

Corner Cut Microstrip Patch Antenna for Ultra Wide Band Applications

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Abstract: In this paper, the radiation performance of a small printed micro strip antenna designed on glass epoxy FR4 substrate is discussed. The proposed antenna is capable of covering Wi MAX, Wi Fi, WBAN and Bluetooth operations and UWB applications. The simulated results for various parameters like radiation patterns, total field gain, return loss, VSWR, radiation efficiency etc. are also calculated with high frequency structure simulator HFSS. Its simulated results display impedance bandwidth from 3.04 GHz to 10.96 GHz. The antenna complies with the return loss of S_{11} less than -10 dB and $VSWR < 2$ throughout the impedance bandwidth.

Keywords: Ultra-Wide Band, Multiband Band, Patch antenna

I. Introduction

FCC (Federal communications commission) allocated a block of radio spectrum from 3.1 GHz to 10.6 GHz for UWB operations [1]. UWB systems can support more than 500 Mbps data transmission within 10 m [2]. Compact size, low-cost printed antennas with wideband and ultra wideband characteristics are desired in modern communications. Ultra wideband antennas can be classified as directional and omni-directional antennas [3]. A directional antenna has high gain and is relatively large in size. It has a narrow field of view. Whereas the omni-directional antenna has low gain and is relatively small in size. It has a wide field of view as it radiates in all directions [4].

Ultra wideband antennas have a broad band. There are many challenges in UWB antenna design. One of the challenges is to achieve wide impedance bandwidth. UWB antennas are typically required to attain a bandwidth, which reaches greater than 100% of the center frequency to ensure a sufficient impedance match is attained throughout the band such that a power loss less than 10% due to reflections occurs at the antenna terminals. Various planar shapes, such as square, circular, triangular, and elliptical shapes are analyzed [5]. Compared with monopole based planar antennas, the design of ultra wideband circular ring type antennas is difficult because of the effect of the ground plane.

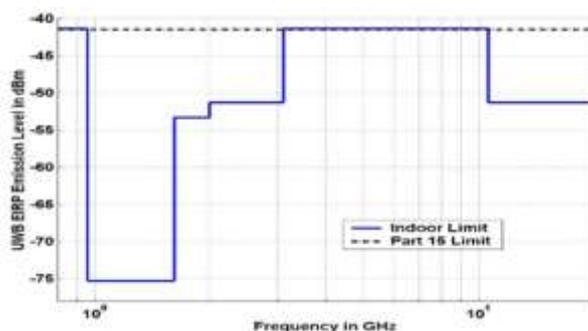


Fig. 1 UWB Spectral Mask per FCC (Modified) Part 15 Rules [1]

II. Antenna Configuration And Design

For patch antenna the length and width are used as calculated from the equations. The expression for ϵ_{reff} is given by Balanis as [8]

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

The effective length of the patch L_{eff} now becomes:

$$L_{\text{eff}} = L + 2 \Delta L \quad (2)$$

The dimensions of the patch along its length have now been extended on each end by a distance ΔL , which is given empirically by Hammerstad as:

$$\Delta L = 0.412h \frac{(\epsilon_{reff} + 0.3) \left(\frac{W}{h} + 0.264\right)}{(\epsilon_{reff} - 0.258) \left(\frac{W}{h} + 0.8\right)} \quad (3)$$

For a given resonance frequency f_o , the effective length is given by

$$L_{eff} = \frac{c}{2 f_o \sqrt{\epsilon_{reff}}} \quad (4)$$

For a rectangular microstrip patch antenna, the resonance frequency for TM_{mn} mode is given by James and Hall as-

$$f_o = \frac{c}{2\sqrt{\epsilon_{reff}}} \left[\left(\frac{m}{L}\right)^2 + \left(\frac{n}{W}\right)^2 \right]^{1/2} \quad (5)$$

For efficient radiation, the width W is given by -

$$W = \frac{c}{2f_o \sqrt{\frac{\epsilon_r + 1}{2}}} \quad (6)$$

The motivation of UWB antenna is to design a small and simple omnidirectional antenna that introduces low distortions with large bandwidth. The corner cut shaped antenna presented is fabricated on a 25mm x18 mm 1.6-mm-thick FR4 board.

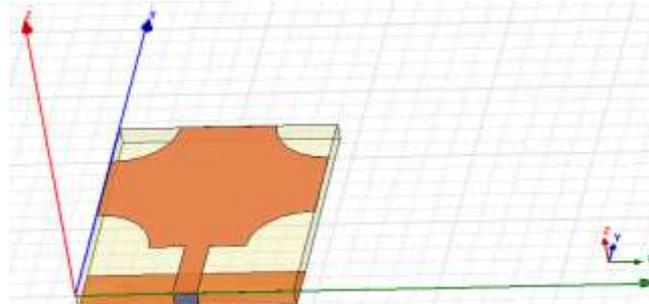


Fig. 2 Geometry of rectangular patch corner cut antenna

The proposed antenna designed on a FR-4 substrate with dielectric constant $\epsilon_r = 4.4$ and height of the substrate is $h = 1.6$ mm. The substrate has length $L = 18$ mm and width $W = 25$ mm.

Vacuum box has length $L = 73.38$ mm, width $W = 18$ mm and height $H = 49.98$ mm

III. Simulation Results

This antenna is suitable for operating frequency 3.04GHz to 10.96 GHz allotted by IEEE 802.16 working group for UWB applications. The VSWR obtained is less than 2 the patch antenna is found to have the compact size and 90% Maximum Fractional Bandwidth. The return loss value of band is -19.82dB at 10GHz. We can obtain the higher values of return loss and VSWR and antenna offers excellent performance in the range of 3.9 GHz -10.96 GHz rather than various different shapes antennas used in this range. The VSWR, total field gain 1.462 dB, directivity 1.542, incident power 100%, E and H fields at 10GHz are also calculated in Fig. 5 to Fig. 13 respectively.

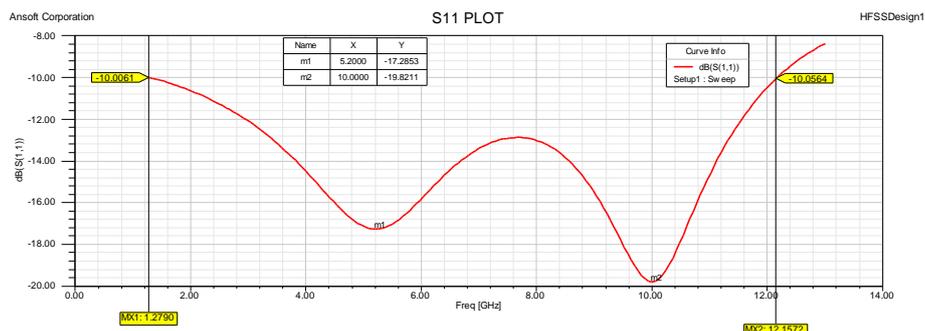


Fig. 3 Return Loss Curve

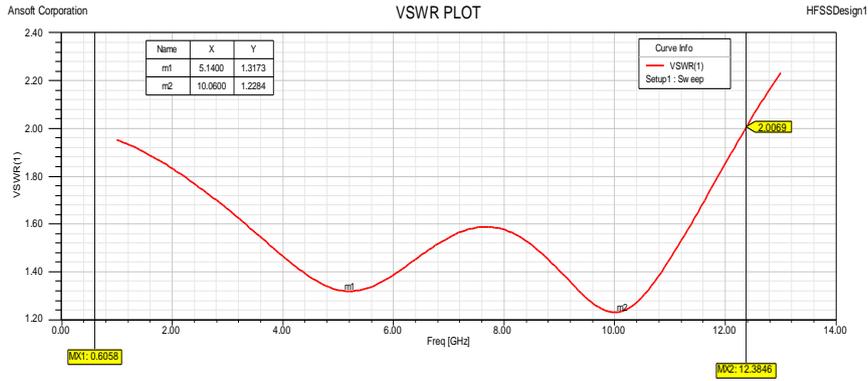


Fig. 4 VSWR value of the antenna

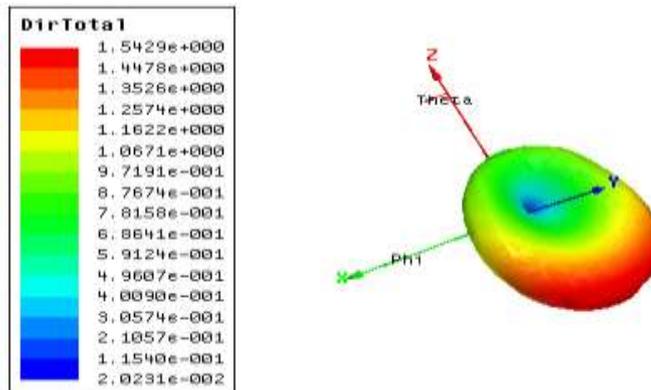


Fig. 5 Directivity of antenna is 1.5429

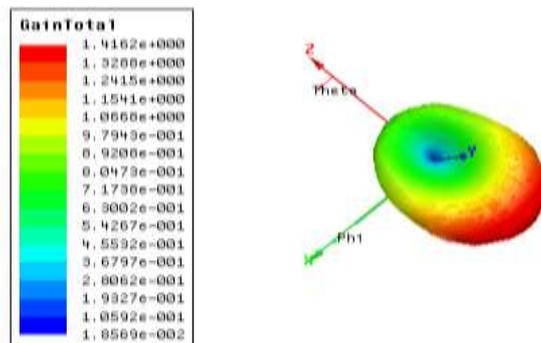


Fig. 6 Gain of micro strip patch antenna is 1.4162 dB

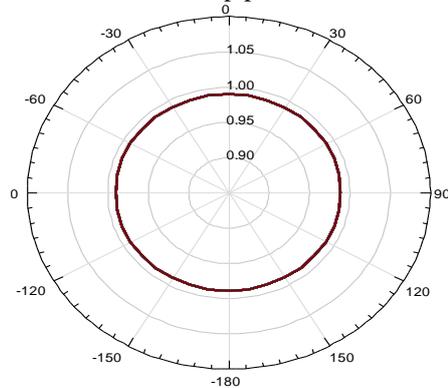


Fig. 7 Accepted Power at different 'Phi' (10GHz)

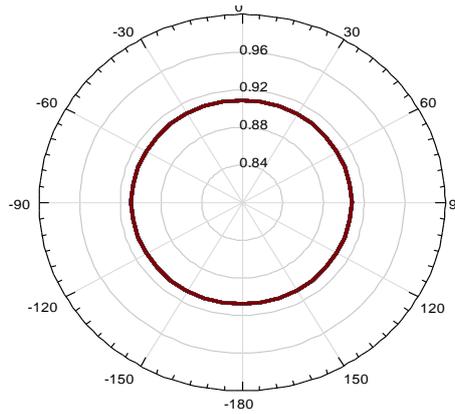


Fig. 8 Radiated power at different 'Phi' (10GHz)

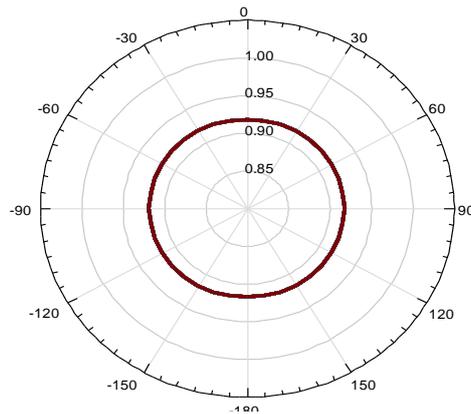


Fig. 9 Radiation Efficiency at different 'Phi' (10GHz)

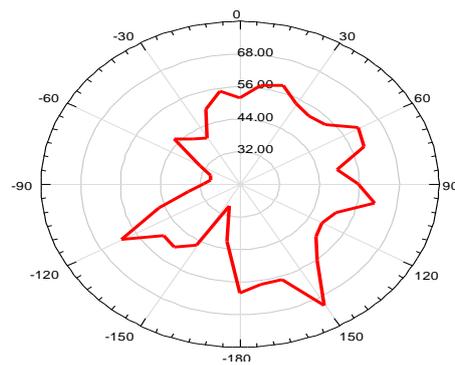


Fig. 10 Axial ratio of the antenna

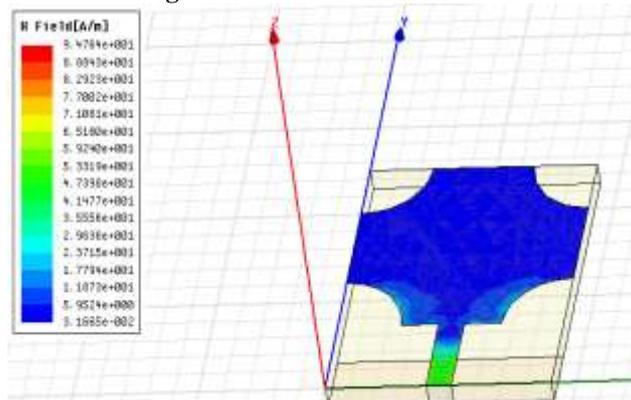


Fig. 12 Electric field of the antenna

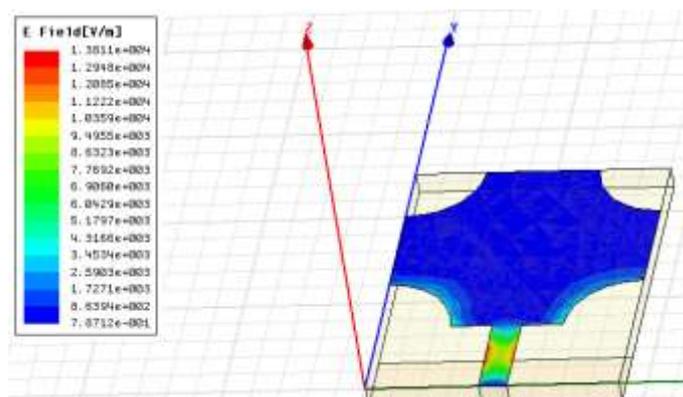


Fig. 13 Magnetic field of the antenna

Fabrication

The antenna structure is fabricated on a printed circuit board (PCB) using Photolithography technique.

IV. Conclusion

The fabricated antenna has advantages of small size, easy fabrication and simple construction. Antenna operates at 3.04GHz -10.96 GHz with Absolute Bandwidth 10.8782 GHz. Radiation performance of patch antenna is also presented in this paper. The simulated results indicate that an ultra-wide band antenna with Maximum Fractional Bandwidth 90% can be achieved by removing corners of rectangular micro strip patch antenna. The directivity of an antenna is 1.5429 and gain is 1.462 dB and we conclude that proposed geometry is applicable for ultra-wide band from 3.1 GHz to 10.6 GHz .In future the Radiation performance this rectangular patch antenna can be improved by using different feeding techniques.

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