

## ELECTROMAGNETIC DESIGN OPTIMIZATION

Application to Patch Antenna Reflection Loss on a Textured Material ("Metamaterial") Substrate

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#### **Brian E. Fischer**

#### **Doctoral Committee:**

Professor Andrew E. Yagle, Co-Chair Professor John L. Volakis, Co-Chair Professor Alfred O. Hero III Professor Kamal Sarabandi

#### Overview



- Introduction of Research Focus
  - textured substrates for wideband design
  - past work; code and measurement validation
  - development approach
- Linear System Development
  - FEMA-BRICK FE-BI system
    - decomposition
    - narrowband optimizations
  - wideband approximation and eigendecomposition
  - relating eigenvalues to material texture
- Optimization Examples
  - patch and square spiral geometries
- Conclusions and Future Work



# Applications

- Rapidly growing wireless, automotive and biomedical industry
  - driving need for increasingly miniaturized antenna designs
  - leverages a large body of work in high-dielectric ceramics
- Need for multifunctional, miniaturized advanced devices
  - bandwidth, efficiency, isolation
  - ease of use, low cost
  - power-handling
  - complexity

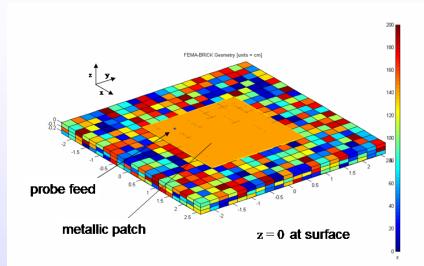






## Metamaterial Antenna Design

- Combine dielectrics in a texture (structured lattice) at subwavelength granularity
  - fixed antenna geometry
- Integrate EM tools with matrix system optimization to design textured materials
  - Metamaterials
- Design context assumes full control over [ɛ] combinations
  - focus on optimization problem
  - combining materials in geometry only limited by EM tool



Design space of textured dielectrics to optimize reflection loss (reflection coefficient) over a band



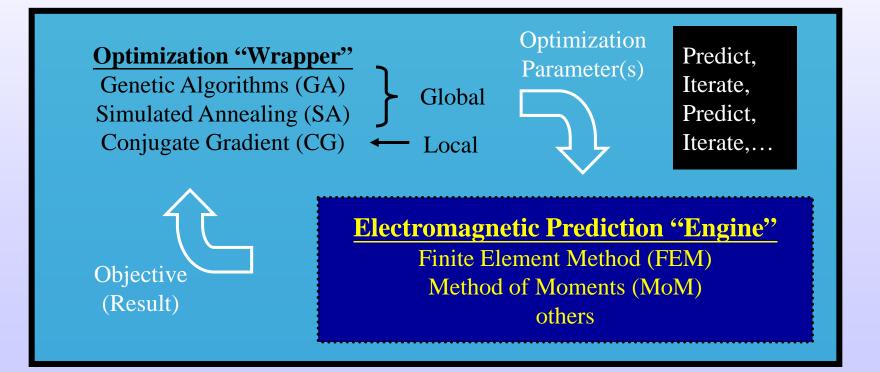
- Great deal of EM community interest
  - advances in high-dielectric antenna materials
  - advances in speed and accuracy of prediction codes
    - optimization of designs is one key driver
- Need for more direct optimization approaches
  - multi-modal optimization problem
    - antenna designs part of a large and sensitive search-space
    - genetic algorithms a dominant area of research
      - general class of statistical "gradient-free" approaches
    - "fractal design" offered as a new way to improve antennas
  - most approaches are general-purpose applications
    - not dependent on a particular prediction code per se

### Research Focus<sup>1</sup>



#### Standard Approach to Electromagnetic Optimization:

Can be very time-intensive (1000's of iterations, several minutes per iteration)

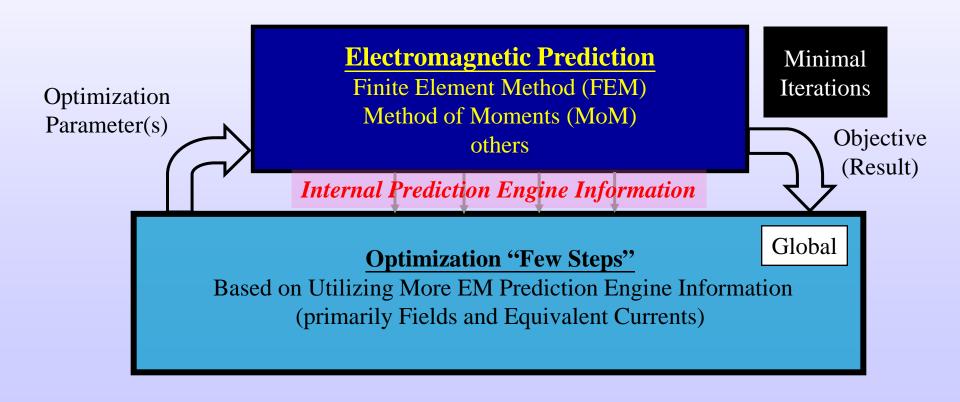


#### Research Focus<sup>2</sup>



#### Proposed Approach to Electromagnetic Optimization:

• Remove the "wrapper"



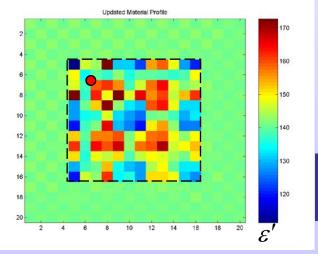
## **Objective Function for this Work**



#### • Optimize reflection loss over a bandwidth

- over all frequencies contained in some band, F
- commensurate with radiation performance
- computed via Z-directed field at probe location

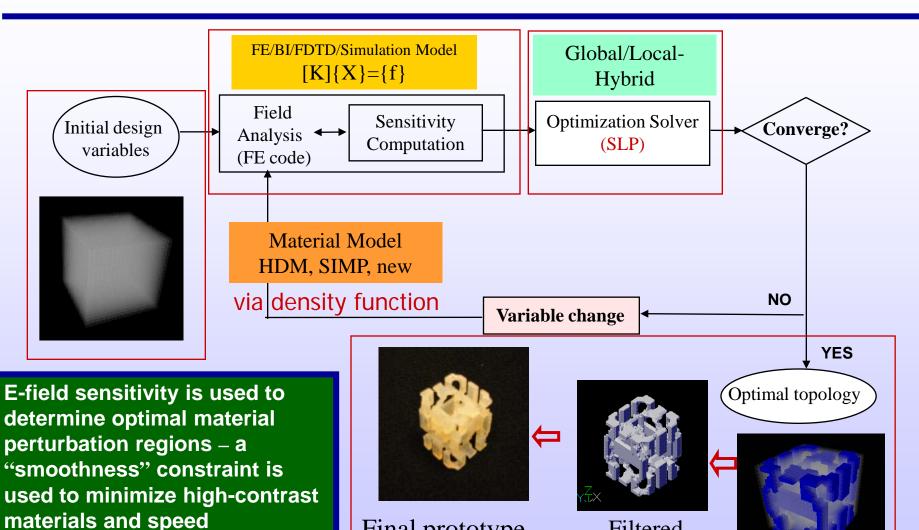
$$J(\mathbf{\varepsilon}) = \| s_{11}(\mathbf{\varepsilon}) \|_{f_i}^{\infty}, \quad f_i \in \mathbf{F} \quad \mathbf{\varepsilon} = \text{matrix of brick permittivity values}$$



$$\boldsymbol{\varepsilon}_{opt} = \operatorname*{argmin}_{\boldsymbol{\varepsilon}} \left[ J(\boldsymbol{\varepsilon}) \right]$$

Example Optimized Material Profile

# Recent Optimization Approach (SLP)

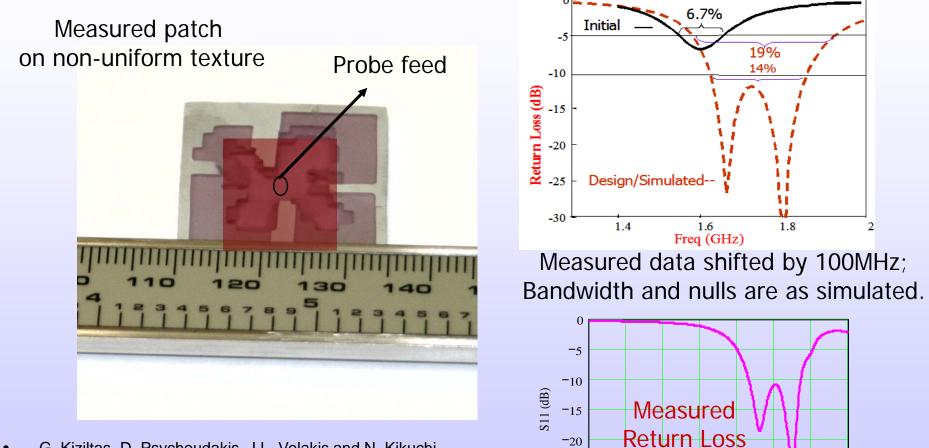


Final prototype

convergence

## **Measurement Validation**





-25

-30

1.3

1.4

1.5

1.6

frequency (GHz)

1.7

- G. Kiziltas, D. Psychoudakis, J.L. Volakis and N. Kikuchi *APT*, Vol. 51, Oct. 2003, pp. 2732-2743.
- G. Kiziltas, Y. Koh, J.L. Volakis, N. Kikuchi and J. Halloran, 2003 IEEE APS Symposium digest, pp. 485-488, Vol. 1, Columbus, OH.

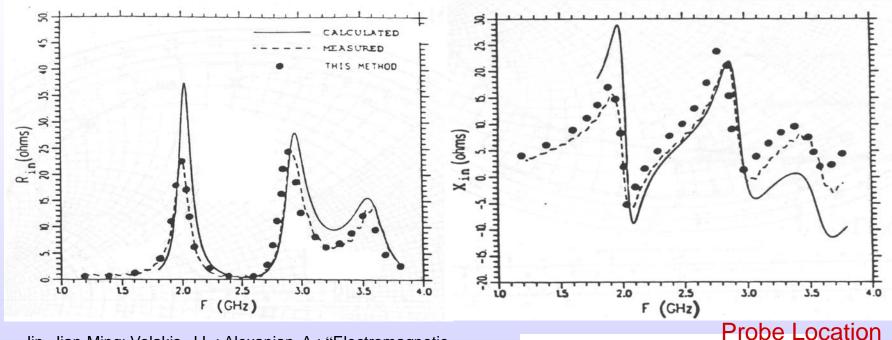
1.8

1.9

2

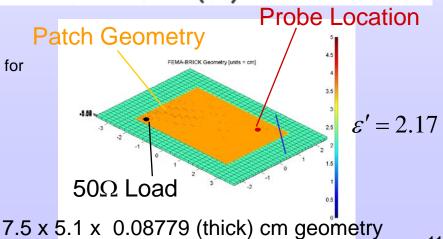


#### Validated Code : FEMA-BRICK



Jin, Jian-Ming; Volakis, J.L.; Alexanian, A.; "Electromagnetic Scattering and Radiation from Microstrip Patch Antennas and Arrays Residing in a Cavity", Project Report and User's Guide for FEMA-BRICK, 1991.

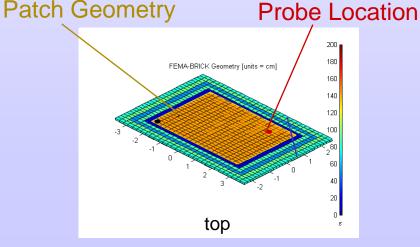


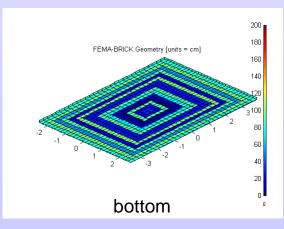


### Parametric Constraints



- Standard optimization requires reasonable constraints
  - number of possible material choices
  - regions of optimization
    - e.g., concentric rings or "wavelet-like" sub-regions
- Goal is for "non-parametric" solutions
  - individual bricks are not constrained
    - only exception is that final solution must be well-conditioned
  - find best brick values and combinations





#### Material Constraints



#### Available materials

Material Name	Permittivity	<b>Composition (Hardened)</b>
Air / Vacuum	1	
See FEMA-BRICK Manual	2.17 – j 0.0033	
Stycast*	3.3 – j 0.004	Epoxy Resin
Ferro ULF100 <sup>†</sup>	10 – j 0.01	CaMgSi <sub>2</sub> O <sub>6</sub>
Ferro ULF280 <sup>†</sup>	30 – j 0.045	BaTiO <sub>3</sub>
Ferro ULF101 <sup>†</sup>	100 – j 0.15	Bi – Ba – Nd – Titanate

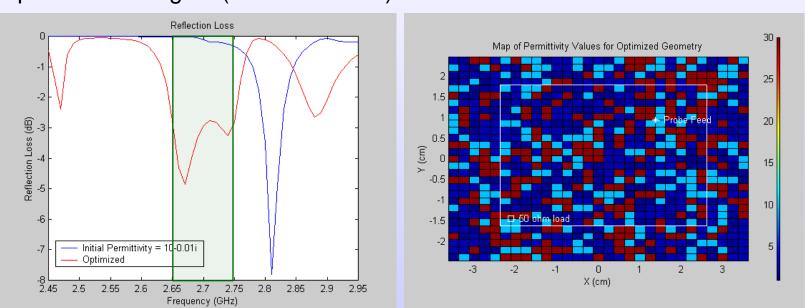
\* Stycast : from Emerson & Cuming Co.

**† LTCC: from Ferro Corp.** 



## Preliminary Attempt via GA

- Genetic algorithms require judicious use
  - computation times prohibitive for this problem



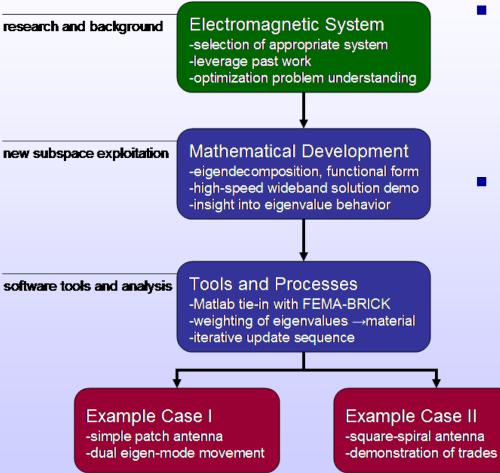
#### Optimization Region (2.65-2.75 GHz)

Reflection Loss (dB)

**Final Material Texture, Re{** $\epsilon$ **}** (constrained to real permittivity  $\epsilon \in [1, 2.17, 10, 30]$ )

## **Development Approach**





- Establish relationship between eigen-decomposition of FE-BI system and textured substrate
  - broadband application
  - intuitive optimization
- Exploit relationship to demonstrate two representative cases
  - varying eigen-decompositions
  - limits in optimization potential

#### Overview

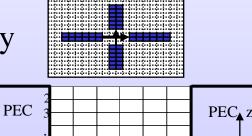


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• FEMA-BRICK<sup>†</sup> code solves the FE-BI<sup>‡</sup> system using a fast approach to obtain Finite Element (FE)  $\sum_{j=1}^{N} E_{j} \left\{ \int_{V} \left[ \frac{\nabla \times \mathbf{W}_{i} \cdot \nabla \times \mathbf{W}_{j}}{\mu_{r}} - k^{2} \varepsilon_{r} \mathbf{W}_{i} \cdot \mathbf{W}_{j} \right] dV - \left[ k^{2} \int_{S} \int_{S'} \left[ \mathbf{W}_{i} \cdot \hat{\mathbf{z}} \times \overline{G}_{e2} \times \hat{\mathbf{z}} \cdot \mathbf{W}_{j} \right] dS' dS \right]$   $= f_{i}^{\text{int}} + \tilde{f}_{i}^{\text{ext}}, \quad i = 1, 2, 3, ..., N$ Boundary Integral (BI)

- develops brick mesh (volumetric) in a cavity
  - aperture embedded in an infinite ground plane
- matches volumetric and surface terms
- probe feed (good for thin substrate)

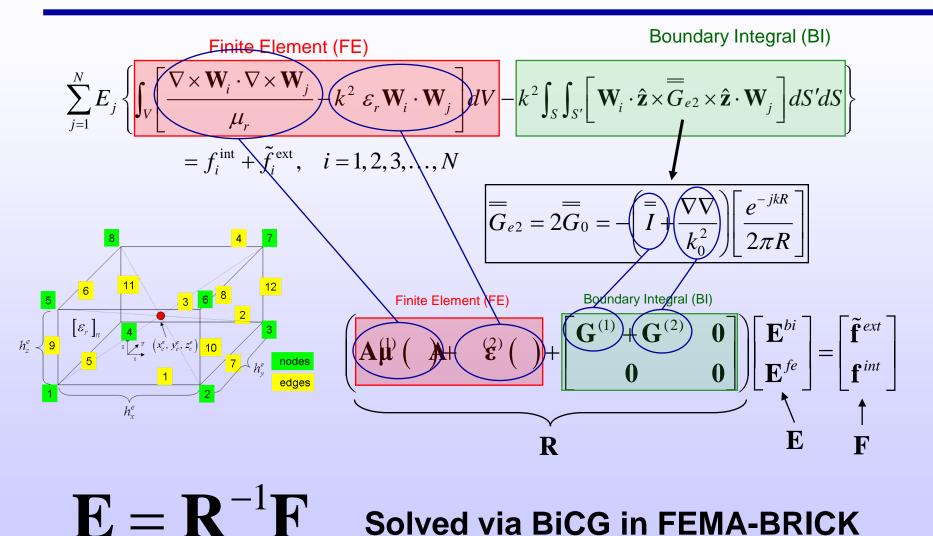


Cavity

<sup>†</sup>Jin, J.-M.; Volakis, J.L.; "A Finite-Element-Boundary-Integral Formulation for Scattering by Three-Dimensional Cavity-Backed Apertures", *IEEE Transactions on Antennas and Propagation*, Vol: 39, Issue: 1, Jan. 1991.
‡ Finite Element – Boundary Integral (FE-BI)

## System Solution

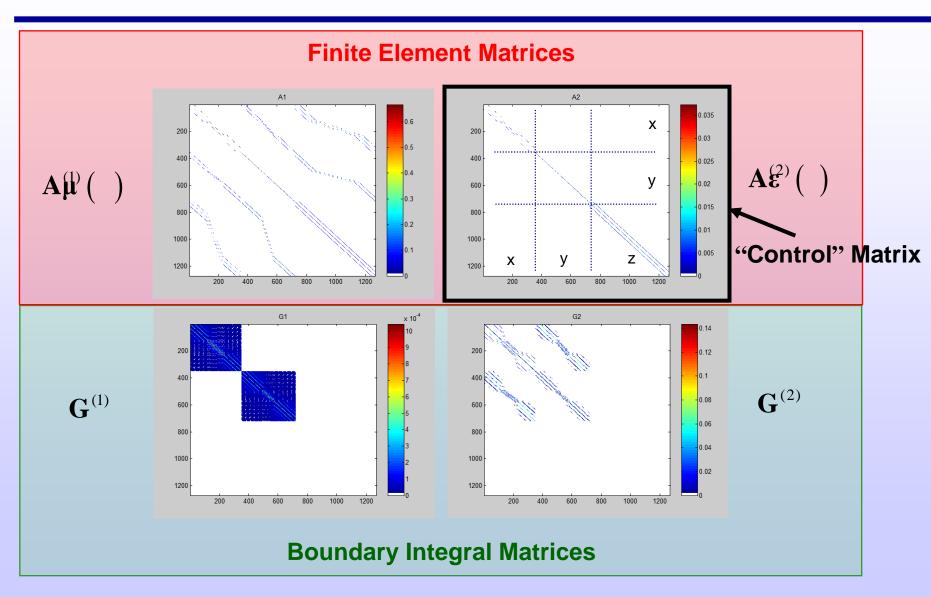




Solved via BiCG in FEMA-BRICK on a Per-Frequency Basis

## Sparse FE and Dense BI Structure

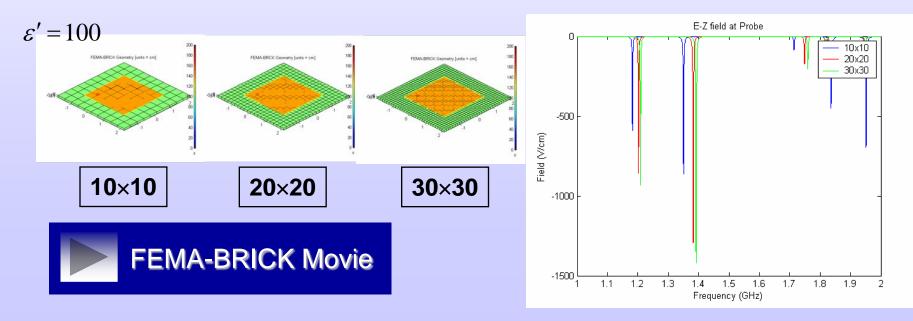




## System Condition

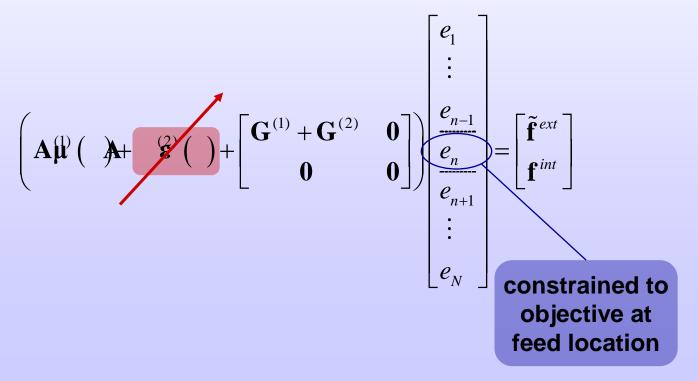


- Valid E-field solutions are dependent on proper sampling, expansion functions and system development
  - segmentation (check for convergence)
  - alternate bases (field edge-based expansion function)
  - cross-code validation
    - important to ensure the code is "appropriately disparate"





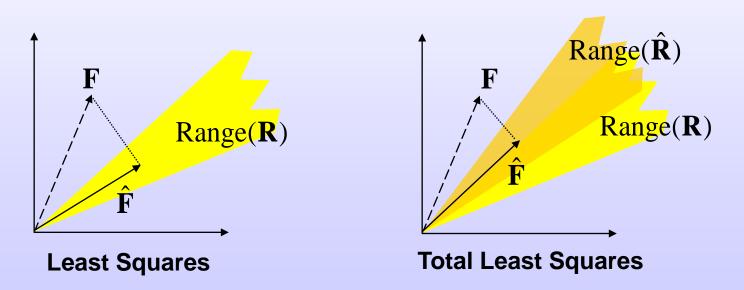
- Constrain the field at the probe location to the desired objective value (corresponding to desired input impedance)
  - solve remaining system via TLS
  - simple weighted update for material texture



## **TLS Solution Space**



- Total Least Squares (TLS) finds a unique solution by assuming error may equivalently exist in the observation (F) as well as the range of the data matrix (R) for the system RE≈F
  - contrasted with Least Squares (LS) where error is assume to exist only in  $\mathbf{F}$

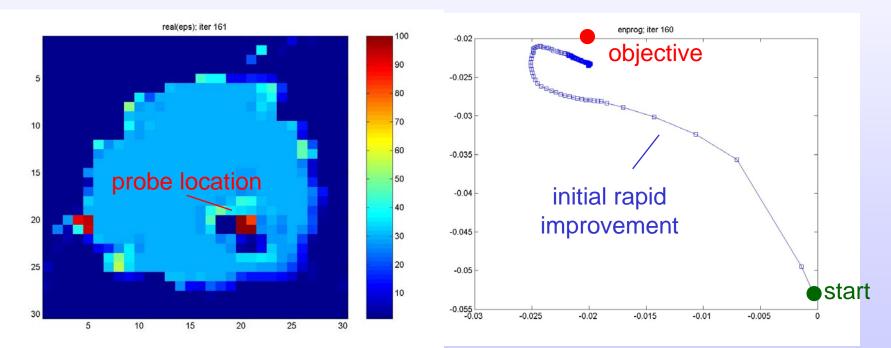


<sup>†</sup>Golub, Gene H.; VanLoan Charles F.; *Matrix Computations*, 3<sup>rd</sup> Edition, The Johns Hopkins University Press, 1996. <sup>†</sup>Van Huffel, Sabine; Vandewalle, Joos; The Total Least Squares Problem – Computational Aspects and Analysis, SIAM Publications, 1991.



## Example TLS Results (2 GHz)

Iterative improvement overall, with some deviation (imperfect solution)



**Final Material Texture, Re{** $\epsilon$ **}** [constrained to real permittivity  $1 < \epsilon < 100$ ] Complex E-field at Probe Feed Location



## Issues Highlighted by TLS

- Slow convergence
  - updates guided by smallest singular values
- Incomplete convergence
  - updates quickly driven to material specification limits

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## **Complete Eigendecomposition**

- Narrowband initially
  - solve inversion problem in straightforward fashion
    - material decomposed into bases to relate to eigen-space
  - similar solutions involving eigen-mode computation and evaluation are very popular for some applications<sup>†</sup>

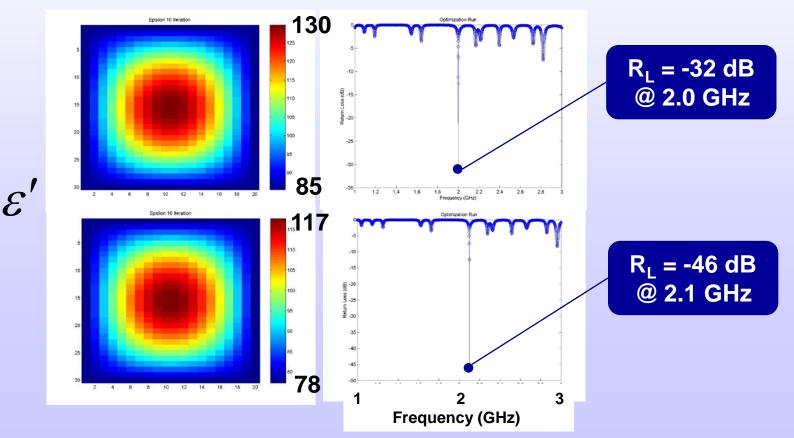
$$\begin{pmatrix} \mathbf{A} \not{\mu} & (\mathbf{A} \not{\mu} & \mathbf{A} & \mathbf{A} \not{\mu} & \mathbf{A}$$

- <sup>†</sup> Chan, C.-H.; Pantic-Tanner, Z.; Mittra, R.; "Field Behaviour Near a Conducting Edge Embedded in an Inhomogeneous Anisotropic Medium", *Electronics Letters*, Volume 24, Issue 6, 17 March 1988.
- Sarabandi, K.; "A Technique for Dielectric Measurement of Cylindrical Objects in a Rectangular Waveguide", *IEEE Transactions on Instrumentation and Measurement*, Vol: 43, Issue: 6, Dec 1994.
- Kiang, J.; "Microstrip Lines on Substrates with Segmented or Continuous Permittivity Profiles", *IEEE Transactions on Microwave Theory and Techniques*, Vol: 45, Issue: 2, Feb 1997.
- Yatsuk, L.; Lyakhovsky, A.; "Longitudinal Slots in a Rectangular Waveguide Loaded with a Layered Dielectric", *Mathematical Methods in Electromagnetic Theory*, 2000 MMET International Conference, Volume 2, 12-15 Sept 2000.
- Yatsyk, V.V.; "About Self-organization and Dispersion of Eigen Fields of a Nonlinear Dielectric Layer", *Direct and Inverse Problems of Electromagnetic and Acoustic Wave Theory*, 2002 Proceedings of the 7th International Seminar/Workshop on DIPED, 10-13 Oct 2002.

### Narrowband Results

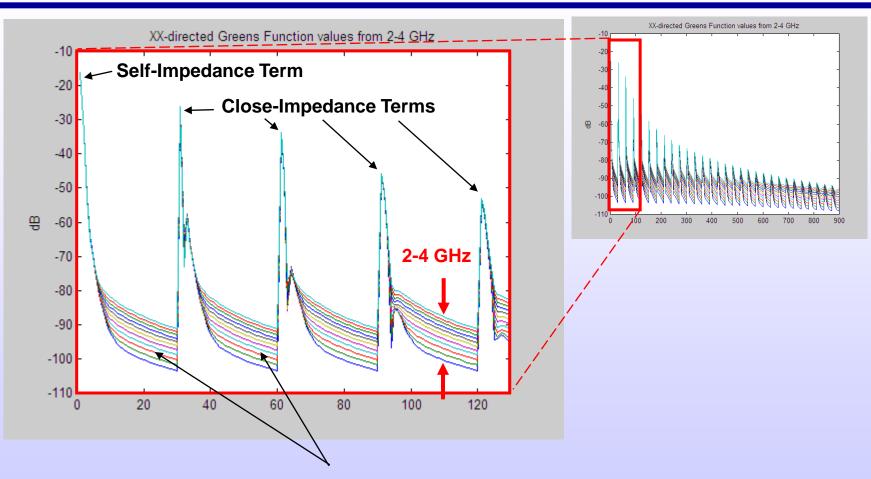


- Achieved very good results with only two material bases
  - constant and rooftop sinusoidal
  - could select frequency to optimize *almost* at will



### Wideband BI Coefficients





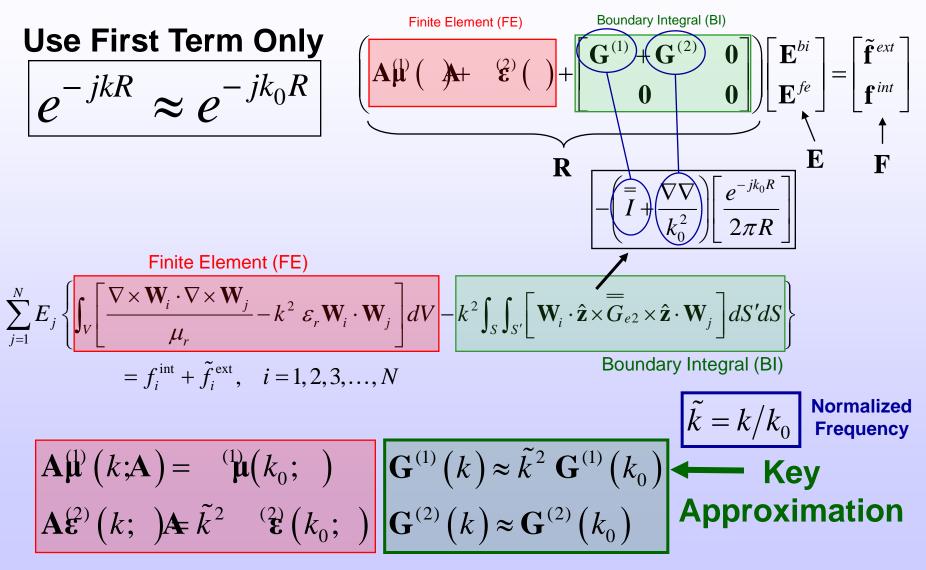
Principle Differences are Near the "Zeros" (increasing R) of the BI Matrix Terms

Expansion of free space Green's function kernel

→ 
$$e^{-jkR} \approx e^{-jk_0R} \left( 1 + j(k - k_0)R - \frac{1}{2}(k - k_0)^2 R^2 + \dots \right)$$

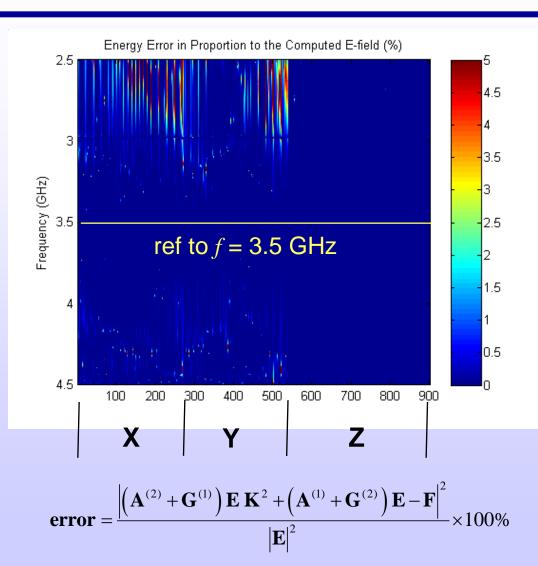


## Approximate Wideband System



# Wideband Approximant Accuracy<sup>1</sup>



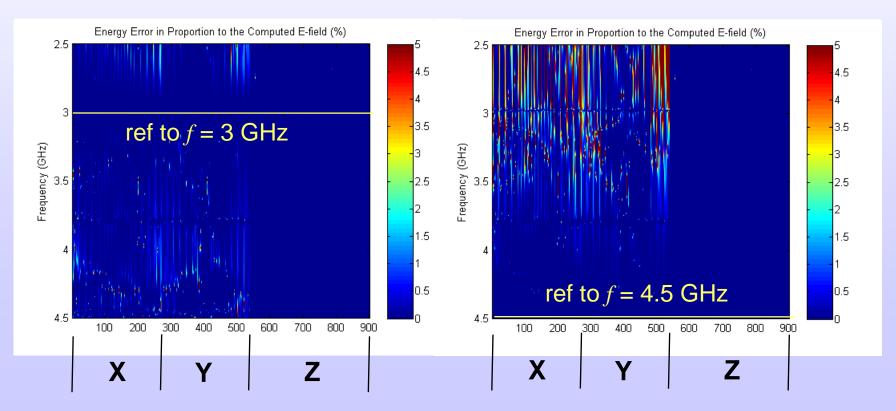


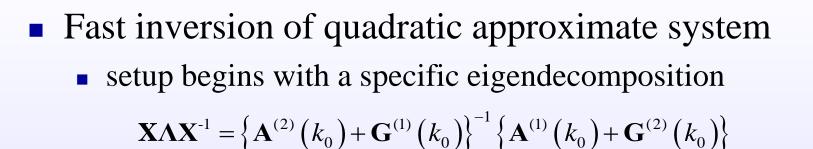
- Approximation exact at center frequency
- Graceful degradation away from center frequency
  - reasonably wide fractional bandwidth
  - appropriate for fast computation

# Wideband Approximant Accuracy<sup>2</sup>



- Reasonably robust approximation
  - fractional BW on order of 30%
  - often this limit could be pushed even further

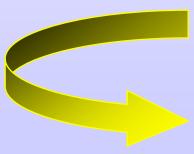




 results in a functional eigenvalue form as is typical of similar eigendecompositions

$$\mathbf{E}(k) \mathbf{A} \left( \tilde{k}^{2} \mathbf{I} + \mathbf{A} \mathbf{X}^{-1} \right)^{-1} \mathbf{G}^{(2)}(k_{0}) + \mathbf{F}^{(1)}(k_{0}) \right\}^{-1} (k)$$

$$= \mathbf{X} \mathbf{\Lambda}_{k}^{-1} \mathbf{X}^{-1} \left\{ \mathbf{A}^{(2)}(k_{0}) + \mathbf{G}^{(1)}(k_{0}) \right\}^{-1} \mathbf{F}(k)$$

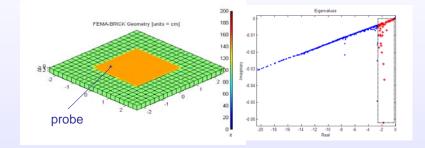


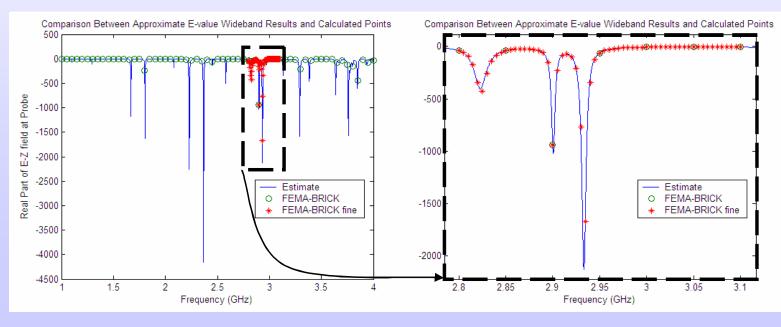
 $\Lambda_{k} = \operatorname{diag}\left(\lambda_{i} + \tilde{k}^{2}\right)$  Key functional form

## **Approximation Accuracy**



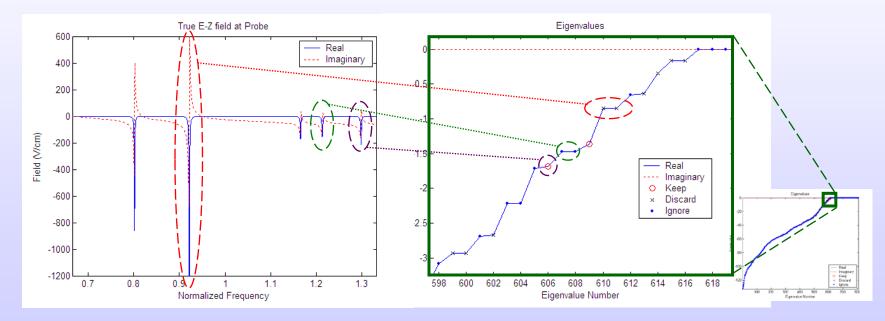
- Approximation reasonably predictive
  - eigen-term selection
  - excellent accuracy
  - physical meaning...





## Eigen-mode Correspondence<sup>1</sup>

Intuitive behavior in frequency location
location of resonances easily related to eigenvalues

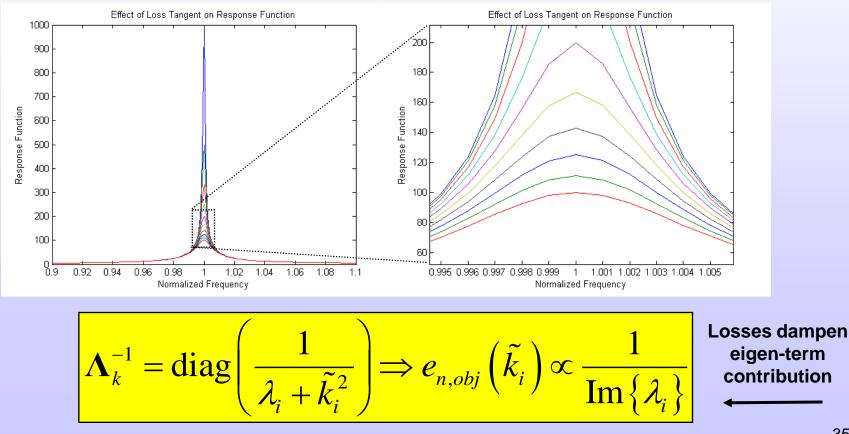


$$\boldsymbol{\Lambda}_{k}^{-1} = \operatorname{diag}\left(\frac{1}{\lambda_{i} + \tilde{k}^{2}}\right) \Longrightarrow \tilde{k}_{i} \approx \sqrt{-\operatorname{Re}\left\{\lambda_{i}\right\}}$$

Movement of location also affects amplitude

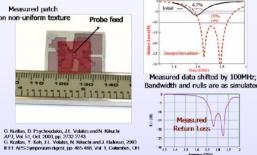
## Eigen-mode Correspondence<sup>2</sup>

Intuitive behavior in resonance amplitude
resonance amplitudes easily related to eigenvalues



# Optimization in Wideband

- Broadband designs leverage some ability to assimilate appropriate resonances in an organized fashion
  - must develop eigen-space desired result
    - determine which eigen-terms to use
    - "move" these terms in frequency-space
    - account for amplitude/location relation
- Design success hinges on the ability to associate desired eigen-mode response with material texture
  - must work efficiently with only control matrix,  $\mathbf{A}_{\boldsymbol{\epsilon}}^{(2)}(\ )$
  - manage updates via a weighting scheme
  - determine a way to minimize number of iterations necessary to achieve convergence toward the objective



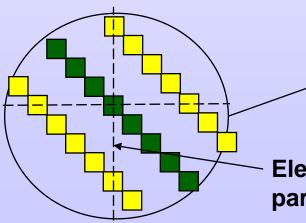


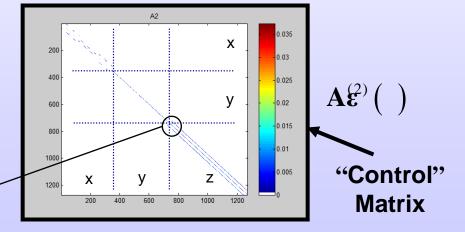
# Relating Eigenstructure to Material Texture

- Exploit symmetric matrix structure
  - decompose control matrix via LDL

$$\mathbf{A}\boldsymbol{\varepsilon}^{(2)}\left(\mathbf{L}\boldsymbol{H}\boldsymbol{\varepsilon}\right) \stackrel{T}{\longrightarrow} \mathbf{D}\boldsymbol{\varepsilon} \left(\mathbf{L}\boldsymbol{\varepsilon}\right) = \mathrm{di}\boldsymbol{a}\boldsymbol{b}\boldsymbol{\varepsilon}\left(\mathbf{L}\boldsymbol{\varepsilon}\right)$$

Lower triangular (with unity diagonal) and predominantly a function of brick geometry → matrix structure



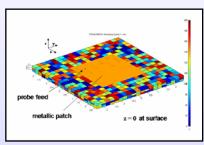


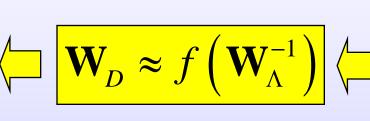
Elements associated with a particular dielectric brick

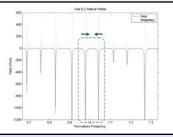
# Weighted Update



- Key to isolate material contributions to a diagonal
  - establishes a relationship between a weighting *desired* in eigenspace and the *required* textured weighting in material-space







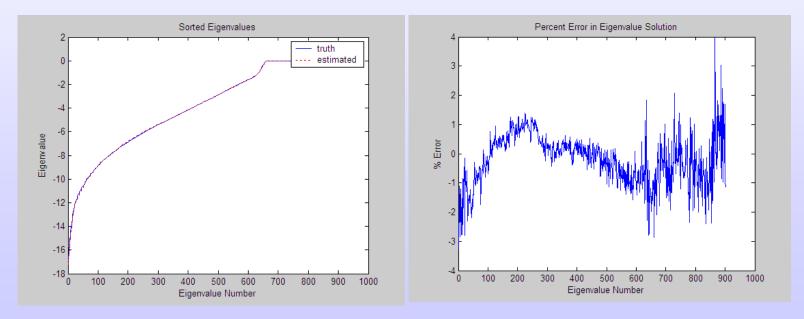
- Efficiencies in approximation dealt with by amplifying weights appropriately
  - emulates multiple iterations at the same proposed weighting

$$\mathbf{W}_{\!\scriptscriptstyle D} \to \mathbf{W}_{\!\scriptscriptstyle D}^{\alpha}$$

# Test of LDL Decomposition



- Analyze effects of random material perturbations
  - compute eigen-terms assuming  $(\mathbf{L} + \Delta \mathbf{L}) \rightarrow \mathbf{L}$
  - compare difference in eigenvalue computations
    - "estimated" results arise from assumption that L does not vary

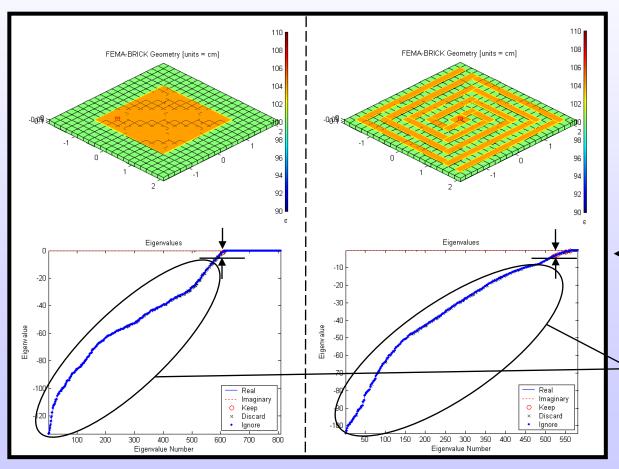


**Results above for a "severe" random weighting over [0.5,1.5]** 

#### Geometry and Eigenvalues



#### Eigenvalues depend on both geometry and material



Narrow region within which eigenvalues may be reasonably used; strong desire for more terms to be clustered near

$$\leftarrow \operatorname{Re}\left\{\lambda_{i}\right\} \approx -1$$

Many terms are extraneous to optimization

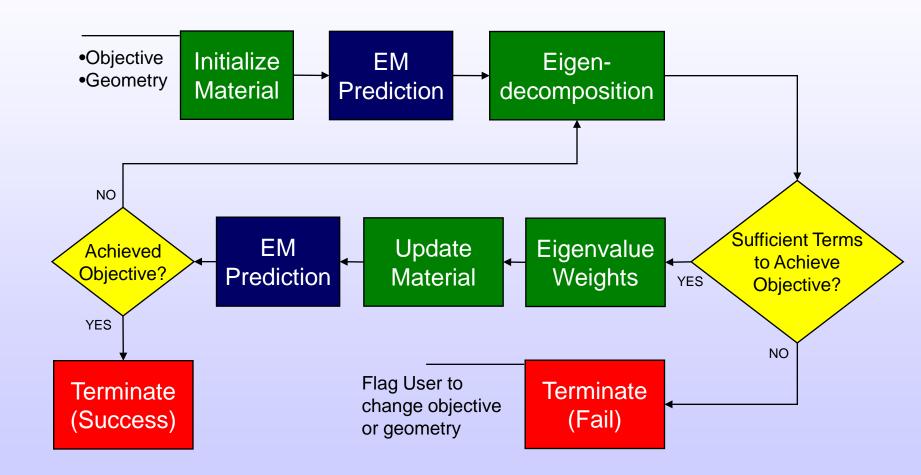
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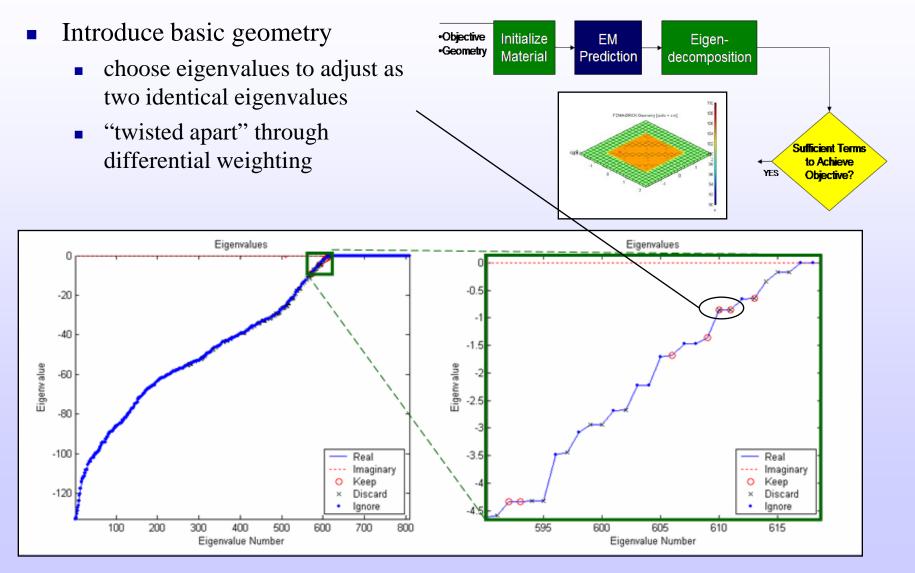
#### **Basic Algorithm**





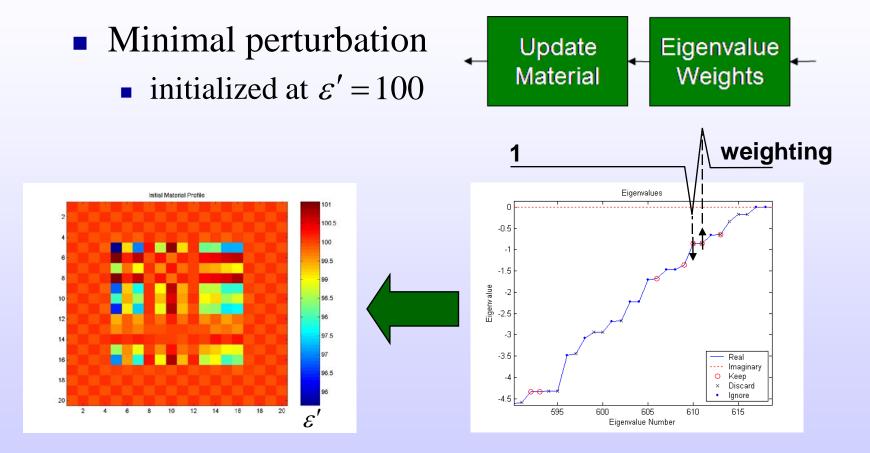


#### Offset Feed Patch Antenna





# **Eigenvalue Weight Translation**

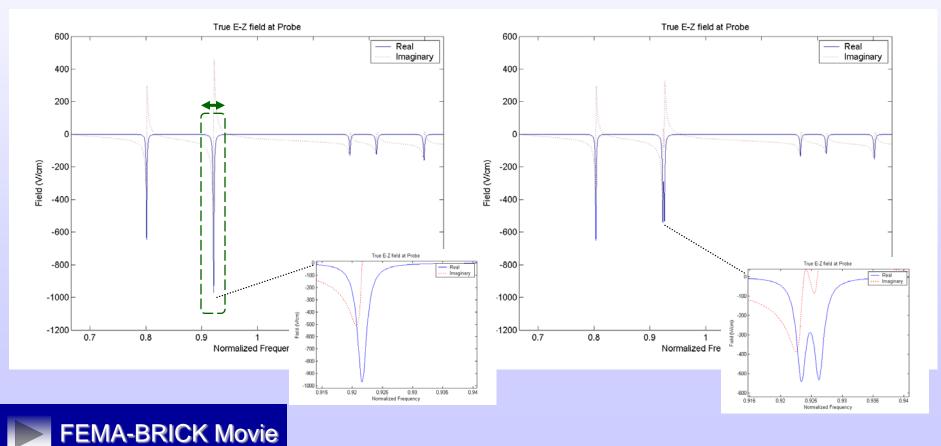


Texture contains small "channels" and "posts"

# **Eigen-mode Separation**



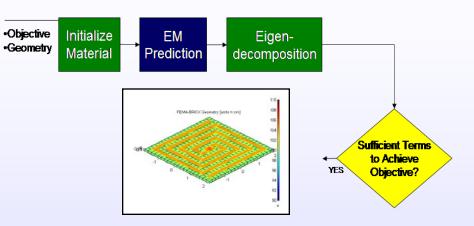
# Case utilized no iteration (i.e., direct) other eigen-modes relatively unaffected

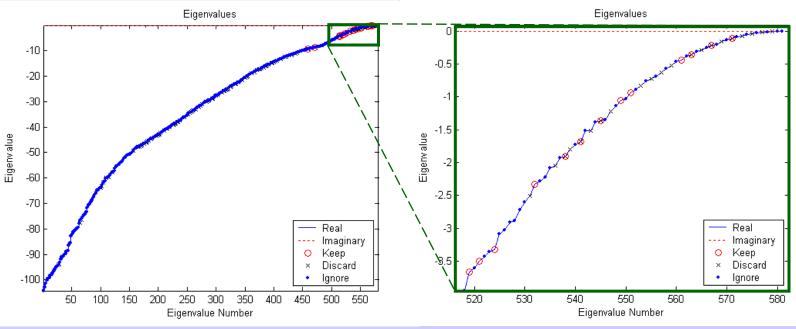


# Square-Spiral Antenna



- Introduce basic geometry
  - choose eigenvalues to adjust as two separate eigenvalues
  - "drawn together" through weighting toward a central objective

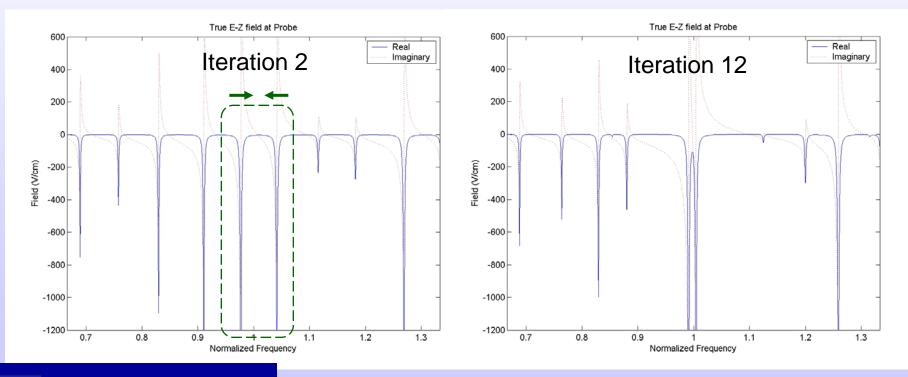






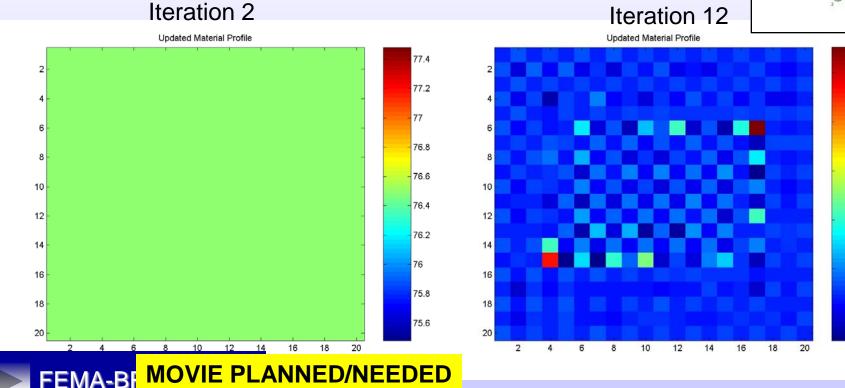
# Squeezing Eigen-modes Together

- First iteration shifts desired modes to center frequency via a constant material scaling
  - "squeezing" process managed in reasonable steps, but could be hastened with a more aggressive choice of  $\alpha$  for  $\mathbf{W}_{D} \rightarrow \mathbf{W}_{D}^{\alpha}$



FEMA-BRICK Movie

- Formation of high-dielectric "posts" in specified regions
  - directly under portion of metal spiral element
  - produces a clear mode disturbance



300

250

200

150

100

50



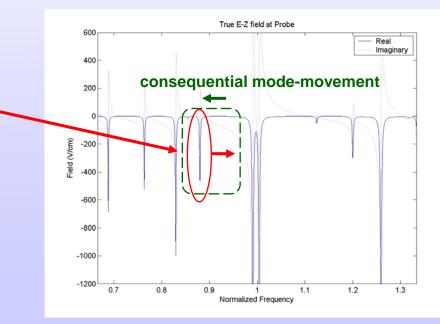
# "Capturing" of Additional Modes



• Generally, all modes are disturbed as a result of texturing

- as texturing increases away from initial conditions
- modes that are not "targeted" for optimization are allowed to freely float
  - this minimizes the required amount of material texturing

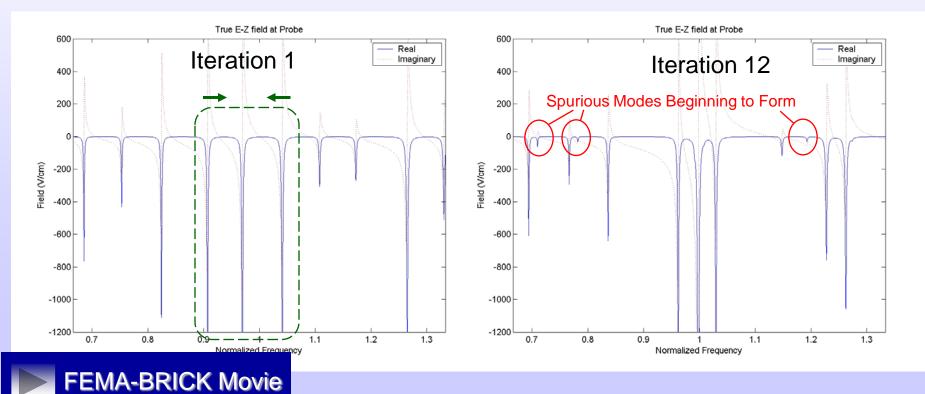
A clear test of the validity of the material / eigen – weighting formulation is to force this additional mode to move inward toward the center frequency – did not naturally tend this way as a result of the first optimization.





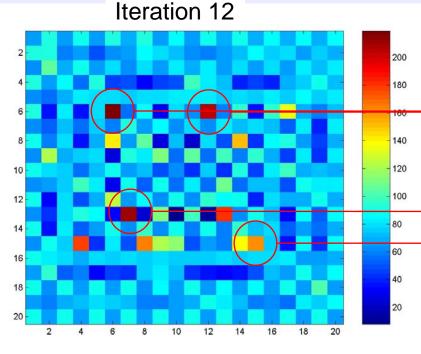
#### Squeezing More Eigen-modes Together

- First iteration shifts desired modes to center frequency via a constant material scaling
  - "squeezing" process managed in reasonable steps to understand a critical feature of "overreaching" in the design



# **Controlling Spurious Modes**

- Must maintain an upper bound on dielectric contrast and overall value
  - previous example was allowed to continue weighting to illustrate the point
  - certain bricks/regions are consistently chosen to continue optimization
  - certain modes may not allow user to achieve objective



#### Iteration 30

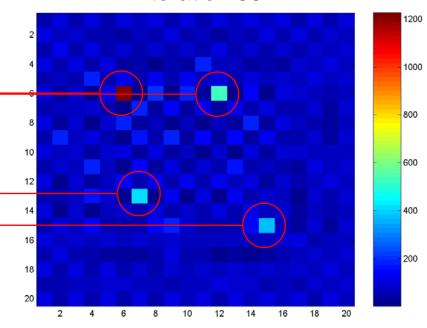
Terminate

(Fail)

Flag User to

or geometry

change objective





Sufficient Terms

to Achieve Objective?

NO

#### Overview



- Introduction of Research Focus
  - textured substrates for wideband design
  - past work; code and measurement validation
  - development approach
- Linear System Development
  - FEMA-BRICK FE-BI system
    - decomposition
    - narrowband optimizations
  - wideband approximation and eigendecomposition
  - relating eigenvalues to material texture
- Optimization Examples
  - patch and square spiral geometries
- Conclusions and Future Work

#### Conclusions



- The electromagnetic optimization problem is closely coupled to the electromagnetic inversion problem
  - an operable electromagnetic (eigen-mode) subspace must be found
    - here determined for FE-BI
    - a (near) instantaneous wideband system solution arises
    - eigen-mode correspondence in frequency and amplitude enables physical insight for the optimization solution
- Mapping eigen-mode movement to physical material or geometry is the key requirement
  - modification of eigenvalues in the system subspace was shown to lead to textured material solutions
  - functionality of eigenvalues to include combined frequencydependence and material-dependence was demonstrated

#### Future Work



- Optimization of geometry
  - relating noted eigen-mode behavior to geometric constraints or parameterization
- Constrained optimization of material
  - working within the bounds of material constraints to achieve optimal solutions that minimally disturb the initial material distribution
- Design of exotic materials
  - a great match between materials science disciplines and miniaturized antennas is already forming in industry
  - such optimization results can more efficiently drive key areas of advanced material prototypes
- Management of large systems
  - it may be possible to eliminate a large portion of the eigendecomposition computation requirements (few relevant eigenvalues)
  - direct computation of eigensystem may be possible
- Application of equivalent techniques to other electromagnetic problems
  - FE-BI is a somewhat general solution approach seeking similar decomposition approaches for other prediction techniques (e.g., MoM) has already been done
  - apply similar decompositions to other interesting optimization problems
    - best suited to "parametrically challenging" situations

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