

A Simple Measurement Technique for Characterizing Active Antennas

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Testing active antennas or polarimetric radar calibrators in the far-field (plane wave excitation) is complicated by imperfect isolation between transmitting and receiving channels. We describe a far-field reflectometry setup which overcomes this problem. A large dynamic range is achieved by modulating the active element bias and using a quadrature receiver and lock-in detection scheme. Measured results compare favorably with other existing techniques.

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