

Phased Arrays for Radio Astronomy, Remote Sensing, and Satellite Communications

Discover a modern approach to the analysis, modeling and design of high sensitivity phased arrays. Network theory, numerical methods and computational electromagnetic simulation techniques are uniquely combined to enable full system analysis and design optimization. Beamforming and array signal processing theory are integrated into the treatment from the start. Digital signal processing methods such as polyphase filtering and RFI mitigation are described, along with technologies for real time hardware implementation. Key concepts from interferometric imaging used in radio telescopes are also considered. A basic development of theory and modeling techniques is accompanied by problem sets that guide readers in developing modeling codes that retain the simplicity of the classical array factor method while incorporating mutual coupling effects and interactions between elements. Combining current research trends with pedagogical material suitable for a first-year graduate course, this is an invaluable resource for students, teachers, researchers, and practicing RF/microwave and antenna design engineers.

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"Anyone interested in phased arrays should read this book - it provides an excellent insight into this technology and while aimed at principally at the imaging community has widespread application. The treatment of noise in a mutual coupled array is particularly useful."

Professor Tony Brown, Manchester University

"Many headline discoveries in radio astronomy are products of phased arrays. This book deals with new-generation arrays born of the revolution in information processing systems and enabled by contemporary electromagnetic design tools. Covering real exemplar instruments, the book is broad in scope and detailed in its presentation of array design theory, allied signal processing and practical implementations. The authors' cross-disciplinary approach extends to remote sensing and satellite applications, and they provide much-needed links to mainstream antenna engineering. Aimed at research engineers, the book is also invaluable to graduate students and professionals seeking an overview of leading-edge practice."

Peter J. Hall, Emeritus Professor of Radio Astronomy Engineering, Curtin University





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Preface

Many excellent books on phased array antennas are already in print. The theoretical and mathematical content commonly found in books on this topic has stabilized in the last decade or two, but the past ten years has seen a dramatic departure from classical analytical tools in the methodologies used to design and optimize phased arrays. Our goal is to gather in one place recent advances in the mathematical framework for phased array analysis and create a book for which the theoretical treatment reflects the state-of-the-art in the academic literature and is equal to the task of designing antenna arrays for applications with demanding performance requirements.

One of the themes of this book is the design of phased arrays based on computer simulation. The last few decades have seen enormous progress in computational electromagnetics (CEM), which has revolutionized our ability to analyze antennas rigorously. The framework developed in this book can be used either with analytical approximations for the antenna response, or with computational electromagnetics tools for more accurate results.

Another theme is the dedicated analysis of active receiving arrays using network theory and the signal correlation matrix formulation. Most antenna textbooks focus almost exclusively on the antenna as a transmitting system, and then mention that the reciprocity theorem extends this analysis to receiving systems. Modern phased array systems involve active front ends, with low noise amplifiers in close proximity to the antenna or even integrated into the antenna feed. The system in this case is nonreciprocal, and some conventional antenna concepts no longer apply. Many systems use digital beamforming, which provides additional degrees of freedom when compared to classical analog beamformers. These systems require a new vocabulary and new figures of merit to properly describe them; where possible, we reconcile these with traditional antenna terms.

The authors have been closely involved in modern developments in phased arrays, computational electromagnetics, and array signal processing for applications in challenging fields such as radio astronomy for many years. This text represents the first synthesis of these modern design methods as a book; this is complemented by a review of classical methods such as the array factor approximation. Big-picture array design considerations, types of antenna elements, and components in the analog front end are reviewed. Both aperture type arrays and phased array feeds, used in conjunction with a reflector, are covered. Array signal processing is considered in detail and the theory of interferometric arrays (widely used in radio astronomy) is outlined. The book



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concludes with some selected topics on real time digital signal processing. While many of the methods presented in this book were developed in the astronomical phased array community, the set of tools presented is equally applicable to other fields requiring high performance phased arrays. In particular, we outline remote sensing and satellite communications applications.

This book is inherently interdisciplinary. Some of the most far-reaching insights in the phased array community have come from exploring the connection between antenna design, microwave network analysis, and signal processing theory. Modern systems require joint optimization of all subsystems, from the antenna elements to the analog electronics and digital signal processing. This conjunction of disciplines is readily apparent in the table of contents and material in this book. Bringing together disciplines in new ways always brings uncomfortable collisions of notation, terminology, and mindset. We have, with just a few not easily avoidable exceptions, ironed out these inconsistencies in the material. As the book was conceived, we purposefully declined the easier path of an edited collection, as we hoped for a more pedagogically streamlined and logically organized treatment than collections of papers generally can achieve. The highest purpose of this book is to present a seamless synthesis of antenna theory, network analysis, signal processing theory, and application-specific concepts.

Finally, this is also a textbook. Most chapters include problem sets suitable for a course in phased array design and modeling. Many of the problems build on each other to aid the reader in creating a simple but powerful software tool that uses the overlap matrix formulation, network analysis, and correlation matrix framework to implement the array modeling and design methods covered in this book. It will help the reader in comprehending the content of the book to understand that there are two ways to use the analytical framework: (1) with analytical approximations for antenna element patterns, based on the lossless, resonant, minimum scattering approximation (LRMSA), and (2) using numerical simulations based on computational electromagnetics tools for the antenna array. These two approaches yield an equivalent network source for the array. The equivalent source from either approach can be used to initialize the network theory, overlap matrix, and correlation matrix formulations for the array system's signal response, external noise, antenna loss noise, and receiver noise by which the full array system is modeled.

We hope that this book inspires a new generation of researchers to combine techniques from the different disciplines brought together in the book in new and creative ways, and to continue to push forward the frontier of research in phased array receivers and other multiantenna systems in an expanding range of applications.

Karl F. Warnick Rob Maaskant Marianna V. Ivashina David B. Davidson Brian D. Jeffs



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Karl F. Warnick and Brian D. Jeffs

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David B. Davidson



xiv Acknowledgements

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Last but not least, we mention our lovely children Daniëlla (2004) and Anton (2014) for – as it appears – accepting our peculiar domestic working culture and inheriting our passion for research and innovation.

Rob Maaskant and Marianna V. Ivashina



Notation and Units

Throughout this book, the following notation is used. Spatial vectors are indicated as \overline{E} (in this case, the electric field). Vectors in the linear algebra sense are indicated as \mathbf{x} , and matrices as \mathbf{A} , using bold lower and upper case roman font respectively. The individual elements of a vector or matrix are indicated as x_i or A_{ij} respectively. Otherwise, the notation is as generally encountered in engineering books on this topic. A summary is presented below.

The time convention used for phasor quantities is $e^{j\omega t}$, hence, the phasor wave e^{-jkr} propagates in the direction of increasing r. (Physics books often adopt the $e^{-i\omega t}$ convention, in which case the sign changes in the wave's phasor representation.) Phasors represent peak values.

abla imes	the curl operation		
$ abla \cdot$	divergence operation		
×	vector cross product of two vectors		
\overline{E}	three-dimensional (field) vector E		
ϵ_0	permittivity of free space ($\approx 8.854 \times 10^{-12} \text{ F/m}$)		
ϵ_r	relative permittivity of a dielectric material (dimensionless)		
μ_0	permeability of free space $(4\pi \times 10^{-7} \text{ H/m})$		
μ_r	relative permeability of a magnetic material (dimensionless)		
c	the speed of light in free space ($\approx 2.9979 \times 10^8 \text{ m/s}$)		
\overline{r}	compact vector notation for the point (x, y, z) , in rectangular		
	coordinates, $\bar{r} = x\hat{x} + y\hat{y} + z\hat{x}$		
r	unit vector in the direction \overline{r} , equivalent to the spherical point (θ, ϕ)		
k	electromagnetic wavenumber (rad/m)		
\overline{k}	electromagnetic wave vector		
λ	electromagnetic wavelength		
$O(M^n)$	of the order of M^n , formally,		
	$\mathcal{N} = O(M^n) \Rightarrow \lim_{M \to \infty} \log \mathcal{N} / \log M = n$		
(u, v, w)	orthogonal coordinates normalized to wavelength		
	in the easterly, northerly, and source directions respectively		
(l, m, n)	direction cosines		
E[·]	statistical expected value operation		
Ω	Solid angle, or an alternate notation for the spherical point (θ, ϕ)		
$d\Omega$	differential solid angle, in spherical coordinates, $d\Omega = \sin\theta d\theta d\phi$		



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$d\overline{r}$	differential volume element, surface element, or line element		
	(depending on the domain of integration)		
dS	differential area element		
$d\overline{A}$	differential area element with unit vector, $\hat{n} dS$		
v, y, etc.	N-dimensional vector quantity (e.g., array output signals)		
R, A, etc.			
$\mathbf{v}^H,\mathbf{R}^H$	\mathbf{R}^{H} complex conjugate transpose of vector \mathbf{v} and matrix \mathbf{R} respectively		
\mathbf{v}^T , \mathbf{R}^T	T , \mathbf{R}^{T} conventional transpose of vector \mathbf{v} and matrix \mathbf{R} respectively		
$\mathbf{v}\odot\mathbf{y}$			
$\mathbf{A} \otimes \mathbf{B}$	matrix Kronecker product		
$vec{A}$	matrix to vector operator. In $\mathbf{a} = \text{vec}\{\mathbf{A}\}$, \mathbf{a} is a vector formed by		
	stacking (column-ordered scanning) all the columns of A		
unvec{a}	vector to matrix operator. $unvec{vec{A}} = A$		
$ \mathbf{y} $	Conventional L_2 vector norm, $ \mathbf{y} = \sqrt{\sum_i y_i ^2}$		
\approx, \propto, \equiv respectively "approximately equal to," "proportional to," a			
	defined as"		
C^N	N-dimensional complex vector space		
\cup , \cap	set (or vector space) union and intersection operations respectively		
$\mathbf{v} \in C^N$	vector \mathbf{v} is an element of C^N		
$S \subset C^N$	vector space S is a subset (subspace) of N -dimensional vector space		
	C^N		
S^{\perp}	vector subspace perpendicular (complementary) to S . If S and $S^{\perp} \subset$		
	C^N then $S \cap S^{\perp} = \phi$, the empty set, and $S \cup S^{\perp} = C^N$		

This book uses the SI system of units.

Name	Symbol	Unit	Equivalent units or notes
Electric field intensity	E	V/m	
Magnetic field intensity	H	A/m	
Brightness	${\mathcal B}$	$W m^{-2} Hz^{-1} rad^{-2}$	
Spectral flux density	$\mathcal S$	$\mathrm{W}~\mathrm{m}^{-2}~\mathrm{Hz}^{-1}$	1 Jansky (Jy) = $10^{-26} \mathrm{Wm^{-2}Hz^{-1}}$
Poynting flux density	S	$ m W~m^{-2}$	In one polarization
Temperature	T	K	Physical or equivalent temperature
Temporal frequency	f	Hz	(f is also reflector focal length)
Angular frequency	ω	$rad s^{-1}$	$2\pi f$
Bandwidth	B	Hz	Typically for one filterbank output