

ARCHIVE 2009

A SALMAGUNDI OF SOCKET SCIENCE

Performance Studies on Space Transformer Structures

Roger Weiss—Paricon Technologies Corporation

Design & Test of Very High Bandwidth

QFN/QFP Sockets

James Zhou, Ila Pal, Dr. James Forster, Jiachun (Frank) Zhou, Steve Davis,
Dima Alzoubaidi—Antares Advanced Test Technologies

Improving Your Test System Performance in High Frequency Applications

Jeff Sherry—Johnstech International Corporation
Michael Voo—Avago Technologies

Wafer-Level Burn-In of Hall-Effect Sensors

Steve Steps—Aehr Test Systems
Jochen Seidler—Micronas GmbH

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Performance Studies on Space Transformer Structures

Roger Weiss, PhD
Paricon Technologies Corp.



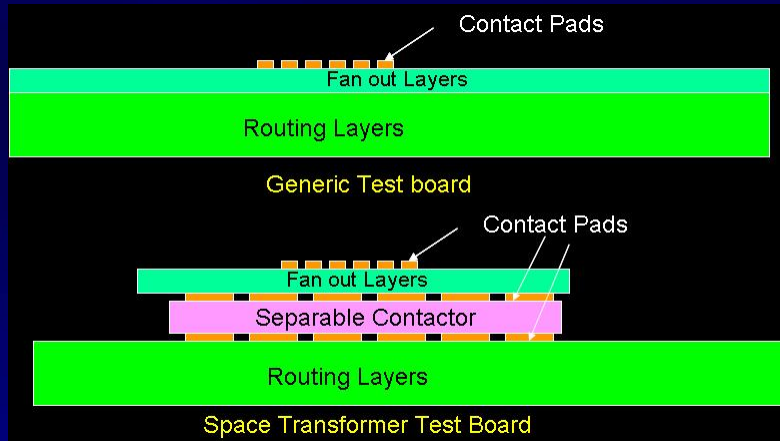
2009 BITS Workshop
March 8 - 11, 2009



Presentation Goals

- ❖ What are Space Transformers
- ❖ Why are they Needed
- ❖ Paricon Space Transformer Technology
- ❖ Lab Data
- ❖ Field Experience
- ❖ Intellectual Property

What are Space Transformers?



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Why are they Needed?

Fine Pitch Devices Key Driver

- Drilling Aspect Ratio Increased
- Plating Aspect Ratio Increased
- Test Board Yield Reduced (1-2 per panel)
- Needed Designs Cannot be Constructed
- Board Prices Increased Dramatically

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Why are they Needed?

Space Transformers Solve Problems

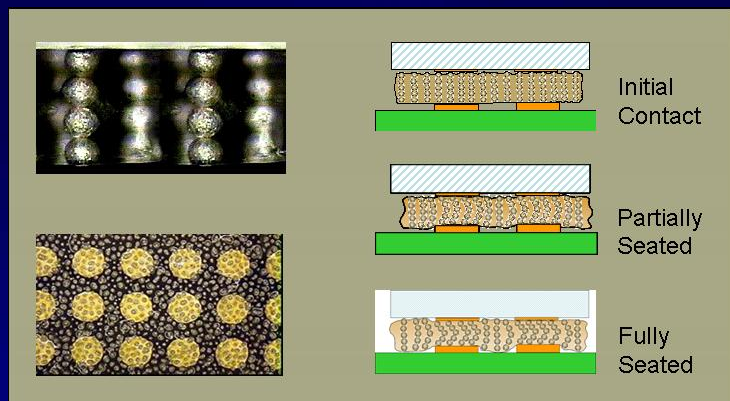
- Drilling and Plating Aspect Ratio Decreased
- Technology Challenge Moved to Small Board
 - 50 Boards per Panel
- Increased Design Flexibility
 - Family Test Board Design
- Board Prices Decrease
 - \$10k per Setup in at Least 1 Case

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PariPoser® Contact Structure



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PariPoser® Contact Structure

Structure

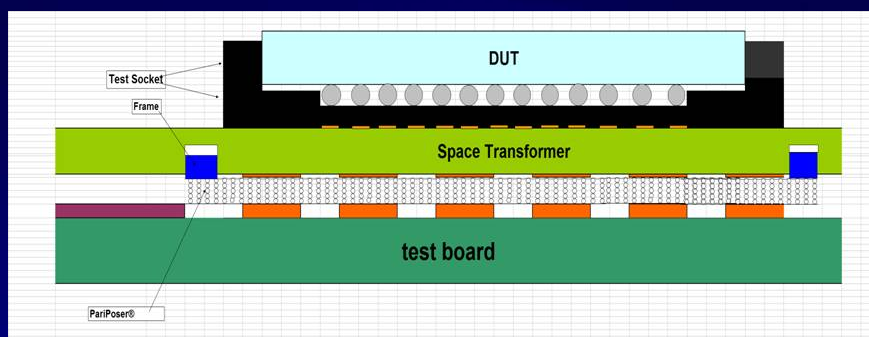
- Thickness Under 0.010"
- Less Than 1dB loss at 60 GHz
- Approximates Board Layer Performance

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Space Transformer Performance



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Space Transformer Performance

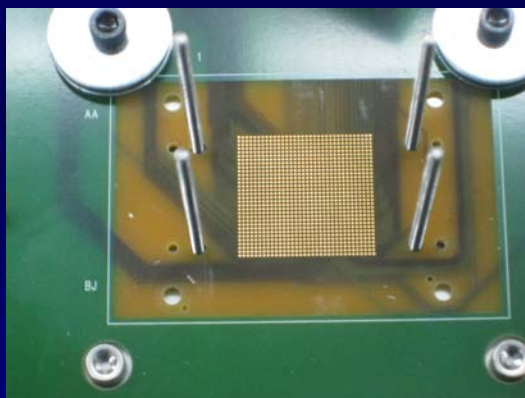


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Space Transformer Performance

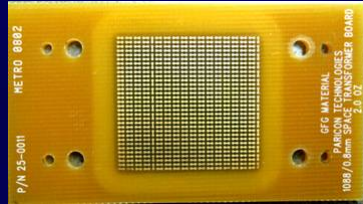


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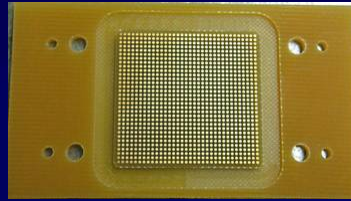
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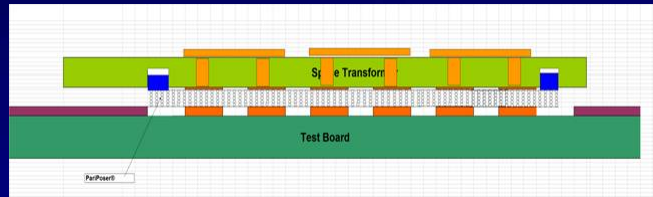
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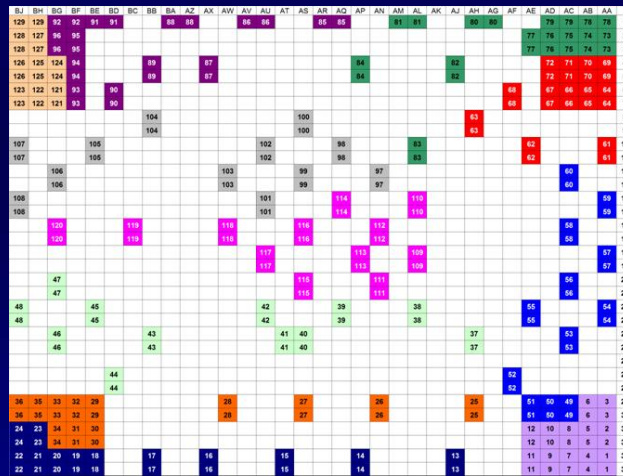


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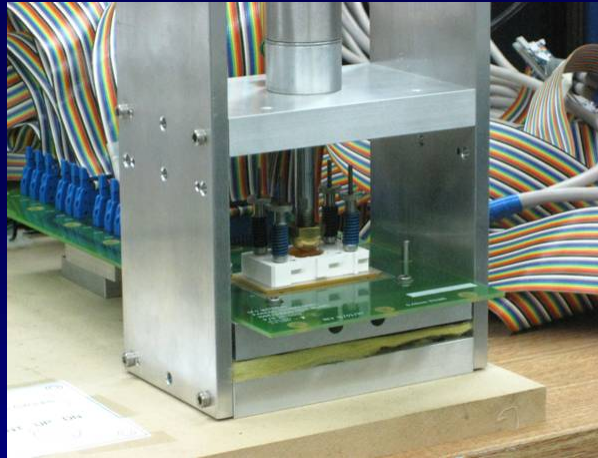


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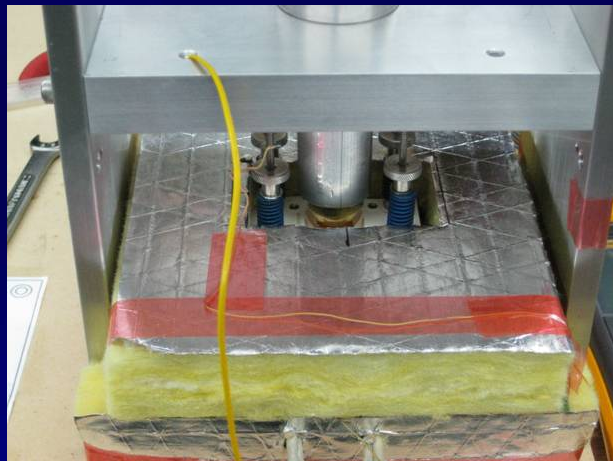


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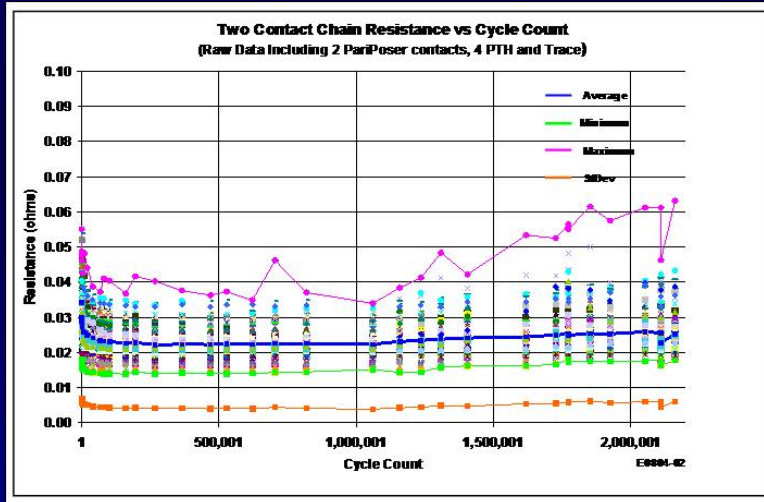


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Corrected Contact Resistance distribution at 2.1 million cycles and 110 C (Milliohms)

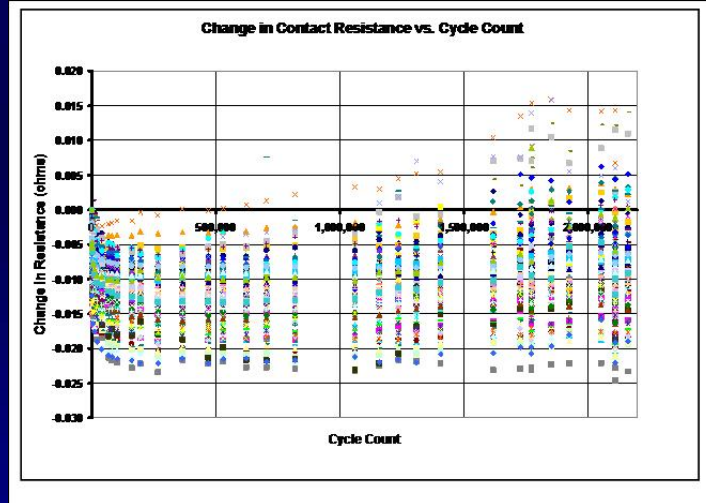
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Space Transformer Performance

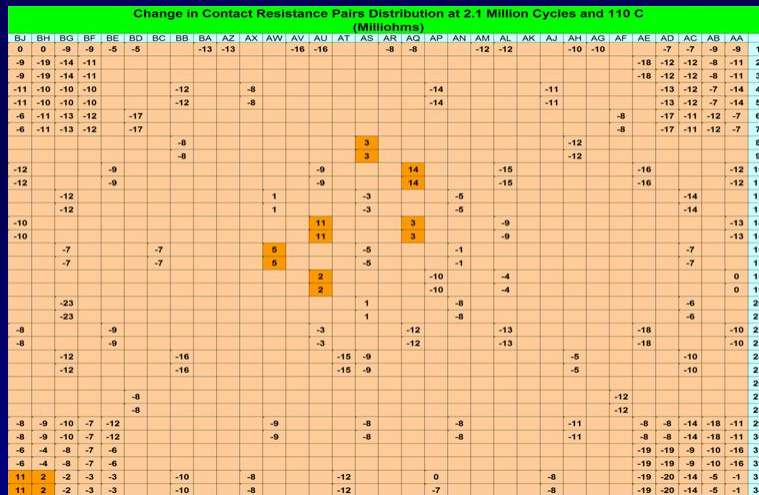


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Space Transformer Performance

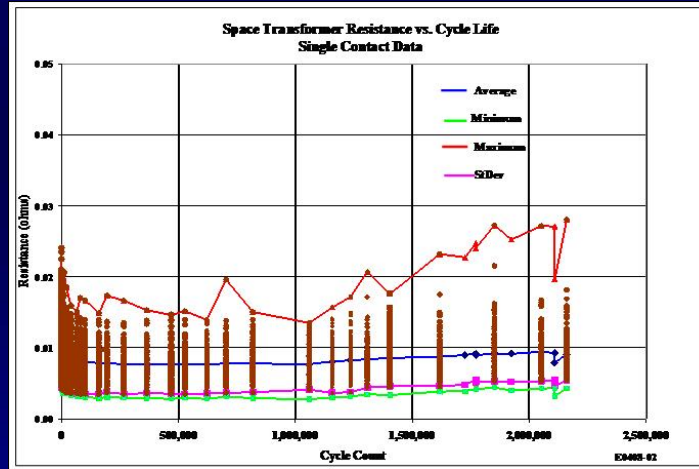


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Space Transformer Performance

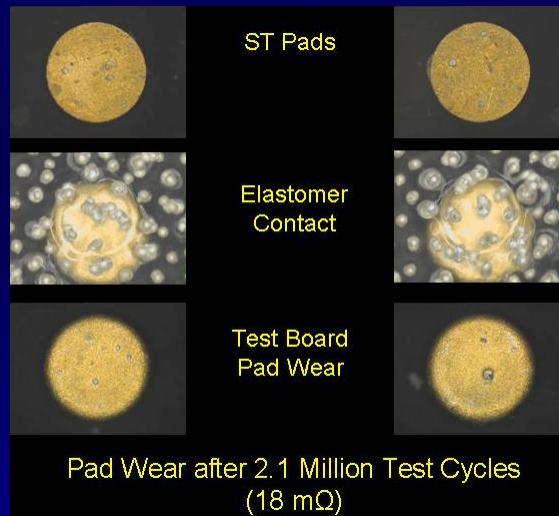


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Space Transformer Performance



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Conclusions

- ❖ Space Transformers Can Provide Excellent Mechanical and Electrical Performance
- ❖ Board Life Greatly Extended
- ❖ Initial System Cost Reduced
- ❖ Enhanced Design Flexibility Achieved
- ❖ PariPoser® Elastomer Will Provide >2m Cycle Life
- ❖ Not All Elastomers are Equal

- ❖ **The Use of Elastomeric Interconnection in Space Transformer Applications is Protected by US Patents 7,077,659 and 7,249,954 Among Others.**

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Design & Test of Very High Bandwidth QFN/QFP Sockets

**James Zhou, Ila Pal, Dr. James Forster, Frank Zhou,
Steven Davis, Dima Alzoubaidi**
Antares Advanced Test Technologies



2009 BITS Workshop
March 8 - 11, 2009



Bandwidth of Test Socket

- Bandwidth of a test socket is not solely determined by the socket itself
 - This is an important concept which may be difficult to comprehend
 - Why would the bandwidth of a socket depend on something other than the socket itself, i.e. the PCB and IC package?
- Consider the max speed of a race car:
 - The achievable max speed is highly dependent on the road conditions
 - Max speed of a race car would differ dramatically when tested in Mohave desert vs. main street of Mesa downtown, or even when loaded into a Boeing 747 cargo plane
 - Max speed of a race car is completely meaningless if the “test track” is not specified
- PCB and package are the “test track” on which a socket is tested for bandwidth
 - There isn’t a “standard test track” for socket bandwidth testing
 - This is one of the main reasons of confusion in conflicting test results and inconsistent performance

Transition is a Component

- The PCB-socket and socket-package transitions are electromagnetically components by themselves
 - They are inseparable from the socket, PCB and package
 - They form the “test track” for socket performance evaluation
 - This is a different concept than mechanical design
- The transition is determined by both components forming the “joint”
- These transitions determine the reflection (return loss) and transmission (insertion loss), ultimately the bandwidth

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High GHz Sockets

- Some sockets have bandwidth specifications in very high GHz range (20~40GHz)
- When these high GHz sockets are used in real applications the achievable bandwidth may be much lower than the spec
- It's like sitting in the driver's seat of a Ferrari in morning rush hour and wondering why it isn't achieving the max speed specifications

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Bandwidth Degradation

- Bandwidth of a test socket may quickly degrade when PCB and package design deviate from ideal conditions used to generate the spec
- Two main sources of bandwidth degradation:
 - PCB-socket transition mismatch
 - Socket-package transition mismatch
- Most socket bandwidth specifications do not include information on PCB and package transitions which have significant impact

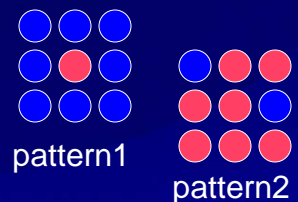
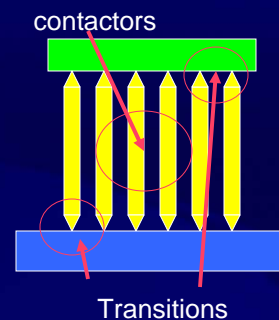
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Three Sources of Mismatch

- Three sources of impedance mismatch
 - Socket contactors
 - LB-socket transition
 - Socket-package transition
- Unregulated signal-ground pin distance causes mismatch
- Transition mismatches are difficult to eliminate



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Design Approach

- Key to achieve high bandwidth is to reduce mismatch (reflection) in entire signal path, including the PCB and package in design considerations
 - (1) Reduce mismatch at PCB-socket transition
 - PCB dependent
 - (2) Reduce mismatch inside socket
 - Only depending on socket
 - (3) Reduce mismatch at socket-package transition
 - Package dependent

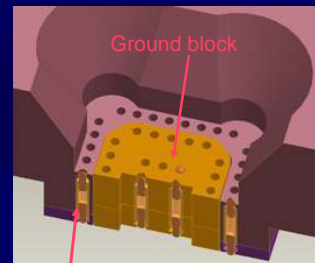
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Z-socket

- Impedance-controlled socket for RF and high-speed QFN/QFP applications
- Ground block serve as return path to help regulate impedance
- Able to tune impedance to close to 50ohm by adjusting pin diameter and pin-to-ground gap
- “uniform transmission line” along spring pin section
- Embedded spring pins in ground block help to make good contact
 - resilient to contamination
 - Provide compliance



Signal & ground pins (GSG, GSSG, SSSS)

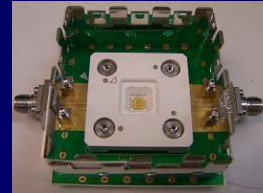
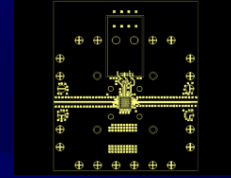
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Comparing Performances

- Tested eight sockets in lab
 - Z-socket: regular spring pin with ground block
 - Z2-socket: use coil type contactor with ground block
 - SP1: Regular spring pin socket
 - Elas1: Elastomer socket
 - Rock1: Rocking arm type contactor with 1mm offset
 - Rock1.6: Rocking arm type contactor 1.6mm offset
 - Q1: Rocking arm type contactor with offset
 - J3: Rocking arm type contactor with offset



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Device Under Test

- Use 32 QFN microwave amplifier 6-18 GHz as device
- This is a real world amplifier testing, different from those tests focusing on pin performance only
- Lab tests focusing only on pins often fails to reproduce the PCB-socket transition and socket-package transition, yielding results that may not be applicable to any real world testing applications
- All test boards have similar layout as recommended by device manufacturer

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Socket Description

- Z-socket: controlled impedance using regular spring pin with ground block
- Z2-socket: Z-socket using coil pin with ground block
- SP1: uncontrolled impedance using regular spring pin without ground block
- Elas1: elastomer type socket
- Rock1: rocking arm type contactor 1mm offset
- Rock1.6: rocking arm type contactor 1.6mm offset
- Q1: Rocking arm type contactor with offset
- J3: rocking arm type contactor with offset

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Socket Bandwidth

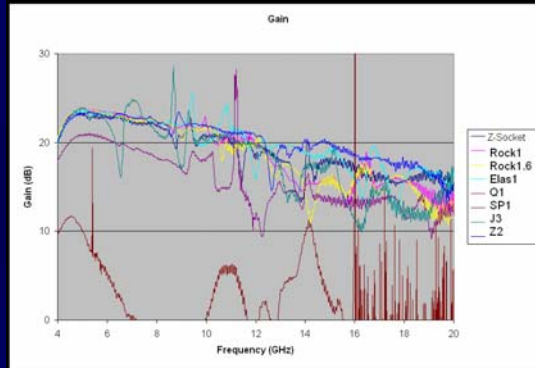
- All of these socket are designed for very high frequency applications with very high bandwidth specifications:
 - Z-socket: >10GHz
 - Z2: > 20GHz
 - SP1: >10GHz
 - Elas1: >20GHz
 - Rock1: > 20GHz
 - Rock2: > 19GHz
 - Q1: >20GHz
 - J3: > 40GHz

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The Reality of Bandwidth



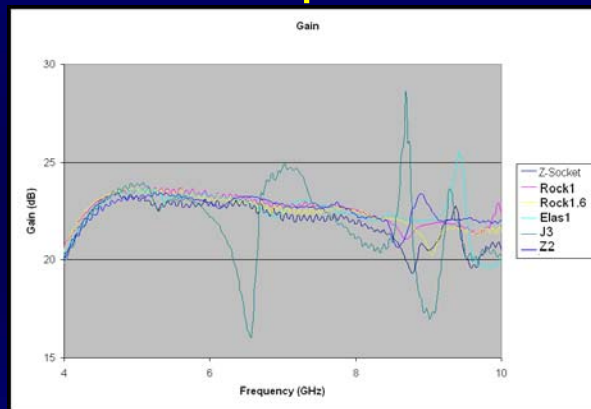
- Comparable performance between Z-socket, Elas1, Rock1 and Rock1.6 and Z2 up to 9GHz
- J3 has severe gain drop at 6.5GHz
- Q1 has more loss than other sockets, resonance at 11GHz
- Regular spring pin socket (SP1) severely lags in performance; has self-oscillation at 5GHz

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Comparison



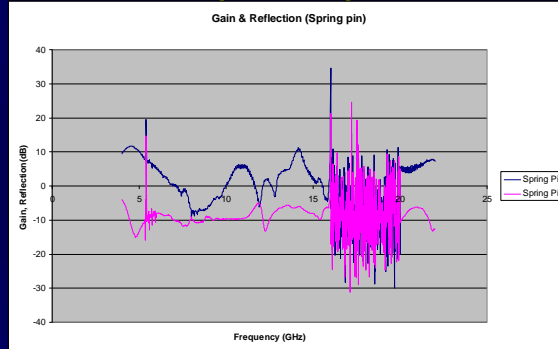
- J3 socket has very high reflection at 6.5GHz and 8.6GHz, making it unsuitable for testing at above 6GHz
- J3 socket has a bandwidth specification of ~40GHz
- All sockets show performance degradation at 9GHz, caused by power plane resonance not related to socket design

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Regular spring pin socket (SP1)



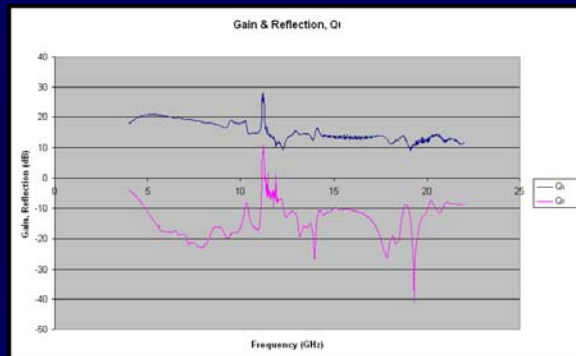
- Self-oscillation caused by excessive ground inductance of longer spring pins
- Oscillation is a phenomenon specific to amplifiers caused by high inductance of socket ground contactors
- Very limited frequency range \ll 4GHz

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Q1 socket



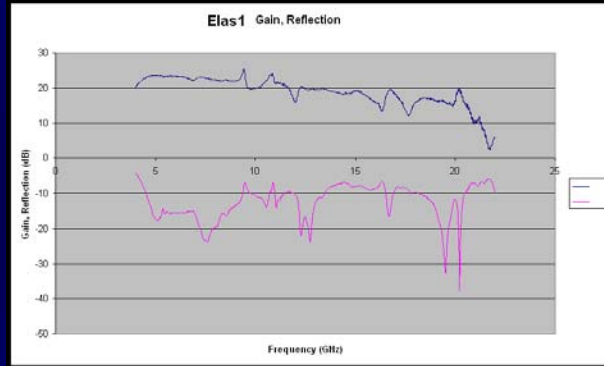
- Self-oscillation caused by excessive ground inductance of shorter contacts
- This socket has limited number of ground contacts available due to space limitations
- Ground contacts far away from signal contacts

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Elas1 socket



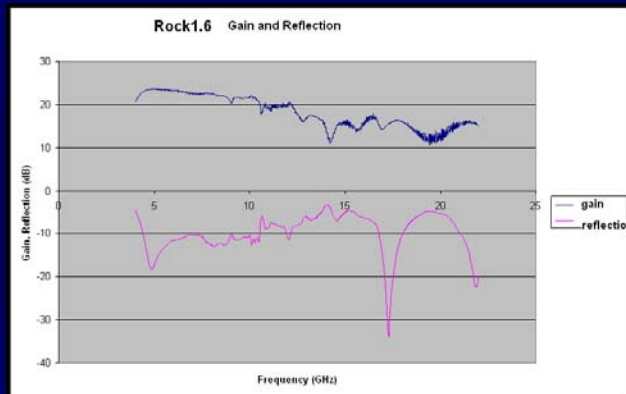
- No self oscillation
- usable up to 9GHz under this specific test condition and device

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Rock1.6 Socket



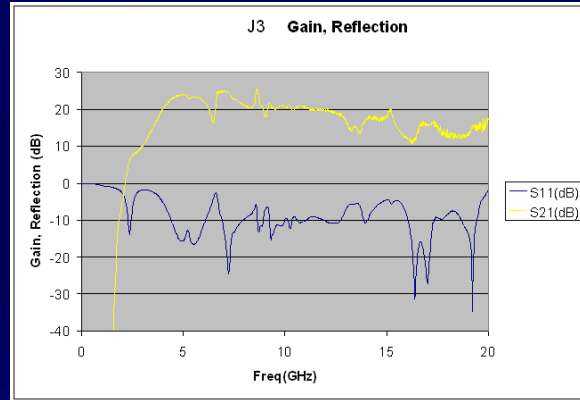
- No self-oscillation
- Low inductance ground block helps to prevent self-oscillation
- usable up to 11GHz under this specific test condition

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J3 Socket



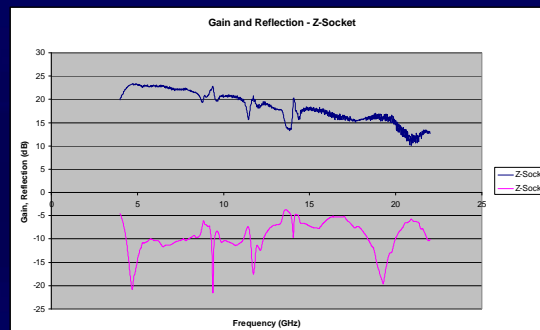
- Very high reflection (RL=2.6dB) at 6.5GHz renders the socket unusable beyond this frequency
- Usable frequency range <6GHz
- This socket has bandwidth specification of ~40GHz

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Z-socket 0.5mm pitch



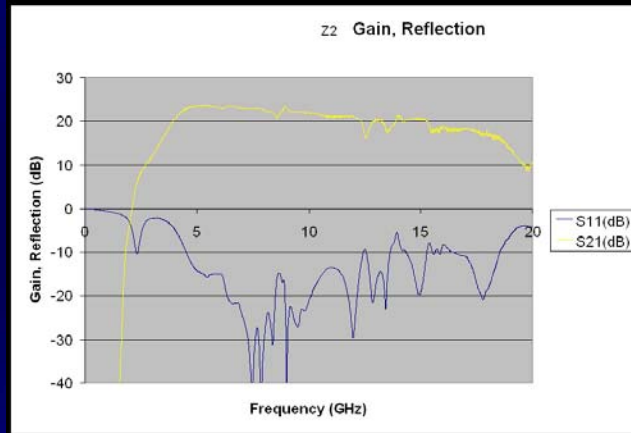
- Same spring pin as in SP1 socket
- no self-oscillation
- Ground block as return path maintains good impedance matching in socket
- usable up to 8.5GHz under this specific test setup

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Z2-Socket



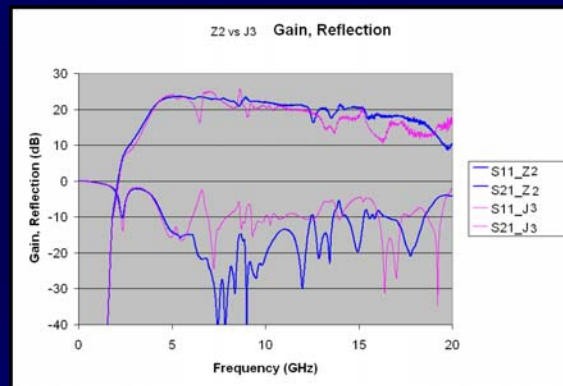
- Excellent response up to 13GHz
- Low reflection
- No self-oscillation

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Z2 vs. J3 Socket



- Z2 socket has flatter, higher gain than J3 across entire band up to 20GHz
- J3 has much better specification than Z2

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Real vs. Ideal Testing

- Z-socket comparison testing are conducted under “real conditions” using microwave amplifier
 - It cannot and should not be compared with specifications obtained using “ideal conditions”
- Some socket specifications have very high GHz numbers without specifying the test conditions
 - These specifications are most likely un-achievable in real test conditions

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Ideal Condition Testing

- Using coaxial input/output ports
- Highly optimized test fixture
- Unknown test conditions
- Results obtained from ideal or unknown testing configurations cannot be applied to real test conditions
- Results is only applicable and comparable when test conditions are the same

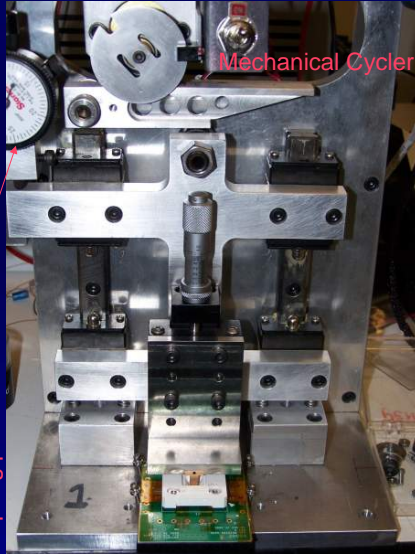
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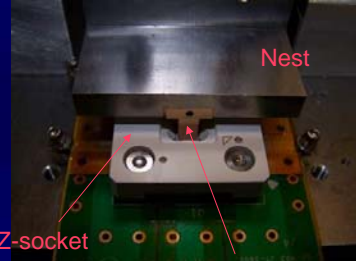
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Z socket validation using Lab Cycler

Displacement gauge to monitor recommended travel of spring pins



Mechanical Cycler



Z-socket
Au plated pads, QFN32 ceramic pkg
Z-socket mounted on functional test board



Device simulator mounted on nest

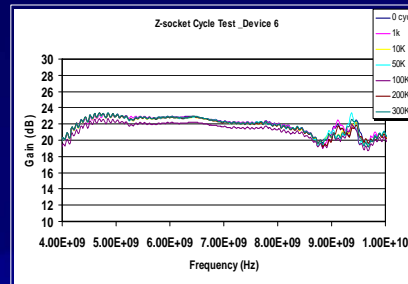
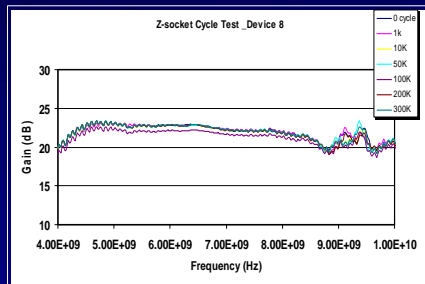
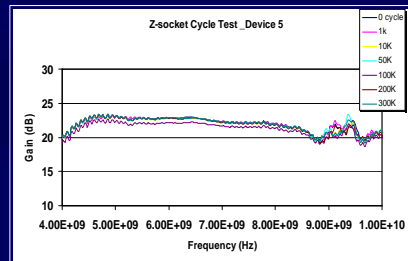
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Z-socket Validation Test Results

- Z socket was cycled thru 300K cycles.
- Test results show that the device gain remains same throughout 300K cycles.
- Test results were repeatable for three different devices.



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Conclusion

- Using regular spring pin, Z-socket and Z2-socket achieved better performance than all other sockets with much higher bandwidth specifications
- Ground block helps to reduce ground inductance
- Ground block can be used for impedance control
- Cannot take socket bandwidth spec at face value; when PCB and package configurations deviate from conditions used in lab testing, bandwidth results will also change accordingly, usually becoming much lower than the spec
- Controlled impedance is the key to higher bandwidth
- Lower inductance do not always provide higher bandwidth

Improving Your Test System Performance in High Frequency Applications

Jeff Sherry, Johnstech International
Michael Voo, Avago Technologies



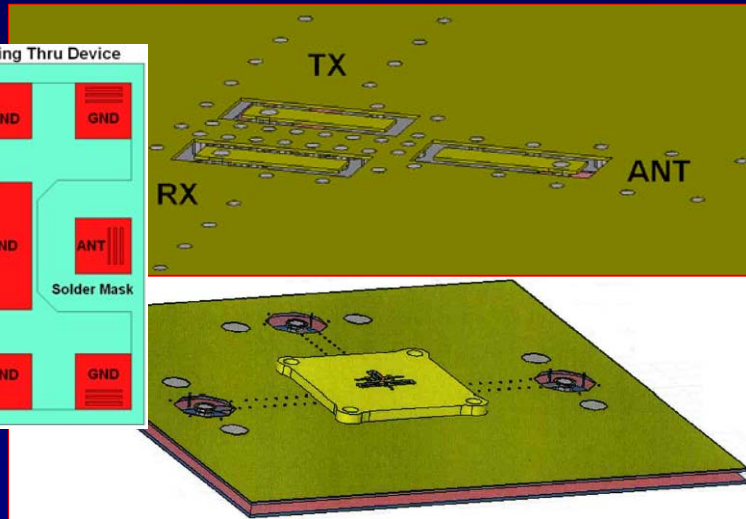
2009 BITS Workshop
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Agenda

- **Modeling Individual Pieces (High Isolation Design)**
 - Ensure model is what is being built
 - Determine effects of tolerances
 - Determine effects of potential problems
- **Modeling System Parts (Including Grounding)**
- **Assess Effects of Grounding**
- **Accuracy of Models**
- **Effective “Tricks” to improve performance**
 - Via fences improve isolation and grounding
 - Modify contact to be closer to 50 ohms
- **Conclusion**

0.95mm Pitch Initial Load Board Design for High Isolation Solution

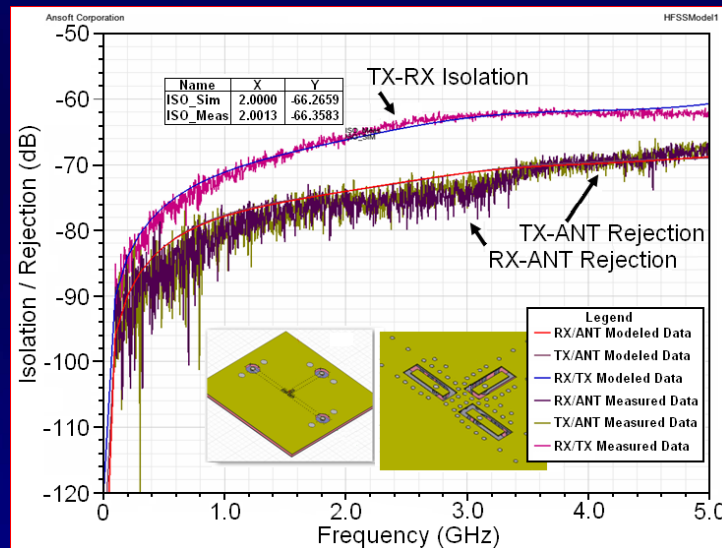


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Isolation and Rejection of Only PCB with Improved Layout

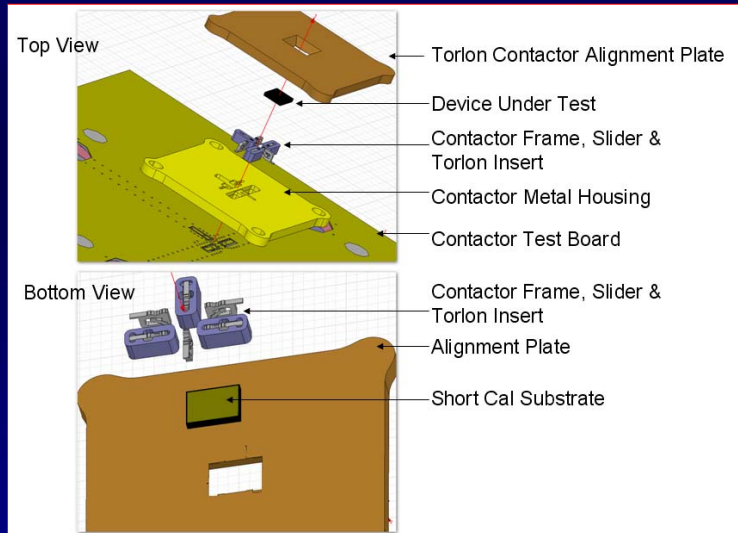


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Intermediate YieldPro Contactor Construction

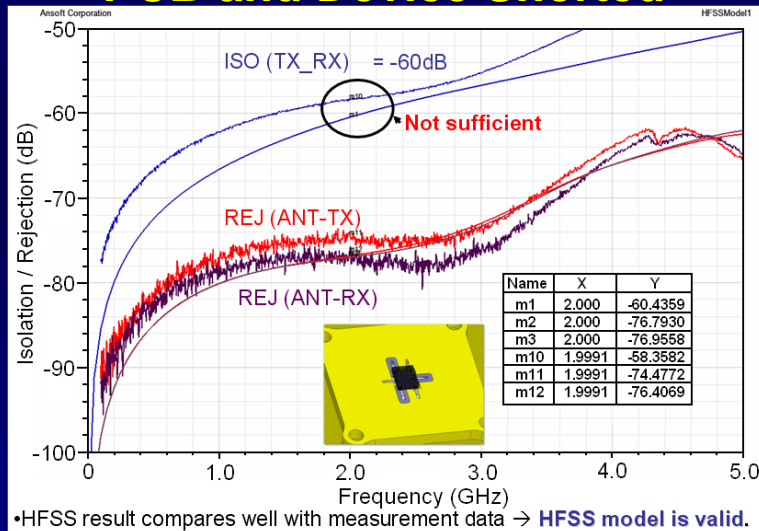


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0.95mm Pitch Design with Contactor, PCB and Device Shorted



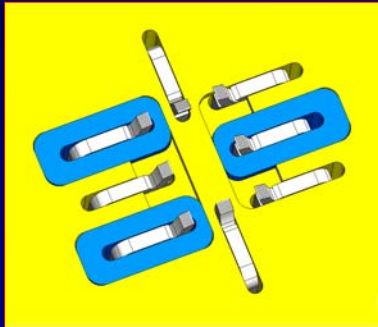
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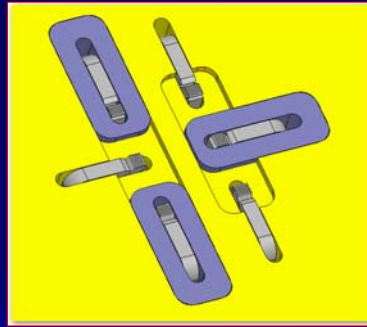
6

0.95mm Pitch Contactor Design RF Isolation Improvement

Old design on bottom had Contacts making connection parallel to each other with Contact hitting ground pad between pads on left side.



New design has Contacts perpendicular to Antenna connection and metal housing material with ground pin between Transmitter and Receiver connection.

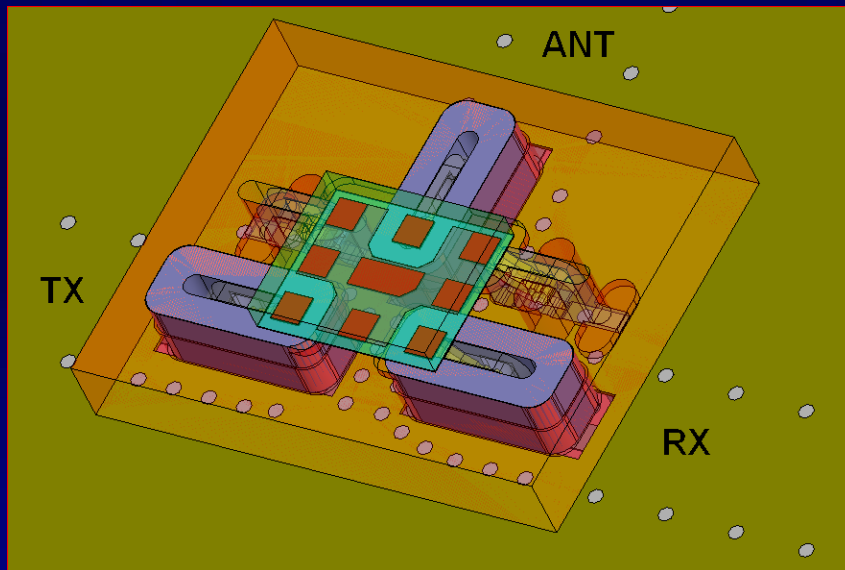


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0.95mm Pitch Optimize Isolation Design



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Accuracy and Design Margin Effects on Test Time

- Times are using a 40 GHz Agilent Network Analyzer set up to measure 201 points from 0 to 5 GHz. Digital BW Analyzers are faster

Network Analyzer Settings

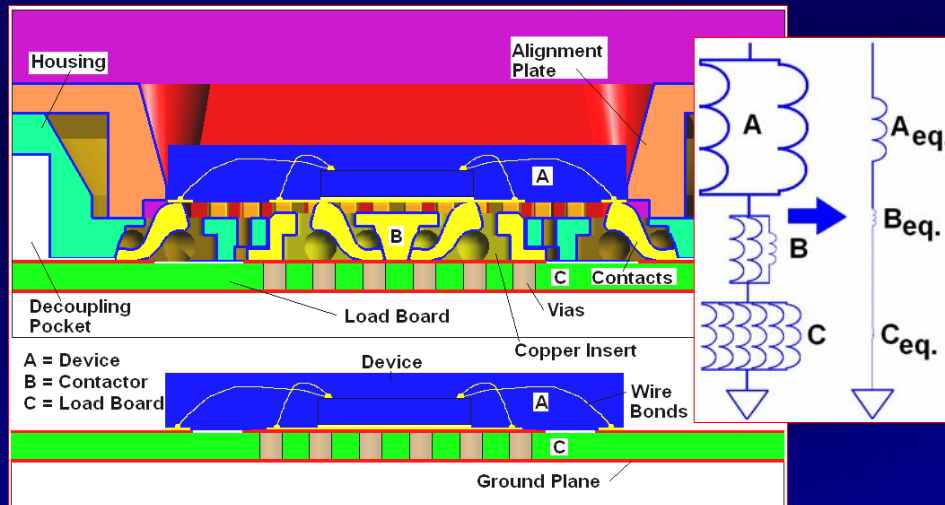
IF BW	Test Time	Max. Noise
3000 Hz	100 ms	Reference
1000 Hz	225 ms	-4.78 dB
300 Hz	676 ms	-6.38 dB
100 Hz	1.976 s	-12.36 dB
30 Hz	6.526 s	-15.87 dB
10 Hz	20.826 s	-19.61 dB

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Ground Inductance Paths

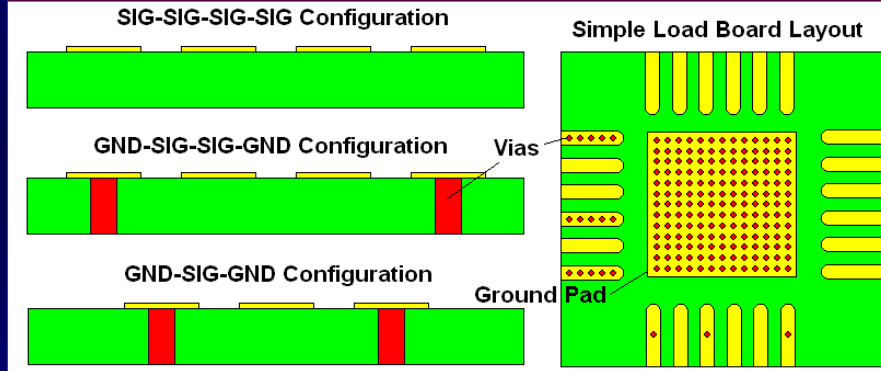


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Typical Load Board Layout and Via Structure



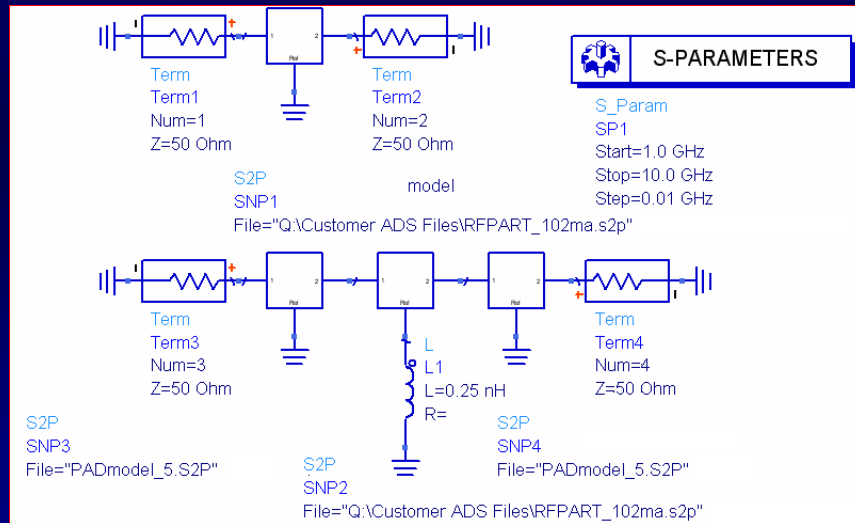
- The closer ground signals get to the traces, the lower the characteristic impedance
- The more vias to ground plane the lower the inductance to ground
- Keep solder mask and other material away from Contactor footprint

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Ground in ADS Model for Determining Effects of Amplifier-to-Ground Inductance Paths

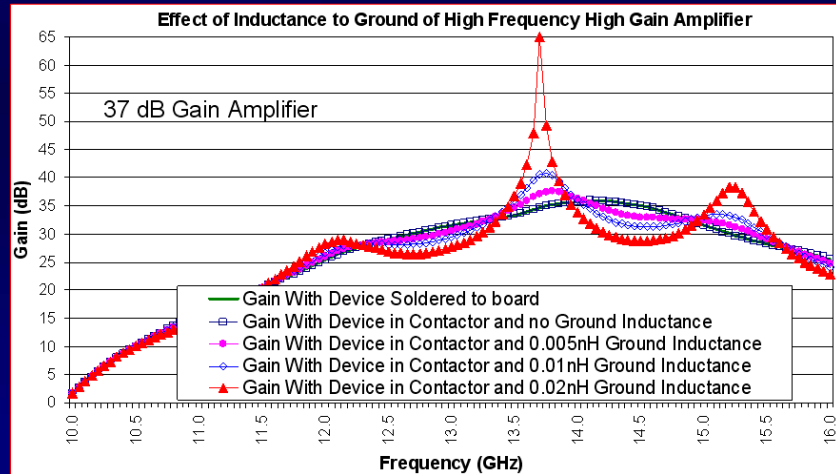


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Effects of Insufficient Inductance to Ground for High Gain Amplifier

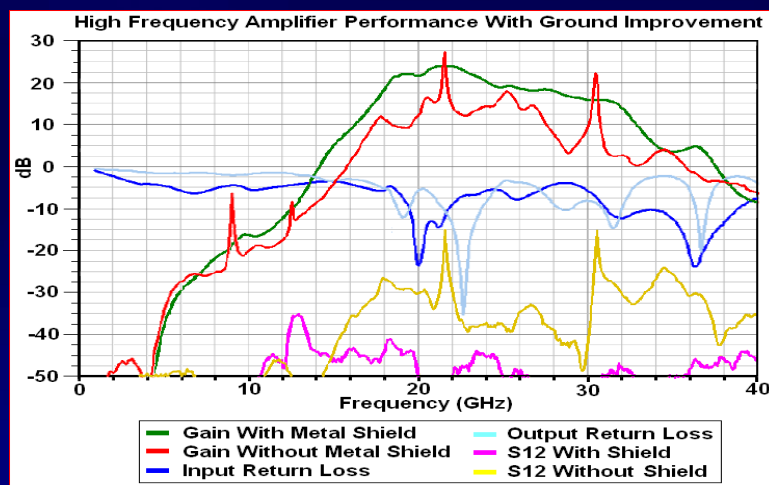


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Effects of Insufficient Inductance to Ground for High Frequency Amplifier

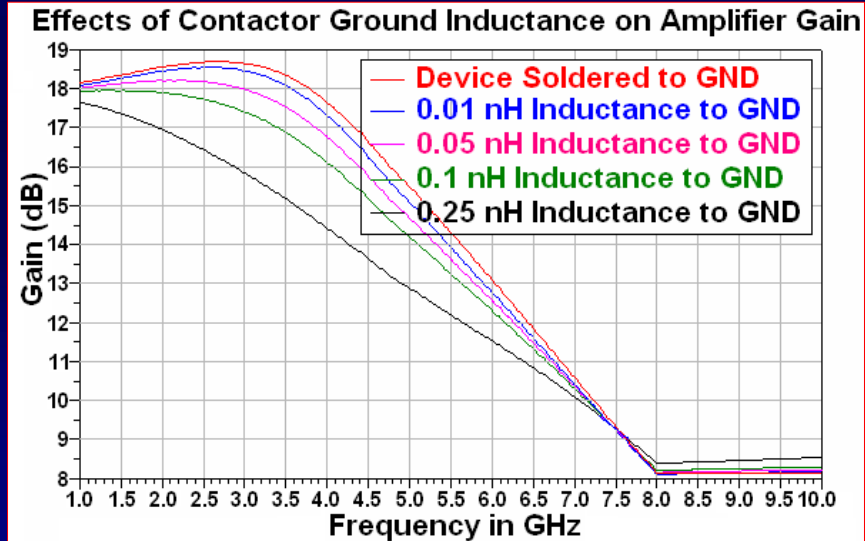


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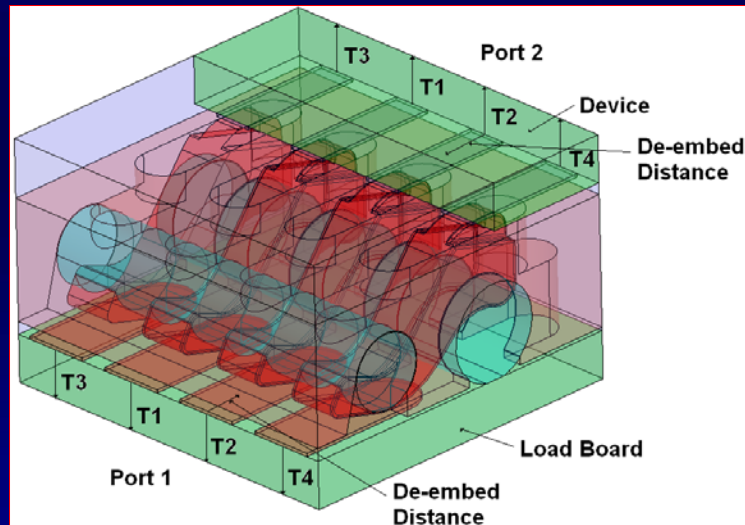
14

Effects of Ground Inductance for Sensitive Higher Frequency Amplifier



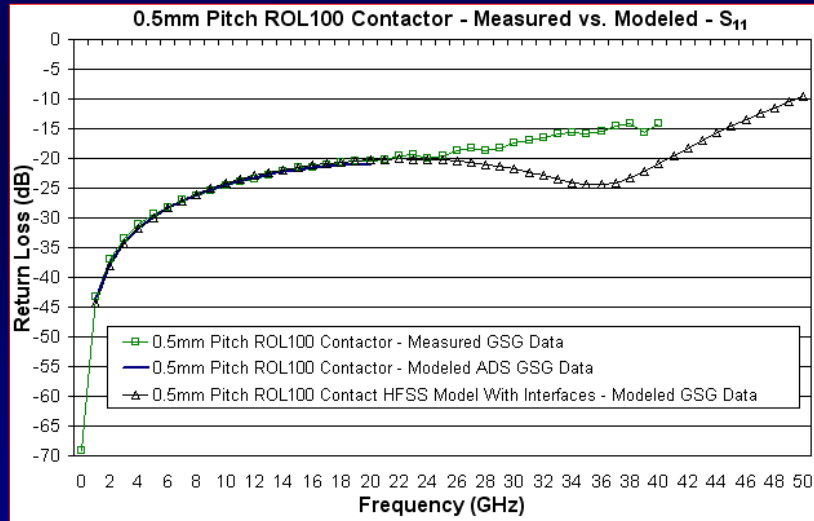
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0.5mm Pitch PROL100 HFSS Model – Isometric View



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0.5mm Pitch PROL100 Contactor Measured vs. Modeled – S_{11}

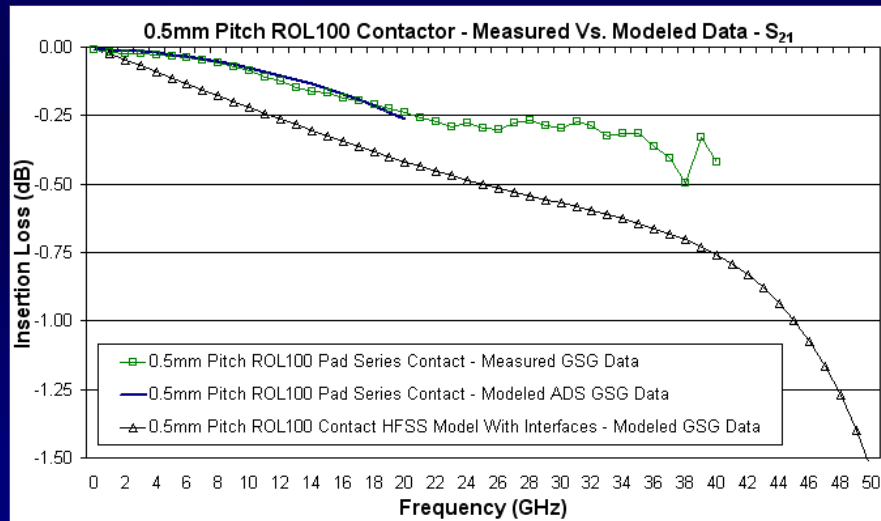


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0.5mm Pitch PROL100 Contactor Measured vs. Modeled – S_{21}

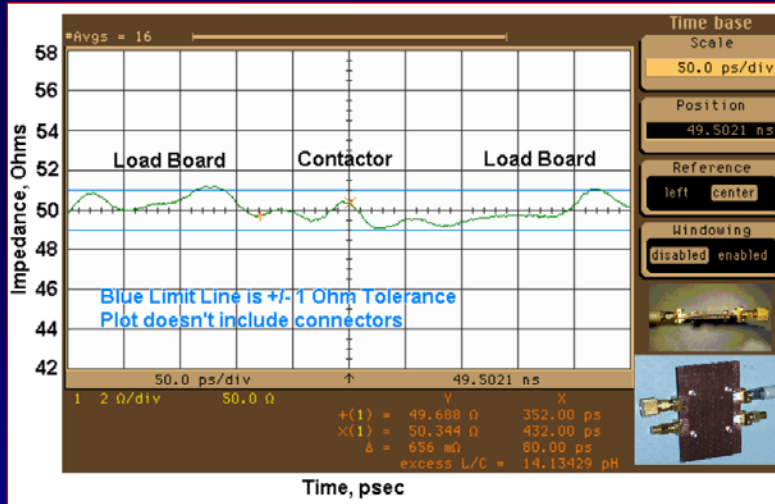


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TDR Measurement of 0.5mm Pitch PROL100 Contactor System

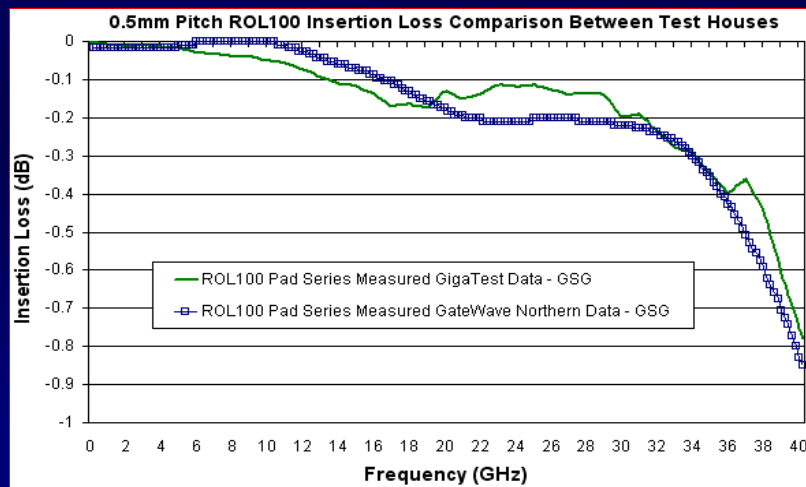


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0.5mm Pitch PROL100 Measured Comparison Data - S_{21}



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Load Board Layout Tricks

- Anytime a housing rests directly on the load board traces it will drop the impedance of the trace.
- Reducing the distance of parallel traces improves the crosstalk of the system – this includes the contacts.
- The closer traces get to device and each other, their characteristic impedance drops.
- Via fences or walls can drastically improve isolation between signal traces – they really work!
- The farther away device ground is from load board ground plane, the larger the degradation in data.

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General Conclusions

- When the model matches what was built, results are very close to measured data.
- Modeling sections of design separately identify the weakest link.
- How close the measured data matches modeled data depends on setup.
- Matching the contactor and system to 50 ohms improves isolation.
- Load board can be optimized to provide very high Isolation between signal lines.
- Configuration of Contactor has a big effect on system performance.

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Improving Your Test System Performance in High Frequency Applications

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Wafer-Level Burn-In of Hall-Effect Sensors

Steve Steps, Aehr Test Systems
Jochen Seidler, Micronas GmbH



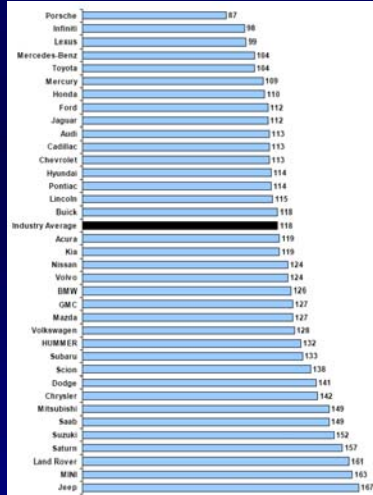
2009 BITS Workshop
March 8 - 11, 2009



Content

- Automotive Challenges
- Why Hall-Effect Sensors
- Motivation for WLBI
- WLBI Challenges & Solutions
- Conclusions

Initial Quality Study



Source: J.D. Power IQS 2008

- ◆ Initial Quality Study (IQS) looks at owner-reported problems in the first 90 days of new-vehicle ownership, this score is based on problems that have caused a complete breakdown or malfunction, or where controls or features may work as designed, but are difficult to use or understand.
- ◆ Quality improvement is a sign to listen to the voice of customer
- ◆ Car makers focus on improving quality. 2008 the number of reported problem decreased by 6% compared to 2007

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Wafer-Level Burn-In of Hall-Effect Sensors

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Automotive Environment

- Temperature extremes
 - Closed car in summer sunshine
 - Empty car at night in Northern climates
- Vibration
- Abrasive dirt & dust
- Solvents (oil, gasoline, etc.)
- High humidity, Moisture

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Wafer-Level Burn-In of Hall-Effect Sensors

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Hall-Effect Sensors

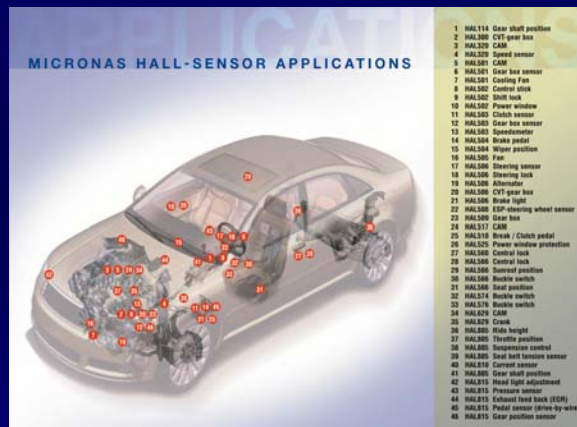
- Provide sensing of
 - Contact (like a switch)
 - Position (like a potentiometer)
- Sealed
- No abrasive wear
- Simple, highly reliable

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Wafer-Level Burn-In of Hall-Effect Sensors

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Hall-Effect Sensor Applications



- Hall-Sensors used in dozens of switch and position applications
- **Critical:** brake switch, speedometer, cooling fan, etc.
- **Convenience:** ride height, suspension control, seat position, etc.

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Wafer-Level Burn-In of Hall-Effect Sensors

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WLBI Motivation

Micronas zero ppm program

- Targets:
 - No failures on customer side
 - Satisfy automotive quality requirements
 - Improve continuously
 - Products
 - Production
 - Personnel
 - Processes



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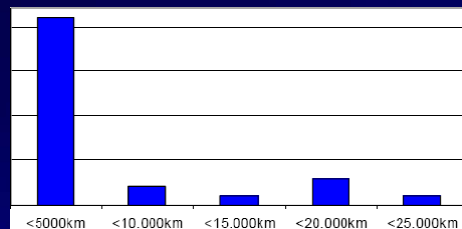
7

WLBI Motivation

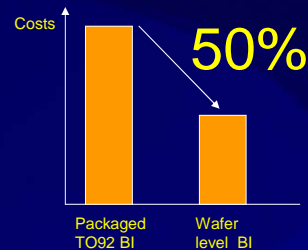
Eliminate early failures ...

to improve initial quality ...

75% of failures occur before 5000km



by burn in on wafer level



Minimize burn in costs...

to achieve industry best cost level...

by burn in on wafer level

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Wafer-Level Burn-In of Hall-Effect Sensors

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WLBI

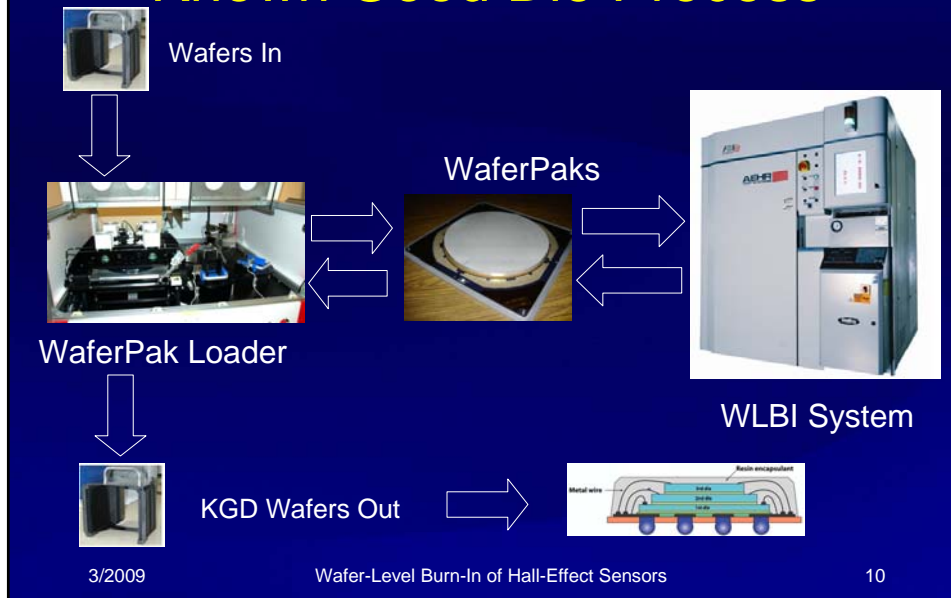
- Burn-In to reduce infant mortality
- WLBI versus packaged part burn-in
 - Wafer versus packaged part handling
 - Burn-in before packaging
 - Shortened BI time by higher temperature
 - Failure traceability to wafer and die
 - Known Good Die applications
 - Smaller combined package size
 - Stacked, unserviceable packages

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Known Good Die Process

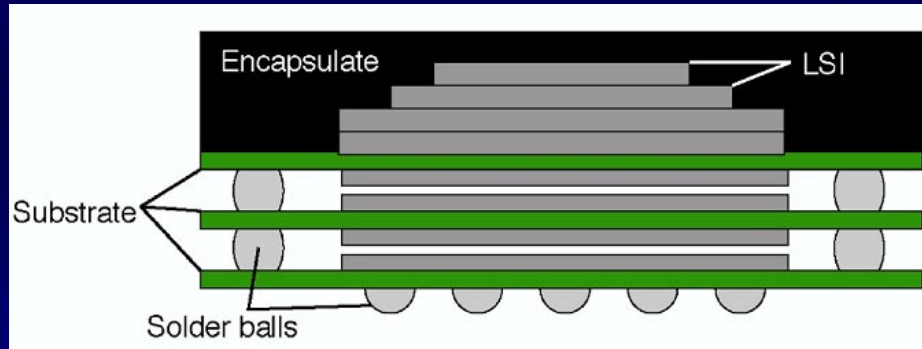


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Stacked Die



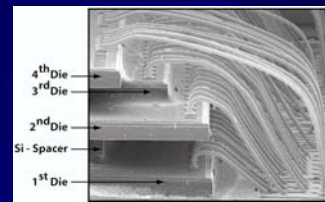
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Cost of Failure

- Module failure rate \sim (die count)
- Module cost \sim (die count)
- Failure cost =
(Module failure rate) *
(Module cost)
- Failure cost \sim (die count)²



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Wafer-Level Burn-In of Hall-Effect Sensors

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Challenges of WLBI

- Tight thermal control
- Thermal expansion differences
- Full wafer, one-touchdown contact
 - Very high forces/flexing
 - Not one ideal contact technology
- Functionally test entire wafer during burn-in
- Can it really be done?

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Wafer-Level Burn-In of Hall-Effect Sensors

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Room Temperature Chamber

- Allows simpler, lighter, less expensive WaferPak
- Liquid heat exchanger more compatible with clean room environment than oven blower
 - Less particles
 - More efficient use of clean room air
 - Non-toxic and environmentally-friendly liquid
- Can handle higher-power wafers
- Simpler, more reliable thermal control
 - Very stable chuck and wafer temperature

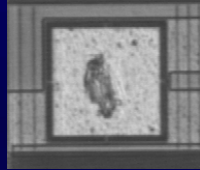


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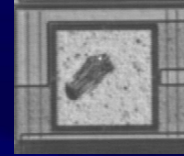
Wafer-Level Burn-In of Hall-Effect Sensors

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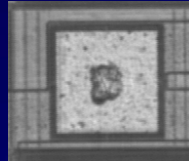
Probe Mark Thermal Expansion



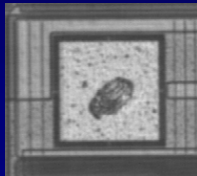
Upper Left Die



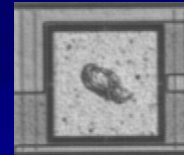
Upper Right Die



Center Die



Lower Left Die



Lower Right Die

100 micron pad
Room to 170C thermal cycle

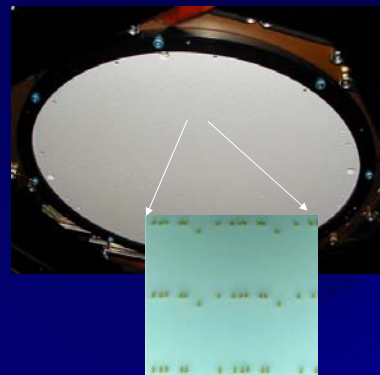
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Wafer-Level Burn-In of Hall-Effect Sensors

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Wafer Level Burn-In and Test

- Key Attribute: Full Wafer Contact
- Simultaneously burn-in and test
 - All of the die
 - All at once



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Wafer-Level Burn-In of Hall-Effect Sensors

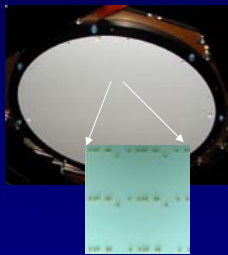
16

Contact Technology

Multiple Full Wafer Contact alternatives
- best match varies by application

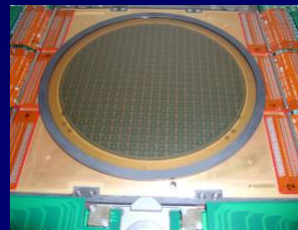
Micro Pin

High contact life
Best for test



Membrane

Lower cost
Best for burn-in

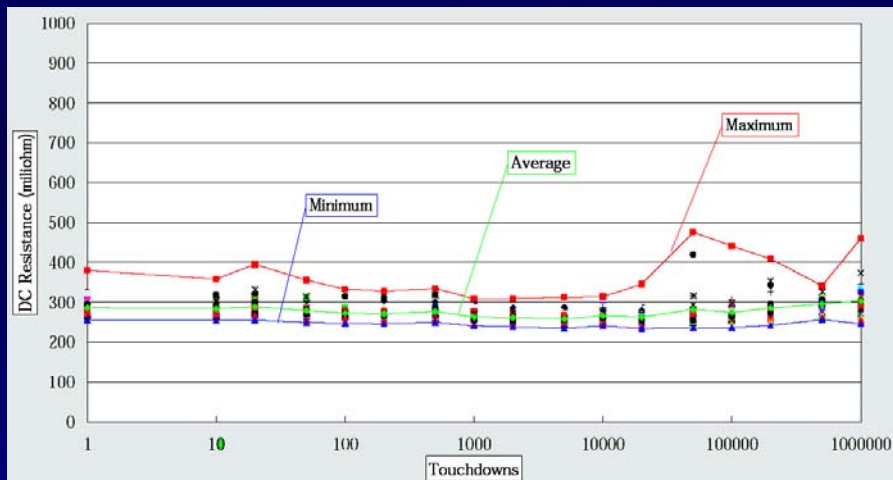


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One Million Touchdowns



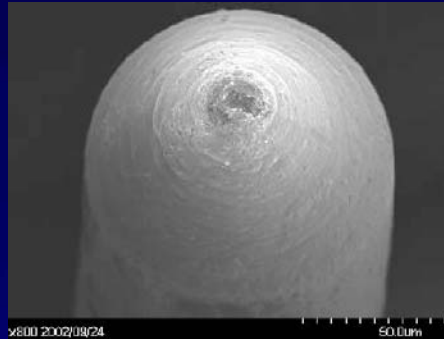
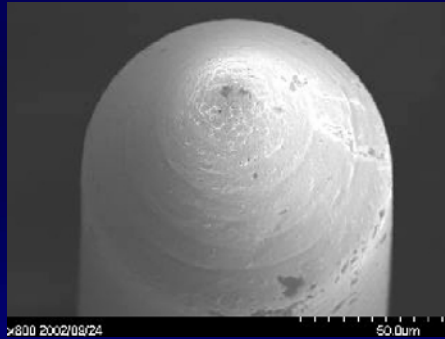
Source: Full Wafer Contact Reliability and Repeatability, Steps/Lindsey, SWTW 2003

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Micro Spring Before and After



Pin Tip before and

after 1 million touchdowns

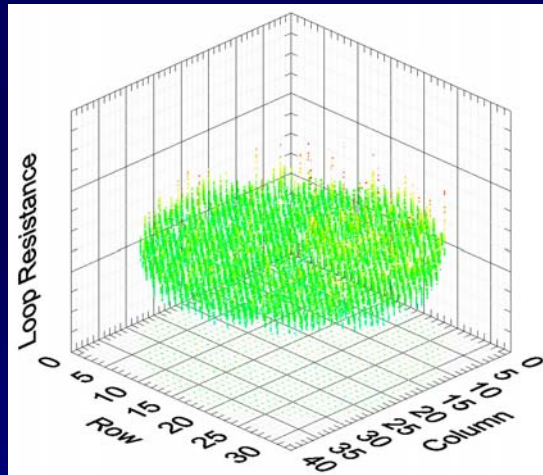
Source: Full Wafer Contact Reliability and Repeatability, Steps/Lindsey, SWTW 2003

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Full Wafer Contact Uniformity



Source: Full Wafer Contact Reliability and Repeatability, Steps/Lindsey, SWTW 2003

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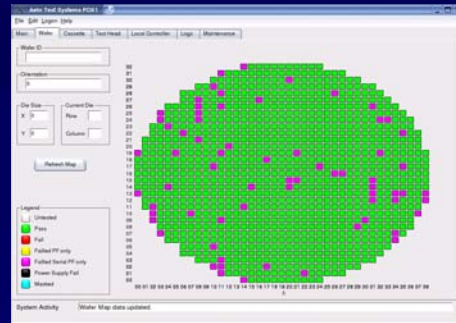
Wafer-Level Burn-In of Hall-Effect Sensors

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Test During Burn-In

High Correlation (Typically > 99%) of:

- WLBT
- Normal prober approach



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Wafer-Level Burn-In of Hall-Effect Sensors

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WLBI Production Systems

- Combine single touchdown, full wafer test with burn-in
- Wafer in/wafer out production flow
- Low volume WLBI can be done with 2 wafer system
- Full production can use 15 wafer system



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Wafer-Level Burn-In of Hall-Effect Sensors

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Conclusions

- Hall-Effect Sensors are critical to the reliability of modern automobiles
- Burn-in is critical to improve the reliability of Hall-Effect Sensors
- WLBI is the most cost-effective burn-in methodology for Hall-Effect Sensors