

# *Microwave Characterization of Liquids with Resonant Methods*

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- Motivation
- Measurement techniques
  - Cavity resonators
  - New Fabry-Perot open resonator
- Measurement results
- Temperature dependent measurements
- Summary



- Dielectric characterization of “loose” materials
  - Liquids
  - Powders
- Electronic coolants
- Food industry
- Raw materials producers
- Characterization with resonant methods
- Wideband characterization in 1 – 50 GHz
  - Cavity devices
  - Fabry-Perot Open Resonator



# Materials characterization (1)

- Resonant methods well established for materials characterization
- International initiatives benchmarking existing materials characterization methods (iNEMI: [www.inemi.org](http://www.inemi.org))
- Resonant methods are proven to be the most accurate among microwave material characterisation methods

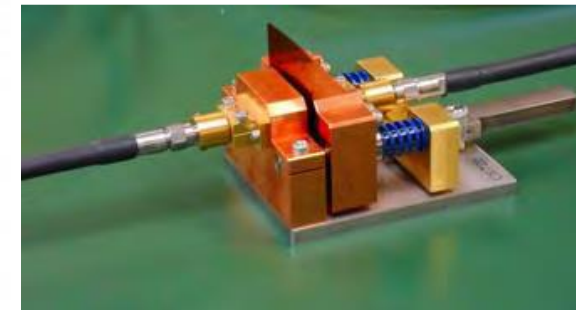
*Family of Split-Post Dielectric Resonators*



*Fabry-Perot Open Resonator*



*Split-Cavity Resonator*



*Balanced Circular Disk Resonator*

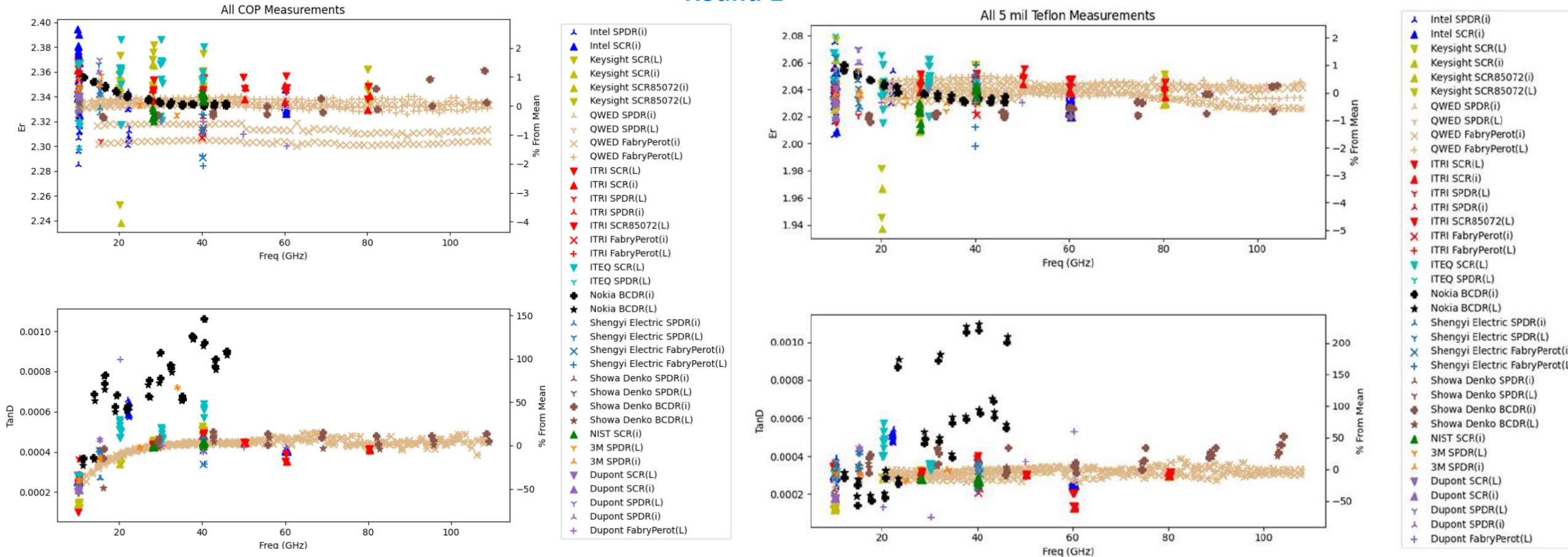


# Materials characterization (2)

**INEMI** 5G/mmWave Materials Assessment and Characterization project results

Over 1000 measurement points in total

## Round 1



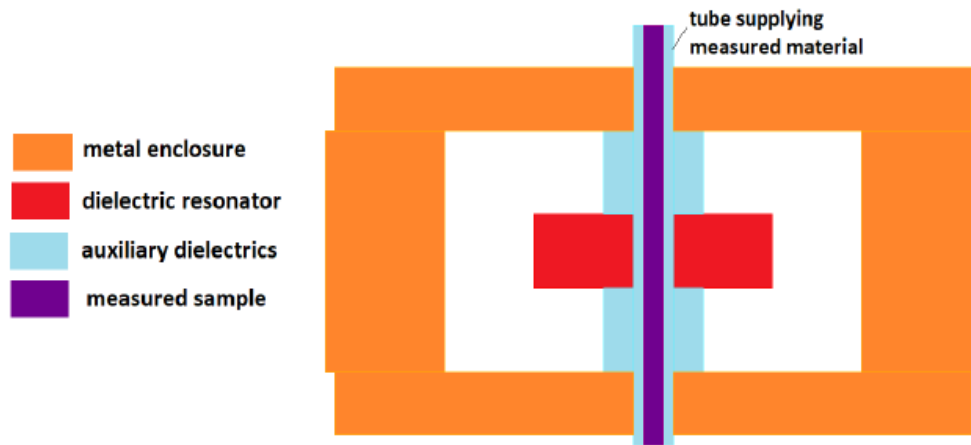
Spread of Dk:  $\pm 2\%$



# Measurement methods (1)

Resonant methods are proven to be the most accurate among microwave material characterisation methods

## Low frequency dielectric resonator cavities



*Schematic concept of the dielectric resonator cavity*



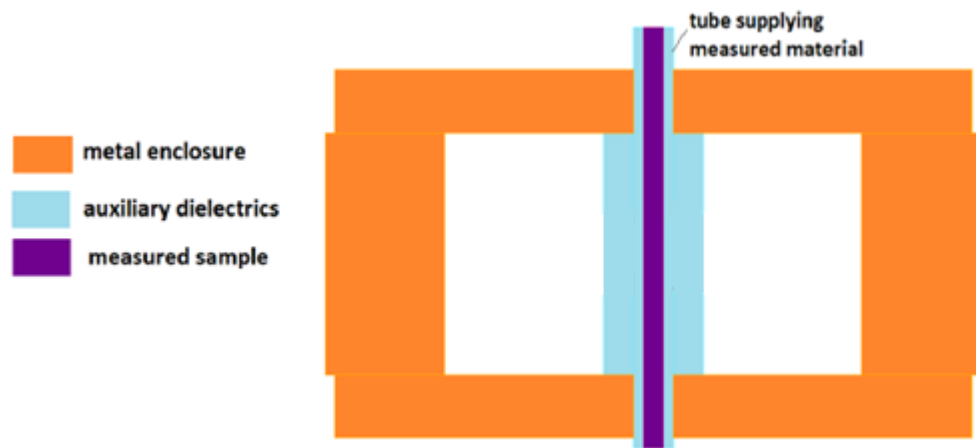
*Dielectric resonator cavity at 1 GHz*



# Measurement methods (2)

Resonant methods are proven to be the most accurate among microwave material characterisation methods

## Higher frequency cavity resonators



*Schematic concept of the resonance cavity*



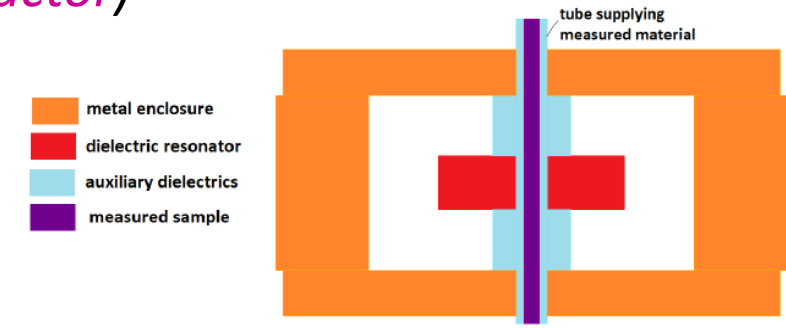
**24-GHz Cavity resonator**

(with fused silica tube, rubber tube and syringe)



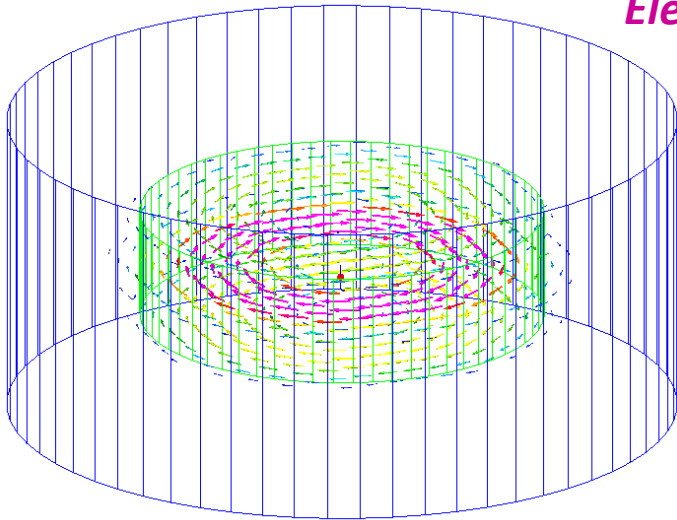
# Measurement methods (3)

- $TE_{01\delta}$  resonance mode (described with *resonant frequency* and *Q-factor*)
- Electric field mostly confined within the dielectric pill
- Circumferential electric field
  - no issues with galvanic connection of the lid
- Zero electric field at  $\rho=0$ 
  - no risk of suppressing resonance if lossy sample is inserted

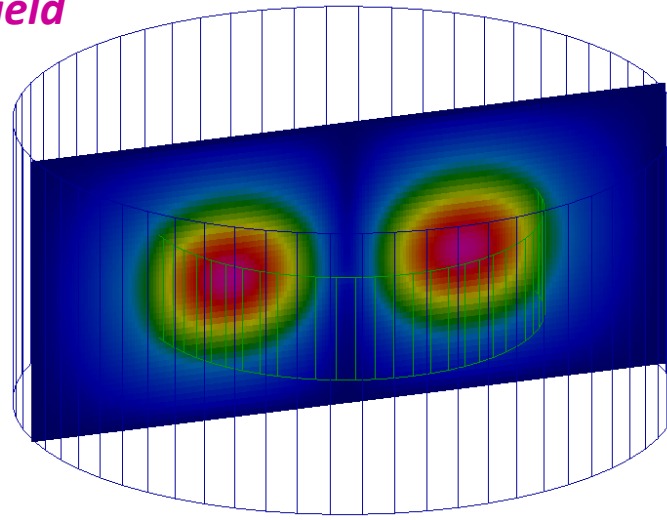


*Resonance mode within dielectric resonator cavity \**

*Electric field*

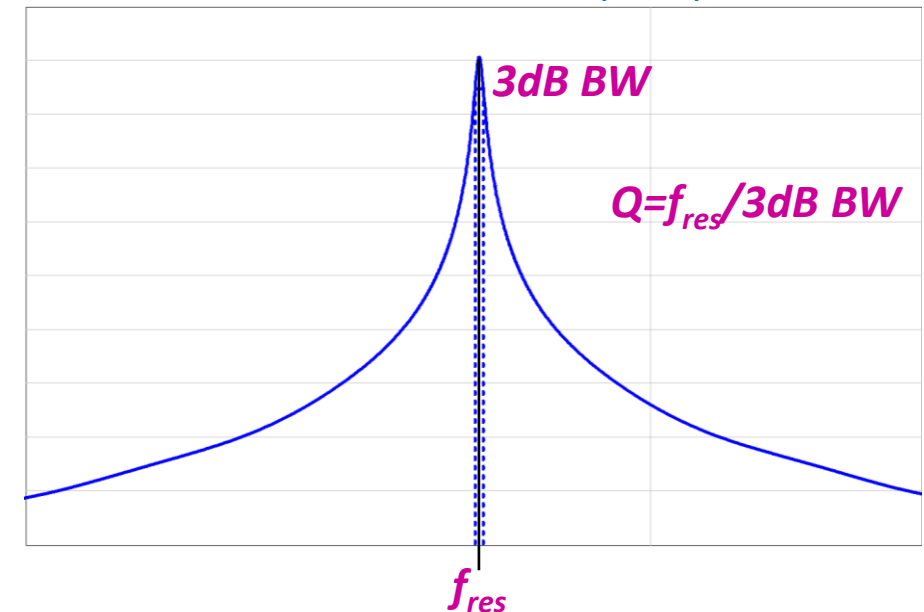


*Vector view*



*Amplitude view (cross section)*

*Transmission curve  $|S_{21}|$*

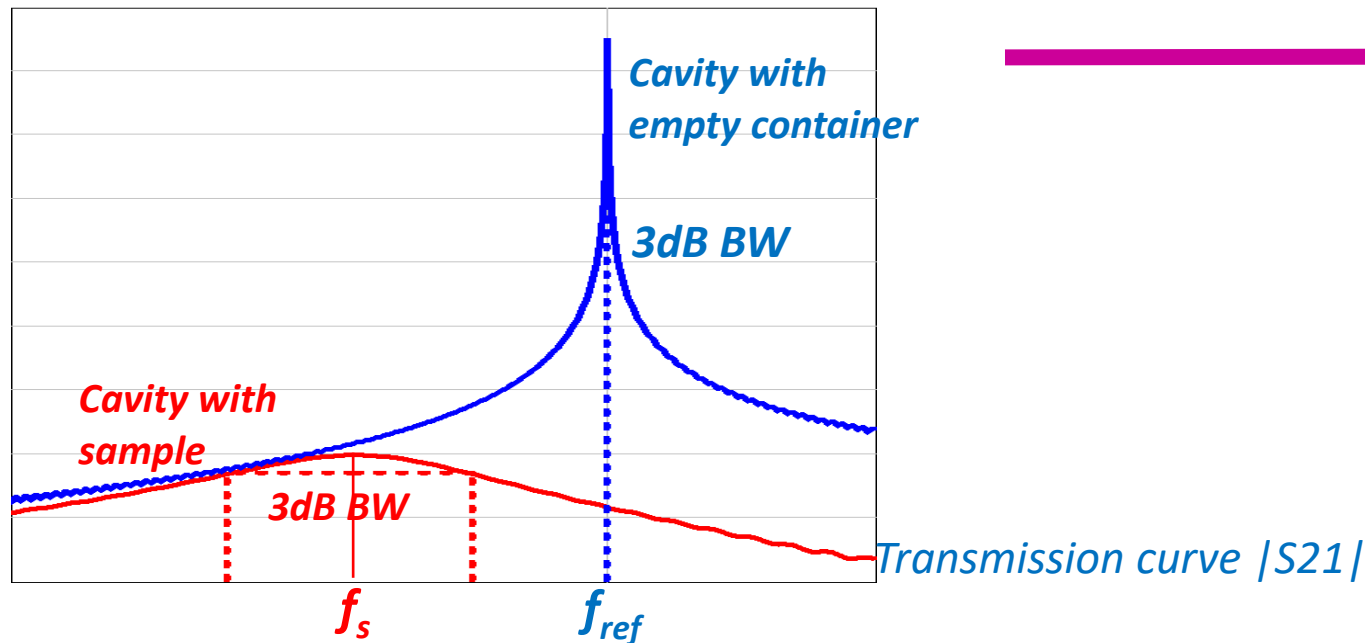


\* Obtained with QuickWave 3D software



# Measurement methods (4)

- Two/three stage measurement
- Reference measurement – cavity with empty container ( $f_{ref}$  and  $Q_{ref}$ )  
→ the inner diameter of the container/container needs to be precisely calibrated
- Measurement of sample-loaded cavity ( $f_s$  and  $Q_s$ )
- Scalar measurement of transmission curve ( $|S_{21}|$ ) is typically sufficient



$\Delta f, \Delta Q$

*Precise EM model  
of the resonator*

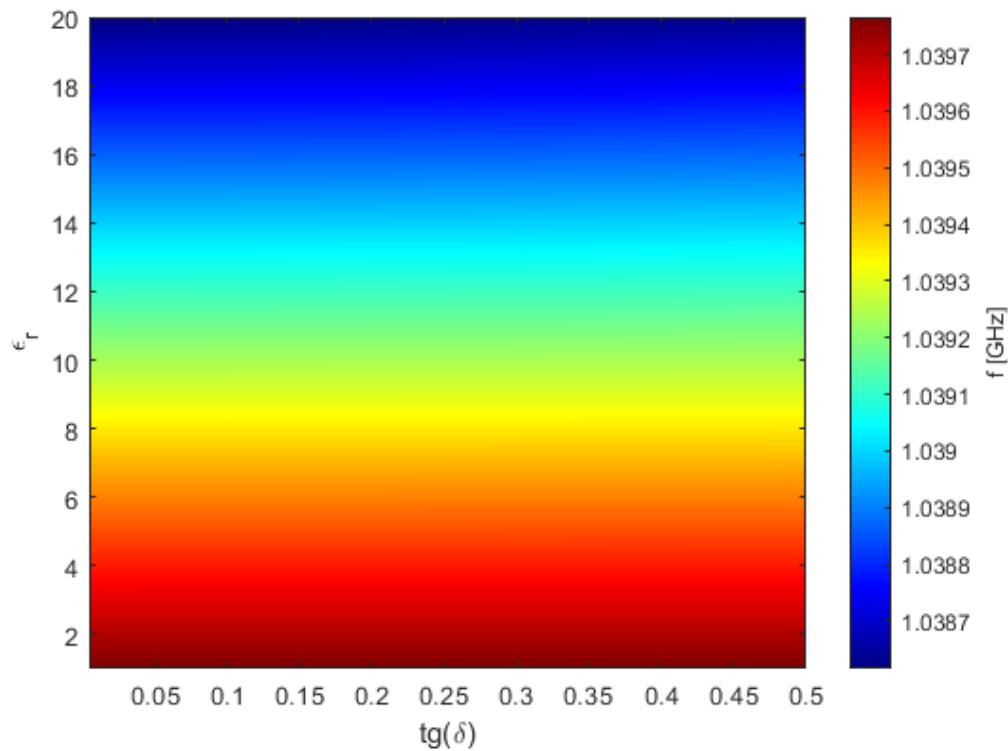
*(embedded in the  
dedicated software)*

$\epsilon_r, \tan \delta$

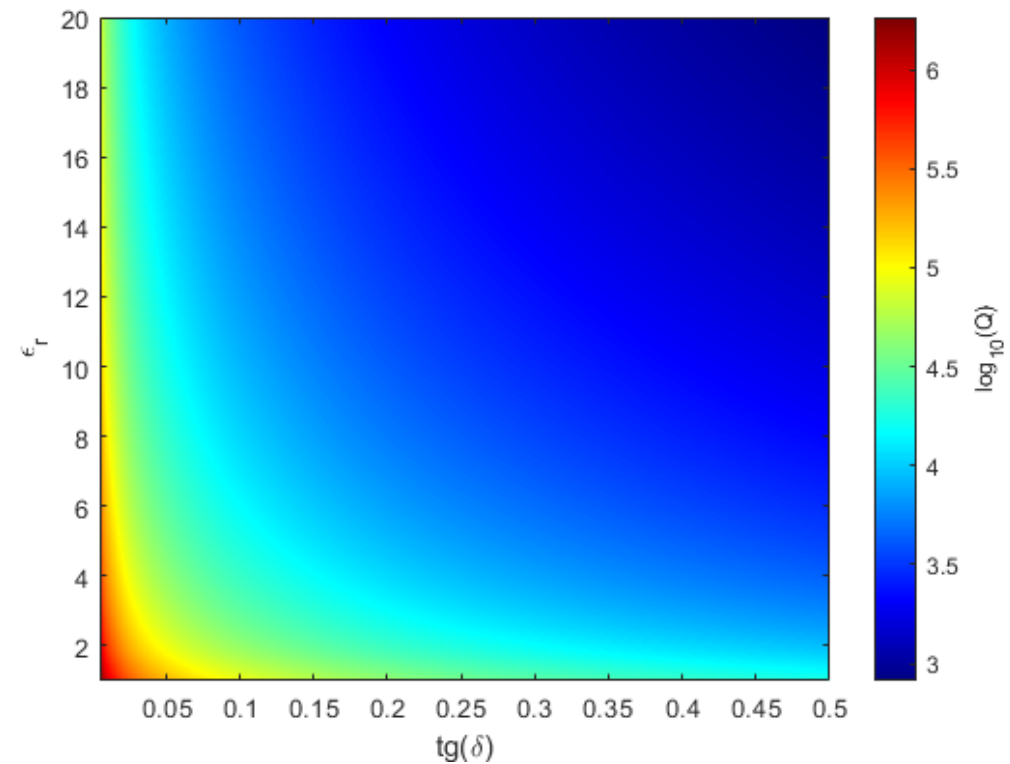


# Lookup Tables

In a **low-loss regime**, resonance frequency depends mostly on the  $Dk$ ,  
whereas the Q-factor decreases with both  $Dk$  &  $Df$ .



*Resonance frequency*



*Q-factor (log-scale)*



# Measurement methods (5)

## Low frequency dielectric resonator cavities Dielectric resonator cavity at 2.5 GHz



### Specification

Fluid diameter < 16 mm

TE<sub>018</sub>:  $f = 2.45$  GHz ( $Q = 29,400$ )

TE<sub>028</sub>:  $f = 5.16$  GHz ( $Q = 27,200$ )

## Higher frequency cavity resonators 24-GHz Cavity resonator



### Specification

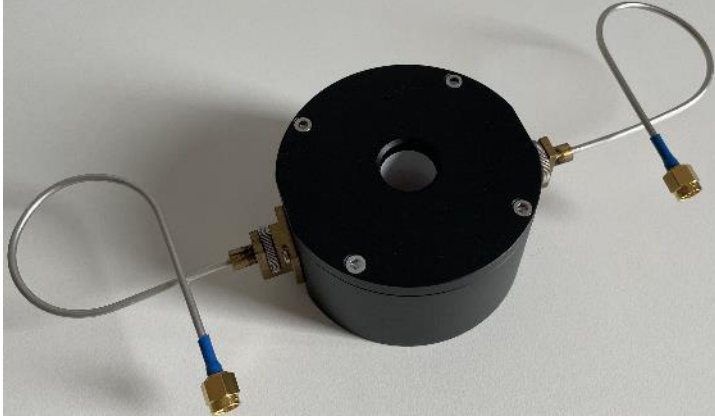
Fluid diameter < 3 mm

TE<sub>011</sub>:  $f = 23.8$  GHz ( $Q = 14,200$ )



# Measurement methods (6)

## Low frequency dielectric resonator cavities Dielectric resonator cavity at 2.5 GHz



### Specification

Fluid diameter < 16 mm

TE<sub>01δ</sub>:  $f = 2.45$  GHz ( $Q = 29,400$ )

TE<sub>02δ</sub>:  $f = 5.16$  GHz ( $Q = 27,200$ )

$f \uparrow$  manufacturing tolerances of FS tubes  $\uparrow$   
prohibitively large  $D_{in}$  variation  
uncertainty of the measurement  $\uparrow$

## Higher frequency cavity resonators 24-GHz Cavity resonator



### Specification

Fluid diameter < 3 mm

TE<sub>011</sub>:  $f = 23.8$  GHz ( $Q = 14,200$ )

## Fabry-Perot Open Resonator



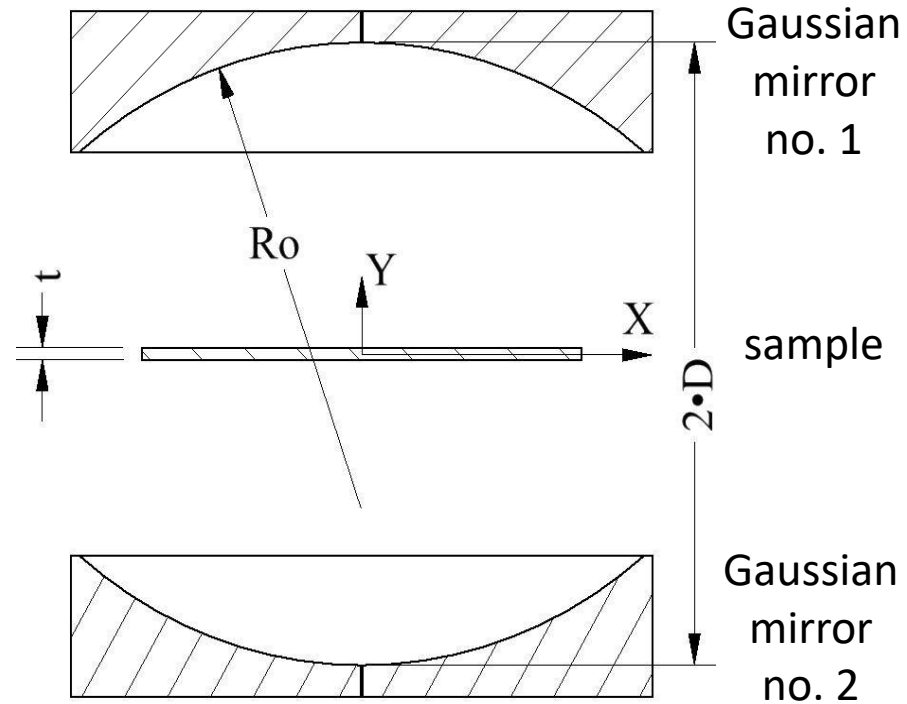


# Fabry-Perot Open Resonator

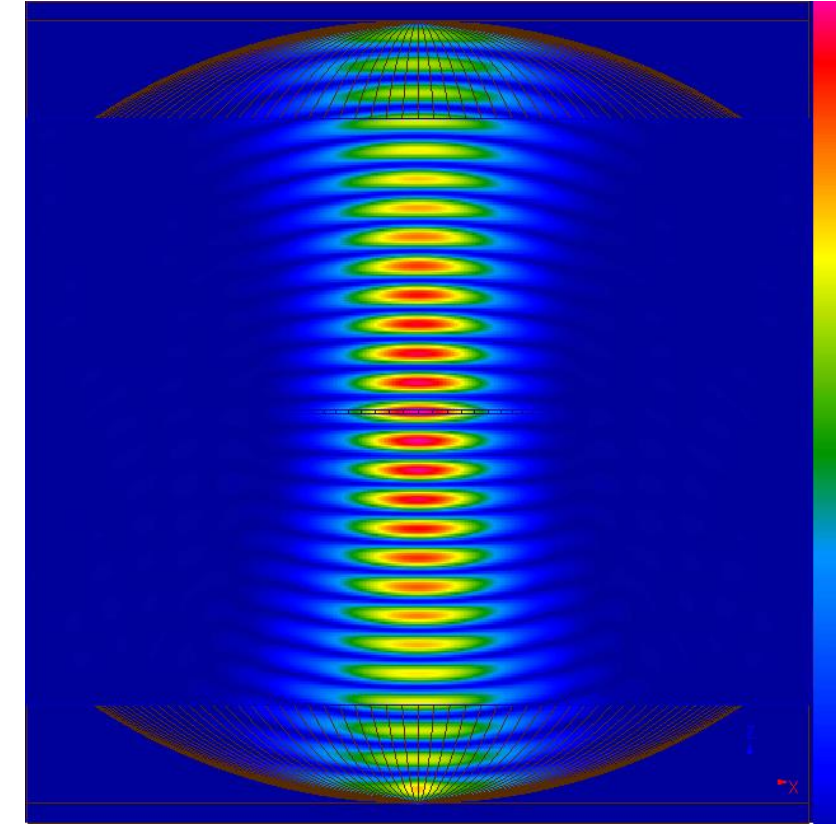
*Fabry-Perot Open resonator*



*Bridging the gap between classical resonant methods and free space methods*



*Gaussian TEM<sub>00q</sub> modes*



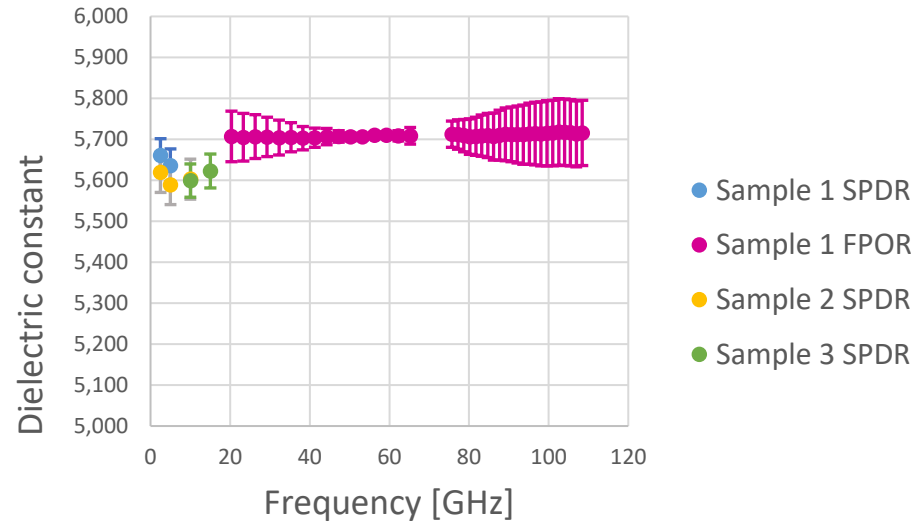
*Electric field distribution - simulation model in QuickWave software*



# FPOR for sheet dielectrics characterization

Commercial A6M material

LTCC material



Wideband FPOR solution



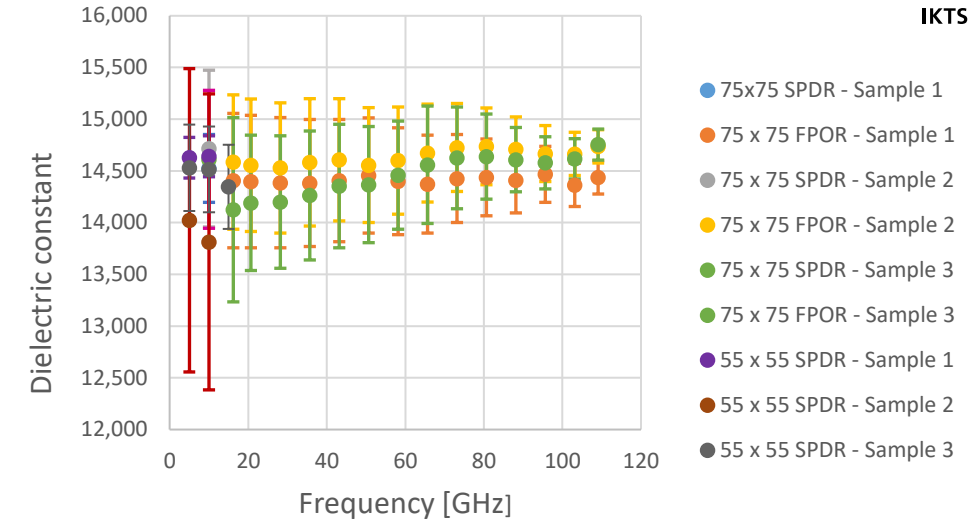
Family of SPDR fixtures



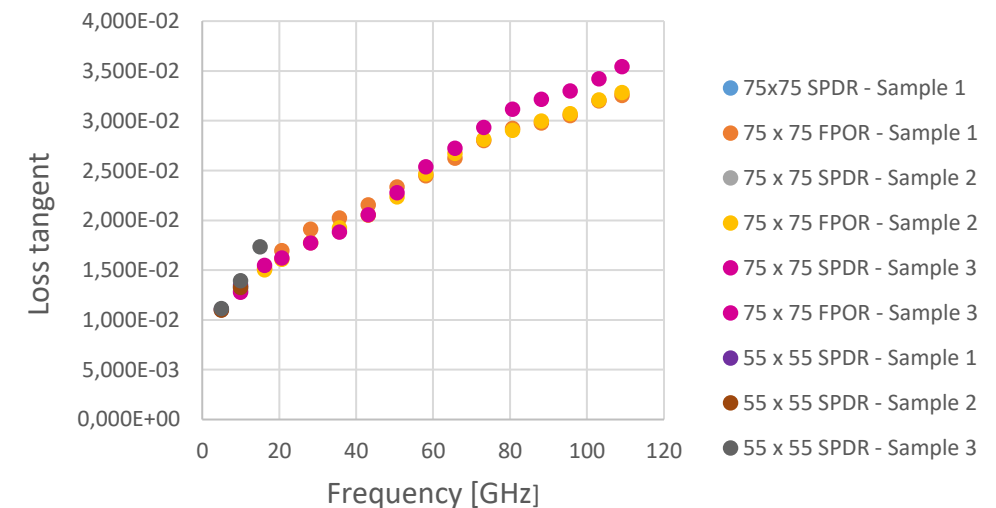
ULTCC material developed in ULTCC6G\_EPac

ULTCC material


**Fraunhofer**  
 IKTS



ULTCC material





# FPOR for fluids characterization

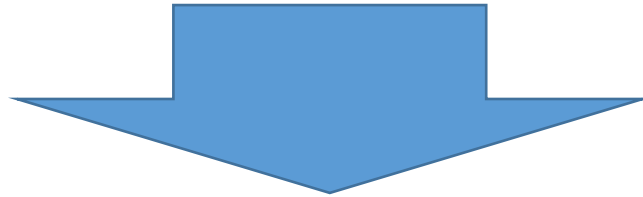
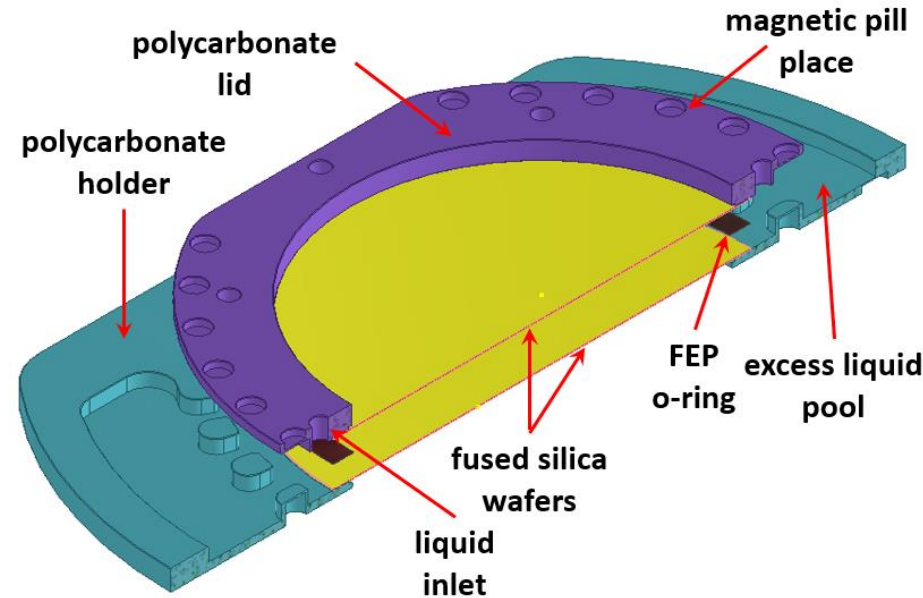
*Fabry-Perot open resonator with a dedicated fluid container*



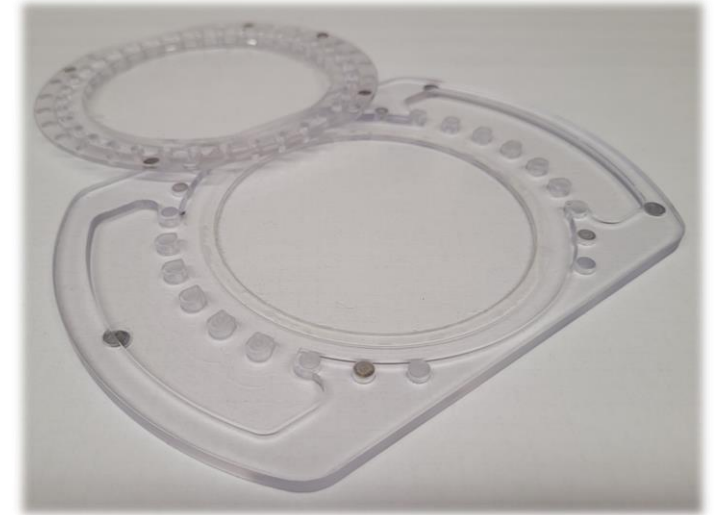
## Specification

Fluid thickness: 100-400  $\mu\text{m}$

Frequency: 15-50 GHz

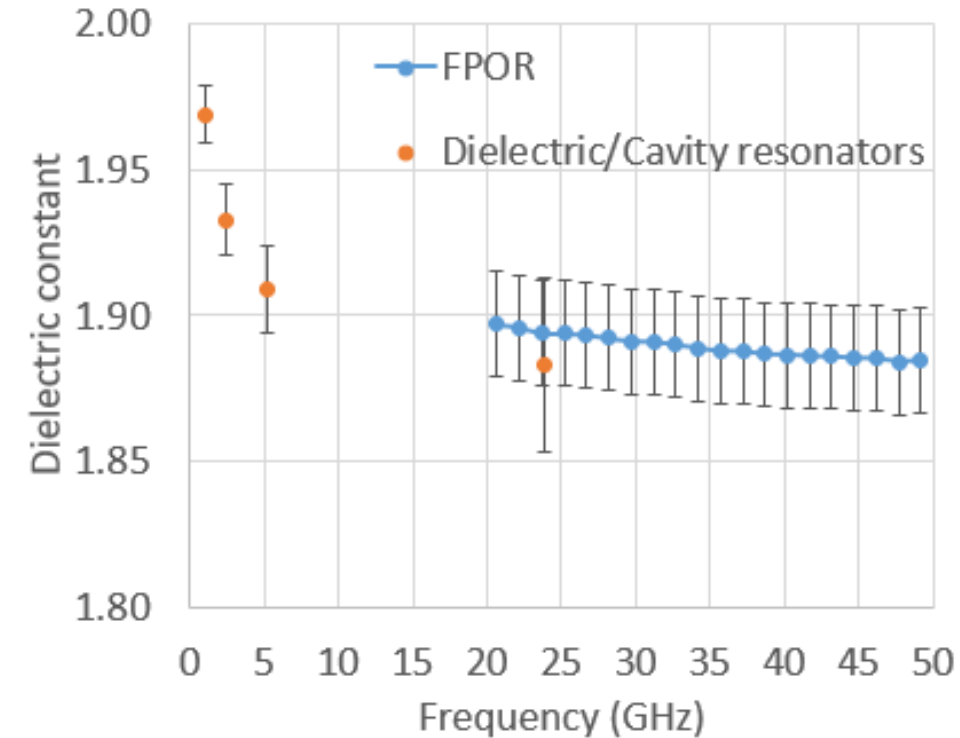


*Requires dedicated EM model  
and measurement software*



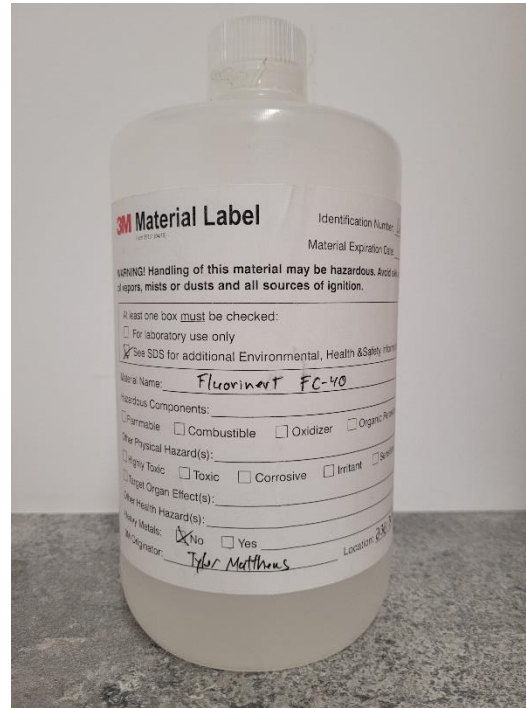


# Measurements results - electronic coolants

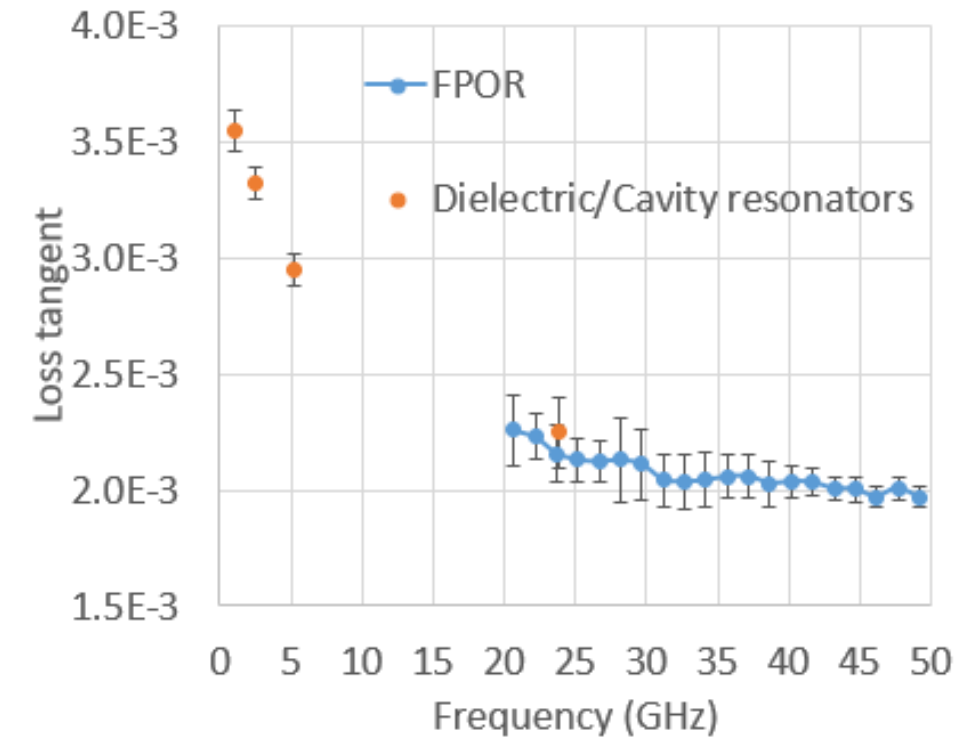


Dielectric constant

Uncertainty of  $D_k < 1\%$



Fluorinert  
(3M FC-40)

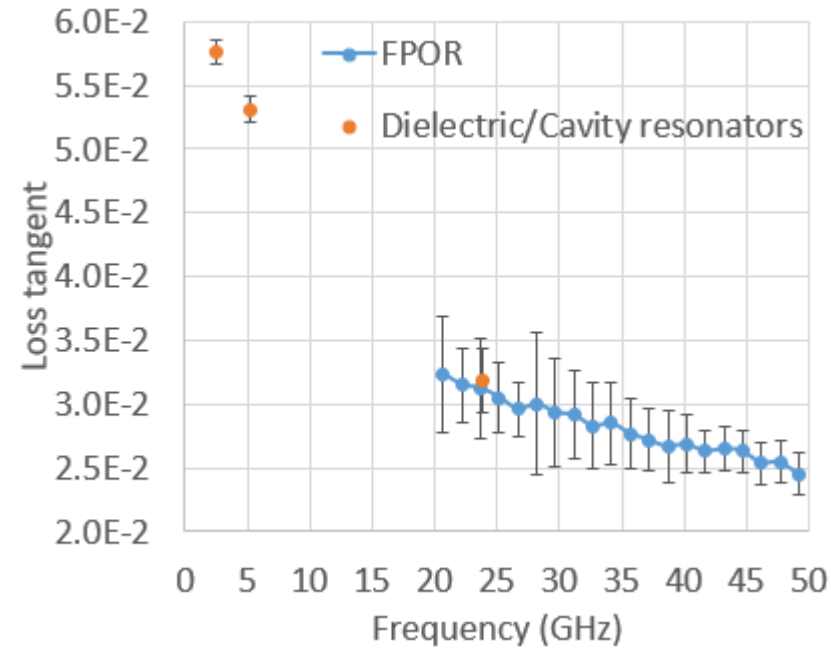
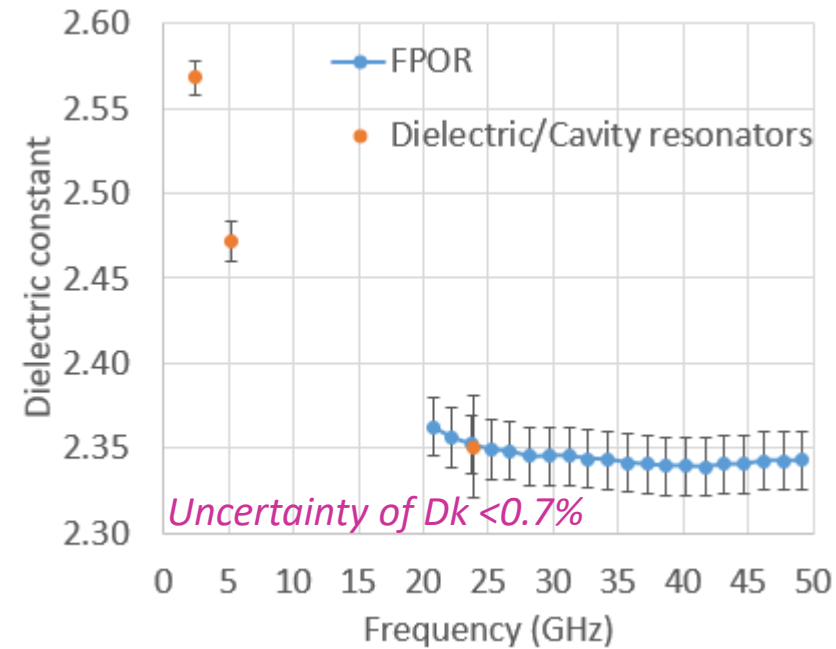


Loss tangent

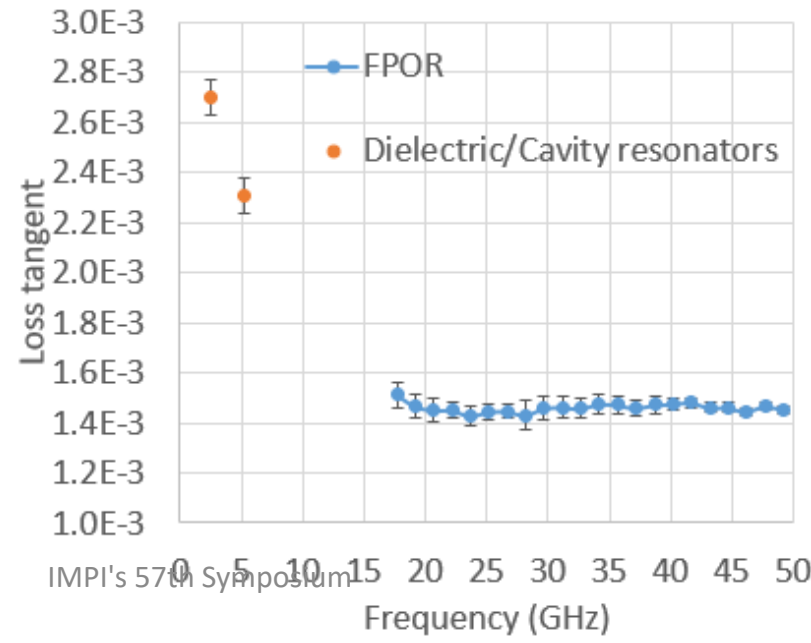
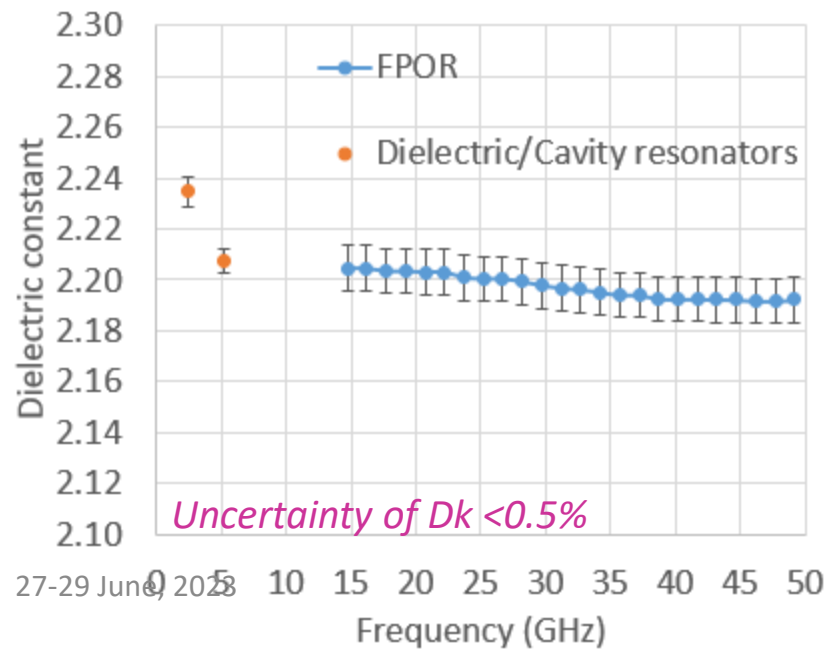
Low-loss liquids typically exhibit **dispersive properties** at microwaves  
(Debye-like relaxation)



# Measurements results - oils



Canola oil



Engine oil





# Temperature measurements (1)

## Dielectric characterization versus temperature

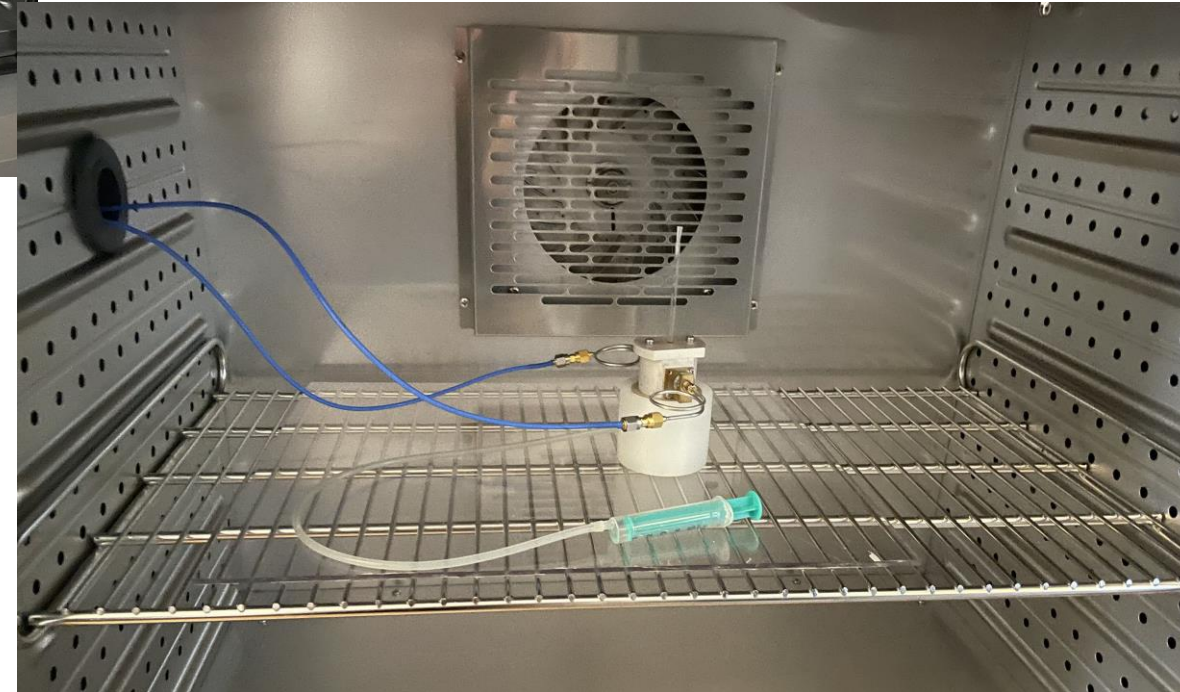


PC with  
control app

VNA

Climatic chamber  
with cavity resonator  
@24GHz

- ✓ **Material parameters versus frequency**
- ✓ **TC of dielectric constant of liquid**
- ✓ **Cavity and dielectric resonators suitable**

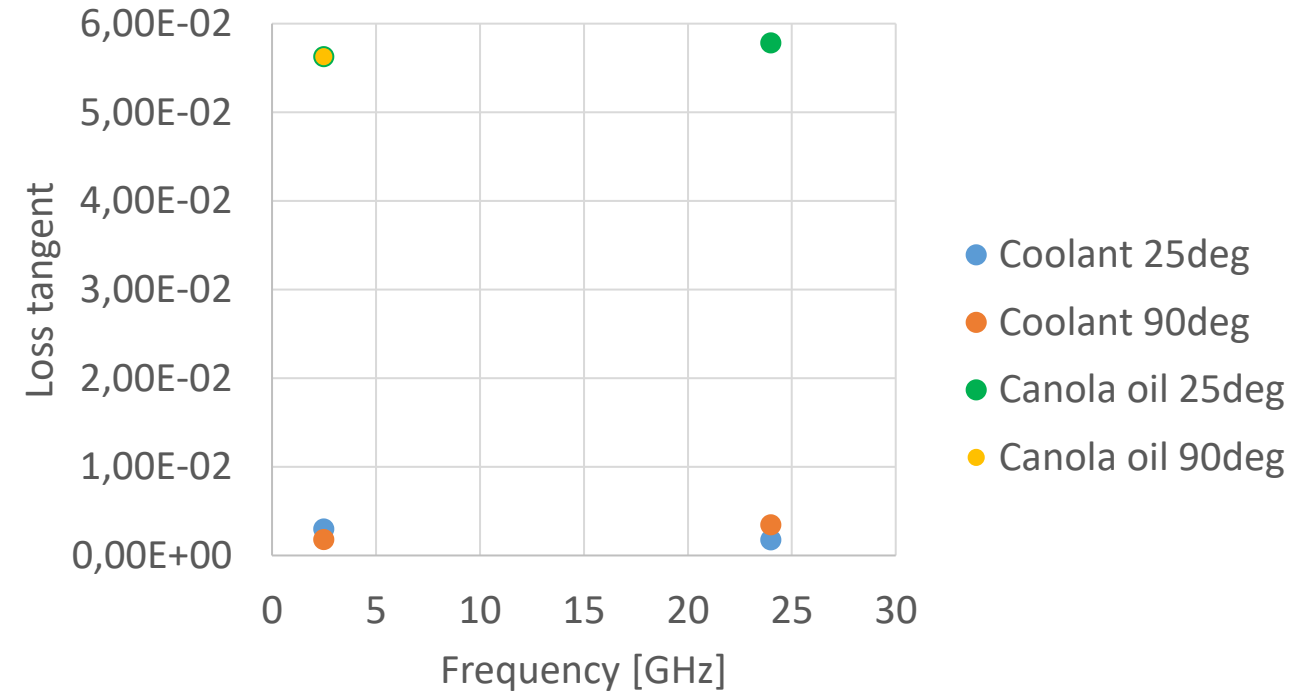
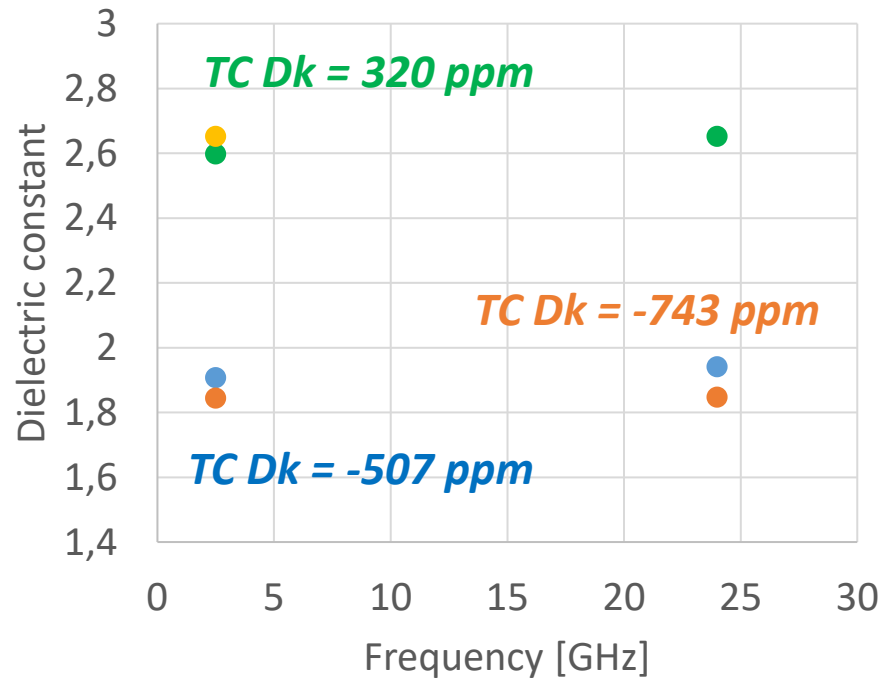




# Temperature measurements (2)

## Dielectric characterization versus temperature

### coolant liquid and canola oil



*Uncertainty of Dk due to variation of diameter of quartz tube*  
*@2.5 GHz – 0.1%                      @24GHz – 0.7%*

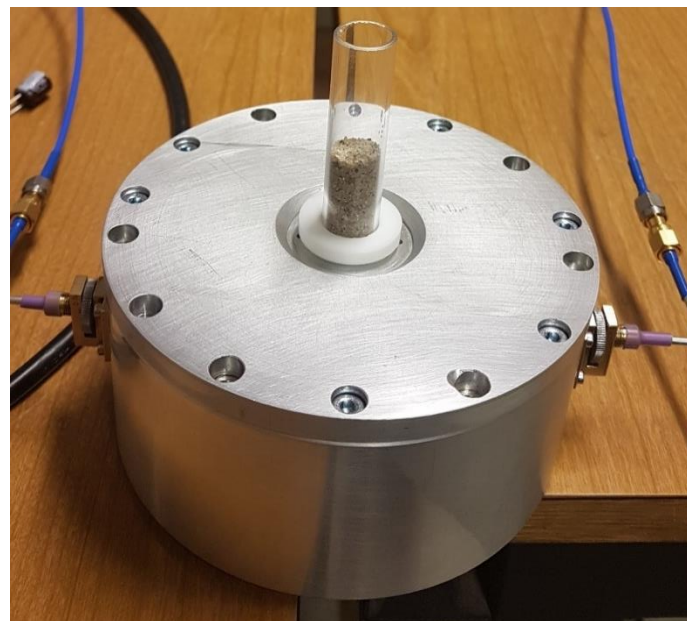


# Quartz sand measurements

Intrinsic properties of **mixture components** can be evaluated  
(e.g. using Maxwell-Garnett model)

## Effective parameters

$D_k = 2.851$  @ 1 GHz  
 $D_k = 2.758$  @ 2.5 GHz  
 $D_f = 3.367 \times 10^{-3}$  @ 1 GHz  
 $D_f = 2.539 \times 10^{-3}$  @ 2.5 GHz



Dielectric resonator  
(1.04 GHz)

## Intrinsic parameters

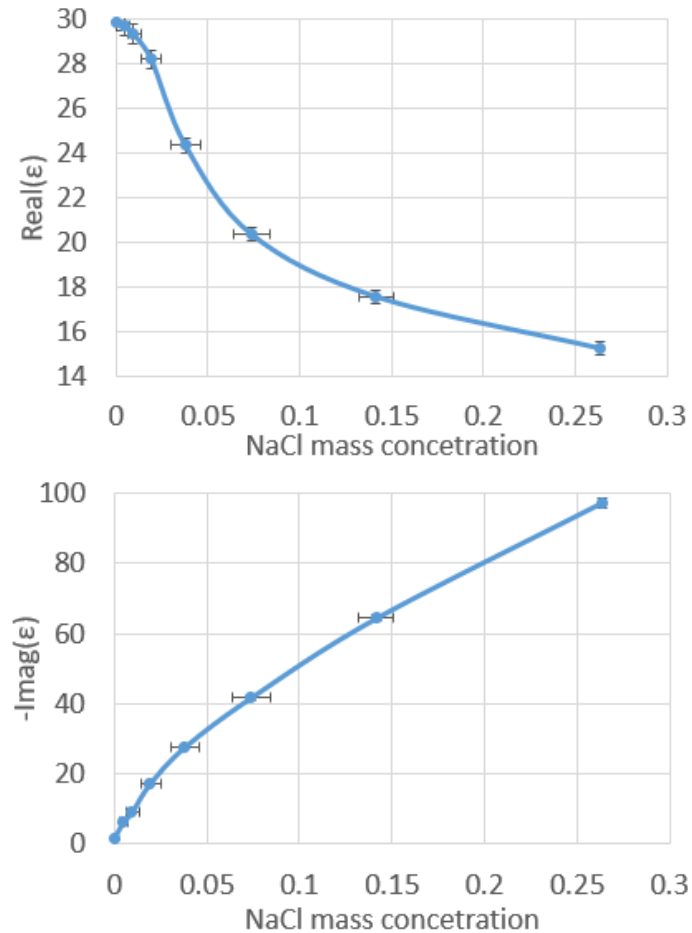
$D_k = 4.275$  @ 1 GHz  
 $D_k = 4.104$  @ 2.5 GHz  
 $D_f = 4.117 \times 10^{-3}$  @ 1 GHz  
 $D_f = 3.124 \times 10^{-3}$  @ 2.5 GHz

Air volume fraction: 36.4%



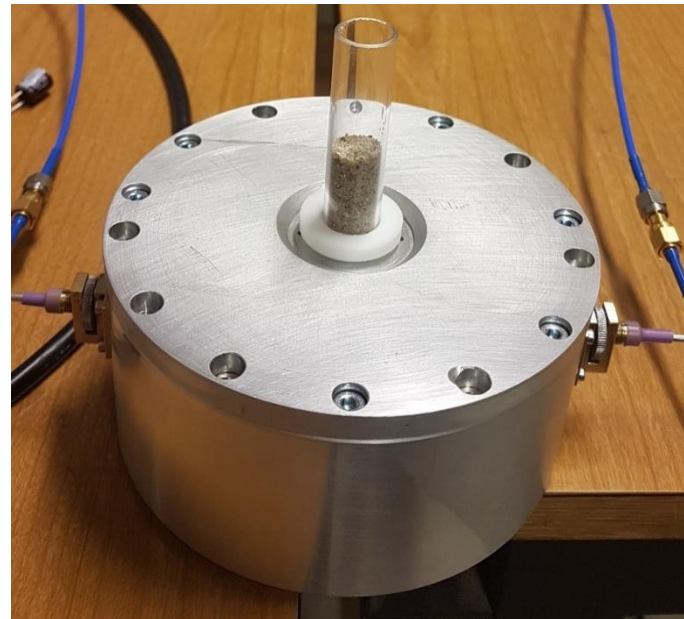
# Sand and saline water

Intrinsic properties of mixture components can be evaluated  
(e.g. using Maxwell-Garnett model)



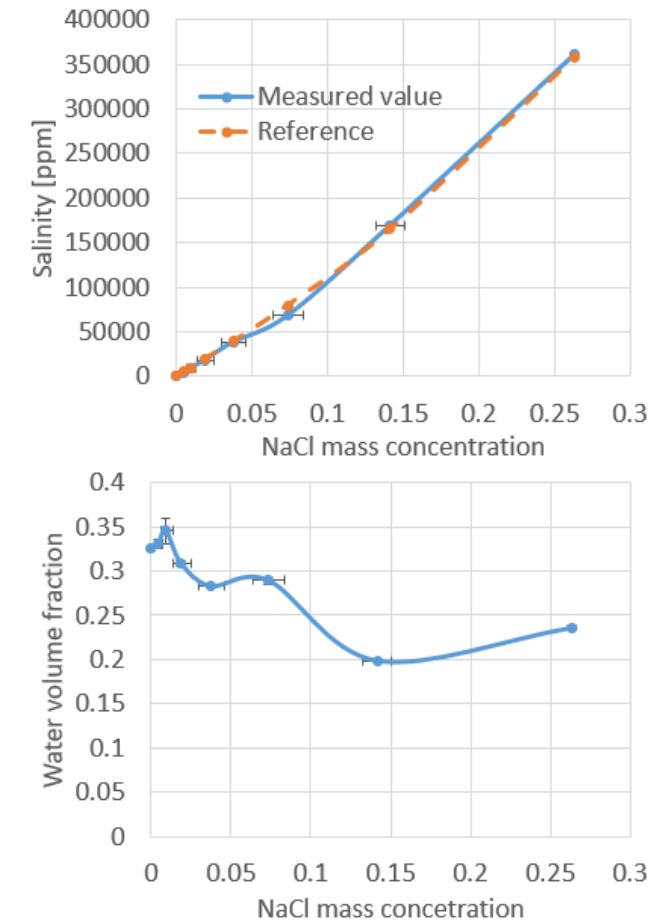
27-29 June, 2023

$T = 22\text{ }^{\circ}\text{C}$



Dielectric resonator  
(1.04 GHz)

IMPI's 57th Symposium



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# Summary

- Resonant cavity methods for fluids characterisation has been presented and discussed
- New Fabry-Perot open resonator has been presented and applied to liquid materials measurements
- Three liquid materials have been characterised within 1 – 50GHz frequency range
- Good agreement between the methods is observed
- Dielectric/Cavity methods are well applied for temperature measurements and TC extraction



# Acknowledgement

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  **M-ERA.NET** Part of this work was funded by the Polish National Centre for Research and Development  **NCBR** The National Centre for Research and Development

*under M-ERA.NET2/2020/1/2021 contract*

*under M-ERA.NET3/2021/83/I4BAGS/2022 contract*

*Ultra-Low Temperature Co-fired Ceramics for 6th Generation Electronic Packaging*

*Ion Implantation for Innovative Interface modifications in BAattery and Graphene-enabled Systems*





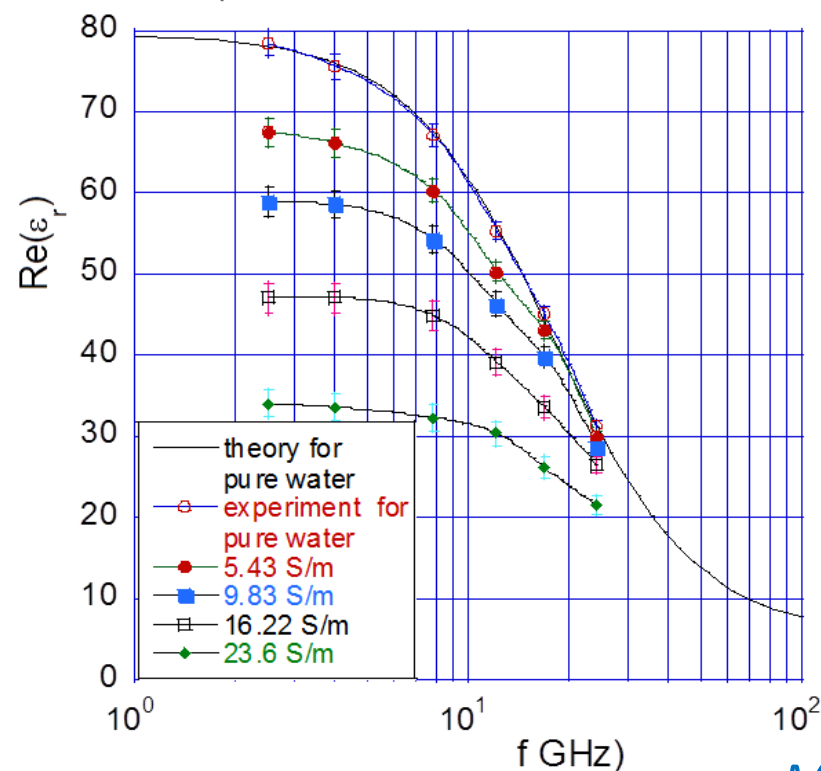
*Thank you for the attention!*

[molszewska@qwed.eu](mailto:molszewska@qwed.eu)

*Visit QWED booth*



TE<sub>0mn</sub> cylindrical modes provides superior accuracy in the characterization of lossy liquids, like saline water.



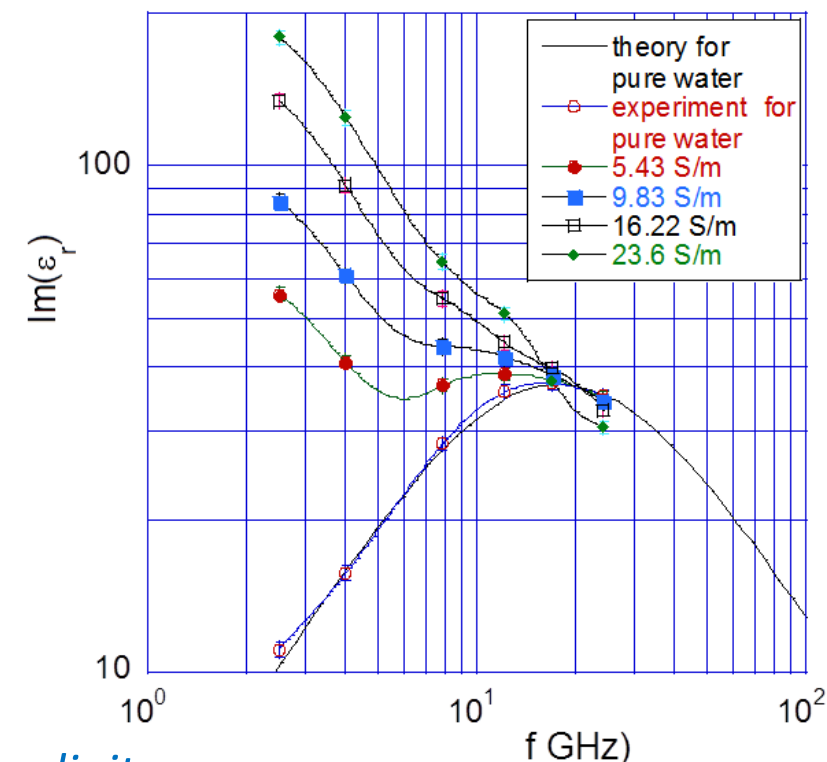
$$\varepsilon(\omega) = \varepsilon_{\infty} + \frac{[\varepsilon_s - \varepsilon_{\infty}]}{(1 + j\omega\tau)} - j \frac{\sigma}{\omega\varepsilon_0}$$

$\varepsilon_s$  low-frequency limit

$\varepsilon_{\infty}$  high-frequency limit

$\tau$  relaxation time

$\sigma$  ionic conductivity



*Measurements of saline water for different salinity,  
at 2.5 GHz, 4 GHz, 7.86 GHz, 12.2 GHz, 16.9 GHz, 24.3 GHz*

\* J. Krupka, Measurements of the complex permittivity of highly concentrated aqueous NaCl solutions and ferrofluid employing microwave cylindrical cavities, Meas. Sci. Technol. 26 (2015).