

Abstracts

On-board probing of broadband RF amplifiers using CPW interconnects

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Printed circuit boards with edge-connectors for insertion into appropriate sockets on a motherboard are used in the RF industry as functional circuit blocks. For example, RF amplifiers in high-speed data transmission, video communication and broadband cable television systems employ modular interconnect circuit boards for attenuation, matching, etc. This paper presents a novel method for the on-board (in-situ) characterization of interstage functional blocks in broadband RF amplifiers, utilizing CPW plug-in connectors. We discuss an on-board calibration technique to compensate for the connector mismatch, and present measured data useful in modeling broadband high-power RF circuitry.

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