### RESEARCH PAPER

# Novel N-band tunable resonator based on N-order dual-behavior resonator and tunable capacitors

ERWAN FOURN<sup>1</sup>, CEDRIC QUENDO<sup>2</sup> AND ERIC RIUS<sup>2</sup>

An N-band resonator, particularly well-suited for reconfigurability, is presented in this paper together with its synthesis. The resonator is based on the association of an N-band dual-behavior resonator and tunable capacitors. Its topology consists of a parallel association of N+1 different bandstop structures, each one composed of a stub terminated by a capacitor. N pass bands, separated from each other by a transmission zero, are then obtained. As each bandstop structure independently controls one transmission zero, the use of variable capacitors allows each of them to be tuned independently and then to reconfigure the resonator in terms of transmission zeros and resonant frequencies. After the presentation of the general synthesis, this principle is validated by the realization of a tri-band resonator in microstrip technology.

Keywords: Filter, Passive components and circuits, Reconfigurable multi-band resonator

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### I. INTRODUCTION

Either at the mobile terminal or at the satellite level, recent and future telecommunication systems need to integrate several frequency bands into a single terminal. To minimize its bulk, its weight and its cost, a solution consists in using an N-band radio frequency front-end instead of N single band ones. Moreover, these systems would have to be reconfigurable in order to be able to adapt easily to new uses, standard modifications, user numbers, etc. The importance of passive bandpass filters in these front-ends is at the origin of the research presented in this paper.

Over the last few years, a lot of work has been presented regarding passive multi-band bandpass filters. Most of them concern bi-band filters [1–7], some other ones triband [8–11], or quad-band filters [12, 13], and several works also report on more general methods or synthesis allowing the design of multi-band filters [14–18].

To increase the flexibility of such filters, some recent works add reconfiguration to these structures [19-23]. These solutions are mainly based on resonators loaded in their center or in their ends with varactor diodes. According to the localization of the diodes and the complexity of the structure, the reconfigurable filters allow the central frequency of only one band to be controlled [19-21], the central frequency of all

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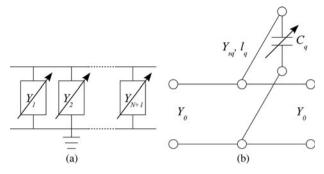
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bands to be simultaneously tuned with constant absolute bandwidths [22], or both the central frequency and the bandwidth of each band to be independently controlled [23, 24]. Nevertheless, the proposed solutions only concern dual-band filters.

This paper proposes a general method to develop an N-band tunable resonator (cf. Fig. 1(a)). It is based on the association of an N-band dual-behavior resonator (DBR) and tunable capacitors. In fact, it is a generalization of the works presented in [24] concerning a mono-band tunable DBR resonator. As described in [14], an N-band DBR consists of the parallel association of different N+1 bandstop structures. One can then obtain N + 1 transmission zeros and Nresonances by constructive recombinations. We chose this multi-band resonator topology because each bandstop structure controls a transmission zero independently of the N other ones. It is therefore relatively easy to reconfigure the multi-band resonator in term of resonant frequencies by independently modifying the position of each transmission zero. The realization of a tunable multi-band filter (i.e., involving at least two tunable multi-band resonators) will also allow the bandwidth to be easily controlled due to the presence of multiple transmission zeros between two successive pass bands. Note that this resonator can also be considered as a tunable notch resonator with N + 1 stop bands.

In the case presented here, each bandstop element consists of a stub terminated by a capacitor (cf. Fig. 1(b)) For instance, Fig. 2 gives the electrical response of an ideal eight-band resonator achievable by using nine bandstop structures. As each of them independently fixes a transmission zero, the use of tunable capacitors allows the independent control of each zero and consequently, the resonator response can be easily modified.



**Fig. 1.** General scheme of an N-band tunable DBR (a) and description of a bandstop structure (b).

The main difficulty here is the initial dimensioning of the structure due to its numerous parameters and the integration of the capacitances. The latter are generally integrated after a first dimensioning of a passive structure involving a long and difficult optimization work. The general synthesis of an N-band tunable resonator reported here (Section II) simplifies this since it takes into account these capacitances from the beginning. Indeed, this synthesis directly gives the parameters of the N+1 bandstop structures, i.e. the length and the impedance of the stubs and the initial value of the capacitors. Section III will demonstrate how one can then easily tune the different bands by varying the values of the capacitors in the case of a tri-band resonator. Section IV will validate the proposed concept with the implementation of this tri-band tunable resonator in microstrip technology. Experimental results are then discussed.

#### II. RESONATOR SYNTHESIS

The general synthesis presented here allows the development of an *N*-band tunable resonator to be simplified. After introducing the general equations linked to resonances and transmission zeros, the equations system will be solved in the case of bandstop structures consisting of a stub terminated by a capacitor (cf. Fig. 1).

As for a passive N-band DBR [14], the parallel association of N+1 tunable bandstop structures defined by their

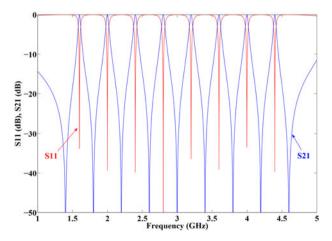


Fig. 2. Initial electrical response of an ideal transmission line eight-band tunable resonator.

frequency-dependent admittance  $Y_q(f)$  leads to the creation of N+1 transmission zeros defined by:

$$Y_q(f_{zq}) \to \infty$$
, for  $q = 1, 2, ..., N + 1$ , (1)

where  $f_{zq}$  are the frequencies of the N+1 transmission zeros. N resonances are then obtained by considering the constructive recombination criteria which follows:

$$\sum_{q=1}^{N+1} Y_q(f_{op}) = 0, \quad \text{for} \quad p = 1, 2, ..., N,$$
 (2)

where  $f_{op}$  are the *N* resonant frequencies initially targeted. The latter could, for instance, be chosen as the mean value of the desired tuning frequency range for each of them.

The difference between the passive and the tunable *N*-band DBR now appears in the development of (1) and (2). In the tunable case presented here, the bandstop structure is a stub of characteristic admittance  $Y_{sq}$  and frequency-dependent electrical length  $\theta_q(f)$  terminated by a capacitor  $C_q$  (cf. Fig. 1(b)). The input admittance of a bandstop element is then:

$$Y_q(f) = jY_{sq} \frac{2\pi f C_q + Y_{sq} \tan(\theta_q(f))}{Y_{sq} - 2\pi f C_q \tan(\theta_q(f))}.$$
 (3)

In (3), the electrical length of a stub,  $\theta_q(f)$ , is related to its physical length,  $l_a$ , by the well-known equation which follows:

$$\theta_q(f) = \frac{2\pi f}{c_0} l_q,\tag{4}$$

where  $c_0$  is the speed of light in vacuum.

The expression of the value of each capacitor,  $C_q$  (q=1,...,N+1), is obtained by combining (1) and (3):

$$C_q = \frac{Y_{sq}}{2\pi f_{zq} \tan(\theta_q(f_{zq}))}.$$
 (5)

Then, the introduction of (5) in (3) and the use of the resulting equation with (2) give the characteristic admittance of the N first stubs as follows:

$$y_s = X^{-1} y_{N+1}. (6)$$

 $y_s$  is the vector of the characteristic admittances of the N first stubs:

$$y_s = [Y_{s_1}, Y_{s_2}, \dots, Y_{s_N}]^t.$$
 (7)

(9)

*X* is an *N*-by-*N* square matrix. Its elements are defined by:

$$x_{pq} = \frac{f_{op} + f_{zq} \tan(\theta_q(f_{zq})) \tan(\theta_q(f_{op}))}{f_{za} \tan(\theta_q(f_{zq})) - f_{op} \tan(\theta_q(f_{op}))}$$
(8)

with p = 1,2,..., N and q = 1,2,..., N. The vector  $y_{N+1}$  is expressed as

where the *N* coefficients  $x_{p,N+1}$  are given by (8) with q = N + 1.

 $y_{N+1} = -Y_{sN+1} [x_{1,N+1}, x_{2,N+1}, \dots, x_{N,N+1}]^t,$ 

In this synthesis, the physical length of the N+1 stubs and the characteristic admittance of the last one,  $Y_{sN+1}$ , are freedom degrees. They can be used to obtain achievable characteristic admittances and values of capacitors according to the technological constraints or to provide different values of the slope parameter even if the latter is not taken into account in the synthesis equations.

### III. RECONFIGURABLE TRI-BAND RESONATOR

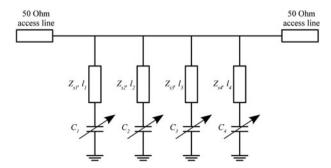
An example of a reconfigurable tri-band resonator in ideal transmission lines is presented in this section. Its development is outlined in two steps: the first one consists of obtaining the length and the impedance of the four stubs and the initial value of the four associated capacitors using the synthesis presented in the previous section; the second step presents how the variations of the values of the capacitors allow the frequency of the transmission zeros to be independently controlled and so how the three resonant frequencies can be tuned.

### A) Initial configuration

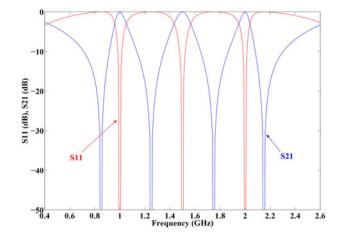
Figure 3 presents the scheme of a reconfigurable tri-band resonator in an ideal transmission lines configuration. The synthesis presented in Section II gives the admittance of the first three stubs  $(Y_{s_1}, Y_{s_2} \text{ and } Y_{s_3})$ , and so their impedance  $(Z_{s1}, Z_{s2} \text{ and } Z_{s3})$ , plus the initial value of the four capacitors  $(C_1, C_2, C_3 \text{ and } C_4)$ . The input parameters are the three resonant frequencies ( $f_{01}$ ,  $f_{02}$  and  $f_{03}$ ), the frequency of the four transmission zeros  $(f_{z_1}, f_{z_2}, f_{z_3})$  and  $f_{z_4}$ , the impedance of the fourth stub ( $Z_{s4} = 1/Y_{s4}$ ) and the length of all stubs ( $l_1$ ,  $l_2$ ,  $l_3$ and  $l_4$ ). According to the technological constraints used in Section IV for demonstration, we fixed the impedance  $Z_{s_4}$ equal to 130  $\Omega$  and the length of each stub,  $l_i$ , equal to  $\lambda_{zi}/8$ , where  $\lambda_{zi} = c_0/f_{zi}$  (i = 1-4). One should note that the ratio between  $l_i$  and  $\lambda_{zi}$  could be different from one stub to another. This choice was made to simplify the demonstration. Figure 4 shows the simulated electrical response of this resonator and Table 1 summarizes all the input and output parameters of the tri-band synthesis. This response will be referred to as the initial configuration in the next subsection.

### B) Reconfiguration of the tri-band resonator

From this initial configuration, one can change the value of the four capacitors to control the position of the four



**Fig. 3.** Scheme of a reconfigurable tri-band resonator in an ideal transmission lines configuration.



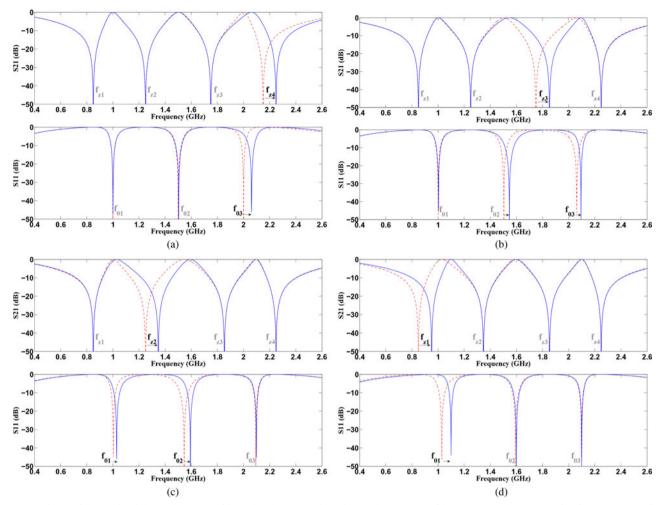
**Fig. 4.** Simulated electrical response of the synthesized tri-band resonator in its initial configuration.

transmission zeros. Indeed, in the DBR topology, each bandstop structure (i.e. a stub and its associated capacitor here) controls the frequency of a transmission zero independently from the others. So, the variation of the value of a capacitor,  $C_i$ , only impacts on the frequency of the ith transmission zero,  $f_{zi}$ , and has no influence on the others. Figure 5 presents the evolution of the tri-band resonator electrical response when the values of the four capacitors decrease one by one from their initial value. Thus, Fig. 5(a) shows the moving of  $f_{z_4}$  from 2.15 to 2.25 GHz when  $C_4$  decreases from 0.569 to 0.506 pF; Fig. 5(b) the moving of  $f_{z_3}$  from 1.75 to 1.85 GHz when  $C_3$  decreases from 1.042 to 0.896 pF; Fig. 5(c) the moving of  $f_{z_2}$  from 1.25 to 1.35 GHz when  $C_2$  decreases from 1.998 to 1.638 pF and Fig. 5(d) the moving of  $f_{z_1}$  from 0.85 to 0.95 GHz when  $C_1$  decreases from 3.415 to 2.527 pF.

The independence of the transmission zeros offers a lot of possibilities to reconfigure the resonator response and not only the resonant frequencies. For instance, Fig. 6 presents the removing of the second resonance,  $f_{02}$ , by bringing  $f_{z2}$  and  $f_{z3}$ . One can also suppress another resonance; modify the three bandwidths, etc.

**Table 1.** Input and output parameters of the synthesis for a reconfigurable tri-band resonator.

Input parameters		
Resonant frequency (GHz)	Transmission zero frequency (GHz)	Stub length (mm)
$f_{01} = 1.0$	$f_{z_1} = 0.85$	$l_1 = 44.087$
$f_{02} = 1.5$	$f_{z2} = 1.25$	$l_2 = 29.979$
$f_{03} = 2.0$	$f_{z3} = 1.75$	$l_3 = 21.414$
	$f_{z_4} = 2.15$	$l_4 = 17.430$
(N+1)th stub imped	ance (admittance)	$Z_{s_4} = 130 \ \Omega$ $(Y_{s_4} = 7.69 \ \text{m})$
(N+1)th stub imped Output parameters Stubs impedance (Ω		
Output parameters Stubs impedance (Ω	2) (admittance (mS))	$(Y_{s4} = 7.69 \text{ m})$ Initial capacitor
Output parameters	(admittance (mS))	(Y <sub>s4</sub> = 7.69 m Initial capacitor value (pF)
Output parameters  Stubs impedance ( $\Omega$ $Z_{s1} = 54.82 \ (Y_{s1} = 1.00)$	2) (admittance (mS)) 18.24) 15.69)	$(Y_{s4} = 7.69 \text{ m})$ Initial capacitor value (pF) $C_1 = 3.415$



**Fig. 5.** Change of the simulated electrical response of the tri-band resonator depending on the variations of the capacitors. (a) Variation of  $C_4$  from 0.569 pF (red dashed lines) to 0.506 pF (blue solid lines),  $C_1 = 3.415$  pF,  $C_2 = 1.998$  pF, and  $C_3 = 1.042$  pF in both cases. (b) Variation of  $C_3$  from 1.042 pF (red dashed lines) to 0.896 pF (blue solid lines),  $C_1 = 3.415$  pF,  $C_2 = 1.998$  pF, and  $C_4 = 0.506$  pF in both cases. (c) Variation of  $C_2$  from 1.998 pF (red dashed lines) to 1.638 pF (blue solid lines),  $C_1 = 3.415$  pF,  $C_3 = 0.896$  pF, and  $C_4 = 0.506$  pF in both cases. (d) Variation of  $C_1$  from 3.415 pF (red dashed lines) to 2.527 pF (blue solid lines),  $C_2 = 1.638$  pF,  $C_3 = 0.896$  pF, and  $C_4 = 0.506$  pF in both cases.

IV. EXPERIMENTAL VALIDATION USING VARACTOR DIODES ON MICROSTRIP TECHNOLOGY

## A) Prototype characteristics and measurements setup

The tri-band resonator synthesized in Section III has been realized in microstrip technology on a RO4003 Rogers substrate (dielectric constant:  $\varepsilon_r = 3.55$ , height: h = 0.508 mm, dissipation factor: tan  $\delta = 0.0027$ ) with copper metallization (metal width:  $t = 17.5 \,\mu\text{m}$ , conductivity:  $\sigma = 5.8 \times 10^7 \,\text{S/m}$ ). Varactor diodes are used as variable capacitors. Table 2 summarizes the characteristics of the bandstop structures. The tri-band resonator was simulated and optimized using Agilent ADS software and especially the EM-cosimulation tools allowing an easy integration of the mounted components characteristics (diodes, capacitances) into the simulations. All varactor diodes are from the MGV125 family from Aeroflex Metelics, with a 0805-02 CMS packaging. Nevertheless, three different models are used (MGV125-20, MGV125-22, and MGV125-26) according to the required range of capacitance values. The fabricated prototype also includes DC bias circuits for the four varactor diodes. They are composed of a decoupling capacitance (10 nF) connected to the ground by a metallic via hole, an inductive line and a radial stub. Each bias circuit was designed at the initial frequency of the associated transmission zero. Their dimensions are presented in Table 3. The input and output lines width is 1.8 mm. One should note that these RF input/output lines behave as a common DC ground for all varactor diodes. DC-block (BLK-18-S+ from Mini-Circuits) is used between the SMA accesses of the circuit and the Vector Network Analyzer ports. The latter is an ENA 5062A from Agilent Technologies. Figure 7 presents a picture of the manufactured reconfigurable tri-band resonator (a) and a detailed view of a bias circuit of one of the varactor diodes (b).

### B) Measurements results

The measurements presented in Fig. 8 show the moving of the four transmission zeros due to the variations of the DC bias voltages ( $V_i$ , i = 1, 2, 3, or 4; cf. Fig. 7) applied to the four diodes. In this example, each DC bias voltage,  $V_i$ , increases, so the associated diode capacitor value,  $C_i$ , decreases and the frequency of the transmission zero,  $f_{zi}$ , moves up. Thus, a

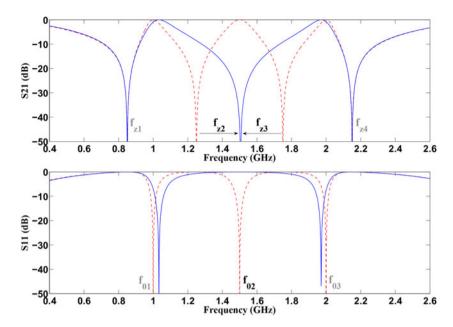


Fig. 6. Suppression of the central passband of the tri-band resonator by varying  $C_2$  and  $C_3$  from 1.998 and 1.042 pF (red dashed lines) to 1.199 and 1.511 pF (blue solid line), respectively ( $C_1 = 3.415$  pF and  $C_4 = 0.569$  pF in both cases).

**Table 2.** Manufactured reconfigurable tri-band resonator: optimized dimensions of the stubs and diodes used.

Stub	Length (mm)	Width (mm)	Diode
1	28.269	0.8	MGV125-26
2	19.327	0.6	MGV125-22
3	11.443	0.2	MGV125-22
4	10.31	0.31	MGV125-20

**Table 3.** Manufactured reconfigurable tri-band resonator: biasing circuits characteristics.

Stub	Inductive line		Radial stub	
1	Length (mm)	Width (mm)	Radius (mm)	Angle (°)
1	25.1	0.1	26.35	110
2	31.1	0.1	17.5	110
3	23.9	0.1	13	110
4	20.1	0.1	10.5	110

variation of  $V_4$  from 5.8 to 8.2 V implies that  $f_{z_4}$  moves from 1.97 to 2.18 GHz (cf. Fig. 8(a)); a variation of  $V_3$  from 5.2 to 7.3 V implies that  $f_{z_3}$  moves from 1.38 to 1.59 GHz (cf. Fig. 8(b)); a variation of  $V_2$  from 3.1 to 5.1 V implies that  $f_{z_2}$  moves from 0.93 to 1.20 GHz (cf. Fig. 8(c)) and a variation of  $V_1$  from 1.5 to 4 V implies that  $f_{z_1}$  moves from 0.47 to 0.69 GHz (cf. Fig. 8(d)).

Figure 8 shows a fifth transmission zero between 2.4 and 2.6 GHz. In fact, it is the first harmonic of the first transmission zero,  $f_{z_1}$ . Thus, its frequency also varies when the DC voltage  $V_1$  is modified. Its presence implies a fourth resonance between 2.2 and 2.4 GHz more or less stronger depending on its proximity with the fourth transmission zero,  $f_{z_4}$ .

One should also note in Fig. 8 that the increase of some bias voltages can also imply very slight decrease of the frequency of unassociated transmission zeros. For instance, in Fig. 8(a),  $f_{zz}$ 

decreases when  $V_4$ , and so  $f_{z_4}$ , increase. This is due to an insufficient isolation between each varactor diode mainly because RF input/output lines are used as DC common ground. Indeed, a small part of the bias signal of one diode goes to the other diodes and not to the ground through the DC-block as expected. It modifies slightly the bias voltage applied to the other diodes and so the frequency of the other transmission zeros. The latter move down because the undesired bias signal feeds the diodes by their anode, and not by their cathode and so subtracts from the main bias voltage. A better isolation could be obtained adding an inductance in parallel connected to the ground and a capacitance in series close to each varactor diode. This allows all the bias signals not to be mixed but this solution increases design complexity and highly decreases the resonator performance. This is a limitation of the use of diodes in such a case, the bias control signals flowing in the microwave circuit. Nevertheless, this technological default, clearly identified, does not call into question the concept proposed here. Other reconfiguration technologies could be investigated to overcome this problem.

As explained in Section III, the independence of the four transmission zeros offers a lot of possibilities to reconfigure the tri-band resonator. The tuning of the three resonant frequencies is thereby demonstrated in Fig. 8. Between the first measured configuration (Fig. 8(a) – red dashed lines) and the last one (Fig. 8(d) – blue solid lines), the variation of the four bias voltages leads to a shifting of  $f_{01}$  from 0.69 to 0.88 GHz (27.5%), of  $f_{02}$  from 1.15 to 1.34 GHz (16.5%), and of  $f_{03}$  from 1.63 to 1.85 GHz (13.5%). Another example is given in Fig. 9. The second passband is easily suppressed by increasing  $V_2$  (from 2.8 to 5.3 V) and decreasing  $V_3$  (from 5.4 to 4.3 V),  $V_1$  and  $V_4$  remaining constant.

### C) Measurements analysis

Experimental reflection coefficients and insertion losses at the three resonant frequencies of the five cases presented in Fig. 8

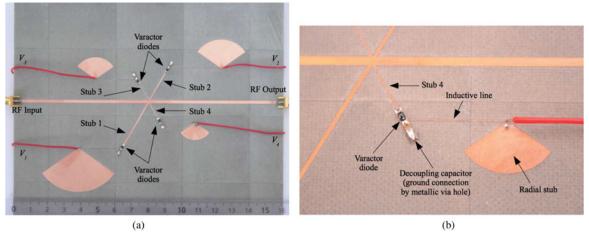
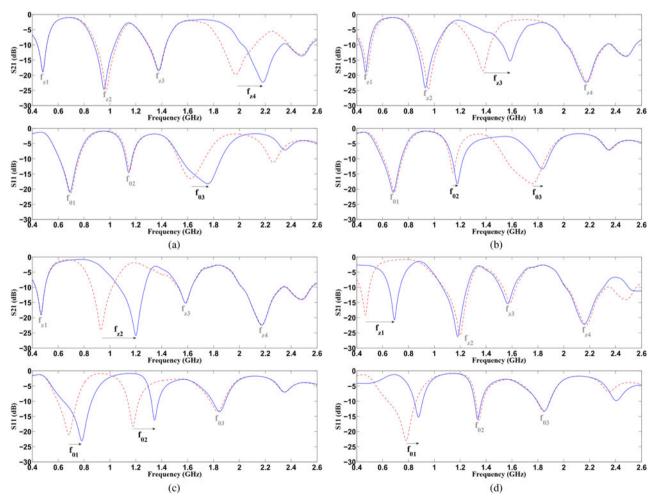


Fig. 7. Picture of the manufactured reconfigurable tri-band resonator (Ruler unit: centimeter) (a) and detailed view of the bias circuit of the varactor diode associated with stub 4 (b).

are summarized in Table 4. The first are always lower than -13 dB. It is quite satisfactory for a reconfigurable multi-band resonator allowing a frequency shift better than 13% for each resonance. Insertion losses are between 0.9 and 3 dB according to the bandwidth. They are in correlation with the

insertion losses estimated by simulation. As an example, Fig. 10 presents a comparison between simulation and measurement for one of the five cases ( $V_1 = 1.5 \text{ V}$ ,  $V_2 = 3.1 \text{ V}$ ,  $V_3 = 5.2 \text{ V}$ , and  $V_4 = 5.8 \text{ V}$  in red dashed lines in Fig. 8(a)).



**Fig. 8.** Change of the measured electrical response of the tri-band resonator depending on the bias voltages. (a) Variation of  $V_4$  from 5.8 V (red dashed lines) to 8.2 V (blue solid lines),  $V_1 = 1.5$  V,  $V_2 = 3.1$  V, and  $V_3 = 5.2$  V in both cases. (b) Variation of  $V_3$  from 5.2 V (red dashed lines) to 7.3 V (blue solid lines),  $V_1 = 1.5$  V,  $V_2 = 3.1$  V, and  $V_4 = 8.2$  V in both cases. (c) Variation of  $V_2$  from 3.1 V (red dashed lines) to 5.1 V (blue solid lines),  $V_1 = 1.5$  V,  $V_3 = 7.3$  V, and  $V_4 = 8.2$  V in both cases. (d) Variation of  $V_1$  from 1.5 V (red dashed lines) to 4 V (blue solid lines),  $V_2 = 5.1$  V,  $V_3 = 7.3$  V, and  $V_4 = 8.2$  V in both cases.

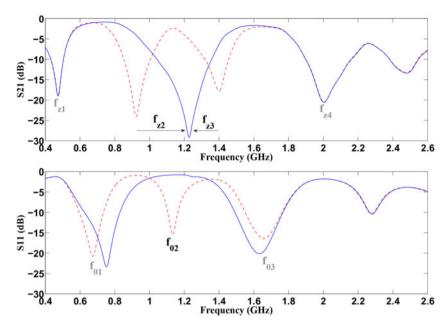


Fig. 9. Measured S-parameters of the realized tri-band tunable resonator with suppression of one band (red dashed lines:  $V_1 = 1.45$  V,  $V_2 = 2.8$  V,  $V_3 = 5.4$  V, and  $V_4 = 6$  V, blue solid lines:  $V_1 = 1.45$  V,  $V_2 = 5.3$  V,  $V_3 = 4.3$  V, and  $V_4 = 6$  V).

In simulation, a varactor diode model is used with a series resistance of 0.3  $\Omega$ . The bias circuits are also taken into account. To estimate the losses due to these elements (diodes and biasing circuits), a comparison was made in simulation between an electrical response of the reconfigurable tri-band resonator and a passive DBR tri-band resonator giving a similar response. This passive resonator was designed using [14] and the same technological properties as the reconfigurable one (substrate, metallization). It has the same transmission zeros frequencies and slightly different resonant frequencies due to different slope parameters. Figure 11 presents these simulations results. The insertion losses are 0.25 dB for the first resonance, 0.73 dB for the second and 0.62 for the third in the passive case instead of 0.69, 1.15, and 1.62 dB, respectively in the reconfigurable case. The integration of diodes and biasing circuits leads to an increase in the insertion losses from about 0.5-1 dB according to the

Others reconfiguration solutions can be used to avoid these additional losses.

One should note in Fig. 11 that a transmission zero, called  $f_{z_1h}$ , appears close to  $f_{z_3}$  in the passive case. It is the first harmonic of the first transmission zero,  $f_{z_1}$ . In the passive case [14], each bandstop structure only consists of a stub that presents a first transmission zero at  $f_{z_i}$ . The first harmonic is then located at  $3f_{z_i}$ . In the tunable case presented here, each band-

frequency. We estimate that the insertion of the diodes

divides the values of the quality factor by approximately 2.

Nevertheless, despite this well-known default of such compo-

nents, we chose this solution for its simplicity and low-cost.

located at  $3f_{zi}$ . In the tunable case presented here, each bandstop structure is composed of a capacitance and a stub, shorter than in the passive case to keep the same transmission zero frequency. The presence of harmonic is only due to the stub part and as it is shorter the first harmonic is higher in frequency.

Table 4. Measured reflection coefficients and insertion losses.

Figure	Resonant frequency (GHz)	Reflection coefficient (dB)	Insertion loss (dB)
8(a) Red dashed lines	f <sub>01</sub> 0.69	-21.3	0.98
	$f_{02}$ 1.15	-14.0	2.96
	$f_{03}$ 1.62	-16.5	2.08
8(a) Blue solid lines	$f_{01}$ 0.69	-21.0	1.01
	$f_{02}$ 1.15	-14.6	2.77
	$f_{03}$ 1.76	-18.3	2.08
8(b) Blue solid lines	$f_{01}$ 0.68	-21.1	0.99
	$f_{02}$ 1.18	-18.3	1.88
	$f_{03}$ 1.84	-13.4	2.66
8(c) Blue solid lines	$f_{01}$ 0.78	-23.1	0.83
	$f_{02}$ 1.34	-16.3	3.13
	$f_{03}$ 1.85	-13.5	2.73
8(d) Blue solid lines	$f_{01}$ 0.88	-15.3	1.47
	$f_{02}$ 1.34	-16	2.98
	$f_{03}$ 1.85	-13.2	2.69

### V. CONCLUSION

A reconfigurable N-band resonator was presented here together with its associated synthesis. The latter allows an initial configuration of the resonator to be easily obtained. The N+1 transmission zeros of the resulting resonator can be then independently tuned and so the electrical response of the resonator can be modified. The concept was validated through the realization of a tri-band resonator in microstrip technology and the use of varactor diodes as tuning elements.

The realization of filters implies the association of two or more reconfigurable *N*-band resonators. This allows more parameters (bandwidths, rejected bands, etc.) to be controlled. Nevertheless, such a realization can be very difficult particularly when the resonance frequencies are far from one to the others. So, additional investigations have to be done to integrate into the synthesis the slope parameter at each resonance and the coupling between resonators. The resulting synthesis will allow facilitating the development of reconfigurable

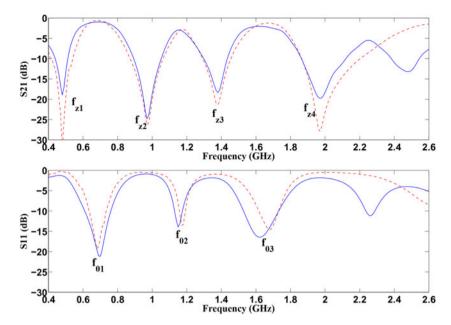


Fig. 10. Simulation (red dashed lines) and measured (blue solid lines) S-parameters of the tri-band resonator for  $V_1 = 1.5 \text{ V}$ ,  $V_2 = 3.1 \text{ V}$ ,  $V_3 = 5.2 \text{ V}$ , and  $V_4 = 5.8 \text{ V}$ .

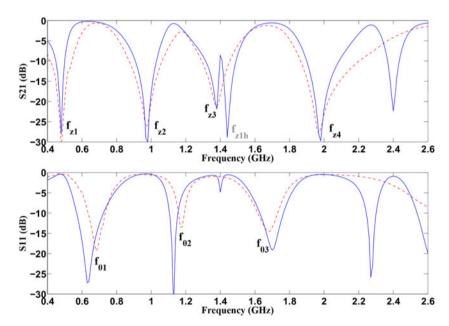


Fig. 11. Simulated S-parameters of the reconfigurable tri-band resonator ( $V_1 = 1.5 \text{ V}$ ,  $V_2 = 3.1 \text{ V}$ ,  $V_3 = 5.2 \text{ V}$ , and  $V_4 = 5.8 \text{ V}$  – red dashed lines) and a passive tri-band DBR with an equivalent response (blue solid lines).

*M*-order *N*-band filters. This would also minimize the influence of tuning on the coupling between resonators and so preserve a larger tuning frequency range.

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