

Chambres réverbérantes électromagnétiques : un outil puissant et moderne pour des applications multiples

Philippe.Besnier
@insa-rennes.fr

Introduction to RC

Antenna efficiency and antenna patterns in RC

Average absorbing cross-section

Dosimetry

Backscattering measurements

Focalization

Conclusion

RC: definition

- A reverberation chamber consists of an **oversized** Faraday cage
- It relies on a multiple **natural modes** excitation : the EM field is a **combination of one or several modes** in a given state of the chamber
- An **ensemble of states** are obtained through a stirring process (a change of the boundary conditions). Ensemble statistics may reach ideal properties under some conditions.

A starting example : a 1-D cavity

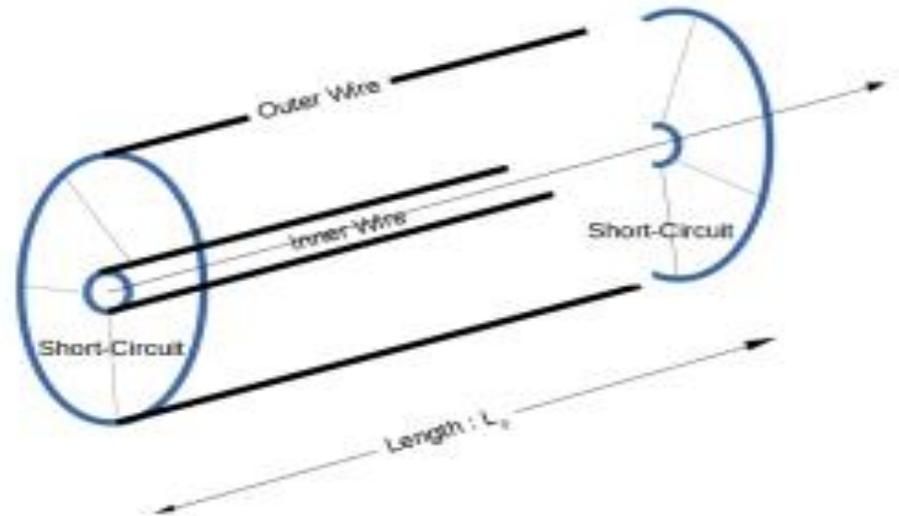


Figure 1 : A *TEM* coaxial waveguide

- A short-circuited coaxial cable (TEM waveguide)

The voltage difference is the solution of the wave equation :

$$V(z) = Z_c \times [A \exp(-\gamma \times z) - B \exp(\gamma \times z)] \quad (1)$$

with $\gamma = jk$ (for a lossless line), k : the wavenumber.

The boundary conditions at $z = 0$ and $z = L_0$ imply :

$$A - B = 0 \quad (2)$$

$$A \exp(-jk \times L_0) - B \exp(-jk \times L_0) = 0 \quad (3)$$

Non trivial solutions appear for a set of eigenvalues k_n :

$$k_n = \frac{n\pi}{L_0} \quad (4)$$

Multiple modes
Oversized if L_0 high enough

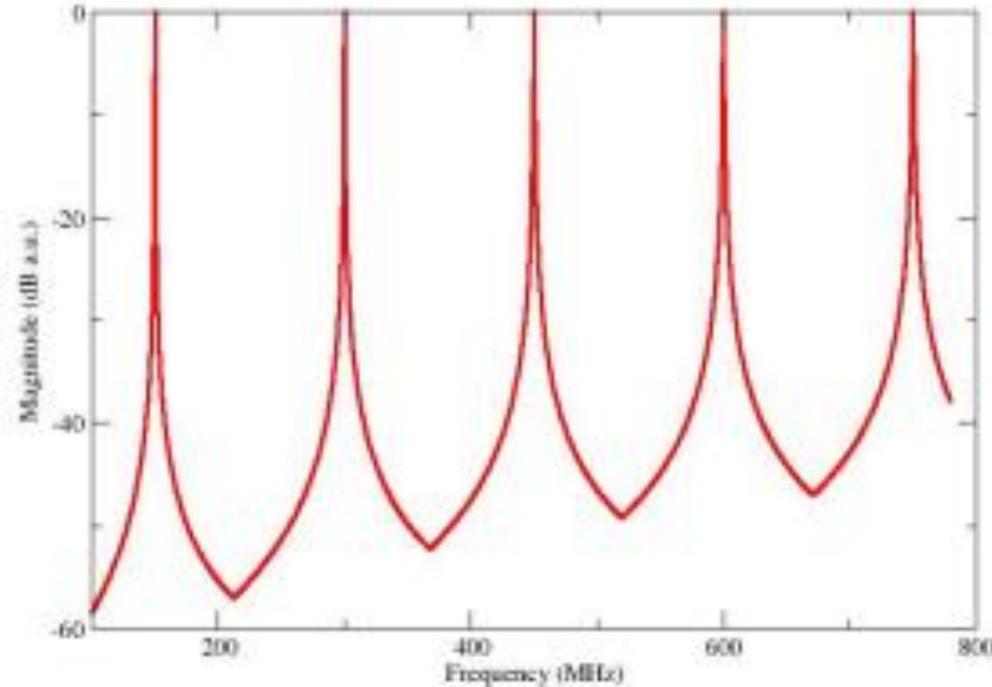
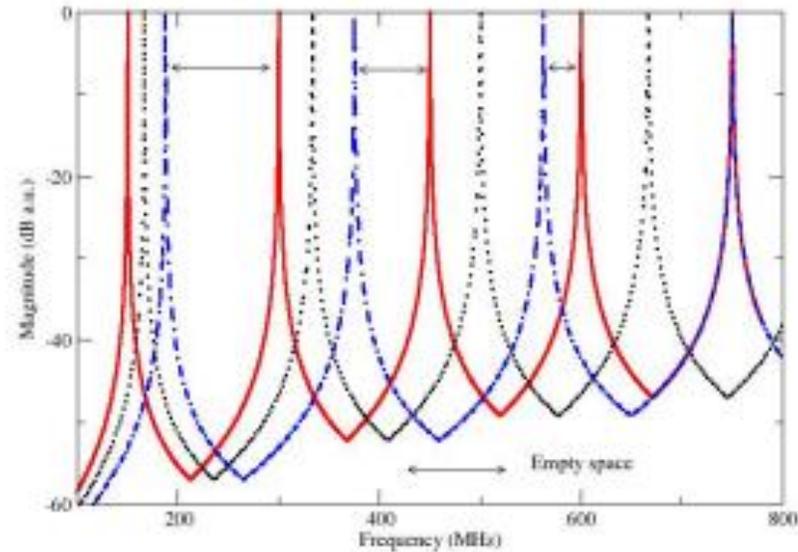


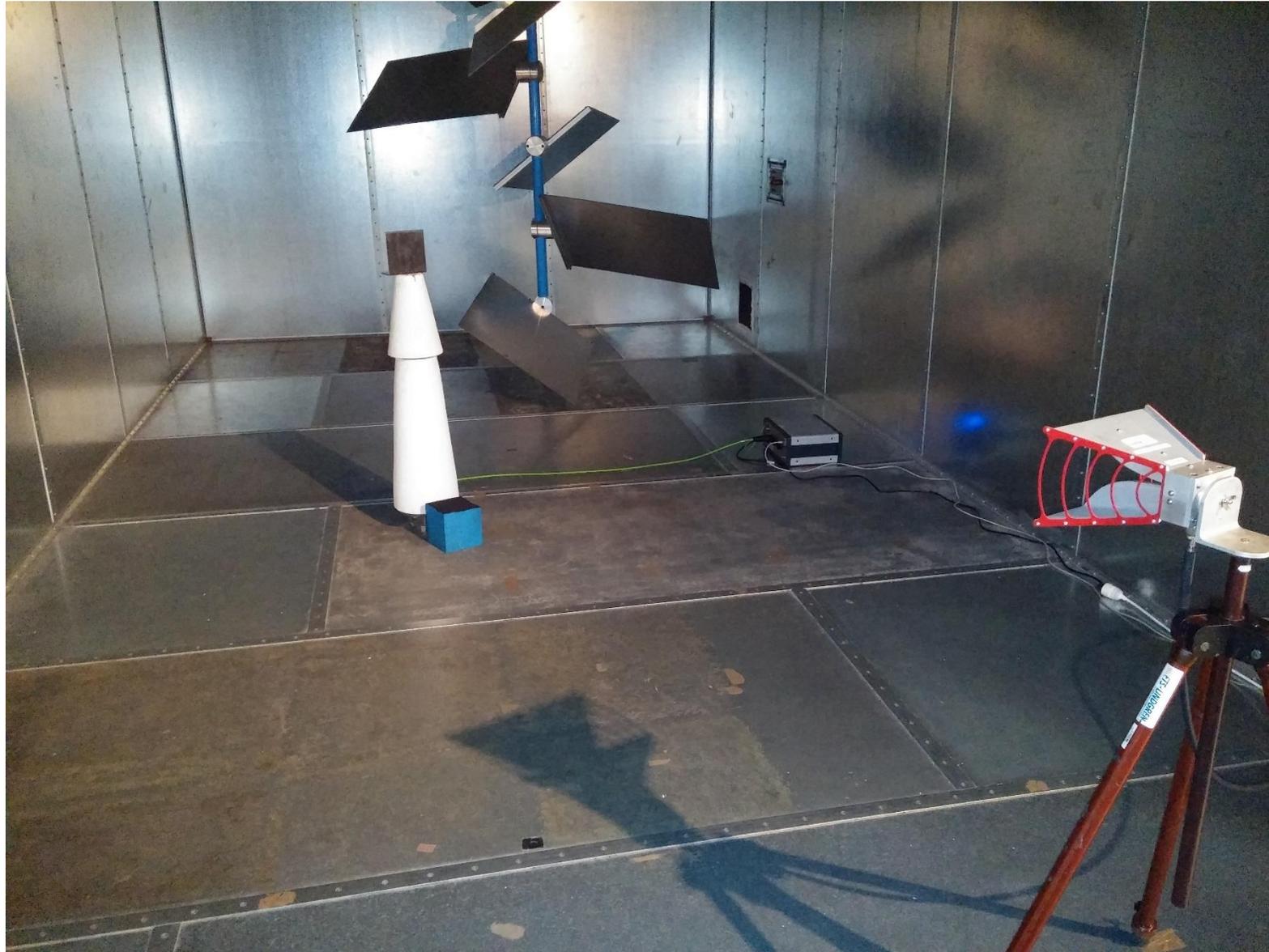
Figure 2 : First modes of the TEM waveguide with $L_0 = 1$ m. Losses arbitrarily included

Given two short-circuits pistons such that $L_{stir} = L_0 - \delta L$ and δL 20% of L_0 as a maximum :

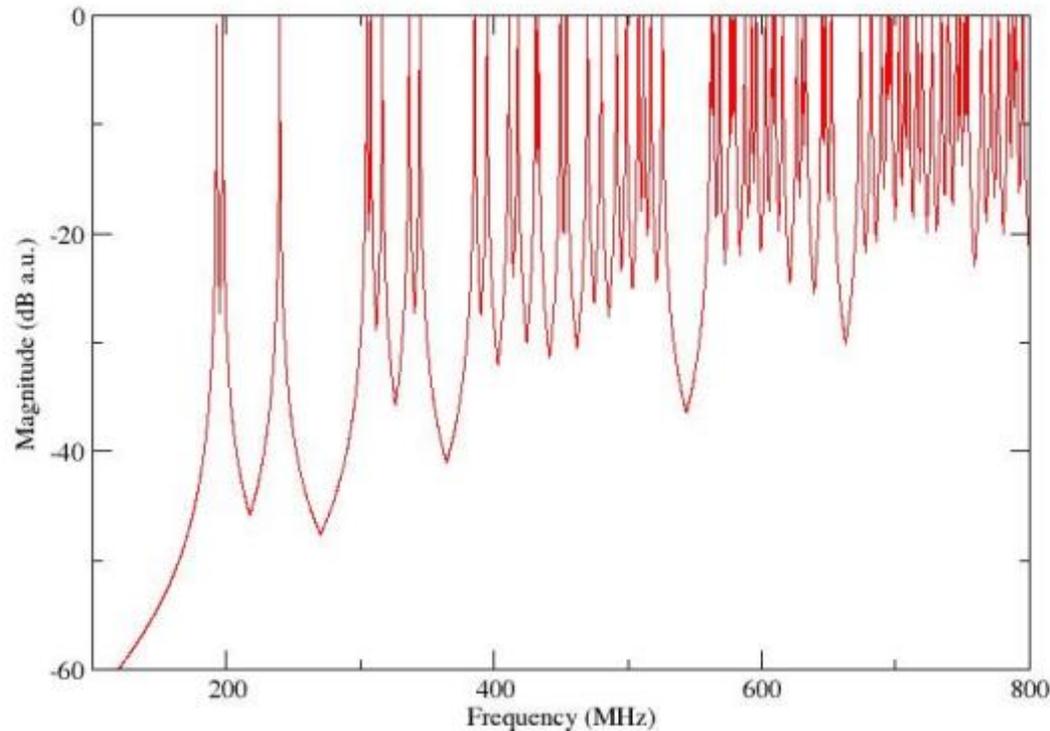


Despite changing b.c.
no significant
excitation of modes at
any frequency at
oversized length

Figure 3 : First modes of the TEM waveguide with $L_0 =$ varying from 1 m to 0.8 m. Losses arbitrarily included



$a = 1.00$ m, $b = 1.05$ m, $d = 1.10$ m (arbitrary losses included) :



Density of modes increases
with frequency

Figure 7 : A 3D cavity

Let imagine a stirring process equivalent to $a = 1.00 + \delta x$, $b = 1.05 + \delta x$, $d = 1.10 + \delta x$ with $(\delta x)_{max} = 0.05$ (1% of a).

Suppose a collection of n step variations with step i corresponding to $\delta x = \frac{i}{n}(\delta x)_{max}$

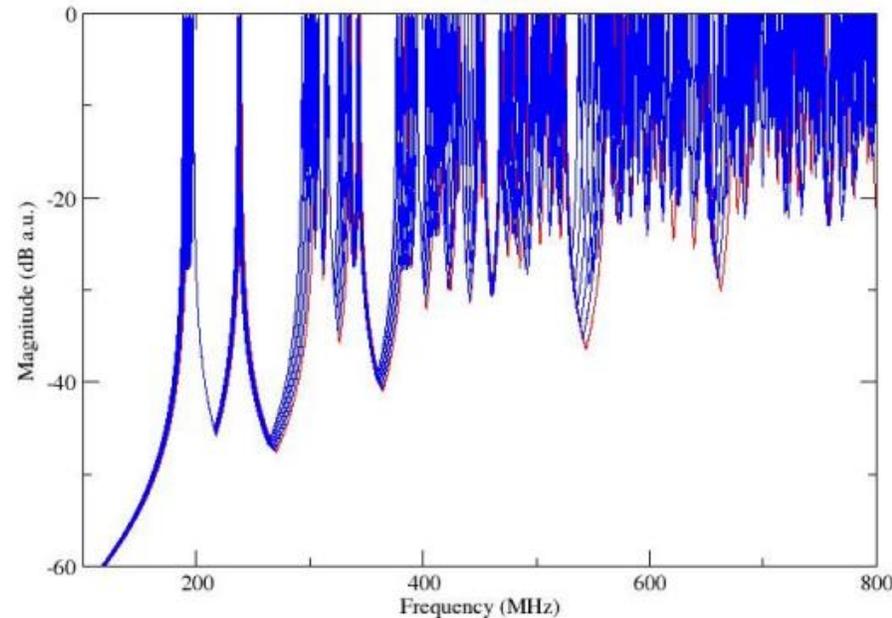


Figure 8 : Ensemble of modes summing $n = 5$ states of the chamber of a fictitious stirring process

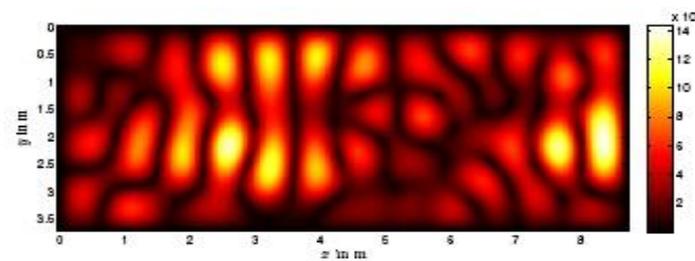
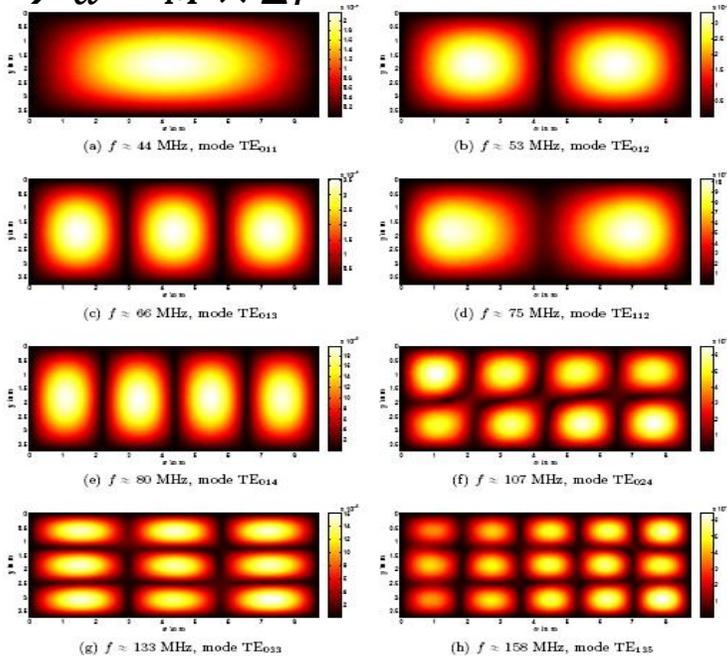
3-D overmoded cavities

- Multiple modes with significant excitation over a number of states

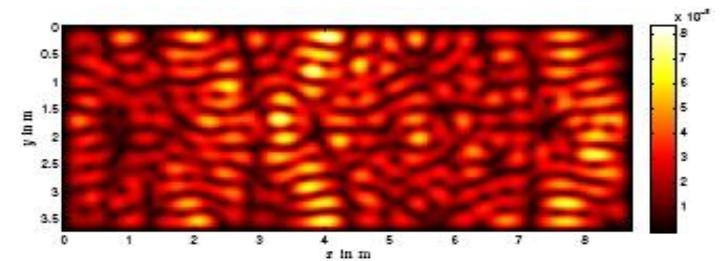
→ Mode density (M) $\approx 8\pi V \frac{f^2}{c}$

→ Composite Q-factor (Q) $= \frac{f}{\Delta f}$

→ $d = M \times \Delta f \ll 1$



(i) $f \approx 263$ MHz



(j) $f \approx 500$ MHz

Well overmoded / stirred cavity:

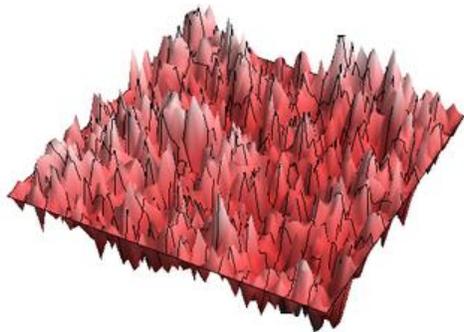
- Plane wave spectrum
- Hill's (asymptotical) model

$$e_{x,y,z}(t) = E_{x,y,z} e^{j\omega t}$$

$$E_{x,y,z} = E_{x,y,z}^r + jE_{x,y,z}^i$$

$$E_x^r, E_y^r, E_z^r, E_x^i, E_y^i, E_z^i \equiv v$$

$$\text{Var}(v) = \sigma_v^2$$



Gaussian « random » field

$$p_n(v) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi} \sigma_v} e^{-\frac{1}{2} \frac{v^2}{\sigma_v^2}}$$

Q-factor

- Energy is stored in multiple modes
- The higher Q the higher the stored energy and thus the field strength
- The lower Q the higher d (better overlapping situation)
- Depends on losses mechanisms

$$Q = \omega_0 \frac{\xi}{P_d}$$

where ξ is the stored energy and P_d the corresponding dissipated power

Q-factor is generally measured as the averaged stored energy over the transmitted/ injected power in the chamber and

$$\frac{1}{Q} = \frac{1}{Q_{walls}} + \frac{1}{Q_{ant}} + \frac{1}{Q_{obj}} \quad (21)$$

Antenna effective area $P_{rec} = A_{eff} \times P_{den}$

$$A_{eff} = \frac{\lambda^2}{4\pi} \eta m [D_{\theta}(\theta, \phi) \vec{\theta} + D_{\phi}(\theta, \phi) \vec{\phi}] \quad (23)$$

The same antenna is now under a **plane wave spectrum illumination**. Its effective area writes :

$$A_{eff} = \frac{\lambda^2}{4\pi} \eta m \int_0^{2\pi} \int_0^{\pi} [D_{\theta}(\theta, \phi) p_{\theta}(\theta, \phi) \vec{\theta} + D_{\phi}(\theta, \phi) p_{\phi}(\theta, \phi) \vec{\phi}] \sin \theta d\theta d\phi \quad (24)$$

$p_{\theta}(\theta, \phi)$ and $p_{\phi}(\theta, \phi)$ are the probability distribution of the plane wave incidence for each polarization.

$$p_{\theta}(\theta, \phi) = p_{\phi}(\theta, \phi) = \frac{1}{4\pi} \quad (25)$$

Receiving antenna

$$\frac{\lambda^2}{8\pi} \eta m$$

(ensemble average)

Transmitting antenna

$$\frac{\lambda^2}{4\pi} \eta m$$

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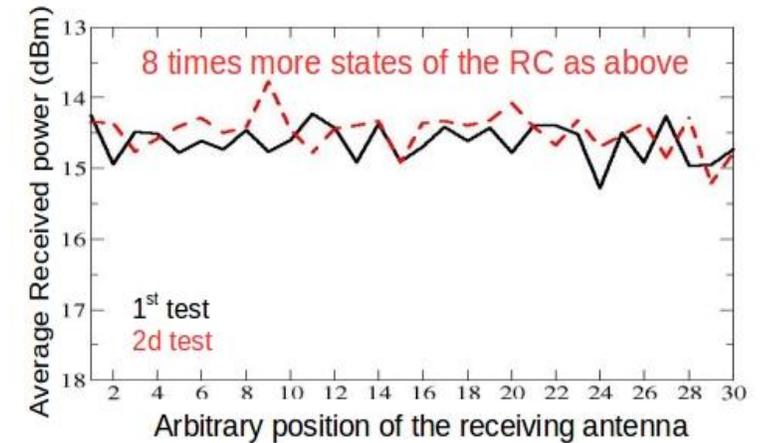
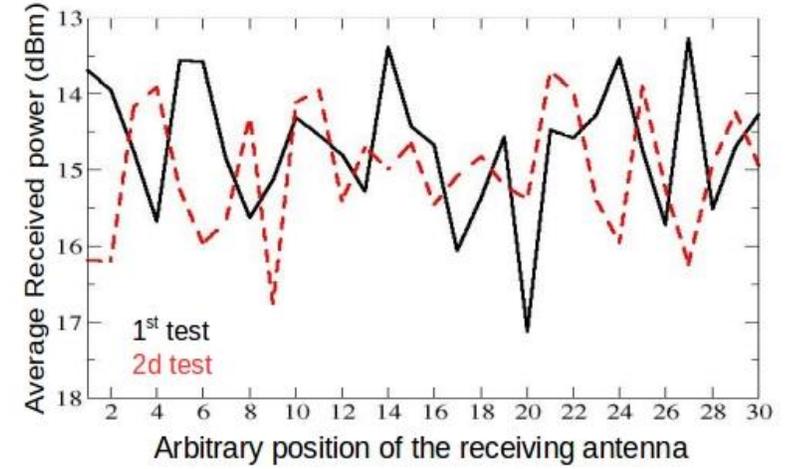
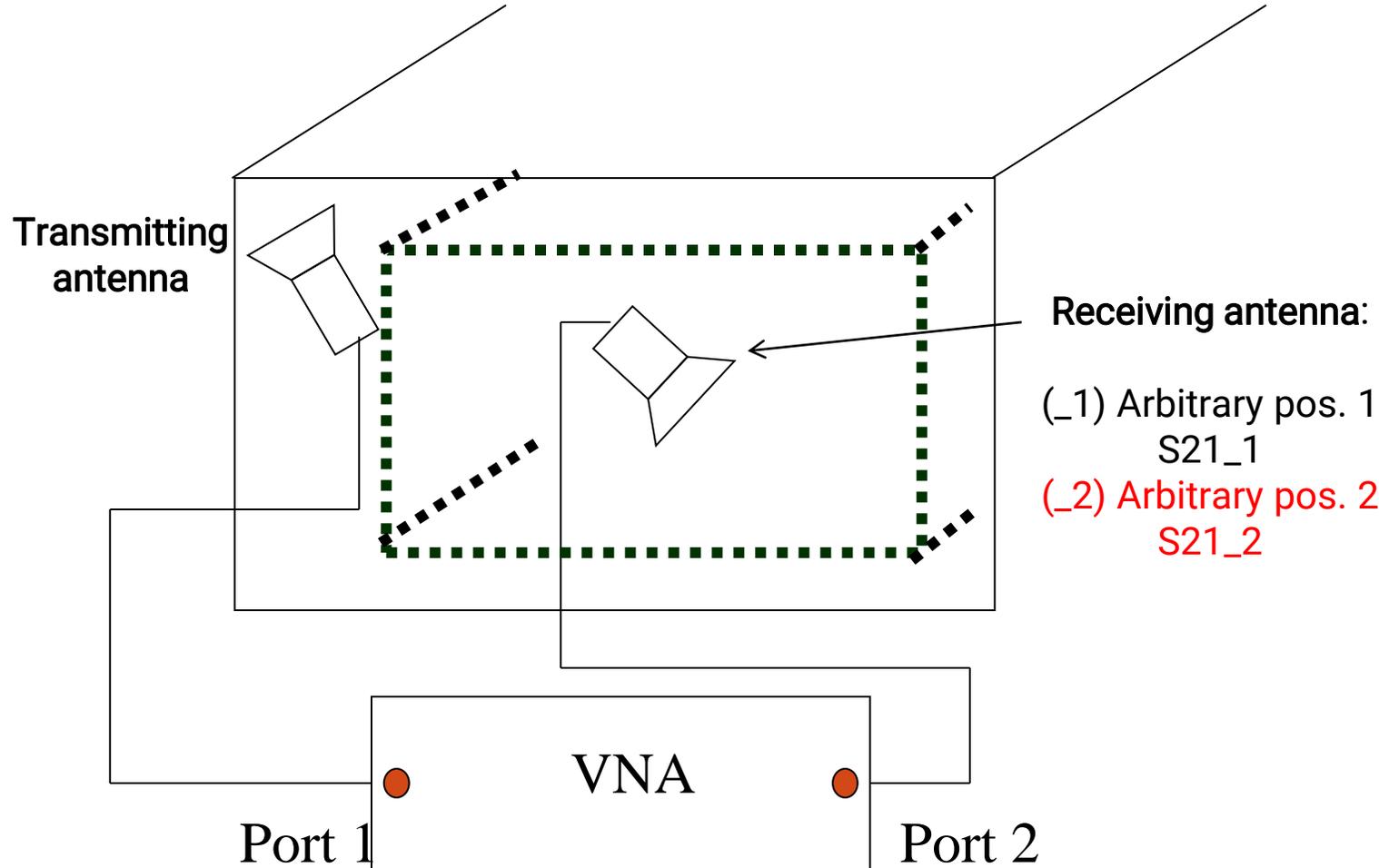
Receiving antenna

$$\frac{\lambda^2}{8\pi} \eta m$$

(ensemble average)

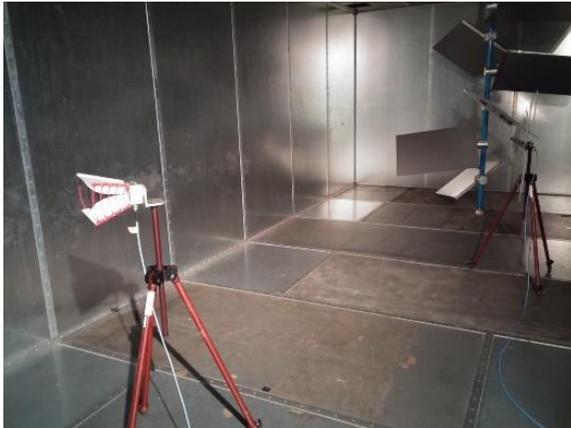
Transmitting antenna

$$\frac{\lambda^2}{4\pi} \eta m$$



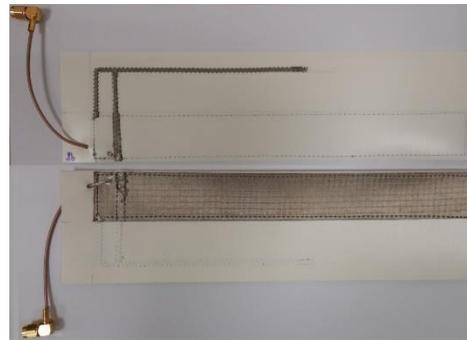
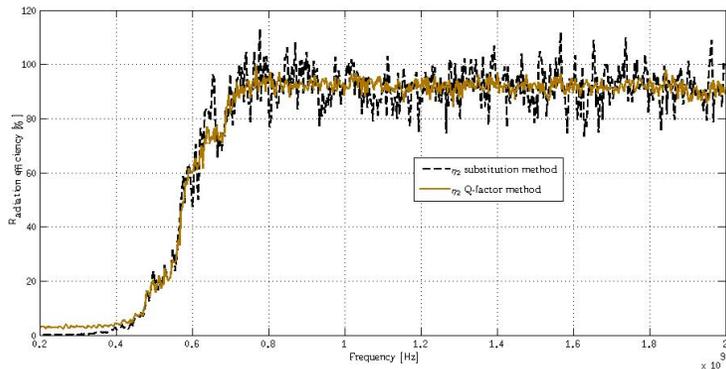
Antenna efficiency from Q

$$Q_{1ant} = \left\langle |S_{xx} - \langle S_{xx} \rangle|^2 \right\rangle \frac{Z_0 \omega \epsilon V}{(\lambda^2 / 4\pi)(1 - |\langle S_{xx} \rangle|^2)^2 \eta_x^2}$$

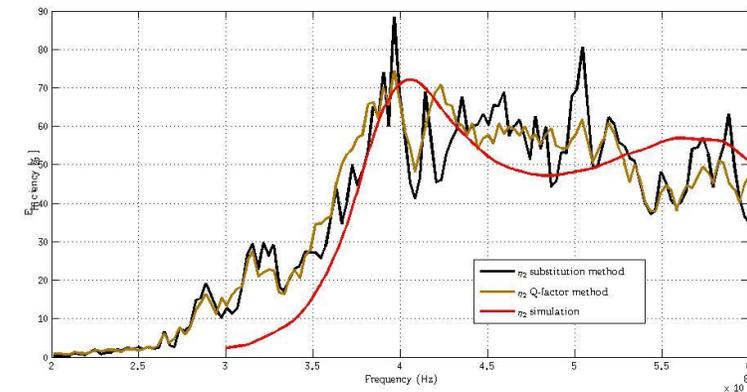
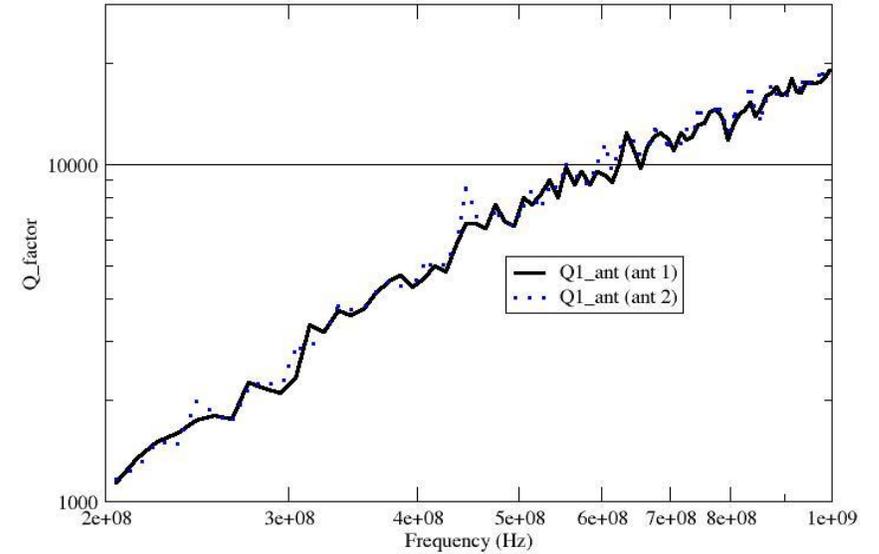


$$Q_x = \frac{Q_x^\#}{\eta_x^2}$$

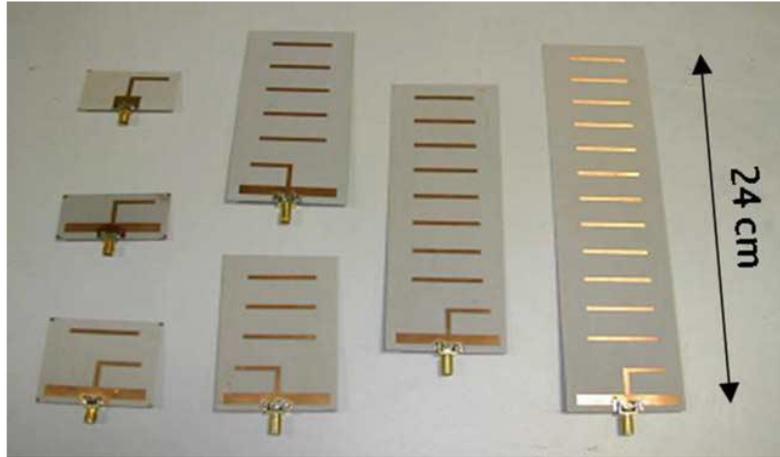
$$\eta_2 = \sqrt{\frac{Q_2^\#}{Q_1^\#}} \eta_1 = \sqrt{\frac{Q_2^\#}{Q_1}}$$



Q estimation at two identical antennas

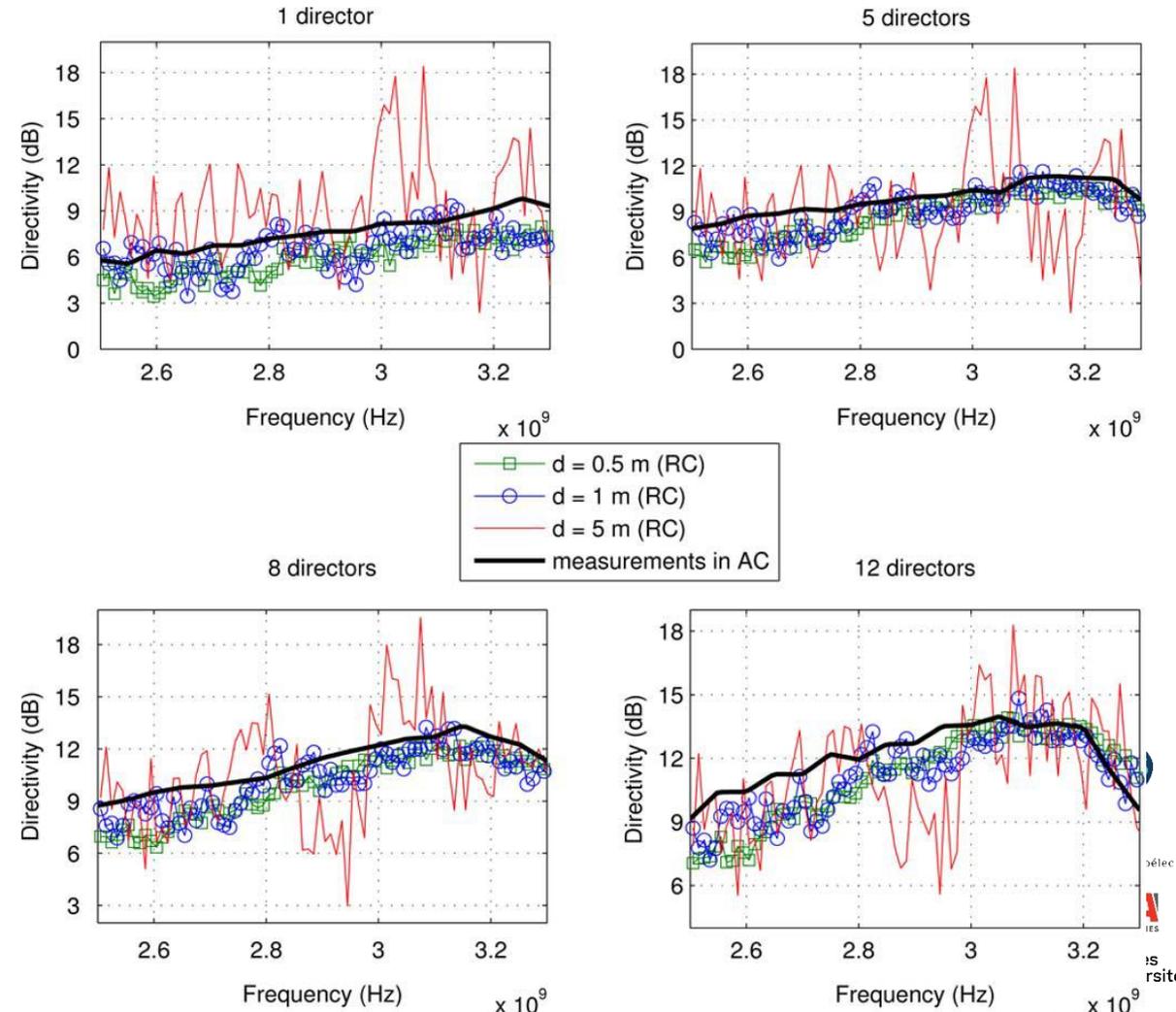
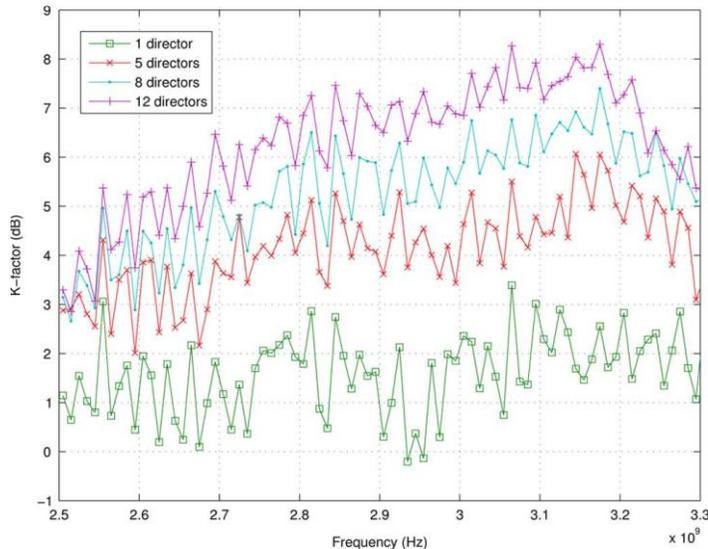


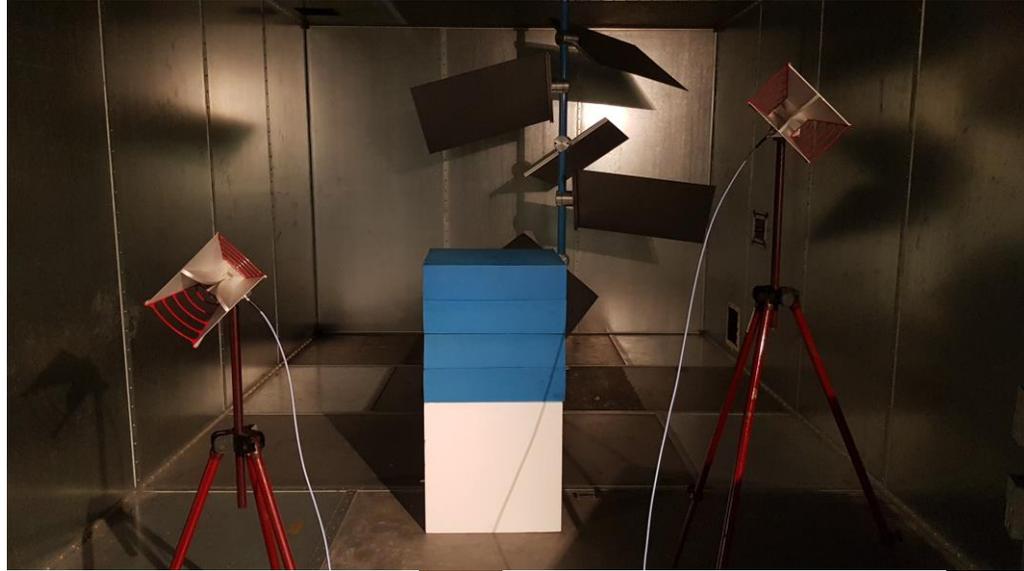
Antenna pattern



K factor
(Ricean channel)

$$K = \frac{v^2}{2\sigma^2}$$





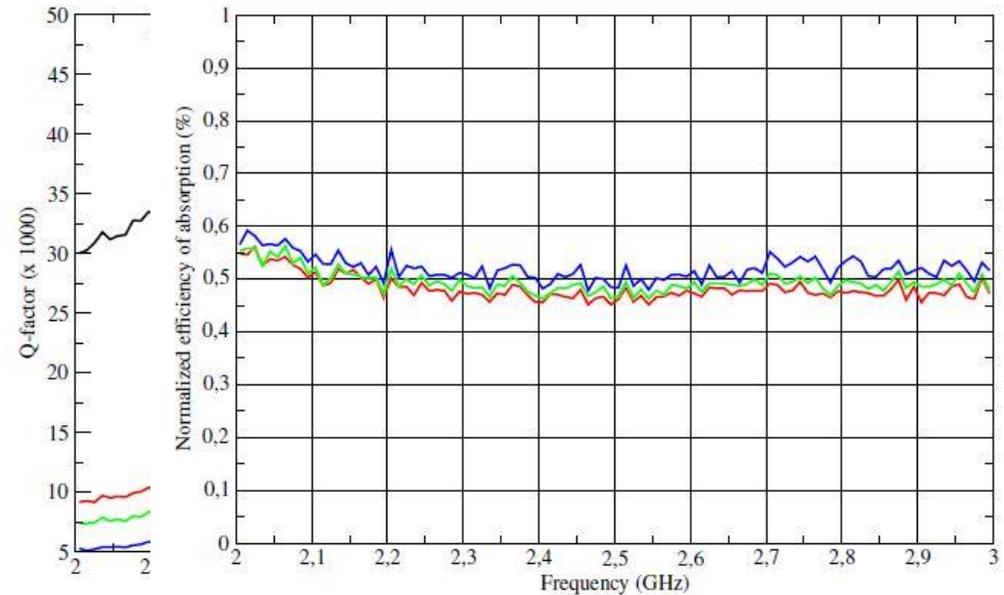
$$P_{d-obj} = \sigma_{abs} \frac{E^2}{Z_0}$$

$$Q_{obj} = \frac{2\pi V}{\lambda} \frac{1}{\sigma_{abs}}$$

$$\sigma_{abs} = \frac{2\pi V}{\lambda} \left(\frac{1}{Q_g^L} - \frac{1}{Q_g^0} \right)$$

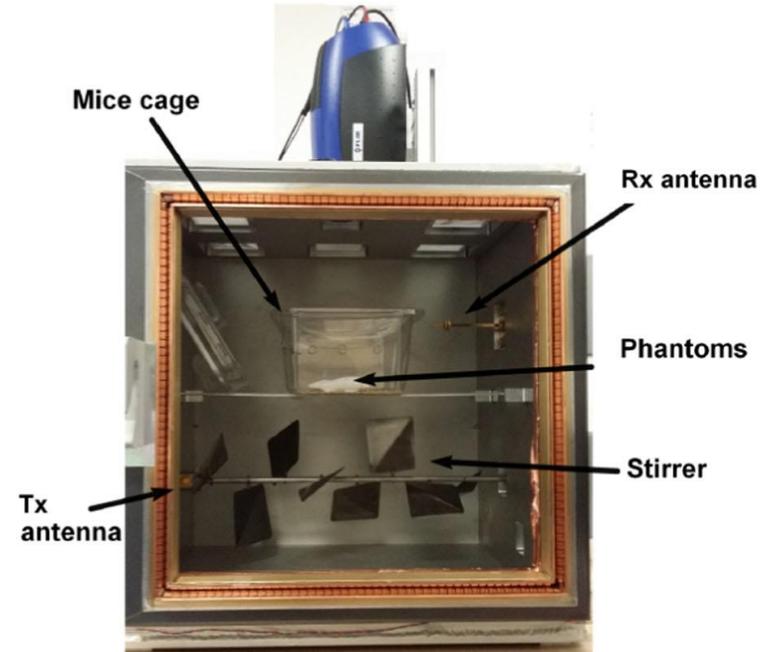
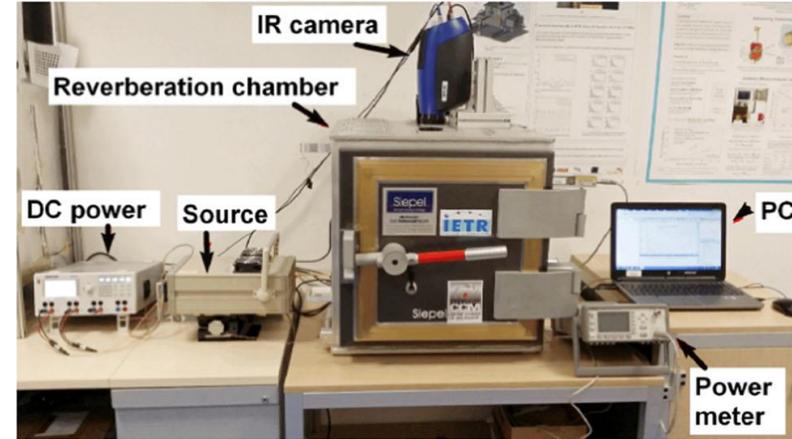
$$\sigma_{abs} = \langle T \rangle \frac{A_{tot}}{2}$$

$$\langle T \rangle = 2 \int_0^{\pi/2} \left[1 - \frac{|\Gamma_{TM}(\theta)|^2 + |\Gamma_{TE}(\theta)|^2}{2} \right] \cos(\theta) \sin(\theta) d\theta$$

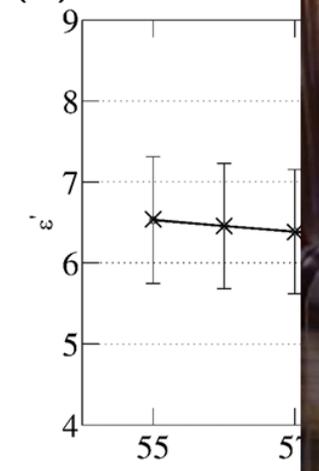


$$\frac{\rho C}{k_t} \frac{\partial T}{\partial t} = \frac{\partial^2 T}{\partial x^2} + \frac{\partial^2 T}{\partial y^2} + \frac{\partial^2 T}{\partial z^2} - \frac{V_s}{k_t} (T - T_b) + \frac{q(x, y, z, t)}{k_t},$$

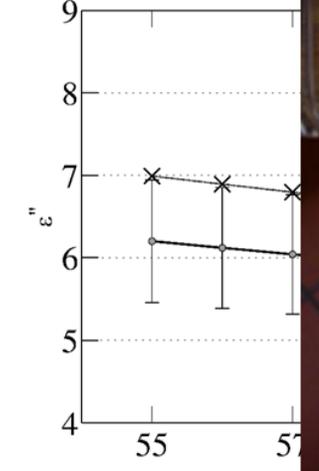
$$q(z) \simeq \frac{\langle S_0 \rangle \bar{T}_p}{\delta} [\exp(-2z/\delta) + \exp(-2(L_z - z)/\delta)]. \quad (1D)$$



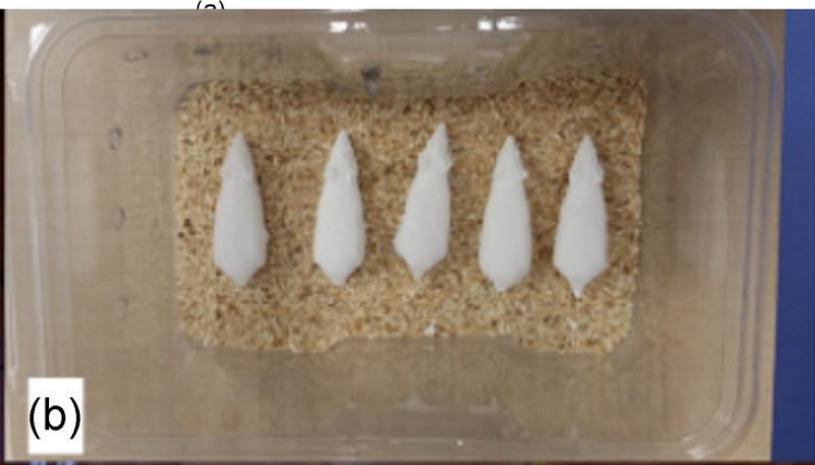
(a) Comple



(b)



(a)



(b)



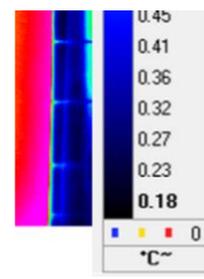
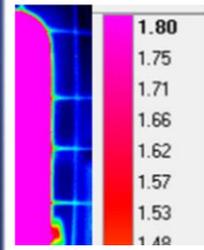
(c)

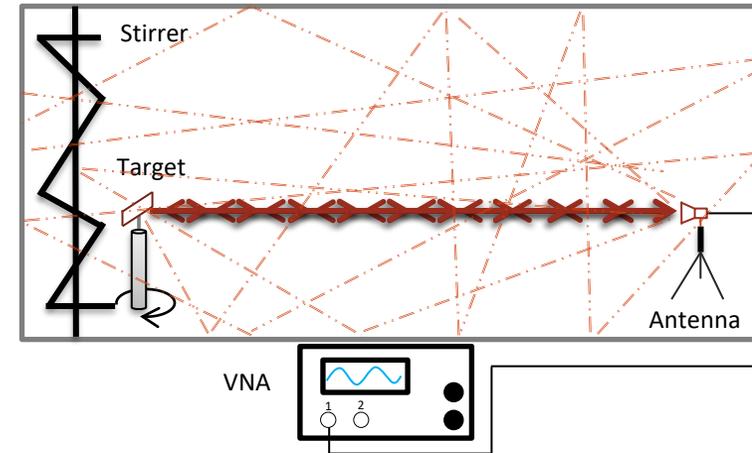
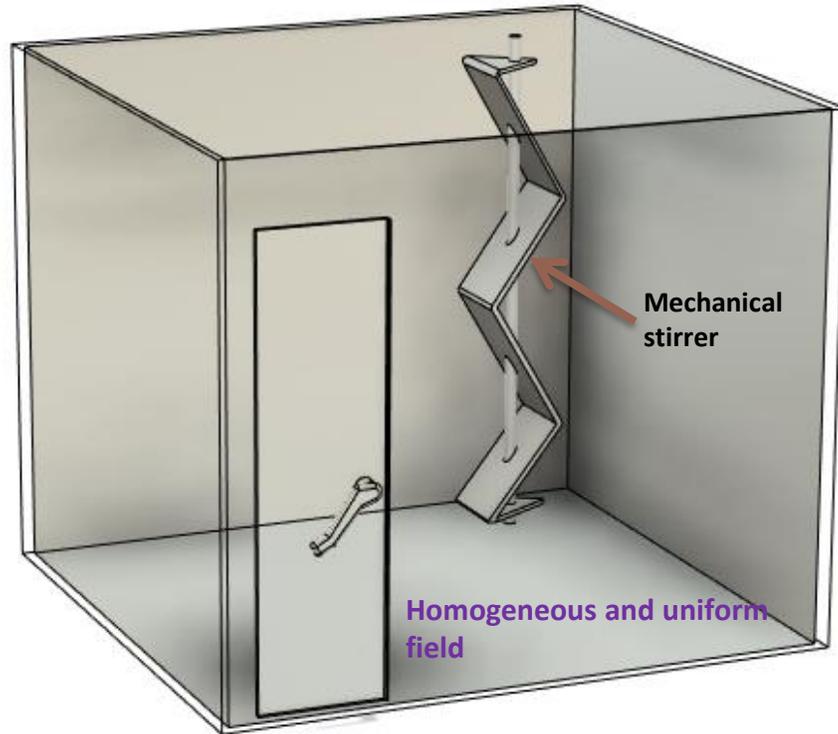


(d)



(e)

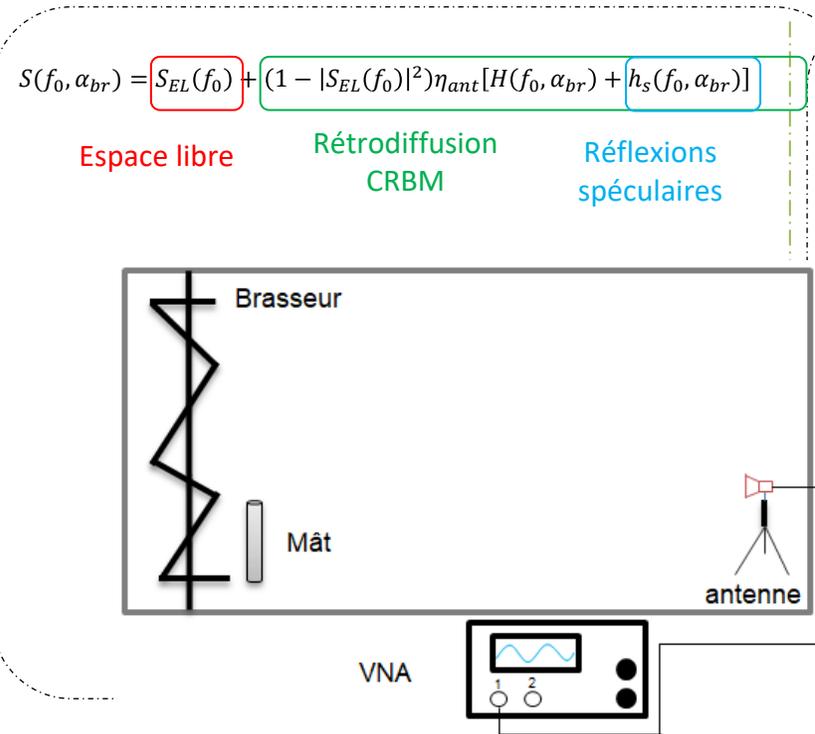




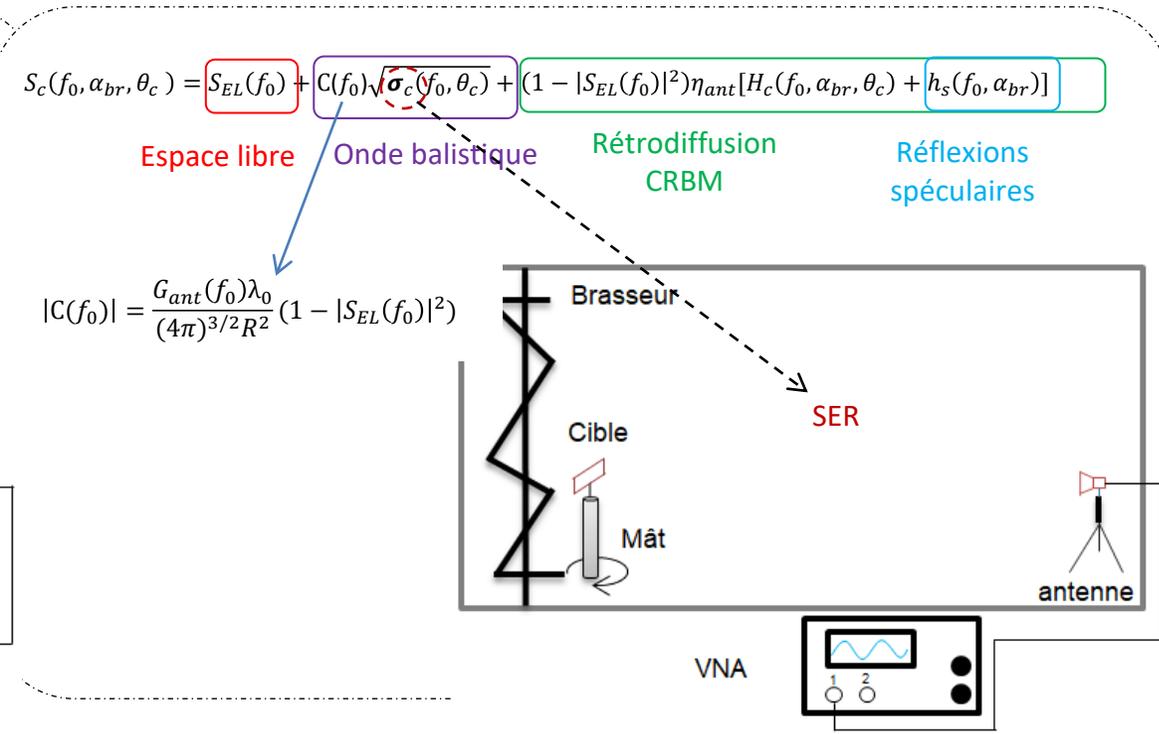
Multiple paths

LOS path extraction ?

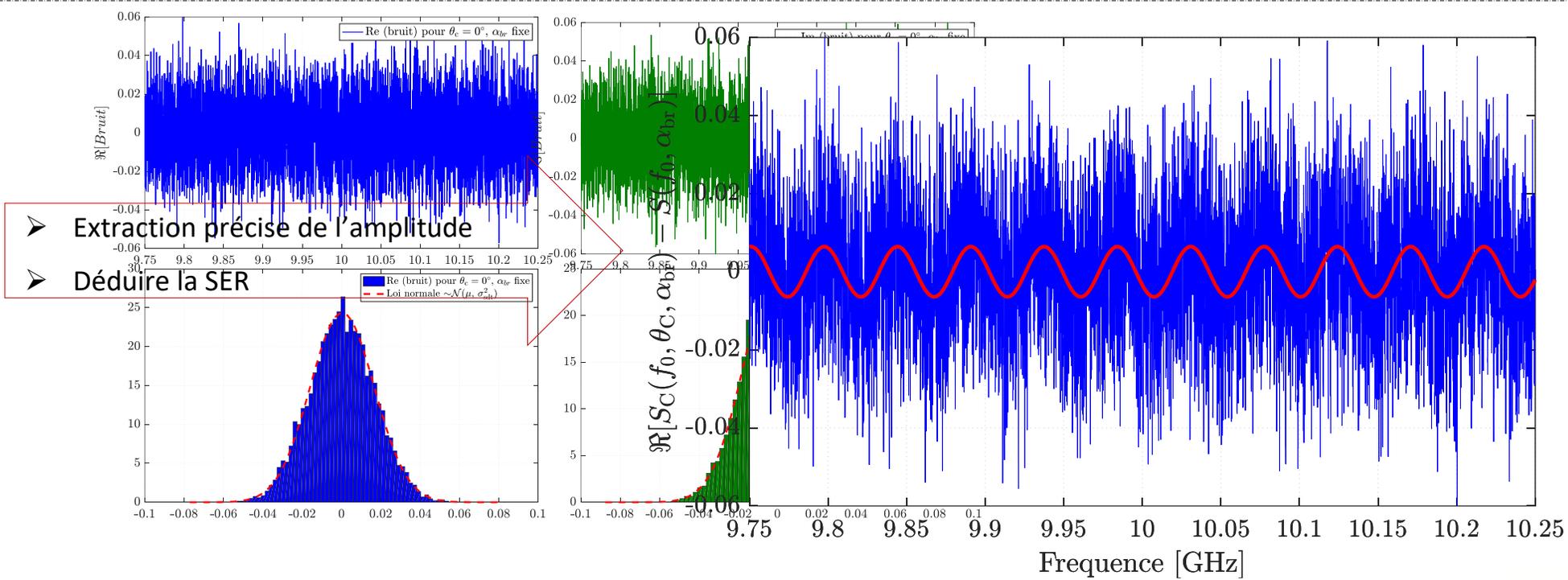
Mesure dans la chambre à vide (sans la cible):

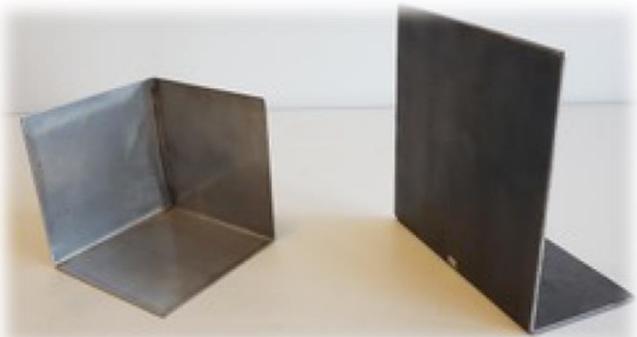
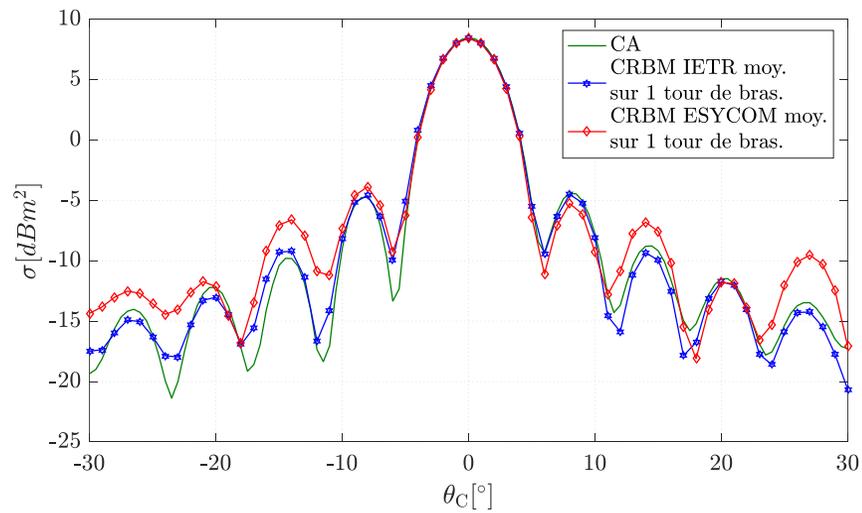
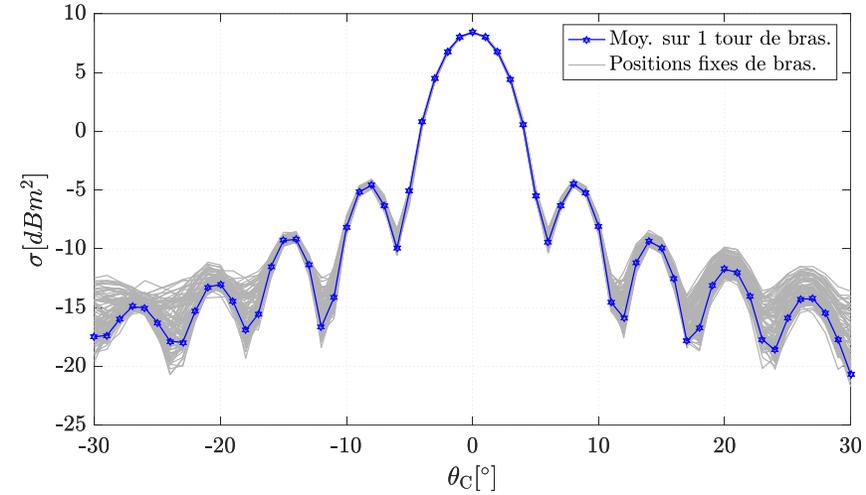
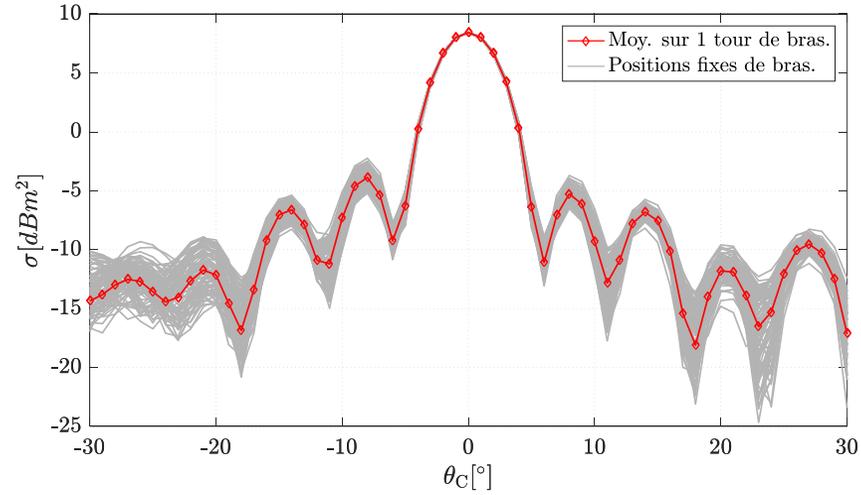


Mesure dans la chambre chargée (avec la cible):



$$S_c(f_0, \alpha_{br}, \theta_c) - S(f_0, \alpha_{br}) = \underbrace{(1 - |S_{EL}(f_0)|^2)\eta_{ant}[H_c(f_0, \alpha_{br}, \theta_c) - H(f_0, \alpha_{br})]}_{\text{Rétrodiffusion CRBM}} + \underbrace{\sqrt{\sigma_c(f_0, \theta_c)}}_{\text{SER}} \times \underbrace{|C(f_0)| \times \exp\left[-j\left(2\pi f_0 \frac{2R}{c} - \phi_0\right)\right]}_{\text{Amplitude onde balistique}}$$

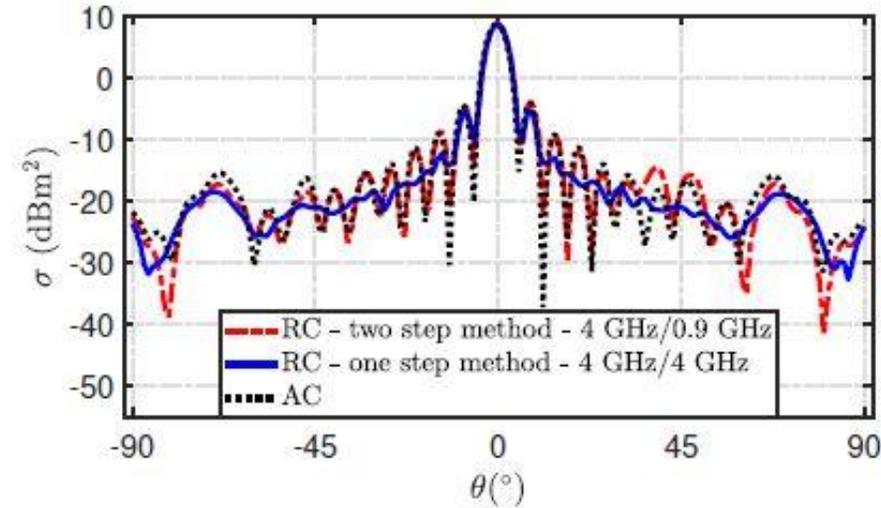




Recent improvements



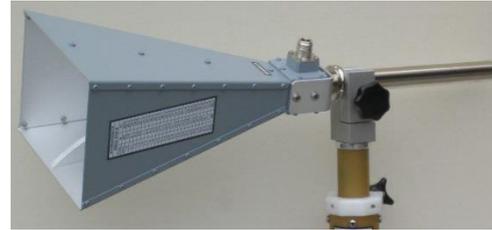
Quasi-monostatic configuration (no stirring)



Distance
+
Amplitude

Antenna radar cross-section \rightarrow Antenna pattern ?

$$\sqrt{\sigma_{\text{ant}}} = \sqrt{\sigma_s} + \sqrt{\sigma_r}$$



Radiating mode

$$\sqrt{\sigma_r} = \sqrt{\sigma_r^{\text{max}}} \cdot |\Gamma_L|$$

Measurements with two loads L1 and L2:

$$S_{L1} = S_{FS} + (1 - |S_{FS}|^2)\eta_a H_{L1} + C \left(\sqrt{\sigma_s} + \sqrt{\sigma_r^{\text{max}}} \cdot |\Gamma_{L1}| \right)$$

$$S_{L2} = S_{FS} + (1 - |S_{FS}|^2)\eta_a H_{L2} + C \left(\sqrt{\sigma_s} + \sqrt{\sigma_r^{\text{max}}} \cdot |\Gamma_{L2}| \right)$$

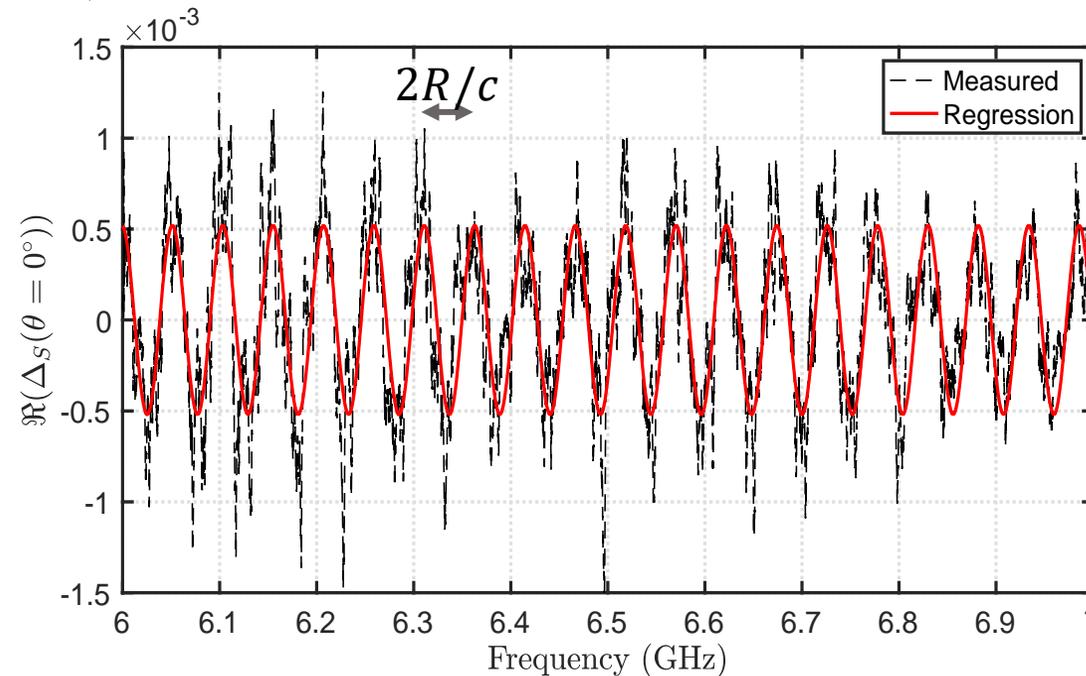
$$S_{L1} - S_{L2} = (1 - |S_{FS}|^2)\eta_a (H_{L1} - H_{L2}) + C \sqrt{\sigma_r^{\text{max}}} \cdot (|\Gamma_{L1}| - |\Gamma_{L2}|)$$

$$S_{L1} - S_{L2} = (1 - |S_{FS}|^2)\eta_a(H_{L1} - H_{L2}) + |C|\sqrt{\sigma_r^{max}}(|\Gamma_{L1}| - |\Gamma_{L2}|) \exp\frac{-j2\pi f2R}{c}$$

$$\Delta_S = \sqrt{\sigma_r^{max}} \exp\left(-j2\pi f \frac{2R}{c}\right) + noise$$

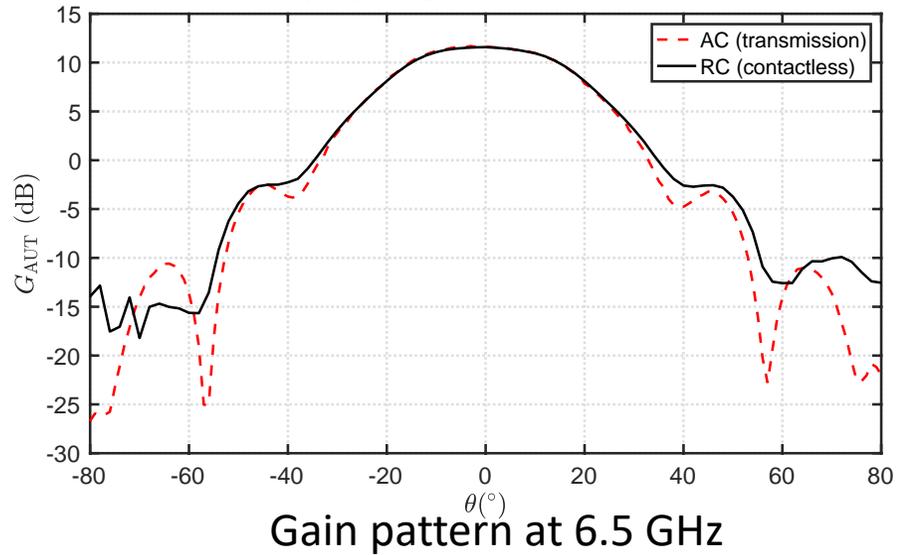


72 stirring positions
+
sinusoidal regression

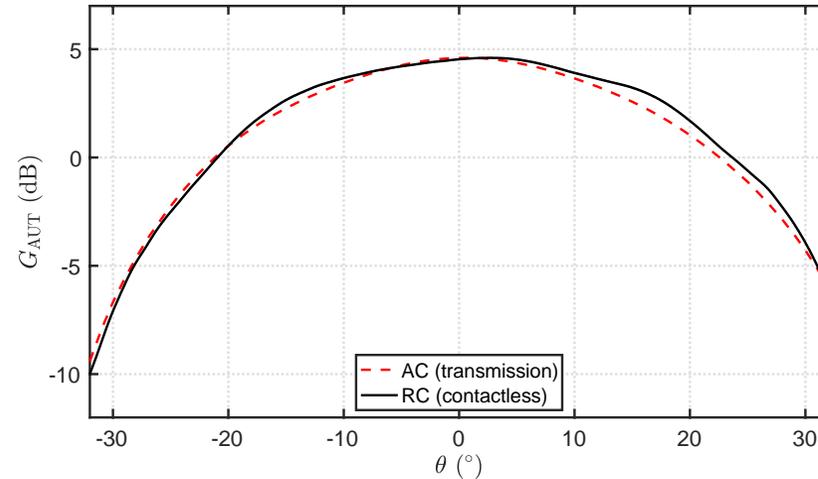


Validation ESYCOM RC 19 m³

Fréquency: [6-7] GHz

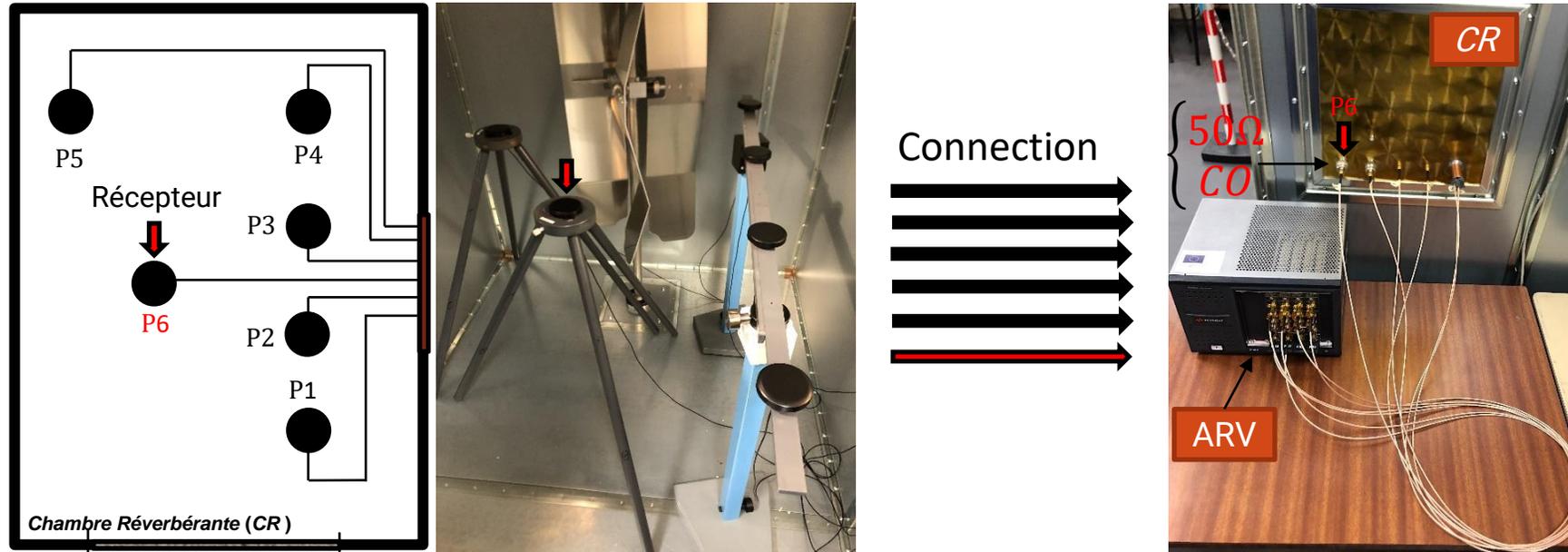


Fréquency: [3-4] GHz

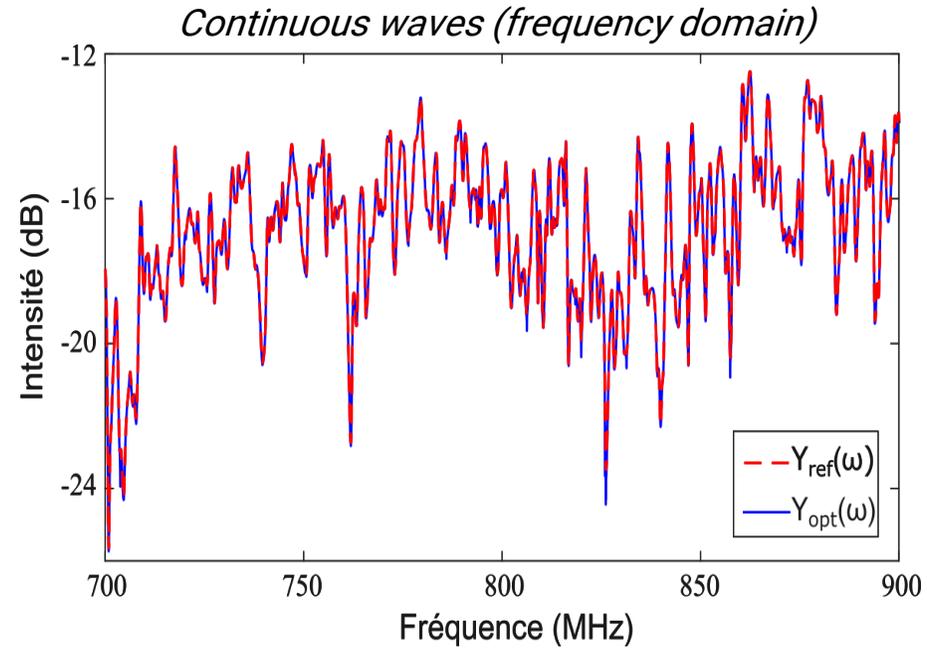


[5] A. Reis, F. Sarrazin, P. Besnier, P. Pouliguen and E. Richalot, "Contactless Antenna Gain Pattern Estimation From Backscattering Coefficient Measurement Performed Within a Reverberation Chamber," in *IEEE Transactions on Antennas and Propagation*, vol. 70, no. 3, pp. 2318-2321, March 2022, doi: 10.1109/TAP.2021.3111184.

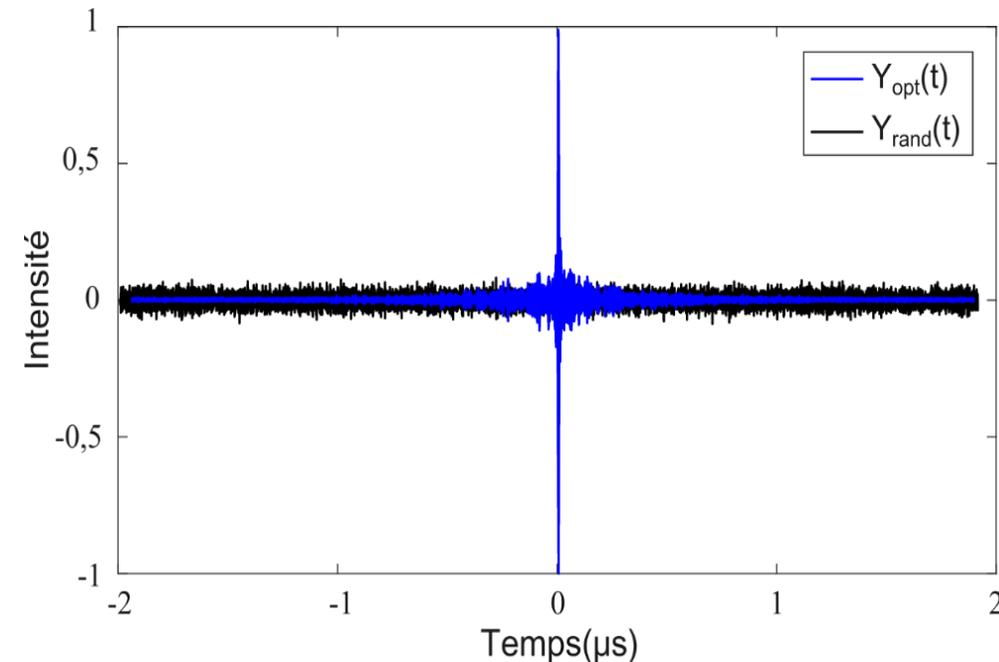
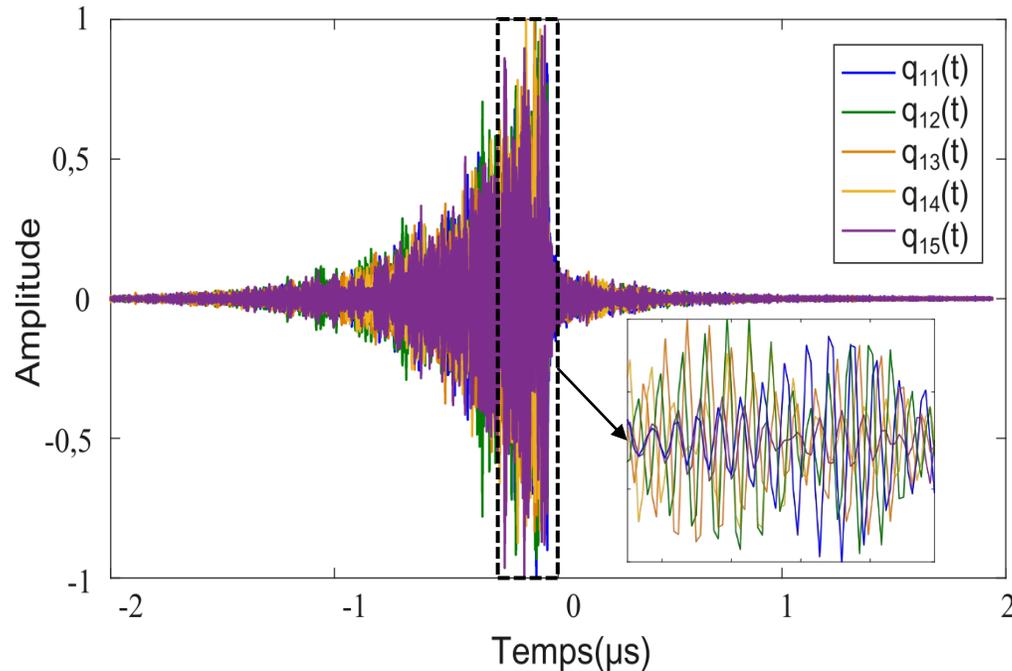
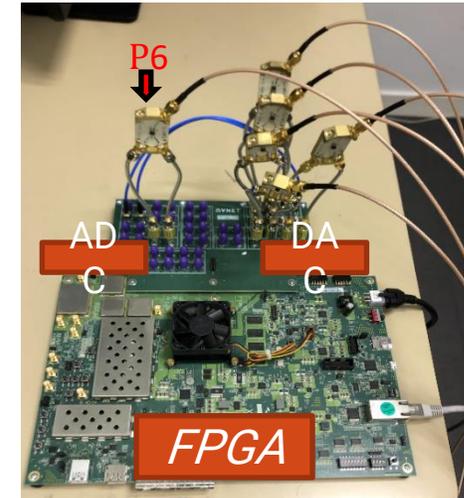
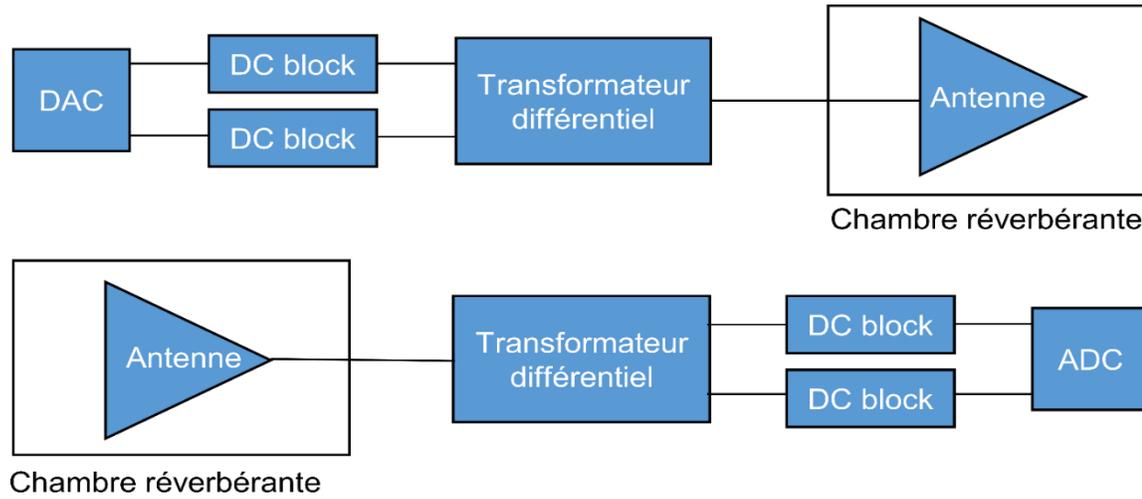
Focalization upon detection of the modification of the backscattered field (opérateur de Wigner-Smith généralisé)



- Impedance modification: 50Ω (S_1) and CO (S_2) $\rightarrow Q_\alpha = -iS_1^{-1}(S_1 - S_2)$
- Diagonalization of $Q_\alpha \rightarrow q_i$ with the highest $|\lambda_i| \rightarrow$ Most sensitive to the change
- Injection de q_i à l'émission \rightarrow focalisation



- $Y_{ref}(\omega) = |\psi_{ref}(\omega)t(\omega)|^2 = \|T\|^2$, PHASE CONJUGATION
- $Y_{opt}(\omega) = |\psi_{opt}(\omega)T(\omega)|^2$, avec $\psi_{opt} = q_1^T$; WSG FOCALIZATION



Reverberation chambers have remarkable properties for radiofrequency test purposes

Its usage extends from EMC applications (historical applications) to various RF applications

- Antennas (efficiency, pattern) including passive antenna measurements
- Dosimetry
- Radar cross section
- Time reversal / focalization experiments

Foreseen applications (research works)

- Improvements of passive antennas characterizations and RCS measurement accuracy
- RIS performance assessment
- Recent ideas for non-invasive shielding effectiveness estimation

PhD offer

Contactless Characterization of Miniature and Buried Antennas Within Reverberation Chambers

Supervision [François Sarrazin](#): Junior Professor Chair at Université de Rennes
[Philippe Besnier](#): Research Director at CNRS

Keywords: Antenna characterization, Miniature antenna, Reverberation chamber

Context: Smart cities rely on the use on wireless sensor networks to ensure monitoring activities for a large panel of applications: structural health, soil composition, air, and water quality... Sensors are therefore either in contact or embedded within a lossy medium such as concrete, soil or water. Such complex environment in the sensor's vicinity implies a degradation of the radio performances, and particularly a decrease in the antenna radiation efficiency. The estimation of such efficiency, critical parameter to limit power consumption, is barely possible with conventional measurement methods in the case of buried and miniature antennas. Indeed, conventional measurement approaches necessitate to connect the antenna under test to an analyzer whereas the presence of the cables in the antenna reactive near-field zone disturbs the radiation and impedance properties [1]. In that context, innovative efficiency measurement methods are required to overcome current limitations of conventional methods.

PhD Offer

Keyboard Compromission Through Electromagnetic Attacks using Wavefront Shaping

Supervision [François Sarrazin](#): Junior Professor Chair at Université de Rennes
[Philippe Besnier](#): Research Director at CNRS

Keywords: Electromagnetic compatibility/cybersecurity, Wave control, Fault-injection

PhD Context: Electromagnetic cybersecurity relates to the use of electromagnetic waves to compromise data. Keyboards are critical targets because they are widely used as a computer peripheral and keystroke retrieval may lead to sensitive information recovery. Various attacks have been proposed to remotely retrieve keystrokes by listening to electromagnetic emanations either in a passive [Vua09] or active [Kaj23] manner using backscattering measurement. However, the feasibility of denial-of-service attacks on computer keyboard remains an open challenge.

