

Radiation Field and Optical Coupling Evaluation Using a New Mathematical Model

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Abstract—The mathematical model elaborated in this paper is based on the concept of intrinsic modes in order to analyze and synthesize optical wave propagation along a non-uniform optical structure which is used in integrated optics communication as tapered optical coupler. The new mathematical model is simply developed by introducing modifications to the intrinsic integral, and its numerical evaluation illustrates the electromagnetic field distribution inside a taper thin film and also outside the waveguide constituted by the substrate and the cladding of lower refractive index. The proposed method permits efficiently tracking the behaviour of the optical waves both inside and outside the optical waveguide, and quantifying the radiation and optical coupling occurring from the taper thin film of higher refractive index to adjacent mediums until a total energy transfer; this happens at thicknesses lower than waveguide cutoff thickness of each mode. The new model can be applied to all types of tapered optical coupler, made from different optical materials and having different wedge angles.

1. INTRODUCTION

Integrated optics, which allows the miniaturization of optical devices, has grown considerably in recent decades and takes advantage of the relatively short wavelength of the light in this range, which permits the fabrication of miniature components [1]. Typical dimensions for the optical waveguide are in the order of a micrometer and the energy in these waveguides can be coupled to the adjacent mediums [1–3]. The technology required to fabricate planar lightwave circuit components of such dimensions is therefore common in the well-established micro-electronic technology, using the tools and techniques of the semiconductor industry [1].

Though there exist several types of optical couplers [2–9], such as prism couplers, grating couplers and directional couplers, the tapered optical coupler is characterized by its simplicity and compatibility with planar technology circuits.

In order to analyze and synthesize the propagation, radiation and optical coupling occurring in a tapered optical coupler, a new mathematical model based on the concept of intrinsic modes will be proposed. The new model uses a spectral integral for assessing the behaviour of the optical waves within the non-uniform thin film of greater refractive index, as well as in the substrate and the cladding of lower refractive indexes.

The concept of intrinsic modes was first developed for the acoustic underwater applications [10, 11], and for its importance and compatibility with the optical structure, it has been applied in integrated optics for the non-uniform structure [12–17]. Intrinsic modes are solutions of Maxwell's equations satisfying the boundaries conditions at the interfaces of the optical waveguide.

One note that, for the evaluation of the optical propagation in optical waveguides, many analytical and numerical methods have been applied, such as the beam propagation method (BPM), finite

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difference beam propagation method (FDBPM) and effective index method [18–22], the advantages of the new method, introduced in this paper, are its simplicity and universality.

For the goal to make the intrinsic modes method applicable to all types of non-uniform waveguides in integrated optics and thereby be able to determine the electromagnetic field distribution in all media constituting the optical waveguide and evaluate the coupling efficiency, some modifications, to the intrinsic integral already established [14, 15, 23], will be introduced.

2. ANALYSIS OF THE STRUCTURE OF TAPERED OPTICAL COUPLER

The structure of the non-uniform optical waveguide studied in this paper is illustrated in Figure 1. It consists of a tapered thin film of higher refractive index (n_g), sandwiched by a substrate and a cladding of lower refractive indexes respectively (n_s) and (n_c). The refractive indexes values are defined as: $n_g > n_s > n_c$. The thickness ‘ T ’ of non-uniform waveguide decreases linearly from the left to the right (see Figure 1); the light is guided in the medium n_g by successive reflections on the waveguide interfaces I_{gc} (between the mediums n_g and n_c) and I_{gs} (between the mediums n_g and n_s).

The rays reach an observation point ‘ X ’ after undergoing several reflections on interfaces I_{gc} and I_{gs} [3, 14, 15]. Each pair of reflections on waveguide interfaces increases the angle of incidence ‘ θ ’ on I_{gs} , by twice the wedge angle ‘ a ’, angle formed by the interfaces I_{gc} and I_{gs} . After m pairs of reflections, the new angle of incidence will become $(\theta + 2ma)$ [3, 14, 15]. Consequently, at a certain point, the angle of incidence will become larger than the critical angle θ_c , and the energy will thus start to be radiated to the adjacent mediums n_c and n_s . After cutoff, the optical energy is coupled from the non-uniform thin layer to adjacent mediums; for this reason, the tapered optical waveguide is considered as an optical coupler, in addition to its guiding property [3, 23–26].

In order to analyze the propagation process of the light, one will track all optical rays reflected by the waveguide interfaces; from an incident ray positioned at \underline{X}_0 to an observation point \underline{X} , each ray can be characterized by the number of times it hits the I_{gc} and I_{gs} interfaces. Four kinds of rays will be defined, and discrete number of rays reaches the observation point X :

Rays that go first towards the interface I_{gc} and will have even or odd reflections at interfaces I_{gc} and I_{gs} will be defined respectively $W_e^+(X_0, X)$ and $W_o^+(X_0, X)$.

Rays that go first towards the interface I_{gs} and will have even or odd reflections at interfaces I_{gc} and I_{gs} will be defined respectively $W_e^-(X_0, X)$ and $W_o^-(X_0, X)$. The four kinds of rays are introduced and demonstrated in [14, 15, 23].

In previous works applying the intrinsic method to the tapered waveguide [3, 13–15], the phase of Fresnel coefficient at the interface I_{gc} was posed equal to π , because they have considered the presence of total and perfect reflection at this interface, and this supposition will not permit evaluation of the electromagnetic field in the cladding medium n_c , and the quantification of the radiation field and the optical coupling will not be really exact. For these reasons, in our study, we will treat the general case, using the exact phase of Fresnell coefficient depending on refracted indexes of each medium (n_g et n_c). Some papers [12, 16, 17] use the exact Fresnel coefficient to determine the intrinsic integral, but they follow a different approach from those used by [3, 14, 15, 23].

The phases of the Fresnel coefficients introduced at I_{gc} and I_{gs} interfaces, given below, use a complementary angle of that given in [2] at each interface for Transverse Electric (TE) mode:

$$\phi^+(\theta^+) = 2 \arctan \left(\sqrt{\frac{n_g^2 \cdot \cos^2(\theta^+) - n_c^2}{n_g^2 - n_g^2 \cdot \cos^2(\theta^+)}} \right) \quad (1)$$

$$\phi^-(\theta^-) = 2 \arctan \left(\sqrt{\frac{n_g^2 \cdot \cos^2(\theta^-) - n_s^2}{n_g^2 - n_g^2 \cdot \cos^2(\theta^-)}} \right) \quad (2)$$

The cumulative phases Φ_e^+ , Φ_o^+ , Φ_e^- and Φ_o^- [14, 15] of waves after even or odd reflections on I_{gc} and I_{gs} interfaces are:

$$\Phi_e^+(\theta_0, \theta_n) = \sum_{m=1}^n \left(2 \arctan \left(\sqrt{\frac{n_g^2 \cdot \cos^2(\theta_m^+) - n_c^2}{n_g^2 - n_g^2 \cdot \cos^2(\theta_m^+)}} \right) \right) + \sum_{m=1}^n \left(2 \arctan \left(\sqrt{\frac{n_g^2 \cdot \cos^2(\theta_m^-) - n_s^2}{n_g^2 - n_g^2 \cdot \cos^2(\theta_m^-)}} \right) \right) \quad (3)$$

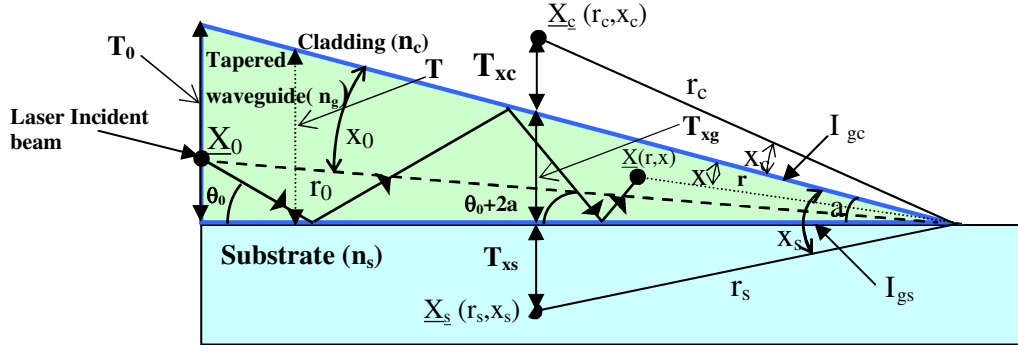


Figure 1. Optical ray from the point $X_0(x_0, r_0)$ to an observation point $X(x, r)$ after many reflections. $X_c(r_c, x_c)$ and $X_s(r_s, x_s)$ represent positions points in the cladding and substrate respectively at thickness T_{xc} and T_{xs} . T_{xg} represents the tapered waveguide thickness.

$$\Phi_o^+(\theta_0, \theta_n) = \Phi_e^+(\theta_0, \theta_n) - 2 \arctan \left(\sqrt{\frac{n_g^2 \cdot \cos^2(\theta_n^-) - n_s^2}{n_g^2 - n_g^2 \cdot \cos^2(\theta_n^-)}} \right) \quad (4)$$

$$\Phi_e^-(\theta_0, \theta_n) = \sum_{m=1}^n \left(2 \arctan \left(\sqrt{\frac{n_g^2 \cdot \cos^2(\theta_m^-) - n_s^2}{n_g^2 - n_g^2 \cdot \cos^2(\theta_m^-)}} \right) \right) + \sum_{m=1}^n \left(2 \arctan \left(\sqrt{\frac{n_g^2 \cdot \cos^2(\theta_m^+) - n_c^2}{n_g^2 - n_g^2 \cdot \cos^2(\theta_m^+)}} \right) \right) \quad (5)$$

$$\Phi_o^-(\theta_0, \theta_n) = \Phi_e^-(\theta_0, \theta_n) - 2 \arctan \left(\sqrt{\frac{n_g^2 \cdot \cos^2(\theta_n^+) - n_c^2}{n_g^2 - n_g^2 \cdot \cos^2(\theta_n^+)}} \right) \quad (6)$$

θ_m^{\pm} are the incident angles at the m th reflection respectively on I_{gc} and I_{gs} interfaces.

θ_n^{\pm} are the maximum incident angles respectively on I_{gc} and I_{gs} interfaces from \underline{X}_0 to \underline{X} .

In Eqs. (3)–(6), incident angles θ_m^+ , θ_m^- are the angles difference after each reflection on I_{gc} and I_{gs} interfaces:

$$|\theta_m^+ - \theta_m^-| = a \quad (7)$$

At the m th reflections and on the same interface, the incident angle will be:

$$\theta_m^{\pm} = \theta_0^{\pm} + 2 \cdot a \cdot (m - 1) \quad (8)$$

After applying the Euler Maclaurin formula [15, 27] to Eqs. (3)–(6), and replacing the incident angle θ_n by θ , we will obtain the expressions of the four kinds of rays for the TE mode as follows:

$$\begin{aligned} W_e^+(X_0, X) &= \exp(j \cdot (\Phi_e^+(\theta_0, \theta) + k \cdot R_e^+(\theta_0, \theta))) \\ &= \exp \left[j \cdot \left(\frac{1}{2} \phi^+(\theta_0) + \frac{1}{2} \phi^+(\theta) + \frac{1}{2 \cdot a} \int_{\theta_0}^{\theta} \phi^+(\theta') \cdot d\theta' + \frac{1}{2} \phi^-(\theta_0) + \frac{1}{2} \phi^-(\theta) \right. \right. \\ &\quad \left. \left. + \frac{1}{2 \cdot a} \int_{\theta_0}^{\theta} \phi^-(\theta') \cdot d\theta' + E_e^+(\theta, \phi^+(\theta)) + E_e^+(\theta, \phi^-(\theta)) \right) \right. \\ &\quad \left. + k \cdot r_0 \cdot \cos(\theta_0 - a - x_0) - k \cdot r \cdot \cos(\theta + a - x) \right] \quad (9) \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} W_o^+(X_0, X) &= \exp(j \cdot (\Phi_o^+(\theta_0, \theta) + k \cdot R_o^+(\theta_0, \theta))) \\ &= \exp \left[j \cdot \left(\frac{1}{2} \phi^+(\theta_0) + \frac{1}{2} \phi^+(\theta) + \frac{1}{2 \cdot a} \int_{\theta_0}^{\theta} \phi^+(\theta') \cdot d\theta' + \frac{1}{2} \phi^-(\theta_0) - \frac{1}{2} \phi^-(\theta) \right) \right. \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
& + \frac{1}{2 \cdot a} \int_{\theta_0}^{\theta} \phi^{-}(\theta') \cdot d\theta' + E_e^{+}(\theta, \phi^{+}(\theta)) + E_e^{+}(\theta, \phi^{-}(\theta)) \\
& + k \cdot r_0 \cdot \cos(\theta_0 - a - x_0) - k \cdot r \cdot \cos(\theta - a + x)] \quad (10)
\end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
W_e^{-}(X_0, X) & = \exp(j \cdot (\Phi_e^{-}(\theta_0, \theta) + k \cdot R_e^{-}(\theta_0, \theta))) \\
& = \exp \left[j \cdot \left(\frac{1}{2} \phi^{-}(\theta_0) + \frac{1}{2} \phi^{-}(\theta) + \frac{1}{2 \cdot a} \int_{\theta_0}^{\theta} \phi^{-}(\theta') \cdot d\theta' + \frac{1}{2} \phi^{+}(\theta_0) + \frac{1}{2} \phi^{+}(\theta) \right. \right. \\
& \quad \left. \left. + \frac{1}{2 \cdot a} \int_{\theta_0}^{\theta} \phi^{+}(\theta') \cdot d\theta' + E_e^{-}(\theta, \phi^{-}(\theta)) + E_e^{-}(\theta, \phi^{+}(\theta)) \right. \right. \\
& \quad \left. \left. + k \cdot r_0 \cdot \cos(\theta_0 - a + x_0) - k \cdot r \cdot \cos(\theta - a + x) \right) \right] \quad (11)
\end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
W_o^{-}(X_0, X) & = \exp(j \cdot (\Phi_o^{-}(\theta_0, \theta) + k \cdot R_o^{-}(\theta_0, \theta))) \\
& = \exp \left[j \cdot \left(\frac{1}{2} \phi^{-}(\theta_0) + \frac{1}{2} \phi^{-}(\theta) + \frac{1}{2 \cdot a} \int_{\theta_0}^{\theta} \phi^{-}(\theta') \cdot d\theta' + \frac{1}{2} \phi^{+}(\theta_0) - \frac{1}{2} \phi^{+}(\theta) \right. \right. \\
& \quad \left. \left. + \frac{1}{2 \cdot a} \int_{\theta_0}^{\theta} \phi^{+}(\theta') \cdot d\theta' + E_e^{-}(\theta, \phi^{-}(\theta)) + E_e^{-}(\theta, \phi^{+}(\theta)) \right. \right. \\
& \quad \left. \left. + k \cdot r_0 \cdot \cos(\theta_0 - a + x_0) - k \cdot r \cdot \cos(\theta + a - x) \right) \right] \quad (12)
\end{aligned}$$

In Eqs. (9)–(12), $R_e^{+}(\theta_0, \theta)$, $R_o^{+}(\theta_0, \theta)$, $R_e^{-}(\theta_0, \theta)$ and $R_o^{-}(\theta_0, \theta)$ are geometrical lengths, and $E_e^{+}(\theta, \phi^{+}(\theta))$, $E_e^{+}(\theta, \phi^{-}(\theta))$, $E_e^{-}(\theta, \phi^{+}(\theta))$ and $E_e^{-}(\theta, \phi^{-}(\theta))$ are the errors introduced by Euler Maclaurin formula [27] for the Eqs. (3)–(6).

The contribution of all species of plane waves incidents on the two interfaces I_{gs} and I_{gc} is as [14, 15]:

$$W(\theta_0, \theta) = \sum_{m=1}^n (W_e^{+}(\theta_0, \theta) + W_o^{+}(\theta_0, \theta) + W_e^{-}(\theta_0, \theta) + W_o^{-}(\theta_0, \theta)) \quad (13)$$

Modifications which have been introduced to the mathematical model of intrinsic integral, as it was done previously, will allow obtaining a greater accuracy in the evaluation of the optical propagation and radiation, occurring in the waveguide, as will be shown in the next section.

3. DETERMINATION OF THE NEW EXPRESSION OF THE MODIFIED INTRINSIC INTEGRAL

The new expression of the modified intrinsic integral is obtained by first applying the Poisson transformation [14, 15, 23, 27] to Eq. (13);

$$W(\theta_0, \theta) = \int_c \frac{1}{2a} \sum_{q=-\infty}^{+\infty} ((W_e^{+}(\theta_0, \theta) + W_o^{+}(\theta_0, \theta) + W_e^{-}(\theta_0, \theta) + W_o^{-}(\theta_0, \theta)) \cdot \exp(-j \cdot 2\pi \cdot q \cdot m)) d\theta \quad (14)$$

Eq. (14), represents an approximation of a spectrum of all incident waves inside the optical waveguide where q represents the mode number of the propagation wave, and m is deduced from Eq. (8).

After transformations, Eq. (14) becomes:

$$W(\theta_0, \theta) = \frac{1}{2a} \int_C (\exp(j \cdot P_e^{+}(\theta_0, \theta)) + \exp(j \cdot P_o^{+}(\theta_0, \theta)) + \exp(j \cdot P_e^{-}(\theta_0, \theta)) + \exp(j \cdot P_o^{-}(\theta_0, \theta))) d\theta \quad (15)$$

The previous analysis demonstrates the existence of four kinds of waves (see Eqs. (9)–(15)), but the four waves are interrelated [15] because a wave, which moves first to the higher interface W^+ , once reflected can be classified as a wave that goes to the lower interface W^- , and the same remark can be applied to a wave that goes to the lower interface W^- , once reflected, it becomes W^+ .

One notices that the mathematical model introduced in this paper is difficult to use. To evaluate the modified intrinsic integral, we will consider a fixed position of the light-emitting source and a variable position of the observation point; that is to say, source parameters which are constants will have stationary influence in the phase of the modified intrinsic integral during the propagation of optical waves. For any observation point inside the waveguide as $\underline{X}(X, \theta)$, we define the modified intrinsic integral as:

$$W(X, \theta) = \frac{1}{2a} \int_C (\exp(j \cdot P_e^+(X, \theta)) + \exp(j \cdot P_o^+(X, \theta)) + \exp(j \cdot P_e^-(X, \theta)) + \exp(j \cdot P_o^-(X, \theta))) d\theta \quad (16)$$

We have two possibilities to evaluate the modified intrinsic integral according to the remark given after Eq. (15). The first is to consider the waves going first to upper interface I_{gc} , which have even and odd reflections on waveguide interfaces:

$$W^+(X, \theta) = \frac{1}{2a} \int_C (\exp(j \cdot P_e^+(X, \theta)) + \exp(j \cdot P_o^+(X, \theta))) d\theta \quad (17)$$

The second possibility is to consider the waves going first to lower interface I_{gs} , which have even and odd reflections on waveguide interfaces:

$$W^-(X, \theta) = \frac{1}{2a} \int_C (\exp(j \cdot P_e^-(X, \theta)) + \exp(j \cdot P_o^-(X, \theta))) d\theta \quad (18)$$

The field distribution in the substrate and cladding is obtained by using the Fresnel transmission coefficient [11–13] at each interface in the modified intrinsic integral:

$$W_{s,c}(X, \theta) = \frac{1}{2a} \int_C \left(\left(1 + \exp \left(j \cdot 2 \arctan \left(\sqrt{\frac{n_g^2 \cdot \cos^2(\theta) - n_{s,c}^2}{n_g^2 - n_g^2 \cdot \cos^2(\theta)}} \right) \right) \right) \cdot \exp(j \cdot P_o^{+-}(X, \theta)) \right) d\theta \quad (19)$$

The modified intrinsic integral can be applied to any tapered waveguide in optics or any other electromagnetic applications governed by successive reflections on waveguide interfaces independent of the position of the source, considered as source-free [3, 11, 14–17]. The same analysis used in this work can be perfectly applied to the Transverse Magnetic (TM) mode.

4. RESULT AND COMMENTS

Various methods can be used to assess approximately the spectral integral $W^+(X, \theta)$ or $W^-(X, \theta)$: one can name the Fast Fourier Transform (FFT), steepest descent path (SDP) and the numerical method consisting in integrating directly along the real axis of the incident angles θ in the interval $(0 < \theta < \pi/2)$ [3, 12–15, 17, 24].

In order to evaluate numerically the radiation field and optical coupling occurring in the tapered waveguide, a new model, introduced in this paper, will be applied to: symmetric SiO₂/Polymer/SiO₂ ($n_g = 1.77$, $n_s = n_c = 1.45$) and asymmetric Air/Polymer/SiO₂ ($n_g = 1.77$, $n_s = 1.45$ and $n_c = 1$) waveguides at wavelength $\lambda = 1 \mu\text{m}$ [28], and also to symmetric AlGaAs/GaAs/AlGaAs ($n_g = 3.44$, $n_s = n_c = 3.36$) and asymmetric Air/GaAs/AlGaAs ($n_g = 3.44$, $n_s = 3.36$ and $n_c = 1$) waveguides at wavelength $\lambda = 1.55 \mu\text{m}$ [22]. We will approximately evaluate the modified intrinsic integral by integration directly on the real axis of the incident angles θ corresponding to the contour ‘C’ of the integral, because this numerical method is less difficult and more rapid than the two other methods, cited before, and it permits computation of the electromagnetic field both in propagation wave and leaky wave regions [3, 12–15, 17, 24]. Before interpreting Figure 2, it should be noted that for Figures 3–6, the simulation results obtained correspond to the TE mode.

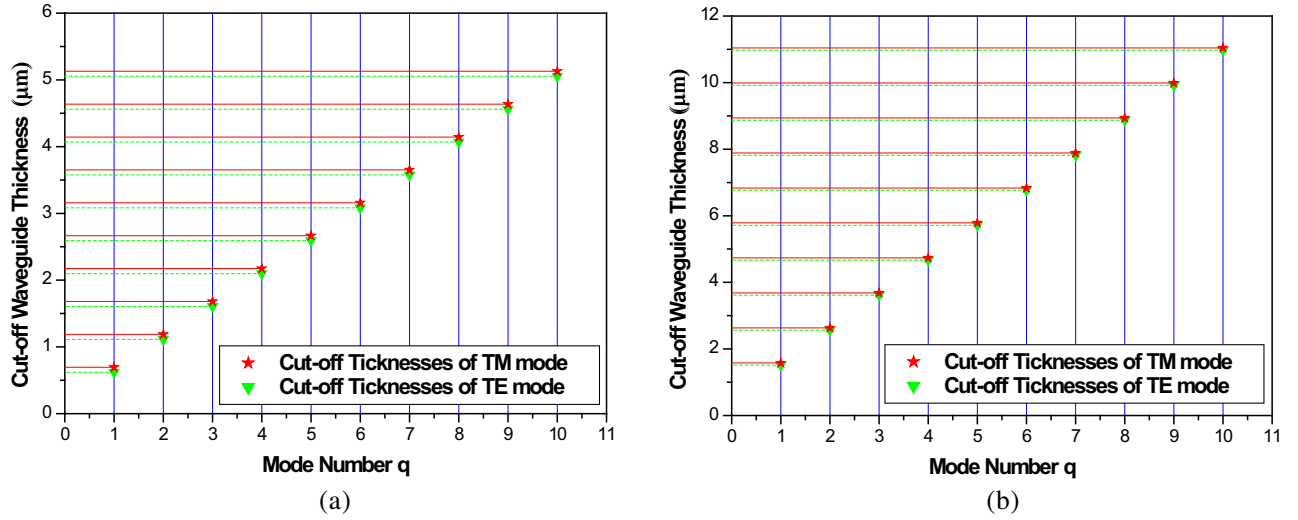


Figure 2. Comparison of the cut-off thicknesses of non uniform optical waveguide for the modes: $1 \leq p \leq 10$, of TE mode (\blacktriangledown points) and TM mode ($*$ points) applying the exact Fresnel coefficient given in Eq. (1). (a) Air/polymer/SiO₂ waveguide. (b) Air/AsGa/AlAsGa waveguide.

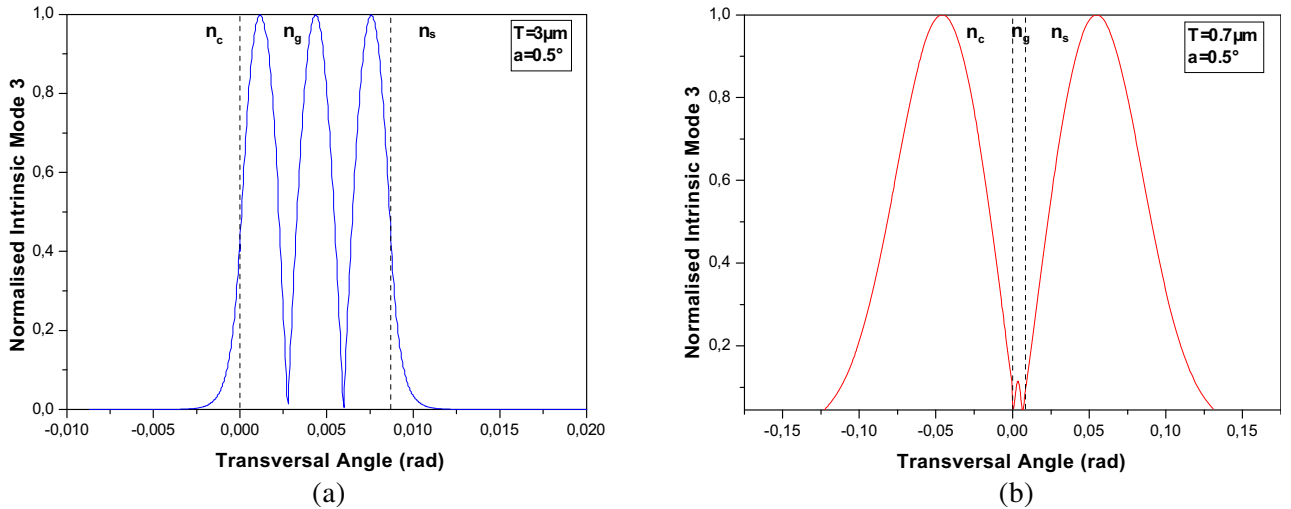


Figure 3. Transverse distribution of third intrinsic normalised mode ($q = 3$) of a symmetric polymer optical waveguide; the wedge angle is: $a = 0.5^\circ$. (a) At thickness $T = 3 \mu\text{m}$, greater than the waveguide cutoff thickness. (b) At thickness $T = 0.7 \mu\text{m}$, lower than the waveguide cut-off thickness.

Figure 2, illustrates the variation of the waveguide cut-off thicknesses of two asymmetric waveguides for ten modes (p) of the TE and TM modes using the dispersion equation given in [2] where the integer p is defined as $p \geq 0$. We note that for all modes ($1 \leq p \leq 10$), as shown in Figure 2, the waveguide cutoff thicknesses of TM mode are greater than the TE mode ones.

The simulation results, given in Figures 3 and 4, show a normalised intrinsic field distribution of the third mode ($q = 3$); this mode was chosen because, in our case, we consider odd modes as giving better views of the symmetries of the field distribution in adjacent mediums. Intrinsic modes are normalized to a maximum value of the third mode for two wedge angles, $a = 0.5^\circ$ and $a = 5^\circ$, respectively.

In Figure 3(a), we note symmetric distribution of the evanescent field in adjacent mediums, but the electromagnetic field is concentrated in the tapered guide, and this is true before the waveguide cutoff. For thickness lower than cutoff thickness (Figure 3(b)), majority of the field is radiated to adjacent mediums (n_s and n_c) outside the tapered waveguide (n_g).

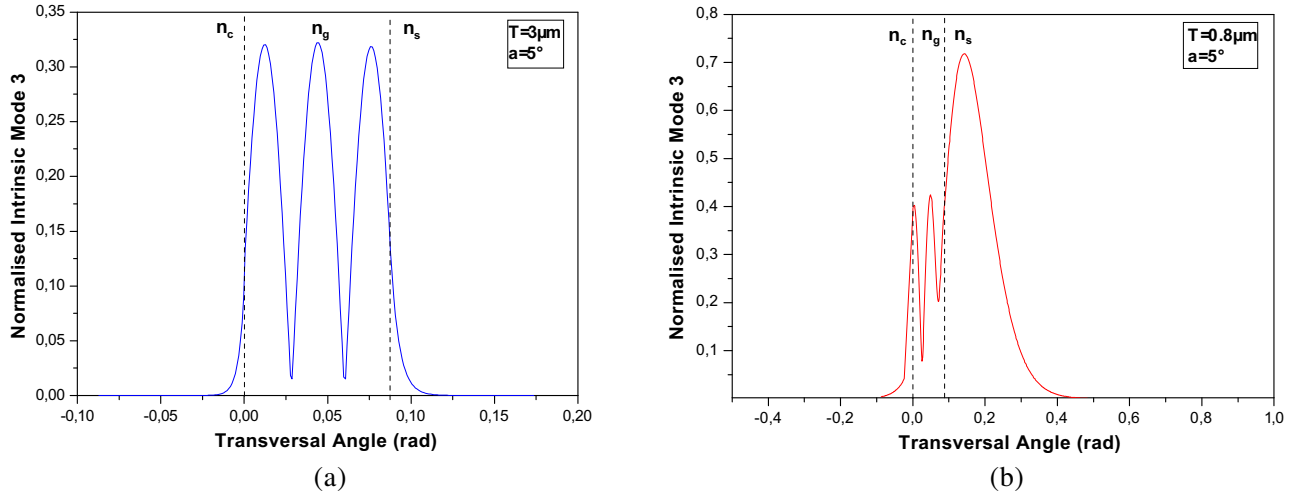


Figure 4. Transverse distribution of third intrinsic normalised mode ($q = 3$) of an asymmetric polymer optical waveguide; the wedge angle is: $a = 5^\circ$. (a) At thickness $T = 3 \mu\text{m}$, greater than the waveguide cut-off thickness. (b) At thickness $T = 0.8 \mu\text{m}$, lower than the waveguide cut-off thickness.

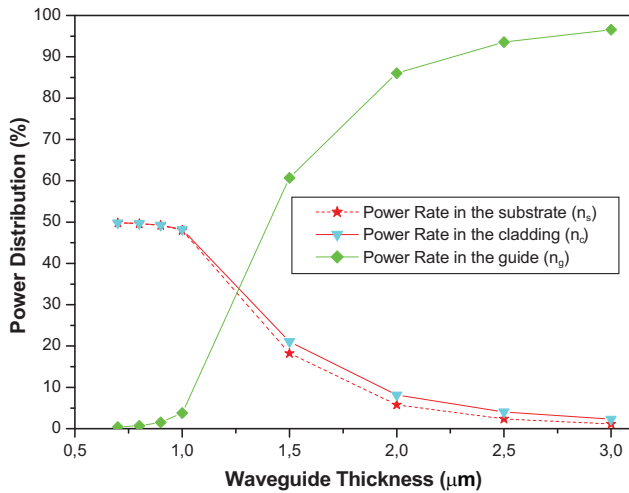


Figure 5. Third mode ($q = 3$) Power distribution in symmetric non uniform optical waveguide constituted by AlGaAs/GaAs/AlGaAs for the wedge angle $a = 1^\circ$.

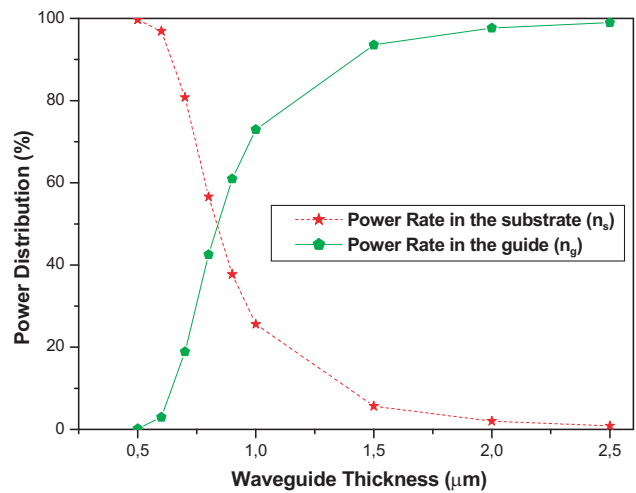


Figure 6. Third mode ($q = 3$) Power distribution in asymmetric non uniform optical waveguide constituted by (Air/GaAs/AlGaAs) for the wedge angle $a = 10^\circ$.

For asymmetric waveguide (Figure 4), before cutoff thickness, the field is, as for the symmetric waveguide, concentrated in the tapered waveguide, but the evanescent fields distribution are not symmetric in the adjacent mediums (Figure 4(a)). Figure 4(b), illustrates the field distribution after the cutoff thickness. We note that the field is coupled by radiation phenomena, almost entirely to substrate medium (n_s); optical coupling to the cladding medium is small compared to the substrate, and it will be insignificant with the decrease of the waveguide thickness.

Figures 5 and 6 show the power distribution of the third mode in different mediums of two tapered couplers, for two wedge angles, respectively $a = 1^\circ$ and $a = 10^\circ$. Figure 5 depicts the gradual power transfer from tapered waveguide n_g to adjacent mediums n_c and n_s . We note, after the cutoff, that all optical energy is transferred to adjacent mediums. For asymmetric waveguide, illustrated in Figure 6, optical energy is principally transferred to the substrate.

Simulation results demonstrate the power of the new model introduced in this paper. The proposed

method permits efficiently tracking the behaviour of the optical waves both inside and outside of the optical waveguide and quantifying the radiation and optical coupling occurring in the optical tapered coupler.

The new model of intrinsic integral developed gives a better view of the field distribution in different mediums of the tapered waveguide and permits better evaluation of the optical coupling than old models, as will be shown in the future results.

The new model can be perfectly used to evaluate the optical phenomena of propagation, radiation and optical coupling occurring in all types of non-uniform optical waveguides which can be made from different optical materials and having different wedge angles formed by the waveguide interfaces.

The results obtain by using the new intrinsic model are very close to experimental results [25] as will be demonstrated in future works.

5. CONCLUSION

The new model of intrinsic concept introduced in this paper permits the efficient evaluation of the electromagnetic field distribution in all mediums constituting the tapered optical coupler for different refractive indexes and different wedge angles formed by the waveguide interfaces.

By using the modified intrinsic model, one can efficiently track the power distribution present in the three regions of tapered optical waveguides before and after the waveguides cutoff and can also evaluate the optical coupling occurring in the optical couplers from the tapered thin film to the adjacent mediums by the radiation phenomena

The simulation results show, for thicknesses greater than the waveguide cutoff thickness, the electromagnetic field concentrated in tapered optical waveguide (n_c), and when the thicknesses become lower than the cutoff thickness, the energy is radiated to the substrate and cladding medium (n_s and n_c). The new model can be applied to all types of non-uniform tapered optical waveguide, thus modulate the propagation and radiation of the electromagnetic field, and systematically evaluate the optical coupling phenomena occurring in an optical coupler.

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