

Electromagnetic Wave Theory and Applications

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Novel Design of 3D Metamaterial

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Recent studies have investigated the design of low profile antennas that rely on materials engineered to have specific electromagnetic properties, specifically artificial magnetic conductors (AMC). An AMC has the unnatural property of zero degree phase deflection of a reflected plane wave, which would enable antennas to achieve a higher gain without the quarter wave conducting backplane that would normally be required. Towards the goal of constructing an AMC, several designs have been studied including mushroom structures, Hilbert-Peano curves, Jerusalem Crosses and dipole or slot arrays. In this project, we report on the investigation of an AMC that was constructed with a novel fabrication process, and utilized a new design based on the C ring structures normally used in the design of metamaterials. This design can be used to achieve AMCs of relatively low frequency, and can be assembly with relative ease over a very large area making it ideal for application with low profile low frequency antennae.

Stacking of Meta-foils

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The THz meta-foil is a purely metallic space-grid that comprises parallel upright S-strings interconnected by metal lines running orthogonally to the S-strings and intersecting them in their nodes of oscillation such as to preserve the well-known S-string resonance. The importance of meta-foils rests on the fact that they consist of metal only and are no longer influenced by any supporting or embedding dielectrics. The meta-foil can be tailored and shaped according to the application and can be used at higher temperatures. Stacking of meta-foils is a way towards 3D metamaterials and advanced optical functions. The coupling of an electromagnetic wave to the meta-foil is maximized for normal incidence with a broad useful angular range of about $\pm 30^\circ$. The resonance spectra exhibit the typical magnetic left-handed and electric right-handed peaks. The amplitude of the left-handed peak grows with decreasing density of interconnecting lines. The spectra are insensitive to mechanical bending and to heating. When stacking meta-foils, two main parameters are the relative orientation and the distance between foils. In the case of two foils at $25\mu\text{m}$ gap with S-strings parallel, we find the same magnetic and electric resonances as for the single foil with a transmission and FWHM smaller than that of a single foil. However, the transmission is significantly larger than the product of the single transmissions which may indicate an interaction via evanescent fields. If we rotate foils by 90° such that the individual directions of S-strings are orthogonal, the magnetic peak is lost, while an electric peak is still maintained. This finding can be explained by the orthogonal structure of S-strings and interconnecting lines. Besides building 3D metamaterials, stacking of meta-foils may be used for polarization devices and the variable suppression of the magnetic peak as well as the control of the transmission.

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