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100 80 7 60 54 10 KHz 220 20 60 70 60 KHz 180 170 160 KHz 180 97 93 88 MHz

## **radio systems**

RESEARCH | DEVELOPMENT | LEARNING

@radiosystems.av.it.pt







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#### Wireless Power Transmission Universidade de Aveiro Developments

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## History



**Marconi** was an Italian inventor. He is considered as the father of radio communication. He shared the 1909 Nobel Prize in Physics with Karl Ferdinand Braun "in recognition of their contributions to the development of wireless telegraphy".



**Tesla** demonstrated wireless energy transfer to power electronic devices in 1891 and aspired to intercontinental wireless transmission of industrial power in his unfinished Wardenclyffe Tower project.

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## **Evolution of Radio** Communications

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Marconi Radio Long-distance Communications	Broadcast Radio	Television	Mobile Phones	Data Communications
	Communications for the Masses	High Social Impact	Mimicking God Omnipresence	Interconnecting people

#### **Evolution of Radio** Energy Needs



## **Battery Elimination**

Batteries take hundreds of years to decompose, posing a serious threat to the public health and to the environment.



- Considering 4 Million habitual residences in Portugal (INE Censos 2011) and assuming that:
  - ✓ 75% of them have a TV equipment
  - ✓ 40% have a cable TV Box
  - ✓ 30% have a Sound System



- We end up with an average of 5.8 Millions of remotes in Portugal
- Assuming two batteries per remote and two battery changes per year we have a total of 23.2 Millions batteries being wasted every year !!

#### **Evolution of Radio** Power Transmission

Diver 200 Juscations			A P	
Initial	<b>Crystal Radios</b>	Satellite	Rectenas	RFID
Discovery	Original made	Proposals	Antennas that	Powering up small Tags's
Power been transmitted via air !!	with Galena	Power collected in Space and sent to ground via microwaves	William Brown 1964	

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#### **Next Frontier** Wireless Things





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#### **Next Frontier** European Perspective



## Challenges Technology developments











## **E. Harvesting and WPT**







# Wireless Transmitted Energy How it Works

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## **Inductive Power Transmission**

Inductive Power Transmission is high efficient at very close ranges

Working principle similar to Transformers









#### **Resonant Power Transmission**



N. Bonifácio; André, P.S e Nuno Borges Carvalho; "Resonant Wireless Power Transmission" - Chapter in Advances in Energy Research – Vol. 8, Edited by: Morena V. Acosta, Nova Publisher, New York, 2011.

### **Radio Power Transmission**



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#### **How to Transmit Power via Wireless**



$$P_{DC} = \eta_{RD} P_t G_t G_r \left(\frac{\lambda}{4\pi}\right)^2 \frac{1}{R^n}$$

Increase P<sub>DC</sub>

- I. Increase transmitted Power
- Increase antenna gainsG<sub>t</sub> and G<sub>r</sub>
- III. Increase RF-DC Efficiency

RF-DC Efficiency is given by:  $\eta_{RD} = \frac{P_{DC}}{P_{RF_{Average}}}$ 

RF-DC Efficiency can be increased by designing improved RF circuits

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#### How to Convert RF Energy to DC Power



#### Diode rectify a sine-wave

An output filter extracts the DC waveform ...



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#### How to Convert RF Energy to DC Power



$$y(t) \approx k_1 A \sin(\omega t) + k_2 [A \sin(\omega t)]^2 = k_1 A \sin(\omega t) + k_2 \frac{A^2}{2} [\sin(2\omega t) + 1]$$

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#### How to Convert RF Energy to DC Power

# Single diode detector



 $v_{DC}(t) \approx k_2 \frac{A^2}{2} \propto P_{in}$ 

N-level Voltage Multiplier



For RF circuits, input matching and output matching is more complex to dealt with, and thus several areas should be explored.







# R&D Approaches...

 $\boldsymbol{\boldsymbol{\lambda}}$ 





# Extend the Coverage Range ...



- » Maximizing the WPT Efficiency is a complex matter
- » Maximum range is imposed by the forward link
- » RF-DC efficiency plays a key role



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$$P_{DC} = \eta_{RD} P_t G_t G_r \left(\frac{\lambda}{4\pi}\right)^2 \frac{1}{R^n}$$

#### Increase P<sub>DC</sub>

- I. Increase transmitted Power
- II. Increase antenna gains

G<sub>t</sub> and G<sub>r</sub>

III. Increase RF-DC Efficiency

» RF-DC converters are most of the time based on a Schottky diode



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Schottky diode model approximated by a polynomial series expansion

□ single tone excitation of the diode

$$x(t) = B\cos(\omega_1 t + \phi_1)$$
  $y_{DC} = \frac{B^2 k_2}{2} + \frac{3B^4 k_4}{8}$ 





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multisine excitation of the diode

 $\mathbf{x}(t) = \mathbf{A}\cos(\omega_1 t + \varphi_1) + \mathbf{A}\cos(\omega_2 t + \varphi_2) + \mathbf{A}\cos(\omega_3 t + \varphi_3) + \mathbf{A}\cos(\omega_4 t + \varphi_4)$ 

$$y_{DC} = \frac{4A^{2}k_{2}}{2} + \frac{21A^{4}k_{4}}{2} + \frac{3A^{4}k_{4}}{2}\cos(2\varphi_{3} - \varphi_{2} - \varphi_{4}) + \frac{3A^{4}k_{4}}{2}\cos(-2\varphi_{2} + \varphi_{1} + \varphi_{3}) + 3A^{4}k_{4}\cos(\varphi_{1} - \varphi_{2} - \varphi_{3} + \varphi_{4})$$

#### DC output depends on the phases!!



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Tone separation is an important aspect to account for

The lower the tone separation frequency, the higher time between peak voltage repetition

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Load

» Two different circuits were built and tested:

A single diode detector at 2.4GHz (typically used in energy harvesting)

Input signal DC Out A charge pump at 866MHz

(typically used in RFID Tags)



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Two different circuits were built and tested:

A single diode detector at 2.4GHz

A charge pump at 866MHz



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Two different circuits were built and tested:

Efficiency Gain:  $\Delta \eta = 100 \frac{P_{DC_{MTone}} - P_{DC_{SC}}}{P_{DC_{SC}}}$ 

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### x(t) is squared by the Tag's diode detector

For N=2 (two tones), After low-pass filtering, the baseband is recovered by the Tag:

$$y_{BB}(t) = \frac{k_2}{4} [m(t)]^2 (A_1^2 A_c^2 + A_2^2 A_c^2)$$

- Downlink path fully implemented: RFID Reader + Multisine Front-End
- **Tag Baseband Response is visualized in an Oscilloscope**

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Communication range extension, r is estimated based on measured Tag Sensitivity Gain,  $G_P$ 







SETUP 1: Results

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Reference fixed distance R=1.9m  $\rightarrow$  P<sub>CW\_min</sub> =19.3 dBm

	Tone spacing, <i>∆f</i> (MHz)	Minimum Power P <sub>min</sub> (dBm)	Tag Sensitivity Gain, G <sub>P</sub> (dB)	Reading Range Gain <i>r</i> (m)	r (%)
CW		19.3	0.0	0.0	
2-tone	3.0	17.4	+1.9	+ 0.46	24.2
	2.0	17.5	+1.8	+ 0.44	23.2
	1.0	17.8	+1.5	+0.36	18.9
4-tones	3.0	16.5	+ 2.8	+ 0.72	37.9
	2.0	17.2	+2.1	+ 0.52	27.4
	1.0	17.7	+1.6	+0.38	20.0
8-tones	2.0	16.2	+ 3.1	+ 0.81	42.6
	1.0	16.4	+2.9	+0.75	39.4
	0.5	No response			

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# High PAPR signals saturate the PAsSaturation of PA implies:

- Reduction of Peaks

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### **Spatial Power Combining for WPT**

- □ High PAPR signals saturate the PAs
- Spatial power combining each tone amplified independently and then combined in free space
- Mode-locked coupled oscillators establish phase reference and control phase shift among elements





### Use of Multi-sines in Circuit Design Spatial Power Combining for WPT

□ 4x1 active antenna oscillator array at 6 GHz

□ Patch antenna aperture coupled to a VCO





Ana Collado and Apostolos Georgiadis

### **Spatial Power Combining for WPT**

- Step1: 2 VCOs with 50 MHz spacing. Mixing products are created
- Step2: 3 VCOs. The third one with a free running frequency corresponding to one of the mixing products
- Step3: 4 VCOs. The fourth one with a free running frequency corresponding to one of the mixing products



### Use of Multi-sines in Circuit Design Spatial Power Combining for WPT

- Power gain compares the obtained DC voltage by a rectifier when using the high PAPR signal in comparison with a one-tone signal
- □ Improved performance when using the high PAPR mode-locked signal



$$p_1(dB) = 10 \cdot \log 10 \left(\frac{P_{DC(N)}}{P_{DC(1)}}\right) = 10 \cdot \log 10 \left(\frac{V_{DC(N)}^2}{V_{DC(1)}^2}\right)$$



Ana Collado and Apostolos Georgiadis

#### **Spatial Power Combining for WPT**







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# Characterizing RF-DC Converters ...

# The need for modeling

- > We are always interested in the RF-DC characteristic
- So, it would be nice if such characteristic could be described by a black box approach
- > Behaviorally speaking: The active device is a non-linearity:



# The need for modeling

> The active device is a non-linearity:



Here, the Nonlinear Device will be described by an Even-Order Memoryless Taylor Series:

$$y(t) = \sum_{n=1}^{N} k_{2n} x(t)^{2n}$$

... it can be proved that only even-order terms contribute to DC

### Improve the Circuits Nonlinear Modeling

RD-DC converters rely on non-linear devices.

The simplest configuration uses a single Schottky diode.



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### Improve the Circuits Nonlinear Modeling



# The need for modeling

> Taylor series can be expanded around a quiescent point,

Hence, the model coefficients can be obtained:



# The need for modeling

General Model Structure for the RF-DC converter



Since we are only interested in the DC at y(t), an ideal low-pass filter H(jw) is considered at the output

These systems are highly nonlinear so better and improved systems for nonlinear characterization combining RF and DC are fundamental.





The full system should be included into a simple simulation model



In this case the input signal is a radio-frequency signal, while the output is a DC voltage



DC (V) measured with an LSNA

The depth in the curves coincides with the resonance frequency of the detector output impedance

>

Alejandro Testera and Monica Barciela, University of Vigo, Spain

LSNA Setup used to extract a X-model from a real world detector

Main Blocks:

- 4 Input BiasTee
- 5 Output BiasTee
- 6 DC bias Module
- 8a Large Signal Generator which imposes the LSOP at Port 1
- 8b Small Signal Generator
- 9 DUT: detector
- 11 Power Sensors and Attenuators
- 12 ADC's
- 13 System Computer



Alejandro Testera and Monica Barciela, University of Vigo, Spain

A viable instrument can be built using RF and DC approaches ...

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# How can this be used in Space ...

## **Power Generation**



Efficient Generation of Power in Space Environments.

# **Communication Satellites**

Amplifiers continue to be TWTA's

HeavyHuge





# **Communication Satellites**

Travelling Wave Tube Amplifiers – TWTA –...



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# **Technology Evolution**



#### TWTA

Heavy, Expensive, Huge ...

**GaAs** Low Power, interesting low noise





**GaN** High Power and potential good low noise



# **Technology Evolution**

### Why GaN in Space ?

#### **Power and Frequency limits to :**

Si, GaAs e GaN





# **Technology Evolution**



GaN should be tested in Space Environments and radiation hardness.



# **IT GaN Projects**

### IT-Aveiro

Radio Systems Group



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#### **GANSAT:** GAN MMIC

Develop GAN MMIC for Space Communications, with Space Power Combining.



### **GaNSpace:** GaN Oscillator for Space Evaluation

Propose and evaluate GaN technology for space applications. A GaN transistor prototype will be implemented as an oscillator to be tested in space for reliability









# **Alphasat Project**

### » AlphaSat participants





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b-tu

Brandenburg University of Technology Cottbus



EVOLEO) TECHNOLOGES

# Introduction and motivation

The main objective of the project is to test GaN Technology in space, mainly European versions.





# **GaN Technology**

- Transistor technology suplied by FBH (Fredinand-Braun-Institut)
- Cosmic radiation immunity
- O High frequency operation □ □ □ □ □ □ □ □ □

T2%50\_B1

500

668 60

• High power handling





# **Oscillator Circuit**

- Oscillator based on traditional Colpitz configuration
- Frequency of oscillations imposed by payload restrictions (near 2GHz)
- Ceramic resonator for high Q



# **Oscillator Circuit**

- Prototype should consider high frequency oscillations due to impressive transistor quality
- Oscillations near 12-15GHz.



2X50\_816\_8

# **Oscillator Prototype**



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# **Oscillator Prototype**

Vacuum tests

To avoid any particles or gases released not expected




# **Oscillator Prototype**

EMC tests



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# **Final prototype**





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# **Final prototype**



### GaNSAT GaNSAT: High Power MMIC using Space Power Combination





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**Systems** 

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