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Archive



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## Solution for mmWave wafer probe applications and field results

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**Cohu, Inc.**

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**ST Microelectronics**



## Overview

- Introduction / Background – cmWave and mmWave Market/applications and xWave
- Objectives / Goals – Move from package test to wafer test
- Methods / Materials / Procedures – design considerations, mechanical simulation, electrical simulation, characterization
- Results / Relevant Findings / Key Data – tip design, force, insertion loss, impedance
- Customer Results/Feedback – Initial DC and RF test results
- Summary / Conclusion - viable cmWave and mmWave wafer level test solution
- Follow-On Work – Beta sites



Solution for mmWave wafer probe applications and field results

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## mmWave Market

- ADAS
  - Advanced Driver Assistance System (Automotive Radar)
  - Short Range 24GHz and Short and Long Range 80GHz versions
  - CMOS – Low cost, High integration, catching up with SiGe
  - SiGe – High power/frequency performance ,High cost ,Low integration
  - GaN – Highest frequency performance, high cost, low integration, being obsoleted by SiGe
- 5G telecom
  - 5G Backhaul – routers behind the tower
  - 5G End Node – Handheld phones/tablets/devices
  - Contacted test – external antenna arrays
  - AIP – Antenna In Package – Over the air test
  - 28GHz and 39GHz bands popular
  - Eband/Vband expected as next generation



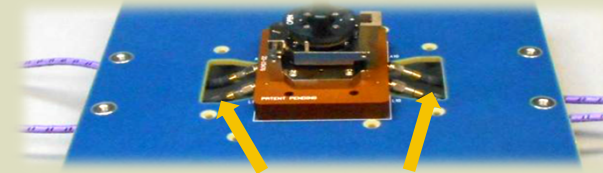
## mmWave Market

- UltraGig/WiGig
  - Fixed Wireless applications
  - Local area networks
  - Short range line of sight
  - beamforming
  - 57-64 GHz extended to 71 GHz
- Satellite Internet
  - Low orbit satellite internet systems
  - Global aircraft high speed internet connection
  - Terrestrial and orbiting devices
  - Ku (12-18 GHz) and Ka (26.5-40 GHz) bands
- High Speed Cloud Networks
  - SERDES - 54GBPS NRZ, 112GBPS PAM4
  - 3rd Harmonics reach 80GHz
  - RF theory applies to Digital applications

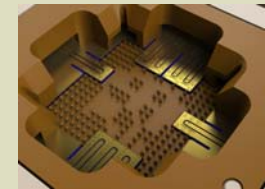


## xWave Platform for mmWave Package Test

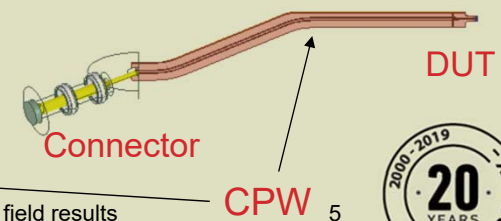
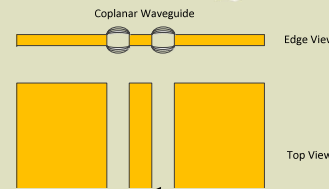
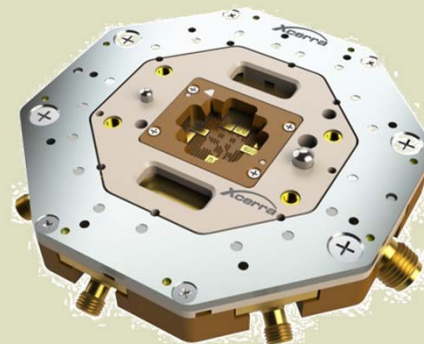
- Signal Integrity
  - Short impedance controlled coplanar waveguide (CPW)
  - 1 transition between Tester and DUT (connector to Leadframe)
  - DUT ball contacts CPW
- Integrated Solution (PCB/Contactor in One)
  - Includes RF Path from Tester to DUT
  - Pogo pins for Power and control signals
- Production Package Test Solution
  - Robust Leadframe lasts Millions of cycles
  - Mechanical assembly fully field maintainable
  - Includes calibration kit (s-parameters)
  - CTE matched materials for Tri Temp testing (-55 to 155°C)



Holes in PCB for cable connections



DUT Pocket

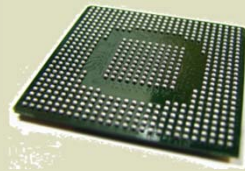


Solution for mmWave wafer probe applications and field results

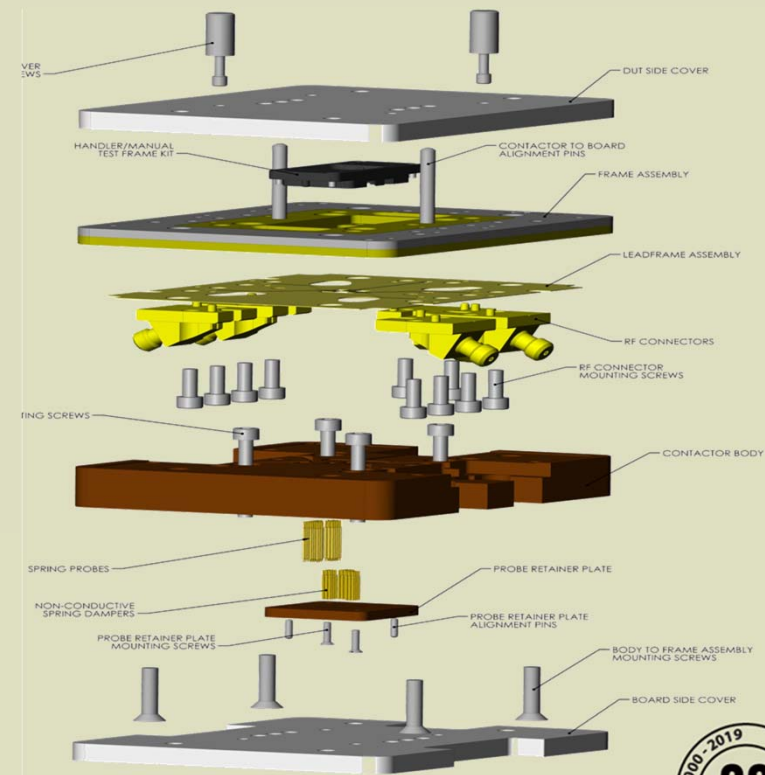


## xWave Limitations for Wafer Test

- Frame limits xWave solution to Package test
  - Leadframe sandwiched between top frame and connectors
  - Top frame violates wafer infinite plane
  - Flat leadframe shorts adjacent sites



How to make xWave compatible with Wafer Test?



Solution for mmWave wafer probe applications and field results

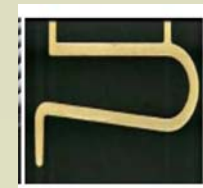
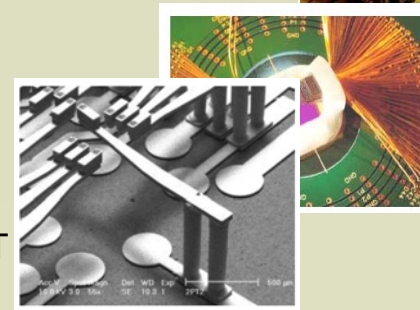
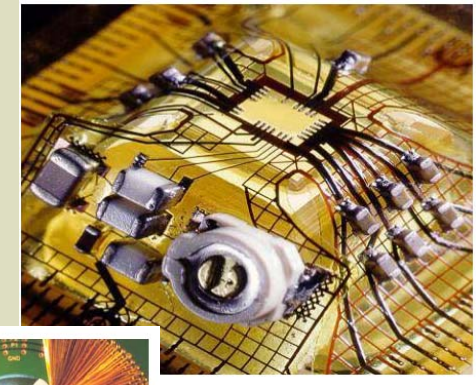
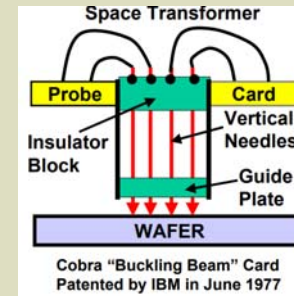
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## Current RF Probe Limitations

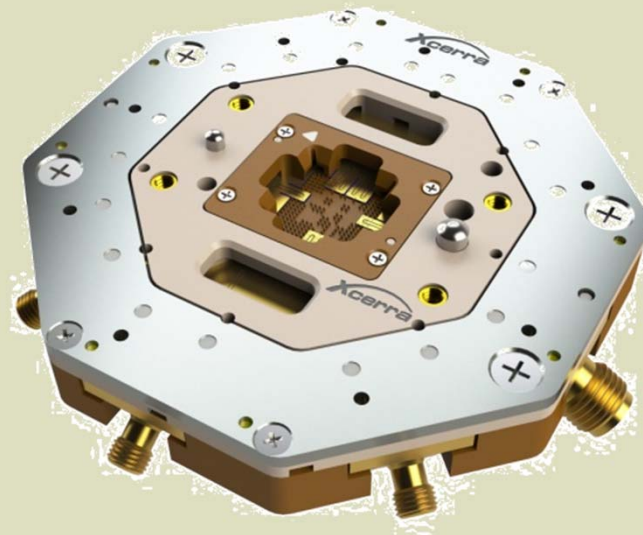
- Cantilever
  - No impedance control
  - Extremely High inductance
  - Limited to <2GHz
  - Decoupling components far from DUT
- Vertical Probe
  - Shorter uncontrolled impedance path
  - Lower inductance than cantilever
  - Limited to <6GHz
  - Decoupling components ~1-2cm from DUT
  - Individually replaceable probes
- Membrane
  - Impedance controlled to DUT
  - No additional inductance
  - Decoupling caps ~1-5mm from DUT
  - Limited compliance (~50um)
  - Fragile
  - Not field replaceable



Images provided by William Mann Chair,  
Southwest Test Workshop

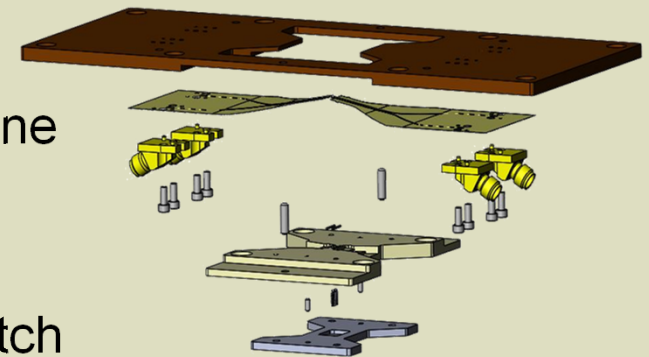
## WLCSP xWave Design Goals

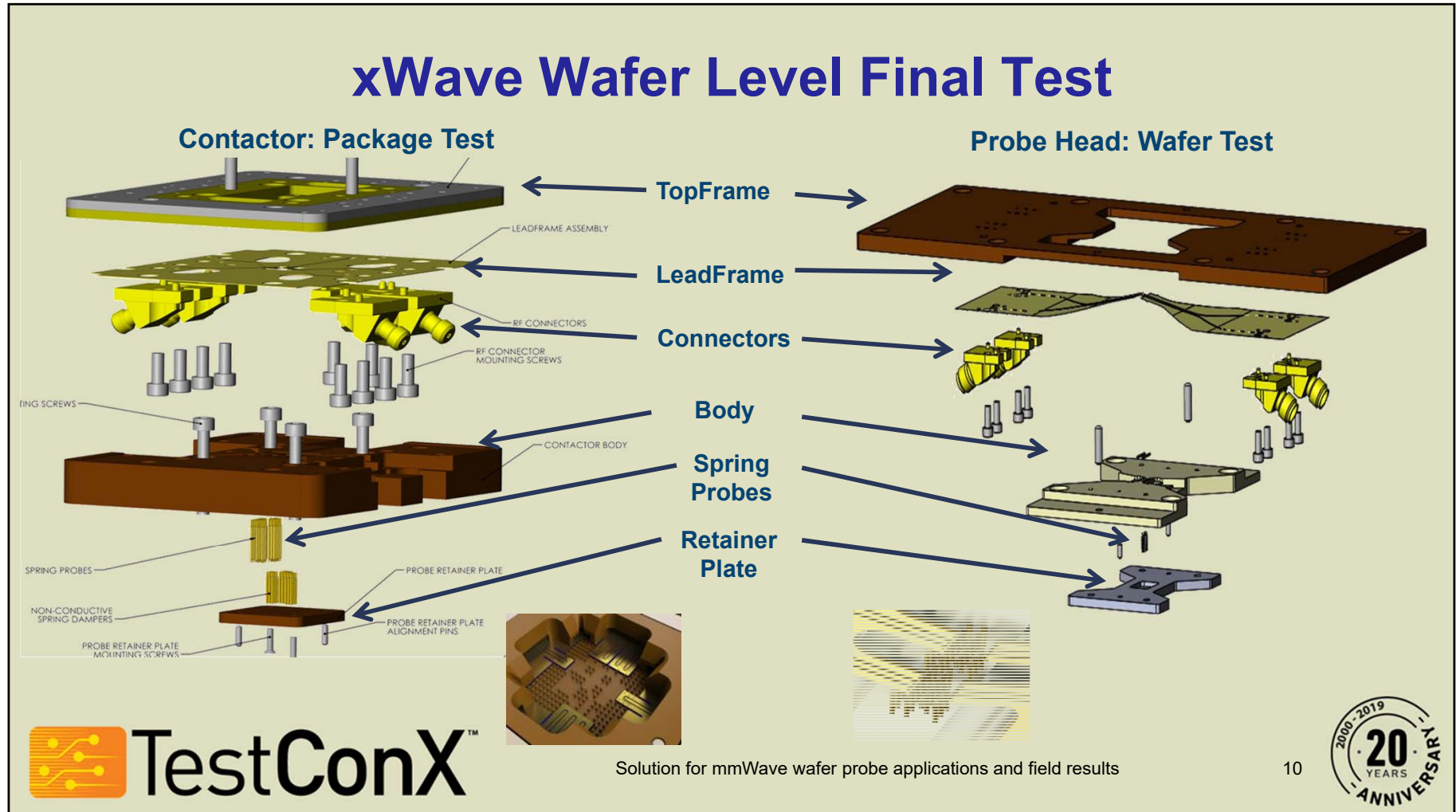
- Maintain as much as possible from package test xWave technology
  - mmWave Signal integrity
  - High compliance
  - Field maintainability
  - Robustness and longevity
  - Tri-Temp capability



## Objectives/Goals

- Move xWave Technology from package test to wafer probe
  - Move contact point of leadframe to infinite plane
  - Combine leadframe with fine pitch pogo technology
  - Reduce leadframe features to match bump pitch
  - Reduce leadframe force to limit contact marking on wafer bumps
  - Limit scrub to ensure no ball shear

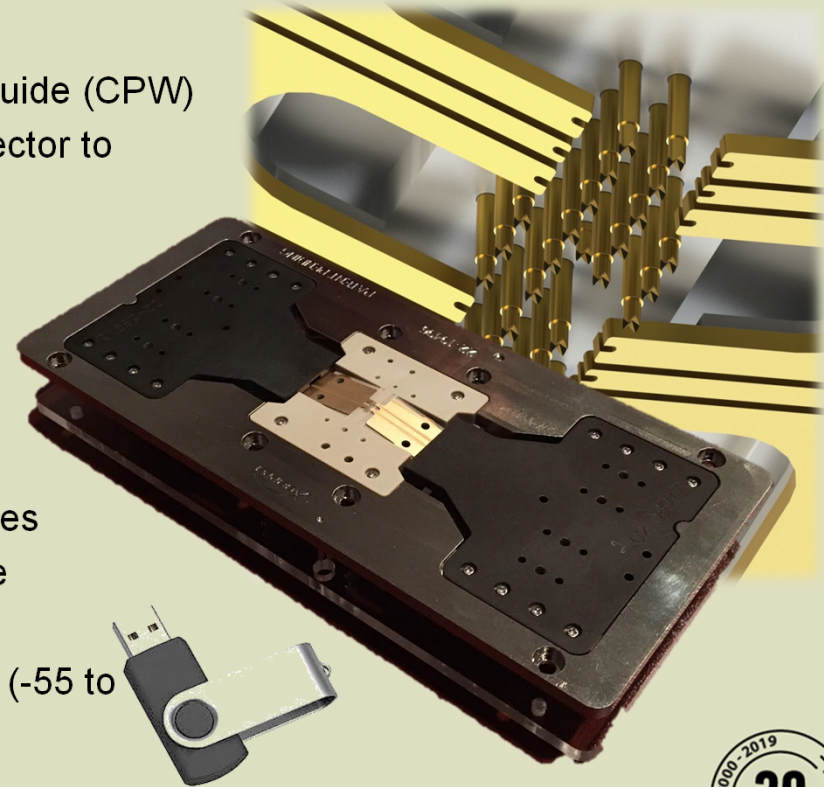






## xWave: Wafer Level Final Test

- Signal Integrity
  - Short impedance controlled coplanar waveguide (CPW)
  - 1 transition between Tester and DUT (connector to Leadframe)
  - DUT ball contacts CPW
- Integrated Solution (PCB/Contactor in One)
  - Includes entire RF Path from Tester to DUT
  - Pogo pins for Power and control signals
- Production Package Test Solution
  - Same robust leadframe lasts Millions of cycles
  - Mechanical assembly fully field maintainable
  - Includes calibration kit (s-parameters)
  - CTE matched materials for Tri Temp testing (-55 to 155°C)



Solution for mmWave wafer probe applications and field results

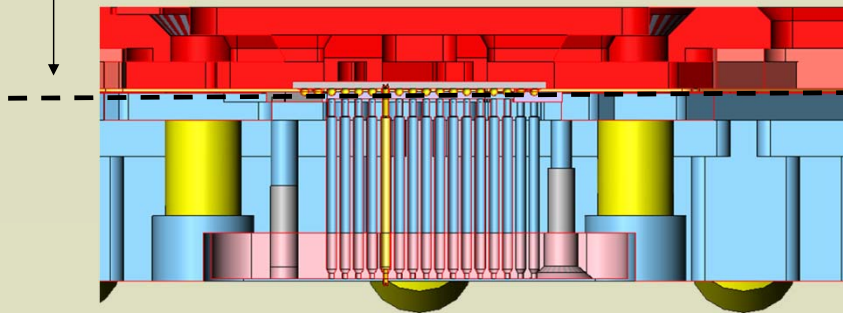
11



## Move contact plane to infinite plane

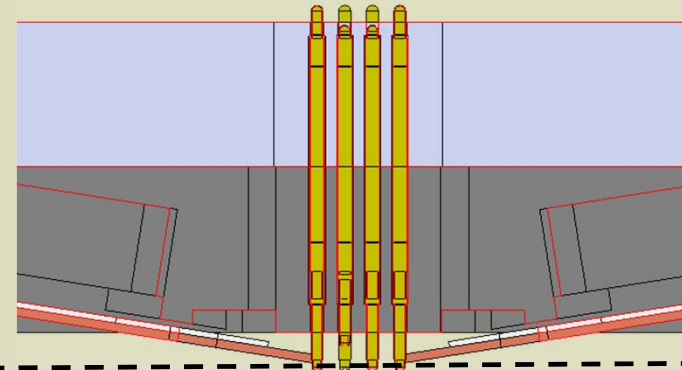
- From Flat leadframe in DUT pocket to Angled leadframe at infinite plane

DUT Seating Plane



xWave Contactor

xWave Probe Head



- From 0.5mm probe to 150um probe



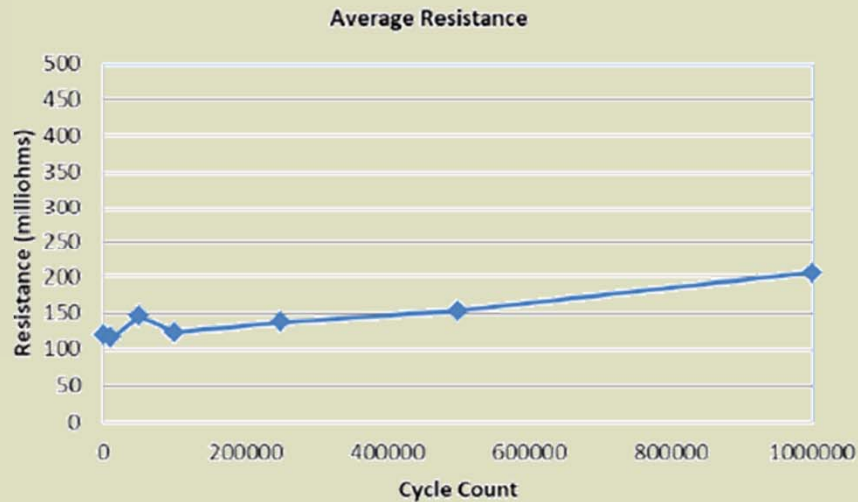
Solution for mmWave wafer probe applications and field results

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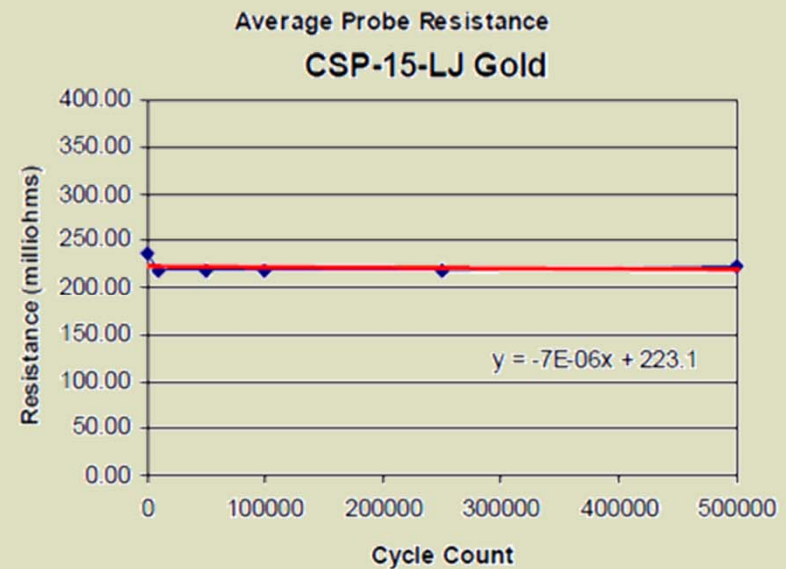


## Probe comparison

- xWave Contactor Probe



- xWave Wafer Probe

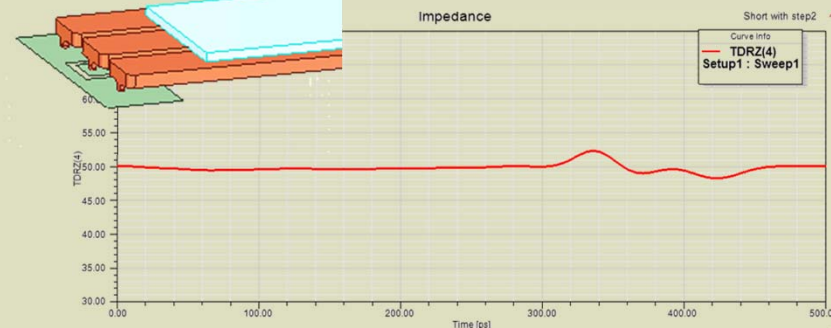
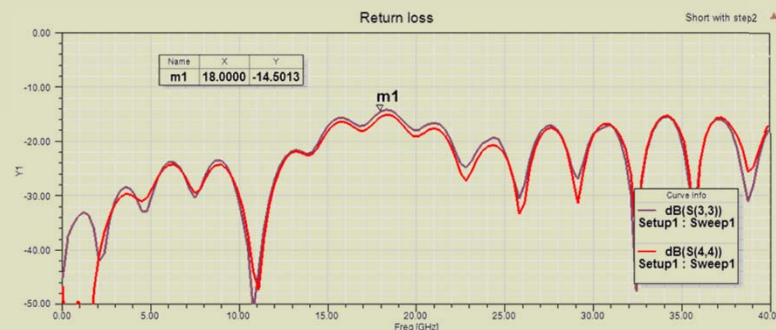
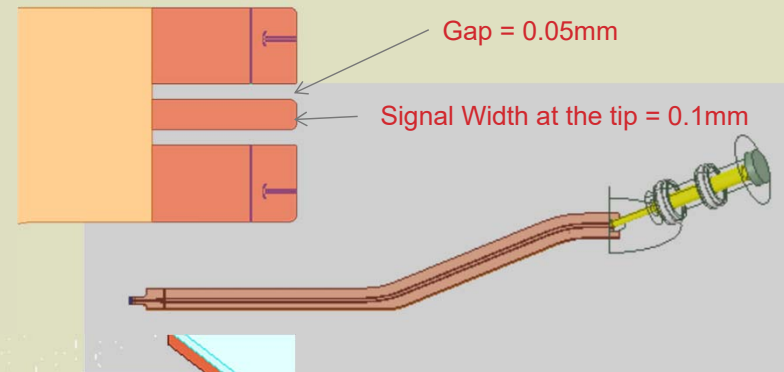
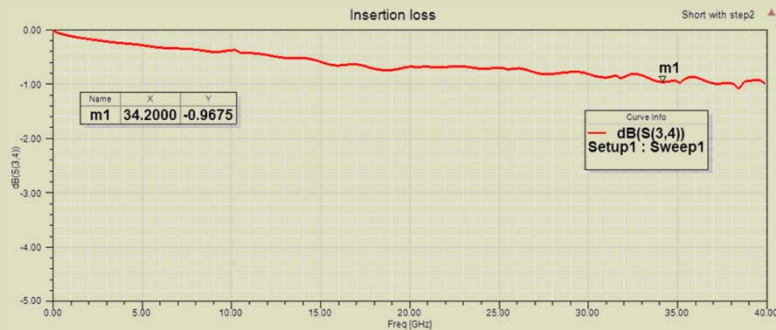


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## Electromagnetic Simulation



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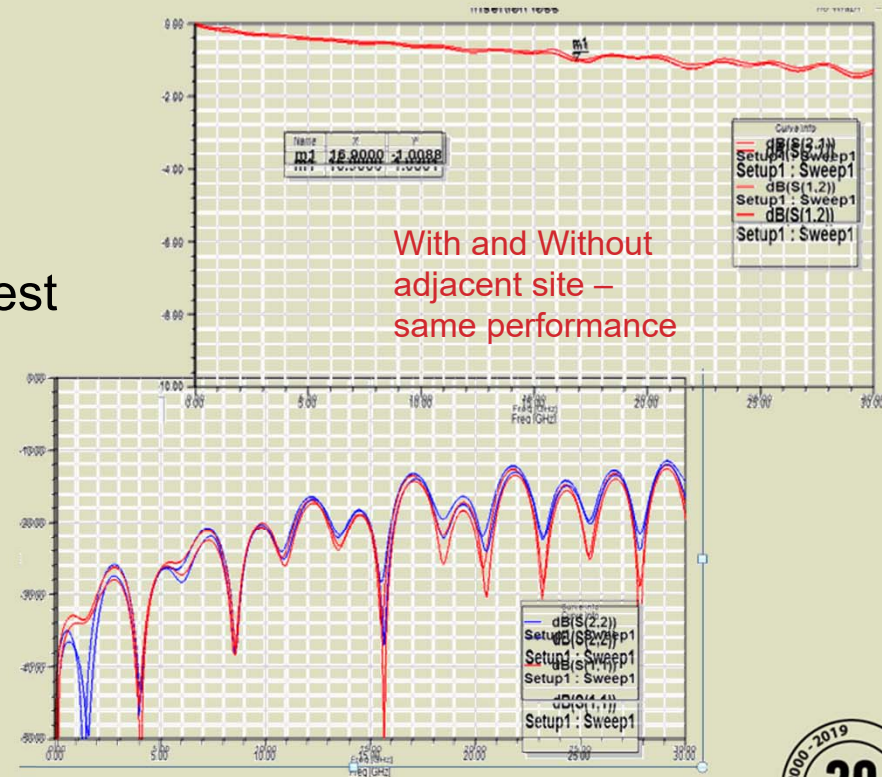
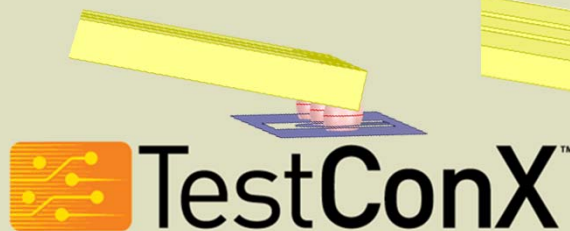


## WLCSP xWave Signal Integrity

- Impact of Adjacent site
  - 15deg angle at free height
  - 5deg angle at test height
  - Proximity of adjacent site to test site
  - Same performance with and without adjacent site

No adjacent site

with adjacent site



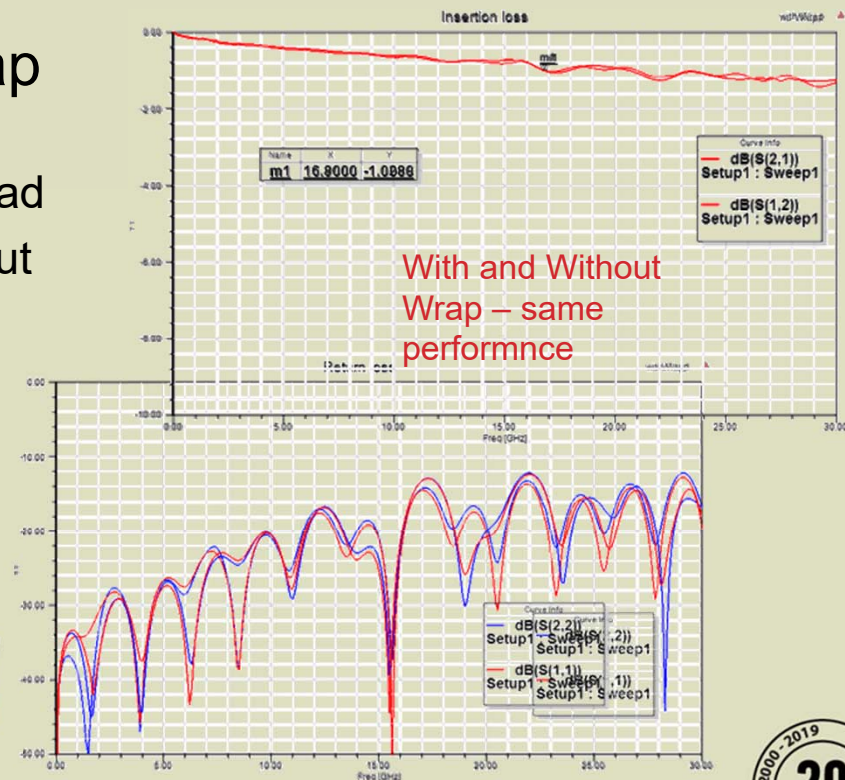
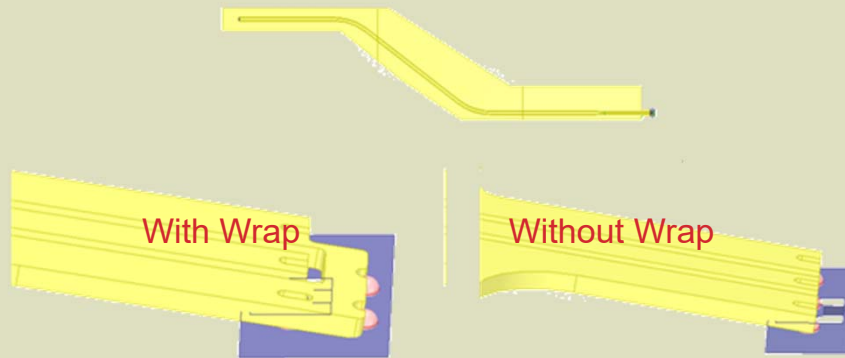
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## WLCSP xWave Signal Integrity

- Eliminated CPW ground wrap
  - Relies on DUT to maintain ground potential on either side of signal lead
  - Same performance with and without ground wrap

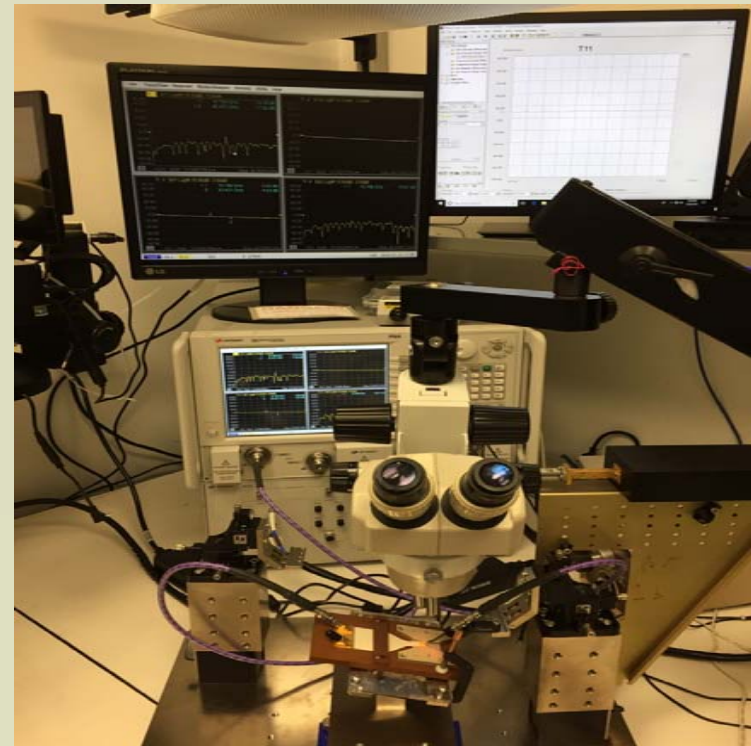
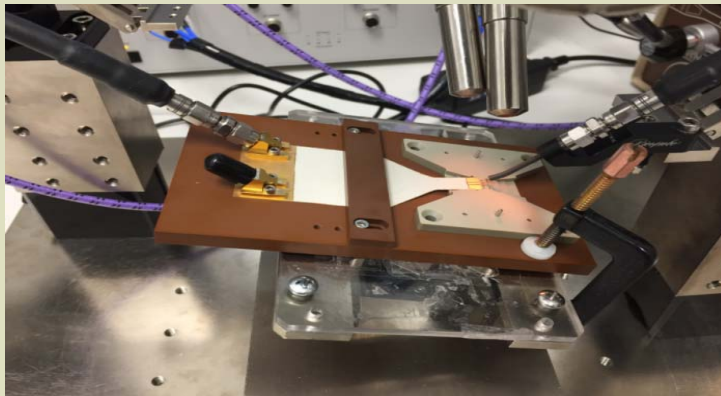
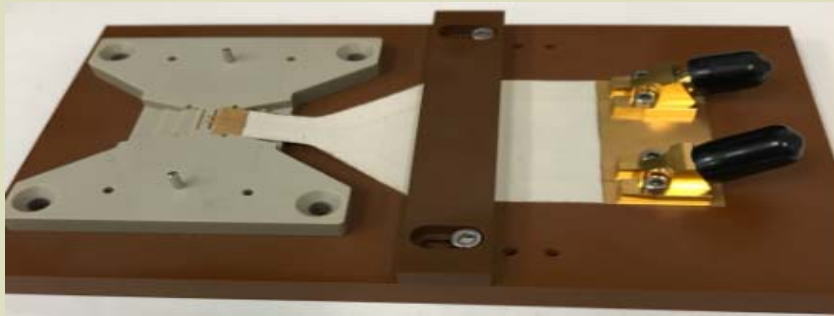


Solution for mmWave wafer probe applications and field results



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## xWave Dual Site Probe Card Prototype RF Lab Measurement



Solution for mmWave wafer probe applications and field results

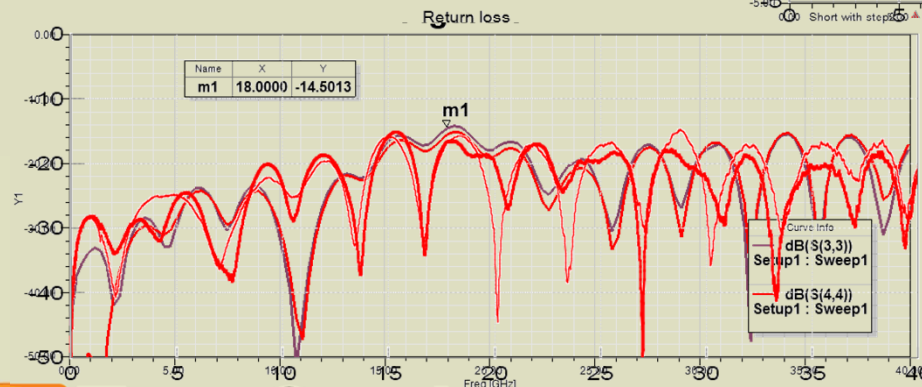
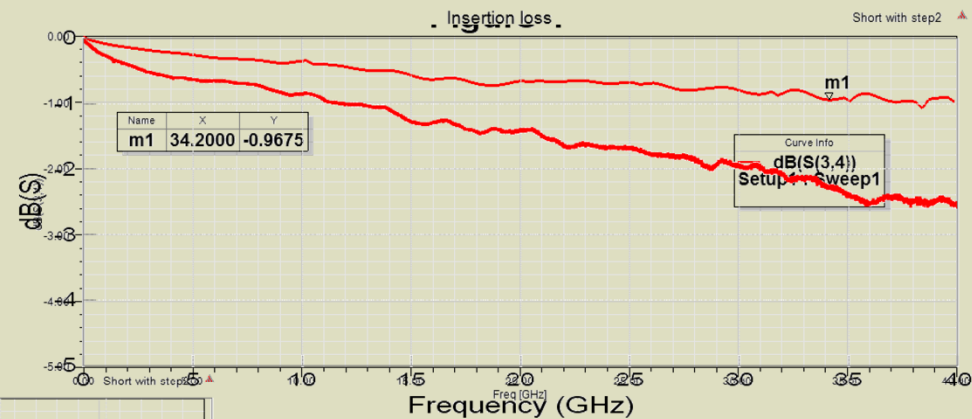
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## Simulation to Measurement Correlation

- Simulation and Measurement linear
- More insertion loss in measurement
  - Longer path length in measurement
- Return loss correlates and  $< -15\text{dB}$



Solution for mmWave wafer probe applications and field results

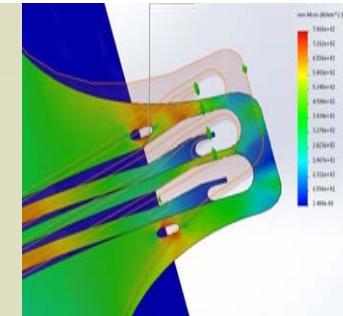
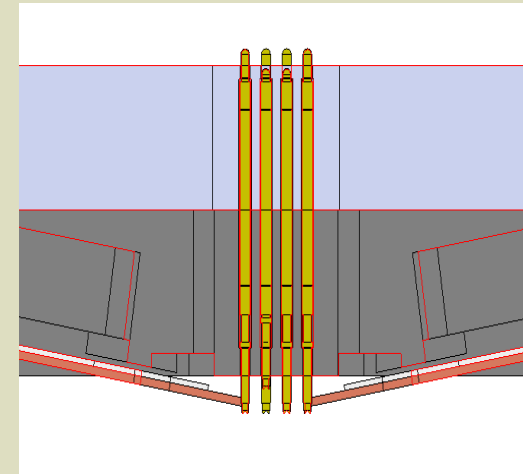
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## WLCSP xWave Mechanical Design

- Force
  - Leadframe – 8g @ 150um overtravel
  - 250um total leadframe compliance
  - Adjustable based on leadframe cross section and cantilever anchor point
  - Sufficient force without spring damper
- Thermal
  - Designed for Tri-Temp
  - Same materials as standard xWave
  - All materials are matched coefficient of thermal expansion (CTE)



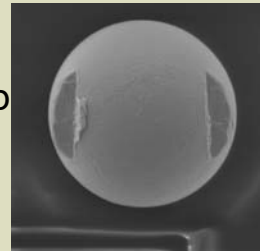
Solution for mmWave wafer probe applications and field results

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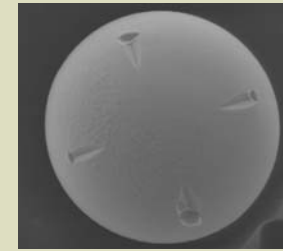


## WLCSP xWave Mechanical Design

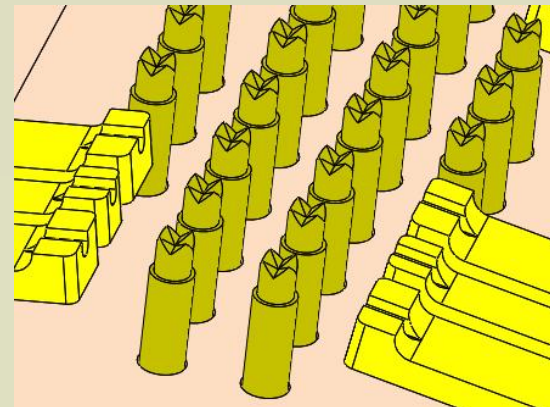
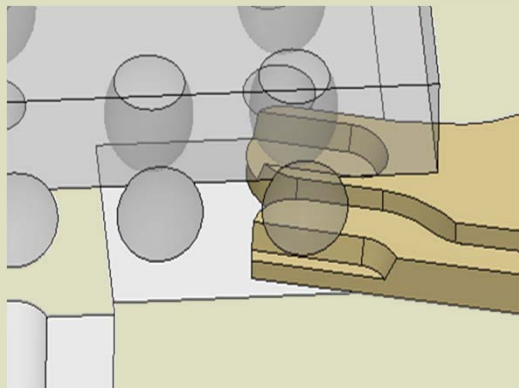
- BGA Contact feature
  - Leadframe - U shape edge contact to b
  - ~10um knife edge scrub
  - Pogo – 4 point crown
  - 250um compliance



Leadframe



probe



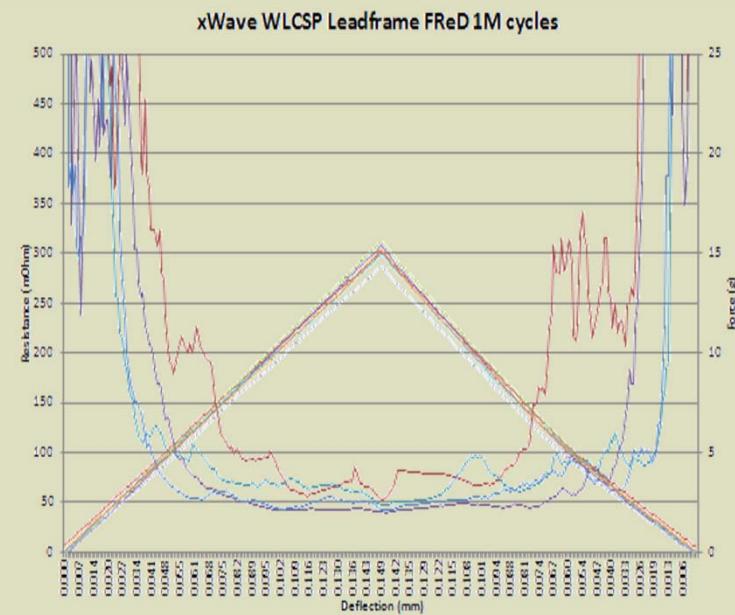
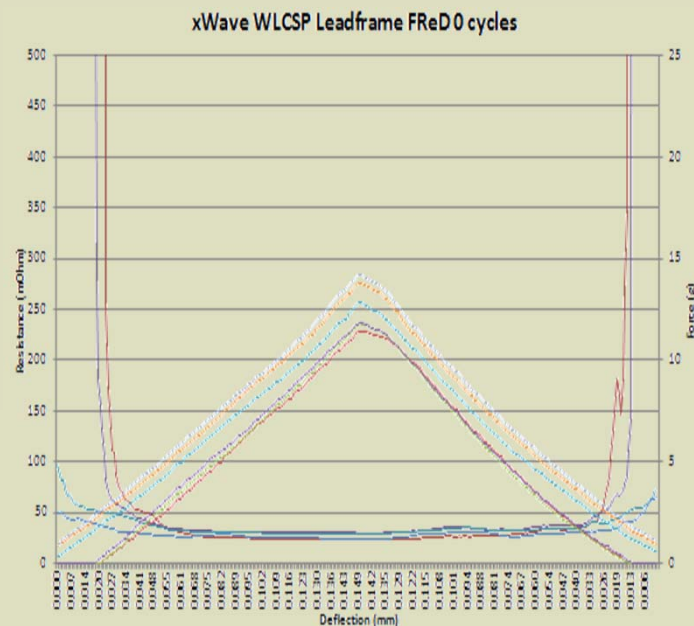
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## WLCSP xWave Life Cycle

- Stable low contact resistance through 1M cycles
- No force degradation over 1M cycles

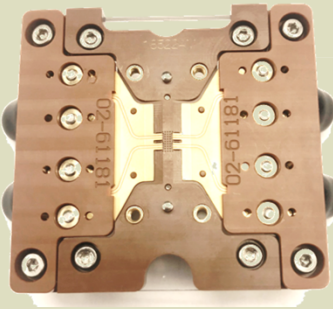


Solution for mmWave wafer probe applications and field results

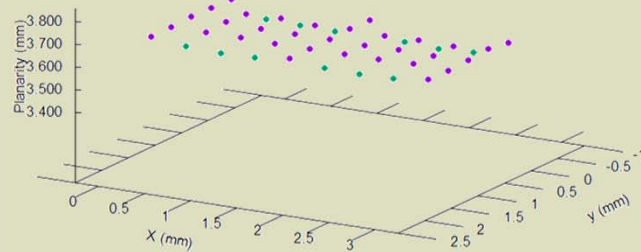
21



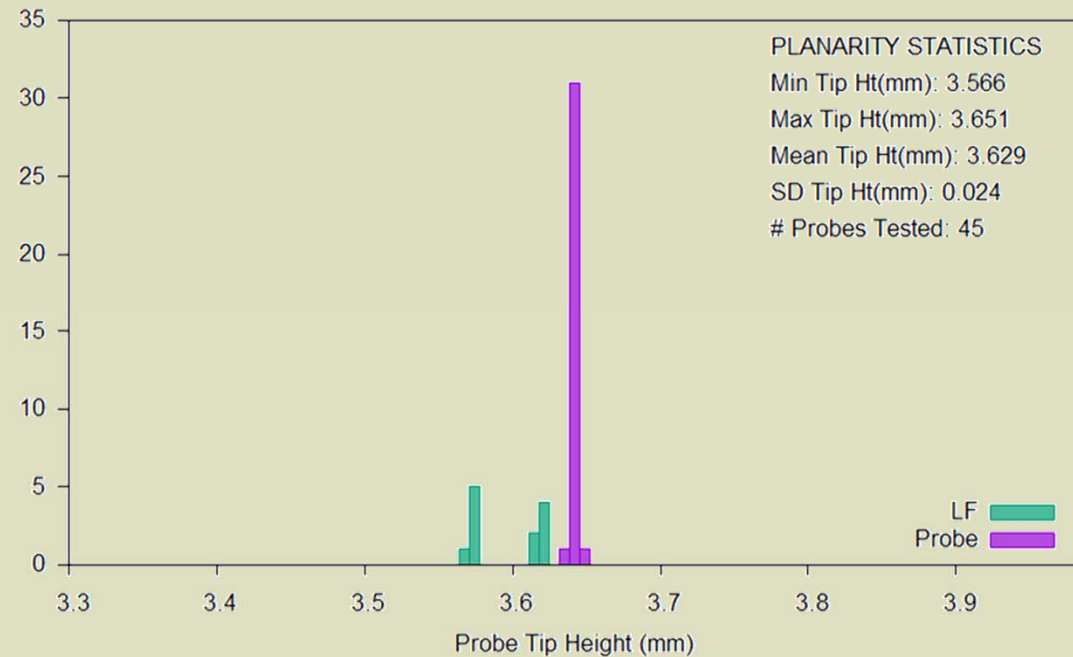
## Probe Head Planarity



22-20236 SN185573M Planarity (Full Skew)



Probe  
LF  
Frequency



Solution for mmWave wafer probe applications and field results

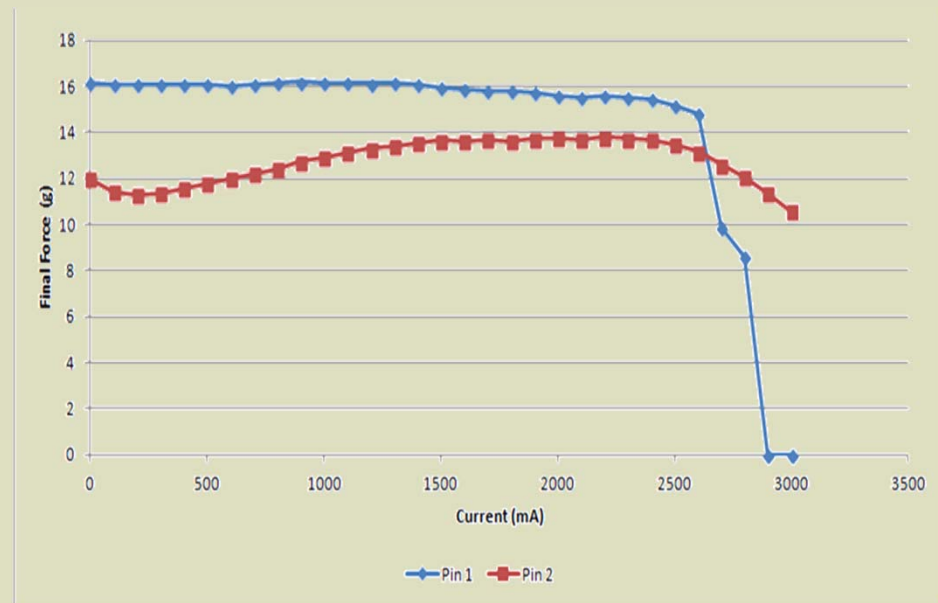
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## WLCSP xWave DC Performance

- Current Carrying Capacity
  - 2.6A based on ISMI method
  - Limited testing
  - Pressure applied to signal lead only
  - Expect higher current carrying capacity when deflecting grounds and signals



## Package Test and Wafer Test in One

- Same hardware can be used for both packaged test and wafer test
  - Manual Alignment Frame (MAF) attaches to Probe head to convert to final test
  - Manual Actuator (MA) attaches to MAF
  - Simple change over from Wafer to Packaged parts for QA or RMA's

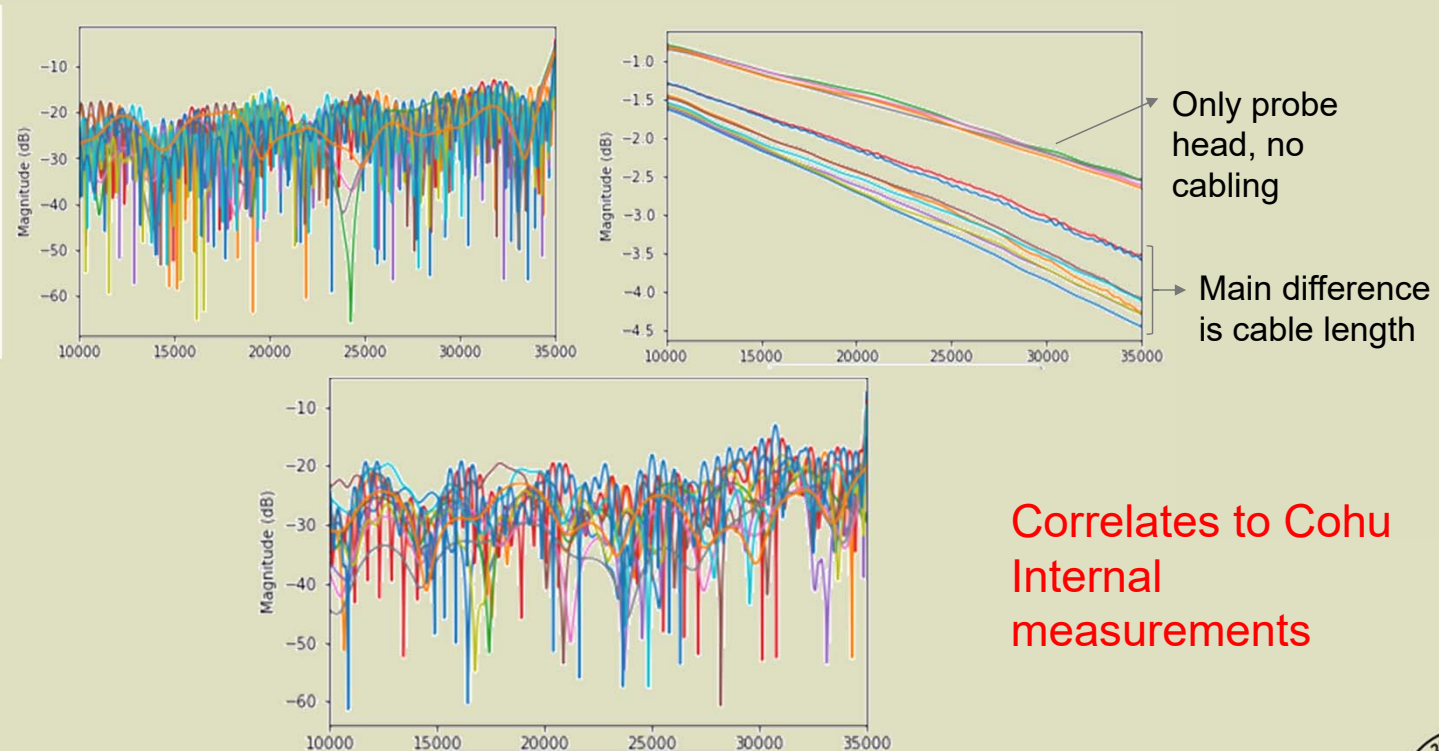


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## Customer Results: S11, S21 TDR 1 port AFR 0-35GHz



Correlates to Cohu Internal measurements



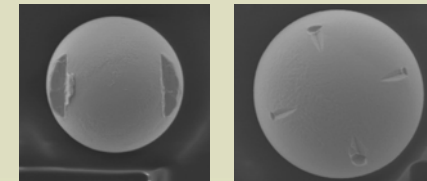
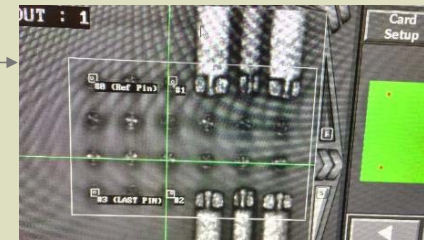
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## Customer Results: First trials

- Day 1
  - Prober setup OK(single only) 😊
    - Site and bump pitch/location is OK
  - DC trials: both sites OK 😊
    - No overdrive needed to get contact
    - DC measures analysis on going for different overdrive steps
    - No obvious DC probe mark on bump, or very slight (prober camera)
  - RF trials : site 1 OK 😊
    - Requires ~100um overdrive to get RF contact
      - Prober measured 55um difference height DC vs RF
      - Cohu expecting 60um overdrive RF vs DC for contact. Nominal 150um would be ok for most cases.
    - No obvious RF probe mark on bump, or very slight (prober camera)



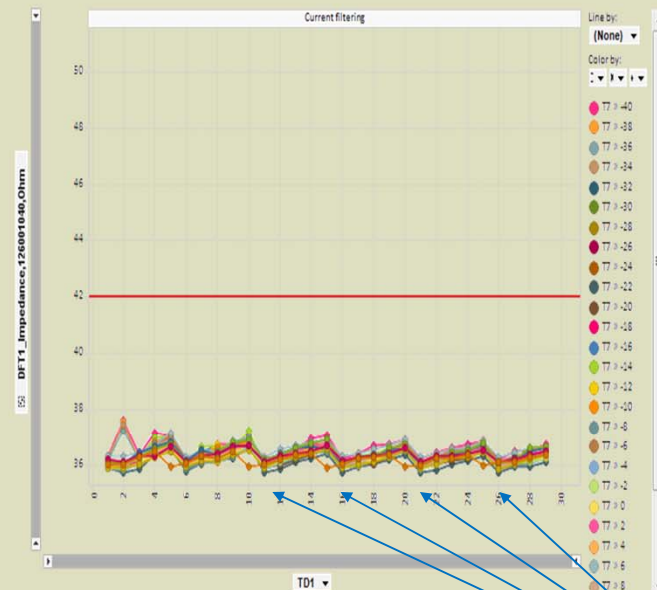


## Customer Results DFT1 impedance: Existing vs Cohu

Existing probe card

Pos Y=-26, cleaning, 30 Run, OD=200

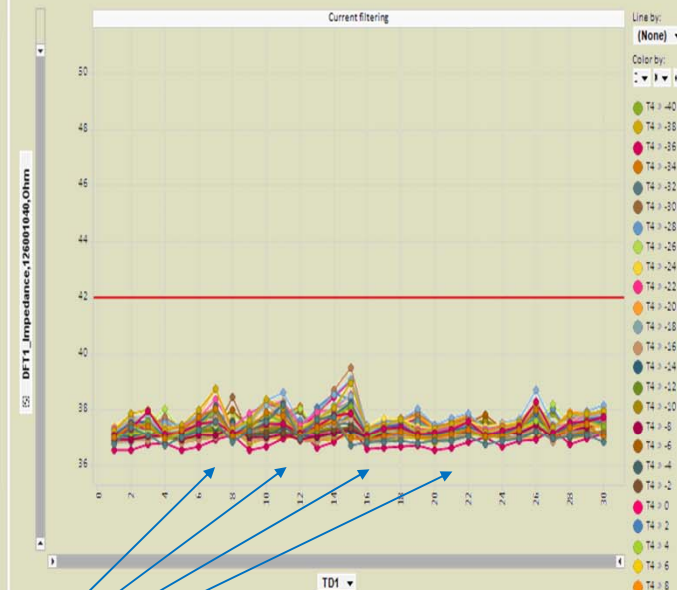
Trend DFT1\_Impedance,126001040,Ohm



Cohu probe card

Pos Y=-98, cleaning, 30 Run, OD=190

Trend DFT1\_Impedance,126001040,Ohm



Cleaning every 150 touch down

Solution for mmWave wafer probe applications and field results

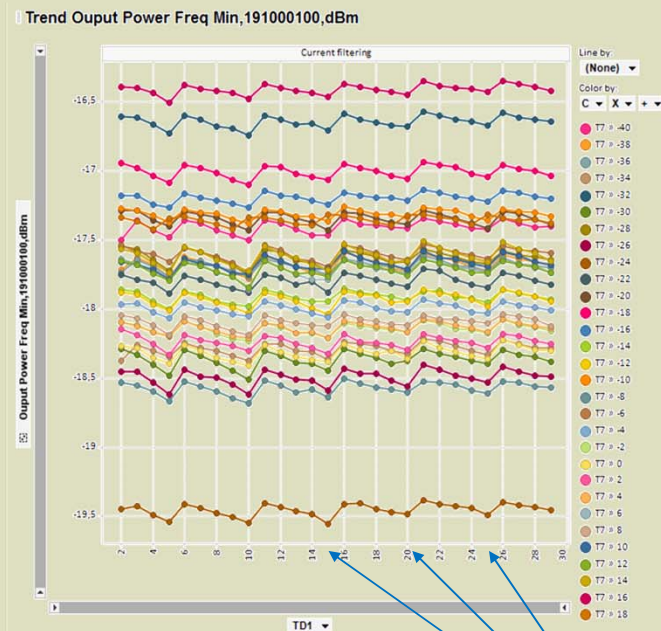
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## Customer Results: RF measure: Existing vs Cohu

### Existing probe card

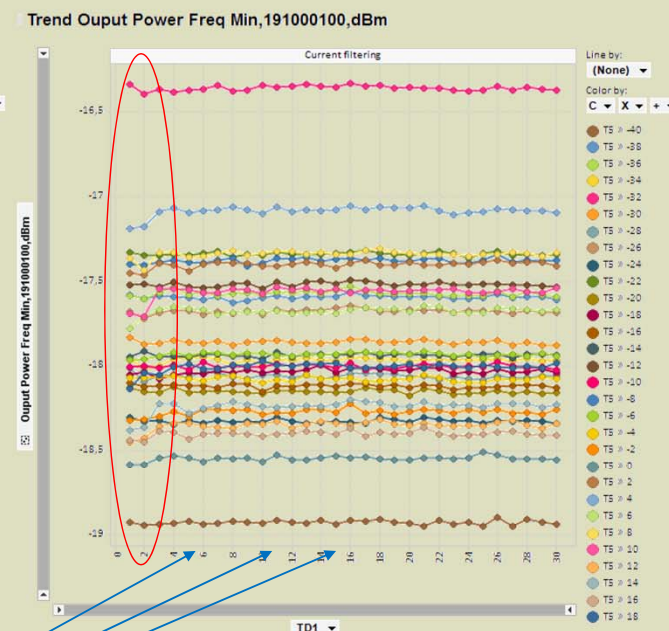
Pos Y=-26, cleaning, 30 Run, OD=200



Need of cleaning for RF measure

### Cohu probe card

Pos Y=-74, cleaning, 30 Run, OD=150



- No impact of cleaning on RF

- Small drift seen on first runs (to be checked)



TestConX™

Cleaning every 150 touch down

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## Customer Results: Wrap-Up / X-Wave Pros & Cons

### 😊 Excellent Insertion Loss and Return Loss performance.

- ❑ IL < 4dB @ 30GHz (including cable),
- ❑ RL < 15dB @ 30GHz,
- ❑ X-Wave design up to 110GHz.

### 😊 X-Wave is designed to reduce probe mark.

- ❑ Avoid hitting center of ball,
- ❑ May remove need for ball re-flow.

### 😊 Fully repairable on Field at low cost.

- ❑ Part maintenance has been demo'ed.

### 😊 Good RF Repeatability

- ❑ < 0.05dB over 30 program loops.

### 😊 Good RF Repeatability on multiple touch-down

- ❑ About 0.2dB variation observed on 30 cycles.

### 😊 Capability to perform manual retest of singulated die.

- ❑ Need microscope to insert the tiny device,
- ❑ Good unit at first test.

### 😬 Probe core is more expensive than current solution.

### 😬 Lead-frame alignment is made manually (few tens of um).

- ❑ Need to assess stability during prober operation,
- ❑ Need to understand what it means for production.

### 😬 During trial a larger drift has been observed on DFT1 Impedance test.

- ❑ When pogo hits multiple times at same place, the electrical contact is degraded,
- ❑ Behavior seems no more true when prober steps or when pogo hit more the center of the ball.
- ❑ Need more investigation.

## Summary / Conclusion

- 5G, ADAS, Wireless, Satellite cmWave and mmWave markets growing rapidly and moving from package to WLCSP at speed
- Overcame infinite plane and force profile to take the mmWave technology from final test applications to wafer test.
- WLCSP test data shows same electrical and mechanical performance as package test data
- Customer trials shows positive results



Solution for mmWave wafer probe applications and field results

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