

Improvement in Parameters of Patch Antenna By Using “Hybrid Shaped” Metamaterial Structure

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Abstract

In this work, a Rectangular microstrip patch antenna loaded with “Hybrid shaped” metamaterial structure is designed at a height 3.2 mm from the ground plane by using CST-MWS software. The resonance frequency of the designed antenna is 2.1GHz. The 10 dB impedance bandwidth of proposed antenna is 31.10 MHz. The Return loss of the proposed antenna is reduced by 35 dB. This antenna is small size, cheap, compact and easy to fabricate, and achieve good radiation characteristics with higher return loss. This antenna can have wide application in a great variety of wireless communication. Double-Negative properties of the proposed metamaterial structure have also been verified by using Nicolson-Ross-Weir Method (NRW).

Keywords: *Rectangular Microstrip Patch Antenna, Metamaterials, Bandwidth, Return Loss, NRW.*

1 Introduction

In high-performance aircraft, spacecraft, satellite and missile applications, where size, weight, cost, performance, ease of installation, low profile antennas may be required. Presently there are many other government and commercial applications, such as mobile radio and wireless communications. To meet these requirements microstrip antenna can be used. These antennas are low profile, conformal to planar and non-planar Surfaces, simple and inexpensive to manufacturer using modern printed circuit technology, mechanically robust when mounted on rigid surfaces, compatible with Monolithic Microwave Integrated Circuit (MMIC) designs.

The introduction of the so-called metamaterials [1] (MTMs), artificial materials which have engineered electromagnetic responses that are not readily available in nature, has provided an alternate design approach to obtain efficient electrically-small antenna (EESA) systems.

2 Design and Simulated Results of Rmpa and Proposed Antenna.

The Rectangular microstrip patch antenna parameters are calculated from the formulas given below [2-3].

Calculation of Width (W):

$$W = \frac{1}{2f_r \sqrt{\mu_0 \epsilon_0} \sqrt{\epsilon_r + 1}} = \frac{c}{2f_r \sqrt{\epsilon_r + 1}} \quad (1)$$

Where,

c = free space velocity of light

ϵ_r = Dielectric constant of substrate

Effective dielectric constant is calculated from:

$$\epsilon_{eff} = \frac{\epsilon_r + 1}{2} + \frac{\epsilon_r - 1}{2} \left(\frac{1}{\sqrt{1 + \frac{12h}{w}}} \right) \quad (2)$$

The actual length of the Patch (L)

$$L = L_{eff} - 2\Delta L \quad (3)$$

Where

$$L_{eff} = \frac{c}{2f_r \sqrt{\epsilon_{eff}}}$$

Calculation of Length Extension

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

The parameters of rectangular microstrip patch antenna are specified in the Table 1 and dimensional view is shown in figure 1.

Table 1: rectangular microstrippatch antenna specifications

| | Dimensions | Unit |
|--------------------------------------|------------|------|
| Dielectric Constant (ϵ_r) | 4.3 | - |
| Loss Tangent ($\tan \delta$) | 0.02 | - |
| Thickness (h) | 1.6 | Mm |
| Operating Frequency | 2.1 | GHz |
| Length (L) | 34.11386 | Mm |
| Width (W) | 43.87822 | Mm |
| Cut Width | 7.4 | Mm |
| Cut Depth | 10 | Mm |
| Path Length | 38.99604 | Mm |
| Width Of Feed | 6.00 | Mm |

The RMPA is designed using the calculated parameters shown in Table 1.

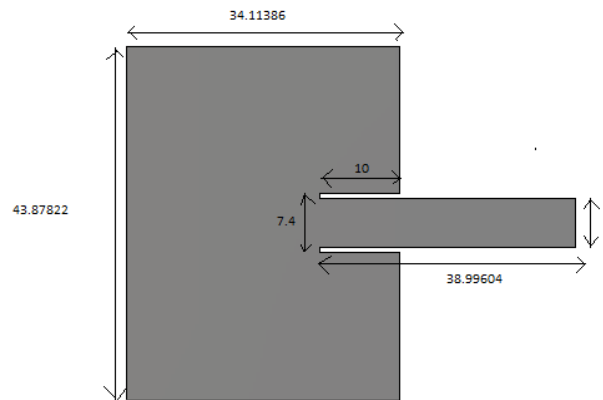


Figure 1: Rectangular patch antenna designed at 2.1GHz (All dimensions in mm).

The Simulated Results of Rectangular microstrip patch antenna is shown in figure 2 and 3. The CST-MWS (computer simulation Technology) was chosen to simulate the structures shown in the figures below.

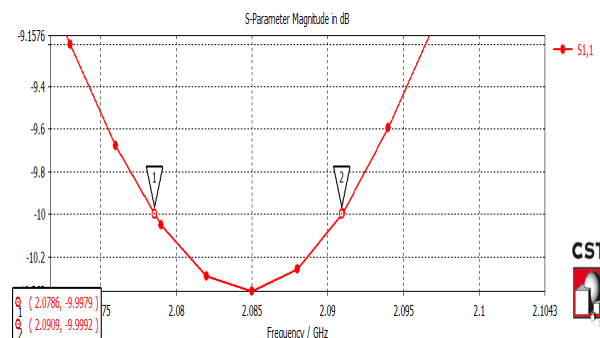


Figure 2: Simulated Result of Rectangular microstrip patch antenna showing return loss of -10.5 dB and 12.3 MHz Bandwidth.

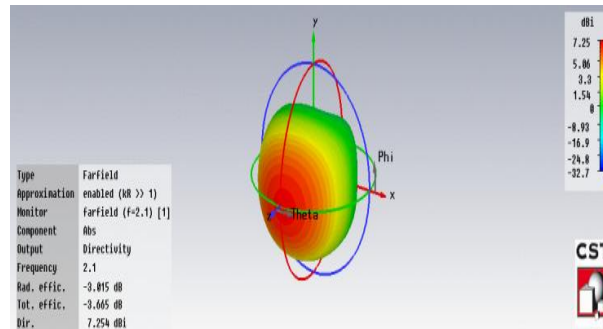


Figure 3: Radiation Pattern of Rectangular microstrip patch antenna.

Nicolson-Ross-Weir Method (NRW):

One methodology that makes use of the scattering parameters S_{11} and S_{21} to calculate the mentioned complex parameters of samples is named Nicolson-Ross-Weir (NRW) (Nicolson and Ross, 1970; Weir, 1974). The NRW modeling is the most common used method to perform the calculation of complex permittivity and permeability of materials. The obtained S-parameters are then exported to Microsoft Excel Software for calculating the value of the permittivity and permeability of the proposed design, using the Nicolson-Ross-Weir (NRW) approach.

The proposed structure is placed between the two waveguide ports [11][13-14] at the top & bottom of Y-Axis (shown in figure 8) in order to calculate the S_{11} and S_{21} parameters so as to prove that the proposed structure possesses Double Negative metamaterial properties. In figure 4, X-Plane was defined as Perfect Electric Boundary (PEB) and Z-Plane was defined as the Perfect Magnetic Boundary (PMB). Subsequently, the wave was excited from the negative Y-axis (Port 1) towards the positive Y-axis (Port 2).

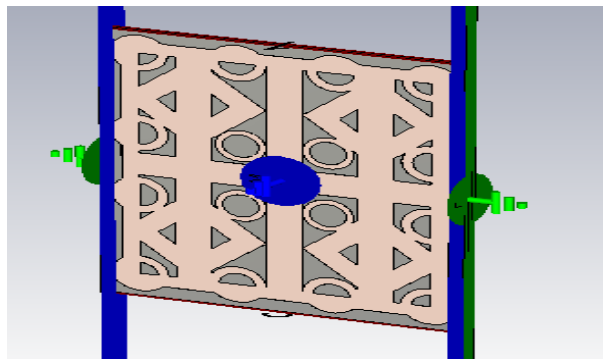


Figure 4: Proposed metamaterial Structure placed between the two Waveguide Ports at the top & bottom of Y axis.

NRW Method:

Equations used for calculating permittivity & permeability using NRW approach[9][10][13]:-

$$\mu_r = \frac{2.c(1-v_2)}{\omega.d.i(1+v_2)} \quad (5)$$

$$\epsilon_r = \mu_r + \frac{2.S_{11}.c.i}{\omega.d} \quad (6)$$

Where,

$$v_2 = S_{21} - S_{11} \quad (7)$$

ω = Frequency in Radian,
 d = Thickness of the Substrate,
 c = Speed of Light,
 v_2 = Voltage Minima

Figure 5 & 6 shows the negative value of permittivity and permeability [4-5] [15-16] obtained from the equation 5 & 6 at the designed frequency.

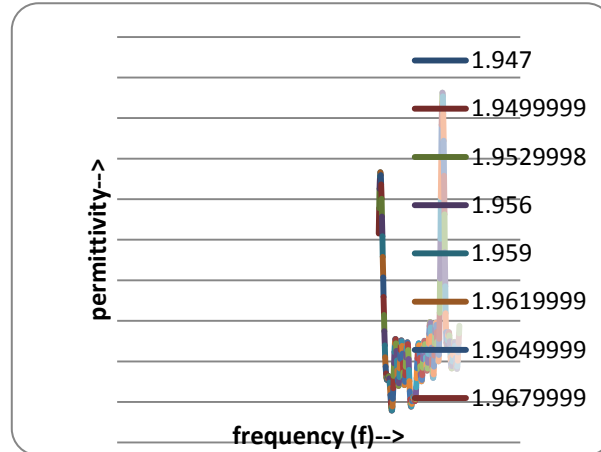


Figure 5: Permittivity versus Frequency Graph obtained from Microsoft Excel Software.

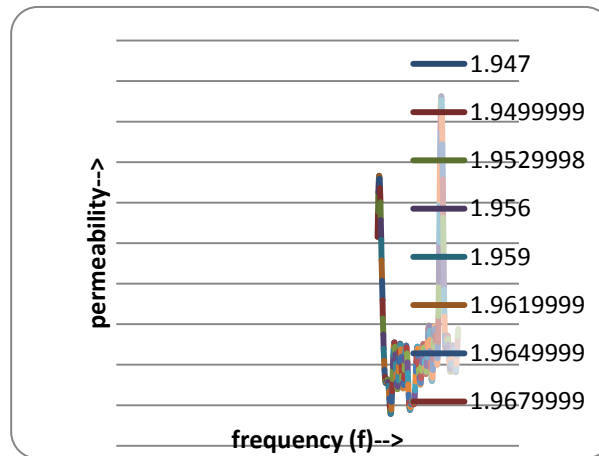


Figure 6: Permeability versus Frequency Graph obtained from Microsoft Excel Software.

Then, the “Hybrid Shaped” metamaterial structure is placed above the patch antenna at a height of 3.2 mm from ground plane in order to study its influence, and the results are compared with those of the Patch antenna alone. The required specifications of this design are shown in the figure7.

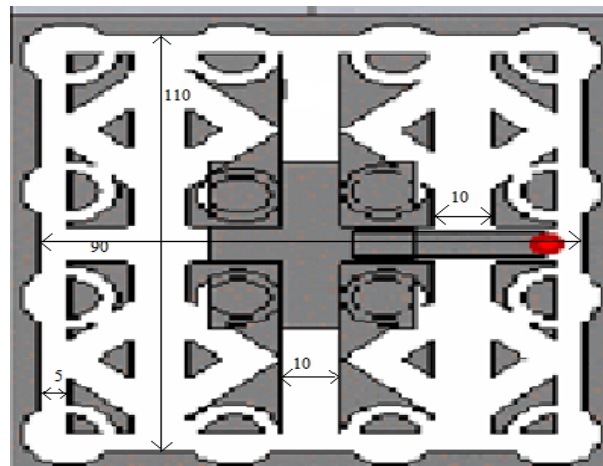


Figure 7: Rectangular microstrip patch antenna loaded with “Hybrid Shaped” metamaterial Structure (All dimensions in mm).

3 Result

A Research on [7-8]metamaterial was carried out to understand the fundamentals of the newly discovered substance. The simulated result of rectangular microstrip patch antenna with “Hybrid Shaped” structure is shown in figure 8. At 2.1 GHz

frequency the simulated rectangular microstrip patch antenna results in Return Loss of -10.5dB & 12.1MHz Bandwidth while when it is designed with “Hybrid Shaped” metamaterial structure at 3.2mm from the ground plane, it shows Return Loss of -45 dB & 31.10MHz Bandwidth which shows significant improvement of bandwidth [17] and reduction in return loss. The Return Loss of the proposed metamaterial structure is reduced by 35dB [9-10] [12] in comparison to the RMPA alone. The response of the proposed metamaterial when tested with the help of spectrum analyzer shows the return loss of -42dB & 29.5 Mhz band width which is slightly less than the simulated response due to the practical conditions & limitations

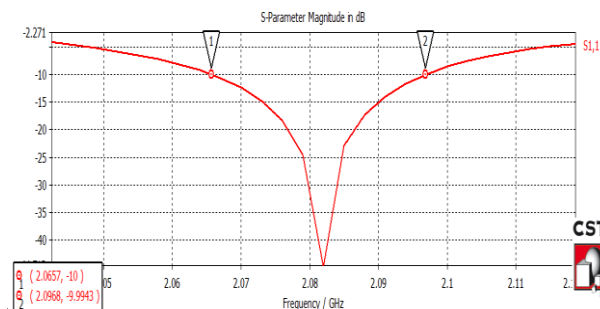


Figure 8: Simulated Return Loss of Rectangular microstrip patch antenna loaded With “Hybrid Shaped” metamaterial Structure.

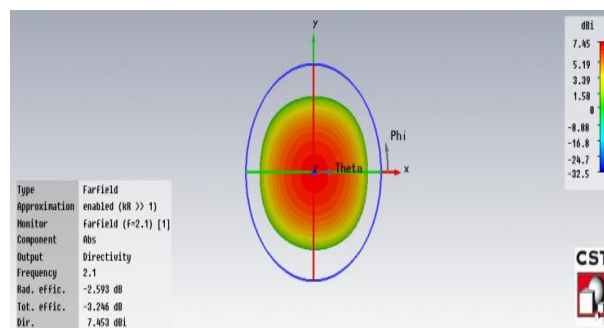


Figure 9: Radiation Pattern of Rectangular microstrip patch Antenna along With “Hybrid Shaped” metamaterial Structure.

Smith Charts[6] shown in figure 10 represents the impedance matching of antenna with coaxial cable of 50 ohm.

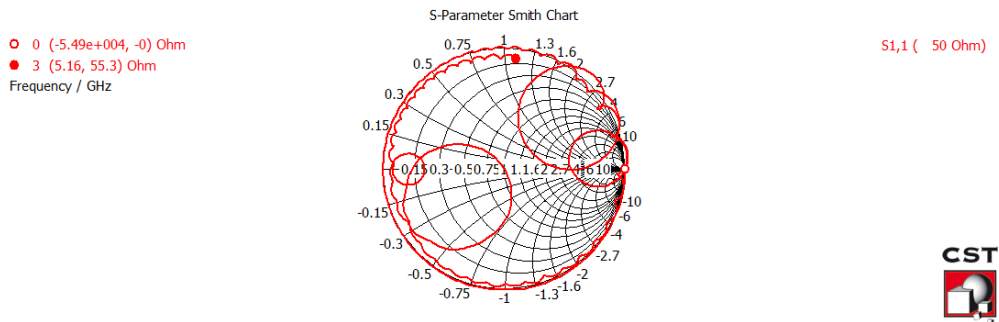


Figure 10: Smith Chart of Rectangular microstrip patch antenna loaded with “Hybrid Shaped” metamaterial Structure.

Testing With Spectrum Analyzer:

Testing of RMPA alone is shown in figure 12



Figure 11: Rectangular patch antenna designed at 2.1 GHz

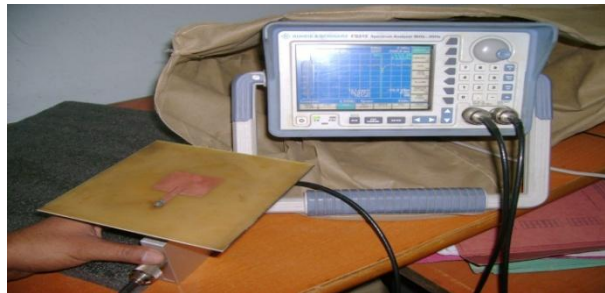


Figure 12: Rectangular patch antenna designed at 2.1 GHz tested with spectrum analyzer

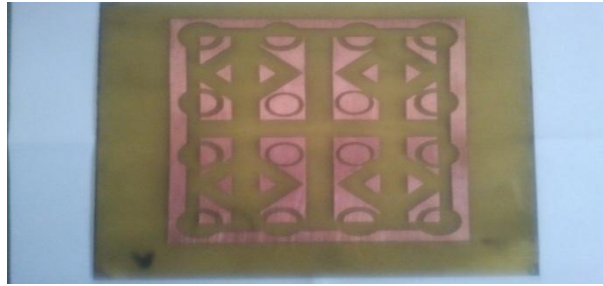


Figure 13: Rectangular microstrip patch antenna loaded with “Hybrid Shaped” metamaterial Structure.

4 Conclusion

The “Hybrid Shapes” metamaterial structure with Rectangular antenna has been proposed in this paper. The simulated results provide high gain, wide bandwidth and directivity improvement, and increase total efficiency which encourages fabricating the structure. On making some variations in antenna parameter gain can be improved up to desired limit but some practical limitation should be taken care while fabricating the structure on CST-MWS software.

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