



Dumanli, S., Paul, D. L., & Railton, C. J. (2010). LTCC or LCP, a comparison using cavity backed slot antennas with pin curtains at 60 GHz. 1 - 5.

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#### LTCC or LCP A COMPARISON USING CAVITY BACKED SLOT ANTENNAS with PIN CURTAINS at 60 GHz

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# **K**Outline

- Introduction
- Antenna Model
  - CBS antenna on LTCC
  - CBS antenna on LCP
  - Pin Curtains
- Simulations and Results
  - Return Loss and Radiation Pattern
  - Efficiency Calculations

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Conclusions





# **K**Introduction

- The 60 GHz band  $\rightarrow$  7 GHz unlicensed bandwidth
- Many materials used at microwave frequencies have unacceptably higher losses (more to consider, eg. substrate water absorption)
- Low temperature co-fired ceramic (LTCC) and liquid crystal polymer (LCP) → most popular !
- They both offer good electrical performance however LCP has lower cost





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- 2 layers are needed for the strip.
- $t < \lambda g/4$  (=538µm) to suppress TE and TM modes on the strip.
- Lowest slot resonance by slot length.
- Cavity mode with the lowest resonant frequency is TE<sub>101</sub>.

$$f_{nml} = \frac{c}{\sqrt{\epsilon_r}} \sqrt{(\frac{l}{2d})^2 + (\frac{n}{2a})^2 + (\frac{m}{2b})^2}$$

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- $\epsilon_r = 5.4$  and  $tan\delta = 0.0015$
- Thickness (t) of LTCC layers ranges: 80 125 µm

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 Cavity mode with the lowest resonant frequency is TE<sub>101</sub> at approx. 109 GHz







- The electrical properties of ULTRALAM 3850
- $\epsilon_r = 2.9$  and  $tan\delta = 0.0049$
- Substrate thickness is chosen as 250 μm.
- Cavity mode occurs at 100 GHz

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- Manufacturing repeatability
- Integration with other SIW structures

- The dimensions of the pins -> not critical in terms of antenna performance but watch the leakage!
- Design restrictions due to the manufacturing capabilities.
- Via diameter, via pitch, line or slot width (since the sizes get smaller at 60 GHz.)





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Tuning of CBS antenna on LCP, feed line lengths from 0.78 to 0.88 mm

- The feed line length -> optimized for best return loss (for each antenna).
- The tuning of  $S_{11}$  is shown in the figure.









Tuning of CBS antenna on LCP, slot length from 3.4 to 2.7 mm

- The slot lengths are optimized -> 60 GHz.
- Figure shows the response of the LCP antenna to different slot lengths.







- 22 dB for LTCC and 31 dB for LCP at 60 GHz.
- CBS on LCP has a larger bandwidth -> the thickness of the substrate.







3D Radiation Patterns of the CBS antennas : LTCC, and LCP







RADIATION CHARACTERISTICS OF THE CBS ANTENNAS

	CBS on LTCC	CBS on LCP
Directivity	5.7dB	6.4dB
Cross Pol Level	17%	14%

- LTCC has more back radiation.
- Main lobes are directed at an angle of  $\theta = 90$ ;  $\varphi = 90$  for both.
- Directivity and polarisation purity : LCP has a better performance















Conductivity of copper is taken as 5.813x10<sup>7</sup> Sm<sup>-1</sup>, and the surface resistivity is calculated to be 0.064 at 60 GHz









LCP YU



LTCC YL LTCC YU 0.0045 14 0.004 12 10 0.0035 8 0.003 6 4 0.0025 2 0.002 0 0.002 0.003 0.004 0.005 0.006 0.007 0.003 0.004 0.005 0.006





$$J_y = |\overline{H_{z1}} - \overline{H_{z2}}|$$

$$(2\pi . r_2 . J_y)^2 \times R_s \frac{L}{\pi (2 . r_1 - \delta_s)}$$

 H<sub>z2</sub> and H<sub>z1</sub> are subtracted from each other to find J<sub>y</sub>.



 Flow from the outer surface of the pins with a skin depth of 2.695x10<sup>-7</sup>m.

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- The pins located at cell numbers x = 123, 147, 171, 195, 221, 247, 271, 295, 319
- The current goes down to zero towards the centre of the pin





CONDUCTOR LOSSES NORMALIZED TO THE POWER RADIATED IN LOSSLESS CASE

	CBS on LTCC	CBS on LCP
Feed Line	0.032	0.008
X Wall	0.072	0.016
Y Wall	0.066	0.020
Z Wall	0.040	0.014
Pin Curtains	0.009	0.002



- The final efficiency values = 65% for LTCC 84% for LCP.
- $\eta_m$  = mismatch efficiency &  $\eta_\Omega$  = conductor and dielectric losses.
- Mismatch efficiencies = 0.92 for LTCC 0.94 for LCP







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![](_page_21_Picture_11.jpeg)

#### **Conclusions**

•Two 60 GHz slot antennas are designed which are backed by cavities on LCP and LTCC.

•The performance of the antennas are compared to demonstrate the effect of the dielectric material by keeping the other factors as constant as possible.

•It is shown that LCP offers better performance in terms of efficiency and radiation purity as well as having lower cost.

![](_page_22_Picture_4.jpeg)

![](_page_22_Picture_5.jpeg)

![](_page_23_Picture_0.jpeg)

![](_page_23_Picture_1.jpeg)

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![](_page_23_Picture_6.jpeg)