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DESIGN AND SIMULATION OF DUAL POLARIZED PATCH ANTENNA

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ABSTRACT

A single layer dual-polarized microstrip patch antenna with dual port is designed, simulated and analyzed. The two ports are provided with a 180° phase shift and designed to operate in the C-band with a solution frequency at 4GHz. The edges of the patch are etched which helps to improve the polarization of the designed antenna. The inset feed is the feeding technique used for the design of the dual-polarized antenna which provides a gain of about 8.5dB. This paper describes the parameters of the dual-polarized patch antenna like VSWR, Radiation Pattern, Axial Ratio and Return Loss are simulated and results are recorded. The proposed antenna works for the single narrow band frequency having a return loss lesser than -10dB and finds its application in satellite communications and weather RADAR.

Key words: Dual-polarized antenna, VSWR (*Voltage Wave Standing Ratio*), Axial Ratio, Phase shift, inset feed.

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1. INTRODUCION

In the wireless communication systems, the dual-polarized microstrip antenna have a wide range of scope in the modern wireless systems. The microstrip patch antenna have many advantages like low weight, low cost, low profile, conformability and can be easily fabricated [1]. Thus microstrip patch antenna finds various applications due to which it opens a path to research field and many researches have been reported on it. The antennas are mainly characterized by some of its parameters like Gain, Return Loss of the antenna, Voltage Wave Standing Ratio (VSWR) of the antenna, Radiation patterns of the antenna and Axial Ratio Value. The micro-strip patch antennas due to its small size it can resonate at multiple frequency bands [2]. Dual-Polarized micro-strip patch antennas are mainly used to increase the performance of the system by polarizing the antenna at the base station. A good port

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isolation is necessary for a dual-polarized antenna to obtain the good frequency reuse communication while the antenna is transmitting or receiving the signal. There are many proposed designs to achieve a good port isolations between the ports to make the antenna dual-polarized [3].

The major drawback of the dual-polarized patch antenna is its limiting gain which narrows down the use of wireless applications. Hence, several ways like array configuring, introducing Lens of different dielectric material, introducing DRA (Dielectric Resonator Antenna) and so on can help in enhancing the gain of the dual-polarized antenna.

2. DUAL-POLARIZED PATCH ANTENNA

The Single band antenna introduction, dual-polarized antenna structure and its characteristics are discussed in this work. Analysis of antenna terminologies is discussed along with the advantages and limitations of single band and dual-polarized antenna. The IEEE Standard describes the antenna or aerial as "a means of transmitting or receiving electromagnetic waves or it can be said that the antenna is a transitional structure between guides and a free space [4]. To describe the dual-polarized antenna the following parameters are essential.

- **Return Loss:** The return loss is the signal power loss that is reflected back owing to a transmission line's discontinuity. The discontinuity can be corrected by inserting the device in the row or terminating the load. Usually the return loss value is displayed in dB [7].
- Radiation pattern: It is the radiated energy from the antenna represented by the radiating antenna's specific patterns. These models of radiation are the signal depictions that, as a function of direction, are the distribution of radiated energy into space.
- Gain: It is a metric which takes the antenna's effectiveness and directional capacities into consideration. The gain of an antenna (in a specified direction) is described as the proportion of strength to the radiation intensity that would be acquired if the energy adopted by the antenna were isotopic ally radiated.
- **VSWR:** Voltage Standing Wave Ratio is the coefficient of reflection feature that defines the antenna's reflected energy [5].

Few of the advantages of the dual-polarized antenna is as listed below:

- It decreases the signal interference [6].
- It has the capability to communicate with both horizontally and vertically polarized antennas.
- It reduces space as we don't require two separate antennas for different polarizations.
- It enables to decrease the expense of reducing the antenna size and improves system efficiency.

3. ANTENNA DESIGN

The proposed structure of the antenna is designed on a single layer Taconic substrate and a ground plane at the bottom which is also the same dimension of substrate. The geometry of the antenna is as shown in the figure 1.

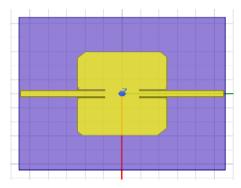


Figure 1 Top view of design proposed

As the dimension of the substrate on which the radiating patch is designed varies the antenna parameters very accordingly. The edges of the patch are etched to obtain the better polarization of the designed structure. The two ports are provided with 180° phase shift and the patch antenna is exited with inset fed technique. The material chosen, its specifications like dielectric constant, loss tangent, Substrate thickness and dimensions of the substrate and the patch are as mentioned in the table 1.

Table 1 Material specifications and Dimensions of the Substrate and the Patch.

Name of the Substrate	Taconic TLY
Loss Tangent of the substrate	0.0009
Dielectric constant of the substrate	2.2
Thickness of the Substrate (in mm)	1.6
Dimension of the Substrate (in mm)	54 x 56
Patch dimension (in mm)	29.65 x 24.4

The methodology of the design is explained in brief with the help of a flow chart. The Figure 2 shows the general steps involved starting from the design of the antenna to testing of the designed antenna. The proposed design can be further optimized to get the better axial ratio value by compromising the gain of the design.

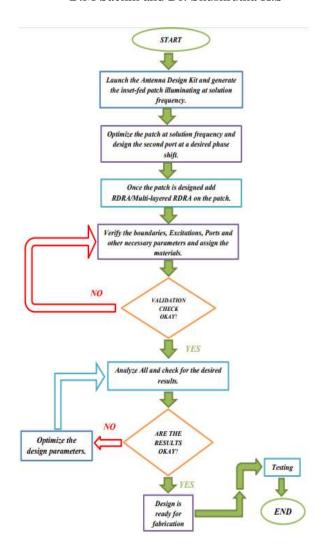


Figure 2 Flow chart of the methodology

4. RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

Dual-Polarized Patch Antenna simulation is performed using HFSS (High Frequency Structure Simulator), a software package to calculate a structure's electromagnetic conduct. Post processing instructions for evaluation are included in the software. To know the antenna is dual-polarized or not the parameters like VSWR and axial ratio are important. The software enables the user to draw the structure, specify the features of the fabric and recognize unique surface features.

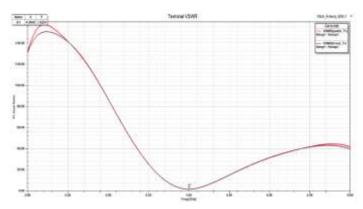


Figure 3 Frequency vs VSWR Plot

The antenna is said to be dual-polarized when the VSWR value is less than 2 [6]. From above Figure 3, the VSWR obtained for the designed antenna at 4GHz is 1.5224dB. Figure 4 shows the radiation pattern of the dual polarized patch antenna intended for 4GHz solution frequency.

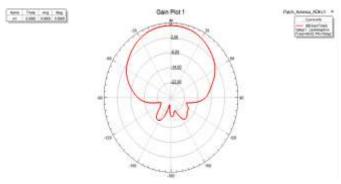


Figure 4 Frequency Vs VSWR Plot

The axial ratio is the proportion between the radiation pattern's minor and significant axis. It is said that the antenna is dual polarized if the antenna's axial ratio is less than 3dB. The axial ratio vs angle plot is shown in Figure 5.

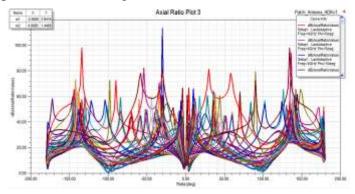


Figure 5 Theta (in degrees) Vs Axial Ratio Plot

At the angles -2^0 and 4^0 the axial ratio value is found to be 2.9416dB and 1.4482dB respectively.

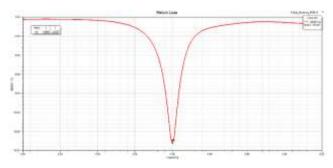


Figure 6 Simulated Return loss

The above Figure 6 demonstrates the Return Loss simulated. The return loss should be less than -10dB for a decent antenna layout. The return loss is discovered to be -13.2227dB in the suggested antenna design.

As shown in Table 2 below, the simulation outcomes of the dual-polarized patch for parameters such as VSWR, Radiation Pattern, Axial Ratio and 4GHz Return Loss are tabulated.

Table 2 The simulation results of the parameters of the dual polarized antenna

VSWR (in dB)	1.5224
Radiation Pattern (in dB)	8.5969
Axial Ratio Value at -2^0 and 4^0 (in dB)	2.9416, 1.4482
Return Loss (in dB)	-13.2227

5. FUTURE SCOPE AND CONCLUSION

This paper defines the single layer dual port inset feed at 4GHGz illuminating dual-polarized patch antenna and the return loss is -13.2227dB. Furthermore, the antenna gain can be improved by implementing various methods such as shell, lens and DRA, etc. The proposed design can be further more optimized and can be fabricated. This design finds its application in satellite communications, point to point communications such as in mobile communications and in weather RADAR's.

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