



UNIVERSITI TEKNIKAL MALAYSIA MELAKA

**AN ANALYSIS OF DS-UWB VIVALDI ANTENNA WITH LOW
RADAR CROSS SECTION (RCS) FOR STEALTH PURPOSES**

This report submitted in accordance with requirement of the Universiti Teknikal
Malaysia Melaka (UTeM) for the Bachelor of Electronic Engineering
(Wireless Communication)

by

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FACULTY OF ELECTRONIC AND COMPUTER ENGINEERING

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This report submitted in partial fulfilment of the requirements for the award of
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RADAR CROSS SECTION (RCS) FOR STEALTH PURPOSES

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I hereby, declared this report entitled “AN ANALYSIS OF DS-UWB VIVALDI ANTENNA WITH LOW RADAR CROSS SECTION (RCS) FOR STEALTH PURPOSES” is the results of my own research except as cited in references.

Signature :

Author's Name : WAN NUR AQILAH BINTI WAN AHMAD
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Date : 5TH JUNE 2014

APPROVAL

This report is submitted to the Faculty of Electronic and Computer Engineering of UTeM as a partial fulfillment of the requirements for the degree of Bachelor of Electronic Engineering (Wireless Communication). The member of the supervisory committee is as follow:

Signature :

Supervisor's Name : DR. MOHD AZLISHAH BIN OTHMAN

Date : 5TH JUNE 2014

DEDICATION

“In the Name of Allah, the most Beneficent, the Most Merciful”

*Special Dedication to my family and especially my parents
(Wan Ahmad Khairuddin Bin Wan Abdullah and Madznah Binti Yaacob)*

To my supervisor Dr. Mohd Azlishah Bin Othman

,

My friends, my fellow bosses and my colleagues

Thank you for all your care, support and believe in me.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

Alhamdulillah, apart from this effort, the project entitled “An Analysis of DS-UWB Vivaldi Antenna with Low Radar Cross Section (RCS) for Stealth Purposes” is successfully done within the time given for the course of Bachelor in Electronic Engineering of Wireless Communication as eligible for the Bachelor. I would like to take this opportunity to express my sincerest gratitude to the people who have been given their support in accomplishing this project. First and foremost I am grateful and would like to acknowledge expose my gratitude to my project supervisor, Dr. Mohd Azlishah Bin Othman for tirelessly providing me guidance and advice in accomplishing my project and thesis. I am indebted to all the lecturers who has teach me since I entered to Universiti Teknikal Malaysia Melaka for giving me a stimulating and pleasant environment in which to learn and grow. I also would like to thanks Universiti Teknikal Malaysia Melaka for providing me facilities to carry out my project and to complete this work. My utmost thanks to my families who have gave me support throughout my academic years for their blessings, love, dream and sacrifice throughout my life. I acknowledge the sincerity of my family who consistently encouraged me to carry on my studies until this level. I cannot find the appropriate words that could properly describe my appreciation for their devotion, support and faith in my ability to attain my goals. Not to forget to all my friends and course mates that has provided whether an idea or support, I tremendously acknowledge their direct or indirect supports and help. Last but not least, special thanks to all individuals who have directly or indirectly offered help, suggestions and support in bringing towards the completion of this project. Thank you so much.

ABSTRACT

This project was executed in order to design DS-UWB Vivaldi Antenna with Low Radar Cross Section (RCS) for Stealth Purposes at frequency between 6 GHz-10 GHz. The antenna was designed by considering the ideal requirements of a wireless antenna which is lightweight, small in size, low profile and can be used off-ground for the ease of mobility. Vivaldi antenna is a planar travelling wave antenna with endfire radiation which antenna consists of radiating and feed structure. Various types of radiating structure have been discussed included tapered slot Vivaldi antenna, antipodal Vivaldi antenna and balanced antipodal Vivaldi antenna. For the final design, the radiating structure was designed by using antipodal Vivaldi antenna. In the last part of this work, the optimum designs of Vivaldi antenna were fabricated and measured. The antenna were simulated by using CST Microwave Studio and fabricated on FR4 board. From the simulation and measurement results obtained, both antennas could operate efficiently at the designated frequency with return loss less than -10dB. The gain of Vivaldi antenna are 4.747dB respectively.

ABSTRAK

Projek ini dijalankan bertujuan untuk merekabentuk DS-UWB antipodal Vivaldi antenna untuk Low Radar Cross Section (RCS) untuk aplikasi sistem stealth yang beroperasi pada 6 GHz hingga 10 GHz. Rekabentuk antenna ini mengambil kira ciri-ciri seperti ringan, kecil, dan sengang dibawa kemana-mana bagi memenuhi spesifikasi yang diperlukan untuk di integrasikan pada alatan yang mengaplikasikan wayarles. Vivaldi antenna adalah sejenis antenna yg berstruktur planar dan mengeluarkan radiasi pada arah slot runcing antenna tersebut. Di dalam tesis ini, beberapa struktur radiasi antenna termasuk Taper Slot Antenna, Antipodal Vivaldi Antenna, dan Balanced Antipodal Vivaldi Antenna. Antenna ini direka bentuk menggunakan perisian CST Microwave Studio dan di fabrikasikan ke atas papan FR4. Daripada keputusan simulasi dan pengukuran antenna tersebut, dapat beroperasi dengan baik pada frekuensi yang telah ditetapkan dengan kehilangan balikan yang kurang dr -10dB. Kuasa penambahan untuk Vivaldi antenna yang berstruktur planar adalah 4.747dB.

CONTENTS

CHAPTER	TITLE	PAGE
	TITLE	i
	PROJECT APPROVE FORM	ii
	DECLARATION	iii
	SUPERVISOR APPROVAL	iv
	DEDICATION	v
	ACKNOWLEDGEMENT	vi
	ABSTRACT	vii
	ABSTRAK	viii
	CONTENTS	ix
	LIST OF TABLES	xiii
	LIST OF FIGURES	xiv
	LIST OF ABBREVIATION	xvii
	LIST OF APPENDICES	xx
I	INTRODUCTION	
	1.0 Introduction	1
	1.1 Problem Statement	3
	1.2 Objective of the Project	5
	1.3 Scope	5
	1.4 Methodology	5
	1.5 Thesis Outline	8

II LITERATURE REVIEW

2.0	Introduction	9
2.1	Basic Antenna Parameter	10
2.1.1	Radiation Pattern characteristics	10
2.1.2	Beamwidth	12
2.1.3	Return Loss	14
2.1.4	Gain	14
2.1.5	Directivity	15
2.1.6	Bandwidth	15
2.1.7	Efficiency	16
2.2	Tapered Slot Antenna	17
2.3	Basic Geometry of Vivaldi Antenna	18
2.3.1	Individual Element	18
2.3.2	Vivaldi Antenna	19
2.4	Classification of Vivaldi Antenna	20
2.5	Effects of Vivaldi Antenna Parameters	21
2.5.1	Taper Profile	21
2.5.2	Length and Aperture Heights	21
2.5.3	Substrate Material Used	22
2.5.4	Backwall Offset	22
2.8	Vivaldi Tapered Slotline Antenna (VTSA)	23
2.8.1	Slotline Gap Width of Vivaldi Antenna	25
2.8.2	Taper Profile of Vivaldi Antenna	27
2.8.3	VTSA Feeding Structure – Stripline Trace Width	27
2.9	Vivaldi Antipodal Slotline Antenna	28
2.10	Balanced Antipodal Vivaldi Antenna	30
2.11	Direct Sequence Ultrawide Band (DS-UWB)	31

III VIVALDI ANTENNA DESIGN

3.0	Introduction	34
3.1	Substrates Material and Thickness	34
3.2	Design Specification	35
3.3	Antipodal Vivaldi Design	36
3.4	Antenna Length	37
3.5	Antenna Width	38
3.6	Simulation Design of Vivaldi Antenna	38
3.7	Fabrication Process of Vivaldi Antenna	42
	3.7.1 Fabrication Process of Planar Structure	42
	3.7.2 Fabrication Process of Structure	44
3.8	Measurement Process	46
	3.8.1 Return Loss Measurements	46
	3.8.2 Gain Measurement	47
	3.8.3 Radiation Pattern Measurement	48

IV RESULT AND DISCUSSION

4.0	Introduction	49
4.1	Simulation Results	49
4.2	Design of Vivaldi Antenna	50
	4.2.1 Measuring Result Using Vivaldi Antenna	53
4.3	Comparison Between Vivaldi Antenna Simulation and Fabrication	55
4.4	Analysis of the Antenna Parameters	58

V	CONCLUSION AND FUTURE WORK	
5.0	Conclusion	60
5.1	Recommendation	61
5.2	Future Work	62
	REFERENCES	63
	APPENDICES	70

LIST OF TABLES

NO	TITLE	PAGE
3.1	Parameters of FR4 board	35
3.2	Design Specification of Antipodal Vivaldi Antenna	35
4.1	Design parameter of Vivaldi antenna	50

LIST OF FIGURES

NO	TITLE	PAGE
1.1	Types of Vivaldi Antenna [37]	3
1.2	Flow Chart for Research Methodology	7
2.1	Organization chart for category of antenna	10
2.2	Type of radiation pattern of an antenna - omni-directional [8]	11
2.3	Radiation characteristics of an antenna [8].	13
2.4	Basic construction of Vivaldi antenna [1]	16
2.5	TSA dimensions and fields [1].	17
2.6	Different taper profiles of TSA: (a) Exponential (Vivaldi); (b) Tangential; (c) Parabolic; (d) Linear; (e) Linear-constant; (f) Broken-linear; (g) Exponential-constant; (h) Step-constant [11]	18
2.7	Exponentially tapered slot antenna [1]	20
2.8	Gibson Vivaldi Antenna [1].	23
2.9	Slotline structure (a) top view (b) end view	26
2.10	Stripline triplate structure.	28
2.11	Antipodal Vivaldi Antenna [24].	29
2.12	Balanced Antipodal Vivaldi layouts [28].	30
3.1	Front View of Antipodal Vivaldi antenna	36
3.2	Back View of Antipodal Vivaldi antenna	36
3.3	Length of Antipodal Vivaldi Antenna	37
3.4	Width of Antipodal Vivaldi Antenna.	38
3.5	Simulation design process of Vivaldi antenna	39

3.6	Simulation design of (a). Front view of planar structure (top layer) (b) Back view of planar structure (bottom layer) (c) Bottom view of planar structure	40
3.7	The boundary Condition in CST Microwave Studio	41
3.8	Fabrication Process of Vivaldi antenna.	42
3.9	Layout masks for planar structure (a) Front view structure (b) Back view structure	43
3.10	Fabricated planar structure Vivaldi antenna (a) Front view structure (b) Back view structure	44
3.11	Layout masks for planar structure (a) Front view structure (b) Back view structure	45
3.12	Fabricated planar structure Vivaldi antenna (a) Front view structure (b) Back view structure	45
3.13	Return Loss Measurement Setup (a) Calibration (b) measure the Vivaldi antenna	46
3.14	Measurement setup to measure antenna gain	47
3.15	Measurement setup to measure antenna radiation pattern.	48
4.1	Front view of dimensions of Vivaldi antenna	50
4.2	Return loss (S11) and resonant frequency	51
4.3	Return loss (S11) and bandwidth	52
4.4	Simulated radiation pattern of the antenna (a) 3D radiation pattern (b) 2D E-field radiation pattern (c) 2D H-field radiation pattern	53
4.5	Graph of return loss (S11) and resonant frequency	54
4.6	Graph of return loss (S11) and bandwidth	54
4.7	Measurement radiation pattern for Vivaldi antenna (a) 2D E-field radiation pattern (b) 2D H-field radiation pattern	55
4.8	Graph of return lost (S11) and resonant frequency between simulation and measurement result	56
4.10	Comparison radiation pattern between simulation and Measurement result (a) E-field radiation pattern of measurement result (b) E-field radiation pattern of simulation result	57

4.11	Comparison radiation pattern between simulation and Measurement result (a) H-field radiation pattern of measurement result (b) H-field radiation pattern of simulation result.	57
4.12	Return loss for various setting of radius W1	58
4.13	Return loss for various setting of radius W1	59
4.14	Return loss for various setting of radius R	59

LIST OF ABBREVIATION

RCS	–	Radar Cross Section
AUT	-	Antenna Under Test
BW	-	Bandwidth
c	-	Velocity of Lights In a Vacuum
CSWA-		Constant Width Tapered Slot Antenna
CST	-	Computer Simulation Technology
D	-	Directivity
dB	-	Decibel
dB _i	-	Decibel per isotropic
E	-	Electric
e_c	-	Conduction Efficiency
e_d	-	Dielectric Efficiency
EIRP	-	Equivalent Isotropic Radiated Power
e_r	-	Radiation Efficiency
e_t	-	Total Radiation Efficiency
FNBW-		First-Null Beamwidth
FR4	-	Flame Retardant 4
G	-	Plane Ground Size
G _p	-	Power gain
G _{Test}	-	Gain of Antenna Under Test
GHz	-	Gigahertz
H	-	Magnetic
h	-	Substrate Thickness

HPBW-	Half-power Beamwidth
IEEE -	Institute of Electrical & Electronics Engineers
ISM -	Industrial, Scientific and Medical
L -	Length of Antenna
mm -	Milimeter
MHz -	Megahertz
MwS -	Microwave Studio
NT -	Navigation Tree
p -	Magnification Factor
PR -	Power Receive
PRad -	Radiation Power
PRef -	Reference power
PTest -	Power receive by Antenna Under Test
RF -	Radio Frequency
RFID -	Radio Frequency Identification
SMA -	SubMiniature version A
SW -	Slot Width
$\tan \delta$ -	Dissipation Factor
T -	Metallization Thickness
TSA -	Tapered Slot Antenna
U -	Radiation Intensity
U_o -	Radiation Intensity at Maximum
V_{ph} -	Phase Velocity
VTSA -	Vivaldi Tapered Slot Antenna
W -	Width of Antenna
W_A -	Slot width at radiating area
W_E -	Input Slot Width
W_o -	Output slot width
WiMAX-	Worldwide Interoperability for Microwave Access
W_S -	Slotline Width
x -	Length parameter

y	-	Half separation Distance
Z_o	-	Characteristic Impedance
ϵ_r	-	Substrate Dielectric Thickness
λ_o	-	Free space wavelength
Ω	-	Ohm
$^\circ$	-	Degree
%	-	Percent

LIST OF APPENDICES

NO	TITLE	PAGE
A	Soldering the connector to the Vivaldi antenna	70
B	Measure the radiation of the antenna	71
C	Fabrication of the Vivaldi antenna	72

CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

1.0 Introduction

Vivaldi antipodal antenna is used for Direct-Sequence Ultrawide Band (DS-UWB) frequencies, which is from 6 GHz to 10 GHz. The advantages of a Vivaldi antenna such as simplicity, wide bandwidth, and high gain at microwave frequencies. This Vivaldi antenna is a planar travelling wave antenna with endfire radiation. P.J.Gibson in 1979 was first proposed this types of antenna [1]. The origin of the name “Vivaldi” is not really known but the name was commonly associated with Antonio Vivaldi, a composer from the Baroque period.

It is believed that Gibson named it after Antonio Vivaldi as he listened to Vivaldi’s “Four Season” when he designed the antenna. The improvements to the initial design have been introduced in later years by E.Gazit in 1988 which he utilized an antipodal structure [2], and followed by balanced antipodal structure by Langley, Hall and Newham in 1996 [3].

Nose cone of the aircraft is to treat areas of radar detection, the distribution of electromagnetic antenna system's fire control in this area is normally very strong, which is a result of the importance of stealth antenna designs. Vivaldi antennas are widely used in the fire control system for wide bandwidth and small physical dimensions. Therefore, stealth Vivaldi antenna design is highly desirable in many airborne applications [4].

This is when Vivaldi antenna comes into view in which it have unlimited operating frequency range with constant beamwidth over broadband which could be used as a future antenna for the next generation high-speed wireless networks. Being a directional antenna, it could improve the capacity of wireless system and co-channel interference and also reduce multipath effects.

Moreover, it also possess a characteristics that is perfect for multifunction communication devices such as excellent impedance matching, low interference, do not require tuning elements, low profile, and unobtrusive [5].

The basic form of the antenna as shown in the figure. 1.1. The antenna consists of a feedline, stripline or microstrip normally, the transition from the feedline to a balanced stripline and slotline or radiating structure. Radiating expo-mental structures are tapered, the examples of the parabolic curve, hyperbolic or elliptical can be seen in [6].

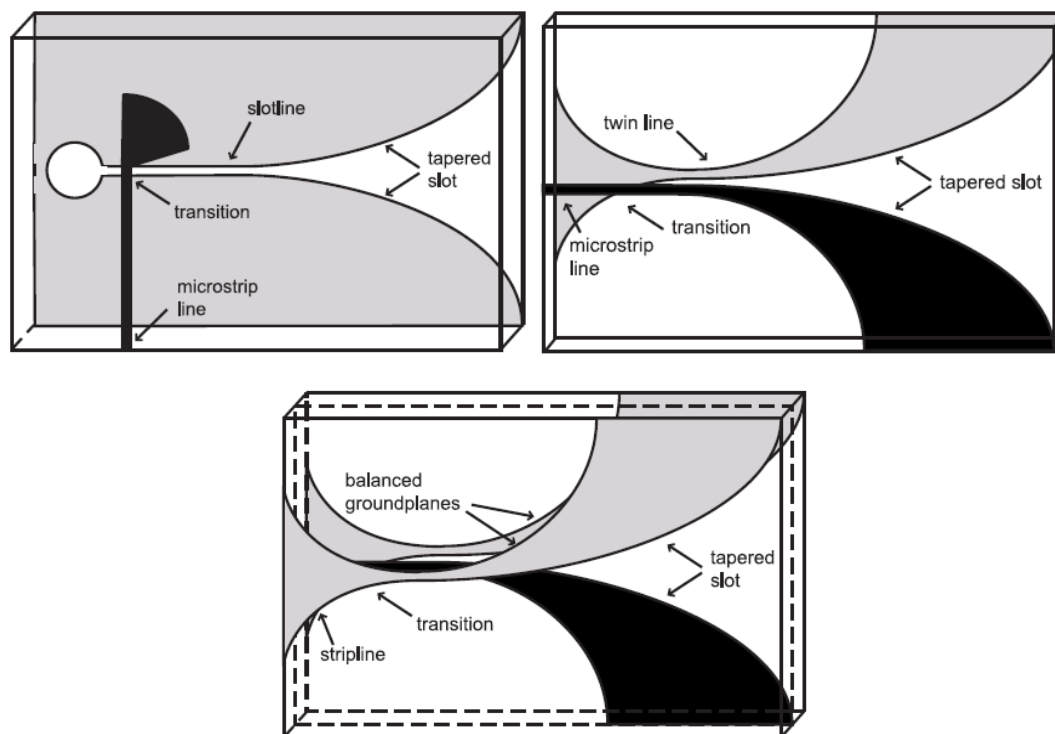


Figure 1.1 Types of Vivaldi Antenna [37]

1.1 Problem Statement

In general, high signal attenuation may result at higher operating frequencies; thus, a costly power amplifier will be needed to improve the Equivalent Isotropic Radiated Power (EIRP) [4]. Alternatively, a directive antenna like Vivaldi antenna can also be used to improve the EIRP instead of power amplifier. As the size of antenna increases with directivity and operating frequencies, a solution is sought as to design Vivaldi antenna that could operate at higher frequencies but smaller in size, lightweight and can be used off-ground for the ease of mobility.

Radar cross section (RCS) of a conventional antenna can be very large making it an easy target to pick on the basis of radar systems. If the antenna is placed in the stealth