

A Single Layer Dual-Polarization Printed Bow-Tie Slot Broadband Antenna with C-Band Stop

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Abstract: - In this letter, a single layer dual-polarization printed bow-tie slot broadband antenna with C-band stop is presented. The proposed antenna consists of two pairs of mirror-symmetric and mutually perpendicular bow-tie slots with two coplanar waveguide (CPW)-fed. The proposed antenna has a very simple structure, and the measurement results show that the antenna performance can achieve a wide impedance bandwidth of 79.1% for $|S_{11}|$ and $|S_{22}| \leq -10\text{dB}$ from 1.3 ~ 3 GHz and 62.3% from 5.25 ~ 10 GHz, which has been implemented to the operating band for GPS (1575MHz), WLAN band (2.4GHz and 5.8GHz), 6 GHz unlicensed spectrum (5.925 ~ 7.125 GHz), UWB band (3.1 ~ 10.6 GHz), LTE Upper band (LTE, 1710 ~ 2690 MHz) applications. The measured in-band isolation performance between the two ports $|S_{21}| \leq -15.5\text{dB}$ from 1.4 ~ 3 GHz, and $|S_{21}| \leq -21\text{dB}$ from 5 ~ 10 GHz is significantly achieved, and the radiation pattern, peak gain, and efficiency of the proposed antenna are measured as well. In the end, the simulated and measured radiation patterns are compared.

Key-Words: - Broadband, Dual Polarization, Isolation, Bow-Tie Slot, Band Stop.

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1 Introduction

With rapid progress in wireless communication systems, the demand to enhance the information accessibility and wideband utility has become indispensable option in wireless technology. An efficient way to increase the capability is the employment of polarization diversity, and thus the dual polarized antennas have gained more and more popularities. In order to fulfill the demand, wideband and multiband antennas are widely utilized in wireless communication systems to cover multiple communication bands, such as Mobile Wireless Communication system (2G/3G/4G) bands operating at 698-960 MHz/1710-2690MHz, wireless local area network (WLAN) bands operating at 2.4-2.484 GHz/5.15-5.825 GHz, 6 GHz unlicensed spectrum for the European markets between 5.925 GHz to 6.425GHz, for the US markets between 5.925 GHz to 7.125GHz, and even the Ultra-wideband band (UWB) from 3.1 ~ 10.6GHz. To be efficiently increased our research, the antenna design consideration will be simple structure, wideband and dual polarization. A few of papers [1-2] have been published for getting better isolation in some of dual polarization antenna applications, but the two proposed antennas of the impedance bandwidth are still not wide enough to cover modern mobile and wireless communication systems. For the purpose of

a wider operating bandwidth and simple planar antenna configuration, bow-tie dipole and slot antenna structure are good candidates in reference research [3-5]. In the paper [6-7], a dual-polarization CPW-fed bow-tie slot antenna has been demonstrated, the antenna structure is simplicity and the specifications of wide bandwidth, high isolation that can be accomplished easily. In the current wireless application scenarios, broadband antenna with band-stop design is the mainstream, which will be more feasible for modern wireless applications [8-9]. UWB-MIMO antenna with multiple band-notched design has attracted extensive attentions and researches in recent years [10-12], but its band coverage needs to consider lower band for fulfilling modern wireless applications.

In this communication, a single layer dual-polarization printed bow-tie slot broadband antenna with C-band stop is demonstrated. The proposed antenna can be achieved a wide impedance bandwidth $|S_{11}|$ and $|S_{22}| \leq -10\text{dB}$ for lower band (1.3 ~ 3 GHz) and upper band (5.25 ~ 10 GHz). The in-band isolation between the two input ports can be achieved $|S_{21}| \leq -15.5\text{dB}$ for lower band, and $|S_{21}| \leq -21\text{dB}$ for upper band. Details of the proposed antenna of the simulation and experimental results are analyzed and its performances are given in the next two sections.

2 Antenna Structure and Design

2.1 Antenna Configuration

Fig. 1 shows the top view of the configuration of the proposed a single layer dual-polarization printed bow-tie slot broadband antenna with C-band stop. The antenna structure is composed of two pairs of mirror-symmetric and mutually perpendicular bow-tie slots with two coplanar waveguide (CPW)-fed. The proposed antenna overall dimension of 150 x 150 mm² and the antenna pattern is printed with a thickness of 1.6mm FR4 glass epoxy substrate (the relative permittivity is 4.4 and Loss tangent is 0.02). There are two 45 x 44 mm² equilateral right triangle slots on the lower left and upper right of the antenna, which are part of the antenna radiator. The middle equilateral right triangle slot of the antenna radiator is 63.8 x 63.8 mm² and a short-circuit microstrip (d1 = 12mm) is used in the middle of the slot to construct a pair of mirror-symmetric equilateral triangle slots for better isolation between the two antennas. Two pairs of symmetrical stub slots (d2 = 11mm, L3 = 13mm, S1 = 2mm) are cut out over the antenna body. The structure can be considered as a π -type filter circuit model, which is perpendicular to each other for tuning the C-band stop with dual-polarization. The CPW-fed line is designed to be 50 Ω (L3 = 3.2mm), gap spacing (g = 0.2mm), and the tapered signal microstrip length of the CPW structure is recommended 0.175 λ (W2 = 35mm) for broadband impedance matching. The CPW-fed in port 1 is located on the lower side of the antenna radiator, it serves as the vertical polarization radiation. In the upper right side of the antenna radiator, the antenna is rotated 90° with the CPW-fed in port 2 to cover the horizontal polarization radiation. All the parameters can be determined by the desired band of the lowest frequency and the final optimized geometric parameters of the antenna are listed in Table I.

Table I. Dimensions of the proposed antenna.

Parameter	L	L1	L2	L3	Ls	S1
Value(mm)	150	35	3.2	13	43.8	2
Parameter	S2	S3/S4	h	W	W1	W2
Value(mm)	1.2	0.5	1.6	150	85	63.8
Parameter	W3	Ws	d1	d2	g	θ
Value(mm)	65.6	43.8	12	11	0.2	45°

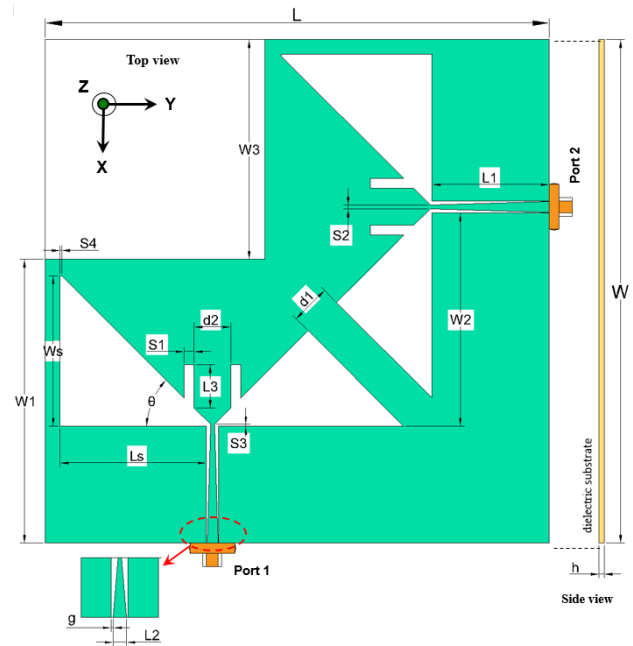


Fig. 1 Geometry of the dual-polarization bow-tie slot broadband antenna with C-band stop.

2.2 Antenna Design Guideline

In the beginning, we studied the antenna structure in-depth in the reference [3][6-7] and simulated using Ansys High Frequency Structure Simulator(HFSS) to verify the wideband performance of these antennas. It's observed the lowest operating frequency can be estimated by the following equation:

$$f_L = \frac{c}{\lambda_L} \cong \frac{C}{Slot\ length} \times 0.75 \quad (GHz)$$

where C is the speed of light and Slot length represent the total length of a right triangle slot edge. According to the formulation, the dual-polarization printed bow-tie slot broadband antenna of a right triangle slot edge total length can be approximately calculated. Take frequency 1.5GHz as an example, when $f_L = 1.5GHz$, the calculated total length of a right triangle slot is 150mm. The calculated result is roughly consistent with the paper [6][7], the total length of the right triangle slot is 151mm and 140.8mm, respectively.

Fig. 2 shows the simulated reflection coefficient and isolation performance of the two references. As a result, the two antennas structure can clearly meet the lowest and highest frequency requirements of the desired broadband. In order to effectively increase the dual-polarization broadband antenna practicality in MIMO wireless applications. The proposed antenna is based on the reference [6] as the prototype,

and two pairs of symmetrical stub slots are cut out on the antenna body to implement the feature of the C-band stop with dual-polarization. The parametric studies and results will be demonstrated in the next section.

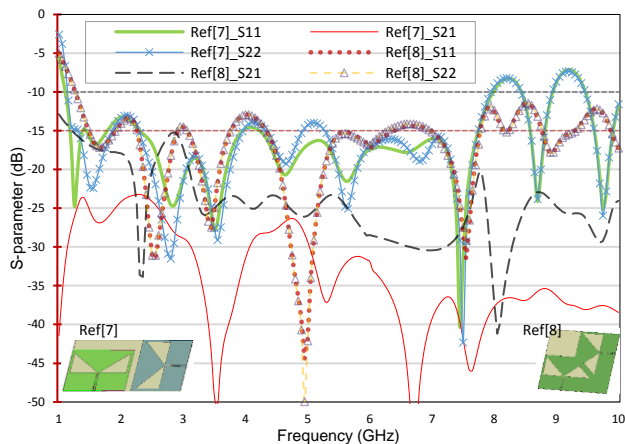


Fig. 2 The simulated reflection coefficient and isolation performance of the two references.

2.3 Parametric Studies

The key parameters $L3$, $d2$, and $S1$ will dominate the main frequency band stop and bandwidth performance.

Fig. 3 shows the relationship between the parameter $L3$. It can be seen when $L3 = 13.5\text{mm}$, the reflection coefficient has the highest impedance mismatch at 3.6GHz , which is matched our original research purpose to perform C-band stop among the two input ports. The parameter $L3$ becomes shorter or longer, the highest impedance mismatch will move to higher or lower frequencies and compared with the f_L , the λ_L can be approximated to be 0.065λ .

Fig. 4 shows the relationship between the parameter $d2$. It is observed when $d2$ becomes shorter ($\leq 9\text{mm}$), the starting frequency of impedance mismatch will move to a lower frequency and the bandwidth will become worse. When $d2$ is equal or bigger than 11mm , the starting frequency of impedance mismatch will move to a higher frequency, but the bandwidth is almost the same.

Fig. 5 shows the relationship between the parameter $S1$. As a result, it is well known the two pairs of symmetrical stub slots can be equivalent to a π -type filter circuit model, when $S1$ becomes wider (C value is larger), the starting frequency of impedance mismatch is almost kept, but the stopping frequency will move to a higher frequency.

To summarize the simulation results of the proposed antenna, the parameters $L3 = 13\text{mm}$, $d2 = 11\text{mm}$, $S1 = 2\text{mm}$ can completely achieve the C-band stop feature with better performance.

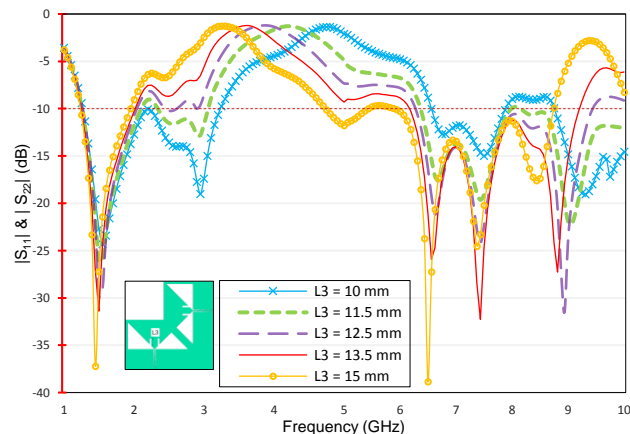


Fig. 3 Simulated for the parameter $L3$ reflection coefficient versus frequency.

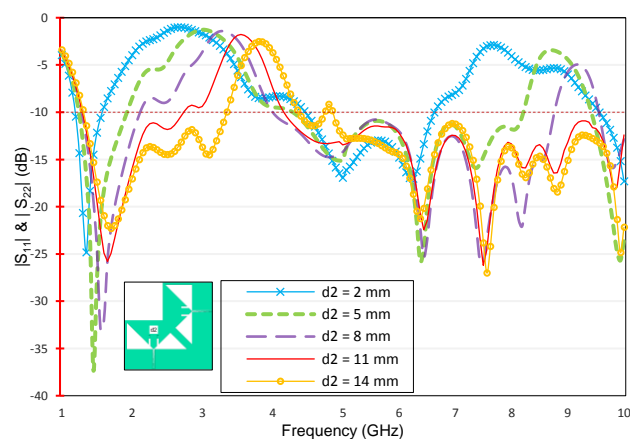


Fig. 4 Simulated for the parameter $d2$ reflection coefficient versus frequency.

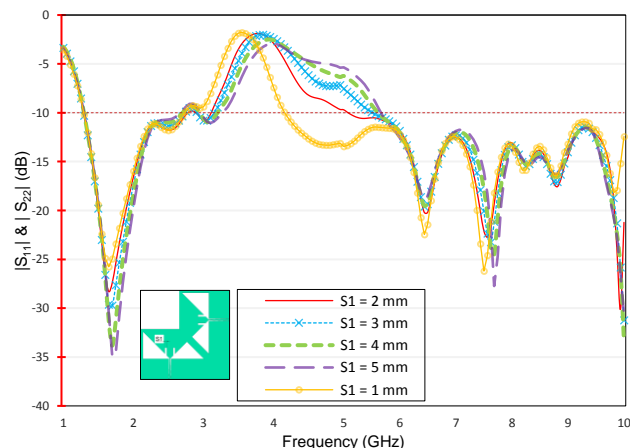


Fig. 5 Simulated for the parameter S1 reflection coefficient versus frequency.

3 Simulated and Measured Results

3.1 S-parameters with Prototype

The proposed antenna prototype has been fabricated with an eagle view as shown in Fig. 6. Meanwhile, the simulation and measurements were carried out to demonstrate the performances.

Fig. 7 demonstrates the simulated and measured impedance bandwidth results for $|S_{11}|$ and $|S_{22}| \leq -10\text{dB}$. For lower band, the simulated results on two ports are almost the same 83% from 1.26 ~ 3.06 GHz, and the measured results are 86.8% for port-1 and 84.9% for port-2 from 1.2 ~ 3.04 GHz. For the upper band of 5 ~ 10 GHz, the simulated results on two ports are 67.2% and 66.7%, respectively. The measured results are pretty much the same, being 62.3% on port-1 and port-2. The lowest notched frequency is 3.75GHz, where the return loss is around -1.8dB. We observed the prototype measured result has a slight frequency deviation compared with the simulated result at 5GHz that is because of the PCB board making error.

Fig. 8 demonstrates the simulated and measured in-band isolation between the two input ports $|S_{21}| \leq -15.5\text{dB}$ from 1.27 ~ 3.15 GHz, and $|S_{21}| \leq -21\text{dB}$ from 3.16 ~ 10 GHz are obtained.

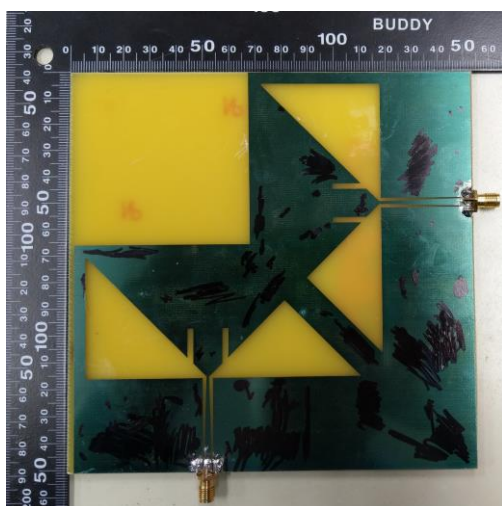


Fig. 6 Implemented a prototype of the proposed antenna.

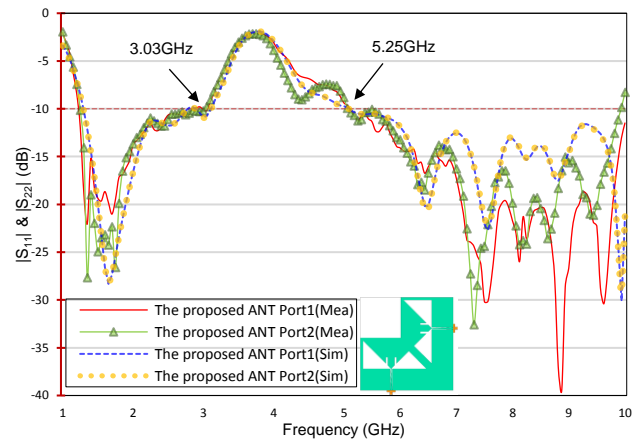


Fig. 7 Measured and simulated reflection coefficient versus frequency of the proposed antenna.

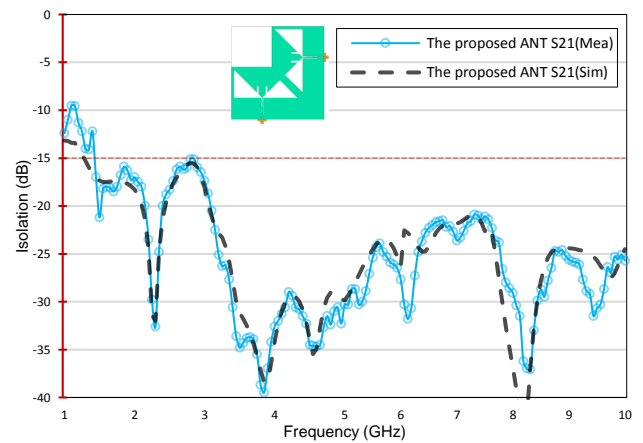


Fig. 8 Measured and simulated isolation versus frequency of the proposed antenna.

3.2 Radiation Patterns, Peak Gain and Efficiency

The proposed antenna supports dual-polarization is the main purpose, so the 2D radiation pattern of the xz-plane at port-1 and yz-plane at port-2 should be similar to what is expected. When the port-1 and port-2 is excited, the radiation patterns for free space of the proposed antenna are shown in Fig. 9 ~ 12. For port-1, the vertical polarization is the dominant polarization. The half-power(3-dB) beamwidths are 90° and 50° in E1-plane (xz-plane) and E2-plane (yz-plane), the maximum radiation power(MRP) is concentrated at about 0 degree on the plus Z-axis at 1.575GHz. For port-2, the horizontal polarization is the dominant polarization. The 3-dB beamwidths are 40° and 50° in xz-plane and yz-plane, the MRP is concentrated on the same axis as port-1 at 1575MHz. At the frequency of 2.4GHz, the 3-dB beamwidths

are 40° and 60° in xz - and yz - plane in port-1, and 50° in xz - and yz - plane in port-2, the MRP of the two ports are the same as they are concentrated at about 0 degree on the plus Z -axis. At 5.8GHz of port-1, the 3-dB beamwidths are 30° in xz -plane and yz -plane, the MRP concentration between the plus X - and Z -axis is deviated at about 45 degrees. For port-2, the 3-dB beamwidths are 40° in xz -plane and 30° in yz -plane, the MRP concentration is on the same axis as port-1. From the perspective of 5GHz and higher frequency radiation patterns, when the operating frequency is higher than 5GHz , the 3-dB beamwidths are almost limited around 30 degrees or even smaller in xz - and yz - plane, and the MRP is scattering more seriously that is because the wavelength of 5GHz and higher frequency has tripled relative to the lowest frequency of the desired band.

To summarize the measured results of all radiation patterns in xz -plane and yz -plane, it is clearly observed that the proposed antenna radiation patterns are similar when feeding on port-1 and port-2. The geometry of the proposed antenna will make the radiation patterns have obvious polarization diversity, and analyzed in E-plane results that can be proved the proposed antenna obtained both polarization diversity and pattern diversity characteristics with good isolation.

The 3D pattern efficiency and peak gain of the proposed antenna are also measured. The measurement result was done by using pattern integration employing the ETS-Lindgren anechoic chamber and it's shown in Fig. 15. In the GPS band of 1.575GHz , the efficiency and peak gain are 81.6% and 4.4dBi for port-1 and 77.8% and 4.8dBi for port-2. In the WLAN band of 2.4GHz , 5.8GHz and 7.125GHz , the efficiency are 62.6% , 87.8% and 72.5% for port-1 and 69.3% , 85.9% and 66.7% for port-2. The peak gain are 4.2 , 4.3 and 5.5 dBi for port-1 and 6.3 , 3.9 and 3.9 dBi for port-2. In the C-band of the center frequency 3.7GHz , the efficiency and peak gain is 15.4% and -2dBi for port-1, 18.7% and -1.8dBi for port-2. The results demonstrate the C-band stop feature of the proposed antenna is perfectly achieved with better performance.

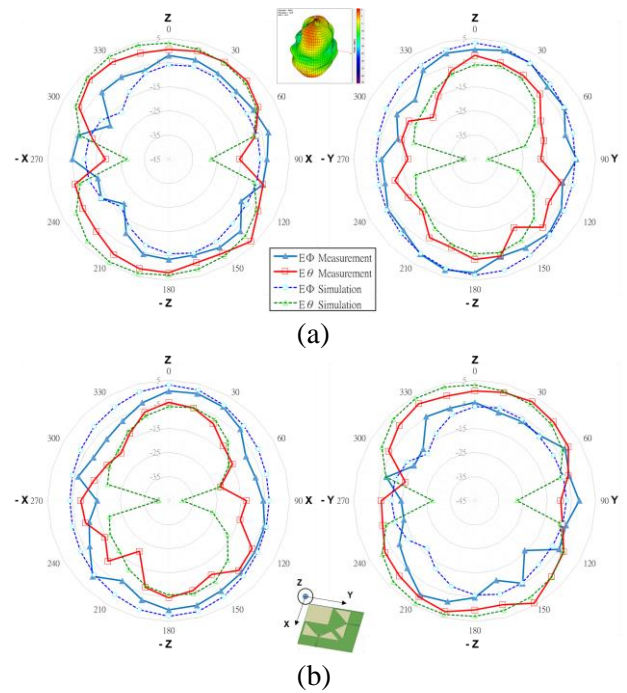


Fig. 9 Simulated and measured radiation patterns when feeding on xz -plane and yz -plane at 1.575GHz : (a) Port-1 (b) Port-2

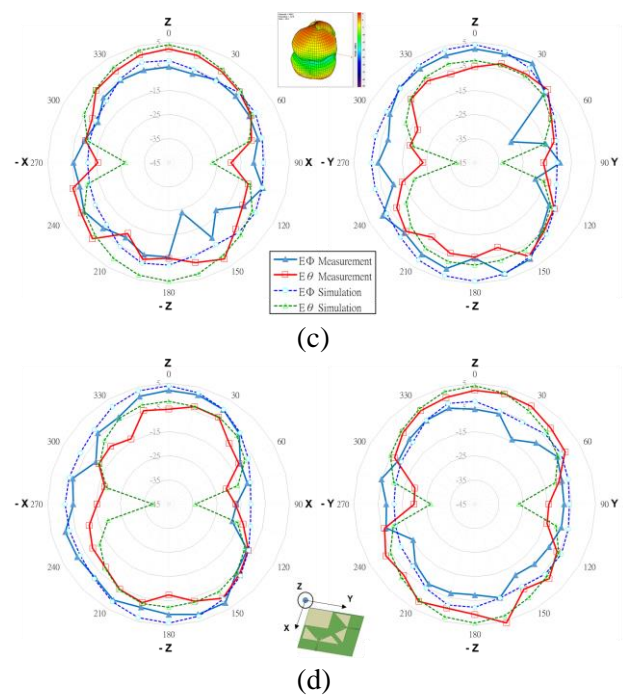


Fig. 10 Simulated and measured radiation patterns when feeding on xz -plane and yz -plane at 2.4GHz : (c) Port-1 (d) Port-2

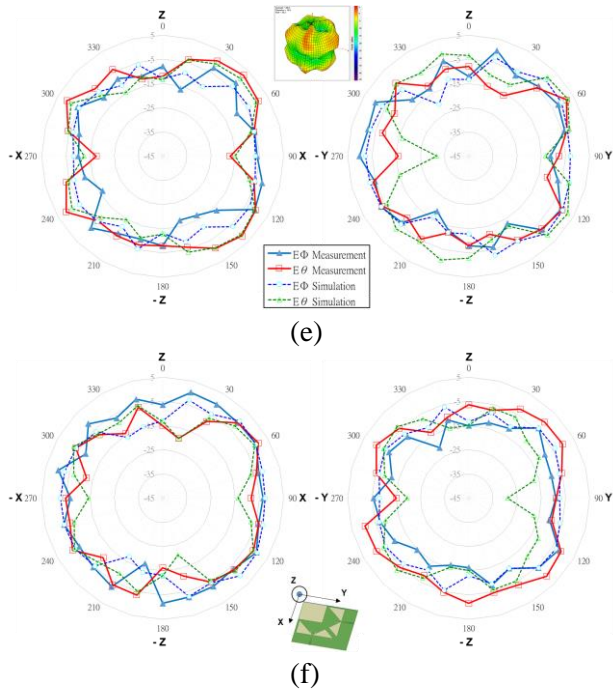


Fig. 11 Simulated and measured radiation patterns when feeding on xz-plane and yz-plane at 5.8GHz: (e) Port-1 (f) Port-2

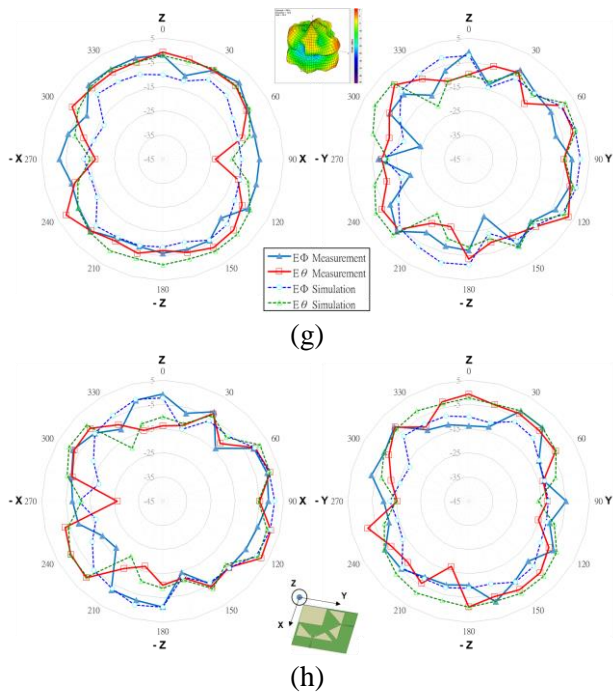
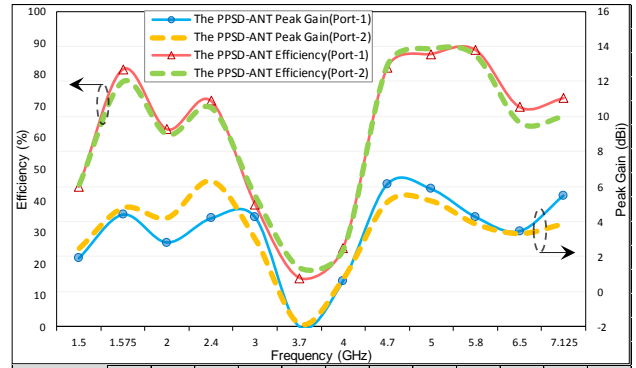


Fig. 12 Simulated and measured radiation patterns when feeding on xz-plane and yz-plane at 7.125GHz: (g) Port-1 (h) Port-2



Freq. (GHz)	1.5	1.57	2	2.4	3	3.7	4	4.7	5	5.8	6.5	7.12
Peak Gain(dBi)	1.9	4.4	2.8	4.2	4.3	-2.0	0.6	6.1	5.9	4.3	3.5	5.5
Efficiency(%)	44.4	81.6	62.6	71.6	38.8	15.4	24.9	82.2	86.5	87.8	69.7	72.5
Peak Gain(dBi)	2.5	4.8	4.2	6.3	3.0	-1.8	0.8	5.1	5.2	3.9	3.3	3.9
Efficiency(%)	45.0	77.8	60.9	69.3	41.3	18.7	24.8	83.1	88.2	85.9	64.7	66.7

Fig. 13 Measured antenna peak gain & efficiency versus frequency of the proposed antenna.

3.3 Diversity Analysis

To validate the MIMO capability and performance of the proposed antenna, the MIMO behavior is evaluated for the envelope correlation coefficient (ECC), diversity gain (DG), and total active reflection coefficient (TARC). The ECC can be evaluated using S-parameters by the following relation [11-12].

$$ECC = \frac{|S_{11}^*S_{12} + S_{21}^*S_{22}|^2}{(1 - |S_{11}|^2 - |S_{21}|^2)(1 - |S_{22}|^2 - |S_{12}|^2)}$$

ECC should have ideally zero value but practical limit for an uncorrelated MIMO antenna is $ECC < 0.5$. Fig. 14 shows the ECC of the proposed antenna has ECC less than 0.02 for the entire of the desired band. Another important parameter for evaluating MIMO antenna performance is diversity gain (DG). The DG of the MIMO antenna can be calculated by the following relation [12].

$$DG = 10\sqrt{1 - ECC^2}$$

It is pointed out by Fig. 14, the proposed antenna has diversity gain greater than 9.97dB with varying frequencies for the entire of the desired band.

The TARC is defined as the square root of the ratio of total reflected power to the total incident power and apparent return loss of the overall MIMO antenna system [11]. For dual-port MIMO system, it can be calculated as the following equation

$$TARC = \sqrt{\frac{(S_{11} + S_{12})^2 + (S_{21} + S_{22})^2}{2}}$$

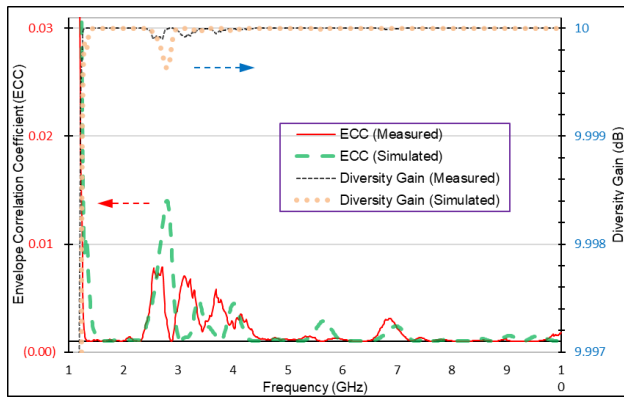


Fig. 14 Measured and simulated ECC and diversity gain.

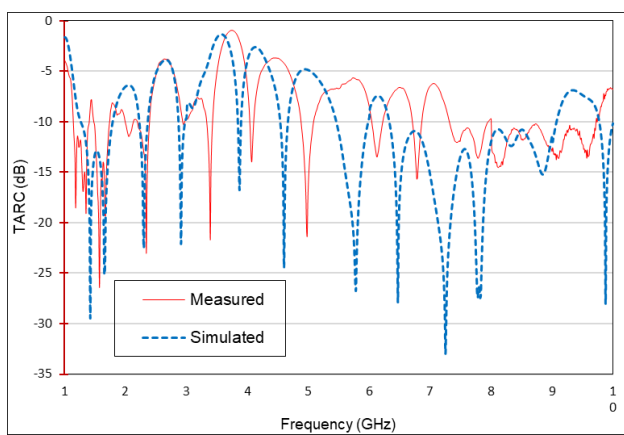


Fig. 15 TARC versus frequency for the proposed MIMO antenna.

It is shown in Fig. 15 that the TARC is less than -4dB for the desired band except for the C-band stop band.

4 Conclusion

A single layer dual-polarization printed bow-tie slot broadband antenna with C-band stop is proposed in this study. The antenna has a very simple structure and the measured results demonstrate the proposed configuration can be achieved a wide impedance bandwidth $|S_{11}|$ and $|S_{22}| \leq -10\text{dB}$ for lower band is 79.1% from 1.3 ~ 3 GHz, and for upper band is 62.3% from 5.25 ~ 10 GHz. The measured in-band isolation between the two input ports $|S_{21}| \leq -15\text{dB}$ for lower band, and $|S_{21}| \leq -21\text{dB}$ for upper band is significantly achieved. Alongside $\text{ECC} < 0.02$, $\text{DG} > 9.97\text{dB}$, and $\text{TARC} < -4\text{dB}$ are demonstrated that the proposed antenna has good performance over the proposed band.

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