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On-Chip Transmission Line Study and Its Application to Integrated Electromagnetic Noise Suppressor
Masahiro Yamaguchi*, Shoichi Kobayashi, Yutaka Shimada, and Yasushi Endo
Department of Electrical and Communication Engineering, Tohoku University
6-6-05 Aoba, Aramaki, Sendai 980-8579, Japan
*Corresponding author: e-mail: yamaguti@ecei.tohoku.ac.jp

Thin-film transmission lines with less-than-10 μm-wide narrow signal line were designed and obtained utilizing silicon chip fabrication service with 0.15-0.18 μm design rule. Typically the service offers 0.5-2 μm thick four or five metal layers, which gives large design freedom to complete coplanar line, microstrip line, shielded coplanar line, etc. These transmission lines can be used for generating RF magnetic field to study the dynamics of nanoscale magnetic materials, spintronic structures and innovative new devices including electromagnetic noise suppressor [1], [2]. On the other hand, there is a strict design restriction that the materials used in the test chip, their physical parameters and their thickness are all given and cannot be modified. All the design restriction are adjusted to obtain a 2mm-long coplanar line with 8 μm-wide signal line. It exhibited a constant characteristic impedance up to 20 GHz. Basic properties of coplanar lines and microstrip lines with different design have been studied. Then a FeFeOx composite material [3] was dropped onto the CPW and the S parameters were measured using on-wafer probes technique. The measured insertion loss was as small as 0.15 dB at 1 GHz and 4.8 dB at 20 GHz, demonstrating the usefulness for a noise suppressor. The magnetic composite is also useful for electromagnetic shielding. The composite was dipped on to a package-open micro processor chip (HD64F3694FX, Renesas Technology, Co.) to the thickness of about 200 μm to be applied to magnetic near field measurement, as shown in Fig. 1. The detected peaks were successfully attenuated by 3.0-6.7 dB in the frequency range of 40 MHz-2.0 GHz.

This work is in part supported by Strategic Information and Communications R&D Promotion Programme (SCOPE), Ministry of Internal Affairs and Communications, Japan, and R&D Center for Integrated Microsystems, Tohoku University, funded by Special Coordination Funds for Promoting Science and Technology, JST/MEXT, Japan.

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EC02

Development of Integrated Magnetic Thin Film Devices for RF Applications
Toshio Sato*, Makoto Sonehara, Kazutaka Takizawa, Hidetoshi Nakayama
1Spin Device Technology Center, Shinshu University, Wakasaiko, Nagano, 380-8553, Japan
2Currently, R&D Center, TOSHIBA Corporation, Saiwai-Ku, Kawasaki, 212-8582, Japan
3Currently, Nagano National College of Technology, Tokumura, Nagano, 380-8550, Japan
*Corresponding author: e-mail: sato@yslab.shinshu-u.ac.jp

In recent years, various microwave applications of soft magnetic thin film such as integrated RF magnetic thin film inductor [1], [2] and integrated magnetic thin film transmission-line device [3], have been reported. The authors are currently developing the integrated magnetic devices into CSP (Chip Size Package) RF-ICs as shown in Fig. 1. The CSP is fabricated after semiconductor process, and the magnetic device process is compatible to the CSP except magnetic thin film deposition. Therefore an addition of magnetic thin film can be miniaturized the CSP RF-ICs. As one of the integrated magnetic devices for CSP RF-IC, the authors have developed a wideband CoFeB/Polyimide thin film directional coupler for cellular phones [4]. The newly coupled consists of a pair of coupler lines (main and sub line) with enhanced magnetic coupling through the lower CoFeB amorphous magnetic thin film, and Polyimide MIM (Metal/Insulator/Metal) capacitors located in four ports for electric field coupling between main and sub line. In the new coupler, magnetic field coupling and electric field coupling are nearly independent each other. The coupler operated under non resonance mode and exhibited an insertion loss of below 0.5dB, coupling factor of -24 to -14 dB and isolation of below -25 dB, which were satisfied in the wide frequency range of 0.6 to 2.4 GHz.

REFERENCES