

Digital Communications

Chapter 5 Carrier and Symbol Synchronization

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5.1 Signal parameters estimation

Channel delay τ exists between Tx and Rx.

For AWGN + channel delay τ + carrier phase mismatch ϕ_0 , given $s(t)$ transmitted, one receives

$$r(t) = s(t - \tau) + n(t).$$

As lowpass equivalent

$$s(t) = \mathbf{Re} [s_\ell(t) e^{i2\pi f_c t}] \text{ but } r(t) = \mathbf{Re} [r_\ell(t) e^{i2\pi f_c t + i\phi_0}]$$

we have

$$\begin{aligned} r(t) &= \mathbf{Re} [r_\ell(t) e^{i2\pi f_c t + i\phi_0}] \\ &= \mathbf{Re} [s_\ell(t - \tau) e^{i2\pi f_c (t - \tau)}] + \mathbf{Re} [n_\ell(t) e^{i2\pi f_c t + i\phi_0}] \\ &= \mathbf{Re} \{ [s_\ell(t - \tau) e^{i\phi} + n_\ell(t)] e^{i2\pi f_c t + i\phi_0} \} \end{aligned}$$

where $\phi = -2\pi f_c \tau - \phi_0$.

$$\phi = -2\pi f_c \tau - \phi_0$$

In general, $\tau \ll T$, but

$$|-2\pi f_c \tau| \bmod 2\pi$$

is far from 0 since f_c is large.

So, we should treat τ and ϕ as **different random variables**

$$r_\ell(t) = s_\ell(t; \phi, \tau) + n_\ell(t).$$

Notably, since the passband signal $s(t - \tau)$ is “real”, it does not appear a phase mismatch ϕ for the real passband signals.

In other words, ϕ appears due to the imperfect down-conversion at the receiver.

$$r_\ell(t) = s_\ell(t; \phi, \tau) + n_\ell(t)$$

Let $\Theta = (\phi, \tau)$, and set

$$r_\ell(t) = s_\ell(t; \Theta) + n_\ell(t).$$

Let $\{\phi_{n,\ell}(t), 1 \leq n \leq N\}$ be a set of orthonormal functions over $[0, T_0)$, where $T_0 \geq T$, such that $r_{j,\ell} = \langle r_\ell(t), \phi_{n,\ell}(t) \rangle$ and we have a vector representation

$$\mathbf{r}_\ell = \mathbf{s}_\ell(\Theta) + \mathbf{n}_\ell.$$

Assuming Θ has a joint pdf $f(\Theta)$, the MAP estimate of Θ is

$$\begin{aligned}\hat{\Theta} &= \arg \max_{\Theta} f(\Theta | \mathbf{r}_\ell) \\ &= \arg \max_{\Theta} f(\mathbf{r}_\ell | \Theta) \frac{f(\Theta)}{f(\mathbf{r}_\ell)} = \arg \max_{\Theta} f(\mathbf{r}_\ell | \Theta) f(\Theta).\end{aligned}$$

Assume Θ is uniform and holds constant for an observation period of $T_0 \geq T$ (slow variation),

$$\hat{\Theta} = \arg \max_{\Theta} f(\mathbf{r}_\ell | \Theta) f(\Theta) = \arg \max_{\Theta} f(\mathbf{r}_\ell | \Theta)$$

The latter is the **ML estimate of Θ** .

Note that $f(\mathbf{r}_\ell | \Theta)$ is the likelihood function.

$$\mathbf{r}_\ell = \mathbf{s}_\ell(\Theta) + \mathbf{n}_\ell \quad \text{and} \quad \hat{\Theta} = \arg \max_{\Theta} f(\mathbf{r}_\ell | \Theta)$$

For a fixed $\{\phi_{j,\ell}(t)\}_{j=1}^N$ and $E[|n_{j,\ell}|^2] = \sigma_\ell^2 = 2N_0$,

$$f(\mathbf{r}_\ell | \Theta) = \left(\frac{1}{\pi \sigma_\ell^2} \right)^N \exp \left\{ - \sum_{n=1}^N \frac{|r_{n,\ell} - s_{n,\ell}(\Theta)|^2}{\sigma_\ell^2} \right\}.$$

Text (5.1-5) uses bandpass analysis and yields

$$f(\mathbf{r} | \Theta) = \left(\frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi\sigma^2}} \right)^N \exp \left\{ - \sum_{n=1}^N \frac{|r_n - s_n(\Theta)|^2}{2\sigma^2} \right\} \quad \text{with} \quad \sigma^2 = \frac{N_0}{2}.$$

We will show later that both analyses yield identical result!

Assume that $\{\phi_{n,\ell}(t)\}_{j=1}^N$ is a complete orthonormal basis.

Then

$$\sum_{n=1}^N |r_{n,\ell} - s_{n,\ell}(\Theta)|^2 = \int_0^{T_0} |r_\ell(t) - s_\ell(t; \Theta)|^2 dt.$$

The likelihood function

Given $s_\ell(t)$ known to both Tx and Rx, the ML estimate of Θ is

$$\hat{\Theta} = \arg \max_{\Theta} \Lambda(\Theta)$$

and the term

$$\Lambda(\Theta) = \exp \left\{ -\frac{1}{\sigma_\ell^2} \int_0^{T_0} |r_\ell(t) - s_\ell(t; \Theta)|^2 dt \right\}$$

will be referred to as the likelihood function.

Exemplified block diagrams

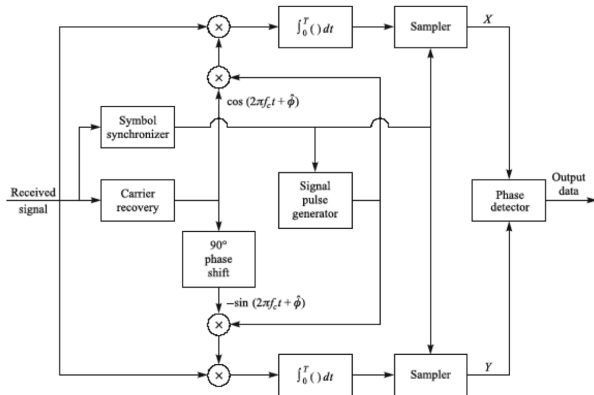


FIGURE 5.1-2
Block diagram of an M -ary PSK receiver.

Exemplified block diagrams

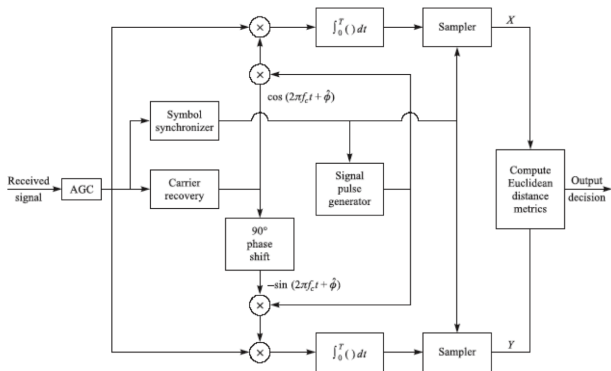


FIGURE 5.1-4
Block diagram of a QAM receiver.

5.2 Carrier phase estimation

Example 1 (DSB-SC signal where $\tau = 0$ and $\phi_0 = \tilde{\phi} - \phi$)

Assume the transmitted signal is

$$s(t) = A(t) \cos(2\pi f_c t + \phi)$$

Rx uses $c(t)$ with carrier reference $\tilde{\phi}$ to demodulate

$$c(t) = \cos(2\pi f_c t + \tilde{\phi})$$

So even $n_\ell(t) = 0$, the down-conversion Rx gives

$$LPF\{s(t)c(t)\} = \frac{1}{2}A(t) \cos(\phi - \tilde{\phi})$$

Performance is severely degraded due to phase error $(\phi - \tilde{\phi})$.

Hence, signal power is reduced by a factor $\cos^2(\phi - \tilde{\phi})$:

- A phase error of 10° leads to 0.13 dB of signal power loss.
- A phase error of 30° leads to 1.25 dB of signal power loss.

Example 2 (QAM or PSK where $\tau = 0$ and $\phi_0 = \tilde{\phi} - \phi$)

For QAM or PSK signals, Tx sends

$$s(t) = x(t) \cos(2\pi f_c t + \phi) - y(t) \sin(2\pi f_c t + \phi)$$

and Rx uses the $c_I(t)$ and $c_Q(t)$ to demodulate

$$c_I(t) = \cos(2\pi f_c t + \tilde{\phi}) \quad c_Q(t) = \sin(2\pi f_c t + \tilde{\phi})$$

Hence

$$r_I(t) = LPF\{s(t)c_I(t)\} = \frac{x(t) \cos(\phi - \tilde{\phi}) - y(t) \sin(\phi - \tilde{\phi})}{2}$$
$$r_Q(t) = LPF\{s(t)c_Q(t)\} = \frac{x(t) \sin(\phi - \tilde{\phi}) + y(t) \cos(\phi - \tilde{\phi})}{2}$$

Even worse, both power degradation and crosstalk occur.

5.2-1 ML carrier phase estimation

Assume $\tau = 0$ (or τ has been perfectly compensated) & estimate ϕ .

So $\Theta = \phi$. The likelihood function is

$$\begin{aligned}\Lambda(\phi) &= \exp \left\{ -\frac{1}{\sigma_\ell^2} \int_0^{T_0} |r_\ell(t) - s_\ell(t; \phi)|^2 dt \right\} \\ &= \exp \left(-\frac{1}{\sigma_\ell^2} \int_0^{T_0} [|r_\ell(t)|^2 - 2\mathbf{Re} \{ r_\ell(t) s_\ell^*(t; \phi) \} + |s_\ell(t; \phi)|^2] dt \right)\end{aligned}$$

- $|r_\ell(t)|^2$ is irrelevant to the maximization over ϕ .

For the term $|s_\ell(t; \phi)|^2$, we have

$$s_\ell(t; \phi) = s_\ell(t) e^{i\phi}.$$

So,

$$|s(t, \phi)|^2 = |s(t)|^2$$

Thus

$$\begin{aligned} \hat{\phi} &= \arg \max_{\phi} \exp \left\{ \frac{2}{\sigma_\ell^2} \int_0^{T_0} \mathbf{Re} \{ r_\ell(t) s_\ell^*(t; \phi) \} dt \right\} \\ &= \arg \max_{\phi} \exp \left\{ \frac{4}{\sigma_\ell^2} \int_0^{T_0} r(t) s(t; \phi) dt \right\} \end{aligned}$$

(With $\sigma_\ell^2 = 2N_0$, this formula is the same as (5.2-8) obtained based on bandpass analysis!)

Note that from Slide 2-24,

$$\langle x(t), y(t) \rangle = \frac{1}{2} \mathbf{Re} \{ \langle x_\ell(t), y_\ell(t) \rangle \}.$$

We will use one of the two above criteria (i.e., baseband or passband) to derive $\hat{\phi}$, depending on whichever is convenient.

Example

Assume

$$s(t) = A \cos(2\pi f_c t) \text{ and } r(t) = \underbrace{A \cos(2\pi f_c t + \phi)}_{s(t; \phi)} + n(t)$$

where ϕ is the unknown phase here.

$$\begin{aligned} \hat{\phi} &= \arg \max_{\phi} \exp \left\{ \frac{4}{\sigma_{\ell}^2} \int_0^{T_0} r(t) s(t; \phi) dt \right\} \\ &= \arg \max_{\phi} \int_0^{T_0} r(t) s(t; \phi) dt \end{aligned}$$

So we seek $\hat{\phi}$ that minimizes

$$\Lambda_L(\phi) = A \int_0^{T_0} r(t) \cos(2\pi f_c t + \phi) dt$$

Since ϕ is continuous, a necessary condition for a minimum is that

$$\left. \frac{d\Lambda_L(\phi)}{d\phi} \right|_{\phi=\hat{\phi}} = 0$$

It yields

$$\begin{aligned} & \int_0^{T_0} r(t) \sin(2\pi f_c t + \hat{\phi}) dt = 0 \\ & = \cos(\hat{\phi}) \int_0^{T_0} r(t) \sin(2\pi f_c t) dt + \sin(\hat{\phi}) \int_0^{T_0} r(t) \cos(2\pi f_c t) dt \end{aligned}$$

$$\hat{\phi} = -\tan^{-1} \frac{\int_0^{T_0} r(t) \sin(2\pi f_c t) dt}{\int_0^{T_0} r(t) \cos(2\pi f_c t) dt}$$

Performance check

Recall

$$r(t) = A \cos(2\pi f_c t + \phi) + n(t)$$

with unknown phase ϕ .

$$\mathbb{E} \left[\int_0^{T_0} r(t) \sin(2\pi f_c t) dt \right] = -\frac{1}{2} A T_0 \sin(\phi)$$

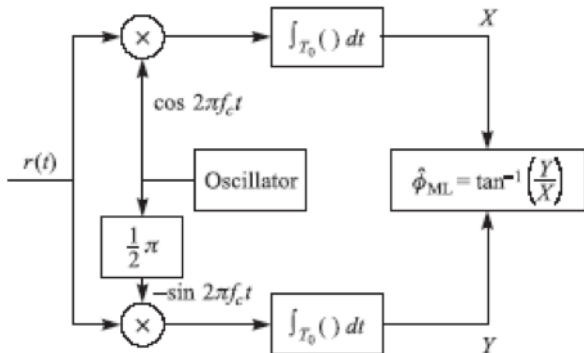
$$\mathbb{E} \left[\int_0^{T_0} r(t) \cos(2\pi f_c t) dt \right] = \frac{1}{2} A T_0 \cos(\phi)$$

Then on the average

$$\hat{\phi} = -\tan^{-1} \frac{\mathbb{E} \left[\int_0^{T_0} r(t) \sin(2\pi f_c t) dt \right]}{\mathbb{E} \left[\int_0^{T_0} r(t) \cos(2\pi f_c t) dt \right]} = \phi$$

which is the true phase.

A one-shot ML phase estimator



5.2-2 The phase-locked loops

Instead of one-shot estimate, a phase-locked loop continuously adjusts ϕ to achieve

$$\int_0^{T_0} r(t) \sin(2\pi f_c t + \hat{\phi}) dt = 0$$

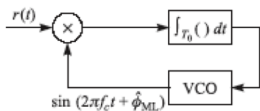


FIGURE 5.2-1

A PLL for obtaining the ML estimate of the phase of an unmodulated carrier.

We can then change the **sign** of sine function to facilitate the follow-up analysis.

$$\int_0^{T_0} r(t) \left(-\sin(2\pi f_c t + \hat{\phi}) \right) dt = 0$$

The analysis of the PLL can be visioned in a simplified basic diagram:

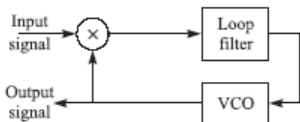
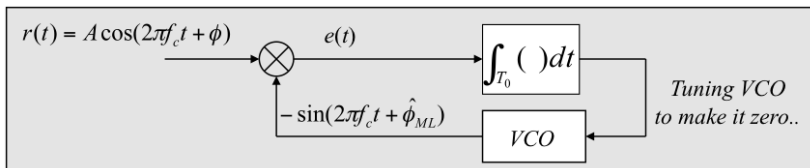
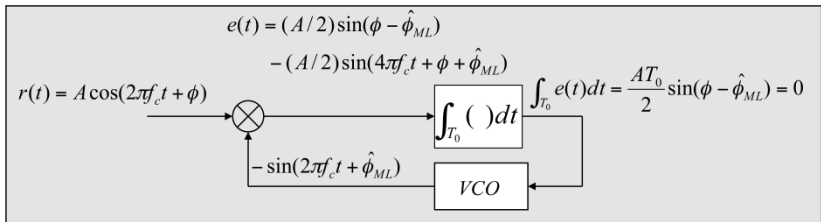


FIGURE 5.2-3
Basic elements of a phase-locked loop (PLL).

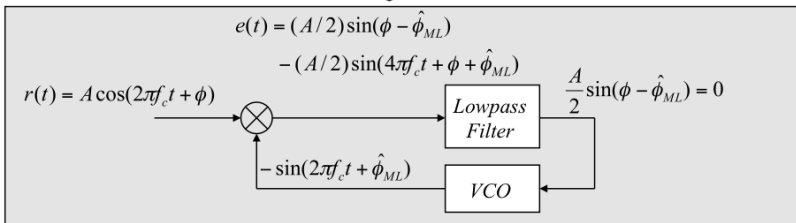
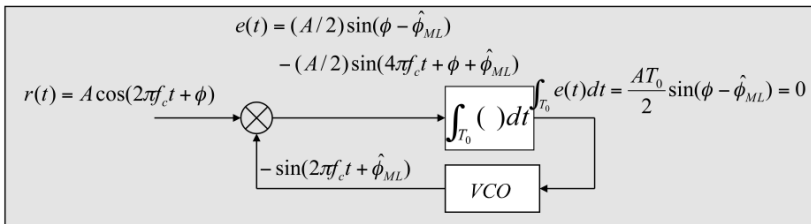




If T_0 is a multiple of $1/(2f_c)$, then

$$\begin{aligned}
 & \int_0^{T_0} e(t) dt \\
 &= \frac{A}{2} \int_0^{T_0} \sin(\phi - \hat{\phi}_{ML}) dt - \frac{A}{2} \int_0^{T_0} \sin(4\pi f_c t + \phi + \hat{\phi}_{ML}) dt \\
 &= \frac{AT_0}{2} \sin(\phi - \hat{\phi}_{ML}) - 0
 \end{aligned}$$

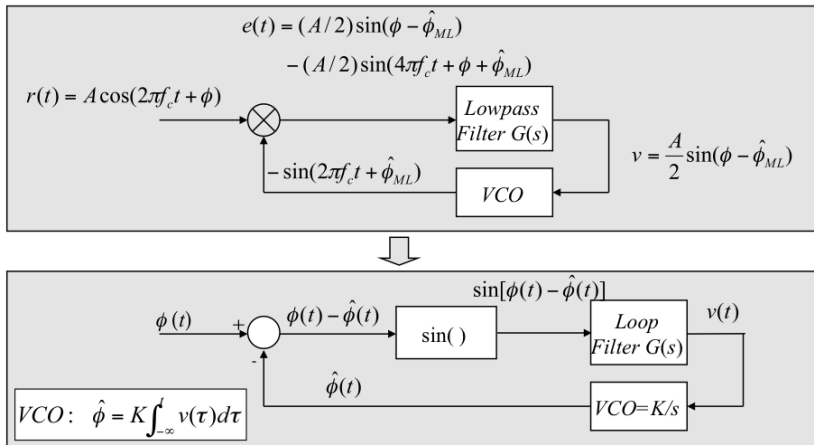
- The effect of integration is similar to a **lowpass** filter.



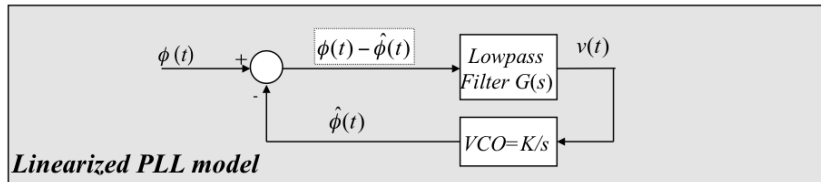
- Effective VCO output $\hat{\phi}(t)$ can be modeled as

$$\hat{\phi}(t) = K \int_{-\infty}^t v(\tau) d\tau$$

where $v(\cdot)$ is the input of the VCO.



The nonlinear $\sin(\cdot)$ causes difficulty in analysis. Hence, we may simplify it using $\sin(x) \approx x$.



In terms of Laplacian transform technique, we then derive the **close-loop** system transfer function.

$$\begin{aligned}
 H(s) &= \frac{\hat{\phi}(s)}{\phi(s)} = \frac{\hat{\phi}(s)}{[\phi(s) - \hat{\phi}(s)] + \hat{\phi}(s)} \\
 &= \frac{(KG(s)/s)[\phi(s) - \hat{\phi}(s)]}{[\phi(s) - \hat{\phi}(s)] + (KG(s)/s)[\phi(s) - \hat{\phi}(s)]} \\
 &= \frac{KG(s)/s}{1 + KG(s)/s}
 \end{aligned}$$

Second-order loop transfer function

$$G(s) = \frac{1 + \tau_2 s}{1 + \tau_1 s}, \text{ where } \tau_1 \gg \tau_2 \text{ for a lowpass filter.}$$

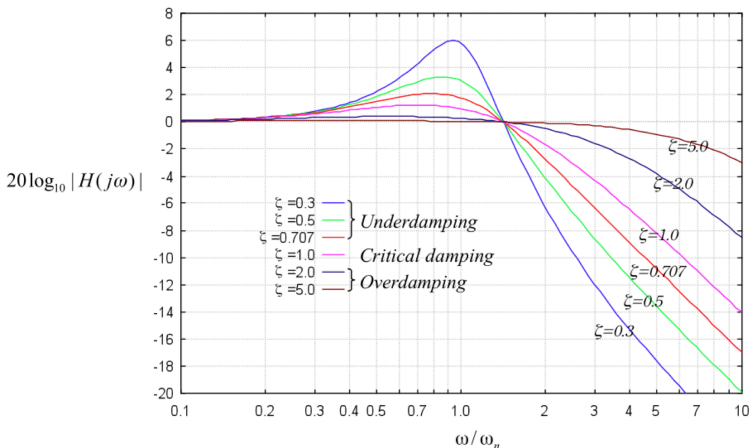
$$\implies H(s) = \frac{\overbrace{(2\zeta - \omega_n/K)(s/\omega_n) + 1}^{=\tau_2\omega_n}}{(s/\omega_n)^2 + 2\zeta(s/\omega_n) + 1}$$

where

$$\begin{cases} \omega_n = \sqrt{K/\tau_1} & \text{natural frequency of the loop} \\ \zeta = \omega_n(\tau_2 + 1/K)/2 & \text{loop damping factor} \end{cases}$$

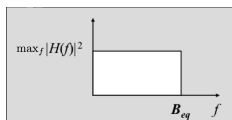
Assume $2\zeta - \frac{\omega_n}{K} \approx 2\zeta$ (i.e., $\frac{\omega_n/K}{2\zeta} = \frac{1}{K\tau_2+1} \ll 1$). Hence,

$$H(s) \approx \frac{2\zeta(s/\omega_n) + 1}{(s/\omega_n)^2 + 2\zeta(s/\omega_n) + 1}$$



- Damping factor=response speed (for changes)

Noise-equivalent bandwidth of $H(f)$



- Definition: One-sided noise-equivalent bandwidth of $H(f)$

$$B_{\text{eq}} = \frac{1}{\max_f |H(f)|^2} \int_0^{\infty} |H(f)|^2 df = \frac{1 + (\tau_2 \omega_n)^2}{8\zeta / \omega_n} \approx \frac{1 + 4\zeta^2}{8\zeta} \omega_n$$

where we use $\tau_2 \omega_n = 2\zeta - \frac{\omega_n}{K} \approx 2\zeta$.

- Tradeoff in parameter selection in PLL
 - It is desirable to have a larger PLL bandwidth ω_n in order to track any time variation in the phase of the received carrier.
 - However, with a larger PLL bandwidth, more noise will be passed into the loop; hence, the phase estimate is less accurate.

5.2-3 Effect of additive noise on the phase estimate

Assume that

$$r(t) = A_c \cos(2\pi f_c t + \phi(t)) + n(t)$$

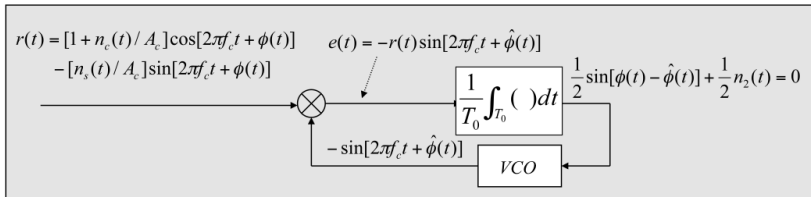
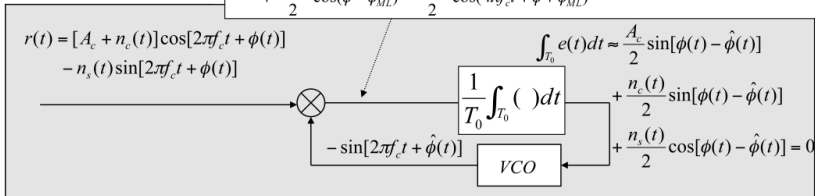
where

$$n(t) = n_c(t) \cos(2\pi f_c t + \phi(t)) - n_s(t) \sin(2\pi f_c t + \phi(t))$$

and $n_c(t)$ and $n_s(t)$ are independent Gaussian random processes.

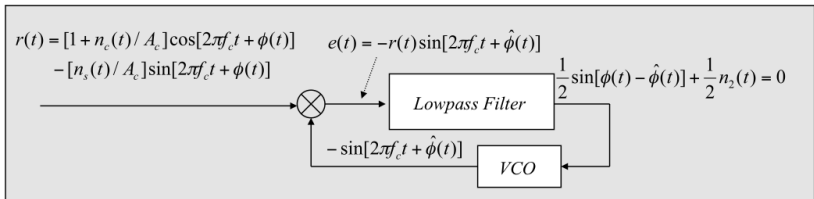
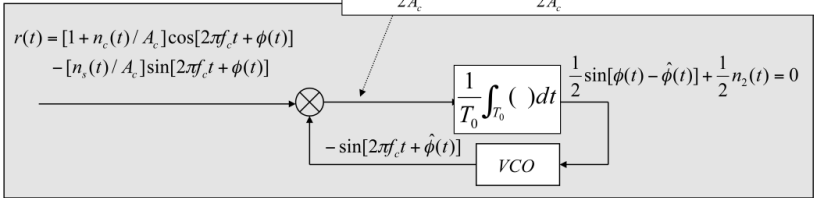
For convenience, we abbreviate $\phi(t)$ and $\hat{\phi}(t)$ as ϕ and $\hat{\phi}_{ML}$ in the derivation.

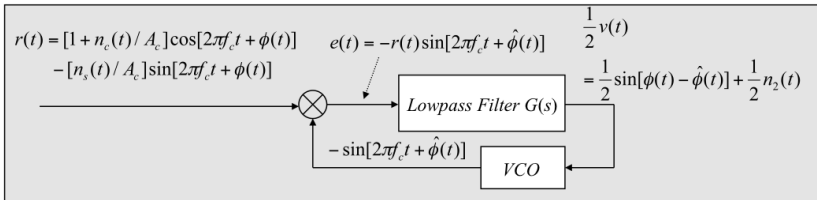
$$\begin{aligned}
 e(t) &= -r(t) \sin[2\pi f_c t + \hat{\phi}(t)] \\
 &= -[A_c + n_c(t)] \cos(2\pi f_c t + \phi) \sin(2\pi f_c t + \hat{\phi}_{ML}) + n_s(t) \sin(2\pi f_c t + \phi) \sin(2\pi f_c t + \hat{\phi}_{ML}) \\
 &= \frac{[A_c + n_c(t)]}{2} \sin(\phi - \hat{\phi}_{ML}) - \frac{[A_c + n_c(t)]}{2} \sin(4\pi f_c t + \phi + \hat{\phi}_{ML}) \\
 &\quad + \frac{n_s(t)}{2} \cos(\phi - \hat{\phi}_{ML}) - \frac{n_s(t)}{2} \cos(4\pi f_c t + \phi + \hat{\phi}_{ML})
 \end{aligned}$$



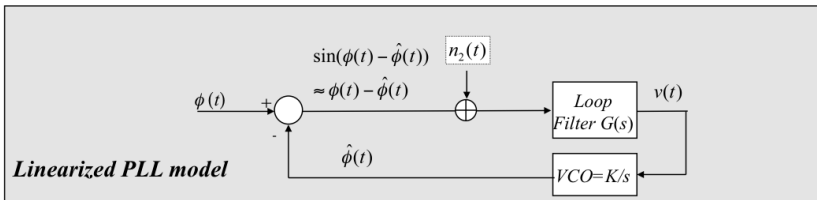
$$\text{Let } n_2(t) = \frac{1}{A_c} (n_c(t) \sin[\phi(t) - \hat{\phi}(t)] + n_s(t) \cos[\phi(t) - \hat{\phi}(t)]).$$

$$\begin{aligned}
 e(t) &= -r(t) \sin[2\pi f_c t + \hat{\phi}(t)] \\
 &= \frac{[1 + n_c(t) / A_c]}{2} \sin(\phi - \hat{\phi}_{ML}) - \frac{[1 + n_c(t) / A_c]}{2} \sin(4\pi f_c t + \phi + \hat{\phi}_{ML}) \\
 &\quad + \frac{n_s(t)}{2A_c} \cos(\phi - \hat{\phi}_{ML}) - \frac{n_s(t)}{2A_c} \cos(4\pi f_c t + \phi + \hat{\phi}_{ML})
 \end{aligned}$$





|| $n_2(t)$ white with $\Phi_{n_2}(f) = \frac{N_0}{2A_c^2}$.



As a result,

$$\begin{aligned} & \frac{\hat{\phi}(s)}{\phi(s) + n_2(s)} \\ &= \frac{\hat{\phi}(s)}{[\phi(s) - \hat{\phi}(s) + n_2(s)] + \hat{\phi}(s)} \\ &= \frac{(KG(s)/s)[(\phi(s) - \hat{\phi}(s)) + n_2(s)]}{[\phi(s) - \hat{\phi}(s) + n_2(s)] + (KG(s)/s)[(\phi(s) - \hat{\phi}(s)) + n_2(s)]} \\ &= \frac{KG(s)/s}{1 + KG(s)/s} = H(s) \end{aligned}$$

$$\Rightarrow \hat{\phi}(s) = [\phi(s) + n_2(s)]H(s)$$

$$\Rightarrow \hat{\phi}(t) = [\phi(t) + n_2(t)] * h(t) = \phi(t) * h(t) + \underbrace{n_2(t) * h(t)}_{\text{noise}}$$

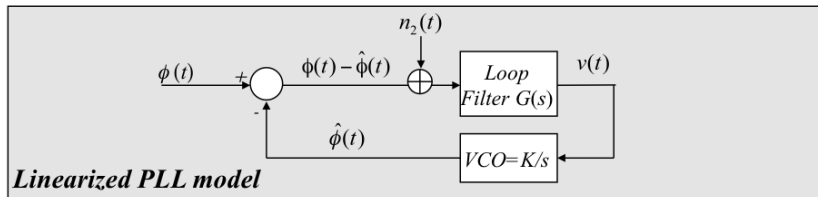
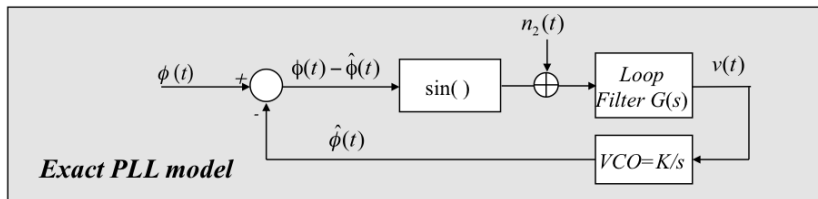
Let's calculate noise variance:

$$\begin{aligned}\sigma_{\hat{\phi}}^2 &= \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \Phi_{n_2}(f) |H(f)|^2 df \\ &= \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \frac{N_0}{2} \frac{1}{A_c^2} |H(f)|^2 df \\ &= \frac{N_0 B_{\text{eq}}}{A_c^2} \max_f |H(f)|^2\end{aligned}$$

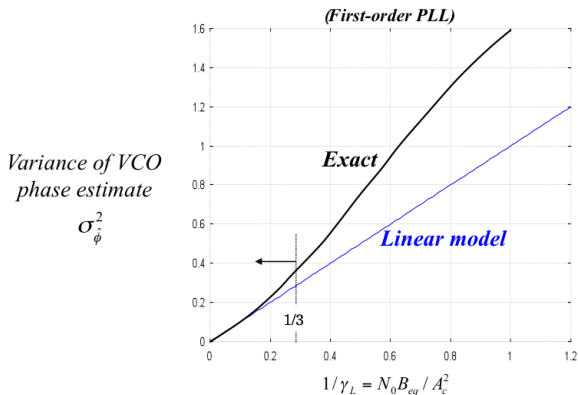
$\sigma_{\hat{\phi}}^2$ is proportional to B_{eq} ; since the signal power is fixed as $1/2$, SNR is inversely proportional to B_{eq} .

Subject to that the bandwidth B_{eq} of the “equivalent (ideal) filter” is large enough to pass all the input power, the “signal power” is equal to $\int_{-\infty}^{\infty} S_{\phi}(f) |H(f)|^2 df = \max_f |H(f)|^2 \cdot \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} S_{\phi}(f) df$; hence, SNR γ_L is proportional to $\frac{A_c^2}{N_0 B_{\text{eq}}}$.

Exact PLL model versus linearized PLL model



It turns out that when $G(s) = 1$, the $\sigma_{\hat{\phi}}^2$ of the **exact** PLL model is **tractable** (Vitebi 1966). The linear model gives $\sigma_{\hat{\phi}}^2 = 1/\gamma_L = \frac{N_0 B_{\text{eq}}}{A_c^2}$.



- The linear model well approximates the exact model when $\gamma_L = A_c^2 / (N_0 B_{\text{eq}}) > 3 \approx 4.77$ dB.

5.2-4 Decision directed loops

For general modulation scheme, let

$$s_\ell(t) = \sum_{n=-\infty}^{\infty} I_n g(t - nT);$$

then

$$s(t; \phi) = \mathbf{Re} \left\{ s_\ell(t) e^{i\phi} e^{i2\pi f_c t} \right\}$$

Hence, by letting $T_0 = KT$,

$$\begin{aligned} \Lambda_L(\phi) &= \int_0^{T_0} r(t) s(t; \phi) dt \\ &= \int_0^{T_0} r(t) \mathbf{Re} \left\{ \sum_{n=-\infty}^{\infty} I_n g(t - nT) e^{i\phi} e^{i2\pi f_c t} \right\} dt \\ &= \int_0^{T_0} r(t) \mathbf{Re} \left\{ \sum_{n=0}^{K-1} I_n g(t - nT) e^{i\phi} e^{i2\pi f_c t} \right\} dt \end{aligned}$$

$$\Lambda_L(\phi) = \int_0^{T_0} r(t) \mathbf{Re} \left\{ \sum_{n=0}^{K-1} I_n g(t - nT) e^{i\phi} e^{i2\pi f_c t} \right\} dt$$

$$\begin{aligned} \Lambda_L(\phi) &= \mathbf{Re} \left\{ e^{i\phi} \sum_{n=0}^{K-1} I_n \int_0^{T_0} r(t) g(t - nT) e^{i2\pi f_c t} dt \right\} \\ &= \mathbf{Re} \left\{ e^{i\phi} \sum_{n=0}^{K-1} I_n \underbrace{\int_{nT}^{(n+1)T} r(t) g(t - nT) e^{i2\pi f_c t} dt}_{y_n} \right\} \\ &= \mathbf{Re} \left\{ e^{i\phi} \sum_{n=0}^{K-1} I_n y_n \right\} \\ &= \mathbf{Re} \left\{ \sum_{n=0}^{K-1} I_n y_n \right\} \cos(\phi) - \mathbf{Im} \left\{ \sum_{n=0}^{K-1} I_n y_n \right\} \sin(\phi) \end{aligned}$$

$$\Lambda_L(\phi) = \mathbf{Re} \left\{ \sum_{n=0}^{K-1} I_n y_n \right\} \cos(\phi) - \mathbf{Im} \left\{ \sum_{n=0}^{K-1} I_n y_n \right\} \sin(\phi)$$

Now

$$\frac{d\Lambda_L(\phi)}{d\phi} = -\mathbf{Re} \left\{ \sum_{n=0}^{K-1} I_n y_n \right\} \sin(\phi) - \mathbf{Im} \left\{ \sum_{n=0}^{K-1} I_n y_n \right\} \cos(\phi)$$

and the optimal estimate $\hat{\phi}$ is given by

$$\hat{\phi} = -\tan^{-1} \left(\frac{\mathbf{Im} \left\{ \sum_{n=0}^{K-1} I_n y_n \right\}}{\mathbf{Re} \left\{ \sum_{n=0}^{K-1} I_n y_n \right\}} \right)$$

This is called **decision directed estimation of ϕ** .

Note that from Slide 2-24,

$$\langle x(t), y(t) \rangle = \frac{1}{2} \mathbf{Re} \{ \langle x_\ell(t), y_\ell(t) \rangle \} .$$

Hence,

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbf{Re} \{ I_n y_n \} &= \int_{nT}^{(n+1)T} r(t) \cdot \mathbf{Re} \{ I_n g(t - nT) e^{i2\pi f_c t} \} dt \\ &= \frac{1}{2} \mathbf{Re} \left\{ \int_{nT}^{(n+1)T} r_\ell(t) I_n^* g^*(t - nT) dt \right\} \\ &= \frac{1}{2} \mathbf{Re} \left\{ I_n^* \underbrace{\int_{nT}^{(n+1)T} r_\ell(t) g^*(t - nT) dt}_{y_{n,\ell}} \right\} \\ &= \frac{1}{2} \mathbf{Re} \{ I_n^* y_{n,\ell} \} \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
\mathbf{Im}\{I_n y_n\} &= \int_{nT}^{(n+1)T} r(t) \cdot \mathbf{Im}\{I_n g(t - nT) e^{i2\pi f_c t}\} dt \\
&= \int_{nT}^{(n+1)T} r(t) \cdot \mathbf{Re}\{(-i) I_n g(t - nT) e^{i2\pi f_c t}\} dt \\
&= \frac{1}{2} \mathbf{Re}\left\{ \int_{nT}^{(n+1)T} r_\ell(t) \cdot i I_n^* g^*(t - nT) dt \right\} \\
&= -\frac{1}{2} \mathbf{Im}\{I_n^* y_{n,\ell}\}
\end{aligned}$$

$$\hat{\phi} = \tan^{-1} \left(\frac{\mathbf{Im}\left\{ \sum_{n=0}^{K-1} I_n^* y_{n,\ell} \right\}}{\mathbf{Re}\left\{ \sum_{n=0}^{K-1} I_n^* y_{n,\ell} \right\}} \right)$$

Final note: The formula (5.2-38) in text has an extra “-” sign because the text (inconsistently to (5.1-2)) assumes $s(t; \phi) = \mathbf{Re}\{s_\ell(t) e^{-i\phi} e^{i2\pi f_c t}\}$; but we assume $s(t; \phi) = \mathbf{Re}\{s_\ell(t) e^{+i\phi} e^{i2\pi f_c t}\}$ as (5.1-2) did.

5.2-5 Non-decision-directed loops

For carrier phase estimation with $\sigma_\ell^2 = 2N_0$, we have shown that

$$\begin{aligned}\hat{\phi} &= \arg \max_{\phi} \exp \left\{ \frac{2}{N_0} \int_0^{T_0} r(t) s(t; \phi) dt \right\} \\ &= -\tan^{-1} \left(\frac{\mathbf{Im} \left\{ \sum_{n=0}^{K-1} I_n y_n \right\}}{\mathbf{Re} \left\{ \sum_{n=0}^{K-1} I_n y_n \right\}} \right)\end{aligned}$$

When $\{I_n\}_{n=0}^{K-1}$ is unavailable, we take the expectation with respect to $\{I_n\}_{n=0}^{K-1}$ instead:

$$\begin{aligned}\hat{\phi} &= \arg \max_{\phi} \mathbb{E} \left[\exp \left\{ \frac{2}{N_0} \int_0^{T_0} r(t) s(t; \phi) dt \right\} \right] \\ &= \arg \max_{\phi} \mathbb{E} \left[\exp \left\{ \frac{2}{N_0} \int_0^{T_0} r(t) \mathbf{Re} \left\{ \sum_{n=0}^{K-1} I_n g(t - nT) e^{i\phi} e^{i2\pi f_c t} \right\} dt \right\} \right] \\ &= \arg \max_{\phi} \mathbb{E} \left[\exp \left\{ \frac{2}{N_0} \sum_{n=0}^{K-1} I_n y_n(\phi) \right\} \right]\end{aligned}$$

where we assume both $\{I_n\}$ and $g(t)$ are real and

$$y_n(\phi) = \int_{nT}^{(n+1)T} r(t) g(t - nT) \cos(2\pi f_c t + \phi) dt.$$

If $\{I_n\}$ i.i.d. and equal-probable over $\{-1, 1\}$,

$$\begin{aligned}\hat{\phi} &= \arg \max_{\phi} \prod_{n=0}^{K-1} \mathbb{E} \left[\exp \left\{ \frac{2}{N_0} I_n y_n(\phi) \right\} \right] \\ &= \arg \max_{\phi} \prod_{n=0}^{K-1} \left(\exp \left\{ -\frac{2}{N_0} y_n(\phi) \right\} + \exp \left\{ \frac{2}{N_0} y_n(\phi) \right\} \right) \\ &= \arg \max_{\phi} \prod_{n=0}^{K-1} \cosh \left(\frac{2}{N_0} y_n(\phi) \right) \\ &= \arg \max_{\phi} \sum_{n=0}^{K-1} \log \cosh \left(\frac{2}{N_0} y_n(\phi) \right)\end{aligned}$$

We may then determine the optimal $\hat{\phi}$ by deriving

$$\frac{\partial \sum_{n=0}^{K-1} \log \cosh \left(\frac{2}{N_0} y_n(\phi) \right)}{\partial \phi} = 0.$$

- For $|x| \ll 1$ (low SNR), $\log \cosh(x) \approx \frac{x^2}{2}$ (By Taylor expansion).
- For $|x| \gg 1$ (high SNR), $\log \cosh(x) \approx |x|$.

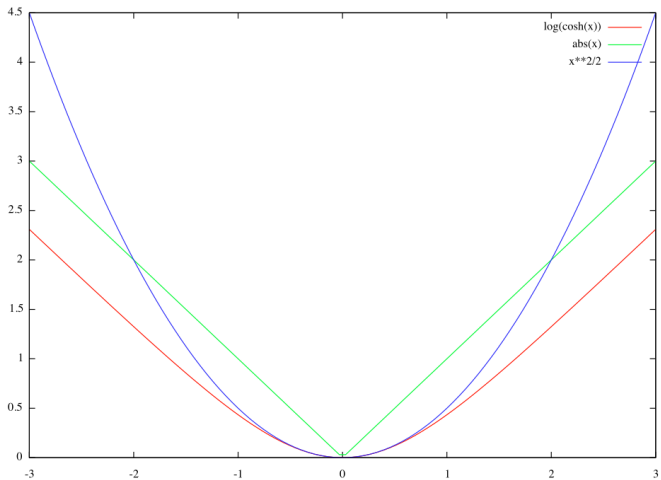
$$\begin{aligned}
 \hat{\phi} &= \arg \max_{\phi} \sum_{n=0}^{K-1} \log \cosh \left(\frac{2}{N_0} y_n(\phi) \right) \\
 &\approx \begin{cases} \arg \max_{\phi} \sum_{n=0}^{K-1} \frac{2}{N_0^2} y_n^2(\phi) & N_0 \text{ large} \\ \arg \max_{\phi} \sum_{n=0}^{K-1} \frac{2}{N_0} |y_n(\phi)| & N_0 \text{ small} \end{cases} \\
 &= \begin{cases} \arg \max_{\phi} \sum_{n=0}^{K-1} y_n^2(\phi) & N_0 \text{ large} \\ \arg \max_{\phi} \sum_{n=0}^{K-1} |y_n(\phi)| & N_0 \text{ small} \end{cases}
 \end{aligned}$$

When x small,

$$\begin{aligned}\log(\cosh(x)) &= \log \frac{e^{-x} + e^x}{2} \\ &= \log \frac{\left[1 - x + \frac{1}{2}x^2 - \frac{1}{6}x^3 + O(x^4)\right] + \left[1 + x + \frac{1}{2}x^2 + \frac{1}{6}x^3 + O(x^4)\right]}{2} \\ &= \log \left(1 + \frac{1}{2}x^2 + O(x^4)\right) \\ &= \frac{1}{2}x^2 + O(x^4)\end{aligned}$$

and

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} \frac{\log(\cosh(x))}{x} = \lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} \tanh(x) = \lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} \frac{e^x - e^{-x}}{e^x + e^{-x}} = 1.$$



When $K = 1$, which covers the case of Example 5.2-2 (p. 308) in text, the optimal decision becomes irrelevant to N_0 :

$$\begin{aligned}
 \hat{\phi} &= \begin{cases} \arg \max_{\phi} y_0^2(\phi) & N_0 \text{ large} \\ \arg \max_{\phi} |y_0(\phi)| & N_0 \text{ small} \end{cases} \\
 &= \arg \max_{\phi} \left| \int_0^T r(t)g(t) \cos(2\pi f_c t + \phi) dt \right| \\
 &= \arg \max_{\phi} \left| \cos(\phi) \int_0^T r(t)g(t) \cos(2\pi f_c t) dt \right. \\
 &\quad \left. - \sin(\phi) \int_0^T r(t)g(t) \sin(2\pi f_c t) dt \right| \\
 &= \arg \max_{\phi} |\cos(\phi) \cos(\theta) - \sin(\phi) \sin(\theta)| = \arg \max_{\phi} |\cos(\phi + \theta)|
 \end{aligned}$$

where $\tan(\theta) = \frac{\int_0^T r(t)g(t) \sin(2\pi f_c t) dt}{\int_0^T r(t)g(t) \cos(2\pi f_c t) dt}$. So the optimal $\hat{\phi}$ should make

$$\hat{\phi} = -\theta = -\tan^{-1} \frac{\int_0^T r(t)g(t) \sin(2\pi f_c t) dt}{\int_0^T r(t)g(t) \cos(2\pi f_c t) dt}.$$

5.3 Symbol timing estimation

Assume $\phi = 0$ (or ϕ has been perfectly compensated) & estimate τ .

In such case,

$$r_\ell(t) = s_\ell(t; \tau) + n_\ell(t) = s_\ell(t - \tau) + n_\ell(t).$$

We could rewrite the likelihood function (cf. Slide 5-8 with $\sigma_\ell^2 = 2N_0$) as

$$\begin{aligned} \Lambda(\tau) &= \exp \left\{ -\frac{1}{2N_0} \int_0^{T_0} |r_\ell(t) - s_\ell(t; \tau)|^2 dt \right\} \\ &= \exp \left(-\frac{1}{2N_0} \int_0^{T_0} [|r_\ell(t)|^2 - 2\mathbf{Re} \{ r_\ell(t) s_\ell^*(t; \tau) \} + |s_\ell(t; \tau)|^2] dt \right) \end{aligned}$$

Same as before, the 1st term is independent of τ and can be ignored. But

$$\int_0^{T_0} |s_\ell(t; \tau)|^2 dt = \int_0^{T_0} |s_\ell(t - \tau)|^2 dt$$

could be a function of τ .

So, we would “say” when $\tau \ll T$, the 3rd term is nearly independent of τ and can also be ignored.

This gives:

$$\Lambda_L(\tau) = \mathbf{Re} \left\{ \int_0^{T_0} r_\ell(t) s_\ell^*(t; \tau) dt \right\}$$

Assume

$$s_\ell(t) = \sum_{n=-\infty}^{\infty} I_n g(t - nT)$$

Then as $\tau \ll T$,

$$\begin{aligned} \Lambda_L(\tau) &\approx \mathbf{Re} \left\{ \sum_{n=0}^{K-1} I_n^* \int_0^{T_0} r_\ell(t) g^*(t - nT - \tau) dt \right\} \\ &= \mathbf{Re} \left\{ \sum_{n=0}^{K-1} I_n^* \tilde{y}_{n,\ell}(\tau) \right\} \end{aligned}$$

where

$$\tilde{y}_{n,\ell}(\tau) = \int_0^{T_0} r_\ell(t) g^*(t - nT - \tau) dt$$

Decision directed estimation

- The text assumes that both $\{I_n\}$ and $g(t)$ are real; hence $r_\ell(t)$ can be made real by eliminating the complex part, and

$$\Lambda_L(\tau) = \sum_{n=0}^{K-1} I_n y_{n,\ell}(\tau)$$

where

$$y_{n,\ell}(\tau) = \int_0^{T_0} \mathbf{Re}\{r_\ell(t)\} g(t - nT - \tau) dt.$$

- Then the optimal decision is the $\hat{\tau}$ such that

$$\frac{d\Lambda_L(\tau)}{d\tau} = \sum_{n=0}^{K-1} I_n \frac{dy_{n,\ell}(\tau)}{d\tau} = 0$$

- Likewise, it is called **decision directed estimation**.

Non-decision directed estimation

Consider again the case of BPSK, i.e. $I_n = \pm 1$ equal-probable; then because the complex noise can be excluded, we have

$$\begin{aligned}\Lambda(\tau) &= \exp\left(\frac{1}{N_0} \int_0^{T_0} \mathbf{Re}\{r_\ell(t)\} s_\ell(t; \tau) dt\right) \\ &= \exp\left(\frac{1}{N_0} \sum_{n=0}^{K-1} I_n \int_0^{T_0} \mathbf{Re}\{r_\ell(t)\} g(t - nT - \tau) dt\right) \\ &= \prod_{n=0}^{K-1} \exp\left(\frac{1}{N_0} I_n y_{n,\ell}(\tau)\right)\end{aligned}$$

$$\bar{\Lambda}(\tau) = \mathbb{E}[\Lambda(\tau)] = \prod_{n=0}^{K-1} \cosh\left(\frac{1}{N_0} y_{n,\ell}(\tau)\right)$$

Thus

$$\log \bar{\Lambda}(\tau) = \sum_{n=0}^{K-1} \log \cosh \left(\frac{1}{N_0} y_{n,l}(\tau) \right)$$

For low to moderate SNR, people simplify $\log \cosh(x)$ to $\frac{1}{2}x^2$,

$$\log \bar{\Lambda}(\tau) \approx \frac{1}{2N_0^2} \sum_{n=0}^{K-1} y_{n,l}^2(\tau).$$

Taking derivative, we see a necessary condition for $\hat{\tau}$ is

$$N_0^2 \left. \frac{d \log \bar{\Lambda}(\tau)}{d\tau} \right|_{\tau=\hat{\tau}} = \sum_{n=0}^{K-1} y_{n,l}(\hat{\tau}) y'_{n,l}(\hat{\tau}) = \sum_{n=0}^{K-1} y_{n,l}^2(\hat{\tau}) \frac{y'_{n,l}(\hat{\tau})}{y_{n,l}(\hat{\tau})} = 0$$

For high SNR, people simplify $\log \cosh(x)$ to $|x|$,

$$\log \bar{\Lambda}(\tau) \approx \frac{1}{N_0} \sum_{n=0}^{K-1} |y_{n,\ell}(\tau)|.$$

Taking derivative, we see a necessary condition for $\hat{\tau}$ is

$$N_0 \left. \frac{d \log \bar{\Lambda}(\tau)}{d\tau} \right|_{\tau=\hat{\tau}} = \sum_{n=0}^{K-1} \operatorname{sgn}(y_{n,\ell}(\hat{\tau})) y'_{n,\ell}(\hat{\tau}) = \sum_{n=0}^{K-1} |y_{n,\ell}(\hat{\tau})| \frac{y'_{n,\ell}(\hat{\tau})}{y_{n,\ell}(\hat{\tau})} = 0$$

Note that here, we use

$$\frac{\partial |f(x)|}{\partial x} = \begin{cases} f'(x), & f(x) > 0 \\ -f'(x), & f(x) < 0 \end{cases} = \operatorname{sgn}(f(x)) f'(x).$$

5.4 Joint estimation of carrier phase and symbol timing

The likelihood function is

$$\Lambda(\phi, \tau) = \exp \left\{ -\frac{1}{2N_0} \int_0^{T_0} |r_\ell(t) - s_\ell(t; \tau, \phi)|^2 dt \right\}$$

Assuming

$$s_\ell(t) = \sum_{n=-\infty}^{\infty} (I_n g(t - nT - \tau) + \imath J_n w(t - nT - \tau))$$

we have

$$s_\ell(t; \phi, \tau) = \sum_{n=-\infty}^{\infty} (I_n g(t - nT - \tau) + \imath J_n w(t - nT - \tau)) e^{-\imath \phi}$$

Here, I use $e^{-\imath \phi}$ in order to “synchronize” with the textbook.

- PAM: I_n real and $J_n = 0$
- QAM and PSK: I_n complex and $J_n = 0$
- OQPSK: $w(t) = g(t - T/2)$

Along similar technique used before, we rewrite $\Lambda(\phi, \tau)$ as

$$\begin{aligned}
 & \log \Lambda(\phi, \tau) \\
 &= \mathbf{Re} \left\{ \int_0^{T_0} r_\ell(t) s_\ell^*(t; \phi, \tau) dt \right\} \\
 &= \mathbf{Re} \left\{ e^{i\phi} \sum_{n=0}^{K-1} \int_0^{T_0} r_\ell(t) (I_n^* g^*(t - nT - \tau) - i J_n^* w^*(t - nT - \tau)) dt \right\} \\
 &= \mathbf{Re} \left\{ e^{i\phi} \sum_{n=0}^{K-1} (I_n^* y_{n,\ell}(\tau) - i J_n^* x_{n,\ell}(\tau)) \right\} \\
 &= \mathbf{Re} \left\{ e^{i\phi} (A(\tau) + i B(\tau)) \right\} = A(\tau) \cos(\phi) - B(\tau) \sin(\phi)
 \end{aligned}$$

where

$$\begin{cases}
 y_{n,\ell}(\tau) = \int_0^{T_0} r_\ell(t) g^*(t - nT - \tau) dt \\
 x_{n,\ell}(\tau) = \int_0^{T_0} r_\ell(t) w^*(t - nT - \tau) dt \\
 A(\tau) + i B(\tau) = \sum_{n=0}^{K-1} (I_n^* y_{n,\ell}(\tau) - i J_n^* x_{n,\ell}(\tau))
 \end{cases}$$

The necessary conditions for $\hat{\phi}$ and $\hat{\tau}$ are

$$\left. \frac{\partial \log \Lambda(\phi, \tau)}{\partial \tau} \right|_{\tau=\hat{\tau}} = 0 \quad \text{and} \quad \left. \frac{\partial \log \Lambda(\phi, \tau)}{\partial \phi} \right|_{\phi=\hat{\phi}} = 0$$

Finally solving jointly the above two equations, we have the optimal estimates given by

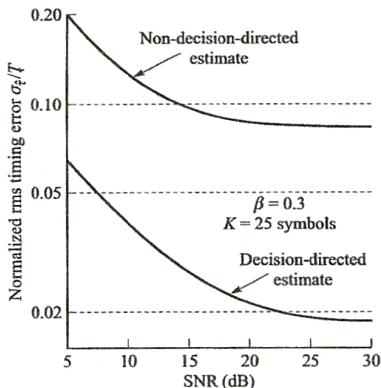
$$\hat{\tau} \text{ satisfies } A(\tau) \frac{\partial A(\tau)}{\partial \tau} + B(\tau) \frac{\partial B(\tau)}{\partial \tau} = 0$$
$$\hat{\phi} = -\tan^{-1} \frac{B(\hat{\tau})}{A(\hat{\tau})}$$

5.5 Performance characteristics of ML estimators

Comparison between decision-directed (DD) and non-decision-directed (NDD) estimators

Comparison between symbol timing (i.e., τ) DD and NDD estimates with raised-cosine(-spectrum) pulse shape.

- β is a parameter of the raised-cosine pulse

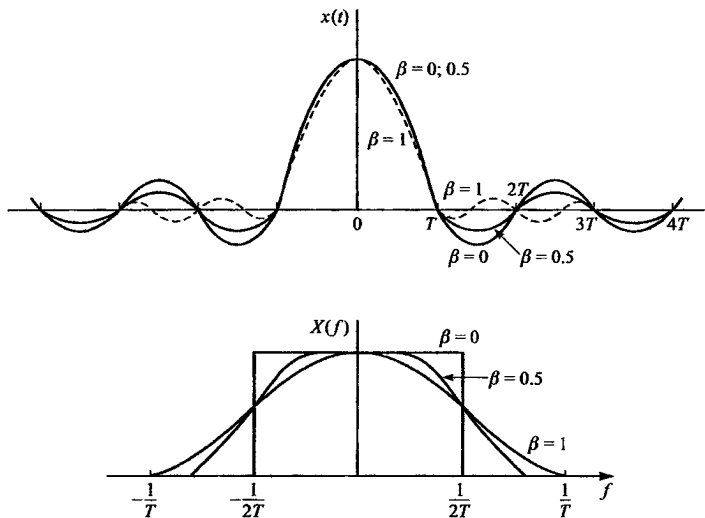


Raise-cosine spectrum

$$X_{\text{rc}}(f) = \begin{cases} T, & 0 \leq |f| \leq \frac{1-\beta}{2T}; \\ \frac{T}{2} \left\{ 1 + \cos \left[\frac{\pi T}{\beta} \left(|f| - \frac{1-\beta}{2T} \right) \right] \right\}, & \frac{1-\beta}{2T} \leq |f| \leq \frac{1+\beta}{2T}; \\ 0, & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

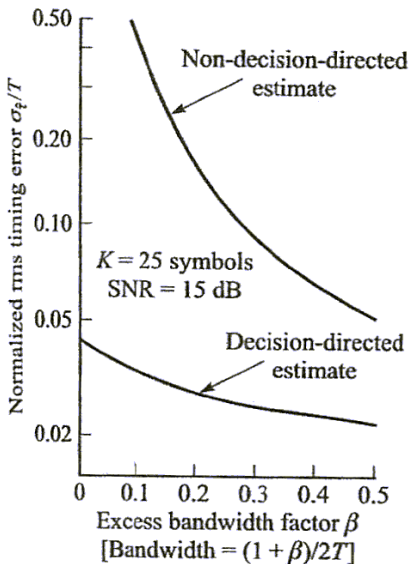
- $\beta \in [0, 1]$ roll-off factor
- $\beta/(2T)$ bandwidth beyond the Nyquist bandwidth $1/(2T)$ is called the **excess bandwidth**.

Raise-cosine spectrum



Comparison between symbol timing (i.e., τ) DD and NDD estimates with raised-cosine(-spectrum) pulse shape.

- The larger the excess bandwidth, the better the estimate.
- NDD variance may go without bound when β small.



What you learn from Chapter 5



- MAP/ML estimate of τ and ϕ based on likelihood ratio function and known signals
- Phase lock loop
 - Linear model analysis and its transfer function with and without additive noise
- Decision-directed (or decision-feedback) loop
- Non-decision-directed loop
 - Take expectation on a quantity, proportional to probability.