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**A Study on Transceivers with
Simultaneous Wireless Information
and Power Transfer for
Millimeter-Wave Relay**

by

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Thesis Summary

In this paper, we focus on the simultaneous wireless information and power transfer (SWIPT) technology and propose a wirelessly powered relay for millimeter-wave communication. As long as it can receive wireless power, it can be deployed anywhere. Combined with conventional relay methods, relay networks can be constructed more flexibly. We believe that this will contribute to the future expansion of the 5G communication coverage area and the spread of next-generation D-band communication. This paper is organized with six chapters as follows.

Chapter 1 describes the research background, objectives, and positioning of the research achievements. In recent years, the amount of network traffic has dramatically increased, resulting in a growing demand for high-speed wireless communication in the millimeter-wave band to support high-capacity networks. However, compared with conventional frequency bands, millimeter-wave bands have high directivity and high transmission loss due to obstacles. Therefore, coverage holes can easily occur due to obstacles on the link. Large-scale deployment of base stations to expand the communication area is not realistic in terms of cost, site limitation and CO₂ emissions. Therefore, a combination of large-scale relays and base stations is being considered, and relays that can be flexibly deployed anywhere are needed. This study focuses on SWIPT and proposes a wirelessly powered relay that does not require a power connection. To confirm the feasibility of the relay system, a beamformer IC including an RF/IF circuit section is designed, and level diagrams are estimated based on measurement results. In addition, we consider achieving higher communication speeds and higher power generation to pursue SWIPT technologies, and we also evaluate prototype relays for D-band, which enables faster communication speeds with wider bandwidth, and discrete semiconductor relays, which can generate higher power by using GaAs diodes.

In Chapter 2, we introduce the operating principle of phased arrays and the calculation method of level diagrams as the basis for millimeter-wave wireless communications. As for the fundamentals of millimeter-wave WPT, the conversion efficiency of rectifiers and the calculation methods of FSTE and DC-DC transfer efficiency of WPT are also introduced.

In Chapter 3, we first introduce four conventional relay methods: metasurface, RIS, lens, and conventional transceivers, and discuss their advantages and disadvantages in terms of beam steering and power cable connection. Then, an overview of the operation of the wirelessly powered relay is

given, and the communication distance, relay signal transmission method, frequency selection for communication and WPT, and WPT distance are discussed, and the objectives of the relay are summarized. A comparison between relay methods is also made, and it is shown that the wirelessly powered relay has three advantages: easy deployment, fast beam steering function, and compact device size.

Next, we describe the basic operation of rectifiers and backscatterers as the necessary technologies to realize a wirelessly powered relay. Conventional rectifiers require high input power to achieve maximum efficiency, and power combiners, which reduce the input power, fix the beam direction. On the other hand, conventional backscatter can only support lower modulation scheme and can transmit low data rate signal. IF backscatter can support n-QAM modulation scheme, but has no phase shifting capability. To address these technical issues, we propose four technologies: a phased-array rectifier, a GaAs diode-type stub-loaded rectifier, an LPF-loaded rectifier, and a vector summing backscatter. Each of the proposed technologies is responsible for improvements such as input power reduction, higher efficiency, higher communication speed, and simultaneous realization of phase shift and high data rate transmission, and their positioning compared to conventional technologies is clarified.

Chapter 4 describes the working principles of the proposed circuit architectures and details the measurement results for three CMOS-integrated prototype transceivers: phased array for 5G, retroreflective array for 5G, and reflective array for D-band. The phased array for 5G is composed of a phased array rectifier, which achieves long-range and beam-steerable WPT, and a vector summing backscatter, which achieves high-speed communication and phase shifting. The prototype phased array module is capable of generating more than 3mW of power in the range of $\pm 30^\circ$ with beam-steerable WPT, and achieves beamforming transmission of 5G NR signals with low power consumption of 0.03mW/path. On the other hand, the 5G retroreflective array is capable of beam-steering WPT in 2D direction, and the retroreflective operation is realized by bidirectional LC loaded rectifier. The rotationally symmetric antenna pair provides wide-angle coverage in the 2-D direction, and a range of $\pm 60^\circ$ can be covered by combining with a 90° phase shifter, while a 16:1 power combiner enables WPT over longer distances. The phase-shifter array, power combiner, and LC-loaded rectifier configuration enables bi-directional communication, and the retroreflective beam is automatically formed simply by optimizing the phase-shifter array based on WPT power generation. This is a completely passive operation that requires no biasing, allowing relay operation with lower power consumption. Finally, the D-band reflective array consists of an LPF-loaded rectifier that supports high-speed transmission and reception with a bandwidth above 8 GHz, which is not possible due to the narrow bandwidth characteristics of conventional LC-loaded rectifiers. The 64-element power combiner network has no phase shifter, so it can transmit the communication signal in the reflected direction relative to the incident direction of the WPT signal. The 8 GHz wideband communication can support higher data rates than 5G transceivers, and 48 Gbps is achieved in the probe measurement.

Chapter 5 describes the operation principle and detailed circuit architecture of the bidirectional phased-array transceiver for 5G using only discrete semiconductors. For the relay system, the SNR within the relay and the transmit EIRP are important elements for the communication to be established, and the transmit EIRP is especially dominant in the wirelessly powered type. The power generation is limited to 500mW in CMOS integrated relay system, but GaAs diodes can rectify more high power and higher power generation can improve the EIRP. The bidirectional phased array consists of a stub-load rectifier with GaAs diodes and a 180° phase shifter, and achieves a conversion efficiency of 54%, which is higher than that of CMOS rectifiers. The 256-element 180° shifters can control the direction of the transmit and receive beams independently of the receive direction of the WPT signal. The main advantage of the discrete semiconductor is the high efficiency and power generation during WPT, and the generous power budget allows the use of high gain and high power IF amplifiers, effectively extending the relay distance.

Finally, Chapter 6 summarizes challenges and solutions of wirelessly powered relays and describes future technological developments of SWIPT. By further improving power generation and communication speed, it is expected that these technologies will enable the deployment of critical infrastructure such as power and networks anywhere in the world, and also make it possible to realize alternative communication and power lines during disasters and HAPS (High Altitude Platform Station). We believe that SWIPT technology will contribute to a society where people can connect to the network anywhere and do not have to worry about the battery life of their devices.

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Research Achievements Related to This Paper

Journal Paper

- [J1] M. Ide, A. Shirane, K. Yanagisawa, D. You, J. Pang and K. Okada, "A 28-GHz Phased-Array Relay Transceiver for 5G Network Using Vector-Summing Backscatter With 24-GHz Wireless Power and LO Transfer," in *IEEE Journal of Solid-State Circuits*, vol. 57, no. 4, pp. 1211-1223, April 2022.
- [J2] M. Ide, K. Yuasa, S. Kato, T. Tomura, K. Okada and A. Shirane, "A 256-Element Phased-Array Relay Transceiver for 5G Network Using 24-GHz Wireless Power Transfer With Discrete ICs," in *IEEE Microwave and Wireless Technology Letters* (Early Access), pp. 1-4, May 2024.

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- [I1] M. Ide, A. Shirane, K. Yanagisawa, D. You, J. Pang and K. Okada, "A 28-GHz Phased-Array Relay Transceiver for 5G Network Using Vector-Summing Backscatter with 24-GHz Wireless Power and LO Transfer," *IEEE Symposium on VLSI Circuits*, Kyoto, Japan, pp. 1-2, June 2021.
- [I2] M. Ide, A. Shirane, D. You, Z. Li, J. Pang, K. Yanagisawa and K. Okada, "A 28-GHz Phased-Array Relay Transceiver for 5G Network Using Vector-Summing Backscatter with 24-GHz Wireless Power and LO Transfer," *IEEE International Solid-State Circuits Conference Student Research Preview (ISSCC SRP)*, San Francisco, CA, USA, Feb. 2021.
- [I3] M. Ide et al., "A 28-GHz Fully-Passive Retro-Reflective Phased-Array Backscattering Transceiver for 5G Network with 24-GHz Beam-Steered Wireless Power Transfer," *IEEE Symposium on VLSI Circuits*, Honolulu, HI, USA, pp. 96-97, June 2022.
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- [D2] M. Ide, et al., "ミリ波帯 5G 中継機向けビーム制御型バックスキヤッタ", The Institute of Electronics, Information and Communication Engineers (IEICE) Society, Sept. 2021.
- [D3] M. Ide, et al., "ミリ波帯 5G 中継機向け再帰反射型バックスキヤッタ", The Institute of Electronics, Information and Communication Engineers (IEICE) Society, Sept. 2022.
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- [D5] M. Ide, et al., "A 28-GHz Fully-Passive Retro-Reflective Phased-Array Backscattering Transceiver for 5G Network with 24-GHz Beam-Steered Wireless Power Transfer," IEEE SSCS Japan Chapter VLSI Circuits 報告会, July 2022.

Co-Author Journal Papers

- [JC1] D. You, F. Xi, H. Herdian, X. Wang, Y. Narukiyo, A. Fadila, H. Lee, M. Ide et al., "A Ka-Band 64-Element Deployable Active Phased-Array TX on a Flexible Hetero Segmented Liquid Crystal Polymer for Small Satellites," in IEEE Microwave and Wireless Technology Letters, vol. 33, no. 6, pp. 903-906, June 2023.
- [JC2] X. Fu, D. You, X. Wang, Y. Wang, C. J. Mayeda, Y. Gao, M. Ide et al., "A Low-Power 256-Element Ka-Band CMOS Phased-Array Receiver With On-Chip Distributed Radiation Sensors for Small Satellite Constellations," in IEEE Journal of Solid-State Circuits, vol. 58, no. 12, pp. 3380-3395, Dec. 2023.
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- [IC1] D. You, Y. Wang, X. Fu, H. Herdian, X. Wang, A. Fadila, H. Lee, M. Ide et al., "A Ka- Band Dual Circularly Polarized CMOS Transmitter with Adaptive Scan Impedance Tuner and Active XPD Calibration Technique for Satellite Terminal," IEEE Radio Frequency Integrated Circuits Symposium (RFIC), Denver, CO, USA, pp. 15-18, June 2022.
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- [IC6] K. Yuasa, M. Ide, S. Kato, K. Okada and A. Shirane, "Beam Control Free 28GHz 5G Relay Transceiver and 24GHz Wireless Power Receiver Using On-Chip Butler Matrix," IEEE/MTT-S International Microwave Symposium (IMS), San Diego, CA, USA, pp. 199-202, June 2023.
- [IC7] Sena Kato, Shu Date, Tao Ruoxin, Yasuto Narukiyo, Hiroki Hayashi, Keito Yuasa, Michihiro Ide, Takashi Tomura, Kenichi Okada, and Atsushi Shirane, "A 28GHz 5G NR Wirelessly Powered Relay Transceiver Using Rectifier-Type 4th-Order Sub-Harmonic Mixer," IEEE Symposium on VLSI Circuits, Honolulu, HI, USA, June 2024.

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- [DC5] S. Date, M. Ide, K. Yuasa, S. Kato, K. Okada and A. Shirane, “無線電力伝送を用いたミリ波帯 5G 中継器用再帰反射型送信機,” IEICE General Conference, Mar. 2024.
- [DC6] K. Yuasa, M. Ide, S. Kato, K. Okada and A. Shirane, “ビーム制御不要 28GHz 中継機および 24GHz 無線電力伝送,” IEICE General Conference, Mar. 2024.

Prize

- Outstanding Master's Paper Award for 2021,
URL: https://educ.titech.ac.jp/ee/news/2022_04/062280.html, Apr. 2022.
- IEEE SSCS Japan Chapter Academic Research Award, May 2022.