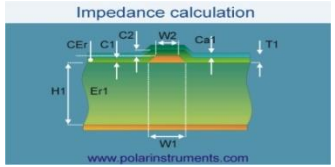
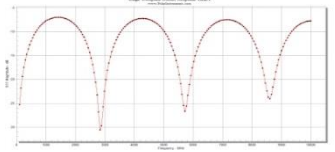
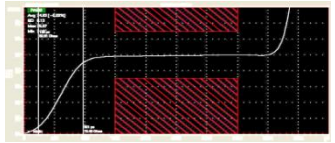
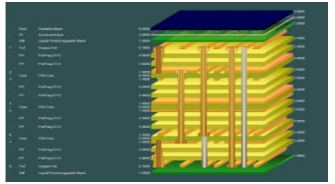
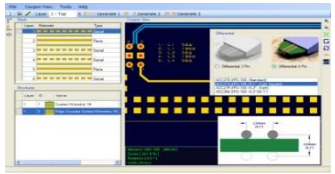




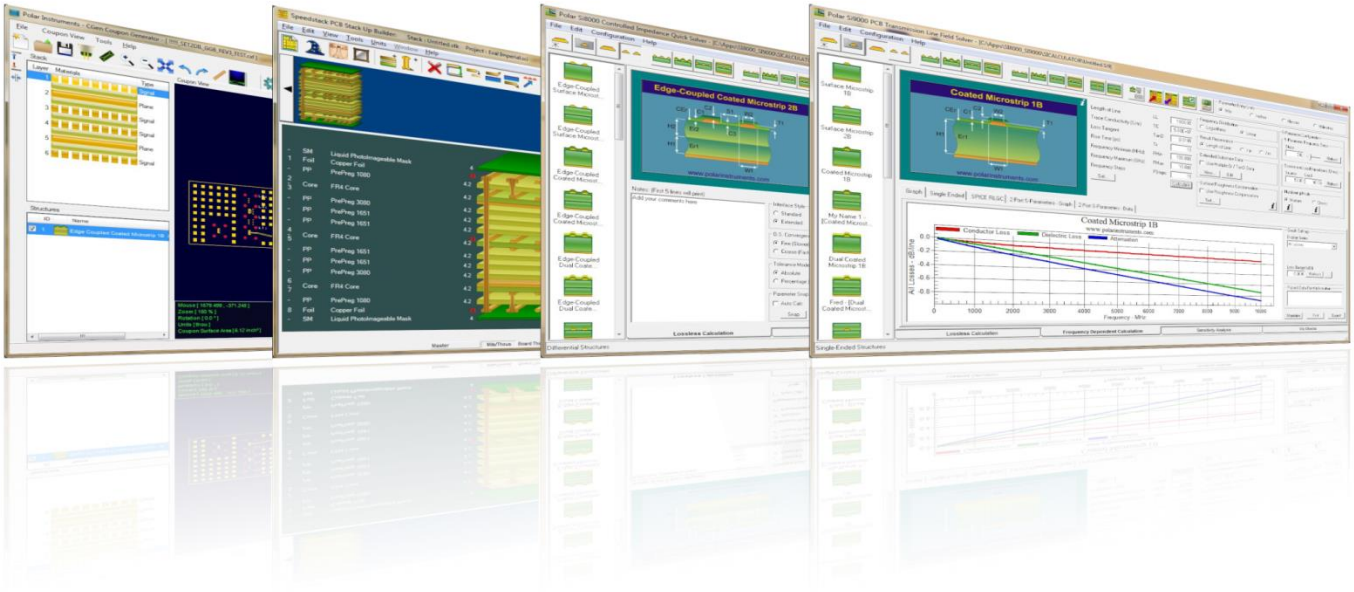






Si9000e 2021 Preview

Richard Attrill – Sept 2021 (Rev 1)



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Introducing Si9000e 2021

Welcome to a preview of Si9000e 2021.

We have introduced a number of new features that have been requested through our Polarcare software maintenance service.

If you would like to have a web-based demonstration please contact your local Polar office, details are shown on the last slide of this presentation.

Please note: the Si9000e units have been set to Mils in the following screen grabs

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Si9000e v21.09 (Sept 2021)

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Project Graphing – Introduction *(requires the Si Projects feature)*

It is often useful to compare the results from similar structures, especially with frequency dependent calculations where changing just one or two parameters can have significant impact.

Until now the Si9000e Quick Solver graphing has focused on a single structure, for instance the All Losses graph will display a single plot that includes multiple data series for the same structure.

The new Project Graphing option calculates all the results for a group of structures contained in the Project and then plots the selected data series (total attenuation, conductor loss or dielectric loss etc) on the same graph.

A single graph that combines results from multiple structures is useful in a number of ways. Comparing the impact of different dielectric materials, different roughness, sensitivity analysis for lossy calculations and many more uses.

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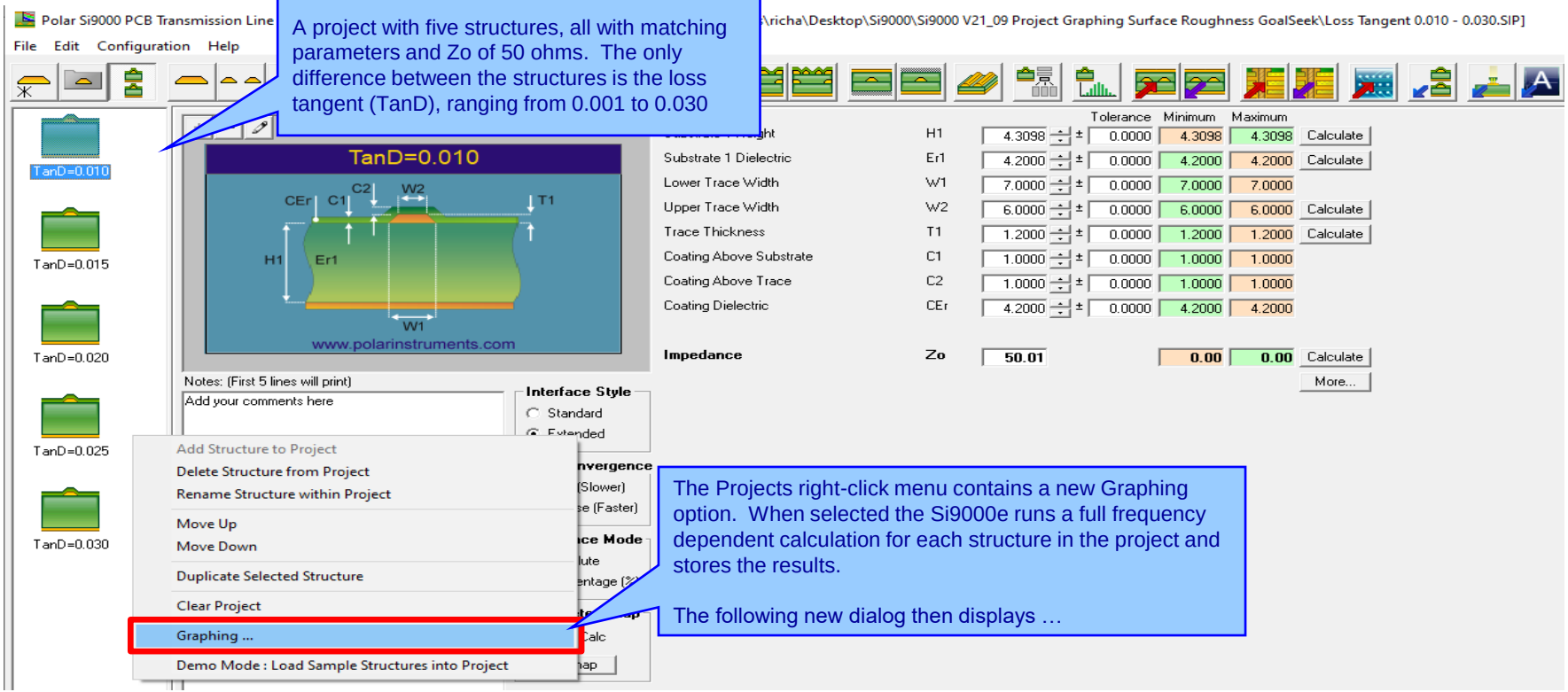
Project Graphing



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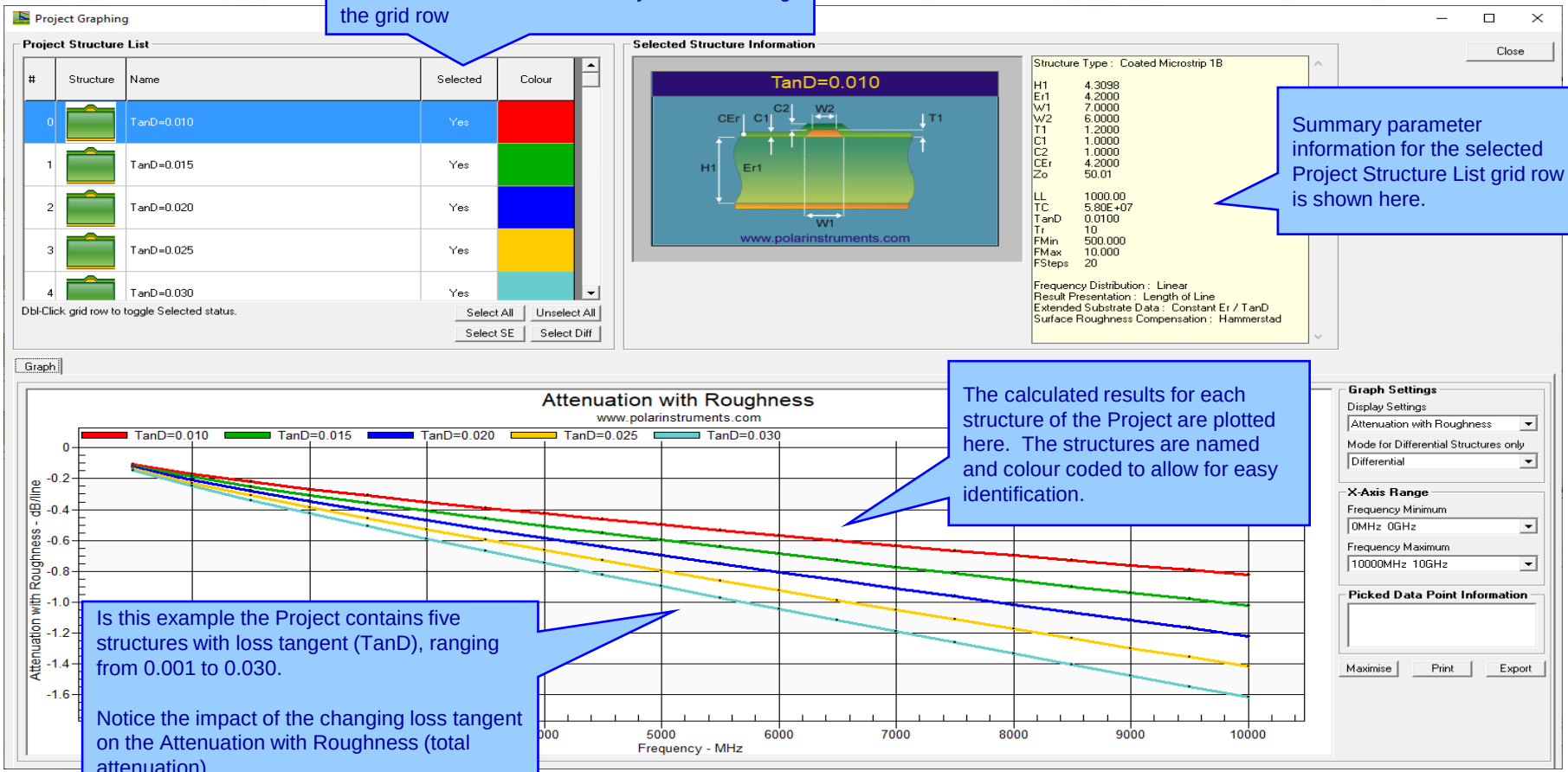
The Project Structure List provides options to choose which structures from the Project are plotted. Individual structures can toggled between selected / deselected by double-clicking the grid row



Summary parameter information for the selected Project Structure List grid row is shown here.

The calculated results for each structure of the Project are plotted here. The structures are named and colour coded to allow for easy identification.

Is this example the Project contains five structures with loss tangent (TanD), ranging from 0.001 to 0.030.

Notice the impact of the changing loss tangent on the Attenuation with Roughness (total attenuation)

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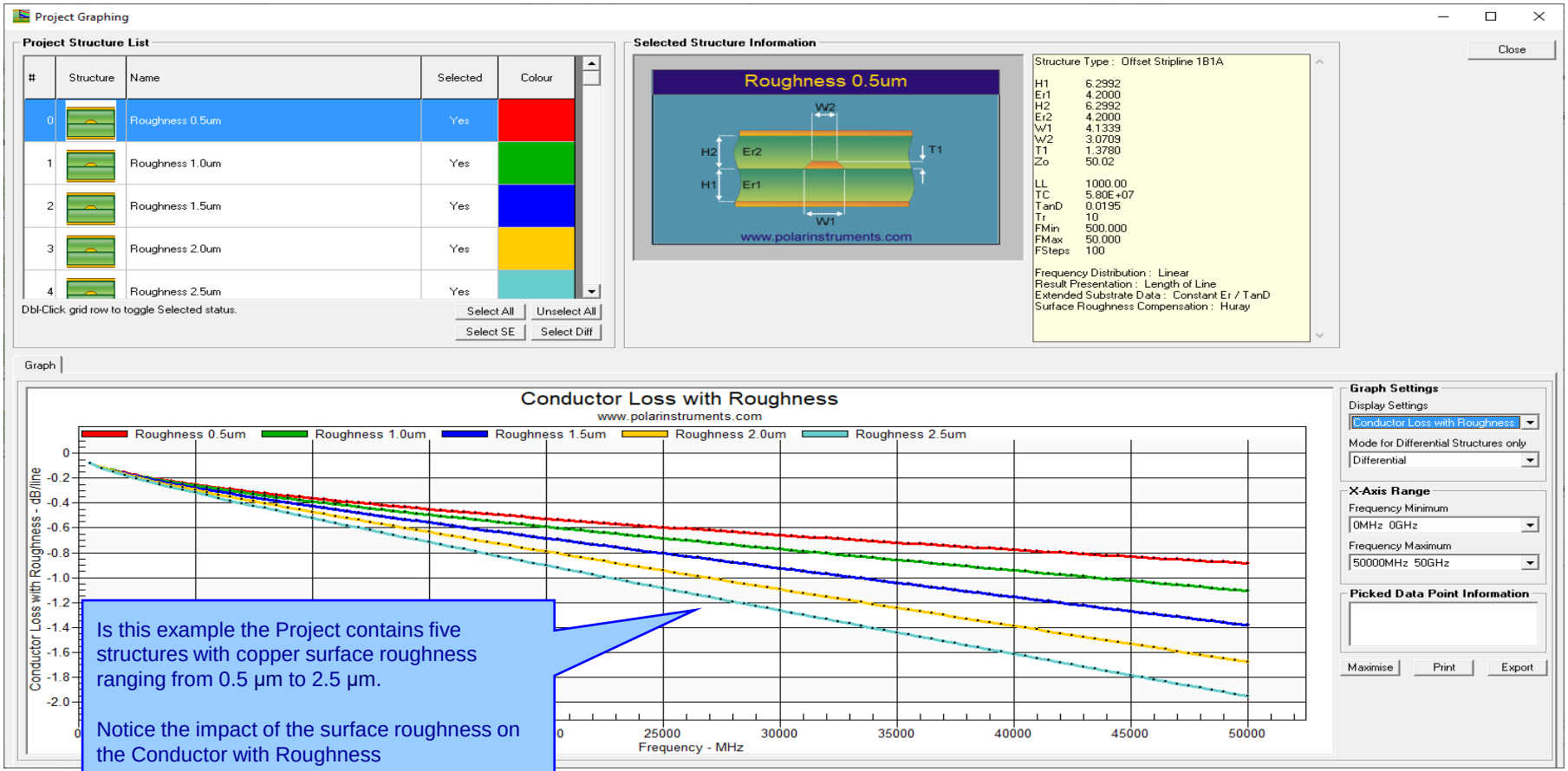

Is this example the Project contains five structures with copper surface roughness ranging from 0.5 µm to 2.5 µm.

Notice the impact of the surface roughness on the Conductor with Roughness

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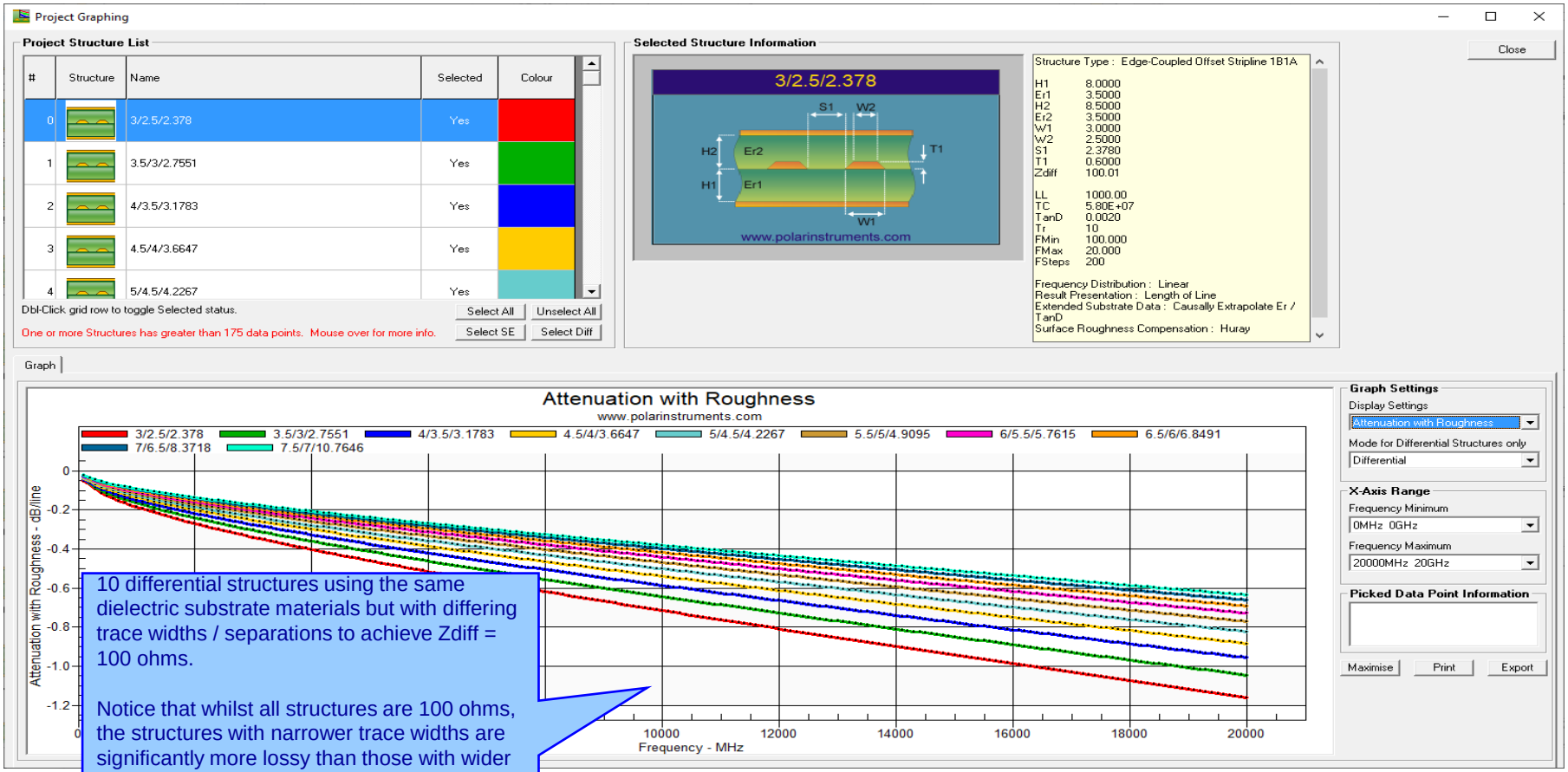

10 differential structures using the same dielectric substrate materials but with differing trace widths / separations to achieve Zdiff = 100 ohms.

Notice that whilst all structures are 100 ohms, the structures with narrower trace widths are significantly more lossy than those with wider trace widths.

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Project Graphing – Summary

- The new Graphing option for Si Projects provides useful plots that contain data from multiple structures
- There are numerous uses for this type of option - comparing the impact of different dielectric materials, different roughness, sensitivity analysis for lossy calculations and more
- ‘What if’ scenarios where one structure in the project would use the current design parameters and the second structure would contain a modified set based on a newer material. The plots comparing the original versus the new material will instantly show the impact
- Useful to both fabricators and design companies

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Populate a Project from Sensitivity Analysis Results

(requires the Si Projects feature)

When using the Sensitivity Analysis option it is often useful to examine the calculated results in more details. It is now possible to auto-create a Project containing structures based upon the Sensitivity Analysis results data.

The following slides provide further details:

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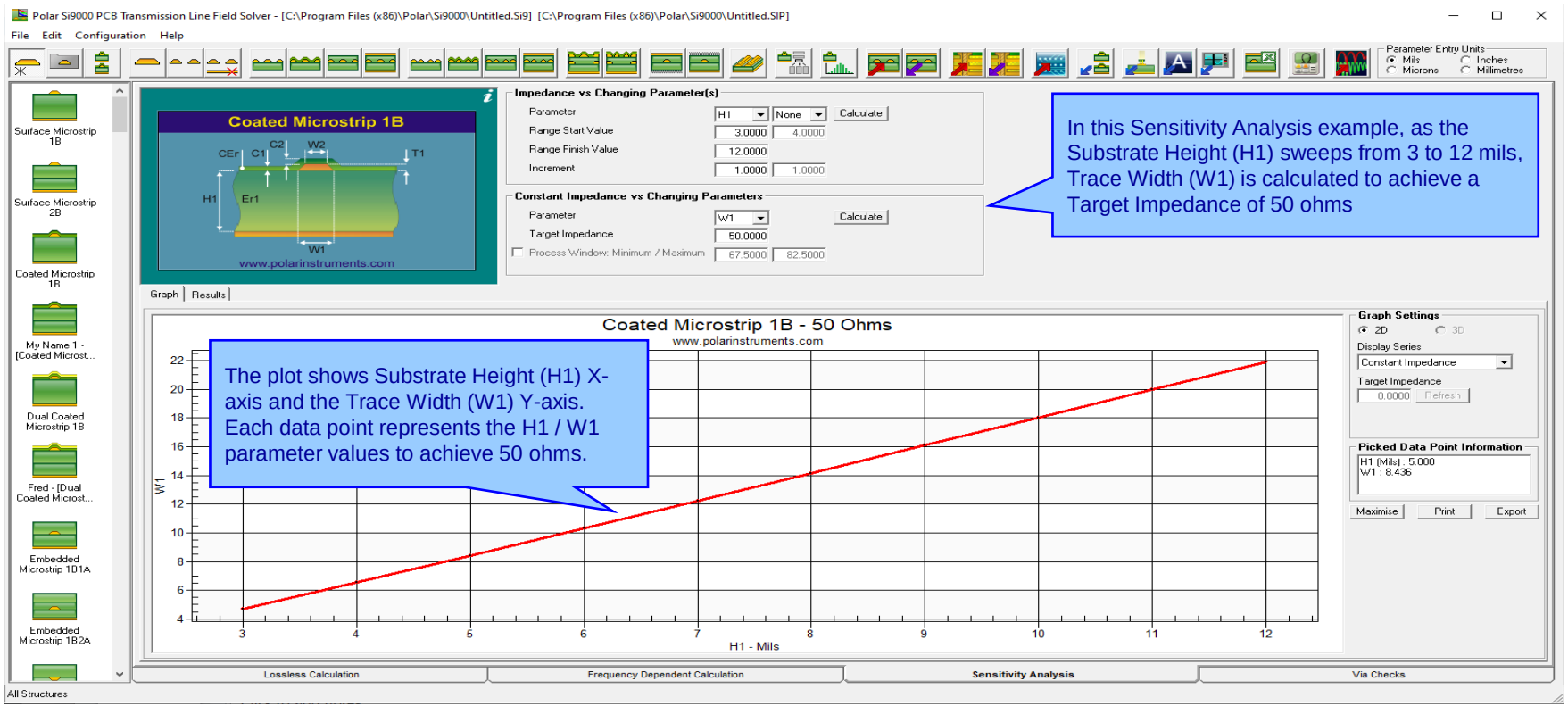
Populate a Project from Sensitivity Analysis Results



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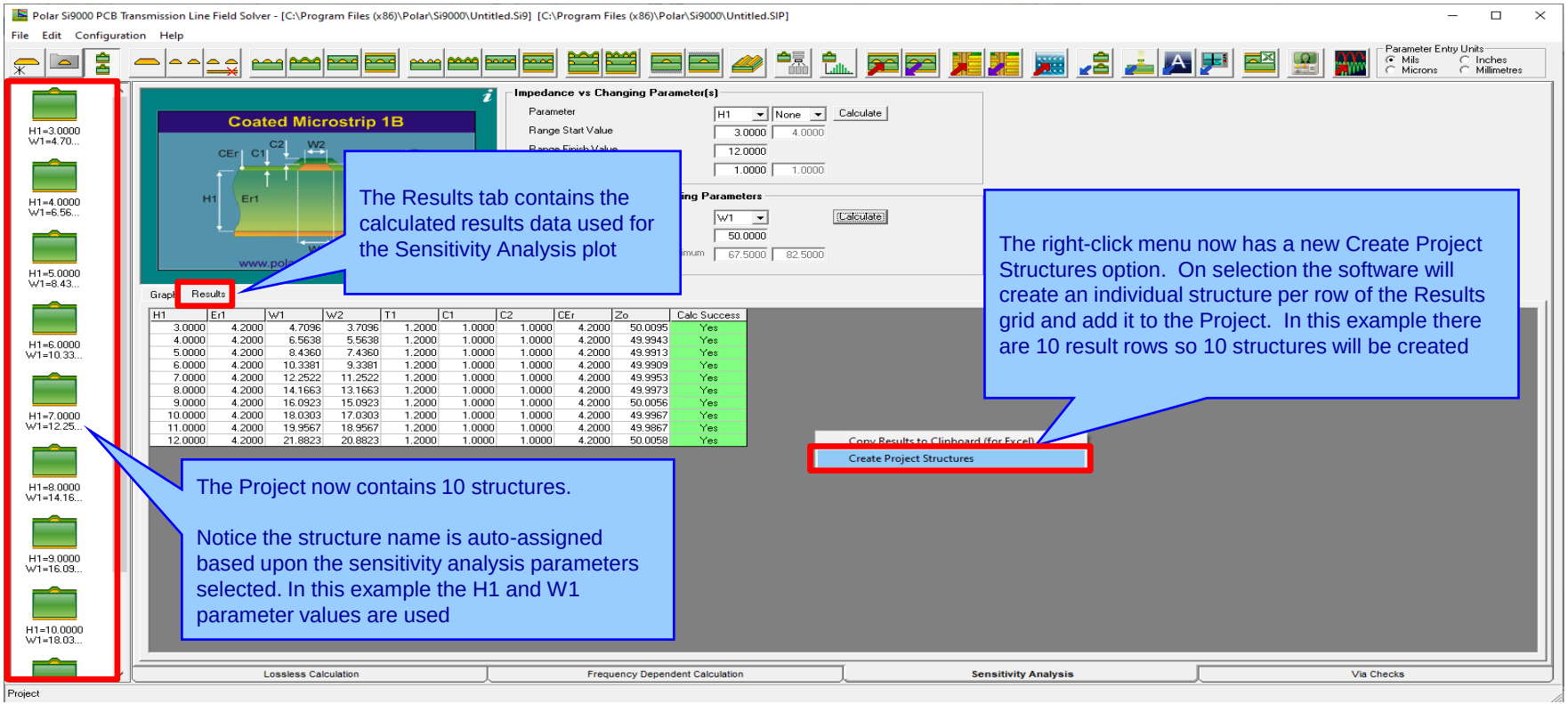
Populate a Project from Sensitivity Analysis Results



The Results tab contains the calculated results data used for the Sensitivity Analysis plot

The right-click menu now has a new Create Project Structures option. On selection the software will create an individual structure per row of the Results grid and add it to the Project. In this example there are 10 result rows so 10 structures will be created

The Project now contains 10 structures.

Notice the structure name is auto-assigned based upon the sensitivity analysis parameters selected. In this example the H1 and W1 parameter values are used

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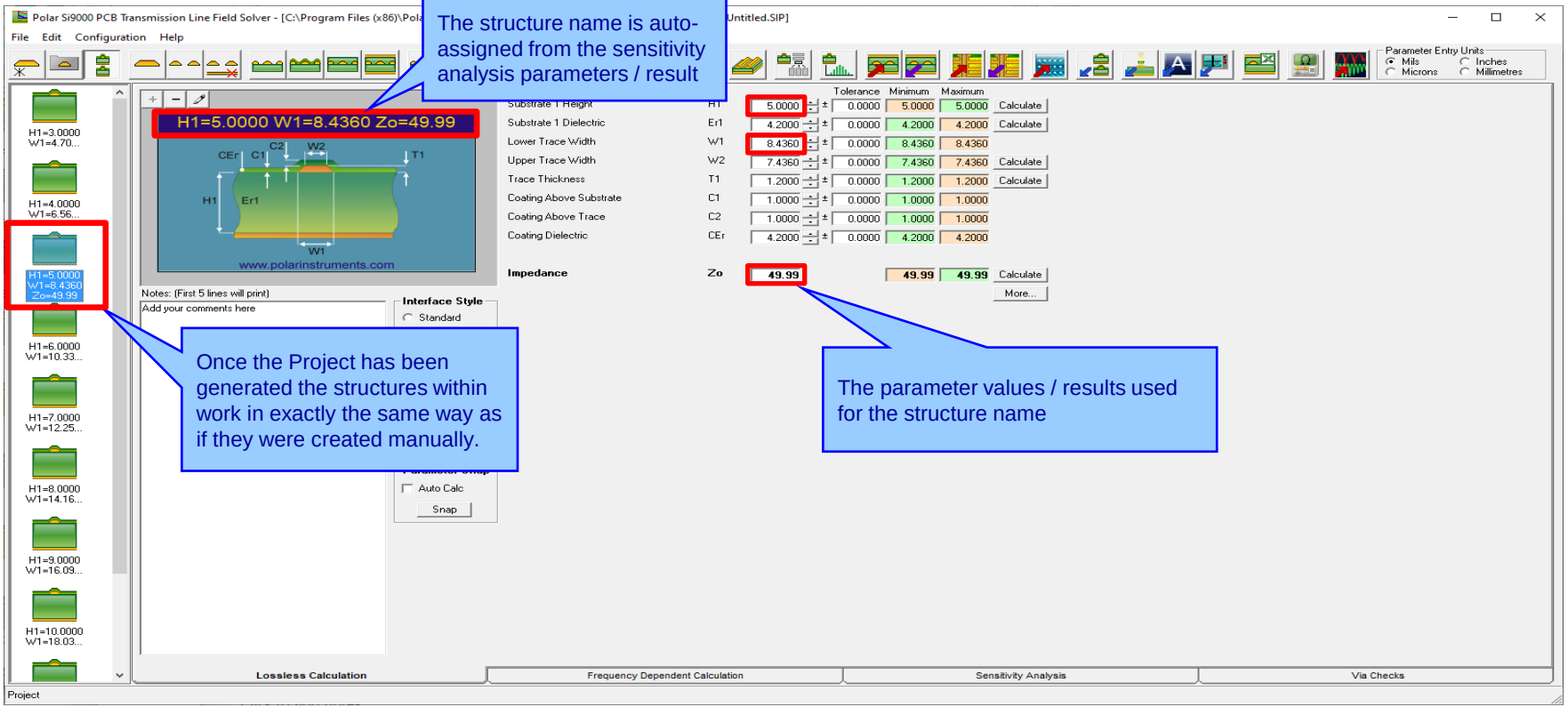
Populate a Project from Sensitivity Analysis Results



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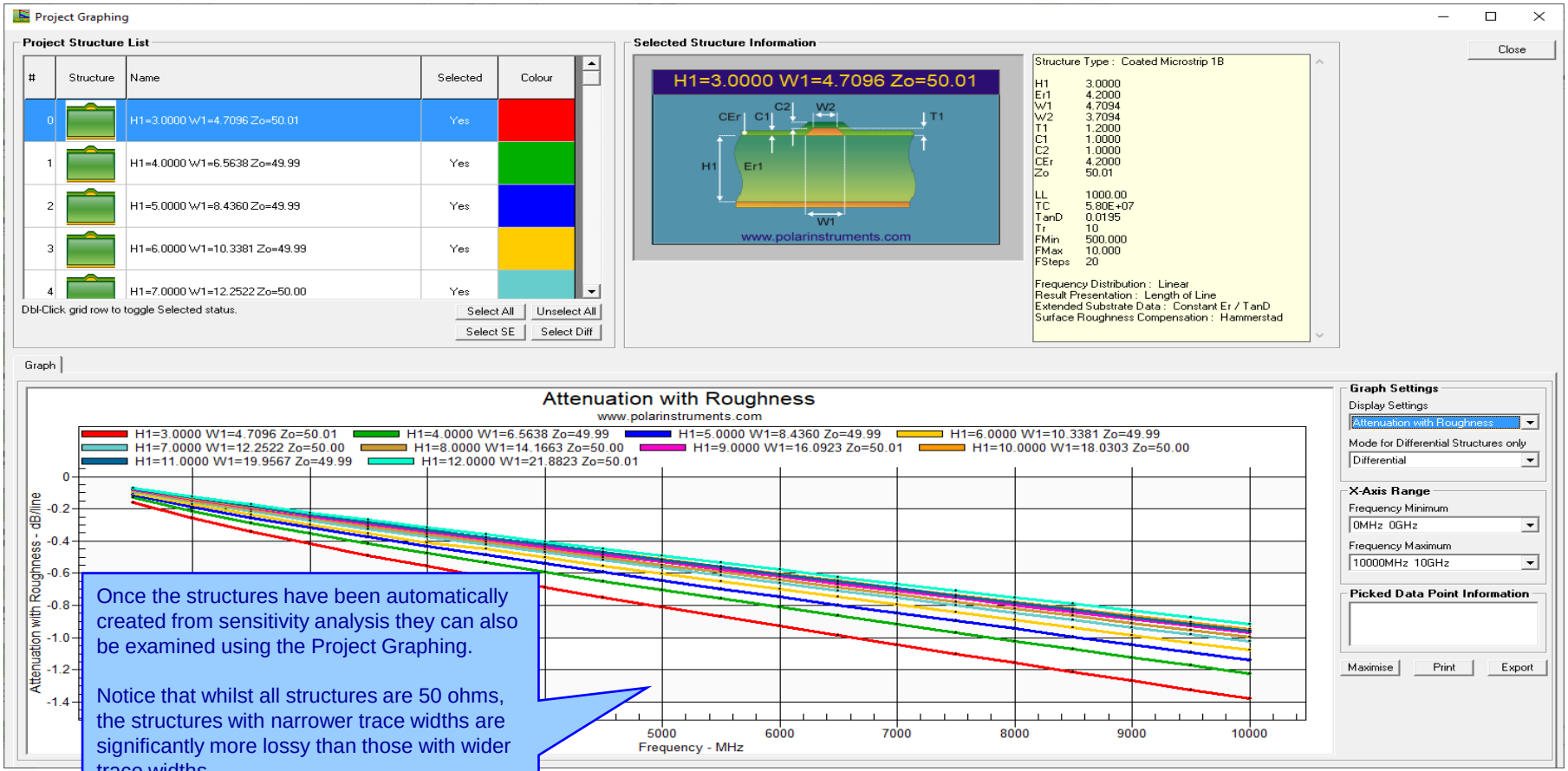

Once the structures have been automatically created from sensitivity analysis they can also be examined using the Project Graphing.

Notice that whilst all structures are 50 ohms, the structures with narrower trace widths are significantly more lossy than those with wider trace widths.

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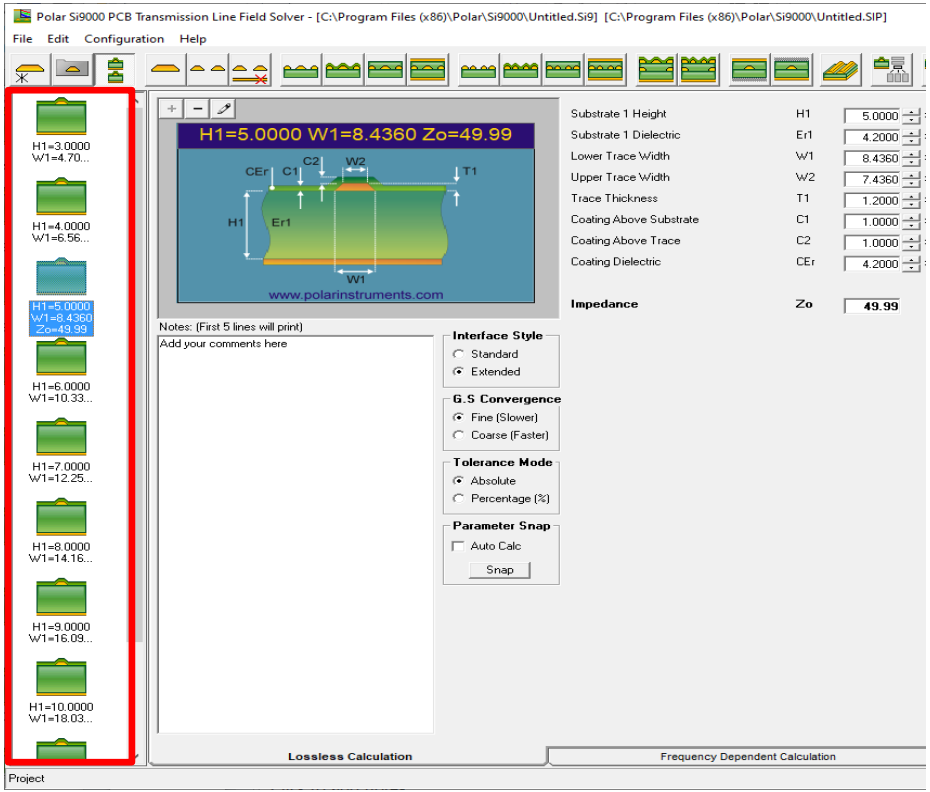
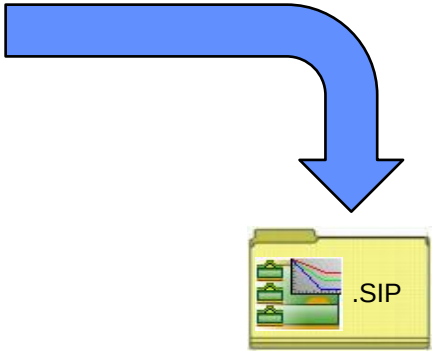
Populate a Project from Sensitivity Analysis Results





Save the newly created project to the Si Project file format (.SIP) so that it can be recalled at a later date.

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Populate a Project from Sensitivity Analysis Results - Summary

- As separate structure in a Project it is now possible to examine the results in a lot more detail than when in sensitivity analysis
- Lossy calculations can be performed and compared
- As a Project the structure data can be stored as a .SIP file and recalled later
- Useful to both fabricators and design companies

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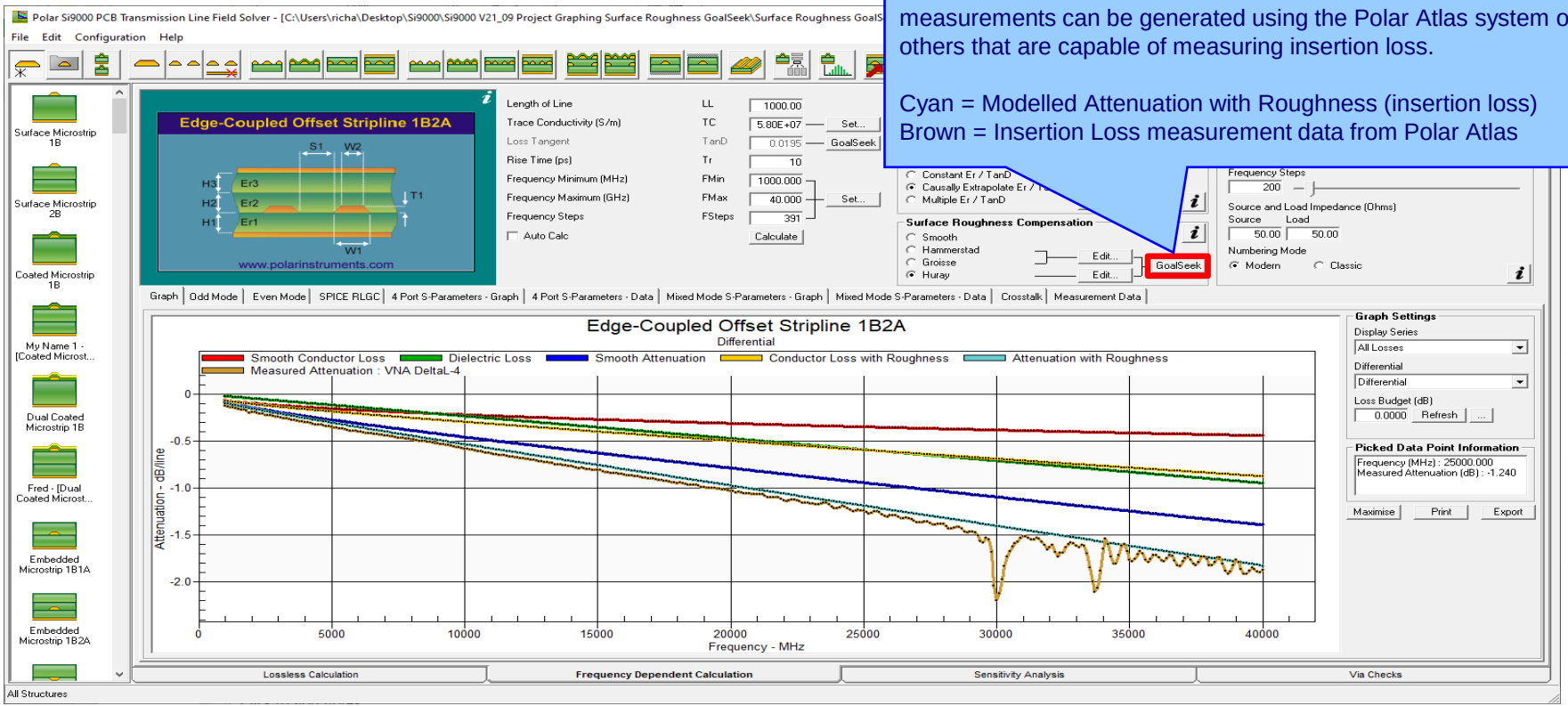
Surface Roughness Goal Seek option

New option to back calculate the surface roughness value for a structure from the insertion loss measurement data. The measurements can be generated using the Polar Atlas system or others that are capable of measuring insertion loss.

Cyan = Modelled Attenuation with Roughness (insertion loss)
Brown = Insertion Loss measurement data from Polar Atlas



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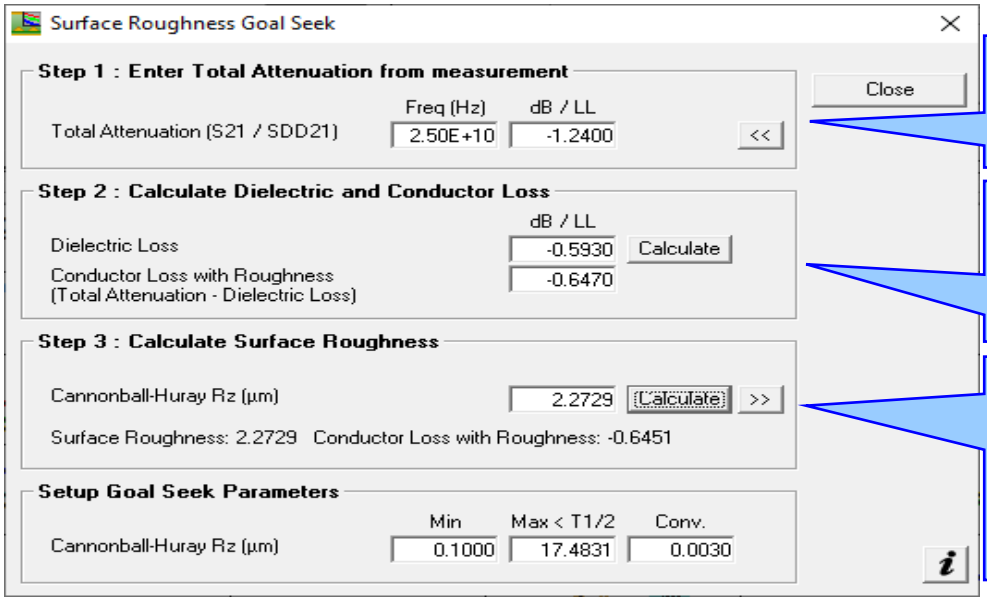
Surface Roughness Goal Seek option



Step 1
Key in or pick the total attenuation (S21 / SDD21) at a given frequency from the insertion loss measurement data

Step 2
Calculate the dielectric loss for the frequency entered from the current structure parameters. Subtracting this calculated dielectric loss from the total attenuation will leave the target conductor loss

Step 3
Use the Si9000 Goal Seek algorithm to vary the surface roughness until it matches the required value to achieve the conductor loss as calculated in Step 2.
In this example a Surface Roughness of 2.2729 µm is required

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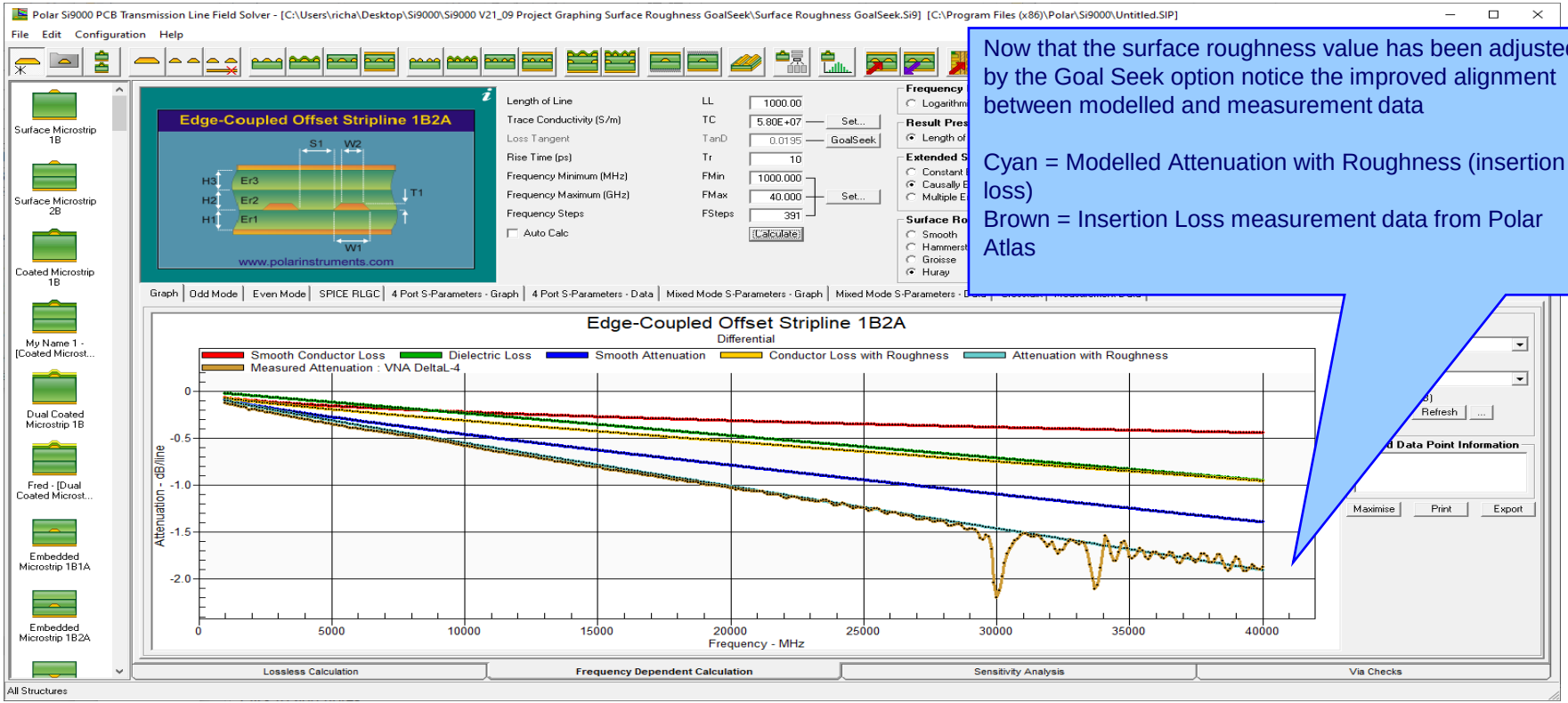
Surface Roughness Goal Seek option



Now that the surface roughness value has been adjusted by the Goal Seek option notice the improved alignment between modelled and measurement data

Cyan = Modelled Attenuation with Roughness (insertion loss)
Brown = Insertion Loss measurement data from Polar Atlas

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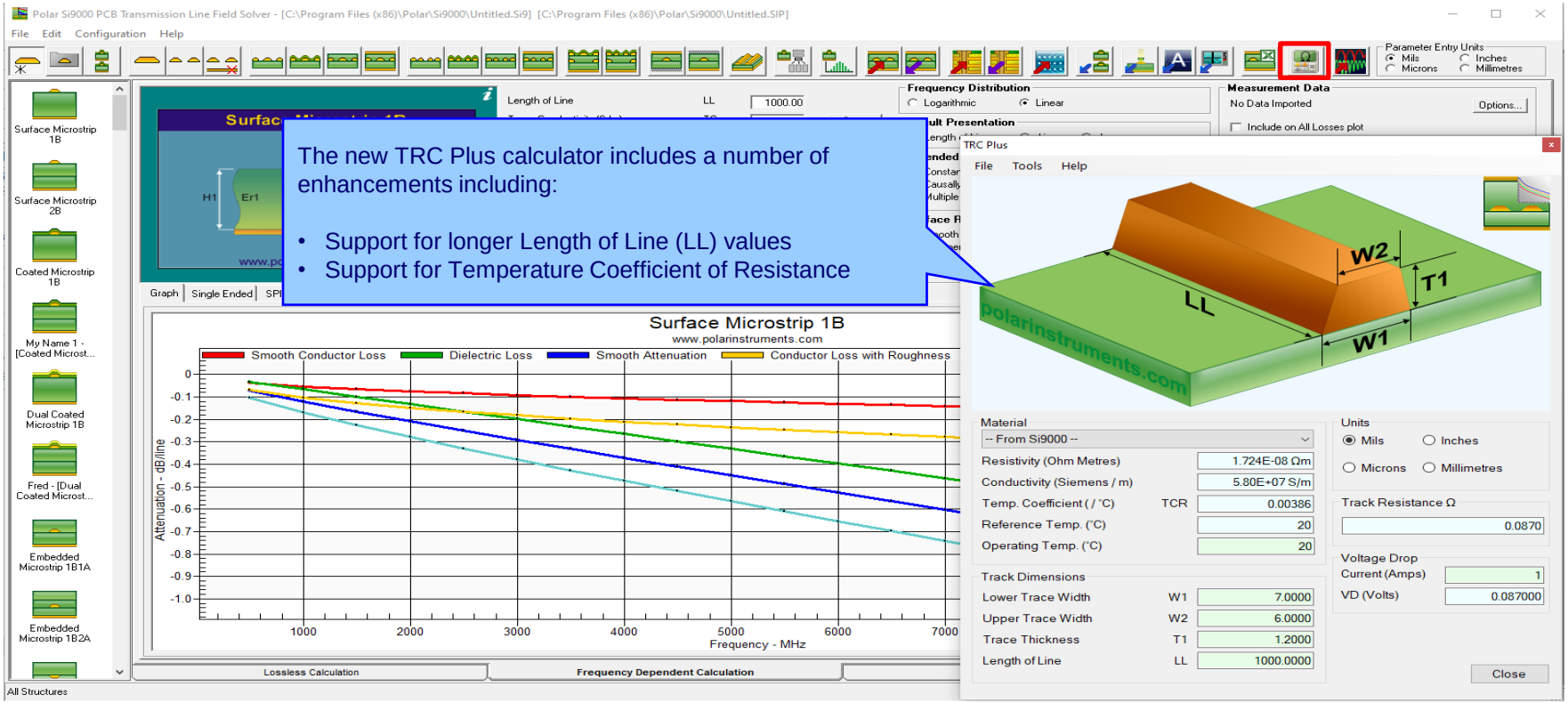
Track Resistance Calculator (TRC Plus)



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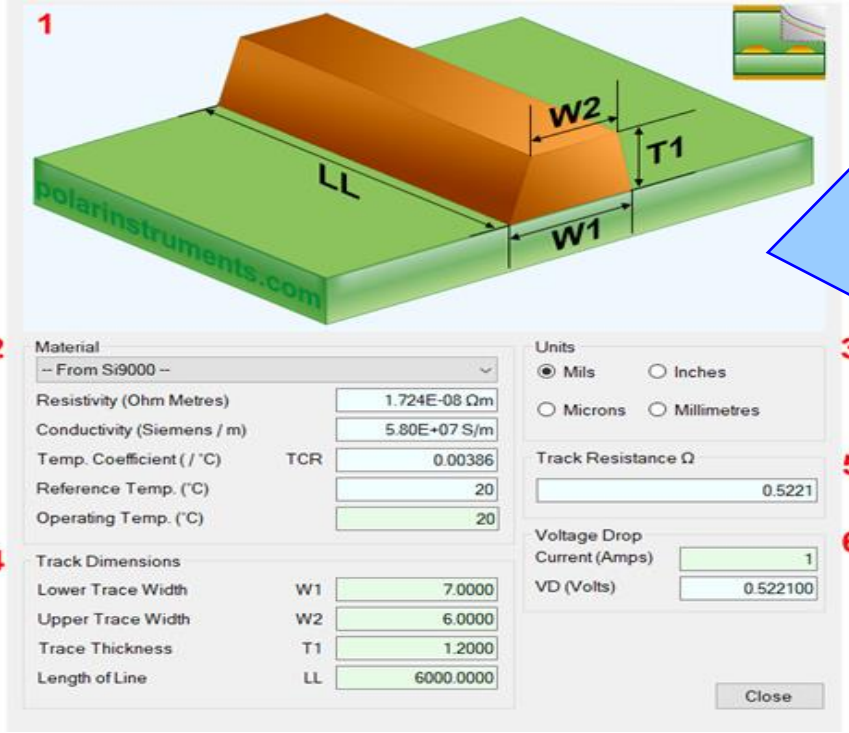
Track Resistance Calculator (TRC Plus)



1. Interactive track material image.
Clicking on a track parameter label will highlight the associated Track Dimension field (text box). Enter data into the active field.

Double-clicking anywhere on the image will bring up the Materials Editor.

2. Material selection and properties
Select the material via the drop-down list.

Fields coloured in light-blue are not directly editable but the field values can be in the Materials Editor.

Fields coloured in light-green are editable by the user. For example, Operating Temperature will determine a material's resistivity at that temperature, which in turn will be applied in calculating the track resistance.

3. Units
Switch to your preferred units by clicking the associated option button – imperial units include Mils (Thou) and Inches; for metric units choose Microns (Micrometres) or Millimetres.

4. Track or trace dimensions
Enter or change track dimensions in the Track Dimensions in the chosen units.

5. Resistance result
Calculation of the track resistance. The result should update immediately upon any changes to the editable (light-green) fields.

6. Voltage Drop calculation result
The calculated Voltage Drop is displayed in the VD (Volts) text box

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Other enhancements

- Monte Carlo Analysis. New option added to export the Iterations / Results to Clipboard (for Excel), accessible from the right-click menu
- Causally Extrapolated Substrate Data. New option added to export the Results to Clipboard (for Excel), accessible from the right-click menu

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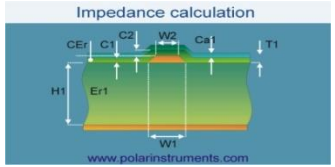

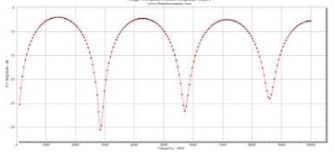

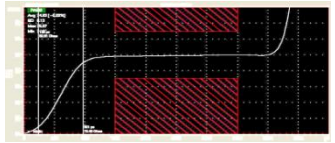

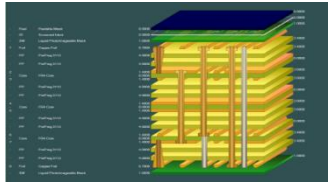

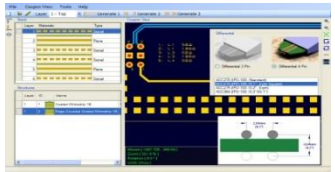

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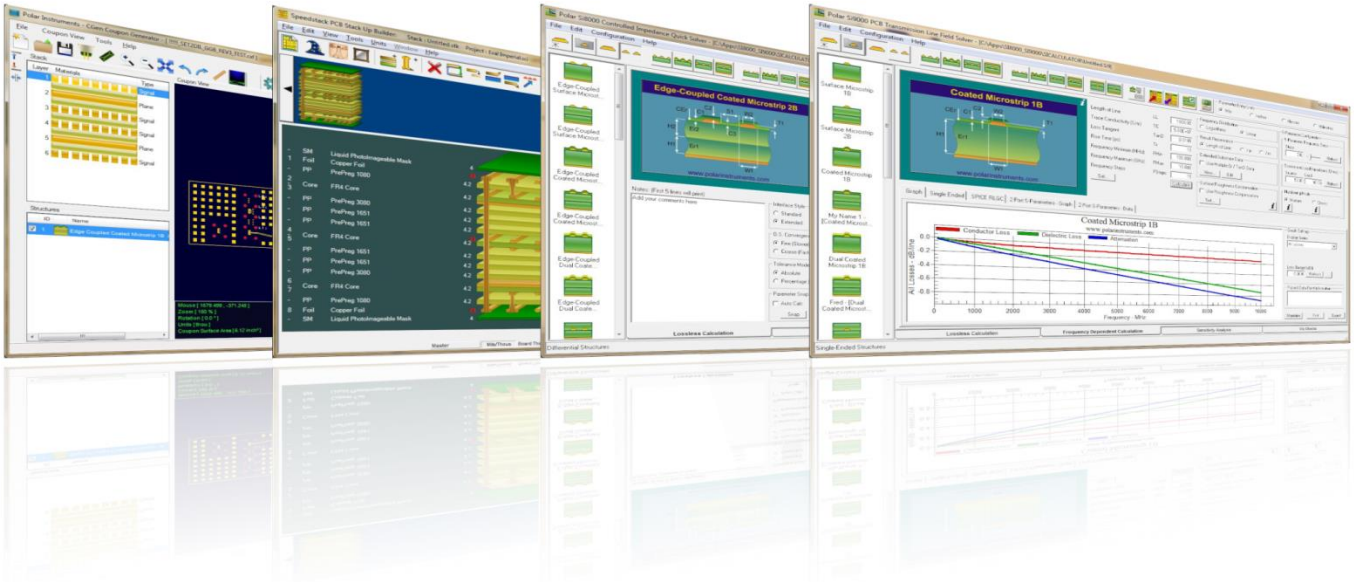

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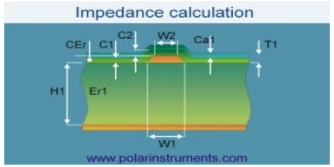

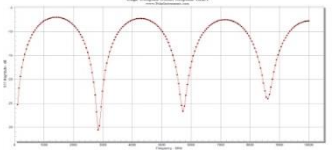

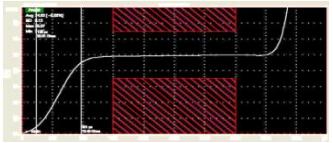

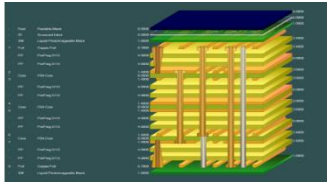

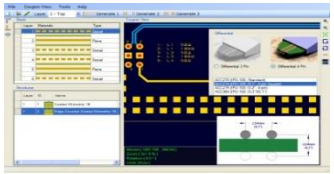

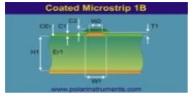

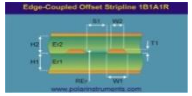

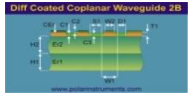

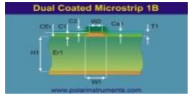

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