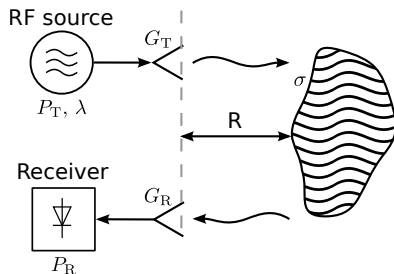


- 3** Radar Equation and Radar Cross-Section
 - Radar Equation in Linear and Logarithmic Scale
 - Radar Cross-Section of Simple Objects
 - Exercises

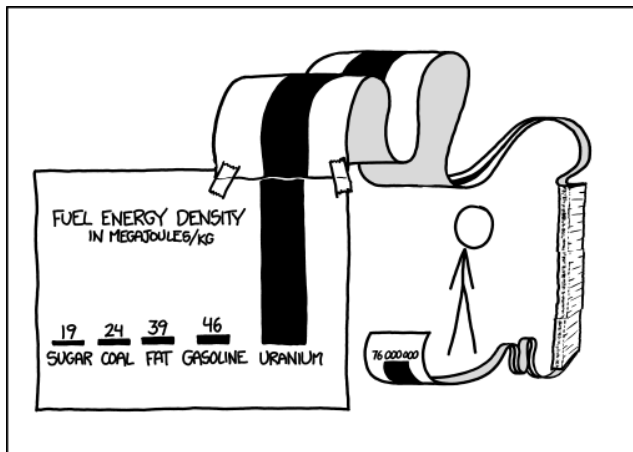
The Radar Equation



| | |
|-----------|------------------------------|
| P_R | Power at the receiver |
| P_T | Power of the transmitter |
| G_T | Transmit antenna gain |
| G_R | Receive antenna gain |
| λ | Carrier wavelength |
| σ | Target's radar cross-section |
| R | Target's distance |

Radar equation
$$P_R = \frac{P_T G_T G_R \lambda^2 \sigma}{(4\pi)^3 R^4}$$

Advantage of Logarithmic Scales



SCIENCE TIP: LOG SCALES ARE FOR QUITTERS WHO CAN'T
FIND ENOUGH PAPER TO MAKE THEIR POINT PROPERLY.

Source: <https://xkcd.com/1162/>

Calculations with Decibel

- Decibel is a unit of measurement to express a *ratio* in logarithmic scale.
- It is used to get a grasp on very high/low numbers and ratios.
- Reference is denoted by suffix (dBm, dBV, dBsm).
- Sometimes the reference is implied, e.g., Watt for power, or an isotropic sphere as reference for the antenna gain.

$$10 \log_{10} \left(\frac{P}{P_0} \right) \quad 20 \log_{10} \left(\frac{V}{V_0} \right)$$

$$\begin{aligned} 1 \text{ mW} &= 10 \log_{10} \left(\frac{1 \text{ mW}}{1 \text{ mW}} \right) \text{ dB} = && 0 \text{ dBm} \\ &= 10 \log_{10} \left(\frac{0.001 \text{ W}}{1 \text{ W}} \right) \text{ dB} = && -30 \text{ dB} \end{aligned}$$

Radar Equation - Part 2

Radar Equation in dB

$$P_{R,dB} = P_{T,dB} + G_{T,dB} + G_{R,dB} + 20 \log_{10} \left(\frac{\lambda}{1 \text{ m}} \right) + \\ 10 \log_{10} \left(\frac{\sigma}{1 \text{ m}^2} \right) - 30 \log_{10} (4\pi) - 40 \log_{10} \left(\frac{R}{1 \text{ m}} \right)$$

Signal to Noise Ratio for AWGN

$$P_N = 4k_B T B_N \quad \text{SNR} = P_R / P_N$$

$$k_B = 1.38 \cdot 10^{-23} \text{ J/K} \quad \text{Boltzmann constant}$$

T

Temperature of the receiver in Kelvin

$$B_N = \frac{1}{T_{\text{obs}}}$$

Noise Bandwidth in Hz

T_{obs}

Observation time

Airport Radar Specifications

An X-Band airport radar has the following specification:

$$\begin{array}{lll} P_T = 1 \text{ kW} & f_c = 10 \text{ GHz} & T = 290 \text{ K} \\ G_T = 44.15 \text{ dB} & R_{\max} = 10 \text{ km} & B_N = 1 \text{ GHz} \\ G_R = 44.15 \text{ dB} & \sigma_{\text{Airplane}} = 100 \text{ m}^2 & \end{array}$$

Minimum Receive Power

$$\begin{aligned} P_{R,\text{dB}} = & 10 \log_{10} \left(\frac{1000 \text{ W}}{1 \text{ W}} \right) + 44.15 \text{ dB} + 44.15 \text{ dB} + \\ & + 20 \log_{10} \left(\frac{3 \cdot 10^8 \text{ m/s}}{10 \cdot 10^9 \text{ Hz } 1 \text{ m}} \right) + 10 \log_{10} \left(\frac{100 \text{ m}}{1 \text{ m}} \right) \\ & - 30 \log_{10} (4\pi) - 40 \log_{10} \left(\frac{10\,000 \text{ m}}{1 \text{ m}} \right) \approx -85.13 \text{ dB} \end{aligned}$$

Signal to Noise Ratio

$$P_R = 10^{-85.13/10} \approx 3.066 \text{ nW}$$

$$P_N = 4k_B T B_N = 4 \cdot 1.38 \cdot 10^{-23} \text{ J/K} \cdot 290 \text{ K} \cdot 10^9 \text{ Hz} \approx 16 \text{ pW}$$

$$P_{N,\text{dB}} = 10 \log_{10} \left(\frac{4 \text{ pW}}{1 \text{ W}} \right) \approx -108 \text{ dB}$$

$$\text{SNR}_{\text{dB}} = 10 \log_{10} \left(\frac{P_R}{P_N} \right) = P_{R,\text{dB}} - P_{N,\text{dB}} \approx 20.8 \text{ dB}$$

RCS of a Perfectly Conducting Sphere

$$\frac{\sigma_{\text{Sphere}}}{\pi r^2} = \left| \frac{j}{kr} \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} (-1)^n (2n+1) \left[\left(\frac{kr J_{n-1}(kr) - n J_n(kr)}{kr H_{n-1}^{(1)}(kr) - n H_n^{(1)}(kr)} \right) - \left(\frac{J_n(kr)}{H_n^{(1)}(kr)} \right) \right] \right|^2$$

$k = \frac{2\pi}{\lambda}$ wave number

$\lambda = \frac{c_0}{f_c}$ wave length

J_n spherical Bessel function of first kind and order n

$H_n^{(1)}$ Hankel function $H_n^{(1)} = J_n(kr) + j Y_n(kr)$

$Y_n(kr)$ spherical Bessel function of second kind and order n

■ Bessel functions of many kinds are in the `scipy.special` module

Approximation to the RCS of Simple Objects

$$\text{RCS of a corner reflector} \quad \sigma_{\text{CR}} \approx \frac{4\pi a^4}{3\lambda^2} \quad \text{for } a \gg \lambda$$

$$\text{RCS of a cylinder} \quad \sigma_{\text{Cylinder}} \approx \frac{2\pi r h^2}{\lambda} \quad \text{for } r, h \gg \lambda$$

$$\text{RCS of a sphere} \quad \sigma_{\text{Sphere}} \approx \begin{cases} \pi r^2 & 2\pi r \gtrsim \lambda \\ 9(kr)^4 \pi r^2 & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

$$k = \frac{2\pi}{\lambda} \quad \text{wave number}$$

$$\lambda = \frac{c_0}{f_c} \quad \text{wave length}$$

$$r \quad \text{radius of cylinder or sphere}$$

$$a \quad \text{sidelength of the corner reflector}$$

$$h \quad \text{height of the cylinder}$$

Exercise: RCS of Sphere and Corner Reflector

- Write three functions to calculate the RCS
 - of a sphere using the approximation,
 - of a sphere using the exact equation (up to 100 iteration), and
 - of a corner reflector using the approximation.

Input arguments for all functions should be the same, namely

- the size as first parameter, i.e. radius of the sphere or sidelength of the corner reflector, and
- the frequency as second parameter.

This provides for easy substitution using function handles (makes next exercise easier).

For regions not covered by an approximation, NaN should be returned.

Homework: Compare RCS of a Sphere and a Corner Reflector

- ▶ For a frequency of $f_c = 1$ GHz, plot the RCS of the sphere and the corner reflector (in one plot) in dBsm over the size of the object in wavelengths.

The x-axis should be logarithmic from about 0.01λ to 10λ to see the interesting regions.

- ▶ Why is a corner reflector preferred as a test-target for high frequencies (λ smaller than extent of the target)?
- ▶ Comment on how the plots change with a change of the frequency.
- ▶ What happens for very low, e.g., 2, or very high, e.g., 1000, number of iterations in the analytic expression of the RCS of the sphere?

Homework: Radar Equation with Simple Objects

- ▶ Given radar system for pedestrian tracking:

```
Pt_dBm=1.0      # transmit power
Gt_dB=15.0      # gain of the TX antenna
Gr_dB=15.0      # gain of the RX antenna
Pr_min_dBm=-120. # minimal required power at the receiver
fc=77e9         # carrier frequency
```

- ▶ Plot the receive power for $a=[2.0, 1.0, 0.1, 0.01]$; $f_c=77\text{e}9$, where a is the radius of a sphere or the sidelength of a corner reflector.
- ▶ For which ranges can a corner reflector and a sphere be detected by this system?

Homework: Distance for Pedestrian Classification

- ▶ A pedestrian has a radar cross-section of $\sigma_{\text{Person}} \approx 1 \text{ m}^2$. To not only detect, but also classify a pedestrian, the receive signal needs a dynamic range of at least 20 dB, i.e., the received power must be 20 dB above the minimum receive power of the system.
 - This is because hand and feet are required to be seen by the radar for classification.
- ▶ Up to which distance can the radar system be used for pedestrian classification?

Homework: Corner Reflector on the Moon

- ▶ Apollo 11-15 placed corner reflectors of side length $a \approx 0.5$ m on the moon. The average distance between earth and moon is $R \approx 385\,000$ km
- ▶ Which transmit power would be needed to detect the signal using the airport radar and a required SNR of 10 dB?
- ▶ How much observation time T_{obs} would be required to detect the corner reflector?
- ▶ Is it feasible to use such a radar for this task?