

# Microwave Engineering ETE 415

LECTURE 5
IMPEDANCE MATCHING

## Impedance Matching

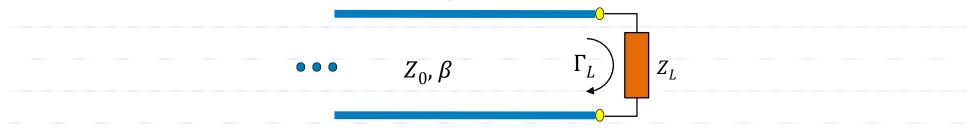
- Impedance matching (or simply "matching") one portion of a circuit to another is an immensely important part of MW engineering.
- Additional circuitry between the two parts of the original circuit may be needed to achieve this matching.

#### Why is impedance matching so important?

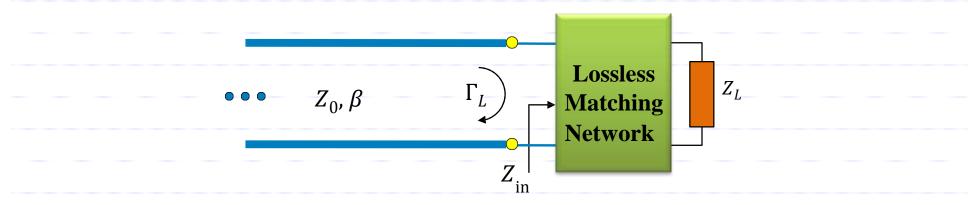
- Maximum power is delivered to a load when the TL is matched at both the load and source ends.
- With a properly matched TL, more signal power is transferred to the load, which increases the sensitivity of the device and improve the signal-to-noise ratio of the system.
- Some equipment (such as certain amplifiers) can be **damaged** when too much power is reflected back to the source.
- Minimize reflections.

## **Impedance Matching**

• Consider the case of an arbitrary load that terminates a TL:



- To match the load to the TL, we require  $\Gamma_L = 0$ .
- However, if  $Z_L \neq Z_0$  additional circuitry must be placed between  $Z_L$  and  $Z_0$  to bring the VSWR = 1, or least approximately so:



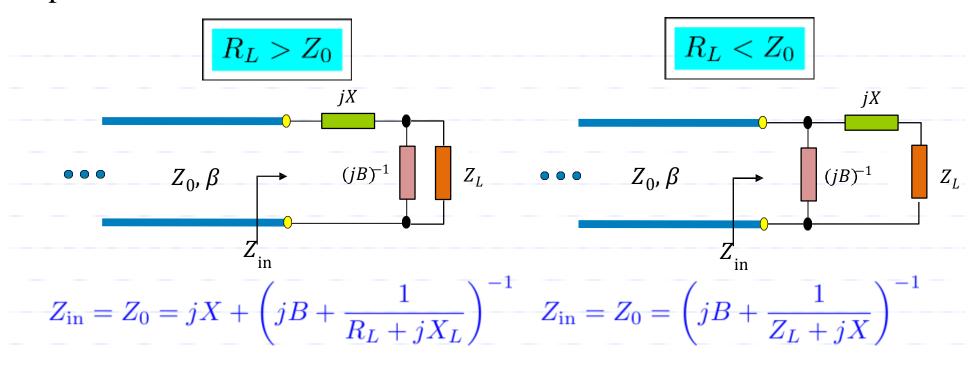
For  $\Gamma_L = 0$ , this implies  $Z_{in} = Z_0$ . In other words,  $R_{in} = \Re e[Z_0]$  and  $X_{in} = 0$ , if the TL is lossless.

## **Impedance Matching**

- We will discuss three methods for impedance matching in this course:
  - Matching with L-Sections (lumped elements)
  - **Stub** tuners (T-line)
  - Quarter wave impedance transformers.
- **Factors** that influence the choice of a matching network include:
  - Physical complexity
  - o Bandwidth
  - Adjustability (to match a variable load impedance) Implementation

## **Matching with L-Sections**

- Since it uses lumped elements, it is applicable **only** if the frequency is low enough, or the circuit size is small enough
- This network topology gets its name from the fact that the series and shunt elements of the matching network form an "L" shape.
- Two possible L-Sections:

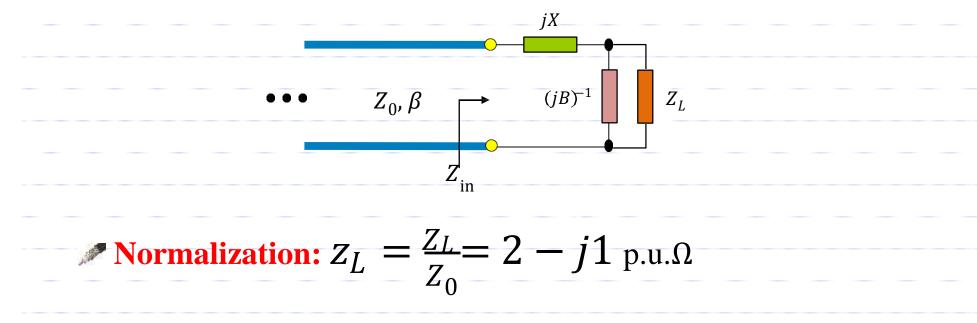


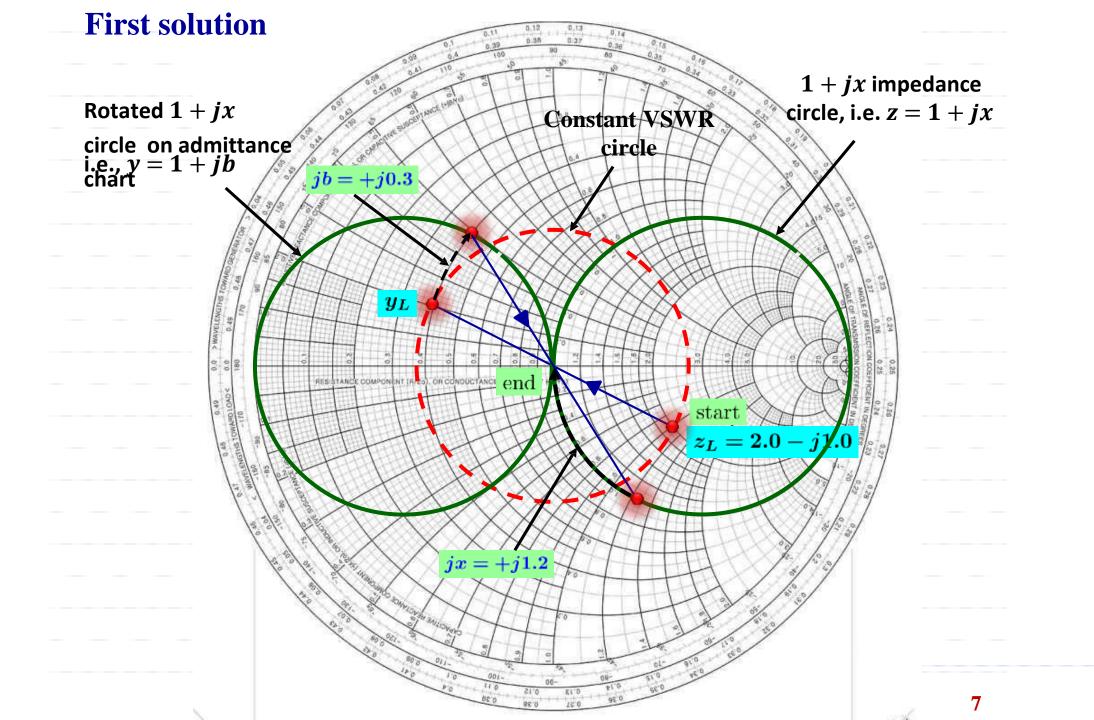
$$\rightarrow$$
 where  $Z_L = R_L + jX_L$ .

## **Example**

Design an L-section matching network to match a series RC load with an impedance  $Z_L = 200 - j100 \Omega$  to a 100  $\Omega$  line at a frequency of 500 MHz.

Since  $R_L > Z_0$ , we'll use the following circuit topology:





#### Solution

Un-normalizing, we find that

$$jB = jb \cdot Y_0 = j0.3 \cdot \frac{1}{100} = j0.003 \text{ S}$$
  
 $jX = jx \cdot Z_0 = j1.2 \cdot 100 = j120 \Omega$ 

- What are the L and C values of these elements?
  - We can identify the type of element by the sign of the reactance or susceptance:

	Inductor	Capacitor
X	$Z_L = jwL$	$Z_C = \frac{1}{jwC} = \frac{-j}{wC}$
В	$Y_L = \frac{1}{jwL} = \frac{-j}{wL}$	$Y_C = jwC$

#### Solution

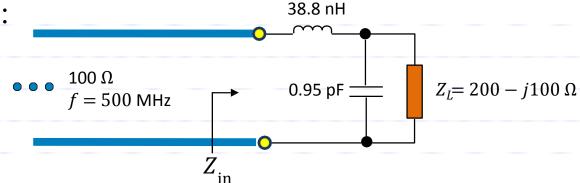
 $\nearrow$  Since B > 0, we identify this as a capacitor. Therefore,

$$jB = jwC = j0.003 \text{ S}$$

- For operation at 500 MHz, we need  $C = \frac{0.003}{2\pi f} = 0.95 \text{ pF}$
- $\nearrow$  Since X > 0, we identify this as a **inductor**. Therefore,

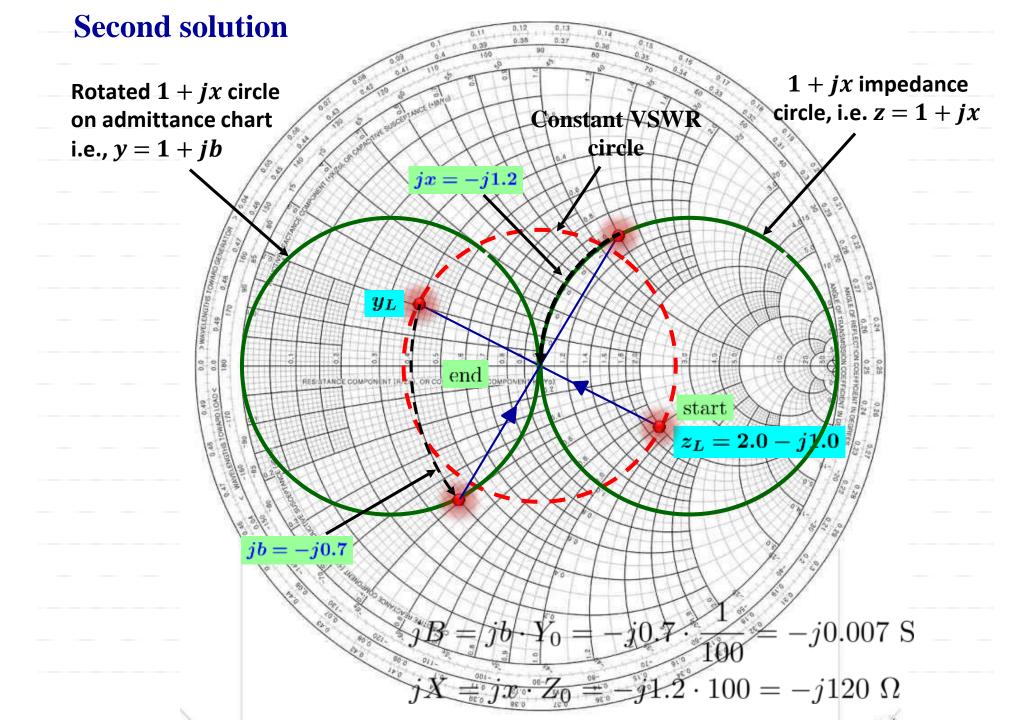
$$jX = jwL = j120 \Omega$$

- For operation at 500 MHz, we need  $L = \frac{120}{2\pi f} = 38.8 \text{ nH}$
- The final circuit is:



Let's check to see if we have really achieved a match at 500

MHz: 
$$Z_{\text{in}} = j2\pi f L + \left(j2\pi f C + \frac{1}{Z_L}\right)^{-1}$$
  
=  $j120 + 100 - j120 = 100 + j0\Omega$ 



#### Solution

 $\nearrow$  Since B < 0, we identify this as a **inductor**. Therefore,

$$jB = \frac{-j}{wL} = -j0.007 \text{ S}$$

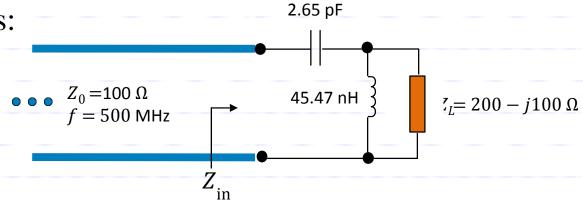
- For operation at 500 MHz, we need  $L = \frac{1}{2\pi fB} = 45.47 \text{ nH}$
- Since X < 0, we identify this as a capacitor. Therefore,

$$jX = \frac{-j}{wC} = -j120 \ \Omega$$

For operation at 500 MHz, we need

$$C = \frac{1}{2\pi f X} = 2.65 \text{ pF}$$

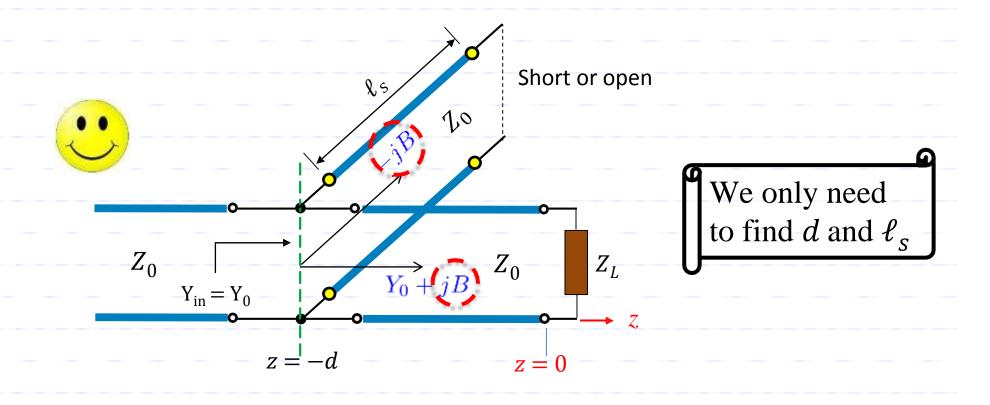
The final circuit is:



## Single-Stub Tuner (SST) Matching

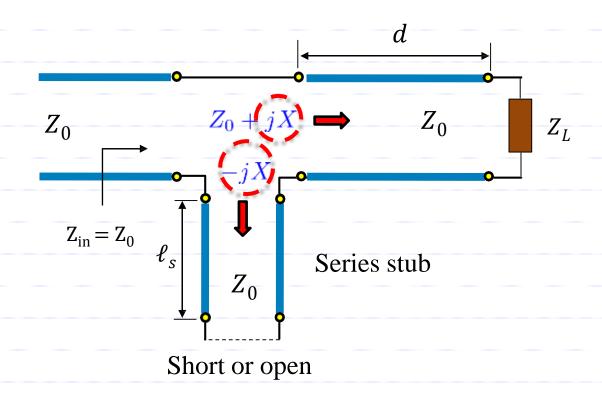
- The SST uses a shorted or open section of TL attached at some position along another TL.
- It does not require lumped elements.
- It can be used for extremely high frequencies.
- It uses segments of T-lines with the same  $Z_0$  (not necessary) used for the feeding line.
- Easy to fabricate, the length can easily be made adjustable and little to no power is dissipated in the stub. (An open stub is sometimes easier to fabricate than a short.)
- It is very convenient for microstrip and stripline technologies.

### **Single-Stub Shunt Matching**



- First TL converts  $Y_L = 1/Z_L$  to an admittance  $Y_0 + jB$
- Second TL converts a short or an open to an admittance -jB

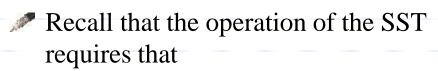
#### **Single-Stub Series Matching**



- First TL converts  $Z_L$  to an impedance  $Z_0 + jX$
- **Second** TL converts a short or an open to an impedance -jX
- We only need to find d and  $\ell_s$

## **SST Using the Smith Chart**

In terms of quantities **normalized** to  $Z_0$  or  $Y_0$ , the geometry is



- 1. d is chosen such that y' has areal part = 1, i.e.,  $y' = 1 \pm jb_s$ .
- 2. The imaginary part of y' negated by the stub  $z_0$  susceptance after choosing per length  $\ell_s$ .
- This produces the matched that is
- Example 5.2: Using the Smith chart, design a shorted shunt, single-stub tuner to match the load  $Z_L = 60 j80 \Omega$  to a TL with characteristic impedance  $Z_0 = 50 \Omega$ .

 $y_{in} = 1,$   $y'_{in} = 1$  z = -d

The normalized load impedance is:  $z_L = 1.2 - j1.6 \text{ p.u.}\Omega$ 

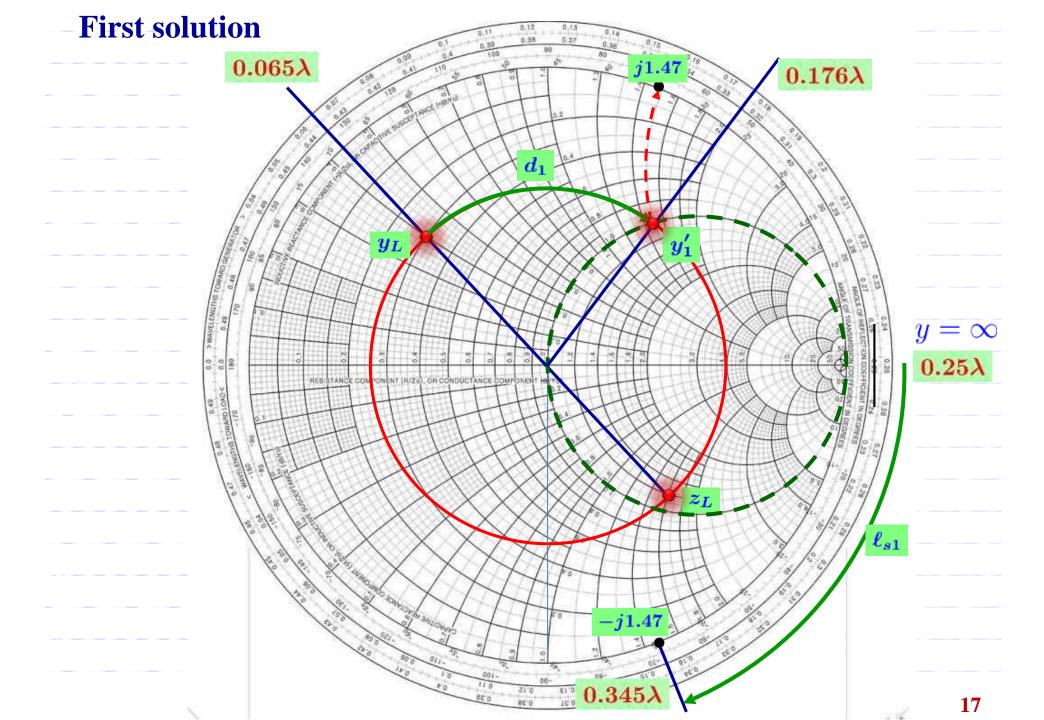
Short or

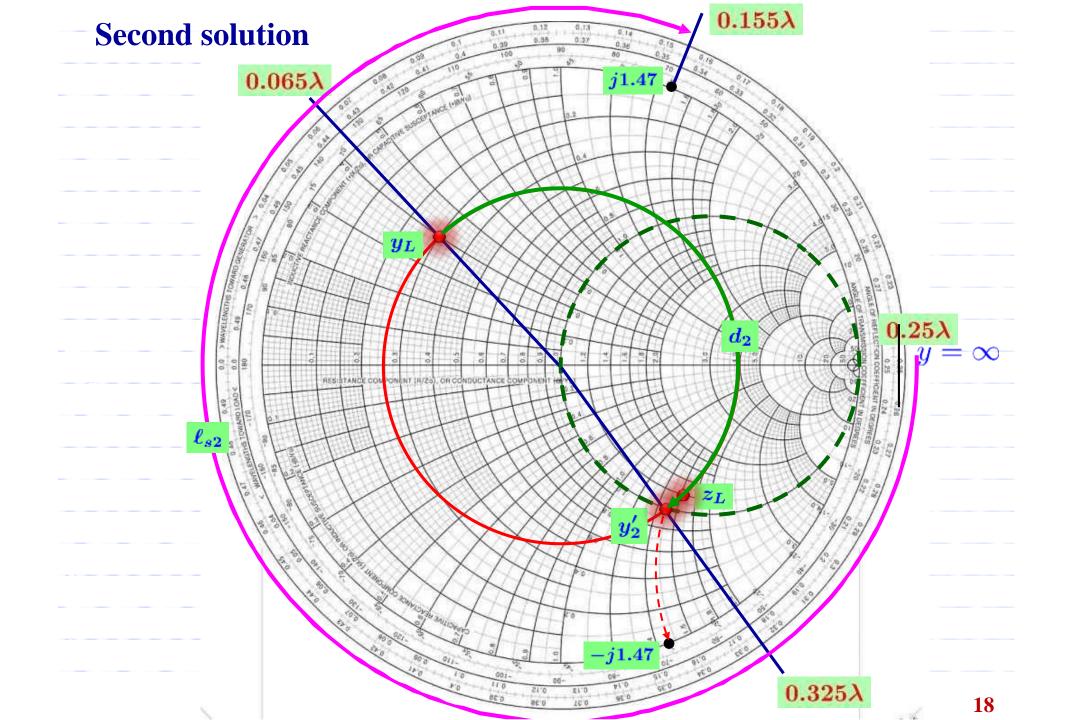
open

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 $Z_0$ 

z = 0





#### **Solution: Smith**

- **There** will be **two solutions**. Both of these give  $y = 1 \pm jb_1$ .
- For this example, we find from the Smith chart that

(I) 
$$y_1' = 1 + j1.47$$

(II) 
$$y_2' = 1 - j1.47$$

 $\nearrow$  From these rotations we can compute d as

(I) 
$$d_1 = 0.176\lambda - 0.065\lambda = 0.110\lambda$$

(II) 
$$d_2 = 0.325\lambda - 0.065\lambda =$$

 $0.260\lambda$ 

Next, find the stub lengths  $\ell_s$ :

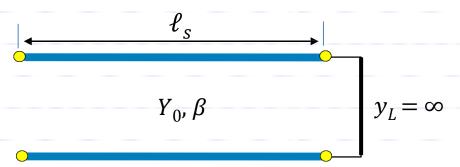
(I) want 
$$b_{s1} = -1.47$$

(II) want 
$$b_{s2} = 1.47$$

When either of these two susceptances is added to  $y_1$ , then  $y_{in} = 1$ .

#### **Solution: Smith**

The stub lengths can be determined directly from the Smith chart.



On the Smith admittance chart,  $y_L = \infty$  is located at  $\Re e I\{ \} = 1$ ,  $\Im e I = 0$ . From there, rotate "wavelengths towards generator" to:

(I) 
$$b_s = -1.47 \implies \ell_{s1} = 0.345\lambda - 0.25\lambda = 0.095\lambda$$

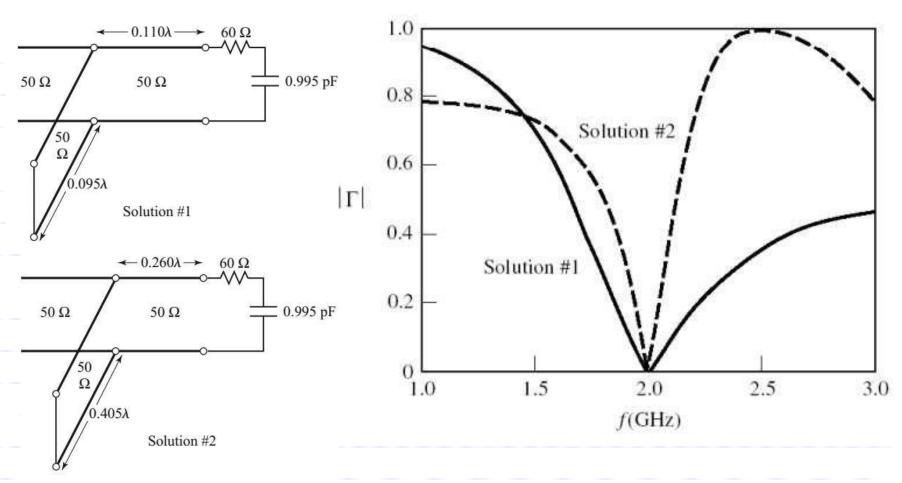
(II) 
$$b_s = +1.47 \implies \ell_{s2} = 0.25\lambda + 0.155\lambda = 0.405\lambda$$

The final two solutions are:

(I) 
$$d_1 = 0.110\lambda$$
 and  $\ell_s = 0.095\lambda$ 

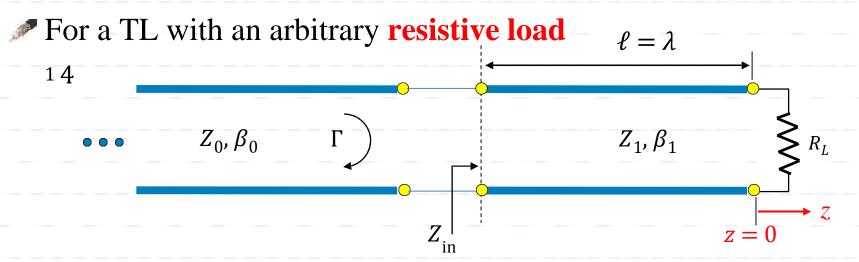
(II) 
$$d_2 = 0.260\lambda$$
 and  $\ell_s = 0.405\lambda$ 

#### **Solution: Smith**



- **Solution 1** has a significantly better bandwidth than solution 2.
- Shorter stub produces wider bandwidth.

#### **Quarter-Wave-Transformer Matching**



the input impedance of the right-hand TL is given

as 
$$Z_{\rm in} = Z_1 \frac{R_L + jZ_1 \tan(\beta_1 \ell)}{Z_1 + jR_L \tan(\beta_1 \ell)}$$
 (1)

At 
$$\ell = \lambda_1$$
  $4_1$   $\beta$   $\ell = \frac{2\pi}{\lambda_1} \frac{\lambda_1}{\lambda_1} = \frac{\pi}{4}$  electrical length  $\Rightarrow$  Since  $\tan \beta_1 l \to \infty$ . Using this result in (1) gives

$$Z_{\rm in} = \frac{Z_1^2}{R_L} \tag{2}$$

#### **Quarter-Wave-Transformer Matching**

- This result is an interesting characteristic of TLs that are exactly  $\lambda/4$  long.
- We can harness this characteristic to design a matching network using a  $\lambda/4$  -length section of TL.

$$Z_1 = \sqrt{Z_0 R_L} \tag{3}$$

- Note that we can adjust  $Z_1$  in (2) so that  $Z_{in} = Z_0$ . In particular, from (2) with  $Z_{in} = Z_0$  we find
- In other words, a  $\lambda/4$  section of TL with this particular characteristic impedance will present a perfect match ( $\Gamma = 0$ ) to the feedline (the left-hand TL).

This type of matching network is called a quarter-wave transformer (QWT).

### **Disadvantages of QWTs**



- 1. A TL must be **placed** between the load and the feedline.
- 1. A very special characteristic impedance (i.e.,  $Z_1$ ) for the QWT is required, which depends both on the load resistance,  $R_L$ , and the characteristic impedance of the feedline,  $Z_0$ .
- 1. QWTs work perfectly only for **one load at one frequency**. (Actually, it produces some bandwidth of "acceptable" VSWR on the TL, as do all real-life matching networks.)

## Thank you Very Much !!!