

#### 8th Internationally Participated Congress On Particle Accelerators And Applications (UPHUK VIII)

#### RF powering for accelerators eric.montesinos@cern.ch

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## **RF** Powering



(Very important for all projects)

# Outlook

RF power amplifiers for accelerators Grid Tubes Klystrons Inductive Output Tubes (IOT) Transistors (LDMOS) Combiners

RF power lines Wave Guides Coaxial lines Circulators

#### FPC

#### Efficiency

#### **RF** Power Amplifier



# RF power source classification



# RF power source classification



## Grid tubes

- 1904 Diode, John Ambrose Fleming
- 1906 Audion (first triode), Lee de Forest
- 1912 Triode as amplifier, Fritz Lowenstein
- 1913 Triode 'higher vacuum', Harold Arnold
- 1915 first transcontinental telephone line, Bell
- 1916 Tetrode, Walter Schottky
- 1926 Pentode, Bernardus Tellegen
- 1994 Diacrode, Thales Electron Devices



The first diode prototype Fleming Diode, 1904



Thales TH 628 diacrode, 1998







#### Triode

- Modulating the grid voltage proportionally modulates the anode current
- Transconductance
  - Voltage at the grid
  - Current at the anode
- Limitations
  - Parasitic capacitor Anode/g1 Tendency to oscillate



#### **Tetrode** RS 2004 CERN SPS example



#### CERN SPS, RS 2004 Tetrode (very) simplified bloc diagram

#### **Tetrode** RS 2004 CERN SPS amplifier @ 200 MHz



CERN SPS, RS 2004 Tetrode, Trolley (single amplifier), and transmitter (combination of amplifiers) Two transmitters of eight tubes delivering 2 x 1 MW @ 200 MHz, into operation since 1976

#### Tetrodes & Diacrodes available from industry



# RF power source classification



### Linear beam tubes

- 1937 Klystron, Russell & Sigurd Variant
- 1938 IOT, Andrew V. Haeff
- 1939 Reflex klystron, Robert Sutton
- 1940 Few commercial IOT
- 1941 Magnetron, Randall & Boot
- 1945 Helix Travelling Wave Tube (TWT), Kompfner
- 1948 Multi MW klystron
- 1959 Gyrotron, Twiss & Schneider
- 1963 Multi Beam Klystron, Zusmanovsky and Korolyov
- 1980 High efficiency IOT



Russell & Sigurd Varian klystron, 1937



Thales TH 1802, 2002



Klystrons velocity modulation converts the kinetic energy into radio frequency power Vacuum tube Electron gun Thermionic cathode Anode Electron beam Drift space Collector e- constant speed until the collector



Cavity resonators RF input cavity (Buncher) modulates e- velocity Some are accelerated Some are neutral Some are decelerated Bunching the e-



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#### Bunching of e- beam in a klystron

Cavity resonators RF input cavity (Buncher) modulates e- velocity Some are accelerated Some are neutral Some are decelerated Bunching the e-RF output cavity (Catcher) Resonating at the same frequency as the input cavity At the place with the numerous number of e-Kinetic energy converted into voltage and extracted



Additional bunching cavities Resonate with the prebunched electrons beam Generate an additional accelerating/decelerating field Better bunching Gain 10 dB per cavity Focusing magnets

To maintain the e- beam as expected and where expected

#### Klystron TH 2167 CERN LHC @ 400 MHz





CERN LHC, TH 2167 klystron in lab and in UX45 cavern 16 klystrons delivering 330 kW @ 400 MHz, into operation since 2008

#### Klystrons available from industry



# RF power source classification



## **Essentials of IOT**



IOT density modulation converts the kinetic energy into radio frequency power Vacuum tube Triode input Thermionic cathode Grid modulates e- emission Klystron output Anode accelerates e- buckets Short drift tube & magnets Catcher cavity Collector

#### **IOT** TH 795 CERN SPS @ 800 MHz





CERN SPS, TH 795 IOT, Trolley (single amplifier), and transmitter (combination of amplifiers) Two transmitters of four tubes delivering 2 x 240 kW @ 801 MHz, into operation since 2014

#### IOT available from industry

◆ peak < 10 ms ▲ CW</p> 1000 Power per single tube kW Possible even if possible even if requested yet 100 10 200 400 800 1000 1200 0 600 1400 **Frequency MHz** 

# RF power source classification



## Transistor for RF power

- 1925 theory, Julius Edgar Lilienfeld
- 1947 Germanium US first transistor, John Bardeen, Walter Brattain, William Shockley
- 1948 Germanium European first transistor, Herbert Mataré and Heinrich Welker
- 1953 first high-frequency transistor, Philco
- 1954 Silicon transistor, Morris Tanenbaum
- 1960 MOS, Kahng and Atalla
- 1966 Gallium arsenide (GaAs)
- 1980 VDMOS

. . .

- 1989 Silicon-Germanium (SiGe)
- 1990 Gallium Nitrade (GaN)
- 1997 Silicon carbide (SiC)
- 2004 Graphene (GFET)
- 20xx



First transistor invented at BELL labs in 1947



### Essentials of RF transistor



In a push-pull circuit the RF signal is applied to two devices

One of the devices is active on the positive voltage swing and off during the negative voltage swing The other device works in the opposite manner so that the two devices conduct half the time The full RF signal is then amplified

Two different type of devices

### Essentials of RF transistor



Another push-pull configuration is to use a balun (balancedunbalanced)

> it acts as a power splitter, equally dividing the input power between the two transistors

the balun keeps one port in phase and inverts the second port in phase

Since the signals are out of phase only one device is on at a time

This configuration is easier to manufacture since only one type of device is required

#### Essentials of RF transistor



#### NXP Semiconductors AN11325 2-way Doherty amplifier with BLF888A

#### Transistors available from industry

▲ CW Power per single transistor **Frequency MHz** 

# **Combiners & Splitters**

RF power combiners and RF power splitters are the same items





Resistive power splitters & Combiners Cheap and easy to build Use of resistor to maintain the impedance Power limitation and losses induces by the resistors (→ not used in high power)

Hybrid power splitters & Combiners Use RF lines Low levels of loss Limitation by the size of the lines
### **Combiners & Splitters**

3 dB phase combiner



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With correct input phases

$$\Sigma = \frac{P_1 + P_2}{2} + \sqrt{P_1 P_2}$$
$$\Delta = \frac{P_1 + P_2}{2} - \sqrt{P_1 P_2}$$

Correctly adjusting the phase and the gain, P1 = P2 = P

$$\Sigma = \frac{P+P}{2} + \sqrt{PP} = 2 P$$

$$\Delta = \frac{P+P}{2} - \sqrt{PP} = 0$$

### **Combiners & Splitters**



### CERN SPS 64 to 1 combiner @ 200 MHz

## **Combiners & Splitters**

Low loss T-Junction



With  $Z_{\lambda/4} = Zc \sqrt{N}$ We have a N-ways splitter





160 to 1 @ 352 MHz T-junction combiner

### Transistors SOLEIL @ 352 MHz and ESRF @ 352 MHz



### SOLEIL 45 kW @ 352 MHz solid state amplifier towers (2004 & 2007)

ESRF four 150 kW @ 352 MHz solid state amplifiers (2012)

## Combining system





3 dB combiner 32 x 35 kW to 1 x 1 MW (~ 50 m<sup>2</sup>)







CC (Cavity Combiner) 144 x 1 kW to 1 x 144 kW



VHPCC (Very High Power Cavity Combiner) 16 x 70 kW to 1 x 1 MW (~ 3 m<sup>2</sup>)

# Combining system

In order to ensure 100 % availability, your combining system will define the number 'Base units'



$$Pout = \frac{A1 + A2}{2} + \sqrt{A1 \cdot A2}$$

In order to perform the same **12 x Base Unit**, with the same 2 Base unit tolerance, with a cavity combiner, you need only **14 x Base Unit instead of 16** 



Pout = nA1

# Combining system granularity

• In order to ensure 100 % availability, your *Granularity* will define the number 'Module units' and 'Base units'



So, in order to be 100 % available, this system composed of 16 x Base Units, is in fact a **9 x Base Unit**  In order to perform the same **9 x Base Unit**, with the same 1 Module unit tolerance, with a cavity combiner and keeping the Base unit granularity, you need only **10 x Base Unit instead of 16** 



Pout = nA1

### 'Young' technology for HPRF in 100 kW to MW range



CERN SPS Thales Solid State Power Amplifiers, 32 towers x 144 kW @ 200 MHz, combined into 2 x 2 MW amplifiers, into operation since 2021

### Transistors available from industry

▲ CW **Frequency MHz** 

Power per 100 transistors kW

### Power density





including power supplies and combining systems AND granularity providing **100 %** availability !

Power density  $(f) = Power density_{200 MHz} \sqrt{200/f}$ 

Approximation, given the fact that transistors deliver less with respect to frequency, and taking into account a smaller combining system size





ESRF 150 kW @ 352 MHz 2012 Power density 6.5 kW m<sup>-3</sup>

CERN 160 kW @ 200 MHz 2021 Power density 15 kW m<sup>-3</sup>



### **Overhead comparison**

**Tetrodes, Klystrons, SSPA** 



Output power / nominal Output power

# **High Power options**

Final stage	DC Voltage	Driver	Gain	Power per unit	Combiner (for 1 MW)
Tetrode	15 kV	6.2 kW	13 dB	135 kW	8:1
Klystron	100 kV	10 W	50 dB	1 MW	-
IOT	40 kV	320 W	23 dB	65 kW	16:1
SSPA	50 V	5 W	23 dB	1100 W	1024:1

![](_page_47_Figure_2.jpeg)

### **RF** Power Lines

![](_page_48_Figure_1.jpeg)

# Rectangular waveguides

The main advantage of waveguides is that waveguides support propagation with low loss

![](_page_49_Picture_2.jpeg)

Wavelength	$\lambda_g = \frac{\lambda}{\sqrt{1 - (\frac{\lambda}{2a})^2}}$	
Cutoff frequency dominant mode	$f_c = \frac{c}{2a}$	
Cutoff frequency next higher mode	$f_{c2} = \frac{c}{4a}$	
Usable frequency range	1.3 $f_c$ to 0.9 $f_{c2}$	

# Rectangular waveguides

Waveguides are usable over certain frequency ranges

For very lower frequencies the waveguide dimensions become impractically large For very high frequencies the dimensions become impractically small & the manufacturing tolerance becomes a significant portion of the waveguide size

![](_page_50_Picture_3.jpeg)

Waveguide name		Recommended frequency band	Cutoff frequency of lowest order	Cutoff frequency of next	Inner dimensions of waveguide opening	
EIA	RCSC	IEC	of operation (GHz)	mode (GHz)	mode (GHz)	(inch)
WR2300	WG0.0	R3	0.32 — 0.45	0.257	0.513	23.000 × 11.500
WR1150	WG3	R8	0.63 — 0.97	0.513	1.026	11.500 × 5.750
WR340	WG9A	R26	2.20 — 3.30	1.736	3.471	3.400 × 1.700
WR75	WG17	R120	10.00 — 15.00	7.869	15.737	0.750 × 0.375
WR10	WG27	R900	75.00 — 110.00	59.015	118.03	0.100 × 0.050
WR3	WG32	R2600	220.00 — 330.00	173.571	347.143	0.0340 × 0.0170

### Rectangular waveguides Maximum Power handling

![](_page_51_Figure_1.jpeg)

With

P = Power in watts

a = width of waveguide in cm

b = height of waveguide in cm

 $\lambda$  = free space wavelength in cm

E<sub>max</sub> = breakdown voltage gradient of the dielectric filling the waveguide in Volt/cm (for dry air 30 kV/cm, for ambient air 10 kV/cm)

![](_page_51_Figure_8.jpeg)

**Frequency MHz** 

### **Peak Power vs Frequency**

### **Rectangular waveguides Attenuation**

### Attenuation

$$=\frac{4a_0}{a}\frac{\sqrt{c/\lambda}}{\sqrt{1-(\lambda/2a)^2}}\left(\frac{a}{2b}+\frac{\lambda^2}{4a^2}\right)$$

#### With

 $a_0 = 3 \ 10^{-7} \ [dB/m]$  for copper

- a = width of waveguide in m
- b = height of waveguide in m
- $\lambda$  = free space wavelength in m

Attenuation factors of waveguides made from different material normalized to a waveguide of same size made of copper

Copper	1.00
Silver	0.98
Aluminium	1.30
Brass	2.05

### **Peak Power vs Frequency**

![](_page_52_Figure_11.jpeg)

## **Coaxial Lines**

### Characteristic impedance is

$$Z_{c} = \frac{60}{\sqrt{\varepsilon_{r}}} \ln\left(\frac{D}{d}\right)$$

#### With

D = inner dimension of the outer conductor d = outer dimension of the inner conductor

 $\boldsymbol{\epsilon}_r$  = dielectric characteristic of the medium

Size	Outer cond	uctor	Inner conductor		
	Outer diameter	Inner diameter	Outer diameter	Inner diameter	
7/8"	22.2 mm	20 mm	8.7 mm	7.4 mm	
1 5/8"	41.3 mm	38.8 mm	16.9 mm	15.0 mm	
3 1/8"	79.4 mm	76.9 mm	33.4 mm	31.3 mm	
4 1/2"	106 mm	103 mm	44.8 mm	42.8 mm	
6 1/8"	155.6 mm	151.9 mm	66.0 mm	64.0 mm	

![](_page_53_Figure_7.jpeg)

Coaxial cables are often with PTFE foam to keep concentricity

Flexible lines have spacer helicoidally placed all along the line

![](_page_53_Picture_10.jpeg)

![](_page_53_Picture_11.jpeg)

Rigid lines are made of two rigid tubes maintained concentric with supports

### **Coaxial lines Maximum Power handling**

Power handling of an air coaxial line is related to breakdown field E

![](_page_54_Figure_2.jpeg)

$$V_{peakmax} = E \frac{d}{2} ln \left(\frac{D}{d}\right)$$
$$P_{peakmax} = \frac{V_{peakmax}^2}{2ZC}$$

$$P_{peakmax} = \frac{E^2 \ d^2 \sqrt{\varepsilon_r}}{480} \ln\left(\frac{D}{d}\right)$$

#### With

E = breakdown strength of air ('dry air' E = 3 kV/mm, commonly used value is E = 1 kV/mm for ambient air)

D = inside electrical diameter of outer conductor in mm

d = outside electrical diameter of inner conductor in mm

Zc= characteristic impedance in  $\Omega$ 

$$\epsilon_r$$
 = relative permittivity of dielectric

f = frequency in MHz

![](_page_54_Figure_12.jpeg)

### **Coaxial lines Attenuation**

### The attenuation of a coaxial line is expressed as

$$\alpha = \left(\frac{36.1}{Z_c}\right) \left(\frac{1}{D} + \frac{1}{d}\right) \sqrt{f} + 9.1 \ \sqrt{\varepsilon_r} \tan\delta f$$

#### where

 $\alpha$  = attenuation constant, dB/m

- Zc= characteristic impedance in  $\Omega$
- f = frequency in MHz

D = inside electrical diameter of outer conductor in mm

d = outside electrical diameter of inner conductor in mm

 $\epsilon_r$  = relative permittivity of dielectric

 $\tan \delta$  = loss factor of dielectric

Material	٤ <sub>r</sub>	tan δ	Breakdown MV/m
Air	1.00006	0	3
Alumina 99.5%	9.5	0.00033	12
PTFE	2.1	0.00028	100

![](_page_55_Figure_12.jpeg)

# **Reflection from Load**

Standing Wave Ration SWR is a measure of impedance matching of DUT

A wave is partly reflected when a transmission line is terminated with other than a pure resistance equal to its characteristic impedance

The reflection coefficient is defined by

$$\Gamma = \frac{V_r}{V_f}$$

Γ = -1	when the line is short-circuited complete negative reflection
$\Gamma = 0$	when the line is perfectly matched, no reflection
$\Gamma = 1$	when the line is open-circuited complete positive reflection

![](_page_56_Figure_6.jpeg)

# **Reflection from Load**

At some points along the line the forward and reflected waves are exactly in phase

|Vmax| = |Vf| + |Vr|= |Vf| + |\GammaVf| = (1 + |\Gamma|) |Vf| full reflection |Vmax| = 2 |Vf|

At other points they are 180° out of phase |Vmin| = |Vf| - |Vr|  $= |Vf| - |\Gamma Vf|$   $= (1 - |\Gamma|) |Vf|$ full reflection |Vmin| = 0

The Voltage Standing Wave Ratio is equal to  $VSWR = \frac{|Vmax|}{|Vmin|} = \frac{1 + |\Gamma|}{1 - |\Gamma|}$ 

![](_page_57_Figure_5.jpeg)

# **Reflection from Load**

In case of full reflection  $V_{max} = 2 V_f$  (P<sub>max</sub> equivalent to 4 P<sub>f</sub>)

RF power amplifiers will not like this reflected wave Klystron output cavity disturbed Grid tube, IOT and Transistor voltage capability

Swift protection if  $P_r > P_{rmax}$ system NOT operational (not always possible)

![](_page_58_Figure_4.jpeg)

# Circulator

In order to protect our lines and our amplifiers from this reflected power: Circulator

passive non-reciprocal three-port device

signal entering any port is transmitted only to the next port in rotation

The best place to insert it is close to the reflection source

Lines between circulator and DUT shall sustain 4  $P_f$  if full reflection A load of  $P_f$  is needed on port 3 to absorb  $P_r$ 

![](_page_59_Figure_6.jpeg)

## Circulator

Even in case of full reflection  $V_{max} = 2 V_f$  ( $P_{max}$  equivalent to 4  $P_f$ )

RF power amplifiers will not see reflected power and will not be affected Lines between circulator and DUT MUST at least be designed for 4  $P_f$  Loads must be designed for  $P_f$ 

System remains always operational at any time

![](_page_60_Figure_4.jpeg)

### Fundamental Power Coupler FPC

The Fundamental Power Coupler is the connecting part between the RF transmission line and the RF cavity

It is a specific piece of transmission line that also has to provide the vacuum barrier for the beam vacuum

FPC are one of the most critical parts of the RF cavity system in an accelerator

A good RF design, a good mechanical design and a high quality fabrication are essential for an efficient and reliable operation

![](_page_61_Figure_5.jpeg)

### Various FPC at CERN

## Overall Efficiency = Electrical bill

![](_page_62_Figure_1.jpeg)

Thales design report: 'Le rendement des blocs RF avec les MRFE6VP61K25N est de l'ordre de 66 % (valeur conservative)'

This was before linearity and bandwidth adjustments, I reduced it to 60 % for this exercise

![](_page_63_Figure_3.jpeg)

![](_page_64_Figure_1.jpeg)

![](_page_65_Figure_1.jpeg)

![](_page_66_Figure_1.jpeg)

![](_page_67_Figure_0.jpeg)

![](_page_67_Figure_1.jpeg)

![](_page_68_Figure_1.jpeg)

## Acquisition & operation costs

Technology * Including SSPA driver	Very rough estimates for a 100 kW CW 352 MHz RF system including RF power + Power Supplies + circulators + cooling + controls (lines not included)	Lifetime ** x 1000 hours	20 years Maintenance <sup>Tubes, HVPS,</sup> workshop	20 years Electrical bill 3000 hours / year <sup>10 hours/day</sup> <sup>6/7 days</sup> <sup>50 weeks/year</sup> 0.15 € / kWh η = 45 %	Total 20 years
Tetrode	500 k€	20	350 k€	200 k€	1050 k€
IOT	600 k€	50	200 k€	200 k€	1000 k€
Klystron	750 k€	100	100 k€	200 k€	1050 k€
SSPA	850 k€	200	50 k€	200 k€	1100 k€
Circulator	75 k€	-	-		75 k€
Lines	1 k€/m	-	-		1 k€/m

\* Construction of the infrastructure not included SSPA option requires more volume

\*\* Tubes need highly qualified HV specialists for maintenance

### Conclusion

We plan to launch (or we even already launched) R&D on

**Combining systems**, this will reduce foot print and increase power density; plenty of ideas, cavity combiners, waveguide progressive combiners, RF transmission combiners, Gysel combiners, multi layers waveguides combiners)

Availability, including granularity, hot swappable modules, embedded spares

Efficiency, next key parameter, must be grid AC to RF for fair comparison

Low cost circulators, at small power level ~kW and high power level ~MW

Cost optimization, asking the correct architecture

Mass production optimization, asking for the correct parameters

**Close follow-up** of new technologies available in large series production (SiC, GaN, 2D transistors...).

![](_page_71_Figure_0.jpeg)

This was a quick overview of the RF powering, for detailed explanations, please refer to specialized CAS on RF

2010 (468 pages) <u>https://cas.web.cern.ch/schools/ebeltoft-2010</u> 2000 (486 pages) <u>CERN-2005-003</u> 1992 (596 pages) <u>http://cds.cern.ch/record/211448/files/CERN-92-03-V-2.pdf</u>
## References

Reference Data for Radio Engineers (ISBN 0-672-22753-3) HÜTTE des ingenieurs taschenbuch (Berlin 1955 edition) Taschenbuch der Hochfrequenz-technik (Berlin-Heidelberg-New York 1968 edition)

Online

Thales, e2v, CPI, L-3 communications, Toshiba NXP, Freescale

## They did not know it was impossible, so they did it !

Mark Twain