# What's All This 5G Stuff, Anyhow?

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What is the amateur radio operator expected to know? Prepared for the Cascades Amateur Radio Club, W8JXN.org

### **Presentation Objectives**

- Electromagnetics Amateurs Expected to Know
- Relevant forms of radiation
- Fields quantified
- Work—High School Physics
- Thermal Impedance
  - Resistance
  - Reactance
- Inexpensive instrumentation to measure EMS

# Not Presented Herein

- Subjective concepts
- Conclusions

### What is an antenna?

### • A wire designed to be resonant at a named frequency.



### Radiating Antenna Fields—the Near-Field

- Reactive
  - Inductive
  - stores energy
- Does not radiate
- Working element of touch screens
- Completely vanish in a few wavelengths.
- Sometimes called the Fresnel region
- Density function: 1/d<sup>3</sup>



Augustin-Jean Fresnel



### Radiating Antenna Fields—the Far-Field

- Energy Escapes, not stored
- Can circumvent the globe
- Sometimes called the Fraunhofer region
- Density 1/d<sup>2</sup>



Joseph von Fraunhofer

### Near-Field Radiation

- Near-field is inductive reactive
  - E-field and H-field out of phase by 90°
  - E/H fields must be perpendicular to radiate
  - Remember the right-hand rule.
  - Because no radiation, no spending of energy, only storage
- There is a transition region

# Far-Field Radiation

- E/H fields
  - orthogonal or perpendicular allowing radiation
  - In phase
- Transmitter energy can be spent



### Interference with Medical Implants

- Is the implant designed to protect (hardened) against general RFI and solar flares?
- Sources of RFI
  - Cell phones
  - The sun
  - Handheld transceivers
  - Mobile transceivers
  - Electric vehicle DC-DC converters, inverters
- International standard for RF immunity:
  - 1993 rev of IEC Standard 60601-1-2
- It falls on manufacturers to design according RFI standards.

# Pop Quiz

- Someone says to you:
  - Because 5G networks are new, the FCC should update regulations for 5G.
- How do you respond?
  - Using logic
  - Circumventing controversy
  - Putting the question into perspective.

### High School Physics

- What did we learn in high school physics about WORK?
  - Done on an object
  - When a force
  - Accomplishes
    - Moves an object a distance
    - Generating heat
  - Units of measure
    - Joules per second → 1 Joule/sec = 1 Watt = i\*i\*r = e\*e/r
    - Therefore, 1 Joule = (1 Ampere)<sup>2</sup> \* 1 Ohm \* 1 second
- Power?
  - A rate of doing work
    - Is Work / time

### Why Is Work of Importance?

- In order to injure a mammal's body what must be done?
  - Answer: work
  - It doesn't happen because somebody waves a hand.
- Work = Thermal Energy
- Conclusion
  - Thermal energy can be a source of ill-health to mammals.

### Thermal Resistance

- Any mass has an ability to "drop" and "conduct" heat.
- Thus, the commonly known "heat sink" for transistors.



### Thermal Reactance--Capacitance

- Any mass has an ability to store heat.
- Thermal capacitance is a measure of how much heat a mass can store.
- SPECIAL NOTE: There is no thermal inductance in the real world.

### **Thermal-electrical analogy: thermal network**

Q <sub>t</sub> Heat (Joule)	q <sub>t</sub> Heat flow rate (J/s)		1/C <sub>t</sub> C <sub>t</sub> :Thermal capacitance	R <sub>t</sub> Thermal resistance	T Temp. (°C)
q	i	L	1/C	R	V
Charge	Current	Induc.	C:Capac.	Resistance	Voltage
(Coulomb)	(Amper)	(Henry)	(Farad)	(Ohm)	(Volt)



### Should we Consider Ionizing Radiation?

- CDC Statement (abbreviated):
  - Ionizing radiation removes electrons from atoms including living tissue.
- Conclusion:
  - 5G frequencies lie well outside of the ionizing region and may be excluded from further consideration.



### Here Are the Questions

- How do Near and Far fields affect a mammal's flesh?
  - Near-Field?
  - Far-Field?
- Any effects on a mammal must be a result of spent energy
- Means of acquiring energy
  - From a far-field
    - Mammal must be resonant
  - From a near-field
    - Mammal must physically enter the field and carry a box of Band-Aids.

### The Near-Field

- Near-Field is STORED energy
- If you enter a near field, it will spend its energy on you.
- Owing to thermal capacitance, some number of seconds or hours may be required.
- If you are an arm's length or more from the antenna, the near-field is powerless to touch you.



### The Far-Field

- The far-field has energy that falls off as a reciprocal of the distance from the antenna squared.
- You can capture some of its energy...if, and ONLY if, you are resonant.
- How much can you capture?
  - Suppose an S9 signal at your transceiver's antenna:
    - input represents 50uV.
  - Your transceiver's Z<sub>in</sub> is 50 Ohms.
    - Power is therefore 50e-12/50 = 1 pico Watt at the antenna input
  - Suppose a resonant mammal's input resistance is 1 Ohm (EXTREMELY unrealistic)
    - Power into the mammal is 50e-12/1 = 50 pico Watts

### EMF Meter

- Hand-held meter for well under a hundred bucks.
- Nearly 5-stars

![](_page_19_Picture_3.jpeg)

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# E/H Field Measurement

![](_page_20_Picture_1.jpeg)

### EMF Meter, Improved

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![](_page_21_Picture_1.jpeg)

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### RF Exposure Rules Effective May 3, 2021

- There have been no changes to the existing RF exposure (RFE) limits
- Amateur stations are now no longer exempted on the basis of power.
- Amateur stations must now
  - Determine if they qualify for an exemption (most will qualify)
  - Or must perform a routine environmental evaluation
- There is a 2-year grace period
  - Amateurs have until May 3, 2023, to perform these (if they have to)
- ARRL publishes a guide "RF Exposure and You." (316 pages)
  - www.arrl.org/files/file/Technology/RFsafetyCommittee/RF+Exposure+and+You.pdf

### Worksheet:

Use this worksheet for each band you operate to determine if you need to do a station evaluation on that band.

(A): Station Call Sign:	N8QM	(B) Station Licensee:	Yours truly
(C) Station Location:	10626 Coopers	field Rd.	
	Chelsea, Michig	gan 48118	

(D) Frequency Band: \_\_\_\_\_

(E) Maximum Transmitter PEP used on this band: \_\_\_\_\_ W PEP

Refer to Table 1.1 — If the power on line (E) of this worksheet is less than or equal to the power limits given in the table for this band, you do not need to do an evaluation on this band. If the power exceeds the limits, continue with this worksheet.

### Calculate Feed Line Loss in dB:

(F) Feed Line Type: \_\_\_\_\_ (G) Feed Line Length: \_\_\_\_\_ ft

(H) Enter Feed Line Loss in dB per 100 ft: \_\_\_\_\_ dB (From Chapter 5 or manufacturers specification. You can use 0 dB for a conservative estimate. If you use 0 dB, skip to step J and enter 0%.)

### Summary of What Discussed

- The frequencies 5G uses are nothing new.
- We looked at the implementation of 5G from an electromagnetics perspective.
- There are three modes of health issues to consider
  - Everyday EMI and effect on other electronic devices (already regulated)
  - Ionizing radiation (not relevant)
  - Near and Far-Fields energy displacement
- Cheap instrumentation for the consumer.
- This discussion is unique in that it is from an amateur radio perspective.