



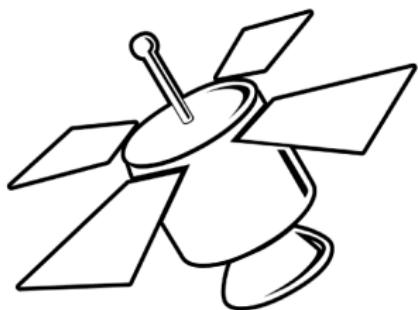
# Input Slides 2024-12: My Two Slides

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## Models of Radar Cross Sections for Satellites



### Spherical Harmonics Expansion

$$\begin{aligned} f(r, \theta, \phi) \approx & a_{0,0} Y_0^0 + a_{1,-1} Y_1^{-1} \\ & + a_{1,0} Y_1^0 + a_{1,1} Y_1^1 + \dots \end{aligned}$$

where

$$Y_n^m(\theta, \phi) = \sqrt{\frac{(2n+1)(n-m)!}{4\pi(n+m)!}} P_n^m(\cos \theta) e^{im\phi}$$



# Overview

1 Writ Large

2 Radiation

3 Results in 2D

4 Meshing

5 Software Components

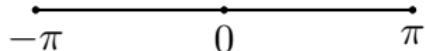


## Goal: RCS Models in 3D

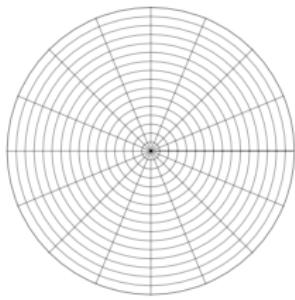
RCS models have been built in 2D.

Extend to 3D using the same MoM code.

# Fourier Domains in 1-, 2-, and 3D

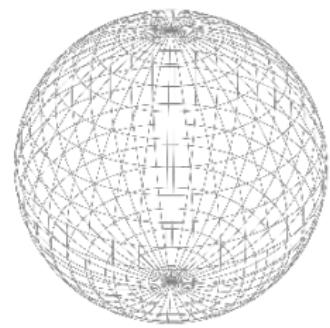


$$\theta \in [-\pi, \pi]$$



$$\theta \in [-\pi, \pi]$$

$$r \in [0, 1]$$



$$\theta \in [-\pi, \pi]$$

$$r \in [0, 1]$$

$$\phi \in [0, \pi]$$



# Why We Love Fourier for Smooth Functions

## Smooth Functions, Beautiful Representations

- **Weierstrass Approximation Theorem:** Any continuous function on  $[a, b]$  can be uniformly approximated by polynomials. Fourier provides a similar approximation, using trigonometric bases instead of polynomials.
- **Riesz-Fischer Theorem:** Hunting license - Fourier coefficients  $(a_n, b_n) \in l^2$ , guaranteeing convergence in the  $L^2$  sense.
- **Uniform Convergence for Smooth Periodic Functions:** Smooth ( $C^\infty$  or  $C^k$ ) functions, Fourier series converge uniformly, ensuring no oscillatory artifacts (Gibbs phenomenon disappears).



## Fourier and Extensions to 2- and 3D

**1D:**

$$f(\theta) = \sum_{n=-\infty}^{\infty} a_n e^{in\theta}$$

**2D:**

$$f(r, \theta) = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \sum_{m=-n}^{n,2} a_n^m R_n^m(r) e^{in\theta}$$

**3D:**

$$f(r, \theta, \phi) = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \sum_{m=-n}^n a_n^m \sqrt{\frac{(2m+1)(m-n)!}{4\pi(m+n)!}} P_l^m(\cos\theta) e^{in\theta}$$



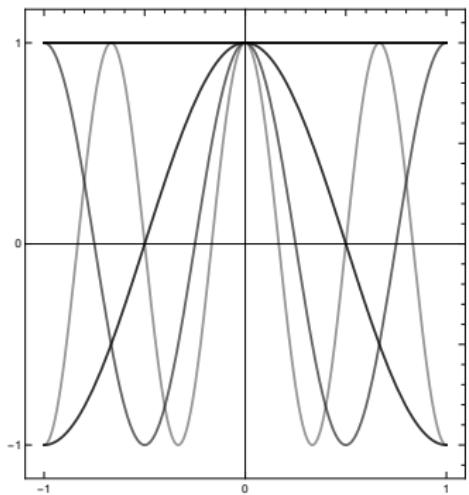
## Fourier and Extensions to 2- and 3D

- **1D Fourier Series:** Decomposes a periodic function  $f(\theta)$  into a sum of complex exponentials with coefficients  $a_n$  capturing the amplitudes of each frequency component.
- **2D Fourier-Bessel:** Extends Fourier analysis to two dimensions using radial functions  $R_n^m(r)$ , often employed in circular domains or optical applications.
- **3D Spherical Harmonics:** Represents functions on a sphere using harmonics  $Y_l^m(\theta, \phi)$  and radial components  $R_l(r)$ , crucial in fields like quantum mechanics and gravitational modeling.

# Lowest Order Fourier Basic Functions

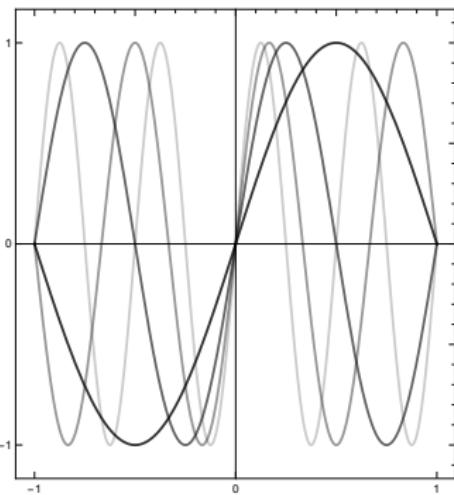
$$f(-\theta) = f(\theta)$$

**Even Parity**

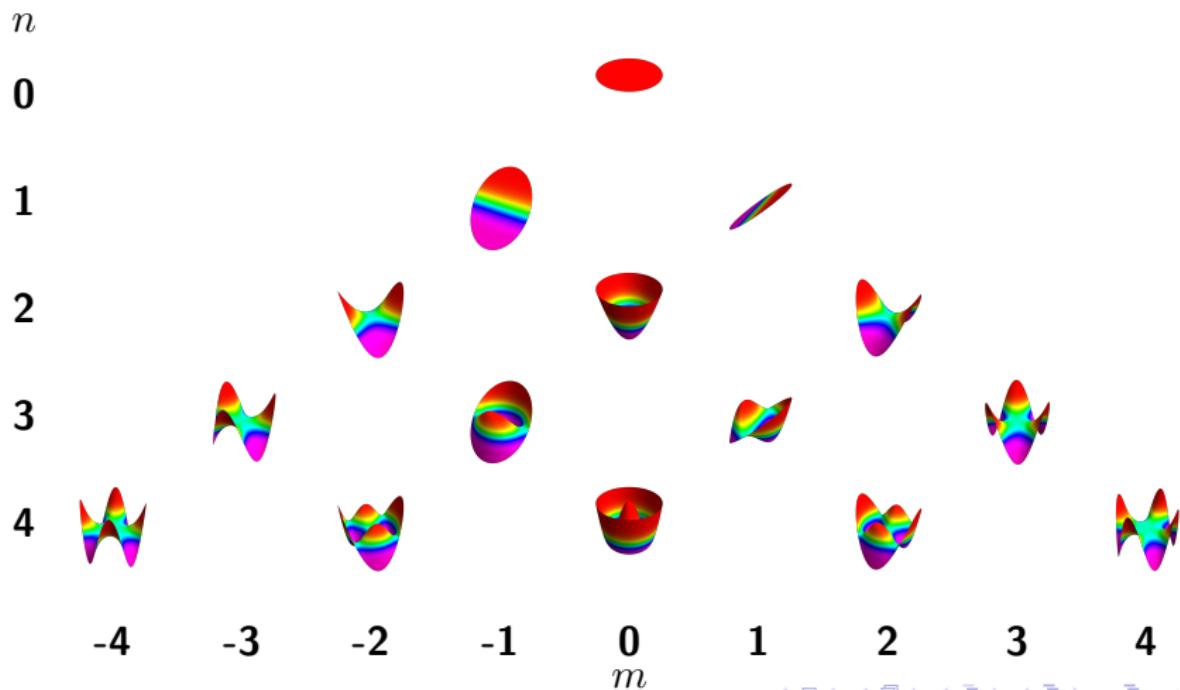


$$f(-\theta) = -f(\theta)$$

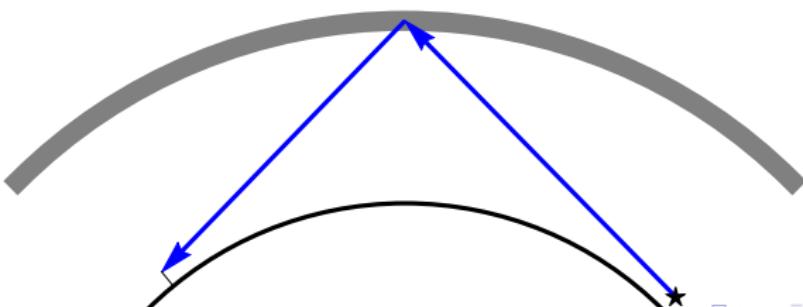
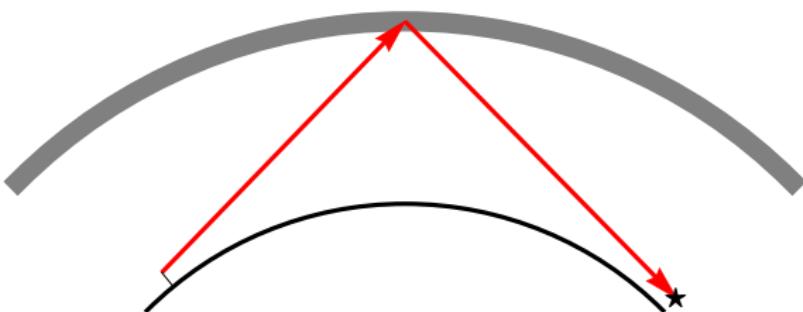
**Odd Parity**



## Lowest Order Zernike Disk Polynomials



## Energy Out, Energy In





# Energy Out, Energy In

- ① radar (left) **irradiates** target (star)
- ② **backscatter** travels from target to radar



## Radar Cross Section: Definition

$$\sigma_{\star} = 4\pi \lim_{r \rightarrow \infty} r^2 \left| \frac{E_{\text{incident}}}{E_{\text{scattered}}} \right|^2 \quad (2.1)$$

Skolnik 1962, (2.36)



## Radar Cross Section: Discussion

- Radar cross section is a **far field** phenomenon
- Assumes **single polarization** to and from target
- Target is **completely metallic**:  
*E* field results from surface currents
- Shape is **quasi-dimensional**
  - Dimensions in two known directions
  - Dish antennae, solar panels, booms
- **Resonant scattering**:  
Ratio of typical dimension to wavelength  $\approx 1$
- **Kolosov 1987, §4.6**



# Radar Cross Section: Conceptual Overview

- **Radar Basics:**
  - Transmit energy (Skolnik 1962, p. 21).
  - Receive scattered signal.
  - Direction, strength → object properties (Knott, Schaeffer, and Tulley 2004, p. 45).
- **What is RCS?**
  - Measures object “visibility” to radar Lab 2002, Section 2.
  - Depends on:
    - Material
    - Geometry
    - Orientation (Peebles 2007, pp. 3-4).
- **Key Question: Power reflected vs. power transmitted.**



## Factors Influencing Radar Cross Section (1/2)

- **Shape:**
  - Smooth → directional reflection (Knott, Schaeffer, and Tulley 2004, p. 47).
  - Complex → scattered energy.
- **Material:**
  - Metal → strong reflection.
  - Absorbers → reduced RCS (Knott, Schaeffer, and Tulley 2004, Section 3.2).
- **Size vs. Wavelength:**
  - Large → high scattering.
  - Small → "invisible" (Rayleigh scattering) (Kolosov 1987, p. 188).



## Factors Influencing Radar Cross Section (2/2)

- Orientation:
  - Aligned → max RCS (Knott, Schaeffer, and Tulley 2004, Eq. 2.1).
  - Tilted → min RCS (Skolnik 1962, p. 22).
- Radar Parameters:
  - Frequency, polarization, incidence angle (Lab 2002, p. 45).



# What is Mercury Method of Moments (MoM)?

- Mercury MoM solves Maxwell's equations in integral form.
- Targets:
  - Perfect Electric Conductors (PECs).
  - Far-field monostatic radar configurations.
- Applications:
  - Electromagnetic scattering simulations.
  - Radar Cross Section (RCS) analysis.
- Benefits:
  - Standalone Linux execution.



# Mercury MoM Setup Workflow

## ① Model Geometry:

- Create CAD model using FreeCAD.
- Export mesh as \*.obj file.

## ② Convert Mesh:

- Use Python tool to convert \*.obj to \*.facet.

## ③ Prepare Input Files:

- B-20.geo (**Simulation control**).
- B-20.facet (**Geometry**).
- Materials.lib (**Material properties**).

## ④ Run Simulation:



# Running Mercury MoM Simulations

- Extract the Mercury MoM package:

```
tar -xvf Hg-MoM-4.1.12.tar.gz
```

- Run the example bash script:

```
./run_mom_example.sh
```

- Simulation:

- Reads input files (\*.geo, \*.facet, \*.lib).
- Configures radar frequency, sampling angles, and conditions.



# Key Notes

- **System Requirements:**
  - Linux environment.
  - Minimal dependencies (e.g., libpthread, libc).
- **Radar Parameters:**
  - Frequency range: 3–30 MHz.
  - Azimuth cuts and sampling.
- **Applications:**
  - Analyze far-field scattering patterns.
  - Perform monostatic radar cross-section simulations.



## Summary: How to Use Mercury MoM

- ① Model CAD geometry in FreeCAD.
- ② Convert mesh to \*.facet.
- ③ Prepare input files (geo, facet, lib).
- ④ Extract and execute Mercury MoM package.
- ⑤ Analyze results.

**Mercury MoM: Accurate, reliable, and ready for PEC  
far-field radar simulations.**



## Input Files (1/2)

### ① B-20.geo

- ① Points to facet file
- ② Configure linear algebra solver
- ③ Radar frequency range
- ④ Angular sampling ranges
- ⑤ Boundary conditions
- ⑥ Mono- or Bistatic
- ⑦ Surface or Volume integral elements
- ⑧ Length units



## Input Files (2/2)

- ② B-20.facet
  - ① Vertex list
  - ② Face list
- ③ Materials.lib
  - ① Permiability
  - ② Permittivity



# Linear algebra (don't alter)

```
&MM_MoM
  bUseACA = .TRUE.,
  bSolve_ACA = .TRUE.,
  bOutOfCore = .TRUE.,
  bNormalizeToWaveLength = .FALSE.,
  bNormalize = .FALSE.,
  dCloseLambda = 0.100000,
  ACA_Factor_Tol = 0.000010,
  ACA_RHS_Tol = 0.000100,
  Point_Tolerance = 0.001000,
  nLargestBlockSize = -1,
  MemorySize_GB = -1.000000,
  stackSize_GB = -1.000000,
  nFillThreads = -1,
  nFillMKLThreads = 1,
  nLUThreads = -1,
  nLUMKLThreads = 1,
  nRHSThreads = 1,
  nRHSMKLThreads = 1,
  bOutputACAGrouping = .FALSE.,
  bOutputRankFraction = .FALSE.,
  bLimitLUColumns = .FALSE.,
  Lop_Admissibility = WEAK,
  Kop_Admissibility = CLOSE
```



# Memory management (don't alter)

`&Scratch_Memory`

```
Scratch_RankFraction_Z = 0.300000,  
Scratch_RankFraction_LU = 0.600000,  
Scratch_RankFraction_RHS = 2.000000,  
Scratch_RankFraction_Solve = 1.000000,  
MemoryFraction_Z = 0.950000,  
MemoryFraction_Scratch_LU = 0.500000,  
MemoryFraction_LU = 1.000000,  
MemoryFraction_RHS = 0.500000,  
MemoryFraction_Solve = 0.900000,
```



# Quadrature (don't alter)

&QUADRATURE

```
NTRISELF = 7,  
NTRINEAR = 3,  
NTRIFAR = 3,  
NTETSELF = 11,  
NTETNEAR = 4,  
NTETFAR = 4,  
NQGAUSS = 4
```



# Radar frequencies

FREQUENCY

ghz

```
0.003000 0.030000 28 !Freq Start, Freq Stop, Num Frequencies
```



# Sampling

Angle Cut

1

0.000000 359.000000 360

AZIMUTH

90.000000



Writ Large  
Radiation  
Results in 2D  
Meshing  
Software Components  
References

Effective Radar Cross Section  
Simulation Using Mercury MoM  
**Configuring Mercury MoM**  
Running Mercury MoM



# Monostatic or bistatic

Excitation  
MONOSTATIC



# Boundary Conditions

## Boundary Conditions

B-20-Materials.lib

4

V\_FREE\_SPACE => Free\_Space

V\_PEC => PEC

V\_PMC => PMC

V\_NULL => NULL

1

0 BC\_PEC V\_FREE\_SPACE



## Final settings

SIE                   **surface integral elements**  
B-20A.facet       **CAD description**  
m                   **meters**



# Mercury MoM is Single Precision

**Example: 8 MHz**  
**Despite exact binary representation**

$$8_{10} = 1000_2$$

Start Frequency = 7.9999994E-03GHz



## Run sequence - launch

```
$ ./MMoM.4.1.12 b20.geo
-----
HOSTNAME = 3dd5a4b0d3c8
HOSTTYPE =
CPU =
OSTYPE =
MACHTYPE =
NUMBER_OF_PROCESSORS =
OMP_NUM_THREADS =
PROCESSOR_ARCHITECTURE =
PROCESSOR_IDENTIFIER =
----- Reporting output in MB from Linux command: vmstat -s -S M -----
53113 M free memory
```



## Run sequence - sample output

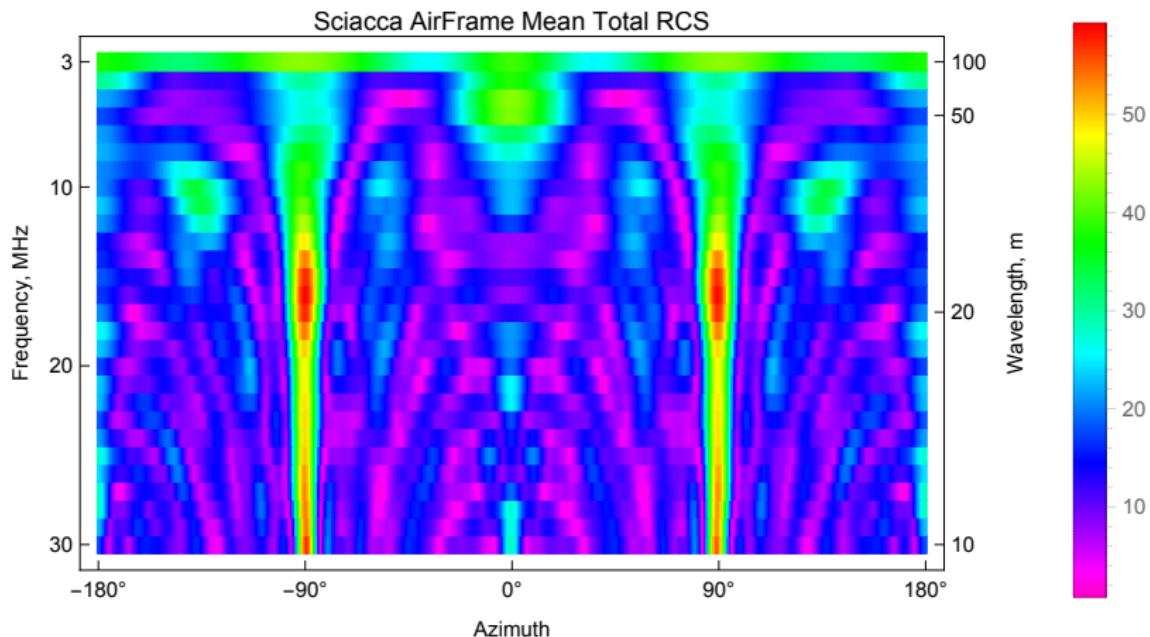
```
Freq   = 30.00E+00 MHz
Lambda = 9.99E+00 m
k      = 628.75E-03 m-1
subroutine Solve_SetUp( Surface, bk, pSys, pD, Nodes ) : ...Finished
-----
---| Time : Time total for RHS solve
---| Twall = 0.0004168 ; Tcpo = 0.0002319 ; Ratio = 1.80
-----
---| Out Of Core Times: Diagonal Blocks
---|
---| nWrites.....: 2.
---| GigaBytes Write.....: 0.
---| Write Time (Hr).....: 0.00
---| Average Write Rate (MBytes/sec): 19.
---| nReads.....: 5.
---| GigaBytes Read.....: 0.
---| Read Time (Hr).....: 0.0002
---| Average Read Rate (MBytes/sec): 48.
---|
-----
Z Column Summary IO 0.000E+00 0.000E+00 0.000E+00 0.000E+00 0.000E+00
```



## Run sequence - completion

```
$ ./MMoM.4.1.12 b20.geo
-----
HOSTNAME = 3dd5a4b0d3c8
HOSTTYPE =
CPU =
OSTYPE =
MACHTYPE =
NUMBER_OF_PROCESSORS =
OMP_NUM_THREADS =
PROCESSOR_ARCHITECTURE =
PROCESSOR_IDENTIFIER =
----- Reporting output in MB from Linux command: vmstat -s -S M -----
53113 M free memory
```

# Mercury MoM Sweeps Frequencies and Orientation





## Follow-on Notes: Mercury MoM Sweeps

- Sweep Overview:

- OTHR Frequency range: [3, 30] MHz.
- Wavelength: [100, 10] m.
- Color represents return energy levels

- Azimuth Details:

- Azimuth range:  $[0^\circ, 360^\circ]$ .
  - $0^\circ$ : Nose on.
  - $-90^\circ$ : Copilot side.
  - $90^\circ$ : Pilot side.
  - $180^\circ$ : Tail on.



## Frequency Notes and Plot Interpretation

- Frequency Notes:

- Resonance peaks identified at key frequencies in red.
- Highlighted transitions between modes for particular azimuths.

- Plot Interpretation:

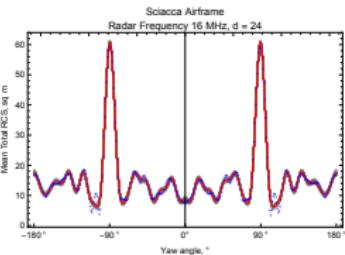
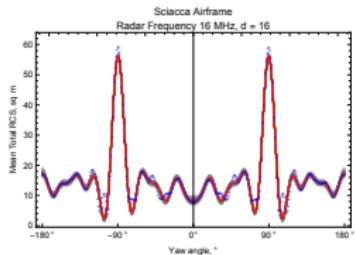
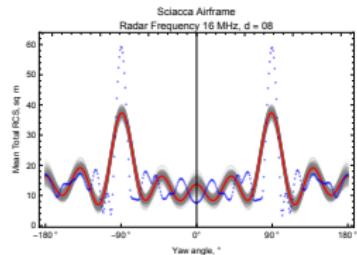
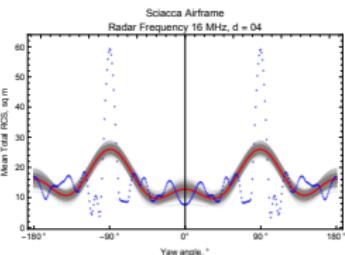
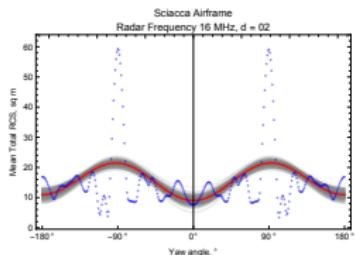
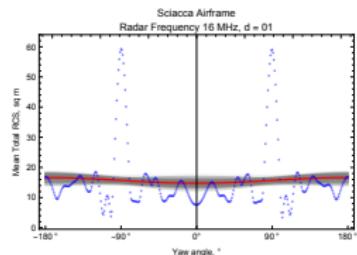
- MoM will sweep frequencies.
- MoM will sweep orientation.
- MoM is ready for 3D.

- Resolution

- At 3 Mhz (100 m) target is fuzzy.



# Fourier Transform Visualizations at 16 MHz



## Note

Blue: Data

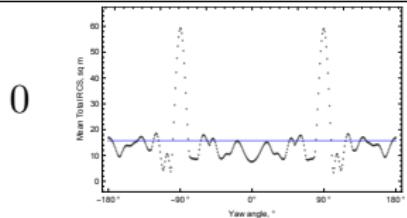
Red: Approximation

Gray: Error

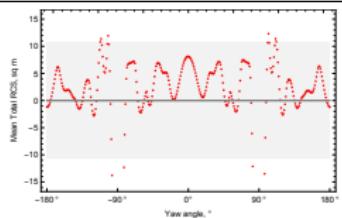
## A Closer Look A Fits and Errors 1/3

d

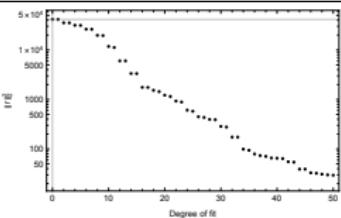
### Data Fit



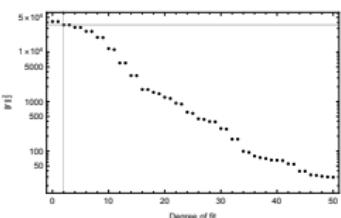
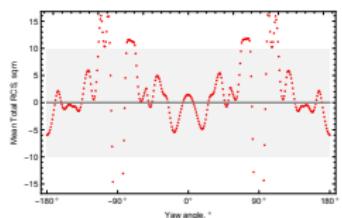
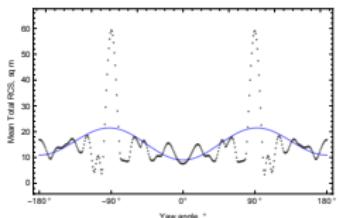
### Residual Error



### Total Error



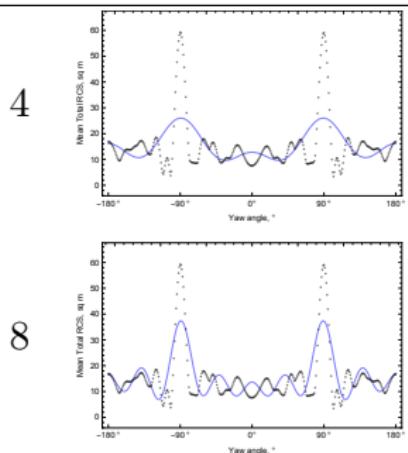
2



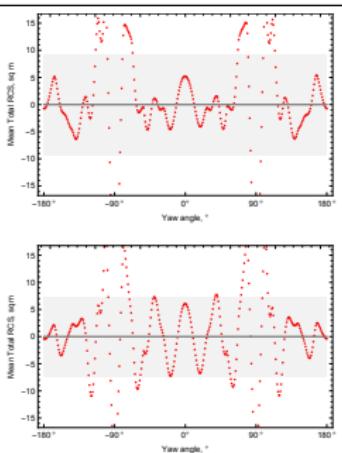
## A Closer Look A Fits and Errors 2/3

d

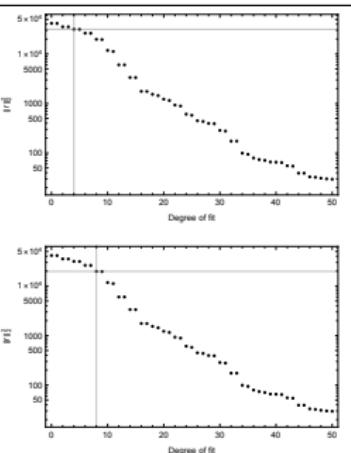
### Data Fit



### Residual Error



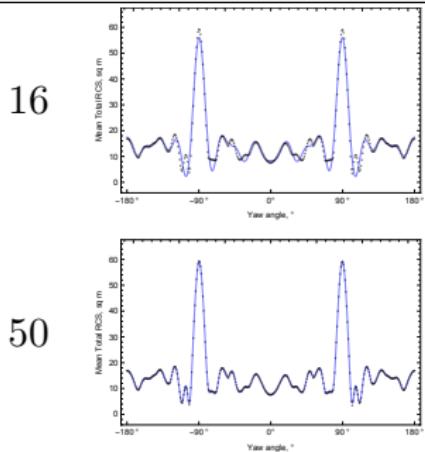
### Total Error



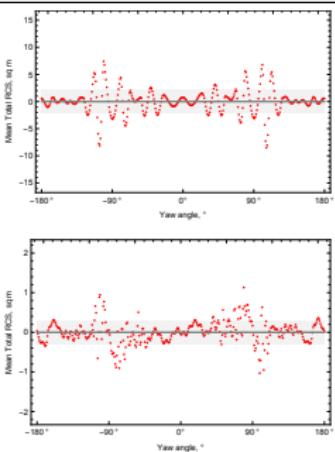
## A Closer Look A Fits and Errors 3/3

*d*

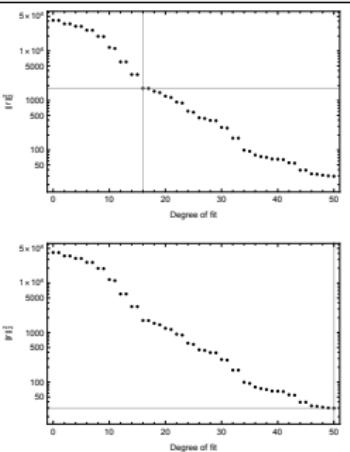
### Data Fit



### Residual Error



### Total Error





# Fourier Transform Visualizations at 16 MHz

- **Approximation Order ( $d$ ):** The number of terms in the Fourier approximation increases as  $d = 1, 2, 4, 8, 16, 24$ .
- **Low-Order Approximations:** Approximations with smaller  $d$  (e.g.,  $d = 1, 2, 4$ ) fail to capture fine structures, leading to significant residual error.
- **Higher-Order Approximations:** As  $d$  grows, the approximation better resolves finer features, and the error (gray) shrinks significantly, especially at smooth regions.
- **Error Behavior:** The error decreases non-uniformly—large errors persist near abrupt changes or peaks due to Gibbs phenomena, but smooth regions converge faster.



# Fourier Transform Visualizations at 16 MHz

- **Key Insight:** Fourier approximations demonstrate trade-offs: fidelity improves with  $d$ , as does computational cost.
- **General Notes:**
  - Fourier series resolve functions as sums of sines and cosines.
  - Low-frequency terms: broad trends; high-frequency: fine details.
  - Convergence is faster for smooth functions but slower for discontinuities or sharp changes.
  - More terms improves fidelity, but can introduce numerical artifacts.



## Meshing Schemes

Method	Mesh Resolution	Faces	Points	Spectral Radius
✓ Standard	1.0 m	626	315	5.3
✓ Standard	0.1 m	766	385	5.3
✓ Standard	0.05 m	1,198	601	5.3
✗ Standard	0.01 m	3,352	1,678	6.5
✗ Standard	0.001 m	28,394	14,199	8.7
✗ Mefisto	1.0 m	3,974	1,992	2.5
✗ Netgen	very fine	10,098	5,051	3.0

Table: One model, many meshes. How does Mercury MoM fare?



## Achilles Heel: Minimum triangle size

Mercury MoM is very sensitive to **Spectral radius**



# Linux Environment

```
-----FATAL ERROR-----FATAL ERROR-----FATAL ERROR-----FATAL ERROR-----  
subroutine Geometry(TRI,Compute( Tris, tol ) :Have Triangles with effective zero area  
nTris.With.Zero.Area = 15244
```



## Mesh Resolution

We can quantify mesh limits by looking at the **spectrum** of triangle areas



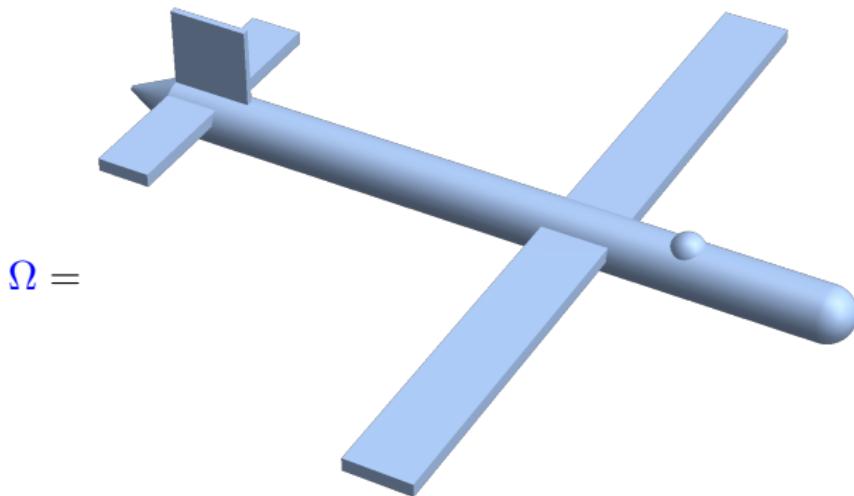
# Spectral Radius

- ① We know **a priori** which mesh resolutions will fail
- ② MMoM is **single precision**
- ③ Key idea: **difference between largest and smallest triangle**



# Spectral Radius

Start with  $\Omega$ , a **closed, simply connected** surface:

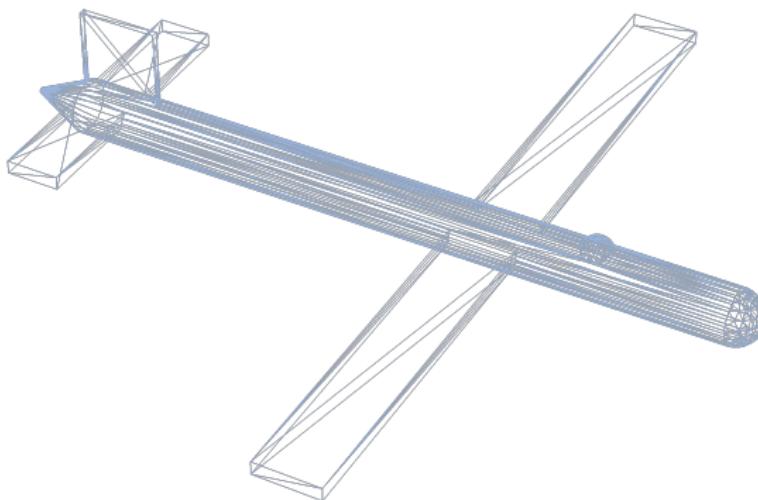


$$\Omega =$$

# Defining the Spectrum

Let  $\Omega_P$ , be a triangular partition of  $\Omega$

$$\Omega_P =$$



$$= \bigcup_{k=1}^m \tau_k$$



# Defining the Spectrum

## Properties of the triangular partition $\Omega_P$

- ①  $\Omega_P = \bigcup_{k=1}^m \tau_k$
- ②  $\text{Area}(\Omega_P) = \text{Area}(\bigcup_{k=1}^m \tau_k)$
- ③  $\text{Area}(\tau_k) > 0, \quad k = 1 : m$
- ④  $\tau_k \cap \tau_j = \delta_k^j \times \text{Area}(\tau_j)$



# Defining the Spectrum

Colloquially, it's a good mesh:

- ① The mesh is watertight (sealed)
- ② No triangles overlap
- ③ No triangles underlap



## Defining the Spectrum

Define  $\alpha_k$  as the area of triangle  $\tau_k$

- ① Define  $\alpha_k$  as the area of triangle  $\tau_k$
- ② The sequence is in ascending order:

$$0 < \alpha_1 \leq \alpha_2 \leq \cdots \leq \alpha_m$$

- ③ The spectrum is the sequence  $\{\alpha_k\}_{k=1}^m$



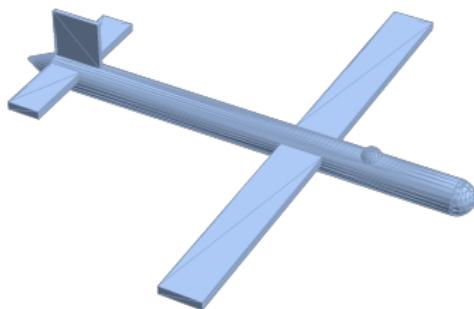
# Spectral Radius

Define  $T$ , the **spectral radius** as

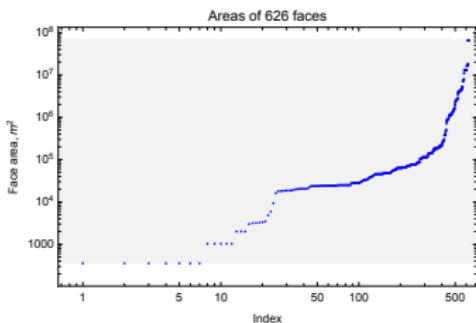
$$T = \ln \tau_m - \ln \tau_1 = \ln \frac{\tau_m}{\tau_1}$$

# Seeing the Spectral Radius

**Mesh**



**Spectrum**



Think of the **height** of the gray box as the **spectral radius**



# Spectral Radius

Compare to  $\kappa$  the **matrix condition number** in the 2-norm:

Given a matrix  $A$  of rank  $\rho$  with singular value spectrum  $\{\sigma_k\}_{k=1}^{\rho}$

The matrix condition number is defined as

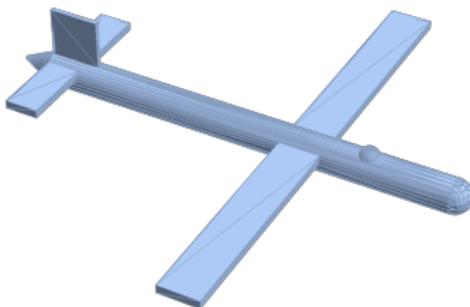
$$\kappa_2 = \frac{\|A\|_2}{\|A^{-1}\|_2} = \frac{\sigma_k}{\sigma_1}$$

$$T = \ln \frac{\tau_m}{\tau_1}$$

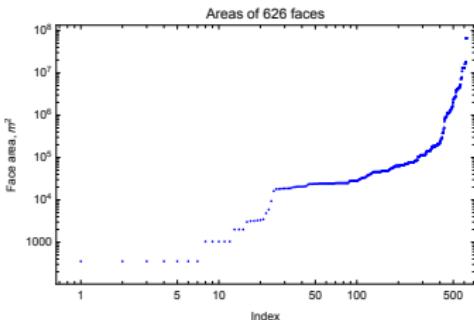


# Standard meshing, 1 m resolution

Mesh



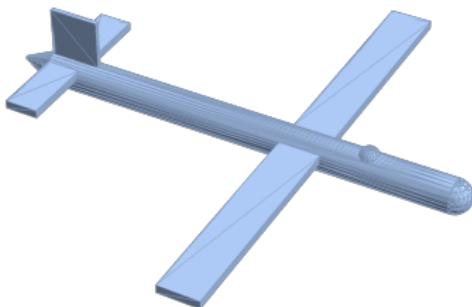
Spectrum



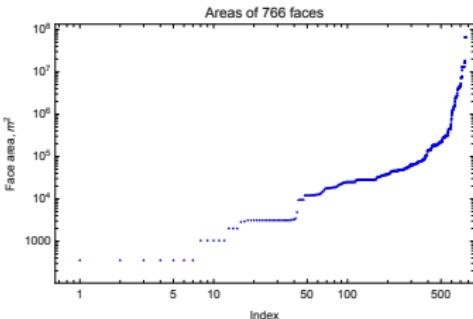
---| Mercury MOM Completed **Sucessfully** |---

# Standard meshing, 0.1 m resolution

**Mesh**



**Spectrum**

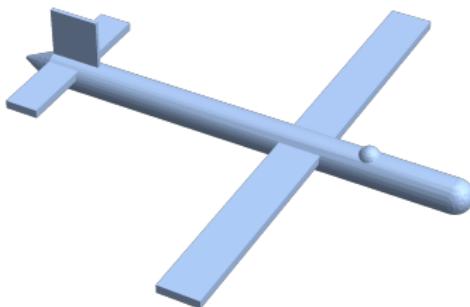


---| Mercury MOM Completed **Sucessfully** |---

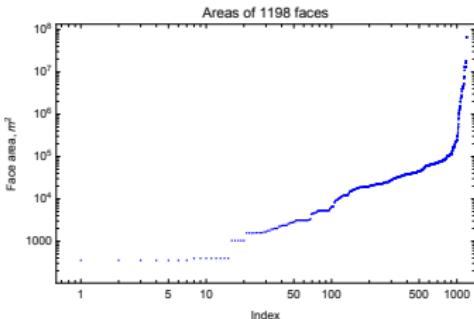


# Standard meshing, 0.05 m resolution

**Mesh**



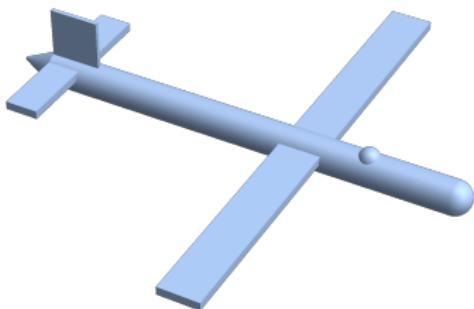
**Spectrum**



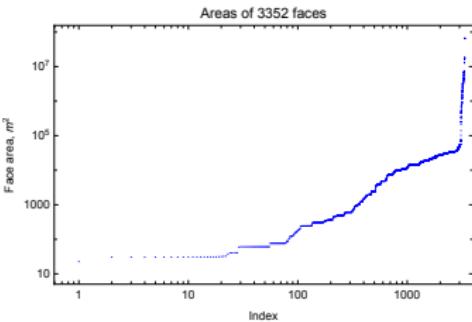
---| Mercury MOM Completed **Sucessfully** |---

# Standard meshing, 0.01 m resolution

Mesh



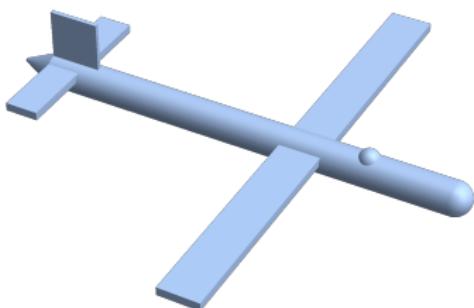
Spectrum



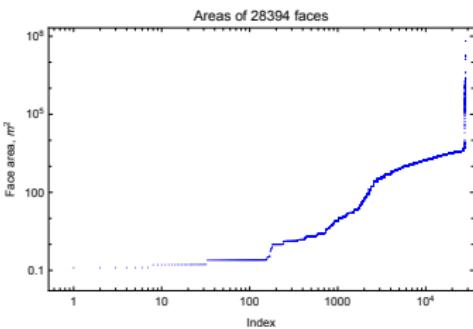
-----FATAL ERROR-----FATAL ERROR-----FATAL ERROR-----FATAL ERROR-----  
subroutine ACA\_Sum\_Update( A, S, Tol, RefNorm ) : **RHS: ACA did not converge**  
= 0

# Standard meshing, 0.001 m resolution

Mesh



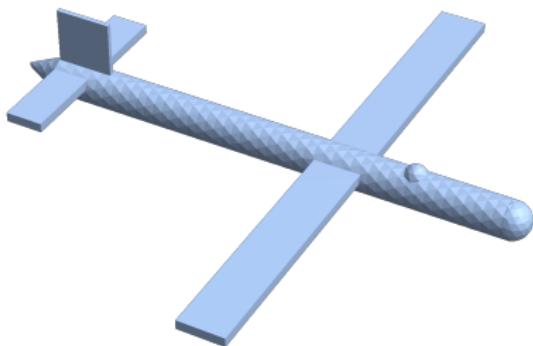
Spectrum



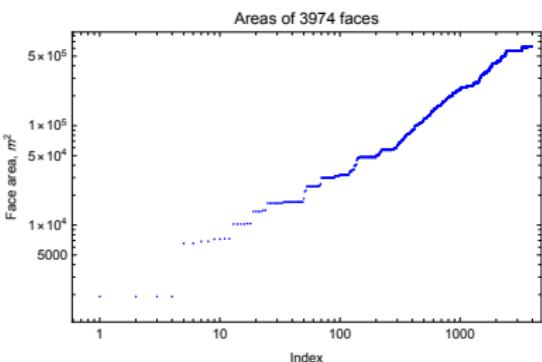
-----FATAL ERROR-----FATAL ERROR-----FATAL ERROR-----FATAL ERROR-----  
subroutine Geometry\_TRI\_Compute( Tris, tol ) :Have Triangles with effective zero area  
nTris\_With\_Zero\_Area = 60

# Mefisto meshing, 1 m resolution

Mesh



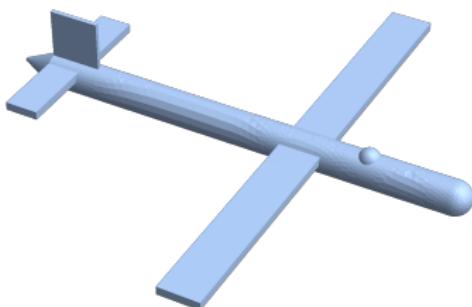
Spectrum



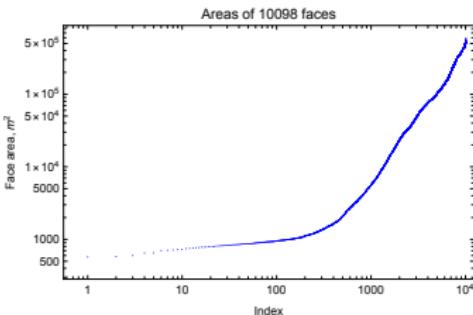
```
-----FATAL ERROR-----FATAL ERROR-----FATAL ERROR-----FATAL ERROR-----  
subroutine ACA_Sum_Update( A, S, Tol, RefNorm ) : RHS: ACA did not converge  
= 0
```

# Netgen meshing, very fine resolution

Mesh



Spectrum



-----FATAL ERROR-----FATAL ERROR-----FATAL ERROR-----FATAL ERROR-----  
subroutine ACA\_Sum\_Update( A, S, Tol, RefNorm ) : RHS: ACA did not converge  
= 0



## Code Conversion Overview

**MATLAB and ALPINE Codes Converted**

- Python
- Fortran
- Shell Scripts

**Survey and Details Follow.**



# Primary Components

**Fortran:**

- ① toolkit 1

**Python:**

- ① script 1



# Sealing the Mesh

Show code structure

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- [3] **MIT Lincoln Lab.** “**Target Radar Cross Section**”. In: **Introduction to Radar Systems.** **MIT Lincoln Lab.** MIT Lincoln Lab, 2002, p. 45. URL: <https://www.ll.mit.edu/sites/default/files/outreach/doc/2018-07/lecture%204.pdf>.



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- [4] Peyton Z Peebles. **Radar principles.** John Wiley & Sons, 2007.
- [5] Merrill I Skolnik. “Introduction to radar”. In: Radar handbook 2 (1962), p. 21.



# Input Slides 2024-12: My Two Slides

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