

# MILITARY APPLICATIONS OF RADIO FREQUENCY PROPAGATION

*Dr. Deb Chatterjee,  
Associate Professor,  
CSEE Department*

# Outline



- **Subject**
- **Purpose**
- **Scope**
- **Methods**
- **Results**
- **References**

# Military Needs



- **Unmanned Aerial Vehicles (UAVs)**
- **Tactical Missiles (Patriot MIM 104)**
- **Airforce/Navy - SensorCraft**
- **US Army – Thru’ Wall Imaging**

February 2, 2009

# UAVs: SensorCraft (AFRL)

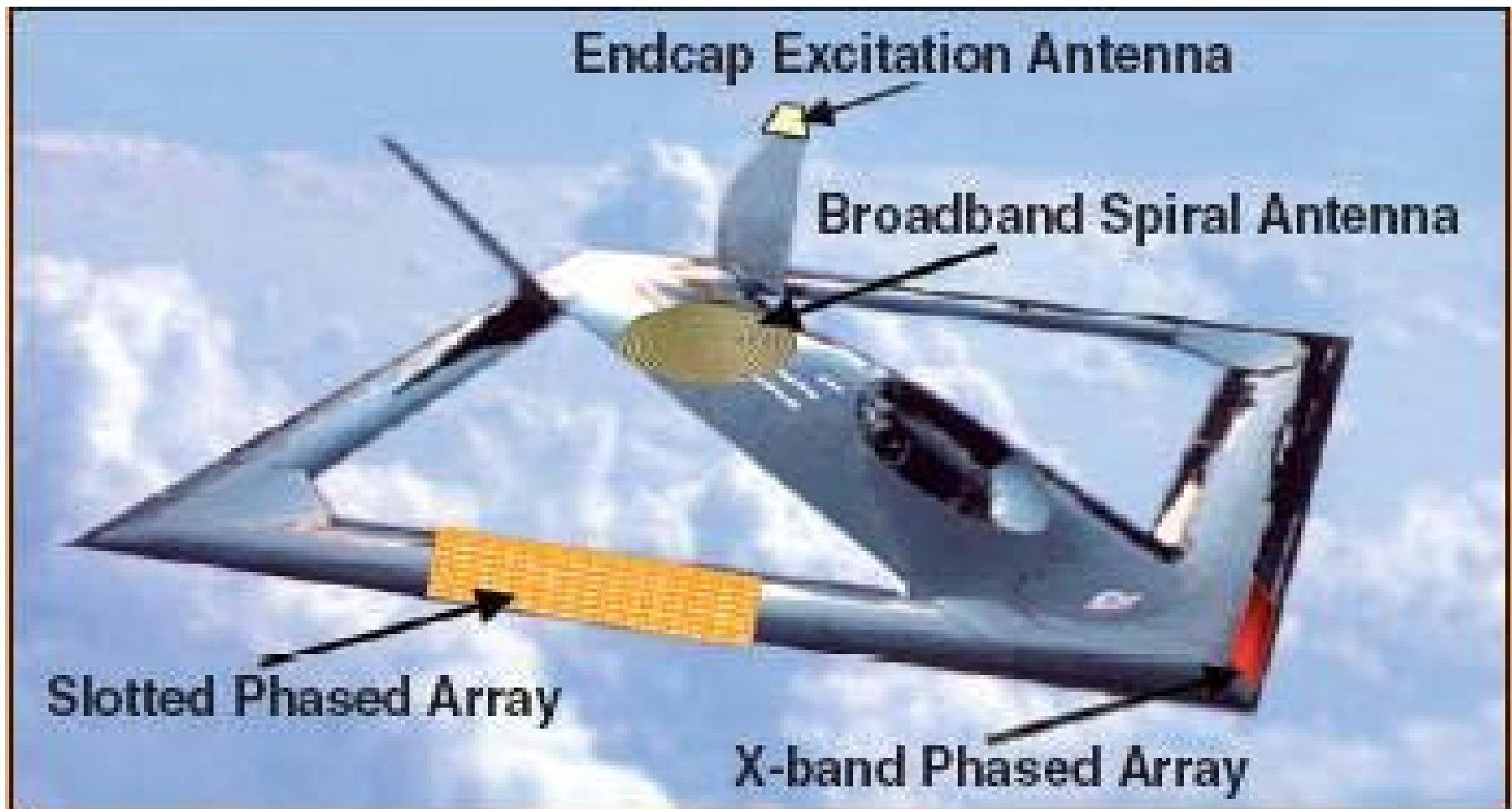


Figure 5. SensorCraft's advanced structurally embedded arrays

# Tactical Missiles: Patriot MIM 104



February 2, 2009

# RF Sensors on UAVs (SensorCraft) Conformal Microstrip Phased Array



February 2, 2009

# Advanced Functions: UAVs

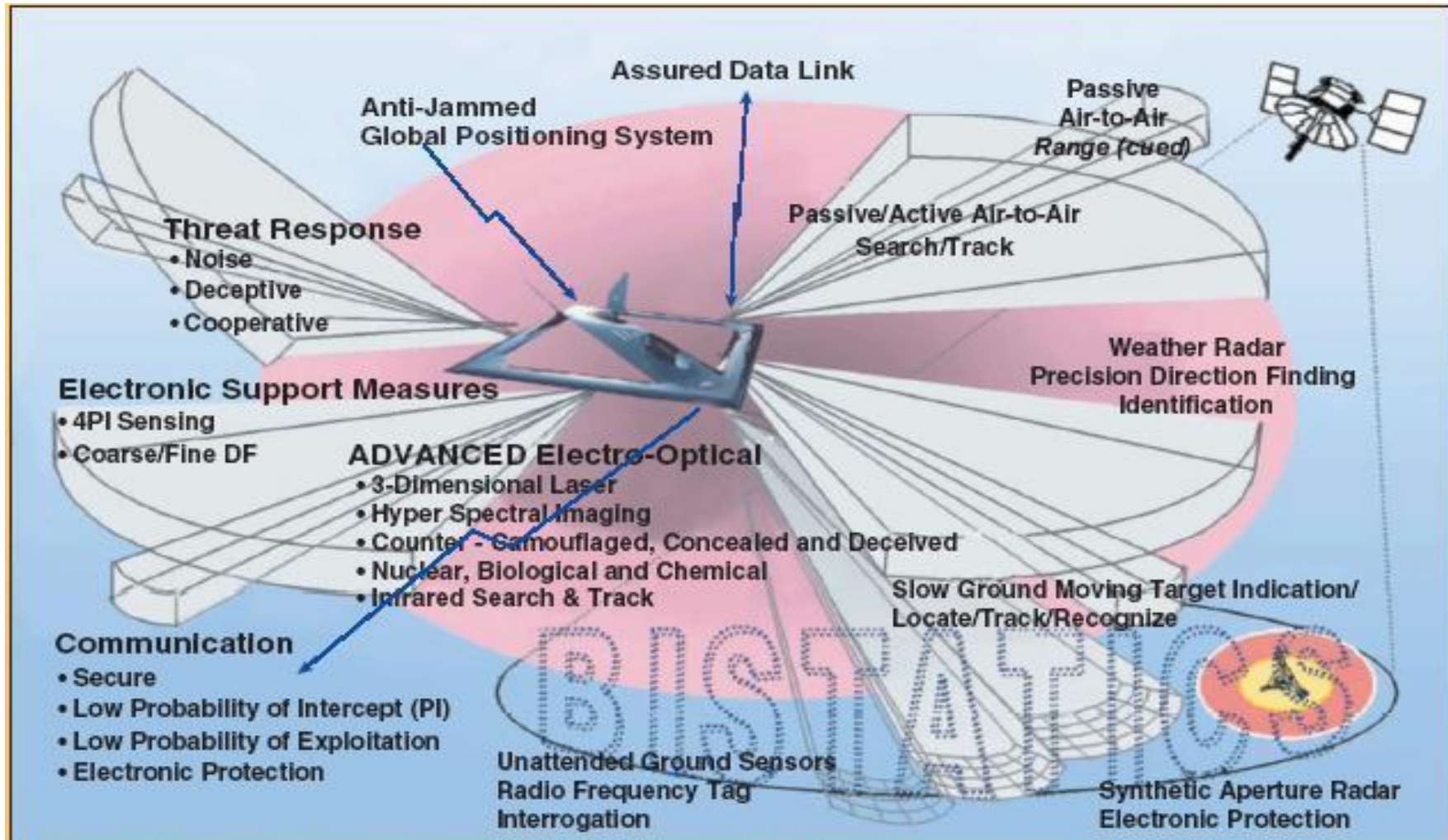


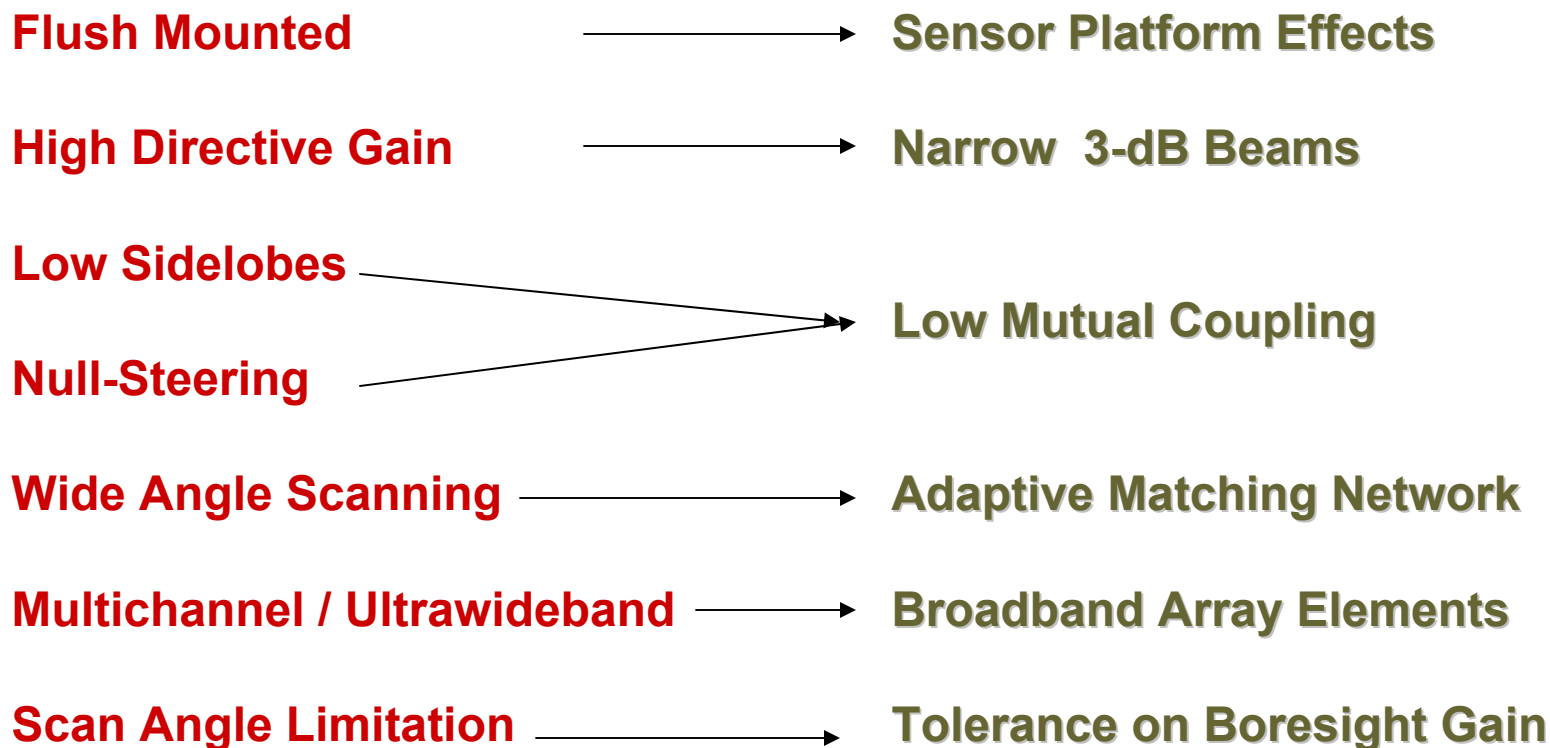
Figure 4. SensorCraft's advanced sensors diverse functionality

# Features of Advanced RF Sensors

- **Flush-Mounted / Conformal**
- **Low Probability of Intercept – LPI**
- **Constant (all weather) Surveillance**
- **Multichannel / Multifunction**
- **Secure Communications**
- **GPS Capability**
- **ECM / ECCM**



# RF Sensor: Phased Array



# Surveillance, Multi-channel / Function and Secure Communications

**Surveillance** → **Phased Arrays, or  
Electronic Scan**

**Multi-channel** → **Ultrawideband**

**Security & ECM** → **Null-Steering**

# What is Involved ???

- **Electromagnetics – Radio Waves**
- **Modeling – Mathematics**
- **Simulation – Environment Effects**
- **Go for it !!! 😊**

February 2, 2009

# What is Computational Electromagnetics (CEM) ?



- **Maxwell's Equations**
- **Boundary Value Problem**
- **Numerical Solutions**
- **Validation**

February 2, 2009

# LPI – RF Invisibility (Basic Equation)

$$\sigma_{ant} \equiv \frac{\lambda^2}{4\pi} G_t G_r p_t p_r |\Gamma|^2$$

# LPI – RF Invisibility (contd.)

- $\sigma_{ant}$  to be reduced over wide angular range

## *DESIRED*

1.  $G_{t,r}$  must be highly directive & low sidelobes
2.  $\Gamma \approx 0$  over a wide range of frequencies
3.  $p_{t,r} \approx 0$  for wide frequency range

# Major Research Activity



- **(Ultra)Wideband Microstrip Antennas**
- **Conformal Array Antennas for Tactical Applications**

# What is Ultrawideband

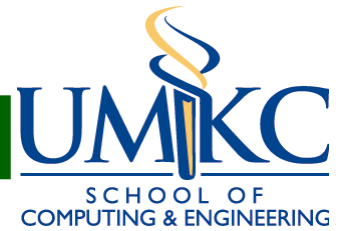


$$\eta \equiv \frac{f_u - f_l}{f_u + f_l}$$

$$0.25 \leq \eta \leq 1.0$$



# What is Ultrawideband

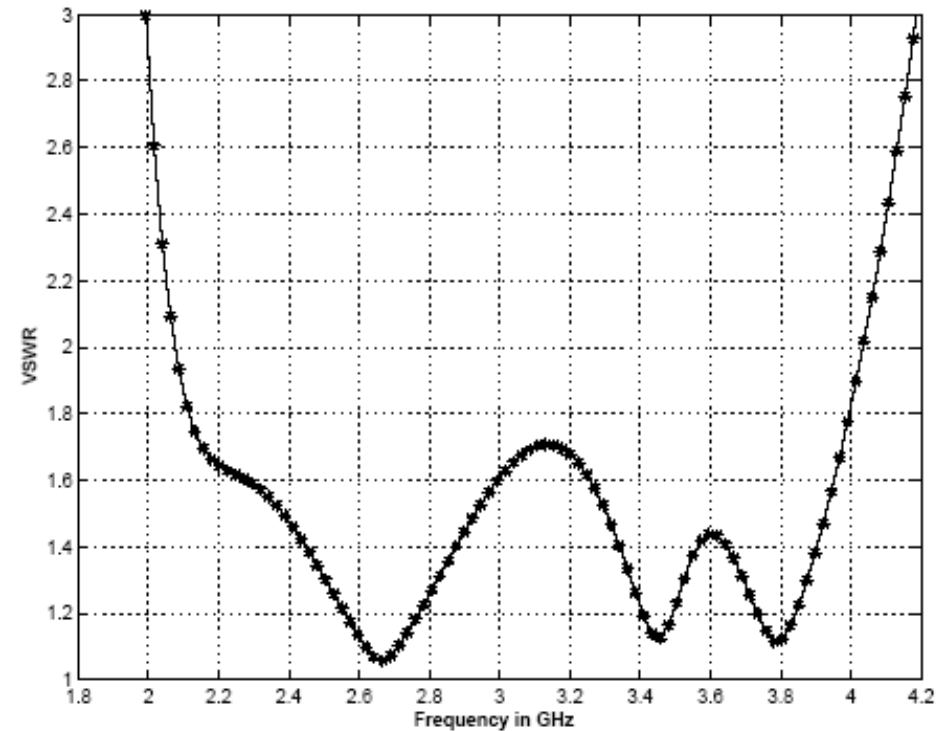
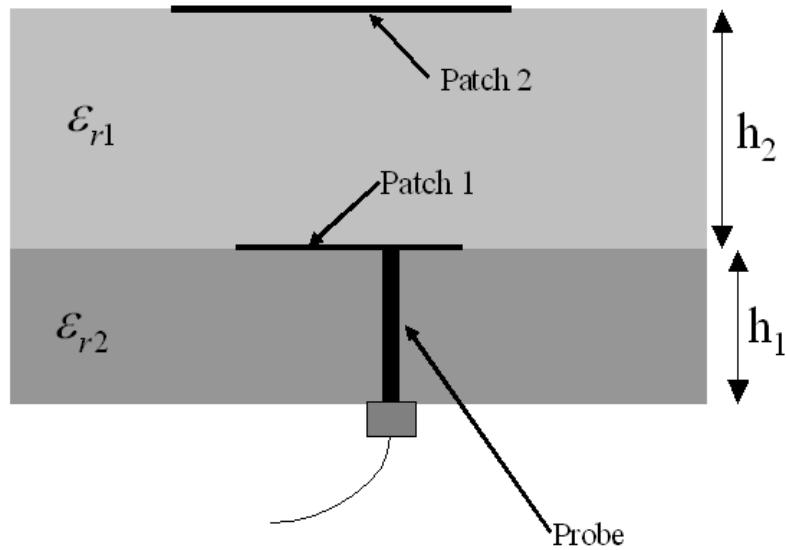


$$\text{Bandwidth (\%)} = 200 * \eta$$

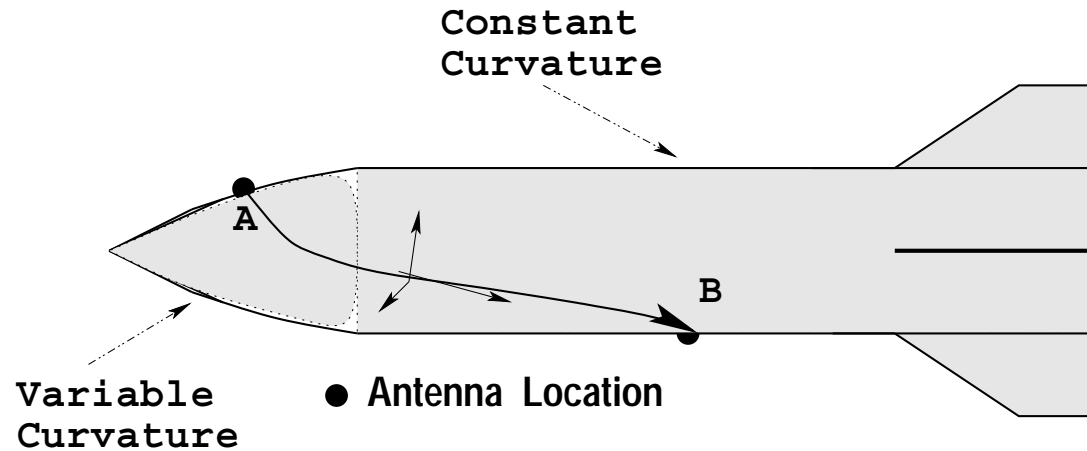
**Ultrawideband:**  $0.25 \leq \eta \leq 1.0$

**Wideband:**  $0.01 \leq \eta \leq 0.25$

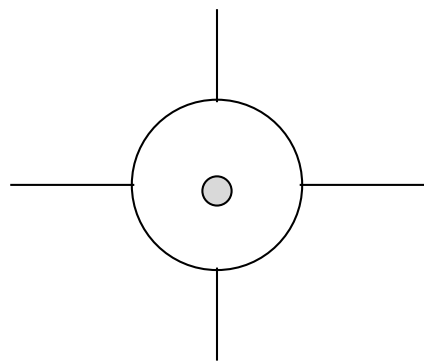
# Example: Dual U-Slot



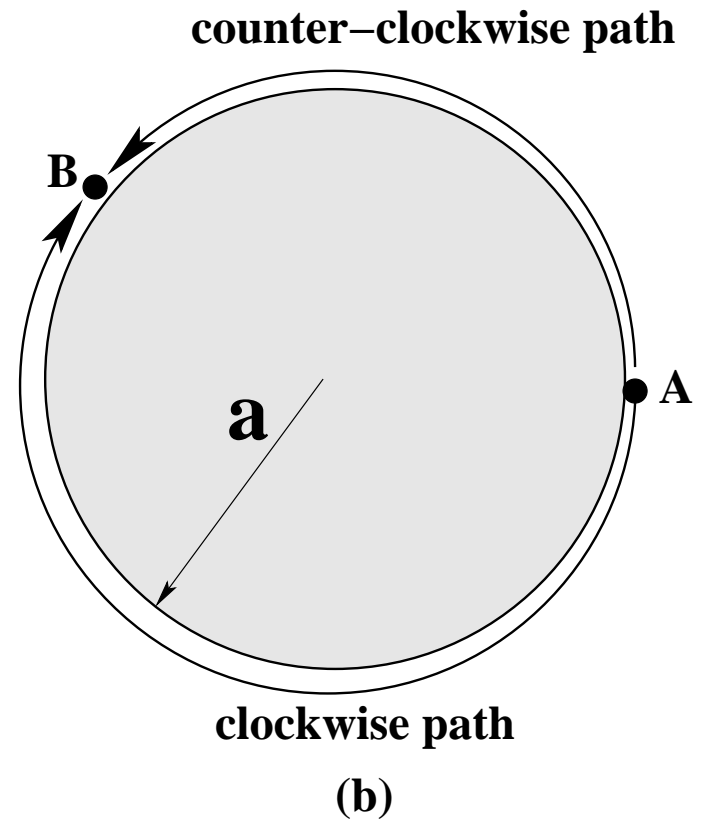
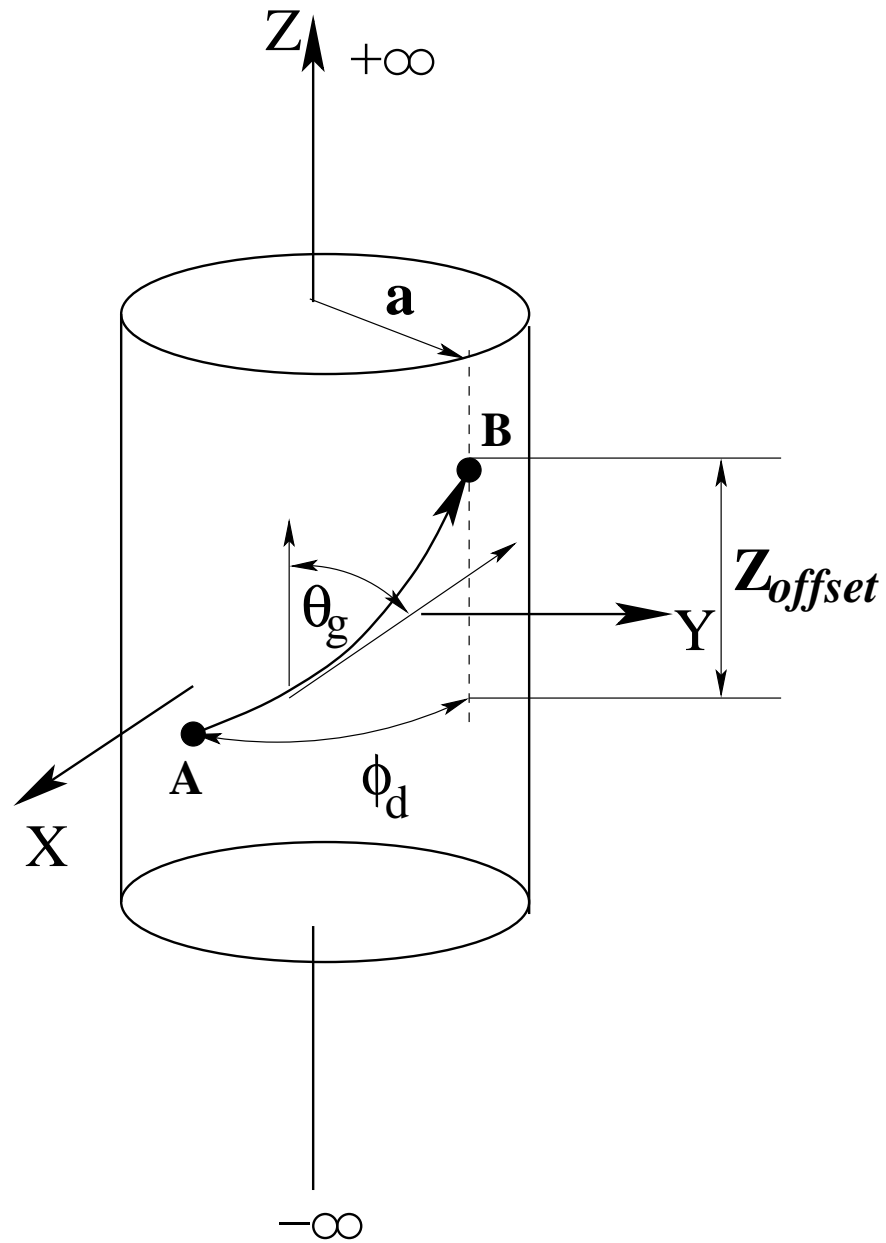
# Raytheon MIM 104 Missile (PATRIOT)



(Side View)



(Front View)



# Subject/Topics



- **Channel Capacity, BER**
- **RF Propagation Path Loss**
- **Urban Environments**

February 2, 2009

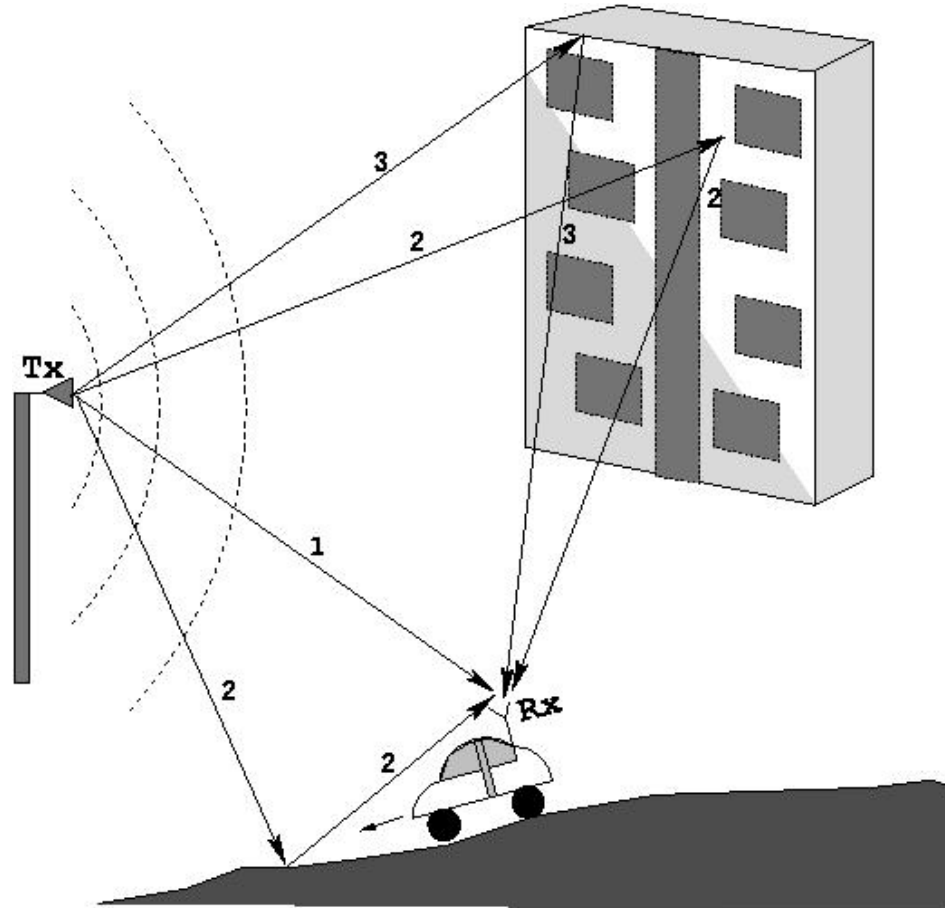
# Purpose

- **Effects of Urban Topology**
- **Multipath and Scattering**
- **How to model ?**

# SCOPE

- **Nature of specific Modeling Techniques – generality of the solutions**
- **Computational burden – multi-ray tracing in complex environments**

# Electrically Large Problems



February 2, 2009



# Channel Capacity

$$C_{shannon} = B \log_2 \left( 1 + \frac{P_S}{P_N} \right)$$

# Important !!!

1. Channel Capacity is a REAL number
2.  $P_S$  and  $P_{\max}$  MUST be REAL
3. Can apply only in Far-Field (real powers)

$$R_{ff} \geq \frac{2D^2}{\lambda}$$

# Friis Formula (Reaction)

$$C = \frac{|I_R V_{oc}|^2}{16P_{rr}P_{rt}}$$

$V_{oc}$  via Ray Techniques  
(Geometrical Theory of  
Diffraction: GTD)

# Computational Algorithm

- **Total Ray Field & Received Power:**

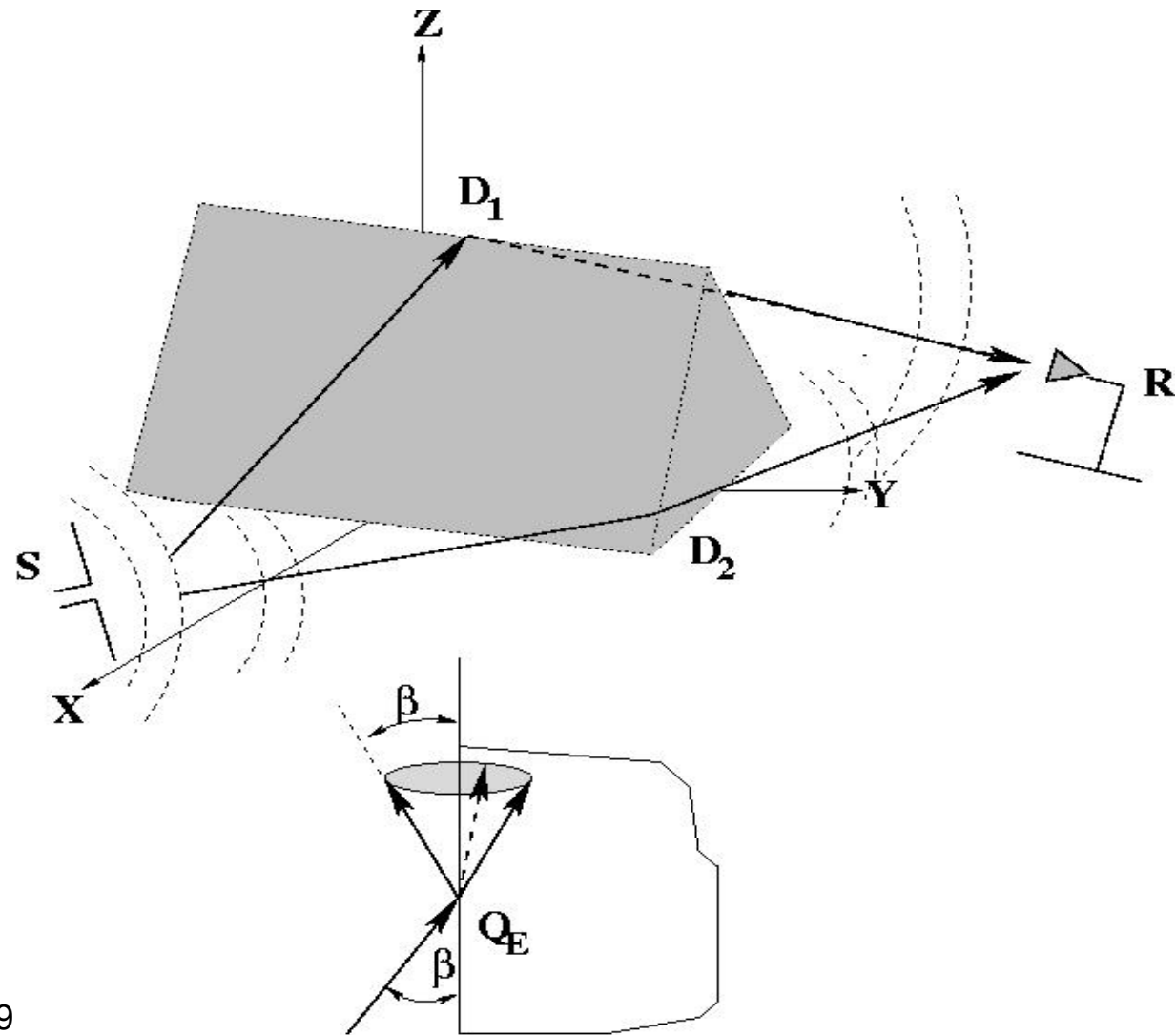
$$\vec{E}_T = \vec{E}_{inc} + \vec{E}_{ref} + \vec{E}_{diff} + \vec{E}_{trans} + \vec{E}_{ref/diff} + \vec{E}_{diff/ref} + \dots$$

$$\vec{E}_T = \sum_{p=1}^{N_{rays}} \vec{E}_p$$

$$V_{oc} = \vec{h}_{eff} \cdot \vec{E}_T = \sum_{p=1}^{N_{rays}} \vec{h}_{eff} \cdot \vec{E}_p = \sum_{p=1}^{N_{rays}} V_{oc}^p$$

$$P_S = C \times P_{in}$$

# METHODOLOGY AND EXAMPLE FOR RAY TRACING IN COMPLEX ENVIRONMENTS

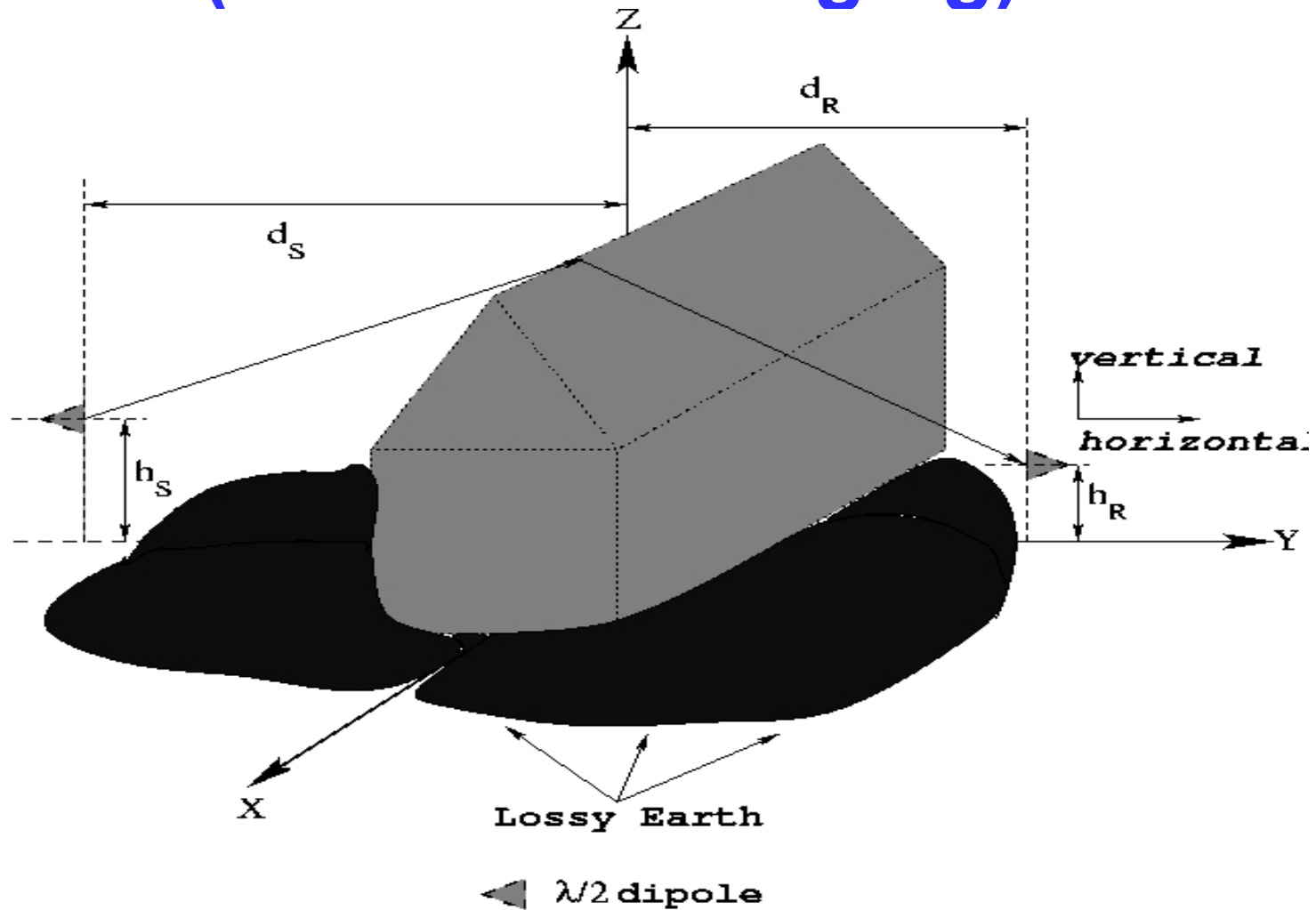


February 2, 2009

# Computational Strategy

- **Determine Ray Paths – Fermat Principle**
- **Superpose and Calculate the Fields on Ray Paths**  
( *GEOMETRICAL THEORY OF DIFFRACTION: GTD* )

# Typical Example (Thru' Wall Imaging)



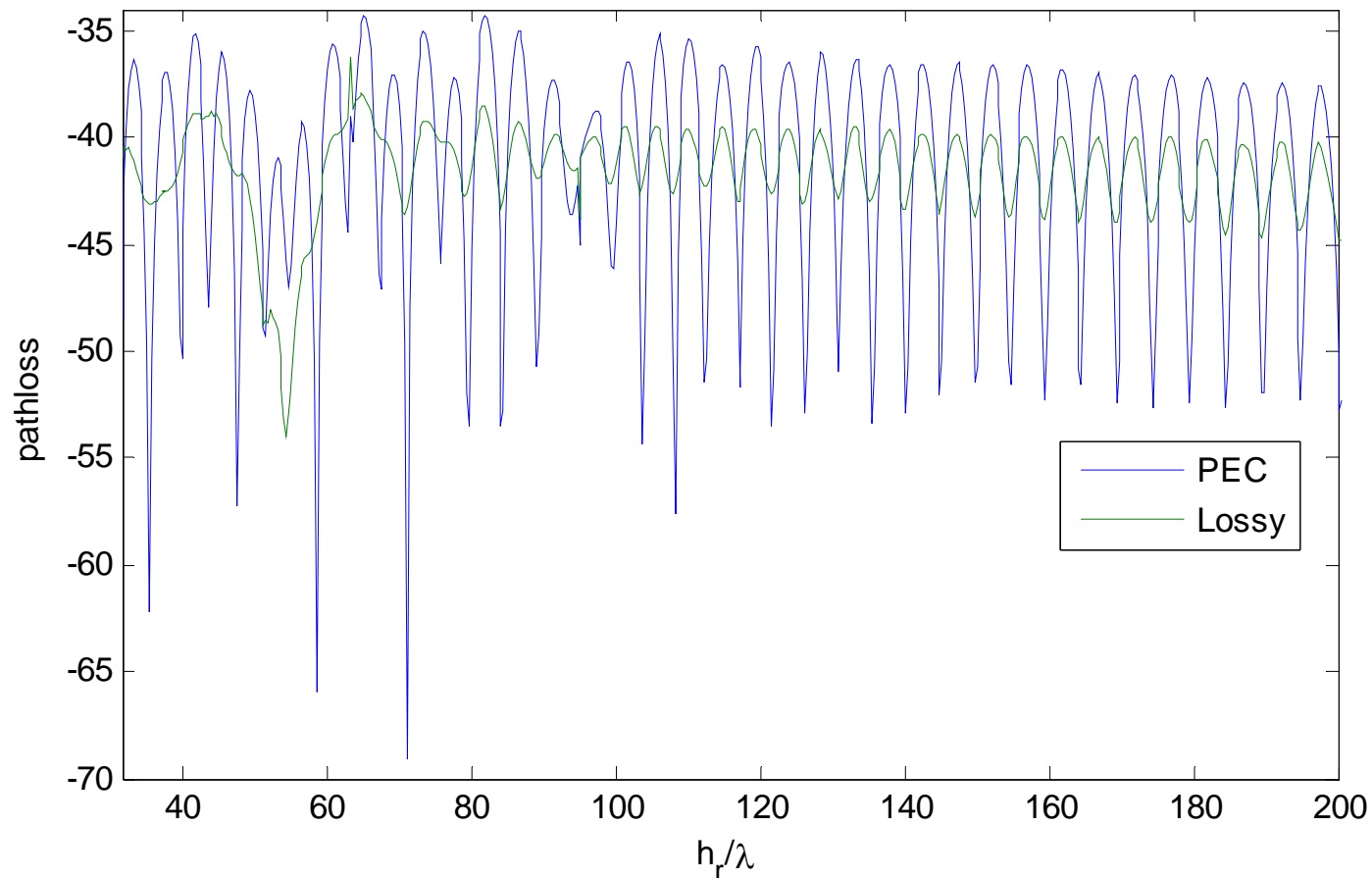
February 2, 2009

# RF Propagation: NECBSC

- **Brickwall Building with 10 cm thick bricks**
- **Half-wave dipoles**
- **Lossy and PEC ground**
- **$F=950$  MHz**
- **$\epsilon_r=4, \tan\delta=0.05$  (brickwall)**
- **$h_S=20$  m ;  $h_R=10$  m**
- **$\epsilon_r=15, \tan\delta=0.29368$  (lossy ground)**
- **$d_S=-120$  m;  $d_R=20$  m**

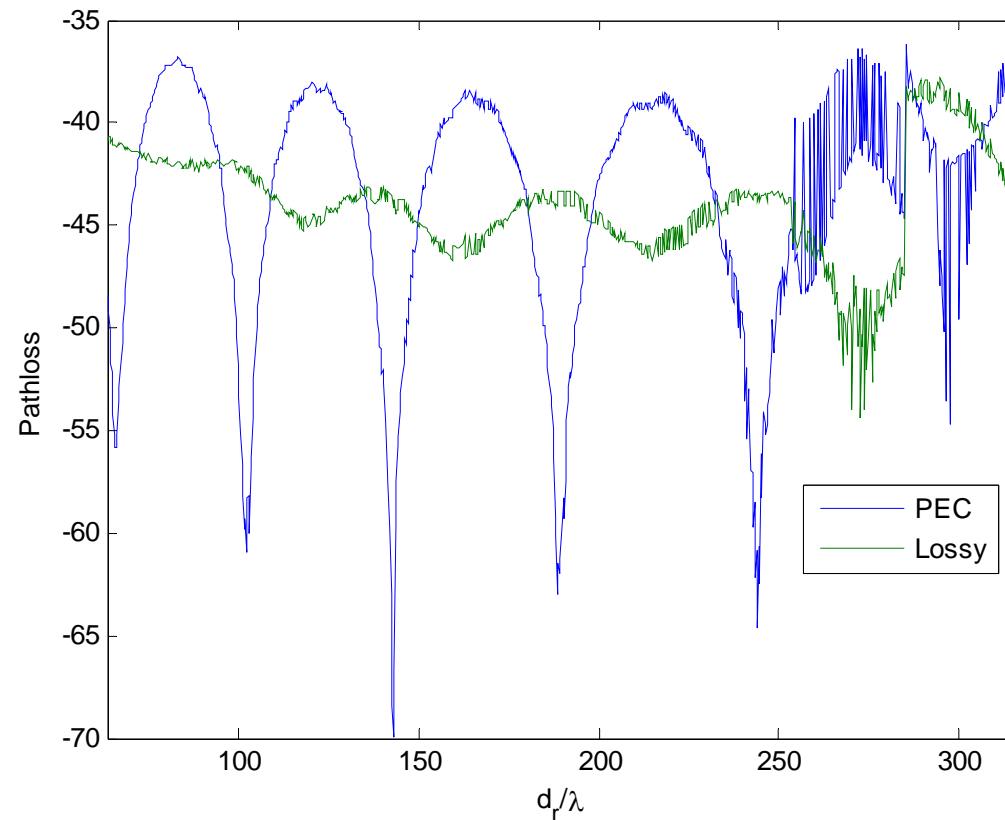


# RF Propagation Path Loss Results NECBSC Code



February 2, 2009

# RF Propagation Path Loss Results NECBSC Code



February 2, 2009

# CEM Research @



## Research Topics

- Miniature, Ultrawideband antennas
- Conformal Arrays

## Resources

- RF-CAD Softwares: FEKO, WIPL-D, IE3D, NECBSC, NEWAIR
- Graduate Students

# Summary

- **Sensors - Effects of Tactical Platforms**
- **RF Stealth (LPI/LOT) - scattering**
- **Thru' Wall Imaging - RF Propagation**

# REFERENCES

1. R. Vaughan and J. B. Andersen, Channels, Propagation and Antennas for Mobile Communications. (ISBN: 0-85296-084-0)
2. N. Blaunstein and J. B. Andersen, Multipath Phenomena in Cellular Networks. (ISBN: 1-58053-185-7)
3. H. L. Bertoni, Radio Propagation for Modern Wireless Systems. (ISBN: 0-13-023673-7)

# REFERENCES (contd.)

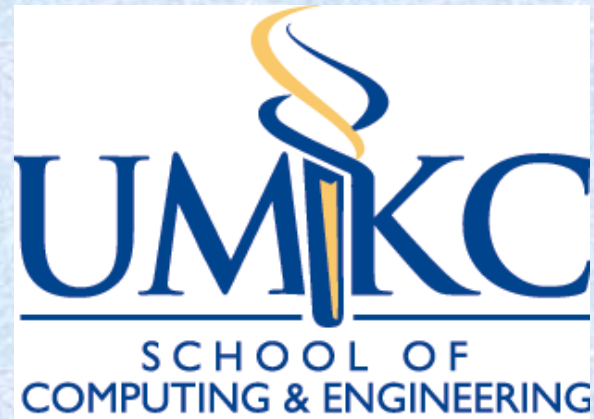


4. K. Fujimoto (ed.), Mobile Antenna Systems Handbook. ISBN: 978-1596931268
  
5. M. I. Skolnik (ed.), Radar Handbook. ISBN: 978-0071485470
  
6. L. Josefsson & P. Persson, Conformal Array Antenna Theory & Design. ISBN: 978-0471465843

# Recent Publications

1. R. Hofer, D. E. Oliver and D. Chatterjee, “*Analysis of U-Slot Microstrip Phased Array Radiator Elements on Electrically Thick Substrates,*” *Proc. IEEE Ant. Prop. Symp., Honolulu, HI, June 2007. (published)*
2. S. D. Walker and D. Chatterjee, “*Surface Curvature Effects on Element Characteristics in Large, Finite, Conformal Cylindrical Dipole Arrays,*” *Proc. IEEE Ant. Prop. Symp., San Diego, July 2008. (published)*
3. D. Ketharnath, S. D. Walker and D. Chatterjee, “*Full-Wave Analysis of PEC- Embedded U-Slot Microstrip Patch Elements,*” *ANTEM 2009, Banff, Calgary, Feb. 2009. (accepted).*
4. S. D. Walker and D. Chatterjee, “*Study of Exact and High Frequency Code Solvers for Applications to a Conformal Cylindrical Dipole Array,*” *ACES Conference, Monterey, CA, March 2009. (accepted).*
5. S. D. Walker and D. Chatterjee, “*Creeping Wave Radiation Analysis from an Infinite Conformal Cylindrical Dipole Array,*” *Proc. IEEE Ant. Prop. Symp., Clemson, SC, June 2009. (submitted, under review)*
6. D. Chatterjee, “*An Improved Analysis for Design of Single-Layer, Probe-Fed, U-Slot Microstrip Patch Antenna,*” *Proc. IEEE Ant. Prop. Symp., Clemson, SC, June 2009. (submitted, under review)*

February 2, 2009



***Thank You !***

February 2, 2009