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Active Controllable Single Side Double S-shaped Metamaterial

Dongxing Wang¹, Lixin Ran¹, Hongsheng Chen¹, Bae-Ian Wu^{1; 2}

Tomasz M. Grzegorzczak^{1; 2}, and Jin Au Kong^{1; 2}

¹The Electromagnetics Academy at Zhejiang University, China

²Research Laboratory of Electronics, Massachusetts Institute of Technology, USA

Abstract In this paper, a 1D active controllable metamaterial (as shown in Fig. 1) is experimentally realized by adding varactor diodes to the single side double S-shaped Left-handed material. When the external bias voltage of the varactor is changed, the results of the power transmission experiment conducted on the metamaterial sample in Fig. 2 demonstrate that the frequency range of the passbands of the sample becomes tunable and the phases of the experimental S_{21} shown in Fig. 3 shifts, which indicates the effective refractive index at a fixed frequency within the passbands of the material is controllable. Such tunable structure gives feasibility to realize active radome in the future.

Isolation Study in Antenna Systems Using Left-handed Metamaterials

James Chen¹, Hongsheng Chen^{1; 2}, Bae-Ian Wu¹, Jin Au Kong^{1; 2}

and Tomasz M. Grzegorzczak^{1; 2}

¹Research Laboratory of Electronics, Massachusetts Institute of Technology, Cambridge, MA 02139, USA

²The Electromagnetic Academy at Zhejiang University, Zhejiang University, Hangzhou 310058, China

Abstract The suppression of mutual coupling between antennas has been reported using high impedance surfaces, such as EBG (electromagnetic bandgap) substrates. Since the propagation of electromagnetic fields is forbidden inside EBG substrates within certain frequency ranges, the influence of surface modes can be mitigated, which leads to a reduction of the mutual coupling between antennas. However, the sizes of EBG structures are usually of the same order as the operating wavelength, which yields to large substrate sizes. Furthermore, EBG materials usually operate in a narrow frequency band, which is an undesired property. In this paper, we present a systematic study on the isolation between two antennas using stratified media of right-handed material, left-handed material, Mu-negative material and Epsilon-negative material. We first study the guidance conditions of the surface wave mode for these media with single layer grounded slab. We show that the coupling level is much smaller if no surface modes exist comparing to the situation when surface modes exist. Therefore, the coupling between antennas is mainly contributed by the surface wave propagation along the interface. However, the coupling value can not be obtained simply based on the guidance condition analysis. In order to evaluate the field along the interface, we propose two methods: the spectral domain method and the asymptotic analysis. The spectral domain method extends the applications to include left-handed materials, mu-negative materials and epsilon-negative materials. The asymptotic analysis uses the integral formulation to evaluate the fields through branch cuts. The field results from both methods are confirmed by simulations using CST microwave studio. Both methods are then further applied to design the slab parameters for the best isolation. An optimized design is proposed for the single layer grounded slab. At last we proposed an isolation design using metamaterial slab composed of split-ring resonators. The results show that a good isolation level can be achieved.

Two-dimensional Cross Embedded Metamaterials

J. Zhang^{1,2}, H. Chen^{1,2}, L. Ran^{1,2}, Y. Luo^{1,2}, and J. A. Kong^{1,3}

¹The Electromagnetics Academy at Zhejiang University, Zhejiang University
Hangzhou 310058, China

²Department of Information and Electronic Engineering, Zhejiang University
Hangzhou 310027, China

³Research Laboratory of Electronics, Massachusetts Institute of Technology
Cambridge, Massachusetts 02139, USA

Abstract Traditional two dimensional (2D) left-handed metamaterials were composed of honeycomb structures. In this paper, we experimentally realized a 2D S-shaped metamaterial structure with cross embedded form. We show that metamaterials with cross embedded arrangements exhibit wider left-handed band and lower loss than honeycomb structures.

Negative Refractive Metamaterial Composite of Pure Dielectric Resonators

Liang Peng¹, Lixin Ran^{1, 2}, Hongsheng Chen¹, Haifei Zhang¹

Tomasz M. Grzegorzczak³, and Jin Au Kong^{1, 3}

¹The Electromagnetics Academy at Zhejiang University, Zhejiang University
Hangzhou, Zhejiang, 310027, China

²Department of Information and Electronic Engineering, Zhejiang University
Hangzhou, Zhejiang, 310027, China

³The Research Laboratory of Electronics, Massachusetts Institute of Technology
Cambridge, MA 02139, USA

Abstract This paper demonstrates left-handed properties can be realized by simple dielectric resonators. A theoretical analysis as well as experimental measurement of an array of high dielectric resonators arranged either periodically or randomly is presented.

Figure 1 shows the unit cell configuration of a standard high dielectric resonator and the theoretical calculation of the effective permittivity and permeability. A double negative can be found around 7 GHz. Figure 2(a) shows the BST samples used in experiment. Figures 2(b) and (c) show the negative refractions of both periodically and randomly arranged prisms, respectively. The double refraction occurs due to the mismatch between the prisms and air. According to Figures 2(b) and (c), the two prisms behave in the same way which is significantly different from photonic crystal whose properties strongly depend on the periodicity and arrangement.

The left-handed properties of simplest high dielectric resonators are validated theoretically and experimentally. By utilizing nano-machining technologies, a whole-dielectric Terahertz LHM is expectable in the future, since dielectrics with high permittivity exist in Terahertz band.

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Experimental Study of the Transmission Property of Anisotropic Left-handed Materials

Hai Fei Zhang^{1,2}, Yu Zhong^{1,2}, Li Xin Ran^{1,2}, and Jin Au Kong^{1,3}

¹Electromagnetics Academy at Zhejiang University, Zhejiang University
Hangzhou 310058, China

²Department of Information and Electronic Engineering, Zhejiang University
Hangzhou 310027, China

³Research Laboratory of Electronics, Massachusetts Institute of Technology
Cambridge, MA 02139, USA

Abstract We study the transmission property of an anisotropic metamaterial slab exhibiting negative permittivity and negative permeability along some specific directions. The wires aligned with the y direction yields a permittivity $\epsilon(\omega)$ described by a Drude model, while the axis of the ϵ -rings is aligned with the x axis, yielding a permeability $\mu(\omega)$ described by the Lorentz model (propagation direction is along the z axis). The resonant and plasma frequencies were retrieved from simulation results. It is discovered from theoretical calculation that the Brewster angle increases as the frequency decreases. A sample of such left-handed material slab is fabricated and experimental results are provided which corroborate the theoretical predictions.

Realization of Left-handed Materials Using Ferroic Materials

Yang Bai¹, Ji Zhou², Bo Li², and Lijie Qiao¹

¹Corrosion and Protection Center, Key Lab of Environmental Fracture (Ministry of Education) University of Science and Technology, Beijing 100083, China

²State Key Lab of New Ceramics and Fine Processing Department of Materials Science and Engineering Tsinghua University, Beijing 100084, China

Abstract With negative permittivity and negative permeability, left-handed materials (LHMs) exhibit many unusual and attractive properties. Since the first LHM were realized in 2000 by D. R. Smith et al. using split-ring resonators (SRRs) and using metallic wires, much attention has been paid on designing LHMs via various artificial metallic patterns to achieve better left-handed properties. Hence, LHM was always regarded as structure rather than material, the so-called metamaterials. Because of the equivalence of the metallic structure and homogenous medium, it becomes interesting and significant to realize LHM by homogenous medium. Therefore, it will provide a new way to understand the physics insight in the LHMs from a microscopic point of view.

To obtain negative permeability, the intensity of induced magnetization in the medium should be greater than and antiparallel to that of the magnetic field, which is infeasible for a steady state. The same thing happens to negative permittivity. Although negative parameters can not be obtained in equilibrium, they can be achieved based on resonance mechanism. For example, SRR generates negative permeability using magnetic plasma resonance, and metallic wires generate negative permittivity using plasma resonance. In conventional materials, various resonances can also be used to realize negative permeability and negative permittivity. Ferroic materials, such as ferromagnet and ferroelectric, are good candidates to realize negative parameters because they exhibit strong response to external field.

Simultaneously under a steady magnetic field and an orthogonal alternating magnetic field, ferromagnet will exhibit ferromagnetic resonance in microwave band. The resonance occurs when the frequency of alternating magnetic field equals to the natural frequency of spin's precession around the direction of steady magnetic field. The resonance frequency is determined by the intensity of steady magnetic field and the intrinsic character of ferromagnet. Above the resonance frequency, permeability will turn negative, owing to the phase lag of magnetization to alternating magnetic field. Hence, ferromagnetic resonance can contribute to the realization of LHM using homogeneous medium. Meanwhile, magnetic domain wall resonance may also generate negative permeability.

In view of the comparability of ferromagnet and ferroelectric, ferroelectric can also generate negative permeability in microwave band. In the ferroelectric, dipoles rotate under the alternating electric field. When the frequency of alternating electric field equals to the natural frequency of dipole rotation, dipole resonance occurs. The cations oscillate around the position of equilibrium driven by the external alternating electric field. The ion resonance exists at higher frequency than dipole resonance. Moreover, the complex domain structure in ferroelectrics also provides them some other resonances in a certain frequency range.

The realization of LHMs using ferroic materials can extend the research domain of LHM. It can make LHM no longer equal to metamaterial. And the realization of LHMs using ferroic materials will miniaturize the microwave devices.

Tunable Metamaterials Based on Nematic Liquid Crystals

Qian Zhao, Lei Kang, Bo Du, Bo Li, and Ji Zhou

State Key Lab of New Ceramics and Fine Processing, Department of Materials Science and Engineering
Tsinghua University, Beijing 100084, China

Abstract | Electrically tunable negative permeability metamaterial consisting of periodic array of split ring resonators (SRRs) infiltrated with nematic liquid crystals is demonstrated. Transmission measurement shows that the transmitted resonance dip of the metamaterial shifts towards low frequency as the applied electric field increases. The maximum shift is about 210MHz and the shift can be continuously and reversibly adjusted. Numerical simulation shows that the permeability of the metamaterial is negative near the resonance frequency and the frequency range with negative permeability can be dynamically adjusted and widened about 200MHz by the applied electric field. An applied electric field changes the alignment of the liquid crystal directors and hence the dielectric constant of the structure, which permits dynamically tuning the negative permeability and provides a convenient means to add adaptive features to the metamaterials.

Rigorous Study of the Magnetic Resonances in Metallic Double Split Rings: Lower Frequency Limit and Bi-anisotropy

Lei Zhou^{1,3}, S. T. Chui², and C. T. Chan³

¹ Surface Physics Laboratory (State Key Laboratory) and Physics Department
Fudan University, Shanghai 200433, China

² Bartol Research Institute, University of Delaware, Newark, Delaware 19716, USA

³ Physics Department, The Hong Kong University of Science and Technology
Clear Water Bay, Kowloon, Hong Kong, China

Abstract | As the building blocks of recently discovered left-handed meta-materials (LHM), metallic ring systems have attracted considerable attention recently. Since most LHM's were built upon the principle of effective medium theory, to realize an LHM sample with a good quality, one naturally requires the building block to be as *subwavelength* as possible and its *bi-anisotropy* as small as possible. Previous theoretical understandings on such systems were achieved mainly through empirical theories or brute-force numerical computations. Recently, we established a rigorous approach for metallic ring systems and applied it to study the electromagnetic (EM) eigenmodes of a single split ring resonator (SRR) [1].

Here, we extend the rigorous theory to study the electromagnetic (EM) resonances in double split ring systems, with ring radius given by R , wire radius by a and ring-ring separation by d [2]. The inter-ring interactions split each single-ring mode to two modes with different symmetries, and the bi-anisotropy of each mode is suppressed as two rings approach. We find an analytical expression, $\omega_{\pm} \approx \omega_0 \left[1 \pm \frac{2 \ln(2d/R)}{3 \ln(2a/R)} \right]$, to determine the frequency shift of the fundamental (magnetic) mode compared to the single-ring SRR mode. We further derive a lower frequency limit for the magnetic resonance $\omega_{\text{lim}} \approx (c/R) \ln(1/2) = [4 \ln(a/R)]$. Finite-difference-time-domain simulations on realistic structures are in good agreement with numerical calculations based on the rigorous theory.

Negative Refraction in Composites with Array of Coplanar Metallic Double Rings

Xingye Ji, Ping Chen, and Rui-Xin Wu

Department of Electronic Sciences and Engineering, Nanjing University
Nanjing 210093, China

Abstract | It is well known that metamaterials consisting of metallic wires and split ring resonators (SRR) can have negative index of refraction. However, in order to show the negative

refraction alternating magnetic field should be perpendicular to the plane of SRR. This causes many difficulties in applications. In this work, other than the metamaterials, we have proposed a structured composite made of array of coplanar double rings, and demonstrate the composite has negative refraction. With the all-in-one-plane property, the element dimension of the composite is reduced and the composite is much easier to fabricate. In addition, the composite shows isotropy in the double rings plane other than the metamaterials is anisotropy. This provides the conveniences for the real applications.

The analysis shows that the array of outer rings forms an effective plasma media, which exhibit an effective negative permittivity under the plasma frequency. The gap between the outer and inner rings excites resonance, which provides effective permeability μ . Changing the gap can alter the resonance frequency of the structure. By a careful design of the dimensions of the double rings and the gaps, we have obtained negative values of refraction index in a particular range of frequency near the resonance.

With simulated S parameters of the composite, a standard EM parameters retrieval method is used to get effective ϵ and μ . The results assert that this structure is a kind of single negative media, which has negative permittivity but positive permeability.

Full wave simulation is used to confirm the analysis. Using the FEM method, the simulation is done on a wedge made of the double rings composite. The simulation result is shown in the figure. We can find that the beam incident on the interface of the wedge and air refracts to the same side of the normal as the incident wave. This demonstrates that index of refraction of the composite is negative.

Frequency Selectivity of THz Transimission of Sub-wavelength Metal Fractal Structures

Guozhong Zhao¹, Yan Tian¹, Cunlin Zhang¹, and Guozhen Yang²

¹Department of Physics, Capital Normal University, Beijing 100037, China

²Institute of Physics, Chinese Academy of Sciences, Beijing 100080, China

Abstract We present experimentally that resonant transmission of single fractal slits on the free-standing copper foil in the frequency range of 90 GHz to 0.8 THz. The transmission spectra with multiple pass bands and band gaps are studied by means of THz time-domain spectroscopy. THz transmission under different polarization for a 7-level fractal pattern is analyzed. The transmission spectra with the different levels of fractal slits are compared and discussed.