



Axial Ratio Bandwidth Enhancement of Micro Strip Patch Antenna with Circular Slot and Square Ring

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Abstract: A circularly polarized antenna with large axial ratio bandwidth has been proposed in this work. The antenna is designed by a 45° slot cut and a circular opening in the center of the square patch and a square metallic ring around it. It can achieve a 3-dB axial ratio Bandwidth of 110 MHz with impedance B.W of 56 MHz as compared to the antenna without a metal square ring is 35MHz. This antenna can be successfully applied for wireless application.

Keywords: Microstrip Antenna, Axial ratio bandwidth, return loss, circular polarization.

I. INTRODUCTION

Antenna is a means for radiating or receiving radio waves. The electric field plane determines the polarization or orientation of the radio wave. In general, most antennas radiate either linear or circular polarization.

Microstrip patch antennas are most popular antennas for wireless communication, as they offer the benefits of low profile, light weight, compact, conformable to surfaces, easy fabrication. Microstrip antennas have the inherent disadvantages of low gain and narrow bandwidth. A linear polarized antenna radiates wholly in one plane containing the direction of propagation. In a circularly polarized antenna, the plane of polarization rotates in a circle making one complete revolution during one period of the wave. If the rotation is clockwise looking in the direction of propagation, the sense is called right-hand-circular (RHC). [2] If the rotation is counter clockwise, the sense is called left-hand circular (LHC). Circular Polarized antennas (referred to

as CP antennas hereafter) are increasingly gaining importance in wireless communications since they allow signal reception

irrespective of the orientation of the receive antenna with respect to the transmit antenna, and also have the ability to suppress multipath interference. Linear polarized antennas require transmit and receive antennas to be of the same polarization, hence require accurate alignment of the antennas.

Circularly polarized microstrip patch antennas are widely used in portable/hand held devices, for example RFID reader antenna, WLAN, GPS, rectenna for energy harvesting, mobile phone antenna, etc.

Circular Polarization: In a circularly polarized antenna, the plane of polarization rotates in a corkscrew pattern, making one complete revolution during each wavelength. A circularly polarized wave radiates energy in both the horizontal and vertical planes and all planes in between. If the rotation is clockwise looking in the direction of propagation, the sense is called right-hand-circular (RHC). If the rotation is counterclockwise, the sense is called left-hand circular (LHC).

Advantages of Circular Polarization: Due to the advanced signal propagation properties, CP antenna technology offers numerous performance advantages over traditional linear technologies. When implemented as a central component within a Wi-Fi network, CP delivers better connectivity with both fixed and mobile devices and ultimately leads to a superior user experience. CP is ideal for addressing challenges associated with mobility, adverse weather conditions, and non-line-of-site applications.

In this paper, a CP microstrip antenna with large 3dB AR bandwidth has been proposed. Firstly, a microstrip antenna with a square patch is designed and taken as reference antenna. Secondly, a 45° rectangular slot is cut in the center of the patch.

Finally, a circular cut at the center of the patch and a square metallic ring is inserted in the second structure's characteristics of the final structure are compared with second antenna. These antennas are first characterized with the ANSYS-Ansoft high-frequency structure simulator (HFSS).



II. ANTENNA DESIGN AND RESULTS

Figure 1 shows the structures of proposed MPAs. A conventional MPAs is shown in Fig 1.a. Based on this, two CP MPAs are proposed. In Figure 1(a), a conventional MPA is given. The results obtained are taken as reference for two proposed structures having same dimensions of the ground plane and printed patch as shown in the figure. FR4 is taken as the substrate with a thickness of 1.2 mm, relative permittivity of 4.4 and loss tangent of 0.02 for all structures.

The model in Figure 1(b) is derived from Figure 1(a); a 45° rotated slot has been cut in the center of the square MPA. The length and width of the slot are $6\sqrt{2}$ and $\sqrt{2}$ mm respectively. The dimensions of the MPA has been properly optimized to 28 mm which corresponding to $0.224\lambda_0$ in air at 2.45 GHz. In Fig. 1(c), a printed ring is symmetrically placed around the patch and a circular cut on patch is made along with rectangular slot as shown in figure. Metallic ring is separated from patch by a distance of 1.4mm. Ring width is 1.2mm. Feed point for all the structures is 6.5 mm from edge. The antenna is fed through the feed points welded with 50-ohm coaxial cables.

2.1. ANTENNA DESIGN

The essential parameters for the design of a Microstrip patch antenna are [8]:

1. Calculation of width(W):

$$W = \frac{c}{2 f_0 \sqrt{\frac{\epsilon_r + 1}{2}}}$$

Where c is the velocity of EM wave i.e., 3×10^8 m/s. Putting these values, $W = 28$ mm.

- 2.
3. Calculation of effective Dielectric constant ϵ_{eff}

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

- 4.
5. For $W/h > 1$,
 $\Delta L / h = 0.412(\epsilon_{eff} + 0.3)(W/h + 0.264)$
 $(\epsilon_{eff} - 0.258)(W/h + 0.8)$

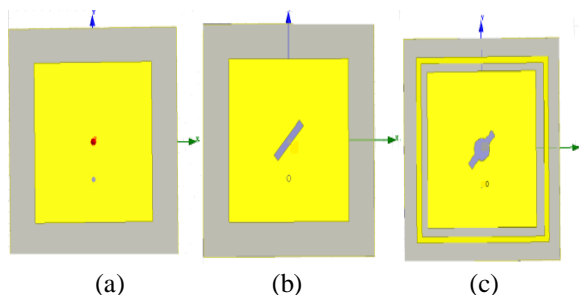


Fig: 1: Geometry of (a) reference microstrip Patch antenna (b)MPA with a 45° rotated slot cut (c)MPA with a circular cut and a square ring structure.

2.2. RESULTS

Antenna 1, 2 and 3 is shown in figure 1. Fig 1(a) is the reference which is a conventional patch antenna, Antenna 1(b) consists of a rectangular slot in the Centre of the patch. In fig 1(c), a circular cut at the Centre and a square ring around the patch is inserted. Simulated results for all three antennas are shown in figure 2, 3 and 4 respectively. Antenna 1 is considered as reference antenna and its Impedance bandwidth is better than 10 dB from 2.457GHz to 2.518 GHz. For antenna 2, simulated result shows that impedance bandwidth is 107 MHz (2.393 GHz - 2.500 GHz) and 3-dB axial ratio bandwidth is about 35 MHz [2.445 GHz - 2.480 GHz]. For antenna 3, 3-dB axial ratio bandwidth is 110MHz (2.438 GHz - 2.548GHz) which covers 2.4 GHz ISM band. Proposed structures show wider bandwidth and lower center frequency.

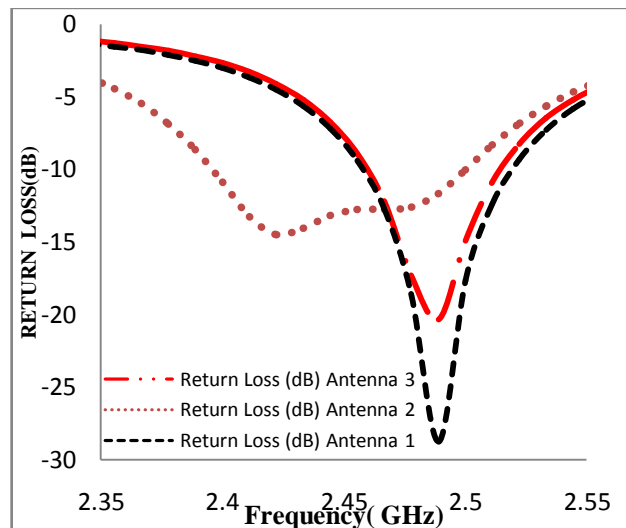


Figure 2: Simulated returned loss for antenna 1, antenna 2 and antenna 3.

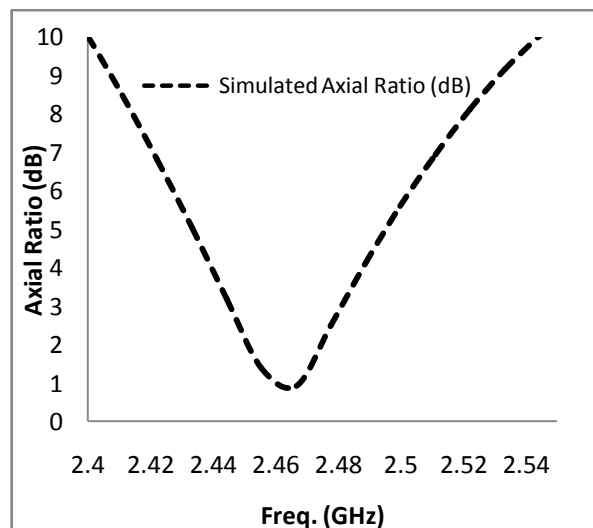


Figure 3: Simulated Axial ratio bandwidth for antenna 2.

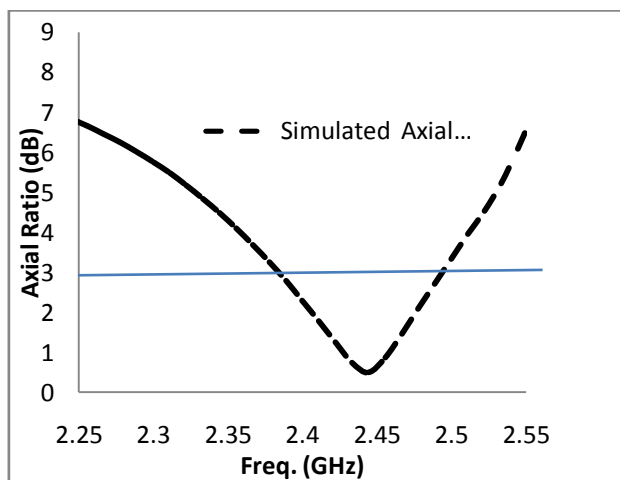


Figure 4: Simulated Axial ratio bandwidth for antenna 3.

Table 1 showing simulated results of all the structures.

Structure	Freq. (GHz)	Return Loss (dB)	S11 Bandwidth (MHz)	AR Bandwidth (MHz)	VSWR
1	2.49	-24	60 MHz	-	1.088
2	2.42	-24	107 MHz	35 MHz	1.8
3	2.45	-21	56 MHz	110 MHz	1.169

III. CONCLUSION

This article proposed a novel circularly polarized microstrip patch antenna with enhanced 3-dB axial ratio bandwidth. By introducing the square ring and 45° rotated slot cut along with a circular slot cut, enhanced bandwidth can be achieved. The simulated results are given. 3-dB axial ratio bandwidth of the proposed antenna is 110 MHz. The proposed antenna can be used for the wireless system.

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