

EXTRACTION OF DIELECTRIC PROPERTIES OF PCB LAMINATE DIELECTRICS ON PCB STRIPLINES TAKING INTO ACCOUNT CONDUCTOR SURFACE ROUGHNESS

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(THE WORK IS DONE IN EMC LAB OF MISSOURI S&T, SPONSORED BY CISCO AND NSF)



Outline

- I. Introduction motivation, objectives, and state-of-the-art
- II. Idea of an "<u>e</u>ffective <u>r</u>oughness <u>d</u>ielectric" (ERD)
- III. PCB stripline cross-sectional analysis and roughness profile quantification
- IV. Experiment-based input data for numerical electromagnetic modeling
- V. Modeling results & validation
- VI. Building of "design curves" regarding conductor surface roughness
- VII. Conclusions









Motivation

Conductor roughness affects both phase and loss constants in PCB transmission lines and results in eye diagram closure.



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STE

3 Gbps

0.5

- Conductor surface roughness lumps into laminate dielectric parameters.
- Any existing analytical and numerical models of conductor surface roughness are approximations.
- Study and adequate modeling of wideband behavior of dielectrics and conductors in PCBs is important from SI point of view.



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28 Gbps





Objectives

- Develop a technique to accurately measure and extract laminate dielectric parameters (DK=ε' & DF=tanδ) removing effects of conductors.
- Develop a physics-based model, which allows for simple incorporation of conductor surface roughness in electromagnetic numerical models of transmission lines.
- Test and validate the proposed model using measurements on a multitude of various test boards with different cross-sections and roughness profiles.
- Test and validate the proposed model using electromagnetic numerical simulations with different software tools.
- Develop a database for roughness parameters, corresponding to different types of copper foils used in PCBs.





Measurements & Material Parameter Extraction





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Existing Methods for Conductor Roughness Modeling

I. Correction coefficients for attenuation

- Periodic roughness models (Morgan, Sanderson, Sundstroem, Lukic)
- Hammerstad model (Hammerstad, Bekkadal, Jensen)
- "Snowball" model (Huray)
- Roughness hemispheres (Hall, Pytel)
- Stochastic models (Sanderson, Tsang, Braunisch)

II. Impedance boundary conditions

• Holloway, Kuester

III. Numerical electromagnetic modeling

- Deutsch
- Shlepnev
- X. Chen

IV. Experimental separation of conductor & dielectric loss

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Stain-proof layer Anti-tarnish layer Drum foil Dendrite plating Protective barrier Stain-proof layer Oxide treatment

Our Recently Published Works

 Experiment-based <u>D</u>ifferential and <u>E</u>xtrapolation <u>R</u>oughness <u>M</u>easurement techniques (**DERM** and **DERM-2**) have been proposed to refine wideband DK and DF from roughness.

[1] A. Koul, M.Y. Koledintseva, S. Hinaga, and J.L. Drewniak, "Differential extrapolation method for separating dielectric and rough conductor losses in printed circuit boards", *IEEE Trans. Electromag. Compat.*, vol. 54, no. 2, Apr. 2012, pp. 421-433.

[2] M.Y. Koledintseva, A.V. Rakov, A.I. Koledintsev, J.L. Drewniak, and S. Hinaga, "Improved experiment-based technique to characterize dielectric properties of printed circuit boards", *IEEE Trans. Electromag. Compat.* (to be published soon in 2014)

 An <u>Effective</u> <u>Roughness</u> <u>Dielectric</u> (ERD) approach has been proposed to substitute inhomogeneous roughness boundary layer by a layer with homogenized dielectric properties.

[3] M.Y. Koledintseva, A. Razmadze, A. Gafarov, S. De, S. Hinaga, and J.L. Drewniak, "PCB conductor surface roughness as a layer with effective material parameters", *IEEE Symp. Electromag. Compat.*, Pittsburg, PA, 2012, pp. 138- 142.





Idea of "Effective Roughness Dielectric"



This effect was first noticed in:

A. Deutsch, A. Hueber, et al, "Accuracy of dielectric constant measurement using the full-sheet-resonance technique IPC-T650 2.5.5.6", 311-314, *IEEE Symp. Electrical Performance of Electronic Packaging*, 2002.









Mixing Rule for "Effective Roughness Dielectric"



Various Types of Foils



10 μm <Rz <15 μm

5 μ m <Rz<10 μ m

 $3 \mu m < Rz < 6 \mu m$

3 μ m <Rz<6 μ m

- HPF (high-performance foil) -
- **STD** (standard foil) –
- VLP (very-low profile foil) –
- **RTF** (reverse-treatment foil) –
- HVLP (hyper-very-low profile foil) $-1 \mu m < Rz < 3 \mu m$
- ULP (ultra-low roughness foil) $0.5~\mu m < Rz < 1~\mu m$



Foils are mostly isotropic in X and Z



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Standard Profilometer Roughness Evaluation





Problem: foil measured is not the same as "in situ".

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SEM & Oprical Cross-sectional Analysis of PCB

Striplines

Cutting board for cross-sections















Conductor Roughness Profile Extraction



[S. Hinaga, S. De, A.Y. Gafarov, M.Y. Koledintseva, and J.L. Drewniak, "Determination of copper foil surface roughness from microsection photographs", *Techn. Conf. IPC Expo/APEX 2012*, Las Vegas, Apr. 2012].

[S. De, A.Y. Gafarov, M.Y. Koledintseva, S. Hinaga, R.J. Stanley, and J.L. Drewniak, "Semi-automatic copper foil surface roughness detection from PCB microsection images", *IEEE Symp. EMC.*, Pittsburg, PA, 2012, pp. 132-137].





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Roughness Characterization Flow Chart



Roughness Factor QR



Roughness Surface Generation from Statistical Analysis of Profile



Finding A_r from PDF



Blue line is measured from actual profile **Red** line is generated from PDF

mean[*pixel*] $\implies A_r = 2 \cdot mean[pixel] \cdot pix$





HVLP

Gaussian

Gaussian



mean is $E[x] = \int_{0}^{\infty} x f_{x}(x) dx \implies A_{r} = 2 \cdot E[x] \cdot pixel's value$

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Average Peak-to-Valley Roughness Amplitude and PDF



Geometry and Roughness Parameters of Some Test Samples with Different Foils

	w ₁ , μm	w ₂ ,μm	H, μm	Ρ, μm	h ₁ , μm	h ₂ , μm	Α _{r1} , μm	Α _{r2} , μm	Λ ₁ , μm	Λ ₂ , μm	QR ₁	QR ₂	QR
STD	337.9	343.2	16.44	712.8	308	286	0.85	6.2	25	14.2	0.034	0.44	0.474
VLP	364.3	368.5	16.8	769	308	286.4	0.87	2.38	24.7	13	0.035	0.18	0.215
HVLP	329.3	331.3	15.3	691.7	303	292	1.25	1.13	14.3	19.2	0.087	0.06	0.147

The presented samples have almost the same crosssectional geometry, but different copper foil roughness profiles.







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"Effective Roughness Dielectric" Extraction



Numerical Model Setup Using ERD Layers





Effective 'roughness dielectric'

Laminate dielectric



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Spectral Approach to Propagation Constant



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Measured Magnitudes of S₁₁ and S₂₁



- Length of all the test striplines =15,410 mils.
- Striplines are 13 mils wide.
- Laminate dielectric and cross-sectional geometry are the same for all the boards.

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Measured Phase of S₂₁ and Propagation Constant



Extrapolation to Zero Roughness in α to Refine Dielectric Loss



Extrapolation to Zero Roughness in β to Refine Dielectric-Related Phase Constant



Additional Procedure to Refine Dielectric Loss (with Two other Sets of Test Vehicles with Different Types of Foil)



Additional Procedure to Refine Phase Constant (with Two other



Extracted Loss in a Smooth Conductor

(Roughness Parts are Removed)





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Extracted Dielectric Properties of PCB Laminate Substrate

The refined dielectric data (DK and DF) for all the test vehicles is used in numerical electromagnetic modeling (2D-FEM)



Modeled & Measured S₂₁ for Stripline with HVLP Foil (Q2D) 200 S21 Phase (degrees) 100 F -50 -100 -150 -150 -200 0 -5 (qp) 211 (qB) 15-15 -20 -25 2 8 10 0 6 5 10 20 25 30 0 15 Frequency (GHz) Frequency (GHz) HVLP BO Measured ----- HVLP BO Modeled HVLP BO Measured ---- HVLP BO Modeled S21 S21 200 150 150 Phase 100 50 Phase 100 50 -50 (degree -100 gree -150 es) -200 S .50 (degrees) .100 rees .150 es) .200 (degrees) 10 22 12 16 18 20 20 26 28 30



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Frequency (GHz)

HVLP BO Measured ----- HVLP BO Modeled

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Frequency (GHz)

HVLP BO Measured ----- HVLP BO Modeled

Modeled & Measured S₂₁ for Stripline with VLP Foil (Q2D)





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Modeled & Measured S₂₁ for Stripline with STD Foil (Q2D)





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Extracted Properties of Effective Roughness Dielectric

The refined dielectric data (DK and DF) for all the test vehicles is used in numerical electromagnetic modeling (2D-FEM)

Foil Type	Τ _{r1} (ox), μm	T _{r2} (foil), μm	tanδ _r (ox)	tanδ _r (foil)	е _r (ох)	ε _r (foil)	QR (ox)	QR (foil)	VR (ox), μm	VR (foil), μm
STD	1.7	12.4	0.01	0.17	5.0	12.0	0.034	0.44	0.085	25.30
VLP	1.74	4.76	0.02	0.13	5.1	9.0	0.035	0.18	0.178	7.42
HVLP	2.50	2.26	0.06	0.04	5.1	4.8	0.087	0.06	0.765	0.433

Set 1





Effective Roughness Dielectric Parameters as a Function of Roughness Factor



Effective Roughness Dielectric Parameters as a Function of Roughness Factor



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Validation Using Full-wave Model (CST)



Studio Suite 3D (Full-wave FD MoM) – this model is used for validation of the extracted ERD data







T. Vincent, M. Koledintseva, A. Ciccimancini, and S. Hinaga, "Effective roughness dielectric in a PCB: measurement and fullwave simulation verification", IEEE Symp. EMC, Aug. 2014 (accepted)



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S₂₁ CST Modeled vs. Measured)



T. Vincent, M. Koledintseva, A. Ciccimancini, and S. Hinaga, "Effective roughness dielectric in a PCB: measurement and full-wave simulation verification", IEEE Symp. EMC, Aug. 2014 (accepted)



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Modeled & Measured Magnitude of S₂₁ for Striplines with Different Foils

Slope of S21 as a function of frequency increases with the increase of surface roughness $\Lambda \sim$





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Frequency, GHz



Additional Slope in S₂₁ as a Function of Roughness Factor

 $\begin{aligned} &R = (\Delta S_{smooth} - \Delta S_{rough}) / \Delta f \quad [dB/GHz] \\ &R_n = (\Delta S_{smooth} - \Delta S_{rough}) / \Delta f / L \quad [dB/GHz/m] \end{aligned}$







Extrapolation to Zero Roughness in α (7-mil Lines)



Extrapolation to Zero Roughness in β



Refined DK and DF



<u>Excellent agreement</u> between the results of extraction of dielectric parameters of two independent sets of boards (3+3 boards total) with the same dielectric and the same geometry, but different types of foil roughness has been obtained! Frequency range is from **10 MHz to 30 GHz.**





Dielectric Loss and Smooth & Rough Conductor Losses



Effective Roughness Dielectric Approximation

Concentration of "roughness inclusions" decreases with distance from zero-roughness plane



Maxwell Garnett mixing rule requires knowledge of volume concentration of "roughness inclusions". This volume concentration v(y) varies as a function of the height y. Hence the dielectric properties homogenized by Maxwell-Garnett in each incremental layer are also functions of y.

$$\varepsilon_{MG}(y) = \varepsilon_{matrix} \left(1 + \nu(y) \frac{\varepsilon_{incl} - \varepsilon_{matrix}}{\varepsilon_{matrix} + (1 - \nu(y)) N_y(\varepsilon_{incl} - \varepsilon_{matrix})} \right)$$

 N_y is the depolarization factor in y-direction.

$$\varepsilon_{incl} = 1 - j \frac{\sigma}{\omega \varepsilon_0}$$
 and $\varepsilon_{matrix} = 3.7 - j0.07$





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Boundary Layer – Gradient Waveguide Model

Using Maxwell Garnett mixing rule the roughness could be described as gradient layer with exponential distribution $\varepsilon_{MG}(y) = \varepsilon'_{MG}(y) - j\varepsilon''_{MG}(y)$.

Loss is due to non-propagating surface waves in the structure with variable permittivity.



Results for the Gradient Model: Set 1, Foil Side

	Extracted	from Gra	adient Model (o	n Foil Sides)		Ext	racted from	Q2D
		Solution #	Turning point= Ar	$tan \delta_{rough}$	$\varepsilon'_{rougheff}$	Ar	$tan \delta_{rough}$	ε' _{rough eff}
	CTD	15	6.489	0.203	12.7	6 406	0.17	12.0
	510	13	5.05	0.124	4 5.02 6.496	0.17	12.0	
		6	2.739	0.130	8.08	2 752	0 12	9.0
Set 1	VLP	5	1.932	0.100	13.58	2.752	0.15	
	HVLP	2	1.083	0.048	5.01			4.8
		1	0.158	0.203	44.76	1.086	0.04	

There is a reasonable agreement; however, the results were obtained only for a limited number of samples.

Conclusions

- A new improved technique DERM2 to extract dielectric properties of a laminate dielectric for a set of five test vehicles is demonstrated.
- A semi-automatic roughness profile extraction and quantification procedure has been applied to SEM or optical microscopy pictures of microsections of PCB stripline.
- A metric called "roughness factor" QR to quantify roughness profiles has been introduced.
- The correlation between the additional slope in insertion loss due to roughness and the roughness factor QR has been established. The effective roughness dielectric layer concept was applied to numerically model (in 2D FEM) all the five test vehicles.
- In the numerical models, the dielectric parameters of ambient dielectric were taken as those obtained using the DERM2 procedure; the boundary roughness layers were substituted by Effective Roughness Dielectric.
- This model and analysis lead to the development of the "design curves" (additional slopes of insertion loss, or additional conductor loss as a function of roughness parameter), which could be used by SI engineers in their designs.



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