



# Synthesis and investigation of $\text{Sm}^{3+}$ -doped $\text{Mn}_{0.5}\text{Cu}_{0.5}\text{Fe}_2\text{O}_4$ nanoferrites for microstrip patch antenna application

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## ABSTRACT

Nanoferrites with chemical formulae of  $\text{CuFe}_2\text{O}_4$  (CFO),  $\text{Mn}_{0.5}\text{Cu}_{0.5}\text{Fe}_2\text{O}_4$  (MCFO), and  $\text{Mn}_{0.5}\text{Cu}_{0.5}\text{Sm}_x\text{Fe}_{2-x}\text{O}_4$  (SMCFO) were synthesized by the sonochemical method as substrate material for microstrip patch antennas. The structural, oxidation, and vibrational characteristics of the nanoferrite substrate were analyzed through X-ray diffraction, X-ray photoelectron, and infrared spectroscopy. The lattice constant of the CFO nanoferrite is 8.413 Å, whereas that of MCFO is 8.429 Å, which is smaller than that of SMCFO nanoferrite. The spherical morphology of the nanoferrite substrate was observed through field-emission scanning electron microscopy images. The magnetic properties of the pristine and  $\text{Sm}^{3+}$ -doped  $\text{Mn}_{0.5}\text{Cu}_{0.5}\text{Fe}_2\text{O}_4$  nanoferrites were studied using a vibrating sample magnetometer. The dielectric permittivity ( $\epsilon_r$ ) and dielectric loss tangent ( $\tan \delta_c$ ) of the prepared nanoferrites were used as substrate to design the microstrip patch antenna by simulation using a high-frequency structure simulator. The  $R_L$  value of the simulated microstrip patch antennas was in the range of – 17.80 to – 46.28 dB at a frequency of 25 GHz. The voltage standing wave ratio values of the simulated microstrip patch antenna were between 0.08 and 2.41. Thus, it was concluded that the prepared materials can play an important role in developing flexible substrates for antennas in 5G mobile application.

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