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Overview of Planar shielding results and methods

John Dawson, University of York, UK

Yoeri Arien, Schlegel EM, BE

Davy Pissoort, KU Leuven, BE

With results and images from: C Stott, BAE Systems, UK F Moglie & V M Primiani, Universita Politecnica delle Marche, IT A Bohbe, CISCO Systems, US F Leferink, Thales, NL J Janukiewicz, & Z Joskiewicz, Wrocław University of Science and Technology, PL D Inman, Parker Chomerics, US V Gkatsi & E Tourounoglou, Aristotle University of Thessaloniki; A Roc'h, Eindhoven University of Technology; and Frank Leferink, University of Twente M Mirhoseini & A C Marvin, University of York, UK A. Tamburrano, Sapienza University of Rome, IT

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So what's the difference ?

- Standard method ?
- Dynamic range
- Frequency range
- Sample preparation
- Anisotropic materials
- Physical size
- Accuracy of results
- Equipment required
- What is measured



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Standards

- Standardized SE measurement techniques
 - ASTM D4935-10:Standard Test Method for Measuring the Electromagnetic Shielding Effectiveness of Planar Materials
 - valid over a frequency range of 30 MHz to 1.5 GHz
- SE measurement techniques derived from standardized techniques
 - IEEE 299: Standard method for measuring the effectiveness of electromagnetic shielding enclosures
 - IEC 61000-4-21: Testing and measurement techniques Reverberation chamber test methods
 - (Nested) reverberation chambers
 - Vibrating Intrinsic Reverberation Chamber (VIRC)



Dynamic range



Comparing the dynamic range reported by the participating labs

- The dynamic range depends on the measurement instruments and settings as well as the method.
- The coax method tends to have the best dynamic range as there is no jig insertion loss
- Jig leakage around the sample may further limit the dynamic range – but this effect is not seen in the measurement which is usually done with a metal plate. With a real sample jig leakage is more of a problem if the surface is nonconductive.



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Frequency range

- Freespace:
 - limited by need to have sample many wavelength big
- Absorber box:
 - Currently 1-10GHz (limited by antennas and absorber size)
- Reverberation chamber:
 - >200MHz (depends on chamber size)
- IEEE 299:
 - 50MHz 10GHz (Depends on chamber and setup)
- TEM-T
 - 10MHz-1GHz
- Coax ASTM
 - dc 18GHz (needs smaller coax for HF, sample surface may limit LF)



Sample preparation

- Most methods require that the sample be cut to size and drilled to match mounting holes
 - AB & FS are simpler
- Most methods are affected by the surface conductivity – nonconductive surface may cause leakage
 - AB & FS are not, Coax can compensate





Reverb sample



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Anisotropic materials

- Some methods average over a number of polarizations so cannot detect anisotropy in the sample:
 - Coax, Reverberation chamber
- Reverberation chamber averages over all angles of incidence
- Other methods have a single angle of incidence
 - Free-space, Absorber box, Coax, TEM-T, Dual waveguide, Dual TEM, IEEE-299
 - These methods can measure SE for different sample orientations and so quantify anisotropy



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Equipment required

- All use similar instruments
 - Vector network analyser (VNA) or,
 - Signal generator and receiver
- Just different test jigs
- Actual performance depends on jig and instruments:
 - Source power
 - Receiver noise-floor
 - Jig and cable leakage
 - Jig leakage may depend on sample



Absorber Box measurement setup: VNA, cables, 2 antennas, Absorber box



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Physical size

- Chamber methods
 - Several meters in each dimension
- Free space method
 - A few wavelengths (~ 1m cube here)
- Absorber box
 - 600mm cube for 1-10GHz range
- Coax
 - 100 diameter x ~300mm long
- TEM cells
 - ~300 mm cube



Coaxial jig





Dual TEM cell



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What is measured?

- Plane wave, Waveguide mode, Reverberant field
- Other?
- How should we compare these ?
 - In this presentation the SE measured on the single polarisation jigs (FS,AB, TEM-X,DWG)
 was averaged over both polarisations for comparison with the methods which measure
 over a range of polarisations and angles:

$$\overline{SE} = \frac{1}{\frac{1}{2\pi} \int_0^{2\pi} \sqrt{\left(\frac{\cos\theta}{SE_x}\right)^2 + \left(\frac{\sin\theta}{SE_y}\right)^2} d\theta}}$$
 where $SE_x = \frac{E_{0x}}{E_{tx}}$ is the ratio of incident (E_{0x}) to transmitted (E_{tx}) field in one polarisation and $SE_y = \frac{E_{0y}}{E_{ty}}$ is the ratio measured in the orthogonal polarisation.

• For Coax, and reverb the values are presented as measured.









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Conclusions

- No best method
 - Material dependent
- Test results needs to compared to Dynamic range
 - Dynamic range is limited in high frequencies (>20GHz)
- Jig leakage limits the accuracy
- Some significant variation between different samples of the same material
- Some strange jig dependent behaviours for some materials.
- SE measurements are not easy!



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