

HIGH GAIN RECTANGULAR MICROSTRIP PATCH ANTENNA EMPLOYING POLYSTYRENE SUBSTRATE FOR SATELLITE COMMUNICATION APPLICATIONS

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Abstract

The paper presents a rectangular microstrip patch antenna design suitable to be employed for fixed satellite (Space to Earth) communication and defence systems. The Polystyrene substrate has been used with dielectric constant (ϵ_r) of 2.6 having thickness of 2 mm. The material used for patch, feed line and ground is perfect electric conductor (PEC). The ground surface has been reduced in order to enhance the performance in terms of bandwidth and return loss. The feed line of suitable width has been employed for matching the impedance of antenna (50 ohm) with port impedance for maximum power propagates from port to antenna with minimal reflection losses. The prototype antenna resonates at frequency of 4.4 GHz with operating frequency range of 4.18 GHz to 6.61 GHz (2.431 GHz impedance bandwidth) and corresponding return loss of -36.3 dB. The antenna has gain and directivity of 7.523 dB and directivity of 7.325 dBi, respectively. The performance of antenna has been analyzed in terms of return loss (dB), gain (dB), directivity (dBi), smith chart and VSWR. The proposed antenna has been designed and simulated using CST Microwave studio 2014.

Keywords:- dB, dBi, Defence Systems, Directivity, Fixed Satellite Communication, Gain, Rectangular Microstrip Patch, Return Loss

1. INTRODUCTION

Nowadays, the communication systems are becoming compact in size and the compact antenna with enhanced performance are required for modern communication systems. The microstrip patch antenna is best suitable for these type of communication systems if the bandwidth performance is improved [1][2][3]. The microstrip patch antenna is usually fabricated on a dielectric material which acts as an intermediate between ground surface and radiating patch [4]. Antenna size basically depends on the dielectric constant of the substrate. Higher is the value of dielectric constant, lower is the size of the antenna [5]. Microstrip patch antenna's bandwidth can be improved either by having slot on patch [6][7] or a reducing ground [8][9]. By using these techniques the return loss along with bandwidth enhancement can also be improved. There are various methods of feeding antenna such as proximity coupled microstrip feed, coaxial feed and aperture coupled microstrip feed [10]. Different type of shapes of slot have different effect on different parameters of antenna. By having different slots one can improve the antenna

performance in terms of bandwidth, return loss and VSWR [11][12].

Nowadays, for wireless applications commonly Microstrip patch antenna are employed because of its low cost, light weight, miniaturization, ease of mobility, ease of fabrication and better efficiency. However, the microstrip patch antenna suffers from drawbacks also such as it has limited bandwidth and it handles less power [12][13].

2. ANTENNA DESIGN

The Fig. 1, Fig. 2 and Fig. 3 illustrate the dimensions of the propounded Microstrip patch antenna. In the given antenna design, substrate of thickness 2 mm has been used. The substrate is of polystyrene material having dielectric constant of 2.6. The arrangement of substrate, patch and ground are shown in Fig. 1.

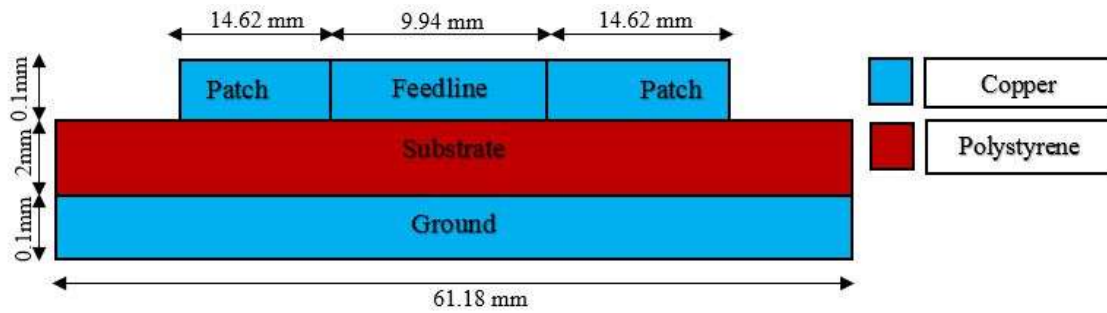


Fig -1: Front view of the antenna

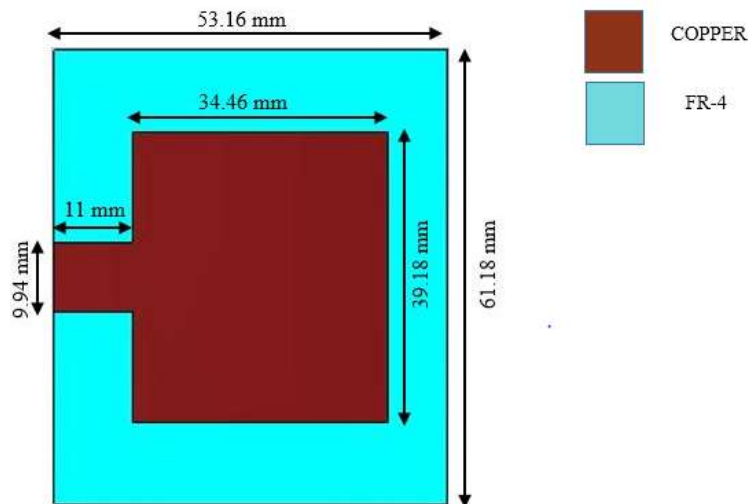


Fig -2: Top view of the antenna

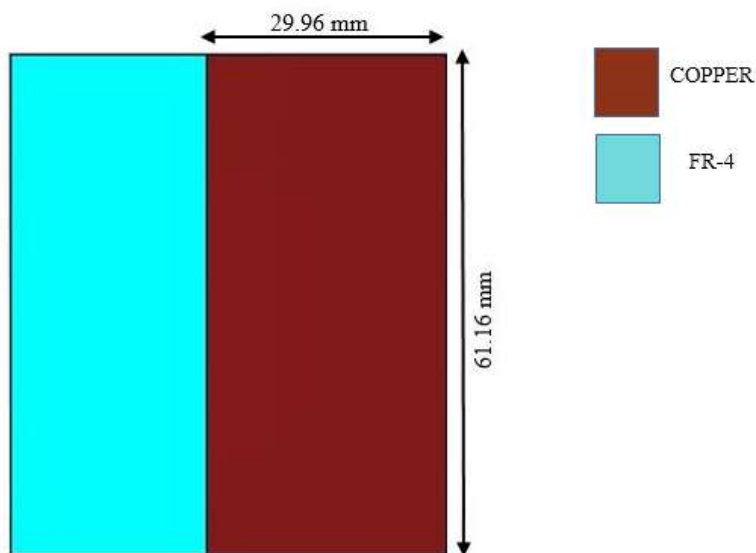


Fig -3: Bottom view of the antenna

3. RESULTS

The CST Microwave Studio 2014 has been used to design the proposed antenna design. The performance of the proposed High gain rectangular microstrip patch antenna has been analyzed in terms of return loss (dB), resonant frequency (GHz), directivity (dBi), gain (dB), impedance bandwidth (GHz), VSWR and impedance (ohms). The return loss plot illustrates that the antenna is resonant at 4.4 GHz with a return loss of -36.30 dB which has been shown

in fig. 4. The smith chart of the proposed antenna is shown in fig. 5 which indicates that the proposed antenna has impedance of 50.16Ω . The respective gain and directivity at 4.4 GHz is found to be 7.523 dB and 7.325 dBi as shown in Fig. 6. and Fig. 7. The VSWR (Voltage standing wave ratio) plot of the antenna has been shown in Fig. 8 which implies that the VSWR of the proposed antenna design lies below the minimum acceptable value of 2. Fig. 9 shows the radiation pattern of the proposed antenna.

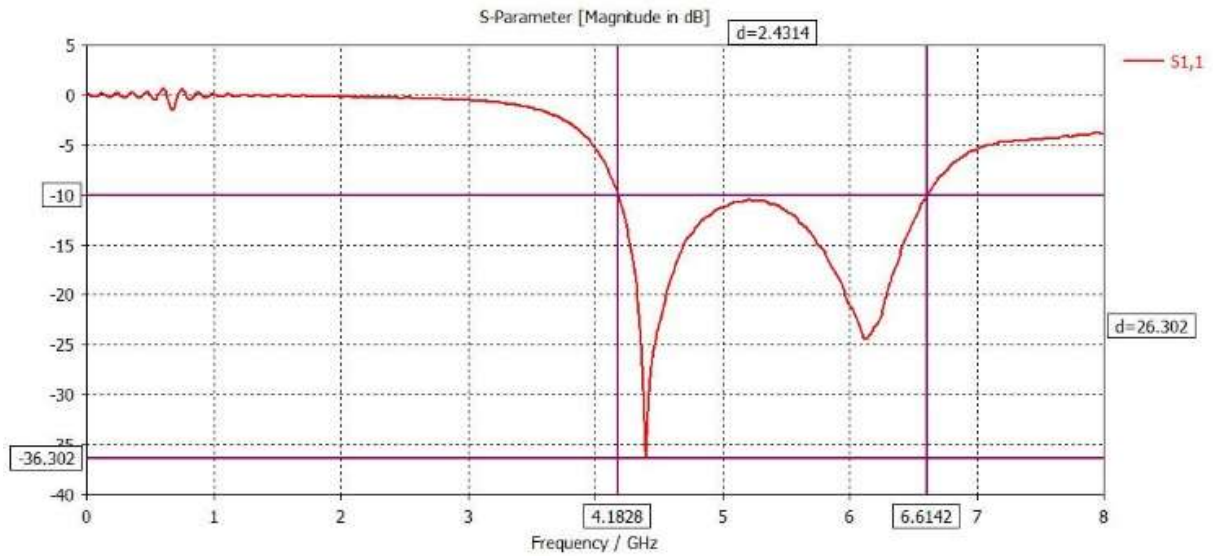


Fig -4: Return loss plot of the proposed antenna

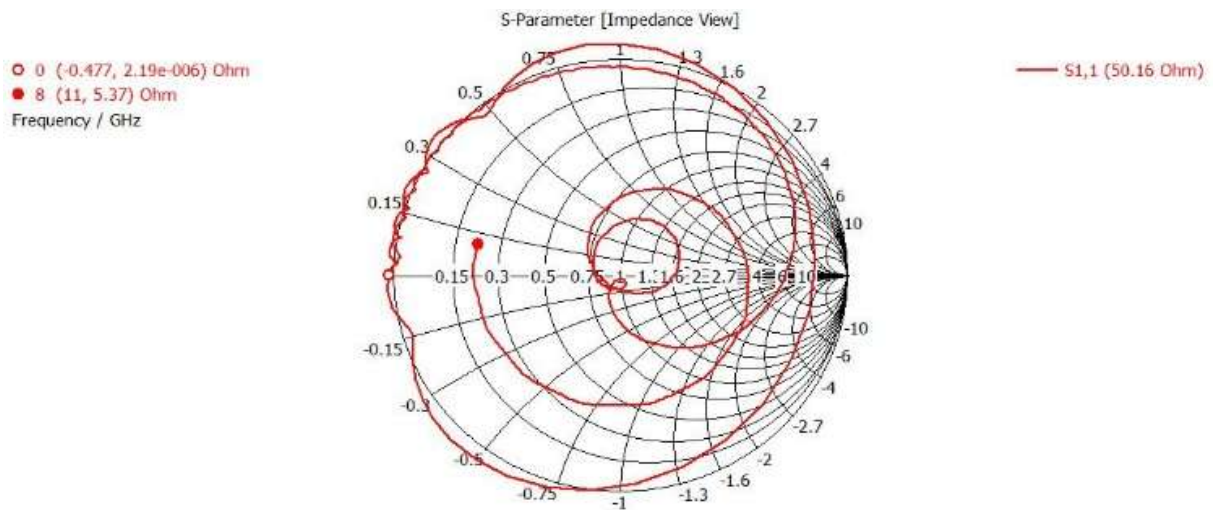


Fig -5: Smith Chart plot of the proposed antenna

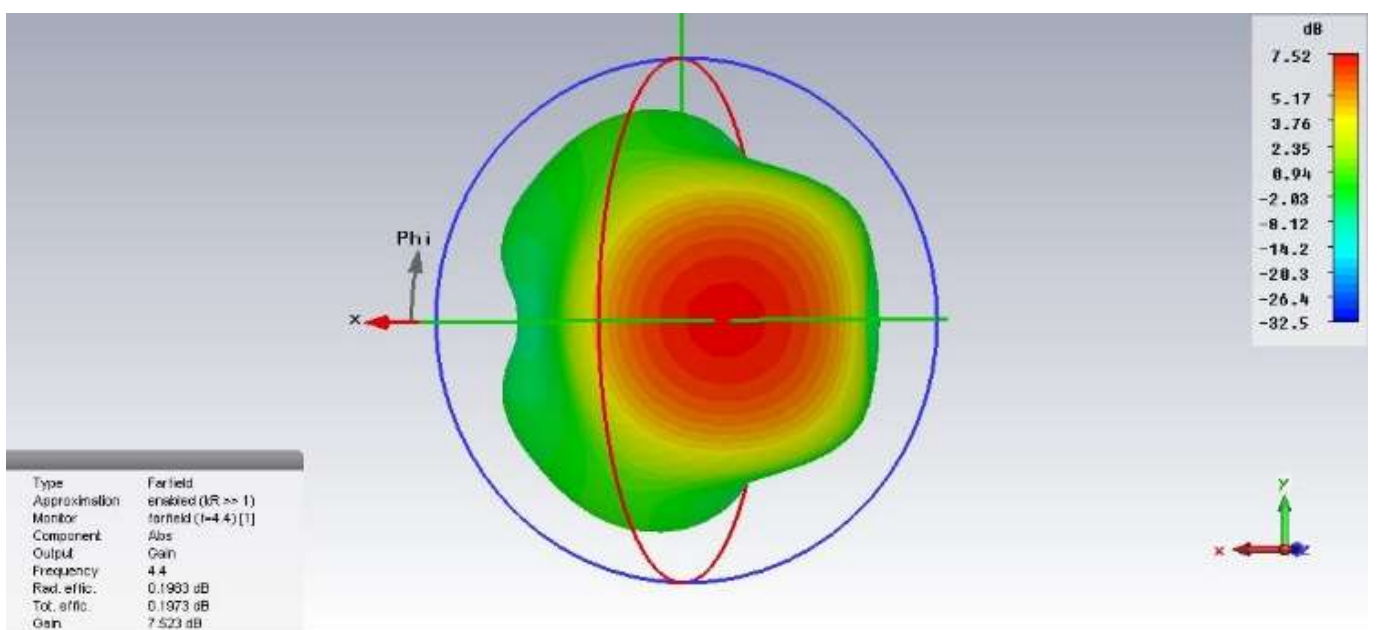


Fig -6: Gain of the proposed antenna at 4.4 GHz

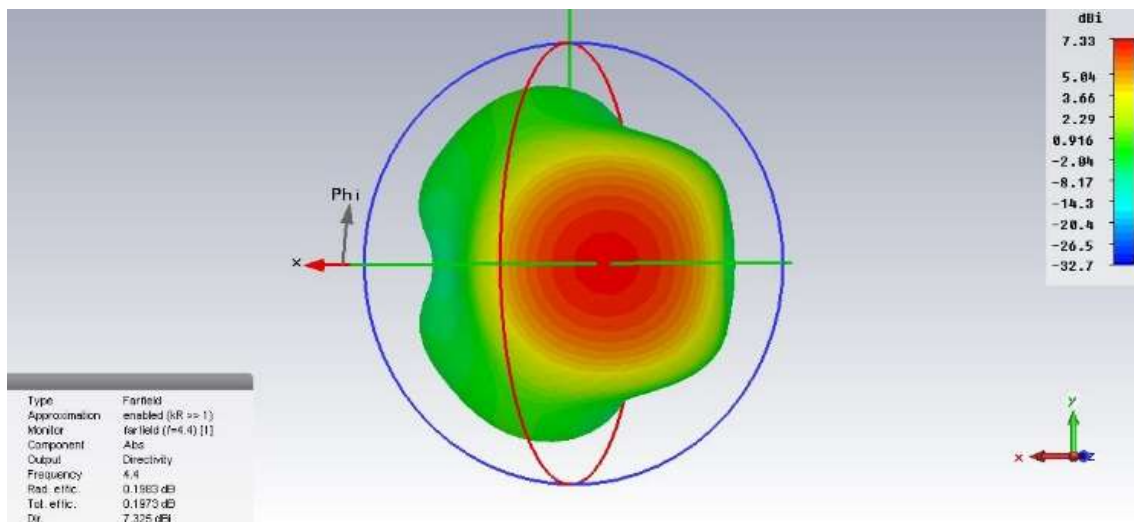


Fig -7: Directivity of the antenna at 4.4 GHz

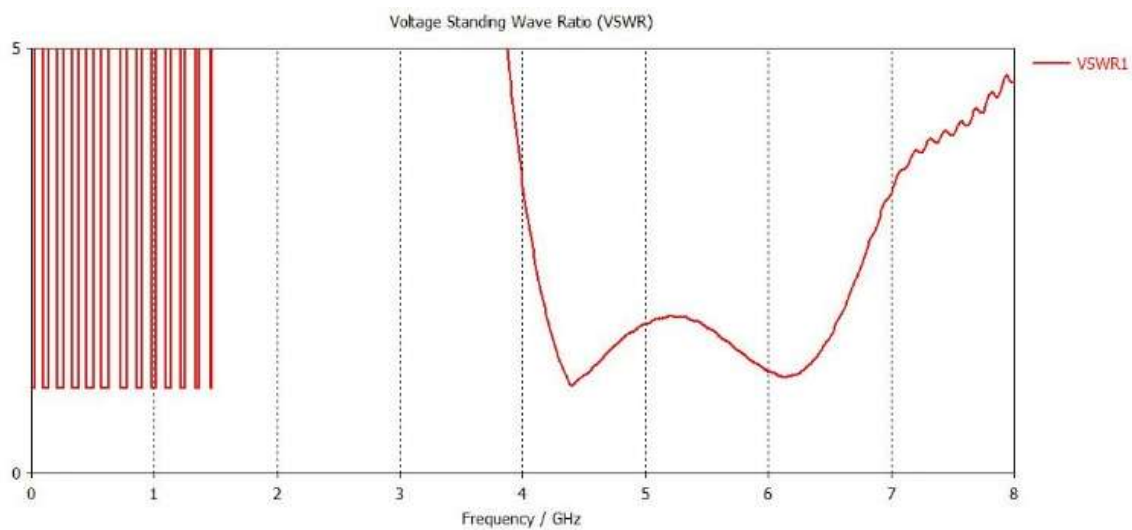


Fig -8: VSWR plot of the proposed antenna

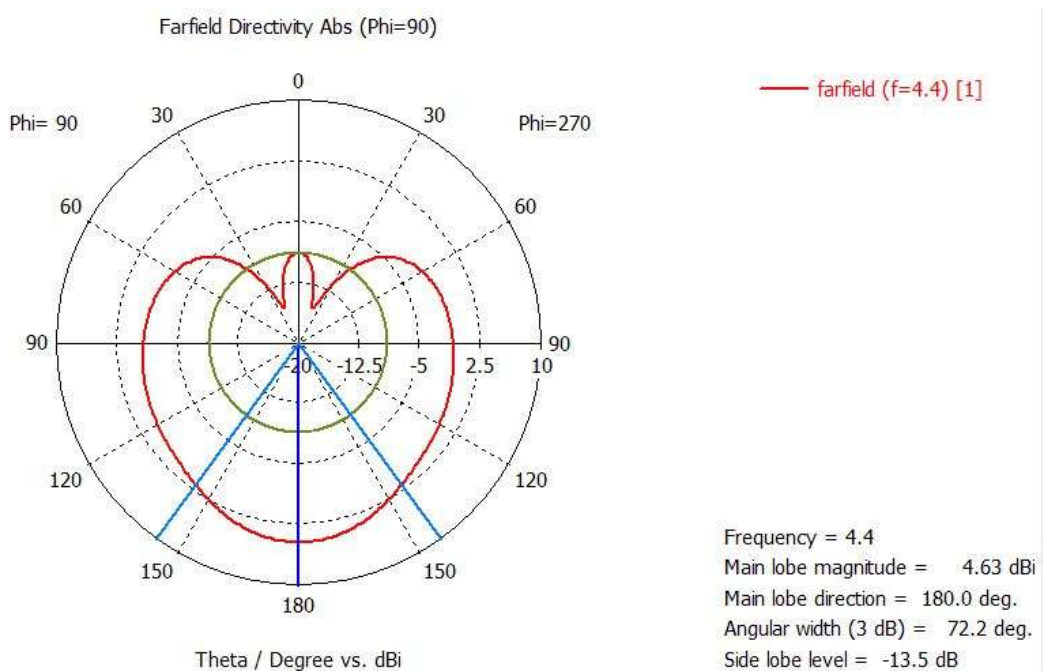


Fig -9: Radiation pattern of the proposed antenna

3. CONCLUSION

The microstrip patch antenna with a resonant frequency of 4.4GHz has been designed and proposed in this research paper. CST Microwave Studio 2014 is used to design and simulate the proposed antenna design. The proposed antenna has the impedance bandwidth of 2.43 GHz (4.18GHz to 6.61GHz) which can be used for space to earth fixed satellite communications, defence systems and other many applications.

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BIOGRAPHIES



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