

# Do photovoltaic panels block satellite signals



## Overview

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At 4 GHz the solar radio emission exceeds the signal typically received from a television broadcast satellite by about 20 dB (a factor of 100). The graph below indicates the days on which the maximum solar interference will occur for a given latitude. Electro-magnetic interference (EMI) is typically taken to mean radiofrequency (RF) emissions emanating from PV systems impacting nearby radio receivers, but can also include interference with communication devices, navigational aids, and explosives triggers. The Federal Aviation Administration (FAA). This information is mainly aimed at reducing or eliminating radio, TV, cell phone, and other electronic noise and interference in photovoltaic and other DC powered systems and from equipment used in PV systems. Much of it applies to anything or any equipment with EMI (Electromagnetic Interference). Would the panels themselves block the signal?

If so, how high above the black panels would the antenna need to be?

How far to the side of the yellow panels?

To answer Ratman's question, if solar and OTA cannot coexist, then we may not do solar, since we're on the fence about it anyway. So, why would this problem arise?

How should users (especially home users who install household distributed PV) deal with this problem?

Let's discuss it. It must be realised that, even with an inverter that is 97.5% efficient, on a 5kW installation that is loaded with 3kW (optimal) that about 75W must still be dissipated somewhere else - e. as heat or as a transmitted signal(s). The pure sine output has a little HF noise on it but honestly not too bad. I first noticed the effect.

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### [Does the PV system affect the RF signal?](#)

First, let's be clear: solar panels do not have a direct effect on RF signals, but PV systems have the potential to interfere with signals. So, why would this problem arise?

### [How To Reduce Electromagnetic Interference in Solar power Systems](#)

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### [Solar Panels in the Radio Spectrum.](#)

Because the inverter is the 'culprit' with regard to the interference signals (the panels themselves do not produce these interference signals), it is best to place the ferrite(s) as close to the inverter as possible.

### [Solar panels transmitting their own signal into space](#)

Now I know that panels radiating switching noise based on their converter isn't uncommon and there are ferrite chokes to deal with that if it becomes a problem.



### Would solar panels interfere with attic antenna?

As long as the signals aren't blocked by the panels, you are OK. If the panels were horizontal, there might be a concern about a reflected signal causing interference to the direct signal, ...



### Do Solar Panels Interfere With WiFi, TV, Or Cell Phone Reception?

Generally, solar panels installed on your roof can interfere with your reception. However, this isn't caused by the solar panels emitting radiation but because of direct physical interference or ...



### Electro-Magnetic Interference from Solar Photovoltaic Arrays

While the risk of electro-magnetic and/ or radar interference from PV systems is very low, it does merit evaluation, if only to improve the confidence of site owners and other stakeholders.



### [5 reasons why the satellite signal was blocked](#)

A 10-story building (30m tall) just 50m away can block 20-40% of signal strength for a ground-level dish. In dense cities like New York or Hong Kong, 60-80% of residential buildings face some level of ...



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