

 Challenges in the design of LNAs with bandwidth towards 10 GHz

Implemented circuit





 Challenges in the design of LNAs with bandwidth towards 10 GHz

Lower supply voltage → Fewer topologies

Matching and bandwidth enhancement with as few inductors as possible

Lower dynamic range → Lower SNR





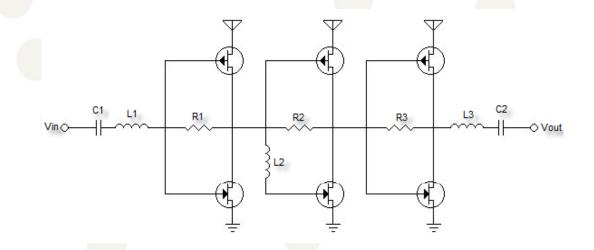
 Challenges in the design of LNAs with bandwidth towards 10 GHz

- Implemented circuit
 - PLS performance
 - Matching properties
- Measurements





- Implemented circuit
 - Inverter based
 - Splitting -load peaking stage
 - Implemented without bond wire model





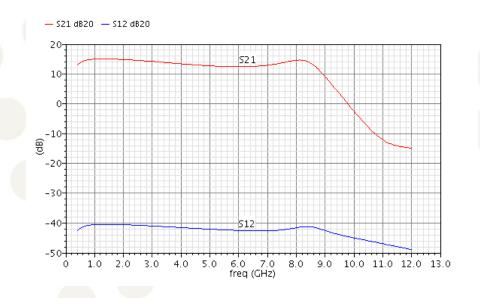


Implemented circuit

- S21 15.1 dB

Bandwidth0.4-8.6 GHz

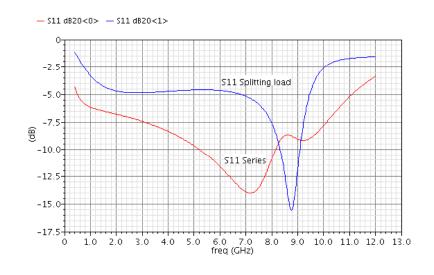
-NF < 5.8 dB

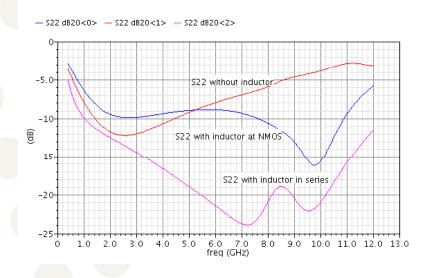






- Implemented circuit
 - Matching approaches





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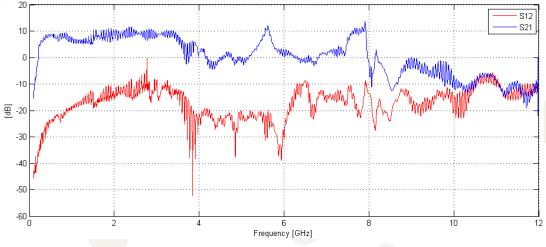
Implemented circuit

- Results
- Reasons for degradation





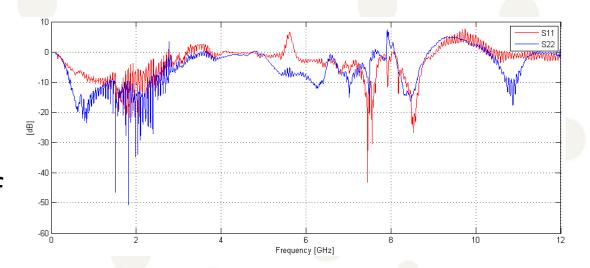
- Gain 9.5±2dBbetween 0.3 and3.6 GHz
- Reverse gain 30dB higher thanPLS
- "Spiky" responses







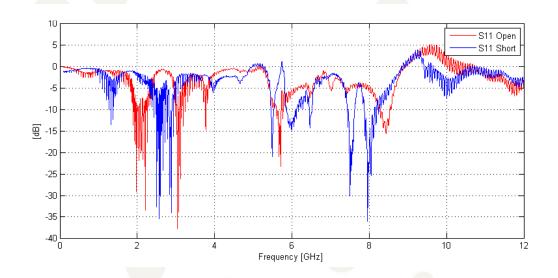
- Measurements
 - S11 and S22
 - Total reflection in large parts of the sweep







- Open and shorted bond wire test benches included
- Resonates at above 9 GHz







- Measurement, reasons for degradation from PLS to measurements
 - Reactive nature of bond wire and pad degrades matching properties
 - S12 results indicate cross talk on PCB
 - Noisy measurement environment





Summary:

- LNA design in CMOS for 10 GHz is a challenge
 - Reducing the number of inductors, still achieve the bandwidth and matching properties
 - Maintaining the simulated performance from PLS to measurements
- Good models of bond wire and pad are essential to implement in the design phase for a good results





• References:

- S-F. Chao, J-J Kuo, C-L. Lin, M-D- Tsai and H. Wang, "A DC-11.5 GHz Low-Power, Wideband Amplifier Using Splitting-Load Inductive Peaking Technique," in *IEEE Microwave and Wireless Components Letters*, Vol 18, NO 7, July 2008
- P. Heydari, "Design and Analysis of a Performance-Optimized CMOS UWB Distributed LNA," in *IEEE Journal of Solid-State Circuits*, Vol 42, No 9, September 2007
- S.B-T. Wang, Design of Ultra-Wideband RF Front-End, Berkeley: PhD dissertation, University Of California, Berkeley, 2005
- W. Sansen, Analog Design Essentials, Springer, 2006



