

# Fundamental Bounds In Electromagnetism

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1. Optimal Design and Its Feasibility
2. Fundamental Bounds
3. First Attempts
4. Example: Bounds on Radiation Efficiency
5. Utilizing Integral Equations
6. Solution to QCQP Problems
7. Tightness of the Bounds

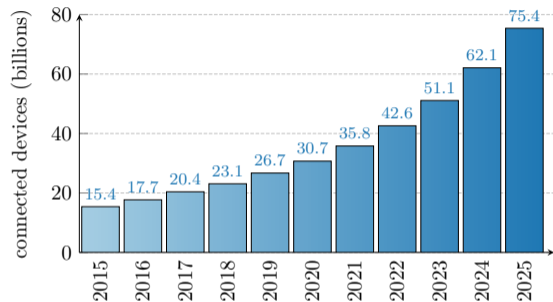
Electrically small antenna inside  
a circumscribing sphere of a  
radius  $a$ .

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- ▶ Document available at [capek.elmag.org](http://capek.elmag.org).
  - ▶ To see the graphics in motion, open this document in Adobe Reader!

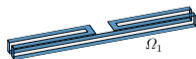
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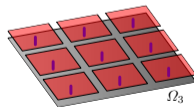
► What is the optimal design?



Folded loop  
(handsets)



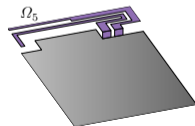
E-shaped patch  
(GPS, WLAN)



“Mag. monopoles”  
(PGB, HIS)



Meandered dipole  
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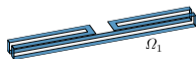


Monopoles/PIFAs  
(LTE)

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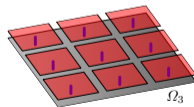
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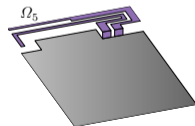
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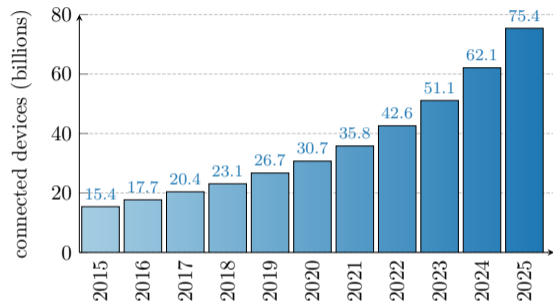


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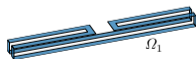


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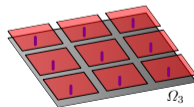
- ▶ What is the optimal design?
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- ▶ What is the optimal performance?



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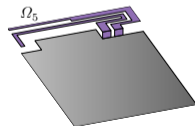
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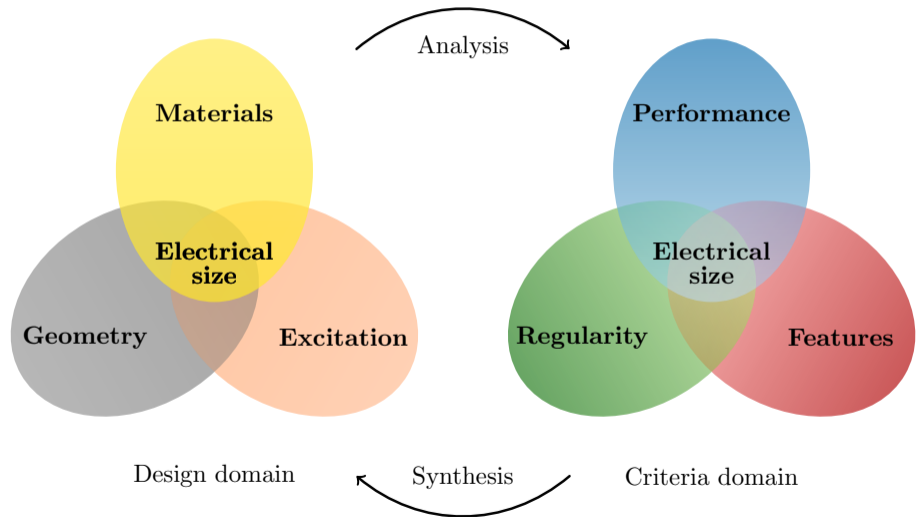


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# Degrees of Freedom and Figure of Merits

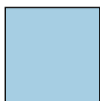




## Analysis

- ▶ Shape is given, feeding is known.
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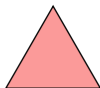
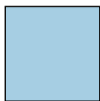


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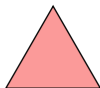
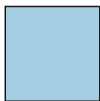
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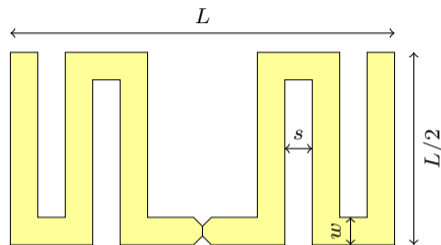
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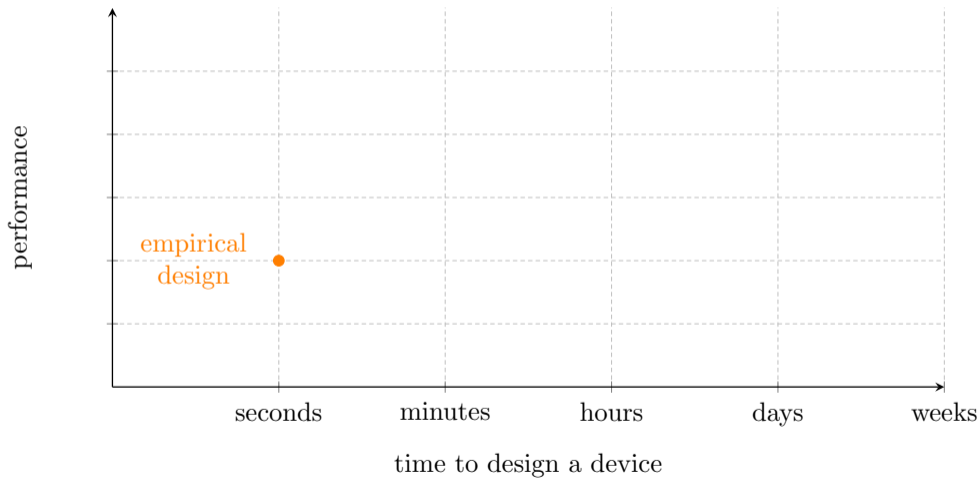
- ▶ Unsolved (except of rare cases).
- ▶ NP-hard/NP-complete.

# Design Strategies

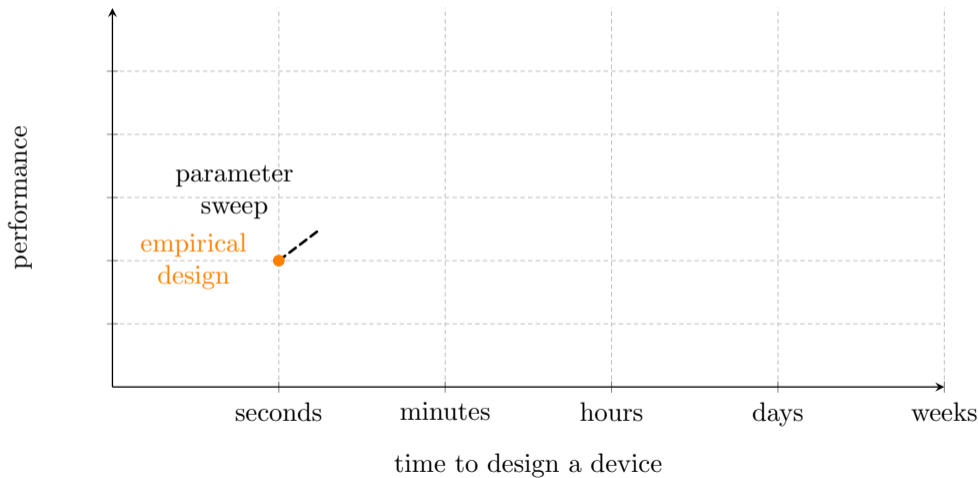
1. Designer's skill, experiences, and intuition.
2. Parameter sweep for predefined shapes.
3. Design libraries.
4. Local optimization (gradient-based).
5. Global optimization (heuristics).
6. Memetics, machine-learning-assisted techniques.



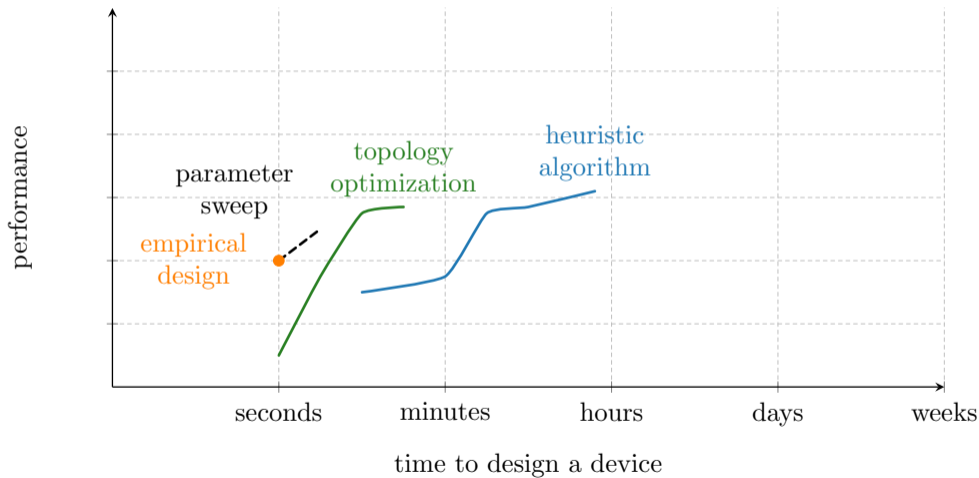
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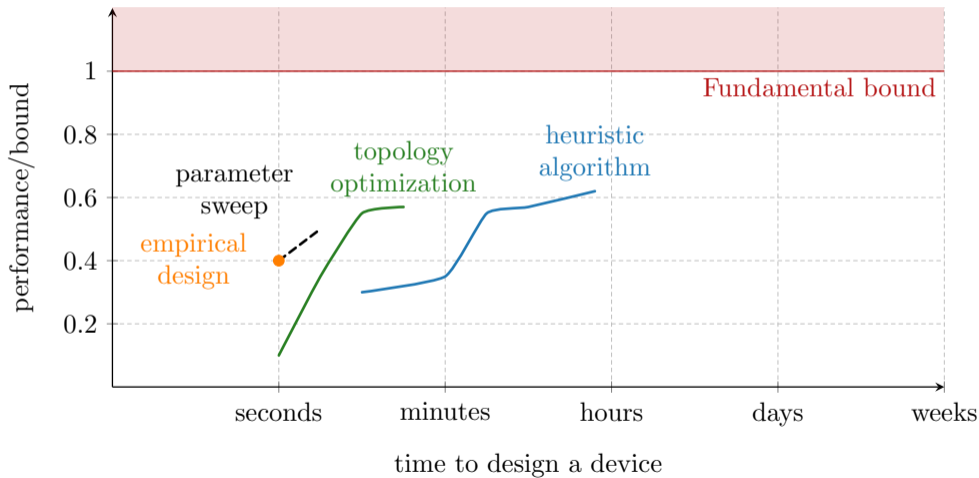
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# Fundamental Bounds

Example: Energy Extraction



Combustion

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Combustion



Nuclear fission

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$$\frac{W}{W_{\text{bound}}} \approx 10^{-9}$$



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$$\frac{W}{W_{\text{bound}}} \approx 10^{-3}$$



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Nuclear fusion

What is the physical bound on energy production from fuel with mass  $m$ ?  $W_{\text{bound}} = mc^2$

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Nuclear fusion

$$\frac{W}{W_{\text{bound}}} = 1$$

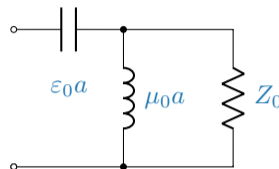


Annihilation of matter and antimatter

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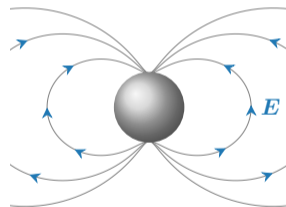
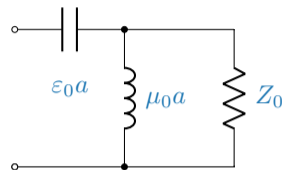
# Approaching Fundamental Bounds in EM – Overview

- ▶ **Circuit quantities** (*e.g.*, equivalent circuits).
  - ▶ Wheeler (radiation power factor, 1947)
  - ▶ Chu (Q-factor, 1948)
  - ▶ Fano (matching, 1950)
  - ▶ Thal (Q-factor, 1978)
  - ▶ Pfeiffer (radiation efficiency, 2017)



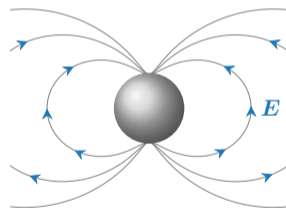
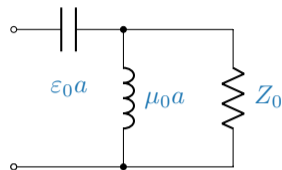
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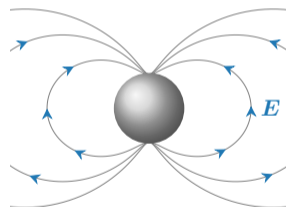
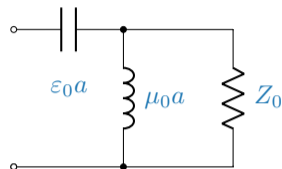
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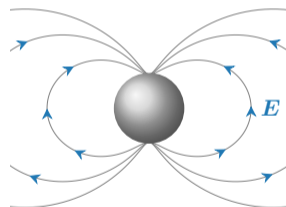
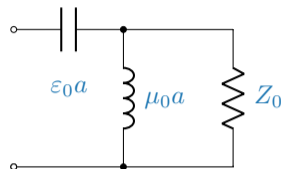
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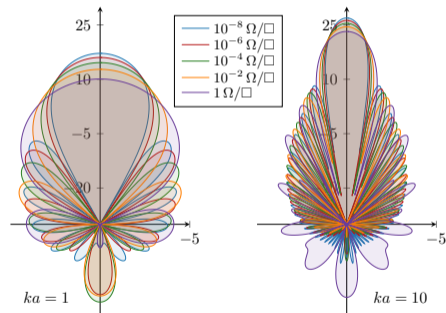
# First Attempts: Directivity

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What is the **highest achievable directivity** of an antenna?

- It is possible to design an antenna of **arbitrarily small** dimensions with a **directivity as high as desired**<sup>1</sup>.



<sup>4</sup>C. W. Oseen, “Die Einsteinsche Nadelstichstrahlung und die Maxwell’schen Gleichungen,” *Ann. Phys.*, vol. 69, no. 19, pp. 202–204, 1922

# First Attempts: Q-factor

What is the **highest achievable fractional bandwidth<sup>2</sup>** of a single-resonant antenna?

# First Attempts: Q-factor

What is the **highest achievable fractional bandwidth<sup>2</sup>** of a single-resonant antenna?

$$\text{FBW} < \frac{2|\Gamma|}{Q_{\text{Chu}}} \quad (1)$$

$$Q_{\text{Chu}} = \frac{1}{2} \left( \frac{1}{(ka)^3} + \frac{2}{ka} \right) \quad (2)$$

Key ingredient: **Expansion of field into spherical waves.**

<sup>5</sup>L. J. Chu, “Physical limitations of omni-directional antennas,” *J. Appl. Phys.*, vol. 19, pp. 1163–1175, 1948

## First Attempts: Away From Spheres

- ▶ Spherical waves are only suitable for spherical design regions.
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“Shape-specific” fundamental bounds<sup>3</sup>

Given a **specific design region**, what is the **best performance** we can get from a device build in this region from a **given material**?

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<sup>5</sup>M. Uzsoky and L. Solymár, “Theory of super-directive linear arrays,” *Acta Physica Academiae Scientiarum Hungaricae*, vol. 6, no. 2, pp. 185–205, 1956

R. F. Harrington, “Antenna excitation for maximum gain,” *IEEE Trans. Antennas Propag.*, vol. 13, no. 6, pp. 896–903, 1965



## Example: Radiation Efficiency and Dissipation Factor

Radiation efficiency<sup>4</sup>:

$$\eta_{\text{rad}} = \frac{P_{\text{rad}}}{P_{\text{rad}} + P_{\text{lost}}} = \frac{1}{1 + \delta_{\text{lost}}} \quad (3)$$

Dissipation factor<sup>5</sup>  $\delta$ :

$$\delta_{\text{lost}} = \frac{P_{\text{lost}}}{P_{\text{rad}}} \quad (4)$$

► fraction of quadratic forms (can be scaled with resistivity model).

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# Integral Operators and Their Algebraic Representation

Radiated and reactive power:

$$P_{\text{rad}} + 2j\omega (W_{\text{m}} - W_{\text{e}}) = \frac{1}{2} \langle \mathbf{J}(\mathbf{r}), \mathcal{Z}[\mathbf{J}(\mathbf{r})] \rangle$$

Lost power (surface resistivity model):

$$P_{\text{lost}} = \frac{1}{2} \langle \mathbf{J}(\mathbf{r}), \text{Re}\{Z_{\text{s}}\} \mathbf{J}(\mathbf{r}) \rangle$$

► The same approach as with the method of moments<sup>6</sup> (MoM)

$$\mathbf{J}(\mathbf{r}) \approx \sum_n I_n \psi_n(\mathbf{r})$$

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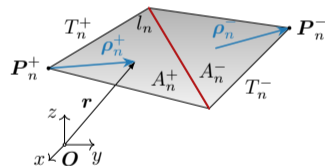
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RWG basis function  $\psi_n$ .

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# Algebraic Representation of Integral Operators

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Electric Field Integral Equation<sup>7</sup> (EFIE),  $\mathbf{Z} = [Z_{mn}]$ :

$$Z_{mn} = \int_{\Omega} \boldsymbol{\psi}_m \cdot \mathcal{Z}(\boldsymbol{\psi}_n) \, dS = jkZ_0 \int_{\Omega} \int_{\Omega} \boldsymbol{\psi}_m(\mathbf{r}_1) \cdot \mathbf{G}(\mathbf{r}_1, \mathbf{r}_2) \cdot \boldsymbol{\psi}_n(\mathbf{r}_2) \, dS_1 \, dS_2. \quad (6)$$

- ▶ Dense, symmetric matrix.
- ▶ An output from PEC 2D/3D MoM code (Ansys FEKO, CST MWS, HFSS, ...).

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$$L_{mn} = \int_{\Omega} \boldsymbol{\psi}_m \cdot \boldsymbol{\psi}_n \, dS \quad (8)$$

Surface resistivity model:

$$Z_s = \frac{1 + j}{\sigma \delta} \quad (9)$$

with skin depth  $\delta = \sqrt{2/\omega\mu_0\sigma}$ .

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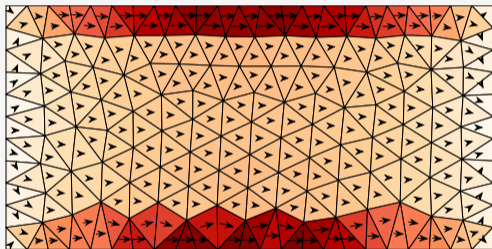
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with skin depth  $\delta = \sqrt{2/\omega\mu_0\sigma}$ .

- ▶ Sparse matrix (diagonal for non-overlapping functions  $\{\boldsymbol{\psi}_m(\mathbf{r})\}$ ).
- ▶ The entries  $L_{mn}$  are known analytically.

# A Note: MoM Solution $\times$ Current Impressed in Vacuum

MoM solution

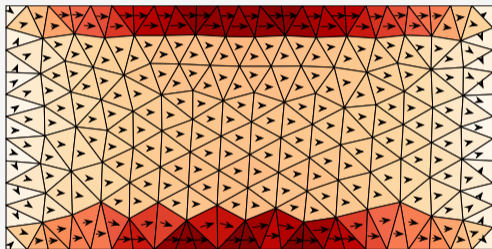


Solution to  $\mathbf{I} = \mathbf{Z}^{-1}\mathbf{V}$  for an incident plane wave.

A current can be chosen **completely freely**, only the excitation  $\mathbf{V} = \mathbf{Z}\mathbf{I}$  may **not be realizable**.

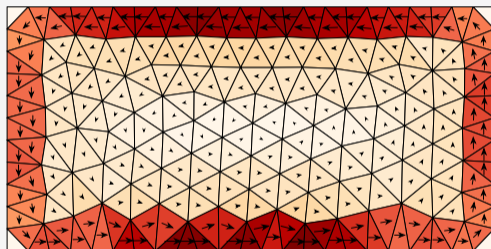
# A Note: MoM Solution $\times$ Current Impressed in Vacuum

## MoM solution



Solution to  $\mathbf{I} = \mathbf{Z}^{-1}\mathbf{V}$  for an incident plane wave.

## Current impressed in vacuum



Solution to  $\mathbf{X}\mathbf{I}_i = \lambda_i\mathbf{R}\mathbf{I}_i$  (the first inductive mode).

A current can be chosen **completely freely**, only the excitation  $\mathbf{V} = \mathbf{Z}\mathbf{I}$  may **not be realizable**.

# Fundamental Bounds as QCQP Problems

- ▶ Having quadratic forms for the physical quantities, the antenna metrics may be optimized.

## Maximum radiation efficiency

Problem  $\mathcal{P}_1$ :

$$\begin{aligned} &\text{minimize} && P_{\text{loss}} \\ &\text{subject to} && P_{\text{rad}} = 1 \end{aligned}$$

## Maximum self-resonant radiation efficiency

Problem  $\mathcal{P}_2$ :

$$\begin{aligned} &\text{minimize} && P_{\text{loss}} \\ &\text{subject to} && P_{\text{rad}} = 1 \\ &&& \omega (W_{\text{m}} - W_{\text{e}}) = 0 \end{aligned}$$

## Fundamental Bounds as QCQP Problems

- ▶ Having quadratic forms for the physical quantities, the antenna metrics may be optimized.
- ▶ The problems  $\mathcal{P}_1$  and  $\mathcal{P}_2$  are quadratically constrained quadratic programs<sup>8</sup> (QCQP).

### Maximum radiation efficiency

Problem  $\mathcal{P}_1$ :

$$\begin{aligned} & \text{minimize} && \mathbf{I}^H \mathbf{L} \mathbf{I} \\ & \text{subject to} && \mathbf{I}^H \mathbf{R} \mathbf{I} = 1 \end{aligned}$$

### Maximum self-resonant radiation efficiency

Problem  $\mathcal{P}_2$ :

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---

<sup>8</sup>S. Boyd and L. Vandenberghe, *Convex Optimization*. Cambridge, Great Britain: Cambridge University Press, 2004

# Solution to Radiation Efficiency Bound ( $\mathcal{P}_1$ )

Lagrangian reads

$$\mathcal{L}(\lambda, \mathbf{I}) = \mathbf{I}^H \mathbf{L} \mathbf{I} - \lambda (\mathbf{I}^H \mathbf{R} \mathbf{I} - 1). \quad (10)$$

Stationary points

$$\frac{\partial \mathcal{L}}{\partial \mathbf{I}^H} = \mathbf{L} \mathbf{I} - \lambda \mathbf{R} \mathbf{I} = 0 \quad (11)$$

are solution to generalized eigenvalue problem (GEP):

$$\mathbf{L} \mathbf{I}_i = \lambda_i \mathbf{R} \mathbf{I}_i. \quad (12)$$

Substituting a discrete set of stationary points  $\{\mathbf{I}_i, \lambda_i\}$  back to (10) and minimizing gives

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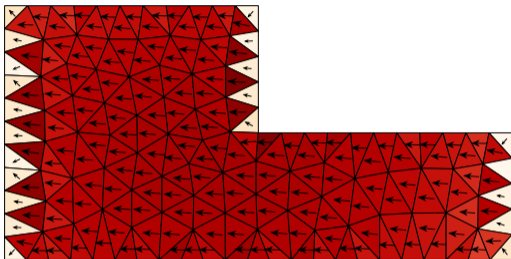
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## Example: Radiation Efficiency Bound of an L-plate ( $\mathcal{P}_1$ )

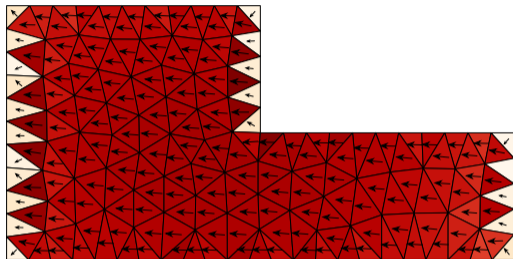
$ka = 1$ ,  $R_s = 0.01 \Omega/\square$ .



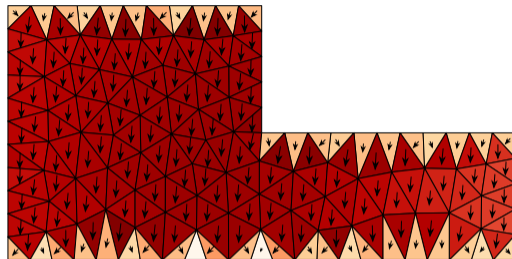
Optimal current (1st mode),  $Z_0/R_s (ka)^2 \delta_{\text{loss}} = 17.6$ .

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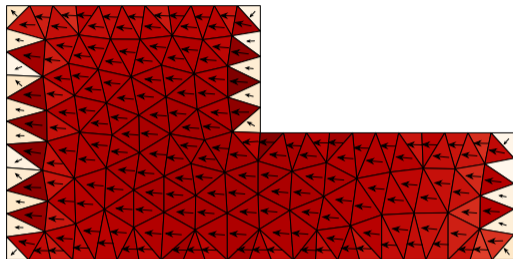


The 2nd current mode,  $Z_0/R_s (ka)^2 \delta_{\text{loss}} = 19.2$ .

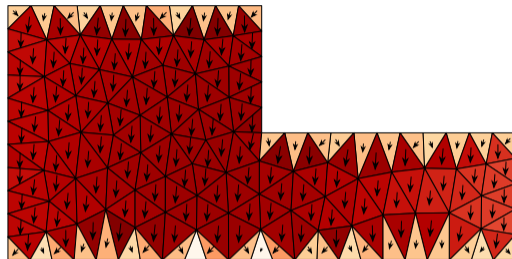
- Constant current has the lowest ohmic losses compared to its radiation.

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The 2nd current mode,  $Z_0/R_s (ka)^2 \delta_{\text{loss}} = 19.2$ .

- ▶ Constant current has the lowest ohmic losses compared to its radiation.
- ▶ Clearly, such current is not realizable (and singular on the boundary).

## Solution to Self-Resonant Radiation Efficiency Bound ( $\mathcal{P}_2$ )

The same solving procedure<sup>9</sup> as with problem  $\mathcal{P}_1$ , two Lagrange multipliers, however:

$$\mathcal{L}(\lambda_1, \lambda_2, \mathbf{I}) = \mathbf{I}^H \mathbf{L} \mathbf{I} - \lambda_1 (\mathbf{I}^H \mathbf{R} \mathbf{I} - 1) - \lambda_2 \mathbf{I}^H \mathbf{X} \mathbf{I}. \quad (14)$$

Stationary points

$$(\mathbf{L} - \lambda_2 \mathbf{X}) \mathbf{I}_i = \lambda_{1,i} \mathbf{R} \mathbf{I}_i. \quad (15)$$

---

<sup>9</sup>M. Gustafsson and M. Capek, “Maximum gain, effective area, and directivity,” *IEEE Trans. Antennas Propag.*, vol. 67, no. 8, pp. 5282–5293, 2019

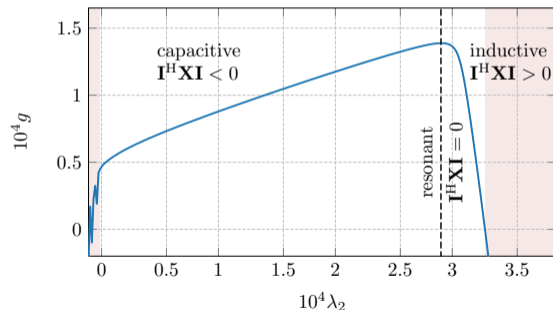
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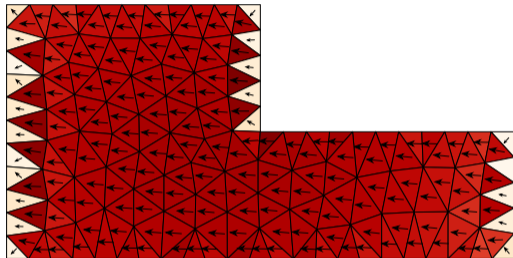
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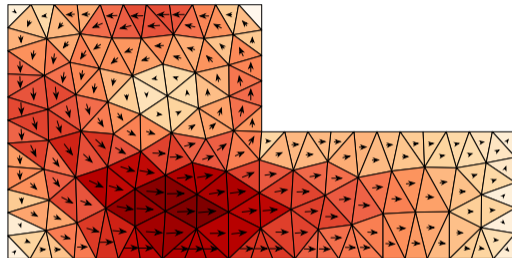
<sup>9</sup>M. Gustafsson and M. Capek, "Maximum gain, effective area, and directivity," *IEEE Trans. Antennas Propag.*, vol. 67, no. 8, pp. 5282–5293, 2019

## Example: Optimal Currents for L-Shape Plate ( $\mathcal{P}_1$ & $\mathcal{P}_2$ )

$ka = 1$ ,  $R_s = 0.01 \Omega/\square$ .



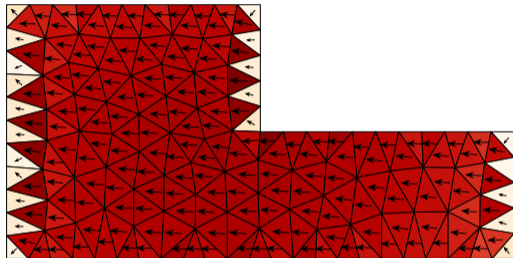
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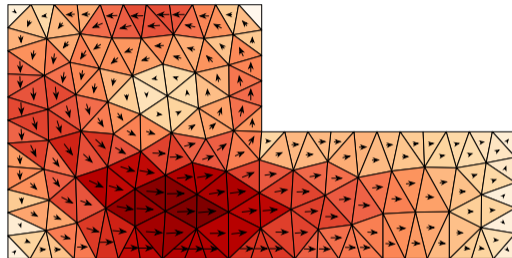
Optimal current for  $\mathcal{P}_2$ ,  
 $Z_0/R_s (ka)^4 \delta_{\text{loss}} = 52.3$ .

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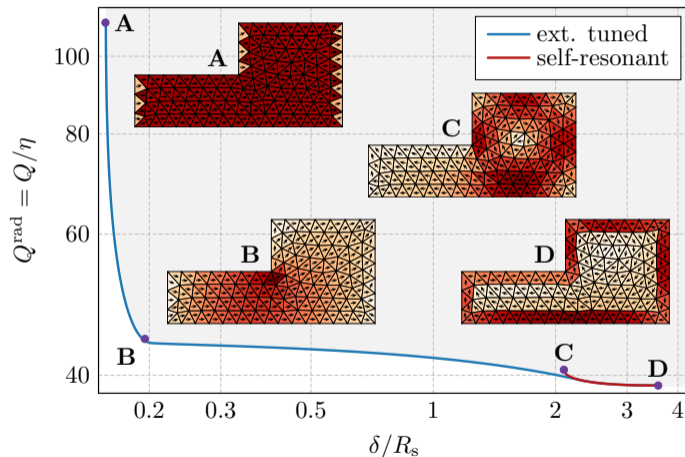
The same approach may be applied for any representation of the integral operators.

- Surface MoM, separable bodies, volumetric MoM, hybrid integral methods.



# Trade-off Between Antenna Metrics

**Example:** Radiation efficiency vs. antenna bandwidth<sup>10</sup>,  $ka = 1/2$ ,  $R_s = 1 \Omega/\square$



<sup>10</sup>M. Gustafsson, M. Capek, and K. Schab, "Tradeoff between antenna efficiency and Q-factor," *IEEE Trans. Antennas Propag.*, vol. 67, no. 4, pp. 2482–2493, 2019

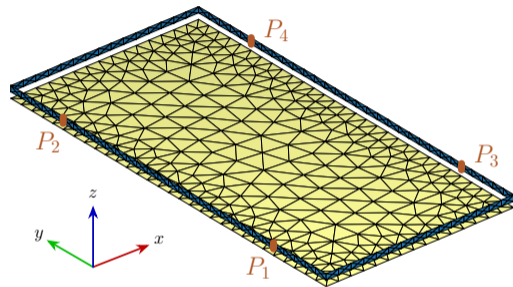
# TARC Minimization

Total active reflection coefficient (TARC)

$$\Gamma^t = \sqrt{1 - \frac{P_{\text{rad}}}{P_{\text{in}}}} = \sqrt{1 - \frac{\mathbf{v}^H \mathbf{g}_0 \mathbf{v}}{\mathbf{v}^H \mathbf{k}_i^H \mathbf{k}_i \mathbf{v}}} \quad (16)$$

is to be minimized with QCQP<sup>11</sup>:

$$\begin{aligned} & \text{maximize} && \mathbf{v}^H \mathbf{g}_0 \mathbf{v} \\ & \text{subject to} && \mathbf{v}^H \mathbf{k}_i^H \mathbf{k}_i \mathbf{v} = 1 \end{aligned} \quad (17)$$



<sup>11</sup>M. Capek, L. Jelinek, and M. Masek, “Finding optimal total active reflection coefficient and realized gain for multi-port lossy antennas,” *IEEE Transactions on Antennas and Propagation*, 2021, early access

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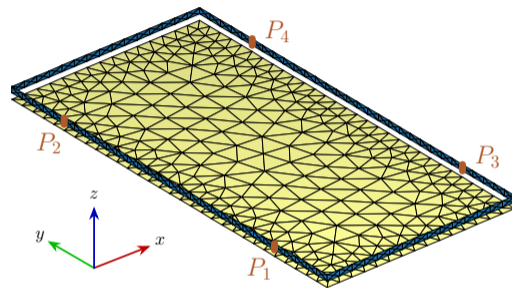
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Various levels of complexity:

- ▶ optimal excitation of ports,
- ▶ optimal placement of ports,



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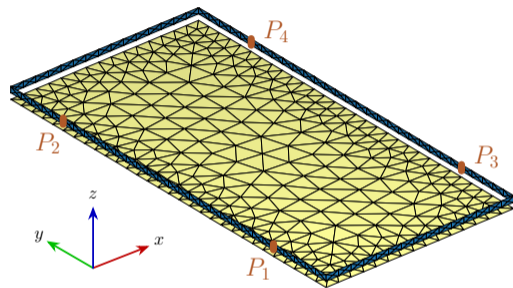
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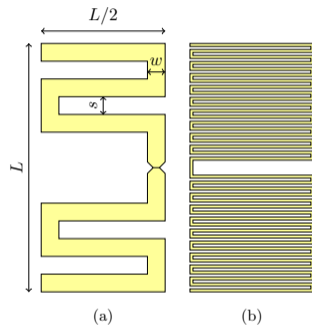
- ▶ optimal excitation of ports,
- ▶ optimal placement of ports,
- ▶ optimal number of ports,
- ▶ optimal matching circuitry.



<sup>11</sup>M. Capek, L. Jelinek, and M. Masek, “Finding optimal total active reflection coefficient and realized gain for multi-port lossy antennas,” *IEEE Transactions on Antennas and Propagation*, 2021, early access

# Shapes Known to Be Optimal (In Certain Sense)

Radiation Q-factor<sup>12</sup>

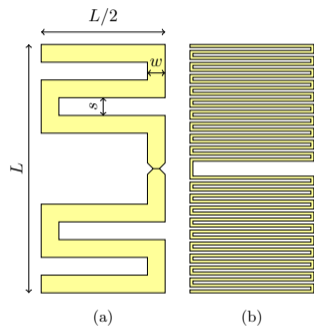


Possible parametrization (unknowns:  
 $s$ ,  $w$ , *i.e.*, number of meanders).

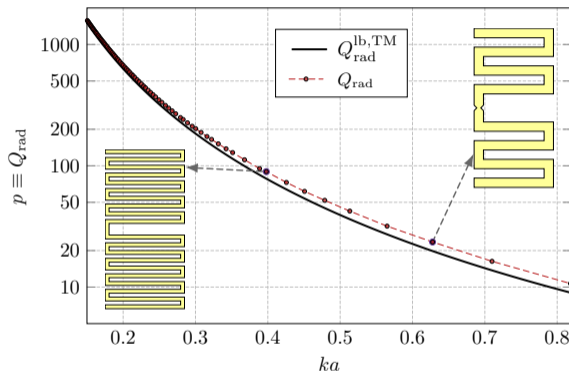
<sup>12</sup>M. Capek, L. Jelinek, K. Schab, *et al.*, “Optimal planar electric dipole antennas: Searching for antennas reaching the fundamental bounds on selected metrics,” *IEEE Antennas and Propagation Magazine*, vol. 61, no. 4, pp. 19–29, 2019

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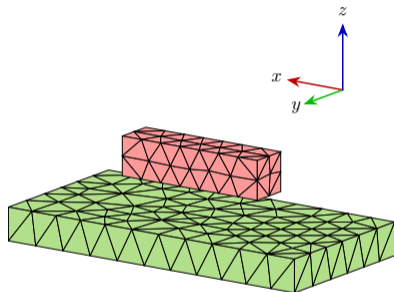


Q-factor of meanderline antennas compared to the bound.

<sup>12</sup>M. Capek, L. Jelinek, K. Schab, *et al.*, “Optimal planar electric dipole antennas: Searching for antennas reaching the fundamental bounds on selected metrics,” *IEEE Antennas and Propagation Magazine*, vol. 61, no. 4, pp. 19–29, 2019

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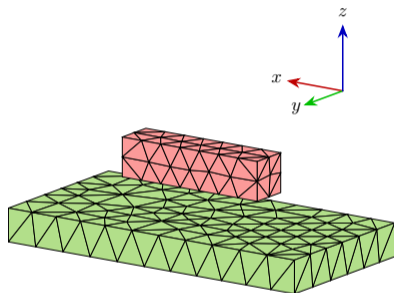
Cloaking efficiency (extinction cross section)



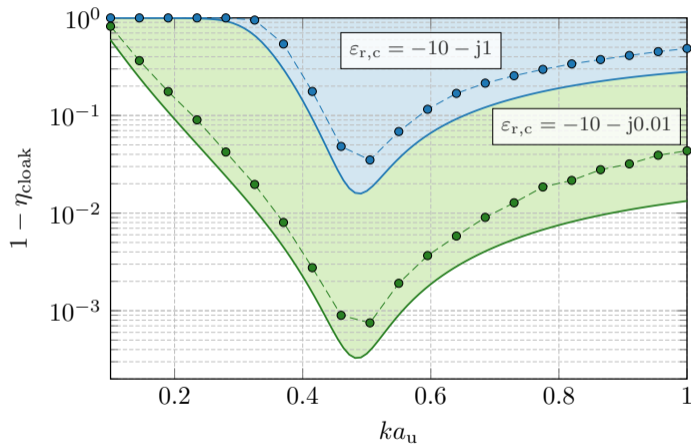
A (fixed) rod over a slab (optimized).

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Cloaking efficiency (extinction cross section)



A (fixed) rod over a slab (optimized).



Cloaking efficiency of optimized slabs compared to the bound  $\eta_{\text{cloak}}^{\text{ub}}$ .



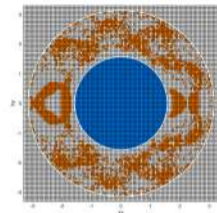
# Conclusion

## Bounds (QCQP)

- ▶ Help us to understand principal limits.
- ▶ We know when to stop with the design procedure.
- ▶ Applicable to arbitrarily shaped bodies.
- ▶ Inhomogeneous materials, combined metrics, trade-offs.
- ▶ Supports constraints on input impedance, complex power, directional constraints, polarization, etc.
- ▶ Sometimes directly realizable (port-modes).

## Future

- ▶ Other metrics and their bounds.
- ▶ So far only single-frequency.
- ▶ Piecewise constraints (local power conservation).



# Questions?

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ČES Seminar, Prague, Czech Republic  
version 1.0, last edit: June 28, 2021

The presentation is downloadable at [▶ capek.elmag.org](https://capek.elmag.org)