



Path Profile for Terrestrial Line of Site Microwave Link in the C-Band

Enyenihi Henry Johnson¹, Okoye O. Jude², Obinwa Christian Amaefule³

¹Department of Electrical/Electronic Engineering, Akwa Ibom State University, Mkpato Enin, Nigeria

²Department of Electrical/Electronic and Computer Engineering, University of Uyo, Uyo, Nigeria

³Department of Electrical Engineering, Imo State University (IMSU), Owerri, Nigeria

Email address:

gentlejay@yahoo.com (E. H. Johnson)

To cite this article:

Enyenihi Henry Johnson, Okoye O. Jude, Obinwa Christian Amaefule. Path Profile for Terrestrial Line of Site Microwave Link in the C-Band. *International Journal of Information and Communication Sciences*. Vol. 2, No. 2, 2017, pp. 15-23. doi: 10.11648/j.ijics.20170202.11

Received: October 16, 2016; **Accepted:** December 27, 2016; **Published:** April 26, 2017

Abstract: In this paper, development of path profile for 6GHz C-band terrestrial line-of-site microwave link is presented. The path (elevation) profile data set is obtained using Geocontext online elevation software. With the path profile, the minimum antenna elevation and the minimum antenna mast heights for effective line of site installation are determined. According to the results, when path inclination is greater than zero, antenna elevation is 105.873m and 88.528m at the transmitter and receiver respectively, with antenna mast height of 36.712m at both the transmitter and the receiver and critical clearance of 4.787m at a distance of 1897.626m from the transmitter. However, when path inclination is equal to zero, antenna elevation is 88.528m at both the transmitter and receiver with antenna mast height of 19.367m and 36.712m at the transmitter and receiver respectively. In this case, the critical clearance is 0 m (zero meter) at a distance of 686.641m from the transmitter.

Keywords: Path Profile, Microwave Link, Line-of-Site, C-Band, Path Inclination, Fresnel Zone, Earth Bulge

1. Introduction

At high frequencies such as the microwave frequencies, adequate planning is required to ensure line-of-site between the antennas at two distant communication link endpoints [1-5]. In this case, some factors must be taken into consideration in order to ensure clear line-of-sight; among the factors are, the earth curvature, the Fresnel Zone clearance, the atmospheric refraction and possible obstacles on the path of the communication link [6-9]. However, "in order to determine tower heights for suitable path clearance, a path profile must be plotted" [10-12].

According to Standard (1996), path profile is a graphic representation of the physical features of signal propagation path; the path profile contains both endpoints of the path and shows the elevations in the vertical plane of points between the endpoints. The path profile also shows the Earth surface along with buildings, trees, and other features that may block the radio signal [13]. Importantly, proper planning of microwave and cellular path profile can help network planners to determine accurate tower heights for the antenna in order to achieve Line-of-Sight (LOS) clearance of the first Fresnel

Zone or Fresnel Radius from obstacles that are along the radio propagation path and this will improve the Quality of Service (QoS) delivery of deployed systems [1, 14-15].

In this paper, approach for generating and plotting the path profile for terrestrial line of site microwave link is presented. In order to generate the path profile for terrestrial line of site microwave link, the elevation data along the signal path is required. The elevation data is used in conjunction with the signal frequency to generate and plot the various components of the path profile. The components of the path profile includes amongst others; elevation profile, earth bulge, Fresnel zone ellipsoid, minimum transmitter antenna height, minimum receiver antenna height and the location of the critical point for maintaining clear line of site. Sample path profile data set for a C-band link at 6GHz is generated and plotted for two cases, when the path inclination is equal to zero and when the path inclination is greater than zero. The signal path (or link) elevation profile (that is, elevation and distance) are obtained using Geocontext Online Elevation software [16]. With the path profile data and graph plots, the minimum antenna elevation and the minimum antenna mast heights for effective line of site installation are determined. The path profile ideas presented in this paper is very useful for

terrestrial line of site microwave network designers and researchers.

2. Methodology

The following steps are used in generating the path profile for a C-band terrestrial line of site microwave link between University of Uyo Town Campus at Ipka Road and the Main Campus of University of Uyo which is at Use Offort:.

Step 1: The Signal Frequency

The radius of the Fresnel Zone is a functions of frequency. As such, in this study the 6 GHz (in the C-Band) is considered.

$$d = 2R \left\{ \sqrt{\sin^2 \left(\frac{LAT_{rx} - LAT_{tx}}{2} \right) + \cos(LAT_{rx}) \cos(LAT_{tx}) \sin^2 \left(\frac{LONG_{rx} - LONG_{tx}}{2} \right)} \right\} \quad (1)$$

$$\text{Where LAT in Radians} = \frac{(\text{LAT in Degrees} * 3.142)}{180} \quad (2)$$

$$\text{LONG in Radians} = \frac{(\text{LONG in Degrees} * 3.142)}{180} \quad (3)$$

Where

- LAT_{tx} and LAT_{rx} are the latitude of the coordinates of point1 and point 2 respectively
- $LONG_{tx}$ and $LONG_{rx}$ are the longitude of the coordinates of point1 and point x respectively
- R = radius of the earth = 6371 km. R varies from 6356.752km at the poles to 6378.137 km at the equator.
- d = the distance in Km between the two coordinates

Step 4: The Elevation Data and the Elevation Profile Between The Transmitter and Receiver

The Elevation Data set for the given location is generated using an Geocontext Online Elevation software [15].

The elevation data is generated by entering the longitude and latitude of the transmitter ($LONG_{tx}$ and LAT_{tx}) and the longitude and latitude of the receiver ($LONG_{rx}$ and LAT_{rx}) into the source and destination coordinates textboxes on the Geocontext Online Elevation software. The elevation data set generated by the Geocontext Online Elevation software [15] includes:

- Points specified by their longitudes and latitudes,
- The start point at the transmitter (transmitter location is the first point)
- The end or the last point at the receiver (receiver location is the last point)
- Distance of each of the points from the starting point's longitude and latitude
- The elevation at each point above sea level as the reference plane.

Step 5: The Earth Bulge

The formula for calculating the Earth bulge at a distance d_1 from the transmitter and distance d_2 from the receiver is given as follows:

$$H_{b(x)} = \frac{1000(d_1)(d_2)}{8(E_r)} \quad (4)$$

where,

Step 2: The Location (Longitude and Latitude) Of The Transmitter and The Receiver

Let $LONG_{tx}$ and LAT_{tx} be the longitude and attitude of the coordinates of the Let $LONG_{rx}$ and LAT_{rx} be the longitude and attitude of the coordinates of the receiver respectively. transmitter respectively.

University of Uyo

Step 3: The Distance Between The Transmitter and The Receiver

The path length (or distance), d in Km between the transmitter and receiver is determined by using the Haversine formula and the coordinates (longitude and the latitude) of the transmitter and receiver. The Haversine formula is given as:

- $H_{b(x)}$ = Height difference of Earth's Curvature at the point x between the transmitter and the receiver (m)
- d_1 = Distance between the point and the transmitter (km)
- d_2 = Distance between the point and the receiver (km)
- E_r = Effective Radius of Earth (km) Note: Usually taken as 3 (1.333 rec.) actual radius to account for atmospheric refraction i.e. $E_r = 8,504\text{km}$

Step 6: The Radius of the First Fresnel Zone

The radius of the k^{th} Fresnel zone at point x is given as;

$$r_{fk(x)} = \sqrt[2]{\left(\frac{k(\lambda)(d_1)(d_2)}{(d_1) + (d_2)} \right)} = \sqrt[2]{\left(\frac{k(\lambda)(d_1)(d_2)}{d} \right)} \quad (5)$$

where $k = 1, 2, 3, \dots$

$r_{fk(x)}$ is the radius of the k^{th} Fresnel zone at point x.

d_1 is the distance of the point from the transmitter

d_2 is the distance of the point from the receiver

d is the distance between the transmitter and the receiver where

$$d = d_1 + d_2 \quad (6)$$

λ is the wavelength of the signal, where;

$$\lambda = \frac{c}{f} \quad (7)$$

where,

- C = Speed of light in a vacuum ($3 \times 10^8 \text{ms}^{-1}$)
- d = Total Distance (m)
- f = Signal frequency (Hz)

Step 7: The Maximum Height Of Obstacle In The Terrain

The maximum height of obstacle ($H_{obstacle(x)}$) is estimated from the knowledge of the terrain. In this research, the terrain within which the link is located is in Uyo metropolis. The obstacles expected in the terrain are mainly buildings. The buildings within the signal path in Uyo are mainly two storey buildings. As such, the obstacle height is estimated as 10 meters.

Step 8: The Minimum Height of Antenna For Line of Sight Installation

The theoretical minimum height of antenna ($H_{antenna(minimum)}$) for line of sight installation is calculated

with respect to elevation, radius of first Fresnel zone, height of obstacle and earth bulge, as follows:

$$H_{antenna(minimum)} = \text{maximum}_{x=1,2,3,...n_e} (E_x + r_{fk(x)} + H_{b(x)} + H_{obstacle(x)}) \quad (8)$$

where

$r_{fk(x)}$ is the radius of the k^{th} Fresnel zone at point x.

$H_{b(x)}$ = Height difference of Earth's Curvature at the point x between the transmitter and the receiver (m)

$H_{obstacle(x)}$ is the maximum height of obstacle

E_x is the elevation in meter at point x

Step 9: The Minimum Height Of Transmitter Antenna and The Minimum Height Of Receiver Antenna

The effective minimum antenna height with respect to the elevation of the transmitter (E_{tx}) and elevation of the receiver (E_{rx}).

$$H_{effant(minimum)} = H_{antenna(minimum)} - \text{minimum}_{x=1,2,3,...n_e} (E_{tx}, E_{rx}) \quad (9)$$

Let H_{tx} be the Height of Transmitter antenna and let H_{rx} be the Height of Receiver antenna, then

$$H_{tx} = E_{tx} + H_{effant(minimum)} \quad (10)$$

$$H_{rx} = E_{rx} + H_{effant(minimum)} \quad (11)$$

Step 10: Generate the Fresnel Ellipsoid

The Fresnel ellipsoid is formed around the centre of the Fresnel zone. In order to generate the Fresnel Ellipsoid, the centre line (line-of-sight) through the Fresnel zone is first generated. Then the radius of the first Fresnel zone is added to the value of the elevation at the centre line of the Fresnel zone (for the upper part of Fresnel ellipsoid) and subtracted from the value of the elevation at the centre line of the Fresnel zone (for the lower part of Fresnel ellipsoid).

Step 11: The Centre Line (Line-Of-Sight) Through The Fresnel Zone

Let the elevation at the transmitter is E_{tx} and the Elevation at the receiver be E_{rx} , respectively.

$$m_{txrx} = \frac{(E_{rx} - E_{tx})}{(d_{rx} - d_{tx})} = \frac{(51.8163147 - 69.16137695)}{(6379.51952869827 - 0)} = -0.00271887 \quad (16)$$

$$E_{xf} = -0.00271887 (d_x - 0) + 69.16137695 \quad (17)$$

$$E_{xf} = -0.00271887 d_x + 69.16137695 \quad (18)$$

Step 12: The Elevations for the Fresnel Zone Ellipsoid

The Fresnel zone ellipsoid is formed around the centre line

$$E_{fu(x)} = E_{xf} + r_{fk(x)} = -0.00271887 d_x + 69.16137695 + r_{fk(x)} \quad (19)$$

$$E_{fd(x)} = E_{xf} - r_{fk(x)} = -0.00271887 d_x + 69.16137695 - r_{fk(x)} \quad (20)$$

Where $r_{fk(x)}$ is the radius of the k^{th} Fresnel zone at point x.

Step 13: The Path Inclination

Path inclination ε_p is given as follows;

$$\varepsilon_p = \frac{|H_{tx} - H_{rx}|}{d} \quad (21)$$

where d (in Km) is the distance between the transmitter and the receiver while H_{tx} and H_{rx} are in meters are the height of the transmitter and the receiver respectively.

Let the distance of the transmitter from the transmitter is d_{tx} and the distance of the receiver from the transmitter be d_{rx} .

Let the gradient (m_{txrx}) of the line linking the transmitter and the receiver be defined as;

$$m_{txrx} = \frac{(E_{rx} - E_{tx})}{(d_{rx} - d_{tx})} \quad (12)$$

The equation for the transmitter to receiver line that passes through the point (d_x, E_{xf}) is given as:

$$\frac{(E_{xf} - E_{tx})}{(d_x - d_{tx})} = \frac{(E_{rx} - E_{tx})}{(d_{rx} - d_{tx})} = m_{txrx} \quad (13)$$

$$E_{xf} - E_{tx} = m_{txrx} (d_x - d_{tx}) \quad (14)$$

$$E_{xf} = m_{txrx} (d_x - d_{tx}) + E_{tx} \quad (15)$$

Now, $d_{tx} = 0\text{m}$ and $d_{rx} = 6379.51952869827\text{ m}$. Also, $E_{tx} = 69.16137695\text{ m}$ and $E_{rx} = 51.8163147\text{ m}$.

of the Fresnel zone defined in equation 3.26. Let $E_{fu(x)}$ be the elevation for the upper part of the first Fresnel ellipsoid at point x and let $E_{fd(x)}$ be the elevation for the lower part of the first Fresnel ellipsoid at point x, then;

3. Results and Discussions

A sample microwave link is used to demonstrate the effectiveness of the path profile algorithm presented in paper. The path profile data set and graph plots are presented for two cases; when the path inclination is equal to zero and when the path inclination is greater than zero. The results for the sample path profile studied are presented in this section 4.

Step 1: The Signal Frequency

In this study, the C-band is considered and the frequency selected is 6 GHz.

Step 2: The Location (Longitude and Latitude) Of The

Transmitter and The Receiver

The transmitter is located at University of Uyo Town Campus at Ipka Road. Then, in Figure 1. $LONG_{tx} = 7.919108$ and $LAT_{tx} = 5.042362$. Also, the receiver is

located at the Main Campus of University of Uyo which is at Use Offort.. Then, in Figure 1. $LONG_{rx} = 7.976615$ and $LAT_{rx} = 5.040823$.

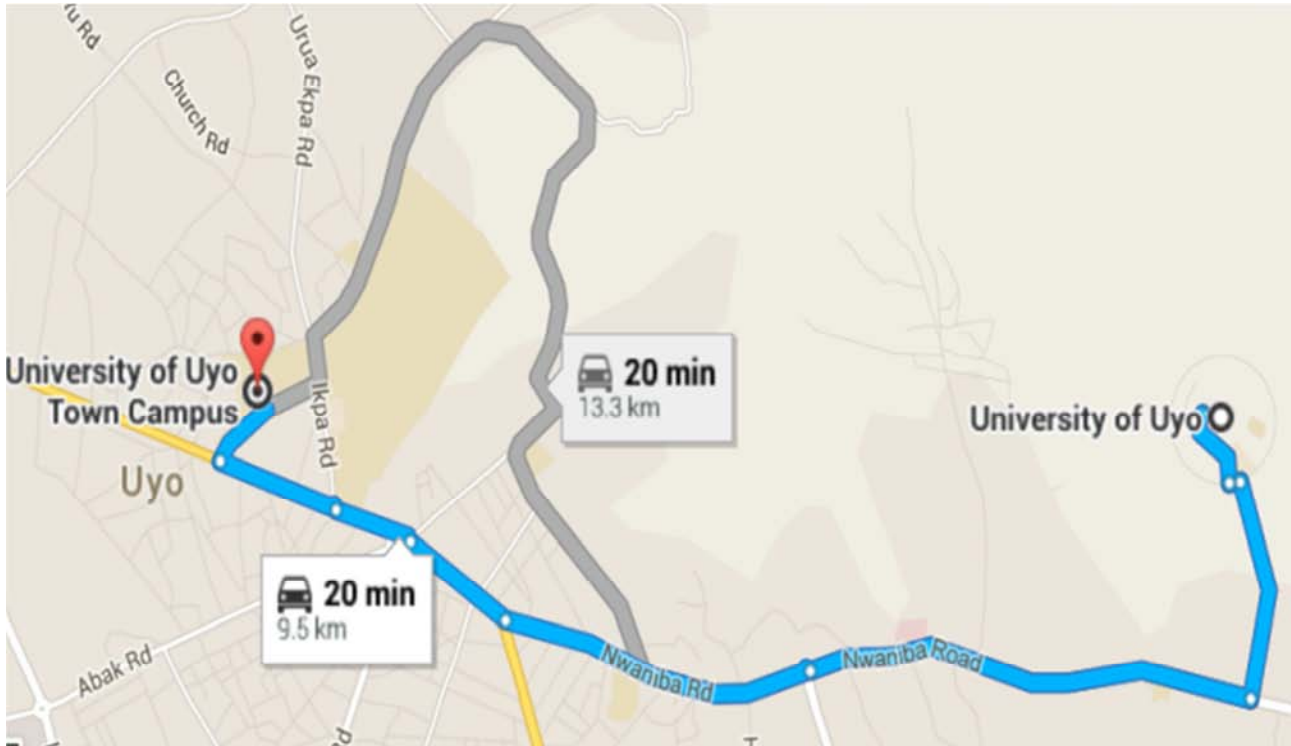


Figure 1. Screenshot of The Google Map View Of The Location Of The Transmitter at University of Uyo Town Campus and The Receiver at the Main Campus of.

Step 4: The Elevation Data and The Elevation Profile Between The Transmitter and Receiver

Some portions of the 512 records in the elevation dataset for the given transmitter and receiver location are given in table 1. The dataset is generated using a Geocontext Online Elevation [15]. As shown in Figure 1, the transmitter is located at University of Uyo Town Campus, Ipka Road with longitude of 7.919108 and latitude of 5.042362 while the receiver

located at the Main Campus of University of Uyo, Use Offort at longitude of 7.976615 and latitude of 5.040823. The elevation profile plot for all the 512 data points in the full dataset is given in Figure 2. From Table 1 and Figure 2, the elevation at the transmitter is 69.161m (Column 5, Data Point Number 1) whereas the elevation at the receiver is 51.816m (Column 5, Data Point Number 512).

Table 1. Selected Portion of the 512 Data Points In The Elevation Profile Dataset.

Column 1	Column 2	Column 3	Column 4	Column 5	Column 6	Column 7
Data Point Number	Latitude	Longitude	Distance (m)	Elevation (m)	Distance in Mile	Elevation (ft)
1	5.04236	7.91911	0.000	69.161	0.0000	226.907
32	5.042266719	7.922598873	387.016	69.183	0.2405	226.979
64	5.04217041	7.926200289	786.516	68.964	0.4887	226.260
96	5.042074081	7.929801704	1186.016	31.262	0.7370	102.565
128	5.041977732	7.933403117	1585.517	56.770	0.9852	186.254
192	5.041784975	7.940605942	2384.517	58.895	1.4817	193.224
224	5.041688567	7.944207353	2784.017	29.950	1.7299	98.263
256	5.041592138	7.947808762	3183.518	43.500	1.9781	142.717
288	5.041495691	7.951410171	3583.018	37.450	2.2264	122.866
320	5.041399223	7.955011578	3982.518	34.161	2.4746	112.077
352	5.041302735	7.958612984	4382.018	49.212	2.7229	161.458
384	5.041206228	7.96221439	4781.519	56.030	2.9711	183.826
416	5.041109701	7.965815794	5181.019	50.308	3.2193	165.054
448	5.041013154	7.969417197	5580.519	52.172	3.4676	171.169
480	5.040916587	7.973018599	5980.019	51.368	3.7158	168.531
512	5.04082	7.97662	6379.520	51.816	3.9640	170.001

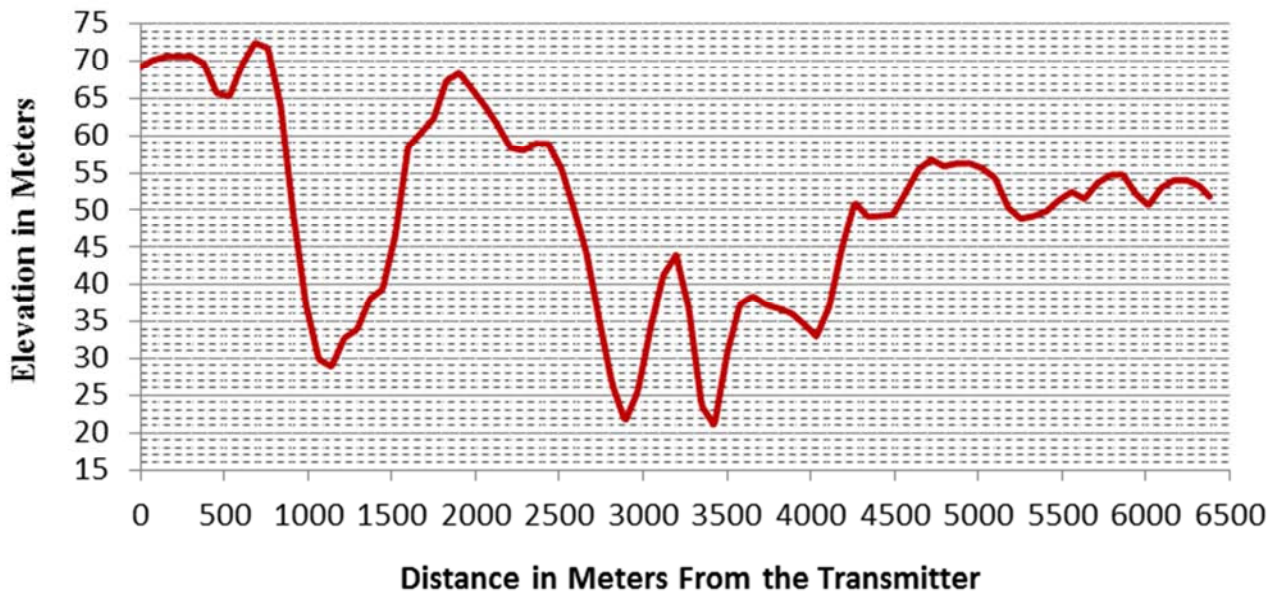


Figure 2. Elevation Profile (Elevation Versus Distance).

Some portions of the 512 records in the complete path profile dataset for the given transmitter and receiver location and microwave signal at 6GHz are given in Table 1. The path

profile plot for all the 512 data points in the full path profile dataset is given in Figure 3. For Path Inclination (ϵ_p) > 0 and in Figure 4. For Path Inclination (ϵ_p) $= 0$.

Table 2. Selected Portions of the 512 Data Points in the Path Profile Dataset for 6 GHz Signal For Path Inclination (ϵ_p) $= 0$ and Path Inclination (ϵ_p) > 0 .

Column 1	Column 2	Column 3	Column 4	Column 5	Column 6
Data Point Number	Distance (m) from the Transmitter	Elevation (m)	Radius of the First Fresnel Zone (in Meters)	Earth Bulge (in Meters)	Line Of Site Elevation ($\epsilon_p > 0$)
1 (Transmitter)	0	69.161	0	0	105.873
32	387.016	69.183	4.263	0.341	104.821
56	686.641	72.419	5.535	0.575	104.006
128	1585.517	56.77	7.718	1.117	101.562
153	1897.626	68.348	8.164	1.25	100.714
160	1985.017	66.004	8.269	1.282	100.476
192	2384.517	58.895	8.641	1.4	99.39
224	2784.017	29.95	8.857	1.471	98.304
250	3108.611	40.23	8.927	1.495	97.421
251	3121.096	41.313	8.928	1.495	97.387
256	3183.518	43.5	8.93	1.494	97.218
288	3583.018	37.45	8.862	1.473	96.132
320	3982.518	34.161	8.65	1.403	95.045
352	4382.018	49.212	8.283	1.287	93.959
384	4781.519	56.03	7.739	1.123	92.873
416	5181.019	50.308	6.976	0.913	91.787
448	5580.519	52.172	5.912	0.655	90.701
480	5980.019	51.368	4.327	0.351	89.614
512 (Receiver)	6379.52	51.816	0	0	88.528

Table 2. Continue.

Column 1	Column 7	Column 8	Column 9
Data Point Number	Line Of Site Elevation ($\epsilon_p = 0$)	Clearance Distance (in meters) Between Obstacle and Fresnel Zone ($\epsilon_p > 0$)	Clearance Distance (in meters) Between Obstacle and Fresnel Zone ($\epsilon_p = 0$)
1 (Transmitter)	88.528	26.712	9.367
32	88.528	16.77	4.741
56	88.528	9.943	0
128	88.528	18.238	12.922
153	88.528	4.787	0.766
160	88.528	6.653	2.974
192	88.528	11.814	9.593
224	88.528	39.167	38.249
250	88.528	27.843	27.877

Column 1	Column 7	Column 8	Column 9
Data Point Number	Line Of Site Elevation ($\epsilon_p = 0$)	Clearance Distance (in meters) Between Obstacle and Fresnel Zone ($\epsilon_p > 0$)	Clearance Distance (in meters) Between Obstacle and Fresnel Zone ($\epsilon_p = 0$)
251	88.528	26.724	26.792
256	88.528	24.362	24.602
288	88.528	29.485	30.744
320	88.528	32.182	34.314
352	88.528	16.895	19.747
384	88.528	10.243	13.636
416	88.528	16.613	20.331
448	88.528	16.05	19.789
480	88.528	19.241	22.482
512 (Receiver)	88.528	26.712	26.712

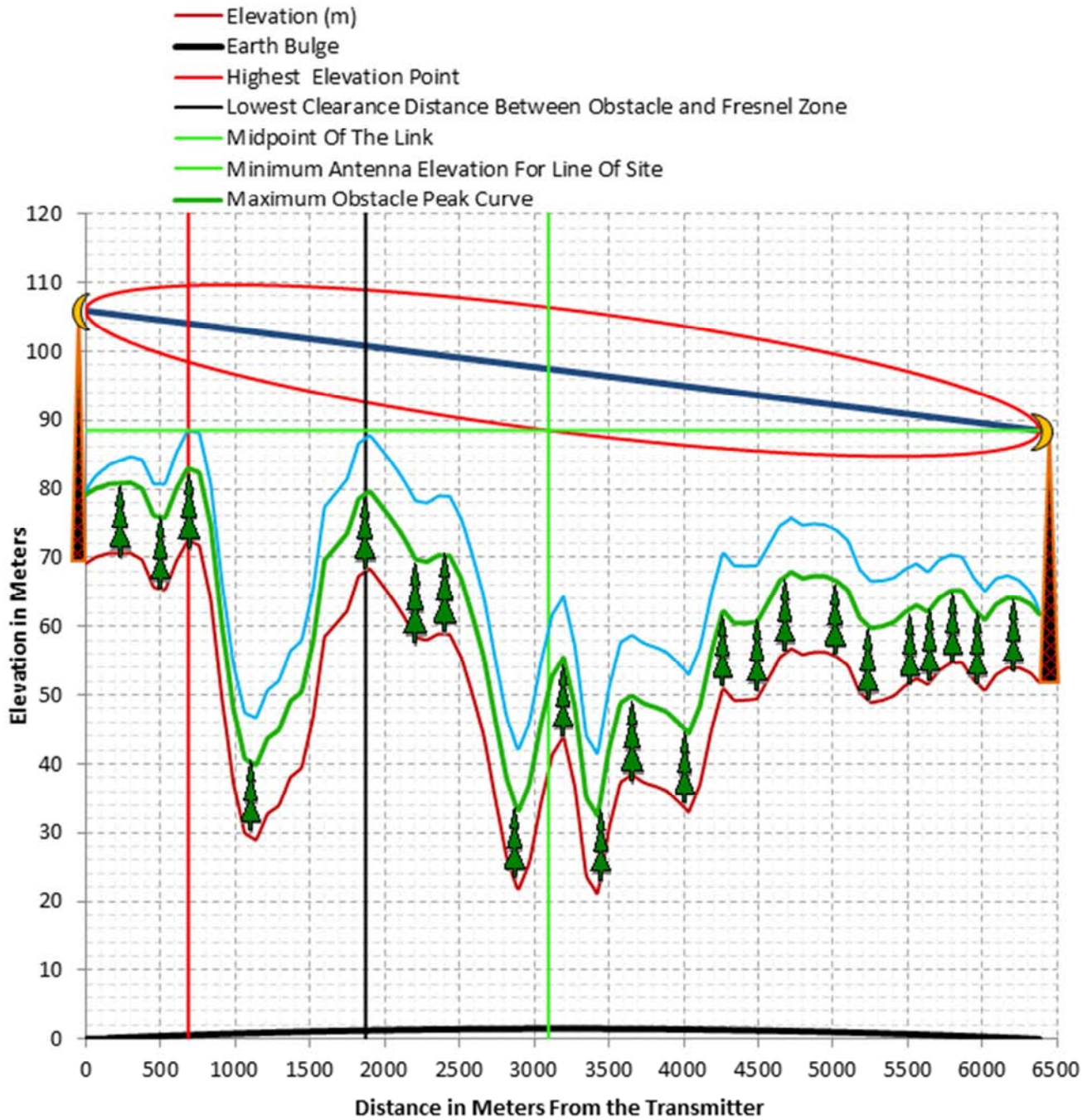


Figure 3. Complete Path Profile: Elevation Versus Distance For 6GHz Signal and With Path inclination Greater Than Zero.

According to Table 2, when the path inclination is (ϵ_p) > 0 , the line of site is a line with negative gradient, sloping from line of site elevation of 105.873m (column 6 and row Data Point Number 1 of table 2) at the transmitter, down to line of site elevation of 88.528m (column 6 and row Data Point Number 512 of table 2) at the receiver. Furthermore, in column 8 and column 2 of row Data Point Number 153 in table 2, the critical point for line of site has 4.787m clearance distance (in meters) between obstacle and the first Fresnel zone and it is located at a distance of 1897.626 m from the transmitter.

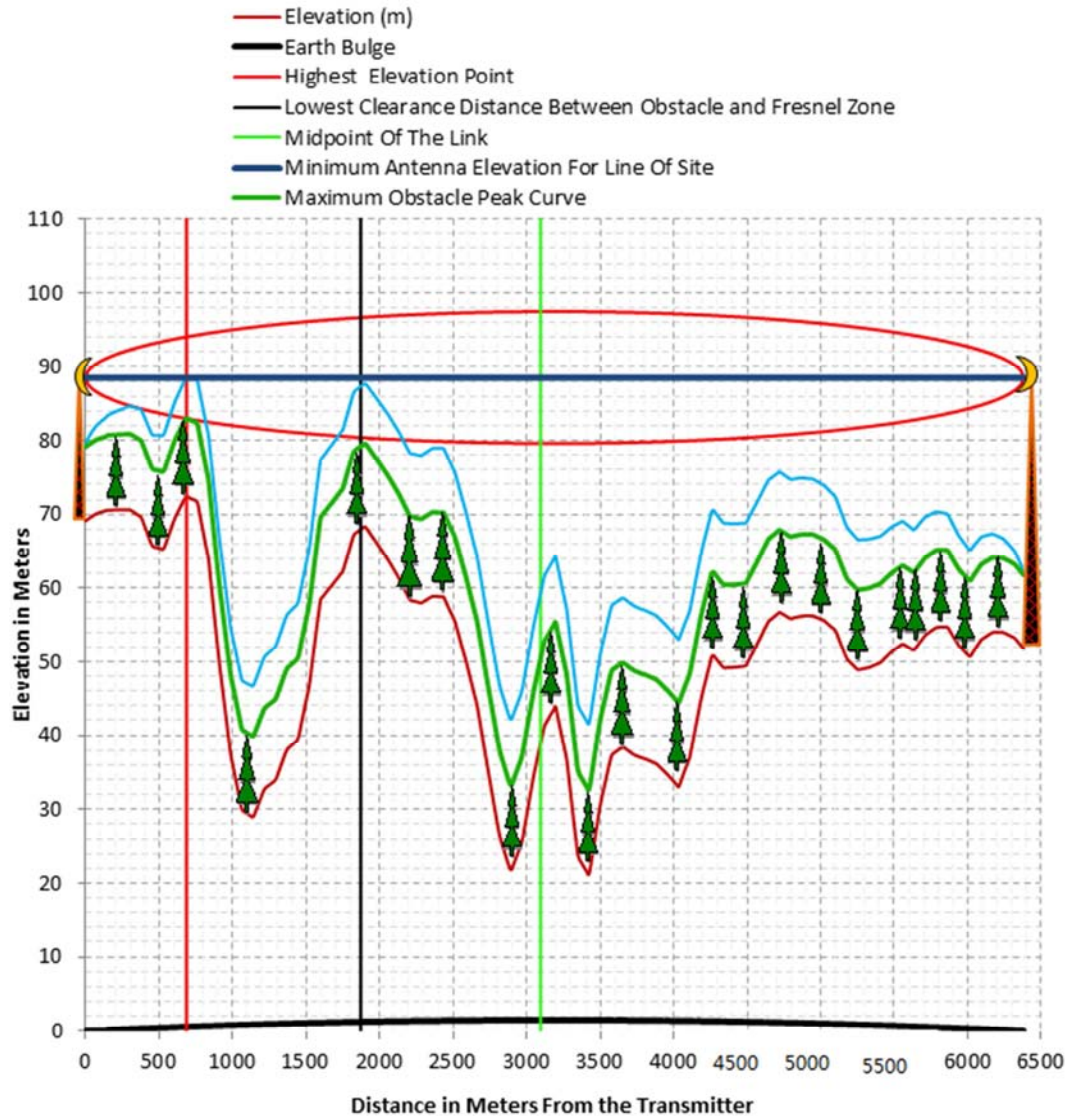


Figure 4. Complete Path Profile : Elevation Versus Distance For 6GHz Signal and With Zero Path inclination.

The critical point for line of site is indicated as the vertical black line in Figure 3. The clearance distance between obstacle and the first Fresnel zone at the link midpoint (in column 2 and column 8 of row Data Point Number 250 and 251 in table 2) is above 27m. However, the earth bulge is highest at the link midpoint with earth bulge of about 1.495m (column 5 of row Data Point Number 250 and 251 in table 2). The link midpoint is indicated as the vertical green line in Figure 3 and Figure 4.

On the other hand, according to Table 2, when the path inclination is (ϵ_p) $= 0$, the line of site is a horizontal line at line of site elevation of 88.528m (column 7 and row Data Point Number 1 of table 2) at the transmitter and at the receiver as well (column 7 and row Data Point Number 512 of table 2).

Furthermore, in column 9 and column 2 of row Data Point Number 56 in table 2, the critical point for line of site has 0m clearance distance (in meters) between obstacle and the first Fresnel zone and it is located at a distance of 686.641m from the transmitter. The critical point for line of site is indicated as the vertical red line in Figure 4. The clearance distance between obstacle and the first Fresnel zone at the link midpoint (in column 2 and column 9 of row Data Point Number 250 and 251 in table 2) is above 27m.

When Path Inclination (ϵ_p) > 0 , the transmitter and receiver antenna elevation and mast heights can be determined from the data in table 2 as follows;

$$\text{Transmitter Antenna Elevation} = \text{Line of Site Elevation at the Transmitter} = 105.873\text{m} \quad (22)$$

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Transmitter Antenna Mast Height} &= \text{Transmitter Antenna} \\ \text{Elevation} - \text{Elevation at the Transmitter Location} &= 105.873\text{m} \\ &- 69.161\text{m} = 36.712\text{m} \end{aligned} \quad (23)$$

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Receiver Antenna Elevation} &= \text{Line of Site Elevation at the} \\ \text{Receiver} &= 88.528\text{m} \end{aligned} \quad (24)$$

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Receiver Antenna Mast Height} &= \text{Receiver Antenna Elevation} \\ &- \text{Elevation at the Receiver Location} = 88.528\text{m} - 51.816\text{m} = \\ &36.712\text{m} \end{aligned} \quad (25)$$

Similarly, when Path Inclination (ϵ_p) = 0, the transmitter

and receiver antenna elevation and mast heights can be determined from the data in table 2 as follows;

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Transmitter Antenna Elevation} &= \text{Line of Site Elevation at the} \\ \text{Transmitter} &= 88.528\text{m} \end{aligned} \quad (26)$$

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Transmitter Antenna Mast Height} &= \text{Transmitter Antenna} \\ \text{Elevation} - \text{Elevation at the Transmitter Location} &= 88.528\text{m} - \\ &69.161\text{m} = 19.367\text{m}. \end{aligned} \quad (27)$$

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Receiver Antenna Elevation} &= \text{Line of Site Elevation at the} \\ \text{Receiver} &= 88.528\text{m} \end{aligned} \quad (28)$$

$$\text{Receiver Antenna Mast Height} = \text{Receiver Antenna Elevation} -$$

$$\text{Elevation at the Receiver Location} = 88.528\text{m} - 51.816\text{m} = 36.712\text{m}. \quad (29)$$

Table 3. The Transmitter and Receiver Antenna Elevation and Mast Heights.

	Elevation at The Transmitter Location	Transmitter Antenna Mast Height	Line Of Site Elevation at the Transmitter (Or Transmitter Antenna Elevation)
Path Inclination (ϵ_p) > 0	69.161m	36.712m	105.873m
Path Inclination (ϵ_p) = 0	69.161m	19.367m	88.528m

Table 3. Continue.

	Elevation at The Receiver Location	Receiver Antenna Mast Height	Line Of Site Elevation at the Receiver (Or Receiver Antenna Elevation)
Path Inclination (ϵ_p) > 0	51.816m	36.712m	88.528m
Path Inclination (ϵ_p) = 0	51.816m	36.712m	88.528m

In table 3, it can be seen that for Path Inclination (ϵ_p) = 0 antenna mast height of 36.712m is required at the transmitter and at the receiver. However, for Path Inclination (ϵ_p) > 0 antenna mast height of 19.367m is required at the transmitter and antenna mast height of 36.712m is required at the receiver.

4. Conclusion

The approach for generating and plotting the path profile data for terrestrial line of site microwave link is presented. Sample path profile data set for a C-band link at 6GHz is generated and plotted for two cases, when the path inclination is equal to zero and when the path inclination is greater than zero. The signal path (or link) elevation profile (that is, elevation and distance) are obtained using Geocontext Online Elevation software. With the path profile data and graph plots, the minimum antenna elevation and the minimum antenna mast heights for effective line of site installation are determined. Also, the critical location where the line of site condition can easily be violated is also determined. The path profile tool presented in this paper is very useful for wireless network designers.

References

- [1] Okorogu, V. N., Onoh, G. N., Onwujei, A. I., & Oluka, E. C. (2012) A Technique for Planning Microwave and Cellular Path Profile in the Tropics and Determination of Antenna Tower Heights (A Study of Onitsha/Nnewi Axis of Anambra State, Nigeria). *International Journal of Engineering Science and Innovative Technology (IJESIT)* Volume 1, Issue 2, November 2012.
- [2] Hansryd, J., Edstam, J., Olsson, B. E., & Larsson, C. (2013). Non-line-of-sight microwave backhaul for small cells. *Ericsson Review*, 22.
- [3] Matheson, R., & Morris, A. C. (2012). The technical basis for spectrum rights: Policies to enhance market efficiency. *Telecommunications Policy*, 36(9), 783-792.
- [4] Burrell, J. (2003). Disruptive effects of electromagnetic interference on communication and electronic systems (Doctoral dissertation, George Mason University).
- [5] Cordeiro, C., Gossain, H., Ashok, R., & Agrawal, D. P. (2003, May). The last mile: Wireless technologies for broadband and home networks. In *Center for Distributed and Mobile Computing, University of Cincinnati, Cincinnati, OH. Presented at 21st Brazilian symposium on computer networks (SBRC 2003), Natal, Brazil*.
- [6] Hassan, A. K. (2011). *Automated Microwave Antenna Alignment of Base Transceiver Station* (Doctoral dissertation, Karlstad University).
- [7] Series, M. (2011). Maritime broadband wireless mesh networks.
- [8] de Sousa Nunes, T. M. (2012). Microwave radio link between two endpoints.
- [9] Arzubi, A. A., Castro Lechtaler, A., Foti, A., Fusario, R., García Garino, C., & García Guibout, J. (2010). Design of a Trans-Horizon radio link for ultra high and super high frequencies. In *XVI Congreso Argentino de Ciencias de la Computación*.
- [10] Smith, D. R. (2012). Digital transmission systems. Springer Science & Business Media.

- [11] Alcatel-Lucent (2012) Microwave System Path Survey Report. Technical report.
- [12] Hufford, G. A., Longley, A. G., & Kissick, W. A. (1982). *A guide to the use of the ITS irregular terrain model in the area prediction mode*. US Department of Commerce, National Telecommunications and Information Administration.
- [13] Standard, F. (1996). Telecommunications: Glossary of telecommunication terms. *Retrieved January, 15(2004)*, 69-72.
- [14] Sharma, P. K., & Singh, R. K. (2012). Cell coverage area and link budget calculations in GSM system. *International Journal of Modern Engineering Research (IJMER)* vol, 2, 170-176.
- [15] Mahato, S. B. (2007). Performance Evaluation of Six-Sectored Configuration in Hexagonal WCDMA (UMTS) Cellular Network Layout.
- [16] Geocontext Online Elevation software available at <http://www.geocontext.org/publ/2010/04/profiler/en/> Accessed on July 1o 2016.