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Spring probe pin design good for -1db@60Ghz and far beyond

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Introduction

Testing environment requires advanced technologies to support those demands, while the test industry and test socket for semiconductor process are one of the most challenging interconnect applications in electronics due to the combination of harsh operating conditions, high performance requirements at finer pitch.

The research and development efforts presented, describe new technologies for spring probe pins enabling performance to 60 GHz and far beyond.

Extremely short spring probes by stamping

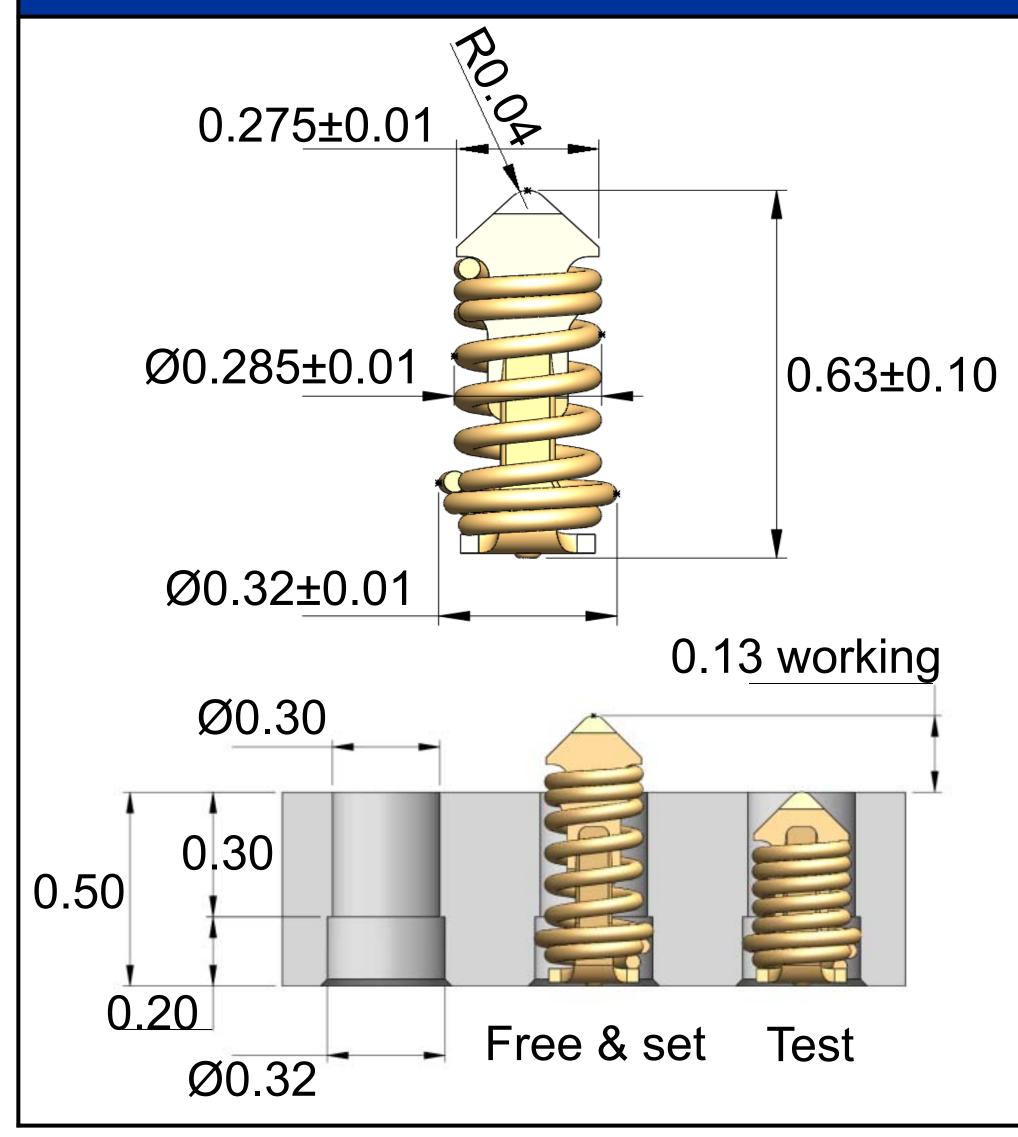
One piece spring probe

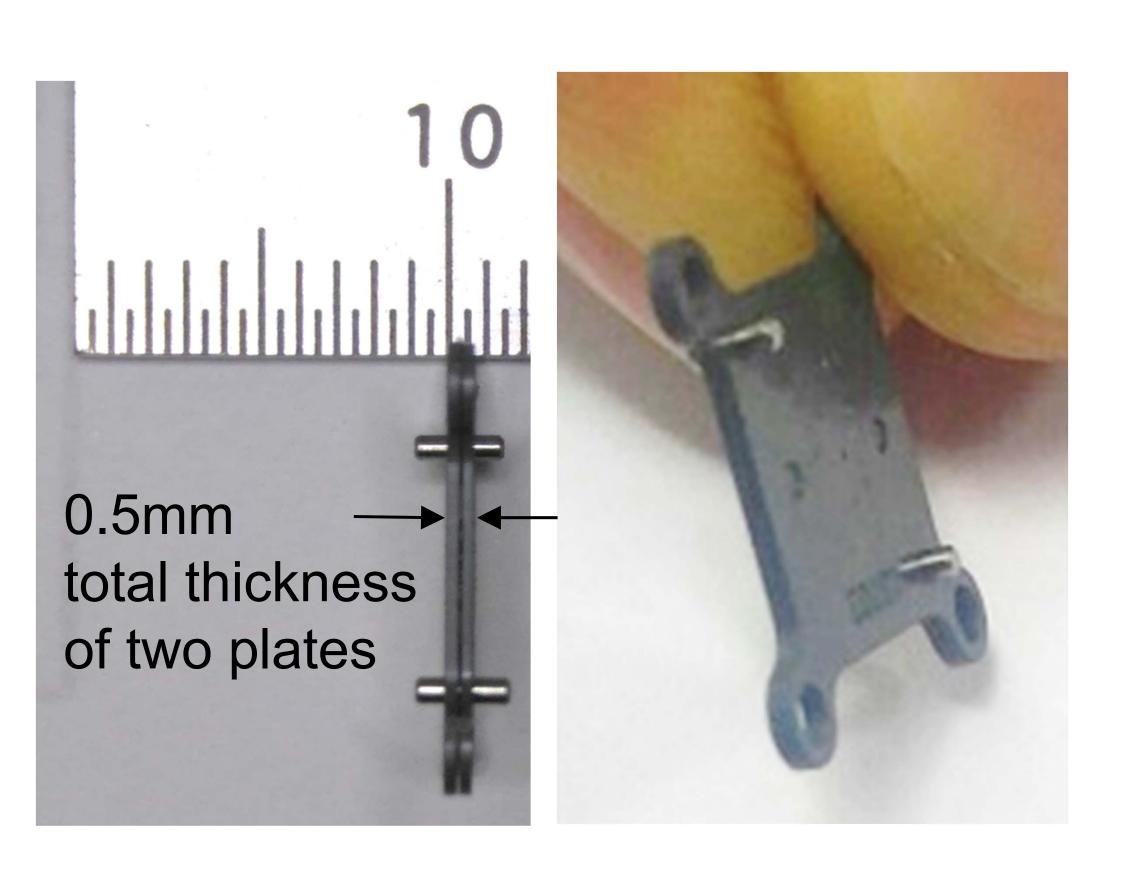


Three piece spring probe



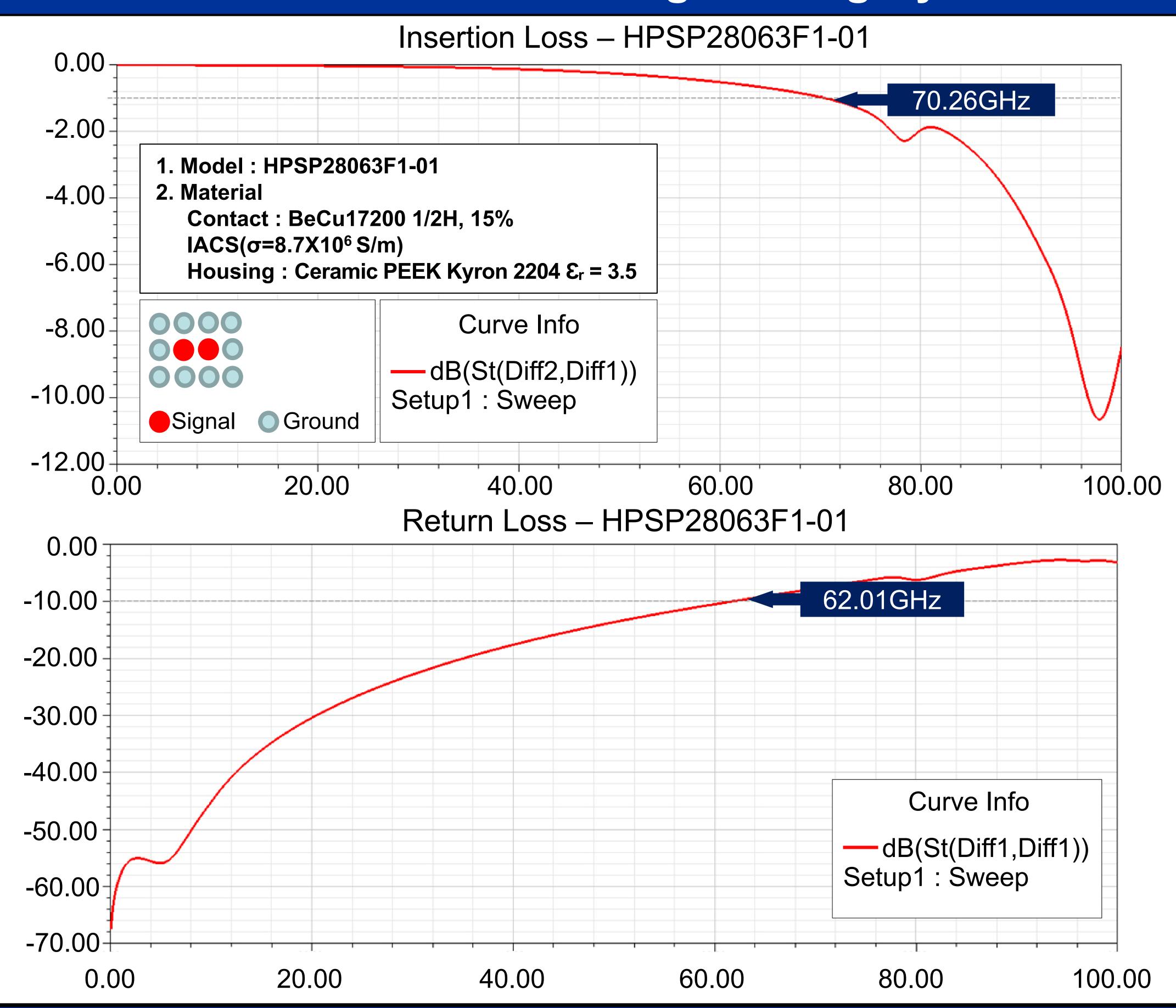
Design approach



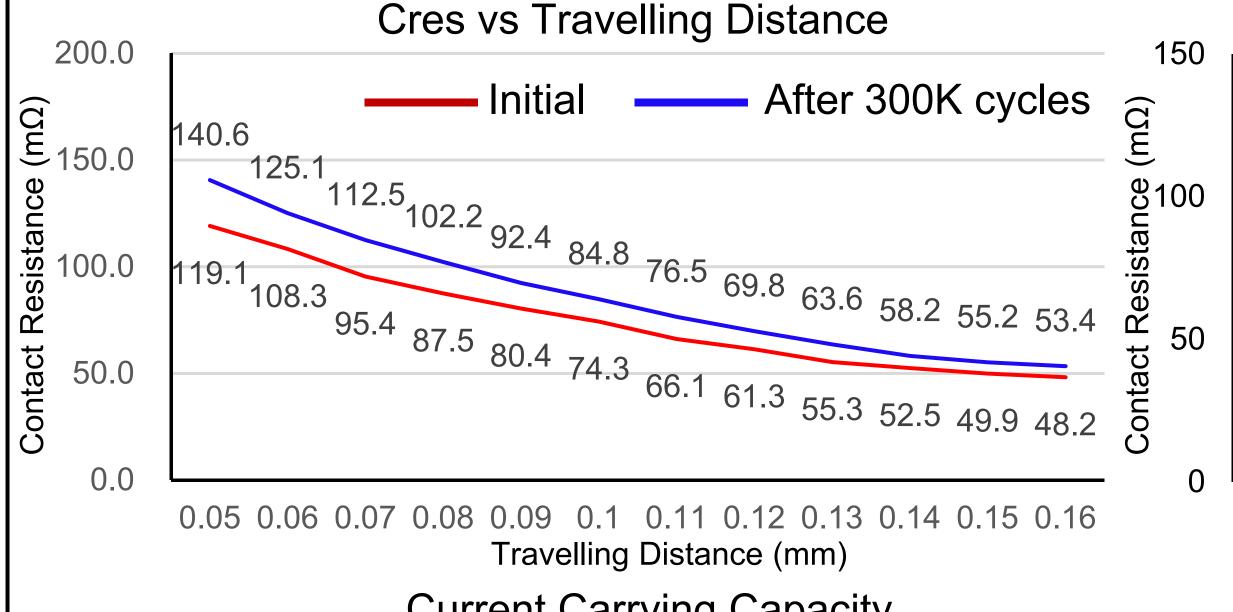


HPSP28063F1-01, spring probe pin 0.5mm test height, Gold plated BeCu

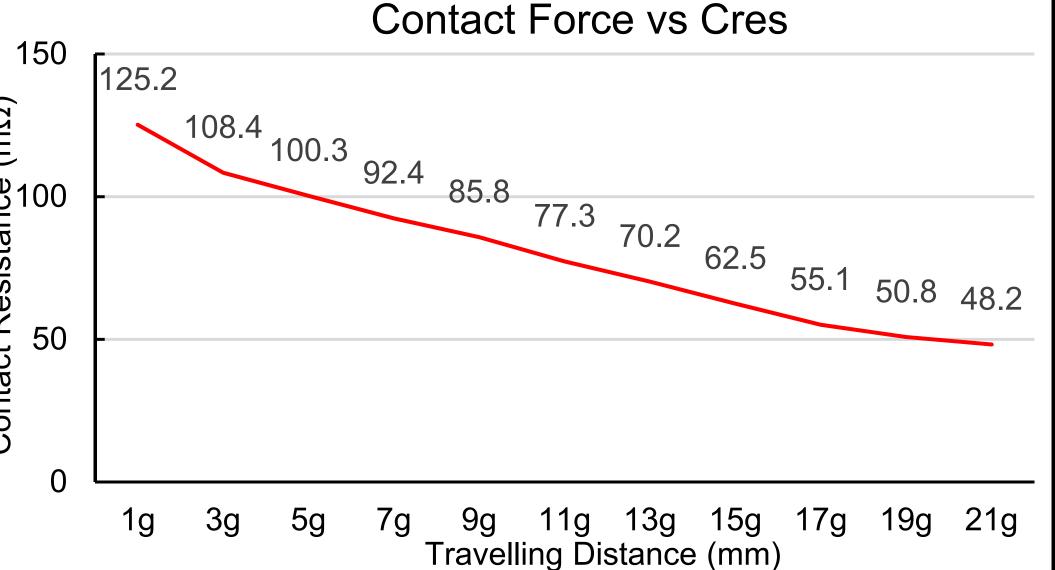
HPSP28063F1-01 - Signal integrity



Mechanical performance



Current Carrying Capacity					
Current	Sample 1	Sample 2	Sample 3	Sample 4	Sample 5
1.0A	OK	OK	OK	OK	OK
1.5A	OK	OK	OK	OK	OK
2.0A	OK	OK	OK	OK	OK
2.5A	OK	OK	OK	OK	OK
3.0A	OK	OK	C/F Changed	C/F Changed	OK
3.5A	C/F Changed	C/F Changed			C/F Changed

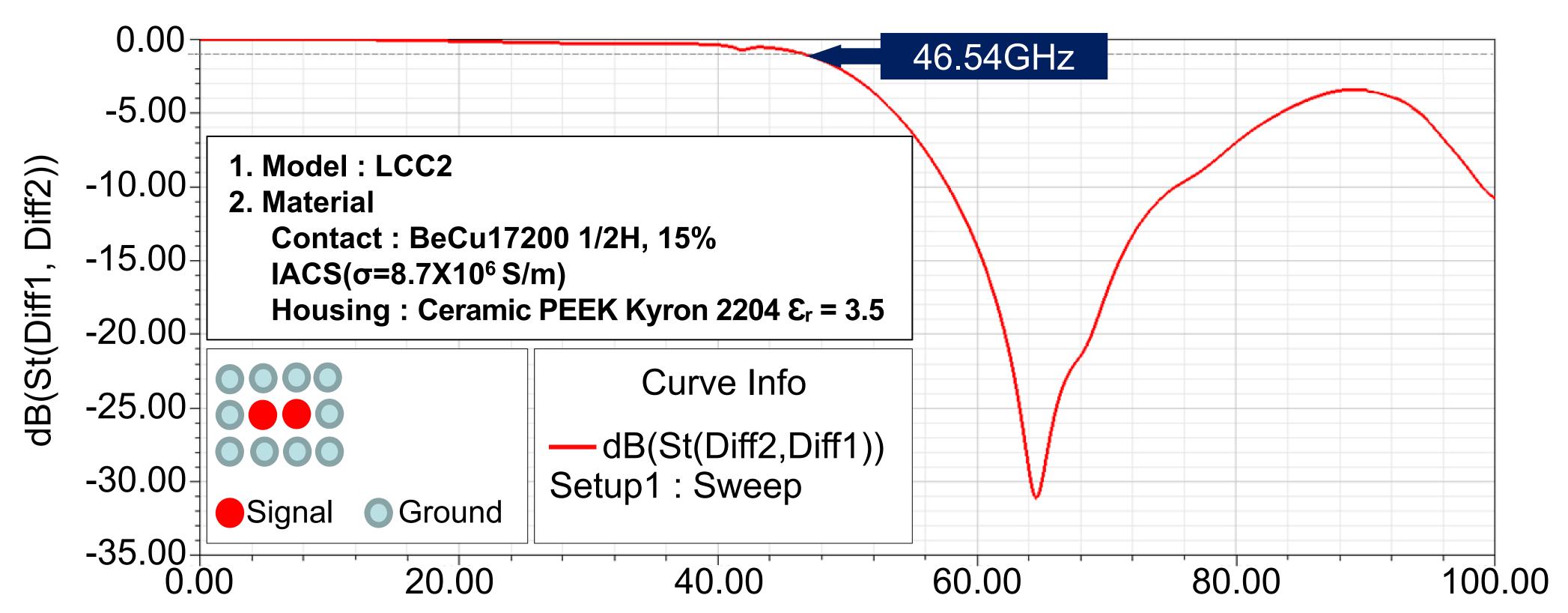




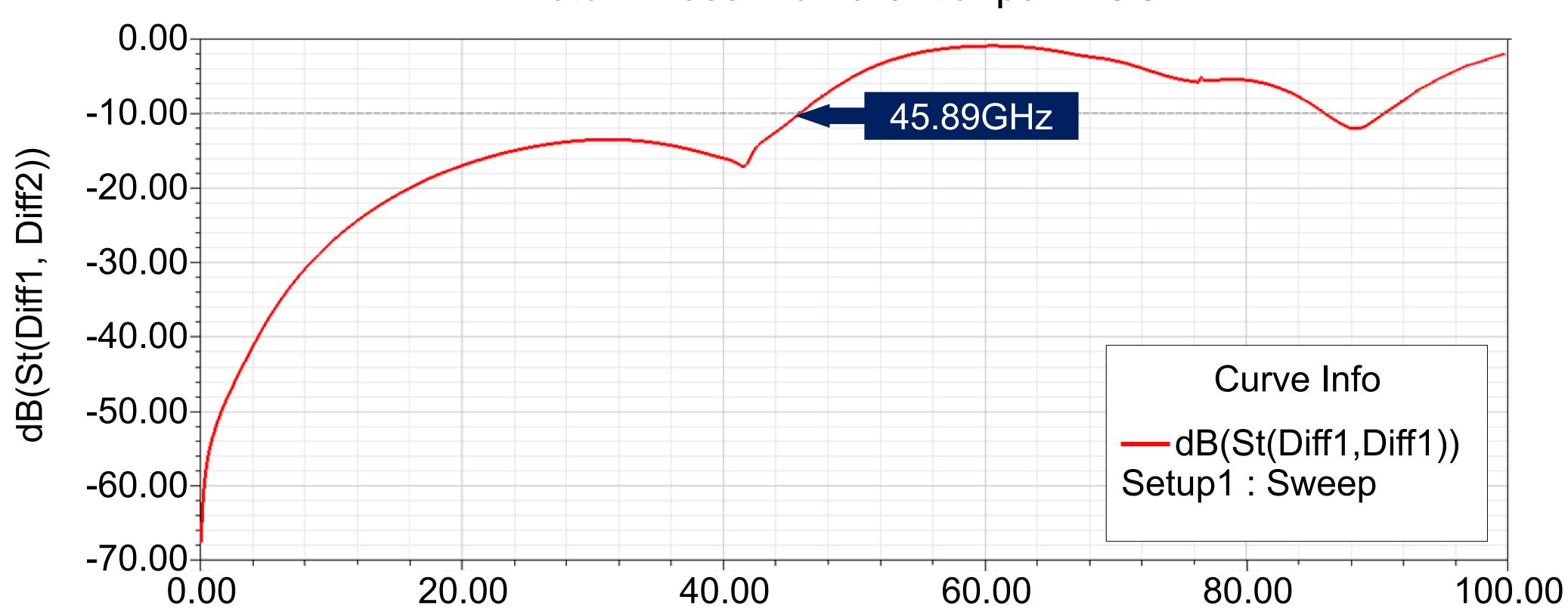
Automated Quality control system

One piece spring probe - Signal integrity





Return Loss – differential pair LCC2



Summaries and the next plan

- 0.5mm test height proven Cres less then 54 miliohm, Spring force 21 grams, Current carrying 2.0 Amps, Mechanical touch down 300K times.
- 0.5mm test height pin was already introduced to "Reputed company-A", the pins demonstrated high performance and long life, but not good for elimination of contamination coming out from chips to be tested.
- Investigating ideas to make shorter than 0.5mm test height.
- Auto pin assembly machine for 0.97mm test height is available, but need to develop the machine for 0.5mm test height pin for cost management.
- One piece probe pins are developed for high volume test and low cost connector applications.