Design and Analysis of Square Printed Patch Antenna with Transmission Line Feed

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Abstract: A single layer, transmission line feed compact size square printed patch antenna is proposed for communication. Resonant frequency has been achieved by use of simple inverted L-shaped patch and adding rectangular slit. We achieve proposed antenna with good return loss of about -35.8 dB at 9.20 GHz frequency and low VSWR of about 1.07 which is much closer to its minimum value. The characteristics of the proposed antenna are designed by using MoM based electromagnetic solver, IE3D. The proposed printed patch antenna provides good resonant frequency, return loss, VSWR, radiation pattern and the antenna gain. We also achieved beam-width of about 167.55⁰ which is a very broad bean for the application for which it is intended. Practically the proposed antenna is applicable for satellite communication. In recent era of communication, micro-strip antenna is suitable due to simple configuration, low profile and easy fabrication in nature. This paper proposes the design of a Microstrip Square-Patch antenna with enhanced bandwidth and directive gain. The simulated results give significant improvement in terms of VSWR and beam-width.

Index Terms- Compact, Transmission Line Feed, Printed, Gain, VSWR, Beam Width

INTRODUCTION

To talk about a new era of communication, the microstrip micro-antenna design creates a lot of attention among young engineers especially for microwave engineers [1]. For microwave transmissions, we need a small, lightweight, compact antenna and on this ground the Microstrip Antenna is the most suitable device.

For microwave connectivity as well as for wireless communication, more than one operating frequency is required per day for many reasons. Operating frequencies are mainly required because most microwave and wireless engineers use different communication bands and engineers use different frequency bands. Therefore, engineers have recently designed antennas with multiple characteristics. Another standard needed to design the antenna is to reduce the size. Reducing size is the new technique. In this method, the size of the antenna is the same for the conventional antenna as well. To reduce size, the most useful technique is to cut different structures in the correct position on the traditional microstrip antenna [2-5]. Reducing the size of the antenna means a very low resonance frequency of the cleaved antenna compared to the traditional antenna [6-8]. Unlike slotted antennas, there are other antennas such as DRA (aerial resonance buffer), fractal antenna, etc. to reduce the size of antenna [15-20]. Fractal antennas are difficult to design and DRA require high dielectric substrates which are not readily available.

Today, the compact microstrip size of the antenna is very small and can be reduced to increase the demand for applications in various communications, especially microwave and mobile communications [9-10]. The work to be presented in this paper is also the design of a built-in microstrip antenna by cutting three inverted L-shaped patch and adding one rectangular slit with transmission line feed to increase the return loss and performance gain antenna bandwidth. To reduce the size of the antenna substrates, a higher value is selected from the dielectric constant [11-14]. Our goal is to

design the antenna with multi-band operation and increase the frequency ratio as well as increase the operational bandwidth. The simulation was performed by IE3D [21] using the MoM method. Due to its small size, low cost and light weight, this antenna is a good candidate for the application of satellite communication systems and microwave relay systems.

ANTENNA STRUCTURE

Proposed antenna configurations designed in Figure 1 displayed with the PTFE substrate. Three unequal slots of inverted L shaped (L1, L2, L3) are cut in the left and right side of the patch edge in the upper layer shown in Figure-1. One rectangular slit is added with the top layer as shown in Figure 1. Dimensions and position of the transmission line feed indicated in figure. The insulation materials specified for this design are epoxy FR4 substrate with electrostatic dielectric constant (ε_r) = 4.4 (h) 1.6 and height of substrate = mm. The transmission line feed is used for a waveguide arm of three (3) cells with extension of MMIC. Figure 1 illustrates the configuration of the top layer display of the proposed antenna.

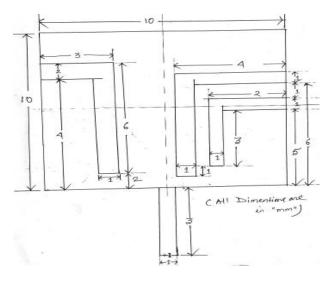


Figure 1: Proposed Antenna Configuration

The proposed antenna configuration is designed with a similar PTFE substrate. The proposed antenna is a square patch 20 mm x 20 mm. The upper layer of the proposed antenna is fully designed in the middle of the top layer, i.e. 10 mm x 10 mm of square patch.

SIMULATED RESULTS AND ANALYSIS

In this section, a different parametric analysis of the proposed antenna is performed and displayed. Several antenna parameters have been investigated for improved bandwidth and gain and return loss of antenna. Figure 2 shows the simulated return loss of the proposed antenna.

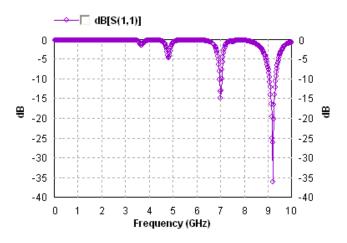


Fig 2: Simulated return loss of proposed antenna

Because the slot is cut in the correct position of the antenna, the resonance frequency operation is obtained with large values of the frequency ratio with a large return loss of antenna. The first resonance frequency of a proposed antenna is obtained at $f_1 = 7.01$ GHz with a return loss of about -14.81 dB. The second resonance frequency is obtained at $f_2 = 9.20$ GHz with a return loss of -35.8 dB. The 10 dB corresponding bandwidth obtained for the proposed antenna in f_1 and f_2 is 83.60 MHz and 264.07 MHz, respectively.

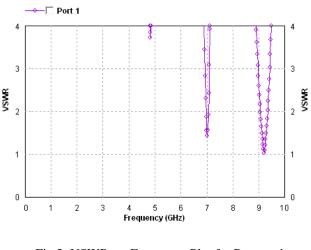


Fig 3: VSWR vs. Frequency Plot for Proposed Antenna

Figure 3 shows the VSWR simulation scheme against the proposed resonant with respect to frequency. VSWR for the first resonance frequency (7.01 GHz) is 1.44. The second resonance frequency is obtained at $f_2 = 9.20$ GHz with a value of 1.07. These values are within a 2: 1 range.

SIMULATED RADIATION PATTERN

Figure 4 to Figure 7 shows the proposed E-plane and Hplane radiation patterns for each of the resonance frequencies obtained for the proposed antenna.

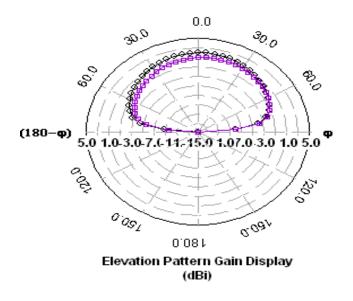


Fig 4: Simulated E-field radiation pattern at 7.01 GHz

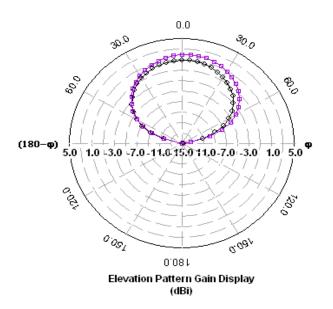


Fig 5: Simulated H-field radiation pattern at 7.01 GHz

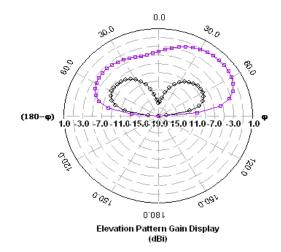


Fig 6: Simulated E-field radiation pattern at 9.20 GHz

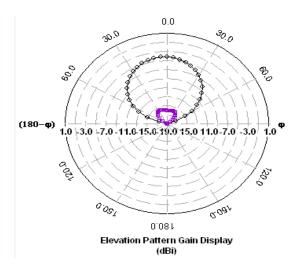


Fig 7: Simulated H-field radiation pattern at 9.20 GHz

Figure 8 show the current distribution pattern obtained for the proposed antenna.

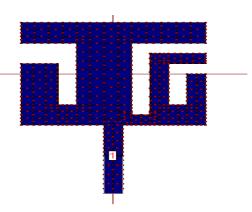


Fig 8: Simulated current distribution pattern

All simulated results are summarized with the help of Table I and Table II which is discussed below:

 TABLE I: SIMULATED RESULTS FOR PROPOSED ANTENNA

 with respect to Radiation Pattern

Resonant Frequency(GHz)	Frequency Ratio	3 dB Beam Width (⁰)	Absolute Gain (dBi)
$f_1 = 7.01$		167.55^{0}	4.35
f ₂ = 9.20	f ₂ / f ₁ =1.312	136.94 ⁰	-0.86

Table II: Simulated results for proposed antenna with respect to Return Loss

Resonant Frequency(GHz)	Return Loss (dB)	10 dB Bandwidth (MHz)
$f_1 = 7.01$	-14.81	83.60
$f_2 = 9.20$	-35.80	264.07

CONCLUSION

Single layer, single transmission line feed square printed patch antenna whose theoretical microstrip investigations were performed using an Method of Moment based program using IE3D. When three unequal slots of inverted L shaped (L1, L2, L3) are cut in the left and right side from the edge of the patch, the significant improvement shows a maximum return loss of about -35.80 dB as well as the VSWR value of about 1.07 which is much closer to its minimum value. Another result was also observed that for the proposed antenna, the three-dimensional beam width of the radiation pattern of about 264.07° which is sufficiently wide beam for the applications for which it is intended. If we change the location of the transmission line feed point, the results give a narrower bandwidth of 10dB and fewer signals.

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