Towards planar phaseless near-field measurements of ESA's JUICE mission 600 GHz SWI reflector antenna

The Submillimeter Wave Instrument is a 600GHz spectrometer with a 30cm reflector antenna, part of the payload of the ESA JUICE mission. Due to the difficulty of producing reliable phase measurements at such high frequency a phaseless planar nearfield measurement based on the Iterative Fourier Technique (IFT) is explored. The IFT is a well-known technique which has shown good results with aperture-type antennas; furthermore, probe correction has been demonstrated to be possible in one experimental case. In this paper a series of numerical results are presented pointing to the feasibility of a phaseless planar measurement for the SWI. In particular, the effect of the initial guess is evaluated with an accurate guess leading to exceptional results and a very simple constant-phase guess resulting in a less accurate result, but still remarkably accurate for the main beam. Additional simulations concern the use of coarser spatial sampling rates, showing that the sampling spacing can be increased to 32λ without significant aliasing error in the main beam, owing to the high directivity of the SWI. Results from preliminary experimental investigations will also be reported, if available, at the time of the presentation.

General information
Publication status: Published
Organisations: Department of Electrical Engineering, Electromagnetic Systems
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Number of pages: 6
Pages: 1-6
Publication date: 2016

Host publication information
Title of host publication: Proceedings of 2016 Antenna Measurement Techniques Association Symposium
Publisher: IEEE
ISBN (Print): 978-1-5090-5179-3
(Amta 2016 Proceedings).
DOIs:
10.1109/AMTAP.2016.7806282

Bibliographical note
Session 14: Innovative Approaches of Antenna Measurement
Source: FindIt
Source-ID: 2350797432
Research output: Chapter in Book/Report/Conference proceeding › Article in proceedings – Annual report year: 2016 › Research › peer-review