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WPT on the Dark Side of the Moon and other aerospace applications

Zoya Popovic

Department of Electrical, Computer and Energy Engineering University of Colorado, Boulder, U.S.A.



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Lunar Exploration

- First unmanned spacecraft: Soviet Union's Luna in 1959; first photos of dark side by Luna 3
- U.S. NASA Apollo 8 (man orbiting mission) and Appolo 11-17 manned landing missions
- After 1972, the Moon has been visited by only unmanned spacecraft
- Rovers: Soviet 1973 Lunkhod, China 2013 Yutu
- Orbital missions since 2004: Japan, China, India, the United States, and ESA
- Discovery of lunar water ice in permanently shadowed craters at the poles and bound into the lunar regolith
- Future manned missions to the Moon have been planned, including government as well as privately funded efforts.
- The Moon remains, under the Outer Space Treaty free to all nations to explore for peaceful purposes.









NASA Lunar Exploration



- Global Exploration Strategy (December 2006)
 - Robotic precursor missions used to characterize critical environmental parameters and lunar resources
 - Human return to the moon no later than 2020
 - Develop a solar-powered lunar base at the South Pole
 - In-Situ Resource Utilization: use lunar materials to produce oxygen and extract water from ice reservoirs with a robotic mission.
- Tested rovers on Mauna Kea, Hawaii, in 2010



Water on the Moon?

Communications on the Moon

Ka-Band

And S-Band

Key Technical Challenge with the Lunar South Pole

Earth DSN 34m Network

- Earth is NOT always visible
- Direct radio communication is not possible
- Lunar relay architecture expandable to provide global coverage of the lunar surface for human exploration phases

And S-Band Ka-Band

Ka-Band

LUCIS 1

LUCIS Link

Architecture

Lunar South Pole







- How to deliver power to facilities on the lunar surface in places where there is little or no sunlight?
- Load stations are planned to be 0.5 to 2km away from mountaintops where photovoltaic generation stations can be placed
- Each site expected to require 10kW of power
- Cables estimated to have a mass of ~7,500kg for five load stations
 - large distances, large mass
 - sensitive to temperature
 - expensive to transport from Earth to the Moon
 - may be a safety hazard for lunar operations
 - susceptible to solar flare induced transient effects
 - large diameter due to high voltages and power levels
 - difficult to manage due to residual cable stresses.
 - difficult to move in the event that a different facility needs to be powered





| | Transmitter 1 | Transmitter 2 | Transmitter 3 | Transmitter 4 | Total power |
|------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|-------------|
| Facility 1 | 5kW | 5kW | | | 10kW |
| Facility 2 | 5kW | 5kW | | | 10kW |
| Facility 3 | | | 5kW | 5kW | 10kW |
| Facility 4 | | | 5kW | 5kW | 10kW |
| Facility 5 | 2.5kW (5kW) | 2.5kW (0) | 2.5kW (0) | 2.5kW (5kW) | 10kW |

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Demonstrated applications, relatively high power **<u>directive</u>** beaming:

- proposed for helicopter powering (Brown, 1984)
- solar-powered satellite-to-ground power transmission (NASA McSpadden et al., 1996; Japan, Shinohara et al., 1998)
- inter-satellite power transmission, utility power satellites (Chang et al., 1992)
- mechanical actuators for space-based telescopes (Epp et al., 2000)
- small dc motor driving (Fujino et al., 1994)
- short range wireless power transfer, e.g. between two parts of a satellite



Lunar base powering stations



- Environment: no light at bottom of craters on the South Pole, but continuous light at crater edges
- No wind, low gravity, short line-of-sight (small radius)



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transmission system



Efficiency breakdown



| Efficiency | Description | Max Demonstrated |
|--|---|---|
| $\eta_T = \frac{P_{RF,antenna}}{P_{DC,in}}$ | Total microwave transmitter DC-RF conversion efficiency, where $P_{RF,Out}$ is the RF power delivered to the transmitting antenna. | 70-80% power and frequency dependent [3,4] |
| PCE | Power-combining efficiency of the transmitter (no single RF source provides the required multiple kW) | 80-90%, combiner- type dependent [5] |
| $\eta_{Beam} = \frac{P_{RF,Trans}}{P_{RF,Rec}}$ | Beaming efficiency between the transmit and receive apertures, including the free-space propagation loss | About 80% for far- field (see next section) |
| $\eta_{\text{Rect}} = \frac{P_{DC,\text{Rectified}}}{P_{RF,\text{Rec}}}$ | Rectification efficiency of the rectenna, where the input is the received RF power at the aperture, and the output the non-regulated DC power | 80% [6] |
| $\eta_{PM} = \frac{P_{DC,out}}{P_{DC,Rectified}}$ | Rectenna power management efficiency required to produce given fixed output voltage | 85-90% dependent on rectenna number and power [7] |



Transmitter







Deployed

Stretched

Lens

Corner

Post 8

Lens Stowed Against Radiator

princ

Focal

Line

Radiator

PV Technology



- Stretched Lens Arrays (SLA)
- Fresnel lens and high efficiency multijunction cells provide improved PV performance
- The Fresnel lens concentrates the Sun power density by 8:1
 - light weight,
 - scalable with a capacity of 100's of kW's
 - provides good radiation resistance
 - has a built in passive thermal management (radiator)
 - has a high specific power (~300 W/kg)
 - can operate at high voltages (300 600V)

O'Neill, Mark J. Int. Conf. Solar Concentrators for the Generation of Electricity or Hydrogen, 2005, "ENTECH's Stretched Lens Array (SLA) for NASA's Moon/Mars Exploration Missions, Including Near-Term Terrestrial Spin-Offs"



PV Technology





- For a lunar power generation station, Entech, ATK and NASA (Glenn Research Center) developed a 2.5m by 5m 4-kW SLA square rigger (SLASR) array
- This modular SLASR is expected to be easily mass produced.
- Expected to have specific power levels in excess of 1000 W/kg

O'Neill, Mark J., 4th World Conference on Photovoltaic Energy Conversion, Waikoloa, Hawaii, May 7-12, 2006, "Stretched Lens Array (SLA) for Collection and Conversion of Infrared Laser Light: 45% Efficiency Demonstrated for Near-Term 800 W/kg Space Power System"



Grounding system



• Lunar regolith is an insulator

| Compound | | Composition (wt %) | |
|------------------|-------------------|--------------------|-----------|
| Compound | | Maria | Highlands |
| Silica | SiO ₂ | 45.4% | 45.5% |
| Alumina | Al_2O_3 | 14.9% | 24.0% |
| Lime | CaO | 11.8% | 15.9% |
| Iron Oxide | FeO | 14.1% | 5.9% |
| Magnesia | MgO | 9.2% | 7.5% |
| Titanium dioxide | TiO ₂ | 3.9% | 0.6% |
| Sodium Oxide | Na ₂ O | 0.6% | 0.6% |
| Total | | 99.9% | 100.0% |







Grounding system

- Surface of the moon highly charged due to interaction with the local plasma environment and solar radiation-induced photoemission of electrons
 - Surface static charging is periodic over both short and long timescales.
 - During the lunar day, surface charges positively, at night negatively.
 - Due to orbital variations, the moon has periods of time where interaction with the geomagnetic plasma sheet of the earth creates enhanced charging. Cycles peak approximately every 18 years
 - Static potential of the lunar surface varies daily between +10 and -600V and possibly to several kV





Grounding



- Grounding : electrical connection of the primary reference of the electrical device to a large enough conductive mass such that charges transferred to the mass do not result in a significant increase in the overall charge of the mass.
- Power beaming has significant grounding advantages when compared to transmission via cables.
- Various approaches to lunar grounding (charge management) proposed:



- Use of grounding rods with the injection of conductive materials into the lunar regolith
- Use of ion/electron guns to expel positively or negatively charged ions
- Ion Proportional Surface Emission Cathode (MIT)
- Field Effect Emitters (Space Systems/Loral)



WPT Channel



- On lunar surface, 2km range requires towers for the transmit antennas (1737.10 km (0.273 Earth's))
- Towers for the rectenna receivers in order to provide safety of personnel at the load stations.
- Example: ATK's Folding Articulated Square Truss (FAST) Mast technology
 - installed on the International Space Station in 2006, <8ft to 115ft



- A motor driven, internally-threaded canister shell to extrude the boom
- Stowed and transitioning portions of boom are fully contained within canister
- Near full stiffness and strength throughout deployment
- Large deployment push force capability
- Remotely retractable and deployable
- No rotation during deployment





- Frequency choice: tradeoff between antenna size, transmitter amplifier PAE and rectifier efficiency
- DC input is 128V, some DC-DC conversion needed to supply the required voltage needed for microwave devices (typically 8 to 48V range). Can be very efficient (98% is relatively easy to demonstrate).
- Power combining needed at transmit

| Number Of Subarrays | Number Of Elements Per Subarray | Power Transmitted Per Subarray | | |
|------------------------|---------------------------------------|-----------------------------------|--|--|
| 350 | 64 | 22 W (28 W) | | |
| 175 | 128 | 45 W (56 W) | | |
| 130 | 170 | 60 W (75 W) | | |





- Below 1GHz, efficient LDMOS for higher power PAs
- Above 1GHz, GaN PAs have PAE>80% for 5-10W output power, 60% at X-band





WPT Receiver









Rectenna array illumination



$$A/D = \lambda^2/4\pi$$
 $\tan \theta_{-3dB} = d/R \Longrightarrow 2d = aperture.$

$$\eta_{Beam} = \frac{P_{RF,Trans}}{P_{RF,Rec}} = \frac{A_{Trans}A_{Rec}}{\lambda^2 R^2}$$



Beaming efficiency

 Measured power flux from parabolic transmitter at receiving rectenna. The power exhibits radial symmetry, with peak power flux occurring in the center (details can be found in reference

N. Shinohara and H. Matsumoto, "Experimental study of large rectenna array for microwave energy transmission," *IEEE Transaction MTT*, vol. 46, no. 3, pp. 261–267, Mar. 1998.



Beaming efficiency for multiple transmitters



$$\tan \theta_{-3dB} = di / R_{ij} \Longrightarrow 2di = aperture$$
$$A_i / D_i = \lambda^2 / 4\pi$$



$$\eta_{ij} = \frac{P_{Rj}}{P_i} = \frac{A_i A_j}{\lambda^2 R_{ij}^2} \qquad R_{ij} = \kappa \lambda \qquad \kappa > 1000$$

$$P_{Rj} = \sum_{i=1}^4 P_{Ti} \frac{A_j A_i}{\lambda^2 R_{ij}^2} = \frac{A_j A_i}{\lambda^4} \sum_{i=1}^4 \frac{P_{Ti}}{\kappa_{ij}^2}$$

$$\eta_{ij} = \frac{P_{Rj}}{\sum_{i=1}^4 P_{Ti} / \kappa_{ij}^2} = \frac{A_i A_j}{\lambda^4}$$

i=1

Example plot of product of transmit and receive apertures, in square meters, for 3 frequencies and 2 ranges (R=D=0.5 and 2km). The graph shows how the size varies as a function of beaming efficiency.



$A_T A_R = 0.8\lambda^2 \cdot (2km)^2$ Beaming efficiency = 80%



| Frequency/ Wavelength | AT AR | Transmit aperture No. of el. N Directivity D | HPBW and Far Field | Receive aperture No. elements N | Spot size |
|--------------------------|-------------------------|--|--------------------------|------------------------------------|--------------|
| 2GHz / 15cm | 72,000 m ⁴ | 16m x 16m | 0.48° | 16m x 16m | d=17m |
| | Not in far field at | N=106 x 106 | FF~14km! | N=106 x 106 | |
| | all | D=51dB | | | |
| | Borderline far | 10m x 10m , N=133 x 133 | 0.77° | 27m x 27m | d=27m |
| | field | D=47dB | FF~2.7km | N=360 x 360 | |
| | | 5m x 5m, N= 67 x 67 | 1.59° | 54m x 54m | d=55m |
| | | D=41dB | FF~670m | N=720 x 720 | |
| 5GHz / 6 cm | 11,520m ⁴ | 10m x 10m, N=333 x 333 | 0.32° | 10m x 10m | d=11m |
| | Not in far field | D=55dB | FF~3.5km | N=333 x 333 | |
| | Borderline far | 5m x 5m, N= 150 x 150 | 0.63° | 21m x 21m | d=22m |
| | field | D=49dB | FF~1.7km | N=700 x 700 | |
| | | 3m x 3m, N=100 x 100 | 1° | 36m x 36m | d=36m |
| | | D=44.8dB | FF~600m | N=1200 x 1200 | |
| 10GHz / 3cm | 2,880 m ⁴ | 7.3m x 7.3m, N=485 x 485 | 0.23° | 7.3m x 7.3m | d=8m |
| | Not in far field at all | D=58dB | FF~7.1km | N=485 x 485 | |
| | | 3m x 3m, N=200 x 200 | 0.51° | 18m x 18m | d=18m |
| | | D=50dB | FF~1.2km | N=1200 x 1200 | |



Diode high-power rectifier



Wan Jiang, Biao Zhang, Liping Yan, Changjun Liu, "A 2.45 GHz Rectenna in a Near-Field Wireless Power Transmission System on Hundred-Watt Level" IMS 2014



Transistor PA-Rectifier Duality





- Both simulations performed with 8x75 um GaN HEMT nonlinear model at 2.14 GHz in a Class-F circuit with 5 terminated harmonics
- Simulated GaN transistor I-V curves (gray), dynamic load lines (red), drain DC bias point (black circle), and transistor characteristic (blue) at Vgs = -4.9 V
- Power swept from 0 to 40 dBm (Vdd = 28 V for PA operation)



Transistor PA-Rectifier Duality





- Simulated GaN transistor time-domain intrinsic drain voltage (blue) and current (red) as the power is swept from 0 to 40 dBm (Vdd = 28 V for PA operation)
- High efficiency PA and rectifier operation achieved with timereversal duality of transistor's main current source



S-band self-synchronous rectifier





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Performance of 2.11GHz rectifier





Measured performance



Amplifier, 2.11GHz, Class F-1 PAE=83% Pout=8W at Vdd=28V

"High-Efficiency Harmonically Terminated Diode and Transistor Rectifiers," M. Roberg, T. Reveyrand, I. Ramos, E.A. Falkenstein, Z. Popović, *IEEE Trans. Microwave Theory Tecnh., Vol. 60*, No.12, pp.4043-4052, Dec. 2012 Rectifier, self-synchronized 2.11GHz, Class F-1 85% conversion efficiency Vout = 35V, Pin=10W Vout = 26V, Pin=8W



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- 10 x 100 µm FET
- Class-B bias in pinch-off
- **Optimized for PAE**

2.0 mm

- Single-stage, power combined with non-isolated reactive combiner
- Two 10 x 100 μ m FETs
- **Biased in deep Class-AB**





- 4 Channel time-domain receiver operating as LSNA
- Couplers acquire absolute incident and reflected waves
- SOLT calibration at fundamental and 2nd harmonic





Circuit A PA Performance

• Peak PAE = 67.87%

• peak $\eta_{DE} = 78.36\%$

• $P_{in} = 26.42 \text{ dBm}$

• V_G = -4.0 V





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Circuit B PA Performance

- Peak PAE = 54.47%
- peak $\eta_{DE} = 65.75\%$
- $P_{in} = 26 \text{ dBm}$
- $P_{out} = 35 \text{ dBm}$

- $V_{G} = -3.4 V$
- V_{DD} = 20 V
- f₀ = 10.1 GHz





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Rectifier Measurement Setup



- 4 Channel time-domain receiver operating as LSNA
- Input is RF drain of DUT, output is DC drain of DUT
- Gate is DC biased and RF terminated (self-sync)
- DC drain load, RF gate termination, V_G are swept





Important Rectifier Parameters





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Circuit A Rectifier Performance

- Peak $\eta_R = 64.40\%$
- $V_{G} = -4.7 V$
- $R_D = 100 \Omega$
- $Z_{load} = 8.45 + j24.5 \Omega$





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Circuit B Rectifier Performance

- Peak $\eta_R = 63.94\%$
- $V_{G} = -4.7 V$
- R_D = 80 Ω
- Z_{load} = 9.8 + j35.75 Ω







PA / Rectifier Comparison



| | Power Amplifier | | Rectifier | |
|---------------------|-----------------|------|-----------|------|
| Circuit | А | В | А | В |
| Peak Efficiency (%) | 67.8 | 56.4 | 64.4 | 63.9 |
| DC Power (W) | 4.2 | 5.1 | 1.7 | 3.2 |
| RF Power (W) | 3.3 | 3.4 | 2.6 | 5.0 |

- GaN HEMTS are good candidates for both PA and rectifier operation
- High-efficiency, self-synchronous, transistor rectifiers can be designed as PAs and then operated as rectifiers
- A need exists for non-linear transistor models extracted from first and third quadrants of I-V curves
- Due to high power levels in wireless power beaming, GaN HEMT rectifiers are suitable





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Elements of rectenna array













| Array conf. | N=20 parallel | 10P × (2S) | 5P × (4S) | 4P × (5S) | 2P × (10S) | N=20 series |
|-----------------------|------------------|---------------|--------------|--------------|---------------|----------------|
| $R_{opt}(\Omega)$ | 10 | 300 | 100 | 500 | 1.8k | 5k |
| P _{max} (mW) | 4.3 | 3.9 | 3.2 | 4.7 | 4.4 | 4.1 |



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Other aerospace WPT applications



- Micro and nano-drone powering
- Harvesting satellite antenna sidelobes for low-power sensor powering
- Structural health monitoring of aircraft



- In 1964, with an Air Force contract, Willian Brown demonstrated a wirelessly-powered helicopter (drone!)
- Power at 2.45GHz was beamed onto the array and the helicopter flew for over 10 hours





Powering a micro-drone

CONTRACT OF

- 1. Recharging battery wirelessly on ground
- 2. Recharging periodically in flight
- 3. Recharging in confined environments
- 4. Recharging multiple micro-drones





Background: acoustic health monitoring of aircraft wings





Defect detection when wirelessly powered



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2. Powering in flight



- 1. Recharging battery wirelessly on ground
- 2. Recharging periodically in flight
- 3. Recharging in confined environments
- 4. Recharging multiple micro-drones





Powering a micro-drone in flight





Line-of sight link: $P_{R,DC} = \eta_C P_T G_T A_R \frac{1}{4\pi D^2} \cdot \alpha$ \uparrow Conversion
efficiency
Polarization
mismatch
Antenna gain and $\frac{A}{\lambda^2} = \frac{G}{4\pi}$ Half-power
beamwidth: $\theta_{3dB}^\circ \approx \sqrt{\frac{32000}{G}}$

Time it takes for drone to fly through single beam: $t = K \cdot \frac{D}{v} \frac{1}{\sqrt{A_T / \lambda^2}}$

$$(\mathbf{E}_{WPT})_{\max} = K \cdot \eta_C P_T \frac{1}{Dv} A_R \sqrt{\frac{A_T}{\lambda^2}}$$

Maximum possible energy available for storage -for a given D and v, determines size of transmit antenna array (K~0.9)



Powering a micro-drone in flight: an example, no tracking





| variable | value | | |
|---------------------|-----------------------------|--|--|
| P transmitted | 100W | | |
| η RF-DC | 50% | | |
| Area of rectenna | 0.1m ² | | |
| Powering distance | 5m | | |
| Transmit array size | 10 λ x 10 λ | | |
| Transmit gain | 1200 | | |
| 3-dB beamwidth | 10 deg | | |
| Micro-drone speed | 5m/s | | |
| Time through beam | 15s | | |
| Received energy | 1 kJ | | |



Powering a micro-drone

- 1. Recharging battery wirelessly on ground
- 2. Recharging periodically in flight
- 3. Recharging in confined environments
- 4. Recharging multiple micro-drones









Some relevant details



- Antenna possibilities on micro-drones
- Transmitter antenna arrays, receiver arrays
- Propagation environment (caves, etc.) and allowed power densities
- Polarization, varying power density, varying frequency







IMS competition:

- Dual frequency
- 2.4GHz and 915MHz
- 1uW/cm^2
- printed Yagi
- capacitor and diode
- 0.5gr mass





Claim 11:

"...utilizing effects or disturbances transmitted through the natural media from a distant source, which consists in storing in a condenser ... electrical energy derived from an independent source, and using, for periods of time predetermined as to succession and duration, the accumulated energy so obtained to operate a receiving device."



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Thank you!

Questions?

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