

**Cairo University**

**Faculty of Engineering**

**Electronics & Communication Department**

**ELC3050 Project**

**Design and Analysis of a 2-Element Probe-Fed Microstrip Patch Antenna Operating at 20 GHz**

**Under supervision of Dr Islam Eshra**

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Table of Contents

[Table of Figures 3](#_Toc186326807)

[1. Introduction and Problem Description 5](#_Toc186326808)

[Verification Against Another Source 5](#_Toc186326809)

[Benchmark Description 6](#_Toc186326810)

[2. Design Procedure 11](#_Toc186326811)

[Patch: 11](#_Toc186326812)

[Substrate: 12](#_Toc186326813)

[EM calculator: 15](#_Toc186326814)

[Design of single patch 16](#_Toc186326815)

[S11: 18](#_Toc186326816)

[Zin: 21](#_Toc186326817)

[Radiation patterns 23](#_Toc186326818)

[Antenna Parameters 25](#_Toc186326819)

[Gain Performance of a Single Patch Antenna 25](#_Toc186326820)

[Design of Two Patches: 26](#_Toc186326821)

[S-Parameters: 27](#_Toc186326822)

[Mutual Coupling vs Element Spacing: 29](#_Toc186326823)

[Zin: 30](#_Toc186326824)

[Radiation patterns 31](#_Toc186326825)

[Antenna parameters: 34](#_Toc186326826)

[Adding Feeding Network for Two Patch antennas: 36](#_Toc186326827)

[Serial Transmission Line: 36](#_Toc186326828)

[Results: 37](#_Toc186326829)

[Final Design with T-Section Transmission Line: 38](#_Toc186326830)

[S11: 39](#_Toc186326831)

[Zin: 40](#_Toc186326832)

[Radiation patterns 41](#_Toc186326833)

[Beamwidth: 43](#_Toc186326834)

[Gain: 44](#_Toc186326835)

[Gain vs Element Spacing: 46](#_Toc186326836)

[3. Results’ Discussion: 48](#_Toc186326837)

[3.1 Return Loss (S11) 48](#_Toc186326838)

[3.2 Mutual Coupling (S21) 48](#_Toc186326839)

[3.3 Smith Chart Analysis 48](#_Toc186326840)

[3.4 Radiation Patterns 49](#_Toc186326841)

[3.5 Gain and Efficiency 49](#_Toc186326842)

[3.6 Bandwidth Enhancement Techniques:[3] 50](#_Toc186326843)

[4. Conclusion: 52](#_Toc186326844)

[6. Refrences: 54](#_Toc186326845)

Table of Figures

[Figure 1: dipole antenna designed for verification 6](file:///D:\project\antenna\Antenna_Design\report%20material\Microstrip_Antenna_Report.docx#_Toc186326846)

[Figure 2: S11 for dipole antenna for verification 8](file:///D:\project\antenna\Antenna_Design\report%20material\Microstrip_Antenna_Report.docx#_Toc186326847)

[Figure 3: Zin for dipole antenna for verification 9](file:///D:\project\antenna\Antenna_Design\report%20material\Microstrip_Antenna_Report.docx#_Toc186326848)

[Figure 4: Gain 2D for dipole antenna for verification 9](file:///D:\project\antenna\Antenna_Design\report%20material\Microstrip_Antenna_Report.docx#_Toc186326849)

[Figure 5: Gain 3D for dipole antenna for verification 10](file:///D:\project\antenna\Antenna_Design\report%20material\Microstrip_Antenna_Report.docx#_Toc186326850)

[Figure 6 EM calculator results 15](file:///D:\project\antenna\Antenna_Design\report%20material\Microstrip_Antenna_Report.docx#_Toc186326851)

[Figure 7 L,W S11 sweaping 15](file:///D:\project\antenna\Antenna_Design\report%20material\Microstrip_Antenna_Report.docx#_Toc186326852)

[Figure 8: antenna with probe feeding model 16](file:///D:\project\antenna\Antenna_Design\report%20material\Microstrip_Antenna_Report.docx#_Toc186326853)

[Figure 9: 3D patch antenna design 16](file:///D:\project\antenna\Antenna_Design\report%20material\Microstrip_Antenna_Report.docx#_Toc186326854)

[Figure 10: bottom view of patch antenna 17](file:///D:\project\antenna\Antenna_Design\report%20material\Microstrip_Antenna_Report.docx#_Toc186326855)

[Figure 11: side view of patch antenna 17](#_Toc186326856)

[Figure 12: S11 for single Patch antenna 18](file:///D:\project\antenna\Antenna_Design\report%20material\Microstrip_Antenna_Report.docx#_Toc186326857)

[Figure 13: smith chart for single Patch 19](file:///D:\project\antenna\Antenna_Design\report%20material\Microstrip_Antenna_Report.docx#_Toc186326858)

[Figure 14: Bandwidth where S11<-10 dB 19](file:///D:\project\antenna\Antenna_Design\report%20material\Microstrip_Antenna_Report.docx#_Toc186326859)

[Figure 15: VSWR = 1.421 at 20 GHz for single patch antenna 20](file:///D:\project\antenna\Antenna_Design\report%20material\Microstrip_Antenna_Report.docx#_Toc186326860)

[Figure 16 Zin for single Patch antenna at 20GHz 21](file:///D:\project\antenna\Antenna_Design\report%20material\Microstrip_Antenna_Report.docx#_Toc186326861)

[Figure 17 Xfeed for single patch antenna 21](file:///D:\project\antenna\Antenna_Design\report%20material\Microstrip_Antenna_Report.docx#_Toc186326862)

[Figure 18: Yfeed for single patch antenna 22](file:///D:\project\antenna\Antenna_Design\report%20material\Microstrip_Antenna_Report.docx#_Toc186326863)

[Figure 19 Radiation Pattern at 20GHz in XZ Plane 23](file:///D:\project\antenna\Antenna_Design\report%20material\Microstrip_Antenna_Report.docx#_Toc186326864)

[Figure 20 Radiation Pattern at 20GHz in YZ Plane 23](file:///D:\project\antenna\Antenna_Design\report%20material\Microstrip_Antenna_Report.docx#_Toc186326865)

[Figure 21 CO Cross Polarized Fields at E-plane 23](file:///D:\project\antenna\Antenna_Design\report%20material\Microstrip_Antenna_Report.docx#_Toc186326866)

[Figure 22 CO Cross Polarized Fields at H-plane 23](file:///D:\project\antenna\Antenna_Design\report%20material\Microstrip_Antenna_Report.docx#_Toc186326867)

[Figure 23 3D Polar Gain at 20GHz 24](file:///D:\project\antenna\Antenna_Design\report%20material\Microstrip_Antenna_Report.docx#_Toc186326868)

[Figure 24: Two Patch antenna array 26](file:///D:\project\antenna\Antenna_Design\report%20material\Microstrip_Antenna_Report.docx#_Toc186326869)

[Figure 25: Two Patch side view 26](file:///D:\project\antenna\Antenna_Design\report%20material\Microstrip_Antenna_Report.docx#_Toc186326870)

[Figure 26: S11 for Two patches 27](file:///D:\project\antenna\Antenna_Design\report%20material\Microstrip_Antenna_Report.docx#_Toc186326871)

[Figure 27: VSWR for first Patch 27](file:///D:\project\antenna\Antenna_Design\report%20material\Microstrip_Antenna_Report.docx#_Toc186326872)

[Figure 28: VSWR for second Patch 28](file:///D:\project\antenna\Antenna_Design\report%20material\Microstrip_Antenna_Report.docx#_Toc186326873)

[Figure 29: S21 Vs Frequency 28](file:///D:\project\antenna\Antenna_Design\report%20material\Microstrip_Antenna_Report.docx#_Toc186326874)

[Figure 30: S21 Vs Distance between two patches swept till λ 29](file:///D:\project\antenna\Antenna_Design\report%20material\Microstrip_Antenna_Report.docx#_Toc186326875)

[Figure 31: S21 sweep Vs frequency by changing dp 29](file:///D:\project\antenna\Antenna_Design\report%20material\Microstrip_Antenna_Report.docx#_Toc186326876)

[Figure 32 S21 Vs Element Distance on small scale 29](#_Toc186326877)

[Figure 33: Zin for two Patches at 20 GHz 30](file:///D:\project\antenna\Antenna_Design\report%20material\Microstrip_Antenna_Report.docx#_Toc186326878)

[Figure 34 Radiation Pattern at 20GHz in YZ Plane 31](file:///D:\project\antenna\Antenna_Design\report%20material\Microstrip_Antenna_Report.docx#_Toc186326879)

[Figure 35 Radiation Pattern at 20GHz in XZ Plane 31](file:///D:\project\antenna\Antenna_Design\report%20material\Microstrip_Antenna_Report.docx#_Toc186326880)

[Figure 36 CO Cross Polarized Fields at E-plane 31](file:///D:\project\antenna\Antenna_Design\report%20material\Microstrip_Antenna_Report.docx#_Toc186326881)

[Figure 37 CO Cross Polarized Fields at H-plane 31](file:///D:\project\antenna\Antenna_Design\report%20material\Microstrip_Antenna_Report.docx#_Toc186326882)

[Figure 38 3D Polar Gain at 20GHz 32](file:///D:\project\antenna\Antenna_Design\report%20material\Microstrip_Antenna_Report.docx#_Toc186326883)

[Figure 39 Two Patch Gain Vs Frequency 34](file:///D:\project\antenna\Antenna_Design\report%20material\Microstrip_Antenna_Report.docx#_Toc186326884)

[Figure 40: Radiation Efficiency Vs Frequency 34](file:///D:\project\antenna\Antenna_Design\report%20material\Microstrip_Antenna_Report.docx#_Toc186326885)

[Figure 41 Serial TL 36](file:///D:\project\antenna\Antenna_Design\report%20material\Microstrip_Antenna_Report.docx#_Toc186326886)

[Figure 42 S11 with Serial TL 37](#_Toc186326887)

[Figure 43 Gain with Serial TL 37](file:///D:\project\antenna\Antenna_Design\report%20material\Microstrip_Antenna_Report.docx#_Toc186326888)

[Figure 44: T-Section transmission line 38](file:///D:\project\antenna\Antenna_Design\report%20material\Microstrip_Antenna_Report.docx#_Toc186326889)

[Figure 45: S11 after adding T-section 39](file:///D:\project\antenna\Antenna_Design\report%20material\Microstrip_Antenna_Report.docx#_Toc186326890)

[Figure 46: VSWR after adding feeding network 39](file:///D:\project\antenna\Antenna_Design\report%20material\Microstrip_Antenna_Report.docx#_Toc186326891)

[Figure 47: Zin after adding T-section transmission line 40](file:///D:\project\antenna\Antenna_Design\report%20material\Microstrip_Antenna_Report.docx#_Toc186326892)

[Figure 48 Radiation Pattern at 20GHz in XZ Plane 41](file:///D:\project\antenna\Antenna_Design\report%20material\Microstrip_Antenna_Report.docx#_Toc186326893)

[Figure 49 Radiation Pattern at 20GHz in YZ Plane 41](file:///D:\project\antenna\Antenna_Design\report%20material\Microstrip_Antenna_Report.docx#_Toc186326894)

[Figure 50 CO Cross Polarized Fields at E-plane 41](file:///D:\project\antenna\Antenna_Design\report%20material\Microstrip_Antenna_Report.docx#_Toc186326895)

[Figure 51 CO Cross Polarized Fields at H-plane 41](file:///D:\project\antenna\Antenna_Design\report%20material\Microstrip_Antenna_Report.docx#_Toc186326896)

[Figure 52 3D Polar Gain at 20GHz 42](file:///D:\project\antenna\Antenna_Design\report%20material\Microstrip_Antenna_Report.docx#_Toc186326897)

[Figure 53 Radiation Efficiency Vs Frequency 44](file:///D:\project\antenna\Antenna_Design\report%20material\Microstrip_Antenna_Report.docx#_Toc186326898)

[Figure 54 Directivity Vs Frequency 44](file:///D:\project\antenna\Antenna_Design\report%20material\Microstrip_Antenna_Report.docx#_Toc186326899)

[Figure 55 Gain Vs Frequency 44](file:///D:\project\antenna\Antenna_Design\report%20material\Microstrip_Antenna_Report.docx#_Toc186326900)

[Figure 56 Gain VS Distance Element 46](file:///D:\project\antenna\Antenna_Design\report%20material\Microstrip_Antenna_Report.docx#_Toc186326901)

[Figure 57 Smith Chart with T-Section 48](file:///D:\project\antenna\Antenna_Design\report%20material\Microstrip_Antenna_Report.docx#_Toc186326902)

[Figure 58 hs increase 50](file:///D:\project\antenna\Antenna_Design\report%20material\Microstrip_Antenna_Report.docx#_Toc186326903)

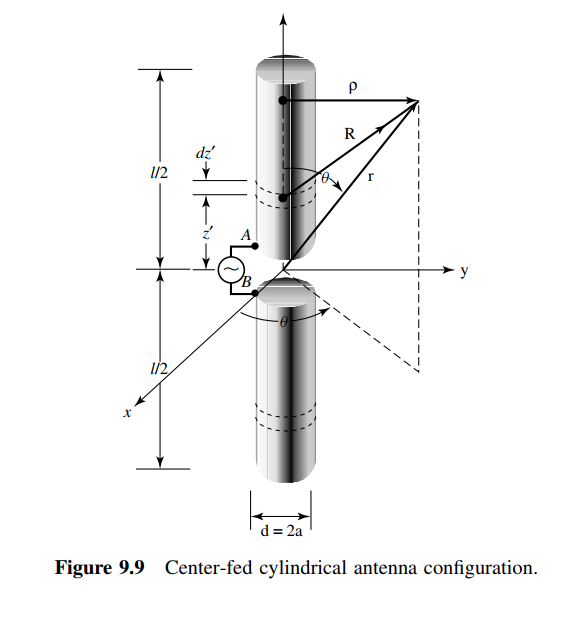
[Figure 59 rprope increase 51](file:///D:\project\antenna\Antenna_Design\report%20material\Microstrip_Antenna_Report.docx#_Toc186326904)

# 1. Introduction and Problem Description

This project involves the design of a 2-element probe-fed microstrip patch antenna operating at 20 GHz. The goal is to achieve an S11 less than -10 dB at the operating frequency while optimizing performance in terms of bandwidth, gain, and radiation efficiency. A comprehensive analysis of the antenna's mutual coupling and gain vs. element spacing is also included.

# Verification Against Another Source

We’re going to simulate a dipole with the design in figure 9.9 in refrence [1] with HFSS.



|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Name | Unit | "Evaluated Value" | Description |
| dl | mm | 139.5mm | Antenna length |
| rdi | mm | 0.2625mm | Antenna radius |
| gap\_L | mm | 1mm | Gap length |

With values that’s applied in Table 1:

Table 1 Diploe Antenna Dimensions

A green and red line

Description automatically generated

Figure 1: dipole antenna designed for verification

## Benchmark Description

* A dipole antenna is a standard reference in antenna theory, with well-documented characteristics such as impedance, radiation pattern, and gain.
* It is widely used as a baseline for verifying simulation accuracy and comparing performance metrics.

**Simulation Setup**

1. **Design Parameters**:
   * Length of the dipole: L= is the wavelength at the operating frequency.
   * Material: Mention the conductor used (copper or PEC).
2. **Simulation Environment**:
   * Define the simulation parameters, such as mesh size, boundary conditions, and excitation type (e.g., lumped port or wave port).
3. **Performance Metrics Evaluated**:
   * Return Loss (S11).
   * Radiation patterns in E-plane and H-plane.
   * Gain and efficiency.

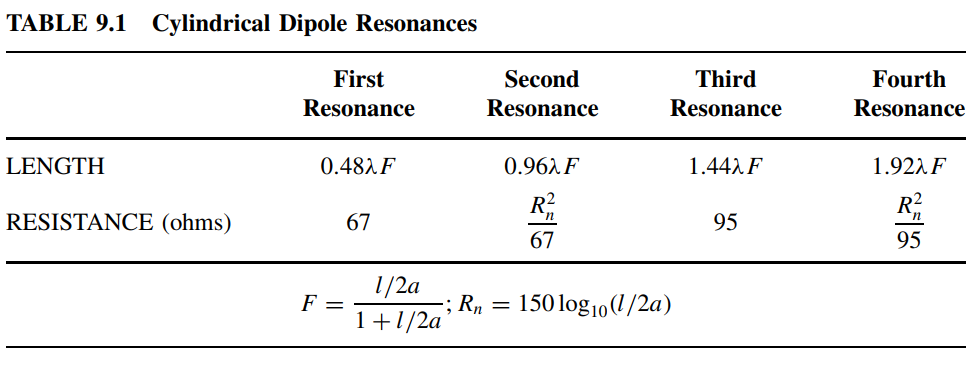
**Equations Controlling Dipole Antenna**

1. **Directivity**:
2. **Radiation Pattern**:
   * E-plane pattern: for .
   * H-plane pattern: for
3. **Input Impedance**:
4. **Gain**:

where is the efficiency of the antenna.

**Results Comparison**

We are going to use Table 9.1 in refrence [1] to verfy. According to it I’m expecting Rin=67Ω



A graph with a red line

Description automatically generated

Figure 2: S11 for dipole antenna for verification

A green and white graph

Description automatically generatedA graph with lines and numbers

Description automatically generated

Figure 3: Zin for dipole antenna for verification

Figure 4: Gain 2D for dipole antenna for verification

A red and yellow sphere with lines and points

Description automatically generated

Figure 5: Gain 3D for dipole antenna for verification

**Conclusion**

* The dipole antenna serves as a reliable reference for verifying the EM simulation tool.
* imulated results of the dipole antenna matches theoretical expectations (S11 plot, radiation pattern, and gain).
* The Rin is 68.63 which is approximately equal to the theotical value in Table 9.1.

***So the EM tool HFSS is verified***

# 2. Design Procedure

The design started with the selection of the substrate material R04003C with a dielectric constant of 3.55. Initial dimensions were calculated using standard formulas for microstrip patch antennas, considering a substrate thickness of 0.406 mm. An online calculator was used to determine the initial patch dimensions, which were fine-tuned through simulation sweeps for optimal S11 performance.

A single patch antenna was first designed and analyzed to establish baseline performance metrics. Subsequently, a 2-element array was constructed with varying patch separation distances (dp) to study mutual coupling. A matching network was designed for probe feeding to further optimize the design.

At first, we started with the following mathematical modelling for our design then we tuned and swept parameters to achieve required specs.

## Patch:

The resonant frequency of a rectangular microstrip patch antenna can be calculated using:[5]

where:

* : Speed of light in free space (  )
* : Effective length of the patch
* : Effective dielectric constant of the substrate.

Effective Length:

where:

## Substrate:

Effective dielectric constant:

where:

* : Relative permittivity of the substrate

We used RO4003C in Table 2 dielectric with [4]

* : Height of the substrate
* : Width of the patch.

A screenshot of a computer

Description automatically generated

Table 2 RT-duroid 5870 - 5880 Data Sheet

**2. Bandwidth Enhancement Analysis**

Bandwidth () is related to the quality factor () by:

Technique used to improve bandwidth:

* **Impedance Matching**: Adding a matching network to reduce reflections.
  + Use Zin and Z0 to compute matching network:

**3. Input Impedance**

The input impedance at the feed point is given by:

​

where ​ and ​ are resistance and reactance components derived from field distributions.

**4. Radiation Pattern**

The far-field electric field components can be approximated as:

where:

* ​: Wave number
* : Distance to observation point
* : Intrinsic impedance of the medium.

**5. Gain and Efficiency**

Gain () and radiation efficiency ( ​) are related:

where is the directivity.

Efficiency:

​​

# EM calculator:

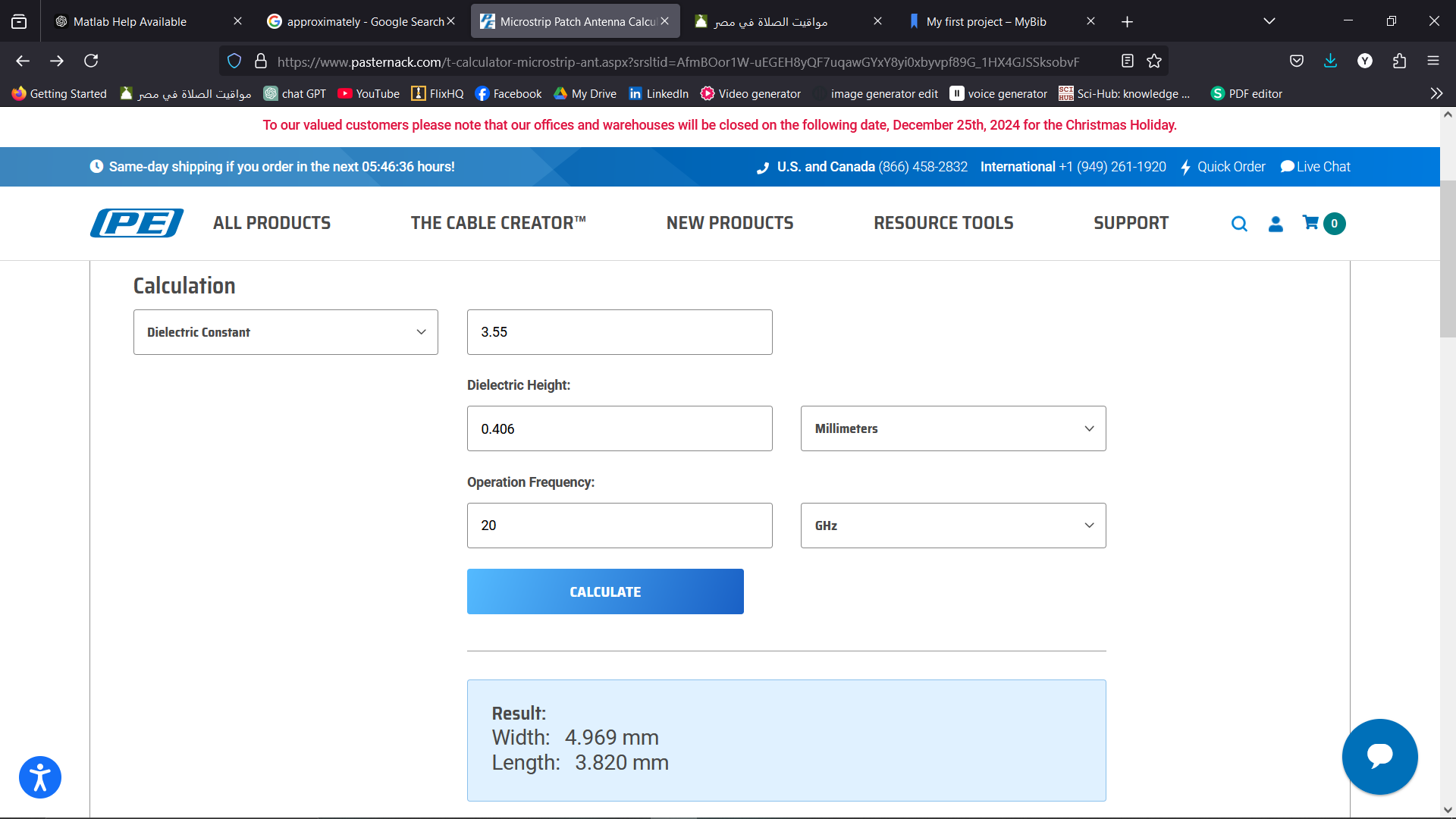
We Initialized our design using Pasternack's **Microstrip Patch Antenna Calculator[2]**

Figure 6 EM calculator results

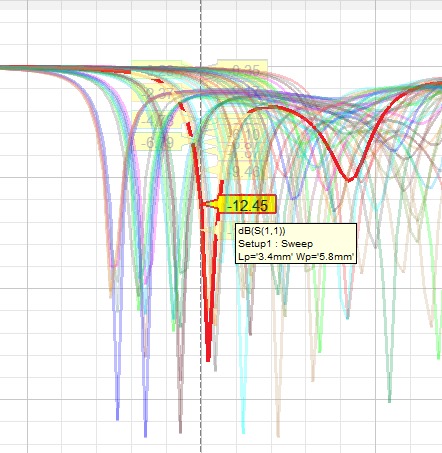
In figure 6, we can see that we started with W = 4.969 mm and L = 3.82 mm then we swept them to get the specs in figure 7.

Figure 7 L,W S11 sweaping

# Design of single patch

A diagram of a rectangular patch

Description automatically generated

Figure 8: antenna with probe feeding model

Figure 9: 3D patch antenna design

A green rectangle with orange and green rectangles on graph paper

Description automatically generated

A screenshot of a game

Description automatically generated

Figure 10: bottom view of patch antenna

A line with a green and blue line

Description automatically generated with medium confidence

Figure 11: side view of patch antenna

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Name | Unit | "Evaluated Value" | Description |
| Lp | Mm | 3.633mm | Patch length |
| Wp | Mm | 5.173mm | Patch width |
| hs | Mm | 0.406mm | Substrate height |
| Ws | Mm | 6\*hs+Wp=7.609mm | Ground plane width |
| Ls | Mm | 6\*hs+Lp=6.475mm | Ground plane length |
| xfeed | Mm | 1.2mm | Feed point x-offset |
| rcoax | Mm | 0.14mm | Coaxial feed radius |
| hcoax | Mm | 0.203mm | Coaxial feed height |
| rprope | Mm | 0.07mm | Probe radius |
| Yfeed | Mm | 0mm | Feed point y-offset |
| Hgnd | Mm | -0.032mm | Ground plane height |

And we designed and evaluated the values in Table 3:  
The substrate length and width is designed so the patch has 3\*hs in each side

Table 3 Single Patch Design

### S11:

A graph of a graph

Description automatically generatedFor designing single patch antenna, we tuned parameters to get reflection coefficient S11 achieving specs

Figure 12: S11 for single Patch antenna

From figure 12, we succeeded to tuned parameters and achieve minimum s11 at operating frequency 20 GHz =-15.35dB

we have bandwidth (range of frequency where S11<-10 dB)A diagram of a circle with a smiley face drawn on it

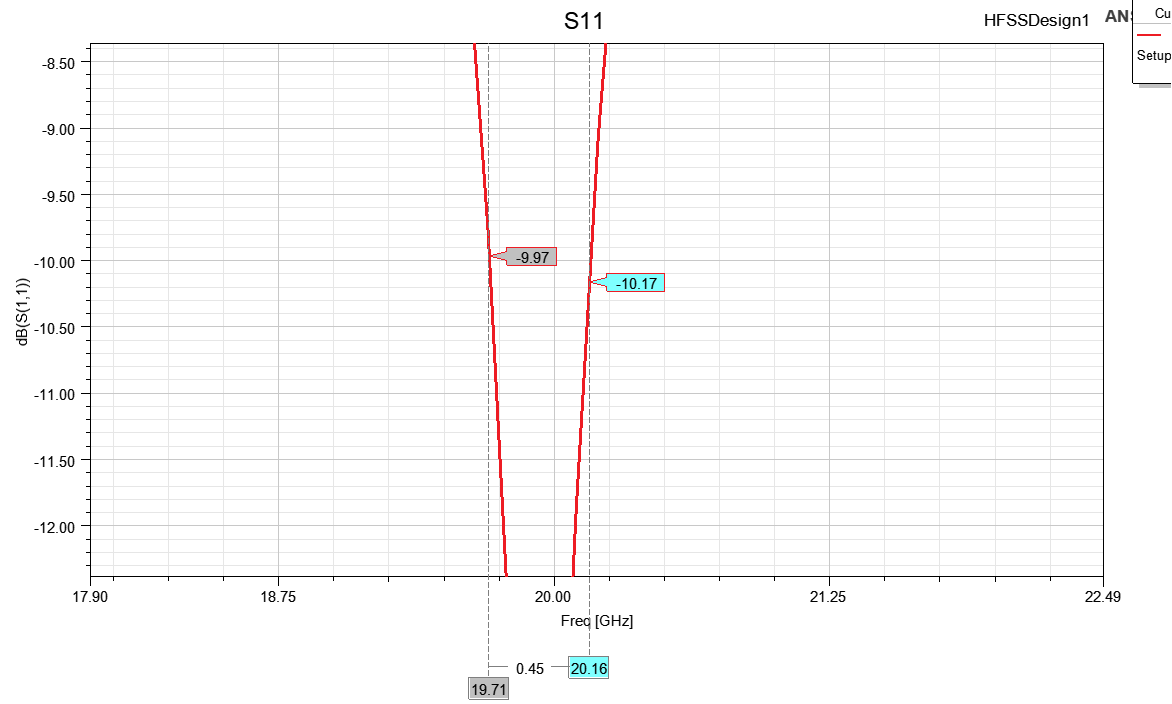
Description automatically generated,The BW = 450 MHz.

Figure 13: smith chart for single Patch

Figure 14: Bandwidth where S11<-10 dB

As shown in figure 15, Bandwidth achieved for VSWR=1.421

A graph with a red line

Description automatically generated

Figure 15: VSWR = 1.421 at 20 GHz for single patch antenna

### Zin:

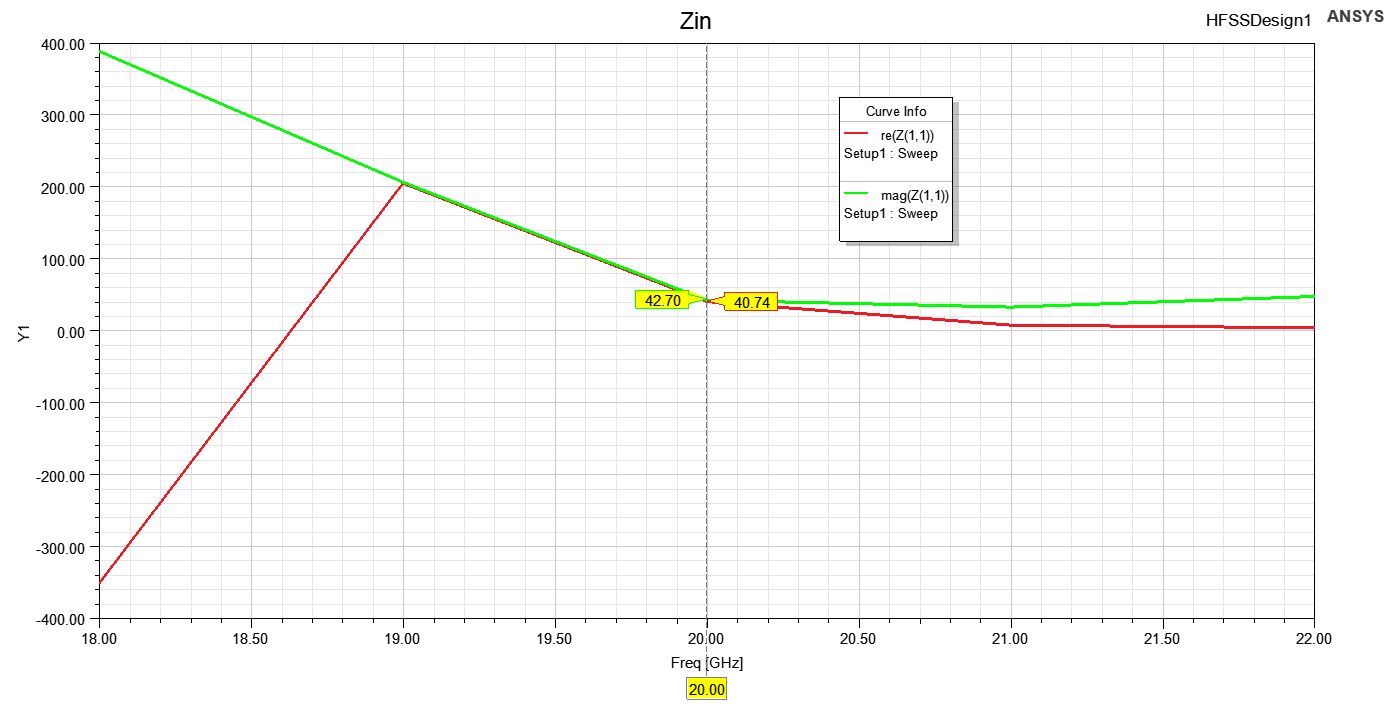
For proper feeding from the above figure 16, we found that is matching impedance required at 20GHz.

Figure 16 Zin for single Patch antenna at 20GHz

A graph with a red line

Description automatically generated

Figure 17 Xfeed for single patch antenna

A graph with a red line

Description automatically generated

Figure 18: Yfeed for single patch antenna

From figure 17 and 18, We can see that (x,y) position can change the Zin value.

So we chose (1.2,0) that matched our specs.

### Radiation patterns

Figure 19 Radiation Pattern at 20GHz in XZ Plane

Figure 20 Radiation Pattern at 20GHz in YZ Plane

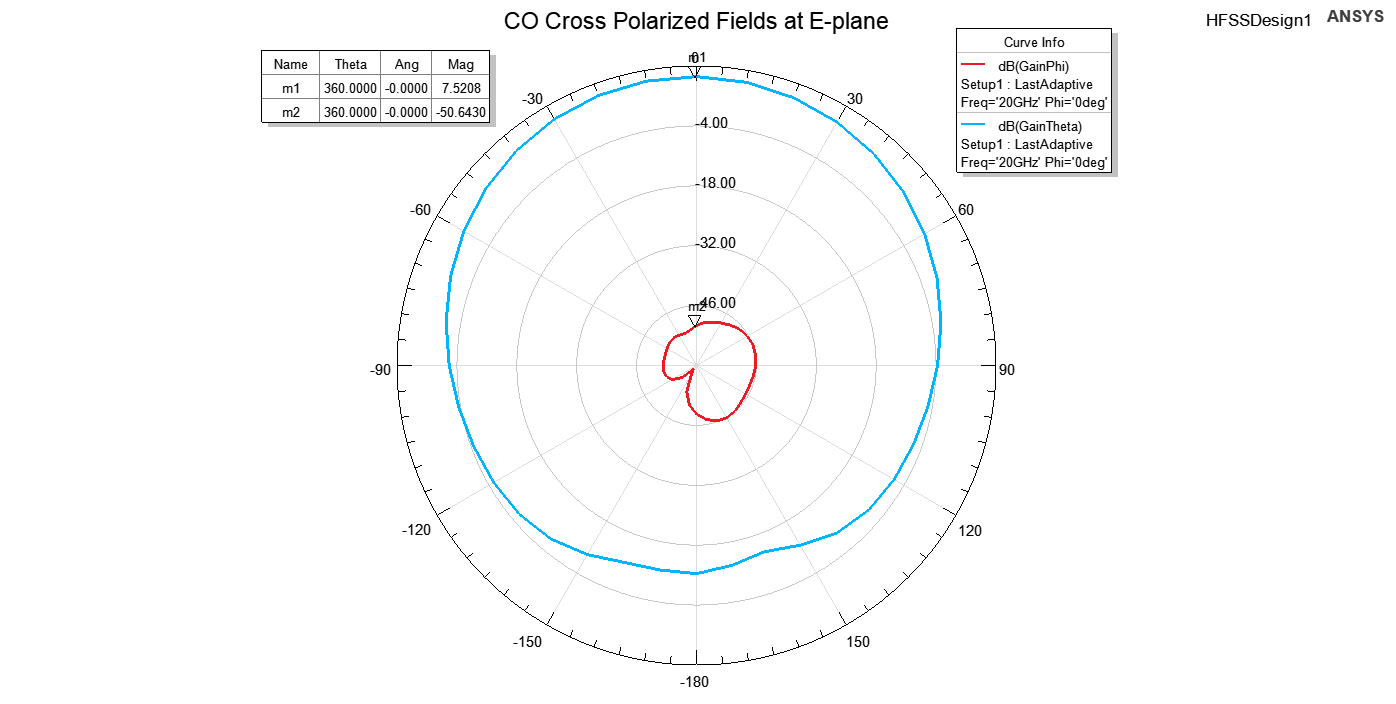
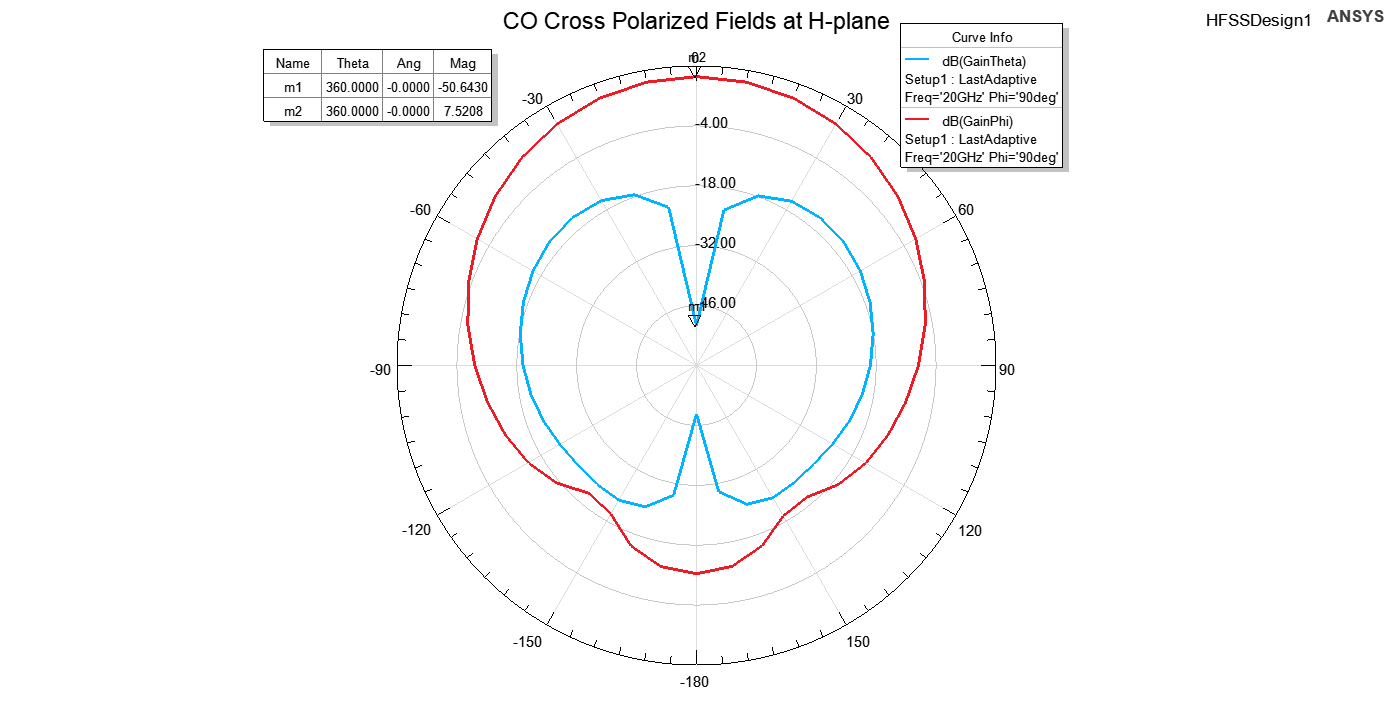


Figure 21 CO Cross Polarized Fields at E-plane

Figure 22 CO Cross Polarized Fields at H-plane

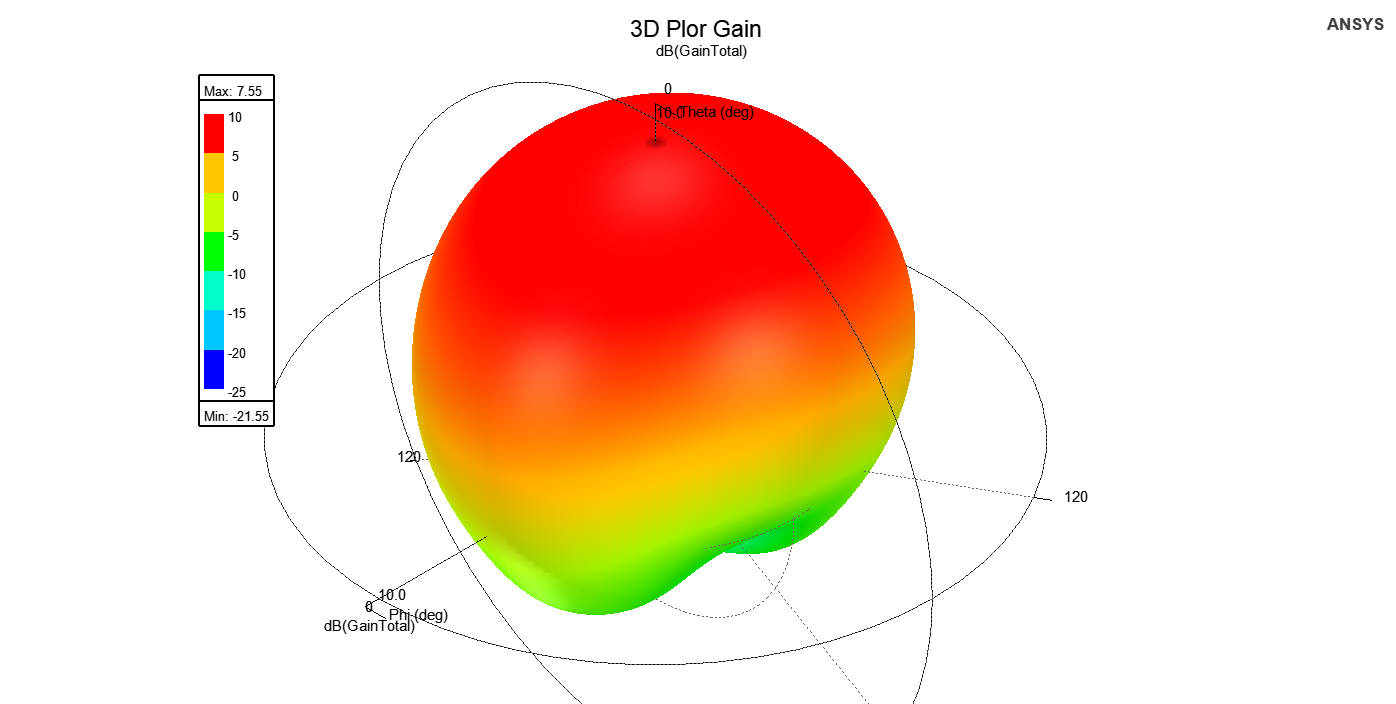
Using the figures 19, 20, 21, 22 and 23, we can calculate the variables in Table 4:

Figure 23 3D Polar Gain at 20GHz

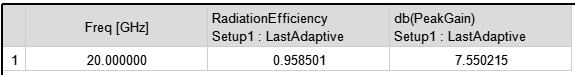
|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Name | Evaluated Value |
| Gain | 7.52dB |
| XPD | 58.16dB |
| Front-to-BackXZ | 21.18dB |
| Front-to-BackXY | 18.87dB |

Table 4 Single Patch Radiation Pattern Results

As shown in Figure 19 and Figure 20, the radiation pattern of the designed single antenna is illustrated along with the co- and cross-polarized fields. The antenna achieves a gain of 7.52 dB, indicating a strong directional performance. It can be observed from the co- and cross-polarization plots that the antenna achieves a high cross-polarization discrimination (XPD) of 58.16 dB, reflecting excellent polarization purity. Furthermore, the front-to-back ratio is 21.18 dB in the XZ plane and 18.87 dB in the XY plane, demonstrating good suppression of backward radiation and indicating stable performance across planes.

### Antenna Parameters

Table 5 Single Antenna Parameters



The antenna gain is one of the key antenna characteristics as it combines radiation efficiency and directivity.

As shown in table 5, where the peak realized gain of the proposed antenna is 7.55 dB, indicating strong performance in the boresight direction. A radiation efficiency of 95.85% is achieved, showcasing the antenna's ability to efficiently convert input power into radiated energy. Note that this efficiency and gain are specific to the evaluated frequency range, as the simulation was focused on the design's target operational band.

### Gain Performance of a Single Patch Antenna

As shown in Table 5, The gain of the single patch antenna was measured, and the results showed a single main beam centered at θ=0° with a maximum gain of 7.52dB and directivity of 7.7dB

This pattern is consistent with the fundamental radiation mode of a microstrip patch antenna, which is typically a broadside radiator designed to focus energy perpendicular to the patch surface.

The observed gain value of 5.7dB is within the expected range for a single patch operating at the designed frequency, accounting for the following factors:

1. **Effective Aperture:** The size and geometry of the patch contribute to its directivity.
2. **Substrate Material:** The dielectric constant and loss tangent of the substrate slightly influence the gain.
3. **Impedance Matching:** Proper matching ensures minimal reflection and maximum radiation efficiency.

This result establishes a baseline for evaluating the performance of the 2-element patch array configuration.

# Design of Two Patches:

A computer generated image of a rectangular object

Description automatically generatedWe are targeting to design 2 antenna arrays, so we made a replica from our patch and we swept and tuned our parameter to achieve the required specs

Figure 24: Two Patch antenna array

A green leaf on a line

Description automatically generated

Figure 25: Two Patch side view

We make a sweap on distance between patches (dp) to meet the specs.

The best results was at dp=0.36mm putting in mind that it will change after designing the TL.

### S-Parameters:

Also designing two patch antenna array is expected to provide us with higher gain compared to single patch however we noticed that there is a trade off between mutual coupling S21 and achieving required gain:

At first, we tuned parameters to achieve S11 as required

Figure 26: S11 for Two patches

A graph with red lines and numbers

Description automatically generatedAs shown in Figure 26, We have S11 = -10.46 dB< -10 dB at 20 GHz however we faced problems with Bandwidth as it is a very narrow band.

A graph with red lines

Description automatically generated

Figure 27: VSWR for first Patch

A graph of a graph

Description automatically generatedA graph of a heart rate

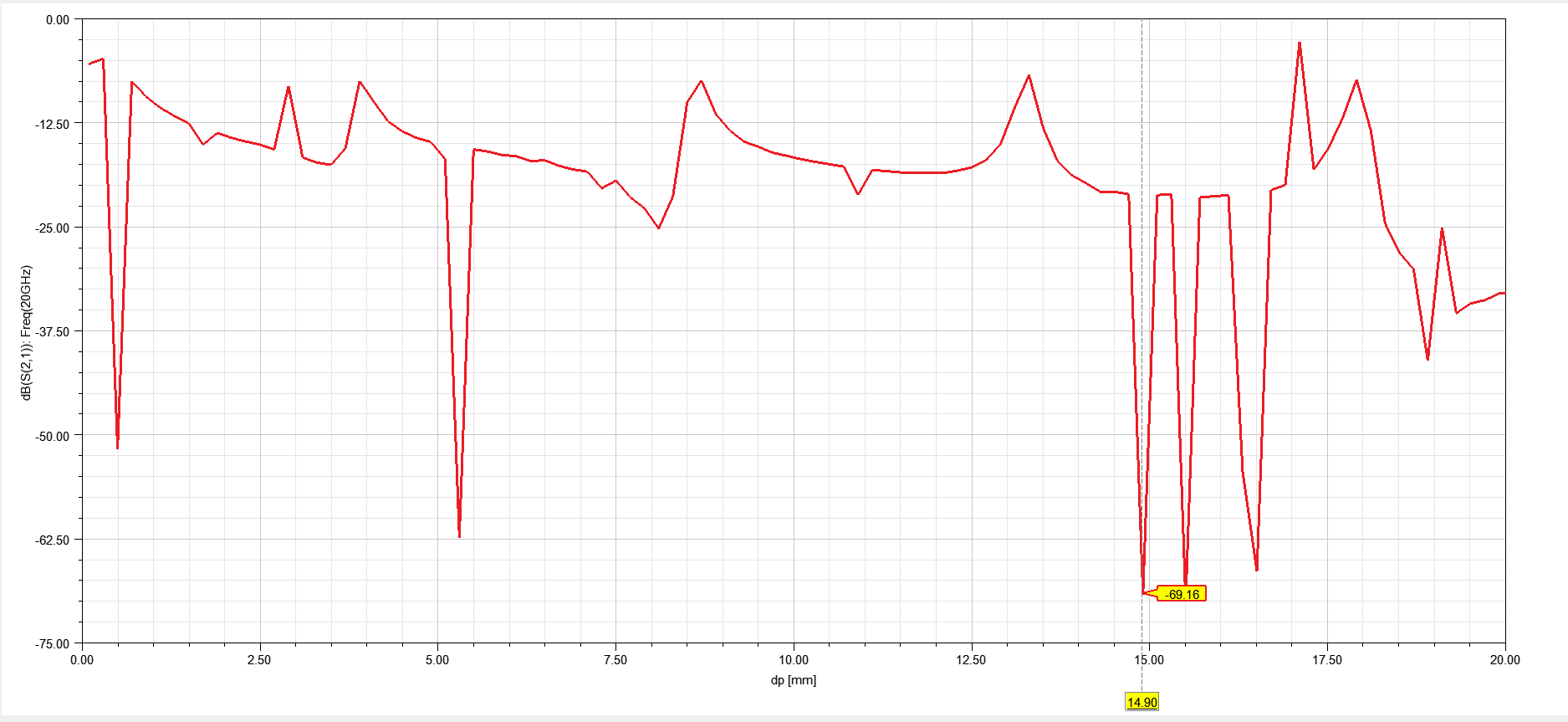
Description automatically generatedAs shown in Figure 28 and 30, The VSWR1 VSWR2 is equal to 1.63.

Figure 28: VSWR for second Patch

As shown in figure 29, The S21 value equals to -6.52 dB.

Figure 29: S21 Vs Frequency

### Mutual Coupling vs Element Spacing:

A graph with different colored lines

Description automatically generatedas we discussed mutual coupling S21 originated when we add the second patch and we noticed that it varies with distance between two patches (dp) so we made sweep on:

Figure 30: S21 Vs Distance between two patches swept till λ

Figure 31: S21 sweep Vs frequency by changing dp

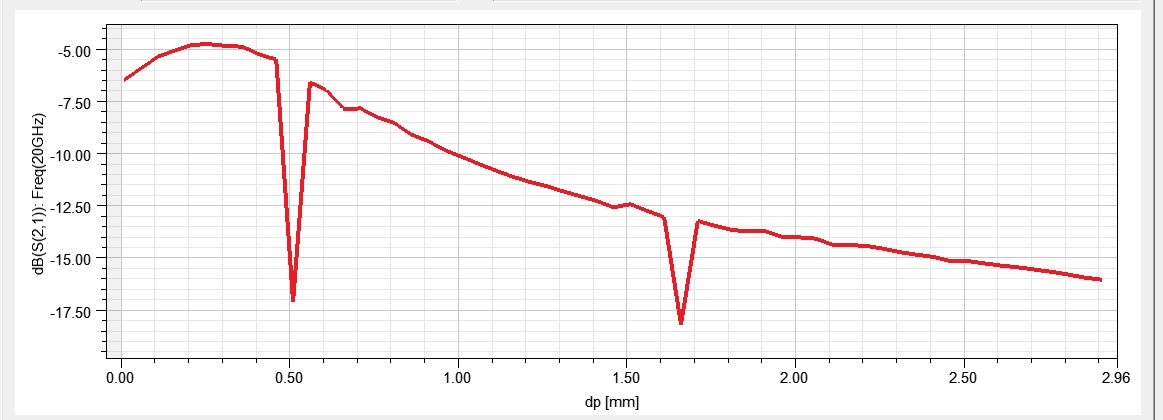


Figure 32 S21 Vs Element Distance on small scale

As shown in figure 30 and 32:

The behavior of the S21 graph versus element distance is primarily due to the constructive and destructive interference of the electromagnetic waves radiating from the two patches.

At certain distances, the waves reinforce each other, creating tops in the graph, while at others, they cancel out, resulting in bottoms. These interactions are influenced by the phase difference between the signals from the patches, which changes with element spacing.

The observed tops at 8.7 mm, 13.31 mm, and 17.11 mm correspond to distances where the phase alignment of the waves maximizes coupling. Conversely, the bottoms at 14.9 mm, 15.5 mm, and 16.5 mm represent destructive interference points where the coupling is minimized with S21 = -70 dB.

***We will choose for the TL design a distance of based on sweaping with the TL***

### Zin:

Figure 33: Zin for two Patches at 20 GHz

As shown in figure 33, The Zin equals to 80.74 + j 56.82 Ω

We got Zin=69.05 so for proper feeding and enhancing bandwidth.

### Radiation patterns

Figure 34 Radiation Pattern at 20GHz in YZ Plane

Figure 35 Radiation Pattern at 20GHz in XZ Plane

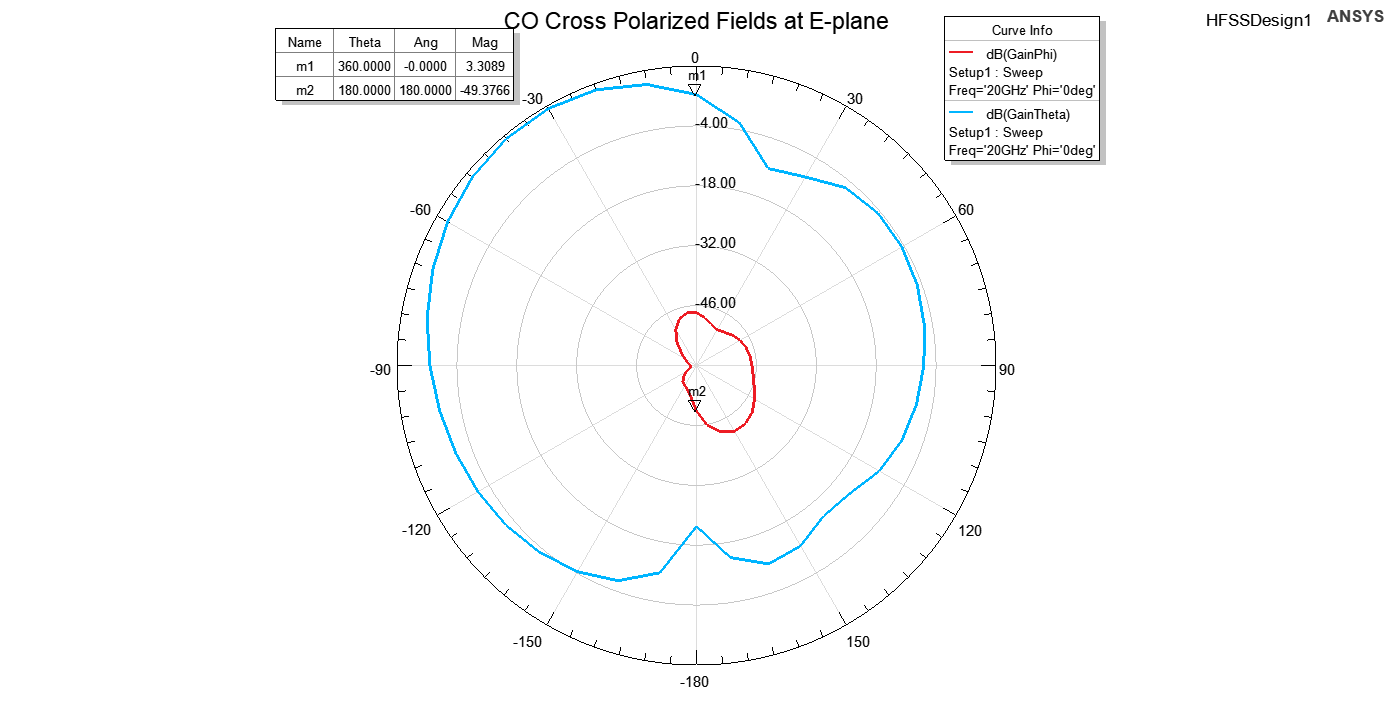
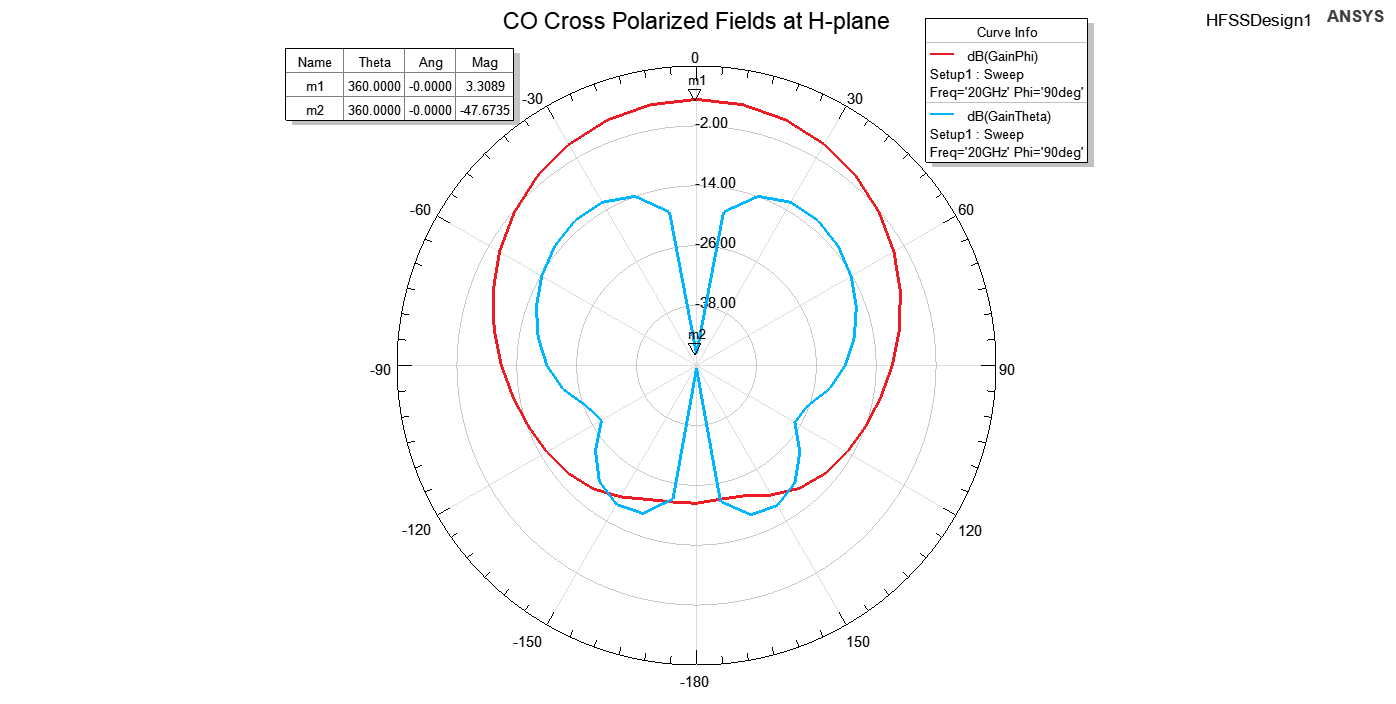


Figure 36 CO Cross Polarized Fields at E-plane

Figure 37 CO Cross Polarized Fields at H-plane

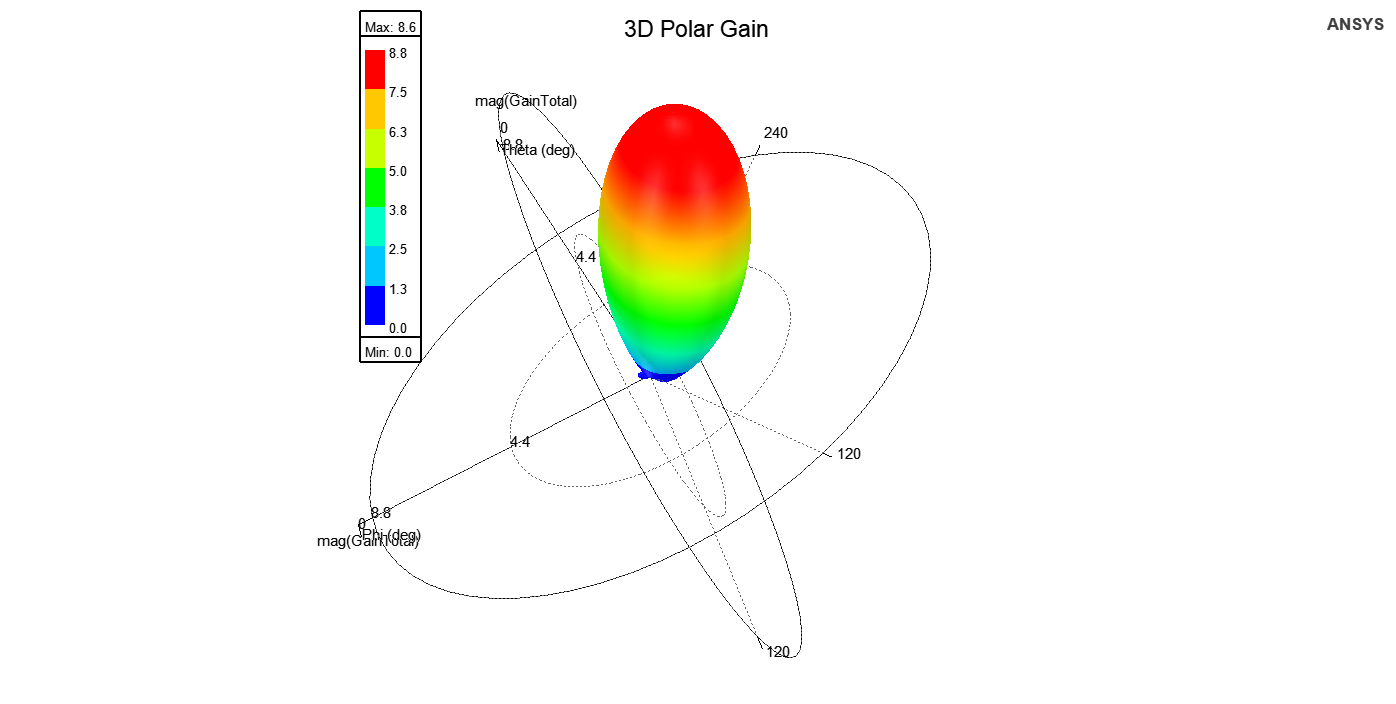
Using the figures 35, 36 ,37 and 38, we can calculate the variables in Table 6:

Figure 38 3D Polar Gain at 20GHz

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Name | Evaluated Value |
| Gain | 3.3dB |
| XPD | 52.67dB |
| Front-to-BackXZ | 25dB |
| Front-to-BackXY | 25dB |

Table 6 Two Patch Radiation Pattern Results

As shown in Table 6, when the two patches were combined into an array, the mutual coupling between the elements and the phase difference between their feeds caused the main lobe of the radiation pattern to shift, with the main beam centered at θ = -30°. This offset, typical of such interactions, arises from unequal phase distribution or asymmetry in the feed network.

The array achieved a gain of 3.3 dB and a cross-polarization discrimination (XPD) of 52.67 dB, with a front-to-back ratio of 25 dB in both the XZ and XY planes, as summarized in Table 6. However, the radiation efficiency was lower than that of the single patch due to the offset and coupling effects, highlighting the trade-off between gain improvement and efficiency in array configurations.

This behavior can be attributed to the following factors:

1. **Element Spacing and Phase Difference:**
   * The mutual coupling and spacing between the two patches likely introduced a phase difference in the radiated fields from each element. This phase offset caused constructive interference to occur at an angle rather than directly broadside (θ=0∘\theta = 0^\circθ=0∘).
2. **Feed Network Asymmetry:**
   * If the feed network introduced a phase imbalance between the two patches, it would steer the beam away from the broadside direction.
3. **Mutual Coupling Effect:**
   * The interaction between the two patches may have modified the effective radiation pattern, pushing the main beam off-center.

This result highlights the importance of ensuring symmetrical feeding and carefully managing element spacing to maintain broadside radiation. Corrective measures, such as tuning the transmission line lengths or adjusting the relative phases, can mitigate this offset.

### Antenna parameters:

Figure 39 Two Patch Gain Vs Frequency

Figure 40: Radiation Efficiency Vs Frequency

As shown in figure 39 and 40, The plots of **Gain** and **Radiation Efficiency** versus frequency for the two-patch array reveal the following observations:

1. **Maximum Gain and Efficiency:**

* The total gain reaches 9.2dB and radiation efficiency peaks at 9.57dB, but these values are not the global maxima across the frequency range.

1. **Two Distinct Peaks:**

* The gain and efficiency curves exhibit two prominent peaks at approximately **17.5 GHz** and **23.5 GHz**, indicating the frequencies where the array's performance is optimized.
* These peaks could be attributed to **resonances** of the patches, where the radiation is most efficient due to better impedance matching and minimal losses.

1. **Behavior Between Peaks:**

* Between these peaks, the gain and efficiency slightly drop, likely due to suboptimal matching or increased losses in the antenna system.

To maximize performance at a specific operational frequency, the design could be further tuned, such as by adjusting the element spacing, feed network, or patch dimensions. Including this analysis in the report emphasizes the importance of frequency optimization in array design.

# Adding Feeding Network for Two Patch antennas:

Figure 41 Serial TL

## Serial Transmission Line:

As shown in figure 41, We first tried to use the Serial TL with the Two patches with dimensions in Table 7:

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Name | Unit | "Evaluated Value" | Description |
| LTL\_feed | mm | Ls=10.72mm | Feed transmission line length |
| WTL\_feed | mm | 0.3mm | Feed transmission line width |

Table 7 Serial TL Dimensions

### Results:

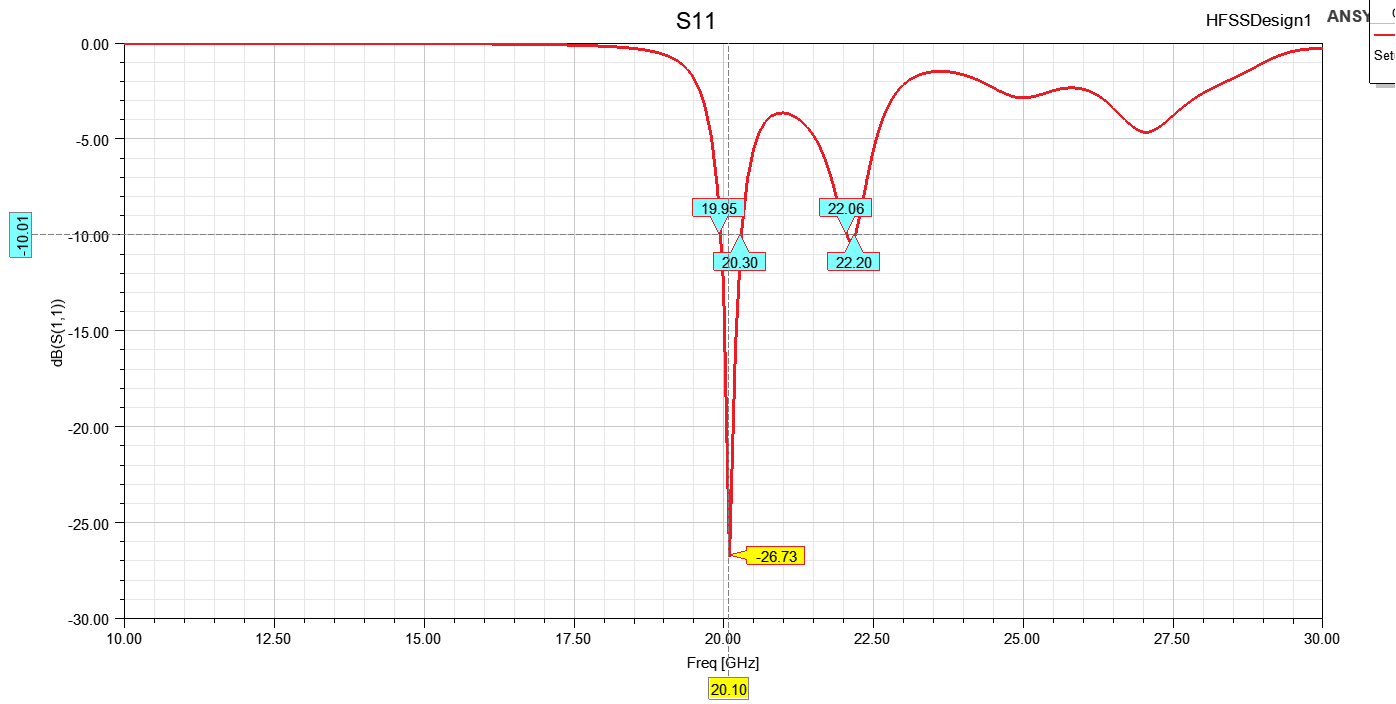


Figure 42 S11 with Serial TL

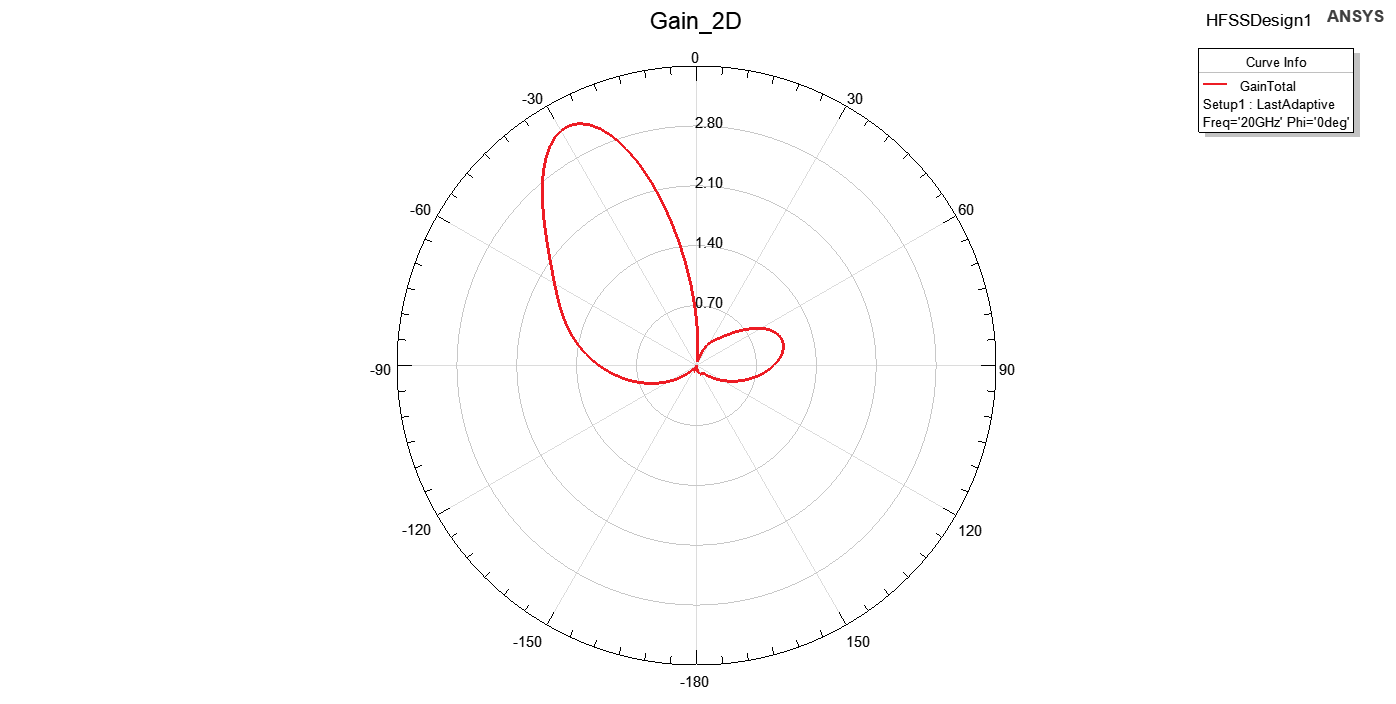
As shown in figure 42, The S11 achieved the specs

Figure 43 Gain with Serial TL

As shown in figure 43, The gain was centered at θ =−30°.

The serial transmission line improved impedance matching (S11), but the radiation pattern remained centered at θ = -30° due to phase imbalance between the two patches, caused by unequal path lengths. This imbalance led to constructive interference in the offset direction.

***So we shifted to T-section design***

## Final Design with T-Section Transmission Line:

As shown in figure 44, We designed a transmission line T-section as shown below and we swept on its dimensions till we achieved requirement.

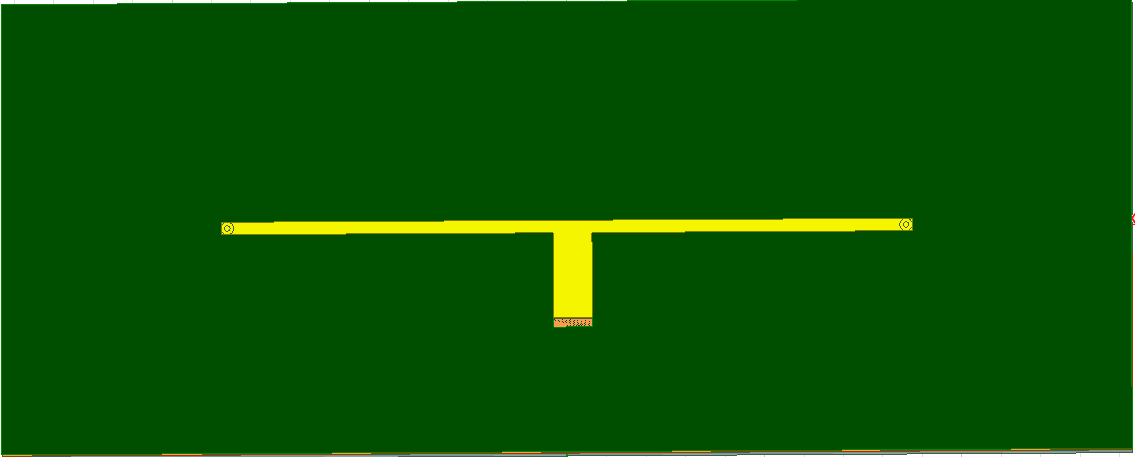
And to have maximum gain we make distance equal to **λ = 15mm**

Figure 44: T-Section transmission line

After Sweaping, The final dimensions are in Table 8:

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Name | Unit | Evaluated Value | Description |
| Lp | mm | 5.78mm | Patch length |
| Wp | mm | 7.54mm | Patch width |
| hs | mm | 0.406mm | Substrate height |
| Ws | - | 11.736mm | Ground plane width |
| Ls | - | 18.206mm | Ground plane length |
| xfeed | mm | 1.1mm | Feed point x-offset |
| dp | mm | 3.5mm | Patch offset parameter |
| rcoax | mm | 0.16mm | Coaxial feed radius |
| hcoax | mm | 0.203mm | Coaxial feed height |
| rprope | mm | 0.07mm | Probe radius |
| yfeed | mm | 0mm | Feed point y-offset |
| hgnd | mm | -0.032mm | Ground plane height |
| Xcoax | - | 2 | Coaxial feed x-offset |
| WTL\_In | mm | 0.673367mm | Input transmission line width |
| LTL\_feed | mm | 2.179292mm | Feed transmission line length |
| WTL\_feed | mm | 0.976256mm | Feed transmission line width |
| LTL\_Slot | mm | 0.25mm | Slot length |

Table 8 Final Design

### S11:

Figure 45: S11 after adding T-section

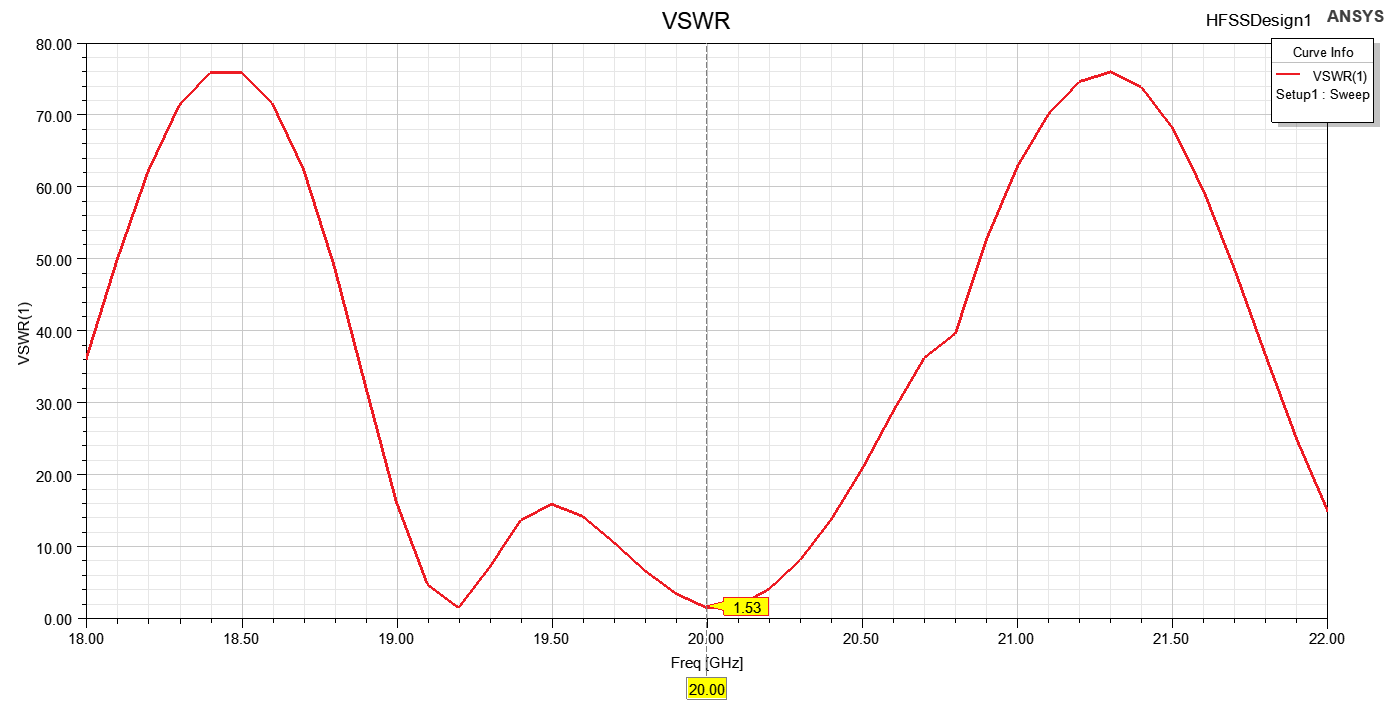
From figure 45, we enhanced bandwidth to be more wide from 19.96 GHz to 20.11 GHz with BW= 150MHz.

Figure 46: VSWR after adding feeding network

As shown in figure 46, The VSWR at frequency 20Ghz equals to 1.33.

### Zin:

Figure 47: Zin after adding T-section transmission line

As shown in figure 47**,** the input**.53 + j22.02 Ω**. The resistive component **53.53 Ω** indicates a good match to the standard 50 **Ω** feed line, minimizing reflection losses. However, the reactive component **+j22.02 Ω** suggests the presence of inductive reactance, which could lead to impedance mismatch if not compensated. Proper matching techniques, such as using a matching network or adjusting the antenna geometry, may be required to achieve a purely resistive impedance for optimal power transfer.

### Radiation patterns

Figure 48 Radiation Pattern at 20GHz in XZ Plane

Figure 49 Radiation Pattern at 20GHz in YZ Plane

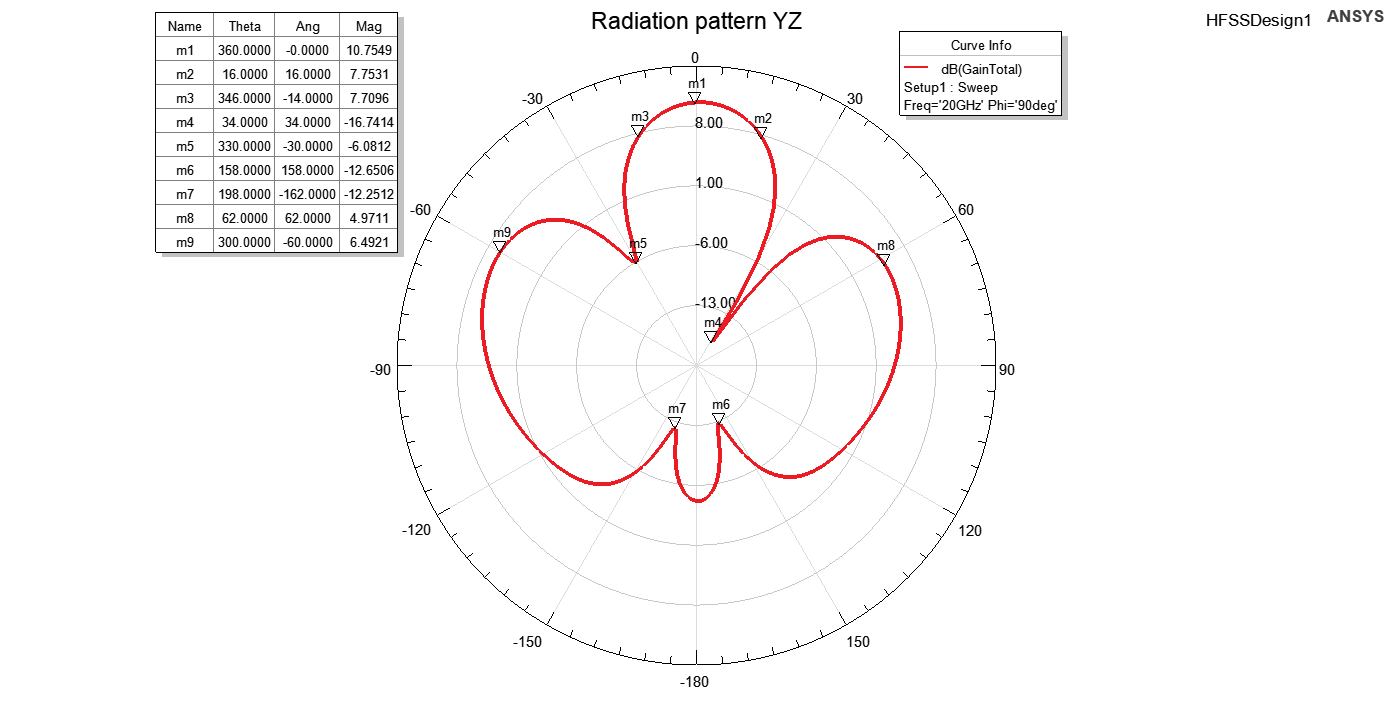
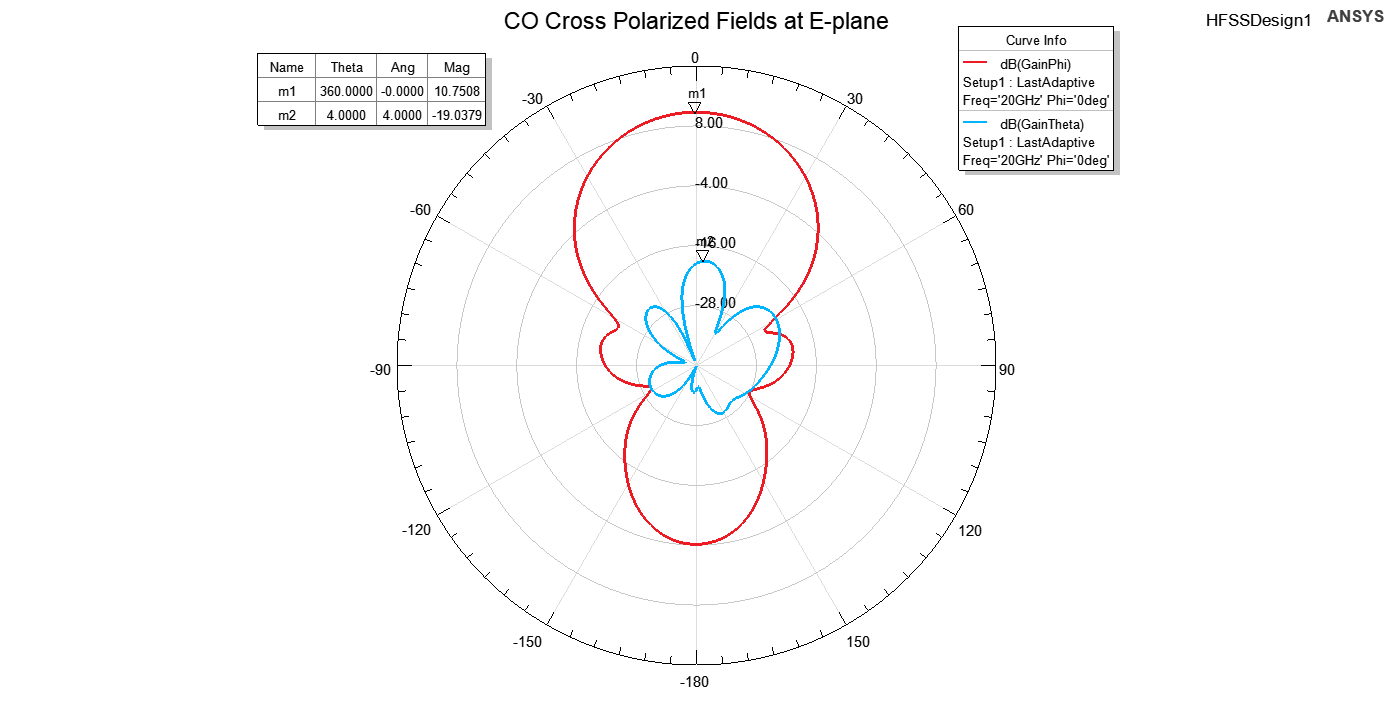
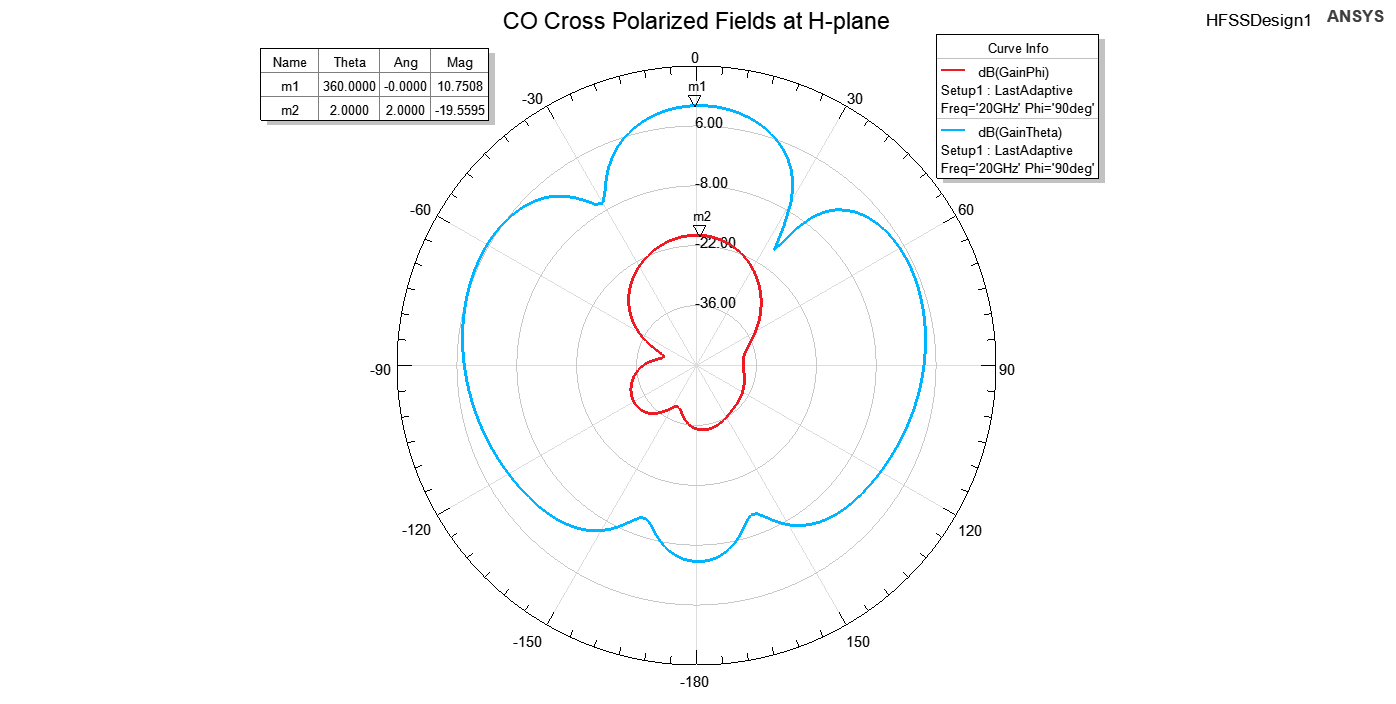


Figure 50 CO Cross Polarized Fields at E-plane

Figure 51 CO Cross Polarized Fields at H-plane

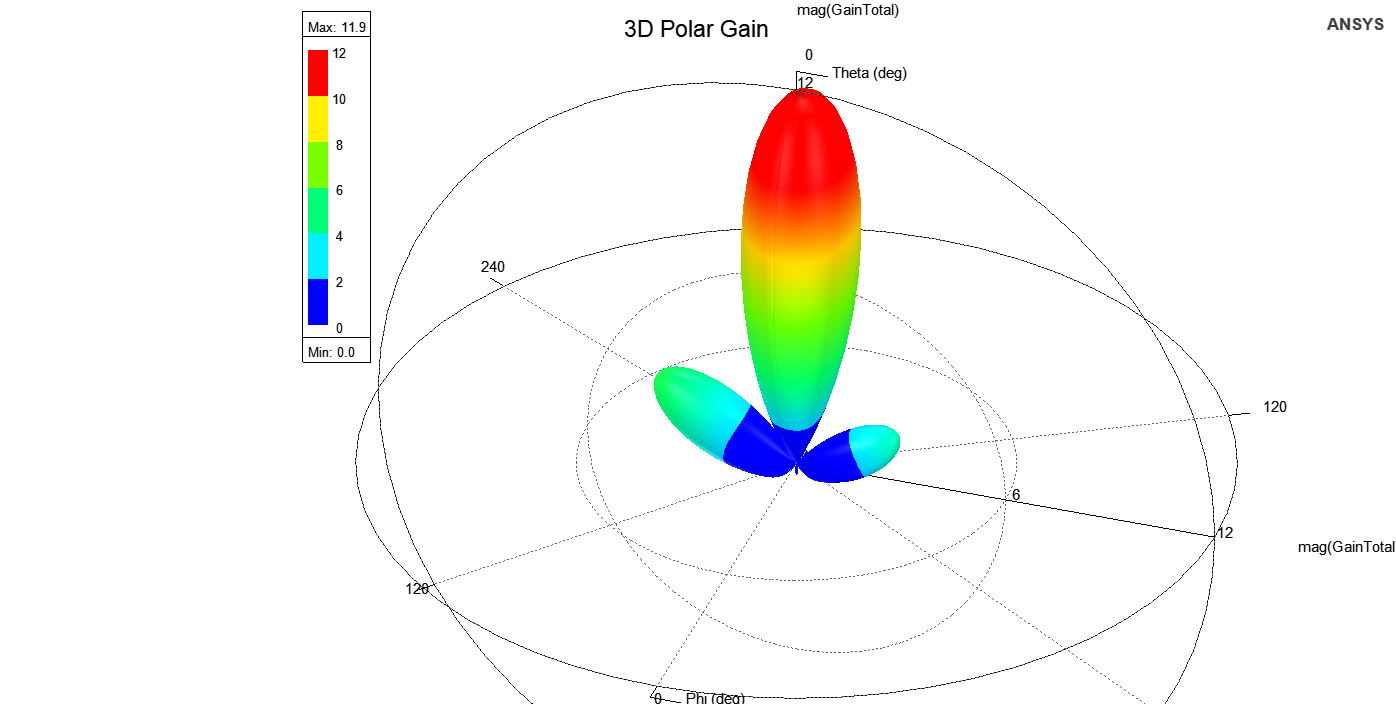


Figure 52 3D Polar Gain at 20GHz

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Name | Evaluated Value |
| Gain | 10.75dB |
| XPD | 29.78dB |

Using the figures 48, 49, 50, 51 and 52, we can calculate the variables in Table 9:

Table 9 Final Two Patch Radiation Pattern Results

As shown in the Table 9, the addition of the T-section transmission line effectively corrected the radiation pattern alignment. This adjustment centered the pattern at theta equal to zero, addressing the previous deviation observed at -30 degrees. The T-section design improved the impedance matching, ensuring proper energy distribution and pattern symmetry.

### Beamwidth:

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Name | Evaluated Value |
| Gain | 10.75 dB |
| 3dB beamwidth | 40° |
| Fisrt Null beamwidth | 120° |
| First Null | 60° |
| Side Lobe beamwidth | 60° |
| Side Lobe | 80° |

Using figure 49, We calculated the XZ beams in Table 10:

Table 10 XZ Beamwidth

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Name | Evaluated Value |
| Gain | 10.75 dB |
| 3dB beamwidth | 32° |
| Fisrt Null beamwidth | 64° |
| First Null | 30° |
| Side Lobe beamwidth | 124° |
| Side Lobe | 62° |

Using figure 50, We calculated the XY beams in Table 11:

Table 11 XY Beamwidth

As shown in **Figure 49**, the beamwidth parameters in the XZ plane were evaluated and tabulated in **Table 10**. The antenna exhibits a gain of **10.75 dB**, a **3dB beamwidth** of **32°**, and a **First Null Beamwidth** of **64°** with the first null occurring at **30°**. Additionally, the **Side Lobe Beamwidth** was measured at **124°**, and the **Side Lobe Level** was **62°**. These values reflect the antenna's sharp directivity and controlled sidelobe levels in the XZ plane.

Similarly, as shown in **Figure 50**, the beamwidth parameters in the XY plane were evaluated and presented in **Table 11**. The gain remains at **10.75 dB**, with a **3dB beamwidth** of **40°**, a **First Null Beamwidth** of **120°**, and the first null occurring at **60°**. The **Side Lobe Beamwidth** in the XY plane was **60°**, and the **Side Lobe Level** was observed at **80°**.

The differences between the XZ and XY plane beamwidths highlight the directional variations in the radiation pattern, which are influenced by the antenna's design and mutual coupling effects.

### Gain:

Figure 53 Radiation Efficiency Vs Frequency

Figure 54 Directivity Vs Frequency

Figure 55 Gain Vs Frequency

The gain and directivity results, as shown in **Figure 55, 54 and 53**, demonstrate the performance of the antenna across the frequency range. The **co-polarized gain Gco** is approximately constant at **10.75 dB** between **19.5 GHz and 21 GHz**, indicating stable radiation characteristics over this band. The **cross-polarized gain Gx** is significantly lower at **-19.51 dB**, showcasing excellent polarization purity.

Similarly, the directivity (DD) follows the same trend as the gain, with the **co-polarized directivity Dco** peaking at **11.98 dB** and the cross-polarized directivity **Dx** at **-18.31 dB**. The calculated **radiation efficiency** of **75%** reflects the ratio of gain to directivity, indicating that 75% of the power is effectively radiated while the remaining 25% is lost due to material and mismatch losses. This efficiency is reasonable for practical antenna designs in this frequency range.

### Gain vs Element Spacing:

Figure 56 Gain VS Distance Element

The **Gain vs. Element Distance** graph, as shown in **Figure 56**, exhibits a generally increasing trend, starting from **10 dB** and gradually rising to **12 dB**. However, the graph features notable sudden drops in gain at specific distances. For instance, the gain drops sharply to **1 dB** at a distance of **8 mm**, and at distances close to the wavelength (λ=15 mm), the gain also decreases significantly, reaching **5.32 dB** at **14 mm** and **3.72 dB** at **16.5 mm**.

These abrupt changes in gain are likely due to destructive interference and mutual coupling effects between the elements. The proximity of the elements at these critical distances introduces phase mismatches and strong coupling, which degrade the antenna's radiation performance. This highlights the importance of optimizing element spacing to avoid these adverse effects and achieve stable gain.

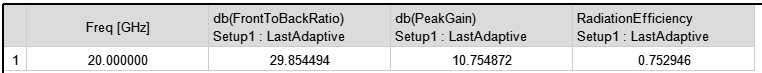
**Antenna Characteristic:**

Table 12 Final Antenna Parameters

Using the Table 12, We can see the final design characteristic in Table13:

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Name | Evaluated Value | Specs |
| Gain | 10.75 dB | - |
| Directivity | 11.98 dB | - |
| radiation efficiency | 75% | - |
| Center Frequency | 20 GHz° | 20 Ghz |
| Bandwidth | 150 MHz | - |
| Fractional Bandwidth | 0.8% | - |
| S11 | -13.53 dB° | <-10 dB |
| Zin | 53 + j22.02 Ω. | - |
| VSWR | 1.33 | - |
| FrontToBackRatio | 29.85dB | > 20dB |

Table 13 Final Antenna Characteristics

***As shown in Table 13, We achieved the specs.***

# 3. Results’ Discussion:

## 3.1 Return Loss (S11)

* The S11 parameter was evaluated for both the single patch and the 2-element array configurations. The single patch exhibited an S11 below -10 dB at the target frequency of 20 GHz, confirming adequate impedance matching. The 2-element array maintained a similar performance with an optimal patch separation distance of 0.36 mm.
* **Importance of S11 < -10 dB**: Achieving a return loss below -10 dB indicates that at least 90% of the input power is radiated, signifying efficient impedance matching and minimal reflections.

## 3.2 Mutual Coupling (S21)

* Mutual coupling between the patches was studied by sweeping the separation distance (dp). At dp = 0.36 mm, the coupling (S21) was minimized without significantly impacting the radiation characteristics.
* **Element Spacing**: Optimal spacing between array elements is vital to minimize mutual coupling, which can adversely affect radiation patterns and impedance matching. Studies suggest that a separation of approximately half a wavelength is effective in reducing coupling effects.

## 3.3 Smith Chart Analysis

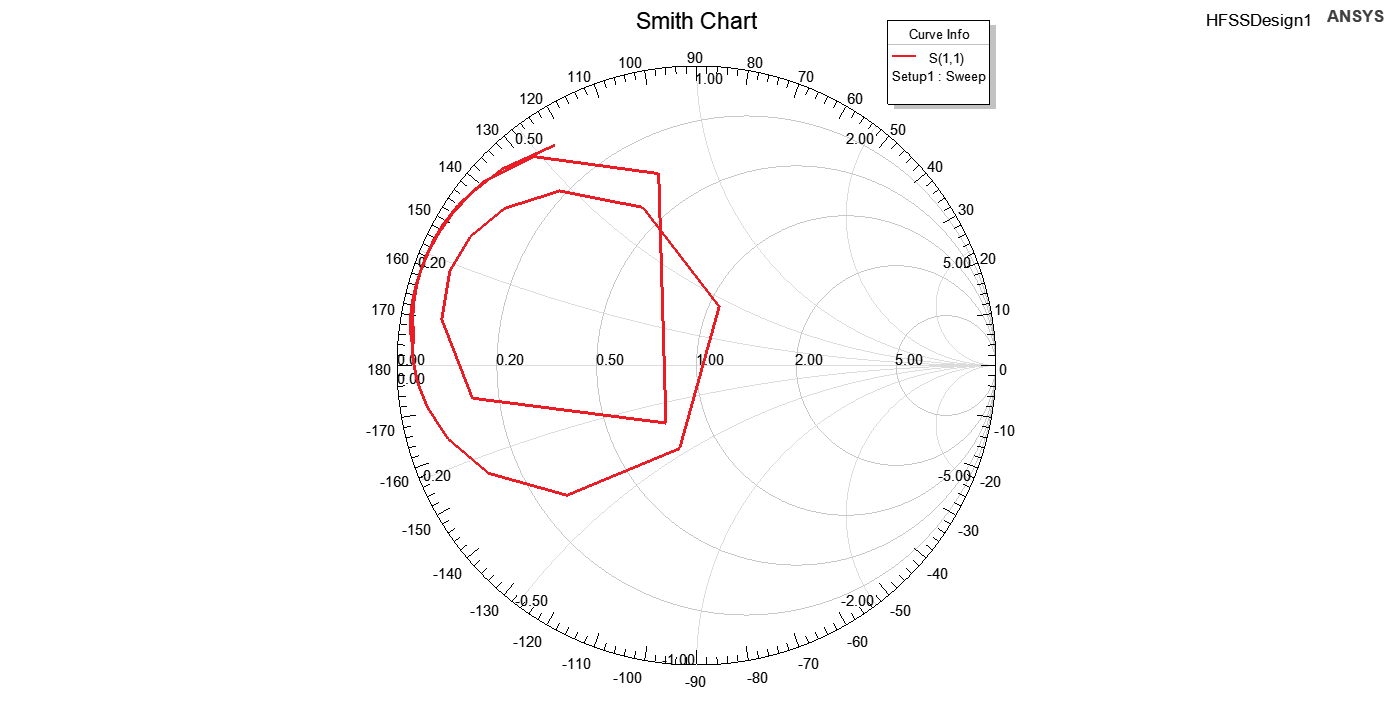
* **Impedance Matching**: The Smith chart provides a visual representation of the antenna's impedance across frequencies. A locus close to the center of the chart at 20 GHz confirms effective matching, which is crucial for maximizing power transfer and minimizing signal reflections as shown in figure 57.

Figure 57 Smith Chart with T-Section

## 3.4 Radiation Patterns

* The co-polarization and cross-polarization patterns were analyzed in the E and H planes. The results demonstrated a directive radiation pattern with minimal cross-polarization, aligning with design expectations.
* **E-plane and H-plane Patterns**: Analyzing the radiation patterns in both planes reveals the antenna's directivity and beamwidth. A well-designed antenna should exhibit symmetrical patterns with minimal sidelobes, indicating efficient radiation and reduced interference.
* **Cross-Polarization Levels**: Low cross-polarization levels are essential for maintaining signal purity and reducing polarization mismatches, which is particularly important in communication systems to ensure signal integrity.

## 3.5 Gain and Efficiency

* **Impact of Array Configuration**: Transitioning from a single patch to a 2-element array can enhance gain due to constructive interference, but it's essential to manage mutual coupling to prevent efficiency degradation. Proper element spacing and feeding techniques are critical in this regard.

## 3.6 Bandwidth Enhancement Techniques:[3]

* + **Impedance Matching**: Adding a matching network to minimize reflections.
  + **Stacked Patches**: Introducing a second resonant patch above the main patch.
  + **Capacitive Coupling**: Modifying the feed structure to include a capacitive element.
  + **Slotted Patch**: Adding slots to the patch to create additional resonances.

To achieve bandwidth enhancement, we found that the previous techniques are used we started to design our antenna at given resonance frequency 20GHz and we got result for S11, VSWR, Radiation pattern, Gain and directivity, then we found that feeding network is not matched with designed antenna, so we decided to enhance bandwidth using Impedance Matching technique.

We also found out that

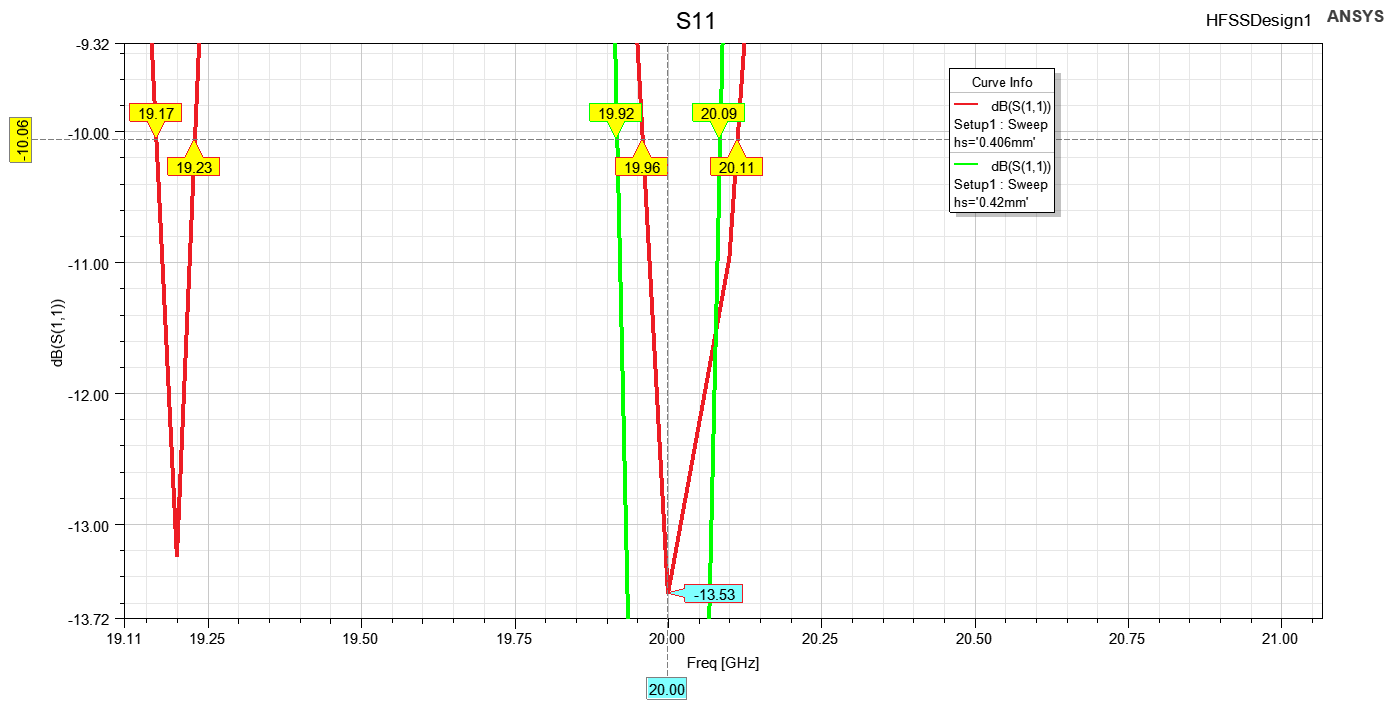
1. **Increasing the substrate height (hs) increases the BW:**

Figure 58 hs increase

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| hs | BW |
| 0.406 mm | 150MHz |
| 0.42 mm | 170MHz |

As shown in figure 58:

So the BW increased.

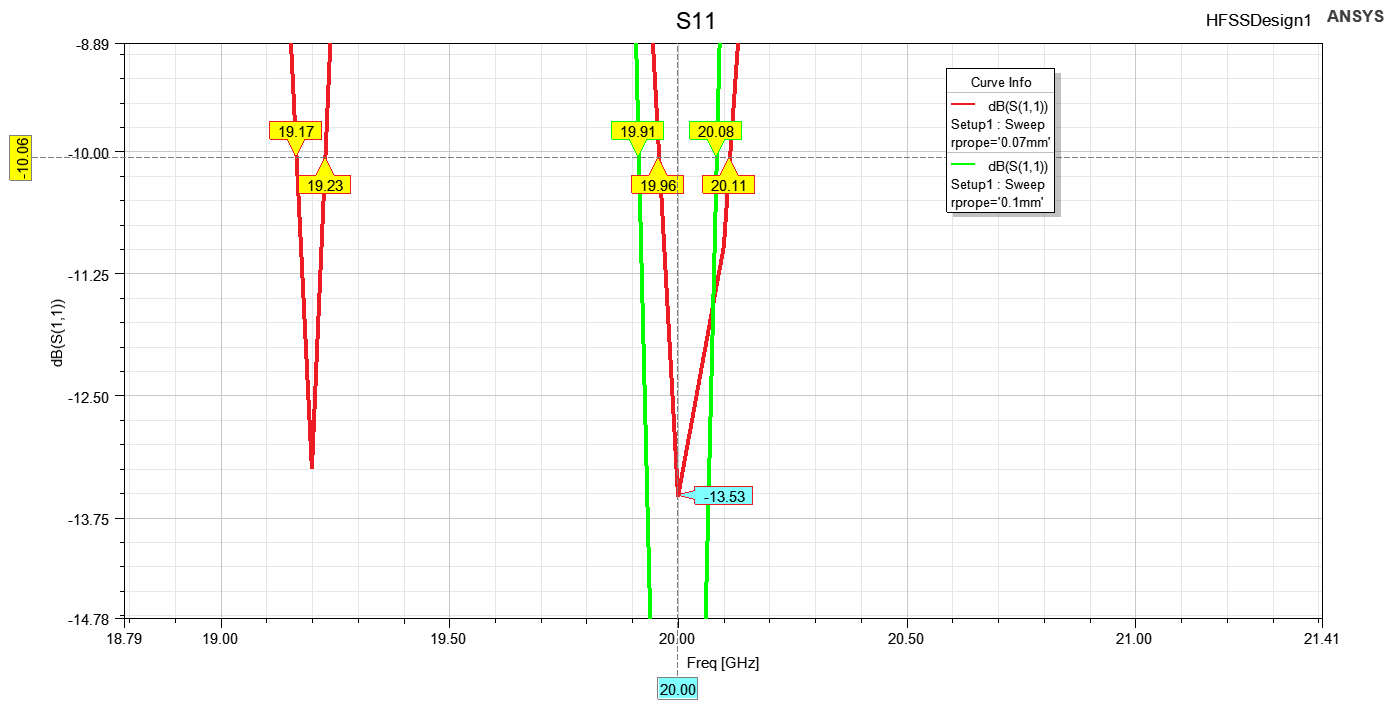
1. **Increasing the probe radius increases the BW:**

Figure 59 rprope increase

As showm in figure 59:

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| rprope | BW |
| 0.07 mm | 150MHz |
| 0.1 mm | 170MHz |

So the BW increased.

# 4. Conclusion:

The project demonstrated the successful implementation of a 2-element probe-fed microstrip patch antenna, meeting the design goals for 20 GHz operation. By achieving a return loss (S11) below -10 dB, high gain, and notable radiation efficiency, the antenna exhibits excellent performance for its intended application. Additionally, the thorough analysis of mutual coupling and gain variations with element spacing offers critical guidance for optimizing array configurations in future designs. The insights gained from this work contribute significantly to advancing efficient and reliable high-frequency antenna systems.

## Results Summary:

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Name | Two Patches | Single Patch | Specs |
| Gain | 10.75 dB | 7.52dB | - |
| Center Frequency | 20 GHz° | 20 GHz | 20 Ghz |
| Bandwidth | 150 MHz | 450 MHz | - |
| Fractional Bandwidth | 0.8% | 2.25% | - |
| S11 | -13.53 dB° | -15.35 dB | <-10 dB |
| Zin | 53 + j22.02 Ω. | 40.74 + 𝑗 42.7 | - |
| VSWR | 1.33 | 1.421 |  |
| FrontToBackRatio | 29.85dB | 21.18dB | > 20dB |

Table 14 Single vs Two Patches

The results summary provides a comparative evaluation between the single-patch and two-patch antenna configurations, highlighting the improvements achieved with the two-patch design. The gain increased significantly from 7.52 dB to 10.75 dB, demonstrating the benefits of the array setup. Both designs operated at the target center frequency of 20 GHz, with the two-patch configuration exhibiting a reduced bandwidth of 150 MHz compared to 450 MHz for the single patch, which correlates with a narrower fractional bandwidth (0.8% vs. 2.25%). The return loss (S11) of -13.53 dB for the two-patch design comfortably meets the specification of less than -10 dB, though slightly higher than the single patch (-15.35 dB).

The input impedance of the two-patch configuration, Zin=53+j22.02 Ω = 53 + j22.02, is closer to the ideal match compared to the single patch (40.74+j42.7 Ω). Additionally, the VSWR for both configurations is acceptable, with the two-patch design achieving a slightly better value of 1.33. The front-to-back ratio saw a notable improvement, increasing from 21.18 dB for the single patch to 29.85 dB for the two-patch array, exceeding the >20 dB specification.

However, the two-patch configuration comes with some downsides, such as reduced bandwidth and potential mutual coupling effects, which can influence radiation efficiency and pattern stability. The T-section feed line helps improve impedance matching and radiation performance but introduces additional complexity. Overall, the two-patch design with the T-section achieves a balance between gain enhancement and acceptable trade-offs in other performance parameters.

# 6. Refrences:

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