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# DUO mXTEND<sup>™</sup> : THE ANTENNA READY FOR ALL THE UWB CHIPS

APPLICATION NOTE  
DUO mXTEND<sup>™</sup> (NN03-320)

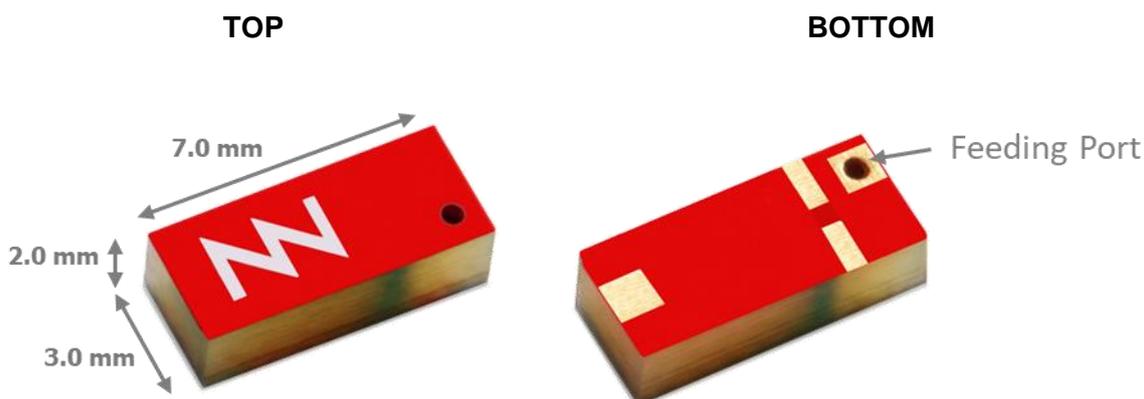


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## 1. PRODUCT DESCRIPTION NN03-320

The DUO mXTEND<sup>™</sup> antenna booster is a versatile antenna product specifically designed for wireless devices or modules with **small space** requirements. It offers a **high antenna efficiency** in a very reduced antenna package. Thanks to its versatility, the same antenna component can be used to operate one or multiple of the following communication services, 5G, GNSS, BT, WiFi, or UWB in a single port or multiport configuration. This application note is focused in illustrating how the DUO mXTEND<sup>™</sup> can be used to operate all common **UWB** frequency bands in a single port configuration, namely **bands 1-14** ranging from: **3.1GHz up to 10.6GHz**.



**Material:** The DUO mXTEND<sup>™</sup> antenna booster is built on glass epoxy substrate.

### APPLICATIONS

- IoT devices
- Smart city
- Smart home
- Sensors
- Tags
- Smartphones
- Wearables
- Modules

### BENEFITS

- High efficiency
- Small size
- Cost-effective
- Easy-to-use (pick and place)
- Off-the-Shelf Product (no customization is required)

The DUO mXTEND<sup>™</sup> antenna booster belongs to a new generation of antenna solutions based on Virtual Antenna<sup>™</sup> technology owned by Ignion. This technology enables replacing conventional and custom antenna solutions by a new class of so-called antenna boosters, delivered in the form of a new range of miniature and off-the-shelf chip antenna components. These new chip antennas are by nature multiband and multipurpose, so they fit in a variety of wireless platforms to provide a wireless link at many different communication services. By using a Virtual Antenna<sup>™</sup> component the design becomes more predictable compared to a custom solution, making the whole process **faster, cheaper and easier**.

## 2. EVALUATION BOARD UWB

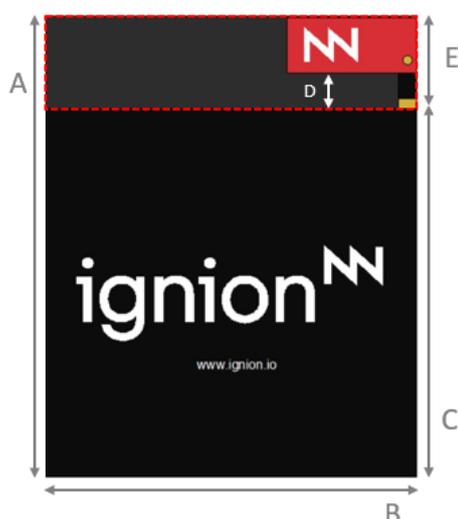
### 2.1. QUICK REFERENCE GUIDE

Technical features	Option 1 UWB (LFR)	Option 2 UWB (HFR)
	3.1 – 4.8 GHz	6.0 – 10.6 GHz
Average Efficiency	> 80%	> 80%
Peak Gain	2.3 dBi	3.6 dBi
VSWR	< 2.6:1	< 4.0:1
Radiation Pattern	Omnidirectional	
Polarization	Linear	
Weight (approx.)	0.11 g.	
Temperature	-40 to + 125 °C	
Impedance	50 Ω	
Dimensions (L x W x H)	7.0 mm x 3.0 mm x 2.0 mm	

Table 1 – Technical Features. Measures from the Evaluation Board. See Figure 1.

### 2.2. EVALUATION BOARD

The Evaluation Board EB\_NN03-320-UWB integrates the DUO mXTEND™ antenna booster to provide operation in the frequency region going from 3.1 GHz to 10.6 GHz, through a single input/output port.



Measure	mm
A	25.0
B	20.0
C	20.0
D	2.0
E	5.0

**Tolerance:** ±0.2 mm

**D:** Distance between the DUO mXTEND™ antenna booster and the ground plane.

**Material:** The Evaluation Board is built on FR4 substrate. Thickness is 1 mm.

**Clearance Area:** 20.0 mm x 5.0 mm (B x E)

Figure 1 – EB\_NN03-320-UWB. Evaluation Board providing operation at UWB (from 3.1 GHz to 10.6 GHz).

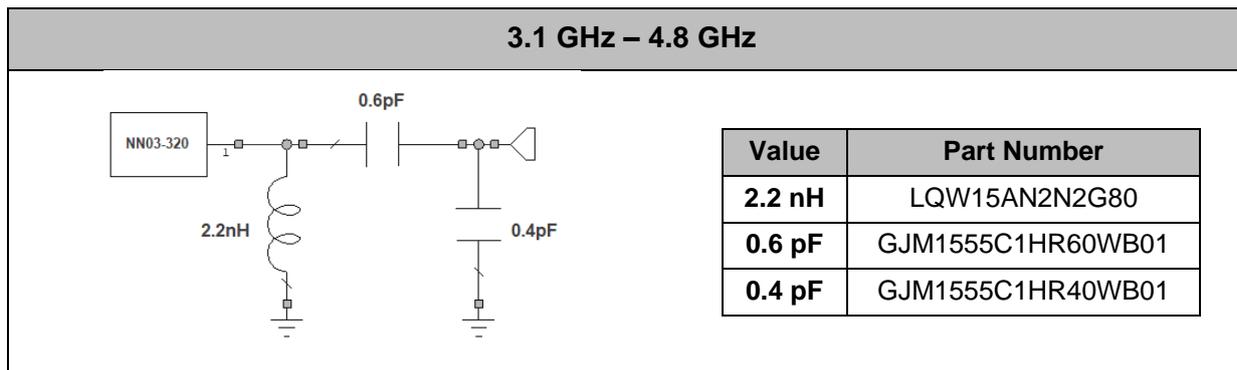
This product and/or its use is protected by at least one or more of the following [patents and patent applications](#) PAT. US 9,865,917 B2, WO 2019/008171, US 16/731755, EP 18736916.0,

CN 201880045357.8; and other domestic and international patents pending. Additional information about patents related to this product is available at [www.ignion.io/virtual-antenna](http://www.ignion.io/virtual-antenna)

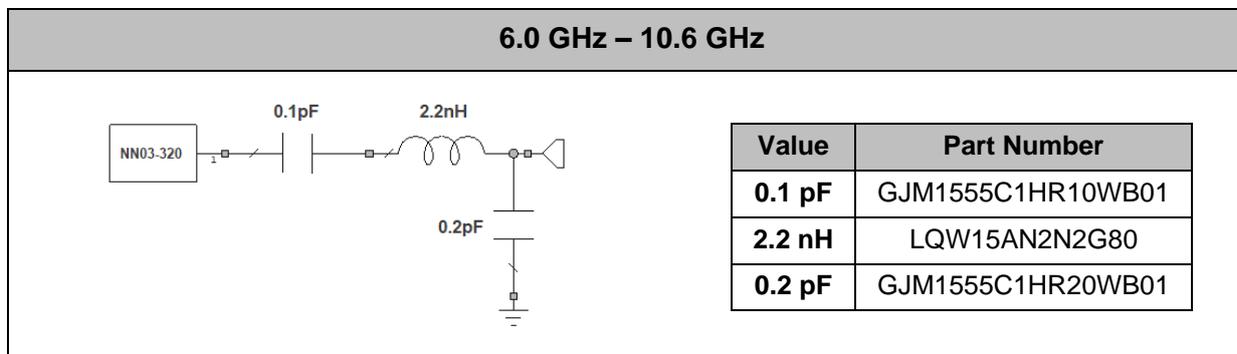
### 2.3. MATCHING NETWORK

DUO mXTEND<sup>™</sup> antenna booster needs a matching network to connect to your UWB RF module. This section presents the proposed matching network and specifications obtained in the corresponding Evaluation Board (Figure 1), which is an ideal case. Thanks to its versatility the DUO mXTEND<sup>™</sup> antenna booster can be easily tuned to cover different regions of the UWB spectrum through just the proper adjustment of the matching network. The excellent tuning capabilities of the DUO mXTEND<sup>™</sup> makes it ideal to avoid unnecessary product redesigns each time your product specifications and operating frequencies vary. It allows you to easily adapt your design to different applications, market segments, and devices through just the proper design of the matching network by maintaining the same antenna part.

Two different options with two different matching networks are presented herein to illustrate this flexibility. The first one is used to properly tune the antenna performance to UWB channels ranging from 3.1-4.8GHz (Option 1). The second one can be used to cover channels operating from 6.0-10.6GHz (Option 2).



**Figure 2** – Matching network implemented in the Evaluation Board (Figure 1) for covering the low frequency region from 3.1GHz to 4.8GHz.



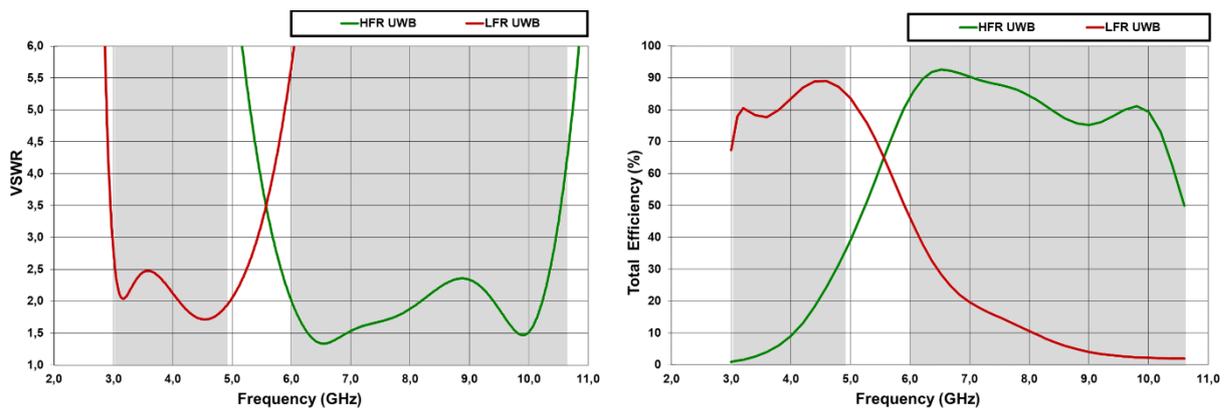
**Figure 3** – Matching network implemented in the Evaluation Board (Figure 1) for covering the high frequency region from 6.0GHz to 10.6GHz.

The antenna performance is always conditioned by its operating environment. Different devices with different printed circuit board sizes, components nearby the antenna, LCD's, batteries, covers, connectors, etc. may need a different matching network. Accordingly, it is highly recommended placing pads compatible with 0402 and 0603 SMD components for a matching network as close as possible to the feeding point of the antenna element in the ground plane area, not in the clearance area. This provides a degree of freedom to tune the DUO mXTEND™ antenna booster once the design is finished and taking into account all elements of the system (batteries, displays, covers, etc.). To ensure optimal results, the use of high-quality factor (Q) and tight tolerance components is highly recommended (e.g. Murata components (Figure 2).

If you need assistance to design your matching network beyond this application note, please contact [support@ignion.io](mailto:support@ignion.io), or if you are designing a **different device size** or a **different band of the UWB spectrum, we can assist you** in less than 24 hours. Please, try our free-of-charge<sup>1</sup> **NN Wireless Fast-Track** design service (<https://ignion.io/fast-track-project/>), you will get your chip antenna design including a custom matching network for your device in 24h<sup>1</sup>. Other related to NN's range of R&D services is available at: <https://www.ignion.io/rdservices/>

## 2.4. VSWR AND TOTAL EFFICIENCY

VSWR (Voltage Standing Wave Ratio) and total efficiency versus frequency (GHz).

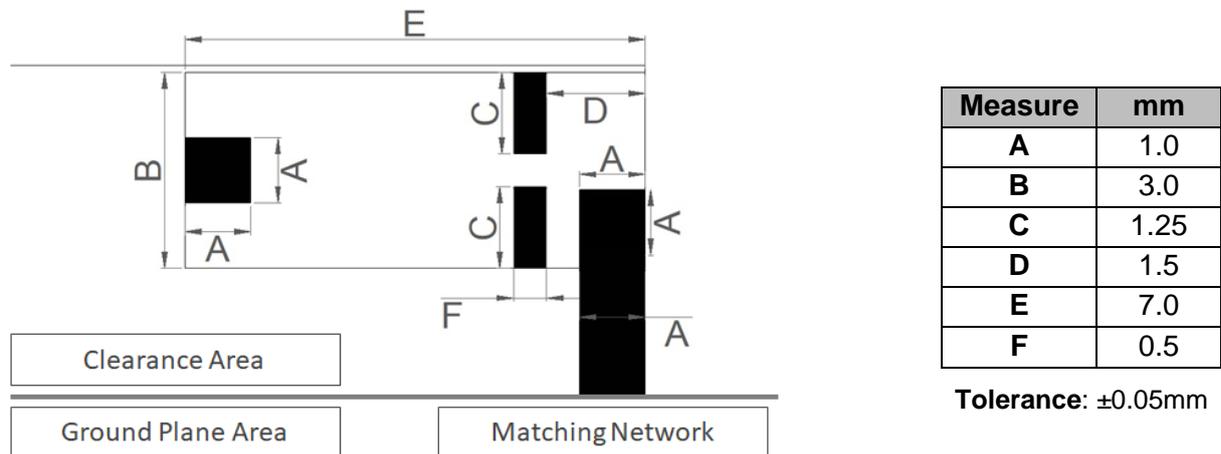


**Figure 4** – VSWR and total efficiency for the UWB LFR (3.1GHz – 4.8GHz) and for the UWB HFR (6.0GHz – 10.6GHz) from the Evaluation Board (Figure 1 with the matching networks gathered in Figure 2 (LFR UWB) and Figure 3 (HFR UWB), respectively. Simulated results obtained with CST.

<sup>1</sup> See terms and conditions for a free NN Wireless Fast-Track service in 24h at: <https://www.ignion.io/fast-track-project/>

## 2.5. RECOMMENDED ANTENNA FOOTPRINT FOR NN03-320

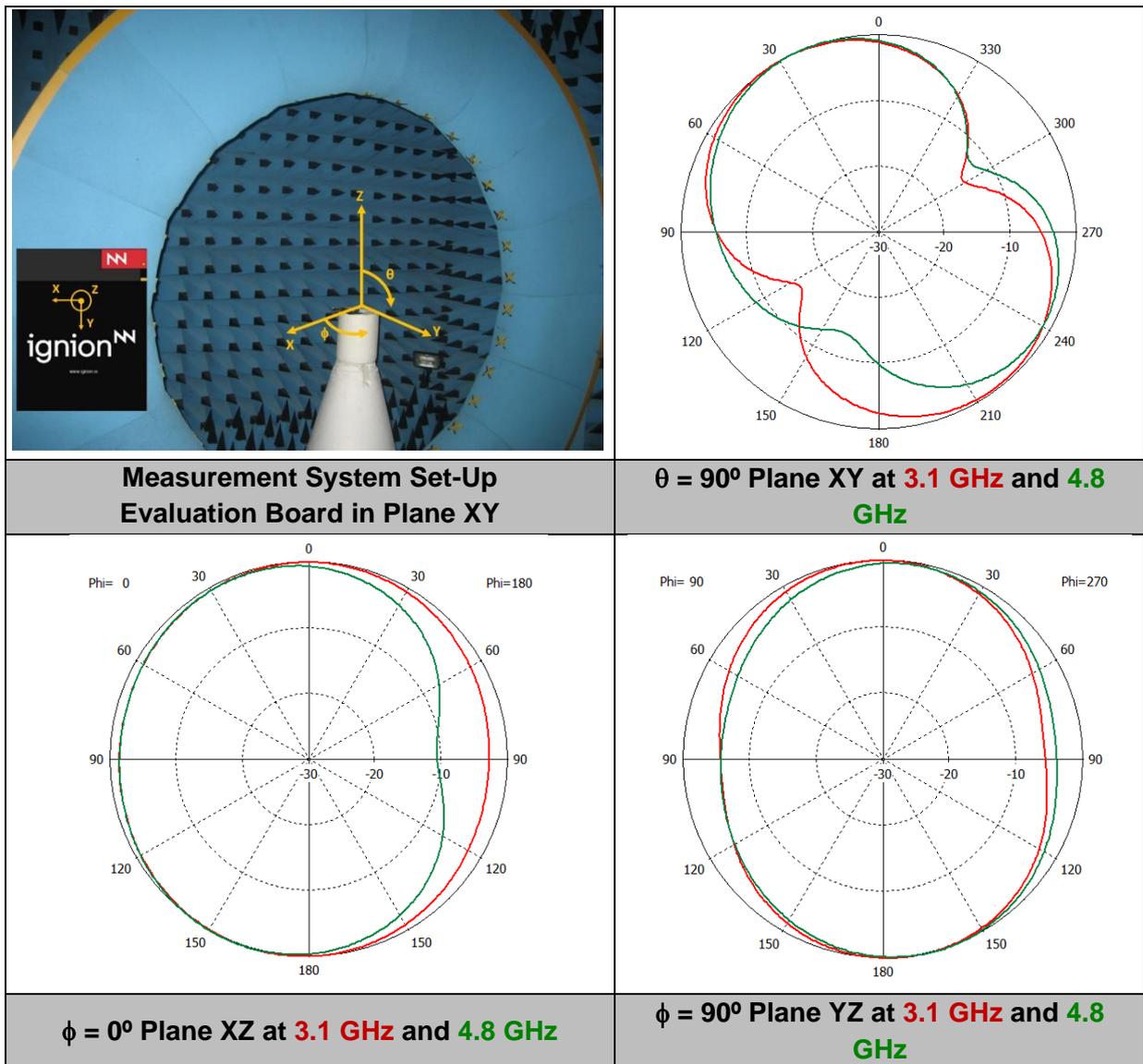
The DUO mXTEND™ antenna booster (NN03-320) can be placed close to a corner or the PCB or close to the center of the longitudinal PCB edge. See below the recommended footprint dimensions when it is placed close to a corner of the PCB with the feeding line aligned with the longest side of the board according to the Evaluation Board (Figure 1).



**Figure 5** – Footprint dimensions for the NN03-320 in the corner for UWB.

For additional support in the integration process, please contact [support@ignion.io](mailto:support@ignion.io).

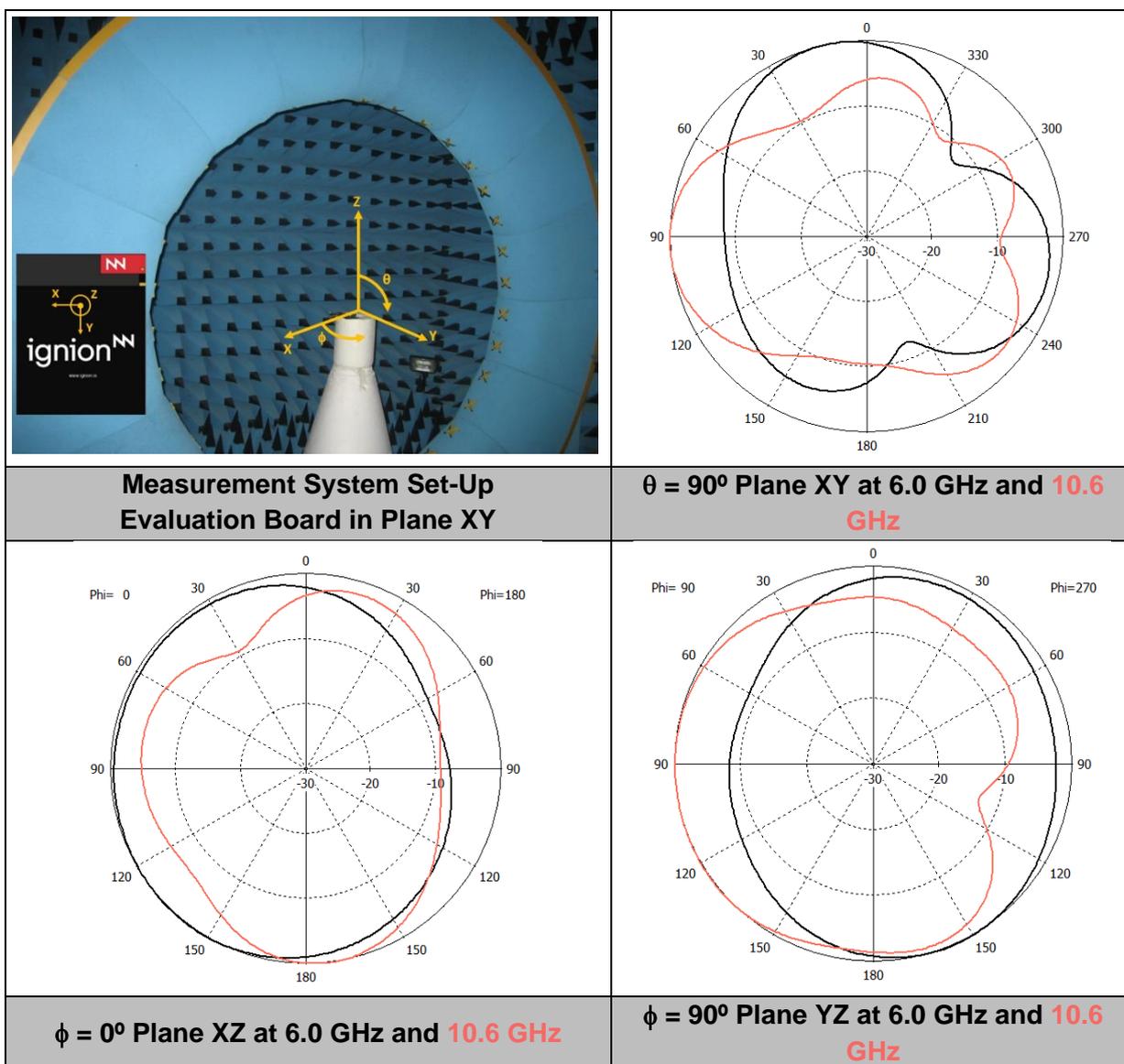
## 2.6. RADIATION PATTERNS UWB (3.1 to 4.8 GHz), GAIN, AND EFFICIENCY



LFR UWB 3.1-4.8GHz	Gain	Peak Gain	2.3 dBi
		Average Gain across the band	1.7 dBi
		Gain Range across the band (min, max)	1.1 <--> 2.3 dBi
	Efficiency	Peak Efficiency	89.0 %
		Average Efficiency across the band	83.0 %
		Efficiency Range across the band (min, max)	77.7 – 89.0 %

**Table 2** – Antenna gain and total efficiency from the Evaluation Board (Figure 1) for 3.1GHz – 4.8GHz with the matching network of Figure 2. Simulated results obtained with CST.

## 2.7. RADIATION PATTERNS UWB (6.0 to 10.6 GHz), GAIN, AND EFFICIENCY



HFR UWB 6.0-10.6GHz	Gain	Peak Gain	3.6 dBi
		Average Gain across the band	3.0 dBi
		Gain Range across the band (min, max)	1.5 $\leftrightarrow$ 3.6 dBi
	Efficiency	Peak Efficiency	92.6 %
		Average Efficiency across the band	82.2 %
		Efficiency Range across the band (min, max)	50.0 – 92.6 %

**Table 3** – Antenna Gain and Total Efficiency from the Evaluation Board (Figure 1) for 6.0GHz – 10.6GHz band considering the matching network in Figure 3. Simulated results obtained with CST.

### Do you need more help with your antenna for your device?

Use our **NN Wireless Fast Track service** and get your ready-to-test antenna design specially thought for your platform **free of charge**<sup>1</sup> and in **24 hours**.

1. Fill out the form and submit it. Get confirmation email.
2. Reply to email. If you wish, attach any relevant design file.
3. Get your design in 24h.

<https://www.ignion.io/fast-track-project/>

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Ignion is an ISO 9001:2015 certified company. All our antennas are lead-free and RoHS compliant.

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