

STUDY AND COMPARATIVE ANALYSIS OF RESONANT FREQUENCY FOR MICROSTRIP FRACTAL ANTENNA

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Abstract

A new compact fractal patch antenna is designed based on the fractal geometry. Based on the simulation results, the proposed antenna has shown an excellent size reduction possibility with good radiation performance for wireless communication applications. The change in resonating frequency with respect to the dielectric constant of substrate has shown and discussed in this paper. The various resonating frequencies for designed antenna are 8.59GHz, 9.2 GHz and 11.36 GHz for RT Duroid Rogers 6010, FR 4 and RT Duroid Rogers 5880 respectively. The S-parameter (S_{11}) for resonating frequencies is well below -10 dB. The far-field pattern and S_{11} of the proposed antenna is simulated and analyzed using CST Microwave Studio 2011

Index Terms: Microstrip antenna, Fractal antenna, Multiband antenna, and Pluses geometry

1. INTRODUCTION

In high performance spacecraft, aircraft and satellite applications where weight, size, ease of installation, cost, and performance highly required and low-profile antennas would be required. Presently there are many other applications like mobile radio and wireless communications that have similar specifications. To meet these requirements, micro strip patch antennas can be used [1]. These antennas are low profile, conformable to non-planar surfaces and planar surfaces, simple and affordable to design using modern printed-circuit technology, mechanically shouldered when mounted on rigid surfaces, compatible with MMIC designs, and when the particular patch shape and mode are selected, they are very various in terms of resonant frequency, radiation pattern. There has been an ever growing demand, in both the military as well as the commercial sectors, for antenna design that features the following highly desirable evaluate:

- i) Tiny Size
- ii) Low profile
- iii) Conformal
- iv) Broadband or multiband

The use of plus fractal geometry is a solution to the design of broadband antennas. The term fractal, which means broken or irregular fragments, was originally proposed by Mandelbrot [2] to describe a family of complex shapes that features self-similarity in their geometrical structure. The original inspiration for the development of fractal geometry came due to the patterns of nature. For instance, fractals have been successfully used to model such complex natural objects such as cloud boundaries, coastlines,

snowflakes, mountains, trees. Leaves and much more variety of applications for fractals continue to be found in many branches of science and engineering [3]. Modern telecomm systems require antennas with smaller dimensions and wider BW than conventionally available antennas. Fractal antenna was first researched in various directions, one of which is by using fractal shaped antenna elements. In recent years several fractal geometries have been introduced for antenna applications with varying degrees of success in improving antenna characteristics. Some of these geometries have been particularly useful in reducing the size of the antenna, while other designs aim at incorporating multi-band characteristics. These are low profile antennas with moderate gain and can be made operative at multiple frequency bands and hence are multi-functional.

2. GENERATION OF PLUSSES FRACTAL ANTENNA

Fractal are basically geometrical shapes that are designed by a very easy to construct pattern that becomes more congested as we repeat and apply the same rule of first phase of fractal geometry. In many cases, the rules change the original figure by adding or removing parts of the figure. This process is repeated an unlimited number of times. One of the simplest fractal to visualize and work with mathematically is the Plus fractal. This process starts with a + sign and add plus signs that are half size to each of the four line ends. The Fig.-1 shows how the Plus fractal determines after 2 iterations. Note that how the + sign changes into diamond.

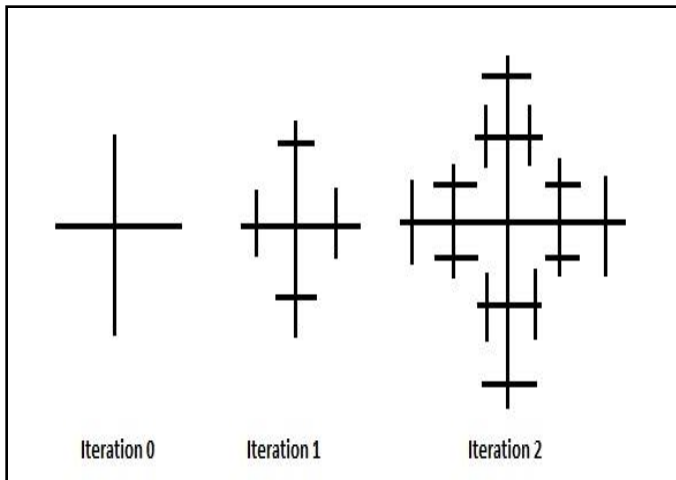


Fig-1: Iteration of Construction of plusses fractal geometry

The side length of the zero iteration plusses fractal antenna, L_0 can be explained as:

$$L_0 = 2a \tag{1}$$

Where a is the length of each arm in the plusses fractal geometry.

For the n th iteration, it will be found that, the side length of the plusses fractal antenna

$$L_n = L_{(n-1)} + a/2^{(n-1)}, \text{ for } n > 0 \tag{2}$$

3. DESIGN AND SIMULATION OF PROPOSED ANTENNA

A second iteration of plusses fractal antenna with pair of coaxial feeds at $x=3$ mm and $y=3$ mm is shown in Fig-2, and using substrate FR4 Lossy ($\epsilon_r=4.3$), RT Rogers 5880 Lossy ($\epsilon_r=2.2$) and RT Rogers 6010 Lossy ($\epsilon_r=10.2$) with substrate height = 1.6 mm and the dimensions of the dielectric layer are 18 x 18 mm². In this work, CST Microwave Studio 11 is used to analyze a detailed study of resonant frequency, return loss (S11), and radiation field pattern of the proposed plusses fractal antenna based on the dielectric coefficient (ϵ_r) of substrate material. As we know that dielectric constant (ϵ_r) of substrate and substrate height plays a vital role in any antenna. So we have studied about the three different substrates i.e. RT Rogers 5880 (Lossy), FR 4 (Lossy) and RT Rogers 6010 (Lossy) for the same dimension of designed antenna.

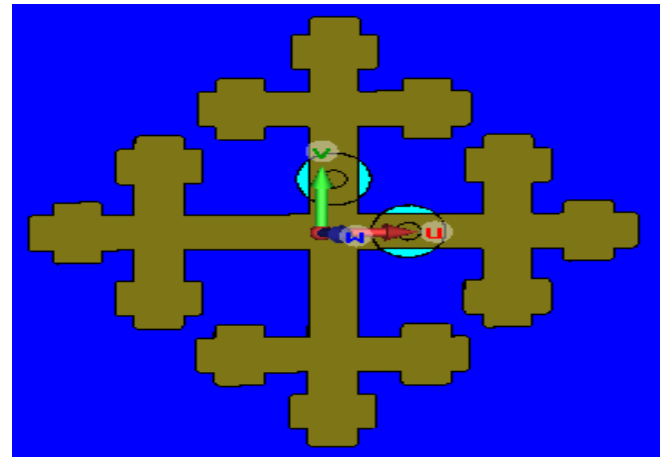


Fig 2: 2- Dimensional (2D) view of Proposed Fractal Antenna

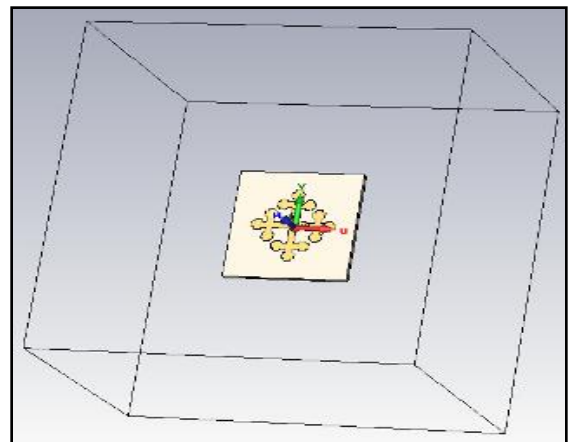


Fig 3: 3- Dimensional (3D) view of Proposed Fractal Antenna

In this paper we simulated fractal antenna using CST Microwave Studio 2011. In the beginning process of study we design a fractal antenna with the following dimensions shown in Table- 1

Coax Length	3 mm
Coax Outer Diameter	3 mm
Substrate Half Length	18 mm
Probe Diameter	1 mm
Fractal Length 1st Iteration	12.25 mm
Blend Radius	0.2 mm
Fractal Thickness	0.0175 mm
Substrate Height	1.6 mm
Feed Location in x- direction	3 mm
Branch Distance form Centre	6 mm

Branch 2 distance form Centre	9.25 mm
Branch 3 extra width	0.75 mm
Feed Location in y- direction	3 mm
Branch 1 half Length	11 mm
Branch 2 half Length	3.5 mm
Branch 3 distance from Centre	2.75 mm
Fractal Half Width	1 mm
Substrate Half Width	18 mm

Table- 1: Dimensions of proposed antenna

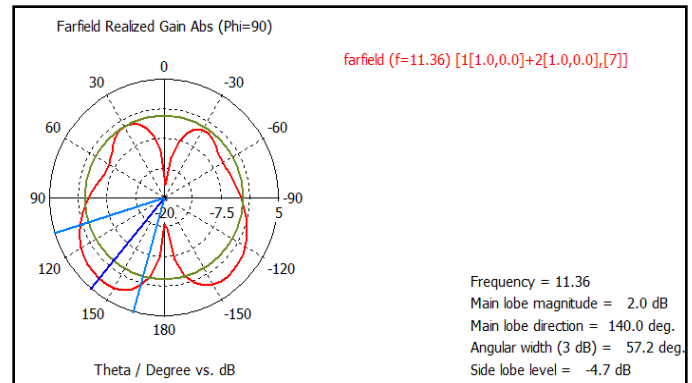


Fig 6: Far field pattern (Polar)

3.1 For substrate RT Rogers 5880

When we use substrate material RT Rogers Duroid 5880 which have dielectric constant $\epsilon_r = 2.2$, after designing the proposed antenna, S11 parameter shows that the resonant frequency is 11.36 GHz. Figures of S11 Parameter and Far field Radiation pattern (3D & Polar) are shown in Fig.- 4, 5 and 6 respectively

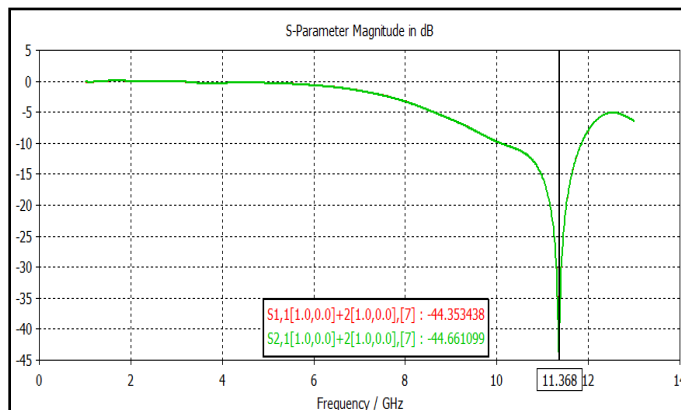


Fig 4: S11 Parameter when Substrate is RT 5880

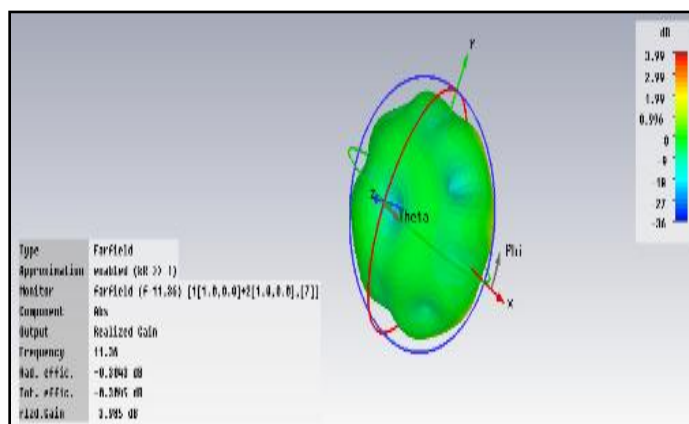


Fig 5: Far field pattern 3D

3.2 For substrate FR 4

When we use substrate material FR 4 which have dielectric constant $\epsilon_r = 4.3$, after designing the proposed antenna, S11 parameter shows that the resonant frequency is 9.2 GHz. Figures of S11 Parameter and Far field Radiation pattern (3D & Polar) are shown in Fig.7, 8 and 9 respectively.

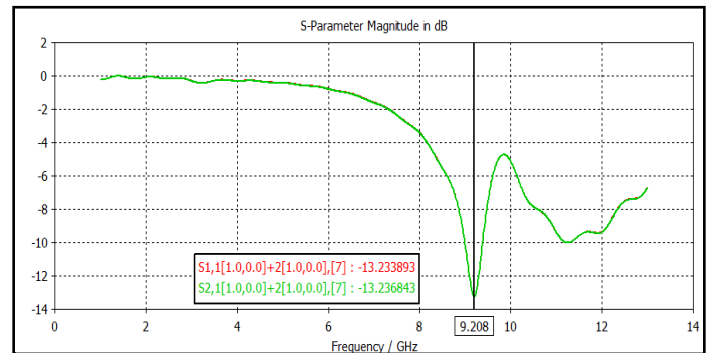


Fig- 7: S11 Parameter when Substrate is FR 4

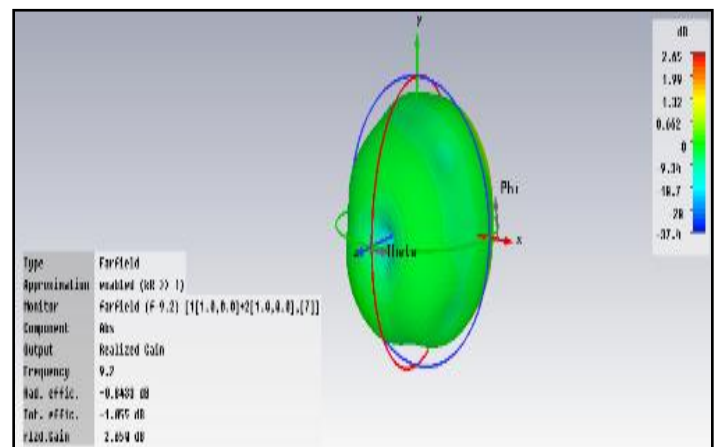


Fig 8: Far field pattern 3D

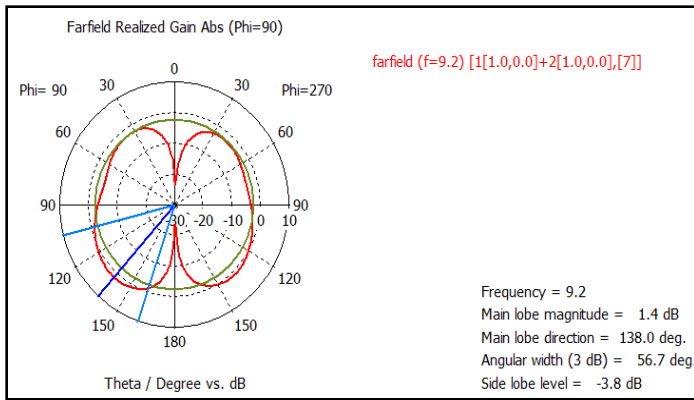


Fig 9: Far Field pattern (Polar)

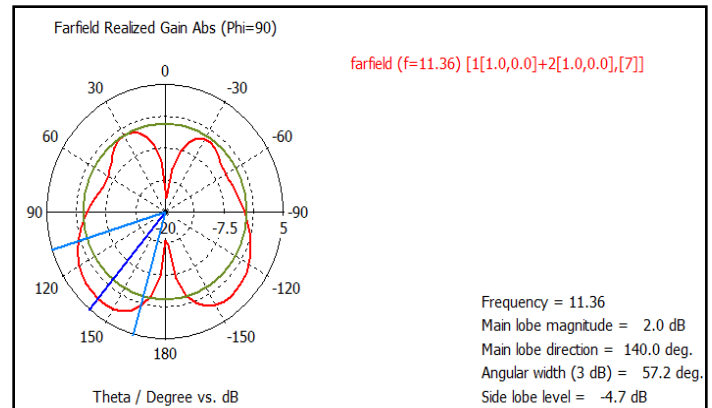


Fig 12: Far Field pattern (Polar)

3.3 For substrate RT Rogers 6010

When we use substrate material RT Rogers Duroid 6010 which have dielectric constant $\epsilon_r = 10.2$, after designing the proposed antenna, S11 parameter shows that the resonant frequency is 8.59 GHz. Figures of S11 Parameter and Far field Radiation pattern (3D & Polar) are shown in Fig.10, 11 and 12 respectively

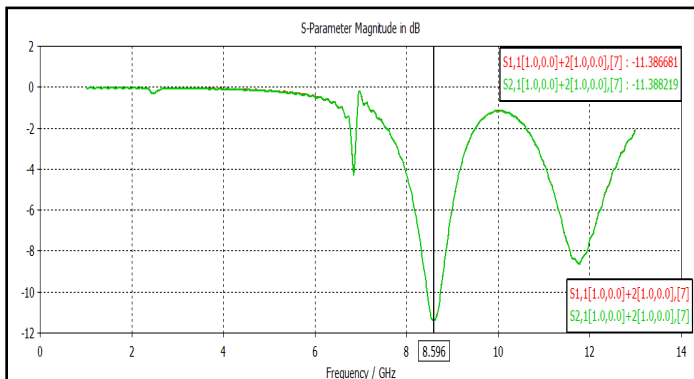


Fig 10: S11 Parameter when Substrate is RT 6010

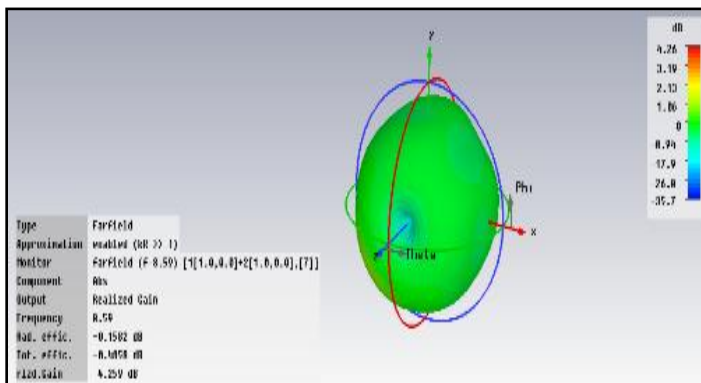


Fig 11: Far field pattern 3D

3.4 Simulation Results

Simulation results of all the three substrate materials are shown in Table- 2

Table- 2: Simulation results

Substrate	ϵ_r	S11 (dB)	Resonant Frequency (GHz)	Realized Gain(dB)
RT 5880 (Lossy)	2.2	-44.35	11.36	3.985
FR 4 (Lossy)	4.3	-13.23	9.2	2.650
RT 6010 (Lossy)	10.2	-11.38	8.59	4.259

CONCLUSIONS

The main aim of this paper is that, when we choose the substrate with lower Dielectric constant then the resonant frequency is higher in the appropriate frequency band of corresponding antenna. The table- 2 suggests that when dielectric constant (ϵ_r) is low then Resonant Frequency is high. Plus Fractal antenna simulation has given expected results in terms of S11, resonant frequency and realized gain. The antenna presented can be used in multiband wireless communication, indoor wirelesses i.e. Wi-Fi, WiMax, RFID, medical instruments, sensors, aerospace and in many more areas of application.

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