UiO : Department of Informatics
University of Oslo

IN5230
Electronic noise – estimates and countermeasures

Lecture 2-3

Noise coupling (Ott2)

2.4 MUTUAL INDUCTANCE CALCULATIONS

- Biot-Savarts law:

$$B = \frac{\mu I}{2\pi r}$$

- B is the magnetic flux density at a distance r from a long conductor with the current I.
- Increases with increasing I.
- Decreases with increasing r.

Example 1/3

We assume that the long edges are very much longer than the short ones (which we will ignore).

I_1: Current in outer loop (1 and 2).

V_N: Induced voltage in the inner circle (3 and 4).

a: is the distance between the inner and outer circuit.

b: is the distance between the inner circuit and the outer circuit on the opposite side.

$$\theta_{12} = \int_a^b \frac{\mu I_1}{2\pi r} dr = \frac{\mu I_1}{2\pi} \ln\left(\frac{b}{a}\right)$$

The equation shows the flux in circuit 3 and 4 due to the current in 1.

Carrier 2 generates an equal current in the inner loop. Hence the total flux will be double.

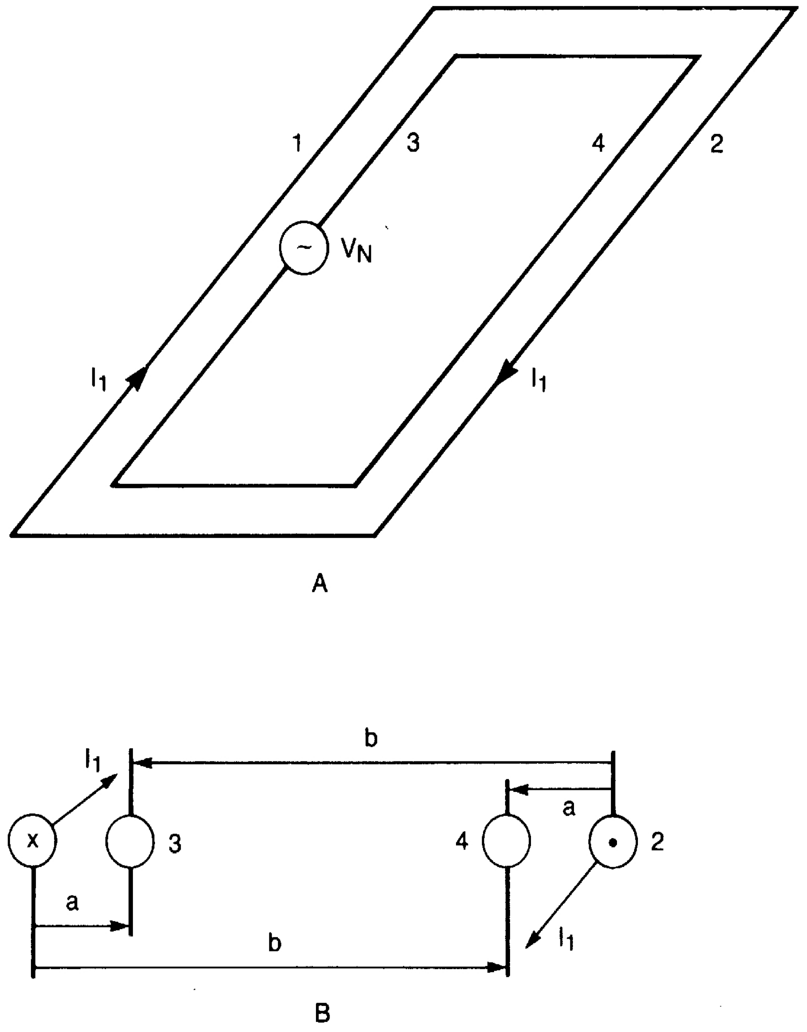


Figure 2-10. (*A*) *Nested coplanar loops*; (*B*) *cross-sectional view of A*.

Example 2/3

Total flux in 3 and 4 due to 1 and 2:

$$\theta_{12} = \left[\frac{\mu}{\pi} \ln\left(\frac{b}{a} \right) \right] I_1$$

We use the following expression (introduced earlier):

$$M_{12} = \frac{\theta_{12}}{I_1}$$

and insert

$$\mu = 4\pi \times 10^{-7}$$

to achieve

$$M = 4 \times 10^{-7} \ln\left(\frac{b}{a} \right)$$

To find the voltage we insert for M in the previous equation and get:

$$V_N = j\omega M I_1 = j\omega I_1 \cdot 4 \times 10^{-7} \ln\left(\frac{b}{a} \right)$$

Example 3/3

Example:

$f = 10\text{MHz}$

$I_1 = 100\mu\text{A}$

$a = 10\mu\text{m}$

$b = 3000\mu\text{m}$

$V_N = 14\text{mV}$

2.5 EFFECT OF SHIELD ON MAGNETIC COUPLING 1/5

Source (wire 1) generates a voltage in the object (wire 2)

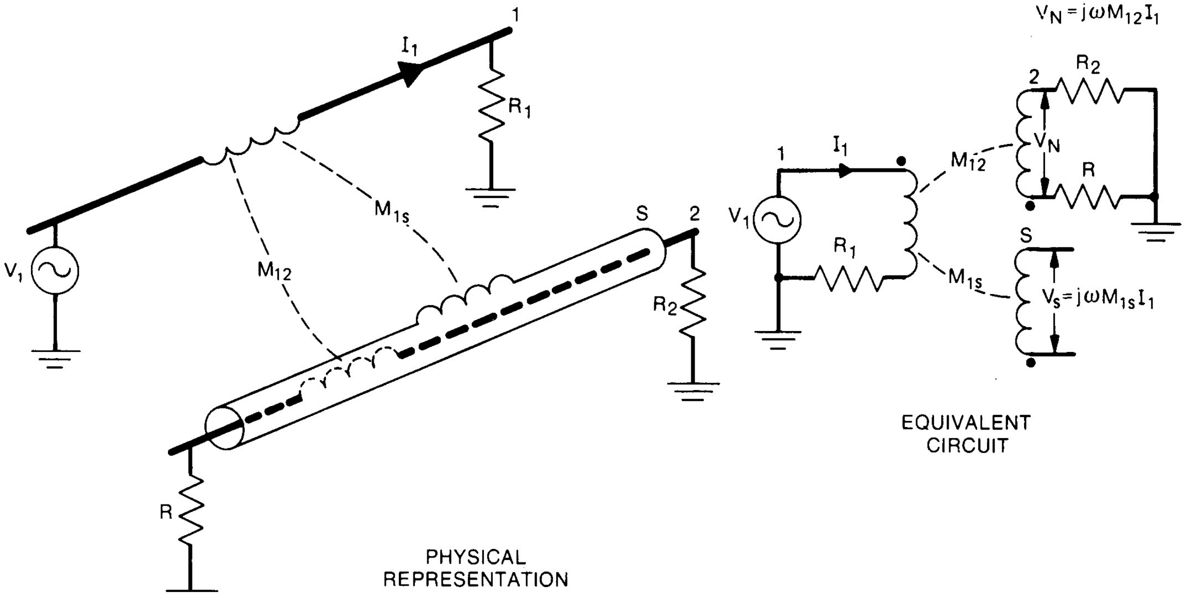


Figure 2-11. *Magnetic coupling when a shield is placed around the receptor conductor.*

a) First we assume:

The screen is not grounded and non-magnetic.

⇒ Voltage is induced on the screen.

M_{1S}: Mutual inductance between the screen and wire 1 (noise source).

$$V_S = j\omega M_{1S} I_1$$

Red: Equation

⇒ The screen has no influence on 2

b)

Grounding of screen in one point will have no influence!!

(Presumes non-magnetic screen).

2.5 Effect of shield on magnetic coupling 2/5

c) Assume:

Screen grounded at both ends:

⇒ The voltage induced in the screen will result in a current in the screen

⇒ This screen current will induce noise in 2.

What about magnetic coupling between screen and inner conductor? This relation has to be found before we continue…

> Magnetic coupling between screen and inner conductor 1/7

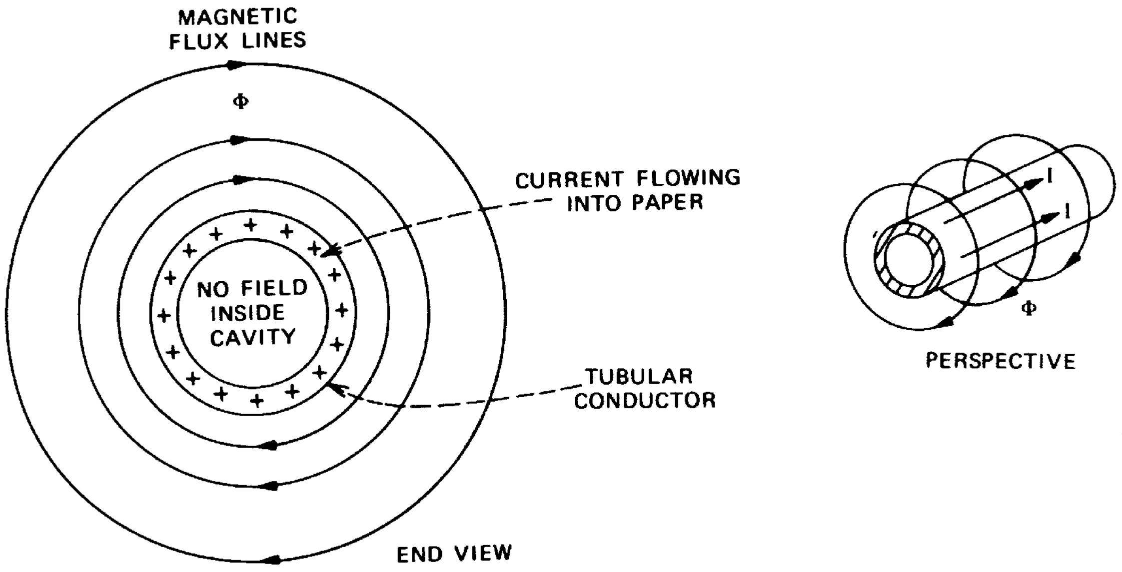


Figure 2-12. *Magnetic field produced by current in a tubular conductor.*

a) First we assume a conductor shaped as a pipe. (Equal thickness everywhere. Uniform current distribution all over the pipe.)

⇒No magnetic field lines inside the pipe

⇒Magnetic field lines present outside the pipe

>Magnetic coupling between screen and …2/7

b) Conductor inside pipe (for example a Coax).

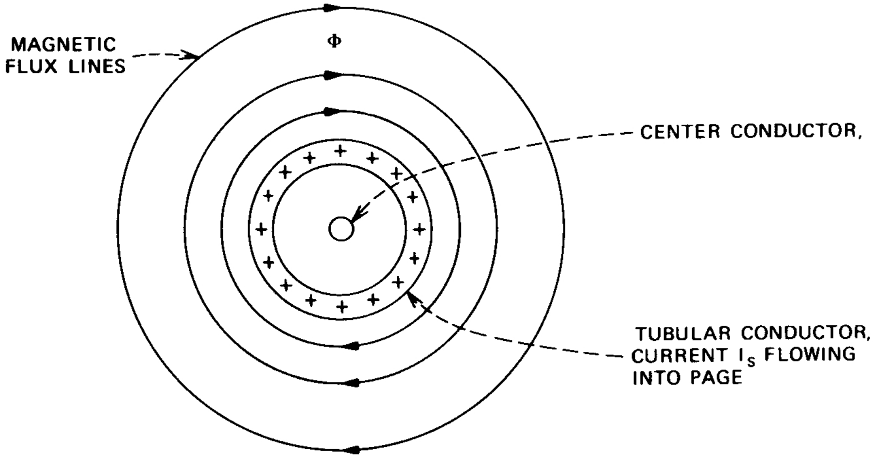


Figure 2-13. *Coaxial cable with shield current flowing.*

L_S: Screen inductance (”pipe”)

$$L_S = \frac{\phi_S}{I_S}$$

I_S: Screen current (”pipe”)

ϕ_S: Field generated by screen: Encloses both screen and conductor

M: Mutual inductance

$$M = \frac{\phi_C}{I_S}$$

ϕ_C: Field experienced by center due to screen

Since $\phi_C = \phi_S$ we will have the important equation:

$$\boxed{M = L_S}$$

Red: Equation

The mutual inductance between screen and conductor is equal to the inductance of the screen!

>Magnetic coupling between screen and …3/7

We repeat our assumptions:

- No field lines in the screen
- Uniform current distribution in the screen

We did <u>not</u> require:

- That the inner conductor is centrally situated in the screen (i.e. does not have to be a coax).

>Magnetic coupling between screen and …4/7

For the shield loop we have:

$$V_S = I_S\left(R + j\omega L\right)$$

Vs: Screen voltage due to an external source (not drawn).

Is: Screen current due to Vs over Ls and Rs.

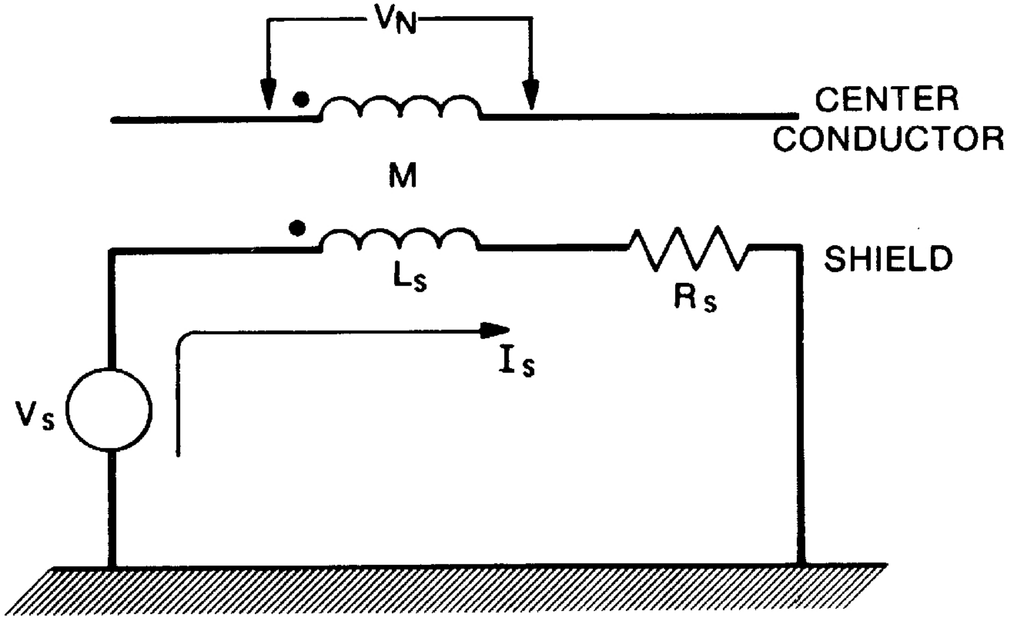


Figure 2-14. *Equivalent circuit of shielded conductor.*

We find the expression for Is:

$$I_S = \frac{V_S}{L_S}\left(\frac{1}{j\omega + R_S / L_S}\right)$$

VN: Voltage in centre conductor due to Is

$$V_N = j\omega M I_S$$

>Magnetic coupling between screen and …5/7

Combining previous expressions:

$$V_N = \left(\frac{j\omega M_{SC} V_S}{L_S}\right)\left(\frac{1}{j\omega + R_S/L_S}\right)$$

Since $L_S = M_{SC}$ the expression is reduced to:

$$V_N = \left(\frac{j\omega}{j\omega + R_S/L_S}\right)V_S$$

This gives the following figure:

Low frequencies:

$V_N = (j\omega L_S/R_S)V_S$

High frequencies: $V_N = V_S$

Cut-off frequency:

$$\omega_c = \frac{R_S}{L_S} \qquad f_c = \frac{R_S}{2\pi L_S}$$

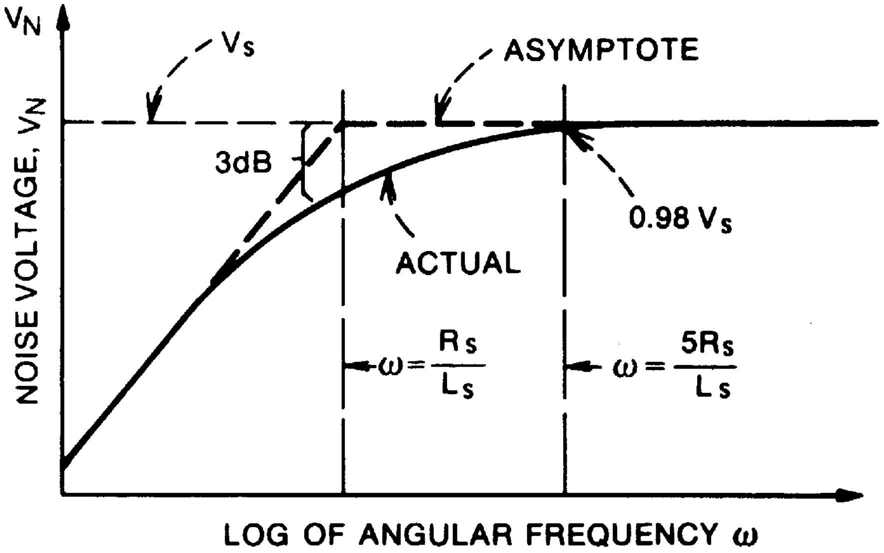


Figure 2-15. *Noise voltage in center conductor of coaxial cable due to shield current.*

Do we want R_S/L_S to be small or large?

>Magnetic coupling between screen and …6/7

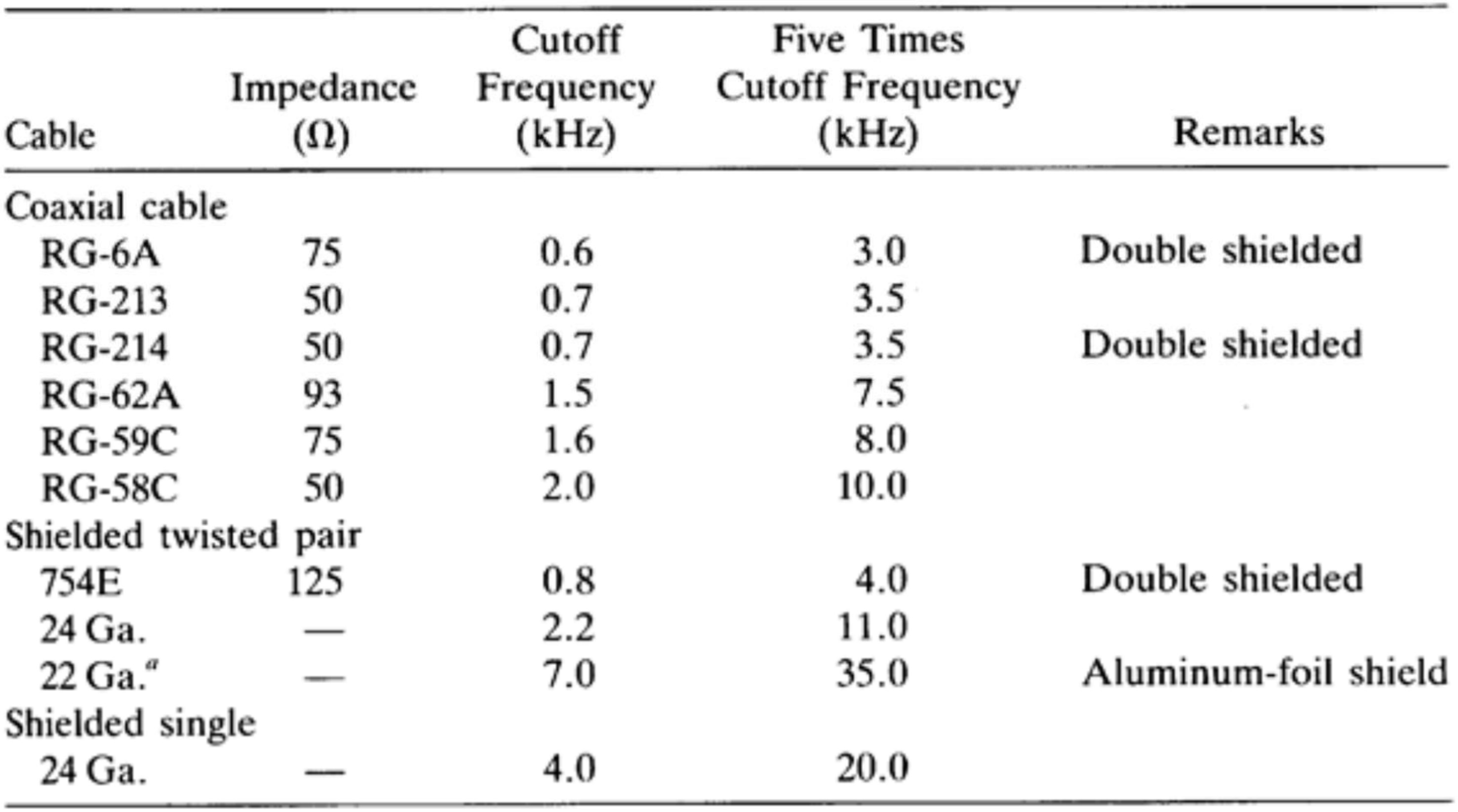
Small Rs/Ls means lower cut-off frequency and faster rise below cut-off.

Achieved through

- Small screen resistance
- Large screen inductance

>Magnetic coupling between screen and …7/7

Table 2-1 Measured Values of Shield Cutoff Frequency (f_c)



Cable	Impedance (Ω)	Cutoff Frequency (kHz)	Five Times Cutoff Frequency (kHz)	Remarks
Coaxial cable				
RG-6A	75	0.6	3.0	Double shielded
RG-213	50	0.7	3.5	
RG-214	50	0.7	3.5	Double shielded
RG-62A	93	1.5	7.5	
RG-59C	75	1.6	8.0	
RG-58C	50	2.0	10.0	
Shielded twisted pair				
754E	125	0.8	4.0	Double shielded
24 Ga.	—	2.2	11.0	
22 Ga.[a]	—	7.0	35.0	Aluminum-foil shield
Shielded single				
24 Ga.	—	4.0	20.0	

[a] One pair out of an 11-pair cable (Belden 8775).

From the table we see that the cut-off frequency is in the region2-20kHz.

$$Z = \sqrt{\frac{L}{C}}$$

2.5 Effect of shield on magnetic coupling 3/5

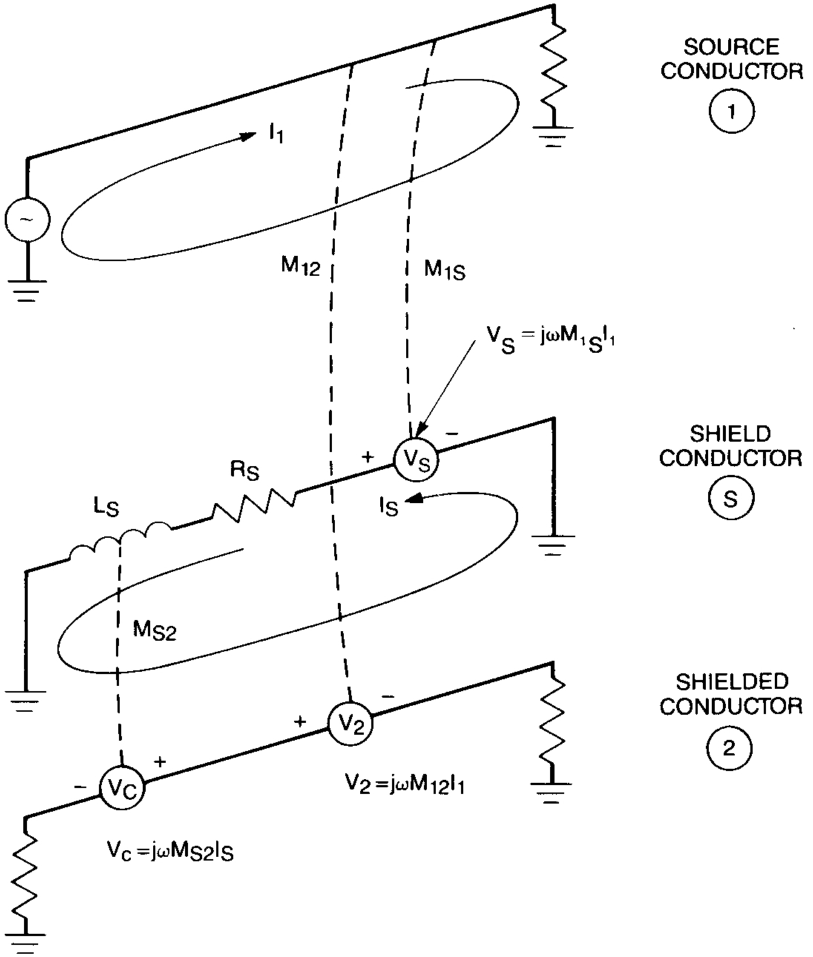


Figure 2-16. *Magnetic coupling to a shielded cable with the shield grounded at both ends.*

c) Screen grounded at both ends… continue

(We jump back to where we were before we started to look at the coax.)

V_N is the result both of direct radiation from the source and what is forwarded via the screen.

$$V_N = V_2 - V_C = V_{12} - V_{1S2}$$

2.5 Effect of shield on magnetic coupling 4/5

This gives the following expression:

$$V_N = j\omega M_{12} I_1 \left[\frac{R_S / L_S}{j\omega + R_S / L_S} \right]$$

- The screen contributes with the part within the parenthesis.
- Without screen we will only have the expression in front of the parenthesis.

Low frequency: $V_N = j\omega M_{12} I_1$

High frequency: $V_N = M_{12} I_1 (R_S / L_S)$

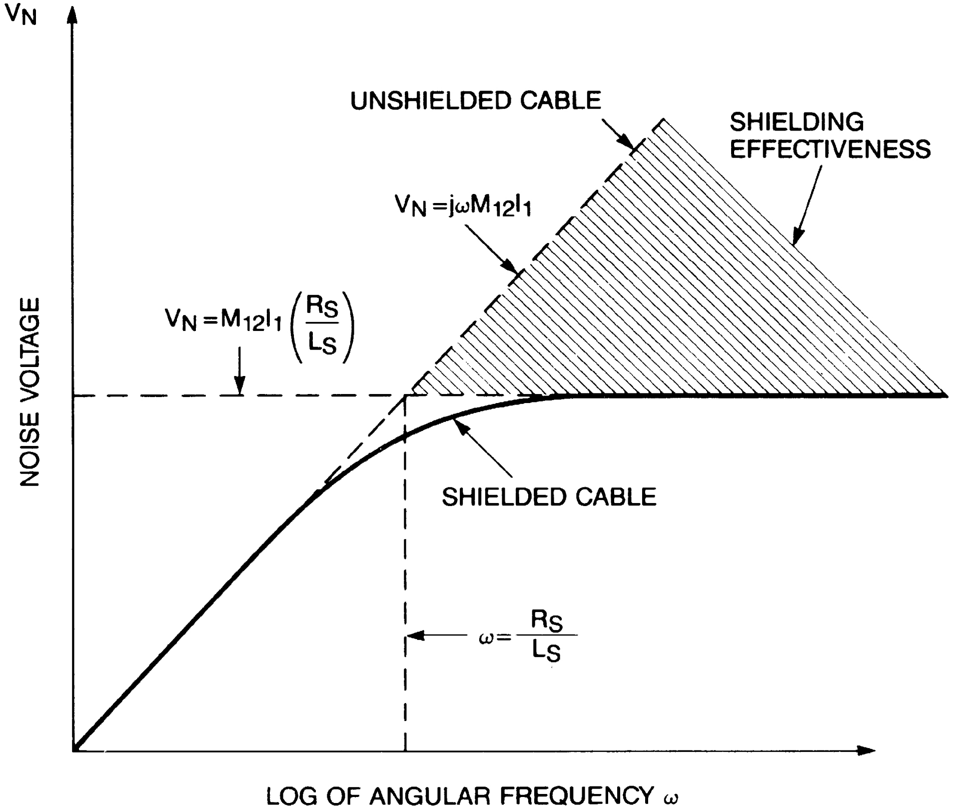


Figure 2-17. *Magnetic field coupled noise voltage for an unshielded and shielded cable (shield grounded at both ends) versus frequency.*

Yellow:
Figure

2.5 Effect of shield on magnetic coupling 5/5

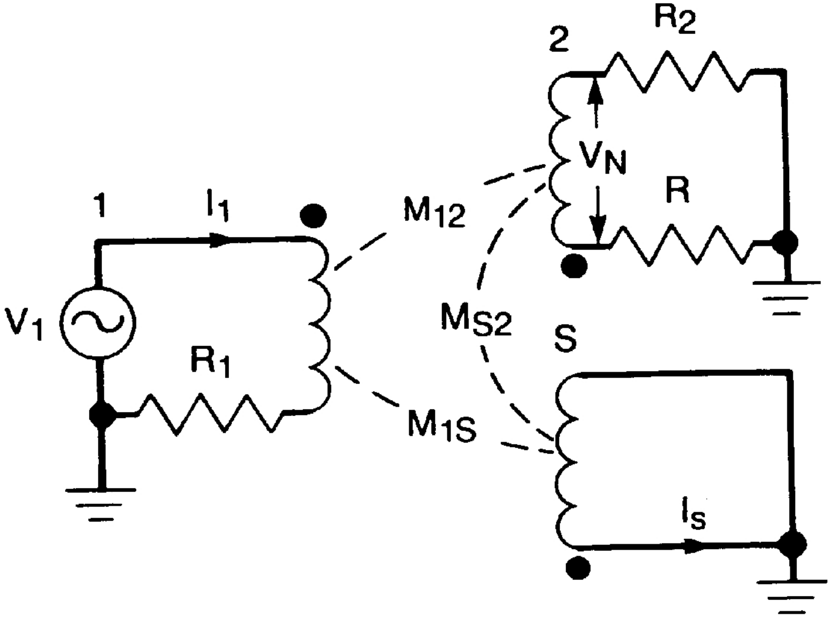


Figure 2-18. *Transformer analogy of magnetic field coupling to a shielded cable when shield is grounded at both ends (M_{S2} is much larger than M_{12} or M_{1S}).*

The figure shows a transformer model of the system:

The screen acts as a shorted winding that will short circuit some of the voltage in 2.

2.6 SHIELDING TO PREVENT MAGNETIC RADIATION 1/4

In general: A conductor will generate a radial electric field and a circular magnetic field.

Yellow:

All figures

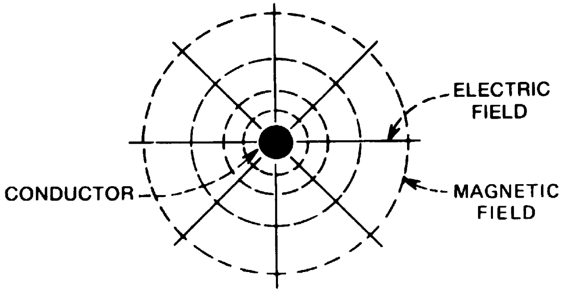


Figure 2-19. *Fields around a current-carrying conductor.*

A one point grounded shield will terminate the electrical field from the inner conductor.

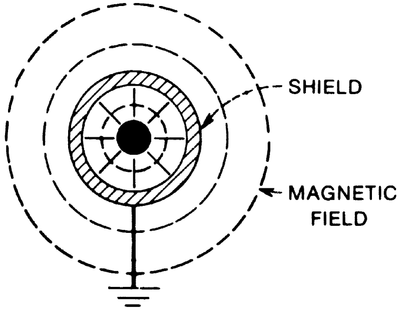


Figure 2-20. *Fields around shielded conductor; shield grounded at one point.*

In a screen grounded in both ends and with equal and opposite currents in screen and centre conductor the magnetic field will be eliminated outside the screen.

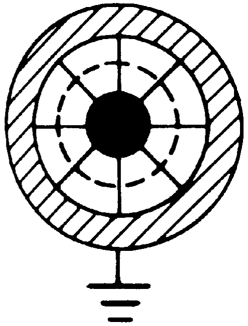


Figure 2-21. *Fields around shielded conductor; shield grounded and carrying a current equal to the conductor current but in the opposite direction.*

2.6 Shielding to prevent magnetic radiation 2/4

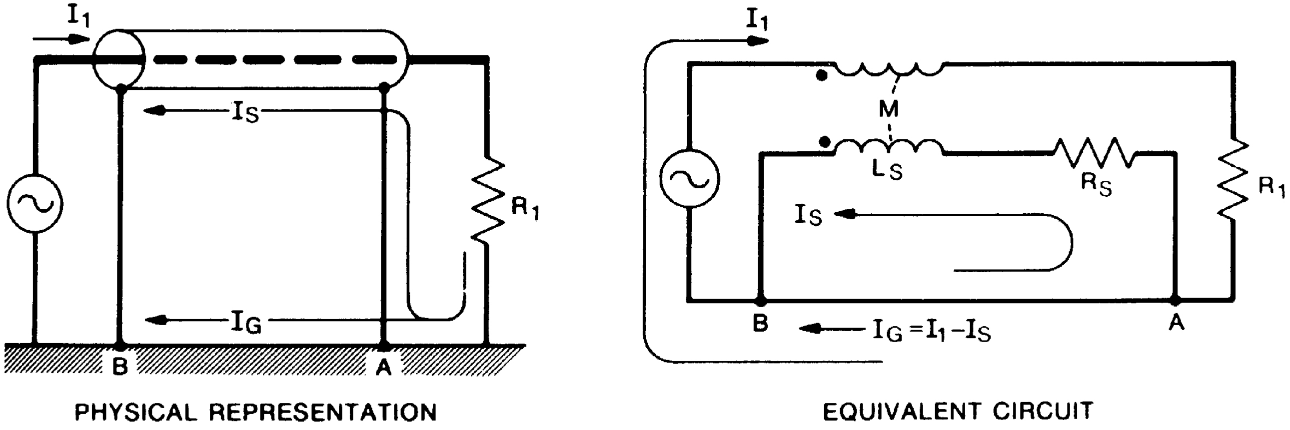


Figure 2-22. *Division of current between shield and ground plane.*

Thus we would like the return current in the screen and not through ground. The screen current is: $I_S = (j\omega M I_1)/(j\omega L_S + R_S)$

The numerator is the screen voltage as a function of the current in the centre conductor. The denominator is the screen impedance.

No resistance in the ground plan!

Here we have *M*=*L*S.

We will have the following expression for Is...

2.6 Shielding to prevent magnetic radiation 3/4

$$I_S = I_1\left(\frac{j\omega}{j\omega + R_S/L_S}\right) = I_1\left(\frac{j\omega}{j\omega + \omega_C}\right)$$

Low frequencies: $I_S = I_1 j\omega L_S/R_S$

High frequencies: $I_S = I_1$

At high frequencies all current returns through the screen (as we want) even though the ground plan has a resistance of 0Ω. Since the current in the centre conductor and the screen are equal (but opposite) they will generate magnetic fields that are equal but opposite resulting in no field outside the screen.

2.6 Shielding to prevent magnetic radiation 4/4

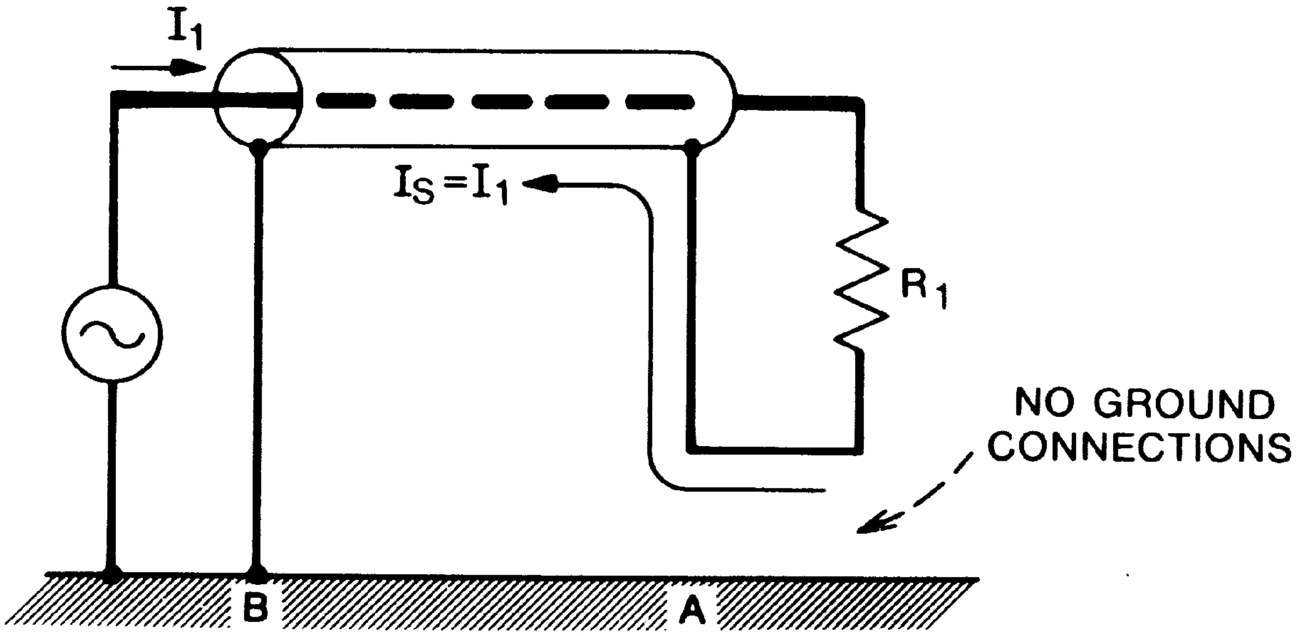


Figure 2-23. *Without ground at far end, all return current flows through shield.*

If the circuitry on the right side is not grounded neither should the screen. This ensures that the return current is forced to pass through the screen and there will not be generated a magnetic field, neither at low frequencies.

2.7 SHIELDING A RECEPTOR AGAINST MAGNETIC FIELDS 1/2

The best strategy for protection of magnetic fields is to reduce the area of the circuit loops!

NB! In particular it is important to know (and control) how the return current passes through ground. Often it takes another route than intended by the designer and may have a larger loop than planned.

About screen: If a screen results in that the return current finds another path resulting in a smaller loop, this will give better protection. The protection is due to the reduced loop size and not due to a magnetic protection of the cable.

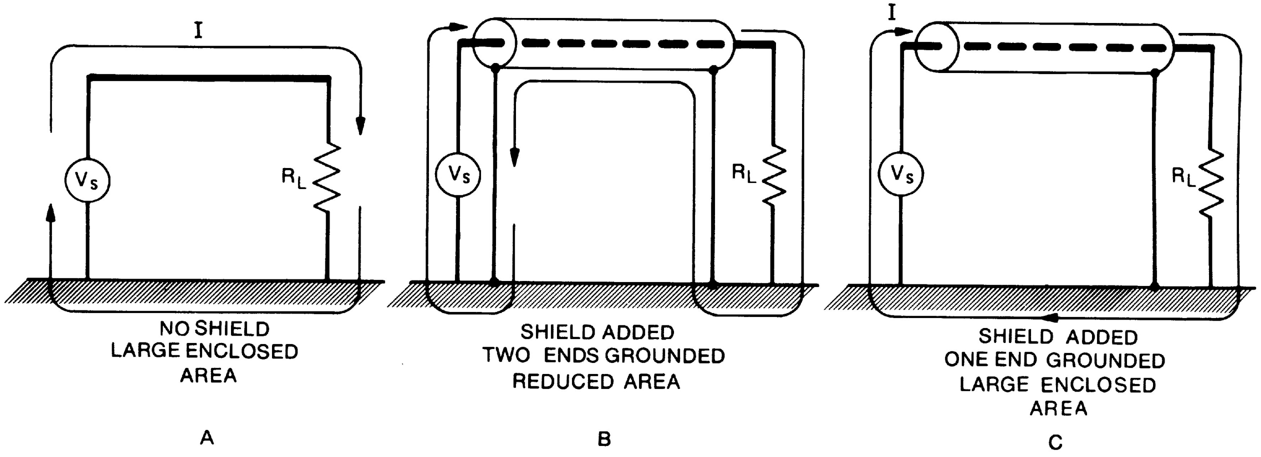


Figure 2-24. *Effect of shield on receptor loop area.*

2.7 Shielding a receptor against magnetic fields 2/2

The solution in fig 2-24 B is the preferred of the three alternatives but has some limitations:

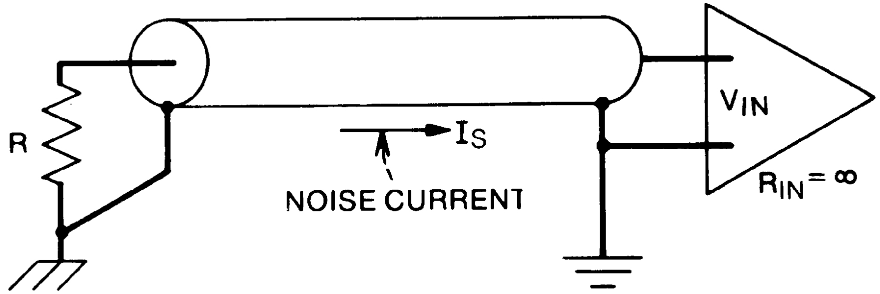
- Low efficiency at low frequencies
- Noise generated in the screen will result in a voltage difference and thus it self be a noise source.
- A difference in ground potential between the two ends of the shield will imply a noise source in the circuit.

I.e. magnetic good but electrical bad.

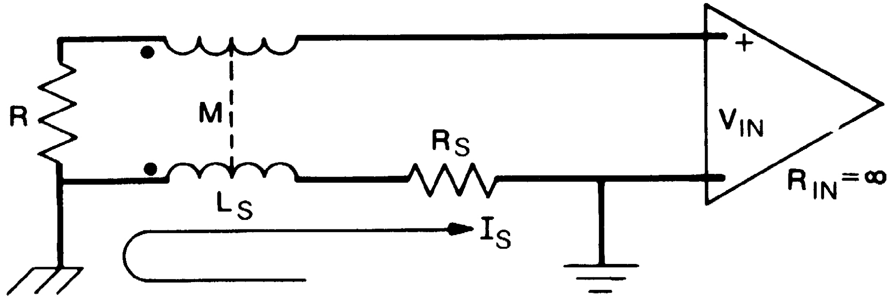
The noise voltage generated is the noise current times the screen impedance.

2.8 COMMON IMPEDANCE SHIELD COUPLING

We will look at the expression for the voltage at the amplifier input due to the noise current through the shield. The current in the centre conductor and the shield is equal and since M=Ls the voltage drop over both coils will eliminate each other and the following expression remains:



PHYSICAL REPRESENTATION



EQUIVALENT CIRCUIT

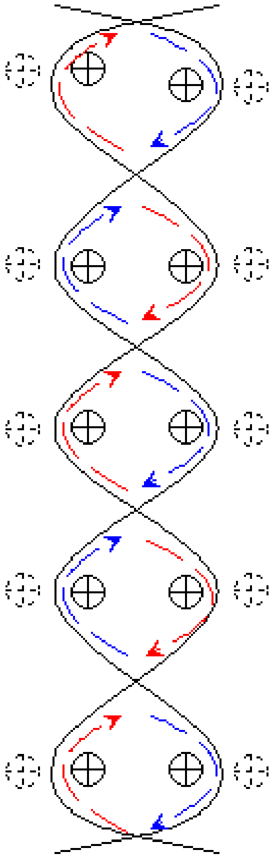
Figure 2-25. *Effect of noise current flowing in the shield of a coaxial cable.*

$$V_{IN} = -j\omega M I_S + j\omega L_S I_S + R_S I_S$$

Red: Equation

$$V_{IN} = R_S I_S$$

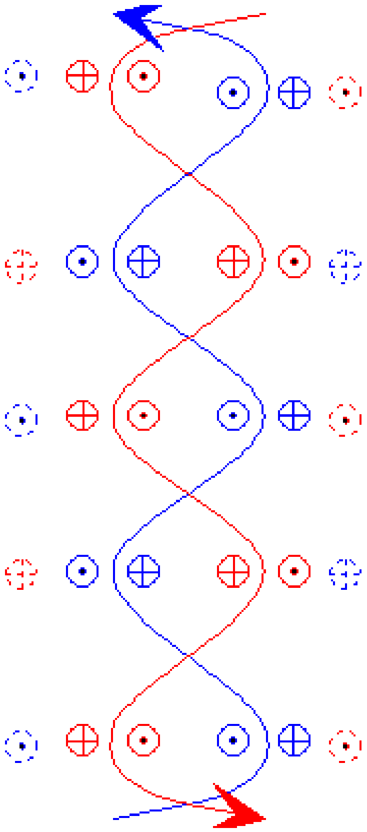
x TP: Twisted pair



TP as receiver (left figure): Fields outside the twins will be about similar in both directions and then almost cancel each other. The field inside each twin will generate a potential but be almost cancelled by opposite potentials in the neighbour twins.

TP as source (right figure): The areas outside the twins will experience almost equal but opposite fields from the two wires and thus the resulting field will be almost zero. Within each twin the field from the wires will add up. However the neighbours will have opposite direction so that at some distance they will cancel.

The best noise reduction is achieved with dense twins so that the field within each twin each is cancelled by an equal sized and opposite field in neighbour twins. The distance to source/receiver and the homogeneity of the field is also important.



2.9 EXPERIMENTAL DATA 1/6

Test setup:

Red: Figure

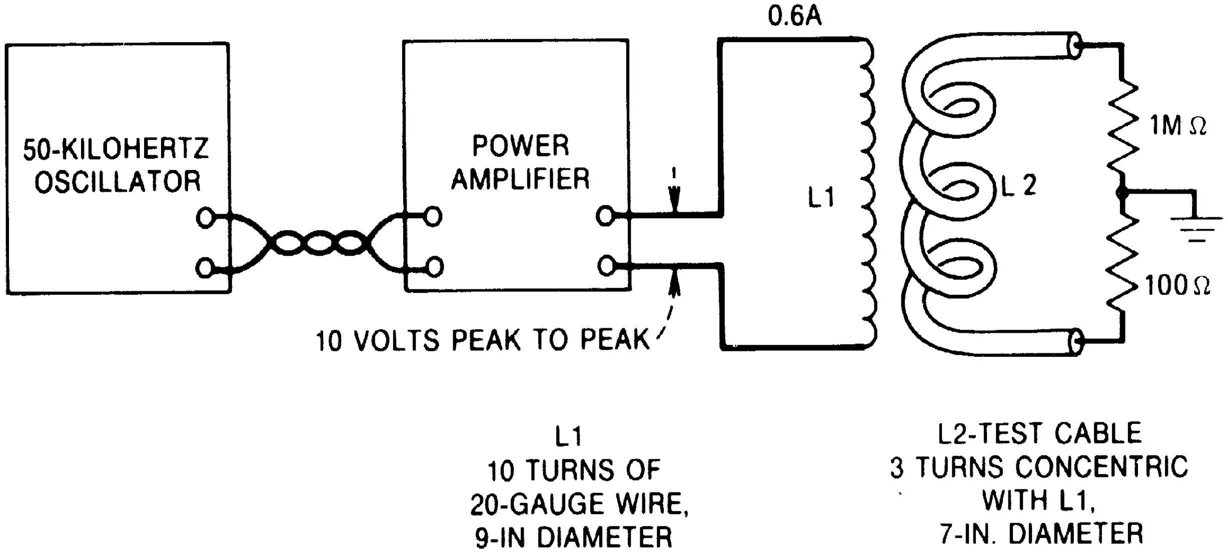


Figure 2-27. *Test setup of inductive coupling experiment.*

L2 is the cable under test.

The frequency used is 50kHz (which is significantly above the corner frequency of all the test cables).

Cable setup A-F (first figure) are grounded through a load at both ends.

Cable setup G-K (second figure) has a grounded load in only one end.

The noise measured in setup A are used as an reference.

2.9 Experimental data 2/6

Yellow:

Figure

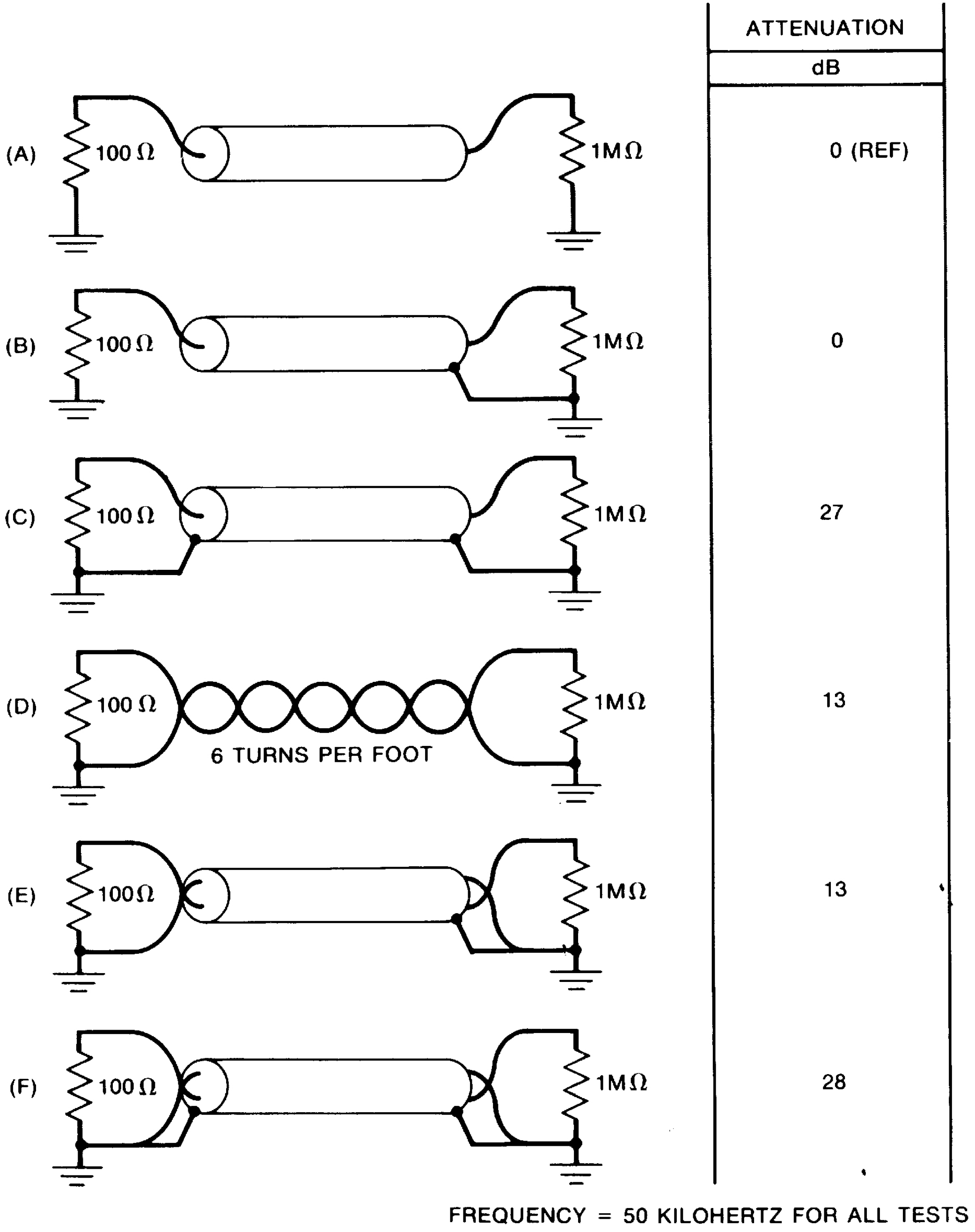


Figure 2-28. *Results of inductive coupling experiment; all circuits grounded at both ends.*

2.9 Experimental data 3/6

A and B: No attenuation due to the shield.

C: Better attenuation but noise will be generated.

D: Twisted pair gives some attenuation. However some of the return current will not pass through the ground wire. Hence the sensitive receiving area for the magnetic field will be larger than the cable.

E: Adding a shield and ground in one end only has no effect.

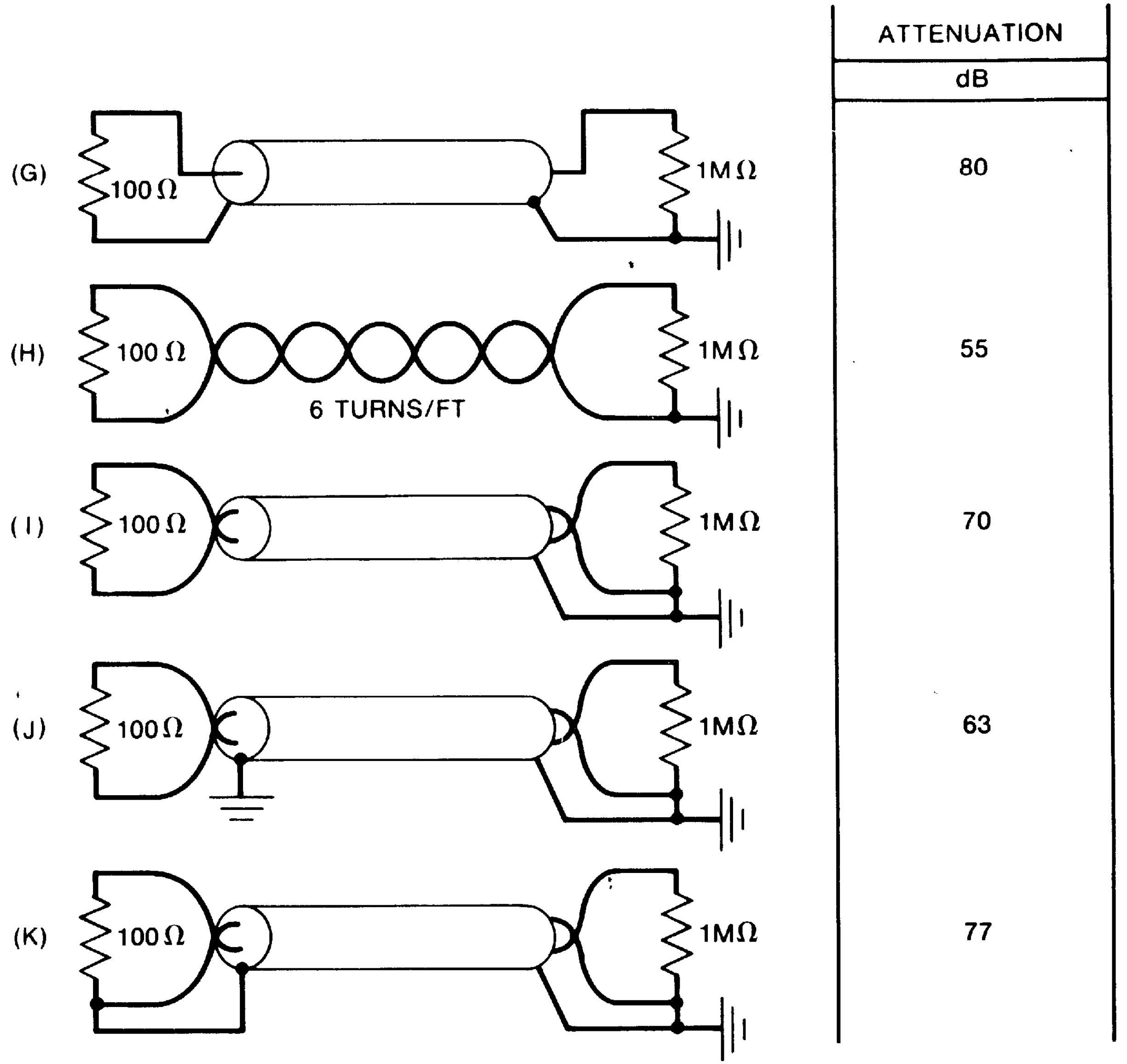
F: Grounding the shield in both ends has better attenuation (similar to a coax grounded at both ends).

Preferably none of this solutions should be used. If the load has to be grounded at both ends, alternative C and F should be chosen.

2.9 Experimental data 4/6

Yellow:

Figure



FREQUENCY = 50 KILOHERTZ FOR ALL TESTS

Figure 2-29. *Results of inductive coupling experiment; all circuits grounded at one end only.*

2.9 Experimental data 5/6

All: One point ground gives significant reduction in noise.

G: Reduced loop gives reduced M-field. Grounded shield gives reduced E-influence.

H: Twisted pair reduces M-field but still sensitive to E-field.

I: One point grounded shield reduces E-field (but not M-field). However the twisting gives a significant reduction of the influence from the M-field.

J: Two point grounding establishes an external ground loop that gives worse attenuation.

K: External ground loop is removed and screen reduces some of the M-field.

More attenuation in *G* than in *I* is probably due that the *G* loop is smaller than the *I* loop in this case. Generally this is not correct.

Increased twin density will give better attenuation. A TP cat 3 has about one twin for each 5 cm. For TP cat 5 the density is increased to one twin per cm.

Normally *I* will be preferred over *G* at low frequencies since ground as shield and ground as signal return is separated.

2.9 Experimental data 6/6

J: Grounding shield at both ends gives somewhat reduced effect compared to *I*. This is due to the high shield current in the ground loop formed by the shield inducing unequal voltages in the ground loop formed by the shield inducing unequal voltages in the two centre conductors.

K: Has the advantages of coax and twisted pair and better attenuation. However *K* is often not chosen because noise pick up in the shield can propagate through signal wires. Generally the best solution is to have one common grounding point.

Solution *I* with more dense twisting is thus probably the best solution.

2.10 EXAMPLE OF SELECTIVE SHIELDING 1/3

Shielded loop antenna:

- The shield stops the electrical field but not the magnetic field. Thus it is only the magnetic field we will measure.
- Application examples:
  - Radio bearing
  - Reduction of noise in receivers (Most locally generated noise is electrical fields).

2.10 Example of selective shielding 2/3

A) First we look at the basic loop antenna:

The voltage generated in the loop by the magnetic field is: $V_m = 2\pi f BA\cos\theta$

(B: magnetic field, A: area, θ: angel between field and the normal of the loop area.

Yellow:

Figure

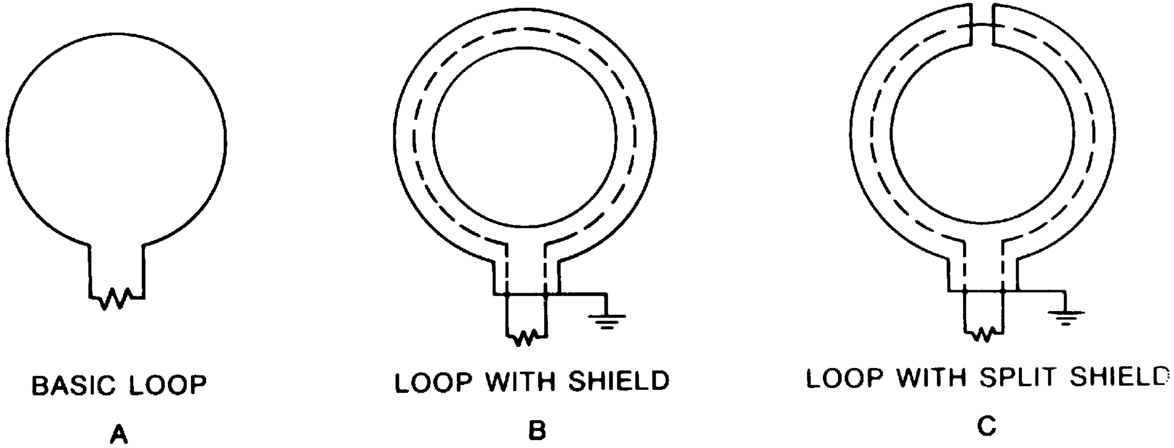


Figure 2-30. *Split shield on loop antenna selectively reduces electric field while passing magnetic field.*

The antenna is a vertical antenna for the electrical field.

$$V_e = \frac{2\pi AE}{\lambda}\cos\theta'$$

E: Electrical field

$2\pi A/\lambda$: Efficient height for circular antenna

θ': angel between electrical field and the normal of the loop area.

2.10 Examples of selective shielding 3/3

B) Full shield

… electric field stopped by shield

… shield current due to magnetic field will establish an opposite magnetic field viewed by the antenna. Hence the antenna will not measure the magnetic field

C) Loop with split shield

… electric field stopped by shield (except at split)

… no magnetic induced current in shield hence the inner conductor will measure the full magnetic field.

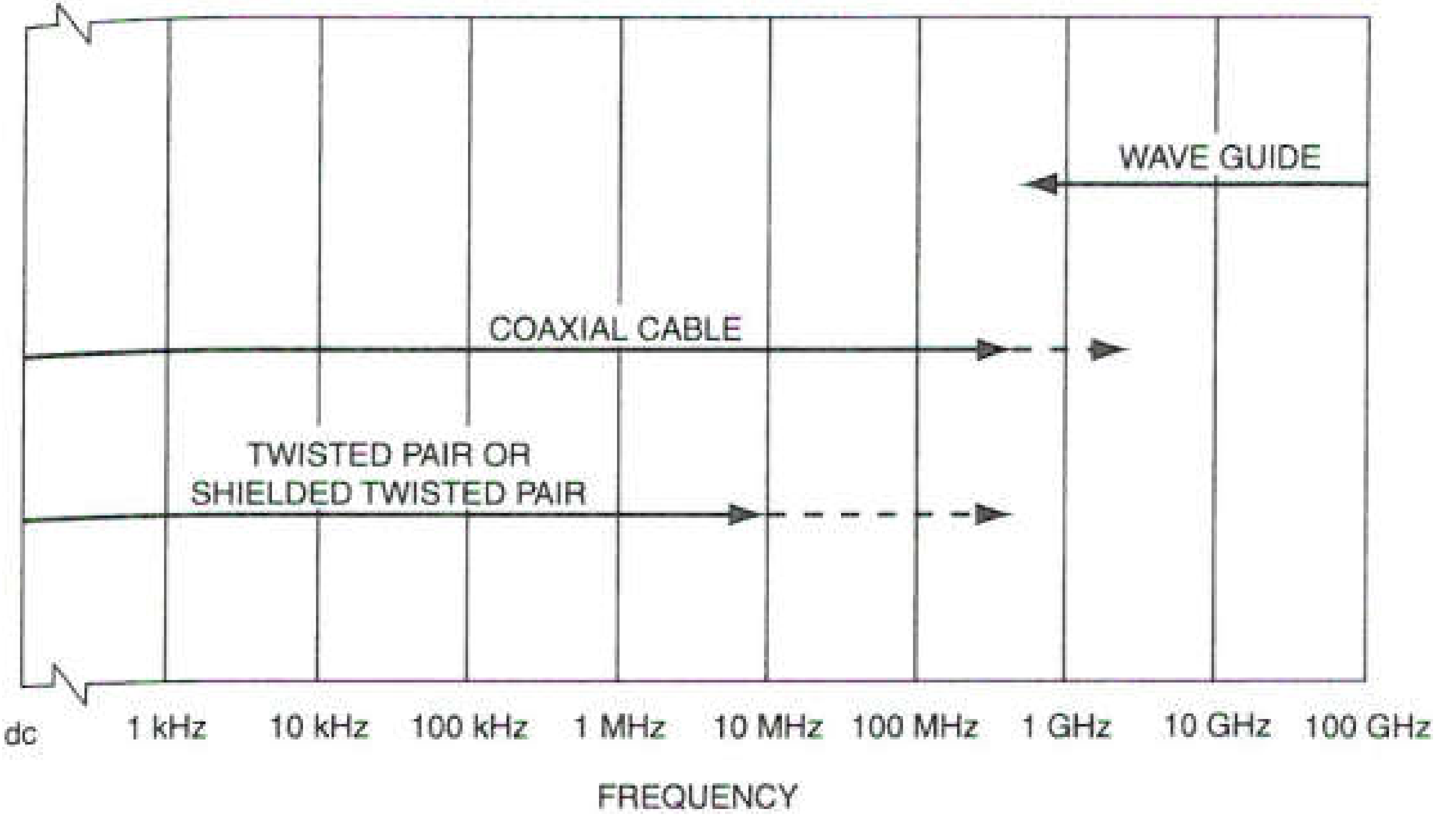
Thus: Radio waves consist both of electrical and magnetic fields. We can develop an antenna that is only sensitive to the magnetic field. This may be useful to reduce the influence from the stronger local electrical field.

2.12 COAXIAL CABLE VERSUS TWISTED PAIR 1/3

(Values 2006).

Twisted pair: Good at low frequencies. Good protection to magnetic fields.

Coax: More uniform characteristic impedance. Suited from DC to several hundred MHz.



Comments to figure: More modern twisted pair have lower capacitance and better high frequency characteristics.

Example: Coax (RG58U): 95pF/m, Kat 5 TP: 56pF/m 100MHz

TP: Twisted Pair

- UTP: Unshielded Twisted Pair
- STP: Shielded Twisted Pair

  Pairs are twisted and then all pairs together are wrapped with a shielding or screening material which consists of foil wrapping or a copper braid jacket.
- FTP: Foil Twisted Pair

  Each pair individually are wrapped in a shielding foil
- S/FTP: Shielded Foil Twisted Pair

  Each pair are individually wrapped in foil, then all pairs together are wrapped in foil or flexible braided screening (or both).

2.12 Coaxial cable versus twisted pair 2/3

Coax:

Coax shield grounded in one point:

- Protects towards electrical fields.
- Noise current (from magnetic fields) will result in a noise voltage (noise current x cable impedance) which will be in series with the signal source.

Triax (double shield) may be an option:

- Noise current in outer shield.
- Signal current in inner shield.
- However triax cables are expensive and more difficult to handle!

At higher frequencies ($\gg$1MHz) the coax will work as an triax due to the skin effect.

TP (Twisted Pair):

FTP, STP, S/FTP:

- About the same characteristics as the triax.
- Lower price and simple to handle.
- Signal current in the twisted conductors and noise in the shield.
- When shield noise is induced equal in both twisted conductors, the difference over the pair will not change.

2.12 Coaxial cable versus twisted pair 3/3

UTP (Unshielded Twisted Pair):

- Good magnetic protection
- Bad protection towards electrical fields if the termination is not correct.

STP/FTP gives best protection at low frequencies when magnetic fields is a main problem.

The denser twisting, the better protection!

Braided (strømpe) shields (contra foil) 1/2

- Braided more used than foil.
- More flexible and better mechanical strength when the cable is mobile.
- Braided cover 60-98% of the area
- A little worse protection towards E-fields.
- 5-30dB worse protection towards M-fields.
- Further reduced efficiency at very high frequencies (UHF) both for E and M fields.

Braided shields (contra foil) 2/2

- Aluminium foil as shield
  - Cover almost 100%.
  - Better protection towards E-field
  - Not as mechanical robust as braided shields.
  - Difficult to terminate cable properly.

- **The combination of foil and braided shields…**

  take the best from both.

2.15 SHIELD TERMINATION 1/7

- So far we have assumed that the shield current has been evenly distributed all around and all along the shield. If the shield is not connected 360 degrees around at the ends (i.e. a «pigtail»-termination) the current will not be uniform.

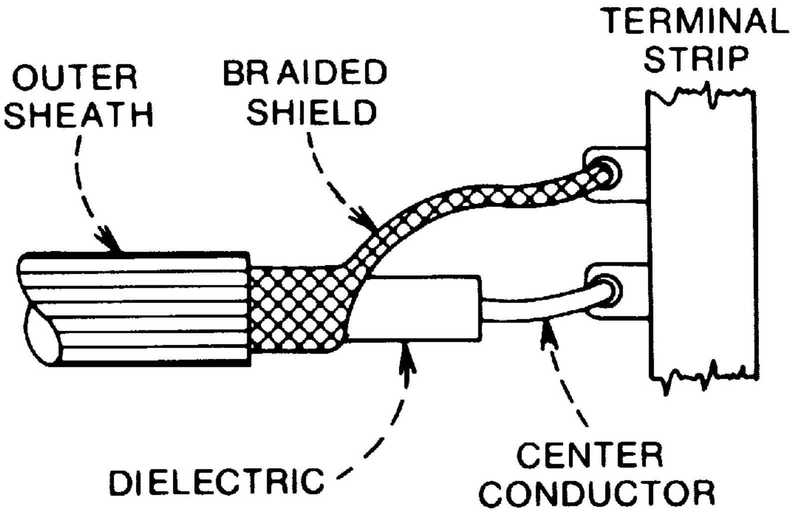


Figure 2-33. *Pigtail shield connection concentrates current on one side of shield.*

- A pigtail termination will result in an uneven distribution of the current. In some parts there may be little or no current flowing.

2.15 Shield termination 2/7

- For maximum protection the connection between the shield and the contact should be all-around (360 degrees).
- Recommended coax contacts are BNC, UHF and N-type contacts.

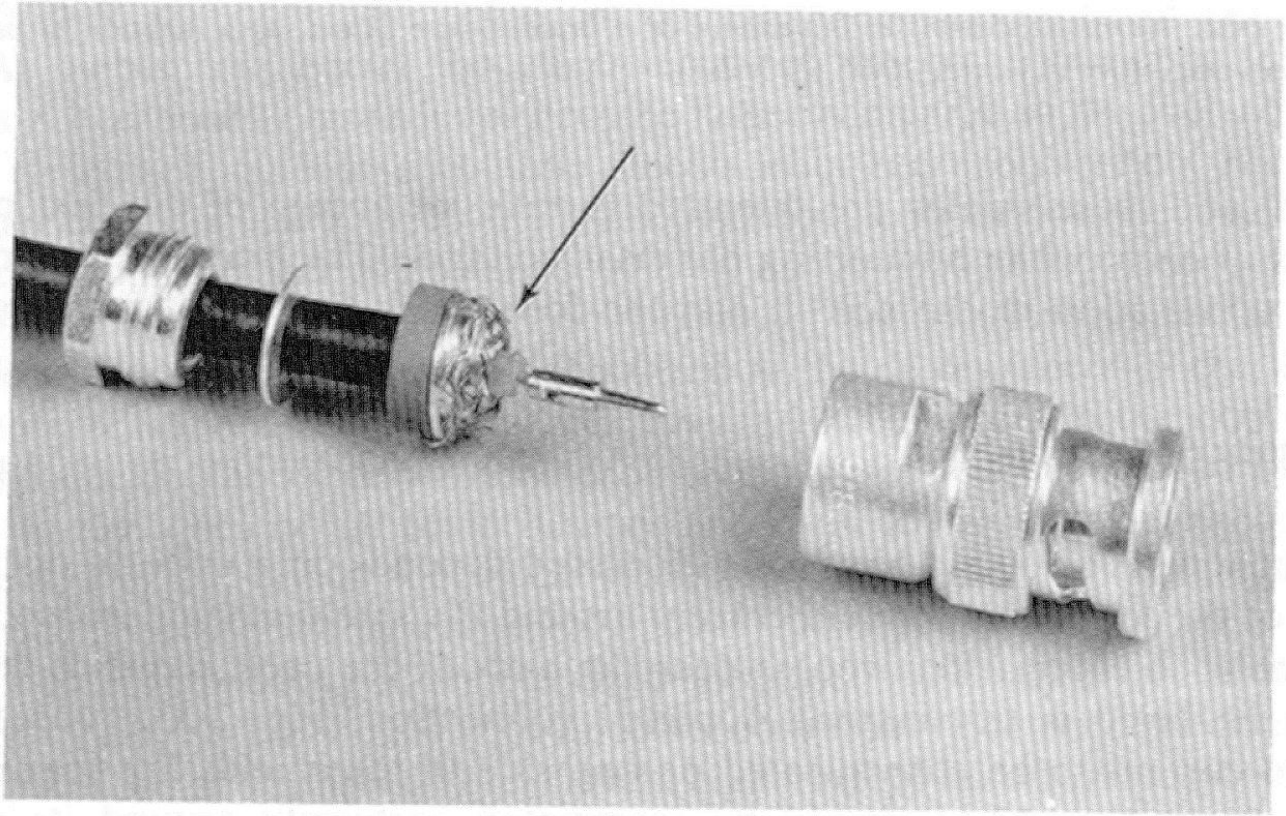


Figure 2-34. *Disassembled BNC connector showing a 360° contact to shield.*

2.15 Shield termination 3/7

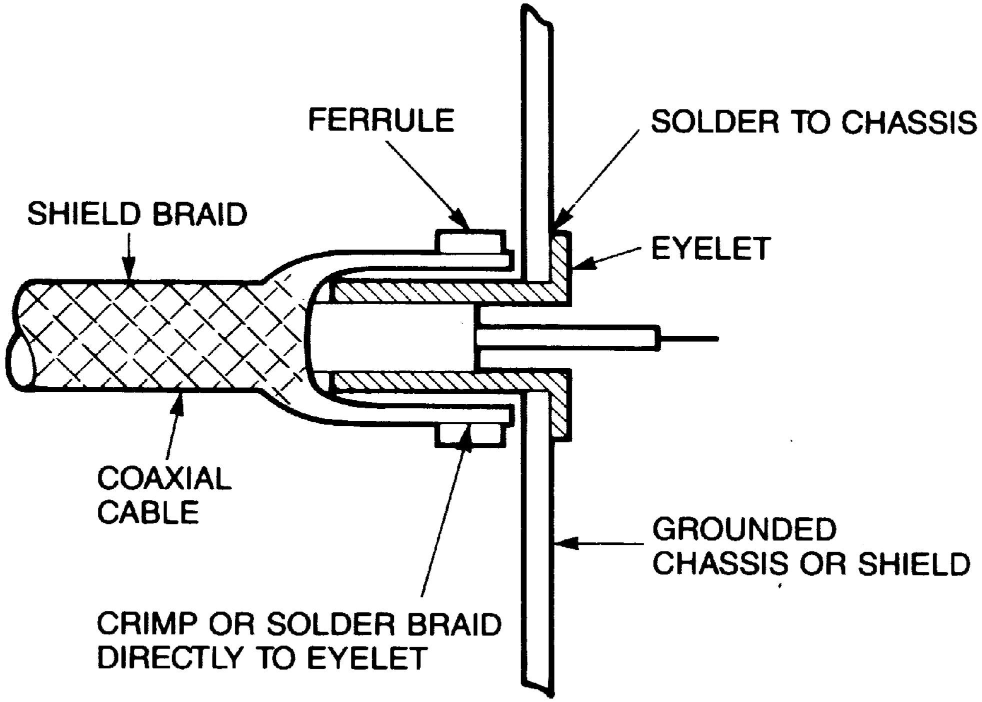


Figure 2-35. *One method of terminating a cable with 360° contact to the shield.*

- *The figure shows an example of an improved termination but without 360 degree connection.*

2.15 Shield termination 4/7

Yellow:
Figure

Example: 3.7 m long shielded cable with 8 cm pigtail and 50Ω termination impedance. Three noise contributions:

- Inductive coupling to shield
- Inductive coupling to pigtail
- Capacitive coupling to pigtail

According to the figure the pigtail inductance is dominating above 100kHz.

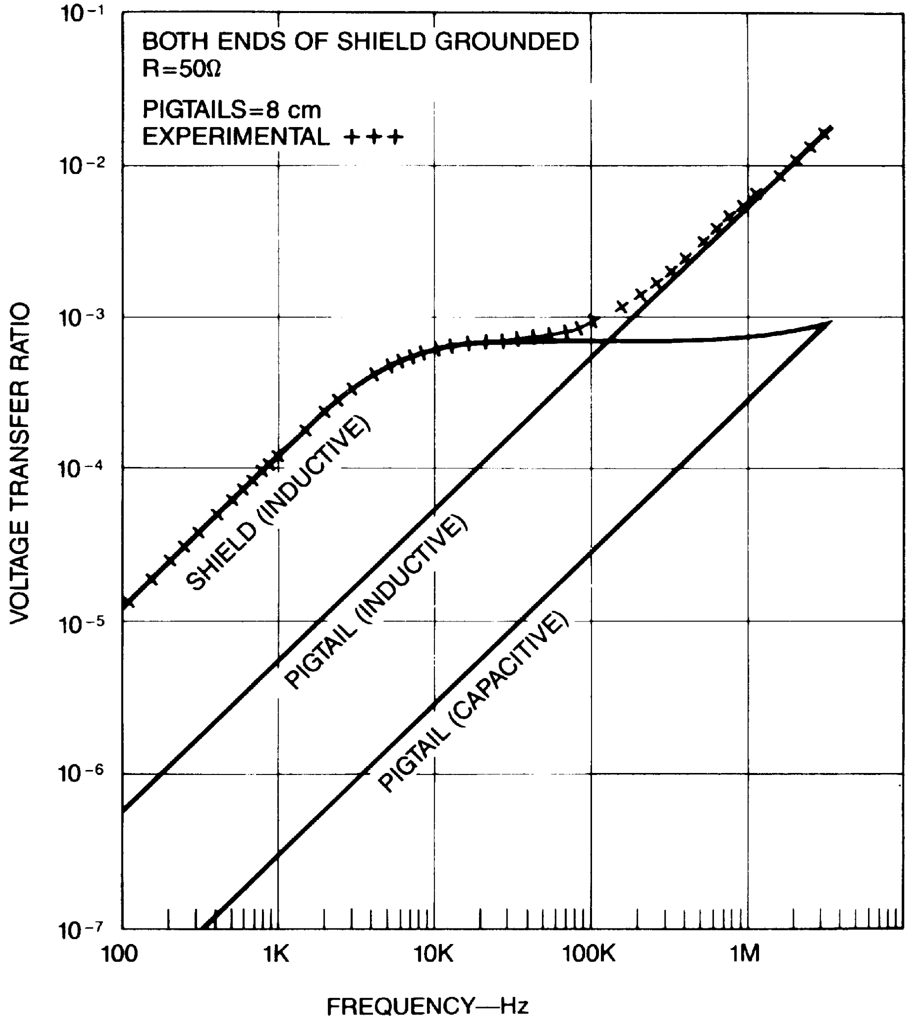


Figure 2-36. *Coupling to a 3.7-m shielded cable with an 8-cm pigtail termination. Circuit termination equals 50 Ω (from Paul, 1980, © IEEE).*

2.15 Shield termination 5/7

Yellow:

Figure

Example: As previous example but with 1000Ω termination resistance.

Inductive coupling at pigtail decreases

Capacitive coupling at pigtail increases and are dominating above 10kHz

Inductive coupling to shield decreases

Total noise coupling decreases

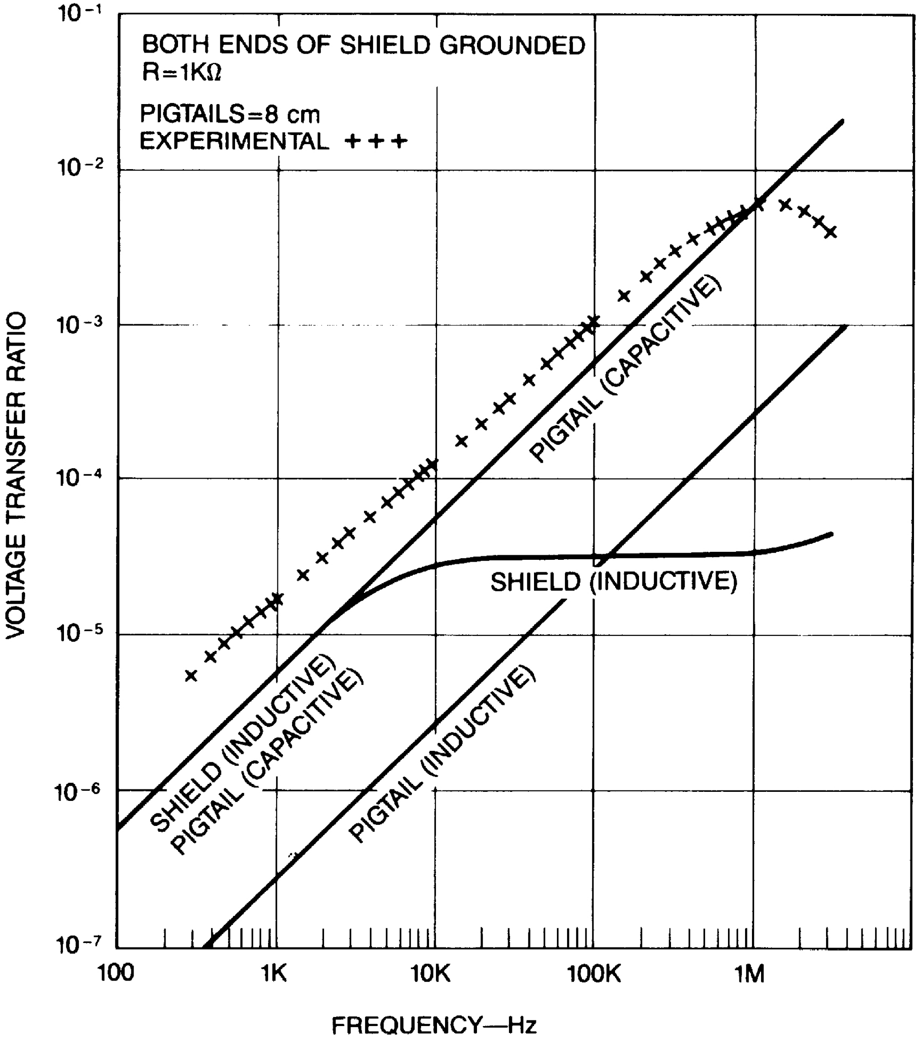


Figure 2-37. *Coupling to a 3.7-m shielded cable with an 8-cm pigtail termination. Circuit termination equals 1000 Ω (from Paul, 1980, © IEEE).*

Yellow: Figure

2.15 Shield termination
6/7

Low frequency shield grounding

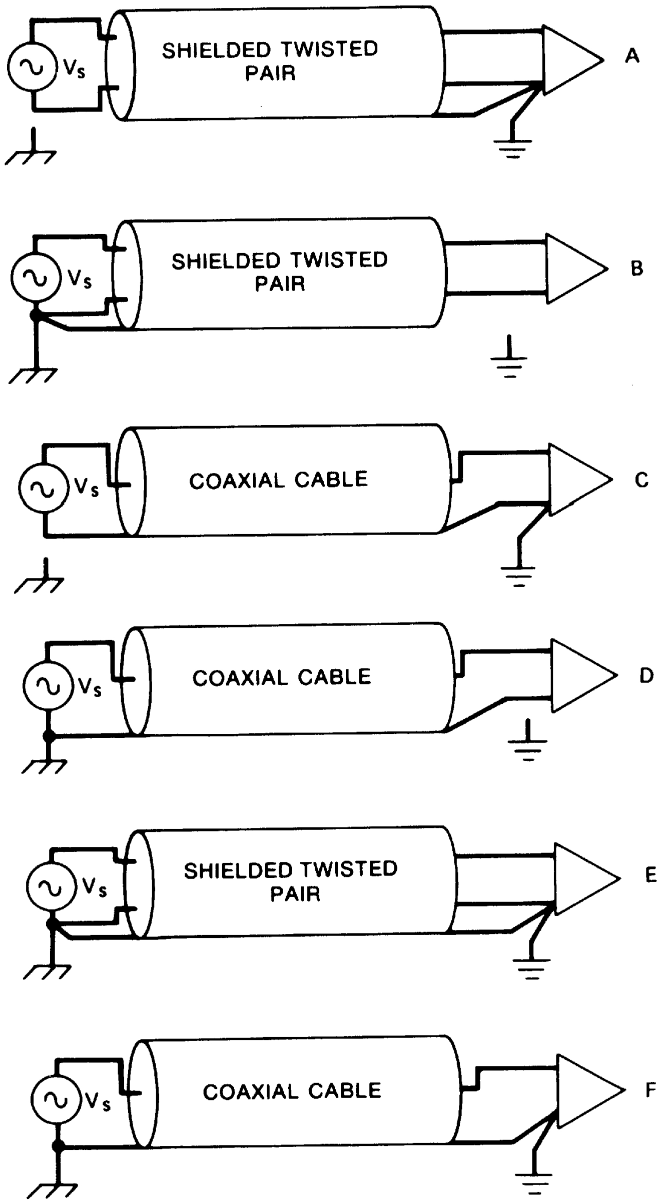
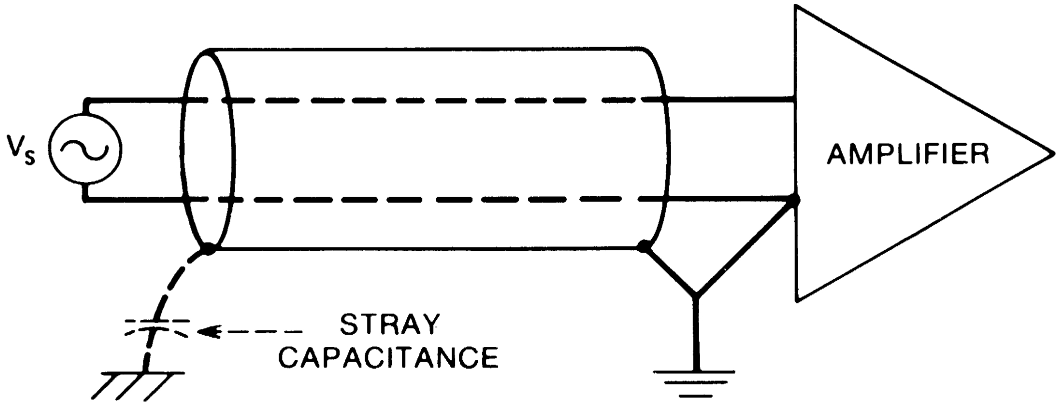


Figure 3-21. *Preferred grounded schemes for shielded, twisted pairs and coaxial cable at low frequency.*

2.15 Shield termination… at higher frequencies 7/7

Theoretically a one point ground is preferably from reasons discussed earlier. At higher frequencies, due to shield impedance and other capacitive couplings, grounding of shields at several positions may be preferred to ensure acceptable ground potential.



Yellow:

Figure

Figure 3-38. *At high frequencies stray capacitance tends to complete the ground loop.*

This may be done by using a full grounding in one point and add capacitors along the cable to ensure grounding at higher frequencies through an AC-coupling.

2.16 RIBBON CABLE 1/3

Also known as flat cable or licorice cable

Advantages:

- Less expensive contacts for a larger number of wires.
- The wires are mechanically in a predictable and fixed position towards each other.

An important choice when you are using a flat cable is the position of signals and ground.

Ribbon cable 2/3

A) One ground

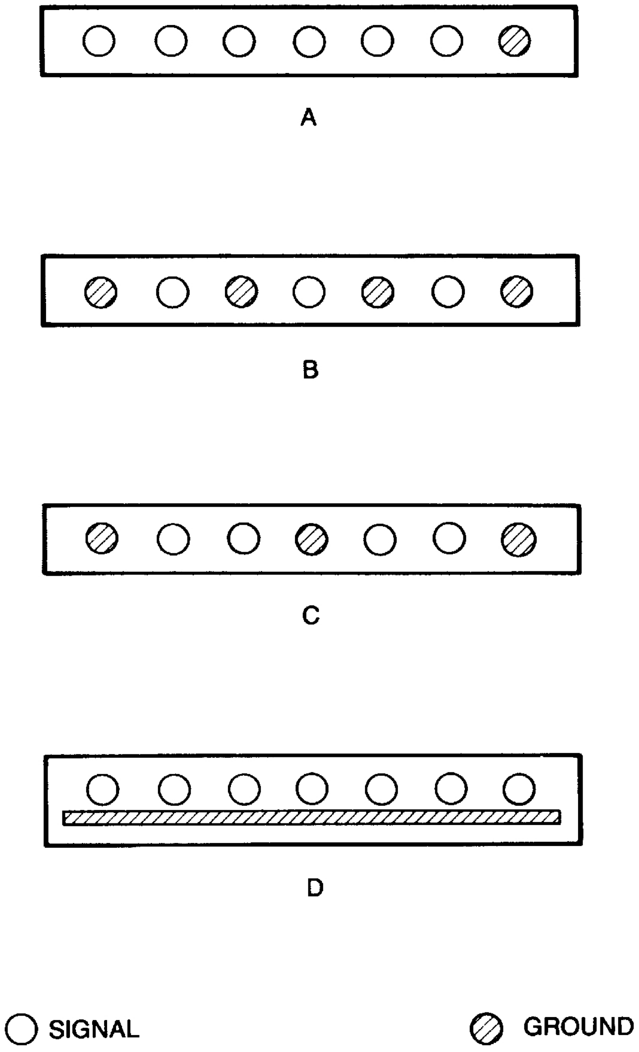
- - Large loops between signal wires and ground return
- - Common impedance due to common ground
- - Crosstalk --- inductive and capacitive
- ⇒Ground should be positioned at the centre

B) Every second grounded

- + Smaller loops
- + Not shared impedance
- + Crosstalk is reduced
- - Less signal wires

C) Every third grounded

- + Smaller loops
- +/- Some sharing of impedance
- +/- Some crosstalk



round; (C) **Figure 2-38.** *Ribbon cable configurations: (A) single ground; (B) alternate g ground/signal/signal/ground; (D) signal over ground plane.*

Ribbon cable3/3

D) Ground plan

The conductors are closer to the ground than to each other.

⇒Smaller loops than for option B)

The return current will chose a path beneath the signal wire it belongs (ref the grounding and shields for M-field discussion)

⇒Smaller loops

But how is the ground plan connected?

If the ground plan is not connected in full width the ground current will be forced away from each signal wire and the efficient loop area will be larger.

Shielded flat cable is also available but requires 360 degree contact to have full effect.

Palmgren 1981: Conductors on the edges had 7dB poorer shield effect than the conductors in the middle.

Flat cables are available as uniform flat and as twisted where two and two are twisted.

"Long cables" 1/2

- In the expressions we have used so far it may seems as capacitive and inductive coupling grows with frequency to infinity. This is not correct. The expressions are only valid when the cables are relatively short compared to the wave lengths.
- At this short lengths we can simplify and assume that the current in a wire are in the same phases all along the cable.
- At λ/4 the coupling starts to decrease. At λ/2 it reaches a minimum before it starts to grow again.

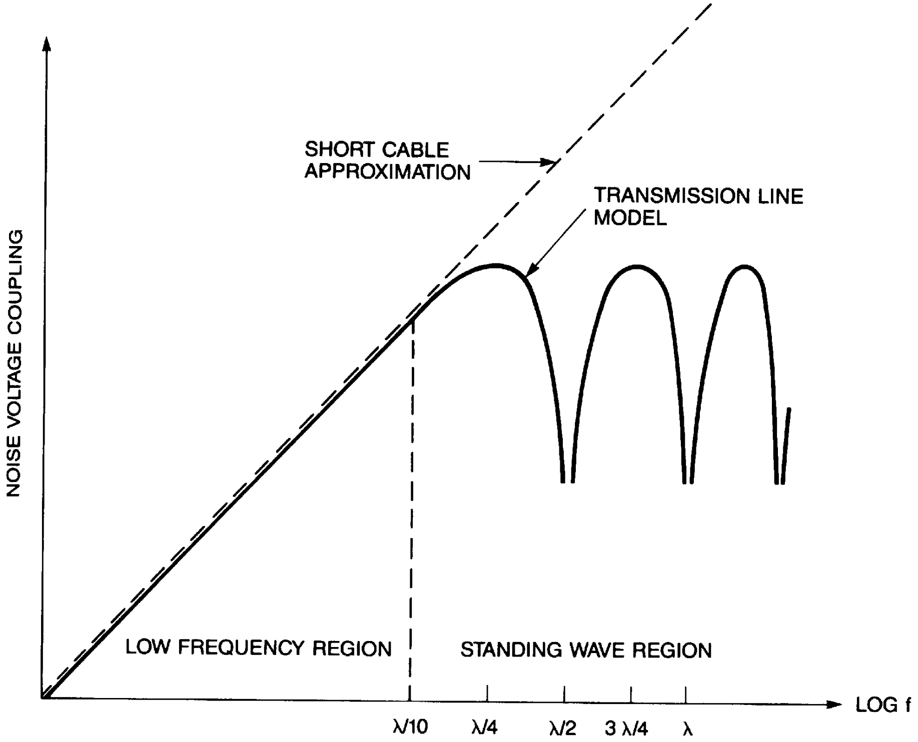


Figure 2-39. *Electric field coupling between cables using the short cable approximations and the transmission line model.*

“Long cables” 2/2

We also see:

- The coupling factor will have a maximum depending on the cable length and the wavelength of the noise signal.
- Maximum is achieved at $\lambda/4$. Above this frequency the coupling factor will fluctuate.