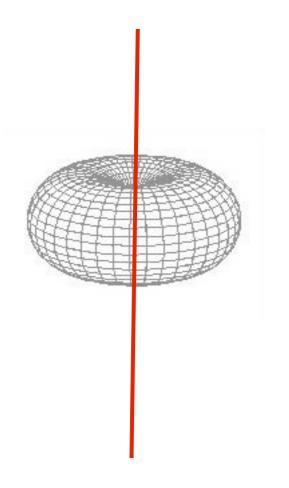
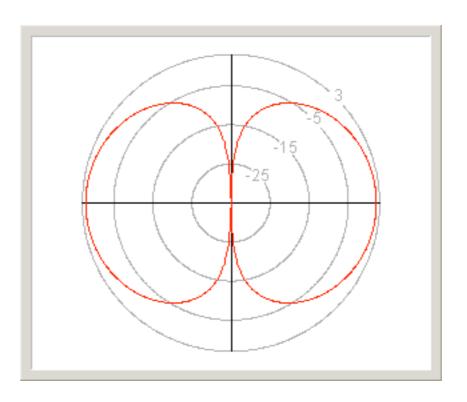
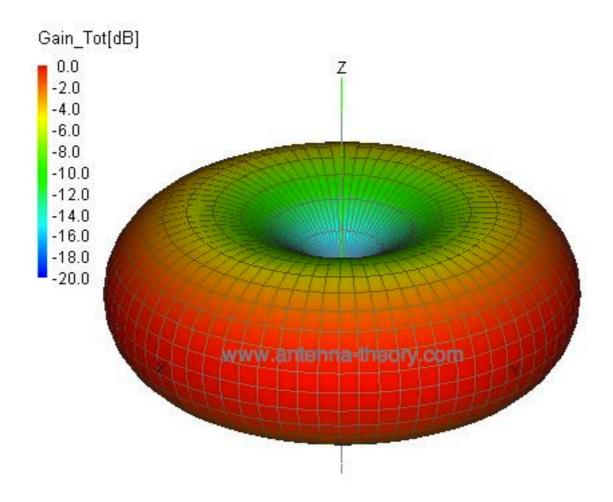
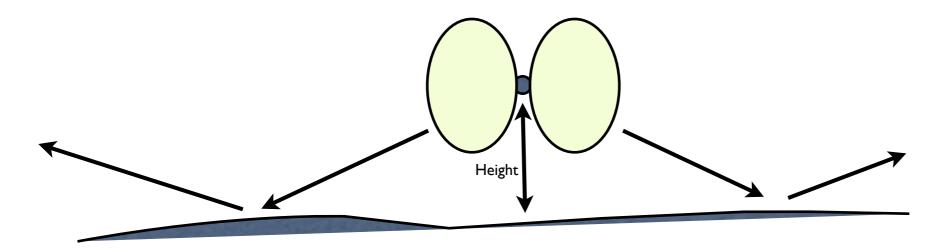
A dipole in space









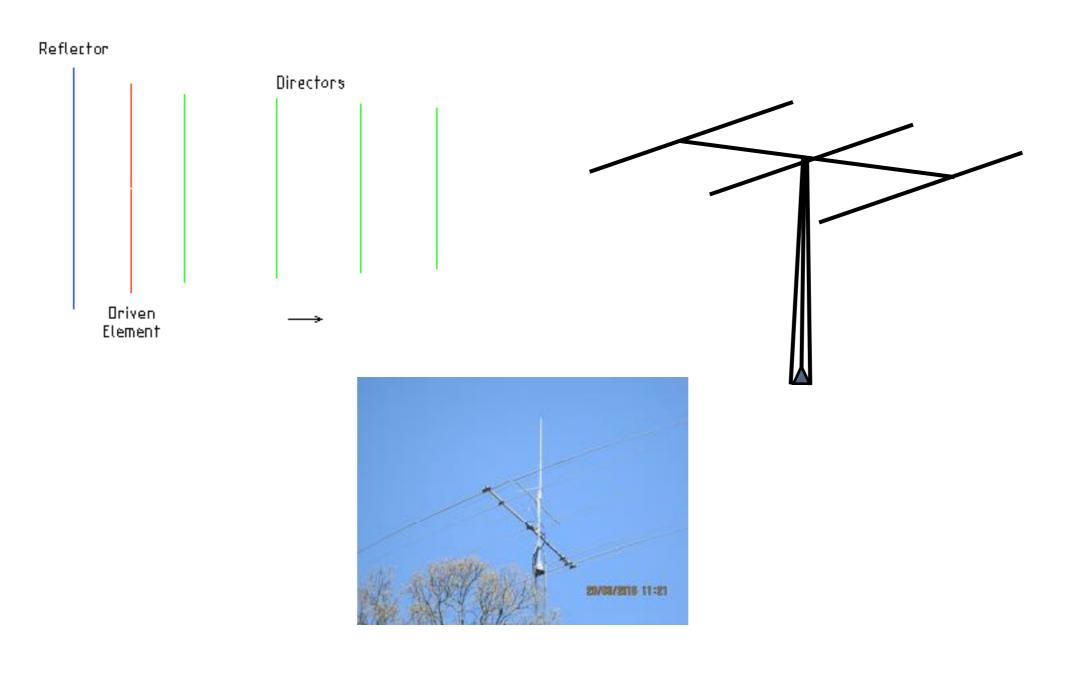
Think of a donut, where two opposite areas are a little squished. The main "beam" of the dipole is like the fatter part of the donut. But it's also mashed and stretched by ground reflections.

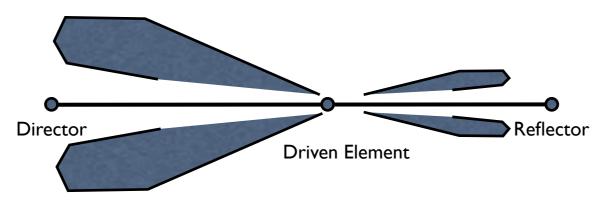
http://www.hamuniverse.com/wb4yjtdipolepatterns.html

Peak radiation angle from an HF antenna above ground can be found from the following chart. BUT ... pay attention to the words.

Concept: consider a **dipole** above a reasonable ground. The peak angle of radiation from the system is governed by the height above ground.

Height in wavelengths	peak radiation angle
0.25	90 deg
0.30	56.4 deg
0.35	45.6 deg
0.50	30.0 deg
0.75	19.5 deg
1.00	14.5 deg

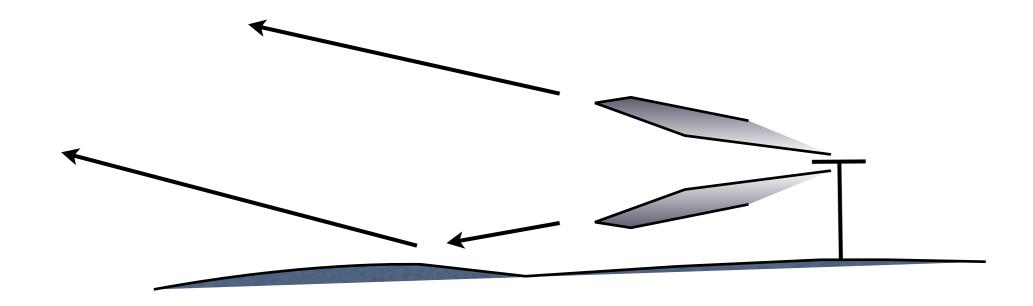


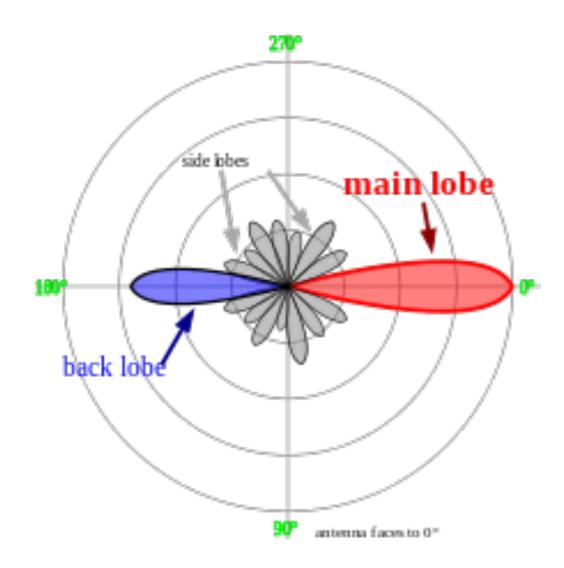


At HF we WANT a slightly elevated "launch" angle, to bounce our signal off the ionosphere (to get skip).

Antenna height reflections from ground, and spacing between elements of a multielement beam are combined to get the best launch angle.

Element spacing of an HF "beam" antenna is designed to get a pattern like shown below.





http://www.radio-electronics.com/info/antennas/dipole/dipole.php
http://www.rfcafe.com/references/electrical/antenna-patterns.htm

References

http://www.radio-electronics.com/info/antennas/dipole/radiation-patterns.php

http://www.hamuniverse.com/wb4yjtdipolepatterns.html

http://www.astronwireless.com/antenna-patterns-aluminum-yagis.asp

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