



# IC1301 -WiPE

## Wireless Power Transmission for Sustainable Electronics

Reinventing Wireless with  
Scatter Radio  
for the Internet of Vegetables

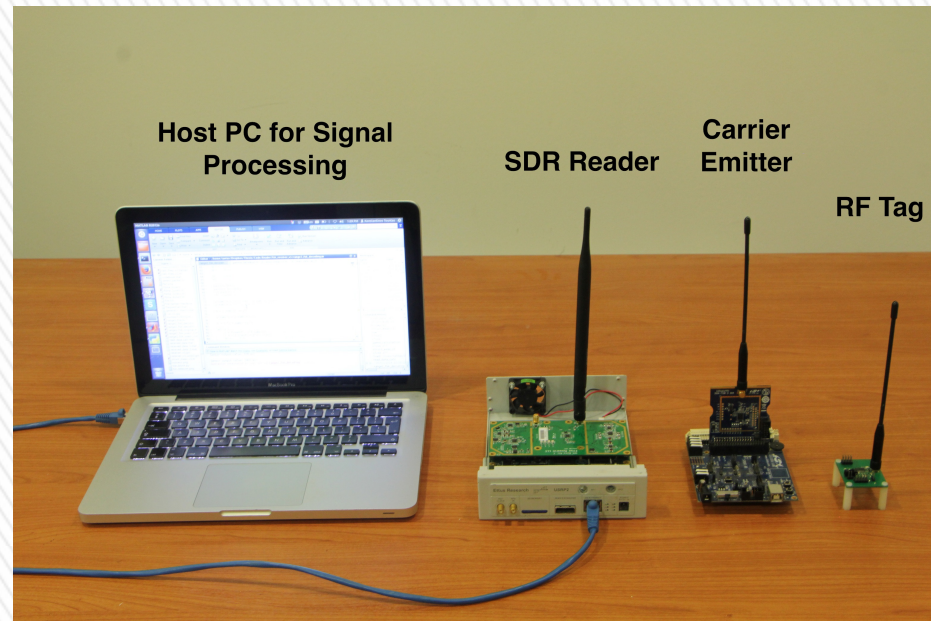
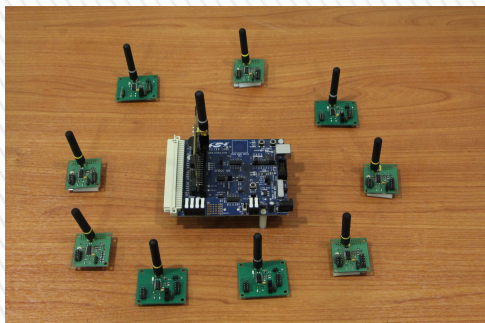
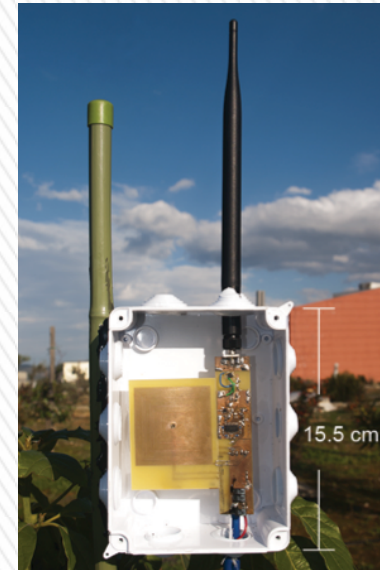


**Aggelos Bletsas**

Associate Professor, School of ECE  
Technical University of Crete

# Agenda

- » Motivation
- » Scatter Radio Advances
- » Applications
- » Conclusion





# Motivation: Networking all plants in a greenhouse/garden/field!

## Why?

- Water saving:  
precise irrigation.
- Plant health monitoring:  
precision agriculture.



## Challenge?

- Reduce cost (in \$\$\$ and Joules) of wireless networking.



## State-of-the-Art (2013) Commercial (French) Technology...

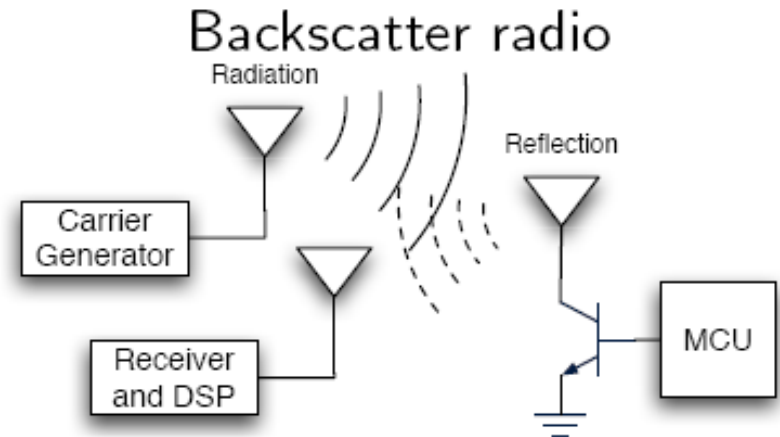
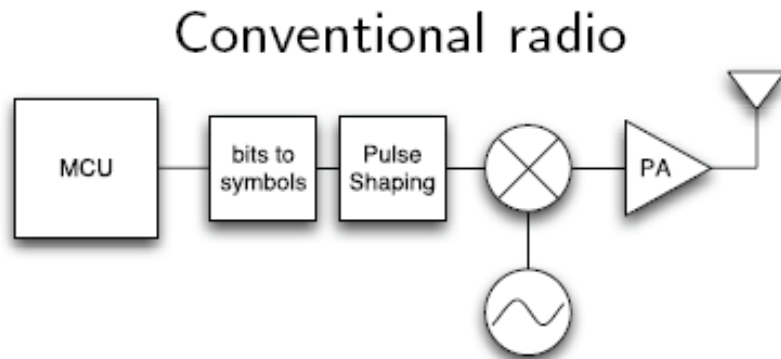


- Humidity, temperature and sunlight to mobile (Bluetooth).
- Problem: what about 10000 plants?





# Approach: Backscatter or Scatter (Reflection) Radio



- Conventional Radio Transmitter:  
filters, mixers, amplifiers...
- ~20mA (60mW), 100m – 1km range.
- Backscatter Radio Transmitter:  
just 1 (transistor) switch! [1]
- less than 0.6mA, range???



# Scatter Radio Signal Model

- Flexible, general notation: monostatic or bistatic...

$$h_{CR}(t) \triangleq a_{CR} \delta(t - \tau_{CR})$$

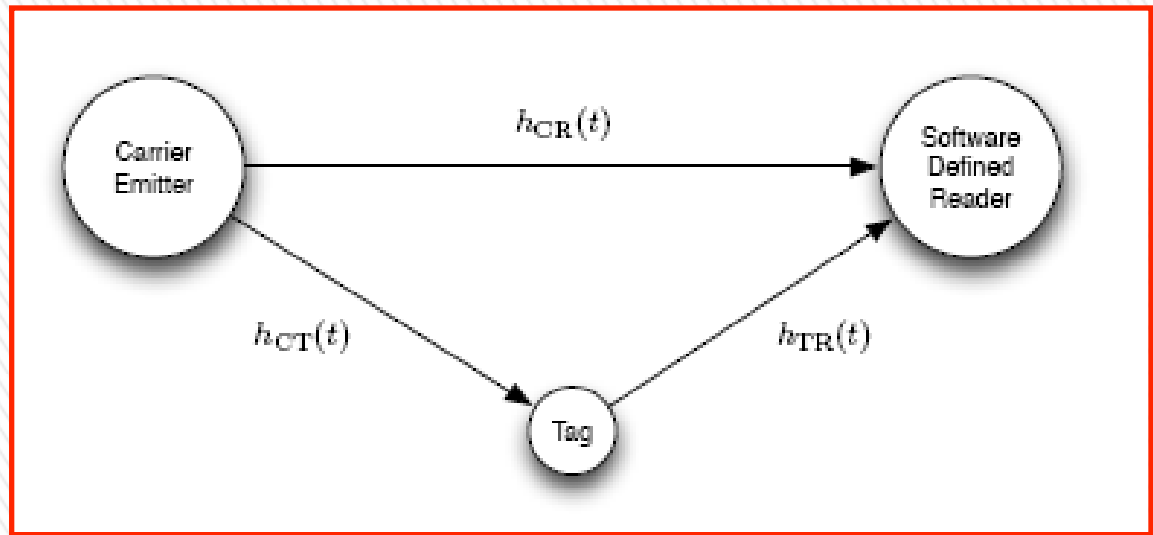
$$h_{CT}(t) \triangleq a_{CT} \delta(t - \tau_{CT})$$

$$h_{TR}(t) \triangleq a_{TR} \delta(t - \tau_{TR})$$

$$\phi_{CR} \triangleq 2\pi F_c \tau_{CR}$$

$$\phi_{CT} \triangleq 2\pi F_c \tau_{CT}$$

$$\phi_{TR} \triangleq 2\pi F_c \tau_{TR}$$



CFO  $\Delta F \neq 0$  bistatic,  $\Delta F = 0$  monostatic

$$y(t) \triangleq I(t) + jQ(t)$$

$$= \frac{A}{2} [a_{CR} e^{-j\hat{\phi}_{CR}} + a_{CT} a_{TR} s(x(t - \tau_{TR})) e^{-j\hat{\phi}_{CTR}}] e^{-j2\pi\Delta F t} + n(t)$$

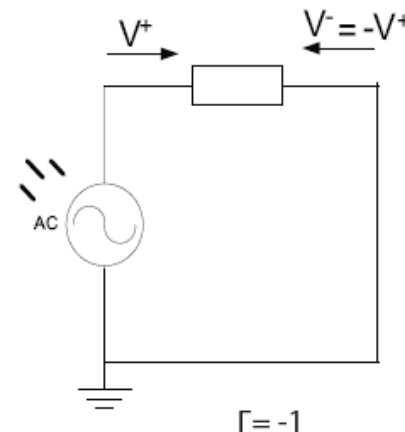
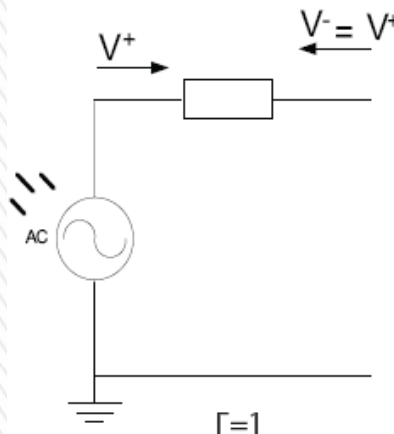
$$\hat{\phi}_{CR} \triangleq \phi_{CR} + \phi_R, \quad \hat{\phi}_{CTR} \triangleq \phi_{CT} + \phi_{TR} + \phi_R$$





# Tag Modulation with Reflection: Example

- Simplest case:  
open and  
short-circuit load.

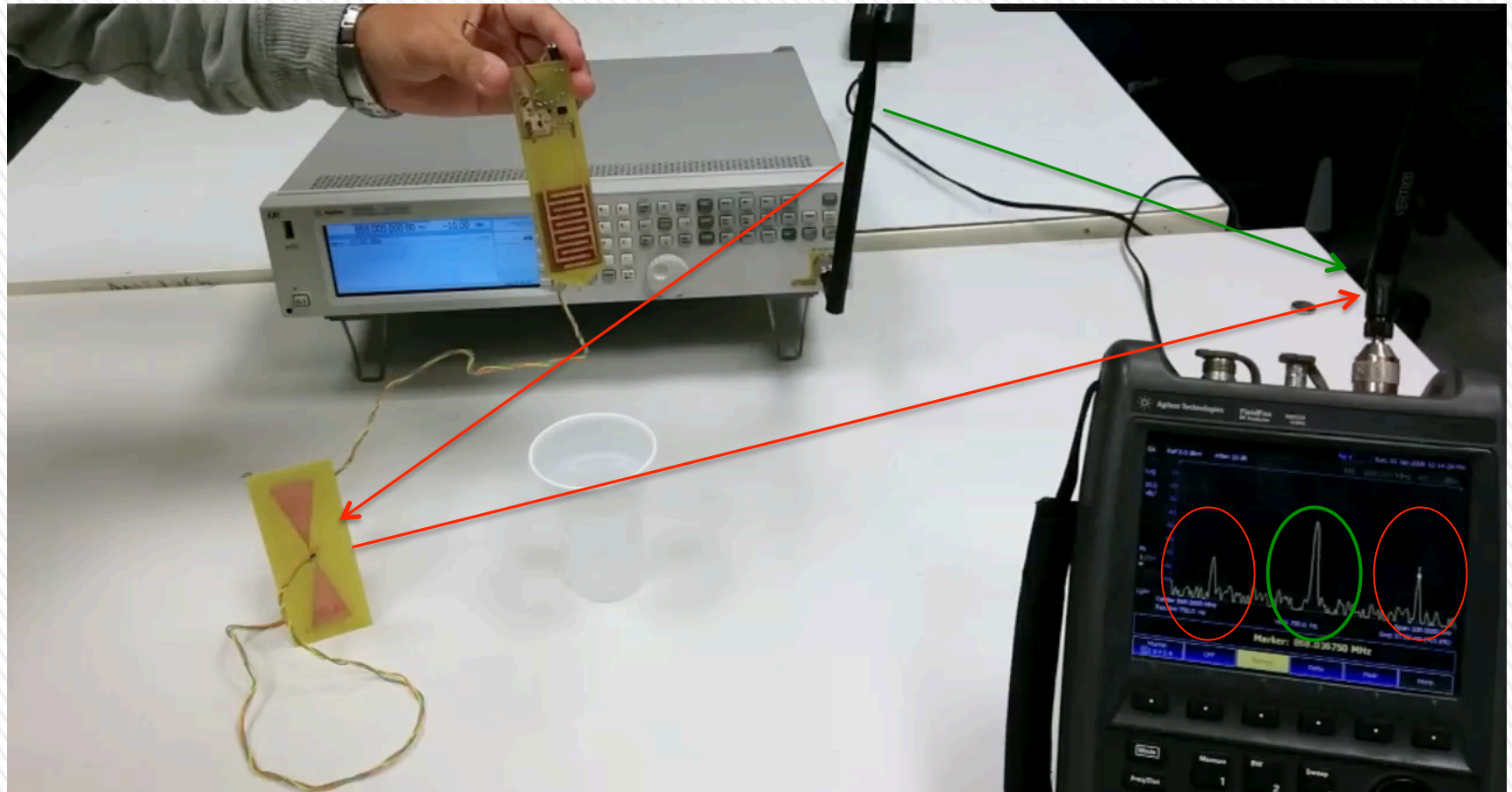


$$\Gamma = 1 : y(t) = +A \cos(2\pi f_c t + \phi_0) = A \cos(2\pi f_c t + \phi_0 + 2\pi),$$
$$\Gamma = -1 : y(t) = -A \cos(2\pi f_c t + \phi_0) = A \cos(2\pi f_c t + \phi_0 + \pi),$$
$$\Rightarrow y(t) = A \cos(2\pi f_c t + \phi_0 + m(t))$$

- OOK: switch and stay at each load for bit duration (**Gen2**).
- FSK: switch between the loads with different switching freq. per symbol.
- Different loads may offer both amplitude and phase modulation at PASSBAND (carrier) signal!



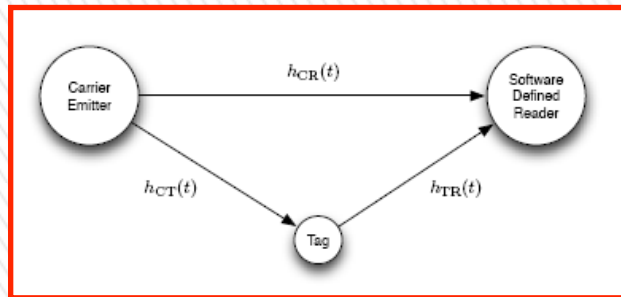
# Tag Modulation with Reflection: Freq. Modulation Example



- Switch between two loads at frequency  $F$ : how many freqs are reflected?
- Answer:  $F_c \pm F$  (and not just  $F_c + F$  or  $F_c - F$ )!
- FSK:  $\pm F_0$  for bit '0',  $\pm F_1$  for bit '1' (need for 4 matched filters, not 2)!



# Tag Modulation with Reflection Models



CFO due to bistatic

$$y(t) \triangleq I(t) + jQ(t) = \frac{A}{2} [a_{CR} e^{-j\hat{\phi}_{CR}} + a_{CT}a_{TRS} x(t - \tau_{TR}) e^{-j\hat{\phi}_{CTR}}] e^{-j2\pi\Delta Ft} + n(t)$$

OOK

$$x(t) = \left(A_s - \frac{\Gamma_0 + \Gamma_1}{2}\right) + \frac{\Gamma_0 - \Gamma_1}{2} \sum_{n=0}^{N-1} x_n \Pi(t - nT)$$

$$x_n \in \{-1, +1\}$$

FSK

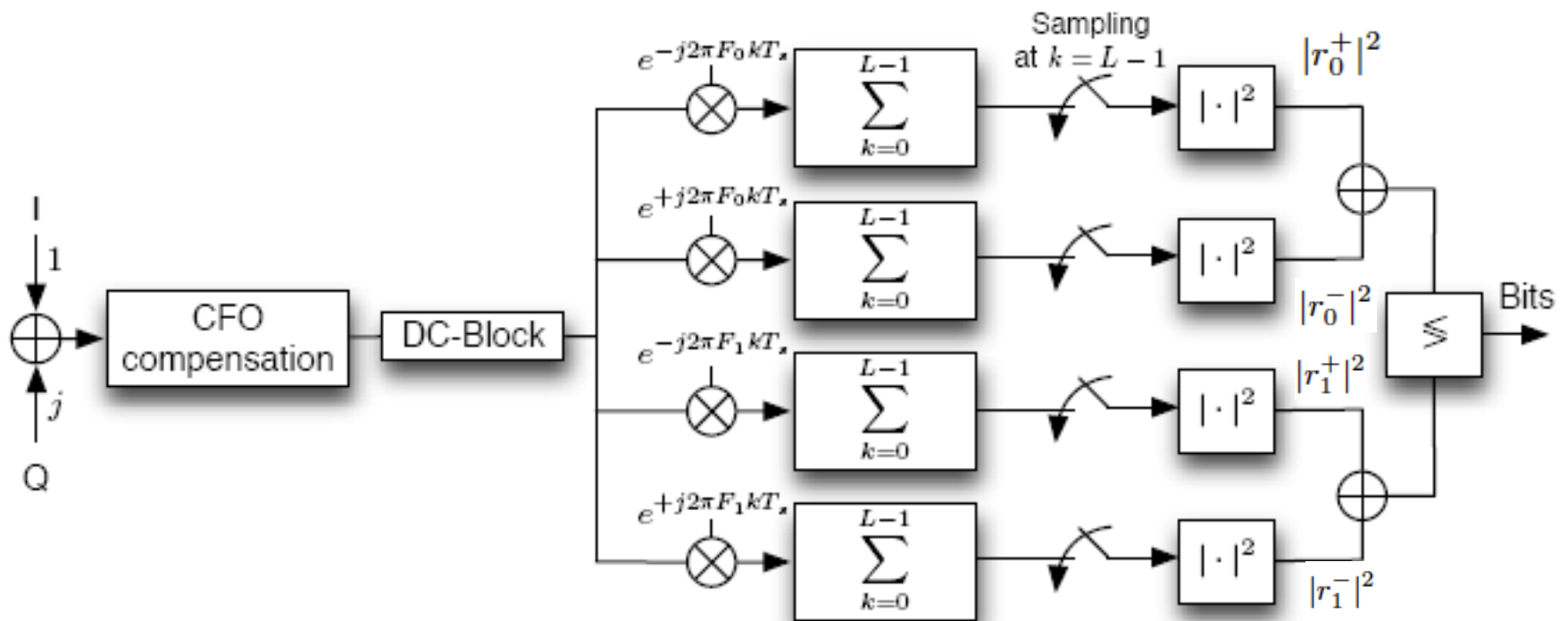
$$x(t) = \left(A_s - \frac{\Gamma_0 + \Gamma_1}{2}\right) + \frac{\Gamma_0 - \Gamma_1}{2} b_i(t), \quad i = 0, 1$$

$$b_i(t) = \frac{4}{\pi} \sum_{k=0}^{+\infty} \frac{1}{2k+1} \cos[(2k+1)(2\pi F_i t + \Phi)]$$

cosine models  $\pm$  switching freqs. ( $\pm F_0$  for bit '0',  $\pm F_1$  for bit '1')



# Non-coherent Binary FSK scatter radio reception



$$z_0 \triangleq |r_0^+|^2 + |r_0^-|^2 \stackrel{\text{bit 0}}{\geq} |r_1^+|^2 + |r_1^-|^2 \triangleq z_1$$

- Non-coherent design, tailored to backscatter signal model...
- no 3dB loss compared to classic radio binary FSK (BFSK) receivers [1], [5], [26]





# Non-coherent sequence (FEC-coded) BFSK scatter radio reception

- Could small-block length forward error correction (FEC) improve performance? ...need for sequence  $\mathbf{c}$  detection!

$$\hat{\mathbf{c}} = \arg \max_{\mathbf{c} \in \mathcal{C}} \mathbb{E}_{\Phi_0, \Phi_1} \left[ \max_{\mathbf{h} \in \mathbb{C}^N} \ln (f_{\mathbf{r}_{1:N} | \mathbf{c}, \mathbf{h}, \Phi_0, \Phi_1}(\mathbf{r}_{1:N} | \mathbf{c}, \mathbf{h}, \Phi_0, \Phi_1)) \right]$$

- Composite Hypothesis Testing above, can be simplified under mild assumptions, to the problem below [10]:

$$\hat{\mathbf{c}} = \arg \max_{\mathbf{c} \in \mathcal{C}} \mathbf{w} \mathbf{c}^T$$

$$\mathbf{w} = [w(1) \ w(2) \ \dots \ w(N)] \triangleq \{z_1(n) - z_0(n)\}_{n=1}^N, \quad z_i(n) \triangleq |r_i^+(n)|^2 + |r_i^-(n)|^2, \quad i \in \mathbb{B}$$

- Soft-decision metrics  $\mathbf{w}$  is the key; other solutions tested in [8] :

$$\{w(i)\}_{i=1}^{N_{\text{TOT}}} \triangleq \left\{ \ln \left( \frac{z_0(i)}{z_1(i)} \right) \right\}_{i=1}^{N_{\text{TOT}}}$$

- Finally, GLRT-optimal loglinear complexity sequence detection in flat fading for orthogonal signals was presented in [11].



# Is coherent scatter radio (coded or not) BFSK reception possible?

$$\underbrace{\begin{bmatrix} r_0^+ \\ r_0^- \\ r_1^+ \\ r_1^- \end{bmatrix}}_{\mathbf{r}} = \underbrace{\begin{bmatrix} \frac{\sqrt{T}h_{\text{CTR}}}{2}e^{+j\Phi_0} \\ \frac{\sqrt{T}h_{\text{CTR}}}{2}e^{-j\Phi_0} \\ \frac{\sqrt{T}h_{\text{CTR}}}{2}e^{+j\Phi_1} \\ \frac{\sqrt{T}h_{\text{CTR}}}{2}e^{-j\Phi_1} \end{bmatrix}}_{\mathbf{h}} \odot \underbrace{\begin{bmatrix} (1-b_i) \\ (1-b_i) \\ b_i \\ b_i \end{bmatrix}}_{\mathbf{s}_{b_i}} + \underbrace{\begin{bmatrix} n_0^+ \\ n_0^- \\ n_1^+ \\ n_1^- \end{bmatrix}}_{\mathbf{n}}$$

$$\Leftrightarrow \mathbf{r} = \mathbf{h} \odot \mathbf{s}_{b_i} + \mathbf{n}$$

- YES! All unknowns can be squeezed under mild assumptions in a single 4x1 complex vector  $\mathbf{h}$  [26] [9] that can be estimated with LS technique!

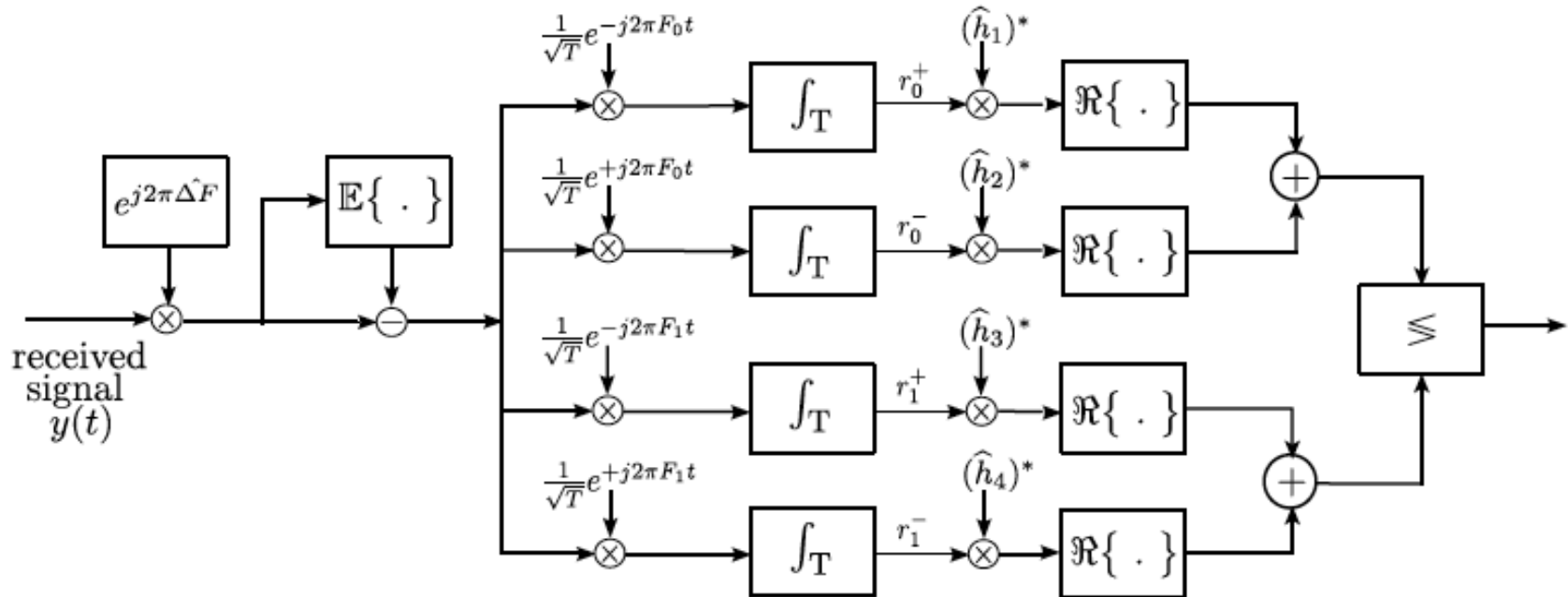
$$\mathbf{h} = [h_1 \ h_2 \ h_3 \ h_4]^T$$

$$\mathbf{n} = [n_0^+ \ n_0^- \ n_1^+ \ n_1^-]^T \sim \mathcal{CN}\left(\mathbf{0}_4, \frac{N_0}{2}\mathbf{I}_4\right)$$

$$h_{\text{CTR}} = m_{\text{CTR}}e^{-j\phi_{\text{CTR}}},$$

$$m_{\text{CTR}} = \frac{2\sqrt{2P_c}}{\pi} s |\Gamma_0 - \Gamma_1| a_{\text{CT}} a_{\text{TR}}, \quad \phi_{\text{CTR}} = \phi_{\text{CT}} + \phi_{\text{TR}} + \phi_R + \angle(\Gamma_0 - \Gamma_1)$$

# Coherent Binary FSK scatter radio reception



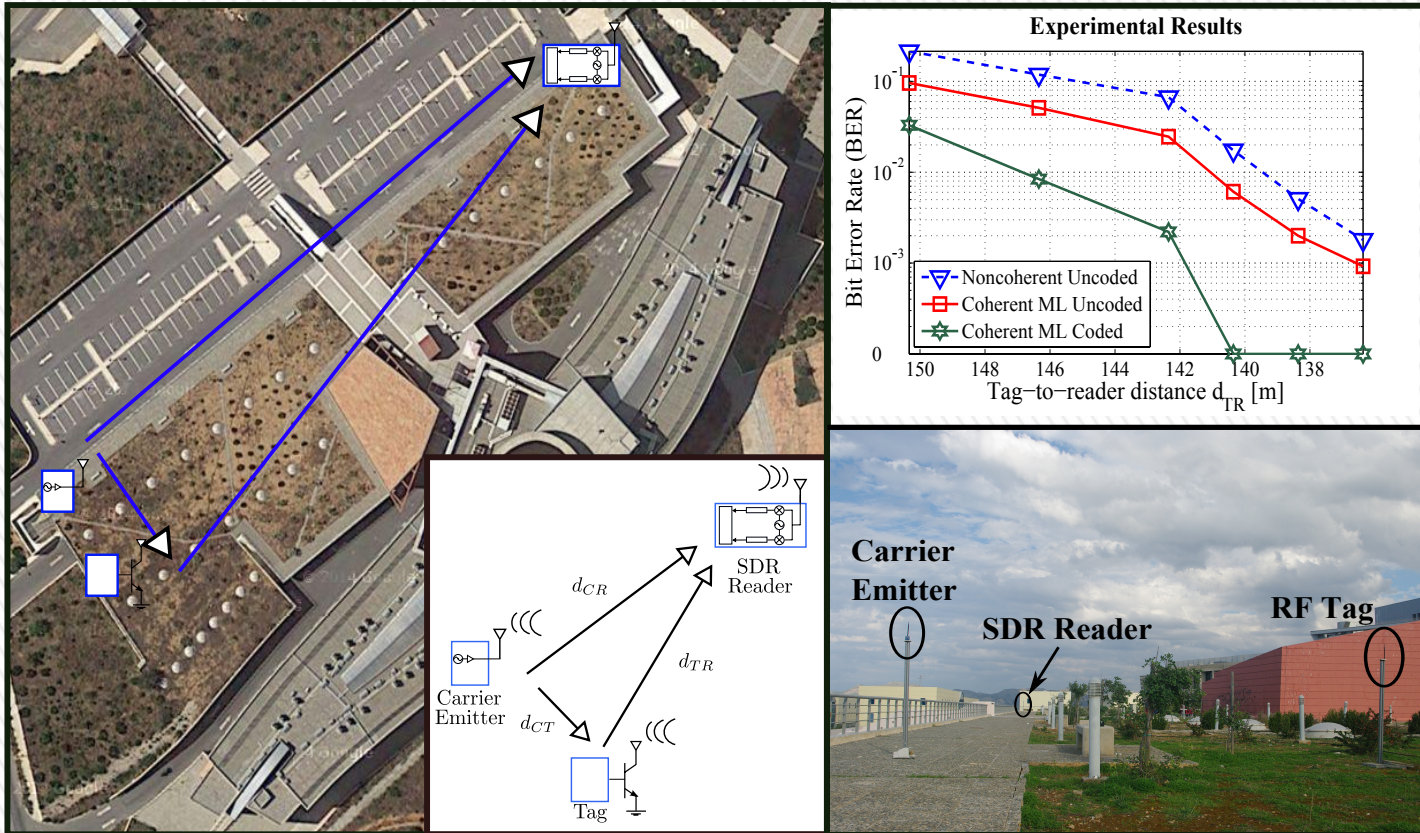
$$b_i^{\text{ML}} = \underset{b_i \in \{0,1\}}{\text{argmax}} \exp \left\{ -\frac{2}{N_0} \left\| \mathbf{r} - \hat{\mathbf{h}} \odot \mathbf{s}_{b_i} \right\|_2^2 \right\}$$

$$\Leftrightarrow \Re \left( (\hat{h}_1)^* r_0^+ + (\hat{h}_2)^* r_0^- \right) \stackrel{\text{bit 0}}{\geq} \Re \left( (\hat{h}_3)^* r_1^+ + (\hat{h}_4)^* r_1^- \right)$$

- Estimation of  $\mathbf{h}$  with preambles and Least Squares.
- Minimum distance receiver has been extended to coded (sequence) setups [26] [9]!



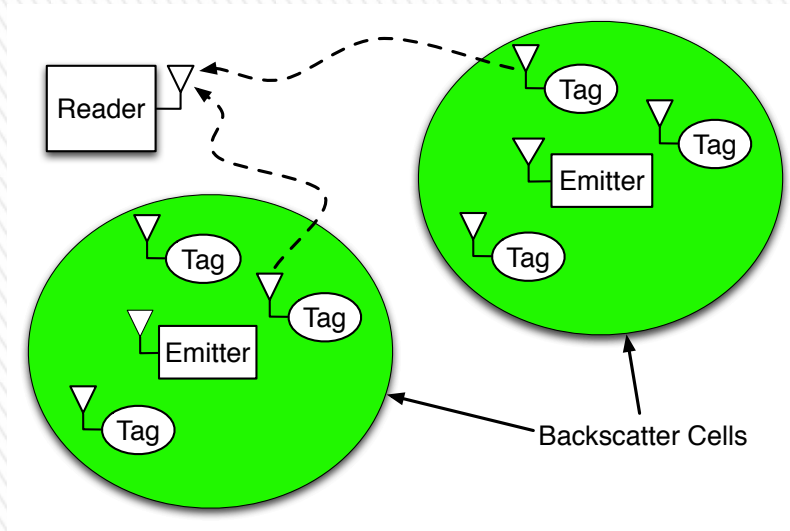
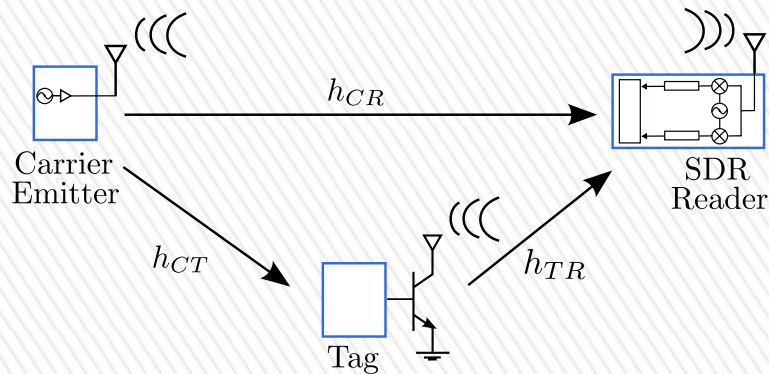
# State-of-the-art Scatter Radio Technology: Range is not an issue!



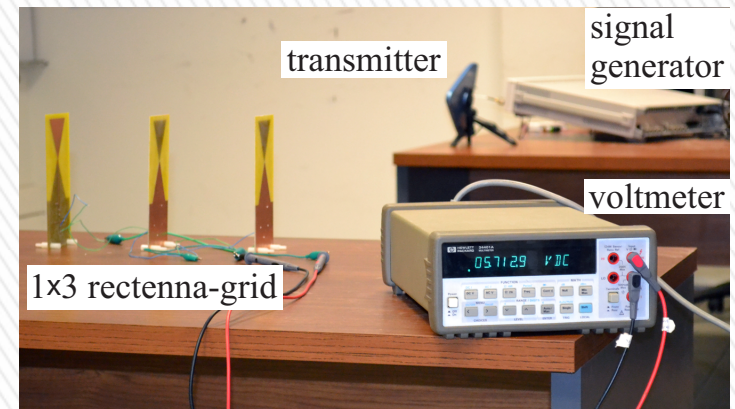
- Analog & Digital tags, with or without FEC, coherent or non-coherent scatter radio – Tesla, Marconi, Gallagher and Proakis should be very proud!



# Scatter Radio Sensor Networking Advances

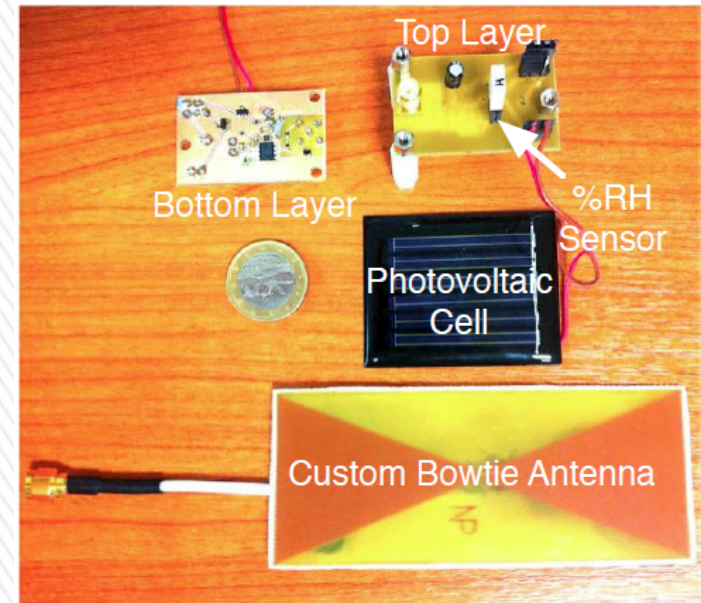
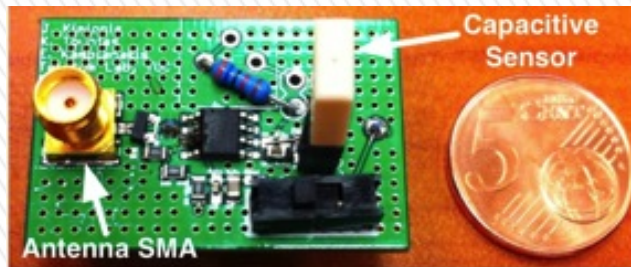
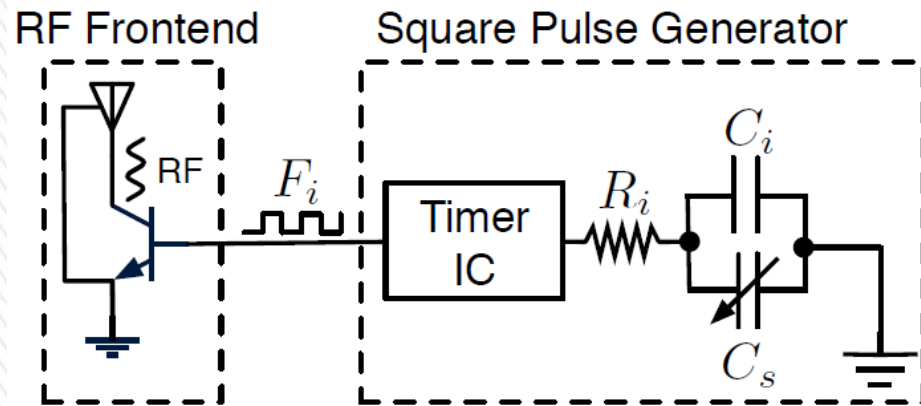


- Network advances [2]-[5]
- Detection and FEC advances (digital tags) [5]-[11], [26]
- Joint radio & sensor design (analog tags) [9]-[15]
- RF/Microwave scatter radio advances [16]-[20]
- RF harvesting advances [21]-[22]
- Energy harvesting advances (biologic batteries)
- Sensing advances [13]-[15]





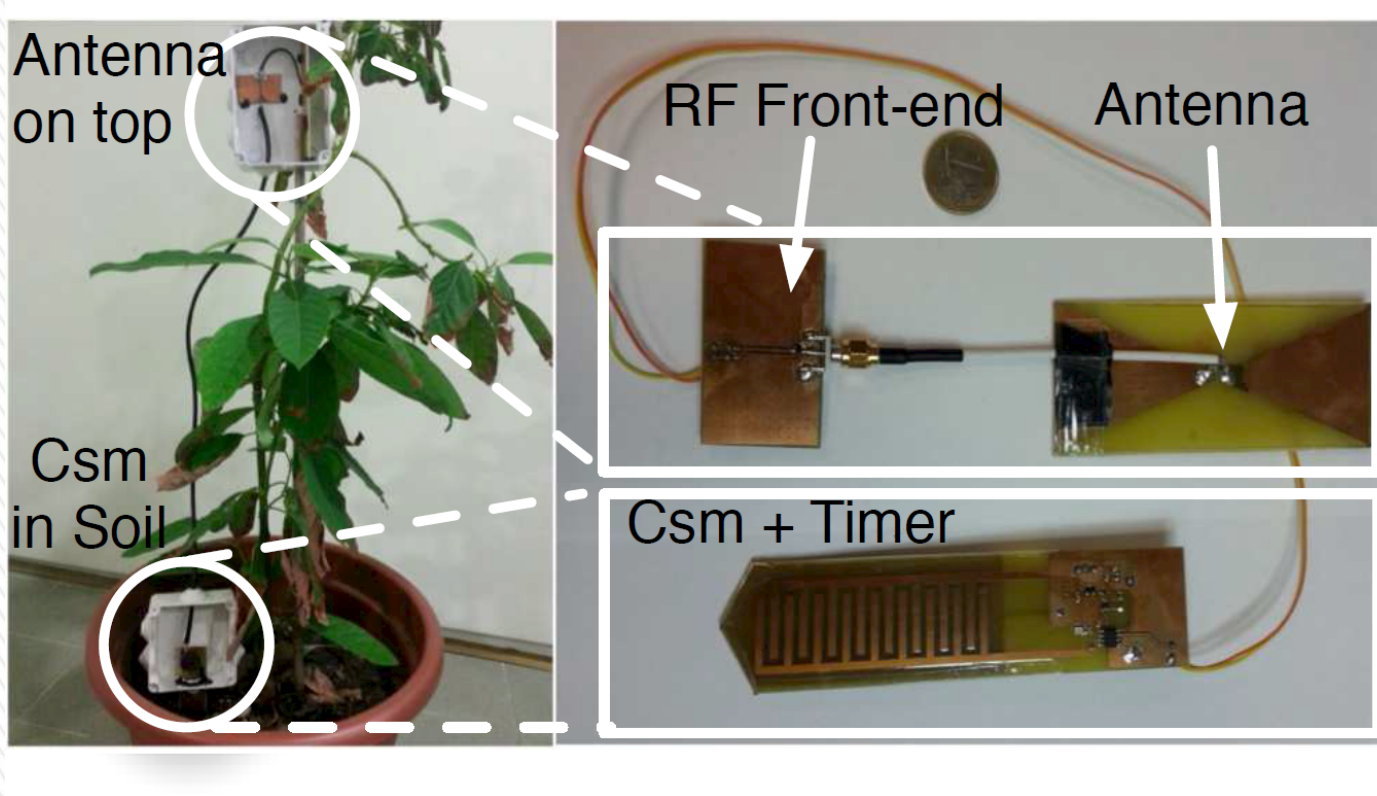
# Application Example 1: Analog Environmental Humidity Sensing



- Principle: convert capacitor changes to backscattered freq [12], [14]!
- Cost ~3€ (quantity of 1), Power 220 $\mu$ Watt, RMS 1-2% RH.
- Simple Networking (FDMA).



## Application Example 2: Soil Moisture Sensing



- Principle: convert capacitor changes to backscattered freq [15]!
- Cost ~5€ (quantity of 1), Power ~100 $\mu$ Watt, RMS 1.9% SM.
- Simple Networking (FDMA).



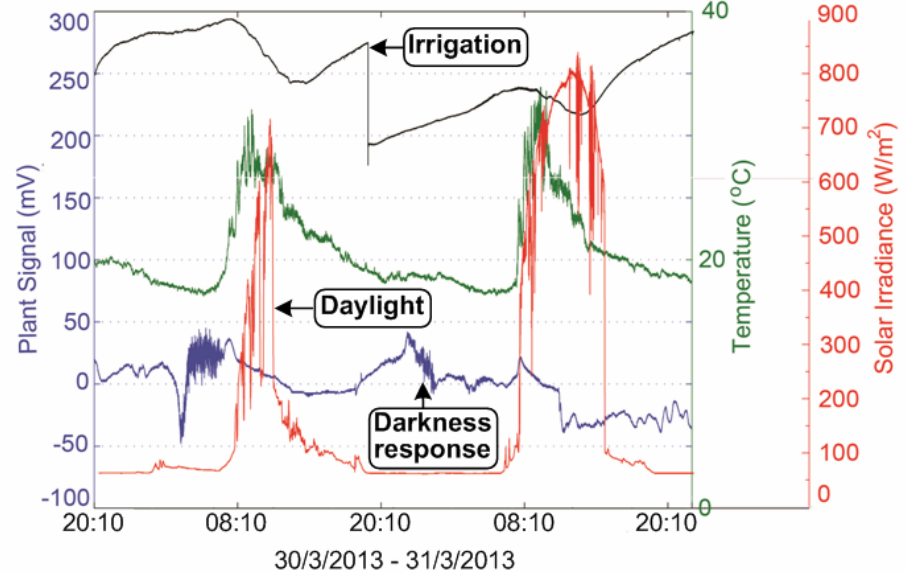
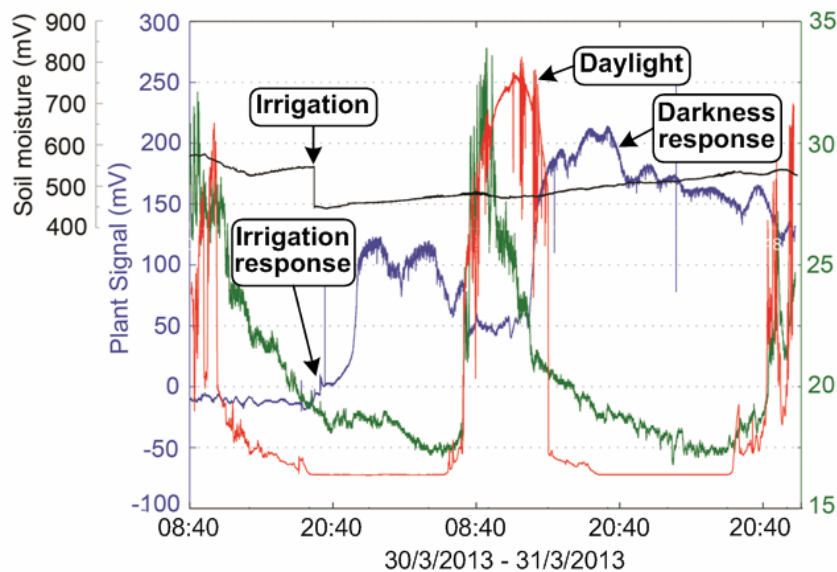


# Application Example 3: Plant is the Sensor!



Avocado tree

Orange tree



➤ Plant Electric Potential (EP): A LOT OF INFO [13]!



# Conclusion

- Extended-range Scatter Radio Sensor Networking (even for Internet of Vegetables) is FEASIBLE!
- Scatter radio modulation at PASSBAND requires careful redesign of receivers.
- Both coherent and non-coherent reception (coded or uncoded) is possible.
- Comparison of coded non-coherent vs coherent is available [10].
- Problems appeared in scatter radio helped us solve sequence detection problems in conventional radio (useful in sat and underwater com).
- Experimental scatter radio networks are already a reality.

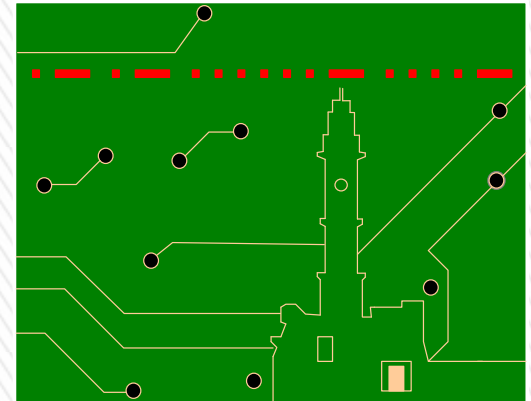


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Assoc. Prof. Aggelos Bletsas

[aggelos@telecom.tuc.gr](mailto:aggelos@telecom.tuc.gr)

[www.telecom.tuc.gr/~aggelos](http://www.telecom.tuc.gr/~aggelos)



**Big THANK YOU**  
to my students and colleagues!

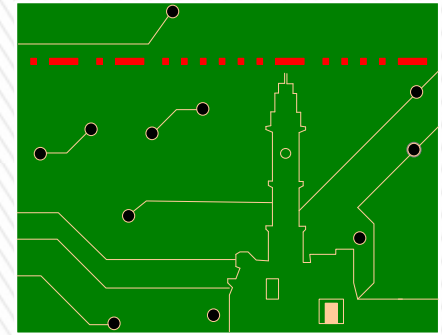
**Backscatter Networks for Large-Scale Environmental Sensing**

This work was supported by the **ERC-04-BLASE** project ("**Backscatter Networks for Large-scale Environmental Sensing**"), executed in the context of the Education & Lifelong Learning Program of General Secretariat for Research & Technology (GSRT) and funded through European Union-European Social Fund and national funds.





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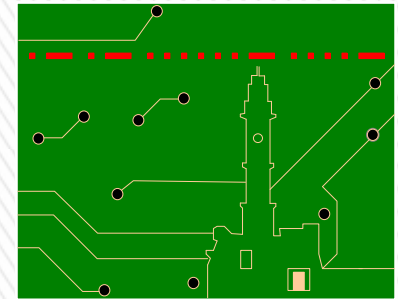
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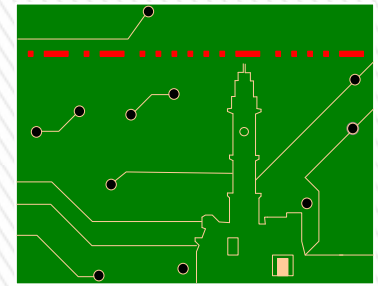
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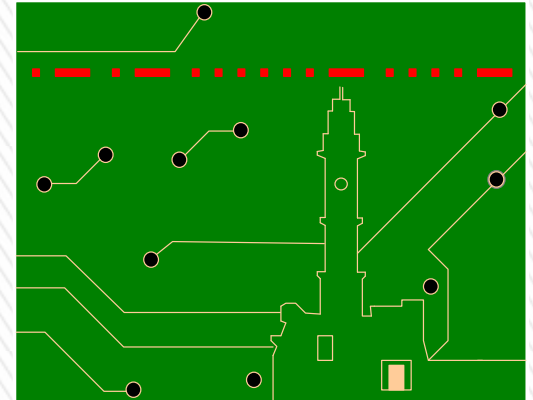
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# Time for a small DEMO Video of a digital scatter radio network!

