ADS Fundamentals - 2001

# LAB 8: Circuit Envelope Simulation

Overview - This chapter shows the basics of Circuit Envelope to measure time and frequency of an output signal when the input is a pulsed or modulated source such as GSM, CDMA, etc.

### **OBJECTIVES**

- ? Set up Circuit Envelope simulations using a behavioral amp
- ? Use various start and stop times for the simulation.
- ? Add and test for distortion.
- ? Use demodulation components and equations.
- ? Simulate the 1900 MHz amp with a GSM signal and Envelope.
- ? Plot carrier and baseband data.
- ? Operate on CE data in the frequency and time domain



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### PROCEDURE

- 1. Set up a PtRF source and behavioral amp.
  - a. Create a new schematic and name it: ckt\_env\_basic. You are still in the amp\_1900 project. This amplifier circuit will be used to cover the basics of envelope simulation. Build the circuit shown here using the following steps:
  - b. Insert a behavioral amplifier (Amplifier) from the System-Amps & Mixers palette. Set the S-parameters as shown where S21 is 10dB of gain with 0 phase (dB and phase are separated by a comma). S11 and S22 are –50 (dB return loss), and 0 phase. Finally, S12 can remain set to 0 to indicate no reverse leakage. Be sure to use dbpolar for S21, S11, and S22 as shown here.



- c. Insert a pulsed RF source (Sources-Modulated) and set it to 0 dBm at 900 MHz. Also, edit the following settings and be sure to check the display box for each setting: Off Ratio = 0, Delay= 0 ns, Rise time=5 ns, Fall time = 10 ns, Pulse Width = 30 ns, and the period is 100 ns.
- d. Insert a 50 ohm resistor, node names, grounds, and wire as needed.

- 2. Set up the Envelope Simulation controller.
  - a. Set the frequency to 900 MHz and Order=1. Later on, you will add distortion and increase the order.
  - b. Set stop = 50 ns. This is enough time to see the entire pulse width, including the rise, fall, and delay.
  - c. Set the step = 1 ns. This means the signal will be sampled every 1 ns resulting in 51 points of time sampled data.
- 3. Simulate and plot the time domain response.
  - a. Simulate and watch the status window. You will see each time step calculated until the final result of 50 ns. After the data display opens, plot Vin and Vout in a rectangular plot as the Magnitude of the Carrier in the time domain.
  - b. Also, add a third trace of Vout by selecting it and using the Advanced button to edit the expression as: ts (Vout) which gives the composite waveform. The index [1] in the other two mag traces gives you the magnitude of the 900 MHz carrier.

	Advanced Trace Entry:0
	Enter any expression:
Advanced	[ts[Vout]
	Note: If you plot complex data on a rectangular plot, the magnitude of the data will be plotted.
	Functions Help Variable Info
	Cancel

Cir

c. Put two markers on the plot to verify the rise time of 5 ns.



Envelope

Env1 Freq[1]=900 MHz Order[1]=1 Stop=50 nsec Step=1 nsec

cuit Envelope Simulation Data:6 🛛 🛛 🗙
ou are adding data from a Circuit Envelope simulation to a rectangular plot.
ow would you like to handle this data?
C Spectrum of the carrier in dB (Kaiser windowing)
C Spectrum of the carrier in dBm (Kaiser windowing)
<ul> <li>Magnitude of carrier in the time domain</li> </ul>
C Phase of the carrier in the time domain
C Baseband signal in the time domain
Advanced
OK Cancel

what(Vout) Dependency : [time,freq] Num. Points : [51, 2] Matrix Size : scalar

: Complex

Туре

d. In a separate plot, insert mag of Vout again, and edit the trace to remove the indexing: mag (Vout). Also, edit the Plot Options, and turn off X-axis Auto Scale: set X-axis from 600 to 1200 MHz as shown here to center the trace. Notice that without the index value, you get the magnitude of the fundamental (900 MHz) in the frequency domain. The increasing arrows represent the increasing magnitude of the pulse carrier as it rises during the



- e. Next, insert a List. When the dialog box appears, use the Advanced button and edit the expression to be: what (Vout). Click OK and you will see what dependencies there are for Vout. The purpose of this is to again use the what function and to show that both time and frequency exist in the circuit envelope data. There are 51 time points of the two frequencies: 0 (dc) and 900 MHz. The Matrix Size refers to the 1x1 matrix (ADS calls it scalar) and the data is complex (mag and phase of the 900 MHz).
- f. Set the time step to 10 ns and simulate. Now, watch what happens to your plot when you under-sample the envelope. With the time step greater than the rise-time, you still get the carrier but not the correct envelope. On the plot, the X-axis has increased and the markers are on the first two time points: 0 and10 nsec.



- 4. Add distortion to the behavioral amplifier.
  - a. Edit the Amplifier by setting: Gain Compression Power = 5 (dBm is the default) and Gain Compression = 1 dB. These values are only used to show how the settings work. Be sure to display these settings.
  - b. Set the CE controller Order = 5 and keep the time step at 10 ns. Also, set the source input power to 10 dBm: dbmtow (10).



Amplifier AMP1 S21=dbpolar(10,0) S11=dbpolar(-50,0) S22=dbpolar(-50,0) S12=0. GainCompPower=5 GainComp=1 dB

c. Simulate and view the data. The time domain plot will adjust if autoscale is on. On the frequency domain plot, set the X-axis back to Auto Scale and place the markers as shown, where strong odd harmonics result from the amplifier distortion (summing out-of-phase). This results in the envelope amplitude being smaller than the magnitude of the Vin or Vout magnitude. Also, the envelope shape is not accurate because the sampling rate is too coarse.



d. Set the time step to 1 ns and Simulate again. After updating, the plot shows the correct envelope. But Vin and Vout still greater than the envelope magnitude, due to the compression. To prove this, insert a List of Vout and <u>Suppress Table Format</u>. Then scroll down to the 5 nanosecond data. Now, you can see that the third harmonic is 180 degrees out-of-phase, making the envelope smaller than the magnitude of the fundamental.



5. Set up demodulators and a GSM source.

Note on GSM modulation: This is a phase modulation of the carrier (typically 900 MHz) where the phase variation represents 1 or 0.

- a. From the Sources-Modulated palette, insert the GSM source and put a pin label (node name) at the B output as shown: bits\_out. It looks like a non-connected pin but it is OK. Also, set the source FO=900 MHz and Power = dbmtow (10). Also, remove the compression: GainCompPower = (blank).
- b. Go to the System-Mod/Demod palette and insert two demodulators: FM\_DemodTuned as shown. Set the value of Fnom on the two demodulators as shown: 900 MHz. Also, insert label names at each output: fm\_demod\_in and fm\_demod\_out as shown. These will be used to look at the demodulated GSM



Note on Demodulators – You could use phase-demodulators but the FM demodulators are easier to use for this example. If you design demodulators, you could use this type of setup to test your circuits. In addition, refer to the Example directory for modulator/demodulator simulation examples.

- 6. Set up the Envelope Simulation with variables.
  - a. Insert a variable equation VAR and set up the stop and step times for approximate 270 kHz modulation BW as shown. The variable: t\_stop is set to cover approximately 100 us. It is convenient to use the BW value as the denominator but not necessary. The sample rate t\_step is 5 times the BW. Also, note that the default ADS Envelope time units (seconds) does not have to be specified.



### 7. Simulate and plot the results demodulated results.

- a. Simulate with the dataset name: ckt\_env\_demod.
- b. Your previous plots are not set up to display this data so use a new dataset name to keep the data in separate plots but in the same data display window. So, plot the two FM nodes as Baseband signal in the time domain. These traces will be the real part indexed to [0]. The demodulator only outputs a signal at baseband (similar to the dc component). Notice they are the same because there is no distortion at this time.
- c. In a separate graph, plot the real part of bits\_out. Except for some delay,



you should see the 001101010010 pattern.

- 8. Use a filter to simulate phase distortion.
  - a. On the amplifier, set the GainCompPower on the amplifier to 5 (this is 5 dBm at the amp output) and set the GainComp to 1 dB.
  - b. Be sure the GSM source power is set to 10 dBm.
  - c. Insert a Butterworth filter (Filters-Bandpass) between the amplifier and the source and set it as shown. This will create some distortion as only the narrower bandwidth passes to the amplifier and the full signal goes to the first demodulator.



- d. Change the t\_step to 10 times the 270KHz BW as: t\_step = 1 / (10\*270e3)
- e. Change the t\_stop numerator to 50 (200 us): t\_stop = 50 / (270e3)
- 9. Simulate and plot input and output modulation.

Your plot should show the distortion and delay from the input to the output similar to the one shown here.



8-10

#### 10. Simulate amp\_1900 with a GSM source

- Open the previous schematic design (hb\_2Tone) and save it with a new name: ckt\_env\_gsm.
- b. Delete any previous simulation controllers, variables, etc. Then modify the schematic by inserting: 1) an Envelope controller, 2) a PtRF\_GSM source, 3) VarEqn set as shown here. The simulation components and variables are similar to the last Envelope simulation setup so you could use the Edit > Copy/Paste commands in schematic. Also, be sure to label the



bits\_out node on the GSM source.

NOTE on CE setup values: In this simulation, t\_stop of 200 us (twice as long as the previous simulation) will give you better spectral resolution. The t\_step is set using an exact multiple for the BW (270.833 KHz). Generally, this is not necessary but it can be done if you want more exact frequency calculation for phase. Also, the default start time for CE is always zero seconds and it is not recommended to change it. However, if you want to see this, use the Display tab setting and turn on Start.

c. Check your setup and then Simulate and watch the status window.

### 11. Plot the GSM data and spectrum.

a. In the data display, insert a list of Vout and use the Plot Options to set the format for Engineering and select the Transpose Data feature as shown here. Now, you can see that CE calculates each tone specified at each time step.

Table Format Table format is available and used by default for lists with 2 independent and 1 dependent trace only. Suppress Table Format Transpose Data (recommended for Envelope data)

Scroll to the end and you will see that the last point is at the end of the t\_stop time.

Ĺ	time	Vout					
	ume	freq=0.0000 Hz	freq=1.900GHz	freq=3.800GHz	freq=5.700GHz	freq=7.600GHz	freq=9.500 GHz
QQ	197.2usec 197.9usec 198.6usec 199.4usec	101.1p / 180.0 V 5.660p / 0.0000 V 25.44p / 0.0000 V 41.18p / 180.0 V	180.4m / 165.9 V 180.4m / 176.2 V 180.4m / 158.2 V 180.4m / 140.3 V	1.019m / -170.7 V 1.019m / -134.9 V 1.019m / -98.96 V 1.019m / -63.02 V	19.59u / -133.3 V 19.59u / -79.64 V 19.59u / -25.72 V 19.59u / 28.19 V	862.7n / -142.1 V 862.5n / -70.53 V 862.5n / 1.348 V 862.5n / 73.24 V	52.08n / -156.2 \ 51.96n / -66.81 \ 51.94n / 23.05 \ 51.94n / 112.9 \
Scroll	200.1usec	46.14p/0.0000 V	180.4m / -122.4 V	1.019m / -27.24 V	19.59u / 81.85 V	862.5n / 144.8 V	51.97n / -157.6 V

b. Plot the Vout data as: <u>Spectrum of the carrier in dBm with a</u> <u>Kaiser window</u>. Then insert two markers across the GSM bandwidth (about 270 kHz) to measure the BW. This is the output spectrum around the fundamental frequency (0 Hz on the plot). The window helps ensure that the first and last time data points equal zero. This improves the dynamic range of the computed spectrum. Also, with windowing, the noise floor is



lowered.

Note on CE for mixers - The Kaiser window is used by default for spectral data using the dialog. It assumes that the carrier is index value [1].

However, for a mixer, you may need to edit the trace and replace [1] with the correct index value from the Mix table

c. On the Vout plot, insert Vin (same data format type) and use markers to verify that the gain is very high (about 35 dB) which corresponds to previous simulations – this is true because the model is ideal.



d. Insert two more plots: a polar plot of Vout[1] at all time points and a rectangular plot of Vout magnitude in the time domain as shown here. As you can see, the magnitude on both plots shows little variation in amplitude. For GSM, this means that the amplifier is adding little or no distortion to the baseband



because GSM is a phase modulation.

e. Insert another two plots: a plot of Vout phase to see the phase variation during 200 us. Notice the phase plot Y-axis is +/- 180 from zero (similar to network analyzer). Also, insert a plot of the bits\_out data. These are the raw bits from the source. In the next step, you will operate on this data to see the relationship between them.



f. Write an equation to demodulate the data. In the equation shown, the unwrap function will remove the +/- 180 transition format from the absolute phase and the diff function will differentiate unwrapped slope. Then, dividing by 360 will give the value in Hz – this is essentially the demodulated output.



Plot the equation as shown here.

- g. Onto the baseband plot, add a trace of the bits\_out in the time domain. It will be near zero until you edit the trace. Then go to the Plot Axes tab and select Right Y-axis for this trace.
- Next, in Plot Options, remove autoscale and reset the right Yaxis from -1.25 to 1.25. Finally, shift the time + 10us as shown by adding it directly to the axis label using the cursor type in: +10u and enter. The shift is the delay through the amplifier. Now, you have a comparison of input to output baseband integrity.



NOTE: You can draw the possible states of any baseband signal (four lines) and label possible states (00, 01, 10, 11) with text as shown, directly on the plot.

i. Save all your work now and also if you do the optional exercise.



- 12. OPTIONAL Channel power calculations
  - a. Create a new page in the data, Page > New Page, and name it as shown here.
  - b. Write two equations to calculate the power in the spectrum using the ADS channel\_power function. The first equation, limits, defines the modulation bandwidth. The second equation, channel\_pwr, uses the ADS channel\_power\_vr function where vr means that it uses voltage instead of current in the calculation. Vout[1] is the 1900MHz tone in the equation. Also, 50 is the system impedance, the "Kaiser" argument is a window that lowers the noise floor, and +30 converts the final value into dBm (where 0 dBm = 0.001W).

Eqn<mark>limits = {-(270KHz / 2), (270KHz /2)}</mark>

Eqnchannel\_pwr=10\*log(channel\_power\_vr(Vout[1],50,limits,"Kaiser"))+30

c. List the channel\_pwr equation and you now have the power in the GSM signal bandwidth. This calculation can be applied to many other modulation schemes using Circuit Envelope.

channel_	pwr
	-4.886

Channel power for amp\_1900 for a GSM sign....

🖙 New Page:2		
Please enter a name for the page		
channel_pwr		
OK Cancel		

### EXTRA EXERCISES:

- 1. Sweep RF power in the schematic and watch the change in the output.
- 2. Use the FM demodulator on the output and re-run the simulations. Compare the bits in and the bits out for the amp\_1900.
- 3. Go to the example file: examples\Tutorial\ModSources\_prj\Pi4DQPSK and copy the source and data display into your directory and try that source on the amplifier, using the data display as a reference to guide you.

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