**Optimization approach to the design of dual band slotted circular microstrip antenna**

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| **Abstract**  In this paper, a circular microstrip antenna with circular slots has been designed via optimization approach. Aim of the optimization is to design an antenna operating on dual WLAN bands with desired gains. Circular slots have been added to antenna patch in order to obtain desired resonance frequencies and gain. Optimization tool of ANSYS High Frequency Structural Simulator (HFSS) has been used for design process. Genetic Algortihm has been chosen as optimizer in HFSS optimization tool. HFSS optimization and simulation results have been given. |
| Keywords: Circular Microstrip Antenna, Dual Band Antenna, Optimization, Slotted Antenna, WLAN |

1. **Introduction**

In recent years, there has been an increasing interest in wireless communication. This interest has led to numerous studies on microstrip patch antennas and their applications [1-3]. Microstrip patch antennas have many advantages in terms of size, usability, easy installation, low cost, integration and durability. Microstrip patch antennas can also be modified by various techniques in order to obtain the desired results and improve performance of the antenna. Changing the feeding method, combining antennas, creating antenna arrays, adding slots etc. can be applied to microstrip antennas. Most of these tecniques are relatively easy to implement on microstrip antennas. Microstrip patch antennas can be designed in a variety of ways. Different antenna shapes show different radiation characteristics. The most commonly used shapes are rectangular, triangular and circular antennas. In this study, a circular microstrip patch antenna has been designed. The circular antenna gives similar characteristics to the rectangular antenna, but the patch size of it is smaller than that of rectangular antenna.

In this paper circular slots have been added to the antenna patch in order the improve antenna performance. There is no general formulation for every type and number of slots. Designers use trial and error method with their experience in order to achive desired antenna performance. Parametric analysis in simulation programs can give some perspective about the structure but there is no guarantee to obtain desired performance. The increase in slot numbers increases required time for design of the antenna.

In order to overcome these difficulties learning techniques such as Artificial Neural Networks (ANN) [4-8], Support Vector Reggression (SVR) [9-13] and optimization algorithms [14-18] have widely been used. In the present study, we aimed to design a circular microstrip antenna operating in WLAN frequency bands (2.4 GHz and 5 GHz) with satisfactory gains. In order to adjust resonance frequencies and improve the gain circular slots has been added to the antenna patch. Optimization tool of ANSYS High Frequency Structural Simulator (HFSS) [19] has been used to find the radii and center pozitions of circular slots that give the desired resonance frequencies and gains. In order to analyze antenna, Finite Element Method (FEM) is employed in HFSS.

1. **Circular Microstrip Antenna**

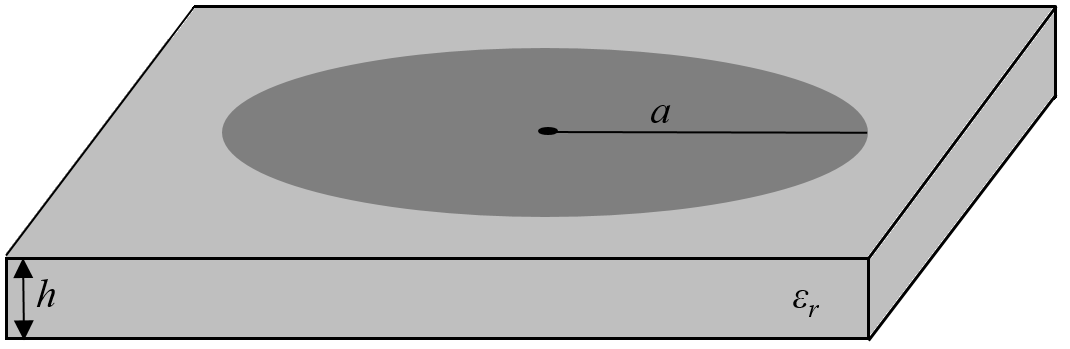
A circular microstrip antenna is presented in Fig. 1. Design of circular antenna is easier than rectangular antenna because only the radius of antenna patch is needed to find. For a resonance frequency of *fr* and substrate with a relative permittivity of *εr* and thickness of *h*, radius of the antenna patch (*a*) can be calculated by [1];

(1)

where

(2)

where *fr* in Hz and *h* in cm.



**Figure 1**. Schematic of the circular microstrip antenna.

In this study, Rogers RT/duroid 5880 antenna substrate with a relative permittivity of 2.2 and a thickness of 1.6 mm has been used. Antenna patch radius *a* is calculated via (1-2) as 23.62 mm for a resonance frequency of 2.4 GHz. HFSS simulation has been carried out with this radius value and resonance frequency is obtained as 2.38 GHz.

In order to obtain resonance frequencies and improve the antenna gain, circular slots has been formed on the circular antenna patch. Rogers RT/duroid 5880 substrate with a relative permittivity of 2.2 and a thickness of 1.6 mm is used. Antenna patch radius *a* is calculated to be 23.62 mm, antenna substrate length and width are both obtained as 53.75 mm. The feed point is found as *xf*=6.5 mm and *yf*=0 mm via parametric analysis. General schematic and HFSS drawing of the proposed slotted circular antenna are shown in Fig. 2a and 2b respectively.

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| (a) | (b) |

**Figure 2**. a) The proposed slotted circular microstrip antenna, b) HFSS drawing of the antenna.

1. **Results and Discussion**

HFSS optimization tool is useful due to having different kind of optimization methods such as gradient based and search based algorithms. Designers can specify optimization parameters, design parameters and select goals by setting up various calculations. Optimization tool in HFSS uses HFSS’s own numerical electromagnetic analysis method for computing the value of cost function defined in optimization algorithm.

Genetic Algorithm (GA) [14, 20-24] has been selected as optimizer to estimate slot radii and centers of the antenna for desired resonance frequencies and gains. Optimization parameters for GA optimizer are given in Table 1. Slot radii *r*1, *r*2 and *r*3 and the slot center positions [*x*m1, *y*m1], [*x*m2, *y*m2] and [*x*m3, *y*m3] are selected asthe variables of optimization. Intervals of optimization variables are given in Table 2.

**Table 1.** Optimization parameters for genetic algortihm optimizer of HFSS

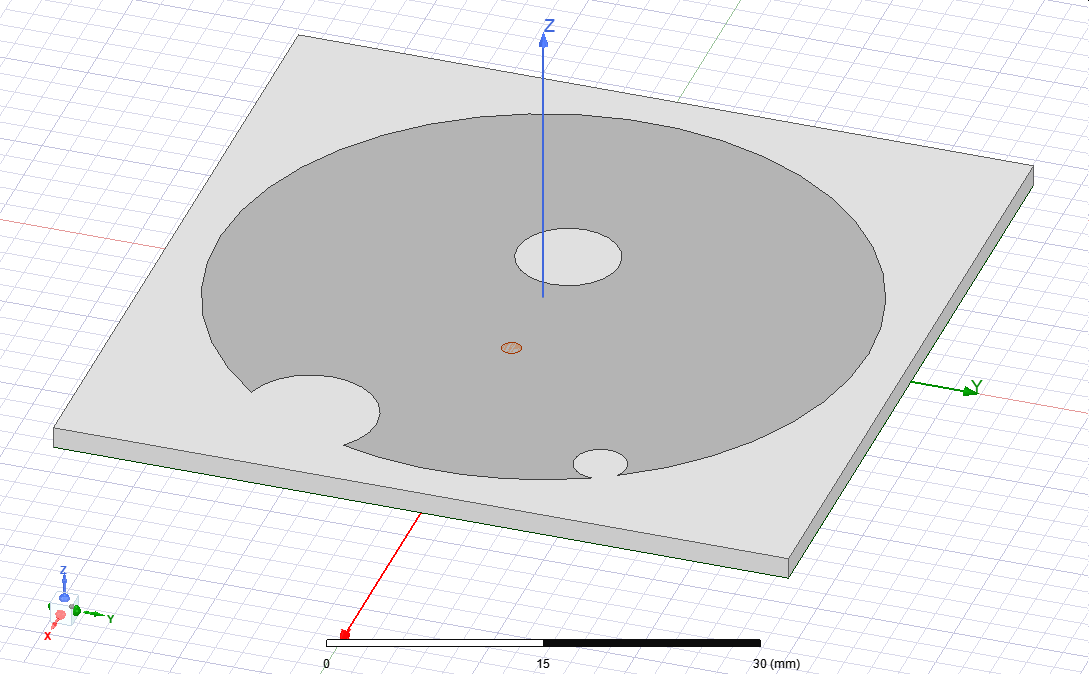
|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Parameter | Value |
| Number of Individuals | 30 |
| Crossover Type | Simulated Binary |
| Mutation Type | Polynomial |
| Selection Type | Roulette |
| Maximum Number of Iterations | 1000 |
| Mutation Probability | 0.01 |
| Crossover Probability | 0.98 |
| Cost Function Norm Type | L1 |
| Weights | 1 |

**Table 2.** Intervals of optimization variables

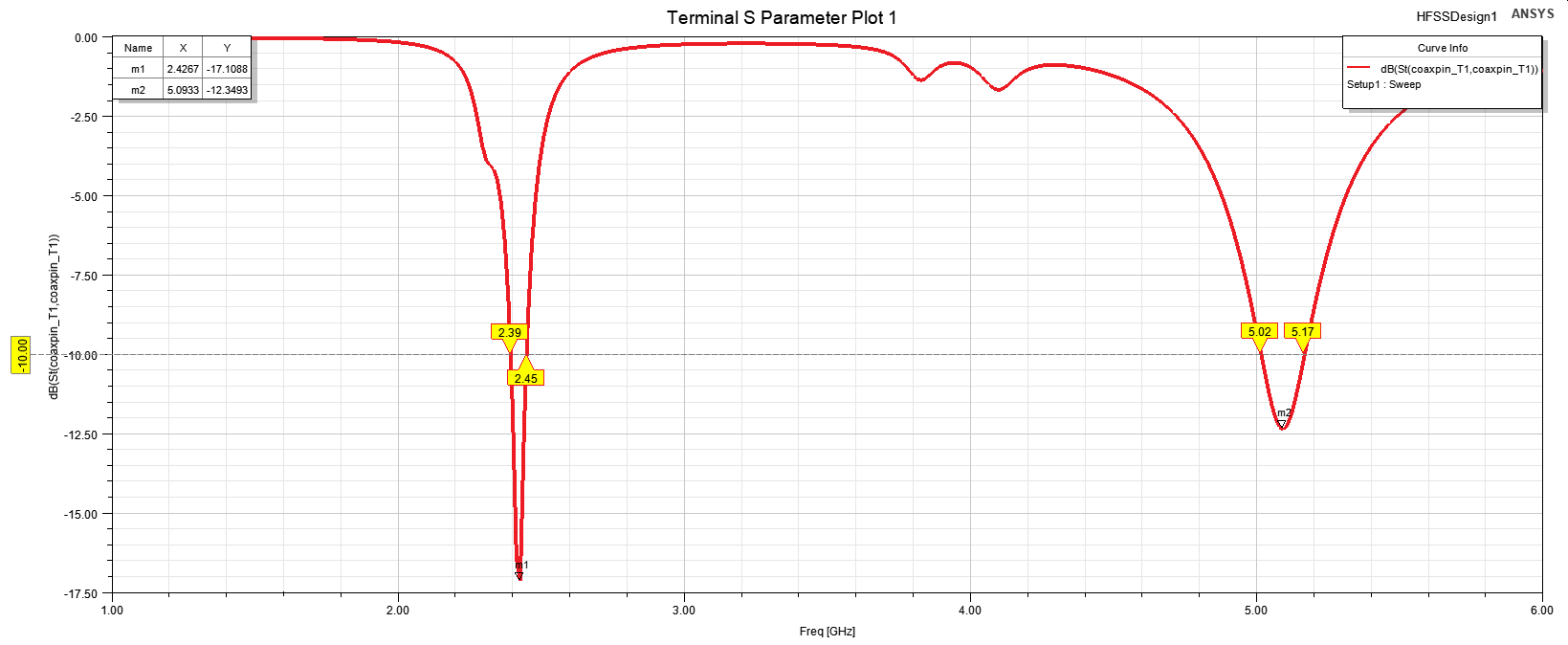
|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Variable | Interval |
| *r*1 |  |
| *r*2 |  |
| *r*3 |  |
| *x*m1 |  |
| *y*m1 |  |
| *x*m2 |  |
| *y*m2 |  |
| *x*m3 |  |
| *y*m3 |  |

Desired resonant frequencies areselected as *fr1*=2.4 GHz and *fr2*=5.1 GHz. Desired gains at resonance frequencies are selected as *g*=3dB. Minimum cost value is reached at the 539th iteration. HFSS optimization viaGA optimizer has been taken 4 hours and 12 minutes with a computer that has 2.4 GHz CPU and 8 GB RAM. Radii of slots are found as *r*1=3.73 mm, *r*2=1.89 mm and *r*3=4.84 mm. Center positions of slots are obtained as [*x*m1, *y*m1]=[-5.44 mm, 0], [*x*m2, *y*m2]=[19.33, 10.60 mm] and [*x*m3, *y*m3]=[19.33, -10.60 mm].

By using slot radii and center position values which are obtained by HFSS optimization, HFSS simulation has been carried out. HFSS drawing of the optimized antenna is given in Fig. 3. **|S11|** plot is given in Fig. 4. The resonance frequencies are obtained as 2.42 GHz and 5.09 GHz. The 10-dB bandwidth for 2.42 GHz is 60 MHz and for 5.09 GHz it is obtained as 150 MHz.



**Figure 3**. HFSS drawing of the optimized slotted circular microstrip antenna.



**Figure 4**. |S11| plot of slotted circular microstrip antenna.

Gain plots for 2.42 GHz and 5.09 GHz are presented in Fig. 5a and 5b, respectively. The antenna gain for 2.42 GHz is 3.9 dB and for 5.09 GHz it is obtained as 3.7 dB.

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| (a) | (b) |

**Figure 5**. Gain plot of slotted circular microstrip antenna for a) 2.42 GHz, b) 5.09 GHz.

The radiation diagrams of slotted circular microstrip antenna for 2.42 GHz and 5.09 GHz are illustrated in Fig. 6a and 6b, respectively.

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| (a) | (b) |

**Figure 6**. Radiation diagrams of slotted circular microstrip antenna for a) 2.42 GHz, b) 5.09 GHz (- xz-plane, -- yz-plane).

Surface current distributions of the antenna for 2.42 GHz and 5.09 GHz are shown in Fig. 7a and 7b, respectively.

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| (a) | (b) |

**Figure 7**. Surface current distributions of slotted circular microstrip antenna for a) 2.42 GHz, b) 5.09 GHz.

In this work, a circular microstrip antenna with triple slots has been designed to operate in dual resonance frequencies of WLAN. HFSS optimization tool has been employed to find slot radii and slot center pozitions that give the desired resonant frequencies and desired gains. Genetic Algortihm has been selected as optimizer in HFSS optimization tool. HFSS simulation has been carried out by using the obtained slot radii and slot center pozitions from HFSS optimization. HFSS simulations shows that desired resonance frequencies and gains are obtained via HFSS optimization.

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