



PCB의 Signal Integrity 측정과 분석 세미나

이승재 대표

steve@terabs.com

www.terabitsolutions.com



High Speed Characteristics of Interconnects

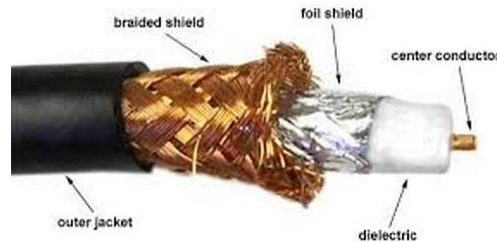
- **Characteristic Impedance**
- TDR and DK measurement
- Speed of Signal and Skew
- Insertion/Return Loss, or S-parameters
- Differential Signal & Mode Conversion
- Crosstalk

Transmission Line



PCB

Coaxial Cable



- Cable jacket
- A leg insulator
- B leg insulator
- Conductors

Twisted Pair Cable



Microstrip Line

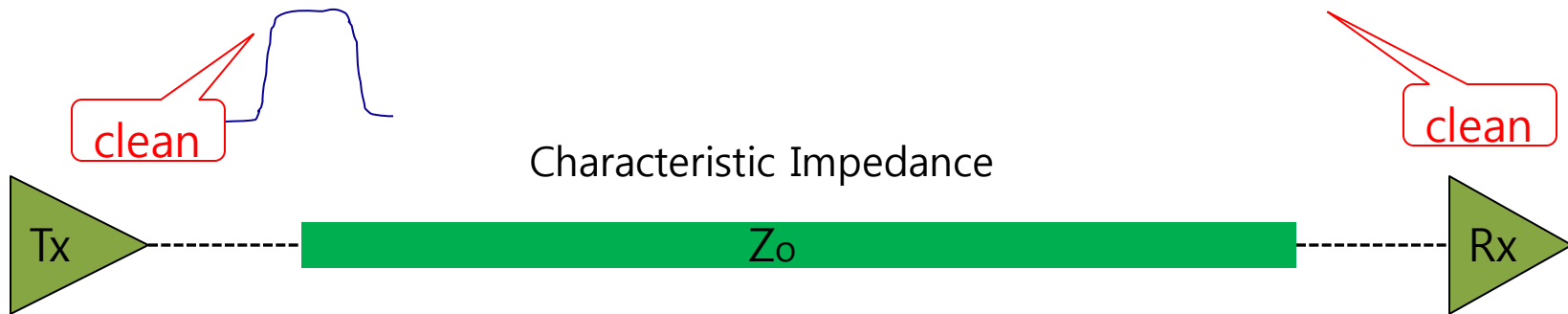


Strip Line



Coupled Microstrip

Ideal Transmission Line



No Reflection!

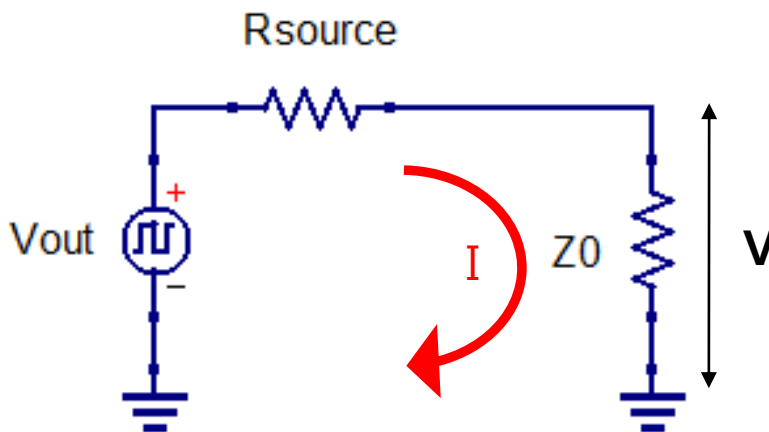
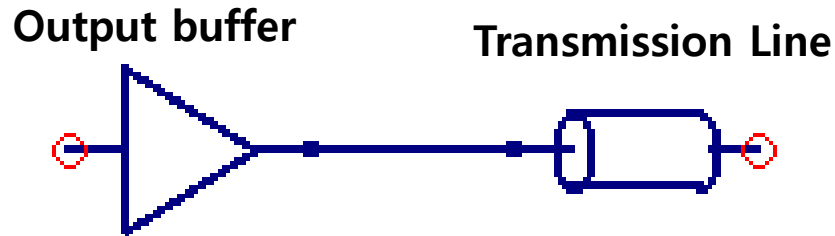
No Loss!

No Crosstalk!

No Mode conversion!

No Timing error!

Input Impedance of Transmission Line



$$Z_0 = \frac{V}{I}$$

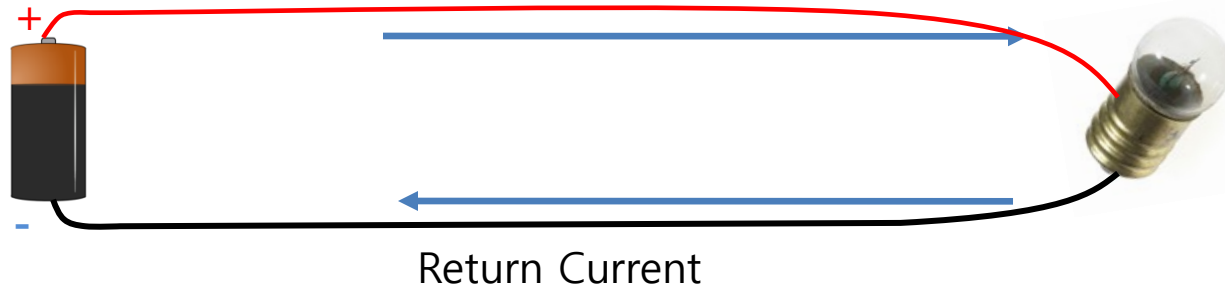
$$V = V_{out} \frac{Z_0}{Z_0 + R_{source}}$$

Z_0 : Input Impedance of Tline

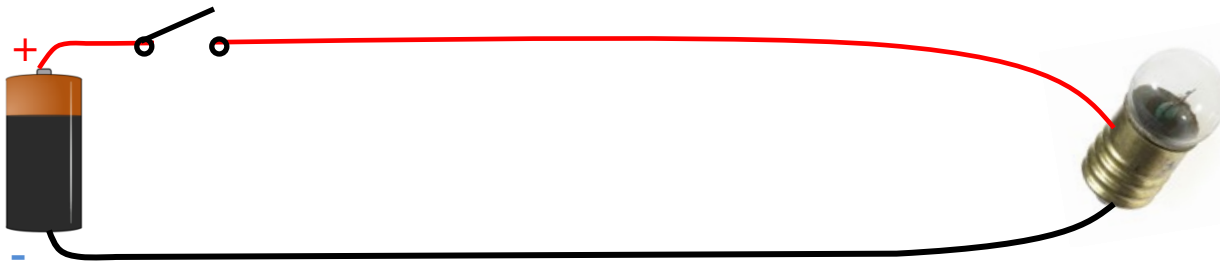
Characteristic Impedance of Tline

Current Flow in the Circuit

DC



Transient
or AC



Signal Current



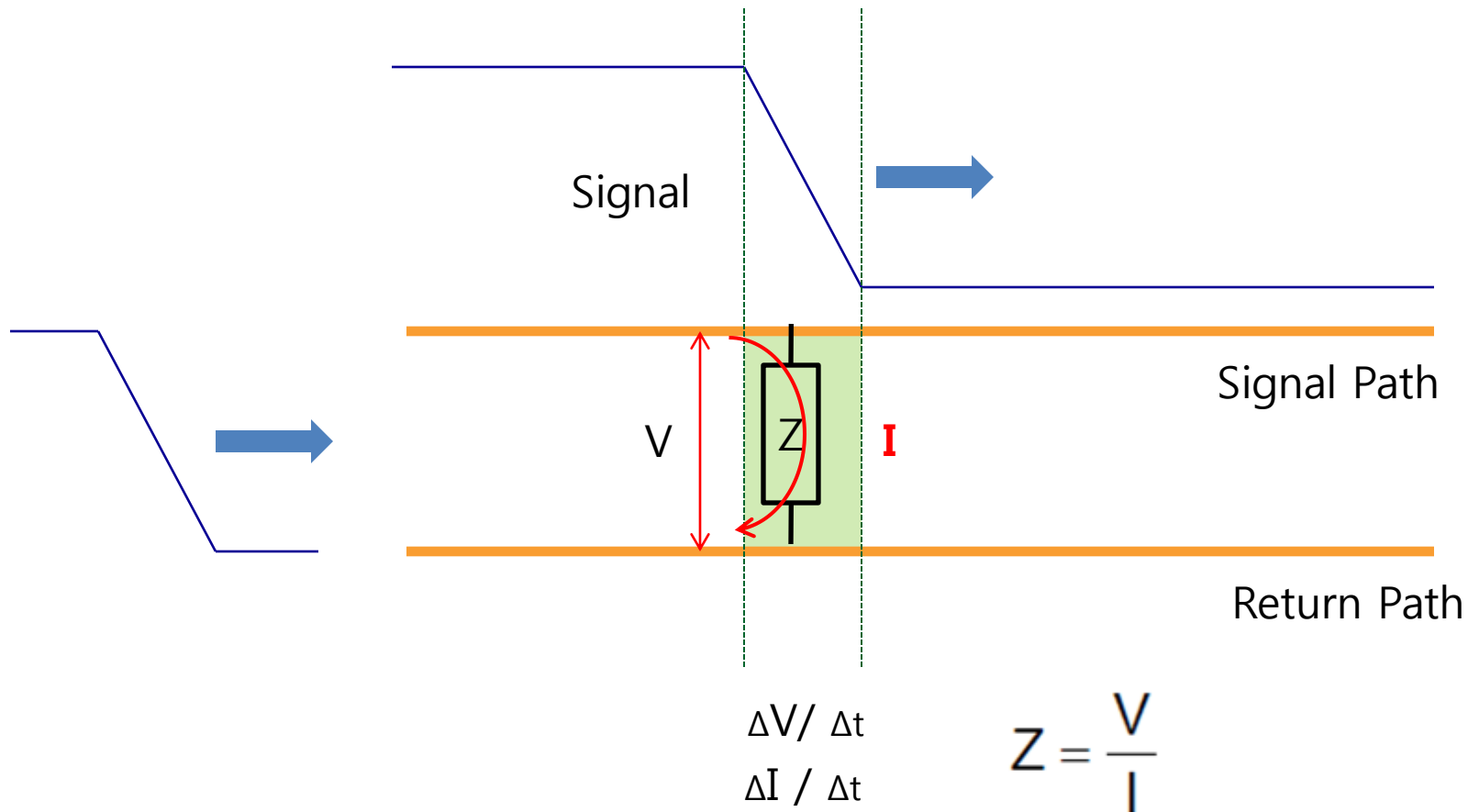
Signal Path

Return Current



Return Path

Instantaneous Impedance



Impedance of a Transmission Line

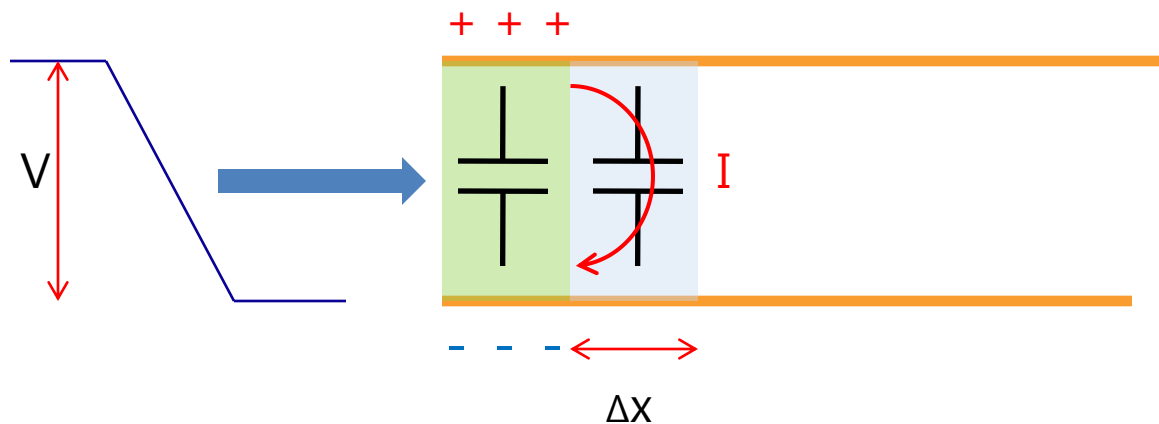
$$Z = \frac{V}{I}$$

$$I = \frac{\Delta Q}{\Delta t} \quad C = C_L \Delta x$$

$$\Delta Q = CV, \quad \Delta t = \frac{\Delta x}{v}$$

$$I = \frac{\Delta Q}{\Delta t} = \frac{v C_L \Delta x V}{\Delta x} = v C_L V$$

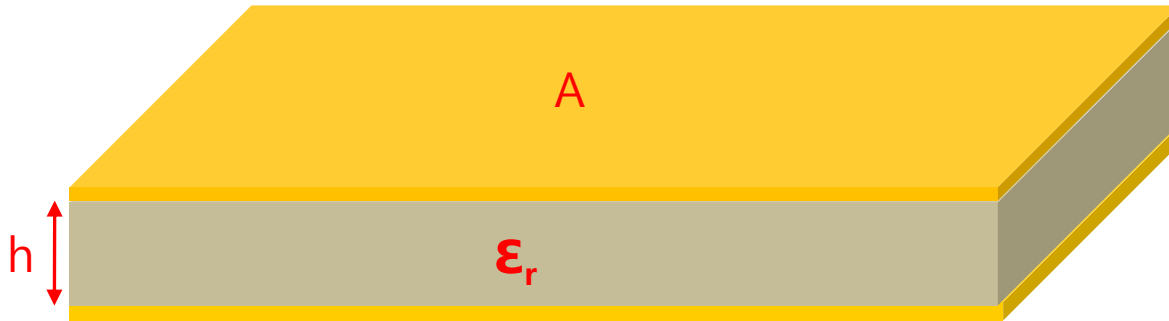
$$Z = \frac{V}{I} = \frac{V}{v C_L V} = \frac{1}{v C_L}$$



Q: charge, V: Voltage of the signal, I: current from the signal
 C: capacitance
 v: speed of signal in the material

Equation from <Eric Bogatin, Signal and Power Integrity>

Capacitance



$$C = \epsilon_0 \epsilon_r \frac{A}{h}$$

C: capacitance of the plane, in pF

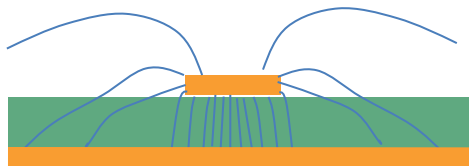
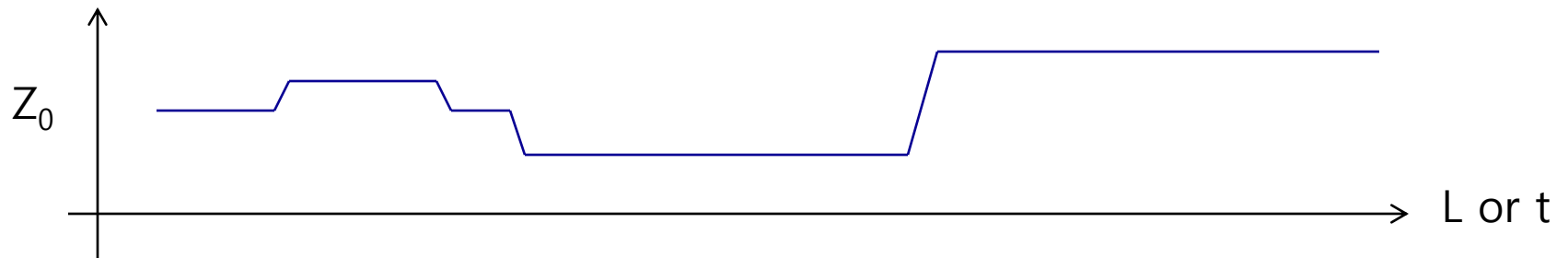
ϵ_0 : permittivity of free space, 0.089pF/cm or 0.225pF/inch

ϵ_r : relative dielectric constant, typically ~ 4 in FR4

A: area of the plane, in inches

h: distance between the planes, in inches

Change of Instantaneous Impedance

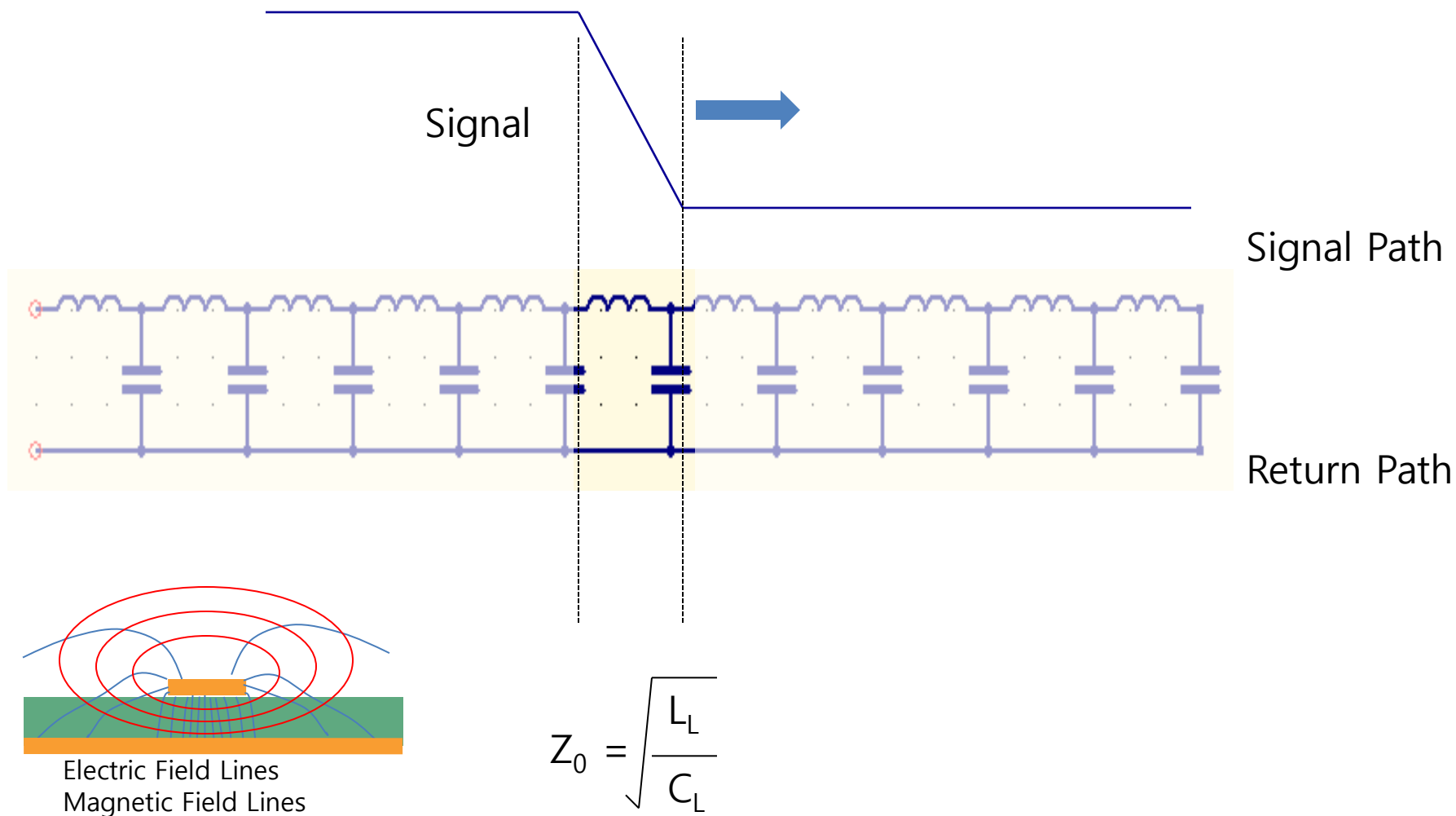


Electric Field Lines

$$Z_0 = \frac{1}{v C_L} = \frac{83}{C_L} \sqrt{\epsilon_r}$$

v : the speed of light in the material
 ϵ_r : dielectric constant of the material

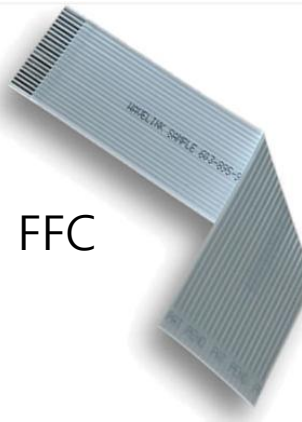
Model of Transmission Line, LC



Characteristic Impedance, Z_0



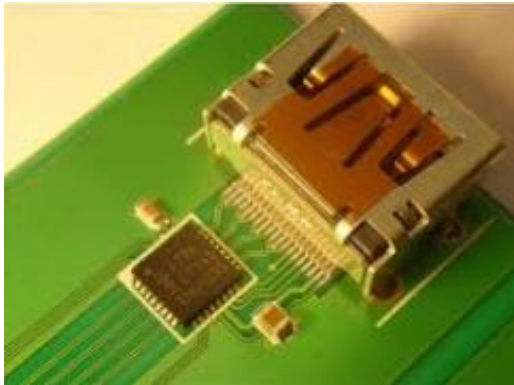
Coaxial
Cable



FFC



FPCB



PCB

Uniform Transmission Line

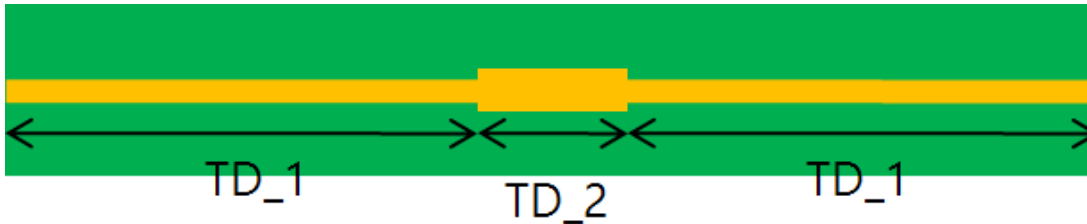
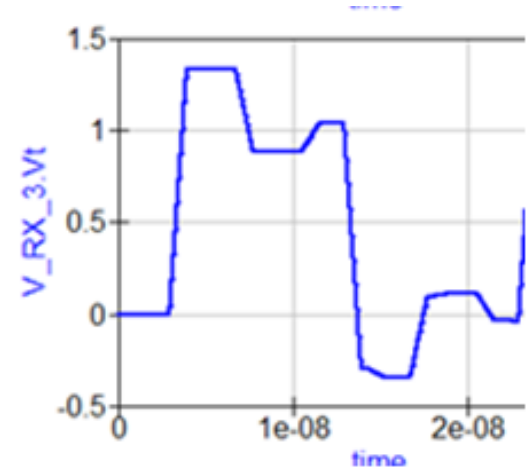
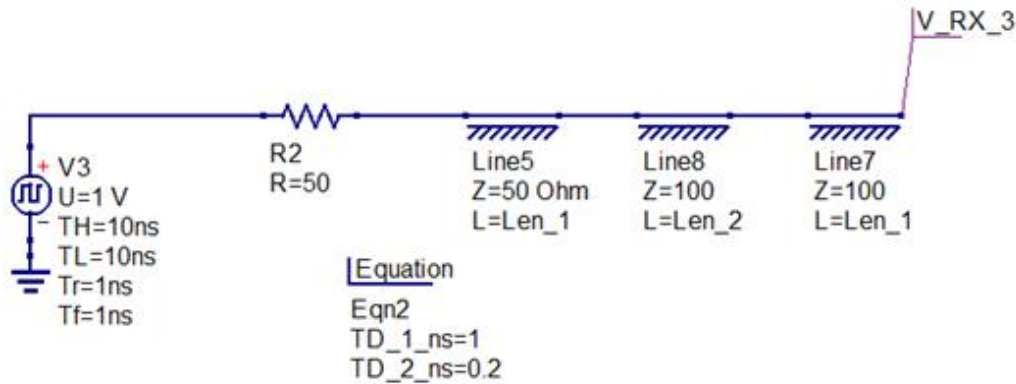
$$Z_0 = \sqrt{\frac{L_L}{C_L}}$$

Instantaneous Impedance is same through
the Uniform Transmission Line

→ **Controlled Impedance**

✓ **Characteristic Impedance** is **One Number**
representing the Impedance of Transmission Line

Waveform distortion by reflection

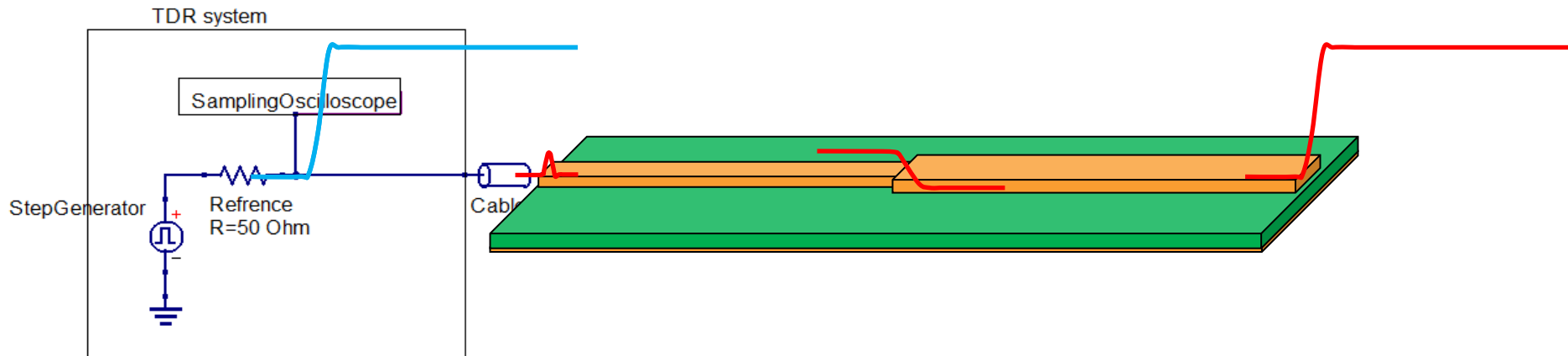




High Speed Characteristics of Interconnects

- Characteristic Impedance
- TDR and DK measurement**
- Speed of Signal and Skew
- Insertion/Return Loss, or S-parameters
- Differential Signal & Mode Conversion
- Crosstalk

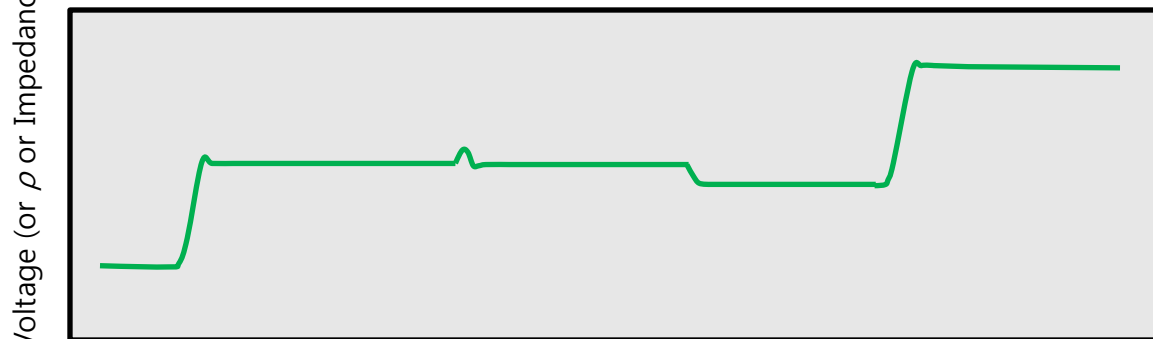
How does TDR works?



$$\rho = \frac{V_{\text{reflected}}}{V_{\text{incident}}} = \frac{Z_L - Z_0}{Z_L + Z_0}$$

$$Z_L = Z_0 \times \frac{(1 + \rho)}{(1 - \rho)}$$

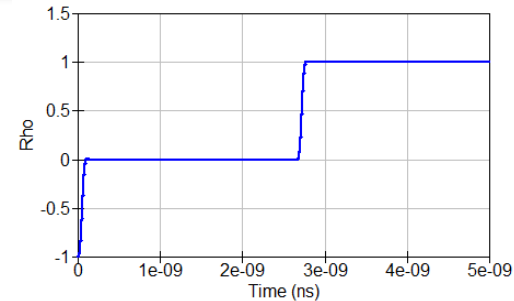
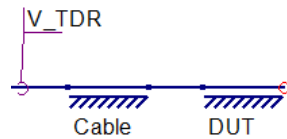
Sampling Oscilloscope Display



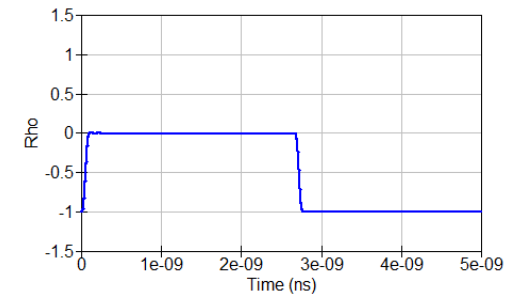
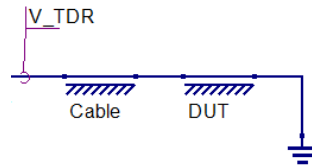
ρ = reflection coefficient, rho
 Z_0 = reference Impedance
 Z_L = DUT Impedance

Typical TDR waveforms

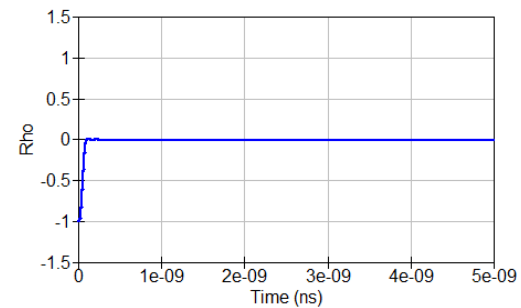
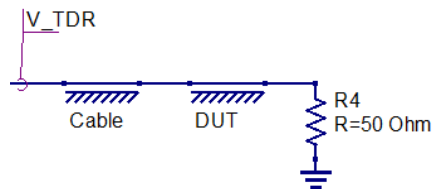
Open



Short

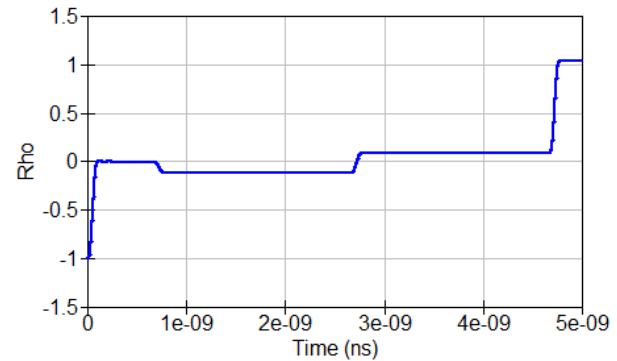
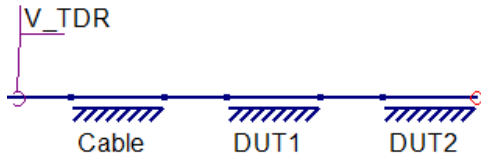


Load

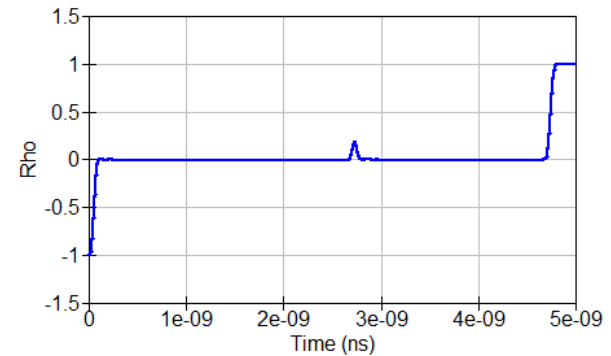
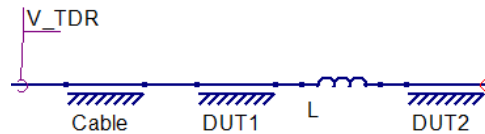


Typical TDR waveforms

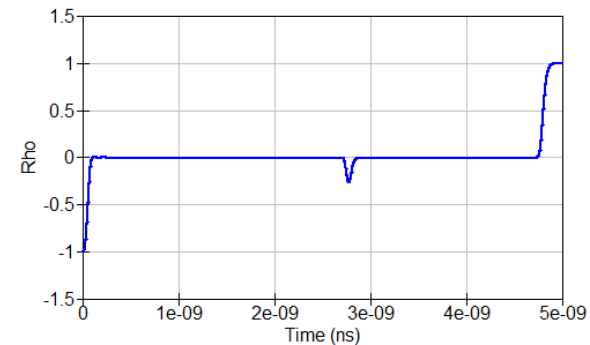
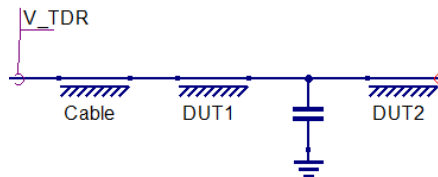
Impedance change



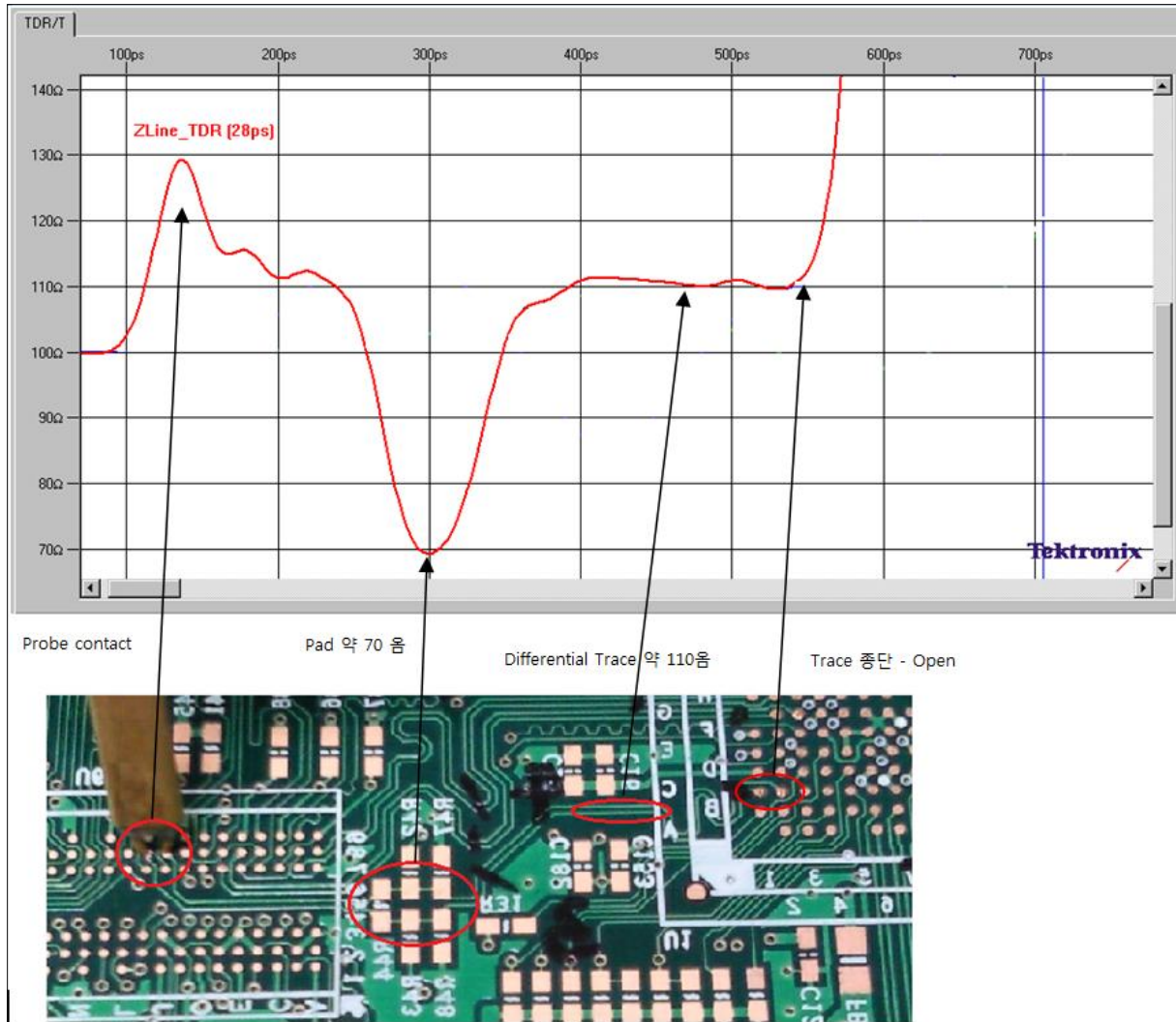
Inductive discontinuity



Capacitive discontinuity



Capacitive Low Impedance



Capacitive Discontinuities

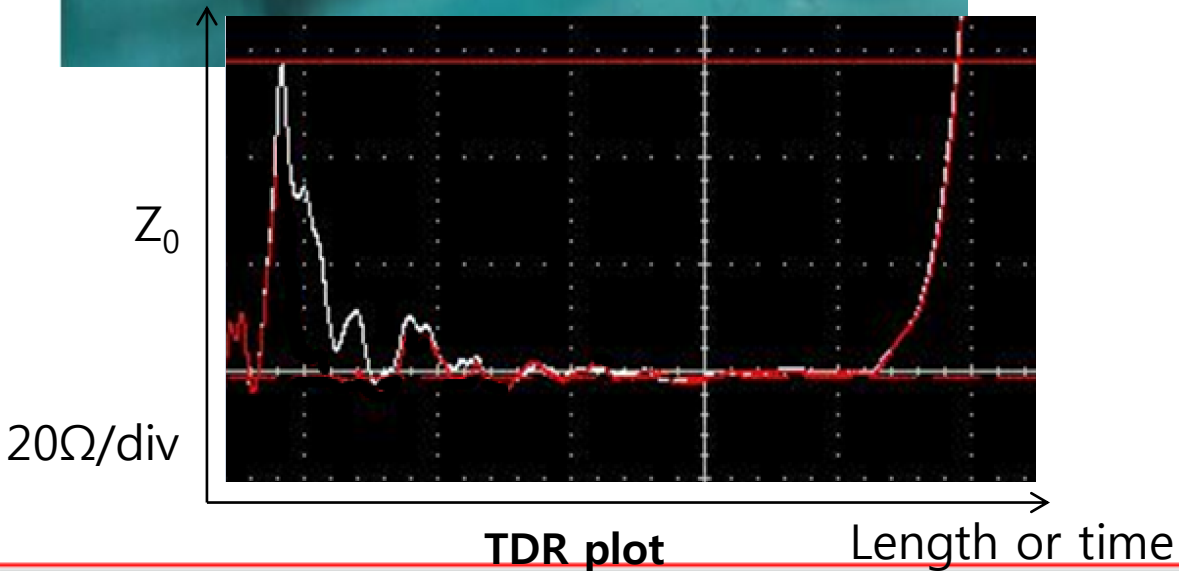
- Decoupling capacitor Pads
- Termination resistor Pads
- Filter Pads
- Connector and Pads
- Stubs
- Vias
- etc.

Inductive High Impedance

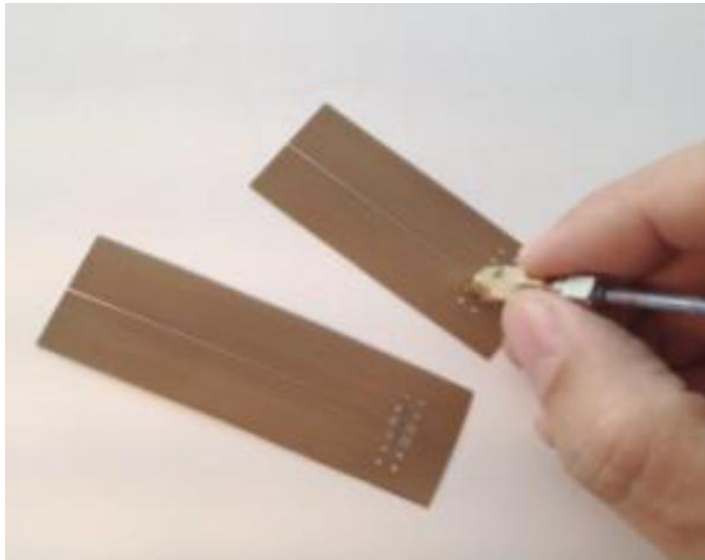


Inductive Discontinuities

- Connectors
- Joint of cable assembly
- Slit of Ground(Return) plane
- Differential Trace near Pads
- Vias
- etc.

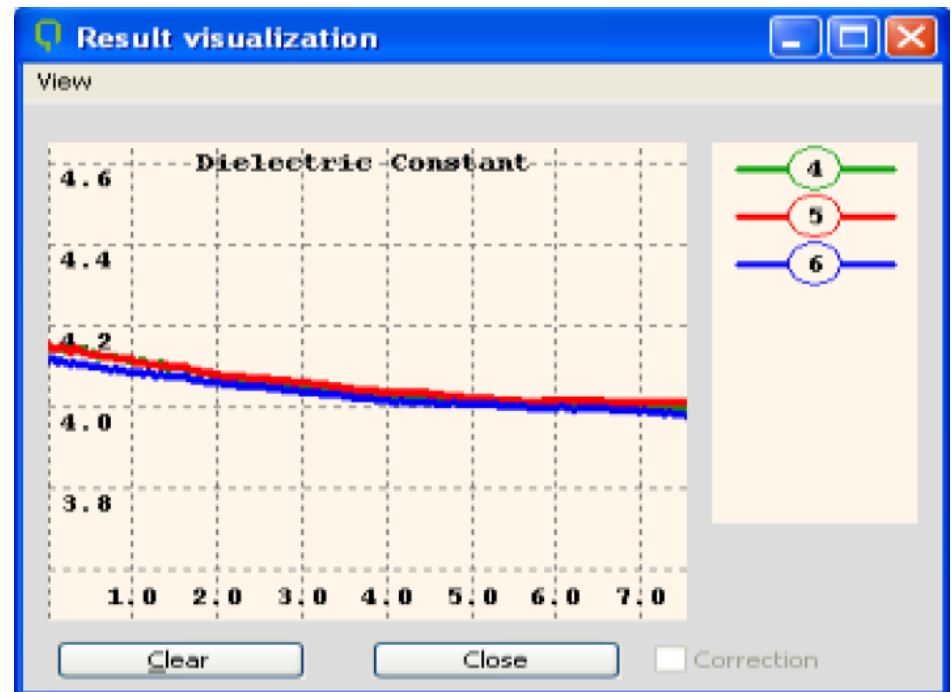


Frequency dependant Dk Measurement



Measuring TDR of two transmission lines for determining the frequency dependent dielectric constant

Display of frequency dependant dielectric constants in the software

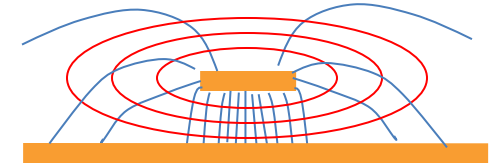
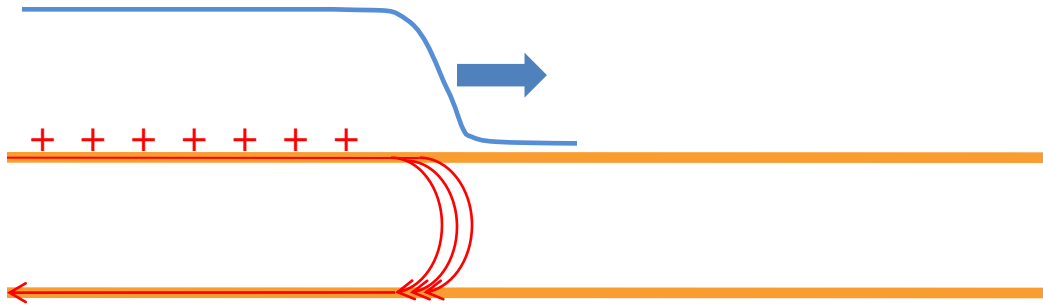




High Speed Characteristics of Interconnects

- Characteristic Impedance and TDR
- Speed of Signal and Skew**
- Insertion/Return Loss, or S-parameters
- Differential Signal & Mode Conversion
- Crosstalk

Speed of Signal



Electric Field Lines
Magnetic Field Lines in Microstrip

$$v = \frac{1}{\sqrt{\epsilon_0 \epsilon_r \mu_0 \mu_r}}$$

v = speed of signal

ϵ_0 = permittivity of free space = $8.89 \times 10^{-12} \text{ F/m}$

ϵ_r = relative dielectric constant of the material

μ_0 = permeability of free space = $4\pi \times 10^{-7} \text{ H/m}$

μ_r = relative permeability of the material

✓ In air,

$$v = \frac{2.99 \times 10^8 \text{ m}}{\sqrt{\epsilon_r \mu_r} \text{ secs}} = \frac{11.9 \text{ inches}}{\sqrt{\epsilon_r \mu_r} \text{ nsecs}}$$

✓ In FR4, if μ_r is 1, ϵ_r is 4

$$v = \frac{11.9 \text{ inches}}{\sqrt{4} \text{ nsecs}}$$

approximation



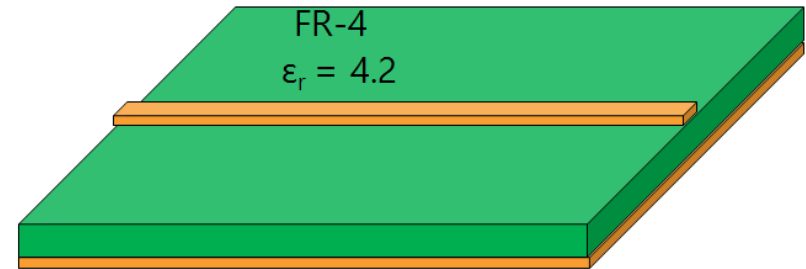
6inch / 1ns (@FR-4 PCB)

Propagation Velocity, Time Delay

$$v = \frac{C}{\sqrt{\epsilon_r}}$$

$$PD = \frac{1}{v} = \frac{\sqrt{\epsilon_r}}{C}$$

$$TD = \frac{x\sqrt{\epsilon_r}}{C}$$



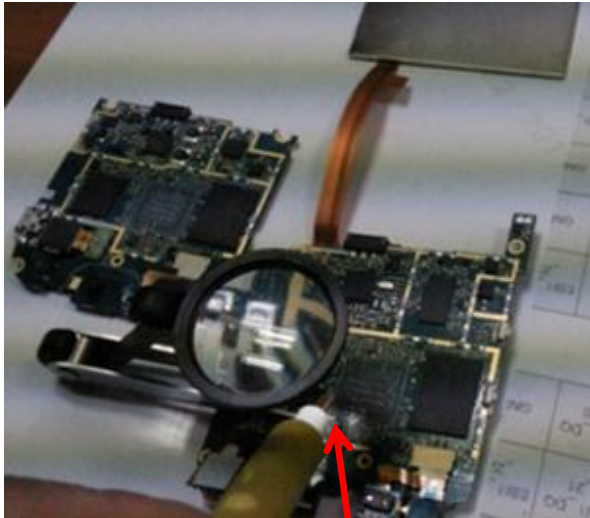
$$TD = \sqrt{L C}$$

- v = propagation velocity, in meters/sec
- C = speed of light in a vacuum (3×10^8 m/s)
- ϵ_r = dielectric constant
- PD = propagation delay, in seconds per meter
- TD = time delay for a signal to propagate down a transmission line of length x
- x = length of transmission line, in meters

L = total series inductance for the length of the line
 C = total shunt capacitance for the length of the line

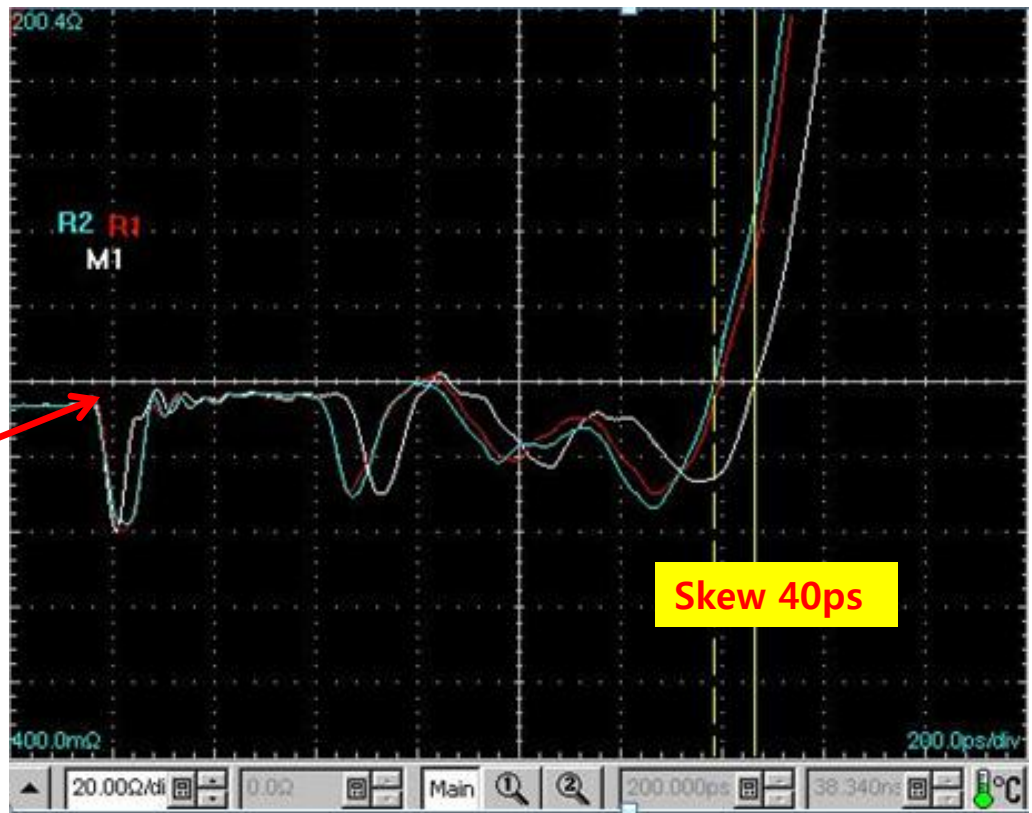
✓ Higher Dielectric constant, Inductance, Capacitance make signal slower in Tline.

Skew Measurement example (TDR method)



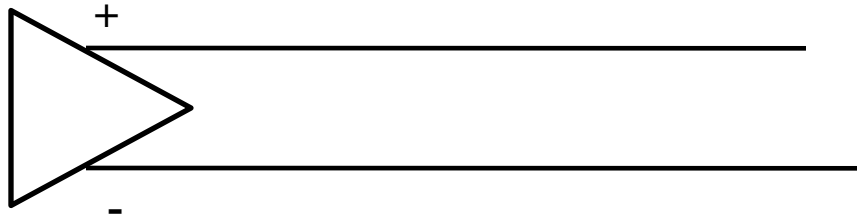
Probe on Pad of Processor

TDR method: Skew and Impedance
TDT method: Skew and Loss



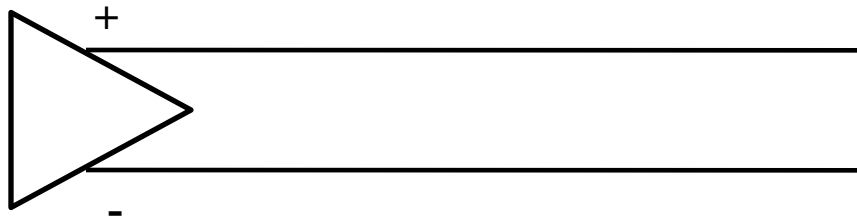
Skews in differential lines

Differential Clock



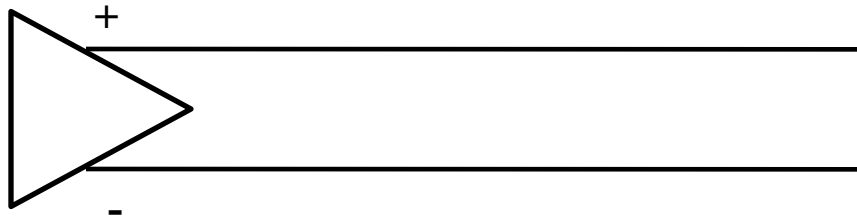
Intra pair Skew

Differential Data 0



Intra pair Skew

Differential Data 1...n



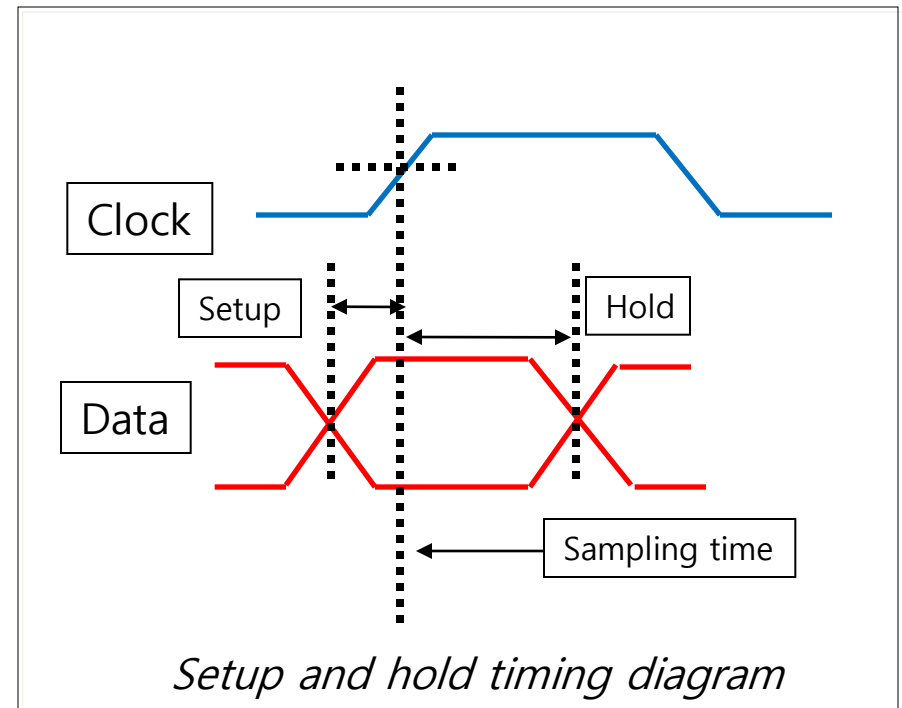
Intra pair Skew

Inter pair Skew

Problems Created by Digital Timing Issues

All Analog Deviation of Clock and Data affect Digital Timing issues

- Bus contention
- Setup and hold violations
- Metastability
- Undefined conditions





Reasons of Skew

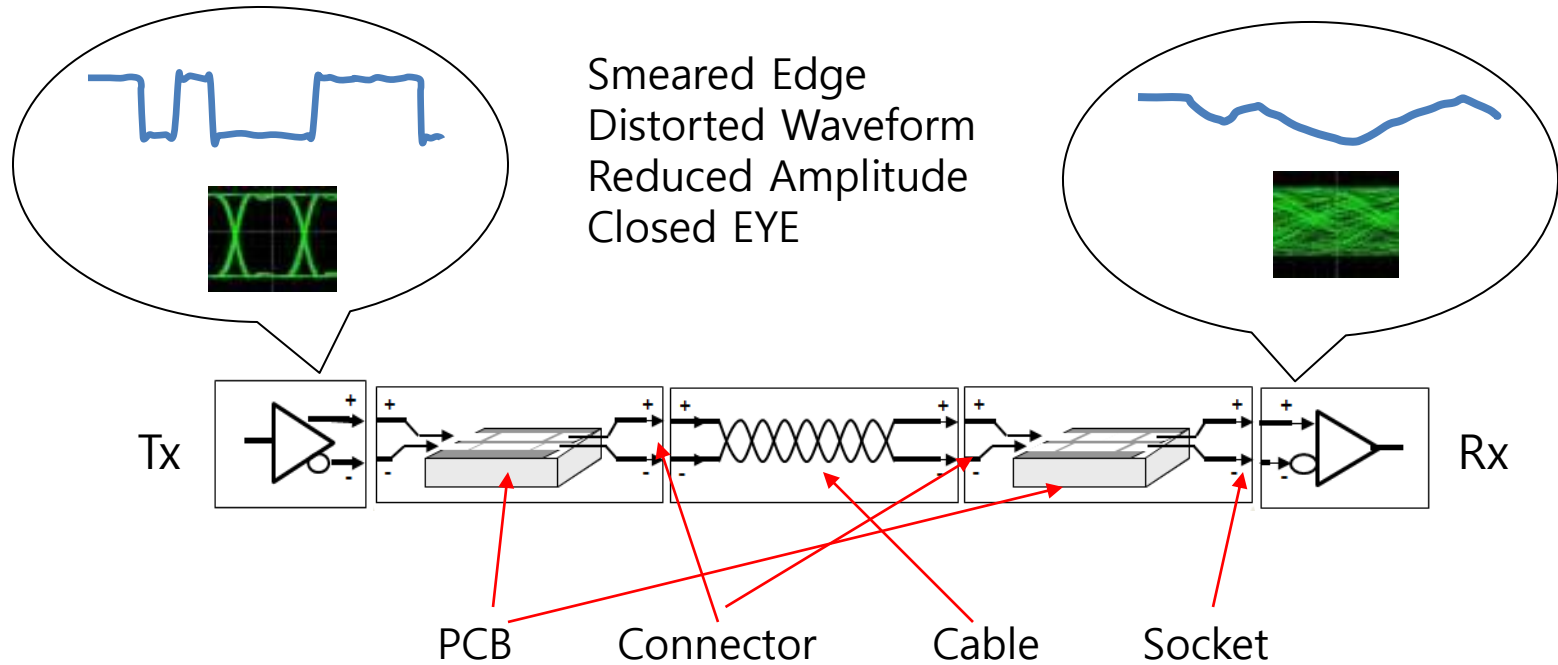
- ✓ Physical Length
- ✓ Structure (Microstrip or Stripline)
- ✓ Serpentine
- ✓ Differential or Single
- ✓ Discontinuity
- ✓ Different Dk caused by Weave



High Speed Characteristics of Interconnects

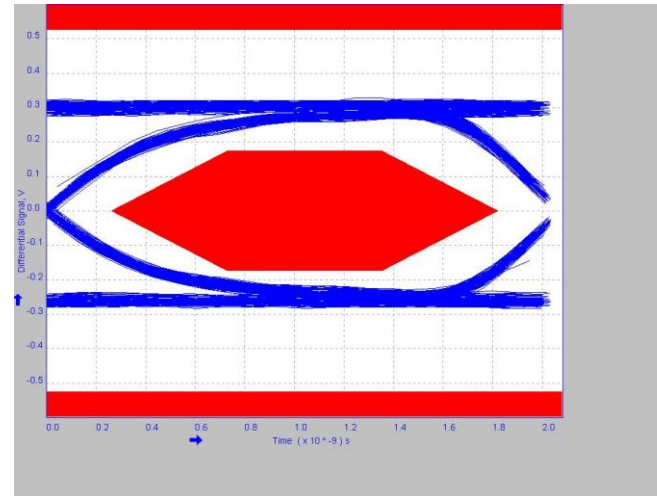
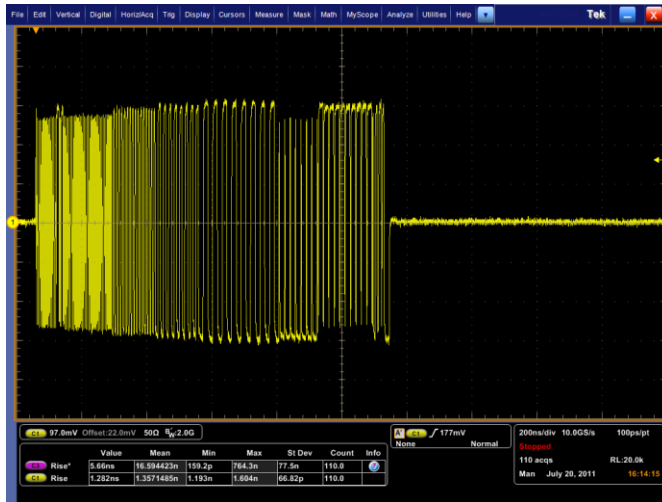
- Characteristic Impedance and TDR
- Speed of Signal and Skew
- Insertion/Return Loss, or S-parameters**
- Differential Signal & Mode Conversion
- Crosstalk

Loss of Transmission Line

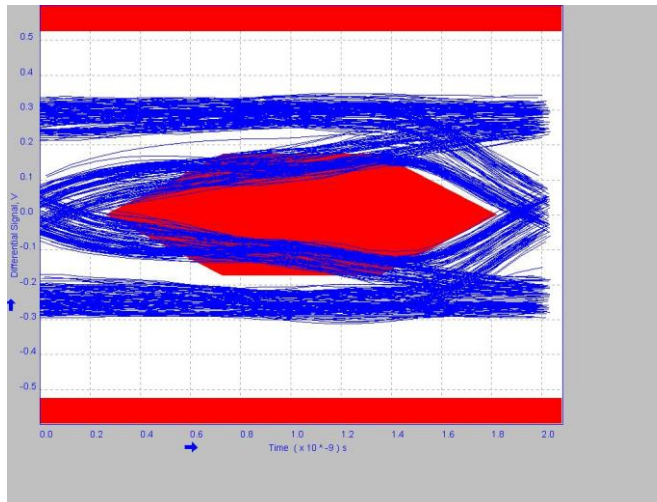
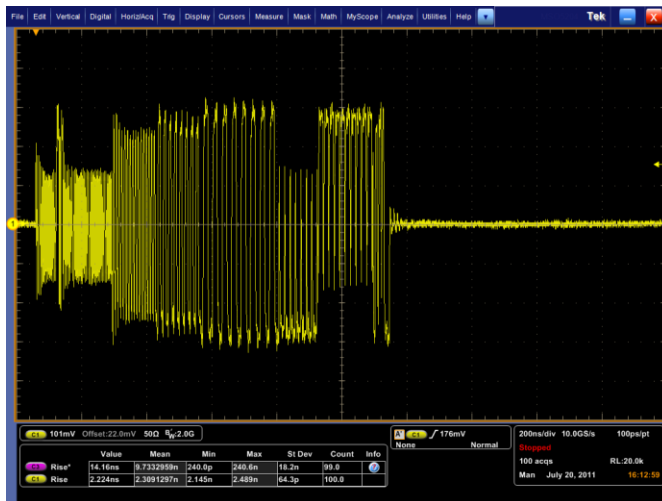


✓ Loss influences more on the closed EYE in Gpbs.

Example of Loss: Waveform and EYE diagram

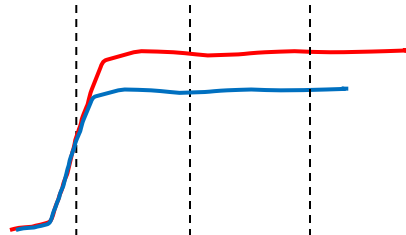


Frequency dependant Loss!

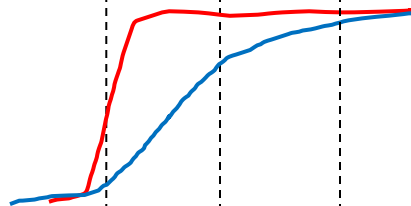


Time domain Waveforms with source of Loss

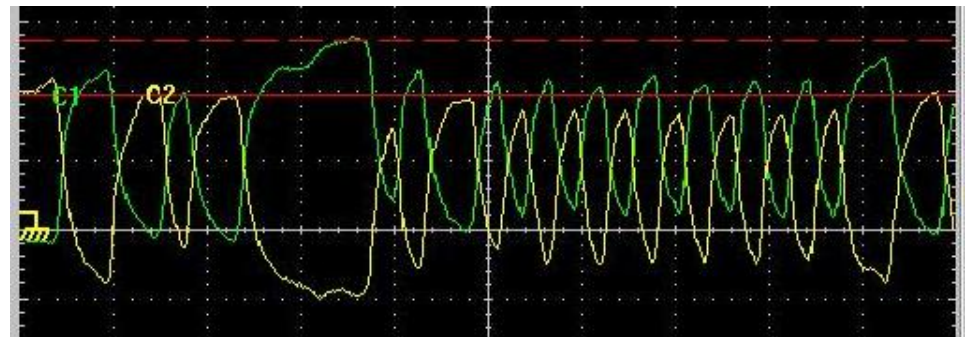
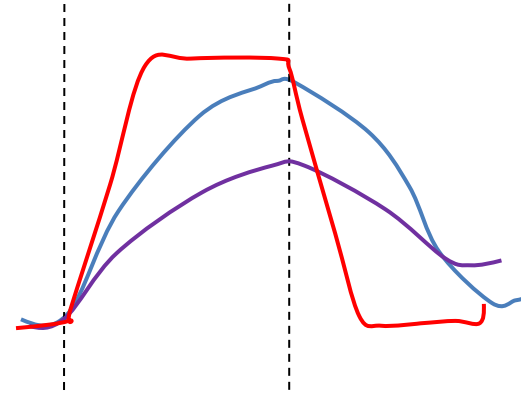
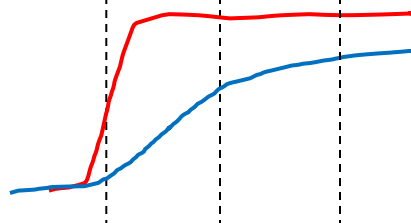
DC conductor Loss



AC conductor Loss + Dielectric Loss

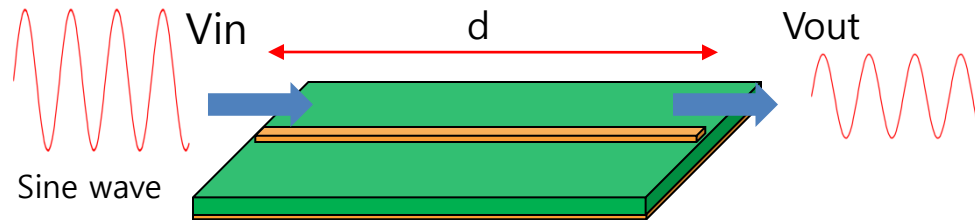


DC AC conductor Loss + Dielectric Loss



Loss in Frequency domain

Attenuation



$$V_{\text{out}} = V_{\text{in}} \exp(-A_n) = V_{\text{in}} \exp(-d \times \alpha_n)$$

V_{out} = the voltage at the end of the line
 d = the distance of the line, in inch
 V_{in} = the amplitude of the input voltage
 A_n = the total attenuation, in neper
 α_n = the attenuation per length, in neper/inch

✓The attenuation increases exponentially with distance.

Loss in Frequency domain

Attenuation in dB

$$V_{\text{out}} = V_{\text{in}} 10^{-\frac{A_{\text{dB}}}{20}} = V_{\text{in}} 10^{\left(-d \times \frac{\alpha_{\text{dB}}}{20}\right)}$$

A_{dB} = the total attenuation, in dB

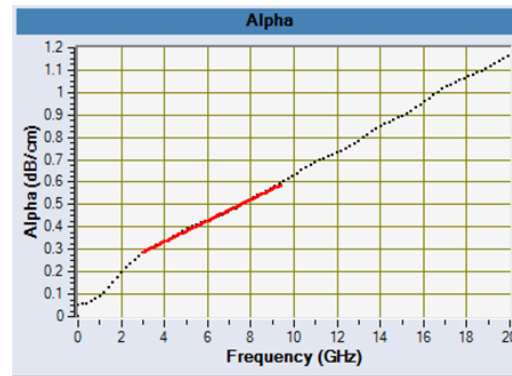
α_{dB} = the attenuation per length, in dB/inch

20 = the factor to convert dB into amplitude

$$\text{Ratio(dB)} = 10 \times \log \frac{P_1}{P_0} = 10 \times \log \left(\frac{V_1^2}{V_0^2} \right) = 20 \log \left(\frac{V_1}{V_0} \right)$$

$$\text{Ratio} = \frac{V_1}{V_0} = 10^{\frac{\text{ratio}_{\text{dB}}}{20}}$$

V_0 = reference voltage
 V_1 = measured voltage



<measured α_{dB} in FR4 PCB, in dB/cm>

dB	Power ratio	Voltage ratio
30	1000	100
20	100	10
10	10	3.16
6	4	2
3	2	1.4
0	1	1
-3	0.5	0.7
-6	0.25	0.5
-10	0.1	0.316
-20	0.01	0.1
-30	0.001	0.01

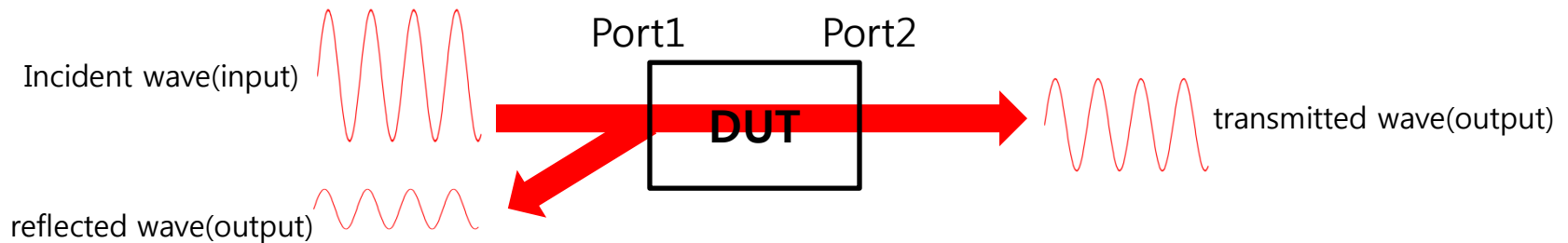
✓In dB, the attenuation increases linearly with frequency.

Loss in Frequency domain

S-parameters

"Scattering-parameters"

Origins in RF world, this technique has been widely used to describe the behavior of any interconnects in time domain in the digital world.



✓Incident wave scatter back into the source, reflected wave: **S11 or Return Loss**

✓Incident wave scatter through the device, transmitted wave: **S21 or Insertion Loss**

$$\text{mag}(S) = \frac{\text{amplitude of output sine wave}}{\text{amplitude of input sine wave}}$$

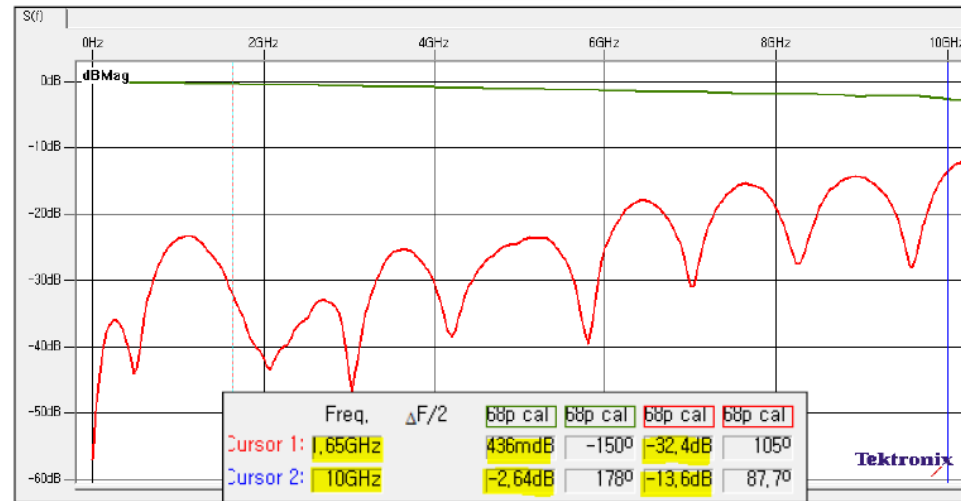
$$S_{\text{dB}} = 20\log(\text{mag}(S))$$

$$\text{Phase}(S) = \text{Phase}(\text{output sine wave}) - \text{Phase}(\text{input sine wave})$$

S-parameters



<50ohm Transmission line, FR4, 5cm>



<Measured S21 and S11 plot. Measured with Tektronix DSA8300/80E04. Calculated and displayed with I-Connect SW>

In all linear, passive devices, $S_{21}=S_{12}$. $S_{11}=S_{22}$.

S_{21} (Insertion Loss) describes how big the transmitted signal will be, at each frequency.

Ex) 1V, 10GHz, sine wave will be reduced to 0.738V(-2.64dB) at the output port.

This Frequency is the appx. Bandwidth(-3dB) of this device.

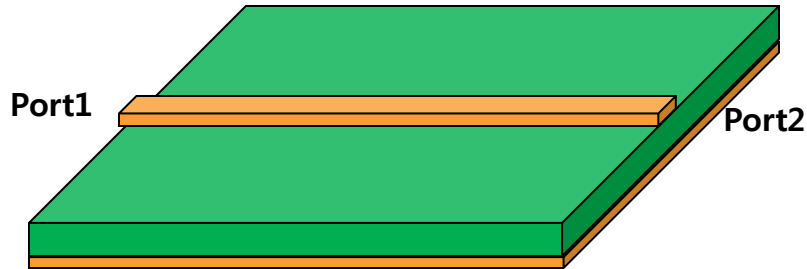
$$\text{Ratio} = \frac{V_1}{V_0} = 10^{\frac{\text{ratio}_{\text{dB}}}{20}}$$

S_{11} (Return Loss) describes how small the reflected signal will be, at each frequency.

Ex) 0.2V(-13.6dB) out of 1V, 10GHz, sine wave will be returned back to the source.

S-parameters of Single & Differential T.line

Single-end Line



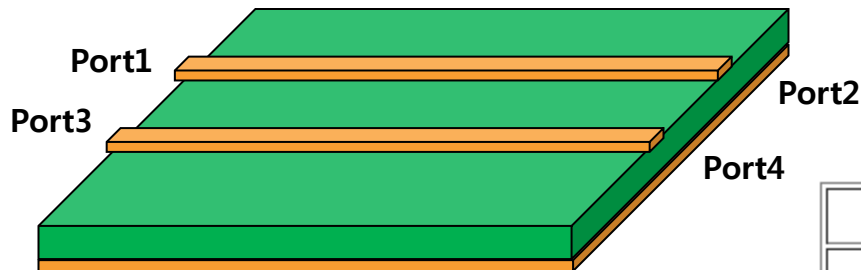
2Port S-parameters

S11 S12
S21 S22



Touchstone file: .S2P

Differential Line



4Port S-parameters

S11 S12 S13 S14
S21 S22 S23 S24
S31 S32 S33 S34
S41 S42 S43 S44



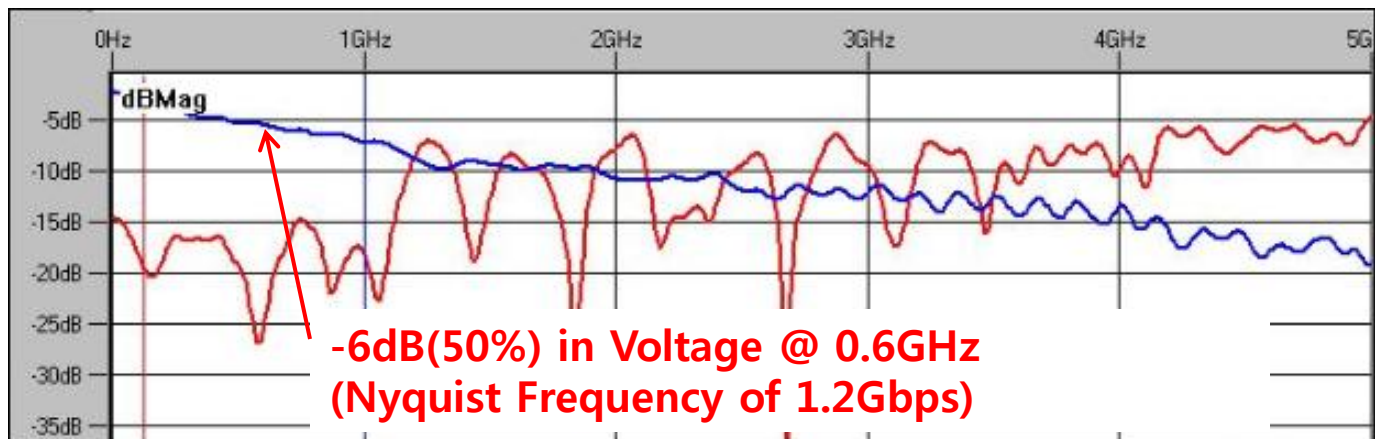
Touchstone file: .S4P

4Port Mixed-Mode S-parameters

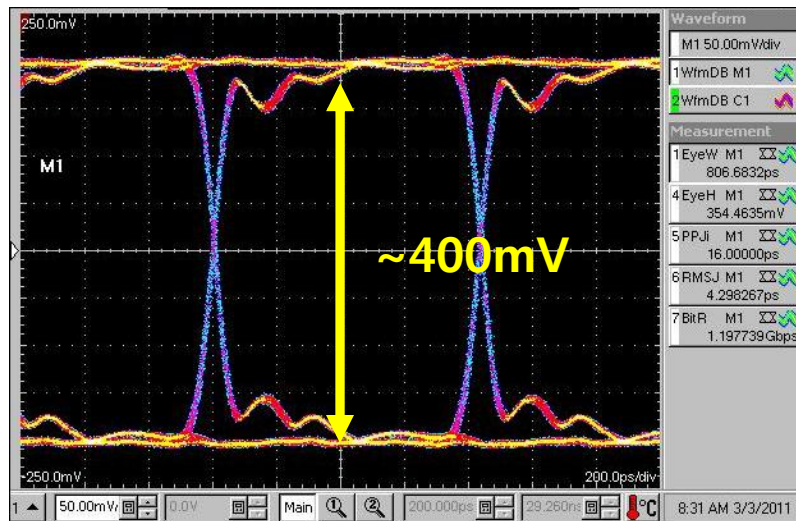
			Stimulus			
			Differential		Common Mode	
			Port 1	Port 2	Port 1	Port 2
Response	Differential	Port 1	SDD11	SDD12	SDC11	SDC12
		Port 2	SDD21	SDD22	SDC21	SDC22
	Common Mode	Port 1	SCD11	SCD12	SCC11	SCC12
		Port 2	SCD21	SCD22	SCC21	SCC22

Measured Example of Lossy Transmission Line

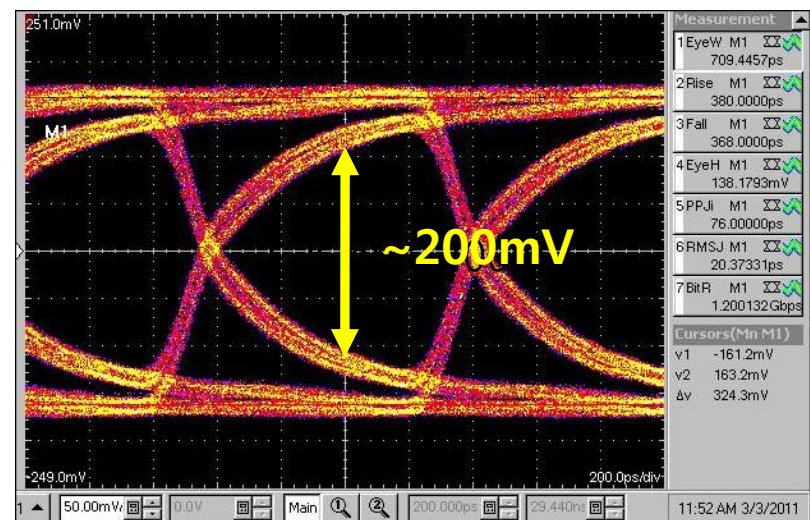
Frequency Domain: Insertion Loss, or S21 and EYE opening



In 1.2Gbps, 400mV



Out

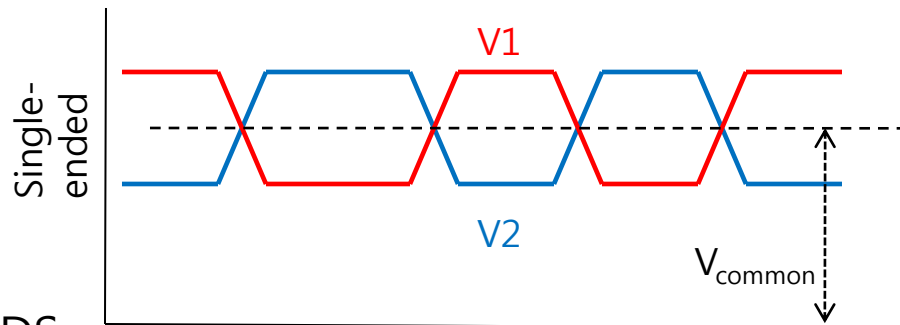
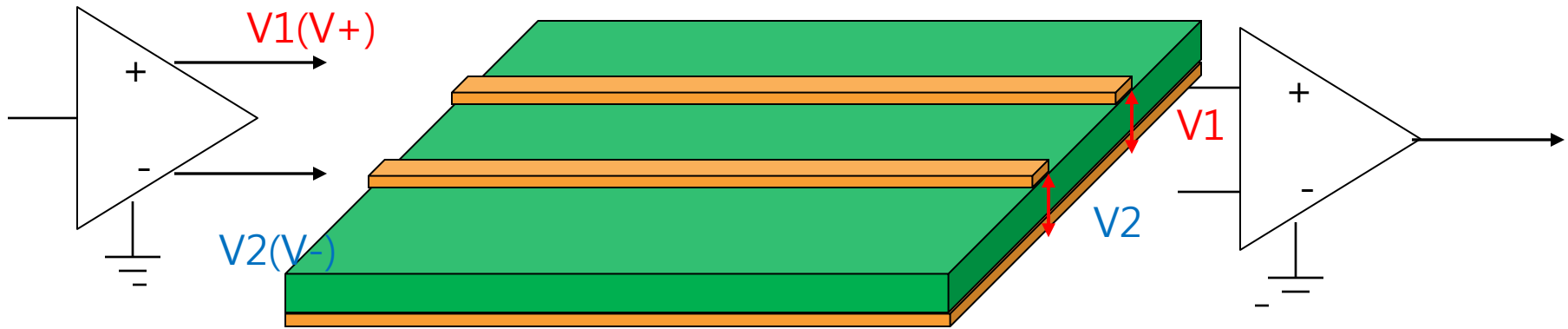




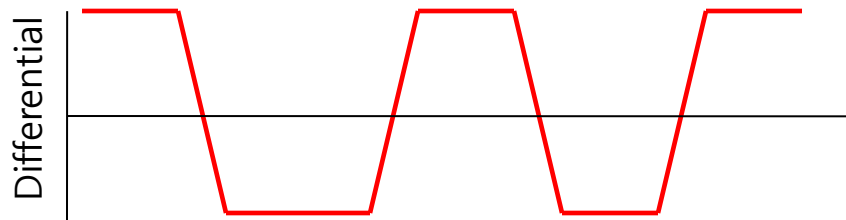
High Speed Characteristics of Interconnects

- Characteristic Impedance and TDR
- Speed of Signal and Skew
- Insertion/Return Loss, or S-parameters
- Differential Signal & Mode Conversion**
- Crosstalk

Differential Signaling



ex) LVDS

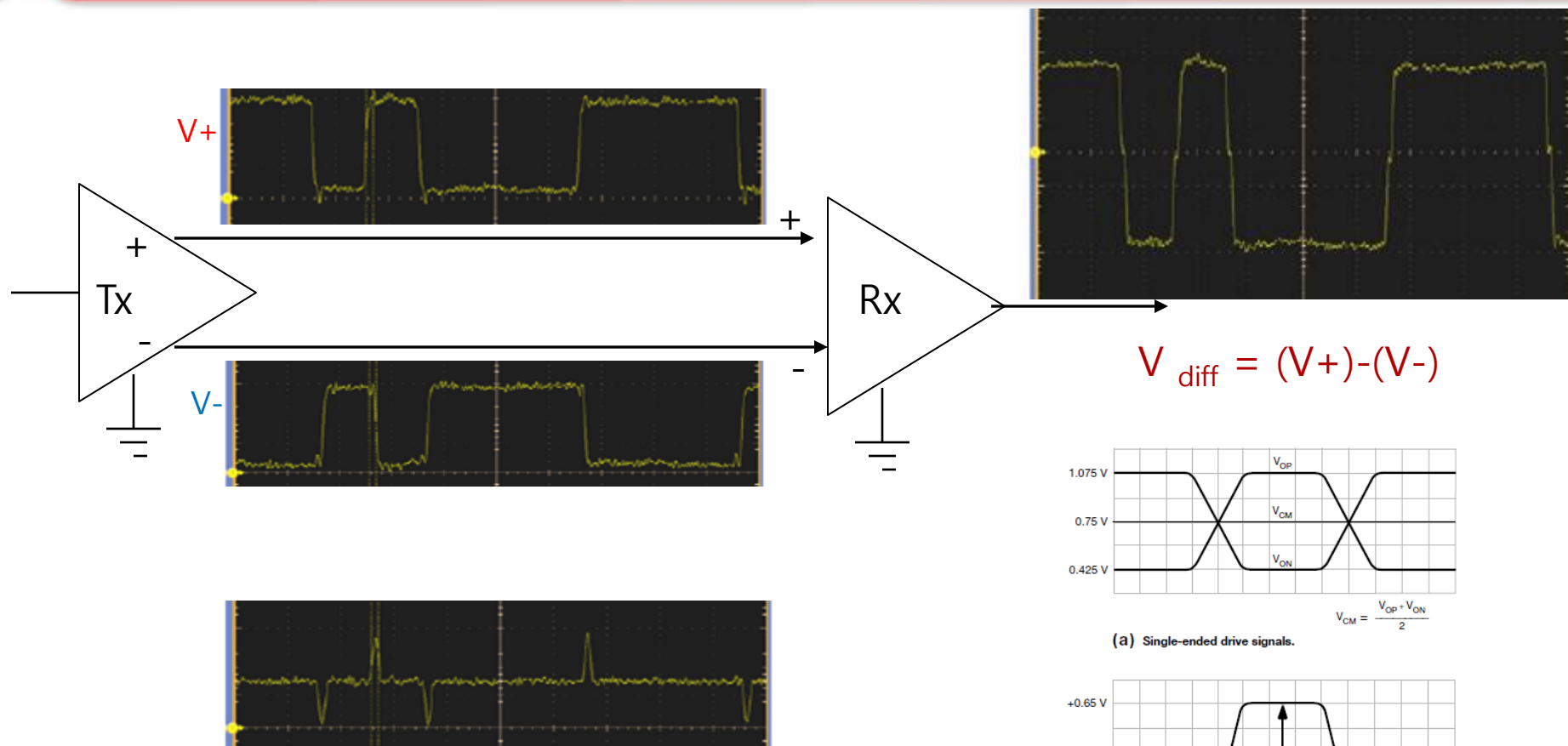


$$V_{\text{differential}} = V1 - V2$$

$$V_{\text{common}} = (V1 + V2) / 2$$

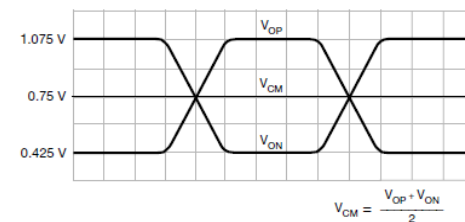
In AC coupled signal, V_{common} is 0

Mode conversion

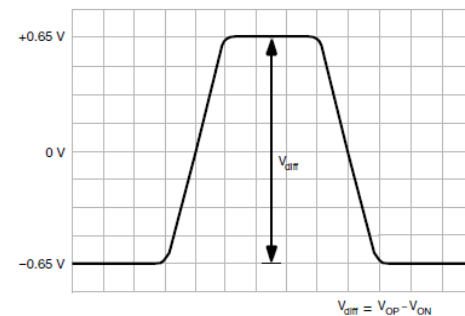


$$V_{cm} = (V_+) + (V_-) / 2$$

Differential to Common mode noise → EMI
Common to Differential Mode → Jitter, Noise



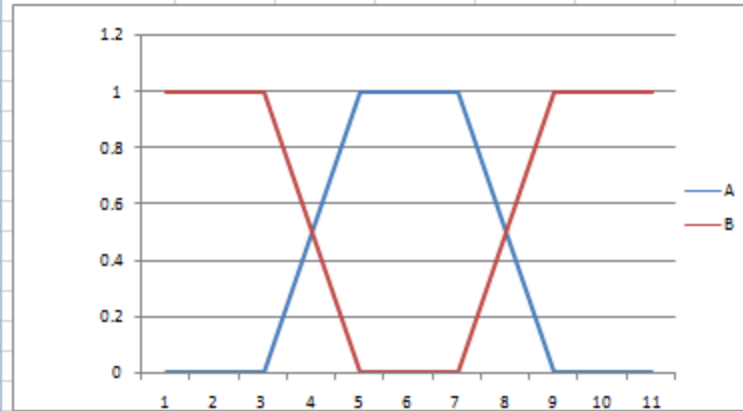
(a) Single-ended drive signals.



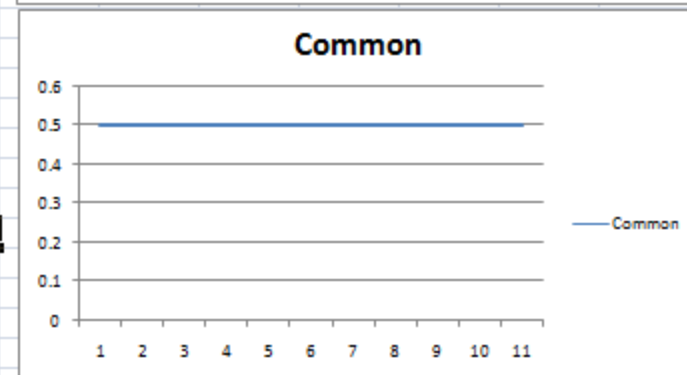
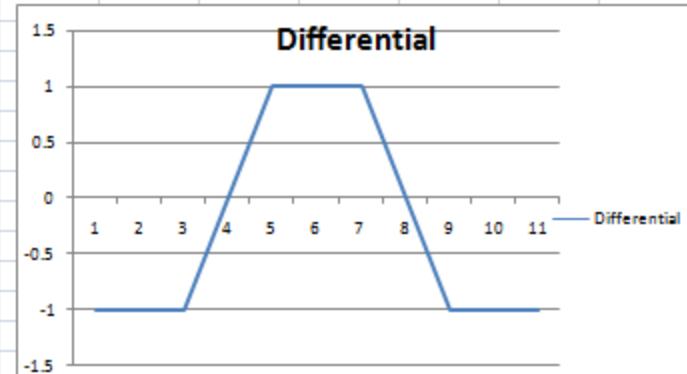
(b) Differential drive signal.

Mode Conversion

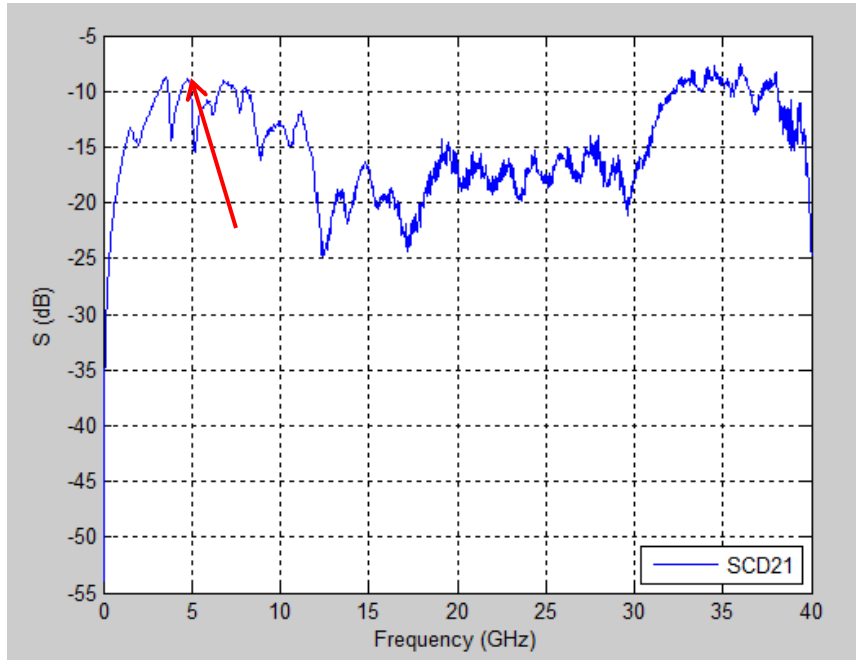
A	0	0	0	0.5	1	1	1	0.5	0	0	0
B	1	1	1	0.5	0	0	0	0.5	1	1	1
A-B(diff)	-1	-1	-1	0	1	1	1	0	-1	-1	-1
(A+B)/2(comm)	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.5



1. Edge mismatch
2. aberration one line
3. skew
4. amplitude mismatch

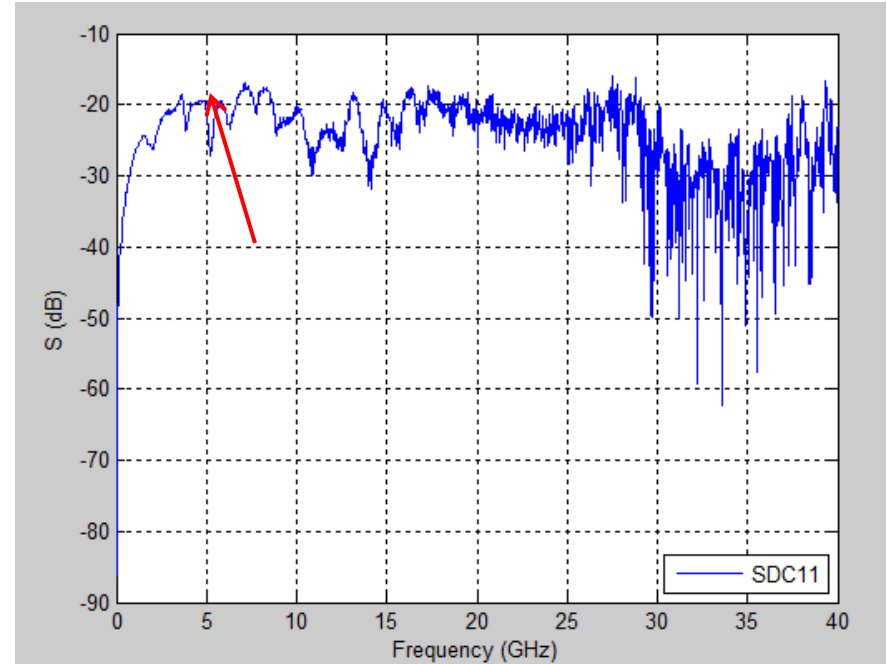


Mode Conversion in Frequency Domain



**Differential to Common mode noise
→ EMI**

@10Gbps, Nyquist 5GHz, -10dB (30%)
1Vdiff → 0.3Vcomm



**Common to Differential Mode
→ Jitter, Noise**

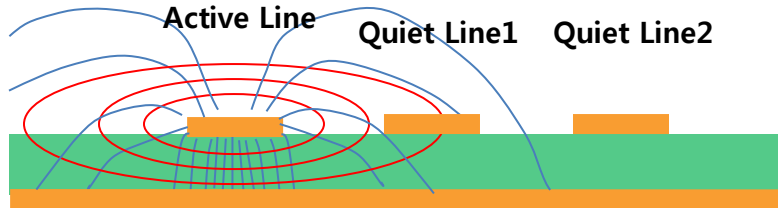
@5GHz, -20dB (10%)
0.3Vcomm → 0.03Vdiff



High Speed Characteristics of Interconnects

- Characteristic Impedance and TDR
- Speed of Signal and Skew
- Insertion/Return Loss, or S-parameters
- Differential Signal & Mode Conversion
- Crosstalk**

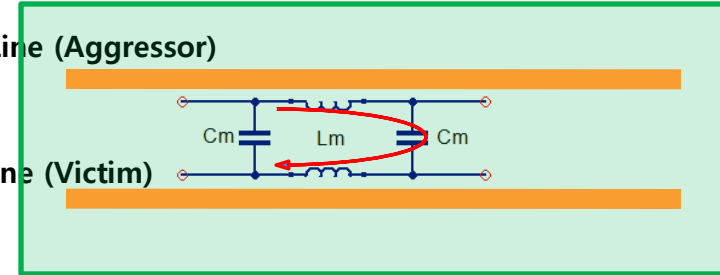
Cause of Crosstalk



Electric Field Lines
Magnetic Field Lines in Microstrip

Active Line (Aggressor)

Quiet Line (Victim)



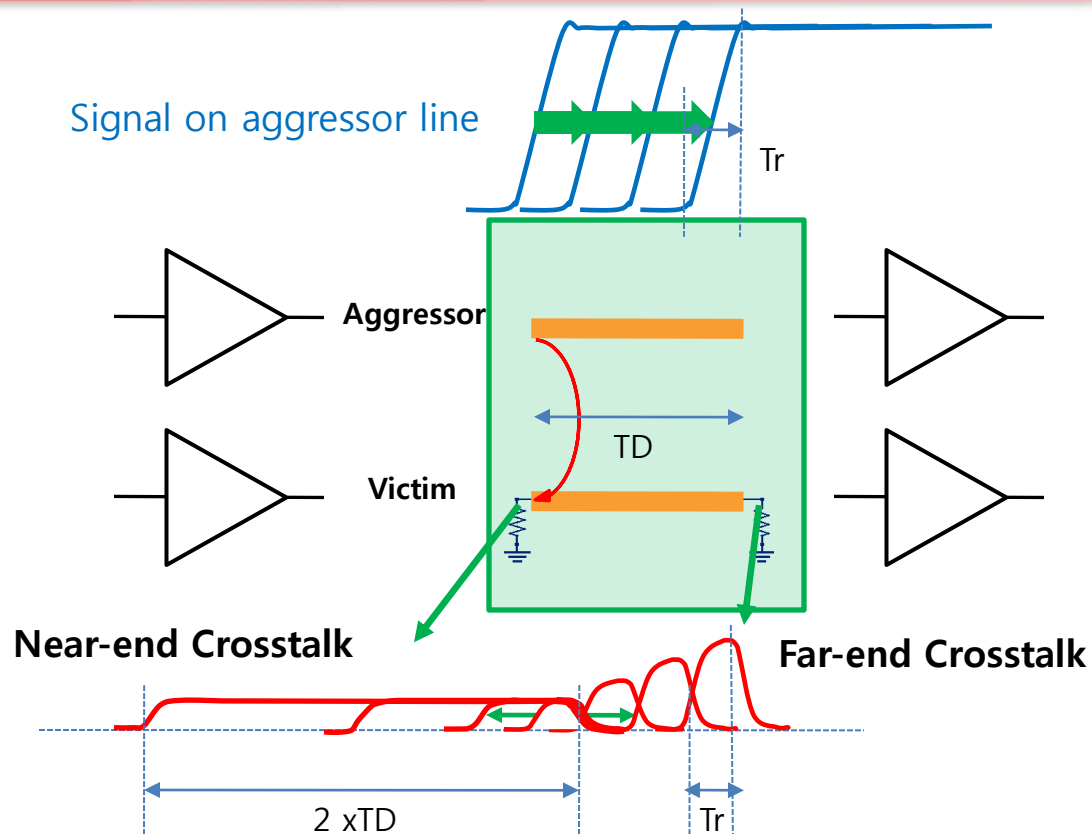
Capacitive coupling from Electric field → Mutual Capacitance (C_m)

Inductive coupling from Magnetic field → Mutual Inductance (L_m)

$$I_{\text{noise}, C_m} = C_m \times \frac{dV_{\text{driver}}}{dt}$$

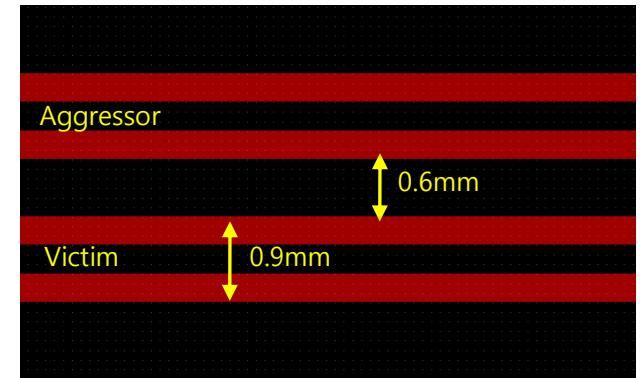
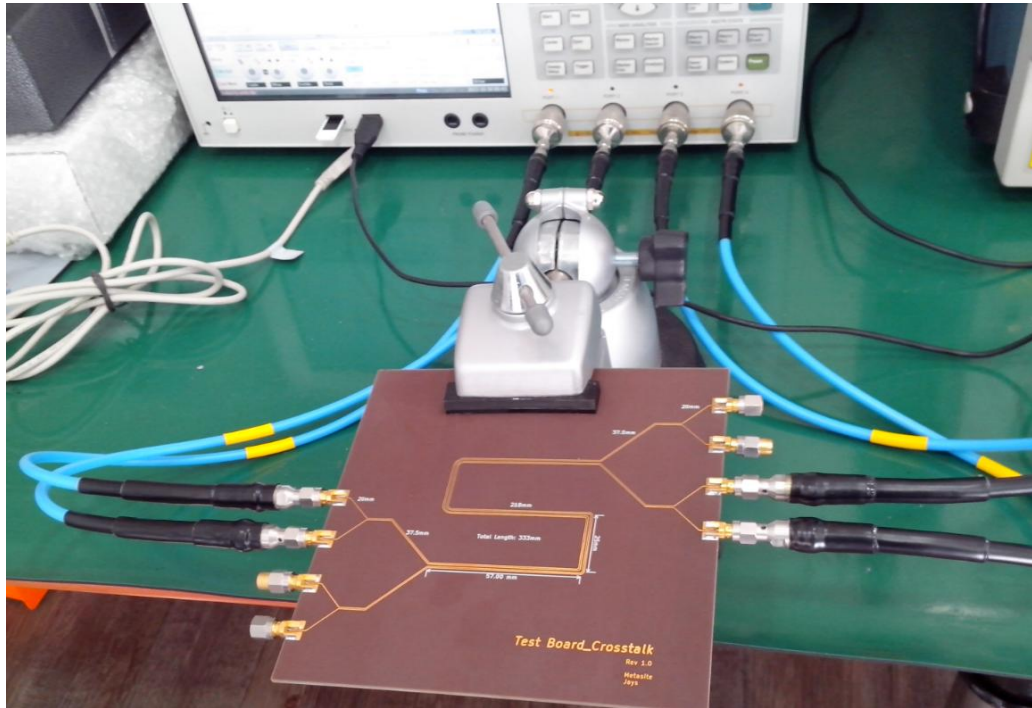
$$V_{\text{noise}, L_m} = L_m \times \frac{dI_{\text{driver}}}{dt}$$

Near and Far end Crosstalk



Crosstalk induced noise on victim line can affect on the signal integrity at near-end and far-end.

Crosstalk measurement Setup



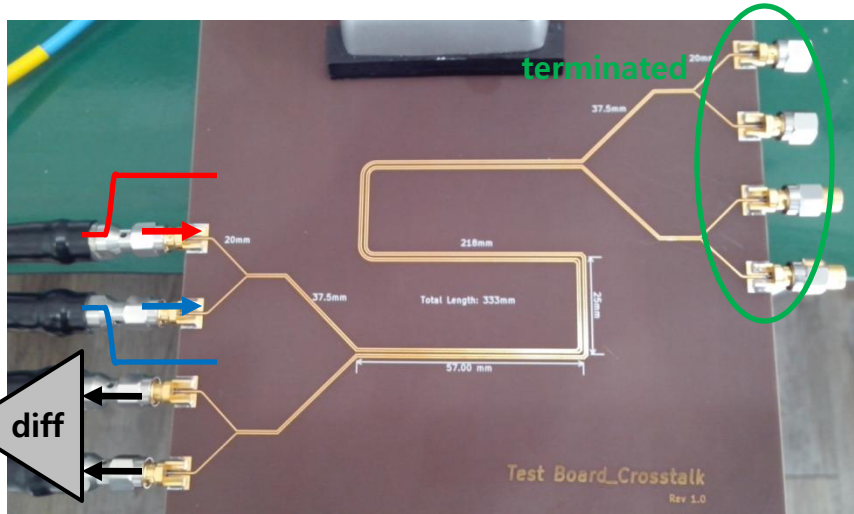
Two tightly coupled differential lines, 0.3x0.3x0.3mm
Space between differential lines: 0.6mm

Coupled lines length: 220mm (8.67inch)
Total length: 333mm (13.1inch)

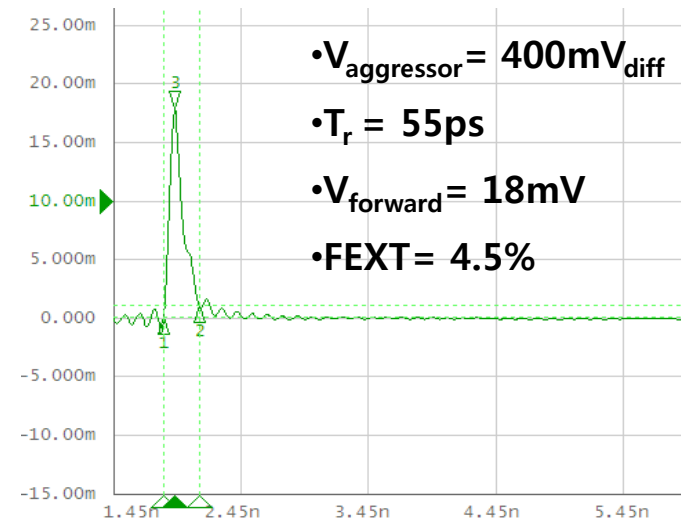
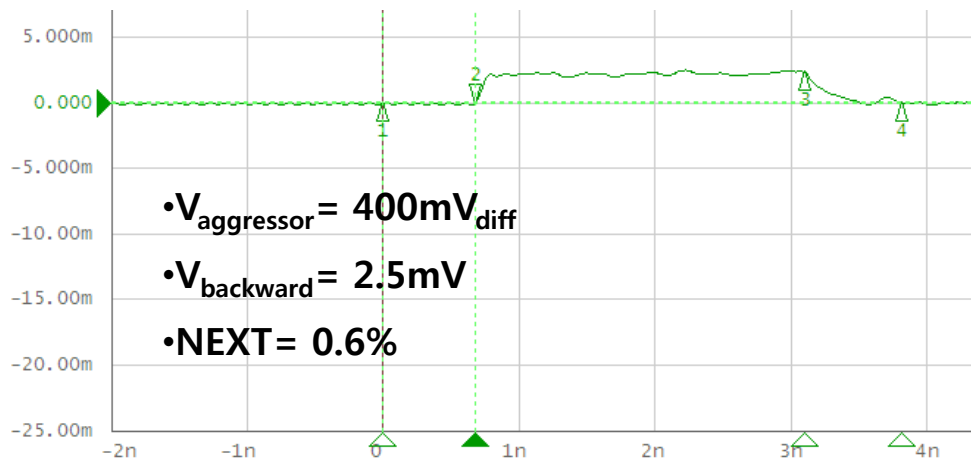
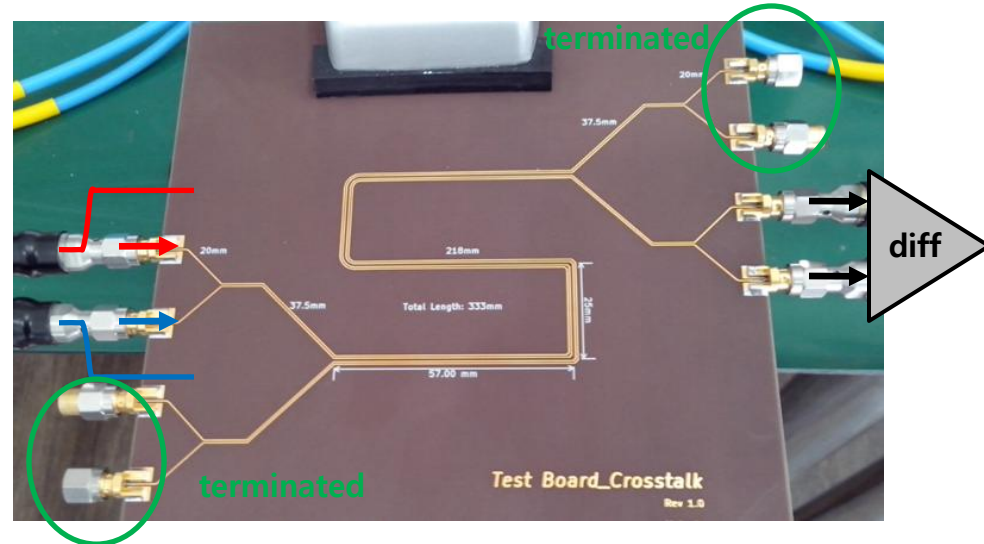
<The setup for Far-end Crosstalk measurement, differential>

Crosstalk Measurement

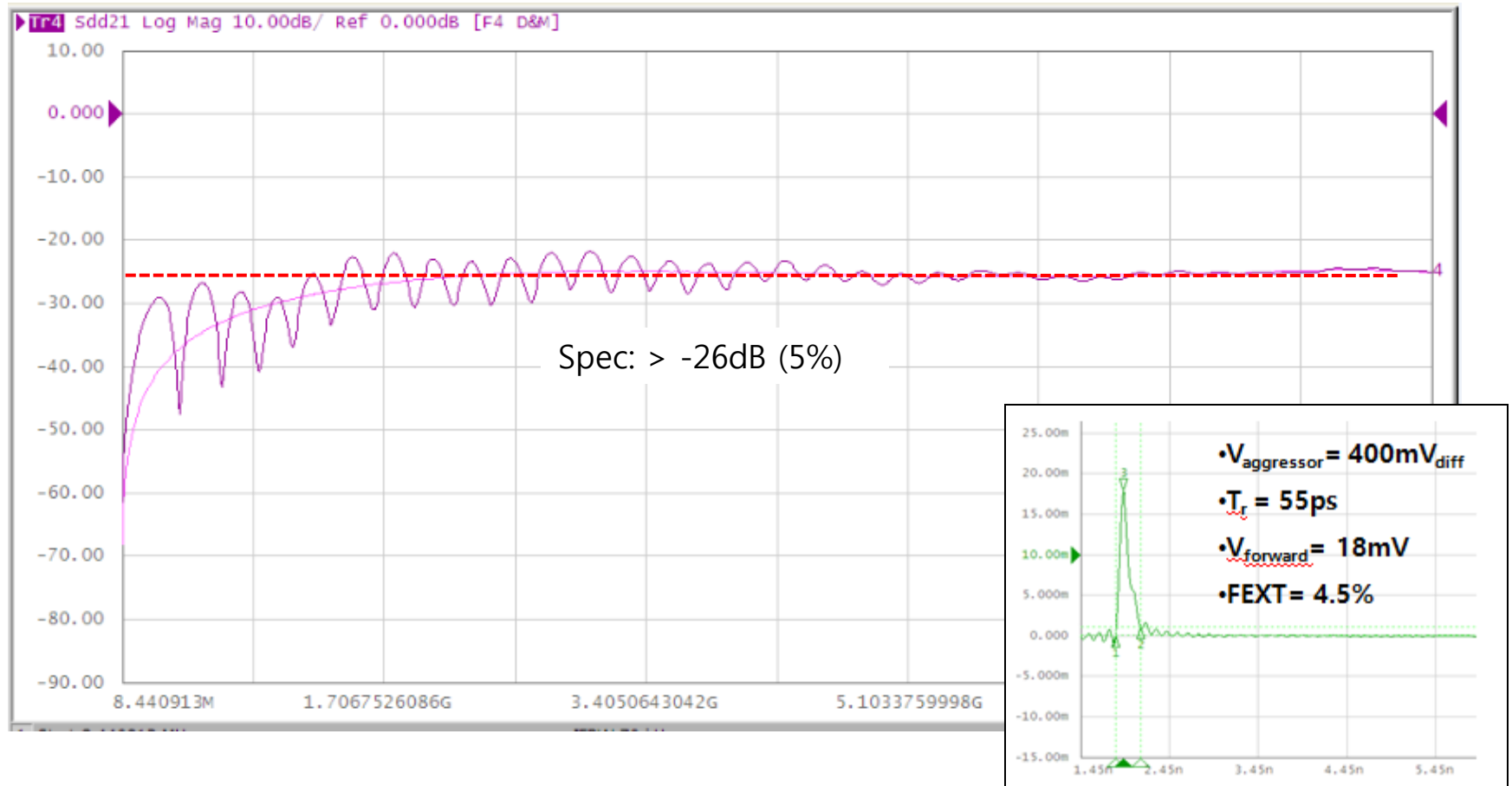
Setup for NEXT measurement



Setup for FEXT measurement

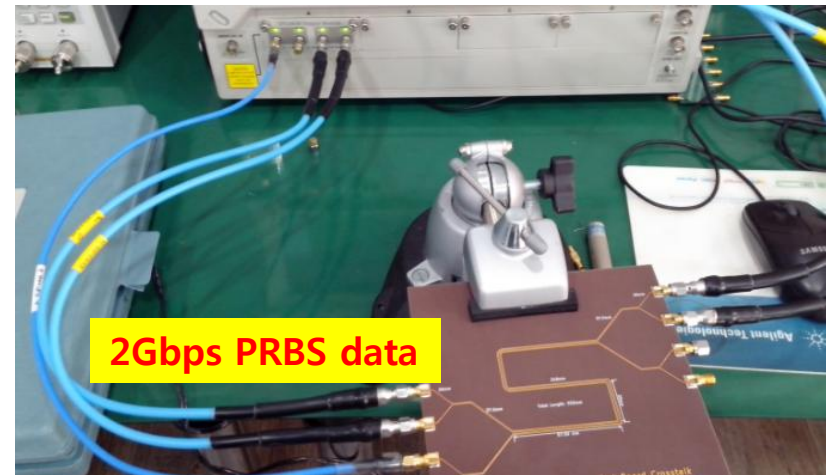
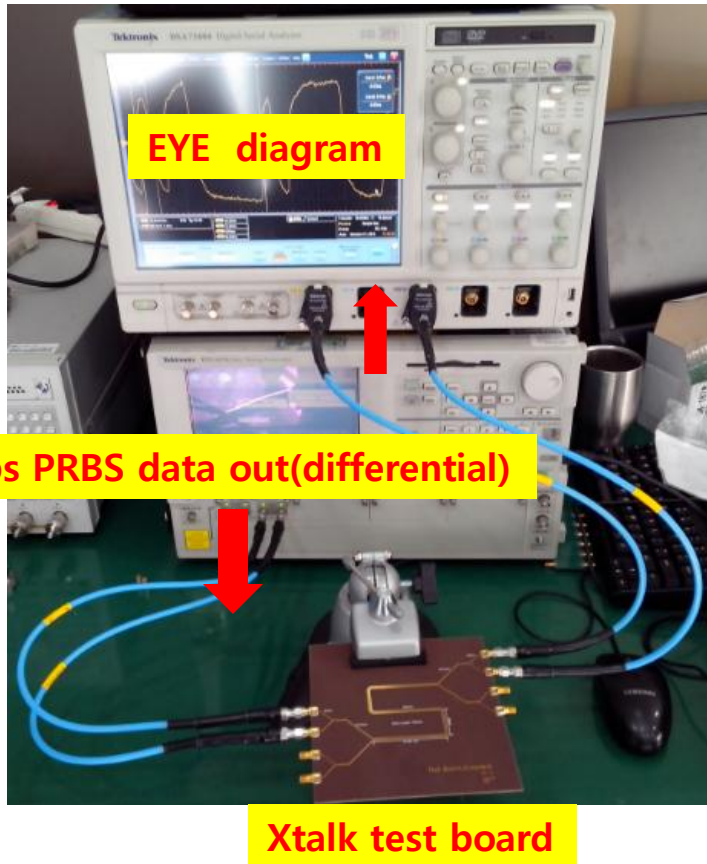


Example of Crosstalk in Frequency domain



- ✓ Far-end Noise(Xtalk) with and without termination, test board
- ✓ Far-end noise(Xtalk) spec. of Displayport standard(1.1)

FEXT affect on EYE diagram



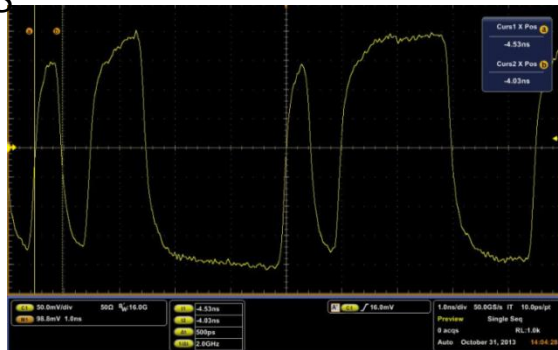
200MHz clock(synced with data) via aggressor



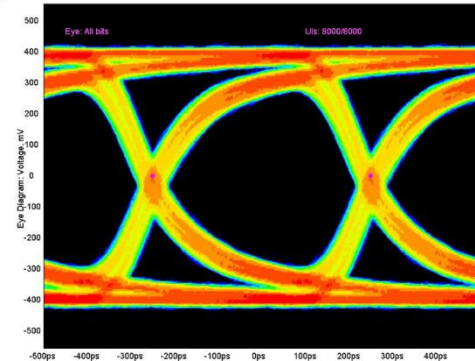
6Gbps data(Asynced with data) via aggressor

Example of Xtalk on EYE diagram

2Gbps PRBS



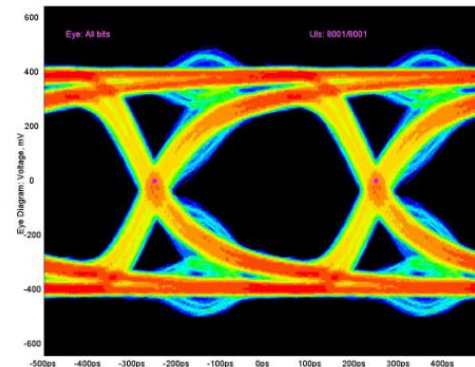
TJ= 106ps



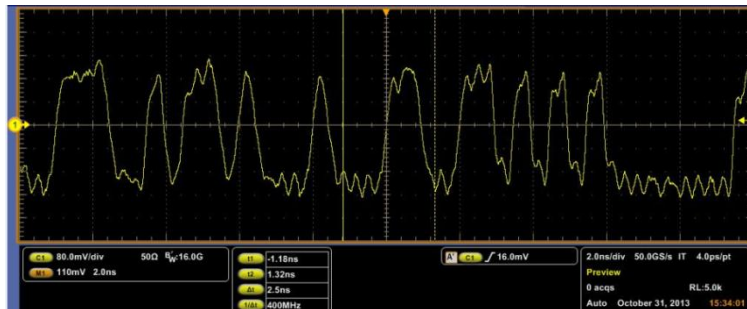
w. 200MHz Sync clock on aggressor



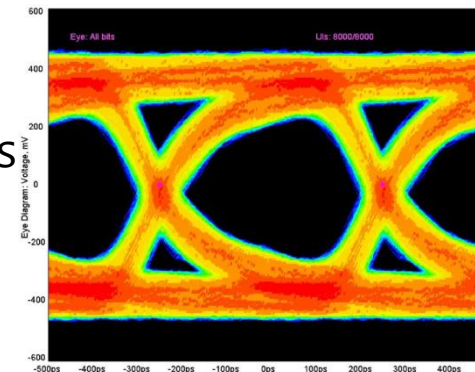
TJ= 146ps



w. 6Gbps Async data on aggressor



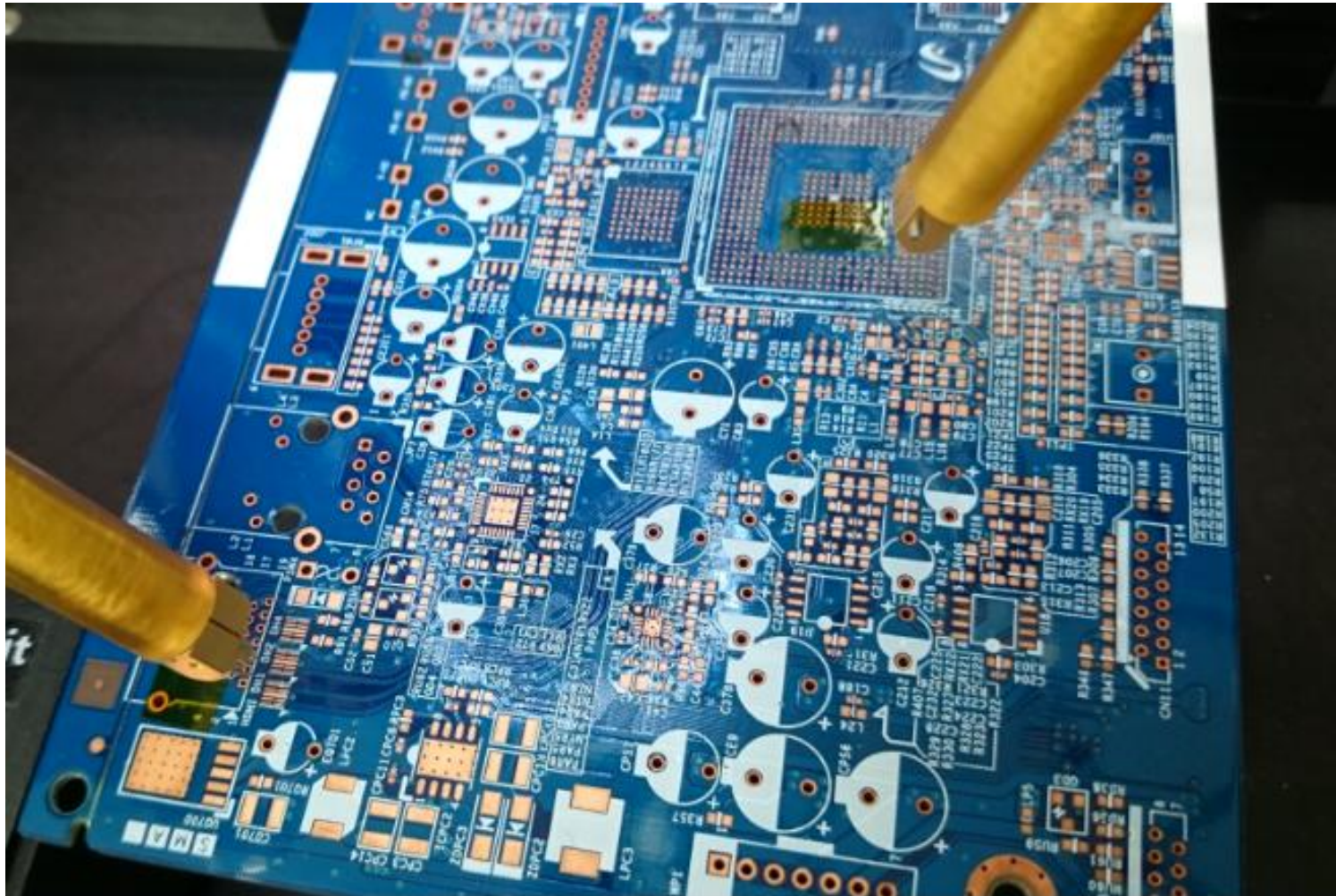
TJ= 184ps



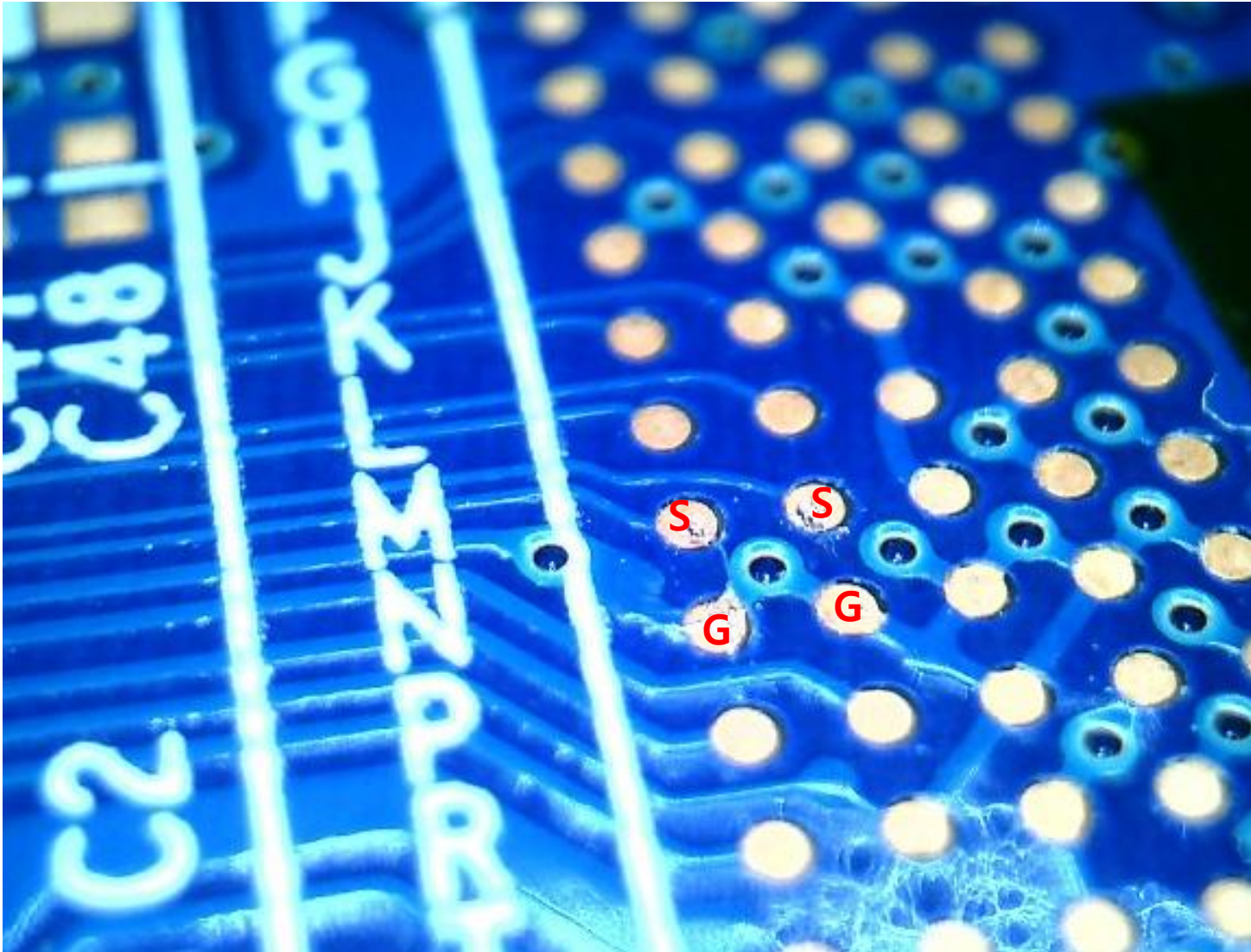


Measurement Setup

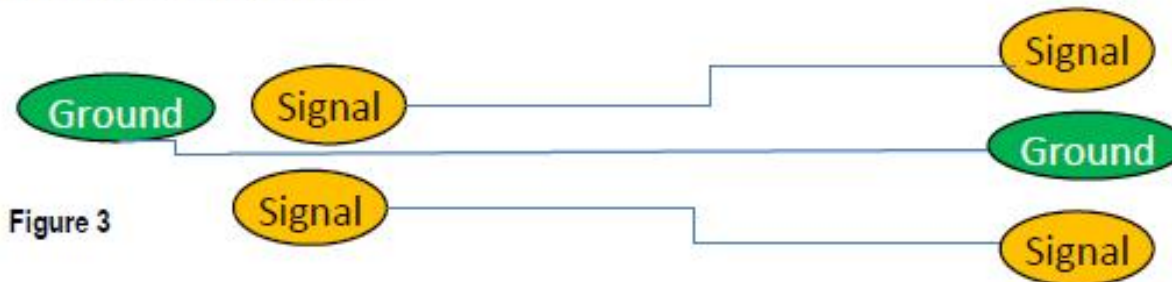
Probing on the real board



Test Pad (BGA)



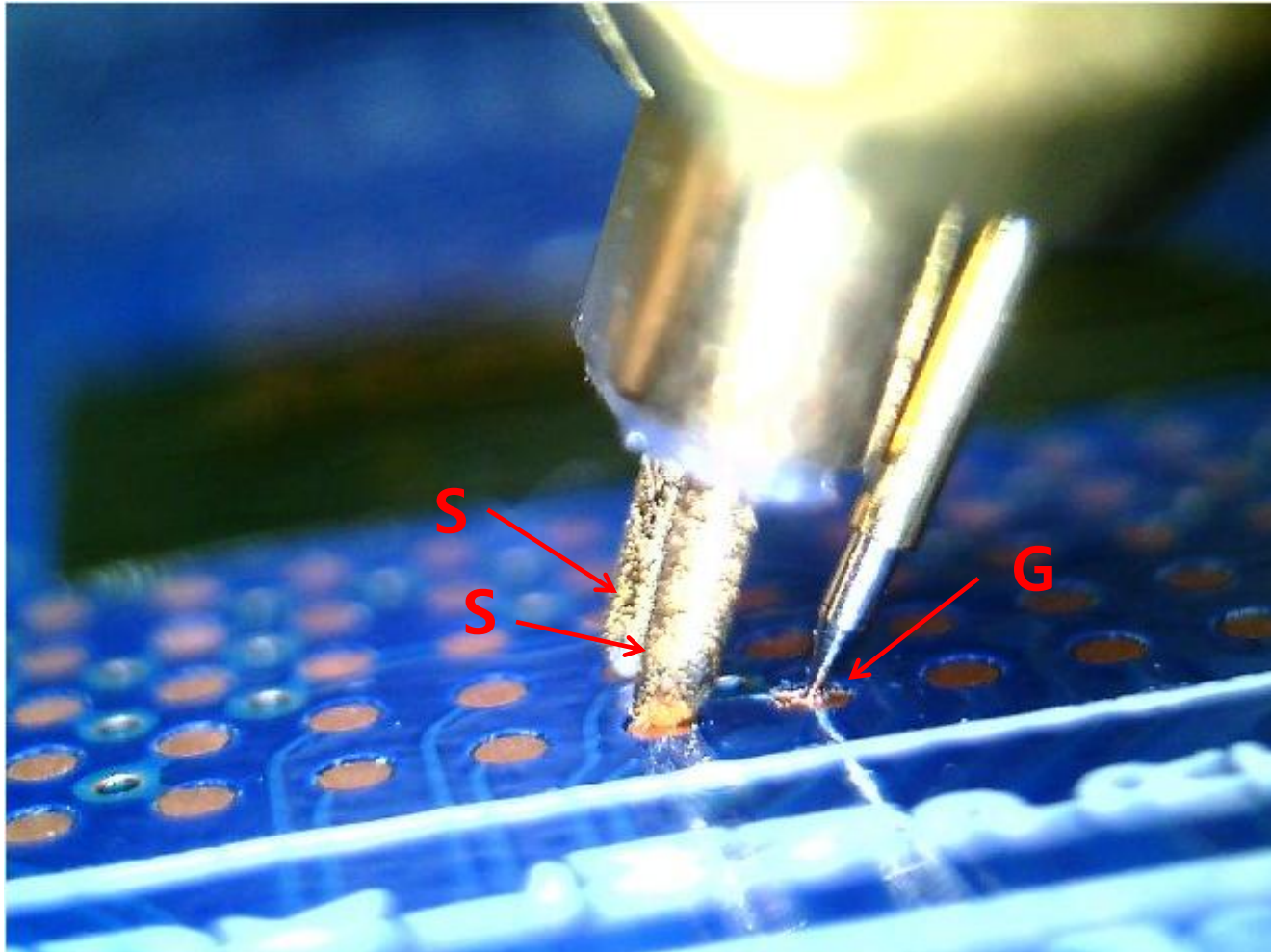
Different types of Ground pin configuration



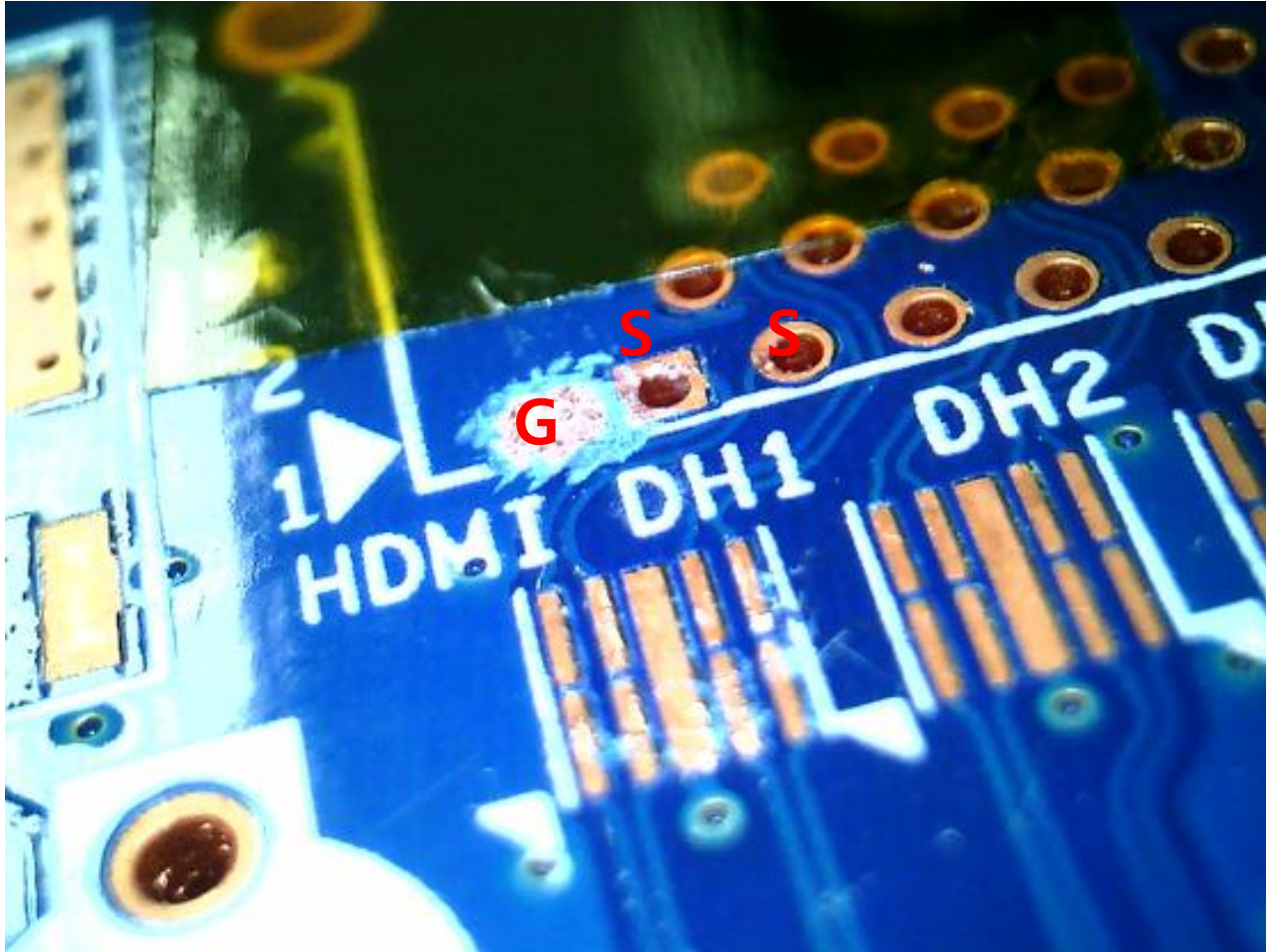
Use DVT40-GC-1MM-H ground collar when ground pin is behind/front signal pin

Use DVT40-SPARAM In-Line ground collar when ground pin is next or in-line to signal pin

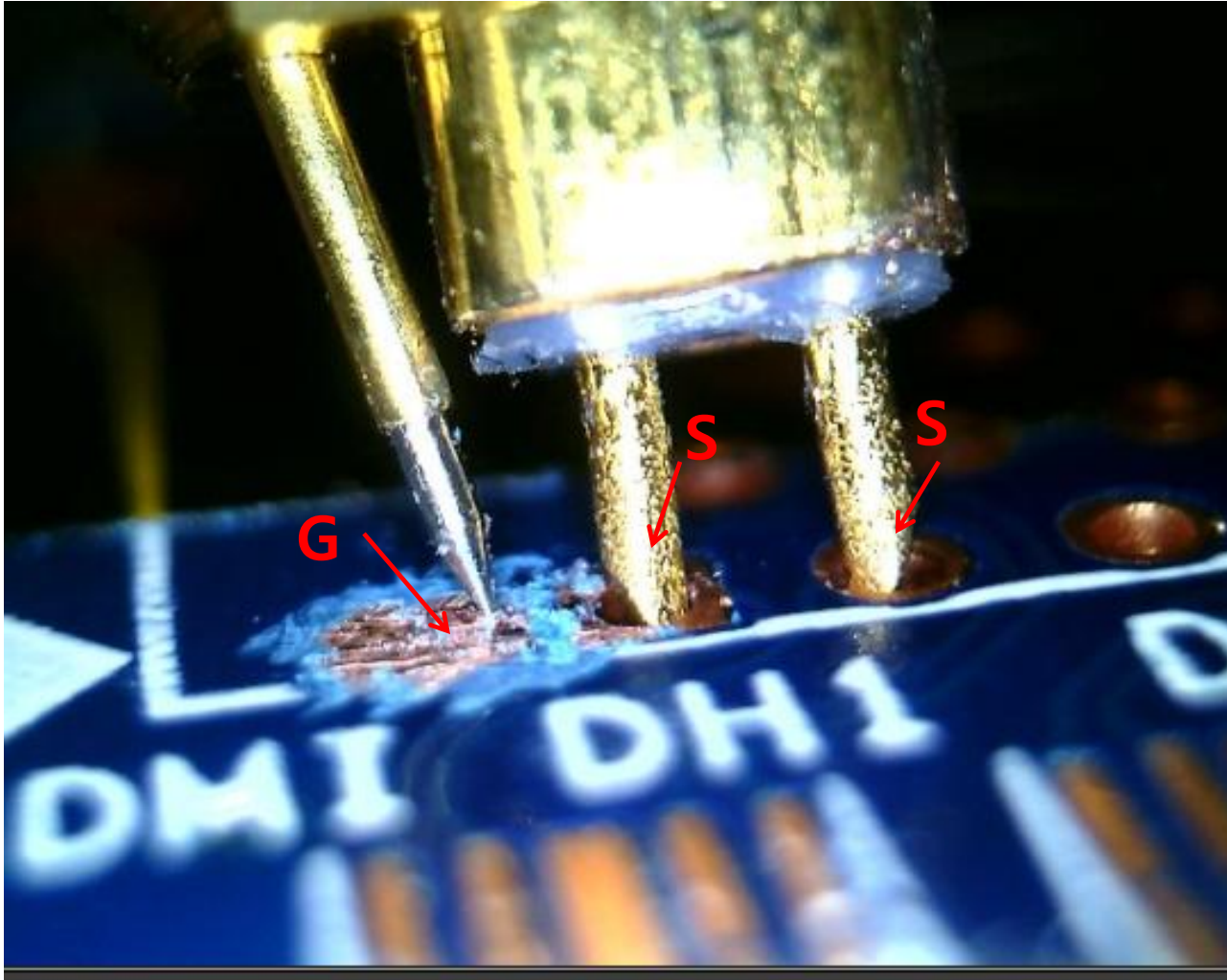
Probing on BGA



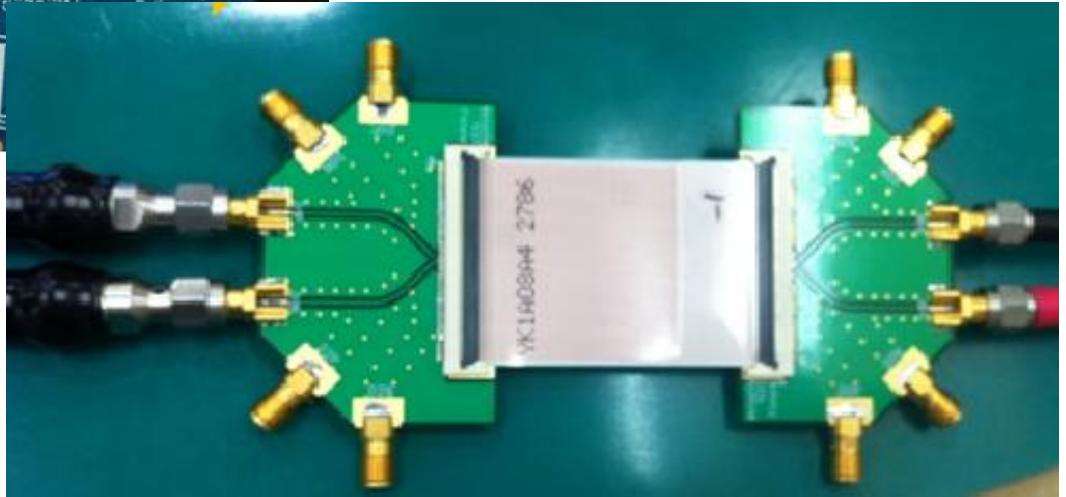
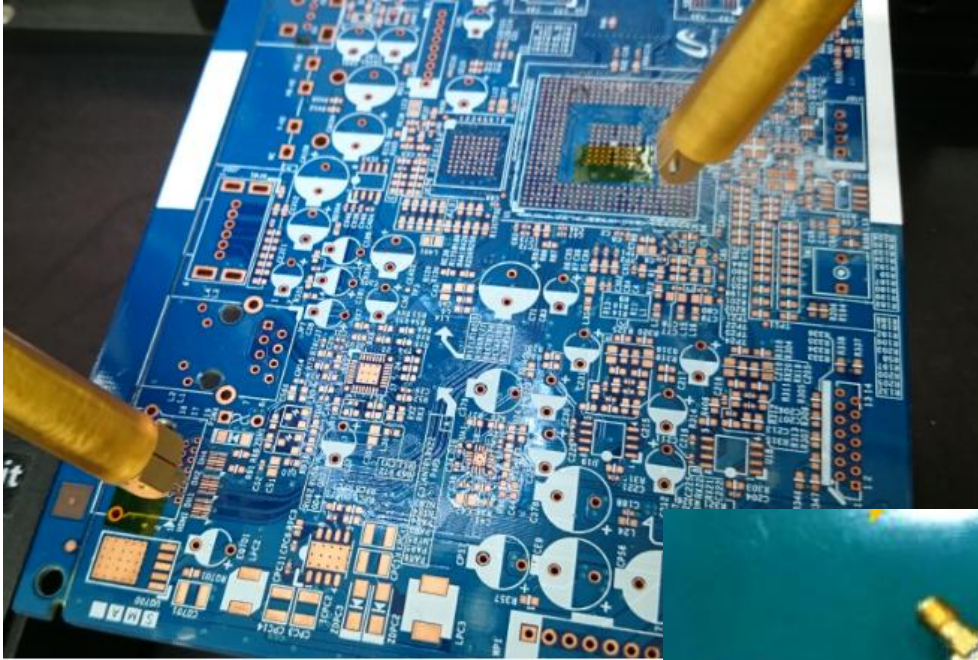
Test Pad (through hall)



Probing on through hall

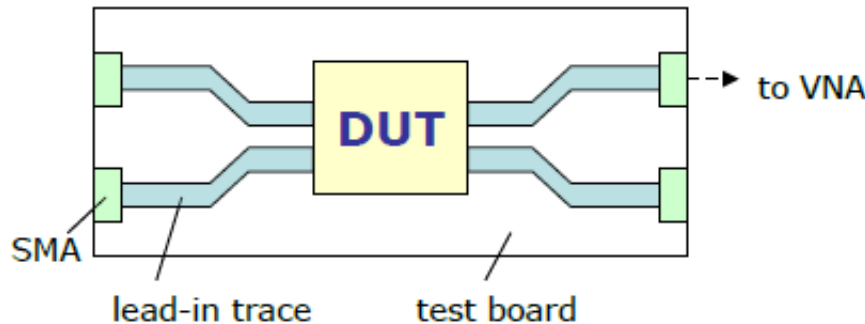


Fixture, Probe de-embedding

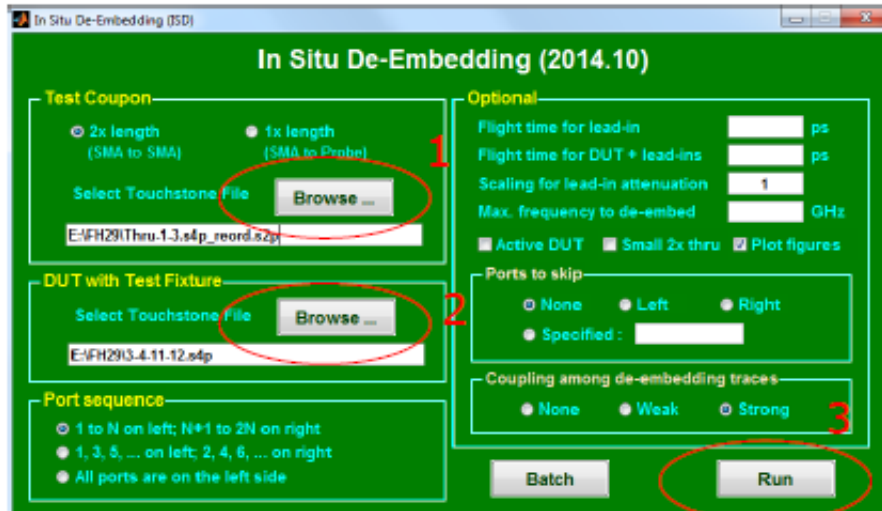


In-Situ De-embedding (ISD)

More accurate than TRL and AFR

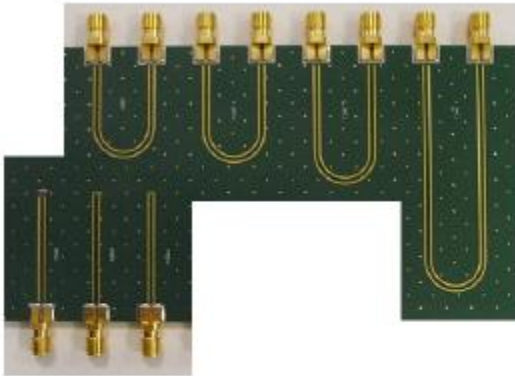


- The goal is to de-embed the fixture effect and extract DUT
- De-embedding is made easy as 1-2-3
 - Measure 2X thru coupon and DUT board and run ISD
- Through optimization in both time and frequency, ISD matches the fixture's exact impedance to extract DUT
- Save SMAs, board material and time
- Used by many companies
 - Cisco, Hirose, others



Why ISD is more accurate and saves \$\$\$

TRL calibration board



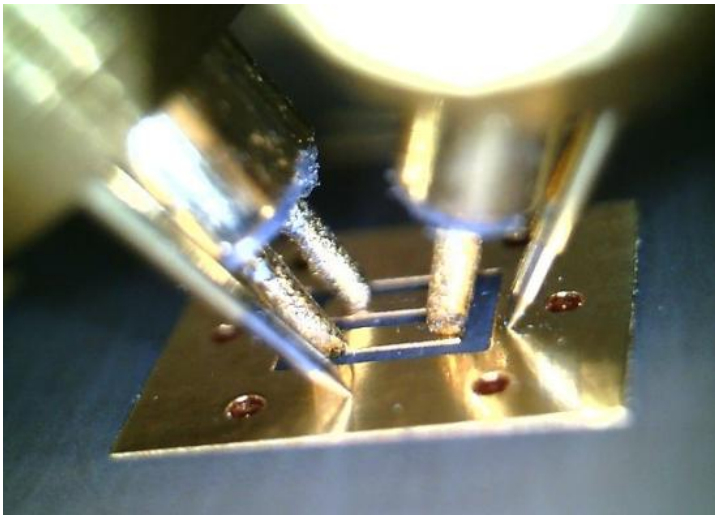
- More board space - Multiple test coupons are required
- Test coupons are used directly for de-embedding
- All differences between test coupons and actual DUT board get piled up into DUT results
- Expensive SMAs, board materials (Roger) and tight-etching-tolerance are required
 - Impossible to guarantee all SMAs and traces are identical (consider weaves, etching, ...)
- Time-consuming manual calibration is required
 - Reference plane is in front of DUT

ISD test coupon

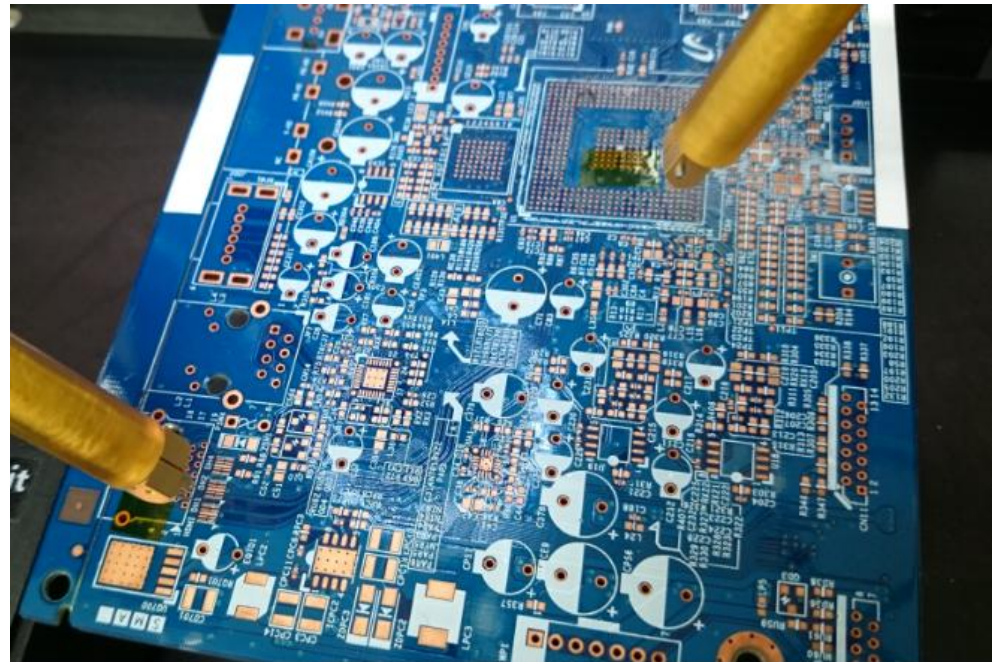


- Only one 2x thru test coupon is needed
- Test coupon is used only for reference, not for direct de-embedding
- Actual DUT board impedance is de-embedded
- Inexpensive SMAs, board materials (FR4) and loose-etching-tolerance can be used
- ECal can be used for fast SOLT calibration
 - Reference plane is in front of SMA
 - De-embedding is made easy as 1-2-3 with only two input files: 2x thru and DUT board (SMA-to-SMA) Touchstone files
 - More information: Both de-embedding and DUT files are provided as outputs

Measuring 2of S-parameters for ISD



Measure S4P of through left/right probes



Measure S4P of Board + Probes