

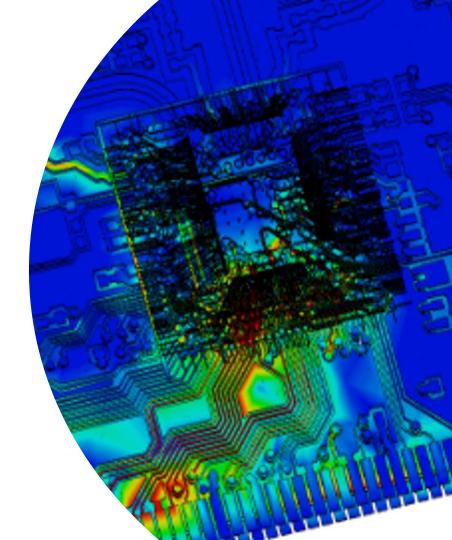
Meeting the Challenges of High Frequency Simulation

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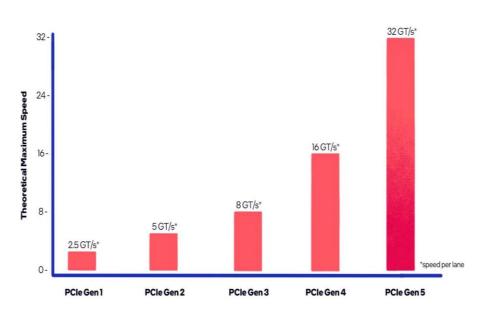
Outline

- **▶** Challenges in HF Simulation
- **Geometry**
- **Materials**
- **►** Analysis Settings
- Summary



High Frequency Requirements

- ► There has been a significant increase in the performance requirements for signal and communication.
 - PCle Gen 5 operating at 32 GT/s
 - Testing and simulation required up to 50 GHz
- ➤ Simulation is an essential part of component and system design.
- ► Components and systems should be validated early in the design process.
- ► Can only be achieved through simulation.



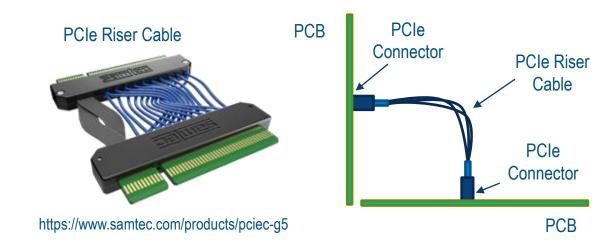
https://www.intel.com/content/www/us/en/gaming/resources/what-is-pcie-4-and-why-does-it-matter.html





What are the challenges in high frequency simulation?

- ► Components to consider:
 - PCB
 - Connector
 - Riser cable
 - Connector
 - PCB

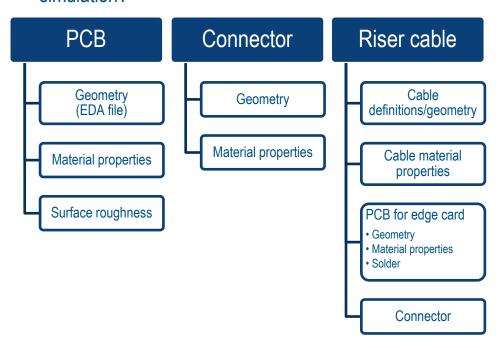


- ► To perform the full simulation we need detailed information about all components and properties. Often not available need to use datasheet or test data.
- ► How can we address these challenges?



What are the challenges in high frequency simulation?

► What information do we need for accurate simulation?

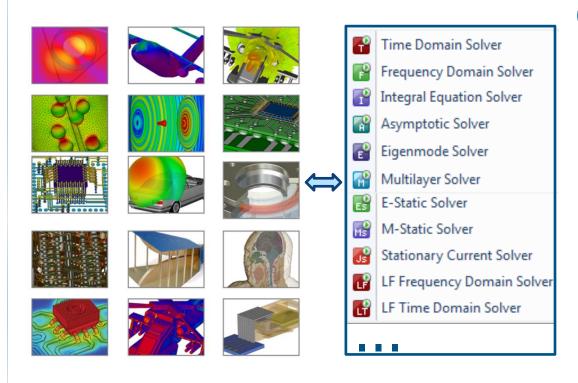


- ▶ Geometry
- Material properties
 - Complex, frequency dependent
- ► Ports (many)
- ► Mesh for accurate simulation
- ➤ Solver
 - High frequency 50 GHz
 - Broadband simulation
- ▶ Post-processing





CST STUDIO SUITE®



Complete Technology

Offer the most appropriate simulation technique for each type of application

- 4 general purpose solvers +20 application-specific solvers
- Covering EM + circuit + multiphysics
- Seamlessly integrated in the same intuitive user interface
- High performance computing



CST STUDIO SUITE Products



CST MICROWAVE STUDIO

Our Flagship Product for 3D EM Simulations for high frequencies



CSTEM STUDIO

3D EM Simulation for statics and low frequencies



CST PARTICLE STUDIO

Interaction of EM Fields with Free Moving Charges



CST MPHYSICS STUDIO

Thermal and Mechanical Effects of EM Fields



CST CABLE STUDIO

For signal integrity and EMC/EMI analysis of cable harnesses



CST PCB STUDIO

For signal and power integrity and EMC/EMI analysis of PCBs



CSTBOARDCHECK

For signal integrity and rule-checking of PCB layouts



CST DESIGN STUDIO

Circuit Simulator, Coupling of 3D Models, System Assembly Modeling





Geometry

- ▶ What do we need?
- ▶ What do we have?
- ► What can we get?
- ► What is important?
- ► Import from CAD, EDA
- ► What to do if we don't have the geometry?
 - Use Touchstone or SPICE model in system simulation
 - Get protected model from the supplier?
- ▶ How can the Riser cable be included in the simulation?
 - 3D model how much to include?
 - Is the bending and twisting of the cable important/significant?

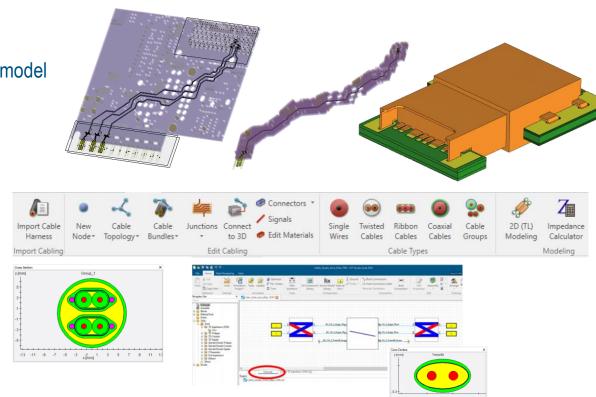




Geometry

CST Studio Suite

- ► EDA import function build 3D PCB model
- ► Import from CAD
 - Any 3D geometry
 - Import from 3DEXPERIENCE
- ► CST Protected Model
- ► CST Cable Studio
- ► CST Design Studio
 - Circuit 3D co-simulation
 - Multiple 3D models
 - Touchstone or SPICE files







Geometry

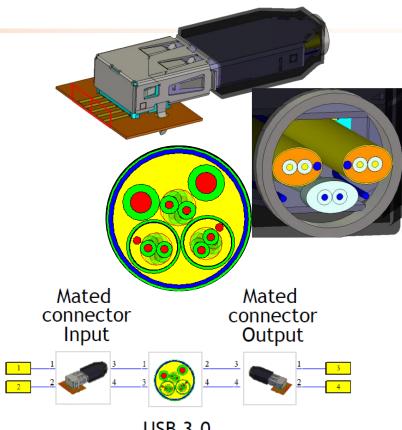
Riser Cable

- ► Connector and/or edge cards
 - 3D geometry
- ► Cables
 - Start and end of cable could be 3D for greater detail
 - Use cable studio representation for more efficient modelling
 - Co-simulation between cable model and 3D model
 - Consider twisting or bending of the cables?



https://www.samtec.com/products/pciec-g5

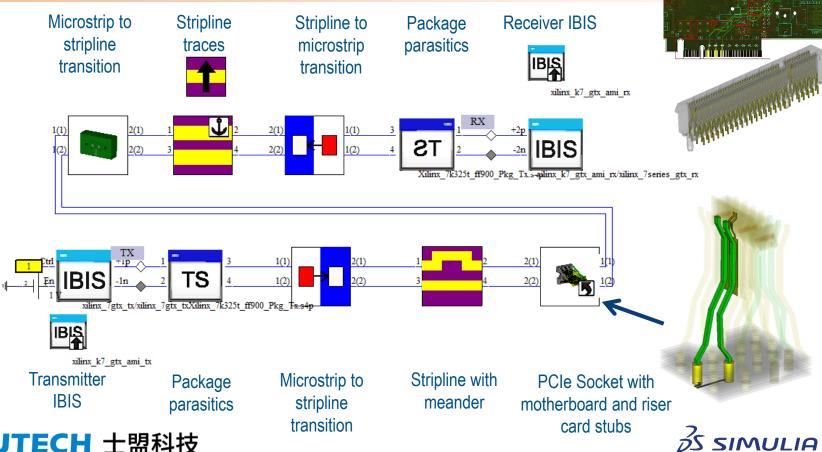




USB 3.0 cable



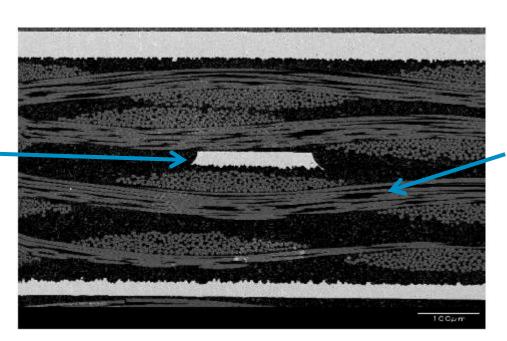
Example: Full Channel Simulation



Material Properties

Metal

- Conductivity
- Roughness



Dielectric

- Permittivity (f)
- Loss Tangent (f)



Material Characterization – Data Sheet



Material properties on datasheet may not cover full frequency range required

D. Eterreu

A. @ 100 MHz

B. @ 1 GHz

C. @ 2 GHz

D. @ 5 GHz

E. @ 10 GHz

B. @ 1 GHz

C. @ 2 GHz

D. @ 5 GHz

E. @ 10 GHz

A. @ 100 MHz

https://www.isola-group.com/wp-content/uploads/data-sheets/fr408hr.pdf



3.72

3.69

3.68

3.64

3.65

0.0072

0.0091

0.0092

0.0098

0.0095

Material Properties

CST Studio Suite

CST STUDIO SUITE® provides a user-friendly and automatic way to extract broadband material properties from measured data



Macros/Material/Extract complex permittivity from measured S-Parameters (broadband)



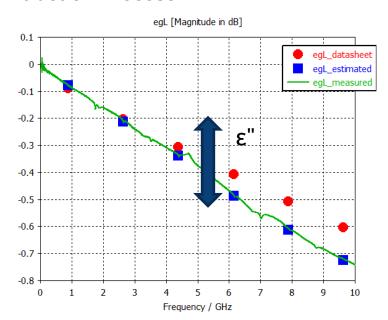
Macro Features

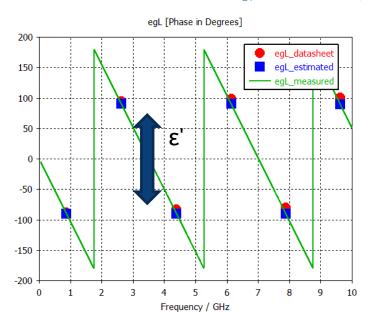
- ► 3D EM extraction
 - Broadband extraction of complex permittivity
 - Broadband extraction of surface impedance
 - Removing the effect of connectors from THRU and LINE samples (7 term error model)
 - Automatically selected or user defined frequency points
 - Extraction from shorter section
- ► TL5e w/o extraction
 - Removing the effect of connectors from THRU and LINE samples (5 term error model)
 - Calculate DUT S-parameters
 - Calculate error terms



Extraction Process

 S_{21} is equal to exp(- ΓL) or "egL"



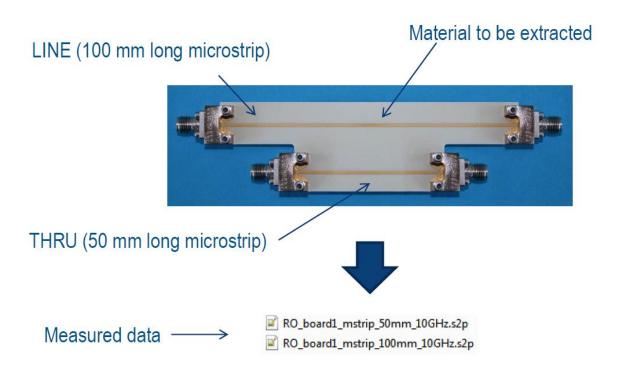


Macro iteratively changes material properties at each selected frequency until estimated value matches measured value.





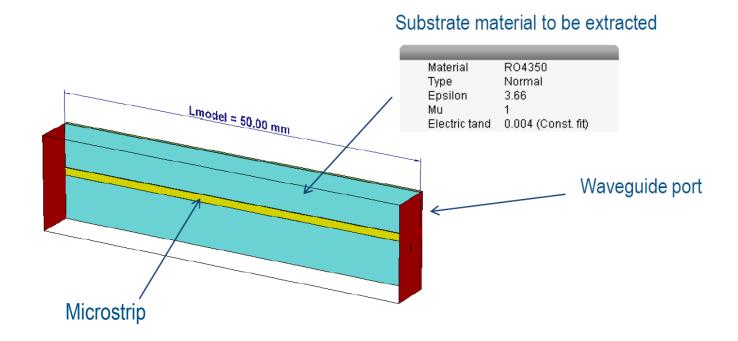
Example: Substrate Permittivity Extraction





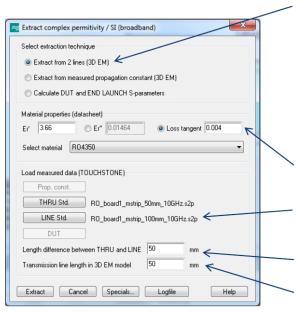


CST Model





Macro Dialog



High quality end-launch connectors are recommended for Extraction from 2 lines in order to keep constant error model of the transitions



Initial values for extraction (datasheet)

Measured data (data from uncalibrated VNA can be used if Extract from 2 lines is selected)

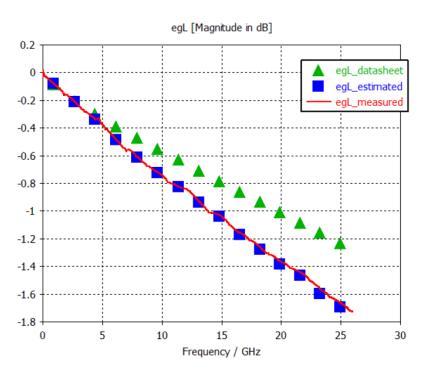
Corresponds to physical sample

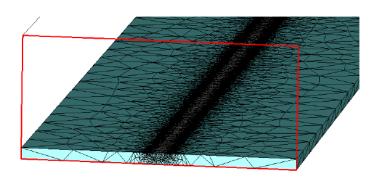
Corresponds to CST model





Extraction Progress



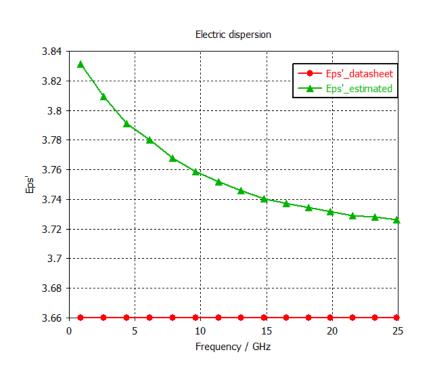


High Frequency Mesh
Tetrahedrons: 82190
Symmetry Planes: XZ

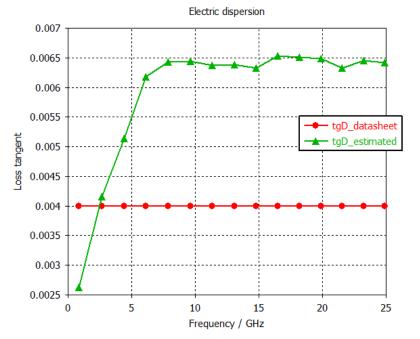




Extracted Material

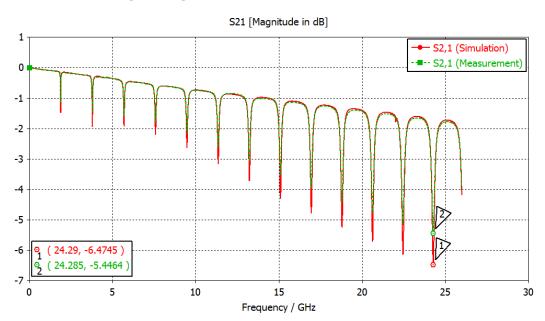


Small ripple of the dispersion of the extracted material reflects the ripple in the measured data





Verification by Ring Resonator



Position of the peaks is extremely sensitive to ε ' of the substrate.

Bandwidth of the resonances as well as the attenuation between the resonances is sensitive to the losses in the structure.

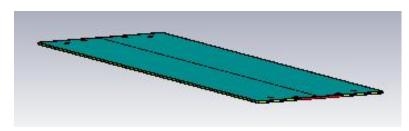
An **excellent agreement** between simulation and measurement has been achieved except for the resonance minima level.

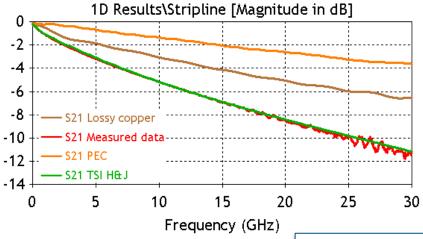


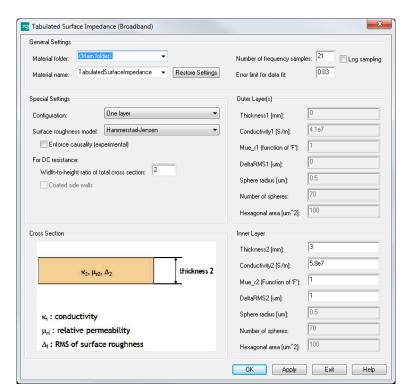


Surface Roughness

50 mm long stripline model





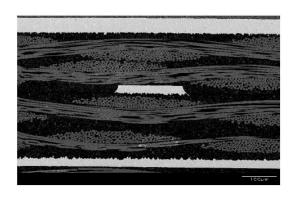


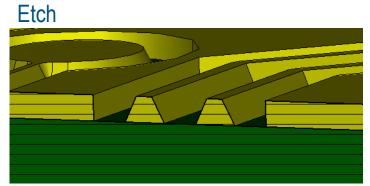


FR4 dielectric substrate $-\epsilon r = 3.5$, tg $\delta = 0.06$



Other Geometric Uncertainties



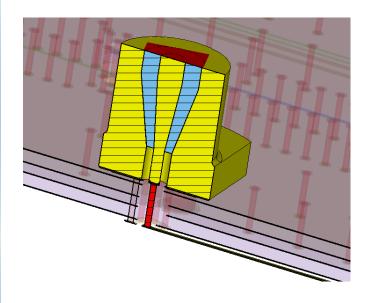






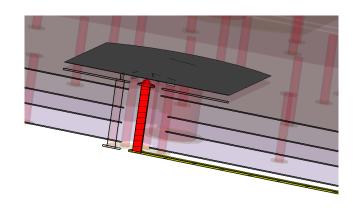


Port Definition





- Away from Discontinuity
- Similar to Measurement
- Not always appropriate (e.g. BGA)
- Detailed CAD model of connector normally not available



Discrete Port + Reference Plane

- Near Discontinuity
- Different from Measurement
- Always feasible
- General geometry -> Can be automated



Mesh for accurate simulation

- ▶ Must ensure that there is sufficient mesh to capture the electromagnetic fields
 - In the port regions
 - · Between the transmission lines and ground
- ▶ Make use of adaptive mesh to make sure that the solution is accurate
 - Ensure that the adaptive mesh procedure has converged
- ➤ Solver
 - Must be suitable for wideband simulation up to 32 GHz
 - Can we use High Performance Computing to speed up the analysis?



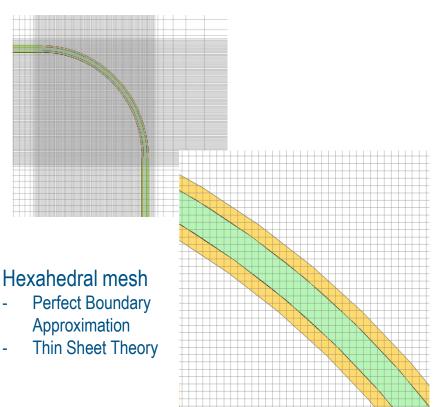
Mesh

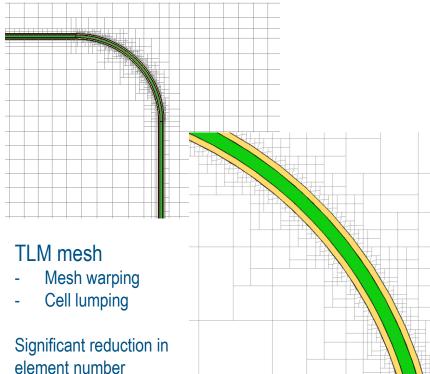
CST Studio Suite

- ► Mesh and solver are closely related
- ► Time domain simulation has an advantage for wide band applications
 - Input a time domain pulse which represents a wide band frequency data
 - Automatic Fourier Transform to convert to frequency domain
 - Time domain solver uses hexahedral mesh
 - Further development to use TLM solver technology



Hexahedral and TLM Meshing





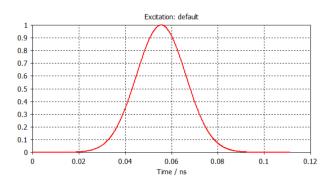


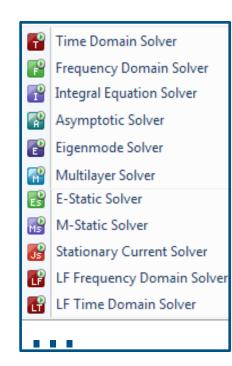


Solver

High frequency, broadband simulation

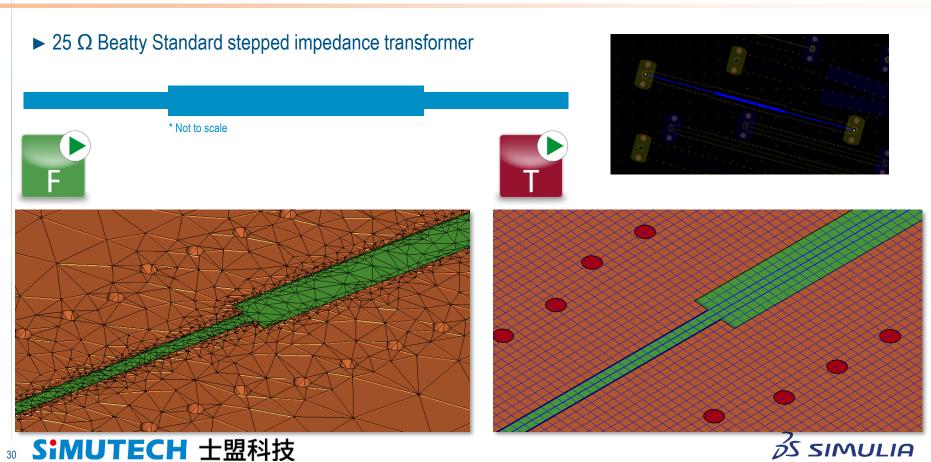
- ► Solver must be suitable for wideband simulation up to 32 GHz
- ► CST Studio Suite has a toolbox of different solvers
 - · Always have the right tool for the job
- ► Time domain solver is a good a good choice
 - Well suited to high frequency, broadband simulations
 - Excited with a broadband pulse





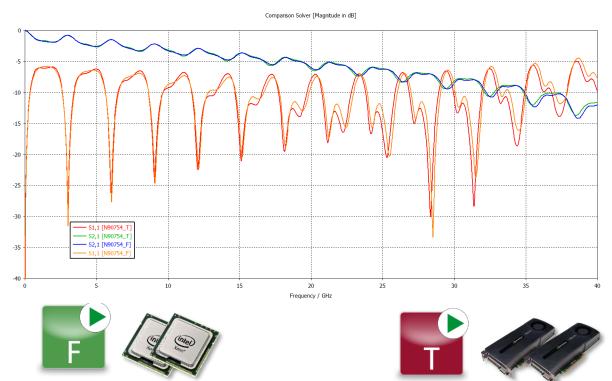


Solver Choice



Solver Choice

Complete Technology





Summary

- ► Increasing demand for throughput in cables, PCBs and connectors
- ► Simulation is required in the design phase, in order to meet these requirements
- ► Accurate simulation using 3D models, datasheets, testing, data files
- ► CST Studio Suite is the ideal tool to realise the simulation
 - Time domain simulation
 - Hexahedral and TLM meshing
 - Cable Studio
 - EDA import
 - Circuit and 3D EM co-simulation in Design Studio



ELECTRONICS DESIGN ANALYSIS

Overview

Circuit-EMAG Simulation

Multi-scale 3D electromagnetic field solver and circuit simulation takes into account the effect of PCB, connectors, cables and enclosures as well as switching circuits.

EMC Compliance Check

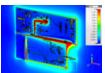
Compliance and safety - Ensure the product fulfills the required electronic certification standards and works in the intended environment.

Power Integrity

Simulate DC Drop and High Frequency Noise on power supply nets and optimize decoupling capacitors for impedance minimization.



Make sure the PCB is working efficiently and according to the specifications.





Predict the reliability of serial high-speed (PCIe, SATA,) and parallel data (DDRx) links.



Verify that layout rules to prevent SI, PI and EMC interference are properly applied to printed circuit board.







3D Layout Import Validate PCB Designs.







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