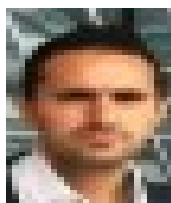


Communications ultra-basse énergie par rétrodiffusion de champ ambiant

Julien de Rosny, CNRS
Institut Langevin, ESPCI Paris, PSL

Collaboration



Institut Langevin : A. Ourir, Kammel Rachedi (PhD)

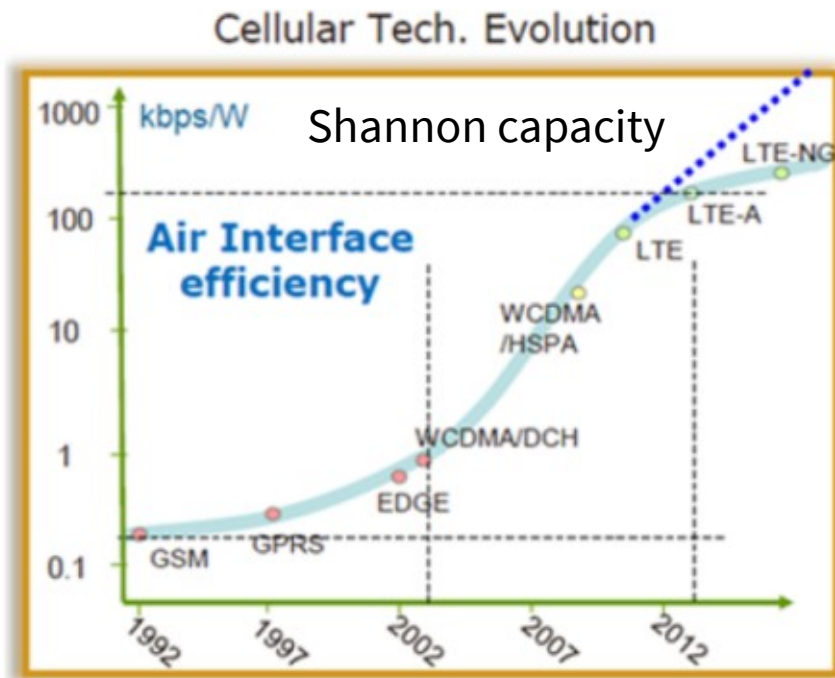
Orange labs : Dinh-Thuy Phan-Huy, Nisseem Selmene (Post-doc), Dominique Barthel, Philippe Ratajczak

L2S -Centra

Marco Di Renzo, Romain Fara (PhD)



Telecom growth vs consumption



- ◆ GSM → LTE-A, 1000x, 20 years
- ◆ WCDMA → LTE-A, 100x, 10 years
- ◆ LTE-A → LTE-NG, ~3x??, <5 years??
- ◆ **Peak Efficiency is no longer enough** to deal with the exponential traffic growth

<https://arxiv.org/pdf/1903.09627.pdf>

2 Power consumption trends :

- ↘ **Better spectral efficiency**
- ↗ **New uses of smartphones → traffic demand growth**



Global increase

To reduce energy of access equipment :

- simplification network architecture
- improvement of electronics,
- new materials
- ...

Solution based on RF field recycling

Communication with a mirror



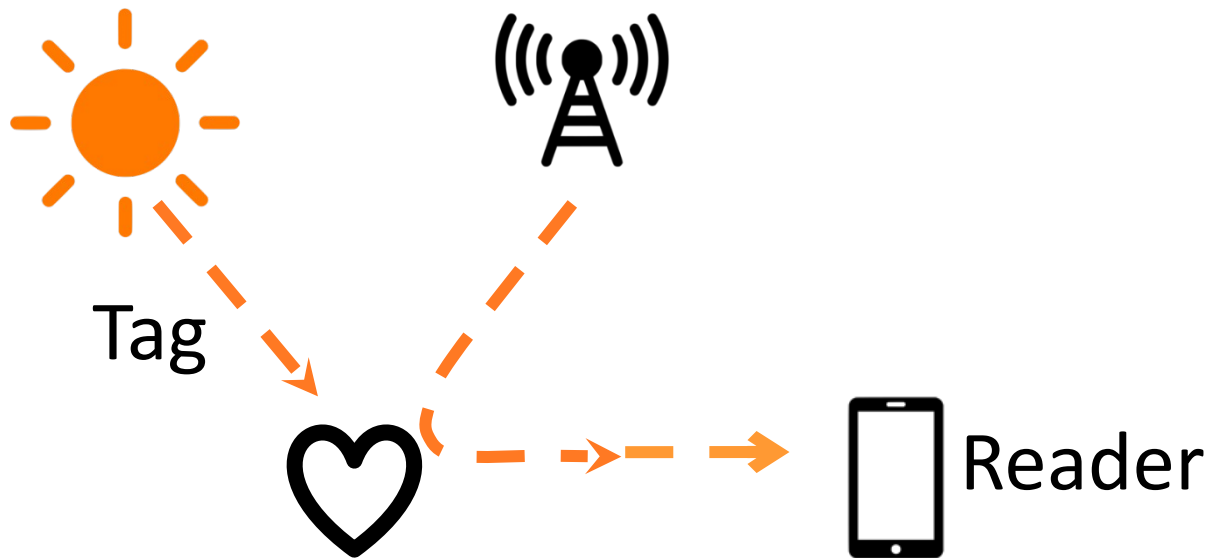
https://youtu.be/1qASGbRu6_o

Source of opportunity (sun) + variable scatterer

Transposition to RF

Energy source

Source of opportunity Radio wave source
(TNT, 4G, Wifi, ...)



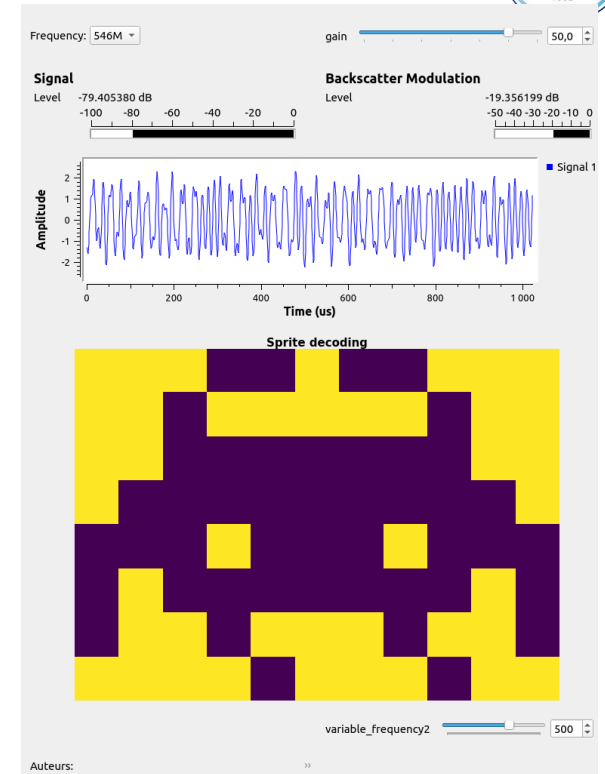
Demonstration



Source of opportunity
TV (~ 600MHz)

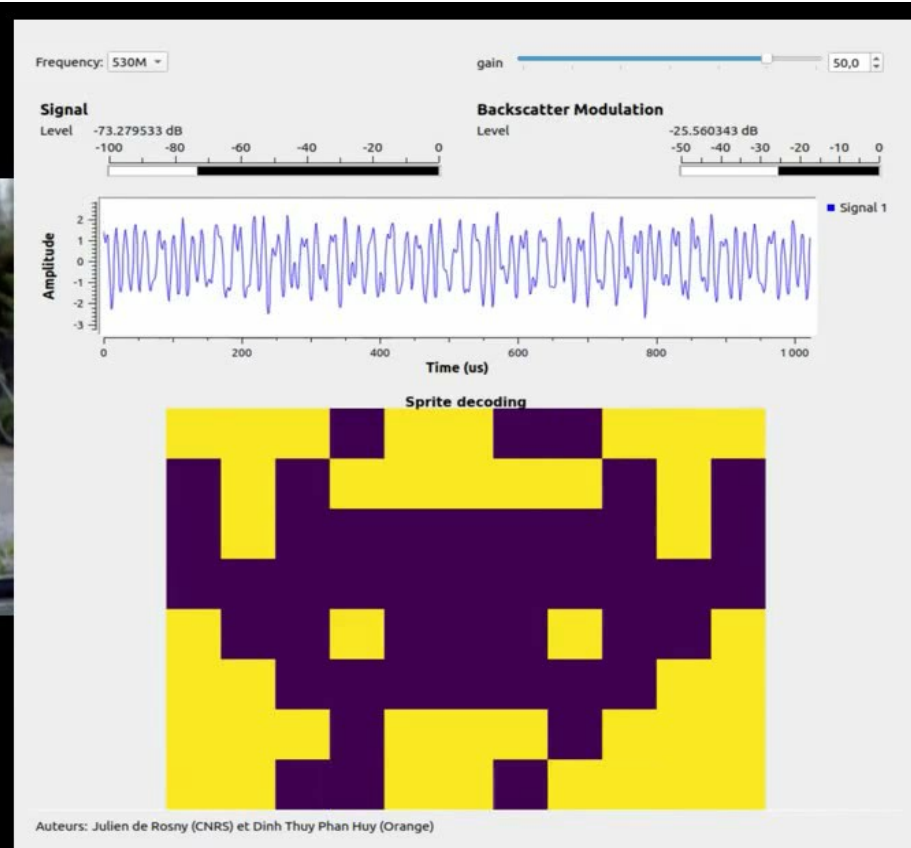
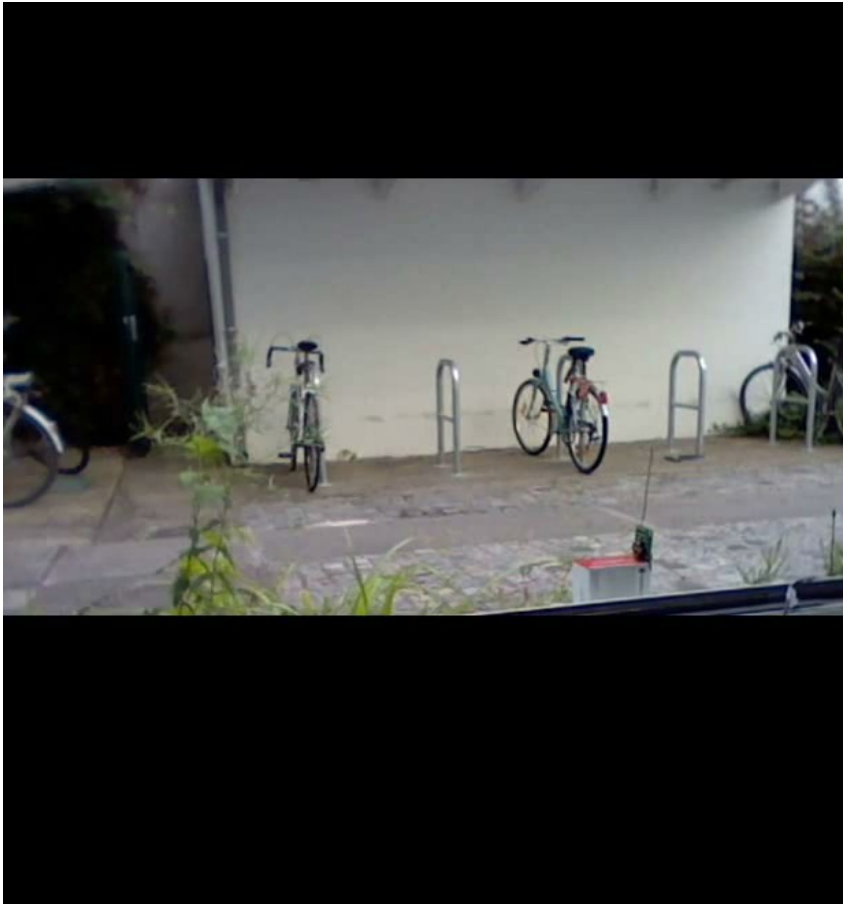


Tag

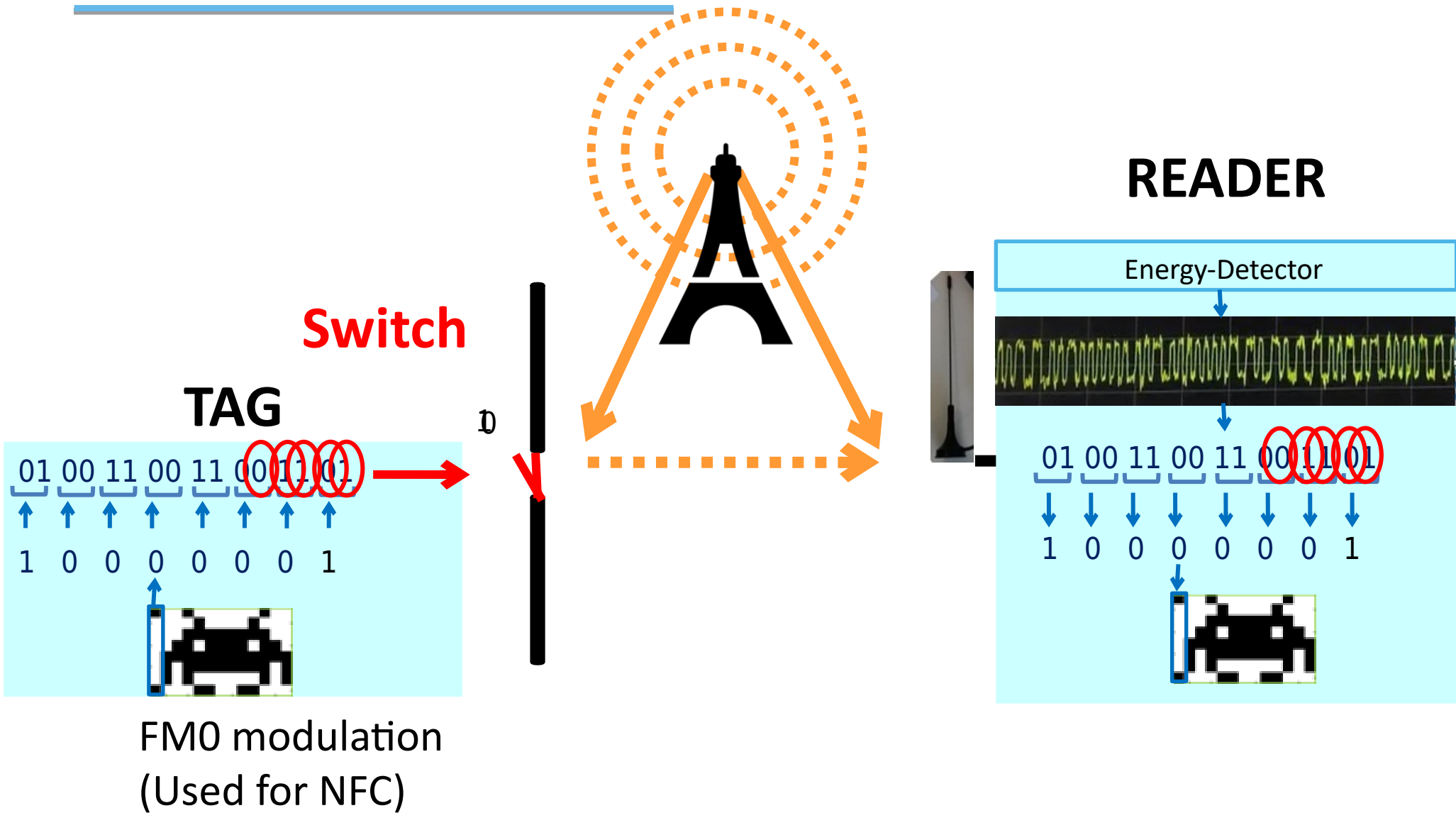


Receiver

Demonstration



How it works



The Thing or Great Seal bug

660 MHz



Leon Theremin (1945)



Previous works : identification, friend or foe IFF

Backscattering communication

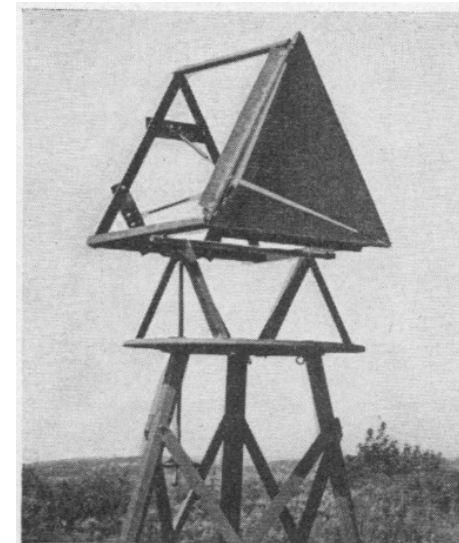
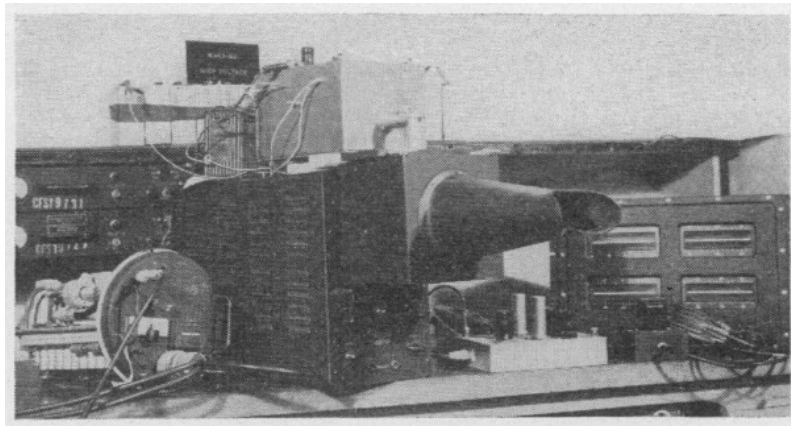
1196

PROCEEDINGS OF THE I.R.E.

October

Communication by Means of Reflected Power*

HARRY STOCKMAN†, SENIOR MEMBER, IRE



S – Band / X- Band

1948 First complete works on backscattering coms

Short-Range Radio-Telemetry for Electronic Identification, Using Modulated RF Backscatter

ALFRED R. KOELLE, STEVEN W. DEPP,
AND ROBERT W. FREYMAN

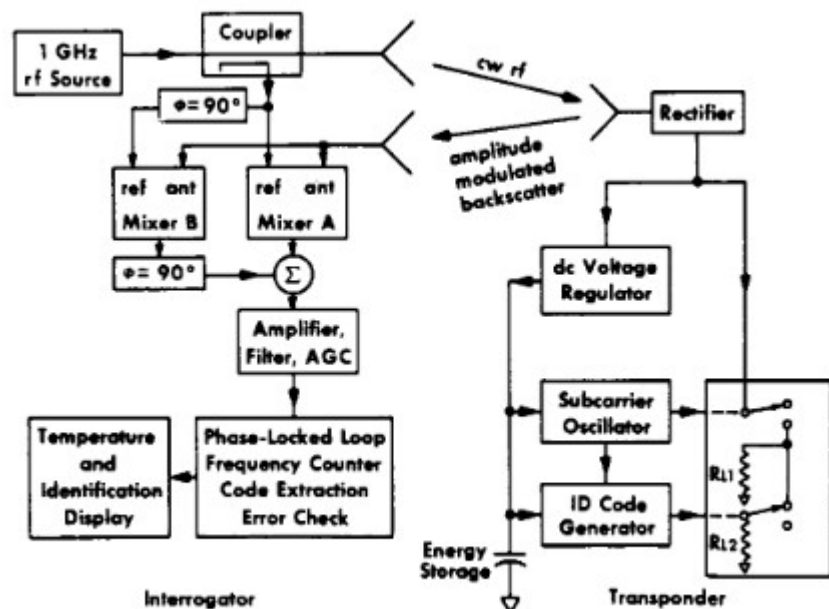


Fig. 1. Block diagram of interrogator and one transponder.

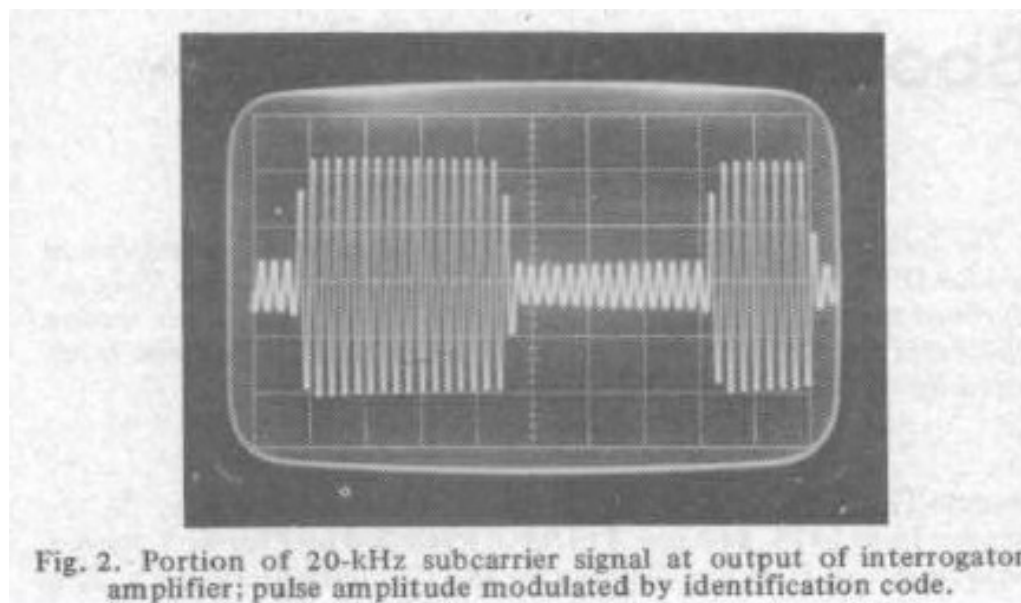


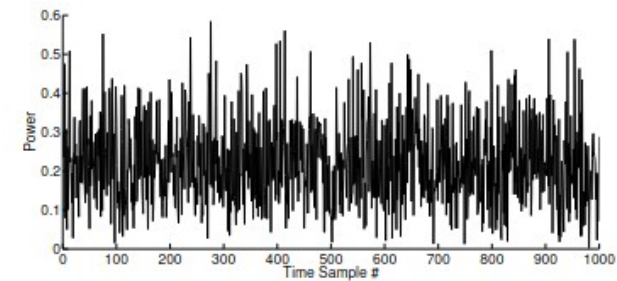
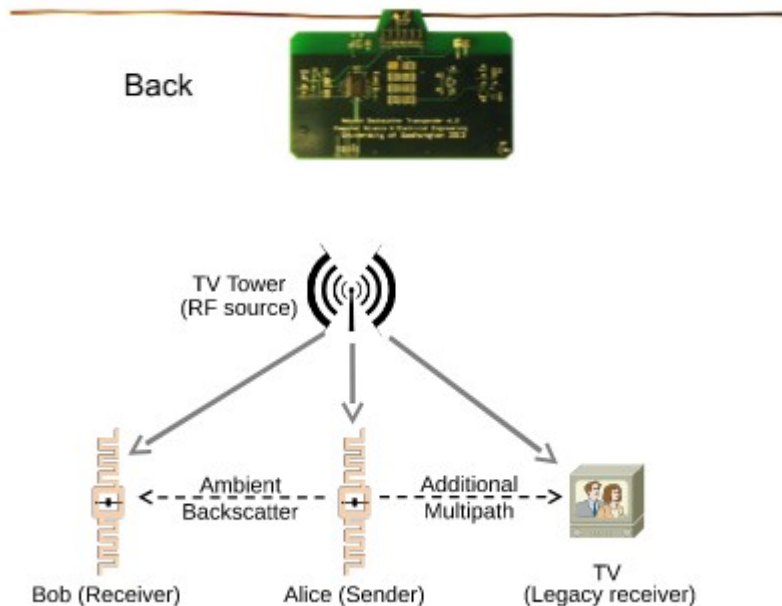
Fig. 2. Portion of 20-kHz subcarrier signal at output of interrogator-amplifier; pulse amplitude modulated by identification code.

First complete RFID with energy harvesting

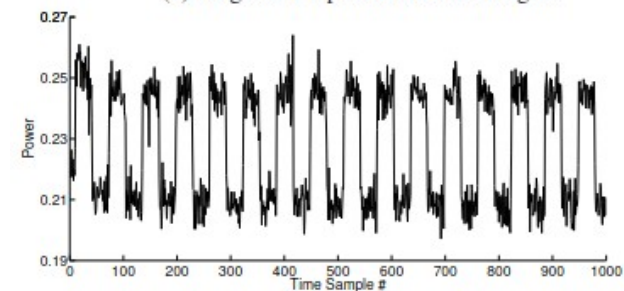
Ambient backscatter communications

Ambient Backscatter: Wireless Communication Out of Thin Air

Vincent Liu, Aaron Parks, Vamsi Talla, Shyamnath Gollakota, David Wetherall, Joshua R. Smith
University of Washington
{liuv, anparks, vamsit, gshyam, djw, jrsjrs}@uw.edu



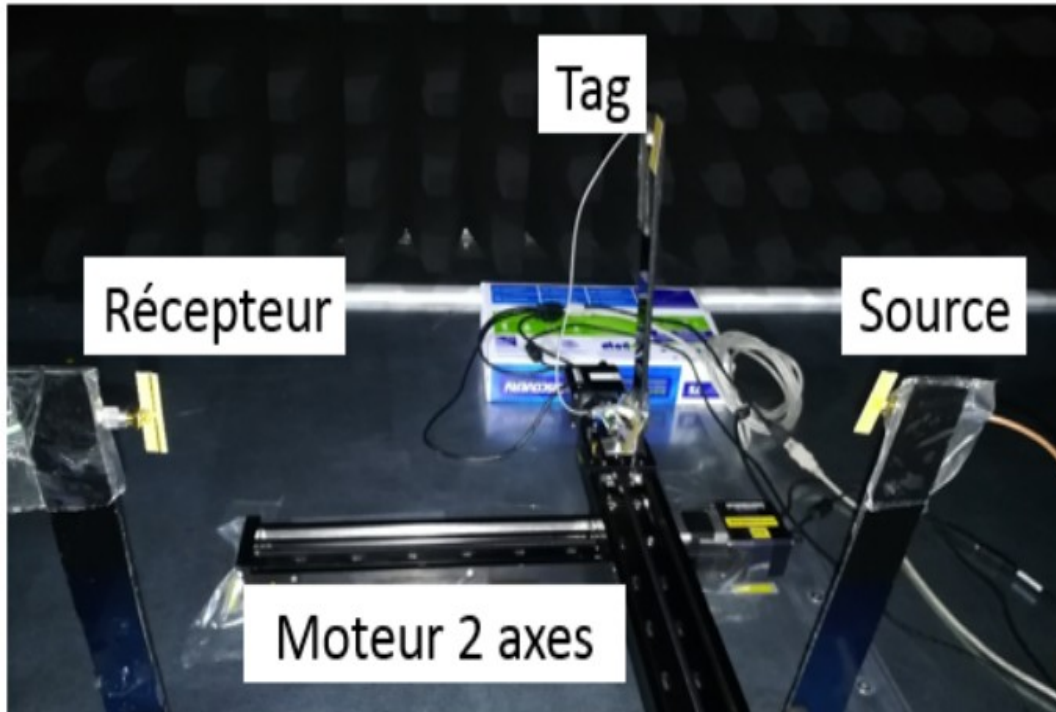
(a) Original TV plus Backscatter signal



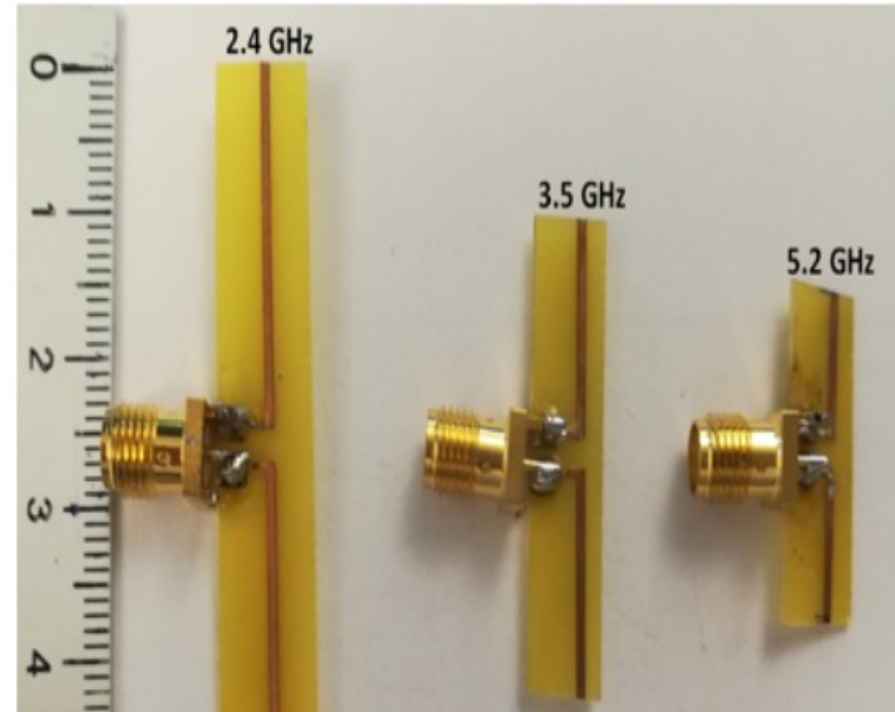
(b) Signal After Averaging

2013

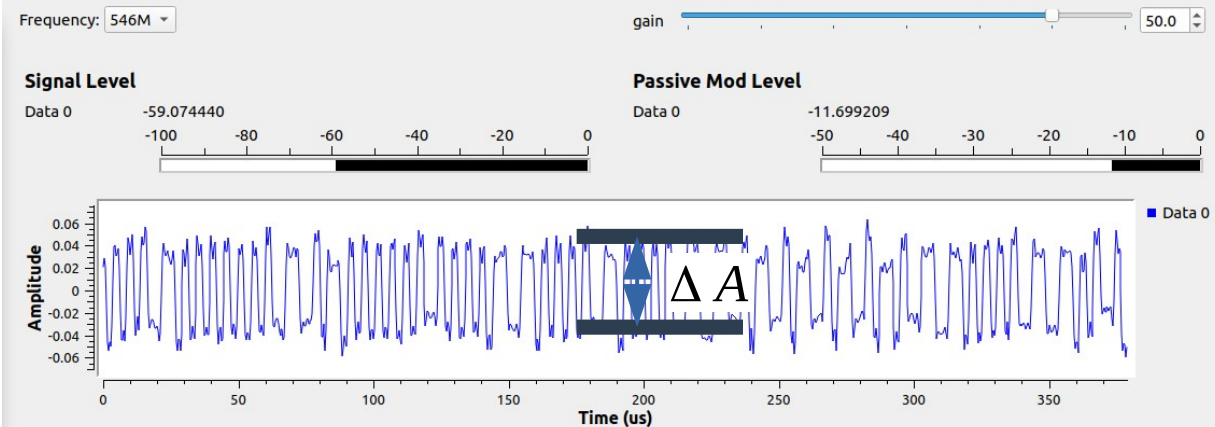
Laboratory set-up



Dipole antennas



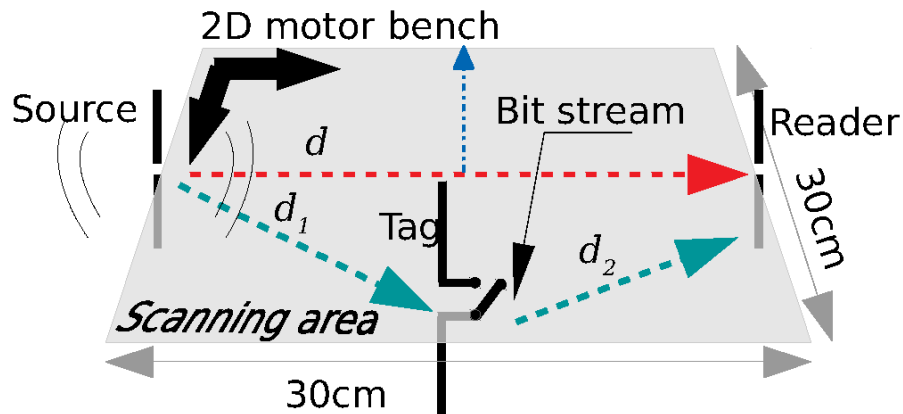
Low complexity switch



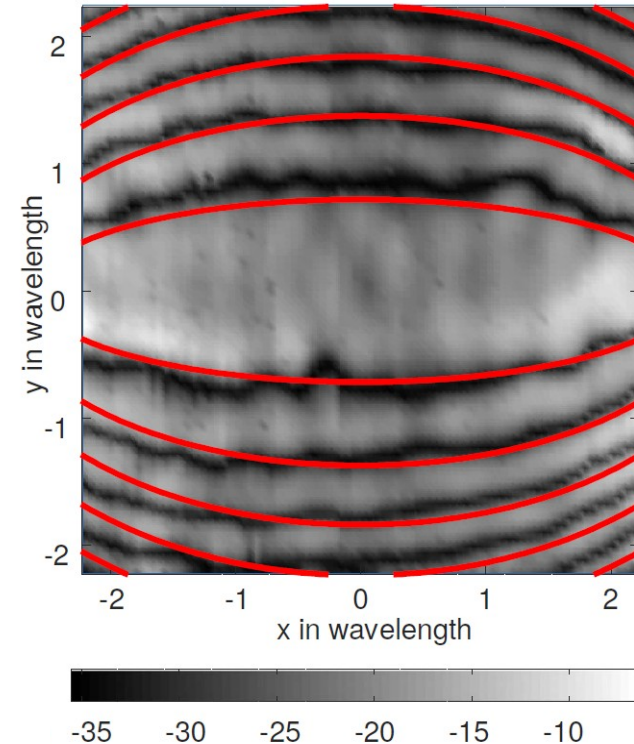
Auteurs: Julien de Rosny (CNRS) et Dinh Thuy Phan Huy (Orange)

Interferences in free media

Classical transmission :

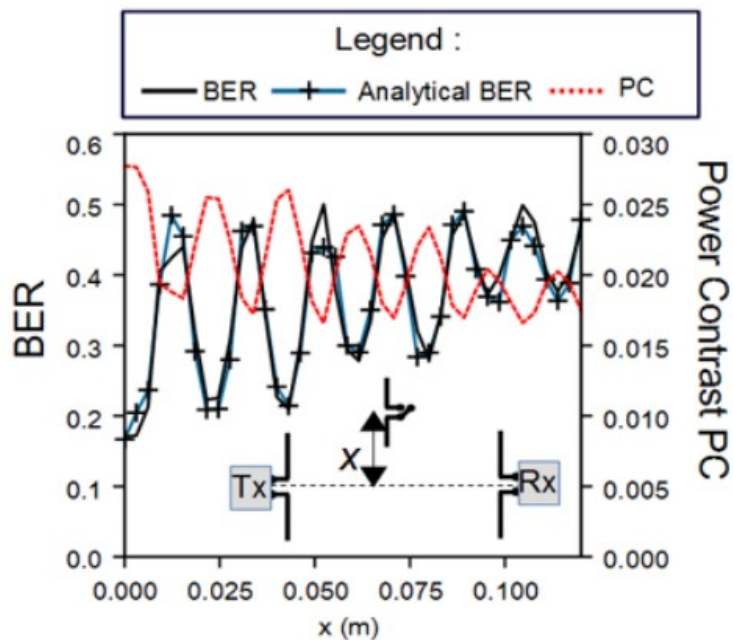


$$PC = \frac{\Delta A}{A}$$



Modulation contrast map

Map depends on $d_1 + d_2 - d$: generate ellipses nodes
Interferences in free media

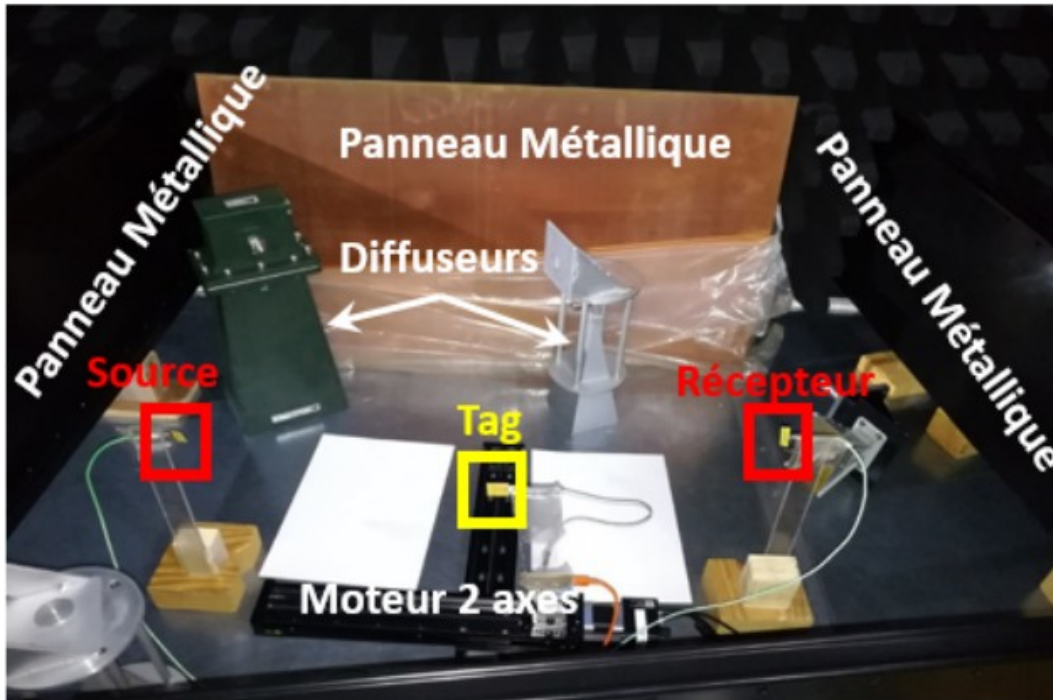


Bit Error Rate

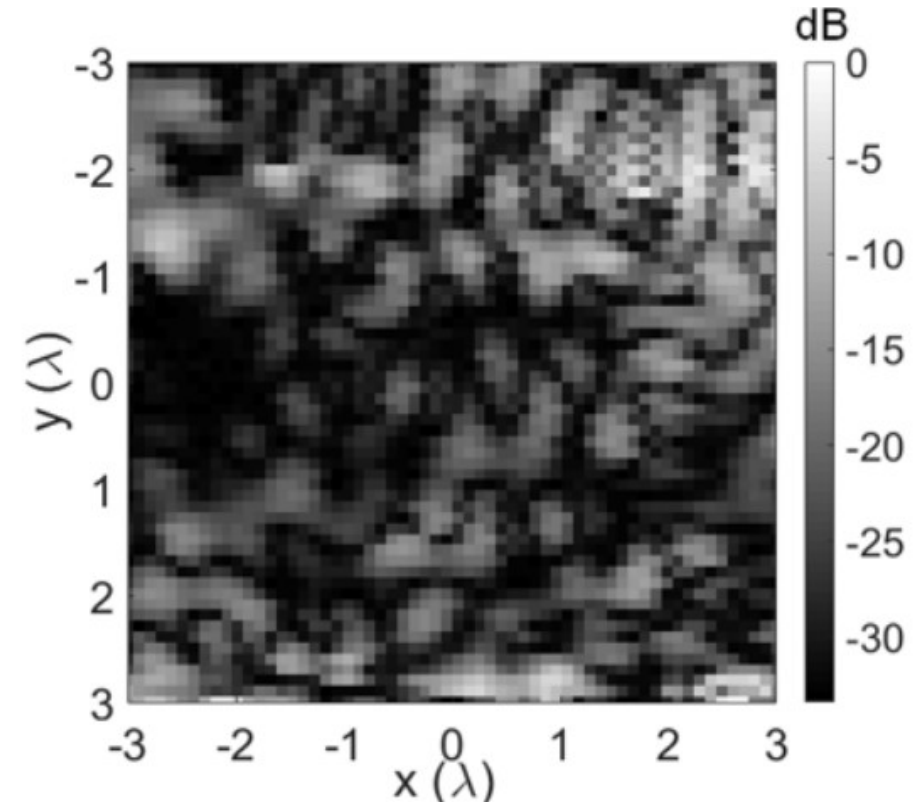
Highly cluttered medium

Medium with :

- reflective surfaces
- scatterers



Modulation contrast map

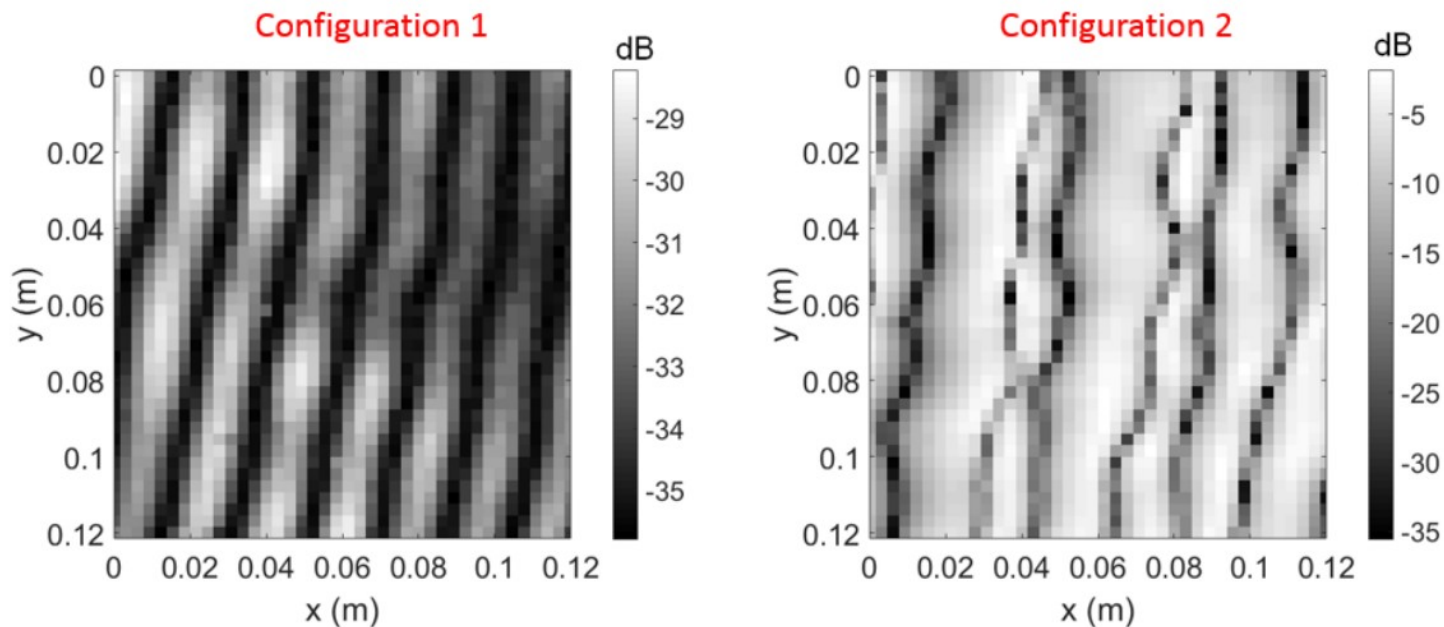
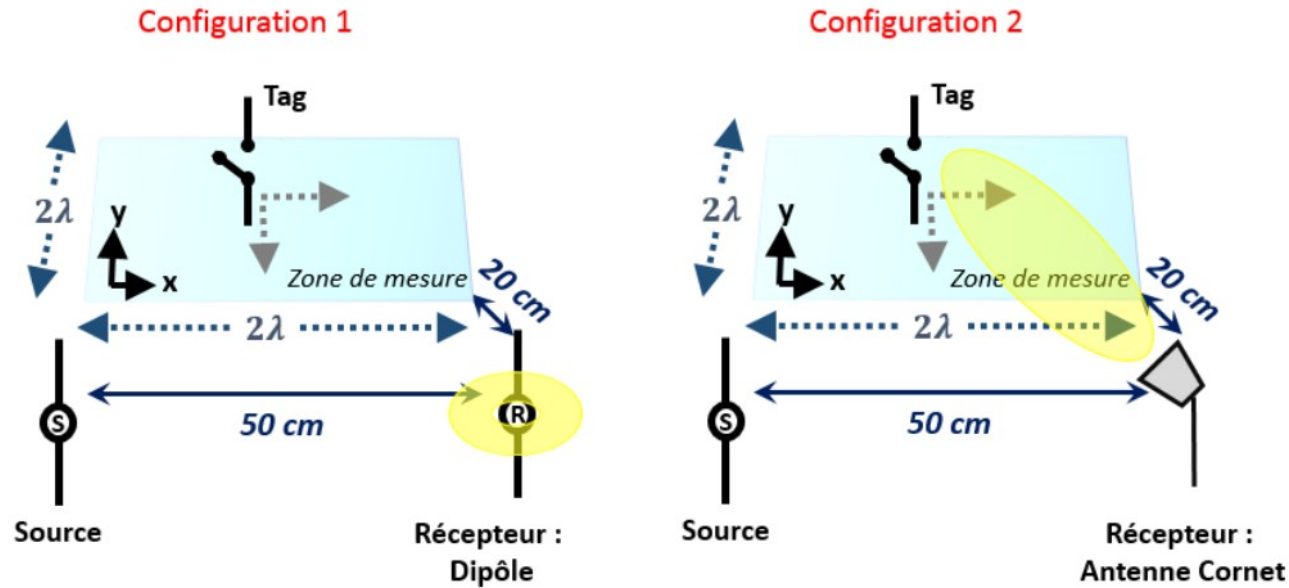


How to mitigate interferences ?

How to improve the link ?

- **Antenna directivity**
- **Polarization**
- **Reflective Intelligent Surface**

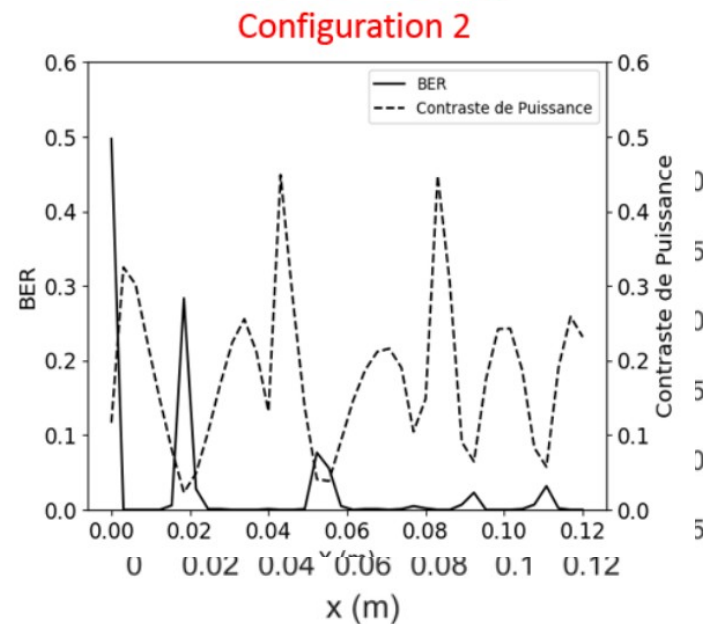
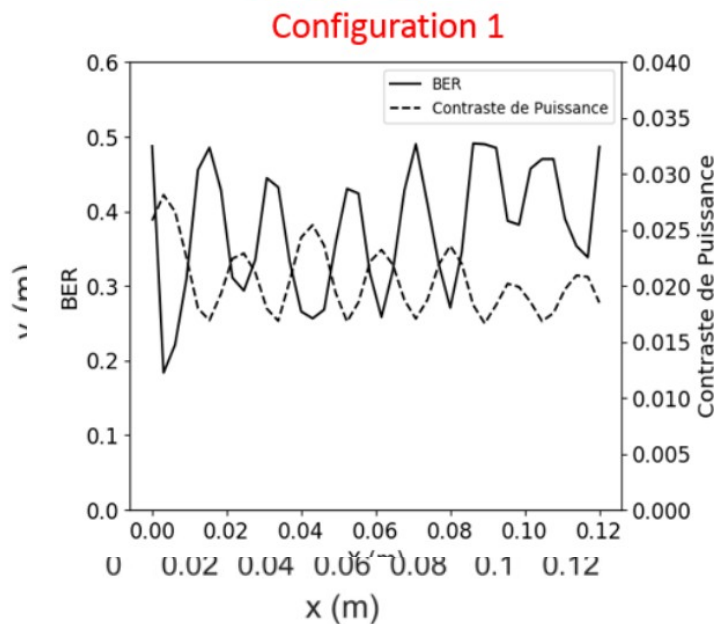
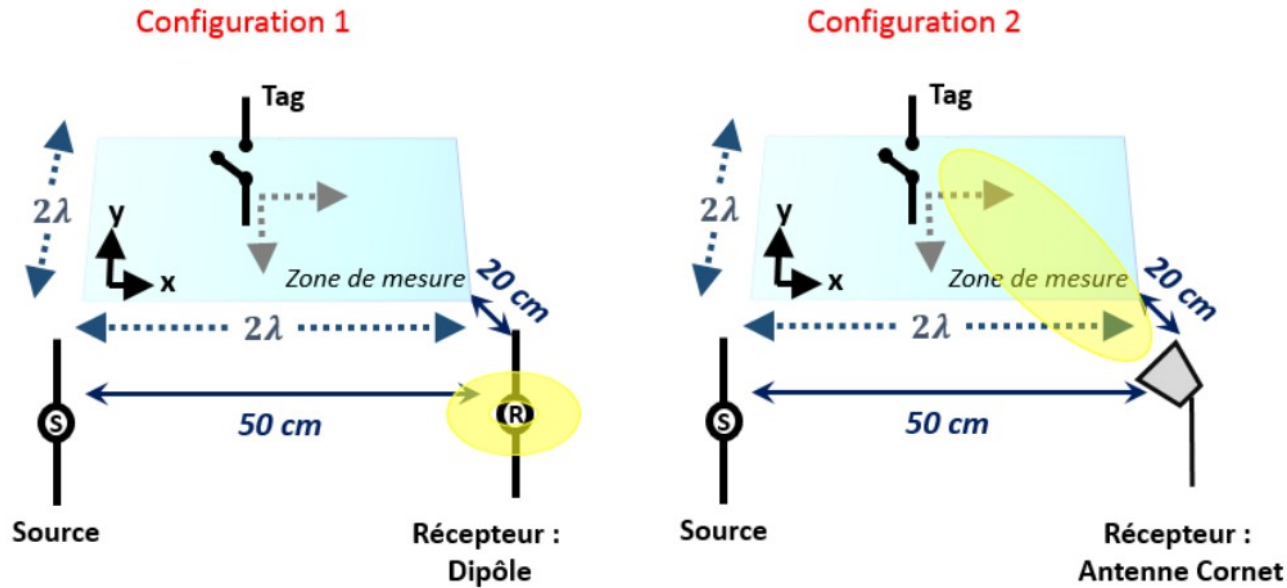
Directive reader



$$PC = \frac{\Delta A}{A}$$

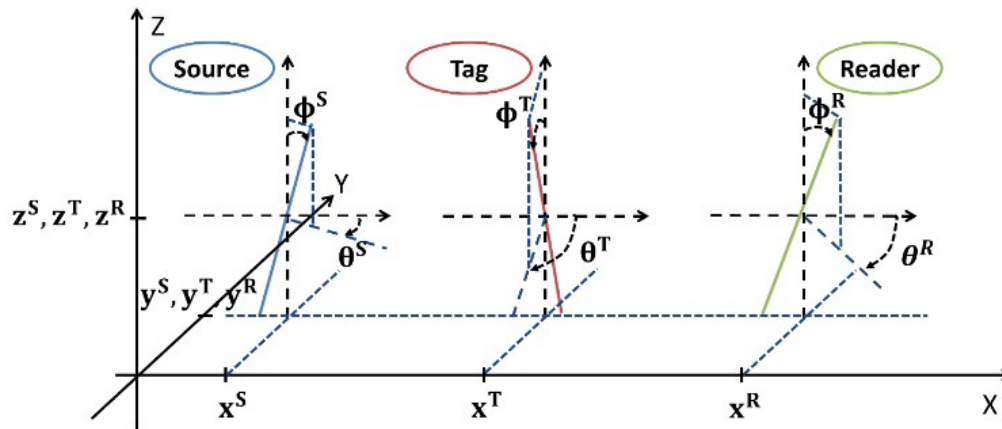
Directive reader improves the transmission

Directive reader



Directive reader improves the transmission

Polarization- LoS



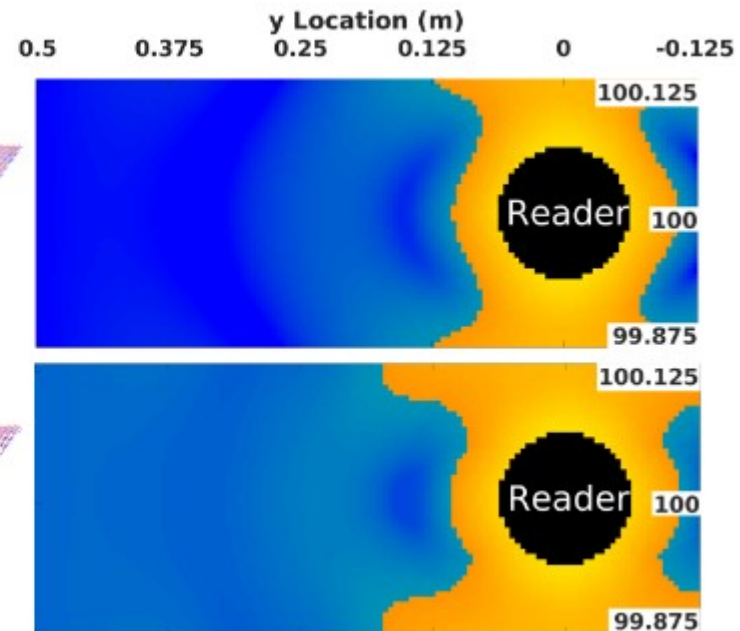
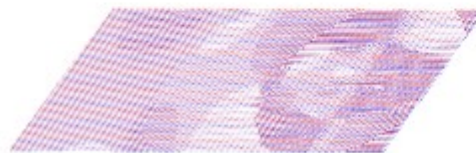
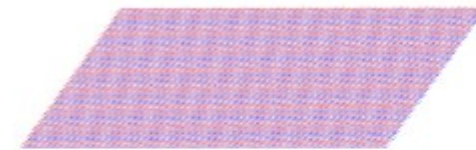
$$e_{\text{Reader}} = a(\vec{p}_{\text{Tx}} \cdot \vec{p}_{\text{Tag}})(\vec{p}_{\text{Tag}} \cdot \vec{p}_{\text{Rx}}) + b(\vec{p}_{\text{Tx}} \cdot \vec{p}_{\text{Rx}})$$

↓

$$\theta_{\text{Tag}} = \frac{\theta_{\text{Rx}} + \theta_{\text{Tx}}}{2}$$

$$\theta_{\text{Tag}} = \frac{\theta_{\text{Rx}} + \theta_{\text{Tx}}}{2}$$

Optimal

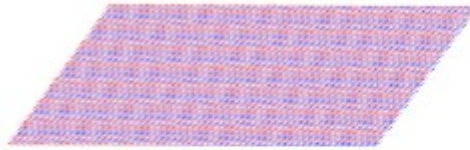


maps

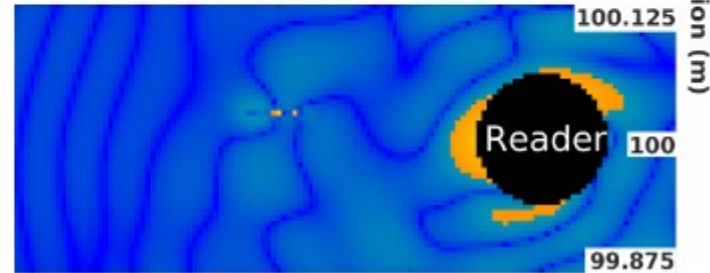
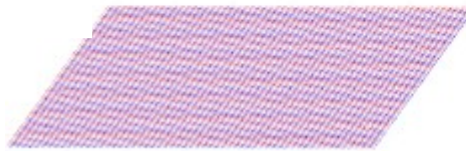
Cluttered media – Simulations MoM

BER

$$\theta_{Tag} = \frac{\theta_{Rx} + \theta_{Tx}}{2}$$

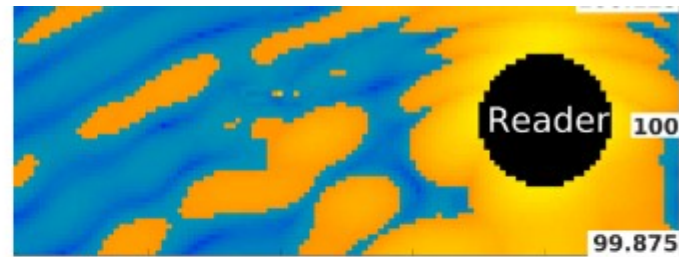
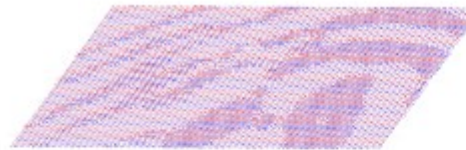


$$\theta_{Tag} = \theta_{Rx}$$

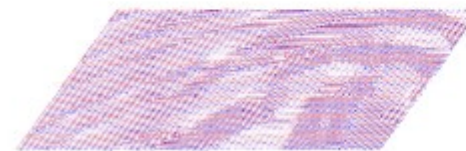


BER

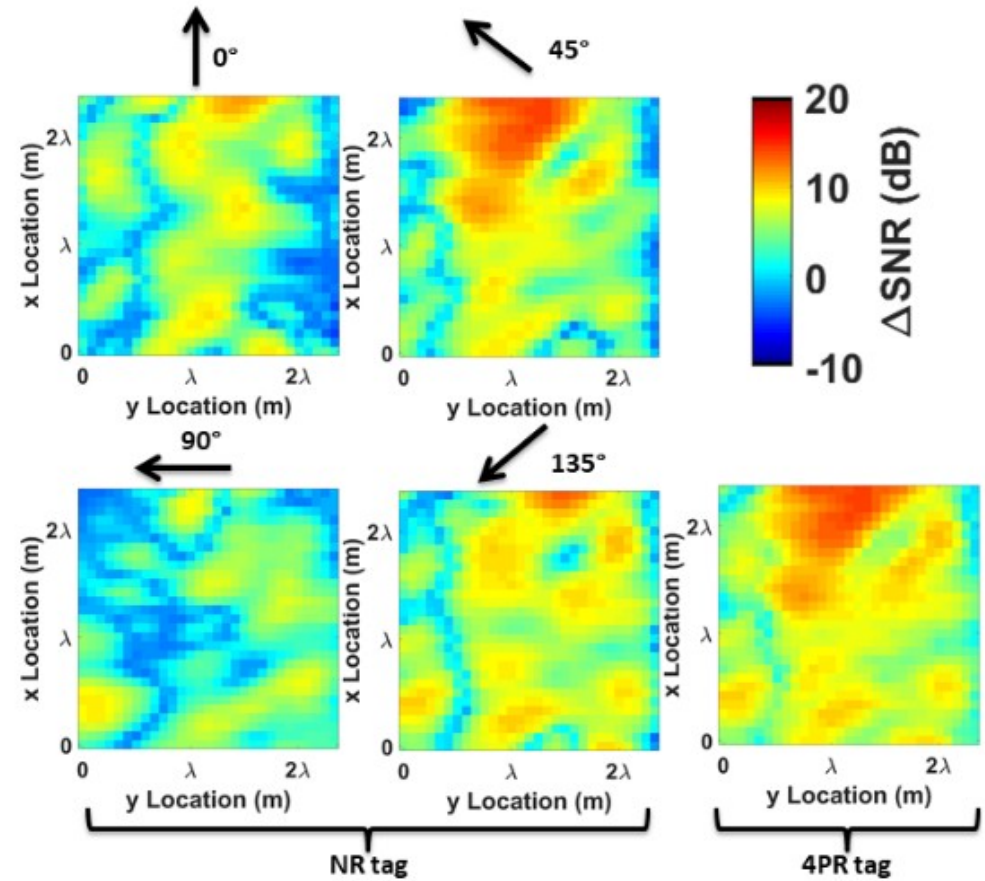
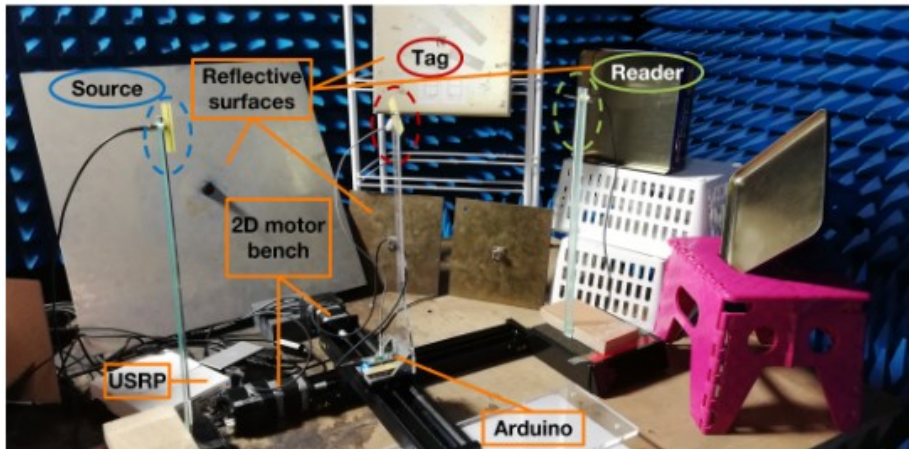
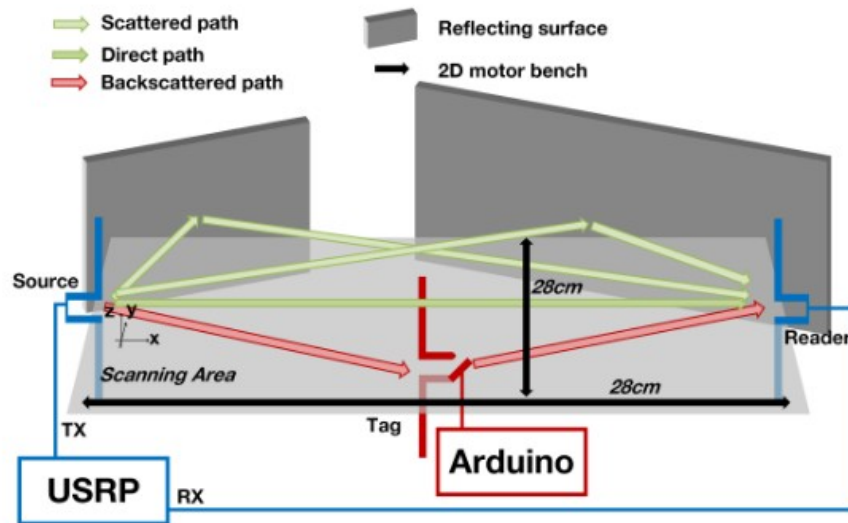
Best config all polarization



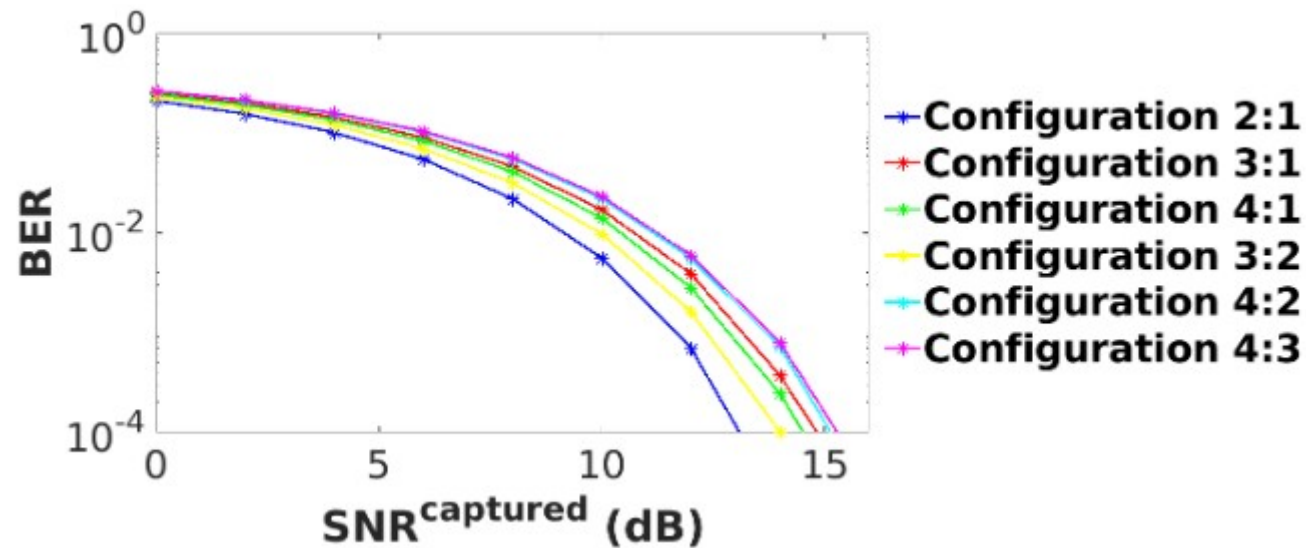
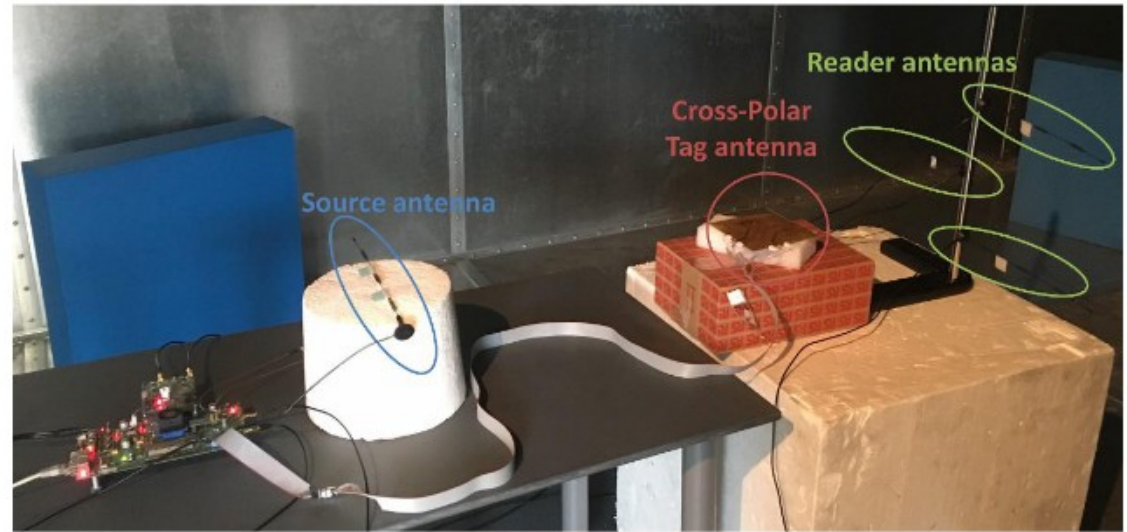
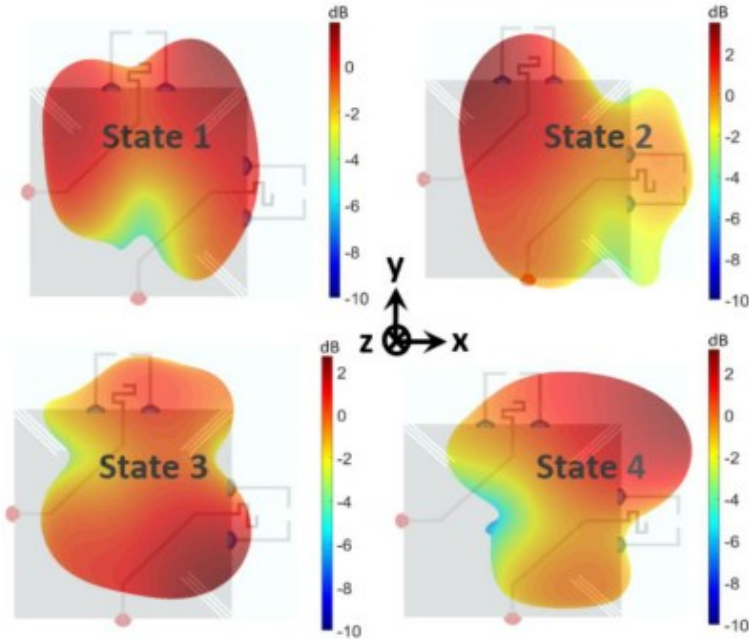
Best config between 4 polarizations



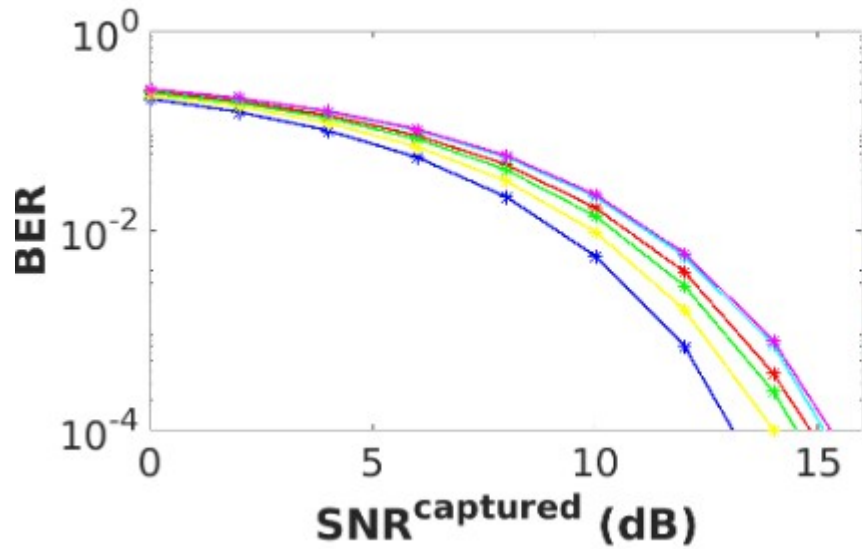
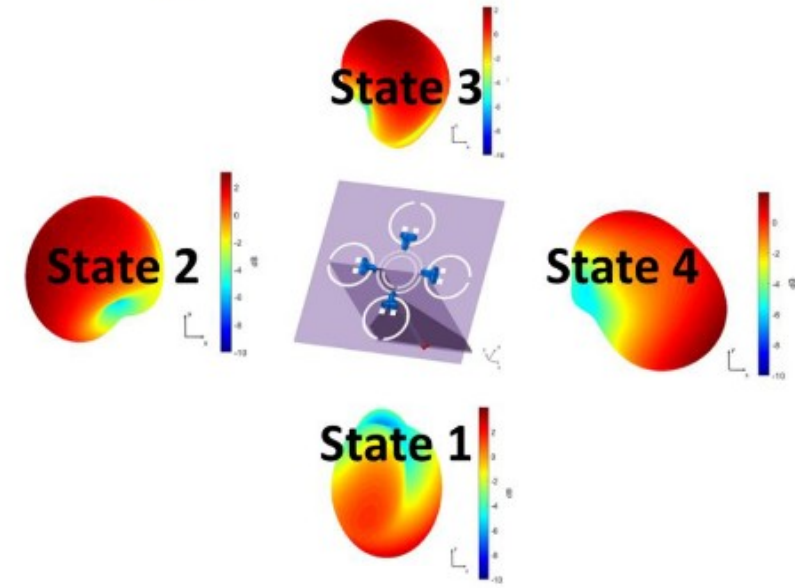
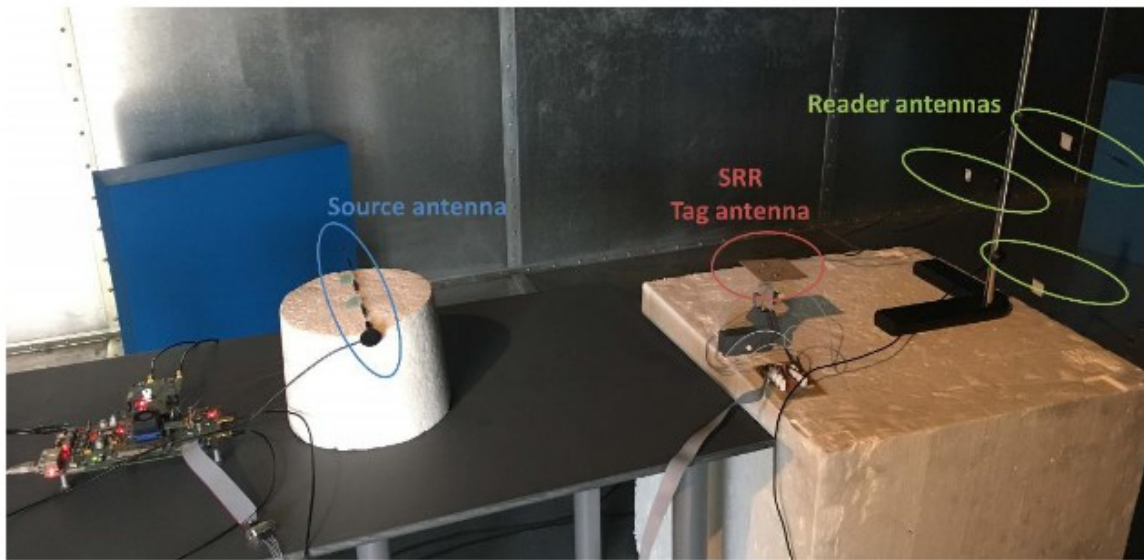
Polarization : experimental validation



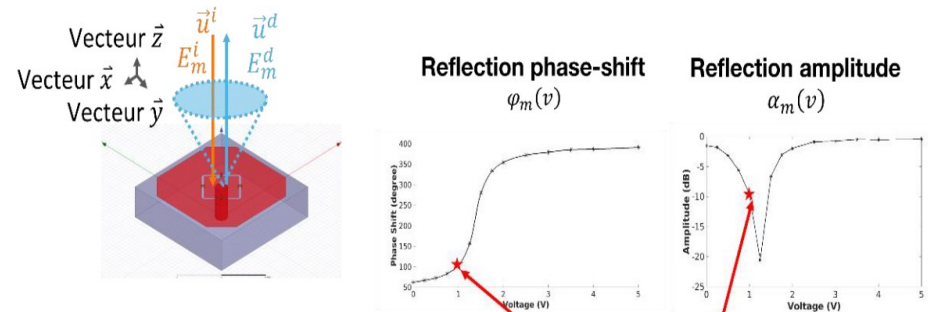
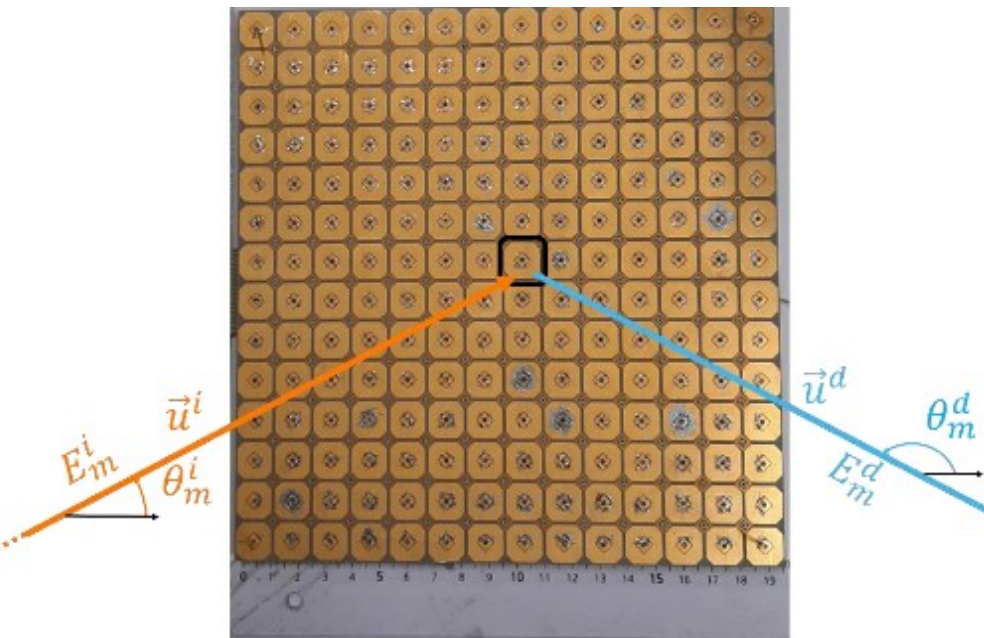
Experiment with directive & polarized antenna



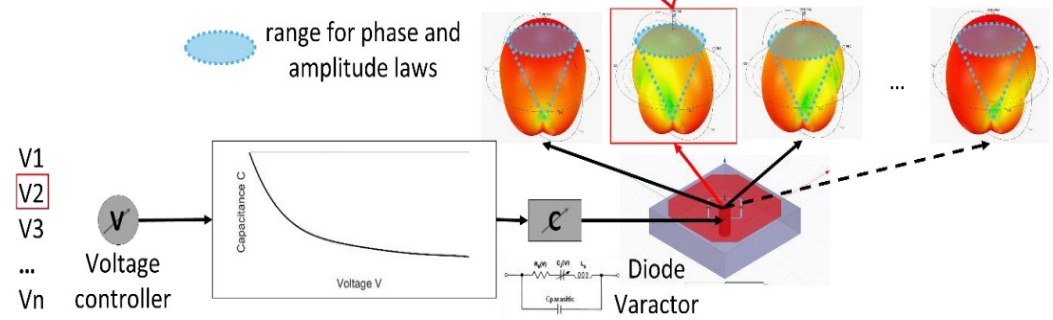
Experiment with SRR tag



Reflective Intelligent Surfaces



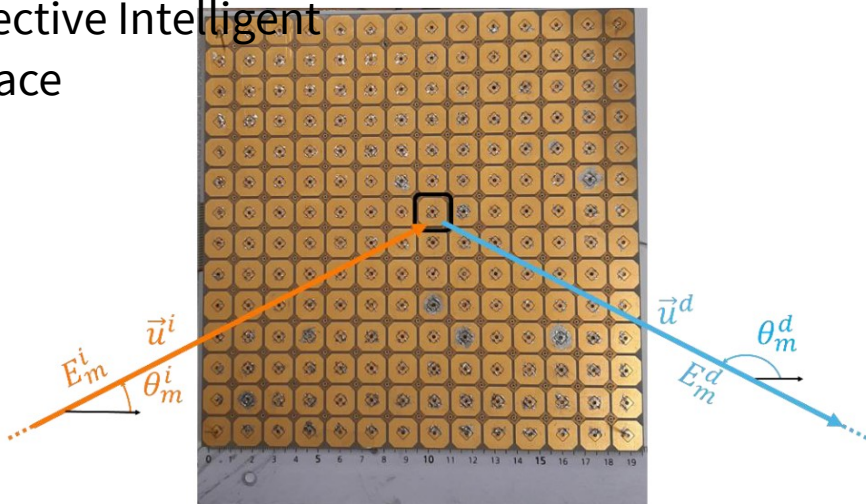
1 Element m with reflection diagram



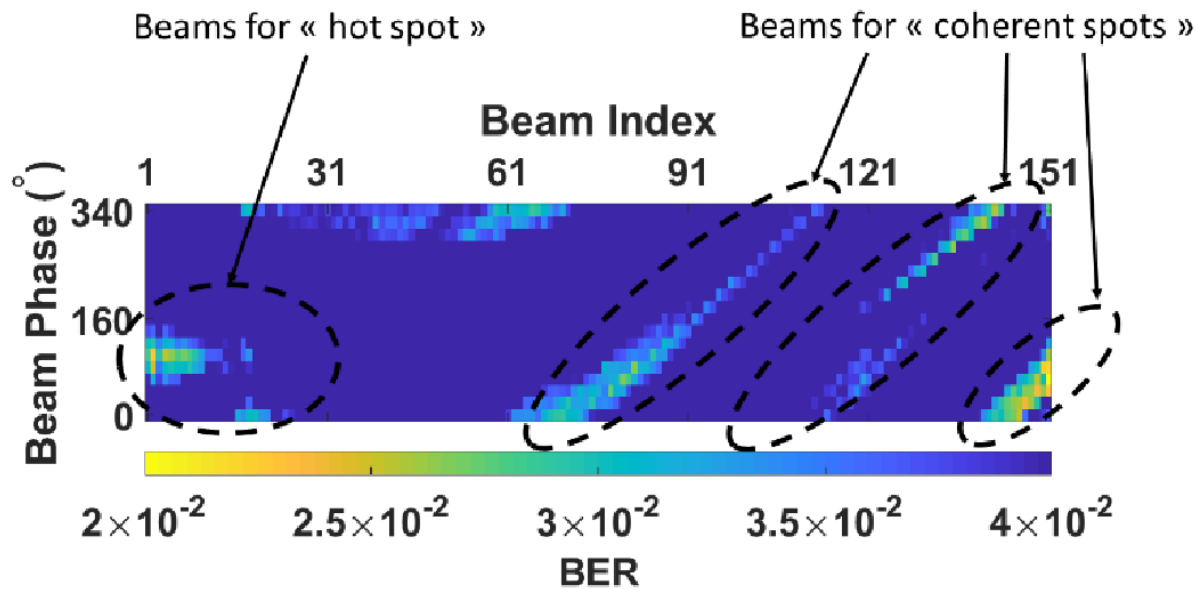
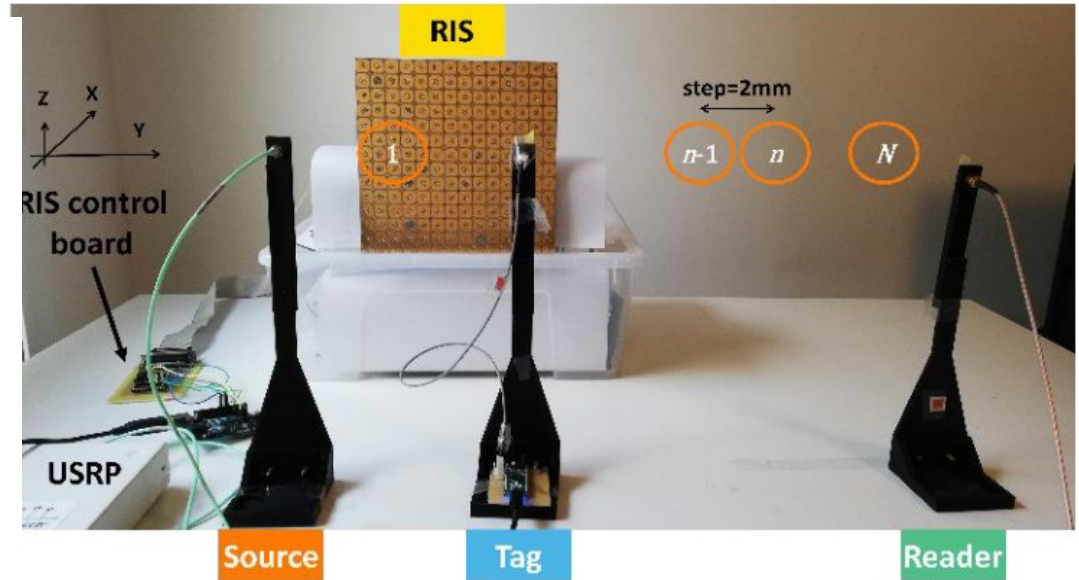
Fara, Roman, et al. IEEE Wireless Communications 29.1 (2022): 70-77.

Reflective intelligent surface

Reflective Intelligent Surface



≠Specular reflection

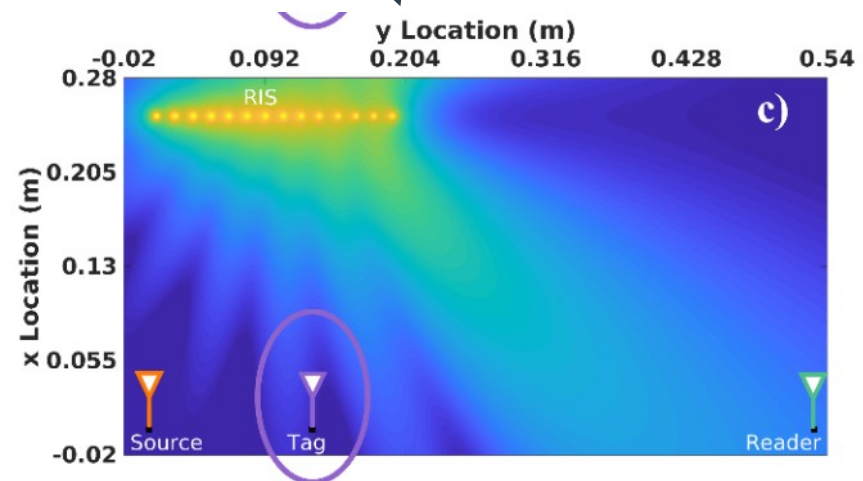
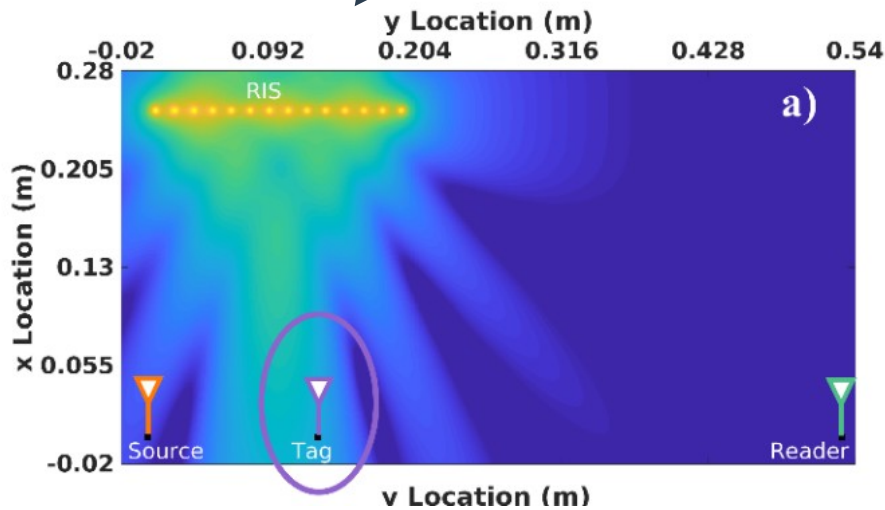
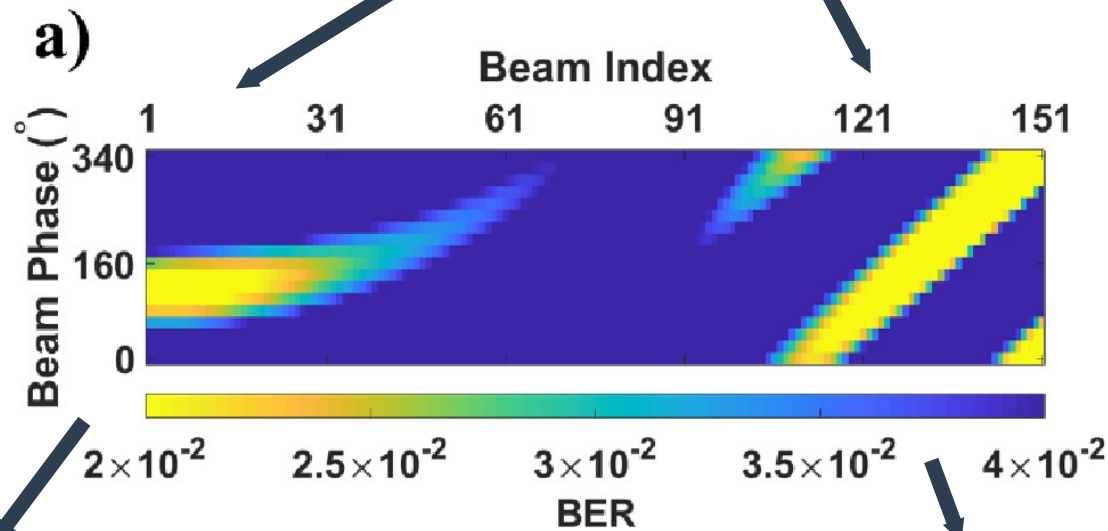


Reflective intelligent efficient for several positions of Tag and Reader

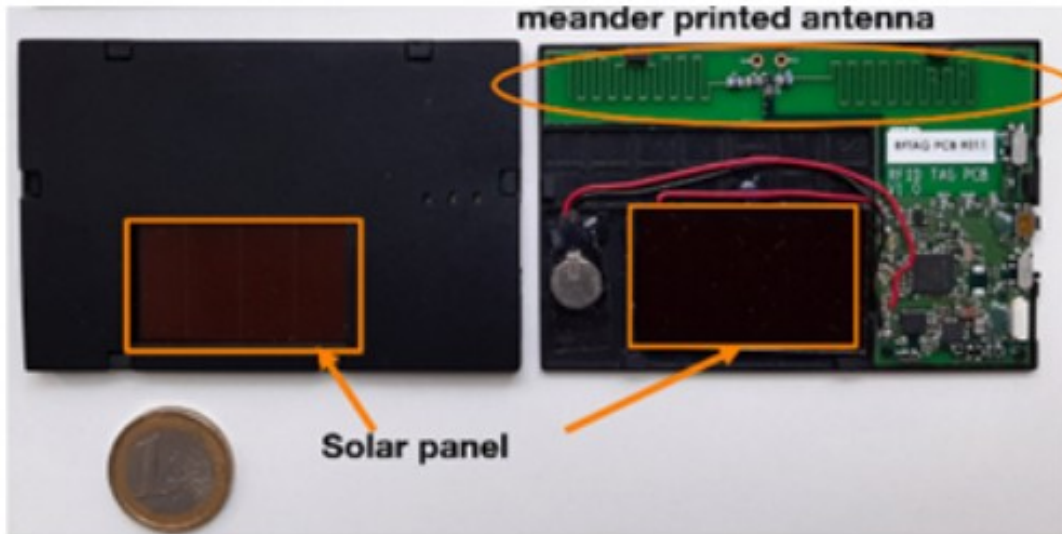
Reflective Intelligent Surface simulations (MoM)



$$\begin{aligned}
 e_0 &= a \\
 e_1 &= a + b \quad \longrightarrow \quad \Delta I = |e_1|^2 - |e_0|^2 = |b|^2 + 2\Re(ab^*)
 \end{aligned}$$

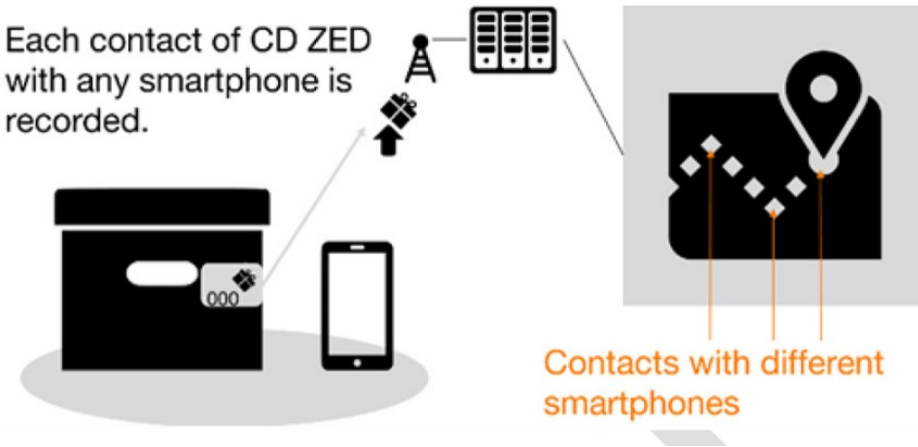


Prototype developed by Orange



- Size of a credit card
- Very low energy consumption
- Powered by solar cell

Each contact of CD ZED with any smartphone is recorded.



Application : Crowd-Detectable
Zero-Energy-Devices
Associated to a smartphone → localization

Tests in various environments



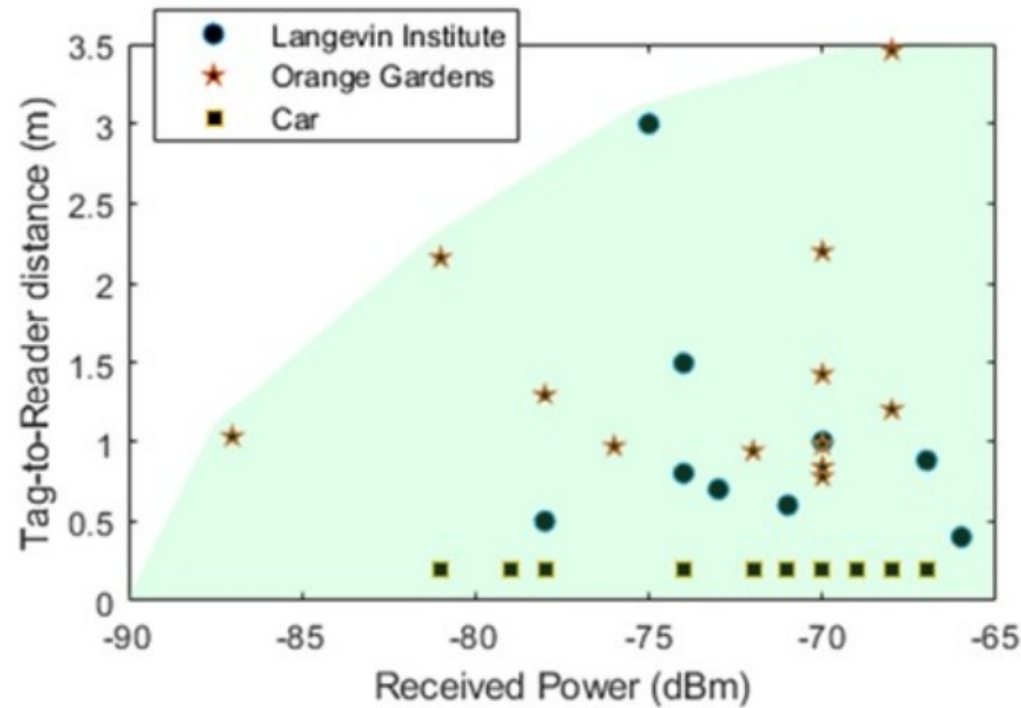
Court yard



Office



Underground



Park hill

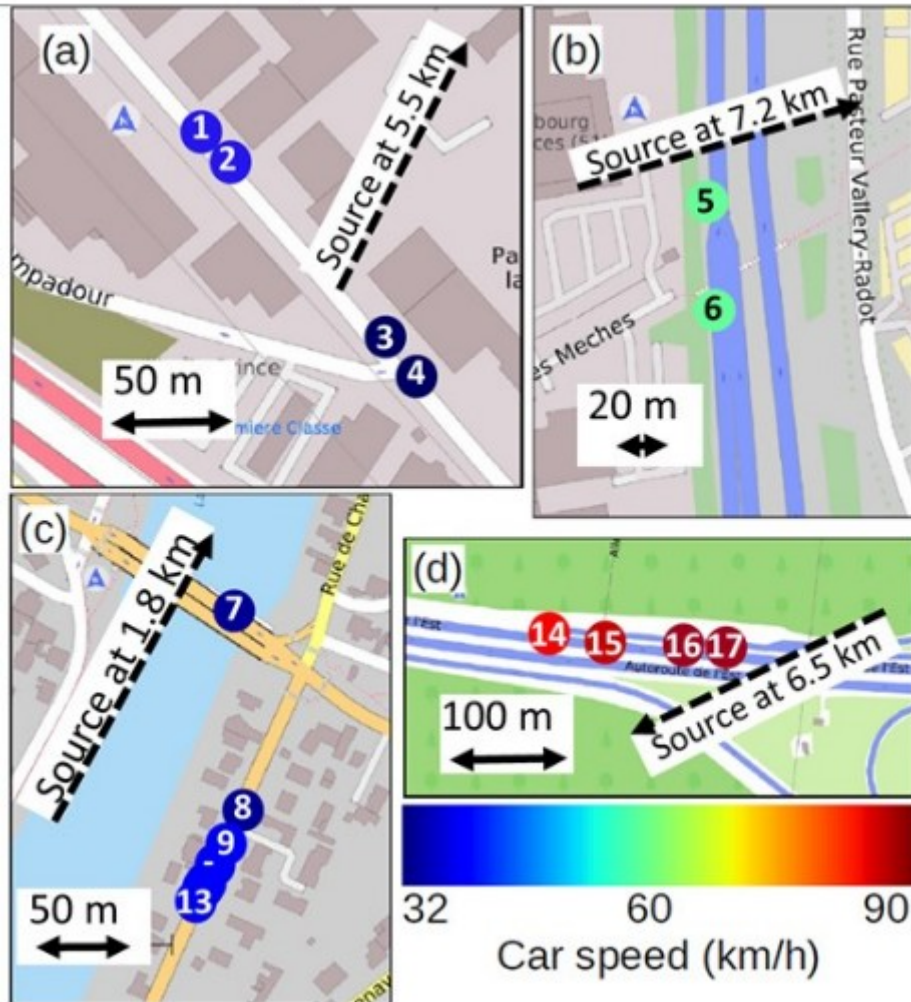


Roof terrace

Tag range limited by the link power between the source and the receiver

Mobility tests

Test in a car



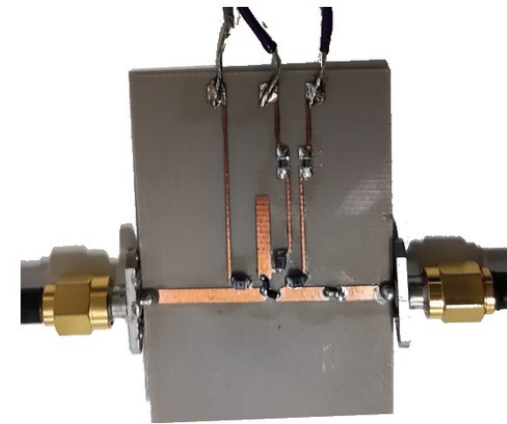
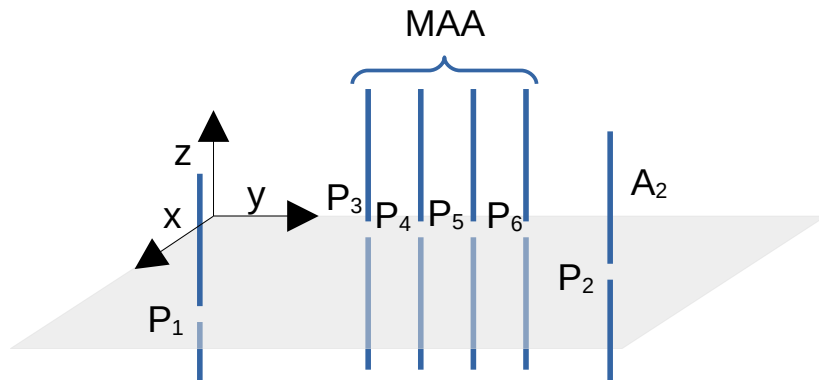
Free error transmission for various speeds and environment :

(a) and (c) : Street

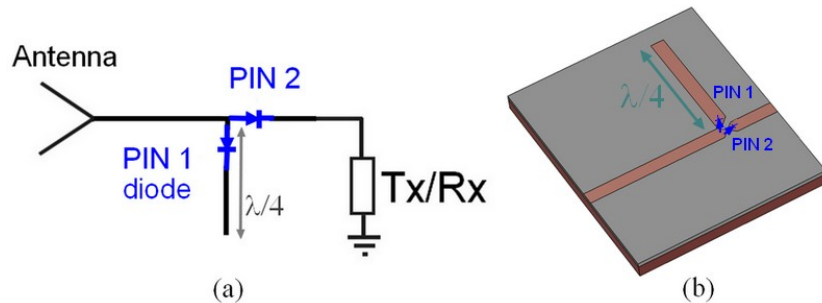
(b) and (d) : Highway

Velocities up to 90kmph

Multipurpose Array

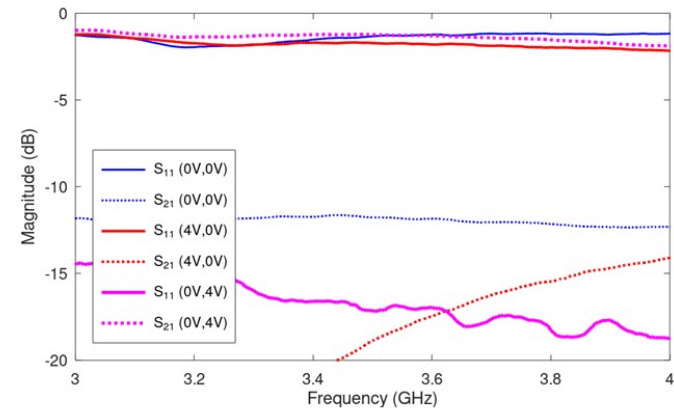


(a)

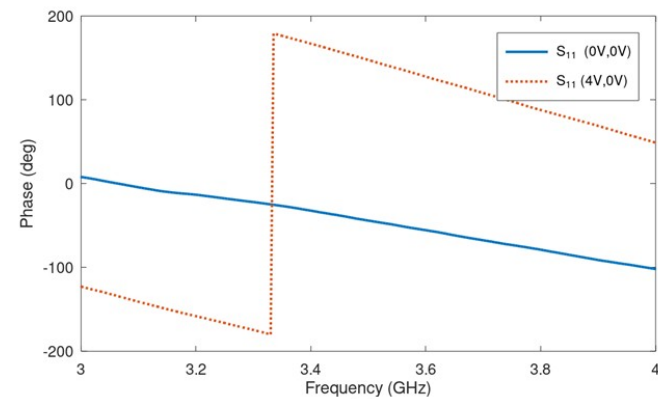


(a)

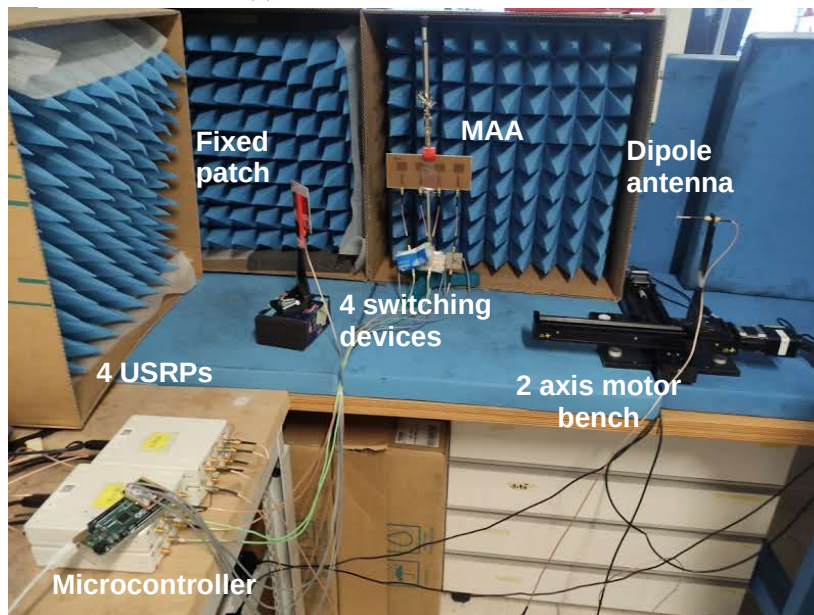
(b)



(b)



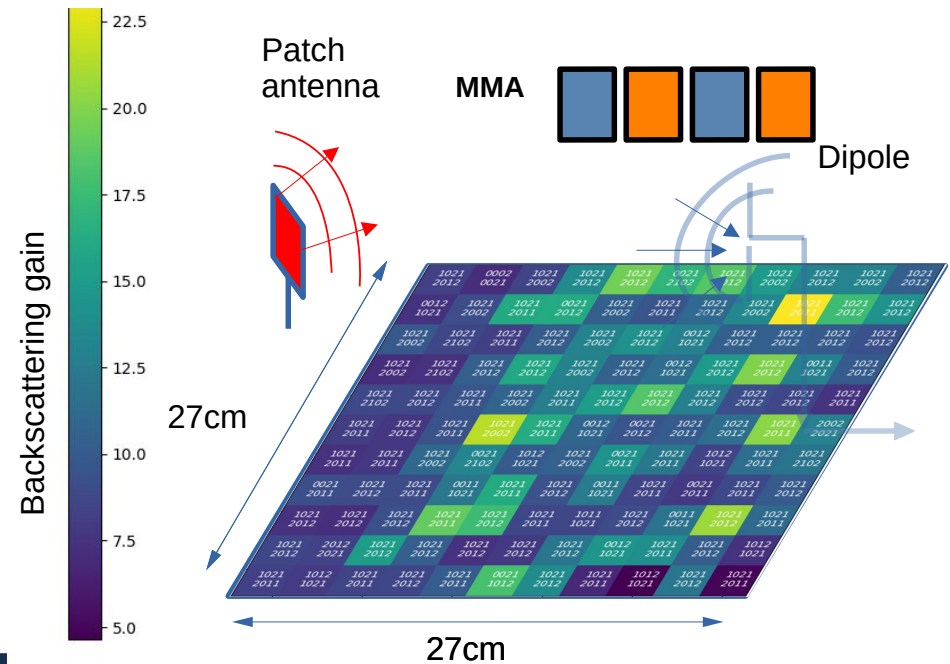
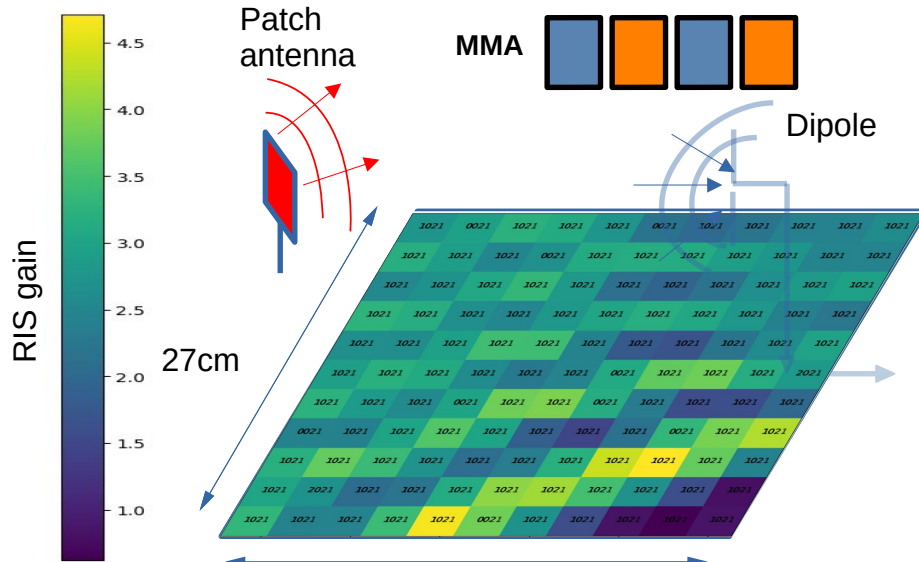
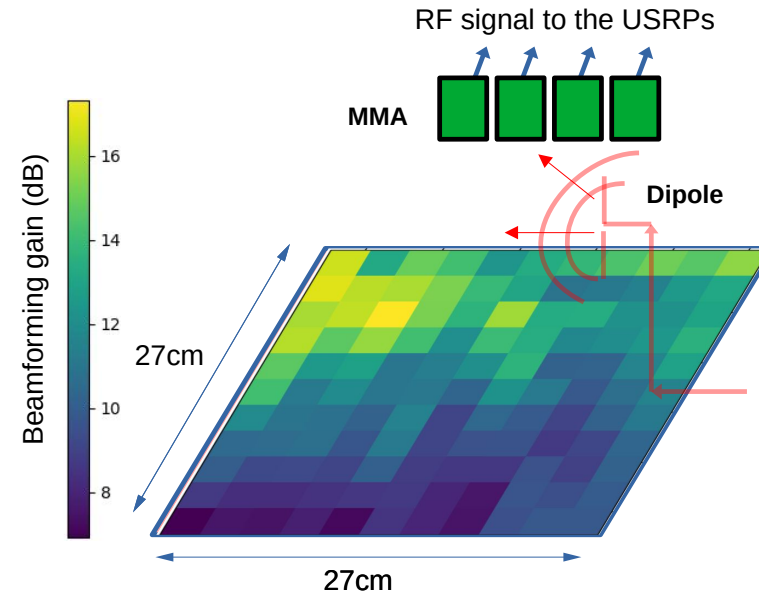
(c)



First results

3 working modes :

- MIMO
- Reflective Intelligent Surfaces (RIS)
- Backscatterer



Conclusions & perspectives

- **New way to transmit information by recycling ambient RF field**
- **Short range – low rate communications**
- **Most promising for IoT application (e.g., AirTag)**

Current works

- **Use several scatterers**
- **Use receiver with several antennas**
- **Model the interaction of the tag with RF field**

Thank you