

Remembering Dimitris Psychoudakis (1973–2021)

John Volakis, Kubilay Sertel, and Yiannis Tzanidis

It is with much sadness that we write to express our final goodbye to a strong contributor and very active member of our IEEE Antennas and Propagation Society (AP-S), Dr. Dimitris Psychoudakis, who was born in Thessaloniki, Greece, on 2 April 1973. He excelled in physics (B.S. degree) and electrical engineering (M.S. degree), and, in 1999, he moved to Ann Arbor, Michigan, to pursue his Ph.D. degree at The University of Michigan, completing it in 2004. In 2005, he joined The Ohio State University ElectroScience Lab as a postdoctoral researcher and, later, senior research associate, where he stayed until 2012. Between 2012 and 2017, he worked at Samsung Research America as a staff and senior staff engineer. He joined the Dallas-based start-up Phazr (acquired by JMA Wireless) in 2017 as the director of electromagnetic antennas.

Dimitris was one of the first to pursue topology optimization methods to design textured ceramic dielectric antennas [1]. He later used these approaches to pursue antenna size minimization using volumetric material optimization [2], [3]. He also played a key role at Ohio State in starting research on wearable and embroidered antennas, including multiple-input, multiple-output and diversity applications for antenna arrays.

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Dr. Dimitris Psychoudakis. (Photo courtesy of Dr. Michael Carr.)

While at Samsung and, later, Phazr, Dimitris focused on 5G communications. Notably, his team at Samsung was the first to design and test 5G antennas for cellular and base station systems, and it went on to demonstrate the world's first 5G telecommunication system. During his years at Phazr (later JMA Wireless), he continued to support 5G research and development.

A superb scientist, equally skilled in simulations and measurements, Dimitris was also a mentor to many graduate students. He will be remembered as a team player and an active participant in AP-S activities. He published more than 50 articles, mostly in IEEE periodicals, with several being highly referenced by the antenna community.

Dimitris had been fighting cancer for more than a decade. Nevertheless, he continued his research and dedication to science unabated. We will dearly miss his wisdom, teamwork, and friendship. He is survived by his wife, Dina; daughter, Sofia; brother, Vasilis; and mother, Sophia.

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