IMPEDANCE MEASUREMENTS

FREQUENCY RESPONSE MODE

- Does NOT allow measuring separately the Resistive and Inductive components

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- Ease of sweeping the frequency
- Reference level = 0 dB = short in place of ferrite



RS and RL are generally 50 ohms

To calculate Zx from attenuation readings in + dB's: $Zx = (RL + RS) \cdot (10^{\left(\frac{dB}{20}\right)} - 1)$

Signal gen voltage: E RF Voltmeter voltage: e1 at calibration, e2 with the ferrite inserted

$$e1 = E \cdot \frac{RL}{RL + Rs}$$
Calculate the voltage
divider $K1 = \frac{e1}{E} = \frac{RL}{RL + RS}$ K1 is the reference voltage ratio at calibration (called the 0 dB ref.
level) $K2 = \frac{RL}{RL + RS + Zx}$ K2 is the voltage ratio with the ferrite inserted (will read some dB
lower)

The linear attenuation caused by the ferrite is:

$$K = \frac{K2}{K1}$$

Using the equations for K1 and K2 above:

$$K = \frac{\frac{RL}{RL+RS+Zx}}{\frac{RL}{RL+RS}}$$
Note that K is <= 1

$$K = \frac{RL+RS}{\frac{RL}{RL+RS}}$$
Simplify

$$Zx = \frac{RL+RS}{K} - RS - RL$$
Solving for

$$Zx = \frac{RL+RS - K \cdot (RL+RS)}{K}$$
Rearrange

$$Zx = \frac{(RL+RS) \cdot (1-K)}{K}$$
Rearrange

$$K = 10^{\left(\frac{-dB}{20}\right)}$$
Computing K from the positive dB measured

$$Zx = \frac{(RL+RS) \cdot (1-K)}{K}$$
Eq. repeated

$$Zx = (RL+RS) \cdot \left(\frac{1}{K} - 1\right)$$
Rearrange

$$Zx = \frac{(RL+RS) \cdot \left(\frac{1}{K} - 1\right)$$
Rearrange

$$Zx = \frac{(RL+RS) \cdot (1-K)}{K}$$
Eq. repeated

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Note that: K = S21, the S parameter describing the transmission ratio.

$$Zx = \frac{(RL + RS) \cdot (1 - S21)}{S21}$$
 Substitute S21 for K

With RL=RS=50 ohms, we get:



This is the equation that the VNA computes to display Zx in the series mode Note that the VNA measures S21 as a complex quantity:

It has a magnitude and an angle or Real and Imaginary parts.

Example

$$\begin{split} dB &:= 1 \ , 1.1 \ .. \ 50 \qquad \text{RL} := 50 \qquad \text{RS} := 50 \\ \text{Zx}(dB) &:= \left(\begin{matrix} \frac{dB}{20} \\ 10^2 & -1 \end{matrix} \right) \cdot (\text{RL} + \text{RS}) \end{split}$$

