

Receiving Antenna Factor Calibration Improvement

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Received: 8 June 2021 Accepted: 2 July 2021 Published: 15 July 2021

Abstract

In a radio link two different or identical antennas are used each one performing a different role. For electromagnetic compatibility activities the receiving antenna factor is of paramount importance in order to measure the incoming spurious power density or electric field of any electrical or electronic device. Calculations as well measurements are performed to achieve this task using traditional equations and antenna software to get quick and simple results. Power transmission loss (Friis Equation) is only valid in free space as a general belief but in this paper it is proven that this principle is valid also for radio links over perfect ground [16], [17]. This statement permits the exclusion of any artificial factor to achieve the radio link power budget and power reciprocity principle [12], [21]. This fact takes into account the lack of losses in the natural space between both antennas as well in the perfect ground plane. At the same time, over perfect ground the total EM energy is travelling in a straight line connecting the transmitting (Tx) antenna radiation center and the center of the receiving (Rx) antenna, exactly like a radio link in free space, [16]. In order to improve the antenna factor calculation and calibration the procedure analyzes all the parameters at any height of the Rx antenna for a fixed height of the Tx antenna at not only the maximum radiation over perfect flat ground plane. Result is achieved by a metallic ground plane where the conductivity is higher than 107S/m, so the reflexion coefficient module is exactly one.

Index terms— antenna factor, antenna gain, effective area, effective length, perfect ground plane, free space, half-wave dipole antenna.

1 Introduction

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This condition is obtained when the wave impedance Z_w achieves the value of $Z_w = Z_{00} = 120 \sqrt{3} = 377$ (Ω). The wave impedance is the relation between the electric and magnetic fields. Also, over perfect ground it depends, on the transmitting antenna radiation pattern elevation angle θ_L and distance r over ground between both antennas. This condition is not achieved at a fixed distance r but at a different distance depending by the corresponding radiation at any angle θ_L . This condition is achieved at a shorter distance r when the maximum radiation is obtained by the transmitting antenna. r is the distance along a straight line of an elevation angle θ_L departing from the ground plane shown in Figure 1. This point is the radiation phase center of the transmitting antenna. This distance r is not obtained by a simple task but nowadays it can be determined by an antenna software [13]. This way the far field condition can be obtained and verifying it if at standard distances r the task is fulfilled [17]. At the same time, it is important to know that the wave power density flows in space travelling along the r straight line between the radio link antennas [16]. In the radio link in free space the distance r' is exactly equal to the distance r if both antennas are identical. The transmitting antenna works over perfect ground with its image under ground and constitutes an array of two elements [22]. Its radiation pattern depends on the separation S between them, exactly like a two element array works in free space. For this reason for

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horizontal polarization the maximum radiation has an elevation angle θ according to this separation S or its height over ground H_T and a null of power density on the perfect ground. Over ground this separation is $S = 2 H_T$. Figure 1 shows a sketch of a transmitting antenna over perfect ground. Rx antenna receives the EM waves from the actual antenna and its image and it delivers the received power on only its load resistance R_L and no EM waves are received on its image. This statement is very important. This way the Rx antenna in its receiving role is working like in free space even if it is working over perfect ground [2], [3], [17].

The transmitting antenna (half-wave dipole) has a radiation pattern over perfect ground permitting to calculate its gain G_T (dBi) for horizontal polarization. The original Dr. Kraus electric field gain equation over perfect ground is being updated to provide the power gain in dBi as a function of antenna height H_T for various elevation angles θ of the radiating element, to be [2]:

In a radio link over perfect ground traditionally two antennas are used for calibration of antenna factors. Independent of distance parameters of a receiving antenna are the effective length L_{eff} or effective height H_{eff} as well the antenna factor AF (dB/m). These specific parameters depend only on the current distribution along the antenna physical structure. Other parameters like effective area A_e and gain g are strongly dependent of the antenna location and precisely in the free space far field over ground.

Abstract-In a radio link two different or identical antennas are $G_T = 10 \log[F (2(\sin(\theta H_T \sin \theta L)))^2] + 2.15$ [dBi] (1)

Where:

2.15dBi is the half wave dipole antenna gain over an isotropic source in dB.

F is a factor taking into account the radiation resistance in free space and over perfect ground, or: $F = R_a(F) / R_a(OG) = R_a(F) / R_m \pm R_m$ [?](3)

$R_a(F)$ Tx antenna radiation resistance in free space. $R_a(OG)$ Tx antenna radiation resistance over perfect ground. R_m is the mutual resistance between Tx antenna and its image. θ is the space phase constant [Rad/m] or $[\theta / m]$.

H_T is the transmitting antenna height over perfect ground [m]. θ is the elevation angle over ground from the array center phase located in the ground plane. r is the distance between the array phase center and the receiving antenna center over ground. $0.9 \leq F \leq 1.1$ for $H_T \leq r$. You may use this simple equation to calculate the gain radiation pattern of a very thin half wave dipole antenna at any height H_T and obtain the far field gain. However, for more data result for this antenna at any frequency the aid of a software program will help reduce the tediousness of individual calculation to generate the radio link geometry for the specific antenna parameters [13]. These parameters are: the input antenna impedance, the current distribution on the antenna structure, the electric and magnetic fields, the power density on the location of the Rx antenna in space over ground, as well the gain radiation pattern in dBi in the far field. From the electric and magnetic field relation the wave impedance Z_w is determined at a specific location in space. Also from the radiation pattern the antenna gain in the far field for any elevation angle is obtained [13]. This procedure is performed easily at any frequency in the wanted spectrum.

Here an example at the frequency of $f = 30$ [MHz] is shown.

A radio link has two horizontally polarized half-wave dipole antennas as recommended by the Standard ANSI-IEEE C 63-5-2017 [18]. Tx antenna is resonant with a radiation resistance: Using the equation [7] of Standard C 63-5-2004, [18]. the result is found to be: $AF_{50} = 10 \log f \text{ MHz} + 24.46 + 1/2[E_{im} + A_w]$. $AF_{50} = 14.77 + 24.46 + 1/2[4.11 + 18.70] = 24.40$ [dB/m].

The result is exactly the same as obtained by the Rx antenna factor AF_{R50} so it cannot be used for the Tx antenna factor AF_{T50} because it has a different value. In this case two identical antennas has been used and this equation [7] cannot solve the problem. The Federal Communication Commission (F.C.C.) are giving an equation to calculate the transmitting or receiving antenna factor if the far field distance is fulfilled ($Z_w = Z_{oo} = 120\Omega$) and for $R_L = 50\Omega$. In EMC activities this task is generally not achieved because the distance r or the antenna height H_R over ground is not large enough. At the frequency of $f = 30$ MHz this distance it is not really achieved to fulfill the intrinsic impedance but quite close to it ($Z_w = 350.7\Omega$). However, this equation is calculated by the radio link obtained results, thus: $AF_{50} F_{CC} = 20 \log f \text{ MHz} + 29.78 + 10 \log g_R$ [dB/m] $AF_{R50} F_{CC} = 29.54 + 29.78 + 1.85 = -2.09$ [dB/m] $AF_{T50} F_{CC} = 29.54 + 29.78 + 2.08 = -2.32$ [dB/m]

The small difference in the Tx and Rx antenna factors are due to the $Z_w \neq Z_{oo}$. In order to check the performed procedure, the power budget obtained by the Friis Equation [1], valid also over perfect ground, is checked. The results are presented for the frequency of $f = 30$ MHz. They also are fulfilling the Friis Equation at any frequency in the spectrum of 30 to 1000 MHz as were checked accordingly. Verification of the radio link behaviour is performed by the power budget of the Friis Equation [1] and the Power Reciprocity Principle by Schelkunoff and Friis [3], [17], thus: Friis Equation for $f = 30$ MHz calculation Power Reciprocity Principle for $f = 30$ MHz according to Schelkunoff and Friis is also perfectly well fulfilled, or: $G_T + G_R = A_w + A_F S$ [dB]. $G_T + G_R = 2. A_{eff} g_T = 12.81 + 1.61 = 7.96(4)$ $A_{eff} g_R = 12.17 + 1.53 = 7.96(5)$

Using the same procedure for all the frequencies in the spectrum from 30 MHz to 1000 MHz the results are presented in table I and table II. Only some frequencies are presented in these tables.

Calculation of several frequencies for the radio link of $H_T = 2$ [m] and $r = 10$ [m] along the spectrum from 30 to 1000 MHz are presented in Figure ??, Figure ?? and Figure 4.

The transmission loss or site attenuation A_w results are located on a straight line as plotted for the logarithmic

of frequency. A deviation is shown in the lower part of the spectrum where the transmitting antenna (Tx) height (H T) do not permit to get its maximum radiation between antennas in the radio link. This effect can be avoided increasing the Tx antenna height. At the same time, the perfect far field is really not achieved and for this reason the Rx antenna gain is not exactly 2.15 dBi. However, the conditions of far field are quite close if the maximum radiation is fulfilled. The wave impedance are presented in the table II permitting to know its value. Perfect far field corresponds when the wave impedance is exactly the space intrinsic impedance or $Z_w = Z_{oo} = 120\pi = 377\Omega$.

The plot of the antenna factors have a difference close to 6 dB when the Tx antenna can develop the maximum radiation. The normalized site attenuation (NSA) is also located on a straight line as plotted for the logarithmic of frequency. This is very important to take it into account.

If the radio link distance r between antennas is increased it is important to determine its results because as distance is increased the Tx antenna elevation angle decreases and the far field conditions are obtained at a larger distance.

Here a calculation can be seen for the Tx antenna height A_t at the same time, all the results for several frequencies in the radio link of $H_T = 4\text{m}$ and $r = 30\text{m}$ along the spectrum from 30 to 1000 MHz are presented in Figure ??, Figure ?? and Figure 7. Here, also, the site attenuation must be on a straight line but at lower frequencies it has a deviation if the Tx antenna height is not at the proper height H_T . This effect is avoided if the Tx antenna is at larger heights as shown here in Figure ??.

An additional calculation is performed for a radio link with a distance $r = 10\text{m}$. Far field do only depends on distance r like in free space. Over a ground plane a radio link has a far field strongly dependent of the radiating elevation angle θ_L from the Tx antenna. For this reason in Figure 11, Figure 12 and Figure 13 Measurement value minimum as shown in Figure 14. This effect is also visible on the Rx antenna gain G_R in Figure 15. However, no effect in the Rx antenna factor AF_{R50} is shown in Figure 16. In this case the Rx antenna factor is independent of the distance r like the effective length L_{eR} . This constant antenna factor do not occur for the Tx antenna because it is strongly dependent on the Tx antenna gain (G_T) according to the Rx antenna height (H_R). In the Tx antenna radiation pattern the minimum between lobes in the far field distance r' is obtained at more than 100 wavelengths. For this reason far field Rx antenna gain (G_R) and effective area (A_{eR}) values are practically very difficult to be achieved. These parameters are shown here to be really dependent. Measurement needs an antenna range in order to verify the antenna parameters. To determine antenna gains the antenna range needs a proper site to fulfill the far field distance. This task is difficult to achieve at the lower frequencies between 30 and 100 MHz because the wave impedance must achieve a value very close or exactly $Z_w = Z_{oo} = 120\pi = 377\Omega$. It was determined here that this value depends not only of the distance r but also by the elevation angle θ_L of the Tx radiation pattern. Year 2021 version I of the far field condition or when the wave impedance is $Z_w = Z_{oo} = 120\pi$ (?).

This task was practically achieved very closely with an anechoic chamber of INTI, Buenos Aires, Argentina. This chamber was used in order to verify the antenna factor of a Rohde und Schwarz precision half-wave dipole antennas model HZ-12 [19]. The useful range of these antennas is between 30 and 300 MHz and recommended for horizontal polarization [18]. $I_R = W_{RRL} / 2 = 5.36E-3 \text{ [A]} \text{ (6)}$

Rx antenna load voltage V_R results in: $V_R = (W_{RRL}) / 2 = 3.91E-1 \text{ [V]} \text{ (7)}$

Induced Voltage on the Rx antenna V_i results in: $V_i = 2 V_R = 7.82E-1 \text{ [V]}$

Rx antenna effective length: $L_{eR} = 6.37 \text{ m} \text{ (8)}$

Incoming electric field E_i results in: $E_i = V_i / L_{eR} = 1.23 \text{ [V/m]} \text{ (9)}$

Incoming power density P_i results in: $P_i = E_i^2 / Z_{oo} = 4.002E-3 \text{ [W/m}^2 \text{]} \text{ (10)}$

Rx antenna effective area A_{eR} results in: $A_{eR} = W_{RP_i} = 5.23E-1 \text{ [m}^2 \text{]} \text{ (11)}$

Rx antenna numerical gain g_R : $g_R = 4 A_{eR} / \lambda^2 = 1.64 \text{ (12)}$

Rx antenna gain $G_R = 2.76 \text{ [dBi]}$ Friis equation permits to know the true Tx antenna gain G_T , thus: $G_T = K G_R = 9.47 \times 2.16 = 7.31 \text{ [dBi]} \text{ (13)}$

Tx antenna numerical gain $g_T = 5.38$.

Checking the Tx antenna gain at the distance r : $g_T = 4 (r')^2 P_i = 5.38 \text{ (14)}$

Tx antenna gain $G_T = 7.31 \text{ [dBi]}$ was calculated correctly.

Rx antenna factor a_{FR73} results in: It can be seen here that the Friis Power Budget is perfectly fulfilled. Tx antenna effective area A_{eT} : $a_{FR73} = E_i / V_R = 3.14 \text{ [1/m]} \text{ (15)}$ $A_{eT} = g_T \lambda^2 / 4\pi = 1.71 \text{ [m}^2 \text{]} \text{ (25)}$

Applying the Schelkunoff and Friis Power Reciprocity Principle: $A_{eT} g_T = 3.18E-1 \text{ (26)}$ $A_{eR} g_R = 3.18E-1 \text{ (27)}$

The Power Reciprocity Principle is also fulfilled. For this measurement it was supposed that the wave impedance $Z_w = Z_{oo} = 120\pi$ or at the real far field. Calculation with the same radio link geometry are giving a wave impedance $Z_w = 382\Omega$. This value is very close to the real far field for the radiation maximum of the Tx antenna at the elevation angle $\theta_L = 15^\circ$, and its result error is negligible. Other possible difference could be using the radiation resistance of both antenna as 73Ω . In this case if the mismatch is lower than 1.5 in VSWR the mismatching losses could produce an error lower than 0.2 dB. In order to make the task more complete measurements were performed at several Rx antenna heights and simulated at the same Rx heights. These results are compared in table VII, table VIII and table IX. Results are also presented in Figure 17

3 Conclusions

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In conclusion it was found to be correct the power gain and antenna factor from Rohde und Schwarz model HZ-12 antenna manual [19]. Rx antenna factor as well its effective length are parameters not depending on the far field of the electromagnetic waves. It was determined that the effective length depends from the current distribution on its physical structure but if the current distribution is unknown it can be determined by the relation between the induced voltage V_i at open circuit on the Rx antenna and the incoming field E_i [14]. Simulation and measurements are confirming this statement. This relation is valid in near and far field and it produces always the same results. Rx antenna factor is also independent of its height over ground and distance because it operates practically like in free space. For this reason a half-wave dipole antenna can be adopted as a natural standard sensor useful to calibrate any other antenna at any frequency between 30 and 1000 MHz [11]. On the contrary, the Tx antenna factor is not constant and depends on its gain over perfect ground considering it is an array of two elements [2], [3], [6], the actual antenna and its image. Of course its factor is different as well the gain from that of the Rx antenna as was shown in this paper results [8]. Rx antenna gain G_R and effective area A_{eR} are far field parameters and they acquire the proper value when the wave impedance is $Z_w = Z_{oo} = 120\Omega$. In this paper it was clearly obtained the Rx antenna factor AF_{R50} with exactly the same value in any radio link for several distance r and for any Tx antenna height H_T using the relation E_i/V_R . Main Friis equation is useful and valid over perfect ground [1], as was perfectly demonstrated and it gives a perfect power budget between losses (A_w, A_{FS}) and gains (G_R, G_T). No additional factors are needed, as was published [12], [21], but only the true gains (G_R, G_T) as was determined here. Also with these results, the reciprocity power principle ($A_{eT}/g_T = A_{eR}/g_R$) is fulfilled according to Schelkunoff and Friis [3]. The transmitting antenna is a simple device and it only needs to radiate the EM energy in the surrounding space. Receiving antenna is a more complex device because it needs to operate in two roles, the receiving role and the retransmitting or scattering role. For this reason, in a radio link with two identical half wave dipole antennas in horizontal polarization, the theoretical transmitting antenna gain is $G_T = 8.15[\text{dBi}]$, the receiving antenna gain is $G_R = 2.15[\text{dBi}]$ and the scattering gain is $G_s = 5.15[\text{dBi}]$. The effective receiving area A_{eR} is the relation between the power received W_R and the incoming power density P_i . The scattering effective area A_{es} , according to Friis, is the product between the isotropic source area and the scattering numerical gain g_s . The gain difference between the transmitting antenna gain G_T and the receiving antenna gain G_R is really 6 dB, according to calculations and measurements.

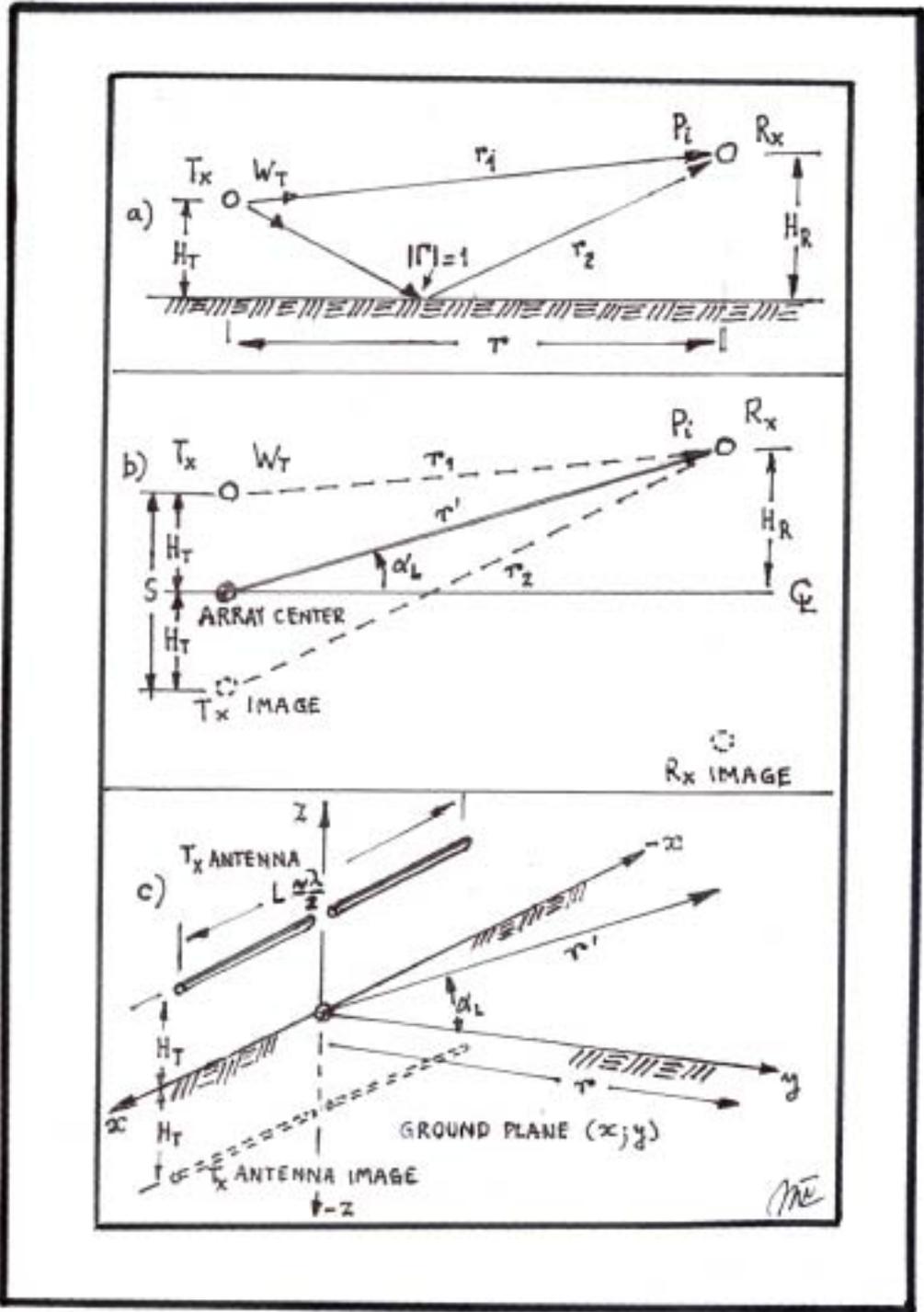


Figure 1:

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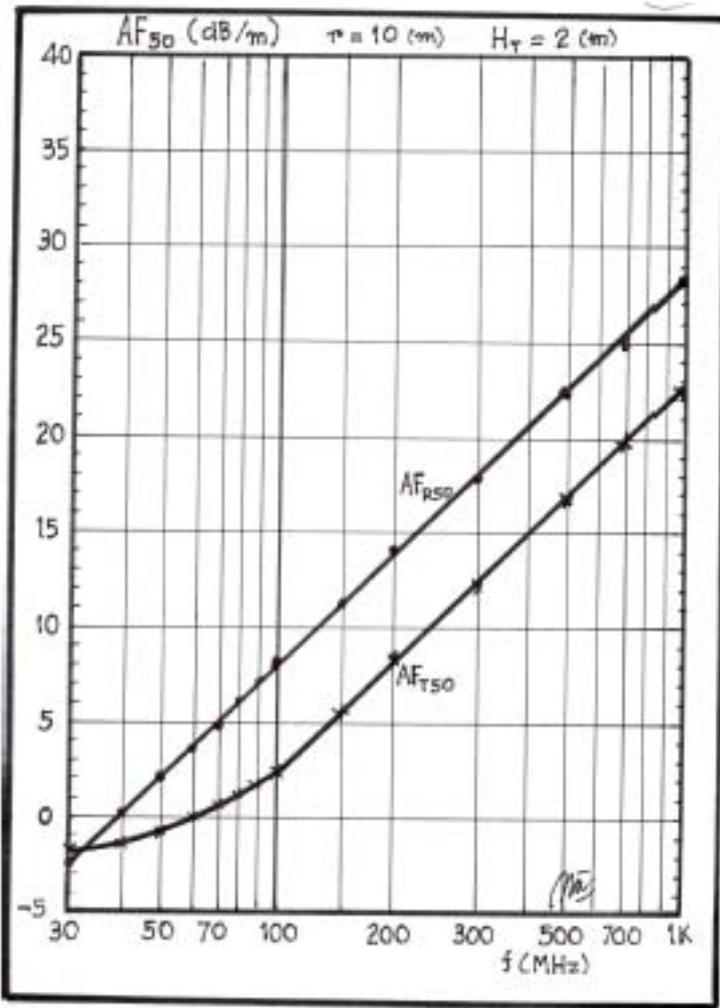
f (MHz)	H_R (m)	G_R (dBi)	G_T (dBi)	AF_{R50} (dB/m)	AF_{T50} (dB/m)	A_{eR} (m^2)
30	4.00	1.85	2.08	-2.40	-2.02	12.17
50	4.00	2.11	3.52	2.04	-0.51	4.65
70	4.00	2.19	6.65	4.96	0.25	2.41
100	4.00	2.21	8.67	8.06	2.43	1.19
200	1.91	2.23	7.53	14.08	8.48	0.30
300	1.25	2.24	7.92	17.60	11.98	0.13
500	0.75	2.24	7.75	22.06	16.43	0.05
700	0.54	2.24	7.99	24.96	19.36	0.02
1000	0.37	2.24	7.97	28.06	22.40	0.01

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Figure 2: Figure 1 :

f (MHz)	A_{eT} (m^2)	A_w (dB)	A_{FS} (dB)	Z_w (Ω)	NSA (dB)	E_{iM} (dBV/m)
30	12.81	18.70	22.63	350.7	23.12	-4.11
50	6.45	21.43	27.07	372.6	19.90	2.40
70	6.77	22.16	29.99	378.6	15.95	0.80
100	5.27	22.21	33.09	381.4	11.72	2.85
200	1.02	28.83	38.62	383.5	6.27	2.25
300	0.49	31.89	42.05	383.8	2.31	2.70
500	0.17	36.46	46.45	384.0	-2.03	2.57
700	0.09	39.12	49.35	384.0	-5.20	2.84
1000	0.04	42.23	52.45	384.2	-8.23	2.82

Figure 3:



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Figure 4: Table 1 :

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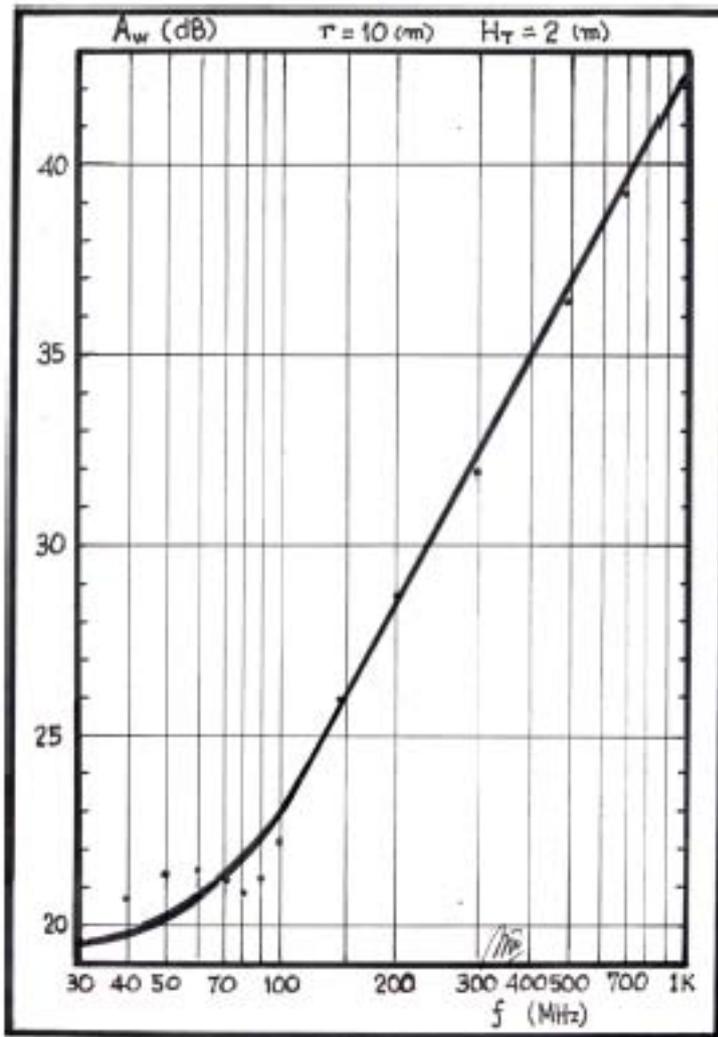


Figure 5:

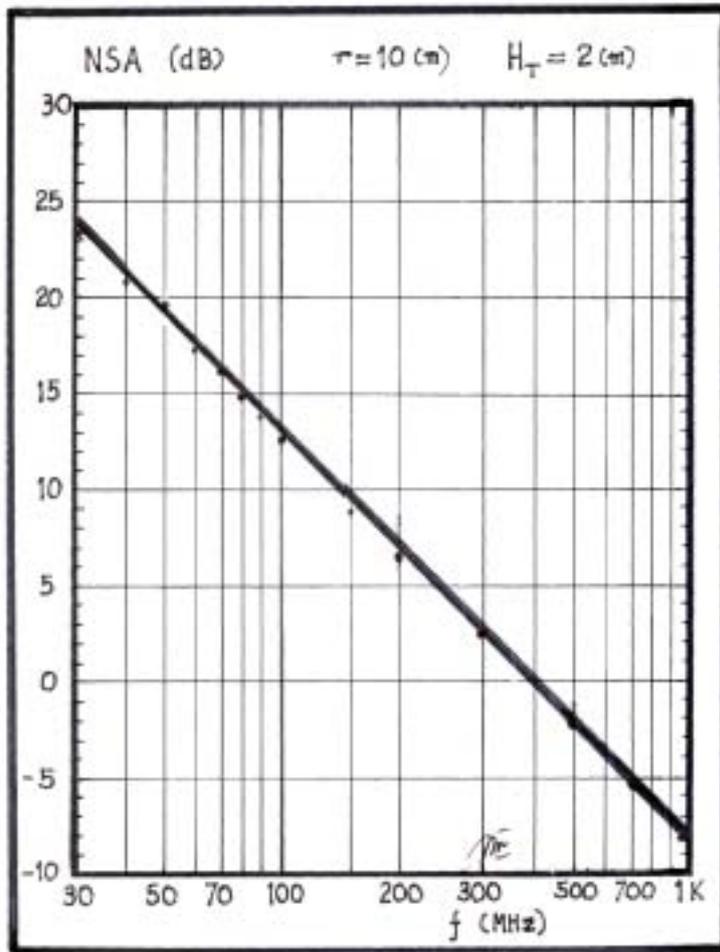
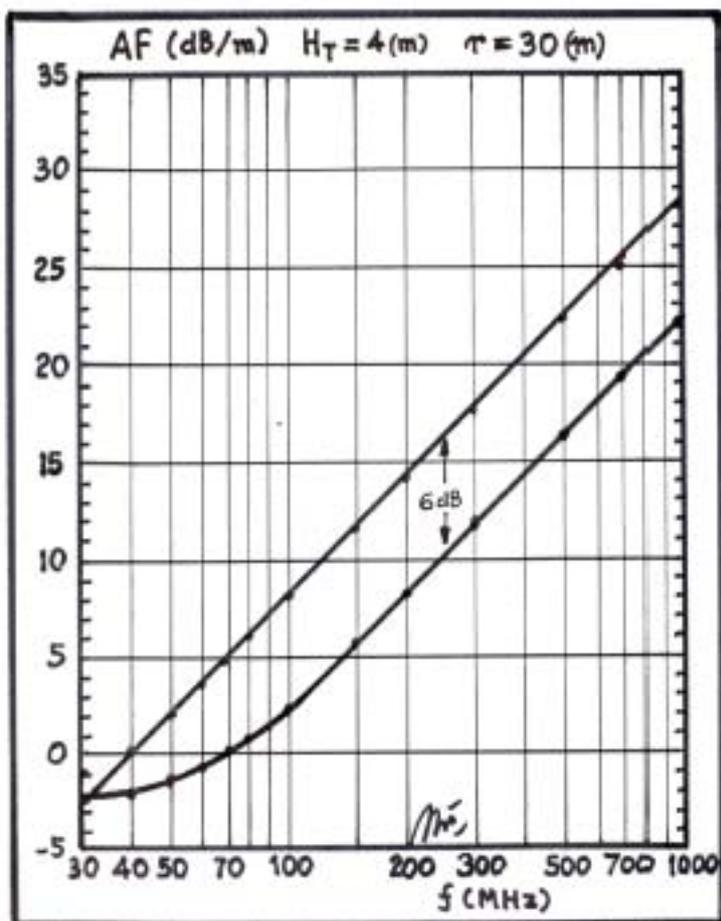


Figure 6:

f (MHz)	H_R (m)	G_R (dBi)	G_T (dBi)	AF_{R50} (dB/m)	AF_{T50} (dB/m)	A_{eR} (m^2)
30	6.00	2.05	0.63	-2.40	-1.96	12.77
50	6.00	2.16	6.00	2.04	-0.99	4.71
70	6.00	2.18	6.70	4.96	0.07	2.41
100	5.72	2.19	7.69	8.06	2.27	1.19
200	2.84	2.19	8.25	14.08	8.31	0.30
300	1.86	2.19	7.86	17.60	12.00	0.13
500	1.13	2.19	8.12	22.04	16.23	0.05
700	0.79	2.19	7.95	24.96	19.21	0.02
1000	0.58	2.19	8.00	28.06	22.19	0.01

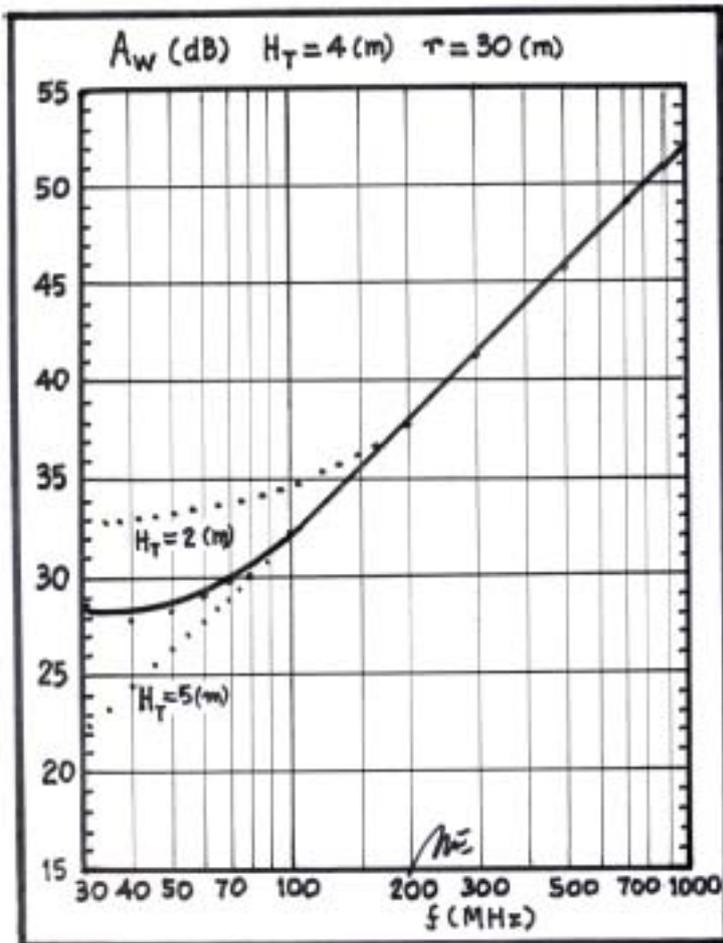
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Figure 7: Figure 2 :Figure 3 :



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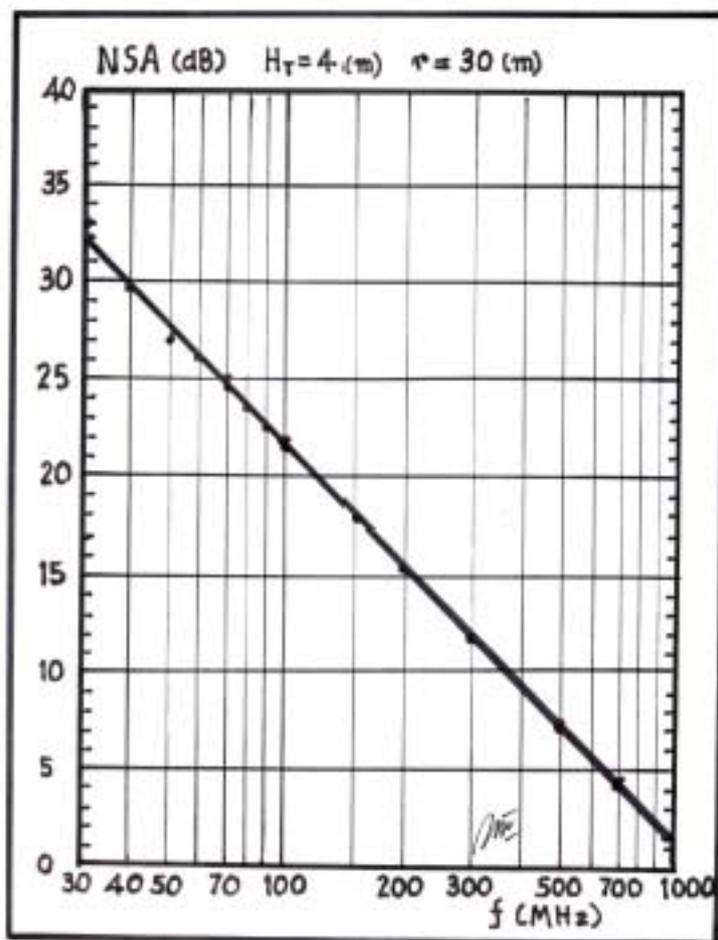
Figure 8: Figure 4 :



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Figure 9: Table 4 :

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Figure 10: Figure 5 :Figure 6 :

f (MHz)	H_R (m)	G_R (dBi)	G_T (dBi)	AF_{R50} (dB/m)	AF_{T50} (dB/m)	A_{eR} (m^2)
30	4.00	2.11	4.30	-2.40	-5.58	12.93
40	4.00	2.29	7.45	0.10	-4.40	7.59
50	4.00	2.36	8.14	2.04	-2.92	4.93
60	3.30	2.39	6.92	3.62	-1.25	3.45
70	2.77	2.42	6.94	4.96	0.10	2.55
80	2.40	2.43	7.70	6.12	1.35	1.96
90	2.13	2.44	7.48	7.15	2.48	1.55
100	1.91	2.45	6.86	8.06	3.37	1.26
150	1.26	2.46	7.20	11.58	6.91	0.56
200	0.95	2.47	7.36	14.08	9.46	0.32

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Figure 11: Figure 7 :

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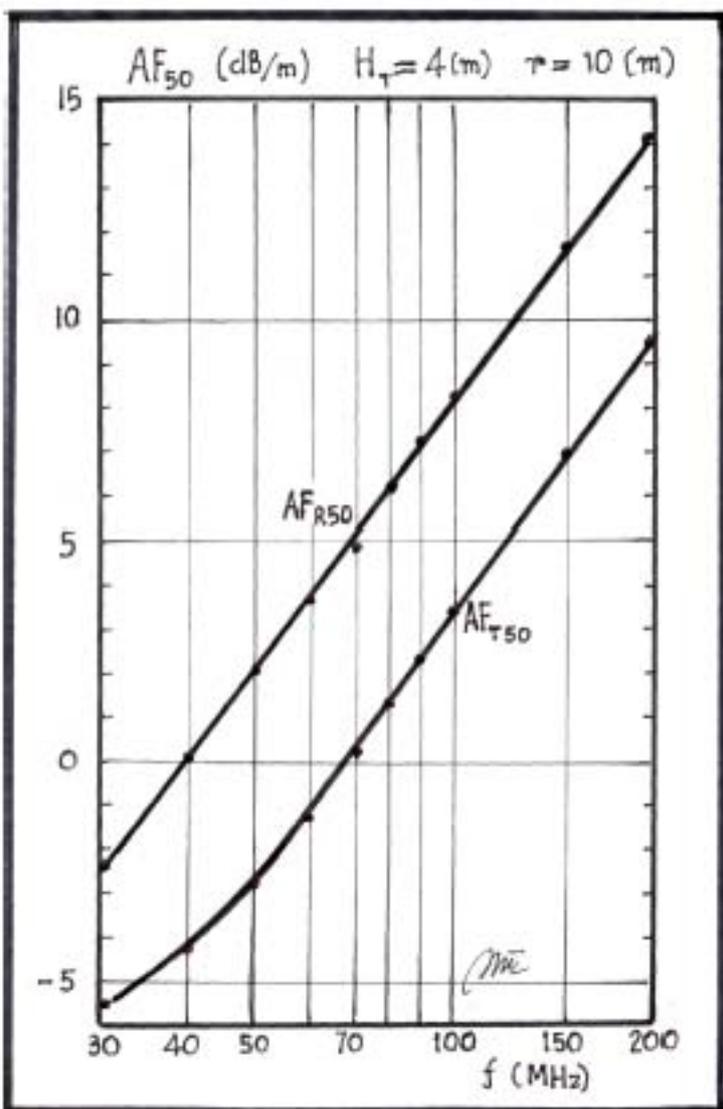
f (MHz)	A_{eT} (m^2)	A_w (dB)	A_{FS} (dB)	Z_w (Ω)	NSA (dB)	E_{iM} (dBV/m)
30	9.19	29.02	31.70	368.0	33.38	-14.42
50	11.40	27.98	36.13	376.7	26.93	-8.94
70	6.84	30.17	39.06	378.8	25.14	-8.22
100	4.20	32.26	42.14	379.7	21.93	-7.21
200	1.20	37.60	48.04	386.3	15.21	-6.53
300	0.49	41.49	51.54	380.1	11.89	-6.89
500	0.10	45.65	55.97	380.1	7.38	-6.62
700	0.09	48.75	58.89	380.1	4.58	-6.79
1000	0.04	51.79	61.99	380.0	1.64	-6.73

Figure 12: Table 5 :Figure 8 :Figure 9 :

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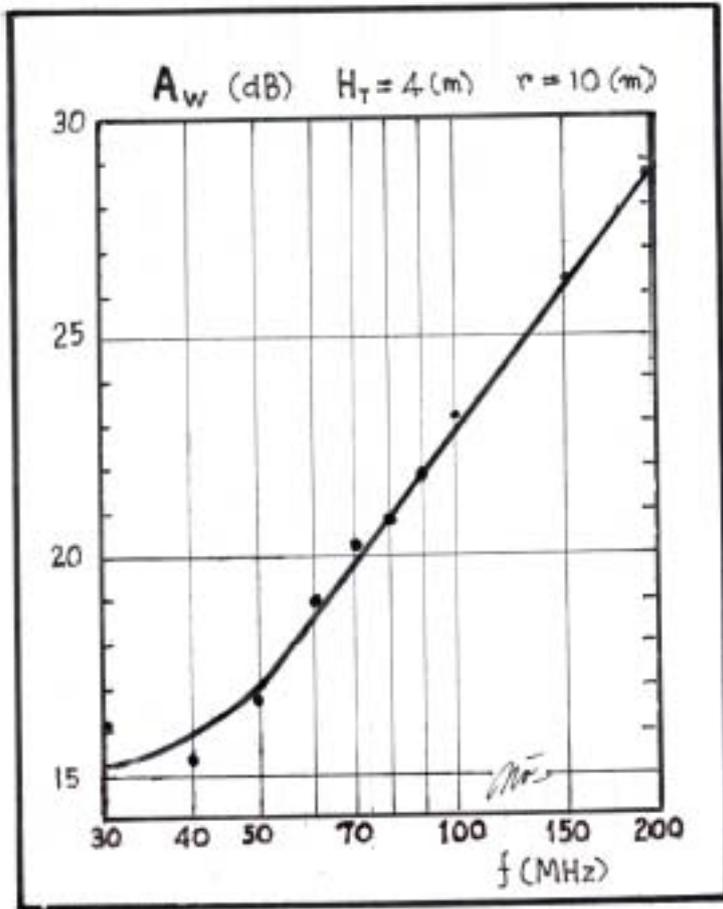
f (MHz)	A_{eT} (m^2)	A_w (dB)	A_{FS} (dB)	Z_w (Ω)	NSA (dB)	E_{iM} (dBV/m)
30	21.41	16.22	22.63	372.6	24.20	-1.62
40	24.84	15.39	25.13	388.7	19.69	1.71
50	18.65	16.57	27.07	394.8	17.45	2.46
60	9.79	19.14	28.45	397.8	16.77	1.47
70	7.22	20.31	29.67	399.9	15.25	1.64
80	6.60	20.61	30.74	401.0	13.14	2.51
90	4.94	21.80	31.72	402.0	12.17	2.34
100	3.47	23.29	32.60	402.8	11.86	1.76
150	1.67	26.37	36.03	404.2	7.88	2.21
200	0.97	28.68	38.51	404.9	5.14	2.40

Figure 13: Figure 11 :



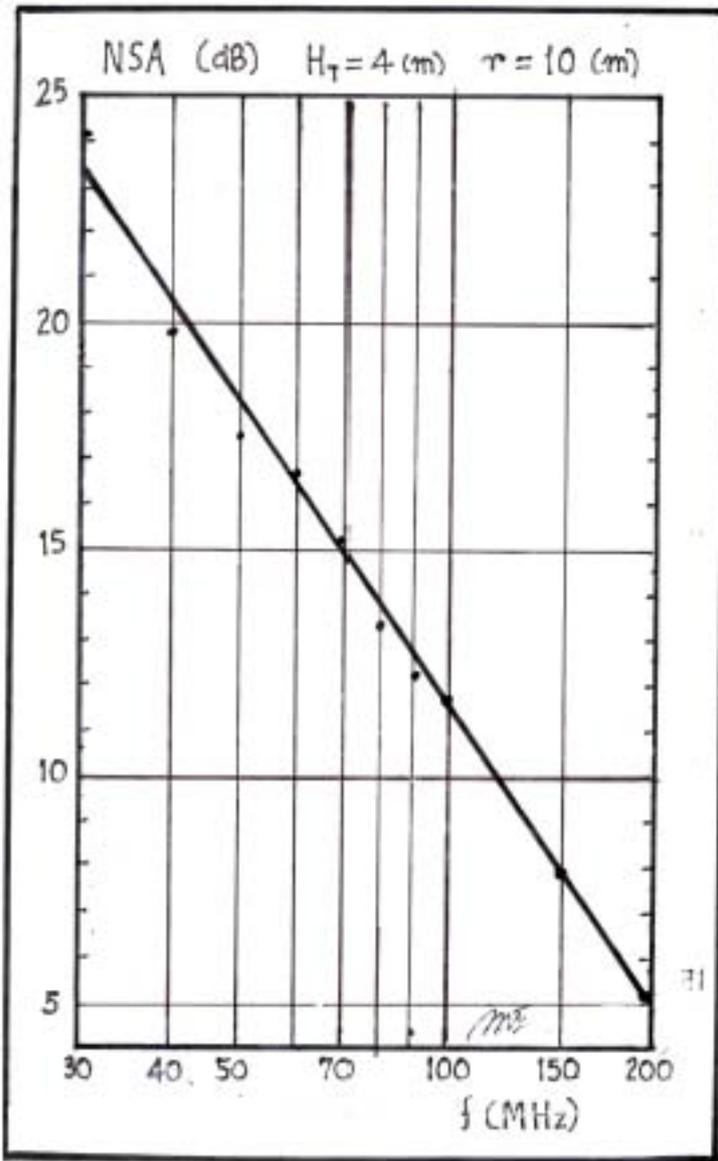
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Figure 14: Figure 10 :



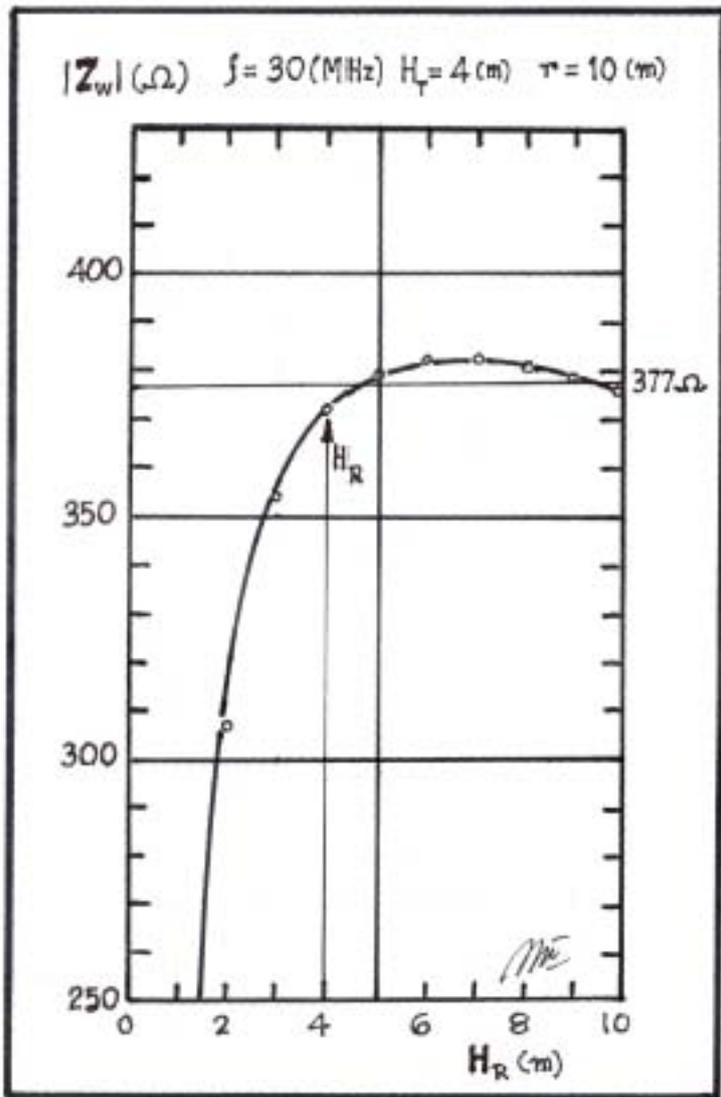
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Figure 15: Figure 12 :



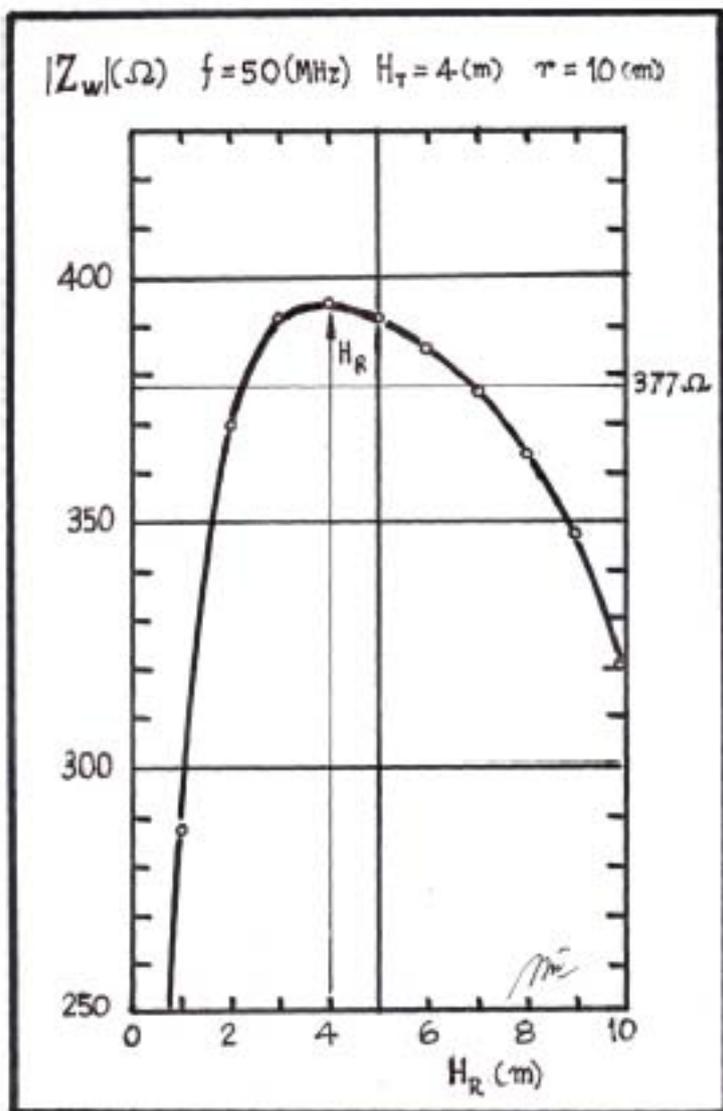
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Figure 16: Figure 13 :



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Figure 17: Figure 15 :



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Figure 18: Figure 14 :

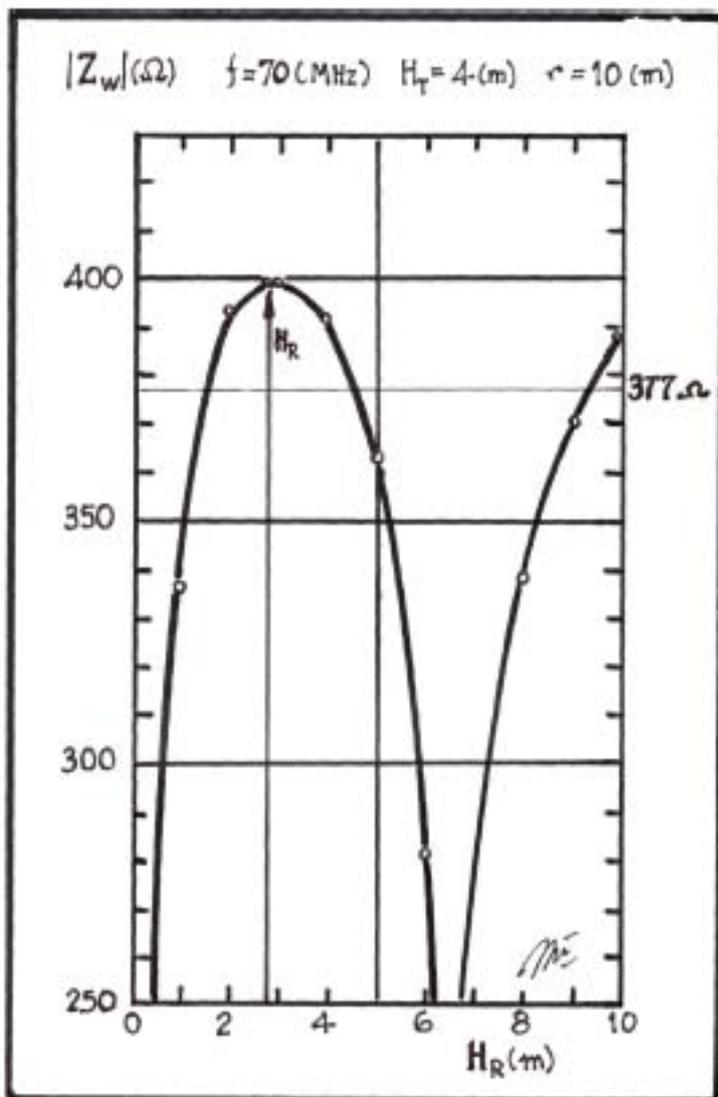


Figure 19:

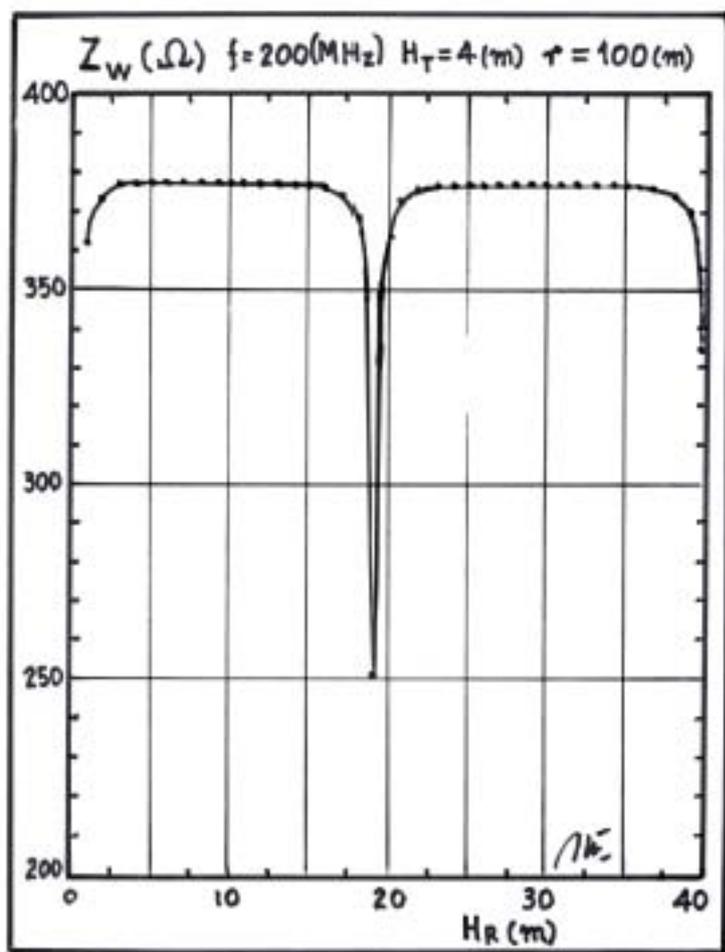
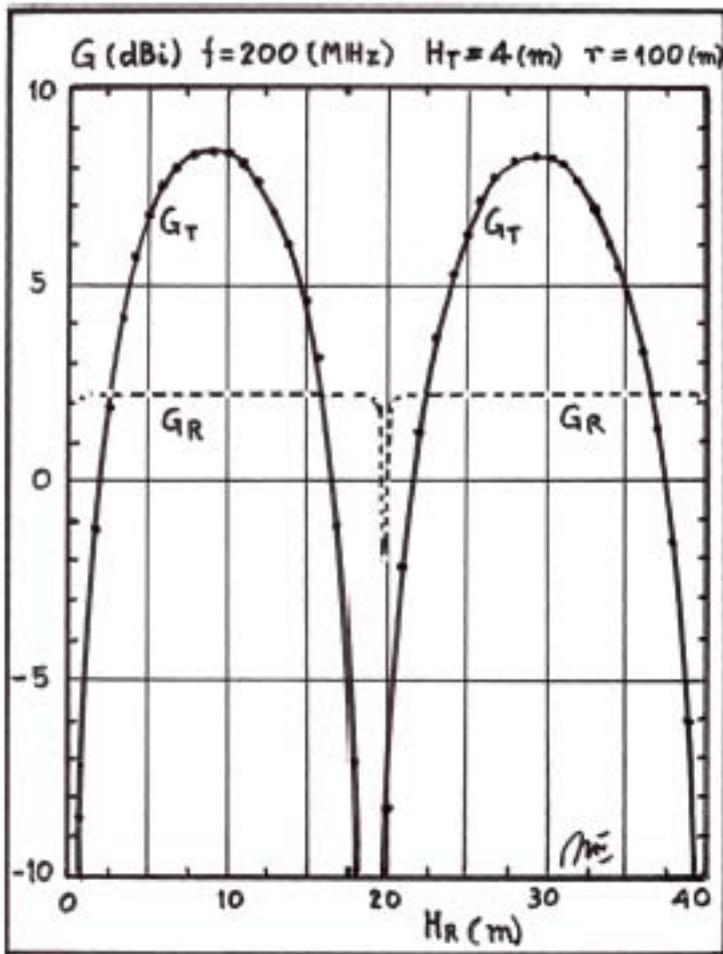
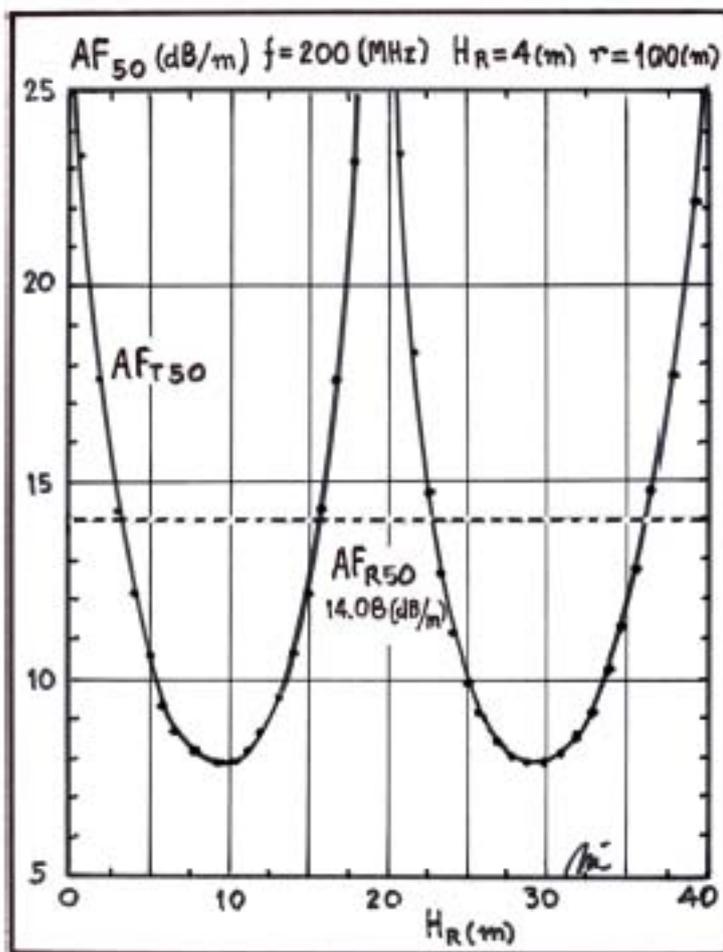


Figure 20:)



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Figure 21: Figure 16 : 17)



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Figure 22: Table 7 :Table 8 :Table 9 :

	S	M	S	M	S	M
H_R	E_i	E_i	P_i	P_i	G_T	G_T
(m)	(V/m)	(V/m)	W/m^2	(W/m^2)	(dBi)	(dBi)
1.0	0.795	0.817	1.71E-3	1.77E-3	3.37	3.52
1.5	1.089	1.080	3.13E-3	3.10E-3	6.04	6.00
2.0	1.276	1.230	4.26E-3	4.01E-3	7.46	7.20
2.5	1.348	1.190	4.74E-3	3.76E-3	8.02	7.02
3.0	1.309	1.190	4.48E-3	3.76E-3	7.88	7.12
3.5	1.176	1.090	3.63E-3	3.15E-3	7.09	6.48
4.0	0.973	0.983	2.51E-3	2.56E-3	5.63	5.72

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Figure 23: Figure 17 :

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	S	M	S	M	S	M
H_R	G_R	G_R	A_{eR}	A_{eR}	A_w	A_w
(m)	(dBi)	(dBi)	m^2	(m^2)	(dB)	(dB)
1.0	2.08	2.16	0.51	0.52	30.56	30.33
1.5	2.20	2.15	0.53	0.52	27.83	27.90
2.0	2.22	2.14	0.53	0.52	26.47	26.80
2.5	2.22	2.14	0.53	0.52	25.98	27.07
3.0	2.22	2.18	0.53	0.53	26.23	27.04
3.5	2.20	2.16	0.53	0.52	27.16	27.83
4.0	2.15	2.16	0.53	0.52	28.82	28.74

Figure 24: Figure 18 :

.1 Acknowledgments

I would like to express my appreciation to Ramiro Alonso, Walter Gustavo Fano and Lucas Gonzalez for the written version and computational support. Also support from INTI personnel Edmundo Gatti, Luciano Blas and Matias Fernandez is very much appreciated.

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