

Multipactor effect in coaxial cables and  
dielectric-loaded waveguides.  
Study of the electromagnetic spectrum radiated  
by a multipactor discharge

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## INDEX

- Multipactor effect in coaxial waveguides
  - Theoretical model
  - Numerical and experimental results
- Multipactor effect in dielectric-loaded parallel-plate waveguides
  - Theory
  - Simulations
- Analysis of the electromagnetic spectrum radiated by a multipactor discharge in a parallel-plate waveguide
  - Theory
  - Results
- Conclusions and future lines



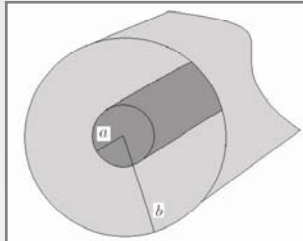
## INDEX

- Multipactor effect in coaxial waveguides
  - Theoretical model
  - Numerical and experimental results
- Multipactor effect in dielectric-loaded parallel-plate waveguides
  - Theory
  - Simulations
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  - Theory
  - Results
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MULTIPACTOR EFFECT IN COAXIAL WAVEGUIDES

Theoretical model (1)



Objective: Study of the multipactor effect in coaxial waveguides for space telecom applications.

- A numerical algorithm **to predict multipactor breakdown voltage threshold** in coaxial guides has been implemented based on the **effective electron concept**.

- The TEM mode has been considered (electric and magnetic fields):

$$\vec{E}_{RF}(\vec{r}, t) = \frac{(1 - R) V_0}{r \ln\left(\frac{b}{a}\right)} \cos(\omega t - \beta z + \theta_1) \hat{r} + \frac{R V_0}{r \ln\left(\frac{b}{a}\right)} \cos(\omega t + \beta z + \theta_2) \hat{r}$$

$$\vec{B}_{RF}(\vec{r}, t) = \frac{(1 - R) V_0}{c r \ln\left(\frac{b}{a}\right)} \cos(\omega t - \beta z + \theta_1) \hat{\phi} - \frac{R V_0}{c r \ln\left(\frac{b}{a}\right)} \cos(\omega t + \beta z + \theta_2) \hat{\phi}$$

Forward and backward waves are considered:

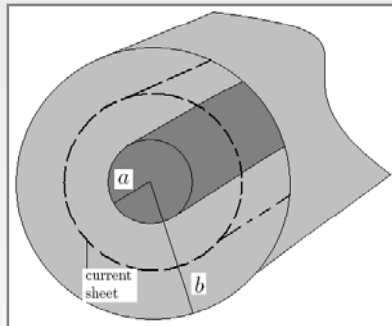
R= Reflection coefficient

**Travelling Wave (TW):** R=0

**Standing Wave (SW):** R=0.5,  $\theta_1=0$ ,  $\theta_2=\pi$

MULTIFACTOR EFFECT IN COAXIAL WAVEGUIDES

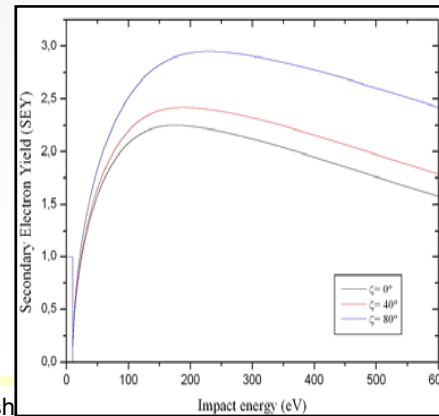
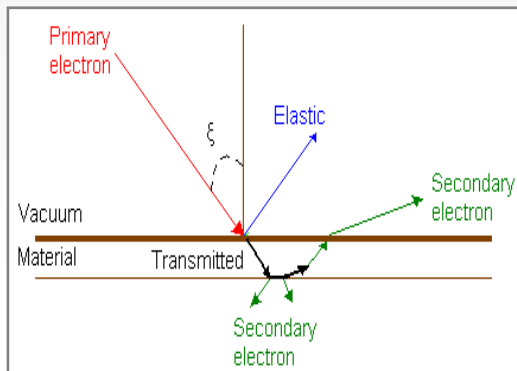
Theoretical model (2)



- **Model of space charge:** An electron sheet of surface density  $-\sigma$  is moving between electrodes.

$$\vec{E}_{sc} = \begin{cases} \frac{-\sigma r_{sc}}{\epsilon_0 r} \hat{r} & \text{if } r > r_{sc} \\ 0 & \text{if } r < r_{sc} \end{cases} \text{ where, } -\sigma = \frac{-e N}{2 \pi r_{sc} h}$$

- **Vaughan's model for SEY:** Gaussian distribution of velocities and cosine law for secondary electrons

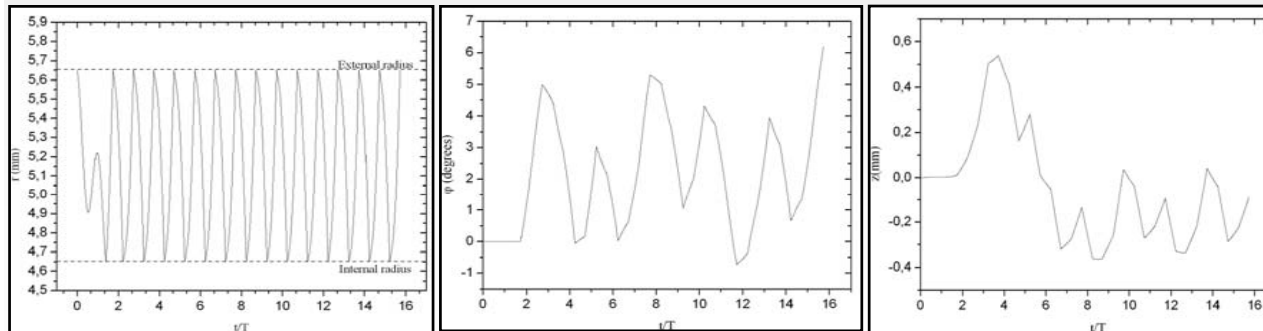


MULTIPACTOR EFFECT IN COAXIAL WAVEGUIDES

Theoretical model (3)

- **Electrons dynamics:** Velocity-Verlet algorithm

$$\vec{F}_L = q(\vec{E}_{tot} + \vec{v} \times \vec{B}); \vec{E}_{tot} = \vec{E}_{RF} + \vec{E}_{sc}$$



Dynamics of an effective electron as a function of time is simulated

The developed software CAD tool is called **MULTICOAX**

MULTIPACTOR EFFECT IN COAXIAL WAVEGUIDES

Numerical and experimental results (1)

- Comparison with technical literature:

R. Woo, *J. Appl. Phys.*, vol. 39, no. 13, pp. 1528-1533, 1968

E. Somersalo, P. Ylä-Ojala, D. Porch, J. Sarvas, *Particle Accelerators*, Vol. 59, pp. 107-141, 1998

- A coaxial sample has been designed, manufactured and measured at  
ESA/ESTEC Lab.: A quarter-wave transformer at 1.35 GHz (return losses: ~20 dB)

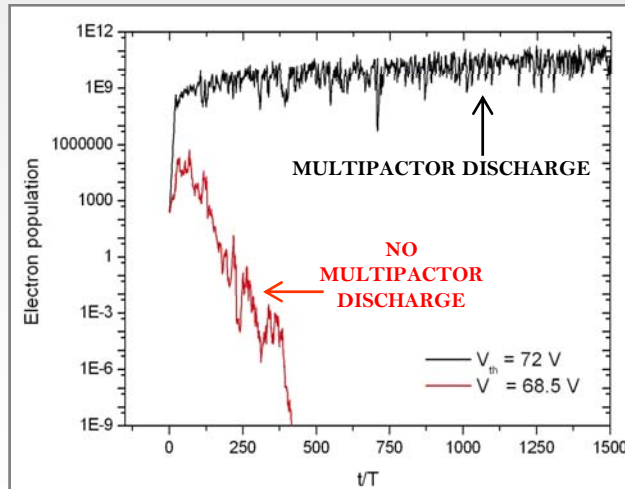


MULTIPACTOR EFFECT IN COAXIAL WAVEGUIDES

Numerical and experimental results (2)

Criteria for multipactor breakdown voltage threshold in MULTICOAX: saturation of the electron population

Comparison between experiment and simulation of the multipactor breakdown power threshold:



**COPPER**

Experimental measurement	204.6 W
ESA/ESTEC Multipactor Calculator	316.2 W
MULTICOAX	209.9 W

**SILVER**

Experimental measurement	280.6 W
ESA/ESTEC Multipactor Calculator	289.4 W
MULTICOAX	286.1 W



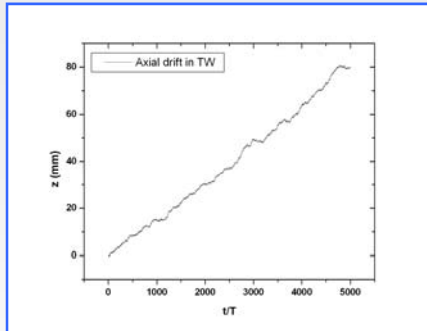
MULTIFACTOR EFFECT IN COAXIAL WAVEGUIDES

Numerical and experimental results (3)

- Study of the axial drift in the TW and SW configurations (I):

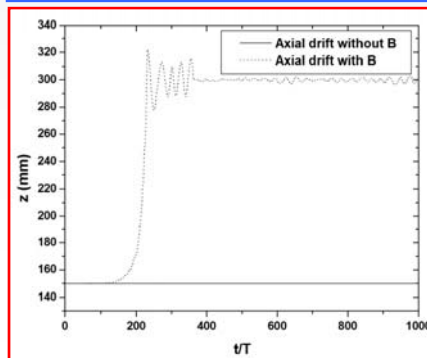
$$a_z = -\frac{q}{m} v_r B_\phi$$

TW



Electron moves in the z>0 axis (for a TW travelling in z>0 direction)

SW



Electron moves to the ATTRACTOR (zero of the electric field SW pattern)

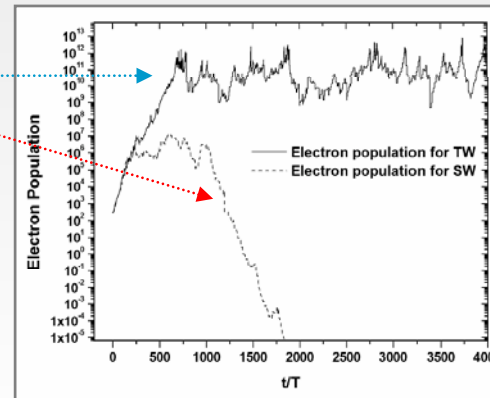
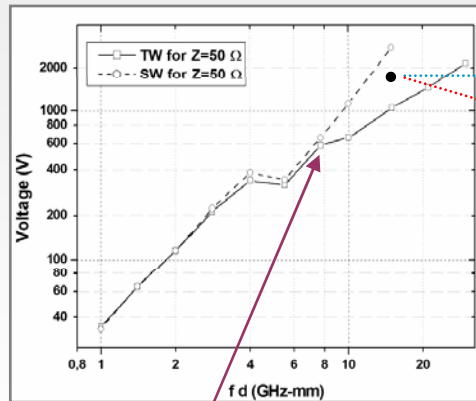
Multipactor discharge is extinguished !

MULTIFACTOR EFFECT IN COAXIAL WAVEGUIDES

Numerical and experimental results (4)

- Study of the axial drift in the TW and SW configurations (II):

Example: Coaxial waveguide,  $Z_0=50 \Omega$ ,  $d=20$  mm



For  $(f d) > \sim 7$  GHz mm TW and SW voltage threshold are splitted

Multipactor breakdown voltage threshold is higher for SW than for TW configurations for higher values of  $(f d)$

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MULTIPACTOR EFFECT IN DIELECTRIC-LOADED PARALLEL-PLATE WAVEGUIDES

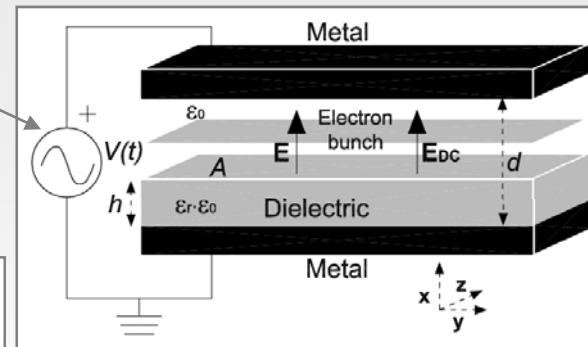
Theory

$$V(t) = V_0 \cos(\omega t + \alpha)$$

$$\mathbf{E} = E_0 \cos(\omega t + \alpha) \hat{\mathbf{x}}$$

$$E_0 = \frac{V_0 \epsilon_r}{h + \epsilon_r (d - h)}$$

$$E_{dc}(t + \Delta t) = E_{dc}(t) + \frac{eN_i(t)(\delta - 1)}{2A\epsilon_0}$$



**Objective:** To study two-surface multipactor regime in a parallel-plate waveguide dielectric-loaded with a uniform slab

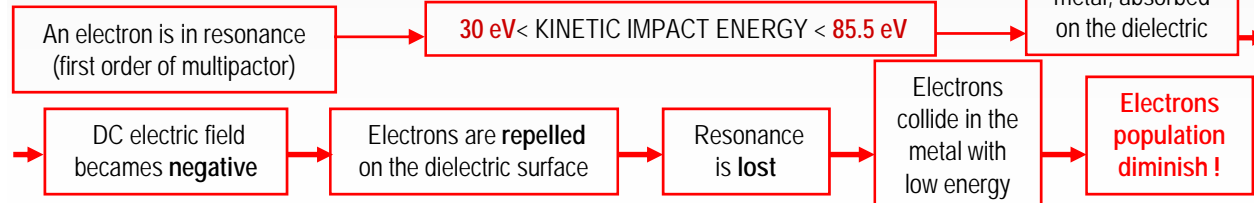
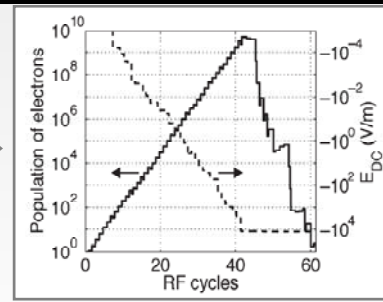
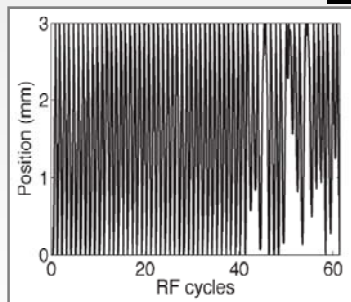
- Simultaneous tracking of multiple effective electrons
- Dielectric surface static charge (positive or negative) is accounted: DC electric field
- Space-charge effects are included in the simulation (a dynamic current sheet produces the electron repulsion)
- Total electric field: RF + DC + SC
- Different SEY curves for metal and dielectric; gaussian velocity distribution has been used for secondary electrons.

MULTIPACTOR EFFECT IN DIELECTRIC-LOADED PARALLEL-PLATE WAVEGUIDES

Simulations (1)

Mitigation of the multipactor discharge:  
Case study I

Material	$W_{max}$ (eV)	$W_1$ (eV)	$W_2$ (eV)	$W_0$ (eV)	$\delta_{max}$
Silver	165.0	30.0	5000.0	16.0	2.2
Alumina1	350.0	85.5	1414.0	12.9	6.5



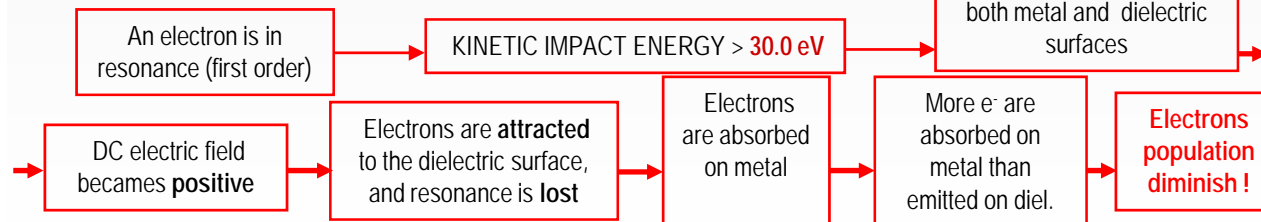
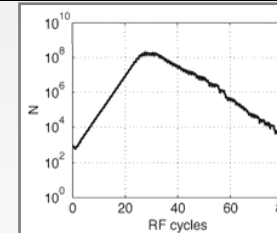
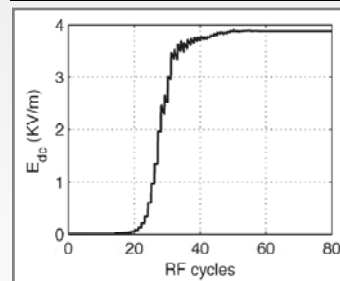
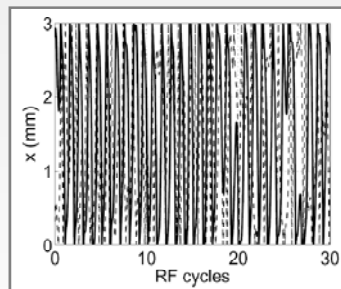
G. Torregrosa, Á. Coves, C. P. Vicente, A. M. Pérez, B. Gimeno, V. E. Boria, IEEE Electron Device Letters, vol. 27, no. 7, pp. 619-621, July 2006

MULTIPACTOR EFFECT IN DIELECTRIC-LOADED PARALLEL-PLATE WAVEGUIDES

Simulations (2)

Mitigation of the multipactor discharge:  
Case study II

Material	$W_{max}$ (eV)	$W_1$ (eV)	$W_2$ (eV)	$W_0$ (eV)	$\delta_{max}$
Silver	165.0	30.0	5000.0	16.0	2.2
Alumina2	1300.0	23.8	14135.0	7.5	6.5



G. Torregrosa, Á. Coves, C. P. Vicente, A. M. Pérez, B. Gimeno, V. E. Boria, IEEE Trans. Electron Device, vol. 55, no. 9, pp. 2505-2511, Sept. 2008

## INDEX

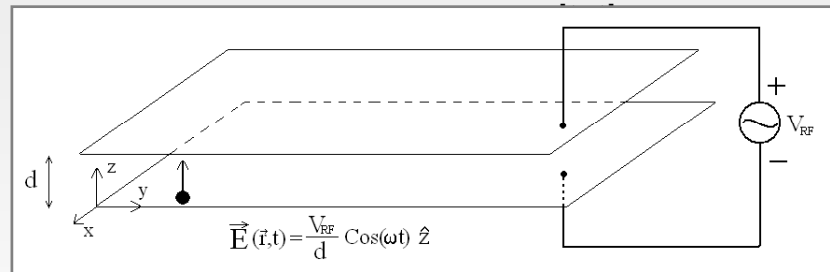
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  - Theoretical model
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SPECTRUM RADIATED BY A MULTIPACTOR DISCHARGE IN A PARALLEL-PLATE WAVEGUIDE

Theory\_I (1)

**Objective:** Evaluation of the **full spectrum radiated by a multipactor discharge** occurring within a parallel-plate waveguide under an **harmonic voltage**



Application on measurements test set-up

- We consider the 1D electron movement (along the z-direction)
- **Sombrin's model** allows to calculate in a simple way the electron kinematics and the perfect resonance conditions:

$$F_z = -e E = m_e a_e \quad a_e(t) = -\frac{1}{m_e} \frac{e V_{RF}}{d} \cos(\omega t)$$

$$v_e(t) = v_0 + \frac{e V_{RF}}{m_e \omega d} [\sin(\alpha) - \sin(\omega t)]$$

$$z_e(t) = \frac{v_0}{\omega} (\omega t - \alpha) + \frac{e V_{RF}}{m_e \omega^2 d} [\cos(\omega t) - \cos(\alpha) + (\omega t - \alpha) \sin(\alpha)]$$

}

*RESONANCE CONDITION*

$$\omega t_i = \alpha + N\pi \quad N = 1, 3, 5, \dots$$

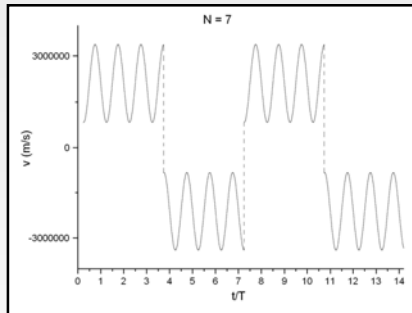
$$\tilde{V}_{RF} = \frac{m_e \omega d [\omega d - N\pi v_0]}{e [N\pi \sin(\alpha) - 2 \cos(\alpha)]}$$



SPECTRUM RADIATED BY A MULTIPACTOR DISCHARGE IN A PARALLEL-PLATE WAVEGUIDE

Theory\_I (2)

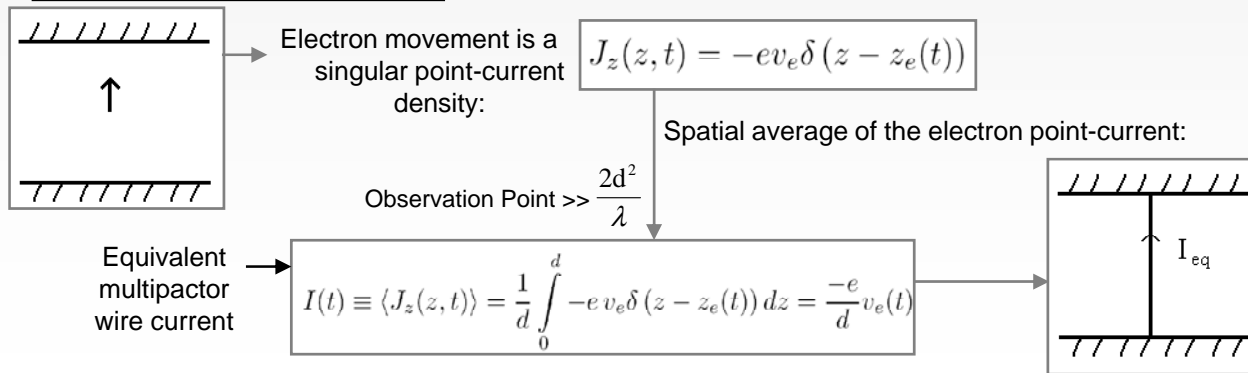
Velocity of an effective electron in perfect resonance conditions:



$$v_e(t) = \begin{cases} v_0 + \frac{eV_{rf}}{m_e \omega d} (\sin(\alpha) - \sin(\omega t)), & t \in \left[ t_\alpha, t_\alpha + N \frac{T}{2} \right] \\ -v_0 - \frac{eV_{rf}}{m_e \omega d} (\sin(\alpha) + \sin(\omega t)), & t \in \left[ t_\alpha + N \frac{T}{2}, t_\alpha + NT \right] \end{cases}$$

Electron velocity is a periodic function of period NT

$$t_\alpha = \frac{\alpha}{\omega}$$



SPECTRUM RADIATED BY A MULTIPACTOR DISCHARGE IN A PARALLEL-PLATE WAVEGUIDE

Theory\_I (3)

Equivalent wire current is expanded into a Fourier series:

$$I(t) = \frac{-e}{d} \sum_{m=1}^{+\infty} c_m \cos\left(m \frac{\omega}{N} t + \psi_m\right)$$

where expansion coefficients are obtained in a simple closed form:

$$a_m = \frac{-2(1 - (-1)^m)(v_{e0} + G \sin \alpha) \sin(m\alpha/N)}{m\pi}$$

$$b_m = -G\delta_{m,N} + \frac{2(1 - (-1)^m)(v_{e0} + G \sin \alpha) \cos(m\alpha/N)}{m\pi}$$

$m = 1, 3, 5, \dots$

$$c_m = \sqrt{a_m^2 + b_m^2} \text{ and } \psi_m = -\arctan(b_m/a_m)$$

The equivalent wire current is expressed in phasor complex currents radiating at **discrete frequencies**:

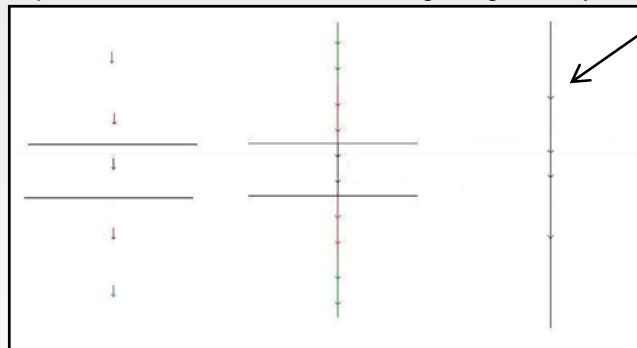
$$I(t) = \Re \left( \sum_{m=1}^{+\infty} i_m e^{j m \frac{\omega}{N} t} \right)$$

$$i_m \equiv \frac{-e}{d} c_m e^{j\psi_m}, \quad m = 1, 3, 5, \dots$$

SPECTRUM RADIATED BY A MULTIPACTOR DISCHARGE IN A PARALLEL-PLATE WAVEGUIDE

**Theory\_I (4)**

Radiation of the equivalent wire current in the parallel-plate scenario is considered using image theory:



IMAGES OF INFINITESIMAL CURRENTS

IMAGES OF EQUIVALENT SPACE-AVERAGED CURRENT

INFINITE UNIFORM STRAIGHT CURRENT

$$\phi_m = j \frac{c}{k_m} \nabla \cdot (A_{z_m} \hat{z}) = j \frac{c}{k_m} \frac{\partial A_{z_m}}{\partial z} = 0$$

This infinite wire current radiates in free-space

Free-space Green's function is used to calculate the electromagnetic radiated field pattern in terms of scalar electric and vector magnetic potentials:

$$g_0(\vec{r}, \vec{r}') = \frac{e^{-jkR}}{4\pi R}$$

$$A_{z_m}(\vec{r}) = \mu_0 i_m \int_{-\infty}^{+\infty} g_0(\vec{r}, \vec{r}') dz'$$

$$\begin{aligned} A_{z_m}(\vec{r}) &= \frac{\mu_0}{4\pi} i_m \int_{-\infty}^{+\infty} \frac{\exp(-jk_m \sqrt{r^2 + (z-z')^2})}{\sqrt{r^2 + (z-z')^2}} dz' \\ &= \frac{\mu_0}{4\pi} i_m (-j) \pi H_0^{(2)}(k_m r) \\ &= \mu_0 i_m \left( \frac{H_0^{(2)}(k_m r)}{4j} \right) \end{aligned}$$

SPECTRUM RADIATED BY A MULTIPACTOR DISCHARGE IN A PARALLEL-PLATE WAVEGUIDE

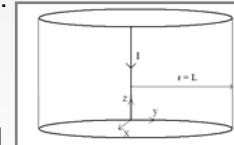
Theory\_I (5)

Electric and magnetic are analytically evaluated in the far-field region:

$$H_0^{(2)}(x) \approx \sqrt{\frac{2}{\pi x}} e^{-j(x-\pi/4)} \longrightarrow \begin{cases} \vec{E}_m = -jk_m c A_{z_m} \hat{z} \approx -\eta i_m \sqrt{\frac{k_m}{8\pi r}} e^{-j(k_m r - \pi/4)} \hat{z} \\ \vec{H}_m = \frac{1}{\mu_0} \nabla \times (A_{z_m} \hat{z}) \approx i_m \sqrt{\frac{k_m}{8\pi r}} e^{-j(k_m r - \pi/4)} \hat{\phi} \end{cases}$$

Integration of the complex Poynting's vector in a cylindrical surface allows to evaluate the **total radiated power by the multipactor discharge in a closed analytical expression:**

$$\vec{N}_n^{\text{rad}}(\mathbf{r}) = \vec{E}_n^{\text{rad}} \times \vec{H}_n^{\text{rad}} \longrightarrow P_n^{\text{rad}} = \frac{1}{2} \Re \left[ \int_{S(r=L)} \vec{N}_n^{\text{rad}} \cdot d\vec{S} \right] \longrightarrow$$



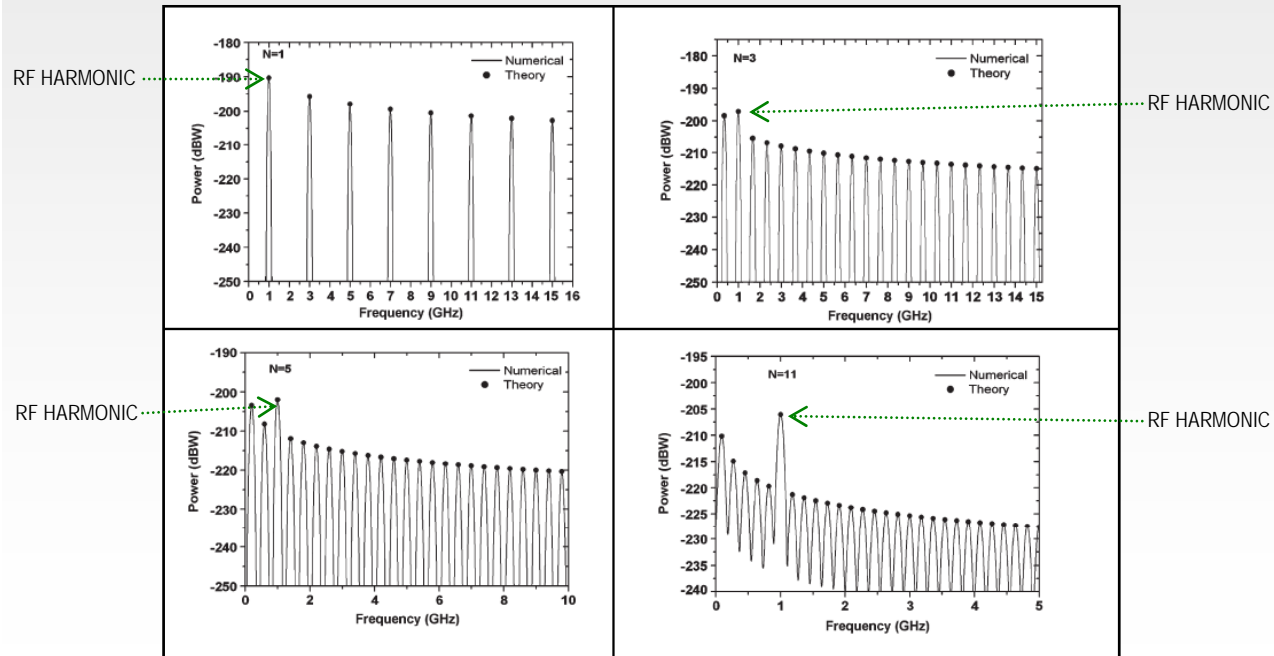
$$Q = \frac{\omega d - N\pi v_0}{4 + (N\pi)^2} \quad P_n^{\text{rad}} = \frac{\mu_0 \omega n e^2}{8 N d} \left[ \delta_{N,n} \left( G^2 - \frac{8UQ(WS-2)}{n\pi} \right) + \left( \frac{4U}{n\pi} \right)^2 \right] \quad (n = 1, 3, 5, 7, \dots)$$

$$S = \sqrt{\frac{e^2 V_{RF}^2 (4 + (N\pi)^2)}{(\omega d - N\pi v_0)^2} - (m_e \omega d)^2} \quad G \equiv \frac{e V_{RF}}{m_e \omega d} \quad U = v_0 + Q C \quad W = \frac{N\pi}{\omega d m_e} \quad C = N\pi + \frac{2S}{\omega d m_e}$$

SPECTRUM RADIATED BY A MULTIPACTOR DISCHARGE IN A PARALLEL-PLATE WAVEGUIDE

Results\_I (1)

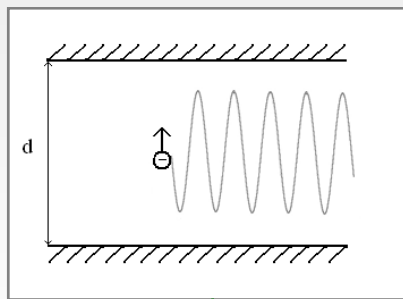
Power spectrum radiated by a multipactor discharge at different multipactor orders (N) in comparison with numerical results obtained with a PIC code:



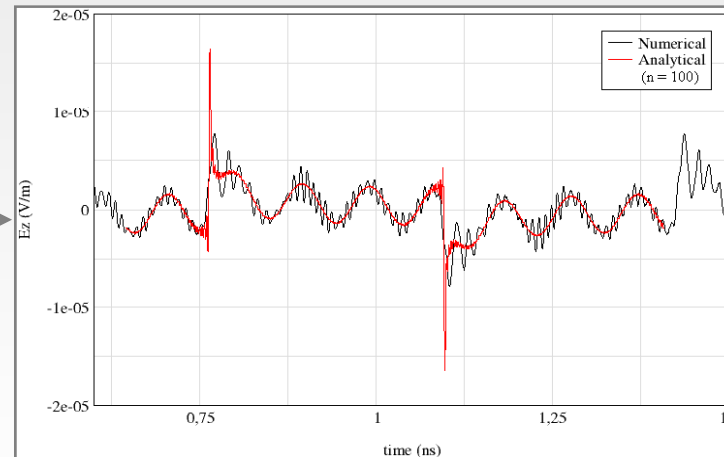
SPECTRUM RADIATED BY A MULTIPACTOR DISCHARGE IN A PARALLEL-PLATE WAVEGUIDE

Results\_I (2)

Electric field radiated by an electron as a function of time in comparison with a PIC code for multipactor order N=7:



It might be used for wake-fields calculations

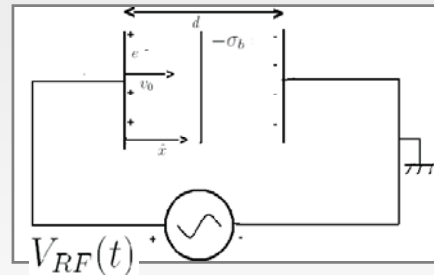


E. Sorolla, S. Anza, B. Gimeno, A. M. Pérez, C. Vicente, J. Gil, F. J. Pérez-Soler, F. D. Quesada, A. Álvarez, V. E. Boria,  
 IEEE Trans. Electron Devices, vol. 55, no. 8, pp. 2252-2258, Aug. 2008

SPECTRUM RADIATED BY A MULTIPACTOR DISCHARGE IN A PARALLEL-PLATE WAVEGUIDE

Theory\_II (1)

**Objective:** Evaluation of the **full spectrum radiated by a multipactor discharge** occurring within a parallel-plate waveguide under an **arbitrary voltage**



The voltage  $V_{RF}(t)$  is an **arbitrary function of time**

- We consider the 1D effective electron movement (along the x-direction)
- **Space-charge effects** are considered with a planar current-sheet moving between electrodes:

$$-\sigma_b = \frac{-en_e(t)}{A} \longrightarrow \vec{E}_b = \begin{cases} \frac{-\sigma_b}{2\epsilon_0}(-\hat{x}) & x \in [0, x_b[ \\ \frac{-\sigma_b}{2\epsilon_0}(\hat{x}) & x \in [x_b, d] \end{cases}$$

- The effective electron dynamics is numerically calculated by means of the Velocity-Verlet algorithm considering Lorentz's force and the total electric field:

$$\vec{E}_{total} = \vec{E}_{RF} + \vec{E}_b = E_{total}\hat{x}$$

- The equivalent wire current is given by the following expression:

$$i_{eq}(t) = \frac{-e}{d} n(t) v(t)$$

where the current electron population generated by the considered effective electron is accounted.  
The Fourier transform is numerically evaluated by means of the FFT algorithm:

$$I(\omega) = \int_{t_1}^{t_2} i_{eq}(t) e^{-j \omega t} dt$$

Finally, the total electromagnetic radiated power by the multipactor discharge is calculated:

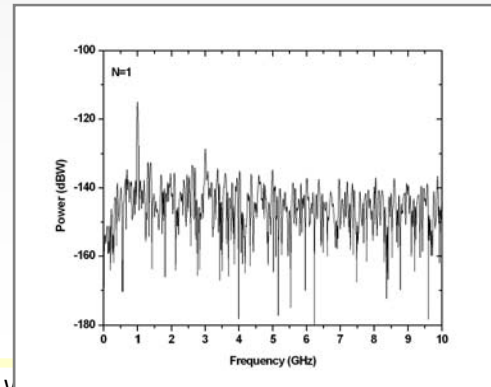
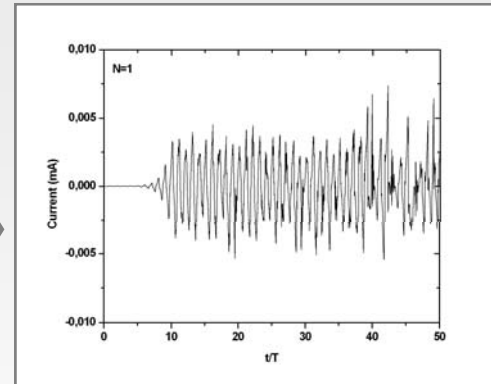
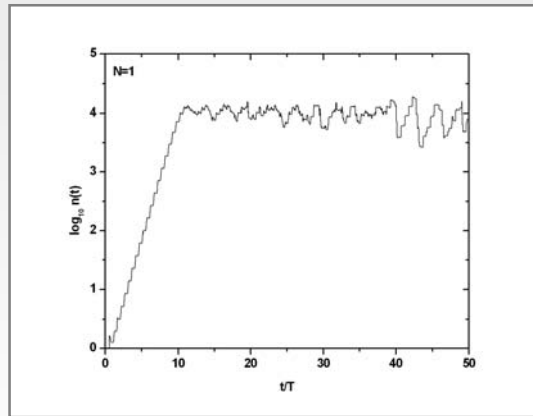
$$P(\omega) = \frac{\omega \mu_0 d}{8} |I(\omega)|^2$$



SPECTRUM RADIATED BY A MULTIPACTOR DISCHARGE IN A PARALLEL-PLATE WAVEGUIDE

Results\_II (1)

- Example: Single-carrier analysis



## INDEX

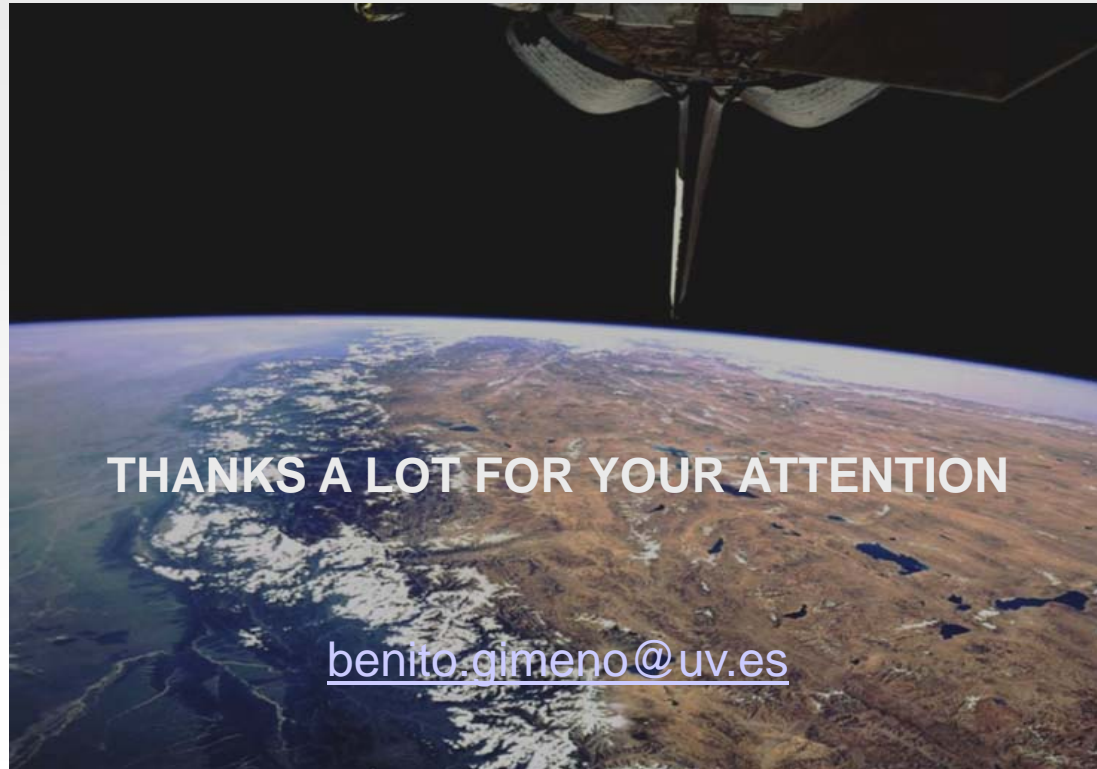
- Multipactor effect in coaxial waveguides
  - Theoretical model
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## CONCLUSIONS AND FUTURE LINES

### Conclusions and future lines

- Multipactor in coaxial waveguides:
  - Simulation tool: MULTICOAX
  - Tested and validated with technical literature and experimental data
  - Attractors in SW configuration might produce a partial mitigation of the discharge
  - Influence of attractors has been studied: voltage threshold is splitted for TW and SW
  - Numerical evaluation of susceptibility charts including multipactor higher-order modes
  - To study multipactor effect in circular waveguide
  
- Multipactor in dielectric-loaded waveguides:
  - Simulation tool has been developed
  - Two cases-study have been analyzed: mitigation of the multipactor discharge is possible in the presence of dielectric materials
    - Design of an experiment to measure a multipactor discharge including a dielectric slab
  
- Analysis of the electromagnetic power spectrum radiated by a multipactor discharge:
  - Sombrin's model provides a simple description of the multipactor phenomena -> Analytical evaluation of the electromagnetic fields radiated by the discharge -> Closed expression for the total radiated power
  - Simulation tool for the calculation of the radiated power of a discharge under arbitrary time regime
  - Calculation of the electromagnetic fields radiated by a charged particle within a waveguide -> Wake fields calculation



THANKS A LOT FOR YOUR ATTENTION

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