

Design and Simulation of Four Element Yagi - Uda Antenna Using CST

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Abstract:

This report presents the design of 4 element Yagi Uda antenna at 1800 MHz frequency. The antenna has one active element (dipole antenna), one reflector and 2 directors (parasitic elements). The antenna design is modelled and simulated in CST microwave studio.

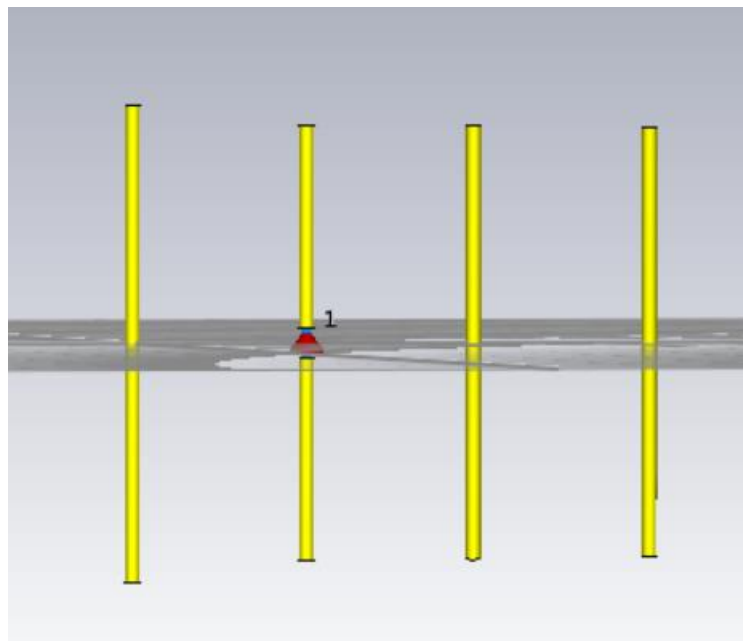
Index Terms— Yagi-Uda, S-Parameter, Gain, Directivity, Reflector, Dipole, Director and CST studio.

Introduction:

Yagi - Uda antenna was invented by Shintaro Uda and Hidetsugu Yagi in 1920. It is widely used in applications where high gain and directivity is required. Usually Yagi - Uda consists of an active element, reflector and directors. Reflector is placed rare side of the dipole and directors are placed in front side of the dipole. Feeding is provided at the centre of the dipole, so that maximum power is transmitted from transmitter to antenna. No feeding is provided to reflector and directors. Director length is a bit shorter than the active element and the director length vary with respect to spacing between director elements. Director length and spacing between director elements has significant effect on gain and band width. The length and spacing of a reflector also affect the gain and input impedance of an antenna. A low-cost Yagi - Uda antenna operating at 1800Mhz is designed in this report.

Antenna Design Parameters:

The basic structure of 4 element Yagi Uda antenna is shown in the figure. A port is provided at the centre of the dipole and is fed by a voltage source of 50 ohms impedance. The proposed antenna is designed at a resonant frequency of 1800Mhz the antenna design parameters at 1800Mhz is given by:



Reflector

Dipole

Directors

Parameter List			
	Name	Expression	Value
[-]	d	= 2.5	2.5
[-]	velocity	= 3×10^{11}	300000000000
[-]	s	= 5	5
[-]	freq	= 1800×10^6	1800000000
[-]	l_reflector	= $\text{lamda} \times 0.47$	78.3333333333335
[-]	dipole_director	= $\text{lamda} \times 0.175$	29.1666666666667
[-]	director_director	= $\text{lamda} \times 0.180$	30.0000000000001
[-]	l_director_2	= $\text{lamda} \times 0.423$	70.5000000000001
[-]	l_director_1	= $\text{lamda} \times 0.428$	71.3333333333335
[-]	l_dipole	= $\text{lamda} \times 0.429$	71.5000000000001
[-]	reflector_dipole	= $\text{lamda} \times 0.1765$	29.4166666666667
[-]	lamda	= $\text{velocity}/\text{freq}$	166.666666666667

Where d is the diameter of elements used.

Lamda is the wavelength

Velocity is the speed of light in milli meters

S is length of slot for active element

Freq is the resonant frequency at which the antenna is supposed to work

L_reflector is the length of reflector element

L_dipole is the length of active element

L_director_1 is the length of first director

L_director_2 is the length of second director

Reflector_dipole is the distance between reflector and dipole

Dipole_director is the distance between director and dipole

Director_director is the distance between directors

L_director_2 is the length of second director

Initial Design Parameters:

The following table is a result of series of experiments by P Vierzicke from the National Bureau of Standards, 1968[1]. Boom is the long element that the directors, reflectors and feed elements are physically attached to, and dictates the length of the antenna. For fabrication, we have placed the elements on a Styrofoam sheet instead of boom.

d=0.0085*wavelength SR=0.2*wavelength	Boom Length of Yagi-Uda Array (in terms of wavelength)					
	0.4	0.8	1.2	2.2	3.2	4.2
R	0.482	0.482	0.482	0.482	0.482	0.475
D1	0.442	0.428	0.428	0.432	0.428	0.424
D2		0.424	0.420	0.415	0.420	0.424
D3		0.428	0.420	0.407	0.407	0.420
D4			0.428	0.398	0.398	0.407
D5				0.390	0.394	0.403
D6				0.390	0.390	0.398
D7				0.390	0.386	0.394
D8				0.390	0.386	0.390
D9				0.398	0.386	0.390
D10				0.407	0.386	0.390
D11					0.386	0.390
D12					0.386	0.390
D13					0.386	0.390
D14					0.386	
D15					0.386	
Spacing between directors, (SD/wavelength)	0.20	0.20	0.25	0.20	0.20	0.308
Gain (in dB)	9.25	11.35	12.35	14.40	15.55	16.35

We take these values as starting point and tweak them further until the desired result is obtained. The change in parameters and variations produced are reported below.

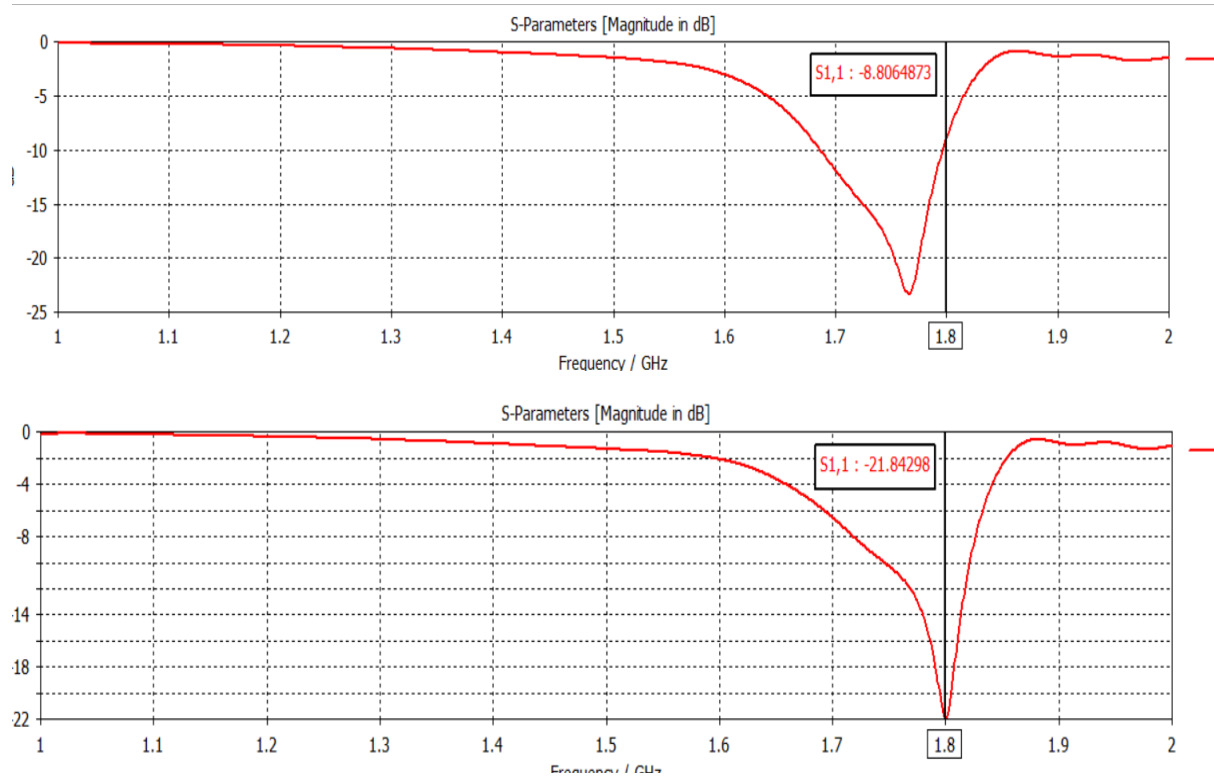
Variations:

Varying the spacing between the directors:

The dip in S-Parameters is moving towards higher frequencies with decrease in spacing between directors. The dip is not sharp which indicates all the elements in the antenna are not resonating together. Let's try further variations.

The following shift is observed by decreasing spacing from $\lambda \cdot 0.2$ to $\lambda \cdot 1765$.

This came at the loss of gain from 10dBi to 9.923dBi.

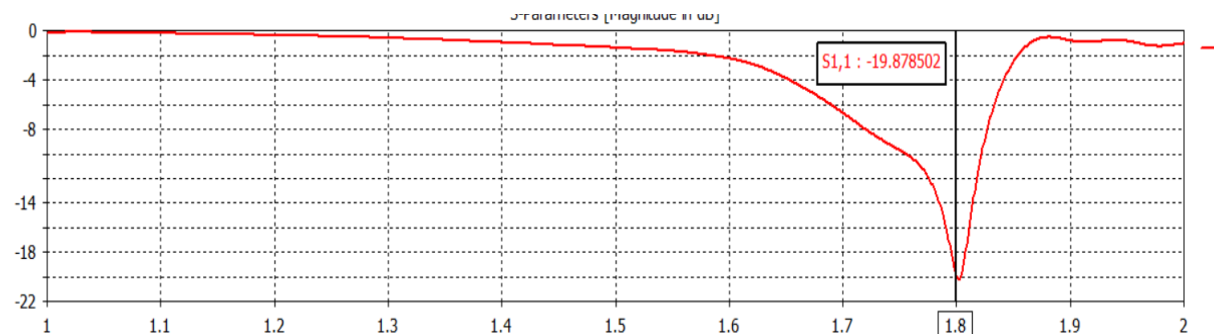


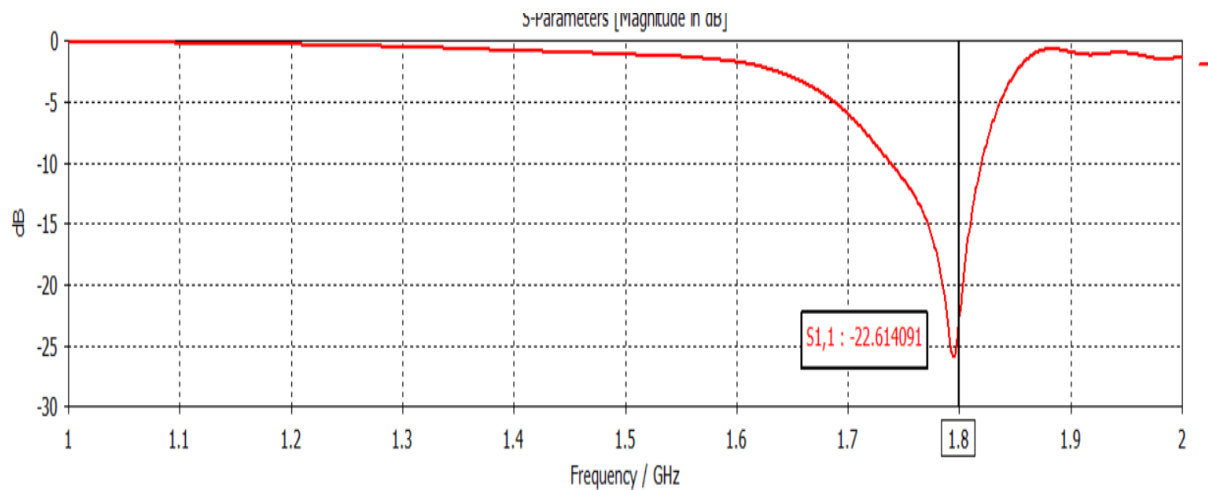
Varying the length of dipole:

As the dipole is the excited element in the antenna, profound changes are observed on varying its length. The irregularity we've seen earlier is now uniform and we have a sharp dip. The dip in S-Parameters is getting deep with the decrease in length of dipole at the desired frequency.

The following variation is observed by decreasing length from $\lambda \cdot 0.438$ to $\lambda \cdot 428$.

This came at a slight loss of gain.



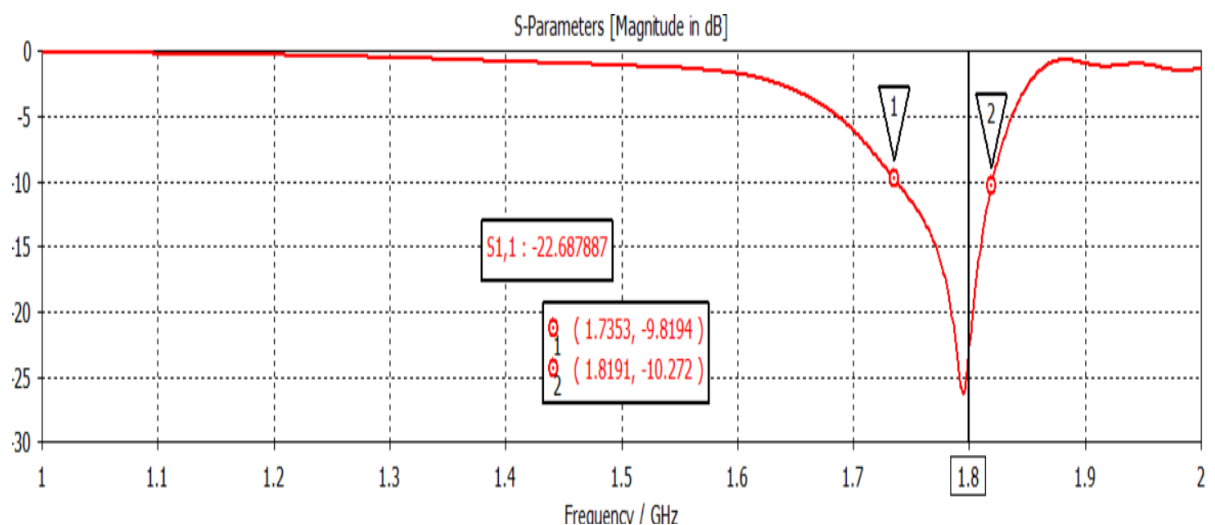
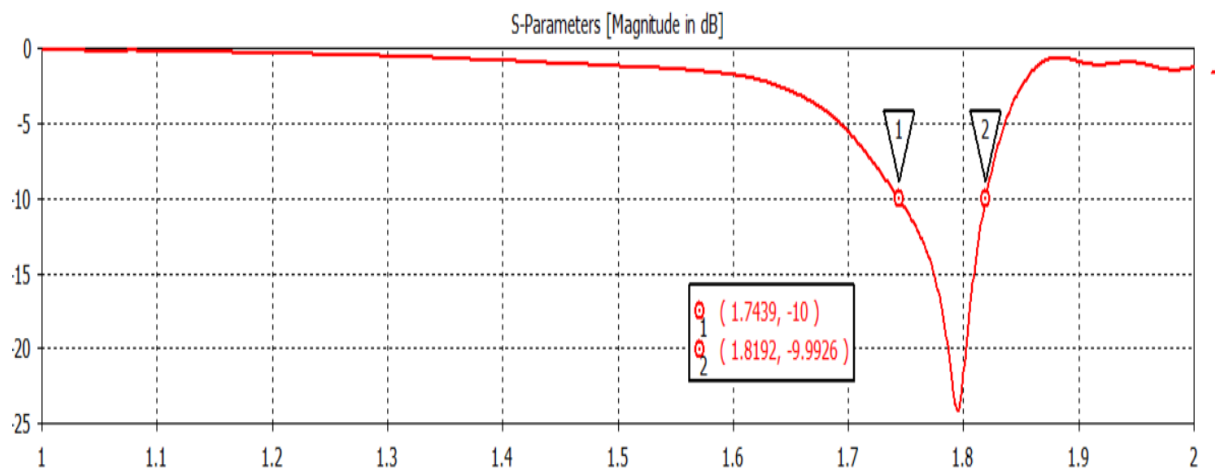


Varying the length of reflector:

Reflector is the longest element in the antenna. Increasing the length increased the bandwidth of antenna. Axis markers are placed at -10dB to measure bandwidth. The dip in S-Parameters is getting deep with the decrease in length of dipole at the desired frequency like earlier.

The following variation is observed by increasing length from $\lambda \cdot 0.480$ to $\lambda \cdot 486$.

This came at a significant loss of gain.

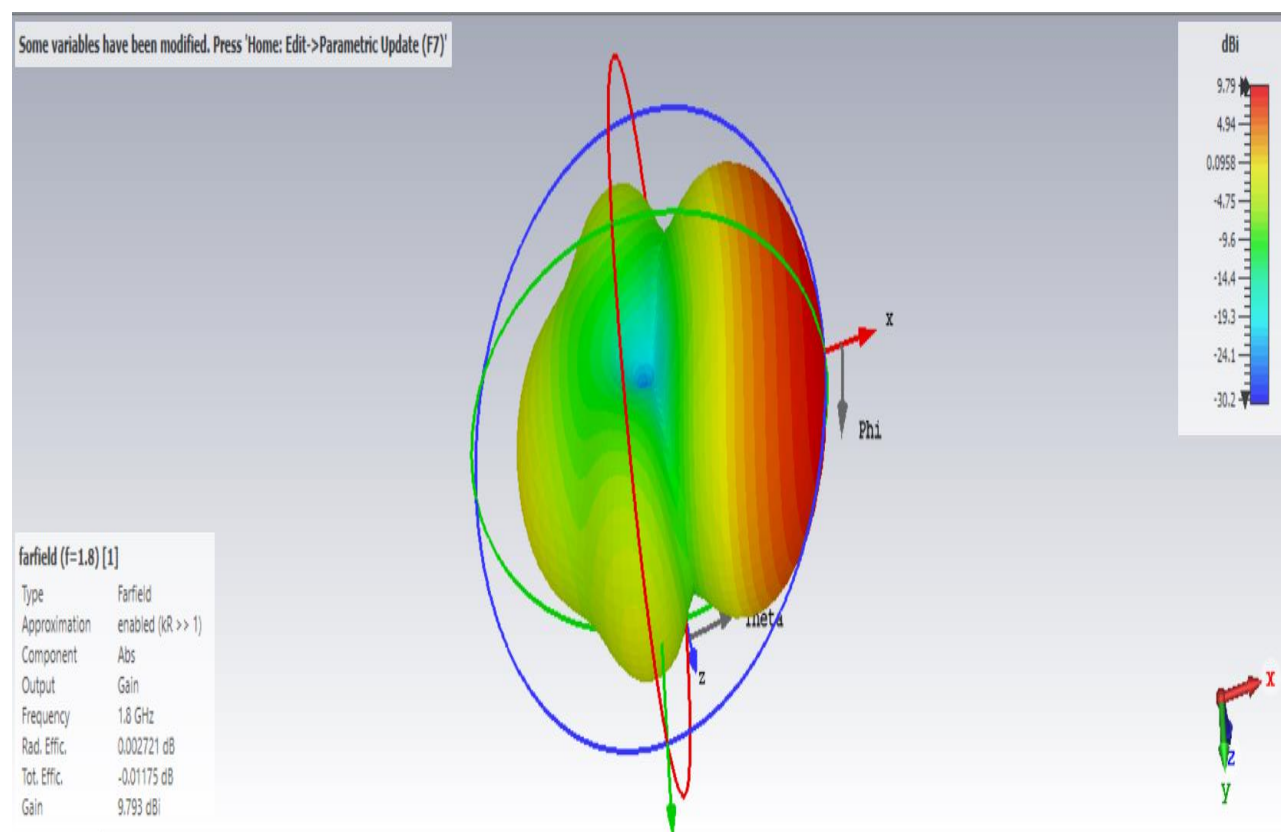


Final Simulated Results:

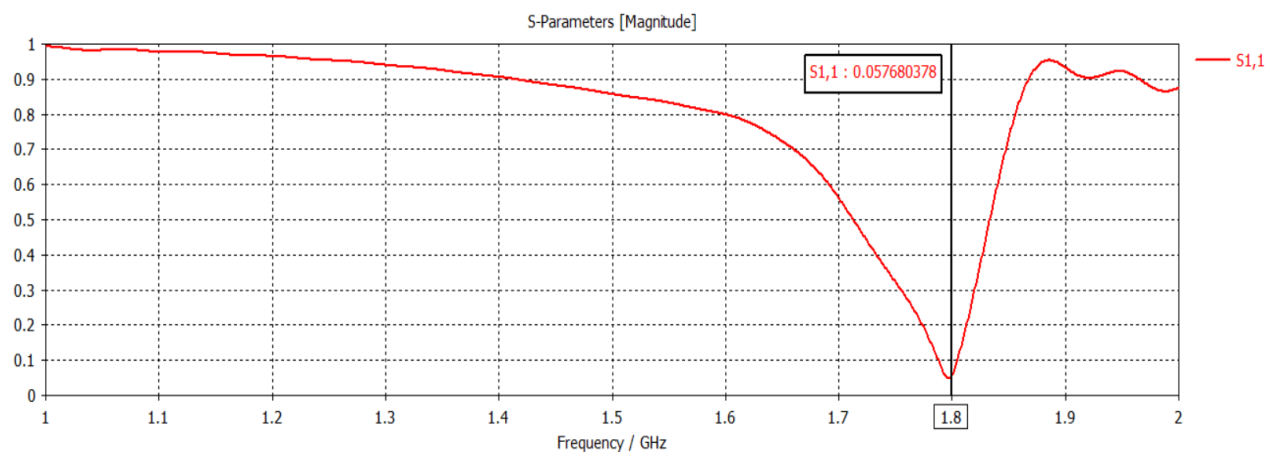
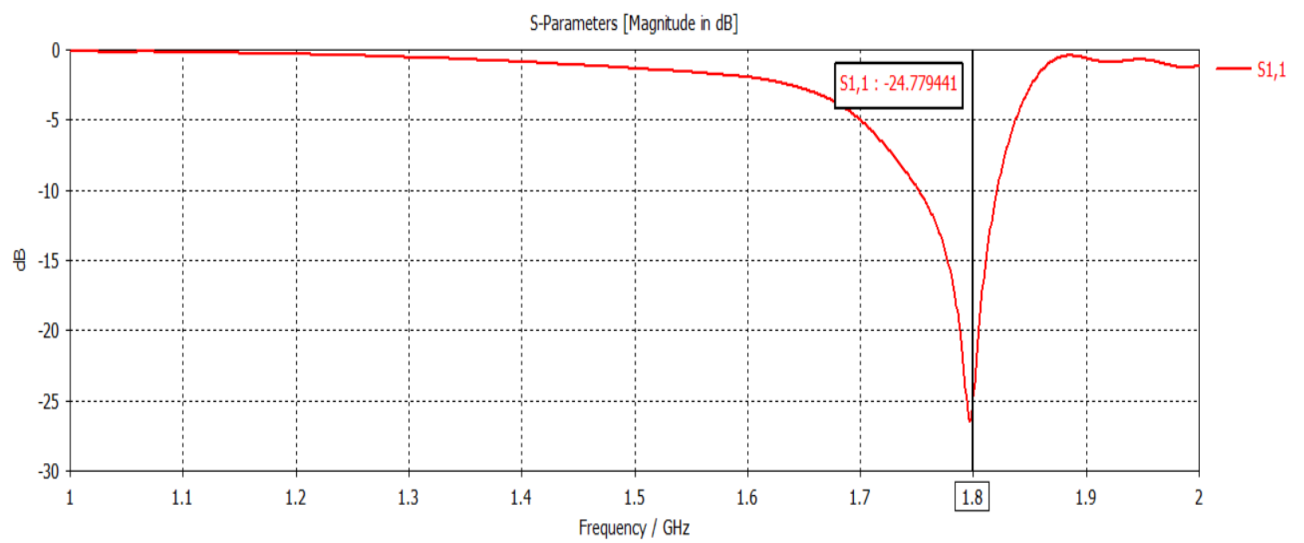
Parameter List:

3D	Schematic	1D Results\S-Parameters	X
Parameter List			
Name	Expression	Value	
lamda	= velocity/treq	166.666666666666 /	
l_reflector	= lamda*0.47	78.3333333333335	
l_dipole	= lamda*0.429	71.5000000000001	
l_director_1	= lamda*0.428	71.3333333333335	
l_director_2	= lamda*0.423	70.5000000000001	
reflector_dipole	= lamda*0.1765	29.4166666666667	
dipole_director	= lamda*0.175	29.1666666666667	
director_director	lamda*0.180	30.0000000000001	
d	= 2.5	2.5	
s	= 5	5	
<new parameter>			

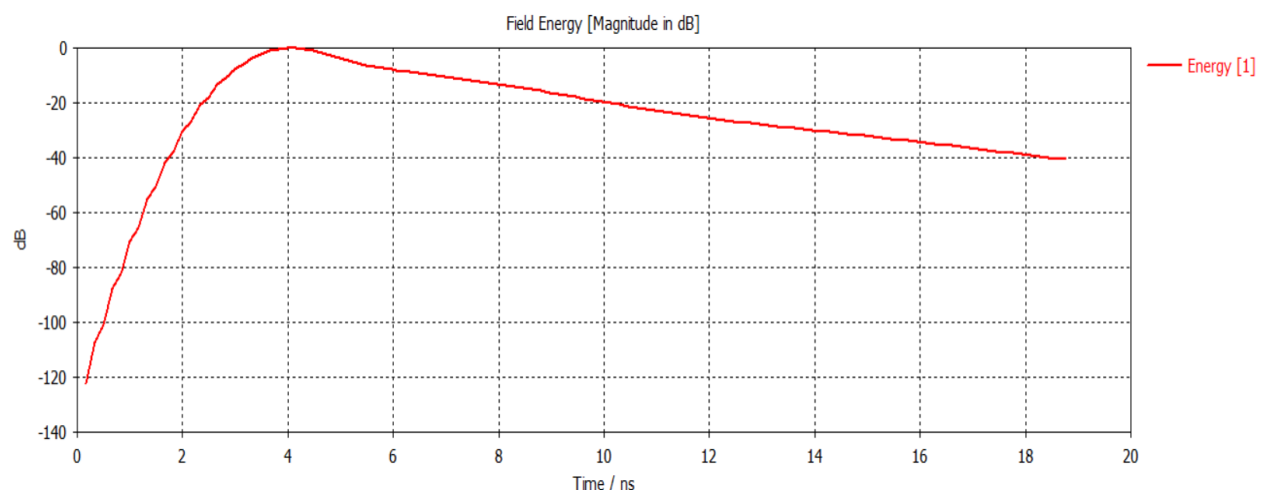
Far Field and Gain:



S-Parameters:

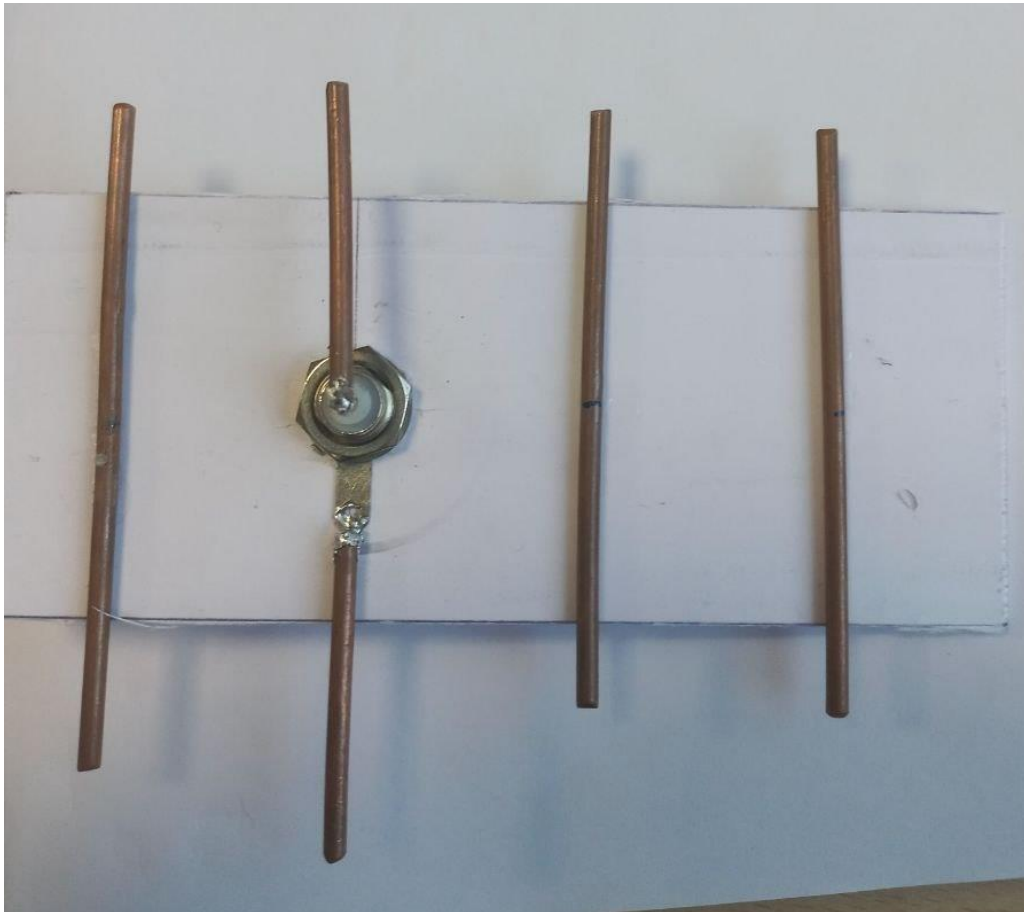


Other Parameters:



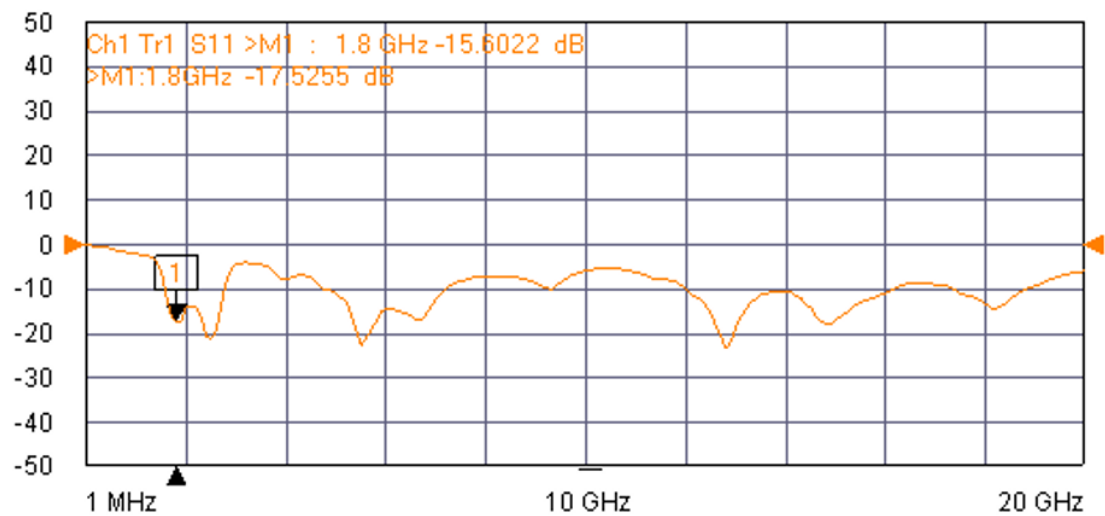
The Yagi Uda antenna is simulated in CST Microwave studio. After observing change in parameters and the trends, the optimized antenna design parameters have achieved improved gain and directivity.

Fabricated Antenna:

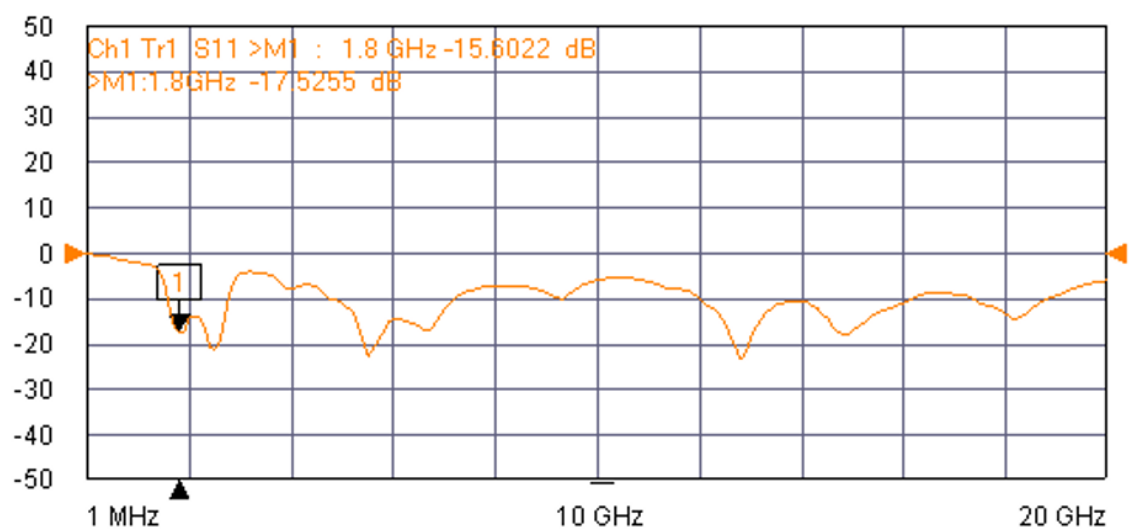


Performance of fabricated antenna:

► Tr1 S11 RefL LogM RefLvl: 0 dB Res: 10 dB/Div



► Tr1 S11 RefL LogM RefLvl: 0 dB Res: 10 dB/Div



Conclusion:

In this report a Yagi Uda antenna is designed and simulated using CST Microwave studio. The antenna is operated in UHF band. This antenna is well suited for RFID applications in UHF band. In this report the length of reflector, dipole and directors and spacing between elements are varied and S-Parameter and gain is observed after every change in parameter. Total of 7 parameters can be varied. In the future work by altering both length of the elements and spacing between elements high gain and band width can be achieved without increasing the number of directors

References:

- 1) "Yagi Antenna Design" by P Viezbicke from the National Bureau of Standards, 1968