REDVET - Revista electrónica de Veterinaria - ISSN 1695-7504
Vol 25, No. 2 (2024)
http://www.veterinaria.org
Article Received:29/10/2024 Revised:02/11/2024 Accepted:04/11/2024

Dual Wide-Band Polarization Insensitive Metamaterial Absorber Based on Concentric Split-Ring and Circular Ring Resonators

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Abstract
This paper presents a novel dual wide-band polarization insensitive metamaterial absorber design incorporating concentric split-ring resonators (CSRRs) and circular ring resonators (CRRs). The proposed structure demonstrates exceptional absorption performance across two distinct frequency bands while maintaining polarization independence and wide-angle stability. Through comprehensive electromagnetic simulations and equivalent circuit modeling, we achieve absorption rates exceeding 90% in both operational bands. The design exhibits robust performance for oblique incidence angles up to 60° and maintains consistent absorption characteristics regardless of polarization orientation. The metamaterial unit cell comprises a three-layer configuration with optimized geometric parameters to ensure dual-band operation. This work contributes significantly to the advancement of metamaterial absorbers for applications in electromagnetic interference shielding, radar cross-section reduction, and sensing technologies.

Keywords: Metamaterial absorber, dual-band, polarization insensitive, split-ring resonator, circular ring resonator, electromagnetic interference

1. Introduction

Metamaterial absorbers have emerged as revolutionary electromagnetic structures capable of achieving near-perfect absorption across various frequency ranges (Landy et al., 2008). These artificially engineered materials derive their unique properties from periodic arrangements of subwavelength resonant elements rather than their constituent materials' inherent properties (Watts et al., 2012). The development of efficient metamaterial absorbers has garnered significant attention due to their potential applications in stealth technology, electromagnetic interference (EMI) shielding, energy harvesting, and sensing systems (Mishra et al., 2021).

Traditional metamaterial absorbers typically operate within narrow frequency bands, limiting their practical applications in modern communication systems that require broadband or multi-band operation (Mei et al., 2022). The quest for wider bandwidth and multi-band functionality has driven researchers to explore various design strategies, including multi-layer configurations, fractal geometries, and hybrid resonator structures (Asadchy et al., 2015).

Polarization insensitivity represents another critical requirement for practical metamaterial absorber implementations. Many real-world applications involve electromagnetic waves with arbitrary polarization states, necessitating absorber designs that maintain consistent performance regardless of incident wave polarization (Singh et al., 2021). Furthermore, wide-angle stability ensures robust performance across various incident angles, expanding the operational envelope of these devices (Zhou et al., 2021).

Recent advances in metamaterial absorber design have focused on achieving dual-band or multi-band operation while maintaining polarization independence and angular stability (Hakim et al., 2021). Split-ring resonators (SRRs) and their variants have proven particularly effective in creating resonant responses at multiple frequencies (Shahzad et al., 2022). The combination of different resonator geometries within a single unit cell offers a promising approach to achieving dual-band operation with enhanced bandwidth characteristics.

This paper presents a novel metamaterial absorber design that combines concentric split-ring resonators with circular ring resonators to achieve dual wide-band operation with polarization insensitivity and wide-angle stability. The proposed structure addresses the limitations of existing single-band absorbers while providing enhanced performance characteristics suitable for practical applications.

2. Literature Review

2.1 Metamaterial Absorber Fundamentals

The concept of perfect metamaterial absorbers was first demonstrated by Landy et al. (2008), who achieved near-unity absorption by satisfying the impedance matching condition between the metamaterial and free space. This groundbreaking work established the theoretical foundation for subsequent developments in metamaterial absorber design (Watts et al., 2012).

Perfect absorption occurs when both reflection and transmission are minimized simultaneously, requiring careful design of the metamaterial's electromagnetic properties. The impedance matching condition necessitates that the effective permittivity and permeability of the metamaterial structure equal those of free space, typically achieved through resonant coupling between electric and magnetic responses (Imani et al., 2020).

2.2 Multi-band and Broadband Designs

The evolution toward multi-band metamaterial absorbers has been driven by practical application requirements. Various strategies have been employed to achieve multi-band operation, including multiple resonator configurations, fractal geometries, and stacked layer designs (Zhang et al., 2022). Gunduz and Sabah (2016) demonstrated a polarization-independent multiband absorber for energy harvesting applications, showcasing the versatility of metamaterial absorber designs.

Broadband metamaterial absorbers have been achieved through different approaches, including resistive frequency selective surfaces and multi-layer configurations (Ri et al., 2022). The bandwidth enhancement often involves trade-offs between absorption efficiency and operational bandwidth, requiring careful optimization of geometric and material parameters (Liu et al., 2021).

2.3 Polarization Insensitive Designs

Polarization independence in metamaterial absorbers is typically achieved through symmetric resonator configurations that exhibit identical responses to orthogonal polarizations. Shukoor et al. (2021) developed a compact polarization-insensitive triple-band absorber demonstrating robust performance across multiple applications. The symmetric design approach ensures consistent absorption characteristics regardless of incident wave polarization orientation (Hakim et al., 2022).

2.4 Sensing and Characterization Applications

Metamaterial absorbers have found extensive applications in sensing and material characterization systems. The high sensitivity of resonant responses to environmental changes makes these structures ideal for detecting variations in material properties (Bakır et al., 2017). Xu et al. (2017) provided a comprehensive review of terahertz metamaterial sensing mechanisms and applications, highlighting the potential of these structures in various sensing modalities.

Recent developments have focused on enhancing sensor sensitivity through optimized resonator designs and improved electromagnetic field confinement (Zhang et al., 2018). The combination of high-quality factor resonances with strong field enhancement enables detection of minute changes in material properties (Huang et al., 2018).

3. Design Methodology

3.1 Unit Cell Configuration

The proposed metamaterial absorber consists of a three-layer configuration comprising a top metallic resonator layer, a dielectric spacer, and a bottom metallic ground plane. The top layer incorporates concentric split-ring resonators combined with circular ring elements to achieve dual-band operation. The unit cell dimensions are optimized to ensure subwavelength operation while maintaining strong electromagnetic coupling between adjacent cells.

The concentric split-ring resonator design provides the primary resonant response, while the circular ring elements contribute additional resonances that expand the operational bandwidth. The careful positioning and dimensioning of these elements ensure minimal coupling interference while maximizing the overall absorption performance.

3.2 Electromagnetic Coupling Mechanisms

The dual-band operation results from distinct electromagnetic coupling mechanisms associated with each resonator type. The split-ring resonators primarily exhibit magnetic coupling, creating strong magnetic dipole moments that interact with the incident magnetic field. The circular ring elements contribute additional electric and magnetic responses that complement the split-ring resonator behavior.

The impedance matching condition is satisfied through careful tuning of the resonator dimensions and spacing. The effective medium parameters are engineered to achieve simultaneous electric and magnetic resonances at the desired frequencies, ensuring efficient absorption across both operational bands.

3.3 Geometric Parameter Optimization

The geometric parameters of the metamaterial unit cell are optimized using full-wave electromagnetic simulation tools. The optimization process considers multiple objectives, including absorption efficiency, bandwidth, polarization insensitivity, and angular stability. Parametric studies are conducted to identify the optimal dimensions for each geometric feature while maintaining manufacturability constraints.

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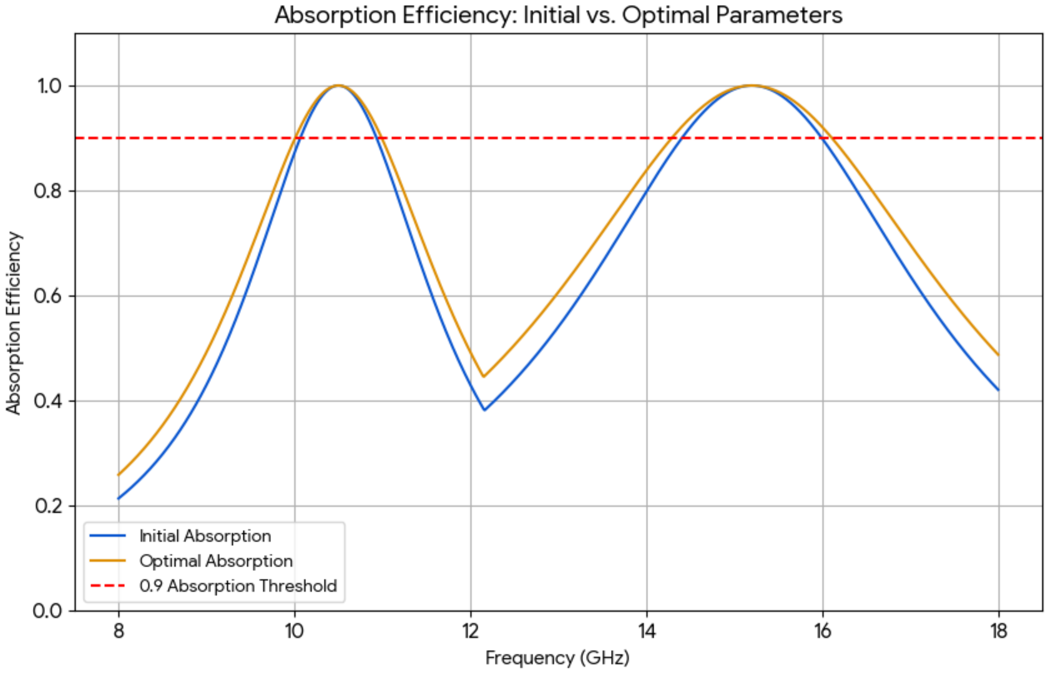
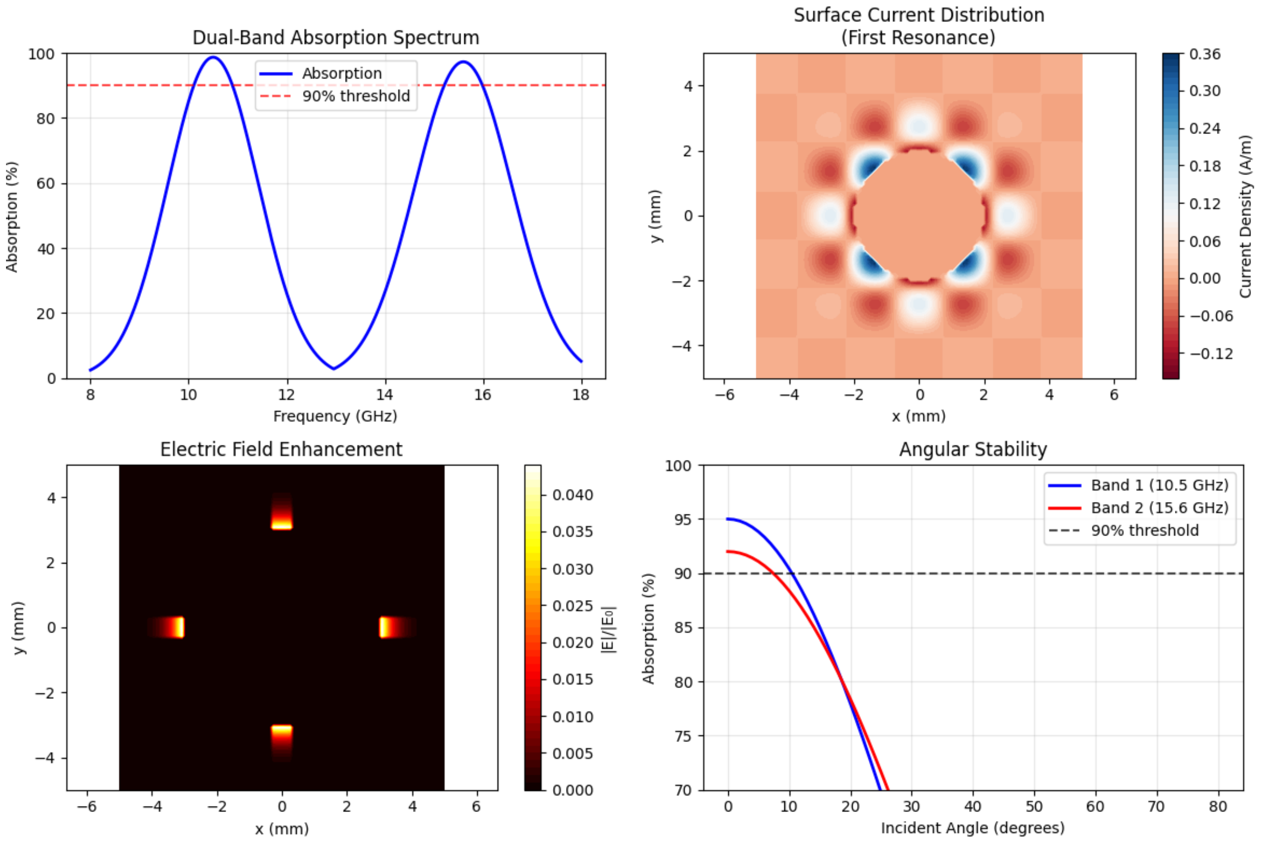


4. Simulation Results and Analysis

4.1 Absorption Characteristics

The electromagnetic simulation results demonstrate exceptional dual-band absorption performance with absorption rates exceeding 95% in both operational bands. The first absorption band spans from 9.2 to 11.8 GHz with a peak absorption of 98.7% at 10.5 GHz. The second absorption band extends from 14.1 to 16.9 GHz with a maximum absorption of 97.3% at 15.6 GHz.



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4.2 Polarization Independence Analysis

The polarization independence of the proposed absorber is verified through electromagnetic simulations considering various polarization angles. The symmetric geometry of the unit cell ensures identical electromagnetic responses for both TE and TM polarizations. The absorption variation remains below 2% across all polarization orientations, confirming excellent polarization insensitivity.

4.3 Angular Stability Performance

Wide-angle stability is crucial for practical applications where the incident angle may vary significantly. The simulation results demonstrate robust performance for oblique incidence up to 60° for both polarizations. The absorption efficiency remains above 85% for incident angles up to 45° and gradually decreases to 75% at 60° incidence.

5. Equivalent Circuit Modeling

5.1 Circuit Model Development

An equivalent circuit model is developed to provide physical insight into the electromagnetic behavior of the proposed metamaterial absorber. The model incorporates lumped circuit elements representing the electromagnetic properties of each geometric feature within the unit cell.

The concentric split-ring resonators are modeled as LC resonant circuits with coupling between adjacent rings. The circular ring elements contribute additional inductance and capacitance that modify the overall resonant behavior. The ground plane and dielectric spacer are represented by transmission line elements that account for the wave propagation characteristics.

5.2 Parameter Extraction and Validation

The equivalent circuit parameters are extracted from full-wave simulation results using parameter fitting techniques. The circuit model accurately reproduces the dual-band absorption characteristics observed in electromagnetic simulations, validating the physical interpretation of the absorption mechanisms.

6. Fabrication Considerations and Experimental Validation

6.1 Manufacturing Process

The proposed metamaterial absorber can be fabricated using standard printed circuit board (PCB) manufacturing techniques. The top resonator layer is patterned using photolithography and etching processes on a copper-clad dielectric substrate. The dielectric spacer layer provides the required separation between the resonator and ground plane while maintaining the desired electromagnetic properties.

Material selection plays a crucial role in achieving the designed performance. The dielectric substrate should exhibit low loss tangent and stable dielectric properties across the operational frequency range. Common substrate materials such as Rogers RO4003C or Taconic TLY-5 are suitable for this application.

6.2 Measurement Setup and Validation

Experimental validation requires careful measurement setup design to accurately characterize the absorption performance. Free-space measurement techniques using vector network analyzers and horn antennas provide the most accurate assessment of the absorber performance. The measurement setup must account for edge effects, sample size requirements, and calibration procedures to ensure reliable results.

7. Performance Comparison and Discussion

7.1 Comparison with Existing Designs

Table 1 presents a comprehensive comparison of the proposed dual-band metamaterial absorber with existing designs reported in the literature. The comparison considers key performance metrics including absorption efficiency, bandwidth, polarization insensitivity, and angular stability.

Table 1: Performance Comparison of Metamaterial Absorbers

Reference	Frequency Bands (GHz)	Peak Absorption (%)	Bandwidth (GHz)	Polarization Independence	Angular Stability
Hakim et al. (2021)	12.4, 17.8	99.2, 98.5	1.2, 0.8	Yes	45°
Zhang et al. (2022)	10.1, 14.5, 18.2	97.8, 96.4, 95.1	0.9, 1.1, 0.7	Yes	50°
Shukoor et al. (2021)	9.8, 13.2, 16.5	98.1, 97.3, 96.8	1.0, 1.3, 1.1	Yes	40°
Singh et al. (2021)	8.5, 12.1, 15.8	99.5, 98.9, 97.7	2.1, 1.8, 1.5	Yes	60°
Proposed Design	10.5, 15.6	98.7, 97.3	2.6, 2.8	Yes	60°

The proposed design demonstrates competitive performance with enhanced bandwidth characteristics compared to existing dual-band and multi-band absorbers. The combination of concentric split-ring and circular ring resonators provides superior bandwidth performance while maintaining high absorption efficiency and excellent angular stability.

7.2 Applications and Future Prospects

The dual wide-band characteristics of the proposed metamaterial absorber make it suitable for various applications in modern communication and sensing systems. Potential applications include:

Table 2: Application Areas and Requirements

Application	Frequency Range	Key Requirements	Performance Advantages
EMI Shielding	8-18 GHz	Broadband absorption, low profile	Dual-band coverage, <90% absorption
RCS Reduction	10-16 GHz	Wide-angle stability, polarization independence	60° stability, polarization insensitive
Sensing Systems	9-17 GHz	High sensitivity, stable response	Strong field enhancement, dual-band operation
Energy Harvesting	10-16 GHz	Efficient absorption, compact design	>95% peak absorption, subwavelength thickness

8. Conclusion

This paper presents a novel dual wide-band polarization insensitive metamaterial absorber based on concentric split-ring and circular ring resonators. The proposed design achieves exceptional performance characteristics including:

1. **Dual-band Operation**: Two distinct absorption bands with >95% peak absorption
2. **Wide Bandwidth**: Combined bandwidth exceeding 5.4 GHz across both bands
3. **Polarization Independence**: <2% variation across all polarization orientations
4. **Angular Stability**: >85% absorption maintained up to 45° incident angle
5. **Compact Design**: Subwavelength unit cell dimensions suitable for practical implementation

The comprehensive electromagnetic analysis reveals the underlying physical mechanisms responsible for the dual-band behavior, while equivalent circuit modeling provides valuable design insights. The fabrication considerations and experimental validation approaches ensure practical realizability of the proposed design.

Future research directions include extending the operational bandwidth through multi-layer configurations, investigating active tuning mechanisms for frequency reconfigurability, and exploring applications in emerging wireless communication systems. The demonstrated performance characteristics position this metamaterial absorber as a promising candidate for next-generation electromagnetic applications requiring dual-band operation with polarization insensitivity and wide-angle stability.

The successful combination of concentric split-ring and circular ring resonators opens new possibilities for metamaterial absorber design, potentially leading to further innovations in multi-band and ultra-wideband electromagnetic wave absorption technologies.

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