



Investigation of High-Resolution EMI Source Localization Using Near Field Measurements

*Kara Maurer⁽¹⁾, C. D. Nordquist⁽²⁾, and J. T. Bernhard⁽¹⁾

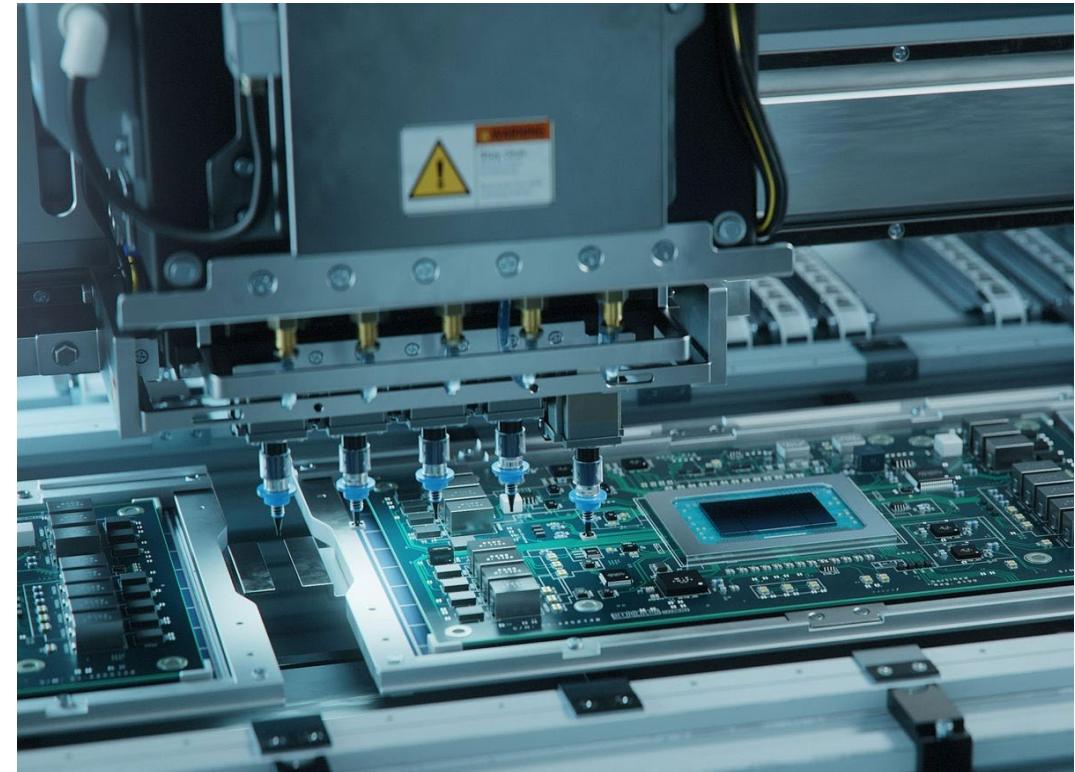
(1) Electromagnetics Laboratory, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign

(2) Sandia National Laboratories

JULY 11, 2022

This work was supported by the Laboratory Directed Research and Development program at Sandia National Laboratories, a multimission laboratory managed and operated by National Technology and Engineering Solutions of Sandia LLC, a wholly owned subsidiary of Honeywell International Inc. for the U.S. Department of Energy's National Nuclear Security Administration under contract DE-NA0003525

- Motivation
 - Current state of EMI testing
- Discussion of characteristics of interest
- Existing methodologies
 - Commercial products
 - Published research
- Operational tradeoffs
- Preliminary investigation of shielded resonant loops



High density PCB [1]

[1] Pepitone, J. (2022, April 21). *5 ways the chip shortage is rewiring tech.* IEEE Spectrum. Retrieved June 29, 2022, from <https://spectrum.ieee.org/chip-shortage-rewiring-tech>

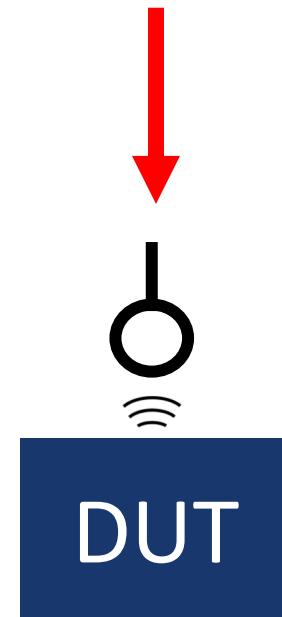
Typical EMI testing is done in far-field

- Necessary for products to meet safety standards
- Not ideal for product development
- Would require pinpoint accuracy from an array to achieve desired resolution



Near-field can provide more information

- Increased accuracy and reliability
- Higher resolution capacity from higher proximity
- Better estimation of currents and EMI source locations
- Increasing module density requires higher resolution
- Low SNR, weak signal strength

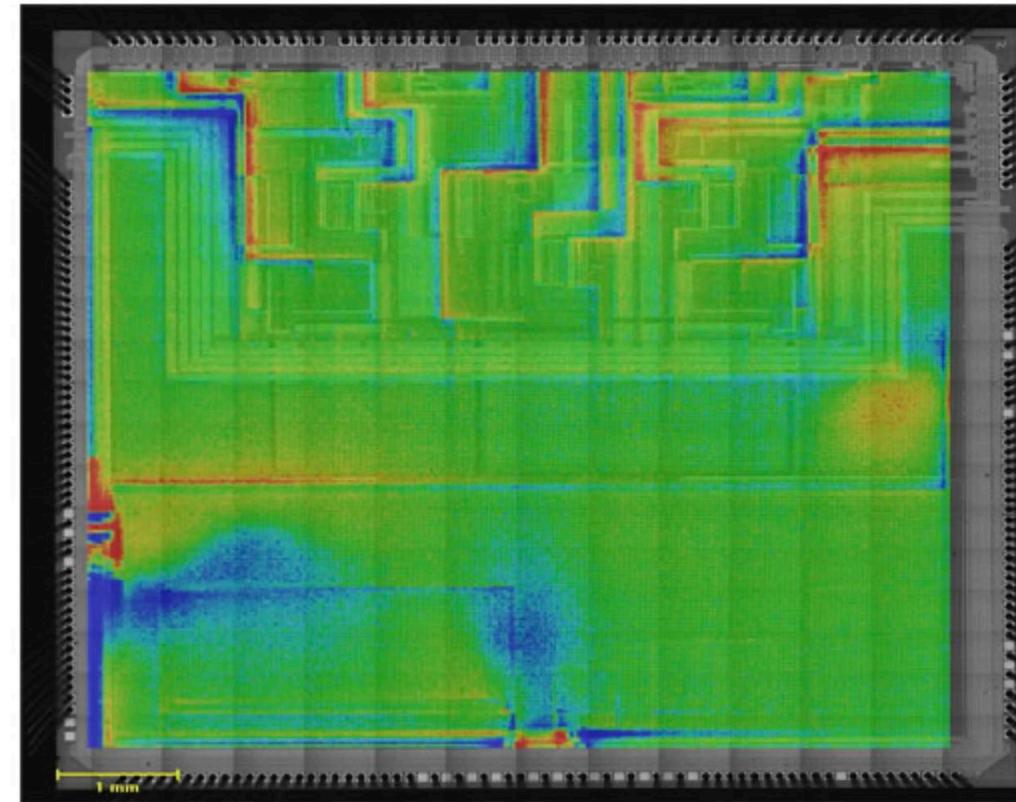


Mapping probes lack combination of

- High resolution
- High sensitivity
- Small probe size
- Large bandwidth

Investigation serves to find the tradeoff between these four characteristics

- What sacrifices can be made
- What should be prioritized



Example near field magnetic field map from MicroMagnetics Circuit Scan [2]

[2] *CircuitScan 1000*. Micro Magnetics Sensible Solutions. (n.d.). Retrieved June 24, 2022, from https://www.micromagnetics.com/products_circuit_scan.html

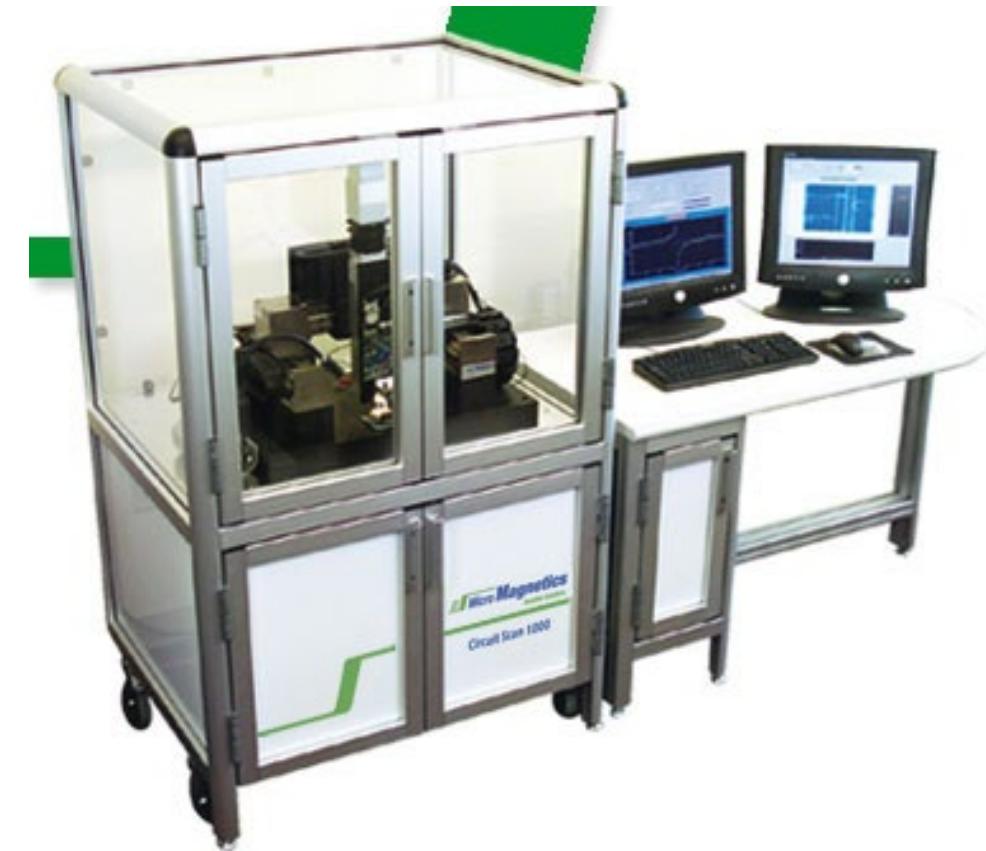
In order of priority:

1. **High Resolution**
 - $10 \mu\text{m}$ at minimum
 - Provides localization information even in dense modules
2. **Large Bandwidth**
 - 0.1 - 3.5 GHz
 - Lower and higher frequencies necessary for edge detection
3. **High Sensitivity**
 - Transient currents on the order of a tenth of mA
4. **Small Probe Size**
 - Less than 4 cm^3
 - Directly related to high resolution and desirable for the design

Micro Magnetics Circuit Scan “CS 1000”

Specifications of Interest

- Complex Design
 - Contains 2 sensor types
 - Magnetic Tunnel Junction
 - Higher Sensitivity (μA level)
 - Giant Magnetoresistive
 - Higher Resolution (down to 100 nm)
- Drawbacks
 - Can be slow at high resolution
 - Small bandwidth (0 - 100 kHz)



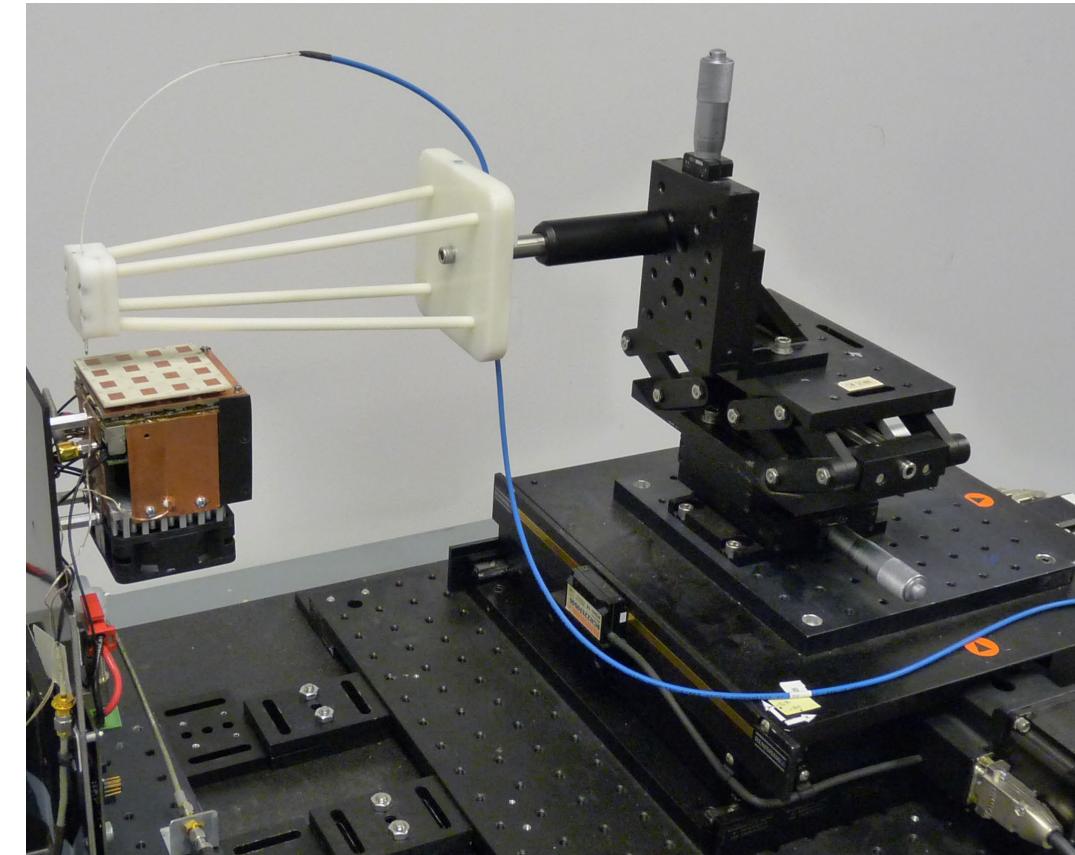
Circuit Scan System [2]

[2] *CircuitScan 1000*. Micro Magnetics Sensible Solutions. (n.d.). Retrieved June 24, 2022, from https://www.micromagnetics.com/products_circuit_scan.html

EMAG Technologies NeoScan

Specifications of Interest

- Uses Optical Probe
 - Miniaturized optical crystal tips
- Large Bandwidth
 - 20 MHz – 20 GHz
- High Resolution
 - Down to 10 μ m
- Needs high precision positioner



NeoScan probe in use [3]

[3] *Electric field measurement system: EMAG Technologies Inc..* EMAG Technologies Inc. | Innovative RF Solutions. (2019, May 8). Retrieved June 24, 2022, from <https://emagtech.com/neoscan-system/>

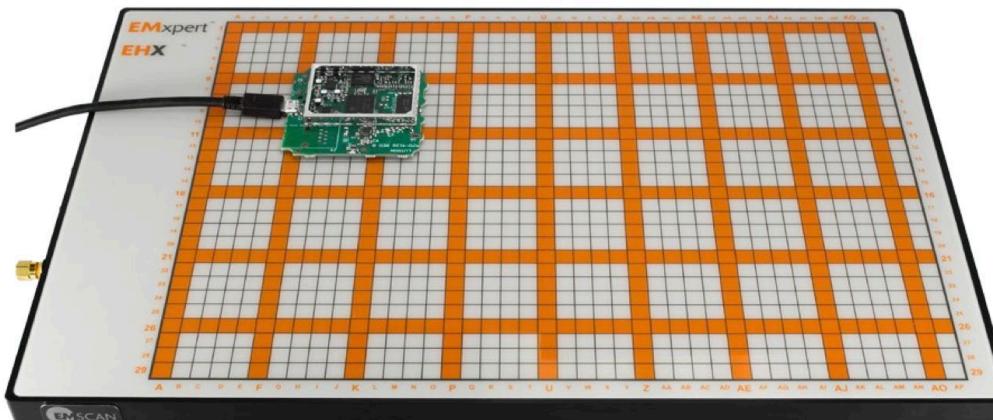
Existing methodologies



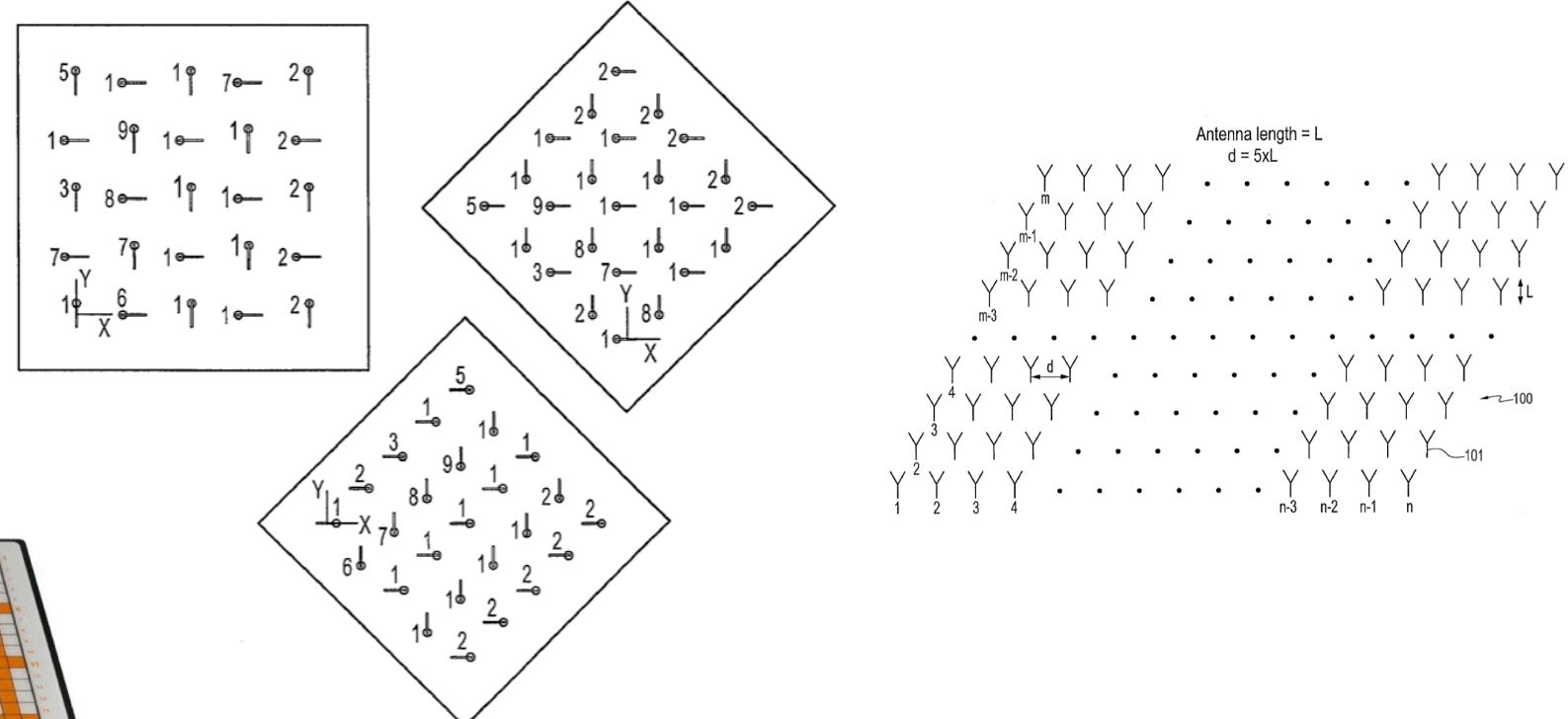
ERX+ Scanner

Specifications of Interest

- 150 kHz – 8 GHz Bandwidth
- Down to 60 μm resolution
- Large device size



ERX+ device in use [4]

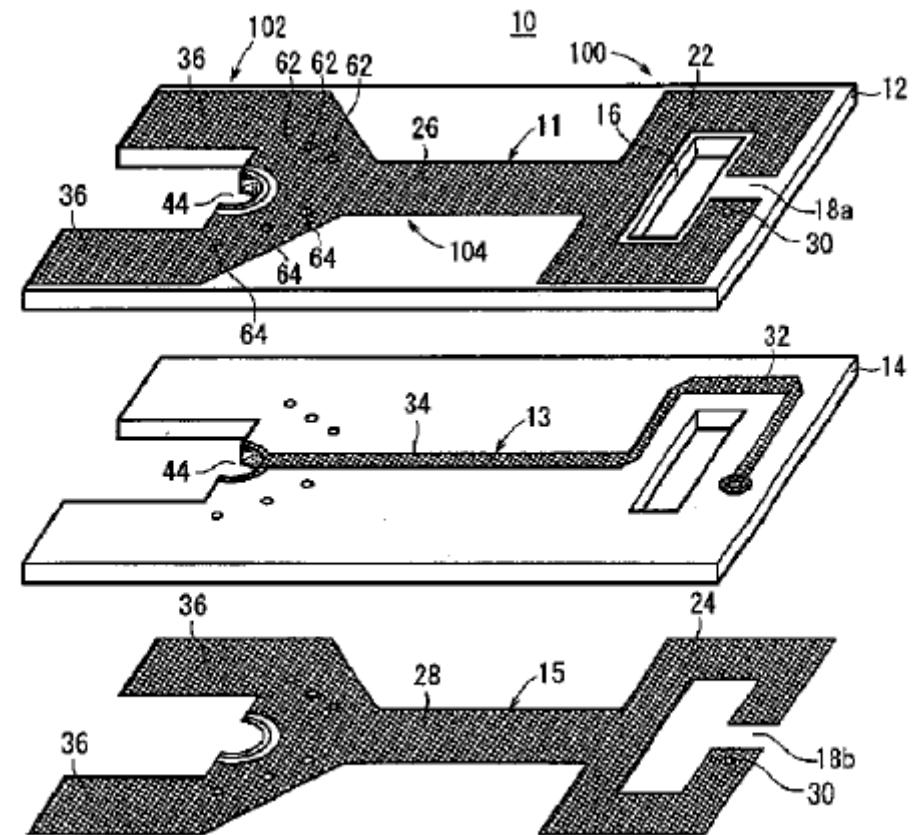


Half loop antenna layouts [4]

[4] Nyshadham, A., Patton, R., & Jin, J. (2010, March 2). Multichannel Absorberless Near Field Measurement System. Patent No. 8,502,546

Tohoku University Shielded Loop

- Wide bandwidth
 - 1 – 5 GHz
- Highest resolution
 - 300 μ m
- Small probe
 - 600 μ m x 600 μ m
- Shielded loop design has been replicated by others



2005 Patented Loop [5]

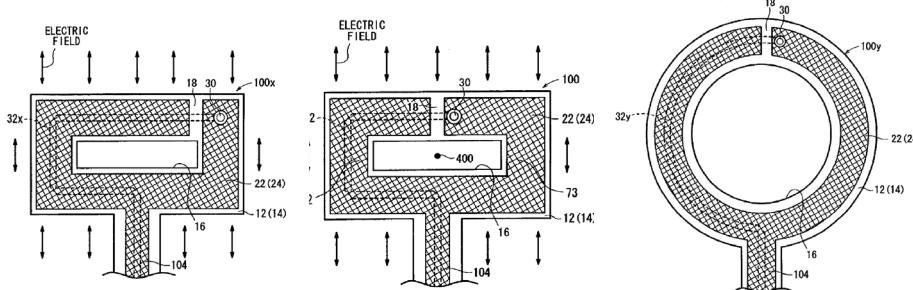
[5] Miyazawa, Y., Kaminishi, K., Yamaguchi, M., & Arai, K. (2005, February 15). Magnetic Sensor, Side-Opened TEM Cell, and Apparatus Using Such Magnetic Sensor and Side-Opened TEM Cell. Patent No. 6,856,131

Existing methodologies

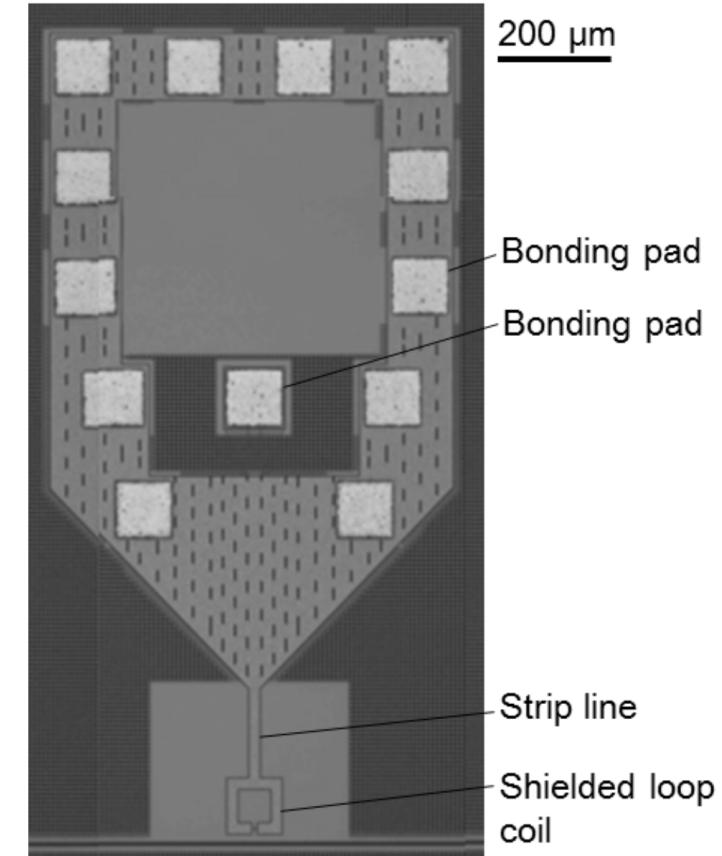


Tohoku University Shielded Loop

- Smaller size but higher resolution
 - Down to $60 \mu\text{m} \times 60 \mu\text{m}$
 - Resolution down to 10s of micrometers
- Low sensitivity
 - All designs require large amplification due to small size
 - LNA limited to 3 GHz



Tohoku Loop Variations [5]

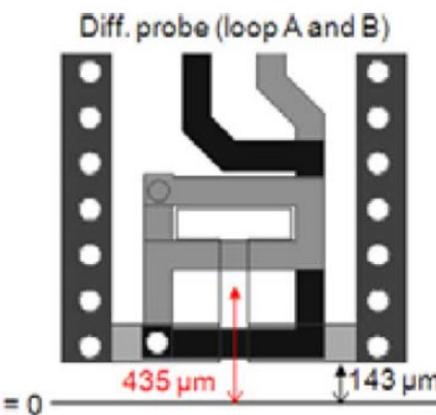


Smallest Tohoku Probe Overview [6]

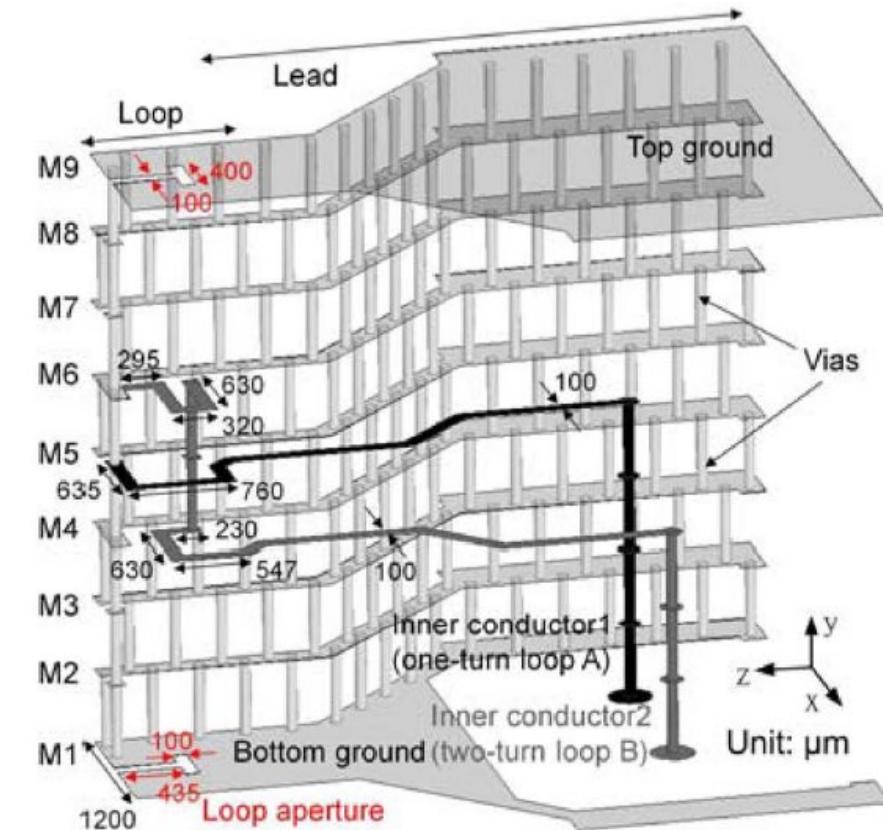
[6] M. Yamaguchi, S. Muroga, S. Nanba, K. Arai, K. Yanagi and Y. Endo, "A $60 \times 60 \mu\text{m}^2$ size planar shielded loop probe for low lift-off on-chip magnetic near field measurements," 2013 *International Symposium on Electromagnetic Compatibility*, 2013, pp. 977-980.

Chou Differential Probe

- In differential mode, performs with higher sensitivity than single loops of the same size
- Can be minimized for higher resolution
- Possible bandwidth sacrifice due to difference in electrical length of the two loops
- Higher resolution when the two outputs are in balance



Inner loops for differential probe [7]



Chou expanded probe diagram [7]

[7] Y. Chou and H. Lu, "Space difference magnetic near-field probe with spatial resolution improvement," in *IEEE Transactions on Microwave Theory and Techniques*, vol. 61, no. 12, pp. 4233-4244, Dec. 2013, doi: 10.1109/TMTT.2013.2288089.

Resolution vs. Sensitivity

- High resolution typically needs a small probe
- Smaller probes have lower sensitivity and require the addition of an amplifier
- Amplifiers can limit the bandwidth of the probe

Bandwidth vs. Size

- The bandwidth of the probe is limited by the size
- Lower frequency detection is necessary, so we are looking for a broadband approach
- Larger size -> lower resolution

Primary desired characteristics are in direct conflict

- Resolution and size vs. bandwidth and sensitivity
- What is the bar for sensitivity?
- What are methods to increase resolution without decreasing the size of the probe?
- What are methods to increase bandwidth while decreasing size?

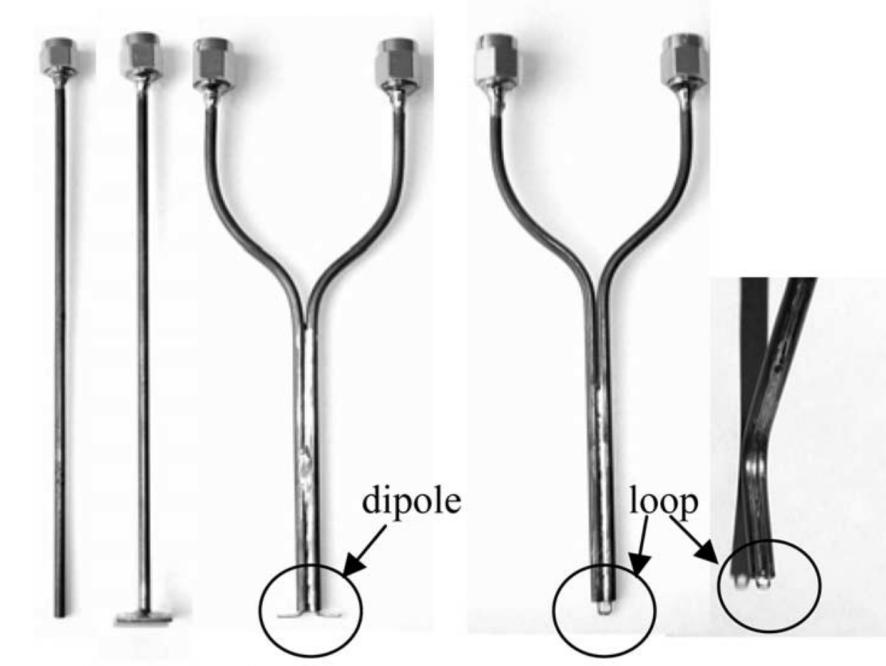
Next Steps:

- Fully leverage prior work
- Focus on an array approach to achieve high resolution without sacrificing sensitivity

Preliminary investigation of shielded resonant loops

I

- Shielded loop offered best sensitivity results
 - Suppresses common mode currents due to electric field [8]
 - This is important for sensitivity, as this would protect the signal from noise
- Goal to understand the shielded loop and its operation over all frequency regimes
 - Potential for broadband application
 - Can be miniaturized for high resolution
- Combined with Baudry coaxial experimentation
 - Good resolution when used with positioner



Coaxial probes used for EMI field map [9]

[8] Sivaraman, Nimisha. (2017). Design of magnetic probes for near field measurements and the development of algorithms for the prediction of EMC. *Compatibility*, 2013, pp. 977-980.

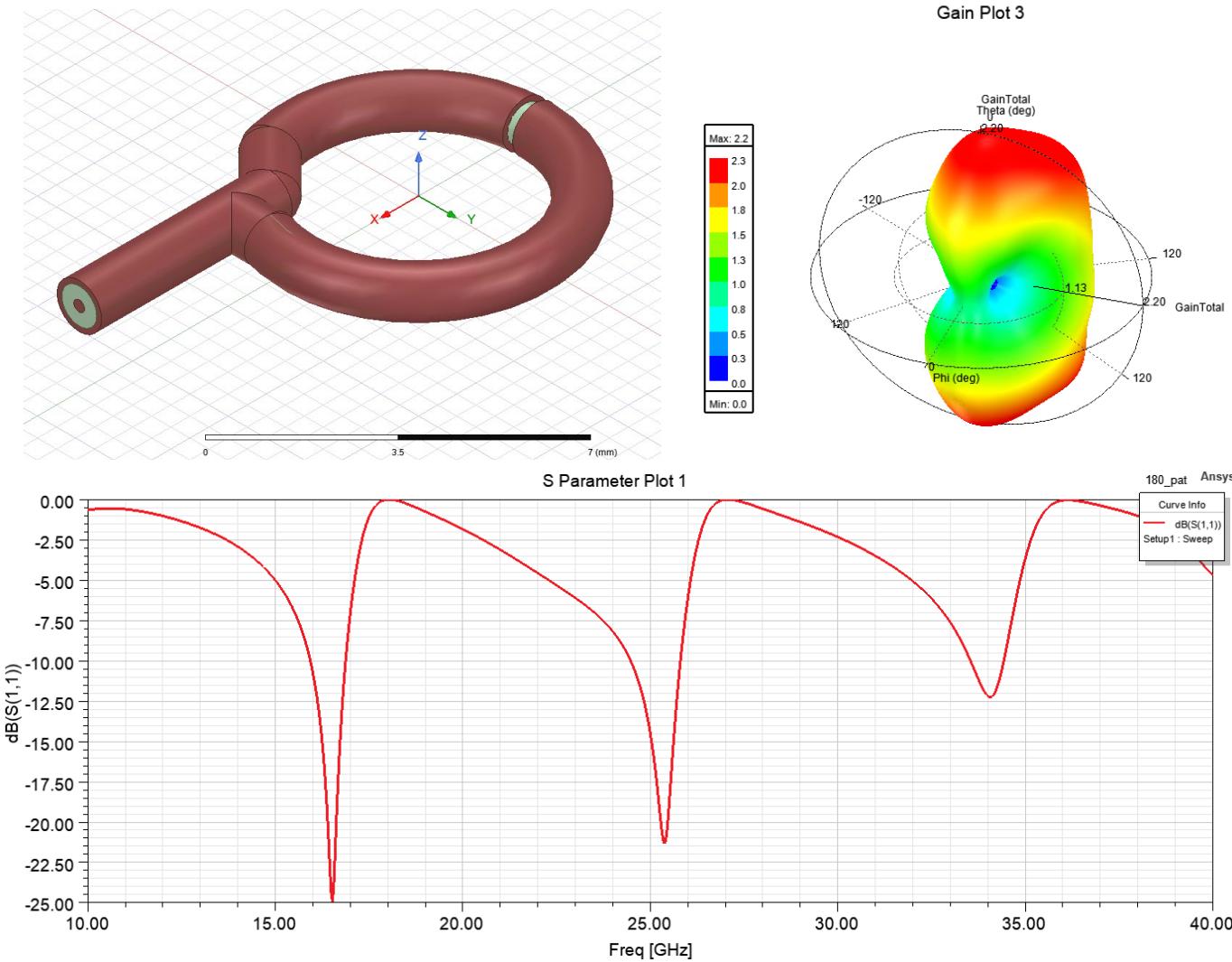
[9] D. Baudry, C. Arcambal, A. Louis, B. Mazari and P. Eudeline, "Applications of the near-field techniques in EMC investigations," in *IEEE Transactions on Electromagnetic Compatibility*, vol. 49, no. 3, pp. 485-493, Aug. 2007, doi:10.1109/TEMC.2007.902194.

Preliminary investigation of shielded resonant loops



Creation of coaxial loop

- Exploration of different shield gaps
 - Varied in width and location
- Many possibilities given high number of degrees of freedom
 - Loop size
 - Gap width
 - Gap location
- Potentially offers higher sensitivity and larger bandwidth
- High resolution from array of loops



Conclusions

- Limitations on current designs require a different approach for our goals
- Array of coaxial loops
 - Possible solution to conflict between resolution and sensitivity, as arraying these loops could result in higher resolution without sacrificing sensitivity
 - Would avoid the need for a large amplifier

Future Work

- Explore near field behavior of loop
- Investigate methods to array and tune these loops

References



- [1] Pepitone, J. (2022, April 21). *5 ways the chip shortage is rewiring tech*. IEEE Spectrum. Retrieved June 29, 2022, from <https://spectrum.ieee.org/chip-shortage-rewiring-tech>
- [2] *CircuitScan 1000*. Micro Magnetics Sensible Solutions. (n.d.). Retrieved June 24, 2022, from https://www.micromagnetics.com/products_circuit_scan.html
- [3] *Electric field measurement system: EMAG Technologies Inc.* EMAG Technologies Inc. | Innovative RF Solutions. (2019, May 8). Retrieved June 24, 2022, from <https://emagtech.com/neoscan-system/>
- [4] Nyshadham, A., Patton, R., & Jin, J. (2010, March 2). Multichannel Absorberless Near Field Measurement System. Patent No. 8,502,546
- [5] Miyazawa, Y., Kaminishi, K., Yamaguchi, M., & Arai, K. (2005, February 15). Magnetic Sensor, Side-Opened TEM Cell, and Apparatus Using Such Magnetic Sensor and Side-Opened TEM Cell. Patent No. 6,856,131
- [6] M. Yamaguchi, S. Muroga, S. Nanba, K. Arai, K. Yanagi and Y. Endo, "A $60 \times 60 \mu\text{m}^2$ size planar shielded loop probe for low lift-off on-chip magnetic near field measurements," 2013 *International Symposium on Electromagnetic Compatibility*, 2013, pp. 977-980.
- [7] Y. Chou and H. Lu, "Space difference magnetic near-field probe with spatial resolution improvement," in *IEEE Transactions on Microwave Theory and Techniques*, vol. 61, no. 12, pp. 4233-4244, Dec. 2013, doi: 10.1109/TMTT.2013.2288089.
- [8] Sivaraman, Nimisha. (2017). Design of magnetic probes for near field measurements and the development of algorithms for the prediction of EMC. *Compatibility*, 2013, pp. 977-980.
- [9] D. Baudry, C. Arcambal, A. Louis, B. Mazari and P. Eudeline, "Applications of the near-field techniques in EMC investigations," in *IEEE Transactions on Electromagnetic Compatibility*, vol. 49, no. 3, pp. 485-493, Aug. 2007, doi: 10.1109/TEMC.2007.902194.