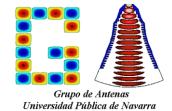
"High performance horn antenna design (II)"

Dr. Carlos del Río Bocio Antenna Group Public University of Navarra









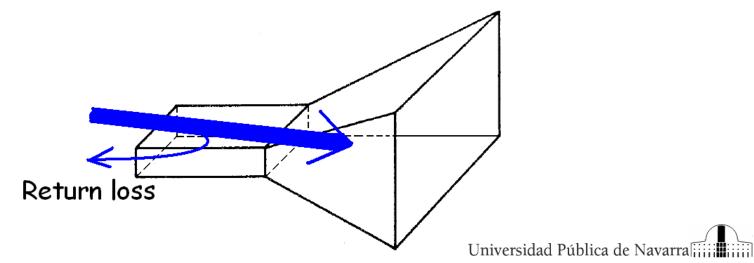
Feed-horns



Feed-horns



- Feed-horns are widely used in microwave and millimeter wave bands because they provide moderate to high gain, low return loss, wide bandwidth and they are usually relatively easy to manufacture
- Feed-horn theoretical simulations are extremely similar to measurements, so feed-horn behavior can be easily predicted prior to be manufactured



Feed-horns

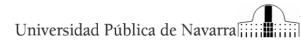


- Feed-horns can be classified:
 - Rectangular feed-horns:
 - Sectoral feed-horns (E-plane and H plane)
 - Pyramidal feed-horns
 - Conical feed-horns:
 - Smooth-walled conical feed-horns
 - Corrugated conical feed-horns
 - Profiled feed-horns
 - Multimode smooth-walled feed-horns
 - Corrugated profiled feed-horns





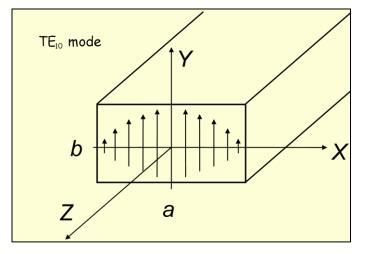


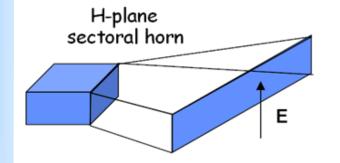


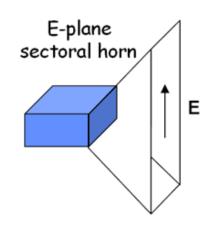


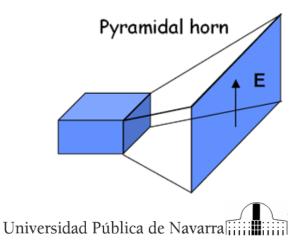
• Rectangular feed-horns are fed with the fundamental TE₁₀ mode of a rectangular metallic waveguide:

$$\vec{E}$$
, $\vec{y} = E_0 \cdot \cos\left(\frac{\pi \cdot x}{a}\right) \cdot \vec{u}_y$













H-plane sectoral feed-horns

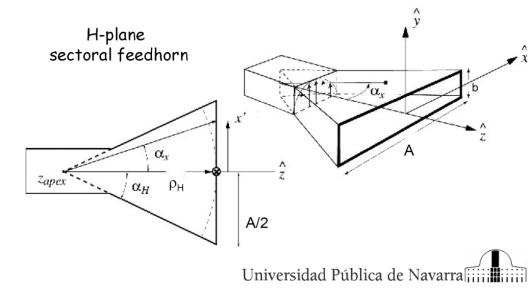


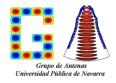


- An H-plane sectoral feed-horn is the one where the wider dimension of the input waveguide is broadened remaining constant the other dimension
- The aperture field is affected by a phase error in the Hplane: x^2

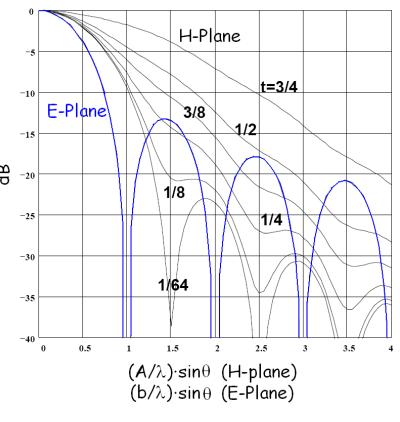
$$\vec{E}$$
, $y = E_0 \cdot \cos\left(\frac{\pi \cdot x}{A}\right) \cdot e^{-j \cdot 8 \cdot \pi \cdot t \cdot \frac{x^2}{A^2}} \cdot \vec{u}_y$

where *t* is the phase error at the aperture (in turns), $t = \frac{A^2}{8 \cdot \lambda \cdot \rho_{u}}$





- The universal radiation patterns for the H-plane sectoral feed-horn are represented with the phase error as parameter for H-plane
- E-plane radiation pattern is just a "Sinc" as a result of applying [⊕] the Fourier transform to a pulse
- Phase error elevates the sidelobe level filling the nulls between adjacent side-lobes



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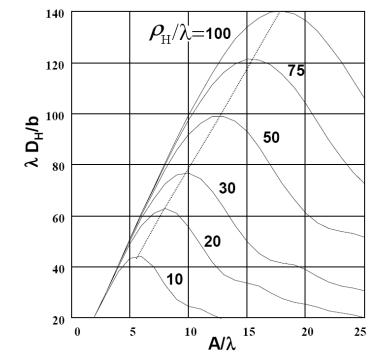


- The directivity, (D_H) , of the H-plane sectoral horn is obtained integrating the power at the aperture
- For every ρ_H value, there is an optimum aperture width (*A*) that gives maximum directivity
- Optimum aperture satisfy the equation:

$$A = \sqrt{3 \cdot \lambda \cdot \rho_{H}}$$

these optimum feed-horns present a phase error of:

$$t_{opt} = \frac{A^2}{8 \cdot \lambda \cdot \rho_H} = \frac{3}{8}$$







E-plane sectoral feed-horns



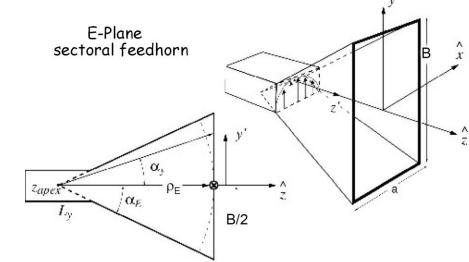


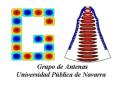
- An E-plane sectoral feed-horn is the one where the narrower dimension of the input waveguide is broadened remaining constant the other dimension
- The aperture field is affected by a phase error in the Eplane

$$\vec{E}$$
, $\vec{y} = E_0 \cdot \cos\left(\frac{\pi \cdot x}{A}\right) \cdot e^{-j \cdot 8 \cdot \pi \cdot s \cdot \frac{y^2}{B^2}} \cdot \vec{u}_y$

where *s* is the phase error expressed in turns:

$$_{S}=\frac{B^{2}}{8\cdot\lambda\cdot\rho_{_{E}}}$$

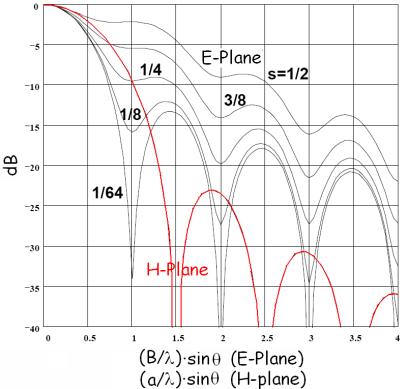




- The universal radiation patterns for the E-plane sectoral feed-horn are represented with the phase error as parameter for E-plane
- H-plane radiation pattern results by applying Fourier transform to a cosine

windowed pulse (lower sidelobes than a Sinc function)

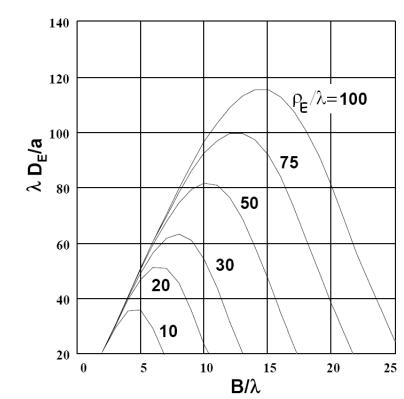
 Phase error elevates the sidelobe level filling the null between adjacent side-lobes





- The directivity, (D_E) , of the E-plane sectoral horn is obtained integrating the power at the aperture
- For every ρ_E value, there is an optimum aperture width
 (B) that gives maximum directivity
- Optimum aperture satisfy the equation: $B = \sqrt{2 \cdot \lambda \cdot \rho_E}$
- These optimum feed-horns present a phase error of:

$$s_{opt} = \frac{B^2}{8 \cdot \lambda \cdot \rho_E} = \frac{1}{4}$$

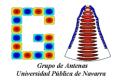






Pyramidal feed-horns



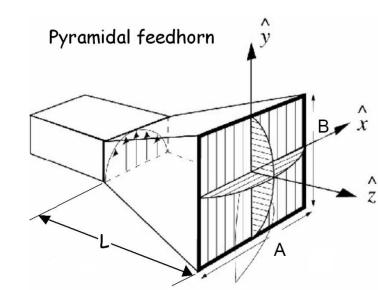


- An pyramidal feed-horn is the one where both dimensions of the input waveguide are broadened
- The aperture field is affected by a phase error in both planes

$$\vec{E} \, \mathbf{x}, \, y = E_0 \cdot \cos\left(\frac{\pi \cdot x}{A}\right) \cdot e^{-j \cdot 8 \cdot \pi \cdot t \cdot \frac{x^2}{A^2}} \cdot e^{-j \cdot 8 \cdot \pi \cdot s \cdot \frac{y^2}{B^2}} \cdot \vec{u}_y$$

• These feed-horns must satisfy geometrical condition:

$$\rho_{H} \cdot \left(1 - \frac{a}{A}\right) = \rho_{E} \cdot \left(1 - \frac{b}{B}\right) = L$$

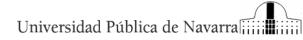




- The radiation pattern of a pyramidal horn can be directly obtained from the universal radiation patterns of sectoral E and H-plane feed-horns
- The directivity of a pyramidal horn can be expressed as a combination of the directivities of the sectoral feed-horns:

$$D_{p} = \frac{\pi}{32} \cdot \left(\frac{\lambda}{A} \cdot D_{E}\right) \cdot \left(\frac{\lambda}{B} \cdot D_{H}\right)$$

where the terms between parentheses can be obtained directly from the curves of directivity of sectoral feedhorns changing a with A and b with B





Pyramidal standard gain horn

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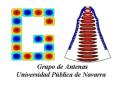
Rectangular feed-horns

- Pyramidal feed-horns are usually used as standard gain horns serving as reference for gain measurements
- Pyramidal standard gain horns are usually designed under the optimum condition:

$$A = \sqrt{3 \cdot \lambda \cdot \rho_{H}} \quad B = \sqrt{2 \cdot \lambda \cdot \rho_{E}}$$

The effective aperture of these pyramidal feed-horns is around
50% of its physical size, so:

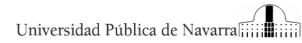
$$G = \varepsilon_{ap} \cdot \frac{4 \cdot \pi}{\lambda^2} \cdot A_p = \frac{1}{2} \cdot \frac{4 \cdot \pi}{\lambda^2} \cdot \mathbf{A} \cdot B$$



- Example: Design a 20 dB gain pyramidal horn at 10 GHz under optimum condition with equal E and H planes beam-width and with WR-90 standard waveguide as feeding waveguide
 - First we calculate the A·B area of the aperture by using approximate gain formula that relates gain and aperture surface:

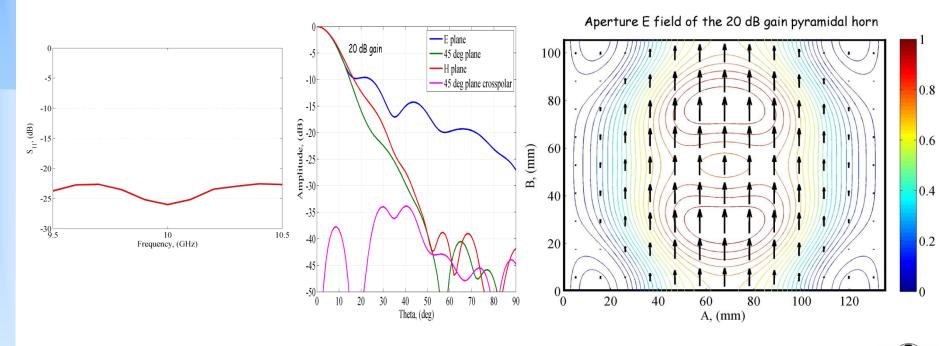
 $A \cdot B = 14323.94 \text{ mm}^2$

- For a metallic horn antenna with no dielectric material inside, gain and directivity can be considered to be the same
- WR-90 standard waveguide has a=23 mm and b=10mm as internal dimensions



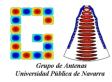


- If we calculate for optimum condition the dimensions of the pyramidal horn satisfying its geometrical condition we obtain the following dimensions:
- $A = 135.4 \text{ mm}, B = 105.8 \text{ mm}, \rho_H = 203.6 \text{ mm}, \rho_E = 186.6 \text{ mm}$
- Resulting in a total length of L = 169 mm



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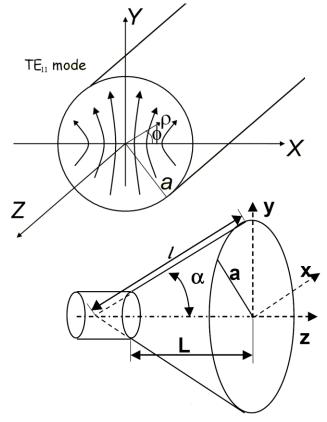








• Conical feed-horns are fed with a metallic circular waveguide in mono-mode operation with the fundamental TE_{11} mode:



• The main inconvenient of TE₁₁ mode is that it doesn't present polarization purity

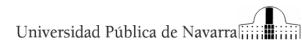
$$E_{\rho} = E_{0} \cdot \frac{1}{\rho} \cdot J_{1} \left(1.841 \cdot \frac{\rho}{a} \right) \cdot \sin \phi$$
$$E_{\phi} = E_{0} \cdot \frac{1}{\rho} \cdot \frac{\partial}{\partial \rho} \left(J_{1} \left(1.841 \cdot \frac{\rho}{a} \right) \right) \cdot \cos \phi$$

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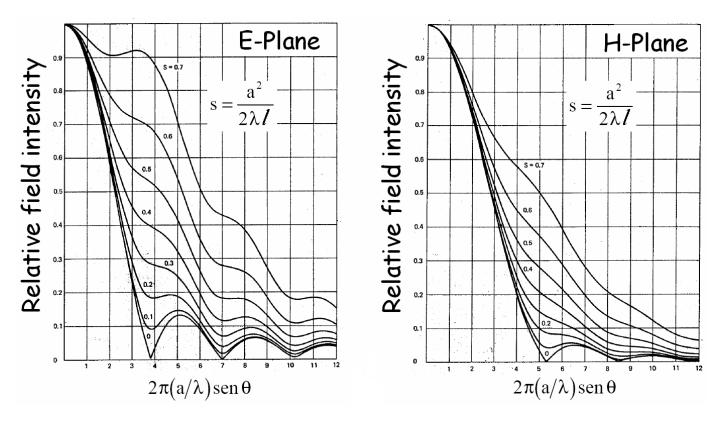


Smooth-walled conical feed-horns



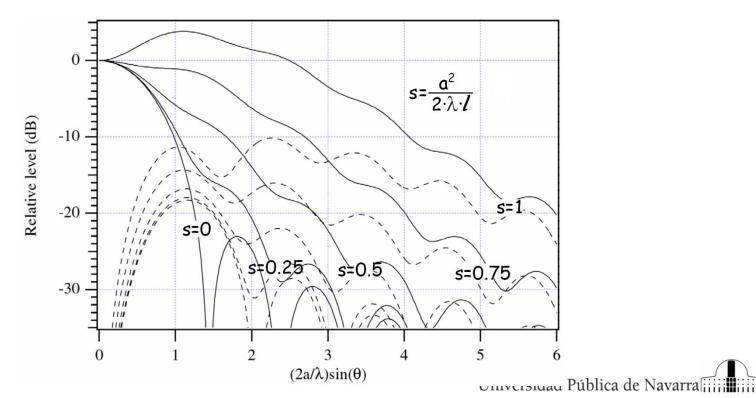


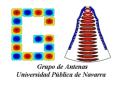
• The universal radiation patterns for the conical feedhorn are represented with the phase error as parameter for both planes:





- Also, the universal radiation pattern for the conical feedhorn for $\phi=45$ deg with the phase error as parameter is represented
- Cross-polar level for $\phi = 45 \text{ deg}$ is also represented



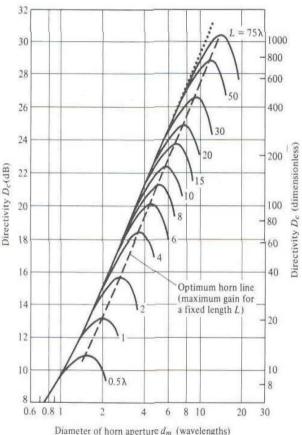


- The directivity of the conical feed-horn is obtained integrating the power at the aperture
- For every length, (*L*), there is an optimum aperture diameter $(d_m=2\cdot a)$ that gives maximum directivity
- Optimum aperture satisfy the equation:

$$d_m = 2 \cdot a \approx \sqrt{3 \cdot l \cdot \lambda}$$

- These optimum feed-horns present a phase error of s=3/8.
- The effective aperture of these pyramidal feed-horns is also around 50% of its physical size, so:

$$G = \varepsilon_{ap} \cdot \frac{4 \cdot \pi}{\lambda^2} \cdot A_p = \frac{1}{2} \cdot \frac{4 \cdot \pi}{\lambda^2} \cdot \pi \cdot a^2$$





- Example: Design a 20 dB gain conical feed-horn at 10 GHz under optimum condition with equal E and H planes beam-width and with *a*=11.7 mm circular waveguide radius as feeding waveguide.
 - First we calculate the radius of the aperture by using approximate gain formula that relates gain and aperture surface:

$$a = 67.5 \text{ mm}$$

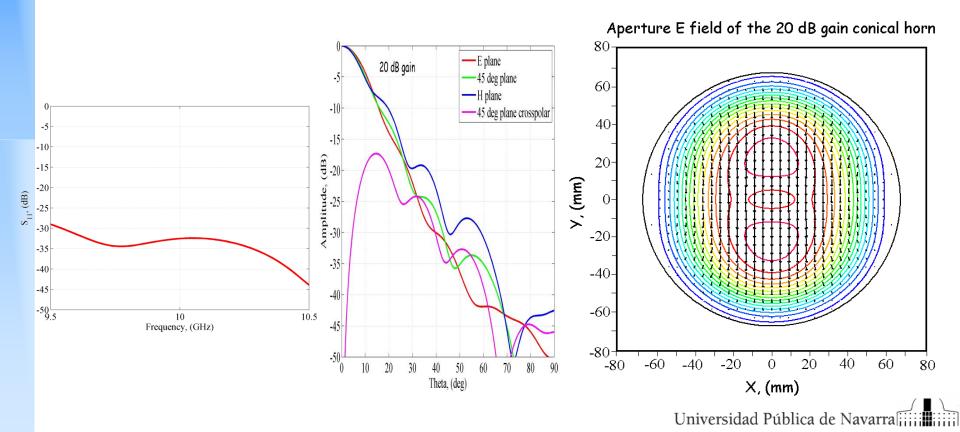
- For a metallic horn antenna with no dielectric material inside, gain and directivity can be considered to be the same.
- Now, we can calculate for optimum condition the error parameters, *l*, of the conical feed-horn:

$$l = 202.6 \text{ mm}$$

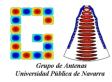




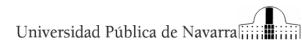
- The rest of physical dimensions are easily calculated using trigonometric relations:
- $a = 67.5 \text{ mm}, l = 202.6 \text{ mm}, \alpha = 19.5^{\circ}, L = 158 \text{ mm}$





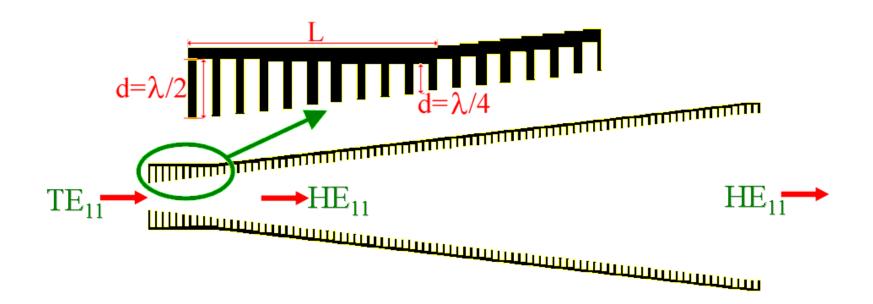


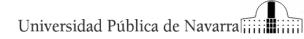
Conical corrugated feed-horns





- Smooth-walled conical feed-horns present the main problem of the high cross-polar level
- Conical corrugated feed-horns overcome this problem:

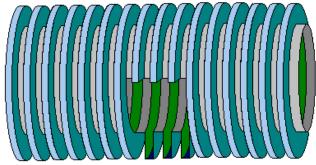


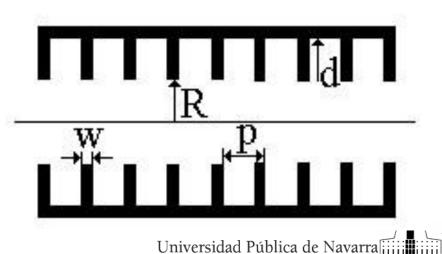




• A corrugated waveguide is defined by a series of smooth waveguides with different diameters (periodical structure):

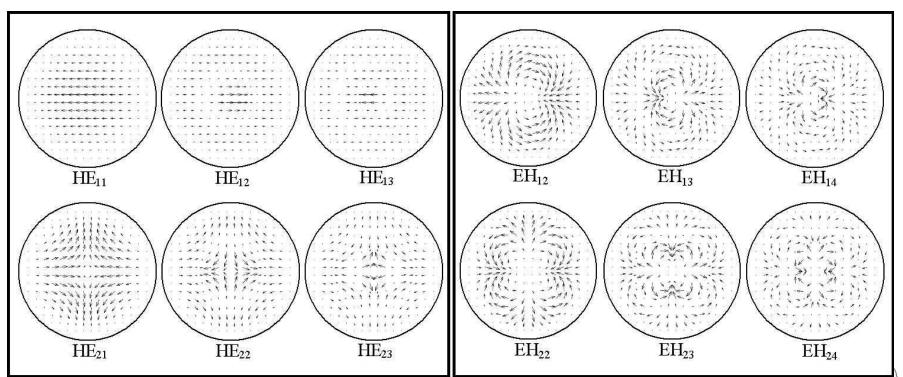
- R defines de inner diameter
- d the corrugation depth
- Corrugation pitch is defined
 by p (period) and w (width
 of corrugation)







• A corrugated waveguide can be defined by the TE_{mn} and TM_{mn} smooth circular mode family at each position, or in terms of HE_{mn} and EH_{mn} hybrid modes





• The condition of zero cross-polarized field $E_y = 0$ can be obtained if: $p < \lambda/3$ Balanced

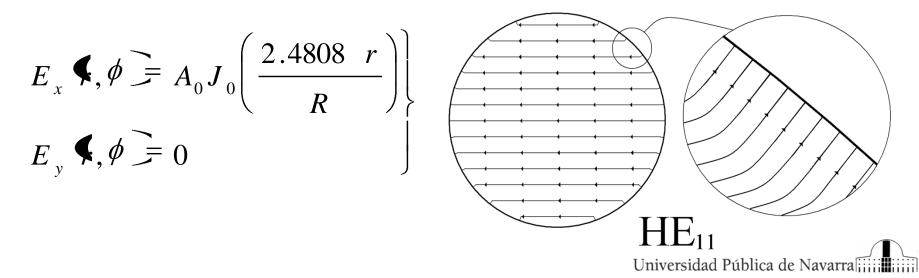
Hybrid

Condition

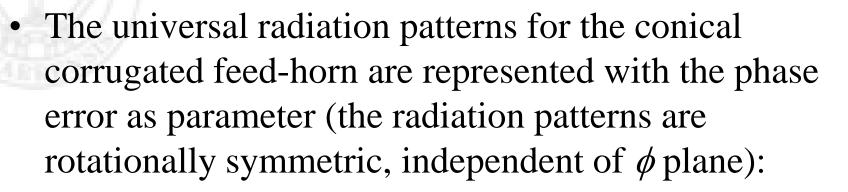
• The fundamental mode of a corrugated waveguide (HE_{11}) at an inner diameter can be expressed as:

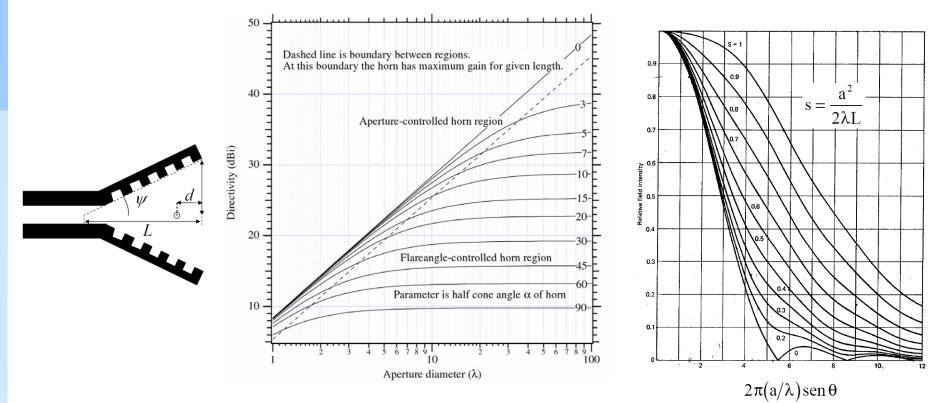
&

 $d \approx \lambda/4$



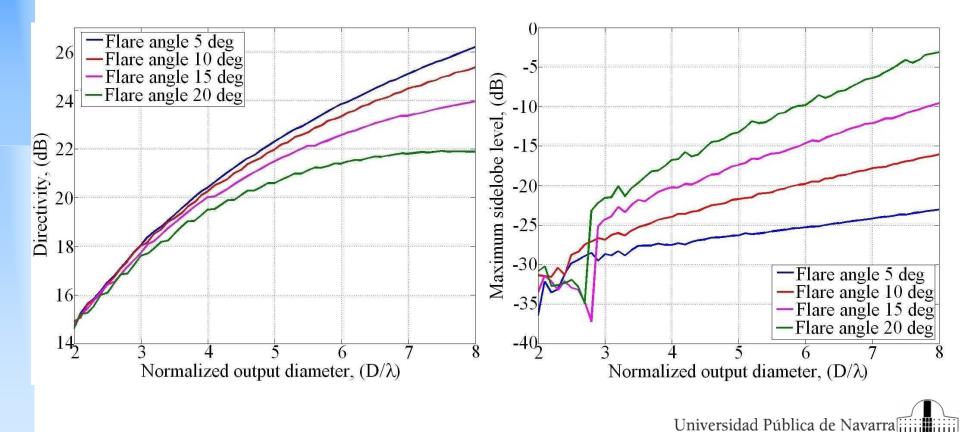
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For small flare angles these figures can also be usedIn these figures also the side-lobe level can be selected

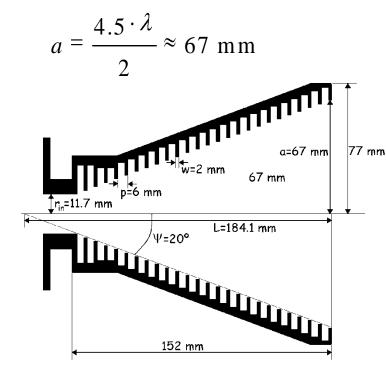


- Example: Design a 20 dB gain conical corrugated feed-horn at 10 GHz under optimum condition with equal E and H planes beam-width and with a=11.7 mm circular waveguide radius as feeding waveguide First we calculate the radius of the aperture, from figures:
 - Then we select the flare angle for optimum condition: $\psi = 20 \deg$

After that we can select the corrugation parameters:

p = 6 mm, w = 2 mm, d = 7.5 mm

– The feed-horn length of 152 mm

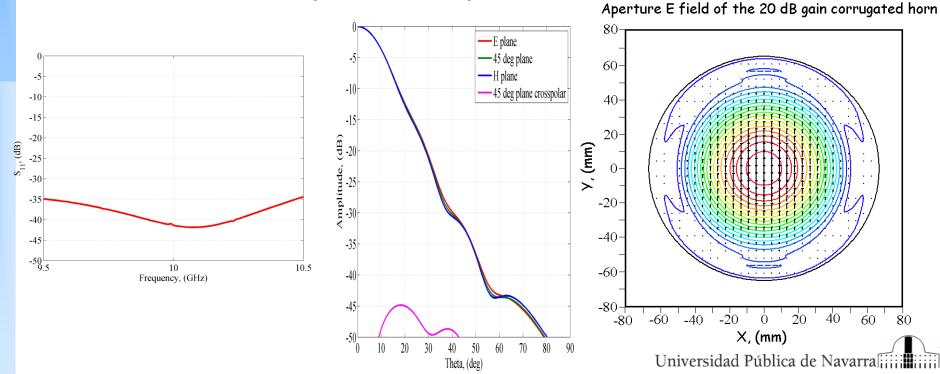






Conical feed-horns

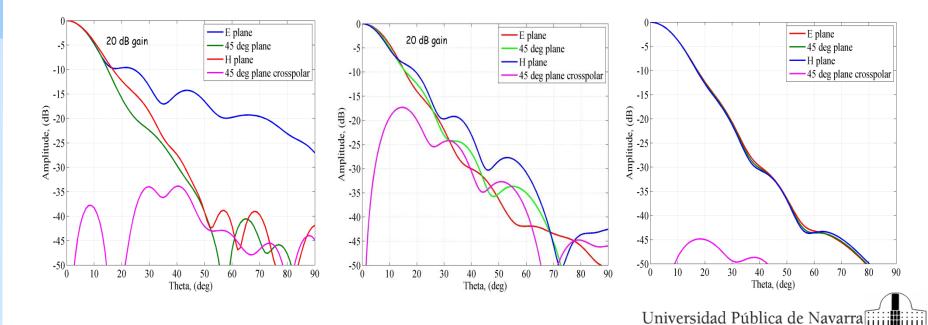
- Conical corrugated feed-horns present a very low crosspolar level, a rotationally symmetric radiation pattern and good matching
- They are also easy to design but more complicated to manufacture than a normal smooth-walled conical horn (a lathe is usually necessary)



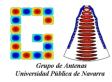
Comp.: Pyramidal vs Conical



- Pyramidal feed-horns present much lower cross-polar levels than smooth-walled conical ones, but higher side-lobes (spillover)
- The size of Pyramidal feed-horns is slightly bigger that the size of conical feed-horns
- Conical corrugated horn is the best out of this three models but its weight will be higher



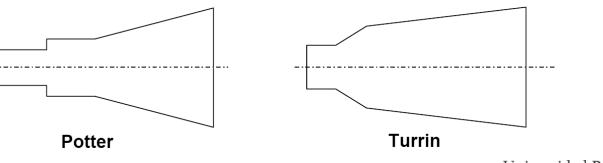


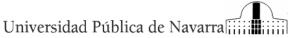




- There are other feed-horn types where the profile is not linear.
- The idea of these ones is to make compact designs with nice radiation characteristics.
- There are a lot of models available, in smooth waveguide and in corrugated waveguide, the different between them is that corrugated waveguide models are wide bandwidth and smooth-walled models are narrow band .



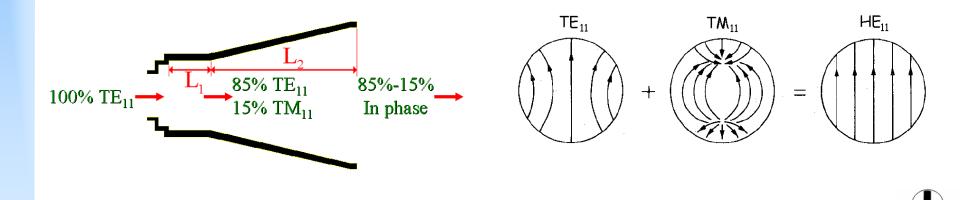






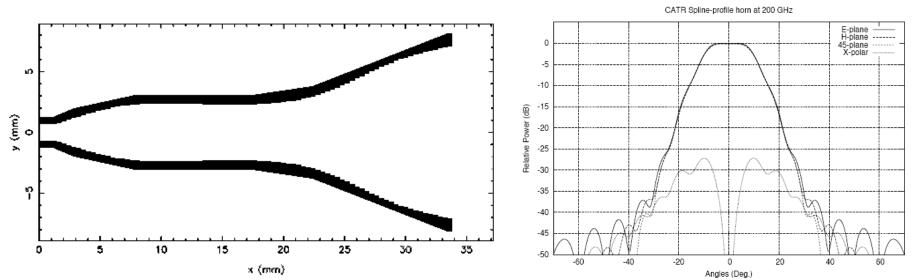


- The Potter type horn is the best known of multimode horns in smooth-walled waveguide.
- Its performance is very nice in a reduced bandwidth (5 to 8%) approximating to the performance of corrugated horn.
- By means of a proper step or taper in the horn radius, the right amount of TM_{11} (amplitude and phase) is excited.
- A smooth conical taper of a determined length after the step drives the mode mixture to the correct phasing at the aperture.





- The are other special types of smooth-walled multimode profiled horns.
- In fact, a horn antenna profile can be adjusted with very complicate geometries.
- These feed-horns usually pursue a particular type of radiation pattern.
- Bandwidth of this feed-horns is usually very poor.





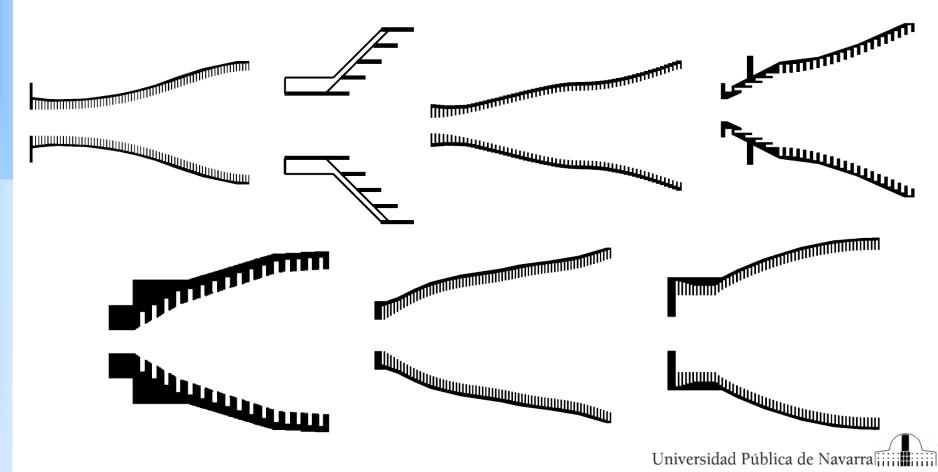


Corrugated profiled feedhorns



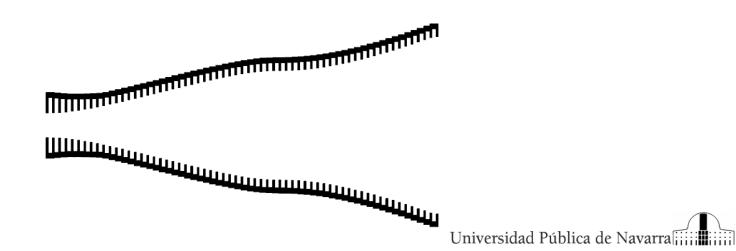


• The are a lot of models of corrugated profiled feed-horns, in fact, every research group in corrugated horn antennas have their own preferences.





- One of the best performance profiled corrugated horns is the so called "Gaussian Profiled Horn Antenna" or GPHA
- To overcome the radiation limitations of the HE_{11} mode, a new profile to optimise the matching between the field travelling along the horn antenna and free space was developed.



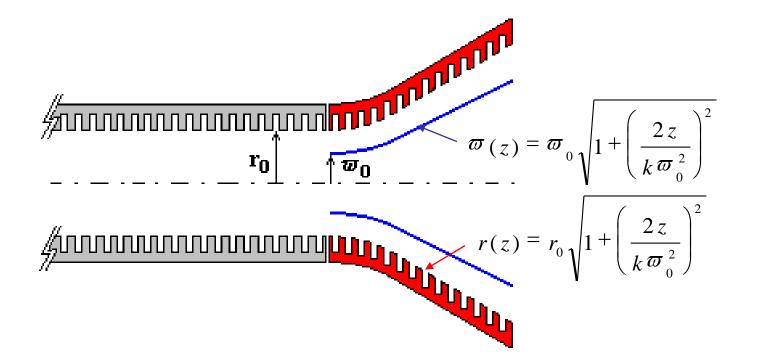


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- GPHA's consist in the addition of a gaussian profiled corrugated part to any waveguide or horn antenna in which the HE_{11} mode is being propagated to improve its radiation characteristics.
- Corrugated GPHA are now-a-days one of the best choices to add at the end of any corrugated horn antenna for high requirement applications where low side-lobes and wide bandwidth are needed.



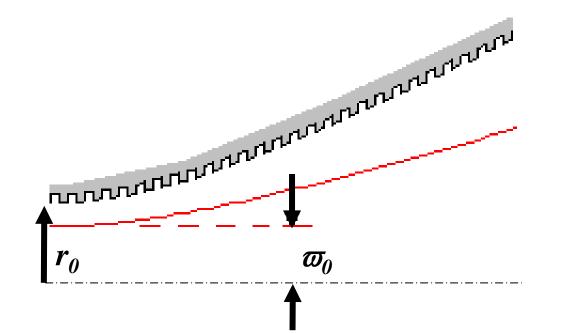
• The Gaussian Profiled Horn Antenna (GPHA) is defined following the propagation of a Gaussian beam:

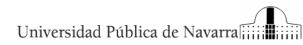






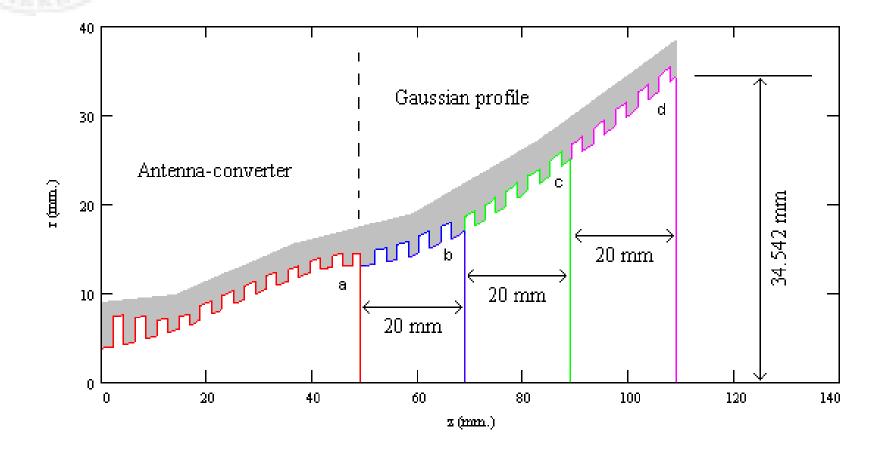
• To feed the corrugated GPHA, an HE_{11} mode or similar input field is necessary at its input aperture.

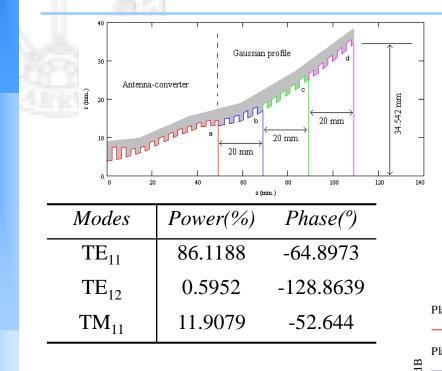


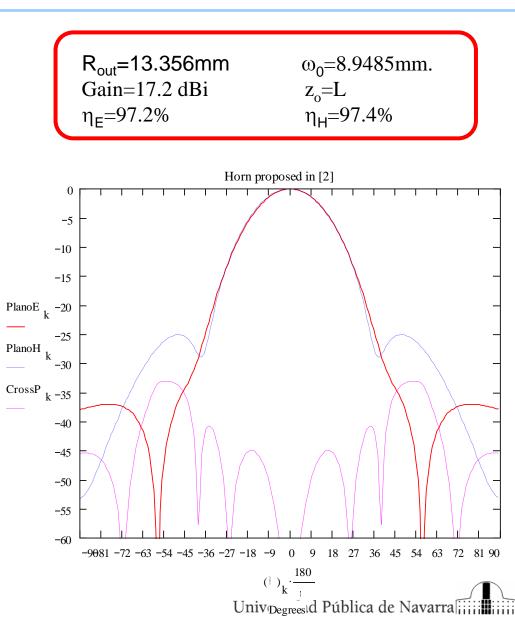




• Let's do an experiment:

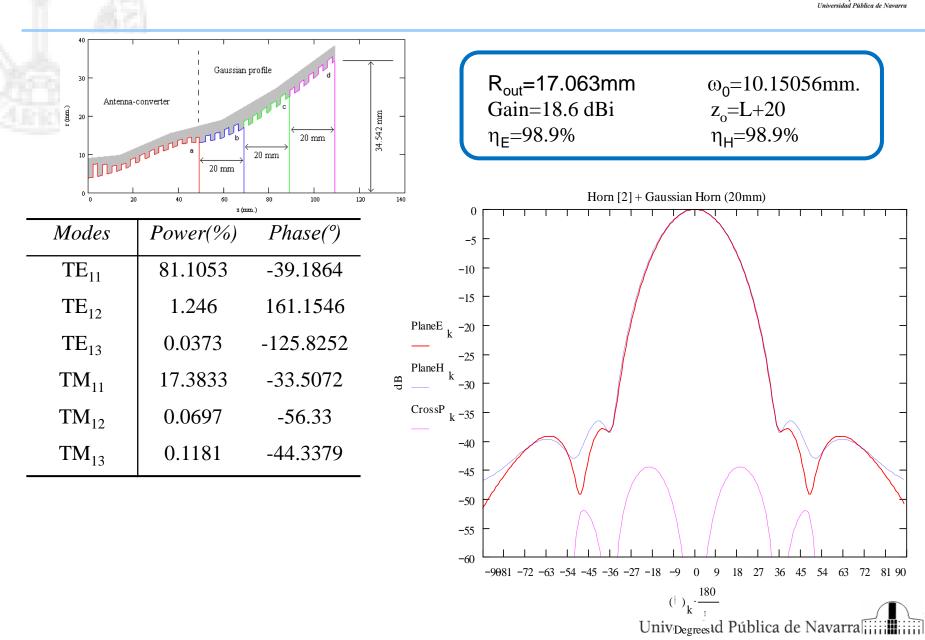




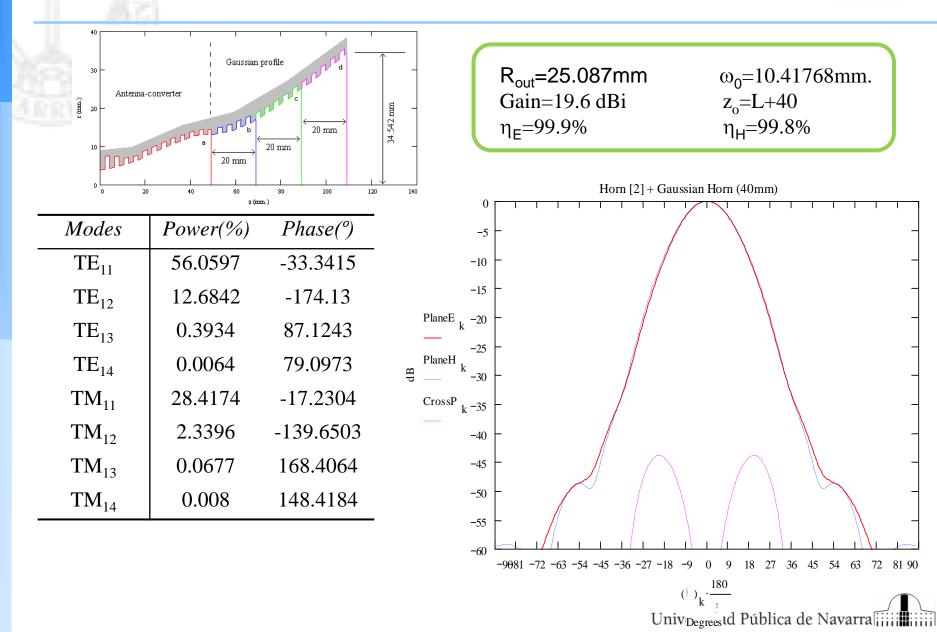


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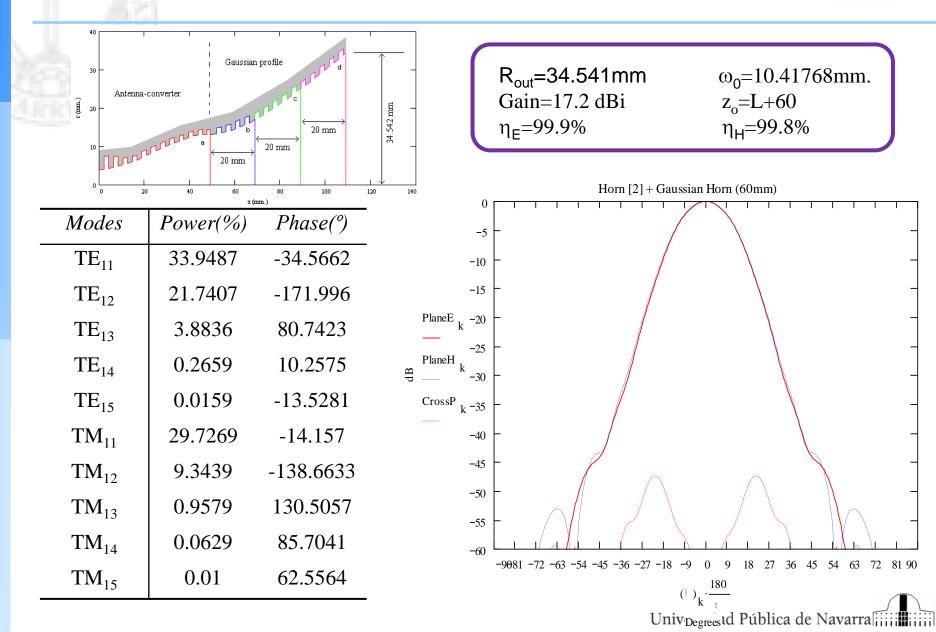
Grupo de Anteno



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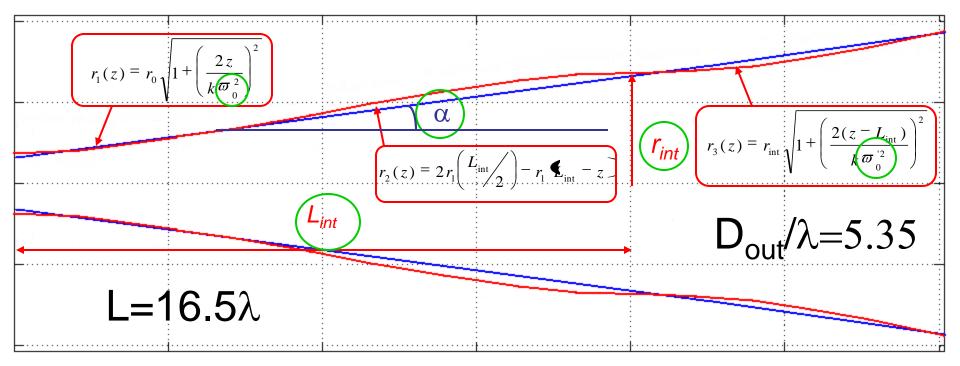
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Theoretical Basis



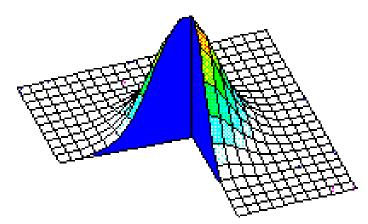
• A comparative study of equal size antenna prototypes have been performed

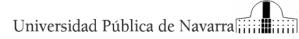


Theoretical Basis



- Relation between waveguide modes and space modes,
 - Waveguide modes
 - TE/TM
 - HE
 - Space modes
 - Gaussian beam modes
- Goal of GPHAs: to obtain the most pure Gaussian fundamental beam mode, Ψ_{00}

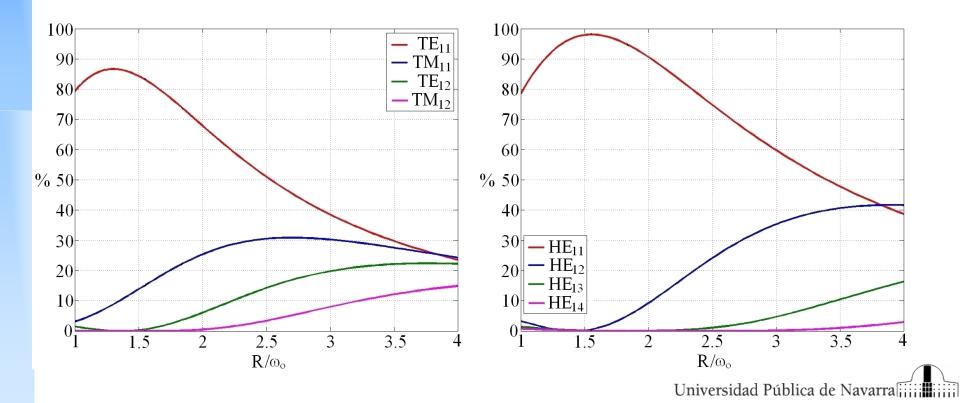




Theoretical Basis

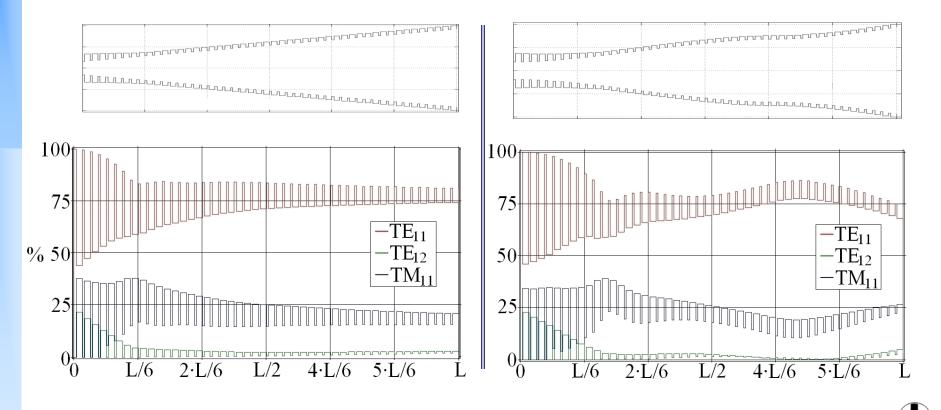


• Expansion of Ψ_{00} in terms of TE/TM or HE modes, (correlation at aperture)



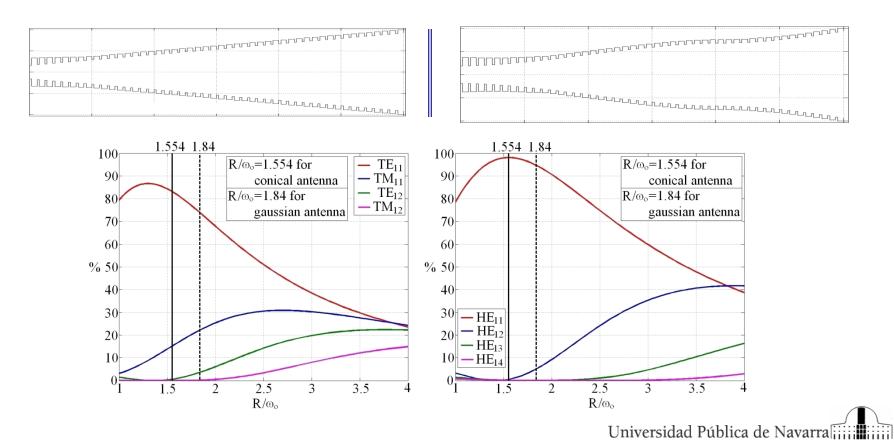


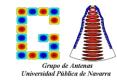
• Mode mixture along the antennas:





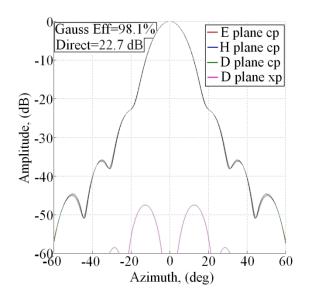
• Mode mixture at the aperture:

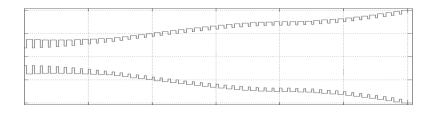


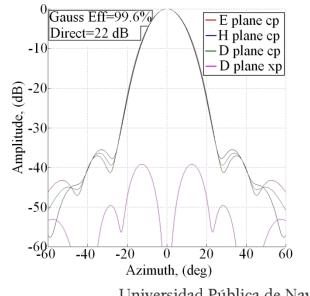


• The radiation pattern,

] [] [] [] [] [] [] [] [] [] [] [] [] []		

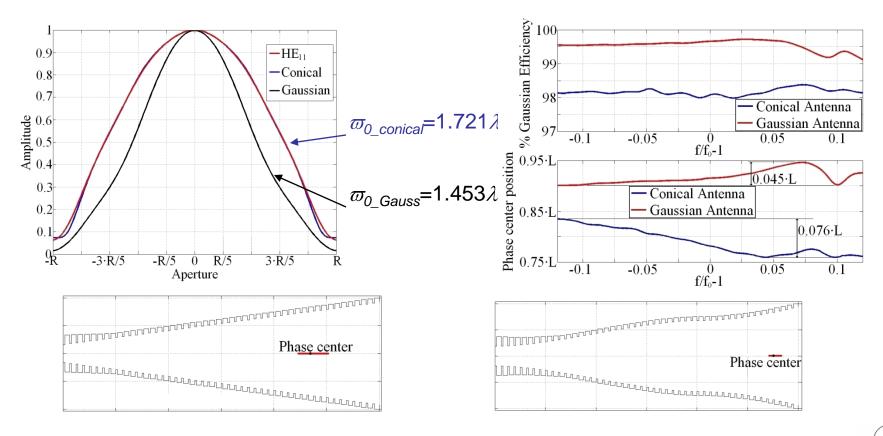








• The aperture field distribution,



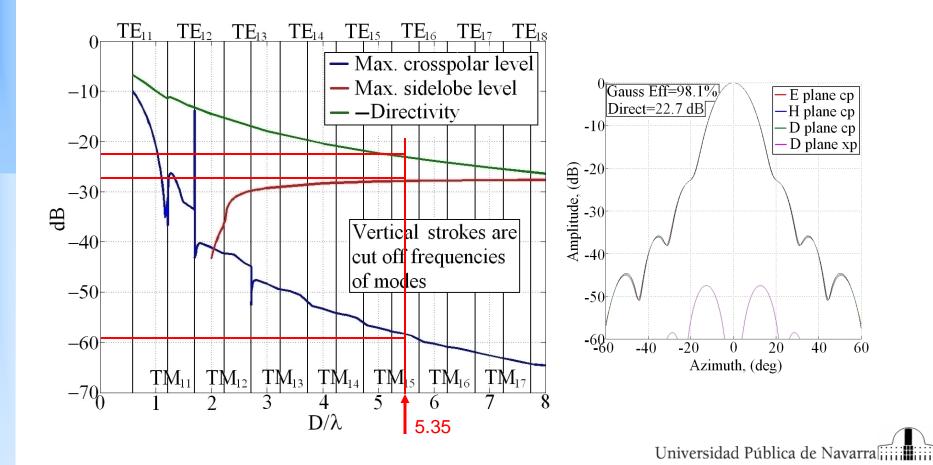


• Partial conclusions:

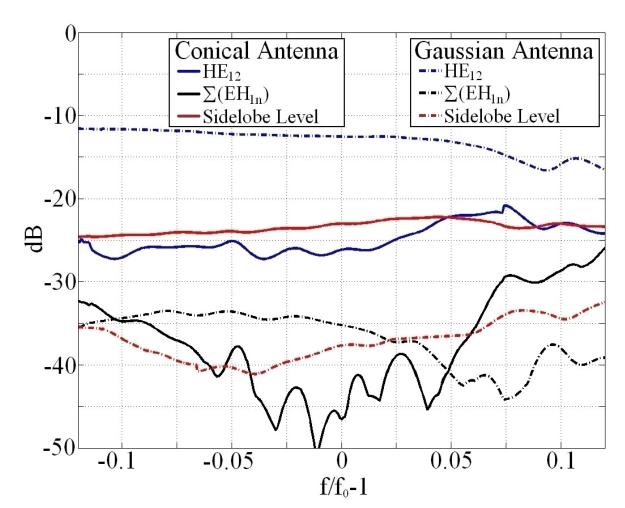
	Conical	GPHA
Gauss Efficiency	98.1%	99.6%
Directivity	22.7 dB	22.0 dB
Phase center	0.076L	0.045L
Output Mode	HE ₁₁	Ψ_{00}



• Radiating features of HE₁₁ mode

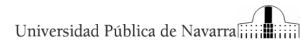


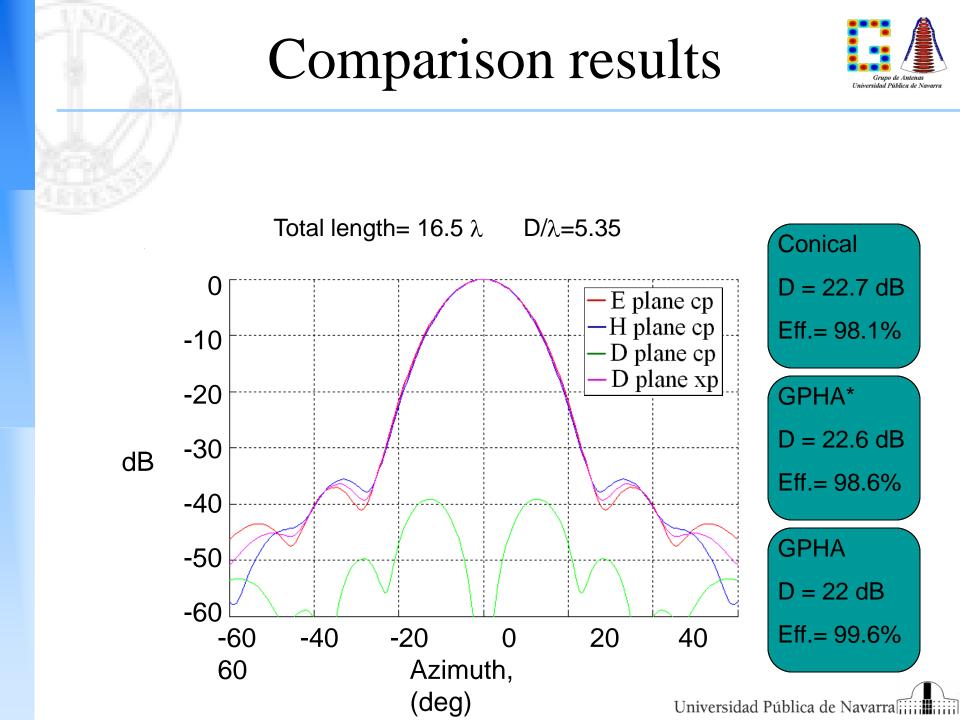






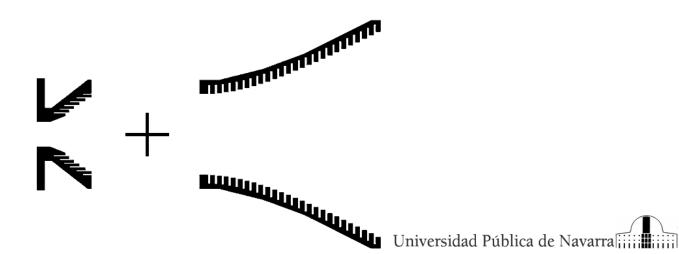
- Because of the four design parameters of the GPHAs, other possibilities:
 - Previous design parameters (GPHA)
 - $L_{int} = 11.025\lambda, r_{int} = 1.893\lambda, \ \varpi_0 = 0.928\lambda, \ \varpi_0 = 1.323\lambda$
 - New design parameters (GPHA*)
 - $L_{int}=11.249\lambda, r_{int}=1.905\lambda, \ \varpi_0=0.904\lambda, \ \varpi_0=1.288\lambda$
- Two equal-size GPHAs







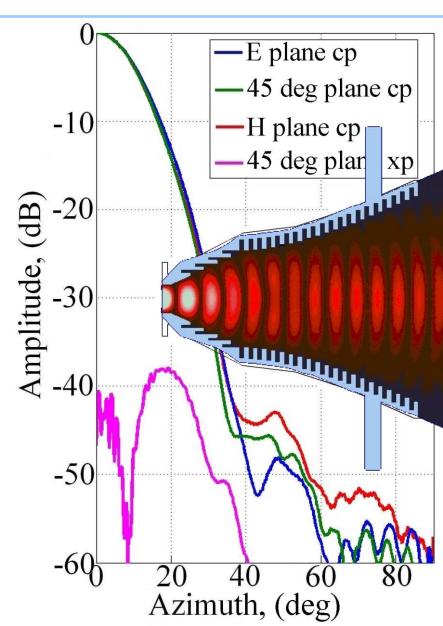
- In the last few years, a new type of profiled corrugated horn antenna has appeared.
- They consist in the combination of two technologies:
 - Horizontal corrugations for throat region
 - Vertical corrugations for flare region
- This profiles are very short for a reasonable nice bandwidth (25 to 30 %) and high performance.





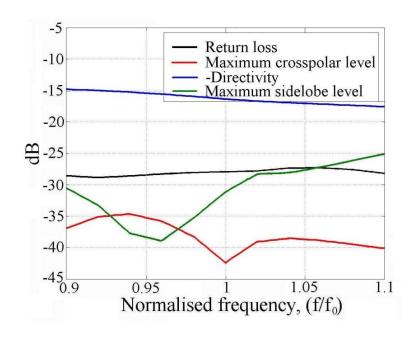
• First design of the combination of vertical and horizontal corrugations:

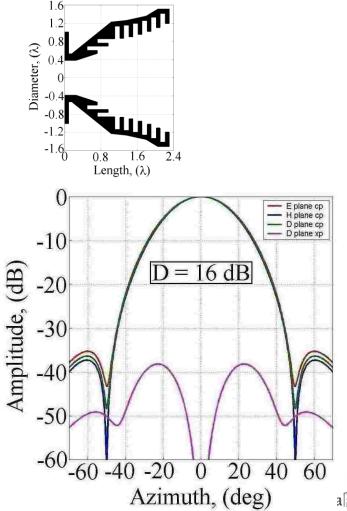






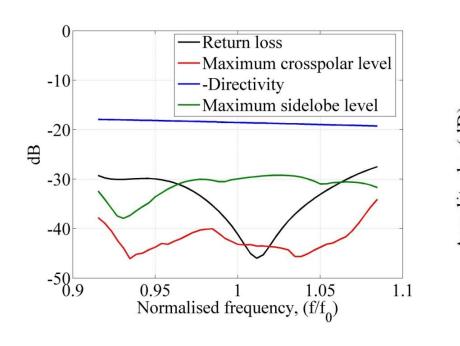
- 16 dB directivity horn antenna, 20% bandwidth in 2.3 λ length, ensuring:
 - Return loss < -27 dB
 - X-pol < -35dB
 - Side-lobes < -25 dB

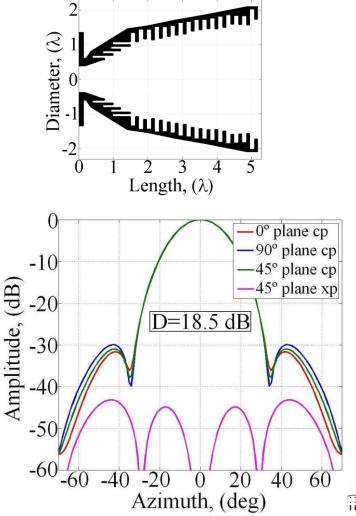






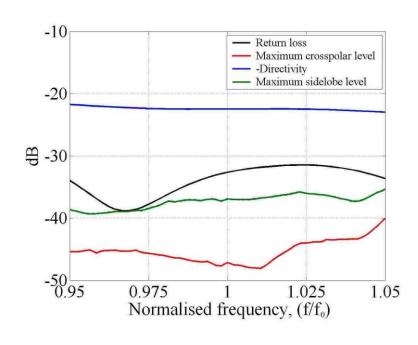
- 18.5 dB directivity horn antenna, 15% bandwidth in 5.2 λ length, ensuring:
 - Return loss < -30 dB
 - X-pol < -40dB
 - Side-lobes < -30dB</p>

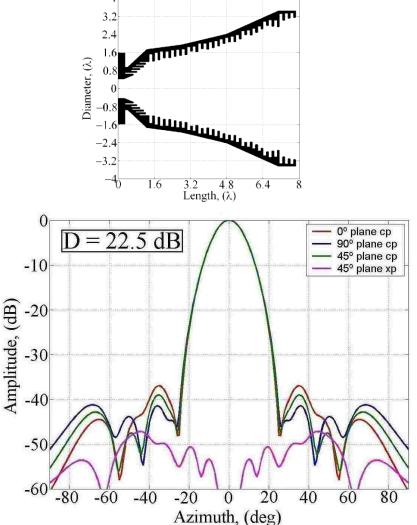






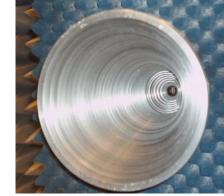
- 22.5 dB directivity horn antenna 10% bandwidth in 7.9 λ length ensuring:
 - Return Loss < -31dB</p>
 - X-pol < -40dB
 - Side-lobes < -35dB







- 24 dB directivity horn antenna, 20% bandwidth in 10.5λ length ensuring (manufactured and Measured):
 - Return Loss < -27dB
 - X-pol < -43dB
 - Side-lobes < -34dB</p>



3.2

-3.2 -4.8

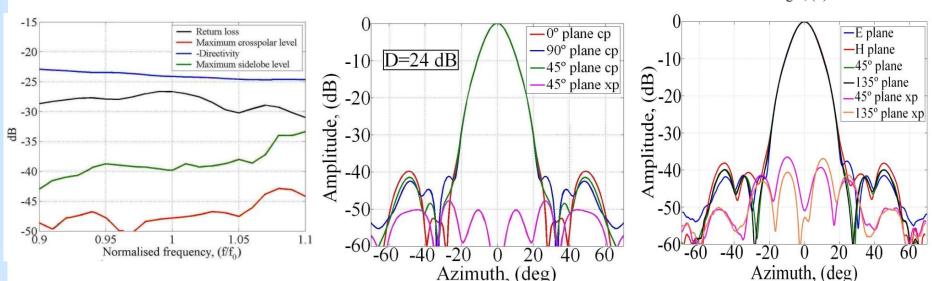
Diameter, (λ)

......

3.4

5.1 6.8 8.5 10.2

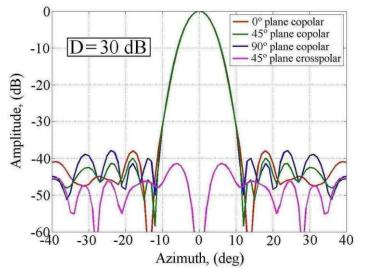
Length, (λ)

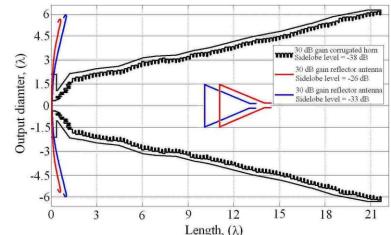


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• The size reduction for new corrugated horns may drive to be considered as substitutes of reflector antennas in the range between 24 to 30 dB Gain

$$G = 10 \cdot \log_{10} \left(\eta \cdot \left(\frac{\pi \cdot D}{\lambda} \right)^2 \right)$$



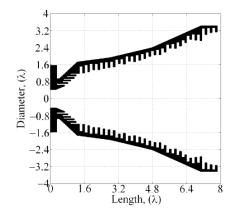


	Reflector	Reflector	Corrug.
	antenna 1	antenna 2	horn
Directivity	30 dB	30 dB	30 dB
Diameter	11.2·λ	$12\cdot\lambda$	13·λ
Focal length	11.1·λ	10.2·λ	
Total length	14.1·λ	13.2·λ	22·λ
Illum. taper	-11 dB	-16 dB	
η	0.808	0.704	
Sidelobe level	-26 dB	-33 dB	-38 dB

Profiled feed-horns



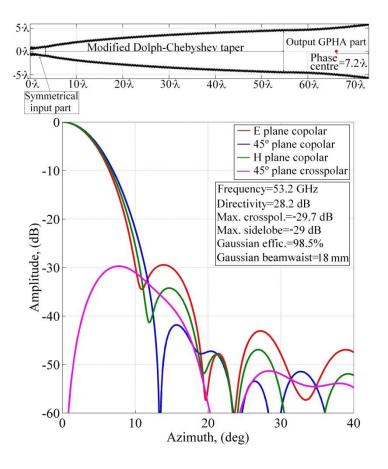
- In the table an study of the spillover significance has been made as an example for the 22.5 dB gain antenna increasing artificially its side-lobe level from -40 dB to -20 dB
- In the table can be seen the dramatic reduction in total efficiency that happens when side-lobe level is below 30 dB

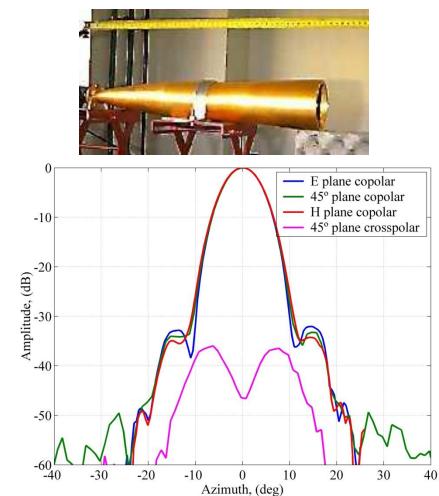


	η_i	η _s	$\eta_i \cdot \eta_s$
-20 dB	0.885	0.720	0.637
-25 dB	0.885	0.846	0.749
-30 dB	0.885	0.896	0.793
-40 dB	0.885	0.919	0.813



• Corrugated GPHA design for low power testing of the quasioptical transmission lines at TJ-II stellerator:



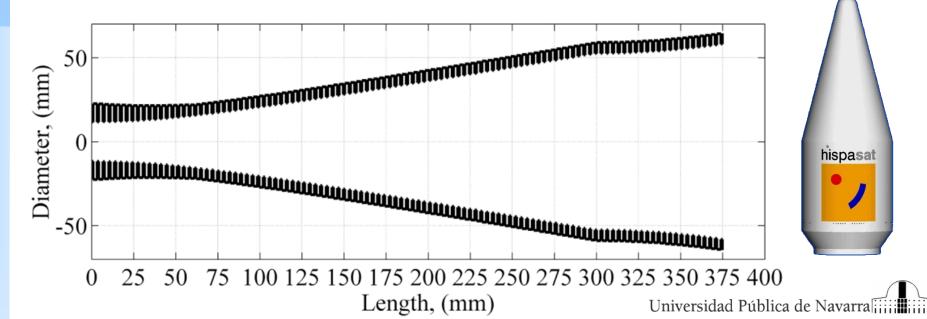




Corrugated GPHA design for Hispasat 1C satellite:

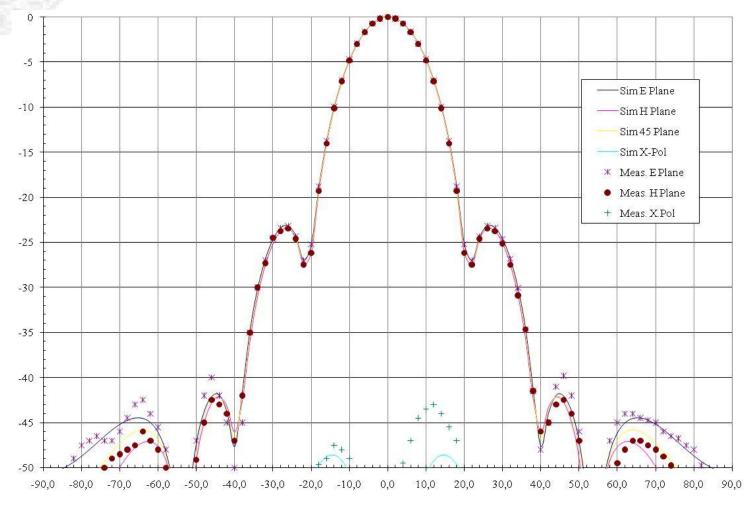
- Frequency range: 11.7 to 12.2 GHz
- Illumination: 19 deg below -22 dB
- Maximum cross-polar: below -45 dB
- RL below -28 dB
- Input dia.: 23.4 mm





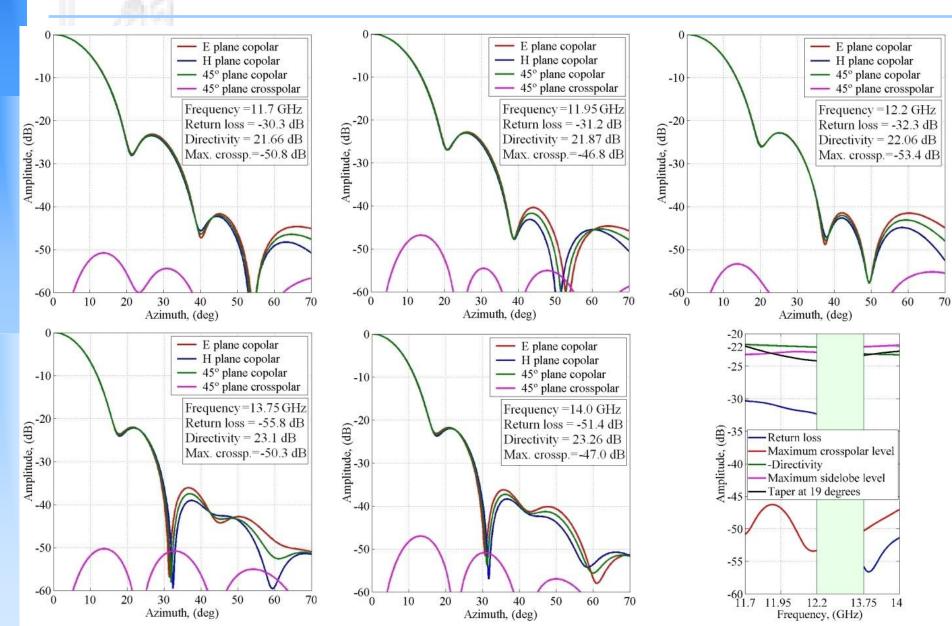


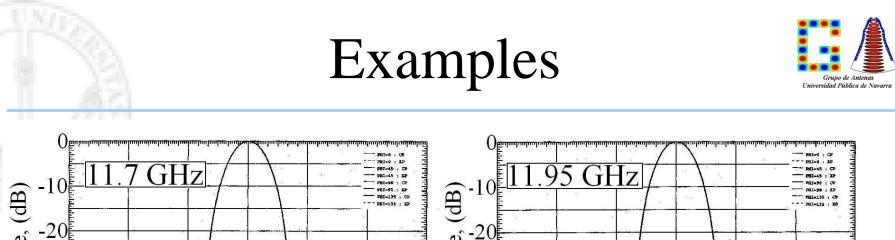
• Comparison between simulation and measurements...

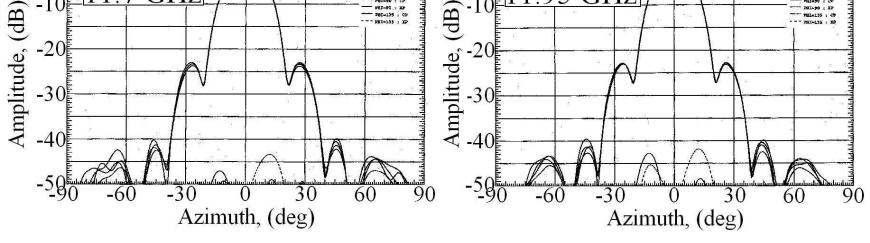


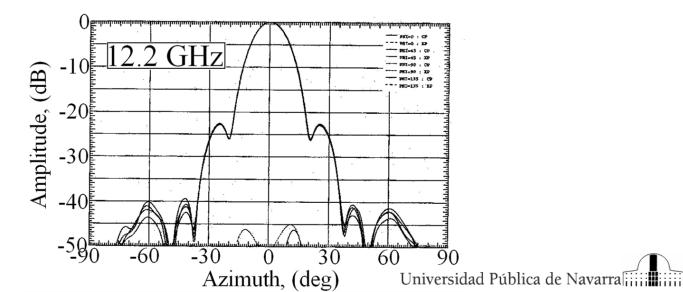






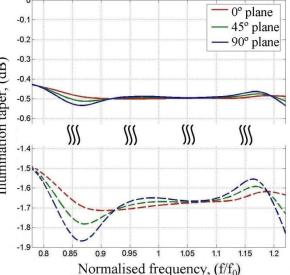




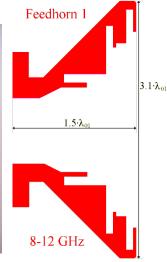


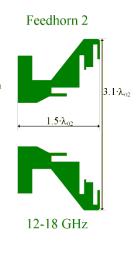


Corrugated -0.1 -0.2 profileu 1 < ...horns design for (0, 1.5) 22^2 (0, 5)profiled feed--0.3 Illumination taper, (dB) -0.4 -0.5 -0.6 -1.4 -1.5 University -1.6 -1.7 0 0.5 3.5 4.5 5 2.5 -1.8 CATR Z, (metros) -1.9 0.8

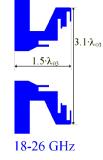


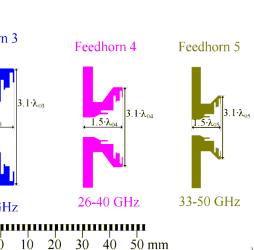












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20

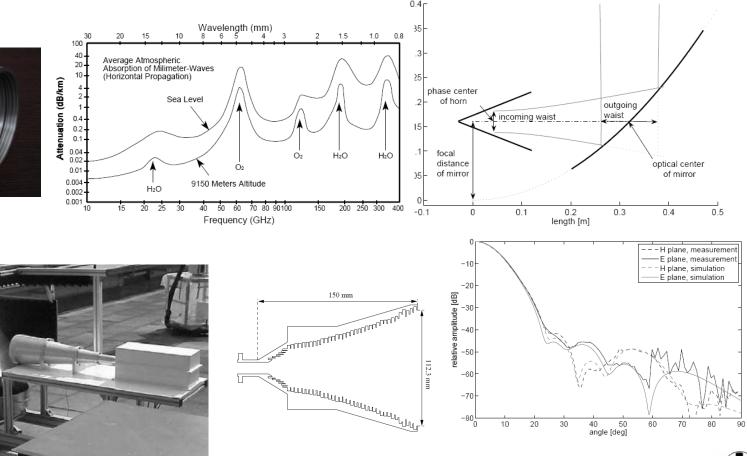
10 0



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• Corrugated profiled feed-horn design for MIAWARA-C radiometer at 22 GHz in Bern University







Corrugated profiled feed-horn design for MIRA-5 radiometer at 22 GHz in Forschungszentrum Karlsruhe (Institute for Meteorology and Climate Research)



22

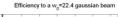
\$ 21.5 ga 8

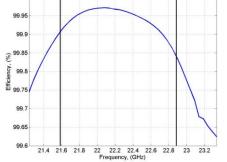
20.5

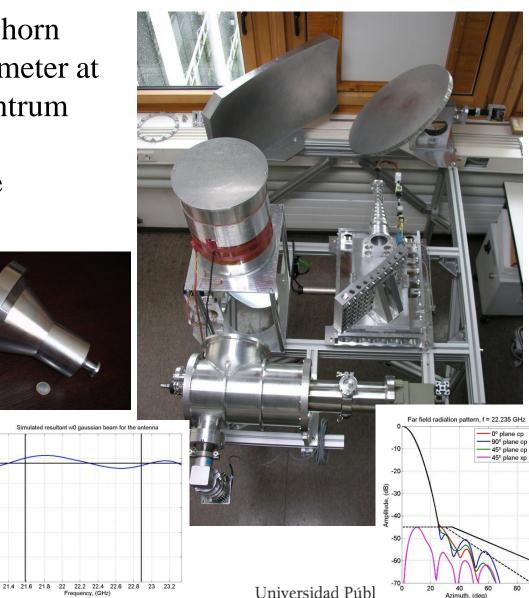
20

Frequency, (GHz)

tant v 21







 $\phi = 22.50$

45.00



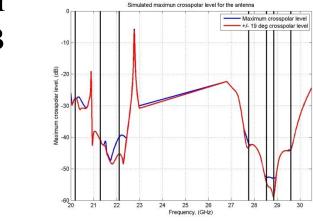
- Corrugated profiled feed-horn design for EADS/CASA to be onboard ASTRA 3B satellite IC horn:
 - Tx: 21.29–22.11 GHz,
 - Rx: 27.76 28.54 GHz + 28.81 29.60 GHz

♦ = 22.50 · C

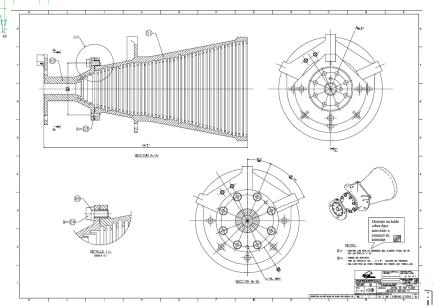
a = 45.00 : C

= 67.50 · C

- 90.00 . 0

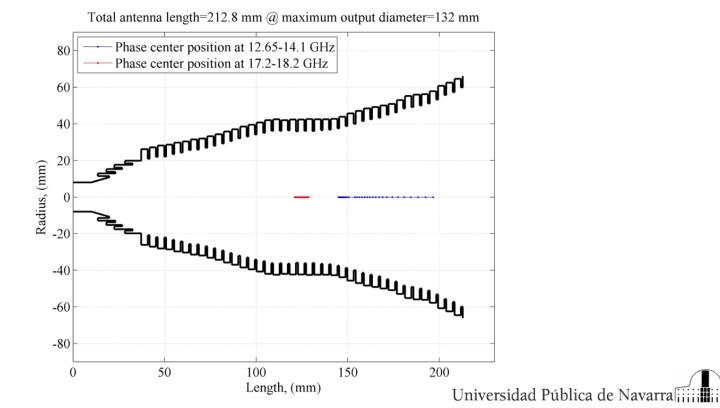






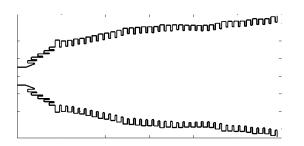


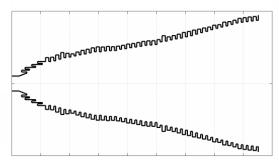
- Corrugated profiled feed-horn design for EADS/CASA to be onboard Hispasat 1E satellite
 - Europe Rx Horn: 12.65-14.10 GHz + 17.20-18.20 GHz
 - Principal requirement: phase center stability \pm 15 mm

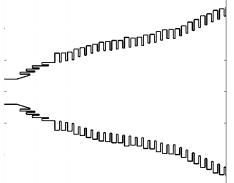


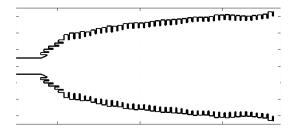


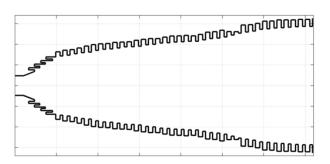
• Corrugated feed-horns profiles for different satellite and terrestrial applications

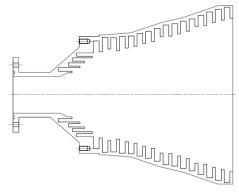






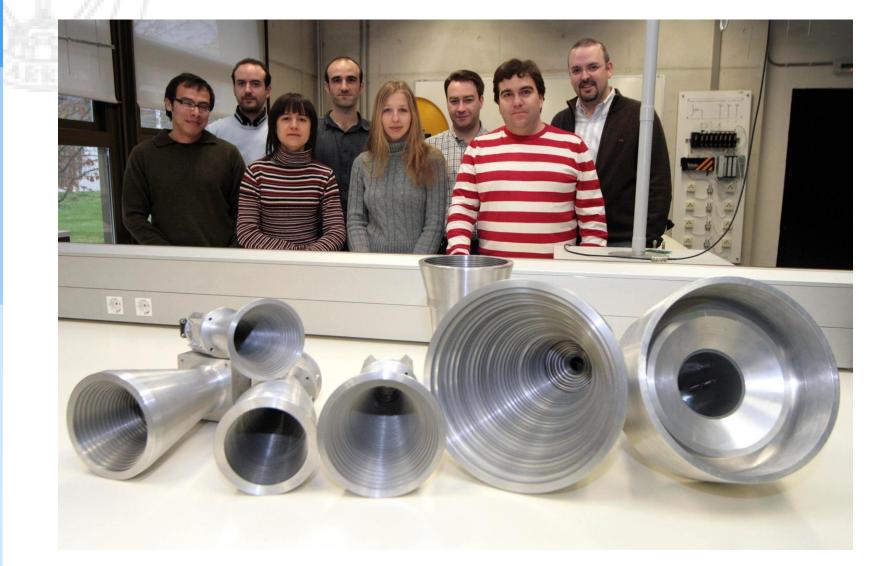






Some pictures... the Group





Some Pictures...

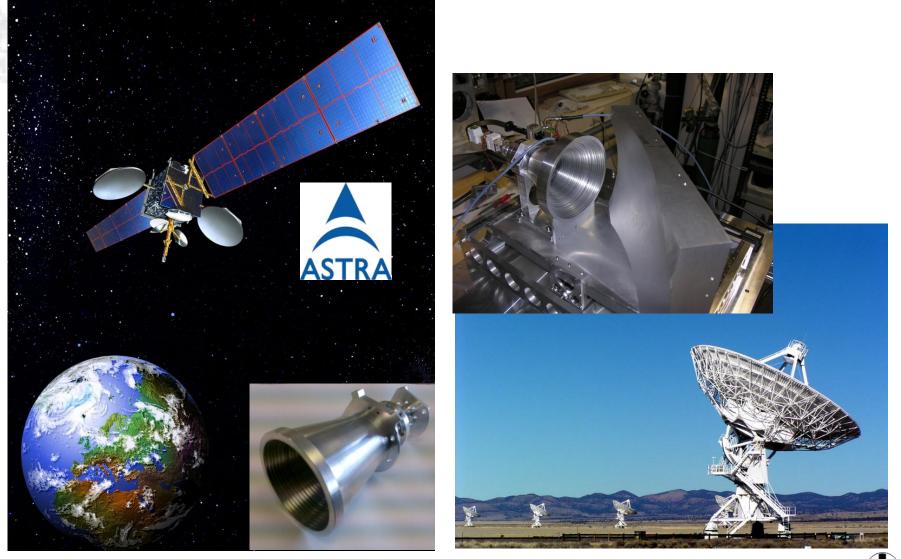






Some pictures...





Some pictures...



