

David V. Plant McGill University

Team: Dr. Josh Schwartz, Mr. Nick Zicha, Mr. Yang Zhu, Mr. Qunbi Zhuge, Mr. Sumit Saha, and Mr. Amit Khan



Ultra-Wide Band (UWB) Localization

- Precise Location
 Identification
 - Ultra-wide band technologies for asset tracking
 - UWB well-suited to sensitive hospital environment





UWB Background

- UWB transmission
 - Low-energy and lowpower spectral density
 - Short-range, highbandwidth, non-interfering

• UWB pulses

- Modulation format dependent (impulse-radio, multi-band OFDM)
- Conform to regulations, channel conditions
- Need for high flexibility and dynamic pulse shaping



UWB Pulse Generator



Pulse combination method

- Input square-pulse is transformed to UWB pulse
 - Independent programmable digital control of sub-pulse gain & delay
- Prototype can output any waveform with up to 5 zero-crossings.



UWB Pulse Generator

Demonstration IC in 90nm CMOS (in testing)

- 1.2 V supply,
 50mW @ max data rate
- 1 mm x 1.1 mm
- Max of 2 Gbps modulation
- BPSK, 2-PPM, PSM (pulse-shape modulation) all enabled formats



Measured Results



Control of UWB pulse width



Control of sub-pulse amplitude





UWB Signal Processing

- High signal bandwidths require new toolbox
 - Real-time operations (spectral analysis, delay, synchronization, temporal imaging for ADC/DAC)
 - Can use dispersion to perform signal analysis
 - Mapping of frequency content in the time domain



Can we implement microwave broadband dispersion to do this?

Dispersion from an SIW

- A substrate integrated waveguide (SIW) is made with a "via" fencepost sidewall (holes filled with metal)
- Easy fabrication (planar) compared to regular waveguides
- Can create a periodic resonant bandgap by "wiggling" the walls
- These are called "electromagnetic bandgaps" (EBGs)



Dispersion from an SIW

- Group delay and bandwidth can be set by controlling the chirp parameter of an EBG
- Pictured: different chirp settings affect the bandwidth (top right) and delay slope (bottom right)





Dispersion from an SIW

• 60 GHz area

- Have demonstrated these concepts at 60 GHz where UWB is being investigated for short-range wireless links
- Pictured: chirped EBG in SIW with 5 GHz bandwidth, +0.11ns/GHz dispersion slope.





Extended Dispersion

- Increased UWB dispersion from a single EBG
 - UWB signal processing should be able to operate on long time-windows (or continuously)
 - Existing EBGs can only provide finite dispersion (limited by practical fabrication length, losses...)
 - A recirculating configuration allows several passes through the dispersion

Extended Dispersion





Conclusions

- Ultra-Wide Band Concepts
 - Are promising for tracking assets (human and physical)
 - Can be integrated into existing communications systems.
 - Scalable to higher data rates for improved performance.