

Lab 4: Rectangular waveguide

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Introduction

Experimental objective

The purpose of this experiment is to acquire fundamental knowledge about rectangular waveguides, and to comprehend and master the modeling and simulation using HFSS software, thereby deepen our understanding about the knowledge about waveguides. Moreover, we will use HFSS to observe the electric field distribution, and our primary focus will be on studying and simulating four modes of the rectangular waveguide: TE10 mode, TE20 mode, TE01 mode, and TE11 mode. We will analyze the results using S-parameter plots.

Waveguides

A waveguide is a guiding structure for electromagnetic waves, typically defined by spatial boundaries between conductive surfaces. Its fundamental design allows the propagation of electromagnetic waves, with the electric and magnetic fields constrained by the geometry and electromagnetic properties of the waveguide. Waveguides find extensive applications in wireless communication, radar systems, microwave engineering, and fiber optics.

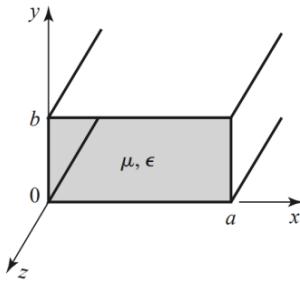
One common type of waveguide is the rectangular waveguide, characterized by a rectangular cross-section. A rectangular waveguide consists of a rectangular conduit formed by four boundaries (two wide sides and two narrow sides). Electromagnetic waves propagate through this conduit via reflection and refraction. Rectangular waveguides support various modes, with the most fundamental being TE (Transverse Electric) and TM (Transverse Magnetic) modes. These modes describe the distribution of the electromagnetic field with respect to the geometry of the waveguide. And it can offer several advantages over other waveguide structures. One notable advantage is their ease of fabrication, as the rectangular cross-section simplifies manufacturing and installation. Additionally, rectangular waveguides are versatile in supporting multiple modes, providing flexibility and performance advantages. Rectangular waveguides are widely used in communication, radar, antenna systems, and other fields, especially in the microwave and millimeter-wave frequency ranges. Their structure and performance make them an ideal transmission medium in specific frequency bands.

Therefore, the rectangular waveguide is a significant waveguide structure with distinct advantages, making it well-suited for specific applications. In the context of learning and simulation, tools like HFSS enable a better understanding and optimization of the performance of rectangular waveguides.

Four Modes of Waveguide

For a given cross-sectional waveguide or transmission line, there is a series of solutions at

specific frequencies that satisfy the corresponding boundary conditions and Maxwell's equations. Each solution is referred to as a mode. Typically, modes are named based on the presence or absence of components of the electric and magnetic fields along the direction of propagation in the waveguide system. Assuming the waveguide system is placed along the z-axis, these components refer to the E_z electric field component and the H_z magnetic field component along the z direction.



According to the presence or absence of components of the electric and magnetic fields along the direction of propagation in the waveguide system, there are primarily three modes:

1. **TEM Mode:** This mode corresponds to cases where $E_z = 0$ and $H_z = 0$, and it is known as Transverse Electromagnetic (TEM) wave.
2. **TE Mode:** In this mode, $E_z = 0$ and $H_z \neq 0$, and it is referred to as Transverse Electric (TE) mode.
3. **TM Mode:** This mode corresponds to cases where $E_z \neq 0$ and $H_z = 0$, and it is known as Transverse Magnetic (TM) mode.

We will mainly focus on the TE mode,

$$H_z = H_0 \cos\left(\frac{m\pi}{a}x\right) \cos\left(\frac{n\pi}{b}y\right) e^{-j\beta z}$$

$$H_x = \frac{j\beta}{K_c^2} \left(\frac{m\pi}{a}\right) H_0 \sin\left(\frac{m\pi}{a}x\right) \cos\left(\frac{n\pi}{b}y\right) e^{-j\beta z}$$

$$H_y = \frac{j\beta}{K_c^2} \left(\frac{n\pi}{b}\right) H_0 \cos\left(\frac{m\pi}{a}x\right) \sin\left(\frac{n\pi}{b}y\right) e^{-j\beta z}$$

$$E_x = \frac{j\omega\mu}{K_c^2} \left(\frac{n\pi}{b}\right) H_0 \cos\left(\frac{m\pi}{a}x\right) \sin\left(\frac{n\pi}{b}y\right) e^{-j\beta z}$$

$$E_y = -\frac{j\omega\mu}{K_c^2} \left(\frac{m\pi}{a}\right) H_0 \sin\left(\frac{m\pi}{a}x\right) \cos\left(\frac{n\pi}{b}y\right) e^{-j\beta z}$$

We can set different values of m and n, which correspond to different modes, for example, if $m = 1$ and $n = 0$, it is the TE10 mode and other modes are similar.

Cutoff Frequency

Each mode has a cutoff frequency f_c given by:

$$f_c = \frac{1}{2\sqrt{\mu\epsilon}} \sqrt{\left(\frac{m}{a}\right)^2 + \left(\frac{n}{b}\right)^2}$$

The mode with the lowest cutoff frequency is called the dominant mode because the rectangular waveguide we simulate satisfies $a > b$, so the lowest cutoff frequency occurs for the $TE10$ mode.

At a given operating frequency f , only those modes with $f > f_c$ can propagate and modes with $f < f_c$ will lead to an imaginary β (or real α), meaning that all field components will decay exponentially away from the source of excitation.

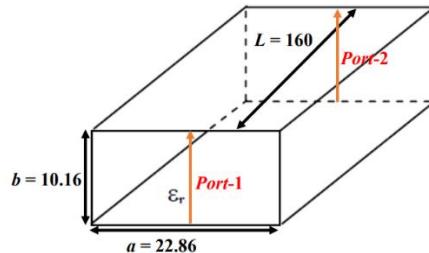
For this experiment, the dimension of the air-filled WR-90 waveguide is $a = 22.86$ mm, $b = 10.16$ mm, we can calculate the f_c for each mode as below:

- 1) $TE10$ mode, $f_c = 6.557$ GHz
- 2) $TE20$ mode, $f_c = 13.114$ GHz
- 3) $TE01$ mode, $f_c = 14.754$ GHz
- 4) $TE11$ mode, $f_c = 16.144$ GHz

Lab results & Analysis :

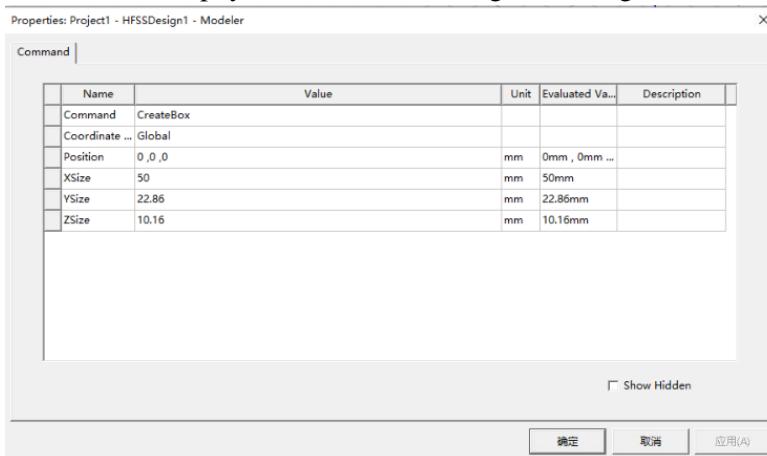
Objective

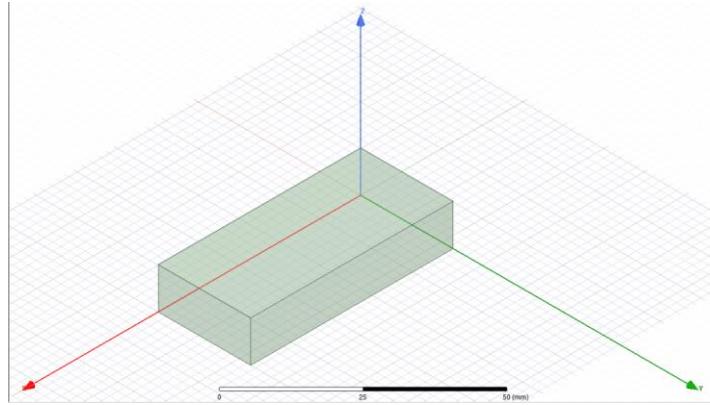
- Using HFSS, simulate an air-filled WR-90 waveguide.
- To obtain the Field patterns, propagation constant for the 3 modes ($TE10$, $TE20$, $TE01$, modes).
- Generate a graph for β vs. frequency for each mode using HFSS



Waveguide model construct

First, we should construct the physical model of rectangular waveguide in HFSS.





Wave Port : General

Name:	1	
Number of Modes:	3	
Mode	Integration Line	Characteristic Impedance (Z_0)
1	Defined	Z_{pi}
2	None	Z_{pi}
3	None	Z_{pi}

Mode Alignment and Polarity:

Set mode polarity using integration lines
 Align modes using integration lines
 Align modes analytically using coordinate system

U Axis Line: Reverse V Direction

Filter modes for reports

Wave Port : General

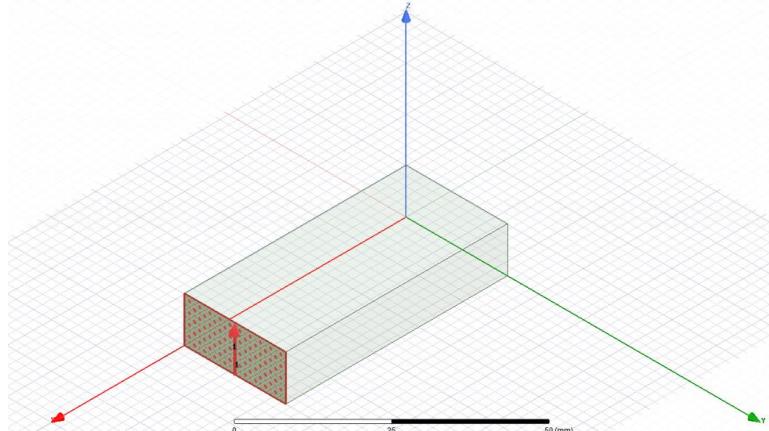
Name:	2	
Number of Modes:	3	
Mode	Integration Line	Characteristic Impedance (Z_0)
1	Defined	Z_{pi}
2	None	Z_{pi}
3	None	Z_{pi}

Mode Alignment and Polarity:

Set mode polarity using integration lines
 Align modes using integration lines
 Align modes analytically using coordinate system

U Axis Line: Reverse V Direction

Filter modes for reports



And then we choose different modes:

For TE10:

Edit post process sources

Spectral Fields | Source Contexts

	Source	Type	Magnitude	Unit	Phase	Unit
1	1:1	Port	1 W		0 deg	
2	1:2	Port	0 W		0 deg	
3	1:3	Port	0 W		0 deg	
4	2:1	Port	0 W		0 deg	
5	2:2	Port	0 W		0 deg	
6	2:3	Port	0 W		0 deg	

Include Port Post Processing Effects

System power for gain calculations:

Specify System Power: W

Use Maximum Available Power

TE20:

Edit post process sources

Spectral Fields | Source Contexts

	Source	Type	Magnitude	Unit	Phase	Unit
1	1:1	Port	0 W		0 deg	
2	1:2	Port	1 W		0 deg	
3	1:3	Port	0 W		0 deg	
4	2:1	Port	0 W		0 deg	
5	2:2	Port	0 W		0 deg	
6	2:3	Port	0 W		0 deg	

Include Port Post Processing Effects

System power for gain calculations:

Specify System Power: W

Use Maximum Available Power

TE01:

Edit post process sources

Spectral Fields | Source Contexts

	Source	Type	Magnitude	Unit	Phase	Unit
1	1:1	Port	0 W		0 deg	
2	1:2	Port	0 W		0 deg	
3	1:3	Port	1 W		0 deg	
4	2:1	Port	0 W		0 deg	
5	2:2	Port	0 W		0 deg	
6	2:3	Port	0 W		0 deg	

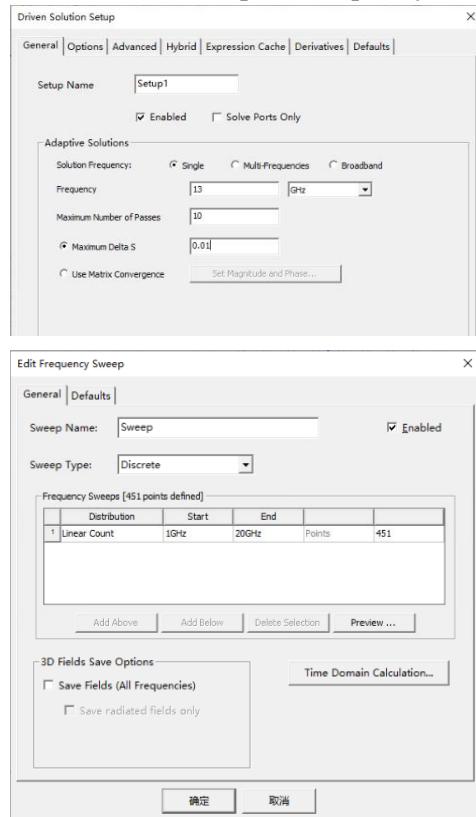
Include Port Post Processing Effects

System power for gain calculations:

Specify System Power: W

Use Maximum Available Power

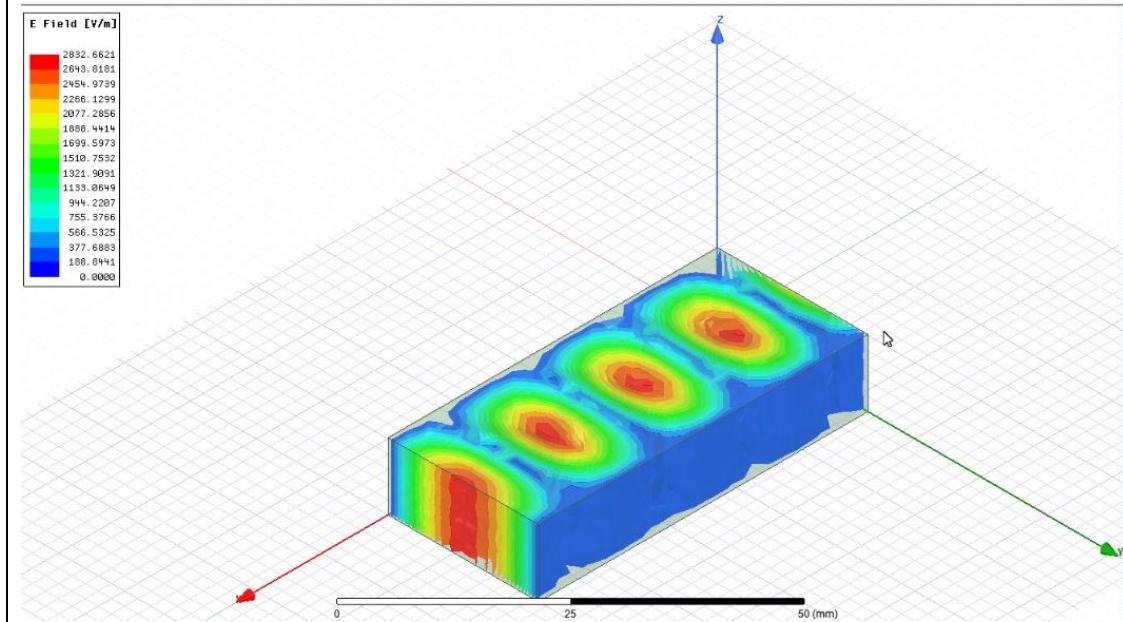
And we set the setup and frequency sweep.

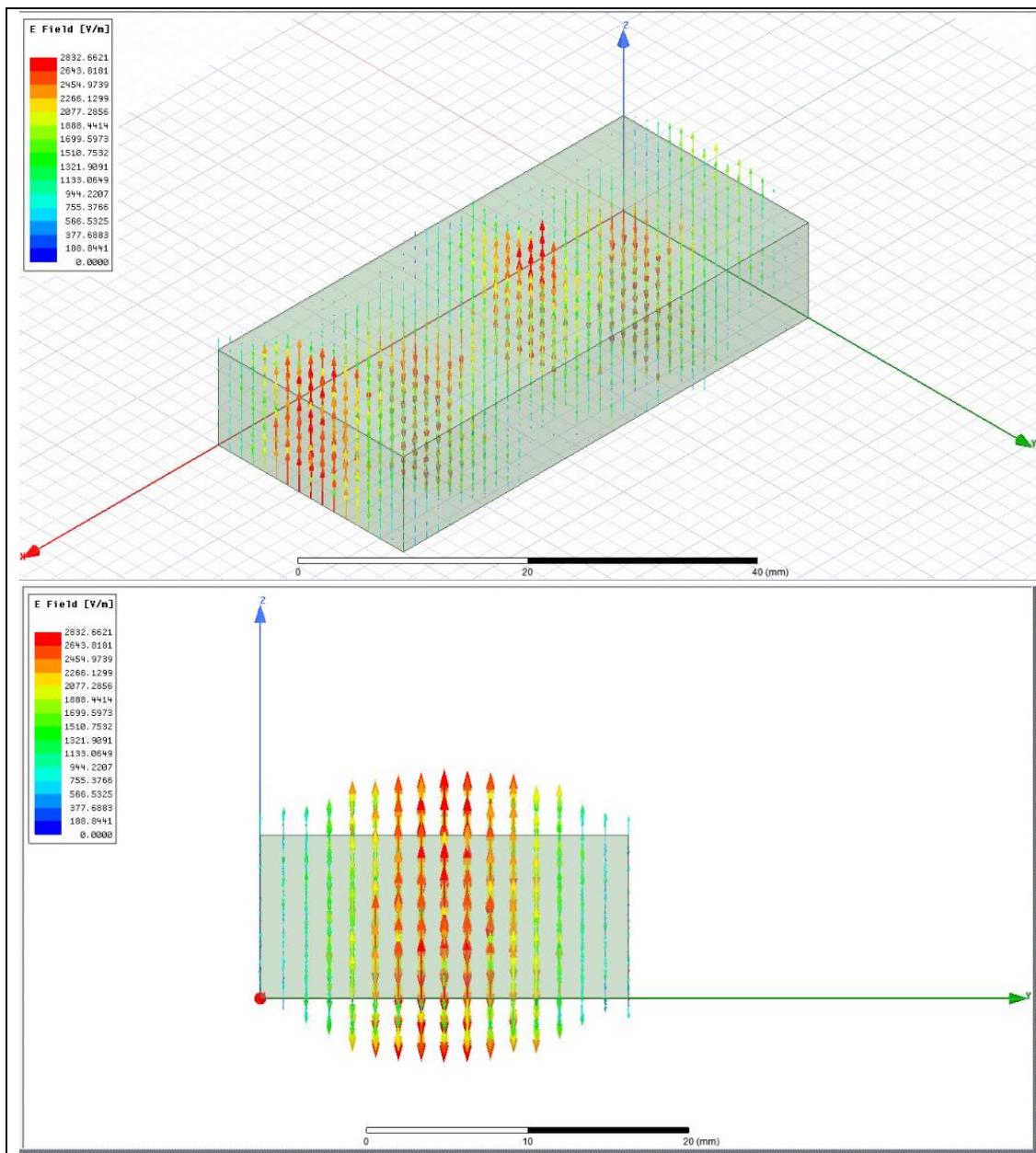


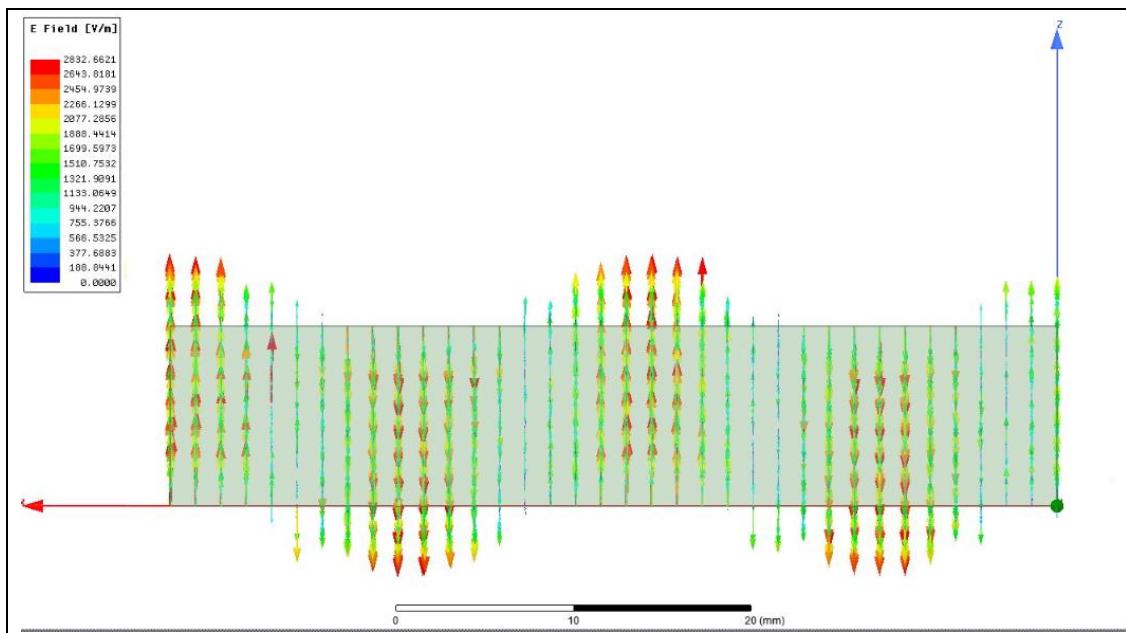
Electric Field and Magnetic field distribution

TE10:

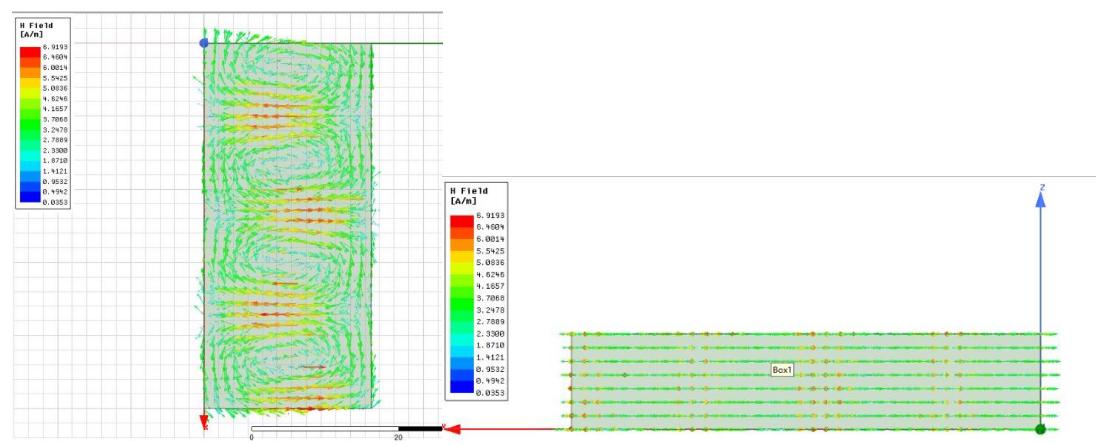
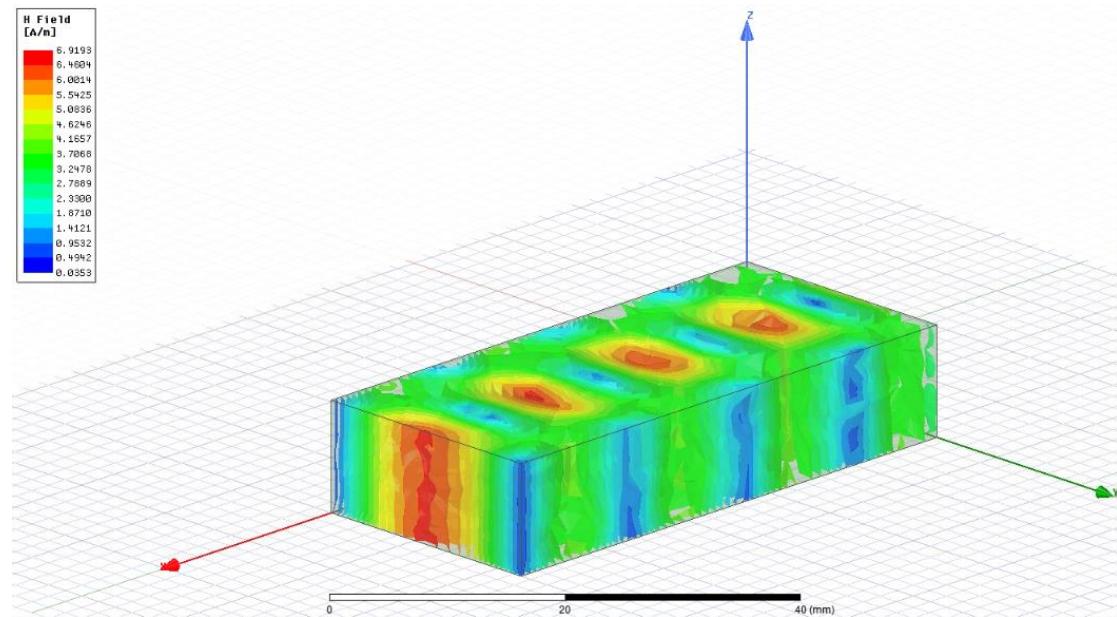
Center frequency: 13GHZ



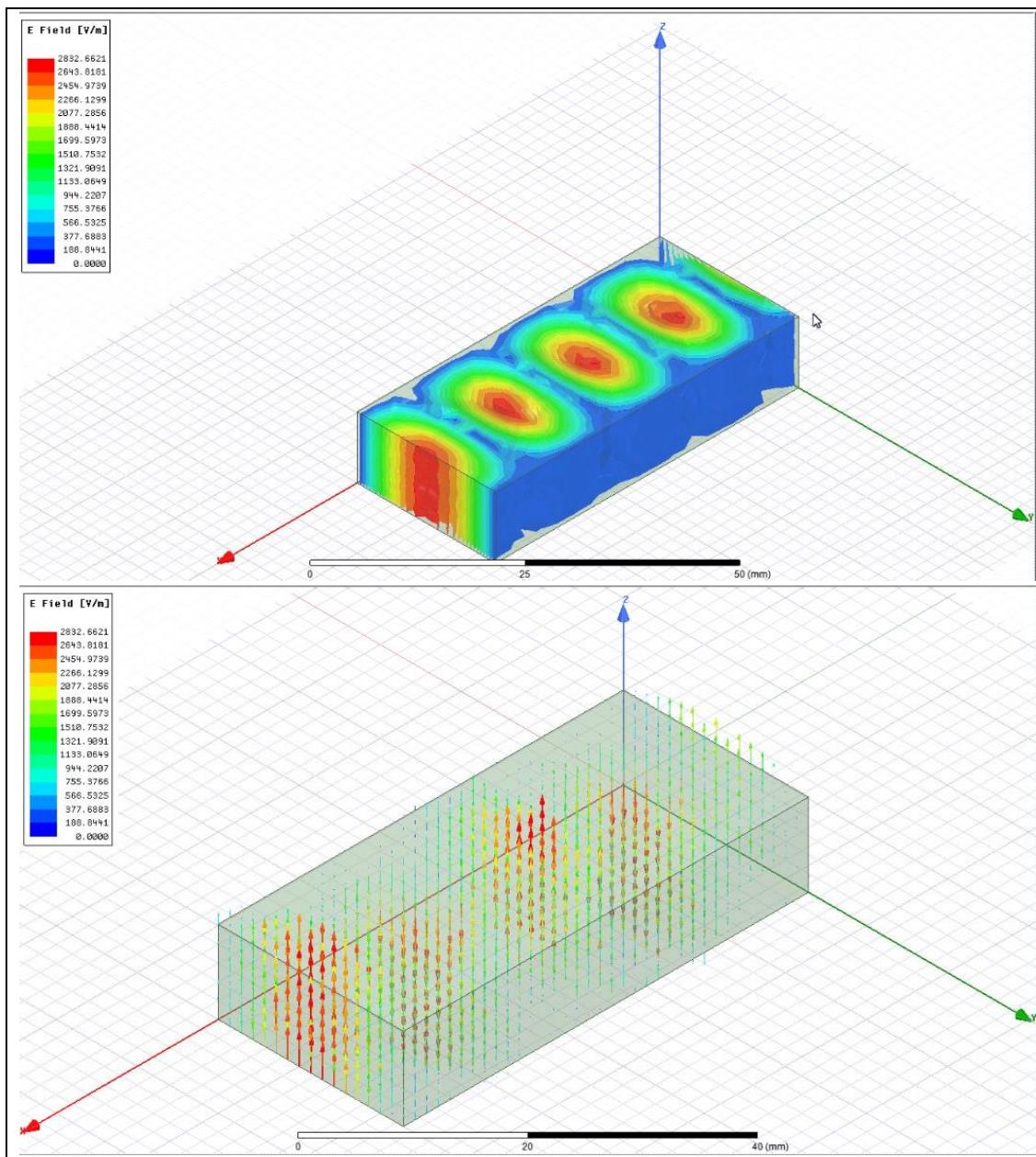


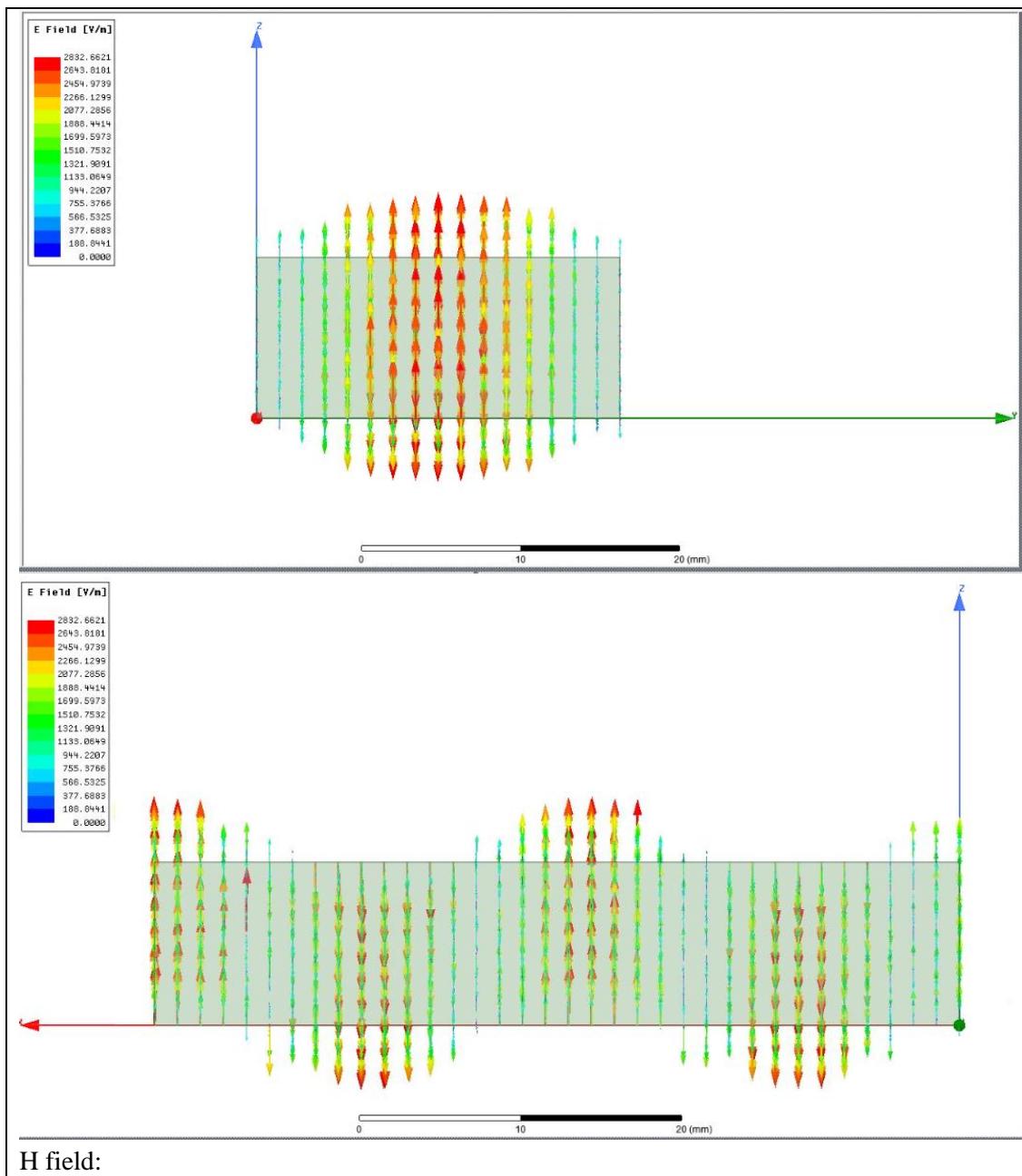


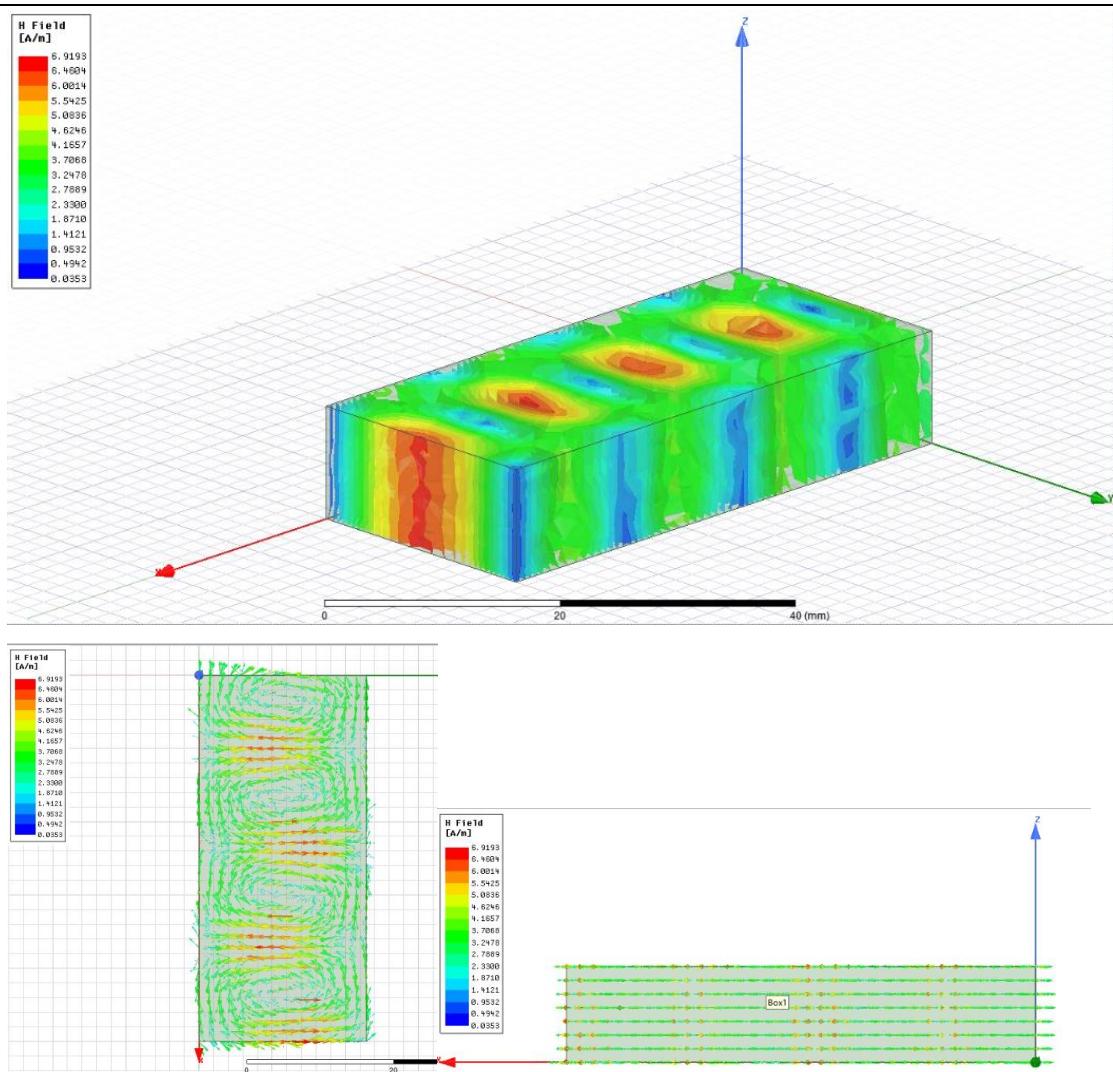
H field:



Center frequency: 15GHZ





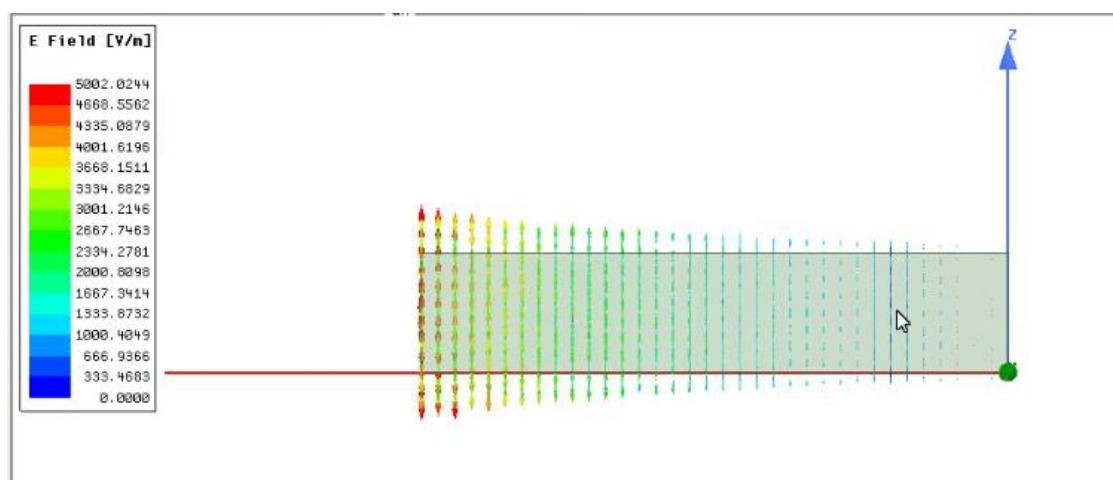
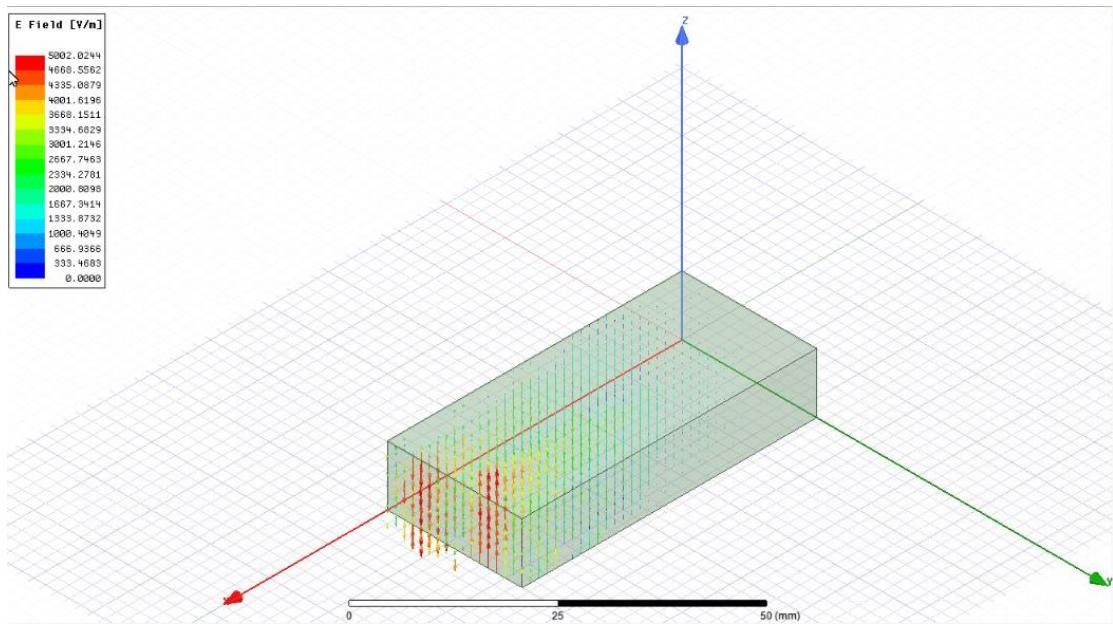
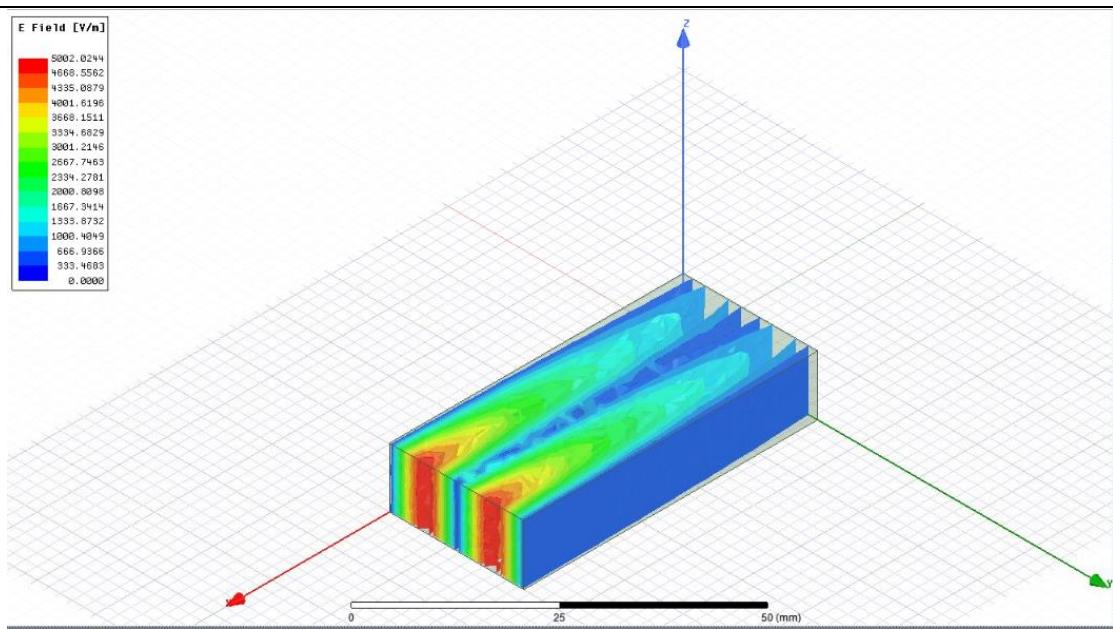


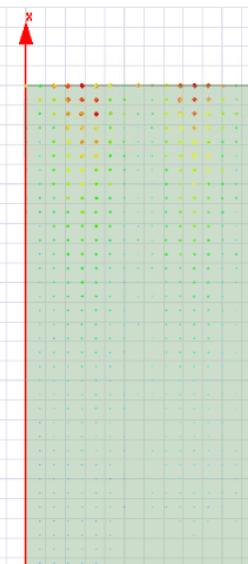
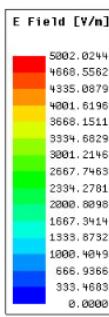
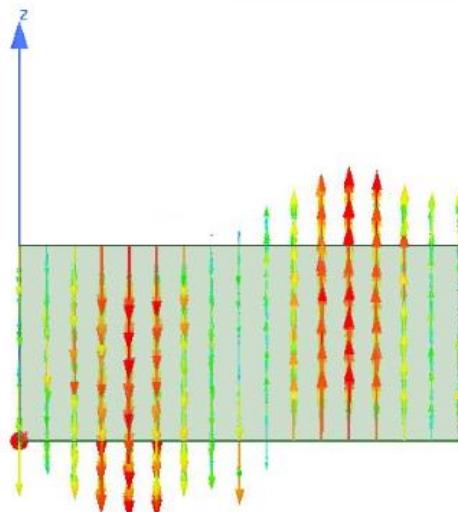
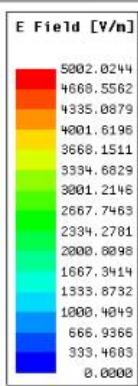
Analysis:

The figure above illustrates the electric and magnetic field distribution of the TE10 mode, which aligns with the theoretical formulas introduced in the introduction. Specifically, the agreement is achieved by substituting $m=1$ and $n=0$ into the equations. Additionally, it can be observed that the distribution patterns at the center frequencies of 13 GHz and 15 GHz are identical. This is because the cutoff frequency of the TE10 mode is 6.557 GHz, and both 13 GHz and 15 GHz center frequencies are above the cutoff frequency, indicating that they are not affected by the cutoff.

TE20:

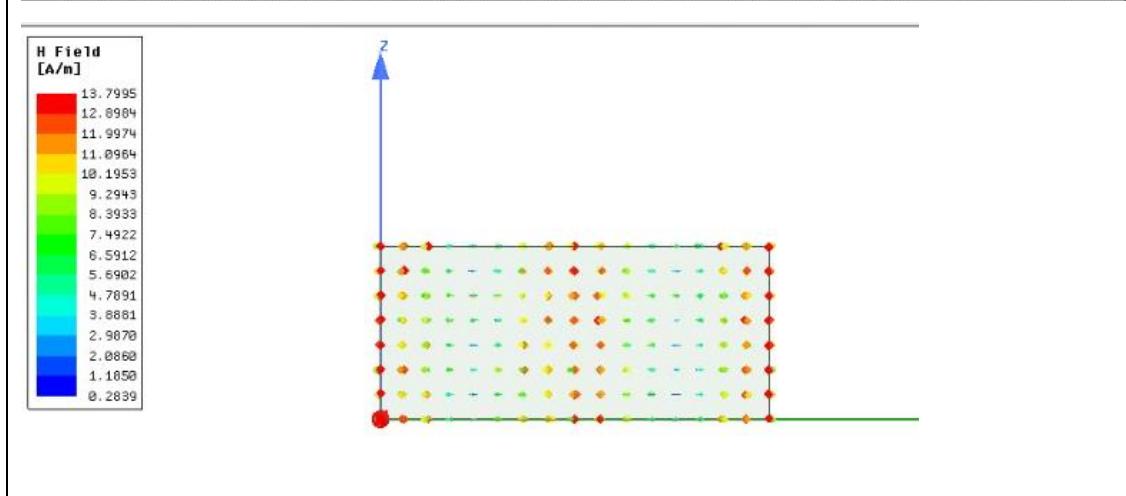
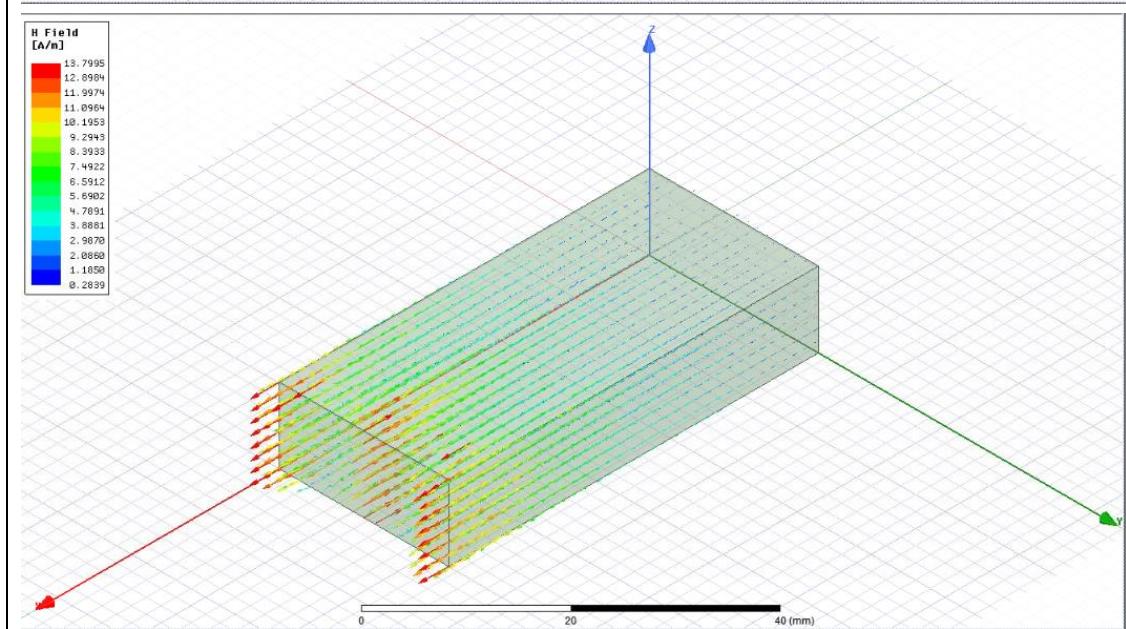
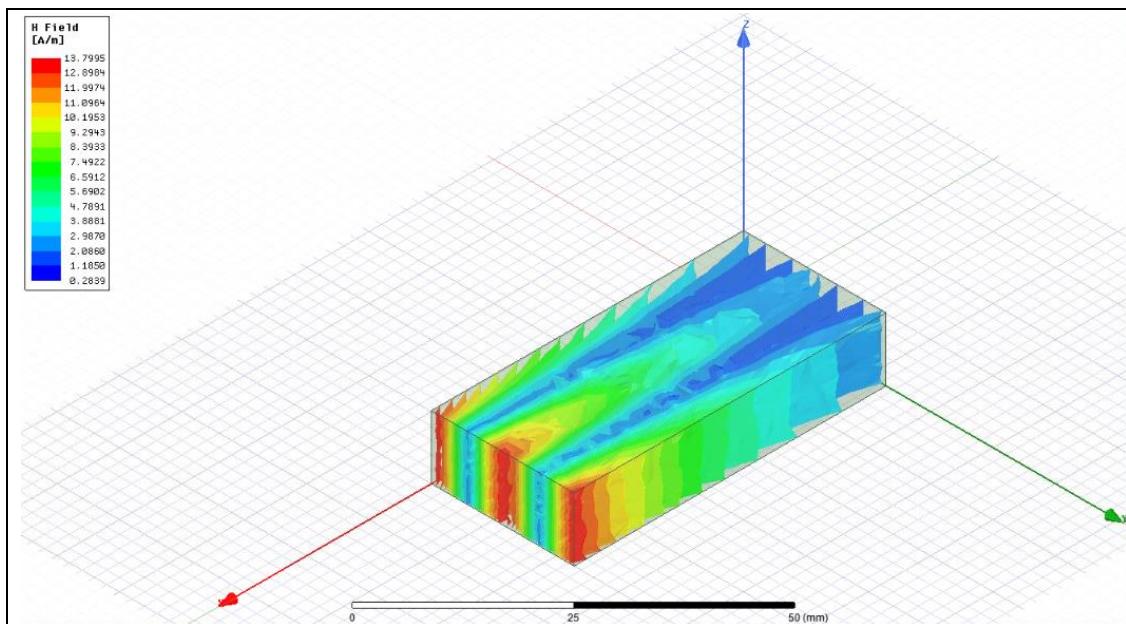
Center frequency: 13GHz

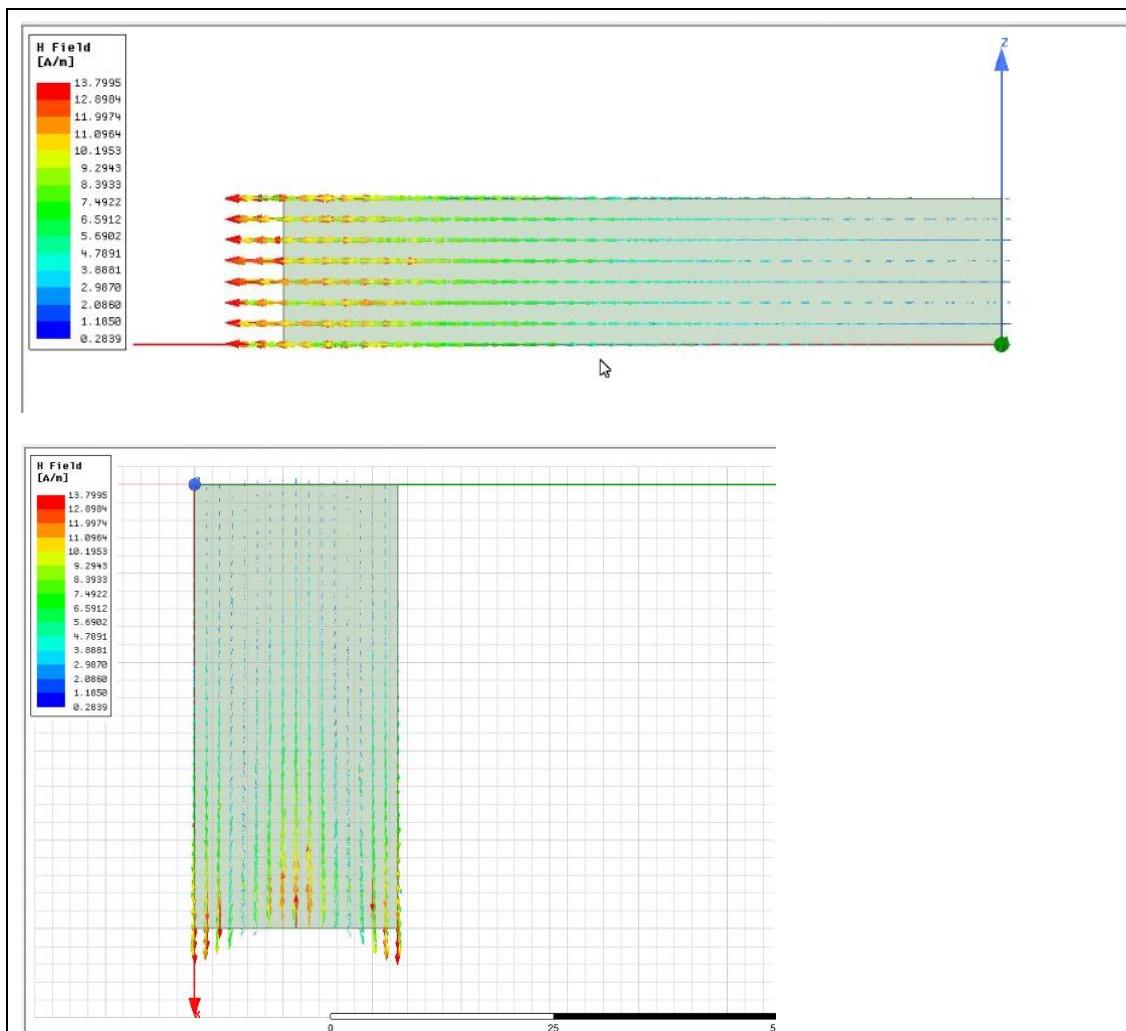




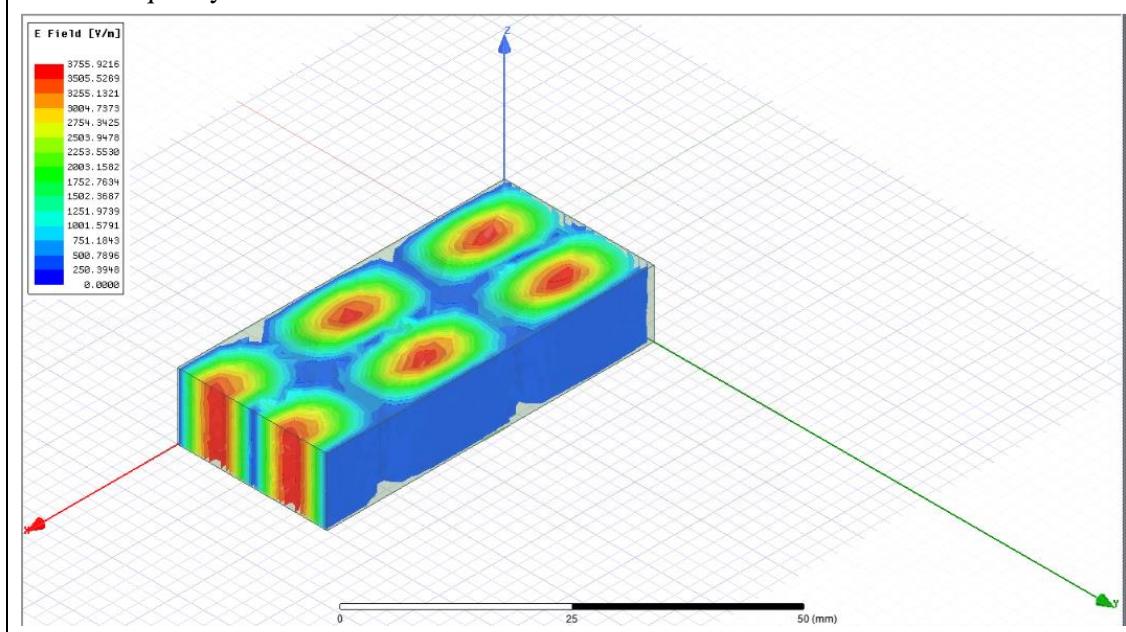
0 25 50 (mm)

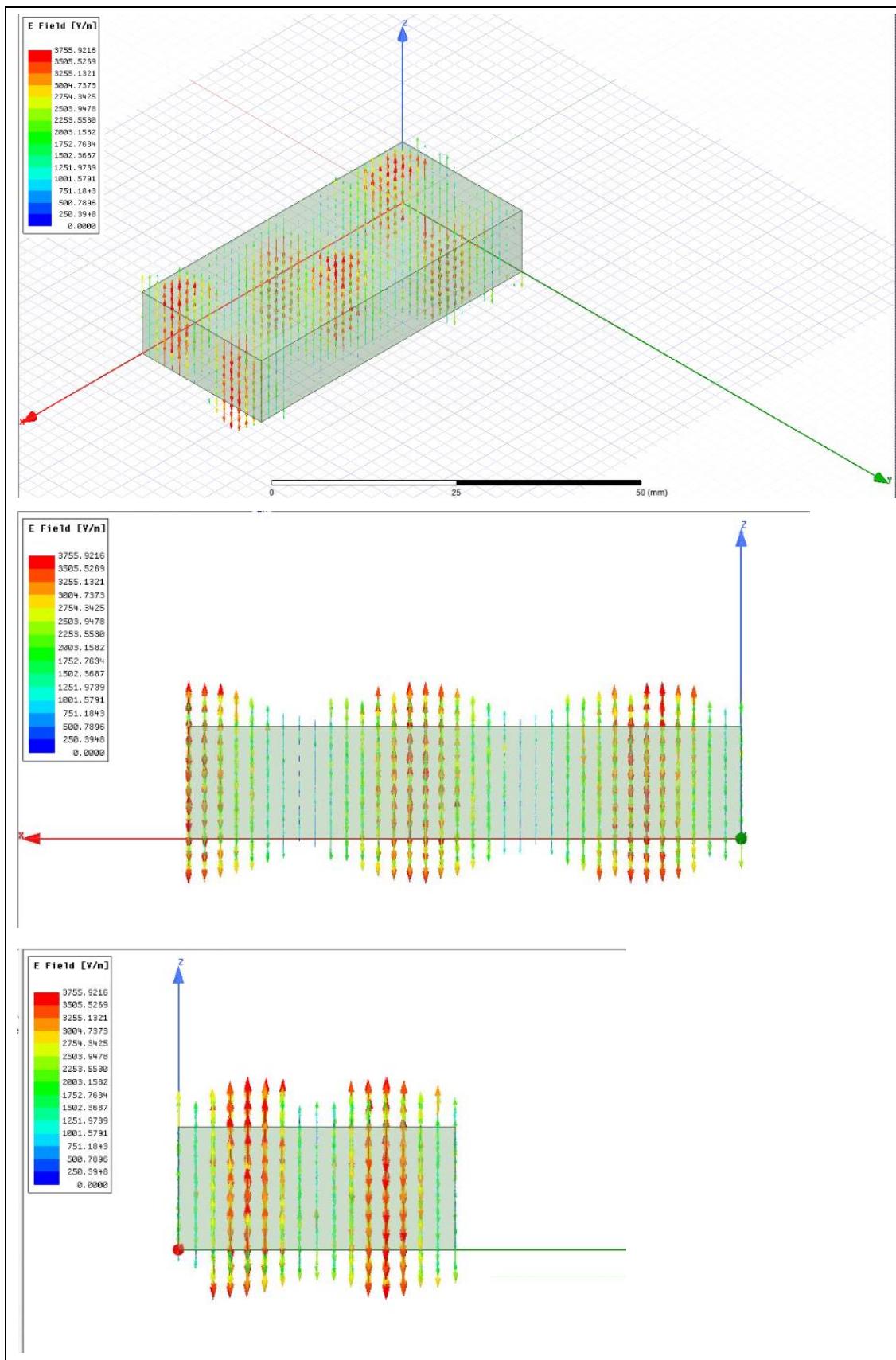
H field:

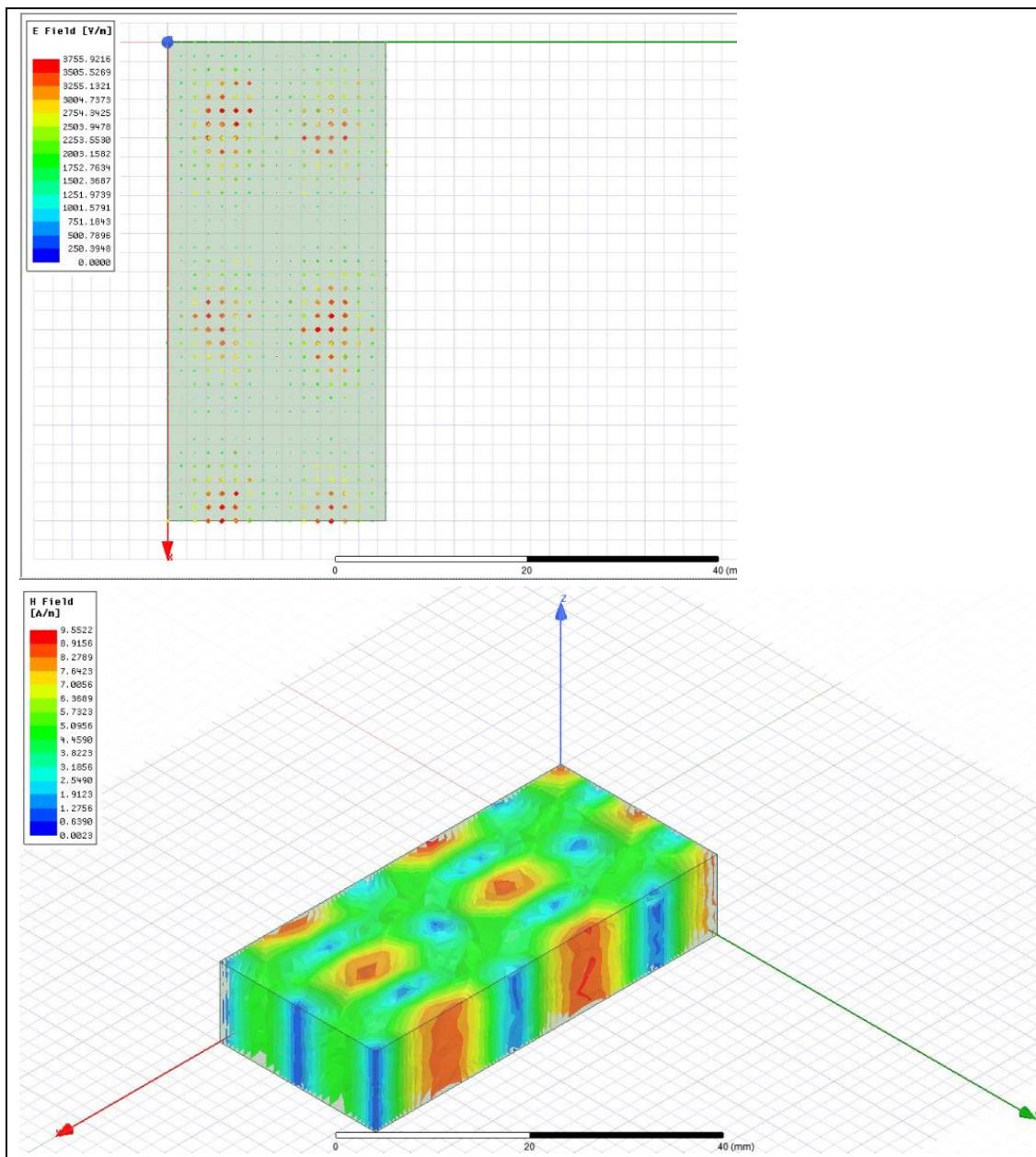


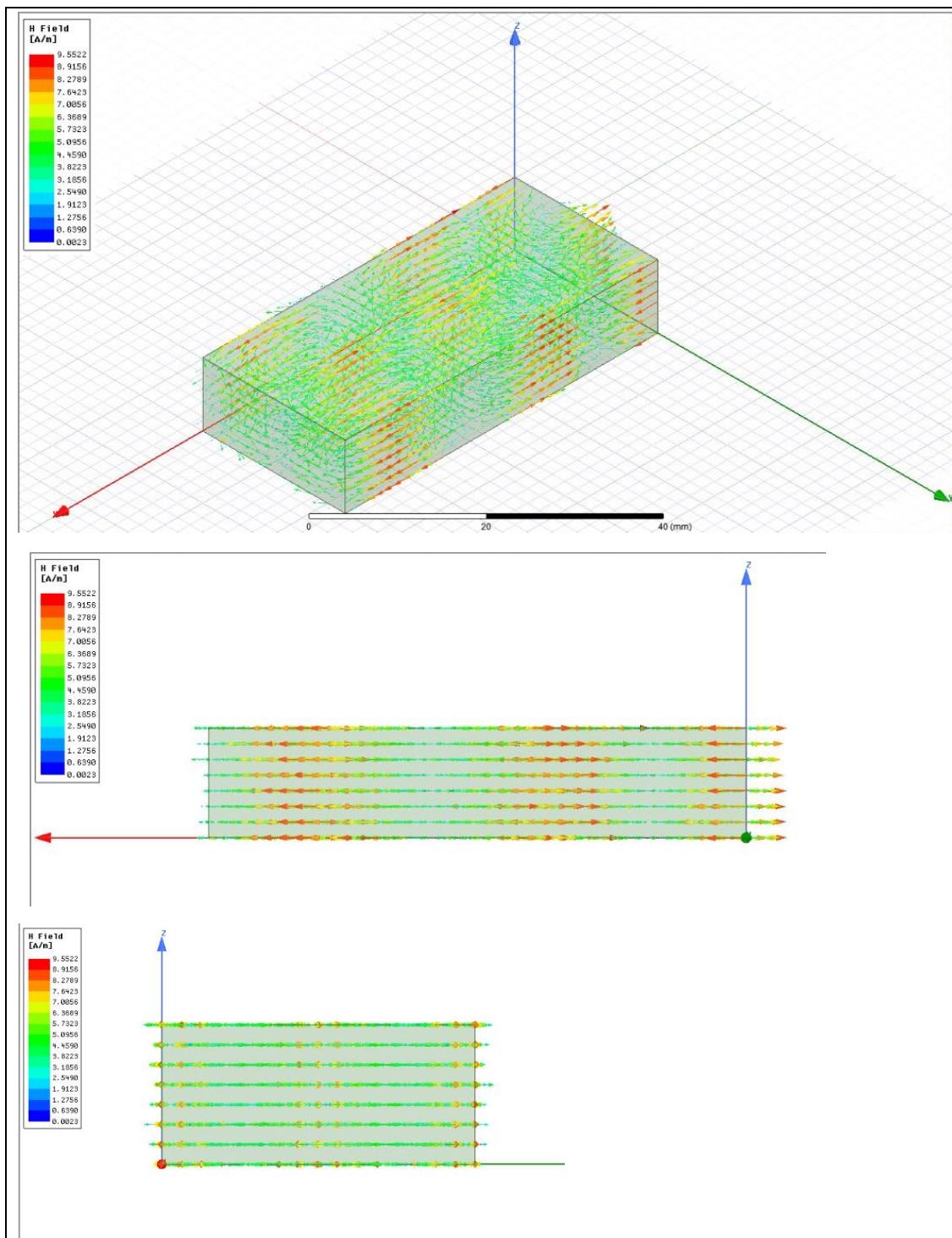


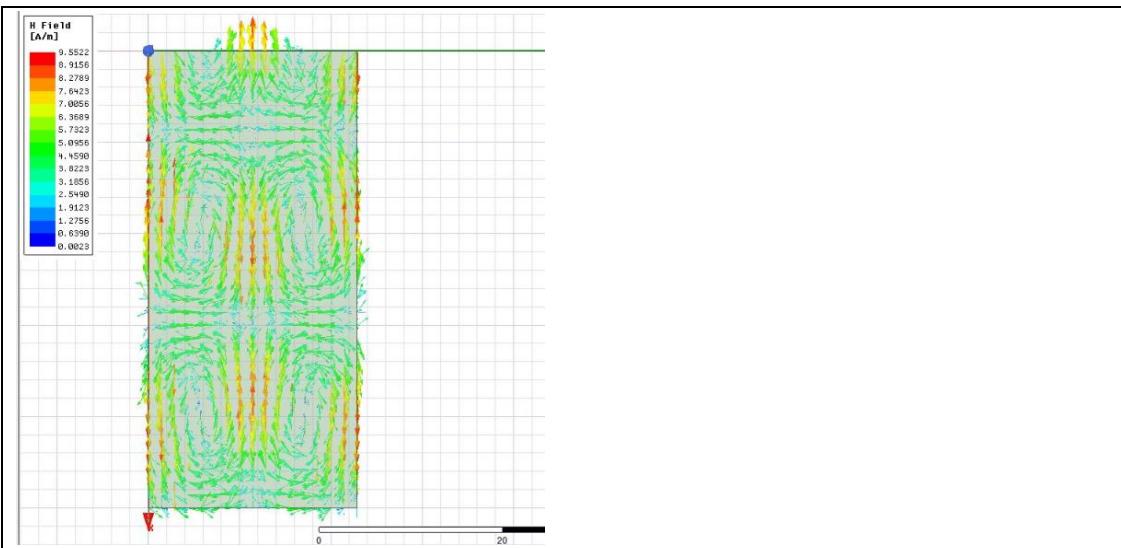
Center frequency: 15GHZ









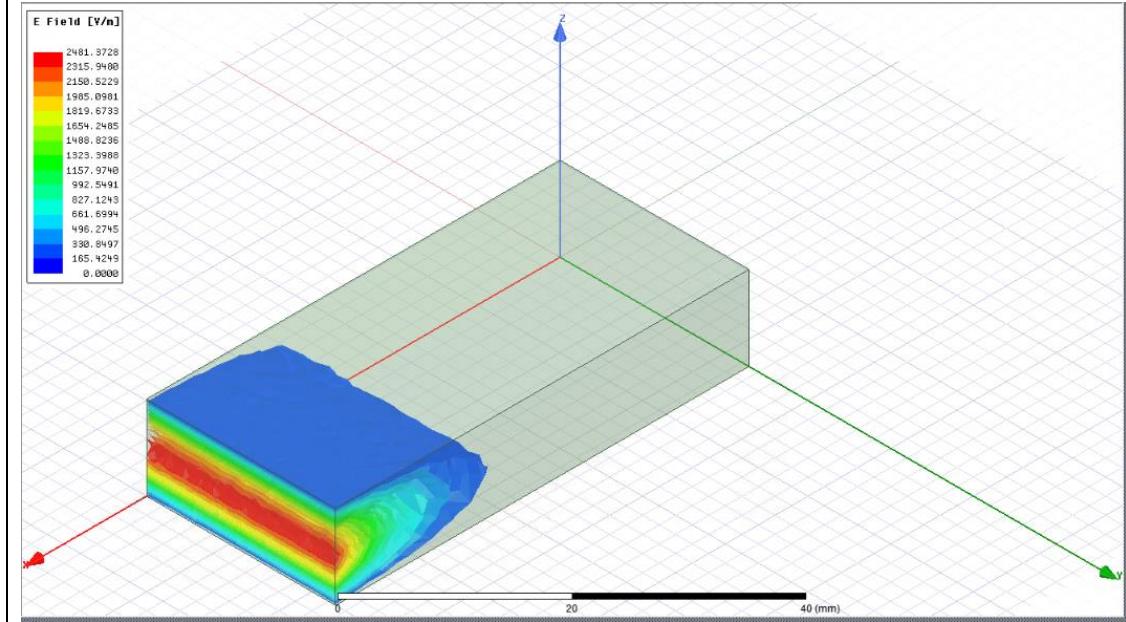


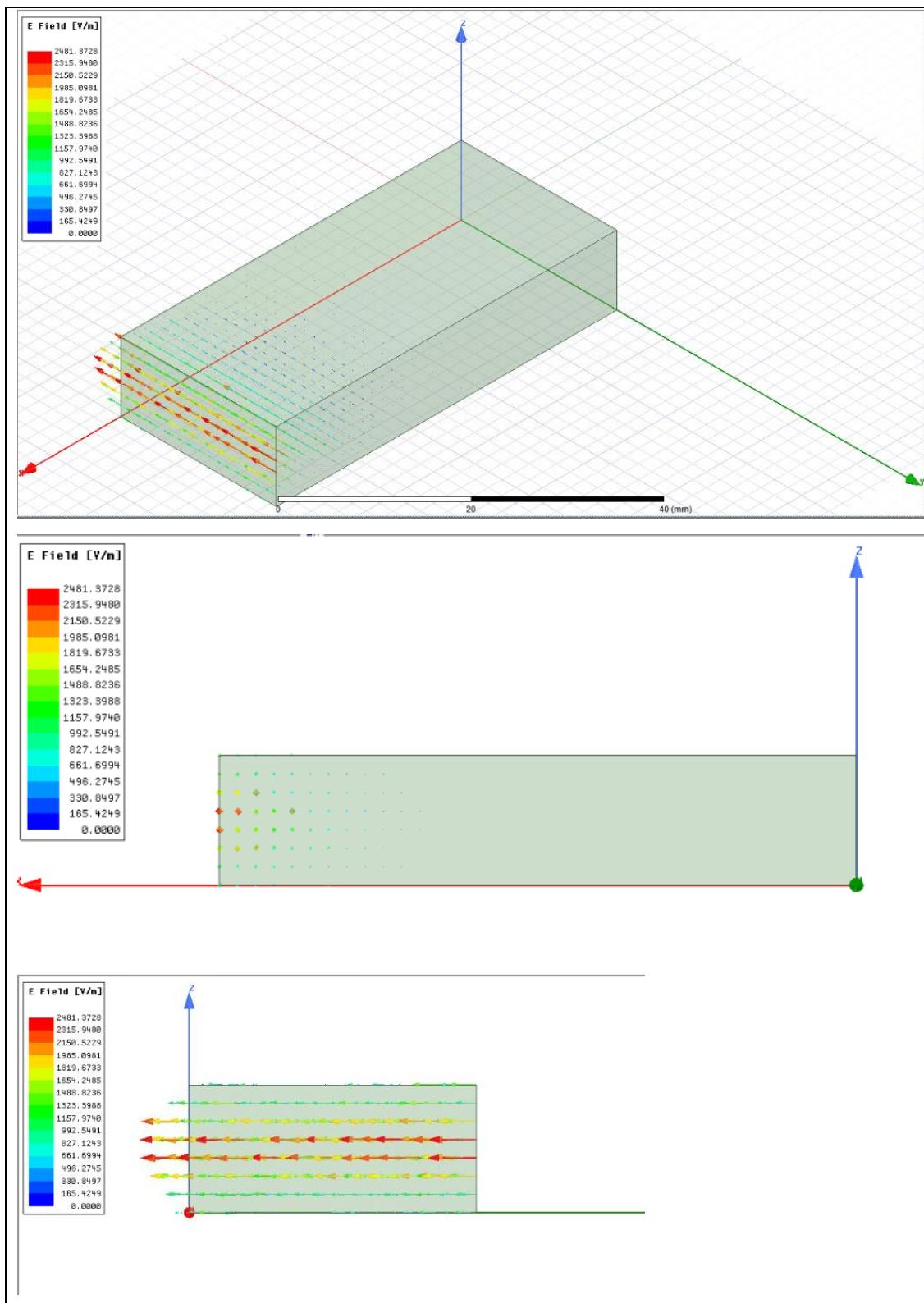
Analysis:

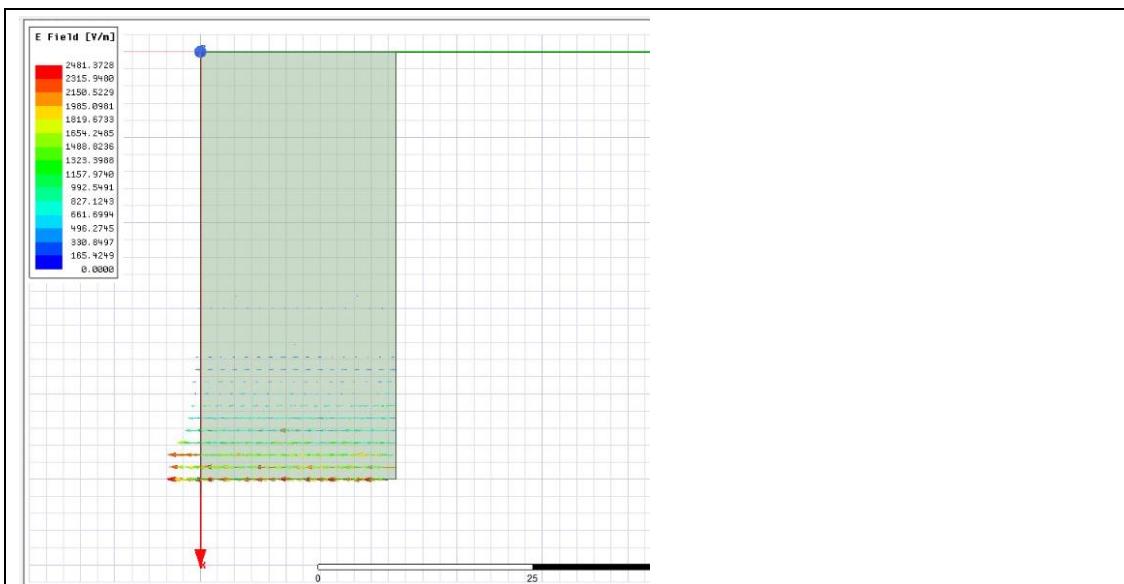
The figure above illustrates the electric and magnetic field distribution of the TE20 mode, which aligns with the theoretical formulas introduced in the introduction. Specifically, the agreement is achieved by substituting $m=2$ and $n=0$ into the equations. It can be observed that the distribution patterns at the center frequencies of 13 GHz and 15 GHz are not the same. The distribution pattern at 15 GHz appears normal, while at 13 GHz, it is not. This is because the cutoff frequency of the TE20 mode is 13.114 GHz. The center frequency of 13 GHz is below the cutoff frequency, preventing the normal formation of the TE20 mode's electromagnetic field distribution. Only at 15 GHz can the TE20 mode be displayed correctly.

TE01:

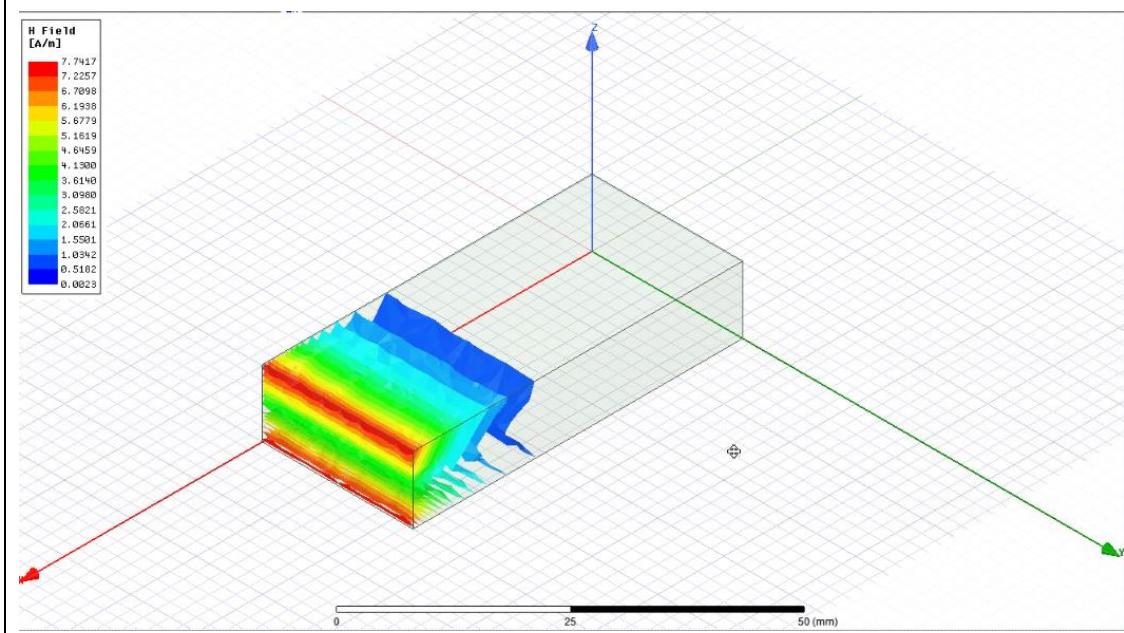
Center frequency: 13GHz

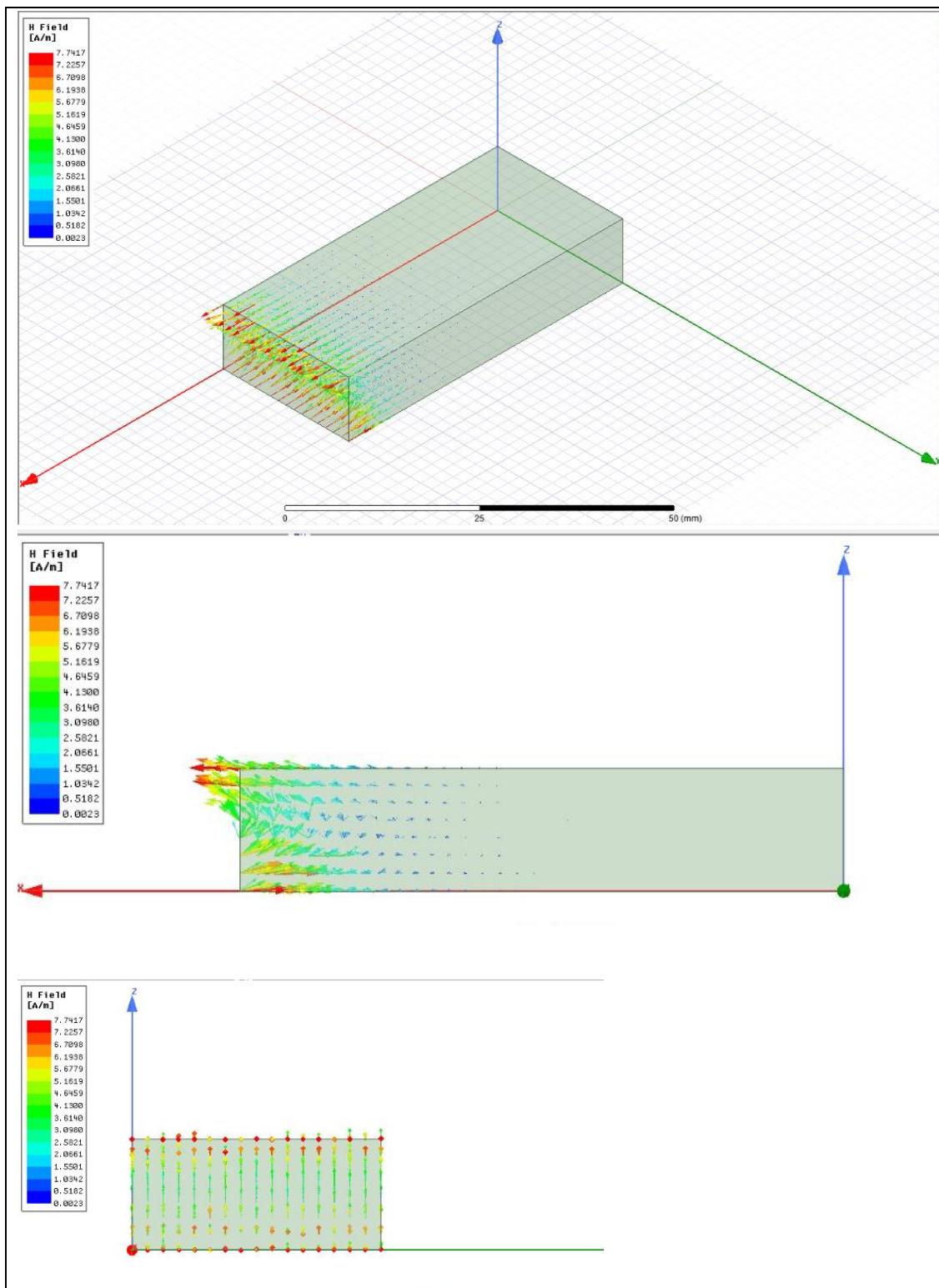


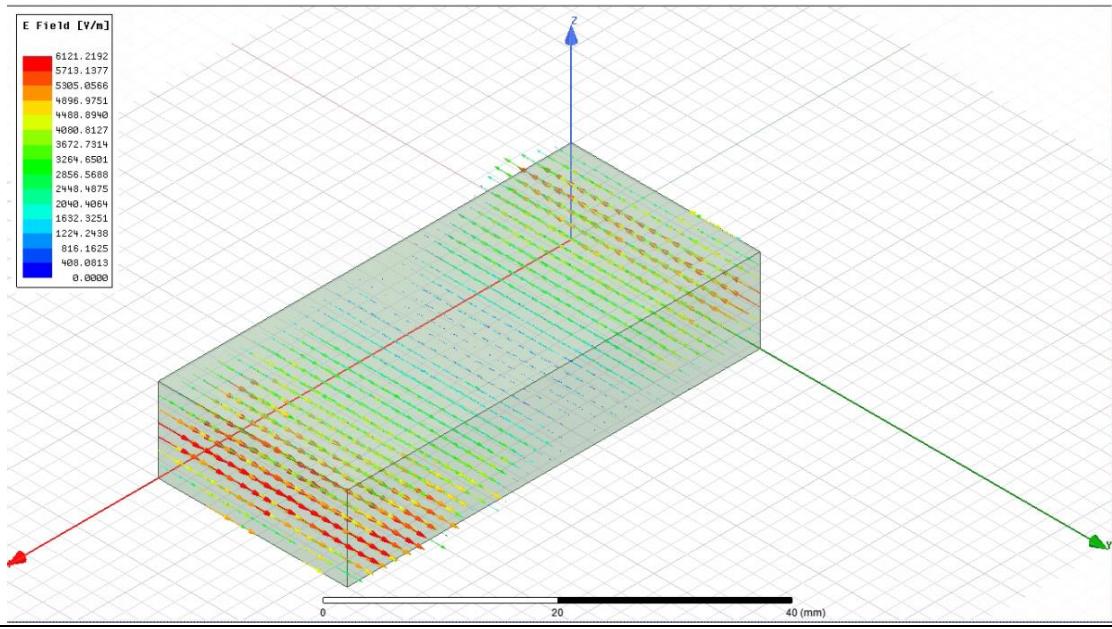
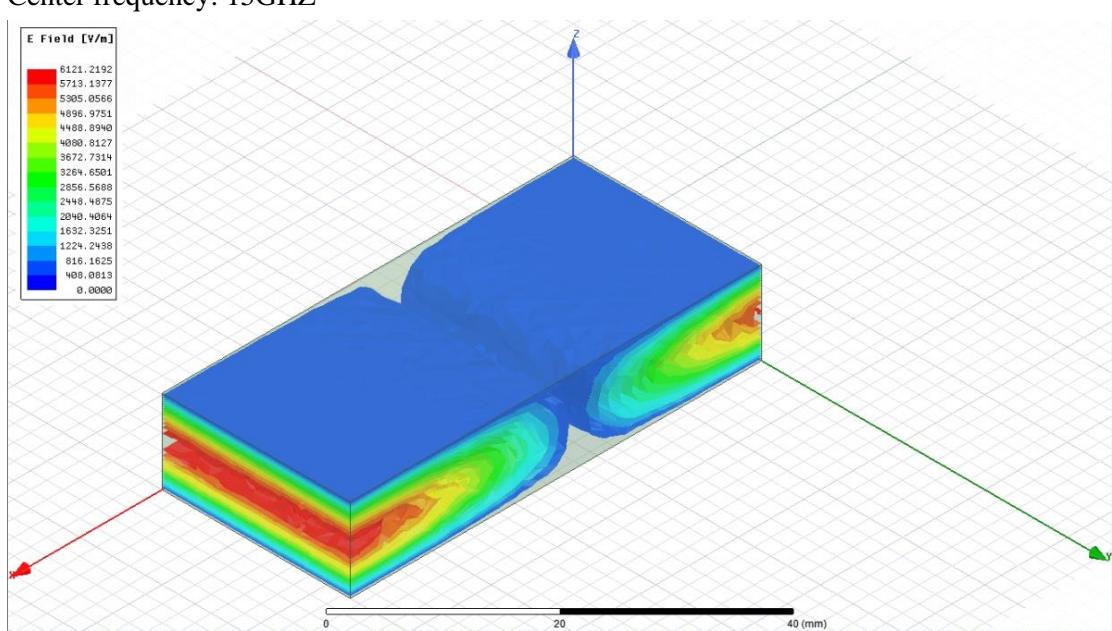
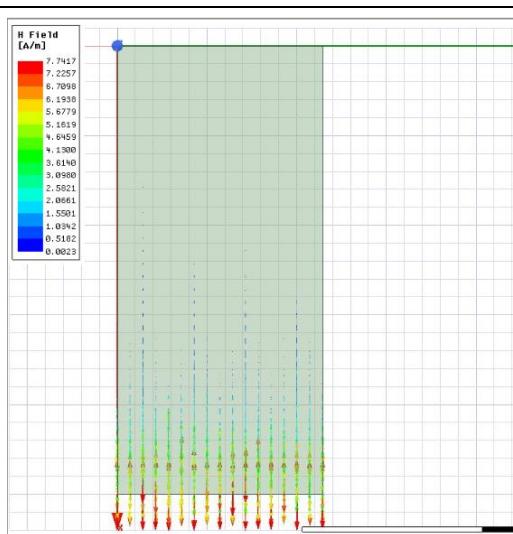


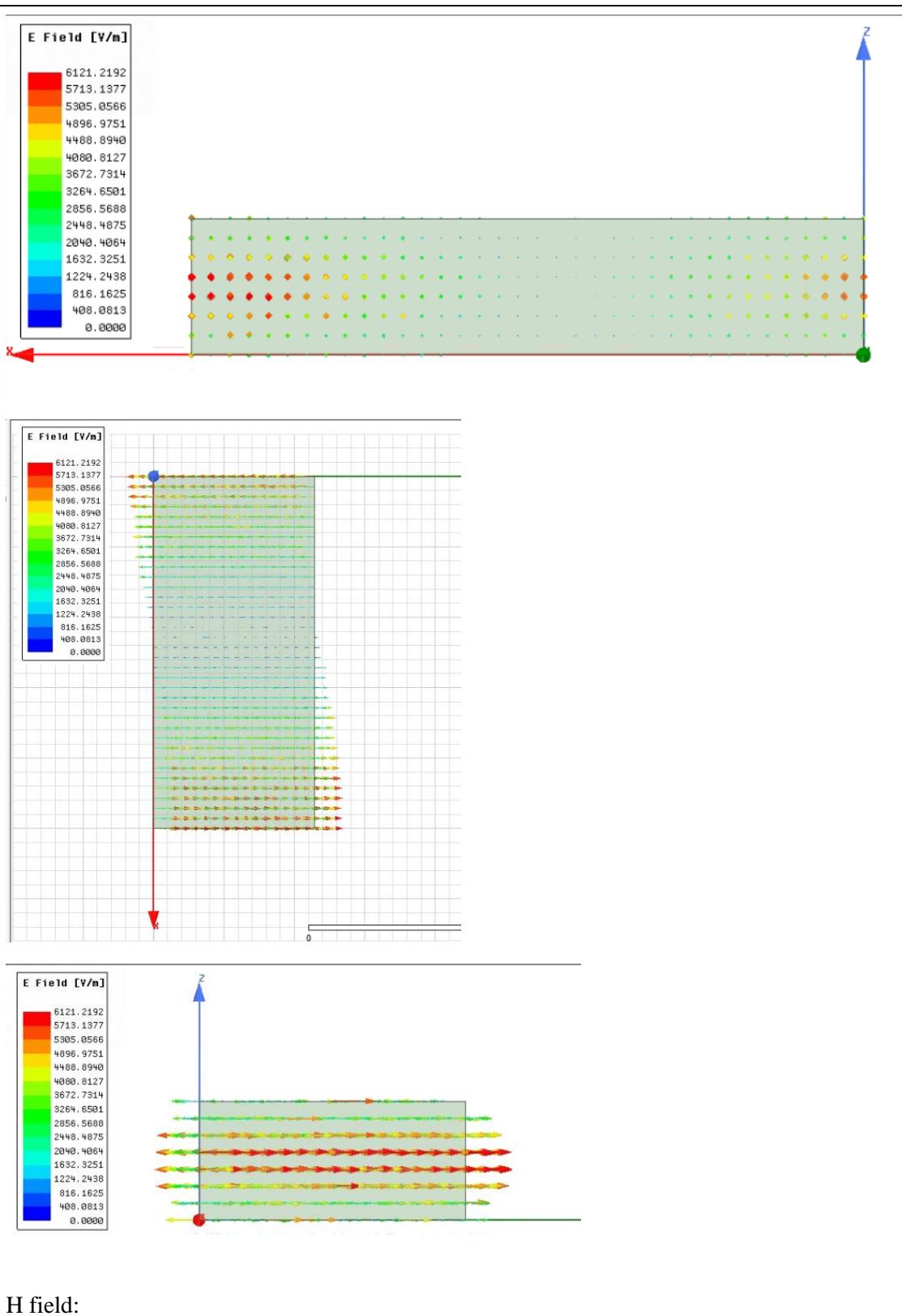


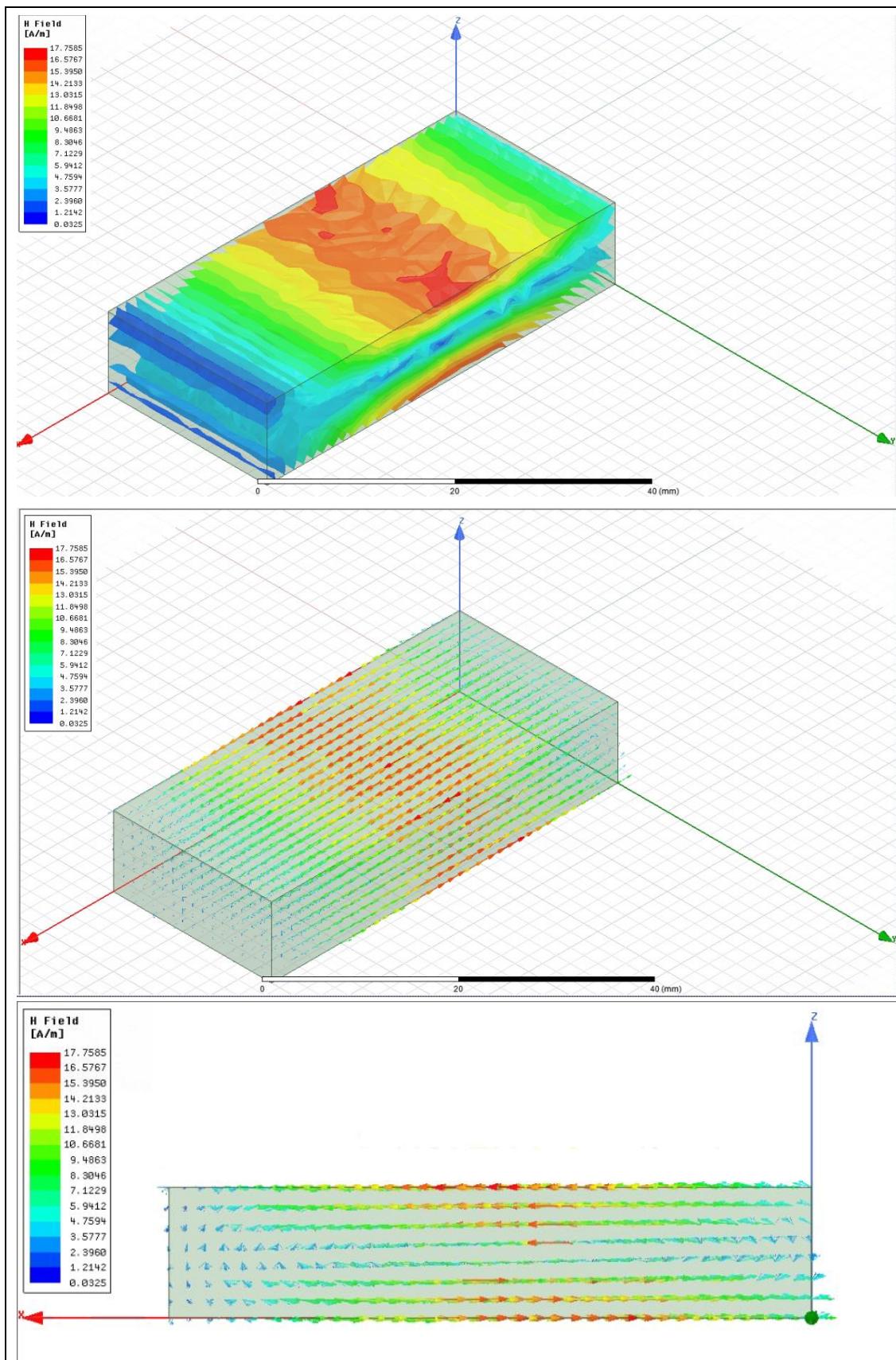
H field:

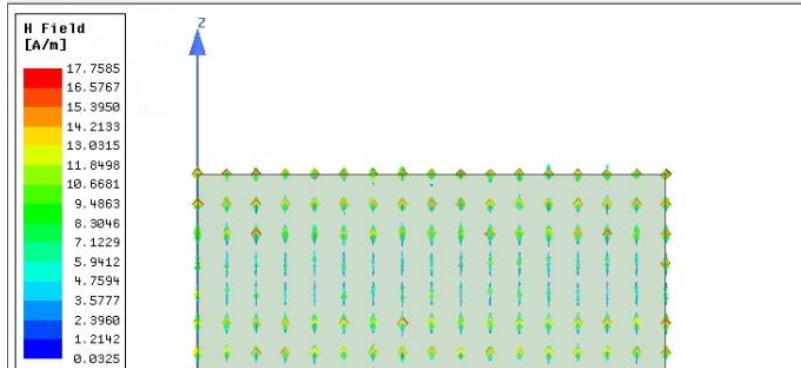
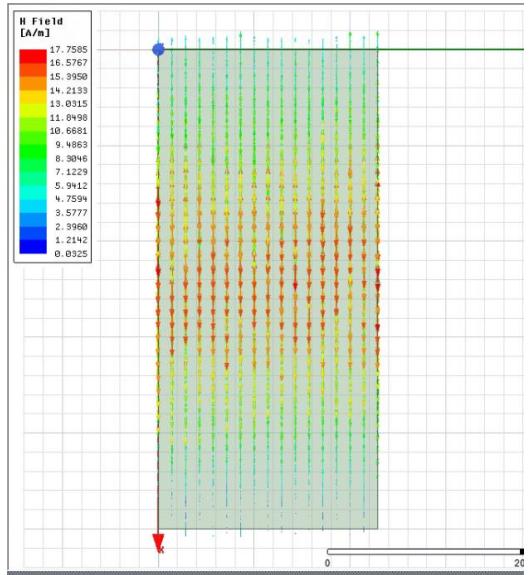












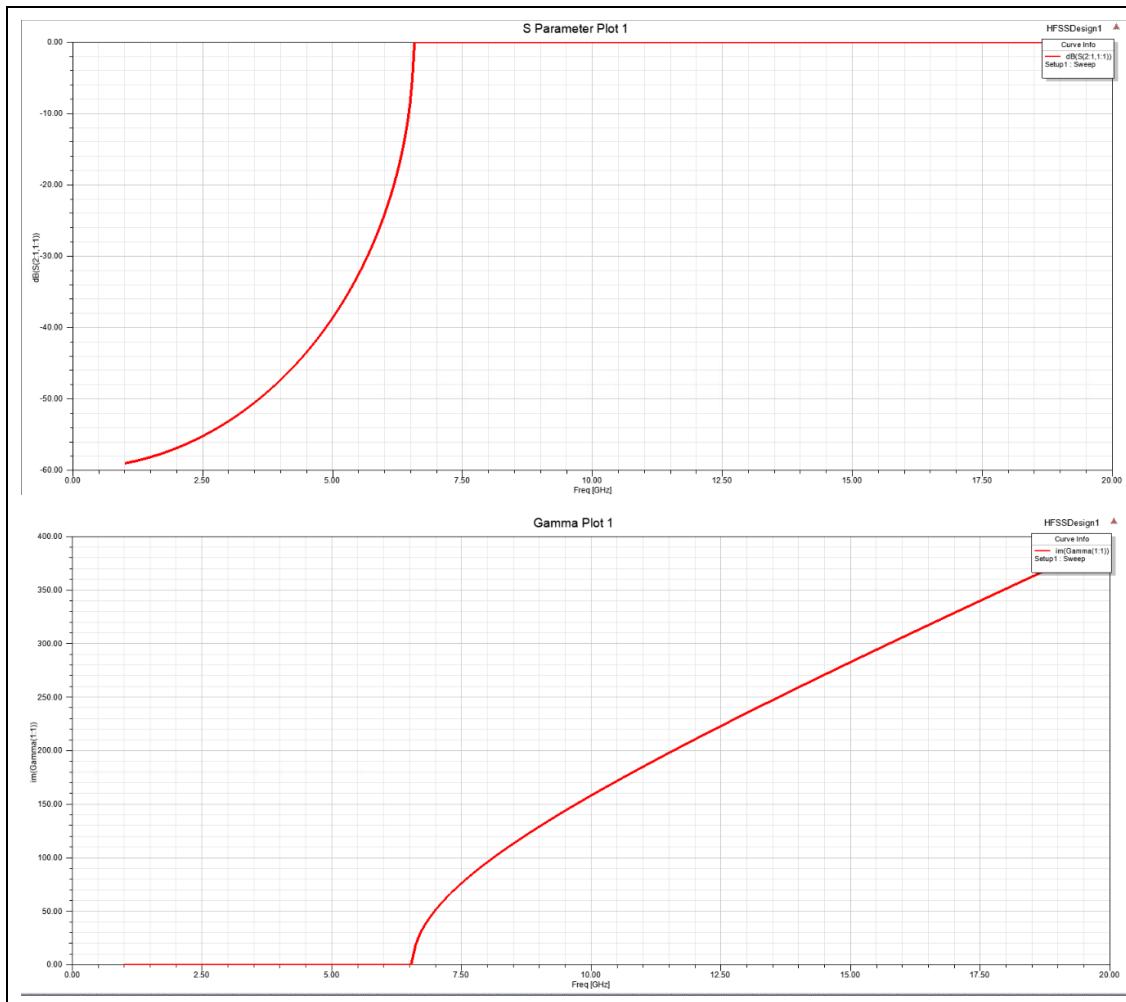
Analysis:

The figure above illustrates the electric and magnetic field distribution of the TE01 mode, which aligns with the theoretical formulas introduced in the introduction. Specifically, the agreement is achieved by substituting $m=0$ and $n=1$ into the equations. It can be observed that the distribution patterns at the center frequencies of 13 GHz and 15 GHz are not the same. The distribution pattern at 15 GHz appears normal, while at 13 GHz, it is not. This is because the cutoff frequency of the TE20 mode is 14.754 GHz. The center frequency of 13 GHz is below the cutoff frequency, preventing the normal formation of the TE01 mode's electromagnetic field distribution. Only at 15 GHz can the TE01 mode be displayed correctly.

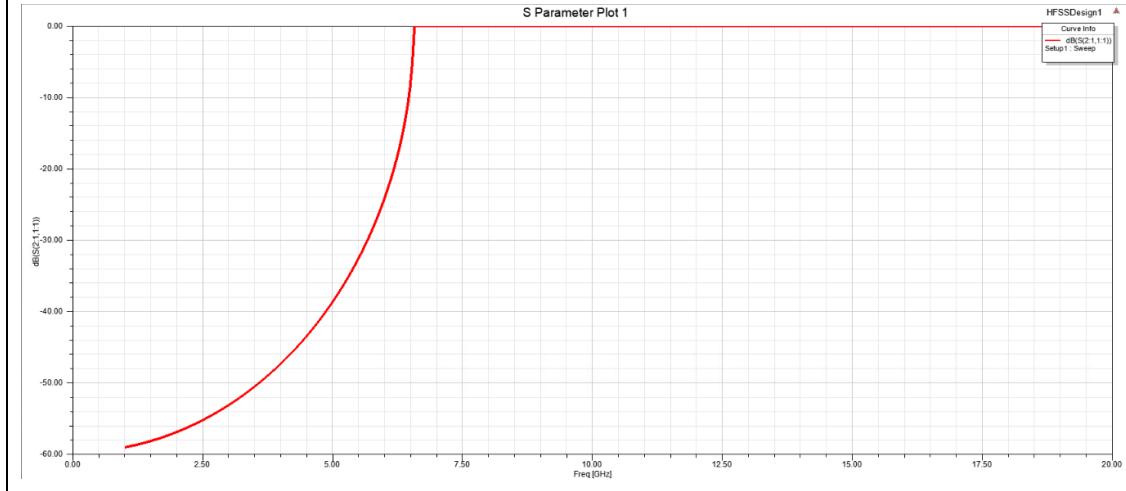
S-parameter & Gamma-parameter Analysis

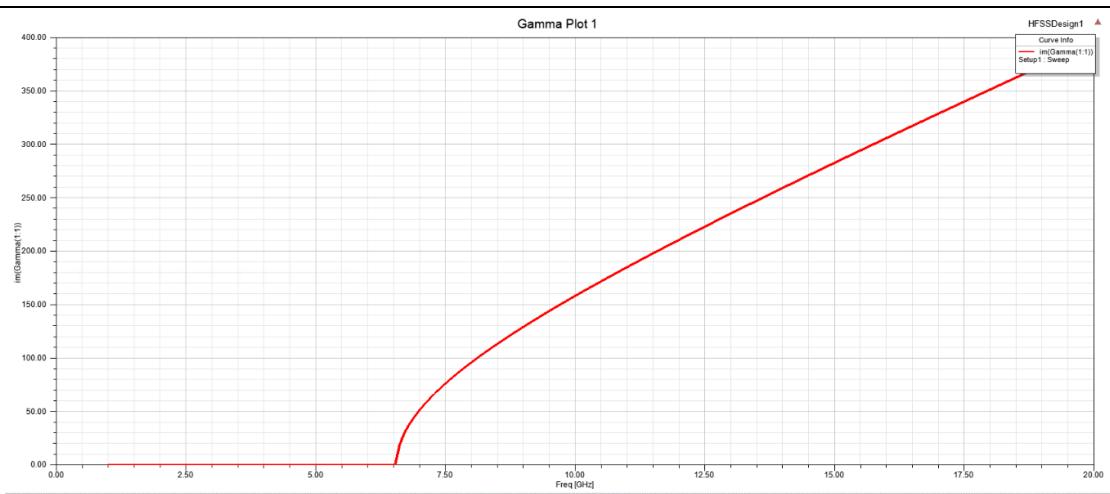
TE10:

Center frequency: 13GHz



Center frequency: 15GHZ



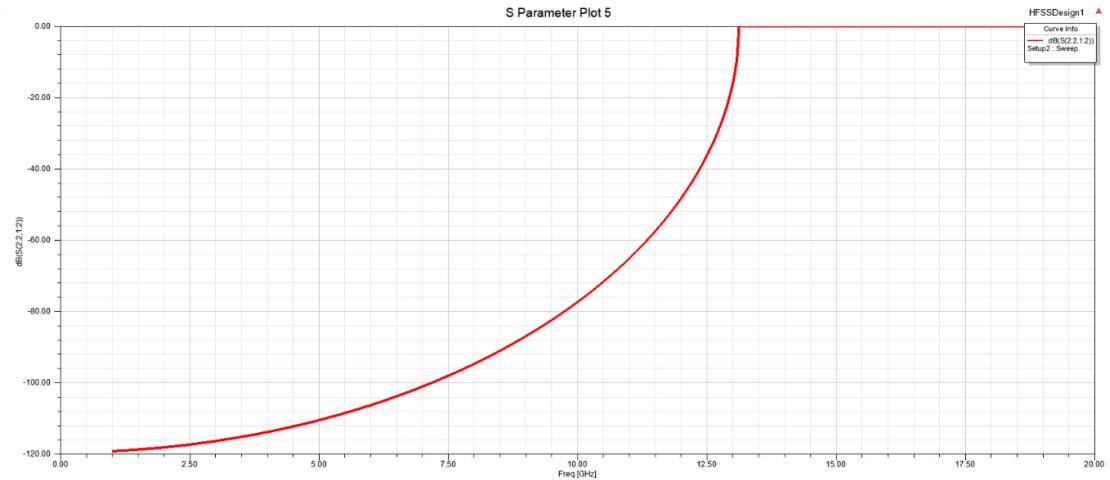


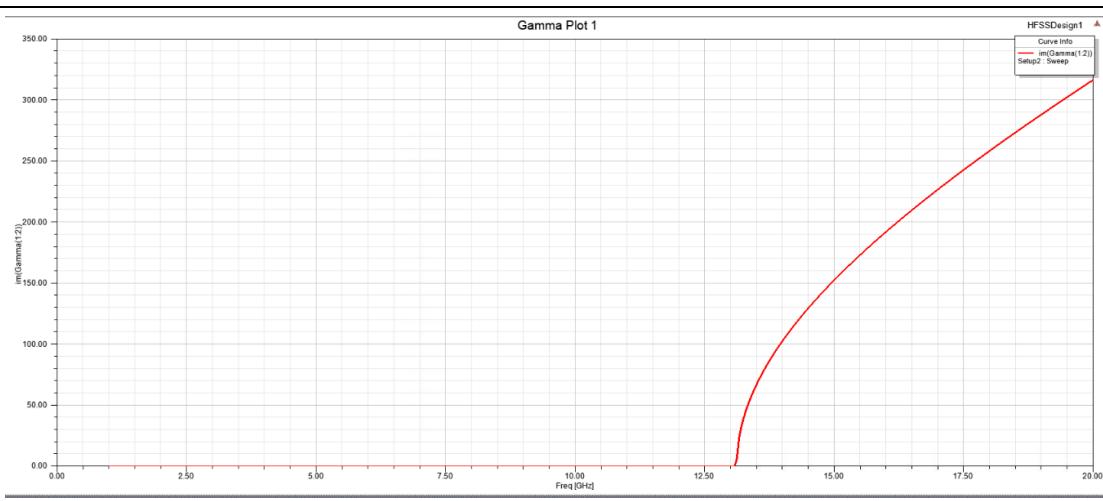
Analysis:

From the graph, it can be observed that the cutoff frequency aligns with the theoretically calculated cutoff frequency of 6.557 GHz for the TE10 mode mentioned earlier, indicating that both the theory and simulation are consistent. Additionally, there is no distinction between the center frequencies of 13 GHz and 15 GHz in the parameter graph. This is because these parameter graphs represent overall patterns and are not influenced by specific center frequencies.

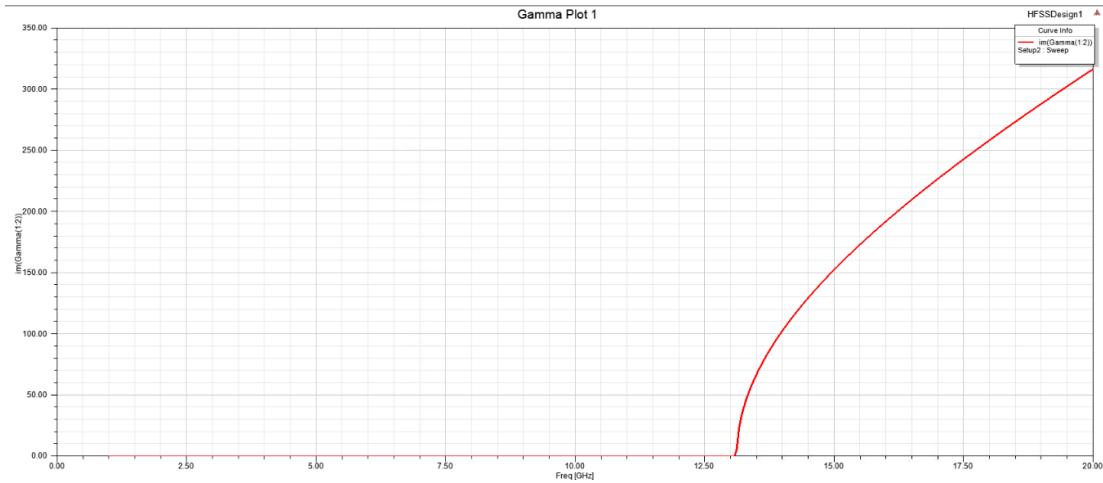
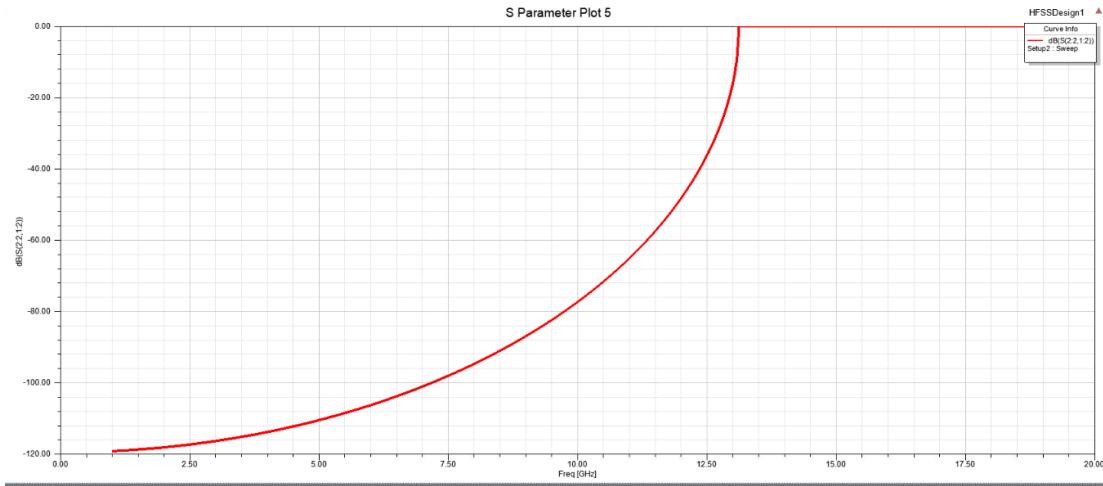
TE20:

Center frequency: 13GHZ





Center frequency: 15GHZ

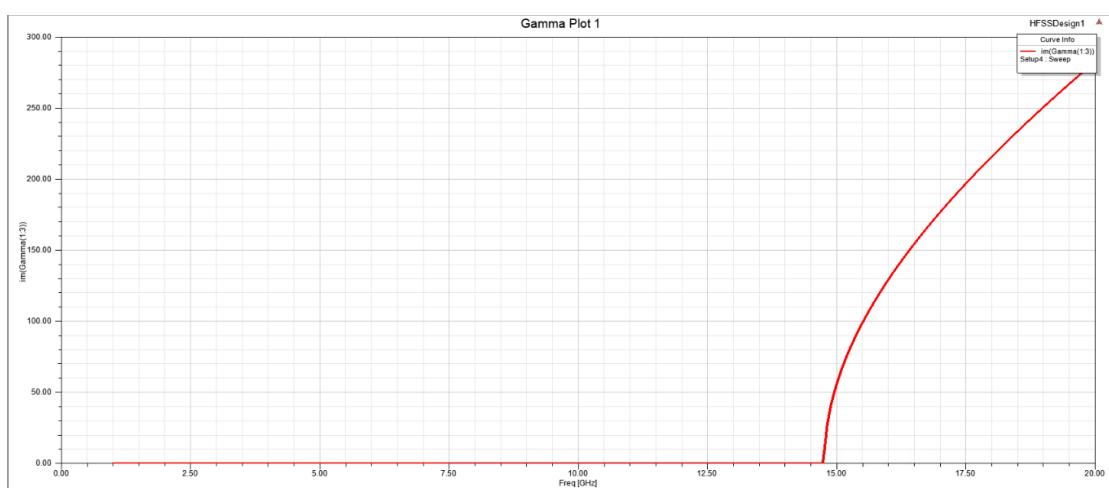
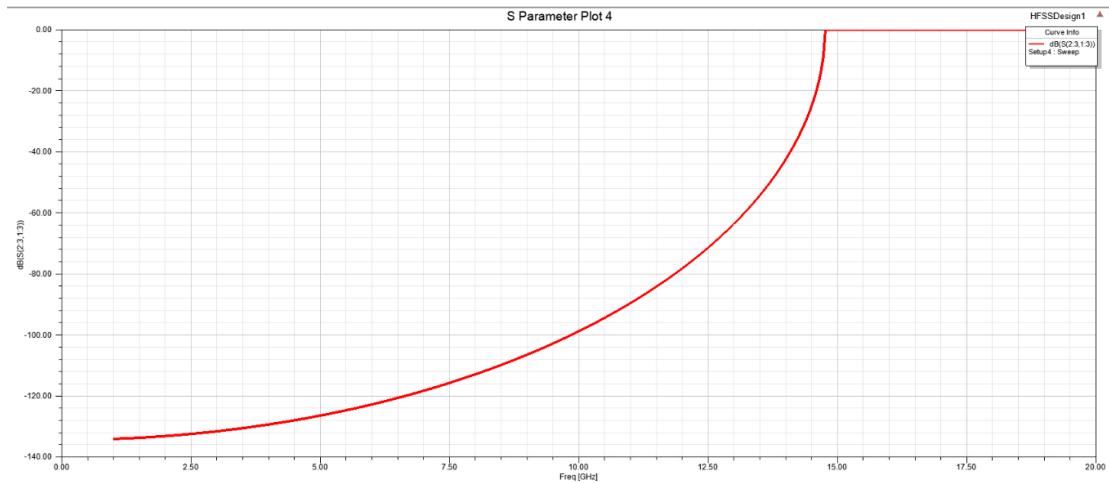


Analysis:

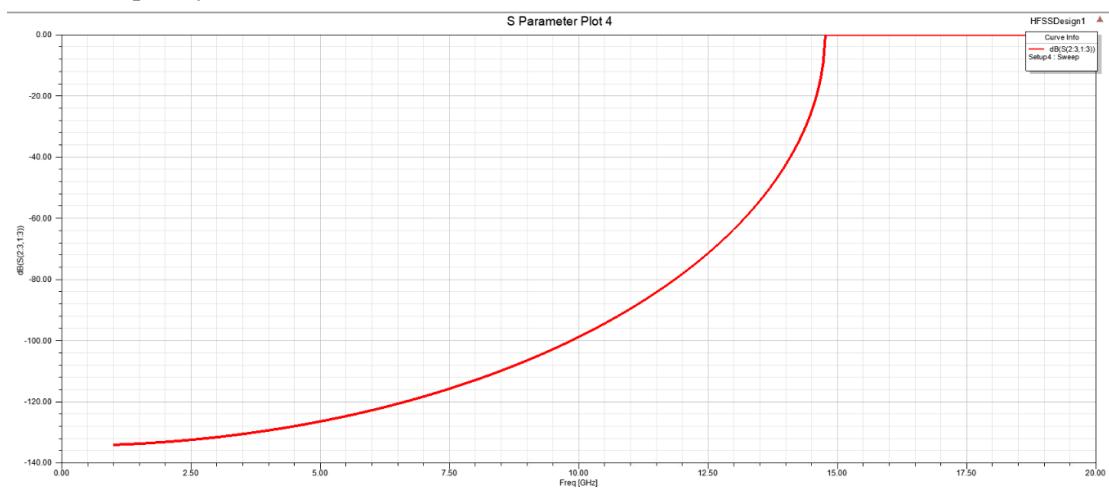
From the graph, it can be observed that the cutoff frequency aligns with the theoretically calculated cutoff frequency of 13.114GHz for the TE20 mode mentioned earlier, indicating that both the theory and simulation are consistent. Additionally, there is no distinction between the center frequencies of 13 GHz and 15 GHz in the parameter graph. This is because these parameter graphs represent overall patterns and are not influenced by specific center frequencies.

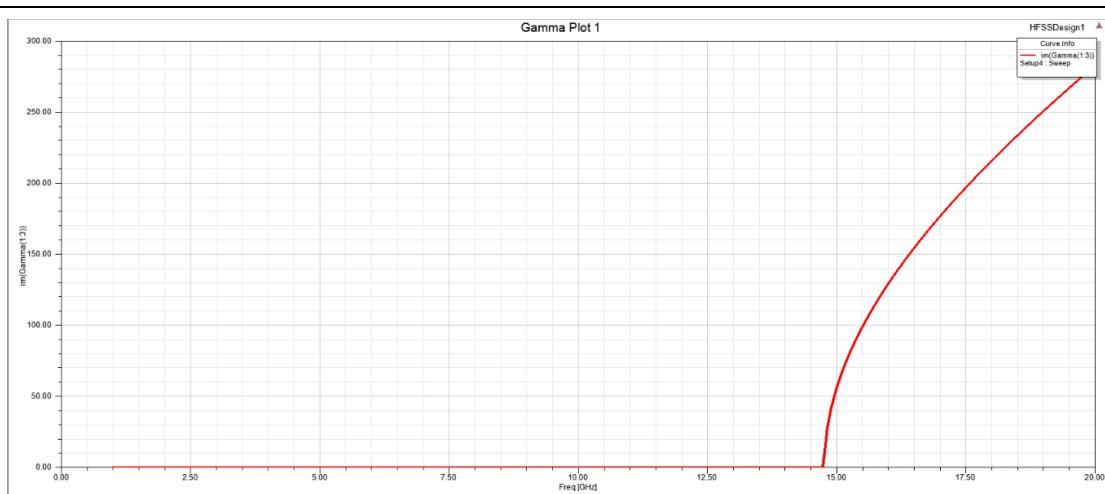
TE01:

Center frequency: 13GHZ



Center frequency: 15GHZ



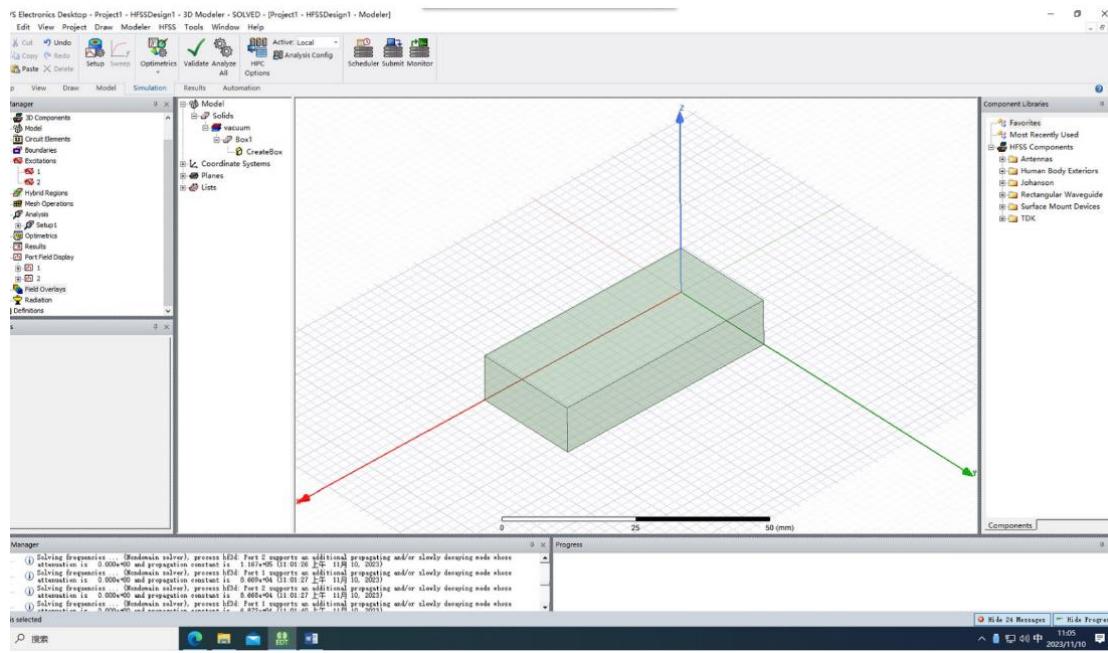


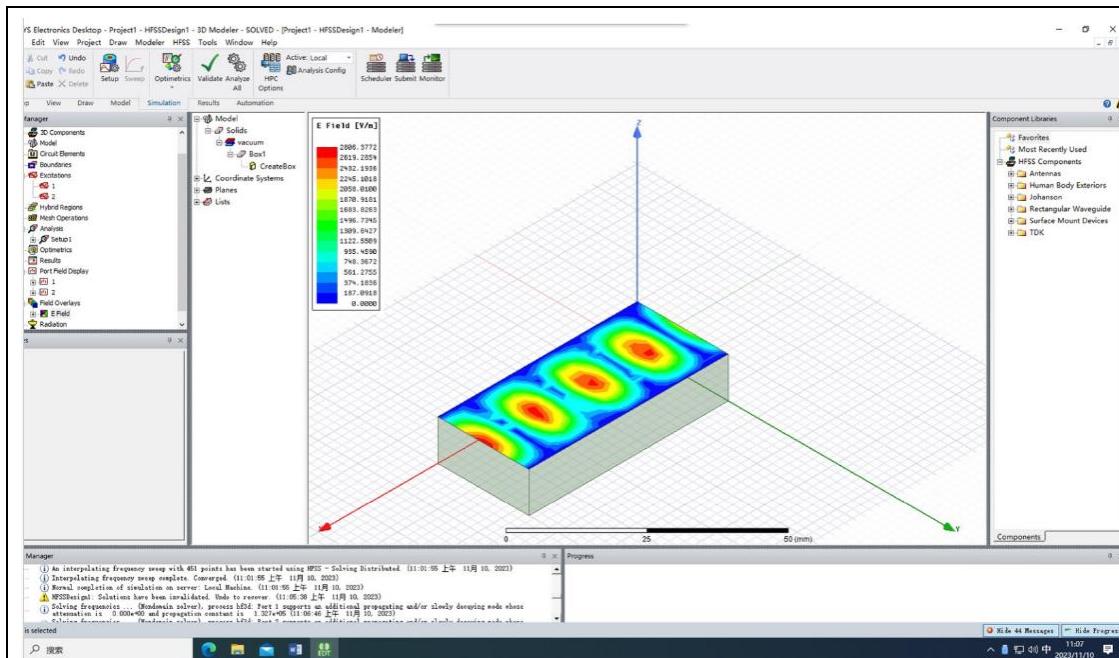
Analysis:

From the graph, it can be observed that the cutoff frequency aligns with the theoretically calculated cutoff frequency of 14.754 GHz for the TE01 mode mentioned earlier, indicating that both the theory and simulation are consistent. Additionally, there is no distinction between the center frequencies of 13 GHz and 15 GHz in the parameter graph. This is because these parameter graphs represent overall patterns and are not influenced by specific center frequencies.

Experience

In-class lab screenshot





Experience and problem we meet

In this lab, I have learned how to exchange different modes of the waveguide and simulate their corresponding electric field distribution.

The most important is, after completion of this report, I had a better understanding of rectangular waveguide modelling and simulation, as well as its field structures.

One noteworthy aspect is the importance of setting the units correctly to obtain accurate results. Additionally, it is crucial to ensure that the frequency sweep range encompasses both the center frequency and the cutoff frequency to generate accurate graphical representations.

Score	98
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