Experiment #1 – VNA Calibration

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# EEL5439C RF and Microwave Active Circuits

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# 2/1/2024 – 2/8/2024



# **Experiment Objective**

The objective is experiment is to introduce students to PCM modulation through MATLAB simulation and by pre-built circuit to view PCM waveforms on the oscilloscope. The lab also provides students with a method of modulating and demodulating PCM signals.

# **2.0 Q&A**

1. You can present S parameters using Smith Chart, X-Y graph (magnitude or phase, real or imaginary). It is your decision regarding which format to use. But the one you pick should help you explain the results clearly.
2. Why do you use TRL instead of SOLT calibration for the measurement? Point out your reference plane for each case on the picture. Which kind of errors if you use SOLT calibration? Can you use theory to compensate the errors? How?
3. Show how you determine the TRL standard length and maximum frequency range.
4. Show the calibrated responses of the through, line, and reflect using TRL cal. Comment on your results.
5. Graph the S parameters of the lumped elements using both calibration methods. Also extract the resistance, capacitance, and inductance value of each component. Please note that you need to also plot the component values versus frequency. Comment on your results.
6. Can you use the low-frequency capacitor for 1 GHz circuit? Why?
7. Does the RF choke behave like an open at 1 GHz? You will use it for your amplifier biasing.
8. Is the chip component performance good enough for 1 GHz applications?
9. The grounding vias will introduce parasitic inductance. How to minimize this inductance? (extra points: characterize the parasitic inductance using any full-wave simulation software such as momentum in ADS.)

# **3.0 Learned Objectives**

* PCM Modulation
* PCM Demodulation
* MATLAB Simulation
* Methods of PCM Modulation and Demodulation

# **4.0 Conclusion**