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Designing and Simulation of a Novel Multiband Antenna for Wireless Communication

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ABSTRACT: An antenna is the most important element of any wireless communication. Various antennas for wide band operation have been studied & designed for communication. In this paper, a multiband microstrip patch with simple strip line feeding is proposed to support different wireless application. The antenna is fabricated on a FR4 substrate. To obtain multiple bands, multiple square slots are provided with the rectangular patch. The performance of the proposed antenna design is analysed with HFSS (High Frequency Structure Simulator). The relevant antenna performance parameters of the proposed design viz. resonant bands, return loss, gain, and radiation pattern are reported and discussed. The VSWR of the antenna is less than 2 for seven resonant bands in the vicinity of 1.48 GHz, 1.89 GHz, 2.06 GHz, 3.47 GHz, 4.47 GHz, 4.86 GHz and 5.31 GHz. The performance results exhibited by the proposed antenna make it extremely useful for the future generation of wireless broadband communication systems.

KEYWORDS: Microstrip, Broadband antenna, Multiband antenna, Square shaped.

I. INTRODUCTION

In any communication system, antenna is the most important components. A microstrip antenna contains very extensive applications in recent times because of its light weight, small size, easy reproduction and integration ability with the circuitry. The rapid development of electronics and wireless communications led to great demand for wireless devices that can operate at different standards such as the universal mobile telecommunications system UMTS, Bluetooth, wireless local-area network (WLAN) and also satellite communications. Compact small size is a demand factor for several applications as mobile devices. This requirements have triggered research on the design of compact and single or multiband antennas operation [5]. Microstrip patch antennas are widely used because of their many merits, such as the low profile, light weight and conformity. However, patch antennas have a main disadvantage: narrow bandwidth. Researchers have made many efforts to overcome this problem and many configurations have been presented to extend the bandwidth [6]. Microstrip patch antennas are widely used in wireless devices and other compact sizes with multiband antenna operation.

In this paper, a novel microstrip radiating patch with square slots are proposed.

II. ANTENNA DESIGN

The main objective of our work is to design a square shaped antenna which will be small in size and exhibits multiband performance. The transmission line model represents the microstrip antenna by two slots each of width W and height h separated by low-impedance Z_c transmission line of length L . The essential parameters for the design an antenna according the transmission line method are; dielectric constant of the substrate (ϵ_r), resonant frequency (f_r), loss tangent (δ) and the height of substrate h . The conventional microstrip rectangular patch antenna is designed by following the standard procedures.

(1) Calculation of the width W of antenna, which is given by:

$$W = \frac{v_0}{2fr} \sqrt{\frac{2}{\epsilon_r + 1}} \quad (1)$$

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Where v_o is the free-space velocity of light.

(2) Calculation of effective dielectric constant, ϵ_{reff} , which is given by:

$$\epsilon_{reff} = \frac{\epsilon_r + 1}{2} + \frac{\epsilon_r - 1}{2} \left[1 + 12 \frac{h}{W} \right]^{-1} \quad (2)$$

(3) Calculation of the effective length, L_{eff} , which is given by:

$$L_{eff} = \frac{c}{2fr\sqrt{\epsilon_{reff}}} \quad (3)$$

(4) Calculation of the length extension ΔL , which is given by:

$$\Delta L = 0.412h \frac{(\epsilon_{reff} + 0.3) \left(\frac{W}{h} + 0.264 \right)}{(\epsilon_{reff} - 0.258) \left(\frac{W}{h} + 0.8 \right)} \quad (4)$$

(5) Calculation of actual length of patch, L which is given by:

$$L = L_{eff} - 2\Delta L \quad (5)$$

The parameters taken into account for the design are the resonant frequency ($f_r = 2.4\text{GHz}$), dielectric constant ($\epsilon_r = 4.4$) and thickness of the Substrate ($h = 1.588\text{ mm}$). The conventional patch antenna is shown in Fig. 1 with dimensions.



Fig. 1. Conventional Rectangular Microstrip Patch Antenna

The size of basic rectangular patch antenna is $28\text{ mm} \times 37\text{ mm}$ as per the calculations. Initially we have taken out four square from the centre of each side of patch. The square taken out have dimension of $6\text{mm} \times 6\text{mm}$. Then again we have taken four squares from each previously taken squares as shown in Fig. 2. Now this time the square taken out have dimension $2\text{mm} \times 2\text{mm}$. The top view of the design is shown in Fig. 2.

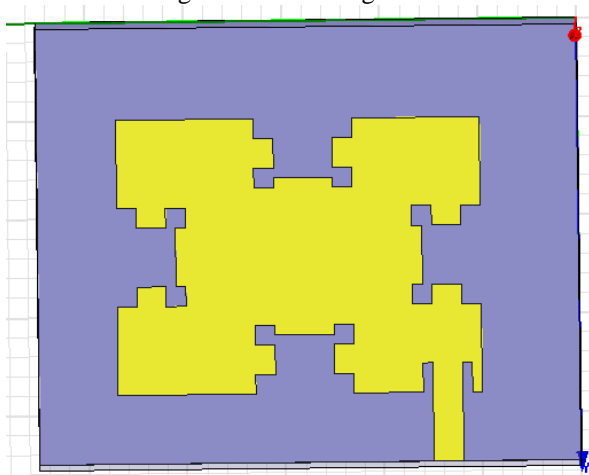


Fig. 2. Geometry of proposed antenna

III. SIMULATION RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

The proposed antenna is designed and simulated on commercially available software HFSS 12.1, which is very good simulator for antennas. Return Loss (S_{11}) plot of this antenna is as shown in Fig. 3. We observed seven resonant bands which have less than 10dB return loss i.e at frequencies 1.48 GHz, 1.89 GHz, 2.06 GHz, 3.47 GHz, 4.47 GHz, 4.86 GHz and 5.31 GHz. Corresponding VSWR is reported in Fig. 4.

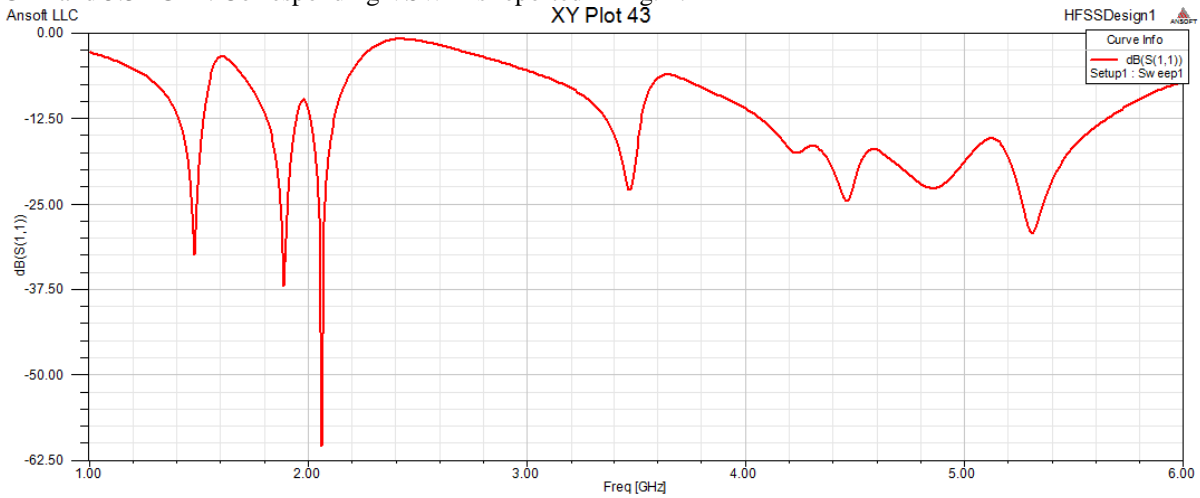


Fig. 3. Return Loss (s₁₁) of antenna

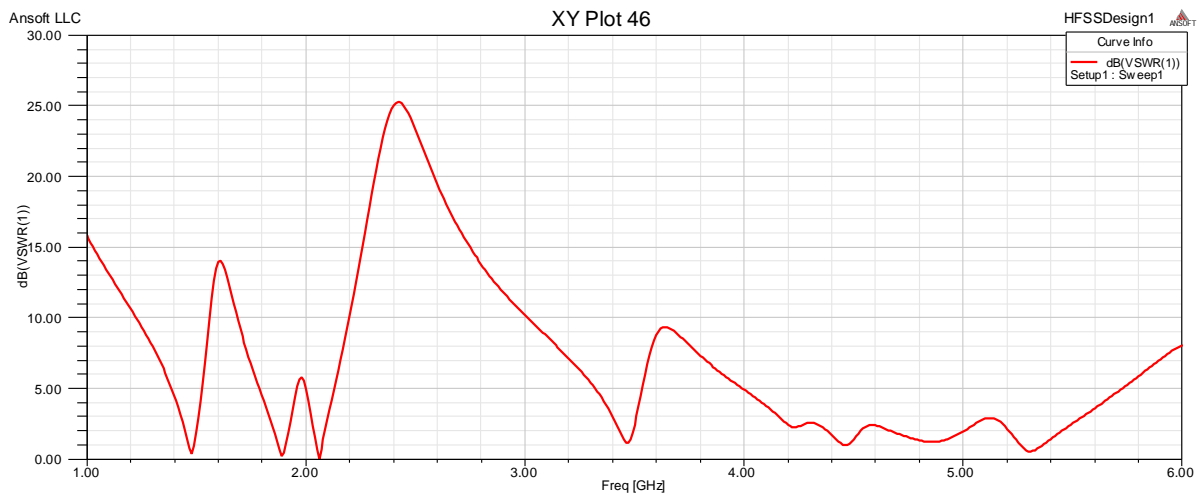


Fig. 4. VSWR of antenna

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Table 1 shows values of Return Loss (S_{11}) and VSWR in dB for different bands with their frequency.

TABLE 1
Simulation Results

S.N.	Freq	S11	VSWR
I.	1.48	-32.4	0.41
II.	1.89	-36.9	0.54
III.	2.06	-60.3	0.01
IV.	3.47	-22.9	1.24
V.	4.47	-24.5	1.02
VI.	4.86	-22.7	1.29
VII.	5.31	-29.2	0.63

Radiation pattern of the proposed antenna is as shown in the Fig. 5. A high gain of 16dbm has been observed. This antenna gives omnidirectional pattern in azimuth plane and direction pattern of high beamwidth in elevation plane. It is thus deduced that this antenna could be a very good candidate for advanced wireless application.

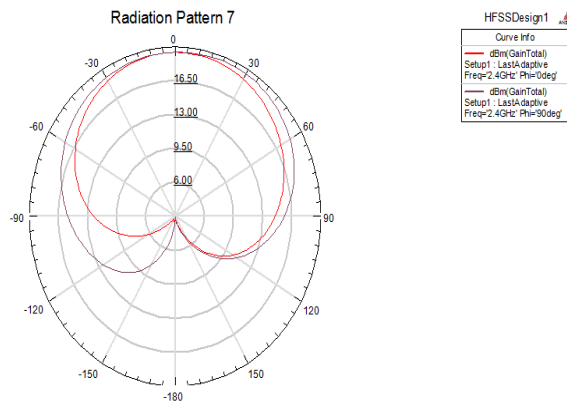


Fig. 5. Radiation Pattern of 2nd iteration Fractal Antenna

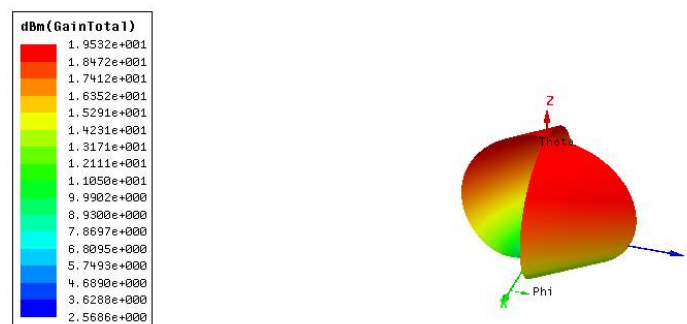


Fig.6.3-D Polar Plot of 2nd iteration Fractal Antenna

After investigating axial ratio this antenna is linearly polarised antenna.



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IV. CONCLUSIONS

In this paper, a novel multiband antenna is designed. Seven resonant bands have been obtained for this antenna i.e. at frequencies 1.48 GHz, 1.89 GHz, 2.06 GHz, 3.47 GHz, 4.47 GHz, 4.86 GHz and 5.31 GHz. The VSWR of the designed antenna is less than 2 for all the bands above. Gain of this antenna is also more than 16dBm for frequency of 2.4 GHz. A Significant enhancement in the impedance bandwidth is observed at frequency from 3.30GHz to 3.54GHz i.e. 240 MHz. However at frequency 3.97GHz to 5.79GHz the bandwidth is 1820 MHz. As clearly seen from the results this antenna could be a good candidate for wireless mobile communication, WiMAX application, WiFi services.

V. FUTURE SCOPE

This antenna further can be analysed for MIMO specific applications after finding out correlation co-efficient of array of two or more antenna.

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