

UESTC4004 Digital Communications

Link Budget Calculation



Goals

- JE B
- To be able to calculate how far we can go with the equipment we have
- ► To understand why we need high poles for long links

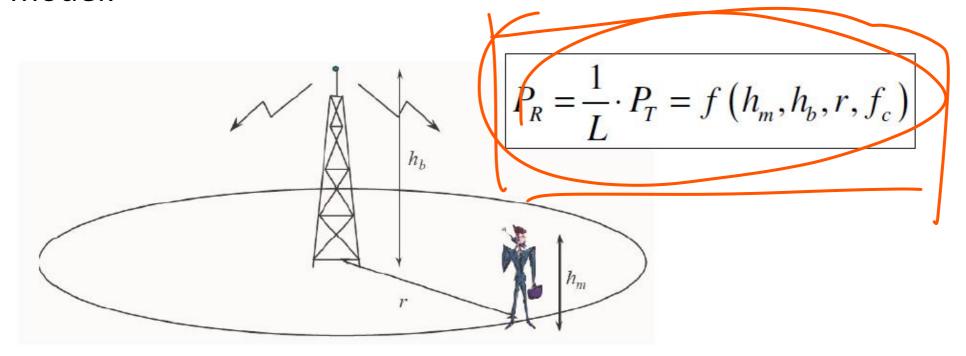








A Base Station (BS) is designed to cover a designated area or cell. We are interested in the power loss involved in transmission between the BS and the mobile (path loss). A general path loss model:



 P_R : Power received at the Mobile

 P_T : BS transmitted power

r: Distance between BS and mobile

 f_c :Frequency of operation

 h_b : BS antenna height

 h_m : Mobile antenna height



Link Path Loss

- Path Loss is the ratio of the transmitted to the received power (it can be expressed in dB). It includes all of the possible environmental elements of loss associated with interactions between the propagating wave and any objects between the transmit and receive antennas.
- In order to define the path loss correctly, the losses and gains in the communication system must be considered.
- The above losses and gains can be considered through a link budget (Path loss could be the same for different Tx Power or different antenna gains).

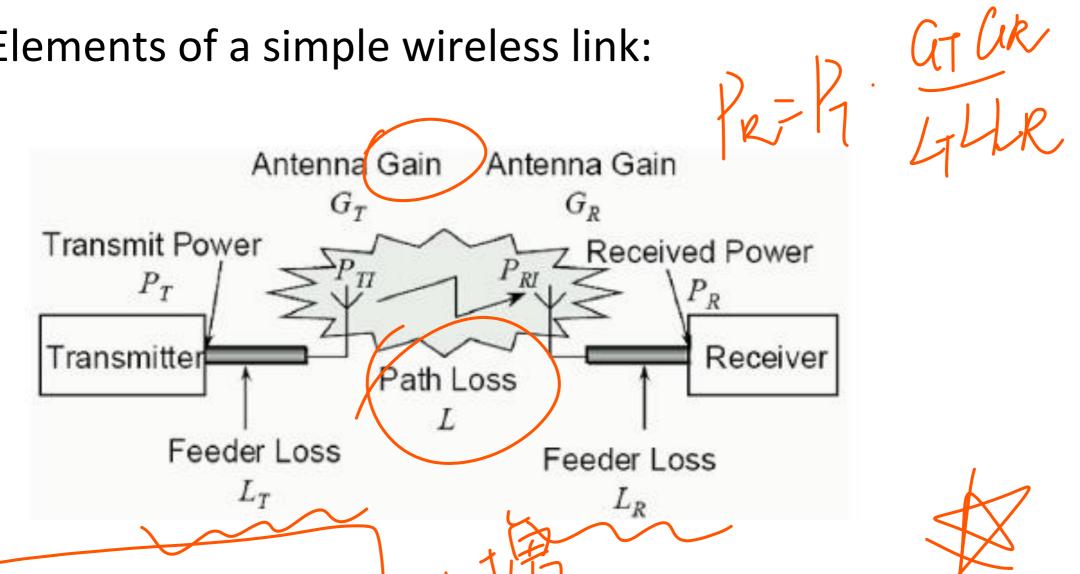
长级流水

用来指院



Link Budgets

☐ Elements of a simple wireless link:



$$P_R = \frac{P_T G_T G_R}{L_T L L_R}$$

Gains and losses are expressed as power ratio and **power in watts**

EIRP

- \square Antenna gains, G_T , G_R , are expressed with reference to an isotropic antenna (radiates equally in all directions)
- ☐ Effective Isotropic Radiated Transmit Power (EIRP) is given by:

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Similarly the Effective Isotropic Radiated Received Power is given

$$P_{RI} = \frac{P_R L_R}{G_R}$$

Advantage of expressing the powers in terms of EIRP is that the path loss, L, can be expressed independently of the system parameters, as a atio be ween the transmitted and received EIRP.

Propagation loss

$$L = \frac{P_{TI}}{P_{RI}} = \frac{P_T G_T G_R}{P_R L_T L_R}$$





Free space loss

- Signal power is diminished by geometric spreading of the wavefront, commonly known as *Free Space Loss*.
- ► The power of the signal is spread over a wave front, the area of which increases as the distance from the transmitter increases. Therefore, the power density diminishes.

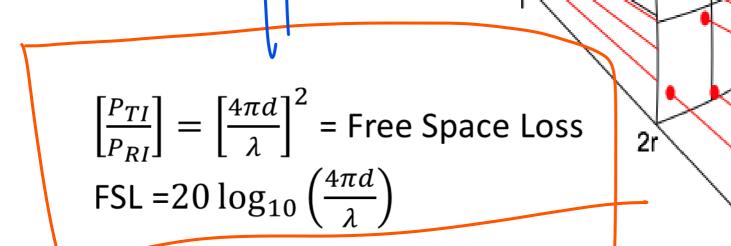


Figure from http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Inverse square





Free Space Loss (any frequency)

Using decibels to express the loss and using a generic frequency f, the equation for the Free Space Loss is:

$$L_{fs} = 92.4 + 20*log_{10}(D) + 20*log_{10}(f)$$

• ...where L_{fs} is expressed (GB, D)s in kilometers and f is in

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Free Space Loss (@2.4 GHz)

LOSSFARTER

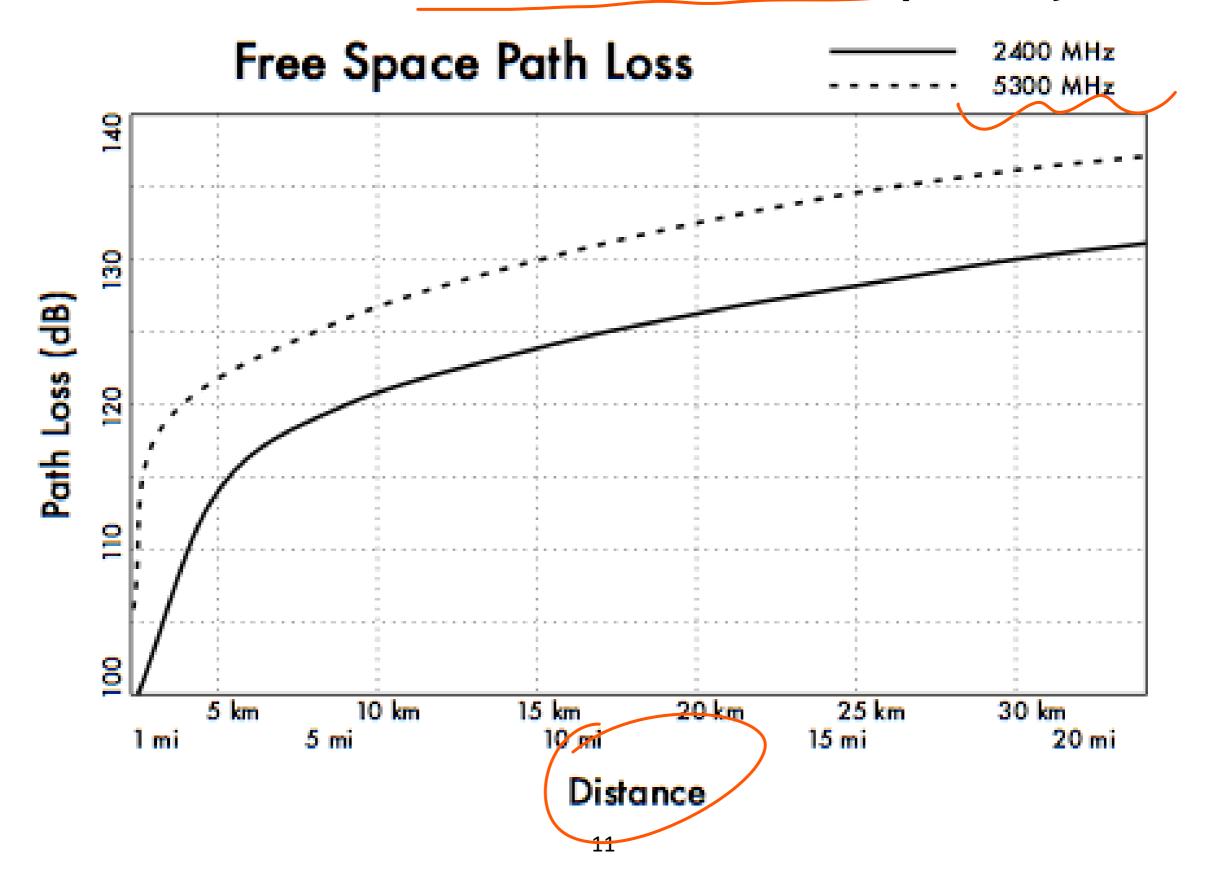
► Using decibels to express the loss and using 2.4 GHz as the signal frequency, the equation for the Free Space Loss is:

 $\sum_{fs} = 100 + 20*\log_{10}(D)$

ightharpoonup ...where L_{fs} is expressed in dB and D is in kilometers.

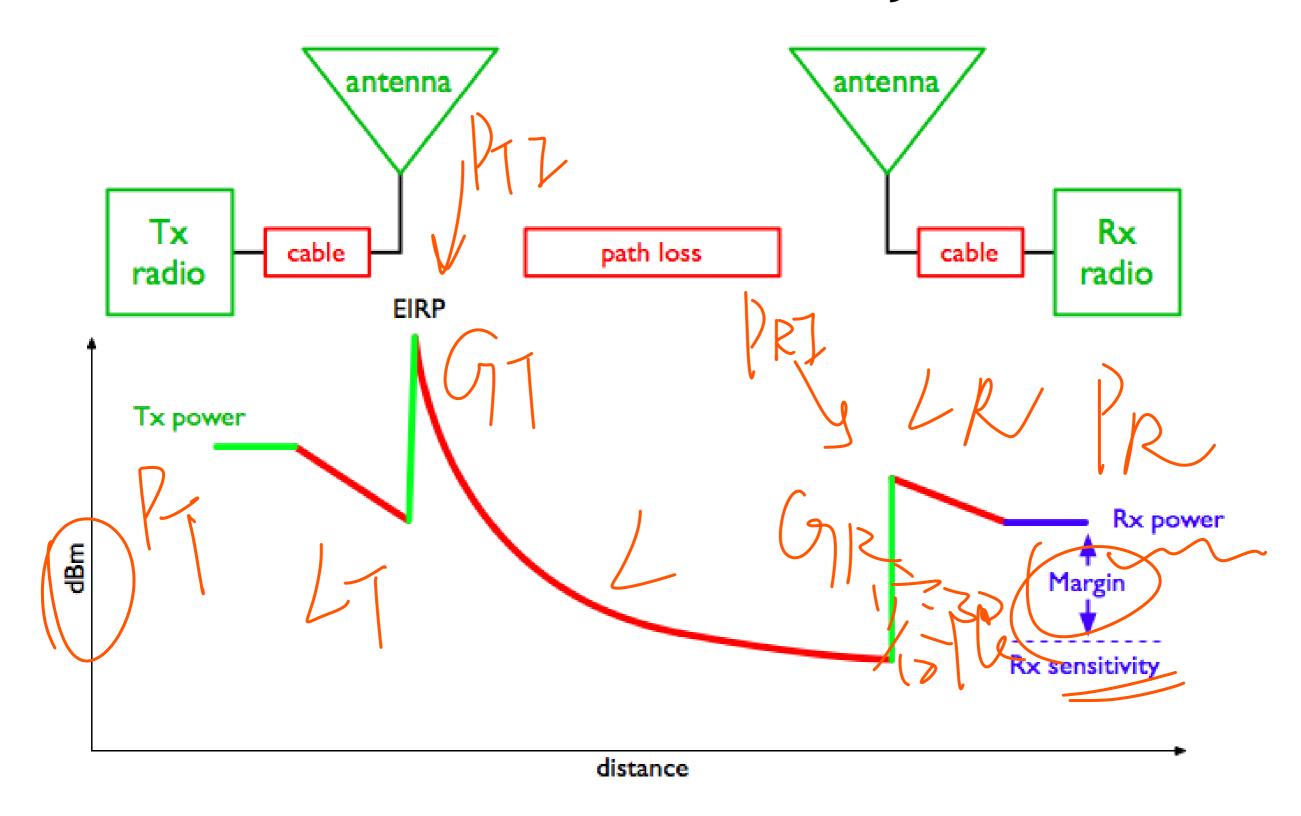


Effect of Distance and Frequency





Power in a wireless system





Linkbudget 134 134

- ► The performance of any communication link depends on the quality of the equipment being used.
- Link budget is a way of quantifying the link performance.
- The received power in an 802.11 link is determined by three factors: transmit power, transmitting antenna gain, and receiving antenna gain.
- If that power, minus the *free space loss* of the link path, is greater than the *minimum received signal level* of the receiving radio, then a link is possible.
- The difference between the minimum received signal level and the actual received power is called the *link margin*.
- The link margin must be positive, and should be maximized (should be at least 10dB or more for reliable links).



Applying dB to Power

$$P_{dBm} = 10 \cdot \log_{10} \left(\frac{P}{1mW} \right)$$

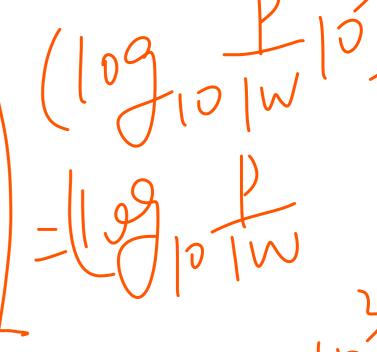
$$P_{dBW} = 10 \cdot \log_{10} \left(\frac{P}{1W} \right)$$

$$P_{dBm} = P_{dBW} + 30$$



$$dBW \pm dB = dBW$$











Applying dB to Power (2)

dBW = dB relative to 1W dBm = dB relative to 1mW

```
\rightarrow +30 dBm
              0dBW
1W →
10W →
              +10dBW
                              \rightarrow +40 dBm
              +20dBW
                              \rightarrow +50 dBm
100W →
0.1W \rightarrow -10dBW
                              \rightarrow +20 dBm
0.01W →
              -20dBW
                             \rightarrow +10 dBm
                              \rightarrow 0 \text{ dBm}
0.001W \rightarrow -30dBW
```

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 $\frac{\text{n.b. dBW} = \text{dBm} - 30\text{dB}}{\text{n.b. dBW}}$



Example link budget calculation

Let's estimate the feasibility of a **5 km** link, with one access point and one client radio.

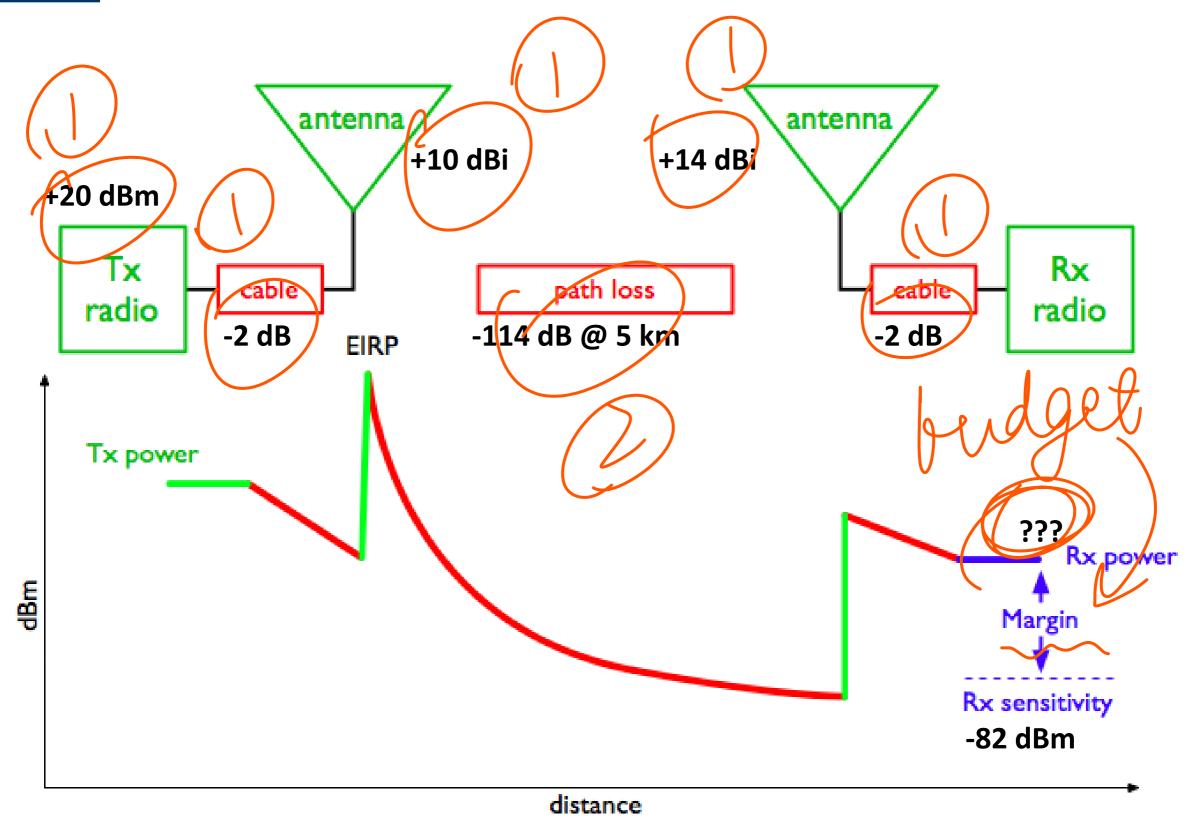
The access point is connected to an antenna with **10 dBi** gain, with a transmitting power of **20 dBm** and a receive sensitivity of **-89 dBm**.

The client is connected to an antenna with 14 dBi gain, with a transmitting power of 15 dBm and a receive sensitivity of -82 dBm.

The cables in both systems are short, with a loss of **2dB** at each side at the 2.4 GHz frequency of operation.



AP to Client link





Link budget: AP to Client link

20 dBm (TX Power AP)

- + 10 dBi (Antenna Gain AR)
- 2 dB (Cable Losses AP)
- + 14 dBi (Antenna Gain Client)
 - 2 dB (Cable Losses Client)

40 dBm Total Gain

-114 dB (free space loss @5 km)

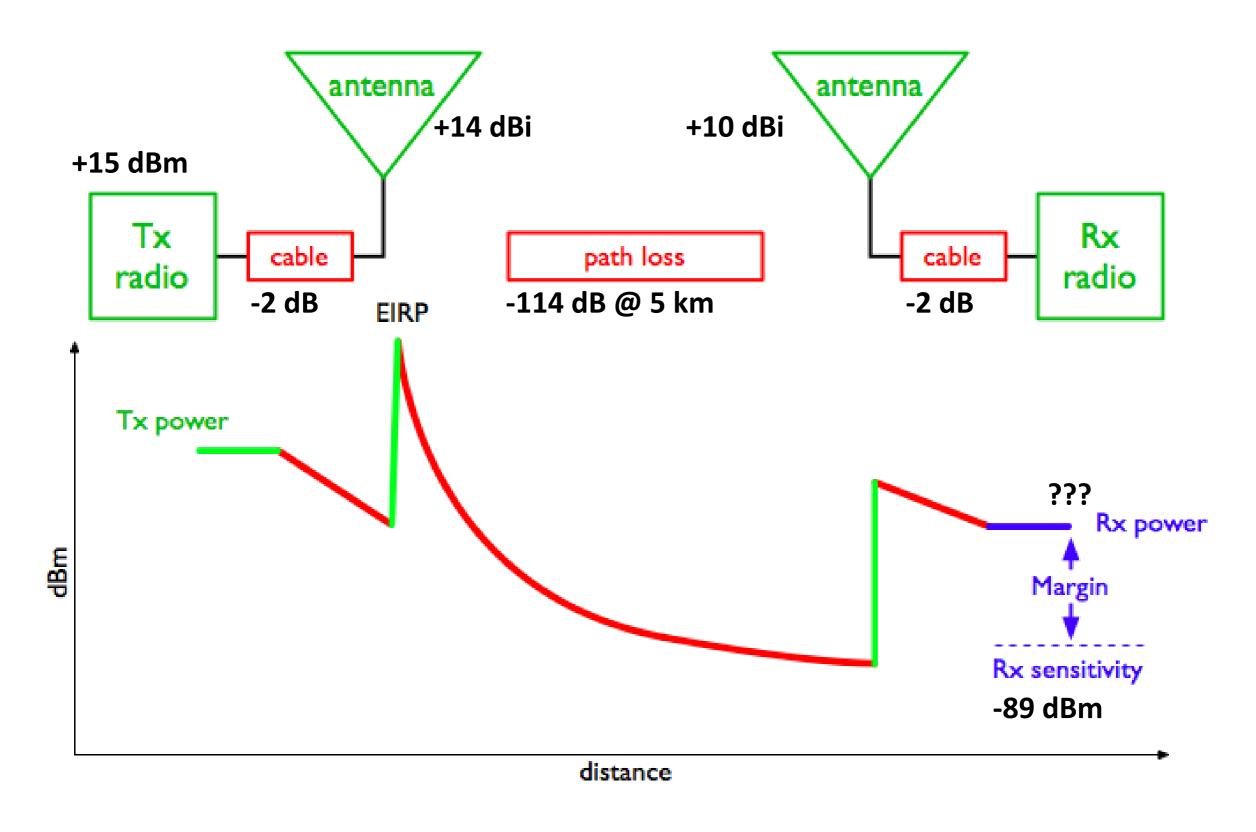
→ 4 dBm (expected received signal level)

--82 dBm (sensitivity of Client)

8 dB (link margin)



Opposite direction: Client to AP



University of Glasgow

Link budget: Client to AP link

15 dBm (TX Power Client)

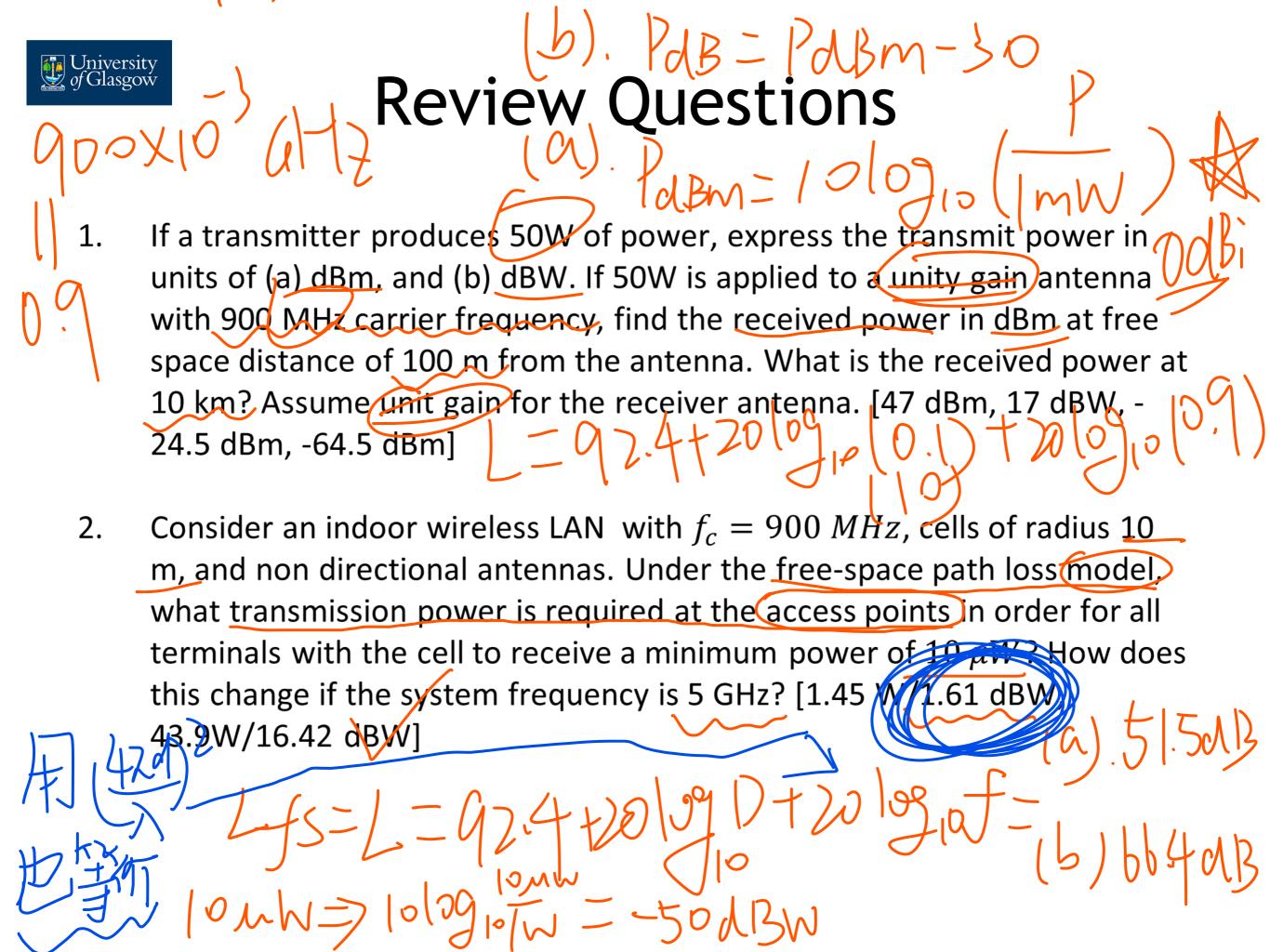
- + 14 dBi (Antenna Gain Client)
- 2 dB (Cable Losses Client)
- + 10 dBi (Antenna Gain AP)
- 2 dB (Cable Losses AP)

35 dBm Total Gain

-114 dB (free space loss @5 km)

- -79 dBm (expected received signal level)
- --89 dBm (sensitivity of AP)

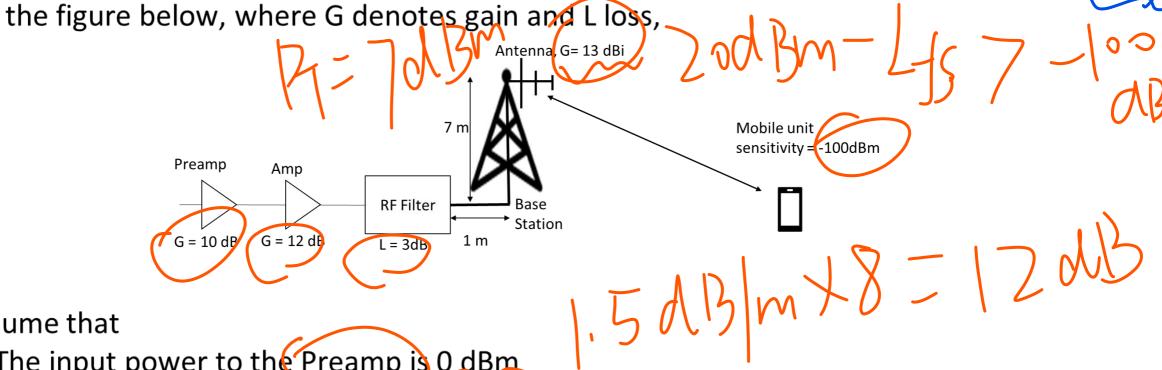
10 dB (link margin)





Review Questions (contd)

3. Consider a communication system with carrier frequency $f_c = 10$ GHz. The communication link between a base station and a mobile unit is described in



Assume that

- The input power to the Preamp is 0 dBm
- The output of the filter connected to the transmitting antenna through a feeder cable having a loss of 1.5 dB per metre 1.5 / 15 W
- The mobile unit's antenna has a gain of 0 dBi and its feeder loss is negligible
- Determine the effective isotropic radiated power in watts
- Determine the acceptable maximum distance between the base station and the mobile unit (i.e., the coverage range).

[20 dBm.