

# Module-2 RF PCB Design Microstrip Discontinuities & Simulation in Momentum

Rashad.M.Ramzan, Ph.D FAST-NU, Islamabad

#### Today's Topics



- Modeling &n EM Simulations
  - Schematic Simulation & Layout Simulation
  - Momentum Simulation
- Microstrip Discontinuities
- GND path Breaks
- AC resistance and Skin Effect
- Differential Signaling
- Odd and Even Mode Impedances
- Decoupling Capacitors

#### **Design** Flow





**RF PCB ...and ...MaxwellMaxwell's EquationsMaxwell's EquationsFaraday's Law:** $\nabla \times \mathbf{E} = -\frac{\partial}{\partial t} \mathbf{B}$  $\nabla \times \mathbf{E} = -\frac{\partial}{\partial t} \mathbf{B}$ **Gauss' Laws:** $\nabla \cdot \mathbf{B} = 0$  $\nabla \cdot \mathbf{D} = \rho$  $\mathbf{B} = \mu \mathbf{H}$  $\mathbf{D} = \varepsilon \mathbf{E}$ 

Actual solution complex and for realistic problems require approximations Solutions to Maxwell's equations using numerical approximations of is known as the study of computational electromagnetic (CEM)

#### **CEM** Techniques

- Examples of full-wave computational electromagnetic (CEM) techniques include:
  - Finite difference time domain (FDTD) Method
  - Method of Moments (MoM) Method
  - Finite Element (FE) Method
  - Transmission Line Matrix (TLM) Method
  - The Method of Lines (MoL)
  - The Generalized Multipole Technique (GMT)



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# Design Steps .... ADS & Momentum







#### **ADS Momentum**



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- 2.5D (vias) simulation tool for passive circuits.
- Layout driven (accepts arbitrary geometry).
- Method of Moments technique as planar solver.
- Green s functions used to solve integral equations.
- Unlimited substrate database for computation.
- Full microwave or RF mode S-Parameter solutions.
- Layout look-alike components for ADS simulation.
- Co-simulation with ADS and optimization.
- Visualization of current and far-field patterns.

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<section-header>ADS Momentum• Arbitrary 2D metallic structures and vias in Layered media• Arbitrary 2D metallic structures and vias in Layered media• Substrates are infinite in lateral direction!• Substrates are infinite in lateral direction!• Autilayer designs• Planar antennas• Sisualisation of current density• Official density• Off

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# ADS Momentum Current Visualization



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### When to use Momentum

- When no analytical model exists- co-simulate with ADS.
- Arbitrary geometry on a uniform planar substrate.
- To determine coupling effects-thin layers & close proximity of metal.
- To find narrow resonances not found using analytical models.
- To display radiation patterns plot far-fields (antennas, etc.)
- To display current patterns and density.
- For CPW: coplanar waveguide results with no slot mode.
- When 3D solvers take too long or are not required.
- To optimize (modify geometry) a passive layout to achieve desired results.

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#### How Momentum Works?







#### SPICE & Momentum



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	SPICE	Momentum RF	Momentum MW
	Spice model	S parameters RF mode	S parameters MW mode
Quasi-static inductance	V	$\mathbf{v}$	$\checkmark$
<ul> <li>Quasi-static capacitance</li> </ul>		V	V
DC conductor loss (s)	V	$\checkmark$	$\checkmark$
DC substrate loss (s)	$\vee$	$\checkmark$	$\checkmark$
<ul> <li>dielectric loss (tgd)</li> </ul>		$\checkmark$	$\checkmark$
<ul> <li>skin effect loss</li> </ul>		$\checkmark$	$\vee$
<ul> <li>substrate wave radiatio</li> </ul>	n		$\checkmark$
<ul> <li>space wave radiation</li> </ul>			$\checkmark$

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# Transmission Line Discontinuities &Corrections

#### **Transmission Line Discontinuities**



### **Transmission Line Discontinuities**





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#### **Transmission Line Discontinuities**

- Introduction of discontinuities will distort the uniform EM!!
- Most of these induced higher order modes are nonpropagating



- The effect of discontinuity is usually reactive (the energy stored in the local fields is returned back to the system
- The effect of reactive system to the voltage and current can be modeled using LC circuits (which are reactive elements).

#### Discontinuities: Through Hole Via





Top view of a Via



#### Reducing the Effects of Bends

• Generally not necessary under 300MHz frequencies



#### **Discontinuities: Bends**



 $\begin{array}{c} \textbf{Step:} \\ \hline \textbf{T}_{1} & \overrightarrow{\textbf{V}_{2}} \\ \hline \textbf{T}_{2} & \overrightarrow{\textbf{V}_{2}} \\ \hline \textbf{See Edwards [4] Chapter 5} \\ \end{array} \\ \textbf{Step:} \\ \hline \textbf{T}_{1} & \overrightarrow{\textbf{V}_{2}} \\ \hline \textbf{T}_{2} & \overrightarrow{\textbf{V}_{2}} \\ \hline \textbf{See Edwards [4] Chapter 5} \\ \end{array} \\ \textbf{Step:} \\ \hline \textbf{T}_{2} & \overrightarrow{\textbf{V}_{2}} \\ \hline \textbf{See Edwards [4] Chapter 5} \\ \end{array} \\ \textbf{Step:} \\ \hline \textbf{Step:} \\ \hline \textbf{T}_{2} & \overrightarrow{\textbf{V}_{2}} \\ \hline \textbf{See Edwards [4] Chapter 5} \\ \hline \textbf{Step:} \\ \hline \textbf{See Edwards [4] Chapter 5} \\ \hline \textbf{Step:} \\ \hline \textbf{Step:} \\ \hline \textbf{Step:} \\ \hline \textbf{T}_{2} \\ \hline \textbf{Step:} \\ \hline \textbf{T}_{2} \\ \hline \textbf{Step:} \\ \hline \textbf{T}_{2} \\ \hline \textbf{T$ 

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#### Discontinuities: SMA Launch



- Since most microstrip/stripline line invariably leads to external connection from the PCB, an interface is needed.
- · Usually the microstrip/strip line is connected to a co-axial cable.
- The SMA to PCB adapter, also called the SMA End-launcher is usually used for this purpose.
   Make the trace parrow towards



Make the trace narrow towards the center conductor of the SMA End launcher (for wide trace)





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#### **Discontinuities: SMA Launch**









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#### **Discontinuities Modeling and Simulation**

 A Z<sub>c</sub> = 50Ω microstrip Tline is used to drive a resistive termination as shown.



#### **Manufacturer Tolerances**





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### AC Current Return Path











#### Discontinuities: Through Hole Via









IEEE Circuits & Devices Nov. 1997

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#### Skin Depth – AC Resistance Skin effect confines 63% (e<sup>-1</sup>) of the current to 1 skin depth – the current density will decease exponentially into the thickness of the conductor Cross-sectional area of a round conductor available for conducting DC current "DC resistance" Cross-sectional area of the same $\delta = \sqrt{\frac{2}{\mu \omega \sigma}} = \sqrt{\frac{\rho}{f \pi \mu}}$ conductor available for conducting low-frequency AC "AC resistance" $\mu$ = permeability (4 $\pi$ × 10<sup>-7</sup> H/m), note: H = henries = $\Omega$ ·s δ = skin depth (m) Cross-sectional area of the same ρ = resistivity (Ω·m) conductor available for conducting high-frequency AC $\omega$ = radian frequency = $2\pi f$ (Hz) σ = conductivity (mho/m), note: mho [σ] = siemen [S] "AC resistance"

# Skin Depth- AC Resistance





### GND (Current) AC Resistance

• The current density formulae can be integrated to get the total current contained within chosen bounds

$$\int_{-3H}^{3H} \frac{I_o}{\pi H} \cdot \frac{1}{1 + (D/H)^2} dD = \frac{2I_o}{\pi} \cdot \tan^{-1}(3) = 0.795I_o$$

- This shows that 79.5% of the current is contained in a distance +/- 3H (W of 6H) from the conductor center
- Assuming a penetration of 1 skin depth, the ground return resistance can be approximated as follows

$$R_{ac\_ground} \approx \frac{\rho}{A_{ground}} = \frac{\rho}{6H\delta} = \frac{\sqrt{\rho\pi\mu F}}{6H} \quad \Omega/length$$

$$R_{AC\_total} = R_{signal} + R_{ground}$$

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#### Surface Roughness

- The formulae presented assumes a perfectly smooth surface
- The copper must be rough so it will adhere to the laminate
- Surface roughness can increase the calculated resistance 10-50% as well as frequency dependence proportions
- Increase the effective path length and decreases the area



#### **Copper Options**



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#### Common Thickness Options

Weight	Thickness
0.25 oz	0.4 mil (9 μm)
0.5 oz	0.7 mil (18 µm)
1.0 oz	1.4 mil (35 μm)
2.0 oz	2.8 mil (70 μm)

Electro Deposited copper has a "Drum" side and "Treated" side Treated Side

#### Plating Options

Option	Surface Roughness	Notes	
Rolled	55 µ in	Lower loss at high frequency (>1 GHz)	
	More precise geometries for critical applications (couplers, distributed f		
Electro Deposited 75 µ in (0.5 oz)		For Treated (Dendritic) Side	
94 µ in (1 oz)		Untreated (Drum) Side is 55 $\mu$ in	
	120 µ in (2 oz)	Less prone to pealing	

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# Mutual Coupling and Crosstalk

The current components due to distributed mutual capacitance and inductance.



### Mutual Coupling and Crosstalk



 As the positive-going pulse travels from left to right, it will induce current on the adjacent line. The induced current components travel out from the point of induction to both directions.



#### **Differential Pairs**

- Lower Cross-talk, Lower Radiation
- Common mode noise rejection
- Reduces ground reference problems
- High dynamic range analog applications
  - Log Amplifiers
- High Resolution ADC/DAC
  - Low noise (small signal) analog applications
- Transducers
  - Critical High Speed Digital Applications
- Low amplitude clocks
- Low jitter requirements
- Almost ALL RF applications

#### **Differential Pairs**





- Geometry and spacing defined by artwork
- High differential impedance easily achievable
  - Impedance reduced as "s" is reduced
- As ``s" is increased, impedance approaches 2x single ended impedance
- Difficult to rout through fine pitch holes
- Geometry is effected by layer registration
- Low differential impedance easily achievable
- Easy to route, easy to maintain matched lengths

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#### **Differential Impedance Definitions**

• Single-Ended Impedance  $(Z_0)$ Impedance on a single line with respect to ground when not coupled to another line  $(Z_0 = \sqrt{Z_{Odd}Z_{Even}})$ 



- Differential Impedance (Z<sub>DIF</sub>) The impedance on one line with respect to the coupled line, when the lines are driven by equal and opposite signals
- Odd Mode Impedance (Z<sub>Odd</sub>) Impedance on a single line with respect to ground when the other coupled line is driven by equal and opposite signals (Z<sub>DIF</sub> = 2Z<sub>Odd</sub>)
- Common Mode Impedance (Z<sub>CM</sub>) Impedance of the two lines combined with respect to ground
- Even Mode Impedance (Z<sub>Even</sub>) The impedance on one line with respect to ground when the coupled line is driven by an equal and in-phase signal (Z<sub>Even</sub> = 2Z<sub>CM</sub>)





Impedance of Transmission Lines



#### Simulations

### **Decoupling Capacitors**



10 15 20 Plane separation in mils



ε, = 225 x10<sup>-15</sup> <u>F</u>

ane Separation 0.8	FR4 Dielectric Thickness
	L
$\frac{10}{m} = 0.32 \frac{1}{inch}$	$C = s_0 s_r \frac{h}{h} = s_0 s_r \frac{h}{h}$
	C - C C C C

0.2

L₩

FR4 Dielectric Thickness (mils)	Inductance (pH/square)	Capacitance (pF/inch <sup>2</sup> )	
8	260	127	
4	130	253	
2	65	506	

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# ESR and ESL of Capacitors





#### **Decoupling Caps Packages**

Part Number	Package	Capacitance (uF)	ESL (nH)	ESR (Ω)	SRF (MHz)
C0603C103K5RAC, Kemet	EIA 0603	0.01	1.8	0.25	38
C0805C104K5RAC, Kemet	EIA 0805	0.10	1.9	0.10	12
T491B685K010AS, Kemet	EIA 3528-21	6.8	1.9	0.3	1.4
T494C476K010AS, Kemet	EIA 6032-28	47	2.2	0.2	0.5

 $f_{SRF} = \frac{1}{2\pi \sqrt{LC}}$ 

Self Resonant Frequency

 $Q = \frac{1}{DF} = \frac{X_c}{R} = \frac{1}{2\pi f C R}$ 

Quality Factor, Dissipation Factor

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# Summary



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