

AIN SHAMS UNIVERSITY

FACULTY OF ENGINEERING

Electronics Engineering and Electrical Communications

Multi-Antenna Solutions for Long Term Evolution (LTE) Advanced

A Thesis submitted in partial fulfillment of the requirements of the degree of
Master of Science in Electrical Engineering
(Electronics Engineering and Electrical Communications)

By

Ahmed Abdelsamad Abdelmonem Asaker

B.Sc. of Electrical Engineering

Electronics Engineering and Electrical Communications

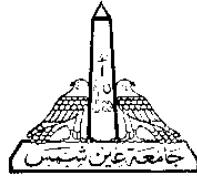
Faculty of engineering, Al-Azhar University, 2008

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Cairo, 2015



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Statement

This thesis is submitted as a partial fulfillment of Master of Science in Electrical Engineering, faculty of Engineering, Ain Shams University.

The Author carried out the work included in this thesis, and no part of it has been submitted for a degree or a qualification at any other scientific entity.

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Thesis Summary

This thesis presents an antenna design which can be used in LTE-A applications. Initially, describe the analysis and design of the single element microstrip antenna. The bandwidth of the conventional patch is enlarged by using etched slots at the antenna patch to cover the LTE-A uplink frequency band range from 2.5 up to 2.57 GHz as of today's standard based on 36.101 Table 5.5-1 (March 2012). The designed antenna has been fabricated by using thin film and photolithographic technique and has been measured by using the Vector Network Analyzer. The simulated and measured results were found to have good match with each other. The total area of the fabricated single element antenna is (60mm*50mm).

Then using the designed single-element antenna, a two - element MIMO system has been designed employing polarization diversity. The minimum separation between antenna elements to be decoupled equals $0.13\lambda_0$. This separation is smaller compared to the conventional arrays which should be separated by $0.5\lambda_0$ where λ_0 is the free space wavelength.

In order to enhance the isolation between the microstrip elements, different decoupling methods based on various mechanisms have been studied for the proposed two-element MIMO antenna system. First technique is to place a designed rectangular metal-structure between the two spaced polarized MIMO antenna elements. The second method is to cut a simple rectangular slot in the ground plane centered between the two spaced polarized microstrip antenna elements. The third method is to introduce narrow, closely spaced rectangular slots in the ground plane centered between the two microstrip elements.

In the proposed decoupling method, a combination of the first and second methods has been employed resulting in a significant reduction of the mutual coupling across antenna operating frequency band.

By using the proposed decoupling method, the separation between the microstrip elements was reduced to be $0.075\lambda_0$ rather than $0.13\lambda_0$ without missing decoupling between antenna elements.

Using the designed single-element antenna, a four-element MIMO antenna system which is supported by LTE-A uplink frequency band, has been built employing polarization diversity.

By using the same techniques as for the two-elements MIMO array, metal structures are placed between antenna elements as well as modifying the ground plane, a significant reduction of the mutual coupling and maximum miniaturization of antenna array have been observed. The total area of the MIMO array is 100mm*100mm.

A ready-made software package (CST microwave studio and measurement) is used for simulation. A four-element MIMO antenna was fabricated by using the same substrate and techniques of single-element antenna. Finally, good agreement between the simulated and measured results was found to meet our goals for LTE-A Uplink band “CA-B7” as of today’s standard based on 36.101 Table 5.5-1 (March 2012) [10].

Key words: Microstrip antennas, SISO systems, MIMO systems, polarization diversity, LTE-A, Mutual coupling, Slotted ground plane “SGP”, Isolating metal structure.

Acknowledgment

All gratitude is due to “*ALLAH*” who guides me throughout my life and help me to bring forth to light this thesis.

I owe my deepest gratitude to my supervisor, Prof. Dr. Abdelhalim Abdelnapi Zekry, Department of Electronics and Communication Engineering, Faculty of engineering Ain Shams University, for his guidance, supervision and stimulating discussions throughout my Master study. As a matter of fact, this thesis would not have been possible without his deep insight, opinions and his widely knowledge (God bless him).

I would also like to express my warm and sincere thanks to my second supervisor Dr.Redha Salama Ghoname, Electronics Research Institute, for her valuable encouragement, guidance and support from the initial to the final stages enabled me to develop an understanding of the subject, as well as her constructive comments in the writing up of this thesis, and her extreme effort in revising thesis and papers.

My special thanks to Prof. Dr. Nabil Mohamed Abdelfatah Ayad, Egyptian Atomic Energy Authority for his interest in wireless application in Nuclear Facilities and his guidance and assistance in my M.Sc.

I want to thank all my colleagues and friends for all their help, advice and valuable contributions to this thesis.

I would like to give my special thanks to my parents, brother, sister and my wife for their support, patience and love. Without their encouragement, motivation and understanding it would have been impossible for me to complete this work.

Last, but not least I gratefully and cordially thank Egyptian Atomic Energy Authority for the financial support.

Finally, I offer my regards and blessings to all of those who supported me in any respect during the completion of my M.Sc, in First Egyptian Research Reactor, Egyptian Atomic Energy Authority.

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