

科学衛星搭載 X/Ka 帯共用 1 次放射器の試作結果

Prototype of an X/Ka Dual-Band Primary Radiator for Satellite-Borne Cassegrain Antennas

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1. Research background

- Traditionally, satellite communication space exploration using deep X-band
- The role of X-band＝All communications necessary for survival craft
  - (Observation data transmission, Command transmission, Housekeeping data acquisition)
- A small number of channels available X-band (10 MHz bandwidth)
- The role of the Ka-band
  - Increase in the number of available channels
    - (500 MHz @ 32.05 GHz)
  - Performance to complement the missing band X (High-speed transmission, High precision positioning)
- An X/Ka Dual-Band Primary Radiator for Satellite-Borne Cassegrain Antennas

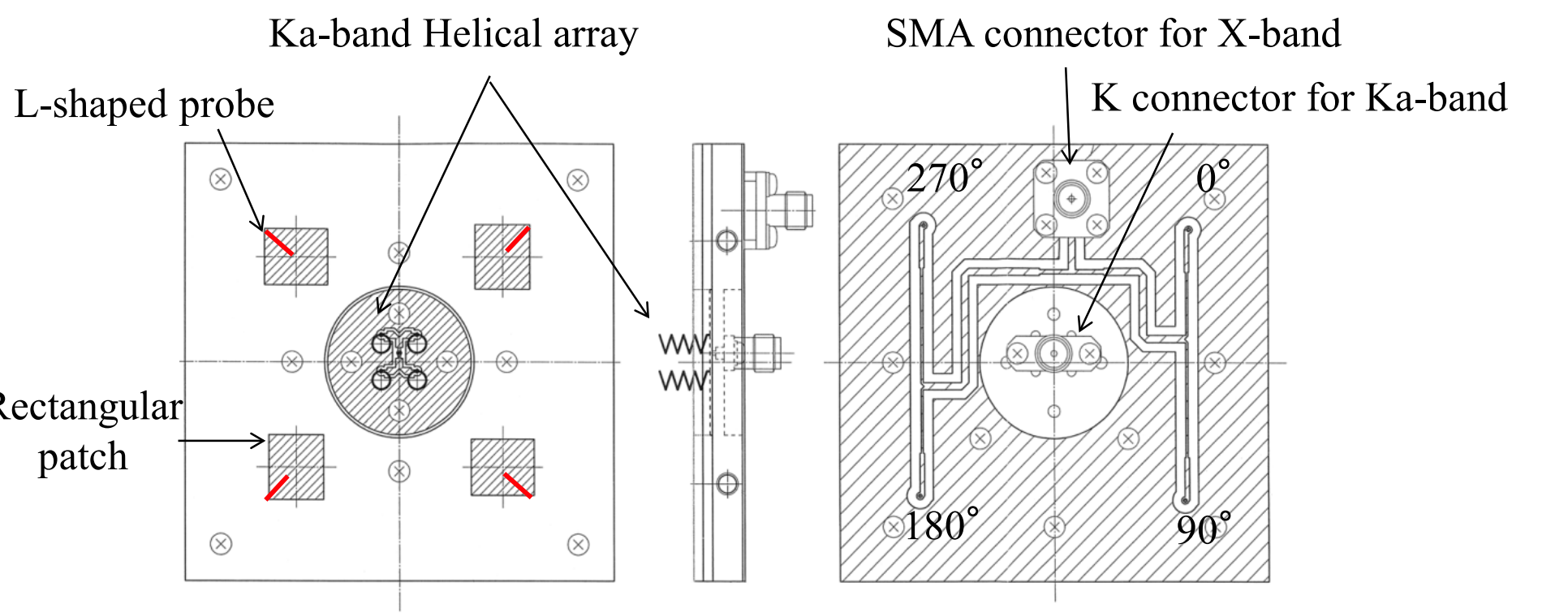
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2. Purpose of research

- Primary radiator of Cassegrain antenna aboard spacecraft
- Examples of primary radiator X/Ka-band sharing
- X-band: Corrugated horn antenna, Ka-band: Disk-on-rod antenna
  - The problem is the weight and length in the axial direction
- Alternative: Sequential Array Using the square MSA (X-band)
  - +4-elements helical array antenna (Ka-band)
  - VSWR is high because of the bond between the elements
  - ± large reverse-handed wave component in the cross-section of 45 °
- MSA rectangle that single-point feeding from an oblique direction (simulation)
  - Suppression of Mutual Coupling
  - Reverse-handed suppression of wave components
  - Wider bandwidth
- Prototyping and evaluation of (4-elements sequential array) primary radiator to be shared frequency Ka-band

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3. Construction of the Dual-Band Radiator (1/3)



- Place a sequential array-band X-band helical Ka, around its center
- Electrical coupling is small
- Are phase shifted by 90 ° by adjusting the length of the line
- L-shaped probe feed from an oblique angle of 45 °

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3. Construction of the Dual-Band Radiator (2/3)

- X-band antenna.

Type	Four-element sequential array of rectangular patch antennas
Size of patches	0.24λ × 0.277λ (10.1×11.6 mm)
Length of L-shaped probe	0.161λ (6.76 mm)
Substrate	NPCH220A Relative permittivity = 1.27 tan δ = 0.005
Thickness of substrate	0.0415λ (1.742 mm)
Element spacing	0.9λ (37.79 mm)

\*K. Ikeda et al., "A cross polarization suppressed sequential array with L-probe fed rectangular microstrip antennas," *IEICE Trans. Commun.*, vol. E94-B, pp.3653-3655, Sept., 2011

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3. Construction of the Dual-Band Radiator (3/3)

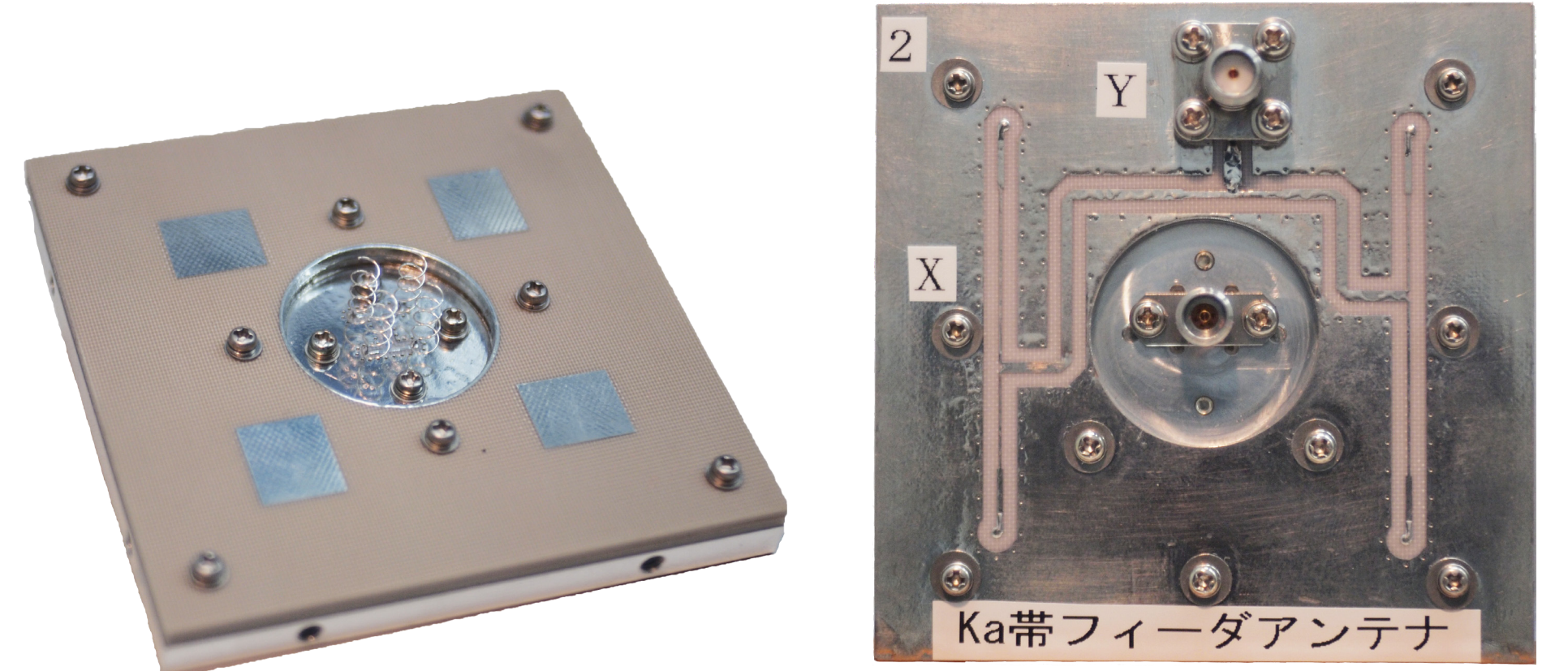
- Ka-band antenna.

Type	Four-element array of helical antenna
Circumference of helices	λ (9.4339 mm)
Angle of inclination of helices	14°
Turns of helices	4
Diameter of conductor	0.24 mm φ
Element spacing	1.6λ (5.9 mm)
Height of feeding points	-1.5 mm relative to the X-band patches

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4. Primary Radiator

- Photo of the X/Ka Dual-Band Primary Radiator for Satellite-Borne Cassegrain Antennas.



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5. Reflector

- Specifications of satellite-borne high-gain antenna.

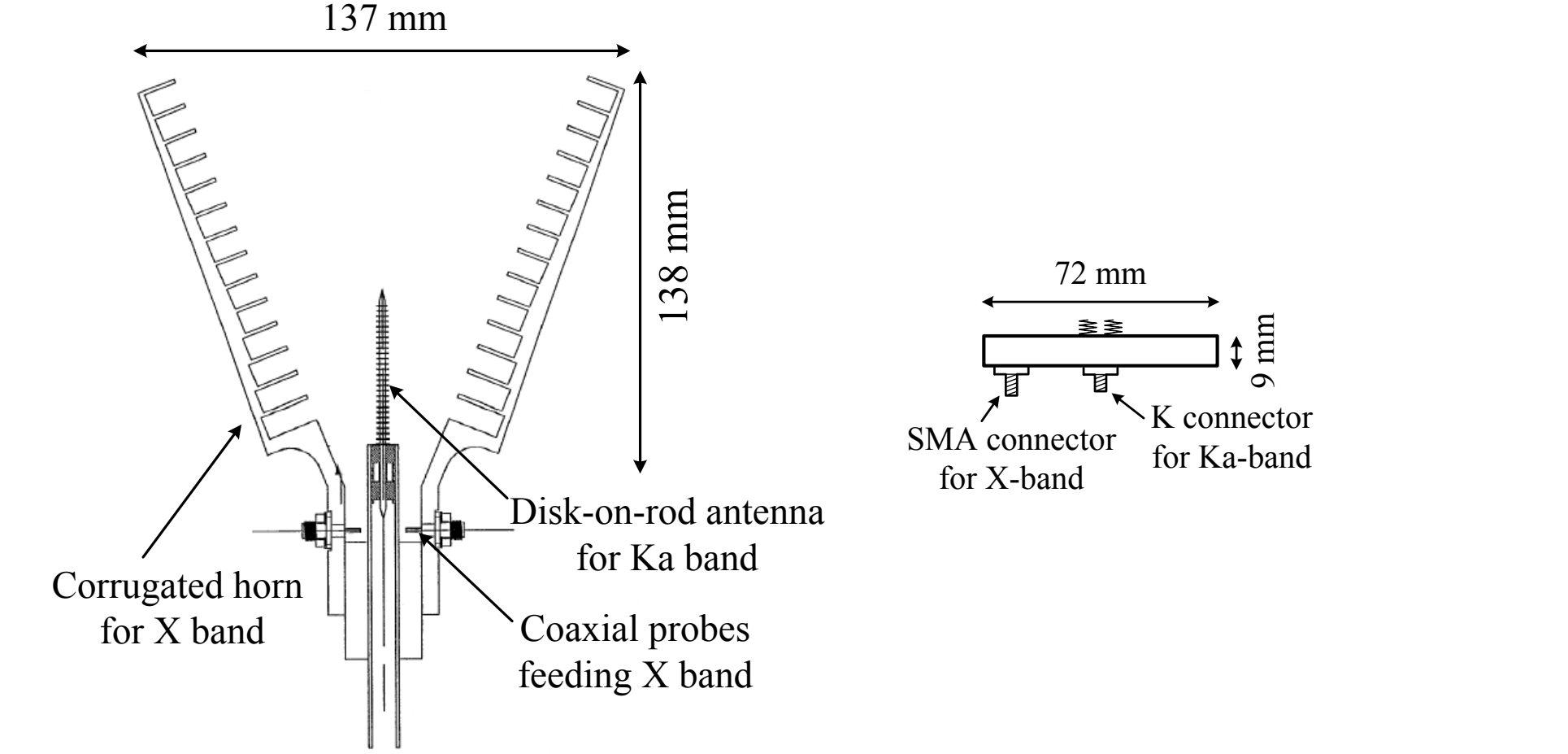
Diameter of the main reflector	1.5 m φ
Type	Axially-symmetric Cassegrain
Frequency reflector	X-band: 7.145 - 7.19 GHz Ka-band: 8.4-8.45 GHz
Polarization	Right-hand circular
FD ratio* of the main	0.33
Equivalent FD ratio*	1.45

\*Focal length to diameter ratio

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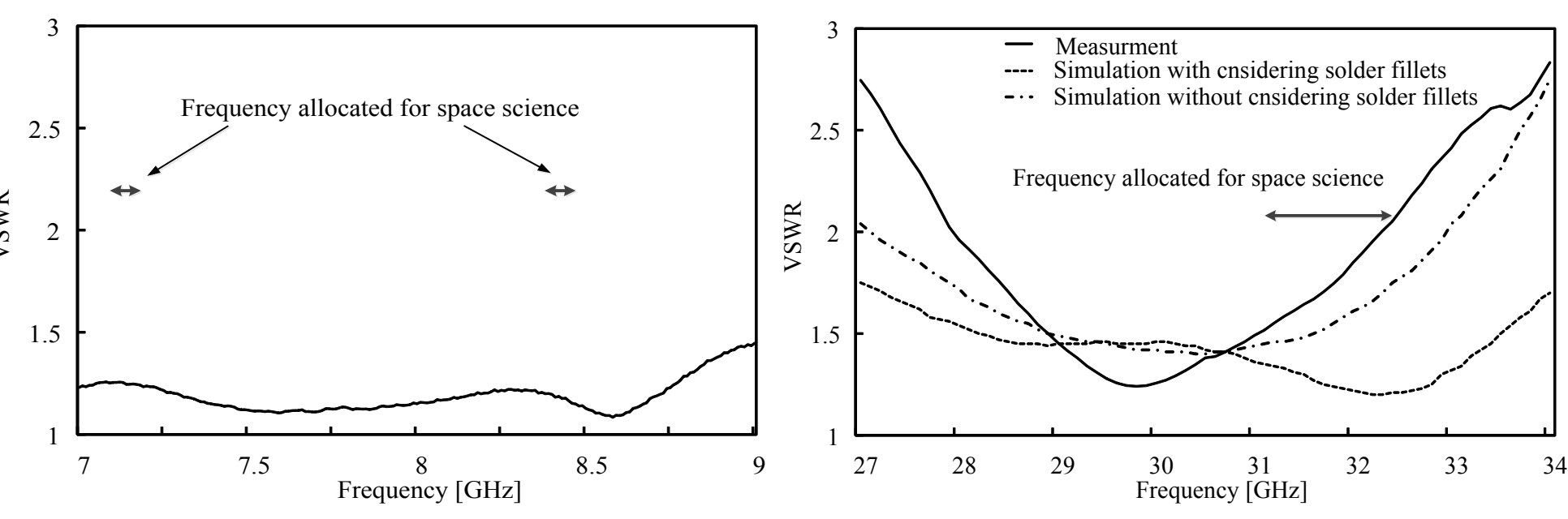
6. Proposed radiator

- Size comparison between the conventional and the proposed dual-band primary radiators.

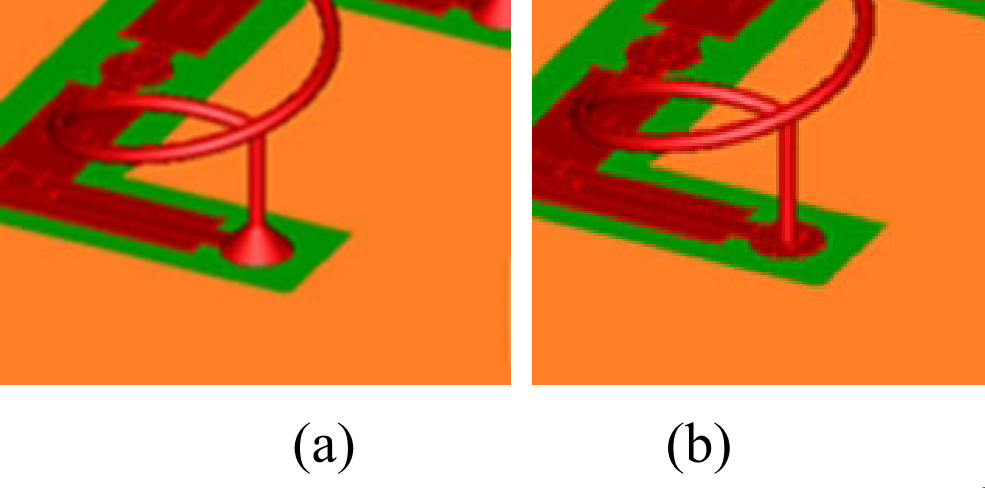


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7. VSWR

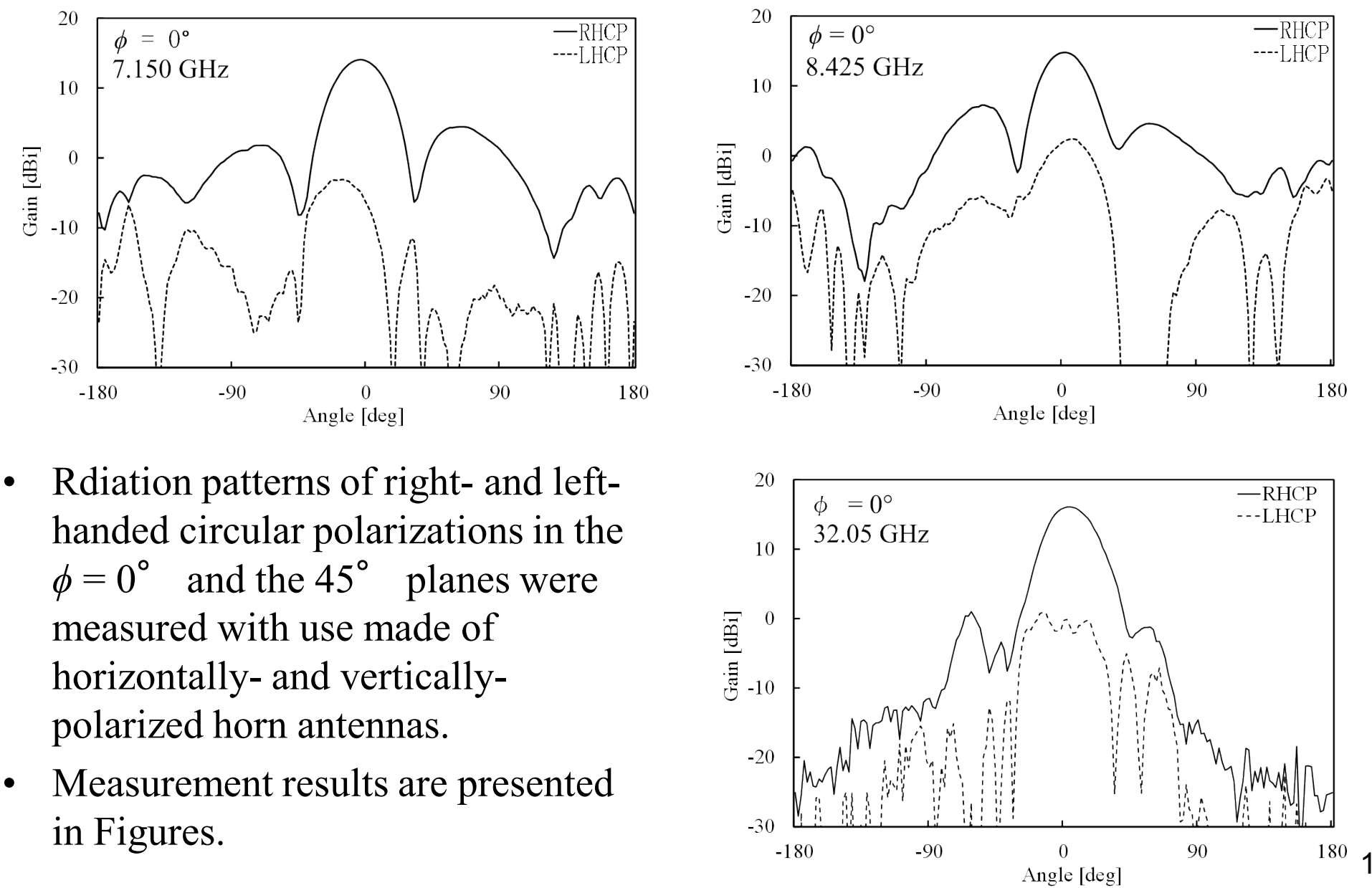


- Measured results of VSWR in X and Ka bands.
- Simulation models of the bottoms of helices (a) with (b) without solder fillets.



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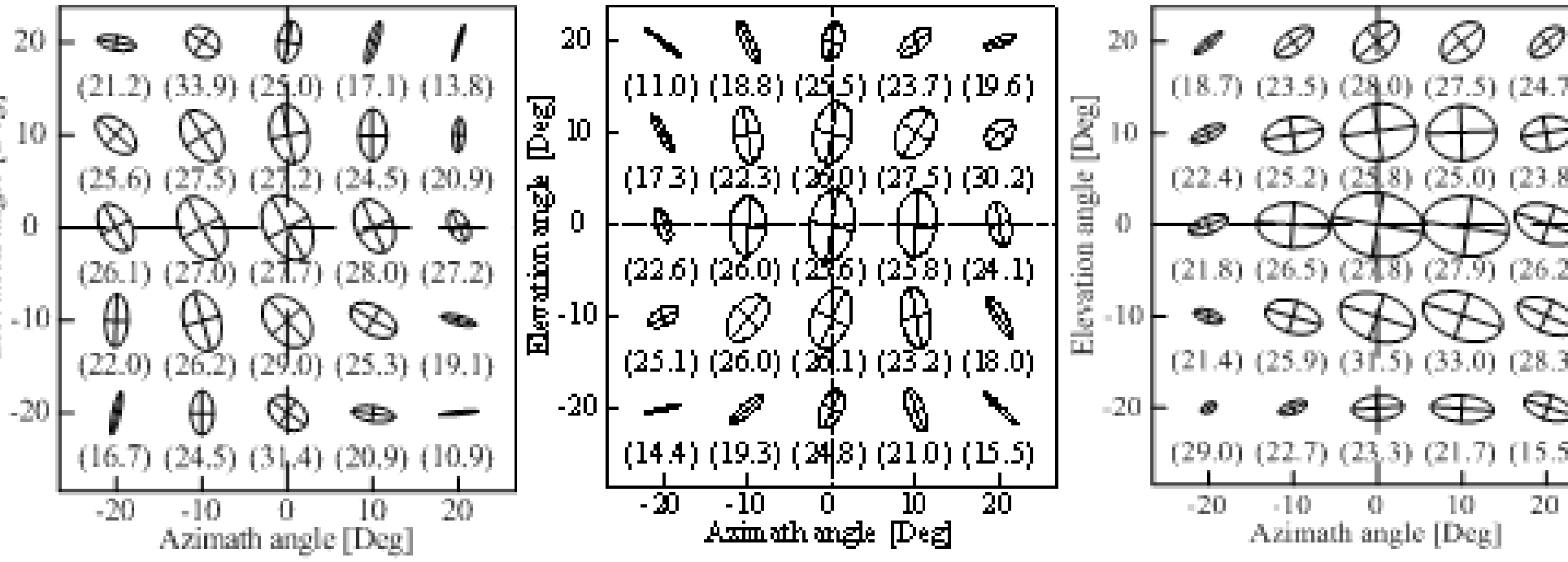
8. Radiation pattern



- Rdiation patterns of right- and left-handed circular polarizations in the φ = 0° and the 45° planes were measured with use made of horizontally- and vertically-polarized horn antennas.
- Measurement results are presented in Figures.

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9. XPD



- The XPDs in X and Ka band were measured by employing a polarization pattern method with use of axially-rotatable linearly-polarized horn antennas.
- The frequency characteristics of XPDs in the boresight direction are presented.

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10. Conclusion

- A novel X/Ka dual-band primary radiator for a satellite-bone high-gain Cassegrain antenna has been proposed, prototype, and measured.
- A four-element sequential array fed with L-shaped probe and a four-element array of helical antennas were successfully collocated on the same plane. Satisfactory radiation characteristics—VSWR, radiation patterns, and XPD—were validated with use of a prototype.
- A discrepancy between the design and the realized center frequencies was observed, which was attributable to the effects of solder fillets at the bottoms of the helices.
- Significant reduction of size and weight was achieved in comparison with a conventional radiator comprising a corrugated horn for X band and a coaxially-arranged disk-on-od antenna for Ka band.

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