



# Burn-in & Test Socket Workshop

**March 6-9, 2005**  
**Hilton Phoenix East / Mesa Hotel**  
**Mesa, Arizona**

## ARCHIVE

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**Burn-in & Test  
Socket Workshop**

# Technical Program

**BiTS Tutorial**  
**Sunday 3/06/05 1:00PM**

**“Signal Integrity of Sockets – Simplified!”**

**Eric Bogatin**  
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**Synergetix**

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# Signal Integrity of Sockets- Simplified!

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2005 Burn-in and Test Socket Workshop  
March 6 - 9, 2005



# Outline

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- ✓ Who cares?
- ✓ What's important: signal integrity, power integrity
- ✓ Common vocabulary
- ✓ Insertion loss: what is and is not important?
- ✓ Loop inductance: what is and is not important?

***“It is better to uncover a little than to cover a lot”  
- Francis Low***

# ***Electrical Performance in Perspective***

- **Performance**

- ✓ Compliance
- ✓ Pitch
- ✓ Cycle lifetime
- ✓ Time between cleaning
- ✓ Electrical
  - DC resistance
  - Hi Frequency
    - » Signal Integrity
      - » Bandwidth
      - » Insertion loss
      - » Return loss
      - » SPICE models
  - Power integrity
    - » Loop inductance

**Constraints:**

- Vendors
- Corporate Culture
- Compatibility: Industry, Legacy



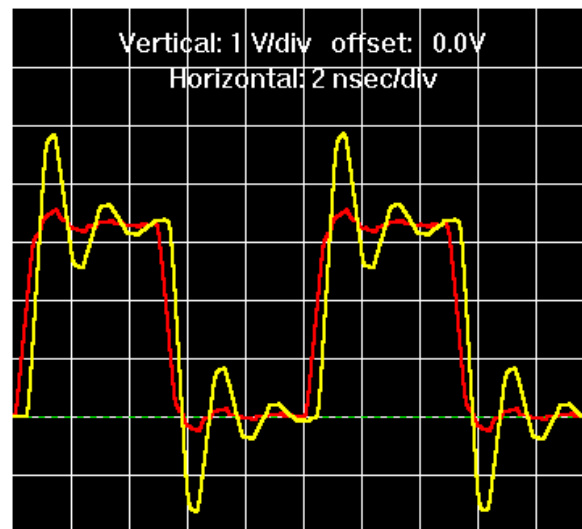
**Cost:**  
**\$\$\$, TCOO,**  
**Schedule, Risk**

**Partitioning:**

- Pin electronics
- Wiring/cabling
- Loadboards
- Sockets

# ***Signal Integrity and Interconnect Design***

How the electrical properties of the interconnects screw up the beautiful, pristine signals from the chips



Simulated with HyperLynx

***Signal integrity problems occur when the interconnects are no longer electrically transparent***

# Signal Integrity Problems

TERMINATIONS  
EMISSIONS  
ATTENUATION  
NON-MONOTONIC EDGES  
GROUND BOUNCE  
SKIN DEPTH  
INDUCTANCE  
INSERTION LOSS  
MODE CONVERSION  
TRANSMISSION LINES  
UNDERSHOOT, OVERSHOOT

LINE DELAY  
GROUND BOUNCE  
POWER AND  
GROUND DISTRIBUTION  
SUSCEPTABILITY  
LOOP INDUCTANCE  
RINGING  
RETURN CURRENT PATH  
IMPEDANCE DISCONTINUITIES  
DELTA I NOISE  
RC DELAY

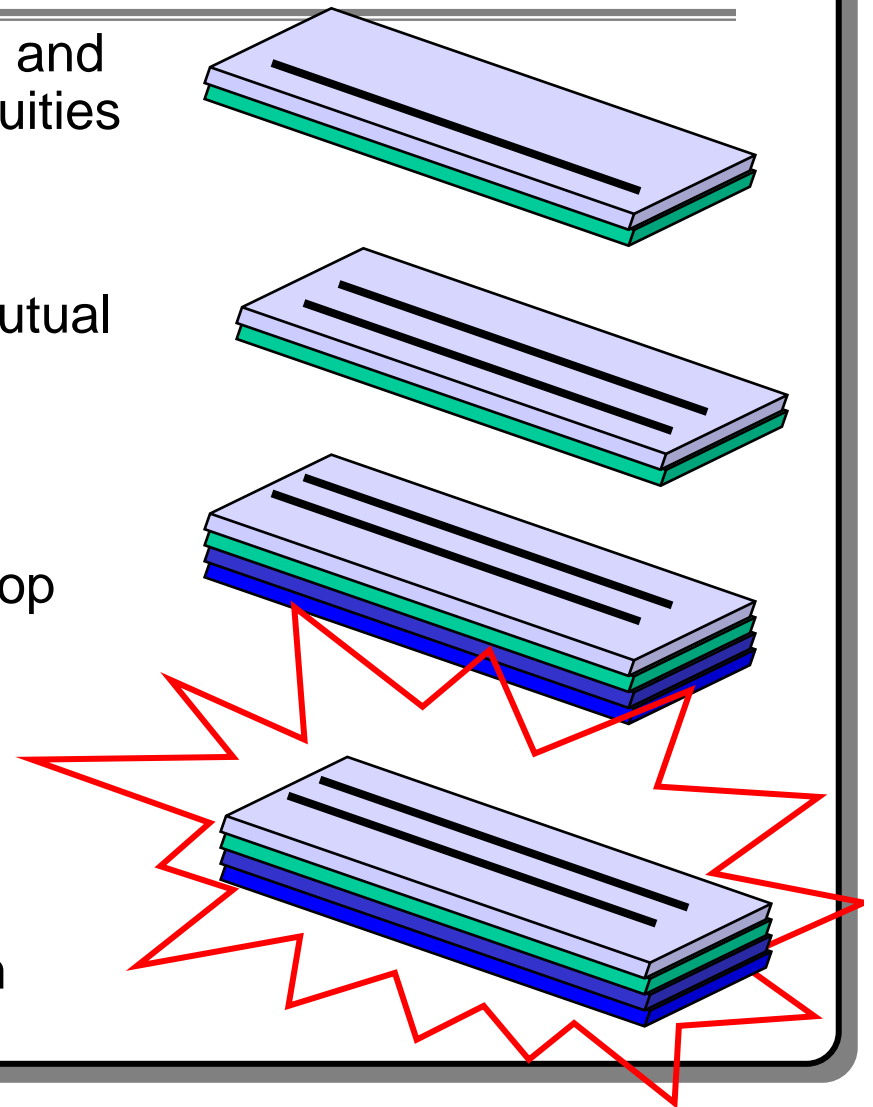
PARASITICS  
EMI/EMC  
RETURN LOSS  
CRITICAL NET  
SIGNAL INTEGRITY  
IR DROP  
LOSSY LINES  
RISE TIME DEGRADATION  
GAPS IN PLANES  
REFLECTIONS  
DISPERSION

CAPACITANCE  
LOADED LINES  
CROSSTALK  
STUB LENGTHS



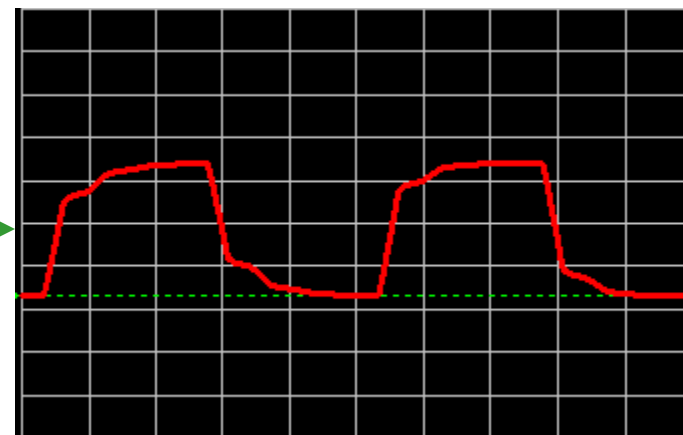
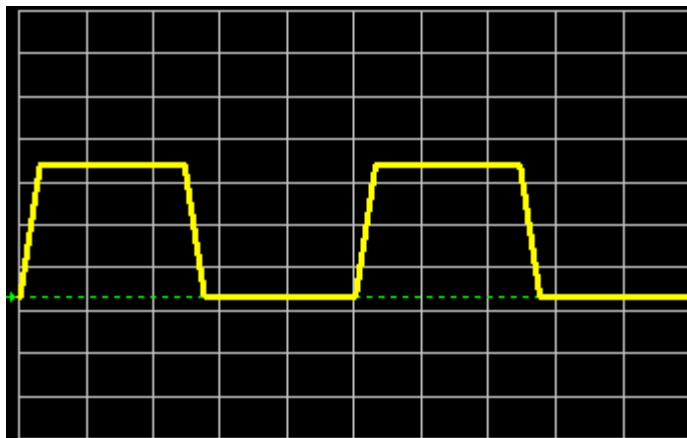
## ***Four Families of Signal Integrity Problems***

1. **Signal quality** of one net: reflections and distortions from impedance discontinuities in the signal or return path
2. **Cross talk** between multiple nets: mutual C and mutual L coupling
3. **Power integrity**: noise in the power distribution system (PDS): voltage drop across impedance in the pwr/gnd network
4. **EMI** from a component or the system



# ***The Socket as a Component***

- Purpose of an interconnect: “to transport a signal from one point to another with an acceptable level of distortion”



What's important to know?

1. Will the system work?
2. Is the socket “good enough?”
3. How do you know before you build it and test it?

Simulated with HyperLynx

## ***Build it and Test It***

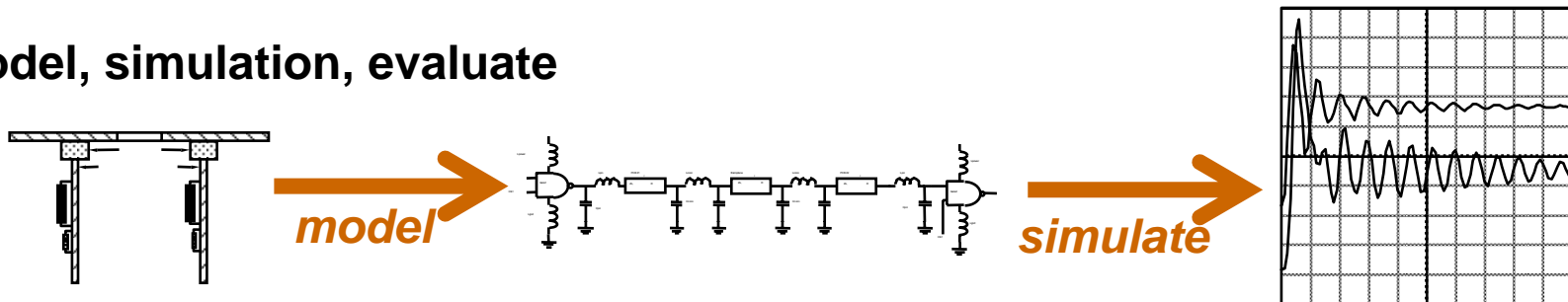
---

- Good news:
  - ✓ Always the final test
  - ✓ 100% certainty for that situation
- Bad news
  - ✓ What about the next socket?
  - ✓ What do you tell your supplier?
  - ✓ How does supplier evaluate quality?
  - ✓ If it doesn't work, where do you look to re-design?
  - ✓ Can you afford the time for multiple iterations?
- “Build it and test it” works when the interconnects are electrically transparent
  - ✓ Other specification methods are required for  $f > \sim 500$  MHz
  - ✓ Everything except “build it and test it” is a compromise

## 2<sup>nd</sup> Best Solution

- The only way to know if the system will work before building and testing is system level simulation with accurate component models

### Model, simulation, evaluate



- Needed: an accurate model of the socket which can be used in the SPICE level simulation:
  - ✓ SPICE model
  - ✓ Behavior model: S parameter model

## 3<sup>rd</sup> Best Alternative

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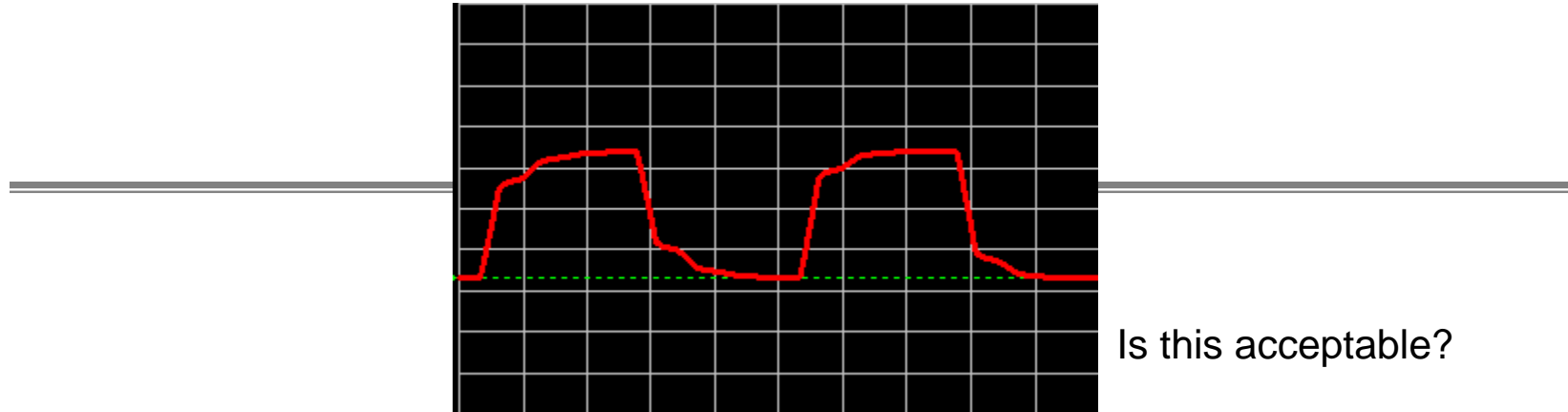
- Specify values of model parameters
  - ✓  $Z_0$
  - ✓ TD
  - ✓ L
  - ✓ C
  - ✓ Insertion loss
  - ✓ Return loss
- Specifications based on **assumptions** of the rest of the system
- Specifications are a pre-arranged compromise- sometimes based on:
  - ✓ System level simulation balancing cost-performance-constraints- (really hard!)
  - ✓ A guess
  - ✓ Because it worked in the last design
  - ✓ Enough margin for designer to sleep at night
  - ✓ Assuming performance is free
  - ✓ Incorrect assumptions
  - ✓ Information that was passed from engineer to engineer to engineer to engineer...(only one of whom might have an idea of what they want)

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***Universally used metric to define  
“goodness” of a socket:***

***-1 dB insertion loss bandwidth***

- **Bandwidth**
- **Insertion loss**
- **dB**
- **Why -1 dB**
- **What design features influence this performance**



***Sometimes the frequency domain  
offers an easier path to the answer***

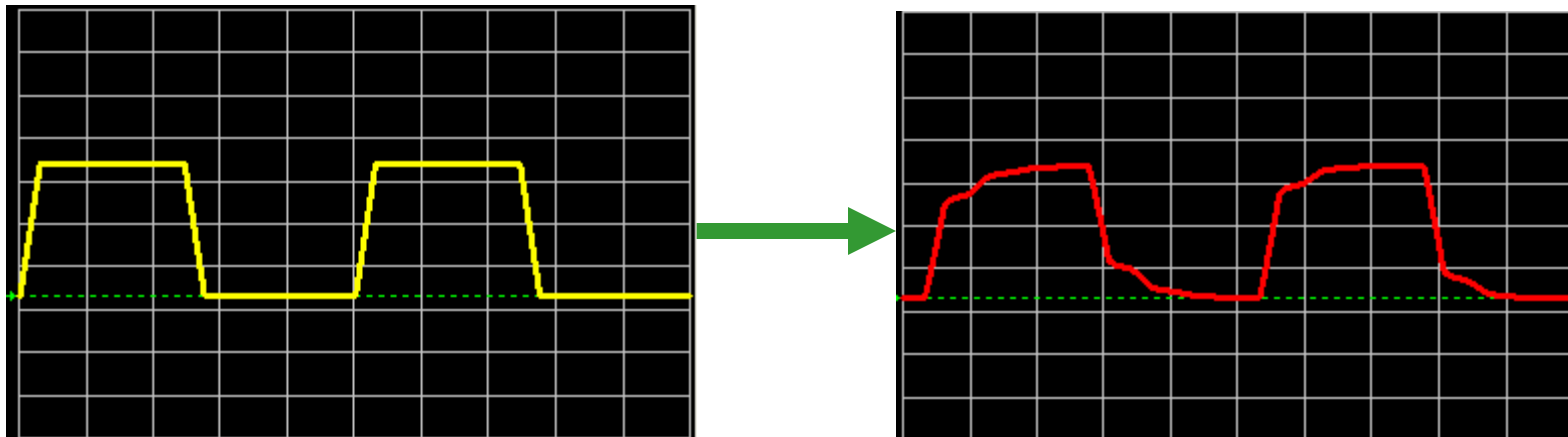
No new information in the frequency domain

The only reason we'd ever leave the time  
domain to go to the frequency domain:

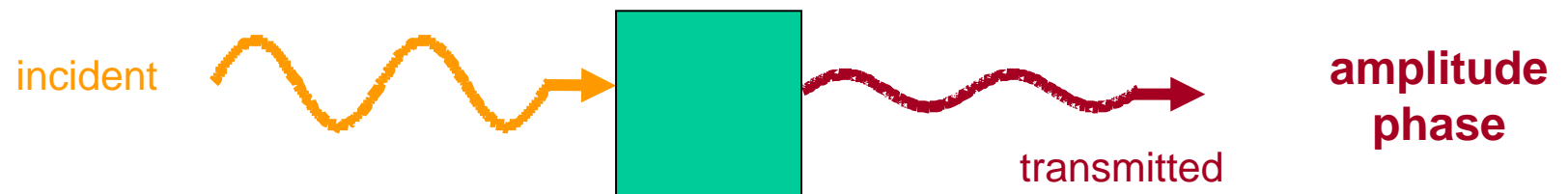
**To get to the answer faster.**

# Two World Views

Time domain view



Frequency domain view



Up to the highest sine wave frequency that is significant



# ***Bandwidth***

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Bandwidth: the highest sine wave frequency that is **significant**

## ***Bandwidth and the 10-90 Rise Time***

***(see OLL-101 Bandwidth of Signals with SPICE)***

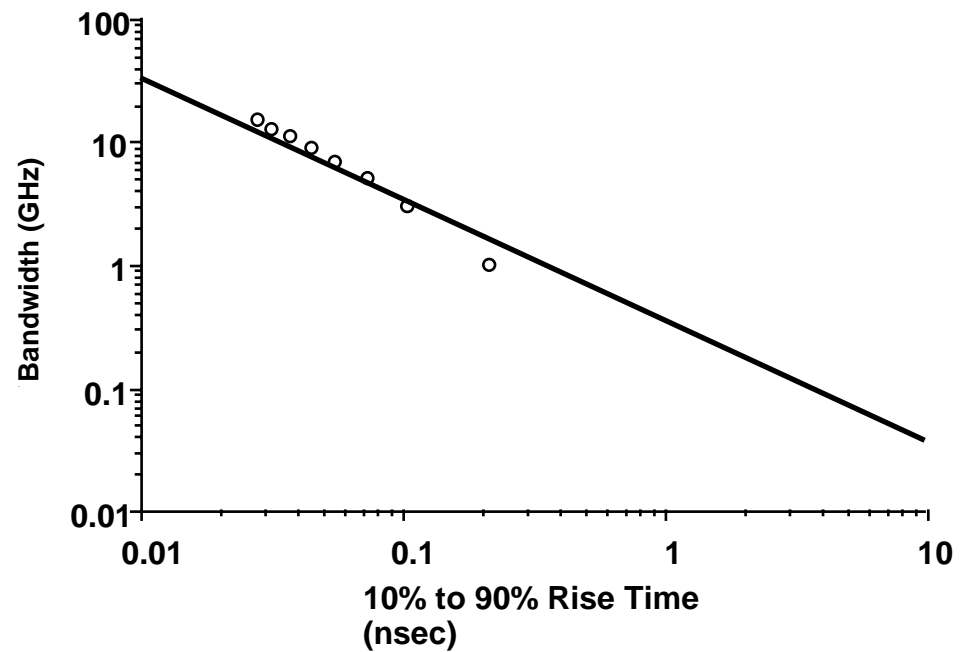
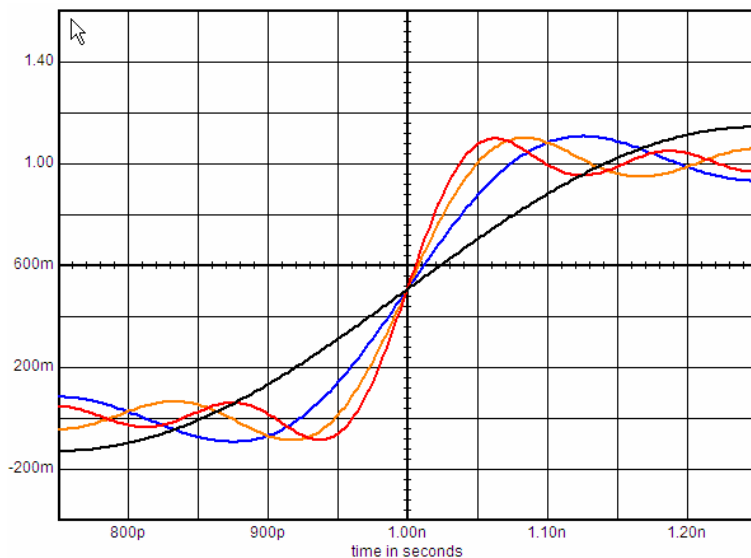


The rule of thumb:

$$BW = \frac{0.35}{RT}$$

BW = bandwidth in GHz

RT = 10% → 90% rise time in nsec



## Clock Frequency and Bandwidth

$RT \approx 7 \% T$  (a little aggressive, i.e., conservative estimate)

$$T_{\text{period}} = 15 \times RT \quad RT = \frac{0.35}{BW}$$

$$T_{\text{period}} = 15 \frac{0.35}{BW} \approx \frac{5}{BW} \quad T_{\text{period}} = \frac{1}{F_{\text{clock}}}$$

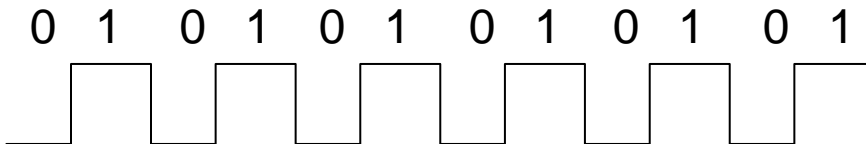


If you don't know the rise time:

$$BW = 5 \times F_{\text{clock}}$$

As a rough rule  
of thumb

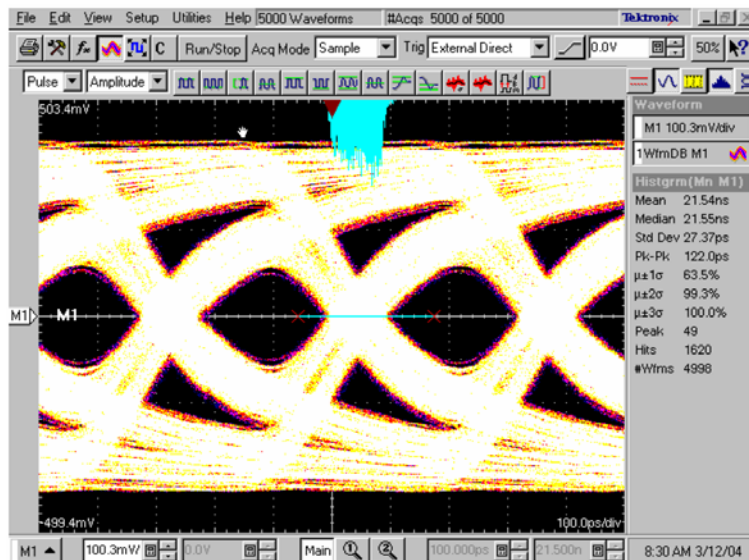
## ***Bandwidth and Bit Rate in high speed serial links ( > 2 Gbps)***



BR = bit rate

BW = bandwidth

For most high speed serial links:  
Repeat frequency =  $\frac{1}{2} \times \text{BR}$   
(for the 1010101010 pattern)



3,125 Gbps, Altera Stratix GX driver signal,  
after 42 inches on FR4 courtesy of Altera

- For the highest BR high speed serial links:

- ✓ signal is almost a sine wave
- ✓ BW ~ 1st harmonic of the repeat frequency
- ✓ BW =  $\frac{1}{2}$  BR



The rule of thumb: BW ~  $\frac{1}{2} \times \text{BR}$

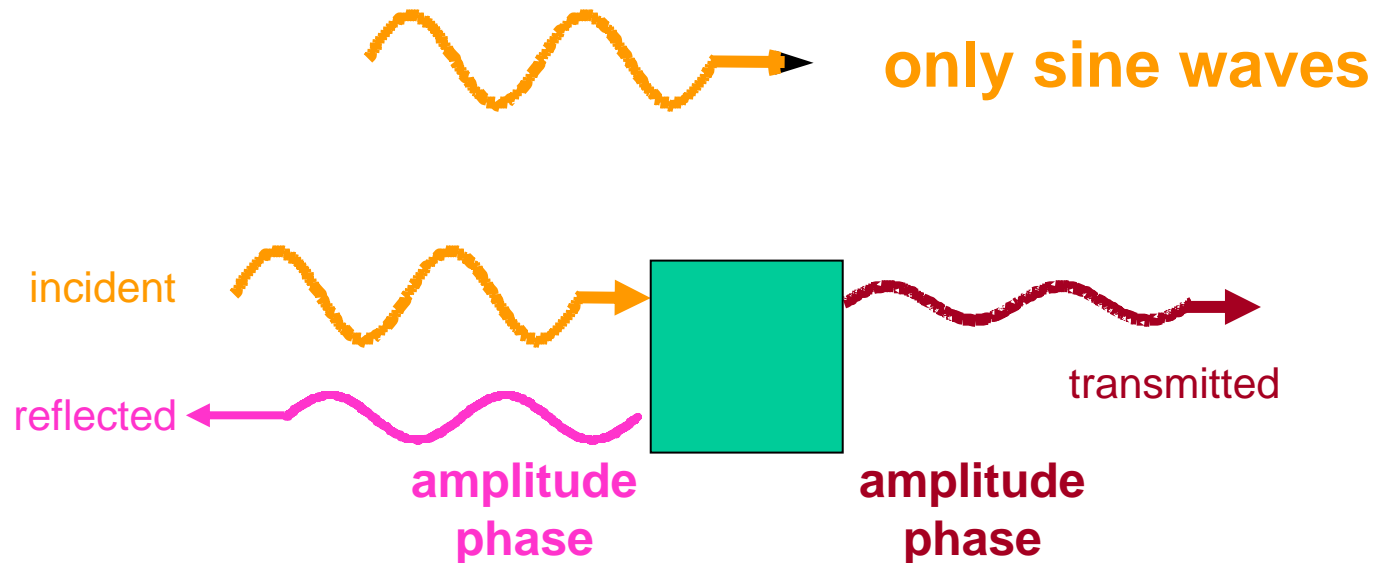
## ***Key Assumptions***

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- Bandwidth is the highest sine wave frequency component that is significant
- Bandwidth is inherently only a rough approximate term- if an accurate frequency value is important, can't use the bandwidth
- If the socket meets performance spec for frequencies up to the bandwidth, it is "good enough"

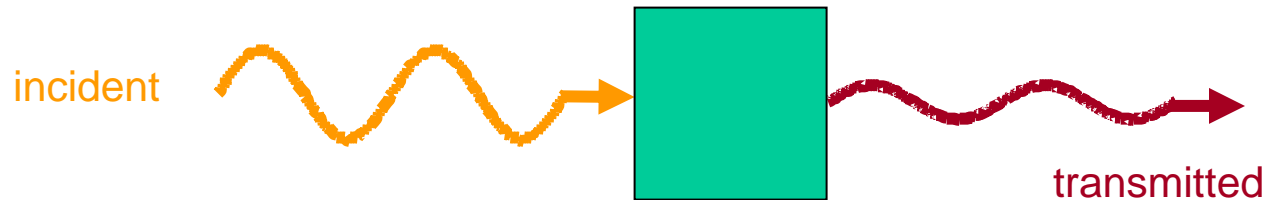
# *Transmitted Signals in the Frequency Domain*

What are signals in the frequency domain?



Everything you ever wanted to know about the performance of a socket is contained in the reflected and transmitted signals

# Terminology

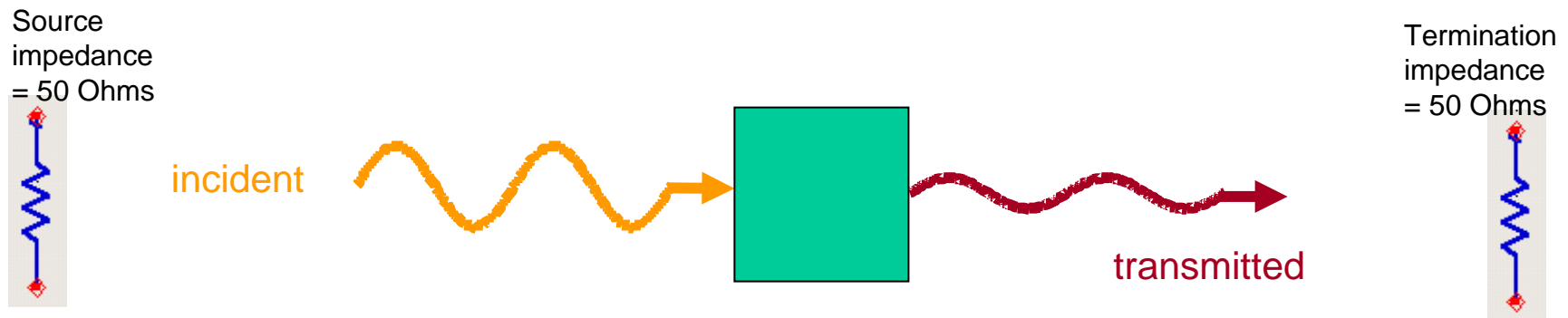


What's important:  $\frac{V_{transmitted}}{V_{incident}}$  at each frequency

- Also called:
  - ✓ Insertion loss
  - ✓ S21
  - ✓ Transfer function

*There is a magnitude and a phase at each frequency*

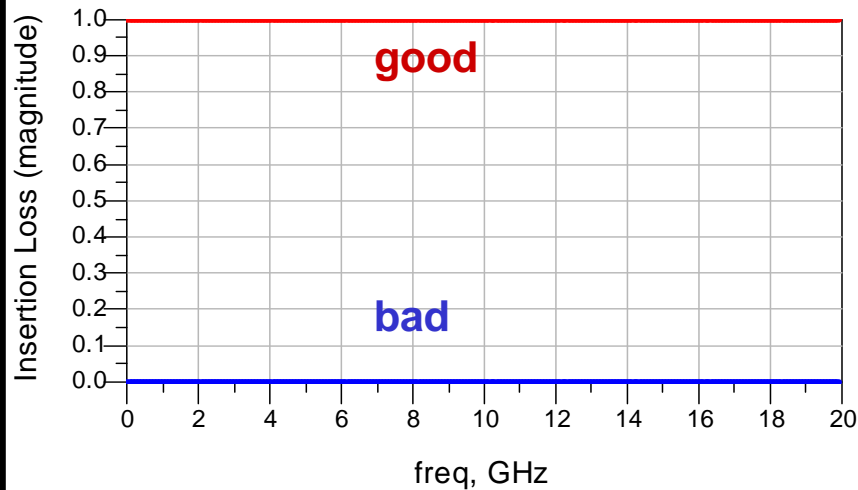
## ***Most Important Caveat***



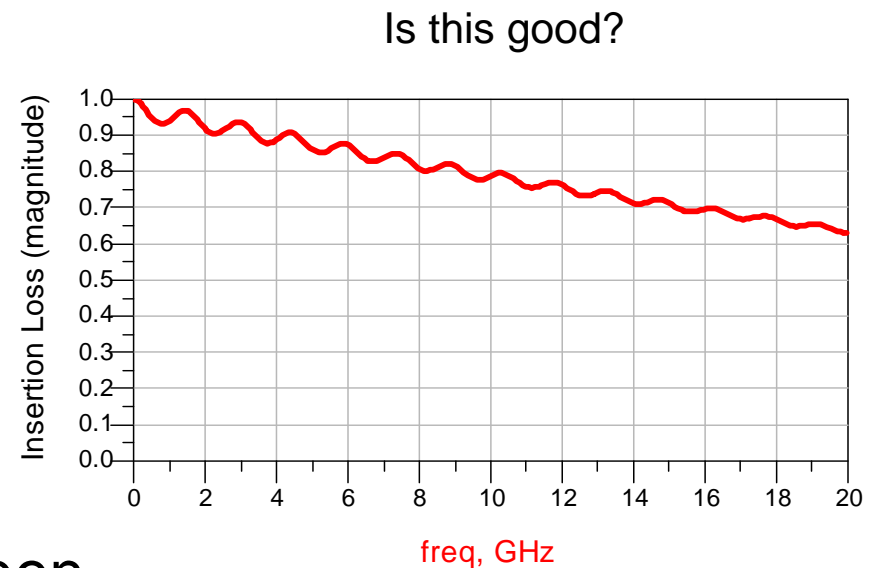
- The source impedance and the load impedance when defining S21 is always 50 Ohms.
- Insertion loss has significance if the end use environment is 50 Ohms



## Good and Bad Insertion Loss

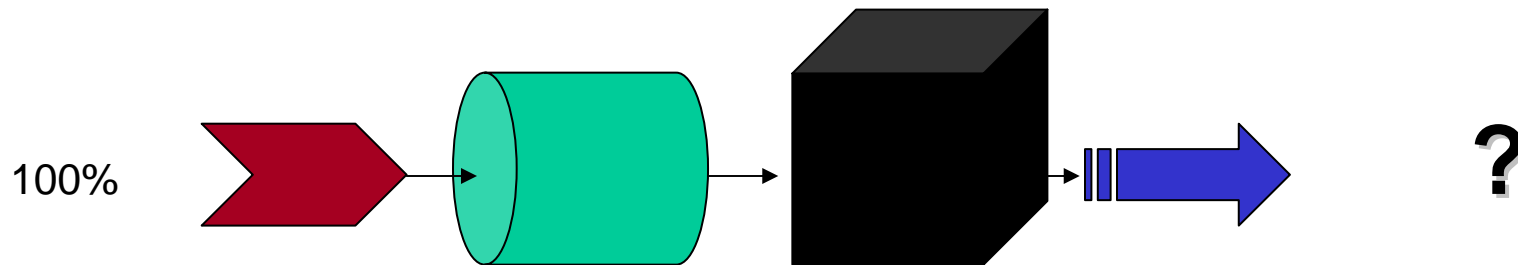


Simulated with Agilent ADS



- Is there a difference between
  - ✓ good
  - ✓ good enough
  - ✓ better ?

# Insertion Loss of the System



Insertion losses:	100%	x	100%	x	100%	x	50%	= 50%
	100%	x	90%	x	90%	x	50%	= 40%
	91%	x	95%	x	89%	x	95%	= 73%

*Using magnitudes, insertion losses multiply  
If we used the log of the insertion loss, we could just add*

## The deciBel and Powers

Formalism: log of the ratio of two powers is in Bels

$$ratio[Bels] = \log\left(\frac{P_b}{P_a}\right)$$

10 deciBel = 1 Bels

$$ratio[dB] = 10 \times \log\left(\frac{P_b}{P_a}\right)$$

If we have the ratio of the **powers**, take the exponent of the power 10 and multiple by 10 to get the dB

If we have the number of dB, divide by 10 and put to the power of 10 and this is the ratio of the **powers**

$$-10 \text{ dB} = 0.1$$

$$-20 \text{ dB} = 0.01$$

$$-40 \text{ dB} = 0.01\%$$

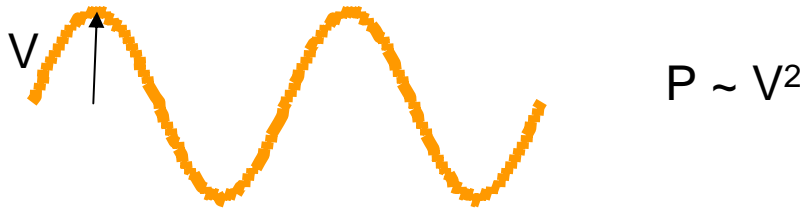
$$\frac{0.1 \text{ watt}}{1 \text{ watt}} = 10^{-1} = -10 \text{ dB}$$

$$\frac{0.001 \text{ watt}}{1 \text{ watt}} = 10^{-3} = -30 \text{ dB}$$

$$\frac{0.000001 \text{ watt}}{1 \text{ watt}} = 10^{-6} = -60 \text{ dB}$$

## The deciBel and Ratio of Voltages

When using dB to measure a ratio of amplitudes, the dB ALWAYS refers to the ratio of the powers in the wave



$$ratio[dB] = 10 \times \log\left(\frac{P_b}{P_a}\right) = 10 \times \log\left(\frac{V_b^2}{V_a^2}\right) = 10 \times 2 \times \log\left(\frac{V_b}{V_a}\right) = 20 \times \log\left(\frac{V_b}{V_a}\right)$$

$$ratio[dB] = 20 \times \log\left(\frac{V_b}{V_a}\right)$$

When measuring the ratio of voltages, we use a 20  
When measuring the ratio of powers, we use a 10

Insertion loss is the ratio of amplitudes

## From deciBel to Insertion Loss magnitude

If we have the number of dB,

1. divide by 20
2. put to the power of 10
3. this is the ratio of the **amplitudes**

$$\left( \frac{V_{out}}{V_{in}} \right) = 10^{\frac{ratio[dB]}{20}}$$

-20 dB = 0.1

-0.5 dB = 0.95

-40 dB = 0.01

-1 dB = 0.90

-60 dB = 0.001

-2 dB = 0.80

-80 dB = 0.0001

-3 dB = 0.70

0 dB = 1

-10 dB = 0.3

-25 dB = 0.05

***When dB is small,  
Magnitude ~1 + dB/10***

## From magnitude to dB

If we have the ratio of the amplitudes,

1. Write it to the power of 10
2. Take the exponent (or take the log of the number)
3. Multiply by 20
4. This is the dB

$$ratio[dB] = 20 \times \log\left(\frac{V_{out}}{V_{in}}\right)$$

$$\frac{0.1 \text{ volt}}{1 \text{ volt}} = 10^{-1} = -20 \text{ dB}$$

$$10\% = \underline{-20 \text{ dB}}$$

$$1\% = \underline{-40 \text{ dB}}$$

$$0.001 = \underline{-60 \text{ dB}}$$

$$\frac{0.01 \text{ volt}}{1 \text{ volt}} = 10^{-2} = -40 \text{ dB}$$

$$90\% = \underline{-1 \text{ dB}}$$

$$80\% = \underline{-2 \text{ dB}}$$

$$98\% = \underline{-0.2 \text{ dB}}$$

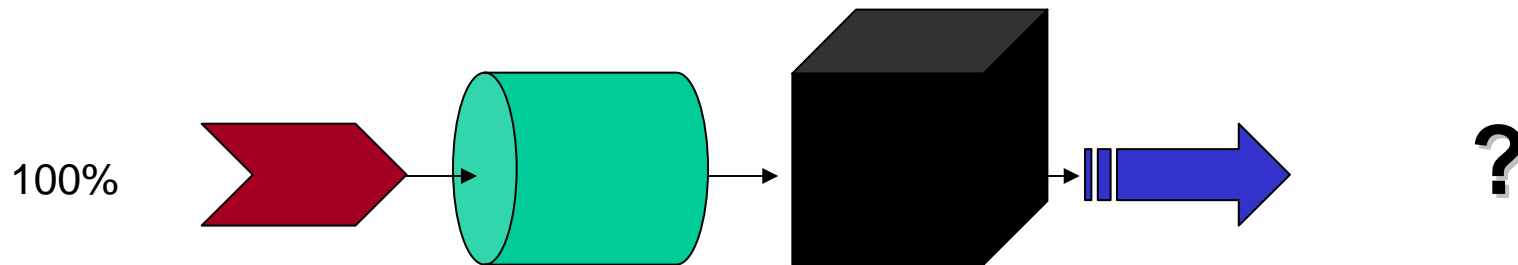
**When magnitude is close to 1,  
dB ~ (mag - 1) x 10**

## ***dB and Extreme Insertion Loss***

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- All the signal transmits:  $S_{21} = 1 = 10^0 = 0$  dB
  - ✓  $S_{21} = 0$  dB everything is transmitted
  - ✓ Transparent interconnect
- Very little signal transmits:  $S_{21} = 0.0001 = 10^{-4} = -80$  dB
  - ✓  $S_{21}$  = really big, negative number, no signal at the far end
  - ✓ Really poor interconnect

## Insertion Loss (dB) of the System



Insertion losses:	0 dB	+	0 dB	+	0 dB	+	-6 dB	= -6 dB
	0 dB	+	-1 dB	+	-1 dB	+	-6 dB	= -8 dB
	-1 dB	+	-0.5 dB	+	-1.2 dB	+	-0.5 dB	= -3.2 dB

*If we use the log of the insertion loss (dB), we just add*



## ***What's a good value of Insertion Loss?***

---

- Ideal total system insertion loss budget
  - ✓ At least 70% the amplitude of the signal at 2x the signal bandwidth
  - ✓ -3 dB at 2 x BW
  - ✓ If 100 MHz clock, BW ~ 500 MHz, 2x BW = 1 GHz: -3 dB @ 1 GHz
  - ✓ If 500 MHz clock, BW ~ 2.5 GHz, 2x BW = 5 GHz: -3 dB @ 5 GHz
- Practical total system insertion loss budget
  - ✓ -3 dB at signal BW
- Typical allocation of insertion loss to the socket
  - ✓ ~ -1 dB for socket
  - ✓ ~ -1 dB for load board
  - ✓ ~ -1 dB for tower pins and cables
- In rf applications, stability of insertion loss is critical
  - ✓ ~ -1 dB for socket, at carrier frequency is also a good metric
- If insertion loss < -1 dB at the application bandwidth, is this a guarantee system will work?

## ***Value of -1 dB Insertion Loss Bandwidth as a Metric***

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- Relative comparison
- First pass screening
- Rough, rule of thumb for usable operating frequency
- Should not be used to sign off on a design
  - ✓ too approximate
  - ✓ too much margin? Too little?
  - ✓ Too many assumptions
- Multiple approximations:
  - ✓ Bandwidth of the signal
  - ✓ Is the system a 50 Ohm system?
  - ✓ Total system budget
  - ✓ Allocation to the socket
- A better approach (and much more expensive):
  - ✓ Model and simulate

## ***What Affects Insertion Loss of a Socket?***

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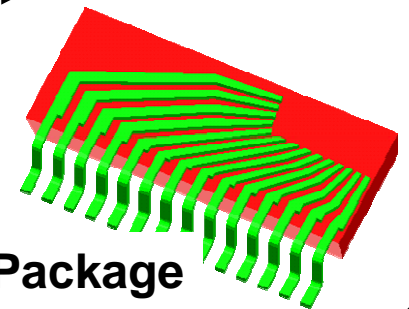
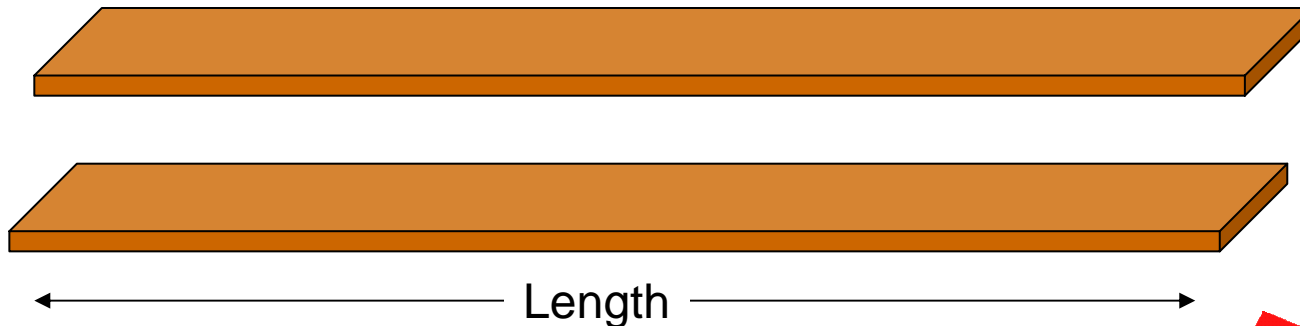
1. Matched Impedance
2. Controlled impedance
3. Discontinuities of load board
4. Length
5. Dielectric loss
6. Conductor loss
7. DC contact resistance

# *The Simplest Model of a Transmission Line*



Microstrip

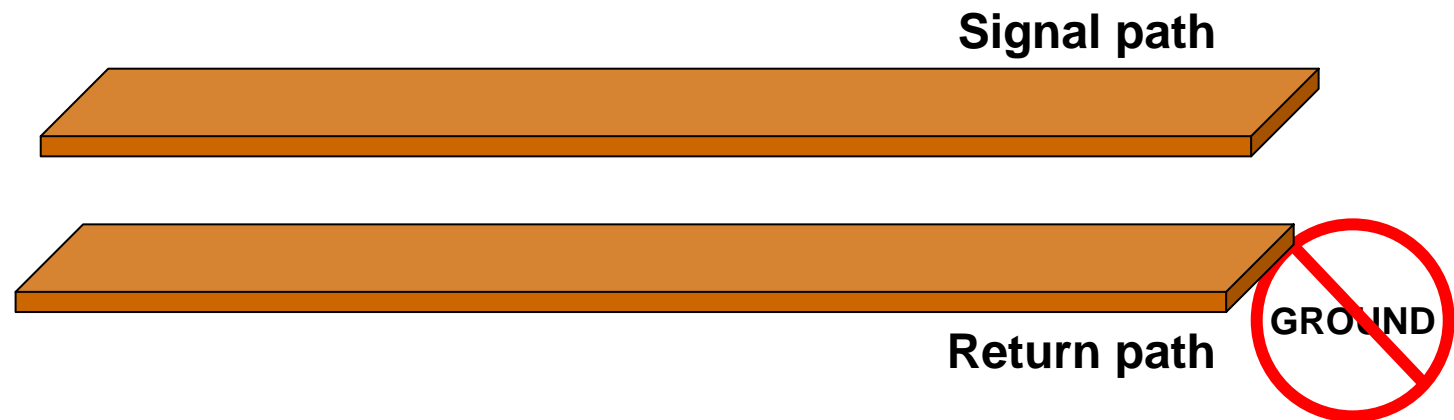
A "-1" order model:  
Any two conductors with length



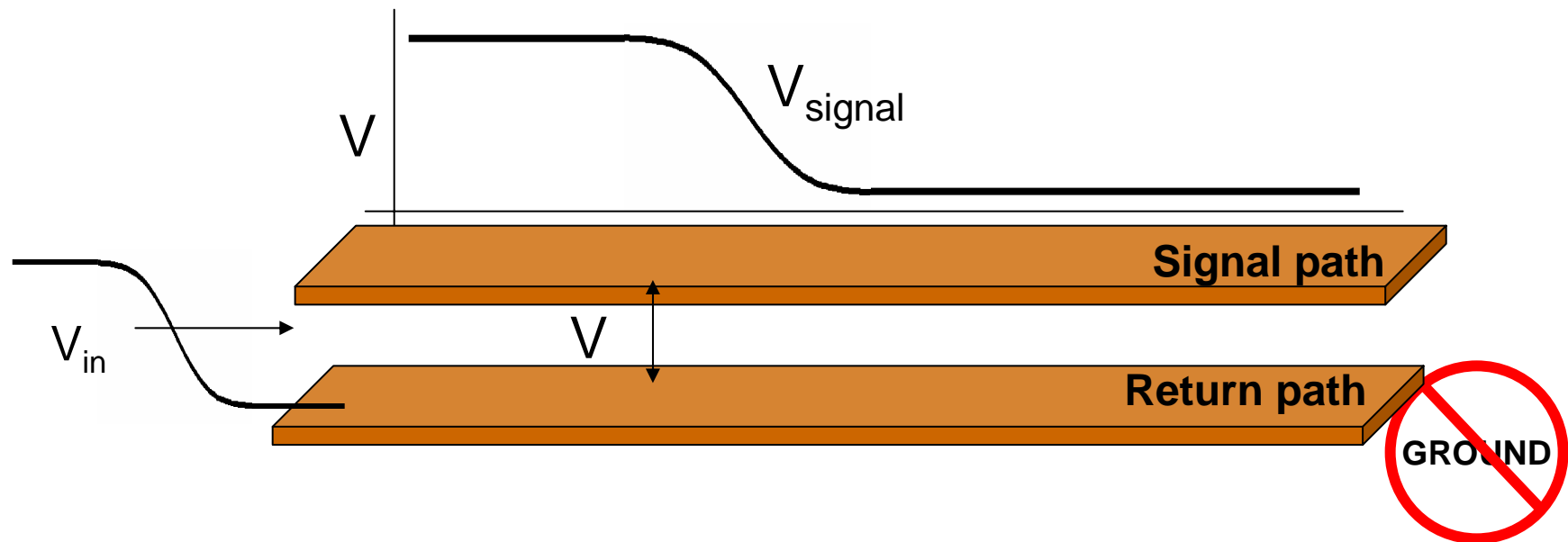
Lead frame of an IC Package

# ***Labeling the Conductors***

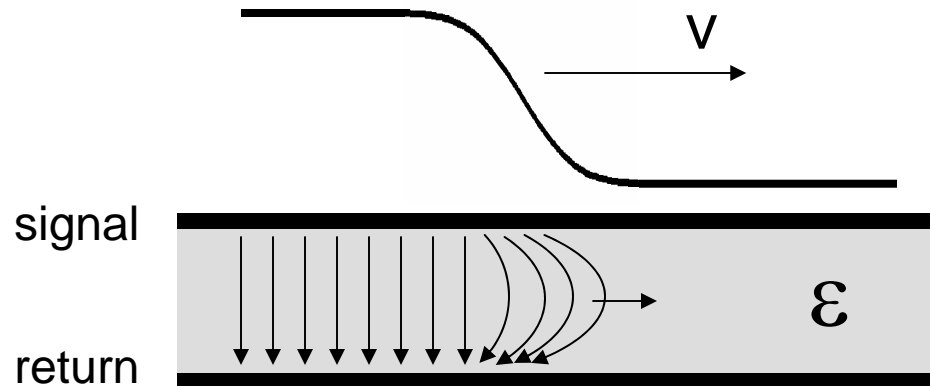
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# *The Signal*



# How fast does a signal move down a line?



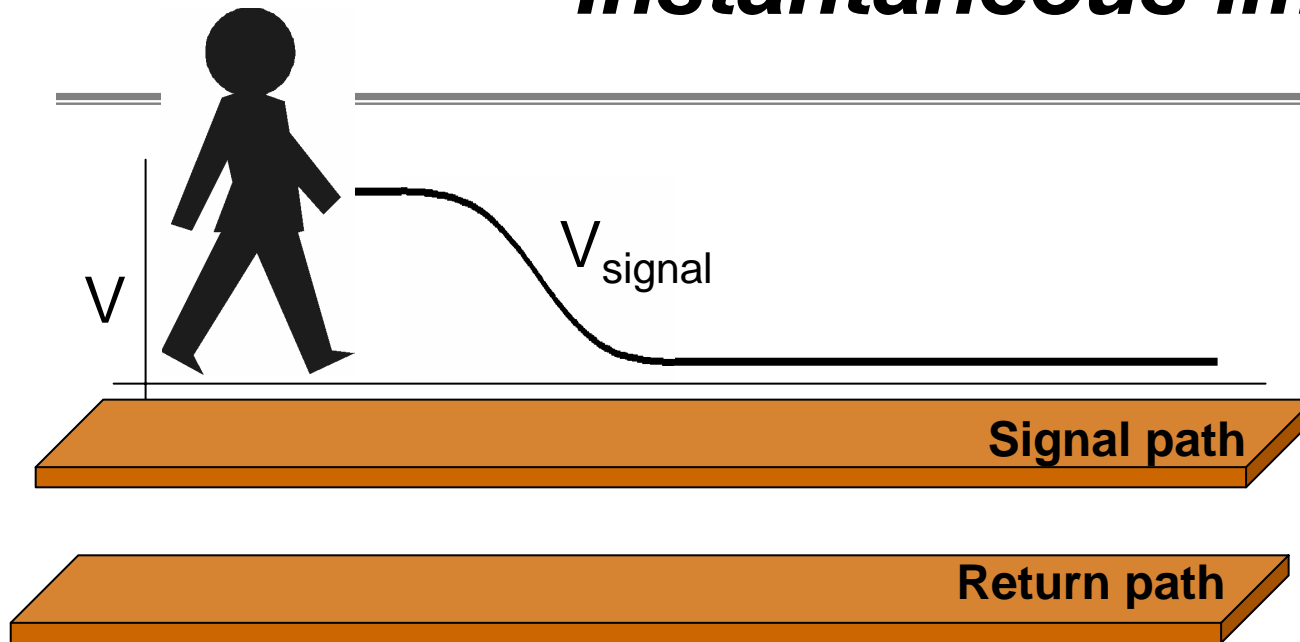
in air:  $v = 186,000$  miles per sec

$v = 12$  inches/nsec



$$v = \frac{12 \frac{\text{inches}}{\text{nsec}}}{\sqrt{4}} = \frac{12 \frac{\text{inches}}{\text{nsec}}}{2} = 6 \frac{\text{inches}}{\text{nsec}}$$

# *Instantaneous Impedance*



- Signal sees an “instantaneous impedance” each step along the path
  - Instantaneous impedance depends on the geometry of signal and return path
  - A controlled impedance when instantaneous impedance is constant
  - One impedance that characterizes the interconnect:
- **Characteristic impedance**



# Characteristic Impedance and Capacitance per Length



*increase h*

capacitance per length decreases, the characteristic impedance increases



**w = 10 mils**

**h = 5 mils**

**50 Ohm PCB cross section**



*increase w*

the capacitance per length increases, characteristic impedance decreases



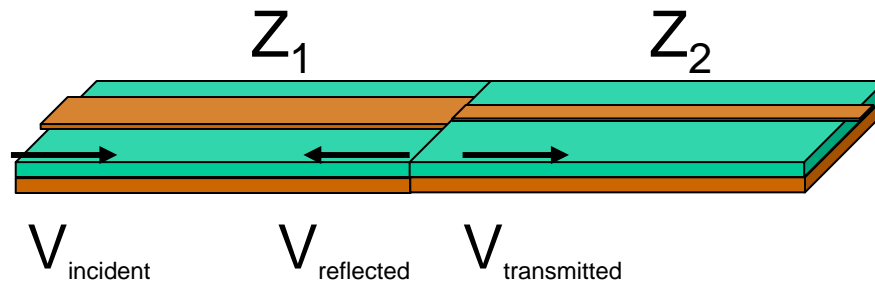
$$Z_0 \sim \frac{1}{C_L}$$

## ***Most Important Features of Characteristic Impedance***

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- Characteristic impedance is not about the signal path
- Characteristic impedance is not about the return path
- Characteristic impedance will depend both signal and return path, inseparably
- There is no such thing as the characteristic impedance of a single pin
- Change the return path configuration, you change the characteristic impedance
- ***(Obviously, the same goes for insertion loss!)***

## ***Fundamental Property of Signals on Transmission Lines: Reflections***



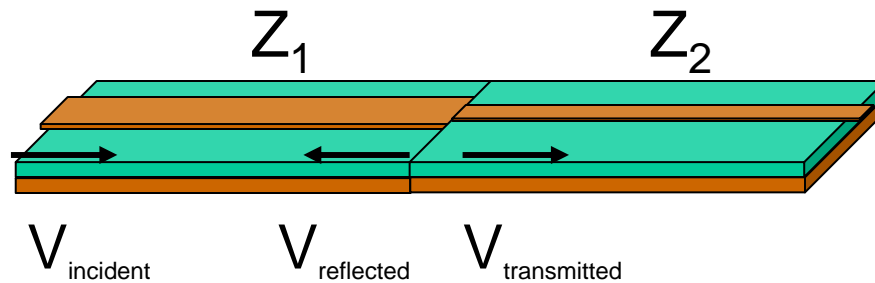
$Z$  is instantaneous impedance

$$S_{11} = \frac{V_{\text{reflected}}}{V_{\text{incident}}} = \frac{Z_2 - Z_1}{Z_2 + Z_1}$$

$$S_{11} = \frac{V_{\text{reflected}}}{V_{\text{incident}}} = \frac{Z_2 - 50\Omega}{Z_2 + 50\Omega}$$

1. Reflections from an open?
2. Reflections from a short?
3. Reflections from a "matched" load?

## ***Fundamental Property of Signals on Transmission Lines: Transmission***



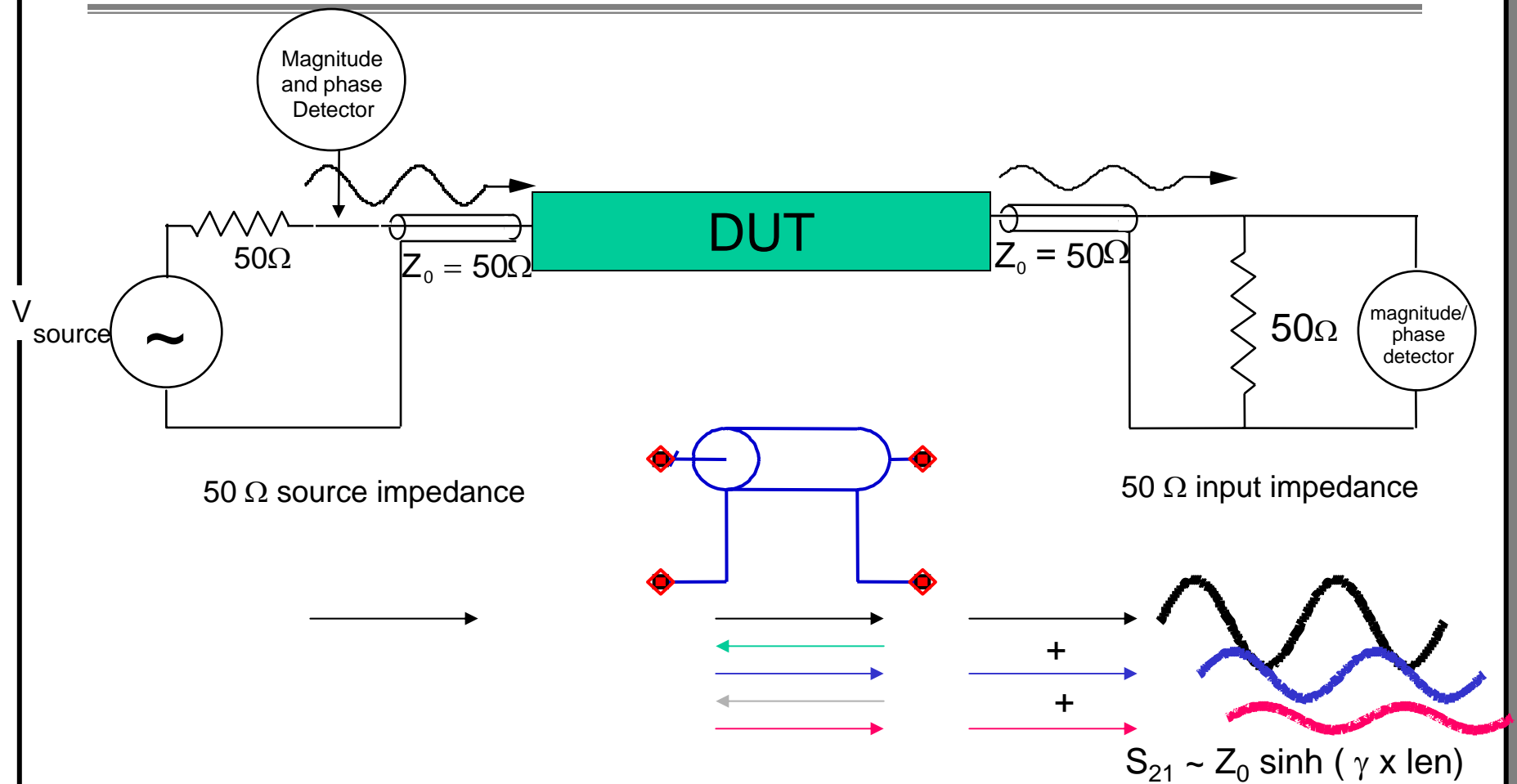
$$S_{21} = \frac{V_{\text{transmitted}}}{V_{\text{incident}}} = \frac{2 \times Z_2}{Z_2 + Z_1}$$

$$S_{21} = \frac{V_{\text{transmitted}}}{V_{\text{incident}}} = \frac{2 \times Z_2}{Z_2 + 50\Omega}$$

$S_{21}$  for 50 Ohms?

$S_{21}$  for 40 Ohms?

# Insertion Loss

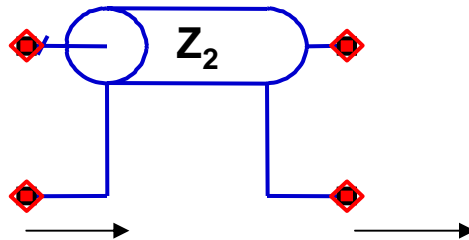


# Insertion Loss and Transmission Lines

- Depends on:
  - ✓ Change in characteristic impedance from 50 Ohms
  - ✓ Time Delay
  - ✓ Highest frequency

$$S_{21} = \frac{V_{transmitted}}{V_{incident}} = \frac{2 \times Z_2}{Z_2 + Z_1}$$

1<sup>st</sup> order approximation:



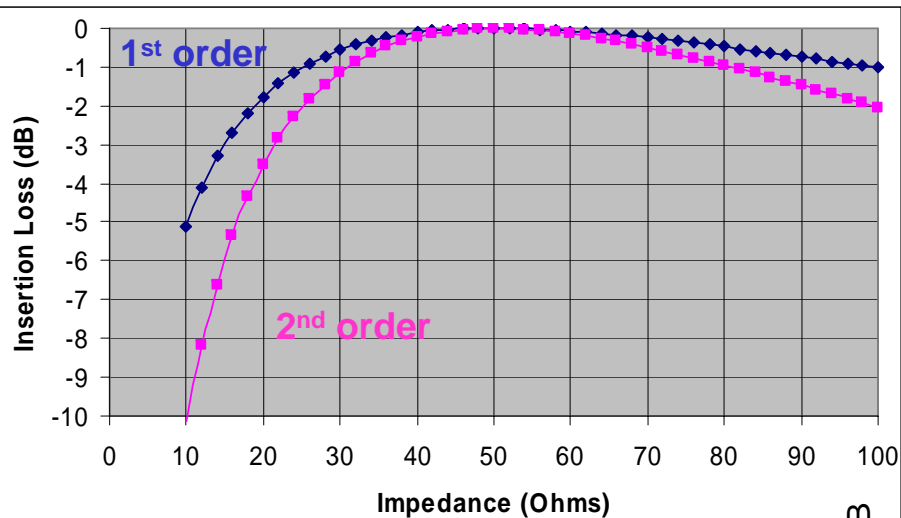
$$IL_1 = \frac{2 \times Z_2}{Z_2 + 50} \quad IL_2 = \frac{2 \times 50}{50 + Z_2}$$

1<sup>st</sup> order:

$$IL = \frac{2 \times Z_2}{50 + Z_2} \times \frac{2 \times 50}{50 + Z_2} = \frac{200 \times Z_2}{(50 + Z_2)^2}$$

2<sup>nd</sup> order: x 2 to account for the second reflection

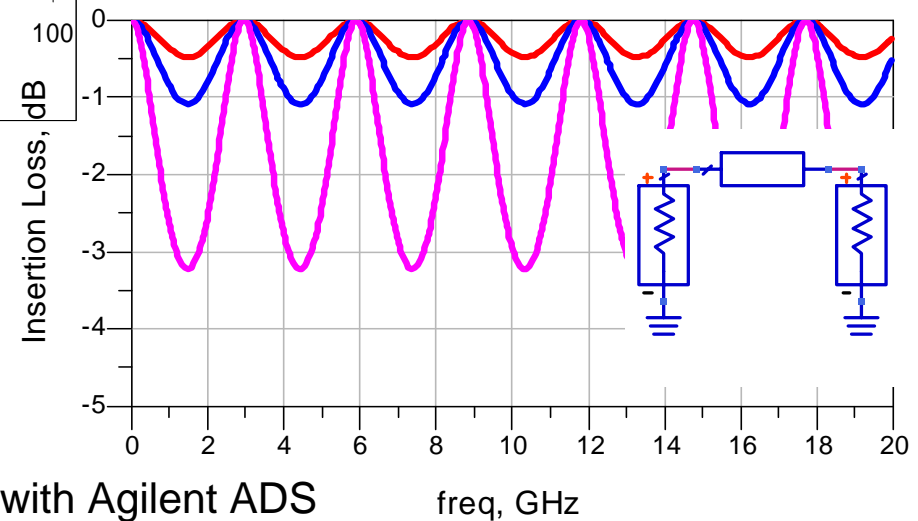
# Rough Estimates



## 2<sup>nd</sup> order Estimates

$Z_0$	Insertion Loss
70 Ohms	-0.5 dB
30 Ohms	-1 dB
20 Ohms	-3.2 dB

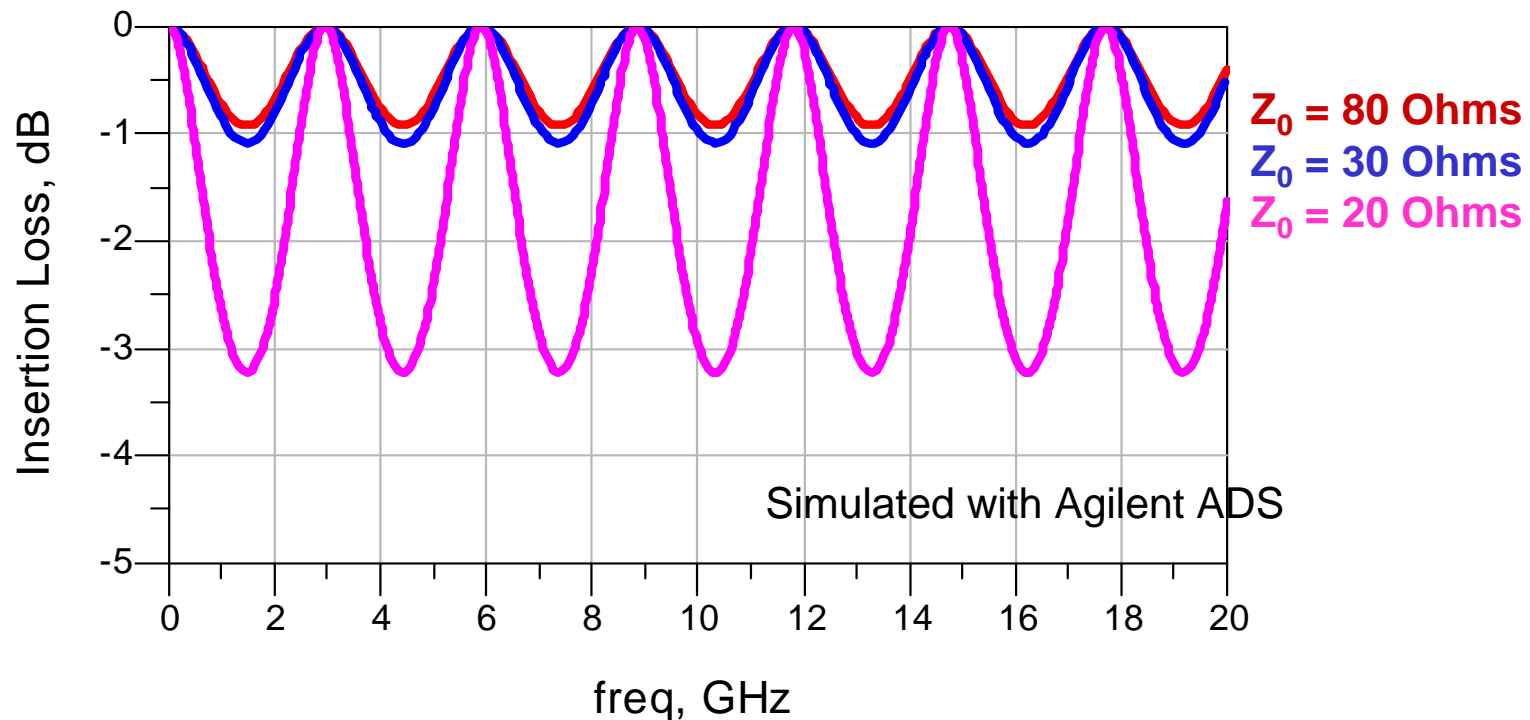
2<sup>nd</sup> order estimate: for > -1 dB insertion loss,  
keep  $30 \text{ Ohms} < Z_0 < 80 \text{ Ohms}$



Simulated with Agilent ADS

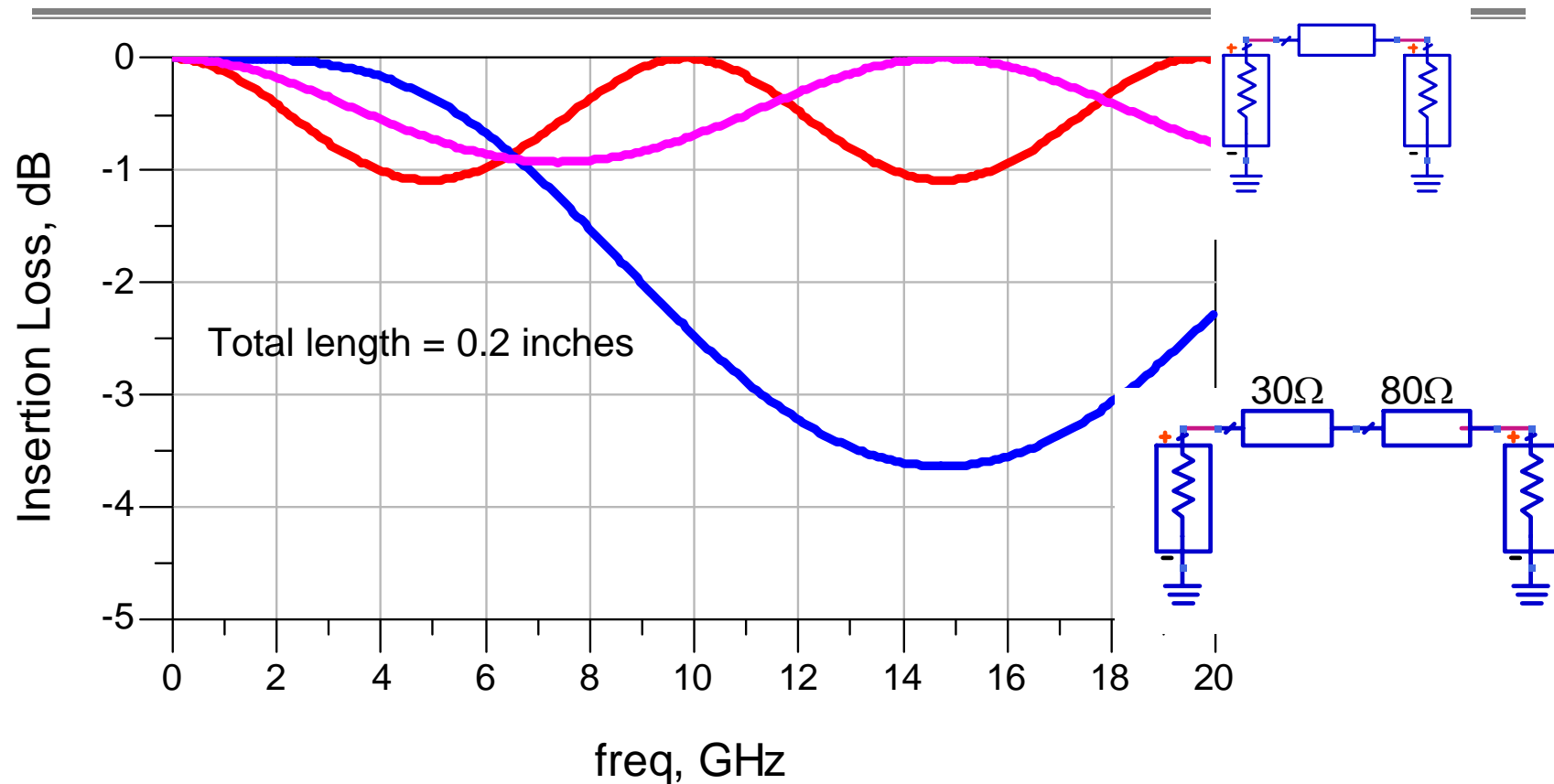
## ***Minimizing Insertion Loss Principle #1: Match Impedance to 50 Ohms***

1. Uniform impedance interconnect
2. Match socket to 50 Ohms
3. Keep:  $30 \text{ Ohms} < Z_0 < 80 \text{ Ohms}$  and insertion loss will never be greater than -1 dB



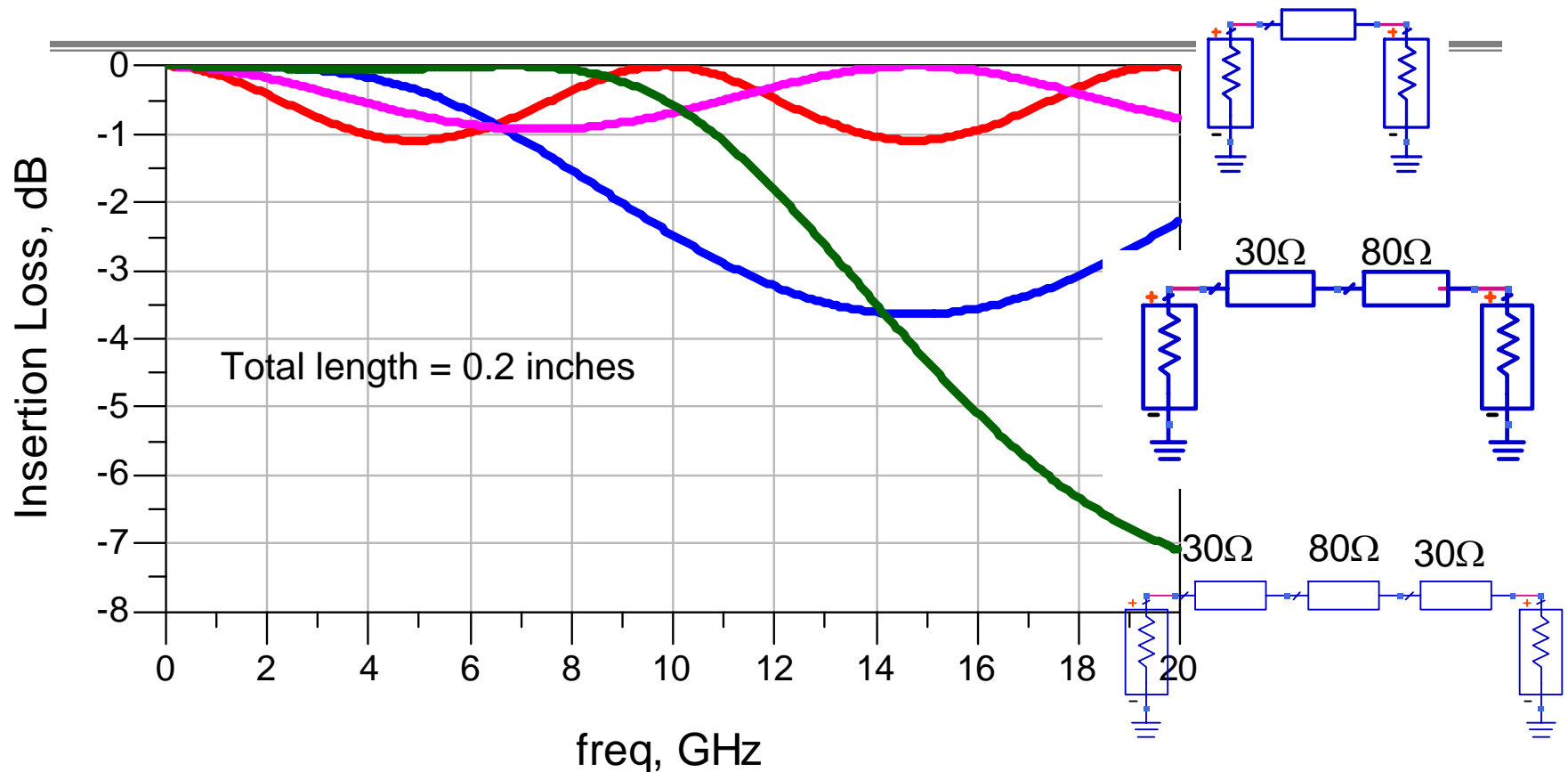


## *What if the Impedance is not Controlled?*



- Low frequency behavior is related to ~ average impedance- can be better than either one
- Highest insertion loss can be much worse than either discontinuity ( $> 3x$ )

## Three Impedance Discontinuities



- Low frequency behavior is related to ~ average impedance- can be better than either one
- Highest insertion loss can be much worse than either discontinuity (> 7x)

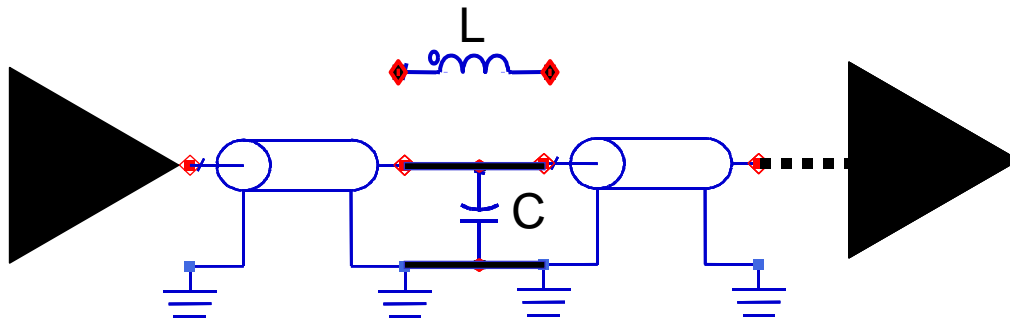
## ***Minimizing Insertion Loss Principle #2: Use a controlled impedance interconnect***

---

- Match average impedance to 50 Ohms
- Design for controlled impedance- uniform cross section

# Time Domain Impact from C, L Discontinuities

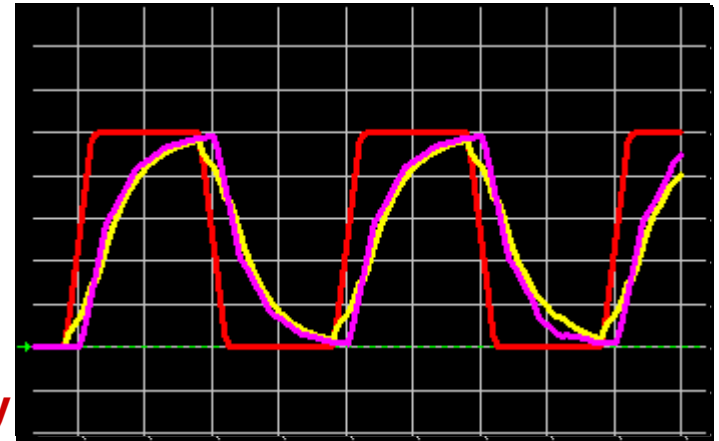
50 psec/div



20 psec RT, no discontinuity

1 pF C discontinuity

2.5 nH L discontinuity



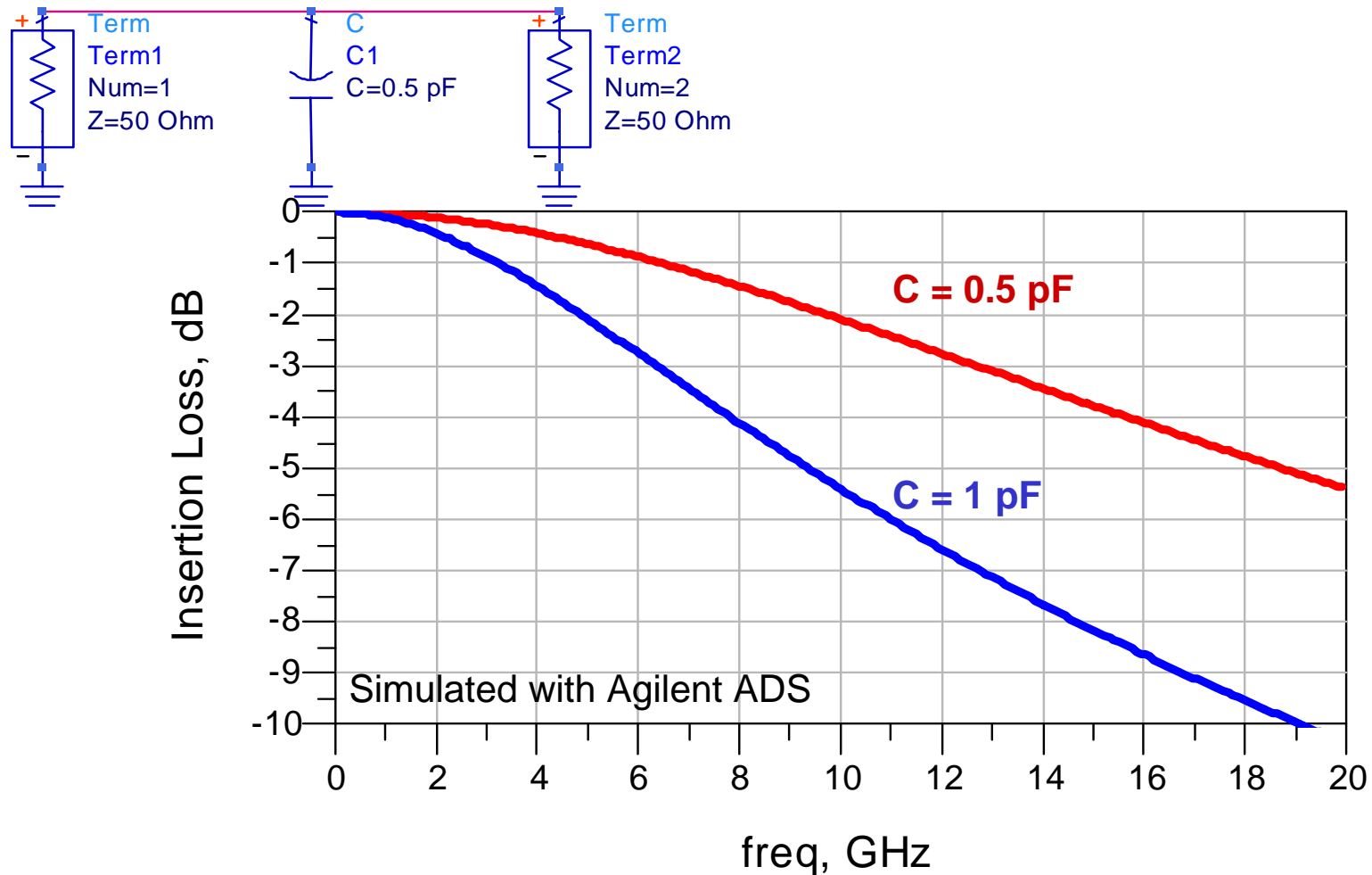
Simulated with Hyperlynx

Rise Time Degradation

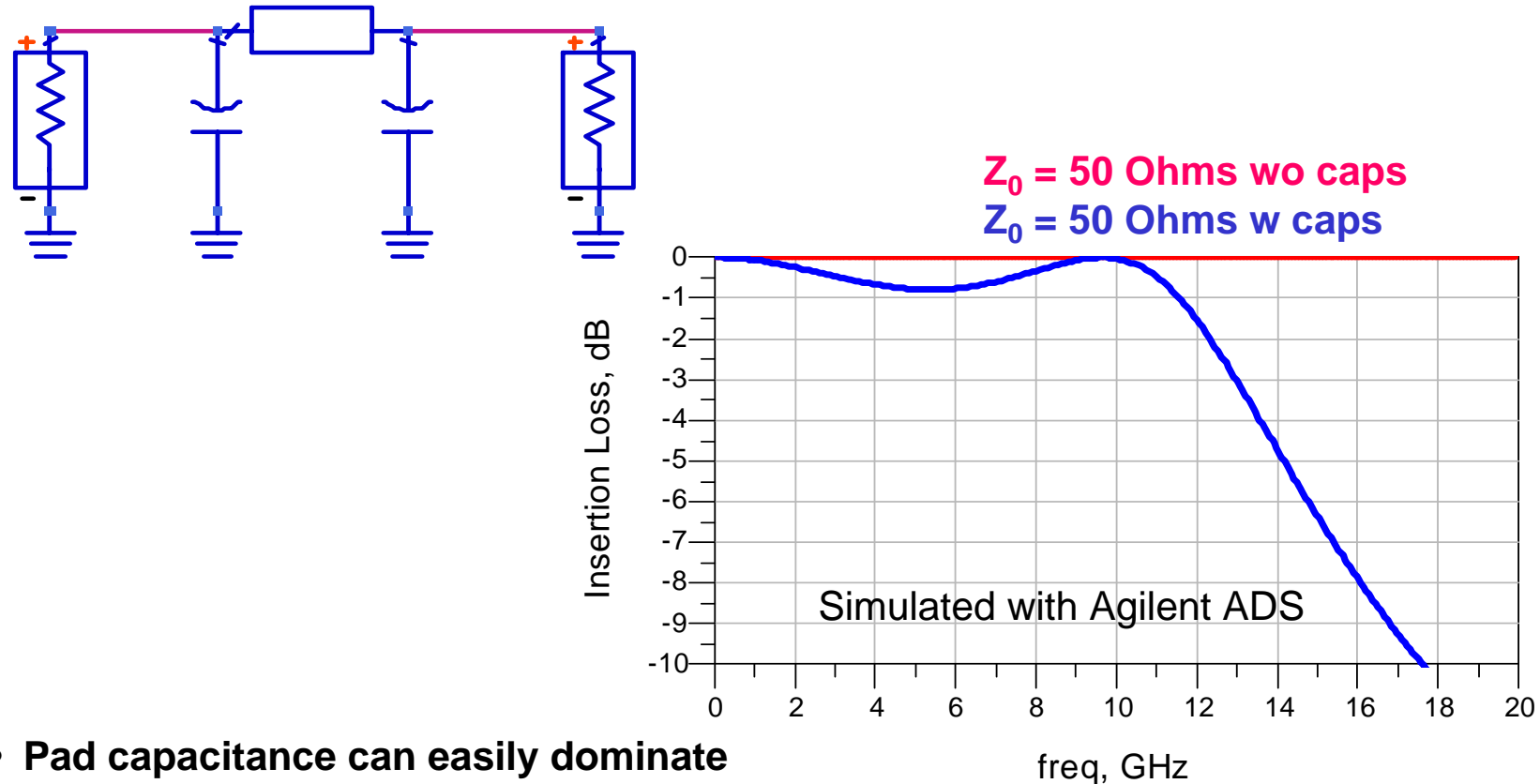
$$10\%-90\% \text{ RT} = 2.2 \times RC = 2.2 \times \frac{1}{2} \times Z_0 \times C \sim Z_0 \times C = 50 \times 1 \text{ pF} \sim 50 \text{ psec}$$

$$10\%-90\% \text{ RT} = 2.2 \times L/R = 2.2 \times L/(2 \times Z_0) \sim L/Z_0 = 2.5 \text{ nH}/50 \sim 50 \text{ psec}$$

# Insertion Loss from Pad Capacitance

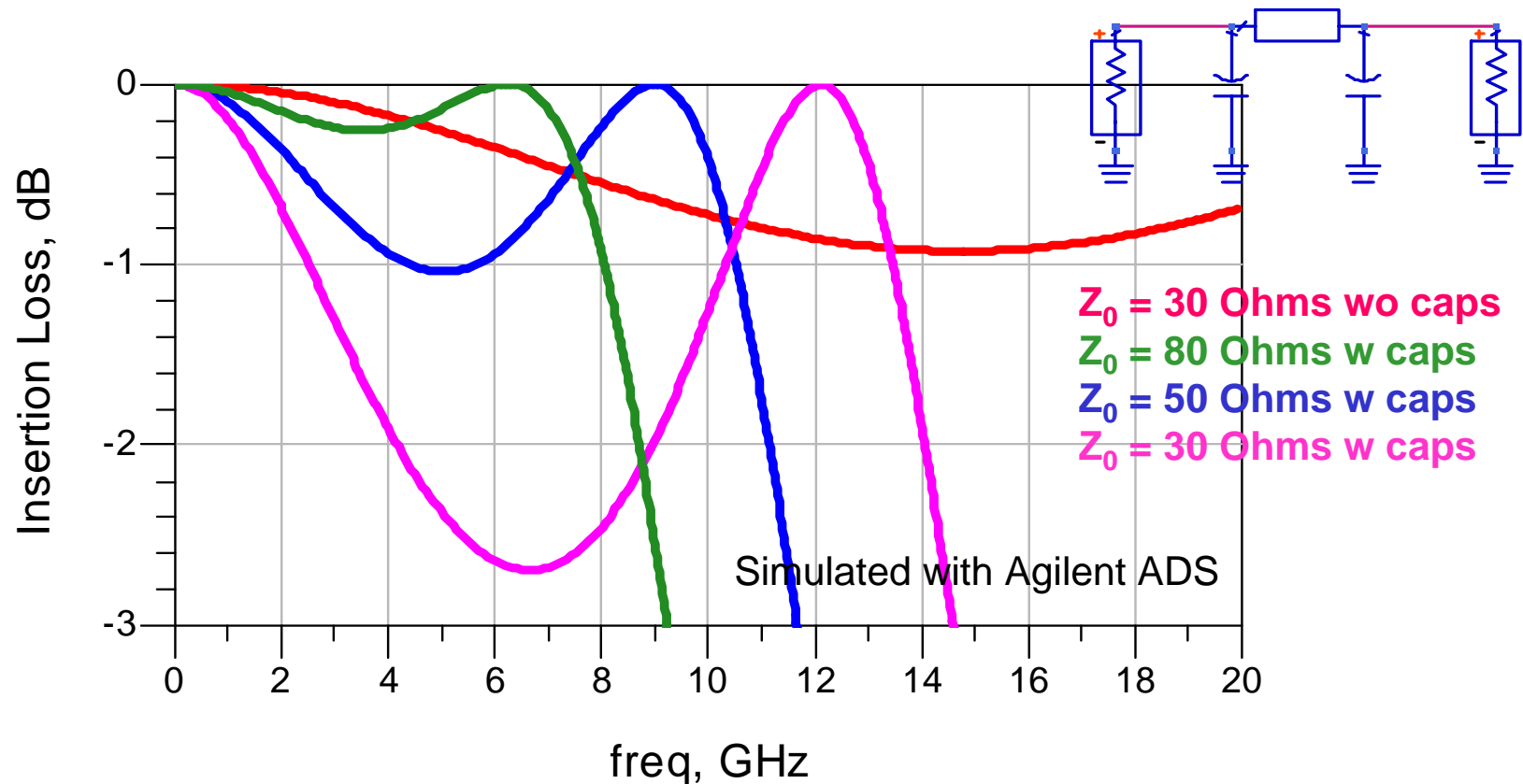


## *Impact from 0.5 pF Pads on Either Side of 50 Ohm, lossless, Ideal Socket*



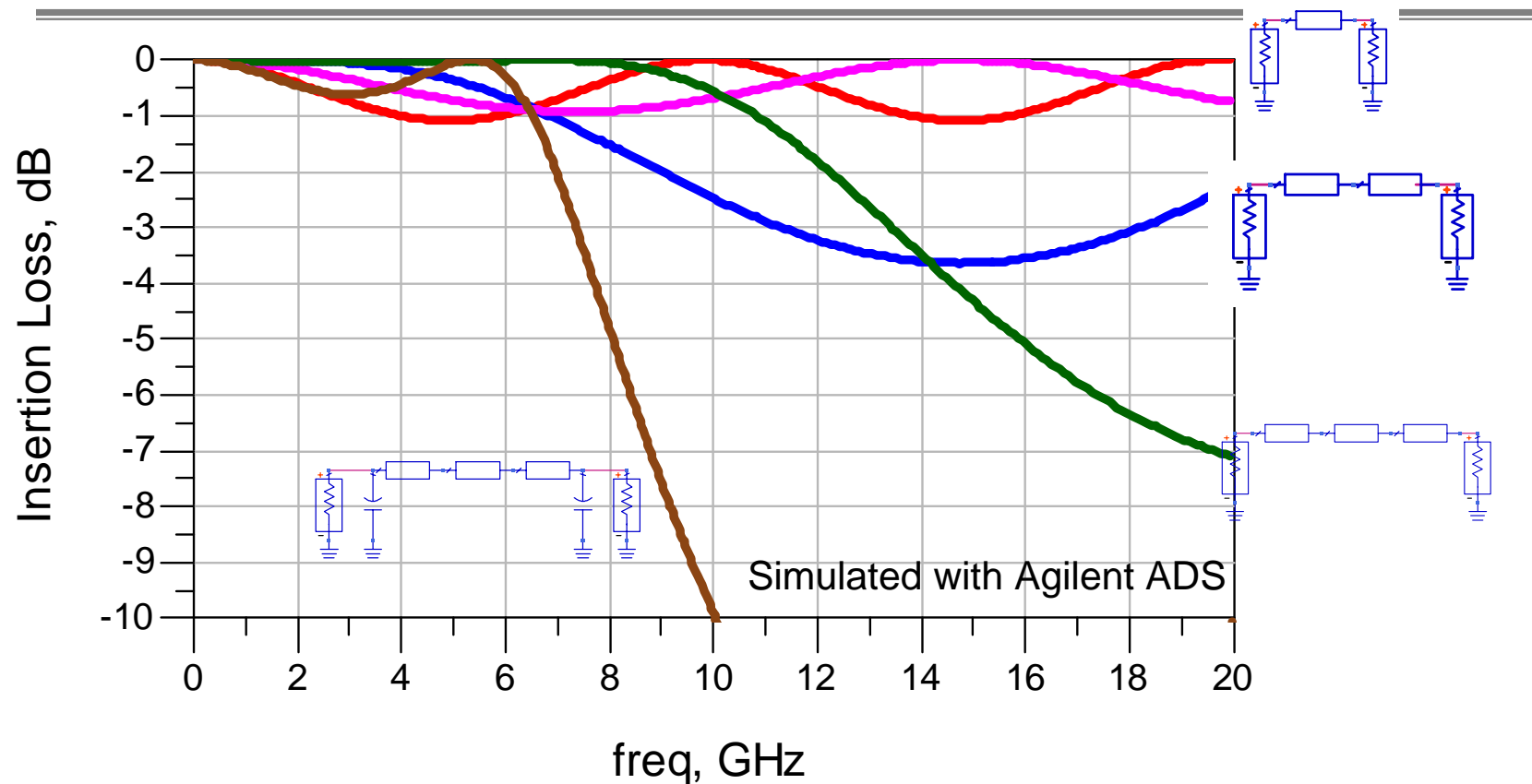
- Pad capacitance can easily dominate insertion loss measurements
- For matched socket, best performance is with no pad capacitance

## Non matched socket and 0.5 pF Pad Capacitance



- Lower the socket impedance, the greater the impact from pad capacitance
- An optimized socket will be degraded by pad capacitance

## *Uncontrolled Impedance and Pad Capacitance*



***Impedance discontinuities can be disastrous***



## ***Minimizing Insertion Loss Principle #3: Minimize Pad Stack up Capacitance***

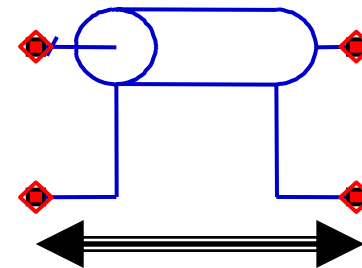
---

- Pad stack up capacitance on test fixture/load board can and often does dominate insertion loss performance
- To first order, always try to minimize pad capacitance
- For best performance, optimize load board discontinuities to compensate: requires load board-socket-package co-design
  - ✓ Use 3D full wave solver
  - ✓ Use multiple test board launch designs to optimize pad stack up
  - ✓ Change socket and compensation may be off
  - ✓ When socket is well matched, performance is all about the load board

## ***Time Delay and Length***

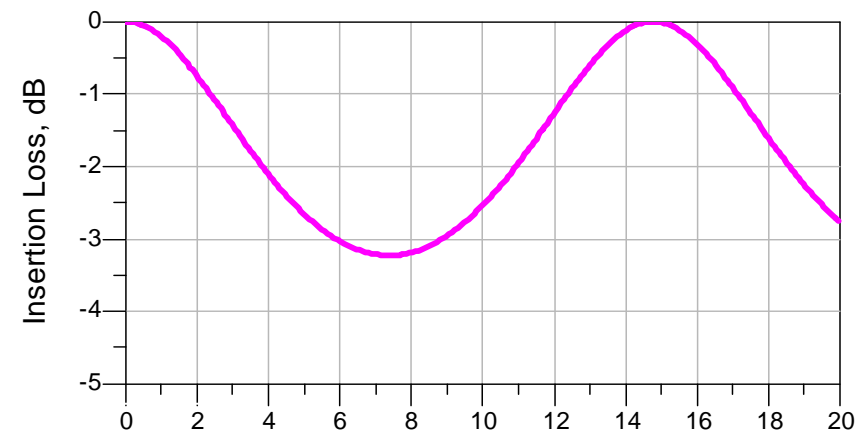
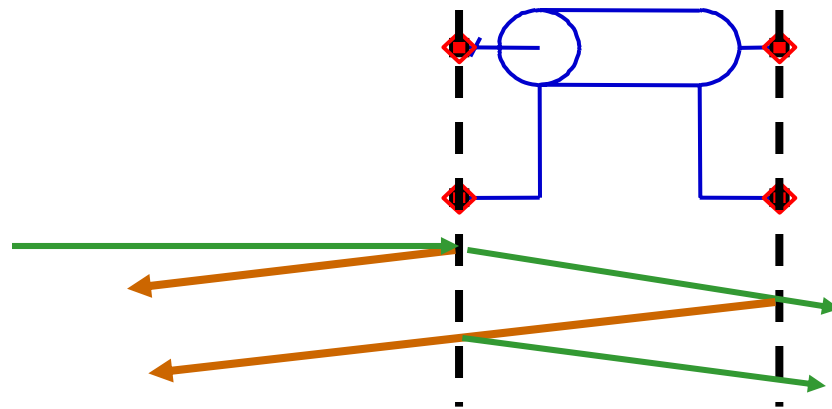
- Speed of signal  $\sim 6 \text{ inches/nsec} = 150 \text{ mm/nsec}$  in torlon, most polymers
- $\text{TD} \sim \text{Length} / v = \text{Len} / 6 \text{ inches/nsec} = \text{Len} \times 160 \text{ psec/inch} = \text{Len} \times 6.7 \text{ psec/mm}$

- $\text{Len} = 100 \text{ mils}, \text{TD} = 16 \text{ psec}$
- $\text{Len} = 3 \text{ mm}, \text{TD} = 20 \text{ psec}$



**TD  $\sim 160 \text{ psec/inch}$**   
**TD  $\sim 6.7 \text{ psec/mm}$**

# Insertion Loss and TD



freq, GHz

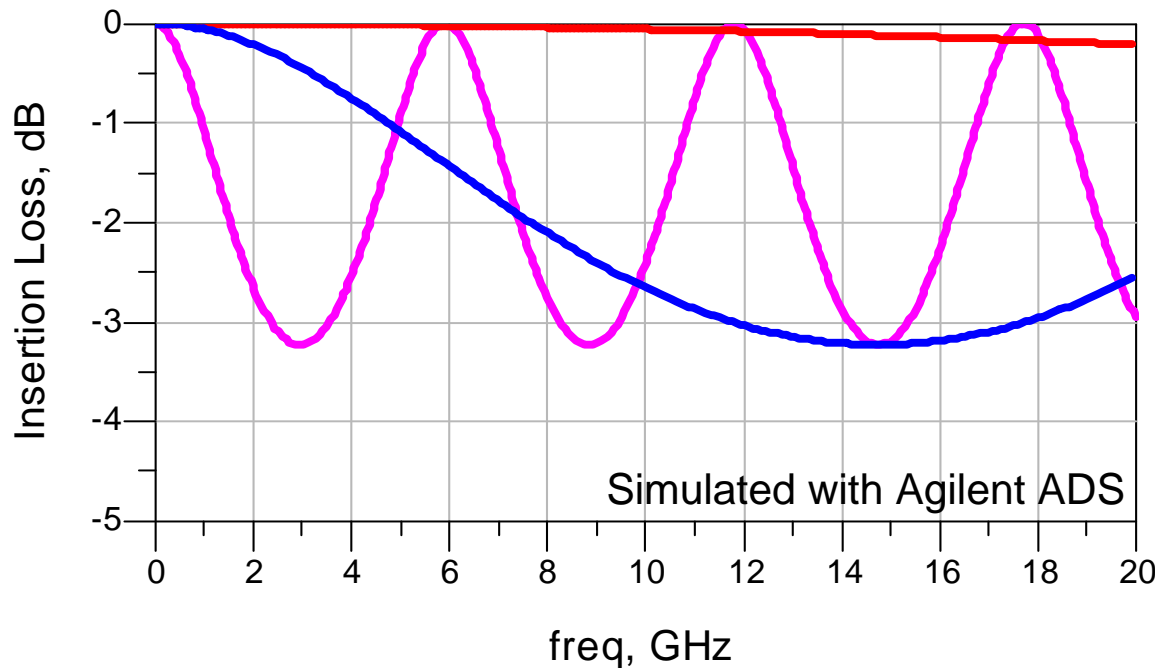
Simulated with Agilent ADS

- When  $Len \ll \frac{1}{4} \lambda$ 
  - ✓ Reflections from front and back, 180 deg out of phase
  - ✓ No reflection
  - ✓ All transmitted waves in phase and add
  - ✓ Max transmission
- When  $Len = \frac{1}{4} \lambda$ 
  - ✓ Reflected waves from front and back add
  - ✓ Maximum reflected signal
  - ✓ Transmitted waves 180 deg out of phase
  - ✓ Minimum transmitted signal

## Same Impedance, changing Time Delay

$Z_0 = 20$  Ohms

Len = 10 mils (0.25 mm), 100 mils (2.5 mm), 500 mils (12.5 mm)



If  $\text{Len} \ll \frac{1}{4} \lambda$ ,  
-1 dB insertion loss BW will  
be higher

## ***Minimizing Insertion Loss: Principle #4***

---

**Try to keep length shorter than  $\frac{1}{4} \lambda$  at the highest bandwidth**

**@ 1 GHz,  $\frac{1}{4} \lambda = 1.50$  inches, 38 mm**

**@ 10 GHz,  $\frac{1}{4} \lambda = 150$  mils, 3.8 mm**

**@ 20 GHz,  $\frac{1}{4} \lambda = 75$  mils, 1.9 mm**

$$Len \ll \frac{1.5}{BW} \quad \begin{array}{l} \text{Len in inches} \\ \text{BW in GHz} \end{array}$$

$$Len \ll \frac{38}{BW} \quad \begin{array}{l} \text{Len in mm} \\ \text{BW in GHz} \end{array}$$

- If worst case insertion loss is less than -1 dB, TD may not be important
- If worst case insertion loss is greater than -1 dB, keep length  $\ll \frac{1}{4} \lambda$
- Minimize insertion loss by keeping length  $\ll \frac{1}{4} \lambda$
- Shorter is better, but long may be good enough

## Attenuation from Dielectric Loss

$$\alpha = -4.34 \left( \underbrace{\frac{R_L}{Z_0}}_{\text{Conductor loss}} + \underbrace{G_L Z_0}_{\text{Dielectric loss}} \right) \text{ dB/length}$$

$$G_L = \omega \tan(\delta) C$$

$$Z_0 = \frac{1}{\text{vel } C}$$

$$G_L Z_0 = \frac{\omega \tan(\delta)}{\text{vel}}$$

Independent of geometry!

$$\alpha_{\text{dielectric}} \approx -2.3 f \tan(\delta) \sqrt{\epsilon_{\text{eff}}} \text{ dB/in}$$

$$S_{21} \sim -2.3 \times 0.02 \times 2 \times f = -0.1 \times f \text{ dB/inch, } f \text{ in GHz}$$

## Insertion Loss From Dielectric Loss

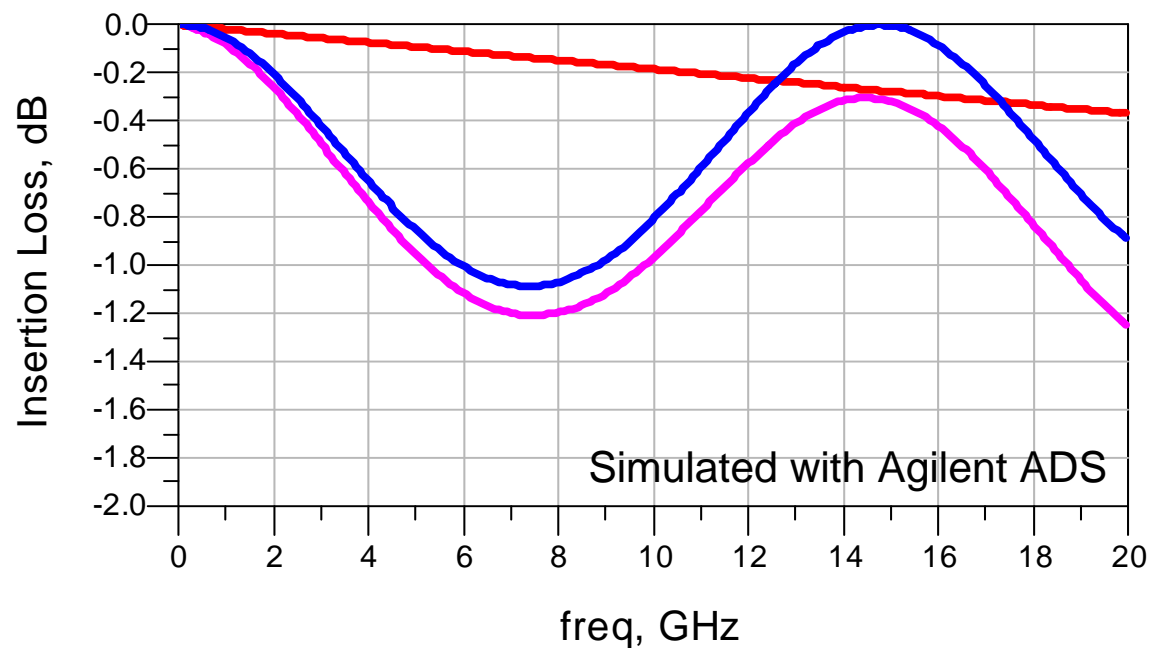


Rule of thumb: lossy materials,  $\tan(\delta) = 0.02$ :  $\alpha \sim -0.1$  dB/inch/GHz

$$S_{21} \sim -0.1 \text{ dB/inch} \times f \text{ (f in GHz)}$$

Estimate: 0.2 inches, 10 GHz

$$S_{21} = -0.1 \times 0.2 \times 10 \sim -0.2 \text{ dB}$$



50 Ohms,  $\tan(\delta) = 0.02$

30 Ohms,  $\tan(\delta) = 0$

30 Ohms,  $\tan(\delta) = 0.02$

## ***Minimizing Insertion Loss: Principle #5***

---

- If impedance is matched, dielectric loss is only a problem for very long interconnects ( $Len > 0.5$  inches)
- If impedance is not matched, dielectric loss has small impact
- Shorter is always better, but long be good enough



# Current Distributions

signal

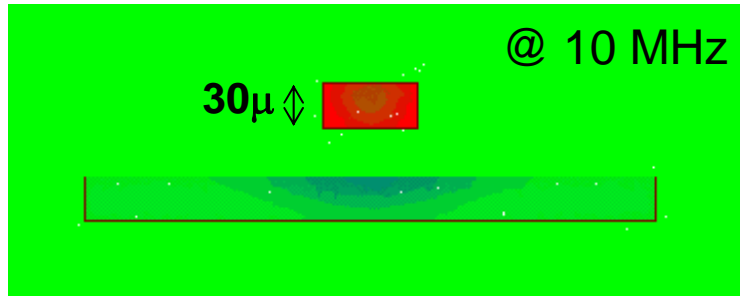


return



- At DC, what is the current distribution?
- Current distributes to minimize the impedance
- Impedance is  $R + i\omega L$
- As frequency goes up, minimizing loop  $L$  is more dominant
- To minimize loop  $L$ , two opposing forces:
  - ✓ Within each conductor, current will move as far apart as possible (minimize partial self inductance- **skin effect**)
  - ✓ Signal current will move as close as possible to return current (maximize partial mutual inductance- **proximity effect**)

## Current Distributions Calculated with Ansoft 2D Field Solver

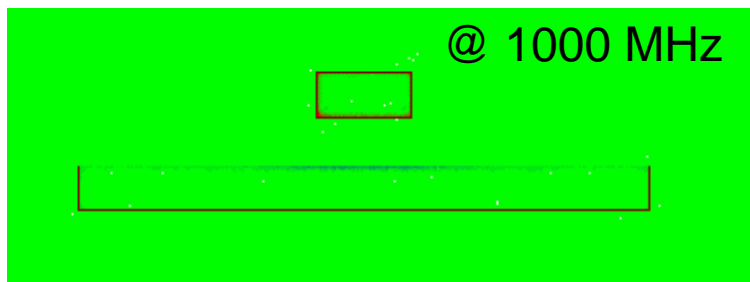
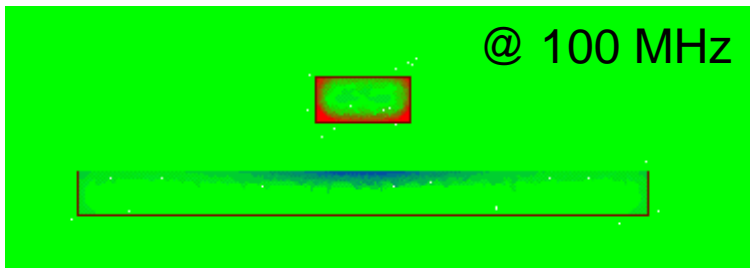


Microstrip:  
50 Ohm, FR4  
 $\epsilon_r = 4.2$   
 $h = 38 \mu$   
 $t = 30 \mu$  (1 oz)  
 $w = 75 \mu$

Above 10 MHz, all resistance is skin depth limited

$$\delta = \sqrt{\frac{1}{\sigma \pi \mu_0 \mu_r f}} = 2 \mu \sqrt{\frac{1}{f}} \quad f \text{ in GHz}$$

in copper



Skin depth in copper ~ 2 microns @ 1 GHz

# Conductor Loss

$$\alpha = -4.34 \left( \frac{R_L}{Z_0} + G_L Z_0 \right) \text{ dB/length}$$

Conductor loss      Dielectric loss

$\alpha$  in dB/in

$f$  in GHz

$w$  is perimeter in mils

$Z_0$  in Ohms

OD = 10 mils

$w = 3 \times 10 = 30$  mils

Simple first order model :

$S_{21} \sim -0.02$  dB/inch @ 1 GHz

(10% the insertion loss from dielectric loss)

$$\alpha_{\text{conductor}} \approx \frac{-22}{Z_0} \frac{\sqrt{f}}{w} \text{ dB/in}$$

@ 10 GHz, 0.1 inch long

$S_{21} \sim -0.02$  dB/inch  $\times 0.1$  inch  $\times 3 = \sim -0.01$  dB

## ***Minimizing Insertion Loss: Principle #6***

---

- Current distributions above 1 GHz are all skin depth limited
- Series resistance from skin depth has no impact on insertion loss for most structures with OD > 1 mils

## Impact from DC contact resistance

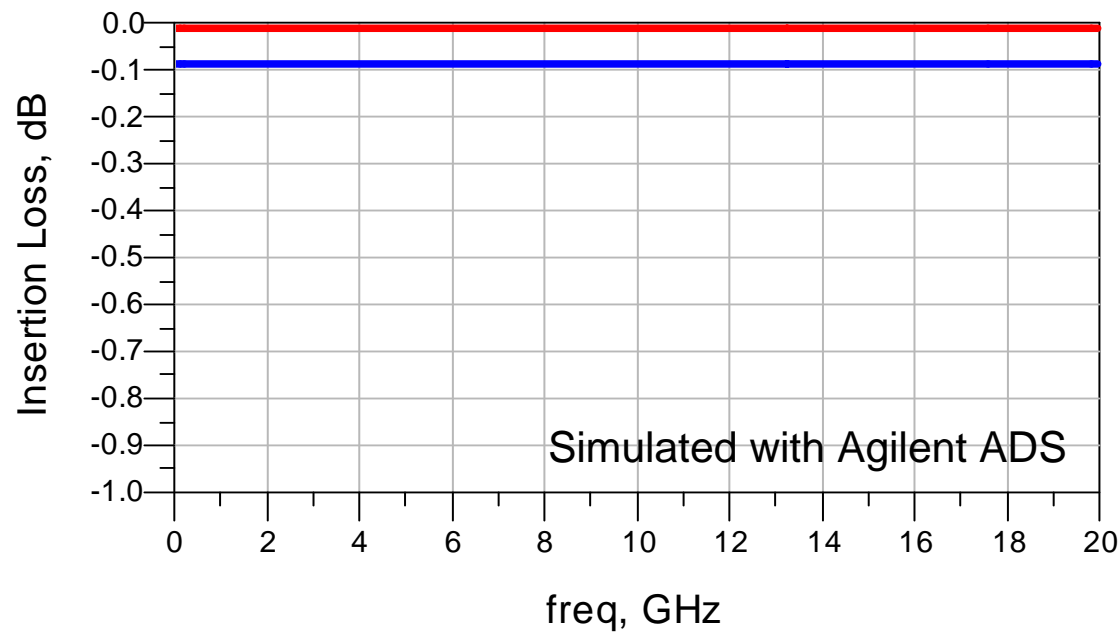
$$\alpha = -4.34 \left( \frac{R_L}{Z_0} + G_L Z_0 \right) \text{ dB/length}$$

Conductor loss     Dielectric loss

$$S_{21} \sim -4.34 \times \frac{R_{dc}}{50} \sim -\frac{R_{dc}}{10}$$

If  $R_{dc} = 0.1$  Ohms,  $S_{21} \sim -0.01$  dB

If  $R_{dc} = 1$  Ohms,  $S_{21} \sim -0.1$  dB



## ***Minimizing Insertion Loss: Principle #7***

---

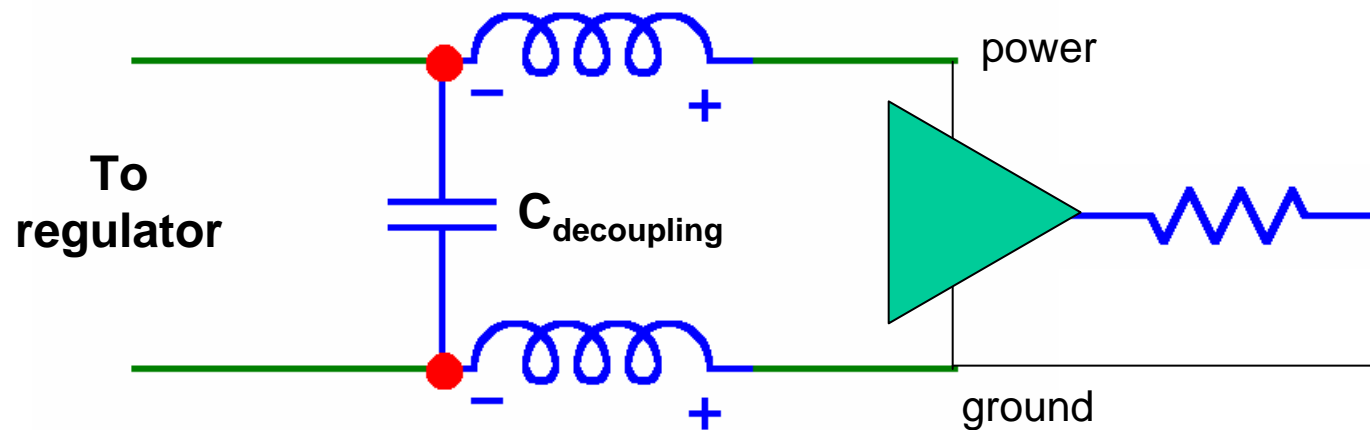
- If contact resistance is so large that it affects insertion loss, you have a potential open problem, not an insertion loss problem

## ***7 Principles of Socket Design for Optimized Insertion Loss***

---

1. match characteristic impedance of socket to 50 Ohms
2. Keep the impedance constant through socket
3. Optimize (minimize) pad stack up capacitance
4. Keep socket short
5. Dielectric loss of socket not critical
6. Conductor loss of socket not critical
7. Contact resistance of socket not critical

## Power Integrity



- Goal: keep the voltage across the power pins constant, even with current surges
- Strategy: minimize the impedance of the power distribution
- At high frequency,  $Z = R + i\omega L$
- $L$  is the loop inductance of the power and ground return path



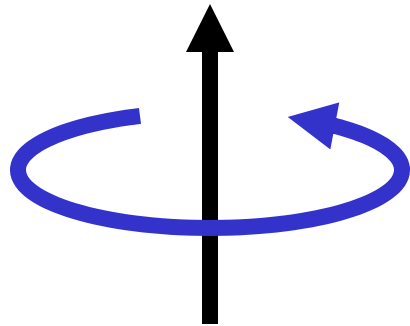
# ***What is inductance?***

---



# ***Inductance Principles -1***

***1. Magnetic field lines are around all current carrying conductors***



**Right hand rule**



wire carrying a current

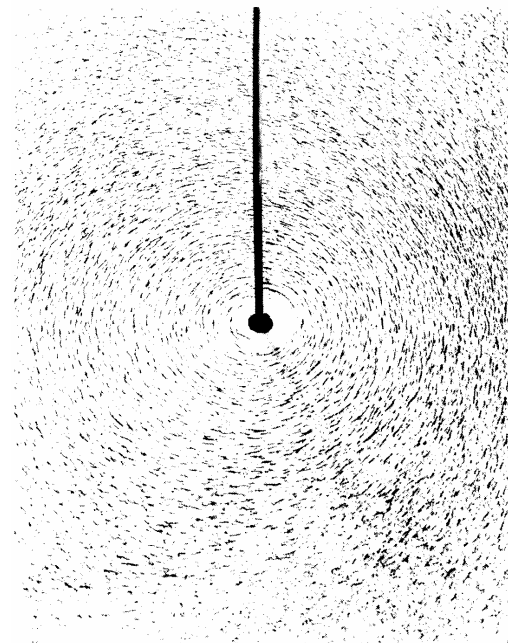
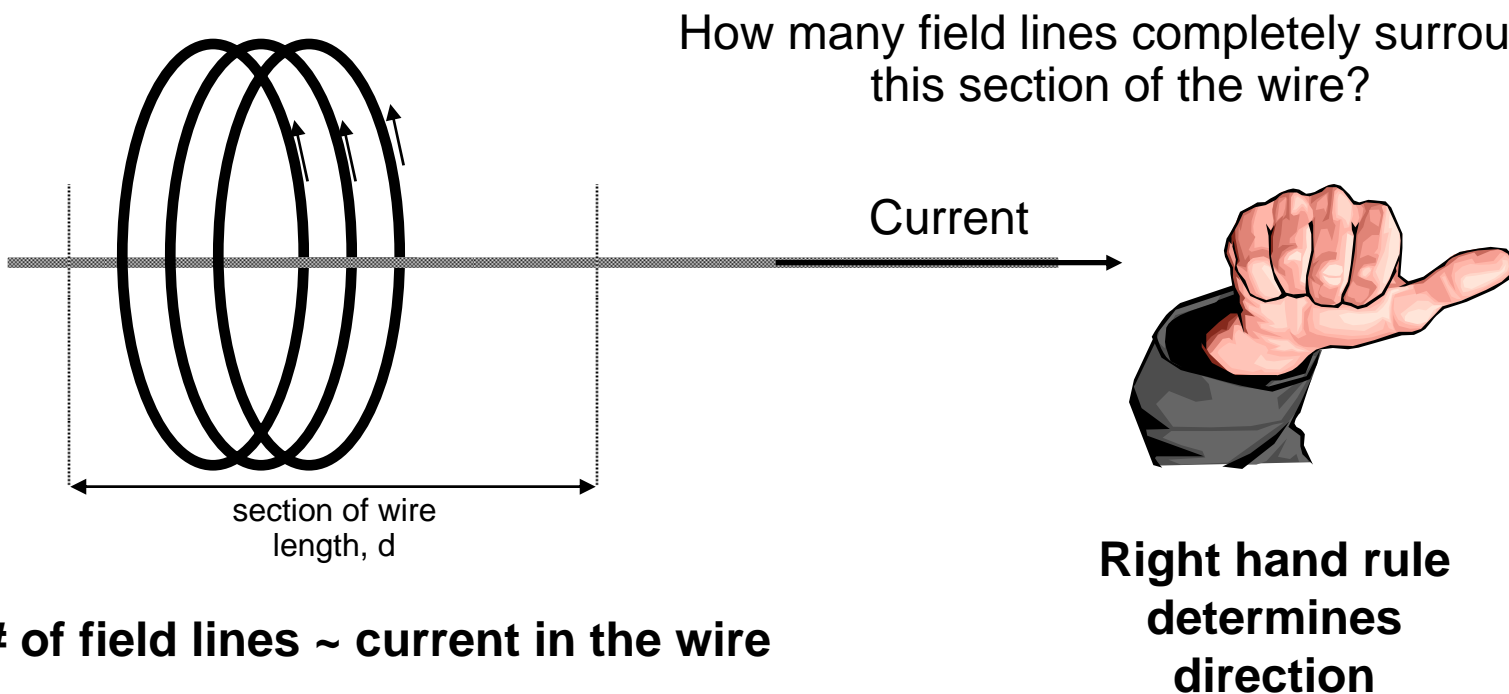


photo source: Halliday and Resnick, Physics, 1962

***What influences the number of field lines?***

# Counting Magnetic Field Lines



A **Weber** of field lines

## ***Inductance Principles -2***

---

***2. Inductance is related to the number of field lines around the conductor, per amp of current through it***

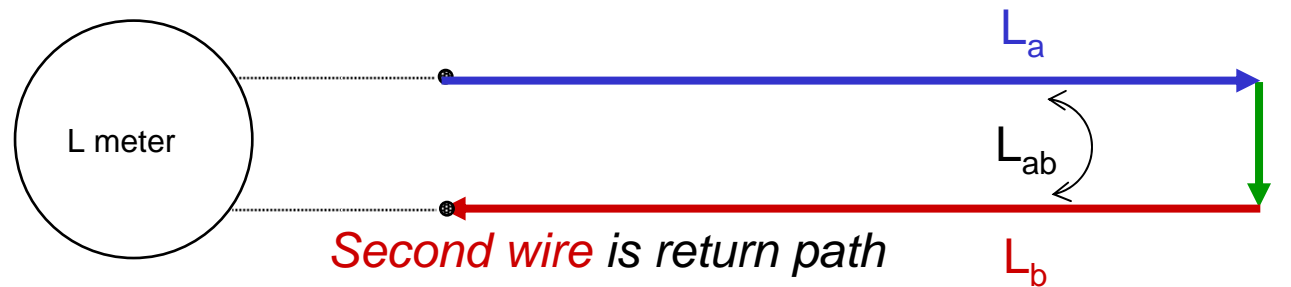
$L = \#$  of field lines around conductor, per amp of current

Units:    Webers/amp = Henry  
             nH more common

Many flavors of inductance:

*self* - *mutual*  
*loop* - *partial*  
*total, net or effective*

## Loop Inductance



$$L_{\text{loop}} = L_a + L_b - 2L_{ab}$$

To reduce  $L_{\text{loop}}$ , what do we want to do to:

$L_a$

$L_b$

$L_{ab}$

How?

## ***Four principles for minimizing Loop Inductance***

---

1. Short lengths
2. Wide conductors
3. Closely spaced return path
4. Multiple power-return conductors in parallel

## ***Estimating Loop Inductance from Characteristic Impedance***

---

- For any controlled impedance interconnect, by definition:
  - ✓  $L_{\text{loop}} = \text{TD} \times Z_0$
  - ✓ Example 1: 50 Ohms, TD ~ 20 psec,  $L_{\text{loop}} = 1 \text{ nH}$
- $L_{\text{loop}} \sim 170 \text{ psec/inch} \times Z_0 \times \text{Len} = 6.8 \text{ psec/mm} \times Z_0 \times \text{Len}$
- Examples:
  - ✓  $Z_0 = 50 \text{ Ohms}$ , Len = 3 mm  $L_{\text{loop}} = 6.8 \times 50 \times 3 = 1 \text{ nH}$
  - ✓  $Z_0 = 50 \text{ Ohms}$ , Len = 1.5 mm  $L_{\text{loop}} = 6.8 \times 50 \times 3 = 0.5 \text{ nH}$
  - ✓  $Z_0 = 20 \text{ Ohms}$ , Len = 3 mm  $L_{\text{loop}} = 6.8 \times 20 \times 3 = 0.4 \text{ nH}$
  - ✓  $Z_0 = 50 \text{ Ohms}$ , Len = 0.1 mm  $L_{\text{loop}} = 170 \times 50 \times 0.1 = 0.8 \text{ nH}$
  - ✓  $Z_0 = 70 \text{ Ohms}$ , Len = 0.15 mm  $L_{\text{loop}} = 170 \times 70 \times 0.15 = 1.8 \text{ nH}$

## ***How to minimize Loop Inductance***

---

- How to minimize loop inductance:
  - ✓ Shorter socket
  - ✓ Lower impedance- close spacing, larger diameter pins, multiple return paths
- Use 2D or 3D field solver to estimate loop inductance

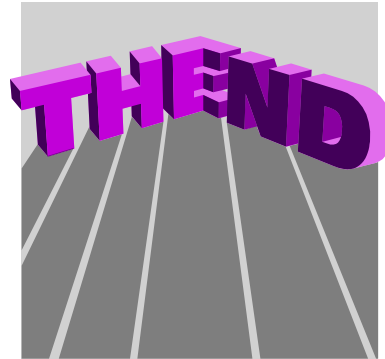


## ***Signal Integrity of Sockets: Topics***

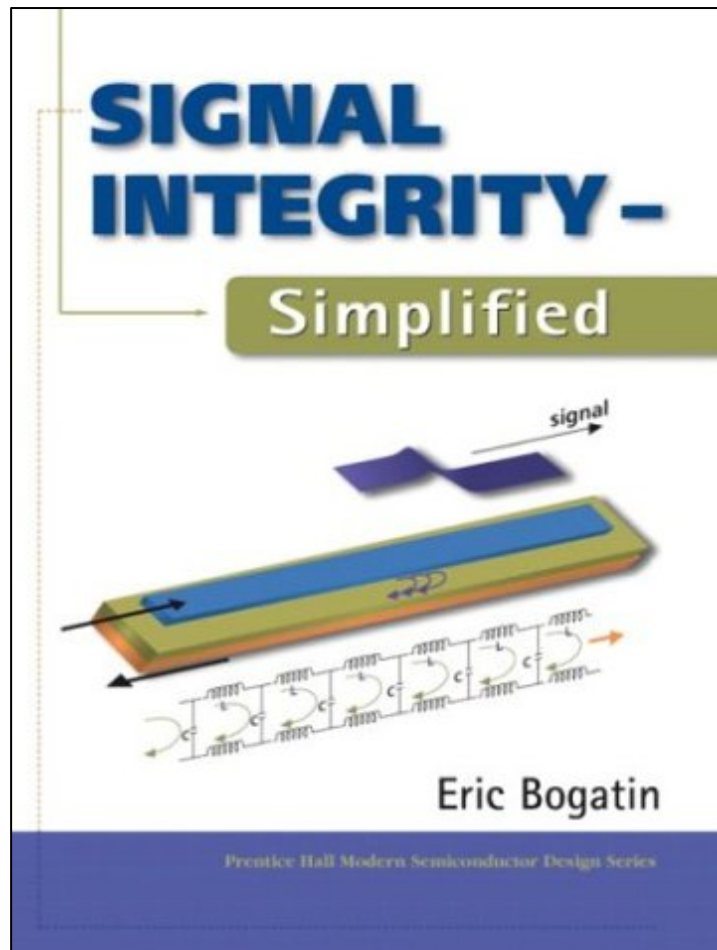
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- What does it mean to “work”?
- Signal integrity
  - ✓ Insertion loss
  - ✓ Bandwidth
  - ✓ Characteristic impedance
  - ✓ Time delay
  - ✓ Dielectric loss
  - ✓ Conductor loss
- Power integrity
  - ✓ Loop inductance
- Other:
  - ✓ Return loss
  - ✓ Differential impedance
  - ✓ Cross talk
  - ✓ Ground bounce

# *The End*



## *For More Information on Signal Integrity*



Published by Prentice Hall, 2004

[www.BeTheSignal.com](http://www.BeTheSignal.com)

- Online Lectures
- Feature Articles
- PCD&M Monthly Signal Integrity Column: "No Myths Allowed"
- Master Class Workshops
- Resources
- Live classes through GigaTest Labs