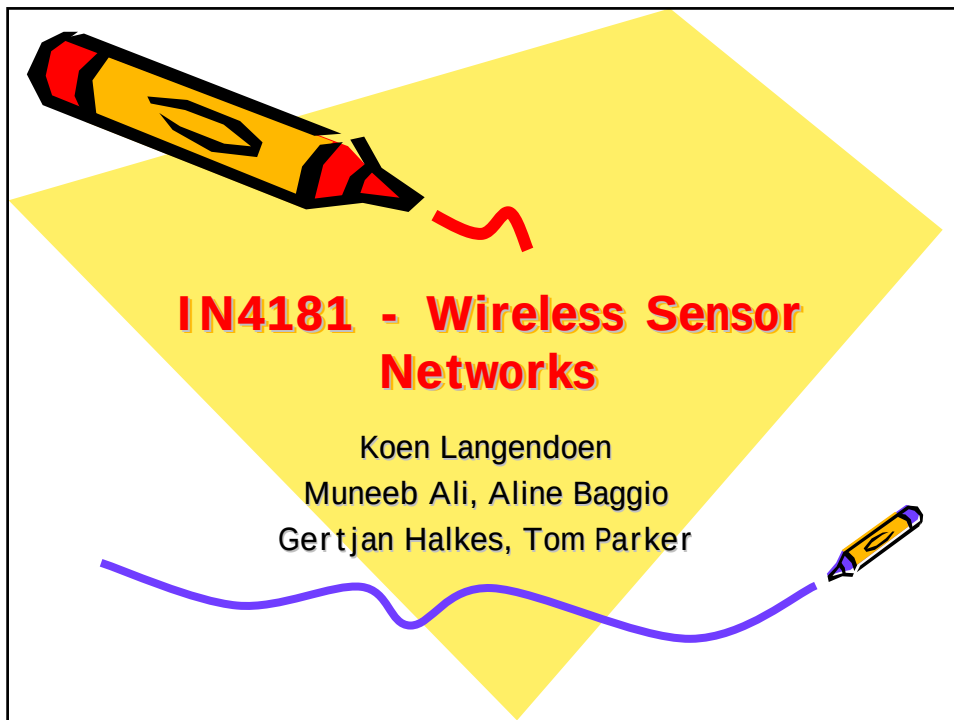




**IN4181 - Wireless Sensor Networks**

Koen Langendoen  
Muneeb Ali, Aline Baggio  
Gertjan Halkes, Tom Parker

## VLSI Trends: Moore's Law

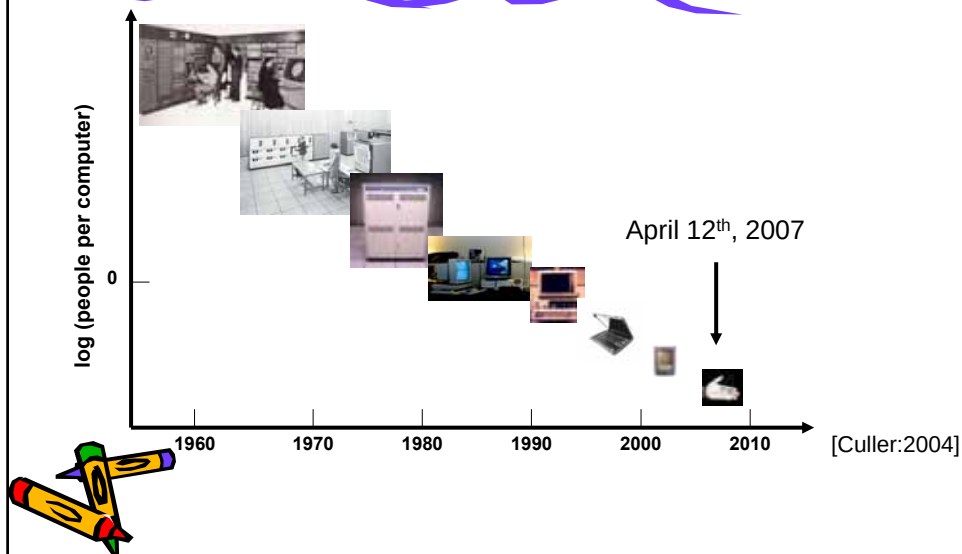
- in 1965, Gordon Moore **predicted** that transistors would continue to shrink, allowing:
  - **doubled** transistor density
  - **doubled** performance every 18-24 months



Gordon Moore  
Intel Co-Founder



## Bell's law: every decade a new generation



## Wireless Sensor Networks The beginning ...



Next Century  
Challenges: Mobile  
Networking for  
**"Smart Dust"**

J. M. Kahn,  
R. H. Katz,  
K. S. J. Pister  
(MobiCom 1999)

## Smart Dust @ UC Berkeley

Advances in digital circuitry will bring us:

- ultra low-power devices, with
- small form factor, at
- very low cost



fostering a new range of applications

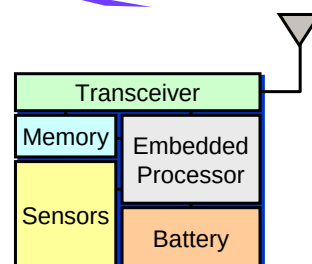
Autonomous sensing and communication  
in a cubic millimeter



## Wireless sensor node

Integrated device

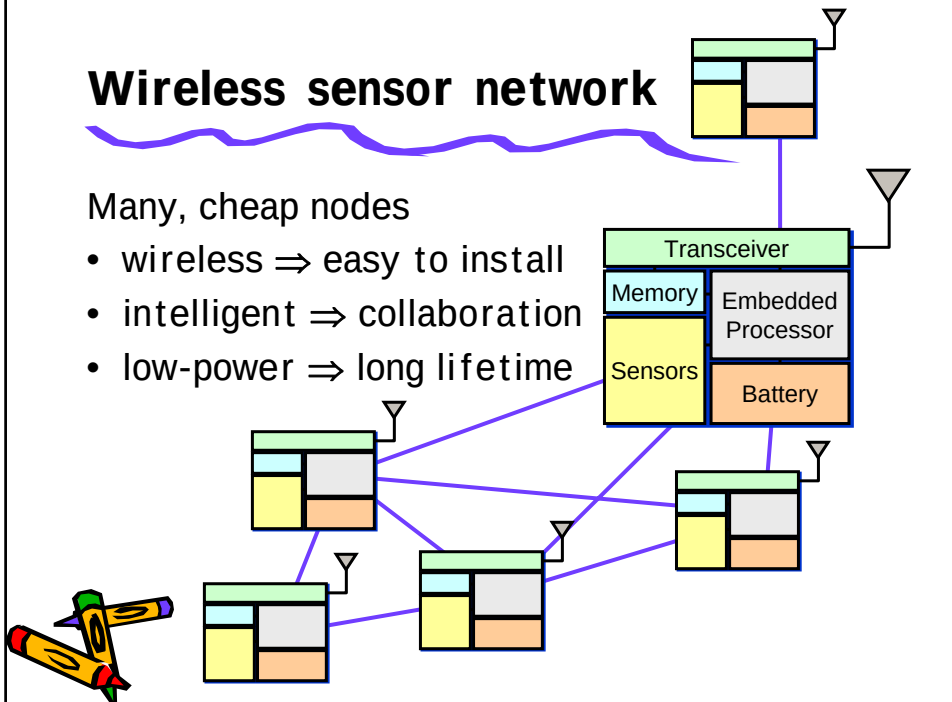
- power supply
- sensors
- embedded processor
- wireless link



## Wireless sensor network

Many, cheap nodes

- wireless  $\Rightarrow$  easy to install
- intelligent  $\Rightarrow$  collaboration
- low-power  $\Rightarrow$  long lifetime



## Envisioned applications

Urban warfare



Fire fighting



and many more...



Process industry



Medical



Agriculture



## The first steps ...

- Develop COTS hardware
- Develop software (TinyOS)
- Run experiments
- Prototype applications



[Vanderbilt, 2003]



[UCB, 2002]

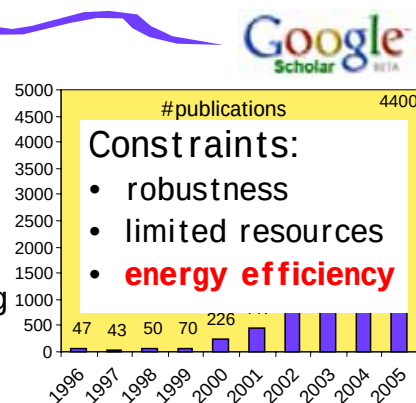


[Princeton, 2004]

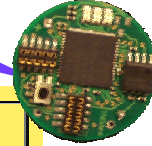
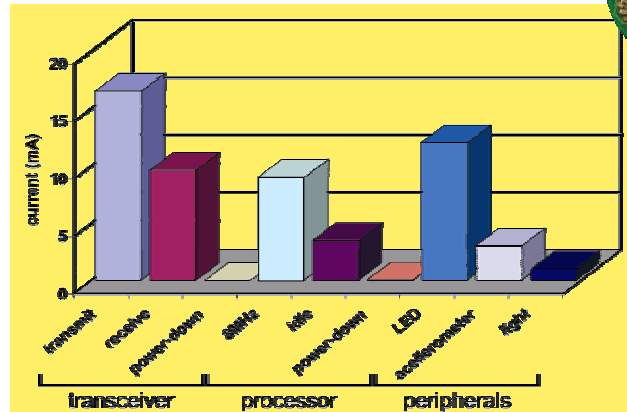
## WSN research

### Topics:

- self-configuration
- node localization
- low-bitrate communication
- ad-hoc routing
- in-network data processing
- time synchronization
- ...



## Energy breakdown



TNOdes



## The battery crisis (Moore's law evil twin brother)

Limited capacity

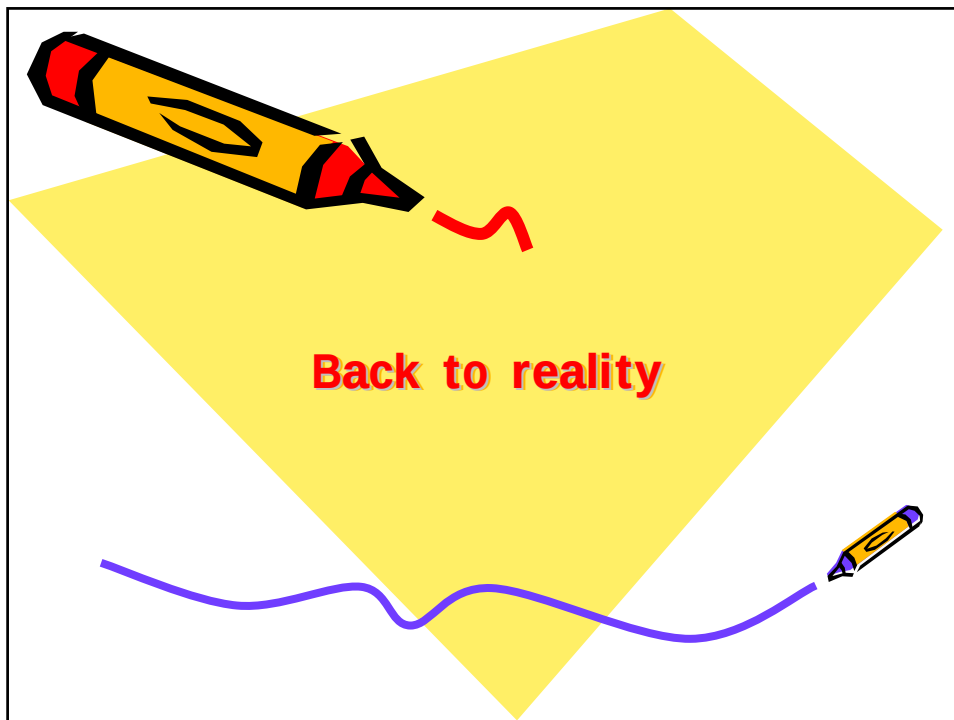


~2 kcal (per battery)

Slow increase of capacity

- ~8% yearly increase ( $\text{Wh}/\text{cm}^3$ )
- doubles every 9 years





## Course information

- Goal:
  - to acquire knowledge and understanding of **Wireless Sensor Networks**, in particular, of how the inherent need for **energy-efficient operation** requires a new approach to distributed computing.
- Means:
  - by reading, presenting, and discussing **state-of-the-art** research papers



## Course contents

- Lectures (2x)
  - wireless communication
  - ad-hoc + sensor networks
- Seminar (5x)
  - medium access control
  - localization
  - routing
  - data processing
  - prototyping & deployments

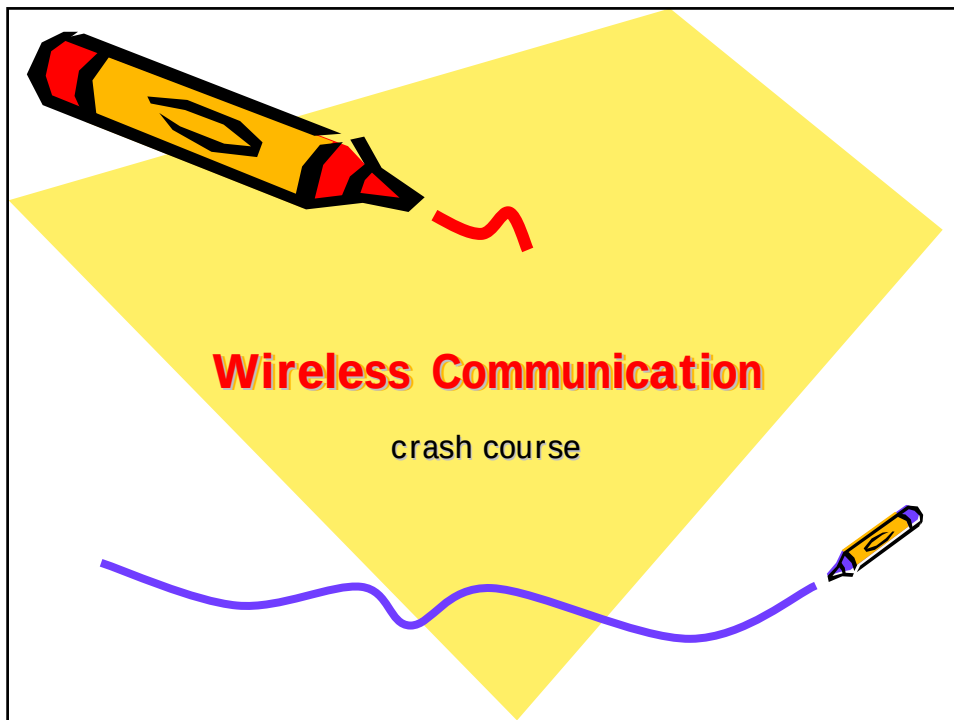


## Seminar organization

- Audience
  - prepare by reading classic papers
  - submit short summary before class
- Presenters
  - select a special topic (**today**)
  - browse recent literature
  - propose paper for presentation (**- 1 week**)
  - prepare Powerpoint slides (**- 2 days**)
  - present paper + lead discussion



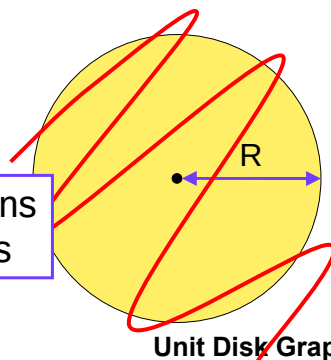




## Wireless communication

- Error prone, unpredictable medium
- Impact on protocol stack
  - medium access control
  - localization
  - routing

Unrealistic assumptions  
in many WSN papers



Unit Disk Graph model



## Bottom-up approach

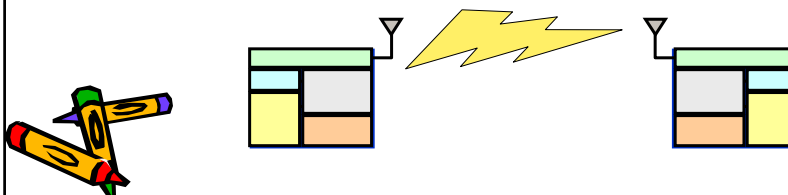
- Wireless channel
  - RF propagation
  - noise & interference
- Physical layer
  - modulation
  - coding



## Wireless = Waves

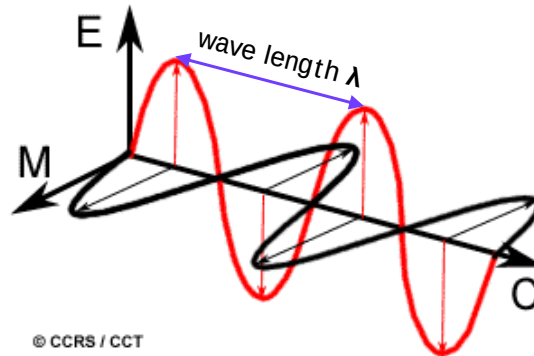
- Electromagnetic radiation
- Sinusoidal wave with a frequency/wavelength
- Emitted by sinusoidal current running through a wire (transmitting antenna)
- Induces current in receiving antenna

$$f = \frac{c}{\lambda}$$



## Electromagnetic waves

- Propagation in vacuum

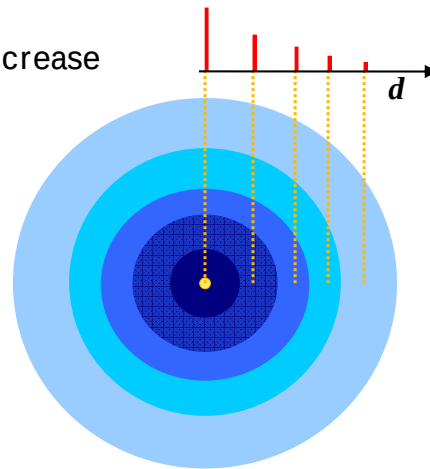


## Electromagnetic waves

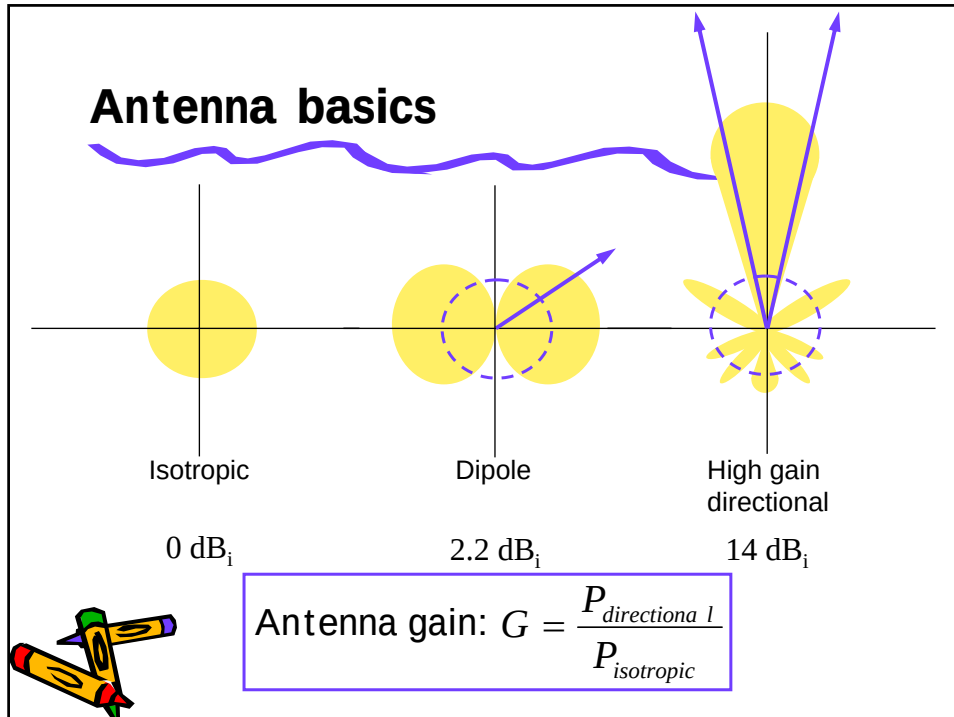
- Free-space loss
  - due to surface area increase

$$P_R = P_T G_T G_R \left( \frac{\lambda}{4\pi d} \right)^2$$

Also known as Friis  
free space formula



## Antenna basics

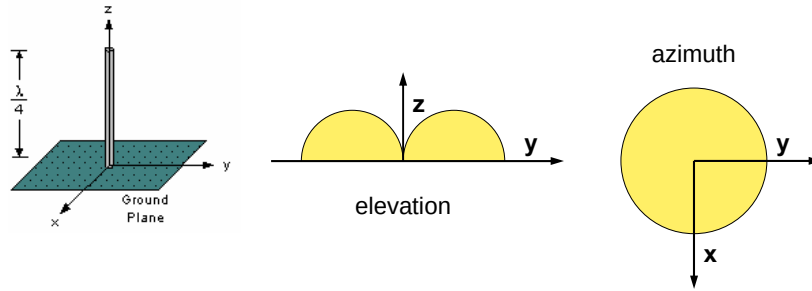


## dB and friends

- dB (Decibel)
  - Denote the **difference** between two power levels
  - $(P_2/P_1)[dB] = 10 * \log_{10} (P_2/P_1)$
- dBm (dB milliWatt)
  - Denote the power level relative to 1 mW
  - $P[dBm] = 10 * \log_{10} (P/1mW)$
- dBi (dB isotropic)
  - Denote the **gain** a given antenna has, as compared to a theoretical isotropic (point source) antenna

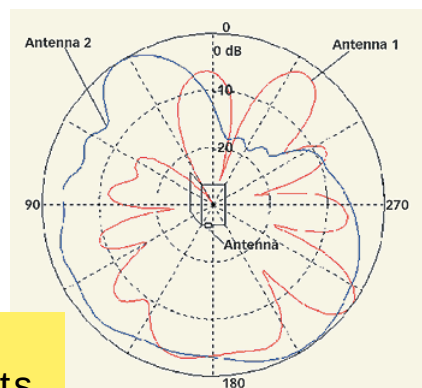
## Antenna radiation in theory

### Vertical Whip Antenna, 1/4 Wave



[[http://www.rfcafe.com/references/electrical/antenna\\_patterns.htm](http://www.rfcafe.com/references/electrical/antenna_patterns.htm)]

## Antenna radiation in practice



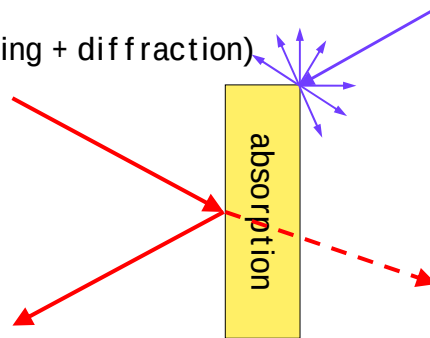
### Distortion:

- metal objects
- electronics
- polarization

[<http://www.mwrf.com/>]

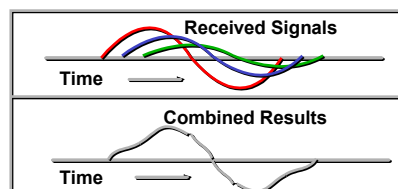
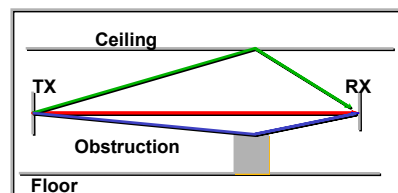
## Wireless Transmission Impairments

- Attenuation (free space loss, directionality)
- Noise (thermal + impulse)
- Objects
  - **reflection** (+ scattering + diffraction)
  - absorption
  - refraction

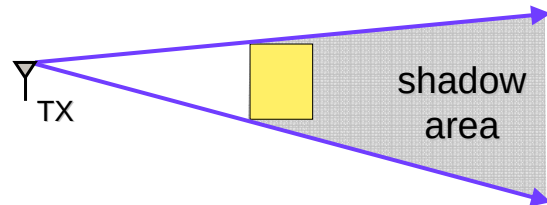


## Reflections $\Rightarrow$ multipath distortion

- Propagation along multiple paths leads to self interference
- Unlike attenuation and noise, multipath cannot be handled by increasing the send power ☹



## Reflections $\Rightarrow$ shadowing



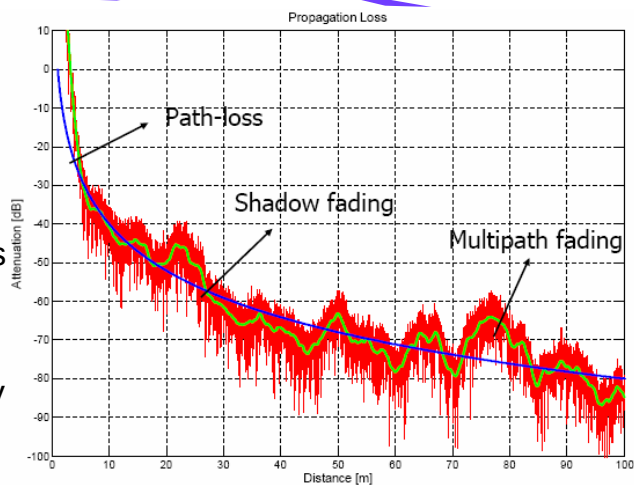
- A large object shields the area behind it
- As for multipath, shadowing cannot be handled by increasing the send power



## Propagation loss

Attenuation =  
path loss  
+ shadowing  
+ multipath

Fading depends  
– location  
– time  
– frequency



[G. Janssen, ET4358]



## Path-loss Exponents

$$P_R = P_T G_T G_R \left( \frac{\lambda}{4\pi d} \right)^2$$

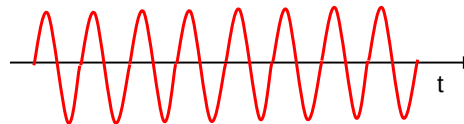
- Depends on environment:

- Free space 2
- Urban area cellular 2.7 to 3.5
- Shadowed urban cell 3 to 5
- In building LOS 1.6 to 1.8
- Obstructed in building 4 to 6
- Obstructed in factories 2 to 3



## Physical layer

- Encoding information as waves
  - modification of a **carrier** signal
  - high frequency: low loss, small antennas



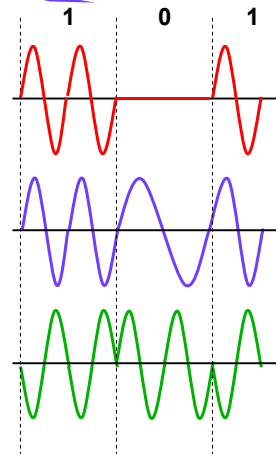
- Modulation
  - digital to analog conversion (and back)
  - options: amplitude, frequency, phase





## Digital modulation

- Amplitude Shift Keying (ASK):
  - very simple
  - low bandwidth requirements
  - very susceptible to interference
- Frequency Shift Keying (FSK):
  - needs larger bandwidth
- Phase Shift Keying (PSK):
  - more complex
  - robust against interference



## Mote Evolution

| Mote Type<br>Year                | WLC<br>1998                                                                         | Reel<br>1999                                                                        | Reel 2<br>2000                                                                      | Dot<br>2000                                                                         | Mica<br>2001                                                                         | Mica2Dot<br>2002                                                                      | Mica 2<br>2002                                                                        | Telos<br>2004                                                                         |
|----------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
|                                  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Microcontroller                  |                                                                                     |                                                                                     |                                                                                     |                                                                                     |                                                                                      |                                                                                       |                                                                                       |                                                                                       |
| Type                             | AT90LS8535                                                                          |                                                                                     | ATmega163                                                                           |                                                                                     | ATmega128                                                                            |                                                                                       | TI MSP430                                                                             |                                                                                       |
| Program memory (KB)              | 8                                                                                   |                                                                                     | 16                                                                                  |                                                                                     | 128                                                                                  |                                                                                       | 60                                                                                    |                                                                                       |
| RAM (KB)                         | 0.5                                                                                 |                                                                                     | 1                                                                                   |                                                                                     | 4                                                                                    |                                                                                       | 2                                                                                     |                                                                                       |
| Active Power (mW)                | 15                                                                                  |                                                                                     | 15                                                                                  |                                                                                     | 8                                                                                    |                                                                                       | 33                                                                                    |                                                                                       |
| Sleep Power ( $\mu$ W)           | 45                                                                                  |                                                                                     | 45                                                                                  |                                                                                     | 75                                                                                   |                                                                                       | 75                                                                                    |                                                                                       |
| Wakeup Time ( $\mu$ s)           | 1000                                                                                |                                                                                     | 36                                                                                  |                                                                                     | 180                                                                                  |                                                                                       | 180                                                                                   |                                                                                       |
| Nonvolatile storage              |                                                                                     |                                                                                     |                                                                                     |                                                                                     |                                                                                      |                                                                                       |                                                                                       |                                                                                       |
| Chip                             | 24LC256                                                                             |                                                                                     |                                                                                     |                                                                                     | AT45DB041B                                                                           |                                                                                       | ST M24M015                                                                            |                                                                                       |
| Connection type                  | I <sup>2</sup> C                                                                    |                                                                                     |                                                                                     |                                                                                     | SPI                                                                                  |                                                                                       | I <sup>2</sup> C                                                                      |                                                                                       |
| Size (KB)                        | 32                                                                                  |                                                                                     |                                                                                     |                                                                                     | 512                                                                                  |                                                                                       | 128                                                                                   |                                                                                       |
| Communication                    |                                                                                     |                                                                                     |                                                                                     |                                                                                     |                                                                                      |                                                                                       |                                                                                       |                                                                                       |
| Radio                            | TR1000                                                                              |                                                                                     |                                                                                     |                                                                                     | TR1000                                                                               | CC1000                                                                                | CC2420                                                                                |                                                                                       |
| Data rate (kbps)                 | 10                                                                                  |                                                                                     |                                                                                     |                                                                                     | 40                                                                                   | 38.4                                                                                  | 250                                                                                   |                                                                                       |
| Modulation type                  | OOK                                                                                 |                                                                                     |                                                                                     |                                                                                     | ASK                                                                                  | FSK                                                                                   | O-QPSK                                                                                |                                                                                       |
| Receive Power (mW)               | 9                                                                                   |                                                                                     |                                                                                     |                                                                                     | 12                                                                                   | 20                                                                                    | 18                                                                                    |                                                                                       |
| Transmit Power at 0dBm (mW)      | 36                                                                                  |                                                                                     |                                                                                     |                                                                                     | 36                                                                                   | 42                                                                                    | 35                                                                                    |                                                                                       |
| Power Consumption                |                                                                                     |                                                                                     |                                                                                     |                                                                                     |                                                                                      |                                                                                       |                                                                                       |                                                                                       |
| Minimum Operation (V)            | 2.7                                                                                 |                                                                                     | 2.7                                                                                 |                                                                                     | 2.7                                                                                  |                                                                                       | 1.8                                                                                   |                                                                                       |
| Total Active Power (mW)          | 24                                                                                  |                                                                                     | 27                                                                                  |                                                                                     | 44                                                                                   |                                                                                       | 89                                                                                    |                                                                                       |
| Programming and Sensor Interface |                                                                                     |                                                                                     |                                                                                     |                                                                                     |                                                                                      |                                                                                       |                                                                                       |                                                                                       |
| Expansion                        | none                                                                                | 51-pin                                                                              | 51-pin                                                                              | none                                                                                | 51-pin                                                                               | 19-pin                                                                                | 51-pin                                                                                | 10-pin                                                                                |
| Communication                    | IEEE 1284 (programming) and RS232 (requires additional hardware)                    |                                                                                     |                                                                                     |                                                                                     |                                                                                      |                                                                                       |                                                                                       |                                                                                       |
| Integrated Sensors               | no                                                                                  | no                                                                                  | no                                                                                  | yes                                                                                 | no                                                                                   | no                                                                                    | no                                                                                    | yes                                                                                   |

## Physical layer techniques

- Handling noise
  - channel coding
- Handling fading
  - location: antenna diversity
  - frequency: hopping, spread spectrum, OFDM, UWB
  - time: (retransmissions; link layer and up)

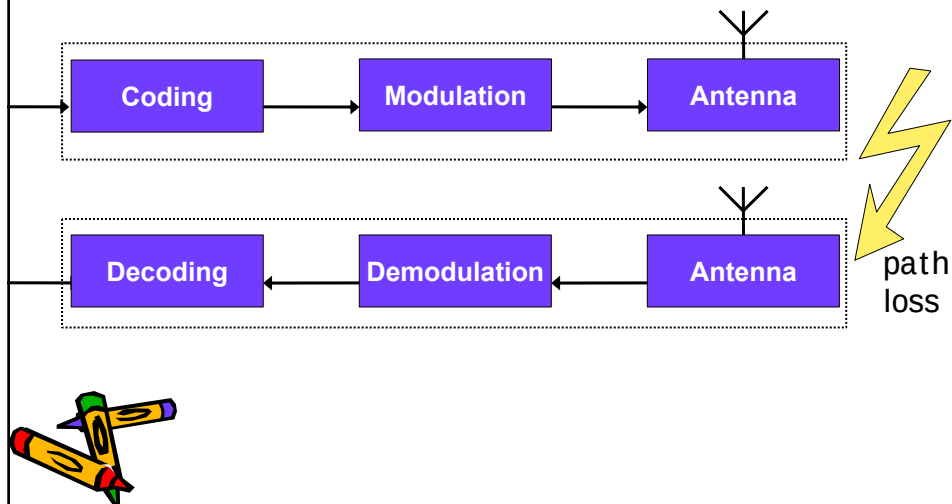


## Channel coding

- **Forward** Error Correction (FEC)
  - add redundant information at sender
  - coding gain vs. overheads (code rate, processing)
- Types
  - block codes (BCH, Reed-Solomon)
  - convolution codes (Viterbi, Turbo)
- Error bursts
  - interleaving (at the expense of latency)

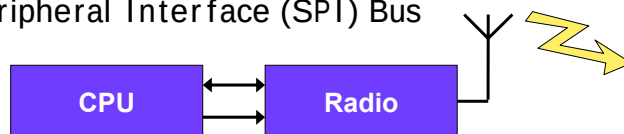


## Radio Block Diagram



## Radio interface

- Data
  - Serial Peripheral Interface (SPI) Bus



- Control
  - configuration (freq. channel, etc.)
  - TX/RX mode (**half duplex**)
  - power on/off (sleep modes)



## Wireless Sensor Networks

- Technology push
  - “Smart Dust: autonomous sensing and communication in a cubic millimeter”
- Novel research area
  - focus on energy efficiency
- Hostile wireless environment
  - channel basics (RF propagation & interference)
  - physical layer (modulation & coding)



## Home work

- Check out info on Blackboard
- Register with the CPM submission system
  - send {Name, student nr, Net ID} to  
Koen Langendoen <k.g.langendoen@tudelft.nl>
  - try account at  
<http://cpm.ewi.tudelft.nl/>

