On the Size Reduction of Slotted Finite Ground Plane of a Circularly Polarized MicrostripPatch Antenna Using Substructure Characteristic Modes

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Outline of the Presentation

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Introduction

- Slotted ground/defected ground helps decreasing the resonant frequency of a microstrip antenna.

- Also miniaturization of the patch can be achieved by inserting slots on the ground.

- Size reduction of the ground plane can be a challenge.

![Patch and Slotted ground](image-url)
The Problem in Hand

- Our question: How to reduce the ground plane (slotted) size at a particular frequency?

- Aim is to reduce the overall size of the antenna

- Interest: To what extent we can reduce the overall antenna size keeping the frequency of operation same as well as achieving circular polarization.

- We investigate this using substructure based TCM

- The proposed technique can compute the modes of each object separately in a whole system
Solution Technique: Substructure TCM of Substrate Based Patch Antenna

- Substructure based TCM [1] is required to accurately characterize the CMs of the metallic parts of the antenna in dielectric environment.
- It gives CMs of metallic patch and ground plane separately.

Replacing other variables for $I_{cp}$ and $I_{cg}$ taking the right hand side zero.

For the patch

$$[Z_p][I_{cp}] = [V_p] \quad \text{...(2)}$$

For the ground

$$[Z_g][I_{cg}] = [V_g] \quad \text{...(3)}$$

where,

$$[Z_p] = [R_p] + j[X_p]$$

$$[Z_g] = [R_g] + j[X_g]$$

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Solution Technique

The Generalized eigenvalue problem is constructed as follows

For the patch
\[
[X_p][I_{n}^{cp}] = \lambda_n^c [R_p][I_{n}^{cp}] \ldots (4)
\]

For the ground
\[
[X_g][I_{n}^{cg}] = \lambda_n^g [R_g][I_{n}^{cg}] \ldots (5)
\]

The CM currents on the patch and the ground plane in (6) and (7) respectively

\[
J_n^{cp} = \sum_m f_m^{cp} I_{n,m}^{cp} \ldots (6)
\]

\[
J_n^{cg} = \sum_m f_m^{cg} I_{n,m}^{cg} \ldots (7)
\]
Antenna Design

- The substructure technique is used here to address the present problem
- Substructure modes helps in obtaining this loading effect separately in a strong mutual coupling environment
- In order to study, Microstrip patch antenna with cross slot loaded ground plane is simulated in EMCoS Antenna VLab using plane wave excitation
- EMCoS uses a special Greens’ function and gives only conductor currents for finite substrate operation
- Slot on ground plane loads the patch and helps miniaturizing it
- Cross slot controls both modal currents to obtain CP
- The patch also loads the ground plane to reduce resonant frequency

The meshed structure is shown here, by varying iteratively (experiment) the size of the ground plane, ground slot and the patch, we obtain desired operation

Loading effect between patch and ground plane needs to be studied in order to reduce overall size

Meshed structure in EMCoS
CM Analysis

- MoM matrix is extracted from EMCoS
- In-house MATLAB code is developed to evaluate eigenvalues and eigencurrents of the patch and ground plane separately
- Eigencurrent tracking method is used to track the modes over the whole frequency range of interest

- The teeth on the top edge of the patch are introduced to adjust the eigenvalue curve so that the desired CP operation of the antenna is obtained
Simulation Results

Simulated current distribution at 2.45 GHz on the patch and the ground plane

Axial ratio plot

S11 plot
Simulation Results

Realized gain plot

Total efficiency plot

Normalized pattern at 2.45 GHz on x-z plane (phi=0 degree)

Normalized pattern at 2.45 GHz on y-z plane (phi=90 degree)
Discussions

- The overall antenna size is $0.246\lambda_0 \times 0.237\lambda_0$. The area of the ground plane is reduced by 56% as compared to half wave patch at the same frequency. The size of the patch is reduced by 94%.

- 7542 RWG bases with an average execution time of 1 minute for each frequency point (intel Xeon @3.30GHz, 32 GB memory size) but using special Greens’ function it takes only 3 seconds for each point.

- A low profile miniaturized antenna is obtained by using this technique.

- The patch is used to miniaturize the ground plane size further.

- The radiation pattern becomes bidirectional as the ground plane is having a cross slot on it.

- It can be used as a repeater antenna in cars.
Future Works

- The antenna can be mounted on a suitable platform to get unidirectional radiation pattern
- The theory of substructure modes is applicable to:
  - Multilayer antennas
  - Antennas on complex platform
  - Antenna in devices
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