# Electromagnetic waves in space and the STEREO/WAVES experiment

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#### **Overview**

- Propagation of EM waves in vacuum and plasma
- Antennas
- Direction Finding
- Antenna calibration of the STEREO/WAVES antennas

#### EM waves in space science

- Transmit energy
- Transmit information
- Remote sensing

### EM waves in space

The basic equations are the Maxwell equations in compination with the constitutive equations

$$\nabla \cdot \mathbf{D} = \rho$$

$$\nabla \cdot \mathbf{B} = 0$$

$$\nabla \times \mathbf{E} = -\frac{\partial \mathbf{B}}{\partial t}$$

$$\nabla \times \mathbf{H} = \mathbf{j} + \frac{\partial \mathbf{D}}{\partial t}$$

$$\mathbf{D} = \varepsilon_0 \mathbf{E}$$

$$\mathbf{B} = \mu_0 \mathbf{H}$$

- In vacuum there are no source terms
- Maxwell equations can be simplified

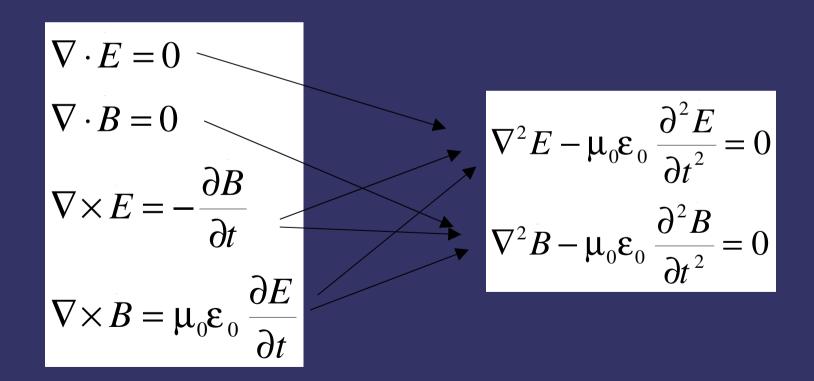
$$\nabla \cdot \mathbf{E} = 0$$

$$\nabla \cdot \mathbf{B} = 0$$

$$\nabla \times \mathbf{E} = -\frac{\partial \mathbf{B}}{\partial t}$$

$$\nabla \times \mathbf{B} = \varepsilon_0 \mu_0 \frac{\partial \mathbf{E}}{\partial t}$$

Equations can be combined to give a wave equation



- And be solved by postulating a time harmonic wave  $\mathbf{E} = \hat{\mathbf{x}} E_0 e^{i(kz-\omega t)}$
- And using a Fourier transform
- The result is the dispersion relation

$$k^2 = \varepsilon_0 \mu_0 \omega^2$$

By substituting in the Maxwell equation the B field can be found to be

$$\nabla \times E = -\frac{\partial B}{\partial t}$$

$$H = \frac{\hat{z}}{\eta_0} \times E$$

$$\eta_0 = \sqrt{\frac{\mu_0}{\epsilon_0}} = 377\Omega = 120\pi\Omega$$

$$B = \frac{\hat{z}}{c} \times E$$

#### The phase velocity

When riding on a wave, the phase must be constant

$$kz - \omega t = const \rightarrow z = \frac{\omega t}{k} + const$$

$$v_{ph} = \frac{dz}{dt} = \frac{\omega}{k} = \frac{1}{\sqrt{\varepsilon_0 \mu_0}}$$

### The principle of superposition

- Maxwell equations are linear, so the principle of superposition applies
- Any waveform can be sythesized by superposition of monochromatic waves

$$\mathbf{E} = \hat{\mathbf{x}} \int_0^\infty E_0(\omega) e^{i(kz - \omega t + \phi(\omega))} d\omega$$

# Wave propagation in an isotrope plasma 1

$$P = Nqr$$

$$F_e = m_e \frac{d^2 r}{dt^2} = qE$$

$$\Rightarrow \frac{d^2 r}{dt^2} = \frac{qE_0}{m_e} e^{i(kz - \omega t)}$$

Polarization

Force on an electron

$$\vec{r} = -\frac{q}{\omega^2 m_e} E$$

# Wave propagation in an isotrope plasma 2

$$\vec{r} = -\frac{q}{\omega^2 m_e} E$$

$$P = Nqr$$

$$\vec{P} = -\frac{q^2 N}{\omega^2 m_e} \vec{E}$$



$$\vec{P} = -\varepsilon_0 \frac{\omega_p^2}{\omega^2} \vec{E}$$

# Wave propagation in an isotrope plasma 3

# Wave propagation in an isotropic plasma 4

$$v_p = \frac{c}{\sqrt{1 - \frac{\omega_p^2}{\omega^2}}}$$

$$k = \frac{1}{c} \sqrt{\omega^2 - \omega_p^2}$$

$$v_g = c \sqrt{1 - \frac{\omega_p^2}{\omega^2}}$$

$$k = \frac{1}{c} \sqrt{\omega^2 - \omega_p^2}$$

$$\omega < \omega_p$$

$$k = \frac{i}{c} \sqrt{\omega^2 - \omega_p^2}$$

# Wave propagation in an isotropic plasma 5

$$\bar{\varepsilon} = \varepsilon_0 \begin{pmatrix} 1 - \frac{\omega_p^2}{\omega^2} & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 - \frac{\omega_p^2}{\omega^2} & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 - \frac{\omega_p^2}{\omega^2} \end{pmatrix}$$

# Wave propagation in magnetized, collisionless plasma

$$\hat{k}^{2} = \omega^{2} \mu_{0} \varepsilon \cdot \hat{k} = \omega^{2} \mu_{0} \varepsilon \begin{pmatrix} K' & iK'' & 0 \\ -iK'' & K' & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & K_{0} \end{pmatrix} \cdot \hat{k}$$
 Dispersion relation

$$K' = 1 - \frac{X}{1 - Y^2} = 1 - \frac{\omega_p^2}{\omega^2 - \omega_c^2}$$

$$K'' = -\frac{XY}{1 - Y^2} = -\frac{\omega_p^2 \omega_c}{\omega(\omega^2 - \omega_c^2)}$$

$$X = \frac{\omega_p^2}{\omega^2}$$

$$Y = \frac{\omega_c}{\omega}$$

$$K_0 = 1 - \frac{\omega_p^2}{\omega^2}$$

$$X = \frac{\omega_p^2}{\omega^2}$$

$$Y = \frac{\omega_c}{\omega}$$

#### Antennas in space

- An antenna can be used to transmit and receive EM and other plasma waves
- Free wave propagation <--> Guided wave propagation

#### Some basics

- EM fields are produced by accelerating charges
- I case of antennas oscillating electrons
- The radiated field can be divided into a near field and a far field
- The nearfield pard is only storing energy. No transmittion

# Retarding potentials 1

It is useful to introduce the potential fields

$$\nabla \cdot \mathbf{E} = \frac{\rho}{\varepsilon_0}$$

$$\nabla \cdot \mathbf{B} = 0$$

$$\nabla \times \mathbf{E} = -\frac{\partial \mathbf{B}}{\partial t}$$

$$\frac{1}{\mu_0} \nabla \times \mathbf{B} = \mathbf{j} + \varepsilon_0 \frac{\partial \mathbf{E}}{\partial t}$$

$$\begin{array}{lcl} \mathbf{B} & = & \nabla \times \mathbf{A} \\ \mathbf{E} & = & -\frac{\partial \mathbf{A}}{\partial t} - \nabla \phi \end{array}$$

# Retarding potentials 2

The potentials are not unique

$$A+F$$

$$|\phi + G|$$

Does not change the physical fields if

$$\nabla \times F = 0$$

$$\nabla G = 0$$

#### Lorenz gauge

- ...so we can define the Lorenz gauge
- Makes the system symmetrical and compatible with special relativity

$$\nabla \cdot \mathbf{A} = -\varepsilon_0 \mu_0 \frac{\partial \phi}{\partial t}$$

#### The Helmholtz equations

- The potential field equation can be manipulated to result in wave equations
- These are called Helmholtz equations

$$\nabla^2 \mathbf{A} - \mu_0 \varepsilon_0 \frac{\partial^2 \mathbf{A}}{\partial t^2} = -\mu_0 \mathbf{j}$$

$$\nabla^2 \phi - \mu_0 \varepsilon_0 \frac{\partial^2 \phi}{\partial t^2} = -\frac{\rho}{\varepsilon_0}$$

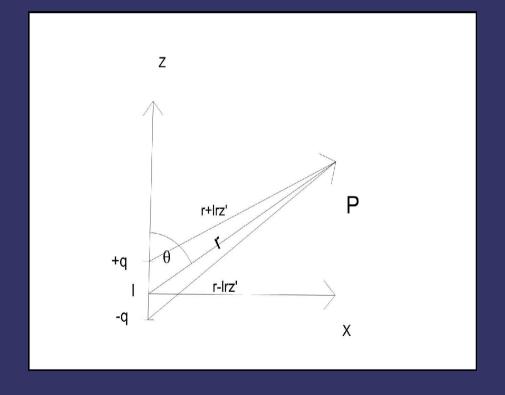
#### The solutions

By postulating time harmonic behavior and Fourier transform they can be solved

$$\phi(\mathbf{r},t) = \int_{V'} \frac{\rho(\mathbf{r}')}{4\pi\varepsilon_0 |\mathbf{r} - \mathbf{r}'|} e^{-ik|\mathbf{r} - \mathbf{r}'|} dV'$$

$$\mathbf{A}(\mathbf{r},t) = \int_{V'} \frac{\mu_0 \mathbf{j}(\mathbf{r}')}{4\pi|\mathbf{r} - \mathbf{r}'|} e^{-ik|\mathbf{r} - \mathbf{r}'|} dV'$$

$$\begin{array}{ccc} \frac{l}{z} & \geq & z' \\ l & \ll & \lambda \\ l & \rightarrow & 0 \\ I = \frac{dq}{dt} & = & \omega q_0 \cos \omega t = I_0 \cos \omega t \\ P = ql & = & P_0 \sin \omega t \\ P_0 = ql_0 & = & q_0 l \end{array}$$



$$A_z(\mathbf{r},t) = \frac{\mu_0 Il}{4\pi r} e^{-i\mathbf{k}\mathbf{r}}$$

$$\phi = \frac{Ilz}{2\pi\varepsilon_0 i\omega} e^{-ikr} \left( \frac{1}{r^2} + \frac{1}{r^3} \right)$$

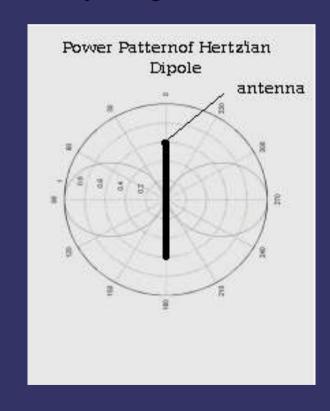
Farfield: 
$$\phi = \frac{Ilz}{2\pi\varepsilon_0 i\omega r^2}e^{-ikr}$$

The physical (far) fields and the Poynting vector

$$\mathbf{B} = \hat{\phi} \frac{i\mu_0 kIl}{4\pi r} e^{-ikr} \sin \theta$$

$$\mathbf{E} = \hat{\theta} \eta_0 \frac{ikIl}{4\pi r} e^{-ikr} \sin \theta$$

$$\mathbf{S} = \hat{\mathbf{r}} \eta_0 \left(\frac{kIl}{4\pi r}\right)^2 \sin^2 \theta$$



#### Other properties

$$P = \oint_{\Sigma} \langle \mathbf{S} \rangle \cdot d\mathbf{\Sigma}$$

$$= \int_{0}^{\pi} r \partial \theta \int_{0}^{2\pi} r \cdot \langle \mathbf{S} \rangle \sin \theta \partial \phi$$

$$= \pi \eta_{0} \left( \frac{kIl}{4\pi r} \right)^{2} \int_{0}^{\pi} \sin^{3} \theta \partial \theta$$

$$= \frac{\eta_{0}}{12\pi} (kIl)^{2}$$

$$R_{rad} = \frac{P}{\frac{1}{2}I^2} = \frac{\eta_0}{6\pi}(kl)^2 \approx 20(kl)^2$$

$$G(\theta,\phi) = \frac{|\langle \mathbf{S} \rangle (\theta,\phi,r \gg l)|}{\frac{P}{4\pi r^2}} \ = \frac{3}{2} \sin^2 \theta$$

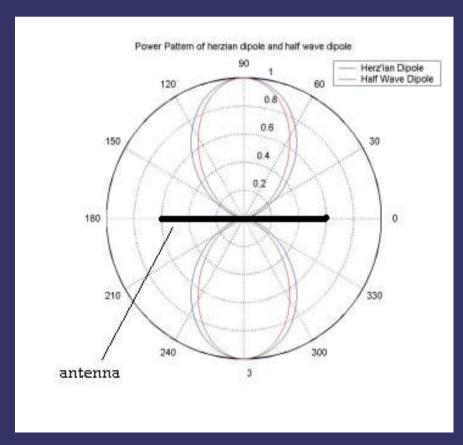
$$\eta_{rad} = \frac{P_{rad}}{P}$$

$$\Sigma_{eff}(\theta,\phi) = \frac{\lambda^2}{4\pi}G(\theta,\phi)$$

$$D(\theta, \phi) = \frac{|\langle \mathbf{S} \rangle (\theta, \phi, r \gg l)|}{\frac{P_{rad}}{4\pi r^2}} = \frac{G(\theta, \phi)}{\eta_{rad}}$$

#### Real antennas

Real antennas show a slightly different behavior



# **Direction Finding 1**

- Direction finding (DF) is the procedure to find the direction of incidence and the polarization of the incident wave
- The polarization can be represented by the normalized Stokes parameters

$$\frac{S_0}{2\eta_0} = \hat{I} = \frac{\langle E_x^2 \rangle + \langle E_y^2 \rangle}{2\eta_0}$$

$$\frac{S_1}{S_0} = \hat{Q} = \frac{\langle E_x^2 \rangle - \langle E_y^2 \rangle}{\langle E_x^2 \rangle + \langle E_y^2 \rangle}$$

$$\frac{S_2}{S_0} = \hat{U} = \frac{\langle 2E_x E_y \cos \delta \rangle}{\langle E_x^2 \rangle + \langle E_y^2 \rangle}$$

$$\frac{S_3}{S_0} = \hat{V} = \frac{\langle 2E_x E_y \sin \delta \rangle}{\langle E_x^2 \rangle + \langle E_y^2 \rangle}$$

### **Direction Finding 2**

The basic equation:

$$V = \mathbf{h}_{eff} \cdot \mathbf{E}$$

Where h<sub>eff</sub> is the effective length vector

$$h_{eff} = \frac{1}{I_0} \int J(r) d^3 r$$

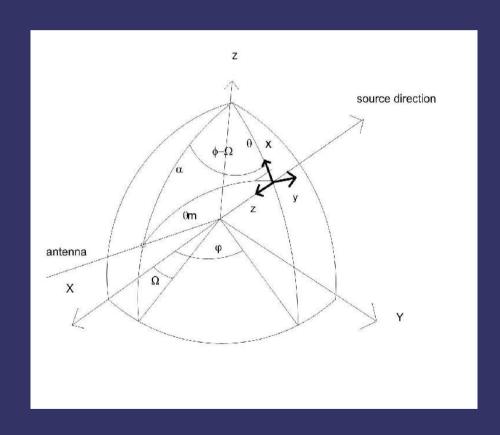
#### The observables

The auto and cross correlation parameters

$$\langle V_{oldsymbol{X}} V_{oldsymbol{X}}^* 
angle \ \langle V_{oldsymbol{Z}} V_{oldsymbol{Z}}^* 
angle \ Re \, \langle V_{oldsymbol{X}} V_{oldsymbol{Z}}^* 
angle \ Im \, \langle V_{oldsymbol{X}} V_{oldsymbol{Z}}^* 
angle \ .$$

$$\langle CC^*\rangle = \frac{1}{T} \int_0^T CC^* dt$$

#### The coordinate frame



# Observables-parameter

$$\begin{split} \langle V_i V_i^* \rangle &= \hat{S} \eta_0 h_{eff,i}^2 [(\hat{Q}+1)(\sin^2\theta \cos^2\alpha_i - \\ &- \frac{1}{2} \sin(2\alpha_i) \sin(2\theta) \cos^2(\varphi - \Omega_i) + \\ &+ \sin^2\alpha_i \cos^2\theta \cos^2(\varphi - \Omega_i)) + \\ &+ (1 - \hat{Q}) \sin^2\alpha_i \sin^2(\varphi - \Omega_i) + \\ &+ \hat{U}(-\sin\theta \sin 2\alpha_i \sin(\varphi - \Omega_i) + \sin^2\alpha_i \cos\theta \sin(2\varphi - 2\Omega_i))] \end{split}$$

$$\begin{split} Re \left\langle V_i V_j^* \right\rangle &= \hat{S} \eta_0 h_{eff,i} h_{eff,j} [(\hat{Q}+1)(\sin^2\theta\cos\alpha_i\cos\alpha_j - \frac{1}{2}\sin(2\theta)(\sin\alpha_j\cos\alpha_i\cos(\varphi-\Omega_j) + \sin\alpha_i\cos\alpha_j\cos(\varphi-\Omega_i)) + \\ &+ \sin\alpha_i\sin\alpha_j\cos^2\theta\cos(\varphi-\Omega_i)\cos(\varphi-\Omega_j)) + \\ &+ (1-\hat{Q})\sin\alpha_i\sin\alpha_j\sin(\varphi-\Omega_i)\sin(\varphi-\Omega_j) - \\ &- \hat{U}(\sin\theta(\sin\alpha_i\cos\alpha_j\sin(\varphi-\Omega_i)) + \\ &+ \sin\alpha_j\cos\alpha_i\sin(\varphi-\Omega_j)) - \\ &- \cos\theta\sin\alpha_i\sin\alpha_j(\sin(\varphi-\Omega_j)) - \\ &- \cos\theta\sin\alpha_i\sin\alpha_j(\sin(\varphi-\Omega_j))] \end{split}$$

$$\begin{split} Im \left\langle V_i V_j^* \right\rangle &= -\hat{S} \eta_0 h_{eff,i} h_{eff,j} \hat{V} [ (\sin \theta (\sin \alpha_i \cos \alpha_j \sin (\varphi - \Omega_i) - \\ -\sin \alpha_j \cos \alpha_i \sin (\varphi - \Omega_j)) + \\ +\cos \theta \sin \alpha_i \sin \alpha_j (\sin (\varphi - \Omega_j) \cos (\varphi - \Omega_i) + \\ +\sin (\varphi - \Omega_i) \cos (\varphi - \Omega_j)) ] \end{split}$$

#### Analyticle solution for the direction

$$\tan \varphi = \left[ Im \left\langle V_X V_Z^* \right\rangle h_{eff,Y} \sin \alpha_Y \tan \Omega_Y \cos \Omega_Y - \\ - Im \left\langle V_Y V_Z^* \right\rangle h_{eff,X} \sin \alpha_X \tan \Omega_X \cos \Omega_X \right] \times \\ \times \left[ Im \left\langle V_X V_Z^* \right\rangle h_{eff,Y} \sin \alpha_Y \cos \Omega_Y - \\ - Im \left\langle V_Y V_Z^* \right\rangle h_{eff,X} \sin \alpha_X \cos \Omega_X \right]^{-1}$$

#### Attention: Phi is not unique

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\tan \theta = [\langle V_Z V_Z^* \rangle h_{eff,X} h_{eff,Y} \sin \alpha_X \sin \alpha_Y \\ \times (\cos(\varphi - \Omega_Y) \sin(\varphi - \Omega_X) - \cos(\varphi - \Omega_X) \sin(\varphi - \Omega_Y))] \\ \times [Re \langle V_X V_Z^* \rangle \sin \alpha_Y \sin(\varphi - \Omega_Y) h_{eff,Y} h_{eff,Z} \\ - Re \langle V_Y V_Z^* \rangle \sin \alpha_X \sin(\varphi - \Omega_X) h_{eff,X} h_{eff,Z} \\ + \langle V_Z V_Z^* \rangle h_{eff,X} h_{eff,Y} \\ \times (\cos \alpha_Y \sin \alpha_X \sin(\varphi - \Omega_X) - \cos \alpha_X \sin \alpha_Y \sin(\varphi - \Omega_Y))]^{-1}
```

# The matrix equation for the Stokes parameters

Mx = b

$$\mathbf{M} = \begin{bmatrix} (A_X^2 + B_X^2) & (A_X^2 - B_X^2) & 2A_XB_X & 0 \\ (A_Z^2 + B_Z^2) & (A_Z^2 - B_Z^2) & 2A_ZB_Z & 0 \\ (A_XA_Z + B_XB_Z) & (A_XA_Z - B_XB_Z) & (A_XB_Z + A_ZB_X) & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & -(-A_XB_Z + A_ZB_X) \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\mathbf{x} = \left[ egin{array}{c} \hat{S} \ \hat{S} \hat{Q} \ \hat{S} \hat{U} \ \hat{S} \hat{V} \end{array} 
ight]$$

$$\begin{array}{rcl} A_i & = & \cos\alpha_i\sin\theta - \sin\alpha_i\cos\theta\cos(\varphi - \Omega_i) \\ B_i & = & -\sin\alpha_i\sin(\varphi - \Omega_i) \end{array}$$

$$\mathbf{b} = \begin{bmatrix} \frac{\langle V_X V_X^* \rangle}{\eta_0 h_{eff,X}^2} \\ \frac{\langle V_Z V_Z^* \rangle}{\eta_0 h_{eff,Z}^2} \\ \frac{Re \langle V_X V_Z^* \rangle}{\eta_0 h_{eff,X} h_{eff,Z}} \\ \frac{Im \langle V_X V_Z^* \rangle}{\eta_0 h_{eff,X} h_{eff,Z}} \end{bmatrix}$$

#### The STEREO mission

- Two spacecraft, one ahead and one behind earth, slowly drifting apart at a rate of 22 degrees by year
- To extend our knowledge about the physics of the solar system
- Research on space weather, CMEs and sun-earth-connection (SEC)
- For the first time stereoscopic methods are used which include remote and insitu measurements of the same events

### The STEREO mission



#### **SWAVES**

- Measures electric fields
- Frequency 40kHz-16MHz
- Measures electron density and temperature with quasi thermal noise analysis
- 3 orthogonal monopole-stacer-antennas, directed away from the sun, 6m length
- "Direction Finding" (DF) mode provides all auto- and cross correlation parameters
- 2 spacecraft render it possible to pinpoint the source of the EM radiation via triangulation
- The equipment on the 2 s/c will track those radio sources from less than 2 R<sub>s</sub> to 1AU and beyond

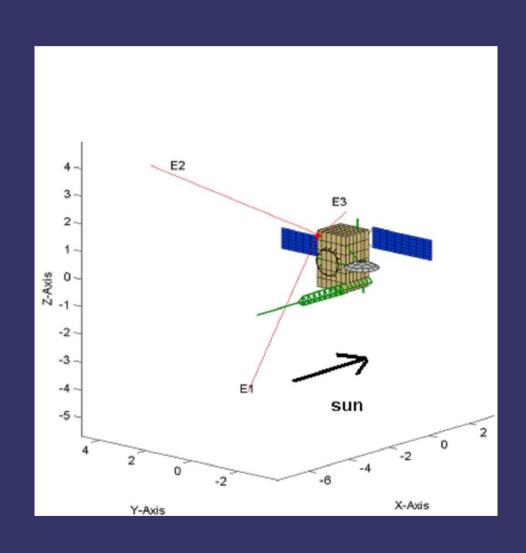
# Why is antenna calibration necessary?

- To perform "Direction Finding" (DF), antenna properties must be known to a high degree of accuracy
- The receiving properties can be quantified by the effective length vector
- The effective length vector represents the antenna as it behaves electrically
- It is influenced by the geometry of the spacecraft
- Depends, in general, upon frequency and direction of incidence and is a complex vector, but at low frequency it can be treated as a constant real vector
- In this quasistatic range, DF is possible

### Methods to determine the effective length vector

- I. Numerical electromagnetic code
- II. Rheometry
- III. EMC chamber
- IV. In-flight Calibration

#### The numerical method



#### The numerical method

- The spacecraft is modelled as a grid of wires
- Then the currents along these wires are computed
- On base of the current distribution, all other antenna properties (effective length vectors, impedances) can be calculated

## Computation of the current distribution

- The equation governing the current distribution is the electric field integral equation (EFIE)
- Simplifications:
  - Thin currents along the center of the wires
  - No transverse currents

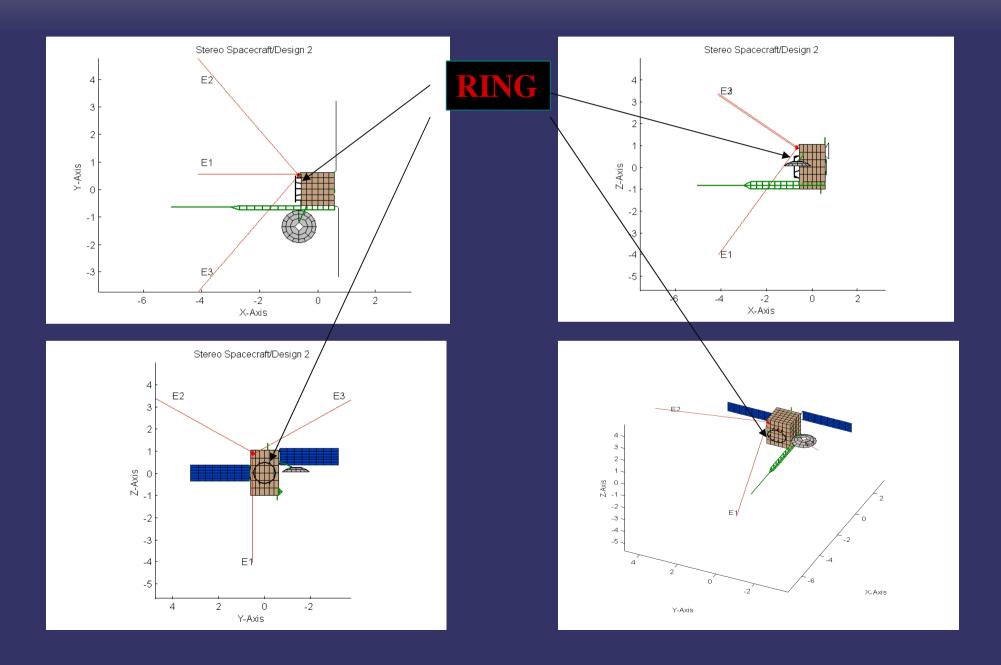
$$E_{i} = \frac{i\eta}{4\pi k} \int J_{s}(r')G(r,r')dS$$

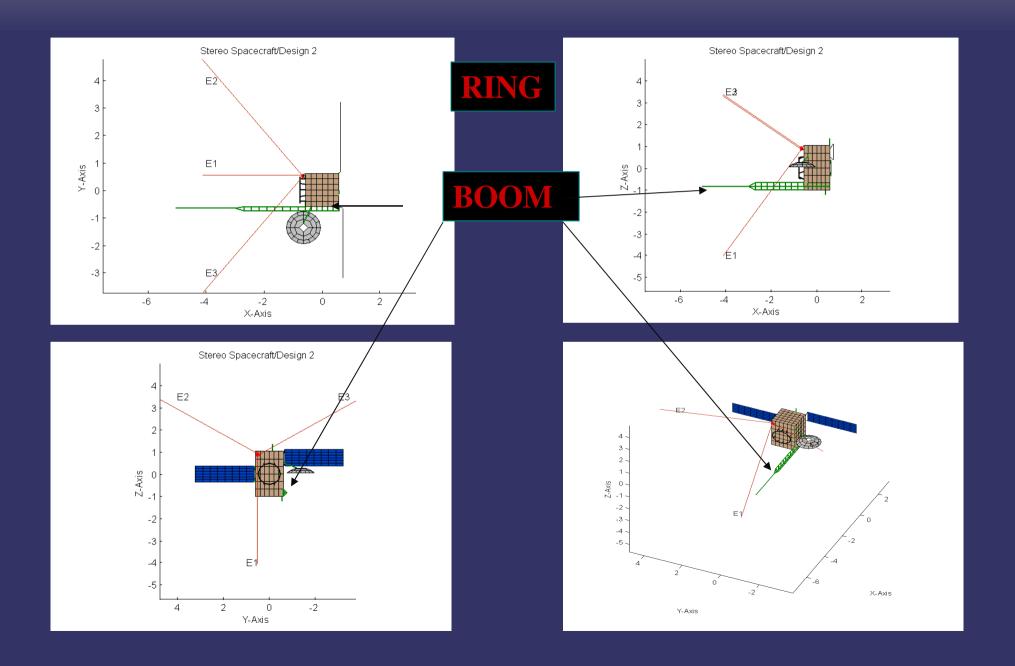
#### The Method of Moments

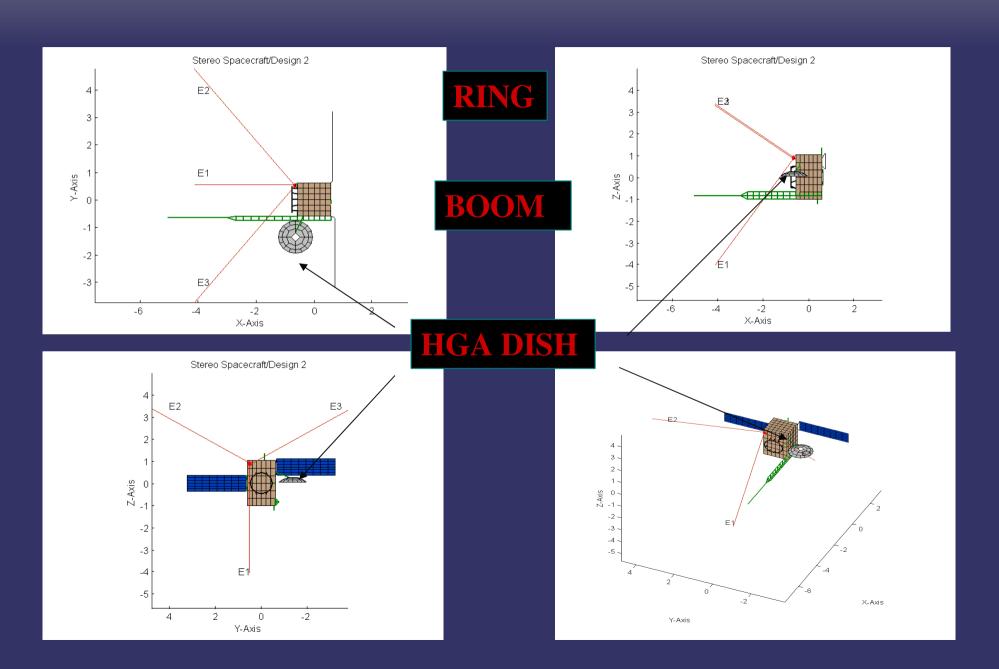
- The Method of Moments
   (MoM) can be used to solve integral equations
- A modified version of the antenna scatterers analysis
   program (ASAP) is used to
   calculate the currents

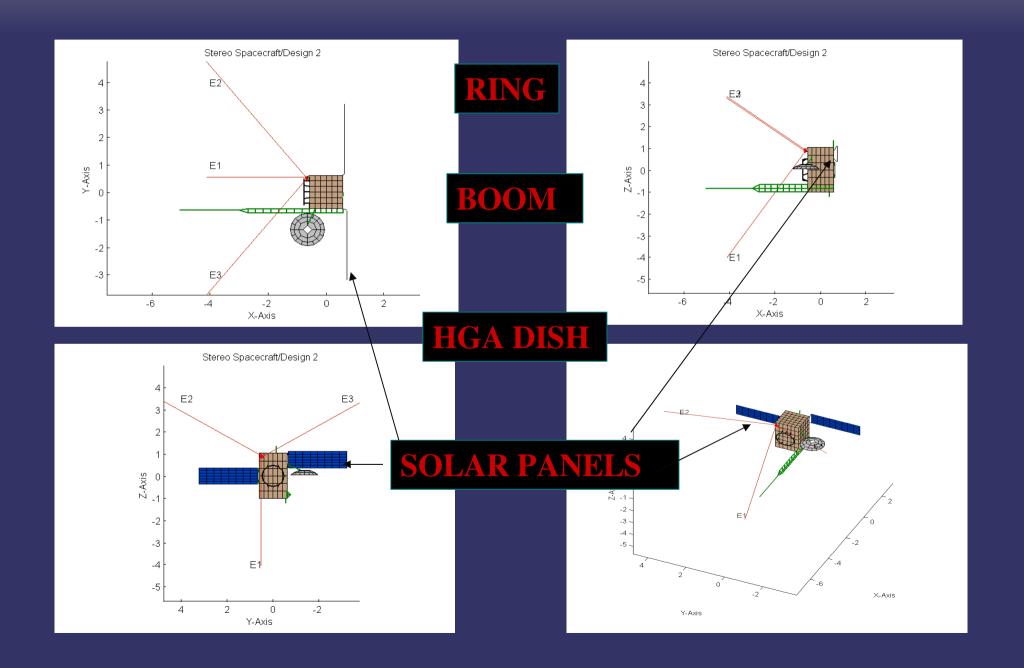
#### The Matlab toolbox

- The effective length vectors and impedances are calculated by the Matlab toolbox created in the space research institute
- Calculations were performed for open feeds and capacitances of 90pF







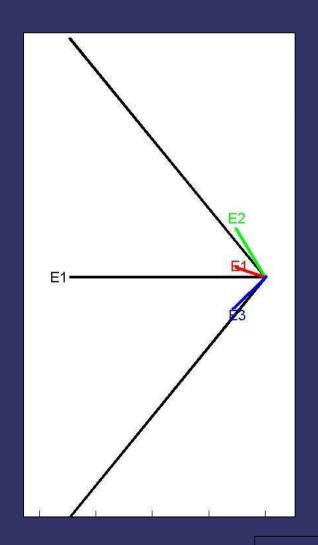


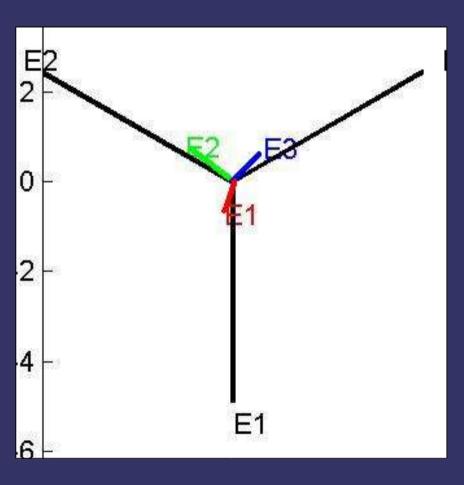
#### The results

Table 1. Effective length vectors at  $500 \mathrm{kHz}$ 

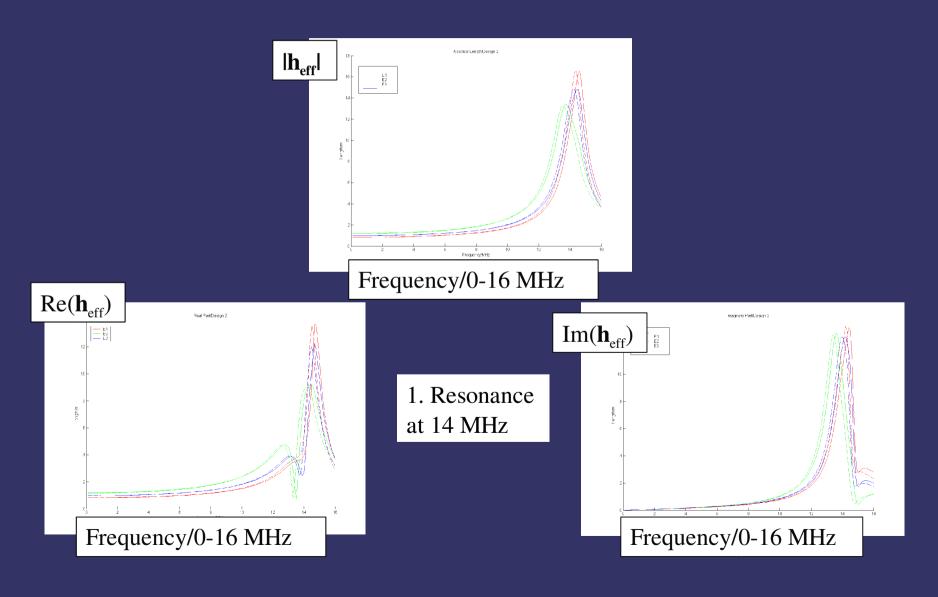
		Spacecraft	Spacecraft	Physical
	T (1 /	A	В	antennas
E)a	Length/m	0.83	0.84	6.00
E1	ζ/ο	128.3	127.2	125.26
	ξ/°	15.0	13.3	0.0
	Length/m	1.21	1.18	6.00
E2	$\zeta/^{\circ}$	117.1	117.4	125.26
	ξ/°	125.8	125.2	120.0
	Length/m	0.99	0.98	6.00
E3	ζ/°	123.5	123.3	125.26
	$\xi/^{\circ}$	-137.2	-135.4	-120.0

# Quasi-static effective length vectors

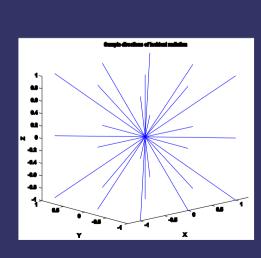


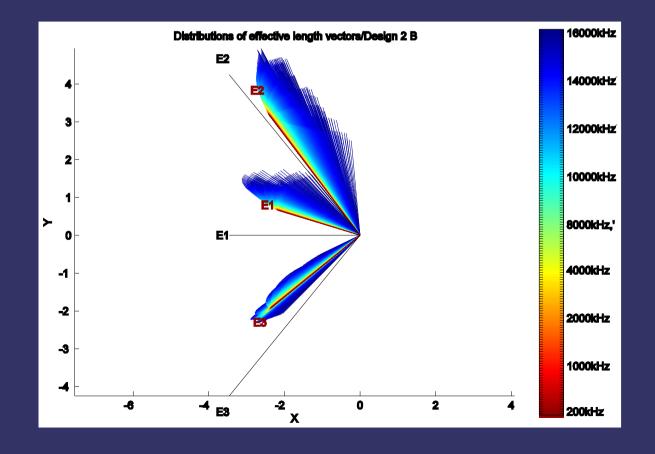


# The effective length vector as function of frequency

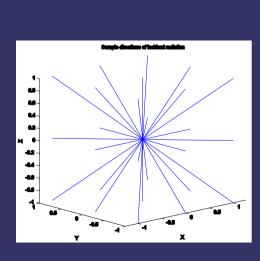


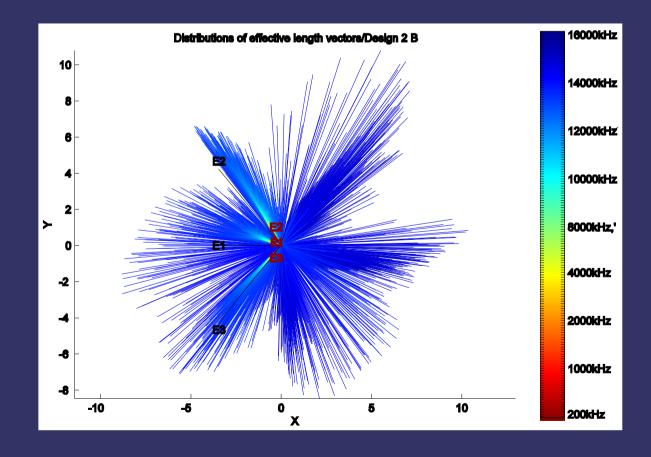
## Variation of the length with direction



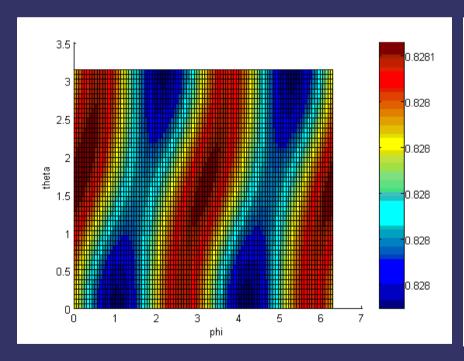


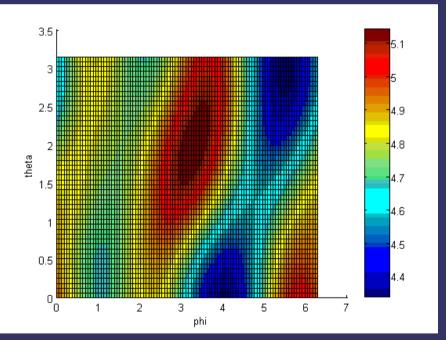
## Variation of the length with direction





# Variation of the length with frequency





500kHz

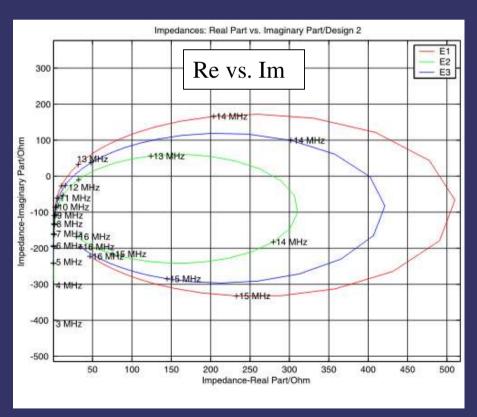
13.5MHz

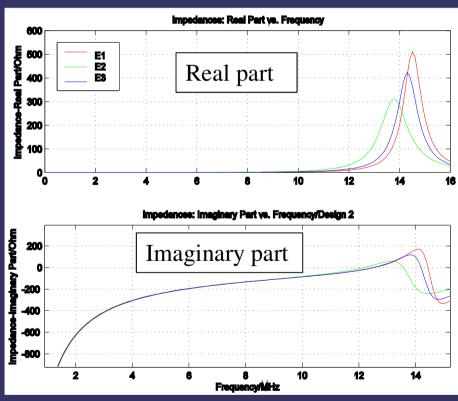
# Variation due to the HGA orientation

Table 2. Variation of E1 due to HGA angle variation

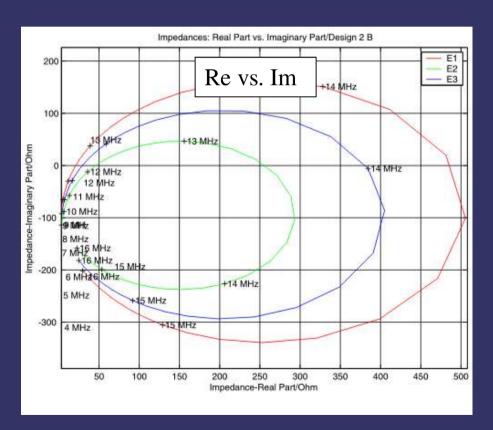
HGA angle	L	ζ	ċ
	$h_{eff}$		ξ
-90	0.83	128.5	14.5
-80	0.83	128.5	14.5
-70	0.83	128.5	14.4
-60	0.83	128.4	14.5
-50	0.83	128.4	14.5
-40	0.83	128.4	14.5
-30	0.83	128.4	14.2
-20	0.83	128.3	14.7
-10	0.83	128.3	14.9
0	0.83	128.2	15.0
10	0.83	128.1	15.0
20	0.83	128.0	15.1
30	0.83	127.8	15.1
40	0.83	127.7	15.2
50	0.83	127.7	15.2
60	0.83	127.6	15.3
70	0.83	127.6	15.3
80	0.83	127.7	15.4
90	0.83	127.7	15.4

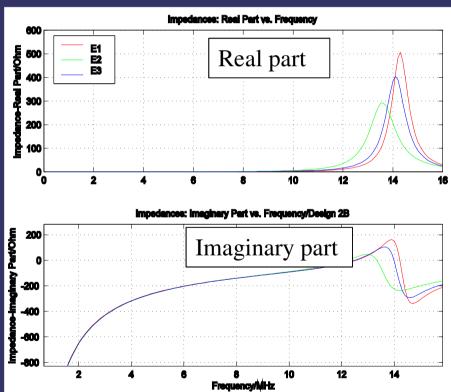
### The impedances: Spacecraft A





### The impedances: Spacecraft B





#### Thank You for Your attention!