

1 Modelling An Antenna Array: Using Python programming language- Numpy and Matplotlib

Directing radio waves in a particular direction by adjusting their number, geometrical arrangement, and relative amplitudes and phases.

1.1 Two-antenna case (formulae and theory below)

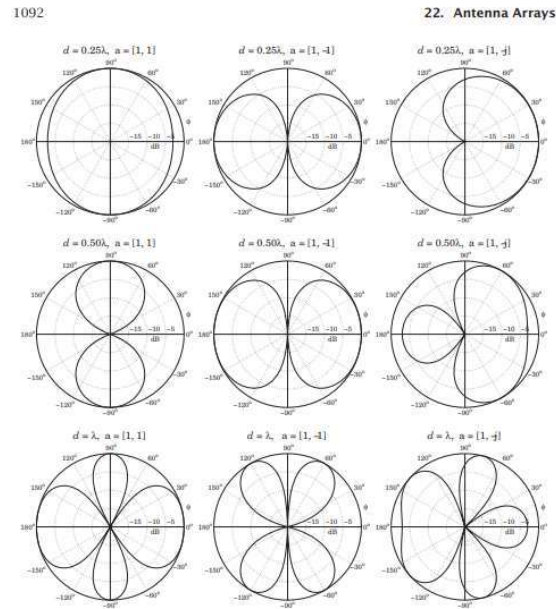
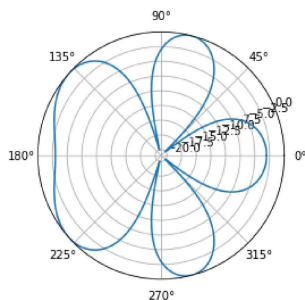


Fig. 22.3.1 Azimuthal gain patterns of two-element isotropic array.

```
In [13]: 1 import numpy as np
2 import matplotlib.pyplot as plt
3
4 # Calculation of : Array factor and gain.
5 def gain(d, w):
6     phi = np.linspace(0, 2*np.pi, 1000)
7     psi = 2*np.pi * d / lam * np.cos(phi) # psi = (2*pi*d/lamda)*cos(phi)
8     A = w[0] + w[1]*np.exp(1j*psi) # Array factor for two antenna case.
9     g = np.abs(A)**2 # relative radiation power pattern ("gain") is the square of Array factor.
10    return phi, g
11
12 # Calculation of the directive gain (dbi scale) of the antenna array.
13 def get_directive_gain(g, minDdBi=-20):
14     DdBi = 10 * np.log10(g / np.max(g)) # directive gain = 10*log10(g/g_max)
15     return np.clip(DdBi, minDdBi, None) # It clips the directive gain below the certain values (minDdBi=-20).
16
17 # Wavelength(lam), antenna spacing(d), feed coefficients(w). => It determines the shape of the radiation pattern
18 lam = 1
19 d = lam
20 w = np.array([1, -1j]) # w[0] = 1, w[1] = -1j
21
22 # gain and directive gain.
23 phi, g = gain(d, w)
24 DdBi = get_directive_gain(g)
25
26 # Polar plot.
27 plt.polar(phi, DdBi)
28 # ax = plt.gca()
29 # ax.set_rticks([-20, -15, -10, -5])
30 # ax.set_rlabel_position(45)
31 plt.show()
```



1.2 Three-antenna array case (formulae and theory below)

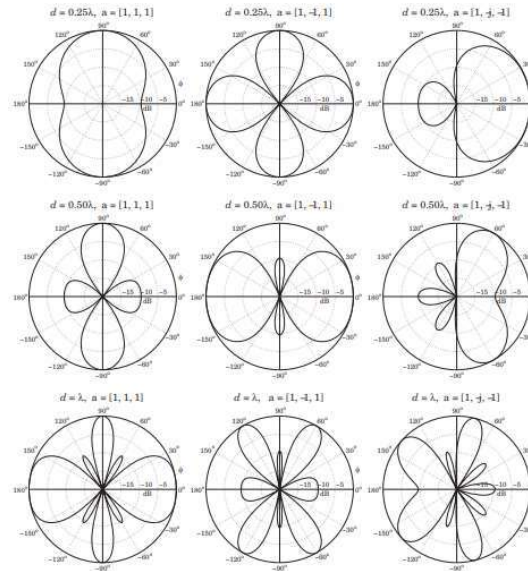
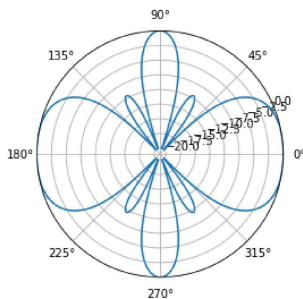


Fig. 22.3.3 Azimuthal gains of three-element isotropic array.

```
In [14]: 1 import numpy as np
2 import matplotlib.pyplot as plt
3
4 # Calculation of : Array factor and gain- in case of 3 array elements.
5 def gain(d, w):
6     """Return the power as a function of azimuthal angle, phi."""
7     phi = np.linspace(0, 2*np.pi, 1000)
8     psi = 2*np.pi * d / lam * np.cos(phi)
9     j = np.arange(len(w))
10    A = np.sum(w[j] * np.exp(j * 1j * psi[:, None]), axis=1)
11    g = np.abs(A)**2
12    return phi, g
13
14 # Calculation of the directive gain (dbi scale) of the 3 antenna array.
15 def get_directive_gain(g, minDdBi=-20):
16     """Return the "directive gain" of the antenna array producing gain g."""
17     DdBi = 10 * np.log10(g / np.max(g))
18     return np.clip(DdBi, minDdBi, None)
19
20 # Wavelength(lam), antenna spacing(d), feed coefficients(w) => It determines the shape of the radiation pattern
21 lam = 1
22 #d = lam / 2
23 d = lam
24 #w = np.array([1, -1, 1])
25 w = np.array([1, 1, 1])
26 #w = np.array([1, 1, 1, 1j])
27
28 # gain and directive gain.
29 phi, g = gain(d, w)
30 DdBi = get_directive_gain(g)
31
32 # Polar plot.
33 fig = plt.figure()
34 ax = fig.add_subplot(projection='polar')
35 ax.plot(phi, DdBi)
36 # ax.set_rticks([-20, -15, -10, -5])
37 # ax.set_rlabel_position(45)
38 plt.show()
```



1.3 Theory and formulae

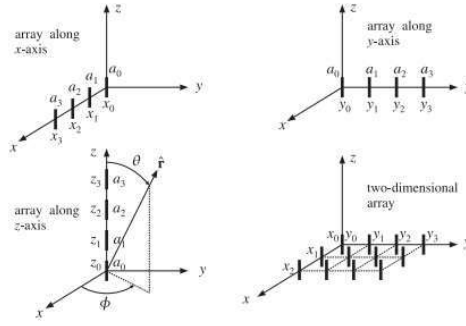


Fig. 22.1.1 Typical array configurations.

More generally, we consider a three-dimensional array of several identical antennas located at positions $\mathbf{d}_0, \mathbf{d}_1, \mathbf{d}_2, \dots$ with relative feed coefficients a_0, a_1, a_2, \dots , as shown in Fig. 22.2.1. (Without loss of generality, we may set $\mathbf{d}_0 = 0$ and $a_0 = 1$.)

The current density of the n th antenna will be $\mathbf{J}_n(\mathbf{r}) = a_n \mathbf{J}(\mathbf{r} - \mathbf{d}_n)$ and the corresponding radiation vector:

$$\mathbf{F}_n(\mathbf{k}) = a_n e^{i\mathbf{k} \cdot \mathbf{d}_n} \mathbf{F}(\mathbf{k})$$

The total current density of the array will be:

$$\mathbf{J}_{\text{tot}}(\mathbf{r}) = a_0 \mathbf{J}(\mathbf{r} - \mathbf{d}_0) + a_1 \mathbf{J}(\mathbf{r} - \mathbf{d}_1) + a_2 \mathbf{J}(\mathbf{r} - \mathbf{d}_2) + \dots$$

and the total radiation vector:

$$\mathbf{F}_{\text{tot}}(\mathbf{k}) = \mathbf{F}_0 + \mathbf{F}_1 + \mathbf{F}_2 + \dots = a_0 e^{i\mathbf{k} \cdot \mathbf{d}_0} \mathbf{F}(\mathbf{k}) + a_1 e^{i\mathbf{k} \cdot \mathbf{d}_1} \mathbf{F}(\mathbf{k}) + a_2 e^{i\mathbf{k} \cdot \mathbf{d}_2} \mathbf{F}(\mathbf{k}) + \dots$$

The factor $\mathbf{F}(\mathbf{k})$ due to a single antenna element at the origin is common to all terms. Thus, we obtain the *array pattern multiplication* property:

$$\boxed{\mathbf{F}_{\text{tot}}(\mathbf{k}) = A(\mathbf{k}) \mathbf{F}(\mathbf{k})} \quad (\text{array pattern multiplication}) \quad (22.3.1)$$

where $A(\mathbf{k})$ is the *array factor*:

$$\boxed{A(\mathbf{k}) = a_0 e^{i\mathbf{k} \cdot \mathbf{d}_0} + a_1 e^{i\mathbf{k} \cdot \mathbf{d}_1} + a_2 e^{i\mathbf{k} \cdot \mathbf{d}_2} + \dots} \quad (\text{array factor}) \quad (22.3.2)$$

Since $\mathbf{k} = k\hat{\mathbf{r}}$, we may also denote the array factor as $A(\hat{\mathbf{r}})$ or $A(\theta, \phi)$. To summarize, the net effect of an array of identical antennas is to modify the single-antenna radiation vector by the array factor, which incorporates all the translational phase shifts and relative weighting coefficients of the array elements.