

**Development stages and final designs
of the impedance measurement cells
with the SOLT and TRL calibrations**

Straight and Dog bone impedance measurement cells

These cells will be used for measurements of the dependence of the high frequency impedance in ferromagnetic wires on the external factors such as magnetic field, temperature, or tensile stress. Both types of the cells can be calibrated using two methods: SOLT and TRL.

SOLT calibration (SHORT, OPEN, LOAD, THRU) with the operation frequency range up to 8 GHz

This calibration method uses three miniature termination standards placed at the ends of the microstrips: SHORT, OPEN, and LOAD $50\ \Omega$. An additional standard THRU will be used as well. Note that Rohde&Schwarz names SOLT as TOSM – THRU, OPEN, SHORT, and MATCH (equals to LOAD).

TRL calibration (THRU, REFLECT, LINE) with the operation frequency range 250 MHz – 18 GHz

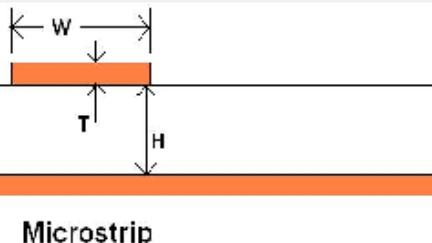
This calibration method uses three standards: ideal THRU (zero loss and zero electrical length), REFLECT (similar to OPEN in SOLT), and LINE which introduces 20° - 160° phase shift with respect to THRU. In the microwave community, TRL calibration is considered to be most accurate when measuring on the wafers. The only disadvantage of TRL is inability to fabricate very long LINE standards at lower frequencies.

Rogers microwave impedance calculator

It can be run online or free downloaded from Rogers Inc web site:

<https://www.globalcommhost.com/rogers/acs/techsupporthub/en/calculatorMWI.php>

We decided to use Rogers PCBs due a high predictability and stability of their dielectric properties in a wide frequency range. The microstrip parameters will be the same for both the straight and dog bone cells. However, due to a slight frequency dispersion of dielectric properties, the microstrip width cannot be saved constant for all frequencies. We calculate an averaged microstrip width for the frequencies up to 8 GHz – most important range for our applications.



Microstrip

Transmission Line Information

Conventional Microstrip

Solving Synthesis for Conductor Width
Using 0.812 mm RO4003C circuit materials.

Calculated Conductor Width = 1.70509 mm

For a Targeted Impedance of = 50 ohms

Actual model impedance is = 50.05 ohms

Dielectric Loss is = 0.0037 dB/m

Conductor loss is = 0.0555dB/m

Total loss is = 0.0593dB/m

Dielectric Q Factor is 414.3

Conductor Q Factor is 28.61

Total Q Factor for transmission line is 26.77

For more detailed information, use the Analytical model
with this conductor width and circuit construction. Display results of only one calculation

All material names are licensed, registered trademarks of Rogers Corporation

Material Name	Bulk Dk	Df	TC Dk	Therm Co
RO3010	11.2	0.0023	-280	0.95
RO3035	3.6	0.0018	-34	0.5
RO3203	3.02	0.0016	13	0.5
RO3206	6.6	0.0027	-212	0.63
RO3210	10.8	0.0027	-459	0.81
RO4003C	3.55	0.0027	40	0.64
RO4003C Lo...	3.5	0.0027	40	0.64
RO4350B	3.66	0.0037	50	0.62
RO4350B Lo...	3.55	0.0037	50	0.62
RO4360G2	6.4	0.0038	-120	0.8
RO4533	3.4	0.0022	40	0.6

www.rogerscorp.com English Metric

Circuit Parameters

Conductor Width (W)
1.70509 mm

Space (S) 0.2082 mm Length 25.3 mm

Material Properties

Material RO4003C Thickness (H) 0.812 mm

Dk 3.804 Df 0.0027 Thermal Cond. 0.64 W/K*m

 use z-axis Bulk Dk values
 Dk values for a specific frequency
 Dk values for characteristic Impedance

Conductor Parameters

Thickness (T) 15.24 microns

1/2oz ED

Conductivity 5.813X 10^7 S/m

Surface Roughness (RMS) 2.8 microns

Surface Area Index 4

Avg Nodule Size (microns) 0.9

Roughness loss model Hall-Hurray

Copper roughness values
 Optimum for accuracy
 Actual measurement
 Analytical Synthesis Width Synthesis Space

Impedance 50 Ohms

Calculate

Frequency 0.01 GHz

Generate Tables and Files

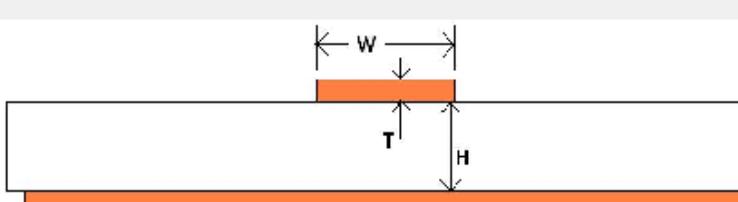
None

Freq. Range 1 to 30 GHz

Chosen material: RO4003C

Its thickness: 0.812 mm

Strip width W at the frequency 10 MHz: 1.70509 mm



Microstrip

Transmission Line Information

Conventional Microstrip Solving Synthesis for Conductor Width Using 0.812 mm RO4003C circuit materials

Calculated Conductor Width = 1.77809 mm
For a Targeted Impedance of = 50 ohms
Actual model impedance is = 50.09 ohms

Dielectric Loss is = 3.1005 dB/m
Conductor loss is = 5.9132dB/m
Total loss is = 9.0137dB/m

Delectric Q Factor is 408.1
Conductor Q Factor is 809.4
Total Q Factor for transmission line is 271.3

For more detailed information, use the Analytical mode with this conductor width and circuit construction.

Display results of only one calculation

Material Name	Bulk Dk	Df	TC Dk	Therm C
RO3010	11.2	0.0023	-280	0.95
RO3035	3.6	0.0018	-34	0.5
RO3203	3.02	0.0016	13	0.5
RO3206	6.6	0.0027	-212	0.63
RO3210	10.8	0.0027	-459	0.81
RO4003C	3.55	0.0027	40	0.64
RO4003C Lo...	3.5	0.0027	40	0.64
RO4350B	3.66	0.0037	50	0.62
RO4350B Lo...	3.55	0.0037	50	0.62
RO4360G2	6.4	0.0038	-120	0.8
RO4533	3.4	0.0022	40	0.6

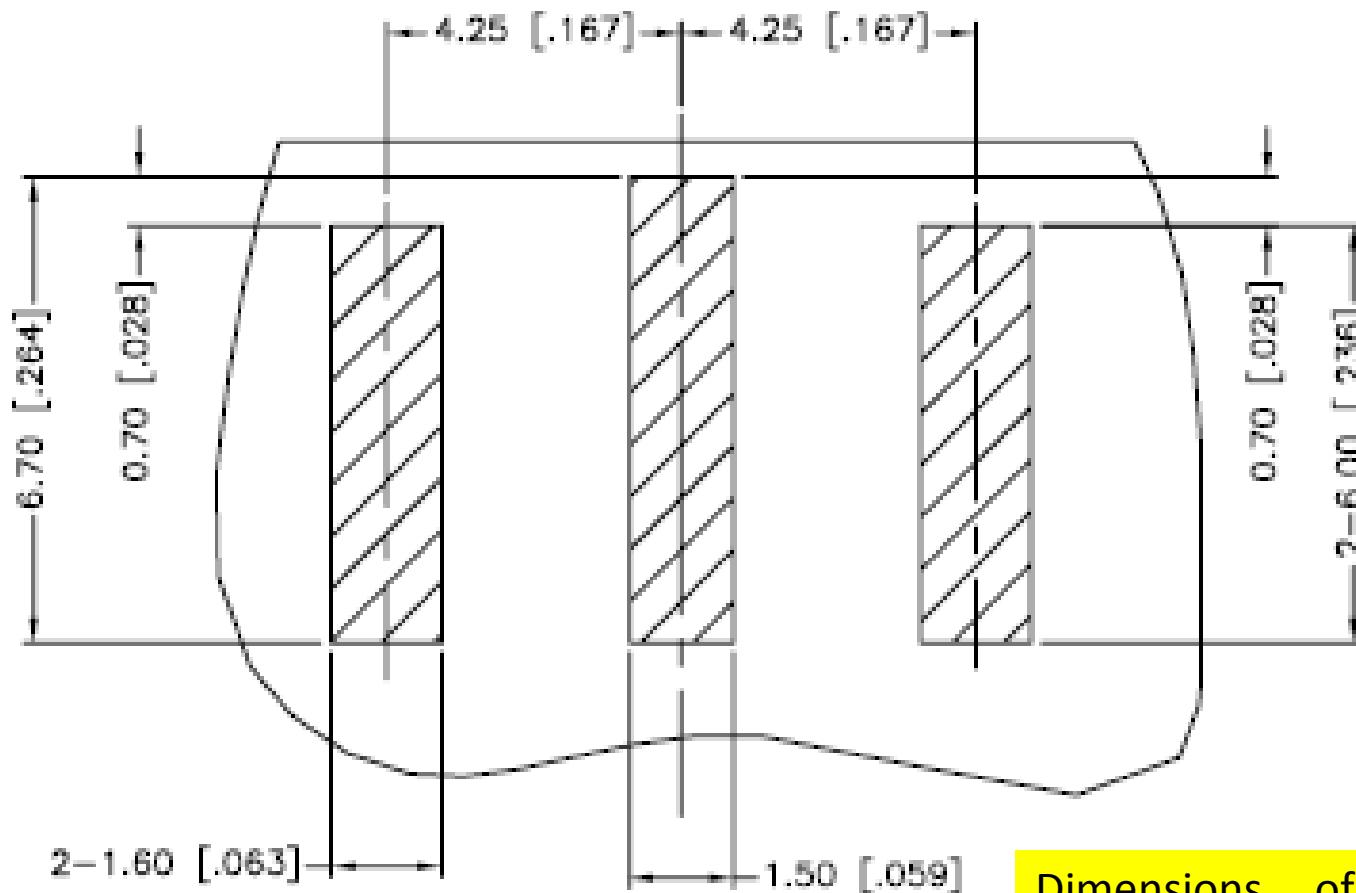
Material Properties		Conductor Parameters	
Material	Thickness (H)	Thickness (T)	Surface Area Index
RO4003C	0.812 mm	15.24 microns	4
Dk	Df	1/2oz ED	Roughness loss model
3.804	0.0027	0.64 W/K*m	Hall-Huray
Thermal Cond.		Conductivity	Avg Nodule Size (microns)
		5.813X 10^7 S/m	0.9
<input type="radio"/> use z-axis Bulk Dk values		Copper roughness values	
<input type="radio"/> Dk values for a specific frequency		<input checked="" type="radio"/> Optimum for accuracy	
<input checked="" type="radio"/> Dk values for characteristic Impedance		<input type="radio"/> Actual measurement	
 		Surface Roughness (RMS)	
		2.8 microns	
 		Generate Tables and Files	
<input type="radio"/> Analytical	Impedance	Frequency	None
<input checked="" type="radio"/> Synthesis Width	50 Ohms	8 GHz	
<input type="radio"/> Synthesis Space	 	Freq. Range	1 to 30 GHz

Chosen material: RO4003C

Its thickness: 0.812 mm

Strip width W at the frequency 8 GHz: 1.77809 mm

Using two previous slides, we choose an averaged strip width **1.74159 mm** to operate up 8 GHz for RO4003C. Actually, this method of calibration will also work for higher frequencies, but its accuracy will gradually degrade. The chosen connector type: **SMA Amphenol 132432**. It will be bought from Mouser UK: <https://www.mouser.co.uk/ProductDetail/Amphenol-RF/132432?qs=sGAEpiMZZMuLQf%252bEuFsOrk%2fjxZFCvxCSdqBupOAxA9pA%3d>



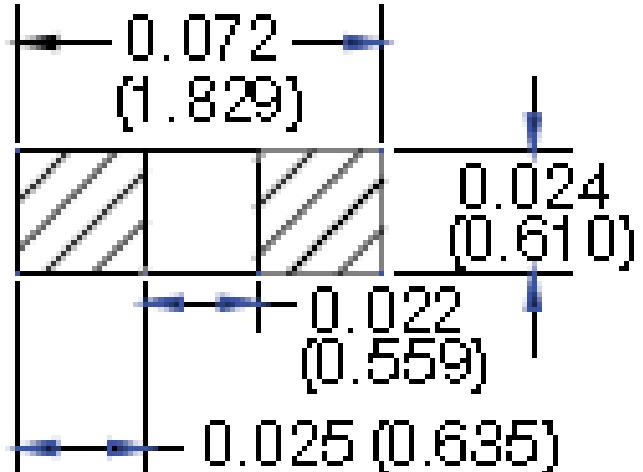
Dimensions of the SMA footprint recommended by Amphenol. Sizes are given in mm and [inches].

For the LOAD termination, we will use two $100\ \Omega$ Vishay RF resistors (up to 20 GHz), connected in parallel. Such method allows a reduced parasitic inductance at higher frequencies. The resistors will be bought from Farnell UK:

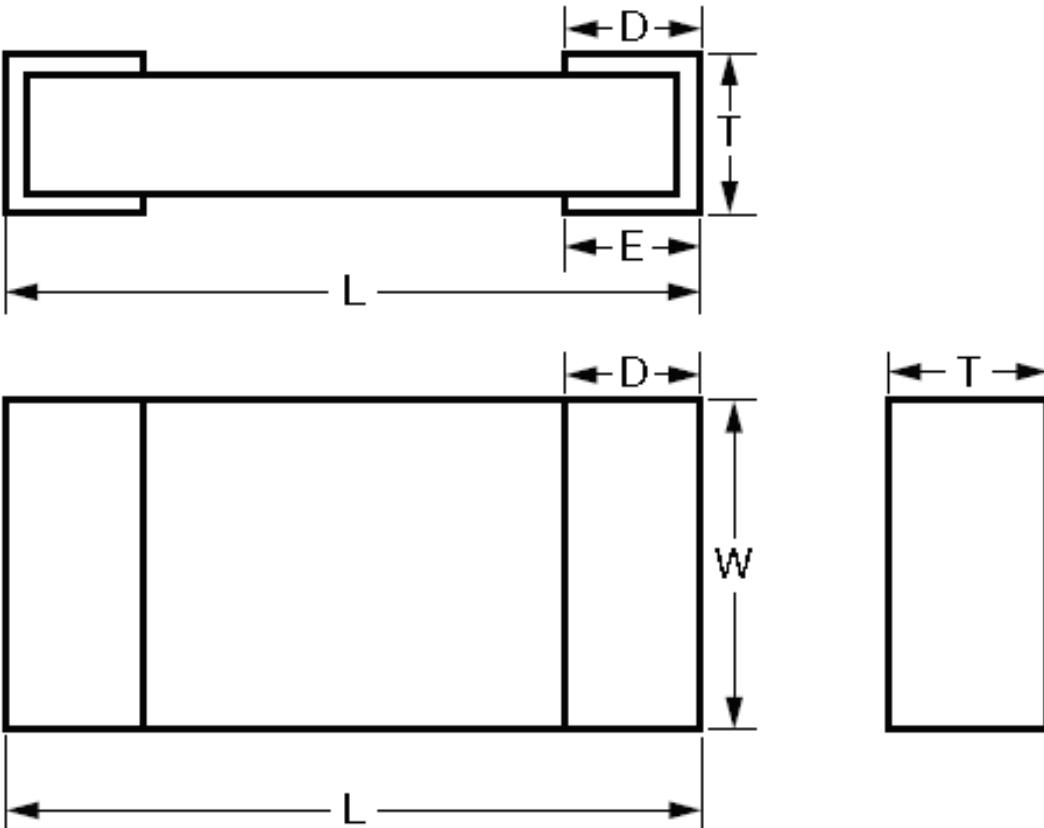
<http://uk.farnell.com/vishay/fc0402e1000bsws/resistor-microwave-100r-0402/dp/1109051>

CASE SIZE	LENGTH	WIDTH W (± 0.005)	THICKNESS	TOP PAD D (± 0.005)	BOTTOM PAD E (± 0.005)
0402	0.042 ± 0.008 (1.067 ± 0.203)	0.022 (0.559)	0.015 to 0.0015 (0.381 to 0.0381)	0.010 (0.254)	0.010 (0.254)

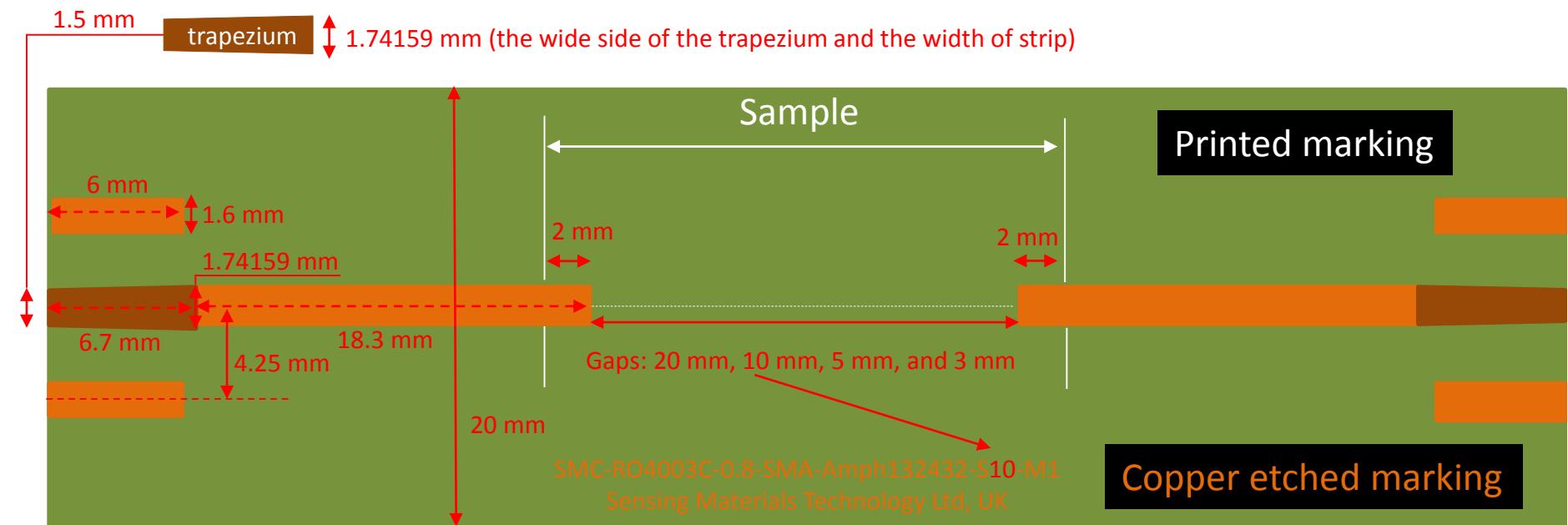
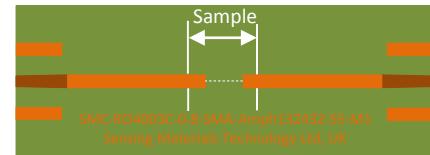
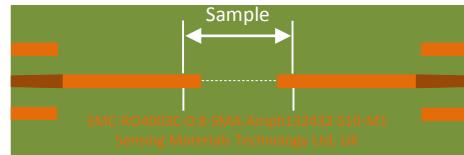
0402 Land Pattern



Sizes in brackets are given in mm.

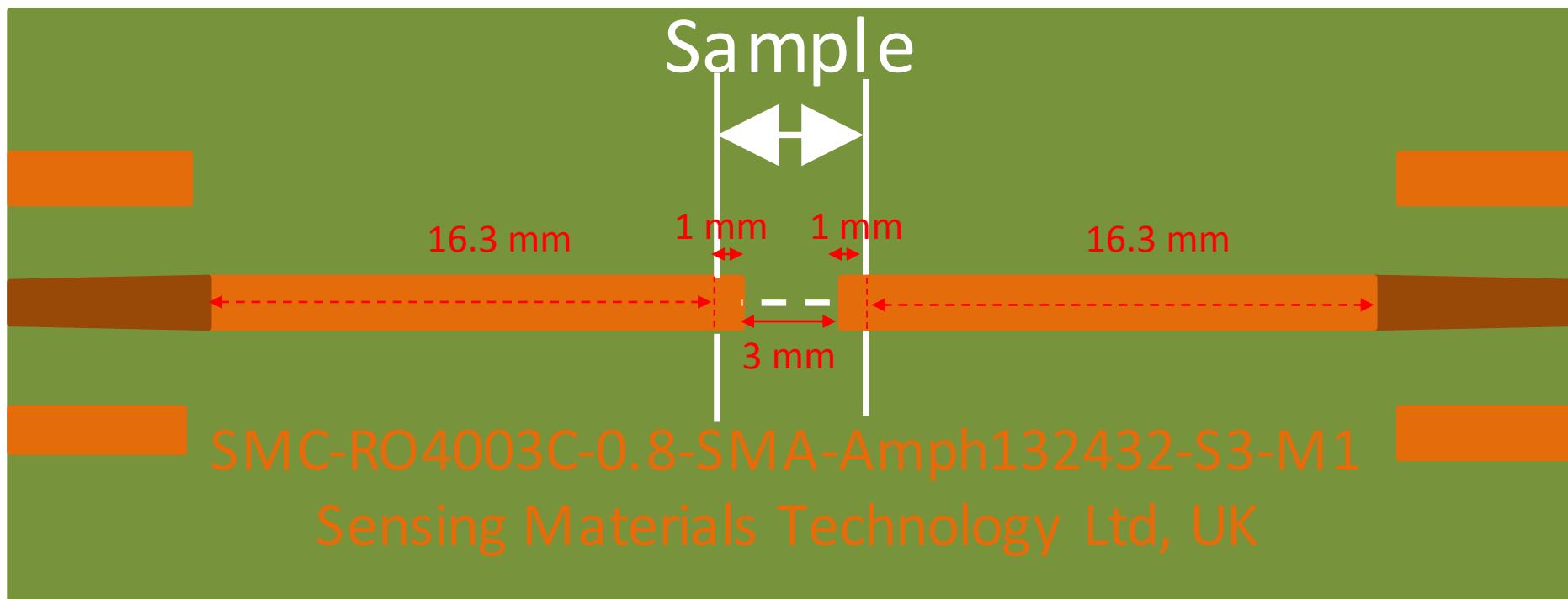


Straight RF cells for the impedance measurements
in the presence of magnetic field or heat

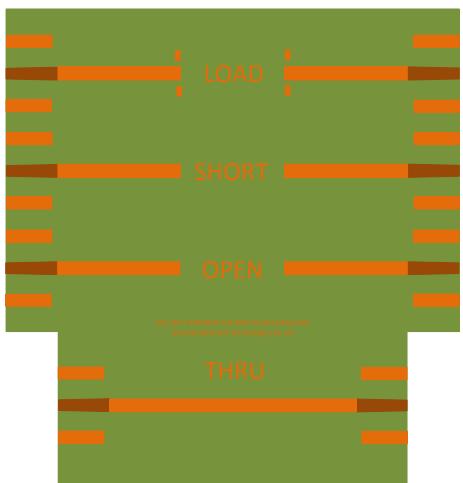


A very “challenging cell” – extremely short sample (3 mm) and soldering pads (1 mm)

After a proper calibration, a VNA will return correctly measured S-parameters of a sample soldered between the contact pads. These S-parameters can be formally recalculated into the impedance Z. However, such recalculation assumes that Z is a lumped parameter. The latter is fully correct only if the wavelength along the sample is much larger than its longitudinal size. Therefore, for the accurate results, especially when measuring the frequency dispersion of Z, the sample length must be significantly reduced. Here, we face a typical problem in microwave measurements – interpretation of results. Note that S-parameters are always correct (after a proper calibration), but their recalculation into something else may require more sophisticated models. In our project, we have to find new approaches to this problem if the sample size is not meant to be extremely small. The measurement cell proposed below still allows traditional recalculation procedure from S21/12-parameter into the lumped Z up to several GHz. In a VNA, such recalculation can be done in real time.



SOLT calibration board



LOAD

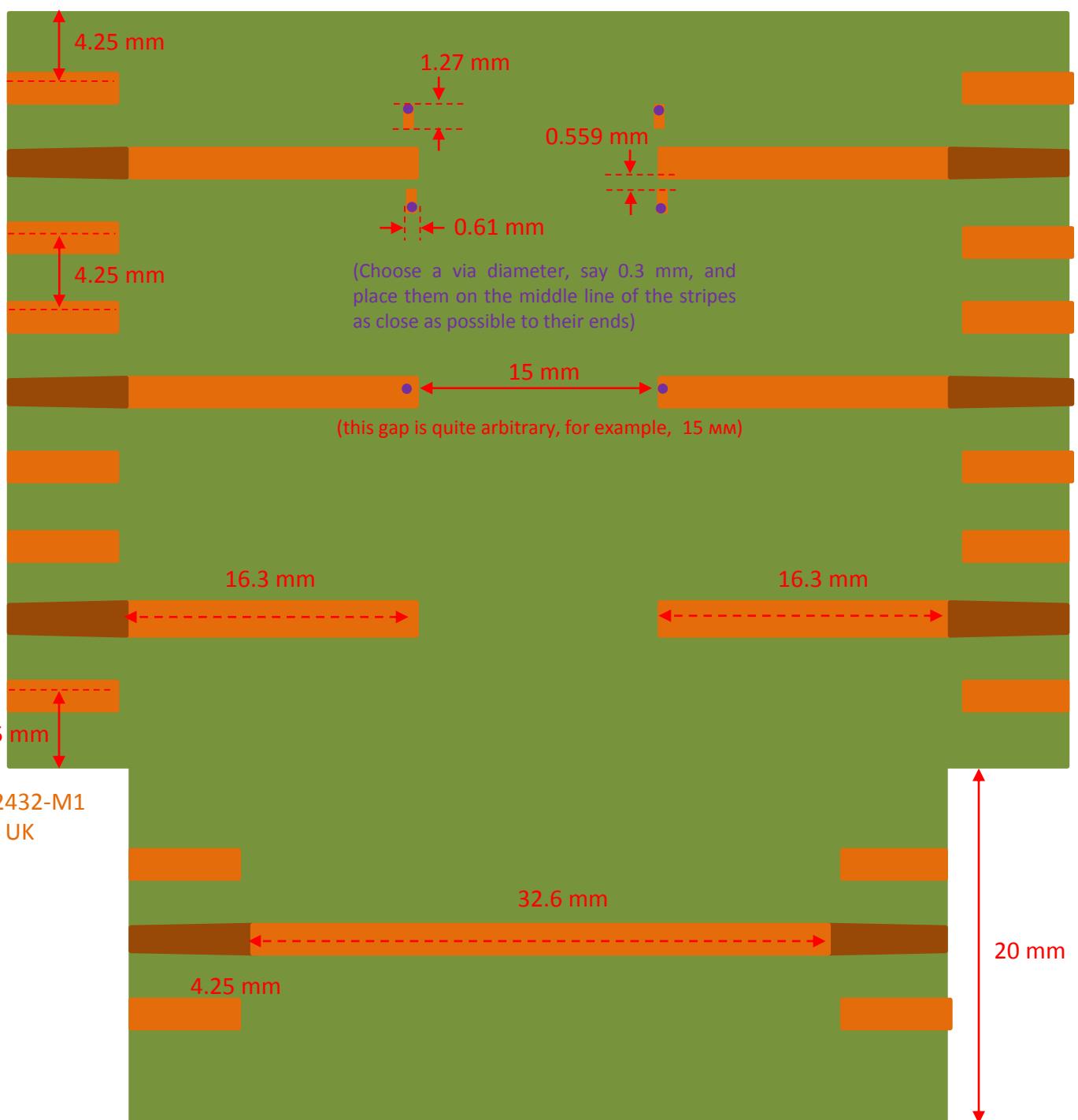
SHORT

OPEN

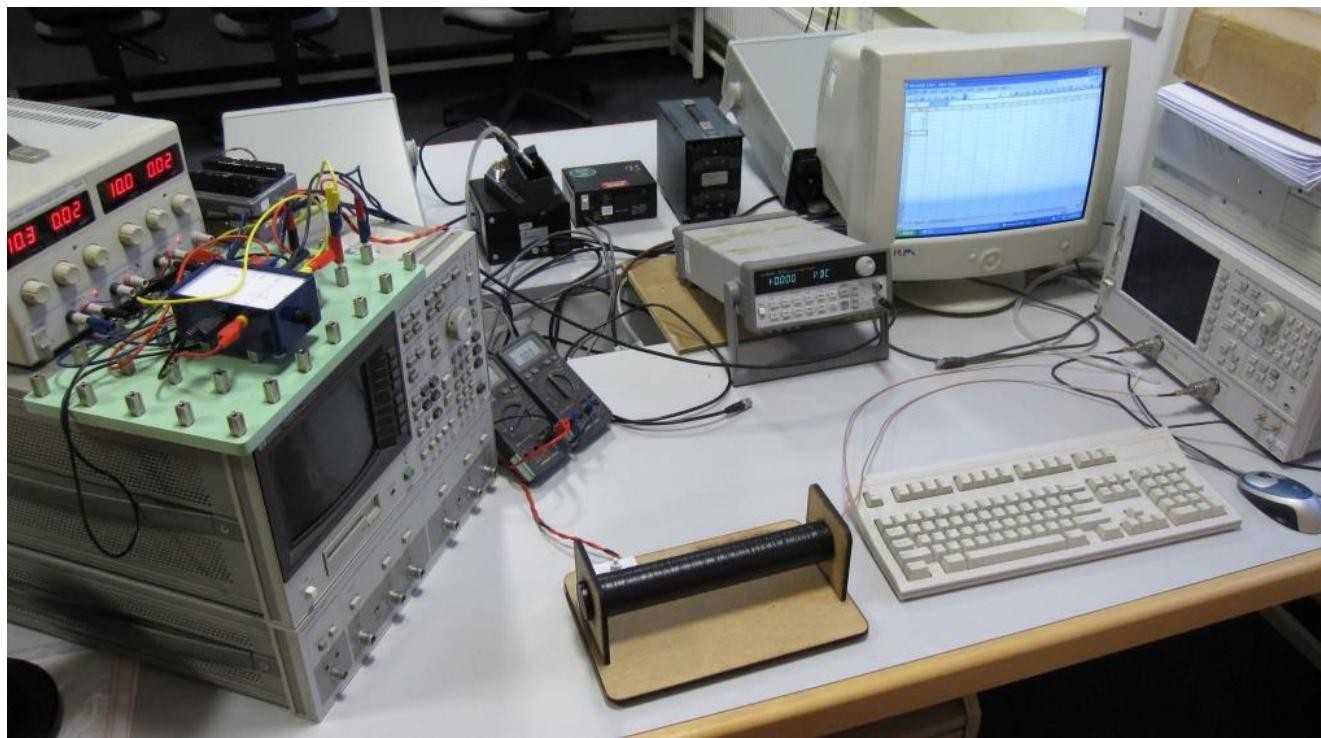
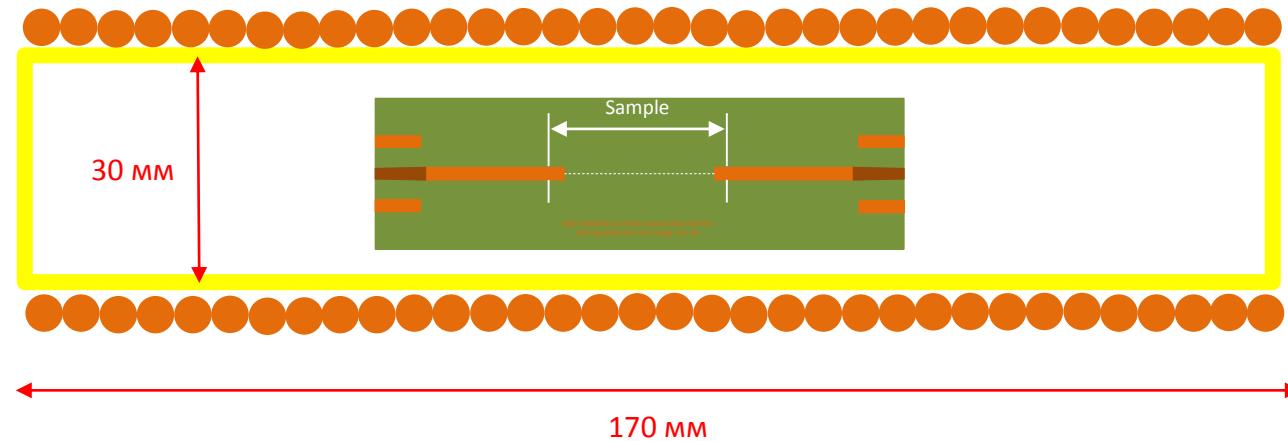
THRU

SCC-SOLT-RO4003C-0.8-SMA-Amph132432-M1
Sensing Materials Technology Ltd, UK

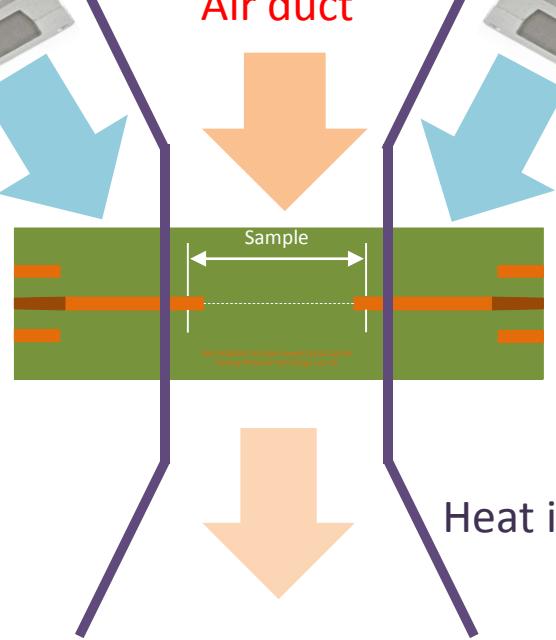
Copper etched marking



Application: magneto-impedance measurements using a compact solenoid coil



Application: effect of temperature on the magneto-impedance



An example of the heat chamber integrated into the Helmholtz coil.



External forced cooling for protection of the connectors and cables

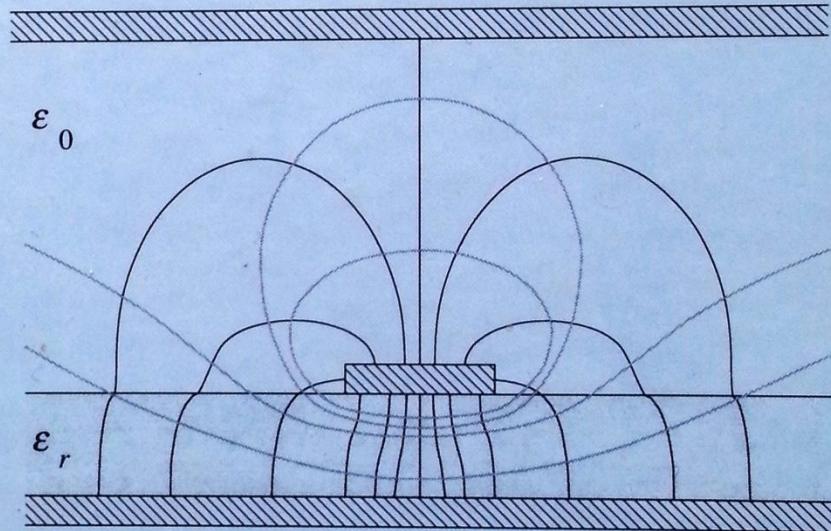


Dog bone RF cells for the stress-impedance measurements

For this type of the cells, we will need a method that allows compensation of the impedance mismatch introduced by a bending of the strip. The necessary information is taken from a book on transmission lines. Also, we can use the online calculator:
<http://www.finetune.co.jp/~lyuka/technote/ustrip/>

Transmission Line Design Handbook

https://www.amazon.com/Transmission-Handbook-Propagation-Microwave-Hardcover/dp/0890064369/ref=sr_1_1?ie=UTF8&qid=1517074427&sr=8-1&keywords=Brian+C.+Wadell



Brian C. Wadell

5.5.1 Microstrip Line Bend

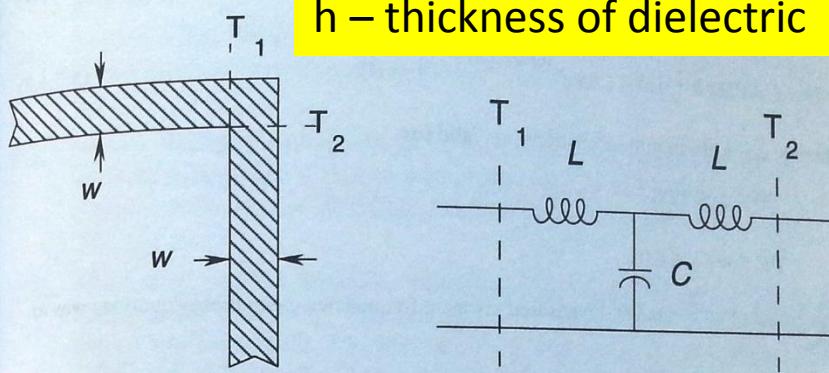


Figure 5.5.1.1: Microstrip Line Abrupt Bend

The discontinuity created by a bend in a microstrip line is given by the model above [2] where:

$$L/h = \frac{100.0}{2.0} (4.0 \sqrt{w/h} - 4.21) \text{ (nH/m)} \quad (5.5.1.1)$$

and for $w/h < 1$:

$$C/w = \frac{(14.0 \epsilon_r + 12.5)(w/h) - (1.83 \epsilon_r - 2.25)}{\sqrt{w/h}} + \frac{0.02 \epsilon_r}{w/h} \text{ (pF/m)} \quad (5.5.1.2)$$

or for $w/h \geq 1$:

$$C/w = (9.5 \epsilon_r + 1.25)(w/h) + 5.2 \epsilon_r + 7.0 \text{ (pF/m)} \quad (5.5.1.3)$$

These equations are accurate to within 5% for

$$2.5 \leq \epsilon_r \leq 15.0$$

$$0.1 \leq w/h \leq 5.0$$

Kirschning [7] gives equations for C and L as

$$C = 0.001 h [(10.35 \epsilon_r + 2.5)(w/h)^2 + (2.6 \epsilon_r + 5.64)(w/h)] \text{ (pF)} \quad (5.5.1.4)$$

$$L = 0.22 h \left[1.0 - 1.35 e^{-0.18(w/h)^{1.39}} \right] \text{ (nH)} \quad (5.5.1.5)$$

where w and h are in mm. Equations are valid for

$$2.0 \leq \epsilon_r \leq 13.0$$

$$0.2 \leq w/h \leq 6.0$$

Agreement of calculated and measured resonant frequencies using these equations was to 0.3%.

REFERENCES

- [1] Douville, Rene J.P., and David S. James, "Experimental Study of Microstrip Bends and Their Compensation," *IEEE Transactions on Microwave Theory and Techniques*, Vol. MTT-26, No. 3, March 1978, pp. 175–181.
- [2] Garg, Ramesh, and I.J. Bahl, "Microstrip discontinuities," *International Journal of Electronics*, Vol. 45, No. 1, 1978, pp. 81–87.
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- [5] Hill, A., and V.K. Tripathi, "Analysis and Modeling of Coupled Right Angle Microstrip Bend Discontinuities," *1989 IEEE MTT-S Symposium Digest*, pp. 1143–1146.
- [6] Hill, Achim, "An Efficient Algorithm of the Analysis of Passive Microstrip Discontinuities for Microwave and Millimeter Wave Integrated Circuits in a Shielding Box," *Compact Software*, 1990, pp. 9–10.
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- [12] Thomson, Alistair F., and Anand Gopinath, "Calculation of Microstrip Discontinuity Inductances," *IEEE Transactions on Microwave Theory and Techniques*, Vol. MTT-23, No. 8, August 1975, pp. 648–655.

5.5.2 Optimal Right-Angle Mitered Bend

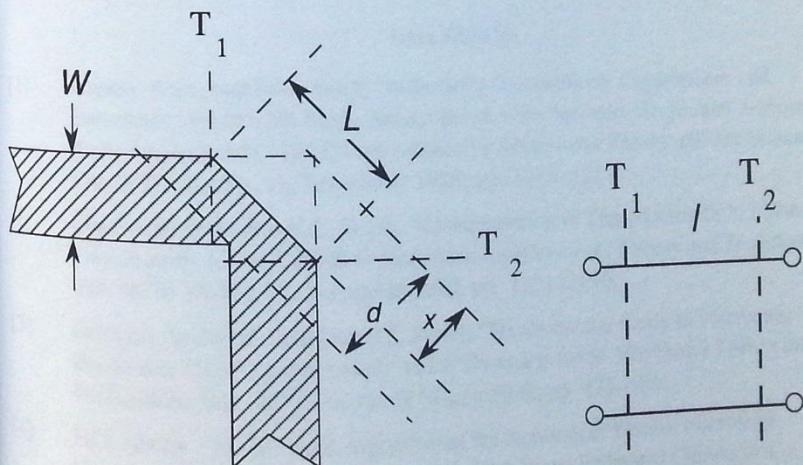


Figure 5.5.2.1: Optimal Microstrip Line Mitered Bend

The optimal mitre occurs for:

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$$M = 52 + 65 e^{-1.35 w/h} = \frac{100x}{d} \quad (\%) \quad (5.5.2.1)$$

<http://www.finetune.co.jp/~lyuka/technote/ustrip/>

or, more conveniently,

$$\frac{L}{w} = \sqrt{2} [1.04 + 1.3 e^{-1.35 w/h}] \quad (5.5.2.2)$$

$$d - x = \sqrt{2} w - \frac{L}{2} \quad (5.5.2.3)$$

These equations are valid for $w/h \geq .25$, $\epsilon_r \leq 25$, ± 4 (sic, %?) accuracy. In Chadha [2], the optimal mitre is found to be $w/h = 2.895$. Chadha also recommends that for bends made of lines of unequal widths that more material be removed from the wider line. Figure 5.5.3.2 compares the references.

The equivalent electrical length of the mitre, l , is calculable from arbitrary bend equations of [1] by setting the angle α to 90° resulting in

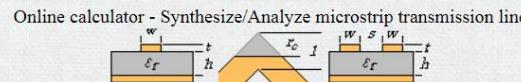
$$l = \frac{L}{\sqrt{2}} \quad (5.5.2.4)$$

Other techniques of equalizing the bend are shown in Figure 5.5.2.2 below. Analytic equations for these structures are not available. Douville [3] shows that the 45° double bend is always better than a single right-angle bend.

We will use this optimisation

Be careful when using online calculators: sometimes it is not entirely clear what they are calculating

<http://www.finetune.co.jp/~lyuka/technote/ustrip/>



Synthesize/Analyze microstrip transmission line

Frequency	8000	MHz
Electrical length	90	deg
Dielectric relative permittivity (ϵ_r)	3.804	
Dielectric height (h)	0.8	mm
Conductor thickness (t)	0.015	mm
Impedance (Z_0)	48.803483657903705	Ω
Conductor width (w) \approx	1.74159	mm
Effective relative permittivity \approx	2.922649862227	
Capacitance \approx	68.348419046543	pF/m
Inductance \approx	162.790898688664	nH/m
Velocity of propagation \approx	0.584940383253	
Physical length \approx	5.480022352460	mm
Rightangle bend compensation (r_c) \approx	0.554399403974	x/d (ratio, but not in %)
Open end effect length (A_f) \approx	0.325162442298	mm
	<input type="button" value="Synthesize for w"/>	<input type="button" value="Analyze for Z0"/>
Side gap (s)	0.36	mm
Differential impedance (Z_{diff}) \approx		Ω

```
# Program in Python
import math
w=1.74159 # strip width in mm
h=0.8 # PCB thickness in mm
d=2**0.5*w # diagonal in mm
x=d*(0.52+0.65*math.exp(-1.35*w/h)) # cut off from the corner in mm
print('x=',x,'mm')
```

x= 1.365474753822523 mm ← This value will be used for our cells

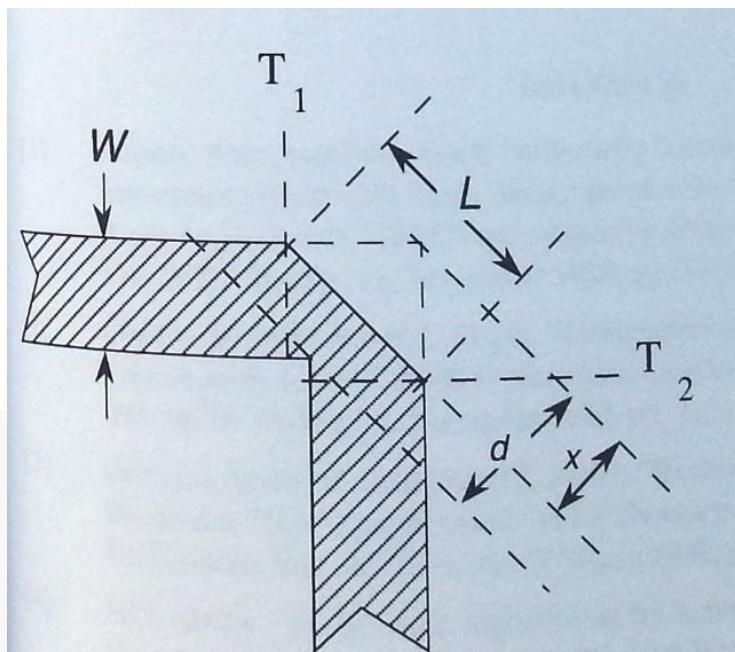
292 Transmission Line Components and Discontinuities

$$M = 52 + 65 e^{-1.35 w / h} = \frac{100 x}{d} \quad (\%) \quad (5.5.2.1)$$

or, more conveniently,

$$\frac{L}{w} = \sqrt{2} [1.04 + 1.3 e^{-1.35 w / h}] \quad (5.5.2.2)$$

$$d - x = \sqrt{2} w - \frac{L}{2} \quad (5.5.2.3)$$



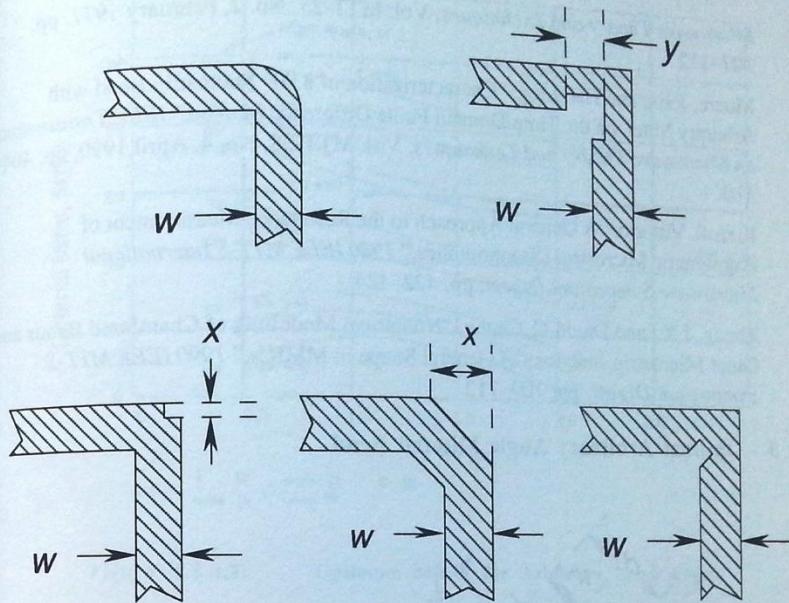


Figure 5.5.2.2: Various Techniques of Bend Compensation

REFERENCES

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- [4] Hill, Achim, "An Efficient Algorithm of the Analysis of Passive Microstrip Discontinuities for Microwave and Millimeter Wave Integrated Circuits in a Shielding Box," *Compact Software*, 1990, pp. 9–10.
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Microwave Theory and Techniques, Vol. MTT-25, No. 2, February 1977, pp. 107–112.

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5.5.3 Optimal Arbitrary Angle Mitered Bend

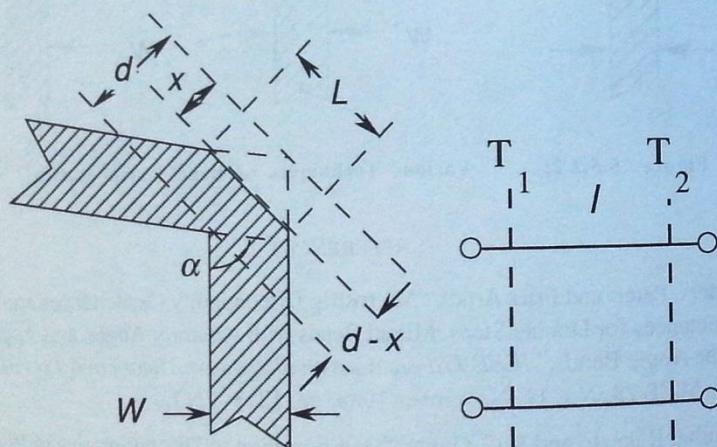


Figure 5.5.3.1: Arbitrary Mitered Bend

The optimal mitre dimensions are shown in Figure 5.5.3.2 for a range of angles and w/h ratios. This figure combines the results of a number of references for comparison and convenience.

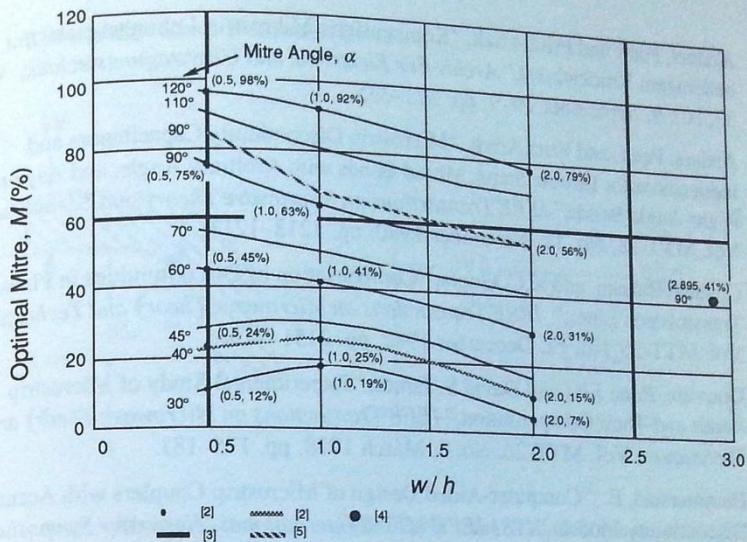


Figure 5.5.3.2: Optimum Mitres for Arbitrary Bend Angles

$$M = \frac{100}{d} x \quad (\%) \quad (5.5.3.1)$$

$$d - x = \sqrt{2} w \left(1.0 - \frac{M}{100} \right) \quad (5.5.3.2)$$

The arbitrary angle bend can be compensated by taking material off of the outside of the corner. This can be done by mitering. Figure 5.5.3.2 shows the optimal mitre percentage to achieve a matched impedance as a function of the line's w/h ratio. The accuracy is expected to be within a few percent [3]. For comparison the equation of [5] is plotted for the optimal 90° mitred bend. The other references are also shown.

The electrical length of the bend is calculated:

$$\frac{l_k}{w} = \frac{2 M}{100 \sin \alpha} \quad (5.5.3.3)$$

REFERENCES

- [1] Anders, Peter, and Fritz Arndt, "Beliebig abgeknickte Mikrostrip-Leitungen mit bogenförmigen Übergang," *Archiv Für Elektronik und Übertragungstechnik*, Band 33, Heft 3, March 1979, pp. 93–99.

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5.5.4 Microstrip Line Rounded Bend

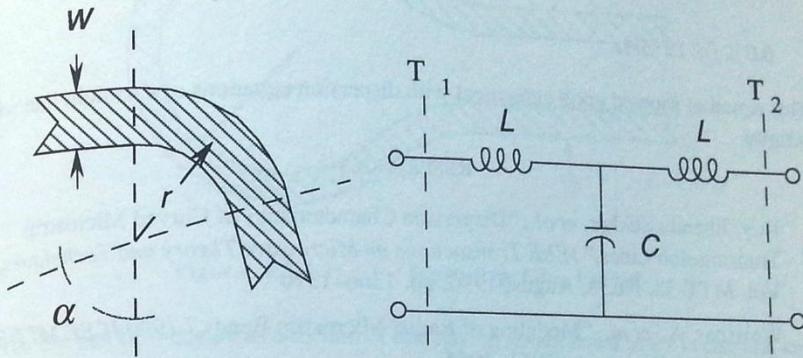


Figure 5.5.4.1: Microstrip Line Rounded Bend

Curves of model parameters are available in Weisshaar *et al.* [2]; however, no closed-form equations have been derived to date. The dispersion relative to a straight line has been derived by curve-fitting experimental results in Roy *et al.* [1] and are:

$$\epsilon_{eff,bend}(f) = \epsilon_r - \frac{\epsilon_r - \epsilon_{eff}(0) \exp\left(\frac{4\sqrt{h/r}}{12.0}\right)}{1.0 + \left(\frac{f}{f_c}\right)^2} \quad (5.5.4.1)$$

where

$$f_c = \frac{c}{4.0 h \sqrt{\epsilon_r - 1.0}} \quad (5.5.4.2)$$

$\epsilon_{eff}(0)$ is defined in (3.5.1.3)

r is the mean radius of the curve

which is valid for

$$2.0 \leq \epsilon_r \leq 12.0$$

$$0.8 \leq w/h \leq 5.0$$

$$\frac{\lambda_g}{4.0 \pi h} < r/h \leq \infty$$

$$0.0 \leq f \leq 12 \text{ GHz}$$

This equation showed good agreement with dispersion equations of a straight line when r is infinity.

REFERENCES

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5.5.5 Optimal Microstrip Line Rounded Bend

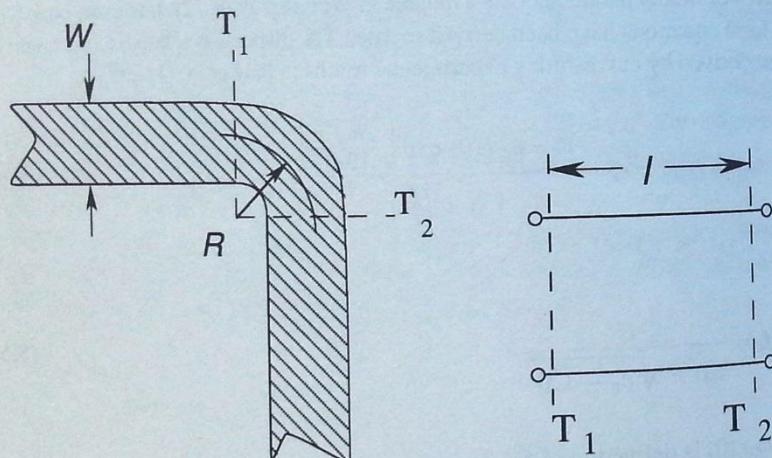


Figure 5.5.5.1: Optimal Microstrip Line Rounded Bend

As an alternative to the mitred corners of the previous sections, a microstrip line may be gradually bent to make a corner. In [2] it is stated that $R \geq 4.0 h$ will give $VSWR < 1.05$. Generally, this is not a space efficient technique to use. U-bends can be made in a similar fashion as shown in Figure 5.5.5.2 below.

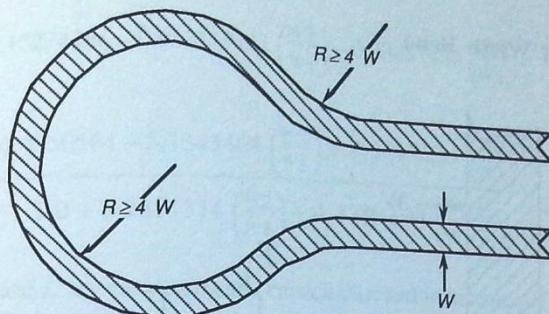
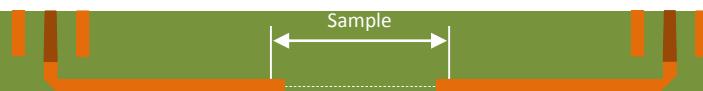


Figure 5.5.5.2: Microstrip Line U-bend

The line can be modeled as a section of line having length equal to the center line length of the curved section. This model does not include the changes in ϵ_{eff} and the effects of coupling between parts of the curve.

REFERENCES

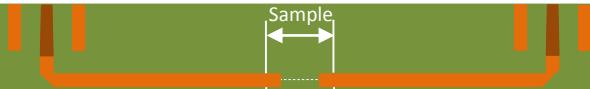
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- [3] Roy, Jibendu Sekhar, *et al.*, "Dispersion Characteristics of Curved Microstrip Transmission Lines," *IEEE Transactions on Microwave Theory and Techniques*, Vol. MTT-38, No. 8, August 1990, pp. 1366–1370.
- [4] Weisshaar, A., *et al.*, "Modeling of Radial Microstrip Bends," *1990 IEEE MTT-S International Microwave Symposium Digest*, pp. 1051–1054.



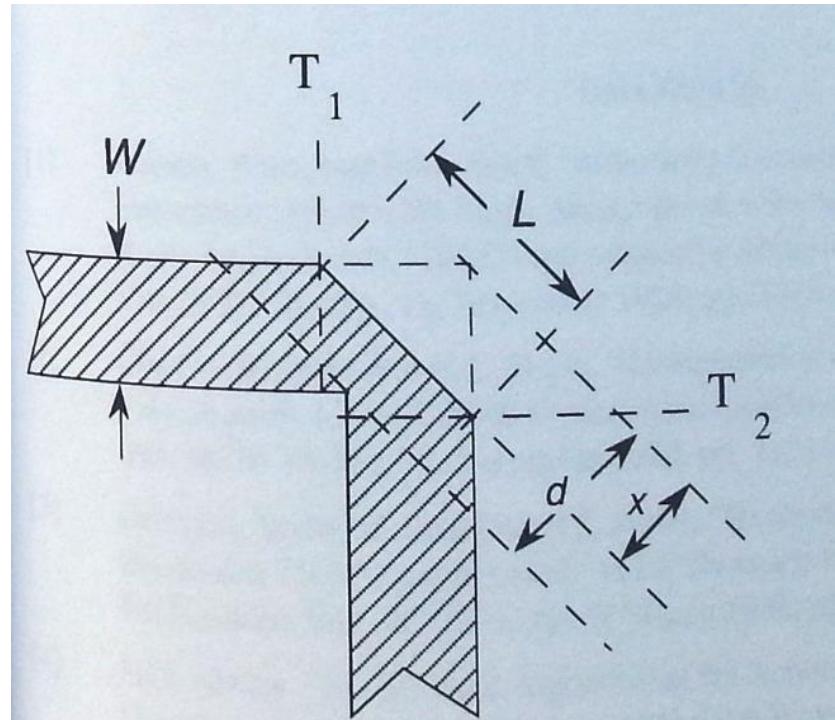
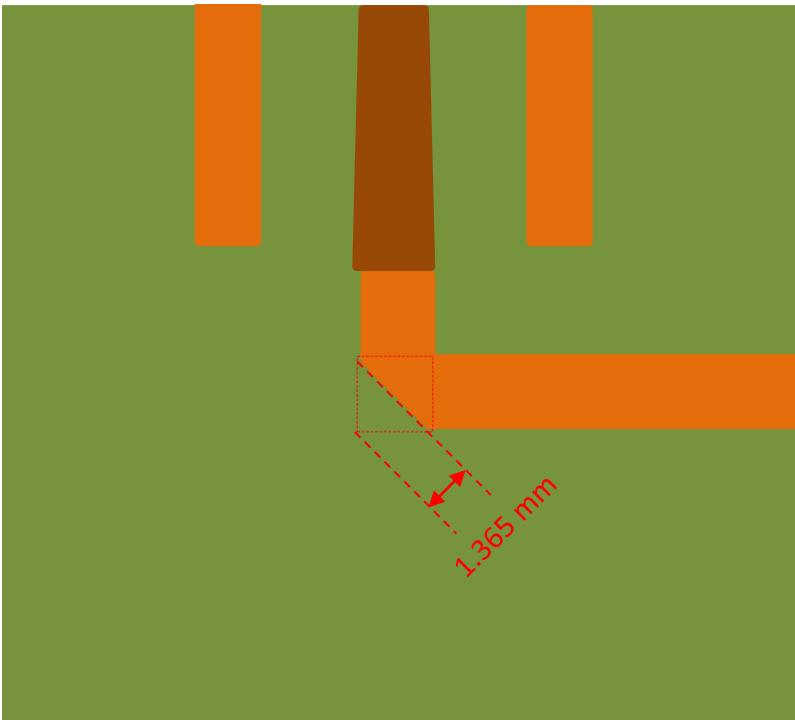
DBMC-RO4003C-0.8-SMA-Amph132432-S20-M1
Sensing Materials Technology Ltd, UK



DBMC-RO4003C-0.8-SMA-Amph132432-S10-M1
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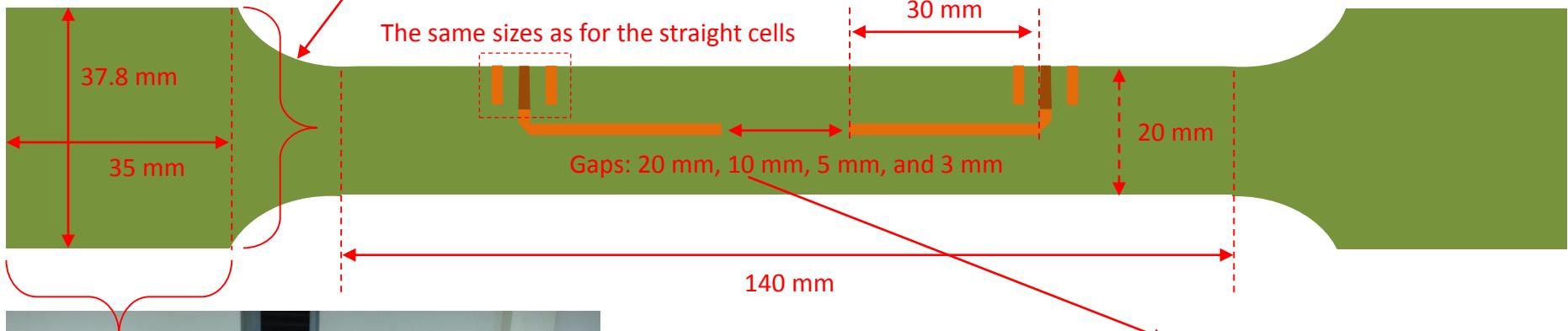
DBMC-RO4003C-0.8-SMA-Amph132432-S5-M1
Sensing Materials Technology Ltd, UK



```
# Program in Python
import math
w=1.74159 # strip width in mm
h=0.8 # PCB thickness in mm
d=2**0.5*w # diagonal in mm
x=d*(0.52+0.65*math.exp(-1.35*w/h)) # cut off from the corner in mm
print('x=',x,'mm')
```

x = 1.365474753822523 mm ← This value will be used for our cells

Propose a smooth transition

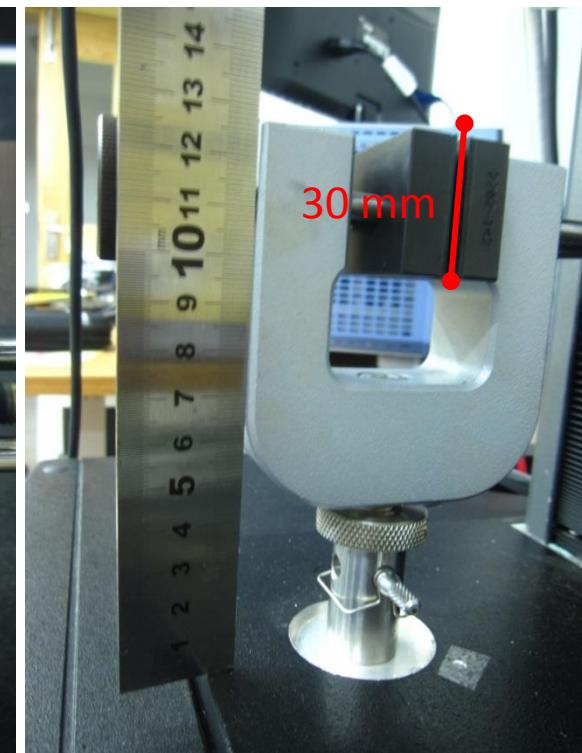
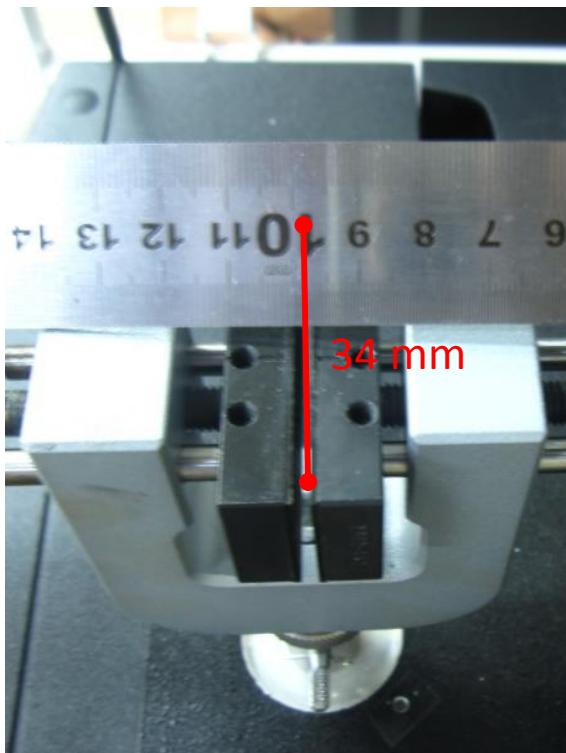


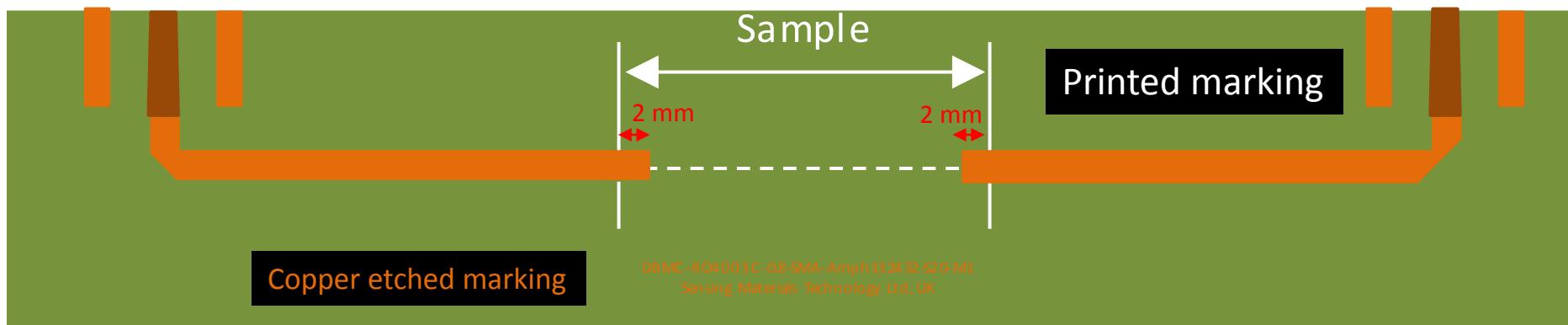
These sizes are still flexible. The only requirements – they must be inside the grippers and provide a reliable grip (see some indications below). The width (37.8 mm) could be increased up to 40-45 mm.



DBMC-RO4003C-0.8-SMA-Amph132432-S10-M1
Sensing Materials Technology Ltd, UK

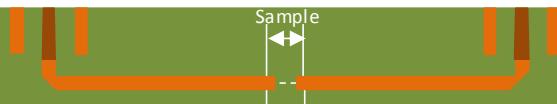
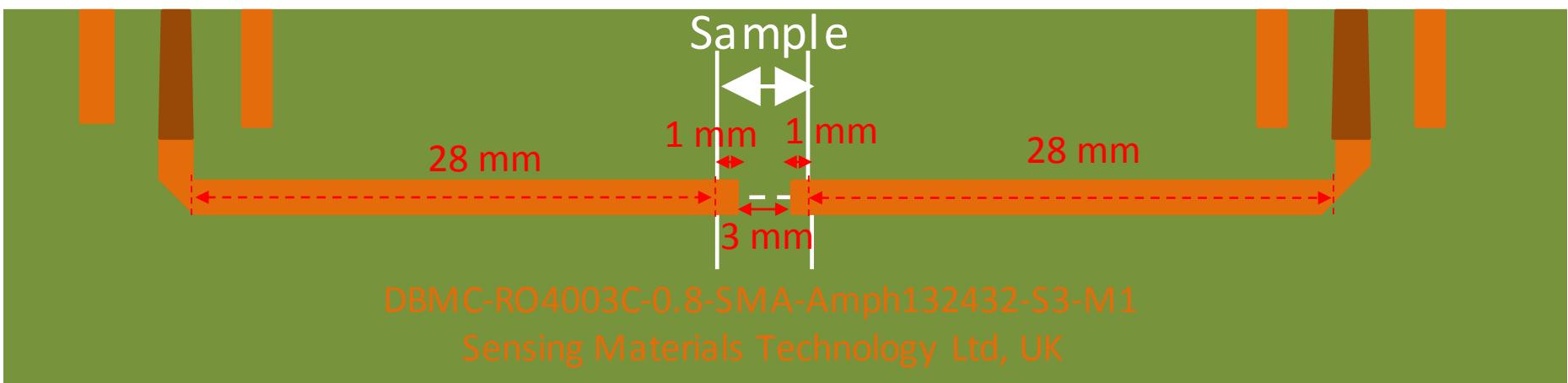
Copper etched marking



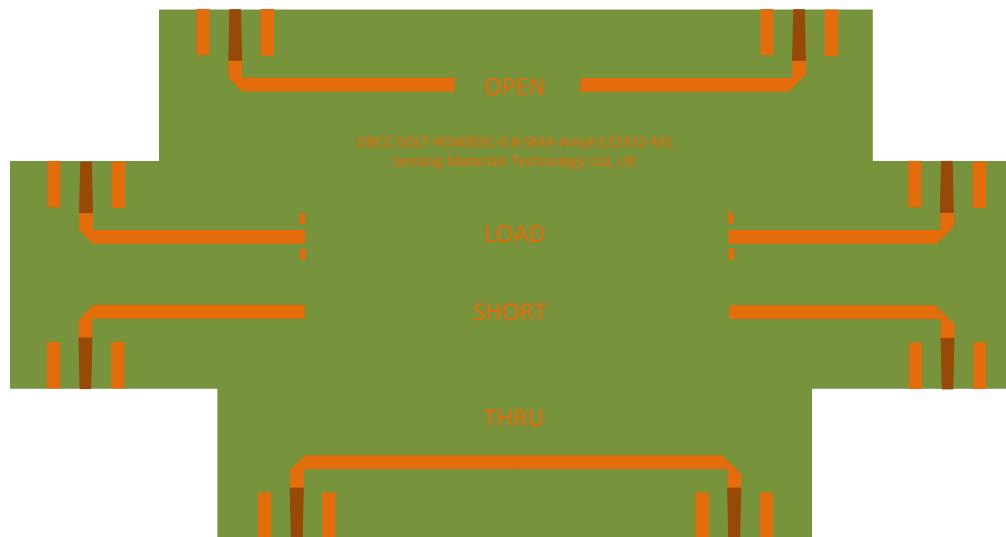


A very “challenging cell” – extremely short sample (3 mm) and soldering pads (1 mm)

After a proper calibration, a VNA will return correctly measured S-parameters of a sample soldered between the contact pads. These S-parameters can be formally recalculated into the impedance Z. However, such recalculation assumes that Z is a lumped parameter. The latter is fully correct only if the wavelength along the sample is much larger than its longitudinal size. Therefore, for the accurate results, especially when measuring the frequency dispersion of Z, the sample length must be significantly reduced. Here, we face a typical problem in microwave measurements – interpretation of results. Note that S-parameters are always correct (after a proper calibration), but their recalculation into something else may require more sophisticated models. In our project, we have to find new approaches to this problem if the sample size is not meant to be extremely small. The measurement cell proposed below still allows traditional recalculation procedure from S21/12-parameter into the lumped Z up to several GHz. In a VNA, such recalculation can be done in real time.



SOLT calibration board



OPEN

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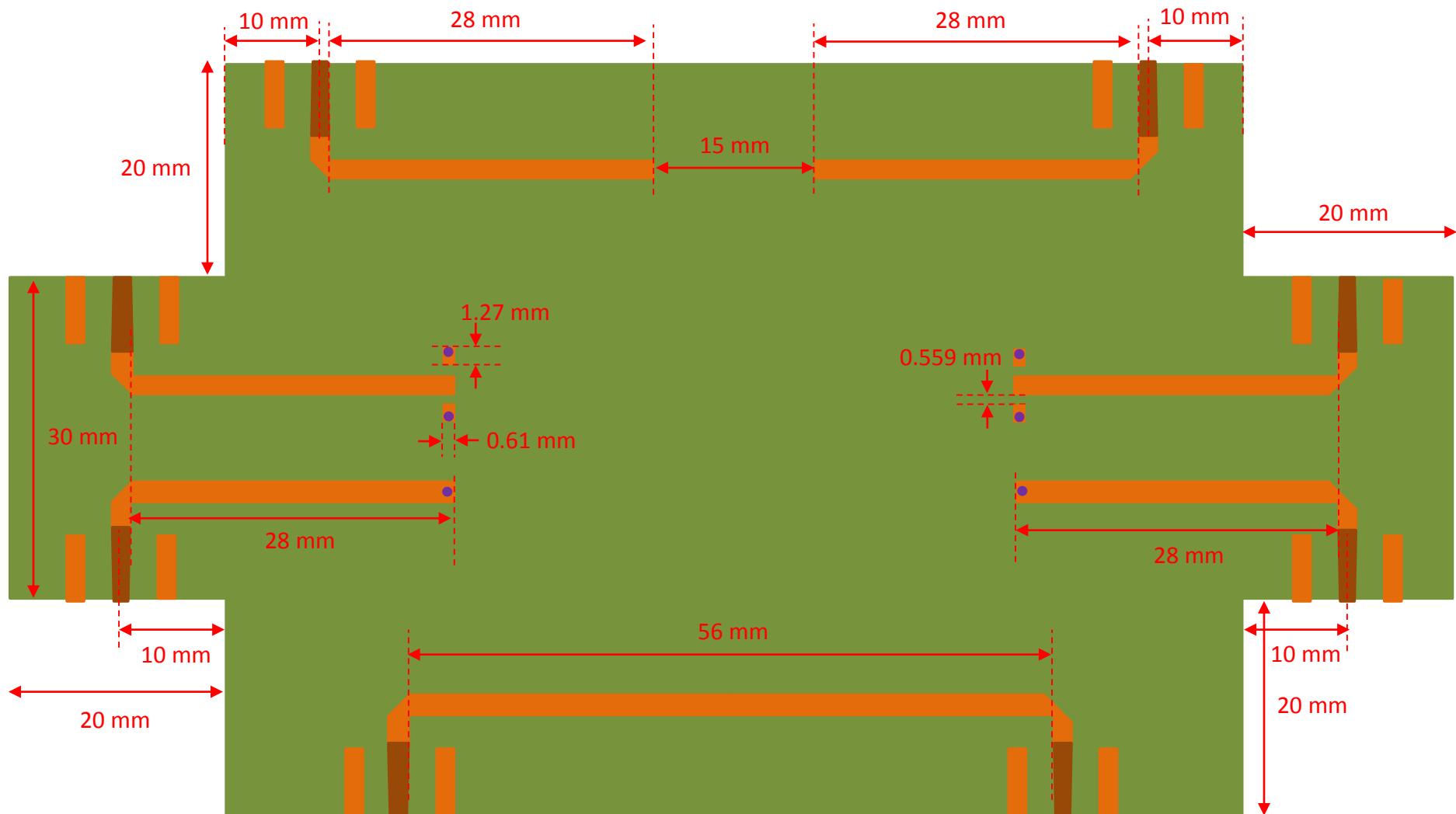
LOAD

SHORT

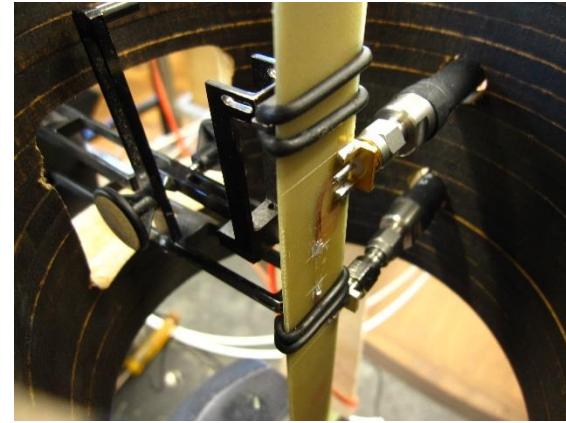
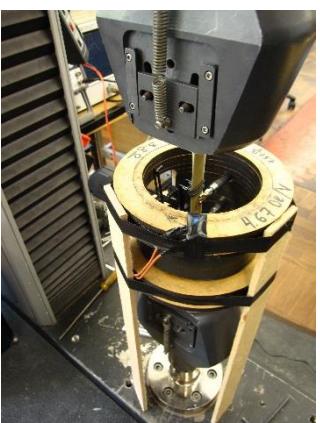
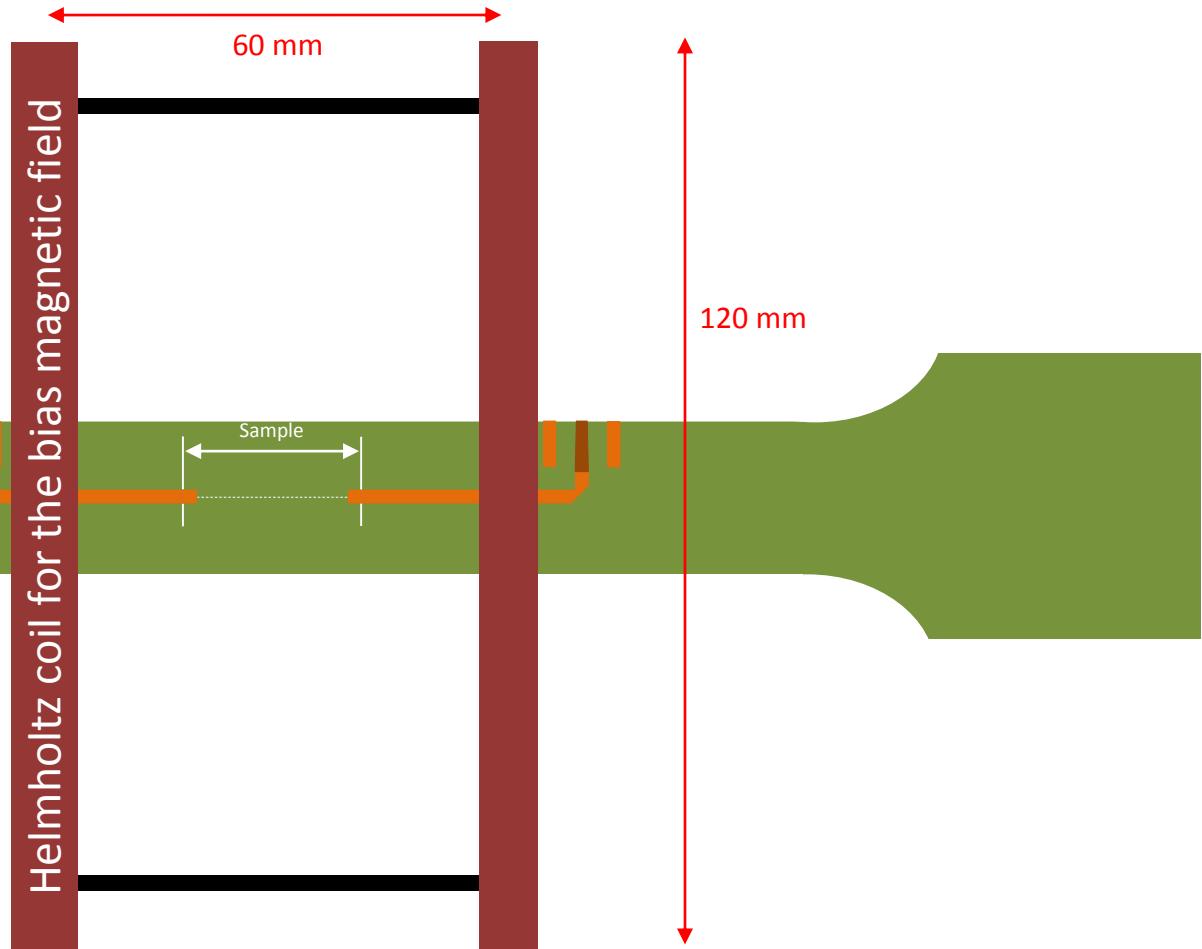
THRU

Copper etched marking

SOLT calibration board



Application: stress-impedance measurements



TRL calibration boards

When calibrating with TRL, absolutely the same measurement cells (straight or dog bone) will be used, but the calibration boards are now completely different.

An extraction form Rohde&Schwarz ZNB VNA user manual:

A TRL calibration requires the two-port standards THRU and LINE, which are both assumed to be ideally matched. Beyond that, THRU must be lossless, and its length must be exactly known. The length of LINE standard must be known approximately. Furthermore, a reflecting one-port standard (Reflect) is needed. The magnitude of the reflection coefficient of the Reflect standard can be unknown but must be nonzero; its phase must be roughly known (90 deg). The magnitude and phase of the reflection coefficient must be the same at both test ports. TRL calibration is especially useful for DUTs in planar line technology (e.g. test fixtures, on-wafer measurements) where it is difficult to design and connect accurately modelled OPEN, SHORT or MATCH standards.

The system of equations solved to derive the error terms is such that singularities occur whenever the length difference ΔL between THRU and LINE is an integer multiple of half of the wave length. As a rule, singularities are avoided with sufficient accuracy if the phase shift resulting from the electrical length difference between THRU and LINE standard is between 20° and 160°. This corresponds to a ratio of 1:8 for the start and stop frequency of the calibrated sweep range.

Calculations for LINE

For a phase difference, we have:

$$\varphi = 2\pi f \Delta t \quad (1)$$

where f is a frequency and Δt is a time interval. In our case, the time interval means a time delay caused by the wave propagation along LINE as compared to THRU:

$$\Delta t = \frac{l}{v} = \frac{l\sqrt{\epsilon_{eff}}}{c} \quad (2)$$

where l is the length of "LINE – THRU" (extension), $v = c / \sqrt{\epsilon_{eff}}$ is the wave propagation speed along LINE, c is the speed of light in vacuum, and ϵ_{eff} is the effective dielectric constant as if the wave propagated in free space. Some online impedance calculators provides ϵ_{eff} for a selected structure, for example, this one: <https://www.pasternack.com/t-calculator-microstrip.aspx>. Putting (2) into (1), we obtain:

$$\varphi = \frac{2\pi f \sqrt{\epsilon_{eff}} l}{c} \quad (3)$$

$$f = \frac{\varphi c}{2\pi \sqrt{\epsilon_{eff}} l} \quad (4)$$

$$l = \frac{\varphi c}{2\pi \sqrt{\epsilon_{eff}} f} \quad (5)$$

For $\varphi = \pi / 9$ (20°) and $\varphi = 8\pi / 9$ (160°), we obtain:

$$f_{low} = \frac{c}{18\sqrt{\epsilon_{eff}} l} \quad (6)$$

$$f_{high} = \frac{4c}{9\sqrt{\epsilon_{eff}} l} \quad (7)$$

$$\frac{f_{high}}{f_{low}} = 8 \quad (8)$$

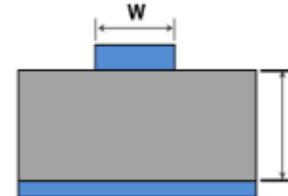
As the design rules for LINE, we will use the following equations:

$$f \in [f_{low}, 8f_{low}] - \text{selected frequency range} \quad (9)$$

$$l[\text{mm}] = \frac{c[\text{mm/s}]}{18\sqrt{\epsilon_{eff}} f_{low}[\text{Hz}]} \approx \frac{10^{11}}{6\sqrt{\epsilon_{eff}} f_{low}[\text{Hz}]} \quad (10)$$

Pasternack's calculator (<https://www.pasternack.com/t-calculator-microstrip.aspx>)

Dielectric Constant	<input type="text" value="3.804"/>
Width:	<input type="text" value="1.74159"/>
Height:	<input type="text" value="0.812"/>
	<input type="button" value="Calculate"/>



Result:

Width/Height: **2.145**
 Effective Dielectric Constant: **2.948**
 Impedance: **50.02 Ω**

As the design rules for LINE, we will use the following equations:

$f \in [f_{low}, 8f_{low}]$ - selected frequency range

$$l[\text{mm}] = \frac{c[\text{mm / s}]}{18\sqrt{\epsilon_{eff}} f_{low}[\text{Hz}]} \approx \frac{10^{11}}{6\sqrt{\epsilon_{eff}} f_{low}[\text{Hz}]}$$

If $\left(\frac{W}{H}\right) < 1$:

$$\epsilon_{eff} = \frac{\epsilon_R + 1}{2} + \frac{\epsilon_R - 1}{2} \left[\frac{1}{\sqrt{1+12\left(\frac{H}{W}\right)}} + 0.04 \left(1 - \left(\frac{W}{H}\right)^2\right) \right]$$

$$Z_0 = \frac{60}{\sqrt{\epsilon_{eff}}} \ln \left(8 \left(\frac{H}{W} \right) + 0.25 \left(\frac{W}{H} \right) \right)$$

If $\left(\frac{W}{H}\right) > 1$:

$$\epsilon_{eff} = \frac{\epsilon_R + 1}{2} + \left[\frac{\epsilon_R - 1}{2\sqrt{1+12\left(\frac{H}{W}\right)}} \right]; \quad Z_0 = \frac{120\pi}{\sqrt{\epsilon_{eff}} \left[\frac{W}{H} + 1.393 + \frac{2}{3} \ln \left(\frac{W}{H} + 1.444 \right) \right]}$$

2.948

For three overlapping frequency ranges, we obtain:

$$[250 \text{ MHz}, 2 \text{ GHz}] \Rightarrow \text{LINE1} = \text{THRU} + 38.83 \text{ mm}$$

$$[500 \text{ MHz}, 4 \text{ GHz}] \Rightarrow \text{LINE2} = \text{THRU} + 19.41 \text{ mm}$$

$$[3 \text{ GHz}, 18 \text{ GHz}] \Rightarrow \text{LINE3} = \text{THRU} + 3.24 \text{ mm}$$

$$l[\text{mm}] \approx \frac{10^{11}}{6\sqrt{2.948}f_{low}[\text{Hz}]}$$

These calculations can be checked using the online calculator: <http://www.emtalk.com/mscalc.php>

RO4003C

Dielectric Constant (ϵ_r): 3.804
Dielectric Height (h): 0.812 mm
Frequency: 2 GHz

Electrical Parameters
Z₀: 50.0144159238 Ω
Elec. Length: 160.006600076 deg

Physical Parameters
Width (W): 1.74159 mm
Length (L): 38.83 mm

Push "Analyze"

Substrate Parameters
Dielectric Constant (ϵ_r): 3.804
Dielectric Height (h): 0.812 mm
Frequency: 0.25 GHz

Diagram: A cross-sectional diagram of a microstrip line on a RO4003C substrate. The conductor is yellow, the dielectric layer is grey, and the ground plane is at the bottom. Dimensions W (width), L (length), and h (height) are labeled. A curved arrow points from the conductor to the text "conductor". A curved arrow points from the ground plane to the text "ground".

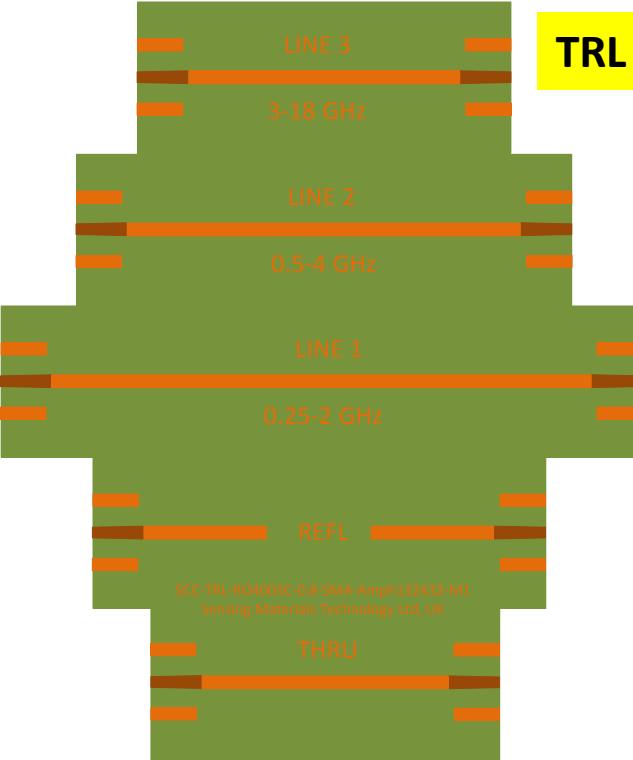
Calculation:
$$\frac{10^{11}}{6 \times \sqrt{2.948} \times 2.5 \times 10^8} = 38.83$$

Bottom Calculator Results:

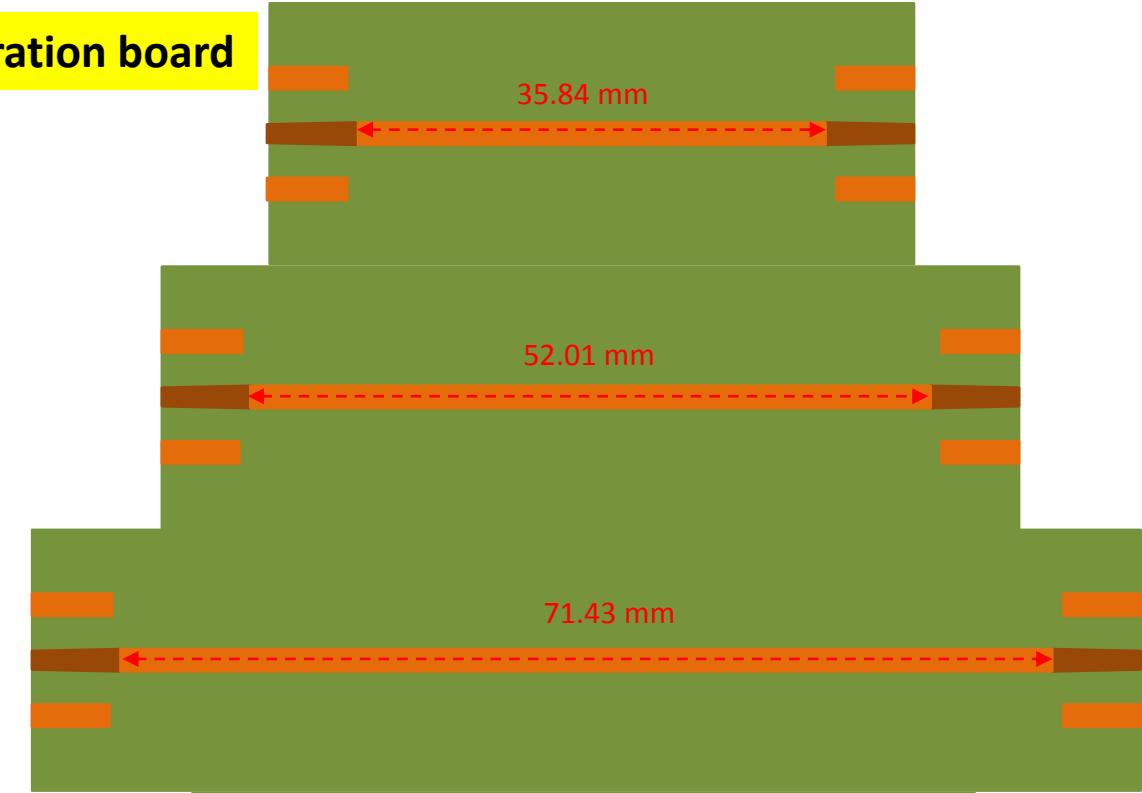
Electrical Parameters
Z₀: 50.0144159238 Ω
Elec. Length: 20.0008250095 deg

Physical Parameters
Width (W): 1.74159 mm
Length (L): 38.83 mm

TRL calibration board



Copper etched marking



LINE3

3-18 GHz

LINE2

0.5-4 GHz

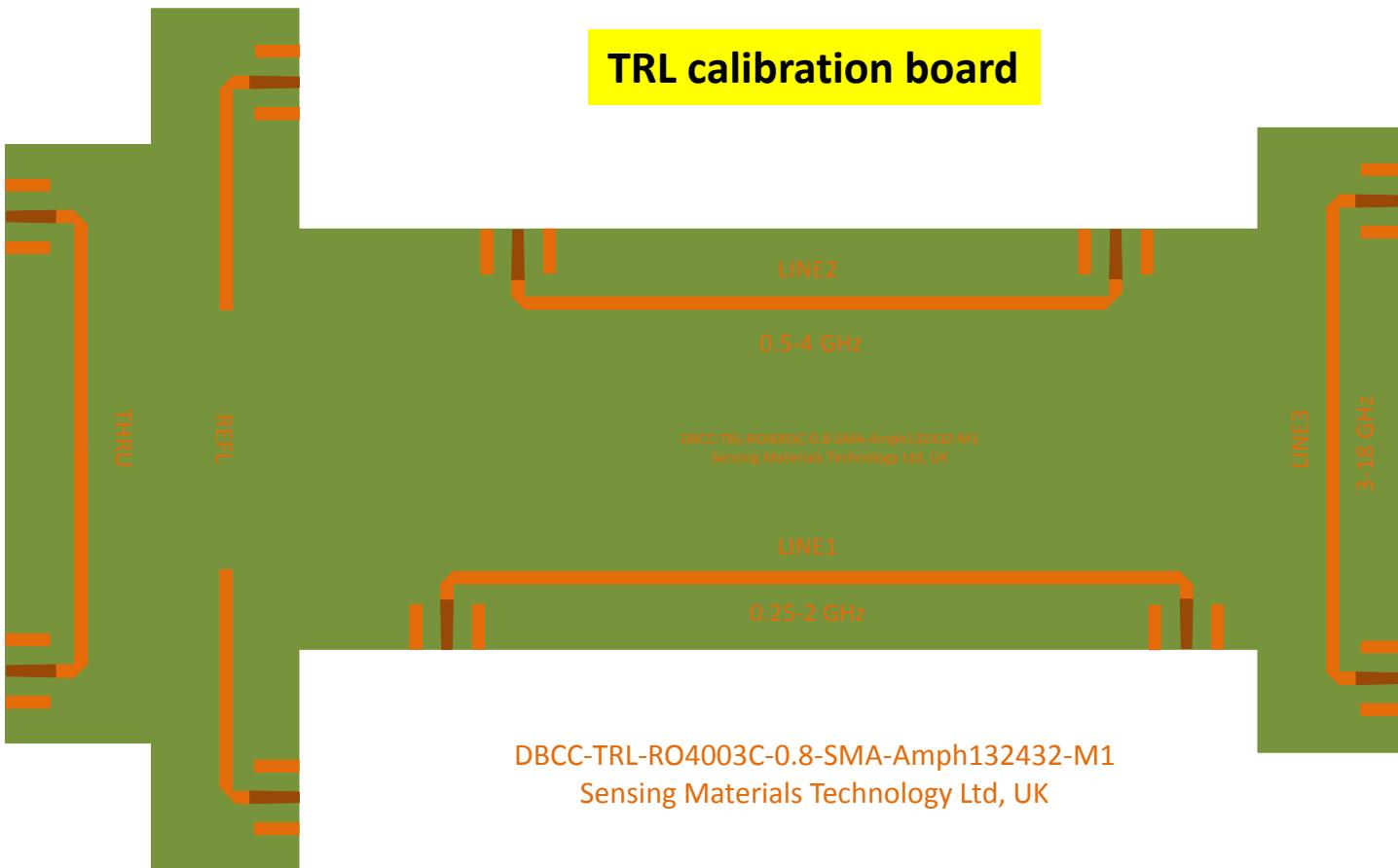
LINE1

0.25-2 GHz

REFL

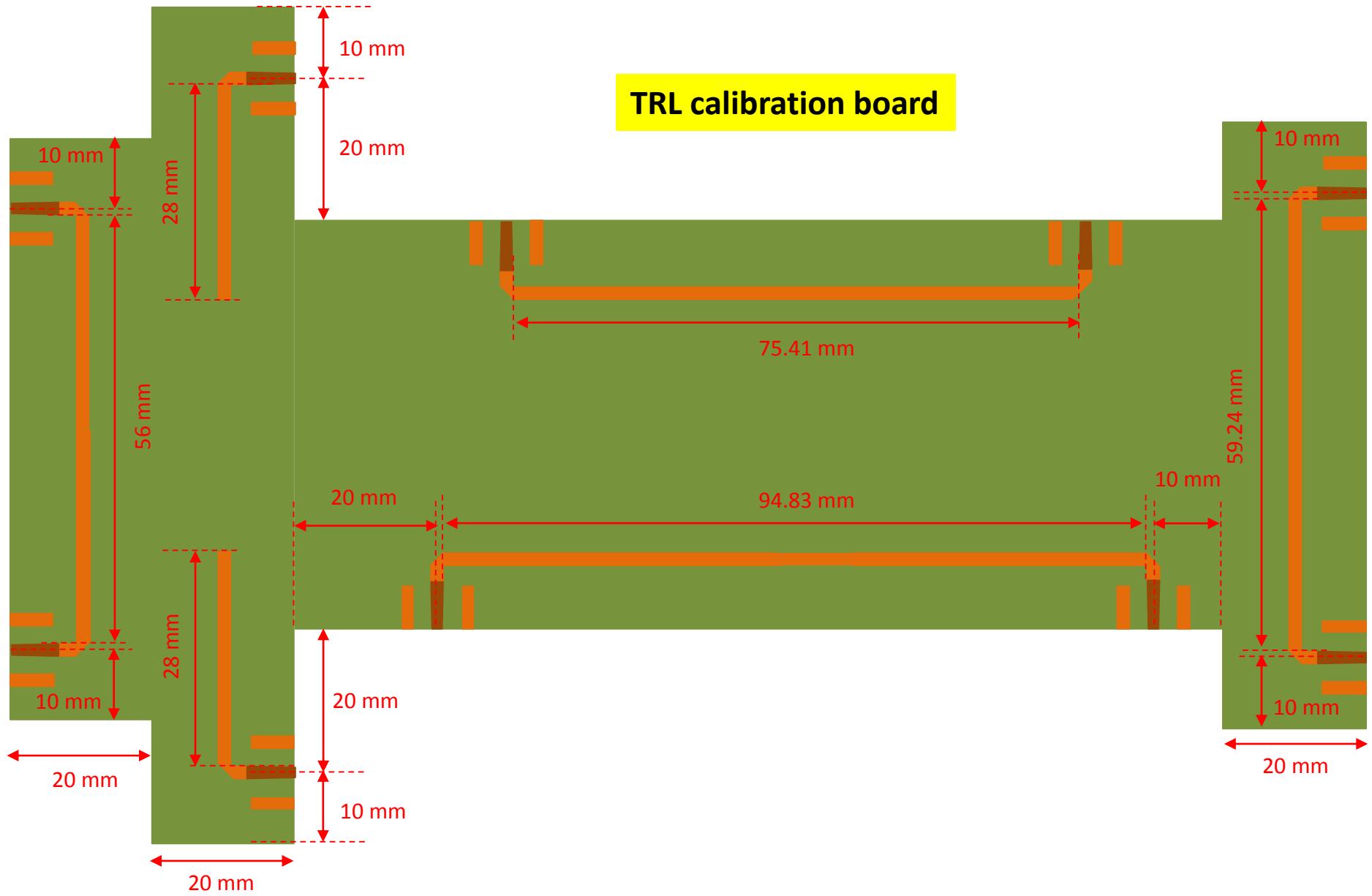
SCC-TRL-RO4003C-0.8-SMA-Amph132432-M1
Sensing Materials Technology Ltd, UK

THRU



Copper etched marking

TRL calibration board



Cells' taggings

SMC-RO4003C-0.8-SMA-Amph132432-S10-M1: Straight Measurement Cell, RO4003C material, PCB thickness 0.8 mm, SMA connector Amphenol 132432, Sample length 10 mm, Model 1

SCC-SOLT-RO4003C-0.8-SMA-Amph132432-M1: Straight Calibration Cell, SOLT calibration method, RO4003C material, PCB thickness 0.8 mm, SMA connector Amphenol 132432, Model 1

SCC-TRL-RO4003C-0.8-SMA-Amph132432-M1: Straight Calibration Cell, TRL calibration method, RO4003C material, PCB thickness 0.8 mm, SMA connector Amphenol 132432, Model 1

DBMC-RO4003C-0.8-SMA-Amph132432-S10-M1: Dog Bone Measurement Cell, RO4003C material, PCB thickness 0.8 mm, SMA connector Amphenol 132432, Sample length 10 mm, Model 1

DBCC-SOLT-RO4003C-0.8-SMA-Amph132432-M1: Dog Bone Calibration Cell, SOLT calibration method, RO4003C material, PCB thickness 0.8 mm, SMA connector Amphenol 132432, Model 1

DBCC-TRL-RO4003C-0.8-SMA-Amph132432-M1: Dog Bone Calibration Cell, TRL calibration method, RO4003C material, PCB thickness 0.8 mm, SMA connector Amphenol 132432, Model 1

Paper models of the cells in their natural size

