Characterization and Design of Cylindrical Microstrip Leaky-Wave Antennas

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Abstract—The spectral-domain approach is applied for the analysis and the design of the cylindrical microstrip leaky-wave antenna. The first higher-order leaky-mode is thoroughly investigated. We perform the well-known spectral-domain approach and Galerkin's method to acquire the complex propagation constants of leaky modes, which are verified with results obtained by the scattering-parameter extraction technique. Two practical antennas are designed and implemented. Measured return loss and radiation patterns show a good performance of these cylindrical antennas, compared to that of the planar ones.

Index Terms—Cylindrical microstrip, leaky-wave, spectral-domain approach (SDA).

I. Introduction

PACE-WAVE leaky modes on many kinds of planar transmission lines have been widely studied and also received numerous attentions [1]–[6]. Leaky-wave antennas are well-known for their advantages such as high-gain, wide-band, etc. They also have the frequency-scanning feature. Although cylindrical transmission lines have been researched in [7]–[14], printed leaky-wave antennas based on cylindrical substrates have yet to be studied thoroughly in the literatures [15]–[17], which may find applications in systems that require conformal antennas in cylindrical shapes.

This paper first presents an analysis to obtain the propagation characteristics of the first higher order leaky mode on the cylindrical microstrip antennas. In Section II, we use the spectral domain approach (SDA) [18] to characterize the first higher order mode of the cylindrical microstrip line. Odd-symmetry and even-symmetry current basis functions are chosen in the longitudinal and transverse directions, combined with the edge conditions. Section III contains the numerical results that characterize the effects of different outer radii of cylinders, substrate thicknesses, and strip widths. The leaky-mode scattering parameter extraction technique [19] is also used to provide a verification of the numerical results obtained by SDA. Section IV shows the implementation and measurements of two cylindrical leaky-wave antennas with aperture-coupling feeding structures. Both of these antennas have high gains and wide bandwidth.

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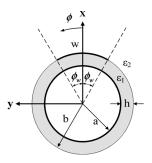


Fig. 1. The cross-sectional view of the cylindrical microstrip line.

II. THEORY

Fig. 1 shows the cross section of the cylindrical microstrip line. Region I is the cylindrical substrate with a permittivity of $\varepsilon_1 = \varepsilon_r \varepsilon_0$ and a thickness of h. Region II is free space. The strip with a circumferential width w is placed on top of the substrate. And the inner ground conductor is located at a circumference of radius a. The permeabilities of all materials are μ_0 . The thickness of the strip and the ground conductor are assumed to be zeros. We expand the z-components of fields in cylindrical coordinates by inverse Fourier series (suppressing the time-harmonic expression $e^{-jk_z z}$ and z-dependence $e^{-jk_z z}$) [12] as

$$E_{z1}(\rho,\phi) = \sum_{n=-\infty}^{\infty} \frac{e^{-jn\phi}}{2\pi} \left[A_{1n} H_n^{(1)}(k_{1\rho}\rho) + B_{1n} J_n(k_{1\rho}\rho) \right]$$
(1)

$$H_{z1}(\rho,\phi) = \sum_{n=-\infty}^{\infty} \frac{e^{-jn\phi}}{2\pi} \left[C_{1n} H_n^{(1)}(k_{1\rho}\rho) + D_{1n} J_n(k_{1\rho}\rho) \right]$$

$$E_{z2}(\rho,\phi) = \sum_{n=-\infty}^{\infty} \frac{e^{-jn\phi}}{2\pi} \left[A_{2n} H_n^{(2)}(k_{2\rho}\rho) \right]$$
 (3)

$$H_{z2}(\rho,\phi) = \sum_{n=-\infty}^{\infty} \frac{e^{-jn\phi}}{2\pi} \left[C_{2n} H_n^{(2)}(k_{2\rho}\rho) \right]$$
(4)

where

$$k_z^2 = k_i^2 - k_{i\rho}^2$$
, $k_i = \omega \sqrt{\mu_0 \varepsilon_i}$, $i = 1, 2$.

and define the z-direction propagation constant k_z such that $-jk_z=-\alpha-j\beta$, where α and β are the attenuation constant and the phase constant, respectively. $k_{i\rho}$ is the ρ -directed propagation constant. The $(E_\rho,H_\rho,E_\phi,H_\phi)$ can be expressed in terms of (E_z,H_z) from Maxwell's equations in cylindrical coordinates.

To analyze the first higher order leaky mode with an odd symmetry, we place a PEC boundary at the bottom ($\phi = \pi$)

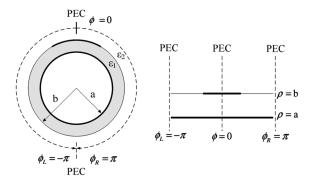


Fig. 2. The PEC boundary representation and transformation.

in Fig. 2. The longitudinal fields (E_z,H_z) between the PEC sidewalls are the standing waves, in the circumferential direction as opposed to the creeping waves in [15]. In the structure under consideration in this paper, the propagation direction of the microstrip leaky-wave antenna is along the z-direction of the cylinder. Should some applications demand that the propagation direction of the microstrip leaky-wave antennas be along the ϕ -direction of the cylinder, the analysis method in [15] that implemented Watson transform to take into account, the creeping waves, surface waves, and space-wave leaky waves should be employed.

The cross-section on the $\rho\phi$ -plane can be transformed into that of the planar microstrip line with the PEC sidewalls, like shielded microstrip lines. This direct mapping is similar to that used in [20]. Since the two endpoints $\phi_L = -\pi$ and $\phi_R = \pi$ are actually the same points and at the same PEC boundary, the fields (E_z, H_z) between them are periodic functions.

To compute the fields in the sidewalls, the variables n of the inverse Fourier series (1)–(4) are integers on the real axis (x-axis) of the n-plane. In solving planar microstrip leaky-wave structures [21]–[24], the variables used in integrations over the real axis are continuous; however, variables are discrete in solving cylindrical structures. Since the surface-wave leakage phenomenon in planar transmission lines will not occur in cylindrical substrates, no consideration of the surface wave leakage is needed in this analysis. The branch points in solving planar microstrip leaky-wave structures [21]–[24] are not needed in solving cylindrical structures because the variables n are irrelevant to $k_{i\rho}$.

The sign of ρ -direction wavenumber in free space $k_{2\rho}=\sqrt{k_2^2-k_z^2}$ in the series (1)–(4) should be chosen properly to satisfy the exponential growth condition of the space-wave leakage in the positive ρ -direction, and this square root is at the improper Riemann sheet. The similar choice of branch is defined in [25].

Resorting to the orthogonality of the eigenfunction in ϕ direction, boundary conditions in spectral domain are used to determine the unknowns $(A_{1n}, B_{1n}, C_{1n}, D_{1n}, A_{2n}, C_{2n})$

On the ground conductor

$$\tilde{E}_{z1}(\rho = a, \phi) = \tilde{E}_{\phi 1}(\rho = a, \phi) = 0, \quad -\pi \le \phi \le \pi.$$
 (5)

On the boundary between the substrate and the air

$$\tilde{E}_{z1}(\rho = b, \phi) = \tilde{E}_{z2}(\rho = b, \phi), \quad \phi_w < \phi < 2\pi - \phi_w$$
 (6) $\tilde{E}_{\phi 1}(\rho = b, \phi) = \tilde{E}_{\phi 2}(\rho = b, \phi), \quad \phi_w < \phi < 2\pi - \phi_w$ (7)

On the strip

$$\tilde{H}_{z1}(\rho = b, \phi) - \tilde{H}_{z2}(\rho = b, \phi) = \tilde{J}_{\phi}, \quad -\phi_w \le \phi \le \phi_w \quad (8)$$

$$\tilde{H}_{\phi 1}(\rho = b, \phi) - \tilde{H}_{\phi 2}(\rho = b, \phi) = -\tilde{J}_z. \quad -\phi_w \le \phi \le \phi_w \quad (9)$$

where $\left(\tilde{J}_z,\tilde{J}_\phi\right)$ are the Fourier transforms of the current density $J_z\left(\phi\right),\,J_\phi\left(\phi\right)$ on the strip. From (1)–(4) and (5)–(9) with some algebraic operations, $\left(A_{1n},B_{1n},C_{1n},D_{1n},A_{2n},C_{2n}\right)$ are solved and we obtain the relationships between \tilde{J} and

$$\tilde{E}_{z2}(n) = \tilde{G}_{zz}(n)\tilde{J}_z(n) + \tilde{G}_{z\phi}(n)\tilde{J}_\phi(n) \tag{10}$$

$$\tilde{E}_{\phi 2}(n) = \tilde{G}_{\phi z}(n)\tilde{J}_{z}(n) + \tilde{G}_{\phi \phi}(n)\tilde{J}_{\phi}(n). \tag{11}$$

The current densities $J_z(\phi)$, $J_{\phi}(\phi)$ are expanded in terms of basis functions $J_{zp}(\phi)$, $J_{\phi q}(\phi)$ as

$$J_{z}(\phi) = \sum_{p=1}^{p_{\text{max}}} u_{p} J_{zp}(\phi), \quad J_{\phi}(\phi) = \sum_{q=1}^{q_{\text{max}}} v_{q} J_{\phi q}(\phi), \quad (12)$$

with unknown coefficients (u_p, v_q) . The basis functions used in the computations are

$$J_{zp} = \frac{\sin\left\{ (2p-1) \frac{\pi\phi}{2\phi_w} \right\}}{\sqrt{1 - \left(\frac{\phi}{\phi_w}\right)^2}}$$
(13a)

$$J_{\phi q} = \frac{\cos\left\{ (2q - 1) \frac{\pi\phi}{2\phi_w} \right\}}{\sqrt{1 - \left(\frac{\phi}{\phi_w}\right)^2}}$$
(13b)

considering that z-component and ϕ -component currents are odd and even and functions of ϕ , respectively. The numbers of basis functions J_{zp} and $J_{\phi q}$, are p_{\max} and q_{\max} , respectively. Taking the inverse Fourier transform of (10)–(11), we can obtain the tangential E field in Region II. Then we apply the remaining boundary conditions that the tangential E fields vanish on the strip $(-\phi_w \le \phi \le \phi_w)$

$$E_{z2}(\rho,\phi) = \sum_{p=1}^{p_{\text{max}}} u_p \sum_{n=-\infty}^{\infty} \frac{e^{-jn\phi}}{2\pi} \tilde{G}_{zz}(n) \tilde{J}_{zp}(n)$$

$$+ \sum_{q=1}^{q_{\text{max}}} v_q \sum_{n=-\infty}^{\infty} \frac{e^{-jn\phi}}{2\pi} \tilde{G}_{z\phi}(n) \tilde{J}_{\phi q}(n) = 0 \quad (14)$$

$$E_{\phi 2}(\rho,\phi) = \sum_{p=1}^{p_{\text{max}}} u_p \sum_{n=-\infty}^{\infty} \frac{e^{-jn\phi}}{2\pi} \tilde{G}_{\phi z}(n) \tilde{J}_{zp}(n)$$

$$+ \sum_{q=1}^{q_{\text{max}}} v_q \sum_{n=-\infty}^{\infty} \frac{e^{-jn\phi}}{2\pi} \tilde{G}_{\phi\phi}(n) \tilde{J}_{\phi q}(n) = 0. \quad (15)$$

For numerical computation, we take the inner product of the above equations with the basis functions $J_{zd}\left(\phi\right)$ and $J_{\phi g}\left(\phi\right)$ as testing functions (Galerkin's method) over the strip

$$\sum_{p=1}^{p_{\text{max}}} u_p \sum_{n=-\infty}^{\infty} \frac{e^{-jn\phi}}{2\pi} \tilde{J}_{zd}^* \tilde{G}_{zz} \tilde{J}_{zp}$$

$$+ \sum_{q=1}^{q_{\text{max}}} v_q \sum_{n=-\infty}^{\infty} \frac{e^{-jn\phi}}{2\pi} \tilde{J}_{zd}^* \tilde{G}_{z\phi} \tilde{J}_{\phi q}$$

$$= \sum_{p=1}^{p_{\text{max}}} u_p Q_d^{zz} + \sum_{q=1}^{q_{\text{max}}} v_q Q_d^{z\phi} = 0, d = 1, 2, \dots, p_{\text{max}}$$
(16)

$$\sum_{p=1}^{p_{\text{max}}} u_p \sum_{n=-\infty}^{\infty} \frac{e^{-jn\phi}}{2\pi} \tilde{J}_{\phi g}^* \tilde{G}_{\phi z} \tilde{J}_{zp}$$

$$+ \sum_{q=1}^{q_{\text{max}}} v_q \sum_{n=-\infty}^{\infty} \frac{e^{-jn\phi}}{2\pi} \tilde{J}_{\phi g}^* \tilde{G}_{\phi \phi} \tilde{J}_{\phi q}$$

$$= \sum_{p=1}^{p_{\text{max}}} u_p Q_g^{\phi z} + \sum_{q=1}^{q_{\text{max}}} v_q Q_g^{\phi \phi} = 0, g = 1, 2, \dots, q_{\text{max}}$$
(17)

where the asterisk (*) stands for the complex conjugate, and the constant factor $1/2\pi$ is omitted. The numbers of testing functions J_{zp} and $J_{\phi q}$, are $p_{\rm max}$ and $q_{\rm max}$, respectively. Equation (16) and (17) can be rewritten in a matrix form

$$\begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{Q}^{zz} & \mathbf{Q}^{z\phi} \\ \mathbf{Q}^{\phi z} & \mathbf{Q}^{\phi \phi} \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{u} \\ \mathbf{v} \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{0} \\ \mathbf{0} \end{bmatrix}$$
 (18)

with $N=p_{\rm max}+q_{\rm max}$, where ${\bf u}$ and ${\bf v}$ are the column vectors of the unknown coefficients. The nontrivial solution of the complex propagation constant k_z exists only if

$$\det \begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{Q}^{zz} & \mathbf{Q}^{z\phi} \\ \mathbf{Q}^{\phi z} & \mathbf{Q}^{\phi \phi} \end{bmatrix} = 0. \tag{19}$$

III. NUMERICAL RESULTS

Some numerical computations are carried out to investigate the propagation characteristics of cylindrical microstrip leaky-wave antennas. Convergences, comparisons with the leaky-mode scattering parameter extraction technique, and effects under different structural parameters are shown.

The structural parameters (Fig. 1) used in the following computation are: the strip width w is 10 mm, the dielectric constant of the substrate ε_r is 2.2, the thickness of the substrate h is 0.508 mm, and the outer radius b is 10 mm.

A. Convergence Test

Each element of the Q-matrix is an infinite series, e.g.,

$$(J_z G_{zz} J_{zz}) = \sum_{n = -\infty}^{\infty} f_{zz}(n).$$
 (20)

But it is impossible to have infinite terms in practical computations. Convergence of the infinite series is investigated to clarify the truncation error. We show the relative deviation (from n=120 case) of real and imaginary parts in Fig. 3 to check the convergence of the series. Smaller outer radius causes the series to converge a little bit faster. Good convergences are obtained with the number of the summation terms n>100 and with more than six basis functions used. The relative deviation of propagation constants for the number of basis functions is displayed in Fig. 4.

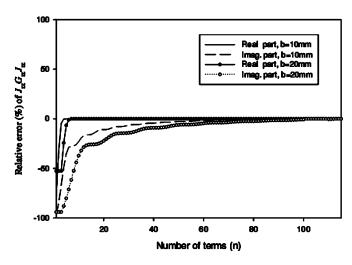


Fig. 3. Convergence of series $J_{zz}G_{zz}J_{zz}$. w=10 mm, h=0.508 mm, $\varepsilon_r=2.2$, and b=10 and 20 mm at 9.5 GHz.

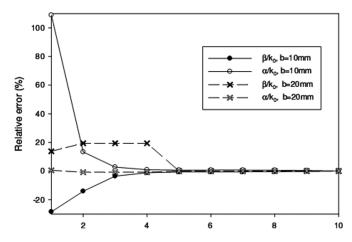


Fig. 4. Convergence of normalized phase constant and normalized attenuation constant of cylindrical microstrip leaky-wave antenna. $w=10~\mathrm{mm},~h=0.508~\mathrm{mm},~\varepsilon_T=2.2, b=10$ and 20 mm at 9.5 GHz.

B. Comparison of the Results From the SDA to the Result From the Leaky-Mode Scattering Parameter Extraction Technique

To check the validity of the numerical results, we introduce the leaky-mode scattering parameter extraction technique [19] to extract the propagation constants from scattering parameters.

In the technique, we choose two sections of leaky-wave microstrip lines, with the same design except their longitudinal lengths. Then we place two identical leaky-mode excitation circuits at the both ports of each of the two leaky-wave microstrip lines. After we obtain the two sets of scattering parameters of these leaky-wave microstrip lines from the full-wave simulation software, we can extract the propagation constants with some simple calculations based on the transmission line theory [26].

Numerical results obtained by this method are checked with those obtained by SDA. They show a good agreement. An example is presented in Fig. 5.

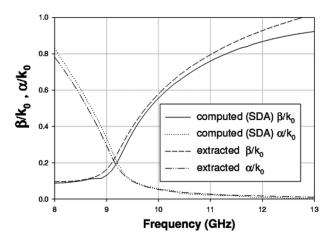


Fig. 5. Comparisons of propagation constants of the first higher order mode ($w=10~\mathrm{mm},\,h=0.508~\mathrm{mm},\,\varepsilon_r=2.2,\,b=30~\mathrm{mm}$).

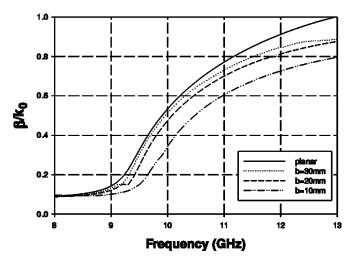


Fig. 6. Normalized phase constants of the first higher order mode ($w=10~{\rm mm},~h=0.508~{\rm mm},~\varepsilon_r=2.2,~b=10,~20,~30~{\rm mm}$ and planar).

C. Effect of Different Outer Radii

First we use angular width ${\cal R}$ of the line width w to the outer radius b of the substrate

$$R = \frac{w}{b}. (21)$$

This definition represents the curvature of the cylindrical structure. If the radius becomes larger with a fixed line width, the angular width R decreases, which indicates that the structure is flatter. For example, the substrate thickness h is 0.508 mm and the antenna width is 10 mm. We choose three different outer radii, b=10,20, and 30 mm with three angular widths: 1, 0.5, and 1/3. It is reasonable that when the radius increases, the propagation constants gradually approach those of the planar microstrip leaky-wave modes.

Fig. 6 shows the computed normalized phase constant β/k_0 and Fig. 7 shows the computed normalized attenuation constants α/k_0 , where $k_z=\beta-j\alpha$. We find that as the outer radius b or the angular width R becomes larger, the radiation region $(\alpha \le \beta \le k_0)$ moves to a lower frequency band, with the point $\alpha=\beta=0.19$, which can be used as the lower frequency limit

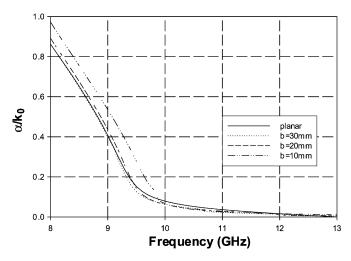


Fig. 7. Normalized attenuation constants of the first higher order mode ($w=10~\mathrm{mm},\,h=0.508~\mathrm{mm},\,\varepsilon_r=2.2,\,b=10,20,30~\mathrm{mm}$ and planar).

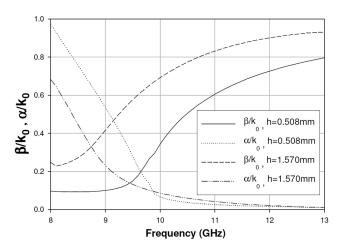


Fig. 8. Propagation constants of the first higher order mode ($w=10~\mathrm{mm},$ h=0.508 and 1.570 mm, $\varepsilon_T=2.2, b=10~\mathrm{mm}$).

of effective space-wave leakage [3]. The lower frequency limit occur at about 9.65, 9.45, and 9.25 GHz, for b=10, 20, and 30 mm, respectively.

D. Effect of Different Substrate Thicknesses

Fig. 8 plots the computed normalized attenuation constants α/k_0 and the normalized phase constants β/k_0 for two different substrate thicknesses h=0.508 and 1.570 mm, with the same outer radius b=10 mm. The antenna width w is 10 mm. When the substrate is thicker, the radiation region moves to a lower frequency band. In planar microstrip leaky-wave antennas, similar effects can be observed [5]. The attenuation constant α/k_0 also becomes smaller, which means less attenuation. The lower frequency limit of effective space-wave leakage ($\alpha=\beta$) is 8.75 and 9.65 GHz for h=1.570 and 0.508 mm, respectively.

E. Effect of Different Line Widths

Fig. 9 shows the effects of the line width on the propagation constants of the cylindrical microstrip leaky-wave antennas. From Fig. 9, a smaller microstrip line width results in a higher frequency band for space-wave leakage. In planar microstrip leaky-wave antennas, similar effects can be observed [1]. The

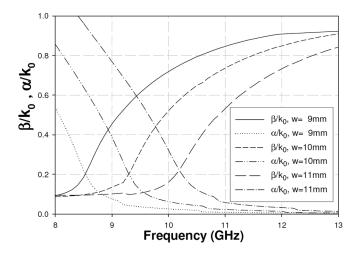


Fig. 9. Propagation constants of the first higher order mode (w=9,10, and 11 mm, h=0.508 mm, $\varepsilon_r=2.2,b=30$ mm).

lower frequency limits of effective space-wave leakage appear at about 8.55, 9.30, and 10.15 GHz, corresponding to widths w=11, 10, and 9 mm, with almost the same values $\alpha=\beta=0.2$. As the line width reduces, the lower frequency limit of the effective space-wave leakage increases.

IV. ANTENNA DESIGN AND MEASUREMENTS

After computing the dependence of the propagation constants on structural parameters (line widths, substrate thicknesses and permittivities, etc.) from the theory above, we can determine the radiation regions $(\alpha \leq \beta \leq k_0)$ of cylindrical microstrip leaky-wave antennas.

Next, we design aperture-coupling feeding structures with enough bandwidth to deliver power into antennas. Fig. 10 shows the configuration of the antenna system. The antenna system consists of two layers of substrates. The upper substrate is utilized for the antenna, and lower substrate is applied for the feeding microstrip line, respectively. Both substrates share the same ground with the coupling slot. The top view of the antenna system in Fig. 11 shows the positions of the coupling slot and the feeding microstrip line.

Both of these substrates have a dielectric constant $\varepsilon_r=2.2$ and a thickness of h=0.508 mm. Substrates thicker than 0.508 mm are too firm to bend into the cylindrical shape. The energy goes through the coupling slot to the leaky-wave microstrip and excites the first higher leaky mode [4].

The dimensions used are the following: the feeding line width $w_f=1.88~\mathrm{mm}$, the distance from the feed line end to the antenna center $l_m=3.9~\mathrm{mm}$, the slot width $w_s=0.5~\mathrm{mm}$, the distance from the slot end toward the antenna to the antenna starting point $l_c=3~\mathrm{mm}$, the slot length (l_c+l_o) with $l_o=9~\mathrm{mm}$, the antenna width $w=10~\mathrm{mm}$, and the antenna length $L=150~\mathrm{mm}$. These values are selected to obtain a good impedance matching. Two sets of antennas with $b=20~\mathrm{mm}$ and 30 mm are designed, which are specified as Antenna I and Antenna II, respectively. From the measured scattering parameters shown in Fig. 12, the bandwidth (with reflection coefficient $S_{11}<-10~\mathrm{dB}$) of Antenna I is 9.59–12.71 GHz; and that for

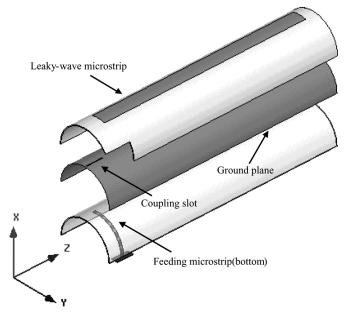


Fig. 10. The feeding and the antenna structure.

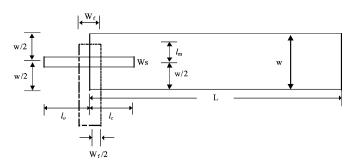


Fig. 11. The top view of feeding and the antenna structure.

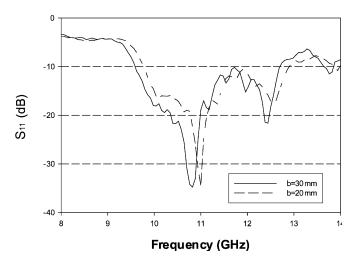


Fig. 12. Measured reflection coefficient of the cylindrical microstrip antenna with two angular widths ($w=10~\mathrm{mm},\,h=0.508~\mathrm{mm},\,\varepsilon_{\tau}=2.2,\,b=20$ and 30 mm).

Antenna II is 9.77–12.89 GHz. They both have 3.12 GHz bandwidth. It is noted that this kind of antenna has the potential to be a good wideband antenna.

From the results in Fig. 12, we can find that a larger radius causes a lower operating frequency. We select two different

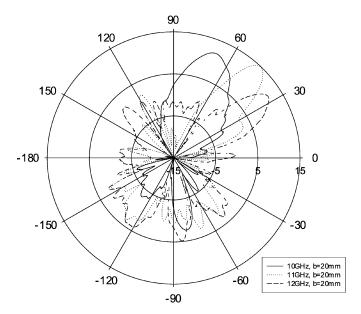


Fig. 13. Measured copolarization radiation patterns of the cylindrical microstrip antenna with a outer radius $b=20~\mathrm{mm}$.

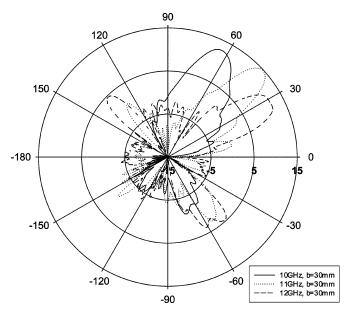


Fig. 14. Measured copolarization radiation patterns of the cylindrical microstrip antenna with an outer radius $b=30~\mathrm{mm}$.

outer radii b=30 and 20 mm of antennas to measure their return losses. There are two dips in S_{11} near 11 GHz and 12.5 GHz for each cases (b=30 for the solid line and b=20 mm for the dashed line). The dips are mainly due to the original resonant modes of the feeding microstrip lines, the feeding substrates, and the ground plane.

Copolarization radiation patterns of Antenna I and Antenna II in xz-plane are plotted in Figs. 13 and 14. Antenna I have the peak gains 11.79, 14.86, and 11.76 dBi for 10, 11, and 12 GHz, respectively, in Fig. 13.The corresponding mainbeam directions starting from the z-direction (endfire direction) are 67 $^{\circ}$, 46 $^{\circ}$, and 33 $^{\circ}$. This is the well-known frequency-scanning feature of leaky-wave antennas.

TABLE I
MEASURED AND COMPUTED MAINBEAM DIRECTIONS OF ANTENNA I

| Frequency (GHz) | Measured θ_{m} | Computed θ_c |
|-----------------|-----------------------|---------------------|
| 10.0 | 67.00° | 61.67° |
| 10.5 | 63.50° | 52.47° |
| 11.0 | 46.00° | 45.55° |
| 11.5 | 44.50° | 40.01° |
| 12.0 | 33.00° | 35.63° |

TABLE II
MEASURED AND COMPUTED MAINBEAM DIRECTIONS OF ANTENNA II

| Frequency(GHz) | Measured θ_{m} | Computed θ_c |
|----------------|-----------------------|---------------------|
| 10.0 | 63.00° | 59.12° |
| 10.5 | 50.50° | 49.98° |
| 11.0 | 42.00° | 43.00° |
| 11.5 | 36.50° | 37.12° |
| 12.0 | 26.00° | 32.21° |

With the same three frequencies selected above, Antenna II has 12.76, 14.82, and 11.96 dBi peak gains, as shown in Fig. 14. Compared to the Antenna I, larger outer radius of the antenna causes smaller mainbeam directions from the endfire, due to its larger phase constants. This phenomenon can be deduced from the data in Fig. 6.

For space-wave leaky modes, normalized phase constants β/k_0 and mainbeam directions θ from the endfire directions have the following theoretical relationship:

$$\cos\theta \cong \frac{\beta}{k_0}.\tag{22}$$

Therefore, we compare our measured mainbeam directions θ_m with computed mainbeam directions θ_c from (22) in Tables I and II, for b=20 and 30 mm, respectively. Reasonable agreements are observed in both cases (b=20 and 30 mm).

V. CONCLUSION

This paper proposes a cylindrical microstrip antenna structure with a full-wave analysis and its implementation. Measured scattering parameters and radiation patterns of these realized antennas circuits are presented. We investigate how the angular widths and the substrate thicknesses affect the propagation constants and radiation patterns of this cylindrical structure. Finally, we conclude that cylindrical leaky-wave antennas have the high-gain and wideband features, similar to those of the planar leaky-wave antennas.

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