

Radio Frequency (RF) Advances Accelerate Moving Away From Mechanically Steered Antennas

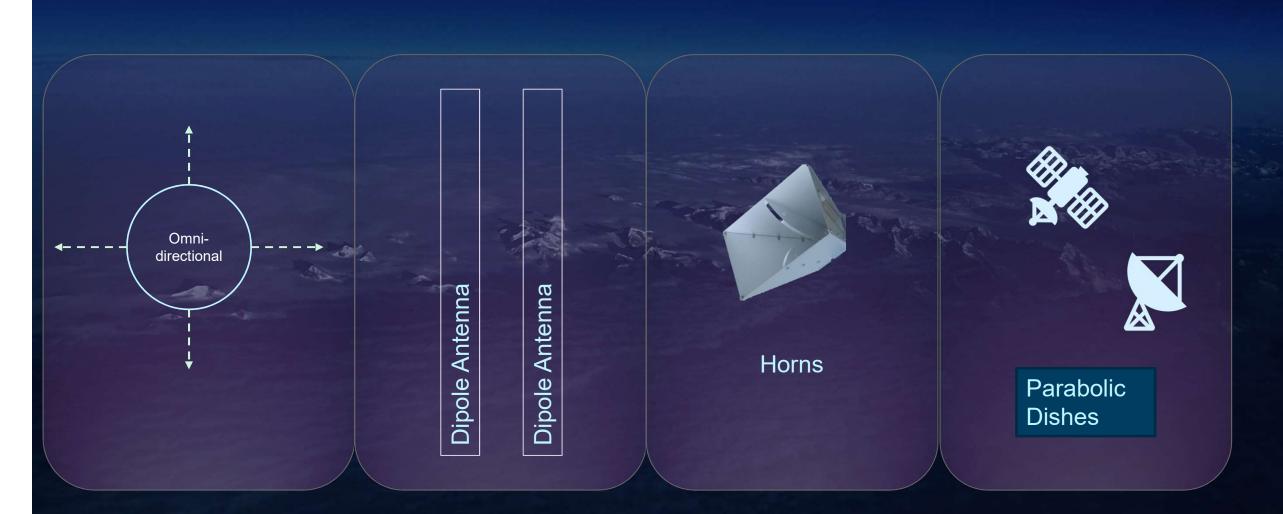
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## The Need to Focus Beams



Focus Radio Frequency Energy in a Specific Direction

### **Mechanically Scanned Systems**

- Driven By Early Radio Detection and Ranging (RADAR) System Requirements
- Basic Concept Unchanged Since World War II
- Variations
  - Spinning Bar
  - Mechanically Focused Dish
  - Fixed Parabolic
  - > Multiple Antenna
  - Vertical / Horizontal
  - > Multiple Small Dishes
- Bearing is Mechanically Dependent



## **Existing Mechanically Scanned Systems**

- RADAR: Air Traffic Surveillance / TRACON / Approach / Ground
- RADAR : Military Air Search / Air to Air / Air to Ground / Naval
- RADAR: Weather RADAR (Wx)
- Space: Terrestrial and On Orbit Space Vehicles
- Comms: Fixed and Variable Radio Frequency & Microwave
- Comms: Military Communications Systems



#### **Existing Mechanical Systems – Short Comings**

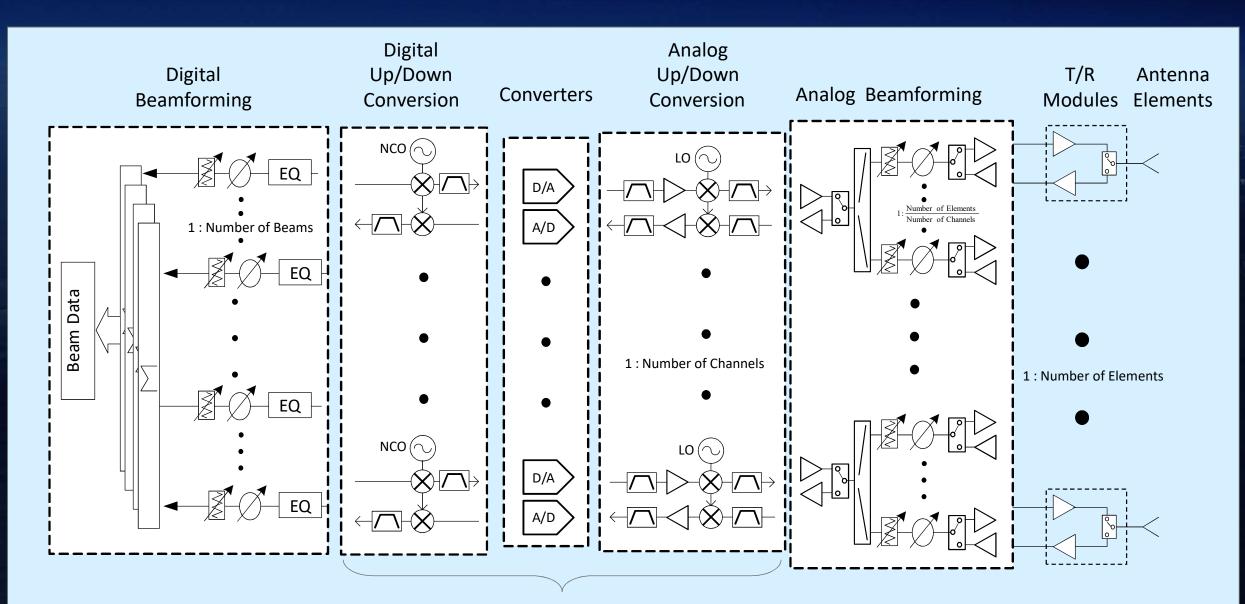
- Scanning Speed / Stabilization / Overshoot
- Single Function / Single Frequency / Single Beam
- Bearing Depends on Physical Alignment
- Require Space to Rotate
- Susceptible to Jamming / Blocking
- Fail in Complex Multiple Target Environments

#### > Maintenance

- Mechanical Breakdown
- Environmental Constraints
- Remote Deployments



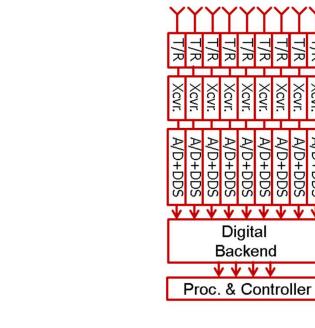
# **Beam Forming Basics**



Waveform Generator and Receiver Channels

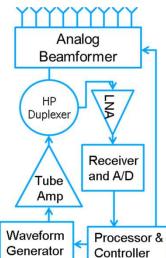
# **Phased Array Beam Forming**

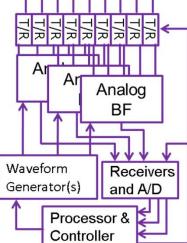




Digital

Digital





# Ticonderoga Class Cruiser - AN/SPY-1

- First Major Deployment of Phased Array RADAR
  - Tracks 200 Unique Targets Per Array
  - Deployed Active Service in 1983
  - Key Part of Aegis System
- > Multiple Upgrades Reduced Array Size
- Military Still Primary User of Phased Array

#### Flat Plate Antenna Systems

- Description
  - Fixed Antenna Patches On Flat or Curved Surface
  - Commonly: 1 Transmit : 2-8+ Receive
  - Basic Doppler and Time of Flight Calculations

#### Functions

- > Short Range
- Specific Purpose
- Limited Resolutions

#### > Uses

- Occupancy Detection RADAR
- Perimeter Security
- > Altimeters
- Automotive RADAR
- Industrial RADAR

## Analog / Hybrid Beam Forming Systems

- Description
  - Utilizes Analog Circuitry to Focus Beam via Delay, Phase and Power
  - Beam Forming is Done in the Radio Frequency Domain
  - Hybrid Design Replaces Part of Analog With Digitizers

#### Advantages

- Deployed Today in Many RADAR and Some Communications Systems
- Proven Design and Well Understood
- Lower Power for Given Functionality
- Lower Cost Than Present Generation of Digital Beam Forming (DBF)
- Significantly More Capability Than Mechanically Scanned

#### Challenges

- More Expensive Than Mechanical Scanned
- Designed for Specific Spectrum Coverage

#### **Digital Beam Forming Systems**

#### Description

Replaces Most of Analog Circuitry With High Speed Converters

Analog to Digital Converters (for receive) Digital to Analog Converters (for transmit)

- Each Element has a Digitizer Quickly To Digital Backplane
- Allows for Direct Digital Sampling and Digital Beam Forming

#### Advantages

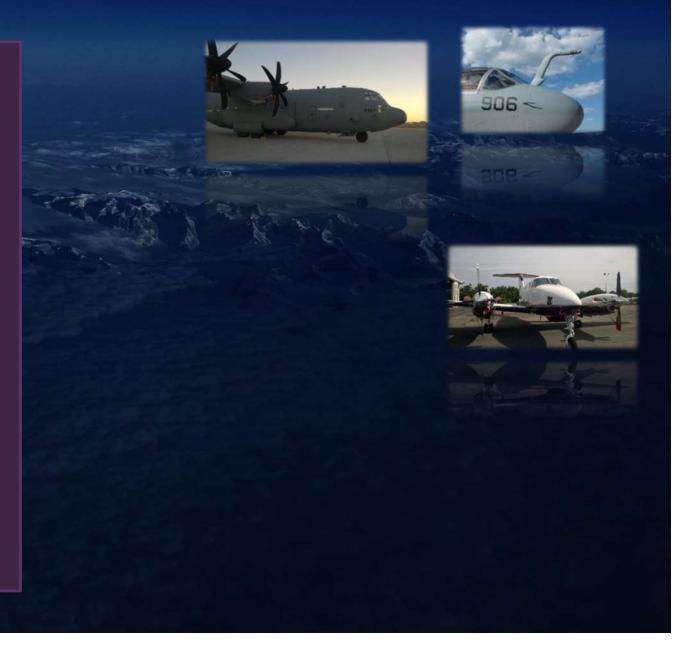
- Allows for the Greatest Flexibility in Operations and Reliability
- Large Spectrum Coverage & Common Designs
- > Multiple Targets, Multiple Beams, Multiple Frequencies

#### > Challenges

- Thermal and Power Challenges
- Most Expensive Design
- Needs to Move Large Amounts of Digital Data

## Modern Phased Array RADAR: Surveillance, Weather and Fire Control RADAR

- Phased Array Combines Functions
  - Airborne Weather RADAR and Collision Avoidance Systems
  - Ground Based Surveillance and Weather RADAR Systems
  - Integration of Communications with RADAR systems
  - Multimode Military Aircraft Functions
- Reduced Cost Per Function
  - Less Systems
  - Less Weight
  - Less Power
  - Less Maintenance



## **Space Upgrades – Low Earth Orbit (LEO) Communications Constellations**

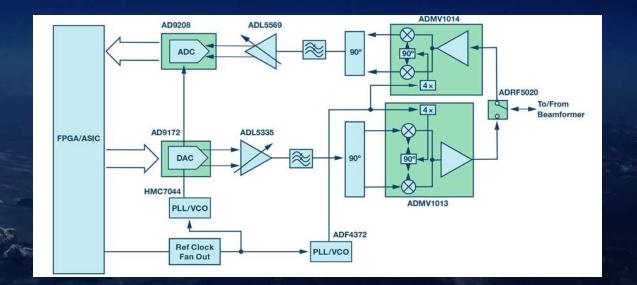
- Proposed Low Earth Orbit (LEO)
  Communications To Provide Direct Space to
  Ground and Space to Aircraft Connectivity
- Both On Orbit Space Vehicles and Ground/Airborne Terminals Requiring Phased Array Due to Short Time of Visibility
- Driving Need For Affordable Phased Array Beam Steering Withstanding On Orbit Radiation



#### **5G Backbone**

- Phased Array and Beamforming Is Critical to Next Generation 5G
  - Frequency Agility
  - Small Area Focused Beams
  - Upgradability For Future Spectrum Allocations
  - Minimum Maintenance Once Deployed
  - High Throughput and 360 Degree Coverage

 Cost Offset By Throughput and Increase in Subscribed Devices



### **Security : Millimeter Wave Scanners**

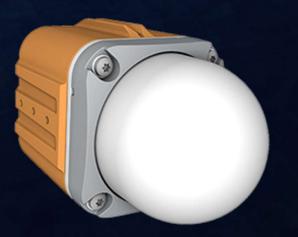
- Millimeter Wave Scanners Provide Unobtrusive yet Accurate Systems to Detect Threats at Airports, Stadiums, Hospitals, etc.
- Arrays of Antenna Allow From Rapid Scanning and Examination of Subjects
- Modern Systems Will Eliminate Moving Parts and Stationary Requirements



## **Safety Systems : From Cobots to Trains to Automobiles**

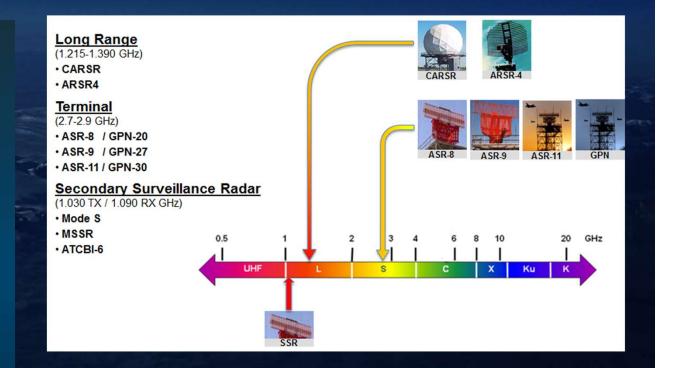
- Small Flat Plate or Phased Array RADAR Systems Provide Safety and Contribute to Sensor Fusion
  - Cobots
  - Industrial Heavy Machinery
  - > Automobiles
  - > Trains
  - Aviation
- Provide Lower Cost and Dependable Solutions For Safety Critical Applications





#### New Program Example: SENSR

- Spectrum Efficient National Surveillance RADAR (SENSR)
  - Proposes To Use Phased Array RADAR to Replace Hundreds of Mechanical Systems Across the USA
  - Combined FAA, DHS and DoD Functions
  - NOAA Dropped Out To Design Phased Array Weather RADAR
  - Driven by Spectrum Auction



# The Concern: Complexity and Acquisition Cost vs. Full Cost of Ownership for Functionality

#### Mechanical Systems / Fixed System

- Single Point of Failure Numerous Failure Points
- Complex Maintenance Costs Difficult Upgrade Path
- Low Acquisition Cost with Low Capability
- Single Function and Single Frequency
- Compatible With Legacy Systems
- Not Forward Compatible

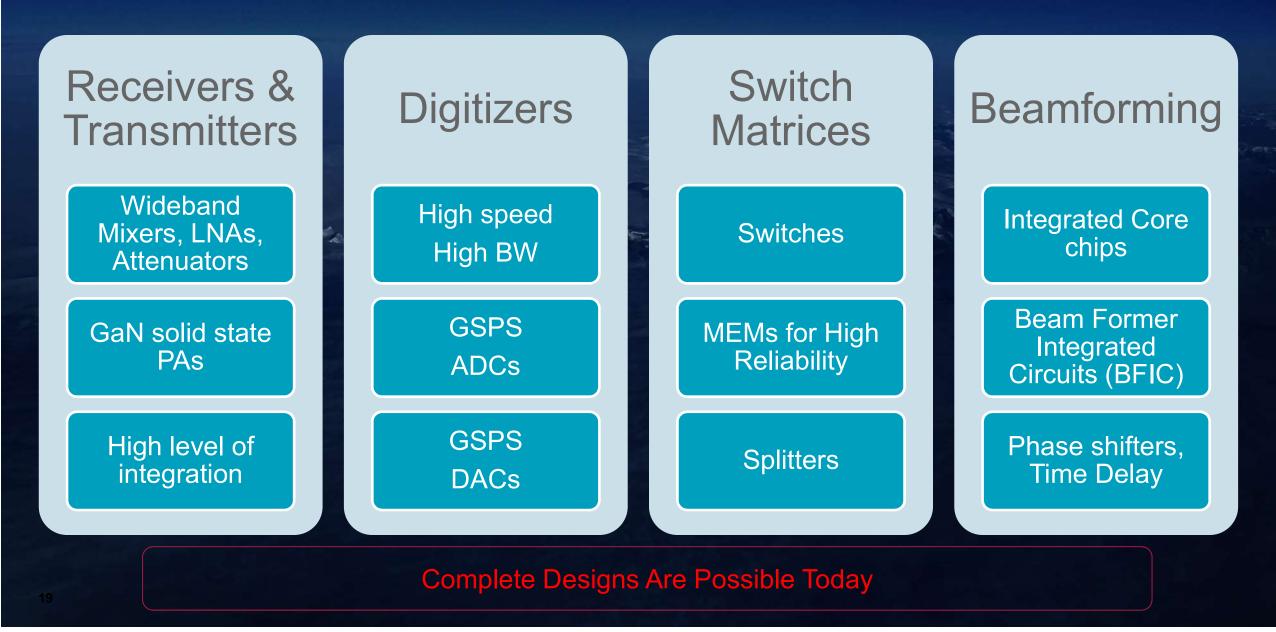
Low Cost Acquisition. High Life Time Cost.

#### Phased Array

- Limited Failure Modes Robust
- Requires Little Maintenance Functions with Reduced Elements
- Functionality Can Replace Multiple Single Function Systems
- Provides Multiple Beams and Multiple Frequency Capabilities
- Backwards Compatibility With Legacy
- ✓ Easy to Upgrade and Support

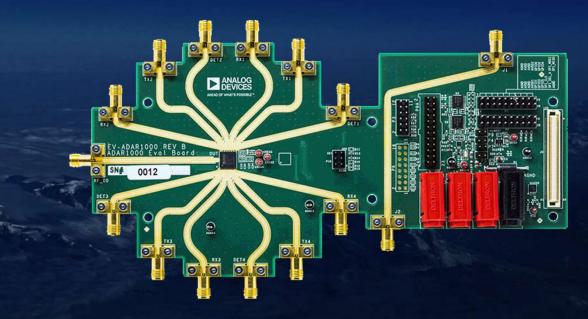
High Acquisition Cost. Low Lifetime Cost.

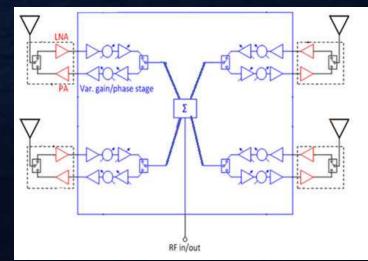
## Key Technologies Accelerating the Move To Phased Array



# Major Technology: Analog Beam Forming Integrated Circuits (BFIC)

- Analog BFIC Systems Now Available
  Expanding Coverage
- Accelerate Time to Market
- Proven Reduction in Size and Power
- Analog Design Or Incorporate Transceivers for Hybrid Design
- Excellent Cost / Performance Ratio



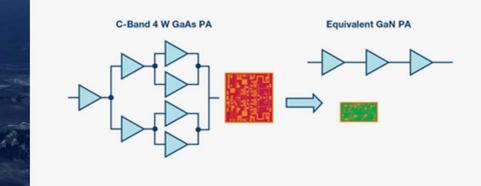


## Accelerating Development: Amplifiers / RF Modules / TR Modules

#### > Amplifiers

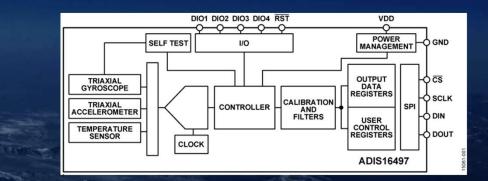
Low Noise Amplifiers

- Power Amplifiers
- GaN and GaAs Advances Drive Improvements in Performance and Efficiencies
- Transmit Receive Modules (T/R Modules)
  Integrated Systems Matched to BFIC Systems
- Radio Frequency Modules
  Integration of Functionality
  Reducing Component Count
  Matched Systems



## Accelerating Development: Stabilization and Pointing

- > MEMS Gyroscopes
  - Augment Pointing
  - Yaw Sensors
- MEMS Accelerometers
  - Precision Motion Monitoring
  - Vibration and Movement Sensing
- MEMS Inertial Measurement Units
  - Attitude Sensing and Calibration
  - Complex Pointing and Geometries

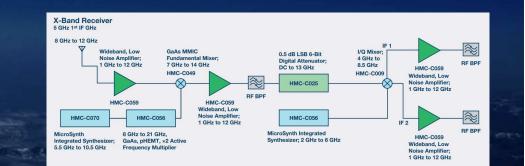




## Accelerating Development: Filters / Upconverters / Downconverters

#### Filters

- Switching Filters
- Programmable Filters
- Complex Filters
- > Upconverters
- Downconverters
- > Synthesizers
- > Oscillators
- Mixers

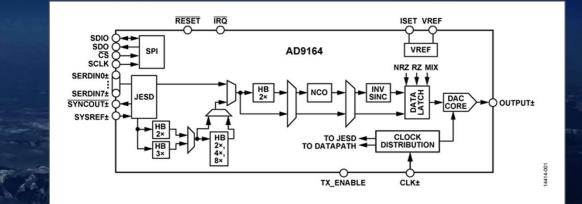




### Major Technology: High Speed Converters / Transceivers

- Digital to Analog Converters (DAC)
  - Higher Giga-Sample Per Second Converters
  - Allowing for Higher GHz Direct Beam Forming

- Analog to Digital Converters (ADC)
  - Moving Higher in Sample Rates
  - Enabling Direct Sampling Architectures
- Integrated Transceivers (TRx)
  - Fast Time to Market For Design
  - Direct Digital or Hybrid Designs





## Accelerating Development: Smaller Geometries and Lower Power Densities

- Move Towards Smaller Geometries Drives Greater Efficiencies in Power
- Reduction in Both Die and Package Size
- Improvements in Decimation Decreasing Thermal Issues
- Analog to Digital Clocking Resolved





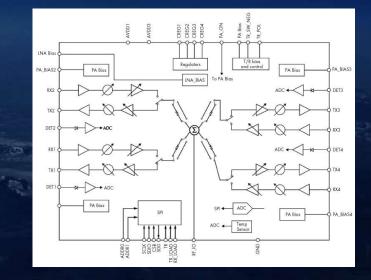
#### Accelerating Development: Packaging and Integration

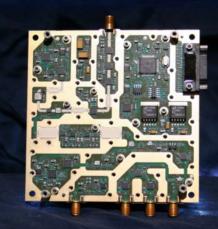
#### Modules and Subsystems

- Plastic and Hermetically Sealed RF Modules and Full Encapsulated Assemblies
- Feedback, Digital Predistortion, Gain Controls Can Be Integrated
- High Power RF Moving Into Communications

#### Systems in Package / Package on Package

- Complete Functional Blocks Incorporated Into Single Packages
- High Performance and Matched RF Provided By The RF/mW Experts To Allow Products To Get to Market Faster





## Accelerating Development: Conclusion

- > The Past Five Years Have Seen Developments That Make Phased Array Available To All Markets
- Initially the Domain of The US Military Rapid Movement into Enabling 5G Roll Out
- When Compared To Full Cost of Ownership For Functionality, Phased Array is Becoming The Preferred Investment

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