

Review on Surface Acoustic Wave (SAW) Filters

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Abstract— the uses of RF devices have been increasing day by day. Filters are one of the most important device in communication channel. Now a days, SAW devices are most commonly used in many systems due to their linear phase response. The survey has been done for Saw filters based on different techniques to achieve advanced functionality, This paper presents the literature survey on SAW filters having different structures to improve parameters such as narrowband operation, sharp cutoff, less insertion loss, wide band operation etc.

Key words: Wave (SAW) Filters, SAW

I. INTRODUCTION

In recent time most of the communication systems are digital, This requires linear phase(constant group delay) for better performance . SAW filters are inherently linear phase hence suitable for digital communication.SAW filters have the advantage of good performance compare to other filters in terms of frequency as it can be realize on high frequency and as it does not contain any components like inductors and capacitors which get affected by temperature so the parameters will never get affected by temperature.

For the RF SAW filter three kinds of IDT(Inter-digital Transducer) design method have been proposed. Those are an IIDT(Inter-digital inter-digital Transducer) design, A ladder type SAW filter & double mode SAW design

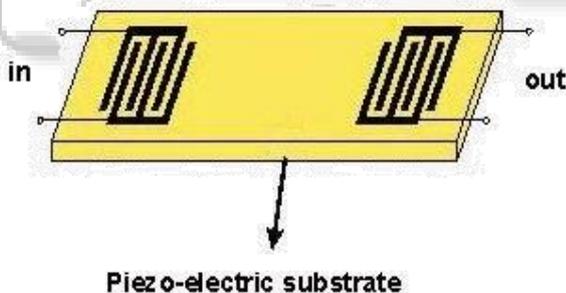


Fig. 1: Simple design of SAW filter

It is an electromechanical device. A Surface Acoustic Wave (SAW) filter is a filter whereby the electrical input signal is converted to a acoustic wave by so-called inter-digital transducers (IDTs) on a piezoelectric substrate . IDTs consist of interleaved metal electrodes which are used to launch and receive the wave so electrical signal is converted to acoustic wave and again to electrical wave at output side. In the early stage until 1992 IIDT type SAW filter is mainly used for RF filter. This structure had the insertion loss limit at 3-4 Db level and it required the external matching circuit. To overcome this problem in the ear of 1992 Ladder type SAW filter and DMS SAW filter are reported. Both filter design utilize SAW resonators which are suitable for low loss characteristics and their designs are resemble with BAW(Bulk Acoustic Wave) filters. The DMS filter utilizes two identical resonant modes acoustically coupled in the

longitudinal direction. Two types of one port SAW resonator, the series arm resonator and parallel arm resonator which has slightly different resonant frequency are coupled with each other by ladder type network.

II. LITERATURE SURVEY

M. Ei hakiki, J-A Damy, H. hartmann [1] had designed leaky waves based fan shaped filters,63% of bandwidth is achieved by using fan shaped structure They have designed the structure that comprised of first (FT1) and second(FT2) transducers are arranged within the same longitudinal surface. A shielding structure is arranged between two transducers comprising fully metallic area.

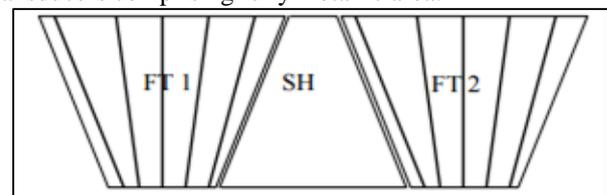


Fig. 2: FAN shaped structure with shielding surface[1]

Also they have adapted a structure in which instead of shielding surface non reflective finger gratings are used to minimize propagation losses due to leaky waves.

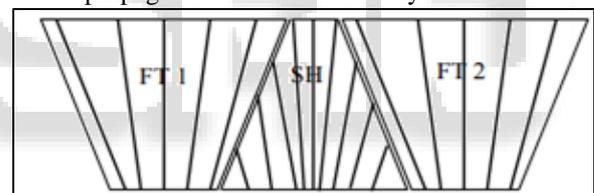


Fig. 3: Fan shaped structure comprising non reflective finger grating[2]

By applying fan shaped structure on LiNbO3 insertion loss of 12.7 dB have been achieved and by using LiTao3 as material they have designed filter at 219 MHz with relative bandwidth of 9% and streepness of 1.5%..

Xiaoming Lu,Koen mounthan,Yeo Tai Soon[2] had designed a SAW filter consisting SAW resonator network and parallel coupled lines.

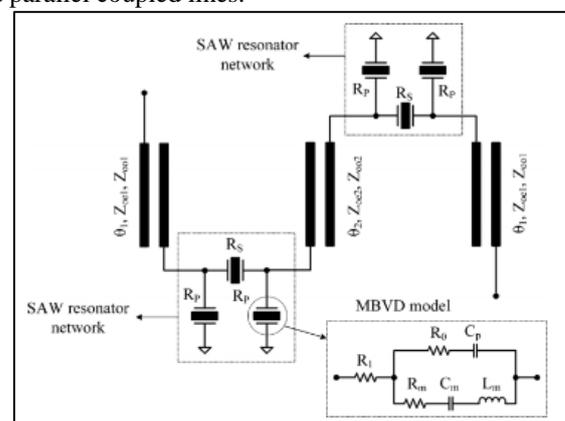


Fig. 4: proposed circuits for the wideband BPFs with SAW filter-like selectivity[2]

By using proposed method filter was designed at 2GHz having the bandwidth of 10% and 17%.

S. A. Doberstein[3] In proposed paper they have used fan shaped structure having one input IDT and two output IDT

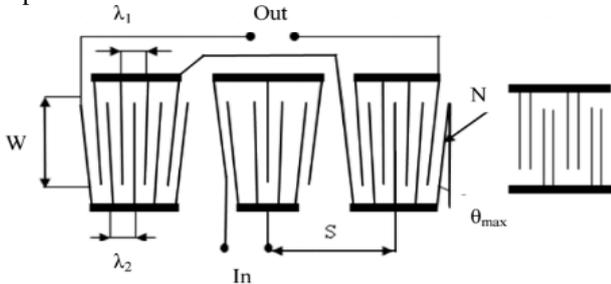


Fig. 5: FAN shaped structure with three IDTs[3]

The filter was designed on 128° Y-X LiNbO3. The simulation were done using delta function model in CST. By using this design insertion loss can be decreased. The 255 & 305 MHz samples of the SAW filters have shown 3-dB bandwidth of 30-61 MHz, insertion loss of 5.5-7.5 dB, The samples were housed in the 5×5×1.35 mm

Doberstein Sergei[4] had designed a DMS filter with narrowed pass band and improved selectivity on 42° Y-X LiTaO3. Filter was designed with two IDTs. Narrowed passband was achieved by choosing definite gap length between input and output IDTs

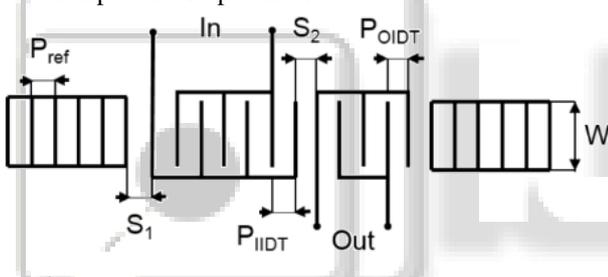


Fig. 6: Balanced two IDT DMS filter[4]

The filter was designed on 300 MHz frequency. It provides the insertion loss of 3 dB .Bandwidth of 1.5 MHz, stop band attenuation of 70 dB at ±12 MHz offsets from a center frequency. The filter was housed in the 9.1×7.1×2 mm SMD package.

Jia hong sun; yuan-hai yu[5] had developed this filter using phononic crystal structure. Phononic crystals are artificial composites made of two or more elastic material. The existence of band gap is one of the important property of PnCs. Acoustic waves within the frequency range cannot propagate in PnCs. They have used SiO2/LiNbO3 layered structure used as reflective gratings for SAW.

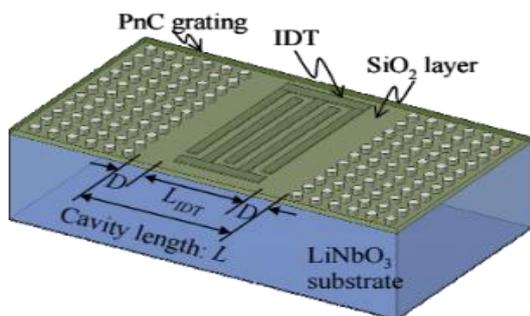


Fig. 7: A PnC resonant cavity for SAWs

Filter was designed on 947MHz frequency and narrowed pass band was achieved.

III. RECENT TECHNOLOGIES TO ACHIEVE ADVANCED FUNCTIONALITY

- 1) Narrow pass band can be achieved by choosing definite gap length between input and output IDTs.
- 2) Insertion loss can be decreased by using weighting withdrawal technique.
- 3) Leaky wave FAN shaped structure can be used to achieve wide band operation
- 4) Selectivity can be achieved by using series connection of output IDTs in the parallel acoustic tracks of the filter.

IV. CONCLUSION

A Literature survey on Surface Acoustic Wave filter is presented in this paper which finds great application in the field of digital communication. After studying various research paper it is concluded that by choosing proper piezoelectric material and appropriate finger length and distance between fingers in IDT we can achieve the advance functionality.

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