

We are happy to announce the fall version of the ARFTG NVNA Users' Forum, which will take place on Friday December 12 from 1.15 to 3:15 p.m., right after the lunch.

For those of you who are new to us: we are an informal discussion group is devoted to sharing information and issues related to instrumentation utilized in vector large-signal network analysis of microwave circuits and systems that contain nonlinear elements.

NVNA user's Forum topics include: Large-signal measurements utilizing nonlinear vector network analyzers (NVNAs), e.g. Microwave Transition Analyzers (MTAs) and Large-Signal Network Analyzers (LSNAs). In order to take into account the recent improvements in nonlinear measurement technologies, fast sampling oscilloscopes or VNAs with particular amplitude and phase calibrations can be considered as NVNA systems.

As usual, we propose 2 discussion topics:

FIRST TOPIC: "The comb generator: phase reference and traceability". Moderators: Kate Remley, Paul Hale.

Possible discussion subjects:

- technologies of comb generators
- short term and/or long term stability
- practical aspects of measuring a phase reference
- calibration/traceability capability or not of a comb generator
- use of a calibrated comb generator to calibrate another one
- use of an uncalibrated comb generators for NVNA measurements
- file formats for comb generator calibration data
- ...

SECOND TOPIC: "Is Envelope Load-Pull Necessary". Moderator: Basim Noori. Possible discussion subjects:

- Technologies to achieve waveform engineering
- Advances in nonlinear devices knowledge / power amplifier knowledge obtained from this approach
- Utility of such measurements to build or improve nonlinear device models
- ...

To involve more young researchers in the field of NVNA measurements, we again invite a PhD student to tell about his/her research problems in the nonlinear field and ask for help and suggestions by more experienced researchers in the group. If you would like to bring a research update, suggest a discussion topic, or are a PhD student interested in discussing your research, please contact the organizers:

Jean-Pierre Teyssier <teyssier@brive.unilim.fr>

Dominique Schreurs <dominique.scheurs@esat.kuleuven.ac.be>

Moreover, if some of the attendees are very interested in one of the discussion topics, they can bring a couple of slides to expose briefly some updates or to highlight some details. Please get in touch with the moderator before the forum to check with her/him and to upload the slides.

The tentative agenda for the meeting looks like this so far:

05 mins: Welcome

20 mins: Introductions by attendees with a short (verbal) description of your work

30 mins: First Discussion Topic

30 mins: Second Discussion Topic

30 mins: Research updates, open discussion (Please send us your ideas for short research updates and/or demos (7-10 min.))

5 mins: Announcements and closing

total: 2 hours

For information on past meetings, our website: <http://www.arftg.org/> NVNA User's Forum area.

We look forward to seeing you in Portland!

Jean-Pierre, Dominique, John