

Project: IEEE P802.15 Working Group for Wireless Personal Area Networks (WPANs)**Submission Title:** Terahertz Channel Measurement and Characterization on a Desktop from 75 to 400 GHz**Date Submitted:** 13 May 2022**Source:** Haofan Yi, Ke Guan, Danping He, Bo Ai, Jianwu Dou, Fusheng Zhu, Bin Lu, and Zhangdui Zhong

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Abstract: The emerging technology terahertz (THz) communication is envisioned to provide high-data-rate wireless links. The wide swath of the unused and unexplored spectrum makes it a significant candidate for the sixth-generation mobile communications (6G). In this proposal, a series of channel measurements are conducted on an optical table to characterize the wireless channel on a desktop. The measured frequency range is from 75 GHz to 400 GHz, which has covered the main band planned for 6G within THz band. Eight frequency bands with ultrawide bandwidth are measured individually in order to explore how the channel characteristics change along with frequency. By comparison of the power delay profiles (PDPs) between measurements and ray-tracing (RT) simulations, the measured multipaths can be physically interpreted. Moreover, with the aid of this self-developed RT simulator, electromagnetic (EM) property of the painted metal (which is the relevant material generating multi-order reflected paths in the measurements) is extracted, finding that the imaginary part of the relative permittivity is considerably small compared to the perfect conductor because of the painting. The key channel parameters, in terms of root-mean-square (RMS) delay spread and Rician K-factor, are analyzed and modeled with frequency. Last but not least, in order to describe the channel characteristics in the presence of obstruction, we measure the penetration loss for several common materials (glass, hardboard, wood, plastic, and potted plant). As expected, the penetration loss increases with the increase of frequency for all tested samples.

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Wireless & Mobile Communication
for Rail Transportation (WiMiRT)

Terahertz Channel Measurement and Characterization on a Desktop from 75 to 400 GHz

Haofan Yi¹², Ke Guan¹², Danping He¹², Bo Ai¹², Jiaowu Dou³⁴, Fusheng Zhu⁵, Bin Lu⁶ and Zhangdui Zhong¹²

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

Acknowledgment: The Fundamental Research Funds for the Central Universities (No.2020JBZD005), The National Natural Science Foundation of China (No.61901029), The Beijing Natural Science Foundation (No.L212029), The State Key Laboratory of Rail Traffic Control and Safety (No. RCS2020ZZ005).

Outline

- **Motivation**
- **THz Channel Measurement on a Desktop**
 - **Measurement Campaign**
 - **Channel Characterization and Analysis**
- **Penetration Loss Measurement**
 - **Measurement Campaign**
 - **Numerical Results and Analysis**
- **Conclusion and Future Work**



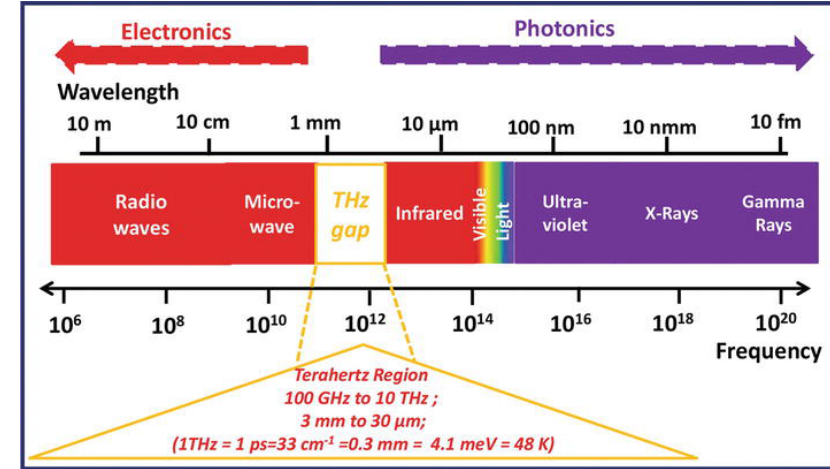
Motivation

Shannon information theory

$$C = B \log_2(1 + S / N)$$

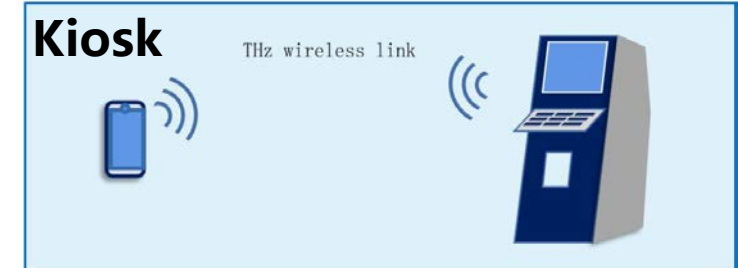
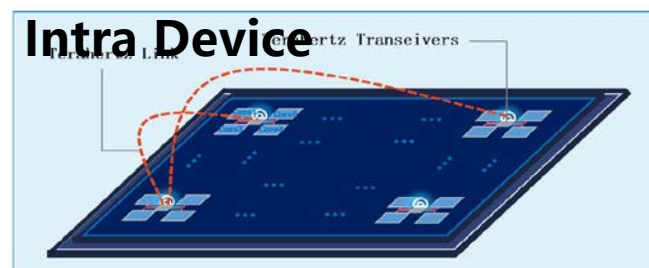
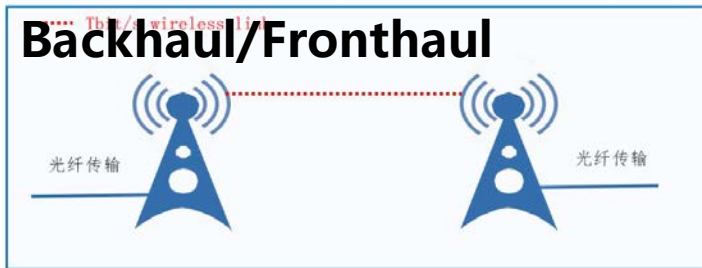
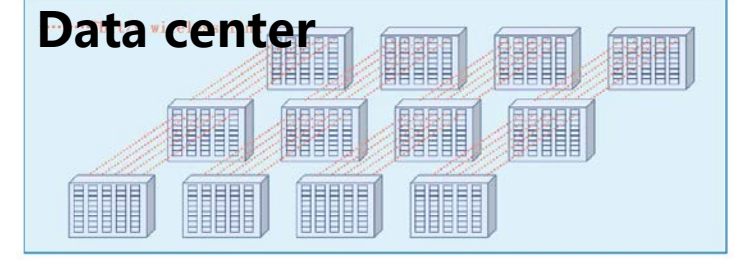
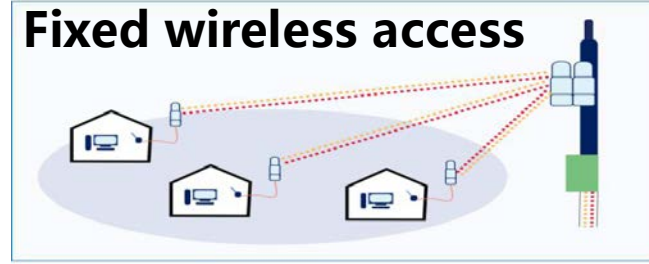
One of the most effective ways to increase the data rate:

Expand the communication bandwidth



Terahertz communication (100 GHz-10 THz): the bandwidth can reach tens of GHz, which is more than 10 times that of 5G millimeter wave, and is one of the key technologies of 6G.

IEEE Std 802.15.3d



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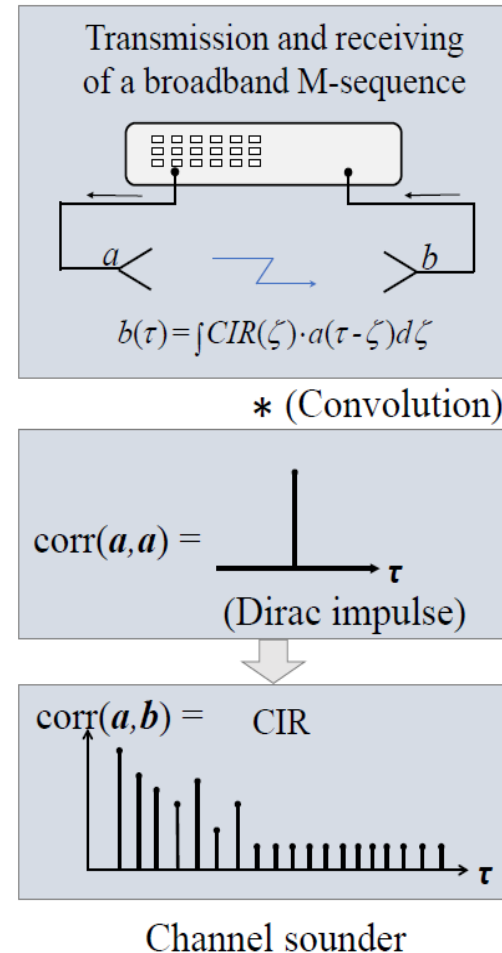
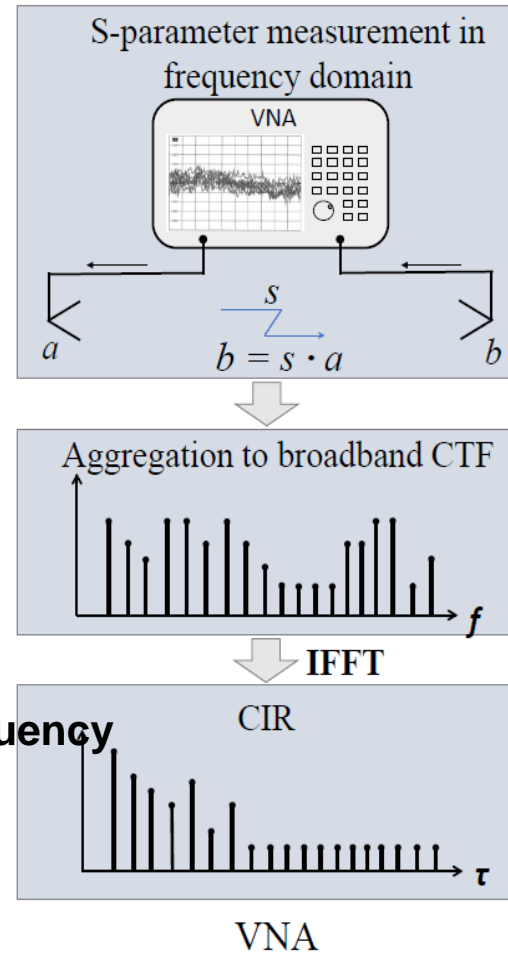


Measurement Campaign

Measurement Methodology

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.



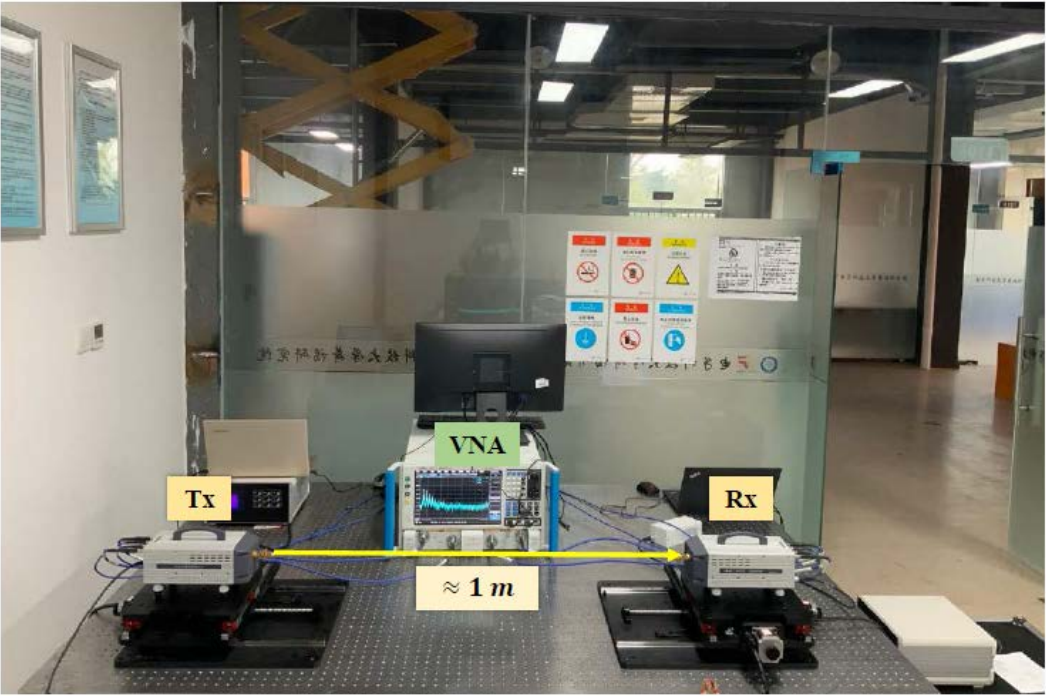
Channel sounder methodology

- In time domain
- CIR-> Correlation function of M-sequence
- Pros: dynamic measurement
- Cons: small dynamic range

Measurement Campaign

VNA-based Measurement

Measurement Scenario

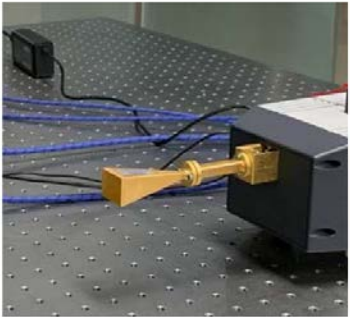


Calibration method:

SOLT Short-Open-Load-Thru

Antenna

WR-10



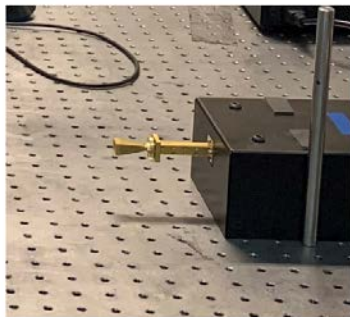
(a) 75-110 GHz

WR-6.5



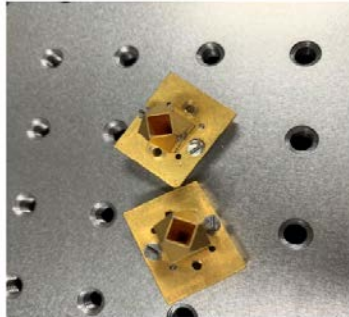
(b) 110-170 GHz

WR-5.1



(c) 180-220 GHz

WR-2.8



(d) 260-400 GHz

Measurement Campaign

System Parameters

The temporal resolution

$$\tau_{res} = \frac{1}{BW}$$

The spatial resolution

$$D_{res} = \frac{c}{BW}$$

The maximum excess delay

$$\tau_{max} = \frac{1}{\Delta f}$$

The maximum detected path length

$$D_{max} = \frac{c}{\Delta f}$$

Measurement Configurations

| Parameter | Symbol | Value | Value | Value | Value |
|----------------------------|-------------------|-------|-------|-------|-------|
| Start frequency | f_{start} [GHz] | 75 | 110 | 140 | 180 |
| End frequency | f_{end} [GHz] | 110 | 140 | 170 | 220 |
| Bandwidth | BW [GHz] | 35 | 30 | 30 | 40 |
| Number of frequency points | N | 5001 | 5001 | 5001 | 4001 |
| Sampling interval | Δf [MHz] | 7 | 6 | 6 | 10 |
| IF frequency bandwidth | IFBW [kHz] | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 |
| Temporal resolution | τ_{res} [ns] | 0.029 | 0.033 | 0.033 | 0.025 |
| Spatial resolution | D_{res} [cm] | 0.87 | 0.99 | 0.99 | 0.75 |
| Maximum excess delay | τ_{max} [ns] | 142.9 | 166.7 | 166.7 | 100.0 |
| Maximum path length | D_{max} [m] | 42.9 | 50.0 | 50.0 | 30.0 |
| Distance between Tx and Rx | d [m] | 1.0 | 1.0 | 1.0 | 0.8 |

| Parameter | Symbol | Value | Value | Value | Value |
|----------------------------|-------------------|-------|-------|-------|-------|
| Start frequency | f_{start} [GHz] | 260 | 295 | 330 | 365 |
| End frequency | f_{end} [GHz] | 295 | 330 | 365 | 400 |
| Bandwidth | BW [GHz] | 35 | 35 | 35 | 35 |
| Number of frequency points | N | 5001 | 5001 | 5001 | 5001 |
| Sampling interval | Δf [MHz] | 7 | 7 | 7 | 7 |
| IF frequency bandwidth | IFBW [kHz] | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 |
| Temporal resolution | τ_{res} [ns] | 0.029 | 0.029 | 0.029 | 0.029 |
| Spatial resolution | D_{res} [cm] | 0.87 | 0.87 | 0.87 | 0.87 |
| Maximum excess delay | τ_{max} [ns] | 142.9 | 142.9 | 142.9 | 142.9 |
| Maximum path length | D_{max} [m] | 42.9 | 42.9 | 42.9 | 42.9 |
| Distance between Tx and Rx | d [m] | 1.0 | 1.0 | 1.0 | 1.0 |

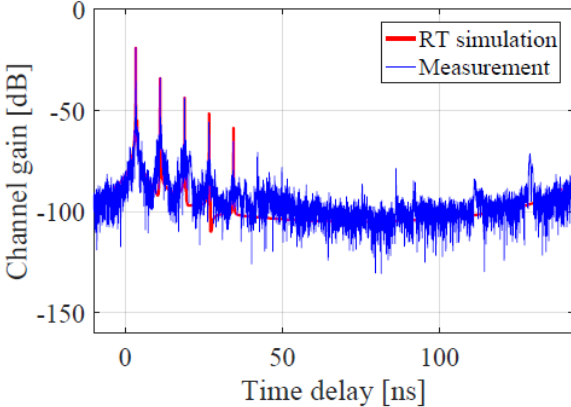
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- Conclusion and Future Work

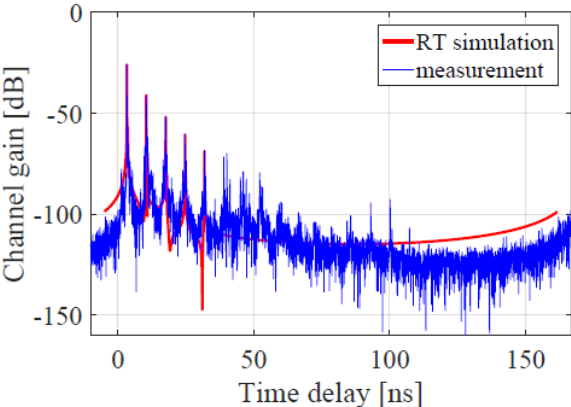


THz Channel Characterization and Analysis

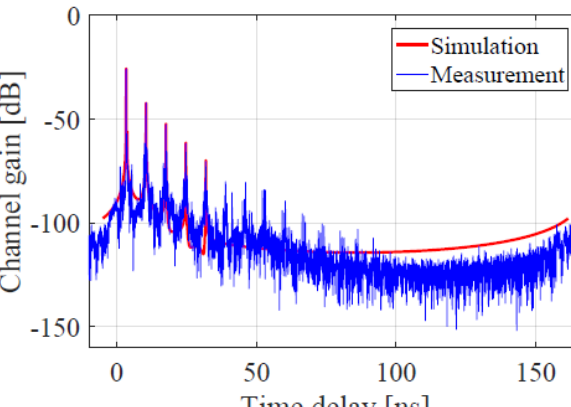
Power delay profile (PDP)



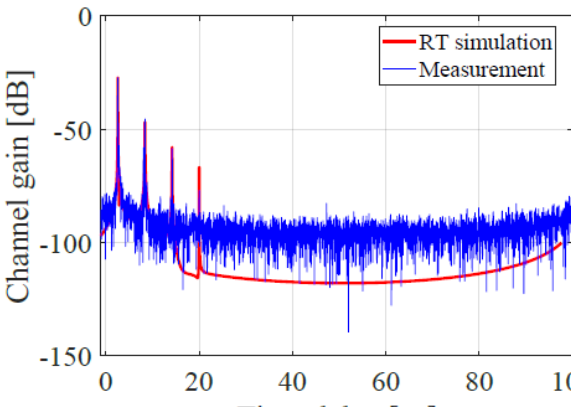
(a) 75-110 GHz



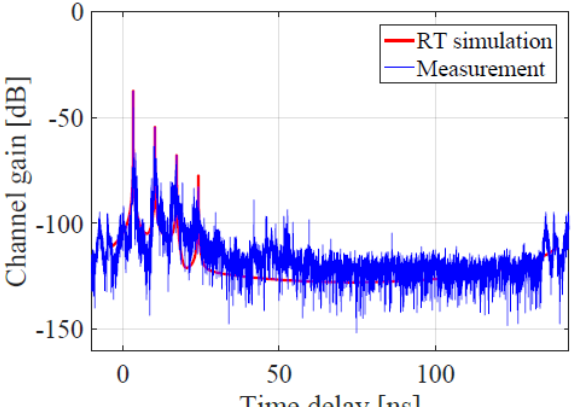
(b) 110-140 GHz



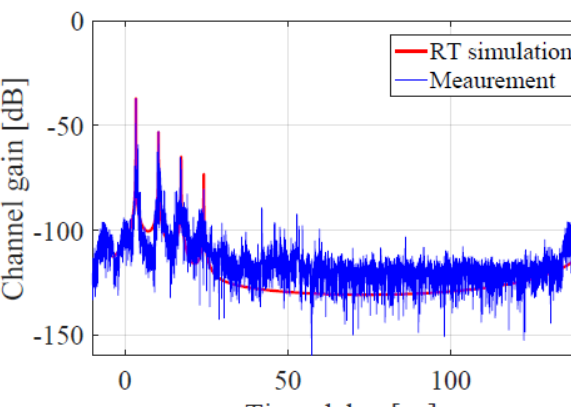
(c) 140-170 GHz



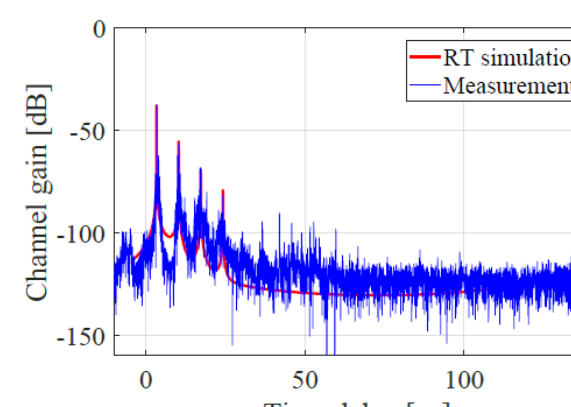
(d) 180-220 GHz



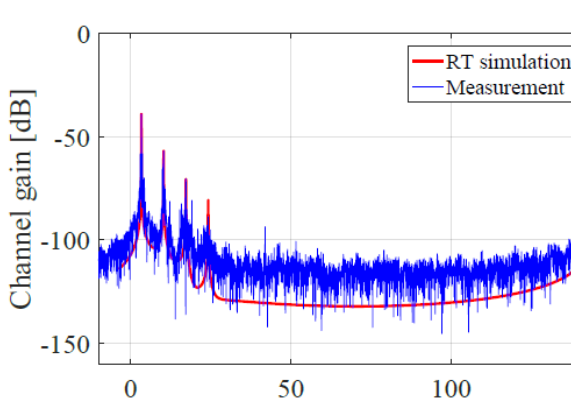
(e) 260-295 GHz



(f) 295-330 GHz



(g) 330-365 GHz

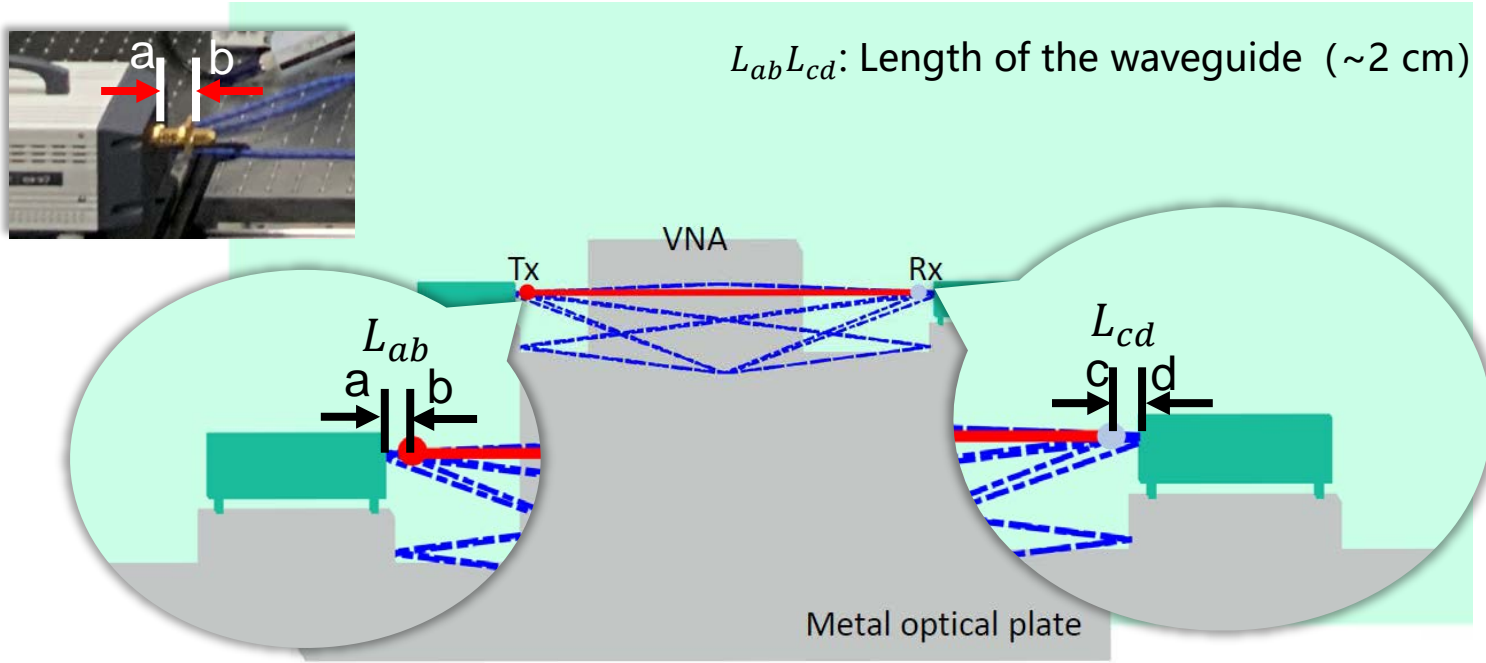


(h) 365-400 GHz

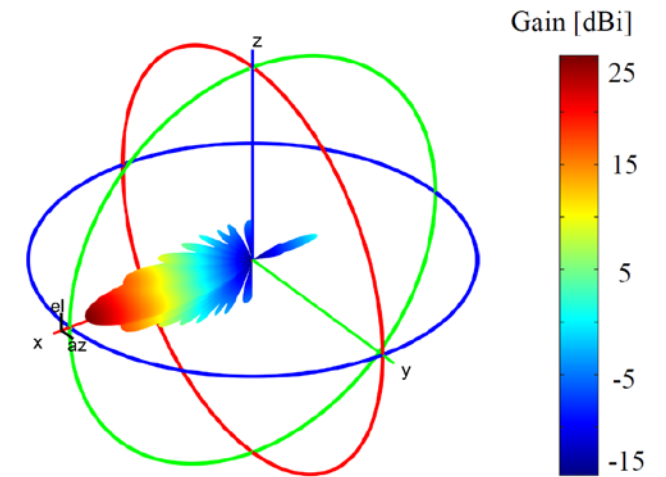


THz Channel Characterization and Analysis

Ray-tracing Simulations



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
- ❑ The **multi-order reflected paths** are reflected from the frequency extender.

THz Channel Characterization and Analysis

Extracted EM Property of the Painted Metal

| Frequency range | 75-110 GHz | 110-140 GHz | 140-170 GHz | 180-220 GHz | 260-295 GHz | 295-330 GHz | 330-365 GHz | 365-400 GHz |
|-----------------|------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|
| ϵ' | 1.15 | 1.15 | 1.15 | 1.05 | 1.05 | 1.4 | 1.05 | 1.05 |
| ϵ'' | 19.74 | 19.50 | 17.50 | 10.67 | 12.19 | 10.71 | 10.95 | 10.67 |

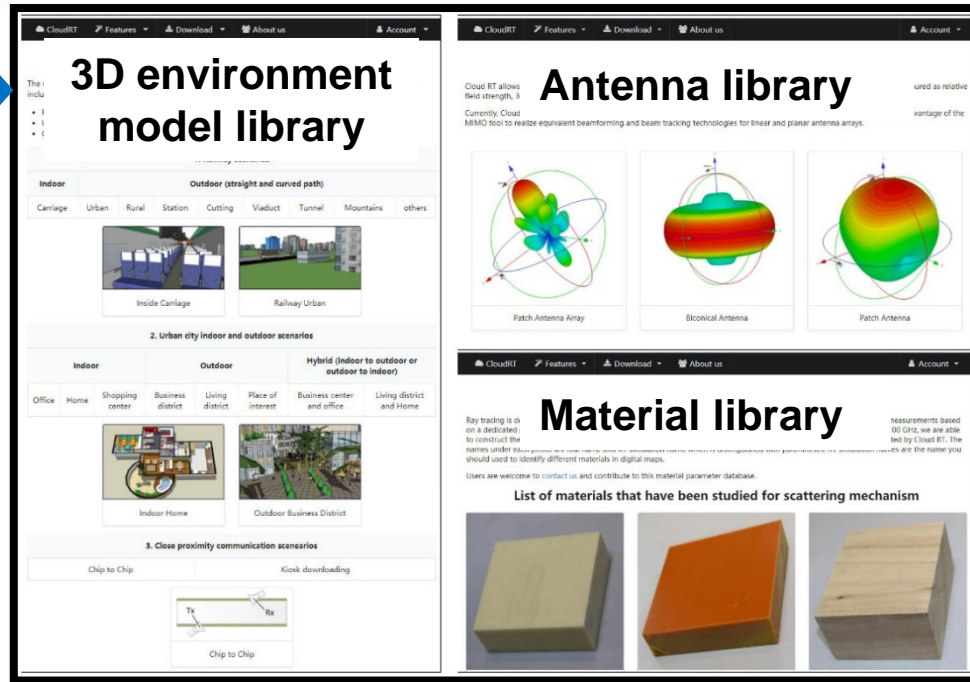
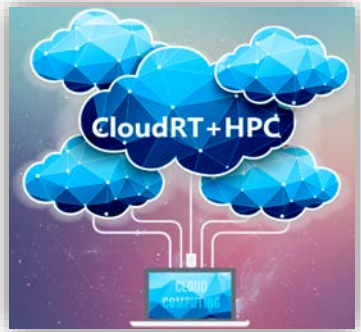
- By the comparison of measured and simulated PDPs, the **power** and **delay** of **multi-order reflected paths match well** with each other.
- **EM properties** can be inverted by RT simulations, as listed in the Table.
- ϵ'' is considerably small compared to the perfect conductor because of the **painting material**.
- The **absolute errors** in **power** and in **time delay** of each significant ray are smaller than **1 dB** and **0.1 ns**. The **narrow absolute error** at these measured frequency bands indicates the **EM properties**, the **validated RT engine**, and **the 3D geometry model** can appropriately **repeat the channel sounding measurement results**.



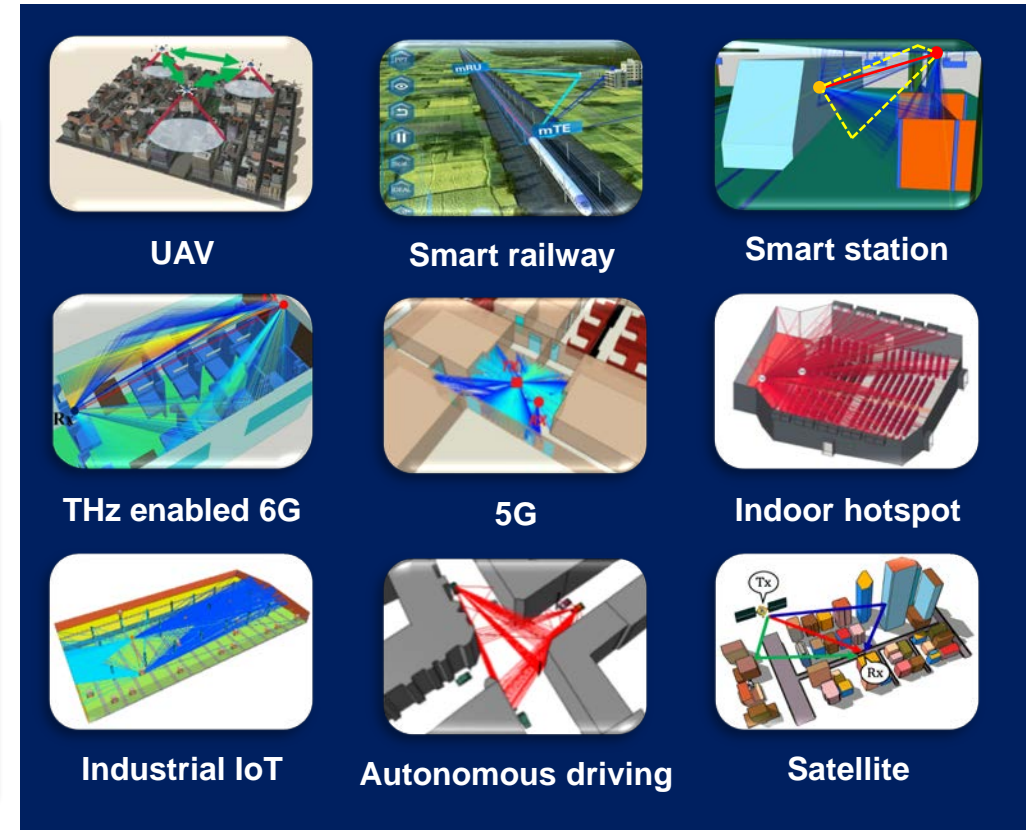
High Performance Ray-tracing Platform

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

7000+ users from **60+** countries since June 2018 (online open access)

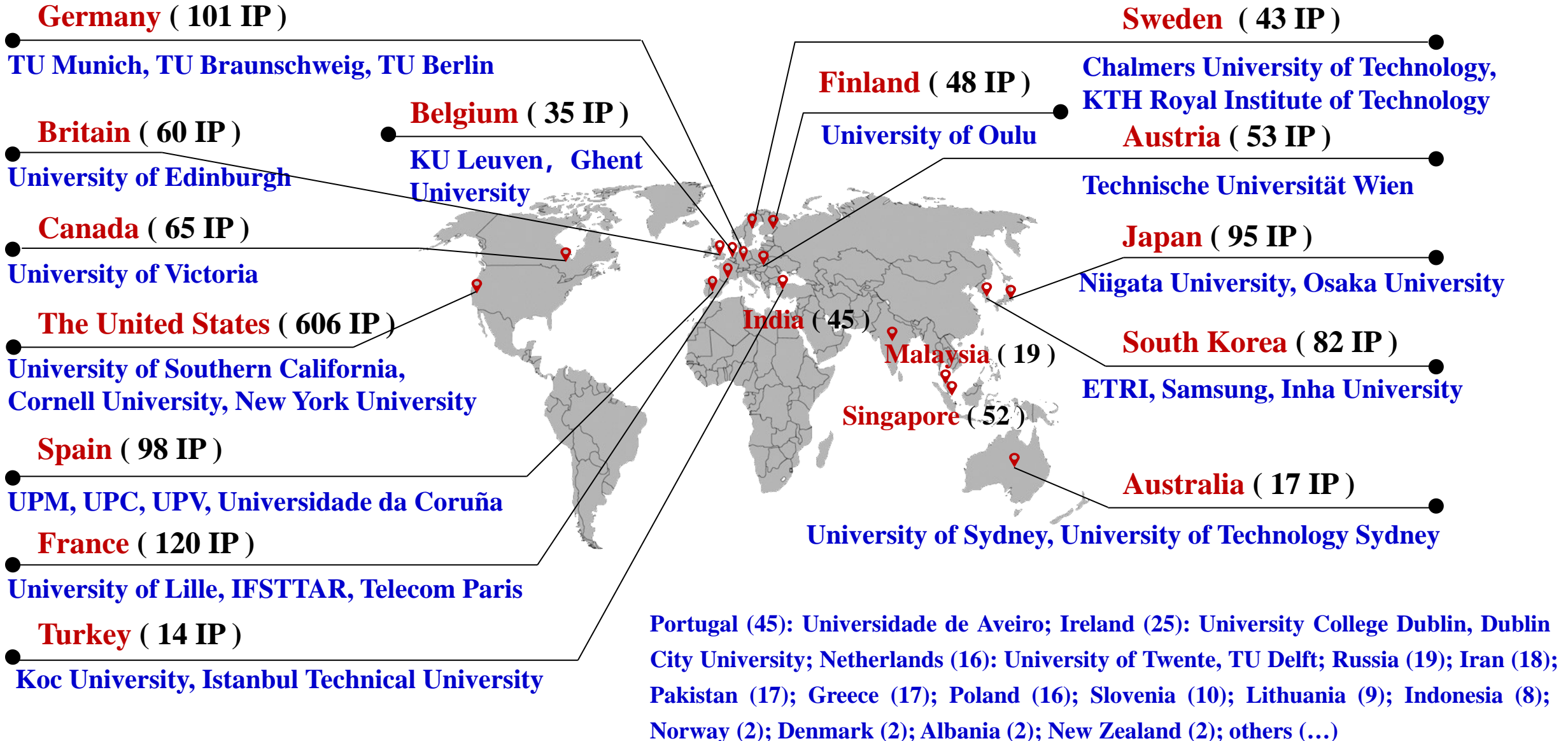


HPC platform: 600 CPU cores, 5 GPUs, and 44 TB storage
Accuracy: validated by 20+ measurements (0.1-300 GHz), with the RMSE < 6 dB

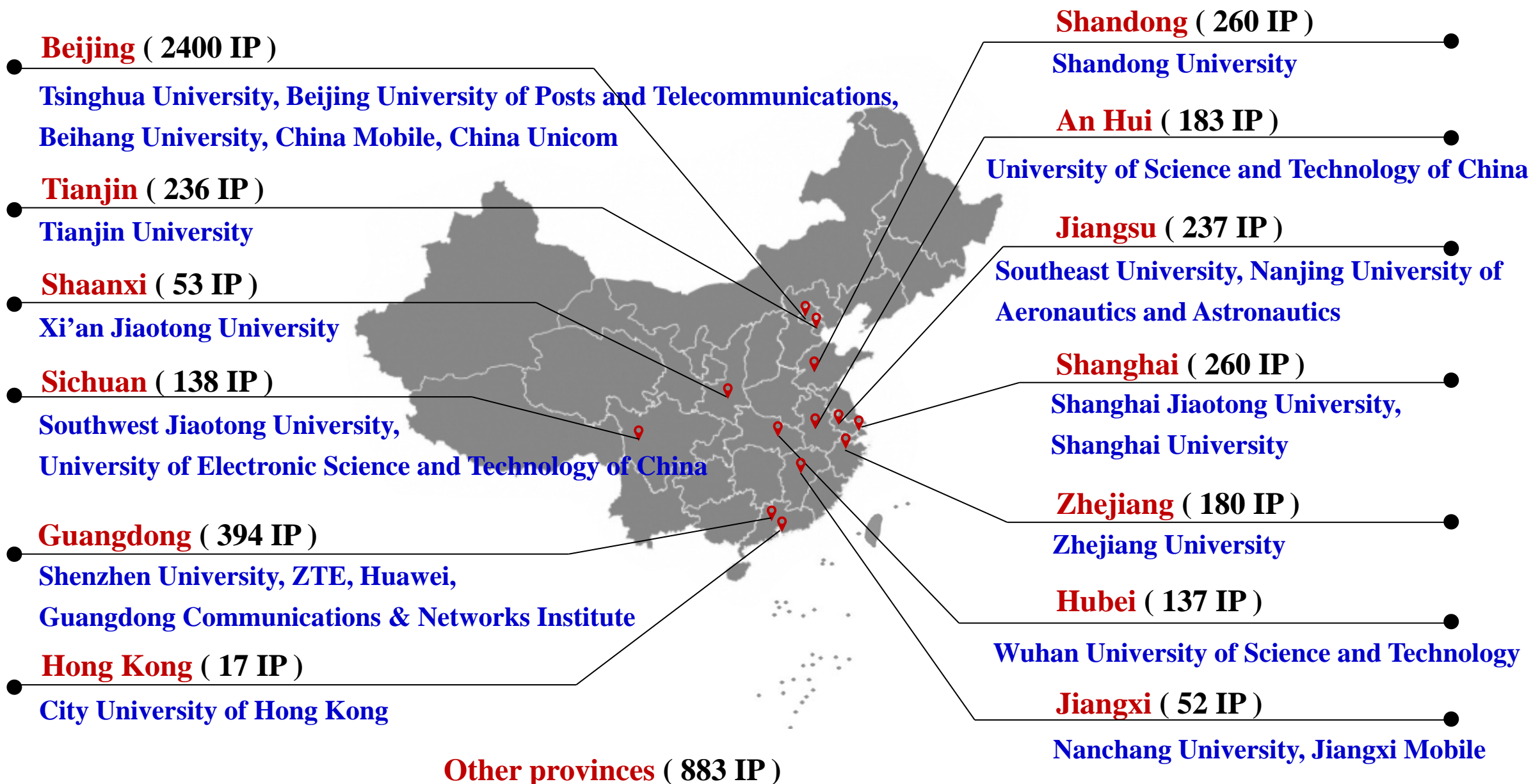


D. He, B. Ai, **K. Guan**, L. Wang, Z. Zhong, and T. Kuerner "The Design and Applications of High-Performance Ray-Tracing Simulation Platform for 5G and Beyond Wireless Communications: A Tutorial," *IEEE Communications Survey and Tutorial*, vol. 21, no. 1, pp. 10-27, Aug. 2018. **(2021 ESI highly cited paper)**

More than 1900 users from 61 countries



More than **5600** users in China



THz Channel Characterization and Analysis

Root-Mean-Square (RMS) delay spread

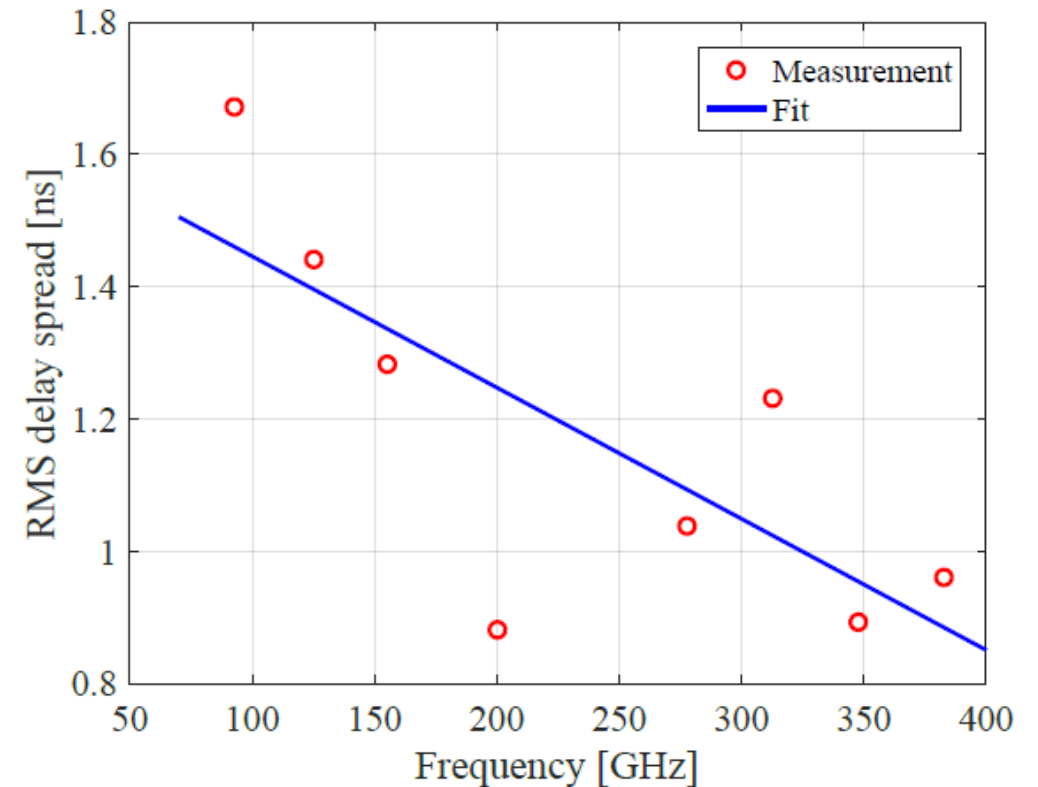
$$\sigma_{\tau} = \sqrt{\frac{\sum_{n=1}^N \tau_n^2 \cdot P_n}{\sum_{n=1}^N P_n} - \left(\frac{\sum_{n=1}^N \tau_n \cdot P_n}{\sum_{n=1}^N P_n} \right)^2}$$

in which P_n and τ_n are the power and the time delay of the n th multipath, respectively.

The figure shows the performance of RMS delay spread with frequency. A linear function is used to model the relationship:

$$DS = -0.0020f + 1.6443$$

- As **the frequency increases**, the propagation loss of each multipath increases, resulting in a **smaller RMS delay spread**.



absolute error = 0.134 ns
standard division = 0.184 ns

THz Channel Characterization and Analysis

Rician K-factor

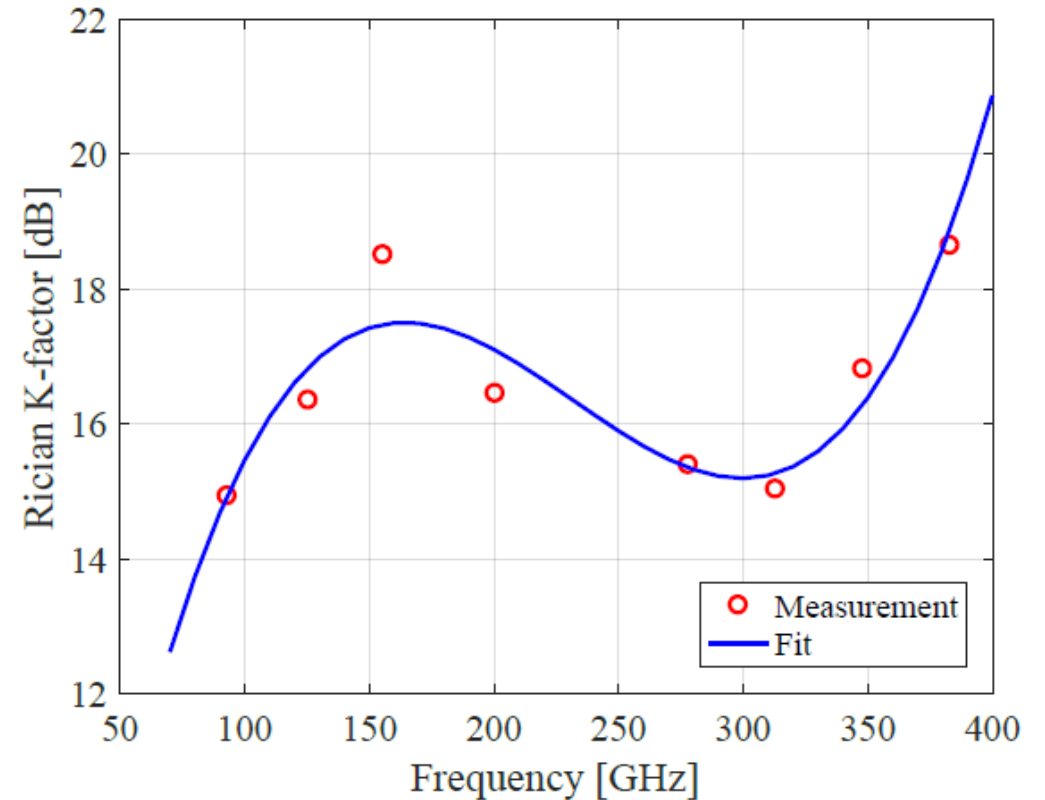
$$KF = \frac{P_d}{\sum P(i) - P_d}$$

where $P(i)$ is the energy of all the paths of the signal during propagation, P_d is the energy of the LOS path.

The figure shows the performance of Rician K-factor with frequency. A cubic function is used to model the relationship:

$$KF = 1.86 \times 10^{-6} f^3 - 0.0013 f^2 + 0.2737 f - 0.8565$$

- Rician K-factors are **high** enough to imply a **LOS** condition.



absolute error = 0.401 dB
standard deviation = 0.548 dB

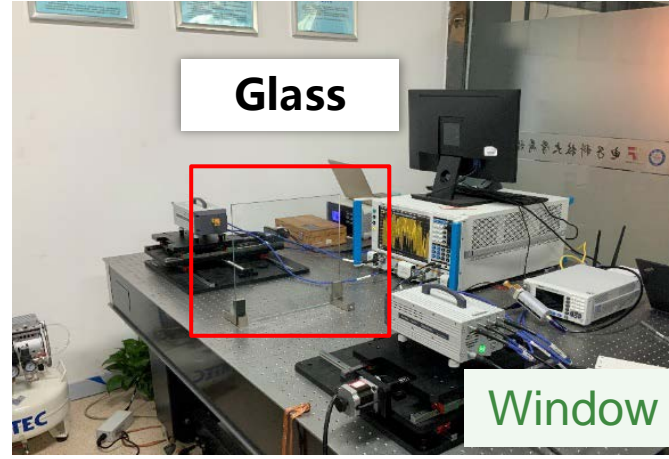
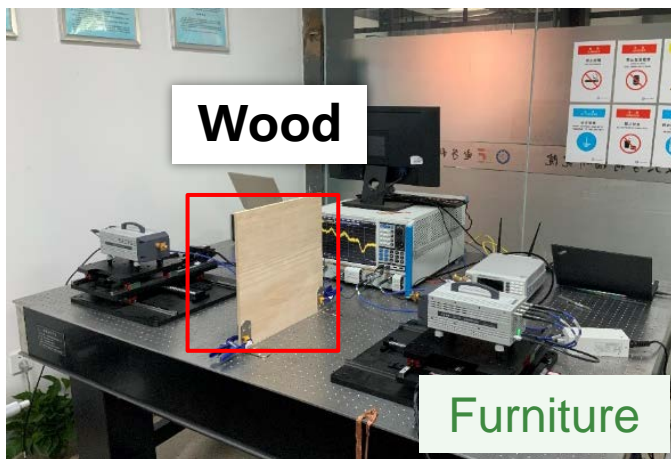
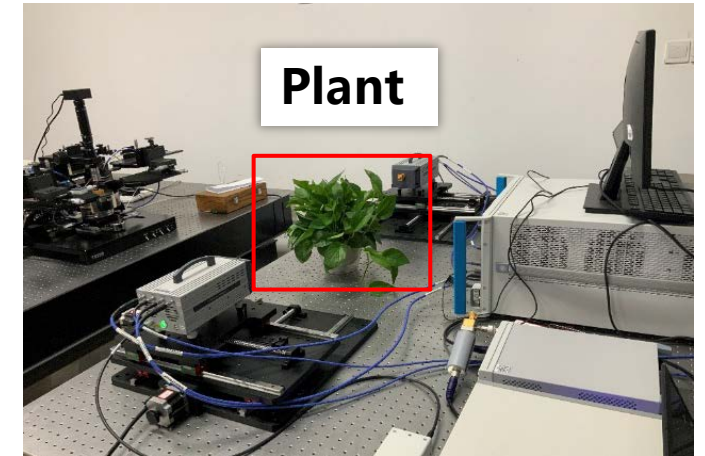
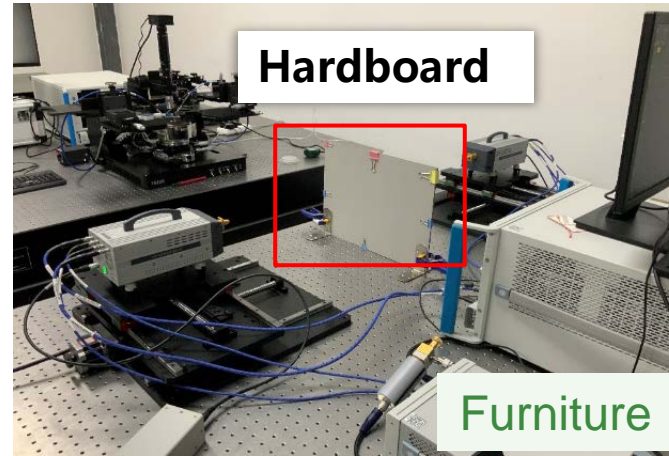
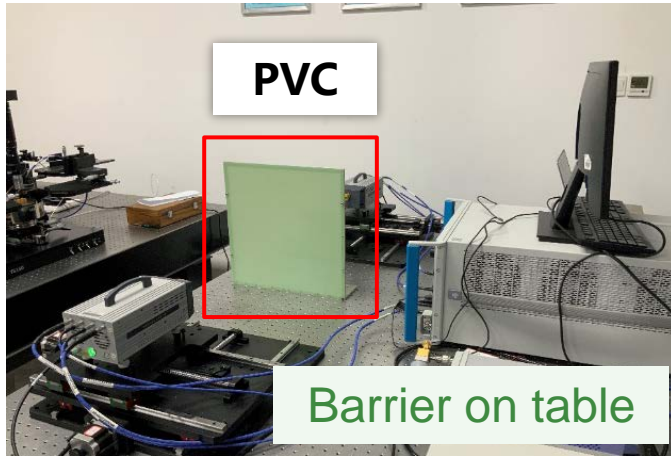
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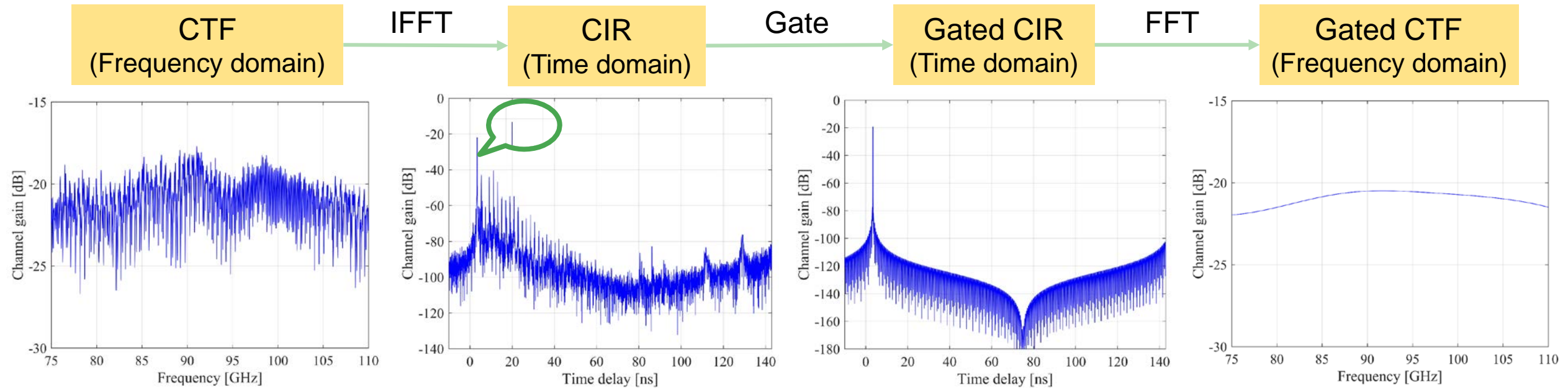
Channel Measurement Campaigns (Penetration Loss)

Penetration Measurement for Very Common Materials in Indoor Scenario



| Material | Thickness |
|-----------|-----------|
| PVC | 2 mm |
| Hardboard | 6 mm |
| Wood | 10 mm |
| Glass | 6 mm |
| Plant | - |

Numerical Results and Analysis



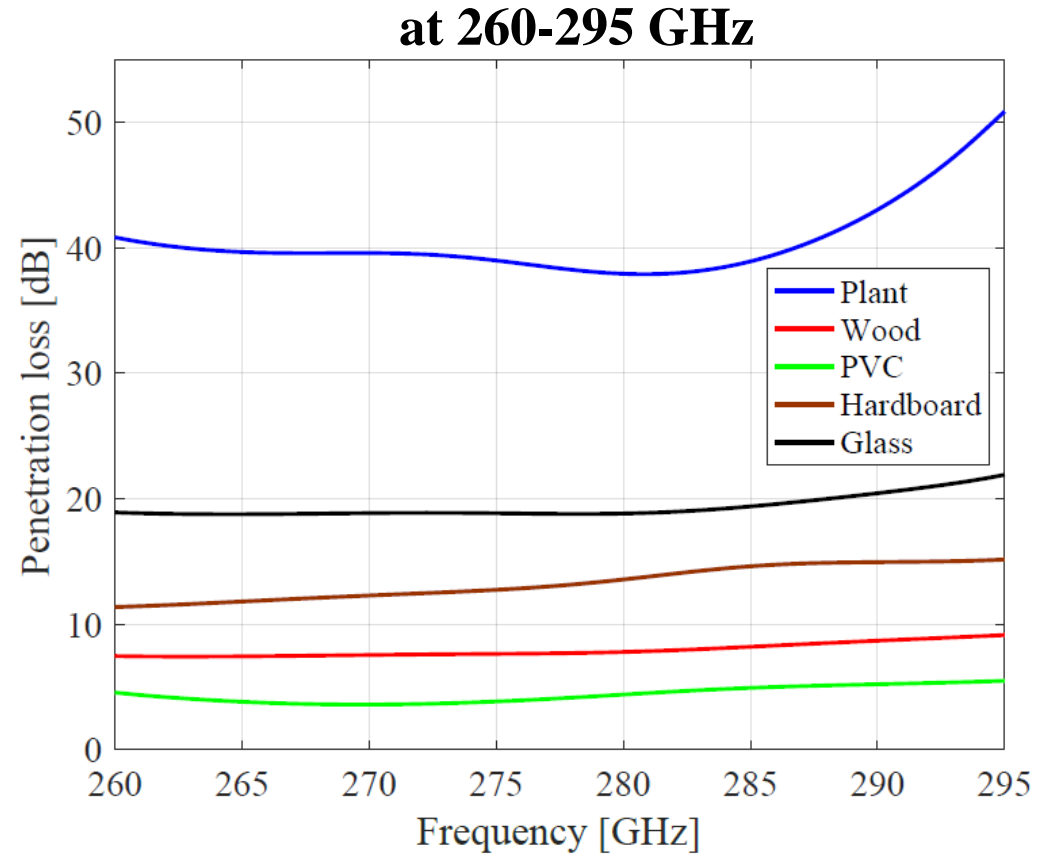
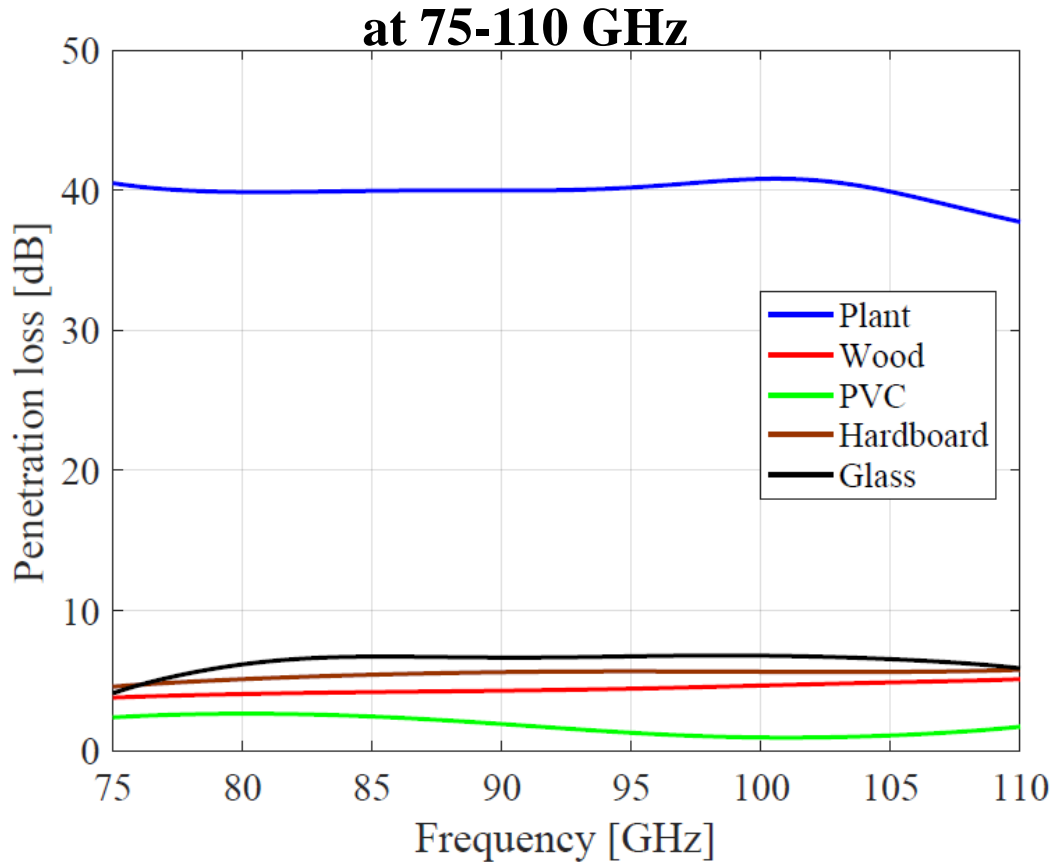
- VNA: **Frequency**-domain measurement, **S21** parameter recorded
 - A **time gate** is added on the LOS path to **isolate unnecessary reflection** from the measurement environment.
 - The gated curve is transformed into the frequency domain, which has removed the influence of interferential factors.
 - We compare the sample measurements to a reference LOS measurement, which corresponds to the direct path without any obstacles between Tx and Rx
- $$Penetration(f) = P_{LOS}(f) - P_{NLOS}(f) \quad [\text{dB}]$$

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Numerical Results and Analysis



| Loss [dB] | Glass | Hardboard | Wood | PVC | Plant |
|-------------|-------|-----------|------|------|-------|
| 75-110 GHz | 6.41 | 5.47 | 4.41 | 1.76 | 39.98 |
| 260-295 GHz | 19.32 | 13.30 | 7.96 | 4.37 | 40.41 |



Numerical Results and Analysis

| Loss [dB] | Glass | Hardboard | Wood | PVC | <u>Plant</u> |
|-------------|-------|-----------|------|------|--------------|
| 75-110 GHz | 6.41 | 5.47 | 4.41 | 1.76 | 39.98 |
| 260-295 GHz | 19.32 | 13.30 | 7.96 | 4.37 | 40.41 |

- The penetration loss is **increased with frequency** for all tested samples.
- The **potted plant**, which is a very common decoration on the table in the office or in the living room, causes **a very large penetration loss**. One of the reasons is that the water molecules inside the plant make the energy of waves absorbed.
- Electromagnetic waves can indeed **transmit some materials**, such as wood and plastic, with relative little penetration loss.
- **Idea**: glass window may be replaced by hard transparent plastic. **Better outdoor-to-indoor coverage** may be achieved.



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Conclusion

- We introduce extensive channel measurements from **75 GHz to 400 GHz** on a **desktop**.
- A **self-developed RT simulator** is utilized to post-process and to locate the received multipaths.
- With the help of RT simulations, the **EM properties** of the painted metal are extracted. The painted metal is the relevant material generating **multi-order reflected paths** in the measurements.
- In addition, the **RMS delay spread** and **Rician K-factor** are extracted and analyzed. A linear function and a cubic function are utilized to model these two channel parameters with frequency, respectively.
- In order to describe the channel characteristics in the presence of obstruction, we measure the **penetration loss** for **several common materials** (glass, hardboard, wood, plastic, and potted plant). As expected, the **penetration loss increases** with **the increase of frequency** for all tested samples.



Future Work

- We will conduct more channel measurements with **narrower frequency band** in the same desktop scenario. Thus, the KF and RMS delay spread can be extracted to validate the corresponding fitted curves at THz band.
- We will conduct more penetration measurements for these materials with **different thickness**. Thus, the changes of the penetration loss will be discussed with the changes of the thickness.



Thank You for Your Attention

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