Qucs

A Tutorial BJT Modeling and Verification

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warning

This chapter will describe an RF design issue using QUCS. The author assume that the basic manipulation of ques is known. You will find herein mainly a MacOSX description that is close to a linux or unices architecture.

choice of transistor

The choice has been made to choose among the Philips RF wideband transistor library. These components are easy to find, with resonnable prices.

This list could be found at http://www.semiconductors.philips.com/.

A resume of these transistors can be found in the figure 1

I will not discuss herein, the reason 1 why of the final choice, but the BFG425w is the candidate. It offers high gain, with low figure noise (if LNA consideration) high transistion frequency ($25~\mathrm{GHz}$), its emitter is thermal lead, low feedback capacitance. This device could be used in RF front end, analog or digital cellular, radar detectors, pagers, SATV, oscillators. It is in a SOT343R package suitable for small integration.

The maximum acheivable gain is 20 dB with 25 mA, $V_{ce} = 2$ V at 2 GHz and 25°C. The third order intercept point in these conditions is typically 22dBm.

These parameter should be compatible with our need. Here are the spice parameter of the device.

```
.SUBCKT BFG425W 1 2 3
     2 5 1.1E-09
L1
L2
     1 4 1.1E-09
     3 6 0.25E-09
L3
    4 5 2.0E-15
Ccb
Cbe
    5 6 80.0E-15
    4 6 80.0E-15
Cbpb 5 7 1.45E-13
Cbpc 4 8 1.45E-13
Rsb1 6 7 25
Rsb2 6 8 19
Q1 4 5 6 6 NPN
.MODEL NPN NPN
+ IS = 4.717E-17 + BF = 145
                                 + NF = 0.9934
```

¹regarding current, F_t , V_{ce} , power dissipation, etc . . .

System Freq (Netz)

3 Selection results for RF wideband transistors

Figure 1: transistor table \S{r} om philips semiconductor

```
+ VAF = 31.12 + IKF = 0.304 + ISE = 3.002E-13

+ NE = 3 + BR = 11.37 + NR = 0.985

+ VAR = 1.874 + IKR = 0.121 + ISC = 4.848E-16

+ NC = 1.546 + RB = 14.41 + IRB = 0

+ RBM = 6.175 + RE = 0.1779 + RC = 1.780

+ CJE = 3.109E-13 + VJE = 0.9 + MJE = 0.3456

+ CJC = 1.377E-13 + VJC = 0.5569 + MJC = 0.2079

+ CJS = 6.675E-13 + VJS = 0.4183 + MJS = 0.2391

+ XCJC = 0.5 + TR = 0.0 + TF = 4.122E-12

+ XTF = 68.2 + VTF = 2.004 + ITF = 1.525

+ PTF = 0 + FC = 0.5501 + EG = 1.11

+ XTI = 3 + XTB = 1.5

.ENDS
```

Since the model used in SPICE and in QUCS rely on a gummel-poon modelisation, and since the level of modelisation is the same, some quite direct conversion could be used to create the library for QUCS.

To use directly this file, you will need to store the file in an other directory from the project one (a small bug taken into account). Then it should work but some there are still some issues on the parameters itselves, This is the reason why we will proceed in an other way.

The data sheet could be found on the philips web site.

NPN 25 GHz wideband transistor

BFG425W

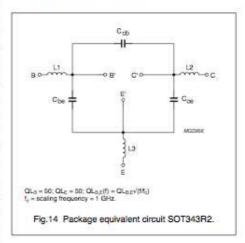
SPICE parameters for the BFG425W die

SEQUENCE No.	PARAMETER	VALUE	UNIT
1	IS	47.17	aA
2	BF	145.0	н.
3	NF	0.993	71
4	VAF	31.12	V
5	IKF	304.0	mA
6	ISE	300.2	fA:
7	NE	3.000	+:
8	BR	11.37	π:
9	NR	0.985	77:
10	VAR	1.874	V
11	IKR	0.121	Α
12	ISC	484.8	аA
13	NC	1.546	÷
14	RB	14.41	Ω
15	IRB	0.000	Α
16	RBM	6.175	Ω
17	RE	177.9	mΩ
18	RC	1.780	Ω
19 (1)	XTB	1.500	#3
20 (1)	EG	1.110	eV
21 (1)	XTI	3.000	Ħ.
22	CJE	310.9	fF
23	VJE	900.0	mV
24	MJE	0.346	#
25	TF	4.122	ps
26	XTF	68.20	+
27	VTF	2.004	V
28	ITF	1.525	A
29	PTF	0.000	deg
30	CJC	137.7	fF
31	VJC	556.9	mV
32	MJC	0.207	#3
33	XCJC	0.500	Ħ.
34 (1)	TR	0.000	ns
35 ⁽¹⁾	CJS	667.5	fF
36 ⁽¹⁾	VJS	418.3	mV
37 (1)	MJS	0.239	1
38	FC	0.550	

SEQUENCE No.	PARAMETER	VALUE	UNIT
39 (2)(3)	C _{bp}	145	fF
40 (2)	R _{sb1}	25	Ω
41 (3)	R _{sb2}	19	Ω

Notes

- These parameters have not been extracted, the default values are shown.
- Bonding pad capacity C_{bp} in series with substrate resistance R_{sb1} between B' and E'.
- Bonding pad capacity C_{bp} in series with substrate resistance R_{sb2} between C' and E'.



List of components (see Fig.14)

DESIGNATION	VALUE	UNIT	
Cbe	80	fF.	
Cob	2	fF.	
C _{cb}	80	fF	
L1	1.1	nH	
L2	1.1	nH	
L3 (note 1)	0.25	nH	

Note

 External emitter inductance to be added separately due to the influence of the printed-circuit board.

1998 Mar 11 9

Figure 2: spice parameter extract from philips data sheet

library creation

Remember that when creating a device, it is almost always mandatory to read of have a look at on how the model is done is the technical documentation. It is very to understand the limitation, and how we can correct some data if needed. The mian pity is that a lot of commercial software are quite obscure on the real model they use and their limitation; QUCS is quite exceptionnal on this point this the complete modeling is explain theoretically in a special technical paper.

In order to conduct these test, we need to create a model of our component. To perform this you should create the file that contain all the libraries, this file is stored under

```
/usr/local/share/qucs/library/philips_RF_widebande_npn.lib
```

You can edit this file with vi. You need to add the following line:

```
<Qucs Library 0.0.7 "philips RF wideBand">
```

```
<Component BFG425W>
 <Description>
   RF wideband NPN 25GHz
   2V, 25mA, 20dB, 2000MHz
   Manufacturer: Philips Inc.
   NPN complement: BFG425W
   based on spice parameter from philips
   sept 2005 thierry
 </Description>
 <Model>
<_BJT T_BFG425W_ 1 480 280 8 -26 0 0 "npn" 1 "47.17e-10"
1 "1" 1 "1" 1 "0.304" 1 "0.121" 1 "31.12" 1 "1.874" 0
"300.2e-15" 1 "3" 1 "484.8e-10" 1 "1.546" 1 "145" 1 "11.37"
1 "6.175" 1 "0" 1 "1.78" 1 "0177.9e-3" 1 "014.41" 1 "310.9e-15"
1 "0.900" 1 "0.346" 1 "137.7e-15" 1 "0.5569" 1 "0.207" 1 "0.500"
1 "667.5e-15" 1 "0.4183" 1 "0.239" 1 "0.550" 1 "4.122e-12" 1
"68.2" 1 "2.004" 1 "1.525" 1 "0.0" 1 "26.85" 1 "0.0" 0 "1.0" 0
"1.0" 0 "0.0" 0 "1.0" 0 "1.0" 0 "0.0" 0>
 </Model>
</Component>
```

You can replace the 1 by 0, this will remove the visible checkbox, the fact to place a 1 first enable the user to change and or view the parameters that are being used. A trick to provide all the required syntax is to fill a NPN into the schematics, perform a copy on the device, you should then have the model in the clipboard, just paste into to file and add the description and the markup language boundaries. The syntaxe is explained in the help at the topic description of the questile formats. Then the device is visible in the Component Library Tool as mentionned in figure 3.

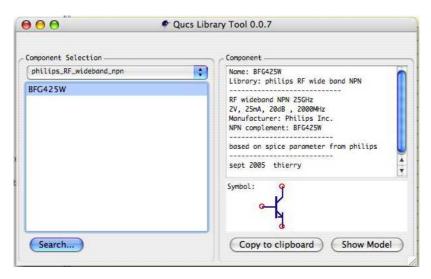


Figure 3: QUCS Component Library showing the new component

By doing this you haved the possibility to reuse the device as much as you want, and you can debug devices in a more easy way.

Warning: in this section we have only describe the die of the device, for the parasitic from the package, we will be obliged to describe this circuit, but later on.

device library verification

The first step, before using the device in a application, is to verify the model you use. Especially since this model has been created by the user. In order to proceed, you need to rely on exact data: that is to say the official datasheet.

it this step, you will need to create a project especially for the device verification. It is good to keep a trace of the device verification, since you could have different use of this device, so it is good to be able to redo some simulation around the model itself.

The created project should look that the figure 4.

project name : model_verif_bfg425w
project location : \$HOME/.qucs/

For the validation we will need to use a specific bias of the device : I_c should be 25mA, therefore I_b should be $300\mu A$

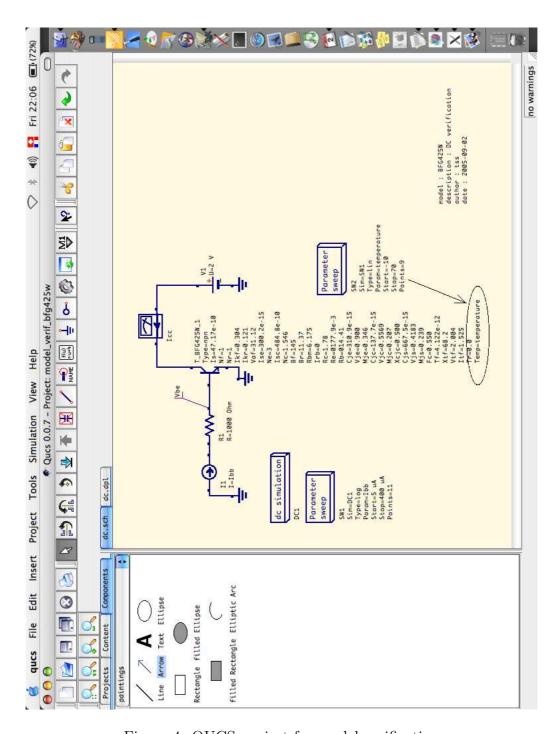


Figure 4: QUCS project for model verification

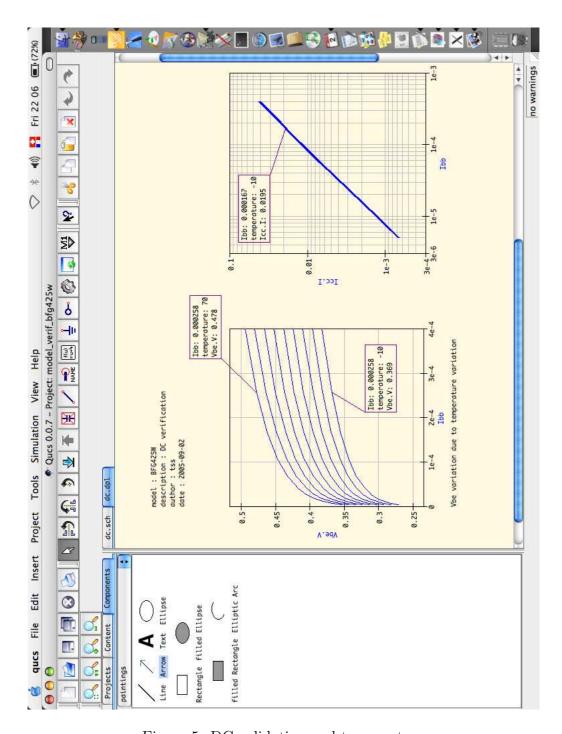


Figure 5: DC validation and temperature

parasitic description of the package

In order to simulate properly the device, you need to used the correct package, that is to say the SOT343R in our case, as mentionned on the philips web site (see fig. 6).

Eventhough the device has two emitter, the model used has only one emitter. The parasitic of this model are shown in the spice netlist described in the choice of the transistor and reproduced in a schematic (see fig. 8). These parameter are always critical to extract, either you have the knowledge to do it or then you should rely on the piece of information given by the device manucfacturer. It is also very difficult to figure out what have to be changed in such description of the device. Some fitting have been performed using 3D electromagnetic software in the time domain based on MOM methods to verify these parameters.

PhilipsO fifth generation double poly silicon wideband technology uses a steep emitter doped profile resulting in transition frequencies over 20 GHz, and with poly base contacts a low base resistance is obtained. Via the buried layer, the collector contact is brought out at the top of the die. The substrate is connected directly to the emitter package lead, resulting in improved thermal performance (see fig 7).

From this schematics you can edit the symbol that could be used in the next simulation file. To proceed type F3 or edit circuit symbol from the file menu. Simply drw a npn transistor and come back to the schematic by re-pressing F3.

Philips Semiconductors

PDF: 1999 Apr 16

Package outline

Figure 6: SOT343R package description

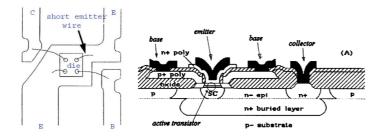


Figure 7: die connection if the fifth generation transistor from philips

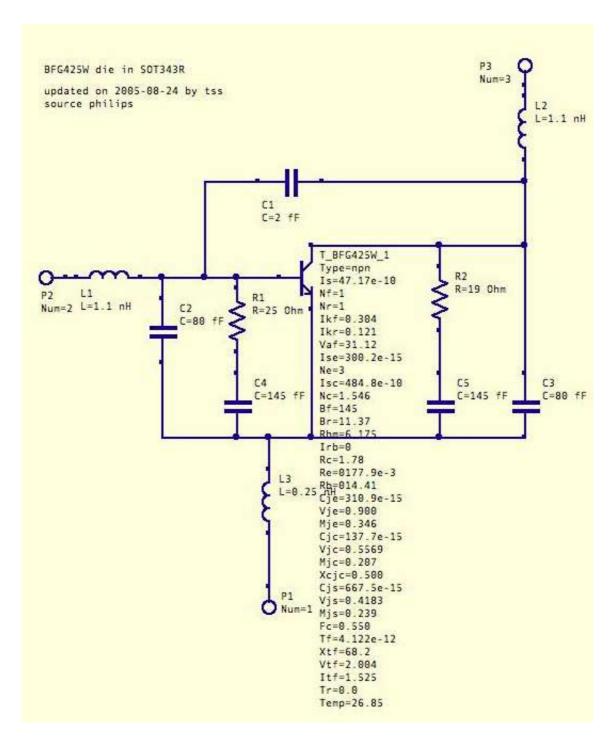


Figure 8: bfg425W in sot343R package description

small signal S parameter verification

In this section we will need to redraw a new schematics using the model we have created, plus some extra components to place the measurements ports ². You should have a schematics like the one mentionned in fig9.

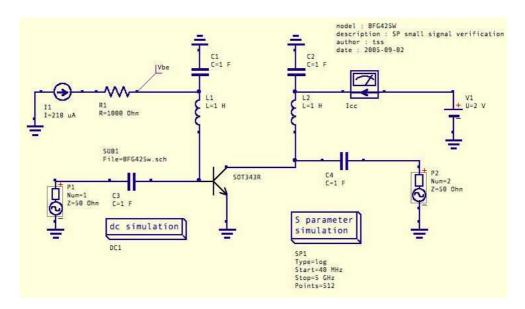


Figure 9: schematics used for S parameters simulation

The components used to verify the model could be strange (inductor of 1H and capacitor of 1F) It is normal since we need to have a very wide band response on the circuit, and since we want to caracterize only the active device, and compare with the datasheet. An other way is to use DC bloc or DC feed or bias Tee to provide the power supply to the component. This is the right way to do it. you should then create a display to visualize the S parameters: generally s_{11} and s_{22} are in the smith and s_{12} and s_{21} are in polar

We have now to compare these results with the measured parameters from philips .

```
! Filename: 225bfg425.001
! BFG425W Field C1
 V1=8.667E-001V, V2=2.000E+000V, I1=3.585E-004A, I2=2.496E-002A
                                                      S12
                  S11
                                                                        S22
                                    S21
!Freq(GHz)
            Mag
                     Ang
                              Mag
                                       Ang
                                                 Mag
                                                                   Mag
                                                                           Ang
                                                         Ang
```

²We will another method when we will use the device in a real project

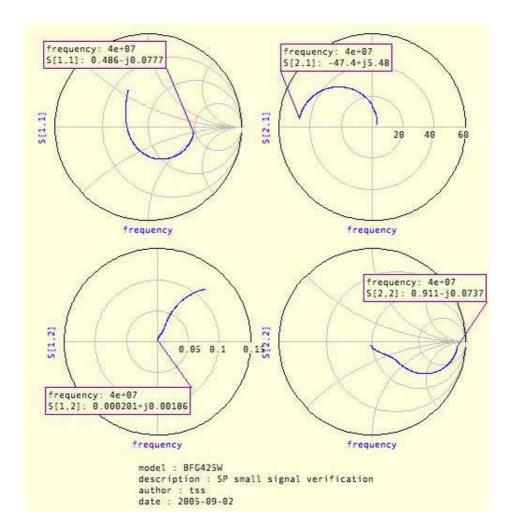


Figure 10: S parameters simulation for model verification

```
# GHz
        S
             MA
                  R 50
                                                  0.002
   0.040
             0.325
                    -8.696
                              38.472 173.381
                                                          71.865
                                                                     0.923 - 3.072
   0.100
             0.331 -23.004
                              37.457 164.549
                                                  0.005
                                                          83.280
                                                                     0.915
                                                                            -9.551
   0.200
             0.315 - 44.455
                              34.771 150.487
                                                  0.008
                                                          75.947
                                                                     0.863 - 18.965
   0.300
             0.296 - 63.008
                              31.364 138.811
                                                  0.012
                                                          71.608
                                                                     0.794 - 26.449
                              27.951 128.829
                                                                     0.725 - 32.076
   0.400
             0.278 - 79.654
                                                  0.015
                                                          68.186
   0.500
             0.265 - 94.339
                              24.856 120.248
                                                  0.017
                                                          65.974
                                                                     0.664 - 36.332
   0.600
             0.254 - 106.508
                                22.159 113.362
                                                   0.020
                                                                      0.613 - 39.533
                                                           64.514
   0.700
             0.246 -116.820
                                19.885 107.530
                                                   0.022
                                                           63.362
                                                                      0.569 - 42.071
   0.800
             0.240 - 126.472
                                17.964 102.255
                                                   0.024
                                                           62.701
                                                                      0.533 - 44.121
                                        97.645
   0.900
             0.235 - 134.500
                                16.345
                                                   0.027
                                                           61.910
                                                                      0.504 - 45.968
                                                   0.029
   1.000
             0.232 -141.743
                                14.958
                                        93.487
                                                           61.280
                                                                      0.479 - 47.614
             0.230 -148.265
                                                                      0.457 - 49.172
   1.100
                                13.770
                                        89.661
                                                   0.031
                                                           60.570
   1.200
             0.230 - 154.216
                                12.748
                                        86.091
                                                   0.033
                                                           59.878
                                                                      0.438 - 50.696
             0.230 -159.761
                                11.850
                                                   0.036
                                                                      0.421 -52.103
   1.300
                                        82.773
                                                           59.238
   1.400
             0.231 - 164.776
                                11.070
                                        79.671
                                                   0.038
                                                           58.509
                                                                      0.406 -53.483
   1.500
             0.233 - 169.782
                                10.383
                                        76.687
                                                   0.040
                                                           57.719
                                                                      0.392 -54.842
             0.234 - 174.382
                                9.766
                                        73.821
                                                   0.043
                                                           56.846
                                                                      0.380 -56.285
   1.600
             0.236 -178.496
                                                                      0.369 - 57.740
   1.700
                                9.213
                                        71.086
                                                   0.045
                                                           56.001
             0.238 177.334
                               8.725
                                                  0.047
                                                          54.999
                                                                     0.358 - 59.199
   1.800
                                       68.404
   1.900
             0.241 173.487
                               8.277
                                       65.836
                                                  0.050
                                                          53.983
                                                                     0.348 - 60.790
   2.000
             0.244 169.856
                               7.874
                                       63.295
                                                  0.052
                                                          52.923
                                                                     0.338 - 62.399
   2.200
             0.251 162.836
                               7.172
                                       58.413
                                                  0.057
                                                          50.729
                                                                     0.319 - 65.657
   2.400
             0.259 156.208
                                6.578
                                       53.682
                                                  0.062
                                                          48.414
                                                                     0.301 -68.988
                                                          45.958
   2.600
             0.268 150.081
                               6.068
                                       49.042
                                                  0.067
                                                                     0.283 - 72.558
                                                                     0.266 -76.167
             0.277 144.221
                                5.628
   2.800
                                       44.575
                                                  0.072
                                                          43.380
   3.000
             0.288 138.650
                                5.244
                                       40.174
                                                  0.077
                                                          40.713
                                                                     0.248 - 80.054
   3.500
             0.319 125.843
                               4.470
                                       29.452
                                                  0.090
                                                          33.634
                                                                     0.204 - 90.648
   4.000
             0.352 113.999
                                3.873
                                       18.944
                                                  0.102
                                                          26.177
                                                                     0.158 - 103.541
   4.500
             0.389 103.406
                                3.406
                                        8.713
                                                  0.113
                                                          18.415
                                                                     0.113 - 121.590
   5.000
             0.431
                    92.903
                                3.011
                                       -1.792
                                                  0.123
                                                           9.782
                                                                     0.071 -156.899
   5.500
             0.463
                    82.559
                                2.658 -11.364
                                                  0.131
                                                           2.534
                                                                     0.054 148.652
             0.506
                                2.374 -21.684
                                                                     0.095 100.575
   6.000
                    73.164
                                                  0.138
                                                         -6.413
             0.516
                    66.705
                                2.179 -28.681
                                                  0.152 - 10.089
                                                                             92.309
   6.500
                                                                     0.112
                                2.011 -37.894
   7.000
             0.551
                    59.664
                                                  0.164 - 17.920
                                                                     0.164
                                                                             82.321
   7.500
             0.610
                    50.773
                                1.808 - 49.313
                                                  0.166 - 29.630
                                                                     0.246
                                                                             65.957
                    43.502
                                1.653 -58.585
                                                                     0.300
   8.000
             0.644
                                                  0.172 - 37.580
                                                                             56.971
   8.500
             0.683
                    35.816
                                1.496 -68.478
                                                  0.175 - 46.984
                                                                     0.361
                                                                             47.167
                                1.338 -77.310
   9.000
             0.709
                    27.972
                                                  0.173 - 55.176
                                                                     0.412
                                                                             37.289
   9.500
             0.736
                    20.858
                                1.212 -85.841
                                                  0.172 -63.448
                                                                     0.449
                                                                             29.117
```

```
10.000
            0.764
                    14.187
                               1.105 -95.600
                                                 0.173 - 72.751
                                                                    0.505
                                                                           22.602
 10.500
            0.785
                     7.330
                               0.997 - 104.961
                                                  0.171 - 81.774
                                                                     0.554
                                                                            14.956
 11.000
            0.802
                     0.219
                               0.884 -113.744
                                                  0.164 -91.275
                                                                     0.593
                                                                              6.422
                               0.791 -122.965
                                                  0.158 -100.952
 11.500
            0.815
                   -6.751
                                                                      0.631
                                                                             -0.521
 12.000
            0.822 - 13.843
                               0.690 - 131.882
                                                  0.149 - 111.108
                                                                      0.667
                                                                             -8.548
      DEEMBEDDED NOISE DATA
!FREQUENCY
               FMIN
                       GAMMA OPT
                                          Rn
   (GHz)
               (dB)
                                      (NORMALIZED)
                       Mag
                               Ang
```

Using these parameter, we shoul compare on the sample display the modelised results and the measurements results, or directly show the error using equations. First we compare the results.

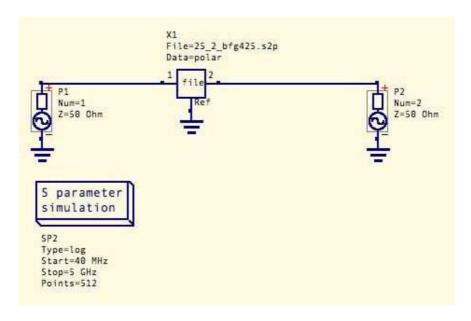


Figure 11: schematics used for S parameters from manufacturer

In the display that is used for the S parameters that we have simulated from our modelisation, you can add the results from the measurements files by adding a measurement of $S_{i,j}$ using the right dataset with the combo box. You should obtain the difference between the two.

By doing this, you should obtain the results presented in the figure 12.

IMPORTANT NOTE: The differences, you should obtain are still on investigation for now.

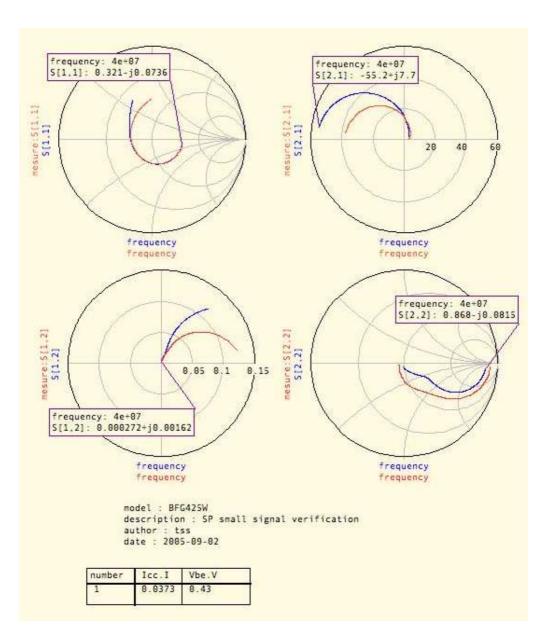


Figure 12: Results from model and from meaures compared together