RL-959

Theoretical Modeling of MMIC’s Using Wavelets, Parallel Computing and a Hybrid MOM/FEM Technique

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(Doctoral Thesis)

1998
THEORETICAL MODELING OF MMIC'S USING WAVELETS, PARALLEL COMPUTING AND A HYBRID MOM/FEM TECHNIQUE

by

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A dissertation submitted in partial fulfillment of the requirements for the degree of Doctor of Philosophy (Electrical Engineering) in The University of Michigan 1998

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ABSTRACT

THEORETICAL MODELING OF MMIC’S USING WAVELETS, PARALLEL COMPUTING AND A HYBRID MOM/FEM TECHNIQUE

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Chairperson: Professor Linda P. B. Katehi

This dissertation explores three subjects which contribute to increasing the efficiency, in terms of speed and storage, of numerical methods for electromagnetic problems.

The hybrid MoM/FEM technique is first applied to the design of a microstripline-fed slot-coupled cavity-backed patch antenna, a coaxial line-fed cavity-backed patch antenna, a wide bandwidth microstripline vertical cavity coupler, and a high-Q cavity resonator. The latter was fabricated and tested to verify the theoretical results.

The second is a wavelet based method of moments. Instead of ordinary basis functions, a class of bases called wavelets are used in the formulation of MoM. These wavelets are locally oscillatory and have zero average. Hence, when integrated with other smooth functions, the resulting value will be very small. When used in MoM implementations, the resulting impedance matrix will have many small
off-diagonal terms which can be set to zero without adversely effecting the solution. Using sparse storage techniques, substantial memory is saved by using wavelet bases. These wavelet bases were applied to the analysis of patch antenna arrays, leading to large memory savings.

Parallel computers were applied to speed up the computation process. The idea of parallelization is to divide a single task to many independent jobs. The communication between the jobs must be minimal to avoid the overhead incurred by the slower (compared to the speed of CPU) communication link. The matrix filling process and the fast wavelet transform (FWT) were two processes suitable for parallelization. These processes were implemented in the C++ language using a portable and standard Message Passing Interface.
ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS
I came to Ann Arbor in the September of 1992. I never thought I would stay here so long. I must thank all the friends I made here during the passed five years. Without them, my life would be dull and gloomy.

I am deeply grateful to my advisor, Professor Linda Katehi. Without her long term support and guidance, this work would never be finished. I also admire her enthusiasm for research and education, and kindness to her students. I would also like to thank my committee member, Professor Hal Marshall, Professor Kamal Sarabandi, and Professor John Volakis for their insightful suggestions on my dissertation.

I also want to express my gratitude to many former and current members of Radiation Laboratory, especially Nihad Dib, Kazem Sabet, and Jong-Gwan Yook for their technical help, and Chi-Cheng Yu, Yuei-An Liou, Eric Li, Yi-Cheng Lin and Tsen-Chieh Chiu for their companionship.

Finally I want to pay my respect to Professor C. T. Tai for his accomplishments in electromagnetics and his hospitality to Chinese students.
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CHAPTER I

Introduction

1.1 Motivation and Background

Advances in semiconductor technology have enabled the manufacturing of highly integrated MMIC's (Monolithic Microwave Integration Circuits) which can reduce the cost, size and weight or improve the performance of high frequency communication systems. However, in the process of integrating more and more circuit elements in the same package, interference between components becomes a major factor influencing circuit performance. This necessitates full-wave modeling of the structure to accurately predict the behavior of the circuit.

Full-wave modeling uses integral or differential equations derived from Maxwell's equations. These equations are solved by the finite linear space approximation. In this process, the unknown sources or fields in the Maxwell's equations are discretized by a finite set of basis functions. One way of finding the expansion coefficients of these basis functions is by performing a suitable inner product on the integral or differential equations with the same or different set of functions. This operation results in a matrix equation of which the rank is proportional to the number of unknowns. The equation can be solved by direct inverse of the matrices or interactive linear system solvers. Examples of these techniques include the Method of Moments
(MoM) and the Finite Element Methods (FEM). Another way of solving Maxwell's equations is substituting the differential operator with a difference operator, which converts the continuous differential equations to a set of linear equations governing the relationship between the discrete points in the problem domain. By solving this set of equations, the value at these discrete points can be computed. One example of this technique is the Finite Difference Time Domain (FDTD) Methods which recently attracts large interest.

The method of moments uses the integral form of Maxwell's equations. The unknown equivalent sources or polarization currents are discretized, resulting in a smaller linear system with better computational efficiency. However, in most cases, knowledge of the Green's functions, either in simple functional form or series expansion form, are required. This limits the use of MoM to simple structures in which Green's functions are available. The integral equation needs enormous amount of analytical effort to derive and implement. Different formulation are needed when the structure changes. This makes the MoM unsuitable for solving general electromagnetic problems.

Finite element methods solve Maxwell's equations by discretizing the electromagnetic field directly. This results in a much larger linear system that requires more computation time and storage space than does MoM. However, finite element methods have great flexibility in modeling complex structures. Since the differential form of Maxwell's equations is used directly, the formulation is independent of the structure, making FEM a good general electromagnetic problem solver. However, because the fields must be discretized in the whole problem domain, it is not suitable to be used in unbound region like antenna problems. Recent advances in absorbing boundary conditions (ABCs) [18], perfect matching layers [6] (PMLs) [54],
isotropic absorbers and boundary element methods (BEM) [6] have addressed this limitation by enclosing the problem domain with an artificial boundary. The first three methods use approximate boundary conditions which requires careful choice of the boundary material’s constituent parameters in order to get correct results. The last method enforces rigorous boundary conditions by using the Green’s function on the boundary. However, the resulting matrix is partly sparse and partly full, which causes difficulties in storing and solving the linear system.

FDTD, like FEM, solves Maxwell’s equations directly. Hence, it shares most of the benefits and limitations of FEM. One key difference between these two methods is that the solution space of FDTD is in the time domain. To derive the frequency domain solution, Discrete Fourier Transform (DFT) must be performed on the time domain solution. Although a range of frequency response curves can be produced in one simulation, additional error may be introduced by the DFT process.

From the above discussion, we know that MoM is superior to the FEM and FDTD techniques in computational efficiency. However, it lacks the flexibility of the FEM and FDTD in modeling complex structure commonly found in MMIC’s. The large size of MMIC’s makes FEM and FDTD computationally inefficient using today’s computer technology, especially when the MMIC integrates antenna elements. Thus, a new full-wave technique which can address the limitation of MoM in flexibility but retain its computational efficiency is necessary to simulate a MMIC faithfully in a reasonable amount of time.

1.2 Objectives

The goal of this dissertation is to develop a full-wave technique which is both computationally efficient and flexible in modeling complex structures such that it can
facilitate the design of MMIC's. To reach this goal, three approaches are developed in this dissertation.

The first is a hybrid technique which is based on MoM and FEM. In this technique, the formulation of MoM is retained to achieve computational efficiency in regions where Green's functions are available. The FEM is only used in the formulation of complex structures to limit its computational cost. The separation of the two formulation makes the choice of basis functions in MoM independent of FEM. This enables us to use the knowledge of the electromagnetic field to choose suitable basis functions such that the unknowns in MoM formulation can be reduced. The sparsity and symmetry of the FEM matrix is also retained due to the separate formulation. Since the difference between this hybrid technique and the MoM is only the replacement of the Green’s functions with the solution of FEM, this technique can apply established MoM procedures to many classes of problems that can be formulated but are very difficult to solve numerically only by the MoM. The FEM can also be easily replaced with other field solution techniques.

The second is a wavelet-based MoM. In this method, wavelets are used as the basis functions in the MoM formulation. The resulting impedance matrix is thresholded to reduce storage size. Due to the use of wavelets, huge saving in storage size can be achieved with only small penalty in accuracy.

The third is parallel computing. Two different parallelization schemes are implemented to speed up the process of matrix-fill and fast wavelet transform (FWT).

The above approaches will be tested in practical examples to show the aforementioned merits.
1.3 Overview

In this thesis, a hybrid full-wave technique that combines MoM and FEM is developed. This technique features the use of FEM in solving the electromagnetic field in geometrically complex regions and MoM to solve Maxwell’s equations in regions where the Green’s functions are available. Wavelet-based bases are also used in the formulation of MoM, which can reduce storage requirement. To further improve computation speed, parallel computation models are developed for matrix-fill process, FWT.

In Chapter 2, rigorous analysis of the hybrid technique is presented. The formulation primarily follows the derivation of MoM technique except in regions where Green’s functions are substituted by the equivalent solution of FEM. The problem domain is separated to two parts. One consists of regions in which the Green’s functions are available. Another part consists of complex structures in which the Green’s function is not known. By using equivalent principle, equivalent sources are added on the boundary between the two parts. Galerkin’s MoM is used in the formulation of the first part, and FEM is used in the second part. By matching the boundary conditions, the solution of FEM can be incorporated to the MoM formulation. Thus, the problem is solved.

In Chapter 3, cavity-backed patch antennas are analyzed using the hybrid technique. Two feeding schemes are used: one is a slot-coupled microstripline feed and the other a coaxial line feed. Spectral Domain Green’s functions of a conductor backed dielectric slab were used in the MoM formulation. In the FEM formulation, we used vector-based tetrahedral elements which have the benefit of producing spurious-free solutions. The input impedance and field distribution of the patch antennas were
computed. Good agreement with the simulated result of FDTD was achieved.

In Chapter 4, the hybrid technique is applied to microstripline-fed cavities and couplers. A micromachined resonator which is compatible with planar circuits was designed and fabricated according to simulated data. The measured performance of the resonator showed the potential of achieving a $Q$ as high as a conventional metallic resonator. A design of a very wide band-pass microstripline vertical transition is also shown.

In Chapter 5, a Wavelet-based Method of Moments is introduced. The multiresolution analysis is briefly discussed. In this dissertation, we concentrate on the use of two dimensional wavelet bases on patch antenna problems. These two-dimensional bases constructed by combining Haar and linear B-spline wavelets are suitable for discretizing the current on patch antennas. Due to the finite support and zero average property of the wavelet bases, the resulting impedance matrix of the patch antenna can be thresholded to reduce memory size. This wavelet based MoM is applied to patch antenna arrays. Effect of thresholding on the antenna characteristics are investigated. Simulations of $3 \times 3$ and $6 \times 6$ patch antenna arrays are performed to show the reduced memory requirements attained by thresholding the impedance matrix.

Chapter 6 deals with the utilization of parallel computing to reduce computation time. Two parallelization schemes are developed for matrix-fill process and FWT using portable Message Passing Interface. Due to the non-uniform computation time of the matrix-fill process, a dynamic job allocation scheme is applied to optimize the use of CPUs. In this scheme, one node is reserved as a controller to assign jobs to available free nodes and gather completed results. For FWT, the computation time of each job is fixed and smaller comparing to matrix-fill process such that the
communication time between the nodes is not negligible. A static job allocation scheme is applied to reduce the communication overhead.

Finally in Chapter 7, summary of the achievements in this dissertation and future research direction are given.
CHAPTER II

Hybrid MoM/FEM Techniques

2.1 Introduction

In this article, we present a hybrid technique, proposed by Yuan et al. [10], that combines the advantages of the MoM and the FEM (MoM/FEM), and has been successful in solving various 2-D and 3-D scattering problems [10]–[16]. This technique uses FEM to formulate the electromagnetic field in geometrically complex regions and uses the integral equation technique to solve Maxwell's equations in regions where the Green's function is known and where FEM fails to accurately satisfy the pertinent radiation conditions.

This technique first divides the problem domain into two regions: one in which the Green’s functions are available and one in which the Green's functions are not available. These regions will be analyzed by MoM and FEM respectively. Through the boundary conditions between the two regions, the formulations of MoM and FEM are combined to give the final solution.

In the following sections, the hybrid technique is applied to a cavity scattering problem. Detailed formulations are supplied to give the reader insight into this technique.
Figure 2.1: A general scattering problem which consists of a cavity, an obstacle and a current source.

2.2 Method of Moments Formulation

Fig. 2.1 shows a cavity scattering problem which consists of a cavity with an aperture \( S_a \) on its walls, an obstacle with surface \( S_b \), an impressed current \( \vec{J}^i \) and the electric and magnetic fields \( \vec{E}^i, \vec{H}^i \) produced by the impressed current. Assume that the cavity and the obstacle consist of perfect electric conductors (PEC) and the source is an electric current. The following development of formulation can also be applied to the cases with multiple cavities, obstacles and apertures.

By using the equivalence principle [19], the original problem is changed to an equivalent one as shown in Fig 2.2. The aperture on the cavity is replaced by a PEC with equivalent magnetic current \( \vec{M}^a \). The obstacle is replaced by a fictitious equivalent electric surface current \( \vec{J}^b \). \( \vec{M}^a \) and \( \vec{J}^b \) must satisfy the conditions,

\[
\vec{M}^a = -\hat{n} \times \vec{E} \tag{2.1}
\]

\[
\vec{J}^b = \hat{n} \times \vec{H}, \tag{2.2}
\]

where \( \hat{n} \) is the outward normal vector on the surfaces and \( \vec{E} \) and \( \vec{H} \) are the unknown
total fields on $S_a$ and $S_b$, respectively. In this manner, the volume of interest is separated into two parts. One is the unbounded region outside the cavity including the sources $\bar{J}^i$, $\bar{M}^a$ and $\bar{J}^b$; the other is the region inside the cavity with source $-\bar{M}^a$ flowing on the surface initially occupied by the aperture. The total fields can be represented as

\[ E_1 = E_1(\bar{J}^i) + E_1(\bar{J}^b) + E_1(\bar{M}^a) \]  
\[ H_1 = H_1(\bar{J}^i) + H_1(\bar{J}^b) + H_1(\bar{M}^a) \]

outside the cavity, and

\[ \bar{E}_2 = \bar{E}_2(-\bar{M}^a) \]  
\[ \bar{H}_2 = \bar{H}_2(-\bar{M}^a) \]

inside the cavity, where subscript 1 denotes the region outside the cavity and subscript 2 denotes the region inside the cavity. If the forms of $\bar{E}^i$ and $\bar{H}^i$ are readily available, the two terms $E_1(\bar{J}^i)$ and $H_1(\bar{J}^i)$ in (2.3) and (2.4) can also be represented by $\bar{E}^i$ and $\bar{H}^i$, resulting in slightly different expressions.
Since the Green’s function of the exterior region is available, \( \vec{E}_1 \) and \( \vec{H}_1 \) in (2.3) and (2.4) can be derived from integral equations. Note that the Green’s function includes the effect of the completely closed PEC cavity. By matching the boundary conditions on \( S_a \) and \( S_b \), two equations linking the two regions are derived:

\[
\hat{n} \times \vec{H}_1 = \hat{n} \times \vec{H}_2 \quad \text{on} \quad S_a
\]

\[
\hat{n} \times \vec{E}_1 = 0 \quad \text{on} \quad S_b.
\]

Let \( \vec{M}^a \) and \( \vec{J}^b \) be expanded by basis functions \( \vec{M}_n^a \) and \( \vec{J}_n^b \) as follows:

\[
\vec{M}^a = \sum_{n=1}^{N_a} m_n^a \vec{M}_n^a
\]

\[
\vec{J}^b = \sum_{n=1}^{N_b} j_n^b \vec{j}_n^b
\]

where \( N_a, N_b \) are the numbers of the basis functions and \( m_n^a, j_n^b \) are the unknown coefficients. By substituting equations (2.3)–(2.6) and (2.9)–(2.10) into (2.7) and (2.8), and applying Galerkin’s moment method, the following coupled matrix equations are obtained:

\[
-[V^i] - [Z^a][J^b] + [T^a][M^a] = 0
\]

\[
[C^i] + [C^b][J^b] - [Y^a][M^a] = [Y^c][M^c].
\]

where \([J^b]\) and \([M^a]\) are column vectors with the \( n \)-th element equal to \( j_n^b \) and \( m_n^a \), respectively. Using the notation

\[
(\vec{A}, \vec{B})_S = \iint_S \vec{A} \cdot \vec{B} \, dS,
\]

the matrix and vector elements in (2.11) and (2.12) are defined by:

\[
y_{mn}^a = (-\vec{M}_m^a, \vec{H}_1(\vec{M}_m^a))_{S_a} \quad N_a \times N_a \quad \text{matrix}
\]

\[
y_{mn}^c = (-\vec{M}_m^a, \vec{H}_2(\vec{M}_m^a))_{S_a} \quad N_a \times N_a \quad \text{matrix}
\]
\[ z_{mn}^b = (\tilde{J}_m^b, \tilde{E}_1(\tilde{J}_n^b))_{sb} \quad N_b \times N_b \text{ matrix} \quad (2.16) \]
\[ t_{mn}^a = (\tilde{J}_m^b, \tilde{E}_1(\tilde{J}_n^a))_{sa} \quad N_b \times N_a \text{ matrix} \quad (2.17) \]
\[ c_{mn}^b = (\tilde{M}_m^a, \tilde{H}_1(\tilde{J}_n^b))_{sa} \quad N_a \times N_b \text{ matrix} \quad (2.18) \]
\[ c_m^i = (\tilde{M}_m^a, \tilde{H}_1(\tilde{J}_m^i))_{sa} \quad N_a \times 1 \text{ column vector} \quad (2.19) \]
\[ v_m^i = (\tilde{J}_m^b, \tilde{E}_1(\tilde{J}_m^i))_{sb} \quad N_b \times 1 \text{ column vector.} \quad (2.20) \]

Note that from reciprocity, the elements of \([T^a]\) and \([C^b]\) are related by \(c_{mn}^b = -t_{nm}^a\).

Solving equations (2.11) and (2.12), we have

\[
[M^a] = \left( [C^b][Z^b]^{-1}[T^a] - [Y^b] \right)^{-1} \left( [C^b][Z^b]^{-1}[V^i] - [C^i] \right) \quad (2.21)
\]
\[
[J^b] = [Z^b]^{-1} ([T^a][M^a] - [V^i]). \quad (2.22)
\]

Equation (2.21) and (2.22) indicate that the unknown column vectors \([M^a]\) and \([J^b]\) can be calculated if all the matrix elements in (2.14)–(2.20) are known.

Since in the most general case the Green’s function inside the cavity is not available, matrix \([Y^c]\) is still not known at this point. In the next subsection, we will show how to calculate \([Y^c]\) by using FEM.

### 2.3 FEM Formulation

Consider the time harmonic Maxwell equations,

\[
\nabla \times E = -j \omega B - M \quad (2.23)
\]
\[
\nabla \times H = j \omega D + J \quad (2.24)
\]
\[
\nabla \cdot D \quad = \rho_e
\]
\[
\nabla \cdot B \quad = \rho_m
\]

with the constituent relations

\[
D = \varepsilon E
\]
\[ E = \mu H \]

where

\[ E : \text{electric field intensity} \]
\[ H : \text{magnetic field intensity} \]
\[ D : \text{electric flux intensity} \]
\[ B : \text{magnetic flux intensity} \]
\[ J : \text{impressed electric current} \]
\[ M : \text{impressed magnetic current} \]
\[ \rho_e : \text{electric charge density} \]
\[ \rho_m : \text{magnetic charge density} \]
\[ \epsilon : \text{permittivity} \]
\[ \mu : \text{permeability} \]
\[ \omega : \text{angular frequency} \]

Note that \( e^{j\omega t} \) time dependency is assumed.

After substituting (2.24) and the two constituent relations to (2.23), the magnetic field \( \vec{H}_2 \) in the cavity of previous section satisfies

\[
\nabla \times (-\frac{1}{j\omega \epsilon_e} \nabla \times \vec{H}_2) = j\omega \mu_e \vec{H}_2 + \vec{M}_s, \tag{2.25}
\]

where \( \mu_e \) is the permeability of the medium inside the cavity and \( \epsilon_e \) the permittivity.

Let \( \vec{\phi} \) denote an arbitrary vector test function. The inner product of \( \vec{\phi} \) with both sides of equation (2.25) in the whole volume of the cavity gives

\[
\int\int\int [\nabla \times (-\frac{1}{j\omega \epsilon_e} \nabla \times \vec{H}_2)] \cdot \vec{\phi} \, dv - \int\int\int (j\omega \mu_e \vec{H}_2 \cdot \vec{\phi}) \, dv = \int\int \vec{M}_s \cdot \vec{\phi} \, ds \tag{2.26}
\]
From vector identity $\nabla \cdot (A \times B) = B \cdot \nabla \times A = A \cdot \nabla \times B$, the integrand in the first term of (2.26) becomes

$$-rac{1}{j\omega \varepsilon_c} \nabla \times \vec{H}_2 \cdot \nabla \times \vec{\phi} - \nabla \times \vec{\phi} - \nabla \cdot (\vec{H}_2 \times \nabla \phi).$$  \hspace{1cm} (2.27)

Substitute (2.27) to (2.26) and apply Stokes Theorem to the second term of (2.27), we have

$$\iint (\nabla \times \vec{\phi}) \cdot \nabla \times \vec{\phi} \, dv - \iint (j\omega \mu_c \vec{H}_2 \cdot \vec{\phi}) \, dv = \iint \vec{M}^a \cdot \vec{\phi} \, ds,$$  \hspace{1cm} (2.28)

Note that the second term of (2.27) vanishes after the volume integration because $-\frac{1}{j\omega \varepsilon_c} \nabla \times \vec{H} = \vec{E} = 0$ on the boundary.

Expand the magnetic source $\vec{M}^a$ as in (2.9) and expand $\vec{H}_2$ into $N_{\phi}$ basis functions:

$$\vec{H}_2 = \sum_{i=1}^{N_{\phi}} \phi_{ij} \vec{\phi}_i$$  \hspace{1cm} (2.29)

where $\phi_{ij}$ are the unknown coefficients. By applying Galerkin's method to (2.28) for each $\vec{M}^a_j$, we get the following matrix equation:

$$[A][\Phi] = [B],$$  \hspace{1cm} (2.30)

where

$$a_{ij} = \iint (\frac{1}{j\omega \varepsilon_c} \nabla \times \vec{\phi}_i \cdot \nabla \times \vec{\phi}_j) \, dv - \iint (j\omega \mu_c \vec{\phi}_i \cdot \vec{\phi}_j) \, dv \quad N_{\phi} \times N_{\phi} \text{ matrix},$$  \hspace{1cm} (2.31)

$$b_{ij} = \iint \vec{M}^a_j \cdot \vec{\phi}_i \, ds \quad N_{\phi} \times N_a \text{ matrix},$$  \hspace{1cm} (2.32)

$$\Phi_{ij} = \phi_{ij} \quad N_{\phi} \times N_a \text{ matrix}.$$  \hspace{1cm} (2.33)

Due to the large size of $[A]$ commonly seen in 3-D problems, the direct inversion of $[A]$ is not always possible. Instead, iteration methods like the bi-conjugate gradient method [6], which is also applied in this dissertation, have to be used. A 3D
edge-based tetrahedral vector element is used through this dissertation. A detailed
definition of this element is included in appendix A.

2.4 Combining the solutions of MoM and FEM

After solving $[\Phi]$ from (2.30), we may find $[Y^c]$ by substituting (2.29) into (2.15)
as follows:

$$y_m^c = (-\bar{M}_m^a, \bar{H}_c(M_n^a))s_a$$
$$= \sum_{i=1}^{N_a} \phi_m(-\bar{M}_m^a, \bar{\phi}_i)s_i \tag{2.34}$$

If we define the matrix elements of $[Y^\phi]$ as

$$y_m^\phi = (-\bar{M}_m^a, \bar{\phi}_n)s_n, \tag{2.35}$$

equations (2.34) – (2.35) result into the following matrix equation:

$$[Y^c] = [Y^\phi][\Phi]. \tag{2.36}$$

By comparing (2.32) and (2.35), we find that $[Y^\phi]$ is related to $[B]$ by $[Y^\phi] = -[B]$.

Now that all the matrices in (2.14)–(2.20) have been derived, the unknown $[M^a]$ and $[J^\phi]$ can be calculated from (2.21) and (2.22).

In the following two chapters, physical structures will be analyzed by the formulation introduced in this chapter.
CHAPTER III

Cavity-backed Patch Antennas

3.1 Introduction

One serious limitation of patch antennas is its narrow bandwidth. One way to circumvent this limitation is to increase the thickness of the substrate. However, thick substrates cause the propagation of surface waves which reduces the radiation efficiency and increases the coupling between the array elements. To avoid these undesired effects, a metallic cavity is used to enclose the patch antenna in order to suppress the surface waves. A cavity-enclosed aperture-coupled circular-patch antenna operating at Ka band was built in [1]. It showed a 2:1 input VSWR bandwidth of 12%. Another example is a cavity-backed aperture-coupled rectangular-patch antenna built in [2] with a 19% bandwidth from 8.5 to 10.3 GHz. In addition to substrate mode elimination, the metallic cavity can also serve as a heat sink to improve heat dissipation. Examples of cavity-backed patch antennas with different feeding structures are given in Fig. 3.1 and Fig. 3.2.

Two techniques are found in the theoretical analysis of these structures. One is the MoM; the other is the finite element/boundary integral method (FE/BIM). The MoM has been used in the analysis of cavity-backed circular-patch antennas by Aberle and Zavosh [3, 4], and in the analysis of cavity-backed rectangular patch-
Figure 3.1: The structure of a slot-coupled cavity-backed microstrip line-fed patch antenna.

antennas by Lee et al. [5]. Although the MoM is computationally efficient in solving spatially unbounded problems, it can only be applied to a few cavity configurations in which the Green’s function is known. On the other hand, FE/BIM [6]–[9] can be applied to various cavity configurations, but due to the coupling between the FEM formulation and integral equations, the resulting matrix is always partially sparse and non-symmetrical. This increases the computational cost in terms of storage and computer time.

In the following sections, we will use the hybrid technique described in Chapter II to analyze the cavity-backed patch antennas shown in Fig. 3.1 and Fig. 3.2. The
Figure 3.2: The structure of a coaxial line-fed cavity-backed patch antenna.

reflection coefficient and the equivalent input impedance are shown and compared to the results obtained using the FDTD technique. The convergence of the numerical results is discussed. Computation time and memory requirements of a given structure are also included.

3.2 Spectral Domain Green's Functions

The evaluation of the impedance matrix of patch antenna problems involves the integration of the Green's functions of a conductor-backed dielectric slab with the testing and weighting functions. In Cartesian coordinates, assume that the dielectric slab is parallel to x-y plane and occupy the space between \( z = 0 \) to \( z = d \). Also assume that the conductor is located on x-y plane. The interaction of two y-directed
surface electric currents, say \( J_i \) and \( J_j \) for example, located at \( z = d \) plane takes the following form:

\[
  z_{ij} = \iiint J_i(x, y) J_j(x', y') G_{EJ}^{yy}(x, y; x', y', d) \, dx \, dy \, dx' \, dy',
\]

(3.1)

where \( G_{EJ}^{yy} \) is the Green's function of a conductor-backed dielectric slab with thickness \( d \). The superscript of the Green's function denotes the orientations of the field and the source. The subscript denotes the types of the field and source. In spectral domain, the Green's function is represented as

\[
  G_{EJ}^{yy}(x, y; x', y', d) = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \tilde{G}_{EJ}^{yy}(x-z', y-y') e^{ik_x(x-x')} e^{ik_y(y-y')} \, dk_x \, dk_y.
\]

(3.2)

The exact form of the spectral Green's functions used in this dissertation are listed in Appendix B. Substituting (3.2) to (3.1), we have

\[
  z_{ij} = \iiint J_i(x, y) J_j(x', y') \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \tilde{G}_{EJ}^{yy}(x-z', y-y') e^{ik_x(x-x')} e^{ik_y(y-y')} \, dk_x \, dk_y \, dx \, dy \, dx' \, dy'.
\]

(3.3)

The above equation involves a sixfold integration which is difficult to evaluate numerically. Instead, if the testing and weighting currents are transformed to spectral domain, the spatial integration in (3.3) can be removed and reduced to a twofold integration in spectral domain. That is,

\[
  z_{ij} = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \tilde{J}_i^*(k_x, k_y) \tilde{J}_j(k_x, k_y) \tilde{G}_{EJ}^{yy}(k_x, k_y) \, dk_x \, dk_y,
\]

(3.4)

where

\[
  \tilde{J}_{i,j}(k_x, k_y) = \iint J_{i,j}(x, y) e^{-j(k_x x + k_y y)} \, dx \, dy,
\]

(3.5)

and the "*" is the conjugate operator. To further facilitate numerical integration, the double infinite integration in (3.4) is converted to polar coordinate and becomes one finite and one infinite integrations as follows

\[
  z_{ij} = \int_{0}^{2\pi} \int_{0}^{\infty} \tilde{J}_i^* \cdot \tilde{J}_j \cdot \tilde{G}_{EJ}^{yy} \cdot \beta \, d\beta \, d\theta.
\]

(3.6)
Due to the symmetry of the structure in \( x \) and \( y \) directions, the spectral domain Green's functions are either even or odd to \( k_x \) or \( k_y \). If \( J_i \) and \( J_j \) are real and separable in \( x \) and \( y \), \( \tilde{J}_i \) and \( \tilde{J}_j \) can be represented as

\[
\tilde{J}_i(k_x, k_y) = \tilde{J}_i^x(k_x) \tilde{J}_i^y(k_y),
\]

\[
\tilde{J}_j(k_x, k_y) = \tilde{J}_j^x(k_x) \tilde{J}_j^y(k_y),
\]

and have the following properties:

\[
\Re(\tilde{J}_i^{x,y\ast}(k_{x,y}) \tilde{J}_j^{x,y}(k_{x,y})) \text{ is even to } k_{x,y},
\]

\[
\Im(\tilde{J}_i^{x,y\ast}(k_{x,y}) \tilde{J}_j^{x,y}(k_{x,y})) \text{ is odd to } k_{x,y},
\]

where \( \Re \) and \( \Im \) mean the real part and imaginary part of its arguments respectively. Applying these even and odd relationship to (3.6), the integration range can be further reduced to the first quadrant. That is,

\[
z_{ij} = 4 \int_0^{\pi/2} \int_0^{\infty} \varphi^x(\tilde{J}_i^{x\ast} \tilde{J}_j^x) \cdot \varphi^y(\tilde{J}_i^{y\ast} \tilde{J}_j^y) \cdot \tilde{G}_{EJ}^{\nu \nu} \cdot \beta \, d\beta \, d\theta, \tag{3.7}
\]

where

\[
\varphi^{x,y} = \begin{cases} 
\Re & \text{if } \tilde{G}_{EJ}^{\nu \nu} \text{ is even to } k_{x,y}, \\
\Im & \text{if } \tilde{G}_{EJ}^{\nu \nu} \text{ is odd to } k_{x,y}.
\end{cases} \tag{3.8}
\]

The evaluation of (3.7) still poses a challenge due to the surface wave poles in the Green's function. When the integration path of (3.7) passes these surface wave poles, the integrand becomes infinite, causing the numerical integration to diverge. A pole extraction technique is used to circumvent this problem [25]. Assume that \( \beta_0 \) is one of the surface wave pole. Let \( I \) denote the integrand of (3.7). \( I \) can be reformulated as

\[
I = \frac{f(\beta, \theta) \beta}{g(\beta)}, \quad \text{where } g(\beta_0) = 0. \tag{3.9}
\]
To remove the singularity at $\beta_0$, $I$ is subtracted by a function which approximates the behavior of $I$ near $\beta_0$. Let this function be $I^*$. We choose

$$I^* = \frac{f(\beta_0, \theta)\beta}{g'(\beta_0)} \frac{2\beta_0^2}{\beta \beta_0^2 - \beta_0^2}.$$  

To show that $I^*$ indeed approximates $I$ near $\beta_0$, we take the limit of $I$ at $\beta_0$ as follows

$$\lim_{\beta \to \beta_0} I = \lim_{\beta \to \beta_0} \frac{f(\beta_0, \theta)\beta}{(\beta - \beta_0)g'(\beta)}$$

$$= \lim_{\beta \to \beta_0} \frac{f(\beta_0, \theta)\beta_0}{g'(\beta_0)} \frac{2\beta_0^2}{\beta - \beta_0}$$

$$= \lim_{\beta \to \beta_0} \frac{f(\beta_0, \theta)\beta_0}{g'(\beta_0)} \frac{2\beta_0^2}{(\beta - \beta_0)(\beta_0 + \beta_0)}$$

$$= \lim_{\beta \to \beta_0} I^*.$$  

Reformulating (3.7), we have

$$z_{ij} = 4 \int_0^{\pi/2} \left\{ \int_0^\infty (I - I^*) d\beta + \int_0^\infty I^* d\beta \right\} d\theta$$

$$= 4 \int_0^{\pi/2} (I - I^*) d\beta d\theta + 4 \int_0^{\pi/2} -j\pi \beta_0 \cdot \frac{f(\beta_0, \theta)}{g'(\beta_0)} d\theta. \quad (3.10)$$

Note that the second term of (3.10) is integrated analytically with respect to $\beta$. (3.11) is numerically integrated by 16-point Adaptive Gaussian Quadrature. The infinity range is truncated at $150k_0$ as in [24, 27] where $k_0$ is the free space propagation constant.

### 3.3 FEM Mesh Generation

There are a few software packages, for instance, I-DEAS, which can discretize an arbitrary 3-dimensional structure by tetrahedrons. However, the process involves interactively inputting the geometry of the structure, setting a cue for mesh generation, and outputting data which needs to be translated for further processing in
Figure 3.3: A hexahedron with parallel and rectangular top and bottom planes can always be decomposed to distorted bricks as shown in Fig. 3.4.

Figure 3.4: A distorted brick. Note that only the vertical edges are distorted. The top and bottom planes are still parallel and rectangular.

FEM codes. These processes are always time-consuming, cumbersome and requiring huge amount of computational resources. Every time the parameters of the structure are changed, the interactive process has to go over again, making it difficult for a researcher to perform a comprehensive study on a given structure. Writing a general tetrahedral mesh generator is not an easy task. However, if only
hexahedral structures, which are common in planar circuits, are considered, mesh generation becomes very simple. In this dissertation, a tetrahedral mesh generator for a hexahedron is implemented using distorted non-uniform bricks. As shown in Fig. 3.3, a hexahedron can be subdivided to bricks. The only limitation here is that the top and bottom planes of the hexahedron have to be parallel and rectangular. Each brick can be further divided to 5 tetrahedrons as shown in Fig. 3.4. There are only two spatially unique ways of decomposing a brick to 5 tetrahedrons. Each of them is only a 90 degree rotation to the other. Note that, these two ways have to be used alternately such that the common edges of the tetrahedrons between two adjacent bricks remain the same. The input file format is as follows

\[
\begin{align*}
    m & \quad x_0 \ x_1 \ \cdots \ x_m \quad x_{d_1} \ x_{d_2} \ \cdots \ x_{d_m} \\
    & \quad \underbrace{m+1}_{\text{terms}} \quad \underbrace{m}_{\text{terms}} \\
    n & \quad y_0 \ y_1 \ \cdots \ y_n \quad y_{d_1} \ y_{d_2} \ \cdots \ y_{d_n} \\
    & \quad \underbrace{n+1}_{\text{terms}} \quad \underbrace{n}_{\text{terms}} \\
    k & \quad z_0 \ z_1 \ \cdots \ z_k \quad z_{d_1} \ z_{d_2} \ \cdots \ z_{d_k} \\
    & \quad \underbrace{k+1}_{\text{terms}} \quad \underbrace{k}_{\text{terms}} \\
    m' & \quad x'_0 \ x'_1 \ \cdots \ x'_m' \quad x'_{d'_1} \ x'_{d'_2} \ \cdots \ x'_{d'_m'} \\
    & \quad \underbrace{m'+1}_{\text{terms}} \quad \underbrace{m'}_{\text{terms}} \\
    n' & \quad y'_0 \ y'_1 \ \cdots \ y'_n' \quad y'_{d'_1} \ y'_{d'_2} \ \cdots \ y'_{d'_n'} \\
    & \quad \underbrace{n'+1}_{\text{terms}} \quad \underbrace{n'}_{\text{terms}}
\end{align*}
\]

where

\( m \): number of divisions in \( x \) direction on the bottom plane,

\( x_i \): node position in \( x \) direction on the bottom plane,

\( xd_i \): number of bricks between node \( x_{i-1} \) and \( x_i \) on the bottom plane

\( n \): number of divisions in \( y \) direction on the bottom plane,

\( y_i \): node position in \( y \) direction on the bottom plane,
\( y_d_i \):  number of bricks between node \( y_{i-1} \) and \( y_i \) on the bottom plane

\( k \):  number of divisions in \( z \) direction,

\( z_i \):  node position in \( z \) direction,

\( z_d_i \):  number of bricks between node \( z_{i-1} \) and \( z_i \).

Similar definition applies to \( m', n', x'_i, x'd'_i, y'_i \) and \( y'd'_i \) except that they are on the top plane of the hexahedron. Let the total number of nodes along \( x, y \) and \( z \)-direction be \( N_x, N_y \) and \( N_z \) respectively. We have

\[
N_x = \sum_{i=1}^{m} x_d_i + 1 = \sum_{i=1}^{m'} x'd'_i + 1,
\]

\[
N_y = \sum_{i=1}^{n} y_d_i + 1 = \sum_{i=1}^{n'} y'd'_i + 1,
\]

\[
N_z = \sum_{i=1}^{k} z_d_i + 1
\]

Let \( n_{ijk} = (a_{ijk}, b_{ijk}, c_k) \) be the node coordinate of node \((i, j, k)\), where \( 0 \leq i \leq N_x \), \( 0 \leq j \leq N_y \), and \( 0 \leq k \leq N_z \). \((a_{ijk}, b_{ijk}, c_k)\) can be found as follows

\[
a_{ijk} = a_{i0} + (c_k - c_0) \cdot \frac{a_{iN_z} - a_{i0}}{c_{N_z} - c_0},
\]

\[
b_{ijk} = b_{j0} + (c_k - c_0) \cdot \frac{b_{jN_z} - b_{j0}}{c_{N_z} - c_0}.
\]

Note that \( a_{iN_z}, a_{i0}, b_{jN_z}, b_{j0}, \) and \( c_k \) can be found directly from the input file. After knowing the coordinate of each node, the tetrahedral elements and the edge bases are easily produced from each brick as shown in Fig. 3.4.

Different from electric field formulation, the edges on the surface of PEC are not removed. If there is a planar PEC in the structure, edges have to be created on both sides. As shown in Fig. 3.5, Element 1 and Element 2 are on different sides of the PEC. Element 1 consists of edges 1 - 6, and Element 2 consists of edges 10 - 12. Although the position of edges 4 - 6 and edges 10 - 12 are the same, they are treated as different unknowns.
Figure 3.5:
Edges on a PEC plane have to be created on both sides. In this figure, Element 1 consists of e1, e2, ..., e6, and Element 2 consists of e7, e8, ..., e12. Note that the position of e4 to e6 and e10 to e12 are the same.

The capability of assigning different node positions on the top and bottom planes gives the flexibility in defining geometry. For example, in the cavity in Fig. 3.1, the sizes of the patch and the slot can be changed independently to each other.

3.4 Slot-Coupled Microstripline-fed Patch Antennas

Patch antennas are known to be lightweight, conformable, economical to fabricate, and easily integrated with microwave circuits. At low frequencies, patch antennas are effectively fed by direct contact of the patch with a coaxial line or a microstrip line. Fig. 3.2 shows an example of coaxial line-fed patch antennas with the center conductor of the coaxial line terminating on the patch. At millimeter-wave frequencies, however, the size of the patch and the size of the coaxial line or
microstrip line become comparable, which affects the electrical performance of the patch antenna. The connection of the coaxial line to the patch also becomes difficult due to the drilling and soldering procedure required. In 1985, Pozar [20] proposed an aperture-coupled microstrip line-fed patch antenna in which the feedline does not directly contact the patch. This structure consists of two substrates separated by a ground plane. The patch and the feedline are situated on two different substrates, and coupling is achieved through an aperture on the ground plane. This structure is suitable for millimeter wave monolithic arrays since the ground plane provides good isolation between the patch and the feeding structure, preventing interference from the active devices. It also makes it possible to choose different substrates in order to optimize the performance of the patch antenna and the feedline separately. Fig. 3.1 shows a microstrip line-fed, cavity-backed patch antenna based on this aperture-coupling technique.

Now we will model the patch antenna structures described above using the hybrid technique presented in Chapter II. Results will be validated through comparison to FDTD data. The dimensions of the cavity and the patch are kept the same for both structures. Design examples in which the patch antenna is matched to the feedline are given to show the capability of this technique as a practical design tool. Calculation of the reflection coefficient, input impedance and field inside the cavity are also shown. This technique is also capable of calculating other important design data such as antenna patterns, scattering patterns, backlobes, ... etc., though these are not shown here.
3.4.1 Formulation

Fig. 3.6 shows the side and top views of a microstrip line-fed, cavity-backed patch antenna. The structure consists of a square patch, a rectangular cavity, and a microstrip feedline. The patch is fed by a microstrip line through a slot opened on the bottom wall of the cavity. Comparing to the general problem in Chapter II, the microstrip line can be considered as the obstacle $b$, and the exterior region includes the dielectric layers and half spaces above and beneath the cavity. The aperture

\footnote{All FDTD data presented in this dissertation were contributed by Nihad I. Dib.}
\( S_a \) includes the opening around the patch and the slot on the bottom of the cavity. Since the feeding structure is the same as that of [21], we use the same technique to model the currents on the microstrip line as in [21]. The origin is set at the center of the slot. The \( \vec{J}_i \) described in Chapter II is modeled as an incident semi-infinite traveling wave mode with unit amplitude as follow:

\[
\vec{J}_i(x, y) = J_c(x, y) \hat{y} - j J_s(x, y) \hat{y},
\]

where

\[
J_c(x, y) = \frac{1}{W_f} \cos k_e (y - L_s), \quad \frac{-W_f}{2} \leq x \leq \frac{W_f}{2}, \quad -(y_\infty + \frac{\pi}{2k_e}) \leq y \leq L_s - \frac{\pi}{2k_e},
\]
\[
J_s(x, y) = \frac{1}{W_f} \sin k_e (y - L_s), \quad \frac{-W_f}{2} \leq x \leq \frac{W_f}{2}, \quad -y_\infty \leq y \leq L_s,
\]

and, \( W_f \) is the width of the microstripline, \( k_e \) is the phase constant of the propagation mode on the microstripline, \( L_s \) is the length of the feedline section from the center of the slot to the open end, and \( y_\infty \) is an infinite number. In numerical integration, the semi-infinite traveling wave mode must be truncated at a finite length to avoid singularity. We found that 3 wavelengths are sufficient. That is, \( L_s + y_\infty = 3 \cdot 2\pi/k_e \).

Note that the range of \( J_c \) is shifted by a quarter wavelength to avoid a nonzero current at the open end of the microstripline. The \( \vec{J}_b \) in Chapter II is modeled as a reflected semi-infinite traveling wave mode with amplitude \( \Gamma \) plus several piecewise sinusoidal (PWS) modes near the end of the microstrip line to account for the effect of the disturbance caused by the open end and the slot. That is,

\[
\vec{J}_b(x, y) = \sum_{n=1}^{N_b} I_n \vec{J}_n(x, y) \hat{y} + \Gamma (J_c(x, y) + j J_s(x, y)) \hat{y},
\]
Figure 3.7: The basis functions used on the microstrip line.

where

\[ J_b^k(x, y) = \frac{1}{W_l} \frac{\sin k_x (h^b - y_n y)}{\sin k_x h^b}, \quad -\frac{W_l}{2} \leq x \leq \frac{W_l}{2}, \quad y_n - h^b \leq y \leq y_n + h^b, \]

\[ h^b = (L_s - y_0)/(N_b + 1), \]

\[ y_n : \text{center of the PWS modes}, \]

\[ N_b : \text{number of the PWS modes}. \]

as shown in Fig. 3.7.

Since the gap between the patch and the cavity is small, we assume that the electric fields only exist perpendicular to the edge of the patch. Similarly, we assume the width of the slot is small, such that only the y component of the electric field exist in the slot. Thus, the \( \tilde{M}^a \) in Chapter II can be represented as

\[ \tilde{M}^a = M^{pe}(x, y) \hat{z} + M^{pu}(x, y) \hat{y} + M^s(x, y) \hat{z}, \]

\( M^{pe}, M^{pu} : \text{magnetic currents in the gap between the patch and the cavity}, \)

\( M^s : \text{magnetic currents in the slot}. \)

As shown in Fig. 3.8, each of \( M^{pe}, M^{pu}, \) and \( M^s \) are decomposed to PWS modes as on the feedline, except for the corner of the patch where asymmetric PWS modes
Figure 3.8: This figure shows how the basis functions used in MoM match the tetrahedral elements used in FEM. To simplify, not all of the PWS modes are shown.

are used. The boundaries of the tetrahedral elements are set to match that of each basis function used in MoM. In the dielectric layers and free space, spectral domain Green's functions are used, and the evaluation of the pertinent matrix elements in (2.14)–(2.18) follows the same procedure as in Section 3.2.

The reference plane of the the normalized input impedance is set below the center of the slot as in [21] and can be calculated by

\[ z_{in} = \frac{1 - \Gamma e^{-j2k_z L_s}}{1 + \Gamma e^{-j2k_z L_s}}. \]  

(3.12)

3.4.2 Numerical Results

An antenna that is matched to the feedline is designed with parameters as follows: patch size 27.78 mm × 27.78 mm, cavity size 32.52 mm × 32.52 mm × 3 mm, dielectric constant inside the cavity 1.0, thickness of the dielectric cover 0.508 mm and dielectric constant 2.2, slot length 13.34 mm, slot width 1 mm, microstrip line
Figure 3.9: Comparison of the reflection coefficient of a microstrip line-fed cavity-backed patch antenna calculated by the method presented in this dissertation and the FDTD method. The FDTD data were contributed by Nihad I. Dib[40].

width 1.528 mm, stub length 6.5 mm, substrate thickness 0.51 mm, and dielectric constant 2.33. The reflection coefficient of this structure is shown in Fig. 3.9 and compared to the results calculated by the FDTD method. The figure shows that the resonant frequency calculated by MoM/FEM is near 3.99 GHz with a 2:1 VSWR bandwidth about 5%, while the resonant frequency calculated by the FDTD method is 4.01 GHz. This corresponds to a difference of 0.5%. Also the minimum reflection coefficient is near zero for the method of this paper, and 0.025 for FDTD method. Overall, the two curves match very well. The input impedance calculated by both techniques is shown in Fig. 3.10.

The effect of the slot length on the reflection coefficient is shown in Fig. 3.11 on a Smith chart. It can be seen that the impedance locus forms approximately a circle and indicates that the coupling factor and the resonant resistance increase as
Figure 3.10: The normalized input impedance of a microstrip line-fed cavity-backed patch antenna. The parameters are the same as in Fig. 3.9. The FDTD data were contributed by Nihad I. Dib[40].

the slot length increases. This is consistent with the results from slot-coupled patch antennas [21].

The electric field intensity inside the cavity is shown in Fig. 3.12. Plots (A) and (B) show the field intensities on cross sections along lines aa and bb in the inset of Fig. 3.12, respectively. Plot (C) shows the field intensity at the top of the cavity. The black and white lines mark the boundaries of the patch and the slot. This figure is also drawn according to the scale of the physical dimensions. As shown on these plots, the field concentrates at the two patch edges parallel to the slot, because the slot is y-directional.

3.4.3 Numerical Considerations

In this section, the convergence of the data of the microstrip line-fed patch antenna is investigated. Fig. 3.13 and Fig. 3.14 shows the convergence in terms of the
Figure 3.11: Comparison of the normalized input impedance of microstrip line-fed cavity-backed patch antennas with different slot lengths. Other parameters are the same as in Fig. 3.9.

number of unknowns on one side of the patch and on the slot. The results indicates that 5 basis functions on one side of the patch and 3 basis functions on the slot are sufficient. Fig. 3.15 shows the results obtained by the hybrid technique for different discretization schemes in the cavity. In the legend of the figure, the first number in the parentheses denotes the total number of basis functions around the patch and the second denotes the total number of edges in the cavity. The curve in this figure is the same as that shown in Fig. 3.9, serving as a reference. Data Set 2 shows the result of increasing the basis functions from 20 (5 on each edge) to 28 (7 on each edge). Data
Figure 3.12:
Total E-field intensity in the cavity of Fig. 3.1 at resonant frequency (3.995 GHz). The parameters are the same as Fig. 3.9. (A) and (B) are the cross section views along lines aa and bb shown in the inset, respectively. (C) is the view just beneath the patch. The black and white lines indicate the boundaries of the patch and slot. This figure is drawn according to the scale of the physical dimensions.
Figure 3.13: The convergence check of the same case as Fig. 3.9 using the hybrid technique. Nb denotes the number of basis functions on one side of the patch.

Figure 3.14: The convergence check of the same case as Fig. 3.9 using the hybrid technique. Ns denotes the number of basis functions on the slot.
Figure 3.15: The convergence check of the same case as Fig. 3.9 using the hybrid technique. The first number in the parentheses denotes the number of basis functions around the patch and the second denotes the total number of edges in the cavity.
Set 3 shows the result of doubling the number of discretizations in $z$ direction of the cavity and Data Set 4 corresponds to doubling the number of discretization in the cavity in both $x$ and $y$ directions (refer to Fig. 3.12 for the definition of directions). Other basis functions used are: 3 on the slot and 14 on the microstrip line. The number of nodes for each data set is also shown in Table 3.1. From the figure, it can be seen that the convergence of the numerical result is quite good except near the resonant frequency. The total CPU time for one data point in the curve is 3.3 hours on a 50 MHz Sun Sparc 20 workstation with 32 MByte main memory of which 26% is used. It is worth mentioning that 73% of the CPU time is used for filling MoM matrices and 26% is used in solving the FEM matrix by the bi-conjugate algorithm. Note that the CPU time spent on MoM is larger than that spent on FEM in this case. However, the latter is very sensitive to the uniformity of the mesh in the cavity, and for more complex cavities such as the coaxial line-fed one, the CPU time spent on FEM will be much higher. For the same case, the CPU time used by FDTD is 7.5 hours on a CRAY YMP8/864 supercomputer. The number of FDTD cells is $188 \times 166 \times 288$ along $x$, $y$ and $z$ directions, respectively, with $\Delta x = 0.25$ mm, $\Delta y = 0.25$ mm and $\Delta z = 0.125$ mm. The total number of time steps is 8000. The factor influencing convergence most is the distance between the top absorber and the dielectric cover. We found that a distance of 30 mm is necessary to get a convergent result. It seems that FDTD uses more CPU time, but we have to point out that FDTD gets the entire frequency range in one computation, while the hybrid technique must be repeated for each frequency point.
Figure 3.16: The side and top views of the patch antenna shown in Fig. 3.2.
Table 3.1: Number of nodes of each data set of Fig. 3.15 in each direction.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Data Set</th>
<th>x</th>
<th>y</th>
<th>z</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>25</td>
<td>25</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>29</td>
<td>29</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>25</td>
<td>25</td>
<td>7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>49</td>
<td>49</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

3.5 Coaxial Line-fed Patch Antennas

3.5.1 Formulation

Fig. 3.16 shows the side and top views of a coaxial line-fed, cavity-backed patch antenna. The patch and the cavity are the same as in the previous section. In the coaxial line, the cavity region is extended to a fictitious surface at which all higher order coaxial line modes generated by the junction to the cavity have attenuated to practically zero. Compared to the general problem in section Chapter II, this structure does not have the obstacle \( b \). The cavity region is extended to include the section of the coaxial line above the fictitious surface. The aperture consists of two parts; one is the opening around the patch, the other is the fictitious surface \( S \) at \( z = z_0 \) in the coaxial line. The exterior region includes a semi-infinite section of coaxial line, the dielectric layer and the upper half space. By choosing a suitable operational frequency range, we can assume that only the fundamental mode propagates in the coaxial line. In this manner, the field pattern of the fundamental mode is used directly, instead of the Green’s function when evaluating the fields inside the semi-infinite coaxial line. Due to the position of the fictitious surface, we can use the mode pattern of the fundamental coaxial line mode as the only basis function. Comparing
to Chapter II, we have

\[
\begin{align*}
\tilde{E}_i &= \psi_i(\rho) e^{-jk(z-z_0)} \hat{\rho}, \\
\tilde{H}_i &= \frac{\psi_i(\rho)}{\eta} e^{-jk(z-z_0)} \hat{\rho}, \\
\tilde{M}^a &= M^{pe}(x,y) \hat{x} + M^{pv}(x,y) \hat{y} + M^i \psi_i(\rho) \hat{\rho}, \\
\psi(\rho) &= \frac{1}{\rho}, \\
k &= \omega \sqrt{\varepsilon \mu}, \\
\eta &= \sqrt{\frac{\mu}{\varepsilon}},
\end{align*}
\]

where \( \mu \) and \( \varepsilon \) are the permittivity and permeability of the coaxial line, and \( M^{pe} \) and \( M^{pv} \) are the same as in the previous section. Let the reflection coefficient of the fundamental mode at the fictitious surface to be \( \Gamma \). \( \Gamma \) is related to \( M^i \) as follows

\[
1 + \Gamma = M^i. \tag{3.13}
\]

The reflection coefficient \( \Gamma' \) at the junction between the coaxial line and the cavity is related to \( \Gamma \) as:

\[
\Gamma' = \Gamma e^{2jk\ell}, \tag{3.14}
\]

where \( k \) is the propagation constant of the dominant coaxial line mode and \( \ell \) the distance from the junction to surface \( S \). The normalized equivalent input impedance at the junction can be formulated as

\[
z_{im} = \frac{1 + \Gamma'}{1 - \Gamma'}. \tag{3.15}
\]

Other formulations are the same as in the previous section. Since the cavity including the coaxial line section is no longer a hexahedron, the software package I-DEAS is used to generate the mesh.
3.5.2 Numerical Results

An antenna with the same cavity and patch as in the previous section was designed. The parameters of the coaxial line are: inner radius 1.037 mm, outer radius 3.620 mm, and dielectric constant 2.25. In order to obtain a good match, the feeding point is shifted from the center of the patch by an amount of 5.7 mm. The reflection coefficient of this structure is shown in Fig. 3.17 with comparison to the results calculated by the FDTD method. The figure shows that the resonant frequency calculated by the MoM/FEM technique is near 4.19 GHz with a 2:1 VSWR bandwidth about 5%, while the resonant frequency calculated by FDTD method is 4.22 GHz, which represents a difference of 0.72%. Also the minimum reflection coefficient is near zero for MoM/FEM, and 0.078 for FDTD method. Overall, the two curves match quite well excluding the fact that one curve seems to be shifted from the other by an amount of 0.03 GHz. This difference may be due to the approximation of the circular coaxial line by a rectangular coaxial line in the FDTD method. The input impedance calculated by the two methods is also shown in Fig. 3.18.

The effect of the position of the feeding point is shown in Fig. 3.19 by plotting the input impedance loci as a function of frequency in a Smith chart. The position of the feeding point is indicated in the legend and inset in the figure. The frequency range is from 3.5 GHz to 5 GHz and each mark on the curves indicates a frequency increment of 0.1 GHz. From the figure, we can see that the impedance locus forms approximately a circle. The radius of the circle increases as the feeding point moves away from the center of the patch. This indicates an increase in the coupling factor, if we define the radius of the impedance locus circle as the coupling factor between the feedline and the cavity-patch structure as in [21].

The electric field intensity inside the cavity is shown in Fig. 3.20. Plots (A) and
Figure 3.17: Comparison of the reflection coefficient of a coaxial line-fed cavity-backed patch antenna calculated by the method presented in this dissertation and the FDTD method. The FDTD data were contributed by Nihad I. Dib[40].

(B) show the field intensities on cross sections along lines aa and bb in the inset of Fig. 3.20, respectively. Plot (C) shows the field intensity at the top of the cavity. The black lines and white circles mark the boundaries of the patch and the coaxial line. This figure is drawn according to the scale of the physical dimensions. The field intensity is interpolated between sample points and smoothed to reduce the effect of finite discretization. The figure shows that the field spreads from the feeding point to the left and right edges of the patch and reaches maximum intensity at the two edges.

Comparing Fig. 3.12 with Fig. 3.20, the total field underneath the coaxial line-fed patch is greatly distorted by the conductor post protruding from the coaxial line to the patch. This is because in both cases the dominant E-field beneath the patch is z-directional and is forced to diminish near the post in order to satisfy the boundary
Figure 3.18: The normalized input impedance of a coaxial line-fed cavity-backed patch antenna. The parameters are the same as in Fig. 3.17. The FDTD data were contributed by Nihad I. Dib[40].

3.6 Conclusion

In this chapter, the hybrid method presented in Chapter II is applied to the analysis of cavity-backed patch antennas. Examples of coaxial line-fed and microstrip line-fed patch antennas are given. The calculated reflection coefficient and input impedance are compared to the results calculated by the FDTD method. Good agreement is achieved. This result shows that the MoM/FEM technique is capable of analyzing various cavity-backed patch antenna structures.
Figure 3.19: Comparison of the normalized input impedance of coaxial line-fed cavity-backed patch antennas with different feeding points. Other parameters are the same as in Fig. 3.17.
Figure 3.20:
Total E-field intensity in the cavity of Fig. 3.2 at resonant frequency (4.190 GHz). The parameters are the same as in Fig. 3.17. (A) and (B) are the cross section views along lines aa and bb shown in the inset, respectively. (C) is the view just beneath the patch. The black lines and white circles indicate the boundaries of the patch and coaxial line. This figure is drawn according to the scale of the physical dimensions.
CHAPTER IV

Microstripline-fed Cavity Couplers and Resonators

4.1 Introduction

Recent advances in Si micromachining techniques enable the fabrication of miniature metallic cavities in MMIC's. These cavities can be used as resonators, vertical transitions, or couplers. In contrast to conventional metallic cavities, micromachined cavities are easily integrated into planar circuits. They are also light in weight and easy to fabricate compared to conventional metallic cavities.

In the following sections, the theoretical analysis of microstripline-coupled cavities based on the hybrid technique of Chapter II is presented. A design example of a broadband vertical coupler which achieves minimum insertion loss of 0.086 dB and a 80% 1 dB insertion loss bandwidth is given. A high-Q resonator was also designed and fabricated. Measured result indicates that a high-Q of 506 is achieved.

4.2 Single Cavity Formulation

As show in Fig. 4.1, two slots are open on the top and bottom of a metallic cavity that is sandwiched between two layers of dielectric substrates. Either one of the microstrip lines passing the slots can be used as the input line or output line
of this structure. Without loss of generality, we choose the lower microstripline as the input line. By closing the two slots and applying the equivalence principle as shown in Fig. 4.2, we can derive the following matrix equations from Chapter II and Chapter III:

\[
\begin{bmatrix}
V_{\text{inc}} \\
0
\end{bmatrix} + \begin{bmatrix}
Z_f & 0 \\
0 & Z_t
\end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix}
J_f \\
J_t
\end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix}
T_f & 0 \\
0 & T_t
\end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix}
M_1 \\
-M_2
\end{bmatrix},
\]

(4.1)

\[
\begin{bmatrix}
C_{\text{inc}} \\
0
\end{bmatrix} + \begin{bmatrix}
C_f & 0 \\
0 & C_t
\end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix}
J_f \\
J_t
\end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix}
Y_{11} + Y_f & Y_{12} \\
Y_{21} & Y_{22} + Y_t
\end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix}
M_1 \\
-M_2
\end{bmatrix},
\]

(4.2)

where \(J_f, J_t, M_1\) and \(M_2\) are the expansion coefficients of the unknown currents \(\tilde{J}_f, \tilde{J}_t, \tilde{M}_1\) and \(\tilde{M}_2\) are as shown in Fig. 4.2. The meaning of the matrices is tabulated in Table 4.1. The above equation is related to (2.11) and (2.12) as follows:

\[
[V_i] = \begin{bmatrix}
V_{\text{inc}} \\
0
\end{bmatrix}, \quad [C_i] = \begin{bmatrix}
C_{\text{inc}} \\
0
\end{bmatrix},
\]

\[
[J^b] = \begin{bmatrix}
J_f \\
J_t
\end{bmatrix}, \quad [M^a] = \begin{bmatrix}
M_1 \\
-M_2
\end{bmatrix},
\]

\[
[Z^b] = \begin{bmatrix}
Z_f & 0 \\
0 & Z_t
\end{bmatrix}, \quad [C^b] = \begin{bmatrix}
C_f & 0 \\
0 & C_t
\end{bmatrix},
\]

\[
[T^a] = \begin{bmatrix}
T_f & 0 \\
0 & T_t
\end{bmatrix}, \quad [Y^a] = \begin{bmatrix}
Y_f & 0 \\
0 & Y_t
\end{bmatrix},
\]

\[
[Y^c] = \begin{bmatrix}
Y_{11} & Y_{12} \\
Y_{21} & Y_{22}
\end{bmatrix}.
\]

By substituting the above equations into (2.21) and (2.22), the unknown coefficients \(J_f, J_t, M_1\) and \(M_2\) can be solved. Note that, we use the same basis functions on the microstriplines as described in Section 3.4. This allows us to derive the reflection and transmission coefficients of the input and output lines directly.
4.3 Multi-cavity Formulation

Consider the structure in Fig. 4.3. Instead of single cavity, $n$ cavities are stacked together and coupled through slots on their common walls. One way of analyzing this structure is considering the $n$-cavity structure as one big cavity and using the formulation of the previous section. However, it is more efficient to perform FEM computation separately on each cavity instead of on the whole cavity.
Figure 4.2: The side view of the cavity coupler show in Fig. 4.1. Note that the slots on the cavity are closed by a PEC with an equivalent magnetic current.

Figure 4.3: The side view of a multi-cavity coupler.
Outside the Cavity

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Matrix</th>
<th>Interaction between</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
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<td>$V_{inc}$</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>$C_{inc}$</td>
<td>$\tilde{M}_1$</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$Z_f$</td>
<td>$\tilde{J}_f$</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$Z_t$</td>
<td>$\tilde{J}_t$</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$T_f$</td>
<td>$\tilde{J}_f$</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$T_t$</td>
<td>$\tilde{J}_t$</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$C_f$</td>
<td>$\tilde{M}_1$</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$C_t$</td>
<td>$\tilde{M}_2$</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$Y_f$</td>
<td>$\tilde{M}_1$</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$Y_t$</td>
<td>$\tilde{M}_2$</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Table 4.1: The meaning of matrix in (4.1) and (4.2)

Based on the equations in the previous section and the extra boundary conditions on each slot between the cavities, we can derive the following equations:

$$
\begin{bmatrix}
V_{inc} \\
0
\end{bmatrix} + \begin{bmatrix}
Z_f & 0 \\
0 & Z_t
\end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix}
J_f \\
J_t
\end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix}
T_f & 0 \\
0 & T_t
\end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix}
M_1 \\
-M_{n+1}
\end{bmatrix}, \quad (4.3)
$$

$$
[C_{inc}] + [C_f] [J_f] = [Y_{11} + Y_f] [M_1] - [Y_{12}] [M_2], \quad (4.4)
$$

$$
[Y_{21}] [M_1] - [Y_{22}] [M_2] = [Y_{22}'] [M_2] - [Y_{23}] [M_3], \quad (4.5)
$$

$$
[Y_{32}] [M_2] - [Y_{33}] [M_3] = [Y_{33}'] [M_3] - [Y_{34}] [M_4], \quad (4.6)
$$

$$
\vdots \quad \vdots
$$

$$
[Y_{i,i-1}] [M_{i-1}] - [Y_{i,i}] [M_i] = [Y_{i,i}'] [M_i] - [Y_{i,i+1}] [M_{i+1}], \quad (4.7)
$$
\[
\begin{align*}
[Y_{n,n-1}] [M_{n-1}] - [Y_{n,n}] [M_n] &= [Y'_{n,n}] [M_n] - [Y_{n,n+1}] [M_{n+1}], \quad (4.8) \\
[Y_{n+1,n}] [M_n] - [Y_{n+1,n+1} + Y_i] [M_{n+1}] &= [C_i] [J_i], \quad (4.9)
\end{align*}
\]

where \([Y_{i,i}]\) is the interaction between \(\mathcal{M}_i\) and \(\mathcal{M}_j\), \([Y_{i,i}]\) is the self interaction of \(\mathcal{M}_i\) in its lower cavity, and \([Y'_{i,i}]\) the self interaction of \(\mathcal{M}_i\) in its upper cavity. Reassembling (4.3) to (4.9), we can solve this equations in a single formula:

\[
\begin{bmatrix}
Z_f & -T_f & 0 & 0 & 0 & \cdots & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\
C_f & -Y_1 & Y_{12} & 0 & 0 & \cdots & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\
0 & Y_{21} & -Y_2 & Y_{23} & 0 & \cdots & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\
0 & 0 & Y_{32} & -Y_3 & Y_{34} & \cdots & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\
\vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \ddots & \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \vdots \\
0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & \cdots & Y_{n,n-1} & -Y_n & Y_{n,n+1} & 0 \\
0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & \cdots & 0 & Y_{n+1,n} & -Y_{n+1} & C_i \\
0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & \cdots & 0 & 0 & T_f & Z_i \\
\end{bmatrix}
\begin{bmatrix}
J_f \\
J_i \\
\end{bmatrix}
= 
\begin{bmatrix}
-V_{\text{inc}} \\
-C_{\text{inc}} \\
0 \\
0 \\
\vdots \\
0 \\
0 \\
0 \\
0 \\
0 \\
\end{bmatrix}
\] (4.10)

where \(Y_i = Y_{i,i} + Y'_{i,i}\) for \(i = 2, 3, \ldots, n\), \(Y_1 = Y_{11} + Y_f\) and \(Y_{n+1} = Y_{n+1,n+1} + Y_i\).

If the cavities and the slots are all the same, instead of solving (4.10), all the unknowns can be solved by using interaction of the single cavity structure.

Assuming the cavities and the slots are all the same, we have

\[
[Y_{i,i-1}] = [Y_{i,i+1}] = A, \quad (4.11)
\]

\[
[Y_{i,i}] = [Y'_{i,i}] = B,
\]

for \(i = 2, \ldots, n\). To simplify these equations, we use \(M_i\) instead of \([M_i]\). (4.7) becomes

\[
AM_{i-1} - BM_i = BM_i - A_{i+1},
\]
\[ M_{i-1} - B'M_i = B'M_i - M_{i+1}, \]  
\[ \text{where } B' = A^{-1}B. \text{ Assume (4.12) can be recast into the following recursive form:} \]

\[ M_{i-1} - bM_i = c(M_i - bM_{i+1}). \]  
\[ \text{We find } c \text{ and } b \text{ satisfy} \]

\[ b + c = 2B' \text{ and } cb = 1. \]  
\[ \text{Solving (4.14), we have} \]

\[
\begin{align*}
  b &= B' \pm \sqrt{B'^2 - 1}, \\
  c &= B' \mp \sqrt{B'^2 - 1}.
\end{align*}
\]

\[ \text{Note that it maybe difficult or impossible to explicitly derive the square root of a matrix. However, we will show that the final equations will not involve the square root terms in (4.15).} \]

\[ \text{Substitute the recursive relationship to (4.5)-(4.8), we can derive the following formula:} \]

\[ M_1 - bM_2 = c(M_2 - bM_3) \]  
\[ = c^2(M_3 - bM_4) \]  
\[ \vdots \]  
\[ = c^{n-1}(M_n - bM_{n-1}). \]  
\[ \text{From (4.15), exchanging } c \text{ and } b \text{ will still satisfy the recursive relationship, such that we also have} \]

\[ M_1 - cM_2 = b^{n-1}(M_n - cM_{n-1}). \]  
\[ \text{Solving (4.19) and (4.20) simultaneously, we can derive } M_2 \text{ and } M_n \text{ in terms of } M_1. \]
and $M_{n+1}$ as follows:

$$M_2 = \frac{(b^{n-1} - c^{n-1})M_1 + (b - c)M_{n+1}}{b^n - c^n} = \alpha M_1 + \beta M_{n+1},$$

$$M_n = \frac{(b - c)M_1 + (b^{n-1} - c^{n-1})M_{n+1}}{b^n - c^n} = \beta M_1 + \alpha M_{n+1}. \quad (4.21)$$

Note that it seems the above solution is not unique because $b$ and $c$ have two sets of solutions. However, after carefully examining the form of (4.21), we find they are symmetrical to $b$ and $c$ and either set of the solution of $b$ and $c$ gives the same result.

Substituting (4.21) to (4.14) and (4.15), we have

$$\begin{bmatrix} C_{inc} \\ 0 \end{bmatrix} + \begin{bmatrix} C_f & 0 \\ 0 & C_t \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} J_f \\ J_t \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} Y_1 - Y_{12}\alpha & -Y_{12}\beta \\ -Y_{n+1,n}\beta & Y_{n+1} - Y_{n+1,n}\alpha \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} M_1 \\ M_{n+1} \end{bmatrix}. \quad (4.22)$$

With (4.22) and (4.3) the unknowns $J_f$, $J_t$, $M_1$, and $M_{n+1}$ can be solved easily as in the case of single cavity. Other unknowns can be derived from $M_1$ and $M_{n+1}$ recursively.

Note that in (4.21) $\alpha$ and $\beta$ are evaluated in terms of $c$ and $b$. However, $c$ and $b$ may be difficult to derive because of the square root terms in (4.15). Instead, we can derive $\alpha$ and $\beta$ in terms of $b + c$ and $bc$.

By taking out the common factor $b - c$ in (4.21), $\alpha$ and $\beta$ become

$$\alpha = \frac{S_{n-2}}{S_{n-1}}, \quad (4.23)$$

$$\beta = \frac{1}{S_{n-1}}, \quad (4.24)$$

where

$$S_n = \sum_{i=0}^{n} b^i c^{n-i}. \quad (4.25)$$

If we let $S_{-1} = 0$ and $S_0 = 1$, we can derive the following recursive relationship for $S_n$:

$$S_n = (b + c)S_{n-1} - bcS_{n-2} \quad \text{for } n \geq 1. \quad (4.26)$$
With (4.23), (4.24), (4.26) and (4.14), $\alpha$ and $\beta$ can be derived solely from the $A$ and $B$ in (4.11) without solving $b$ and $c$ directly. To check the validity of these equations, set $n = 1$. We find $\alpha = 0$ and $\beta = 1$. After Substituting this result into (4.22), this equation becomes the same as (4.2) which is the single cavity formulation.

### 4.4 Validation

In this section, the computed result using the single-cavity formulation is compared to the computed and experimental data of [34]. In that paper, a microstripline coupler with thick ground plane as shown in Fig. 4.4 was investigated. The cavity was treated as a rectangular waveguide and only the $TE_{10}$ mode was used in its MoM formulation. Outside the cavity, quasi-static Green's functions were used in its MoM formulation.

Fig. 4.5 shows the comparison between the paper's result and the computed result of the hybrid technique for three different ground plane thicknesses. The dimensions of the structure are as indicated in Fig. 4.4. Good agreement is achieved for thicknesses of 300 mil and 1000 mil. In the 50 mil case, the result of the hybrid technique is closer to the experimental data than the computed data of [34].

Since 1000 mil and 300 mil are multiples of 50 mil, we can use the multi-cavity formulation to derive the computed result of 1000 mil and 300 mil cases from 50 mil case. Fig. 4.6 shows the result of considering the 1000 mil and 300 mil cavities as twenty and six 50 mil cavities stacked together respectively. The computed data is almost the same as the single cavity model except for a small deviation of $|S_{11}|$ near resonance.
Figure 4.4: A microstrip line coupler as described in [34]
Figure 4.5: Comparison of the result from [34] and the hybrid technique of this dissertation. In the legend, EXP and MoM are the experimental and computed results of [34], and MoM/FEM is the computed result using the hybrid technique.
Figure 4.5: Continued from previous page.
Figure 4.6: Comparison of the computed result of the single cavity and multi-cavity formulations. The solid line is the data computed by the single-cavity model and the dashed line is the data computed from the multi-cavity model.
Figure 4.6: Continued from previous page.
4.5 Wide-band Cavity Couplers/Vertical Transitions

Conventionally, via holes are used as a vertical transition between different layers of a MMIC. As the operating frequency increases, the fabrication of the via holes becomes very difficult. To circumvent this problem, non-direct-contact vertical transitions are necessary. In [51], broadband vertical interconnects using slot-coupled microstrip lines are presented. In that paper, two microstrip lines are coupled through a slot on their common ground plane. A 3:1 bandwidth of 1.0 dB insertion loss is achieved. In [34], a similar design is presented except that the thickness of the common ground plane of the two microstriplines is considered. A thick ground plane can be used as a heat sink or a part of the housing of the circuits.

A similar design employing metallic cavity as the transition between the microstriplines is presented in Fig. 4.7. The dimension of the structure is chosen according to the feasibility of current manufacturing processes. The computed results indicates a minimum insertion loss of 0.086 dB at 72 GHz, and a 1 dB bandwidth from 54.1 GHz to 126.3 which is amount to 80%.

Due to the manufacturing process of the micromachined cavity, errors in the dimension and alignment are inevitable. Sensitivity study on the dimension of the structure is necessary to ensure the feasibility of a practical design. Fig. 4.8 and Fig. 4.9 show the effect of possible errors in the width of the cavity and in the positions of the slots which may be caused by imprecise alignment. Both computed results indicate the performance of the coupler is very stable under the above error range. This is because the change in dimension is small compared to the wavelength in the operational frequency range.

Fig. 4.10 shows the minimum insertion loss achievable v.s. the height of the
Figure 4.7:
(a) the structures of a microstripline vertical coupler. The cavity size is 0.0968 × 0.968 × 0.10. All unit in mm.
(b) computed S-parameters.
cavity. Each data point is computed by adjusting the other dimensions to achieve a minimum insertion loss while keeping the height of the cavity fixed. The figure shows that the insertion loss increases as the height increases.
Figure 4.8: Sensitivity study of the cavity in Fig. 4.7. Three cavity widths 0.968 mm, 0.138 mm and 0.188 mm are compared. The data shown in (b) is the same as (a) except that the scale of the figure is different.
Figure 4.9: Sensitivity study of the cavity in Fig. 4.7. Three slot positions are compared. Curve 1: both of the slots are at the center of the cavity. Curve 2: both of the slots are offset by 0.01 mm to the center of the cavity. Curve 3: the same as the second except that the offset of one slot is in the opposite direction to the other. The data shown in (b) is the same as (a) except that the scale of the figure is different.
Figure 4.10: Optimized insertion loss v.s. cavity height.
4.6 High-Q Micromachined Cavities

Conventional microwave high-Q resonators made by metallic rectangular or cylindrical waveguides are heavy in weight, large in size and costly to manufacture. It is also difficult to integrate these resonators into MMIC's. Extra circuitry is always necessary to connect the resonators to other solid state devices, resulting in increased complexity and cost.

With the maturity of micromachining techniques in fabricating microwave circuits, it is now possible to make miniature waveguides or cavities [35]-[38] as building blocks of high-Q bandpass filters. The quality factor that can be achieved with this technique is much higher than the quality factor of traditional microstrip resonators either printed on a dielectric material or suspended in air with the help of a dielectric membrane [39]. Fig. 4.11 shows possible high-Q filter geometries that consist of input and output microstrip lines and rectangular cavities on different dielectric layers. The cavities are made by excavating and metallizing the dielectric using micromachining techniques as described in [41]. Coupling between the cavities and microstrip lines are achieved via the slots etched at appropriate locations with respect to the microstrip lines. Coupling between cavities is controlled by the size, position, and orientation of the corresponding coupling slots. The microstrip lines can be laid on the same plane as in Fig. 4.11-(a), or on different planes to serve as a vertical transition as in Fig. 4.11-(b). The vertical stacking of the cavities greatly reduces the occupied area when multiple cavities are needed in the filter design.

In the following sections, a detailed study of the resonator is presented. A high-Q micromachined resonator was designed and built. The computed and measured results are compared.
Figure 4.11:
The structures of the proposed micromachined bandpass filters. (a) input and output microstrip lines on the same substrate. (b) input and output microstrip lines on different substrates.
4.6.1 Design Consideration

Fig. 4.12 shows a design of a square cavity resonator coupled by two slots at the center of its top and side wall. Fig. 4.13 shows the computed results of this structure with different cavity sizes. The dimensions are as shown in Fig. 4.12. Note that, the first resonant modes of the cavities in Fig. 4.13 are at 16.2 GHz, 19.1 GHz and 23.3 GHz. However, from the data we can see no resonant behavior in the frequency range. The reason is because the two slots are too close. This causes the higher order modes excited by the slots to be strongly coupled. To avoid this phenomenon, the two slots should be separated by a sufficient distance. However, to efficiently excite the first resonant mode, the slots should be near the center of the cavity. Fig. 4.14 shows a compromised design in which the slots are located at 1/4 and 3/4 of the cavity length. Fig. 4.15 shows the computed $|S_{11}|$, $|S_{12}|$ and the loss defined by $1 - |S_{11}|^2 - |S_{12}|^2$. Since the dielectric and conductor are assumed to be lossless, the only contribution to the loss is the radiation of the two feedline layers. Three resonances are observed in the frequency range shown in the figure. The 3 observed resonant frequencies are very close to those of $TM_{110}$, $TM_{130}$ and $TM_{150}$ to $z$ modes of the cavity as listed in Table 4.2. Note that, because of the symmetry of the structure, only odd modes are excited. Fig. 4.16 – 4.18 show the field plots inside the cavity at these resonant frequencies. From these field patterns, we can see clearly the corresponding cavity modes.

Fig. 4.15 also shows a peak loss at 28.6 GHz. Comparing the stub length and the guided wavelength of the microstripline at this frequency, we find that the stub length is equal to half the guided wavelength of the microstripline such that the stubs become resonate dipoles and strongly radiate. As long as the microstriplines are kept the same, this peak loss at 28.6 GHz is always observed for different cavity
Figure 4.12: A square cavity resonator with both feeding slots at the center.

Figure 4.13:
The $|S_{11}|$ of square cavities. The cavity sizes are shown in the legend. Other parameters are the same as in Fig. 4.12.
Figure 4.14: A rectangular cavity resonator with feeding slots separated by a distance.

To investigate the effect of multi-cavity configurations, consider stacking the same cavity of the previous paragraph. Fig. 4.19 shows the result of single, two and three-cavity configurations around the first resonant frequency at 19.38 GHz. We find that the first resonance is split into two and three resonances in two-cavity and three-cavity configurations, respectively. This phenomenon is expected because when $N$ identically resonant systems are weakly coupled, the resonant frequency will split to $N$ slightly different ones. Also notice that the resonant curves become sharper as the number of cavities increases.

4.6.2 A High-Q Resonator

In this section, a high-Q resonator is designed and fabricated. For ease of fabrication, the feedlines are placed on the same dielectric layer. Due to the fabrication process, the angle between the vertical walls and the top and bottom walls is no
Figure 4.15: The computed results of the structure shown in Fig. 4.14.

longer 90 degrees, but 54 degrees [41]. Although the cavity is no longer rectangular, its characteristics are still very close to the rectangular one, because the thickness of the cavity is much smaller than its width and length. The coupling between the two coplanar microstriplines also has little influence on its characteristics. Fig. 4.20 is provided as evidence of the above statement.

A resonator with the dimensions shown in Fig. 4.21 was built¹. The computed S-parameters are shown in Fig. 4.23 and the field plot at the first resonance is shown in Fig. 4.22. Four transmission peaks are observed at the frequencies listed in Table 4.3 with comparison to the resonant frequencies of an ideal rectangular cavity of the same size. Compared to the cavity in the previous section, the discrepancy between

¹Fabrication and measurement were performed by John Papapolymrou
Cavity size: 8mm x 32mm x 0.5mm

<table>
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<tr>
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<td>19.33 GHz</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>$TM_{140}$</td>
<td></td>
<td>26.52 GHz</td>
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<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>30.40 GHz</td>
<td>$TM_{150}$</td>
<td>30.01 GHz</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>$TM_{160}$</td>
<td></td>
<td>33.80 GHz</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Table 4.2: The comparison of the observed resonant frequencies and the frequencies of cavity resonant modes.

The observed resonant frequencies and those of the ideal rectangular cavity is larger. Note that, the cavity size in the previous section is $8mm \times 32mm \times 0.5mm$ compared to $16mm \times 32mm \times 0.465mm$ in this section. This results in a lower decaying rate of the high order modes excited by the slots such that the coupling between the slots is not only dominated by the cavity modes but also slight influenced by these higher order modes.

Quantitatively, consider the cavity as a waveguide with width $a$ and length $b$. Let $a < b$. The propagation constant $\beta$ of the second waveguide mode at the resonant frequency of the cavity is

$$\beta = \sqrt{\frac{\pi^2}{a^2} + \frac{\pi^2}{b^2} \frac{2^2\pi^2}{a^2}} = \pm j\sqrt{\frac{3\pi^2}{a^2} - \frac{\pi^2}{b^2}}. \quad (4.27)$$

Since $a < b$, $\beta$ is pure imaginary and decreases as $a$ increases. Thus, the second
<table>
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<th>No.</th>
<th>Observed Resonant Freq.</th>
<th>Resonant Mode</th>
<th>Mode Freq.</th>
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<tr>
<td>1</td>
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<td>10.48 GHz</td>
</tr>
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<td>$TM_{150}$</td>
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<td></td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>33.95 GHz</td>
<td>$TM_{170}$</td>
<td>34.13 GHz</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Table 4.3: The comparison of the observed resonant frequencies and the frequencies of cavity resonant modes.

waveguide mode decays faster in the cavity of the previous section than in the cavity of this section.

The measured results near the first resonance is shown in Fig. 4.24. The fabrication process is as described in [41]. The measurement shows that a minimum insertion loss of 0.36 dB and 5% 3-dB bandwidth are achieved. The unloaded Q of this cavity is 506 computed as in [39, 41], which is close to the theoretical value of 526 for a metallic cavity of the same size.

4.7 Conclusion

In this chapter, the hybrid MoM/FEM method is successfully applied to a microstripline-fed slot-coupled cavity. Depending on the dimension and operating frequency, the cavity can serve as a vertical transition between two substrate layers, or as a high-Q
resonator. A wide band vertical coupler is designed and simulated by the hybrid technique. The computed results indicate a 80% bandwidth and a minimum insertion loss of 0.086 dB. A micromachined resonator is also designed and fabricated. The computed results are in good agreement with the measurement. A high Q of 506 is achieved.
The $z$ component of the electric field inside the cavity at the first resonant frequency 19.38 GHz. The figure is drawn to scale. From left to right columns are the field profile on $x$-$y$ plane at the top and the bottom of the cavity, on $x$-$z$ plane at the center of the slots and the cavity, on $y$-$z$ plane at the center of the cavity. The dimension of the structure is as in Fig. 4.14.
Maximum = 1.777767e+06

Cavity size: 8mm x 32mm x 0.5mm

z-component of E field, at 23.92 GHz

Figure 4.17: The z component of the electric field inside the cavity at the second resonant frequency 23.92 GHz. Refer to Fig. 4.16 for more detail.
Maximum = 1.902762e+06

Cavity size: 8mm x 32mm x 0.5mm

z-component of E field, at 30.40 GHz

Figure 4.18: The z component of the electric field inside the cavity at the third resonant frequency 30.04 GHz. Refer to Fig. 4.16 for more detail.
Figure 4.19:
The comparison of $|S_{11}|$ of single, two and three cavity configurations. The dimension of the structure is the same as in Fig. 4.14
Figure 4.20:
The comparison of the effect that cavity shape has on the coupling between the microstriplines. The dimension of the structure is as in Fig. 4.14. Curve 1: coplanar feedlines, trapezoidal cavity. Curve 2: feedlines on different sides, rectangular cavity.

Figure 4.21: A high-Q resonator fabricated by micromachining[41].
Figure 4.22: The $z$ component of the electric field inside the cavity at the first resonant frequency 10.54 GHz. The figure is drawn to scale. The dimension of the structure is as in Fig. 4.21.
Figure 4.23: The computed S-parameters of the resonator shown in Fig. 4.21

Figure 4.24: The comparison of measured[41] and computed S-parameters of the resonator in Fig. 4.21 near the first resonance.
CHAPTER V

Wavelet-Based Method of Moments

5.1 Introduction

In recent years, we witnessed an explosion of interest in wavelet theory in various applications. For instance, wavelet theory has been applied to compression of digital images, noise reduction in signal processing, and numerical methods in electromagnetics [44]–[48]. Wavelet theory is characterized by a special group of basis functions used to expand a linear space. When combined with the method of moments, these basis functions produce a matrix with many small off-diagonal terms that can be treated as zero without seriously reducing the accuracy of the solution. Thus, the storage space occupied by these zero terms can be removed by sparse matrix storage schemes so that the memory size required to solve the problem is reduced. This feature is important for solving large scale problems like the full-wave simulation of a finite patch antenna array or a complex microwave circuit. Although computer memory size is growing rapidly, it is still a challenge to run a full-wave simulation of electromagnetic problems in the scale of a few wavelengths.

In the following sections, the theory of multiresolution expansion and FWT are introduced. The thresholding effect on the characteristics of a microstrip patch antenna is investigated. $3 \times 3$ and $6 \times 6$ arrays are also used as large scale problems
to show the benefit of wavelet bases.

5.2 Multiresolution Expansion

From the point of view of linear algebra, wavelet theory[49, 50] employs a special group of basis functions to expand a linear space. These basis functions consist of two sub-groups: scaling functions and wavelets. The scaling function represents the local average. In contrast, the wavelet represents the local variation and possess zero average. These two groups of functions are orthogonal to each other and form a complete basis of the linear space. Let $S_0$ and $W_0$ denote the linear space expanded by the base scaling functions and the associated wavelets respectively. Suppose we can define a contraction operation to transform these basis functions to a higher level of resolution in the solution space we seek. To qualify as a multiresolution expansion, the space expanded by the lower level scaling functions must be a subset of the space expanded by the higher level scaling functions. Also the direct sum of the space expanded by the same level of scaling functions and wavelets are equivalent to the space expanded by scaling functions one level higher. That is

$$S_0 \subset S_1 \subset \cdots \subset S_m,$$
and

$$S_{m+1} = W_m \oplus S_m$$

$$= W_m \oplus W_{m-1} \oplus S_{m-1}$$

$$\vdots$$

$$= W_m \oplus W_{m-1} \oplus \cdots W_0 \oplus S_0,$$

where $S_i$ and $W_i$ are the space expanded by $i$ levels of contraction of the base scaling functions and wavelets respectively, and $\oplus$ is the direct sum operator as defined in linear algebra. As an example, Fig. 5.1 shows a set of scaling functions consisting of
Figure 6.2: The flow chart of a dynamical allocation scheme for matrix fill process.
until completion. The measurement is performed on a 48 processor IBM SP2 machine. In the figure, the theoretical result is curve-fitted to the experimental result according to the following formula

$$\text{time}(i) = P + \text{Comm} \times n + \text{Comp}/(i - 1), \quad \text{for } i > 1$$ (6.2)

where

- \(\text{time}(i)\) : turn around time,
- \(P\) : preprocessing time,
- \(\text{Comm}\) : communication time per message,
- \(\text{Comp}\) : total computation time of the jobs,
- \(i\) : number of processors,
- \(n\) : number of transmitted messages.

Note that \(\text{Comm}\) includes the communication latency and the actual transmission time of one message. Since the message size is fixed, \(\text{Comm}\) is a constant. Let \(N\) be the total number of the jobs. From the flow chart, there are \(N + i - 1\) FREE, \(N\) JOB, \(N\) RESULT, and \(i - 1\) TERMINATION messages. Thus, the total number of transmitted messages is \(3 \times N + 2(i - 1)\). When \(N\) is much larger than \(i\), the total communication time is proportional to \(N\).

From (6.2), it is seen that when the number of processors increases, only the third term in the formula decreases. This means that the preprocessing time plus the total communication time governs the limit. The formula also indicates that the curve of the turn around time should approximate a hyperbola when \(N\) is much larger than \(i\). The measured results show very good agreement with the above theoretical model. The improvement of turn around time is larger when the number of processors is small. However, when the number of processors is large, only a small improvement is achieved because the preprocessing and communication time dominate. Note that
the turn around time of 2 processors is higher than 1 processor. This is due to the higher preprocessing time of parallelized program and the communication cost. Also note that, due to the programming model, one processor is always reserved for coordinating other processors. When the communication cost is small, this processor will mostly be idle. It is possible to also utilize the idle time on this processor to perform numerical integration by more sophisticated programming.

6.3 Parallelization Model of FWT

As discussed in Section 5.4, the FWT process transforms the matrix derived in MoM from one set of basis to another. (5.14) and (5.15) are repeated below for convenience.

\[ \phi'_i = \sum_{j=1}^{N} p_{ij} \phi_j \quad (6.3) \]

\[ [Z'] = [P]^t[Z][P] \quad (6.4) \]

In (6.3), \( \phi_i \) and \( \phi'_i \) are the members of the basis \( \Phi \) and \( \Phi' \) respectively, and \( N \) is the rank of the basis. In (6.4), \([Z]\) and \([Z']\) are the MoM matrices evaluated in bases \( \Phi \) and \( \Phi' \) respectively. The \( p_{ij} \) in (6.3) is the \( i \)-th row, \( j \)-th column element of matrix \([P]\) in (6.4). Let \( z'_{mn} \) be the \( m \)-th row, \( n \)-th column element of \([Z']\), from the above two equations, we can derive

\[ z'_{ij} = \sum_{m=1}^{N} \sum_{n=1}^{N} p_{mi} z_{mn} p_{nj}, \quad (6.5) \]

which is the form of the single operation in the FWT.

The process of FWT fits to the SPMD model which is characterized by repeating the same operation, for example, (6.5), on different data. Comparing to the previous matrix-fill process, each operation of FWT is shorter and fixed, however the total number of operations is much larger. If the same algorithm as the previous one is
used, the overhead of communication will be too great. Instead, a fixed job-allocation scheme as shown in Fig. 6.4 is devised. At the beginning, each processor computes the job list and equally divides it to the total number of processors. Each processor can determines its share of jobs by his "rank". The only communication that takes place is when each processor sends its final computed results to one designated processor for post-processing.

Following are the procedures performed by each processor:

1. create a list of the operations,

2. divide the list equally into n shares, where n is the total number of processors,

3. use the rank of the processor as an index to determine which share belongs to itself,

4. perform the FWT,

5. send the computed result to the processor with rank equal to 0.

Fig. 6.2 shows the flow chart of the above process. A short program section is included in Appendix C to reveal the details of the implementation.

A measurement of turn around time v.s. number of processors is shown in Fig. 6.6. The definition of "turn around time" is the same as in the previous section. The measurement is also performed on the same parallel computer. In the figure, the theoretical result is curve-fitted to the experiment result according to the following formula

$$\text{time}(i) = P + \text{Tran} \times N + L \times i + \text{Comp} \times N/i,$$ (6.6)

---

1 A terminology used by MPI to number the processors. If there is n processors, the rank of the processors will be 0, 1, 2, ..., n.
where

\[ \text{time}(i) : \text{ turn around time,} \]
\[ P : \text{ preprocessing time,} \]
\[ \text{Tran} : \text{ actual transmission time of one unit of data,} \]
\[ L : \text{ communication latency,} \]
\[ \text{Comp} : \text{ computation time,} \]
\[ i : \text{ number of processors,} \]
\[ N : \text{ number of unique matrix elements.} \]

Since each processor only sends computed results once, the total latency time equals to \( L \times i \). Comparing to other terms in (6.6) the total latency is negligible since the latency of SP2 is only 40 \( \mu \)S.

As in the previous section, when the number of processors increases, only the last term in the formula decreases, while the first and second terms remain the same. This means that the preprocessing time and the total communication time is the limit. The formula also indicates that the curve of the turn around time should be a hyperbola. The measured results show very good agreement with the above theoretical model. The improvement of turn around time is larger when the number of processors is small. However, when the number of processors is large, only diminishing returns are obtained because the preprocessing and communication time dominates.

6.4 Conclusion

In this section, the matrix-fill process and FWT in MoM are parallelized. The measured improvement is consistent to the theoretical model of the turn around time. Another bottleneck not addressed in this chapter is the process of solving (6.1). When the size of matrix \( A \) is large, direct inversion of \( A \) becomes impossible.
Thus, iterative solvers need to be used. An iterative solver by nature is sequential. Each iteration relies on the result of last iteration. In this dissertation, a bi-conjugate gradient [6] iterative solver is used when the matrix size is large. In this solver, the most time-consuming part is the multiplication of a matrix with a column vector. Every iteration produces an improved guess of the solution vector. Thus, the communication overhead of at least one solution vector in every iteration is not avoidable. When the dimension of the matrix is large, this communication overhead outweighs the improvement incurred by parallelizing the linear solver, since the communication speed is much slower than computation speed. This problem still needs to be addressed if further improvement on the speed of MoM is necessary.
Figure 6.3: The measured turn around time of the impedance matrix fill process. The theoretical result is plotted by curve-fitting the measured data to (6.2)
Parallelizing Model of Fast Wavelet Transform

Figure 6.4: A static allocation scheme for the FWT process.
Figure 6.5: The flow chart of a static allocation scheme for the FWT process.
Figure 6.6: The measured turn around time of the FWT process. The theoretical result is plotted by curve-fitting the measured data to (6.6)
CHAPTER VII

Conclusion

7.1 Summary of Achievements

The goal of this dissertation is to develop efficient numerical techniques which can be used in modeling complex and large structures like MMIC's. To achieve this goal, first we have developed a hybrid MoM/FEM technique which combines the efficiency of MoM and the flexibility of FEM. As shown in Chapter 2-4, this technique has been successfully applied to the design of a microstripline-fed slot-coupled cavity-backed patch antenna, a coaxial line-fed cavity-backed patch antenna, a wide bandwidth low-insertion-loss microstripline vertical cavity coupler, and a high-Q micromachined cavity resonator.

Second, we have incorporated multiresolution expansions to the method of moments to utilize the locally oscillatory and zero averaging property of wavelet bases. These properties tend to make the off-diagonal terms of the impedance matrix very small when these terms involve the integration with a wavelet. These terms can be neglected and occupy no memory space in a sparse matrix storage scheme. Thus, the memory size required to store the matrix is reduced. Our test on patch antennas shows that when the problem size is large, significant saving in memory is possible. The 6 × 6 patch array in Chapter V reduces memory size to only 1.16% of the original
under a low threshold value of 0.01%.

Third, in order to utilize parallel computers, the programs for the impedance matrix fill process and the FWT process are ported to MPI. The programs have been tested on a 48 CPU IBM SP2 parallel computers. Significant improvement in speed is evidenced by the measured turn around time.

7.2 Future Work

Following is the research work that can be continued in the future.

First, the high-Q resonator introduced in Chapter IV has been fabricated and tested. The feasibility of the design concept has been proved. To fulfill its potential, the next step is to design a band-pass filter by stacking several cavities vertically.

Second, the bottleneck in MoM or FEM is always in the matrix fill process and the iteration solver. Since the matrix fill process can be parallelized, the iteration solver remains as the primary bottleneck. However, the parallelization of the iteration solver is difficult due to the large quantity of data passed around in each iteration. The benefit of parallel processing is always outweighed by the extra communication cost. Thus, it is necessary to develop a more efficient algorithm to parallelize the iteration solver.

Finally, in the multiresolution expansion, although we get good result out of thresholding the impedance matrix, how the error relates to the threshold level is not clear. Hence, a systematic study on the relationship between the error and threshold level is necessary to ensure the accuracy of the results.
APPENDIX A

Tetrahedral Edge Elements

Fig. A.1 shows the labeling system of the nodes and edges of a tetrahedral element. Let $\overline{W}_i^e$ be the edge basis corresponding to edge $e_i$. Referring to Table A.1, $\overline{W}_i^e$ for $i = 1, 2, \ldots, 6$ is defined by

$$
\overline{W}_i^e = \begin{cases} 
\overline{f}_{7-i} + \overline{g}_{7-i} \times \overline{r} & \overline{r} \in V_e \\
0 & \overline{r} \notin V_e 
\end{cases},
$$

$$
\overline{f}_{7-i} = \frac{b_{7-i}}{6V_e} \overline{r}_{11} \times \overline{r}_{12},
$$

$$
\overline{g}_{7-i} = \frac{b_i b_{7-i}}{6V_e} \overline{e}_i,
$$

$$
\overline{e}_i = \frac{\overline{r}_{12} - \overline{r}_{11}}{b_i},
$$

$$
b_i = |\overline{r}_{12} - \overline{r}_{11}|,
$$

$V_e = \text{element volume}.$

Note that $\overline{W}_i^e$ satisfies following relationships

$$
\nabla \cdot \overline{W}_i^e = 0,
$$

$$
\nabla \times \overline{W}_i^e = 2\overline{g}_i,
$$

$$
\overline{W}_i^e(\overline{r}^j) \cdot \overline{e}_j = \delta_{ij},
$$

where $\delta_{ij} = \begin{cases} 
1 & i = j \\
0 & i \neq j 
\end{cases}$ and $\overline{r}^j$ is a vector on $j$-th edge of the tetrahedron.
Figure A.1: The node and edge labels of a tetrahedral element. $n_1, n_2, n_3$ and $n_4$ are the nodes. $e_1, e_2, \ldots, e_6$ are the edges.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Edge Number</th>
<th>$i_1$</th>
<th>$i_2$</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Table A.1: Labeling system of a tetrahedron.
APPENDIX B

Green’s Functions of Conductor-backed Dielectric Slabs

Fig. B.1 shows a conductor-backed dielectric slab with thickness $d$ and dielectric constant $\varepsilon_r$. The notation of the Green’s functions are explained below

$$\tilde{G}_{FS}^{d_1}(k_x, k_y; z_2, z_1),$$

$d_1$ : direction of the source. Can be $x$ or $y$,

$d_2$ : direction of the field. Can be $x$ or $y$,

$F$ : field type. $E$ for electric field; $H$ for magnetic field,

$S$ : source type. $J$ for electric current; $M$ for magnetic current,

$z_1$ : $z$ component of the source point coordinate,

$z_2$ : $z$ component of the field point coordinate.

The following definitions are used in the Green’s functions.

$$k_0 = \omega \sqrt{\mu_0 \varepsilon_0}$$

$$Z_0 = \sqrt{\mu_0 / \varepsilon_0}$$

$$\beta^2 = k_x^2 + k_y^2$$
Figure B.1: The structure of a conductor-backed dielectric slab.

\[
k_1 = \sqrt{\varepsilon, k_y^2 - \beta^2}, \quad \Im(k_1) < 0, \quad \Re(k_1) > 0,
\]

\[
k_2 = \sqrt{k_0^2 - \beta^2}, \quad \Im(k_2) < 0, \quad \Re(k_2) > 0.
\]

\[
T_e = k_1 \cos k_1 d + j k_2 \sin k_1 d
\]

\[
T_m = \varepsilon, k_2 \cos k_1 d + j k_1 \sin k_1 d
\]

The spectral domain Green's functions used in this dissertation are listed below:

\[
\tilde{G}^{yy}_{EJ}(k_x, k_y; d, d) = -\frac{j Z_0}{4 \pi^2 k_0} \cdot \frac{\left(\varepsilon, k_y^2 - k_y^2\right) k_2 \cos(k_1 d) + j \left(k_0^2 - k_y^2\right) k_1 \sin(k_1 d)}{T_e T_m} \cdot \sin(k_1 d)
\]

\[
\tilde{G}^{xy}_{EJ}(k_x, k_y; d, d) = \frac{Z_0}{4 \pi^2 k_0} \cdot \frac{j k_x k_y \left(k_2 \cos(k_1 d) + j k_1 \sin(k_1 d)\right)}{T_e T_m},
\]

\[
\tilde{G}^{xx}_{HJ}(k_x, k_y; 0, d) = -\frac{1}{4 \pi^2} \cdot \frac{-\varepsilon, k_1 k_2 \cos(k_1 d) + j \left(k_0^2 (\varepsilon, -1) - k_1^2\right) \sin(k_1 d)}{T_e T_m},
\]

\[
\tilde{G}^{xx}_{HM}(k_x, k_y; 0, 0) = -\frac{j}{4 \pi^2 k_0 Z_0} \cdot \frac{1}{k_1 T_e T_m} \cdot \left[j k_x k_y \left(\varepsilon, +1\right) \sin(k_1 d) \cos(k_1 d) + j \left(k_0^2 \sin^2(k_1 d) - k_1^2 \cos^2(k_1 d)\right)\right],
\]

\[
\tilde{G}^{xx}_{HJ}(k_x, k_y; 0, d) = \frac{1}{4 \pi^2} \cdot \frac{j k_x k_y \left(\varepsilon, +1\right) \sin(k_1 d)}{T_e T_m}.
\]

Note that due to reciprocity,

\[
\tilde{G}^{yy}_{EJ}(k_x, k_y; d, d) = \tilde{G}^{xy}_{EJ}(k_x, k_y; d, d),
\]

\[
\tilde{G}^{yy}_{EM}(k_x, k_y; d, 0) = -\tilde{G}^{xy}_{HJ}(k_x, k_y; 0, d),
\]

\[
\tilde{G}^{xx}_{EM}(k_x, k_y; d, 0) = -\tilde{G}^{xx}_{HM}(k_x, k_y; 0, d).
\]

Also \(\tilde{G}^{yy}_{EJ}(k_x, k_y; d, d)\) can be derived from \(\tilde{G}^{yy}_{EJ}(k_x, k_y; d, d)\) by exchanging \(x\) and \(y\).
APPENDIX C

The Implementation of Parallel Programming in C++

The following two sections show the implementation of the parallel programming of dynamic and static job allocation schemes in C++ language. The definition of the MPI functions can be found in [32, 33].

C.1 Dynamic job allocation

```c
int rank, process_size;

mpidata mdata; /* common buffer for MPI messages */

MPI_Comm_rank(MPI_COMM_WORLD, &rank);
if (rank==0)
{
    /* Dispatcher Process */
    int send_count=0, receive_count=0, actual_count;
    int *process=new int[process_size-1];
    /* for storing the status of processors */
    for (int i=0;i<process_size-1;i++) process[i]=0;
```
int *ip; /* pointer to the job list */

int finished=0;
do
{

    MPI_Status status;
    /* receive message from workers */
    MPI_Recv(&mdata, sizeof(mdata), MPI_BYTE, MPI_ANY_SOURCE,
             MPI_ANY_TAG, MPI_COMM_WORLD, &status);

    int sent=0;
    switch (status.tag) /* check message type */
    {
    case TAG_REQUEST: /* request for job */
        if (finished) /* inform the work to end */
        {
            MPI_Send(&mdata, sizeof(mdata), MPI_BYTE, status.source,
                    TAG_END, MPI_COMM_WORLD);
            process[status.source-1]=1;
            sent=1;
        }
        while (!finished && !sent) /* send job to the worker */
        {
            mdata.job=ip[send_count]
            mdata.i=send_count++;
            MPI_Send(&mdata, sizeof(mdata), MPI_BYTE, status.source,
                     TAG_DATA, MPI_COMM_WORLD);
        }
    }
actual_count++;  
if (send_count>=count)  
{  
    finished=1;  
};  
    sent=1;  
};  
    break;  
case TAG_DATA: /* returned results */  
ip[mdata.i].v=mdata.v;  
    receive_count++;  
    break;  
};  
} while (receive_count<actual_count || finished==0);  
/* inform workers to end */  
for (int i=1;i<process_size;i++)  
{  
    MPI_Status status;  
    if (process[i-1]==0)  
    {  
        MPI_Recv(&mdata, sizeof(mdata), MPI_BYTE, i, TAG_REQUEST,  
                    MPI_COMM_WORLD,&status);  
        MPI_Send(&mdata, sizeof(mdata), MPI_BYTE, i, TAG_END,  
                    MPI_COMM_WORLD);  
    };


C.2 Static Job Allocation

int size; /* total number of jobs */
int rank, process_size;
mpidata mdata; /* common buffer for MPI messages */
MPI_Comm_rank(MPI_COMM_WORLD, &rank);
MPI_Comm_size(MPI_COMM_WORLD, &process_size);

/* compute the size of jobs for each processors */
int count=size/process_size;
int remain=size % process_size; /* remaining jobs */
int *recvcount, *displs, offset;
if (rank==0)
{
    /* processor 0 is also in charge of collecting
       the results, so it needs to prepare the
       place to store them */
    recvcount=new int[process_size];
    displs=new int[process_size];
    for (int i=0; i<process_size; i++)
    {
        if (i<remain)
        {
            displs[i]=i*(count+1)*sizeof(intpair);
            recvcount[i]=(count+1)*sizeof(intpair);
        }
        else
        {
            }
displs[i]=(i*count+remain)*sizeof(intpair);
};
};
};

/* adjustment for the remaining jobs */
if (rank<remain)
{
    count++;
    offset=count*rank;
}
else
{
    offset=count*rank+remain;
};

/* compute the jobs */
/* return the results */
MPI_Gatherv(&z.ia[offset],count*sizeof(intpair),MPI_BYTE,&(z.ia[0]),
            recvcount, displs, MPI_BYTE, 0, MPI_COMM_WORLD);
if (rank==0)
{
    /* processor 0 output the total results */
}
BIBLIOGRAPHY
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Figure 5.1: The concept of multiresolution expansion. \( S^n \) and \( W^n \) are the linear space expanded by n-th level scaling functions and wavelets respectively. The lower half of the figure illustrate the concept of multiresolution expansion by pulse functions and their wavelets.

8 pulses. The space expanded by these scaling functions is equivalent to the space expanded by its lower level scaling functions and wavelets.

In the method of moments, each matrix element represents the interaction between two basis functions defined by an integration with a kernel. Except self interaction terms, the matrix elements tend to be very small if at least one wavelet is involved in the integration. This is because in most of the cases the kernel function is smoother than the locally fast-changing wavelets. Since the wavelets have zero average, the resulting integration tempts to cancel itself and become very small. From the multiresolution expansion, the space expanded by a higher level scaling basis functions is equivalent to that expanded by a set of base scaling functions plus a series of wavelet bases as described in (5.5). By using the later as the basis in the moment method, the resulting matrix will have many small matrix elements which can be neglected without adversely degrading the solution. By using sparse matrix storage scheme, the memory required to store the matrix will be dramatically
5.3 Moment Method Formulation of a Patch Antenna

In the moment method modeling of a patch antenna, the triangle rooftop functions are frequently used as the basis functions of the induced current on the patch as shown in Fig. 5.2. Along the direction of the current, the solution space is expanded by those triangle functions in Fig. 5.2-(a), which satisfy the requirement of zero current at both ends of the patch. Along the transverse direction, the solution space is expanded by those pulse functions in Fig. 5.2-(b), which can approximate the infinite current density near the two edges of the patch.

Compared to B-spline scaling functions defined in [52], the pulse basis corresponds to the zero degree B-spline scaling functions as shown in Fig. 5.3-(a). Thus, we can use their associated wavelets (Fig. 5.3-(b)) directly. However, the triangle basis is not exactly the same as the first degree B-spine scaling functions shown in Fig. 5.3-(c) which includes half triangle bases at both ends of the problem domain. The linear space expanded by this basis no longer satisfies the condition of zero current at the ends of the patch, thus the associated wavelets can not be used directly in the multiresolution expansion of our patch problems. Instead, the edge wavelets are modified to have zero value at the two ends of the problem domain as shown in Fig. 5.4. Note that the modified edge wavelets still have zero average, but are not orthonormal to the scaling functions anymore. The latter feature is not important in our problem since the matrix elements are not the direct integration of two basis functions, but with a kernel.

To summarize, zero degree B-spline scaling functions and wavelets can be used directly to model the transverse current profile on a patch. To model the longitudinal
current profile, we use modified first degree B-spline scaling functions and wavelets. The scaling functions and wavelets are the same as the original ones except the edge scaling functions are removed and edge wavelets are modified such that their values are zero at the edges.

The two-dimensional rooftop basis and its associated wavelets[53] are formed by direct multiplication of the zero and first degree B-spline scaling functions and wavelets as shown in Fig. 5.5. These basis functions are used in the following derivation of the method of moments.

Let \( \bar{J}_1, \bar{J}_2, \ldots, \bar{J}_n \) be basis functions. Let \( \bar{J}_p \) be the induced current on the patch. \( \bar{J}_p \) can be expanded by the basis as follows:

\[
\bar{J}_p = \sum_{m=1}^{n} a_m \bar{J}_m, \tag{5.6}
\]

where \( a_m \) is the unknown expansion coefficient. Suppose the incident field is \( \bar{E}^i \), then the total field \( \bar{E}^t \) can be represented as follows

\[
\bar{E}^t(r) = \iint_{S'} \bar{G}(r|r') \cdot \bar{J}_p(r') ds', \tag{5.7}
\]

where \( \bar{G}(r|r') \) is the electric field dyadic Green's function of a conductor-backed dielectric substrate as described in Chapter III. Since the total tangential electric field on the patch must vanish, we have

\[
0 = \iint_{S} \int_{S'} \bar{J}_m(r) \cdot \bar{G}(r|r') \cdot \bar{J}_p(r') ds' ds, \quad \text{for } m = 1, \ldots, n \tag{5.8}
\]

Substitute (5.7) to (5.8) and rearrange, we reach the following matrix equation:

\[
[Z][J] = [V], \tag{5.9}
\]

where

\[
[Z]_{ij} = \iint_{S} \int_{S'} \bar{J}_i(r) \cdot \bar{G}(r|r') \cdot \bar{J}_j(r') ds' ds, \quad n \times n \quad \text{matrix}, \tag{5.10}
\]
Figure 5.2: The rooftop basis functions used to expand the current on a patch. (a) Profile along the direction of the current. (b) Profile along the transverse direction of the current.

\[
[J]_i = a_i \quad n - \text{element vector}, \quad (5.11)
\]

\[
[V]_i = -\iint_S J_i(r) \cdot \bar{E}(r) \, ds, \quad n - \text{element vector}. \quad (5.12)
\]

(5.9) can be solved by direct matrix inversion when the matrix dimension is small, or by iterative algorithm such as bi-conjugate gradient when matrix dimension is large.

5.4 Fast Wavelet Transform

Due to the convolutional property of the Green’s functions, The integration of (5.10) only depends on the distance between the two basis functions when they have
Figure 5.3:
(a) zero degree B-spline scaling functions, (b) zero degree B-spline wavelets, also called Haar wavelets, (c) first degree B-spline scaling functions, (d) first degree B-spline wavelets.
Figure 5.4: The modified first degree B-spline scaling functions and wavelets. The scaling functions consist of only triangle functions without the two half triangles basis at the ends. The wavelets are the same as the original except the edge wavelets have zero value at the end. Only one edge wavelet is shown in figure since the other one is just a mirror.
Figure 5.5: The two-dimensional rooftop basis functions and its wavelets[53]. (a) the scaling function formed by the multiplication of the zero and first degree B-spline scaling functions, (b) a wavelet formed by the zero degree scaling function and the first degree wavelets, (c) a wavelet formed by the zero degree wavelet and first degree scaling function, (d) a wavelet formed by the wavelets of zero degree and first degree.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Expansion Level</th>
<th>0</th>
<th>1</th>
<th>2</th>
<th>3</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Number of Unique elements</td>
<td>705</td>
<td>3568</td>
<td>8876</td>
<td>13097</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Table 5.1: Comparison of unique elements v.s. expansion levels.

the same form. Thus, when only one kind of scaling function is used in the aforementioned patch problem, the elements of \([Z]\) will only have \(n\) different values, where \(n\) is the dimension of the matrix. Instead of performing \(n \times n\) times of integration, only \(n\) integration are needed, which results in a great saving in computation time.

As discussed in Section 5.1, we expect the use of wavelets as part of the basis functions will have the benefit of reducing the memory requirement. However, the introduction of wavelets will ruin the Toeplitz property of the matrix, which increases the computation time. As an example, a patch antenna is discretized as a 16 \(\times\) 16 grid. The number of basis functions in both x and y directions are 15 \(\times\) 16 respectively. Table 5.1 shows the number of unique elements in different expansion levels. From the table, we see a 5 time increase in the number of unique elements when merely changing the basis from scaling functions only to one level expansion which compromises approximately the same number of scaling functions and wavelets.

Here comes the dilemma. We want to use wavelets to reduce the memory requirement. However, doing so will increase computation time. To avoid this, instead of using the wavelet basis directly, we perform the integration of the matrix elements using higher level scaling functions. Since these functions span the same linear space expanded by the lower level scaling functions and wavelets as shown in (5.5), there must exist a linear transform between them.

\[ \Phi' = \{\phi'_1, \phi'_2, \ldots, \phi'_n\} \Phi = \{\phi_1, \phi_2, \ldots, \phi_n\} \]
Let \(\Phi\) be the basis only consisting of
higher-level scaling functions, and $\Phi'$ be the basis consisting of the lower-level scaling functions and wavelets. Assume

$$
\Phi = \{\phi_1, \phi_2, \ldots, \phi_n\}, \quad \Phi' = \{\phi'_1, \phi'_2, \ldots, \phi'_n\}.
$$

(5.13)

If matrix $[P]$ is the transformation matrix between $\Phi$ and $\Phi'$, we have

$$
\phi'_i = \sum_{j=1}^{n} p_{ij} \phi_j,
$$

(5.14)

where $p_{ij}$ is the $i$-th row and $j$-th column element of $[P]$. Let $[Z]$ in (5.10) be the matrix evaluated in basis $\Phi$ and $[Z']$ evaluated in basis $\Phi'$, then we have

$$
[Z'] = [P]^\dagger [Z][P]
$$

(5.15)

where $\dagger$ is the transpose operator. Since the relationship of scaling functions and wavelets are well defined, $[P]$ is easy to derive.

5.5 Microstrip Patch Antenna

In this section, the wavelet theory described in previous sections will be applied to the analysis of a microstrip patch antenna as shown in Fig. 5.6. Without loss of generality, we assume a normal incident field $\vec{E}^i$ which can be expressed as follows

$$
\vec{E}^i(r) = (1 + \Gamma)e^{(i k_0 z)}\hat{y},
$$

(5.16)

where $\Gamma$ is the reflection coefficient at the interface between the substrate and free space and $k_0$ is the propagation constant of free space. Since the patch current includes both $x$ and $y$ components, $\vec{J}_p$ is expanded as follows

$$
\vec{J}_p(r) = J_x(x,y)\hat{x} + J_y(x,y)\hat{y}.
$$

(5.17)

$J_x$ and $J_y$ are expanded by the scaling and wavelet basis discussed in previous sections.
Figure 5.6: A microstrip patch antenna

Each element of the impedance matrix is integrated by an adaptive Gaussian Quadrature algorithm. The number of divisions used in this algorithm is dynamically determined to guarantee the convergence of the numerical results. The convergent criterion is set to $10^{-5}$ in the following cases, such that each element in the impedance matrix has at least five-digit accuracy.

A uniform grid of $16 \times 16$ was used to discretize the patch. The grid size is equivalent to 15 triangle functions in the direction of the current and 16 pulse functions in the transverse direction as shown in Fig. 5.7-(a). Let this set of scaling functions be the highest-level resolution, and called them a zero-level multiresolution expansion. Then, the one-level multiresolution expansion contains the scaling functions and wavelets at the next lower-level resolution, i.e. $8 \times 8$ grid as shown in Fig. 5.7-(b). Similarly, the two-level multiresolution expansion contains scaling func-
Figure 5.7: Multiresolution grids at different resolution levels: (a) $16 \times 16$, (b) $8 \times 8$, (c) $4 \times 4$.

...tions and wavelets defined on $4 \times 4$ grid as shown in Fig. 5.7-(c) plus the wavelets in the previous resolution. Fig. 5.8 shows the dominant component of the patch current distribution near the resonant frequency of the patch in Fig. 5.6. The result of using the bases of the three multiresolution expansions is exactly the same as the theory predicted.

To investigate the effect of thresholding, the moment matrix produced by the level-one basis is examined. Those elements smaller than a given percentage of the maximum element are set to zero. Then, the moment matrix is inverted to solve the unknown expansion coefficients. Fig. 5.9 shows the resulting current distribution after applying thresholding levels of 0.001%, 0.01%, 0.05% and 0.1% respectively. As expected, the larger the thresholding level, the more seriously the current distribution deteriorates. At a level of 0.05%, degradation of the current distribution is already obvious.

Fig. 5.10 shows the structure of the moment matrices after thresholded at the aforementioned levels. Non-zero matrix elements are marked by a black dot in the figure. Sparsity values of 65%, 76.8%, 80.4% and 81% are obtained respectively for
the four cases. The sparsity value is defined by dividing the number of zero elements by the total number of the matrix elements. Note that the elements involving the interaction of two scaling functions are excluded in the thresholding process.

In order to show the strength of the interaction between two basis functions, Fig. 5.11 plots the absolute values of the elements of the impedance matrix in Fig. 5.10 before thresholding v.s. the distance between the two basis functions. The figure is categorized by the types of basis functions shown at the right hand side of the figure. Only 4 types are plotted as examples. We found that the maximum value of the impedance matrix is 0.02044 which is produced by the wavelets shown in figure (b). At a distance of 0.025 meter, or equivalently, 0.128 free space wavelength, the value drops to less than 0.001% of the maximum value. Note that in (c) the maximum value produced by the interaction of a scaling function and a wavelet is much smaller than the other three cases. The maximum value in (b) is larger than (a). This is because the wavelet spans an area 1.5 times of the area spanned by the scaling function. As expected, (b) and (d) show that the interaction decays faster when only wavelets are involved.

Fig. 5.12 shows the comparison of the sparsity of the moment matrix generated by the one-level and two-level multiresolution expansions. Contrary to what we expect, the sparsity of the latter case is not always higher than the former one. One possible explanation is that the larger cell size of the lower level wavelets overlays with other functions, thus reducing the canceling effect of the wavelets.

Fig. 5.13 shows the magnitude of the dominant current at the center of the patch for different threshold levels. The resonant frequency can be determined by the peak of the curve. From the figure, very accurate results are obtained by one-level expansion even at a 0.05% threshold level. However, in the two-level expansion, the
curve is already seriously deteriorated at the same threshold level.

To investigate the effect of thresholding on the far-field pattern, the radiation pattern of the patch antennas at different threshold levels are computed from the current distribution on the patch. Fig. 5.17 shows the un-normalized far-field pattern for the case of a one-level expansion. Compared to the current distribution, the pattern is more immune to the error caused by thresholding. The result shows very good accuracy for up to a 0.1% threshold level.

5.6 Patch Antenna Arrays

In this section, based on the single patch of previous section, a $3 \times 3$ and a $6 \times 6$ arrays are studied to explore the potential of multiresolution expansion in large scale problems. Fig. 5.14 shows the configuration of the arrays. By default, the distance between adjacent elements is equal to half the free space wavelength in both $x$ and $y$ directions. Using the same resolution as the single patch, the number of unknowns is 4320 and 17280 respectively.

5.6.1 $3 \times 3$ Array

Fig. 5.15 shows the comparison of the sparsity of the one- and two-level expansions at different threshold levels. Unlike the single patch, the sparsity of the two-level expansion is always higher than the one-level expansion at the same threshold level. The reason is that the majority of the matrix elements are from the integration of the basis functions on different patches such that the canceling effect of wavelet bases is more obvious. Note that, at 0.01% threshold level, the two-level expansion already gives a high sparsity of 96.1%. Fig. 5.16 shows the structure of the sparse matrix of this case. Fig. 5.17 shows the un-normalized far-field pattern of the array. The "array factor" shown in the legend of the figure means that the pattern is
computed by multiplying the array factor with the pattern of a single patch without thresholding. The figure shows that the pattern computed by the array factor has a significant difference in the power level with the other patterns. This discrepancy may be caused by the neglect of the coupling between patch elements when using the array factor to compute the pattern. At all the threshold levels shown in the figure, good agreement is obtained in the main beam. However, noticeable differences are seen in the side lobe levels. exhibits larger difference.

5.6.2 6 × 6 Array

In this section, a 6 × 6 array is studied. Fig. 5.18 shows the comparison of the sparsity of the one- and two-level expansions at different threshold levels. Similar to the results of the previous section, the sparsity of a two-level expansion is always higher than the case of a one-level expansion. The difference is even larger than in the previous section. At a threshold level of 0.01%, the two-level case already achieves a very high sparsity of 98.84%. The structure of the sparse matrix of this case is shown in Fig. 5.19. Fig. 5.20 shows the normalized far-field pattern of the array. At all threshold levels, the pattern changes very little. This indicates that the radiation pattern is highly insensitive to the error incurred by the thresholding process.

Table 5.2 shows the memory size of the sparse matrix at different threshold levels. Note that, the full matrix storage requires 4778 MBytes, which is prohibited by most of today's computers. However, even at the lowest threshold level of 0.001%, the memory size reduces to only 118 MBytes.
Figure 5.8: The dominant component of the induced current on the patch antenna. The parameters used in the computation are $a = 5.95$ cm, $b = 5$ cm, $d = 0.159$ cm, and $\epsilon_r = 2.55$. The definition of these symbols are shown in Fig. 5.6.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Threshold level</th>
<th>Sparsity</th>
<th>Memory size (Bytes)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>None</td>
<td>Full matrix</td>
<td>4778 M</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>0.00001</td>
<td>98.35%</td>
<td>118 M</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>0.0001</td>
<td>98.84%</td>
<td>83.1 M</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>0.0005</td>
<td>99.10%</td>
<td>64.5 M</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>0.001</td>
<td>99.26%</td>
<td>53.0 M</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>0.01</td>
<td>99.58%</td>
<td>30.1 M</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Table 5.2: Comparison of sparsity levels and memory usage at different threshold levels.
Figure 5.9: Effect of thresholding on the current distribution after applying different threshold levels: (a) 0.001%, (b) 0.01%, (c) 0.05% and (d) 0.1%.
Figure 5.10: Structure of the moment matrix generated by the one level multiresolution expansion after thresholded by levels (a) 0.001%, (b) 0.01%, (c) 0.05% and (d) 0.1%.
Figure 5.11: This figure shows the absolute values of the elements of the impedance matrix in Fig. 5.10 before thresholding v.s. the distance between the two basis functions. The figure is categorized by the types of basis functions shown at the right hand side of the figure.
Figure 5.11: Continued from the previous page.
5.7 Conclusion

In this chapter, the multiresolution expansion was incorporated into the formulation of the method of moments. This formulation was applied to microstrip patches and arrays. The result indicates that by using wavelet bases, the impedance matrix is highly sparse when the system is large. Thus, a significant reduction in memory size is achieved.
Figure 5.12: Comparison of sparsity vs. threshold levels of one- and two-level multiresolution expansions.
Figure 5.13: Effect of thresholding on the resonant curves of (a) one-level expansion, (b) two-level expansion.
Figure 5.14: A patch antenna array

Figure 5.15: Comparison of the sparsity of one- and two-level expansions of the $3 \times 3$ array.
Figure 5.16: Structure of the sparse matrix of the $3 \times 3$ array at 0.01\% (two-level expansion).
Figure 5.17: Effect of thresholding on the un-normalized far-field pattern of the $3 \times 3$ array.
Figure 5.18: Comparison of the sparsity of one- and two-level expansions of the $6 \times 6$ array.

Figure 5.19: Structure of the sparse matrix of the $6 \times 6$ array at a threshold level of 0.01\% (two-level expansion).
Figure 5.20: The effect of thresholding on the normalized far-field pattern of the 6 × 6 array.
CHAPTER VI

Application of Parallel Computing in MoM

6.1 Introduction

Due to advance in semiconductor industry, the price of high performance processors falls rapidly, making it economical to build parallel computers with large number of processors. The need of high performance computing not achievable by single processor also drives the development of parallel computing technology. During the past decade we saw a lot of commercial parallel computers made by IBM, SGI and INTEL, to name a few. Parallel computers are no longer the proprieties of government or university research laboratories, but a reality. However, there is one cause hindering its widespread adoption. To tap into the power of parallel computing, the user has to modify his program according to the programming interface provided by the vender. Every time the user changes the parallel computer he used, he will need to modify his program again. There is no common programming interface among parallel computers until the Message Passing Interface (MPI) was standardized in 1994 [32]. Since then, MPI has been widely adopted by the computer industry.

To utilize parallel computers, first a programmer needs to design a parallelization model for his program. The idea of parallelization is to divide a single task to many independent jobs. A simple and easy way to implement is the Single Program
Multiple Data (SPMD) model. In this model, different data sets are executed by the same program on different processors. These data sets have to be independent of each other, otherwise they cannot be executed in parallel. One simple example in electromagnetic problems is frequency response. In FEM or MoM, the computation process at each frequency point will not effect the outcome of other frequencies. Thus, we can simply submit the whole computation process of one frequency point to one processor [42, 43]. However, this may not achieve the best efficiency in terms of processor utilization. For instance, if there are 8 frequency points and 7 processors, when the last frequency point is computed on one processor, all other 6 processors will be idling. To achieve better efficiency, it is necessary to go to the inside of the computation process to seek out other independent operations which can be parallelized.

Many numerical techniques for solving electromagnetic problems have utilized parallel computers. Especially, the FDTD has attracted a lot of effort in parallelization due to its computer-intensive nature. A comprehensive study of its implementation can be found in [55]. A detailed description of a parallelized implementation of a MoM code is presented in [56]. A comparison of linear equation solvers for integral-equation formulations can be found in [57].

In the following sections, two processes in MoM are parallelized using MPI. One is the impedance matrix fill process; the other is the FWT process. The detail of the implementation and the measurement of the turn around time are included.

6.2 Parallelization Model of MoM Matrix Fill Process

The formulation of MoM always leads to a matrix equation as follows

\[ Ax = B, \] (6.1)
where $A$ is a two-dimensional matrix, $B$ is a column vector, and $x$ is the unknown column vector we want to solve by direct inversion of $A$ or by an iterative linear equation solver. The elements of matrix $A$ are often the result of numerical integration of two basis functions with an integration kernel. The following equation is an example in one-dimensional space:

$$a_{ij} = \int f_i(x) g(x, x') f_j(x) \, dx \, dx'$$

where $a_{ij}$ is the element of the matrix at $i$-th row and $j$-th column, $f_i(x)$ and $f_j(x)$ are the basis functions, and $g(x, x')$ is the kernel. Depending on the form and the distance between the basis functions, the time needed to perform the numerical integration of one element may vary greatly. To fully utilize the processors of a parallel computer, a dynamical job allocation scheme is necessary. As shown in Fig. 6.1, a processor is reserved as a dispatcher to send jobs and receive results from the workers. Other processors are served as workers to perform the numerical computation. 4 types of messages are passed between the dispatcher and workers. They are

**FREE**: sent by a worker to inform the dispatcher that it is ready to accept new jobs,

**RESULT**: sent by a worker to the dispatcher, containing the result of numerical integration,

**TERMINATION**: sent by the dispatcher to inform the worker that all jobs are sent.

**JOB**: sent by the dispatcher, containing the information of a job.

Following are the procedures performed by the dispatcher:

1. create a list of the unique elements,

2. wait for messages from the workers,
3. if the message is a RESULT message, store the result, otherwise the message is a FREE message and a JOB message is sent to the worker,

4. repeat step 2 and 3 until all jobs are sent and returned,

5. send TERMINATION message to inform each worker to quit.

For the worker, the procedures are:

1. send FREE message to the dispatcher,

2. wait for messages from the dispatcher,

3. if it is a JOB message, perform the numerical integration and return the result, otherwise it is a TERMINATION message and the worker quits.

4. goto step 2.

Fig. 6.2 shows the flow chart of the above process. The dashed lines in the figure indicate the communication paths. Two kinds of processes, dispatcher and worker, are concurrently executed. First, the process of the dispatcher sorts out the unique matrix elements and builds a job list after it starts and reads in the necessary parameters. Then, it enters a loop waiting for messages from the workers. The loop terminates only after all the jobs are sent and all the data are collected from the workers. Inside the loop, the dispatcher checks the messages from the workers. If the message contains data, the dispatcher will store it and then wait for new messages. If the message is a FREE message, the dispatcher checks if all the jobs have been sent. If not, the dispatcher will send a job to the worker which sends the message. If all jobs have been sent, the dispatcher will send a TERMINATION message to the worker. If all worker have been terminated, the dispatcher exits the loop,
Parallelization Model of Impedance Matrix Fill

Figure 6.1: A dynamical allocation scheme for matrix fill process.

outputs the results and quits. If there are still active workers, the dispatcher will continue waiting for new messages.

The worker process, after starts and reads in the necessary parameters, sends a FREE message to the dispatcher to indicate that it is ready to accept new job. Then, it waits for a reply from the dispatcher. If the reply is a TERMINATION message, the worker quits. Otherwise, the message contains a job and the worker starts to execute it. After the worker has finished the job, the result is sent back to the dispatcher via a RESULT message. After sending the RESULT message, the worker sends a FREE message to the dispatcher and waits for the reply from the dispatcher again. A short program section is included in Appendix C to reveal the detail of implementation.

A measurement of turn around time v.s. number of processors is shown in Fig. 6.3. Here the “turn around time” means the elapsed time from the start of the program