

Versatility is the key word in this article. N4PC shows us how to really "increase the mileage" out of a 40 meter antenna.

My 40 Meter Double-Extended-Zepp Antenna Shows Its Versatility

BY PAUL CARR*, N4PC

It is not unusual to receive a telephone call from one of my readers with an antenna question. I enjoy talking to these people, and hopefully I am able to provide answers to some of their questions.

One often-asked question lately is what kind of antenna will work on the 160 meter band and will provide good results through 10 meters? I have also heard readers comment that they have tried a 160 meter dipole, but had trouble tuning the antenna on some of the higher bands.

Well, there is a fairly simple solution to this problem: Use a 40 meter antenna! Let me explain. The 40 meter extended double Zepp is the antenna to try. It is slightly shorter than a half-wave 160 meter antenna, and it eliminates some of the tune-up problems you may have encountered in the past.

Background

You don't have to listen on the bands very long to find out that one of the most popular wire

*97 West Point Road, Jacksonville, AL 36265

antennas in use today is the G5RV. That antenna is designed to be a three half-wave dipole cut for 20 meters. This makes the antenna 102 feet long, and the antenna is useful from 80 through 10 meters.

In recent years the double G5RV has made

an appearance. It is 204 feet long and is useful from 160 to 10 meters. This was the starting point for my research on this antenna project.

Although the double G5RV was about the physical length that I was looking for, a computer analysis showed the antenna produced

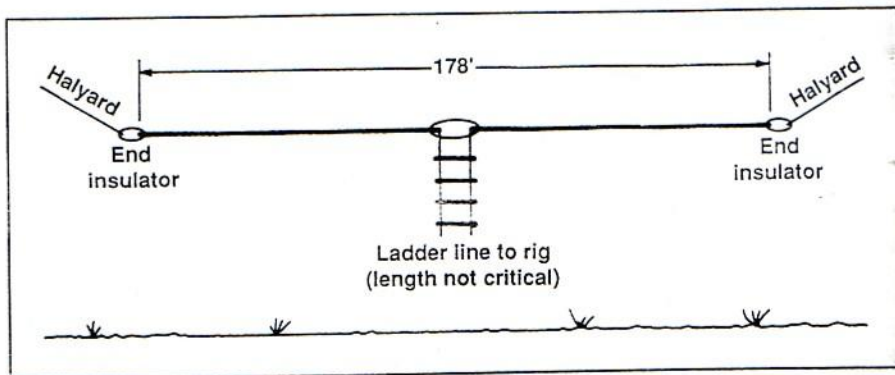


Fig. 1— Basic antenna configuration.

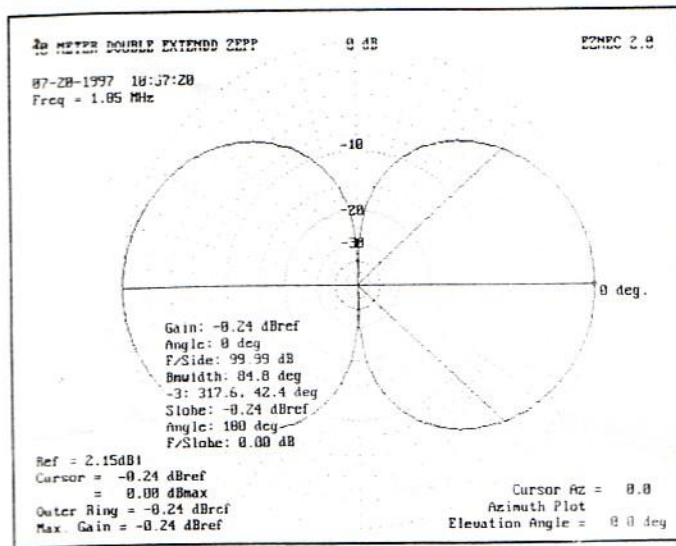


Fig. 2— Computer analysis of the antenna pattern on 160 meters.

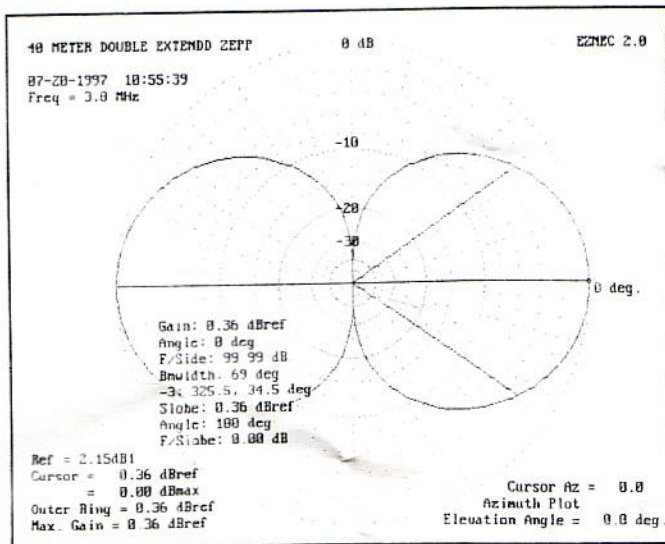


Fig. 3— Computer analysis of the antenna pattern on 75 meters.