EXPERIMENTAL DETERMINATION OF ON-CHIP INTERCONNECT CAPACITANCES

SEMATECH AGREEMENT #34015300

IC TEST DESIGN REPORT–REVISED July 6, 1995

Michael B. Steer, Paul D. Franzon, Alan W. Glaser

Electronics Research Laboratory Department of Electrical and Computer Engineering North Carolina State University Raleigh, NC 27695-7911

Phil Russell, Gordon Shedd

Department of Materials Science and Engineering North Carolina State University Raleigh, NC 27695

Project Director: M. Steer — (919) 515-5191 email: mbs@ncsu.edu

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NCSU-ERL-95-27

This document replaces NCSU-ERL-95-27, dated April 7, 1995 and June 8, 1995.

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3.1 Introduction

This design report describes the test structures to be used in electrically characterizing onchip interconnects.

The aims of the project are as follows:

- 1. Develop benchmark capacitance and resistance measurements of on-chip interconnect structures.
- 2. Determine dimensions of interconnect structures. This will facilitate the determination of the effects of geometric assumptions made by capacitance extraction tools.
- 3. Experimentally determine properties of state-of-the-art structures.
- 4. Characterize on-chip transmission lines at frequencies up to 20 GHz.

Transmission lines will be characterized using a Hewlett Packard network analyzer. Capacitances will be determined using conventional capacitance meter techniques and a new Atomic Force Capacitance Meter. The Atomic Force Capacitance Meter will be used to measure very small capacitances.

3.2 Processing Requirements

In order to successfully complete the planned characterization of the proposed structures, the following processing should be done:

- 1. Passivation thickness should be no more than $1\mu m$, preferably less. This is so we can minimize the required pad size for ACM probing while still maintaining enough clearance for the probe to enter the passivation window.
- 2. Structures to be measured using ACM are in the center of the test coupon. Since our test structures are only half of the total chip, we would like the structures to be measured with ACM as near to the center of the chip as possible, so as to minimize processing gradients in that area. Currently, we have placed the ACM structures in the left center of our chip area.
- 3. The design will be stepped such that each chip will see similar surrounding regions. (Instead of using it as a test plug which occupies a few isolated sites surrounded by other circuits.)

3.3 Layers

The IC has three metallization layers as shown in Figure 1.

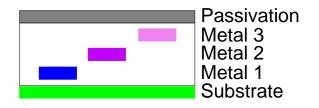


Figure 1: Cross-section of test IC showing three metallization layers.

3.4 Standard Dimensions

Dimensions are mostly indicated symbolically. Actual dimensions will be assigned based on the design rules and after consultation with the SEMATECH processing group.

SYMBOL	DESCRIPTION	DIMENSION
		$\mu{ m m}$
W_V	Very tiny line width	0.25
W_T	Tiny line width	0.35
W_S	Small line width	0.45
W_M	Medium line width	0.5
W_X	Experimental line width	0.6
W_W	Wide line width	0.7
S_S	Small line–to–line separation	0.45
S_M	Medium line-to-line separation	0.5
S_X	Experimental line-to-line separation	0.6
S_W	Wide line-to-line separation	0.7
L_S	Short layout length	400
L_M	Medium layout length	800
L_L	Long layout length	6400

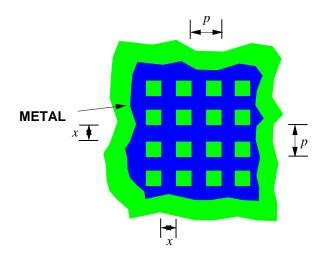


Figure 2: Gridded ground plane dimensions, x — width, p — pitch.

3.5 Measurements

The measurements to be performed are capacitance and resistance measurements and microwave transmission line characterization.

3.5.1 Capacitance and Dielectric Constant Measurement

There are two approaches which we plan to employ in measuring capacitances.

- 1. Conventional Capacitance Measurement using conventional contacting is shown in Figure 3. There are two probes shown here; each has three contacts—a signal contact and two guard contacts. We use coaxial probes (GGB model 40 picoprobes) which continue the coaxial probe to within 1 mm of the final test fingers. The guard contacts are extensions of the outer conductor of the coaxial line. On the chip, a set of three probe pads (Figure 3(b)) are contacted. The minimum dimension of the probe pads are 50 μ m on one side with the outer pads typically connected to the chip ground. Sub-picofarad capacitance measurements require a balanced probe system, but the electrical balance must, of course, be disturbed at the probe, resulting in a residual capacitance. The residual capacitance of the microprobe and the probe pad is approximately 70 fF; this must be subtracted out of the measurements. This establishes a resolution of 4 fF. Thus the resolution of the capacitance measurement is independent of that of the capacitance meter provided that the meter's resolution is 1 fF or less.
- 2. Atomic Capacitance Microscopy (ACM) utilizing an atomic force microscope is shown in Figure 5. Atomic capacitance microscopy is an extension of atomic force microscopy. What is novel about our work is that we are not interested in the total capacitance measured but in a derived capacitance—the capacitance of the interconnect structure itself. Referring to the capacitance diagram in Figure 5, the technique can be described as follows. An alternating voltage signal is applied between the probe tips with one of the tips in contact with metallization. The electromechanical force on the other probe tip is measured via a piezoelectric stack from which C_{TOTAL} is derived. C_{PROBE} is determined from a through calibration and the capacitance of the interconnect structure C_X is determined. The system has a measurement resolution of 10^{-21} F.

As an example of how the capacitance matrix can be derived from measurement, we present a method for obtaining the matrix using six independent test structures. These structures are shown in Figure 4 (note that we assume that the capacitance matrix is symmetric.) We will measure seven different equivalent capacitances, but only six are required for the derivation (the seventh will be for verification purposes). The relationships between the measured capacitances and the capacitance matrix elements (as shown in Figure 4) can be written as a matrix equation:

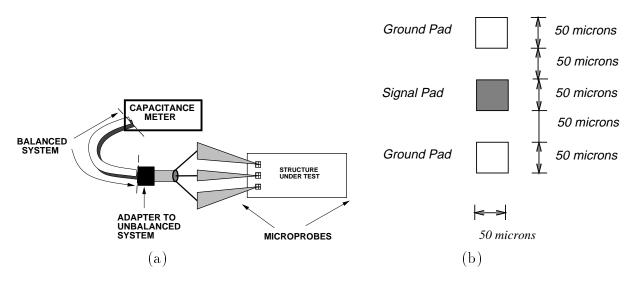


Figure 3: Conventional contact probing. (a) using shielded microprobes from GGB industries; (b) detail of contact pads.

$\begin{bmatrix} C_A \end{bmatrix}$		1	1	1	0	0	0]	$\begin{bmatrix} C_{11} \end{bmatrix}$
C_B			1					C_{12}
C_C		0	0	1	0	1	1	C_{13}
C_D	=	1	0	1	1	1	0	C_{22}
C_E		1	1	0	0	1	1	C_{23}
C_G		1	0	0	1	0	1	C_{33}

If the coefficient matrix is invertible, then we can find the capacitance matrix elements by taking the inverse of the coefficient matrix and multiplying by the measured values vector:

C_{11}		1	1	1	0	0	$0]^{-1}$	$\begin{bmatrix} C_A \end{bmatrix}$
C_{12}		0	1	0	1	1	0	C_B
C_{13}		0	0	1	0	1	1	C_C
C_{22}	=	1	0	1	1	1	0	C_D
C_{23}		1	1	0	0	1	1	C_E
C ₃₃		1	0	0	1	0	1	C_G

The above coefficient matrix is in fact invertible; thus our measurement set will suffice for the derivation of the capacitance matrix.

Similar techniques must be used to find the crossover and via capacitances.

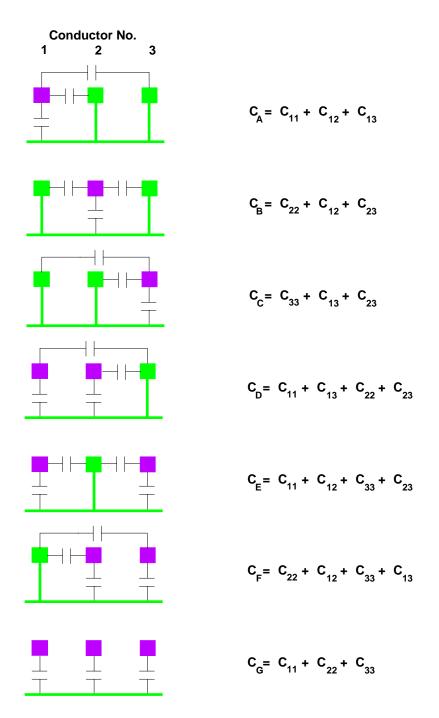


Figure 4: Three-line structures for capacitance matrix measurement. Structures in green are connected to the substrate and are thus grounded; structures in purple are electrically connected (connections not shown) so that they are at the same potential.

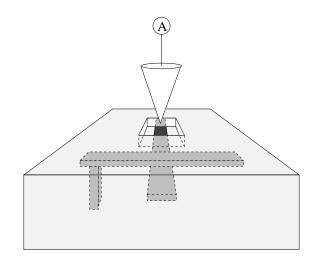


Figure 5: Capacitance of small structures using atomic force capacitance microscopy. Probe A is an ACM probe. The horizontal wire is connected to ground through a via.

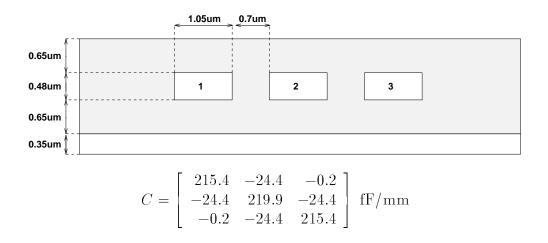


Figure 6: Assumed minimum design rule metallization cross-section of SEMATECH's 0.35 μ m process. The actual dimensions are available on a need-to-know basis only. Also shown is the calculated capacitance matrix.

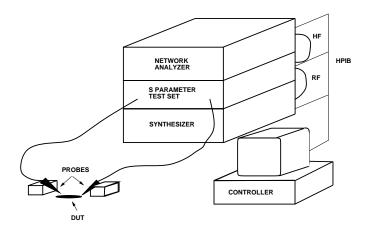


Figure 7: Measurement setup for microwave transmission line characterization.

3.5.2 Atomic Force Microscopy

Capacitance measurements of 3-D micron-sized interconnect structures will be carried out using an Atomic Force Capacitance Microscope located at North Carolina State University. The Atomic Force Microscope has a resolution of 2×10^{-22} F and can be used with structures of 50s of nm on a side or greater.

However, this microscope can only be used for relative capacitance measurements and thus needs a separately characterized reference structure for comparison (in order to produce absolute measurements). In our Electronics Research Laboratory we have a HP 4275 A Multi-Frequency LCR Meter that when combined with the Model 40 GGB probe and an appropriate parasitic de-embedding procedure will give us 1 fF measurement accuracy. If three capacitors of different sizes are built alongside the three-dimensional structures to be tested, then we can use the LCR meter to *obtain the dielectric constant* and to provide a reference capacitance. Each parallel plate capacitor will have a 50 μ m wide grounded guard band around it to enable us to account for the fringing fields in a predictable manner.

3.5.3 Expected Capacitance Values

The expected capacitance values for the test chip are shown in Figure 6 for coupled lines. The expected capacitance for the crossover shown in Figure 5 is approximately 1 aF. The conclusion is that the conventional contact capacitance technique can be used with uncoupled and coupled line structures but atomic capacitance microscopy is required for small structures such as cross-overs.

3.5.4 Transmission Line Characterization

Standard transmission line characterization will be performed using a microwave network analyzer and microprobes, as in Figure 7.

3.5.5 Physical Cross-Section Measurements

Conventional scanning electron microscopy will be used to obtain most dimensional information. Focused Ion Beam Milling (FIB) will be used to produce windows in the passivation layer and through dielectrics for probing. FIB will also be used to obtain dimensional information on 3D structures that are not amenable to cross-sectional SEM. Cross-sectional information will be obtained to a resolution of 50 nm.

3.5.6 Dielectric Measurements

Performance specification: 3%

This will be similar to the conventional capacitance measurement performance but the structure will be fairly large so that the fixed error is minimized.

3.5.7 Loss Measurements

The minimum loss that can be measured is determined by the impedance error. Since most of the impedance of an interconnect is capacitive the capacitance measurement performance establishes the impedance error. Thus loss tangents less than 0.03 cannot be measured directly using an LCR meter. Lower loss tangents will be measured using microwave measurement techniques.

3.5.8 Transmission Line Characterization

The propagation constant and characteristic impedance errors are 5%.

For simple simulation purposes the R, L, G and C parameters versus frequency up to 20 GHz will be obtained. As these are derived quantities and use assumptions (such as the frequency behavior of G) that cannot be verified, the error in the quantities cannot be determined. However, what is important in transmission line simulation is the value of characteristic impedance and propagation constant that can be calculated using the measured parameters.

3.5.9 Measurement Fixture

Passive measurements will be made using a Cascade Microprober, see Figure 8, and a Hewlett Packard Automatic Network Analyzer (ANA) HP8510B connected to a HP workstation for data retrieval. There are two types of fixtures: a microstrip fixture, Figure 9(a), and a coupled fixture, Figure 9(b). The microstrip and coupled fixtures are identical except for added repetition.

Mirowave Measurements:

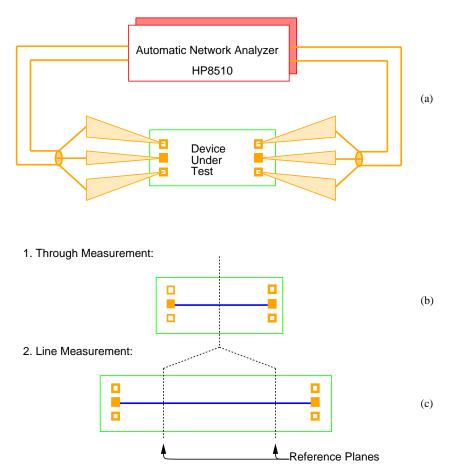


Figure 8: Set-up for microwave measurements: (a) test set-up using a Cascade Microtech probe station and picoprobes from GGB industries.

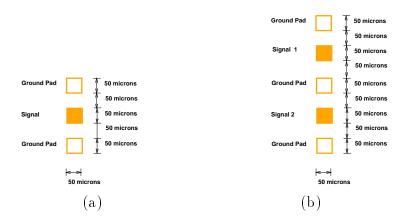


Figure 9: Fixture layout: (a) one signal version; (b) two signal version.

3.6 General Guidelines

- 1. SEMATECH's 0.35 μ m 3 metal layer process with CMP for ILD planarization will be used to fabricate the test chip. An area of 1 cm by 2 cm has been allocated.
- 2. Metal resistances will be measured for most structures.
- 3. All structures will be cross-sectioned.
- 4. Frequency range
 - 4.1 Low frequency measurements will be made at 10 MHz.
 - 4.2 The measurement range in task 3.7.2 will be 100 kHz to 10 MHz using direct capacitance measurements. Network analyzer impedance measurements will be used in the range 10 MHz to 100 MHz.
 - 4.3 High frequency 2-parameter measurements will be in the range 45 MHz to 20 GHz.
- 5. An independent way of cross-checking the results of the capacitance measurements will be devised. For structures with uniform cross-sections, field solvers will be used. For representative structures, measurements using two capacitance measurement techniques will used. Measurements will also be verified through time-domain measurements performed on an interconnect network. A voltage contrast scanning electron microscope and Tektronix TK1180 TDR unit will be used. This system has a 20 ps timing resolution.
- 6. All measurements will have error estimates.
- 7. Calibration structures will be used to remove the effect of parasitics.
- 8. There are no active devices. This eliminates many reticles and holds down costs.
- 9. Structures submitted by member companies have been incorporated.

3.7 Facilities Description

Equipment from the electronics research laboratory to be used in this project include

- Microwave network analyzer system: HP8510 network analyzer, synthesizer, Cascade Microtech Probe Station, LABView measurement control software. S-parameter measurements from 45 MHz to 26.5 GHz are supported.
- HP4275A LCR meter. Provides capacitance measurements from 100 kHz to 10 MHz. A resolution of 4 fF can be obtained using probe pads on the chip surface and shielded probes.

- Capacitance and microwave shielded probing will be via GGB model 40 picoprobes with ground-signal-ground and ground-signal₁-signal₂-ground configurations.
- Focused Ion Beam Work Station FEI Model 610 (Ga LMIS, 280 Å beam, 5-30 kV, chemically enhanced selective etching, selective deposition of platinum). Used to cut through devices to permit in-wafer, cross-sectional SEM imaging, and to prepare selected regions for cross-sectional TEM (lattice imaging demonstrated).
- Low Voltage Field Emission Scanning Electron Microscope model JEOL JSM-6400F (15 Åresolution at 30 kV; 70 Å image resolution at 1 kV; 0.5-30 kV) with a Raith ELPHY E-beam lithography system (< 0.1 μm capability).
- JEOL JSM-6400F (15 Å resolution at 30 kV; 70 Å image resolution at 1 kV; 0.5-30 kV) with a Link Pentafet (energy dispersive x-ray analysis system).
- Scanned Probe Microscopes Digital Instruments Nanoscope III (STM, Multi-mode system including Tapping-Mode and Contact-Mode Atomic Force Microscopy; Magnetic Force Microscopy; Electrostatic Force Imaging (Surface Potential Imaging to be added for project); scan ranges to 150x150 μm).
- 2 Digital Instruments Nanoscope II's (STM, Contact-Mode AFM; scan ranges to 150x150 $\mu{\rm m}).$
- JEOL Ultra-High Vacuum STM (Nanoscope compatible; atomic resolution semiconductor imaging).
- Secondary Ion Mass Spectrometer (AIF) Cameca IMS-3f (>1 μ m mass-selected imaging resolution; mass resolution (M/dM) of 10,000; detection limit of, for example, 1014 cm⁻³ for boron).
- High Resolution Scanning Auger Microprobe (AIF) JEOL JAMP-30 (LaB6 SEM: 500 Å Auger probe) with a CMA (electron energy spectrometer: 0.3-1.0% energy resolution)
- High Resolution Transmission Electron Microscope for Elemental Analysis (AIF) Topcon 002B (TEM: 2.4 Å point-to-point resolution, 1.4 Å lattice resolution; 20kV - 200kV) with a Noran Voyager II (energy dispersive x-ray analysis system).
- Ultra High Resolution Transmission Electron Microscope (AIF) Topcon 002B (TEM: 1.8 Å point-to-point resolution, 1.4 Å lattice resolution; 20 kV - 200 kV)
- Scanning Transmission Electron Microscope for Elemental Analysis (AIF) Hitachi H-800 (STEM: 2.05 Å Resolution, 75–200 kV) with a Noran Series II (energy dispersive x-ray analysis system)
- Electron Beam/IC Test Instrument (AIF) Advantest E1231 Electron Beam Test System stroboscopic imaging, quantitative waveform measurements, 0.1 μm spatial resolution, 10 mV voltage resolution, 10 ps time resolution (research demonstration).

• An Atomic Force Microscope has been developed which enables capacitance of structures to be determined for nanometer scale structures.

3.8 Test Structure Assignment

Important considerations are

• Lengths

Each transmission line structure is repeated three times at different lengths.

• Area Budget

- The total die area is 1.6 cm \times 2.0 cm, including Process Control Monitors.
- The working size is 0.9 cm \times 1.9 cm.
- A unit is 100 μ m².
- The working area is 1,710,000 units.
- Each pad shown in Figures 9 (a) and (b) is 25 units.

3.9 Details of Structures: Conventional Fixturing

This section details the structures that will be measured using conventional mechanical probing techniques. There will be more structures than can be measured using conventional fixture probes, because we are area-limited by the size of the probe pads (50 μ m on a side). We should be able to fit all of the structures on the chip if we eliminate the large probe pads (as we will be able to do in the ACM measurements). The tradeoff is that we will not be able to make as many ACM measurements, as they are very time-intensive.

Each structure will be completely surrounded by guardbanding to insure that it is wellisolated from other structures. The guardbanding will consist of a ring of metal on each metallization layer; these rings will then be attached to each other and to the substrate using enough vias to guarantee a "good" ground.

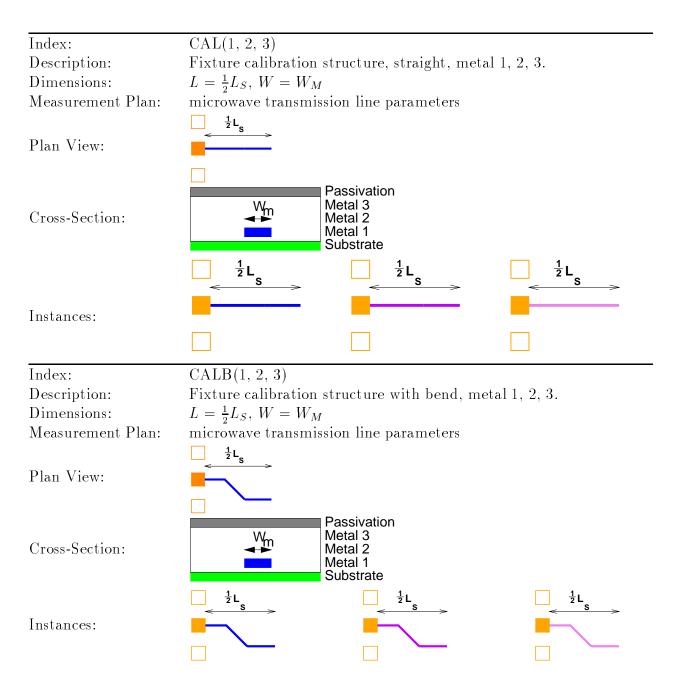
Some structures will be laid out at three different lengths; this is required for microwave measurement calibration. Layout lengths are indicated in the description of each structure, if applicable.

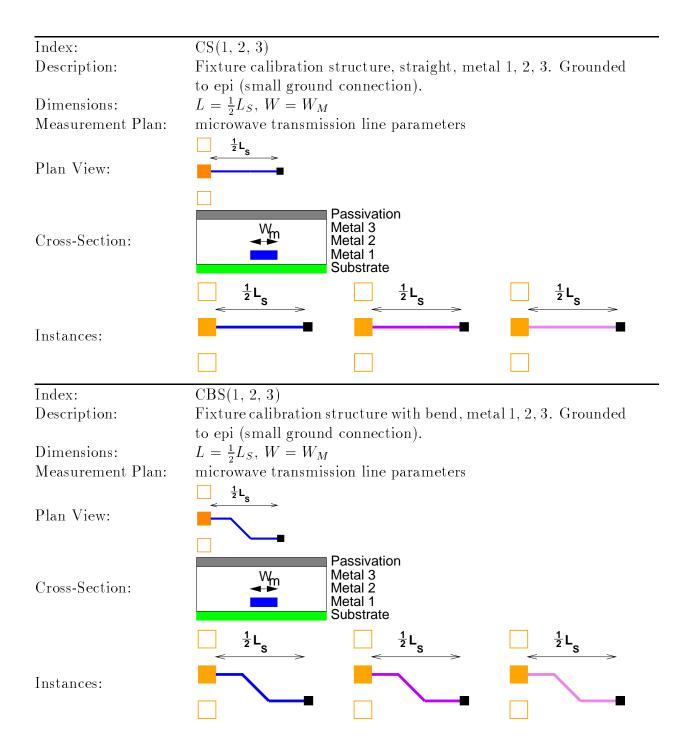
Some structures will be laid out at various widths; this is to test an idea for a table-lookup model of interconnect characteristics, and to test the minimum allowed feature size of the process. We intend to use parameters measured from three widths to calibrate a quasi-analytic transmission line model; a fourth width is required to validate the model. There will also be two small widths for feature-size testing. Note that different widths are identified in separate structure descriptions.

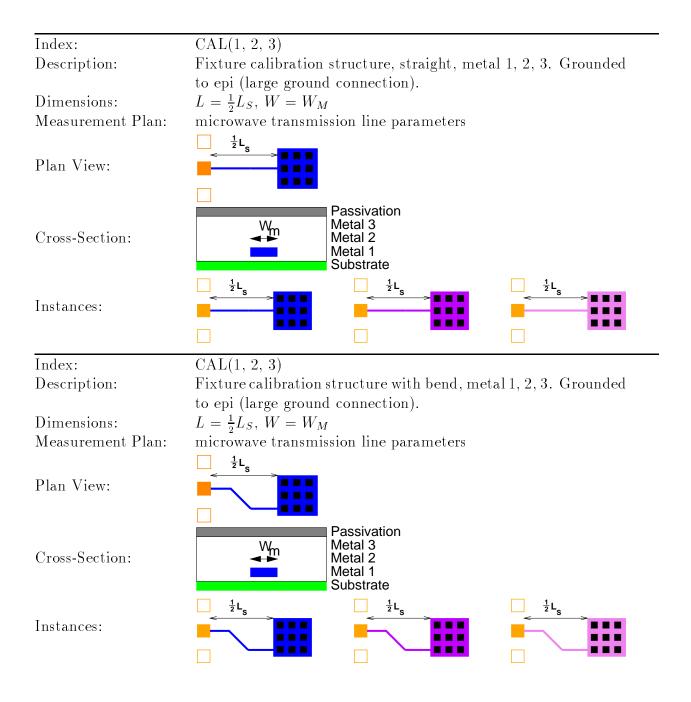
The structure descriptions contain the following information:

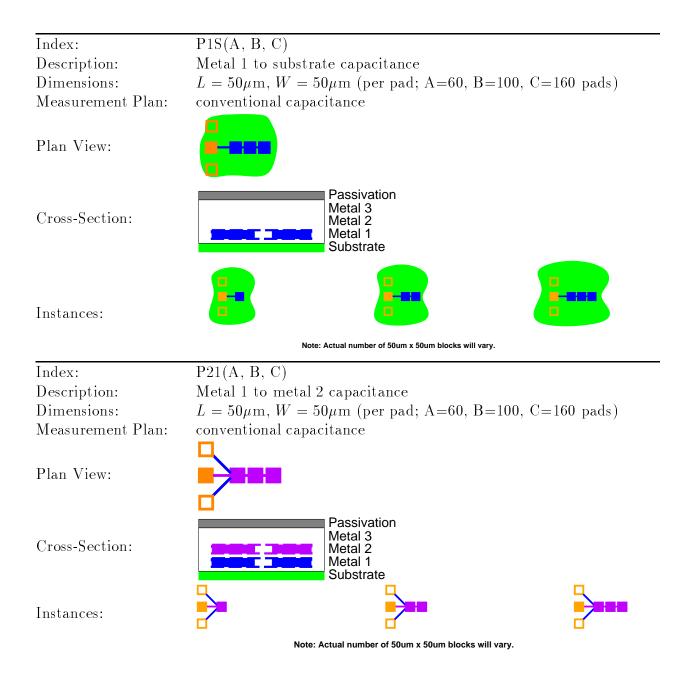
- Index provides a unique identifier for each structure.
- **Description** gives a short text description of the structure.
- **Dimensions** gives (where applicable) the length and width of the structure under test. Note that these dimensions do not include guardbanding or pad connections.
- Measurement Plan indicates the proposed measurement technique(s).
- Plan View shows schematic view of object from above. Not to scale.
- Cross-Section shows schematic view of object in cross-section. Not to scale.
- Instances graphically enumerates all layouts of the proposed structures. Not to scale.

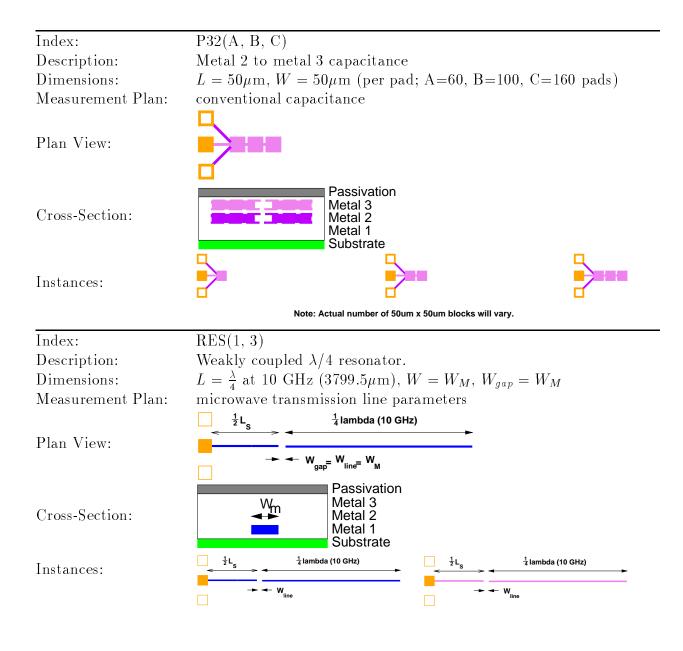
3.9.1 Fixture/Process Calibration Structures



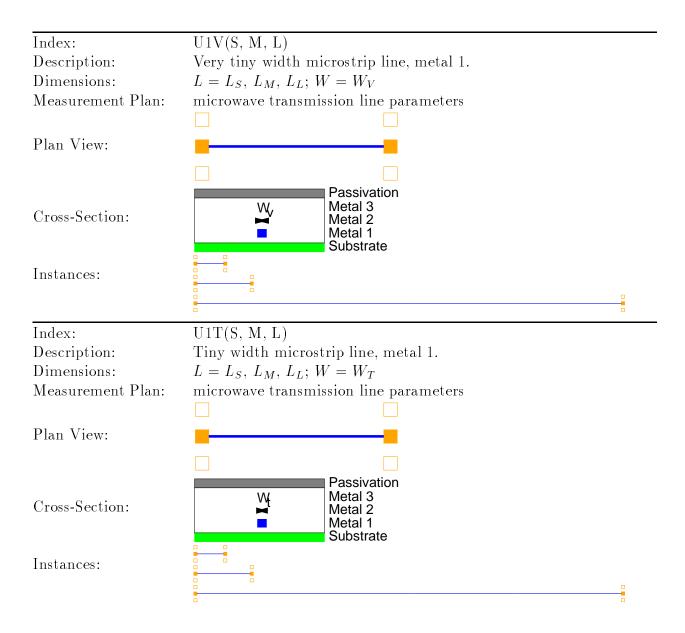




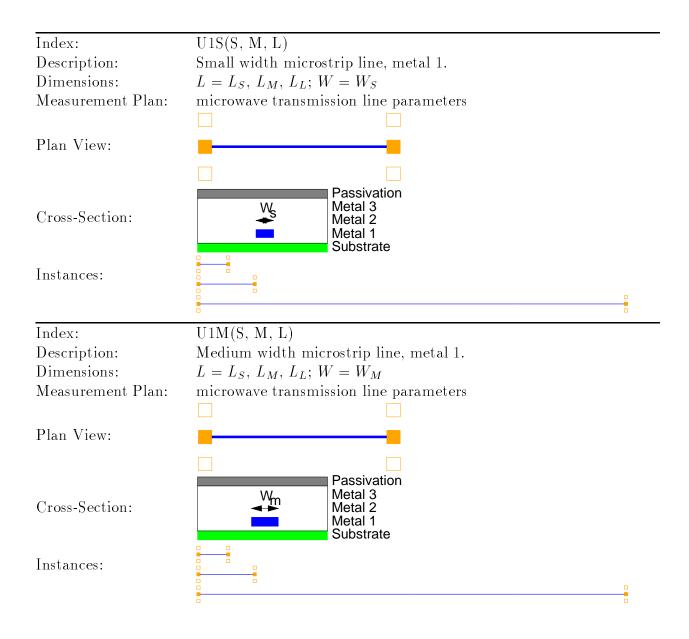


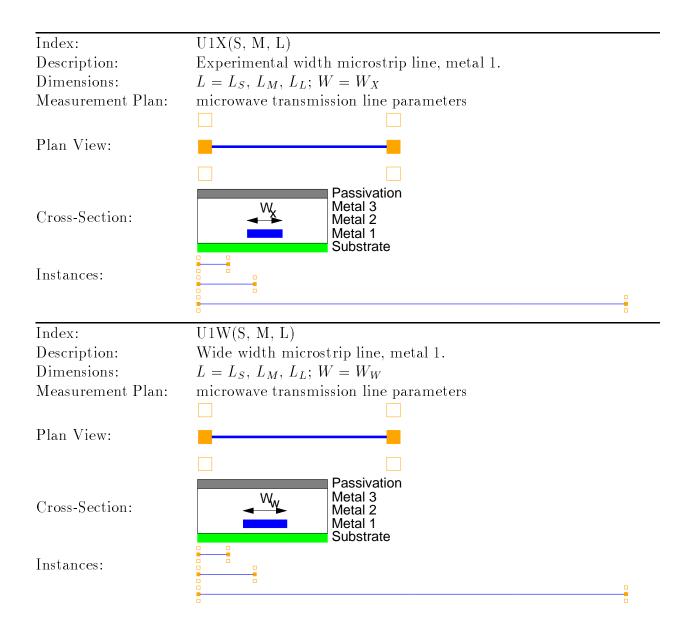


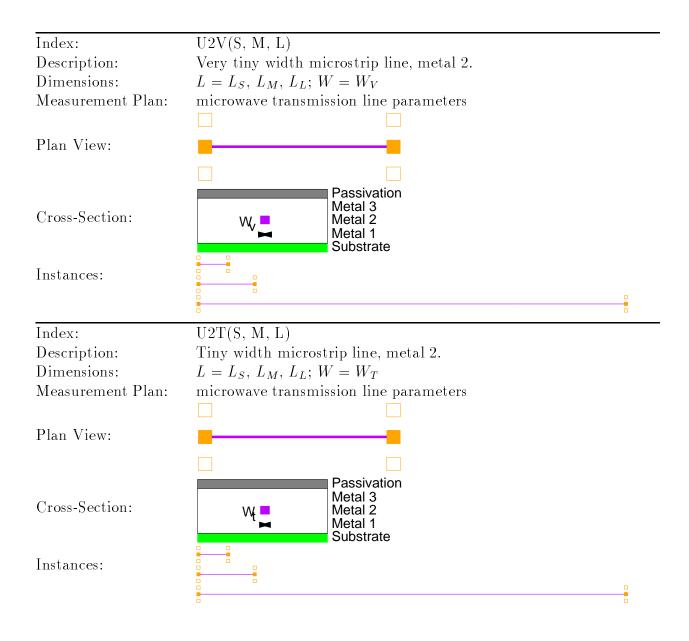
3.9.2 Strip Line

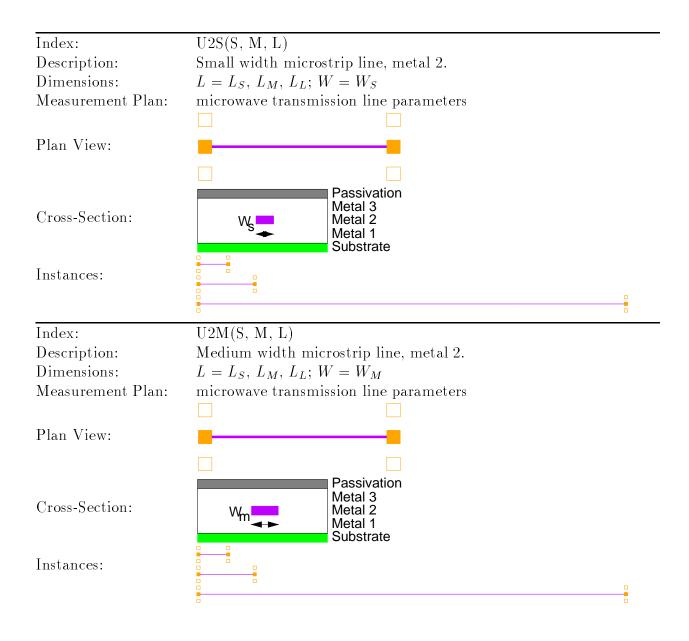


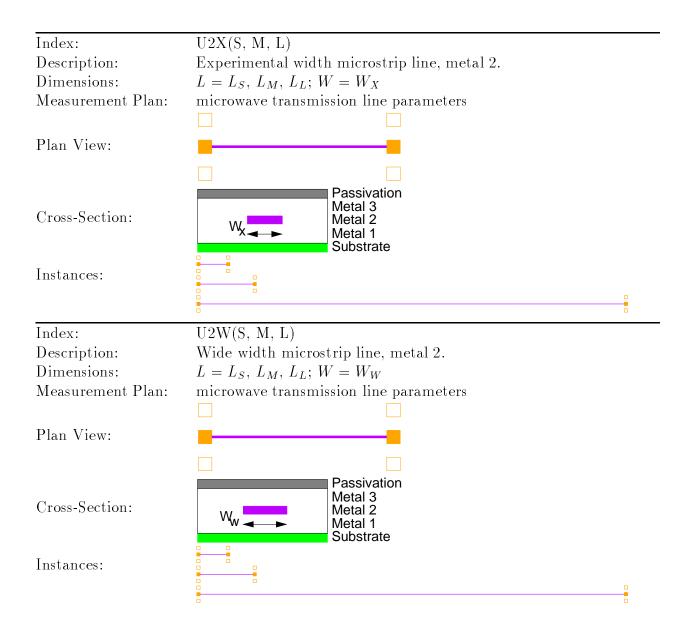
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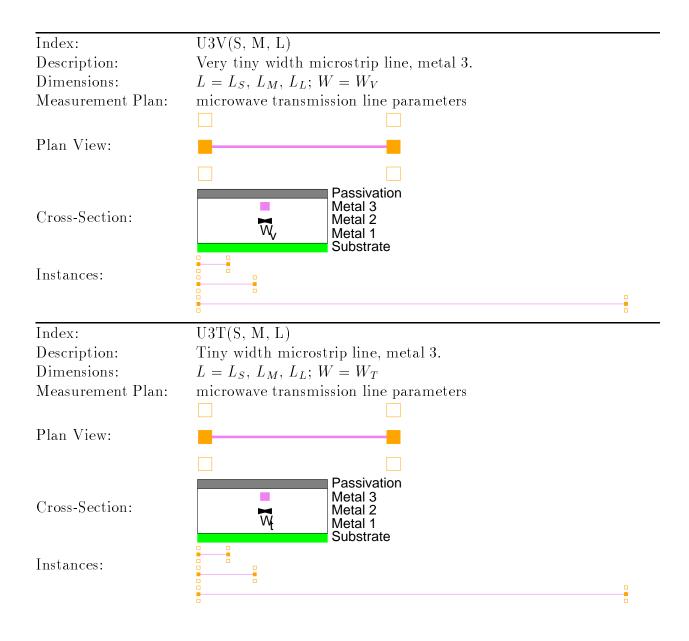


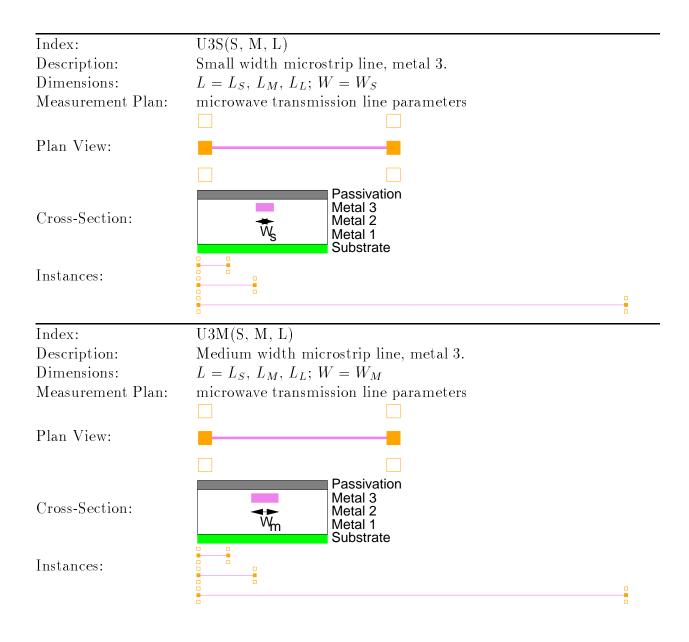


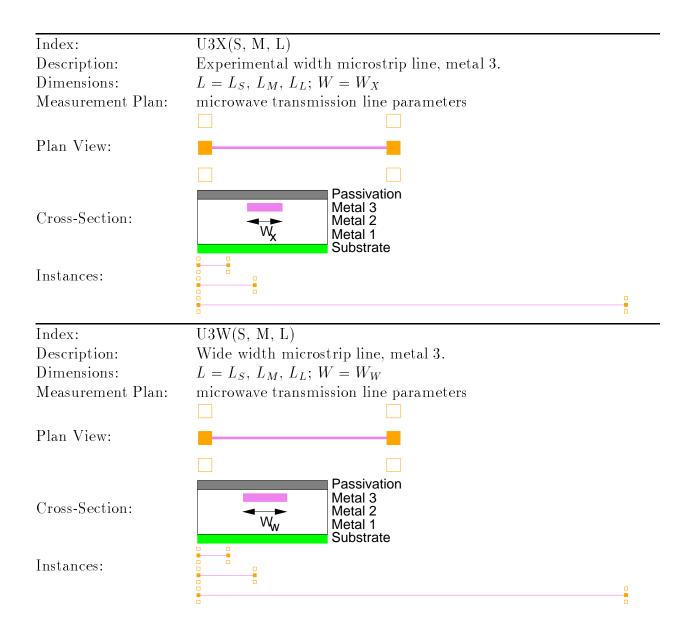




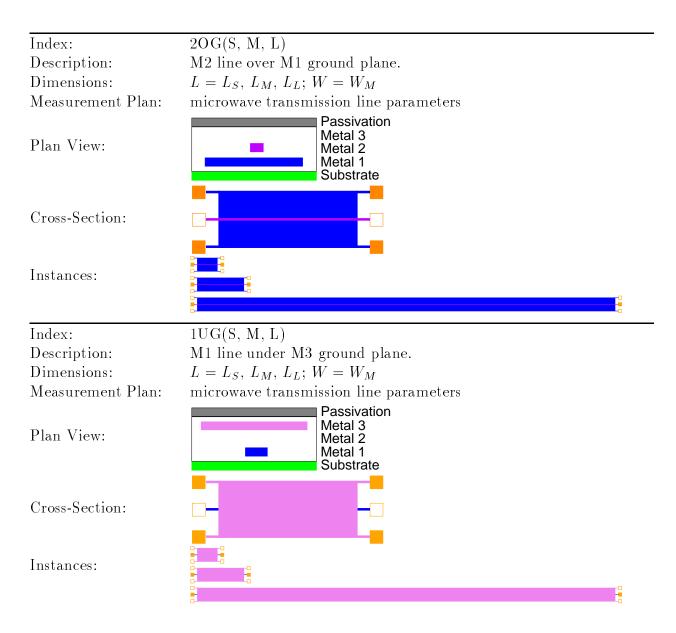






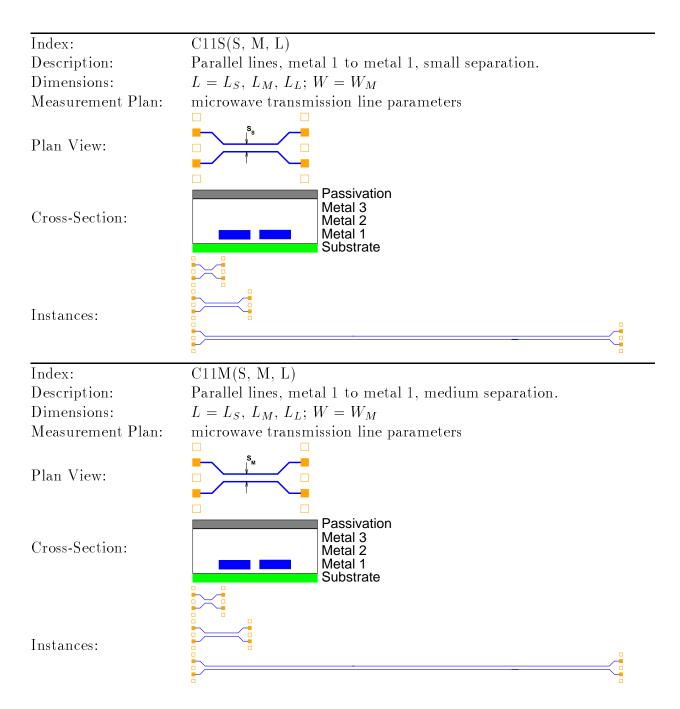


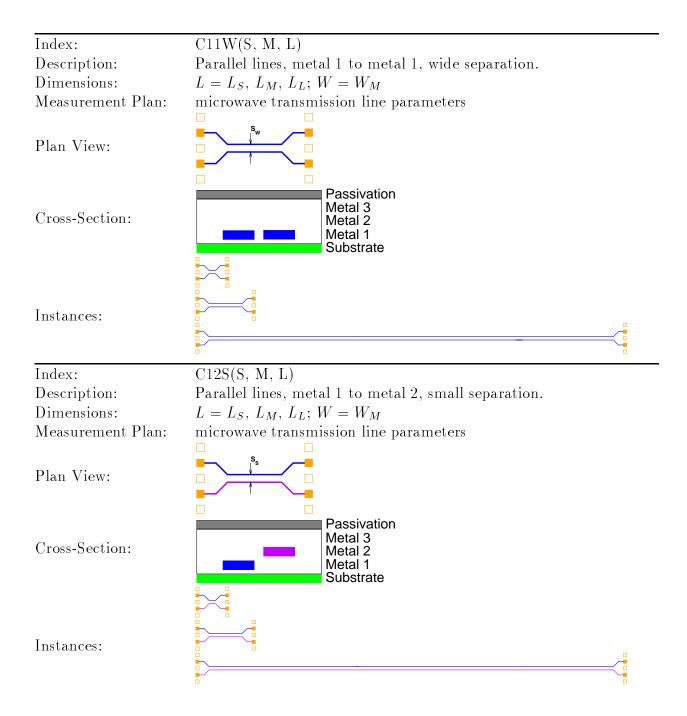
3.9.3 Single Line with Ground Plane

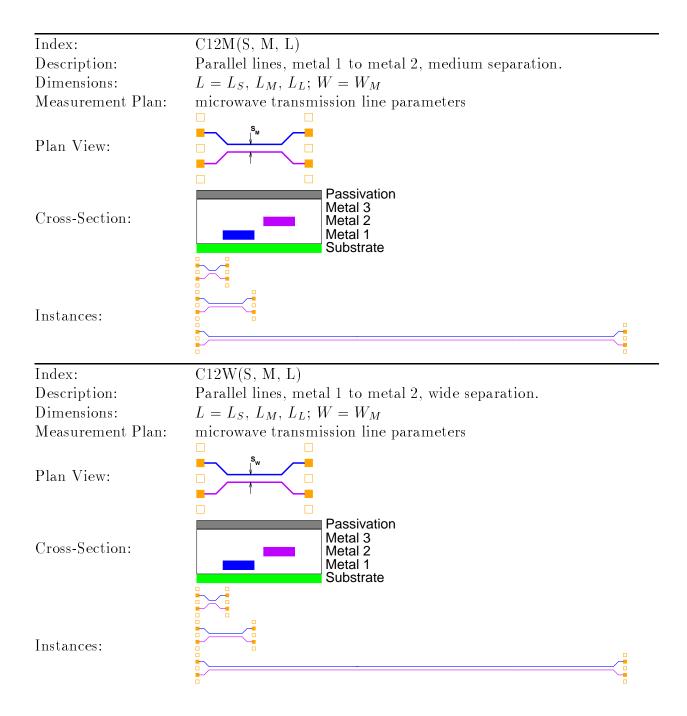


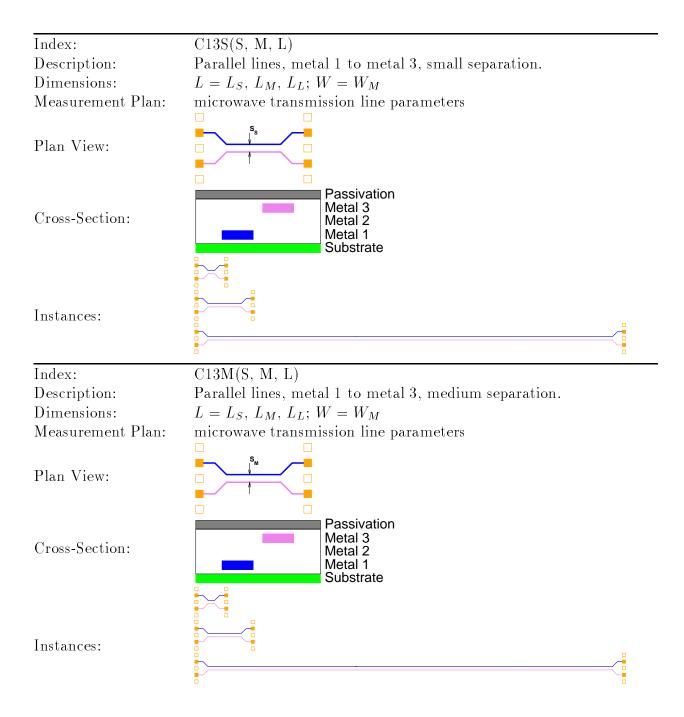
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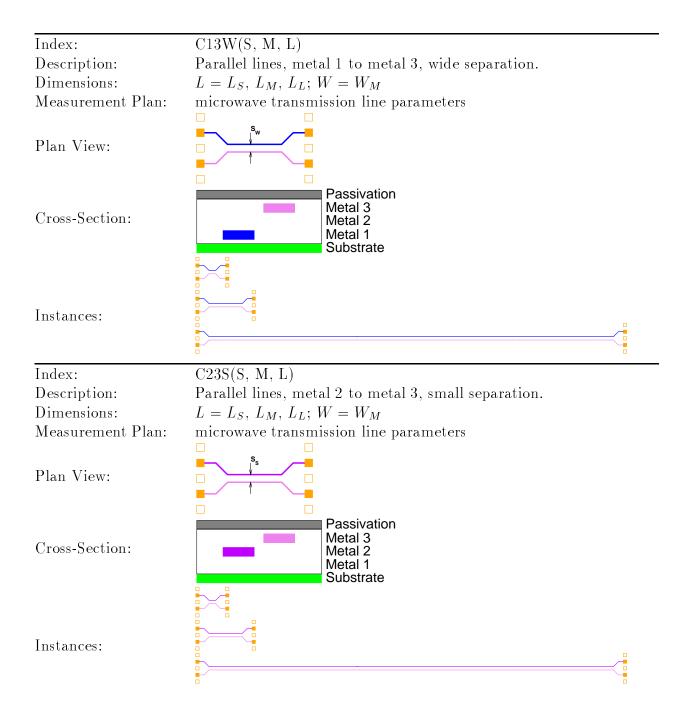
3.9.4 Two Coupled Strip Lines

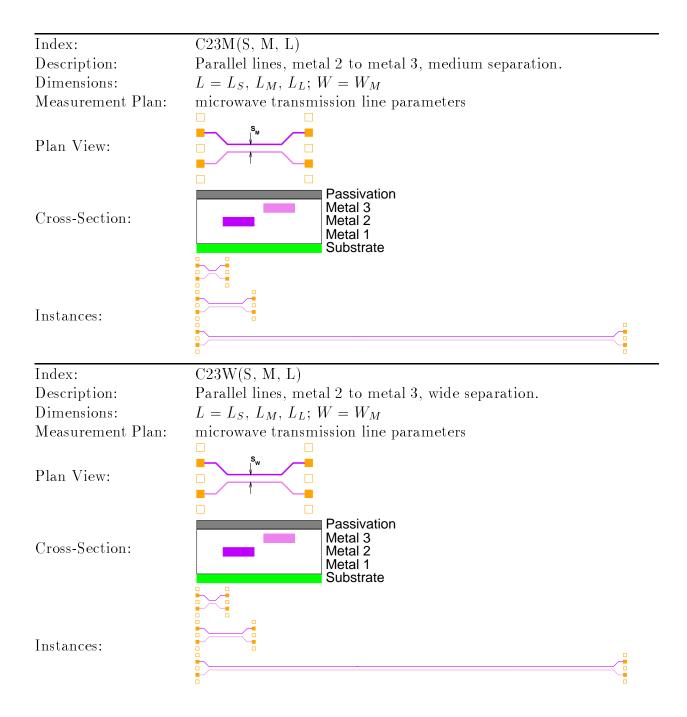






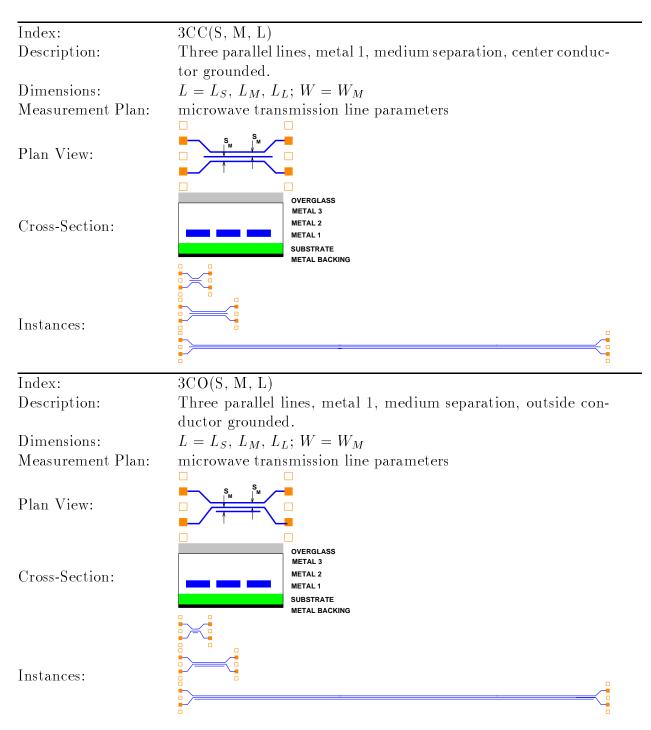






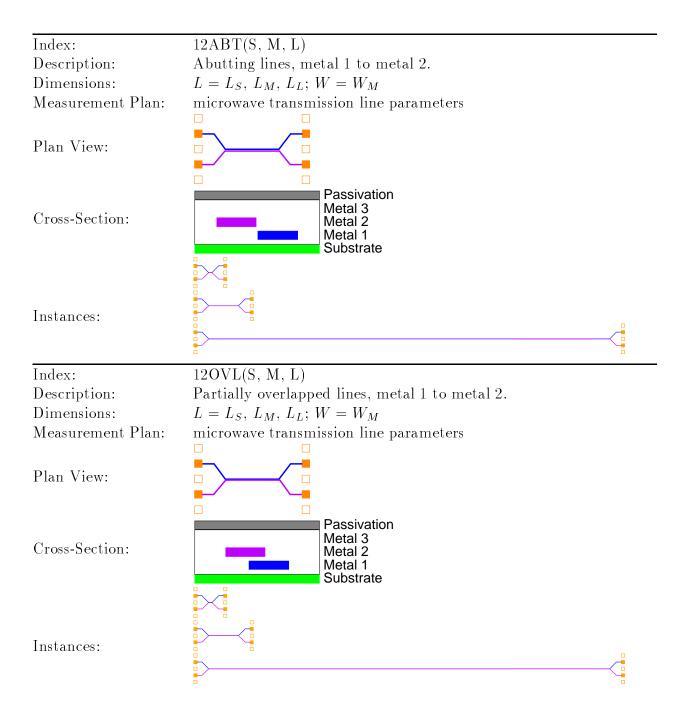
 $\overline{W_V = 0.25\mu \text{m } W_T = 0.35\mu \text{m } W_S = 0.45\mu \text{m } W_M = 0.5\mu \text{m } W_X = 0.6\mu \text{m } W_W = 0.7\mu \text{m}}$ $S_S = 0.45\mu \text{m } S_M = 0.5\mu \text{m } S_X = 0.6\mu \text{m } S_W = 0.7\mu \text{m}}$ $L_S = 400\mu \text{m } L_M = 800\mu \text{m } L_L = 6400\mu \text{m}}$

3.9.5 Three Coupled Strip Lines



 $\overline{W_V} = 0.25\mu \text{m } W_T = 0.35\mu \text{m } W_S = 0.45\mu \text{m } W_M = 0.5\mu \text{m } W_X = 0.6\mu \text{m } W_W = 0.7\mu \text{m}$ $S_S = 0.45\mu \text{m } S_M = 0.5\mu \text{m } S_X = 0.6\mu \text{m } S_W = 0.7\mu \text{m}$ $L_S = 400\mu \text{m } L_M = 800\mu \text{m } L_L = 6400\mu \text{m}$

3.9.6 Other Coupled Strip Line Structures

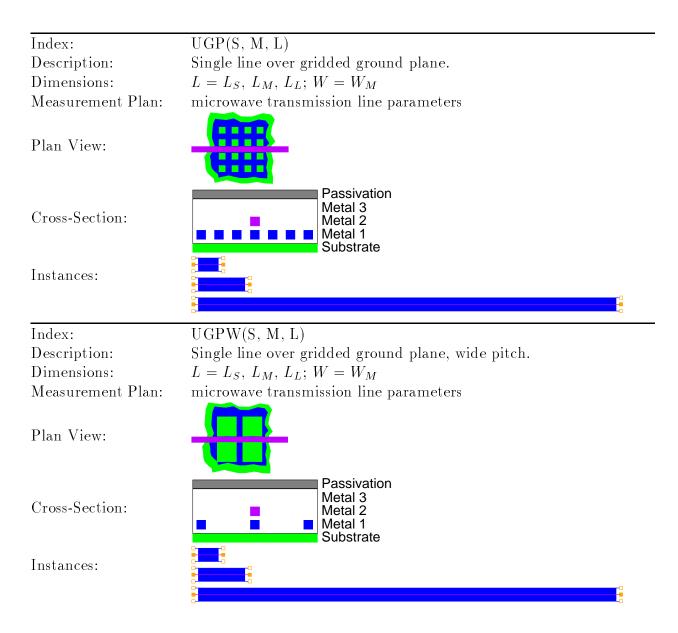


 $\overline{W_V = 0.25\mu \text{m } W_T = 0.35\mu \text{m } W_S = 0.45\mu \text{m } W_M = 0.5\mu \text{m } W_X = 0.6\mu \text{m } W_W = 0.7\mu \text{m}}$ $S_S = 0.45\mu \text{m } S_M = 0.5\mu \text{m } S_X = 0.6\mu \text{m } S_W = 0.7\mu \text{m}}$ $L_S = 400\mu \text{m } L_M = 800\mu \text{m } L_L = 6400\mu \text{m}}$

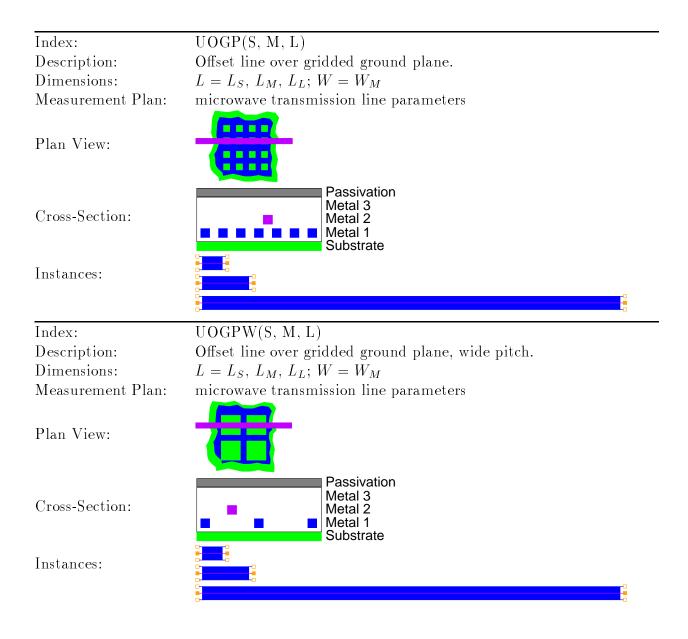
Index:	11UG(S, M, L)			
Description:	Coupled lines under metal ground plane.			
Dimensions:	$L = L_S, L_M, L_L; W = W_M$			
Measurement Plan:	microwave transmission line parameters			
Plan View:				
Cross-Section:	Passivation Metal 3 Metal 2 Metal 1 Substrate			
Instances:				

 $\overline{W_V = 0.25 \mu \text{m } W_T = 0.35 \mu \text{m } W_S = 0.45 \mu \text{m } W_M = 0.5 \mu \text{m } W_X = 0.6 \mu \text{m } W_W = 0.7 \mu \text{m} }$ $S_S = 0.45 \mu \text{m } S_M = 0.5 \mu \text{m } S_X = 0.6 \mu \text{m } S_W = 0.7 \mu \text{m} }$ $L_S = 400 \mu \text{m } L_M = 800 \mu \text{m } L_L = 6400 \mu \text{m}$

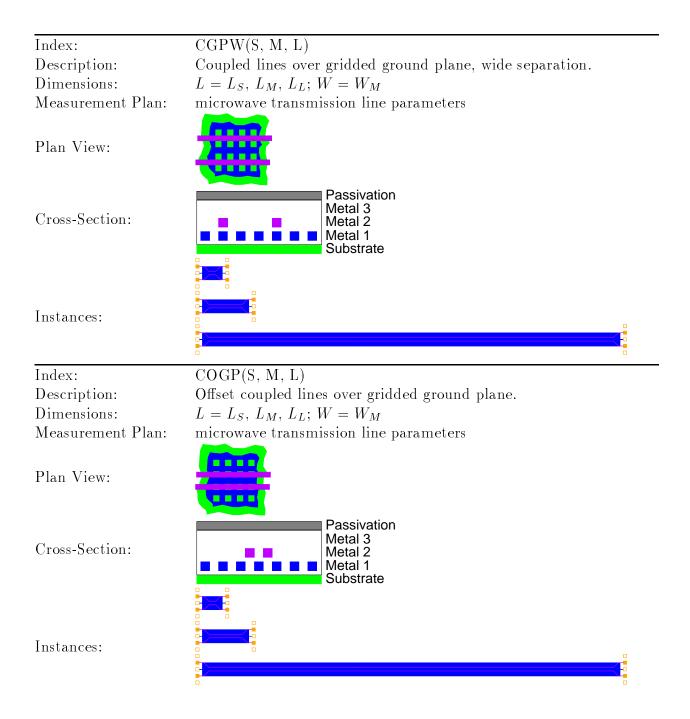
3.9.7 Gridded Ground Plane Structures

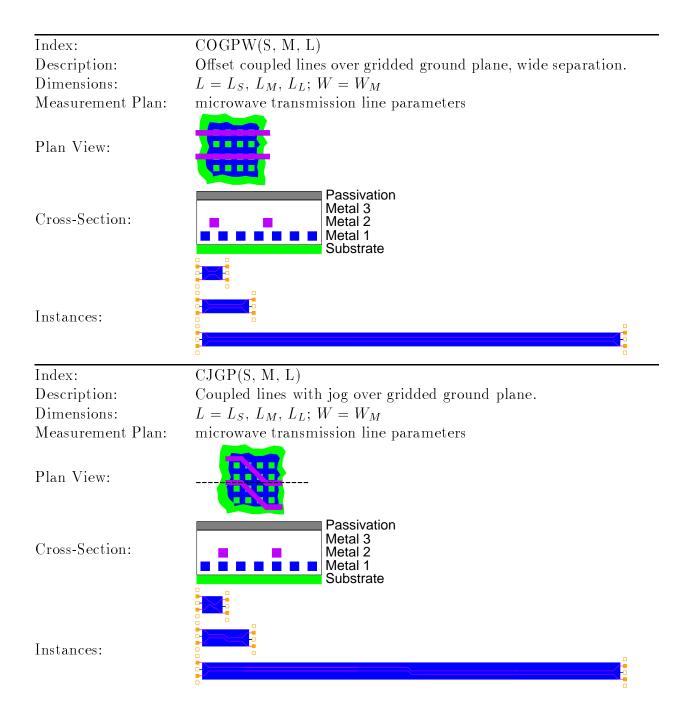


 $[\]overline{W_V} = 0.25 \mu \text{m } W_T = 0.35 \mu \text{m } W_S = 0.45 \mu \text{m } W_M = 0.5 \mu \text{m } W_X = 0.6 \mu \text{m } W_W = 0.7 \mu \text{m}$ $S_S = 0.45 \mu \text{m } S_M = 0.5 \mu \text{m } S_X = 0.6 \mu \text{m } S_W = 0.7 \mu \text{m}$ $L_S = 400 \mu \text{m } L_M = 800 \mu \text{m } L_L = 6400 \mu \text{m}$



Index:	UBGP(S, M, L)
Description:	Single line between gridded ground planes.
Dimensions:	$L = L_S, L_M, L_L; W = W_M$
Measurement Plan:	microwave transmission line parameters
Plan View:	
Cross-Section:	Passivation Metal 3 Metal 2 Metal 1 Substrate
Instances:	
Index:	CGP(S, M, L)
Description:	Coupled lines over gridded ground plane.
Dimensions:	$L = L_S, L_M, L_L; W = W_M$
Measurement Plan:	microwave transmission line parameters
Plan View:	
Cross-Section:	Passivation Metal 3 Metal 2 Metal 1 Substrate
Instances:	





 $\overline{W_V} = 0.25\mu \text{m } W_T = 0.35\mu \text{m } W_S = 0.45\mu \text{m } W_M = 0.5\mu \text{m } W_X = 0.6\mu \text{m } W_W = 0.7\mu \text{m}$ $S_S = 0.45\mu \text{m } S_M = 0.5\mu \text{m } S_X = 0.6\mu \text{m } S_W = 0.7\mu \text{m}$ $L_S = 400\mu \text{m } L_M = 800\mu \text{m } L_L = 6400\mu \text{m}$

3.9.8 Simulated Bus Structures (Crossovers)

Index:	XLL(S, M, L)			
Description:	Coupled lines with orthogonal loading above and below, between			
	parallel busses.			
Dimensions:	$L = L_S, L_M, L_L; W = W_M$			
Measurement Plan:	microwave transmission line parameters			
Plan View:				
Cross-Section:	Passivation Metal 3 Metal 2 Metal 1 Substrate			
Instances:				
Index:	XBUS(S, M, L)			
Description:	Coupled lines with orthogonal bus-like loading above.			
Dimensions:	$L = L_S, L_M, L_L; W = W_M$			
Measurement Plan:	$L = LS, L_M, L_L, W = W_M$ microwave transmission line parameters			
Plan View:				
Cross-Section:	Passivation Metal 3 Metal 2 Metal 1 Substrate			
Instances:				

 $\overline{W_V = 0.25 \mu \text{m } W_T = 0.35 \mu \text{m } W_S = 0.45 \mu \text{m } W_M = 0.5 \mu \text{m } W_X = 0.6 \mu \text{m } W_W = 0.7 \mu \text{m} }$ $S_S = 0.45 \mu \text{m } S_M = 0.5 \mu \text{m } S_X = 0.6 \mu \text{m } S_W = 0.7 \mu \text{m} }$ $L_S = 400 \mu \text{m } L_M = 800 \mu \text{m } L_L = 6400 \mu \text{m}$

Index:	XWL(S, M, L)
Description:	Single line over wide line with orthogonal loading above.
Dimensions:	$L = L_S, L_M, L_L; W = W_M$
Measurement Plan:	microwave transmission line parameters
Plan View:	
Cross-Section:	Passivation Metal 3 Metal 2 Metal 1 Substrate
Instances:	
Index:	XRND(S, M, L)
Description:	Single line with random orthogonal loading above.
Dimensions:	$L = L_S, L_M, L_L; W = W_M$
Measurement Plan:	
	microwave transmission line parameters
Plan View:	microwave transmission line parameters
	microwave transmission line parameters Passivation Metal 3 Metal 2 Metal 1 Substrate
Plan View:	Passivation Metal 3 Metal 2 Metal 1



Figure 10: Schematic view of required signal/ground permutations for three-conductor networks. Blue denotes the line to be measured, green denotes a grounded line. Note also the guardbanding around each structure (not to scale—the guardbanding boxes will be $50\mu m \times 50\mu m$ for each structure, while the label area will be $100\mu m \times 50\mu m$).

3.10 Details of Structures: ACM Fixturing

ACM is required for those structures which are not amenable to conventional probing (usually because the capacitances in question are too small to resolve with standard techniques). Previously we showed methods to derive desired capacitance values from measured values. In that discussion, it was noted that measuring parameters for three-line structures requires seven different signal/ground permutations per three-line system. Similarly, a two-line system (e.g. crossovers and layer changes) requires three different signal/ground permutations per structure. Because of the physical characteristics of the ACM, measurement time will be minimized by laying out these structures in a line. A schematic example of what this will look like (including guardbanding and label) is shown in Figure 10.

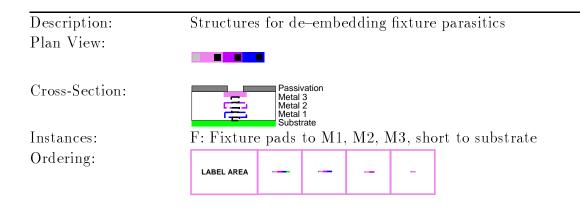
Note also that we have provided at least two copies of each structure. One of the copies has a $2\mu m \times 2\mu m$ probing pad (and associated passivation window) attached; the other copy does not. Some of the structures which do not have the pad structure attached will be processed using FIB milling to open a passivation window for ACM probing.

Because of the sheer number of structures listed, we will not show graphically every structure to be built; rather, we will provide a schematic view of the structure, and then list all structures based on the schematic, giving index number and a short description. The structure descriptions contain the following information:

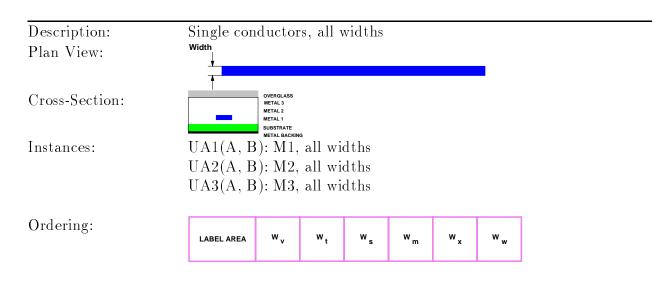
- General Description gives a short text description of the structure.
- Plan View shows schematic view of object from above. Not to scale.
- Cross-Section shows schematic view of object in cross-section. Not to scale.
- Instances lists all layouts of the proposed structures, including index names. Note that each item listed here will have a layout instance similar to that shown in Figure 10. Note also that if a structure is to be laid out at different lengths, the lengths will follow the index name and will be parenthesized.
- Ordering shows how the layouts will be grouped.

Note that the Measurement Plan for all structures in this section is ACM.

3.10.1 Fixture Calibration Structures



3.10.2 Single Conductors



Description: Two coplanar conductors Width Plan View: aration OVERGLASS METAL 3 METAL 2 METAL 1 Cross-Section: SUBSTRATE METAL BACKING L1SS(A, B): M1, small separation, small width Instances: L1MS(A, B): M1, medium separation, small width L1MM(A, B): M1, medium separation, medium width L1MX(A, B): M1, medium separation, experimental width L1MW(A, B): M1, medium separation, wide with L1XS(A, B): M1, experimental separation, small width L1WS(A, B): M1, wide separation, small width L2SS(A, B): M2, small separation, small width L2MS(A, b): M2, medium separation, small width L2MM(A, B): M2, medium separation, medium width L2MX(A, B): M2, medium separation, experimental width L2MW(A, B): M2, medium separation, wide with L2XS(A, B): M2, experimental separation, small width L2WS(A, B): M2, wide separation, small width L3SS(A, B): M3, small separation, small width L3MS(A, B): M3, medium separation, small width L3MM(A, B): M3, medium separation, medium width L3MX(A, B): M3, medium separation, experimental width L3MW(A, B): M3, medium separation, wide with L3XS(A, B): M3, experimental separation, small width L3WS(A, B): M3, wide separation, small width Ordering: LABEL AREA

3.10.3 Two Coplanar Conductors

Description: Two non-coplanar conductors Width Plan View: paration Passivation Metal 3 Metal 2 Metal 1 Cross-Section: Substrate 12SS(A, B): M1 to M2, small separation, small width Instances: 12MS(A, B): M1 to M2, medium separation, small width 12MM(A, B): M1 to M2, medium separation, medium width 12MX(A, B): M1 to M2, medium separation, experimental width 12MW(A, B): M1 to M2, medium separation, wide with 12XS(A, B): M1 to M2, experimental separation, small width 12WS(A, B): M1 to M2, wide separation, small width 13SS(A, B): M1 to M3, small separation, small width 13MS(A, B): M1 to M3, medium separation, small width 13MM(A, B): M1 to M3, medium separation, medium width 13MX(A, B): M1 to M3, medium separation, experimental width 13MW(A, B): M1 to M3, medium separation, wide with 13XS(A, B): M1 to M3, experimental separation, small width 13WS(A, B): M1 to M3, wide separation, small width 23SS(A, B): M2, small separation, small width 23MS(A, b): M2, medium separation, small width 23MM(A, B): M2, medium separation, medium width 23MX(A, B): M2, medium separation, experimental width 23 MW(A, B): M2, medium separation, wide with 23XS(A, B): M2, experimental separation, small width 23WS(A, B): M2, wide separation, small width Ordering: LABEL AREA

3.10.4 Two Non-Coplanar Conductors

Description: Three coplanar conductors Plan View: aration OVERGLASS METAL 3 METAL 2 METAL 1 Cross-Section: SUBSTRATE METAL BACK M1SS(A, B): M1, small separation, small width Instances: M1MS(A, B): M1, medium separation, small width M1MM(A, B): M1, medium separation, medium width M1MX(A, B): M1, medium separation, experimental width M1MW(A, B): M1, medium separation, wide with M1XS(A, B): M1, experimental separation, small width M1WS(A, B): M1, wide separation, small width M2SS(A, B): M2, small separation, small width M2MS(A, B): M2, medium separation, small width M2MM(A, B): M2, medium separation, medium width M2MX(A, B): M2, medium separation, experimental width M2MW(A, B): M2, medium separation, wide with M2XS(A, B): M2, experimental separation, small width M2WS(A, B): M2, wide separation, small width M3SS(A, B): M3, small separation, small width M3MS(A, B): M3, medium separation, small width M3MM(A, B): M3, medium separation, medium width M3MX(A, B): M3, medium separation, experimental width M3MW(A, B): M3, medium separation, wide with M3XS(A, B): M3, experimental separation, small width M3WS(A, B): M3, wide separation, small width Ordering: LABEL AREA = _ = \equiv

3.10.5 Three Coplanar Conductors

3.10.6 Three Non-Coplanar Conductors



Description:	Overlapping inverted V					
Plan View:	↓ Overlap ↑					
Cross-Section:	Passivation Metal 3 Metal 2 Metal 1 Substrate					
Instances:	VOS(A, B): Small overlap VOM(A, B): Medium overlap VOX(A, B): Experimental overlap VOW(A, B): Wide overlap					
Ordering:						

3.10.7 Crossovers

Description:	Single orthogonal crossover
Plan View:	
Cross-Section:	Passivation Metal 3 Metal 2 Metal 1 Substrate
Instances:	XS12: M1 to M2 crossover
	XS13: M1 to M3 crossover
	XS23: M2 to M3 crossover
Ordering:	
Description:	Multiple orthogonal crossovers
Plan View:	
Cross-Section:	Passivation Metal 3 Metal 2 Metal 1 Substrate
Instances:	$\overline{X12(A, B, C)}$: M1 to M2 crossover, 3 lengths
	X13(A, B, C): M1 to M3 crossover, 3 lengths
	X23(A, B, C): M2 to M3 crossover, 3 lengths
Ordering:	

3.10.8 Vias

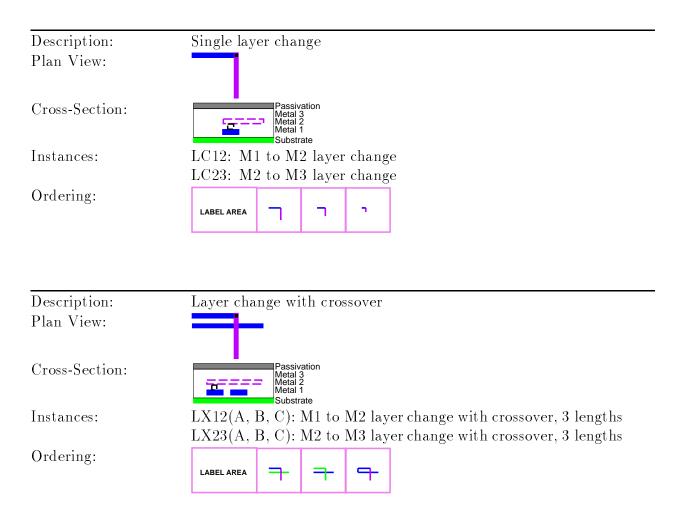
Description:	Single via				
Plan View:					
Cross-Section:	Passivation Metal 3 Metal 2 Metal 1 Substrate				
Instances:	VS12: M1 to M2 via				
	VS23: M2 to M3 via				
Ordering:					
Description:	Multiple vias				
Plan View:					
Cross-Section:	Passivation Metal 3 Metal 2 Metal 1 Substrate				
Instances:	V12(A, B, C): M1 to M2 via, 3 lengths				
	V23(A, B, C): M2 to M3 via, 3 lengths				
Ordering:	LABEL AREA				

3.10.9 Bends

Description:	Single ben	nds		
Plan View:				
Cross-Section:	W _m	Passi Metal Metal Metal Subsi	2 1	
Instances:	B1: M1 si			
	B2: M2 si	ngle b	end	
	B3: M3 si	ngle b	end	
Ordering:				
	LABEL AREA	Г	Г	۲.

Description:	Coupled ber	nds		
Plan View:				
Cross-Section:	W _m	Passivation Metal 3 Metal 2 Metal 1 Substrate		
Instances:	CB1(A, B, O			
	CB2(A, B, G)	· ·	-	
	CB3(A, B, O)	C): M3 ben	nds, 3 lengt	hs
Ordering:			٦	

3.10.10 Layer Changes



3.10.11 Verification Structure

Description:	ACM verification structure. Note that only the plan view is
Plan View:	shown.
Instances:	VERA: Bottom line grounded.
	VERB: Top line grounded. VERC: Top and bottom lines connected.

3.11 Contact Points

Mark Basel	Integrated Silicon Systems Manager, Extraction Group email: mark@isscad.com
Ed Buturla	SEMATECH, TCAD group email: Ed.Buturla@sematech.org
Michael (Sean) Casey	Intel Corporation, MS: RN2-40 P.O. Box 58119 2200 Mission College Blvd. Santa Clara, CA 95052-8119 phone: 408-765-9383 fax: 408-765-9322 email: casey@td2cad.intel.com
Aykut Dengi	SEMATECH, TCAD group ECAD Engineer email: aykut.dengi@iambic.eng.sematech.org phone: 512-356-3174 fax: 512-356-7668
John Ellis–Monaghan	IBM, Dept. M65/972-1 1000 River Rd. Essex Jct., VT 05452 email: jjem@vnet.ibm.com phone: 802-769-8627 fax: 802-769-9659
Paul Franzon	Department of Electrical and Computer Engineering North Carolina State University Box 7911 Raleigh, NC 27695-7911 phone: 919-515-7351 fax: 919-515-5523 email: paulf@ncsu.edu

Alan Glaser	Department of Electrical and Computer Engineering North Carolina State University Box 7911 Raleigh, NC 27695-7911 phone: 919-515-3947 email: awglaser@eos.ncsu.edu
Dan Hahn	SEMATECH Provided Opus/Technology file email: hahnd@shatter.eng.sematech.org
Mark Harward	Testchip Technologies Inc. P.O. Box 821614 Dallas, TX 75382 phone 214-348-5875 fax: 214-348-8180 email: mharward@testchip.com
Asim Husain	SEMATECH 2706 Montopolis Drive Austin, Texas 78741 phone: 512-356-7545 fax: 512-356-3083 email: Asim.Husain@sematech.org Principal Investigator — SEMATECH
Peter Lloyd	SEMATECH, TCAD group email: Peter.Lloyd@sematech.org
Soo-Young Oh	Hewlett Packard phone: 415-857-5291 fax: 415-857-5839 email: oh@hpctgjm.hpl.hp.com
Kartik Raol	DEC, TCAD group, ULSI group email: raol@supac.enet.dec.com
Phil Russell	Department of Materials Science and Engineering North Carolina State University Raleigh, NC 27695 phone: 919-515-7501 email: phil_russell@qm.aif.ncsu.edu

Gordon Shedd	Department of Materials Science and Engineering North Carolina State University Raleigh, NC 27695 phone: 919-515-3096 email: gordon_shedd@qm.aif.ncsu.edu
Mark Sheedy	SEMATECH 2706 Montopolis Drive Austin, Texas 78741 phone: 512-356-7041 fax: 512-356-3110 email:mark.sheedy@sematech.org Contract Manager — SEMATECH
Michael Steer	Department of Electrical and Computer Engineering North Carolina State University Box 7911 Raleigh, NC 27695-7911 phone: 919-515-5191 fax: 919-515-3027 email: mbs@ncsu.edu Principal Investigator — NCSU
Marcel Terbeek	SEMATECH, TCAD group email: Marcel.Terbeek@sematech.org
P.K. Vasudev	SEMATECH, TCAD group email: P.K.Vasudev@sematech.org phone: 512-356-3341 fax: 512-356-3083
Bin Zhao	SEMATECH, TCAD group Project Leader, Interconnect Simplification email: Bin.Zhao@sematech.org

SEMATECH's mailing address: 2706 Montopolis Drive Austin, Texas 78741-6499