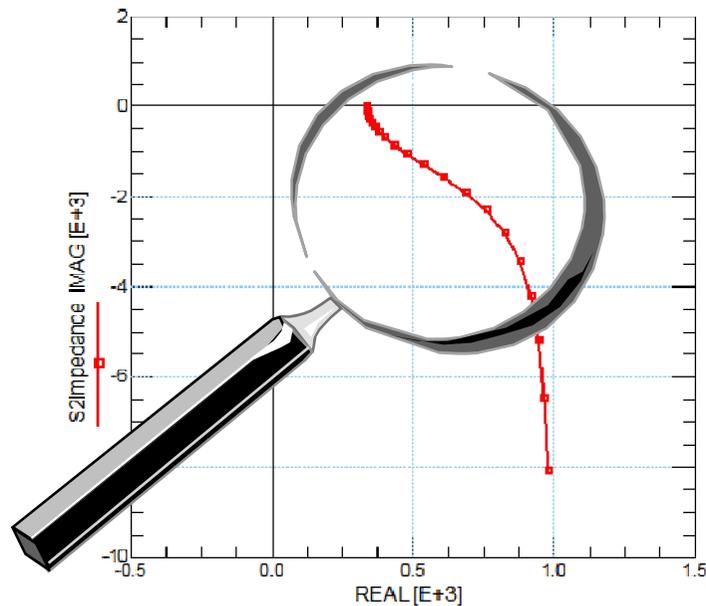


Successful Device Modeling from Impedance Plots

- A Practical Lab Note Book -



Franz Sischka, Nov. 2018

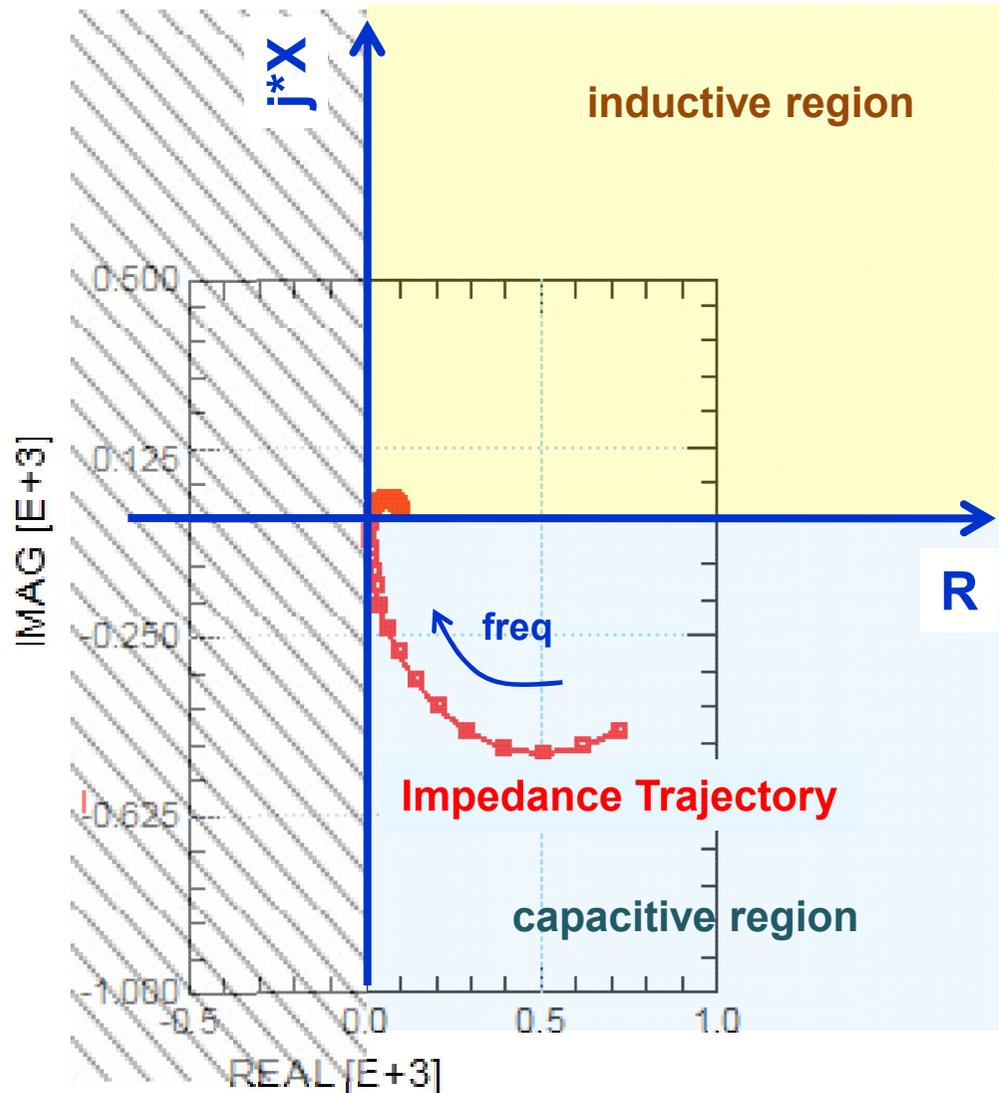
www.SisConsult.de

revised version March 2024

Outline

- **The Impedance Plane $Z = R + j \cdot X$ and Typical Impedance Traces**
- **Impedance Plots from LCRZ Meters**
- **Impedance Plots from S-Parameters**

The Impedance Plane $\underline{Z} = R + j * X$



The frequency-dependent impedance locus curves (trajectories) can be measured by LCRZ meters, or obtained from S-Parameters

For 2-Port Impedances,



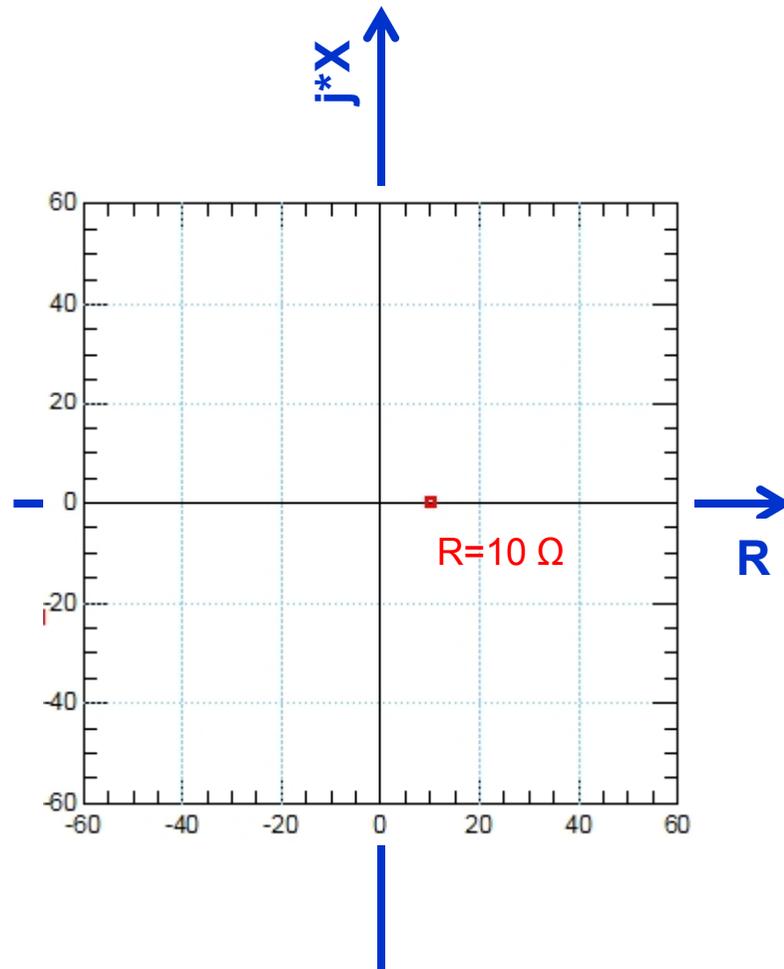
**with increasing frequency,
all impedance trajectories
turn clock-wise**



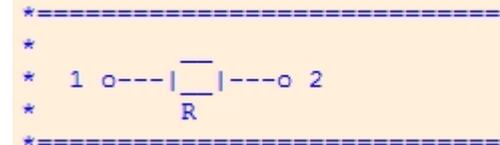
**only the right half-plane is used
(otherwise: $R < 0 \Omega$!!)**

Impedance Examples

Ideal Resistor



Schematic:

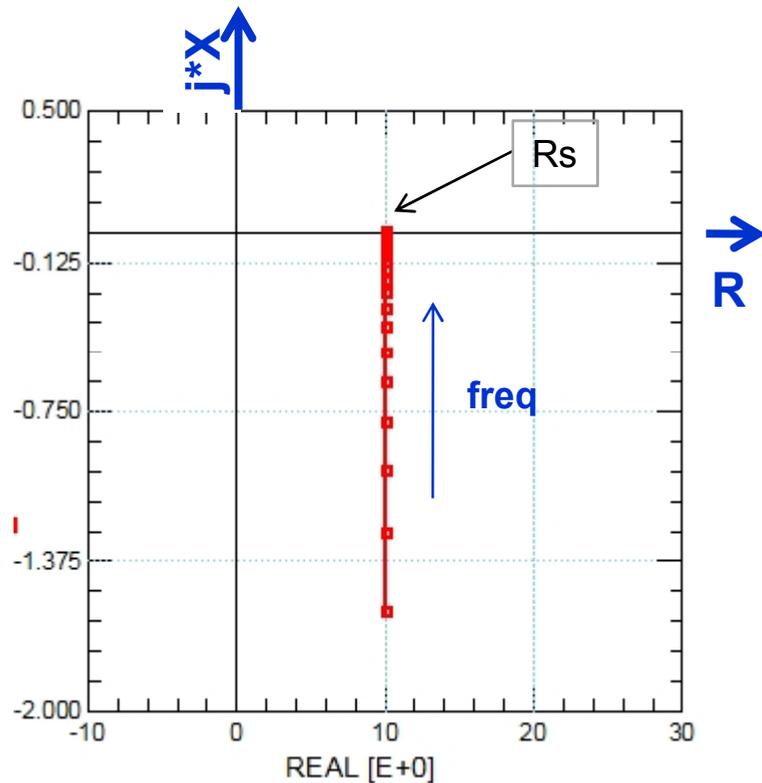
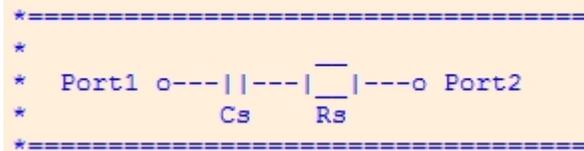


The impedance is represented by a single point, for all frequencies, on the x-axis of the impedance plot

Resistor and Capacitor

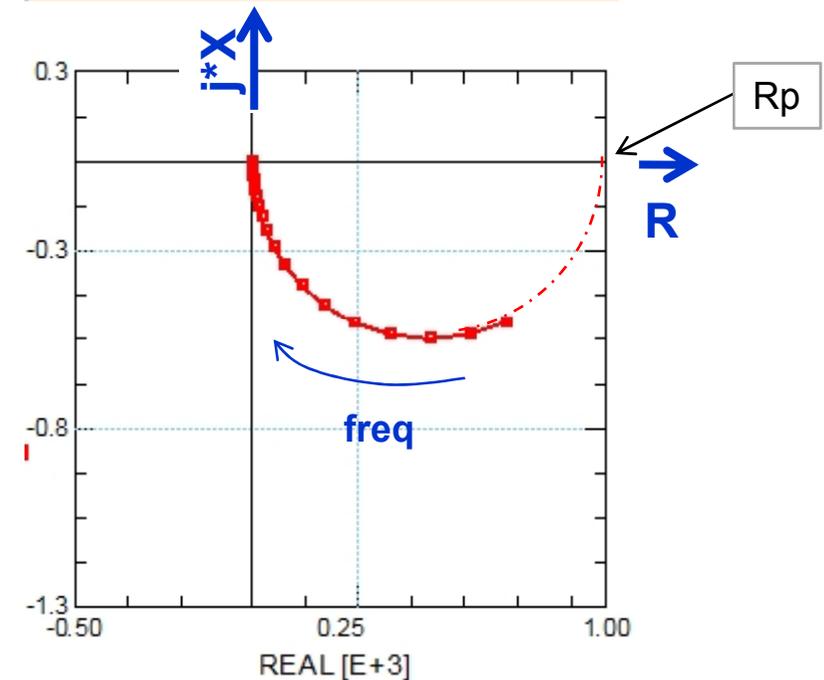
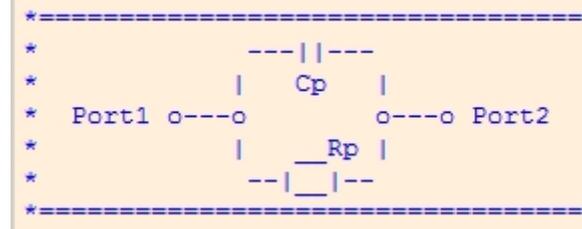
Typical Impedance Traces

Schematic:



Impedance Plot Explanations:
 freq \rightarrow 0: it's an OPEN: $Z = -j * \text{infinite}$
 freq \rightarrow infinite: Cs is a SHORT, $Z = R_s$
 in between: with increasing freq, a straight line bottom \rightarrow up to $Z = R_s$

Schematic:

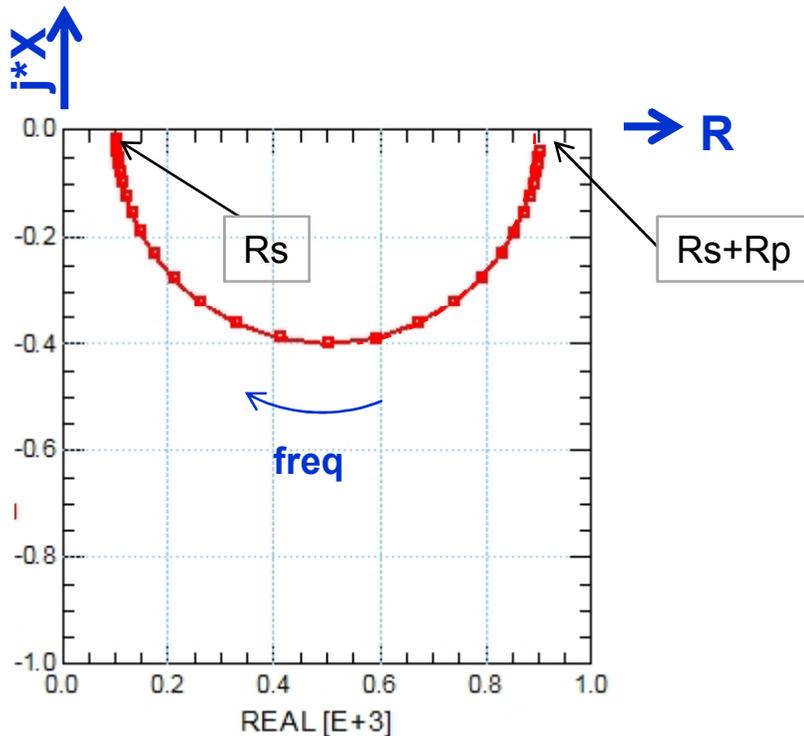
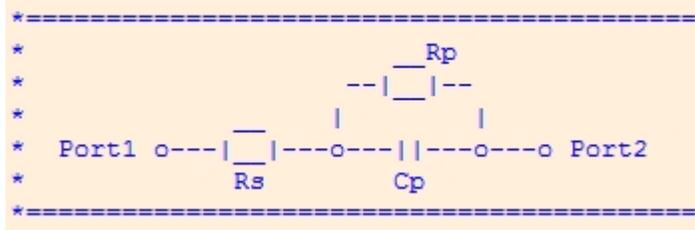


Impedance Plot Explanations:
 freq \rightarrow 0: Cp is an OPEN, $Z = R_p$
 freq \rightarrow infinite: Cp shorts Rp ($Z = 0$)
 in between: a half-circle turning from Rp clock-wise (with increasing freq) to $Z = 0$

Resistors and Capacitors

Typical Impedance Traces

Schematic:



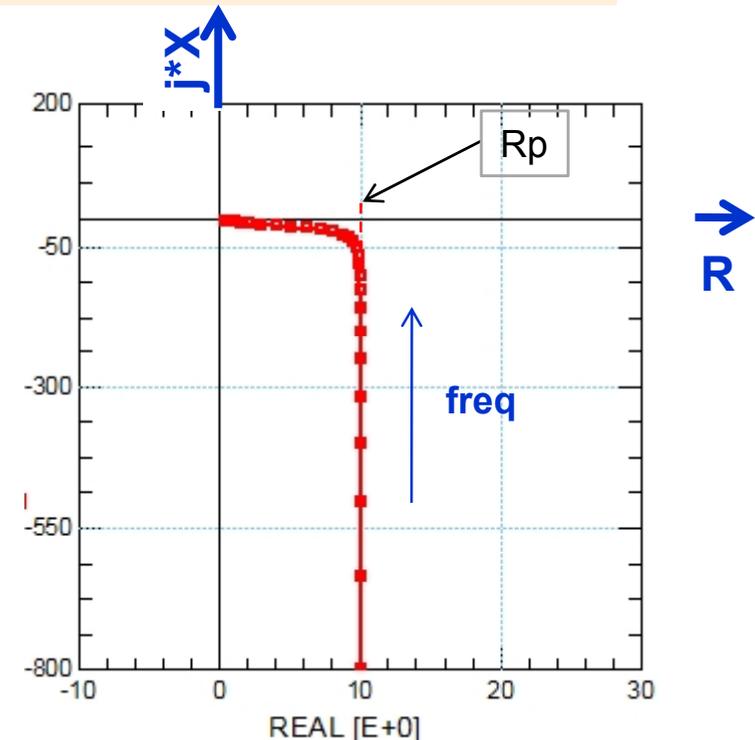
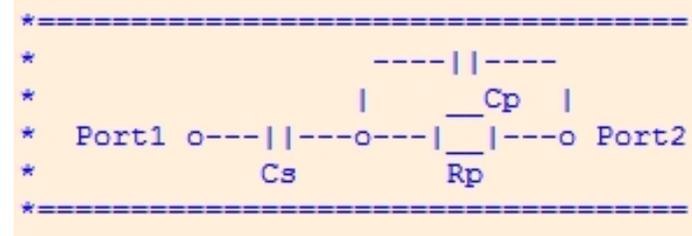
Impedance Plot Explanations:

freq \rightarrow 0: Cp is an OPEN: $Z=R_p+R_s$ is at the right x-axis

freq \rightarrow infinite: Cp shorts Rp: $Z=R_s$

in between: a half-circle turning from R_s+R_p clock-wise (with increasing freq) to $Z=R_s$

Schematic:



Impedance Plot Explanations:

freq \rightarrow 0: it's an OPEN: $Z=-j*\infinite$

freq \rightarrow infinite: Cs and Cp are SHORTS, $Z=0$

in between:

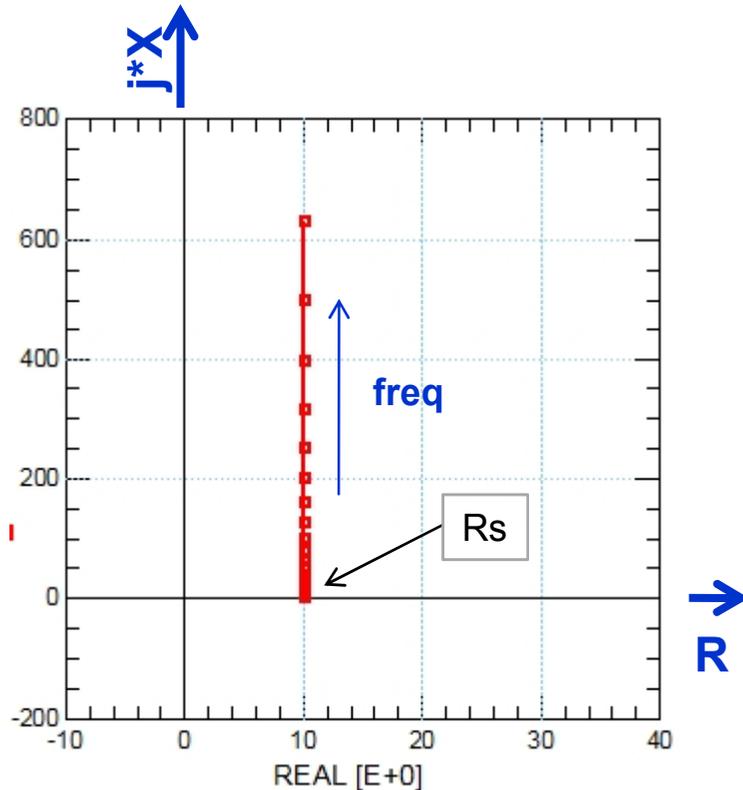
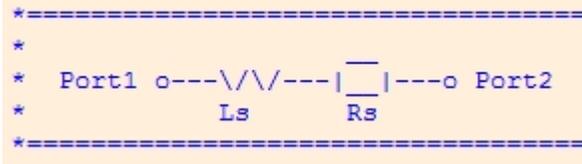
if $C_s \gg C_p$: with increasing freq, a straight line bottom \rightarrow up to $Z=R_p$, then turning to $Z=0$ by a half-circle

if $C_s \ll C_p$: with increasing freq, a straight line bottom \rightarrow up to $Z=R_p$, then turning straight to $Z=0$

Resistor and Inductor

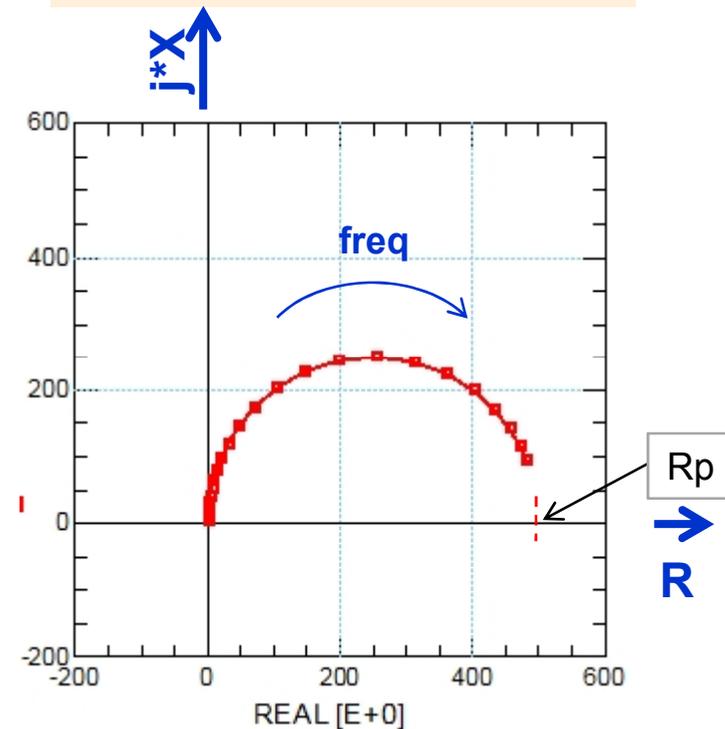
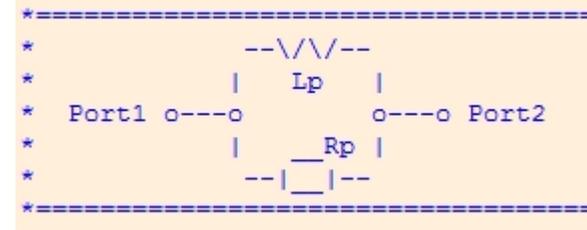
Typical Impedance Traces

Schematic:



Impedance Plot Explanations:
 freq \rightarrow 0: Ls is a SHORT: $Z=R_s$
 freq \rightarrow infinite: Ls is an OPEN, $Z=j*\text{infinite}$
 in between: with increasing freq, a straight line bottom \rightarrow up from $Z=R_s$ to $j*\text{infinite}$

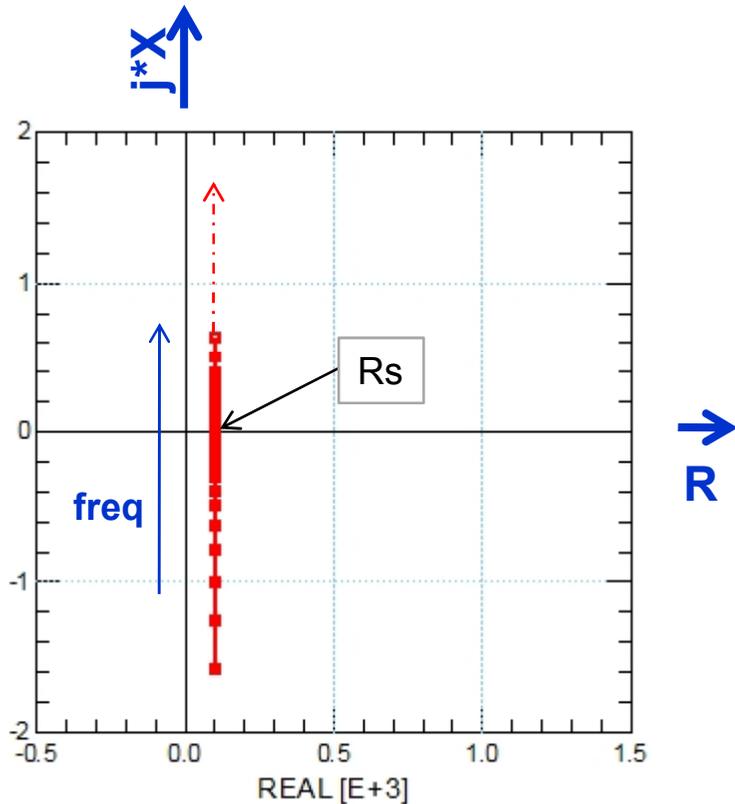
Schematic:



Impedance Plot Explanations:
 freq \rightarrow 0: Lp is a SHORT: $Z=0$
 freq \rightarrow infinite: Lp is an OPEN, $Z=R_p$
 in between: a half-circle turning from $Z=0$ clock-wise (with increasing freq) to $Z=R_p$

Resonance Circuits

Schematic:



Impedance Plot Explanations:

freq \rightarrow 0: Cs is an OPEN: $Z = -j \cdot \text{infinite}$

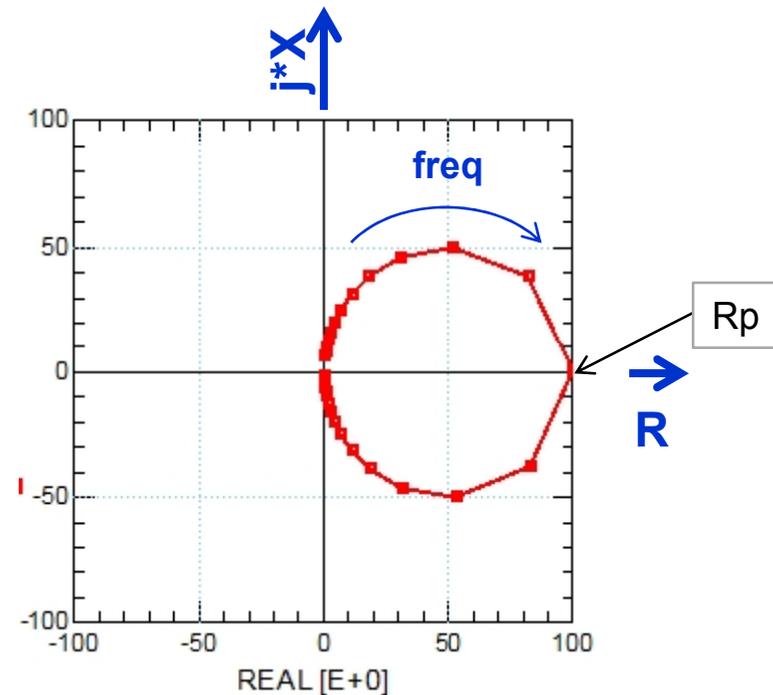
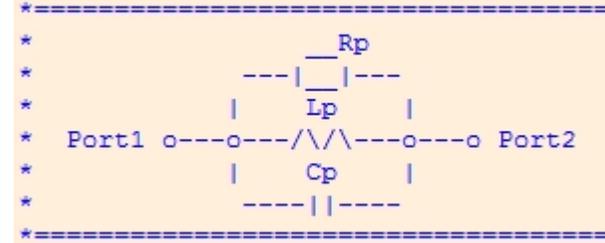
freq \rightarrow infinite: Ls is an OPEN: $Z = j \cdot \text{infinite}$

- in between: resonance: $Z = R_s$

with increasing freq, a straight line bottom \rightarrow up from $Z = -j \cdot \text{infinite}$, towards $Z = R_s$ (resonance), and the further up to $Z = j \cdot \text{infinite}$

Typical Impedance Traces

Schematic:



Impedance Plot Explanations:

freq \rightarrow 0: Lp is a SHORT, $Z = 0$

resonance: the x-axis is crossed at R_p

freq \rightarrow infinite: Cp is a SHORT, $Z = R_p$

Outline

- The Impedance Plane $Z = R + j \cdot X$
and Typical Impedance Traces
- **Impedance Plots from LCRZ Meters**
- Impedance Plots from S-Parameters

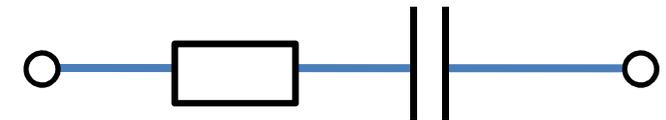
LCRZ Meters



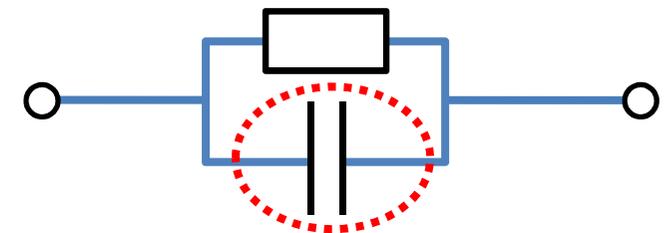
Measure the Frequency-Dependent Impedance, with swept DC Bias.

Dependent on the settings,
this impedance is then converted into

either Resistor + Capacitor



or Resistor // Capacitor



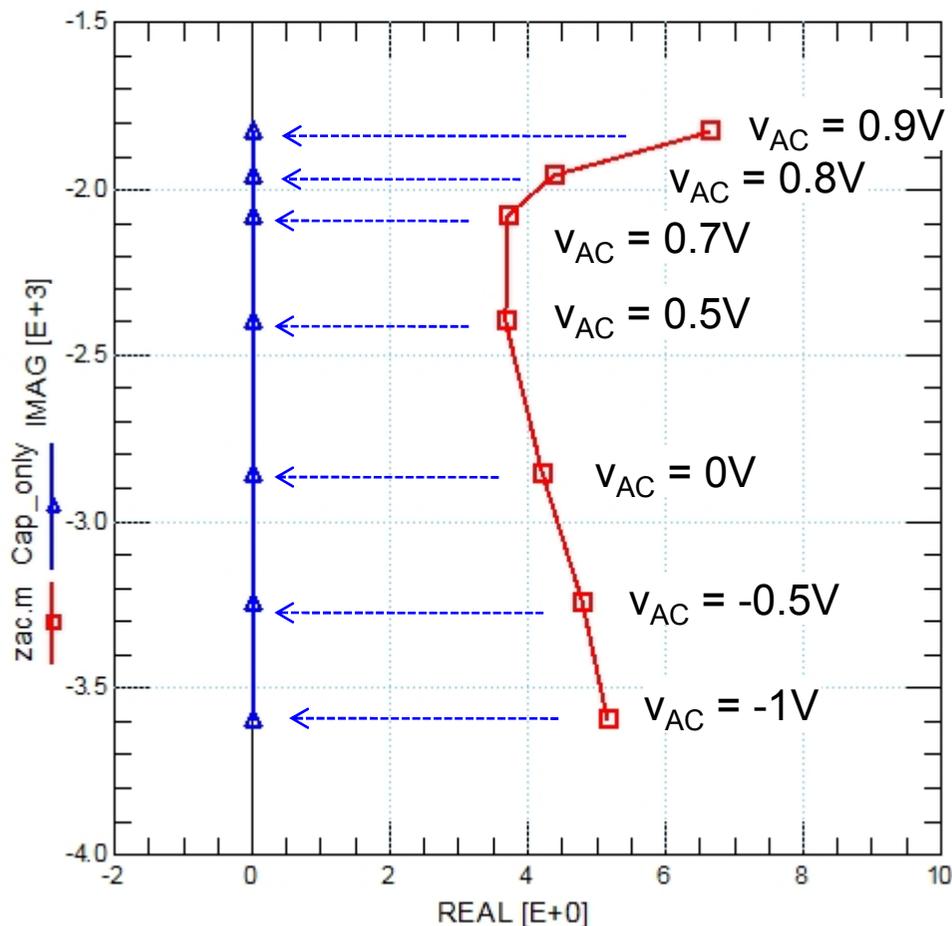
and, usually, **only the capacitance of the Resistor//Capacitor interpretation is applied to modeling**

The real world, however, is the measured, complex Impedance, while a CV measurement curve is just its projection to the y-axis

For Example:

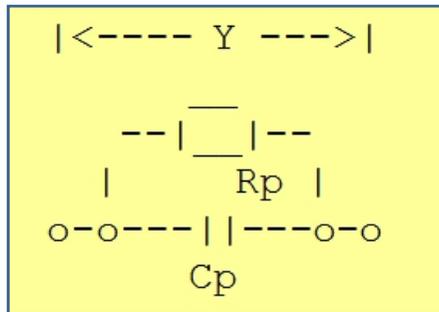
Diode Impedance Measurement @ 1MHz

CV Measurement @ 1MHz



- ***all* physical capacitors also exhibit a loss, the *dissipation factor*. This shows up like a resistor in series to a capacitor. In an Impedance Plot, this means a shift of the impedance curve to the right.**
- when modeling **just the capacitor**, i.e. the projection of the reality to the y-axis, you will certainly get a fit, but the model may not be the correct, physical one.

How to Read Capacitance and *Parallel Resistor* out of an Impedance Z Measurement:



$$Y = \text{REAL}(Y) + j \cdot \text{IMAG}(Y) = \frac{1}{R_p} + j \cdot \omega \cdot C_p$$

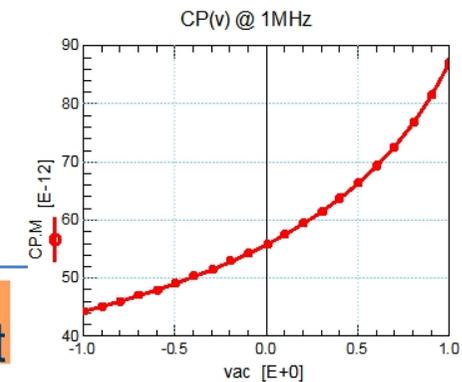
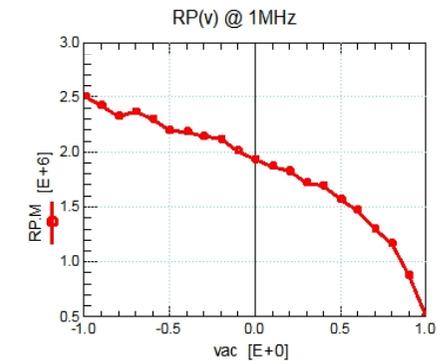
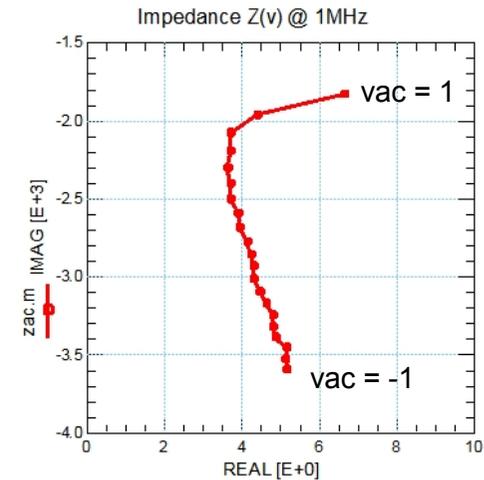


$$R_p = \frac{1}{\text{REAL}\left(\frac{1}{Z}\right)}$$

$$j \cdot \text{IMAG}(Y) = j \cdot \omega \cdot C_p$$

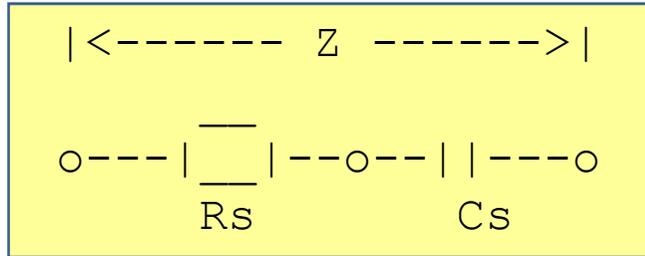


$$C_p = \frac{\text{IMAG}\left(\frac{1}{Z}\right)}{\omega}$$



And ...

How to Read Capacitance and *Series Resistor* (Dissipation Factor of Capacitor) out of an Impedance Z Measurement:



$$Z = \text{REAL}(Z) + j \cdot \text{IMAG}(Z) = R_s + \frac{1}{j \cdot \omega \cdot C_s}$$

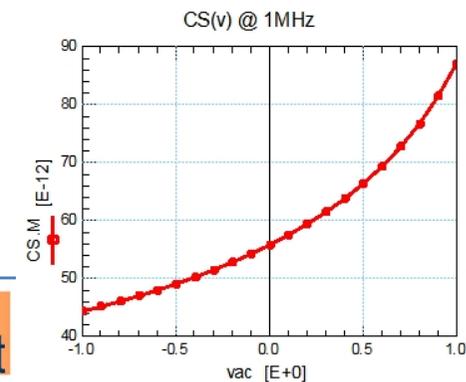
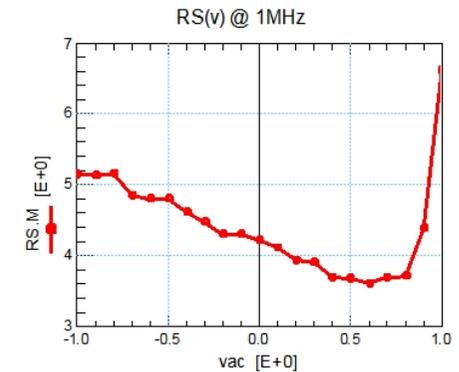
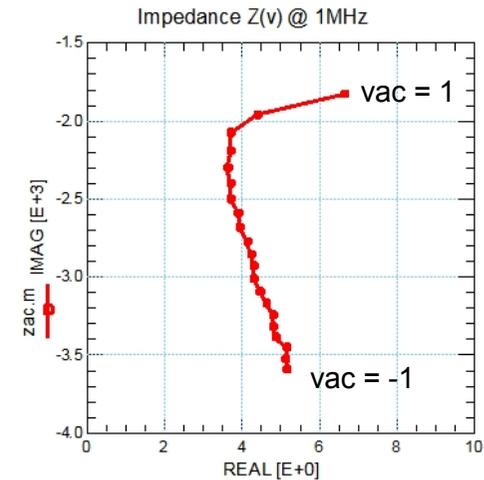


$$R_s = \text{REAL}(Z)$$

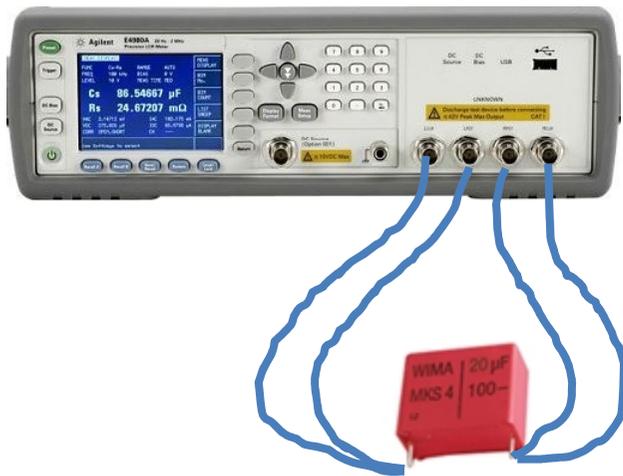
$$j \cdot \text{IMAG}(Z) = \frac{1}{j \cdot \omega \cdot C_s} = \frac{-j}{\omega \cdot C_s}$$



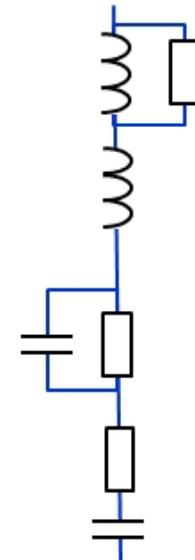
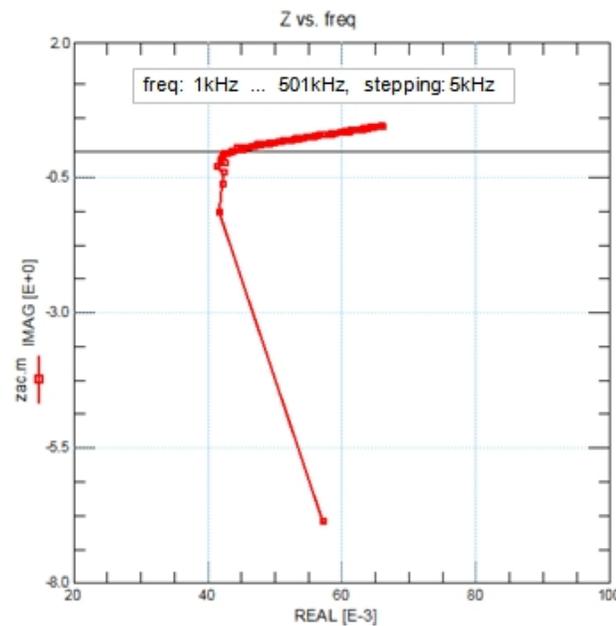
$$C_s = \frac{-1}{\omega \cdot \text{IMAG}(Z)}$$



Practical Aspects of Impedance Analyzer Measurements

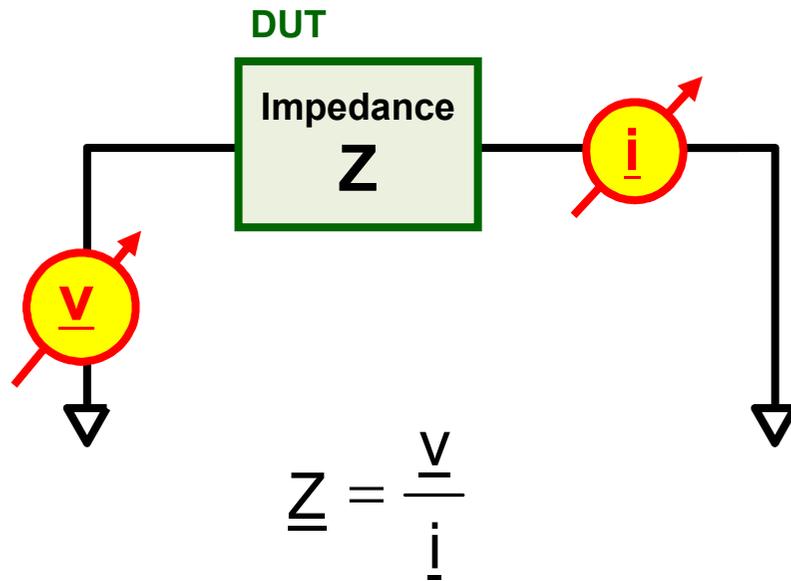


Impedance Plot 20µF Electrolyte Capacitor

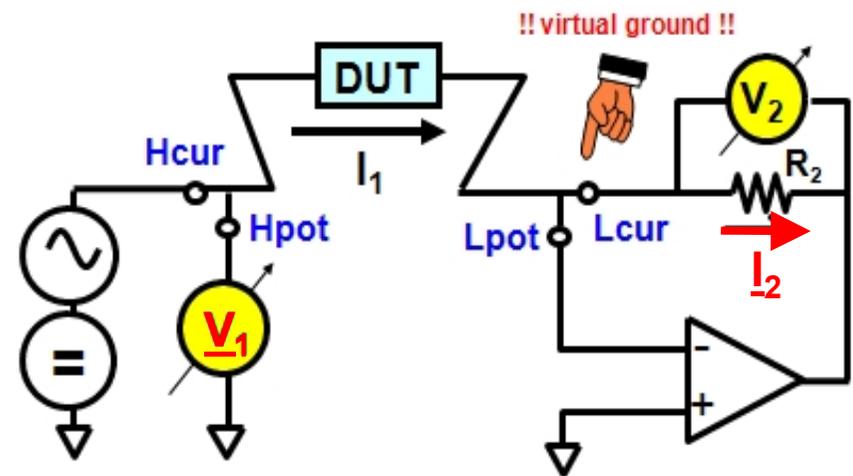


The Basic Impedance Analyzer Measurement Principle

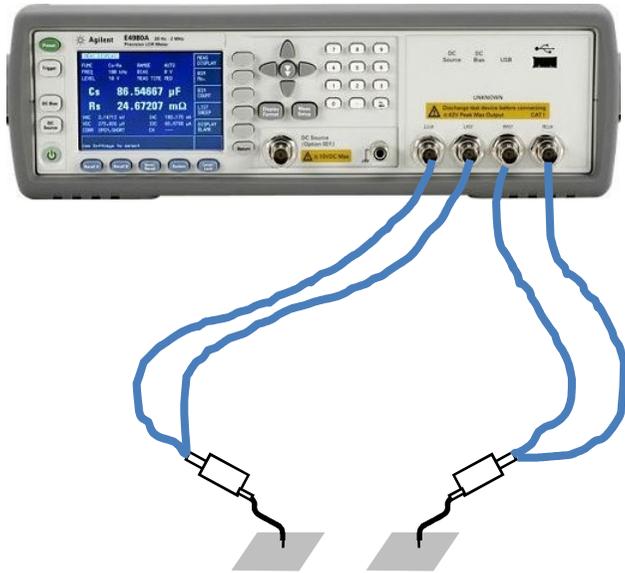
"Diagonal Measurement"



Auto Balancing Bridge Method



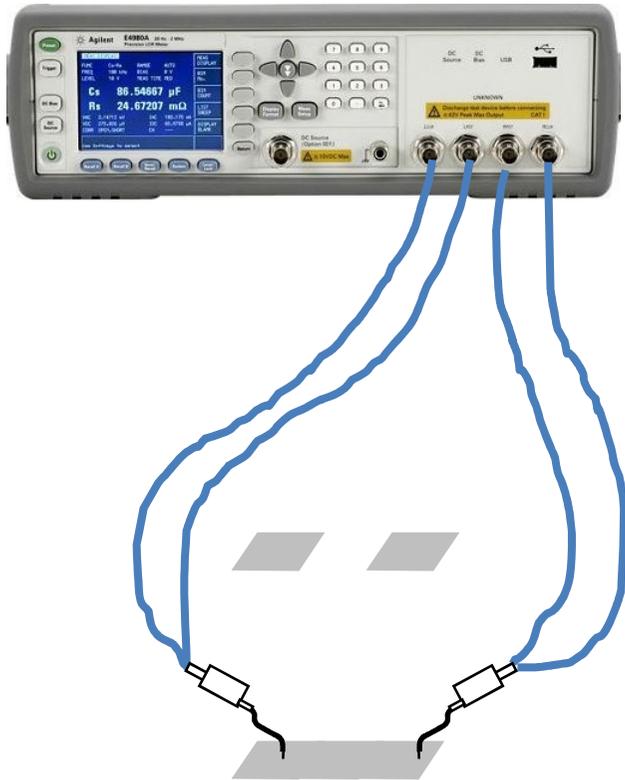
Impedance Analyzer Calibration



The impedances of two Calibration Standards are measured first

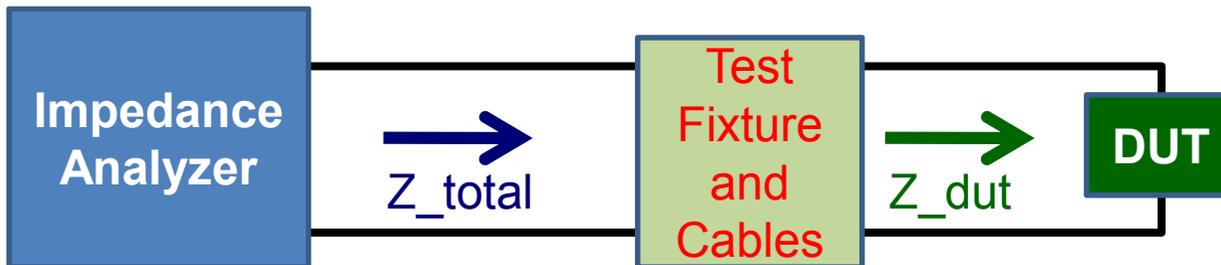
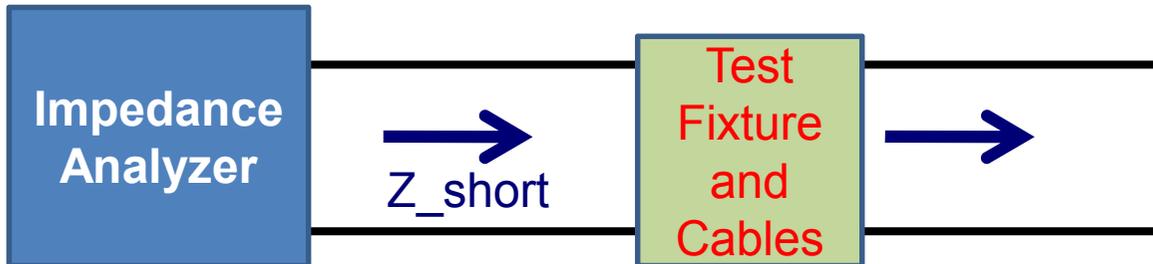
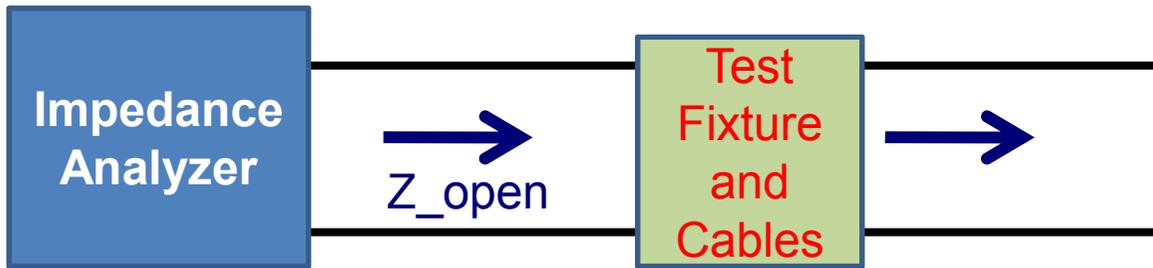
➤ OPEN Cal. Standard measurement

Impedance Analyzer Calibration



The impedances of two Calibration Standards are measured first

- OPEN Cal. Standard measurement
- SHORT Cal. Standard measurement



With Z_{open} and Z_{short} known, the DUT impedance can be calculated from Z_{total}

OPEN-only Calibration:

$$Z_{dut} = (Z_{open} * Z_{total}) / (Z_{open} - Z_{total})$$

OPEN-SHORT Calibration:

$$Z_{dut} = (Z_{short} - Z_{total}) // (Z_{total} - Z_{open}) * Z_{open}$$



Pre-Requisite:

the equivalent schematic of test fixture and cables must be symmetrical.

In Practice:

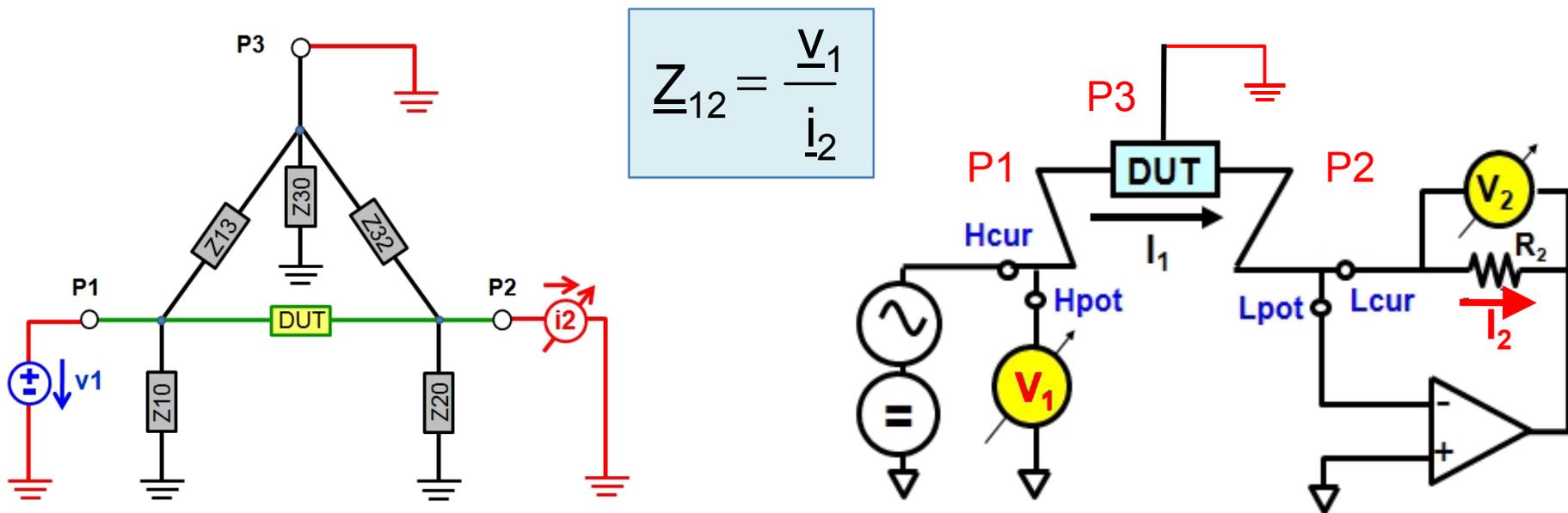
not too long cables,
good connectors

Meas. and Simul. Principle of LCRZ Meters for *Multi-Port Devices*:

- stimulate voltage at one port
- measure the current at the other port
- connect not-involved nodes to ground

and as a result,

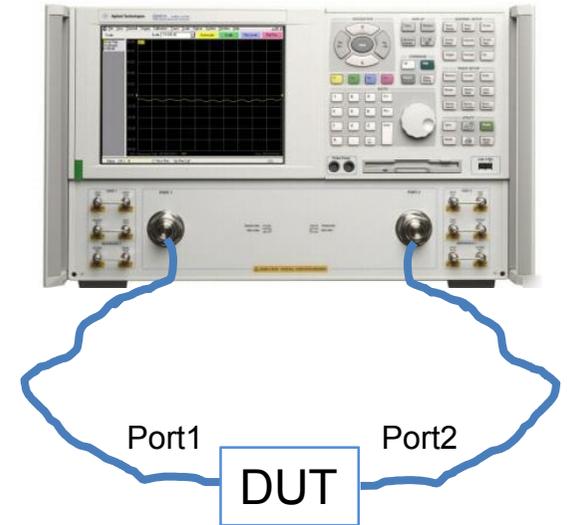
- parasitics at each port to ground are not included in measurement result !



Outline

- The Impedance Plane $Z = R + j \cdot X$
and Typical Impedance Traces
- Impedance Plots from LCRZ Meters
- **Impedance Plots from S-Parameters**

Impedance Plots can also be obtained from S-Parameter Measurements



Calculating 1-Port S-Parameters from 2-Port:

Viewed from Port1, with Port2 *shorted*:

$$S_{_1Port} = S_{11} - \frac{S_{12} \cdot S_{21}}{1 + S_{22}}$$

Viewed from Port2, with Port1 *shorted*:

$$S_{_1Port} = S_{22} - \frac{S_{12} \cdot S_{21}}{1 + S_{11}}$$

$$\text{Impedance} = \frac{1 + S_{_1Port}}{1 - S_{_1Port}} \cdot Z_0$$

Interpreting Two-Port S-Parameter Measurements by a PI Schematic

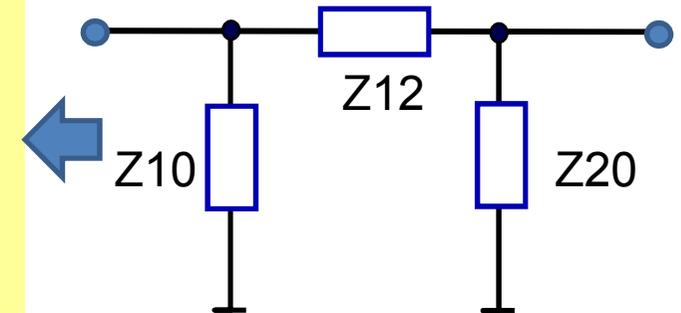
$$S \text{ matrix} = \begin{pmatrix} S.11 & S.12 \\ S.21 & S.22 \end{pmatrix}$$



$$Y \text{ matrix} = \begin{pmatrix} Y.11 & Y.12 \\ Y.21 & Y.22 \end{pmatrix}$$

Assuming an underlying PI schematic for the DUT, convert the de-embedded S-parameters to Y-parameters, and calculate the impedances of the PI schematic branches

$$= \begin{pmatrix} \frac{1}{Z_{10}} + \frac{1}{Z_{12}} & \frac{-1}{Z_{12}} \\ \frac{-1}{Z_{12}} & \frac{1}{Z_{20}} + \frac{1}{Z_{12}} \end{pmatrix}$$



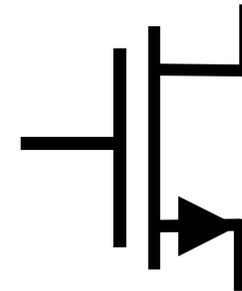
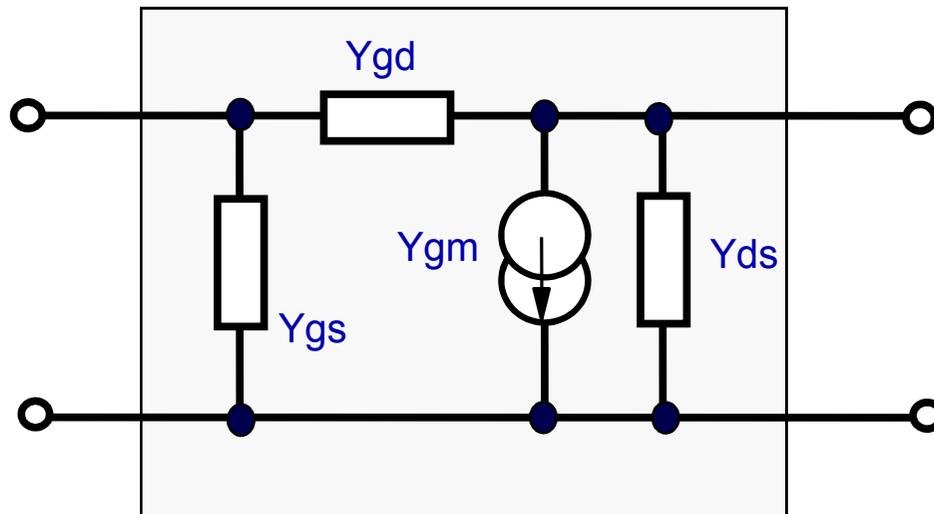
$$\frac{1}{Y.11 + Y.12} = Z_{10}$$

$$-\frac{1}{Y.12} = Z_{12}$$

$$\frac{1}{Y.22 + Y.21} = Z_{20}$$

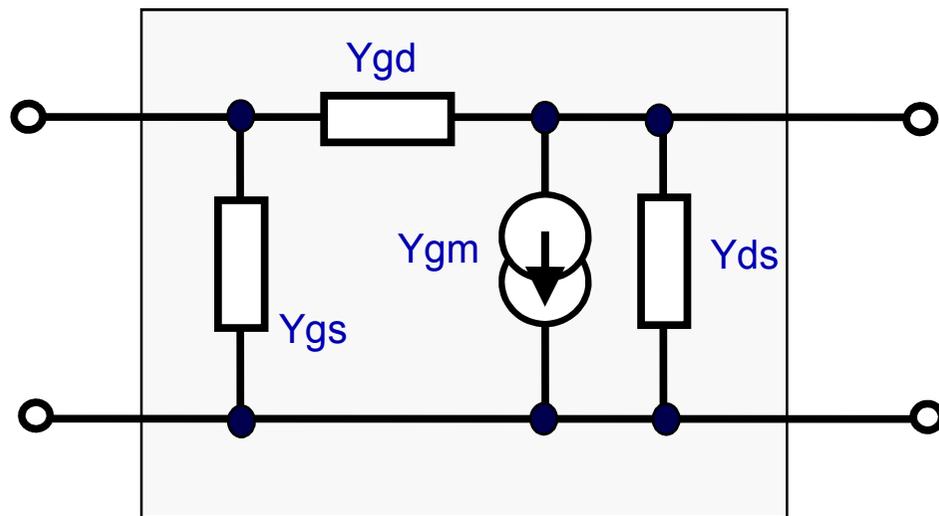
all variables are represented by complex numbers

A Special Case: Transistor PI Schematic Modeling



The Idea

- 👉 Convert the S-Parameter Matrix
- to a Y Matrix,
 - and apply the PI Schematic Interpretation for Transistor Modeling



$$\begin{pmatrix} Y_{11} & Y_{12} \\ Y_{21} & Y_{22} \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} Y_{gs} + Y_{gd} & -Y_{gd} \\ Y_{gm} - Y_{gd} & Y_{ds} + Y_{gd} \end{pmatrix}$$



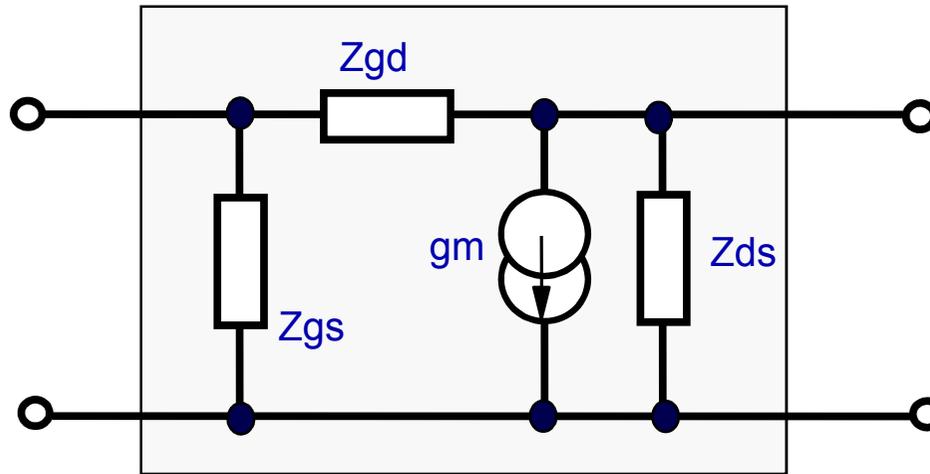
$$Y_{gs} = Y_{11} + Y_{12}$$

$$Y_{gd} = -Y_{12}$$

$$Y_{gm} = Y_{21} - Y_{12} = g_m * \exp(-j\omega TAU)$$

$$Y_{ds} = Y_{22} + Y_{12}$$

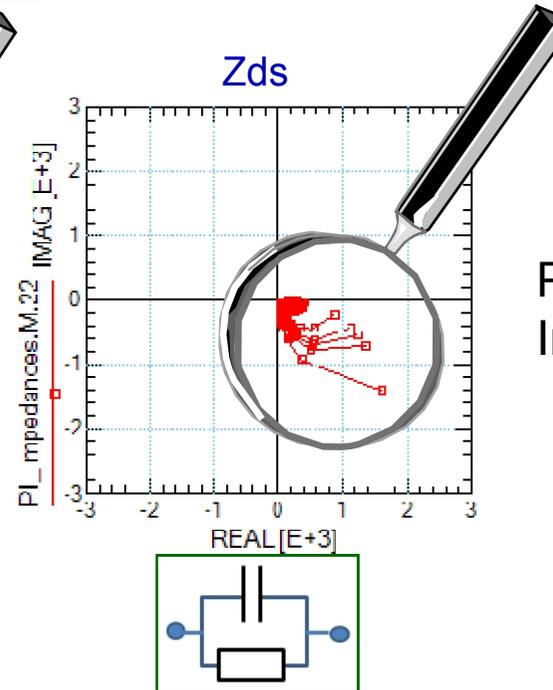
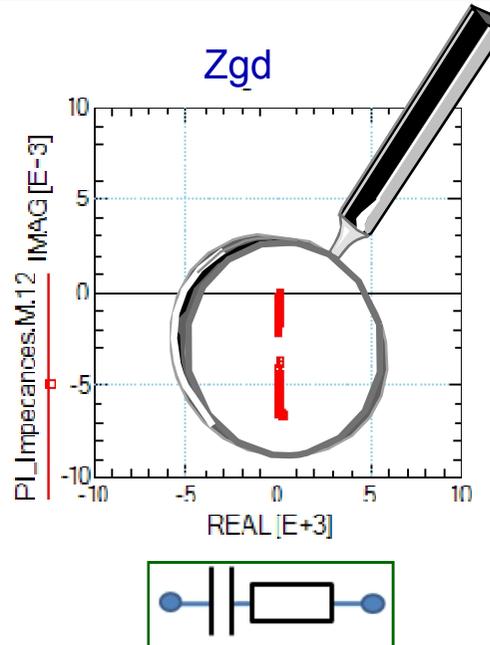
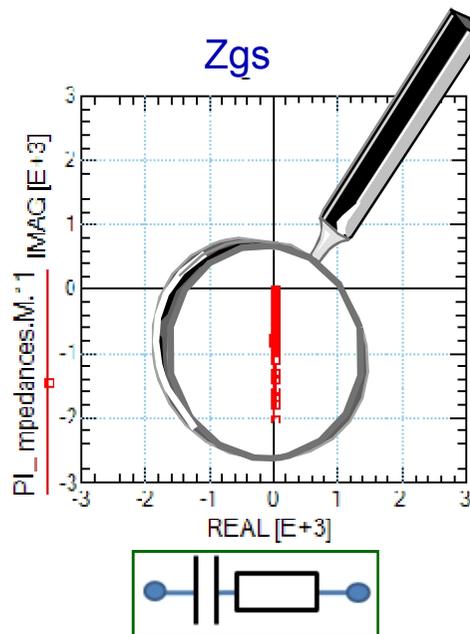
👉 A Best-Practice Intermediate Step:
Inspect/Verify First the PI-Schematic Impedances



$$Z_{gs} = 1 / Y_{gs}$$

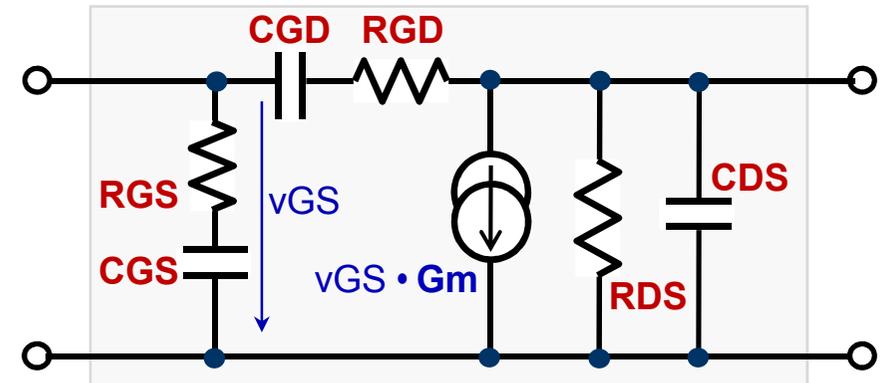
$$Z_{gd} = 1 / Y_{gd}$$

$$Z_{ds} = 1 / Y_{ds}$$



PI Impedances
 Inspection

How to Get the Inner PI Components for Quasistatic HEMT or MOSFET



1. Convert de-embedded S-parameters to Z, and strip-off external inductors and resistors

2. Convert to Y-parameters and calculate complex impedances, admittances and Gm

$$Z_{10} = (Y_{11} + Y_{12})^{-1}$$

Impedance Port1 -> GND

$$Z_{12} = (-Y_{12})^{-1}$$

Impedance Port1 -> Port2

$$G_m = Y_{21} - Y_{12} = GM \cdot e^{-j \cdot 2\pi \cdot \text{freq} \cdot \text{TAU}}$$

Voltage -> Current Amplification

$$Y_{20} = Y_{22} + Y_{12}$$

Admittance Port2 -> GND

3. Finally, get

$$R_{GS} = \text{REAL}(Z_{10})$$

$$C_{GS} = -(\text{IMAG}(Z_{10})^{-1}) / (2\pi \cdot \text{freq})$$

$$R_{GD} = \text{REAL}(Z_{12})$$

$$C_{GD} = -(\text{IMAG}(Z_{12})^{-1}) / (2\pi \cdot \text{freq})$$

$$GM = \text{MAG}(G_m)$$

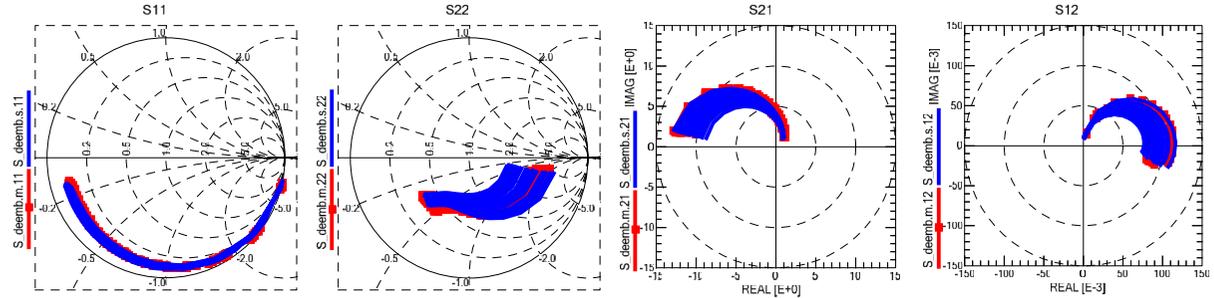
$$\text{TAU} = -\text{PHASE}(G_m) / (2\pi \cdot \text{freq})$$

$$R_{DS} = (\text{REAL}(Y_{20}))^{-1}$$

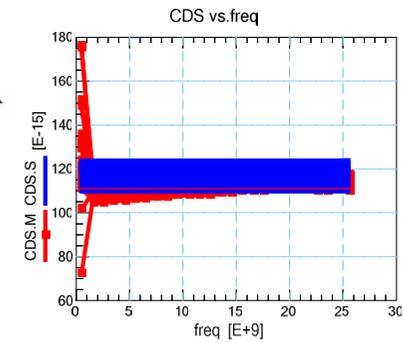
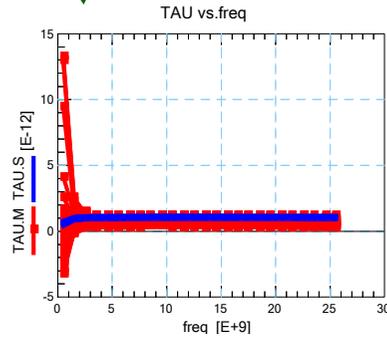
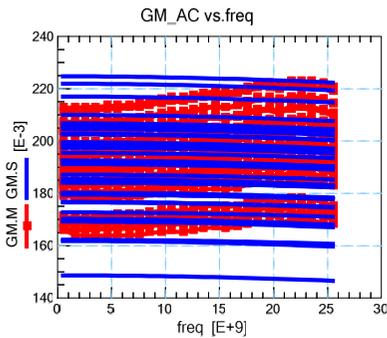
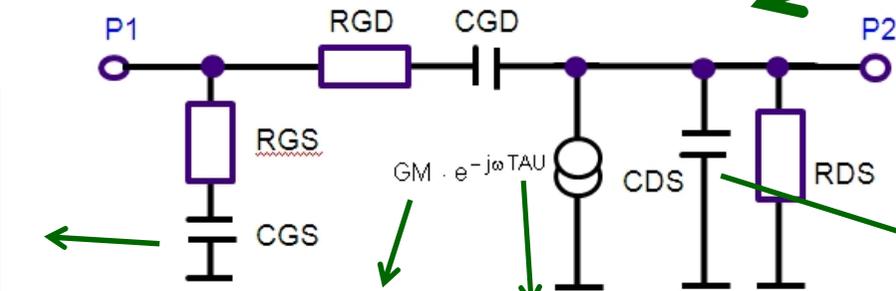
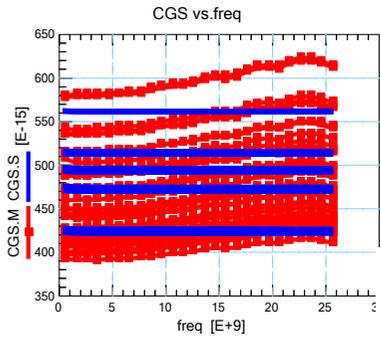
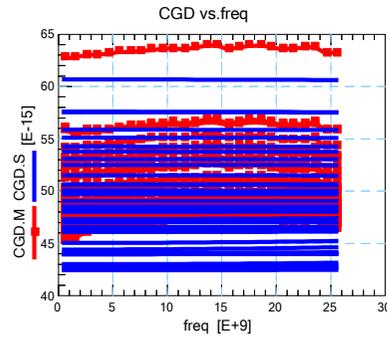
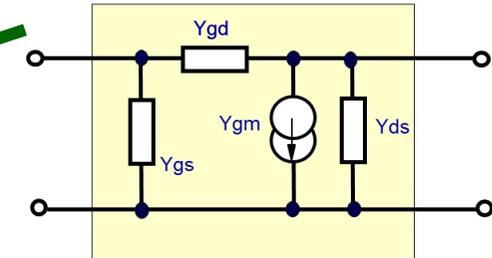
$$C_{DS} = \text{IMAG}(Y_{20}) / (2\pi \cdot \text{freq})$$

HEMT Inner-PI Modeling Example

S-Parameter

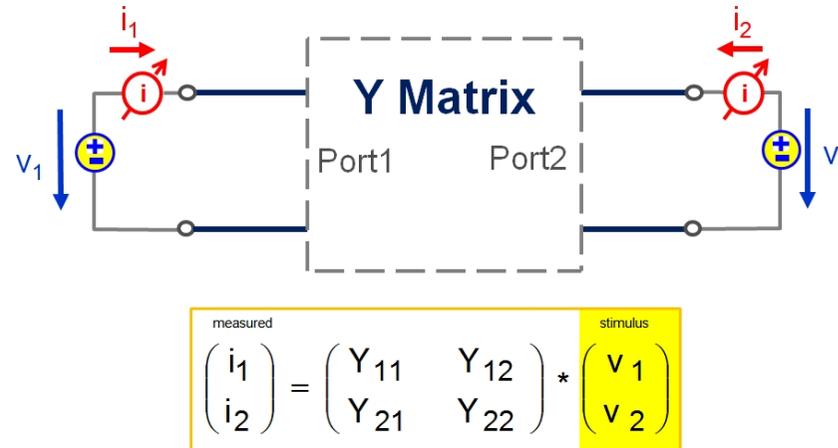


Y-Parameter



Calculating the Branch-to-Branch Impedances of *Multi-Ports*

- The Y-matrix relates the currents into the ports with the stimulating port voltages.
- The matrix elements unit is admittance.



The Y-matrix is very useful when the impedances between the ports need to be extracted and analyzed, especially for multi-port applications. This is due to the voltage stimulation at the ports.

- 👉 When interested in the impedance between a certain port A, and another port B, all voltages, except the one at port A, have to be set to zero.
Then, the current for the impedance calculation is not measured at this port A, but rather at port B.

Of course, all other shorted ports do also sink currents, provided by the voltage source at port A, but they are not involved in the port B current measurement.

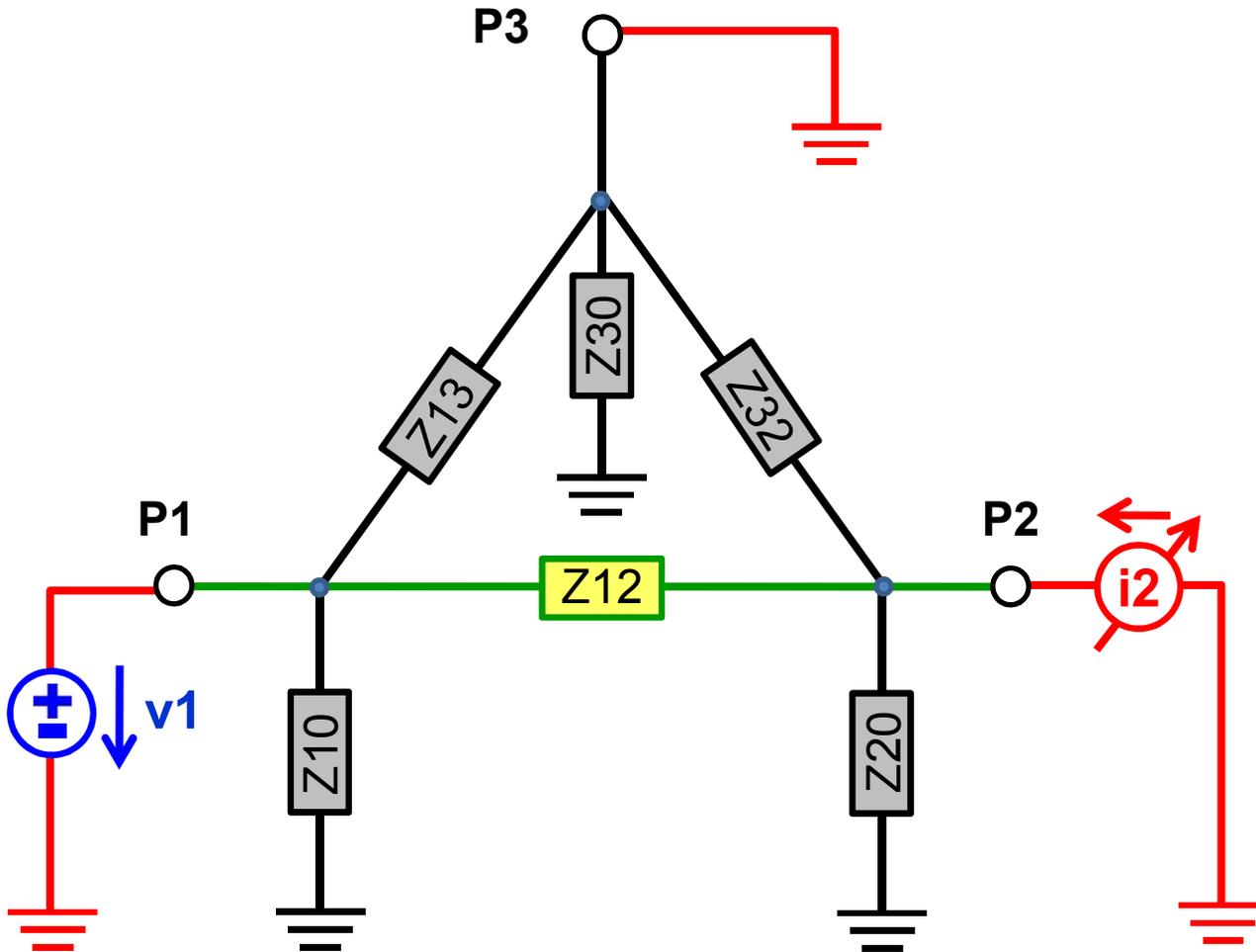
- 👉 In other words, the impedance Z, between port A and the shorted port B, is simply

$$Z_{BA} = -\frac{1}{Y_{BA}}$$

How to Calculate the Branch Impedances of a 3 Port

Example:

Port1-to-Port2-Impedance Z_{12}



From an inspection of the 3-Port Y-Matrix definition:

$$\begin{pmatrix} i_1 \\ i_2 \\ i_3 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} Y_{11} & Y_{12} & Y_{13} \\ Y_{21} & Y_{22} & Y_{23} \\ Y_{31} & Y_{32} & Y_{33} \end{pmatrix} \cdot \begin{pmatrix} v_1 \\ v_2 \\ v_3 \end{pmatrix}$$

apply a SHORT to Port2 and Port3, stimulate a voltage at Port1, measure the current at Port2 and calculate:

$$Z_{12} = \frac{v_1}{-i_2} = -(Y_{21})^{-1}$$

Note:

the Y-Matrix indexing is
Admittance **to** from

e.g. the admittance
from Port1 **to** Port2 is Y_{21}

Note: for the Y-matrix, mind the currents *into* the DUT

How to Calculate the Branch Impedances of a 3 Port

At a Glance:

From the 3-Port Y-Matrix:

$$\begin{pmatrix} i_1 \\ i_2 \\ i_3 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} Y_{11} & Y_{12} & Y_{13} \\ Y_{21} & Y_{22} & Y_{23} \\ Y_{31} & Y_{32} & Y_{33} \end{pmatrix} \cdot \begin{pmatrix} v_1 \\ v_2 \\ v_3 \end{pmatrix}$$

calculate the inter-port branch impedances:

👉

$$Z_{12} = -(Y_{12})^{-1}$$

$$Z_{13} = -(Y_{13})^{-1}$$

$$Z_{32} = -(Y_{32})^{-1}$$

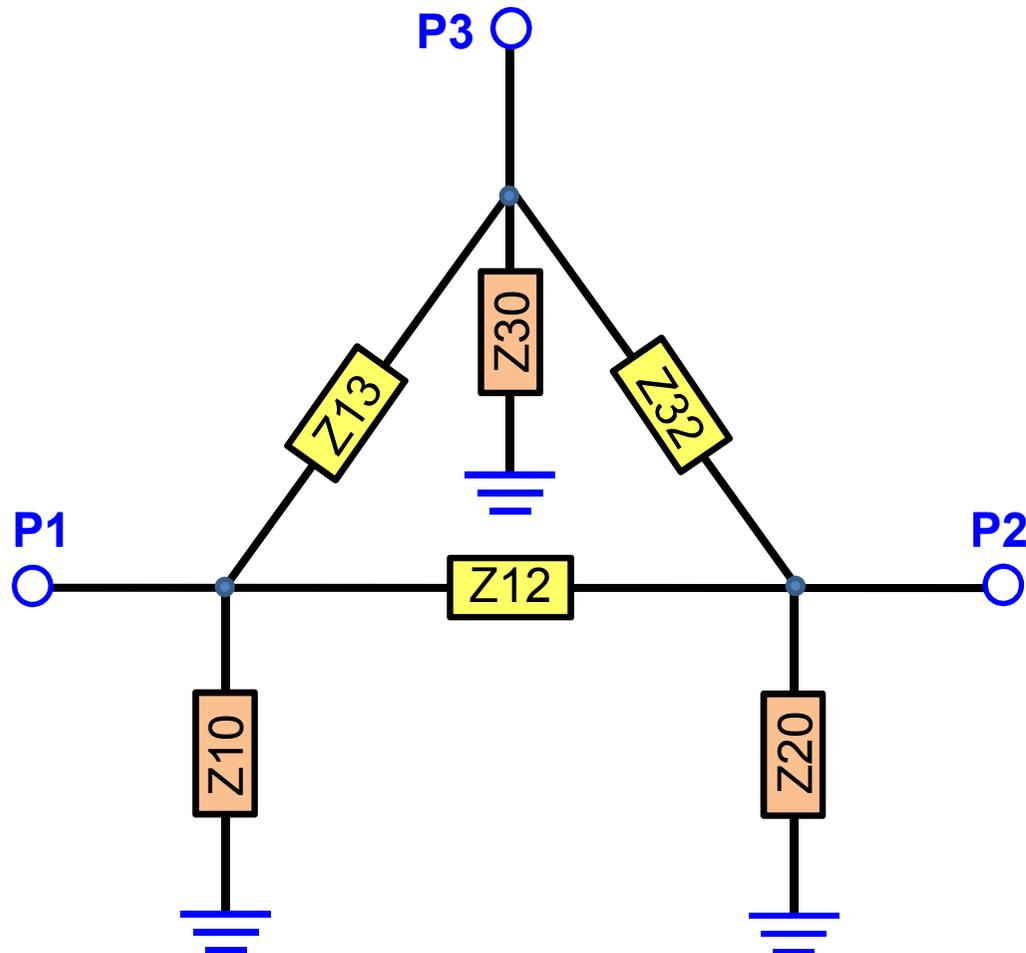
and the pin-to-ground impedances:

👉

$$Z_{10} = (Y_{11} + Y_{12} + Y_{13})^{-1}$$

$$Z_{20} = (Y_{21} + Y_{22} + Y_{23})^{-1}$$

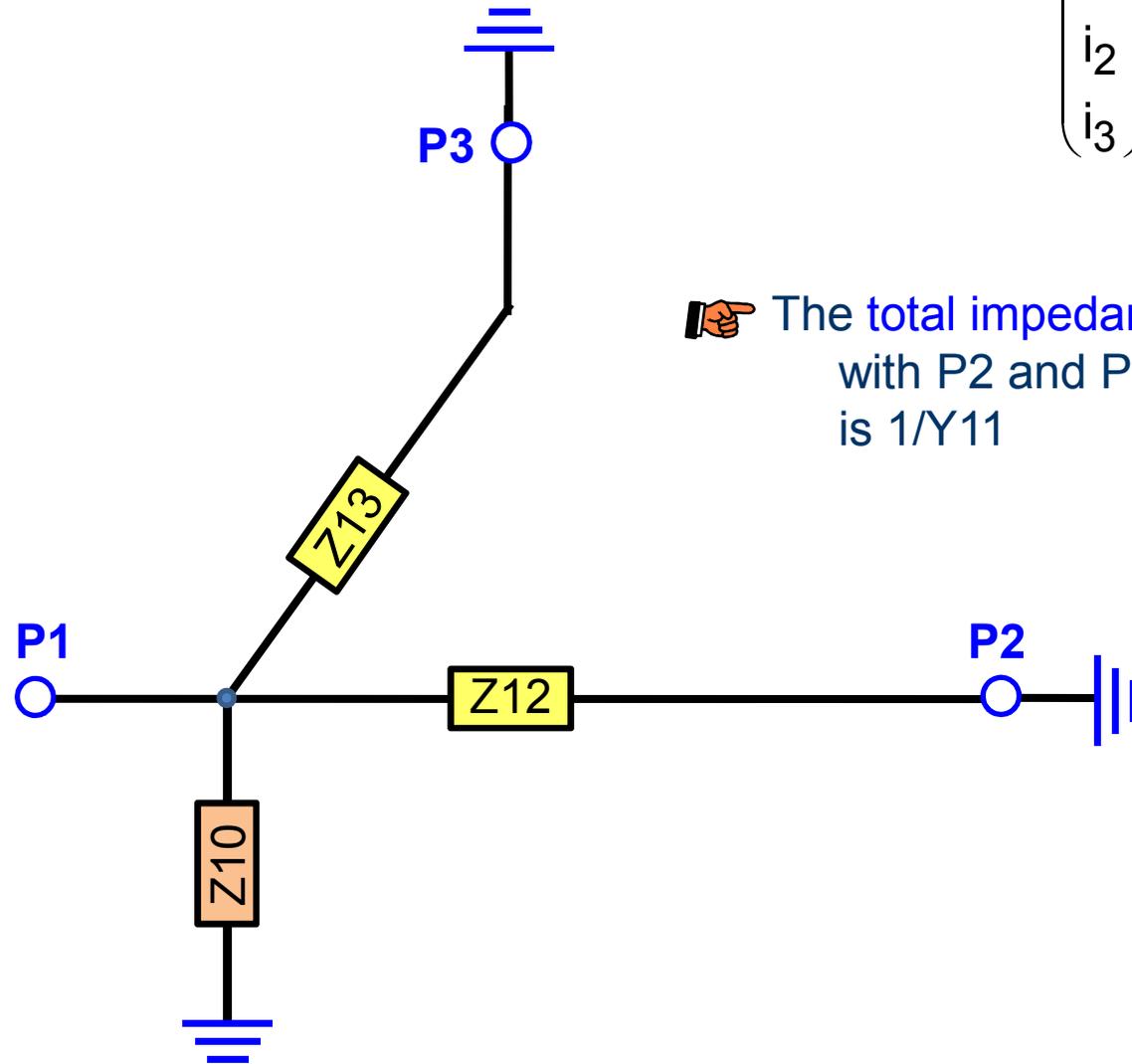
$$Z_{30} = (Y_{31} + Y_{32} + Y_{33})^{-1}$$



How to Calculate the Branch Impedances of a 3 Port

continued:

$$\begin{pmatrix} i_1 \\ i_2 \\ i_3 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} Y_{11} & Y_{12} & Y_{13} \\ Y_{21} & Y_{22} & Y_{23} \\ Y_{31} & Y_{32} & Y_{33} \end{pmatrix} \cdot \begin{pmatrix} v_1 \\ v_2 \\ v_3 \end{pmatrix}$$



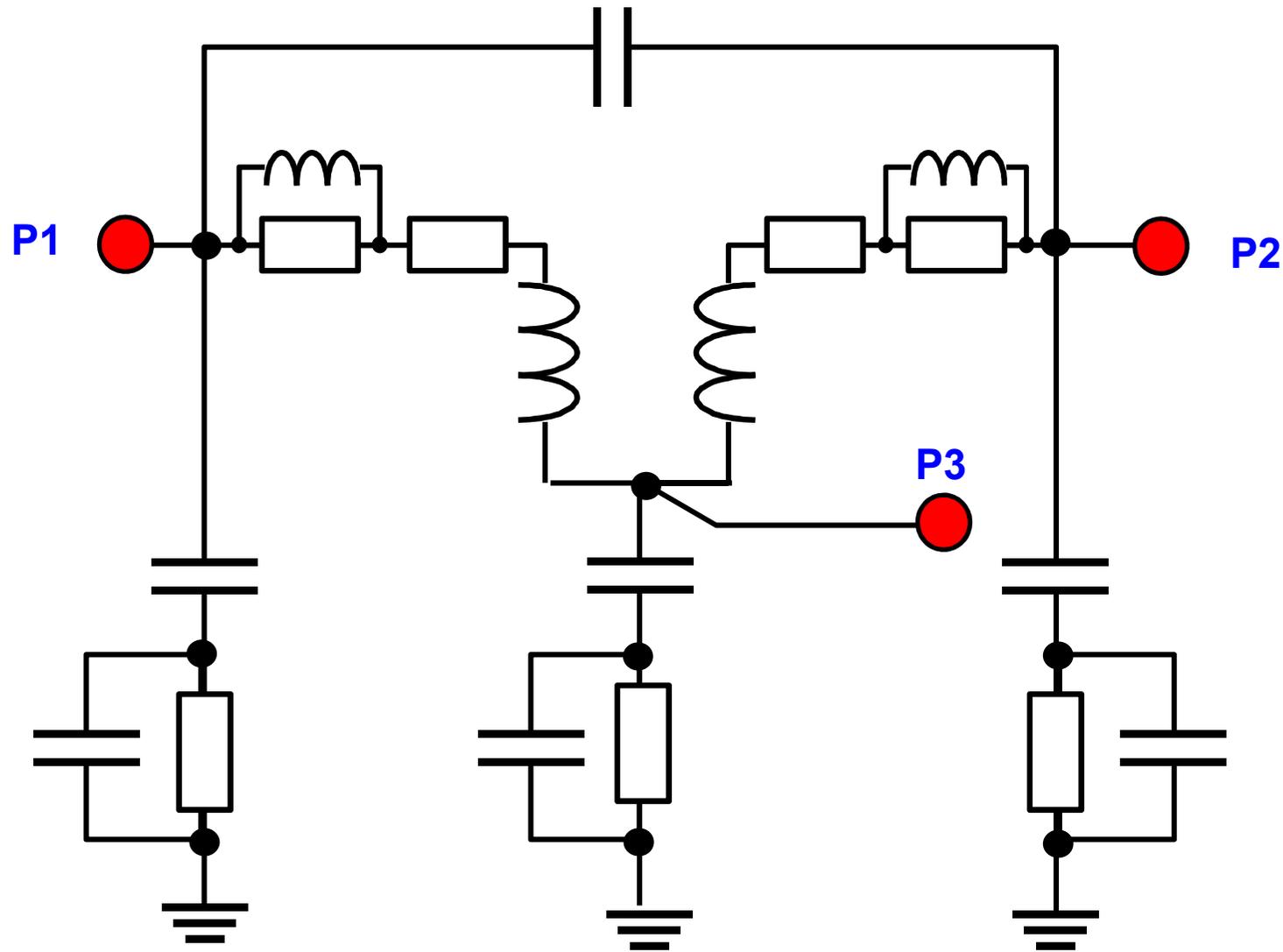
👉 The total impedance at P1,
with P2 and P3 grounded,
is $1/Y_{11}$

and so on:

At P2, with P1 and P3 grounded,
the total impedance is $1/Y_{22}$

And at P3, with P1 and P2 grounded,
it is $1/Y_{33}$

Application Example: 3-Port Transformer



Wrap-Up

- **The Impedance Plane $Z = R + j \cdot X$ and its interpretation is an important tool for device modeling engineers to develop accurate Spice models.**
- **Impedance Plots can be obtained by LCRZ Meters**
- **and from S-Parameters of Network Analyzers**



Dr.-Ing. Franz Sischka

**Consulting Services
for Electronic Device
Measurements,
Data Verification
and Modeling**

www.SisConsult.de

eMail: contact@SisConsult.de