

E-Learning: Planar EM in Depth - Part 1

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This five-part video is the first in a multi-video series presenting the Microwave Office EM environment. The AXIEM simulator is always run in the planar environment and the Analyst™ simulator can also be run out of the planar environment through the use of pre-configured 3D cells.

- Part 1 gives a brief overview of the EM planar environment and how it fits into Microwave Office software. An example in Analyst is shown and three key reasons for why a designer would use an EM simulator are explained. This part concludes with an explanation of the capabilities and limitations of drawing 3D structures in the planar editor.
- Part 2 starts by explaining the two most important objects for planar EM layout, the LPF file and the STACKUP block, which are used to control the setup of the entire layout. The process creator, which creates a library with these two files, is then demonstrated.
- Part 3 explains the LPF file, the understanding of which is critical to mastering layout setup. There are two ways to look at it: the graphical user interface (GUI) and the schematic layout. This part examines the LPF file through the GUI and highlights the critical concepts of draw layers, export mappings, and EM layer mapping.
- Part 4 shows how the LPF file is used in schematic layout and how draw layers can be created, and visibility controlled. Various tips and tricks are given to help in creating layout.
- Part 5 looks at the ASCII version of the LPF file. Line types, which control the layout properties of transmission line elements, are emphasized.

The entire video is approximately 1 hour in length.

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