BLACKBIRD FOR TRAINING

Electromagnetic Propagation and Devices

19 – 30 September 2027
Online



Electromagnetic Propagation and Devices

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Introduction

Electromagnetic theory is the invisible force behind nearly every modern communication, sensing, and navigation technology we rely on today. From wireless networks and satellite communications to radar systems, antennas, and the rapidly evolving 5G and emerging 6G infrastructures, a deep understanding of how electromagnetic waves propagate—and how systems interact with them—has become essential for today's engineers and technical leaders.

This intensive 2-week professional program is carefully designed to take participants on a structured journey through the full scope of electromagnetic theory. The course begins with solid foundations in field theory and gradually advances toward practical, real-world applications in antennas, RF and microwave devices, wireless communication systems, and radar technologies.

Blending rigorous theory with hands-on learning, the program integrates simulations, practical exercises, engineering case studies, and real industry scenarios. Each module ensures that participants not only grasp the physics behind electromagnetic phenomena, but also gain the confidence to apply these principles to solve real engineering challenges across modern industries.

Whether your background is in telecommunications, defense, electronics manufacturing, broadcasting, research, or academia, this program provides a clear and practical pathway to bridge the gap between theoretical electromagnetic knowledge and real-world engineering applications.

Course Objectives

By the end of this course, participants will be able to:

- Understand and interpret the fundamental laws governing electromagnetic fields and waves.
- Apply Maxwell's equations to practical physical scenarios and engineering designs.
- Analyze and model wave propagation in free space, dielectric materials, atmospheric layers, and complex environments.
- Evaluate transmission line behavior, waveguide characteristics, impedance matching, and signal integrity.
- Interpret antenna performance parameters and select suitable antenna types for specific system requirements.
- Perform basic antenna design and simulation using modern computational tools.
- Understand RF and microwave devices, including filters, mixers, couplers, oscillators, and amplifiers.
- Work confidently with S-parameters and Smith charts for RF circuit analysis and characterization.
- Analyze electromagnetic propagation models used in wireless systems, including 4G, 5G, and emerging 6G networks.
- Compute link budgets and assess multipath fading, shadowing, and Doppler effects
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Understand radar propagation principles, radar cross-section RCS, and satellite communication challenges.
- Deliver a technical project demonstrating applied mastery of electromagnetic theory, devices, or modeling techniques.

Course Outlines

Day 1: Foundations of Electromagnetic Theory

- Introduction to electromagnetic fields and their engineering applications
- Scalars, vectors, and coordinate systems
- Relationship between electric and magnetic fields
- Field visualization and conceptual interpretation

Workshop: Using simulation tools to visualize basic field distributions

Day 2: Maxwell's Equations & Electromagnetic Waves

- Differential and integral forms of Maxwell's equations
- Constitutive parameters: permittivity, permeability, conductivity
- Wave equation derivation and propagation in free space
- Energy flow and power density

Exercise: Poynting vector computation and interpretation

Day 3: Transmission Lines & Waveguides

- Types of transmission lines and their applications
- Reflection coefficient, VSWR, impedance matching
- Rectangular and circular waveguide modes TE/TM
- Cutoff frequency and modal dispersion

Lab: Network analyzer measurements simulation or hardware

Day 4: Wave Propagation in Various Media

- Propagation in free space, dielectric, and conductive media
- Atmospheric effects: scattering, absorption, refraction
- Ground-wave, sky-wave, and tropospheric propagation
- Propagation constraints in different environments

Case Study: Path loss comparison in urban vs. rural systems



Day 5: Antenna Fundamentals

- Radiation mechanisms and electromagnetic energy transformation
- Key antenna parameters: gain, beamwidth, directivity, efficiency
- Near-field vs. far-field distinctions
- Polarization and impedance considerations

  Workshop: Reading and interpreting radiation patterns

Day 6: Antenna Types & Applications

- Common antenna structures: dipole, monopole, loop, horn, patch
- Microstrip patch antenna design basics
- Introduction to array antennas and beamforming
- Antenna performance within communication systems

  Simulation: Basic antenna modeling using computational tools

Day 7: RF & Microwave Devices

- Filters, couplers, splitters, and matching circuits
- Mixers, oscillators, and low-noise amplifiers
- S-parameters and their engineering significance
- Introduction to the Smith chart and impedance transformation

  Lab: Device parameter measurement and simulation

Day 8: EM Propagation Models & Wireless Systems

- Empirical propagation models: Hata, Okumura, COST
- Multipath fading, shadowing, and Doppler effects
- Basics of link budget design
- Electromagnetic behavior in 5G and 6G networks

  Exercise: Full link budget computation for a real scenario

Day 9: Radar & Satellite Propagation

- Radar equation and basic radar system principles
- Radar cross-section RCS fundamentals
- Atmospheric attenuation and satellite link considerations
- Satellite footprints, elevation angle challenges

  Case Study: Radar target detection and scenario analysis

Day 10: Final Project, Assessment & Certification

Participants select one of the following projects:

- Antenna design and simulation
- Propagation model configuration and analysis



- RF device characterization using S-parameters

The final session includes:

- Comprehensive assessment
- Project presentations
- Instructor review and open technical discussion
- Certification award

Why Attend This Course: Wins & Losses!

- A balanced mix of theory, hands-on practice, and simulation-based learning
- Clear, structured explanations of complex electromagnetic phenomena
- Practical skills directly applicable to RF engineering, antenna design, wireless systems, and radar
- Exposure to modern technologies shaping communication and sensing industries
- Strong technical confidence in EM modeling, propagation analysis, and device evaluation
- Career support for roles in RF engineering, telecom planning, electromagnetic testing, and research

Conclusion

Electromagnetic theory is the backbone of today's rapidly evolving communication and sensing landscape. This intensive 2-week program equips participants with both the theoretical depth and the practical insight required to master electromagnetic propagation, antennas, RF systems, radar technologies, and modern wireless networks.

Through simulations, labs, workshops, and real-world case studies, participants develop an application-driven understanding of electromagnetic systems—an essential skill set for engineers, researchers, and technical professionals.

Graduates of this program leave with a comprehensive, actionable knowledge base, empowering them to design stronger systems, analyze complex EM challenges, and contribute confidently to advanced engineering projects shaping the future of global communication.

