$

quadriports with double symmetry (3)



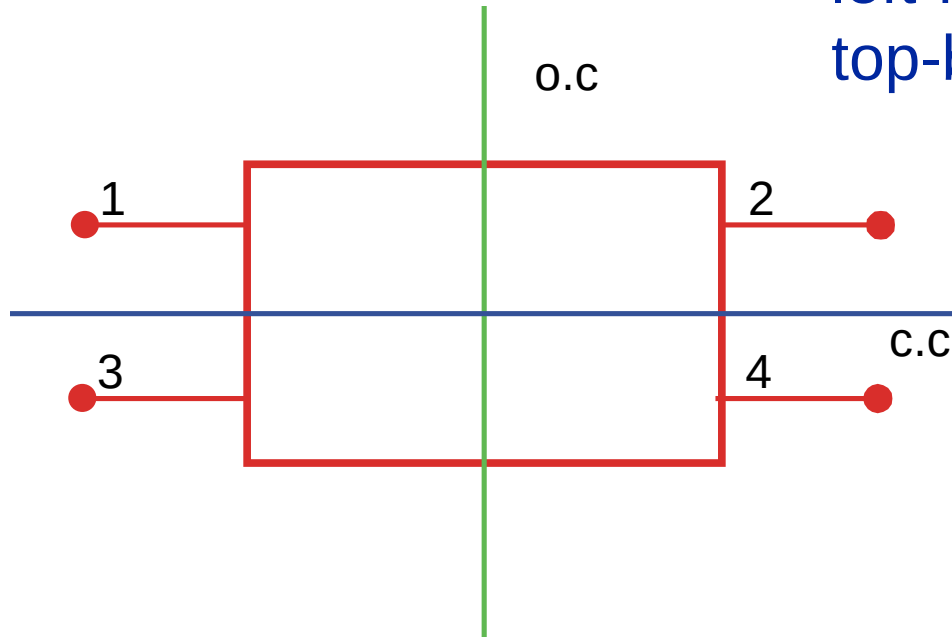
left-right : antisymmetric excitation
top-bottom : antisymmetric excitation

$$a_1 = -a_2 = -a_3 = a_4$$

$$b_1 = -b_2 = -b_3 = b_4$$

$$\rho_{aa} = \frac{b_{aa}}{a_{aa}} = s_1 - s_2 - s_3 + s_4$$

quadriports with double symmetry (4)



left-right : symmetric excitation
top-bottom : antisymmetric excitation

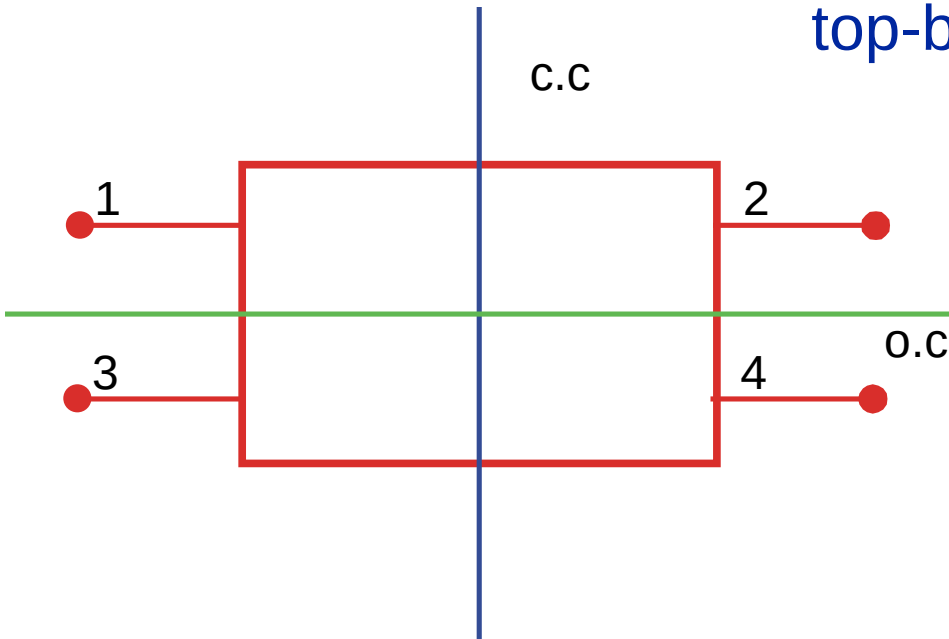
$$a_1 = a_2 = -a_3 = -a_4$$

$$b_1 = b_2 = -b_3 = -b_4$$

$$\rho_{sa} = \frac{b_{sa}}{a_{sa}} = s_1 + s_2 - s_3 - s_4$$

quadriports with double symmetry (5)

left-right : antisymmetric excitation
top-bottom excitation



$$a_1 = -a_2 = a_3 = -a_4$$

$$b_1 = -b_2 = b_3 = -b_4$$

$$\rho_{as} = \frac{b_{as}}{a_{as}} = s_1 - s_2 + s_3 - s_4$$

quadriports with double symmetry (6)

$$\begin{bmatrix} \rho_{ss} \\ \rho_{as} \\ \rho_{sa} \\ \rho_{aa} \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1 & 1 & 1 \\ 1 & -1 & 1 & -1 \\ 1 & 1 & -1 & -1 \\ 1 & -1 & -1 & 1 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} s_1 \\ s_2 \\ s_3 \\ s_4 \end{bmatrix}$$



$$\begin{bmatrix} s_1 \\ s_2 \\ s_3 \\ s_4 \end{bmatrix} = \frac{1}{4} \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1 & 1 & 1 \\ 1 & -1 & 1 & -1 \\ 1 & 1 & -1 & -1 \\ 1 & -1 & -1 & 1 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} \rho_{ss} \\ \rho_{as} \\ \rho_{sa} \\ \rho_{aa} \end{bmatrix}$$

quadriports with double symmetry (7)

$$\text{matching : } s_1=0 \quad \rho_{ss} + \rho_{as} + \rho_{sa} + \rho_{aa} = 0$$

$$\text{directivity : } s_3=0 \quad \rho_{ss} + \rho_{as} - \rho_{sa} - \rho_{aa} = 0$$

$$\rho_{as} = -\rho_{ss} \Rightarrow \arg(\rho_{as}) - \arg(\rho_{ss}) = \pi$$

$$\rho_{aa} = -\rho_{sa} \Rightarrow \arg(\rho_{aa}) - \arg(\rho_{sa}) = \pi$$

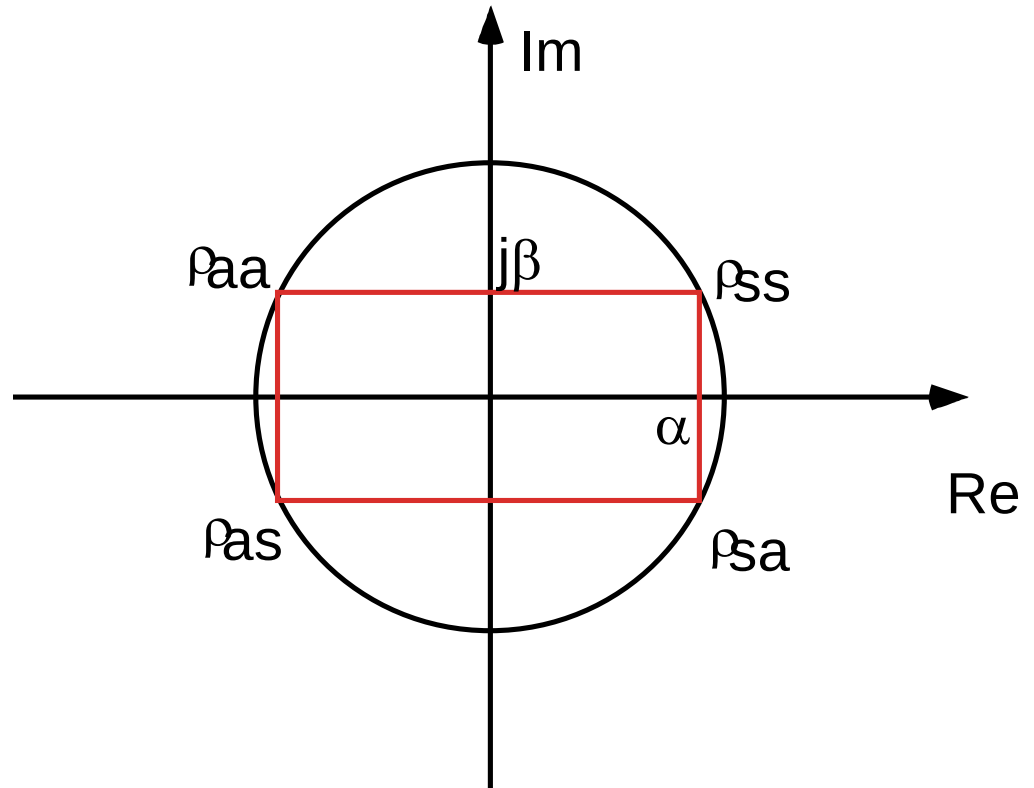
quadriports with double symmetry (7)

Lossless case : $|\rho_{ij}| = 1$

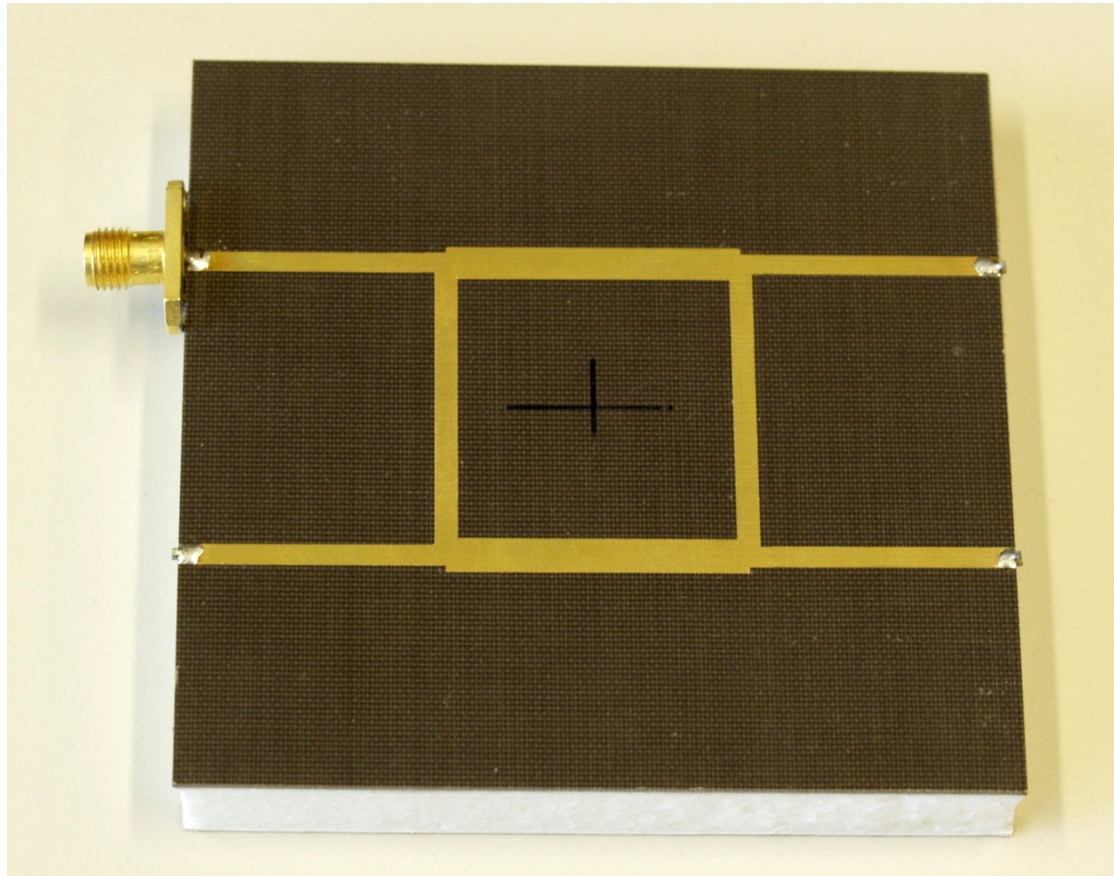
$$S_2 = \frac{(\rho_{ss} - \rho_{aa})}{2} = \alpha$$

$$S_4 = \frac{(\rho_{ss} + \rho_{aa})}{2} = \beta$$

by choice of reference planes



application to printed hybrid



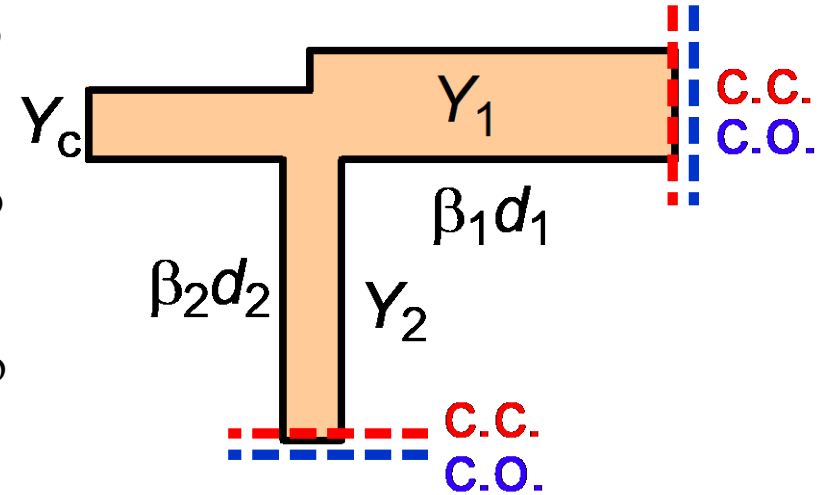
The quadrature hybrid

$$\rho_{ss} = \frac{Y_c - jY_1 \tan(\beta_1 d_1) - jY_2 \tan(\beta_2 d_2)}{Y_c + jY_1 \tan(\beta_1 d_1) + jY_2 \tan(\beta_2 d_2)} e^{j\varphi}$$

$$\rho_{as} = \frac{Y_c + jY_1 \cot(\beta_1 d_1) - jY_2 \tan(\beta_2 d_2)}{Y_c - jY_1 \cot(\beta_1 d_1) + jY_2 \tan(\beta_2 d_2)} e^{j\varphi}$$

$$\rho_{sa} = \frac{Y_c - jY_1 \tan(\beta_1 d_1) + jY_2 \cot(\beta_2 d_2)}{Y_c + jY_1 \tan(\beta_1 d_1) - jY_2 \cot(\beta_2 d_2)} e^{j\varphi}$$

$$\rho_{aa} = \frac{Y_c + jY_1 \cot(\beta_1 d_1) + jY_2 \cot(\beta_2 d_2)}{Y_c - jY_1 \cot(\beta_1 d_1) - jY_2 \cot(\beta_2 d_2)} e^{j\varphi}$$



with

$$\rho_{ss} = -\rho_{as} = \alpha + j\beta$$

$$\rho_{aa} = -\rho_{sa} = -\alpha + j\beta$$

The quadrature hybrid

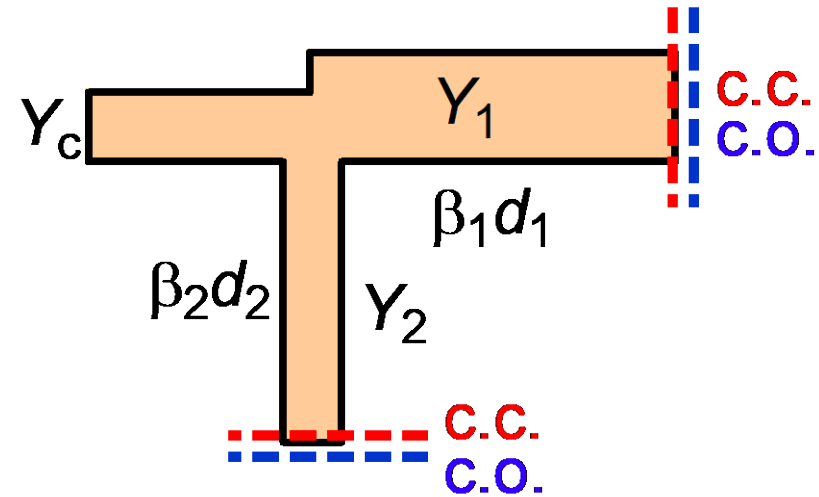
To obtain $S_{11}=0$, we choose

$$\varphi = \pi/2$$

$$Y_1^2 - Y_2^2 = Y_c^2$$

we get :

$$Y_1 \cot(2\beta_1 d_1) + Y_2 \cot(2\beta_2 d_2) = 0$$



The quadrature hybrid

"easy" solution

$$\beta_1 d_1 = \beta_2 d_2 = \pi/4 \quad Y_1 = Y_c/\alpha \quad Y_2 = -jY_c\beta/\alpha$$

β takes a negative value. Lengths : $d_1 = \lambda_1/8 \quad d_2 = \lambda_2/8$

Hybrid coupler (3 dB): $\alpha = 1/\sqrt{2} \quad Y_1 = \sqrt{2}Y_c \quad Y_2 = Y_c$
 $\beta = j/\sqrt{2}$

The quadrature hybrid

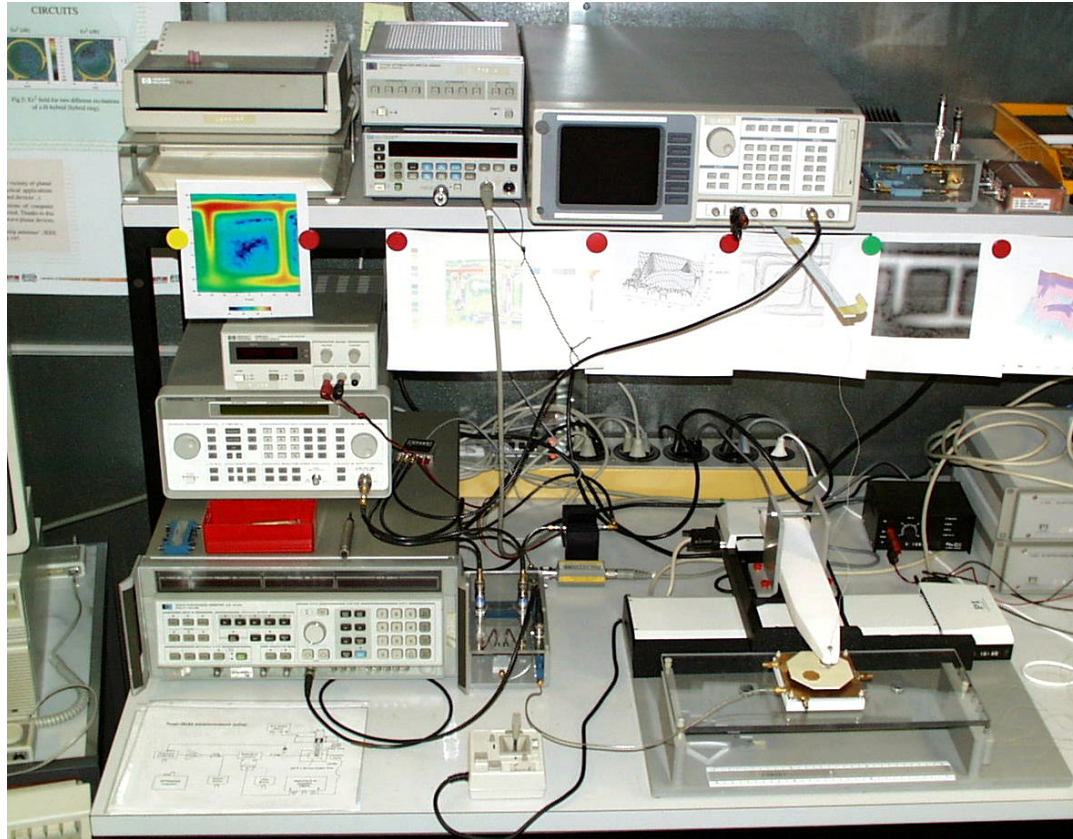
"not so easy" solution

$$Y_1 = \frac{Y_c}{\sqrt{1 - \left[\frac{\cot(2\beta_1 d_1)}{\cot(2\beta_2 d_2)} \right]^2}} \quad Y_2 = \frac{Y_c}{\sqrt{\left[\frac{\cot(2\beta_2 d_2)}{\cot(2\beta_1 d_1)} \right]^2 - 1}}$$

$$\alpha = \frac{2Y_c [Y_1 \tan(\beta_1 d_1) + Y_2 \tan(\beta_2 d_2)]}{Y_c^2 + [Y_1 \tan(\beta_1 d_1) + Y_2 \tan(\beta_2 d_2)]^2}$$

$$\beta = \frac{Y_c^2 - [Y_1 \tan(\beta_1 d_1) + Y_2 \tan(\beta_2 d_2)]^2}{Y_c^2 + [Y_1 \tan(\beta_1 d_1) + Y_2 \tan(\beta_2 d_2)]^2}$$

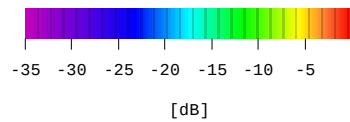
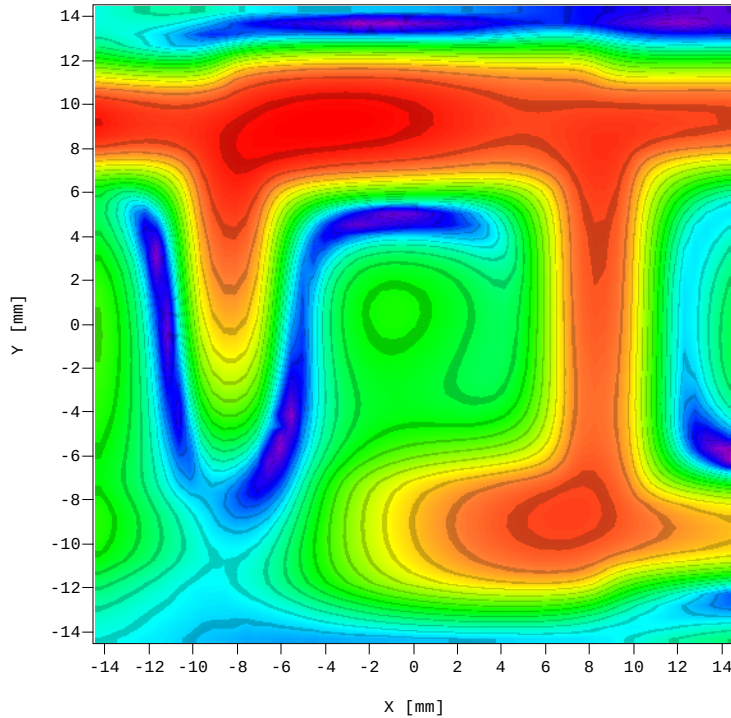
measured verification



Near field measurements at 3 GHz

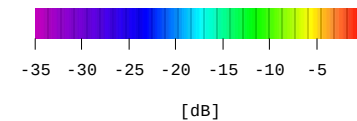
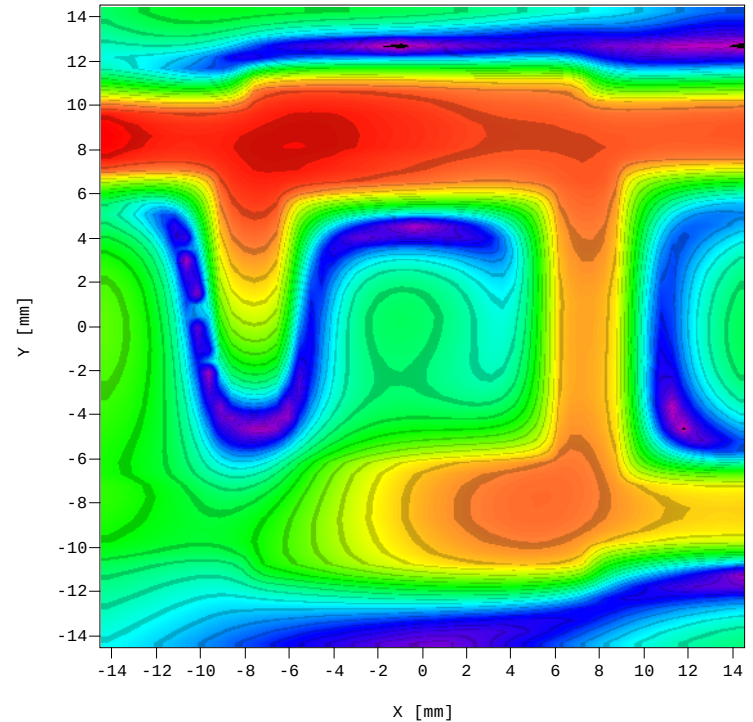
non corrigé

Q-hybride - f=3 GHz - non corrigé



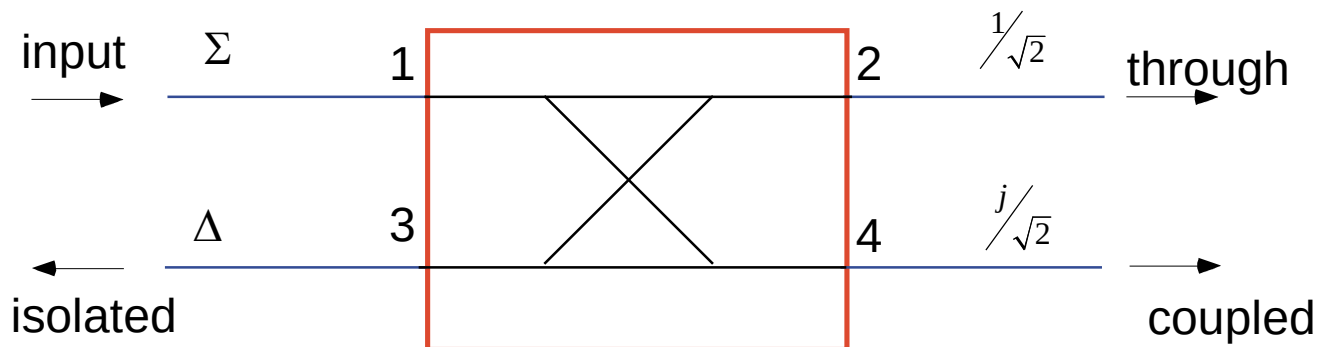
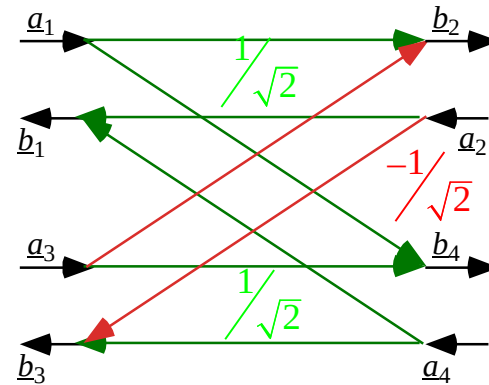
corrigé

Q-hybride - f=3 GHz - corrigé

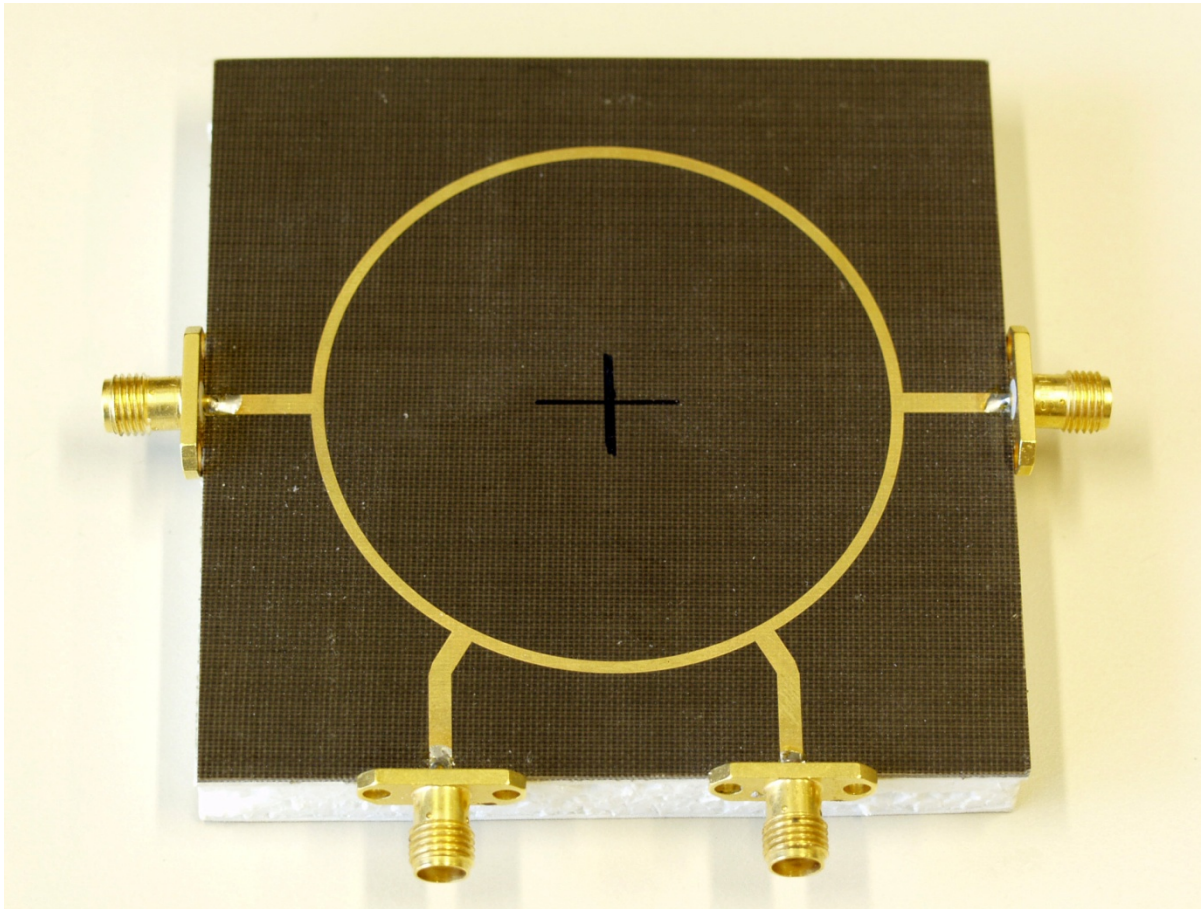


The 180° Hybrid

$$[S] = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 1 & 0 & 1 \\ 1 & 0 & -1 & 0 \\ 0 & -1 & 0 & 1 \\ 1 & 0 & 1 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$$



The printed 180° Hybrid



rat race
Hybrid ring

