

DIGITAL WE DAYS

2023



EFFICIENT HF SIGNAL TRANSPORT  
OVER SMA CONNECTORS

WÜRTH ELEKTRONIK MORE THAN YOU EXPECT

## TODAY'S SPEAKERS



### **PRESENTATION**

Remco van de Griendt  
Field Application Engineer



### **MODERATION**

Silas Zorn  
Marketing Department

# INFORMATION ABOUT THE WEBINAR

**You are muted during the webinar.**

However, you can ask us questions using the chat function.

**Duration of the presentation** 30 Min  
**Q&A:** 10 – 15 Min

**Any questions?**  
**No problem! Email us** [digital-we-days@we-online.com](mailto:digital-we-days@we-online.com)

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We are looking forward to your feedback.

**On our channel** Würth Elektronik Group  
**And on** [Digital WE Days 2023 YouTube Playlist](#)



# AGENDA

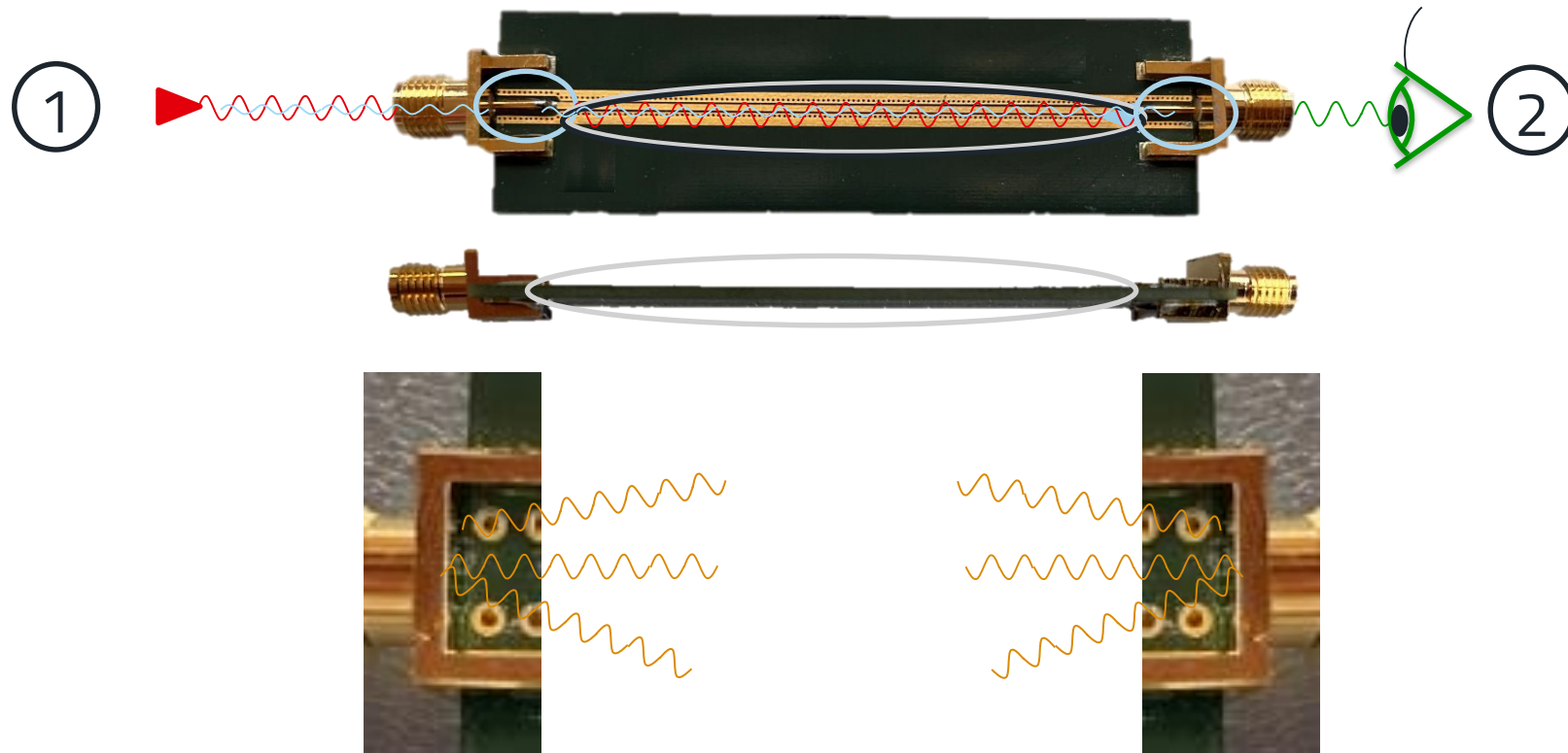
- EM Wave basic
- Trace impedance basic
- TDR
- Influences EM waves
- Real measurements



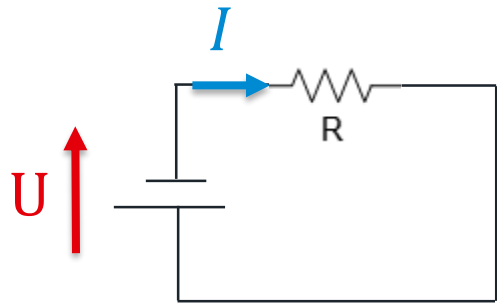
# EM WAVES LOSSES

Insertion loss – S21:

- radiation loss
- reflection loss
- absorption loss
- Joule loss ( $Ri^2$ )

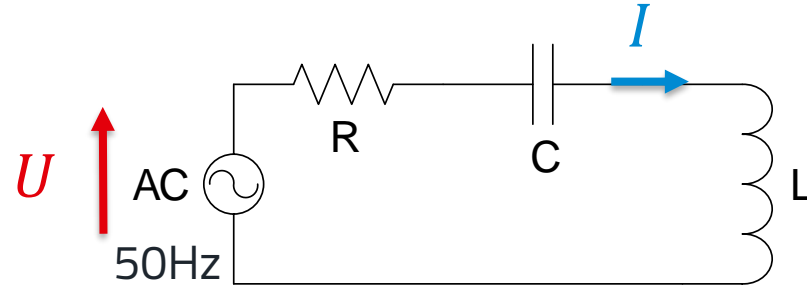


# R - Z - Zc?



$$\text{DC: } R = \frac{U}{I}$$

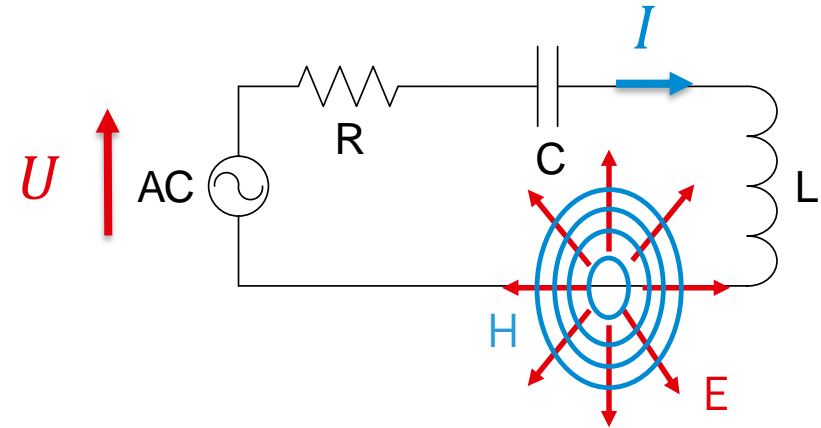
R: DC resistance ( $\Omega$ )



$$\text{AC: } Z = \frac{U}{I}$$

Z: AC impedance ( $\Omega$ )

U: voltage (V)  
I: current (A)



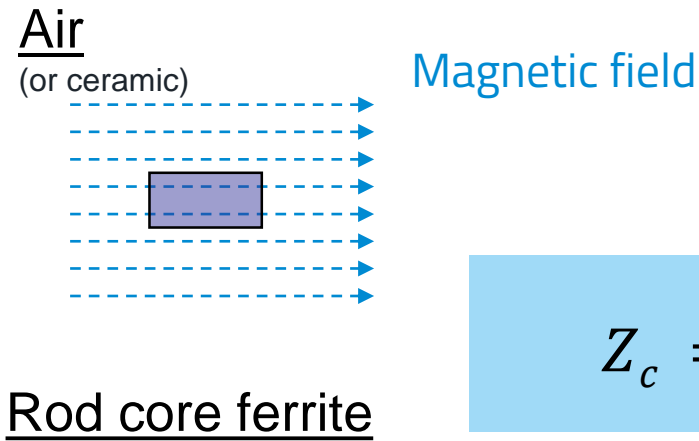
$$\text{High frequency: } Z_C = \frac{E}{H}$$

Zc: characteristic impedance ( $\Omega$ )

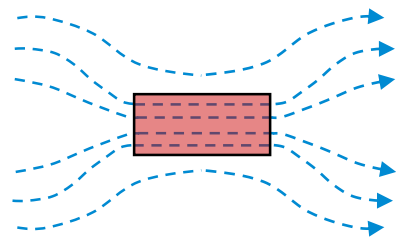
E: electric field ( $\text{Vm}^{-1}$ )  
H: magnetic field ( $\text{Am}^{-1}$ )

# PERMEABILITY

$$Z_c = \frac{E}{H}$$



$$Z_c = \sqrt{\frac{\mu_0 \cdot \mu_r}{\epsilon_0 \cdot \epsilon_r}}$$

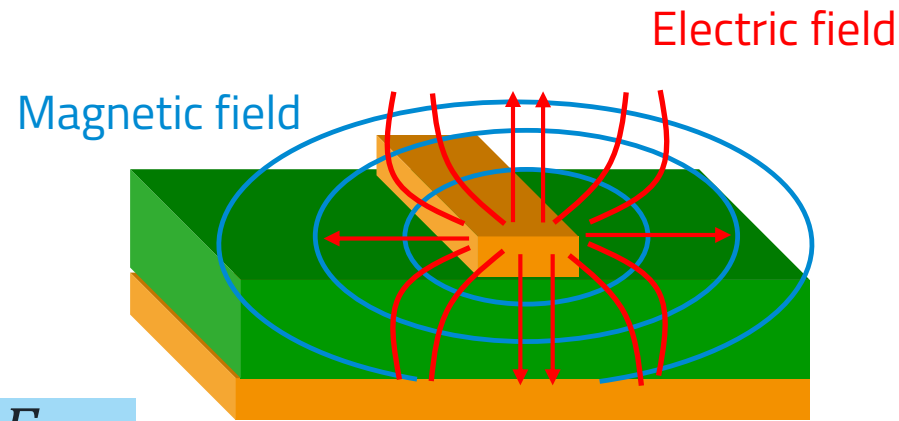


$\mu_0$ : vacuum permeability ( $\text{H}\cdot\text{m}^{-1}$ )

$\mu_r$ : relative permeability

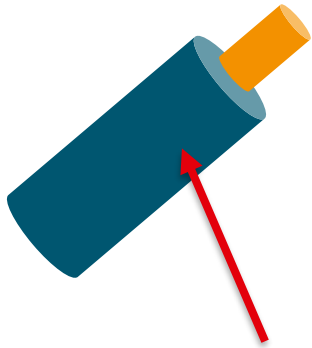
Material	Relative permeability $\mu_r$
MnZn	300~20 000
Fe	~5 000
NiZn	40~1500
Iron powder	50~150
Al	~1
Air	~1
water	~1
Plastic	~1
Cu	~1
vacuum	1

# PERMITTIVITY



$$Z_c = \frac{E}{H}$$

$$Z_c = \sqrt{\frac{\mu_0 \cdot \mu_r}{\epsilon_0 \cdot \epsilon_r}}$$



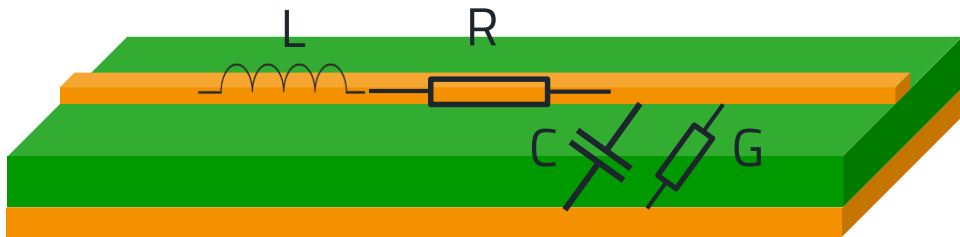
$\epsilon_0$  : vacuum electrical permittivity (**Fm<sup>-1</sup>**)

$\epsilon_r$  : dielectric relative permittivity

Material	Relative permittivity $\epsilon_r$
Vacuum	1
Air	≈1
PTFE (Teflon)	2.1
PET	2.3
Roger (RO4003)	3.6
FR4	4.5
PVC	5
glass	≈5 to 7.5
water	≈80 (at 20°C)



# TRACE IMPEDANCE



$$Z_c = \sqrt{\frac{R + j\omega L}{G + j\omega C}}$$

$$\omega = 2\pi f$$

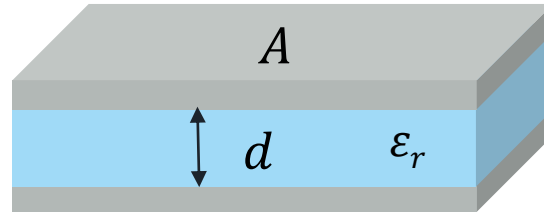
$f \rightarrow 0 \text{ Hz}$

$$Z_c = \sqrt{\frac{R}{G}} = R$$

$f \rightarrow \infty \text{ Hz}$

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

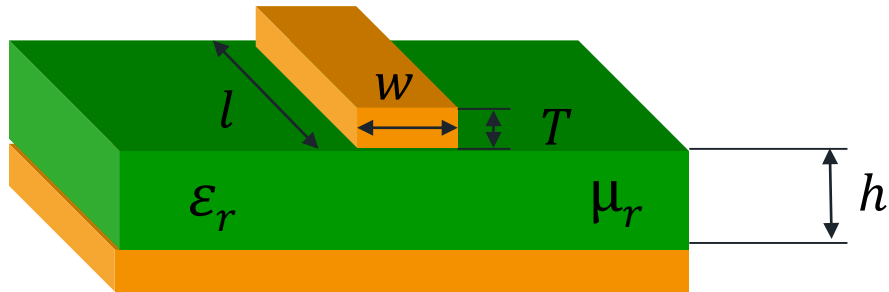
# TRACE IMPEDANCE



$$C = \epsilon_0 \cdot \epsilon_r \cdot \frac{A}{d}$$



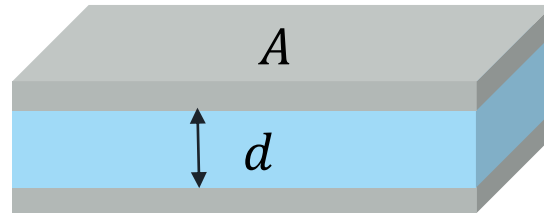
$$C = \epsilon_0 \cdot \epsilon_r \cdot \frac{w \cdot l}{h}$$



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

$$L \approx \frac{\mu_0 \mu_r \cdot (h + \frac{T}{2}) \cdot l}{w}$$

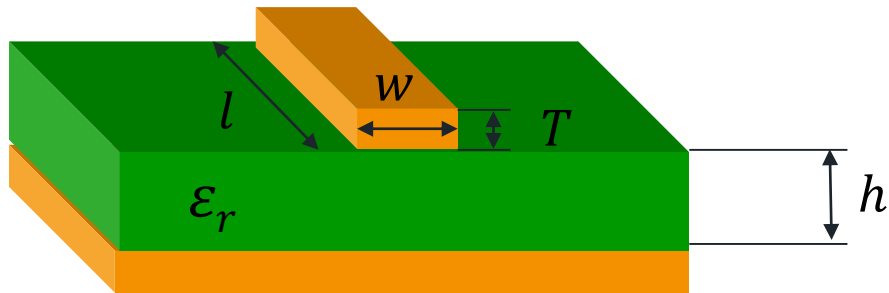
# TRACE IMPEDANCE



$$C = \epsilon_0 \cdot \epsilon_r \cdot \frac{A}{d}$$



$$C = \epsilon_0 \cdot \epsilon_r \cdot \frac{w \cdot l}{h}$$



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

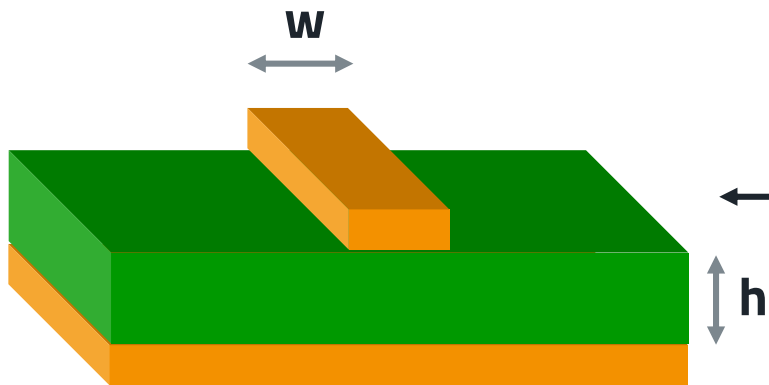
$$L \approx \frac{\mu_0 \mu_r \cdot (h + \frac{T}{2}) \cdot l}{w}$$

# PLANAR TRANSMISSION LINES

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

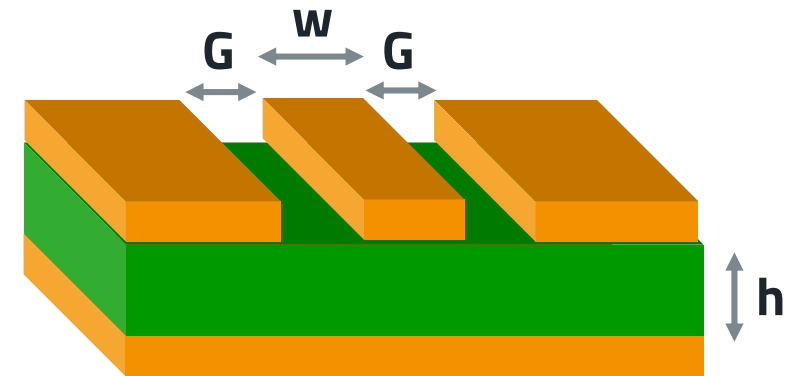
$$C = \epsilon_0 \cdot \epsilon_r \cdot \frac{w \cdot l}{h}$$

➤ Line impedance depends on:



Microstrip

$\epsilon_r$



Grounded Coplanar

- **w** = Trace width
- $\epsilon_r$  = Dielectric constant of the core/prepreg
- **G** = Gap between trace and ground
- **h** = Height of the core/prepreg

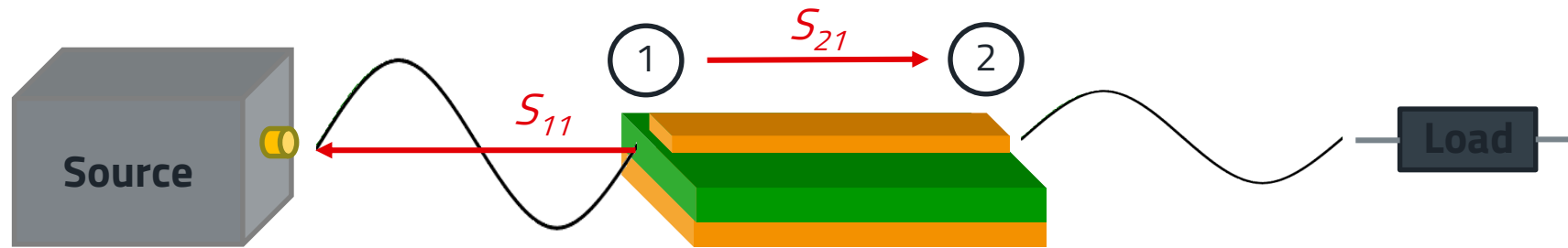


↑ <b>w</b>	⇒	↓ <b>Z<sub>Line</sub></b>
↑ $\epsilon_r$	⇒	↓ <b>Z<sub>Line</sub></b>
↑ <b>G</b>	⇒	↑ <b>Z<sub>Line</sub></b>
↑ <b>h</b>	⇒	↑ <b>Z<sub>Line</sub></b>

# S PARAMETERS

$$S_{ji} = 10 \log \frac{\text{power } j}{\text{power } i} \text{ (dB)}$$

## ➤ Factor of reflection and throughput:



## ➤ S-Matrix:

- $S_{ii}$ : Reflection at Port i
- $S_{ji}$ : Insertion losses from Port i to Port j

## ➤ Power domain!

## ➤ Mostly given in dB:

- e.g.  $-3\text{dB} = 10 \times \log(0.5)$

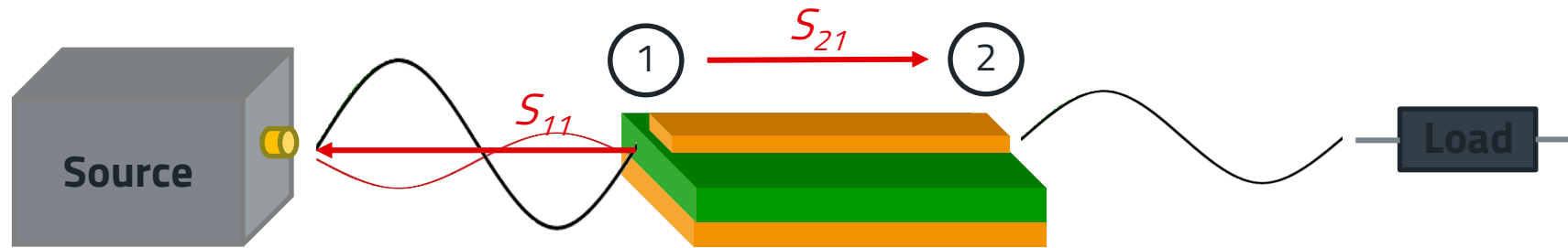
## ➤ Calculation from source:

- $1000 \text{ mW} \times 0.5 = 500\text{mW}$
- $30\text{dBm} - 3\text{dB} = 27\text{dBm}$

Signal power-50%

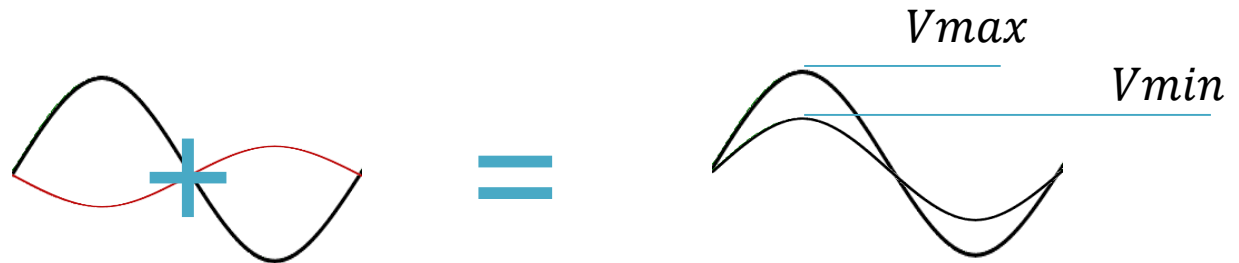
# S PARAMETERS: VSWR

## ➤ Voltage standing wave ratio (VSWR):



## ➤ Only reflection/return loss:

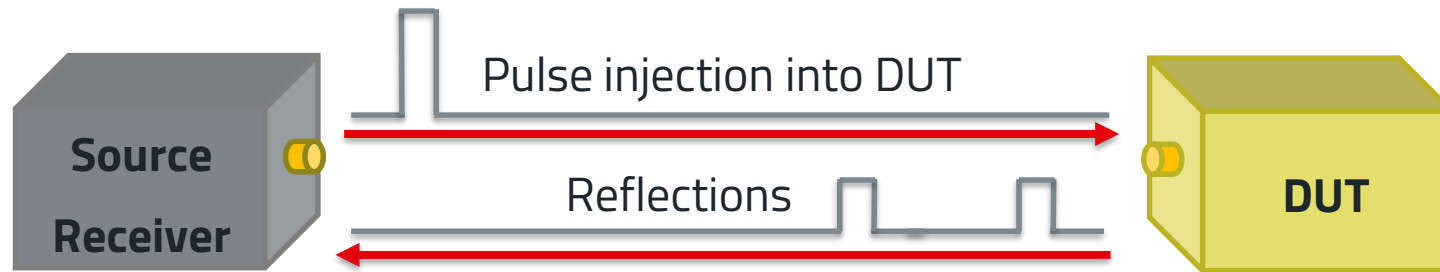
$$VSWR = \frac{V_{max}}{V_{min}} [dB]$$



## ➤ Voltage domain!

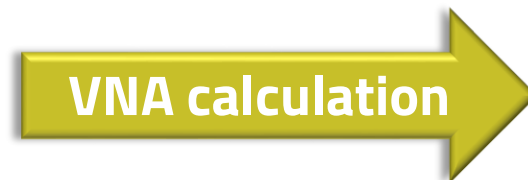
# TIME DOMAIN REFLECTOMETRY

## ➤ Wave impedance measurement through a system



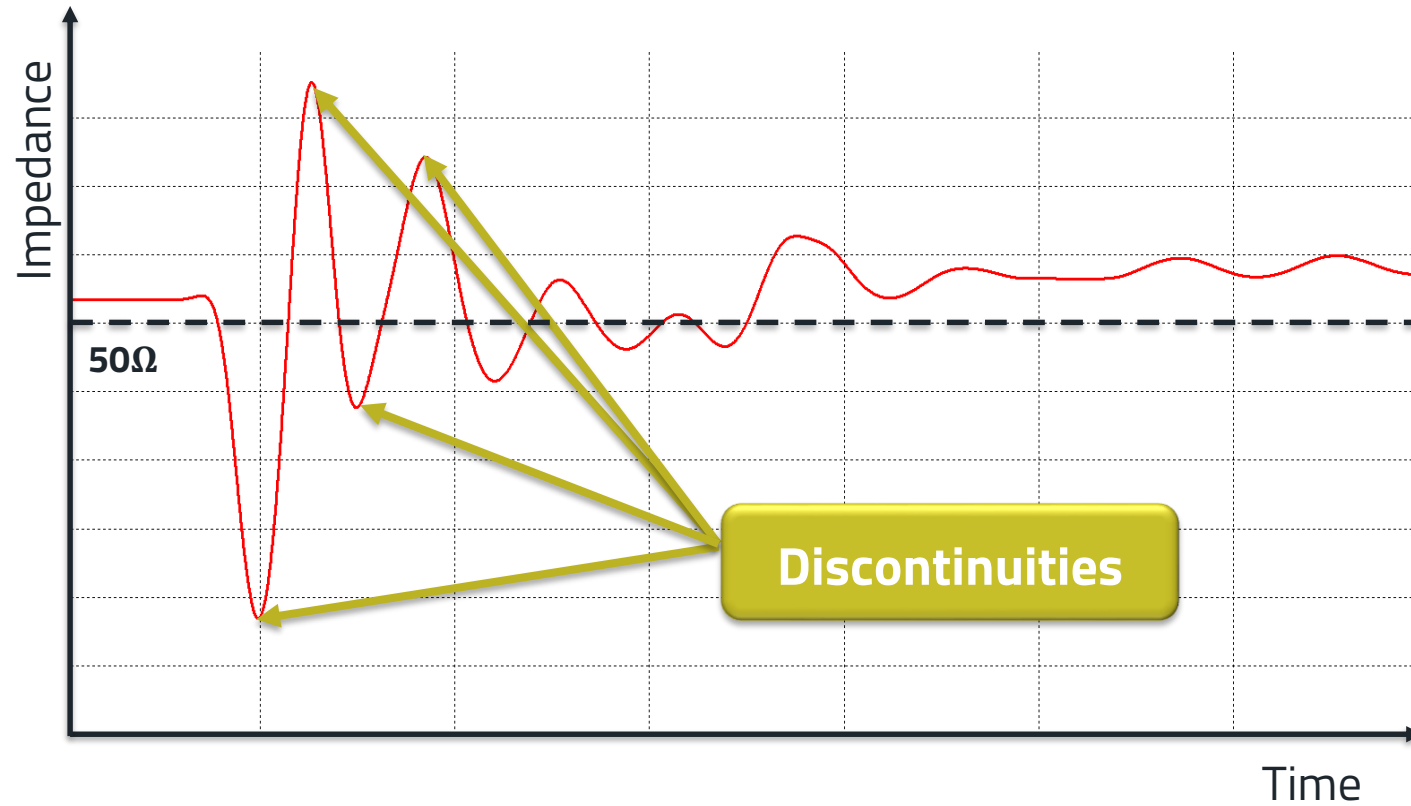
## ➤ Measurement of reflections

- Amplitude
- Time



## ➤ Characteristic impedance

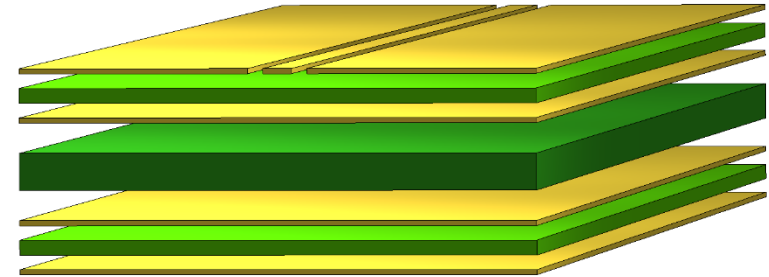
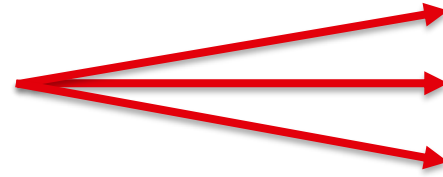
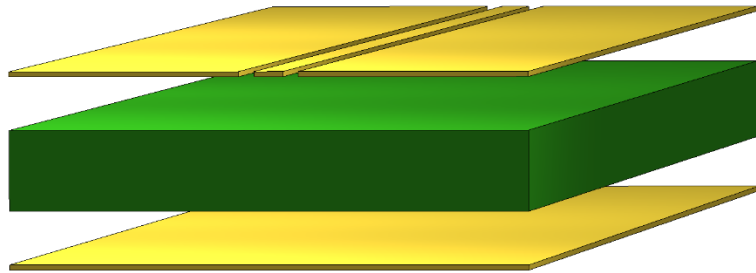
# TIME DOMAIN REFLECTOMETRY



➤ Time ~ Length : 
$$L = \frac{c}{\sqrt{\epsilon_r \mu_r}} \times t$$



# TYPICAL LAYER SETUP



2-Layer	
Height	1.55 mm
Prepreg + core	FR4

4-Layer	
Height	1.55 mm
Prepreg + core	FR4

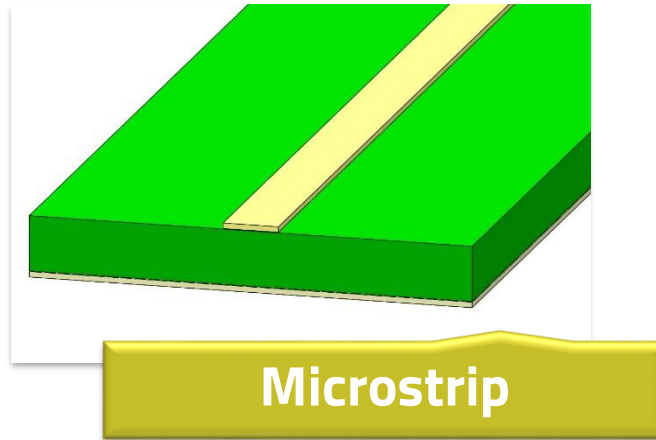
## ➤ Low production cost

- Mostly no separate GND-Plane

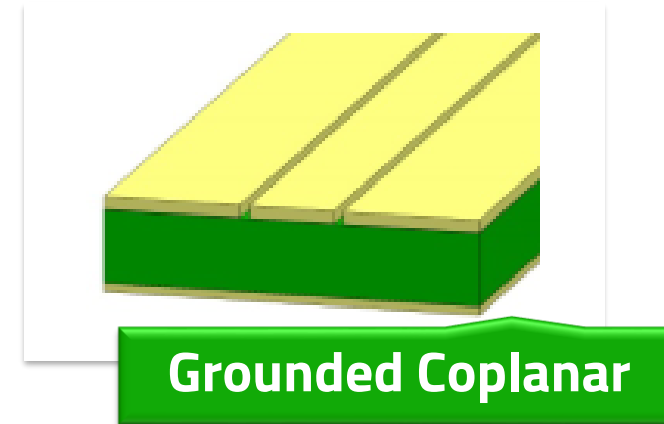
## ➤ Good for RF-Designs

- Separate GND-Plane
- Dielectric differs

# PLANAR TRANSMISSION LINES

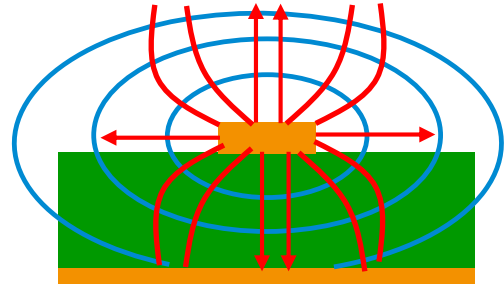


- Wider line width
- Antenna fed-line
- No Ground on RF-Layer
  
- Line width depends on substrate height and  $\epsilon_r$

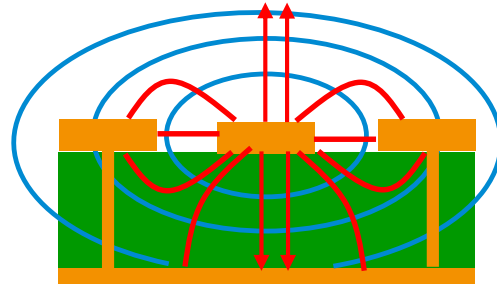


- Smaller line width
- Ground connection to components
- Various planar matching designs
  
- Line width depends on substrate height,  $\epsilon_r$  and gap width

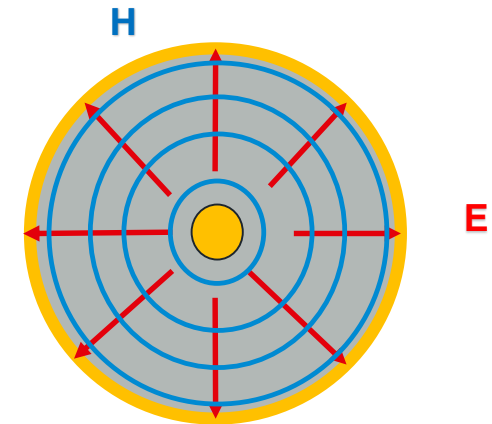
# RADIATION - WAVE GUIDE LOSSES



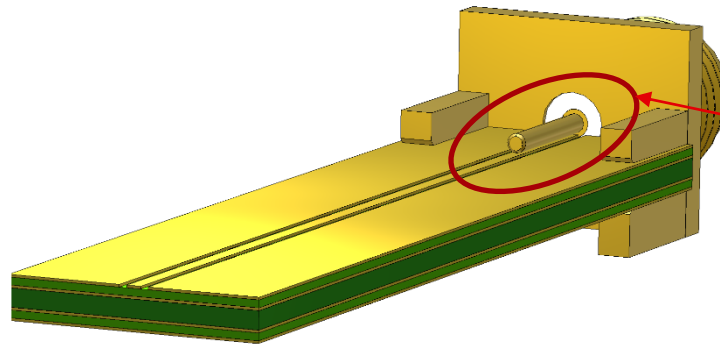
Microstrip : middle losses



Ground coplanar: low losses

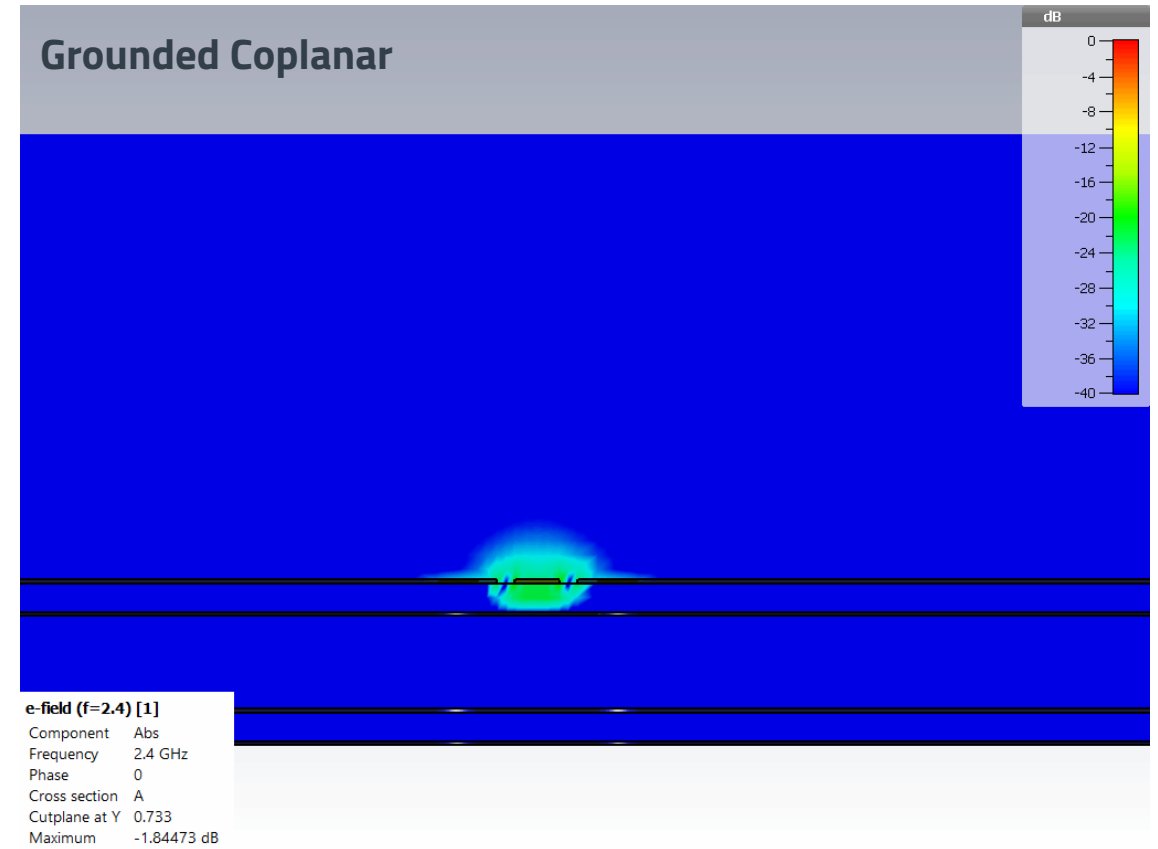
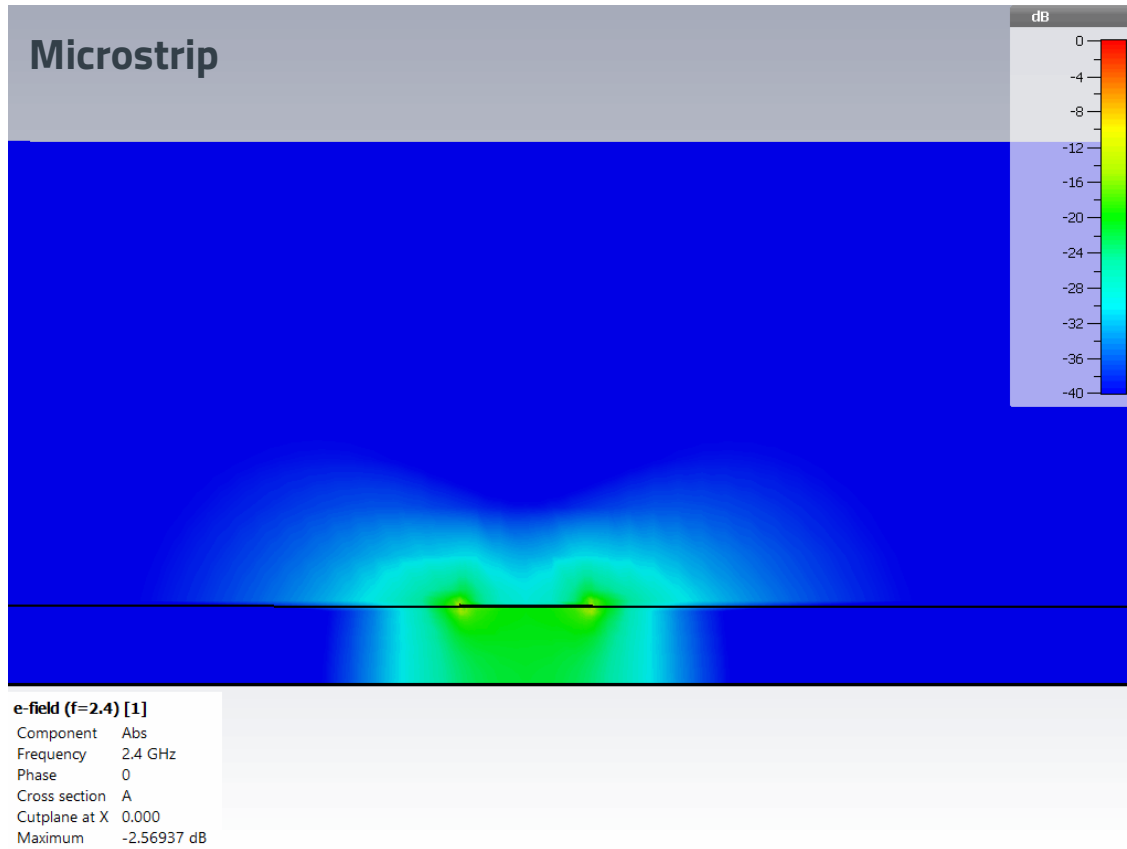


Coax: very low losses



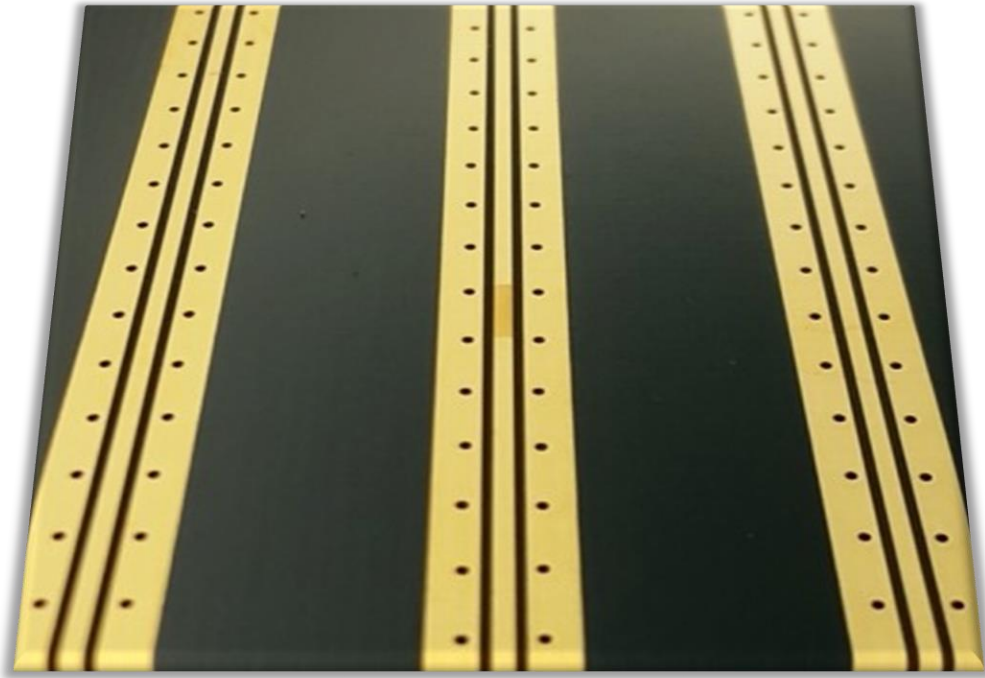
Impedance change:  
high or low losses ?

# FIELD DISTRIBUTION



# OVERVIEW PCB STRUCTURES: TIPS & TRICKS

Solder-Resist free



- **Solder resist:**

- Increases loss
- Adds dielectric

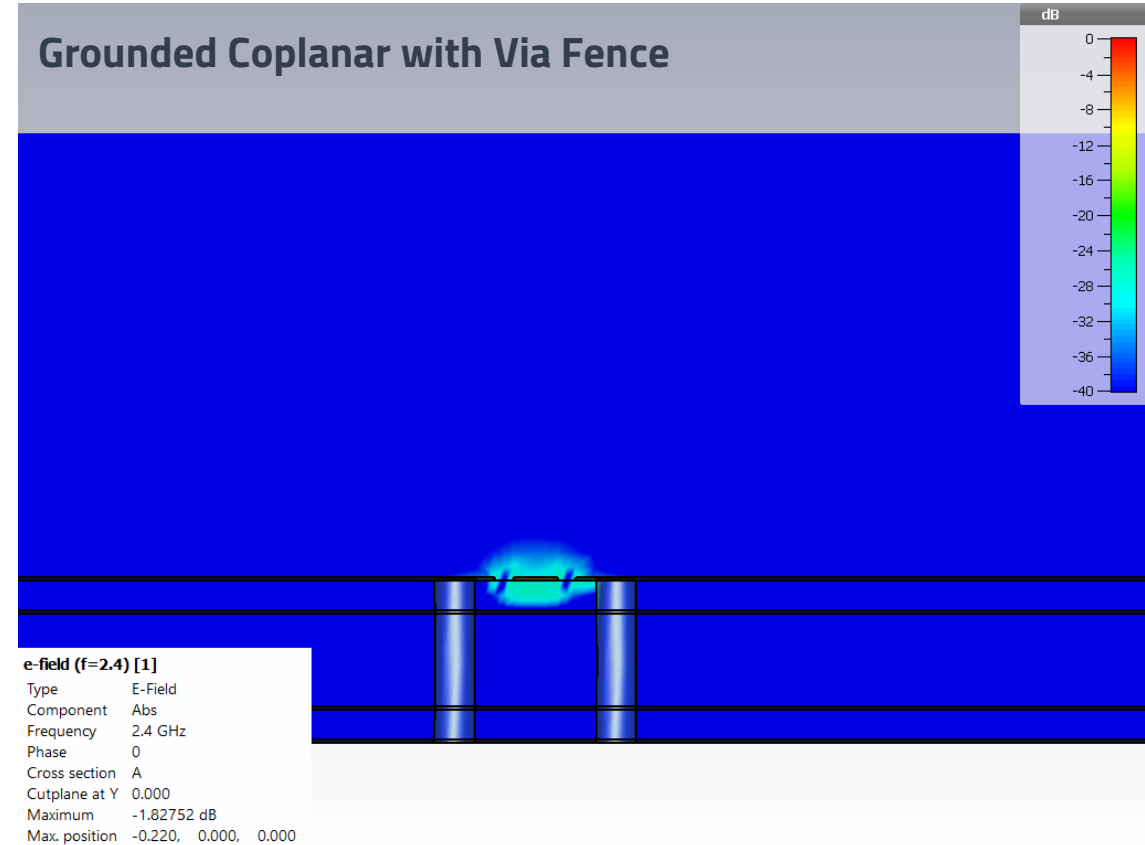
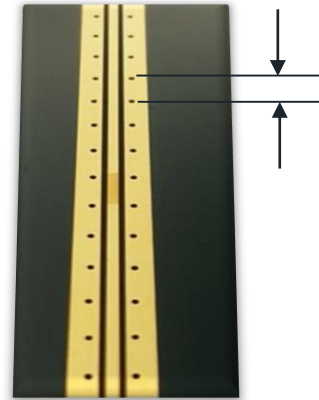
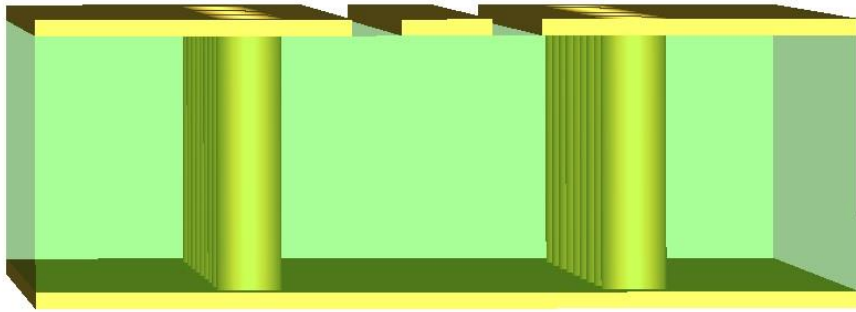
- **Remove solder resist from:**

- RF-Line and
- Near Ground-Plane

# OVERVIEW PCB STRUCTURES: TIPS & TRICKS

Via Fence

Via center distance  $\sim \lambda/10$

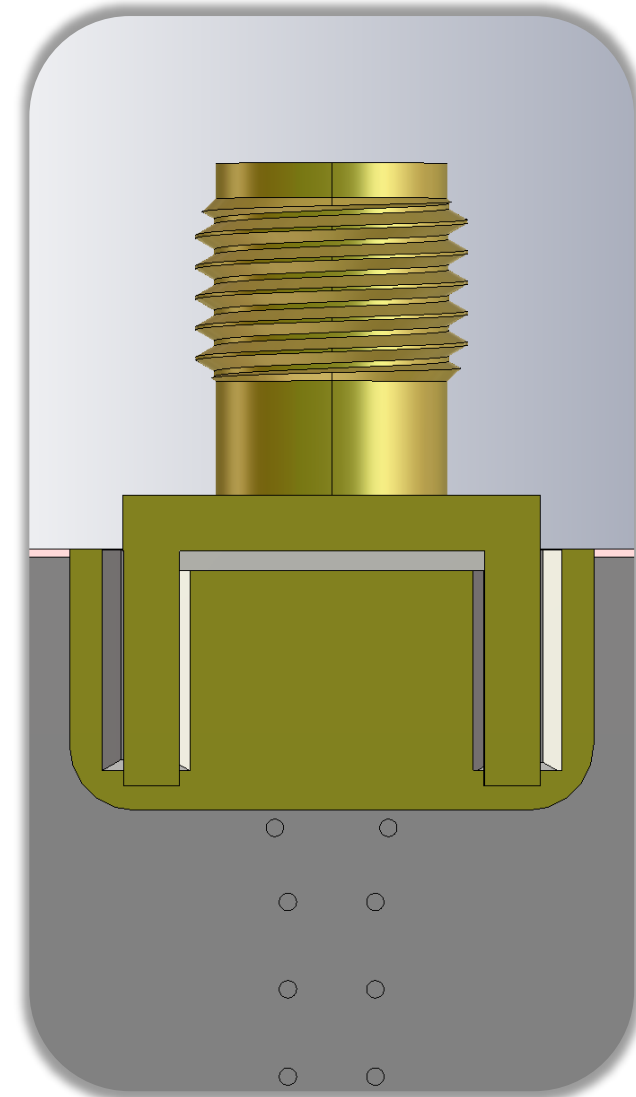
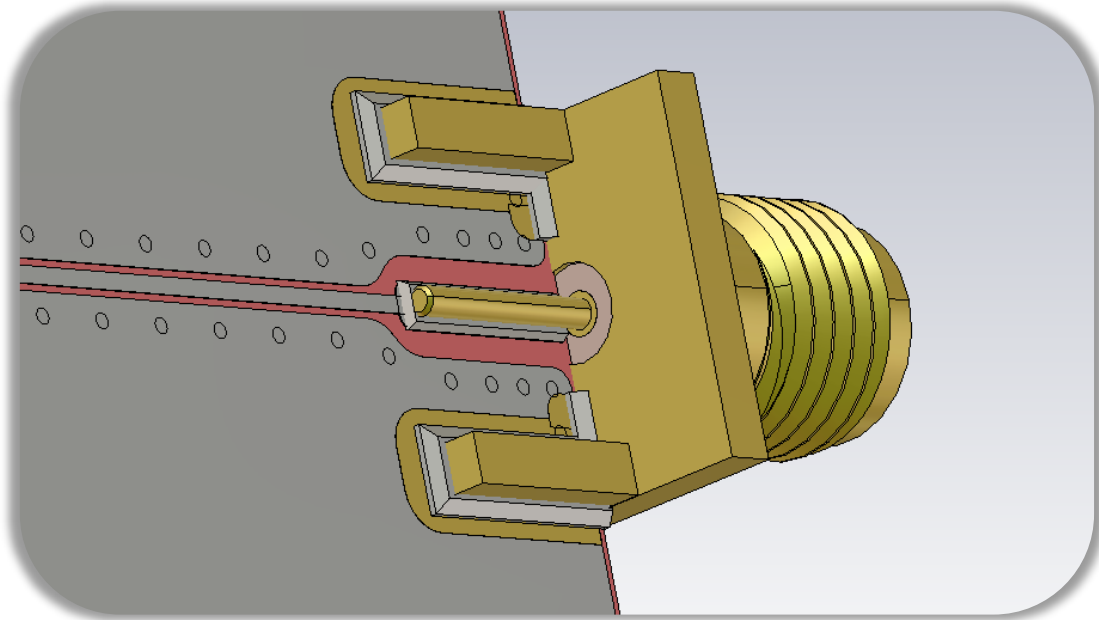


- **Field captured between GND**
  - Reduces coupling
  - Less loss
- **Stabilized ground planes**

# COMBINATION CONNECTOR & PCB: EXAMPLES

CPWG - Round: Design

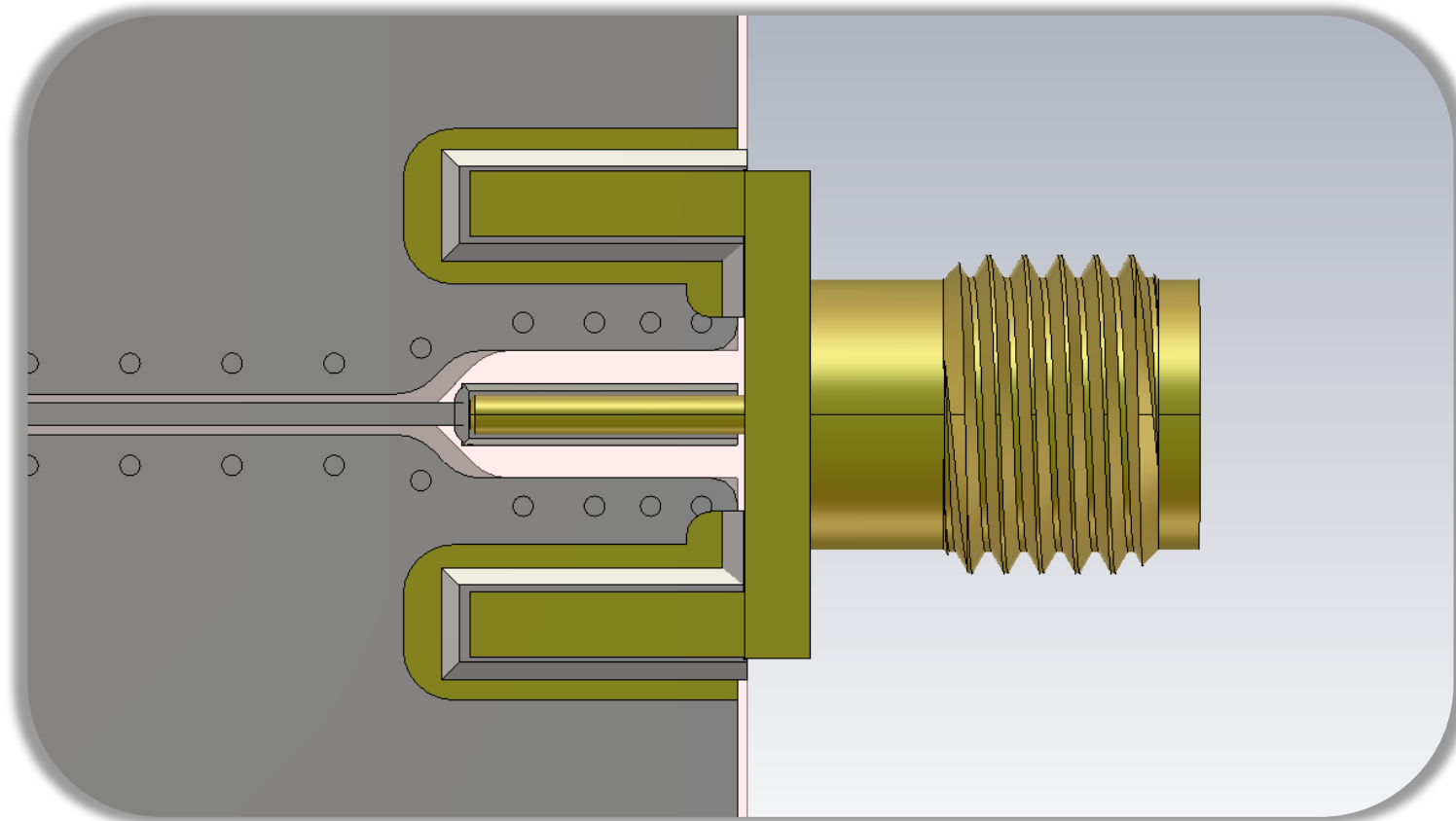
- Solder pads & several vias
- Very good GND connection
- Optimized RF-Line with tapers



# COMBINATION CONNECTOR & PCB: EXAMPLES

CPWG - Round: Design - DGS

- Defective Ground Structure: matching structure → decreases parasitic capacitance



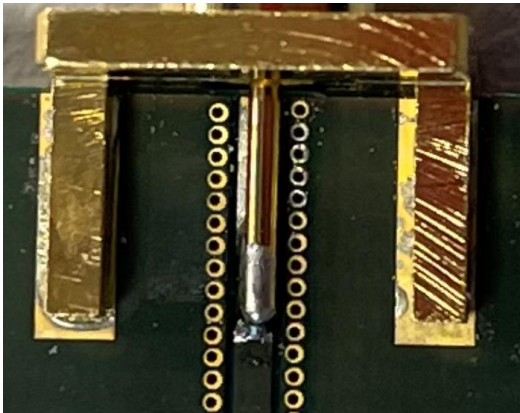


# REAL MEASUREMENTS

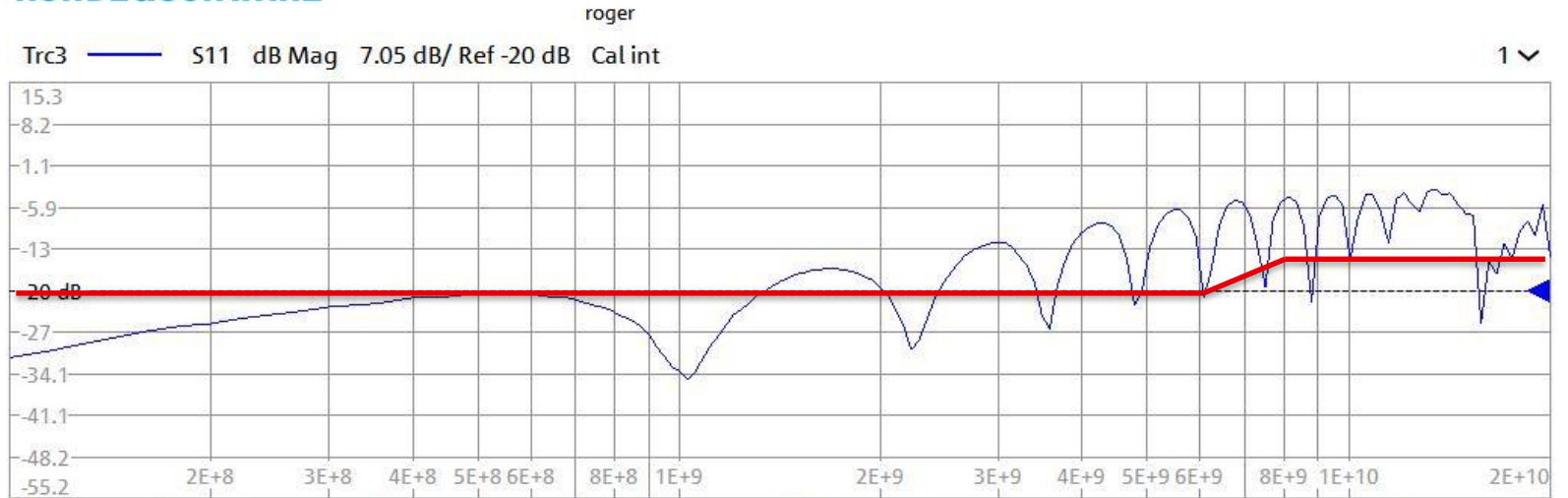


Initial without tin

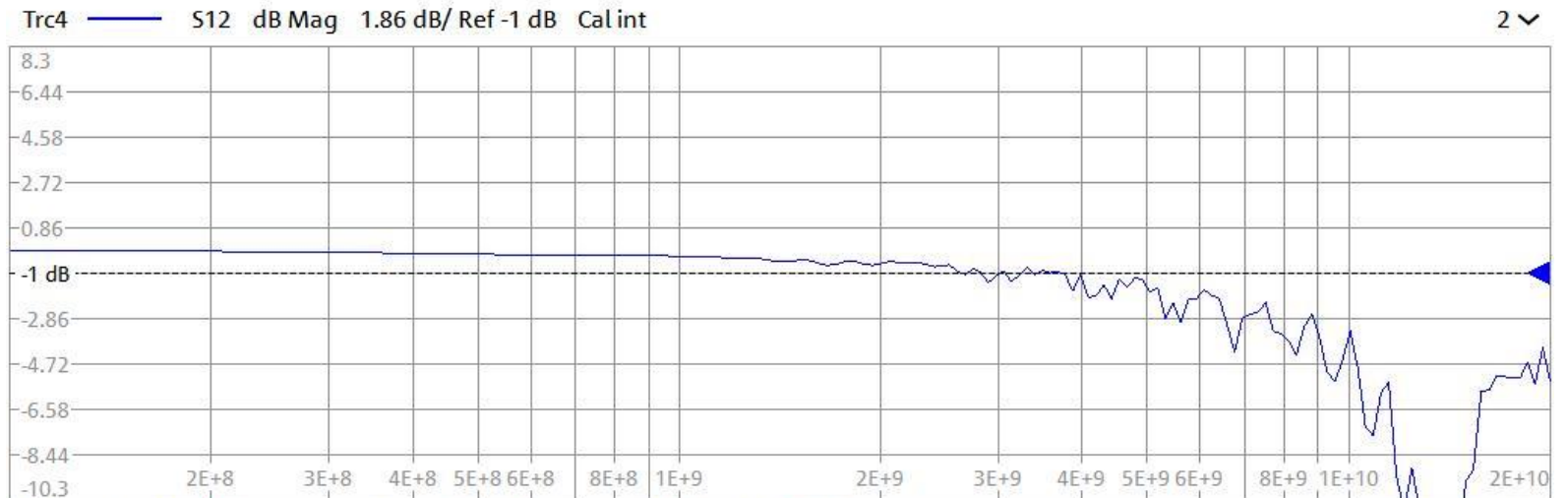
Straight trace  
No impedance adjustment



No tin



Ch1 Start 100 MHz Pwr -1.25 dBm Bw 10 kHz TOSM P1,P2 Stop 20 GHz



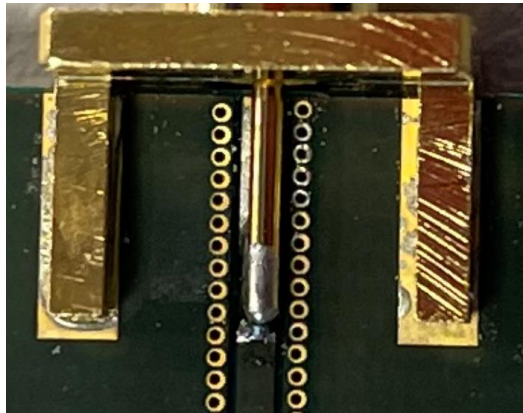
Ch1 Start 100 MHz Pwr -1.25 dBm Bw 10 kHz TOSM P1,P2 Stop 20 GHz



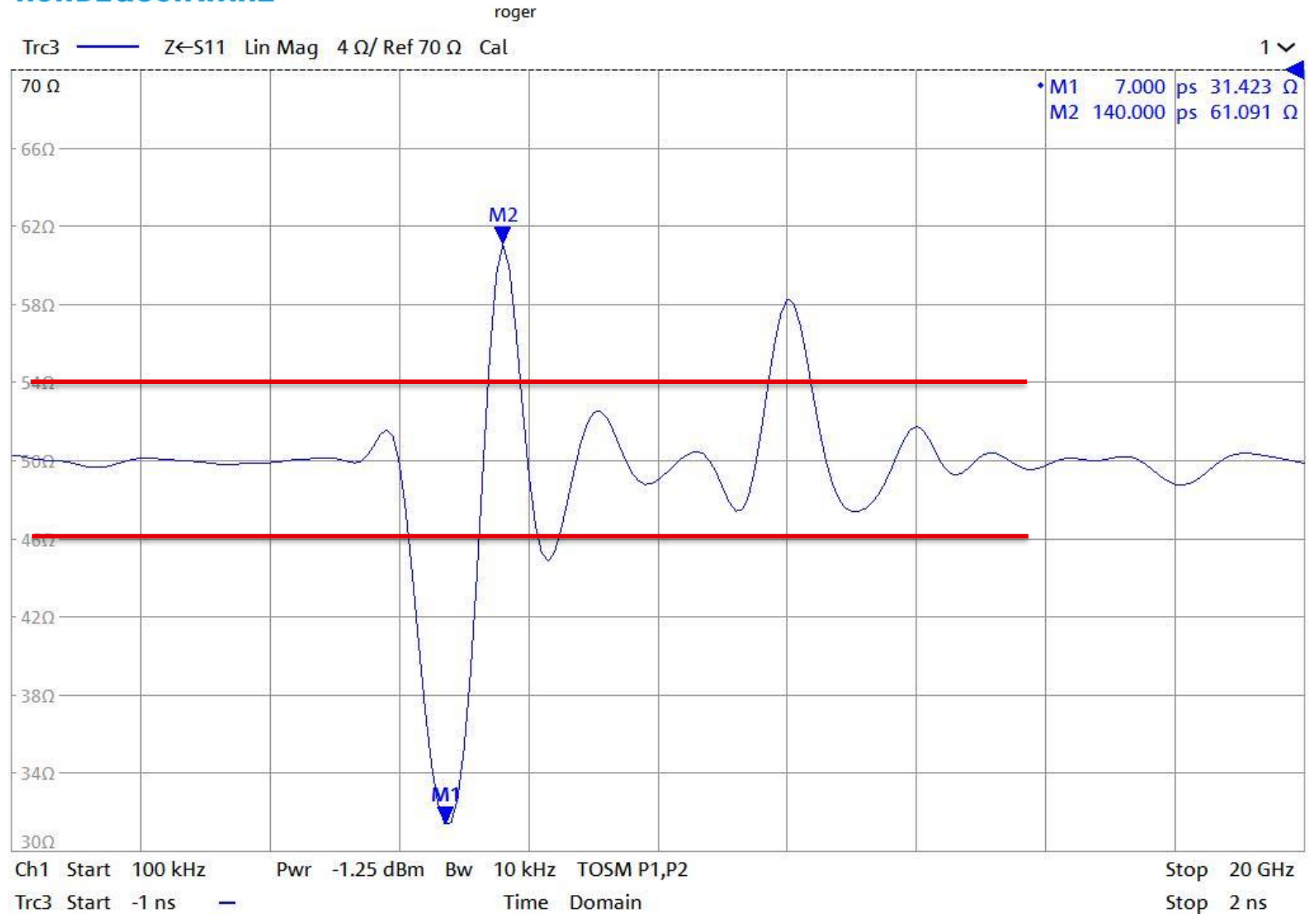
# REAL MEASUREMENTS

Initial without tin

Straight trace  
No impedance adjustment



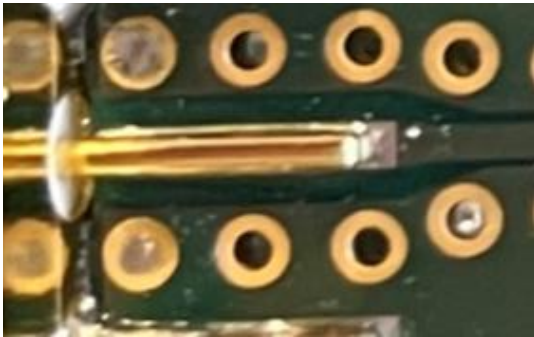
No tin



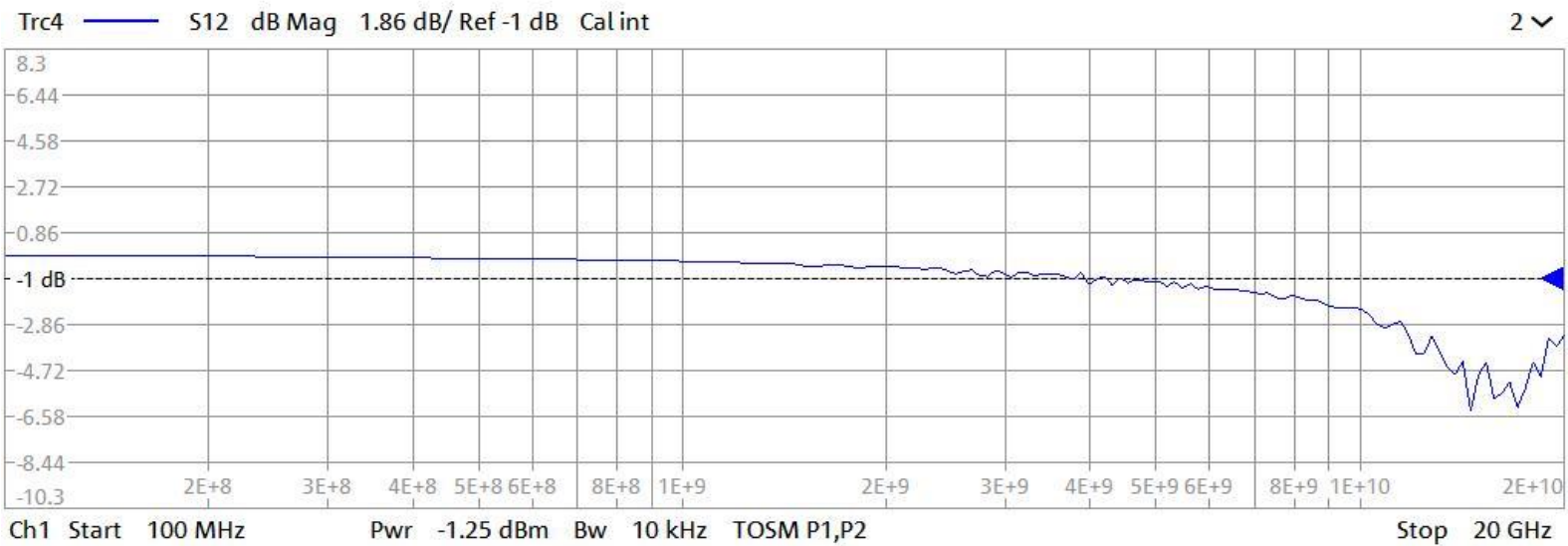
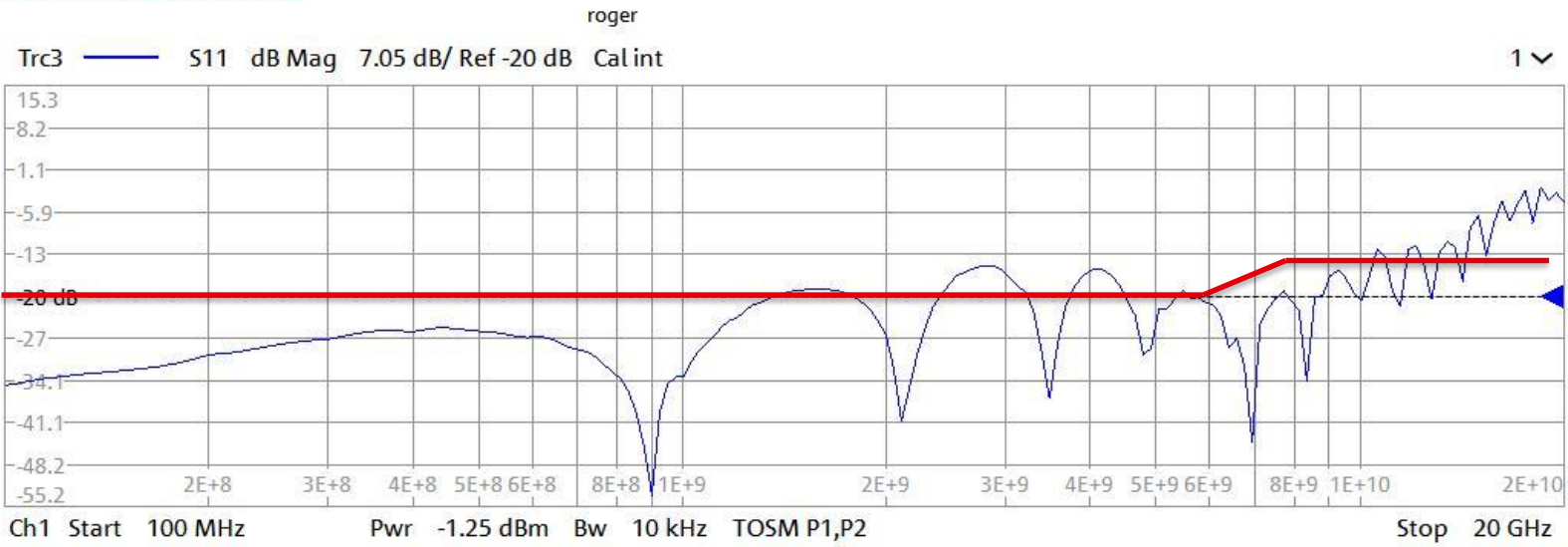
# REAL MEASUREMENTS

Round shape without DGS with tin

Ground layer adjustment  
Round shape



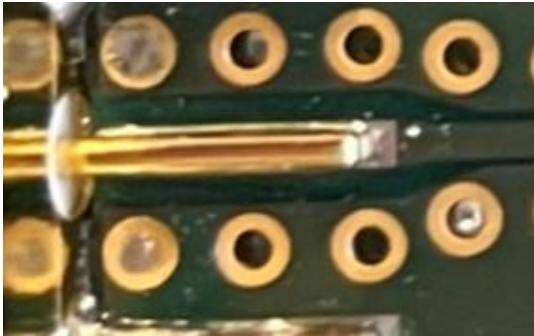
Tin



# REAL MEASUREMENTS

Round shape without DGS with tin

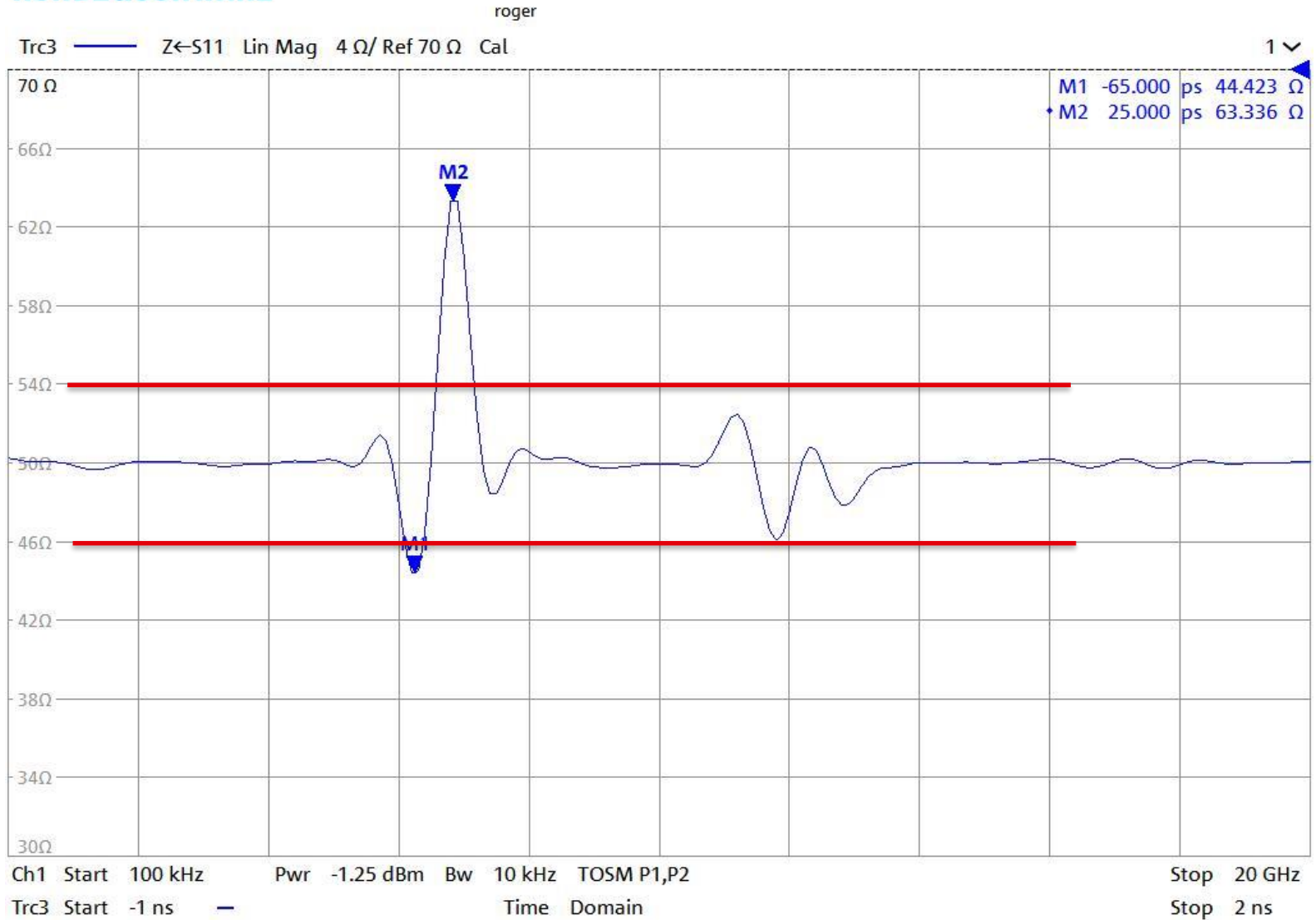
Ground layer adjustment  
Round shape



Tin



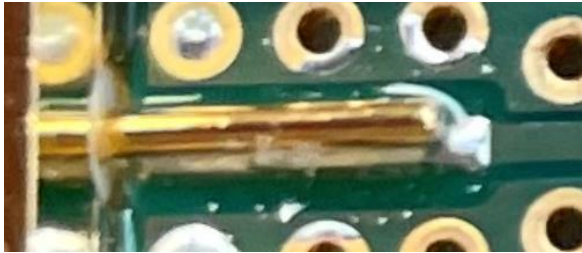
ROHDE & SCHWARZ



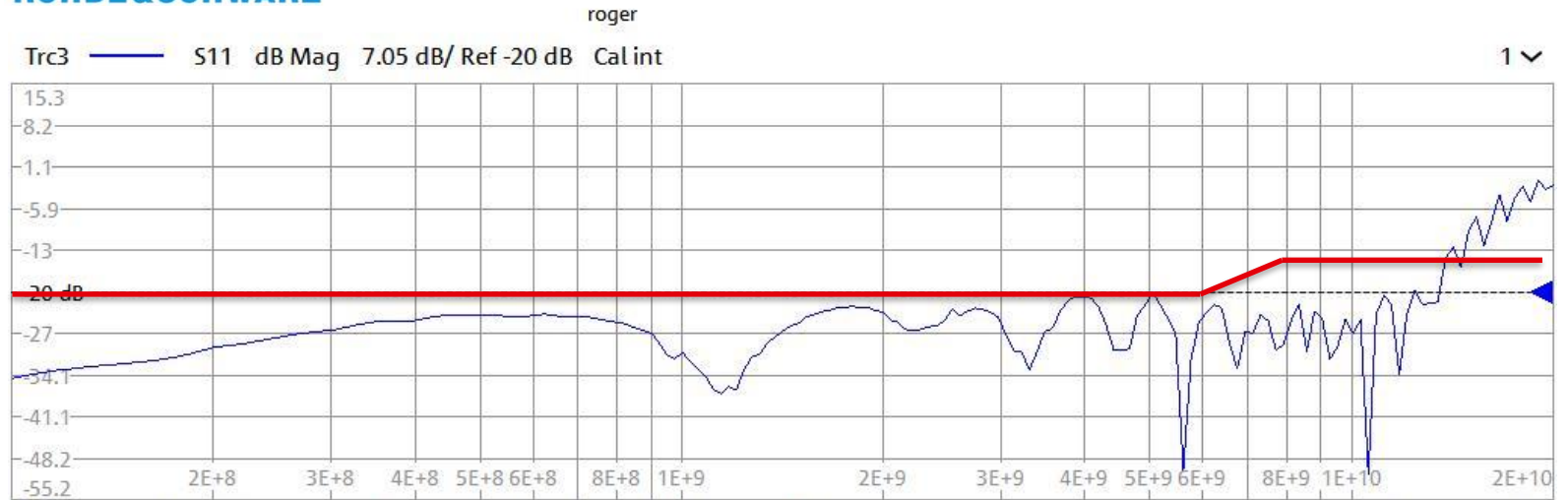
# REAL MEASUREMENTS

Adjusted shape without DGS with tin

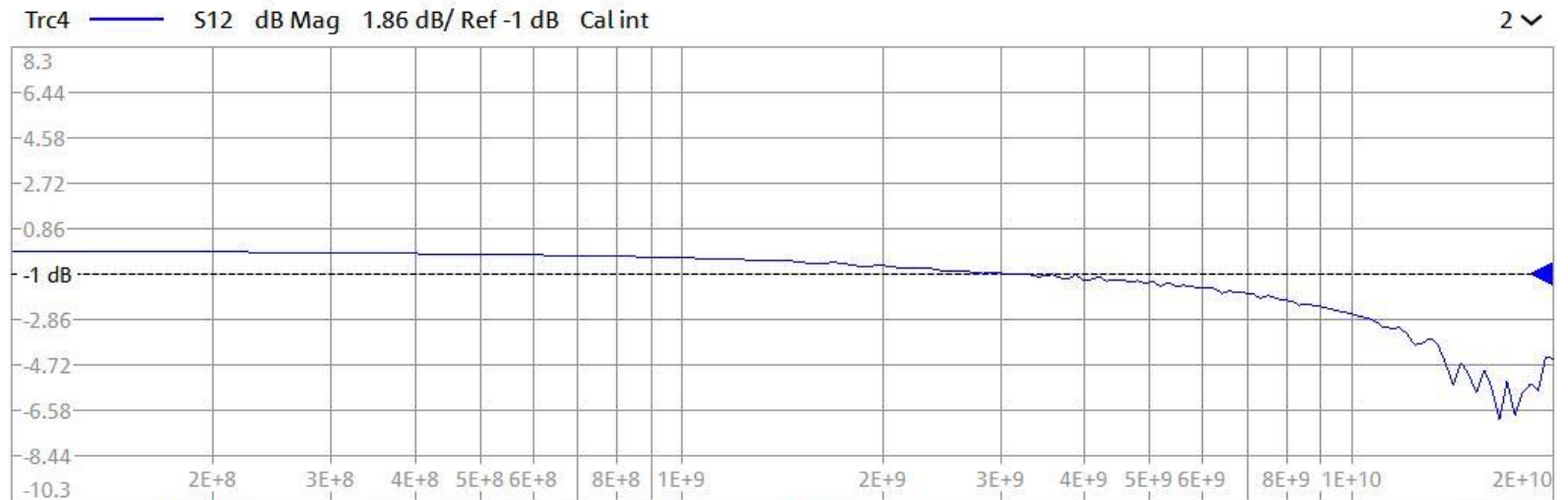
Ground layer adjustment  
Adjusted shape



Tin



Ch1 Start 100 MHz Pwr -1.25 dBm Bw 10 kHz TOSM P1,P2 Stop 20 GHz



Ch1 Start 100 MHz Pwr -1.25 dBm Bw 10 kHz TOSM P1,P2 Stop 20 GHz

# REAL MEASUREMENTS

Adjusted shape without DGS with tin

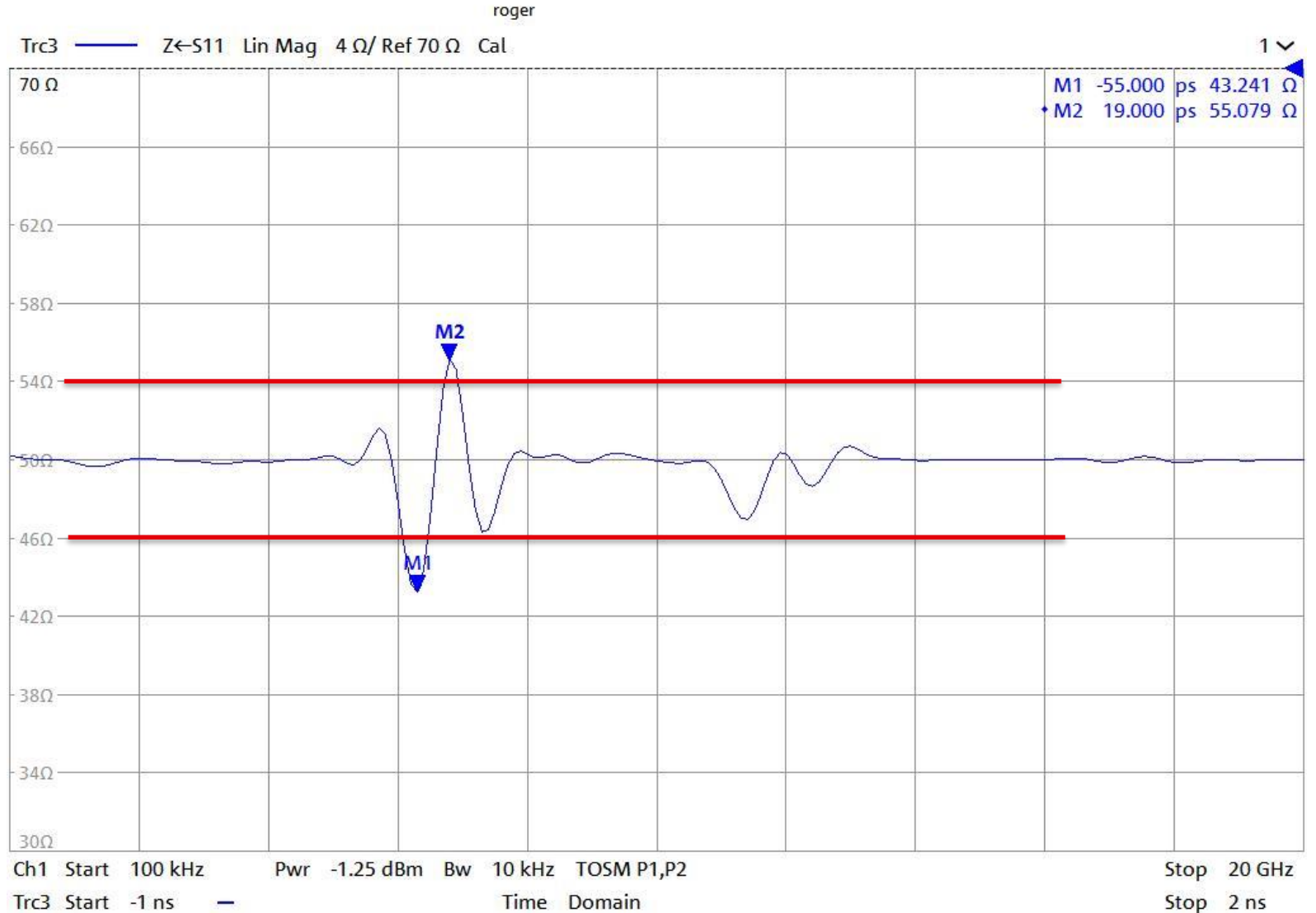
Ground layer adjustment  
Adjusted shape



Tin



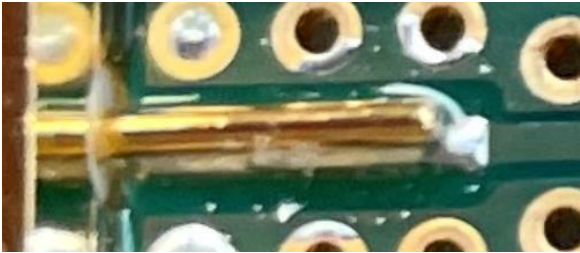
 **ROHDE & SCHWARZ**



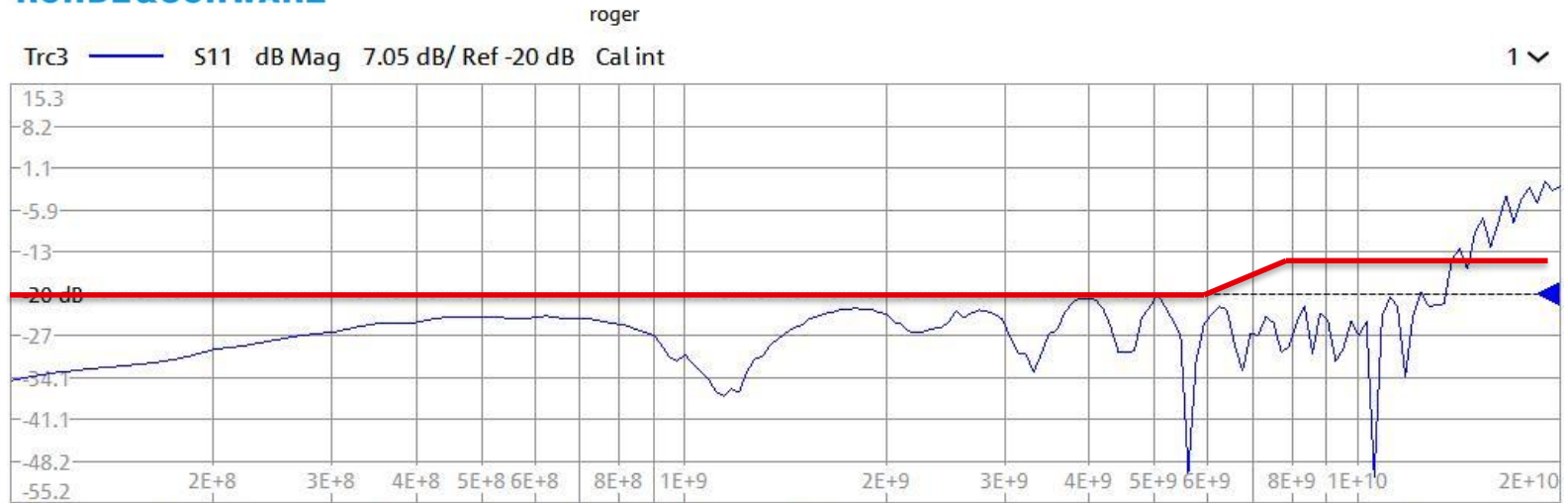
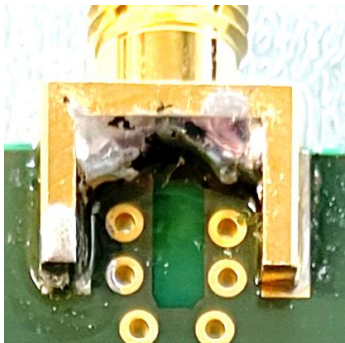
# REAL MEASUREMENTS

Adjusted shape with DGS with tin

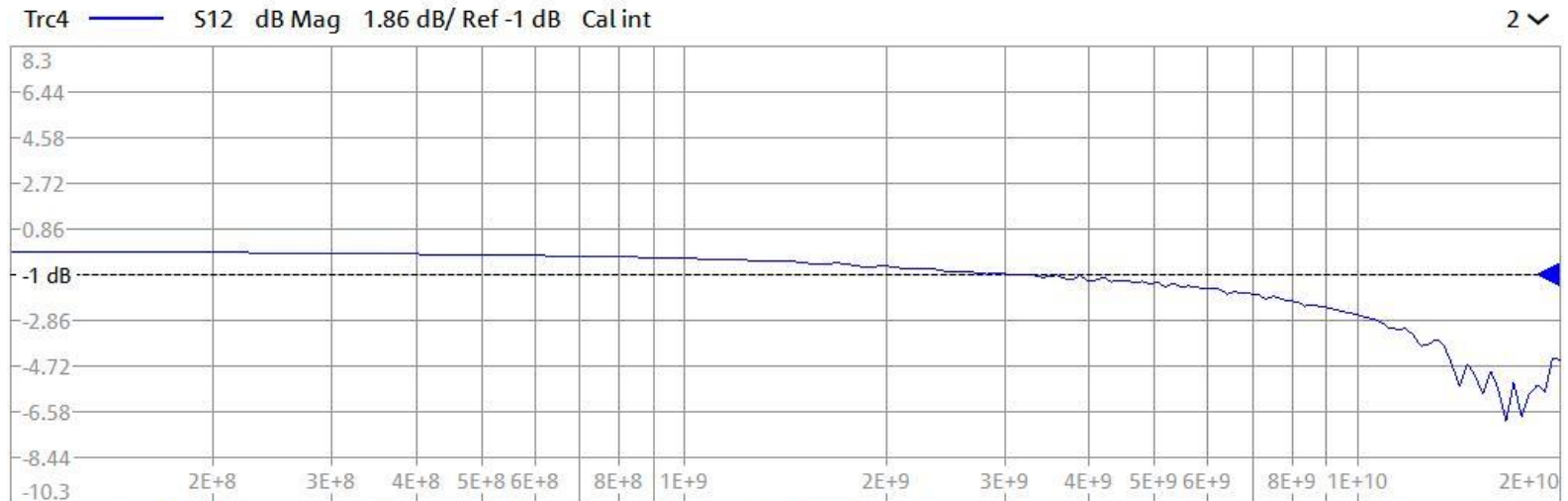
Ground layer adjustment  
Adjusted shape



Tin + DGS



Ch1 Start 100 MHz Pwr -1.25 dBm Bw 10 kHz TOSM P1,P2 Stop 20 GHz

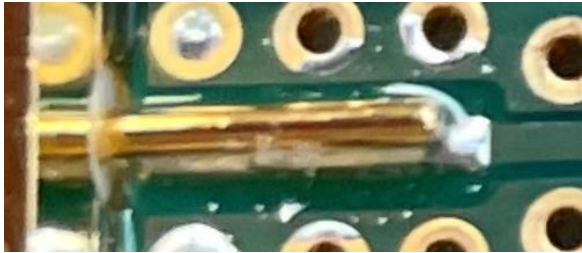


Ch1 Start 100 MHz Pwr -1.25 dBm Bw 10 kHz TOSM P1,P2 Stop 20 GHz

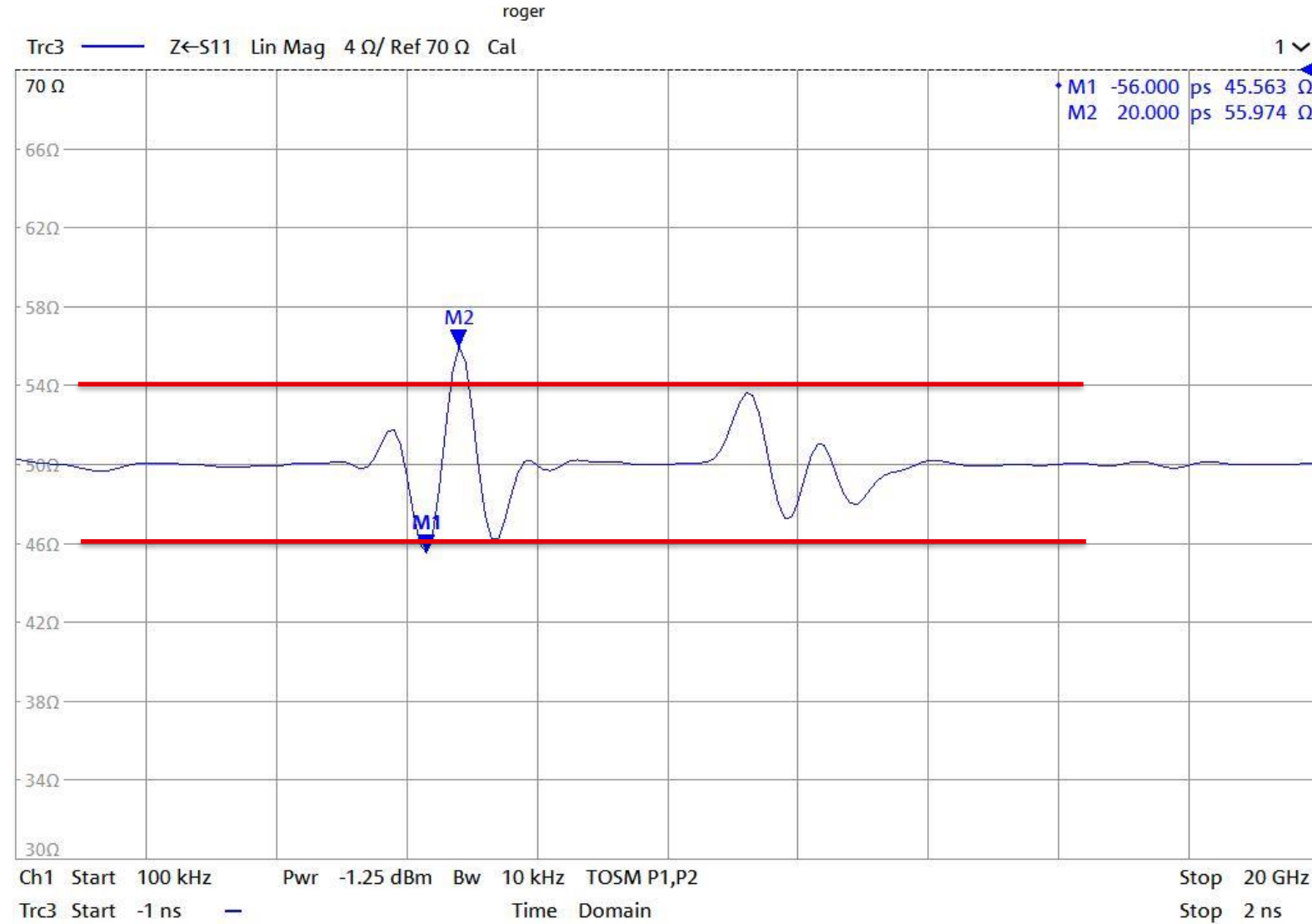
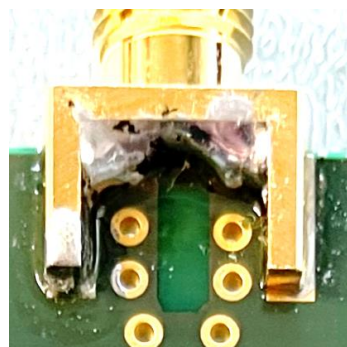
# REAL MEASUREMENTS

Adjusted shape with DGS with tin

Ground layer adjustment  
Adjusted shape



Tin + DGS





# Questions

& Answers



We are here for you now!  
Ask us directly via our chat or via E-Mail.

[digital-we-days@we-online.com](mailto:digital-we-days@we-online.com)  
[Remco.VandeGriendt@we-online.de](mailto:Remco.VandeGriendt@we-online.de)