

POLITECNICO DI TORINO  
Repository ISTITUZIONALE

The S-matrix Method for High Frequency Capacitance Calibration

*Original*

The S-matrix Method for High Frequency Capacitance Calibration / Shoaib, N.; Sellone, M.; Callegaro, L.; Ferrero, ANDREA PIERENRICO; Wollensack, M.; Brunetti, L.. - (2013), pp. 1-10. (Intervento presentato al convegno 82nd ARFTG Microwave Measurement Conference tenutosi a Columbus, Ohio, USA nel 18-22/11/2013).

*Availability:*

This version is available at: 11583/2593588 since:

*Publisher:*

Automatic RF Techniques Group (ARFTG)

*Published*

DOI:

*Terms of use:*

This article is made available under terms and conditions as specified in the corresponding bibliographic description in the repository

*Publisher copyright*

(Article begins on next page)



## 82nd ARFTG Conference NVNA Users' Forum

# ***The S-matrix Method for High Frequency Capacitance Calibration***

**Nosherwan Shoaib<sup>1,2</sup>, Marco Sellone<sup>1</sup>, Luca Callegaro<sup>1</sup>, Andrea Ferrero<sup>3</sup>,**  
**Michael Wollensack<sup>4</sup> and Luciano Brunetti<sup>1</sup>**

<sup>1</sup>Electromagnetism Division, Istituto Nazionale di Ricerca Metrologica - INRIM, Strada delle Cacce 91, Turin, 10135, Italy

<sup>2</sup>Department of Industrial Engineering and Production - DIGEP, Politecnico di Torino, Corso Duca degli Abruzzi 24, Turin, 10129, Italy

<sup>3</sup> Department of Electronics and Telecommunications - DET, Politecnico di Torino, Corso Duca degli Abruzzi 24, Turin, 10129, Italy

<sup>4</sup> Bundesamt für Metrologie (METAS), Lindenweg 50, 3084 Wabern, Switzerland



19<sup>th</sup> Nov. 2013  
@ Columbus, Ohio, USA



**POLITECNICO DI TORINO**

# S-MATRIX METHOD

---

- Measurement of a four terminal pair ( $Z_{4\text{TP}}$ ) air capacitance standard in terms of S-parameters
- The capacitance is measured using a two-port vector network analyzer (VNA)
- The VNA is equipped with BNC connectors
- The two ports of the device not employed are terminated on matched impedances

## S-MATRIX METHOD

---

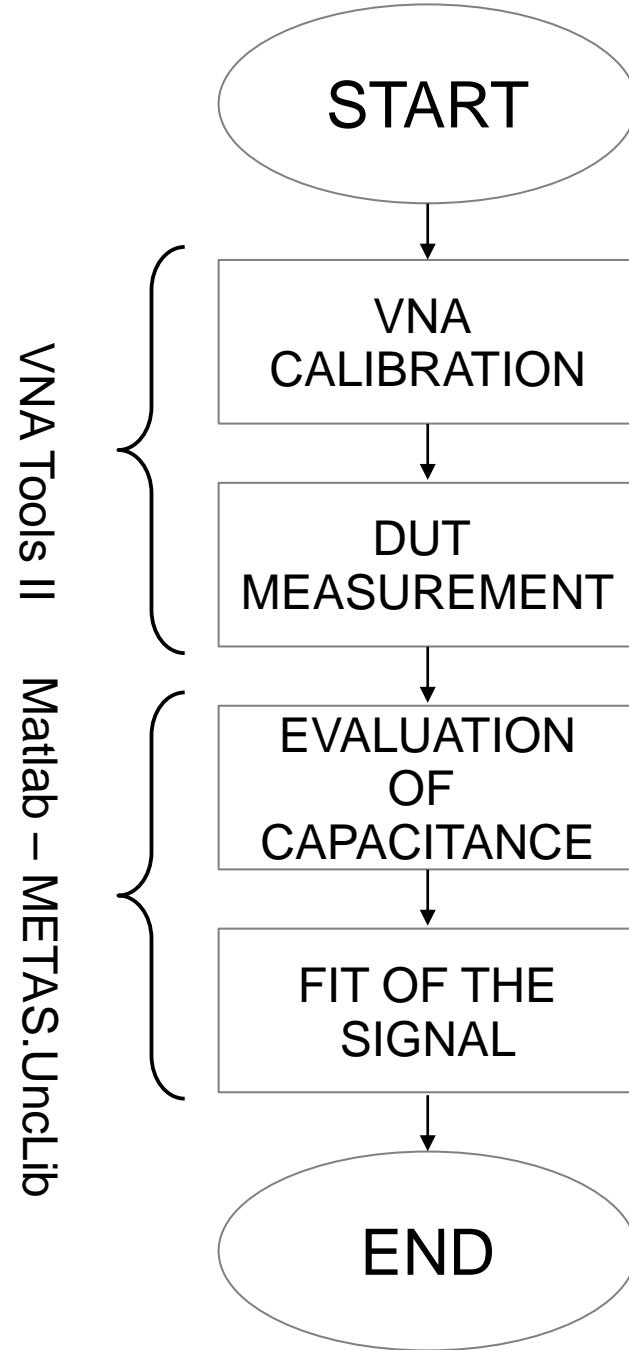
- The measurement results are combined according to the following equation [1]:

$$Z_{4\text{TP}} = 2Z_0 \left\{ s_{21}s_{34} - s_{31}s_{24} \right\} s_{31} + \left( s_{21}s_{32} - s_{31}s_{44} - s_{31}s_{22} + s_{41}s_{34} \right. \\ \left. - s_{21}s_{32}s_{44} + s_{21}s_{34}s_{42} + s_{31}s_{22}s_{44} - s_{31}s_{42}s_{24} - s_{41}s_{34}s_{22} + s_{41}s_{24}s_{32} \right\}^1$$

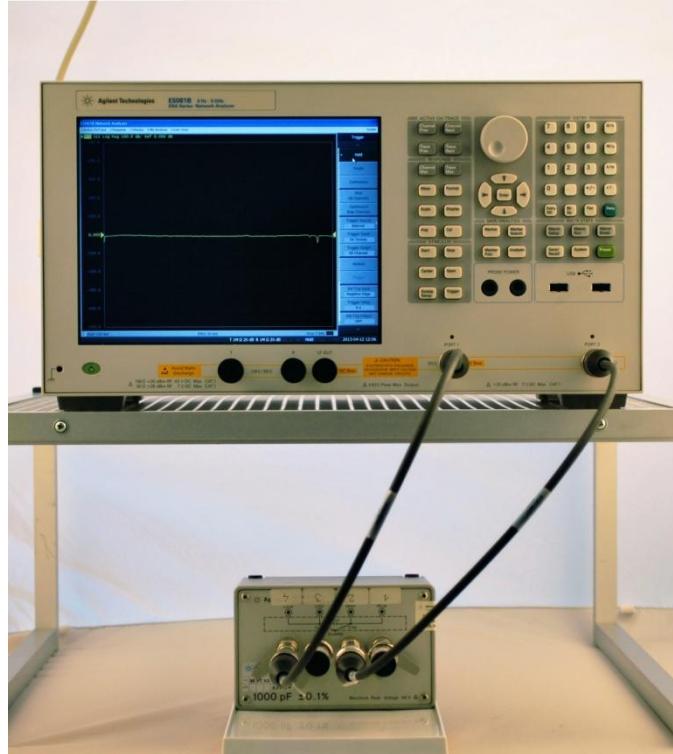
- All measurements are performed with the VNA Tools II program developed by METAS
- The data analysis is performed using the METAS.UncLib library in MATLAB

[1] L. Callegaro, F. Durbiano, “Four-terminal-pair impedances and scattering parameters”, Meas. Sci. Technol. 14 (2003), 523-529

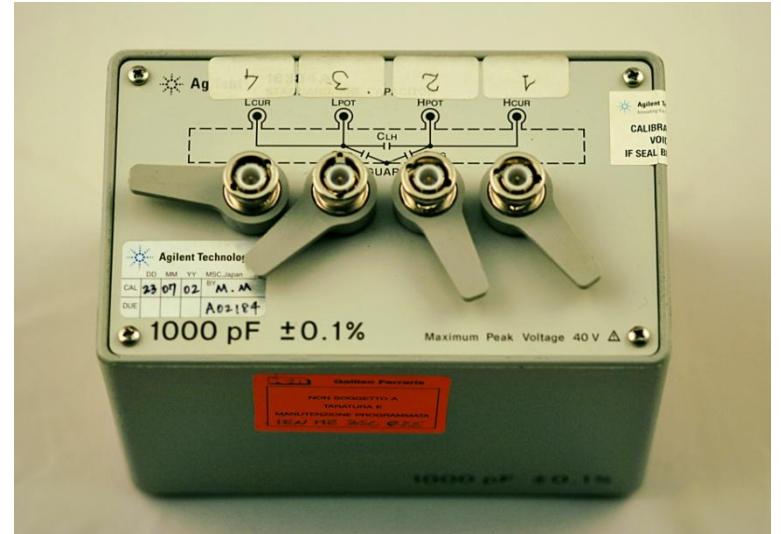
# FLOW CHART



# MEASUREMENT SETUP



Vector Network Analyzer:  
Agilent E5061B

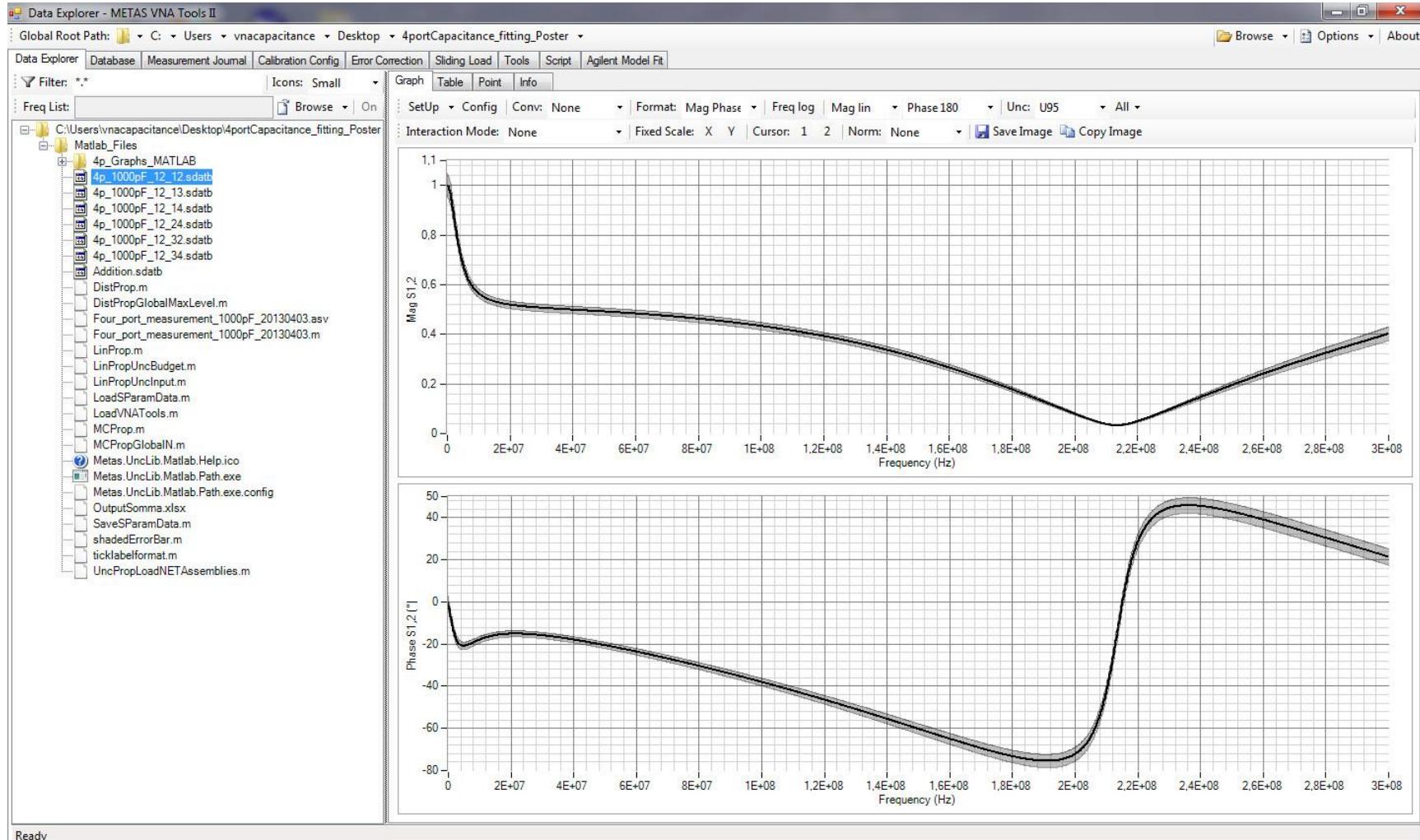


Standard: Agilent 16384A  
1000 pF capacitor



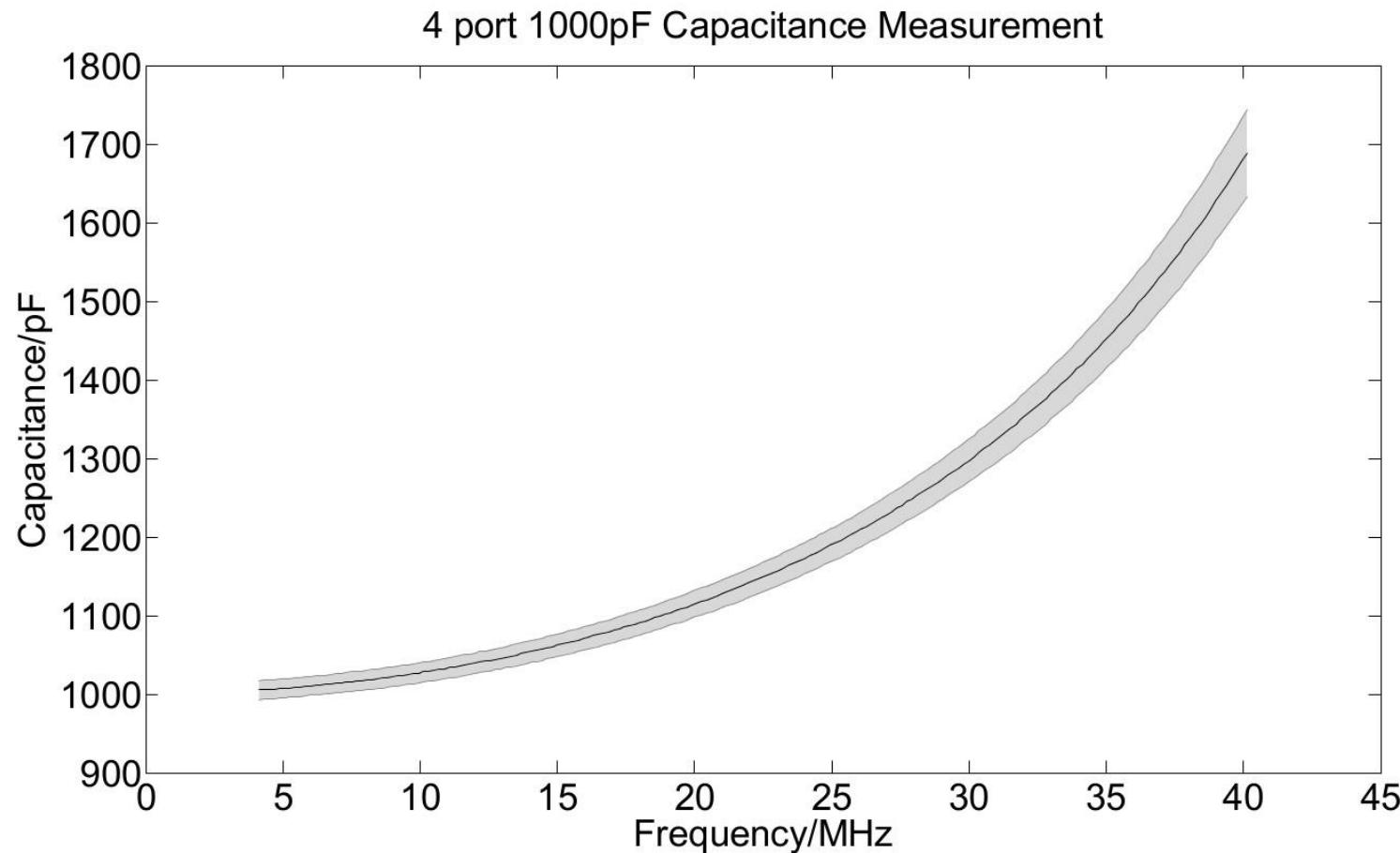
Calibration Kit: Maury Microwave  
8550 - Coaxial BNC

# RESULTS



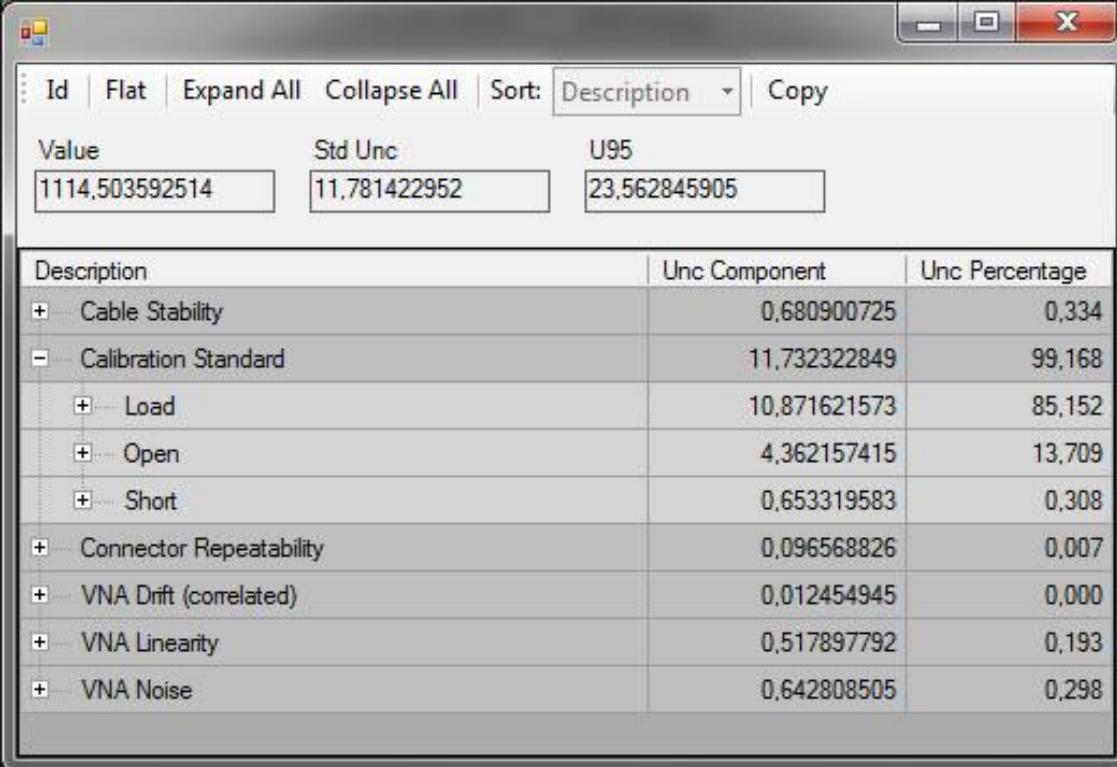
VNA Tools II – Display of S-parameters

## RESULTS



1000 pF capacitance graph(grey)  
with uncertainty (MATLAB METAS.UncLib)

# RESULTS



The screenshot shows a software application window with a title bar containing icons and text. Below the title bar is a toolbar with buttons for 'Id', 'Flat', 'Expand All', 'Collapse All', 'Sort', 'Description' (selected), and 'Copy'. The main area contains a table with three columns: 'Value', 'Std Unc', and 'U95'. The 'Value' column contains the value '1114,503592514'. The 'Std Unc' column contains the value '11,781422952'. The 'U95' column contains the value '23,562845905'. Below this table is a detailed breakdown of uncertainty components in a hierarchical tree view:

Description	Unc Component	Unc Percentage
+ Cable Stability	0,680900725	0,334
- Calibration Standard	11,732322849	99,168
+ Load	10,871621573	85,152
+ Open	4,362157415	13,709
+ Short	0,653319583	0,308
+ Connector Repeatability	0,096568826	0,007
+ VNA Drift (correlated)	0,012454945	0,000
+ VNA Linearity	0,517897792	0,193
+ VNA Noise	0,642808505	0,298

Uncertainty budget of capacitance fit [pF] (MATLAB METAS.UncLib)  
@ 15 MHz

# SUMMARY

---

- With the proposed method it is possible to measure a four terminal pair capacitance with a 2-port VNA
- METAS VNA Tools II assists the measurement process and collects data
- With METAS.UncLib it is possible to evaluate the desired results together with an uncertainty estimation compliant with the GUM
- Reduction of the uncertainty due to the standards (that now use manufacturer specifications) by characterizing the Load standard
- Future work will involve a comparison of the S-matrix method with a different one



# THANK YOU!!!

**Nosherwan Shoaib**  
**E-mail:** nosherwan.shoaib@polito.it

**ARFTG 2013 Presentation**  
**19<sup>th</sup> Nov. 2013**