

Table of Content

| | | |
|----------|---|-----------|
| 1 | Introduction | 1 |
| 1.1 | Motivation | 1 |
| 1.2 | Fundamentals | 1 |
| 1.2.1 | Heterodyne receivers | 2 |
| 1.2.2 | Figures of merit | 2 |
| 1.2.3 | Mixers technologies | 3 |
| 1.3 | Description of the general problem | 6 |
| 1.3.1 | Focal Plane Array | 6 |
| 1.3.2 | Multiband heterodyne receivers | 6 |
| 1.3.3 | General requirements | 8 |
| 1.4 | Hypothesis | 9 |
| 1.5 | Objectives | 9 |
| 1.5.1 | General Objective | 9 |
| 1.5.2 | Specific objectives | 10 |
| 1.6 | Contributions | 10 |
| 1.7 | Outline of this thesis | 10 |
| 2 | A Compact Sideband Separating Downconverter With Excellent Return Loss and Good Conversion Gain for the W Band | 12 |
| 2.1 | Introduction | 12 |
| 2.2 | Module Design and Construction | 13 |
| 2.2.1 | Waveguide coupler and load | 16 |
| 2.2.2 | Low noise amplifiers | 16 |
| 2.2.3 | Mixers | 17 |
| 2.2.4 | Wilkinson power divider and LO filter | 19 |
| 2.2.5 | Simulations of the entire downconverter module | 20 |
| 2.2.6 | Construction and assembly of the module | 22 |
| 2.3 | Module Measurements | 23 |
| 2.3.1 | Conversion gain and sideband rejection | 23 |
| 2.3.2 | Return loss | 25 |
| 2.3.3 | Noise figure | 27 |
| 2.4 | Conclusion | 29 |

| | |
|---|-----------|
| 3 A Mode-Suppressing Metasurface for Large-Width MMICs Suitable for Tightly-Packaged Millimeter and Submillimeter Heterodyne Receivers | 30 |
| 3.1 Introduction | 30 |
| 3.2 Metasurface Design and Integration into the W-Band Heterodyne Module | 31 |
| 3.2.1 Power Spectrum Measurements | 34 |
| 3.2.2 Noise Temperature Measurements | 35 |
| 3.3 Conclusion | 37 |
| 4 A 90° Waveguide Hybrid for Ultra-Broadband Operation with Low Amplitude & Phase Imbalances | 38 |
| 4.1 Introduction | 38 |
| 4.2 Justification of the Design | 39 |
| 4.3 Proposed Design and Simulations | 40 |
| 4.4 Implementation, Measurements and Discussion | 42 |
| 4.5 Conclusion | 44 |
| 5 Development of a multiband heterodyne downconverter for the extended W band | 45 |
| 5.1 Introduction | 45 |
| 5.2 RF Frequency Diplexer | 47 |
| 5.2.1 Hybrid 1 | 47 |
| 5.2.2 Hybrid 2 | 47 |
| 5.2.3 Filters | 48 |
| 5.2.4 Diplexer Simulation | 49 |
| 5.2.5 Diplexer Characterization | 52 |
| 5.3 Looking into the future: Proposal of a proof-of-concept wideband downconverter | 54 |
| 5.3.1 I/Q mixers | 54 |
| 5.3.2 LO distribution | 54 |
| 5.3.3 Additional Components | 55 |
| 5.3.4 Proposed design | 55 |
| 5.3.5 Simulations | 56 |
| 5.4 Conclusion | 58 |
| 6 Conclusions | 60 |
| 6.1 General Conclusions | 60 |
| 6.2 Future Work | 61 |
| Bibliography | 62 |