

NASA Technical Memorandum 102477

# A New Rectangular Waveguide to Coplanar Waveguide Transition

George E. Ponchak  
*Lewis Research Center*  
*Cleveland, Ohio*

and

Rainee N. Simons  
*Case Western Reserve University*  
*Cleveland, Ohio*

Prepared for the  
1990 IEEE MTT-S International  
Microwave Symposium  
Dallas, Texas, May 8-10, 1990

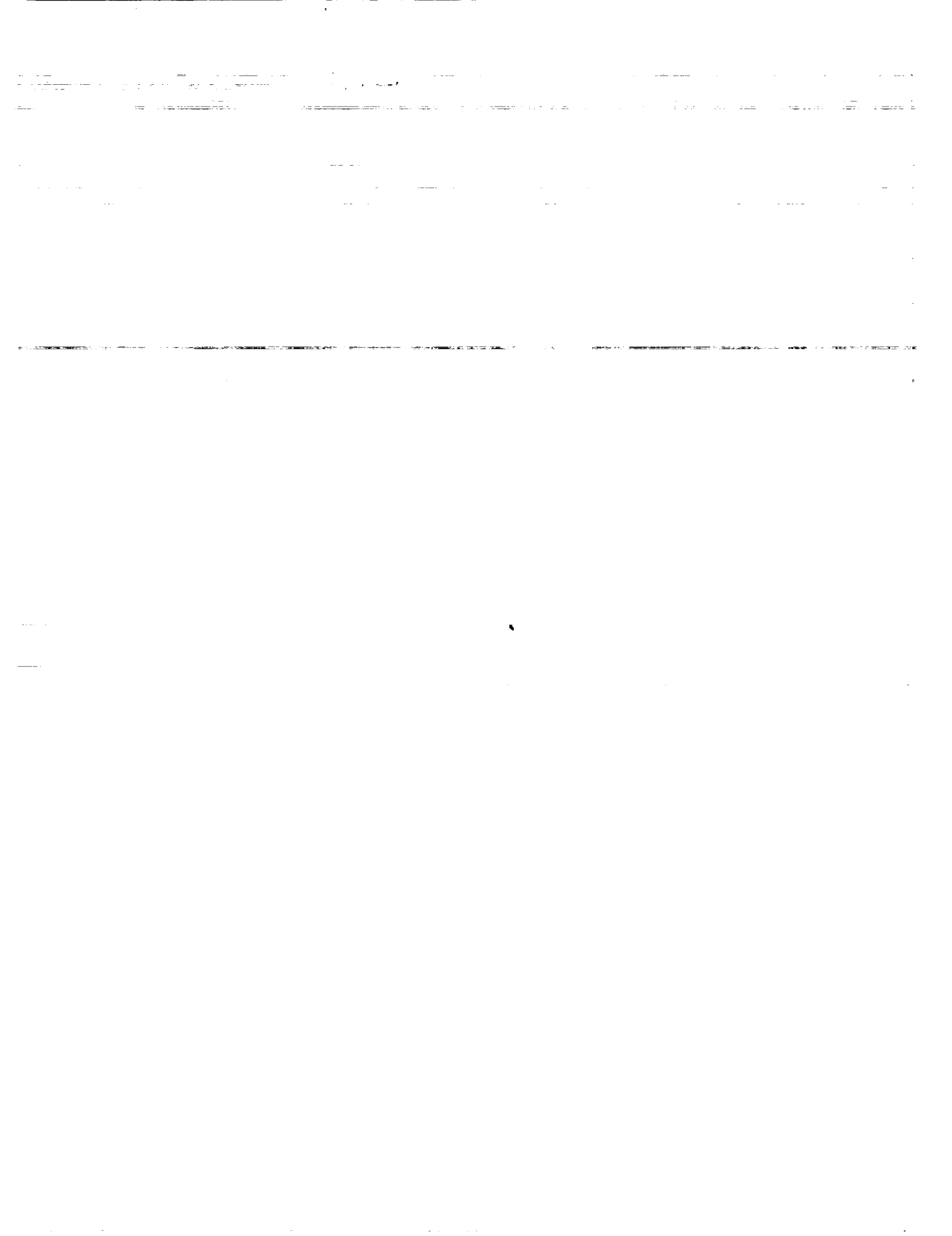


(NASA-TM-102477) A NEW RECTANGULAR  
WAVEGUIDE TO COPLANAR WAVEGUIDE TRANSITION  
(NASA) 4 p CSCL 20N

N90-21263

Unclas

G3/32 0277364



## A NEW RECTANGULAR WAVEGUIDE TO COPLANAR WAVEGUIDE TRANSITION

George E. Ponchak

Rainee N. Simons\*

NASA Lewis Research Center

Case Western Reserve University

Cleveland, Ohio 44135

Cleveland, Ohio 44106

### ABSTRACT

A new rectangular waveguide to coplanar waveguide transition is described. The transition uses a ridge in one of the broad walls of the waveguide and a nonradiating slot in the opposite wall to split and rotate the electromagnetic fields of the rectangular waveguide TE<sub>10</sub> mode into the CPW fields.

### INTRODUCTION

Coplanar waveguide (CPW) is an attractive transmission line for microwave integrated circuits since the ground planes are on the same side of the substrate as the conducting strip (1). This permits the integration of both series as well as shunt circuit elements without the need for back side processing and via holes. A second important advantage of CPW which has recently emerged is in the design of microwave probes for on-wafer characterization of field effect transistors and for fast, inexpensive evaluation of microwave integrated circuits (2).

In order to fully utilize these advantages, transitions between CPW and other microwave transmission media are required. A coaxial connector to CPW transition in which the center pin and the ground connection of the coaxial connector make contact with the CPW center strip and ground planes respectively has been demonstrated at 18 GHz (3). By reducing the diameter of the coaxial connector, the upper frequency of these transitions has been extended to 50 GHz. Further reduction of the coaxial connector dimensions to increase the frequency of operation may be limited by the fragility of the connectors. Also, millimeter wave sources use rectangular waveguide at the output ports. Therefore, there is a need to develop rectangular waveguide to CPW transitions for applications at V-Band (50 to 75 GHz) and W-Band (75 to 110 GHz).

A waveguide to CPW transition has been reported by Bellantoni, et al. (4). The transition uses a finline taper to concentrate the electric

fields and a wire bond to split the electric currents between the two ground planes. The difficulty with the design is positioning the wire bond such that the two slots are excited in equal magnitude and phase. A further difficulty with finline transitions is the occurrence of resonances created by the transition (4,5). This paper presents the design and characteristics of a new rectangular waveguide to CPW transition which uses a ridge in one of the broad walls of the waveguide and a nonradiating slot in the opposite wall. This arrangement transforms the rectangular waveguide TE<sub>10</sub> mode into the CPW mode with equal magnitude and phase excitation of the slots. The transition is capable of providing full waveguide bandwidth.

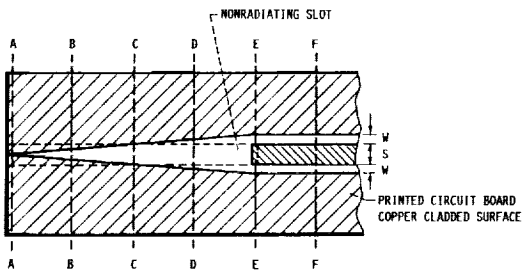
### TRANSITION DESIGN

Figure 1 is a schematic of the transition. The printed circuit board shown in Fig. 1(a) forms the bottom wall of the rectangular waveguide. On this printed circuit board, a nonradiating slot is etched which gradually tapers to a width equal to  $S + 2W$ , where  $S$  and  $W$  are the width of the CPW center strip and slot, respectively. The cosine tapered ridge shown in Fig. 1(b) protrudes from the top wall of the waveguide and extends down to the printed circuit board metalization at the end of the taper. The ridge width is matched to the width of the center strip conductor,  $S$ , of the CPW. The electric field distribution at cross sectional planes along the transition is illustrated in Fig. 2. One can easily visualize that the ridge and the nonradiating slot gradually split the electromagnetic fields of the TE<sub>10</sub> waveguide mode and rotate them through 90° to match the fields of the CPW.

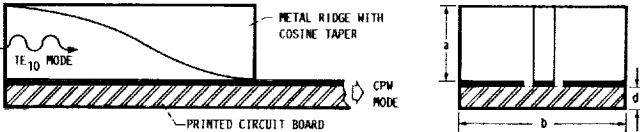
### TEST RESULTS FOR K BAND TRANSITION

A transition has been designed for K band. The printed circuit portion of the transition has been fabricated on a 0.125 in. thick 5880 RT/Duroid substrate with single sided copper cladding. The ridged waveguide portion of the transition is copper. The cosine taper is 1.5 in. long or approximately  $1.5 \lambda_g$  at the center frequency. The  $S$  and  $W$  of the CPW are 0.032 and 0.008 in. respectively yielding a 75  $\Omega$  transmission line. For testing, the two transitions were connected back to back through a 0.8 in. length of CPW transmission line. The characteristics for this transition are shown in Fig. 3. The return loss is greater than 11 dB

\*NASA Resident Research Associate at Lewis Research Center (work funded by NASA Grant NAG3-816).



(b) PLAN VIEW ILLUSTRATING THE NONRADIATING SLOT IN THE BOTTOM WALL OF THE RECTANGULAR WAVEGUIDE.



(c) LONGITUDINAL VIEW ILLUSTRATING THE COSINE TAPERED METAL RIDGE.

FIGURE 1. - SCHEMATIC OF THE TRANSITION.

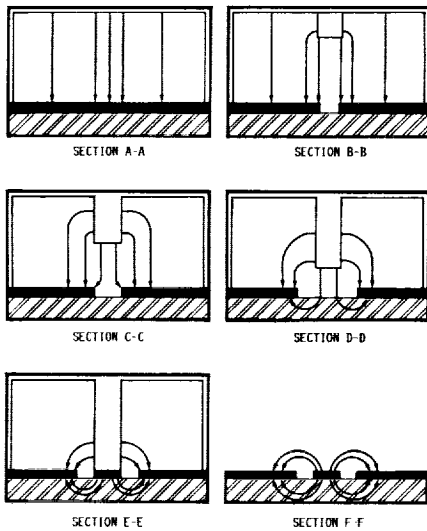


FIGURE 2. - ELECTRIC FIELD DISTRIBUTION AT VARIOUS CROSS-SECTIONS ALONG THE TRANSITION.

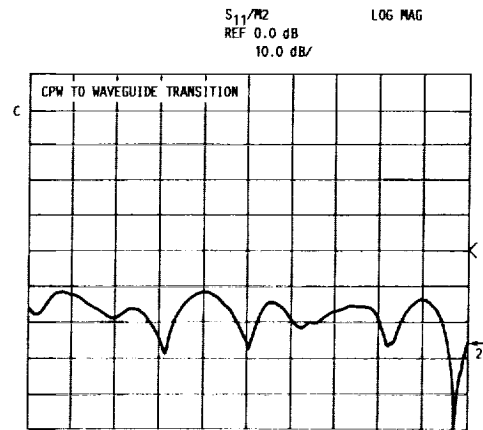
across the band. The average insertion loss for the back-to-back transitions is 1.75 dB with 0.25 dB ripple.

CONCLUSIONS

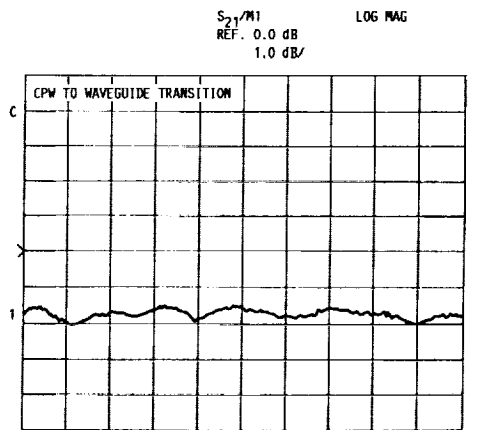
A new rectangular waveguide to CPW transition has been developed with full waveguide bandwidth. This transition should permit the use of CPW based circuits in the millimeter wave frequency range and the development of microwave probes above 50 GHz for fast and inexpensive testing of the millimeter wave circuits.

REFERENCES

(1) C.P. Wen, "Coplanar Waveguide: A Surface Strip Transmission Line Suitable for Nonreciprocal Gyromagnetic Device Applications," *IEEE Trans. Microwave Theory Tech.*, vol. MTT-17, no. 12, pp. 1087-1090, 1969.



(a) INPUT RETURN LOSS AS MEASURED AT THE WAVEGUIDE PORT.



(b) MEASURED INSERTION LOSS OF TWO TRANSITIONS CONNECTED BACK TO BACK.

FIGURE 3.

(2) K.E. Jones, E.W. Strid, and K.R. Gleason, "mm-Wave Wafer Probes Span 0 to 50 GHz," *Microwave J.*, vol. 30, no. 4, pp. 177-183, 1987.

(3) M. Houdart and C. Aury, "Various Excitation of Coplanar Waveguide," in *IEEE MTT-S International Microwave Symposium Digest*, 1979, pp. 116-118.

(4) J.V. Bellantoni, R.C. Compton, and H.M. Levy, "A New W-Band Coplanar Waveguide Test Fixture," in *IEEE MTT-S International Microwave Symposium Digest*, 1989, pp. 1203-1204.

(5) G. Begemann, "An X-Band Balanced Fin-Line Mixer," *IEEE Trans. Microwave Theory Tech.*, vol. MTT-26, no. 12, pp. 1007-1011, 1978.



# Report Documentation Page

1. Report No. NASA TM-102477		2. Government Accession No.		3. Recipient's Catalog No.	
4. Title and Subtitle A New Rectangular Waveguide to Coplanar Waveguide Transition				5. Report Date January 1990	
				6. Performing Organization Code	
7. Author(s) George E. Ponchak and Rainee N. Simons				8. Performing Organization Report No. E-5264	
				10. Work Unit No. 506-44-2C	
9. Performing Organization Name and Address National Aeronautics and Space Administration Lewis Research Center Cleveland, Ohio 44135-3191				11. Contract or Grant No.	
				13. Type of Report and Period Covered Technical Memorandum	
12. Sponsoring Agency Name and Address National Aeronautics and Space Administration Washington, D.C. 20546-0001				14. Sponsoring Agency Code	
15. Supplementary Notes Prepared for the 1990 IEEE MTT-S International Microwave Symposium, Dallas, Texas, May 8-10, 1990. George E. Ponchak, NASA Lewis Research Center; Rainee N. Simons, Case Western Reserve University, Cleveland, Ohio 44106 and NASA Resident Research Associate at Lewis Research Center (work performed under NASA Grant NAG3-816).					
16. Abstract A new rectangular waveguide to coplanar waveguide transition <sup>(CPW)</sup> is described. The transition uses a ridge in one of the broad walls of the waveguide and a nonradiating slot in the opposite wall to split and rotate the electromagnetic fields of the rectangular waveguide TE <sub>10</sub> mode into the CPW fields.					
17. Key Words (Suggested by Author(s)) Microwave transmission lines Coplanar transmission lines Waveguides (rectangular)				18. Distribution Statement Unclassified - Unlimited Subject Category 32	
19. Security Classif. (of this report) Unclassified		20. Security Classif. (of this page) Unclassified		21. No. of pages	22. Price*

