Created in COMSOL Multiphysics 6.2

Circular Waveguide Filter

Introduction

A circular waveguide filter is designed using a 2D axisymmetric model. Six annular rings added to the waveguide form circular cavities connected in series, and each cavity cutoff frequency is close to the center frequency of the filter. The computed S-parameters show a bandpass frequency response.

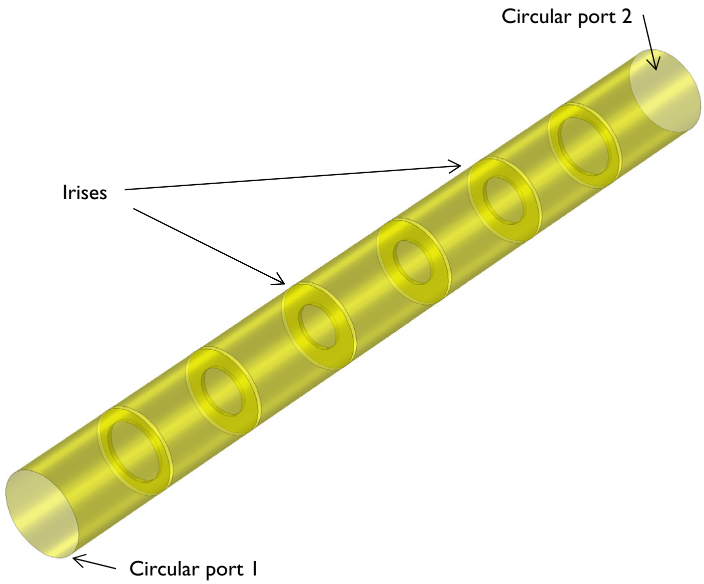


Figure 1: 3D visualization of the circular waveguide with irises from a 2D axisymmetric model.

Model Definition

The model consists of a C-band circular waveguide and six irises. The waveguide walls and iris parts are modeled as perfect electric conductors (PECs) and the inside of the waveguide is set to vacuum.

One end of the circular waveguide is excited with a predefined TE_1 mode port boundary condition and the other end is terminated with a passive port boundary condition for the same mode. The combination of azimuthal mode index and the circular port mode index in a 2D axisymmetric model is compatible with the predefined circular port mode index of a 3D model. The TE_{11} mode cutoff frequency of a circular waveguide with radius of 20 mm is approximately 4.4 GHz, which is calculated by

$$f_{c_{ml}} = \frac{c_0 p'_{nm}}{2\pi a}$$

where c_0 is the speed of light, p'_{nm} are the roots of the derivative of the Bessel functions $J_n(x)$, m and n are the mode indices, and a is the radius of a waveguide. The value of p'_{11} is approximately 1.841. The operating frequency of the filter is necessarily higher than the waveguide cutoff frequency.

The center frequency of the filter is estimated by evaluating the resonance frequency of a hypothetical closed cavity formed by the waveguide and closed irises. that is, a cylindrical cavity, The resonance frequency of the cylindrical cavity is

$$f_{nml} = \frac{c_0}{2\pi\sqrt{\mu_r \varepsilon_r}} \sqrt{\left(\frac{p'_{nm}}{a}\right)^2 + \left(\frac{l\pi}{d}\right)^2}$$

where μ_r is relative permeability, ε_r is relative permittivity, d is the length of a cavity and l is the longitudinal cavity mode index (along the cylindrical axis). The remaining parameters are identical to those of a circular waveguide cutoff frequency. The resonance frequency at TE_{111} mode of the cylindrical cavity is approximately 5.05 GHz. This approximation is obtained assuming that the irises are closed, and so there is only one discrete resonance frequency where the field is nonzero. A more accurate frequency response of the filter is obtained by solving the problem with open irises.

All domains are meshed by a tetrahedral mesh with maximum element size of ten elements per wavelength so that the wave is well resolved.

Results and Discussion

The default plot shows the norm of the electric field in the waveguide. The standing wave pattern within each partitioned section of the waveguide at 4.98 GHz illustrates that this is a resonance frequency. It also demonstrates qualitatively that each partitioned section of the waveguide functions as a cavity with open ends at the irises.

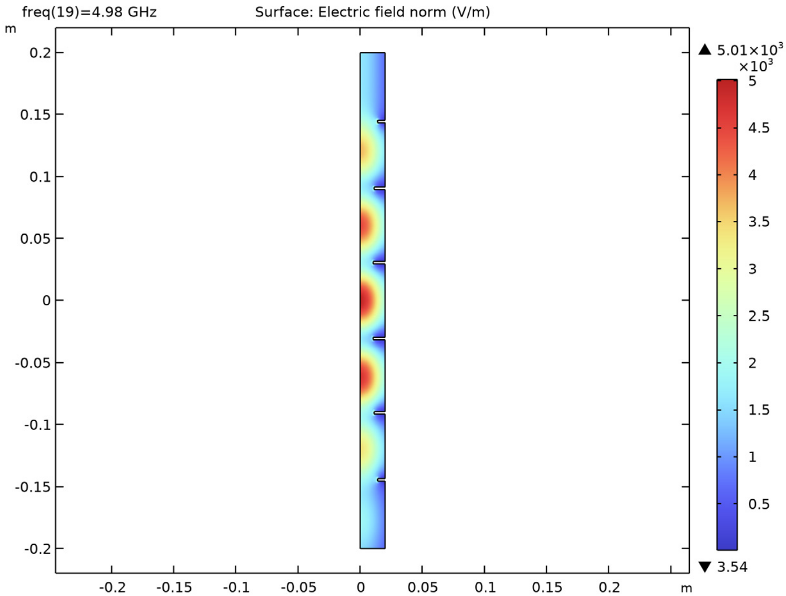


Figure 2: The E-field norm shows a standing wave pattern near the center frequency of the filter. The plot illustrates that each partitioned section of the waveguide forms an open cavity.

[Figure 3](#) shows the calculated S-parameters as a function of frequency. The passband for the filter is approximately 4.98 GHz and the insertion loss is close to 0 dB.

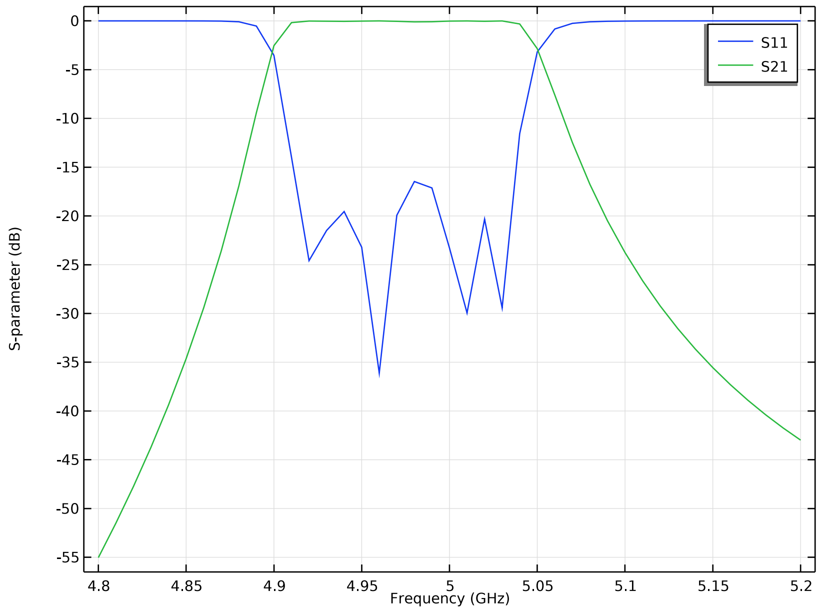


Figure 3: The S-parameter plot shows a bandpass frequency response. The sharp out-of-band rejection below the cutoff frequency is observed.

Notes About the COMSOL Implementation

The assumed temporal and angular dependence of all field quantities in the 2D axisymmetric formulation is $e^{j(\omega t - m\phi)}$, where ω is the angular frequency and m is the azimuthal mode number.

Application Library path: `RF_Module/Filters/circular_waveguide_filter`

Modeling Instructions

From the **File** menu, choose **New**.

NEW

In the **New** window, click **Model Wizard**.

MODEL WIZARD

1 In the **Model Wizard** window, click **2D Axisymmetric**.

2 In the **Select Physics** tree, select **Radio Frequency>Electromagnetic Waves, Frequency Domain (emw)**.

3 Click **Add**.

4 Click **Study**.

5 In the **Select Study** tree, select **General Studies>Frequency Domain**.

6 Click **Done**.

STUDY 1

Step 1: Frequency Domain

Define the study frequency ahead of performing any frequency-dependent operation such as building mesh. The physics-controlled mesh uses the highest frequency value in the specified range.

1 In the **Model Builder** window, under **Study 1** click **Step 1: Frequency Domain**.

2 In the **Settings** window for **Frequency Domain**, locate the **Study Settings** section.

3 In the **Frequencies** text field, type `range(4.8[GHz],10[MHz],5.2[GHz])`.

The choices of 4.8 GHz and 5.2 GHz ensured that the parametric sweep will start above the cutoff frequency and contain the resonant frequency.

GLOBAL DEFINITIONS

Parameters 1

1 In the **Model Builder** window, under **Global Definitions** click **Parameters 1**.

2 In the **Settings** window for **Parameters**, locate the **Parameters** section.

3 Click **Load from File**.

4 Browse to the model's Application Libraries folder and double-click the file `circular_waveguide_filter_parameters.txt`.

First load the geometric parameters. Now, we will first calculate the cutoff and resonant frequency of the waveguide to choose appropriate values for the parametric sweep.

5 In the table, enter the following settings:

Name	**Expression**	**Value**	**Description**
`fnml`	`c_const/pi/2*sqrt((1.841/r1)^2+(pi/0.06)^2)`	5.0528E9 1/s	`Cavity resonance frequency`
`fc`	`1.841*c_const/2/pi/r1`	4.392E9 1/s	`Cutoff frequency`

Here, `c_const` is a predefined COMSOL constant for the speed of light in vacuum.

GEOMETRY 1

Rectangle 1 (r1)

1 In the **Geometry** toolbar, click **Rectangle**.

2 In the **Settings** window for **Rectangle**, locate the **Size and Shape** section.

3 In the **Width** text field, type `r1`.

4 In the **Height** text field, type `0.4`.

5 Locate the **Position** section. In the **z** text field, type `-0.2`.

Rectangle 2 (r2)

1 In the **Geometry** toolbar, click **Rectangle**.

2 In the **Settings** window for **Rectangle**, locate the **Size and Shape** section.

3 In the **Width** text field, type `ir1`.

4 In the **Height** text field, type `irth`.

5 Locate the **Position** section. In the **r** text field, type `r1-ir1`.

6 In the **z** text field, type `-cl3/2-cl2-cl1-irth/2`.

Rectangle 3 (r3)

1 In the **Geometry** toolbar, click **Rectangle**.

2 In the **Settings** window for **Rectangle**, locate the **Size and Shape** section.

3 In the **Width** text field, type `ir2`.

4 In the **Height** text field, type `irth`.

5 Locate the **Position** section. In the **r** text field, type `r1-ir2`.

6 In the **z** text field, type `-cl3/2-cl2-irth/2`.

Rectangle 4 (r4)

1 In the **Geometry** toolbar, click **Rectangle**.

2 In the **Settings** window for **Rectangle**, locate the **Size and Shape** section.

3 In the **Width** text field, type `ir3`.

4 In the **Height** text field, type `irth`.

5 Locate the **Position** section. In the **r** text field, type `r1-ir3`.

6 In the **z** text field, type `-cl3/2-irth/2`.

Mirror 1 (mir1)

1 In the **Geometry** toolbar, click **Transforms** and choose **Mirror**.

2 Select the objects **r2**, **r3**, and **r4** only.

3 In the **Settings** window for **Mirror**, locate the **Input** section.

4 Select the **Keep input objects** check box.

5 Locate the **Normal Vector to Line of Reflection** section. In the **r** text field, type `0`.

6 In the **z** text field, type `1`.

Difference 1 (dif1)

1 In the **Geometry** toolbar, click **Booleans and Partitions** and choose **Difference**.

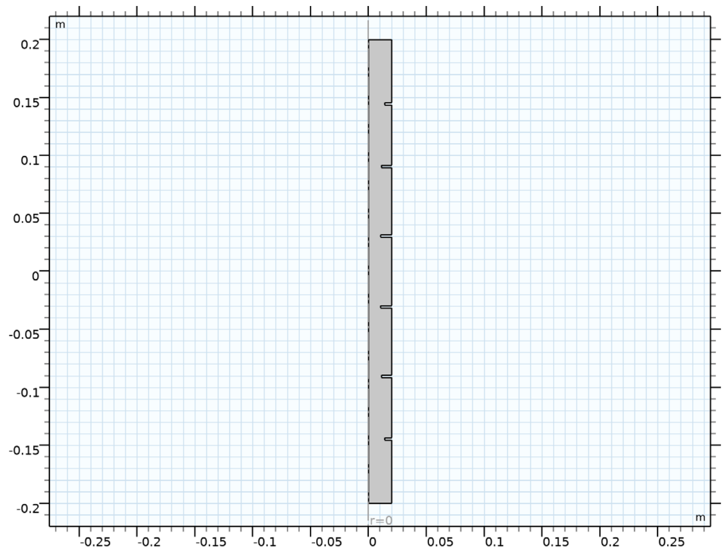
2 Select the object **r1** only.

3 In the **Settings** window for **Difference**, locate the **Difference** section.

4 Click to select the **Activate Selection** toggle button for **Objects to subtract**.

5 Select the objects **mir1(1)**, **mir1(2)**, **mir1(3)**, **r2**, **r3**, and **r4** only.

6 Click **Build All Objects**.



The finished geometry should look like this.

ELECTROMAGNETIC WAVES, FREQUENCY DOMAIN (EMW)

1 In the **Model Builder** window, under **Component 1 (comp1)** click **Electromagnetic Waves, Frequency Domain (emw)**.

2 In the **Settings** window for **Electromagnetic Waves, Frequency Domain**, locate the **Out-of-Plane Wave Number** section.

3 In the *m* text field, type 1.

This defines the azimuthal dependency of the fields that the model is solving for.

Port 1

1 In the **Physics** toolbar, click **Boundaries** and choose **Port**.

2 Select Boundary 2 only.

3 In the **Settings** window for **Port**, locate the **Port Properties** section.

4 From the **Type of port** list, choose **Circular**.

For the first port, wave excitation is **on** by default.

Port 2

1 In the **Physics** toolbar, click **Boundaries** and choose **Port**.

2 Select Boundary 3 only.

3 In the **Settings** window for **Port**, locate the **Port Properties** section.

4 From the **Type of port** list, choose **Circular**.

MATERIALS

Material 1 (mat1)

1 In the **Model Builder** window, under **Component 1 (comp1)** right-click **Materials** and choose **Blank Material**.

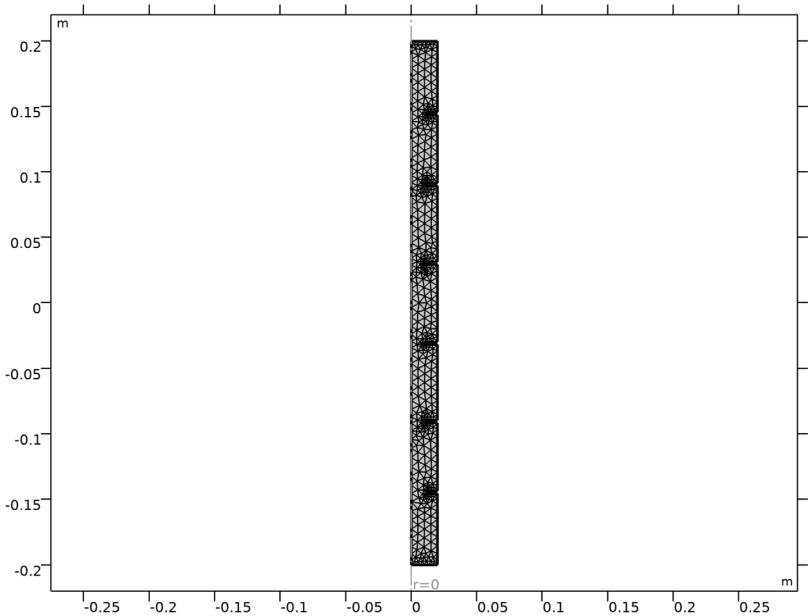
2 In the **Settings** window for **Material**, locate the **Material Contents** section.

3 In the table, enter the following settings:

Property	**Variable**	**Value**	**Unit**	**Property group**
Relative permittivity	epsilonr_iso ; epsilonrii = epsilonr_iso, epsilonrij = 0	1	1	Basic
Relative permeability	mur_iso ; murii = mur_iso, murij = 0	1	1	Basic
Electrical conductivity	sigma_iso ; sigmaii = sigma_iso, sigmaij = 0	0	S/m	Basic

MESH 1

In the **Model Builder** window, under **Component 1 (comp1)** right-click **Mesh 1** and choose **Build All**.



STUDY 1

In the **Home** toolbar, click **Compute**.

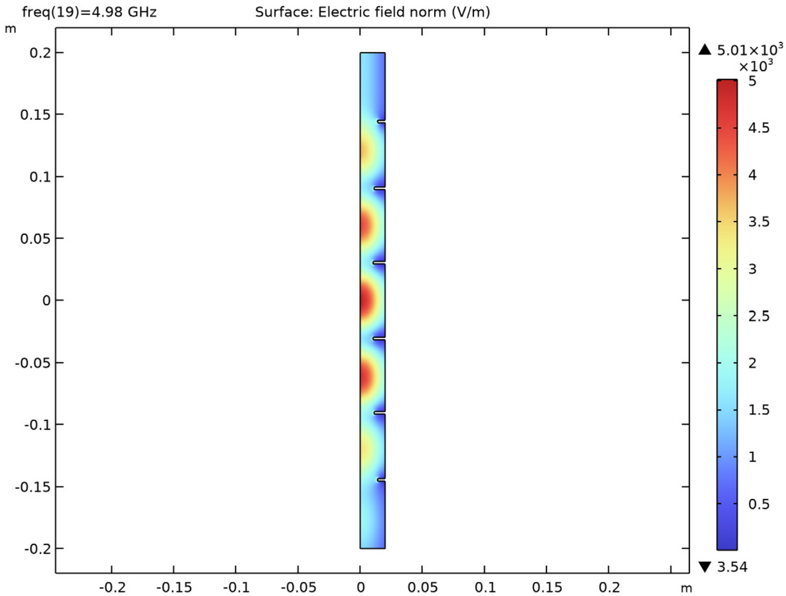
RESULTS

Electric Field (emw)

1 In the **Settings** window for **2D Plot Group**, locate the **Data** section.

2 From the **Parameter value (freq (GHz))** list, choose **4.98**.

3 In the **Electric Field (emw)** toolbar, click **Plot**.



S-parameter (emw)

This reproduces Figure 3.