

- Press *Shift + Enter* to run each cell.

CMB Instrumentation Summer School 2022

Laser Spectroscopy: Measuring Materials' Optical Properties

Shreya Sutariya (shreyas@uchicago.edu (<mailto:shreyas@uchicago.edu>)), ERC 568 This is the hands-on component of the FLS lab.

Today's lab will center on reflection measurements of a common plastic called high-density polyethelene (HDPE). After measuring and plotting the measurement, we will plot its simulated performance and compare. Finally, we fit to get the exact index of refraction n of the material. (Time permitting we will also measure: LPE, MF-114, non-ARC alumina).

Today's Objectives:

- See `Notebook1_Laser_Spec_Background.ipynb` for material on understanding the measurement instrument and reflection setup.
- *Exercise 1:* Take reflection measurements of our samples.
- *Exercise 2:* Simulate what reflection of such a material should look like.
- *Exercise 3:* Fit our measurement to the model to get the index of refraction of our sample.
→ We can understand a material more precisely by knowing its complex index of refraction, $\tilde{n} = n + ik$ (we won't be doing this fit today), where the imaginary component k determines the absorptivity of the material and the real part n is what we normally refer to as the index of refraction.

Exercise 1: Reflection Measurements

As you take reflection measurements, think about the following:

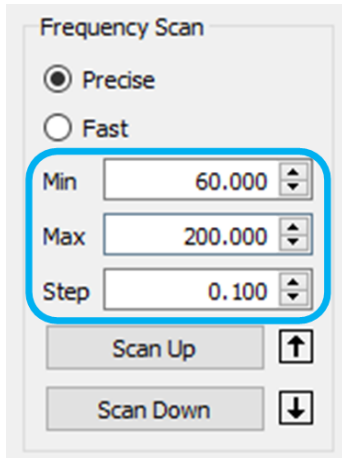
- What can introduce noise in our measurement? What are ways we can reduce this?
- Think about the transmission setup from Figure 1 in `Notebook1`. What challenges and differences could come up in a transmission measurement?

Measurement Procedure:

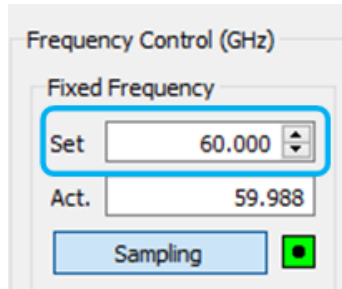
In addition to measuring the sample's performance across a frequency range, we also have to take a calibration measurement to normalize the sample's measurement and get its reflectivity. We use a metal plate for this calibrating measurement, which serves as our 100% reflection.

For both the metal plate and the sample, we will get the electric field amplitude as it changes with respect to frequency. Then, to convert from amplitude to power (which scales as $|E|^2$), we square the sample and calibration plate amplitudes. To normalize our sample's measurement, we divide out the calibration plate: $R = (E_{\text{sample}}/E_{\text{plate}})^2$

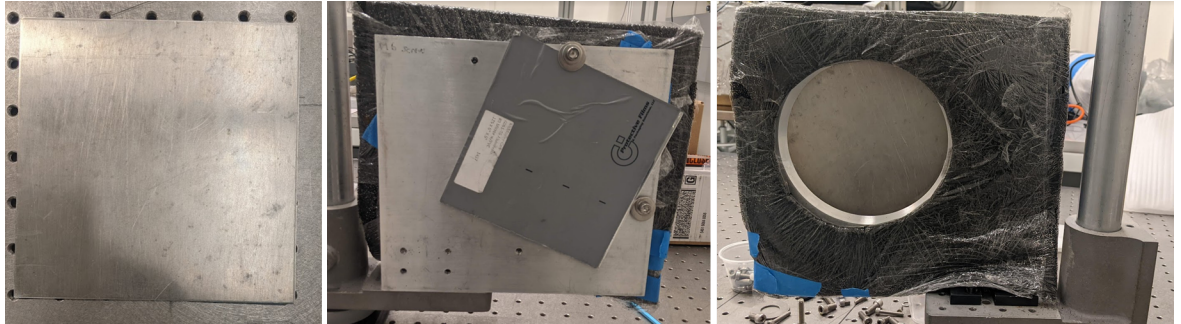
1. Set the sweep parameters in the TOPAS software:
 - Suggested values: Start frequency: 60 GHz , End frequency: 180 GHz , and Step size: 0.1 GHz



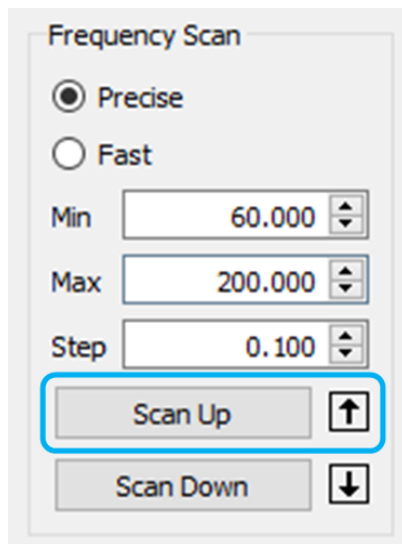
2. Set the current emitting frequency to 60 GHz .



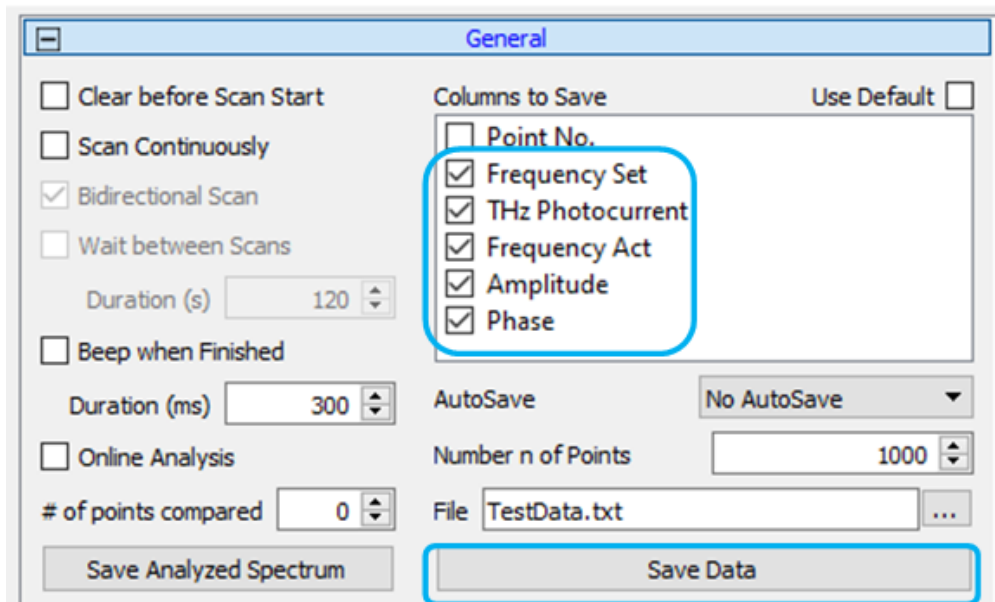
3. Insert metal plate into sample holder; use an allen wrench and the screws to use washers to hold the plate in place.



4. Press Scan up to start the sweep.



4. After the sweep is completed, choose the data columns to save and save your data in the GroupX folder with the name `r_plate_1_60-180GHz.txt`.



5. Repeat these steps but now replacing the metal plate in step (3.) with the sample of choice (for the first measurement, use HDPE, for other measurements, ask me (Shreya) for more samples). Save the sample in the same folder as above with the sample's name, e.g. `r_hdpe_1_60-180GHz.txt`

6. IMPORTANT: Saving your data

- Upload saved data onto the public [Google Drive Folder](https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/1dnvBpeqmDDmX2h6gwJYBr!usp=sharing) (<https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/1dnvBpeqmDDmX2h6gwJYBr!usp=sharing>) (upload your group's folder with the name GroupX)

Exercise 1.a.: Plotting our measurement

Here we plot the measurement from Exercise 1.

```
In [2]: 1 import numpy as np
        2 import matplotlib.pyplot as plt
        3 import scipy
        4 import scipy.optimize as optimize
```

User input: Enter your group name in the following format.

```
In [3]: 1 group_folder_name = 'GroupX'
```

In [4]:

```

1  # Run this cell as it is
2  # Next we have some useful functions/classes to smooth our data if needed, a
3
4  def smooth(x,window_len=11,window='hanning'):
5      """smooth the data using a window with requested size.
6      NOTE: length(output) != length(input), to correct this: return y[(window
7      """
8      if x.ndim != 1:
9          print('smooth only accepts 1 dimension arrays.')
10     if x.size < window_len:
11         print('Input vector needs to be bigger than window size.')
12     if window_len<3:
13         return x
14     if not window in ['flat', 'hanning', 'hamming', 'bartlett', 'blackman']:
15         print('Window is on of \'flat\', \'hanning\', \'hamming\', \'bartlett
16     s=np.r_[x[window_len-1:0:-1],x,x[-2:-window_len-1:-1]]
17     if window == 'flat': #moving average
18         w=np.ones(window_len,'d')
19     else:
20         w=eval('np.'+window+'(window_len)')
21     y=np.convolve(w/w.sum(),s,mode='valid')
22     return y
23
24     class fls_rt(object):
25         def __init__(self, file_name):
26             self.file_name = file_name
27             return
28
29         def load_data(self, path_ = "/Users/Shreya Sutariya/school_data/"+group_
30             '''
31             Column indices correspond to: 0-freq set, 1-Thz photocurrent, 2-freq
32             '''
33             data = np.genfromtxt(path_+self.file_name, skip_header=1)
34             col_data = data[:,col]
35             return col_data
36
37         def get_rt(self, calibration_freq, calibration_amplitude, sample_freq, s
38             '''check if the amplitude arrays are the same lengths'''# check if t
39             len_calib = len(calibration_amplitude)
40             len_sample = len(sample_amplitude)
41
42             if len_calib != len_sample:
43                 # interpolate for the calibration and sample arrays to match in
44                 f = scipy.interpolate.interp1d(calibration_freq, calibration_amp
45                 calibration_amplitude = f(sample_freq)
46                 rt = (sample_amplitude/calibration_amplitude)**2
47
48                 rt = (sample_amplitude/calibration_amplitude)**2
49                 return sample_freq, rt
50
51         def get_rt_smooth(self, calibration_freq, calibration_amplitude, sample_
52             ''' Smooth all arrays and then repeat get_rt'''
53             cal_f_smooth = smooth(calibration_freq, window_len = window_len_)
54             cal_a_smooth = smooth(calibration_amplitude, window_len = window_len_
55             sam_f_smooth = smooth(sample_freq, window_len = window_len_)
56             sam_a_smooth = smooth(sample_amplitude, window_len = window_len_)

```

```

57         f, rt = self.get_rt(cal_f_smooth, cal_a_smooth, sam_f_smooth, sam_a_
58         return f, rt
59
60     def save_file(self, freq, refl, name_save, path_save = '/Users/Shreya Su
61         header_ = 'Frequency(GHz), Reflectivity'
62         data = np.array([freq, refl])
63         data = data.T
64         outfile = open(path_save+name_save, 'w')
65         outfile.write(header_)
66         np.savetxt(outfile, data)
67         outfile.close()
68         print("Your file is saved and stored in: ", path_save+name_save)
69         return

```

User input: Enter the file names.

```

In [5]: 1 # ### Insert file names here:
2         hdpe1 = fls_rt("hdpe2_0p25in_60-120ghz.txt")
3         plate1 = fls_rt("plate2_60-120ghz.txt")
4
5         # enter name of file to save (uncomment last line of next cell if you want t
6         file_save_as = "hdpe_6p35mm_60-120ghz_refl.txt"

```

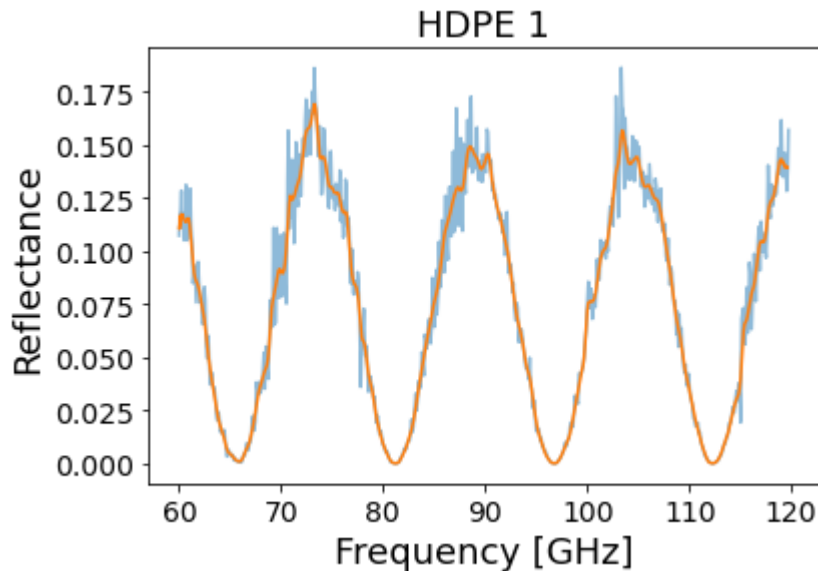
If doing this on your personal computer, use the last four lines with the `path_` argument and comment out the first four lines. Change the `path_` argument to match wherever you downloaded the files from Google Drive. Otherwise, run the next cell as it is.

```

In [6]: 1 # Run cell as it is
2         hdpe_freq = hdpe1.load_data(col=2) # frequency
3         hdpe_amplitude = hdpe1.load_data(col=3) # electric field amplitude
4         plate_freq = plate1.load_data(col=2)
5         plate_amplitude = plate1.load_data(col=3)
6
7         # alumina_freq = alumina1.load_data(path_ = "/Users/(Your Name)/Downloads/",
8         # alumina_amplitude = alumina1.load_data(path_ = "/Users/(Your Name)/Downloa
9         # plate_freq = plate1.load_data(path_ = "/Users/(Your Name)/Downloads/", col
10        # plate_amplitude = plate1.load_data(path_ = "/Users/(Your Name)/Downloads/"
11
12        f, r = hdpe1.get_rt(plate_freq, plate_amplitude, hdpe_freq, hdpe_amplitude)
13        f_smooth, r_smooth = hdpe1.get_rt_smooth(plate_freq, plate_amplitude, hdpe_f
14        # alumina1.save_file(f_smooth, r_smooth, file_save_as, path_save = "/Users/S

```

```
In [7]: 1 # Run cell as it is
2 plt.figure(figsize=(6,4))
3 plt.title("HDPE 1", fontsize=18)
4 plt.plot(f, r, alpha=0.5)
5 plt.plot(f_smooth, r_smooth)
6 plt.xlabel("Frequency [GHz]", fontsize=18)
7 plt.ylabel("Reflectance", fontsize=18)
8 plt.xticks(fontsize=14)
9 plt.yticks(fontsize=14)
10 plt.show()
```



Trouble Shooting: Standing Waves

You'll notice that there are quite a few wiggles at the peaks in the measurement.

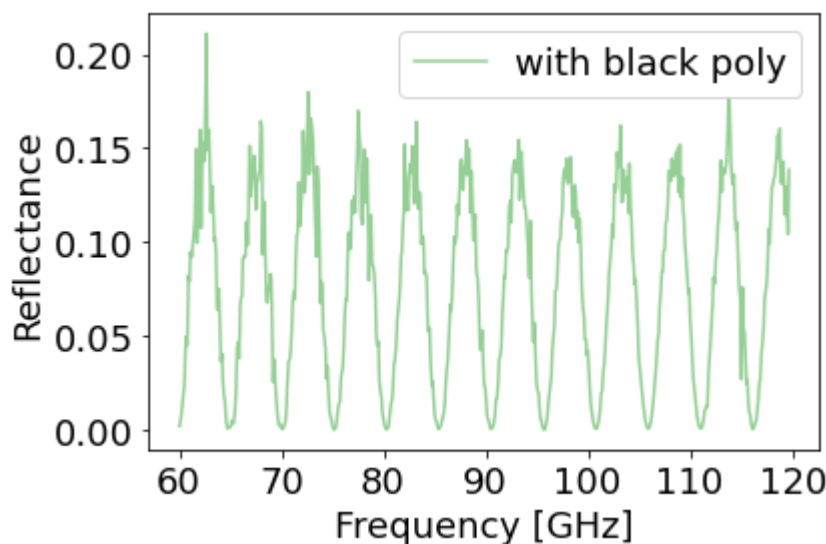
- What do you think these could be due to? What we do know about standing waves?
 - Where in the system could we imagine standing waves originating?
 - What are methods to mitigate standing waves? (Hint: Look at materials on the optical bench)
 - Why did we put Eccosorb (black absorbing foam) on the sample mount?
-
-
-

After the adjustment to the setup to try and mitigate standing waves, re-do the measurement steps from Exercise 1 (re-measure plate and sample, this time saving the files with the next measurement number, e.g. plate2_60-180GHz.txt and hdpe2_60-180GHz.txt if this is the second measurement of the day).

Then, replot the data using these two code cells:

```
In [8]: 1 # USER INPUT: Insert file names here
2 hdpe2 = fls_rt("hdpe2_0p75in_60-120ghz.txt")
3 plate2 = fls_rt("plate2_60-120ghz.txt")
```

```
In [11]: 1 # Run cell as is
2 hdpe_freq2 = hdpe2.load_data(col=2) # frequency
3 hdpe_amplitude2 = hdpe2.load_data(col=3) # electric field amplitude
4
5 plate_freq2 = plate2.load_data(col=2)
6 plate_amplitude2 = plate2.load_data(col=3)
7
8 f2, r2 = hdpe2.get_rt(plate_freq2, plate_amplitude2, hdpe_freq2, hdpe_amplit
9 f_smooth2, r_smooth2 = hdpe2.get_rt_smooth(plate_freq2, plate_amplitude2, hd
10
11 plt.figure(figsize=(6,4))
12 plt.title("", fontsize=18)
13 # plt.plot(f_smooth2, r_smooth2, "C1")
14 # plt.plot(f, r, "C1", alpha=0.5, label='without black poly')
15 plt.plot(f2, r2, "C2", alpha=0.5, label='with black poly')
16 plt.xlabel("Frequency [GHz]", fontsize=18)
17 plt.ylabel("Reflectance", fontsize=18)
18 plt.xticks(fontsize=18)
19 plt.yticks(fontsize=18)
20 plt.legend(fontsize=18)
21 plt.show()
```



Exercise 2: Simulating the Material Performance

We can model a slab of some material with parallel edges as a Fabry-Perot cavity. As waves travel in and reflect back from the second boundary, interference occurs with the incoming rays, resulting in a periodic interference pattern.

We can determine what the exact spacing of this interference pattern should look like by knowing what the thickness d of the sample is, as well as the index of refraction of the material n , and the angle of incidence during our reflection measurement.

- Measure the material thickness in mm using the caliper provided.
-

- Determine the angle of incidence by (1) taking a bird's eye view photo of the setup and (2) using [this site \(https://www.ginifab.com/feeds/angle_measurement/\)](https://www.ginifab.com/feeds/angle_measurement/) to measure the angle between the receiver and transmitter, going out to the sample. Divide this value by two. **I will give you this value, ask me (Shreya) for the angle of incidence.**
-

Note: This code does not take into account any absorptive properties of the material!

In [13]:

```

1  # Run cell as is
2  def AiryR(params):
3      '''n0, n, freq, d, angleI, R = params
4      ...
5      n0, n, freq, d, angleI = params
6      R = ((n-1)/(n+1))**2
7      c = 3e8
8      lamb = c/freq
9      omega = 2*np.pi*(c/lamb)
10     k = n*omega/c
11     k0 = n0*omega/c
12     angleT = np.arcsin((n0/n)*np.sin(angleI))
13
14     l = d*np.cos(angleT)
15     s = 2*d*np.sin(angleT)/np.cos(angleT)
16     a = s*np.sin(angleI)
17
18     diff_phase = 2*k*l - k0*a
19     T = (1 + 4*R/(1-R)**2*(np.sin(diff_phase/2))**2)**(-1)
20     return 1-T
21
22 def functionAiryR(n1, constants_, ff_):
23     angleI_deg, thickness_mm = constants_
24
25     angleI_rad = np.radians(angleI_deg) # units: radians
26     thickness_m = thickness_mm*1e-3
27     # thickness_m = thickness_in*0.0254 # units: mm
28     # print("this is thckness:", thickness_m)
29     ff_Hz = ff_*1e9 # units: Hz
30
31     n0 = 1 # index of air: n0 | n1 | n0 where n1 is the index of the materia
32     params = [n0, n1, ff_Hz, thickness_m, angleI_rad]
33
34     R = AiryR(params)
35     return R

```

User input: In the next cells, plot a simulated version of what interference pattern we expect to see:

In [14]:

```

1  # 1. Choose your frequency range:
2  freqs_sim = np.linspace(60, 120, 300) # start freq [GHz], end freq [GHz], nu

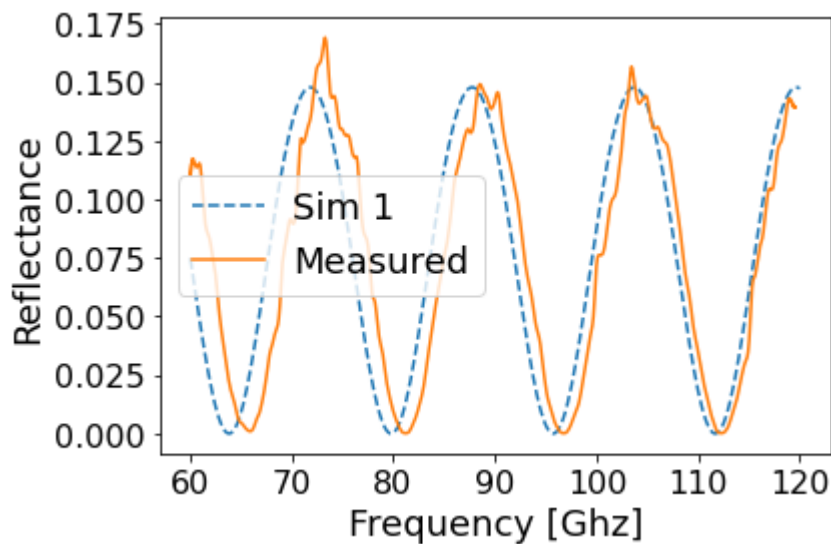
```

In [15]:

```

1 # 2. Choose your parameters
2 # a. predicted material index n1
3 # b. angle of incidence, theta_i [deg]
4 # c. material thickness, d [mm]
5
6 plt.figure(figsize=(6,4))
7 plt.title("", fontsize=18)
8 plt.plot(freqs_sim, functionAiryR(1.5, [8, 0.25*25.4], freqs_sim), '--', label=
9 # plt.plot(freqs_sim, functionAiryR(1.5, [9, 5], freqs_sim), '--', label='Sim
10 # plt.plot(freqs_sim, functionAiryR(1.5, [9, 10], freqs_sim), '--', label='Si
11 plt.plot(f_smooth, r_smooth, label='Measured')
12 plt.xlabel("Frequency [Ghz]", fontsize=18)
13 plt.ylabel("Reflectance", fontsize=18)
14 plt.xticks(fontsize=16)
15 plt.yticks(fontsize=16)
16 plt.legend(fontsize=18)
17 plt.show()

```



Uncomment out the extra simulation plotting lines and play around with different indices, thicknesses, etc.

- What do you think will happen to the interference pattern as the material thickness increases?

- How about as the index of refraction increases?

Plot our measurement data from Exercise 1 on top of the simulation and compare the two by eye. Play around with the simulation parameters to see how the two can match better.

Exercise 3: Fitting to the Index of Refraction

Using your measured data from Exercise 1 and the rough parameter estimates from Exercise 2, fit to the material's index of refraction.

```
In [16]: 1 def err(n1, constants_, ff_, sampleR):
          2     model = functionAiryR(n1, constants_, ff_)
          3     return np.sum((sampleR - model)**2)
```

Enter the index guess below, as well as the angle of incidence and thickness.

Then, in the `X_fit = optimize.minimize..` line, enter the frequency and reflection of the sample that you want to fit to.

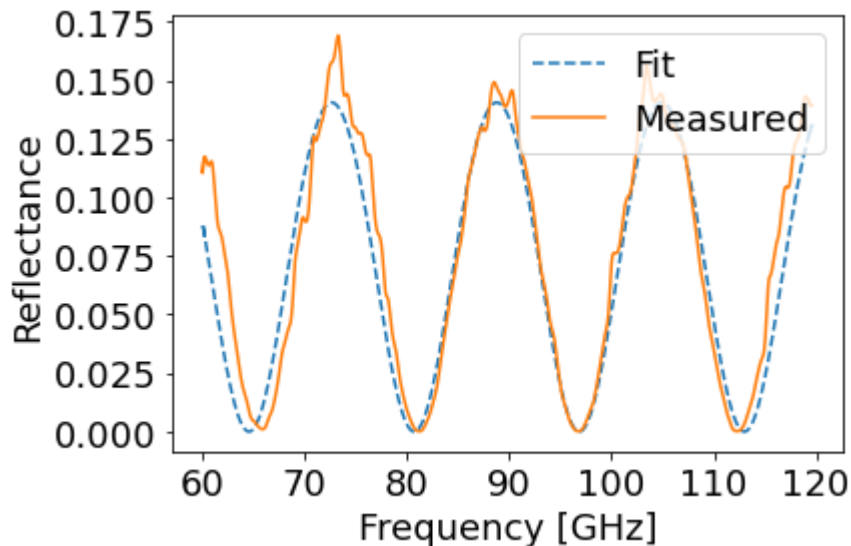
```
In [17]: 1 p0 = 1.5 # Best n1 guess from Exercise 2
          2 consts = [8, 0.25*25.4] # theta_i, incidence angle [deg], material thickness
          3
          4 # enter the measured frequencies and reflection data in the "arguments (args
          5 X_fit = optimize.minimize(err, p0, args=(consts, f_smooth, r_smooth),method=
```

```
In [18]: 1 n_fit = X_fit.x[0]
          2 print("The result of fitting to the index of refraction is n1 = ", n_fit)
```

The result of fitting to the index of refraction is n1 = 1.483154296875

Now plot the simulation with this index of refraction and our measured data.

```
In [19]: 1 plt.figure(figsize=(6,4))
2 plt.title("", fontsize=18)
3 plt.plot(f_smooth, functionAiryR(n_fit, [8, 0.25*25.4], f_smooth), '--', lab
4 plt.plot(f_smooth, r_smooth, label='Measured')
5 plt.xlabel("Frequency [GHz]",fontsize=18)
6 plt.ylabel("Reflectance",fontsize=18)
7 plt.xticks(fontsize=18)
8 plt.yticks(fontsize=18)
9 plt.legend(fontsize=18)
10 plt.show()
```



Great! Now we have our fit.

- What could be done to improve the fit? (Remember, we haven't accounted for the imaginary component of the index of refraction here. How well do we trust our measurement of the material thickness? The angle of incidence?)

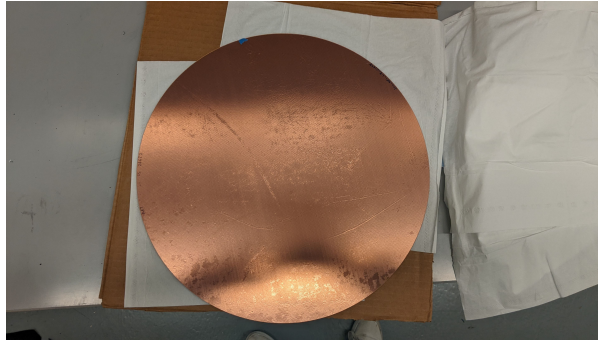
Success: You are done with Notebook 2: Reflection ! You can now measure another material. If you finish early with the extra materials and have time, check out Notebook 3: Bonus Complex Index fits .

Additional materials:

- Low Pass Edge (LPE) filter from 180 to 250 GHz
- Alumina (aluminum oxide) disc from 60-120 GHz

Additional Material: Low Pass Edge (LPE) Filter

After repeating the measurement steps from Exercise 1 for the plate and LPE (take care with the LPE, it's more fragile), plot the results using the next two cells. The LPE is a metal-mesh filter, described in more detail [here](https://sites.astro.caltech.edu/~moncelsi/metal_mesh_LM_9Feb2012.pdf) (https://sites.astro.caltech.edu/~moncelsi/metal_mesh_LM_9Feb2012.pdf).

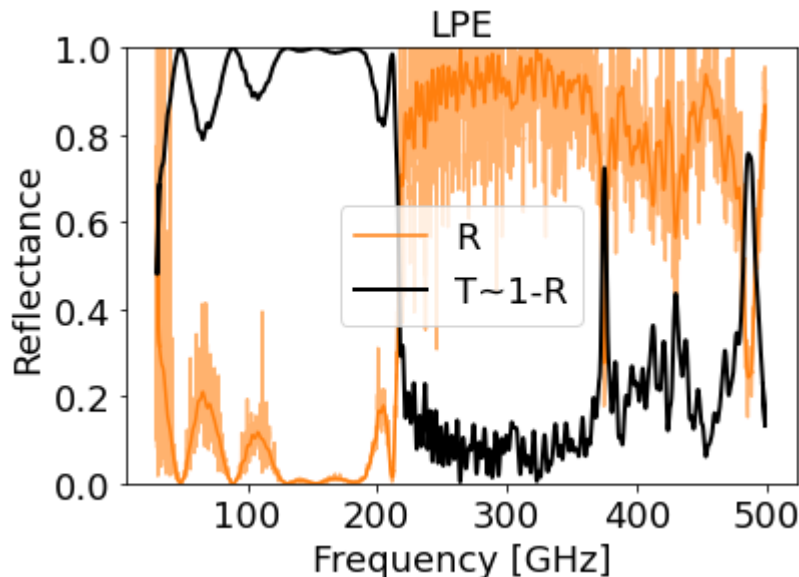


```
In [20]: 1 # Insert file names here
          2 lpe = fls_rt("lpeA02_30-500Ghz.txt") # change "sample_num" to sample name wi
          3 plate = fls_rt("plate02_30-500Ghz.txt") # change plate number to match sampl
```

```

In [21]: 1 lpe_freq = lpe.load_data(col=2) # frequency
          2 lpe_amplitude = lpe.load_data(col=3) # electric field amplitude
          3
          4 plate_freq = plate.load_data(col=2)
          5 plate_amplitude = plate.load_data(col=3)
          6
          7 f_lpe, r_lpe = lpe.get_rt(plate_freq, plate_amplitude, lpe_freq, lpe_amplitude)
          8 f_smooth_lpe, r_smooth_lpe = lpe.get_rt_smooth(plate_freq, plate_amplitude,
          9 # ^ note, this data is smoothed a lot more
          10
          11 plt.figure(figsize=(6,4))
          12 plt.title("LPE",fontsize=18)
          13 plt.plot(f_lpe, r_lpe, "C1", alpha=0.6)
          14 plt.plot(f_smooth_lpe, r_smooth_lpe, "C1", label='R')
          15 plt.plot(f_smooth_lpe, 1-r_smooth_lpe, "k", label='T~1-R', linewidth=2)
          16 plt.xlabel("Frequency [GHz]",fontsize=18)
          17 plt.ylabel("Reflectance",fontsize=18)
          18 plt.xticks(fontsize=18)
          19 plt.yticks(fontsize=18)
          20 plt.ylim(0, 1)
          21 plt.legend(fontsize=18)
          22 plt.show()

```



- Looking at this plot, high reflection means low transmission. Around which frequency does the LPE stop transmitting and instead reflects heavily?

References

On photomixers and THz lasers:

- Info. Sheet: [Laser-based terahertz generation & applications, M. Lang, et al.](https://www.toptica.com/fileadmin/Editors_English/12_literature/03_terahertz/toptica_laser-)
(https://www.toptica.com/fileadmin/Editors_English/12_literature/03_terahertz/toptica_laser-

[based_terahertz_generation_and_applications.pdf](#))

- [Review of photomixing continuous wave terahertz systems and current appplication trends in terahertz domain](https://www.spiedigitallibrary.org/journals/optical-engineering/volume-58/issue-11/110901/Review-of-photomixing-continuous-wave-terahertz-systems-and-current-application/10.1117/1.OE.58.11.110901.full), R. Safian, et al. (<https://www.spiedigitallibrary.org/journals/optical-engineering/volume-58/issue-11/110901/Review-of-photomixing-continuous-wave-terahertz-systems-and-current-application/10.1117/1.OE.58.11.110901.full>)

More on LPEs:

- PowerPoint: *Metal-mesh technology: a past and presetrn view*, L. Moncelsi, et al. (https://sites.astro.caltech.edu/~moncelsi/metal_mesh_LM_9Feb2012.pdf)
- *A review of metal mesh filters*, P. Ade, et al. (<https://www.spiedigitallibrary.org/conference-proceedings-of-spie/6275/62750U/A-review-of-metal-mesh-filters/10.1117/12.673162.full>)