



PROSPECTS FOR TERAHERTZ SYSTEM-ON-SUBSTRATE TECHNOLOGY

Ian Robertson

i.d.robertson@leeds.ac.uk

Outline

Introduction

Integrated RWGs: SIW and Hollow SIW

Dielectric guides for THz

3D packaging approaches

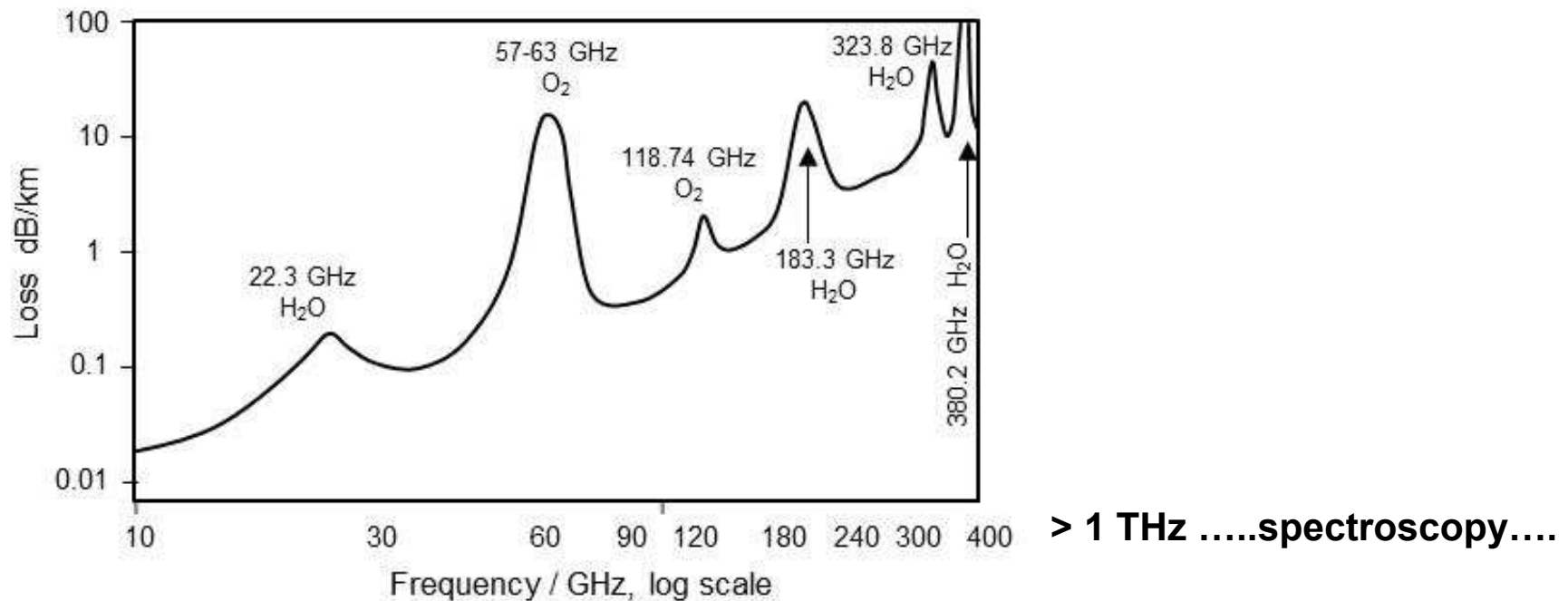
Conclusions

Why go > 100 GHz?

High bandwidth for communications

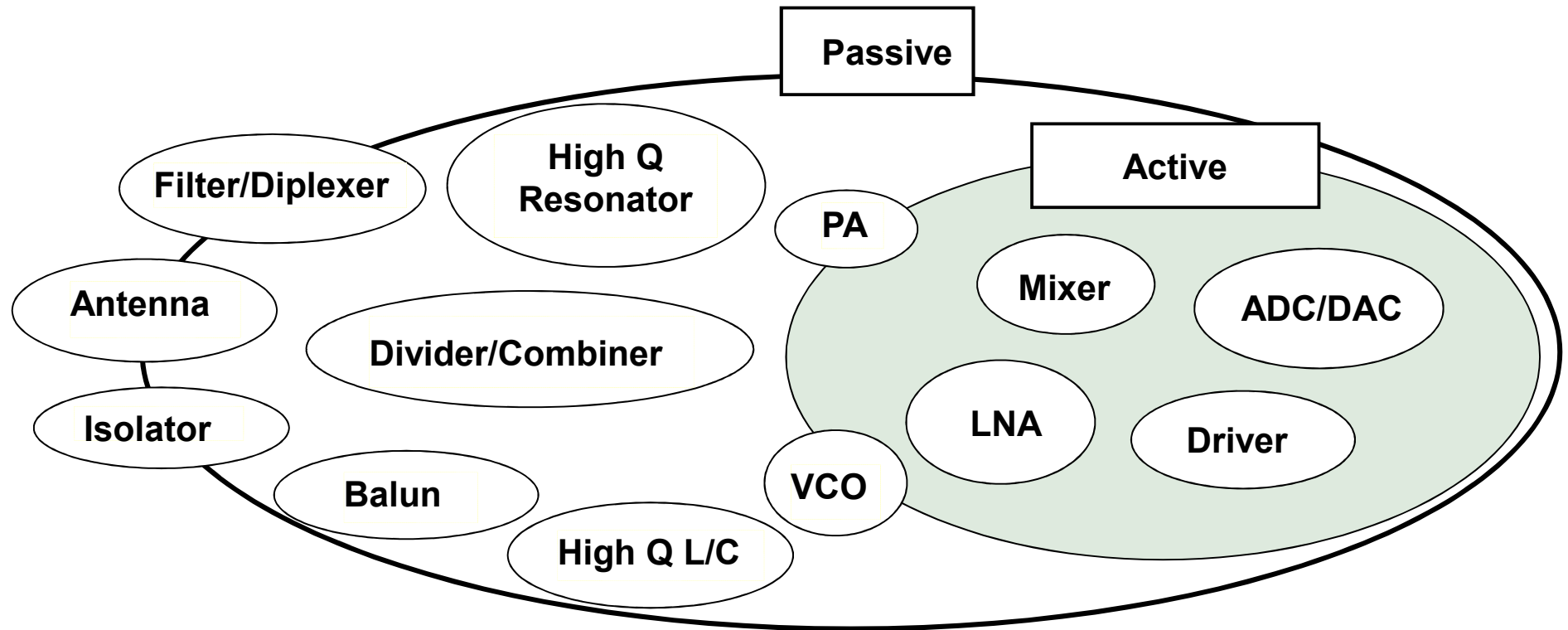
Small high-gain antennas

Special sensing capabilities



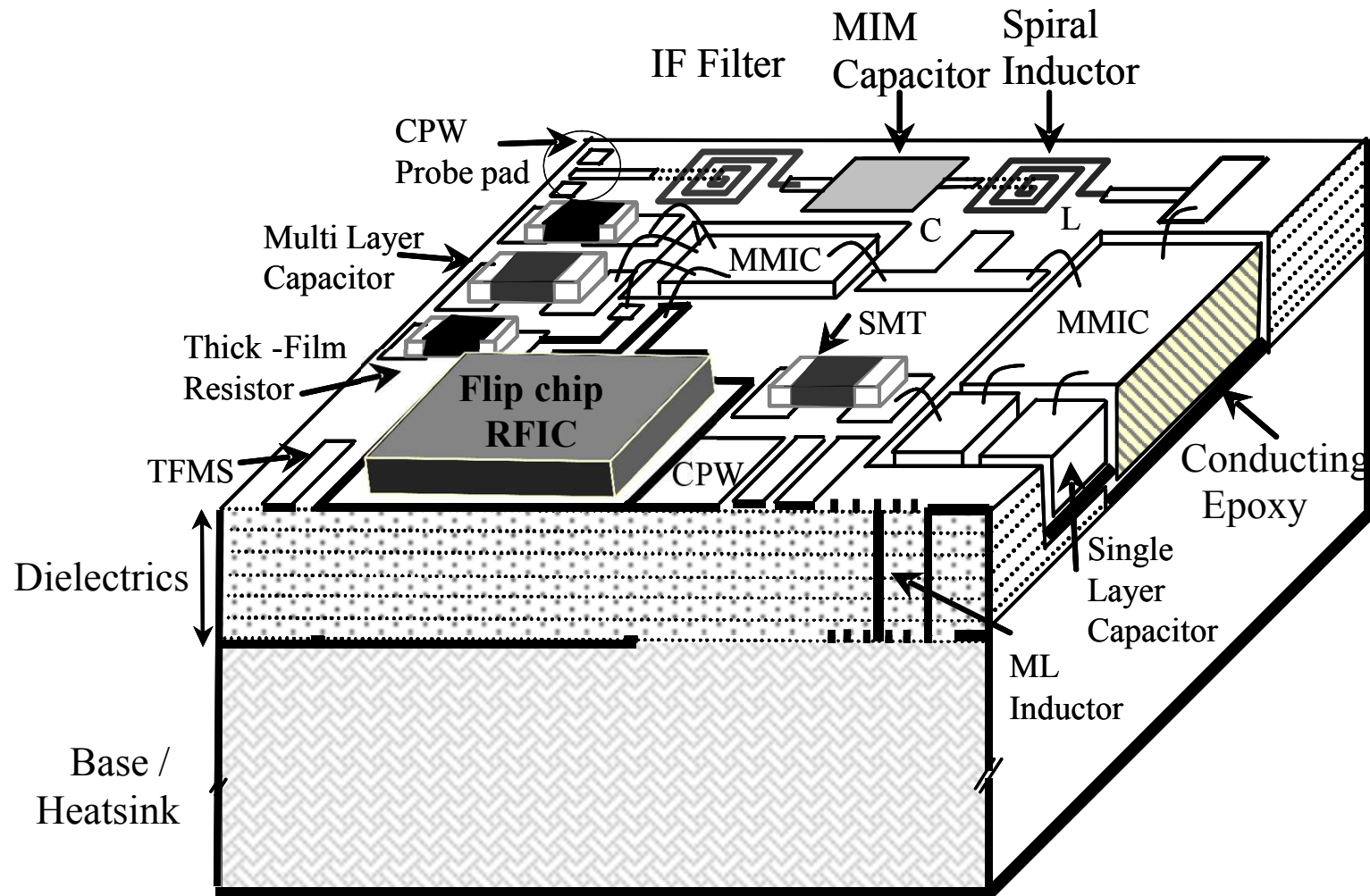
See ITU, Recommendation ITU-R P.676-10 (09/2013), *Attenuation by atmospheric gases*

Transceiver system partitioning



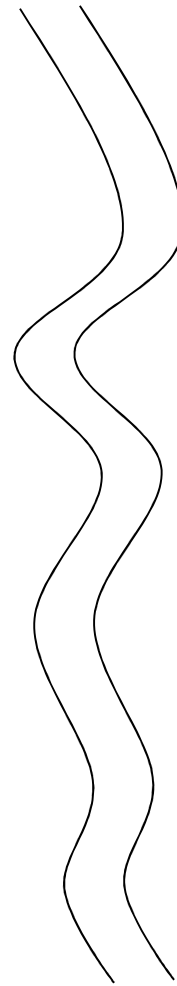
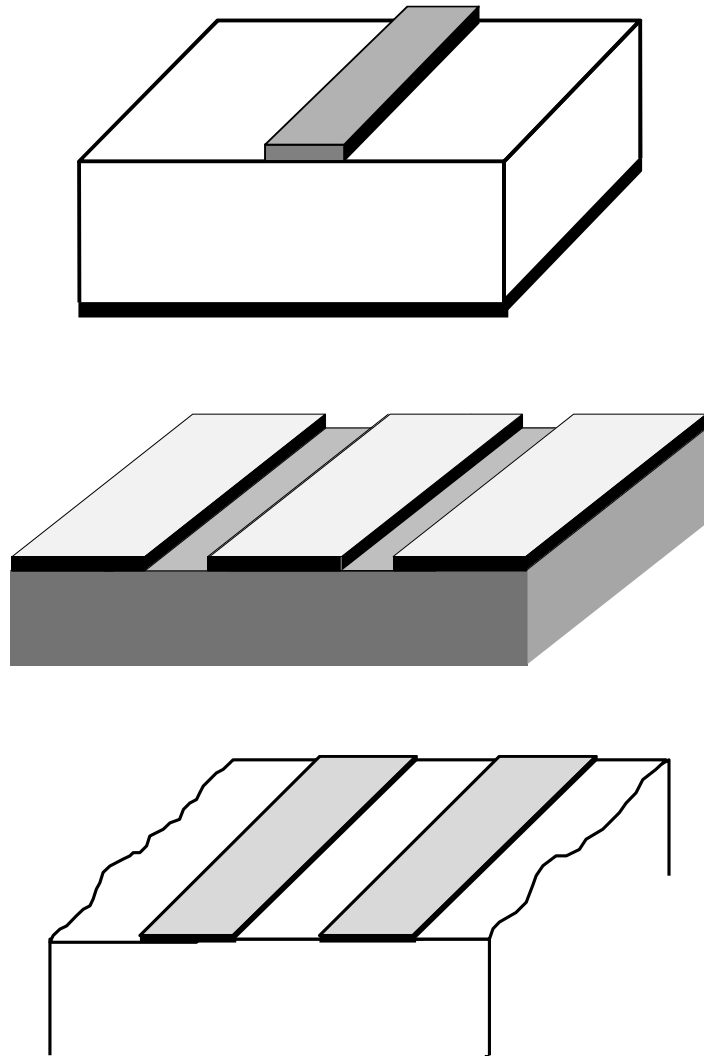
From *Microwave and Millimetre-Wave Design for Wireless Communications*, Wiley pub. 2016

MCM, SiP, SoP, SoS

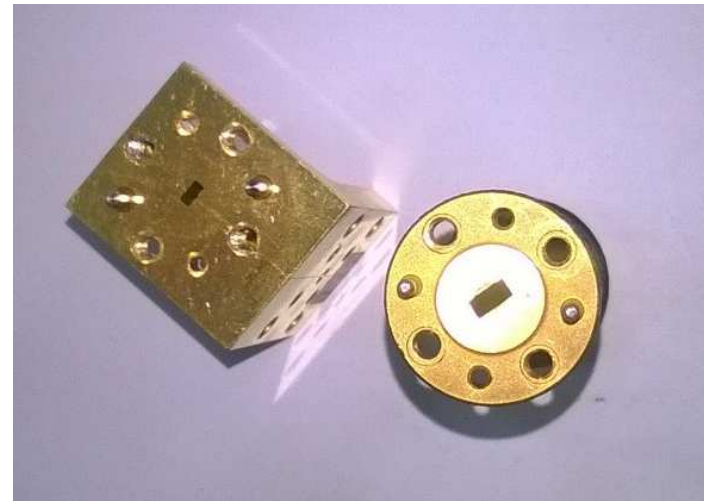


Samanta, K.K., and Robertson, I. D., "Advanced Multilayer Thick-Film System-on-Package Technology for Miniaturized and High Performance CPW Microwave Passive Components," IEEE Transactions on Components, Packaging and Manufacturing Technology, vol.1, no.11, pp.1695-1705, Nov. 2011, doi: 10.1109/TCPMT.2011.2167231

Q's of hundreds
Loss of order dB/cm

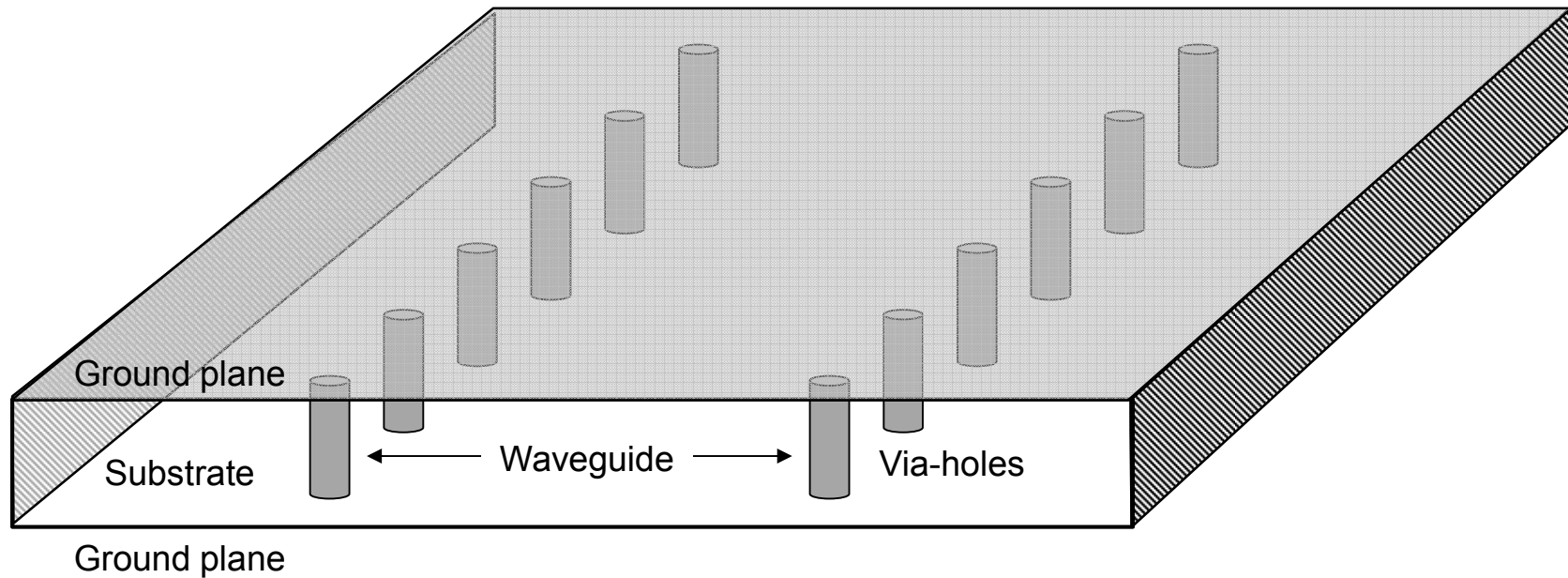
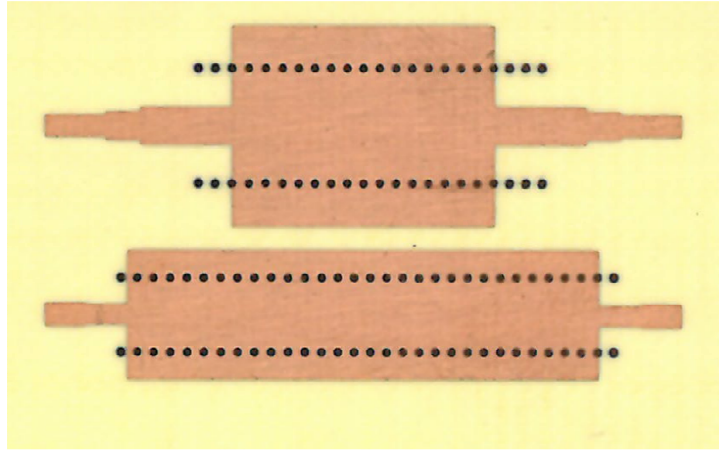


Q's of thousands
Loss of order dB/m



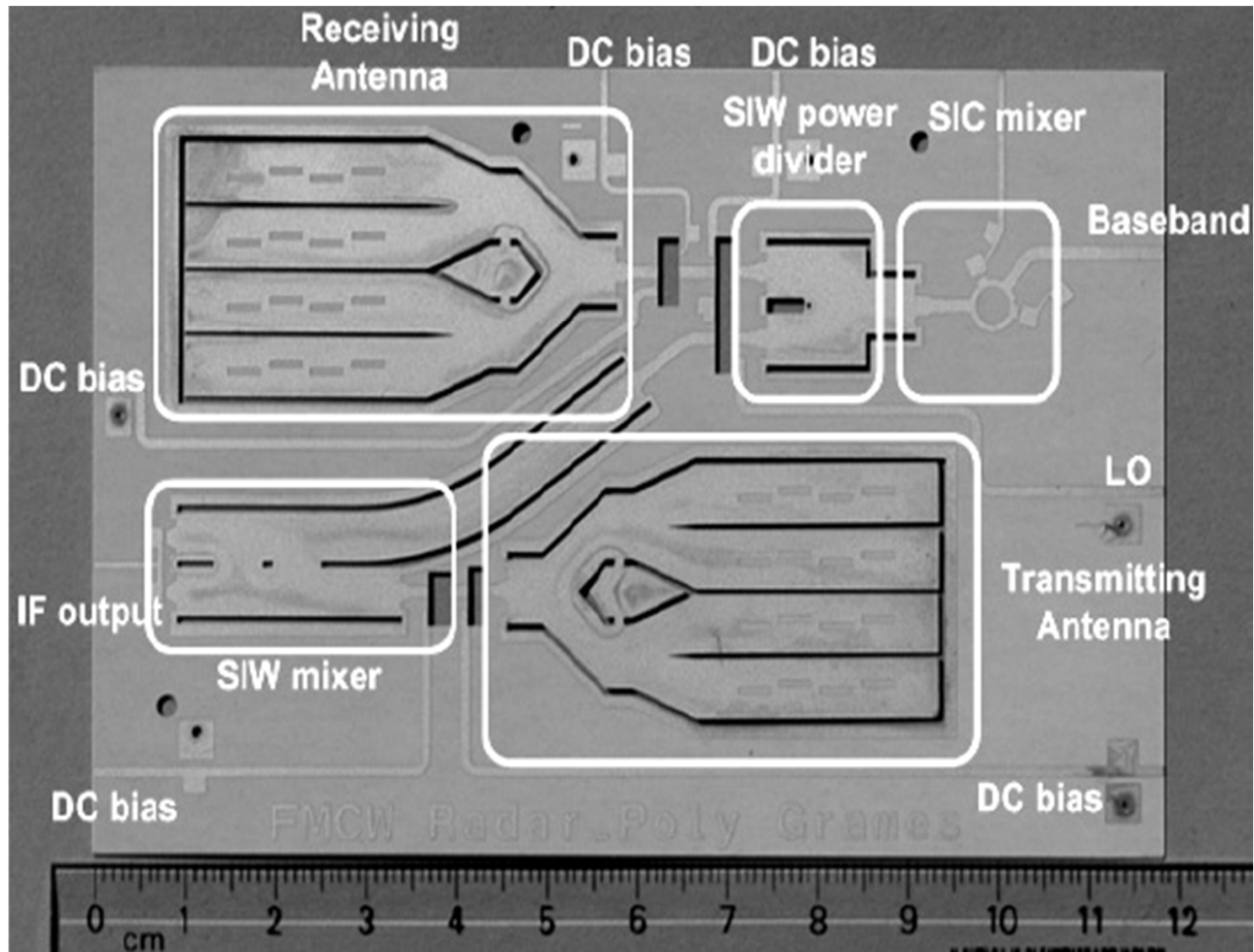


94 GHz Sub-System for Medical Research
www.hxi.com



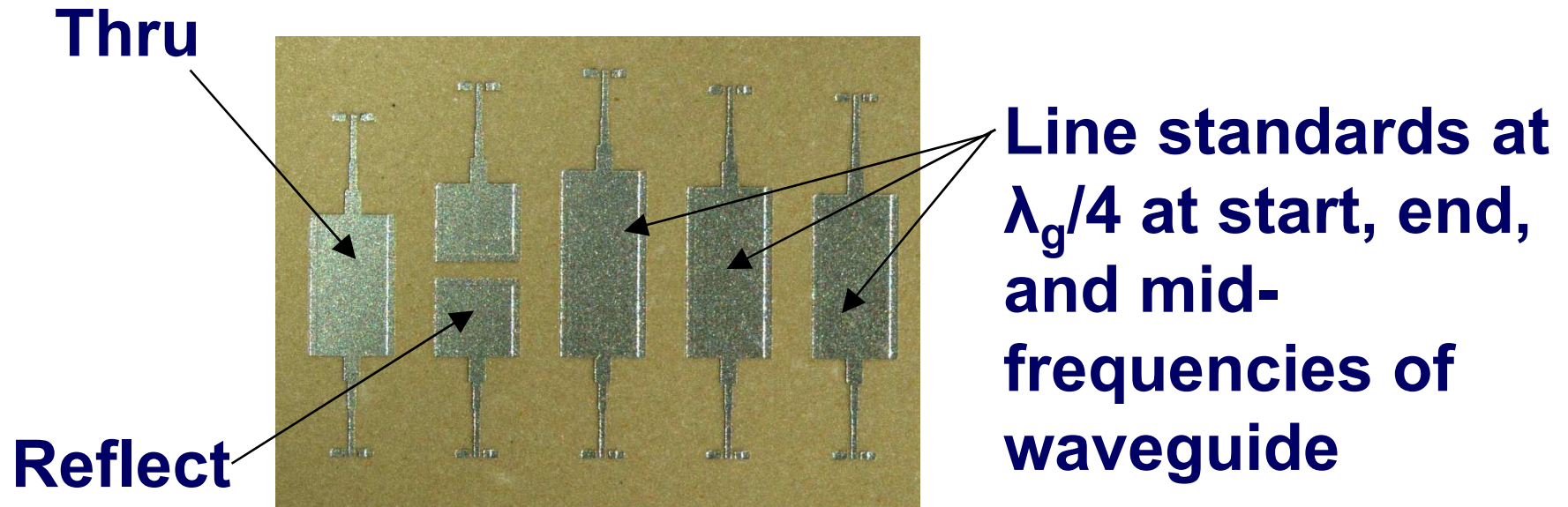
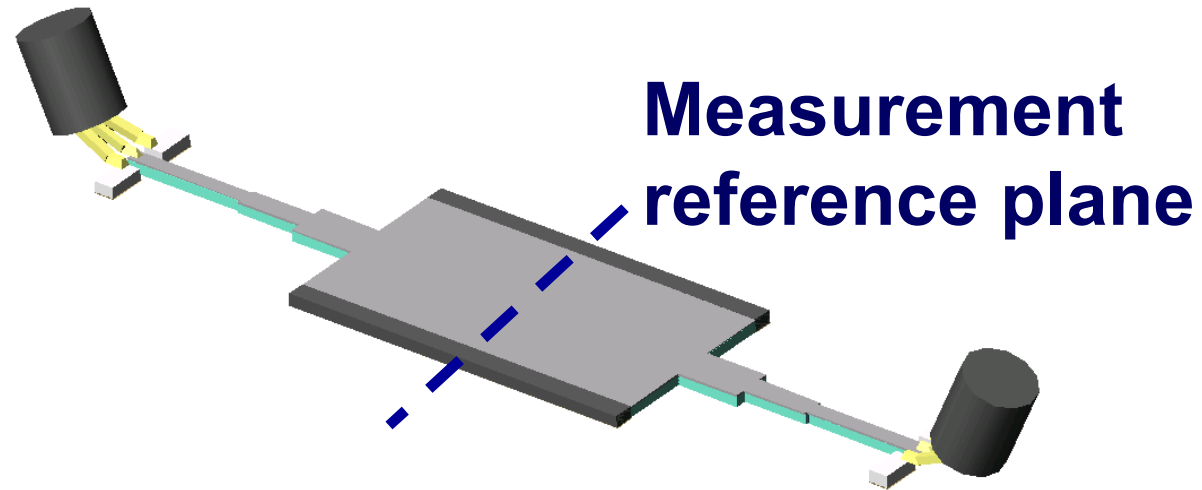
Substrate Integrated Waveguide

From *Microwave and Millimetre-Wave Design for Wireless Communications*, Wiley pub. 2016

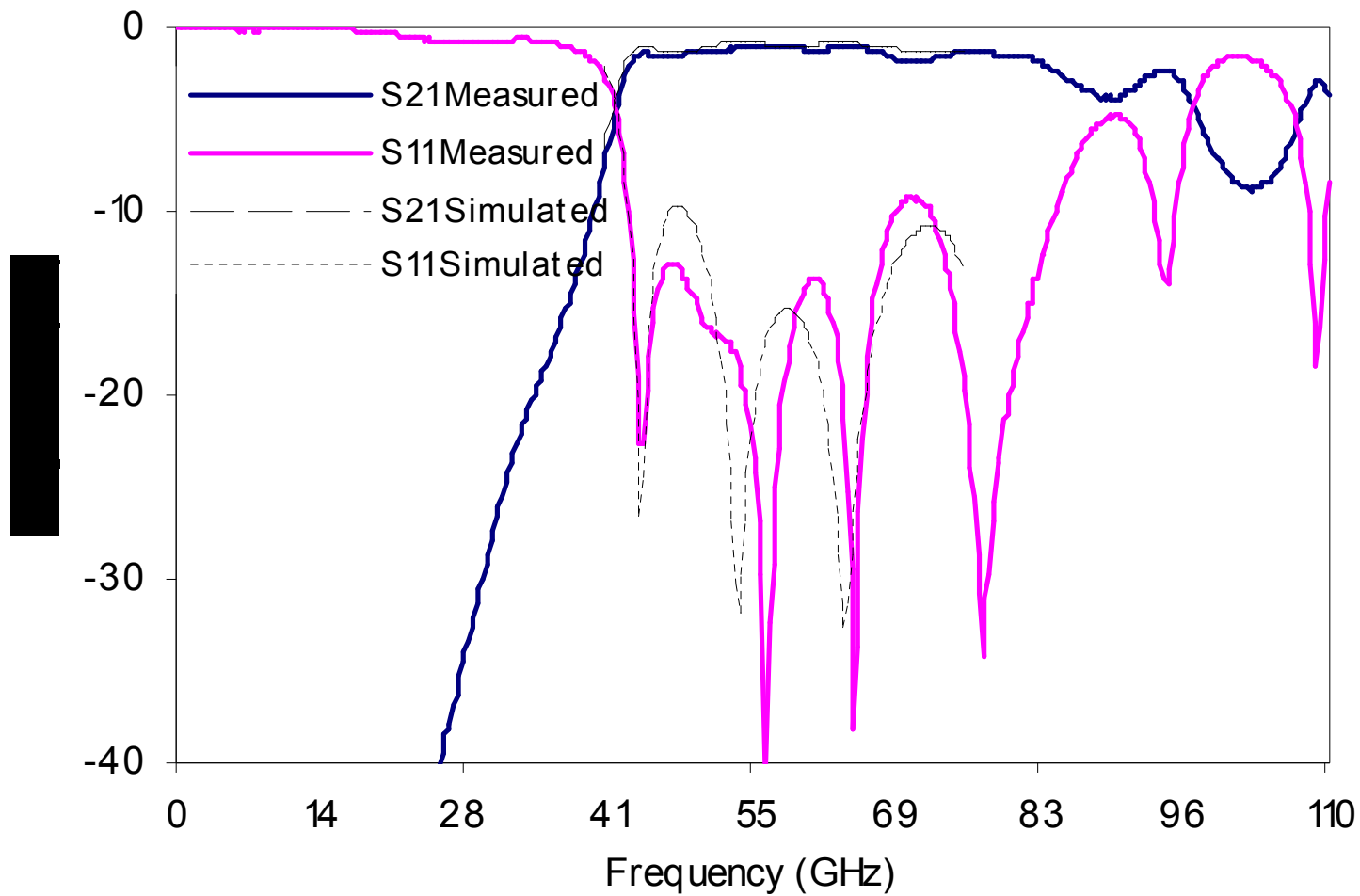


24GHz FMCW Radar Front-End System on Substrate
Li, Zhaolong; Wu, Ke; Ecole Polytechnique, Canada

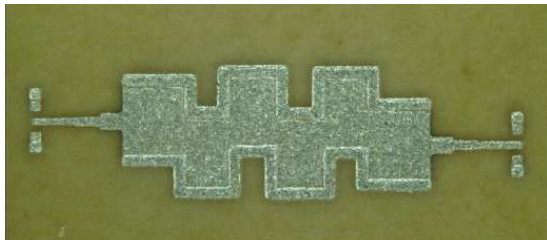
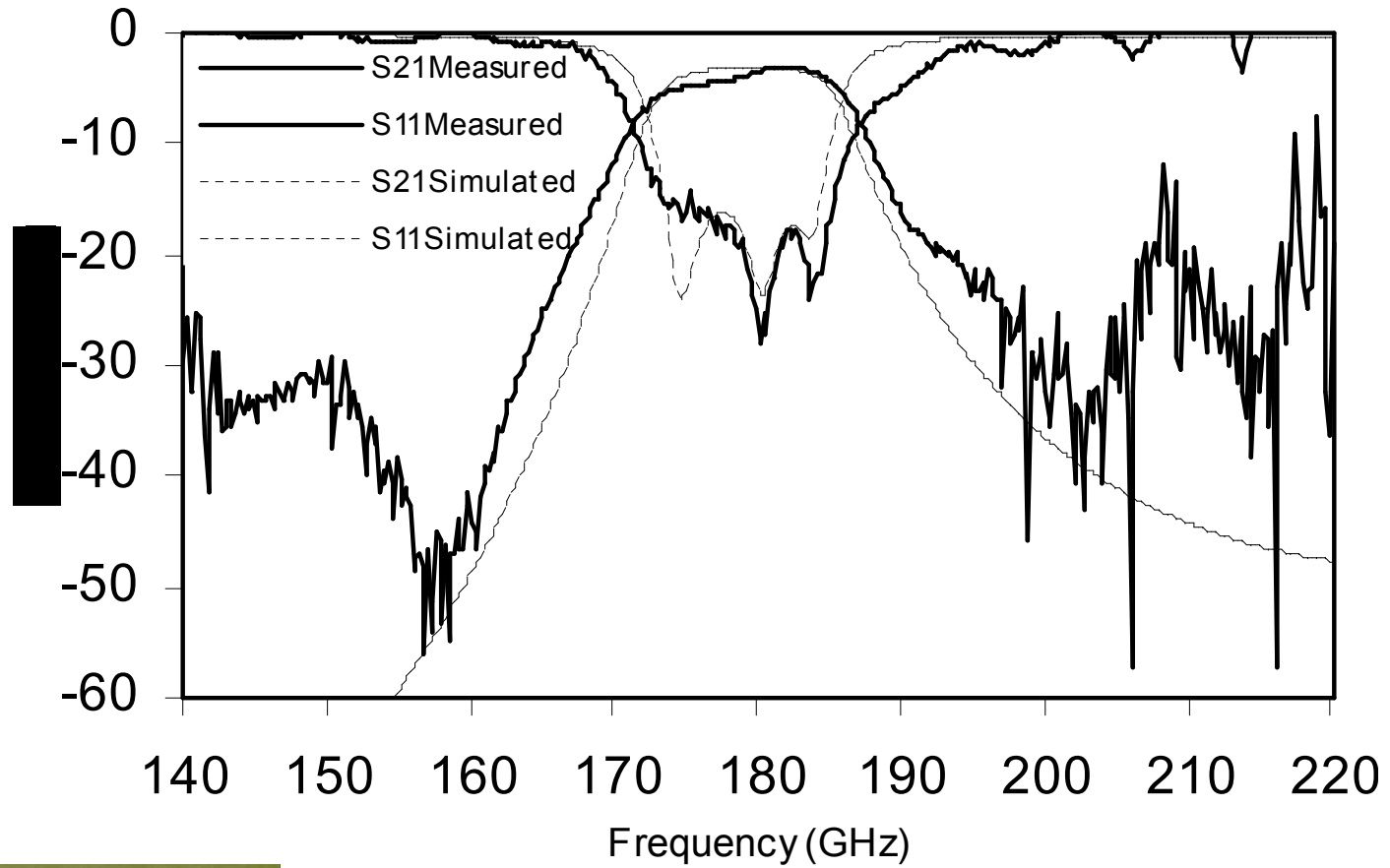
SIW Characterisation



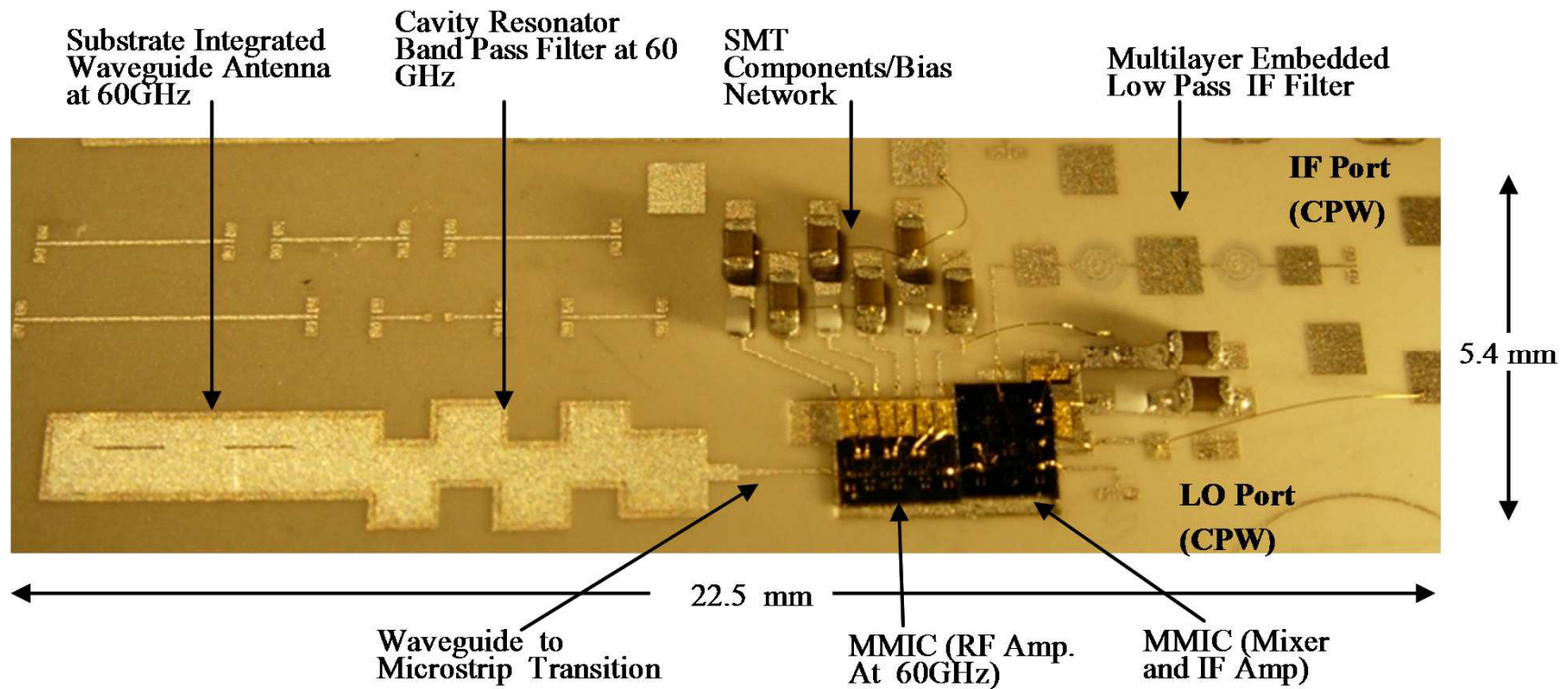
V-band waveguide-microstrip transition back-to-back measurements



Measured results 180 GHz filter



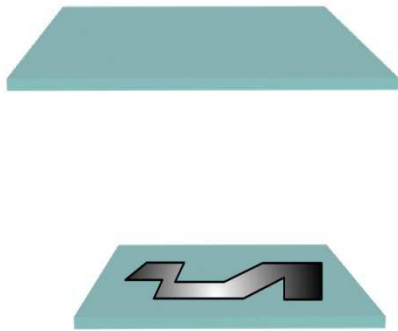
60 GHz Receiver



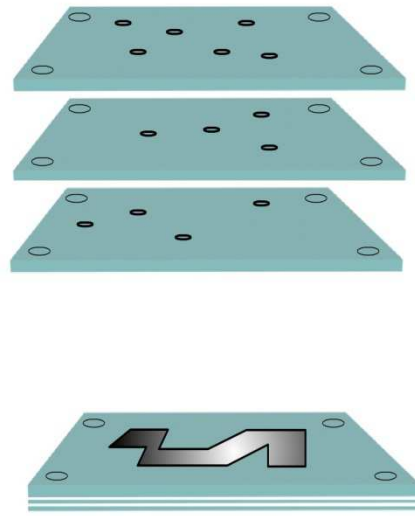
LTCC Process

Many screens/stencils
= slow turnaround
and high prototyping cost

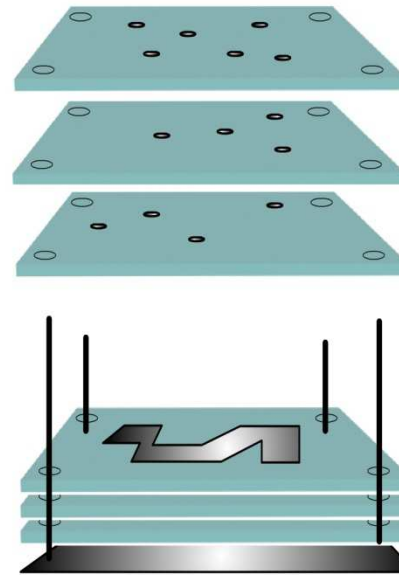
Pre-Conditioning



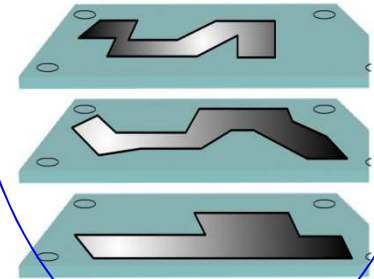
Via machining



Via filling



Screen printing



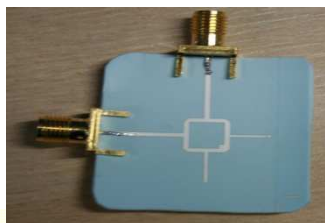
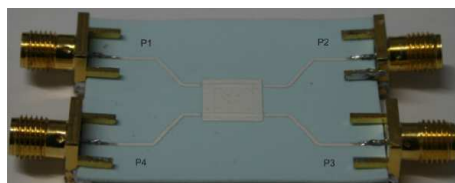
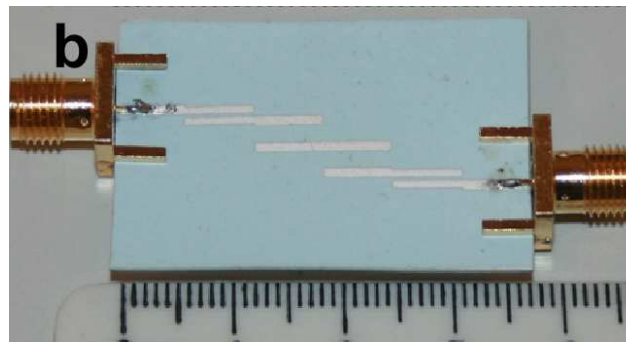
Laser patterning for rapid
prototyping and finer feature sizes

Cutting & Firing

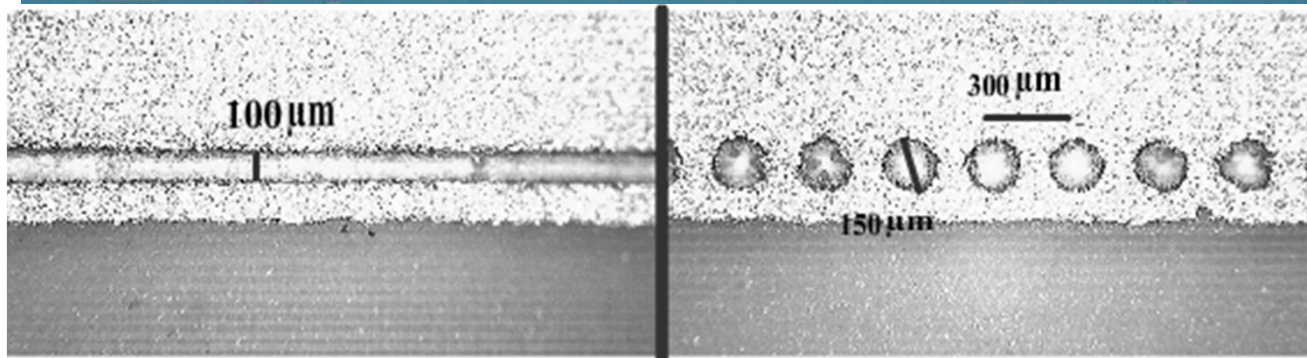
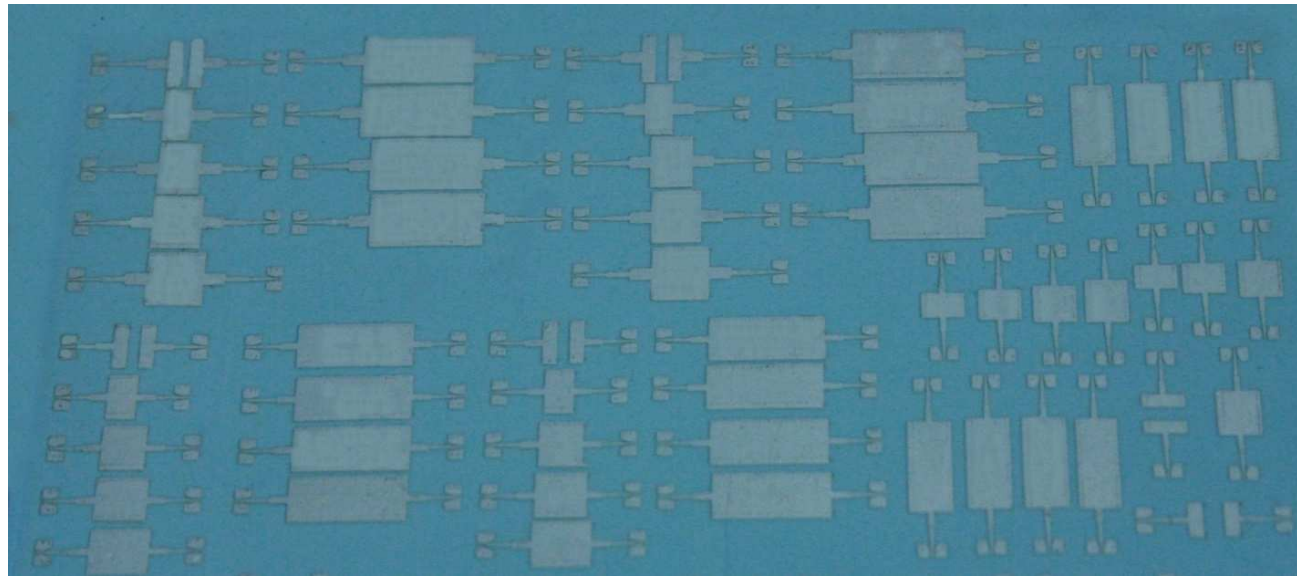
Laminating

Stacking

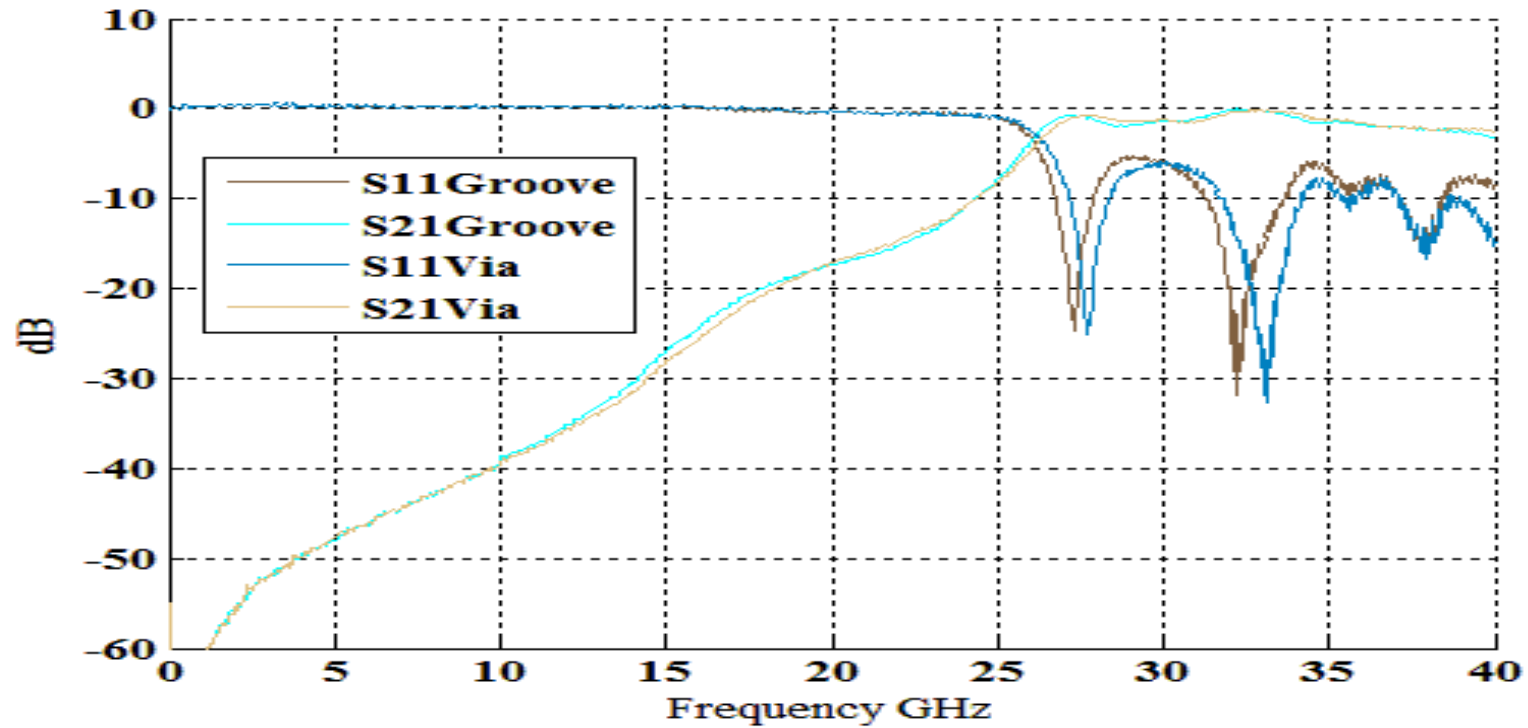
LTCC prototyping using LPKF laser system



SIW with solid wall and via posts

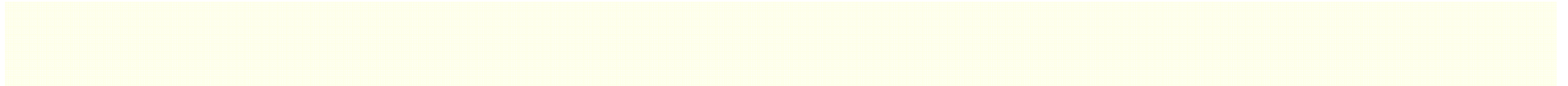


Measurement Results

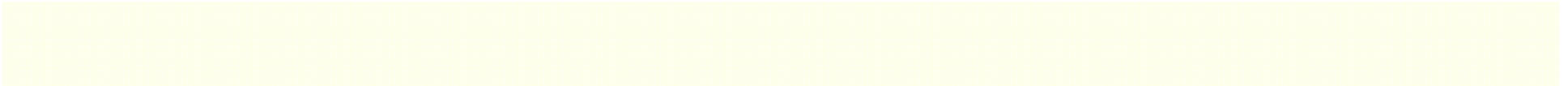
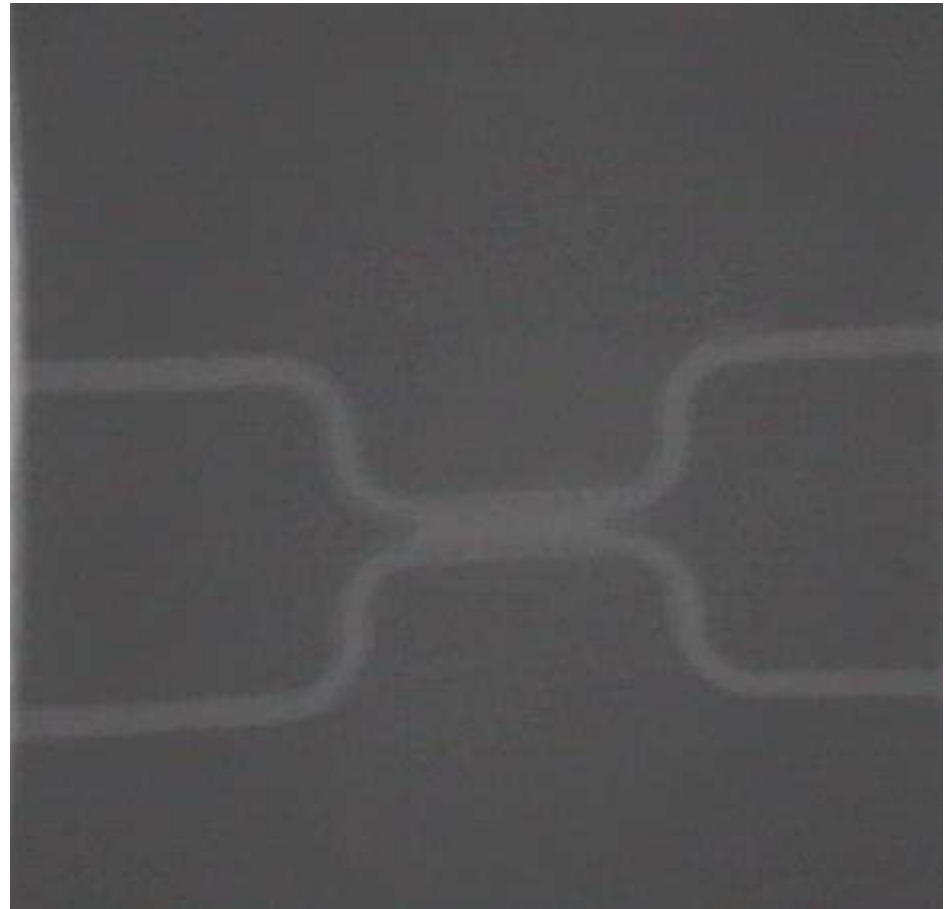
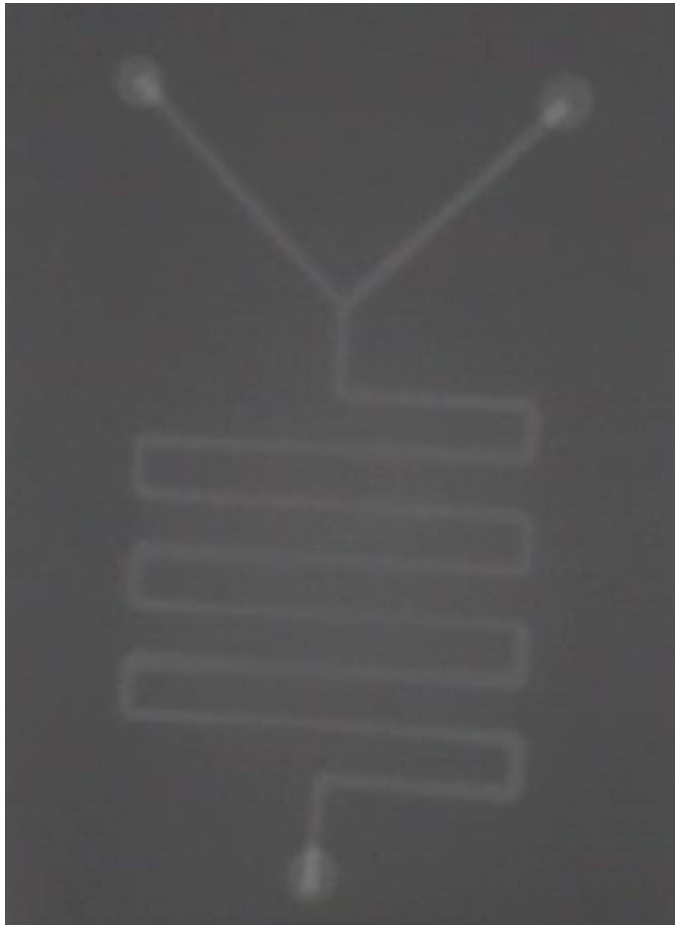


- Both solid walled (groove based) and via post SIW can achieve similar performance

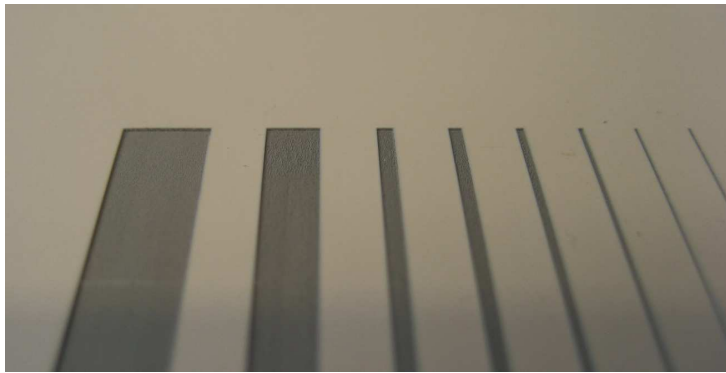
Hollow SIWs



LTCC Microfluidic Channels



LTCC Channel Laser Machining

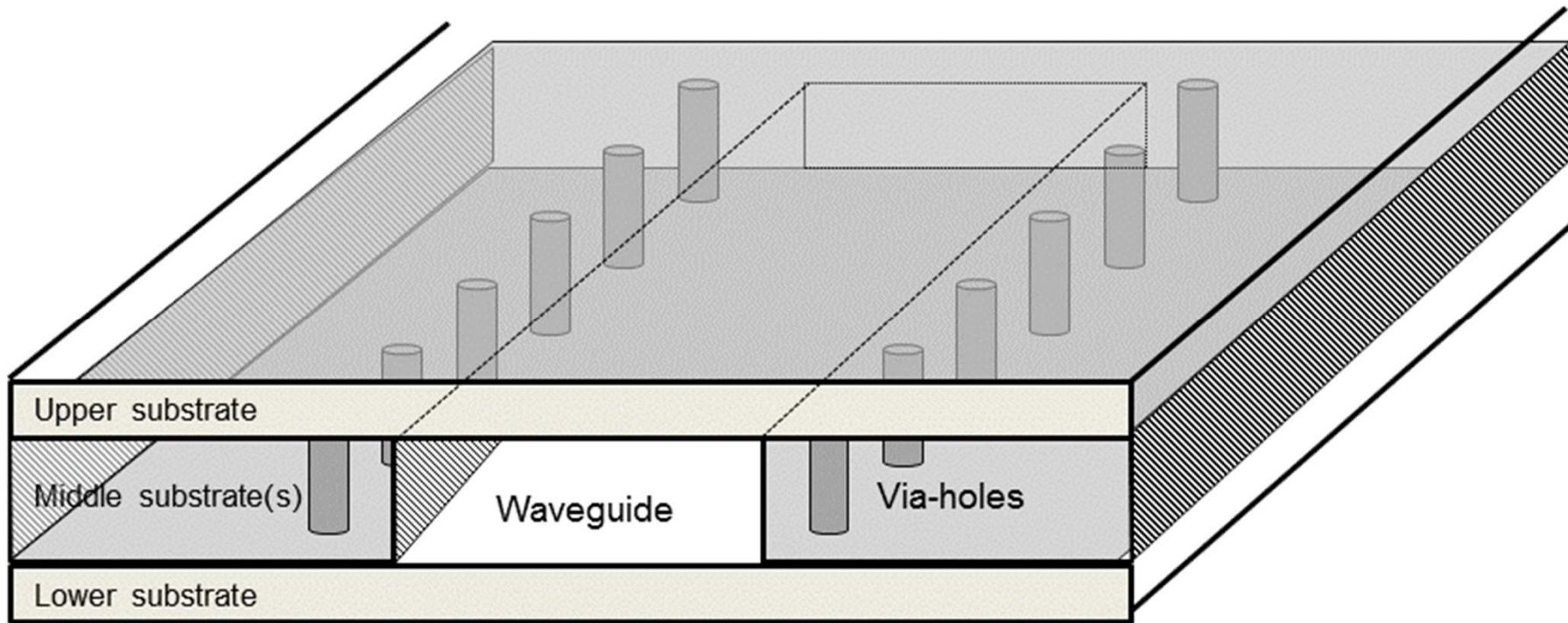


Plain waveguides

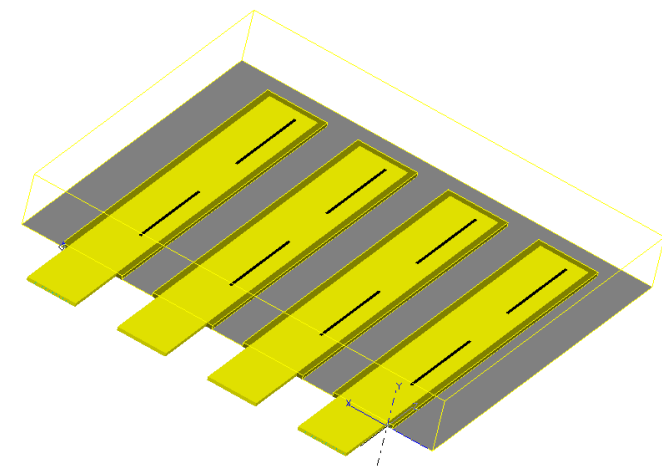
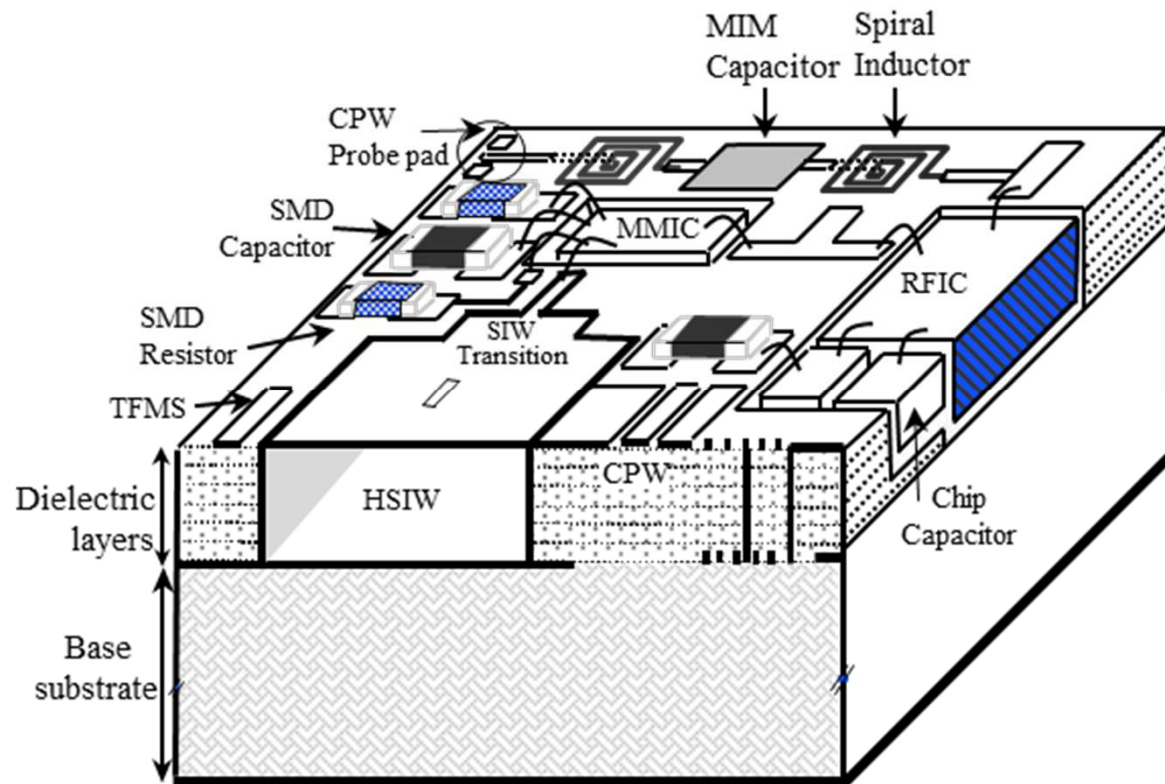


**Slot Antenna Array
(lower layers)**

Hollow SIW

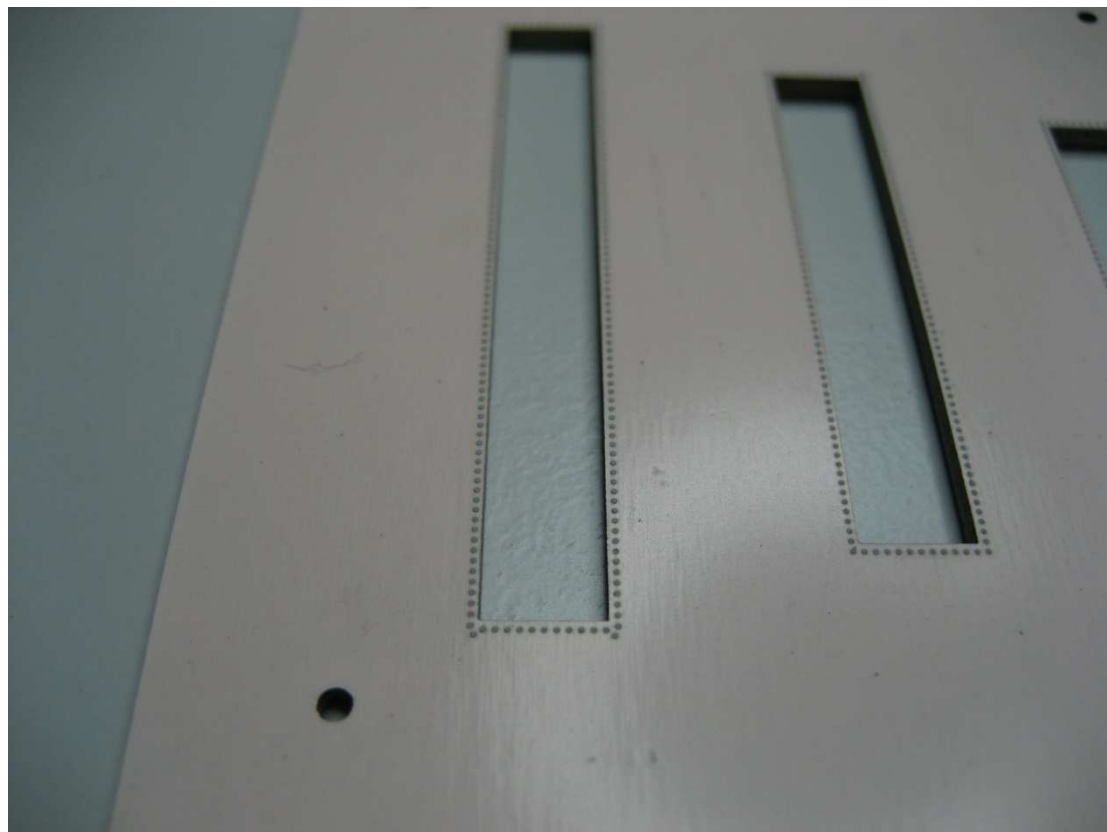


SoS using Hollow SIWs

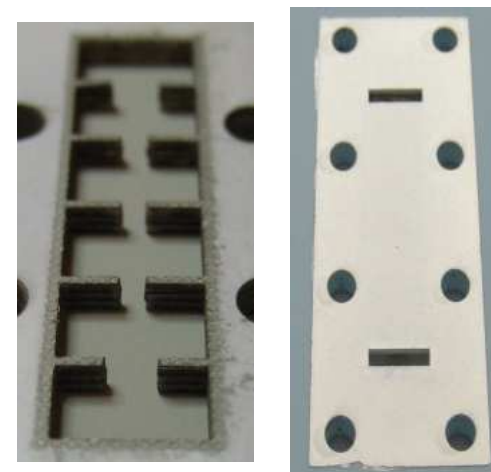


From *Microwave and Millimetre-Wave Design for Wireless Communications*, Wiley pub. 2016

Hollow Substrate Integrated Waveguide (HSIW) - progressive lamination technique

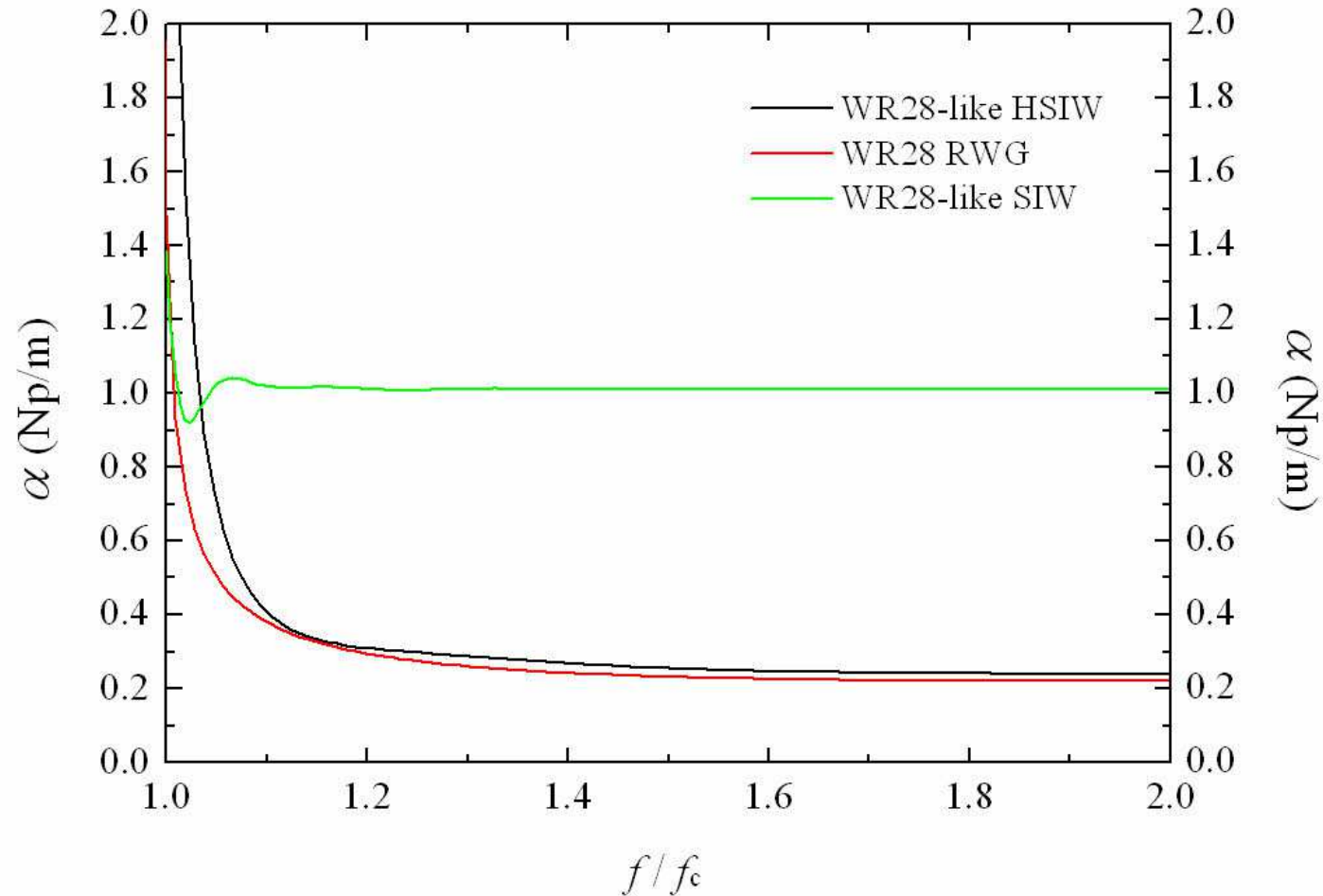


HSIW: inner layers before lamination



Filter

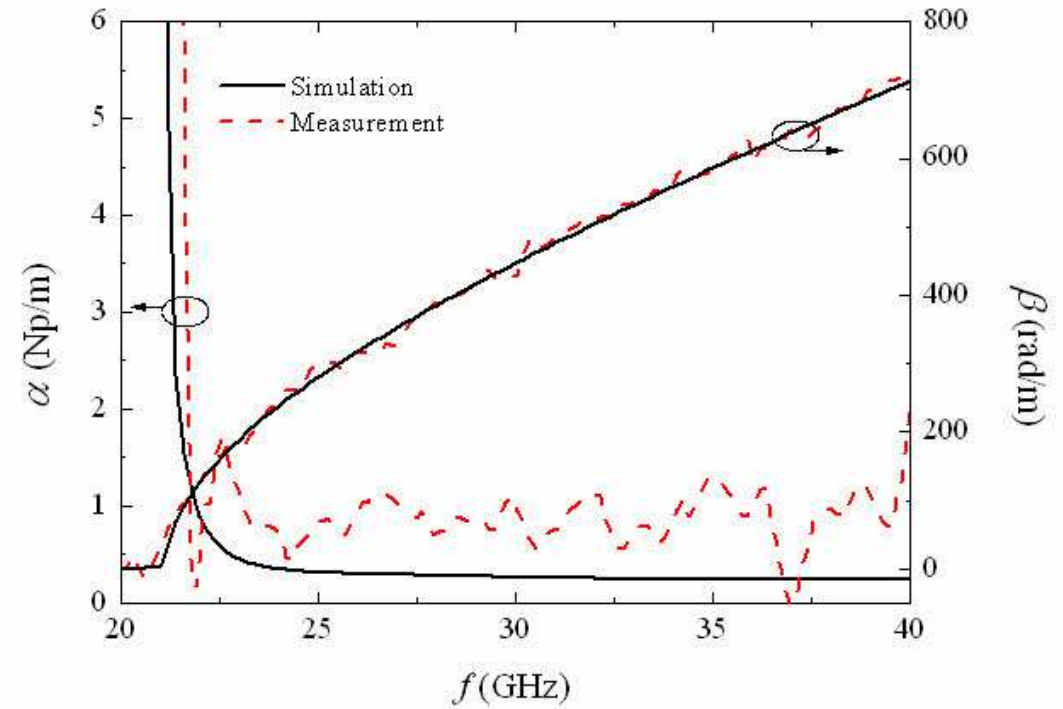
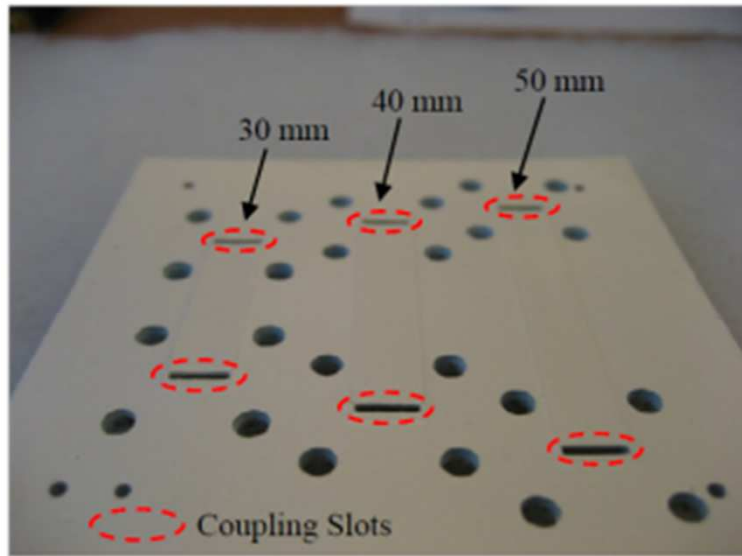
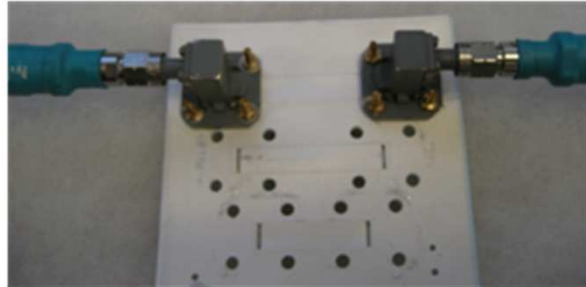
HSIW Loss vs SIW and RWG



Modelled loss

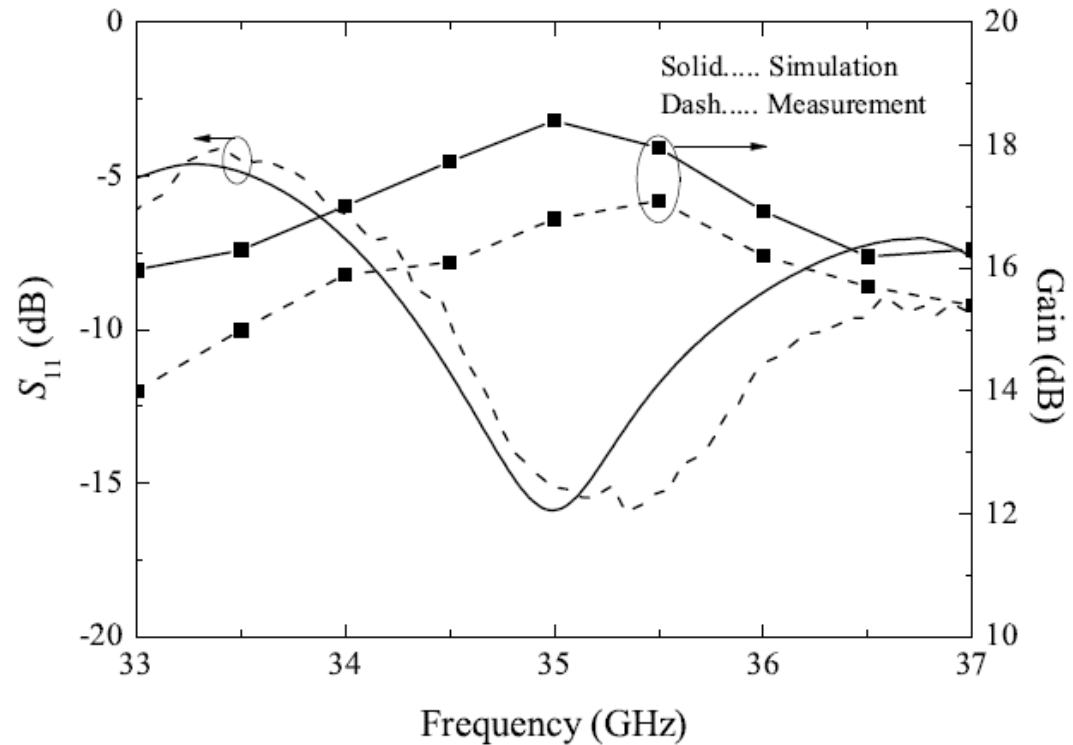
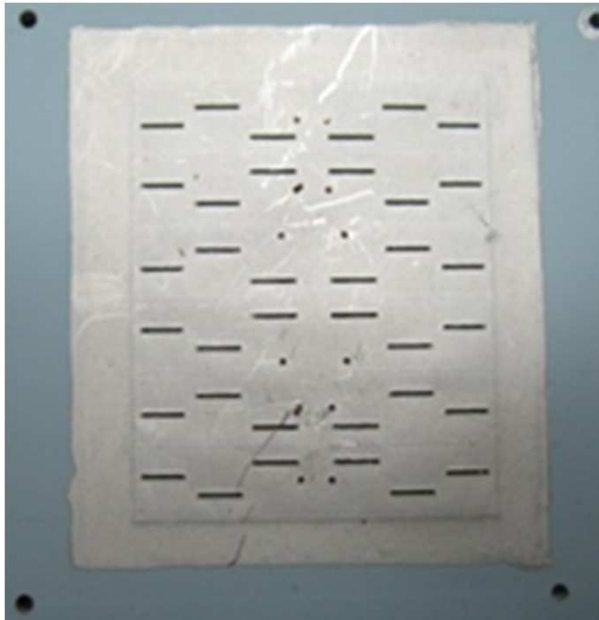
Jin, Lukui, Lee, R.M.A., and Robertson, I.D., "Analysis and Design of a Novel Low-Loss Hollow Substrate Integrated Waveguide", IEEE Transactions on Microwave Theory and Techniques, vol.62, no.8, pp.1616-1624, Aug. 2014, doi: 10.1109/TMTT.2014.2328555

HSIW Measurements



Through line measurement

HSIW 6x6 Slot Antenna Array

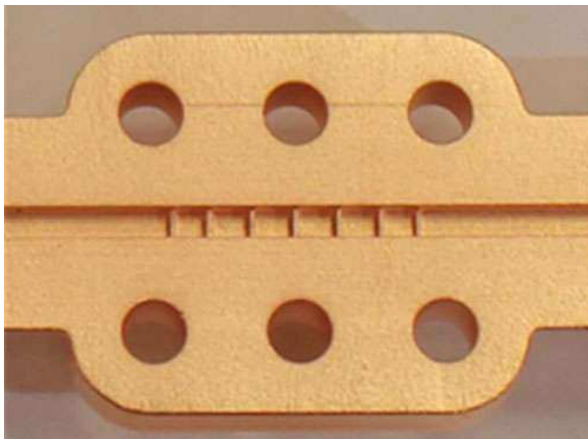


35 GHz HSIW Slot Antenna Array

L. Jin, R. M. Lee, I. D. Robertson, "Analysis and Design of a Slotted Waveguide Antenna Array using Hollow Substrate Integrated Waveguide", European Microwave Conference, September 2015

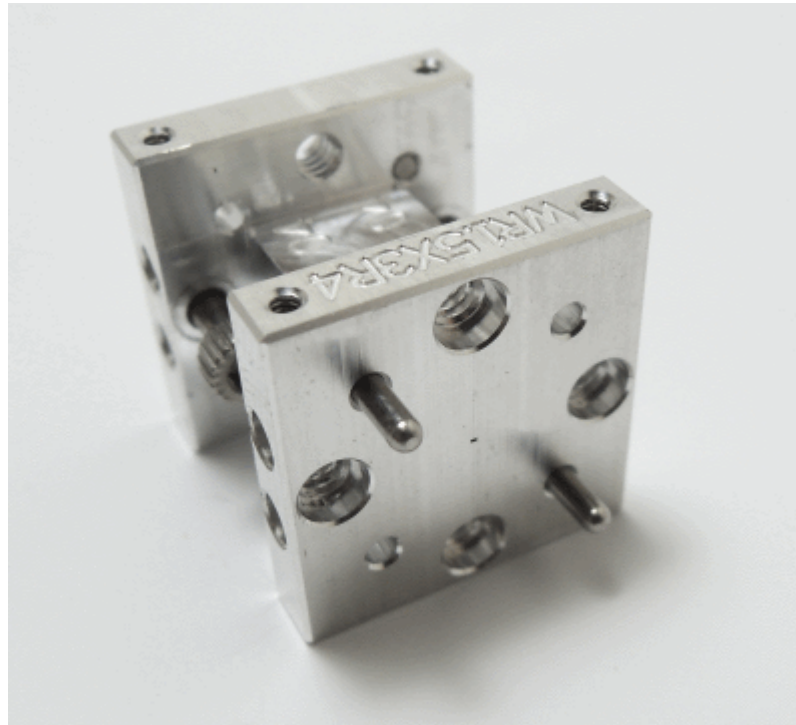


Micromachined Waveguides using SU8
Stenson *et al.*, 1998



D'Auria, M.; Otter, W.J.; Hazell, J.; Gillatt, B.T.W.; Long-Collins, C.; Ridler, N.M.; Lucyszyn, S., "**3-D Printed Metal-Pipe Rectangular Waveguides**", IEEE Transactions on Components, Packaging and Manufacturing Technology, Sept. 2015

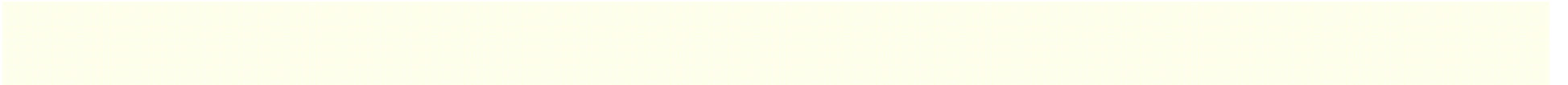
3D printed waveguide filter
Courtesy Stepan Lucyszyn, Imperial College
Reference 5 of paper



WR-1 waveguide
1.92 – 1.35 dB/cm calculated for gold, $r_{gh}=1.5$
(VDI)

Circa 10 dB loss reported for a 1 inch guide

Dielectric Waveguides



Planar Dielectric Guides: Key Candidates

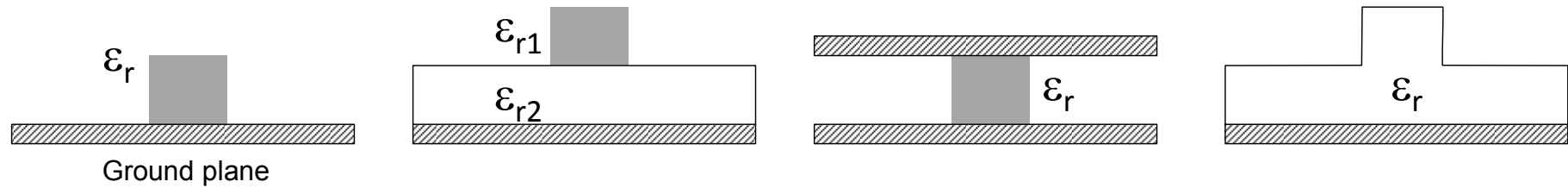


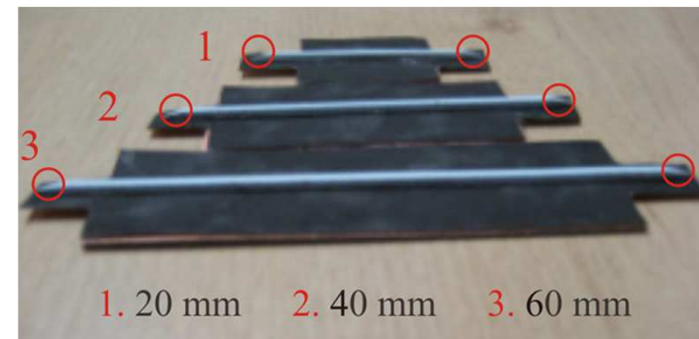
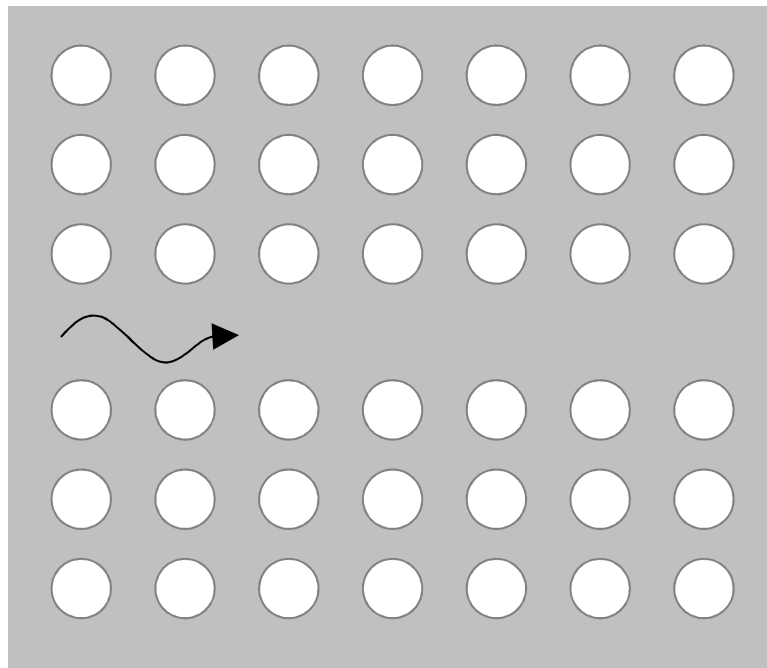
Image guide

insular image guide

NRD

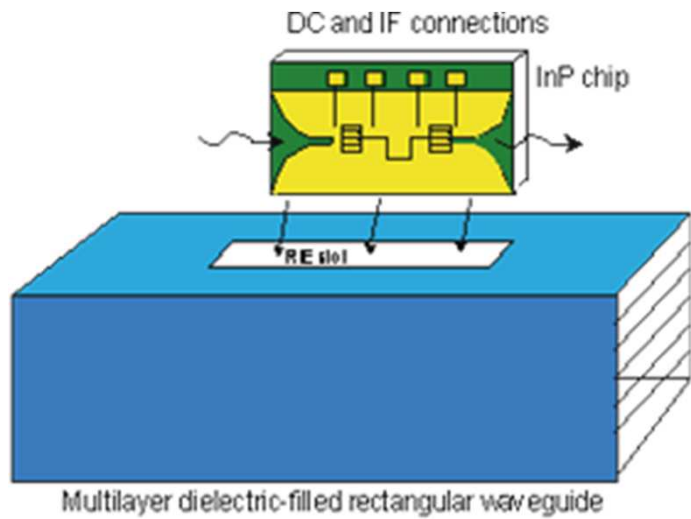
Rib image guide

From *Microwave and Millimetre-Wave Design for Wireless Communications*, Wiley pub. 2016

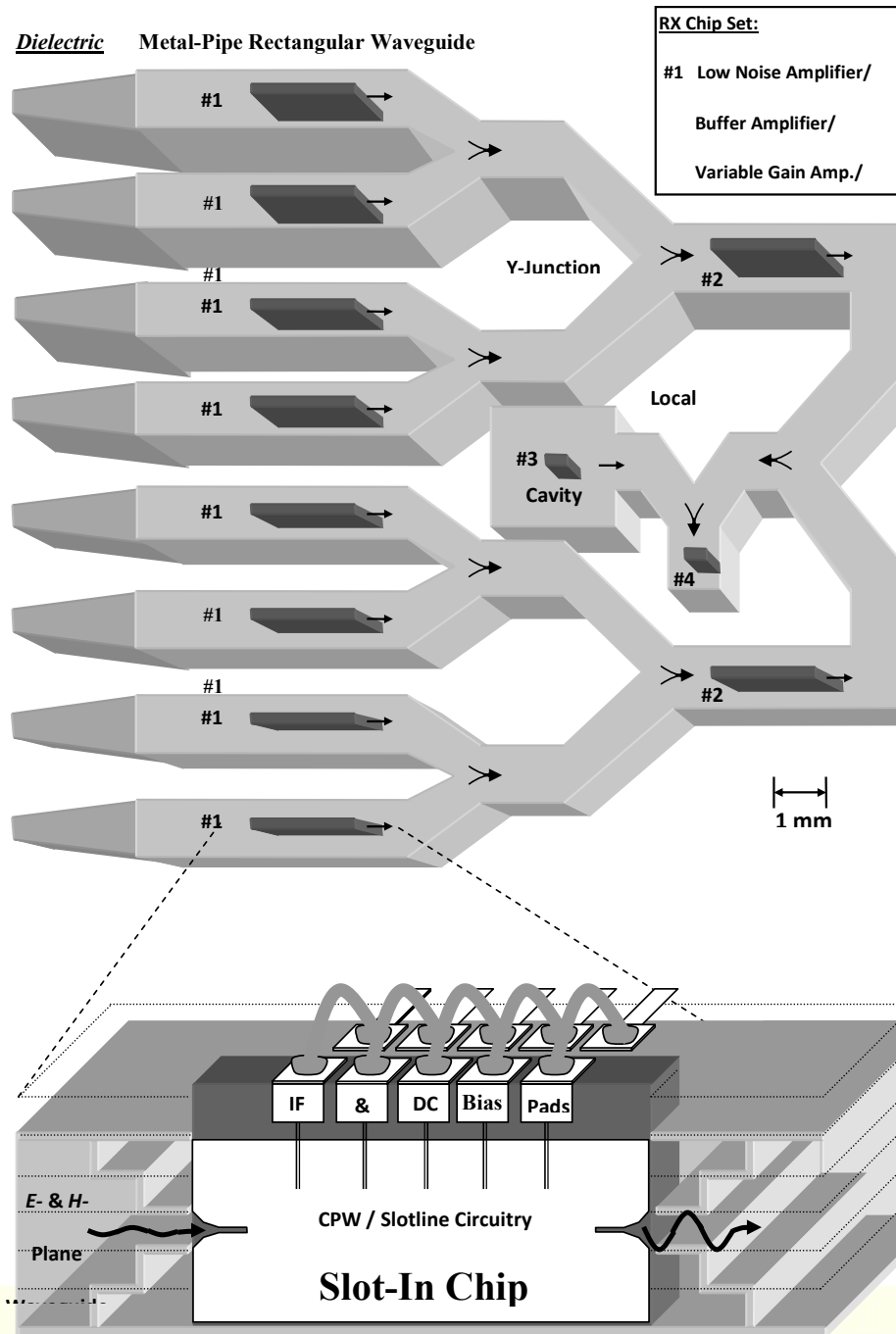


EM bandgap structure

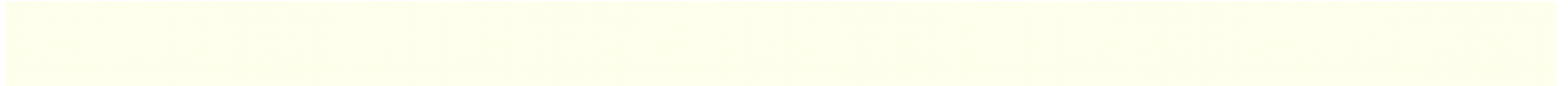
“New” Chip Interfaces

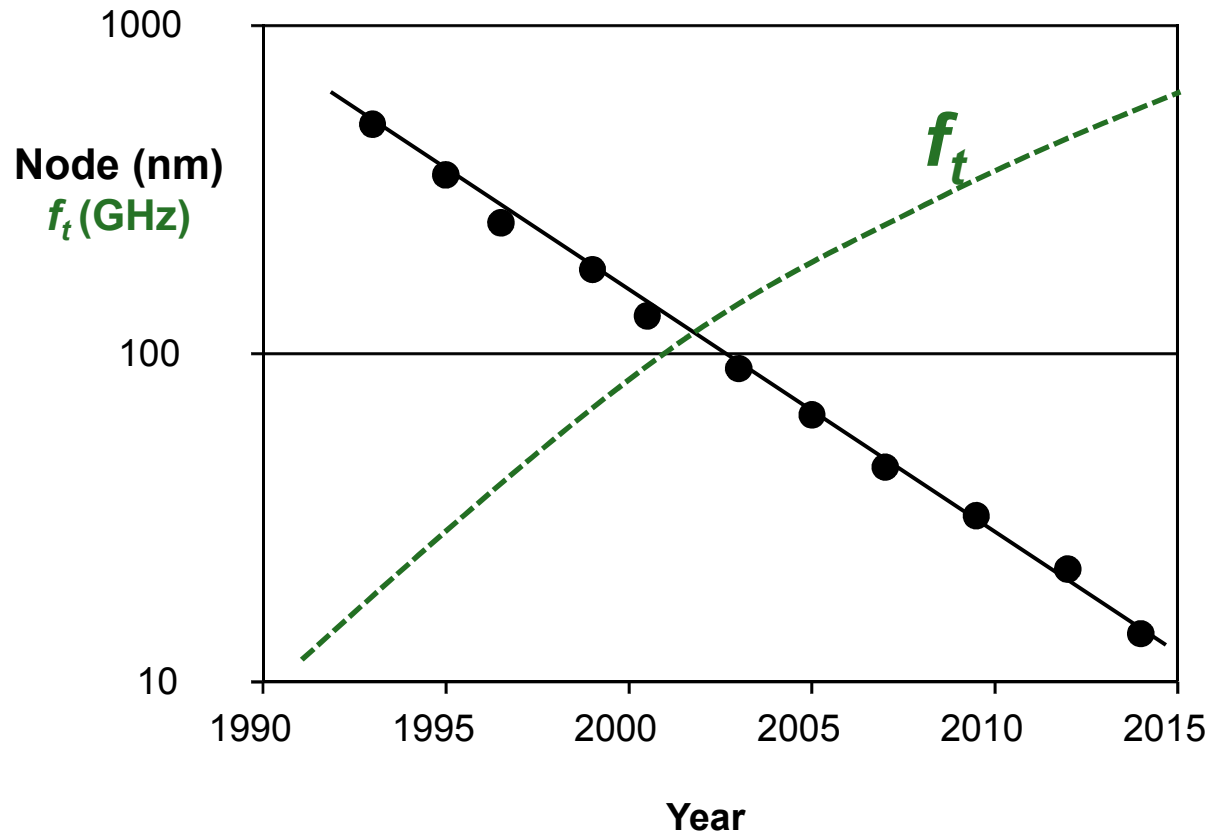


Lucyszyn, S.; Silva, S.R.P.; Robertson, I.D.; Collier, R.J.; Jastrzebski, A.K.; Thayne, I.G.; Beaumont, S.P., "Terahertz multi-chip module (T-MCM) technology for the 21st century?," in Multi-Chip Modules and RFICs (Ref. No. 1998/231), IEE Colloquium on , vol., no., pp.6/1-6/8, 5 May 1998

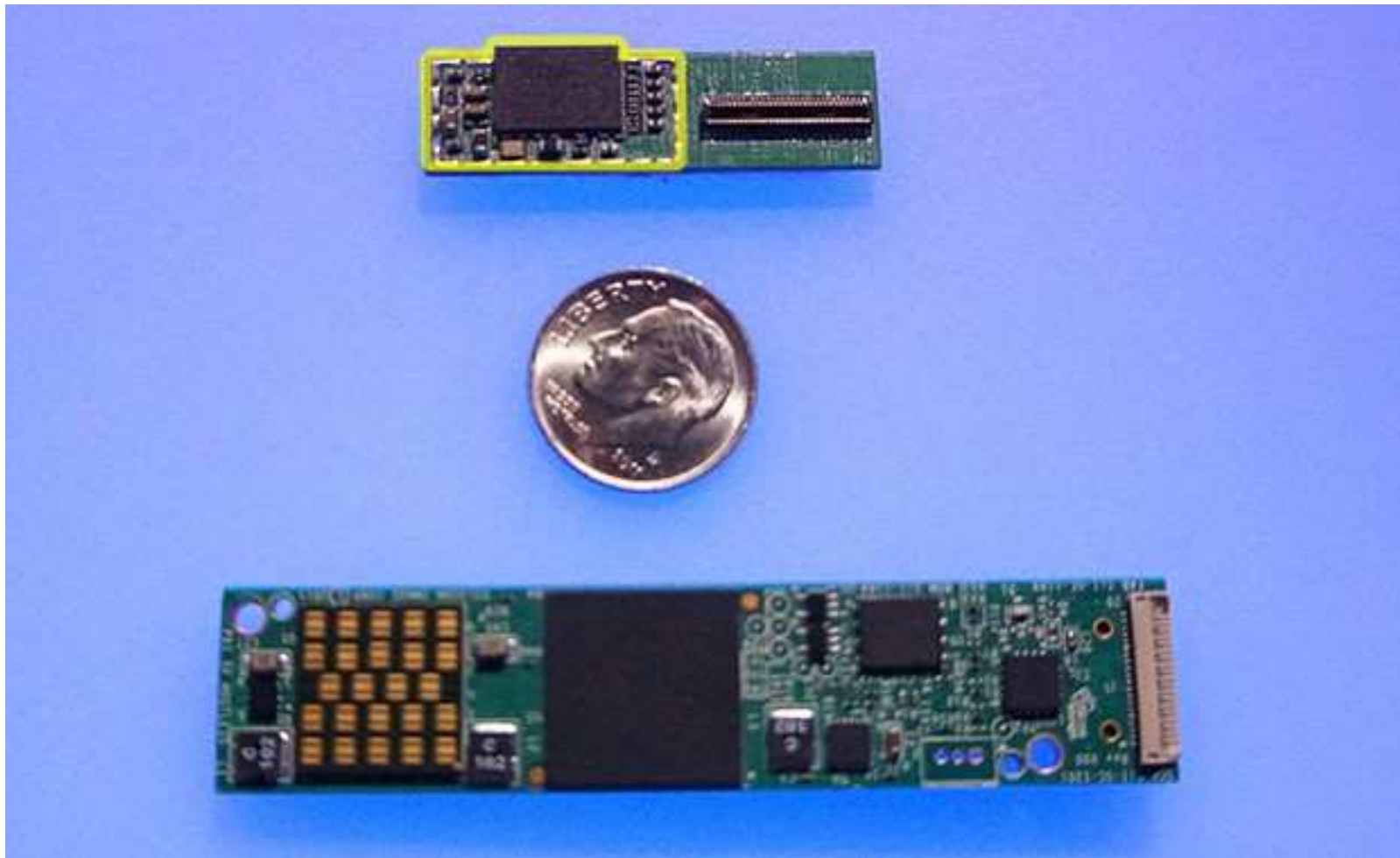


Package-Level Integration





CMOS Technology Development and f_t



<http://www.engadget.com/2013/01/10/silicon-image-ultravga-6400-wireless-hdmi-hands-on-video/>

Also see:

**Wilocity (now part of Qualcomm) IEEE802.11ad module
(google..)**

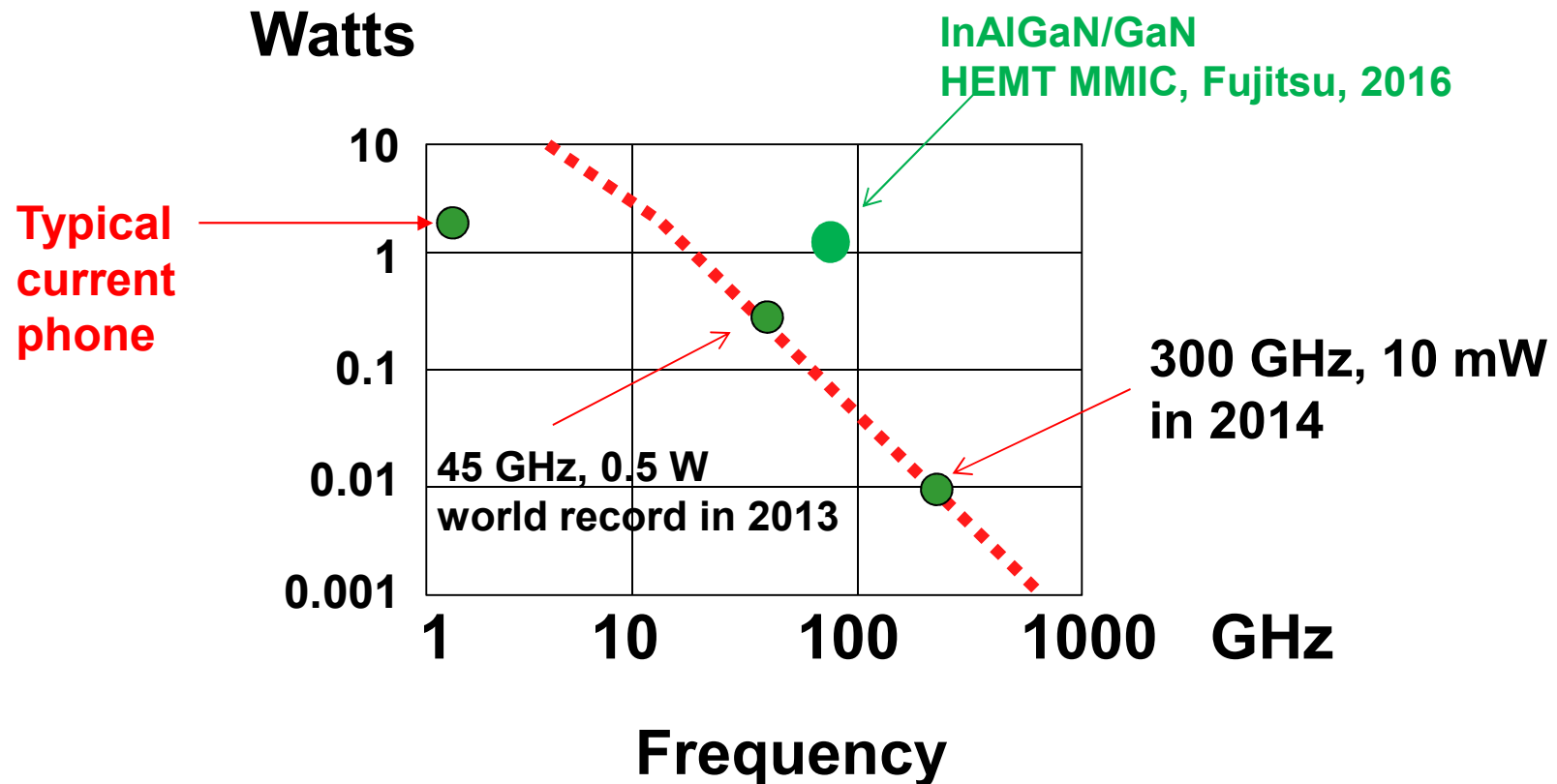
**ITRS White Paper
The next Step in Assembly and Packaging:
System Level Integration in the package (SiP)**

**“A 37.5-mW 8-dBm-EIRP 15.5° -HPBW 338-GHz Terahertz Transmitter Using SoP
Heterogeneous System Integration”, Chun-Hsing Li, et al IEEE MTT Trans 2015**

NGST InP “chipllets” on CMOS

**“Sub-Millimeter Wave InP Technologies and Integration Techniques”
Vesna Radisic et al., 2015 IEEE MTT-S International Microwave Symposium**

III-V technologies needed to deliver any significant power beyond 100 GHz



+ a whole host of specialist THz devices

Conclusions

To go significantly beyond 100 GHz with SoS requires hollow SIW or dielectric waveguides

Silicon / III-V both have key roles to play in realising affordable THz systems

3D PACKAGING TECHNOLOGY is key to exploitation of diverse semiconductor technologies in THz systems

Addressing these challenges can lead to highly novel large-area SiP and SoS systems



Acknowledgments

Contributors:

M. F. Shafique, K. K. Samanta, D. Stephens, M.S. Aftanasar, Razak M. A. Lee, M. Chongcheawchamnan, C.Y. Ng, Lukui Jin, Ayodeji Sunday, P. R. Young, Isibor Obuh, Nutapong Somjit, Paul Steenson, Mario D'Auria, Stepan Lucyszyn, Dilshani N. Rathnayake-Arachchige, David Hutt, Paul Conway

**This work was supported by the
Engineering and Physical Sciences Research Council
and by the
Innovative Manufacturing Research Centre (IeMRC) based at Loughborough University.**