

# OPTIMIZED MULTIBAND MINKOWSKI SHAPED FRACTAL ANTENNA FOR MIMO APPLICATION

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**Abstract:** *A new optimized multiband Minkowski shaped fractal antenna is designed for multiple inputs a multiple output (MIMO) system has resonant frequency 2.45-2.48 GHz. Fractal antenna designed for first and for optimized dimensions using the Minkowski curve on micro strip patch boundaries. Electromagnetic tool IE3D is used using for simulation of the proposed antenna design. The antenna proposed in this article reduced the size of antenna by etched boundary of patch using Minkowski shaped fractal. Proposed antenna gives results for ISM band having high gain (>7.0 dBi), return loss values below -20 dB and radiation efficiency is >80%. A Optimized fractal antenna resonate at ISM band having high directional antenna for MIMO System.*

**Key words:** *Multiband, Microstrip patch antenna, Minkowski shape, Fractal antenna, MIMO.*

## 1. Introduction

The communication systems now days are moving towards wireless media. The increasing demand of wireless communication have resulted in increased thrust towards designing antennas that are lower in cost and squeezed size. Also, the designs need to satisfy the necessity of a modest radiating element, optimum performance and trouble-free fabrication [1]. The most optimum performance is dependent on criteria of selection of size and shape of antenna element. Various shapes have been proposed in the literature for deigning as per the requirements of applications. One of the alternative shapes which possess advantages is 'Fractal' geometry used for patch antennas [2]. Fractal is the word derived from Latin having meaning 'broken into segments. Fractals include numerous geometries like Hilbert curve, Minkowski loop, Sierpinski gasket, Koch snowflake, Giuseppe piano and Sierpinski rug [3], [6]. Since the fractals have self-similarity and space filling characteristics, the fractals have merged as an optimal alternative to antenna design. Such properties support wider band operations and multiband operations, resulting in an overall size reduction. It is

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therefore possible to manufacture fractals in a smaller space [4], [7]. As far as the research moves, different structures have been designed by changing either the shape or the size of two parameters [5]. The patch antenna's multiband response is modified by integrating the patch antenna fractal. On patch ground, a fractal antenna created with the FR4 substratum by a Sierpinski carpet resulted in a reduction in the form of antenna [9], [11].

## 2. Antenna Design

For Antenna design: Some basic antenna-related parameters are resonant frequency ( $f_r$ ), dielectric constant ( $\epsilon_r$ ) and substrate thickness or height. The proposed 2.45 GHz antenna frequency is selected because it is an open source frequency band undergoes low atmospheric attenuation and is used in MIMO System, WLAN, RFID and Bluetooth and other wireless applications. For this substratum, the dielectric content is RT-duriod with a dielectric constant of 2.2 and a failure tangent of 3.175 mm is 0.0009 [18]. Using the transmission line model [14], [17] the length and width of the micro strip patch was calculated.

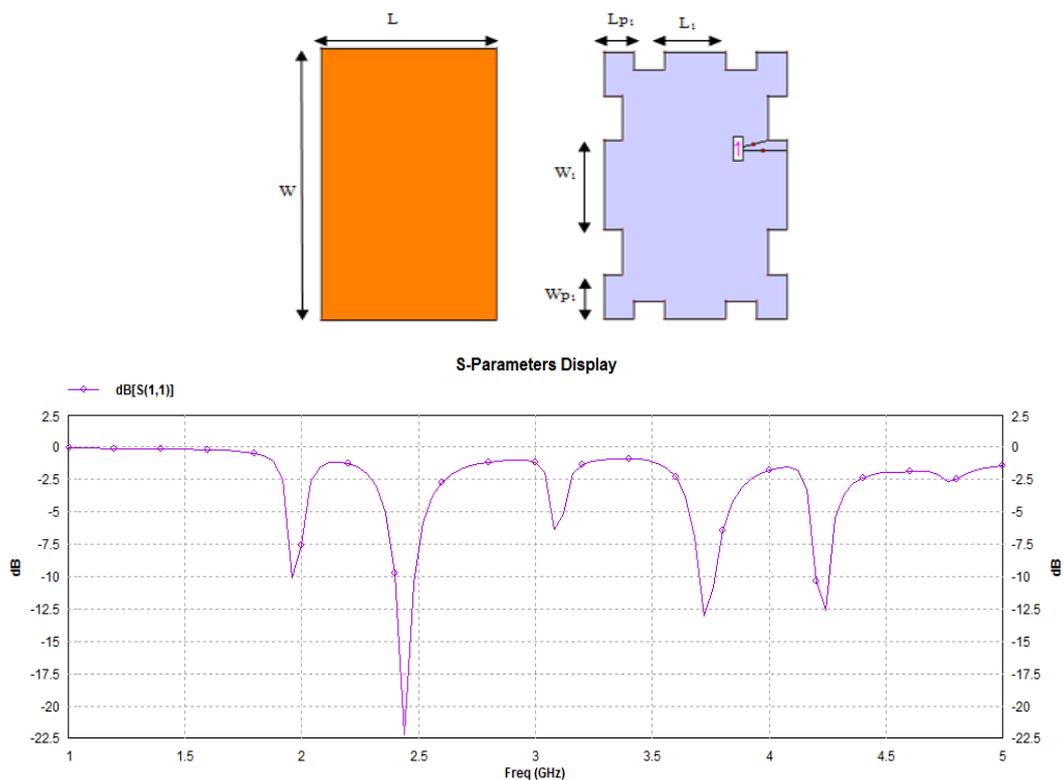


Fig. 1. The initial generator model for fractal patch antenna creation  
 (a)  $0^{th}$  iteration (b)  $1^{st}$  iteration with coaxial feed (c) Simulated loss of return for the  $1^{st}$  Minkowski fractal antenna iteration

The calculated dimension of micro strip patch [15] is  $39.4 \times 48.4 \text{ mm}^2$ . At the patch boundaries, which are an initiator, the first iteration structure designed to reduce the sides of the generator used Minkowski curve. Figure 1 shows the generator model for creating fractal and a first iteration by its generating. Initially, the value of  $L_{p1}$  and  $W_{p1}$  is  $1/6^{\text{th}}$  of the values of  $L$  and  $W$  and values of  $L_1$  and  $W_1$  is  $2 L_{p1}$  and  $2 W_{p1}$ . The value of  $L_{p2}$  and  $W_{p2}$  is  $1/2$  of the  $L_{p1}$  and  $W_{p1}$ .

### 3. Results and Discussions

The simulation of the proposed antenna is done in IE3D software which is based on method of moment. Antenna is fed by coaxial probe feed for input to the antenna structure as illustrated in Figure 1(b). Figure 1(c) shows the return loss values for  $1^{\text{st}}$  iteration Minkowski loop fractal antenna. It resonances at four frequencies and the value of return loss for different frequency bands is below  $-10 \text{ dB}$  means reducing losses, for  $2.44 \text{ GHz}$  value is  $-21.7656$  and has a high bandwidth. The gain of the antenna is also high means it behaves as a directional antenna as shown in Figure 6(a). The characteristics impedance ( $Z_c$ ) of the simulated antenna is  $50 \text{ ohm}$ .

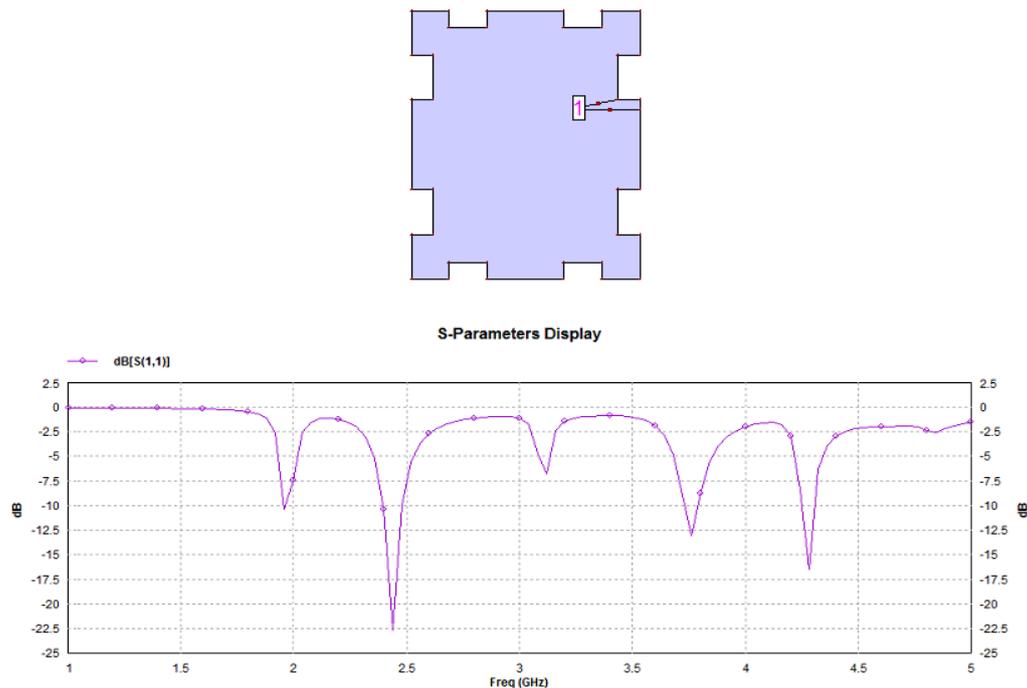


Fig. 2. (a) Antenna structure with optimized dimensions of Minkowski loop; (b) Simulated return loss for modified structure of Minkowski fractal antenna

The 1<sup>st</sup> iteration used Minkowski loop at the boundaries of the patch and the values of  $L_{p1}$ ,  $W_{p1}$  and  $L_{p2}$ ,  $W_{p2}$  used are 6.5666, 8.0566 and 3.2833, 4.0333 mm. After optimizing the value of  $L_{p2}$  and  $W_{p2}$  we take values to be respectively 3.00, 3.75 and the antenna structure is modified by reducing the length and width of the Minkowski loop. Proposed shape of modified antenna with feed point for 1<sup>st</sup> iteration is given in Figure 2 and the simulated parameters are studied.

Obtained return loss value for 2.44 GHz is  $-22.131$  dB as shown in Figure 2(b). Gain, bandwidth and antenna efficiency of modified structure antenna is also high; values are given in Table 1 below.

From the Table 1, we optimized the value of length and width (dimensions) for increased return loss values, bandwidth, gain, and radiation efficiency. Accordingly design considerations may help in future optimized designing/selection of fractal antenna.

Table 1

*Comparison of simulated parameters for 1<sup>st</sup> and optimized dimensions of Minkowski shape fractal antenna*

Simulation parameters	Resonant Frequencies (GHz)							
	1 <sup>st</sup> Iteration				Optimized Dimensions of Fractal Antenna			
	1.96	2.44	3.72	4.23	1.96	2.44	3.76	4.27
Return loss (-) $s_{11}$ (dB)	10.04	21.7	12.7	12.5	10.2	21.9	12.9	16.3
Gain (dBi)	4.44	5.4	5.85	3.03	6.38	7.03	5.60	4.06
VSWR	1.92	1.19	1.64	1.61	1.88	1.18	1.58	1.49
Radiation efficiency %	85.8	83.8	59.3	46.2	87.3	85.2	57.0	45.9
Bandwidth (MHz)	-	80	60	60	-	86	61	60

#### 4. Conclusion

We have presented /obtained optimum antenna gain, which means that it functions like a directional antenna and radiates in a particular direction and has a high efficiency of conversion. MIMO system and antenna system, we need high directionality, high bandwidth and compact antenna. An optimized Minkowski shaped fractal antenna designed and simulated for 2.45 GHz, it resonates at four frequencies and behaves like a multiband antenna that fulfill requirement for MIMO System. For MIMO applications as well as for WLAN and RFID, the proposed antenna can be used.

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