

A Study on Performance Improvement to Use Dummy Elements on A Monopole Array-assisted Doppler Spread Compensator for A Digital Terrestrial Television Broadcasting Receiver

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ABSTRACT

This paper proposes an array antenna assisted Doppler spread compensator with dummy elements which are placed on either end of a monopole array for a digital terrestrial television broadcasting (DTTB) receiver. An array antenna assisted Doppler spread compensator, proposed previously, has a major drawback in performance degradation owing to mutual coupling effect among array elements. In order to solve the mutual coupling problem, dummy elements, placed on both sides of the monopole array mitigate performance degradation of a Doppler spread compensator arising from the mutual coupling among monopole array elements. Computer simulation results show that the dummy elements can reduce this performance degradation as well as expand the operating bandwidth of a Doppler spread compensator.

Key Words : Doppler spread compensator, Mutual coupling, Digital Terrestrial TV, Monopole arrays, OFDM

I. Introduction

Recently, digital terrestrial television broadcasting (DTTB) has begun in many parts of the world. Among them, the European digital video broadcasting for terrestrial (DVB-T)^[1] and the Japanese integrated services digital broadcasting for terrestrial (ISDB-T)^[2] employ orthogonal frequency multiplexing division (OFDM) for their transmission schemes. The Korean digital multimedia broadcasting (DMB)^[3] and China mobile multimedia broadcasting (CMMB)^[4] also employ OFDM. OFDM is capable of high-speed digital transmission in a time-dispersive multi-path channel, and is also robust against frequency selective fading by multi-path delay spreading because of narrow bandwidth between the sub-carriers. Therefore, its hardware complexity is significantly reduced in comparison to a single carrier system a with

time-domain equalizer^[5]. The OFDM system is also capable of single-frequency networks (SFN), which is especially effective in improving frequency utilization efficiency of a national DTTB network.

On the other hand, due to the narrow bandwidth between the sub-carriers, OFDM is sensitive to inter-channel interference (ICI). ICI is caused by Doppler spread, where several incoming waves affect the different Doppler shift, as well as by frequency offset between the transmitter and receiver.

In this paper, we consider Mode3 of the Japanese DTTB system ISDB-T, which has 5617 sub-carriers and 1 kHz of frequency spacing among sub-carriers. The maximum Doppler shift frequency reaches 70Hz when the carrier frequency is 770MHz and the receiver moves at 100km/h. This implies that the bit error rate (BER) performance is severely degraded by the

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Doppler spread effect.

To solve this problem, a linear array antenna-assisted Doppler spread compensator has been proposed by Okada et al.^[6-8]. The proposed Doppler spread compensator was composed of a linear array antenna and a space domain interpolator. The space domain interpolator estimates the received signals at a fixed position with respect to the ground by using the received signals from each array element. Consequently, it could reduce BER performance degradation caused by the Doppler spread effect.

However, the mutual coupling effect changes the radiation patterns of each array element. The space domain interpolator is difficult to estimate the received signals at a fixed position with respect to the ground because the radiation patterns from each array element are different. Therefore, the performance of a Doppler spread compensator deteriorates due to the mutual coupling effect.

To reduce the mutual coupling effect, the proposed Doppler spread compensator has employed a mutual coupling canceller^{[7], [8]}, which calculates a mutual impedance matrix normalized by the load impedance. Hence, the mutual coupling canceller is sensitive to changes of carrier frequency. Moreover, its operating bandwidth is narrow compared with the television frequency band^{[7], [8]}. For reference, the carrier frequency of ISDB-T is from 470MHz to 770MHz, and its bandwidth is 300MHz.

The use of dummy elements for reducing mutual coupling effect is already proposed^{[9], [10]}. In^[9], dummy elements are terminated with matched loads on each side of array to provide a similar environment for all the inner array elements. This method is simple way to reduce mutual coupling effect. However, it needs more space to set the arrays and more elements.

In this paper, we use dummy elements, which are attached on both sides of the monopole array and terminated with loads. The mutual coupling effect between main elements is decreased due to coupling between dummy element and main

element. Dummy elements can reduce the difference of the radiation pattern between each element of the monopole array. Therefore, our proposed scheme could improve the performance of the Doppler spread compensator.

The rest of the paper is organized as follows. Section II describes the proposed Doppler spread compensator; Section III shows computer simulation results; and Section IV summarizes and makes concluding remarks.

II. Proposed Doppler Spread Compensator

Fig. 1 illustrates the proposed Doppler spread compensator. It is composed of two dummy elements, which are placed on both sides of a monopole array. The antenna spacing between each element is d (λ is 0.6[m] when carrier frequency is 500MHz)

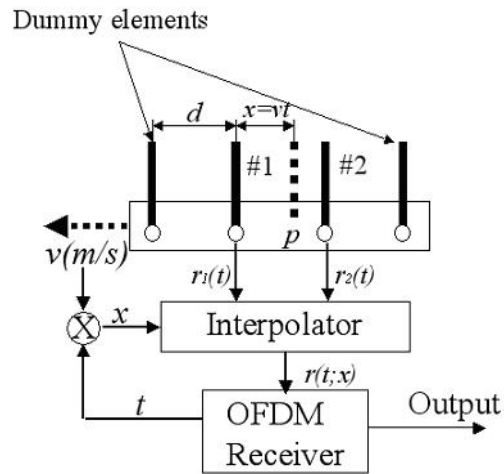


Fig. 1. Block diagram of the Proposed Doppler Spread Compensator

The space domain interpolator estimates a virtual reception point p , which is $x = vt$ apart from the first array element. Since p is stationary with respect to the ground, it can compensate for Doppler spread. To calculate p , the space domain interpolator requires vehicle speed information. In the following, we assume perfect knowledge of vehicle speed information.

The received signal $\mathbf{r}(t) = [r_1 r_2]^t$ is applied to the space domain interpolator to estimate the received signal at position x ,

$$\tilde{r}(t;x) = \mathbf{w}^H(x) \cdot \mathbf{r}(t) \quad (1)$$

where $\mathbf{w}(x)$ is a weight vector. The derivation of the weight vector is given in the Appendix A.

The output signal of the space domain interpolator is then applied to the OFDM receiver to demodulate the signal.

From Fig. 2, dummy elements terminated with ground. The incoming waves a_1 and a_2 , which are inputted to #1 and #2 elements, couple with each array element. The coupling signals c_1 and c_2 , which couple between the dummy elements and the monopole array, are eliminated by dummy elements. Therefore, the mutual coupling effect between #1 and #2 elements, d_1 and d_2 , can be reduced.

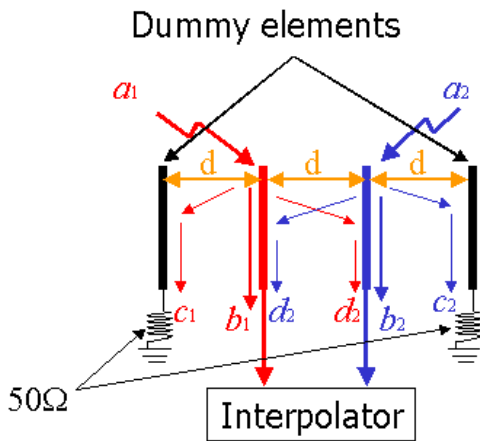


Fig. 2. Effect of Dummy Elements

According to reference^{[9],[11]}, mutual coupling affects the radiation pattern. The radiation pattern of an element in an array environment differs from the one in an isolated situation^[11].

Dummy elements mitigate performance degradation due to the mutual coupling effect, because they can reduce the difference of the radiation pattern between each element of the monopole array.

III. Computer Simulation Results

To confirm the effectiveness of our proposed scheme, we carried out computer simulations. First, we analyzed complex value directivity of the monopole array using the moment method based on an antenna simulation tool, numerical electromagnetic code (NEC-2)^[12]. The directivity patterns were applied to the fading simulator based on references^{[13], [14]}.

In the simulator, the amplitude and phase of each offset oscillator is adjusted according to the directivity.

Table 1. Antenna Simulation Parameters

Frequency	500 MHz
Load Impedance	50 Ω
Source	Incident Plane Wave
Antenna Length	0.25 λ

Table 1 and Table 2 show antenna simulation parameters and computer simulation parameters, respectively.

In the computer simulation, we supposed Mode3 of ISDB-T standard, without error correction.

Table 2. Computer Simulation Parameters

Transmission Parameters	
Bandwidth	5.572 MHz
Carrier Spacing	0.992 kHz
FFT Size	8192
Number of Carriers	5617
Number of Data Carriers	4992
Carrier Modulation	64 QAM
Effective Symbol Duration	1.008 ms
Guard Interval	128 μs (1/8)
Propagation Parameters	
Model	Equal gain two-ray Rayleigh fading ^[13] GSM Delay Profile ^[14] (Hilly terrain 6-ray and 12-ray)
Direction of Arrival	Uniform distribution

According to Appendix B, the optimum antenna spacing for the ideal monopole array is 0.075λ , while the optimum antenna spacing for 2, 4 and 6-element monopole array with mutual coupling effect are 0.425λ , 0.25λ and 0.3λ , respectively at $E_b/N_0=35\text{dB}$ and $f_d T_s=0.1$ ($f_d T_s$ is the maximum Doppler shift frequency normalized by the effective symbol duration).

In the following simulation, we have made use of the optimum antenna spacing.

First, we investigated the radiation patterns of each main element. According to the reference [9], [11], radiation patterns of each main element are disturbed and the main elements will no longer be identical due to mutual coupling. Therefore, we can measure that the mutual coupling effect by comparing the radiation pattern of main elements. The smaller the radiation pattern difference is the less the degradation due to mutual coupling.

The radiation patterns are shown in Figure 3. The difference between the radiation patterns of 2-element monopole array is larger than that of 4 and 6-element monopole arrays. The difference between the radiation patterns of 6-element monopole is smaller than other monopole arrays. It means that the mutual coupling effect of 6-element monopole array is less than other monopole arrays.

In the following, the computer simulation results show the proposed scheme is capable of improving BER performance by reducing mutual coupling effect.

Fig. 4 shows BER performance against $f_d T_s$, when E_b/N_0 is 35dB and is using the optimum antenna spacing. 'w/o compensator' means it does not employ Doppler spread compensator. The ideal monopole array, which has 2 elements and in which mutual coupling effect is not considered, gives better BER performance than a 6-element monopole array.

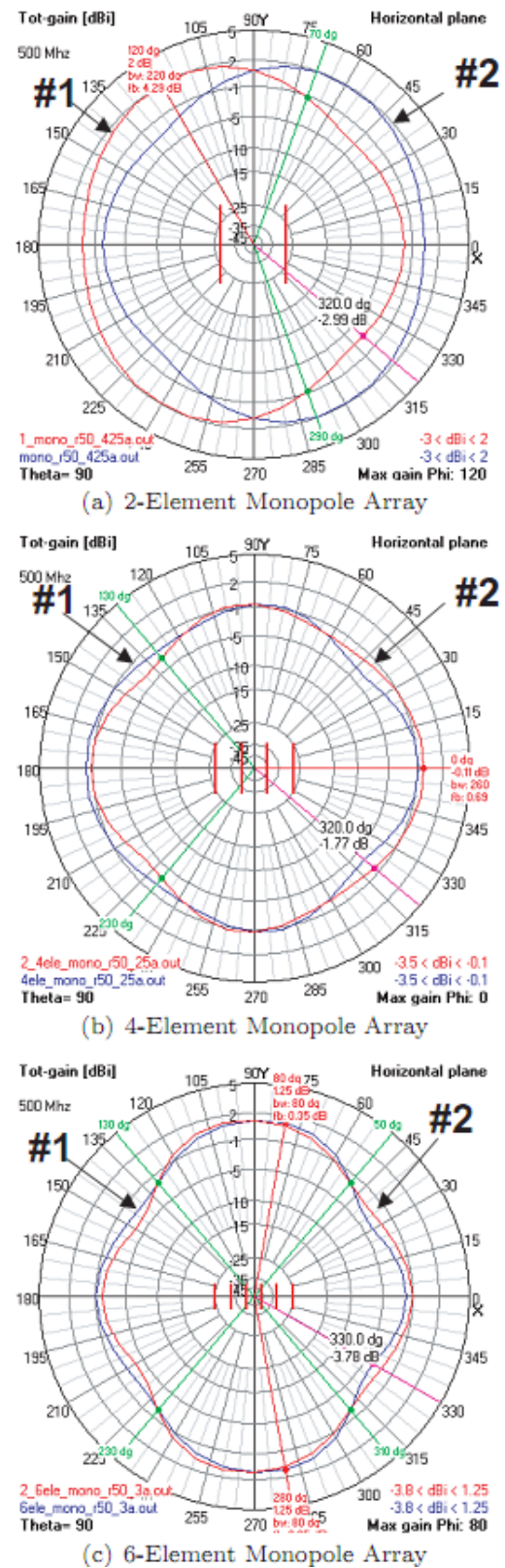


Fig. 3. Radiation Patterns ($f_c = 500$ MHz, Antenna Length $L = 0.15$ [m])

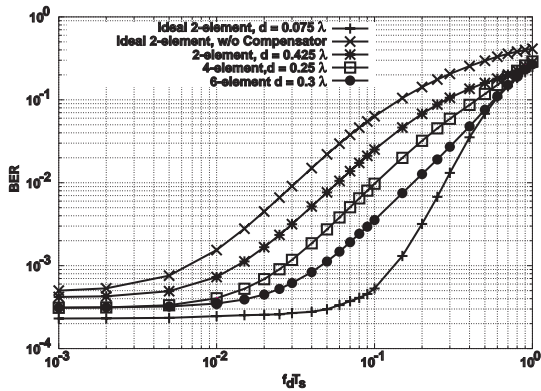


Fig. 4. BER Performance against $f_d T_s$ ($E_b/N_0 = 35\text{dB}$)

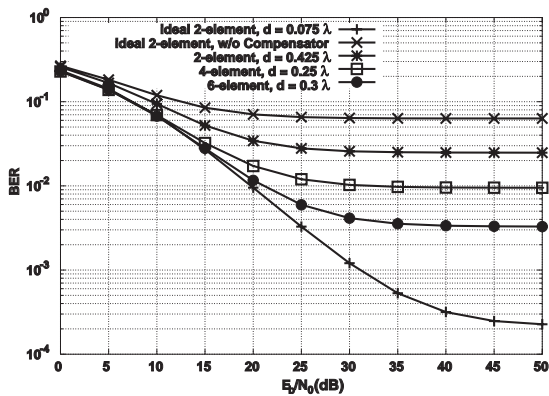
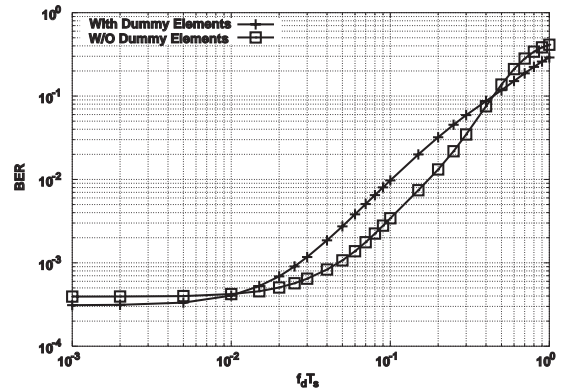


Fig. 5. BER Performance against E_b/N_0 ($f_d T_s = 0.1$)

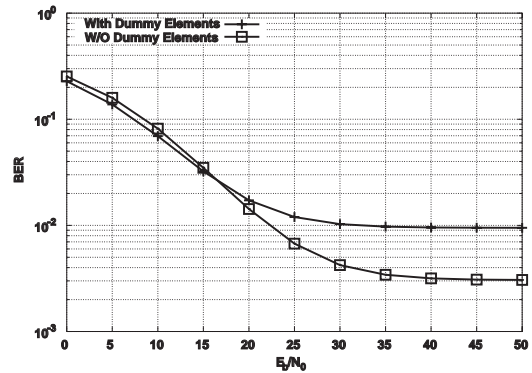
Fig. 5 represents BER performance versus when $f_d T_s$ is 0.1 and the optimum antenna spacing is used. The 2-element monopole array has a better BER performance than an ideal monopole array without a Doppler spread compensator. The 6-element monopole array gives better BER performance than a 2-element or 4-element monopole array.

The ideal monopole array, which has 2 elements and in which the mutual coupling effect is not considered, gives better BER performance than the 6-element monopole array.

According to Figures 4 and 5, 6-element monopole array has better BER performance than other monopole arrays (2-element, 4-element) which consider the mutual coupling effect. We know that dummy elements effectively reduce the mutual coupling effect. However, the proposed scheme takes much space due to the dummy elements.



(a) BER Performance against $f_d T_s$ ($E_b/N_0 = 35\text{dB}$)



(b) BER Performance against E_b/N_0 ($f_d T_s = 0.1$)

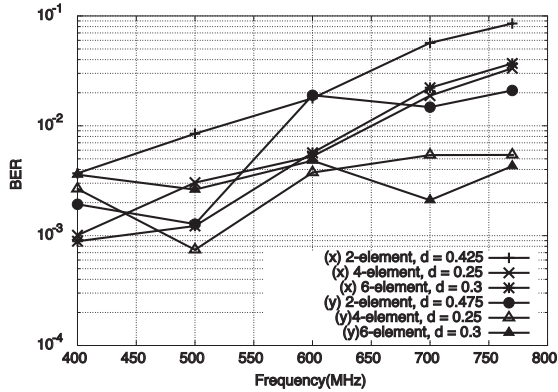
Fig. 6. BER Performance of 4-element with or without Dummy elements

In Figure 6, it compares BER performance 4-element monopole array with dummy elements and without dummy elements. All the array elements are used for Doppler spread compensator in the case of 4-element monopole array without dummy elements.

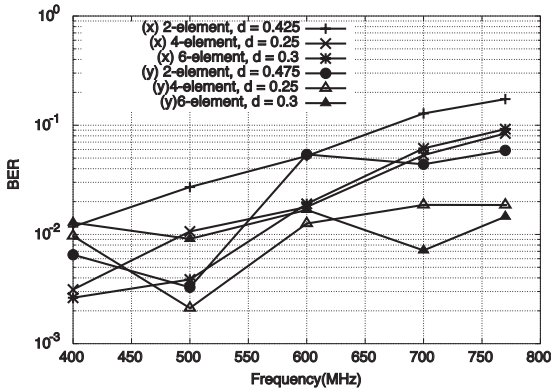
From Fig. 6, 4-element monopole array without dummy elements has better BER performance than 4-element monopole array with dummy elements. However, there is little difference in BER performance between 4-element monopole array with dummy elements and without dummy elements.

Fig. 7 shows BER performance against carrier frequency, which is from 400MHz to 770MHz. '(x)' indicates the monopole array antenna is designed for 500MHz, while '(y)' indicates the monopole array is designed for 700MHz. The

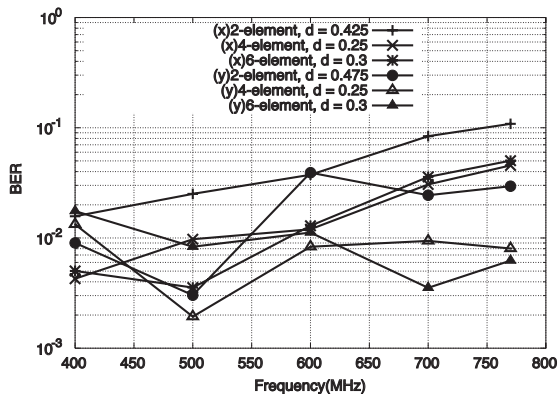
antenna spacing for 700MHz is obtained by optimization. The optimization result is given in Appendix B.



(a) Vehicle Speed, $v = 100$ km/h



(b) Vehicle Speed, $v = 200$ km/h



(c) $f_d T_s = 0.1$

Fig. 7. BER Performance against Carrier Frequency ($E_b/N_0 = 35$ dB)

Fig. 7(a), 7(b) represent BER performance versus carrier frequency, when E_b/N_0 is 35dB

and the vehicle speeds are 100km/h and 200km/h, respectively. In Fig.7(a) and 7(b), the vehicle speed is fixed as 100km/h and 200km/h however, $f_d T_s$ is changed because the carrier frequency is changed. On the other hand, in Fig. 7(c), the maximum Doppler shift frequency normalized by the effective symbol duration, is fixed as 0.1 regardless of the carrier frequency. The BER performance is deteriorated when vehicle speed is high.

From Fig. 7, BER performance of the monopole array which is designed for 500MHz has deteriorated when carrier frequency is higher than 500MHz. Meanwhile, the monopole array which is designed for 700MHz has better BER performance than 500MHz.

On the other hand, 2-element monopole array for 700MHz gives better BER performance than 6-element monopole array for 700MHz when the carrier frequency is 500MHz. According to Fig. 8, the radiation pattern difference of 2-element monopole array and 4-element monopole array is smaller than that for 6-element monopole array. Therefore, 2-element monopole array designed for 700MHz gives better BER performance than 6-element monopole array for 700MHz, when BER is measured at the carrier frequency of 500MHz.

The Operating bandwidth is the frequency region that the degradation due to mutual coupling is small enough for receiving the ISDB-T signal. As the required BER, we assume 2×10^{-2} before FEC when BER before inner code decoding is below 2×10^{-2} , quasi error free(QEF) rate of 10^{-11} can be obtained after forward error correction(FEC)^[15]. The receiver satisfies the required BER of 2×10^{-2} in the operating bandwidth region.

The previously proposed method used mutual coupling canceller^{[7], [8]}, however, its operating bandwidth is 30MHz, which the total frequency band assigned for ISDB-T is 300MHz. It is difficult to design the mutual coupling canceller algorithm, which can compensate for throughout

the ISDB-T band. On the other hand, the operating bandwidth of the monopole array with dummy elements for 700MHz is 370MHz. It is sufficient to cover ISDB-T bandwidth. Therefore, the proposed scheme provides wide operating bandwidth in order to add dummy elements on both sides of main elements.

Meanwhile, the monopole array with dummy elements which is designed for 700MHz has wide operating bandwidth irrespective of the vehicle speed.

Fig. 9 shows BER performance of a monopole array versus various delay profiles. The delay profiles used the equal gain 2-ray Jakes model^[13] and the hilly terrain 6-tap and 12-tap model of the global system for mobile communication (GSM)^[14]. Figure 9(a) and Figure 9(b) show BER performance versus $f_d T_s$, when E_b/N_0 is 35dB, and BER performance against E_b/N_0 , when $f_d T_s$ is 0.1, respectively.

According to Fig. 9, although, the two-ray Rayleigh fading model is more severe environment than 6-ray and 12-ray models. The reason is that delay of the two-ray fading model is within a guard interval. Also, our proposed dummy elements attached on both sides of a monopole array give good BER performance in various mobile environments.

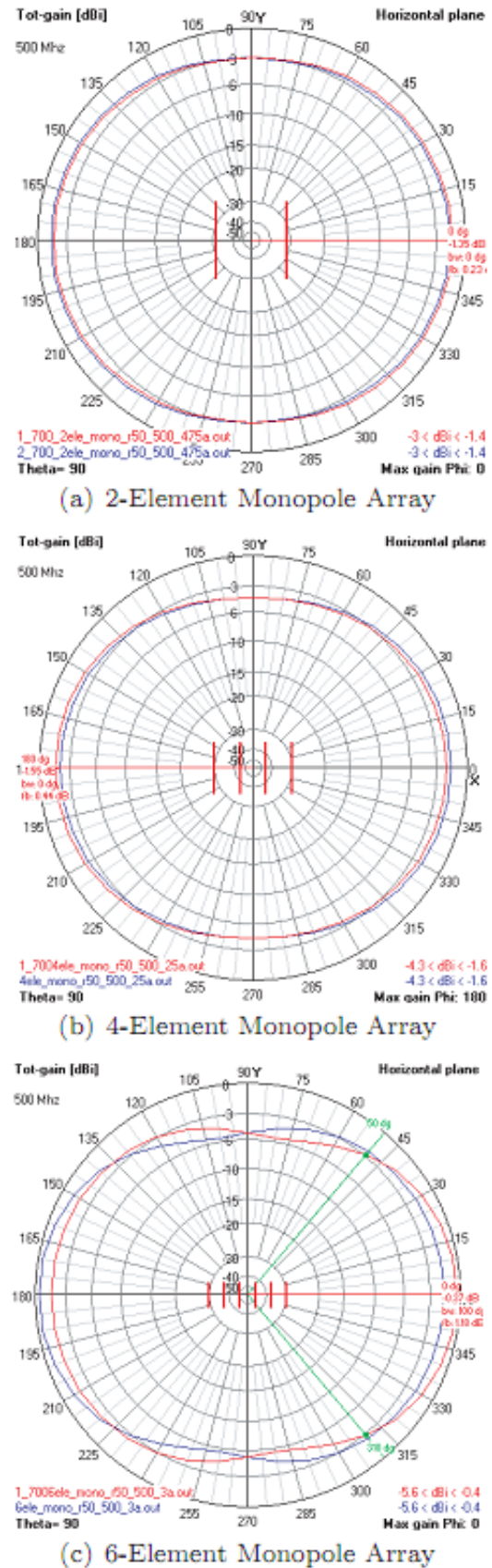
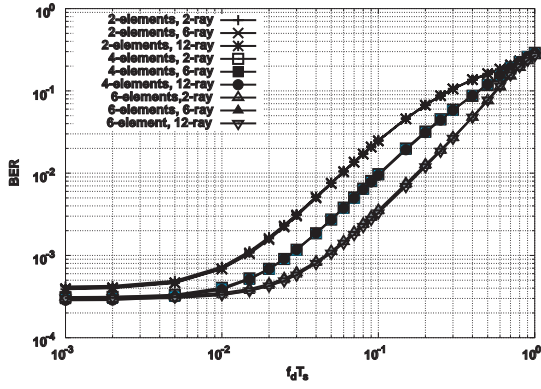
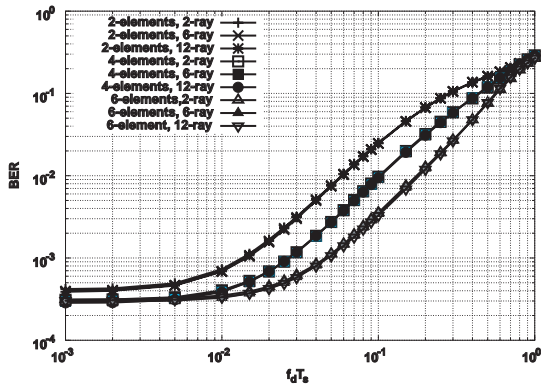


Fig. 8. Radiation Patterns ($f_c = 500$ MHz, Antenna Length $L = 0.107$ [m])



(a) BER Performance against $f_d T_s (E_b/N_0=35\text{dB})$



(b) BER Performance against $E_b/N_0 (f_d T_s=0.1)$

Fig. 9. BER Performance against Various Fading Models

IV. Conclusion

In this paper, we have proposed dummy elements attached on both sides of a monopole array, which have an assisted Doppler spread compensator and a reduced mutual coupling effect. Also, they expand the operating bandwidth of a Doppler spread compensator.

The optimum antenna spacing was evaluated by computer simulation, and we then measured BER performance of our proposed dummy elements attached on both sides of a monopole array versus Doppler shift frequency, E_b/N_0 carrier frequency and various mobile environments. Also, the radiation pattern was evaluated by the antenna simulation tool NEC-2.

From antenna simulation results, we found that the difference in radiation patterns of each element becomes smaller if the number of dummy

elements is increased. Therefore, the difference in radiation patterns of each element of a 6-element monopole array is smaller than other monopole arrays (2-element and 4-element).

According to computer simulation results, an ideal monopole array, which does not assume a mutual coupling effect, with a Doppler spread compensator has better BER performance than other monopole arrays (2-element, 4-element, 6-element). However, the BER performance of the 2-element monopole array, which assumes mutual coupling effect, has deteriorated. If the number of dummy elements is increased, BER performance is improved.

Consequently, the proposed dummy elements attached on both sides of a monopole array effectively mitigate performance degradation due to the mutual coupling effect. They also expand the operating bandwidth of a Doppler spread compensator as well as having good BER performance in various mobile environments.

V. Appendix A

The space domain interpolator uses a minimum mean square error (MMSE) algorithm. Let us suppose that the two-dimensional received signal vector $\mathbf{r}(t)$ is:

$$\mathbf{r}(t) = [r_1(t) r_2(t)]^T \quad (\text{A1})$$

where $r_1(t), r_2(t)$ are the received signals from the #1 and #2 array elements at time t , respectively. The output of the space domain interpolator is given by:

$$\tilde{r}(x, t) = \mathbf{w}^T(x) \cdot \mathbf{r}(t) \quad (\text{A2})$$

where $\tilde{r}(x, t)$ is the estimated signal at position x and $\mathbf{w}(x)$ is the weight vector, which uses the MMSE algorithm.

The weight vector, $\mathbf{w}(x)$, is given by:

$$\tilde{\mathbf{w}}(x) = \mathbf{R}^{-1} \cdot \mathbf{b}(x) \quad (\text{A3})$$

where \mathbf{R} denotes the correlation matrix of the received signal vector $\mathbf{r}(t)$ and $\mathbf{b}(x)$ is the cross-correlation vector between the received signal vector and the desired signal $r(x,t)$ and are defined as

$$\mathbf{R} = \frac{1}{2} [\mathbf{r}(t)\mathbf{r}^H(t)] \quad (\text{A4})$$

$$R_{n,k} = [J_0(2\pi d(n-k)\lambda)] \quad (\text{A5})$$

and

$$\mathbf{b}(x) = \frac{1}{2} E[\mathbf{r}(t)r(x,t)^*] \quad (\text{A6})$$

$$b_k = [J_0(2\pi(kd-x)\lambda)] \quad (\text{A7})$$

where k indicates array elements #1 and #2 (e.g. $k = 0,1$), represents the Hermitian transpose of x and x^* is the complex conjugate of x . $J_0(x)$ is the zero-th order Bessel function of the first kind.

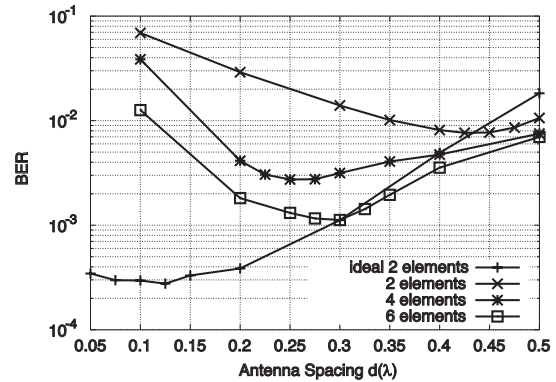
VI. Appendix B

The optimum antenna spacing, which minimizes BER, is obtained by computer simulation, which uses Jake's fading model^[13]. That is, there are many incoming paths, where direction of arrivals are uniformly distributed.

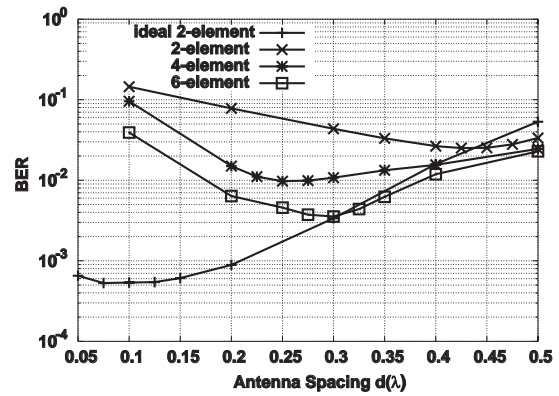
Fig. A1(a)-(c) show BER performance versus antenna spacing $d\lambda$, when E_b/N_0 is 35dB, carrier frequency is 500MHz and $f_d T_s$ is 0.05, 0.1 and 0.15, respectively.

According to Fig. A1, the optimum antenna spacing $d\lambda$ of 2-element monopole array is 0.425λ ; and 4-element monopole array, which has 2 dummy elements on both sides of monopole array, is 0.25λ . Also, the optimum antenna spacing of a 6-element monopole array, which has 4 dummy elements on both sides of monopole array, is 0.3λ . In the case of the ideal monopole array, the optimum antenna spacing $d\lambda$ is changed in accordance with $f_d T_s$. The optimum antenna spacings of ideal monopole array are

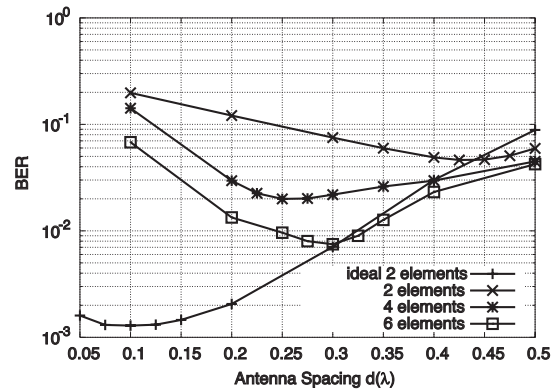
0.125λ , 0.75λ and 0.1λ when $f_d T_s$ is 0.05, 0.1 and 0.15, respectively. However, the difference in antenna spacing gives little impact on the BER performance.



(a) $f_d T_s = 0.05$



(b) $f_d T_s = 0.1$



(c) $f_d T_s = 0.15$

Fig. A1. Optimization vs. Antenna Spacing ($E_b/N_0 = 35\text{dB}$, $f_c = 500\text{MHz}$)

The optimum antenna spacing with mutual coupling is shown in Fig. A2 when $f_d T_s$ is 0.1,

E_b/N_0 is 35dB and carrier frequency is 700MHz. The optimum antenna spacing of 2-element monopole array is 0.475λ , 4-element monopole array is 0.25λ and 6-element monopole array is 0.3λ , respectively. In this case, λ is expressed wavelength at 700MHz and the value is approximately 0.428m.

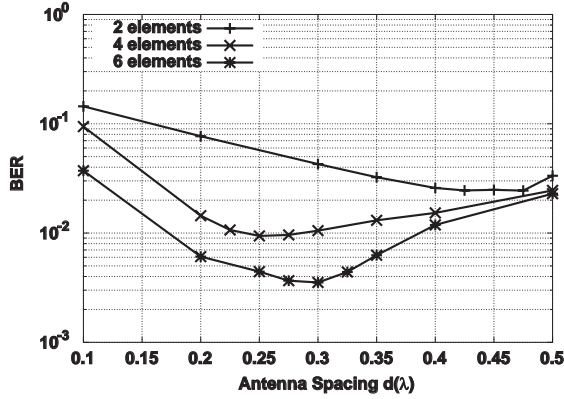


Fig. A2. Optimization vs. Antenna Spacing ($f_d T_s = 0.1$, $E_b/N_0 = 35\text{dB}$, $f_c = 700\text{MHz}$)

According to Fig. A1 and A2, the BER performance became worse even mutual coupling is reduced by extending the antenna spacing. The reason is that the received signals from the array elements should be correlated with each other in order to estimate the received signal at a certain reception point between two elements. Therefore, performance of the Doppler spread compensator has deteriorated if the antenna spacing reaches 0.5λ , even if it could reduce mutual coupling effect.

On the other hand, if the antenna spacing is narrow, performance of the Doppler spread compensator has deteriorated due to mutual coupling effect while the correlation between two signals grows. In the case of the ideal monopole array simulation, it does not take into account the effect of mutual coupling but the correlation between array elements is considered.

There is a trade-off between the correlation and mutual coupling. In order to satisfy the both condition, we have to set the antenna spacing to minimize the BER as shown in Fig A1 and A2. The Doppler spread compensator, which uses the

optimum antenna spacing, should have good BER performance in fast fading environment. Besides, the proposed scheme prevents the Doppler spread compensator performance degradation due to mutual coupling effect in fast fading environment. Therefore, the optimum antenna spacing has validity in fast fading environment.

VII. Appendix C

The mutual resistance R_{21} and the mutual reactance X_{21} of 2-element monopole array can be expressed as in [16] by

$$R_{21} = \frac{15}{\sin^2(\beta L/2)} \left\{ 2(2 + \cos\beta L)\text{Ci}\beta d \right. \\ - 4\cos^2\frac{\beta L}{2} \left[\text{Ci}\frac{\beta}{2}(\sqrt{4d^2 + L^2} - L) \right. \\ + \text{Ci}\frac{\beta}{2}(\sqrt{4d^2 + L^2} + L) + \cos\beta L[\text{Ci}\beta(\sqrt{d^2 + L^2} - L) \\ + \text{Ci}\beta(\sqrt{d^2 + L^2} + L)] + \sin\beta L[\text{Si}\beta(\sqrt{d^2 + L^2} + L) \\ - \text{Si}\beta(\sqrt{d^2 + L^2} - L) - 2\text{Si}\frac{\beta}{2}(\sqrt{4d^2 + L^2} + L) \\ \left. \left. + 2\text{Si}\frac{\beta}{2}(\sqrt{4d^2 + L^2} - L) \right] \right\}(\Omega), \quad (\text{A8})$$

$$X_{21} = \frac{15}{\sin^2(\beta L/2)} \left\{ -2(2 + \cos\beta L)\text{Si}\beta d \right. \\ + 4\cos^2\frac{\beta L}{2} \left[\text{Si}\frac{\beta}{2}(\sqrt{4d^2 + L^2} - L) \right. \\ + \text{Si}\frac{\beta}{2}(\sqrt{4d^2 + L^2} + L) - \cos\beta L[\text{Si}\beta(\sqrt{d^2 + L^2} - L) \\ + \text{Si}\beta(\sqrt{d^2 + L^2} + L)] + \sin\beta L[\text{Ci}\beta(\sqrt{d^2 + L^2} + L) \\ - \text{Ci}\beta(\sqrt{d^2 + L^2} - L) - 2\text{Ci}\frac{\beta}{2}(\sqrt{4d^2 + L^2} + L) \\ \left. \left. + 2\text{Ci}\frac{\beta}{2}(\sqrt{4d^2 + L^2} - L) \right] \right\}(\Omega), \quad (\text{A9})$$

where L indicates antenna length, d means antenna spacing and β is $2\pi/\lambda$, λ being the wavelength of the transmitted carrier frequency. Also, cosine integral and sine integral are given by

$$\text{Ci}(x) = \gamma + \ln(x) + \int_0^x \frac{\cos t - 1}{t} dt \quad (\text{A10})$$

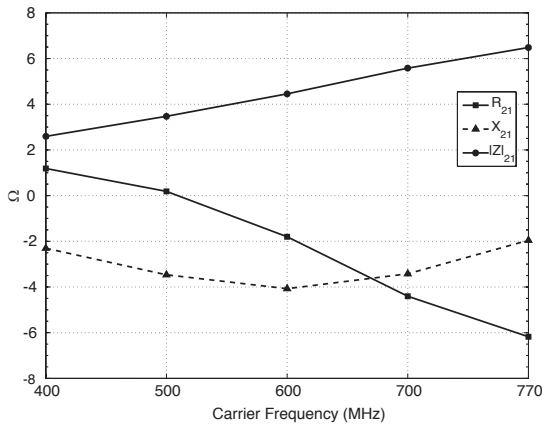
$$\text{Si}(x) = \int_0^x \frac{\sin t}{t} dt \quad (\text{A11})$$

where γ is Euler's constant 0.577215664.

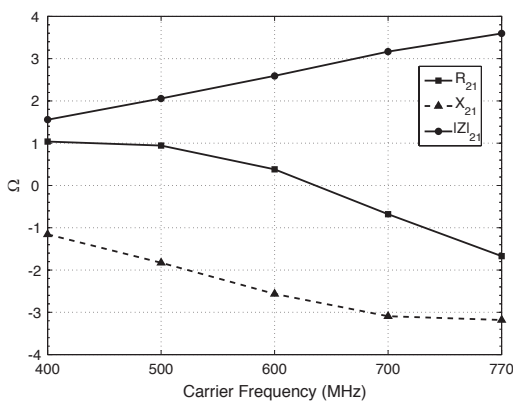
Consequently, the mutual impedance Z is given by

$$Z = R_{21} + jX_{21} \quad (A12)$$

The mutual impedance of 2-element monopole array is shown in Fig A3, which is obtained by using equation A8, A9 and A12. Fig. A3(a) shows the mutual impedance of 2-element monopole array which is designed for 500MHz against carrier frequency, where the antenna spacing $d\lambda$ is 0.425λ . Also, the mutual impedance of 2-element monopole array which is designed for 700MHz against carrier frequency is shown in Fig.A3(b), where the antenna spacing d is 0.475λ .



(a) Antenna Length $L = 0.15m$, Antennas Spacing $d=0.425\lambda$ ($\lambda=0.6m$)



(b) Antenna Length $L = 0.107m$, Antennas Spacing $d=0.475\lambda$ ($\lambda=0.428m$)
Fig. A3. Mutual Impedance against Carrier Frequency

From Fig. A3, we know that the mutual

impedance is increased in accordance with carrier frequency.

References

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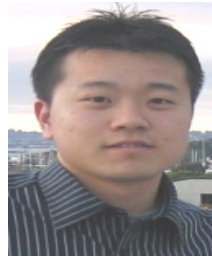
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