



THALES

Quantum RF (QRF)

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August 28th, 2023

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Rydberg-atom RF Sensors for Direction Finding and Geolocation (RADARS)



1st goal is to develop a cold Rydberg atom microwave direction finder at mm-Wave, with ...

- ...higher sensitivity than traditional systems
- ...elimination of systematic effects, specifically: Doppler effects in hot atom sensors

2^{nd} goal is to develop a hot Rydberg atom microwave direction finder at UHF, with \ldots

- ...higher sensitivity than traditional systems
- ...sub-wavelength angle-of-arrival



Quantum Apertures (QA)



• Demonstrate 10 MHz to 40 GHz

- Reduce aperture shape/size
- Detect & process commonly used waveforms

System development-focused



Science of Atomic Vapors for New Technologies (SAVaNT)





Goals:

- Push sensitivity below blackbody radiation limit
- Control instantaneous bandwidth

Scientific research-focused



Quantum Atomic Rydberg Radiometer for Earth Measurements (QuARREM)



Goals:

- Demonstrate Rydberg V-band 'backend' receiver
- Compare QRF architectures to classical radiometry
- Develop testbenches and noise characterization techniques to facilitate measured comparisons
- Concept development around absolute
 calibration for in-measurement traceability chains

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Quantum RF (QRF):

Replaces RF antenna & analog Rx components



Integrated atomics, micro-optics & electro-magnetics in 1cm³ vapor cell

Multi-Channel

Unique Capabilities:

- Continuously **tunable** across a broad range of frequencies (.01 ~ 300 GHz)
- **Sensitive** down to blackbody rad limit
- Supports both NB (kHz) & WB (10MHz+) modes of operation
- Physically **small**, independent of frequency / wavelength
- \circ Resilient to EMP & Radiation
- Simultaneously replaces multiple Rx systems with single multi-channel device





Rydberg Atom Receiver (Rx)



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Quantum RF Technology Roadmap



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Quantum RF Applications

Broad spectrum scanning with a single sensor using a QRF frontend

HF Communications leveraging smaller antennas and direct conversion to I/Q eliminates large RF components

Enhanced Cognitive Radio

- Spectrum agility far greater than currently available today
- Leverage Broad Spectrum Scanning to enhance spectrum awareness
- QRF inherently provides LPI/LPD

Tactical Communications

- Works with existing Legacy Channels (VULOS, SINCGARS, SATURN)
- Tactical MANET Networks



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