

PW Series 490 MHz Single-Band Monopole Antenna

PW Series antennas are rugged, low-cost and easy to install. The single frequency band of PW antennas makes the job of antenna selection simple, with better performance in the target frequency band than in multiband antennas and rejection of signals from unwanted frequencies.

The PW 490 antenna targets 470 MHz to 510 MHz with excellent VSWR, gain and efficiency for LoRaWAN™ and GSM-480 applications.

This rugged 1/4-wave monopole antenna may be used with plastic or metal enclosures and supports weather-resistant applications.



Features

- Outperforms similar multiband solutions
- Durable, flexible main shaft
- Wide bandwidth
- Weather resistant for IP-rated applications¹
- O-ring compatible base
- Compatible with plastic² and metal enclosures
- High gain (0.8 dBi at 470 MHz, 1.3 dBi at 490 MHz and 0.8 dBi at 510 MHz)
- High efficiency (59% at 470 MHz, 73% at 490 MHz and 74% at 510 MHz)

Applications

- LoRaWAN
- GSM-480
- Sensing and remote monitoring
- Hand-held devices
- Internet of Things (IoT) devices
- Low-power wide-area (LPWA) networks

Ordering Information

Part Number	Description
ANT-490-PW-QW-UFL	490 MHz PW Series antenna, with 216 mm (8.5 in) 1.32 mm coax cable terminated with U.F.L. jack (female) connector
ANT-490-PW-QW	490 MHz PW Series antenna, with 216 mm (8.5 in) unterminated RG-174 coax cable

Available from Linx Technologies and select distributors and representatives.

Notes

- 1 Use of an O-ring is recommended, IP-ratings cannot be guaranteed
- 2 With appropriate counterpoise

Electrical Specifications

ANT-490-PW-QW-ccc	
Frequency Range	470 MHz to 510 MHz
Center Frequency	490 MHz
VSWR	≤ 1.5 : 1
Peak Gain	1.3 dBi
Polarization	Linear
Radiation	Omnidirectional
Max Power	10 W
Wavelength	1/4-wave
Impedance	50 Ω
Connection	U.FL/MHF jack (female) on 1.32 mm cable or unterminated RG-174 cable
Cable Length	216 mm (8.5 in)
Height	157.7 mm (6.21 in)
Weight	ANT-490-PW-QW = 25.2 g (0.89 oz) ANT-490-PW-QW-UFL = 24.0 g (0.85 oz)
Operating Temperature	-40 °C to +90 °C

Electrical specifications and plots measured with a 102 mm x 102 mm (4 in x 4 in) reference ground plane.

VSWR

Figure 1 provides the voltage standing wave ratio (VSWR) across the antenna bandwidth. VSWR describes the power reflected from the antenna back to the radio. A lower VSWR value indicates better antenna performance at a given frequency. Reflected power is also shown on the right-side vertical axis as a gauge of the percentage of transmitter power reflected back from the antenna.

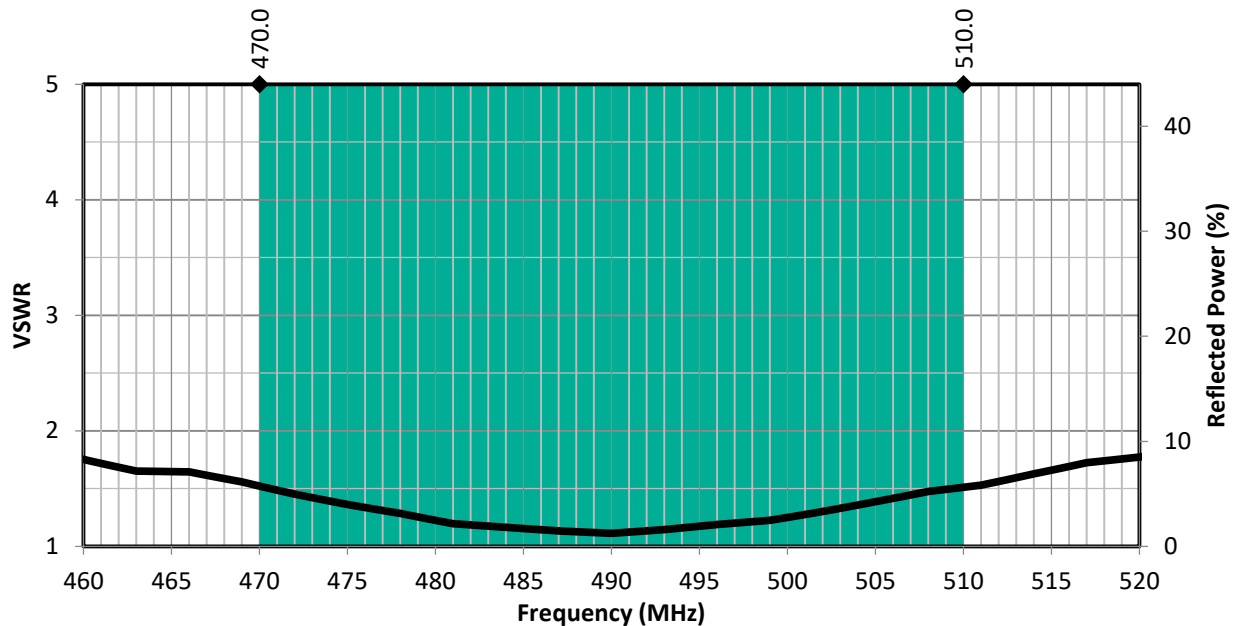


Figure 1. PW 490 MHz Antenna VSWR with Band Highlight

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Return Loss

Return loss (Figure 2), represents the loss in power at the antenna due to reflected signals. Like VSWR, a lower return loss value indicates better antenna performance at a given frequency.

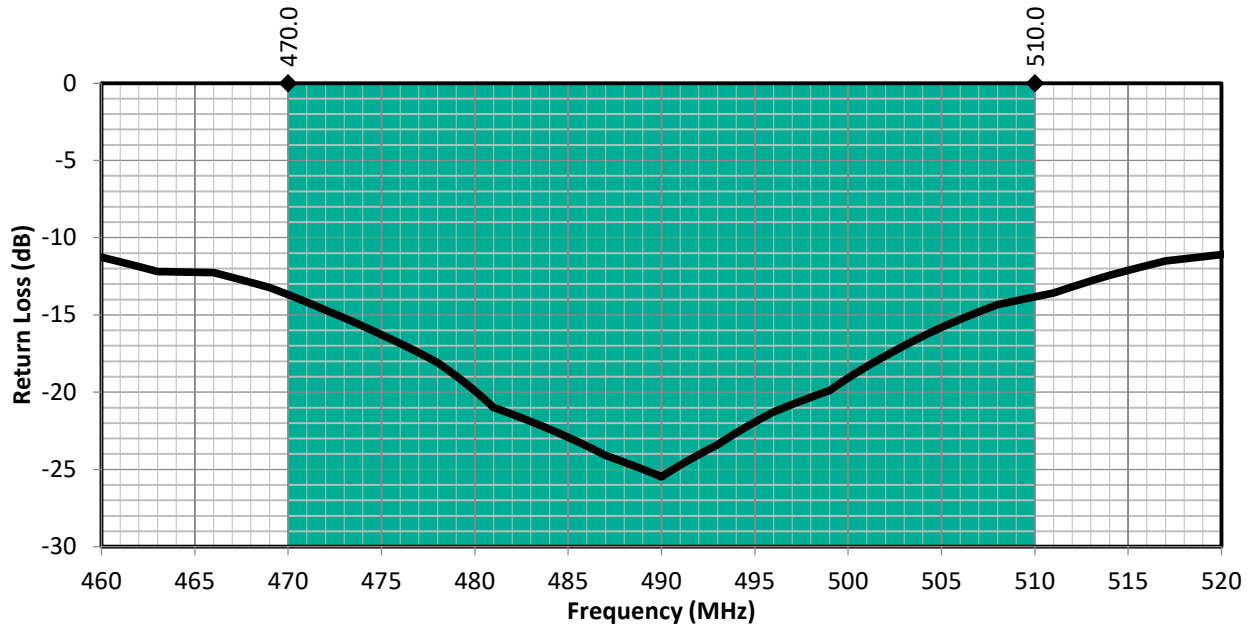


Figure 2. PW 490 MHz Antenna Return Loss with Band Highlight

Peak Gain

The peak gain across the antenna bandwidth is shown in Figure 3. Peak gain represents the maximum antenna input power concentration across 3-dimensional space, and therefore peak performance, at a given frequency, but does not consider any directionality in the gain pattern.

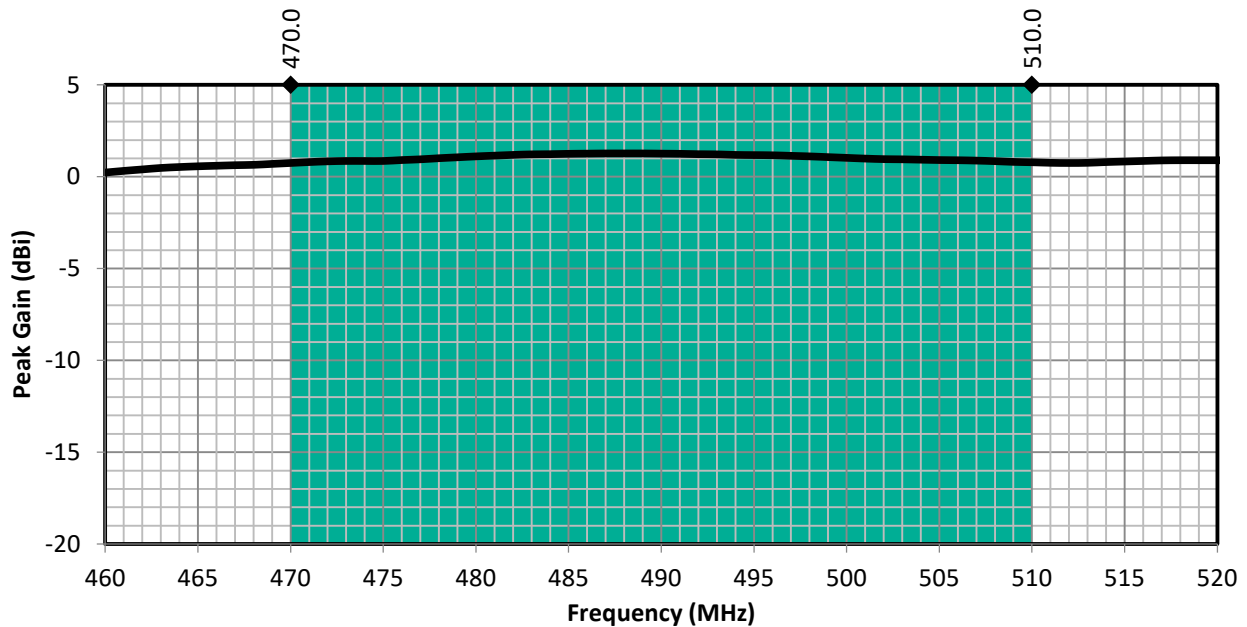


Figure 3. PW 490 MHz Antenna Peak Gain with Band Highlight

Average Gain

Average gain (Figure 4), is the average of all antenna gain in 3-dimensional space at each frequency, providing an indication of overall performance without expressing antenna directionality.

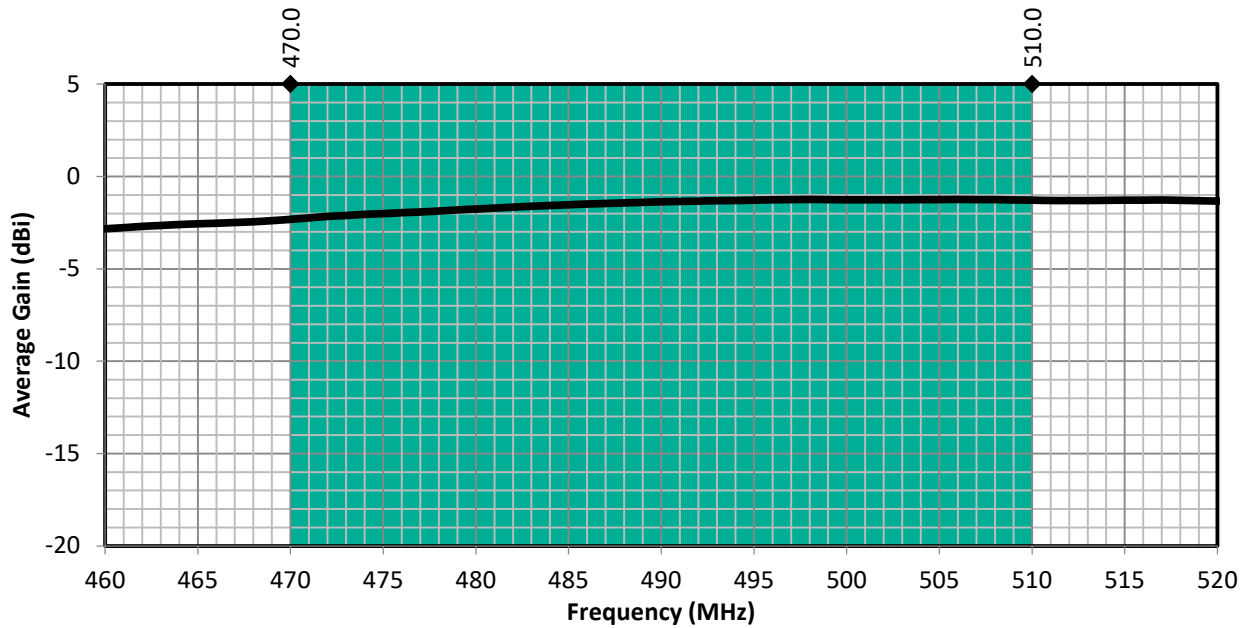


Figure 4. PW 490 MHz Antenna Average Gain with Band Highlight

Radiation Efficiency

Radiation efficiency (Figure 5), shows the ratio of power delivered to the antenna relative to the power radiated at the antenna, expressed as a percentage, where a higher percentage indicates better performance at a given frequency.

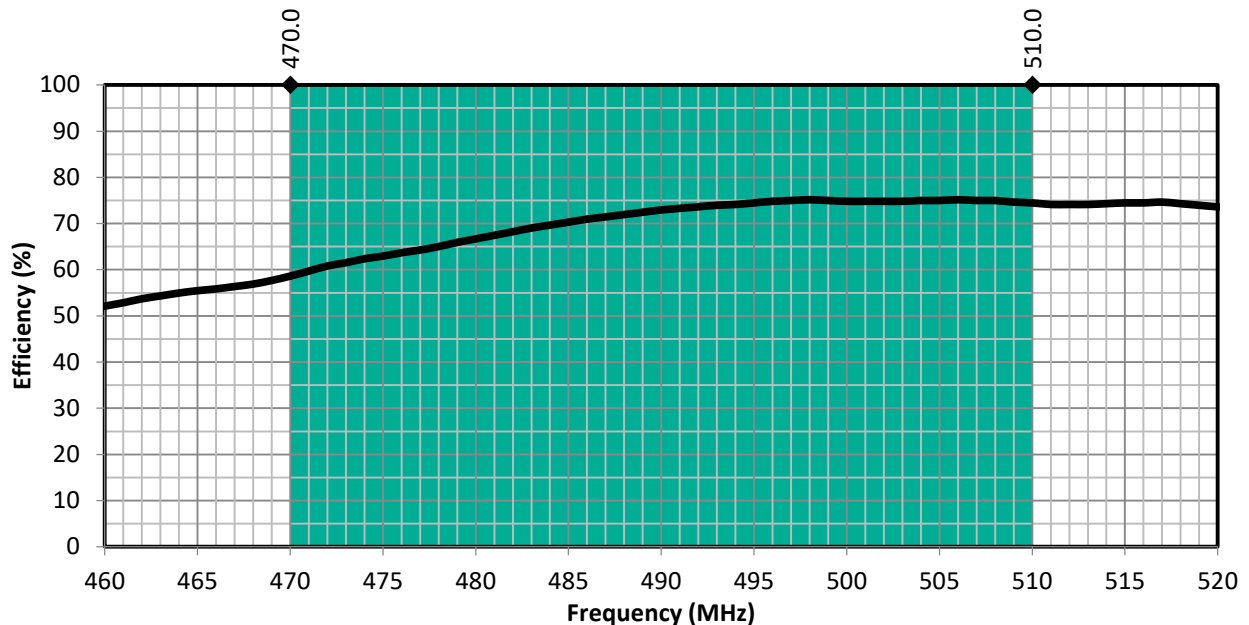


Figure 5. PW 490 MHz Antenna Radiation Efficiency with Band Highlight

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Product Dimensions

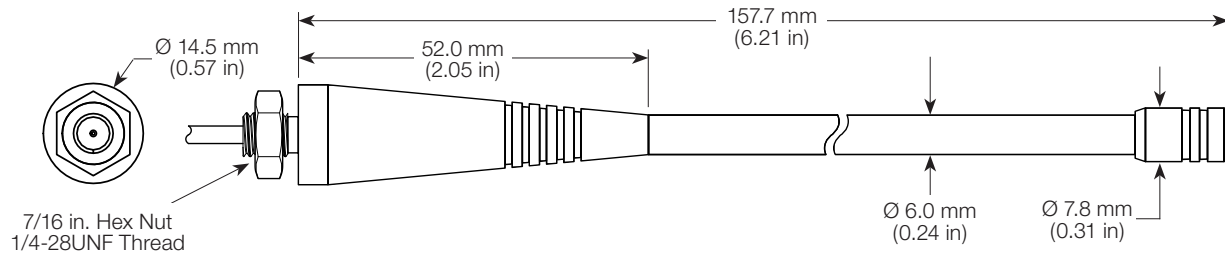


Figure 6. PW 490 MHz Antenna Dimensions

Antenna Mounting

The antenna is attached by placing its cable and base through a 6.35 mm (0.25 in) hole in the product enclosure and securing it with the included nut or by threading it into a PEM-style insert (not included).

The straight-cut RG-174 coax cable option allows the attachment of a 50-ohm RF connector or allows the cable to be soldered directly to a PCB, eliminating the need for a connector. The connectorized option provides a 1.32 mm coax cable terminated with a U.FL/MHF compatible connector for simplified manufacturing or for applications requiring the ability to disconnect the antenna.

Counterpoise

Quarter-wave or monopole antennas require an associated ground plane counterpoise for proper operation. The size and location of the ground plane relative to the antenna will affect the overall performance of the antenna in the final design. When used in conjunction with a ground plane smaller than that used to tune the antenna, the center frequency typically will shift higher in frequency and the bandwidth will decrease. The proximity of other circuit elements and packaging near the antenna will also affect the final performance.

For further discussion and guidance on the importance of the ground plane counterpoise, please refer to Linx Application Note AN-00501: Understanding Antenna Specifications and Operation.

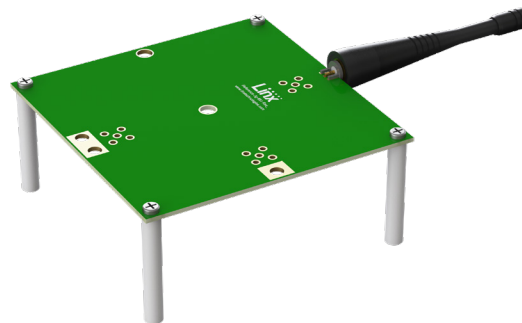


Figure 7. PW 490 MHz Antenna Shown On Edge of Ground Plane

Radiation Patterns

Radiation patterns provide information about the directionality and 3-dimensional gain performance of the antenna by plotting gain at specific frequencies in three orthogonal planes. Antenna radiation patterns (Figure 8), are shown using polar plots covering 360 degrees. The antenna graphic above the plots provides reference to the plane of the column of plots below it. Note: when viewed with typical PDF viewing software, zooming into radiation patterns is possible to reveal fine detail.



470 MHz to 510 MHz (490 MHz)

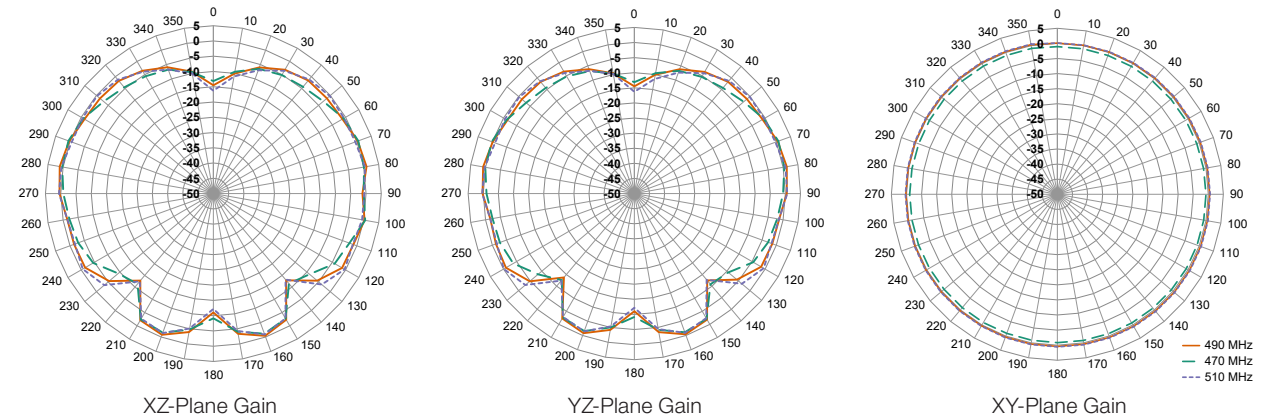


Figure 8. Radiation Patterns for PW 490 MHz Antenna

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Antenna Definitions and Useful Formulas

VSWR - Voltage Standing Wave Ratio. VSWR is a unitless ratio that describes the power reflected from the antenna back to the radio. A lower VSWR value indicates better antenna performance at a given frequency. VSWR is easily derived from Return Loss.

$$VSWR = \frac{10^{\left[\frac{\text{Return Loss}}{20}\right]} + 1}{10^{\left[\frac{\text{Return Loss}}{20}\right]} - 1}$$

Return Loss - Return loss represents the loss in power at the antenna due to reflected signals, measured in decibels. A lower return loss value indicates better antenna performance at a given frequency. Return Loss is easily derived from VSWR.

$$\text{Return Loss} = -20 \log_{10} \left[\frac{VSWR - 1}{VSWR + 1} \right]$$

Efficiency - The total radiated power divided by the input power at the feed point of an antenna.

Gain - The ratio of an antenna's efficiency in a given direction (G) to the power produced by a theoretical lossless (100% efficient) isotropic antenna. The gain of an antenna is almost always expressed in decibels.

$$G_{\text{db}} = 10 \log_{10}(G)$$

$$G_{\text{dBd}} = G_{\text{dBi}} - 2.15\text{dB}$$

Peak Gain - The highest antenna gain across all directions for a given frequency range. A directional antenna will have a very high peak gain compared to average gain.

Average Gain - The average gain across all directions for a given frequency range.

Maximum Power - The maximum signal power which may be applied to an antenna feed point, typically measured in watts (W).

decibel (dB) - A logarithmic unit of measure of the power of an electrical signal.

decibel isotropic (dBi) - A comparative measure in decibels between an antenna under test and an isotropic radiator.

decibel relative to a dipole (dBd) - A comparative measure in decibels between an antenna under test and an ideal half-wave dipole.

Omnidirectional - Term describing an antenna radiation pattern that is uniform in all directions. An isotropic antenna is the theoretical perfect omnidirectional antenna. An ideal dipole antenna has a donut-shaped radiation pattern and other practical antenna implementations will have less perfect but generally omnidirectional radiation patterns which are typically plotted on three axes.

Dipole - An ideal dipole comprises a straight electrical conductor measuring 1/2 wavelength from end to end connected at the center to a feed point for the radio.

Isotropic Radiator - A theoretical antenna which radiates energy equally in all directions as a perfect sphere.

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