

EE153: MICROWAVE CIRCUITS & ANTENNAS

Spring 2018, 12 Units (3-2-7): Tue 3-5, Thu 3-4

In the ongoing quest for ever-increasing communication speeds and bandwidth, the frequencies and clock rates of analog and digital circuits have continued their steep ascent over the past three decades. Computer CPU clocks, at about 100 MHz in the early 1990s, are now in the multiple GHz. Computer wireless networks (Wi-Fi), originally at 900 MHz, have now transitioned from 2.4 to 5 GHz, with throughputs exceeding 1 Gb/sec. Cell phones, initially at 900 MHz, have successively moved to 1900 MHz (3G), 2.1 GHz (4G LTE), and, now, with the advent of 5G, they will move to 26 GHz and possibly as high as 59 GHz! Automotive radars operate at 77 GHz. Point-to-point microwave links between buildings operate at 23 and 80 GHz.

- **The problem:** When the frequency of operation of a circuit is so high that the wavelength is comparable to its physical size, the traditional analysis techniques that are based on Kirchhoff's voltage and current law fail. With the continuing trend towards higher frequencies, the specialized design and analysis techniques that apply to this higher frequency domain have found a host of new applications. As a Caltech Professor once jokingly remarked, even the "digital guys" have had to acknowledge that there is something between 0 and 1!

Come discover the specialized analysis and design techniques that apply to high frequency circuits used in computers, cellular telephony, space communications, radar and broadcasting!

The lectures will cover the theory of transmission lines, characteristic impedance, maximum power transfer, impedance matching, signal flow graphs, power dividers, coupled lines, even and odd mode analyses, couplers, filters, noise, amplifiers, oscillators, mixers and antennas.

In the labs you will design and measure microwave circuits, such as microstrip filters, power dividers, directional couplers, low-noise amplifiers and oscillators, using sophisticated network analyzers worth well over \$100,000.

The commercial Computer-Aided Engineering (CAE) software package *Microwave Office* will be provided for you to design and analyze your circuits. *Microwave Office* is a powerful microwave CAE software package that is **actually used by engineers in the field**.