

Comparative Analysis of Microstrip Patch Antennas of different Feeding Techniques

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Abstract— Today, Microstrip Patch Antennas are commonly used over conventional antennas because of its low profile, low cost and ease of manufacturing. In this paper, designed Inverted L Shape Slotted Microstrip Patch Antenna is analyzed. Results of inverted L shaped Microstrip patch antenna designed using microstrip line feeding are compared with the results of P-shaped microstrip patch antenna using Co-axial probe feeding. The design of Inverted L Shape Slotted Microstrip Patch Antenna and the simulation for results are carried out using CST (Computer Simulation Technology) Microwave Studio 2014. Design of Inverted L Shape Slotted Microstrip Patch Antenna is simpler as compared to that of P-shaped microstrip patch antenna and provides improved results. It is also clear from results that the parameters like return loss, bandwidth are improved.

IndexTerms— Microstrip Patch Antenna, Inverted L shape slotted microstrip patch antenna, P-shaped microstrip patch antenna, CST.

I. INTRODUCTION

The use of microstrip patch antenna has been much increased these days in various applications such as satellite, spacecraft, mobile radio, wireless communication and missile applications as it fulfills the certain requirements or specifications such as small size, low weight, low cost.[1] Basically Microstrip patch antenna is a low profile antenna with low weight, low fabrication cost, also it is conformal to the surface of objects, easy of fabrication and installation and capable of multiband frequency operations [8] and it is well suited for the applications like WLAN, Wi MAX, Bluetooth etc.[6] Apart from these advantages, the microstrip patch antenna has various limitations, for example, low power handling capacity, low gain, narrow impedance bandwidth, etc.[5] There are various possible methods that can be implemented to enhance the impedance bandwidth of microstrip patch antenna, for example, slotted patch [7], increasing the height of substrate and stacking [1], defected ground surface.[5] However, the implementation of the above listed techniques can make the antenna design complex and sophisticated.[5]

Geometry- The microstrip patch antenna (MPA) has basically four elements which includes a radiating patch, feed line, ground surface and a substrate. The substrate is an intermediate between radiating patch on one side of the substrate and a ground on the other side of substrate as shown in Figure 1.[3] The patch is generally made of conducting material such as copper or gold and it can take any of the possible shapes, but for simplification of analysis, the patch is generally kept square, rectangular, circular in shape. The radiating patch and the feed lines are generally photo etched on the dielectric substrate.[6]

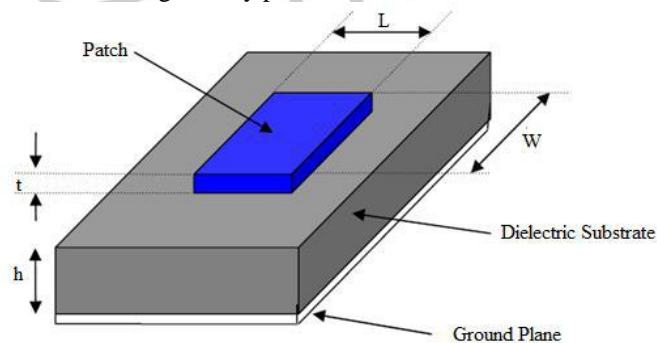


Figure 1: Structure of a microstrip patch antenna

Microstrip patch antennas can be fed by a variety of methods. There are diverse range of feeding techniques available that can be used to feed power to antenna. These can be classified into two categories i.e. contacting and non-contacting methods. The RF power is fed directly to the radiating patch using a connecting element like a microstrip line in case of contacting method and in the case of non-contacting scheme, electromagnetic field coupling is used for transferring the power between the microstrip line and the radiating patch. The feeding has been engaged in order to feed power to radiating patch. [7]

II. ANTENNA DESIGN

Inverted L Shape Slotted microstrip patch antenna

The antenna design has been simulated using the Computer Simulation Technology (CST) Microwave Studio 2014. The material used for substrate is Flame Retardant 4 (FR4) with 4.4 relative constant and its thickness is kept 1.57mm. The upper surface has a slotted square shaped radiating patch and the lower surface of the substrate has a defected ground surface. The slotted square shaped patch and defected ground surface are of copper material. [9]

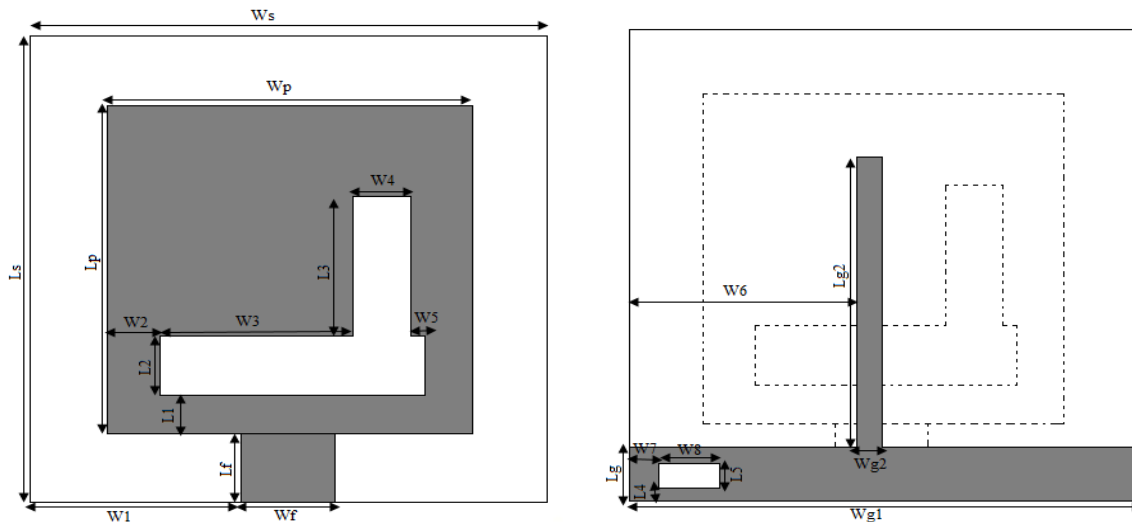


Figure 2(a): Top view of the proposed antenna design [9]

Figure 2(b): Bottom view of the proposed antenna design [9]

The Figure 2(a) and Figure 2(b) show the top and the bottom view of the antenna design, respectively. An inverted L Shaped slot has been cut on the patch which provides improvement in bandwidth and return loss. The designed antenna is fed directly by the microstrip feed line. The position and size of the microstrip feed line results in impedance matching. The dimensions of substrate, patch, defected ground surface, inverted L shaped slot and slot on the defected ground are given in Table 1. [9]

Table 1 Antenna Dimensions [9]

Antenna Dimensions	Value(mm)
Ls	30
Ws	30
Lp	20
Wp	20
Lg	03
Wg1	30
Lf	05
Wf	5.7
L1	02
L2	04
L3	8.75
L4	01
L5	01
W1	12.15
W2	4.25
W3	7.75
W4	03
W5	0.75
W6	13.8
W7	02
W8	03
Lg2	19
Wg2	1.2

P-shaped microstrip patch antenna

The P-shaped microstrip patch antenna is designed for Bluetooth application. The designed antenna resonates at frequency 2.4 GHz with bandwidth of 120 MHz which makes it suitable for Bluetooth applications. The proposed antenna is designed using FR4 substrate with an overall size of 110 mm \times 158.5 mm. The antenna is fed by a co-axial probe feeding technique. Top view of P-shaped microstrip patch antenna is shown in Figure 3. The changes in the position of the feed corresponds to the little bit change in the resonant frequency, though there is a remarkable change in return loss. [5]

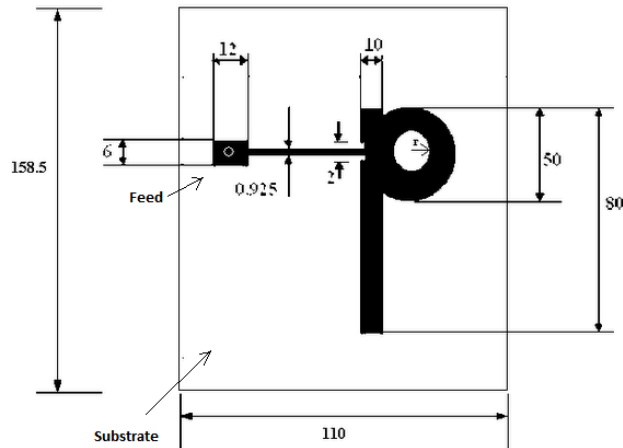


Figure 3: Top view of P-shaped microstrip patch antenna [5]

III. RESULTS AND DISCUSSIONS

Inverted L Shape Slotted microstrip patch antenna resonates at 3.05 GHz, 4.15 GHz and 5.80 GHz with return loss of -18.32 dB, -34.56 dB and -32.08 dB, respectively with operating impedance bandwidth of 3.13 GHz shown in Figure 4. It has been observed that the value of voltage standing wave ratio (VSWR) of the proposed antenna design is below the maximum acceptable value of 2 for the operating frequency range of 2.91GHz – 6.04GHz. The proposed antenna design can be used for applications such as International Mobile Telecommunication (3.4 GHz – 4.2 GHz, 4.4 GHz – 4.9 GHz), Wireless Local Area Network (5.15 GHz – 5.35 GHz, 5.725 GHz – 5.825 GHz) and Worldwide Interoperability for Microwave Access, (3.4 GHz – 3.69 GHz, 5.25 GHz – 5.85 GHz) applications.

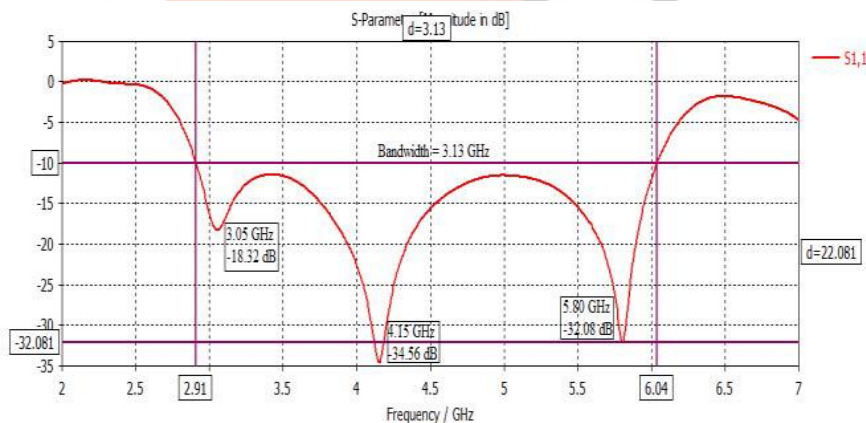


Figure 4: Return Loss (S11) plot of antenna design [9]

The return loss of the P-shaped microstrip patch antenna is shown in the Figure 5. The simulated results of the antenna as clear from return loss plot are well agreed for Bluetooth applications. The antenna resonates at 2.4 GHz with a return loss of -20 db. The range of Bluetooth is from 2.4 to 2.5 GHz, that means 100 MHz is the minimum bandwidth required for Bluetooth applications. The antenna provides bandwidth of 120 MHz at VSWR ratio of 1.7:1. [5]

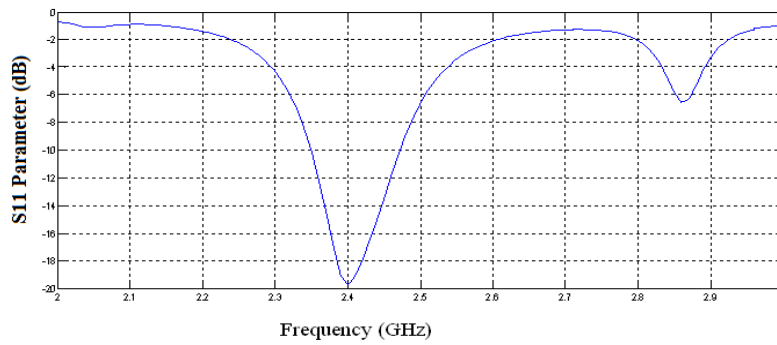


Figure 5: Return loss (S11) plot of P-shaped microstrip patch antenna [5]

The comparison of the two antennas that is Inverted L Shape Slotted microstrip patch antenna using microstrip feed line and P-shaped microstrip patch antenna using Co-axial probe feed is presented in Table 2.

Table 2 Comparison Table

S.No.	Parameter	Inverted L Shape Slotted microstrip patch antenna	P-shaped microstrip patch antenna
1.	Feeding Technique	Microstrip line feeding	Co-axial probe feeding
2.	Resonant frequency	3.05 GHz, 4.15 GHz, 5.80 GHz	2.4 GHz
3.	Bandwidth	3.13 GHz (3130 MHz)	120 MHz
4.	Return loss	-18.32 dB, -34.56 dB and -32.08 dB	-20 db
5.	Applications covered	IMT, WLAN and WiMAX	Bluetooth

IV. CONCLUSION

The Inverted L Shape Slotted microstrip patch antenna has been simulated and designed using Computer Simulation Technology (CST) Microwave Studio 2014. The proposed antenna design employs square shaped patch on the top side of square shaped FR4 material substrate and defected ground surface on the bottom side of substrate. There is an inverted L shaped slot on the top of patch, defected ground surface, a rectangular shaped slot in the defected ground surface and another vertical segment for ground surface on the lower surface of substrate. The results of the proposed antenna shows improved bandwidth, return loss over the P-shaped microstrip patch antenna, comparison of the two designs has been shown in Table II. There is further scope for the bandwidth enhancement and improvement of other parameters with different types of patch and slot shapes.

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