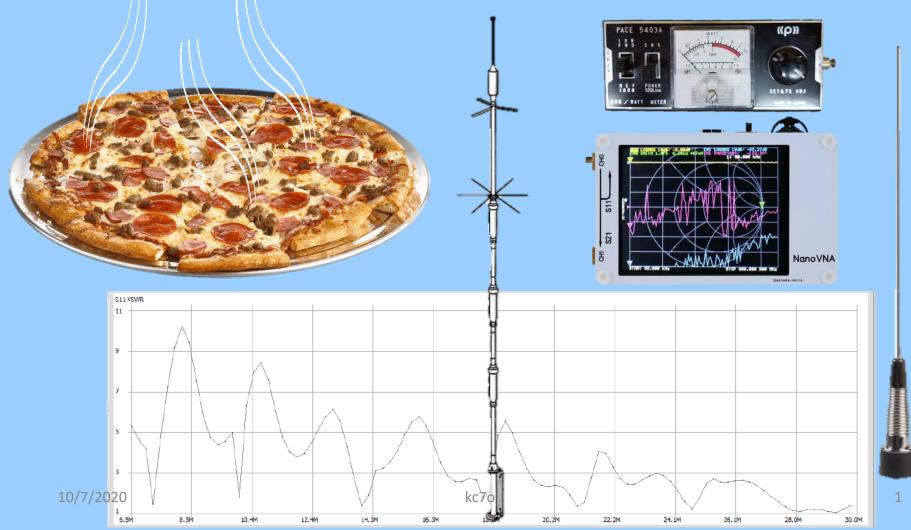
Pizza Pan Antenna Test Fixture, VSWR Bridges & NanoVNA

Allen Wolff - kc7o

kc7o@arrl.net

7 October 2020 - South Pasadena Amateur Radio Club via Zoom



Topics

- Equipment & usability
 - Traditional SWR bridge & use
 - Antenna analyzer
 - Network analyzer
- VHF/UHF antenna checks
 - Pizza Pan
 - Flexible
 - Fast
- NanoVNA
 - Vector Network Analyzer
 - Overview
 - Calibration
- Examples of use









kc7o



Popular Model P-2 SWR/Power Meter Kit

- · Reads Standing Wave Ratio and Relative Power
- . Covers 1.8 to 432 Mc-Ham Bands, CB
- . Handles A Full Thousand Watts of RF Power
- · Negligible Loss-Leave It in Line Permanently
- · Flexible 2-Unit Design-Coupler and Indicator
- Also Works Well With Low-Powered Transmitters

Outstanding Features Flexible 2 Unit Design **Full Kllowatt Capacity** Requires No Power/Batteries Reads SWR from 1:1 to 20:1 Can be Left in Line as Constant Monitor

Accuracy Better than 10% **Has Coax Connectors** For Unbalanced 50-72 Ohm

Lines—Amateur and CB Range from 1.8 to 432 Mc **Negligible Insertion Loss** Has Sensitivity Adjustment

72 ALLIED

Be sure you're getting the most from your transmitter and antenna system. The easy-to-build Model P-2 SWR/Power meter provides a constant check of your rig's efficiency. Measures relative power fed to the antenna and standing waves reflected back from it. Lets you make your own matching adjustments between line and driven element for maximum antenna efficiency. Covers 1.8 to 432 mc-Amateur bands, Citizens Band, other communications services. Has a full kilowatt power capacity, works well with low-powered transmitters, too. May be permanently left in the transmission line with negligible power loss. Uses popular SO-239 coax connectors. Flexible 2-unit construction-coupler and indicator units connected by a 4-foot shielded cable. Requires no AC power or batteries. Styled in gray satin-matches the Knight-Kit T-60 and T-150A transmitters. With all parts, instructions. Shpg. wt., 3 lbs.

83 Y 627-D. In Kit Form....

SPECIFICATIONS-

Frequency Range: 1.8 to 432 mc (includes Amateur bands.) Minimum RF Power: 45 watts at 1.8 mc,

1/2-watt at 432 mc for full-scale meter deflection.

Maximum RF Power: 1 kilowatt. Input/Output Impedance: 52 or 72 ohms. Accuracy: better than 10%. Meter Sensitivity: 100 µa. full scale. Meter Scales: Relative Power, 0-10; SWR, 1:1 to 20:1. Sizes: coupler, 2x5x21/2"; indicator; 21/4x 61/4x3"; 4-ft. connecting cable.

Connectors: two SO-239 coaxial.

SWR Bridges

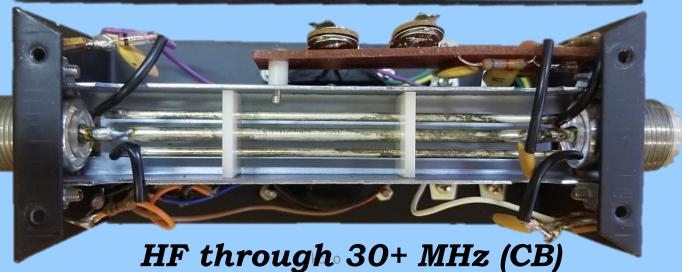


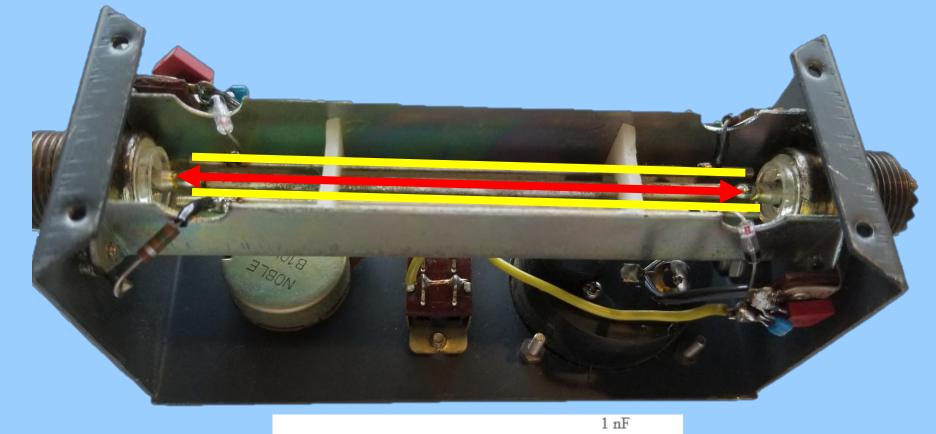
Simplicity

SWR - Standing Wave Ratio

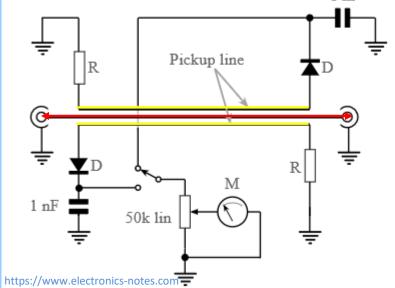
Or VSWR - Voltage Standing Wave Ratio

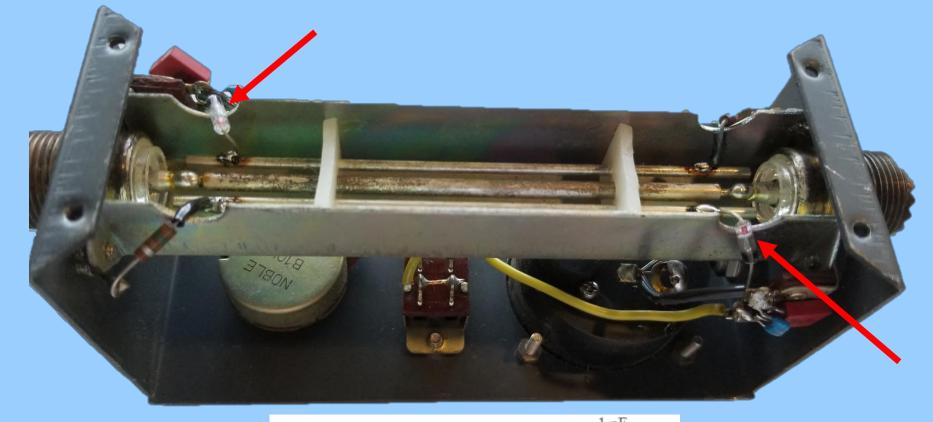








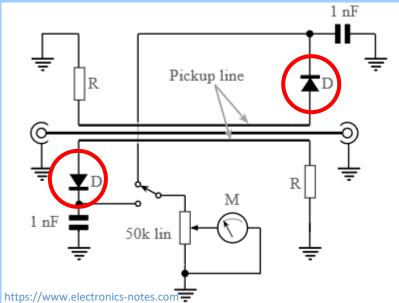




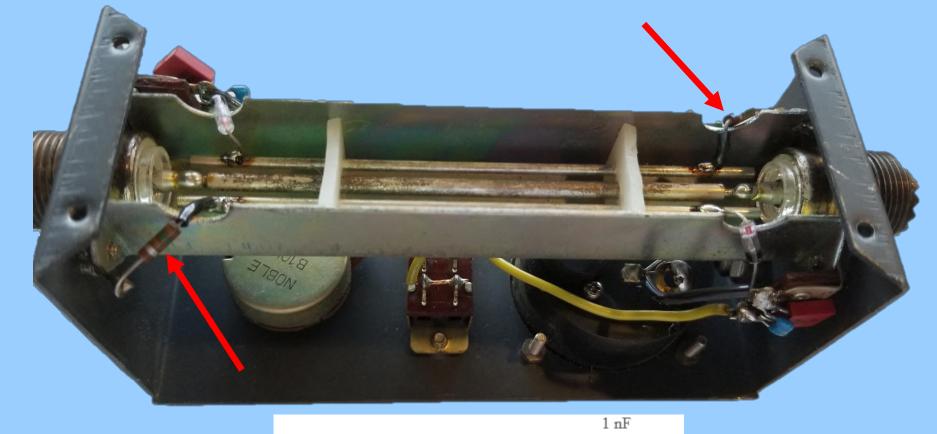
1N34A Germanium Diode ~ \$ 0.25



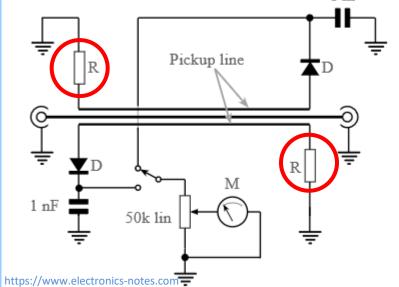
MFJ-962D uses the same diodes

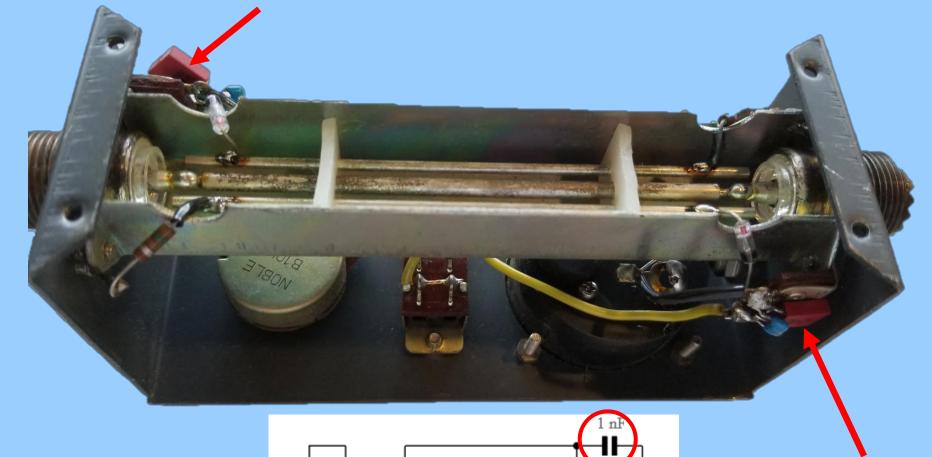


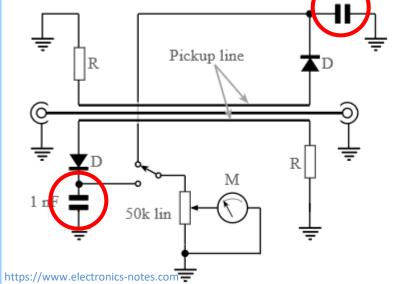
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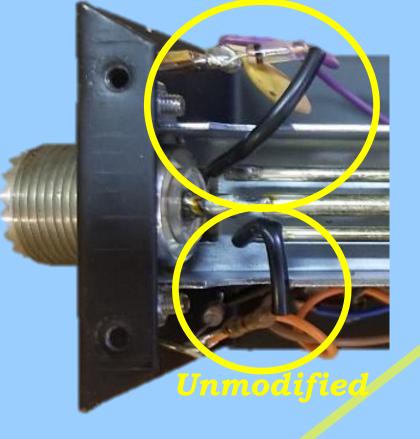


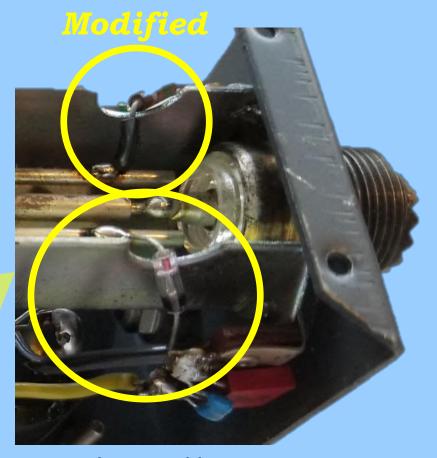
 $R = 100 \Omega$ for 72Ω coax $R = 160 \Omega$ for 50Ω coax











New ceramic caps & shortening all component leads makes these devices good through 2 Meters This unit measured 1.3:1 into 50 ohms @ 450 MHz

It is reversible – forward \top reverse

SWR animation

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/SWR_meter

February 1993 – 73 Magazine

Number 6 on your Feedback card

Accurate Low Cost VSWR Meter

Convert this CB accessory for 1.8-450 MHz operation.

by Phil Salas AD5X

Nothing beats a good VSWR meter when it comes to playing around with new antenna designs. Unfortunately, meters that work up to 450 MHz can be quite expensive. This article describes simple modifications that can be made to popular CB-style VSWR meters to enable them to accurately perform up through the 3/4-meter ham band.

The Meter

Figure 1 shows a popular CB-type VSWR meter. Made by many different manufacturers, they use an internal directional coaxial coupler. They were very popular up until a few years ago when the transformer type VSWR meter became more popular (undoubtedly due to their lower manufacturing cost). The CB-type meter is widely available at swap fests, and can be had for very little money. I paid \$5 for mine at one of our local electronic sidewalk sales.

Upon getting home with this unit, I opened it up and was very impressed with

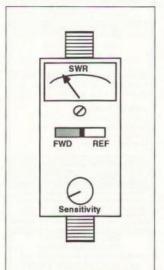


Figure 1. The once-popular CB-type VSWR meter.

the quality of the coaxial coupler itself. The total internal coupler length measured five inches. For best performance, a directional coupler should be less than a quarter wavelength at the highest frequency used. A quarter wavelength at 450 MHz is about six inches, so it appeared there was some potential here. Unfortunately, the internal components had very long lead lengths and were poorly dressed. Sure enough, a precision 50 ohm load measured with this meter showed a 2:1 VSWR at 146 MHz, and a 2.8:1 VSWR at 445 MHz. Obviously, this would not do.

Modifying the CB-type Meter

Figure 2 is an internal drawing of the VSWR meter. The first thing I did was remove the detector diodes, 150 ohm terminating resistors, and bypass capacitors. I then cleaned out all excess solder, Next, I made new bypass capacitors by paralleling good rectangular ceramic 0.001 and 0.01 μF capacitors, as shown in Figure 3. The 0.01 μF capacitor is a good bypass at lower frequencies, and the 0.001 μF capacitor is a good

bypass at higher frequencies. Mount these capacitors directly to the terminal strips at either end of the coupler, attempting to make the lead lengths as close to zero as possible. Then I put in new 1/4 watt 150 ohm resistors, as shown in Figure 2. Orient these resistors so as to minimize lead length. Also, position the resistors so that the lead lengths are identical on both resistors. It doesn't matter too much if there is some lead inductance, but it's important that the lead inductance on both resistors be the same.

Next, I put in two new 1N34A detector diodes (available from Radio Shack) as shown. Again, orient the diodes for minimum lead length and ensure that the lead length on both diodes is the same.

That's all there is to it. Now for some measurements.

The Results

For my test loads, I again used my 50ohm precision termination, a 75 ohm F-type termination with a F-to-PL-259 adapter, a home-built 100 ohm termination, and the Radio Shack RS 21-506 15 watt DC-500 MHz dummy load. The 100 ohm termination was built by sliding a 1 watt 100 ohm metal oxide resistor (RS 271-152) into a RG-6 F-

Resi	ults at 445 MHz	
	Measured VSWR	Expected VSWR
50 ohm precision load	1.05:1	1:1
50 ohm 15 watt RS load	1.10:1	1:1
75 ohm TV termination	1.50:1	1.5:1
100 ohm termination	1.80:1	2:1

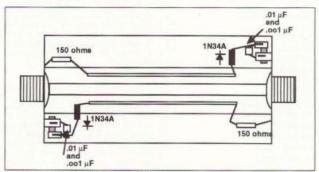


Figure 2. An internal view of the VSWR meter, showing the components to replace.

000

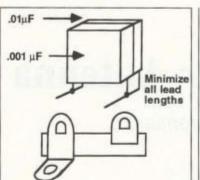


Figure 3. Making new bypass capacitors.

56 connector (RS 278-214). A 1 watt resistor fits perfectly into this connector, and a 1/2 watt resistor fits perfectly into the RG-59 F-59 connector (RS 278-211). The measured results at 445 MHz were as shown in the table.

Not bad! These results are certainly accurate enough for virtually anything most hams would want to do. Also, I was able to get a full-scale forward meter deflection at 450 MHz with only a quarter watt of transmit power.

I have described a means of modifying a common variety CB-style VSWR meter such that it becomes virtually a precision VSWR meter up through 450 MHz. The price is right and you'll have a piece of test equipment you'll be proud of.





CAN YOU SPOT THE ANTENNA?

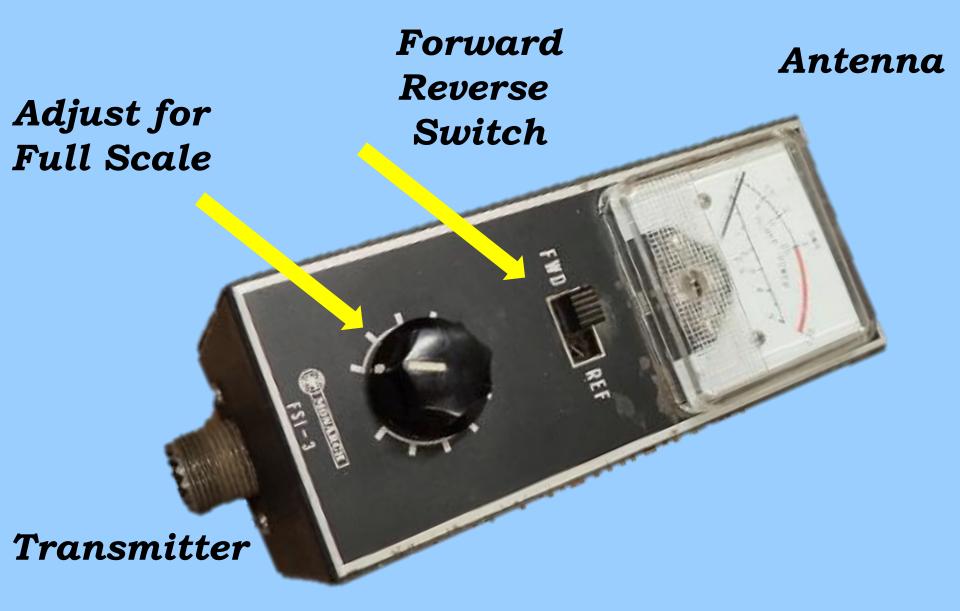
Neither can your neighbors.

P.O. Box 445, Rocklin, CA 95677

Standing Wave Ratio

SWR Bridge Review

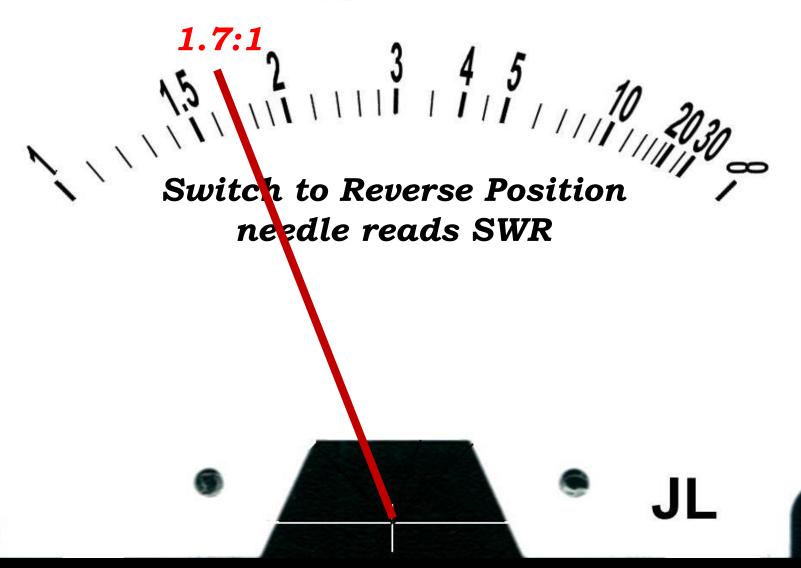




Standing Wave Ratio

15 2 3 4 5 Switch in the Forward Position radio in transmit mode adjust needle for full scale

Standing Wave Ratio



Antenna Analyzer Easily finds the frequency of Minimum SWR



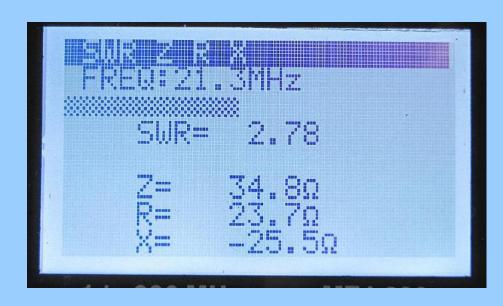
Test of PRC's TH-3 after rebuild



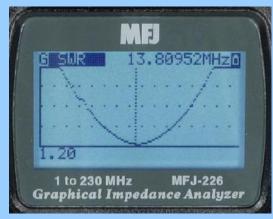


MFJ-226 Network Analyzer Can sweep a range of frequencies from 1 to 230 MHz

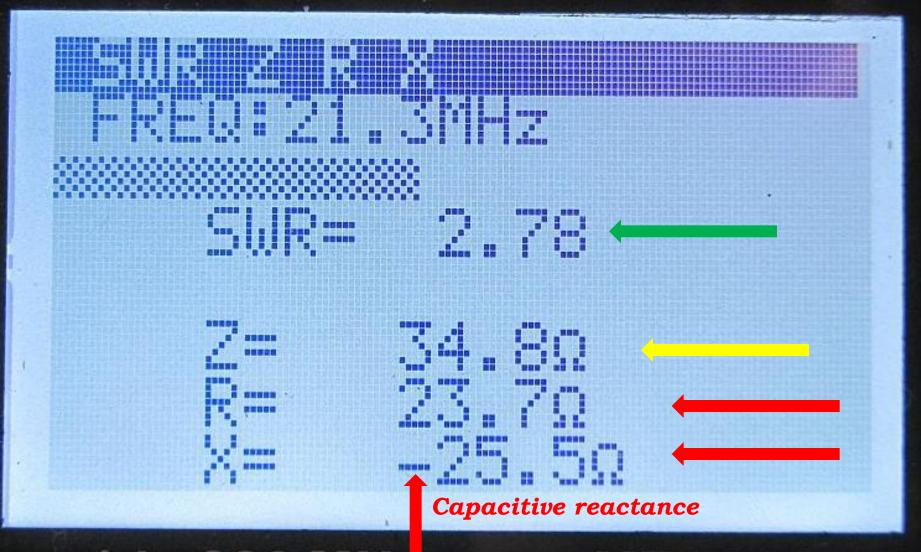






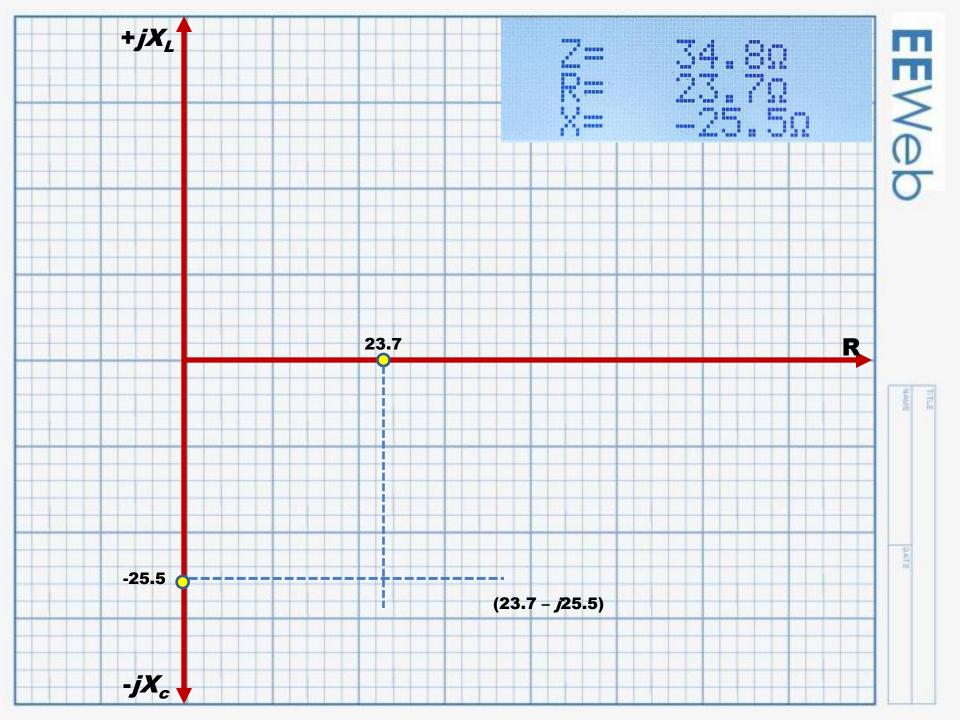


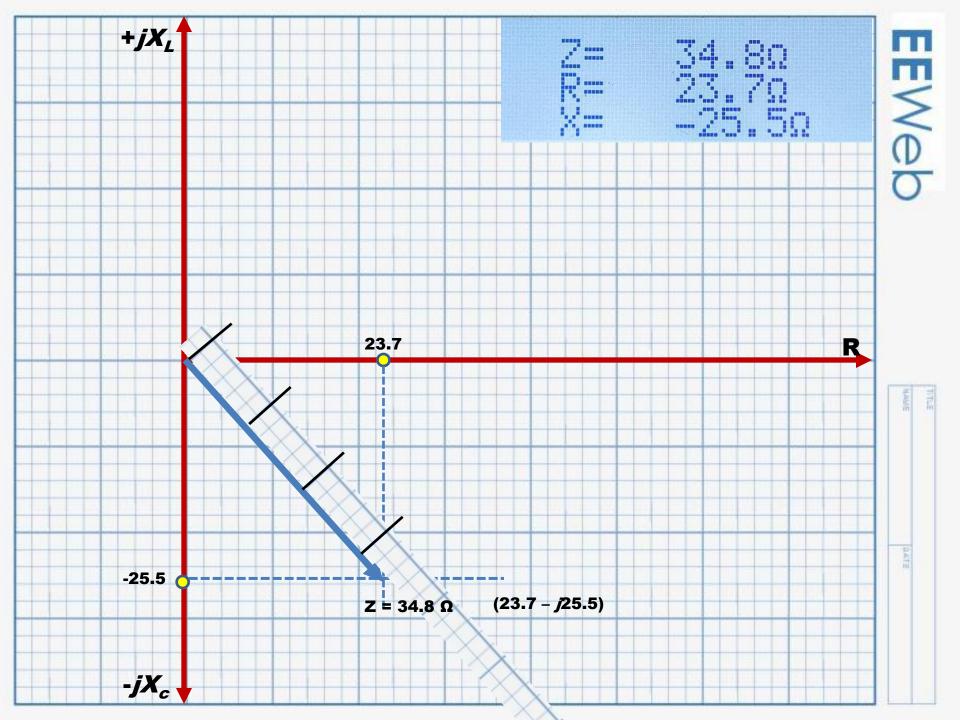
Ability to read Real and \pm Imaginary Ω



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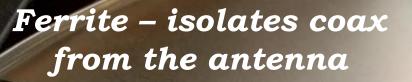
MFJ-226





The AntPan







PL-259 to SMA

PL-259 to BNC SO-239 to NMO

A quick Diversion

- · Twin lead J-poles tend to have RF on the coax shield
- Check by mounting the J-pole in its PVC ray dome (on a ladder or such)
- · Connect an antenna analyzer tuned to the minimum SWR point
- Grasp the coax beneath the J-pole with your hand and slide your hand towards the analyzer



- Does the reading change? If so there should be decoupling added
- · BTW, a ferrite is like chicken soup, it can't hurt

10/7/2020 kc7o





NMO
PL-259
BNC
SMA
Rev SMA

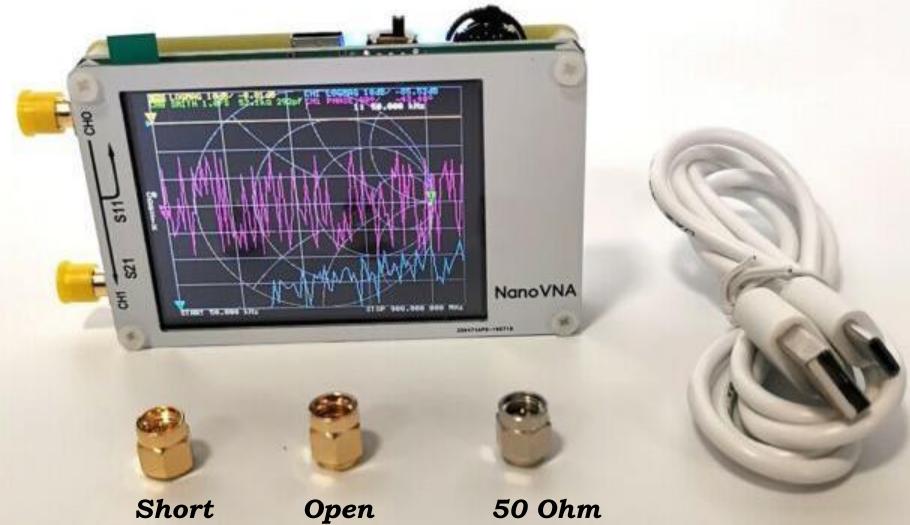






NanoVNA

Vector Network Analyzer 50 KHz to 900 MHz







nano vna antenna analyzer





Hello, Sign in Account & Lists * & Orders

Try Prime



Select your address

Best Sellers

Prime

Customer Service

New Releases

Today's Deals

Find a Gift

Whole Foods

Books Kindle Books

Refresh your home

Industrial & Scientific

Lab

Test & Measurement

Safety

Janitorial & Facilities

Food Service

Education

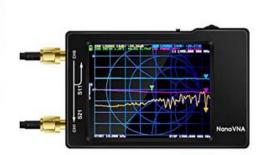
Material Handling

Materials

Metalworking

Electrical

Back to results



Roll over image to zoom in

【Upgraded】AURSINC Vector Network Analyzer 10KHz -1.5GHz HF VHF UHF Antenna Analyzer Measuring S Parameters, Voltage Standing Wave Ratio, Phase, Delay, Smith Chart(Latest Version REV3.4)

Brand: AURSINC

金金金金金 ~

155 ratings | 25 answered questions

Amazon's Choice

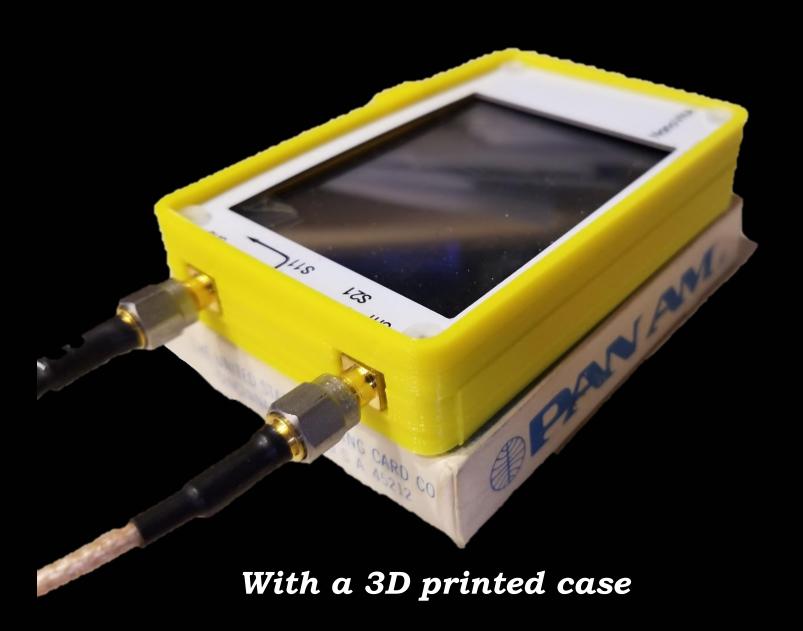
for "nano vna antenna analyzer"

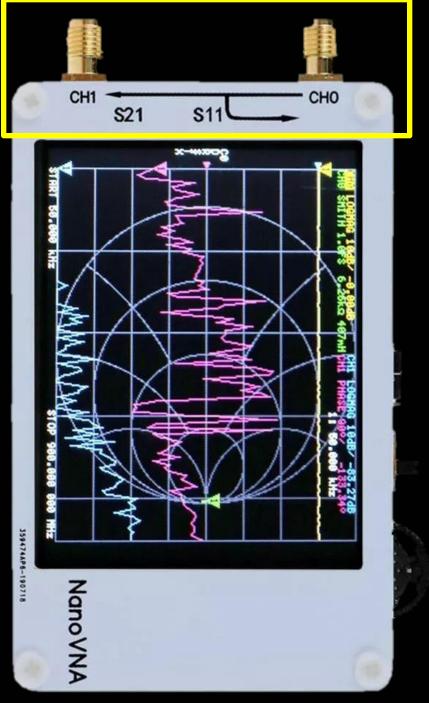
Price: \$69.98 & FREE Shipping. Details & FREE Returns

- IMPORTANT NOTE: Please order in SHY Store which is the only AURSINC authorized store. UPGRADED: Added battery circuit management, more secure. Redesigned PCB, you can connect to mobile phone with Type C-Type C cable(original PCB needs OTG cable), see a clear HD image on your phone. Designed a practical and simple control application on PC, you can download touchstone(SNP) files for radio design and simulation software. Added a case, which is protective and dust-proof.
- IMPROVED FREQUENCY ALGORITHM: The improved frequency algorithm can
 use the odd harmonic extension of si5351 to support the measurement
 frequency up to 1.5GHz. The 50K-300MHz frequency range of the si5351
 direct output provides better than 70dB dynamic, The extended
 300M-900MHz band provides better than 60dB of dynamics, and the
 900M-1.5GHz band is better than 40dB of dynamics
- MULTIPLE FUNCTIONS: The default firmware main function is used for

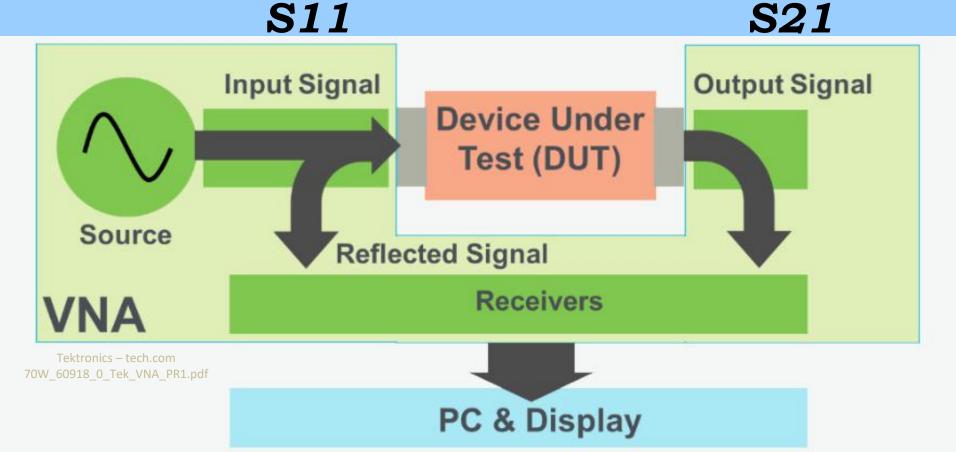


New and improved Vector Network Analyzer
10 KHz to 1.5 GHz



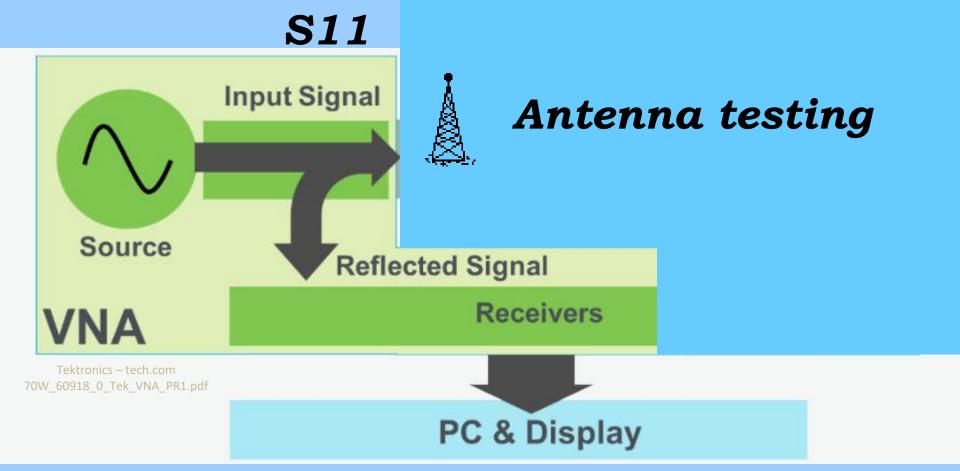


10/7/2020



Reflection S11
VSWR
Impedance
Admittance
Return Loss

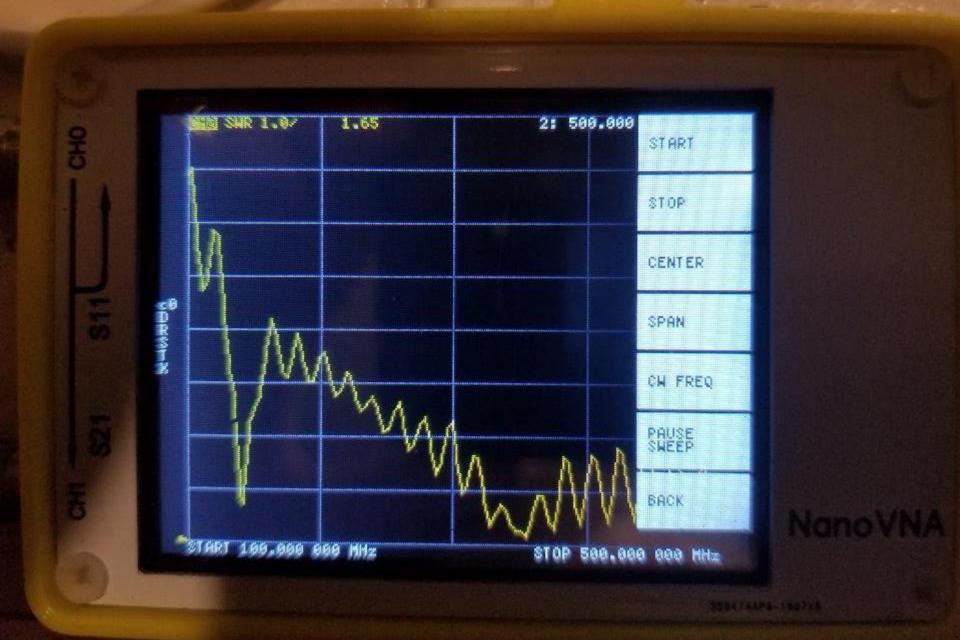
Transmission S21
Gain/Loss
(Insertion loss)
Phase
Group delay
(Delay time)



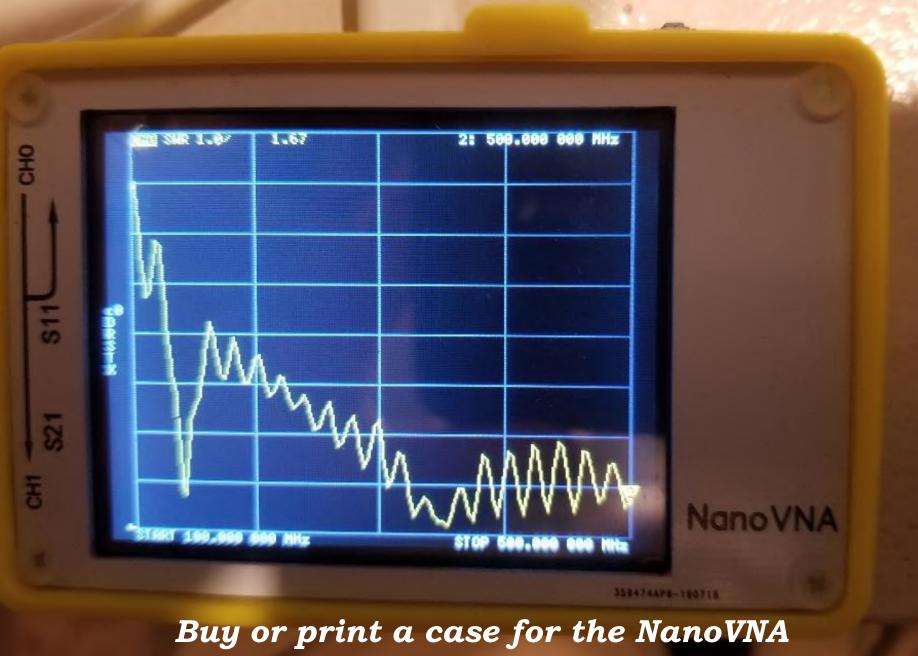
Reflection S11
VSWR
Impedance
Admittance
Return Loss

https://www.google.com/search?client=firefox-b-1-d&q=70W 60918 0 Tek VNA PR1.pdf

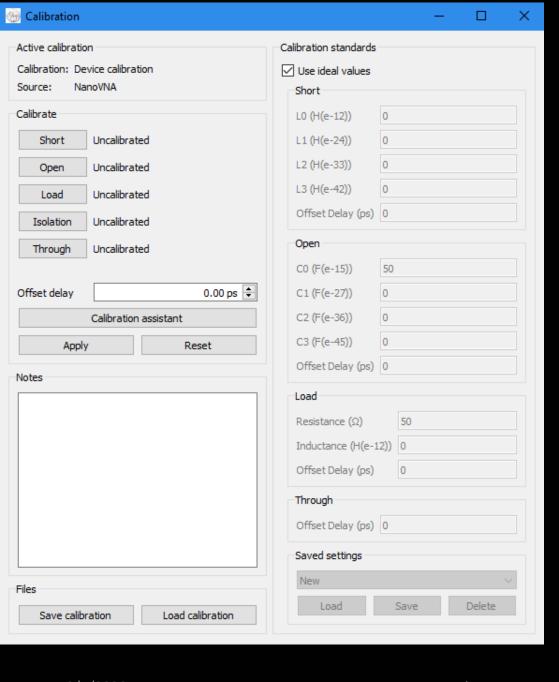
Difficult to control and select options



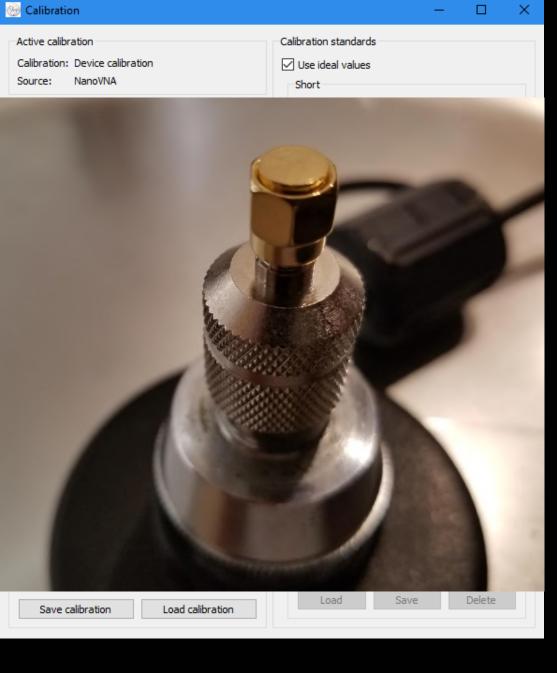
I use the free computer software which is much easier



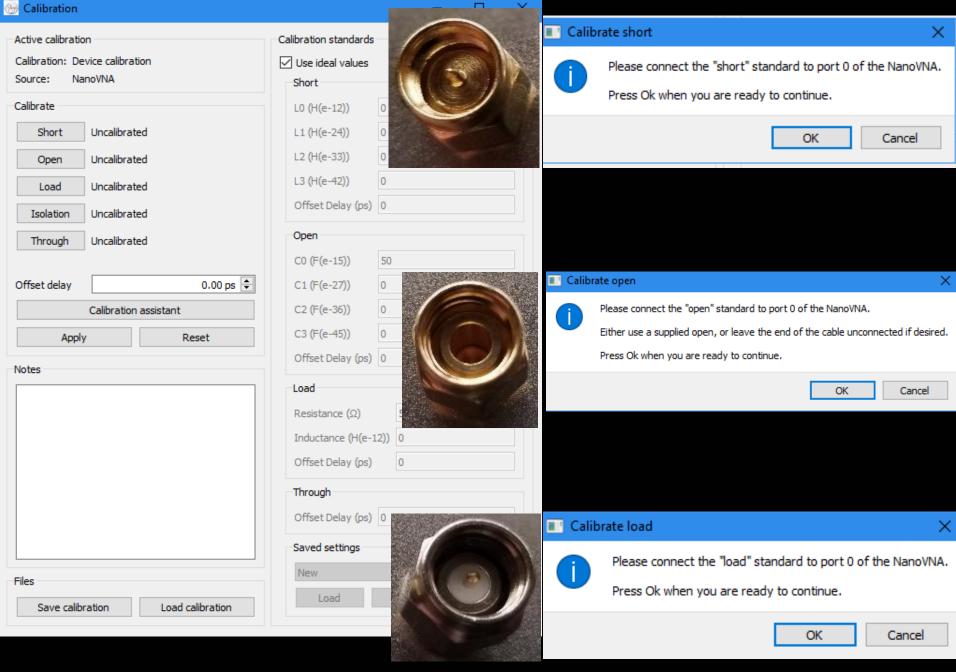




Calibration

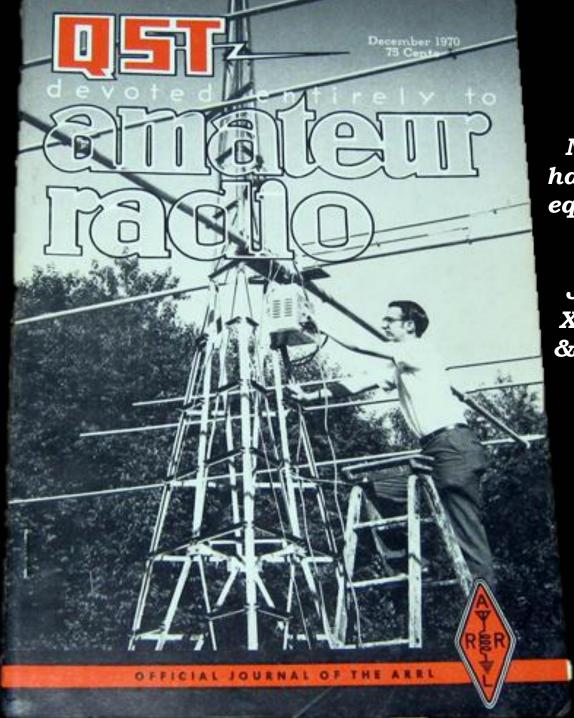


Calibration



 \Box

Screen prints

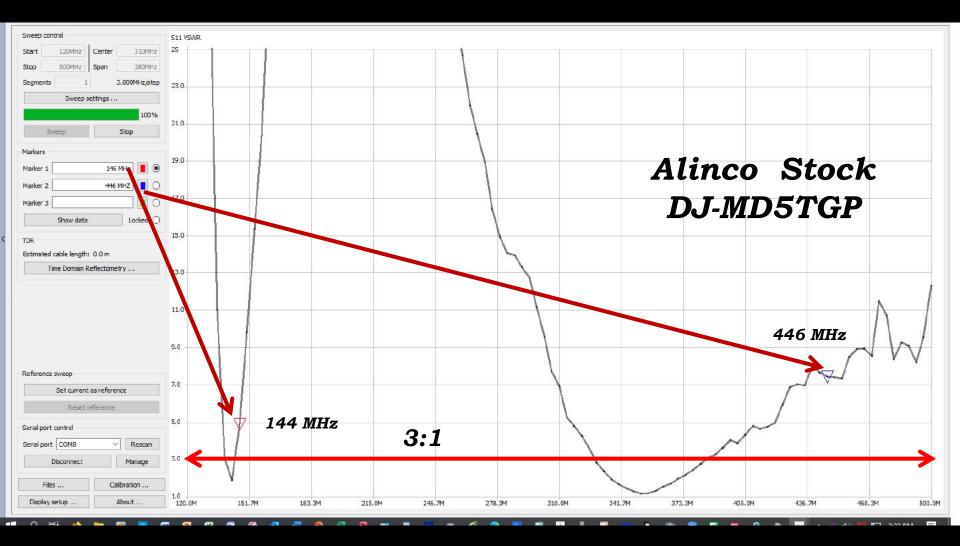


Now you don't have to bring the equipment to the antenna

Just calibrate
XX feet of coax
& hook it to the
antenna

Alinco
DJ-MD5TGP
dual band
DMR
handheld
stock antenna





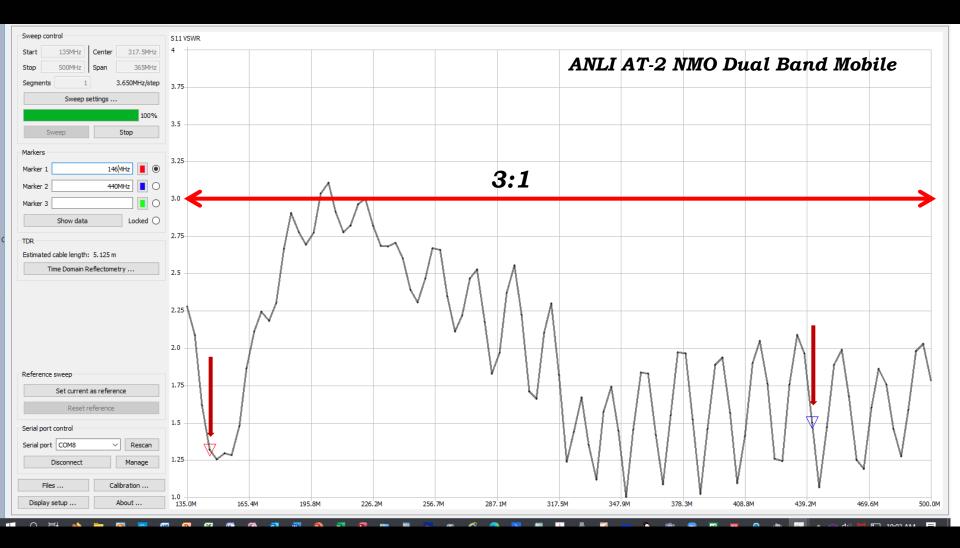


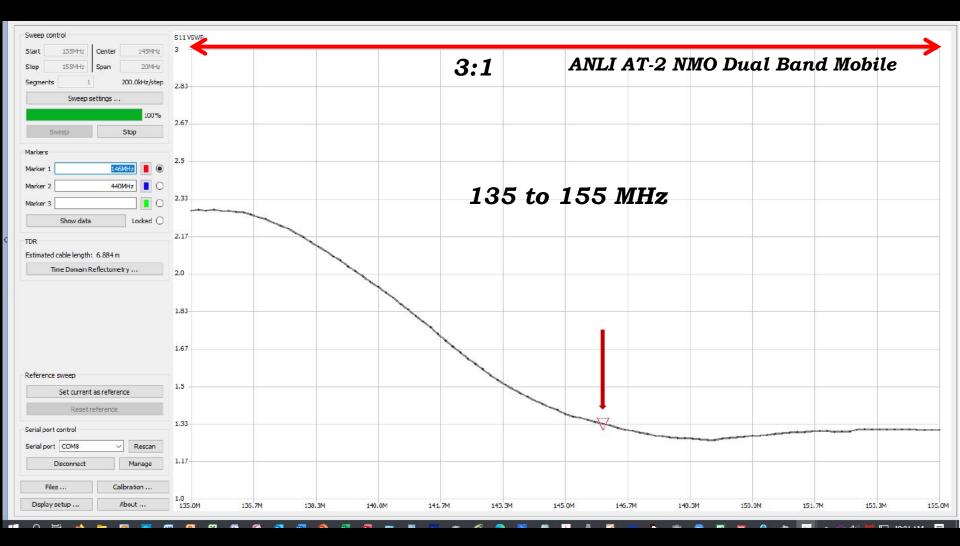
AT-2 NMO Dual Band

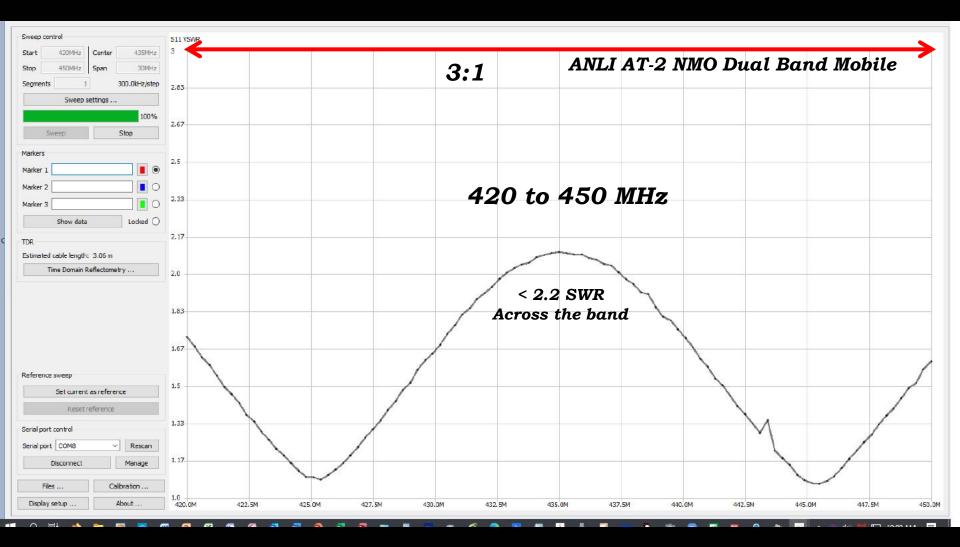
ANLI

Mobile





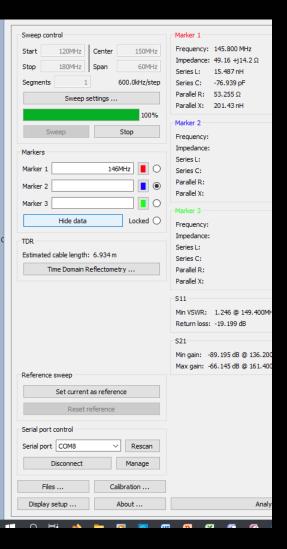


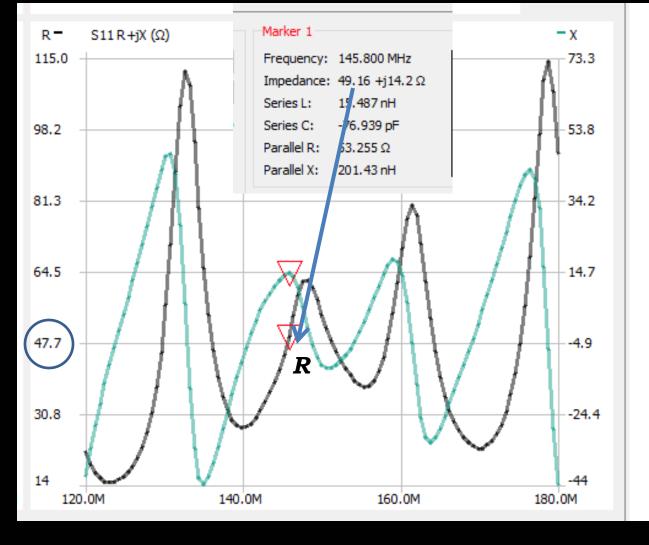




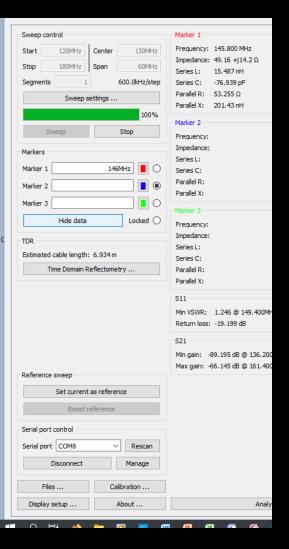
Other displays

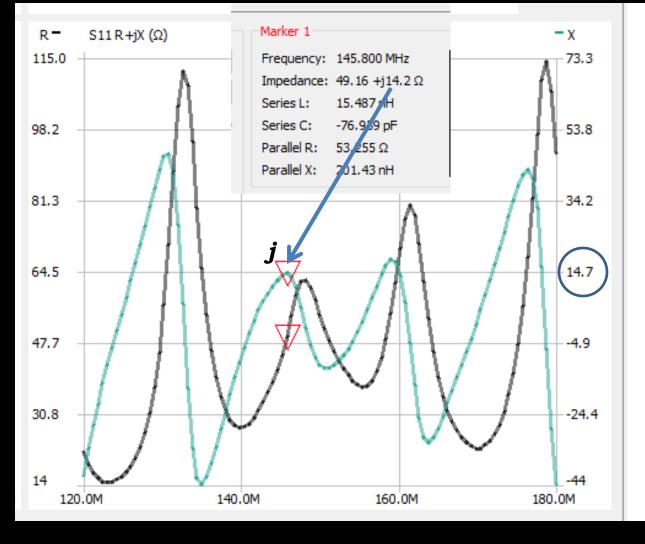
22 different displays available





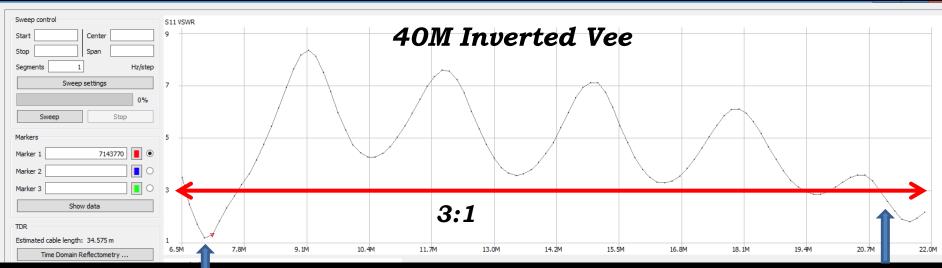
 $R \pm jX$



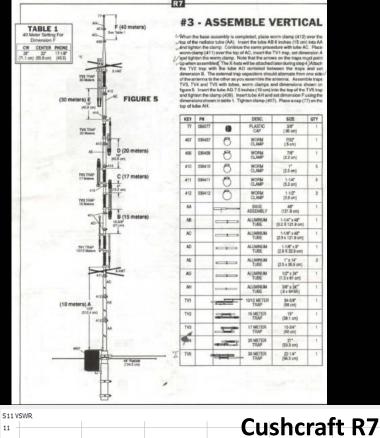


 $R \pm jX$

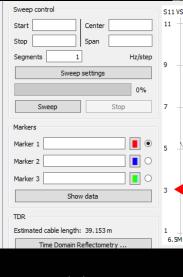




21,450



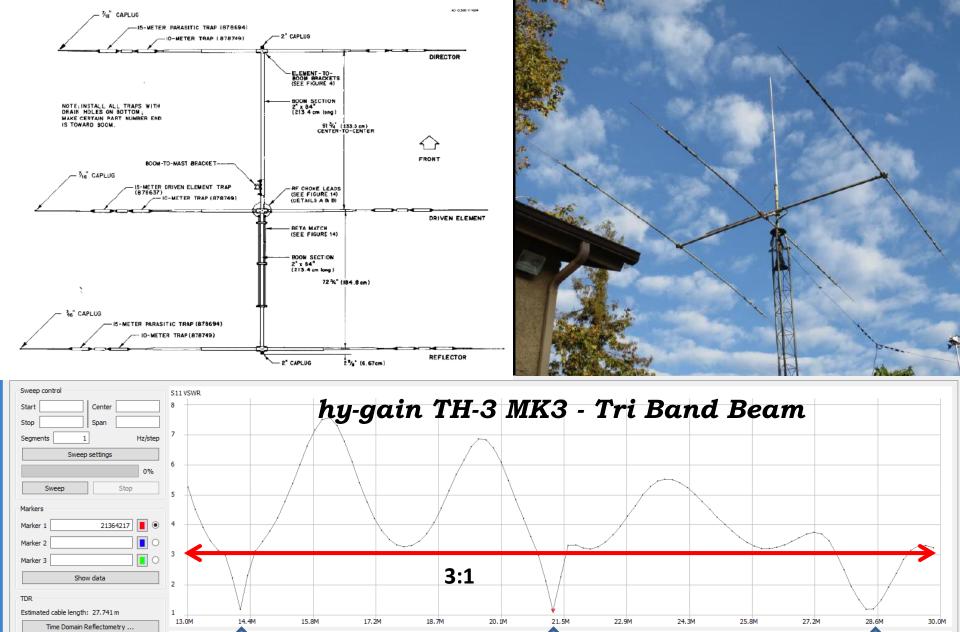


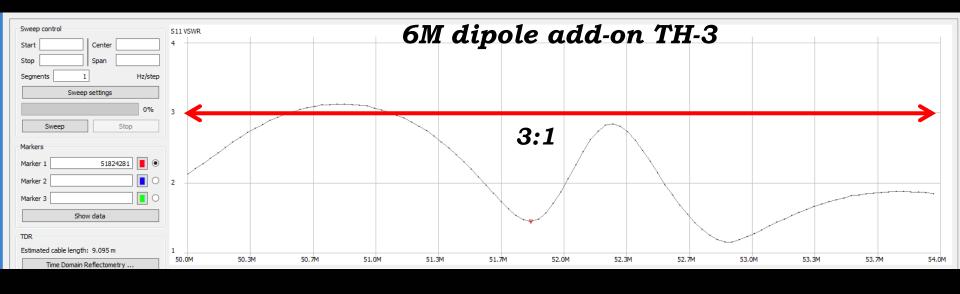


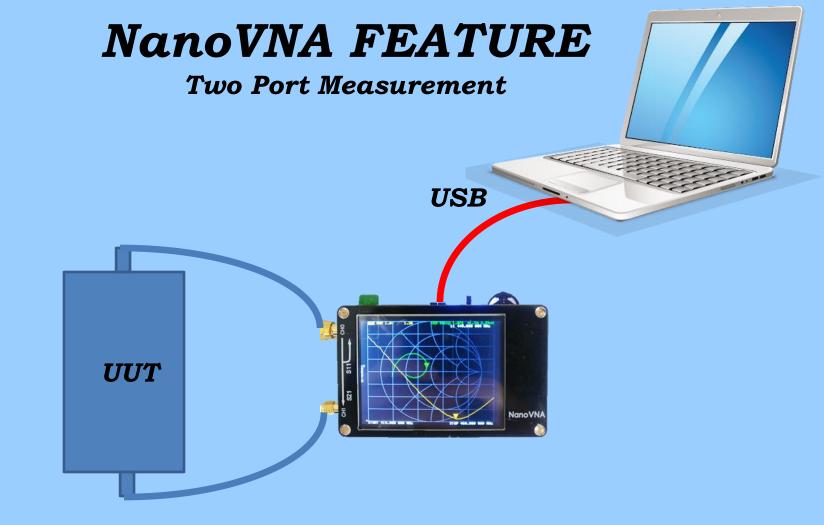
8.5M

3:1

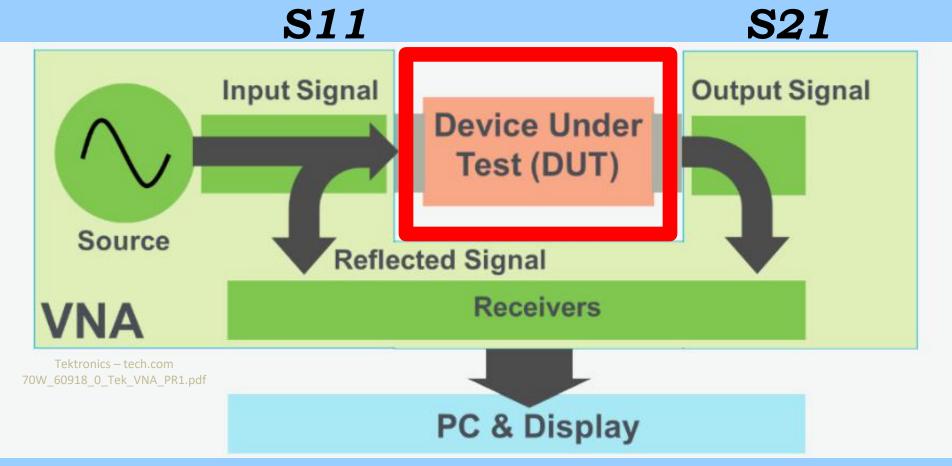
16.3M







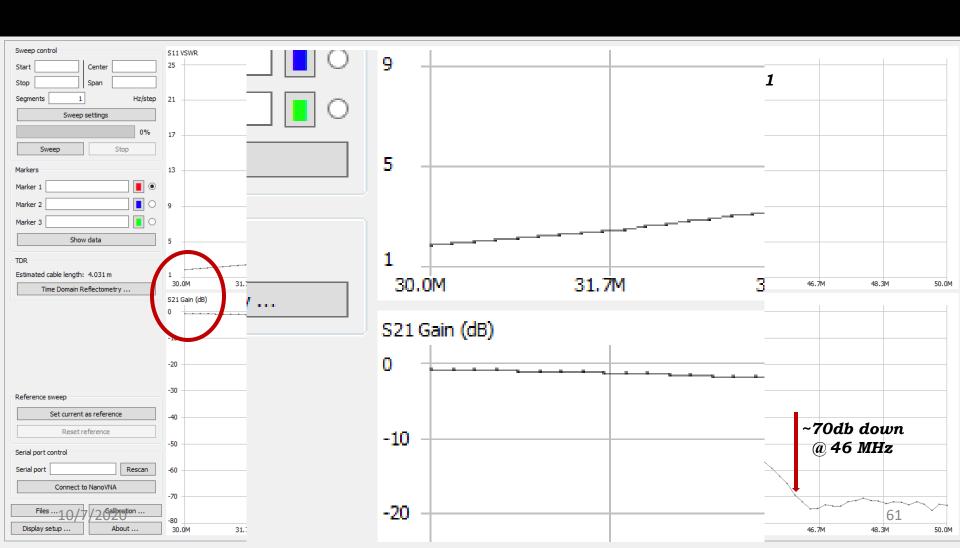
Unit Under Test



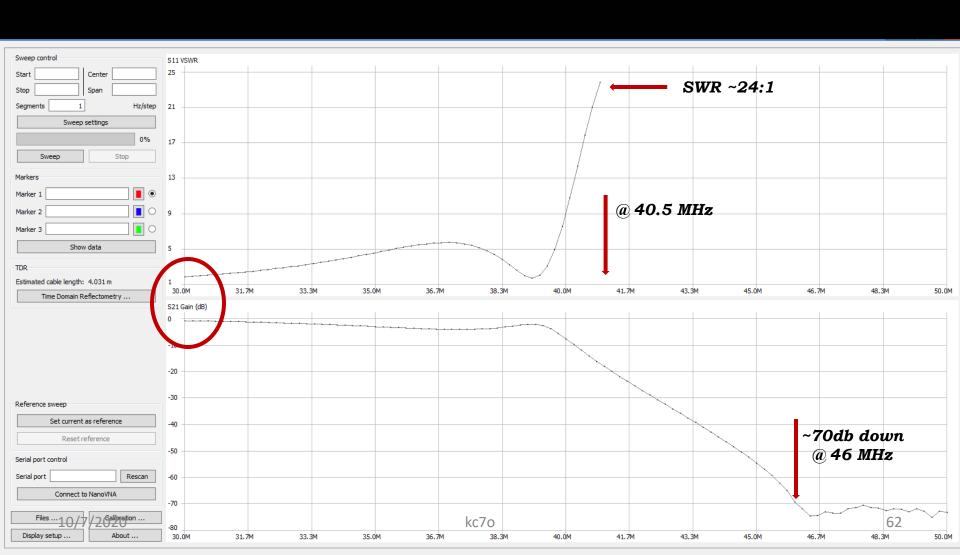
Transmission S21
Gain/Loss
(Insertion loss)
Phase
Group delay
(Delay time)



Electrical characteristics of attenuation against frequency (i.e. - this case, 30 to 50 MHz of a HF low pass filter)

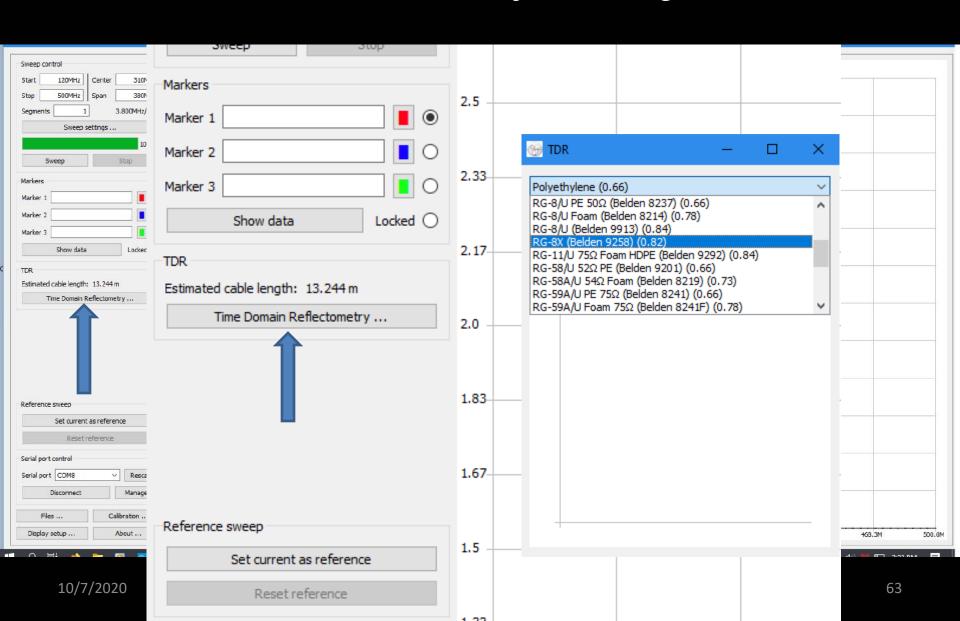


Electrical characteristics of attenuation against frequency (i.e. - this case, 30 to 50 MHz of a HF low pass filter)



Another NanoVNA FEATURE

Time Domain Reflectometry



Summary

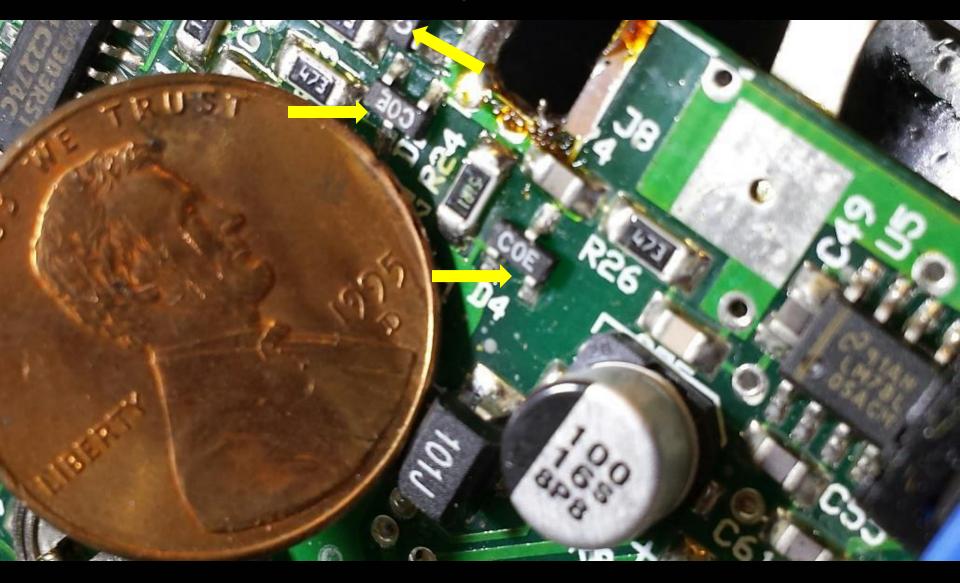
- CB / old manual SWR bridges
 - One frequency at a time
 - Uses the transmitter therefore RFI
 - No external power needed
 - \$10 ± at swap meets
- Antenna analyzers
 - Portable
 - Able to manually sweep a band looking for minimum SWR
 - Uses batteries
 - Use external battery or DC supply
 - to prevent battery leakage







Sensitive to Static & High RF – Blown SMD Diodes



Summary (continued)

Scanning One Port VNA (MFJ-226)

- -1 230 MHz
 - 1 Hz resolution
- Handy uses 2 AA batteries
- Saves results for download
- Portable



- 50 KHz to 900 MHz (newer models)
- Portable with rechargeable battery
- Small but very hard to use manually
- Easy to use with a computer
- Measure characteristics of devices like filters

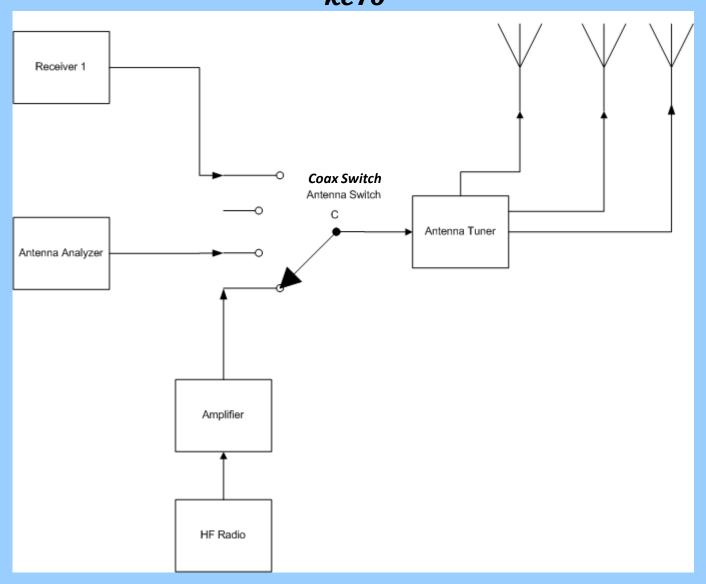




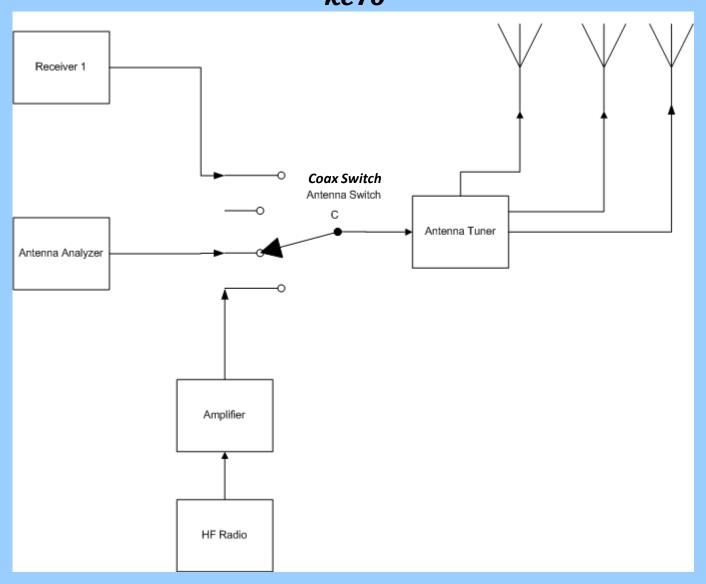
- So, what do you need?
- It depends
- For the average HF / VHF user probably an Antenna Analyzer
 - For HF and 2 Meters
 - Adjust an antenna tuner



Use a coax switch with good isolation to put an antenna analyzer in place of the radio to tune antenna tuners kc7o



Use a coax switch with good isolation to put an antenna analyzer in place of the radio to tune antenna tuners kc7o



- So, what do you need?
- It depends
- For the average HF / VHF user probably an Antenna Analyzer
 - For HF and 2 Meters
 - Adjust an antenna tuner
 - Cheap (used)



 Over the years I have used all of the above and will keep them all in my tool kit