# Apodization of Coupled Cavity Array for Waveguide Quantum Electrodynamics: Design & Simulation

- Hybrid Quantum Circuit Laboratory (HQC) -

Travaux pratiques IV, Physics Master EPFL

submitted by

Daniele Cucurachi

January, 2022

Daniele Cucurachi daniele.cucurachi@epfl.ch Student ID: 328929

#### Supervisors

1st: Dr. Vincent Jouanny 2nd: Prof. Pasquale Scarlino

École polytechnique fédérale de Lausanne (EPFL)

# Contents

1	Intr	oducti	ion and Motivations	1
2	Mat	terials	and Methods	1
	2.1	Apodi	zation in arrays of lumped-element resonators	2
	2.2	Softwa	ares and tools	4
	2.3	Workf	dow	4
		2.3.1	Optimal capacitance values determination	4
		2.3.2	LTspice/Cadence simulations and design code	5
		2.3.3	Design optimization with $Z_0 = 50 \Omega \dots \dots$	6
		2.3.4	Design optimization with $Z_0 = 500 \Omega \dots \dots$	11
3	Res	ults ar	nd Conclusions	12
	3.1	Result	ts	12
	3.2	Concl	usions	13
$\mathbf{A}$	Apr	oendix		16

#### 1 Introduction and Motivations

In the present work, we aim to optimize the design of a coupled resonator waveguide QED to obtain flat transmission on a defined frequency range through apodization of the transmission peaks. In order to reach apodization we slightly modify the physical parameters of the resonators at both ends of the waveguide device so that the reflections cancel out the Fabry–Perot resonances at the resonant frequencies. This leads to a broadening of the characteristic peaks usually observed in transmission for coupled cavity arrays. Under optimal conditions, investigated by Chak et al. [1], we can exploit these broadenings to obtain flat transmission on a frequency band whose width depends on the number of resonators in the waveguide and on their coupling strength.

Apodized coupled resonator waveguides have been used for filtering applications as they operate as band-pass filters [2]. However, in recent years these devices have captivated more interest because of their possible use in slow light applications [3]. Slow light devices are based on the idea that the dispersion relation in periodic structures flattens at the transmission band edges. Since the group velocity is defined by the derivative of the dispersion relation, it is therefore small in regions where the dispersion relation goes flat, meaning that around the transmission band edges we can achieve both large transmission and low group velocity. These devices can be used to study non-Markovian dynamics i.e. dynamics of physical systems with memory of the past interactions [4].

Superconducting coplanar waveguide resonators have been also used to achieve strong coupling regime, paving the way for a multitude of new investigations [5, 6]. In addition, they represent an ideal platform to study the quantum dynamics of systems interacting with a continuum of EM modes (multimode coupling).

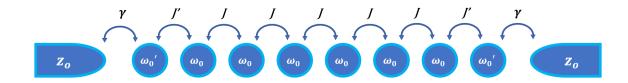
### 2 Materials and Methods

In the following section, I am going to provide a detailed account of the procedure that was followed in completing the project and the tools that were adopted. After a concise review of the theoretical background (subsection 2.1) I will present the software tools used for simulations (subsection 2.2) and the workflow (subsection 2.3) that guided the entire project, reporting all the relevant remarks and observations.

Note that in Appendix A is reported the Python code used for the resonator waveguide design.

#### 2.1 Apodization in arrays of lumped-element resonators

We consider an array of n=8 resonators, all featuring the same parameters, except for the first two and the last two.

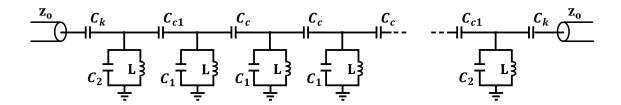


**Figure 1:** Coupled resonators waveguide schematic.  $\omega_0$  and  $\omega'_0$  are the resonators resonant frequencies while J and J' are the coupling strengths.  $\gamma$  is the energy decay rate of the edge sites

We describe the resonator array using the tight-binding formalism, assuming periodic boundary conditions and considering only nearest-neighbor coupling. The corresponding *n*-site Hamiltonian is the following:

$$H = \begin{pmatrix} \omega'_0 + i\gamma & \mathbf{J}' & 0 & & & & \\ \mathbf{J}' & \omega_0 & \mathbf{J} & & & & & \\ 0 & \mathbf{J} & \omega_0 & & & & & \\ & & & \dots & & & \\ & & & & \mathbf{J} & \omega_0 & \mathbf{J}' \\ & & & & 0 & \mathbf{J}' & \omega'_0 + i\gamma \end{pmatrix}$$

Where  $\omega'_0$  is the first (and last) resonator resonant frequency, J is the inter-site coupling, J' is the inter-site coupling between the first two (and the last two) resonators,  $\gamma$  is the energy decay rate of the edge sites due to the coupling to the measurement setup.



**Figure 2:** Equivalent circuit representing the resonators waveguide on lumped element description. Note that we consider only nearest-neighbor coupling, secondary coupling has been neglected.

We realize this Hamiltonian with a lumped-element resonator array coupled to transmission lines ( $Z_0$  feedline input impedance).

The lumped-element resonator array parameters are related to the Hamiltonian parameters by:

$$J=\frac{C_c\omega_0}{2C_\Sigma}$$
: Inter-site coupling with total capacitance  $C_\Sigma=C+2C_c$  and resonant frequency  $\omega_0=\frac{1}{\sqrt{LC_\Sigma}}$ 

$$J' = \frac{C_{c1}\omega'_0}{2C_{\Sigma'}}$$
: First two (and last two) resonators coupling with total capacitance  $C_{\Sigma'} = C_k + 2C_2 + C_{c1}$  and resonant frequency  $\omega'_0 = \frac{1}{\sqrt{LC_{\Sigma'}}}$ 

$$\gamma = \frac{C_k^2 Z_0 \omega_0}{C_\Sigma^2 Z_r}$$
: Energy decay rate of the edge sites, with  $Z_r = \sqrt{L/C_\Sigma}$ 

In order to reach optimal apodization and obtain a flat passband in transmission, the conditions proposed by Chak and coworkers are the following [1]:

$$\omega'_0 = \omega_0$$

$$J' = \sqrt{2}J$$

$$\gamma/2 = 2J\sin(\psi)$$

where  $\psi = \pi/2$  (best matching at the middle of the band) or  $\psi = \pi/4$  (best matching at the band edges). Considering the limit  $C > C_k >> C_{c1}, Cc$ , we can meet these conditions with the following capacitances values:

$$C_{c1} = \sqrt{2}C_c$$

$$C_k = \sqrt{\frac{2C_c \sin(\psi)}{Z_0 \omega_0}}$$

$$C_1 = C - (C_{c1} - C_c)$$

$$C_2 = C - (C_{c1} + C_k - 2C_c)$$

Where the first two conditions optimize the capacitance values to have the best result, while the last two ensure that  $\omega'_0=\omega_0$ .

In section 3 LTspice simulations have been used to prove that the values derived through these equations give indeed the best result: even with a small number of resonators, flat transmission is observed on a well-defined frequency range proportional to the number of resonators.

#### 2.2 Softwares and tools

In the current subsection, I am going to briefly present the software used for simulations and the Python library used to design the resonators waveguide.

LTspice and Cadence Microwave Office: circuit design softwares. High-performance SPICE simulation software, schematic capture and waveform viewer with enhancements and models for easing the simulation of analog circuits.

**Sonnet Software:** EDA software solutions. Note that, despite Sonnet and LT-spice have been used to calculate the transmission spectrum, LTspice simulations are based on a circuit diagram that models the device while Sonnet simulates by numerically calculating Maxwell equations point by point on a 2-D representation of the real design. for high-frequency RF/MW electromagnetic analysis.

**ANSYS:** 3D electromagnetic (EM) simulation software for designing and simulating high-frequency electronic devices.

**gdspy library:** Python module that allows the creation of GDSII stream files for micro and nanofabrication.

#### 2.3 Workflow

The following subsection is dedicated to the presentation of the project workflow: I will provide an overview of the resonator waveguide design process, starting from the equations and finishing with the final waveguide design that will be fabricated.

#### 2.3.1 Optimal capacitance values determination

The first step consisted in exploiting the equations, derived in subsection 2.1, in order to find the best capacitance values for the resonator waveguide to obtain a flat band in transmission. Since we have more parameters than equations: 6 parameters to determine

$$C, C_c, C_{c1}, C_k, C_1, C_2$$

and only 4 equations,

$$C_{c1} = \sqrt{2}C_c$$

$$C_k = \sqrt{\frac{2C_c \sin(\psi)}{Z_0 w_0}}$$

$$C_1 = C - (C_{c1} - C_c)$$

$$C_2 = C - (C_{c1} + C_k - 2C_c)$$

we are free to assign arbitrary values to two of these parameters and successively derive the others. This comes really in handy when considering that, in circuit quantum electrodynamics, we have a narrow range of possible values for these capacitances due to the physical limits of the devices. We can therefore exploit these degrees of freedom to choose some convenient values that are easy to realize.

Note that, in the present analysis, we are not considering  $L_0$  and  $Z_0$  since these parameters are fixed.  $Z_0$  is the input feedline impedance for which we have only two possible values:  $50\Omega$ , and  $500\Omega$  which can be reached by tapering. On the other hand, we take  $L_0$  as a fixed parameter ( $L_0 = 38.8nH$ ) because we want a large inductance since it is needed for metamaterial waveguides [7, 8, 9], paving the way for future applications of the devices designed in this work. When increasing  $L_0$  we induce a redshift in the resonators' resonant frequency (defined as  $w_0 = \frac{1}{\sqrt{LC_{\Sigma}}}$ ), therefore we cannot use inductance values larger than  $\approx 40~nH$ , otherwise the resonant peaks in transmission would appear in a range of the frequency spectrum we are not able to probe with the available lab instruments.

I started with  $Z_0 = 50\Omega$  and chose as starting point the following values:

$$C_c = 0.43 \ fF$$
 ,  $C = 25 \ fF$ 

where  $C_c$  represent the coupling capacitance between two neighboring resonators in the waveguide and C is the coupling capacitance between a single resonator and ground since these values have been already obtained for other devices in the past, therefore we knew they were achievable in practice.

Using Chak's equations we successively derived the values for the other parameters:

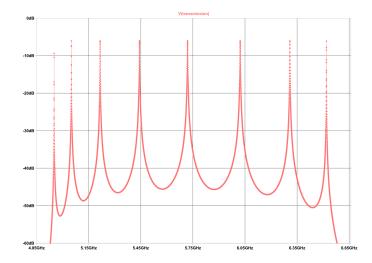
$C_c$	С	$C_k$	$C_{c1}$	$C_1$	$C_2$
0.43 fF	25 fF	19.63 fF	0.61 fF	24.82 fF	5.62 fF

**Table 1:** Values derived through Chak's equations starting from  $C_c = 0.43$  fF, C = 25 fF

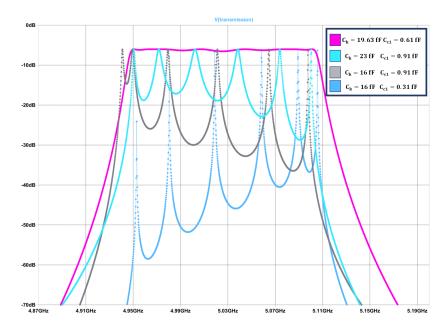
#### 2.3.2 LTspice/Cadence simulations and design code

Once a proper choice of the starting parameters has been made, I simulated the transmission spectrum of the resonator waveguide using LTspice and Cadence Microwave Office. Simulations and parametric analysis have been used to confirm that the derived parameter values were indeed the ones giving the best results. As it is shown in Figure 4, the closer the parameters are to the derived ones, the flatter is the band we observe in transmission.

After the simulations confirmed this starting set of values, I designed the first prototype of the device. In order to optimize and speed up the designed process I coded a script in Python, using the gdspy library, that prints out a fully customizable gds file of the resonators waveguide (the Python code is reported in Appendix A)



**Figure 3:** Transmission vs frequency for a standard coupled resonators waveguide not apodized (the parameters are set as:  $C_c = C_{c1} = C_k$  and  $C_1 = C_2 = C$ ).



**Figure 4:** Transmission spectrum for the apodized coupled resonators waveguide. The 4 traces in different colors represent 4 different sets of values for the parameters  $C_k$  and  $C_{c1}$ . It is clear that the best result is achieved when using the values derived from Chak's equations: for  $C_k = 19.63$  fF and  $C_{c1} = 0.61$  fF a flat band is observed in transmission.

#### **2.3.3** Design optimization with $Z_0 = 50 \Omega$

The gds file has been then used to run a simulation on ANSYS to numerically calculate the capacitance matrix of this first design. The capacitance matrix provides, for each element of the waveguide (single resonators, ground, feedline capacitors), the coupling capacitances with respect to the other elements. The capacitance matrix values have been then compared to the desired capacitance values derived from the equations. This first comparison allowed me to understand how far the starting design was from the optimal one I was looking for.



**Figure 5:** First waveguide design: the ground piece between the first (last) and second (last second) resonators has been removed to reduce the capacitance to ground for the first resonator  $(C_2)$ . Note that, for ANSYS simulations, the resonators must be separated from the ground (as you can see in this picture) so that they can be simulated as individual elements.

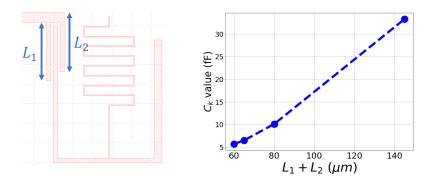
	$C_c$	С	$C_k$	$C_{c1}$	$C_1$	$C_2$
Desired cap values	0.43 fF	25 fF	19.63 fF	0.61 fF	24.82 fF	5.62 fF
First design cap values	$\approx 1.5 \text{ fF}$	≈17 fF	$\approx 5.5 \text{ fF}$	$\approx 2.5 \text{ fF}$	≈15 fF	≈14.5 fF

**Table 2:** Comparison between ANSYS simulation results and optimal capacitance values derived from Chak's equation

The next phase has been characterized by a trial and error approach aimed at understanding how different modifications in the physical structure of the device affected the capacitance values. To this purpose, I have run several simulations on ANSYS changing each time a different parameter in the waveguide: for example capacitors thickness, capacitors length, distances between resonators and ground, and so on.

This analysis showed that, as expected, we can modify the coupling capacitance between two elements in the waveguide by:

- Increasing or decreasing the distance between the two elements. However, we cannot have a too large separation since we would have problems with the lithography process (used to fabricate the waveguide): first of all, it would imply longer time and higher costs for the process, and it would also increase the probability of errors in the making.
- Modifying the thickness of the two elements. However, we cannot decrease it too much or an element that is supposed to be a capacitor will start behaving as an inductor in practice.
- Modifying the exposed surface between the two elements (see example in Figure 6).



**Figure 6:** Impact of the feedline capacitor length on  $C_k$  value.  $C_k$  represents the coupling capacitance between the first resonator and the feedline capacitor. Note that there are other waveguide features that strongly affect the value of  $C_k$ : the distance between the feedline capacitor and the resonator capacitor, and the thickness of the capacitors.

After this initial study, I started modifying the waveguide design in order to achieve the optimal capacitance values. This step by step process gradually converged towards the optimal waveguide design: at each step, the design was modified and simulated with ANSYS, then the simulations' results, compared with the desired capacitance values, provided feedback that suggested how to further modify the design.

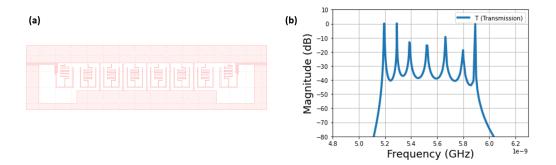


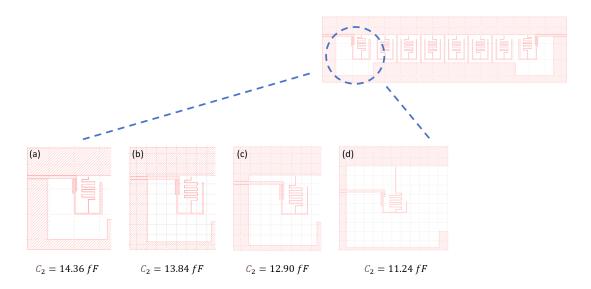
Figure 7: Sonnet simulation of the first waveguide design. The transmission spectrum shows several well defined peaks meaning that the waveguide is not appointed.

As shown Figure 5, the ground between the first and second resonators has been removed in order to decrease the capacitance to ground for the first resonator with respect to the others (indeed for the optimal capacitance values we have  $C_2 \ll C$ ) and increase the capacitive coupling between the first two resonators (since  $C_{c1} > C_c$ ).

During this design optimization process, together with ANSYS simulations, Sonnet simulations (Figure 7) were used to monitor the evolution of the transmission spectrum.

Thanks to this process I managed to design a waveguide that met the optimal parameters for  $C, C_c, C_{c1}, C_k, C_1$ . However, the simulations showed that, for this kind of device, obtaining  $C_2 = 5.62$  fF was not feasible (where  $C_2$  is the coupling capacitance between the first/last resonators and ground). Even pushing the design to the limits

the  $C_2$  value calculated by ANSYS did not get smaller than  $\approx 10-11$  fF (Figure 8). I could not even lower the values of  $C_c$  and  $C_{c1}$  (where  $C_{c1} = \sqrt{2}C_c$ ) to increase the optimal value of  $C_2$  (where  $C_2 = C - (C_{c1} + C_k - 2C_c)$ ) because they both have a very narrow range of achievable values ( $\approx 0.1-3$  fF) and they were already quite small. If  $C_c$  and  $C_{c1}$  are too small, the waveguide does not work properly since these two values are proportional to the capacitive coupling between the resonators  $J \propto C_c$  and  $J' \propto C_{c1}$ .



**Figure 8:** Attempts to decrease  $C_2$  (first and last resonators' capacitance to ground) in order to achieve the optimal value. In designs (a) and (b) the separation between the first resonator and the ground is increased, in (c) and (d) the separation is increased and the first resonator capacitor thickness is reduced. None of the proposed designs reach the optimal value for  $C_2$  and it is not possible to increase further the distance from the ground since this would give problems during fabrication with the lithography process.

In order to overcome this problem, the solution was finding a new optimal capacitance values set. Therefore I exploited again the equations presented in subsection 2.1, imposing  $C_2 = 13$  fF this time. Note that  $C_2$  has to be kept as small as possible because it is directly related to C value: following Chak's equations, the larger  $C_2$  the larger C is gonna be. Already for  $C_2 \approx 15$ -20 fF, C reaches values that are not achievable in practice for this kind of devices. Imposing  $C_2 = 13$  fF allows to have achievable values for both  $C_2$  and C.

$C_c$	С	$C_k$	$C_{c1}$	$C_1$	$C_2$
1.00 fF	48.00 fF	35.29 fF	1.41 fF	47.58 fF	13.30 fF

**Table 3:** New set of optimal values derived starting from  $C_2 = 13$  fF and  $C_c = 1$  fF.

Starting from  $C_2 = 13$  fF and  $C_c = 1$  fF, which ensures a good coupling between the resonators, I derived the new set of optimal capacitance values reported in Table 3.

This new set contains all achievable capacitance values. However, in this case we have the resonators' resonant frequencies approaching 4GHz:

$$f_0 = \frac{1}{\sqrt{LC_{\Sigma}}2\pi} \approx 3.6 \ GHz$$

This is a problem for us because we cannot probe this range of frequencies with the instruments available in our lab.

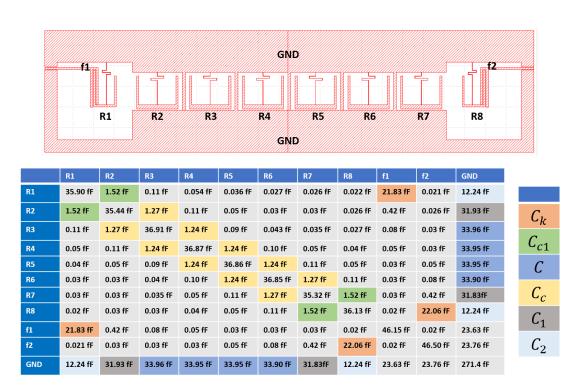


Figure 9: ANSYS Capacitance matrix of the optimal design for the case  $Z_0 = 50 \ \Omega$ 

The only remaining parameter that can be tuned is  $L_0$ , even though reducing  $L_0$  means giving up on high inductance to ground for our device. We have that:

$$L = L_{\square} \frac{l}{w}$$

Where  $L_{\Box}$  is the inductance per square, l and w are the length and the width of the inductor wire. By shortening the inductor wire by almost half of its original length, I reduced  $L_0$  from 38.8 nH to 20 nH, taking the resonator's resonant frequencies to  $\approx 5$  GHz.

With this new set of parameters, adopting the same optimization procedure described before, I obtained the design shown in Figure 9. Note that the thickness of the resonators' capacitors has been increased and the distance between the resonators and ground has been strongly decreased to achieve large C values. On the other hand, reaching a large  $C_k$  has been easy since the interdigitated feed line capacitor allows good control over this parameter.

Note also that, despite the capacitance values calculated through ANSYS simulation (shown in Figure 9) are not close to the optimal values (shown in Table 3), this design is the one giving the best results for the case  $Z_0 = 50 \Omega$ .

#### **2.3.4** Design optimization with $Z_0 = 500 \Omega$

It is possible to achieve an input impedance of  $Z_0 = 500 \Omega$  by tapering. This second case turned out to be much easier since a larger value of  $Z_0$  allows to reach apodization with lower capacitance values with respect to the previous case, which is easier to achieve, while maintaining at the same time a large  $L_0$  ( $L_0 = 38.8 \text{ nH}$ ).

Following the same process used for the  $Z_0 = 50 \Omega$  case, I derived the set of optimal values reported in Table 4.

$C_c$	С	$C_k$	$C_{c1}$	$C_1$	$C_2$
1.00 fF	22.70 fF	9.35 fF	1.41 fF	22.20 fF	13.98 fF

**Table 4:** New set of optimal values for the case  $Z_0 = 500 \ \Omega$ 

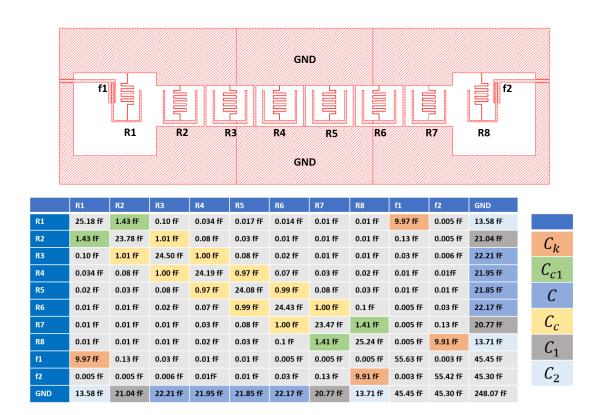


Figure 10: ANSYS Capacitance matrix of the optimal design for the case  $Z_0 = 500 \ \Omega$ 

Again, we obtained the design reported in Figure 10 for this new case by gradual design optimization following the steps described previously.

#### 3 Results and Conclusions

In the following section, the final results and the conclusions are presented: I will show the two final designs, products of the optimization process presented in subsection 2.3, and the relative transmission spectra.

#### 3.1 Results

The optimal design for the case  $Z_0 = 50 \Omega$  is reported in Figure 11:

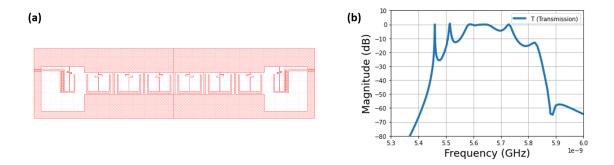


Figure 11: Optimal design (a) and transmission spectrum (b) for the case  $Z_0 = 50 \Omega$ 

For the second case,  $Z_0 = 500 \Omega$ , the results are shown in Figure 12:

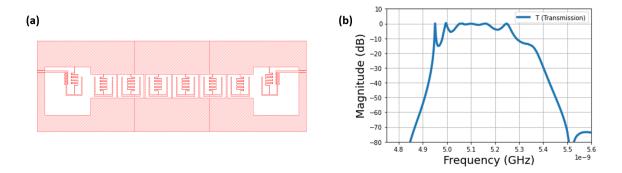


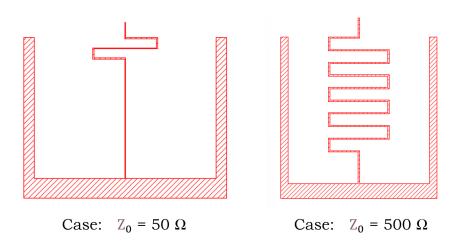
Figure 12: Optimal design (a) and transmission spectrum (b) for the case  $Z_0 = 500 \Omega$ 

In Figure 11 and Figure 12 we can observe that both the transmission spectra feature an asymmetric shape, a shoulder is visible on the right side of the bands. This asymmetry is inherited from the resonator waveguide transmission spectrum, which already shows this characteristic when not apodized (see Figure 3).

Another common characteristic is the presence of two residual peaks on the left side of the bands. We observe that these peaks are less pronounced in the second case  $(Z_0 = 500 \ \Omega)$ , where we also have a larger frequency range with flat transmission:  $\approx 0.3 \ \text{GHz}$ , compared to  $\approx 0.15 \ \text{GHz}$  for the  $Z_0 = 50 \ \Omega$  case. In order to mitigate these oscillations at the band edges we could use a larger number of resonators: with

more resonators we can increase the extent of the band and obtain a flat transmission on a larger frequency range.

In Figure 13 are pictured the two different resonator designs for the two waveguides. In the first case  $(Z_0 = 50 \ \Omega)$  the capacitor has a wider and thicker bottom part in order to reach a larger value for the capacitance to ground C = 48 fF, while C = 22.7 fF in the case  $Z_0 = 500 \ \Omega$ . On the other hand, in order to compensate this larger capacitance value, the inductor wire is reduced by half in this case so that the resonators resonant frequencies (defined as  $f_0 = \frac{1}{2*\pi\sqrt{LC_{\Sigma}}}$ , where C is the dominant factor in  $C_{\Sigma} = C + 2C_c$ ) falls into the range 4.5 GHz - 6 GHz.



**Figure 13:** Comparison between the two different resonators designs for the two waveguides

#### 3.2 Conclusions

Starting from the equations derived in subsection 2.1, we successfully designed two coupled resonators waveguides, with different input impedances  $Z_0 = 50 \Omega$   $Z_0 = 500 \Omega$ , optimized to achieve apodization. Both devices clearly show flat transmission respectively in the frequency ranges 5.6 - 5.8 GHz ( $Z_0 = 50 \Omega$  case) and 5 - 5.3 GHz ( $Z_0 = 500 \Omega$  case), according to Sonnet simulations. These frequency ranges are optimal to study waveguide-SC qubits multimode coupling since superconducting qubits usually have frequencies in the range 4 - 8 GHz [10, 11, 12]. The waveguide designs have been derived through the process explained in subsection 2.3. In order to optimize and speed up the design process we developed a Python program that prints out a fully customizable gds file of the resonators waveguide (see Appendix A).

#### References

- [1] Philip Chak and J. E. Sipe. "Minimizing finite-size effects in artificial resonance tunneling structures". In: *Opt. Lett.* 31.17 (Sept. 2006), pp. 2568–2570. DOI: 10. 1364/OL.31.002568. URL: http://www.osapublishing.org/ol/abstract.cfm?URI=ol-31-17-2568.
- [2] J. Capmany et al. "Apodized coupled resonator waveguides". In: *Optics express* 15 (Sept. 2007), pp. 10196–206. DOI: 10.1364/0E.15.010196.
- [3] Simone Gasparinetti Simon Mathis Jean-Claude Besse. "Microwave Waveguides with Engineered Dispersion based on Arrays of Lumped-Element Resonators". In: ETH Zurich, semester project (Oct. 2017).
- [4] Vinicius S. Ferreira et al. "Collapse and Revival of an Artificial Atom Coupled to a Structured Photonic Reservoir". In: *Phys. Rev. X* 11 (4 Dec. 2021), p. 041043. DOI: 10.1103/PhysRevX.11.041043. URL: https://link.aps.org/doi/10.1103/PhysRevX.11.041043.
- [5] Abdufarrukh A. Abdumalikov et al. "Vacuum Rabi splitting due to strong coupling of a flux qubit and a coplanar-waveguide resonator". In: *Phys. Rev. B* 78 (18 Nov. 2008), p. 180502. DOI: 10.1103/PhysRevB.78.180502. URL: https://link.aps.org/doi/10.1103/PhysRevB.78.180502.
- [6] Andreas Wallraff et al. "Strong coupling of a single photon to a superconducting qubit using circuit quantum electrodynamics". In: *Nature* 431 (Oct. 2004), pp. 162–7. DOI: 10.1038/nature02851.
- [7] D. J. Egger and F. K. Wilhelm. "Multimode Circuit Quantum Electrodynamics with Hybrid Metamaterial Transmission Lines". In: *Phys. Rev. Lett.* 111 (16 Oct. 2013), p. 163601. DOI: 10.1103/PhysRevLett.111.163601. URL: https://link.aps.org/doi/10.1103/PhysRevLett.111.163601.
- [8] C. Caloz and T. Itoh. "Transmission line approach of left-handed (LH) materials and microstrip implementation of an artificial LH transmission line". In: *IEEE Transactions on Antennas and Propagation* 52.5 (2004), pp. 1159–1166. DOI: 10.1109/TAP.2004.827249.
- [9] H. Wang et al. "Mode Structure in Superconducting Metamaterial Transmission-Line Resonators". In: *Phys. Rev. Applied* 11 (5 May 2019), p. 054062. DOI: 10. 1103/PhysRevApplied.11.054062. URL: https://link.aps.org/doi/10.1103/PhysRevApplied.11.054062.
- [10] Xiu Gu et al. "Microwave photonics with superconducting quantum circuits". In: *Physics Reports* 718-719 (July 2017), pp. 1–102. DOI: 10.1016/j.physrep. 2017.10.002.
- [11] Morten Kjaergaard et al. "Superconducting Qubits: Current State of Play". In: Annual Review of Condensed Matter Physics 11.1 (Mar. 2020), pp. 369-395. ISSN: 1947-5462. DOI: 10.1146/annurev-conmatphys-031119-050605. URL: http://dx.doi.org/10.1146/annurev-conmatphys-031119-050605.

[12] P. Krantz et al. "A quantum engineer's guide to superconducting qubits". In: *Applied Physics Reviews* 6.2 (June 2019), p. 021318. ISSN: 1931-9401. DOI: 10. 1063/1.5089550. URL: http://dx.doi.org/10.1063/1.5089550.

## A Appendix

#### Python design code

```
1 # -*- coding: utf-8 -*-
3 @author: Daniele Cucurachi
  FULLY CUSTOMIZABLE COUPLED RESONATORS WAVEGUIDE GDS DESIGN
      the function is divided into 4 parts, each part is related to the
      → design of a specific component. In the end, all the
      components are put together to crate the full WG. We have in order:
8
9
          1) standard resonators pairs: the resonators pairs that form the
10
          → waveguide
11
          2) first resonator (+ feedline capacitor): first resonator in the
12
          → waveguide and input feedline capacitor
13
          3) last resonator: mirrored copy of the first resonator
14
15
          4) ground design
16
17
18
      NOTE: the various parts of the function create the negatives of the
19
       → components designs we need. At the end, the boolean "not"
       → function is used to subtract these negatives from a rectangle
          (which is the ground) and we obtain the full WG
20
   11 11 11
21
22
25
  # IMPORT LIBRARIES
26
27
  import numpy as np
  import gdspy
30
31
  #%% # -----
32
33
34
def RES_WG_APO():
37
```

```
38
       # define all the parameters
39
       # NOTE: the default dimensions are micrometers (um)
42
43
       """1) STANDARD RESONATORS PAIRS"""
44
45
       # STD INDUCTOR
47
       L = 279 # total length of the inductor wire
48
       s = 4.5 # interspacing between the inductor windings
49
       wid = 0.5 # width of inductor wire
50
51
       compact = False # chose if compact inductor design or not
53
       # STD CAPACITOR
54
55
       A = 62 # horizontal dimension of U-capacitor
56
       t = 3 # thickness of U-capacitor
57
       add_t = 3 # added thickness for the bottom capacitor segment
59
       # RESONATOR GROUND DISTANCES
60
61
       dist_ground = 5 # distance between the capacitor and the ground
62
       res_dist_1 = 29 # left lateral distance between two resonators in
63
       \hookrightarrow the resonators chain
       res_dist_r = 29 # right lateral distance between two resonators in
64

    → the resonators chain

       inter_cell_dist = 4 # space between the two cells containing the
65
       \hookrightarrow resonators
       ind_to_ground = 10 # last inductor segment that connects the
66
       → inductor to ground (inter_res_dist)
       centre=(0,0) # centre where I start to draw the design
67
68
69
       """2) FIRST RESONATOR + FEEDLINE CAPACITOR"""
70
       # F INDUCTOR
72
73
       Li = 279 # total length of the inductor wire
74
       si = 4.5 # interspacing of turns of the inductor wire
75
       wi = 0.5 # width of inductor wire
       d_second =20 # last segment of the inductor (connection to ground.
77
       \rightarrow It defines the distance from ground at the top of the resonator

    cell)

78
```

```
compact_ind = False # chose if compact inductor design or not
79
       separated_elements = False # chose if you want to separate the
80
        \rightarrow inductor from the GND (for ANSYS simulations)
       separation_length = 2 # separation length for separated elements
        \hookrightarrow option
82
        # FEEDLINE INTERDIGITATED CAPACITOR
83
84
       w2 = 2 # external feedline capacitor width
       sc = 1.5 # lateral separation between the first resonator capacitor
        → and the feedline capacitor
       y = 2 # vertical separation between the first resonator capacitor
87
        → and the feedline capacitor
       w = 5 \# feedline width
88
       w1 = 4 # width of the internal capacitor arm
       L2 = 45 # length of the internal capacitor arm
90
       L1 = 40 # length of the external capacitor arm
91
       Bwg = 200 # feedline length
92
93
       # F CAPACITOR
       Ac = 50 # horizontal dimension of U-capacitor (without additions,
96
        \rightarrow the final effective width is = A+Ws-t+Wl)
       tc = 3 # thickness of U-capacitor (note that the thickness of the
97
        → capacitor wide arm can be tuned individually)
       W1 = t # wide arm thickness
98
       Lw = 60 \# wide arm length
99
       Ws = (sc + w2) \# thin arm shift
100
101
        # GROUND DISTANCES
102
103
       dist_ground_first = 65 # distance between capacitor and ground
104
       first_dist_lateral_1 = 65 # left lateral distance between the
105
        → capacitor and ground
       first_dist_lateral_r = 28 \# right lateral distance between the
106
        → capacitor and ground
       WG_width = 7 # feedline capacitor width
107
        # define two parameters that will be used when creating the ground
109
        \rightarrow geometry
110
       Lateral_1 = Bwg + w1 + sc
111
       Lateral_r = Ws + Ac + Wl - tc + first_dist_lateral_r
113
114
115
        """3) LAST RESONATOR"""
116
```

```
117
118
119
        """4) GROUND DESIGN"""
120
121
        Height = 250 # distance between the first cell and the edge of the
122
        → qround piece
        N_pairs = 3 # number of cells pairs in the waveguide (NOT including
123

    → the first and last cells)

124
125
126
        """ANSYS/SONNET SIMULATION ADDED CAPACITOR THICKNESS """
127
        # the parameter T1 offer the possibility to increase the thickness
129
        \rightarrow of the second and last second capacitors
        # the parameter T2 offer the possibility to increase the thickness
130
        → of the ground piece below the second and last second capacitors
131
        # T1 and T2 are used to tune the capacitance to ground of the second
132
        \rightarrow and last second capacitors indipendently from the resonators in
        \hookrightarrow the waveguide
133
        T1 = 0# thickness of the added capacitor piece
134
135
        T2 = 0# thicnkess of the added ground piece
136
137
138
139
140
141
142
        # RESONATORS WAVEGUIDE DESIGN: PART 1) 2) 3) 4)
143
144
145
146
147
        """1) STANDARD RESONATORS PAIRS"""
148
149
150
        # CHECK FOR DIMENSIONS MISMATCH IN THE DISTANCES BETWEEN THE
151
        → RESONATORS (STD RESONATORS CHAIN)
        while (res_dist_l <= inter_cell_dist):</pre>
153
```

```
print("MISMATCH: res_dist_l (lateral distance between two
154
             → resonators in the chain) is equal or smaller than
            \rightarrow inter_cell_dist (width of the ground in between two

→ resonators cells)")
            new = input("Enter new value for res_dist_1:")
155
            res_dist_l = float(new)
156
157
158
       while (res_dist_r <= inter_cell_dist):</pre>
159
            print("MISMATCH: res_dist_r (lateral distance between two
160
            \rightarrow resonators in the chain) is equal or smaller than
            → inter_cell_dist (width of the ground in between two
            → resonators)")
            new = input("Enter new value for res_dist_r:")
161
            res_dist_r = float(new)
162
163
       dist_lateral_l = (res_dist_l - inter_cell_dist)/2
164
        dist_lateral_r = (res_dist_r - inter_cell_dist)/2
165
166
167
168
        # PARAMETERS CALCULATIONS
169
170
        # horizontal dimension of the resonators pairs (these parameters
171
        → will be used later to draw the waveguide geometry)
       Horizonta = 2*A + 2*dist_lateral_l + 2*dist_lateral_r +
173
        \ \hookrightarrow \ \text{inter\_cell\_dist}
174
       half_res = A/2 + dist_lateral_1
175
176
        #calculate horizontal dimension of inductor
177
178
       b = 3/5*A - 2*t
179
180
        #calculate number of windings in the inductor
181
182
        if compact == False:
            N = int((L-(ind_to_ground + (s+wid)))/(b+s))
184
        else:
185
            N = round((L-(ind_to_ground + (s+wid)))/(b+s))
186
        # print('N: ',N)
187
188
        #adapt first segment of the inductor
189
190
       d_prime = (L - (N*(s+b)+ind_to_ground)) + wid
191
192
```

```
#calculate vertical dimension of capacitor
193
194
        B = N*(s+wid) + d_prime + t
195
196
        # define Ushape, set of points that will define the capacitor
197
        \rightarrow geometry
198
        U=[]
199
        x0, y0 = centre[0],centre[1]
200
        U.append([x0, y0])
201
202
        x1, y1 = x0, y0 - B + t/2
203
        U.append([x1, y1])
204
205
206
        x2, y2 = x1 + A - t, y1
        U.append([x2, y2])
207
208
        x3, y3 = x2, y2 + B - t/2
209
        U.append([x3, y3])
210
211
        U = np.asarray(U)
212
        centring = (A-t)/2, -B
213
        U = U - centring
214
215
        # additional thickness for the bottom segment of the capacitor
216
        bottom_cap = gdspy.Rectangle((-A/2, -add_t), (+A/2, 0))
218
219
        #set of points that will define the meander (inductor) starting from
220
        \hookrightarrow centre of U
221
        M = []
222
        v0,w0 = centre[0], centre[1]+t
223
        M.append([v0,w0])
224
        v1,ww1 = v0, w0 + d_prime - wid/2
225
        M.append([v1,ww1])
226
227
        for i in range(N):
            if i\%2 == 0:
229
                 v2, ww2 = M[-1][0] - b/2 + wid/2, M[-1][1]
230
                 M.append([v2,ww2])
231
                 v3, w3 = v2, ww2 + (s+wid)
232
                 M.append([v3,w3])
233
                 v4, w4 = v3 + (b/2 - wid/2), w3
234
                 M.append([v4,w4])
235
                 # print(i)
236
            if (i+1)\%2==0:
237
```

```
v5, w5 = M[-1][0] + b/2 - wid/2, M[-1][1]
238
                M.append([v5,w5])
239
                v6, w6 = v5, w5 + (s+wid)
240
                M.append([v6,w6])
241
                v7, w7 = v6 - b/2 + wid/2, w6
242
                M.append([v7,w7])
243
                # print(i)
244
            if (i+1)==N:
245
                # print('end turns:', M[-1])
                v8, w8 = M[-1][0], M[-1][1]
247
                v9, w9 = v8, w8 + ind_to_ground - wid/2
248
249
                # separate the inductor from the capacitor (OPTIONAL)
250
251
252
                if separated_elements==True:
                     w9 = w9 - separation_length
253
254
                M.append([v9,w9])
255
256
257
258
        # GENERATE CAPACITOR AND INDUCTOR GEOMETRIES
259
260
       Upath = gdspy.FlexPath(U,t)
                                        # capacitor
261
       Mpath = gdspy.FlexPath(M,wid)
                                          # inductor
262
263
        # create the negative that will be used later to create the final
264
        → resonator waveguide
265
       rec = gdspy.Rectangle((-((A/2) + dist_lateral_1), -add_t
266

→ dist_ground), ((A/2) + dist_lateral_r, B + ind_to_ground -
        → wid))
267
       upneg = gdspy.boolean(rec, Upath, "not")
268
       upneg = gdspy.boolean(upneg, Mpath, "not")
269
270
       upneg = gdspy.boolean(upneg, bottom_cap, "not")
271
        # create the negative of a pair of resonators spaced by
272
        \hookrightarrow inter_cell_dist
273
       upneg_mirr = gdspy.copy(upneg)
                                             # copy the geometry
274
       upneg_mirr.mirror([A/2 + dist_lateral_r + inter_cell_dist/2, 0],[A/2
275

→ + dist_lateral_r + inter_cell_dist/2, B])
                                                          # mirror the
        \rightarrow geometry
276
277
278
```

```
279
        """2) FIRST RESONATOR"""
280
281
        # CHECK IF THERE ARE DIMENSIONS MISMATCHES
283
284
        while d_{second} < (y+w+(WG_width-w)/2):
285
            print("ERROR: dimensions mismatch, d_second smaller than y+w")
286
            new = input("Enter new value for d_second:")
            d_second = float(new)
288
289
290
291
        # INDUCTOR DESIGN
293
        #calculate horizontal dimension of inductor
294
        # this inductor horizontal dimension will define the distance
295
        → between the capacitors's arm and the inductor
296
        bi = (3/5)*Ac - 2*tc
297
        #calculate number of windings in the inductor
299
300
        if compact_ind == False:
301
            N = int((Li-(d_second + (si+wi)))/(bi+si))
302
303
        else:
            N = round((Li-(d_second + (si+wi)))/(bi+si))
304
305
        #adapt start & end segment of inductor
306
307
        d_{prime} = (Li - (N*(si+bi) + d_{second})) + wi
308
309
        # define set of points that will be used to draw the inductor
310
311
312
        v0,w0 = centre[0], centre[1]
313
        M.append([v0,w0])
314
        v1,ww1 = v0, w0 + d_prime - wi/2
        M.append([v1,ww1])
316
317
        # Inductor's windings
318
319
        for i in range(N):
320
321
            if i\%2 == 0:
322
                v2, ww2 = M[-1][0] + bi/2 - wi/2, M[-1][1]
323
                M.append([v2,ww2])
324
```

```
v3, w3 = v2, ww2 + (si+wi)
                                                 # ww2 cause we already defined
325
                 \rightarrow a w2 variable
                 M.append([v3,w3])
326
                 v4, w4 = v3 - (bi/2 - wi/2), w3
327
                 M.append([v4,w4])
328
329
            if (i+1)\%2==0:
330
                 v5, w5 = M[-1][0] - bi/2 + wi/2, M[-1][1]
331
                 M.append([v5,w5])
                 v6, w6 = v5, w5 + (si+wi)
333
                 M.append([v6,w6])
334
                 v7, w7 = v6 + bi/2 - wi/2, w6
335
                 M.append([v7,w7])
336
337
            if (i+1)==N:
338
                 # print('end turns:', M[-1])
339
                 v8, w8 = M[-1][0], M[-1][1]
340
                 v9, w9 = v8, w8 + d_second + wi/2
341
342
                 # separate the inductor from the capacitor (OPTIONAL)
343
                 if separated_elements==True:
345
                     w9 = w9 - separation_length
346
347
                 M.append([v9,w9])
348
349
        # shift the inductor (shift every point) and center it with respect
350
        \rightarrow to the capacitor (you drew the inductor centred in (0,0))
351
        M = np.asarray(M)
352
        centring = (Ac/2)+Ws, tc
353
        M = M + centring
354
355
        # draw the inductor
356
357
        ind = gdspy.FlexPath(M,wi)
                                         # FIRST RESONATOR INDUCTOR GEOMETRY
358
359
360
361
362
        # CAPACITOR DESIGN
363
364
        # Define length of the capacitor thin arm (the left one)
365
366
        Lt = N*(si+wi) + d_prime + tc
367
368
        # check for dimensions mismatch
369
```

```
370
        while (Lw >= (Lt+d_second)):
371
            print("MISMATCH: Lw is larger than Lt+d_second, it touches the
372

    ground")

            new = input("Enter new value for Lw:")
373
            Lw = float(new)
374
375
        while ((L2-w+sc) > (y+(Lt-tc))):
376
            print("ERROR: dimensions mismatch (L2 too large)")
            new = input("Enter new value for L2:")
378
            L2 = float(new)
379
380
        # define the capacitor geometry
381
        lcap = gdspy.Curve(0, 0).L(0,Lt, tc,Lt, tc,tc, Ws+Ac-tc,tc,
383
        → Ws+Ac-tc,tc, Ws+Ac-tc,Lw, Ws+Ac+Wl-tc,Lw, Ws+Ac+Wl-tc,0,0,0)
        cap = gdspy.Polygon(lcap.get_points()) # FIRST RESONATOR CAPACITOR
384
        \hookrightarrow GEOMETRY
385
386
388
        """2) FEEDLINE CAPACITOR DESIGN"""
389
390
391
        # DEFINE THE FEEDLINE CAPACITOR DESIGN
393
        # the center (0,0) is the same used for the first resonator design
394
        \hookrightarrow function
395
        wlcap = gdspy.Curve(-(sc+w1+Bwg),Lt+y).L(-(sc+w1+Bwg),Lt+y+w,
396
        \rightarrow tc+sc+w2,Lt+y+w, tc+sc+w2,Lt+y+w-L2, tc+sc,Lt+y+w-L2,
        \rightarrow tc+sc,Lt+y, -sc,Lt+y, -sc,Lt+y-L1, -(sc+w1),Lt+y-L1,
        \rightarrow -(sc+w1),Lt+y, -(sc+w1+Bwg),Lt+y)
        wcap = gdspy.Polygon(wlcap.get_points())
397
398
399
        # CREATE THE NEGATIVE of the whole resonator + waveguide capacitor
400
        \rightarrow geometry B
401
        contour_line = gdspy.Curve(-(sc+w1+first_dist_lateral_l),
402
```

```
403
          -dist_ground_first).L((Ws+Ac+Wl-tc+first_dist_lateral_r),(-dist_ground_first),
          (Ws+Ac+Wl-tc+first_dist_lateral_r),(Lt+d_second),
          -(sc+w1+first_dist_lateral_l),(Lt+d_second),
          -(sc+w1+first_dist_lateral_l),(Lt+d_second-(d_second-(y+w+((WG_width/2)
          -(w/2)))),
          -(sc+w1+Bwg),(Lt+d_second-(d_second-(y+w+((WG_width/2) -
          (w/2)))),
          -(sc+w1+Bwg),(Lt+d_second-(d_second-(y+w+((WG_width/2) -
          (w/2)))-WG_width),
         -(sc+w1+first_dist_lateral_l),(Lt+d_second-(d_second-(y+w+((WG_width/2)
          - (w/2)))-WG_width),

¬ (sc+w1+first_dist_lateral_l),¬(dist_ground_first))
       contour = gdspy.Polygon(contour_line.get_points())
404
405
       # boolean subtarction to generate the negative
406
407
       cont = gdspy.boolean(contour, wcap, "not")
408
409
       co = gdspy.boolean(cont, cap, "not")
410
411
       first_neg = gdspy.boolean(co, ind, "not") # NEGATIVE OF THE CELL
412
       → CONTAINING FIRST RESONATOR + FEEDLINE CAPACITOR
413
414
416
417
       """3) LAST RESONATOR: mirrored copy of the first one"""
418
419
420
       # CREATE A MIRRORED COPY OF THE FIRST RESONATOR
421
422
       first_neg_mirr = gdspy.copy(first_neg)
                                                 # copy the geometry
423
       first_neg_mirr.mirror([(2*Lateral_r + N_pairs*Horizonta +
424
       → N_pairs*Horizonta + (N_pairs-1)*inter_cell_dist)/2, 1*1e-6])
         mirror the geometry
425
       # NOTE: the mirrored copy is already shifted to the right at the end
426
       → of the waveguide
427
428
429
430
       """4) GROUND DESIGN"""
431
432
```

```
433
       # CREATE THE GROUND RECTANGULAR GEOMETRY
434
435
       # calculate the ground rectangle length
436
437
       Rec_len = 2*Lateral_1 + 2*Lateral_r + N_pairs*Horizonta +
438
        439
       #create the ground rectangle
440
441
       ground = gdspy.Rectangle((-(Lateral_1),-(Height)), (Rec_len -
442
        → Lateral_1, B + Height))
443
       # SUBTRACT THE NEGATIVES
445
446
       # create a cell array with the negatives of the standard resonators
447
        → pairs
448
       Res_pair_cell = gdspy.Cell("std_resonators_pair_reference")
449
450
       Res_pair_cell.add(upneg)
451
452
       Res_pair_cell.add(upneg_mirr)
453
454
       res_array = gdspy.CellArray(ref_cell=Res_pair_cell, columns=N_pairs,
455
        → rows=1, spacing = (Horizonta + inter_cell_dist, 0),
        → origin=(Lateral_r + (half_res), 0)) # res_array type is cell
           array
456
457
       # added capacitor thickness for ANSYS and Sonnet simulations
458
       # check if there is a dimension mismatch
459
460
       while ((T1+T2) >= dist_ground):
461
           print("MISMATCH: ")
462
           new = input("Enter new value for T1:")
463
           T1 = float(new)
464
           new = input("Enter new value for T2:")
465
           T2 = float(new)
466
467
468
       rec1 = gdspy.Rectangle((Lateral_r + dist_lateral_1,0),(Lateral_r +
469

→ dist_lateral_l + A,-T1))
470
```

```
rec2 = gdspy.Rectangle((Lateral_r +
471
          dist_lateral_1,-dist_ground),(Lateral_r + dist_lateral_l + A,
           -dist_ground + T2)) # this has this weird geometry cause I want
           to maximize the distance between the the first resonator
           capacitor and the ground
472
       rec3 = gdspy.Rectangle((Lateral_r + Horizonta*N_pairs +
473
          inter_cell_dist*(N_pairs-1) - (dist_lateral_l + A)
            ,0),(Lateral_r + Horizonta*N_pairs + inter_cell_dist*(N_pairs-1)
           - (dist_lateral_l + A) + A, -T1))
474
       rec4 = gdspy.Rectangle((Lateral_r + Horizonta*N_pairs +
475
        → inter_cell_dist*(N_pairs-1) - (dist_lateral_l +
        → A),-dist_ground),(Lateral_r + Horizonta*N_pairs +
        \rightarrow inter_cell_dist*(N_pairs-1) - (dist_lateral_l + A) + A,
        → -dist_ground + T2))
476
477
       res_array = gdspy.boolean(res_array, rec1, "not")
478
       res_array = gdspy.boolean(res_array, rec2, "not")
479
       res_array = gdspy.boolean(res_array, rec3, "not")
       res_array = gdspy.boolean(res_array, rec4, "not")
481
482
483
        # add the negatives of the components to one single cell (called
484
        → "negatives")
485
       negatives = gdspy.Cell("negatives")
486
487
       negatives.add(res_array)
488
489
       negatives.add(first_neg)
490
491
       negatives.add(first_neg_mirr)
492
493
494
        # subtract the negatives
495
496
       WG = gdspy.boolean(ground, negatives, "not")
497
498
       main = gdspy.Cell("Full_WG")
499
       main.add(WG)
500
501
502
        # RETURN: cell with the complete WG
503
504
       return main
505
```

```
506
507
   #%%# ---
   # PRINT A GDS FILE OF THE CHOSED DESIGN
510
511
512 main = RES_WG_APO()
513
514 lib = gdspy.GdsLibrary()
515
516 lib.add(main)
517
gdspy.LayoutViewer(lib)
519
   # Save the library in a file called 'first.gds'
520
521
522 lib.write_gds('file_name.gds')
523
524
525
526
```