

Project: IEEE P802.15 Working Group for Wireless Personal Area Networks (WPANs)

Submission Title: Towards 6G: Paradigm of Realistic Terahertz Channel Modeling

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Source: Ke Guan, Haofan Yi, Danping He, Bo Ai, Zhengrong Lai, Jianwu Dou, Pengxiang Li, and Zhangdui Zhong

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Re: n/a

Abstract: In order to break through the bottleneck of scarce full-dimensional channel sounding measurements, this document presents a novel paradigm for terahertz (THz) channel modeling towards 6G. With the core of high-performance ray tracing (RT), the presented paradigm requires merely quite limited channel sounding to calibrate the geometry and material electromagnetic (EM) properties of the three-dimensional (3D) environment model in the target scenarios. Then, through extensive RT simulations, the parameters extracted from RT simulations can be fed into either ray-based novel stochastic channel models or cluster-based standard channel model families. Verified by RT simulations, these models can generate realistic channels that are valuable for the design and evaluation of THz systems.

Purpose: Information of IEEE 802.15 SC THz

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Wireless & Mobile Communication
for Rail Transportation (WiMiRT)

Towards 6G: Paradigm of Realistic Terahertz Channel Modeling

Ke Guan¹², Haofan Yi¹², Danping He¹², Bo Ai¹², Zhengrong Lai³, Jianwu Dou⁴⁵, Pengxiang Li⁶, and Zhangdui Zhong¹²

¹ State Key Laboratory of Rail Traffic Control and Safety, Beijing Jiaotong University, ² Frontiers Science Center for Smart High-speed Railway System, ³ Guangdong Communications & Networks Institute, ⁴ State Key Laboratory of Mobile Network and Mobile Multimedia Technology, ⁵ ZTE Corporation, ⁶ China Telecom Research Institute

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Outline

- ❑ **Challenges on THz Channel Modeling**
- ❑ **New Paradigm of Realistic Terahertz Channel Modeling**
- ❑ **Three Use Cases from microscopy to macroscopy**
 - **Close-Proximity Communications**
 - **THz Communications on a desktop**
 - **THz Channels for Smart Rail Mobility**
- ❑ **Conclusion**

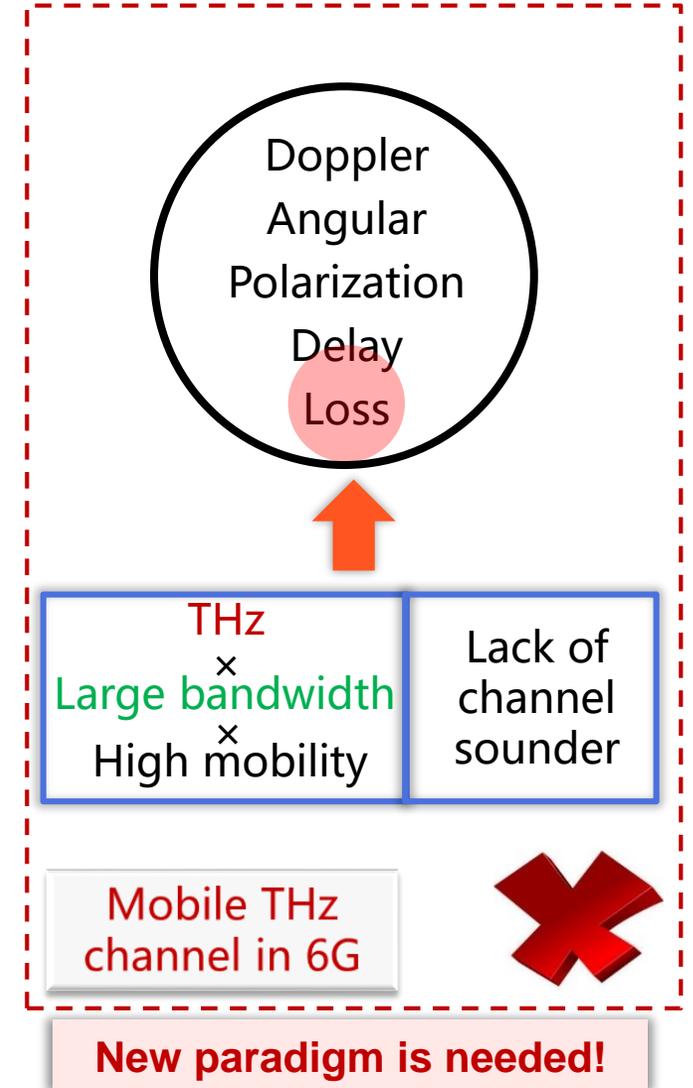
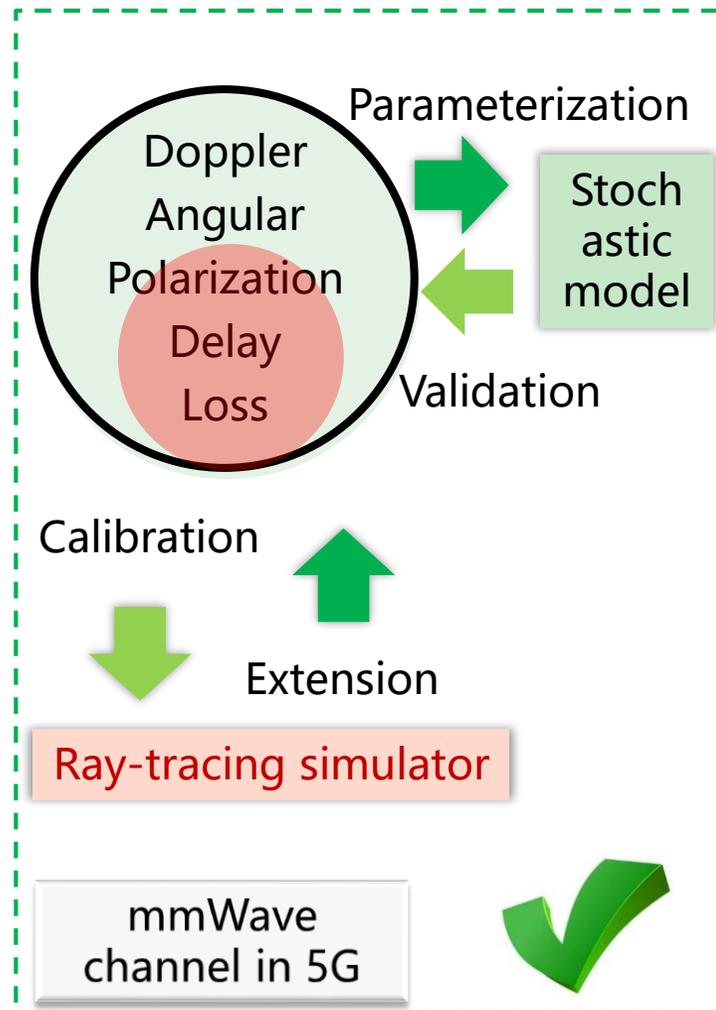
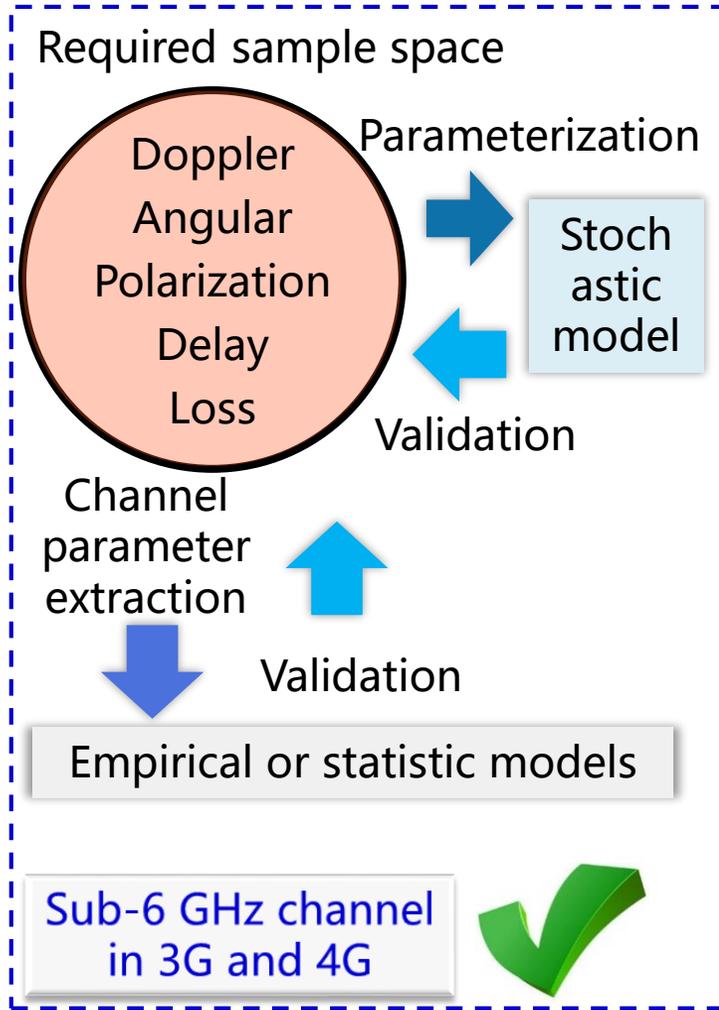


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Challenges on Channel Modeling

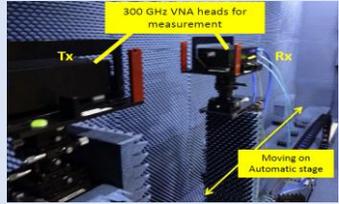


Outline

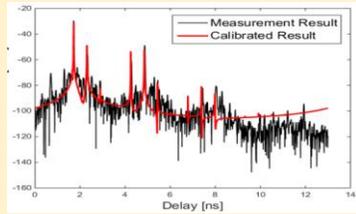
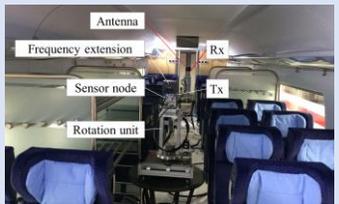
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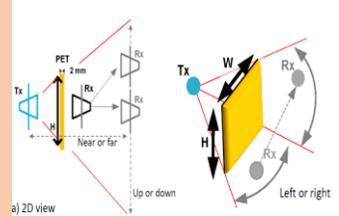
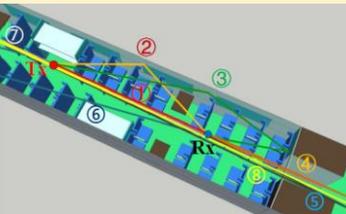
New Paradigm of Realistic Terahertz Channel Modeling



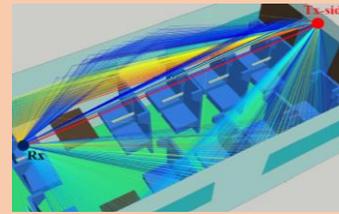
Limited channel sounding



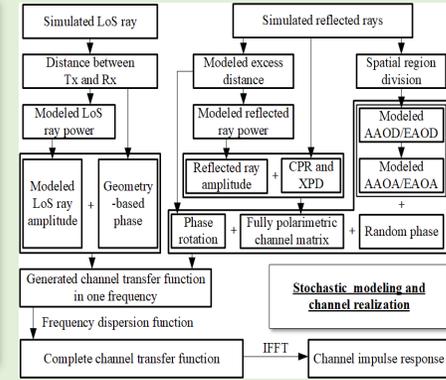
Calibration of RT simulator



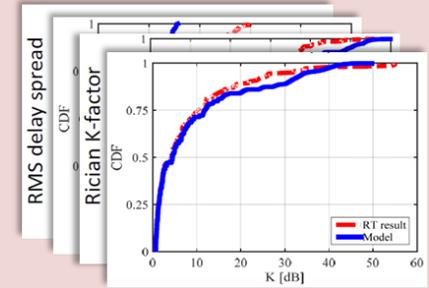
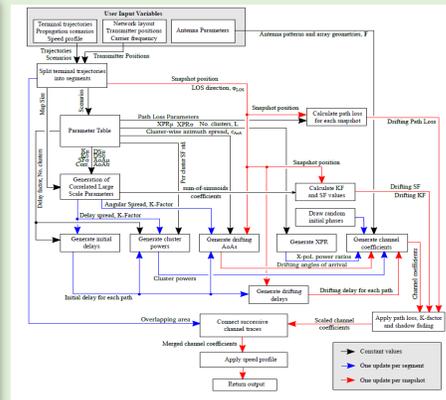
Extensive RT simulations



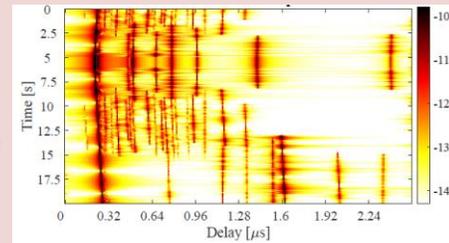
Ray-based novel stochastic channel model



Cluster-based standard channel model families



Realistic THz channel realization



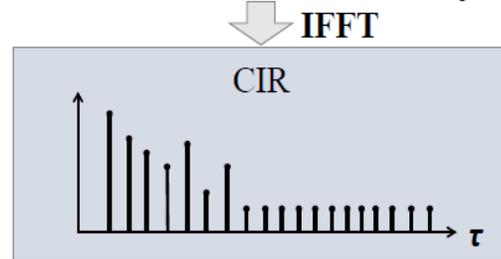
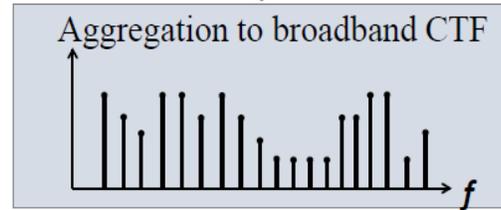
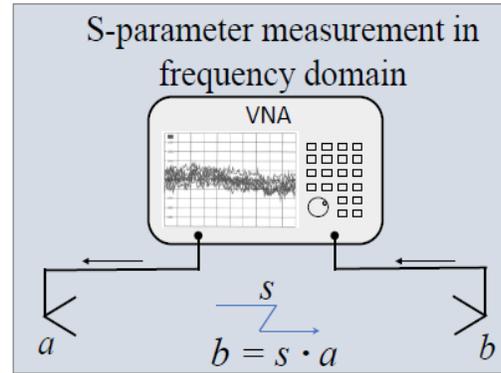
K. Guan, H. Yi, D. He, B. Ai and Z. Zhong, "Towards 6G: Paradigm of realistic terahertz channel modeling," in *China Communications*, vol. 18, no. 5, pp. 1-18, May 2021. (Invited paper)

Paradigm of Realistic Terahertz Channel Modeling

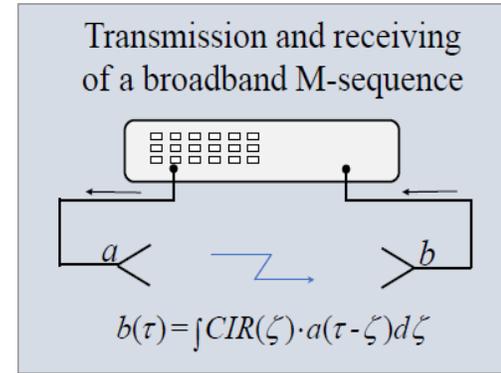
A. Limited channel sounding

➤ VNA-based measurement

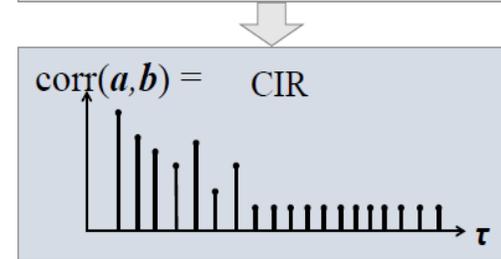
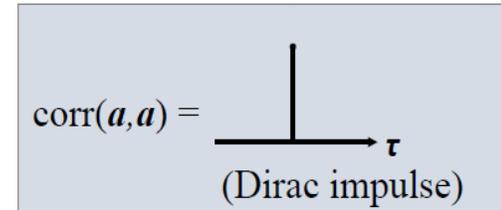
- In frequency domain
- CIR -> by IFFT from CTF
- Pros: accurate broadband system; large dynamic range.
- Cons: long time-consuming; cannot capture the dynamic channel variations.



VNA



* (Convolution)



Channel sounder

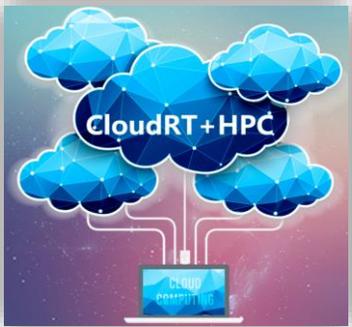


Paradigm of Realistic Terahertz Channel Modeling

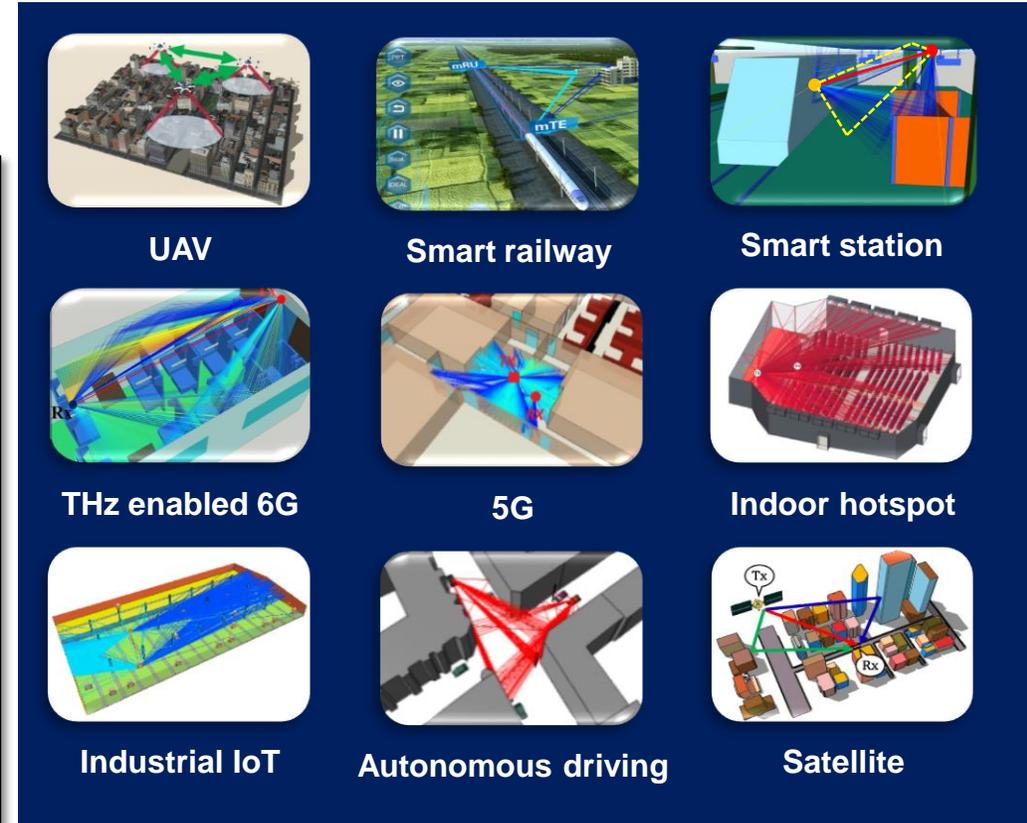
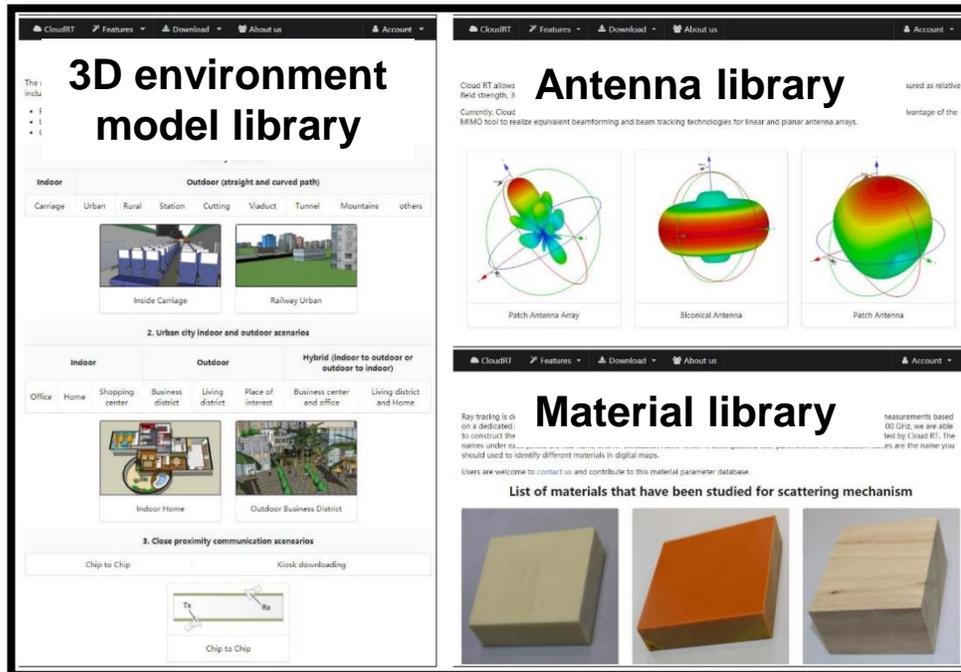
B. Calibration of RT simulator

High Performance Ray-tracing Platform CloudRT (<http://www.raytracer.cloud>)

4000+ users from **60** countries since June 2018 (online open access)

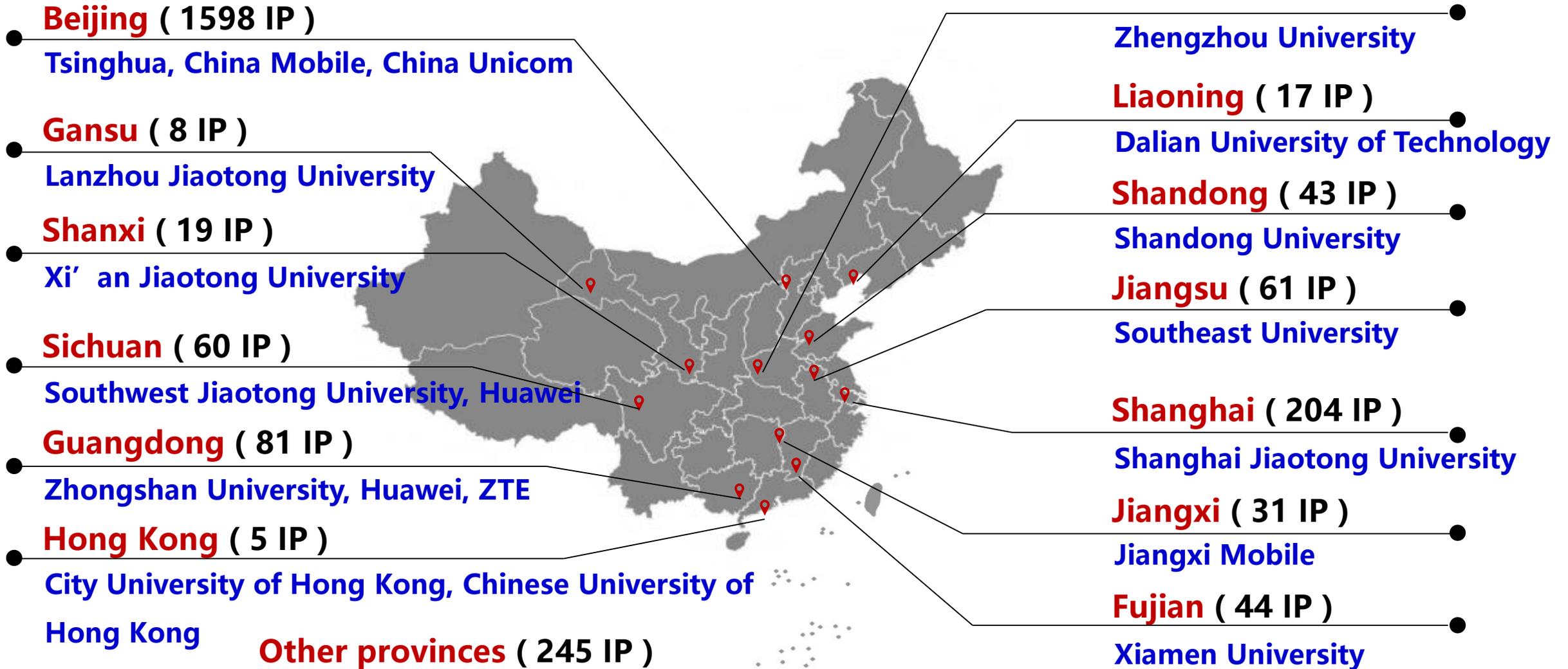


HPC platform: 600 CPU cores, 5 GPUs, and 44 TB storage
Accuracy: validated by 20+ measurements (0.1-300 GHz), with the RMSE < 6 dB

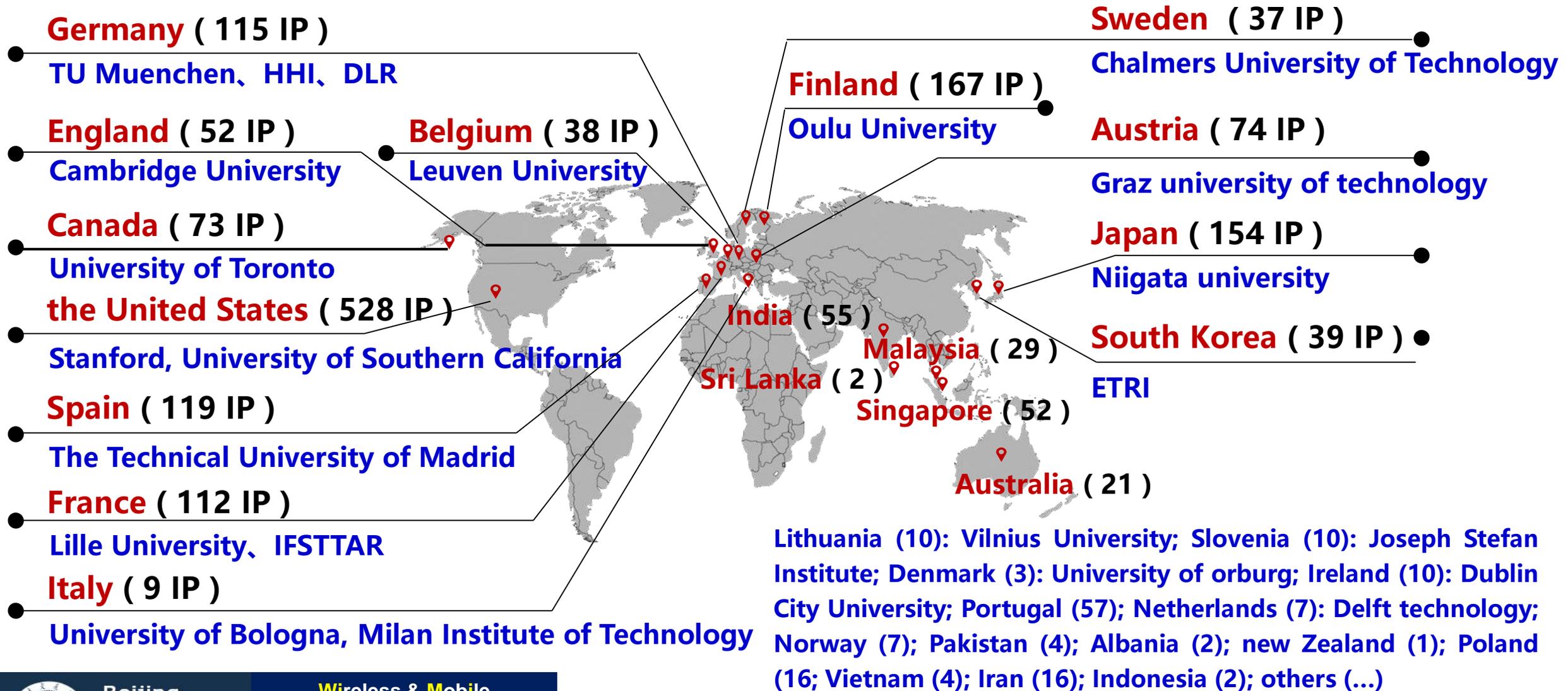


D. He, B. Ai, **K. Guan***, L. Wang, Z. Zhong, and T. Kuerner "The Design and Applications of High-Performance Ray-Tracing Simulation Platform for 5G and Beyond Wireless Communications: A Tutorial," *IEEE Communications Survey and Tutorial*, vol. 21, no. 1, pp. 10-27, Aug. 2018. **(ESI highly cited paper)**

More than 5000 users in China



More than 1900 users from 74 countries



Paradigm of Realistic Terahertz Channel Modeling

C. Extensive RT simulations

2D channel measurement → 3D channel simulations

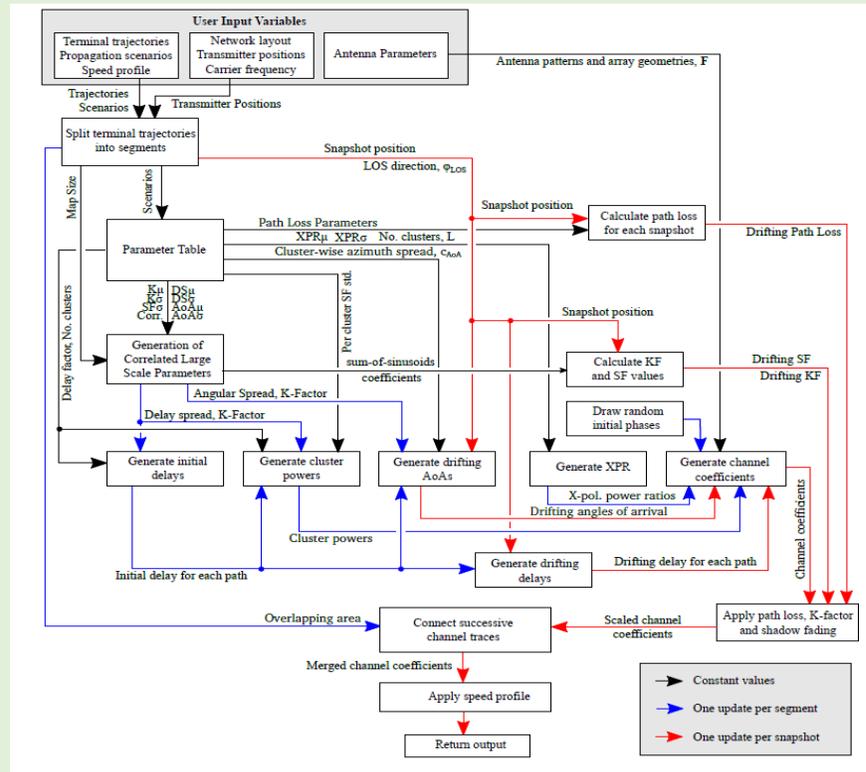
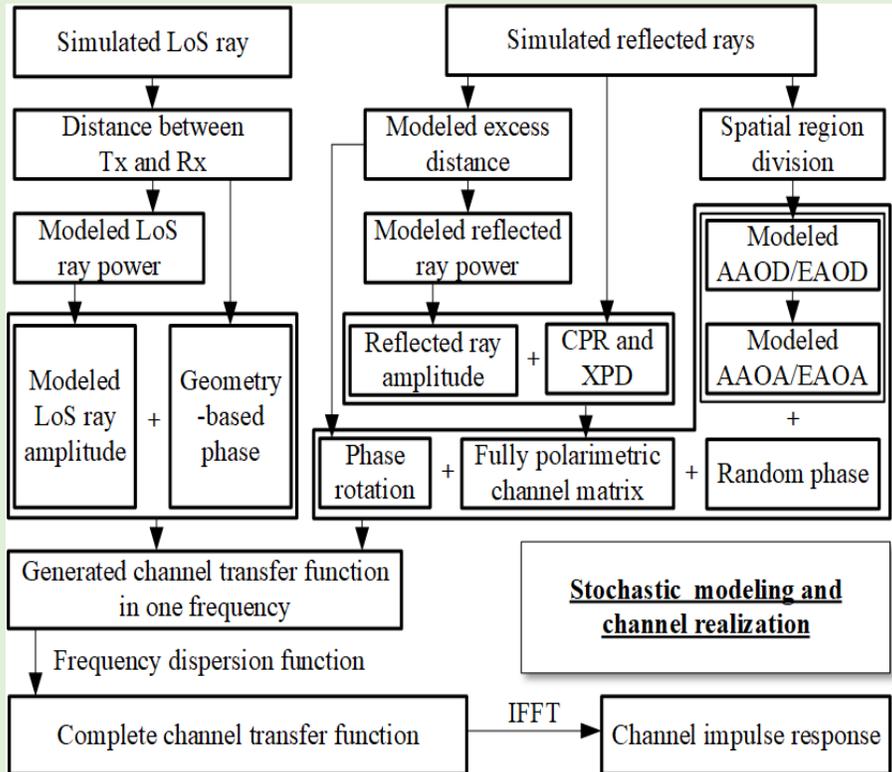
- ❑ **Various positions** of Tx and Rx;
- ❑ **Full polarization** combinations (VV, VH, HV, HH);
- ❑ **Various pattern coupling**, including single antenna, MIMO;
- ❑ **Various environments** with similar types of objects and materials, but not necessary with the same geometry or topology;
- ❑ **Various mobility patterns** not only for Tx/Rx but also for mobile scatterers, such as vehicles, aircrafts, pedestrians

Paradigm of Realistic Terahertz Channel Modeling

D. Ray-based novel stochastic channel model

OR

E. Cluster-based standard channel model families



E. Realistic THz channel realization

Outline

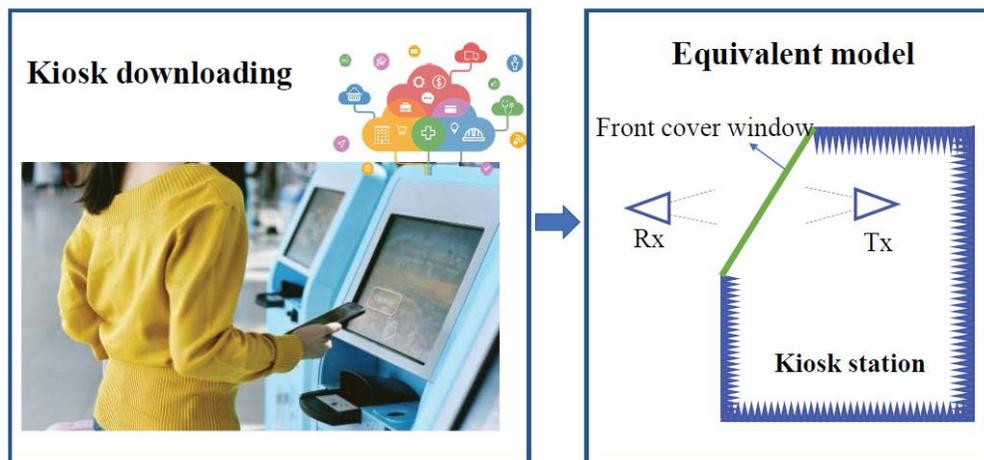
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- Conclusion



Case Study 1: Close Proximity Communications – Kiosk Downloading

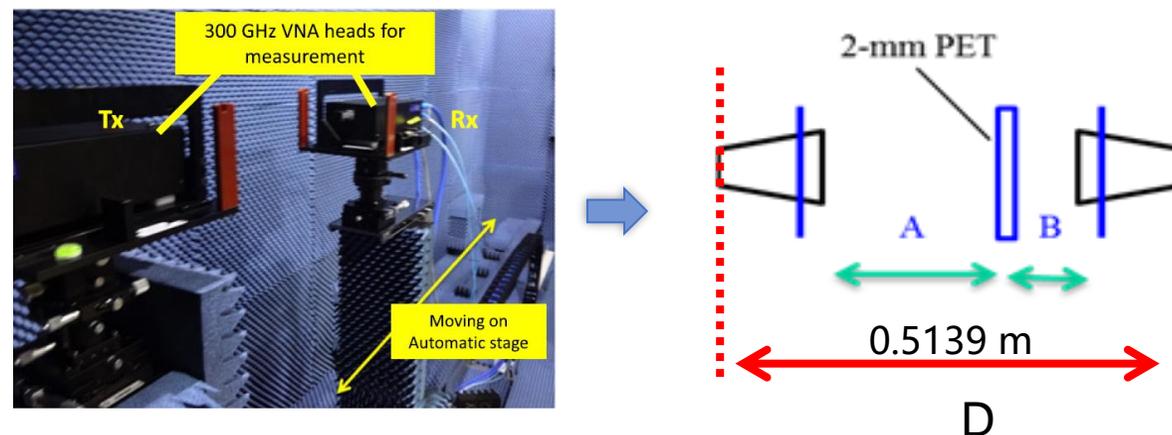
A. Limited channel sounding

Defined kiosk downloading scenario



| configuration | value |
|---------------|-------------|
| Frequency | 220-340 GHz |
| Bandwidth | 120 GHz |
| IF bandwidth | 5 kHz |

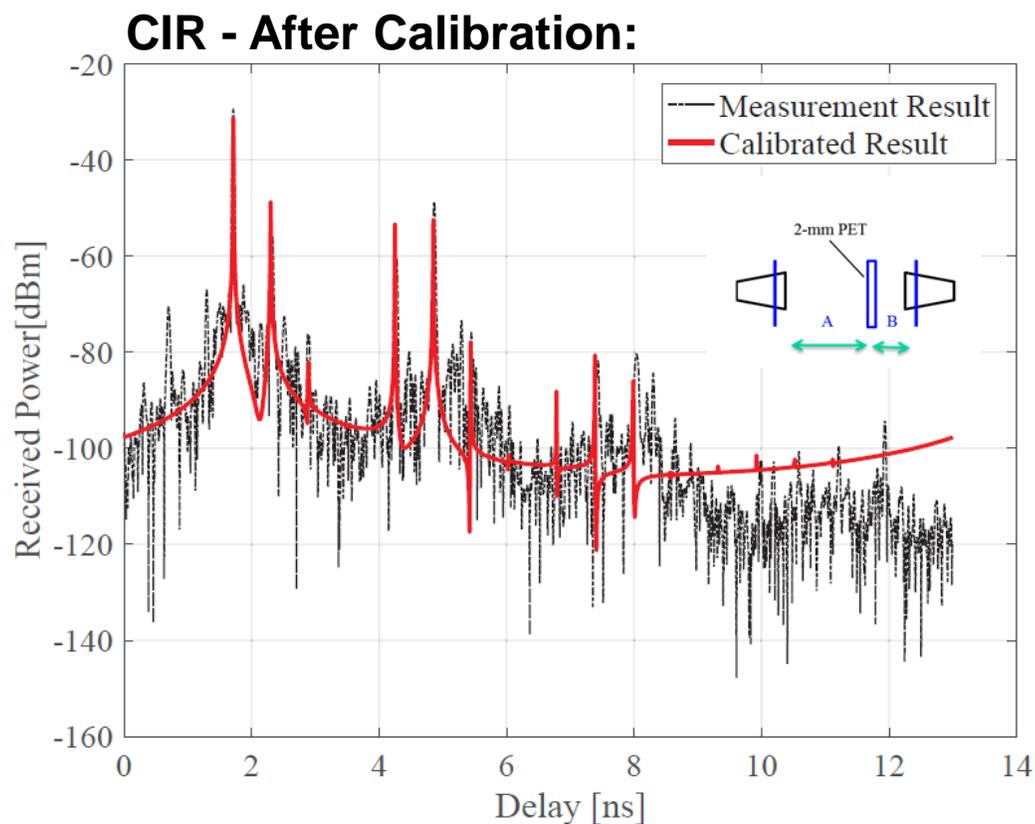
Measurement campaign



| Antenna related | value |
|-------------------|----------|
| Gain | 25 dBi |
| HPBW | 10° |
| Distance (Tx->Rx) | 0.5139 m |

Case Study 1: Close Proximity Communications – Kiosk Downloading

B. Calibration of RT simulator



EM Properties Before Calibration:

| Material | ϵ_r | $\tan \delta$ |
|----------|--------------|---------------|
| Metal | 1.0 | 1.0E7 |
| PET | 6.4 | 0.1172 |

EM Properties After Calibration:

| Material | ϵ_r | $\tan \delta$ |
|----------|--------------|---------------|
| Metal | 1.0 | 1.0E7 |
| PET | 6.4 | 0.1172 |

Transmitted loss by PET: $A_{\text{PET}}=1.9890$ dB

□ Mean abs. error=0.1027 dB

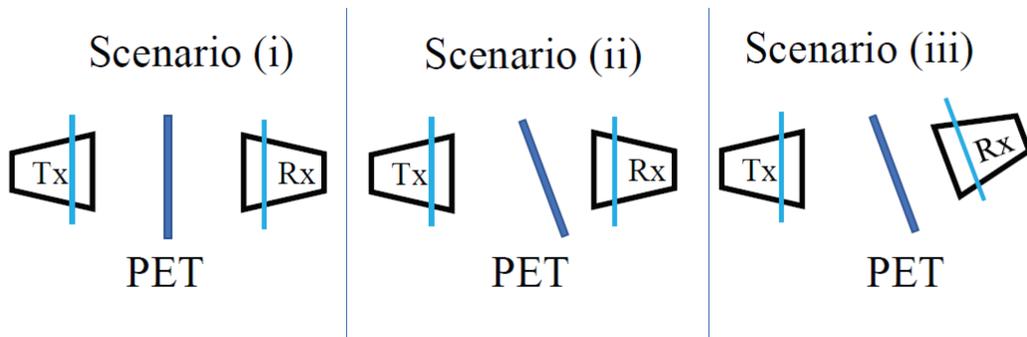


Case Study 1: Close Proximity Communications – Kiosk Downloading

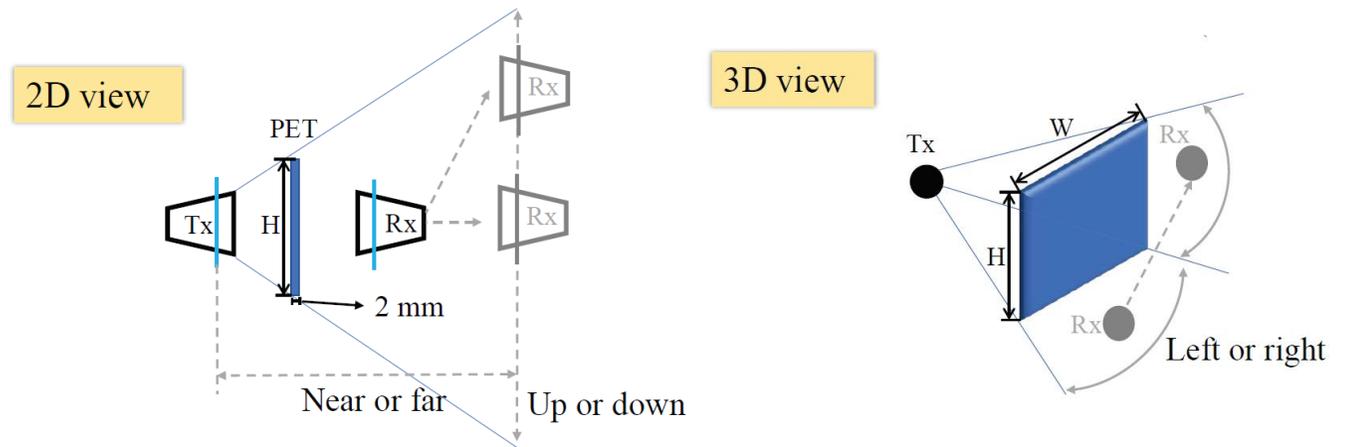
C. Extensive RT simulations

Target Scenario Generation:

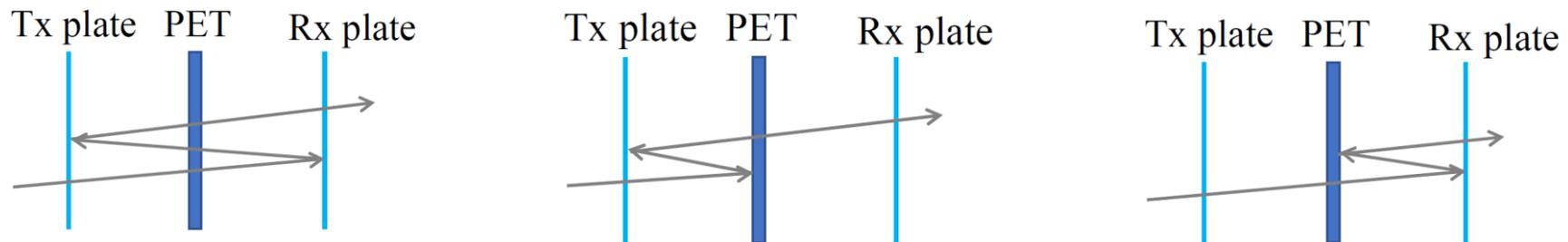
The possible three kiosk downloading scenarios



The 2D and 3D view of Rx position in the extensive RT simulations



Three types of the reflected rays.



Case Study 1: Close Proximity Communications – Kiosk Downloading

D. Ray-based novel stochastic channel model

- ❑ Considering only up to 2nd order reflections, due to the high attenuation at higher orders
- ❑ 1 transmitted path and 3 second-order reflection paths should be generated

Parameter Extraction-**Amplitude** of Path

➤ Transmitted path attenuation: $f_0 = 300GHz$

$$\begin{aligned} a_{trans} &= 20 \log_{10} \left(\frac{c}{4\pi f_0} \right) - 20 \log_{10}(d) - A_{pet} \\ &= -81.98dB - 20 \log_{10}(d[m]) - \boxed{A_{pet}} \end{aligned}$$

Calibrated Attenuation due to PET

➤ 3 types of second order reflection:

$$a_{i,Ref l} = a_{trans} - \Delta a_{trans} - n_{\tau} (\tau_i - \tau_{trans}) + \Delta a_i$$

Different distribution models for different types of ref. path

Δa_{trans} : The offset compared with transmitted ray

n_{τ} : Slope along delay, Δa_i : Variation of fitting result



Case Study 1: Close Proximity Communications – Kiosk Downloading

D. Ray-based novel stochastic channel model

Parameter Extraction-Phase of Path

- Transmitted path attenuation:

$$\varphi_{trans} = -2\pi f_0 \tau_{trans}$$

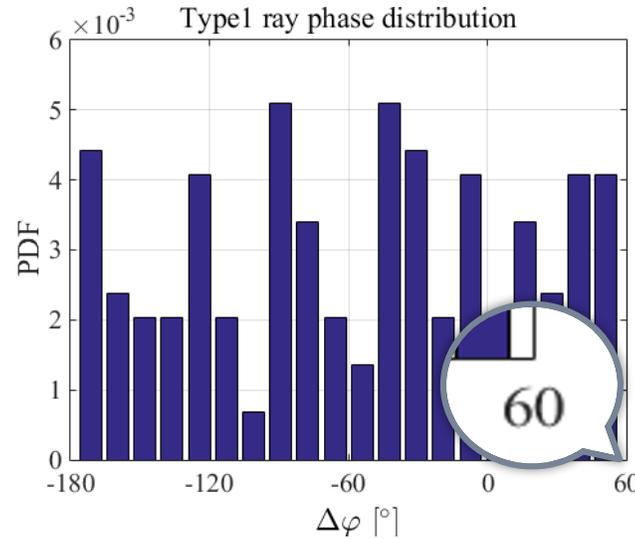
- 3 types of second order reflection:

$$\varphi_{ref} = f(\text{type})$$

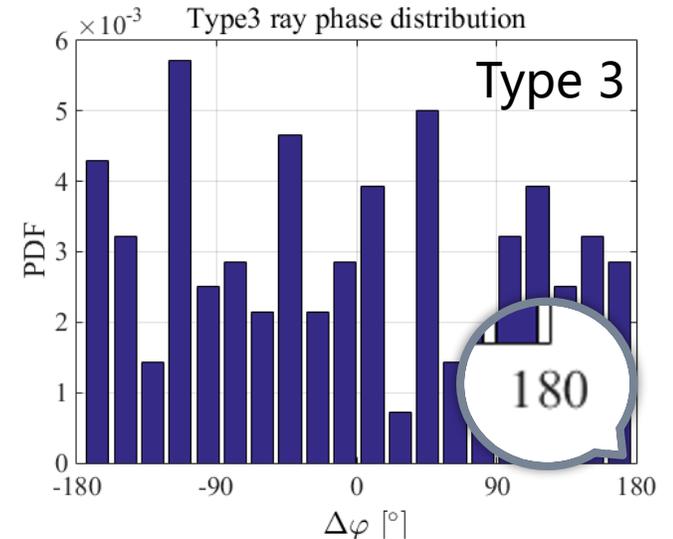
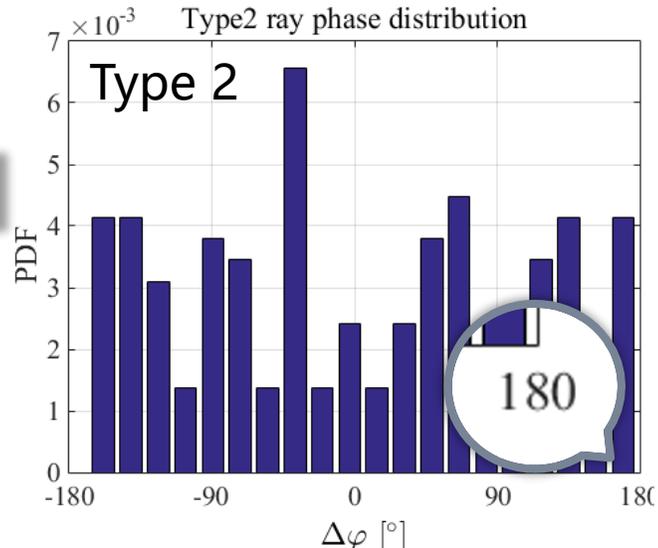
Parameter Extraction-Frequency Dispersion

$$D_i(f) = \frac{f_0}{f^\xi} = 1$$

Should be extracted from RT simulation



- Type1: uniformly distributed between -180 and 60
- Type2 and Type 3: uniformly distributed between -180 and 180



Case Study 1: Close Proximity Communications – Kiosk Downloading

D. Ray-based novel stochastic channel model

Parameter Extraction - **AOD** and **AOA**

θ_{AOD} uniformly distributed between $-\arcsin\left(\frac{0.5W}{d_t}\right)$ and $\arcsin\left(\frac{0.5W}{d_t}\right)$

ϕ_{AOD} uniformly distributed between $-\arcsin\left(\frac{0.5H}{d_t}\right)$ and $\arcsin\left(\frac{0.5H}{d_t}\right)$

where W and H are the width and height of the front cover, respectively.
 d_t is the distance between the TX and front cover.

θ_{AOA} and ϕ_{AOA} has strong geometrical relation with AOD, which can be obtained from the tilted angle of RX and the generated AOD.



Case Study 1: Close Proximity Communications – Kiosk Downloading

E. Realistic THz channel realization

Input

d: Distance between TX and RX in [m]

scenario: scenario type (1: all parallel, 2: pet tilted, 3: pet and RX metal tilted)

f: Frequency vector ($f_{\text{start}}:f_{\text{step}}:f_{\text{stop}}$)

Output

H: Channel matrix

Reflection_Order: Reflection Count Vector

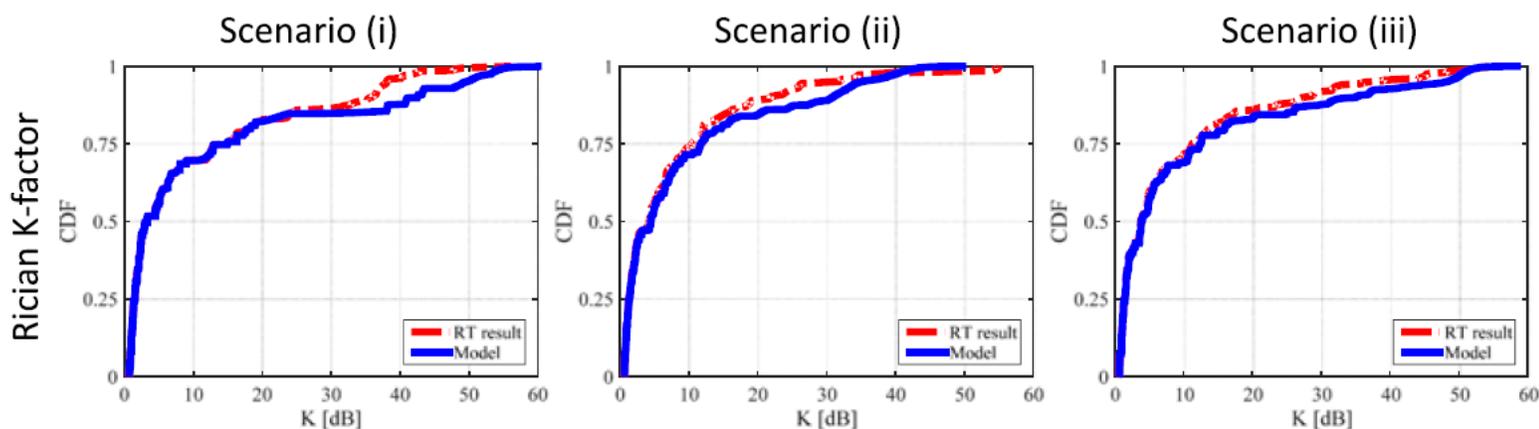
ToA: Time of Arrival Vector in ns

D: Dispersion Factor

AOA,AOD: Angle of arrival/departure

Danping He, **Ke Guan***, Alexander Fricke, *et al.*, "Stochastic Channel Modeling for Kiosk Applications in the Terahertz Band," *IEEE Transactions on Terahertz Science and Technology*, vol. 7, no. 5, pp. 502-513, July 2017.

Comparison of Rician K-factor between the developed channel model and RT result



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- Challenges on THz Channel Modeling
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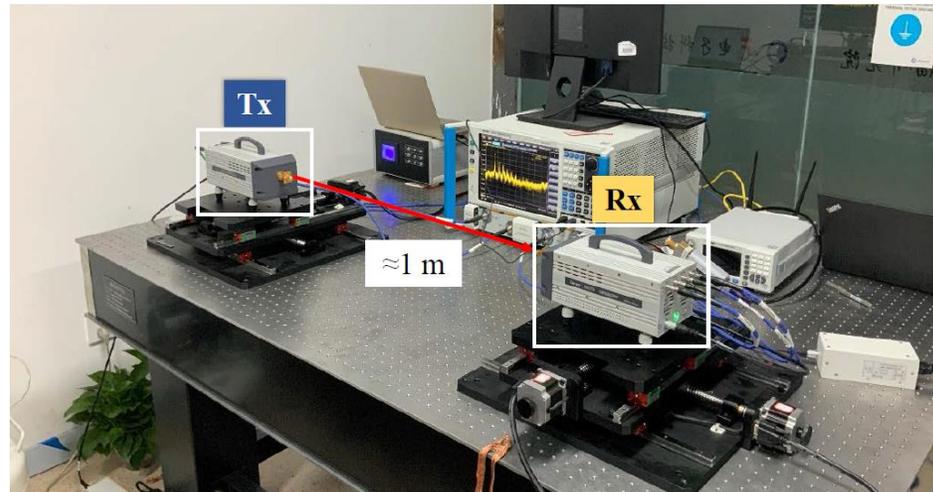
Case Study 2: Realistic THz Channel Modeling of Wireless Connections on a Desktop

A. Limited channel sounding

VNA-based Measurement

| | |
|----------------------|-------------|
| Frequency | 330-365 GHz |
| Frequency points | 5001 |
| Frequency interval | 7 MHz |
| IF bandwidth | 1 kHz |
| Temporal resolution | 0.029 ns |
| Spatial resolution | 0.87 cm |
| Maximum excess delay | 142.0 ns |
| Maximum path length | 42.87 m |

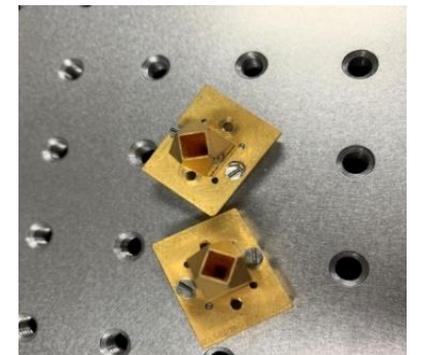
Measurement Scenario



Calibration method:

SOLT Short-Open-Load-Thru

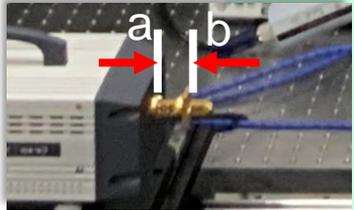
Measurement Antenna



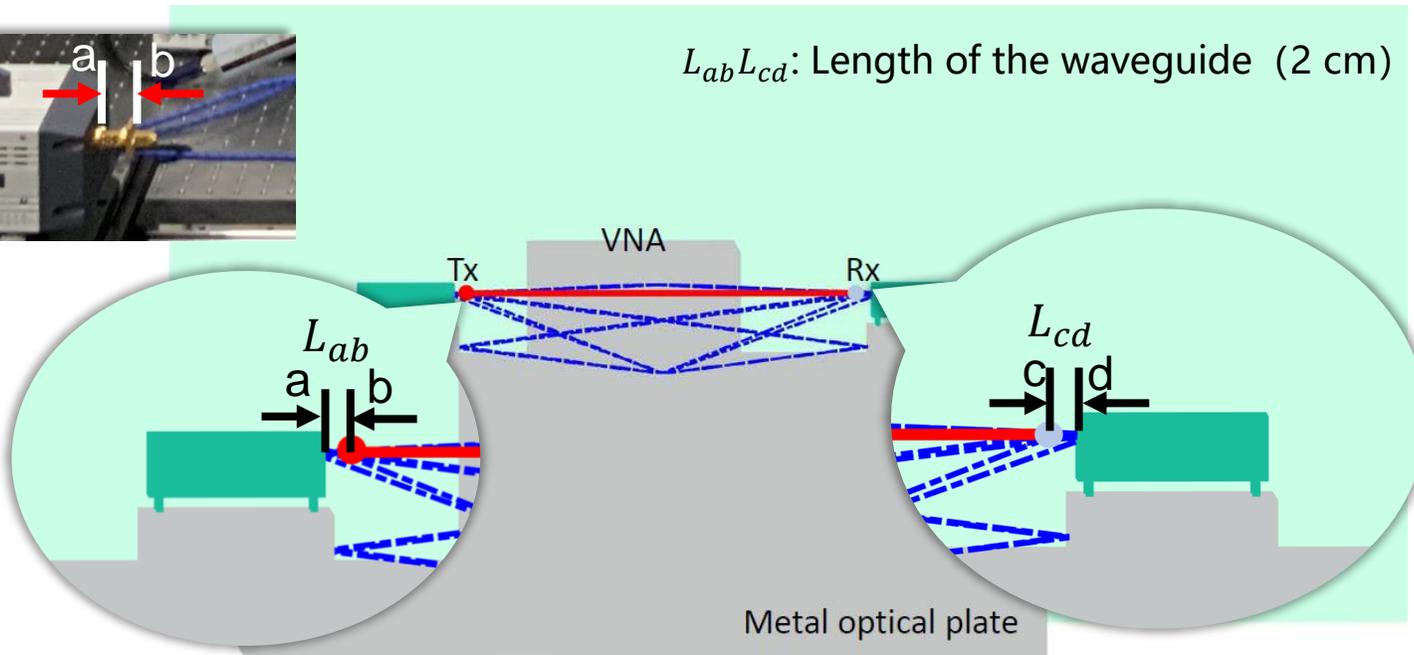
- Type: VDI-WM-710
- Designation: WR-2.8
- HPBW: $\approx 10^\circ$
- Gain: 25 dBi

Case Study 2: Realistic THz Channel Modeling of Wireless Connections on a Desktop

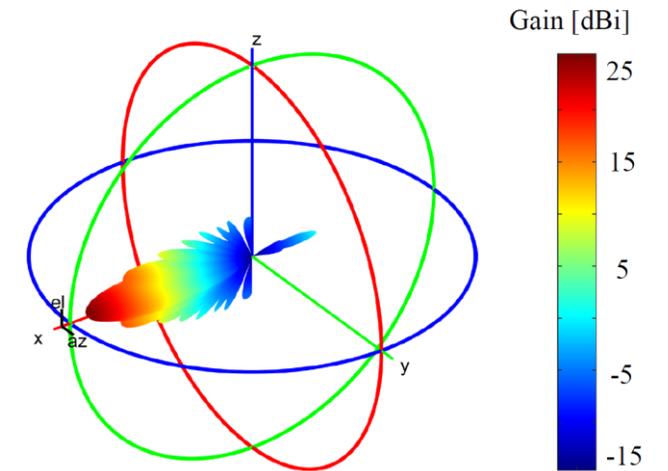
B. Calibration of RT simulator



$L_{ab}L_{cd}$: Length of the waveguide (2 cm)



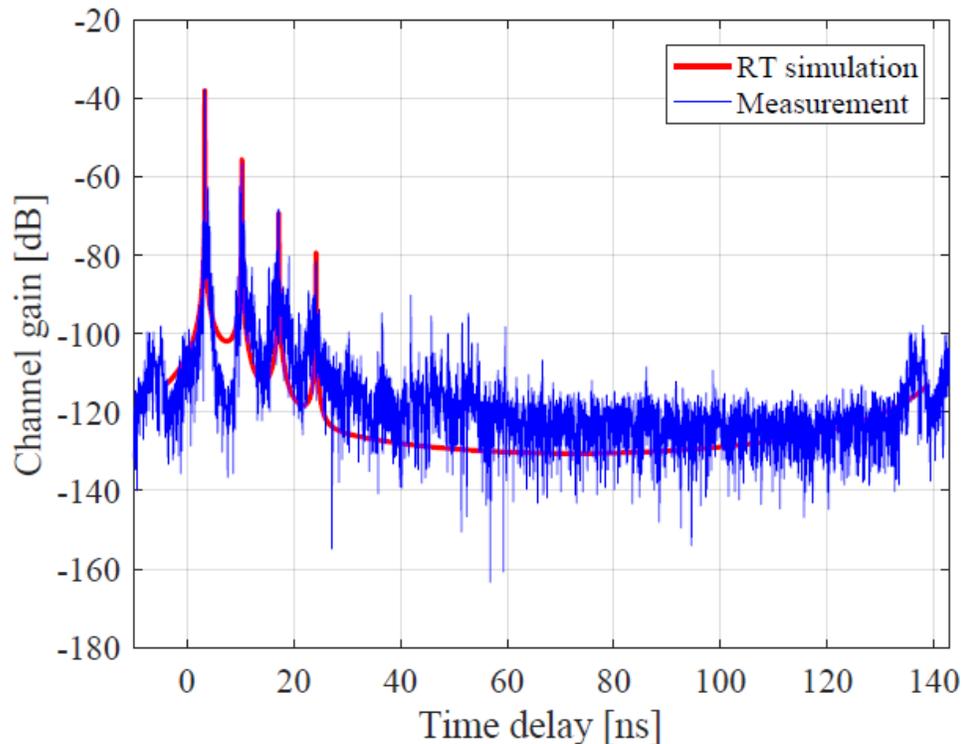
3D antenna pattern



- ❑ RT can physically and intuitively explain the multipaths
- ❑ The power of the reflected rays from optical plate and VNA screen is lower than the LOS ray by more than 40 dB due to the antenna lobe

Case Study 2: Realistic THz Channel Modeling of Wireless Connections on a Desktop

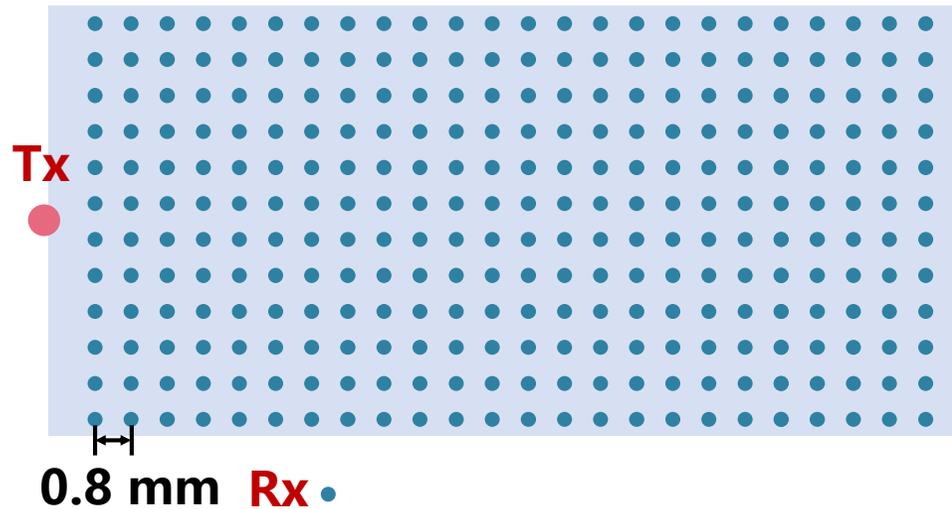
B. Calibration of RT simulator



- ❑ LOS + multi-reflected rays
- ❑ Painted metal cannot be regarded as PEC
- ❑ Permittivity can be reversed by RT
- ❑ Painted metal: $\epsilon' = 1.05$ $\epsilon'' = 12.08$
- ❑ Mean absolute error: <1 dB in power; <0.1 ns in delay

Case Study 2: Realistic THz Channel Modeling of Wireless Connections on a Desktop

C. Extensive RT simulations



- **Tx**: fixed on the one side of the table
- **Rx**: the sampling interval is 0.8 mm, which is approximately equal to the wavelength of center frequency
- **Full polarization** combinations (VV, VH, HV, HH);

Case Study 2: Realistic THz Channel Modeling of Wireless Connections on a Desktop

D. Cluster-based standard channel model families

Key parameters of desktop THz channel

| | SF [dB] | KF [dB] | DS [$\log_{10} ([s])$] | ASD [$\log_{10} ([^\circ])$] | ASA [$\log_{10} ([^\circ])$] | ESD [$\log_{10} ([^\circ])$] | ESA [$\log_{10} ([^\circ])$] | XPR [dB] |
|------------|---------|---------|--------------------------|--------------------------------|--------------------------------|--------------------------------|--------------------------------|----------|
| μ_X | - | 2.40 | -9.13 | 1.88 | 1.88 | 1.06 | 1.06 | 7.11 |
| σ_X | 4.16 | 5.09 | 0.15 | 0.002 | 0.002 | 0.14 | 0.14 | 4.45 |

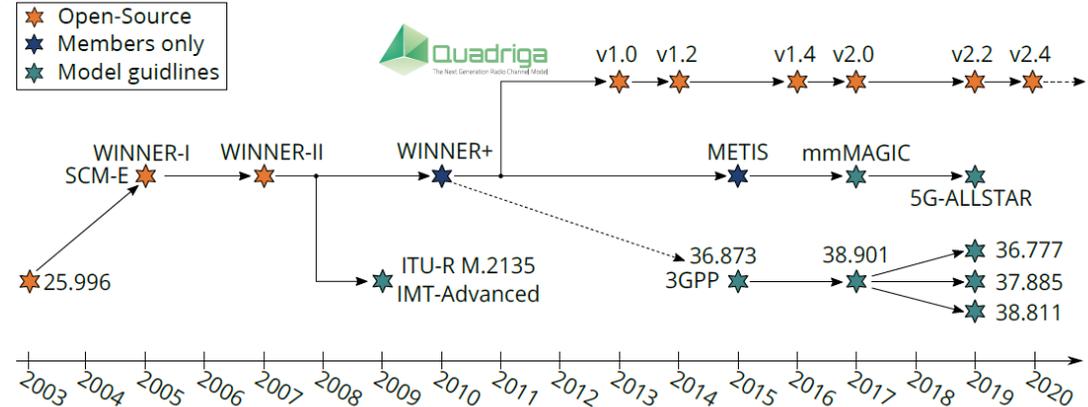
Per-cluster parameters for desktop channel

| Parameter | SF | ASD | ESD | ASA | ESA |
|-----------|---------|----------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|
| Value | 4.29 dB | 29.31 $^\circ$ | 7.31 $^\circ$ | 0.01 $^\circ$ | 0.02 $^\circ$ |

➔ In line with 3GPP-like channel model families

QuaDRiGa

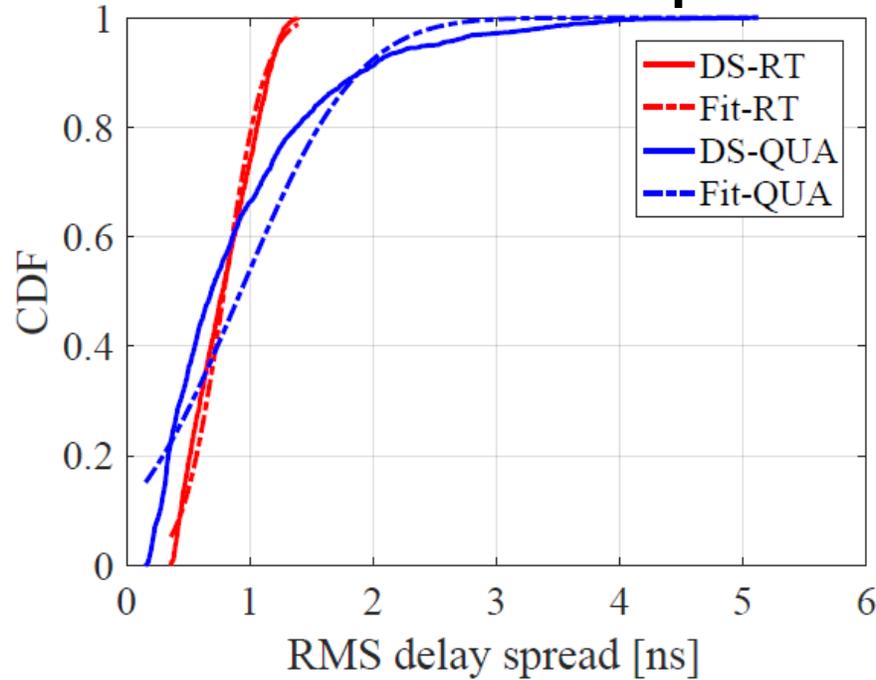
- 3GPP reference channel generator
- Geometry-based cluster channel modeling



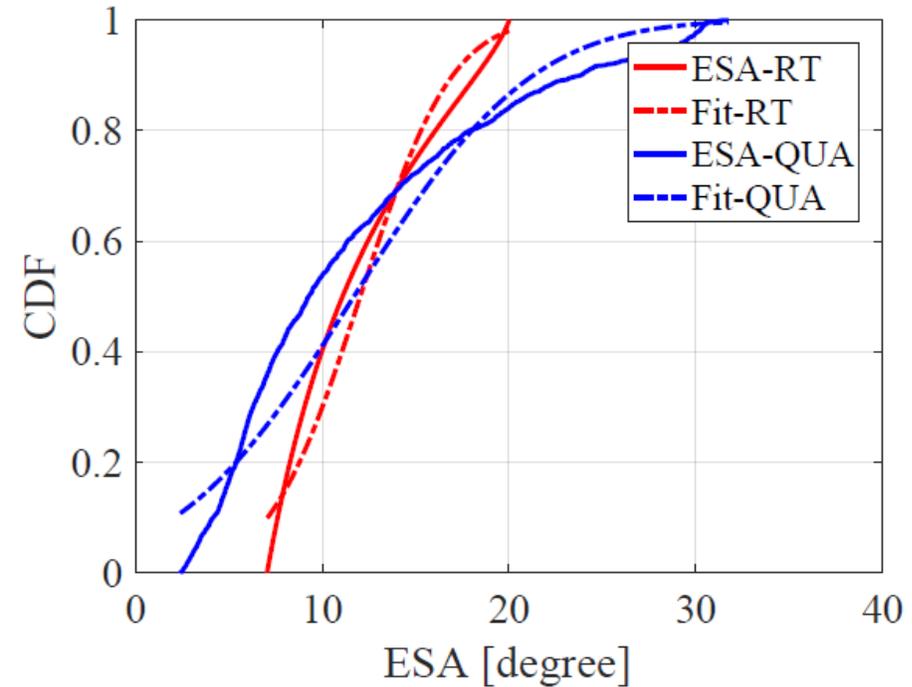
Case Study 2: Realistic THz Channel Modeling of Wireless Connections on a Desktop

E. Realistic THz channel realization

Comparison between QuaDRiGa and RT



Error of mean value: 0.14 ns



Error of mean value: 0.33°

- There is no need to perform more complicated and time-consuming RT simulations. More channel data can be quickly generated using only the extracted channel parameters.

Outline

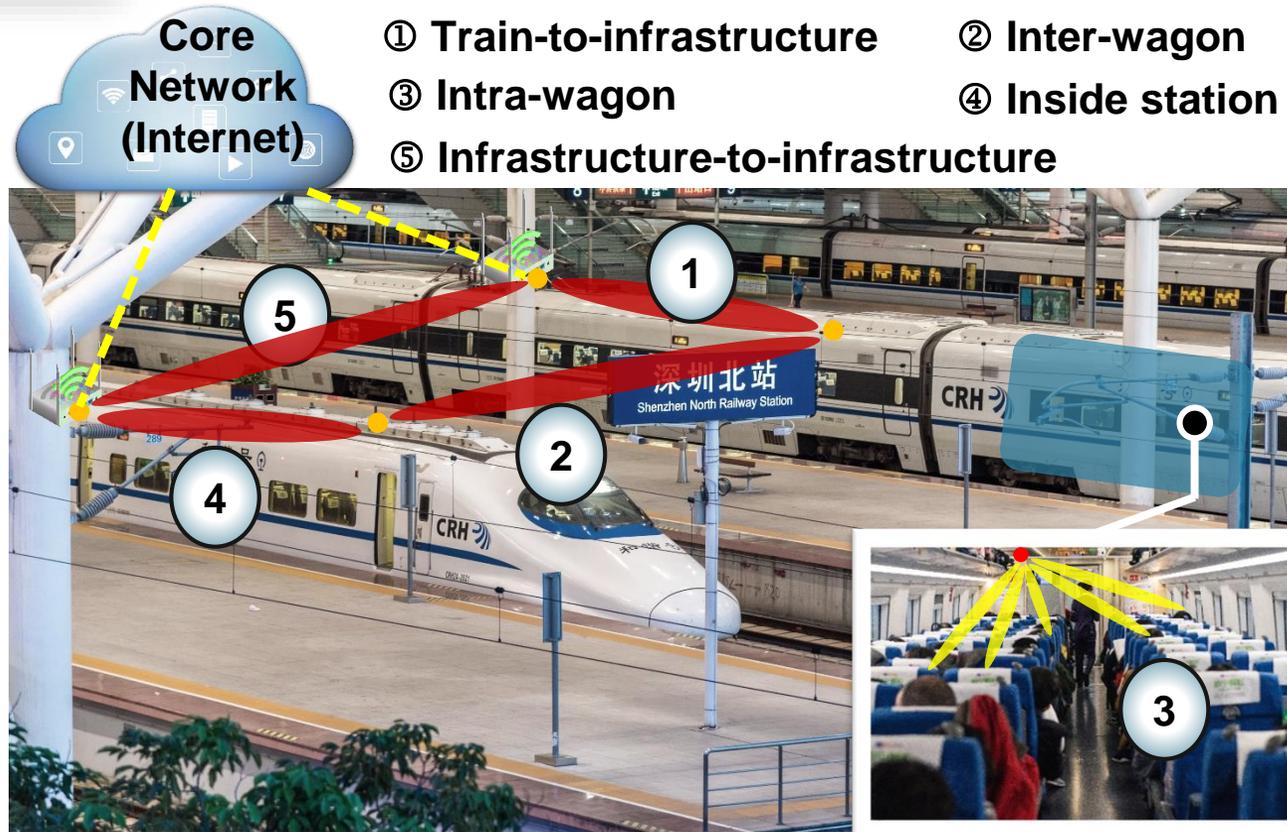
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Case Study 3: Realistic THz Channels for Smart Rail Mobility



Characterization and Modeling for the Millimeter and Sub-Millimeter Wave MIMO Mobile Ultra-Broadband Channel enabling Smart Rail Mobility



Ke Guan, Guangkai Li, Thomas Kuerner, Andreas F. Molisch, Bile Peng, Ruisi He, Bing Hui, Junhyeong Kim, and Zhangdui Zhong, "On Millimeter Wave and THz Mobile Radio Channel for Smart Rail Mobility," *IEEE Transactions on Vehicular Technology*, vol. 66, no. 7, pp. 5658-5674, 2017. **(2019 ESI highly cited paper)**

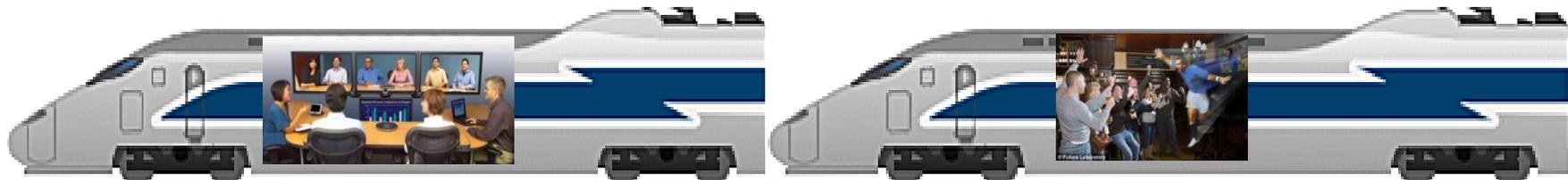


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Smart Rail Mobility Scenarios and High-Data Rate Applications therein

| Smart rail mobility scenarios | On-board and wayside HD video surveillance | On-board real-time high-data rate connectivity | Train operation information | Real-time train dispatching HD video | Multimedia journey information |
|-------------------------------|--|--|-----------------------------|--------------------------------------|--------------------------------|
| T2I | ★ | ★ | ★ | ★ | ★ |
| Inside station | ★ | ★ | | ★ | ★ |
| T2T | | ★ | ★ | | ★ |
| I2I | ★ | | ★ | ★ | ★ |
| Intra-wagon | | ★ | ★ | | ★ |

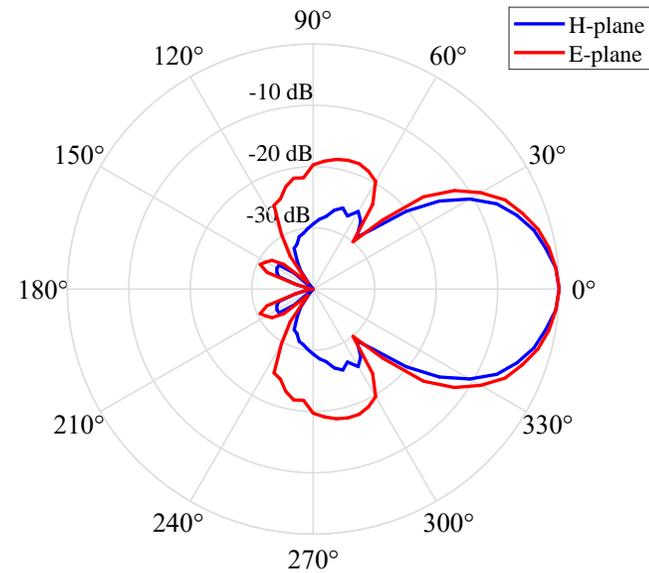
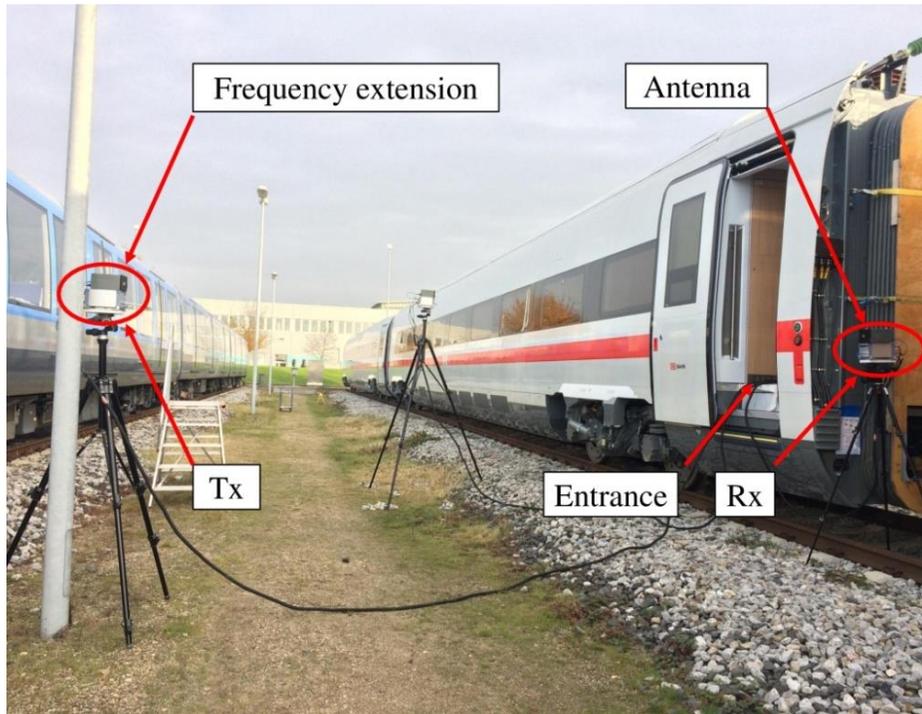
Bandwidth intensive applications – High definition video streams



Dozens of GHz bandwidths are required!

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A. Limited channel sounding



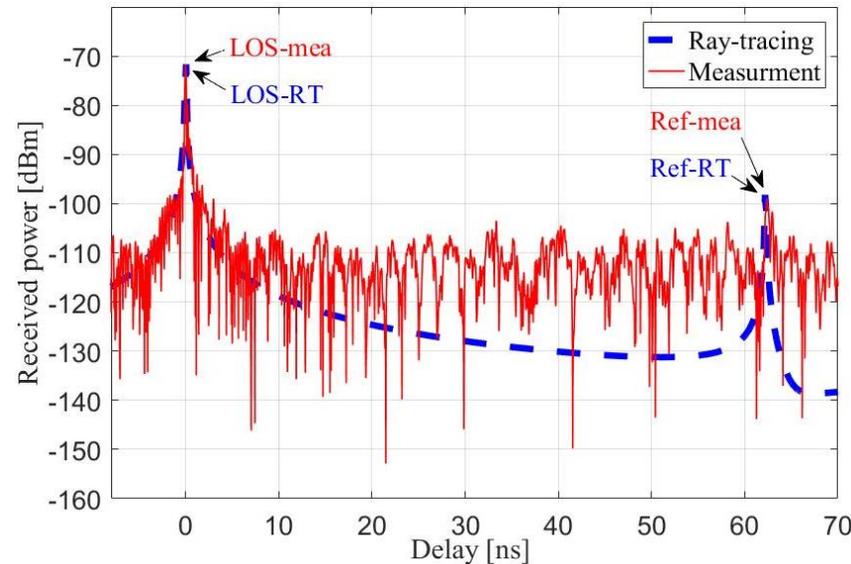
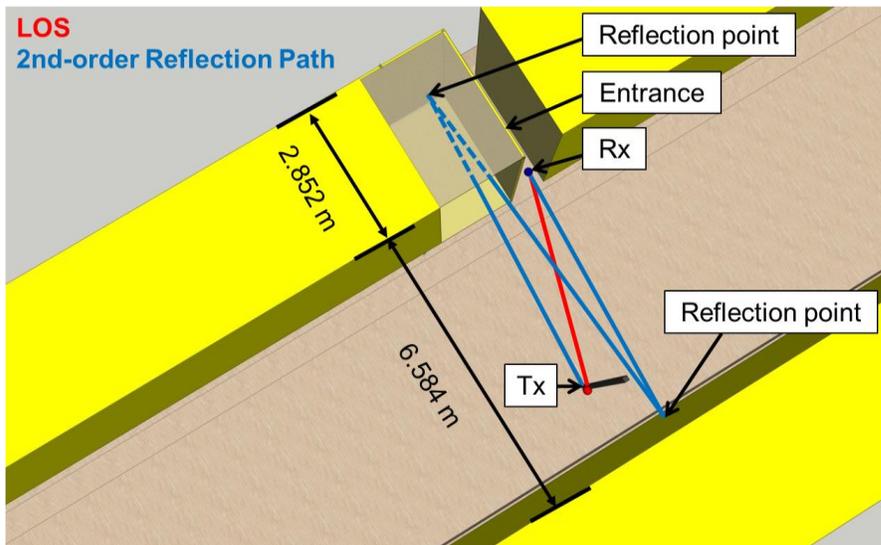
2D pattern of Tx and Rx antennas in the measurement

| Measurement system | Bandwidth | Central frequency | Antenna type | Antenna gain | Antenna HPBW | Rician K-factor | RMS delay spread |
|--------------------|-----------|-------------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|-----------------|------------------|
| | 8 GHz | 304.2 GHz | Directional | 15 dBi | 30° | 3.52 dB | 8.92 ns |

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B. Calibration of RT simulator

3D reconstructed model and traced rays



Validated reflection order

2

| Path (Measurement) | LOS - mea | Ref- mea |
|----------------------|-----------|----------|
| Received power [dBm] | -71.66 | -98.95 |
| Delay [ns] | 0.00 | 62.36 |

| Path (Ray-tracing) | LOS - RT | Ref- RT |
|----------------------|----------|---------|
| Received power [dBm] | -71.66 | -98.21 |

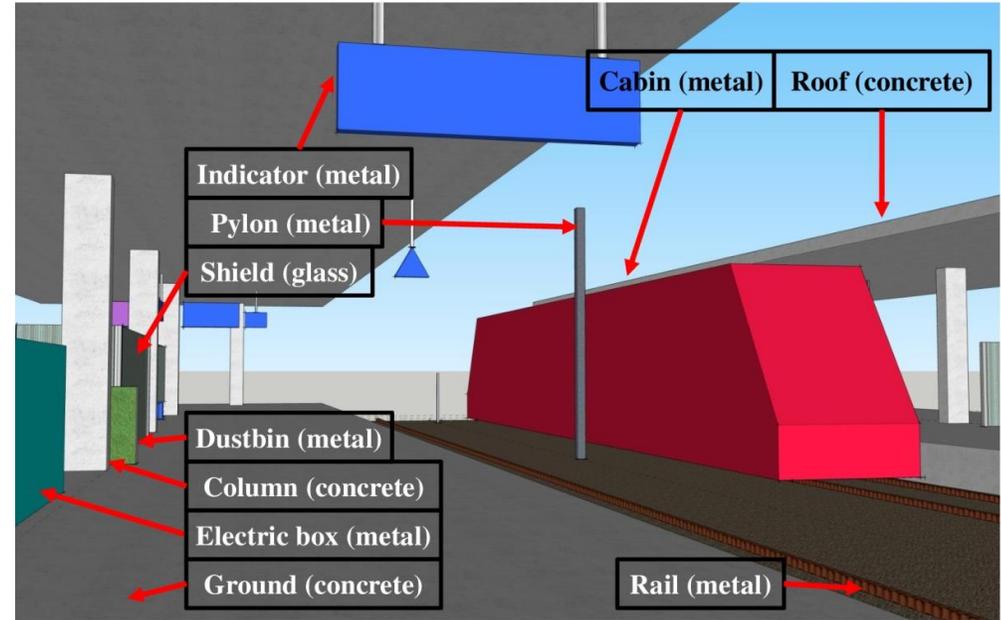
| | | |
|------------------|------|------|
| Power error [dB] | 0.00 | 0.74 |
|------------------|------|------|

| | | |
|------------|------|-------|
| Delay [ns] | 0.00 | 62.17 |
|------------|------|-------|

| | | |
|------------------|------|------|
| Delay error [ns] | 0.00 | 0.19 |
|------------------|------|------|

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C. Extensive RT simulations

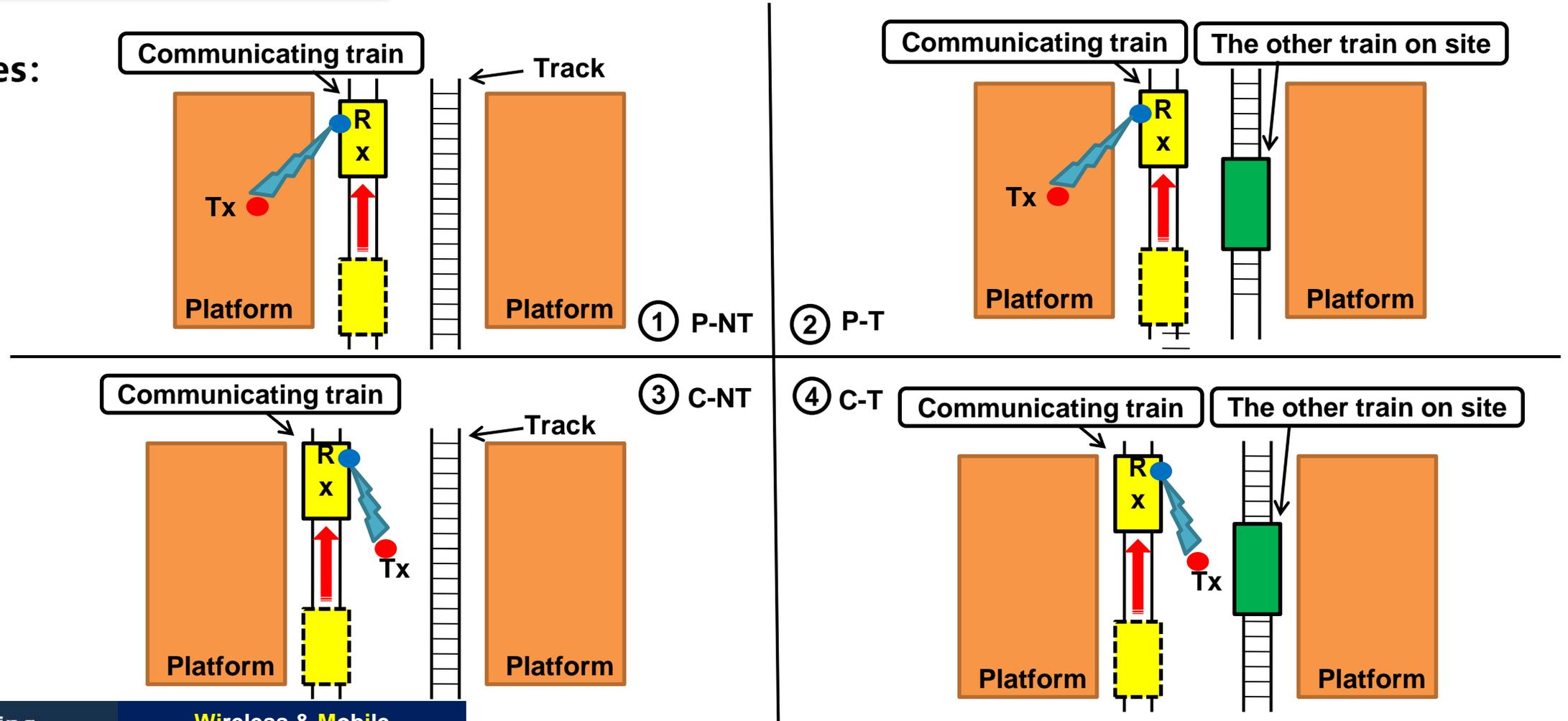


| | |
|---------------------------|--|
| Polarization | VV, VH, HH, and HV |
| Antenna type | Isotropic |
| Antenna gain and Tx power | 0 dBi and 0 dBm |
| Frequency range | 300-308 GHz |
| Propagation mechanism | LOS + 2 nd order of reflection + scattering |

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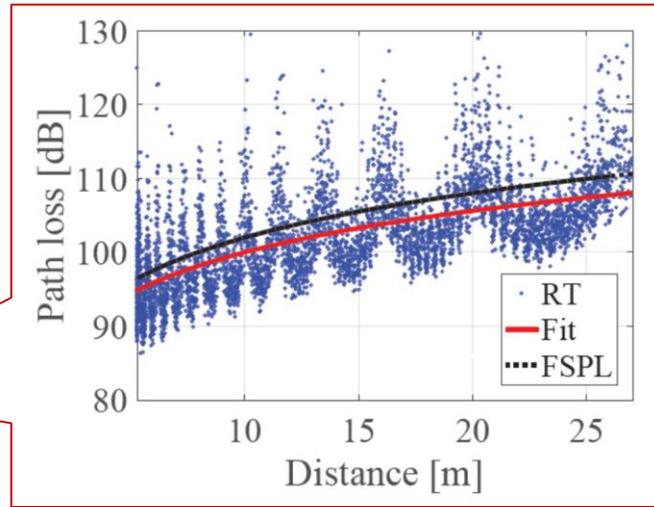
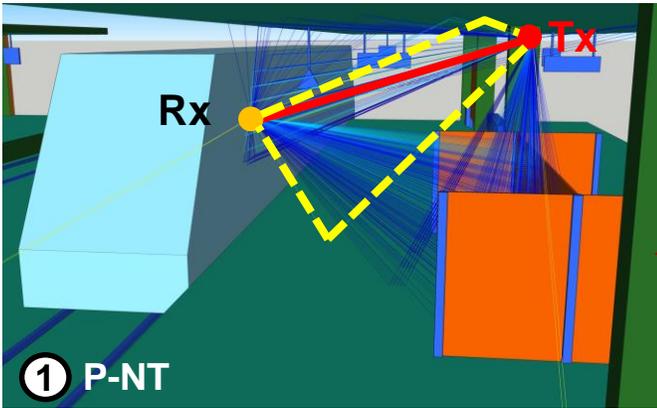
C. Extensive RT simulations

Four Cases:

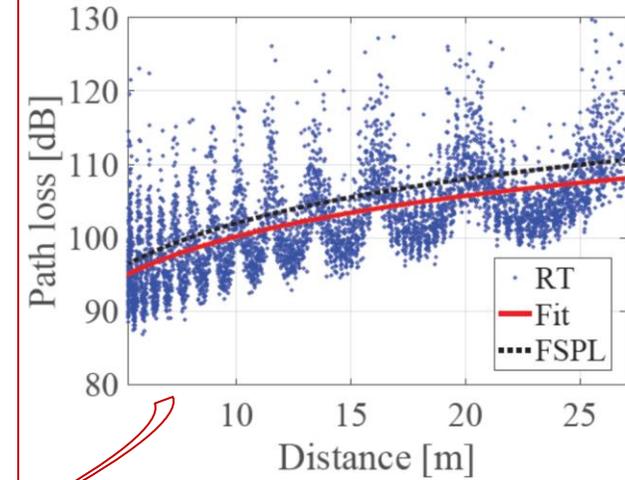


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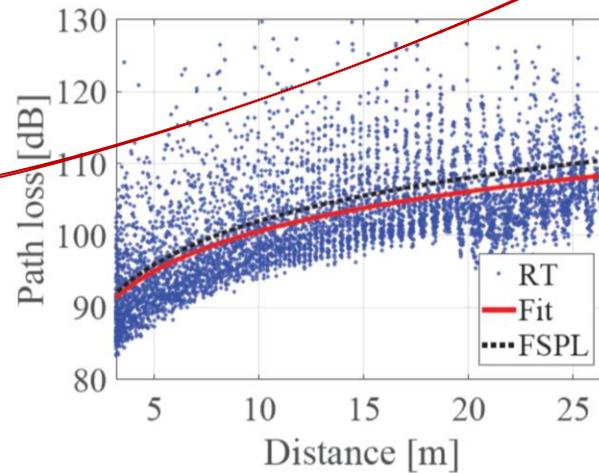
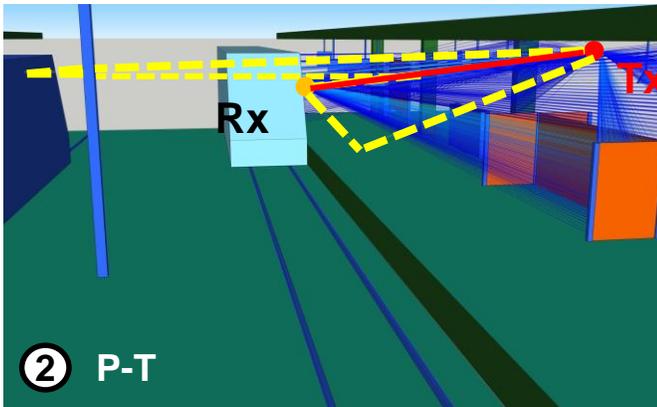
C. Extensive RT simulations



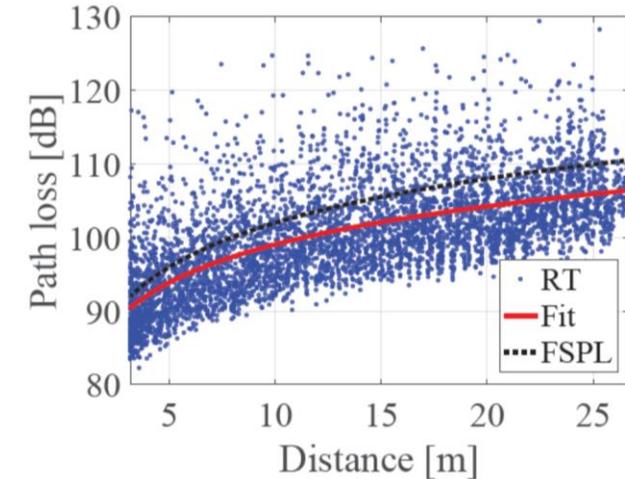
(a) P-NT case



(b) P-T case



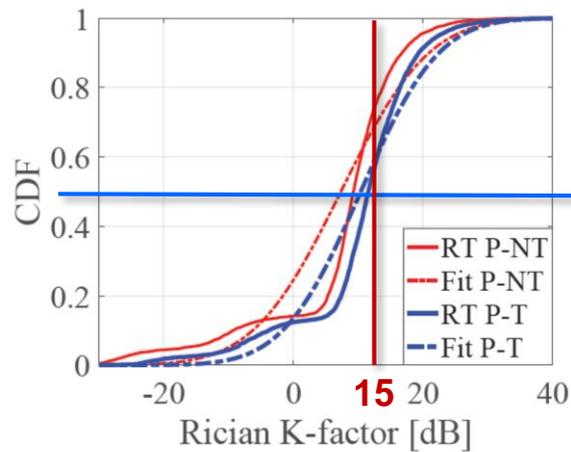
(c) C-NT case



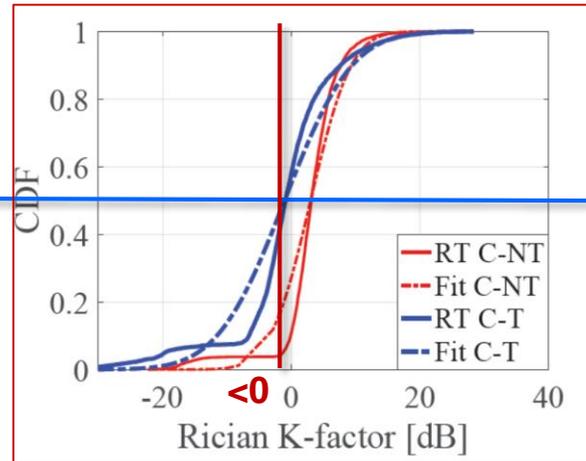
(d) C-T case



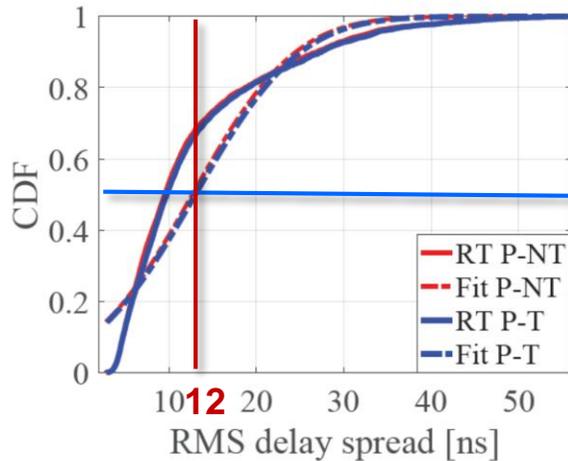
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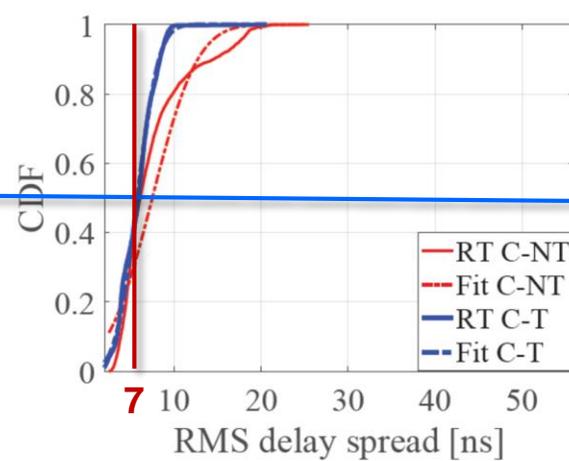
(a) P-NT and P-T cases



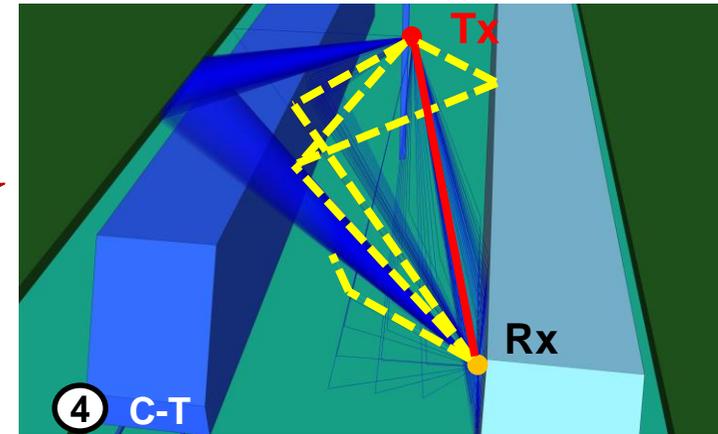
(b) C-NT and C-T cases



(a) P-NT and P-T cases

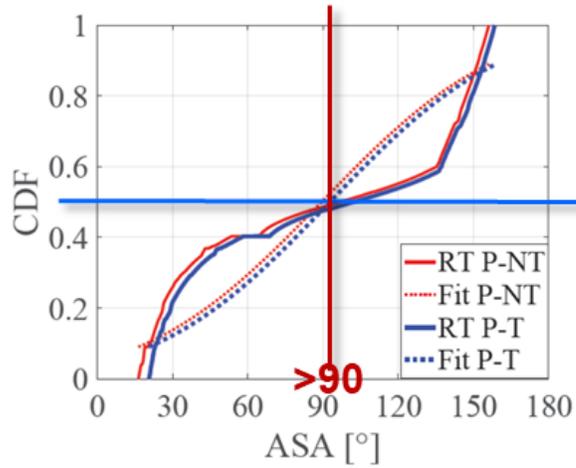


(b) C-NT and C-T cases

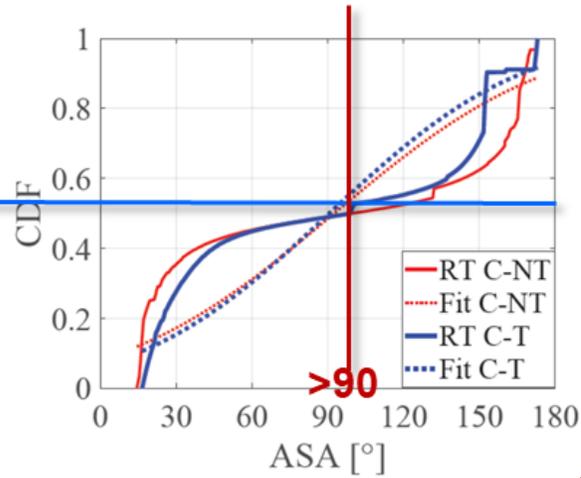


- Much **stronger multipaths** can be received when the **Tx** is deployed on the **catenary mast**.
- The **reflection attenuation** caused by **metallic train body** is **trivial**, and therefore, considerably **decrease the KF**.

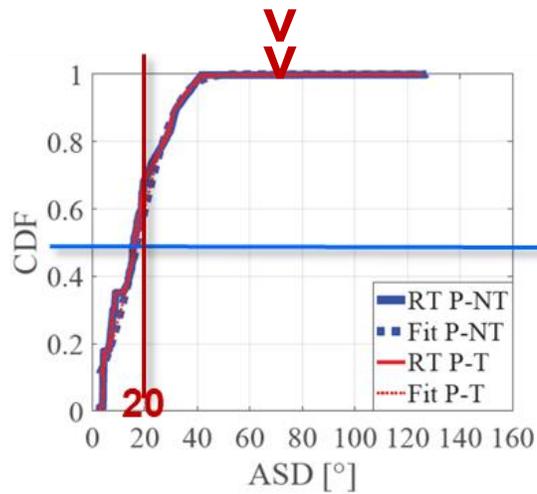
Case Study 3: Realistic THz Channels for Smart Rail Mobility



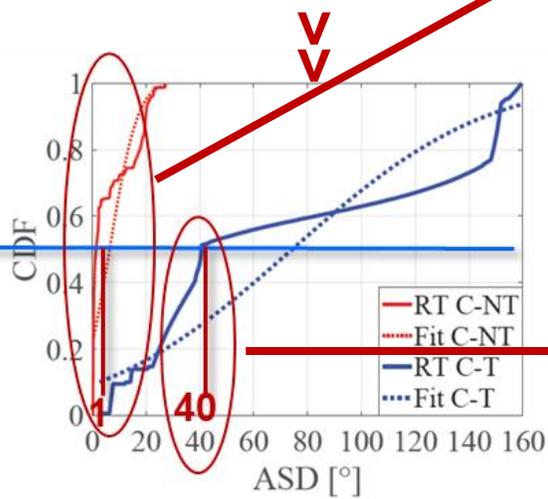
(a) P-NT and P-T cases



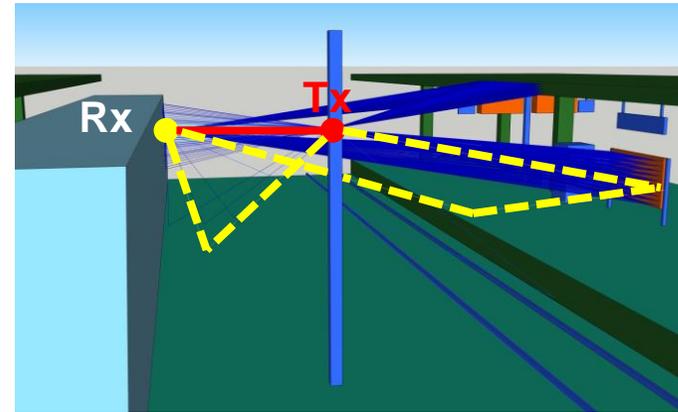
(b) C-NT and C-T cases



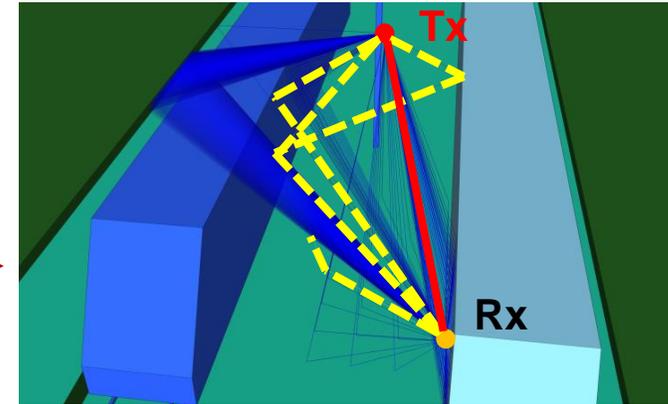
(a) P-NT and P-T cases



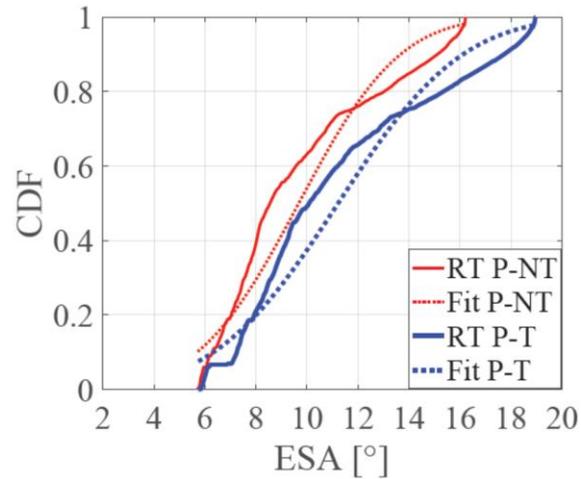
(b) C-NT and C-T cases



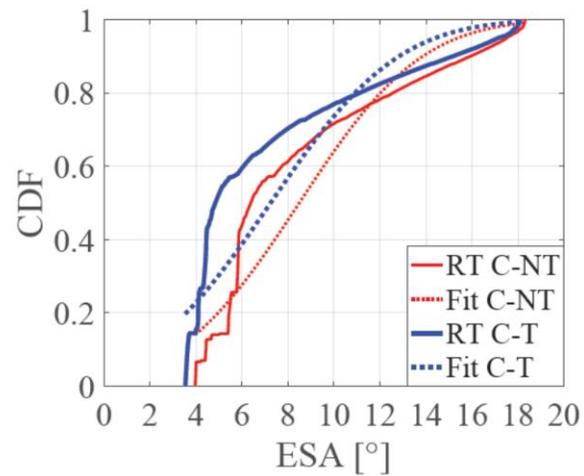
The other train generates **strong multipaths** to increase the **ASD**.



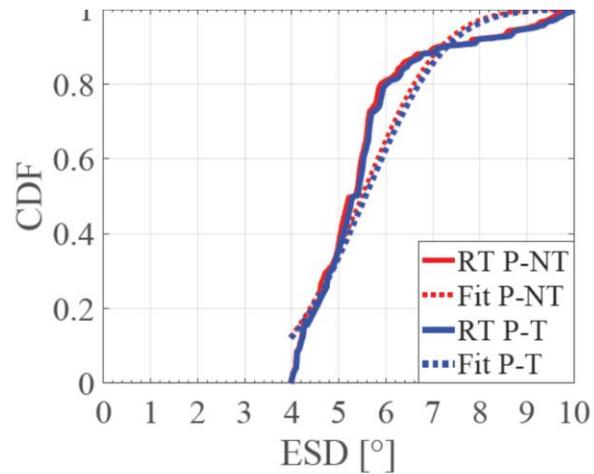
Case Study 3: Realistic THz Channels for Smart Rail Mobility



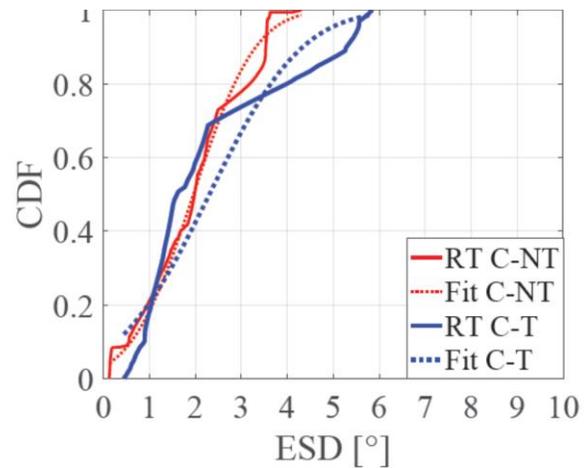
(a) P-NT and P-T cases



(b) C-NT and C-T cases



(a) P-NT and P-T cases



(b) C-NT and C-T cases

- The **ESA** and **ESD** are much **smaller** than those in the azimuth plane.
- This means that if the Tx and Rx are vertically polarized and with the similar heights which are relatively high from the platform or ground, **most of the multipaths** will be generated on the **azimuth plane**, which has potential to offer more **diversity gain** to the **MIMO** system.

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D. Cluster-based standard channel model families

| Channel Case | T2I inside station | | | |
|------------------------------------|--------------------|-------|-------|-------|
| | P-NT | P-T | C-NT | C-T |
| A | 18.65 | 18.41 | 18.34 | 17.25 |
| B | 81.35 | 81.75 | 82.24 | 81.80 |
| σ_{SF} [dB] | 5.22 | 5.37 | 5.85 | 5.47 |
| λ_{SF} [m] | 0.02 | 0.02 | 0.02 | 0.02 |
| μ_{KF} [dB] | 7.30 | 10.37 | 3.04 | -1.01 |
| σ_{KF} [dB] | 10.63 | 9.43 | 4.95 | 8.21 |
| λ_{KF} [m] | 0.25 | 0.25 | 0.25 | 0.25 |
| μ_{DS} [$\log_{10}([s])$] | -7.99 | -7.98 | -8.18 | -8.26 |
| σ_{DS} [$\log_{10}([s])$] | 0.27 | 0.27 | 0.20 | 0.16 |
| λ_{DS} [m] | 0.23 | 0.23 | 0.24 | 0.25 |
| r_{DS} | 1.45 | 1.38 | 0.81 | 0.76 |



Stochastic Channel Generators, such as 3GPP, **Quadriga**, etc

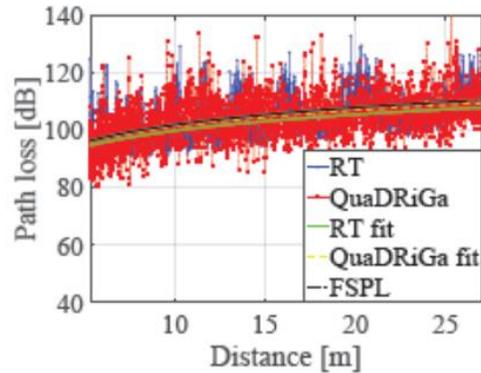


| Channel Case | T2I inside station | | | |
|--|--------------------|-------|-------|-------|
| | P-NT | P-T | C-NT | C-T |
| μ_{ASD} [$\log_{10}([\text{°}])$] | 1.12 | 1.13 | 0.33 | 1.70 |
| σ_{ASD} [$\log_{10}([\text{°}])$] | 0.32 | 0.32 | 0.69 | 0.43 |
| λ_{ASD} [m] | 0.25 | 0.25 | 0.25 | 0.25 |
| μ_{ESD} [$\log_{10}([\text{°}])$] | 0.73 | 0.74 | 0.18 | 0.27 |
| σ_{ESD} [$\log_{10}([\text{°}])$] | 0.09 | 0.09 | 0.38 | 0.29 |
| λ_{ESD} [m] | 0.25 | 0.25 | 0.25 | 0.25 |
| μ_{ASA} [$\log_{10}([\text{°}])$] | 1.83 | 1.86 | 1.79 | 1.82 |
| σ_{ASA} [$\log_{10}([\text{°}])$] | 0.35 | 0.32 | 0.43 | 0.37 |
| λ_{ASA} [m] | 0.25 | 0.25 | 0.25 | 0.25 |
| μ_{ESA} [$\log_{10}([\text{°}])$] | 0.96 | 1.02 | 0.88 | 0.80 |
| σ_{ESA} [$\log_{10}([\text{°}])$] | 0.13 | 0.14 | 0.20 | 0.23 |
| λ_{ESA} [m] | 0.25 | 0.25 | 0.25 | 0.25 |
| μ_{XPR} [dB] | 3.05 | 3.10 | 5.90 | 8.53 |
| σ_{XPR} [dB] | 1.89 | 1.86 | 1.81 | 2.32 |
| Per-cluster parameter | | | | |
| Cluster number | 5 | 5 | 5 | 5 |
| SF [dB] | 10.36 | 8.86 | 11.13 | 8.31 |
| ASD [°] | 4.63 | 5.16 | 1.71 | 10.46 |
| ESD [°] | 3.50 | 3.36 | 1.55 | 1.43 |
| ASA [°] | 17.83 | 16.85 | 16.90 | 15.67 |
| ESA [°] | 11.07 | 12.26 | 10.27 | 6.45 |

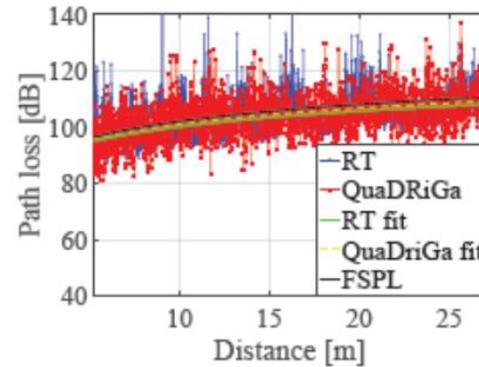
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E. Realistic THz channel realization

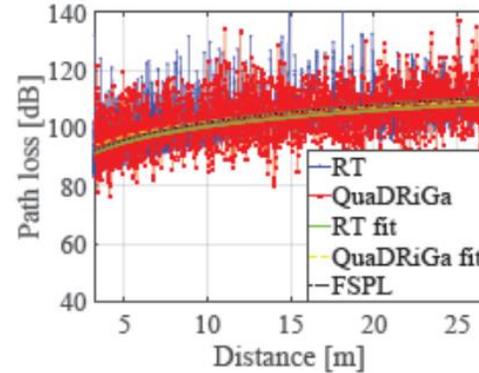
Path loss and shadow fading (QuaDRiGa vs RT)



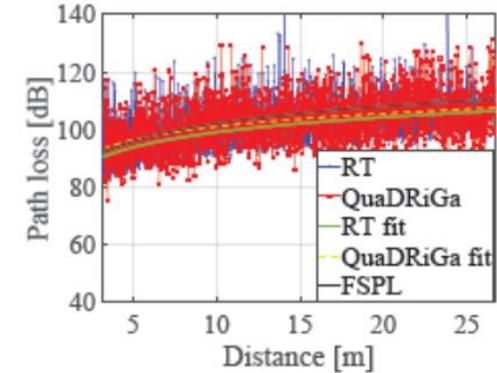
(a) P-NT case of T2I



(b) P-T case of T2I

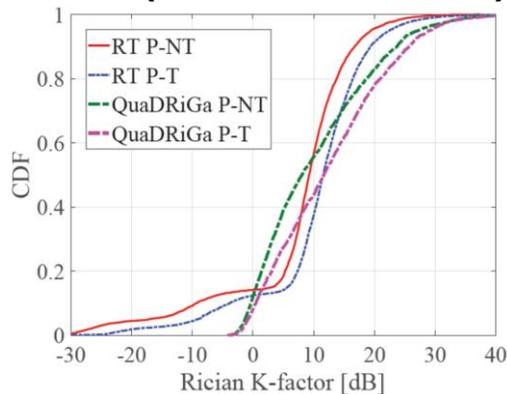


(c) C-NT case of T2I

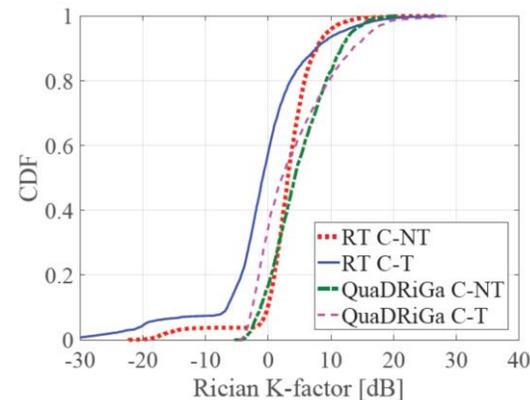


(d) C-T case of T2I

CDF of Rician K-factor for P-NT and P-T cases (QuaDRiGa vs RT)



CDF of Rician K-factor for C-NT and C-T cases (QuaDRiGa vs RT)



Ke Guan, Bile Peng, Danping He, Johannes M. Eckhardt, Sebastian Rey, Bo Ai, Zhangdui Zhong, and Thomas Kuerner, "Measurement, Simulation, and Characterization of Train-to-Infrastructure Inside-Station Channel at the Terahertz Band," *IEEE Transactions on Terahertz Science and Technology*, vol. 9, no. 3, pp. 291-306, 2019.

Outline

- Challenges on THz Channel Modeling
- New Paradigm of Realistic Terahertz Channel Modeling
- Three Use Cases from microscopy to macroscopy
 - Close-Proximity Communications
 - THz Communications on a desktop
 - THz Channels for Smart Rail Mobility
- Conclusion



Conclusion

- ❑ **Empirical channel model** or **stochastic channel model**, which is based on large amounts of **measurement data**, **no longer stands** in THz channel modeling.
- ❑ The **novel paradigm** for THz channel modeling can **break through the bottleneck** of **scarce full-dimensional channel sounding measurements**.
- ❑ The novel paradigm is with the core of **high-performance RT** (<http://raytracer.cloud>).
- ❑ The channel modeling approach aims to streamline the **design, simulation, and development** of 6G THz communication systems.



Thank you for your attention

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