

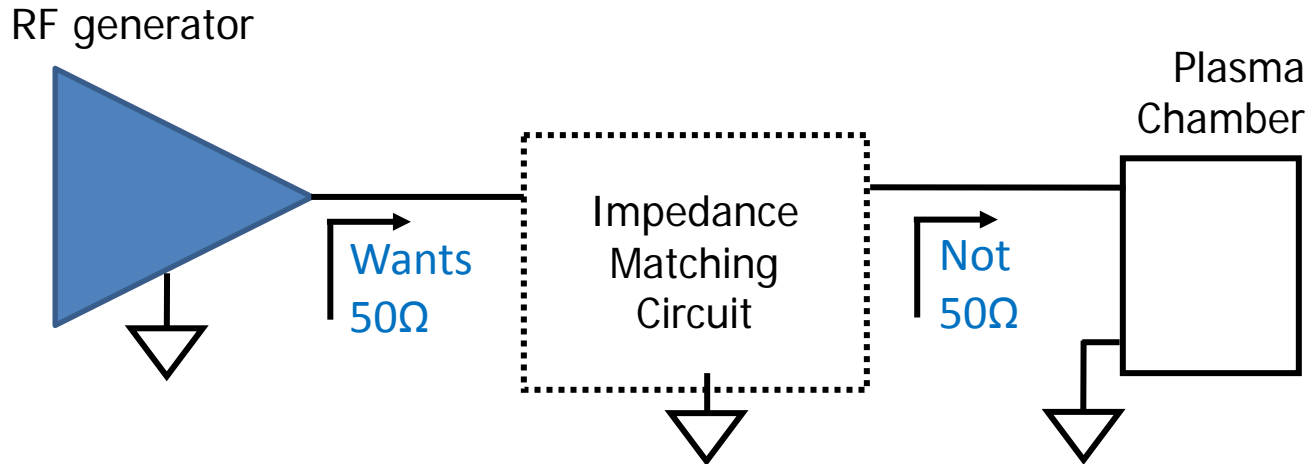
Adaptation d'impédance et mesure de signaux RF

Impedance Matching and RF Signal Measurement

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Why do I need impedance matching?



- RF generators/amplifiers need to « see » their own characteristic impedance to :
 - Enable maximum power transfer (efficiently use amplifier)
 - Minimize back-reflected power (possibly damage amplifier)
- Plasma reactors are far from 50Ω
 - CCPs appear as large capacitors in series with small resistance
 - ICPs look like inductors

Outline

- Impedance Matching
 - Smith Chart
 - Using Smith Chart to understand matchboxes
- Practical Matchbox
 - Identifying components
 - Changing matchbox performance
- RF Signal Measurement
 - Useful measurements
 - How to interpret

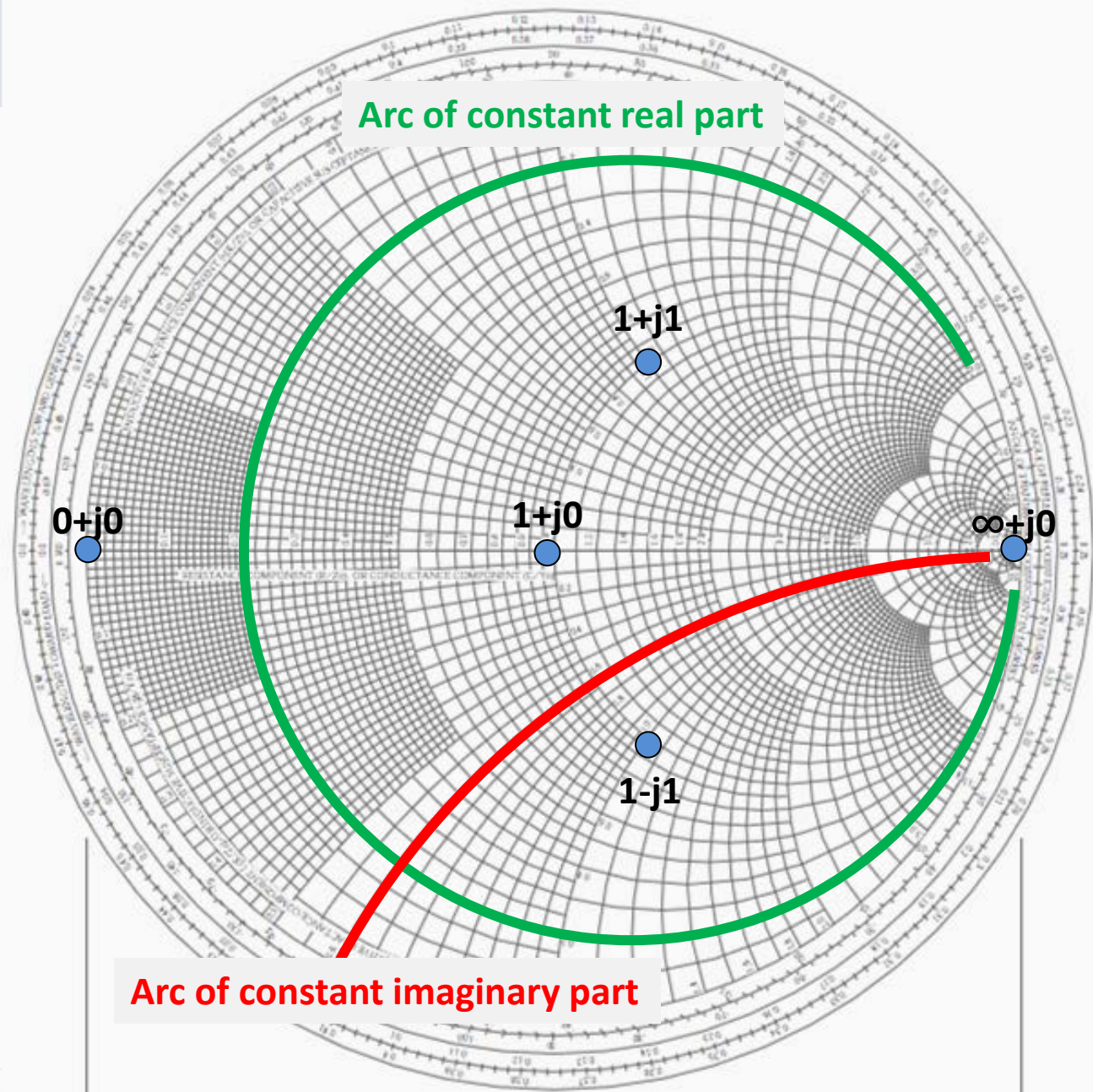
The Smith Chart

Maps imaginary numbers onto a series of circles.

For us, these are electrical impedances and admittances.

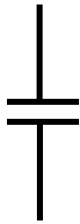
Normalized to the characteristic impedance Z_0 (normally 50 or 100 ohm), $z=Z/Z_0$

Handy property:
inverting number ($y=1/z$)
is just a reflection through the origin.



The Smith Chart

Each component has a frequency dependent impedance and admittance.



$$Z=1/j\omega C$$

$$Y=j\omega C$$



$$Z=j\omega L$$

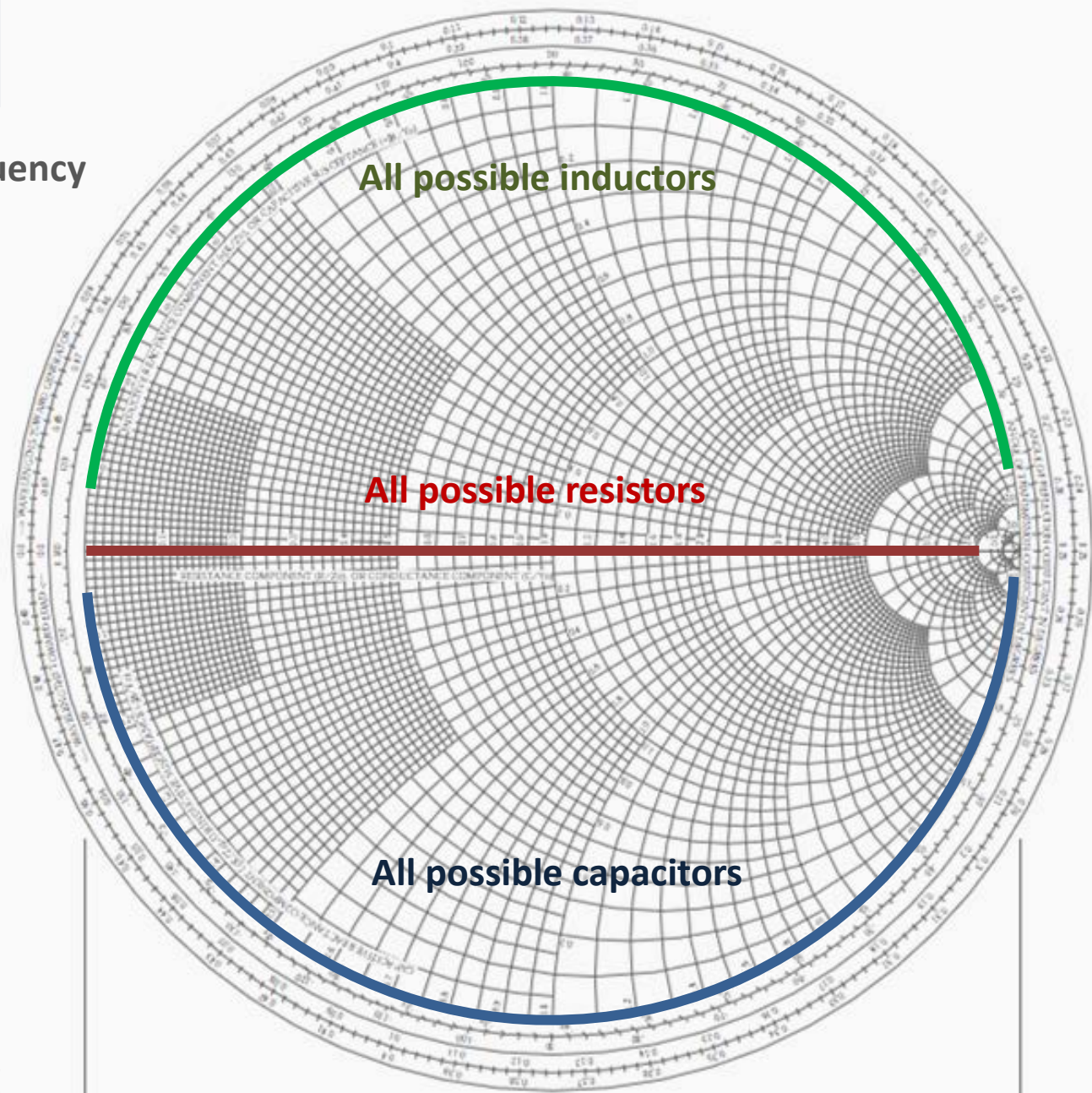
$$Y=1/j\omega L$$



$$Z=R$$

$$Y=1/R$$

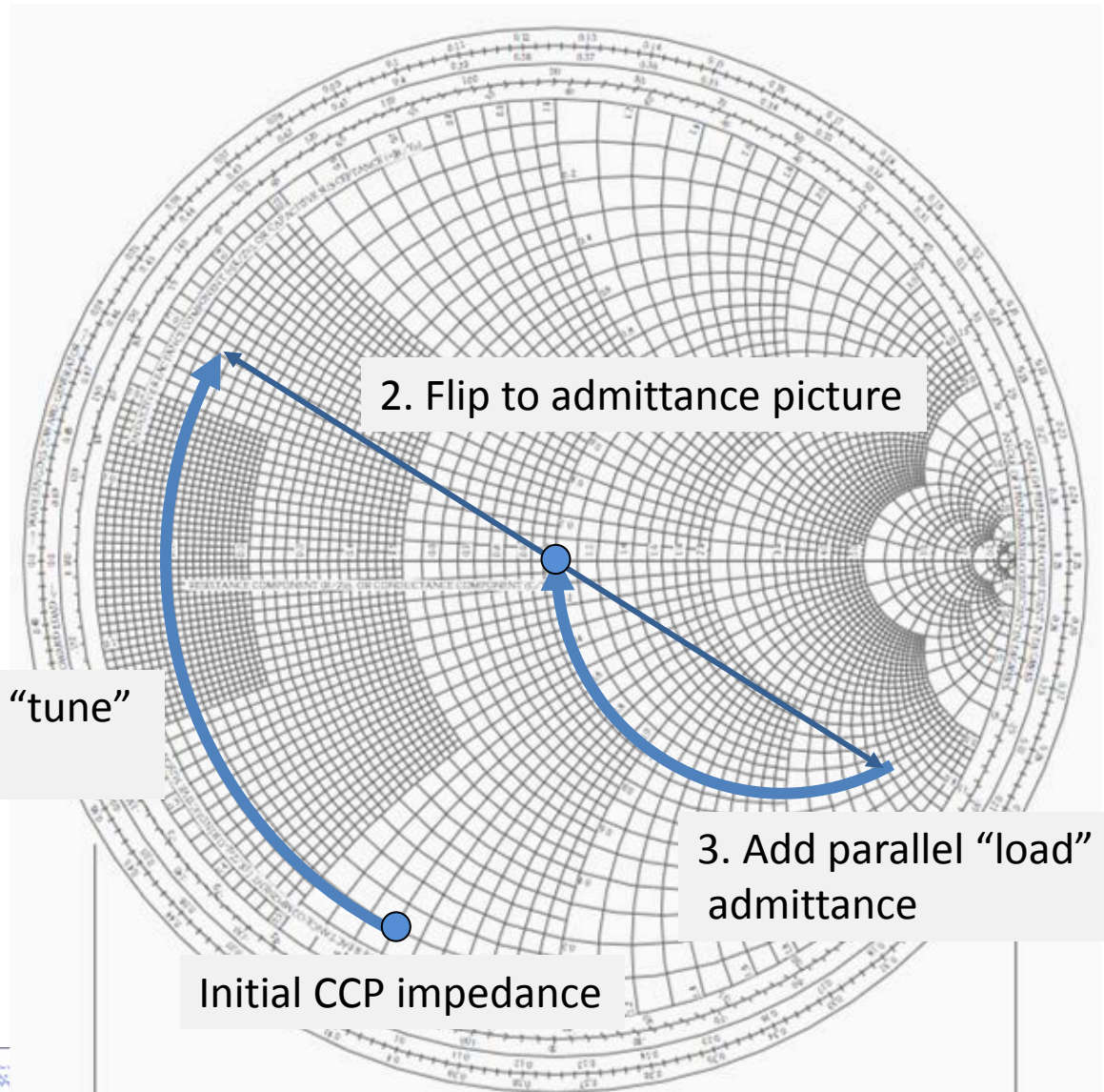
Can also map combinations of components



Adjusting reactor impedance

Initial reactor impedance is far from 1 (the origin)

Adding components in series and parallel to the reactor changes the position on the Smith chart.



1. Add series "tune" impedance

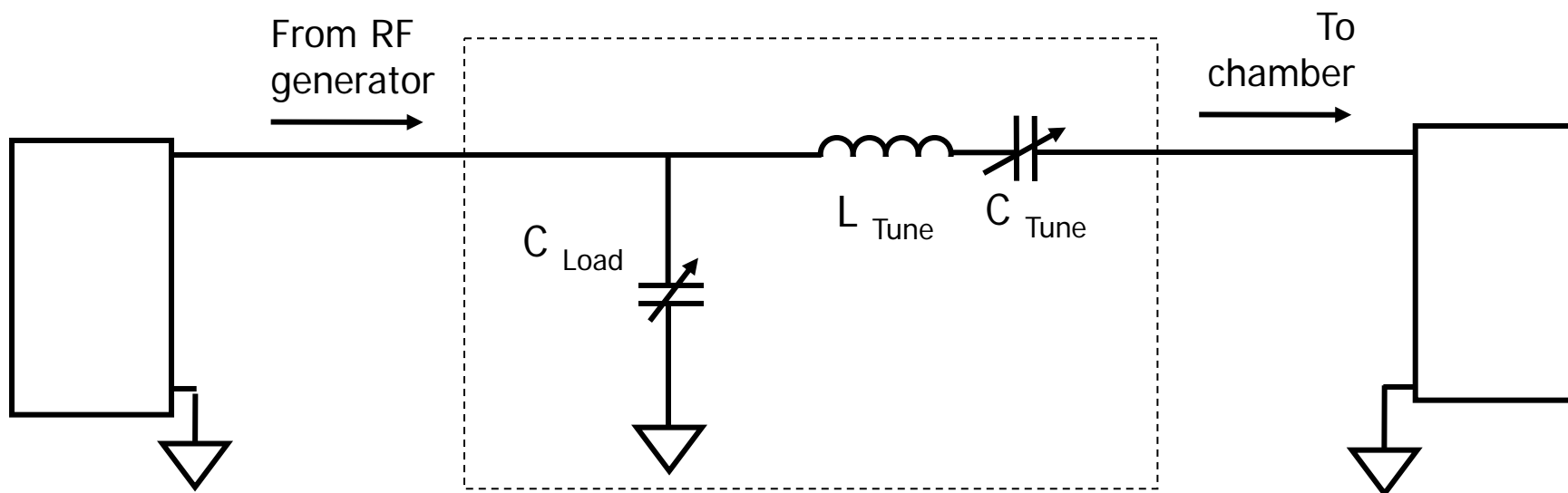
2. Flip to admittance picture

3. Add parallel "load" admittance

Initial CCP impedance

Circuit for Frequency Matching

- Tune circuit is typically an inductor with a variable capacitor
- Load circuit is a varicap (with fixed capacitors in parallel)
- It is harder to fabricate a variable inductor.

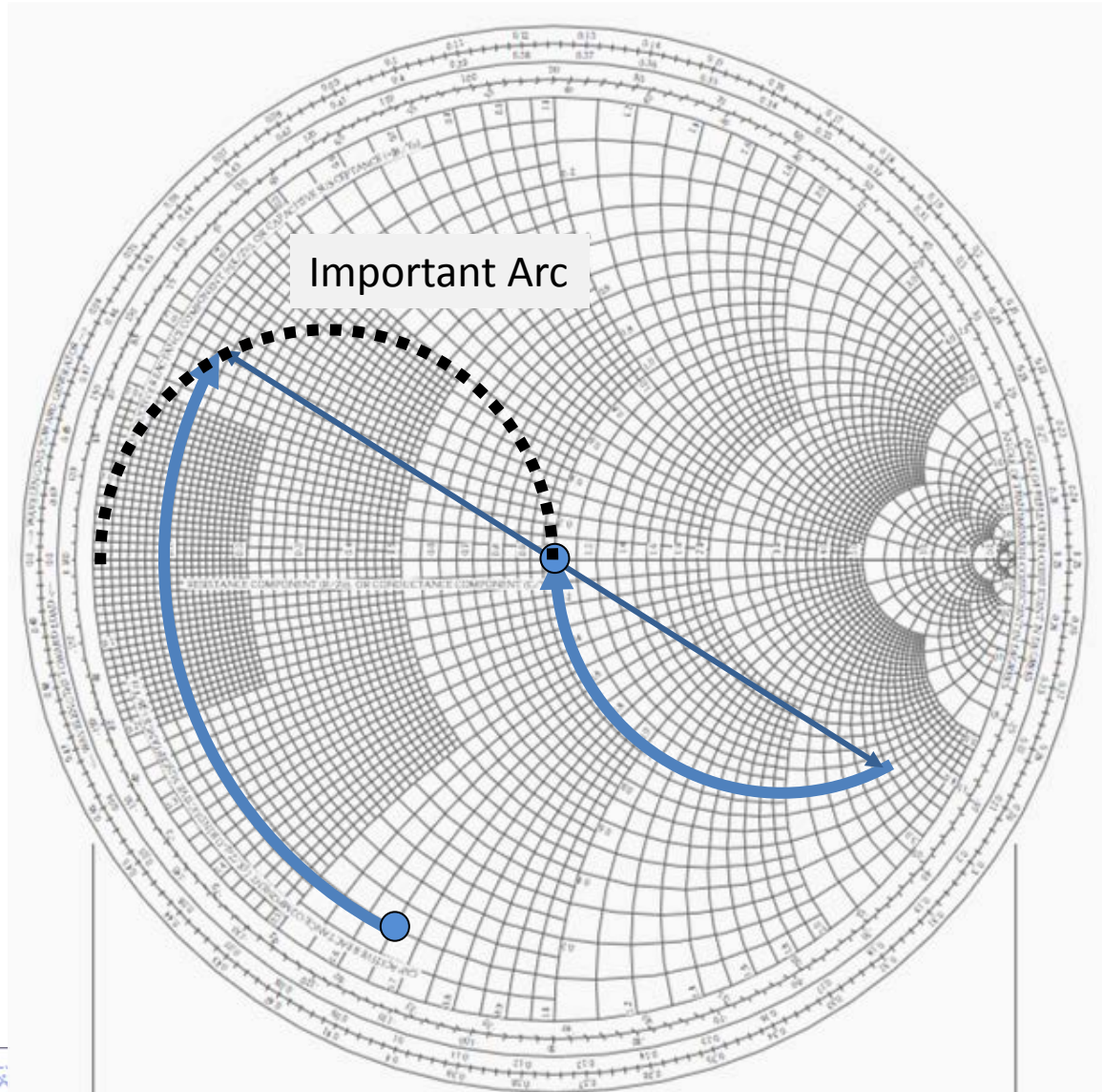


Adjusting reactor impedance

There is an important arc on the Smith chart: normalized impedances that, when flipped into admittances, have a real part (conductance) of unity and a negative imaginary part (susceptance).

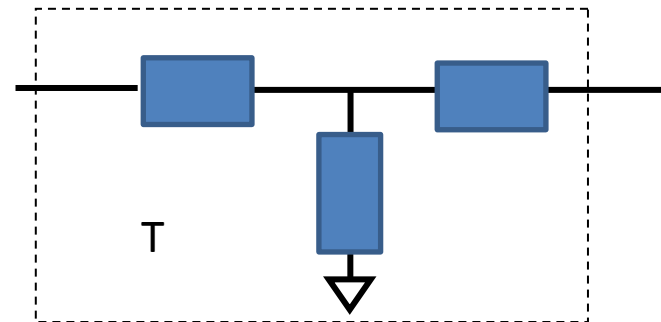
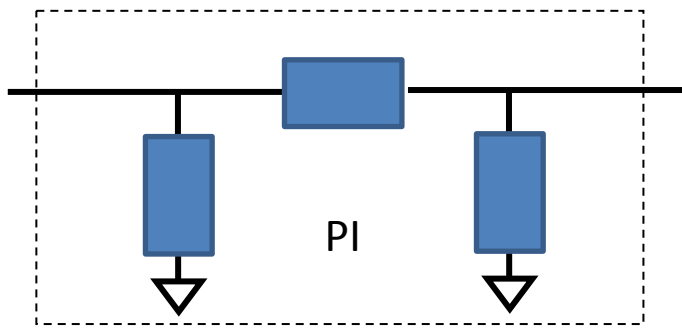
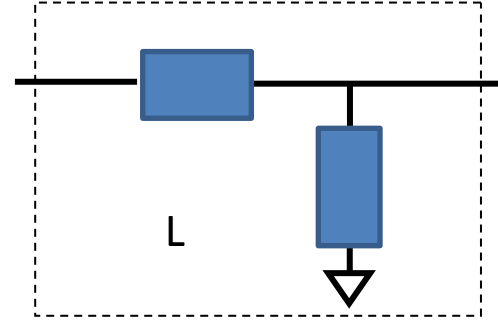
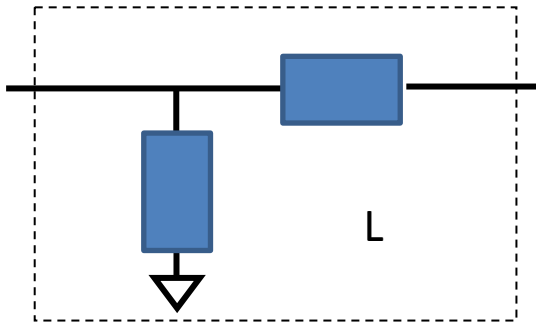
$$1/z = 1 - jb$$

If adjusting tune circuit cannot get reactor onto this arc, it cannot be matched.



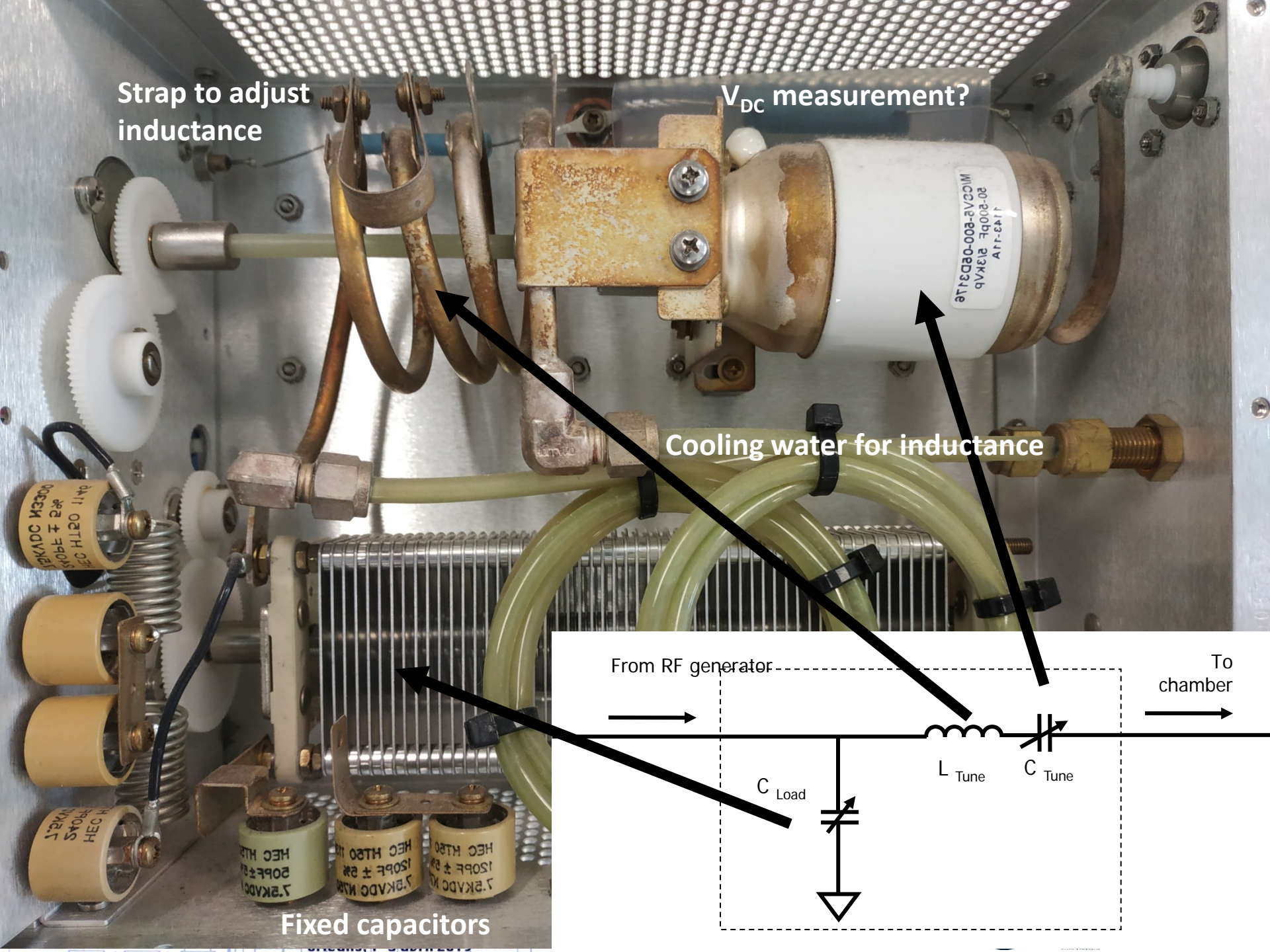
Different Layouts

- So far, I have shown the L (or gamma) configuration
- Could also be used backwards for high resistance loads
- Only one solution for matching (so bandwidth is predetermined)
- Pi or T configurations give greater design control over bandwidth



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Strap to adjust inductance

V_{DC} measurement?

Cooling water for inductance

Fixed capacitors

From RF generator

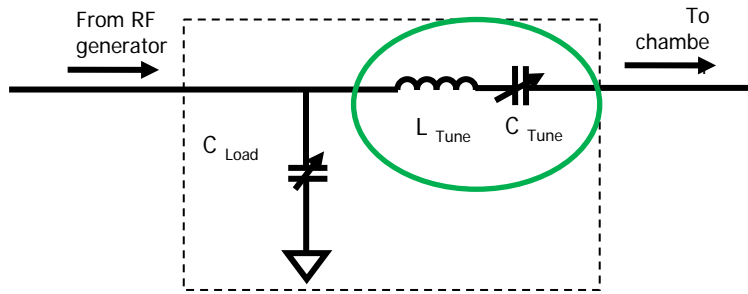
To chamber

C_{Load}

L_{Tune}

C_{Tune}

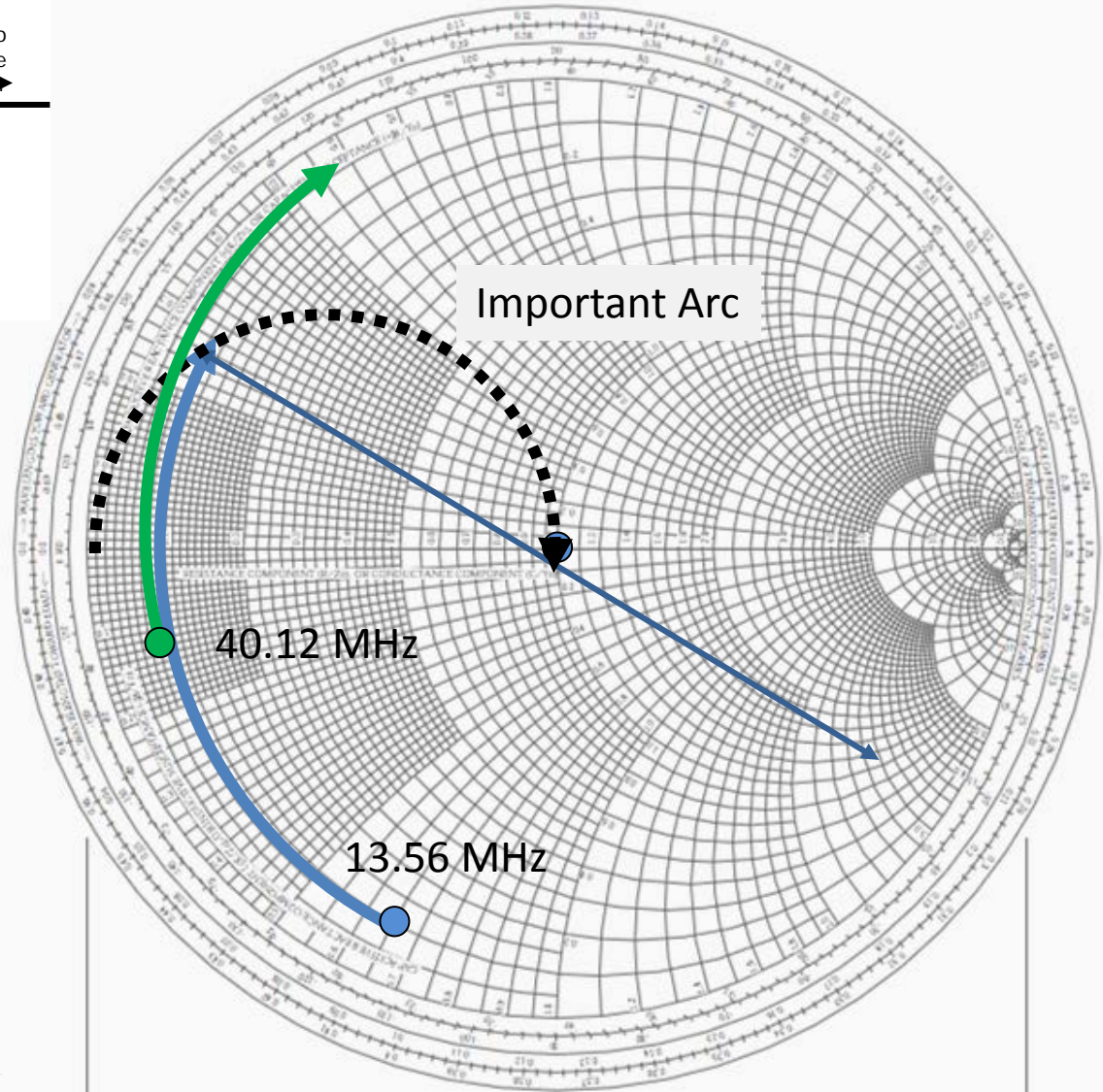
Modifying components - Tune



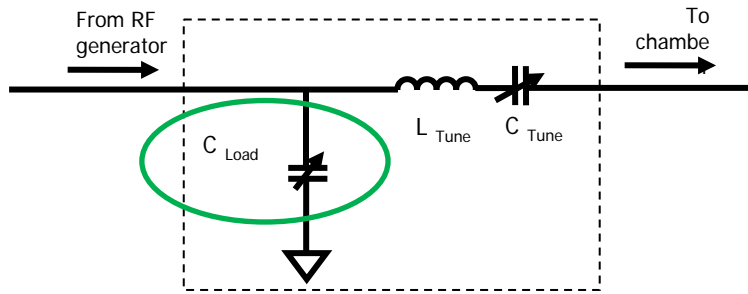
At higher frequencies, system reactance will get less negative.

$Z=j\omega L$ in Tune will get bigger, may make matching impossible

Will want to reduce value of L (strapping)



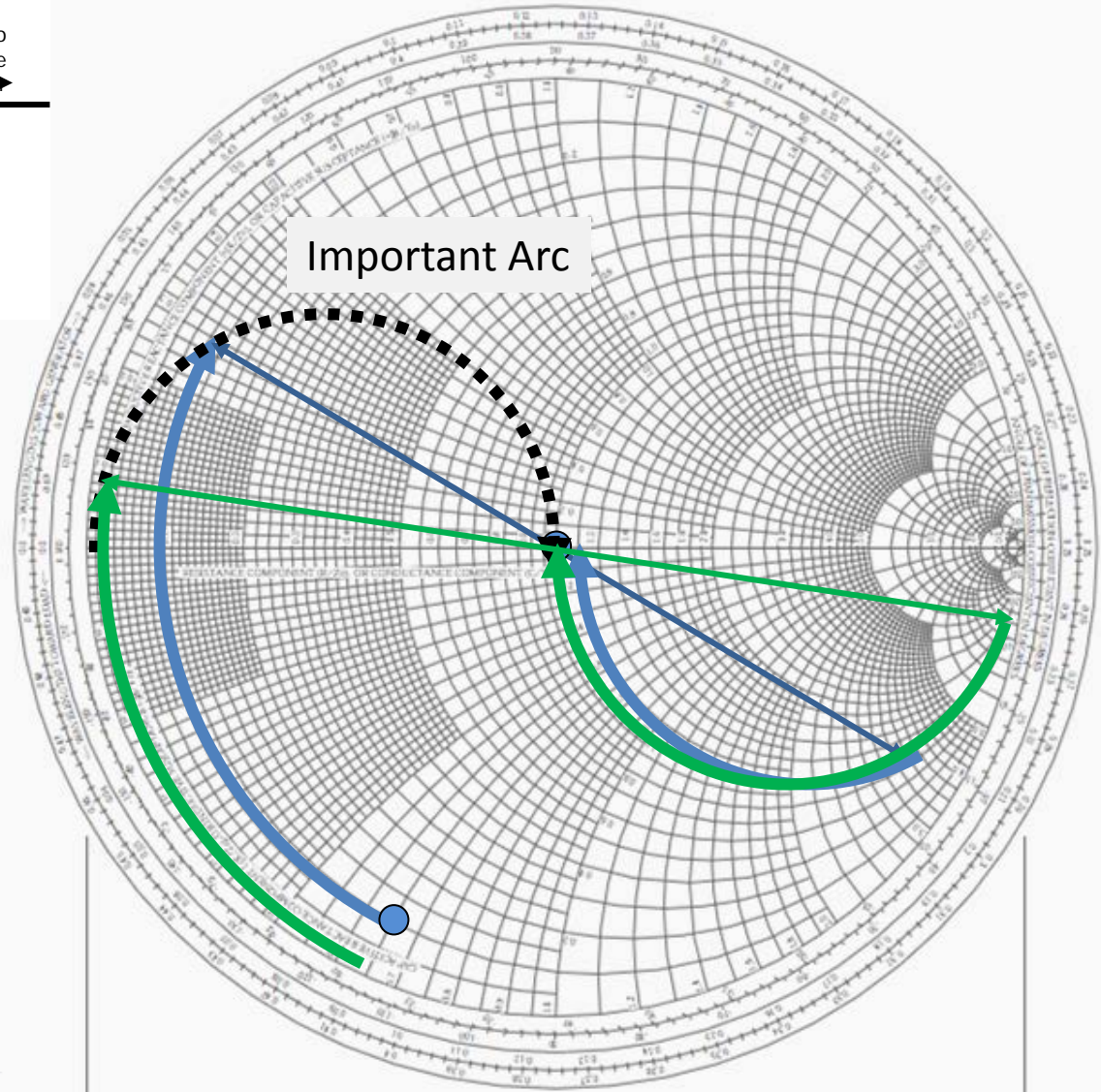
Modifying components - Load



Less resistive reactors will require a higher $Y=jB$ in the load branch to get to the origin

$Y=j\omega C$, so a larger value of C

We can add in those fixed capacitors

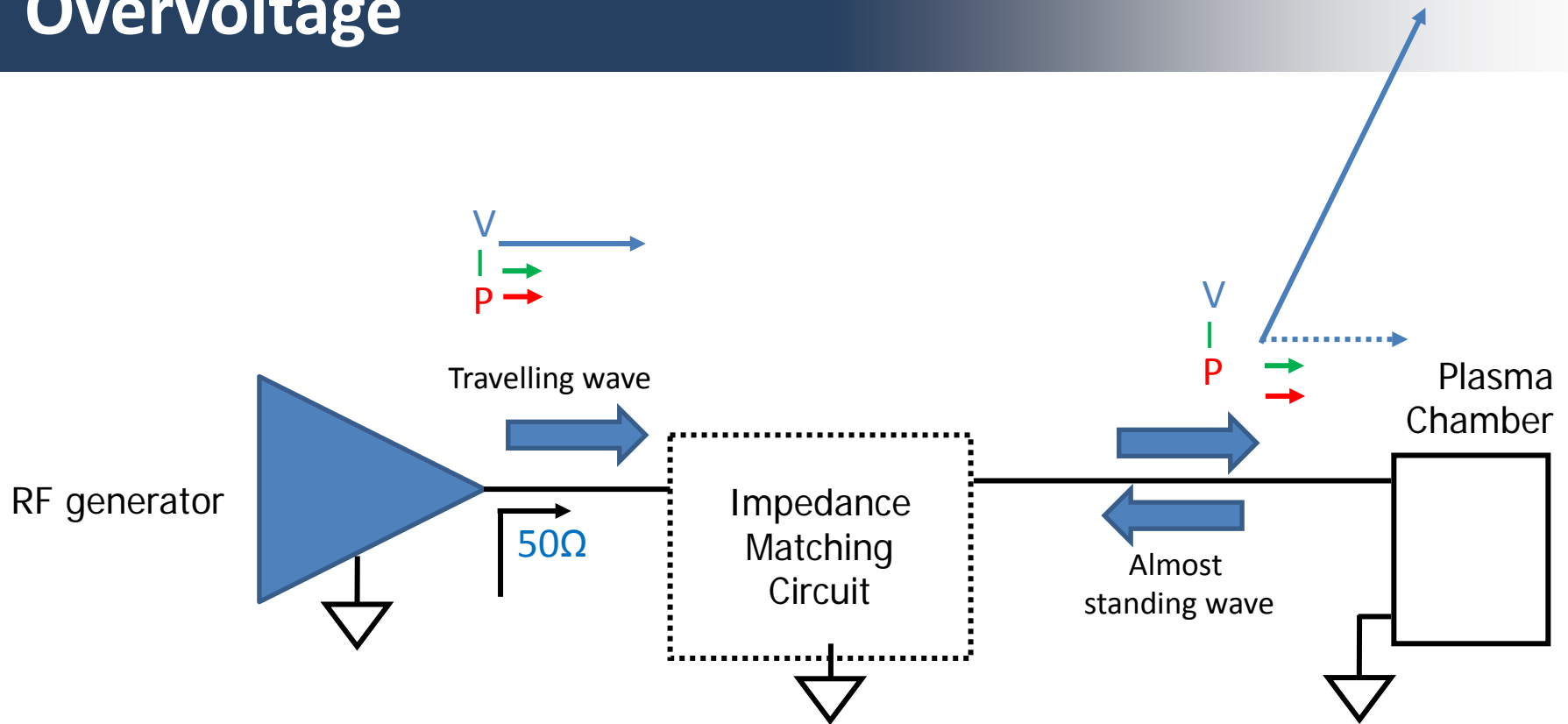


Why is this one a vacuum capacitor?

And this one can be air?



Overvoltage



On amplifier side, voltage and current are in phase and give a certain power

On chamber side, they are almost out of phase – much higher voltage for similar power

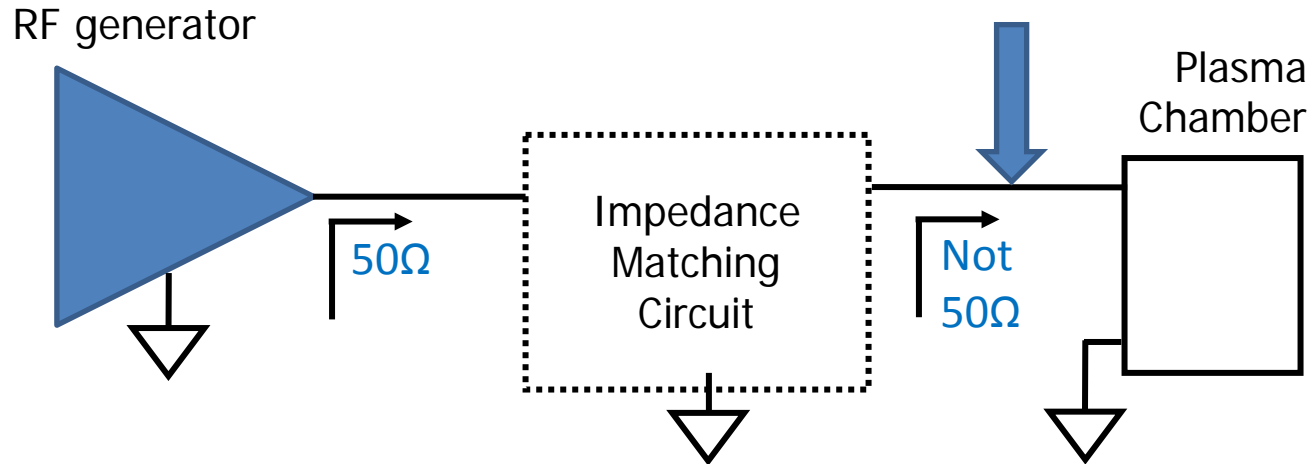
Due to counterpropagating waves after matchbox

Magnitude of voltage on plasma side is much larger than on generator side

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RF Signal Measurement



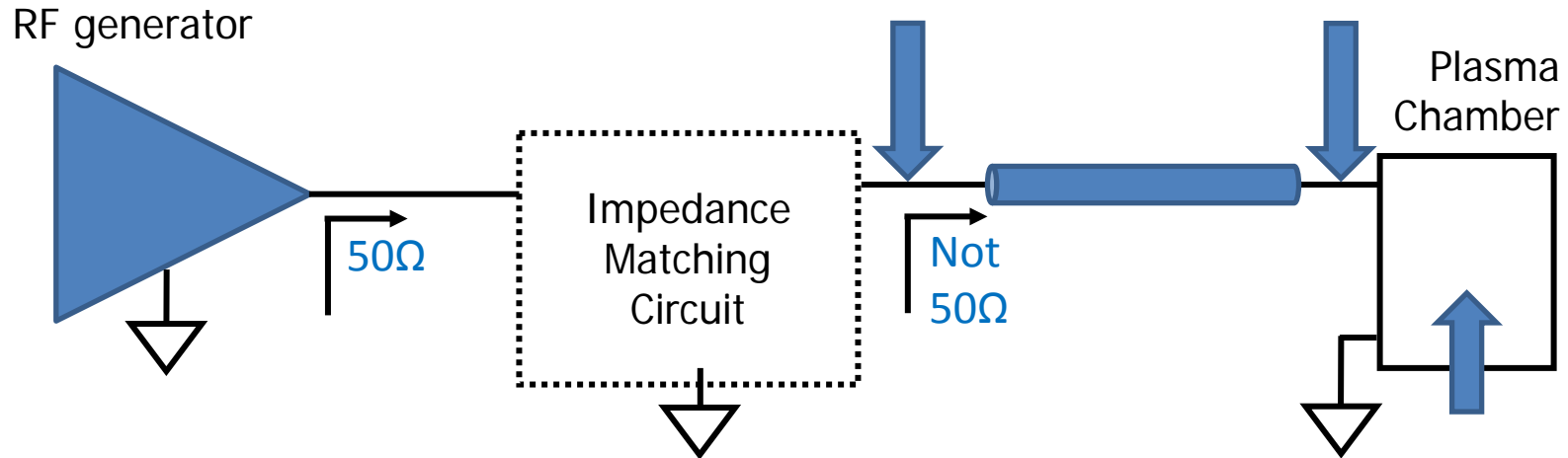
Information at input of matchbox typically provided by amplifier/power source (coupled power).

Accurate, but incorrect

Does not account for losses in the matchbox/cables/feedthroughs.

Measurement close to plasma can be more valuable

RF Signal Measurement



If cable is low-loss, power measurements can be the same everywhere on reactor side

On reactor side, a large standing wave is present.

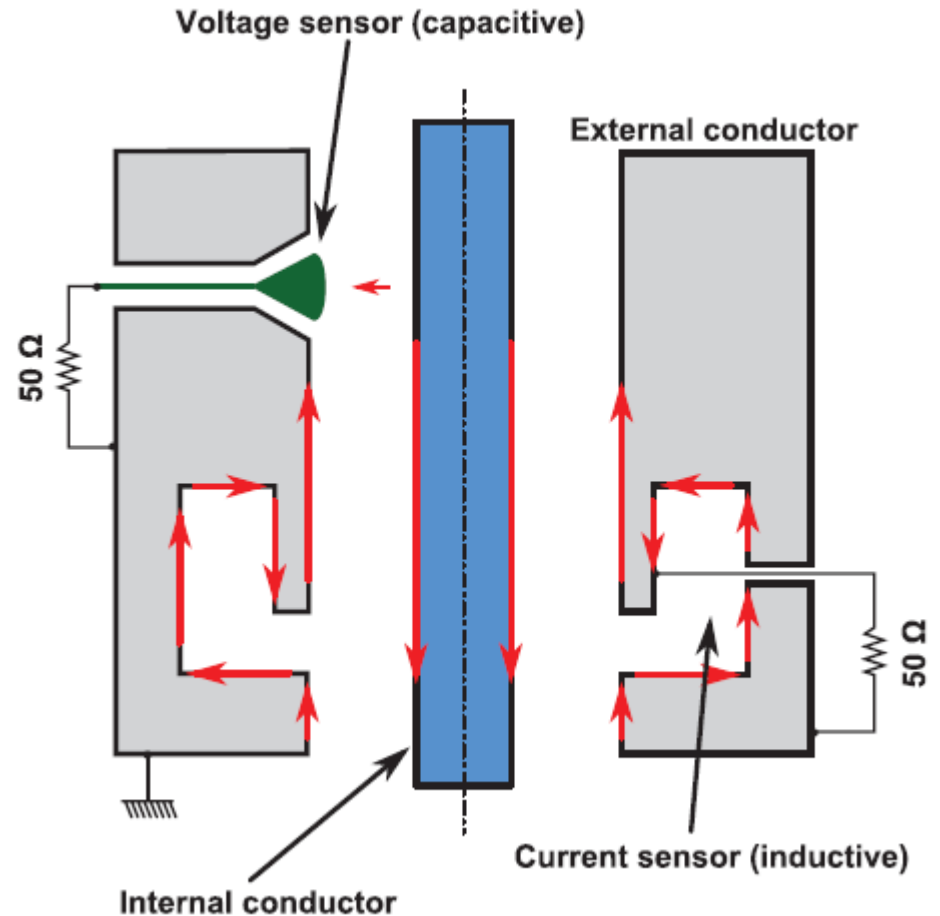
Values of current and voltage can depend strongly on position.

Closer to the electrode is better.

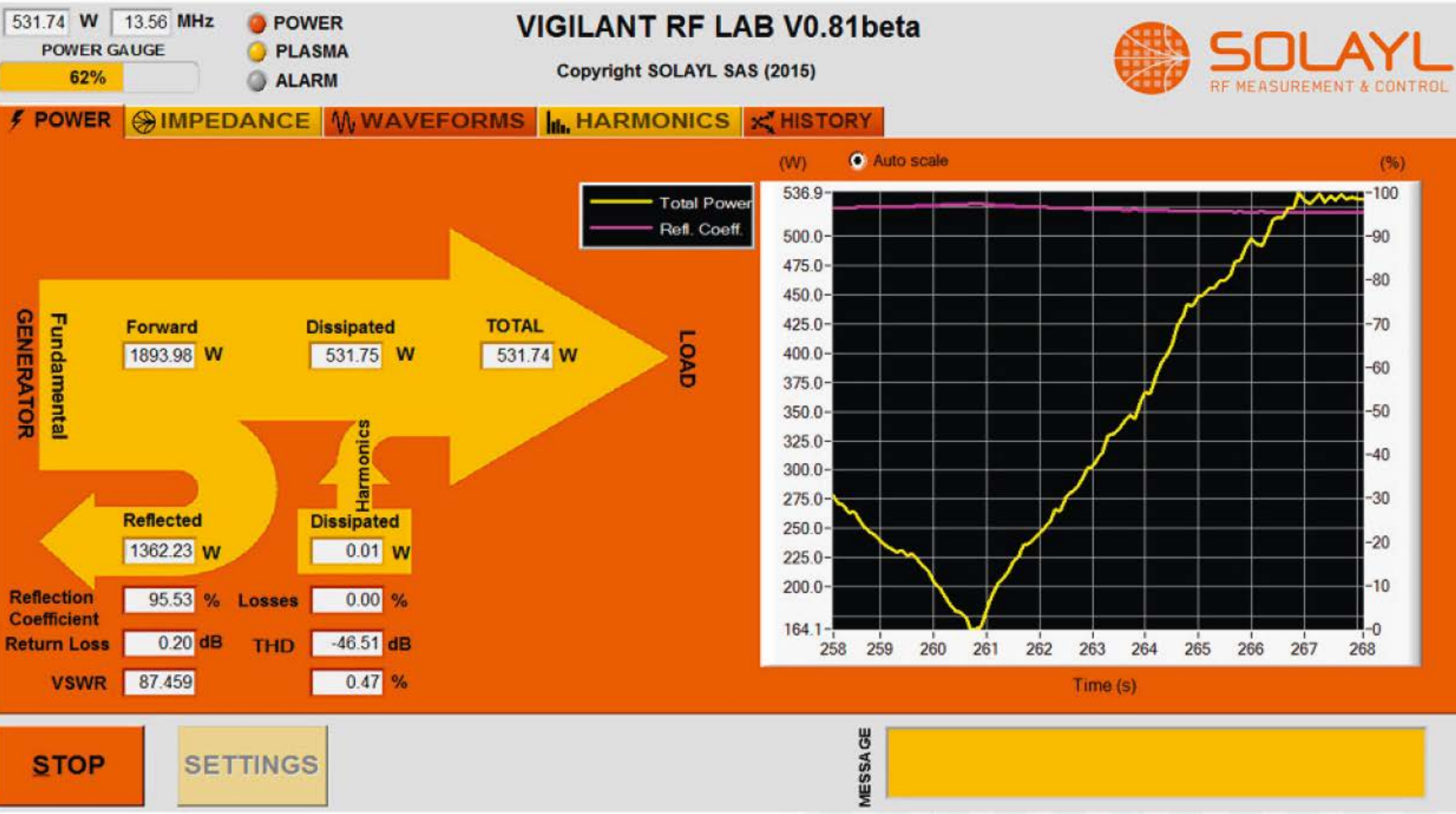
SOLAYL Probe

Shape of external conductor results in capacitive and inductive pickups.

Generates two signals proportional to the derivative of the current and voltage.



Data provided by SOLAYL Vigilant



Data provided by SOLAYL Vigilant

462.08 W 13.56 MHz

POWER GAUGE

59%

- POWER
- PLASMA
- ALARM

VIGILANT RF LAB V0.81beta

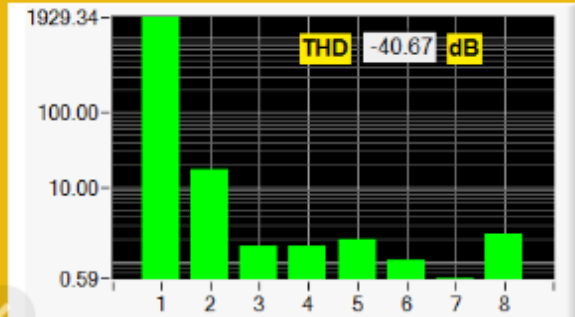
Copyright SOLAYL SAS (2015)



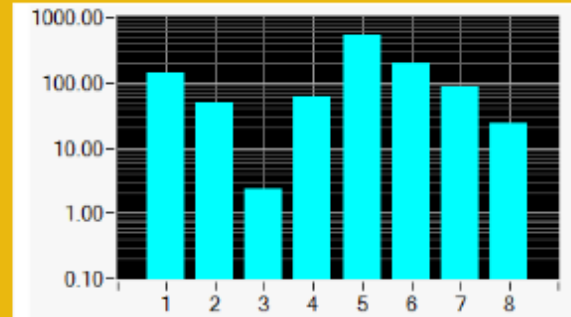
SOLAYL
RF MEASUREMENT & CONTROL

- ⚡ POWER
- ⚙️ IMPEDANCE
- 📡 WAVEFORMS
- 📊 HARMONICS
- 📜 HISTORY

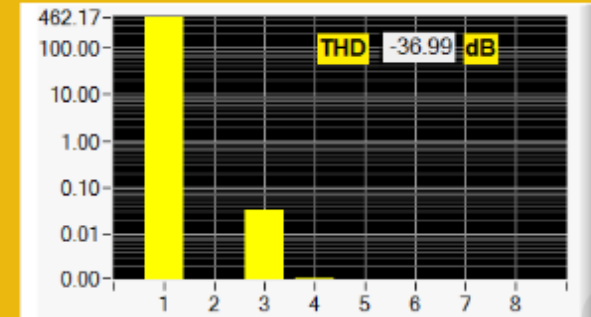
Voltage amplitude (V)



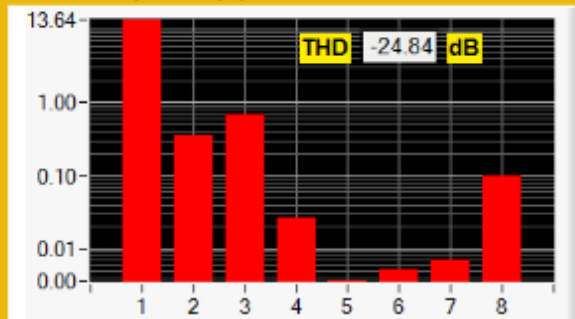
Impedance (Ω)



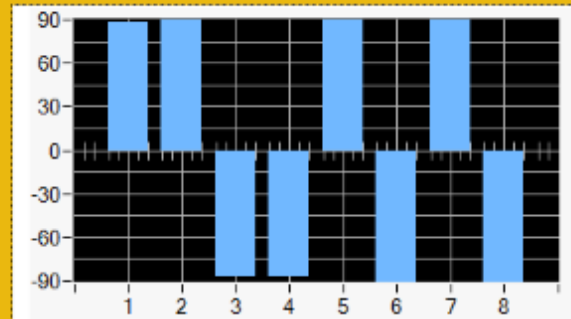
Dissipated Power (W)



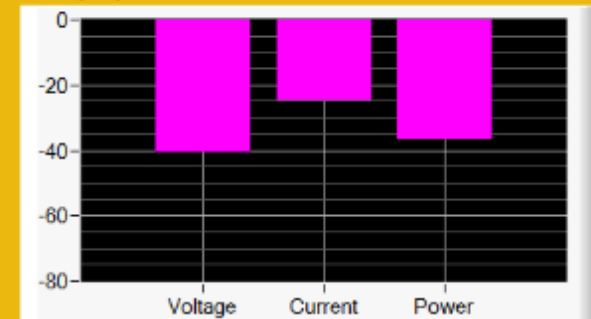
Current amplitude (A)



Phase (Deg.)



THD (dB)



Harmonic number

STOP

SETTINGS

Harmonics analyzer

MESSAGE



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Conclusion

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