

Ultra-Short Waves Using Beam Transmission Methodology

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KEYWORDS:

Reflection, Scattering, Transmission, Free-space path loss, Doppler effect

ARTICLE HISTORY:

Received 04.01.2022
Revised 13.02.2022
Accepted 21.03.2022

DOI:

<https://doi.org/10.31838/NJAP/04.01.01>

ABSTRACT

The transmission of ultra-short waves (USWs) has witnessed significant advancements in recent years, revolutionizing communication, imaging, and sensing technologies. Beam transmission of USWs, enabled by advanced antenna designs and signal processing techniques, offers enhanced performance and reliability in various applications. This comprehensive review explores the principles, technologies, applications, and future directions of beam transmission of USWs, highlighting its transformative impact across diverse industries and domains.

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How to cite this article: Manthila P, Anuradha KM, Chandrakumar R. Ultra-Short Waves Using Beam Transmission Methodology, National Journal of Antennas and Propagation, Vol. 4, No. 1, 2022 (pp. 1-7).

INTRODUCTION

Ultra-short waves (USWs), also known as millimeter waves or extremely high frequency (EHF) waves, occupy the spectrum between microwaves and infrared waves, typically ranging from 30 GHz to 300 GHz. The transmission of USWs has garnered increasing attention due to their unique properties, including high bandwidth, short wavelengths, and directional propagation characteristics. Beam transmission of USWs, which involves focusing electromagnetic energy into narrow beams using advanced antenna arrays and beamforming techniques, holds immense potential for enhancing wireless communication, imaging, and sensing applications. This review provides an in-depth exploration of the principles, technologies, applications, and future directions of beam transmission of USWs, shedding light on its transformative impact in various domains. Ultra-short waves (USWs), also known as microwaves, are electromagnetic waves with frequencies ranging from 300 MHz to 300 GHz, corresponding to wavelengths between 1 meter and 1 millimeter. These waves occupy a crucial portion of the electromagnetic spectrum and are utilized in various applications across different fields.^[1-19]

In telecommunications, microwaves are extensively used for wireless communication, particularly in point-to-point and point-to-multipoint links for long-distance transmission. Due to their high frequency and short wavelength, microwaves can carry large amounts of data

with high bandwidth, making them ideal for applications such as satellite communication, cellular networks, and broadband internet access as given in Fig. 1.

Microwaves are also utilized in radar systems for detection, tracking, and imaging. Radar systems emit microwaves and analyze the reflected signals to detect the presence, location, and movement of objects, such as aircraft, ships, vehicles, and weather phenomena. Weather radar, for example, uses microwaves to observe atmospheric conditions and predict weather patterns. In medicine, microwaves are employed in microwave

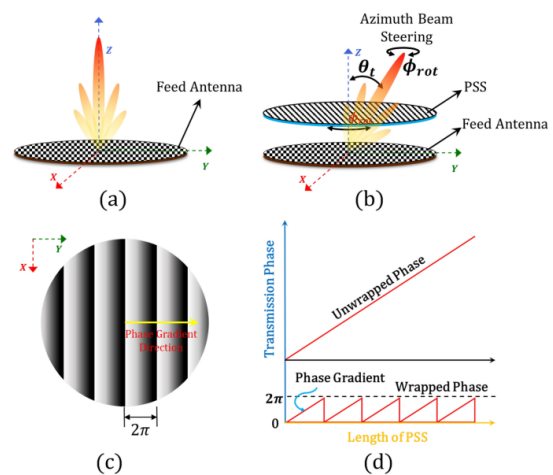


Fig. 1: An ultra-fast method for designing holographic phase shifting surfaces

ablation therapy for treating certain types of cancer. During this procedure, microwaves are directed at cancerous tumors to heat and destroy cancer cells, offering a minimally invasive alternative to surgery.^[20-26] Furthermore, microwaves find applications in microwave ovens for cooking food, wireless power transmission for charging electronic devices, and spectroscopy for analyzing chemical compositions. Overall, ultra-short waves play a vital role in modern technology and society, enabling wireless communication, radar sensing, medical treatments, and numerous other applications. As technology continues to advance, the utilization of microwaves is expected to grow, driving innovation and shaping the future of various industries.

PRINCIPLES OF BEAM TRANSMISSION OF ULTRA-SHORT WAVES

Beam transmission of ultra-short waves is based on the principles of directional propagation, beamforming, and phased array antennas:

- **Directional Propagation:** Ultra-short waves exhibit directional propagation characteristics due to their short wavelengths, allowing for focused transmission and reception of electromagnetic energy in specific directions. Directional antennas, such as phased array antennas and horn antennas, are used to generate and steer narrow beams of USWs towards desired targets or receivers.

Directional propagation refers to the phenomenon where electromagnetic waves travel preferentially in specific directions, rather than being uniformly distributed in all directions.^[27-37] This directional behavior is commonly observed in various wireless communication systems and is essential for achieving efficient signal transmission and reception as given in Fig. 2.

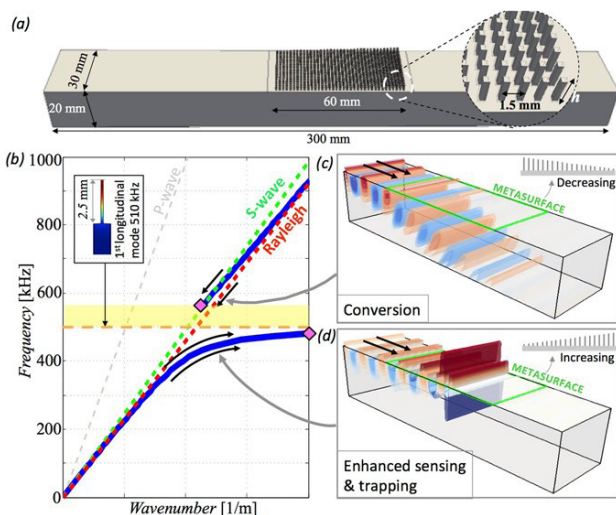


Fig. 2: Enhanced sensing and conversion of ultrasonic Rayleigh waves

One common example of directional propagation is in the operation of directional antennas, such as yagi-uda antennas, parabolic dish antennas, and phased array antennas. These antennas are designed to concentrate electromagnetic energy in specific directions, allowing for focused transmission and reception of signals over long distances.

Directional propagation is also utilized in techniques such as beamforming, where multiple antenna elements work together to form directional beams that can be steered electronically. Beamforming enables targeted communication with specific devices or users, improving signal strength, reliability, and spectral efficiency.

Moreover, directional propagation plays a crucial role in applications such as radar systems, where directional antennas are used to detect and track objects with precision. By focusing transmitted energy in specific directions and analyzing the reflections, radar systems can determine the location, speed, and characteristics of objects in their field of view.^[38-42]

Overall, directional propagation is a fundamental concept in wireless communication and radar systems, enabling efficient signal transmission, reception, and detection in various applications. Understanding and controlling directional propagation are essential for optimizing the performance and reliability of wireless communication networks and radar systems as given in Fig. 3.

- **Beamforming:** Beamforming techniques are employed to dynamically adjust the phase and amplitude of individual antenna elements within an array, enabling the formation of directional beams

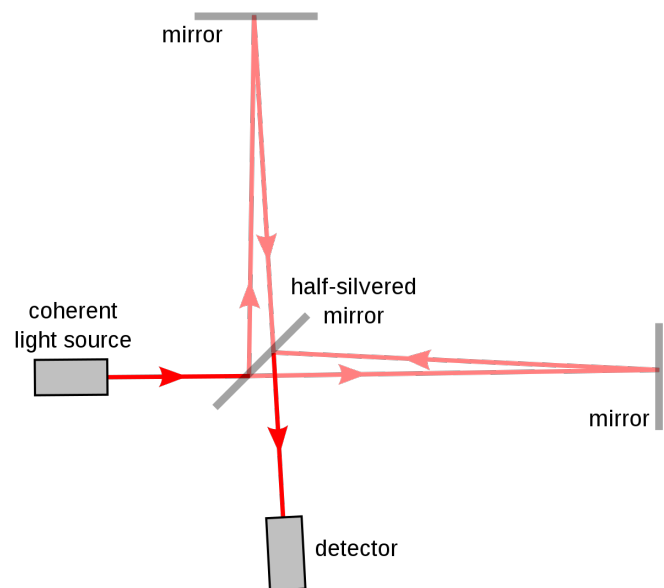


Fig. 3: Interferometry

that can be steered electronically. By controlling the phase and magnitude of antenna signals, beamforming enables precise beam steering, beam shaping, and interference mitigation, enhancing the performance and reliability of USW transmission in complex environments.

Beamforming is a signal processing technique used in wireless communication systems to enhance the performance of directional antennas. It involves adjusting the phase and amplitude of signals transmitted or received by an array of antenna elements to create a directional beam of electromagnetic energy. This beam can be electronically steered towards a specific direction, allowing for targeted communication with desired receivers or suppression of interference from unwanted directions.

There are two main types of beamforming: transmit beamforming and receive beamforming. In transmit beamforming, the phases and amplitudes of signals from multiple antenna elements are adjusted to maximize signal strength in the desired direction. This allows for increased signal coverage, improved signal-to-noise ratio, and extended range in wireless communication systems. In receive beamforming, the phases and amplitudes of signals received by multiple antenna elements are adjusted to enhance the detection of signals from a specific direction while suppressing interference from other directions.

Beamforming is commonly used in applications such as cellular networks, Wi-Fi routers, radar systems, and satellite communication. It enables efficient use of available spectrum, increased capacity, improved coverage, and enhanced reliability in wireless communication systems, making it a critical technology for next-generation communication networks.^[43-49]

- **Phased Array Antennas:** Phased array antennas consist of multiple antenna elements arranged in a two-dimensional array, where the phase and amplitude of each element can be independently controlled. By adjusting the phase and magnitude of signals across the array, phased array antennas can steer the main beam direction, adjust beamwidth, and suppress sidelobes, allowing for agile and adaptive beam transmission of USWs.

Phased array antennas are arrays of antenna elements arranged in a regular pattern and interconnected with phase shifters. These antennas offer advanced beamforming capabilities, allowing for electronically steered beams of electromagnetic radiation without physically moving the antenna structure as given in Fig. 4.

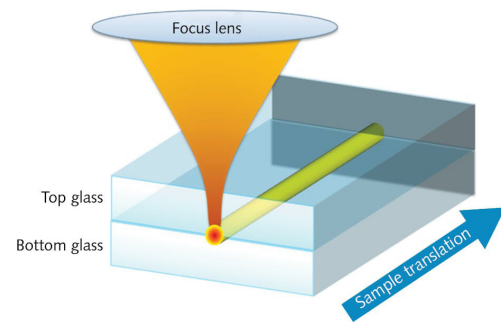


Fig. 4: Glass microwelding with ultrashort-pulse lasers

Each antenna element in a phased array can be individually controlled to adjust the phase and amplitude of the transmitted or received signal. By applying specific phase shifts to the signals across the array, the antenna system can create a constructive interference pattern in a desired direction, forming a directional beam. This beam can be electronically steered to track moving targets, focus energy on specific areas, or nullify interference from unwanted directions.

Phased array antennas find applications in various fields, including radar systems, satellite communication, wireless networks, and aerospace. In radar systems, phased arrays offer rapid beam scanning capabilities, enabling rapid target acquisition and tracking. In wireless communication networks, phased arrays enhance coverage, capacity, and reliability by dynamically adapting to changing communication conditions and traffic patterns.

Overall, phased array antennas represent a powerful technology for achieving agile and adaptive beamforming in diverse applications. Their ability to electronically steer beams and dynamically adjust radiation patterns makes them indispensable for modern communication, sensing, and imaging systems.

TECHNOLOGIES FOR BEAM TRANSMISSION OF ULTRA-SHORT WAVES

Several technologies and techniques are employed to enable beam transmission of ultra-short waves:

- **Phased Array Antenna Systems:** Phased array antenna systems consist of multiple antenna elements, phase shifters, amplifiers, and beamforming networks, enabling dynamic control of beam direction, beamwidth, and polarization. These systems are widely used in radar, communication, and imaging applications, offering enhanced performance, flexibility, and scalability compared to traditional fixed antennas as given in Fig. 5.

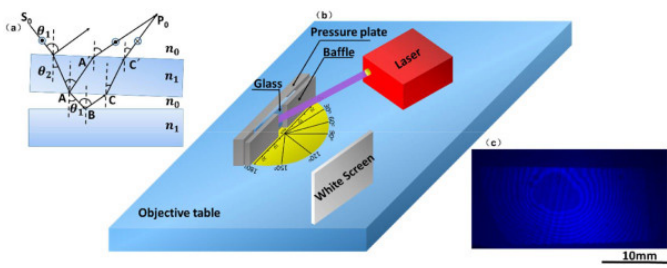


Fig.5: The effect of gap on the quality of glass-to-glass welding using a picosecond laser

- **Beamforming Algorithms:** Various beamforming algorithms, such as delay-and-sum beamforming, minimum variance distortionless response (MVDR) beamforming, and adaptive beamforming, are employed to optimize the formation and steering of directional beams in USW transmission systems. These algorithms adaptively adjust the phase and magnitude of antenna signals to maximize signal-to-noise ratio, minimize interference, and optimize beam characteristics for specific applications and scenarios.^[50-53]
- **Multiple Antenna Techniques:** Multiple antenna techniques, including multiple-input multiple-output (MIMO) and massive MIMO, are utilized to enhance the capacity, reliability, and coverage of USW transmission systems. By deploying multiple antennas at both transmitter and receiver ends, MIMO systems exploit spatial diversity, multipath propagation, and channel reciprocity to improve spectral efficiency, increase data rates, and mitigate fading effects in wireless communication links as given in Fig. 6.
- **Hybrid Beamforming Architectures:** Hybrid beamforming architectures combine digital and analog beamforming techniques to achieve efficient and

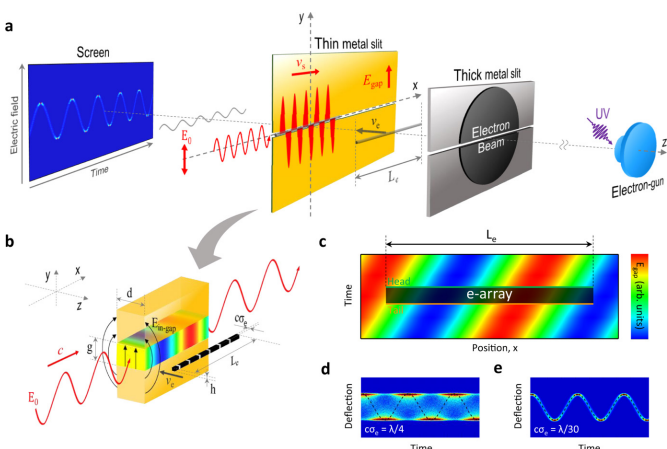


Fig. 6: Real-time ultrafast oscilloscope with a relativistic electron bunch train

cost-effective beam steering and beamforming in USW transmission systems. By using a combination of digital signal processing (DSP) and analog phase shifters, hybrid beamforming architectures offer the benefits of digital beamforming, such as fine-grained beam control and adaptive beamforming, while reducing the complexity and power consumption associated with fully digital approaches.^[27]

APPLICATIONS OF BEAM TRANSMISSION OF ULTRA-SHORT WAVES

Beam transmission of ultra-short waves finds diverse applications across various industries and domains:

- **5G and Beyond-5G Wireless Communication:** Beam transmission of ultra-short waves plays a pivotal role in 5G and beyond-5G wireless communication systems, enabling high-speed data transmission, low-latency connectivity, and massive device connectivity. Phased array antennas and beamforming techniques are employed to support beam-based communication, beam tracking, and beam steering in millimeter-wave and terahertz communication bands, enabling gigabit-speed wireless networks and ultra-dense small cell deployments in urban environments.^[41]
- **Radar and Sensing Systems:** Beam transmission of ultra-short waves is utilized in radar and sensing systems for object detection, tracking, and imaging in various applications such as automotive radar, aerospace surveillance, and environmental sensing. Phased array radar systems and synthetic aperture radar (SAR) systems employ beamforming techniques to achieve high-resolution imaging, target discrimination, and clutter suppression in complex environments, enabling applications such as autonomous driving, weather forecasting, and surveillance as given in Fig. 7.

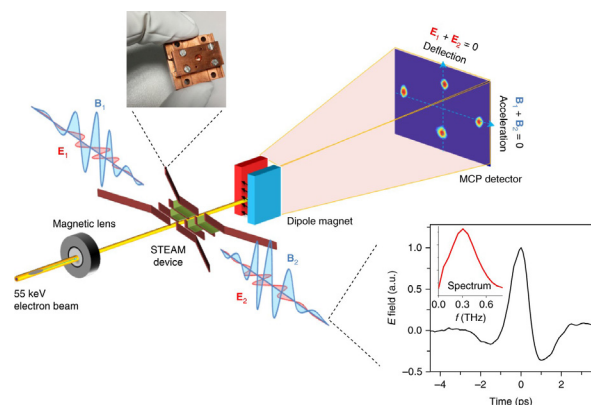


Fig.7: Real-time Ultrafast Oscilloscope

- **Wireless Backhaul and Fronthaul:** Beam transmission of ultra-short waves is deployed in wireless backhaul and fronthaul networks to provide high-capacity, low-latency connectivity between base stations, data centers, and network hubs. Phased array antennas and beamforming techniques enable point-to-point and point-to-multipoint links in millimeter-wave and terahertz frequency bands, supporting the expansion of 5G networks, edge computing, and cloud services with high-speed, reliable wireless connectivity.

- **Imaging and Remote Sensing:**

Beam transmission of ultra-short waves enables advanced imaging and remote sensing applications, including medical imaging, security screening, and earth observation. Phased array antennas and beamforming algorithms are used to focus and steer electromagnetic energy towards specific targets or regions of interest, enabling high-resolution imaging, 3D reconstruction, and material characterization in medical, security, and environmental applications.

- **Satellite Communication and Earth Observation:** Beam transmission of ultra-short waves is employed in satellite communication and earth observation systems for broadband connectivity, multimedia broadcasting, and remote sensing. Phased array antennas on satellites enable beamforming and beam steering to establish communication links with ground stations and user terminals, providing global coverage and seamless connectivity for applications such as satellite internet, television broadcasting, and disaster monitoring.

CHALLENGES AND FUTURE DIRECTIONS

Despite the significant advancements and applications of beam transmission of ultra-short waves, several challenges and opportunities for future research and development exist:

- **Propagation Loss and Penetration:** Ultra-short waves experience higher propagation loss and attenuation compared to lower-frequency bands, limiting their penetration through obstacles such as buildings, foliage, and atmospheric conditions. Addressing propagation loss and penetration challenges requires innovative antenna designs, propagation models, and signal processing techniques to optimize beamforming, mitigate interference, and improve signal coverage in non-line-of-sight (NLOS) scenarios.
- **Hardware Complexity and Cost:** Phased array antennas and beamforming systems for ultra-short

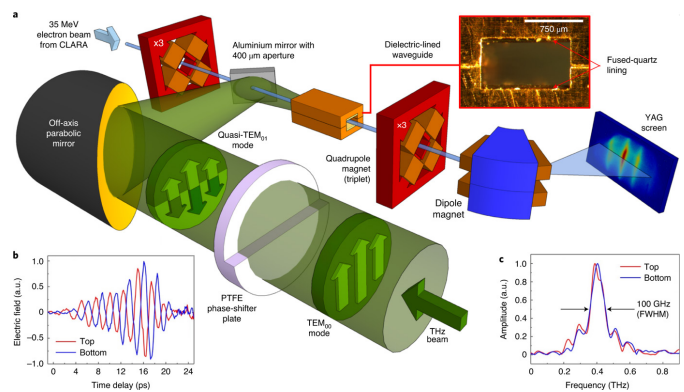


Fig. 8: Acceleration of relativistic beams using laser-generated terahertz pulses

waves involve complex hardware components, including phase shifters, amplifiers, and control circuits, which can increase system complexity and cost. Developing cost-effective, scalable, and energy-efficient beamforming solutions requires advancements in integrated circuit (IC) design, semiconductor technologies, and antenna packaging techniques to reduce hardware complexity and enhance performance as given in Fig. 8.

- **Interference and Coexistence:** Ultra-short waves are susceptible to interference from other wireless systems operating in the same frequency band, leading to coexistence challenges and spectrum sharing issues. Mitigating interference and ensuring coexistence with existing and emerging wireless technologies require spectrum management policies, interference mitigation techniques, and dynamic spectrum access mechanisms to optimize spectral efficiency, minimize interference, and ensure fair and equitable spectrum allocation. Interference and coexistence are key considerations in wireless communication systems, particularly as the number of devices and networks sharing the electromagnetic spectrum continues to increase. Interference occurs when signals from different transmitters overlap in frequency, time, or space, resulting in degradation or disruption of communication.

One type of interference is co-channel interference, where signals from different transmitters operating on the same frequency interfere with each other. This can lead to reduced signal quality and throughput in wireless networks, impacting performance and reliability.

Another type of interference is adjacent-channel interference, where signals from neighboring frequency channels spill over into adjacent channels, causing interference and reducing the available bandwidth for communication.

Interference can also occur due to multipath propagation, where signals reflect off obstacles and arrive at the receiver from multiple paths, causing signal fading and distortion.

To mitigate interference and ensure coexistence between wireless devices and networks, various techniques and technologies are employed. These include frequency planning and allocation, power control, adaptive modulation and coding, interference cancellation, and spectrum sharing schemes such as dynamic frequency selection (DFS) and cognitive radio.

Furthermore, advanced signal processing algorithms and smart antenna technologies are utilized to improve interference rejection and spatial filtering, enabling more efficient use of the available spectrum and enhancing coexistence between wireless systems.

Overall, managing interference and ensuring coexistence are essential for maintaining the performance, reliability, and scalability of wireless communication systems in increasingly crowded and dynamic spectrum environments.

- Regulatory and Safety Considerations: Beam transmission of ultra-short waves raises regulatory and safety concerns related to electromagnetic radiation exposure, human health effects, and compliance with international standards and regulations. Ensuring compliance with safety guidelines and regulations, such as specific absorption rate (SAR) limits and exposure limits, requires rigorous testing, modelling, and certification of USW transmission systems to assess their impact on human health and safety.
- Integration with Emerging Technologies: Beam transmission of ultra-short waves must be seamlessly integrated with emerging technologies such as artificial intelligence (AI), edge computing, and Internet of Things (IoT) to enable innovative applications and services. Leveraging AI-based beamforming algorithms, edge computing platforms, and IoT devices can enhance the intelligence, autonomy, and interoperability of USW transmission systems, enabling new capabilities such as context-aware communication, predictive maintenance, and autonomous operation in dynamic and distributed environments. Integration with emerging technologies refers to the incorporation of antenna systems into innovative and cutting-edge applications and devices. This integration enables the enhancement and expansion of functionalities, performance, and capabilities in various fields.

One area of integration is with the Internet of Things (IoT), where antennas play a critical role in enabling wireless connectivity and communication between IoT devices. Antennas integrated into IoT sensors, actuators, and other devices facilitate data transmission, enabling real-time monitoring, control, and automation in diverse IoT applications such as smart homes, industrial automation, and healthcare.

Another emerging technology where antennas are integral is in wearable electronics. Antennas integrated into wearable devices such as smartwatches, fitness trackers, and medical wearables enable wireless connectivity, location tracking, and data exchange. Compact and low-profile antennas are essential for ensuring optimal performance while maintaining the form factor and comfort of wearable devices as given in Fig. 9.

Moreover, antennas are being integrated into autonomous vehicles, drones, and robotics systems to enable wireless communication, navigation, and remote control. These antennas facilitate data exchange between vehicles, sensors, and control systems, enabling safe and efficient operation in various environments.

Additionally, antennas are integrated into emerging technologies such as augmented reality (AR), virtual reality (VR), and mixed reality (MR) systems to enable wireless connectivity, spatial tracking, and immersive experiences. High-performance antennas are crucial for delivering low-latency, high-bandwidth wireless communication in immersive multimedia applications.

Overall, integration with emerging technologies opens up new opportunities for antennas to play a central role in enabling wireless connectivity, communication, and interaction in innovative and transformative applications and devices. As technology continues to advance, the integration of antennas with emerging technologies will

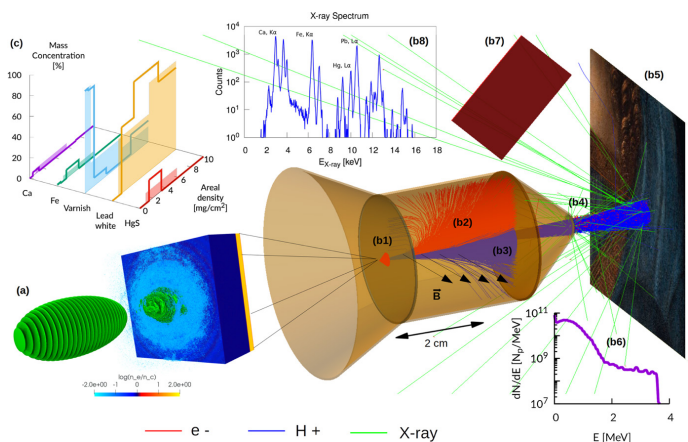


Fig. 9: Superintense Laser-driven Ion Beam Analysis

drive innovation, enhance user experiences, and shape the future of wireless communication and connectivity.

CONCLUSION

In conclusion, beam transmission of ultra-short waves represents a transformative paradigm in wireless communication, enabling high-speed data transmission, precise beamforming, and adaptive connectivity across diverse applications and domains. From 5G wireless networks and radar systems to satellite communication and remote sensing, beam transmission of USWs offers unparalleled performance, reliability, and flexibility in wireless transmission systems. Despite the challenges and opportunities for future research and development, beam transmission of ultra-short waves holds immense potential for shaping the future of wireless communication, enabling innovative applications, and advancing connectivity in the digital age. As we continue to explore and harness the capabilities of USW transmission systems, the possibilities for innovation and impact in wireless communication are boundless.

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