

# Compact Six Band Slot Antenna with Defective Ground Structure and E Shaped Strips for Bandwidth Enhancement in Wireless Applications

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## Abstract

This article presents a novel approach for six-band operations and a comprehensive frequency range for wireless applications. The novel antenna has rectangular slot of small size  $48 \times 18 \text{ mm}^2$  and has a T-shaped microstrip feed patch, a short-inverted T-shaped stub, two E-shaped stubs and two small square ground plane slots arranged on FR4 substrate with  $h = 0.8 \text{ mm}$ , a dielectric constant  $\epsilon_r = 3.5$  and a loss tangent  $\tan \delta = 0.004$ . Multiband and wide frequency responses in an antenna was achieved by etching E shaped stubs, inverted T-shaped stubs and rectangular slot in a defective ground plane. Radiating area and total size of antenna are smaller than three band antennas discussed in results section. Six-band slot antenna, resonance at 1.39 GHz (Global Position System-L3 band (GPS)), 3.36 GHz (Worldwide Interoperability for Microwave Access (Wi-MAX)), 5.26GHz (IEEE 802.11a (Wireless Local Area Network) WLAN)), 5.96 GHz (Vehicle to Vehicle Communications (V2V)), 7.27 GHz (C-band for Military Communications) and 8.41GHz (X-band for Satellite Communications) frequency bands. Six band rectangular slot antenna is investigated and designed using IE3D software. To verify simulation results, an antenna is fabricated and tested. The antenna exhibit  $S_{11} < -10 \text{ dB}$  bandwidth of 8.57% (1.34-1.46 GHz), 7.97% (3.25-3.52 GHz), 6.85% (5.07-5.43 GHz), 2.54% (5.82-5.97 GHz), 3.84% (7.14-7.42 GHz), 4.83 % ( 8.27-8.68GHz). The closed contact between measured and simulated results supports effectiveness of suggested approach.

**Keywords:** Defective Ground Structure, Global Positioning System, Vehicle to Vehicle Communication, Wireless Local Area Network.

## Introduction

Since 5G connectivity has just been adopted in India, the demand is in terms of bandwidth enhancement without modifications to existing antennas. Different types of bandwidth enhancement techniques are used for different applications. One of today's most analytical subfields in communication systems is wireless technology (1). Microstrip antennas have gained popularity in various applications, and their thin, planar profile makes them well-suited for integration into modern communication devices. For several decades, the micro-strip antenna has gained widespread recognition as the most promising alternative for wireless applications (2). An antenna is a device used as a transceiver. Therefore, the speed of transmitting and receiving signals presents a challenge, particularly gives accelerated pace of advancement of communication systems both fixed and portable requires the switch to high data rates to cover a

larger region due to the growth in network users. Therefore, high bandwidth (BW) is needed to cover all wireless services, including mobile devices. Wideband and ultra-wideband (UWB) low-profile antennas can be used to simplify design and reduce production costs (3). An increasing number of contemporary communication devices uses slot antennas, as of their enticing qualities, which include being very affordable, having a small footprint, and being lightweight. The coexistence of numerous communication systems and the ability of multiband slot antennas, to combine various bands into a single antenna have attracted a lot of attention in these areas. Filtering and duplexing antennas support increasing the system's frequency selectivity by removing the antenna and filter network's mismatches and losses (4). Multiband antennas are also advantageous for achieving best wireless quality and a variety of applications on one device.

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Multiband antennas indeed offer advantages when it comes to reconfiguration and integration with switching and control circuits (5). Thus, designing an antenna with more than one operating band is attractive and has been researched in academic and industry. The antenna's effectiveness is quite low, ranging from 70% for simulation to 50% for measurement stated by Sun (6). Several multiband antennas have been studied for the desired antenna such as Planer inverted F antenna (7). A lot of compact MPA designs make use of defective ground structures (DGSs). DGSs have a range of shapes, from basic forms like spiral, V, U, H and I shapes (8) to more complex ones such as intricate ones like split-ring resonators (SRR) (9) and dumbbell-shaped. Lightweight antennas are even more necessary in radio communication technologies, like WLAN, GPS and WiMAX. Several multiband antennas have been studied for the desired antenna. For MIMO applications (10, 11) and three antennas resonating in the 2.4, 5.2, and 5.8 GHz bands. A wide bandwidth and a small form factor are essential for constructing multiband antennas that can be combined with other devices such as varactor diode having limitation in terms of power handling capability (12). By engraving many slots with numerous stubs in ground planes, such as multiband monopole slot antenna (13), open ended slot antenna (14), dual band using twin T-stub (15), arc strip (16), D-shaped (17), periodic slot antenna (18) and so on. The design of a small multifrequency slot antenna (19), a triple-slot antenna with single tunes and multiple tune frequencies (20), a compact tri-band slot antenna (21, 22), a compact UWB printed slot antenna (23), an annual ring slot antenna (24), a compact three triangle shaped DGS (25) and circular slot antenna (26) are discussed. The application of defective ground structures is consumed to increase the antenna's performance. A pattern etched on the ground plate of the antenna is used to control the scattered inductance and capacitance of DGSs. A Transmission lines with slow wave and band-gap characteristics are consequently produced in the study by Niu (27). In the study of Jeneath (28) state that multi resonance frequency switching was designed with three pin diodes in the ground plane which covers 1.33 to 8.7 GHz. In the study of Jayashri (29) proposed and studied two port CPW-fed MIMO antenna with wide bandwidth and high isolation for future wireless applications.

In this paper two major challenges are addressed (narrow operating band and multiband operations) by introducing a new design methodology for compact rectangular slot antenna without increasing the form factor. The multiband antennas are the smallest, least expensive, and offer the highest data rates. In the study Cao (30) the rectangular slot antenna reported is considered as reference in this presented work. In the study of Shalini (31) concentric ring and DGS is used for multiband operation. Multilayer technology (32) is used for bandwidth enhancement. This paper focuses on a rectangular slot etched in ground structure-as DGS based multiband antenna (with six resonant frequencies) and a comprehensive range for wireless applications. A multiband is constructed of a rectangular slot, two E-shaped stubs, inverted T-shaped stubs, folded T-shaped feed patch and defective ground structure to obtain a wide range of applications. Multiband operations are investigated (with six resonant frequencies) which were not reported by any of the authors discussed in literature survey. In methodology section the design process of rectangular slot antenna with dimensions are discussed. In result and discussion section, describes the simulation and measurement results with comparison followed with conclusions.

## Methodology

Here, innovative design to create a six-band microstrip rectangular slot antenna for applications in GPS, Wi-MAX, WLAN, V2V, X-band, and IEEE-C-band satellite communications is presented. Microstrip patch antennas produce circular polarization and are used for WiMAX Applications. Circularly polarized antennas can resolve the problems caused due to transmitter-to-receiver coordination. The best six bands at approximately 1.39, 3.36, 5.26, 5.9, 7.27, and 8.41 GHz were generated. The proposed filtering antenna has an inverted T shaped stub, one E-shaped stub and another mirror E shape stub, a T shaped micro-strip feed patch, two symmetrical square ground plane slots on either side, and a rectangular ground plane slot. In our suggested design, a single radiating element creates a special frequency band. The harmonics of a T shaped patch in our concept resulted in two frequency bands. A defective ground plane's rectangular slot allows surface current to be altered, producing two



which is applicable for V2V applications is introduced by the T-shaped quarter wavelength feed patch at 5.92038 GHz. The FR-4 substrate has a dielectric constant of 3.5, a height of top surface of 0.8 mm, and loss tangent of 0.004. On either side of the feed patch, two 3 x 3 mm long square-shaped additional slots are introduced as modification in ground plane as display in Figure 1. Table 1 correspond to final design of proposed antenna.

Other strip line circuits are mounted on the PCB, and the feed line is positioned in the middle of a ground plane. Figure 2 shows simulation result of path antenna for reflection coefficient. The placement of the feed line is symmetrical for comparison purpose. Figure 1 show the design of a slotted antenna as well as its top and bottom dimensions.

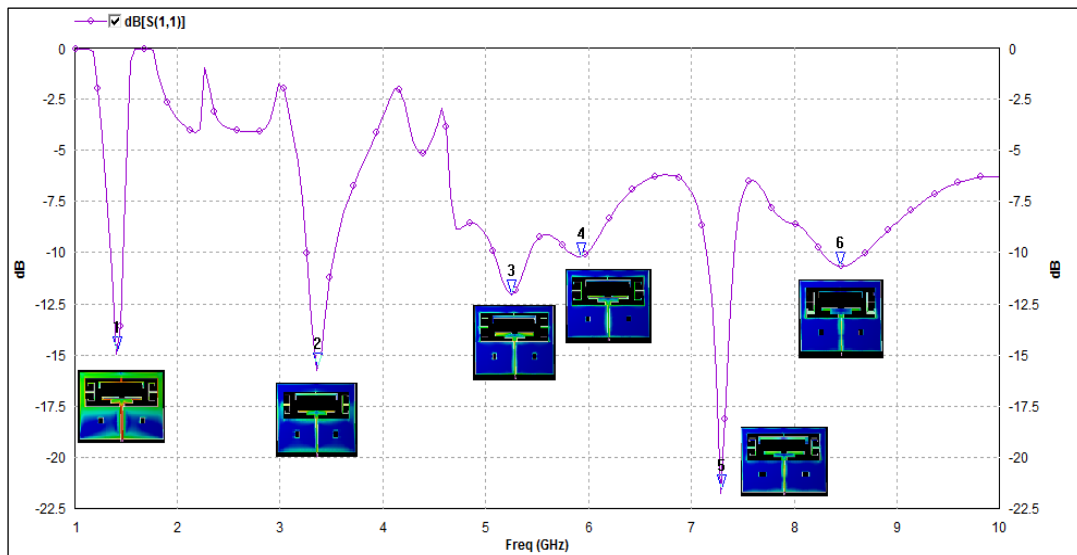
**Table 1:** Dimensions of Rectangular Slot Antenna

L1	L2	L3	L4	L5	L6	L7	L8
48.0	21.52	29	3.32	11.90	5.57	4	1.37
L9	L10	L11	L12	g1	g2	W1	W2
1.95	1.95	3.95	11.5	2.1	0.47	18	0.725
W3	W4	W5	Wf	Ws	hs	Ls	
0.38	3.675	15	1.75	44	0.8	56	

### Results and Discussion

The designed rectangular slot antenna contains multiple frequency bands and various radiation-related components. For each of the following four cases, an IE3D software computer simulation of  $S_{11}$  was used. (i) When just T-shaped power feed patch is present; (ii) when an inverted T-shaped stub and T-shaped power feed patch are present; (iii) when only two components are present the E-shaped with the T-shaped power patch is present and (iv) when the complete design emerges, finally

conclude from modeling data that the slotted antenna generates the 1.4, 4.6, and 5.6 GHz frequency bands when condition (i) is met. Rectangular slots produce band 1 at 1.4 GHz, T-shaped power feed patches produce band 3 at 5.26827 GHz, and rectangular slots produce band 4 at 5.96038 GHz. Band 1 is displaced down in case (ii) Bands 3 and 4 share frequencies, when T and inverted T is used. Figure 1 illustrates entire fabricated geometry using E and mirror E curved stubs, an inverted T curved stub, and double folded T-shaped feed patch.



**Figure 2:** Simulation Result of Patch Antenna for  $S_{11}$

Six resonant frequency bands are shown in Figure 2, with resonance frequencies of 1.4, 3.3, 5.2, 5.9, 7.2 and 8.4 GHz respectively. With a reflection coefficient of  $S_{11} < -10$  dB, Figure 2 shows a slot antenna with six frequencies at 1.39765-1.46032 GHz for GPS systems (used in the L3-band),

3.25662-3.52709 GHz for WiMAX state, 5.07467-5.43152 GHz for IEEE 802.11a WLAN systems, 5.82-5.97 GHz for V2V communications, 7.14613-7.42979 GHz for satellite communications (C-band and X-band) and 8.27509-8.68462 GHz for X-band satellite communications. Figure 2 depicts the

simulation result for  $S_{11}$ . The numerous parameters, like  $L1, L3$  to  $L10, W1, W5$ , and  $g1$ , can be changed to alter the frequency bands. To achieve the required outcomes, adjust the planned geometry for various purposes. A simulation is used to determine how the frequency range changes as a result of parameter changes. Here a ground plane with fixed dimensions are employed that remains constant when parameter values change. A scalar simulated surface current distribution at the edge of rectangular slot and at the feed point, which is flipped upside down (inverted T-shaped) stub operating @1.40 GHz for band 1. The inverted T stub current is closer to the surface plane on an inverted T curve. Using equation [8] one may determine the Band 1 resonant frequency which relates to dimensions of rectangular slot in ground plane. Theoretically, the slot dimension indeed to be used to define a resonant frequency ( $f_1$ ).

$$f_1 = \frac{c}{2(L_1 + W_1)\sqrt{\epsilon}} = 1.43GHz \quad [8]$$

Where  $\epsilon$  is dielectric constant of FR4 substrate

$$\epsilon \approx \frac{(\epsilon_r + 1)}{2} = 2.25 \quad [9]$$

$\epsilon_r$  = relative permittivity of substrate

$C$  = speed of light in free space

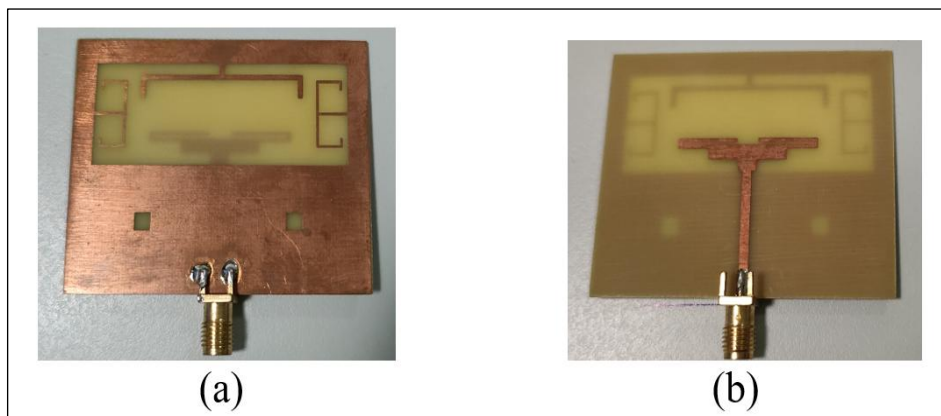
$L1$  = length of the rectangular slot

$W1$  = width of the rectangular slot

The resonant frequency declines, as the surface current distribution through the edge of the slot  $g1$  alters band 1 as well as the method of current flow. The two E-shaped monopoles are the focal points of the current, which give the resonant frequency and are given by equation [10] as

$$f_2 = \frac{c}{4\left(L6 + \frac{L5}{2} + L7 + L8\right) \cdot \sqrt{\epsilon}} = 2.98GHz \quad [10]$$

Figure 1 shows that  $L6, L5$ , and  $L7$ , may be modified to retuned resonant frequency band 2, these dimensions are related to E shaped and mirror E shaped stubs. Figure 3 shows fabricated rectangular slot antenna showing bottom and top view. It is evident from Figure 4(B) that the flipped upside-down stub interferes with the simulated surface current distribution, which lowers the ideal condition at frequency of 3.36 GHz. At 5.2 GHz for band 3 as depicted in Figure 4(C), the frequency is jointly determined by the double fold extended stubs of the T-shaped power patch and flipped upside down stubs. Both the horizontally expanded T-shaped feed patch and the inverted T-shaped stub receive current, determines the resonance frequency. Figure 4(D) for band 4 at 5.9 GHz depicts the current flowing through a T-shaped power feed path that is parallel to that in Figure 4(C), but with a shorter wavelength. Figure 3 shows fabricated rectangular slot antenna shows bottom and top view.



**Figure 3:** Photographs of Final Module (A) Bottom View, (B) Top View

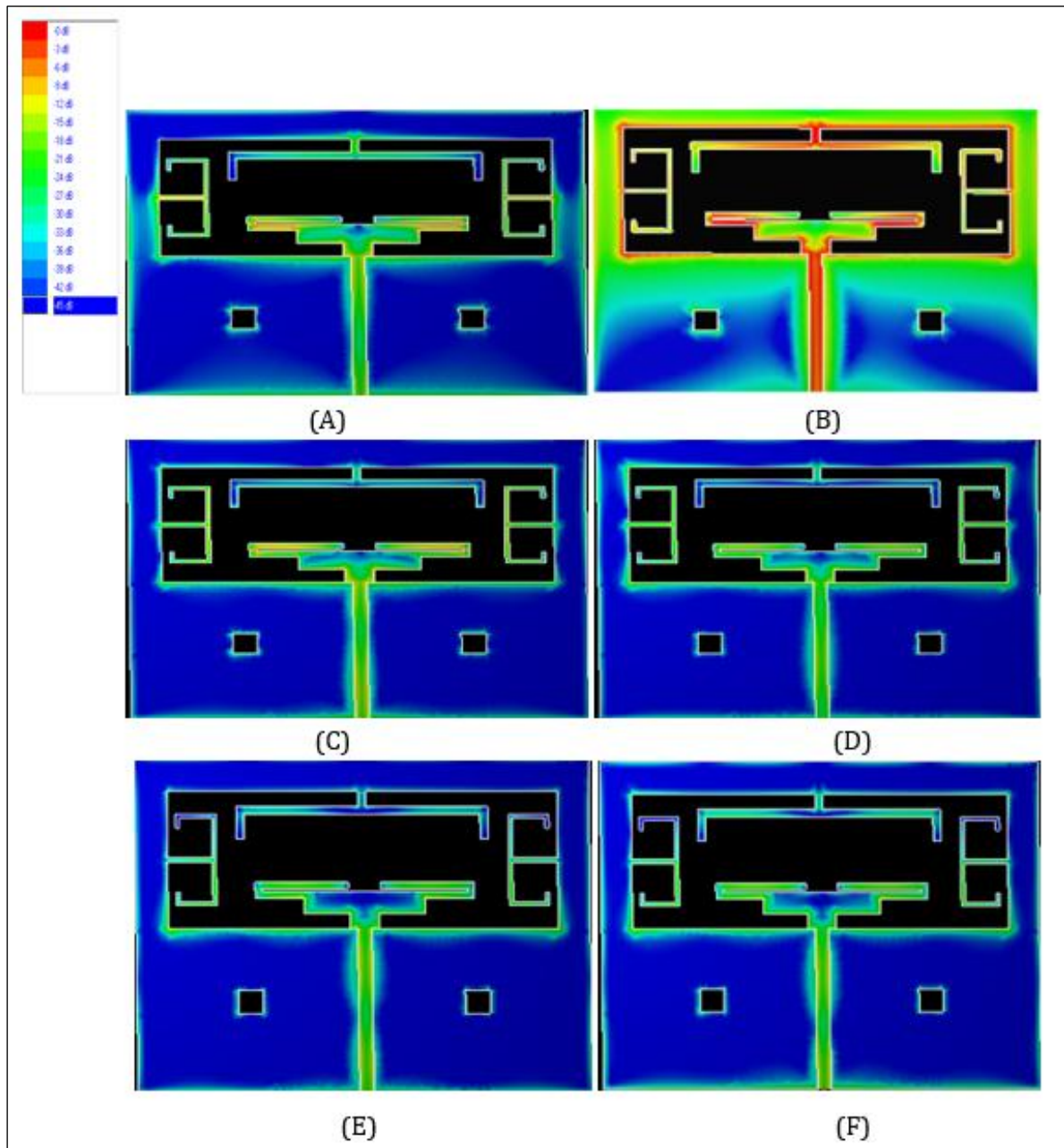
Figure 3 shows a prototype antenna for measurement with a bottom and top view. The simulated surface current increases as a result of the bands produced by introducing two squares on the ground plane. For study purposes, simulated current distributions vs frequency are depicted in Figure 4. Electromagnetic energy that flows into or out of the patch via the feed probe combination. In

the middle of the patch, there is no electric field; on one edge, it is maximal, and on the other, it reverses direction. The current (magnetic field) is maximum at the center of patch and minimum on the opposite sides of patch, while the voltage (electrical field) is zero in the center and maximum on one edge and reverses its direction (minimum) on opposite edge. Hence the distribution of

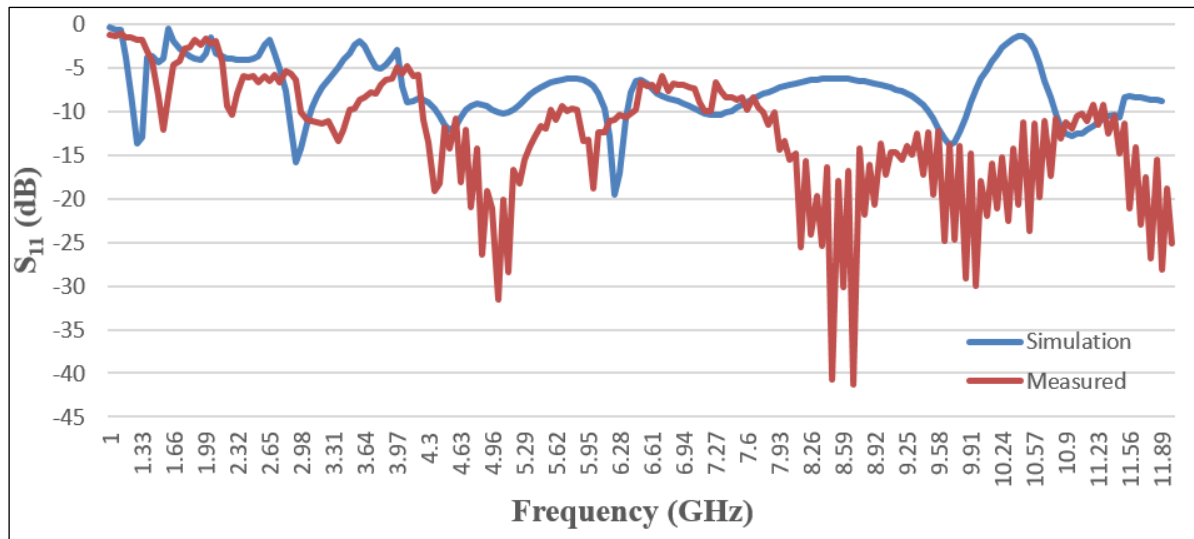


impedance is minimum at the center and maximum on both edge of patch (32). Surface current distributions are shown for frequencies of 1.41 GHz, 3.36 GHz, 5.24 GHz, 5.92 GHz, 7.28 GHz, and 8.44 GHz. Figures 4 shows the current

distributions are different for all resonance conditions. At 1.41 GHz, the major current flows through a rectangular slot, an inverted T shaped and T shaped feed patch.



**Figure 4:** Surface Electric Field Distributions (A)1.41 Ghz, (B)3.36 Ghz, (C)5.24 Ghz, (D)5.92 Ghz, (E)7.28 Ghz, (F)8.44 Ghz



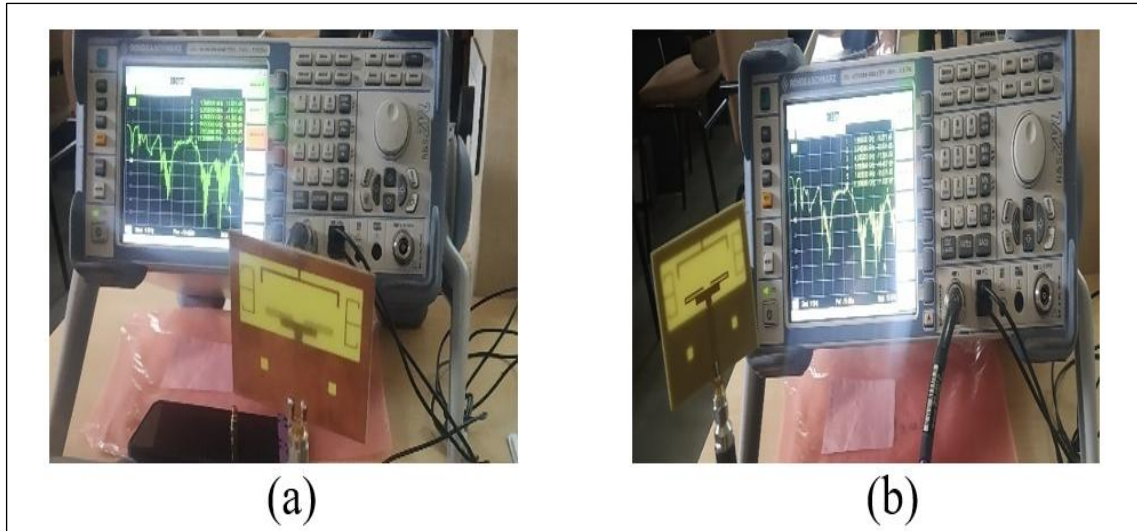
**Figure 5:** Simulated and Measured Reflection Coefficients

**Table 2:** Stimulation Results and Experimental Validation

Variable	Freq. (GHz)	S11	FL (GHz)	FH (GHz)	Bandwidth %	Bandwidth (MHz)
Simulation	1.39	-13.57	1.34	1.46	8.57	120
	3.36	-14.21	3.25	3.52	7.97	270
	5.26	-11.84	5.07	5.43	6.85	360
	5.96	-10.1	5.82	5.97	2.54	150
	7.27	-18	7.14	7.42	3.84	280
	8.41	-10.73	8.27	8.68	4.83	410
Measured	1.5	-12.12	1.5	1.58	5.19	80
	3.36	-13.42	2.98	3.42	13.75	440
	4.35	-31.52	4.24	5.41	24.24	1170
	6	-18.77	5.89	6.39	3.14	500
	8.48	-41.27	7.76	12	42.91	4240

Using IE3D software, a computer simulation of the microstrip six band slot rectangular antenna is performed. The simulated  $S_{11}$  is shown in Figure 2. Six frequency bands were observed on the slotted antenna for  $S_{11} < -10$  dB from 1.34 to 1.46 GHz, 120 MHz for GPS systems, 3.25-3.52 GHz for WiMAX, 5.07-5.43 GHz and 5.82-5.97 GHz for IEEE 802.11a WLAN systems and IEEE 802.11p V2V respectively, 7.14-7.42 GHz for the C and X satellite bands, and 8.27-8.68 GHz for X-band satellite communication. In the IE3D simulation, the coaxial cable is not taken considered. With the use of a vector network analysis tool, ROHDE and SCHWARZ, the prototype antenna is tested. The simulated and measured  $S_{11}$  are depicted in Figure

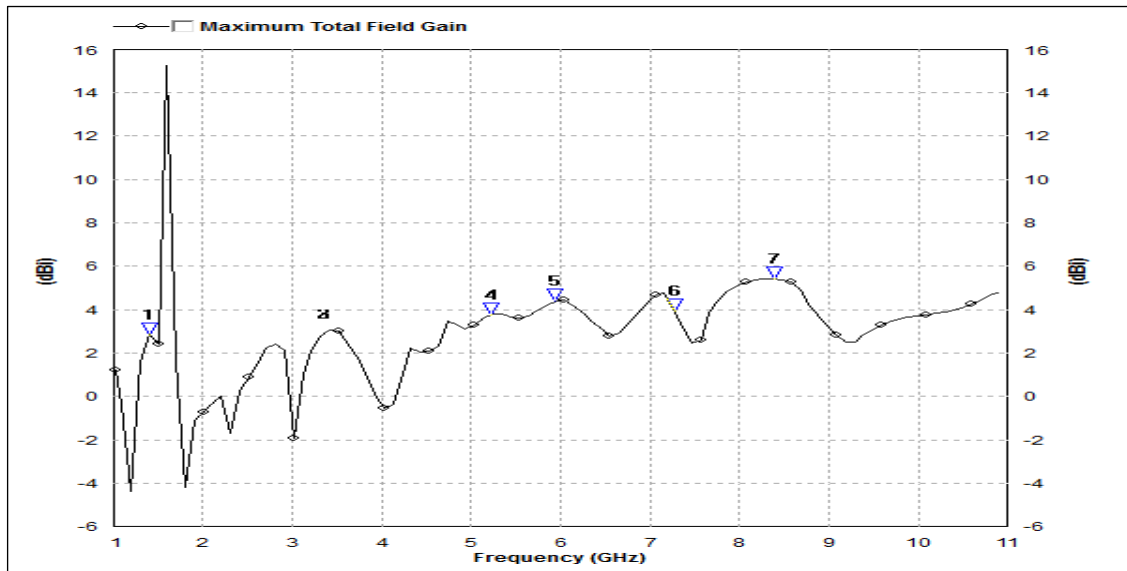
5. The  $S_{11}$  results at 1-10 GHz were measured by the subminiature version A (SMA) connector. The antenna is shown to have six frequency bands. For the GPS system (in L1 frequency band is 1563 to 1587 MHz), the measured frequency bands (for  $S_{11}@-10$  dB) are 1.501-1.581 GHz (bandwidth: 80 MHz); during prototype testing resonant at 2.265 GHz at -10.48 dB; 2.98 to 3.42 GHz for WiMAX, 4.245 to 5.51 GHz for 802.11a WLAN, 5.895-6.39 GHz for 802.11p V2V communication; and 7.765-12 GHz for the C and X bands for satellite communications. Figure 5 displays the observed findings as the red line and the simulated results as the blue line.



**Figure 6:** Measurement Setup (a) and (b) From 1 to 10 GHz

Figure 6 depicts the microwave band measurement setup for  $S_{11}$ . Due to feeding cable, small difference between the measured and predicted outcomes. During simulation a cable was not used. During the measurement, a cable is used with the measured system (ROHDE and SCHWARZ system). At lower frequencies, ground plane becomes electrically thin, affecting the distribution of currents and potentially leading to undesired effects such as back radiation to feeding cable. The

performance of simulation and measurement are quite similar. In measurement resonance occurred at 1.5@-12.12 dB, 2.26 GHz@-10.48 dB, 2.98-3.42 GHz having a peak of -13.42 dB, 4.24-5.51 GHz having a maximum peak of -31.52 dB, 5.89-6.39 GHz having a peak of -18.77 dB, and 7.76-12 GHz having a peak of -41.27dB. The modeling and measurement findings show extremely high agreement in Figure 2 and 5. Table 2 shows simulation and measured results validation.



**Figure 7:** Simulated Total Field Gain

Figure 7 depicts the simulated gain for band 1, which is 2.82dBi. Band 2 has a gain of 2.88dBi, Band 3 has a gain of 2.88dBi, and Band 4 at 5.96 GHz has a gain of 3.76dBi. Band 5 has a gain of 4.38dBi, similarly band 6 has a gain of 3.93dBi. Figure 8 shows antenna efficiency mentioned in

Table 3. Figure 9 shows radiation pattern in x-y and x-z mode for different resonant frequencies. Radiation pattern shows bidirectional and omnidirectional pattern in x-z and x-y field respectively.



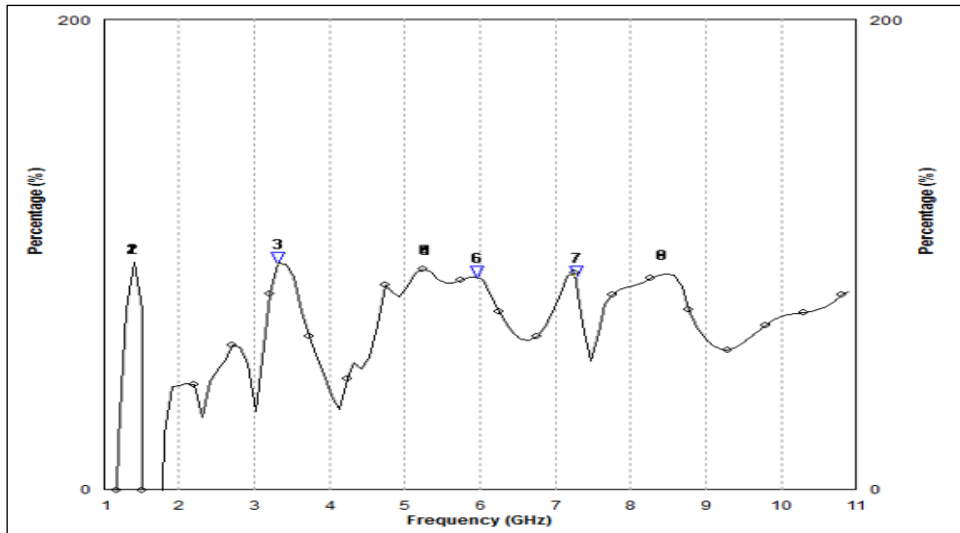
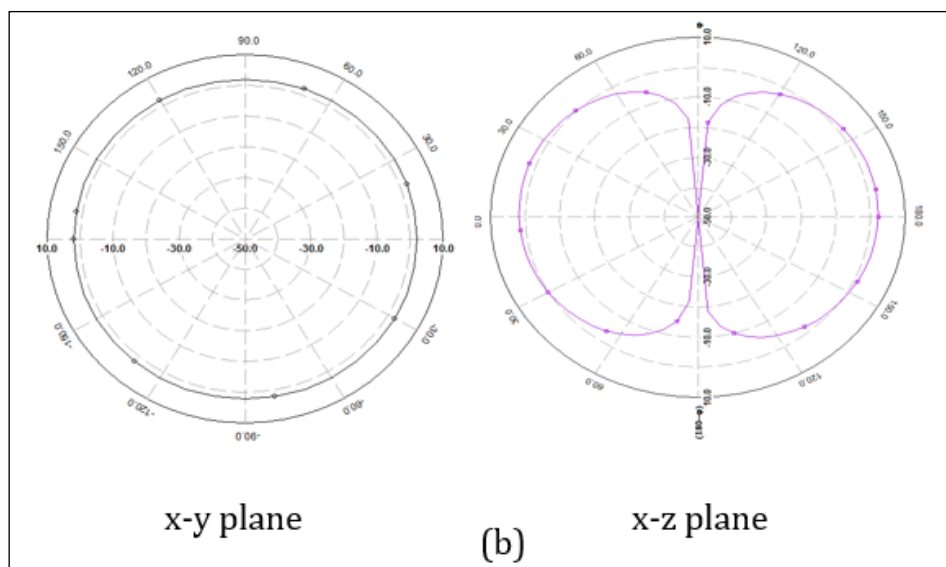
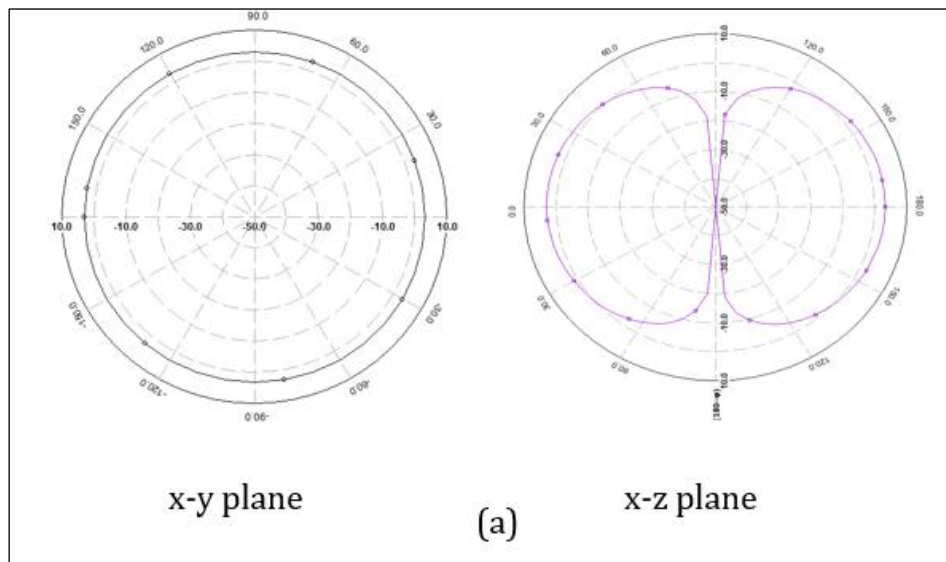
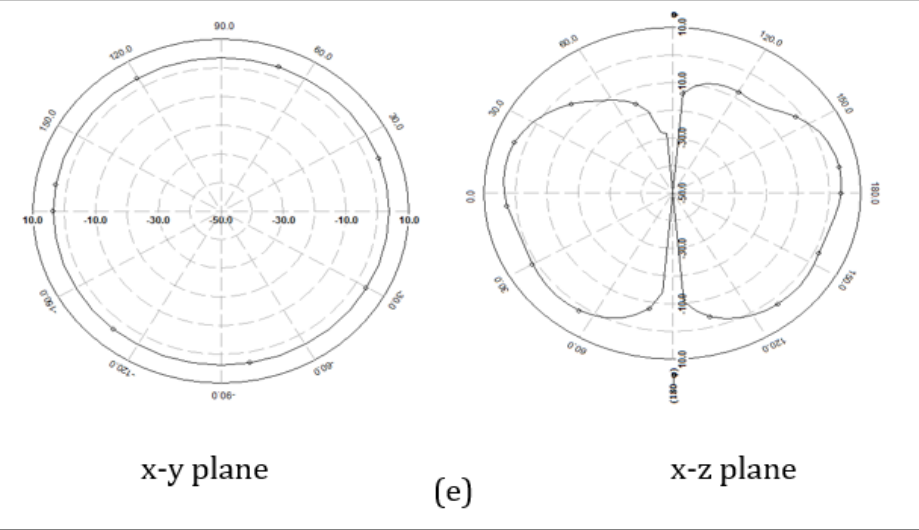
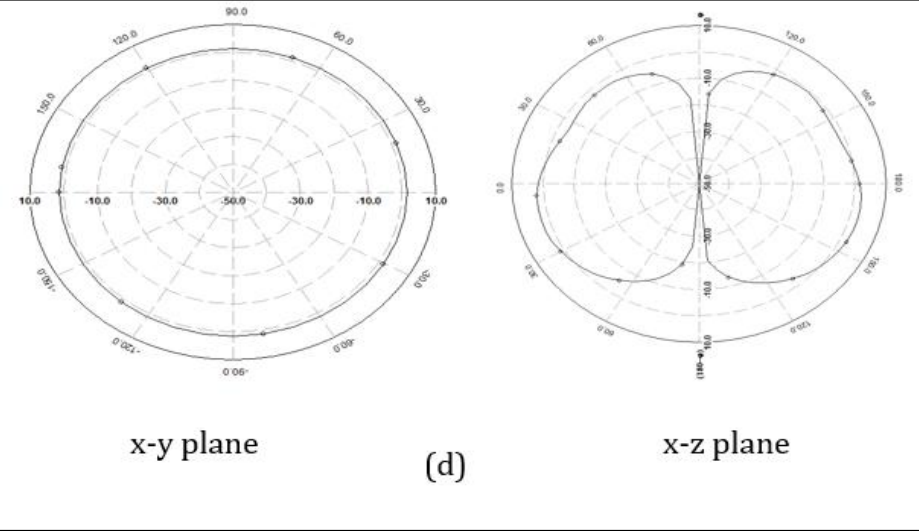
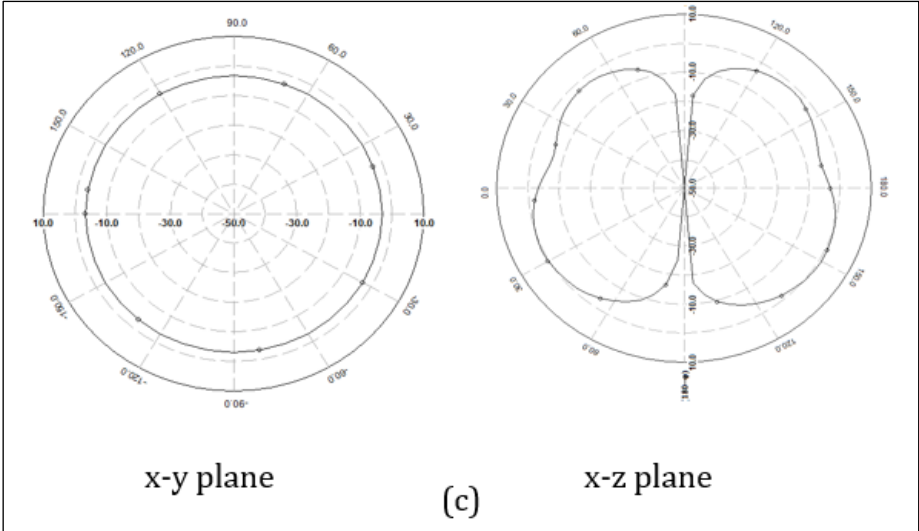
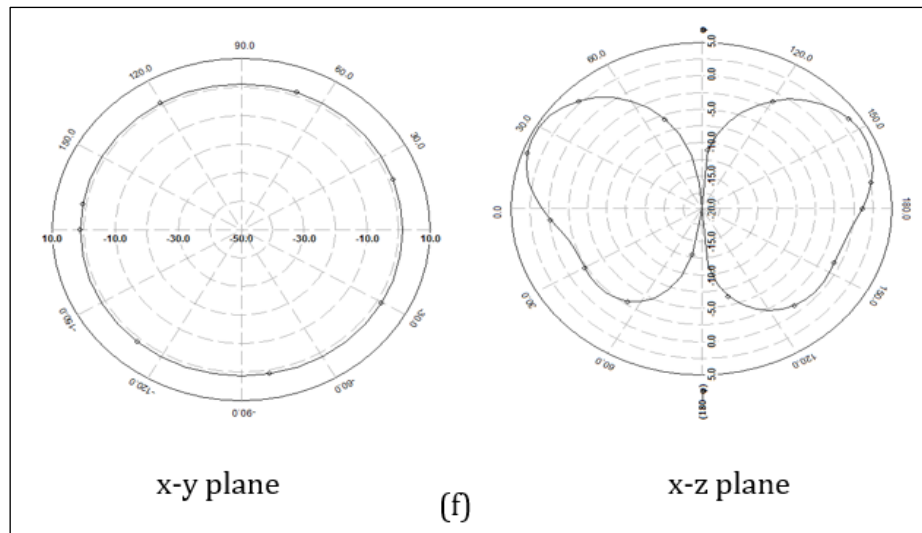


Figure 8: Antenna Efficiency







**Figure 9:** Computer-Simulated Radiation Pattern in x-y and x-z Plane (a) 1.39 GHz, (b) 3.36 GHz, (c) 5.26 GHz, (d) 5.96 GHz, (e) 7.27 GHz and (f) 8.42 GHz

From Figure 9 we conclude that the radiation pattern in x-y plane are omnidirectional. In x-z plane the radiation pattern have a dumbbell shape. At low frequency the ground plane of antenna becomes electrically small and some currents will flow back from antenna to outer surface of feeding

cable. This results in radiation inaccuracy and also alters the current distribution on antenna hence the return loss  $S_{11}$ . To improve the accuracy in measurement the feeding cable is covered with EM suppressant tubing to absorb unwanted radiation.

**Table 3:** Stimulation Results and Experimental Validation

Ref	Size (mm)	Gain (dBi)	Resonant Frequency (GHz)	No. of bands	Bandwidth %	Efficiency %	Approaches	Pattern
(19)	1.05 X 1.05	2.33	2.46	03	NA	NA	Sickle-shaped slots	Omnidirectional
		3.14	3.59		NA	NA		
		2.89	5.69		NA	NA		
(20)	0.46 X 0.85	3.0	2.6	03	19.6	88	C, open ended and L shaped slots	Omnidirectional
		4.3	3.5		20.7	95		
		5.2	5.5		14.5	97		
(21)	0.46 X 0.39	3.86	2.5	03	22.2	NA	Sickle-shaped slots	Omnidirectional
		3.52	3.5		12.3	NA		
		4.32	5.6		23.2	NA		
(22)	0.38 X 0.44	3.01	2.5	03	18.60	NA	Square slot with symmetrical L strip	Bidirectional
		3.02	3.5		24.93	NA		
		2.92	5.15		13.51	NA		

		-6	2.45		4.50	NA	Octagonal-shaped slot and stepped rectangular patch	Omnidirectional
(23)	0.24 X 0.21	NG	4.5	03	3.87	NA		
		2.5	6.5		4.30	NA		
		3.55	1.57		5.6	76.8		
(30)	0.44 X 0.35	3.93	2.45	04	5.86	80.1	Stepped rectangular patch	Bidirectional
		5.02	3.5		23	96.6		
		4.86	5.2		13.7	85.5		
		2.82	1.39		5.19	93.92		
		2.88	3.36		13.75	96.01	Rectangular Ground Plane with E and inverted T stub	Omnidirectional
This Work	0.44 X 0.35	2.88	5.26	06	24.24	93.50		
		3.76	5.96		8.14	90.14		
		4.38	7.27			90.14		
		3.93	8.42		42.91	91.23		

Gains of more than 2 dB are present at all frequencies of the proposed design, as shown in Table 3. This is because the reversed T curved patch and the E curved stub have the smallest possible gap between them. The gain also increases when distance increases. Table 3 shows performance comparison with different bandwidths, reflection coefficients, gains, structure and radiation pattern of rectangular slot antenna for different frequencies. Finally maximum bandwidth and gain obtained at 8.42 GHz with a return loss -10.73, which is good candidature for design.

## Conclusion

The design of a multiband rectangular ground structure microstrip antenna for wireless communication is described. The defective ground plane is modified to obtain a wide bandwidth and multiband response. The multiband rectangular slot antenna with DGS is used for Future Wireless. The antenna dimensions are optimized to obtain performance at different resonance conditions. The proposed antenna is resonates at six frequencies to realize characteristic at over a wide frequency range from 1.34 to 8.68 GHz. The designed antenna can be obtained closer result in terms of the reflection coefficient and gain. Six frequency bands are obtained at about 1.39, 3.36, 5.26, 5.96, 7.27 and 8.42GHz which cover the GPS,

WiMAX, WLAN, V2V, C band and X band satellite communication systems respectively.

## Abbreviations

IEEE: Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers, MIMO: Multiple Input Multiple output, FR4: Flame Retardant 4, SRR: Split Ring Resonator.

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## Author Contributions

Kiran Hilal Sonawane: Conceptualization, Methodology, Original Draft Preparation, Data Curation, Investigation, Reviewing, Editing, Formal Analysis, Visualization. Dr. Pravin Sahebrao Patil: Supervision, Project Administration, Funding Acquisition.

## Conflicts of interest

The authors do not have any conflicts of interest. Dr. Pravin Sahebrao Patil: Supervision, Project Administration, Funding Acquisition.

## Ethics approval

Approved by the institutional review board.

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