

Application of RLGC Models in Addressing Hospital Acquired Infections



NIST

**National Institute of
Standards and Technology**

Jesus Perez

Mentors: Yaw Obeng & Joseph Kopanski

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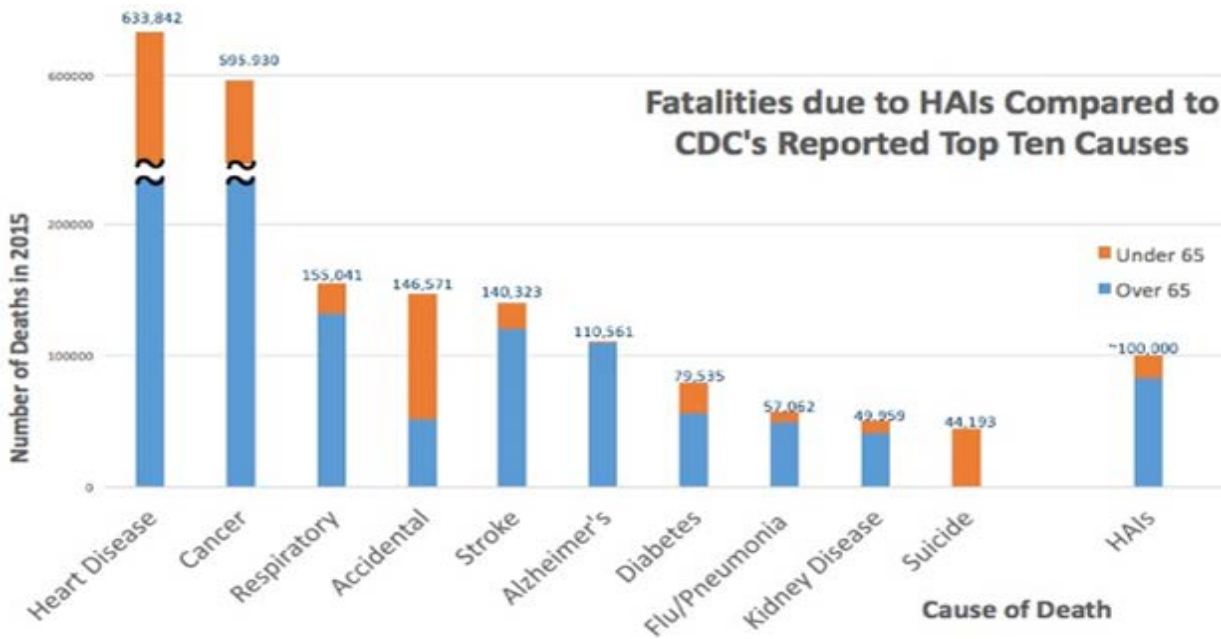


Healthcare facilities are complex

Hospitals in operation 24/7

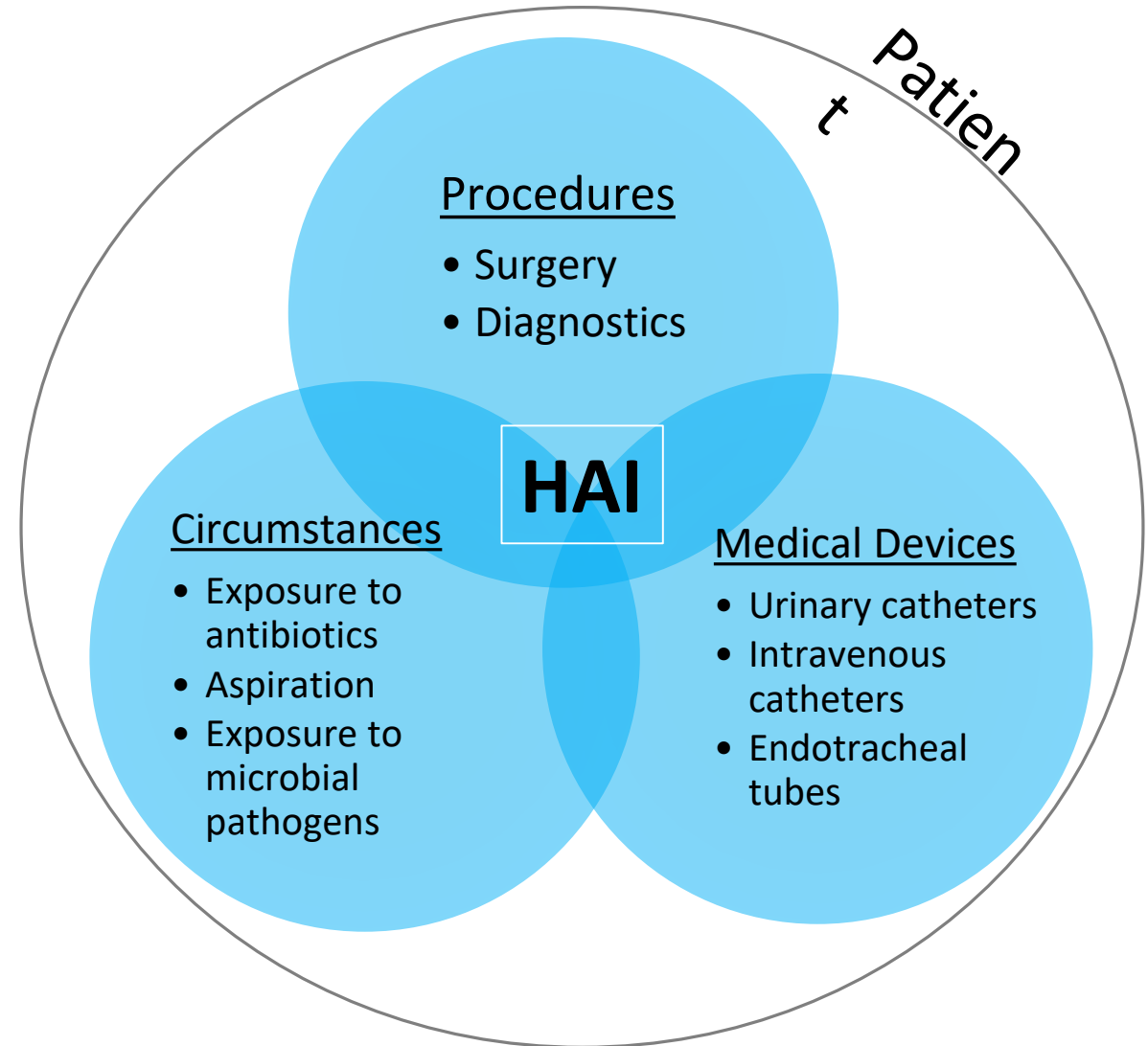
Environment often crowded and variable

- Medical equipment
- Variety of surfaces and materials



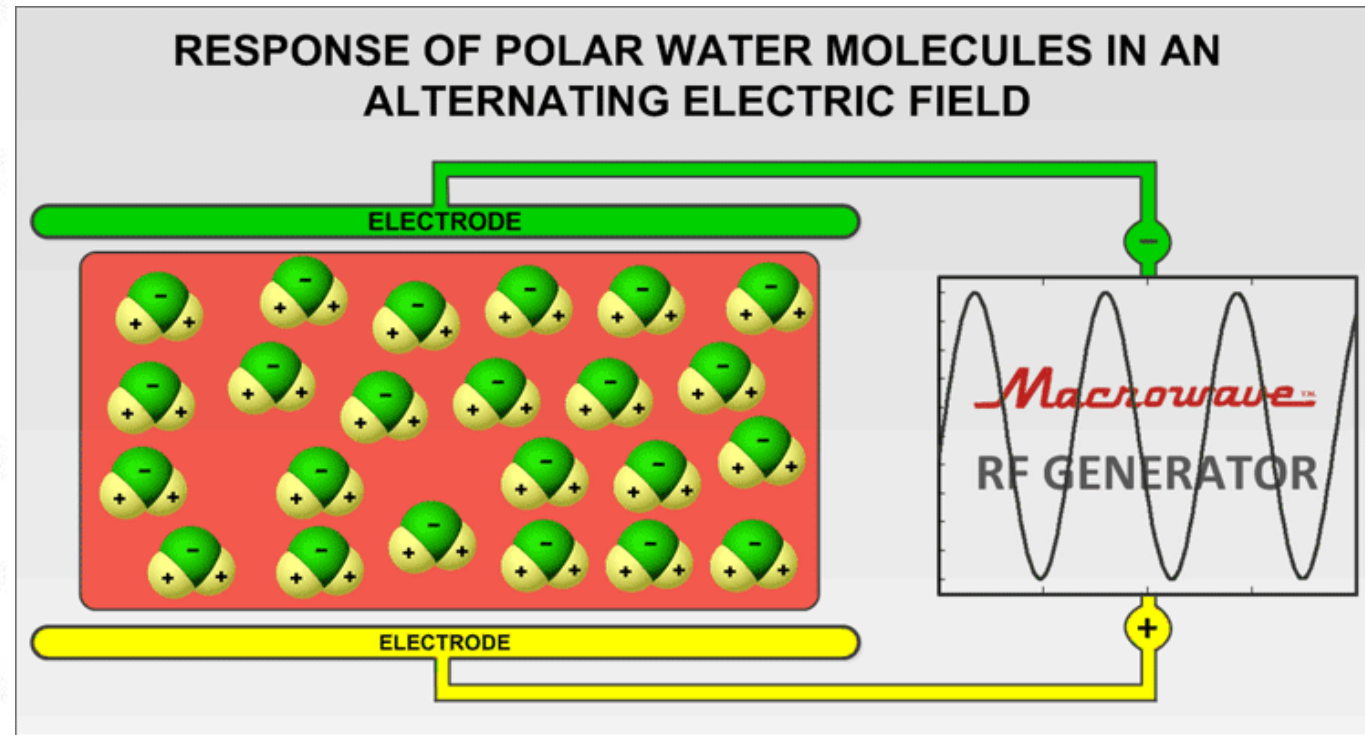
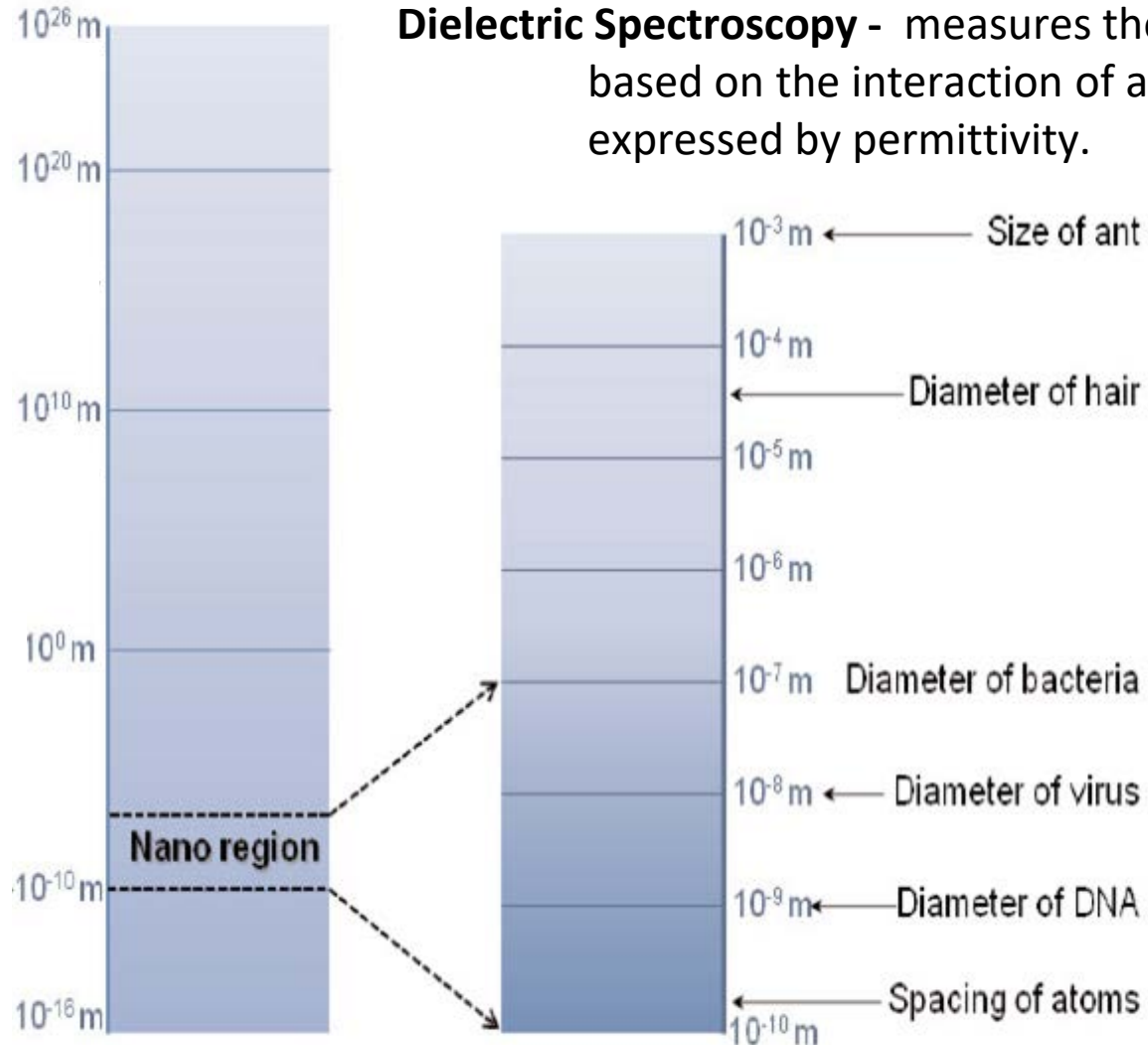
Brooks B, et al. *Nature Communications* 2017;18:1814.

National Academy of Sciences. *Microbiomes of the Built Environment*. 2017



Utilizing Radio Frequencies

Dielectric Spectroscopy - measures the dielectric properties of a medium as a function of frequency. It is based on the interaction of an external field with the electric dipole moment of the sample, often expressed by permittivity.

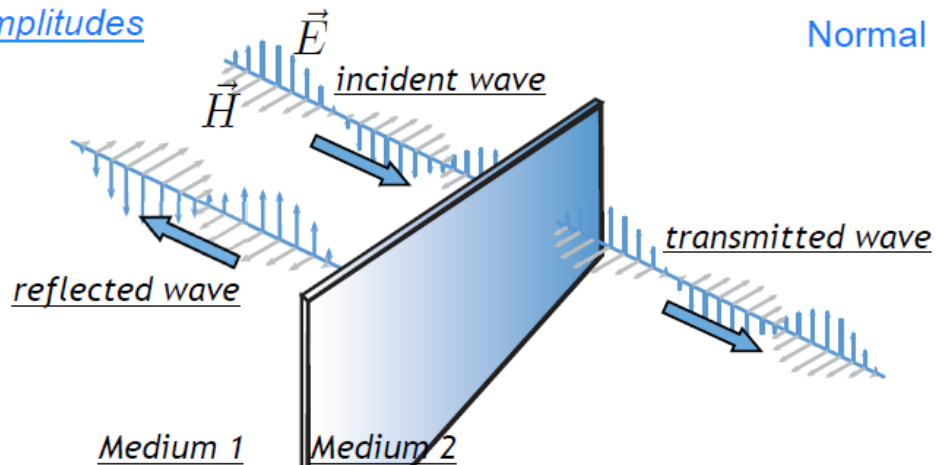


Background: Scattering parameters (S-parameters)

Incident and Transmitted Waves

same amplitudes

Normal Incidence



Incident Wave

$$\vec{E}_i = \hat{x} E_o^i e^{-jk_1 z}$$

$$k_1 = \omega \sqrt{\epsilon_1 \mu_1}$$

$$\eta_1 = \sqrt{\frac{\mu_1}{\epsilon_1}}$$

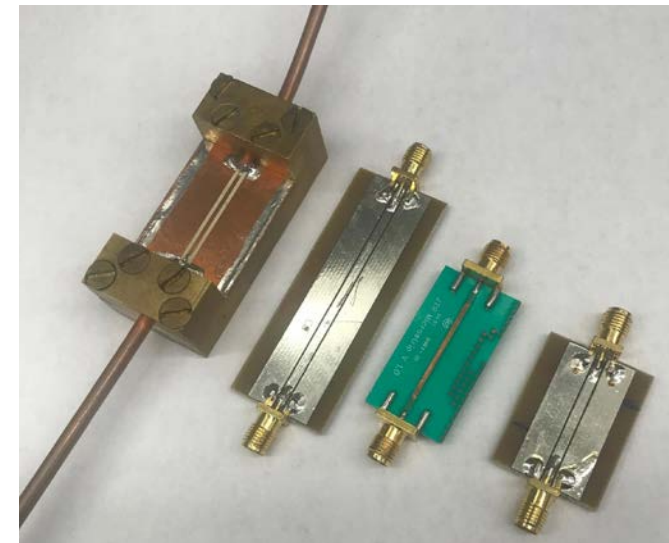
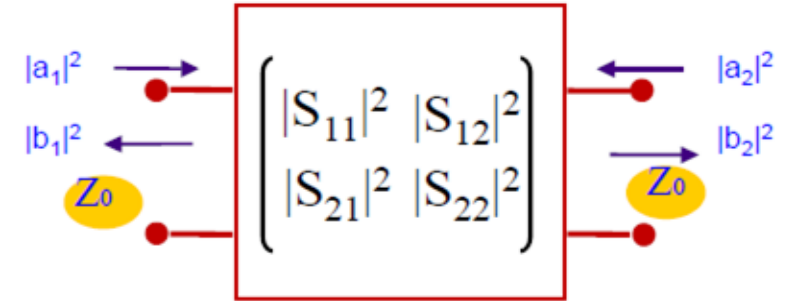
Transmitted Wave

$$\vec{E}_t = \hat{x} E_o^t e^{-jk_2 z}$$

$$k_2 = \omega \sqrt{\epsilon_2 \mu_2}$$

$$\eta_2 = \sqrt{\frac{\mu_2}{\epsilon_2}}$$

S-Parameters and Characteristic Impedance Z_0

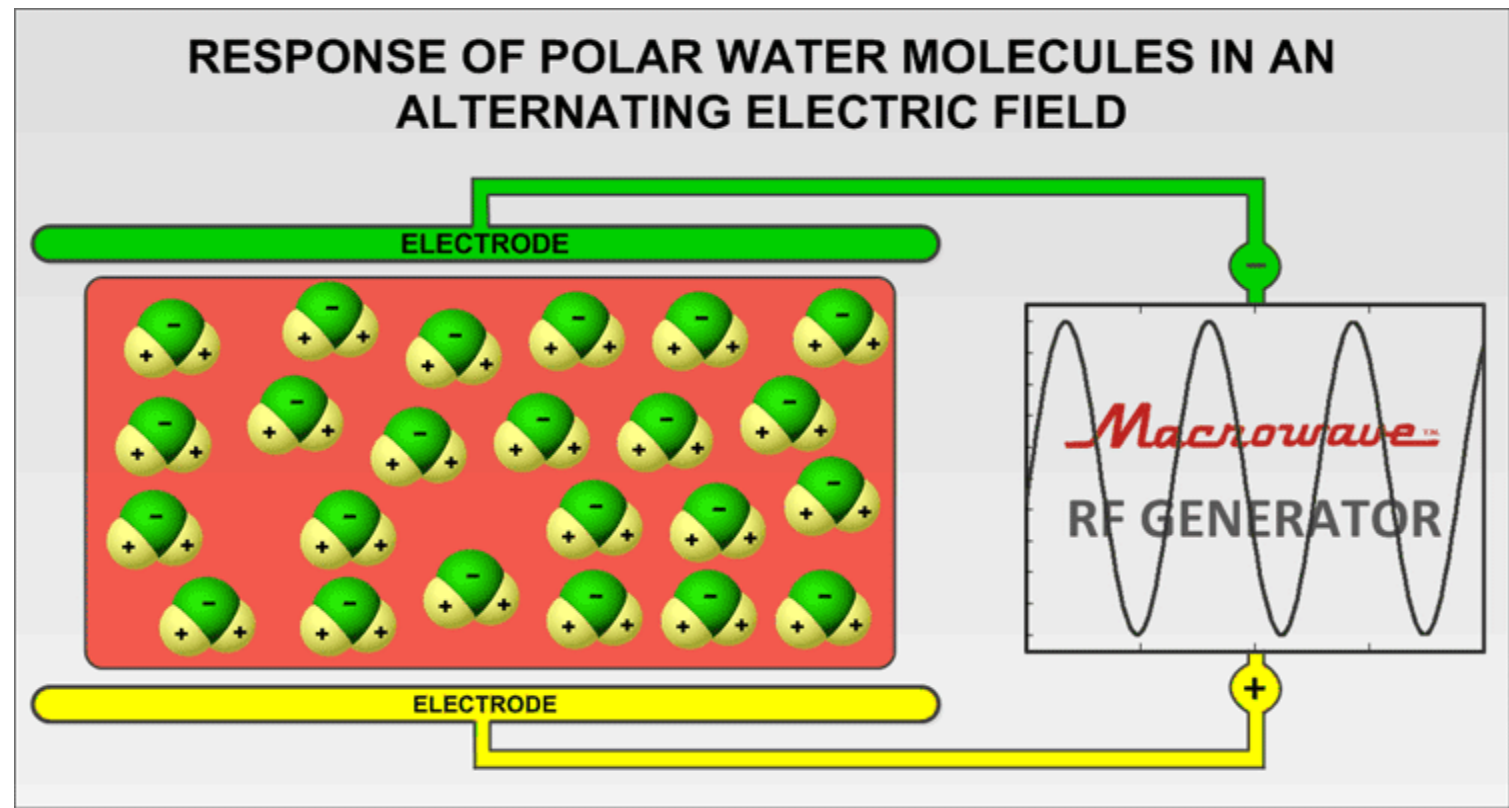


Waveguides

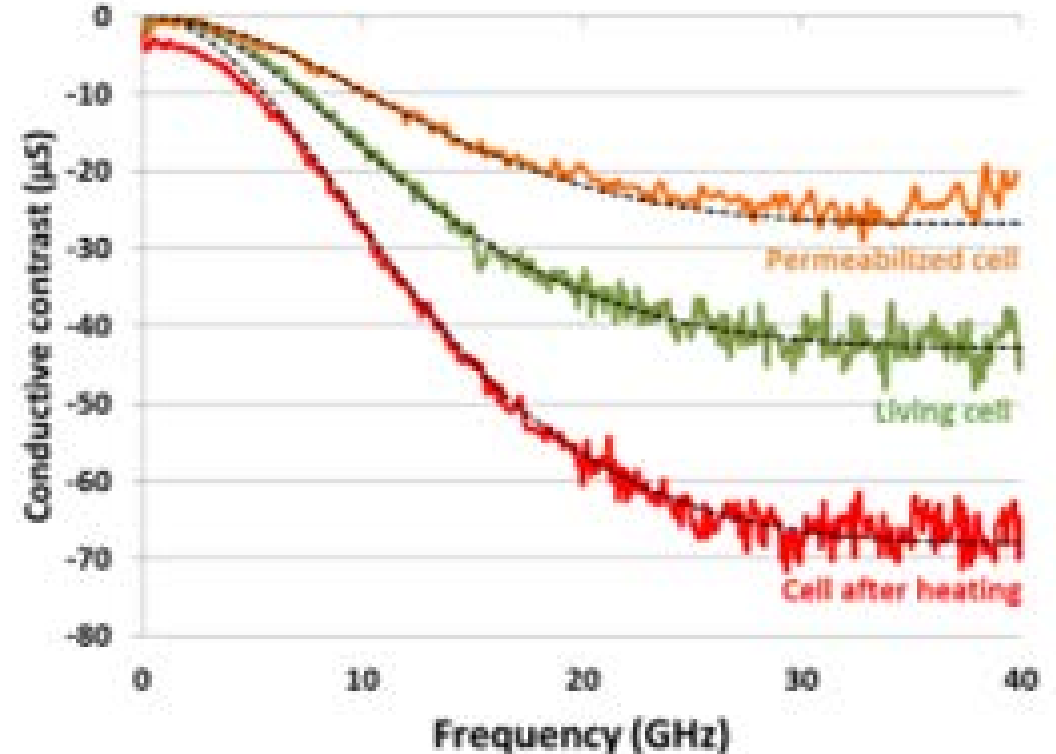
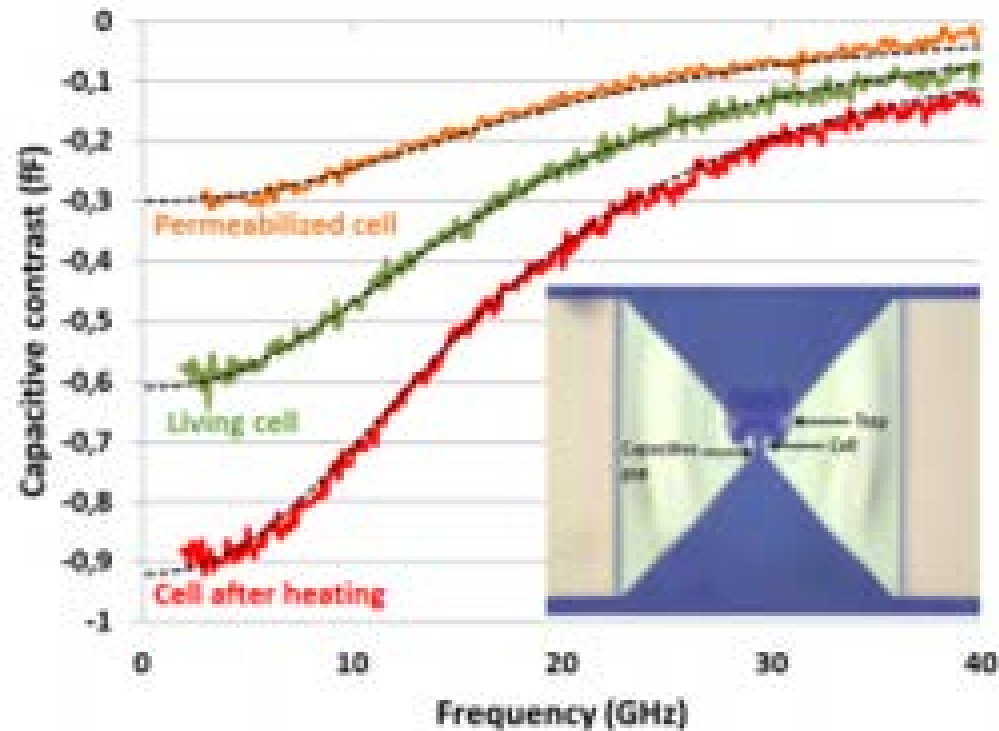
Applications of using Radio Frequencies

Dielectric Spectroscopy - measures the dielectric properties of a medium as a function of frequency. It is based on the interaction of an external field with the electric dipole moment of the sample, often expressed by permittivity.

- Acquire electrical data
 - fuel cell testing
 - Powerline transmission
- Medical applications
 - Measure bacterial concentration
 - Detect dangerous pathogen)
 - *Prevent Hospital Acquired Infections*
- Determine body composition
 - Fat, muscle, water



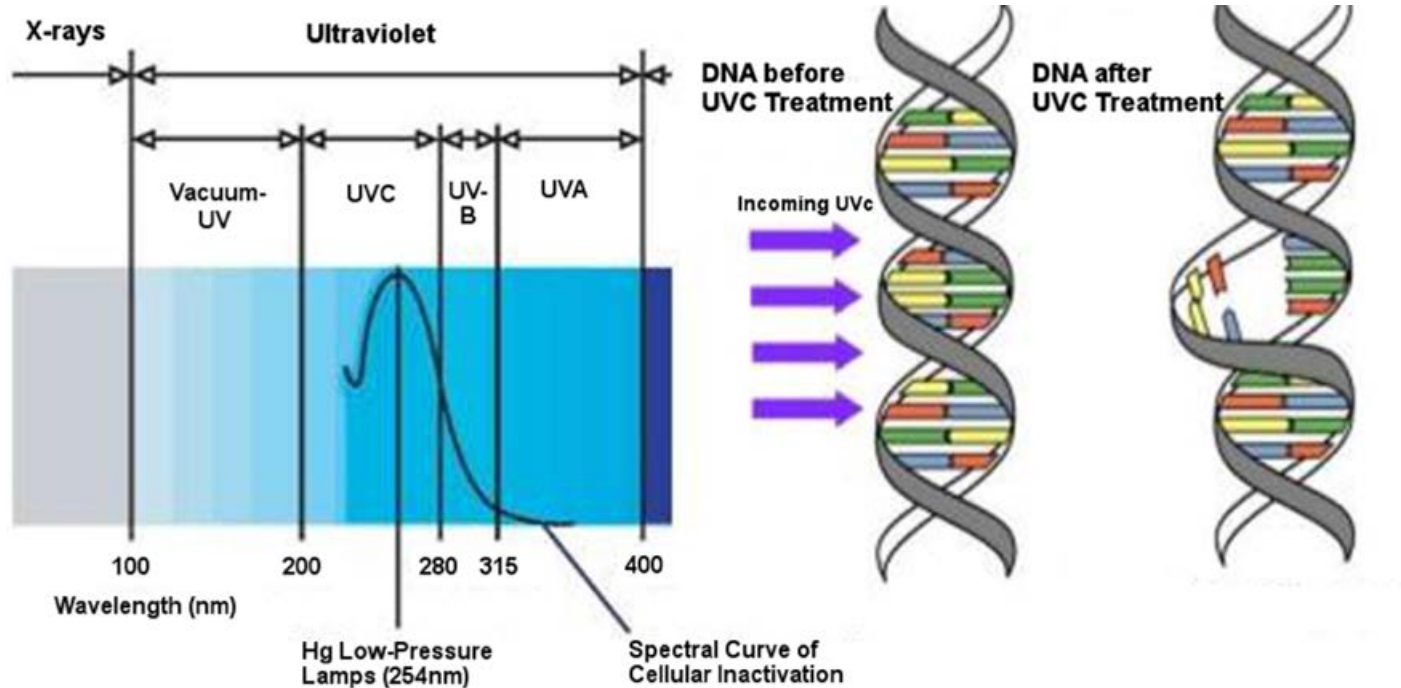
Electrical Response of Individual Biological Cells Submitted to Different Stimuli



Electrical response (capacitive and conductive contrasts) of individual cell in their culture medium submitted to:

- no stress,
- thermal stress (50 °C 10 min),
- chemo-induced permeabilization (membrane or cell wall rendered permeable)

Reducing HAIs with UV light



UV-C known to disrupt the DNA chain

CDC's 2016 Study "Benefits of Enhanced Terminal Room Disinfection..." concluded –

- "A contaminated health-care environment is an important source for acquisition of pathogens; enhanced terminal room disinfection decreases this risk."*
- "The incidence of target organisms among exposed patients was significantly lower after adding UV to standard cleaning strategies" (33.9 cases/10,000 exposure days with UV vs. 51.3/10,000 exposure days without – 35% reduction)*

Goals

End goal: convert raw s-parameter data into electrical (RLGC) data

Tasks:

- Review existing modules
- Write, calibrate and validate new module if needed
- Apply the optimized RLGC module to existing IC corrosion / electromigration data.
- Apply module to collected data



Waveguide connected to VNA





Waveguides

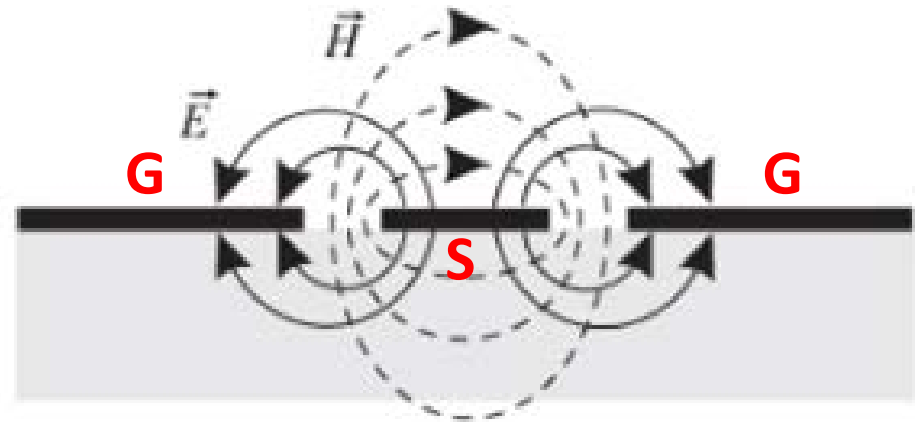
Measurements

Measuring a waveguide's dielectrics properties using the 2 port VNA and running the raw data through our module produces the following information:

- Resistance (R)
- Inductance (L)
- Capacitance (C)
- Characteristic impedance (Z_c)
- Propagation constant (γ)

Tasks:



- Review existing modules 
- Write, calibrate and validate new module if needed 
- Apply the optimized RLGC module to existing data.
- Apply module to collected data



Modeled E-Fields

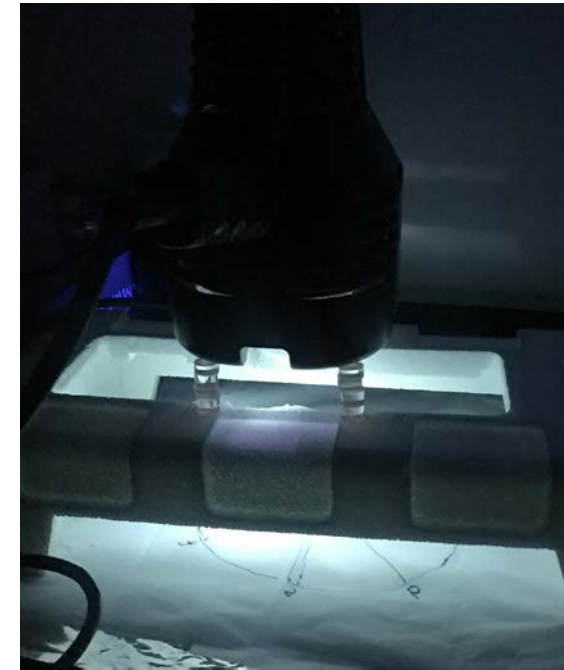
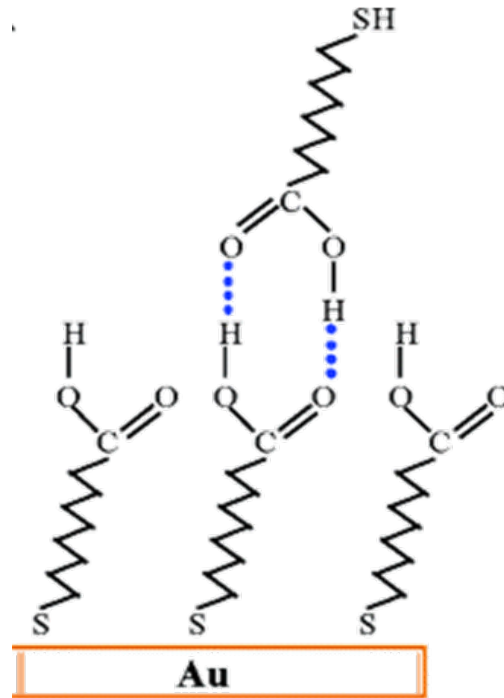
Experimental details

Tasks:

- Review existing modules 
- Write, calibrate and validate new module if needed 
- Apply the optimized RLGC module to existing data.
- Apply module to collected data

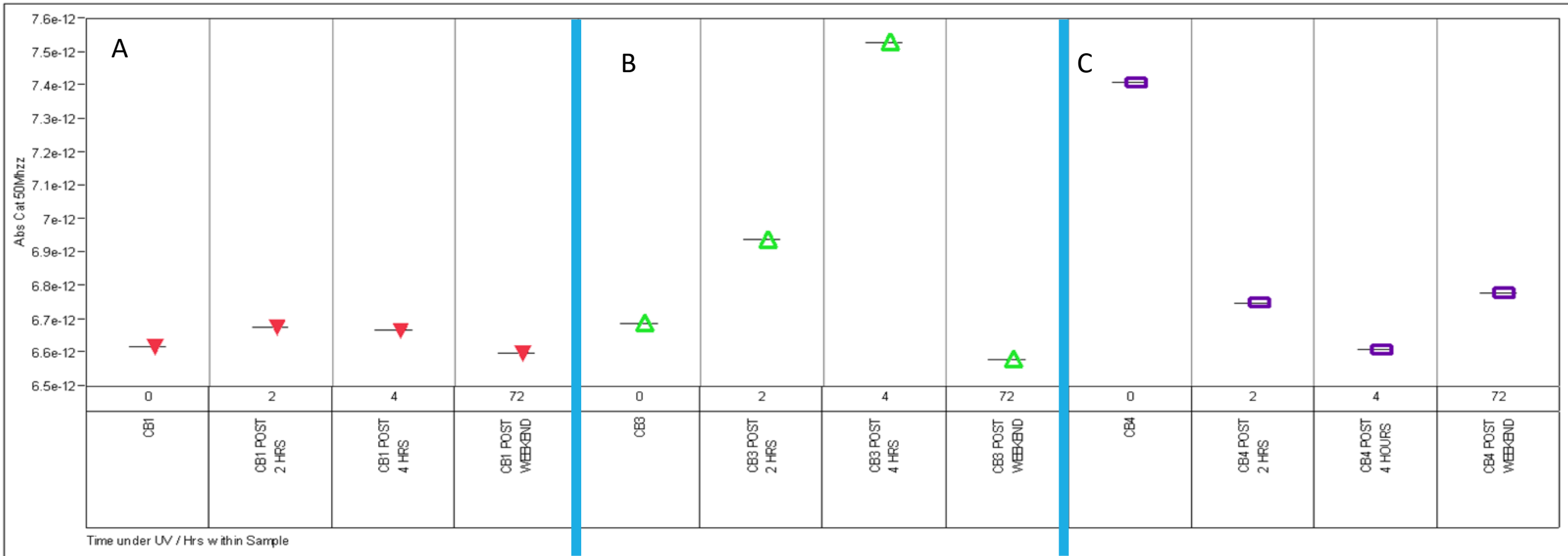
Mini experiments:

- Temporal UV Stability of
COOHC₁₆H₃₂SH/Au
- UV-degradation of lipid Films
- UV-degradation of Yogurt Films



Samples under UV light in normal laboratory conditions

Temporal UV Stability of COOH_C₁₆H₃₂SH/Au in Laboratory Ambient



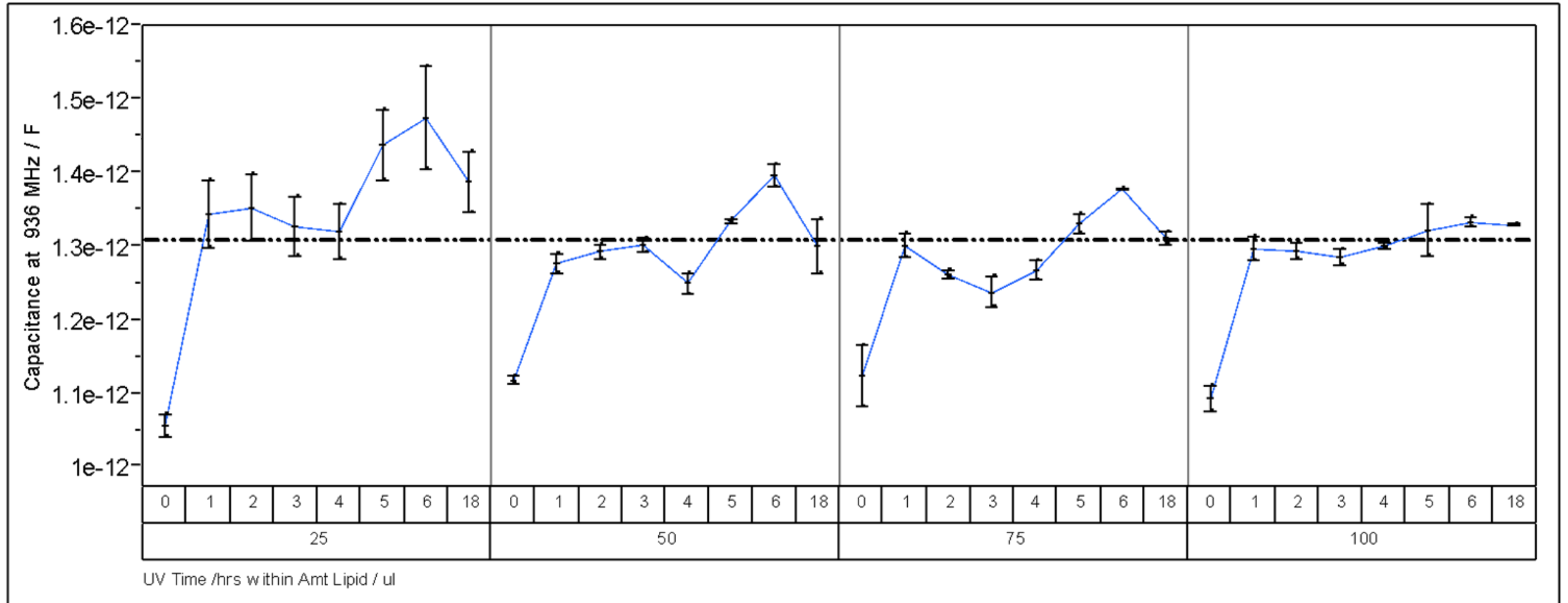
A - Bare gold on fused silica did not change over time

B - "Thick" film of alkane thiol on Gold. Film thickness decreases with UV exposure down to bare Gold

C - "Thin" film of alkane thiol on Gold. Film thickness decreases with UV exposure down to bare Gold

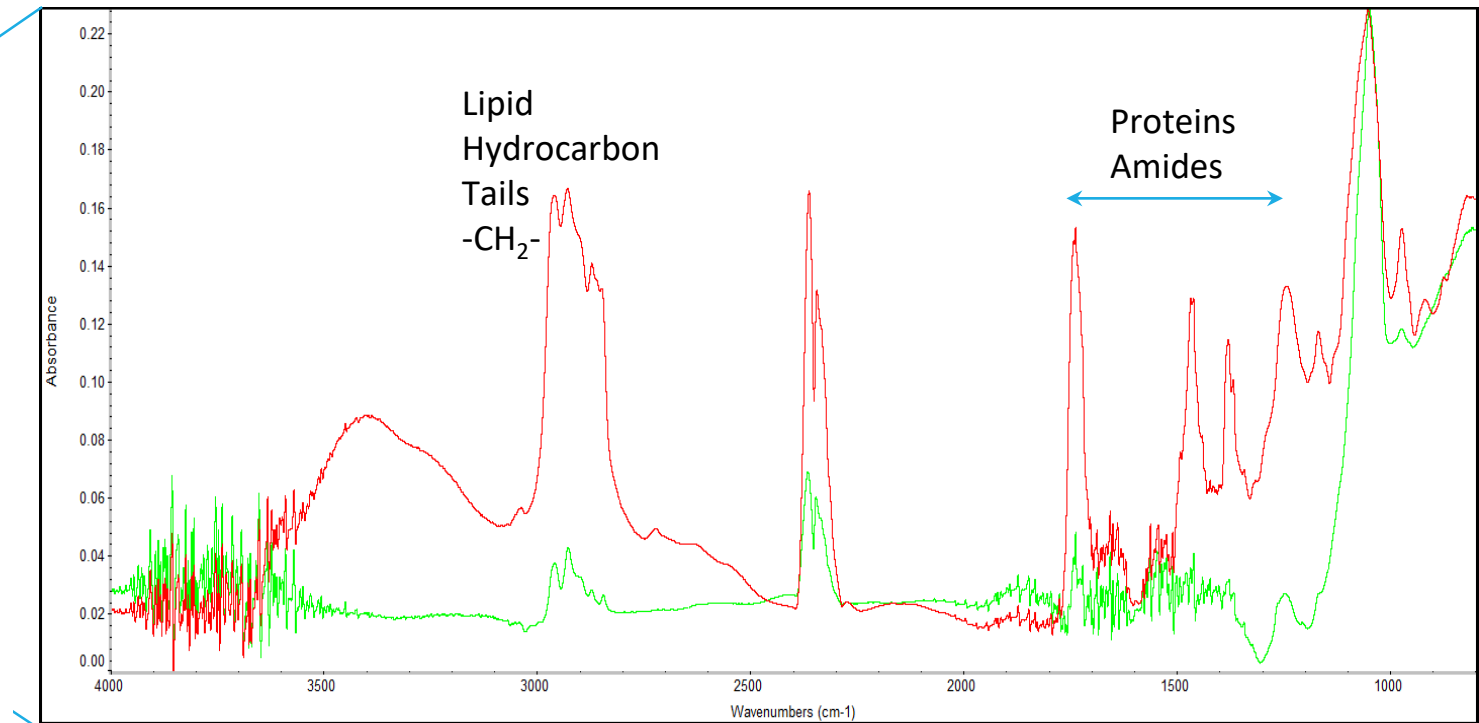
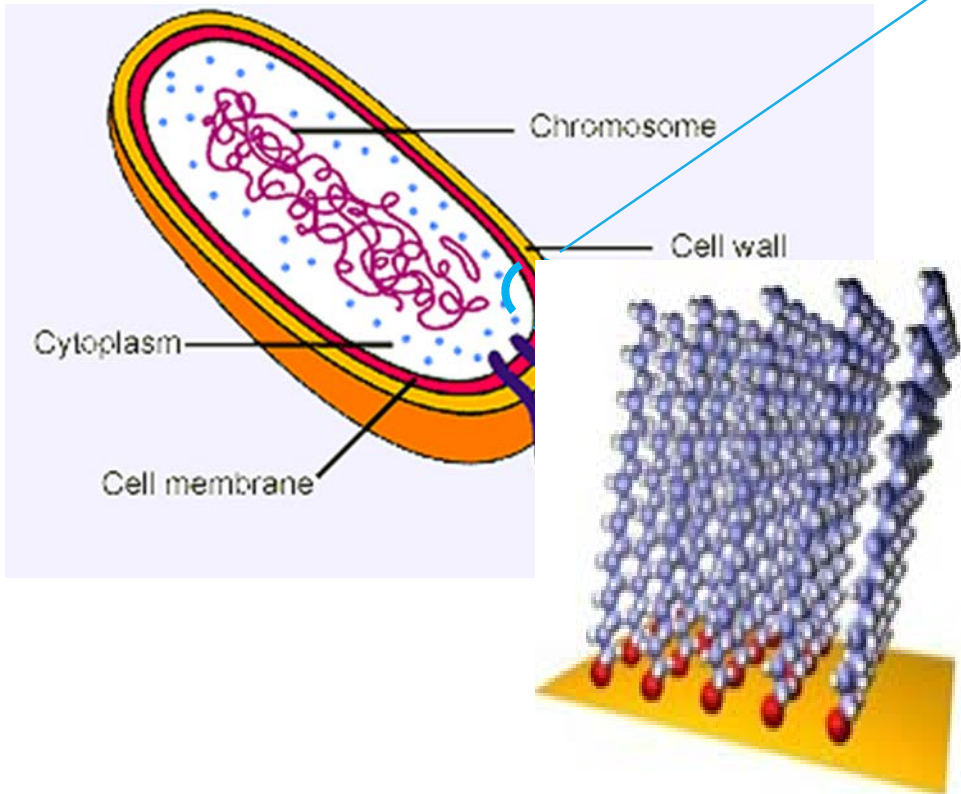
$$C = \frac{A\epsilon}{d}$$

UV-degradation of Lipid Films on Glass in Air

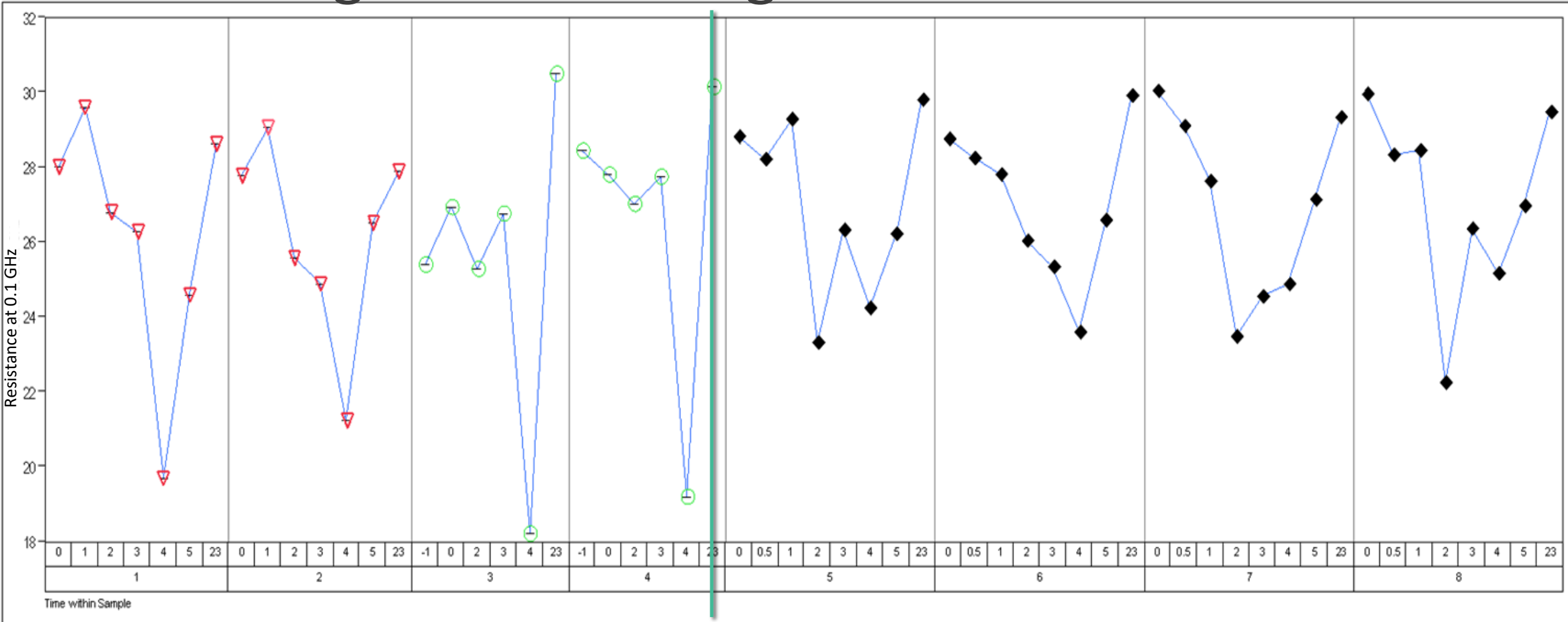


- Film capacitance is a good indicator of lipid film transformation
- Reference line represents results of 7.5 min UV-O3 treatment
- The extent of lipid film transformation appears to depend primarily on the film thickness
- We need chemical analyses (e.g. FTIR) to characterize the lipid film transformation

The FTIR Analysis of Lipid Adsorbed on C16SH-Au-Glass Substrate Pre- and Post UV-Photolysis (Model of Cell Membrane-Cytoplasm Interface)



UV-degradation of Yogurt Films on Glass in Air



- 1) We can electrically detect Yogurt film transformation (i.e., cell death)
- 2) 10 min. under UV-Ozone (O_3) does not kill all the bacteria in the Yogurt Film
- 3) Cells die by (i) starvation (out of substrate in about 4 hrs.) or (ii) by photolysis (in about 2 hours)
- 4) Cell death is accelerated by UV-photolysis from 4hrs to 2 hrs.
- 5) Cells that survive UV-irradiation eventually die by starvation.

Discussion

Accomplishments :

- Review existing modules
- Write, calibrate and validate new module if needed
- Apply the optimized RLGC module to existing data.
- Apply module to collected data
 - ✓ Epi on doped silicon
 - ✓ Electromigration / interconnect corrosion
 - ✓ **Biomaterial degradation / transformation**
 - ✓ Etc.



The current model shows consistent and sensible results.

Future work

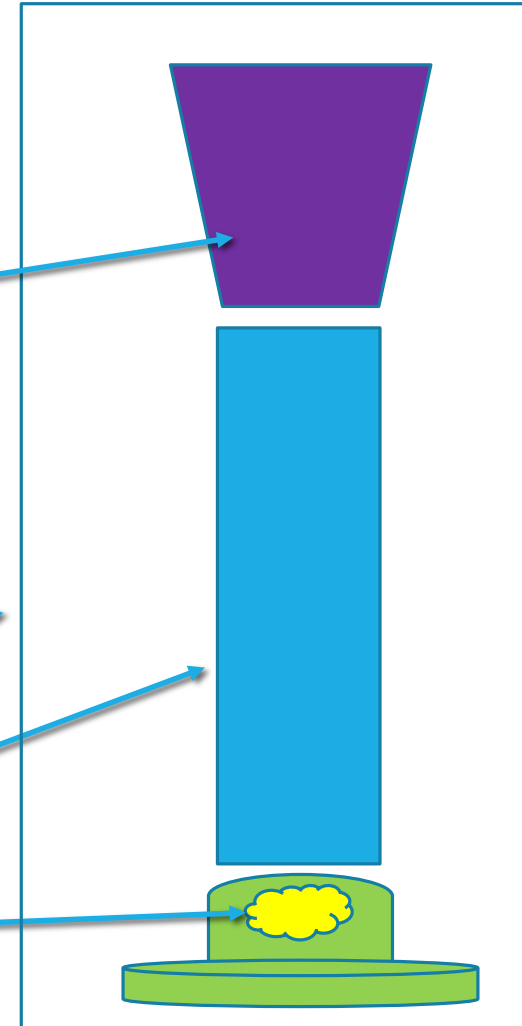
- Chemical analyses of intermediate and final transformation products
- Test theory and concepts on with Bakers Yeast
- Define parameters for HAI mitigation efficacy
- Distance and angular dependence of irradiation efficacy
- Predictive models for UV-photolysis (e.g., COMSOL models)
- Investigate the nature of the propagation constant

Controlled Environment

Uniform and consistent UV light

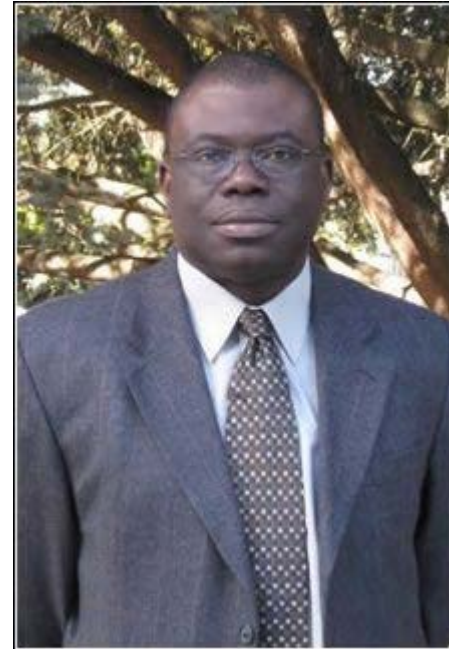
Uniform sample distribution

Light Source



Acknowledgements

- Dr. Yaw Obeng
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 - Grant GM-08807



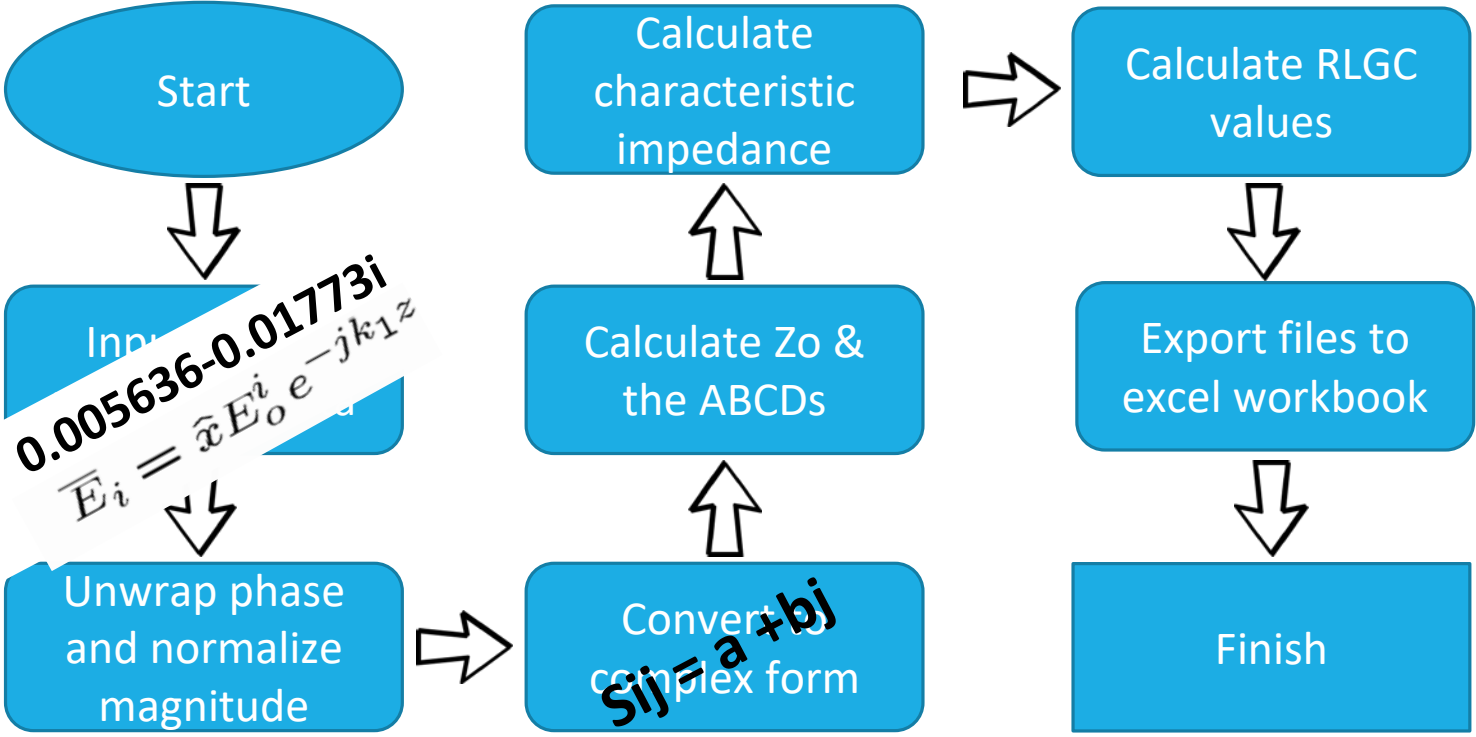
Yaw Obeng



Joseph Kopanski



S-parameters to RLGC values



$$A = \frac{(1 + S_{11} - S_{22} - ((S_{11})(S_{22}) - (S_{21})(S_{12})))}{2 * (S_{21})}$$

$$B = Z_0 \frac{(1 + S_{11} + S_{22} + ((S_{11})(S_{22}) - (S_{21})(S_{12})))}{2 * (S_{21})}$$

$$C = \frac{(1 - S_{11} - S_{22} + ((S_{11})(S_{22}) - (S_{21})(S_{12})))}{(Z_0) * 2 * (S_{21})}$$

$$D = \frac{(1 - S_{11} + S_{22} - ((S_{11})(S_{22}) - (S_{21})(S_{12})))}{2 * (S_{21})}$$

$$Z_c = Z_0 * \sqrt{\frac{(1+S_{11})^2 - (S_{21})^2}{(1-S_{11})^2 - (S_{21})^2}}$$

$$Y = \frac{\sinh^{-1}(BC)}{l}$$

R = Re{Y * Zc} **G** = Re{Y / Zc}
L = Im {Y * Zc} / ω **C** = Im{Y / Zc} / ω