

PROTOCOL

to exercise

Time Domain Reflectometry

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EL

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Time Domain Reflectometry

Used Devices

Nr.	Device	Manufacturer	Type	
1.	Oscilloscope	-		
2.	Function generator	-		

1 Inhalt

2	GENERAL INFORMATION	3
2.1	GIVEN EXERCISES	3
3	MEASUREMENT OF A RG58 CABLE WITH 100 M LENGTH.....	4
3.1	MEASUREMENT THE PROPAGATION SPEED	4
3.2	OPEN END	4
3.3	SHORT CIRCUIT	5
3.4	POTENTIOMETER	5
3.5	100 Ω	6
3.6	75 Ω	6
3.7	60 Ω	7
3.8	50 Ω	7
3.9	30 Ω	8
4	CABLE WITH AN UNKNOWN LENGTH	9
4.1	OPEN END	9
4.2	SHORT CIRCUIT	9
5	MEASUREMENT OF AN LAN CABLE	10
5.1	OPEN END	10
5.2	SHORT CIRCUIT	10
5.3	POTENTIOMETER	11
5.4	100 Ω	11
5.5	75 Ω	12
5.6	60 Ω	12
5.7	50 Ω	13

2 General Information

Time-domain reflectometry or TDR is a measurement technique used to determine the characteristics of electrical lines by observing reflected waveforms

The spike pulse travels at the propagation speed to the end of the cable and if the end is unterminated (open end) it is reflected and travels back to the Oscilloscope!

At known cable length the propagation speed can be calculated. For coaxial cables it is about 2/3 of the speed of light in vacuum. At known propagation speed of the cable it is possible to calculate the cable length.

If the cable has any defects (Impedance changes) it is possible to calculate the distance to the defect.

2.1 Given Exercises

- Measure the propagation speed.
- Terminate the cable with different resistors (a Potentiometer) and determine the resistance with a minimum of reflections. This is the characteristic impedance of the cable.
- Measure the length of a cable with unknown length by using TDR

Three different wires were used for measurement

- RG58 Cable with 100 m length
- A random unknown length Cable
- A available LAN Cat 5e Cable, built-in wire

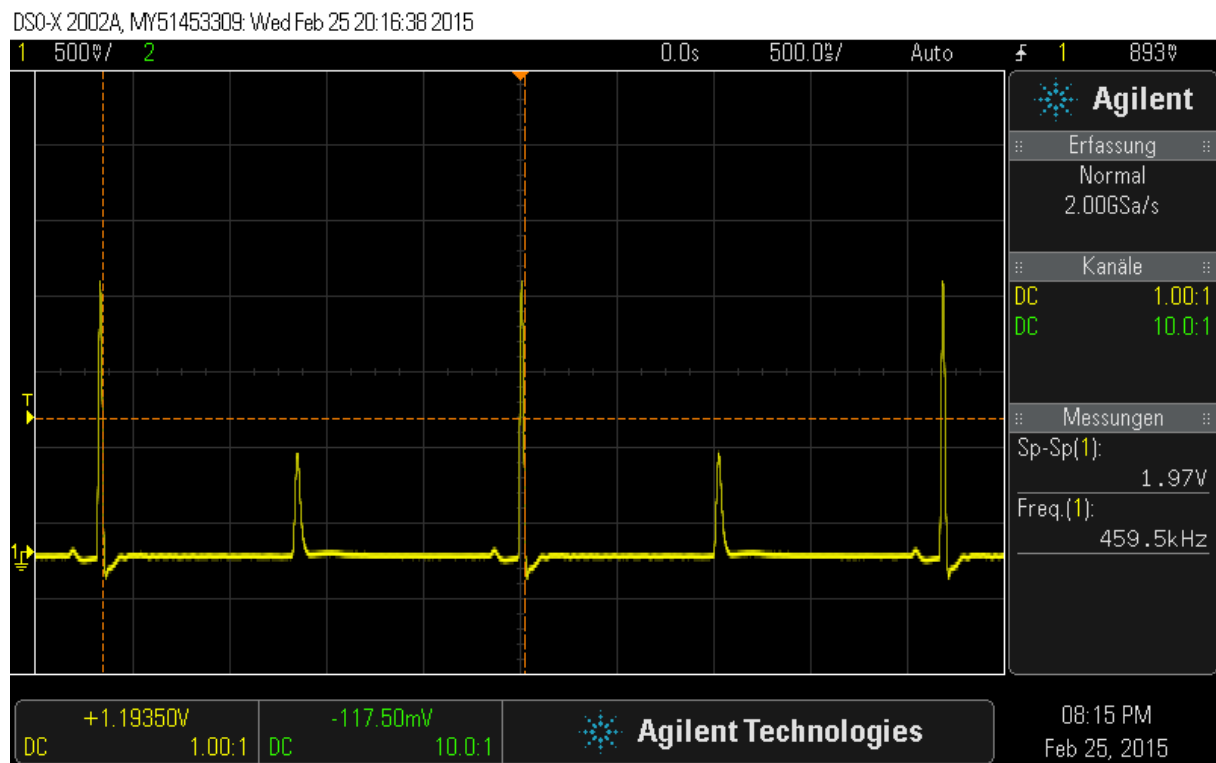
3 Measurement of a RG58 Cable with 100 m length

3.1 Measurement the propagation speed

The propagation time of the cable was 232 ns.

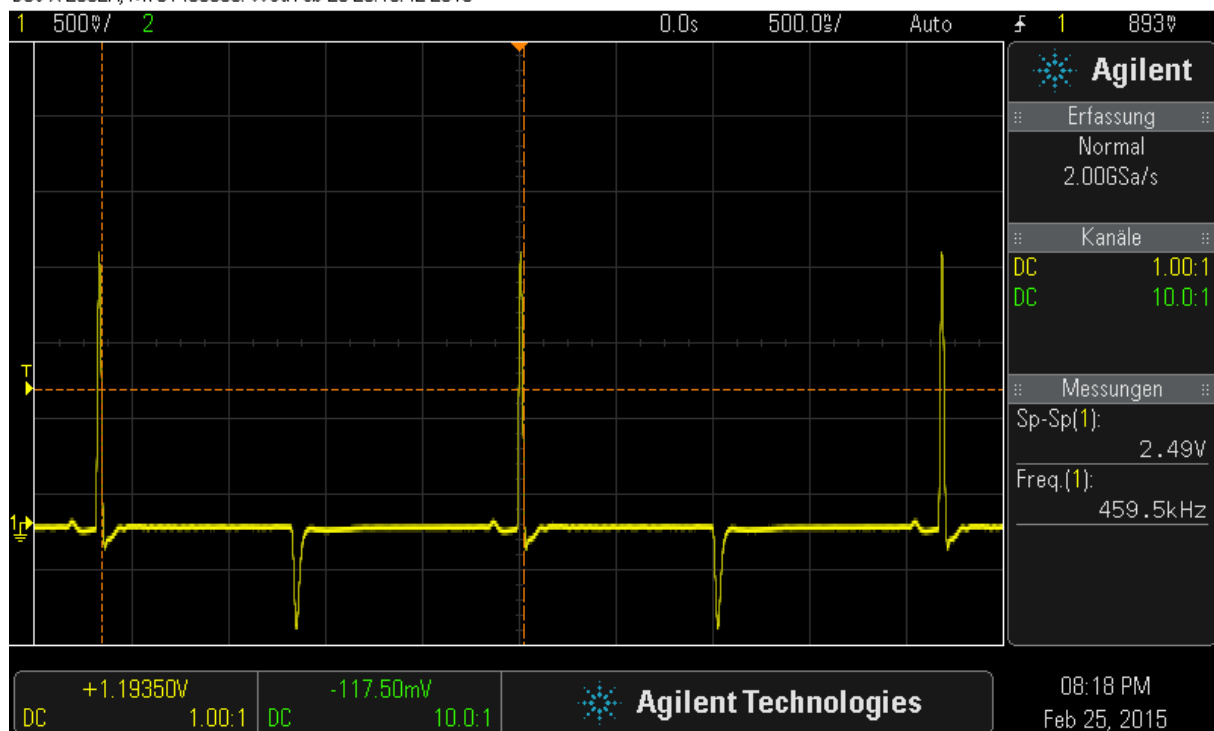
$$v = \frac{100 \text{ m}}{232 \text{ ns}} = 431\,034\,482 \text{ m/s} = 1,55 * 10^9 \text{ km/h}$$

3.2 Open End



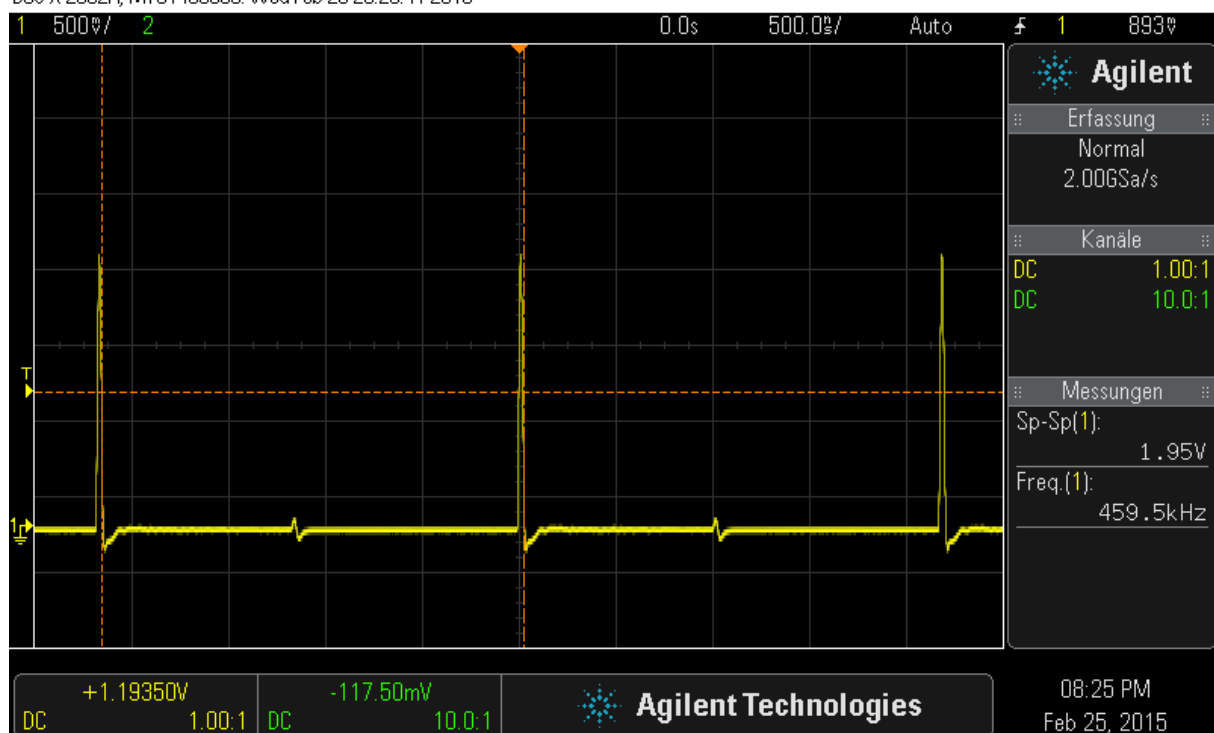
3.3 Short Circuit

DSO-X 2002A, MY51453309: Wed Feb 25 20:18:42 2015



3.4 Potentiometer

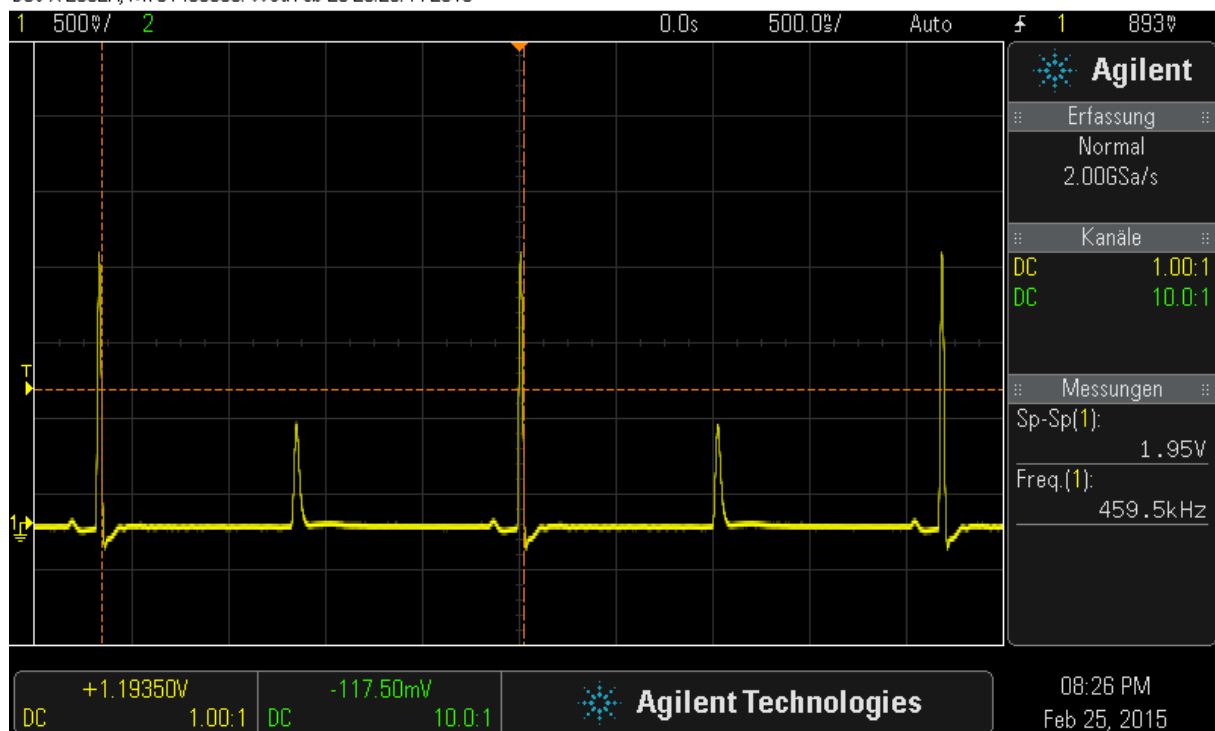
DSO-X 2002A, MY51453309: Wed Feb 25 20:25:41 2015



The right resistors value for the potentiometer which was set was 54,6 Ω .

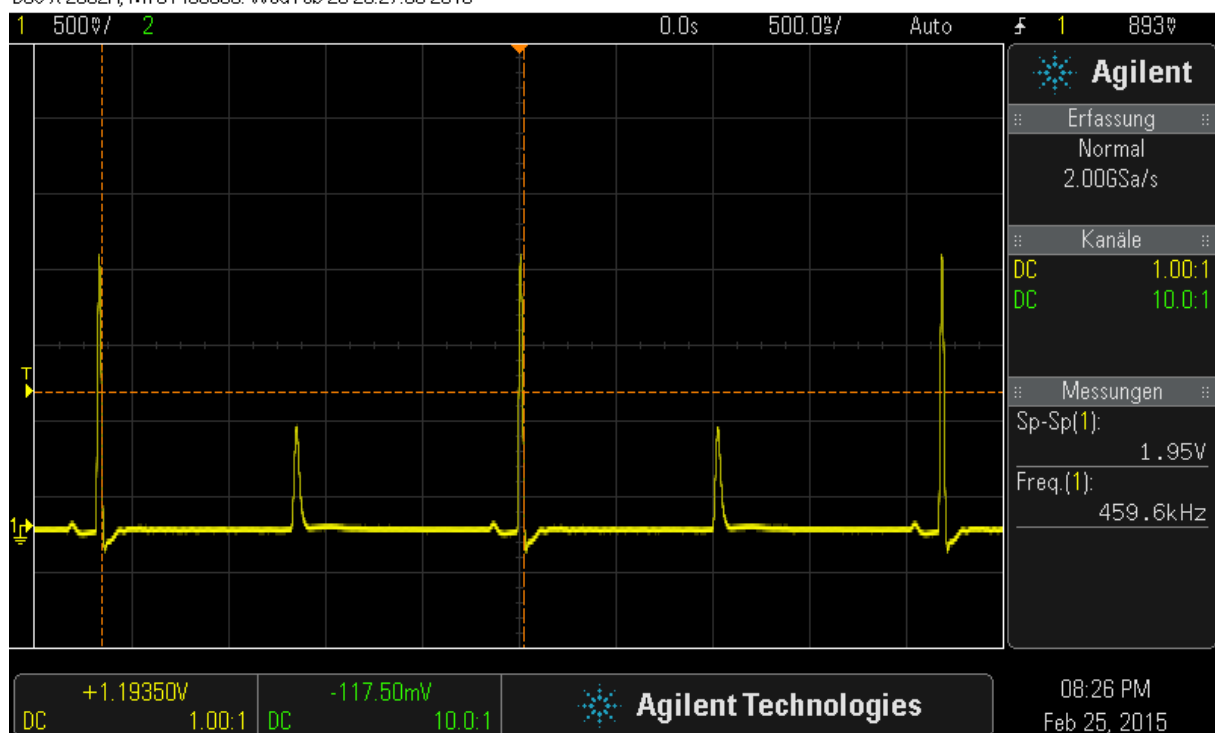
3.5 100 Ω

DSO-X 2002A, MY51453309: Wed Feb 25 20:26:44 2015



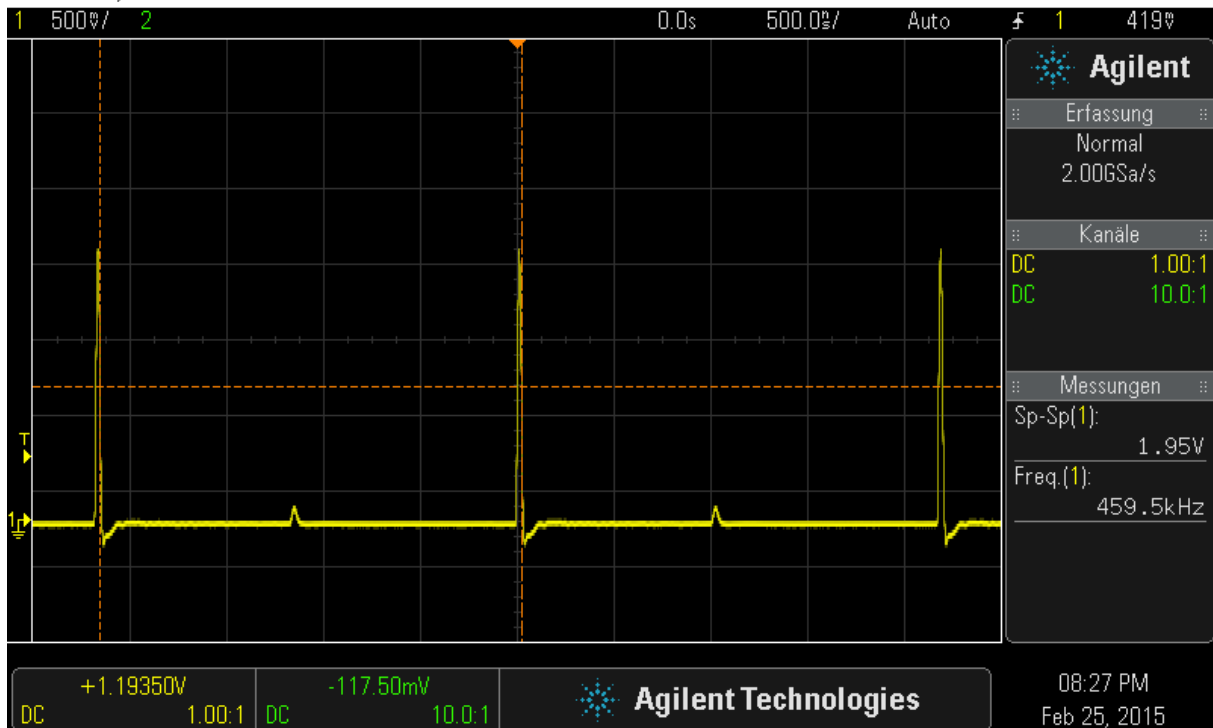
3.6 75 Ω

DSO-X 2002A, MY51453309: Wed Feb 25 20:27:06 2015



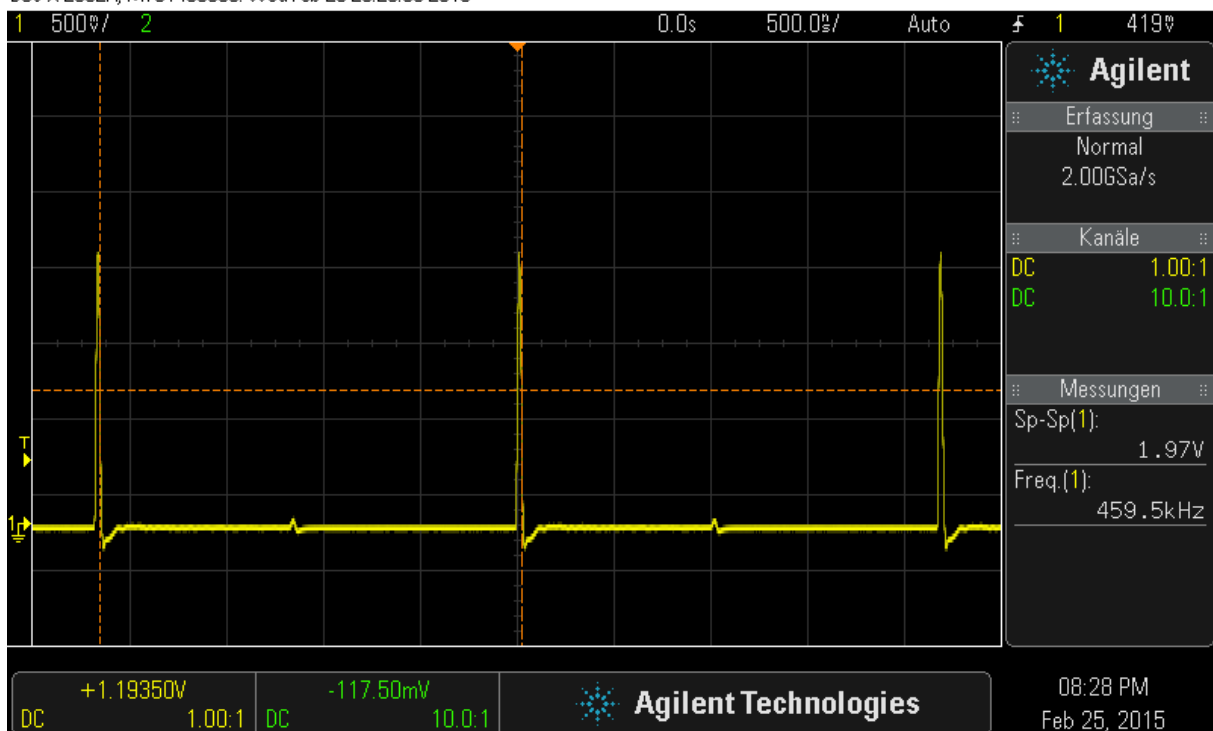
3.7 60 Ω

DSO-X 2002A, MY51453309: Wed Feb 25 20:28:38 2015



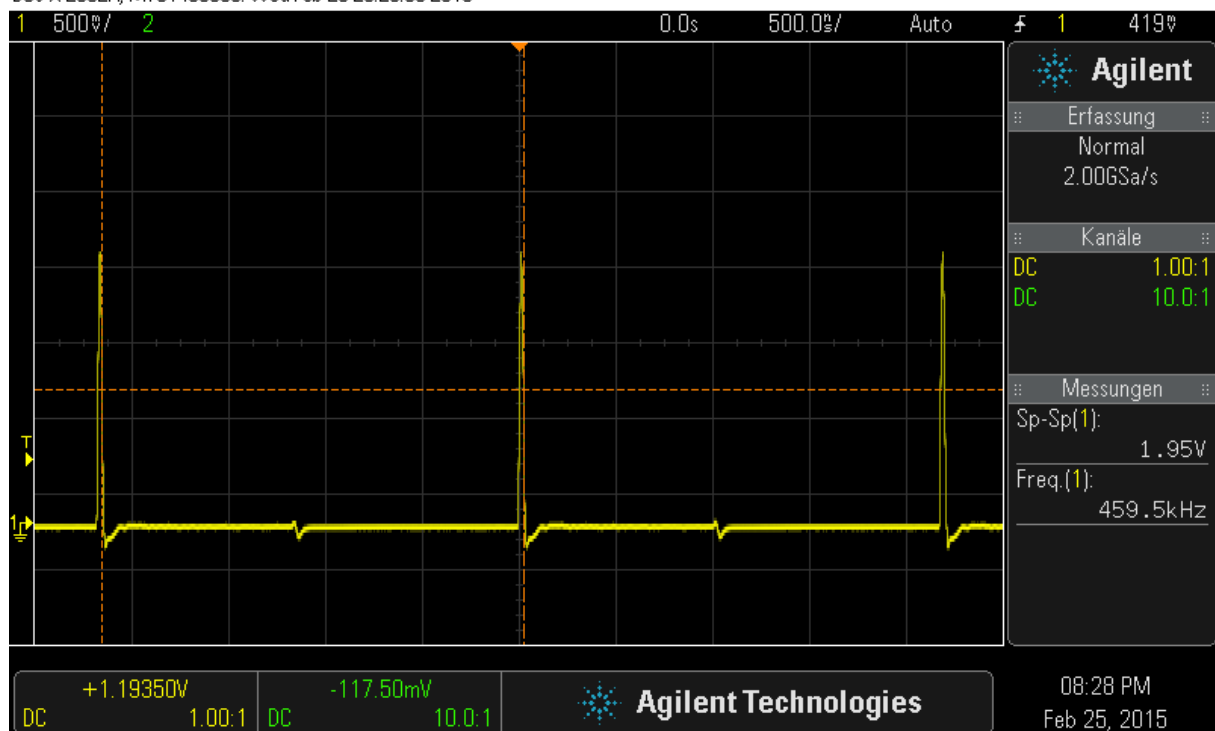
3.8 50 Ω

DSO-X 2002A, MY51453309: Wed Feb 25 20:28:50 2015



3.9 30 Ω

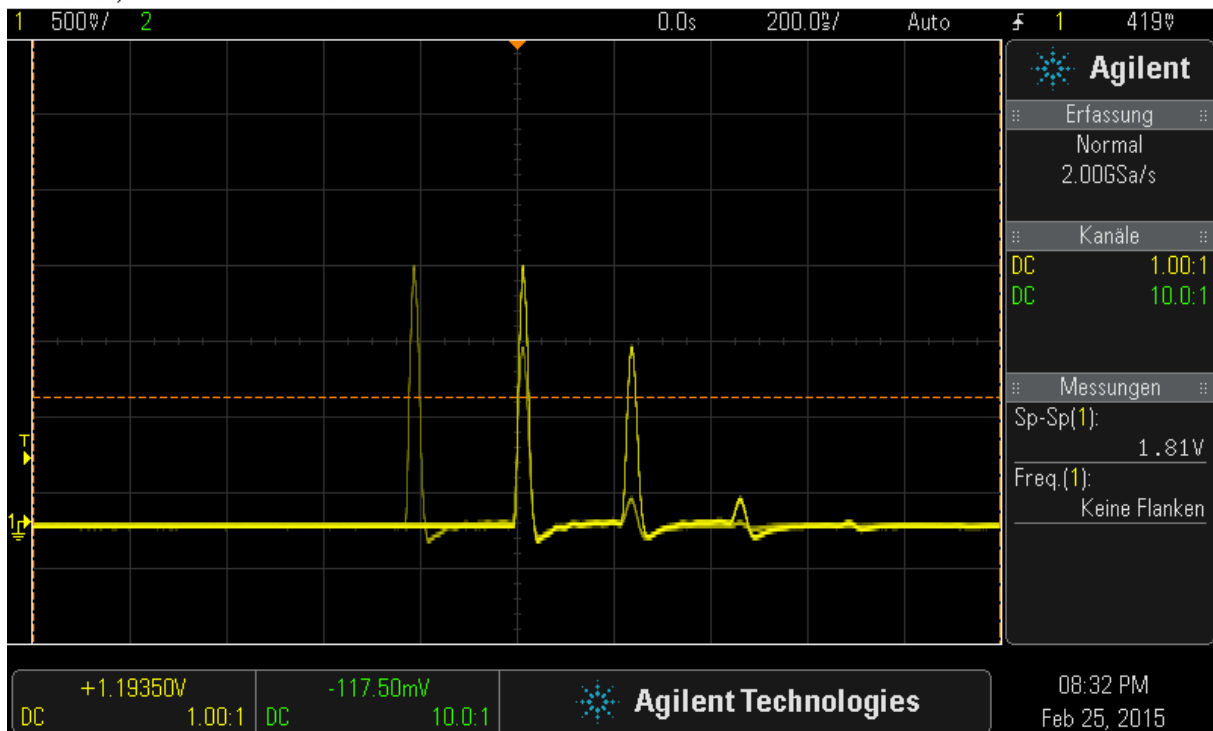
DSO-X 2002A, MY51453309: Wed Feb 25 20:28:56 2015



4 Cable with an unknown length

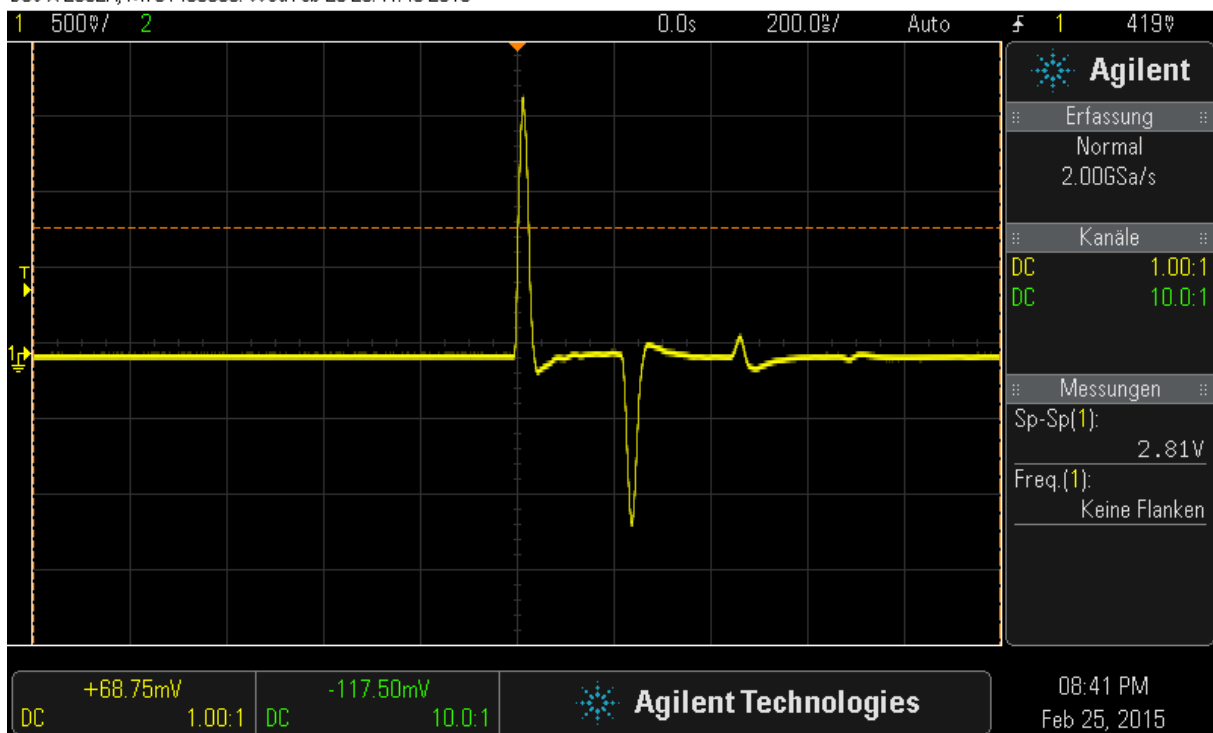
4.1 Open End

DSO-X 2002A, MY51453309: Wed Feb 25 20:33:01 2015



4.2 Short circuit

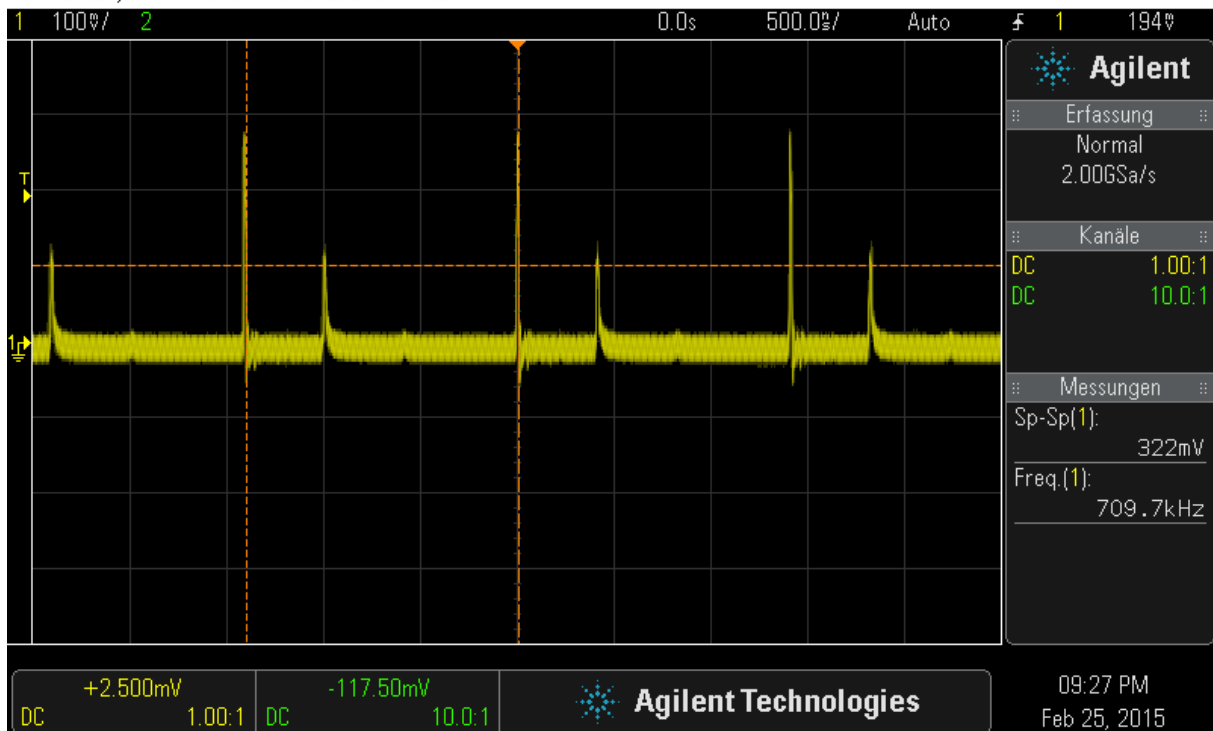
DSO-X 2002A, MY51453309: Wed Feb 25 20:41:43 2015



5 Measurement of an LAN Cable

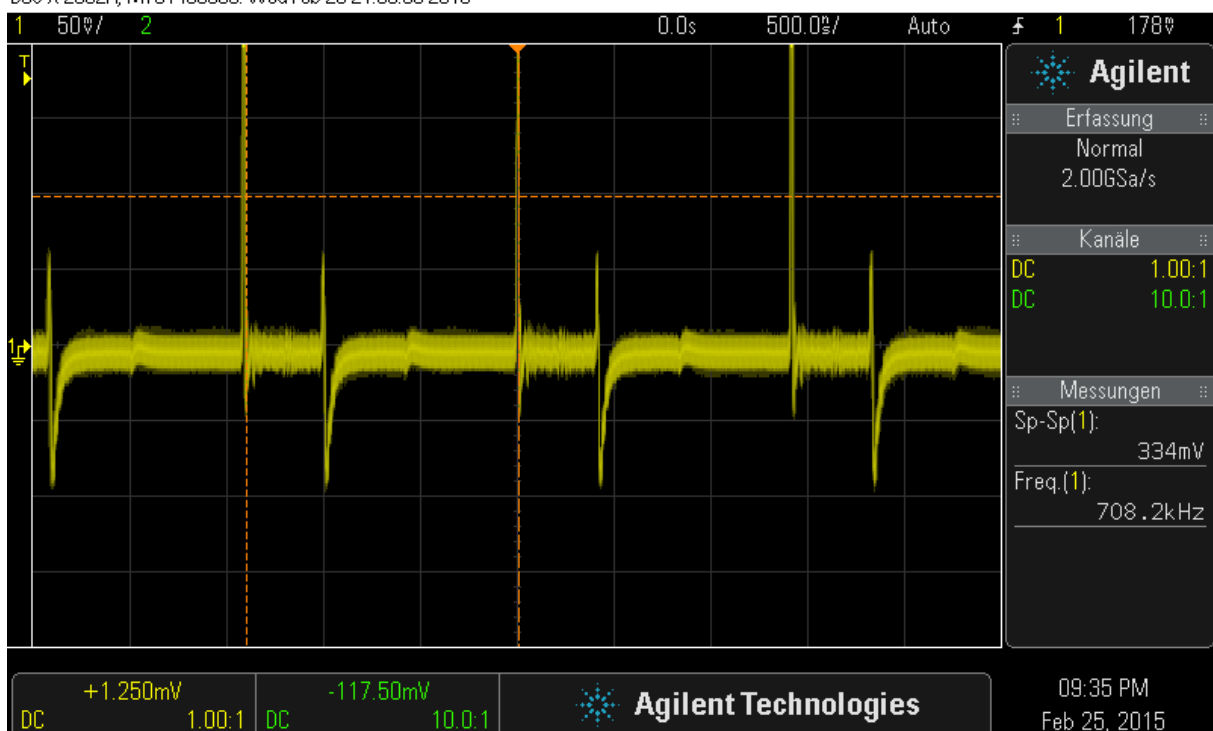
5.1 Open End

DSO-X 2002A, MY51453309: Wed Feb 25 21:28:17 2015



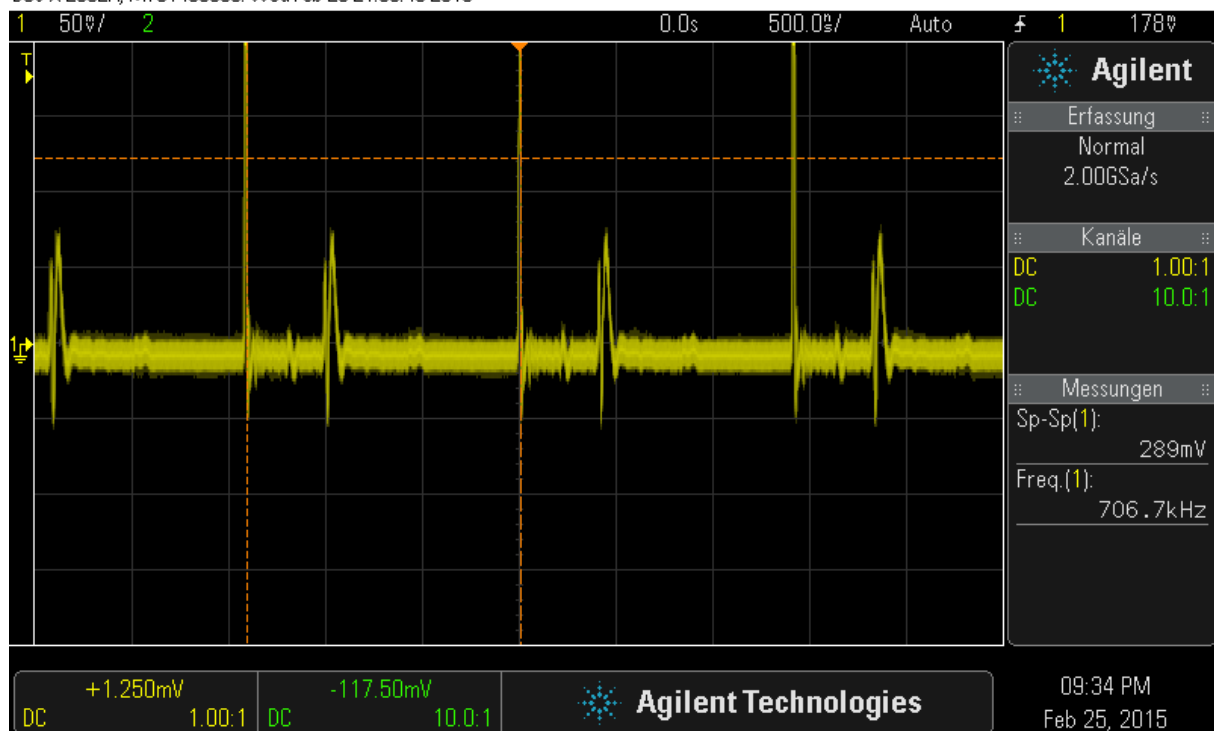
5.2 Short circuit

DSO-X 2002A, MY51453309: Wed Feb 25 21:36:03 2015



5.3 Potentiometer

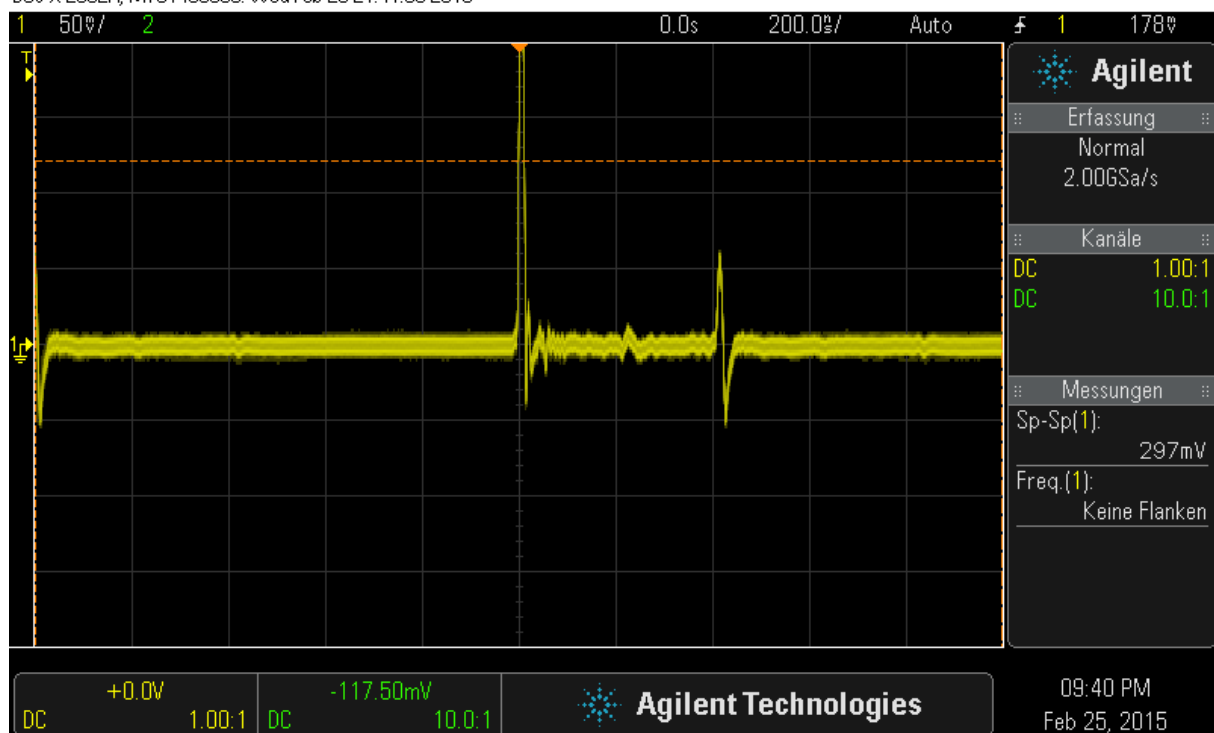
DSO-X 2002A, MY51453309: Wed Feb 25 21:35:46 2015



The measured resistance of the optimal potentiometer value was 71.5Ω for the LAN cable.

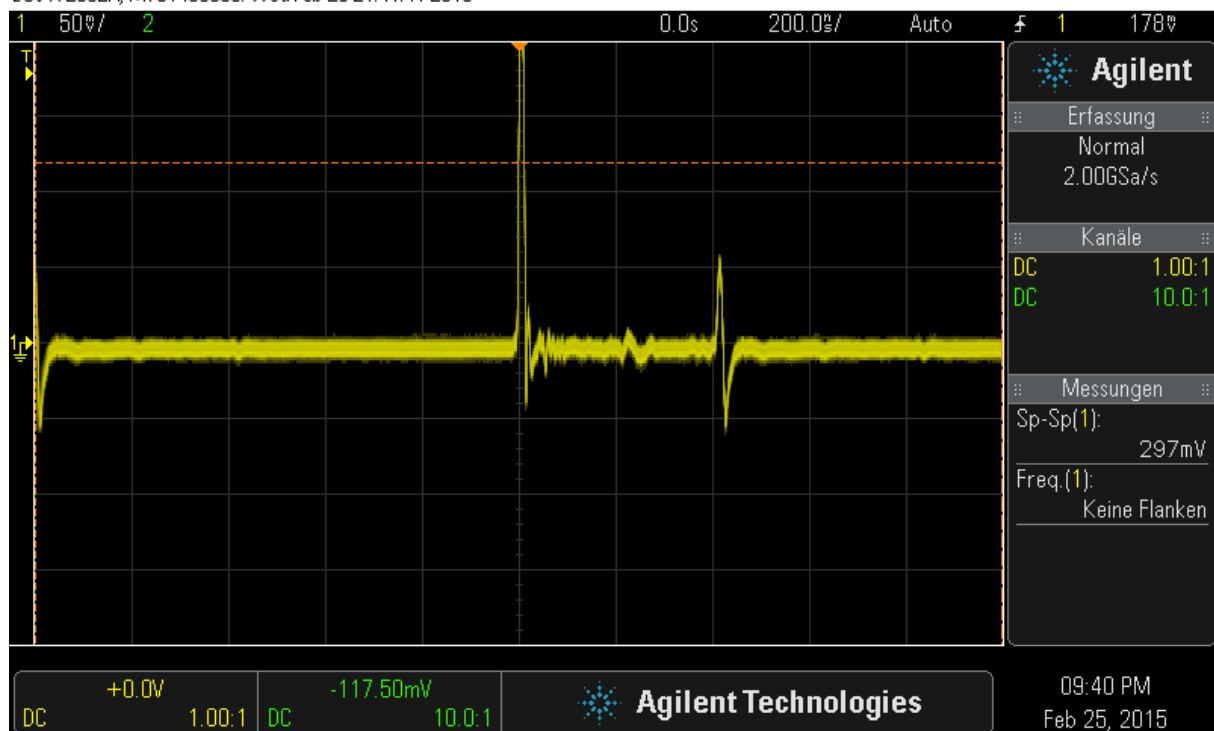
5.4 100 Ω

DSO-X 2002A, MY51453309: Wed Feb 25 21:41:36 2015



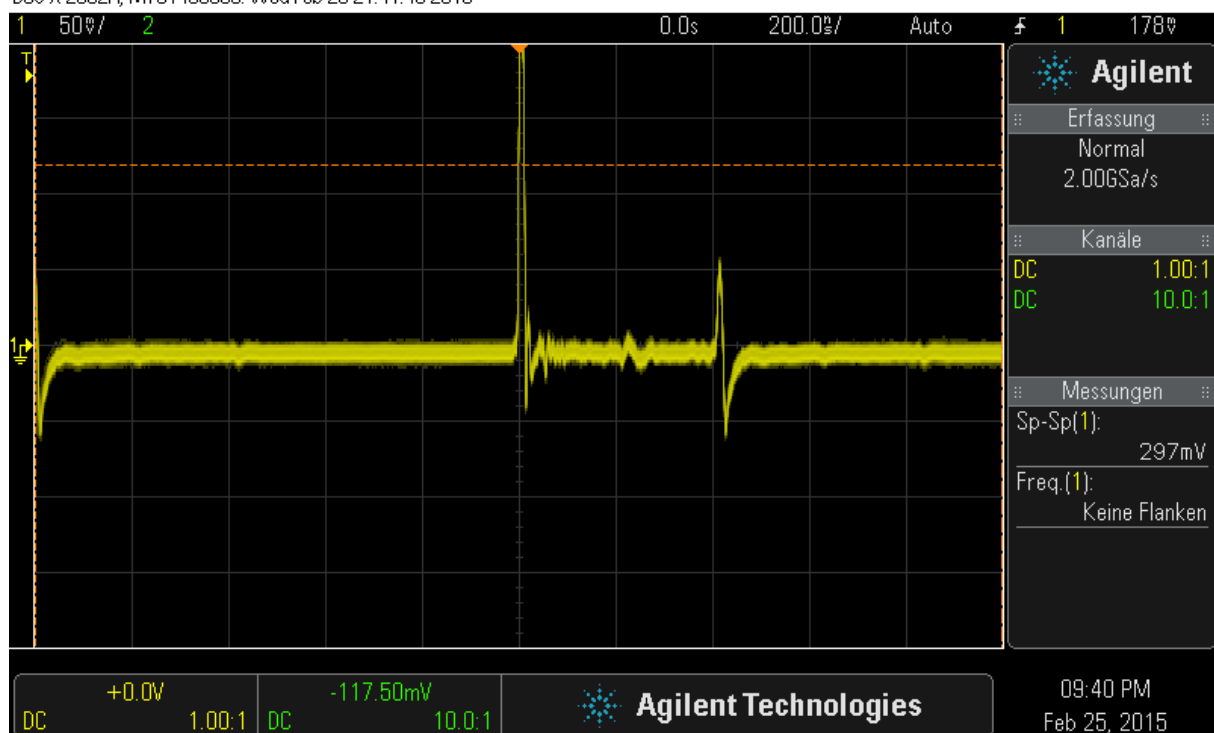
5.5 75 Ω

DSO-X 2002A, MY51453309: Wed Feb 25 21:41:41 2015



5.6 60 Ω

DSO-X 2002A, MY51453309: Wed Feb 25 21:41:46 2015



5.7 50 Ω

DSO-X 2002A, MY51453309: Wed Feb 25 21:41:54 2015

