IMPERIAL COLLEGE OF SCIENCE, TECHNOLOGY AND MEDICINE UNIVERSITY OF LONDON

DEPARTMENT OF ELECTRICAL AND ELECTRONIC ENGINEERING

M.Sc. EXAMINATIONS 1999

PART IV: M.Eng. and ACGI EXAMINATIONS 1999

HIGH PERFORMANCE ANALOGUE ELECTRONICS

Thursday, 13 May: 10.00 - 13.00

There are SIX questions. Answer FOUR.

All questions carry equal marks.

Corrected Copy

Jer 4.5

Examiners responsible: A.J. Payne, C. Toumazou

Special instructions for invigilators:

A Smith chart should be provided on each desk

Information for candidates:

A Smith chart is provided.

1. Figure 1a shows a doubly-terminated passive LC-ladder lowpass filter. Give two advantages of the LC-ladder approach for implementing continuous-time filters. State two reasons why passive LC ladders are generally unsuitable for implementing fully-integrated filters. By constructing a signal flow graph of the ladder topology shown in Figure 1a, outline how this filter can be transformed into a topology suitable for integration, and sketch a block diagram of the resulting filter architecture. What is the advantage of transforming an LC ladder filter in this way rather than selecting an alternative architecture such as a cascade of biquads?

11 marks

Why is it preferable to avoid the use of floating capacitors in high frequency integrated circuit applications? Show how a transform of a section of the ladder filter topology shown in *Figure 1b* can eliminate the requirement for the floating capacitor C2, and construct a signal flow graph of this transformed section.

8 marks

Briefly describe the 'master-slave' approach for the continuous tuning of integrated filters.

6 marks

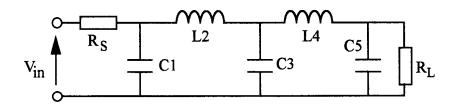


Figure 1a

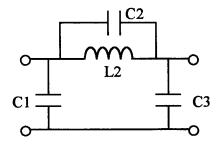


Figure 1b

2. Sketch and label the small-signal hybrid- π model of a bipolar junction transistor, including all major sources of noise within the device. Clearly name and label the noise sources and give expressions by which their mean square values may be calculated. By referring all noise sources to the input of the device, derive expressions for the equivalent input mean square noise voltage (v_n^2) and noise current (i_n^2) .

Figure 2 shows a bipolar transistor Q1 which is used to amplify an input current, where components R_s and C_s represent the output impedance of the current source. Derive an expression for the total equivalent input-referred mean square noise current i_{eq}^2 . Sketch the frequency response of i_{eq}^2 , and calculate the midband noise figure given that $R_s = 300 \text{ k}\Omega$, $rb = 90 \Omega$, gm = 0.002 S, $\beta = 100$. 13 marks

The input signal is in the range 1 kHz - 70 kHz. Calculate the maximum knee frequency f_L and maximum source capacitance C_s to ensure that the total equivalent input noise current is minimised over this frequency range.

2 marks

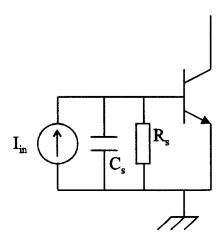


Figure 2

3. Briefly discuss the major difference between 'lumped' and 'distributed' RF circuit design. Outline why impedance matching networks are used in RF design, particularly when signals are routed on and off chip.

6 marks

At an operating frequency of 915 MHz, the input impedance (Z_{in}) of a particular integrated circuit amplifier is as shown in *Figure 3*. By using a Smith Chart, design a passive matching network to maximise the power transfer into the amplifier from a source resistance of 50 Ω at this operating frequency.

13 marks

The small-signal bandwidth of a common-emitter gain stage is limited by the 'Miller multiplication' of the base-collector junction capacitance $C\mu$. Describe two different methods for neutralising the effects of $C\mu$, one which is suitable for discrete circuit implementation and one which is suitable for integrated circuit implementation.

6 marks

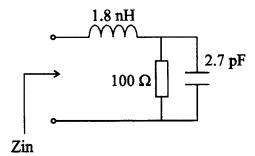


Figure 3

4. Figure 4 shows a block diagram of a direct conversion paging receiver for detecting two-level frequency-shift keyed (FSK) modulated signals. Briefly explain the operation of this receiver, outlining the function of each of the blocks shown.

13 marks

The next generation of paging receivers is likely to use four-level FSK modulation. Outline the difference between two-level and four-level FSK, and sketch one possible block-diagram architecture for a four-level FSK paging receiver.

9 marks

The mixers in the receiver of *Figure 4* are implemented as bipolar double-balanced mixers (Gilbert mixers). In a switching mixer, the local oscillator (LO) input is driven by a square wave rather than a sinusoidal input. Give two advantages and one disadvantage of a switching mixer compared to a mixer with a sinusoidal local oscillator signal.

3 marks

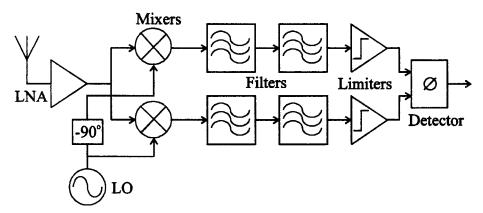


Figure 4

- 5. A terrestrial TV receiver is required to receive signals at carrier frequencies between 60 MHz and 900 MHz which must be converted down to an IF of 45 MHz. Two alternative architectures have been suggested to implement the receiver:
 - (i) single conversion
 - (ii) double conversion

With the aid of a block diagram, discuss the advantages and disadvantages associated with each of these approaches. Outline the specifications of critical components within each architecture in terms of frequency range, tuneability etc., and discuss the suitability of each of these possible architectures for implementing a fully-integrated front-end TV receiver.

17 marks

A receiver with no front-end Low Noise Amplifier (LNA) is measured to have a sensitivity of -120.8 dBm. The input of the receiver is power-matched and the equivalent noise bandwidth of the receiver is 20 kHz. The required signal-to-noise ratio (SNR) at the intermediate frequency (IF) stage detector is 3 dB. Calculate the noise figure of this receiver with no LNA.

You wish to reduce the noise figure of this receiver by connecting a LNA at the front-end. Two different LNAs are available, with the following noise figure (NF) and power gain (G) values: (i) NF = 3 dB, G = 15 dB, (ii) NF = 2.2 dB, G = 9.5 dB. Which LNA should you choose? Show clearly the reasons for your choice. 8 marks

Boltzman's Constant k= 1-3807 x 10-23 (annumed 12:30)

6. What is meant by the term oscillator 'phase noise', and how is phase noise formally defined? Give one reason in each case why oscillator phase noise is a problem for wireless communications (i) at the transmitter (ii) at the receiver. Given that phase noise generally has a 1/ω² characteristic, write down an expression for calculating the phase noise P_x at a frequency offset δω_x, given that the phase noise P₀ at frequency offset δω_o is already known.
7 marks

A sinusoidal oscillator whose instantaneous frequency is modulated can be represented as $v(t) = V_m \sin(\theta(t) + \phi(t))$, where $\frac{d\theta(t)}{dt} = \omega_o$ is the unmodulated carrier signal frequency and $\frac{d\phi(t)}{dt} = \Delta\omega(t)$ represents the instantaneous fluctuation in frequency. For the simple case when $\Delta\omega(t) = \Delta\omega_x \sin\delta\omega_x t$, show that the resulting phase variation becomes translated to frequency sidebands, and derive an expression for the relative sideband to carrier power.

Using the results above, derive an expression for the total mean square residual FM of the carrier signal due to phase noise sidebands between ω_1 and ω_2 . Hence calculate the rms residual modulation of an oscillator due to phase noise sidebands between 500 Hz and 2 kHz offset, given that the measured phase noise at 1 kHz offset is -75 dBc.

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E4.17 High Performance Analog Electronics 1999

Solutions

1

· LOW sensitivity to component tolerances

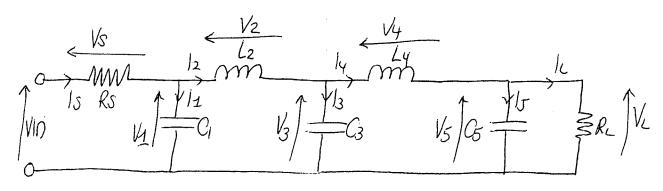
· Insensitive to parasitic corpocitances (a design capacitant

apically exists at each sode)

· Composiont values for an extensive range of filter specifications are already tabulated. (2)

· Integrated inductors are not generally available

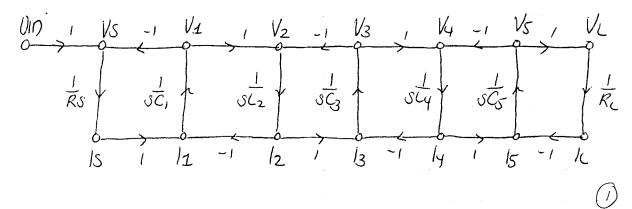
· A passive filter cannot be truned to correct for component variations (tolorances).



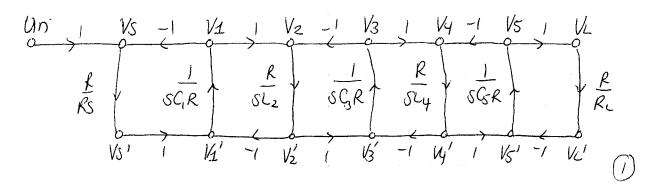
Ladder equations 8

(2)

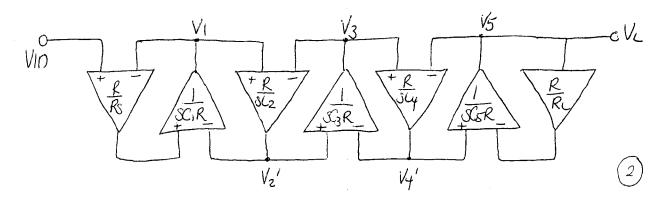
01 ---Signal Plaw Graph.



Scaled SFG:

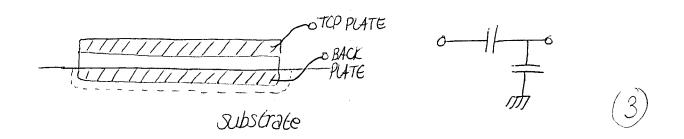


Implementation using amplifiers & ounining integrators:

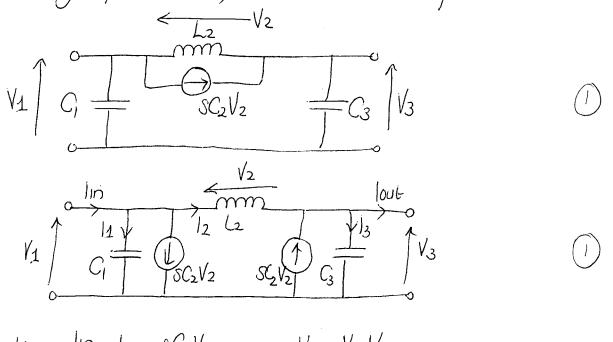


An active uniplementation of a passive doubly-teminated LC ladder retains the low sensitivity properties of the original prototype.

IC capacitors exhibit a parasitic capacitance four the back plate to the substrate, typically 10-15% of the design capacitor value. If the capacitor is used will) one order connected to ac ground, then the effect of the back plate parasitic can be cluninated, provided that the back plate is granded.
However if a floating capacitor is required then the parasitic cannot be shoted cut.



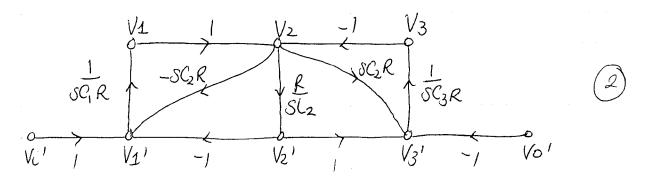
Mooting capacitor can be eliminated as follows:



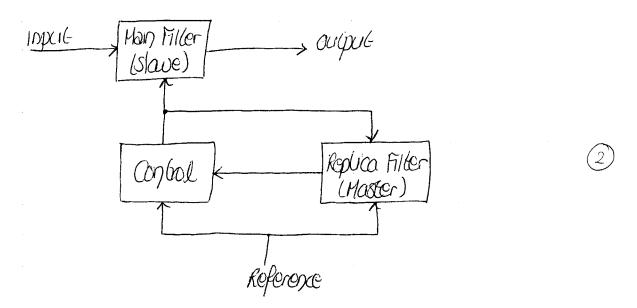
$$11 = 110 - 12 - SC_2V_2$$
 $V_2 = V_1 - V_3$
 $V_1 = 11/SC_1$ $I_2 = V_2/SL_2$

$$l_3 = l_2 + SC_2V_2 - lou6$$
 $V_3 = l_3 / sC_3$

Scaled 6 transformed SFG 8



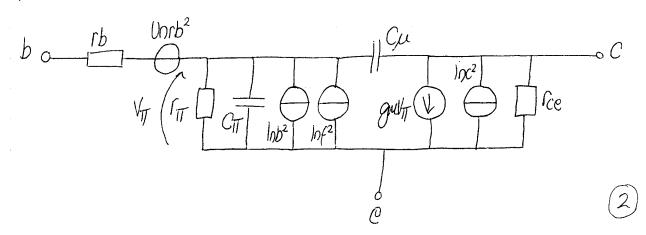
MASTER-SLAVE RUNING



Main filter (slaw) performs the required signal processing. The master filter is a replica of all or part of the slaw, sufficient to model the filter behaviour. A reference signal is applied to the master, a frequency control block detects any errors in the response of the master & generates a turning signal which is applied Sinjurtaneously to the master & the slawe. This turning scheme thus relies on close matching between the master & blave circuits.

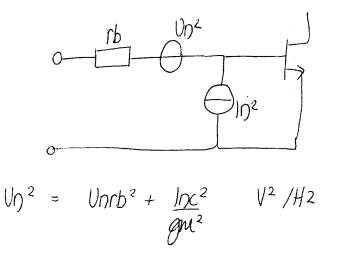
(4)

(D)



 $Vnrb^2 = 4kTrb$ V^2/Hz Themal pase due to sense fb $Inb^2 = 2q.Ib$ A^2/Hz Base current shot noise $Inf^2 = 2q.Ib$ f_L A^2/Hz Base current flicker noise $Inc^2 = 2q.Ic$ A^2/Hz Collector current shot noise

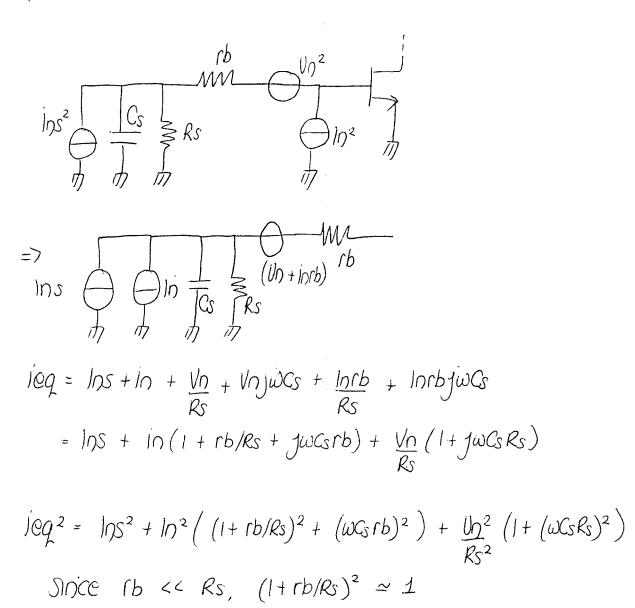
Referring all nouse sources to the input :



=
$$4kTrb + 2qIc/gm^2 = 4kT(rb + re) V^2/H_2$$

 $Since gm = Ie V_T$

Equivalent circuit for noise calculation:

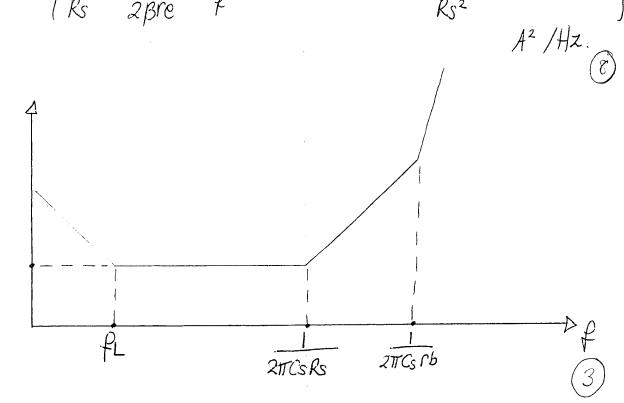


Thus
$$|\log^{2} = \frac{4kT}{RS} + \frac{2kT}{\beta re} (1 + f_{c})(1 + (\omega C_{S} rb)^{2}) + \frac{4kT(rb + re/2)(1 + (\omega C_{S} Rs)^{2})}{RS^{2}}$$

$$= 4kT \left\{ \frac{1}{RS} + \frac{1}{2\beta re} \left(1 + f_{c} \right) (1 + (\omega C_{S} rb)^{2}) + \frac{(rb + re/2)(1 + (\omega C_{S} Rs)^{2})}{RS^{2}} \right\}$$

$$= 4kT \left\{ \frac{1}{RS} + \frac{1}{2\beta re} \left(1 + f_{c} \right) (1 + (\omega C_{S} rb)^{2}) + \frac{(rb + re/2)(1 + (\omega C_{S} Rs)^{2})}{RS^{2}} \right\}$$

$$= 4kT \left\{ \frac{1}{RS} + \frac{1}{2\beta re} \left(1 + f_{c} \right) (1 + (\omega C_{S} rb)^{2}) + \frac{(rb + re/2)(1 + (\omega C_{S} Rs)^{2})}{RS^{2}} \right\}$$



Midband noise

$$10Q^{2} = 4KT \left\{ \frac{1}{Rs} + \frac{1}{2\beta re} + \frac{(rb + re/2)}{Rs^{2}} \right\} A^{2} / HZ$$

NF :
$$\frac{100^2}{10S^2} = (1 + \frac{RS}{2BRe} + \frac{Sb + Re/2}{RS})$$

= $(1 + \frac{300K(.0002)}{200} + \frac{90 + 500/2}{300K}) \approx 4$.

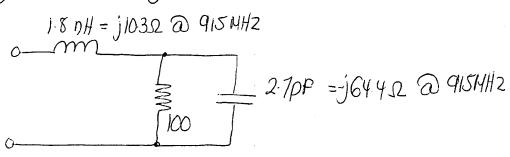
Require
$$\beta_L < 1$$
 kHz & 1/2TTCsRs > 70 kHz
1.e Cs < 7.5 pF 2

(Distributed) dosigns are implemented when signal wavelengths are comparable to the dimensions of components in the circuit. Circuit components act as transmission lines is we must consider characteristic impedances. 'Lumped' design techniques are used when signal wavelengths are much greater than circuit /component climensions. We can assume that voltages at au pants along a wire are equal rather than being a travelling wave.

When a signals are routed on & off chip the package I pob dimensions are likely to be comparable to the signal wavelength, he distributed system. By using matching networks we ensure that impedance levels are matched, which thus awaids (travelling wave) reflections from one stage to the next.

(3)

Matching network design:



100.02 // - j 64.4 => normalised (

Zn" = 21/1-j1.3

910' = 0.5 + 10.776 (point A on South Orax). 1

Ø3_--

Convert to senes equivalent:

Add 1.80H of series inductance= $\int 10.352 = \int 0.252$ normalwed ① $ZB' = 0.6 - \int 0.7$

Continue adding series inductance until point C

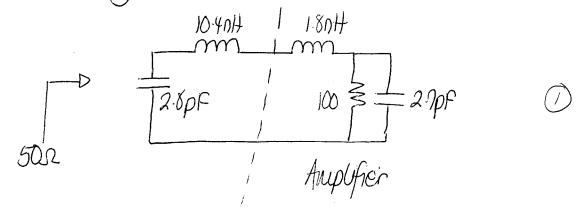
Zc = 0.6 + j0.5 ① 1.e. add j1.2.r. nomalued somes L ①

1.e. L = 10.4 DH.

Convert to parallel equivalent, 90 = 1.0-jo.8 0

Add 10.852 nomalued parallel capacitance 1. i.e. Cp = 2.8 pF 1

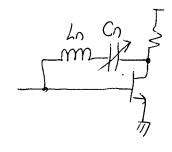
10 Hatching network:



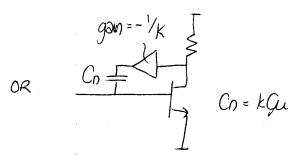
93___ Neutralisation of Gu

(1) Discrete circuit implementation





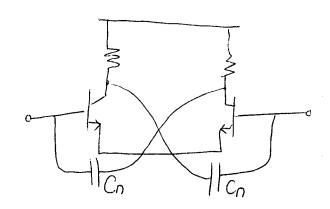
Leg = Ln - 1/(w2cn)
Inductive neutralisation



Current injection

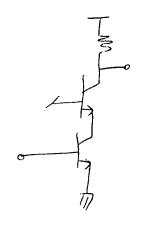
(ii) Integrated circuit implementation



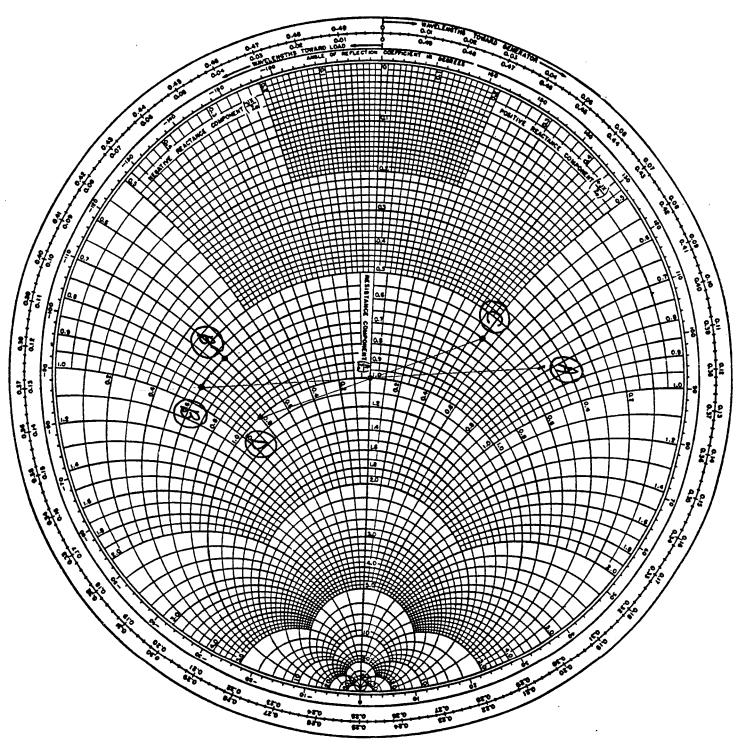


Cn= Cu (dunny devices).
Neutralisation capacitos.

OR CASCODING (discrete or integrated)







P4

2-lavel FSK

Data 1 = fc - Af ? fc = RF carrier frequency

Data 0 = fc + Af ? Af = deviation freq., typically 4-5 kHz.

- · The LNA increases the sensitivity of the receiver by reducing the input-referred noise contribution from the mixers
- The mixes multiply the RF signal with a locally-generated oscillator signal (Lo). The two mixers have identical RF inputs but quadrature (90° phase shifted) Lo (2) inputs. The LO operates at the RF carrier frequency fc, thus the wanted RF signal is downconverted to $fc (fc \pm \Delta f) = \pm \Delta f$.

Signals at all other frequencies are due to adjacent channel transmission & are thus rejected by the filters. Since a fairly steep cut-off is required, a high-order lowpass filter is typically implemented by simulating an LC-ladder prototype. This channel-select filter is typically preceded by an R-C filter with wider bandwidth but wide dynamic range, to prevent very high level signals from saturating the active filters.

The limiters turn the sinusoidal signals vito a square waves which are suitable for detection.

Y___ Received signal = data 1

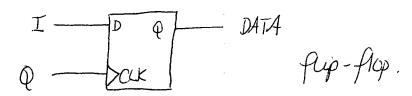
RF = $2\cos(f_c - \Delta f)t$ $LOI = \cos f_c t$ $LOQ = \cos(f_c t - 90^\circ)$ After filtering: I-channel = $\cos-(\Delta f t) = \cos \Delta f t$ $Q-channel = \cos-(\Delta f t - 90) = \cos(\Delta f t - 90)$ I leads Q by 90°

Received signal = data 0

 $RF = 2\cos(fc + 4f) + LoI = \cos fc + LoQ = \cos(fc + 90^\circ)$ After mixing & filtering: I-channel = $\cos(4fe)$ $Q - channel = \cos(4fe)$ $Q - channel = \cos(4fe)$ $Q - channel = \cos(4fe)$

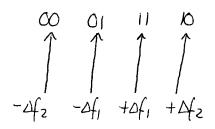
Thus the 2-level FSK can be demodulated; the detector simply needs to detect whether the I channel is lagging or leading the a channel.

Surple method:



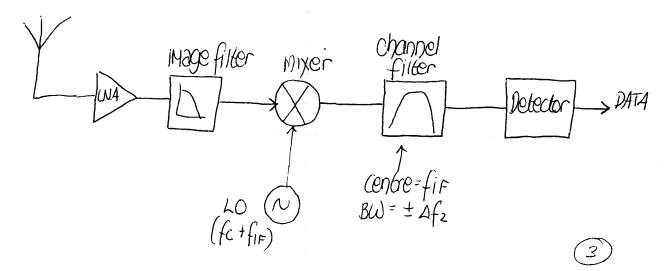
This detector is not ideal because data is updated only on the rising edge of Q. It is better to combine a number of flip flops with logic to ensure that data is updated on the rising & falling edges of D & Q.

4-level FSK: Four frequencies are available ($fc \pm \Delta f_1$, $fc \pm \Delta f_2$). Each frequency represents 2 bits of data, ie.

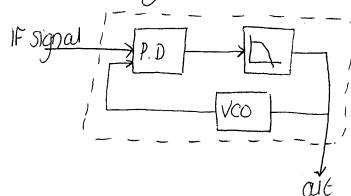


The simple quadrature direct corresion approach is no longer suitable, as the deviation frequency (a not just phase shift) is now important.

Possible architecture:



Detector (frequency discriminator):



) , phase-locked loop.

Switching mixer

Advantages

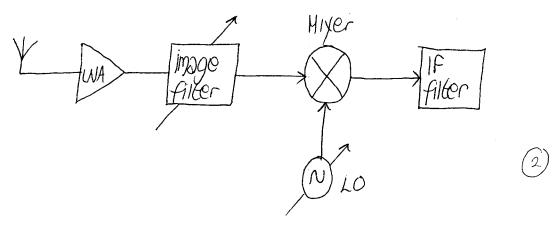
(i) Square waves are easier to generate than pure

(ii) If the 40 transistors are fully-switched on/off, they contribute little noise & thus the mixer noise figure is reduced. Lo transistors will contribute significant vouse only when they are switching ver

Disacuartage

(i) LO homonics will mix with RF upit creating many additional output originals which must be filtered out.

\$\text{OS}\$
 \$\text{Oignal}\$, carrier frequencies 60M → 900M Hz, IF = 45 MHz
 \$\text{Single conversion}\$



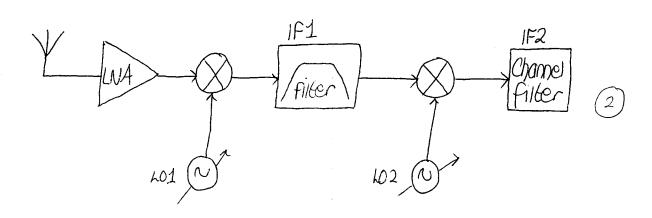
IF filter: bandpass filter (channel solect) concered at 45 MHz. LO: Hust be tuneable from 105 MHz (60M RF) to 945 MHz (900 M RF), i.e. $1 \rightarrow 9$ tuning range! Image filter: Tuneable lawpass filter. Stopband edge tuneable from 150 MHz (60 M RF) to 990 MHz (900 M RF)

The tuning requirements for image filter & 10 are impossible to achieve. Additionally, an 10 with such wide tuning range is likely to exhibit poor phase nowe, due to high gain $(v \rightarrow f)$ making the oscillator susceptible to now on the control voltage.

One option is to split the signal vito bands using a bank of filters. Each band is dealt with by a separate receiver section, eg 60-120M, 120-240M, 240-480M, 480-900M (4 bands).

For integration: The mixers & pelhaps oscillators could be fully integrated. Bond-selective bandpass filters & tuneable image filters would be difficult to integrate. (2)

(ii) Double conversion: The first conversion would have to be an upconversion, as the lawer end of the RF band is already close to the final IF.
The first IF is not completely fixed, but vories over a lesser range than the input RF.



chase a 1st if of say 900M -> 1.4GHz.

- · LOI must be tuncable from 840 MHz (60 M RF) to 500 MHz (900 M RF), le less than 1-17 tuning range.
- ·Since the first mixing is an upconcersion, there is no image signal, thus no pre-filter is required.
- · LO2 must be tuneable from 945 MHz (900M IF1) to 1.355 GHz (1.4 G IF1), I.e 1955 than $1 \rightarrow 15$ tuning range
- · Image signals from 2nd mixing process range from 855 MHz to 1.445 GHz. Thus bandpass filter at 1F1 can be 5) fixed rather than tuneable.

FOR Integration: Only fixed filters are required, which makes integration more feasible (though still difficult!)

Mixers; which must thus have very high signal handling capability.

Sonsitivity = Pni (db) + NF + SNR (det) Pni = - 174 dBm per H3 = - 174 dBm + 10 log 20k = - 131 dBm

Sonsitivity = -120.8 = -131 + NF + 13NF = 7.2 dB (3)

Total posse factor $F_T = F_1 + F_2 - 1$ G_1 $F_2 = 848tem posse factor = 7.2dB = 5.25$

(i) NF = 3dB, $F_1 = 2$ G = 15dB = 31.62 $F_{T} = 2.134$ or 3.3dB

(ii) $NF = 2.2dB F_1 = 1.66$ $G = 9.5dB = 8.91 F_7 = 2.137 \text{ or } 3.3dB$

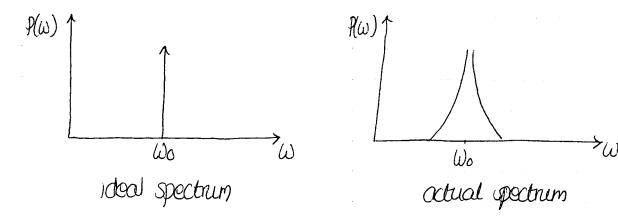
No difference!

I would choose either the cheapest, or choose
(ii) since it has lower gain a thus will not saturate the nuxers so quickiy.

(2)

96.

The instantaneous frequency of any oscillator will fluctuate to some extent, and this can be seen as a spreading out of the oscillator spectrum in the frequency domain:



Phase noise is formally defined as the noise power in a 142 bandwidth at an offset frequency bw, divided by the power of the carrier frequency wo, i.e.

$$\mathcal{L}(\delta\omega) = \left\{ \frac{P(\omega_0 \pm \delta\omega)}{P(\omega_0)} \right\} \quad dBC \qquad (3)$$

Phase noise typically has a 1/w2 characteristic, 1 e

$$P(S\omega) = \frac{K}{(J\omega)^2}$$
 (K = constant)

 $\frac{1}{1} \frac{1}{1} \sum_{k} P(\delta \omega)^k$

Thus
$$P_X(\delta \omega_X)^2 = P_0(\delta \omega_c)^2$$

$$Px = Po(SWo/SWx)^2$$

2

At the TX: Phase noise causes signals to spread to adjacent channels. At the RX: Phase posse causes adjacent channels to be danconcerted to the IF also.

Relative sideband power due to a modulating signal of auditude a frequency xxx, Sux:

$$P_{X} = \left\{ \frac{\Delta \omega_{X}}{2 \delta \omega_{X}} \right\}^{2}$$

Reversing this argument, if the relative sideband power the lie phase noise) at an offset Swx is known, we can calculate the amplitude of a residual FH signal of frequency Swx:

$$(\lambda \omega_x)^2 = 4P_x (\delta \omega_x)^2$$

From 1st part of question, Px(SWx)2 = constant = Po(SWo)2

$$Mus$$
 $(Mux)^2 = 4Po(SWo)^2$

The total mean square residual FM of the carrier due to phase naise sidebands between SW, & SW;

$$\frac{1}{(\Delta W_{\Gamma})^{2}} = \int_{0}^{\delta W_{2}} (\Delta W_{x})^{2} \delta W = \int_{0}^{\delta W_{2}} 2P_{0}(\delta W_{0})^{2} \delta W$$

$$\delta W_{1} \qquad \delta W_{1} \qquad \delta W_{1}$$

=
$$2P_0(\delta\omega_0)^2(\delta\omega_2 - \delta\omega_1)$$
 3

or
$$(\Delta f_{\tau})^2 = 2P_0(\delta f_0)^2(\delta f_2 - \delta f_1)$$
 -75dBc = 3.2x10⁻⁸

Thus
$$(\overline{A_{f\tau}})^2 = 2(3.2 \times 10^8)(1 \times 10^3)^2 (2 \times 10^3 - 500)$$

= 94.86