

DEPARTMENT OF ELECTRONICS AND COMMUNICATION ENGINEERING

EC6602 – ANTENNA AND WAVE PROPAGATION

UNIT-1 INTRODUCTION TO ANTENNA PARAMETERS

PART-A

1. Define an antenna.

Antenna is a transition device or a transducer between a guided wave and a free space wave or vice versa. Antenna is also said to be an impedance transforming device.

2. What is meant by radiation pattern?

Radiation pattern is the relative distribution of radiated power as a function of distance in space. It is a graph which shows the variation in actual field strength of the EM wave at all points which are at equal distance from the antenna. The energy radiated in a particular direction by an antenna is measured in terms of FIELD STRENGTH.

(E Volts/m)

3. Define Radiation intensity?

The power radiated from an antenna per unit solid angle is called the radiation intensity U (watts per steradian or per square degree). The radiation intensity is independent of distance.

4. Define Beam efficiency?

The total beam area (W_A) consists of the main beam area (W_M) plus the minor lobe area (W_m). Thus $W_A = W_M + W_m$. The ratio of the main beam area to the total beam area is called beam efficiency. Beam efficiency = $S_M = W_M / W_A$.

5. Define Directivity?

The directivity of an antenna is equal to the ratio of the maximum power density $P(q,f)_{\max}$ to its average value over a sphere as observed in the far field of an antenna.

$D = P(q,f)_{\max} / P(q,f)_{\text{av}}$. Directivity from Pattern. $D = 4\pi / W_A$. Directivity from beam area (W_A).

6. What are the different types of aperture?

- i) Effective aperture.
- ii). Scattering aperture.
- iii) Loss aperture.
- iv) collecting aperture.
- v). Physical aperture.

7. Define different types of aperture?

Effective aperture(A_e).

It is the area over which the power is extracted from the incident wave and delivered to the load is called effective aperture.

Scattering aperture(A_s .)

It is the ratio of the reradiated power to the power density of the incident wave.

Loss aperture. (A_e).

It is the area of the antenna which dissipates power as heat.

Collecting aperture. (A_e).

It is the addition of above three apertures.

Physical aperture. (A_p).

This aperture is a measure of the physical size of the antenna.

8. Define Aperture efficiency?

The ratio of the effective aperture to the physical aperture is the aperture efficiency.

i.e Aperture efficiency = $\eta_{ap} = A_e / A_p$ (dimensionless).

9. What is meant by effective height?

The effective height h of an antenna is the parameter related to the aperture. It may be defined as the ratio of the induced voltage to the

incident field. i.e $H = V / E$.

10. What are the field zone?

The fields around an antenna may be divided into two principal regions.

- i. Near field zone (Fresnel zone)
- ii. Far field zone (Fraunhofer zone)

11. What is meant by Polarization.?

The polarization of the radio wave can be defined by direction in which the electric vector E is aligned during the passage of at least one full cycle. Also polarization can also be defined the physical orientation of the radiated electromagnetic waves in space. The polarization are three types. They are Elliptical polarization, circular polarization and linear polarization.

12. What is meant by front to back ratio.?

It is defined as the ratio of the power radiated in desired direction to the power radiated in the opposite direction. i.e $FBR = \frac{\text{Power radiated in desired direction}}{\text{power radiated in the opposite direction}}$.

13. Define antenna efficiency?

The efficiency of an antenna is defined as the ratio of power radiated to the total input power supplied to the antenna.

Antenna efficiency = $\frac{\text{Power radiated}}{\text{Total input power}}$

14. What is radiation resistance ?

The antenna is a radiating device in which power is radiated into space in the form of electromagnetic wave. $W' = I^2 R_r = W' / I^2$ Where R_r is a fictitious resistance called called as radiation resistance.

15. What is meant by antenna beam width?

Antenna beamwidth is a measure of directivity of an antenna. Antenna beam width is an angular width in degrees, measured on the radiation pattern (major lobe) between points where the radiated power has fallen to half its maximum value. This is called as "beam width" between half power points or half power beam width.(HPBW).

16. What is meant by reciprocity Theorem?

If an e.m.f is applied to the terminals of an antenna no.1 and the current measured at the terminals of the another antenna no.2, then an equal current both in amplitude and phase will be obtained at the terminal of the antenna no.1 if the same emf is applied to the terminals of antenna no.2.

17. What is meant by isotropic radiator?

A isotropic radiator is a fictitious radiator and is defined as a radiator which radiates fields uniformly in all directions. It is also called as isotropic source or omni directional radiator or simply unipole.

18. Define gain

The ratio of maximum radiation intensity in given direction to the maximum radiation intensity from a reference antenna produced in the same direction with same input power. i.e Maximum radiation intensity from test antenna

19. Define self impedance

Self impedance of an antenna is defined as its input impedance with all other antennas are completely removed i.e away from it.

20. Define mutual impedance

The presence of near by antenna no.2 induces a current in the antenna no.1 indicates that presence of antenna no.2 changes the impedance of the antenna no.1. This effect is called mutual coupling and results in mutual impedance.

21. What is meant by cross field?

Normally the electric field E is perpendicular to the direction of wave propagation. In some situation the electric field E is parallel to the wave propagation that condition is called Cross field.

22. Define axial ratio

The ratio of the major to the minor axes of the polarization ellipse is called the Axial Ratio. (AR).

23. What is meant by Beam Area?

The beam area or beam solid angle or WA of an antenna is given by the normalized power pattern over a sphere. $WA = \int_0^{2\pi} \int_0^{\pi} P_n(\theta, \phi) d\Omega$, Where $d\Omega = \sin \theta d\theta d\phi$

24. What is duality of antenna?

It is defined as an antenna is a circuit device with a resistance and temperature on the one hand and the space device on the other with radiation patterns, beam angle ,directivity gain and aperture.

25. State Poynting theorem.

It states that the vector product of electric field intensity vector E and the magnetic field intensity vector H at any point is a measure of the rate of energy flow per unit area at that point. The direction of power flow is perpendicular to both the electric field and magnetic field components.

PART-B

1. Derive the electric and magnetic components of a hertzian dipole.
2. Derive the directivity and radiation resistance of half wave dipole.
3. Derive the radiation resistance of an oscillating electric dipole.
4. Derive the expression for the field quantities (E and H) for a small oscillation current element.
5. Explain the following terms with respect to antenna
 - Antenna noise temperature
 - Polarization
 - Effective aperture
 - Directivity
6. Explain in detail about Folded dipole and Baluns.
7. Explain in detail about Yagi uda antenna.

UNIT-2 APERTURE AND SLOT ANTENNAS

PART-A

1. What is meant by array?

An antenna is a system of similar antennas oriented similarly to get greater directivity in a desired direction.

2. What is meant by uniform linear array?

An array is linear when the elements of the array are spaced equally along the straight line. If the elements are fed with currents of equal magnitude and having a uniform progressive phase shift along the line, then it is called uniform linear array .

3. What are the types of array?

- a. Broad side array.
- b. End fire array
- c. Collinear array.
- d. Parasitic array.

4. What is Broad side array?

Broad side array is defined as an arrangement in which the principal direction of radiation is perpendicular to the array axis and also the plane containing the array element

5. Define End fire array?

End fire array is defined as an arrangement in which the principal direction of radiation is coincides with the array axis.

6. What is collinear array?

In this array the antenna elements are arranged coaxially by mounting the elements end to end in straight line or stacking them one over the other with radiation pattern circular symmetry. Eg. Omnidirectional antenna.

7. What is Parasitic array?

In this array the elements are fed parasitically to reduce the problem of feed line. The power is given to one element from that other elements get by electro magnetic coupling. Eg. Yagi uda antenna.

8. Define beam width of major lobe?

It is defined the angle between the first nulls (or) it is defined as twice the angle between the first null and the major lobe maximum direction.

9. What is the need for the Binomial array?

The need for a binomial array is

- i). In uniform linear array as the array length is increased to increase the directivity, the secondary lobes also occurs.
- ii) For certain applications, it is highly desirable that secondary lobes should be eliminated completely or reduced to minimum desirable level compared to main lobes.

10. Define power pattern?

Graphical representation of the radial component of the pointing vector S_r at a constant radius as a function of angle is called power density pattern or power pattern.

11. What is meant by similar Point sources?

Whenever the variation of the amplitude and the phase of the field with respect to the absolute angle for any two sources are same then they are called similar point sources. The maximum amplitudes of the individual sources may be unequal.

12. What is meant by identical Point sources?

Similar point sources with equal maximum amplitudes are called identical point sources.

13. What is the principle of the pattern multiplication?

The total field pattern of an array of non isotropic but similar sources is the product of the i) individual source pattern and

ii) The array pattern of isotropic point sources each located at the phase center of the individual source having the same amplitude and phase. While the total phase pattern is the sum of the phase patterns of the individual source pattern and array pattern.0

14. What is tapering of arrays?

Tapering of array is a technique used for reduction of unwanted side lobes. The amplitude of currents in the linear array source is nonuniform; hence the central source radiates more energy than the ends. Tapering is done from center to end.

15. What is a binomial array?

It is an array in which the amplitudes of the antenna elements in the array are arranged according to the coefficients of the binomial series.

16. What is the difference between isotropic and nonisotropic source ?

Isotropic source radiates energy in all directions but non-isotropic source radiates energy only in some desired directions. Isotropic source is not physically realizable but non-isotropic source is physically realizable.

17. Define Side Lobe Ratio

Side Lobe Ratio is defined as the ratio of power density in the principal or main lobe to the power density of the longest minor lobe.

18. List the arrays used for array tapering .

Binomial Array: Tapering follows the coefficient of binomial series

Dolph Tchebycheff Array: Tapering follows the coefficient of Tchebycheff polynomial

19. What is the advantage of pattern multiplication?

Useful tool in designing antenna . It approximates the pattern of a complicated array without making lengthy computations

20. What are the advantages of binomial array?

Advantage : No minor lobes

Disadvantages : Increased beam width . Maintaining the large ratio of current amplitude in large arrays is difficult

PART-B

1. Explain the construction, working principle and design issues of microstrip antenna also mention its advantages and disadvantages.
2. Two identical radiators are spaced $d = \frac{3}{4} \lambda$ apart and fed with currents of equal magnitude but 180 deg phase difference. Evaluate the resultant radiation intensity the direction of maximum and minimum radiation.
3. Explain in detail about construction, Working principle of Slot antenna.
4. Explain in detail about horn antenna and also derive the design equations of horn antenna and half power beam widths and also directivity.
5. Discuss the geometry of a parabolic reflector and the significance of a f/D ratio. Explain its feed configurations.
6. Explain the salient features of flat and corner reflector antenna.
7. Explain the principle of reflector antenna and discuss on different types of feed used with neat diagram.

UNIT-3 ANTENNAS ARRAYS

PART-A

1.What is a Short Dipole?

A short dipole is one in which the field is oscillating because of the oscillating voltage and current. It is called so, because the length of the dipole is short and the current is almost constant throughout the entire length of the dipole. It is also called as Hertzian Dipole which is a hypothetical antenna and is defined as a short isolated conductor carrying uniform alternating current.

2.How radiations are created from a short Dipole?

The dipole has two equal charges of opposite sign oscillating up and down in a harmonic motion. The charges will move towards each other and electric field lines were created. When the charges meet at the midpoint, the field lines cut each other and new field are created. This process is spontaneous and so more fields are created around the antenna. This is how radiations are obtained from a short dipole.

3. What is a Infinitesimal Dipole?

When the length of the short dipole is vanishingly small, then such a dipole is called an infinitesimal dipole. If dl be the infinitesimally small length and I be the current, then $I dl$ is called as the current element.

4. Why a short dipole is called a oscillating dipole?

A short dipole is initially in neutral condition and the moment a current starts to flow in one direction, one half of the dipole require an excess of charge and the other a deficit because a current is a flow of electrical charge. Then, there will be a voltage between the two halves of the dipole. When the current changes its direction this charge unbalance will cause oscillations. Hence an oscillating current will result in an oscillating voltage. Since, in such dipole, electric charge oscillates, it may be called as Oscillating electric dipole.

5. What do you understand by retarded current?

Since, the short electric dipole is so short, the current which is flowing through the dipole is assumed to be constant throughout its length. The effect of this current is not felt instantaneous at a distance point only after an interval equal to the time required for the wave to propagate over the distance r is called the retardation time.

6. Define induction field

The induction field will predominate at points close to the current element, where the distance from the centre of the dipole to the particular point is less. This field is more effective in the vicinity of the current element only. It represents the energy stored in the magnetic field surrounding the current element or conductor. This field is also known as near field.

7. Define Radiation field

The radiation field will be produced at a larger distance from the the current element, where the distance from the centre of the dipole to the particular point is very large. It is also called as distant field or far field.

8. At what distance from the dipole is the induction field equal to the radiation field?

As the distance from the current element or the short dipole increases, both induction and radiation fields emerge and start decreasing. However, a distance reaches from the conductor at which both the induction and radiation field becomes equal and the particular distance depends upon the wavelength. The two fields will thus have equal amplitude at that particular distance.

9. Define Radiation Resistance

It is defined as the fictitious resistance which when inserted in series with the antenna will consume the same amount of power as it is actually radiated. The antenna appears to the transmission line as a resistive component and this is known as the radiation resistance.

10. What is a dipole antenna?

A dipole antenna may be defined as a symmetrical antenna in which the two ends are at equal potential relative to the midpoint.

11. What is a half wave dipole?

A half wave antenna is the fundamental radio antenna of metal rod or tubing or thin wire which has a physical length of half wavelength in free space at the frequency of operation

65. What is the radiation resistance of a half wave dipole The radiation resistance of a half wave dipole is given by $R_r = 73 \text{ ohm}$

12. What is a loop antenna?

A loop antenna is a radiating coil of any convenient cross-section of one or more turns carrying radio frequency current. It may assume any shape (e.g. rectangular, square, triangular and hexagonal)

13. How to increase the radiation resistance of a loop antenna?

The radiation resistance of a loop antenna can be increased by: 1. increasing the number of turns. 2. inserting a ferrite core of very high permeability with loop antenna's circumference which will rise the magnetic field intensity called ferrite loop.

14. What are Electrically Small loop antennas?

Electrically Small loop antennas is one in which the overall length of the loop is less than one-tenth of the wavelength. Electrically Small loop antennas have small radiation resistances that are usually smaller than their loop resistances. They are very poor radiators and seldom employed for transmission in radio communication.

15. What are Electrically large loop antennas?

Electrically Large loop antennas is one in which the overall length of the loop approaches the wavelength.

16. List out the uses of loop antenna

Various uses of loop antenna are:

It is used as receiving antenna in portable radio and pagers

It is used as probes for field measurements and as directional antennas for radio wave navigation

It is used to estimate the direction of radio wave propagation

PART-B

1. Derive the expressions for field pattern of broadside array of n point sources.
2. Using pattern multiplication determine the radiation pattern for 8 element array.
3. Write short notes on tapered array and phased array.
4. A linear broadside array consists of 4 equal isotropic inphase point sources with $1/3$ spacing Find the directivity and beamwidth.
5. Derive the expressions for Endfire array with its maxima and minima directions of minor lobes and beamwidth of major lobe.
6. Explain in detail about Adaptive array
7. Explain in detail about Binomial array.

UNIT-4 SPECIAL ANTENNAS

PART-A

1. What are the parameters to be considered for the design of an helical antenna?

The parameters to be considered for the design of an helical antenna are:

1. Bandwidth
2. Gain
3. Impedance
4. Axial Ratio

2. What are the types of radiation modes of operation for an helical antenna?

The two types of radiation modes of operation possible for an helical antenna are:

1. Normal mode of operation
2. Axial mode of operation

3. Which antenna will produce circularly polarized waves?

Helical antenna radiates circularly polarized wave.

4. List the applications of helical antenna

The applications of helical antenna are:

It became the workhouse of space communications for telephone, television and data, being employed both on satellites and at ground stations. Many satellites including weather satellites, data relay satellites all have helical antennas. It is on many other probes of planets and comets, including moon and mars, being used alone, in arrays or as feeds for parabolic reflectors, its circular polarization and high gain and simplicity making it effective for space application.

5. Define normal mode of radiation in helical antenna.

In this normal mode of radiation, the radiation field is maximum in broadway (i.e) in the direction normal to the helix axis and is circularly polarized waves. Here the dimensions of the helix is small compared with wavelength.

6. Mention the limitations of normal mode operation of a helical antenna.

Bandwidth is very narrow.

Efficiency of radiation is low.

7. List the design parameters of a log periodic antenna.

Acute angle

Design ratio

Spacing factor

8. Write the applications of log periodic antenna.

i. It is mainly used in the field of HF Communication where multiband steerable and fixed antennas are generally used. It has advantage that no power is wasted in terminating resistance.

ii. It is used for TV reception. Only one log periodic design will suffice for all the channels even upto UHF band.

iii. It is best suited for all round monitoring.

9. What is reconfigurable antenna?

A reconfigurable antenna is an antenna capable of modifying dynamically its frequency and radiation properties in a controlled and reversible manner. Reconfigurable antennas, with the ability to radiate more than one pattern at different frequencies and polarizations, are necessary in modern telecommunication systems.

10. Write the advantages of reconfigurable antennas.

i. Ability to support more than one wireless standard.

ii. Lower front end processing.

iii. Automated via a microcontroller or a field programmable gate array

iv. Multifunctional capabilities.

11. What is DRA?

A dielectric resonator antenna is a radio antenna mostly used at microwave frequencies and higher. It is an antenna that makes use of a radiating mode of dielectric resonator (DR) and resonance frequency determined by its dimensions and dielectric constant.

12. Write the advantages of an active antennas.

- i. Increased coverage and capacity
- ii. Independent optimization per carrier and per technology.
- iii. Producing duplexing filters that deliver high performance.

13. Define slant range.

If the source antenna is near the ground and the AUT is on a tower, the range is called a slant range.

14. Define quiet zone.

The test zone where the reflections are minimized is called the quiet zone.

15. What is meant by NF/FF methods?

The dimensions of a conventional test range can be reduced by making measurements in the near field and then using analytical methods to transform the measured near field data to compute the far field radiation characteristics. These are referred as NF/FF methods.

16. Define Standard Gain antenna.

The antenna whose gain is accurately known and can be used for the measurement of gain of other antennas is called standard gain antenna.

17. Define axial ratio.

When the polarization ratio is measured in the axis of the main beam of the subject antenna under test then it is called Axial ratio (AR).

18. What is sense of rotation?

The Sense of rotation also referred as the sense of polarization is defined by the sense of rotation of the wave it is observed along the direction of propagation.

19. Define polarization of the antenna.

The polarization of the antenna is defined as the curve traced by the instantaneous electric field radiated by the antenna in a plane perpendicular to the radial direction.

20. What are the methods used for gain measurement?

Gain transfer method or direct comparison method

Absolute gain method.

PART-B

1. Explain in detail about log periodic antenna.
2. Explain the measurement procedure for the measurement of VSWR.
3. Explain the measurement procedure for the measurement of Radiation pattern and Gain.
4. Explain the construction and working of Helical antenna and also its modes of radiation
5. Explain the construction and characteristics features of frequency independent antennas.
6. Discuss about Compact antenna Test ranges.(CATRs)

UNIT-5 PROPAGATION OF RADIO WAVES

PART-A

1. Define Sky wave.

Waves that arrive at the receiver after reflection in the ionosphere is called sky wave.

2. Define Tropospheric wave.

Waves that arrive at the receiver after reflection from the troposphere region is called Tropospheric wave.(ie 10 Km from Earth surface).

3. Define Ground wave.

Waves propagated over other paths near the earth surface is called ground wave propagation.

4. What are the type of Ground waves?

Ground wave classified into two types.

- i. Space wave
- ii. Surface wave.

5. What is meant by Space Wave?

It is made up of direct wave and ground reflected wave. Also includes the portion of energy received as a result of diffraction around the earth surface and the reflection from the upper atmosphere.

6. What is meant by Surface Wave?

Wave that is guided along the earth's surface like an EM wave is guided by a transmission is called surface wave. Attenuation of this wave is directly affected by the constant of earth along which it travels.

7. What is meant by fading?

Variation of signal strength occur on line of sight paths as a result of the atmospheric conditions and it is called .It can not be predicted properly.

8. What are the type of fading?

Two types

- i. Inverse bending.
- iii. Multi path fading.

9. What is inverse and multi path fading?

Inverse bending may transform line of sight path into an obstructed one. Multi path fading is caused by interference between the direct and ground reflected waves as well as interference between two are more paths in the atmosphere.

10. What is meant by diversity reception?

To minimize the fading and to avoid the multi path interference the technique used are diversity reception. It is obtained by two ways.

- i. Space diversity reception.
- ii. Frequency diversity reception.
- iii. Polarization diversity.

11 .Define frequency diversity Reception.

This method takes advantage of the fact that signals of slightly different frequencies do not fade synchronously. This fact is utilized to minimize fading in radio telegraph circuits.

12. Define polarization diversity reception.

It is used in normally in microwave links, and it is found that signal transmitted over the same path in two polarizations have independent fading patterns.in broad band dish antenna system, Polarization diversity combined with frequency diversity reception achieve excellent results.

13. What is meant by Faraday’ s rotation?

Due to the earth’ s magnetic fields, the ionospheric medium becomes an isotropic and the incident plane wave entering the ionosphere will split into ordinary and extra ordinary waves/modes. When these modes re-emerge from the ionosphere they recombine into a single plane wave again. Finally the plane of polarization will usually have changed, this phenomenon is known as Faraday’ s rotation.

14. What are the factors that affect the propagation of radio waves?

- i. Curvature of earth.
- ii. Earth’ s magnetic field.
- iii. Frequency of the signal.
- iv. Plane earth reflection.

15. Define gyro frequency.

Frequency whose period is equal to the period of an electron in its orbit under the influence of the earths magnetic flux density B.

16. Define critical frequency.

For any layer , the highest frequency that will be reflected back for vertical incidence is $f_{cr} = 9\sqrt{1\max}$

17. Define Magneto-Ions Splitting.

The phenomenon of splitting the wave into two different components (ordinary and extra-ordinary) by the earth's magnetic field is called Magneto-Ions Splitting.

18. Define LUHF.

The lowest useful HF for a given distance and transmitter power is defined as the lowest frequency that will give satisfactory reception for that distance and power.

It depends on

- i. The effective radiated power
- ii. Absorption character of ionosphere for the paths between transmitter and receiver.
- iii. The required field strength which in turn depends upon the radio noise at the receiving location and type of service involved .

18. Define maximum Usable Frequency.

The maximum Frequency that can be reflected back for a given distance of transmission is called the maximum usable frequency (MUF) for that distance.

19. Define skip distance.

The distance within which a signal of given frequency fails to be reflected back is the skip distance for that frequency. The higher the frequency the greater the skip distance.

20. Define Optimum frequency?

Optimum frequency for transmitting between any two points is therefore selected as some frequency lying between about 50 and 85 percent of the predicted maximum usable frequency between those points.

PART-B

1. Write short notes on
 - i) Ground wave propagation
 - ii) space wave propagation.
2. Explain in detail about ionosphere propagation.

3. Derive the expression for calculating field strength at a distance in space wave Propagation
4. Explain the concept of Reflection and refraction waves by the ionosphere.
5. Define and explain for ionospheric region
 - i) Critical frequency
 - ii) MUF
 - iii) Skip zone
 - iv) virtual height of a layer
6. Explain about the duct propagation with neat sketch and also derive the expressions for refractivity.

*****ALL THE BEST*****