

Hybrid Coupled Feed Circularly Polarized Patch Antenna for Military Applications

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Abstract

A new configurable circular patch antenna for Military applications fed by 50Ω impedance hybrid coupler feed is examined here. The dual fed circular polarized microstrip antenna is etched on a Rogers with dielectric substrate of 2.2 with the height of 0.16 mm. The effect of hybrid coupling is circular polarization and radiation around 360 degree. The thickness of Circular patch antenna is of 0.381mm. The antenna is designed to achieve high gain of 6dB at the operating frequency of 8GHz. Simulation results and the measured results characteristic are closely matches with each other.

Keywords: Coupler, Directivity, Polarization, Radiation Pattern, Return Loss, Ultra Wide Band

1. Introduction

Planar configurations of microstrip technology is inserting very important role within the field of antenna¹. Microstrip antenna provides high repeatability of parameters to extend the gain, band width and also the size reduction is achieved by victimization little substrate². Patch will be in any form like rectangular, Circular, Square, Elliptical, Triangular etc³. Hybrid coupler implementation with Varactor diode and Pin diode is proposed by S. Cheng, K-OSun^{4,5}. Different feeding procedures for UWB antenna are examined and fabricated⁶⁻¹³. Dual band microstrip antenna using CSRR and RIS is designed to improve the gain using HFSS software in implemented by Gayathri et al¹⁷. M. Ghiyasvand et al. in projected microstrip antenna array with the bandwidth from 10.75GHz to 12.75GHz¹⁸. The circularly polarized properties of 4x4 element planar Microstrip Equilateral Triangular Array Antenna (METAA) printed on Yttrium ferrite substrate with circular polarization are generated by the magnetic bias is applied parallel to the wave propagation in the antenna geometry¹⁹. Figure 1 shows the fields related with an antenna. The dielectric material is used to couple electromagnetic energy in and

around the patch. The electric field is most at one finish of patch and minimum in different finish. This most and minimum finish can depends the applied signal however the electrical field is often zero at the middle of patch. Electric field within the patch is extended outside patch is inflicting radiation in an exceedingly patch and this extended field is thought as fringing field¹⁴⁻¹⁶. The proposed antenna is in circular shape with 0.381mm and it resonates at 8GHz which includes Military applications and UWB etc. The antenna is fabricated in a thin substrate which shows simulated and measured results are having gain of 6 dB at resonant frequency. The following geometry shows the field distribution of microstrip antenna.

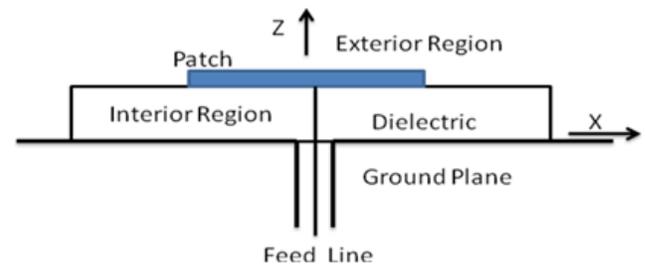


Figure 1. Division of fields is related with an antenna into an interior fields and exterior fields.

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2. Hybrid Coupler Design

Generally hybrid coupler is a four port device with single input and isolated port and two output port. It divides an input signal into two imbalanced amplitude outputs. At ideal condition input port power is equivalent to sum of two output port power i.e., 90 degree phase shift between these ports. Termination impedance is connected with the isolated port. According to the impedance choice of the series and stub microstrip transmission lines hybrid coupler is designed and shown in Figures 2 and 3. Schematic diagram shows each arm of hybrid coupler having length of 6.838mm and width of 1.157mm. The hybrid coupler is terminated by 50Ω impedance. Magnitude response is calculated theoretically for 8GHz shows coupler is having -30dB return loss at 8.05GHz.

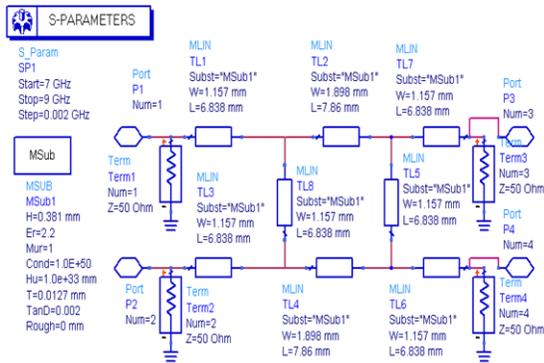


Figure 2. Schematic diagram of hybrid coupler.

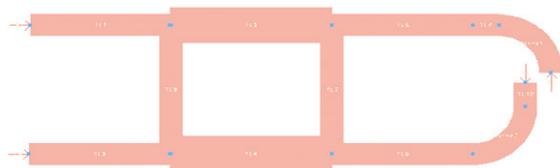


Figure 3. Layout diagram of hybrid coupler.

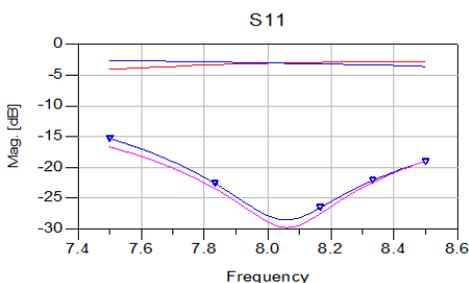


Figure 4. Magnitude response for 0.381 mm thickness for hybrid coupler.

3. Antenna Design and Configuration

The design of proposed antenna is illustrated in Figures 5 and 6. Unlike rectangular patch in this design the material between ground and patch will act as a circular cavity having control on only the radius cannot able to change the order of the modes¹⁶. The dominant mode in circular patch is 110, so the resonating frequency is given by:

$$f_{r110} = \frac{1.8412}{2\pi a \sqrt{\mu\epsilon}} \quad (1)$$

$$a_e = \left\{ 1 + \frac{2h}{\pi a \epsilon_r} \left[l_n \left(\frac{\pi a}{2h} \right) + 1.7726 \right] \right\}^{\frac{1}{2}} \quad (2)$$

When the patch is excited fringing field will exit, this will make a patch looking larger, to consider this effect corrections is done in the radius of patch. Actual radius a is replaced by effective radius a_e .

$$a = \frac{F}{\left\{ 1 + \frac{2h}{F\pi a \epsilon_r} \left[l_n \left(\frac{\pi F}{2h} \right) + 1.7726 \right] \right\}^{\frac{1}{2}}} \quad (3)$$

Where a is the radius of patch

$$F = \frac{8.791 \times 10^9}{f_r \sqrt{\epsilon_r}} \quad (4)$$

The proposed radiating element is having radius 7.138mm and it is placed above the substrate. Designed hybrid coupler is connected to radiating element by edging through ground and substrate. The feed point is located at where the 50Ω impedance match is achieved. Figures 5 and 6 show the geometry of proposed antenna structure.

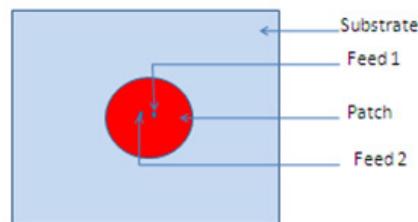


Figure 5. Top view of antenna.

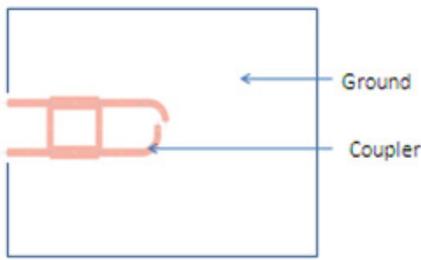


Figure 6. Bottom view of antenna.

4. Results and Discussion

The return loss for the proposed antenna is -28dB at 8.1GHz as shown in Figures 6 and 7. The simulated and

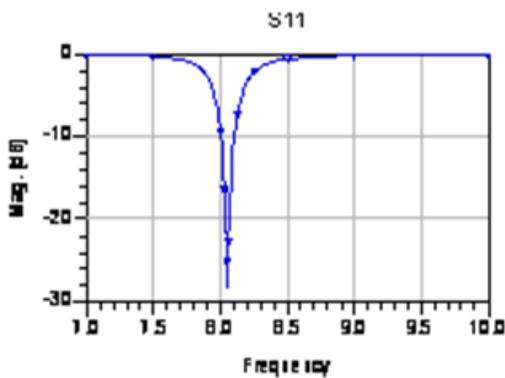


Figure 7. Simulated results of S parameter of the circular patch antenna.

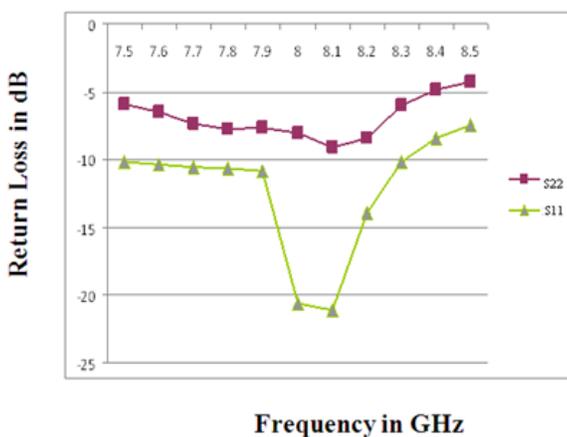


Figure 8. Measured results of S parameter of the circular patch antenna.

measured results are having good agreement. The electric field distribution of antenna is defined by polarisation, here the proposed antenna is having circular polarisation, it is produced by directly connecting the hybrid coupler to radiating element and it is shown in Figure 9. The ratio between maximum radiation intensity in particular direction to power accepted by the antenna is known as gain of the antenna and it is shown in Figures 10 and 11. The maximum gain is obtained 6dB, this is highly suitable for military applications. Figures 11 and 12 shows the far field pattern in 3D and 2D, the effect of hybrid coupler is radiation pattern is around 360 degree.

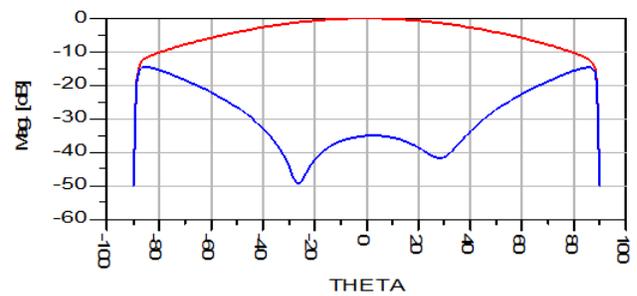


Figure 9. Polarization for a proposed antenna.

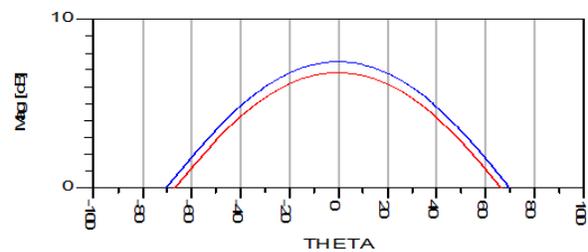


Figure 10. Simulated gain for proposed antenna.

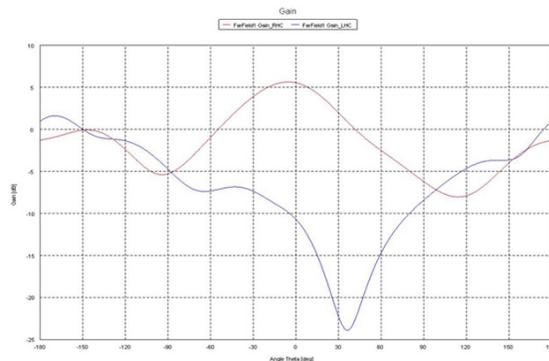


Figure 11. Measured gain for proposed antenna.

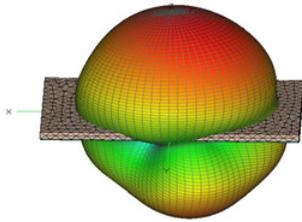


Figure 12. Simulated radiation pattern of proposed antenna.

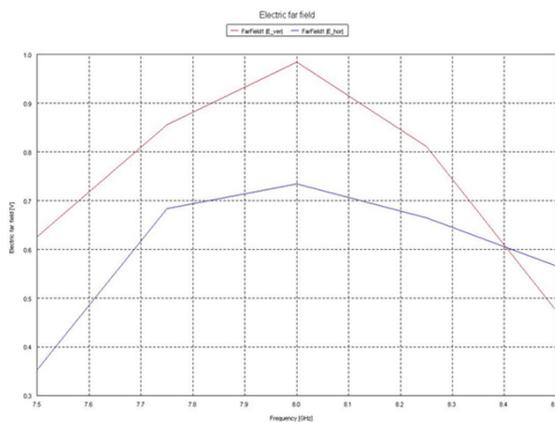


Figure 13. Measured radiation pattern of proposed antenna.

5. Conclusion

A new circular patch with hybrid coupler feeding techniques was designed and parametric studies shows the best structure that can operate at 8.1 GHz frequency. Hybrid coupler feed is producing circular polarization. This antenna having maximum gain of 6dB, return loss of -28dB and the field distribution is around 360 degree. The simulation and measured results are having good agreement between them. The designed antenna is well suited for military applications because of its low profile and mass production possibility. Moreover, the simple and uniplanar structure makes it ease of design. By changing the tapering angle and size the antenna can be made to work for UWB band.

6. References

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