

QPSK Adaptive Equalization: System Identification and Signal Recovery Using LMS

**B.Tech (AIDS)
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Motivation / Problem Statement

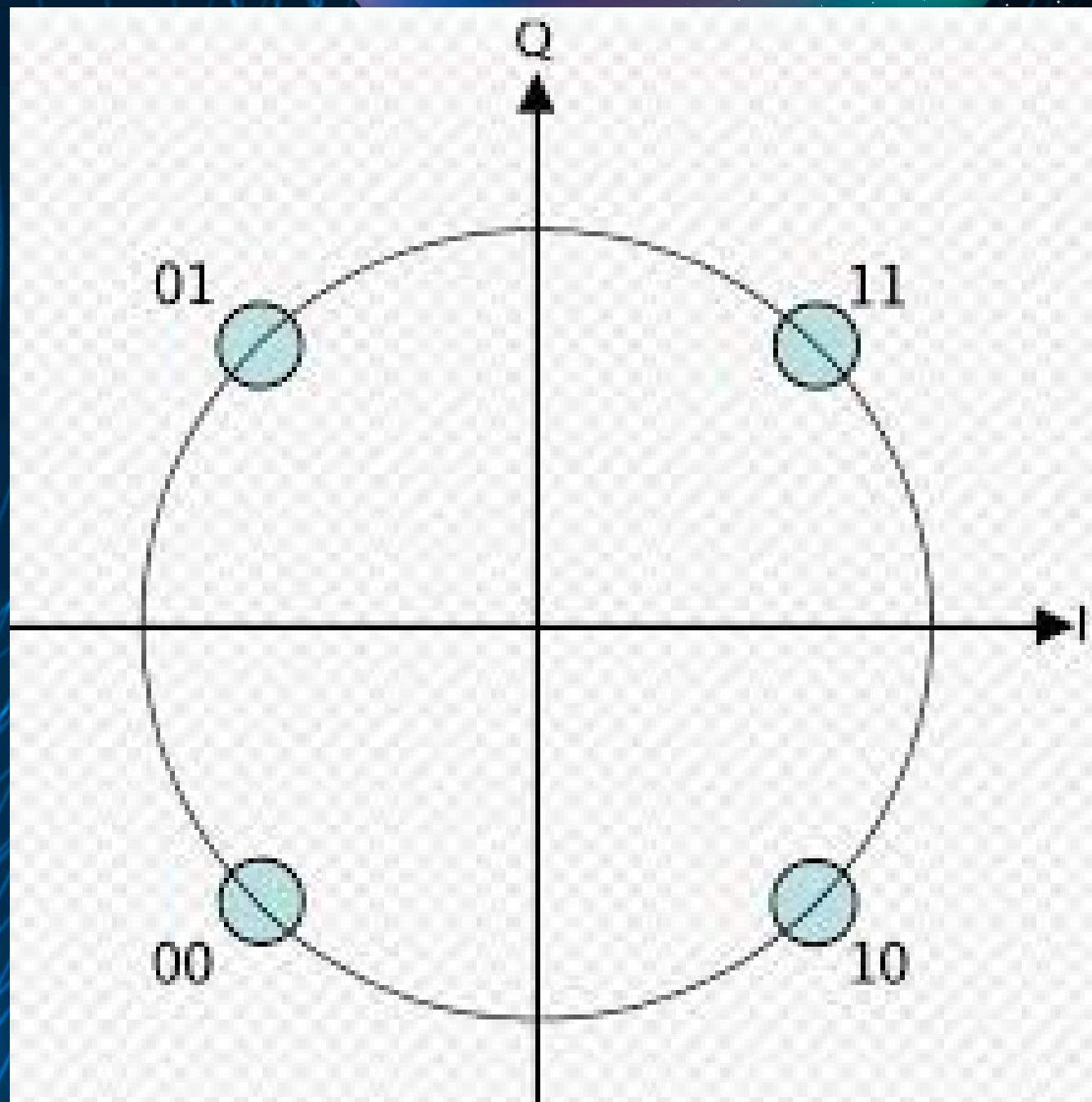
- Wireless channels suffer from multipath and noise
- Causes Inter-Symbol Interference (ISI)
- ISI distorts QPSK constellation
- Leads to high error rates

OBJECTIVES

- To design and simulate a QPSK-based communication system.
- To model a multipath channel that introduces inter-symbol interference (ISI).
- To implement an LMS-based adaptive equalizer for signal recovery.
- To analyze LMS convergence using error magnitude plots.
- To validate system identification through constellation recovery.

QPSK Overview

- Quadrature Phase Shift Keying (QPSK) is a digital modulation technique
- Transmits 2 bits per symbol by varying the carrier phase
- Uses four distinct phase states: $(\pm 1 \pm j)$
- Each phase represents a unique symbol in the constellation
- Provides higher spectral efficiency than BPSK
- Commonly used in wireless and satellite communication systems
- Performance degrades in multipath channels due to phase distortion and ISI



System Design & Math Model

Dynamic System Definition :

- Input/Output: Stochastic QPSK source → Equalized symbol stream.
- System Type: Linear Time-Invariant (Channel) + Time-Varying (Equalizer).

Mathematical Formulation

Channel Equation:

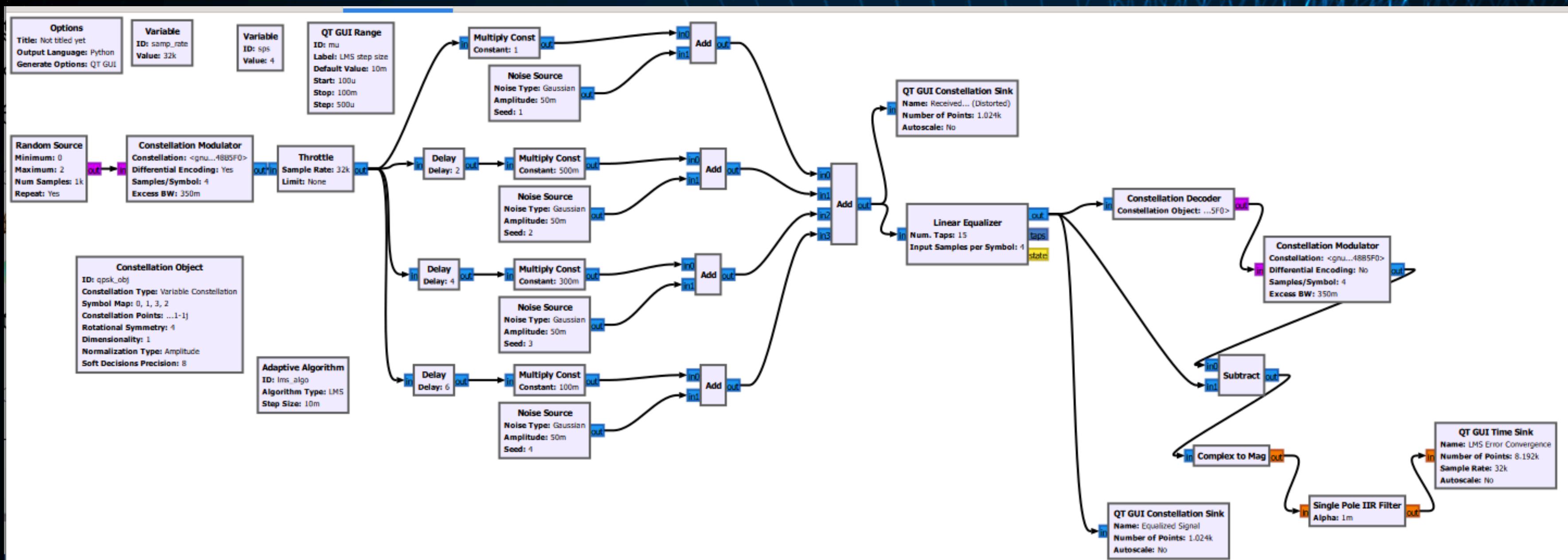
$$r(n) = \sum_{k=0}^{L-1} h(k)s(n-k) + w(n)$$

LMS Weight Update Equation:

$$w(n+1) = w(n) + \mu e(n)u^*(n)$$

GNU RADIO FLOWGRAPH

- Tx: Random Source → QPSK Modulator.
- Channel: Tapped Delay Line (Severe ISI) + AWGN.
- Rx: Linear Equalizer (LMS) → Decoder.



Simulation Parameters & Analysis

Key Parameters:

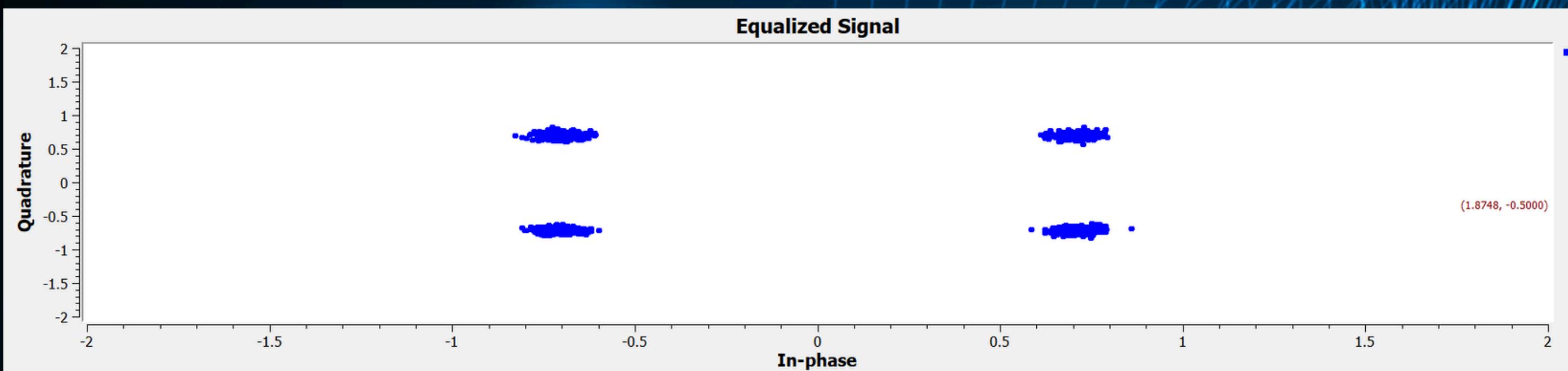
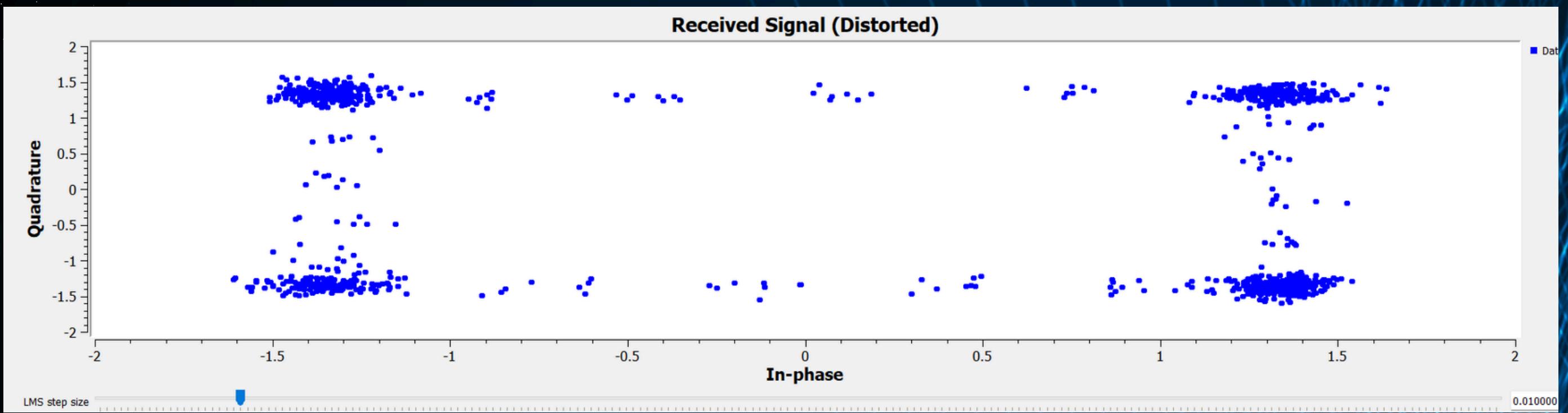
- Sample Rate: 32 kHz.
- Channel Taps: [1, 0.5, 0.3, 0.1] (Guarantees closed eye/ISI).
- LMS Step Size (μ): 0.01 (Stability criteria met).

Table 3.1: Simulation Parameters and Theoretical Justification

Parameter	Value	Justification (Theoretical Reference)
Sample Rate	32 kHz	Sufficient to represent baseband signal (Nyquist).
Samples/Symbol	4	Provides resolution for pulse shaping.
Channel Taps	[1, 0.5, 0.3, 0.1]	Severe ISI: Magnitudes of delayed paths guarantee a closed eye diagram.
LMS Step Size (μ)	0.01	Stability: Satisfies $0 < \mu < 2/\lambda_{max}$ for stable convergence [2].
Equalizer Taps	15	$> L$ (channel length) to allow inversion.
Noise Amp	0.05	Simulates moderate SNR.

Run Time & Frequency Domain Simulations

- "Received" plot showed scattered clouds (ISI).
- "Equalized" plot showed distinct QPSK clusters.

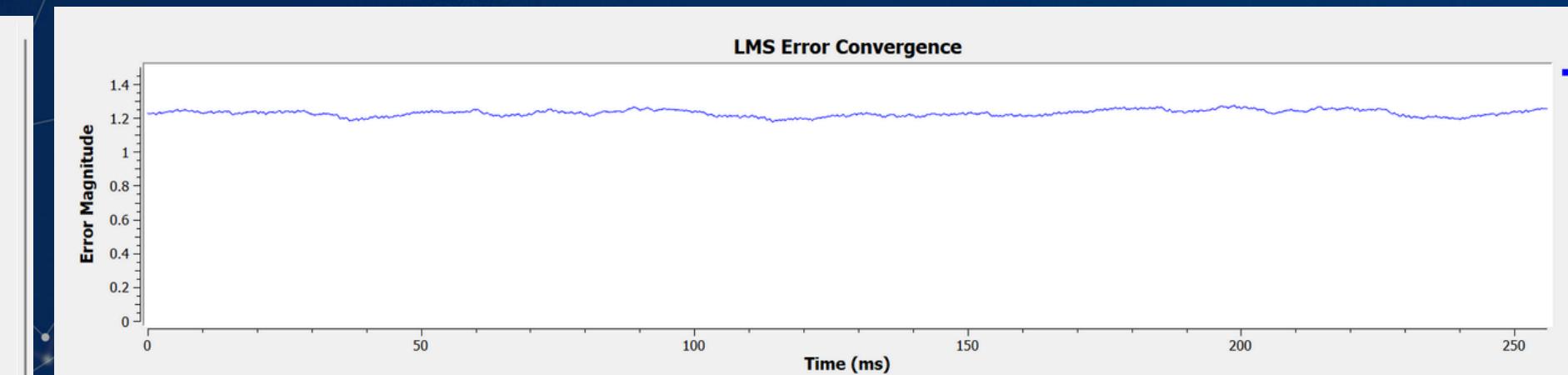
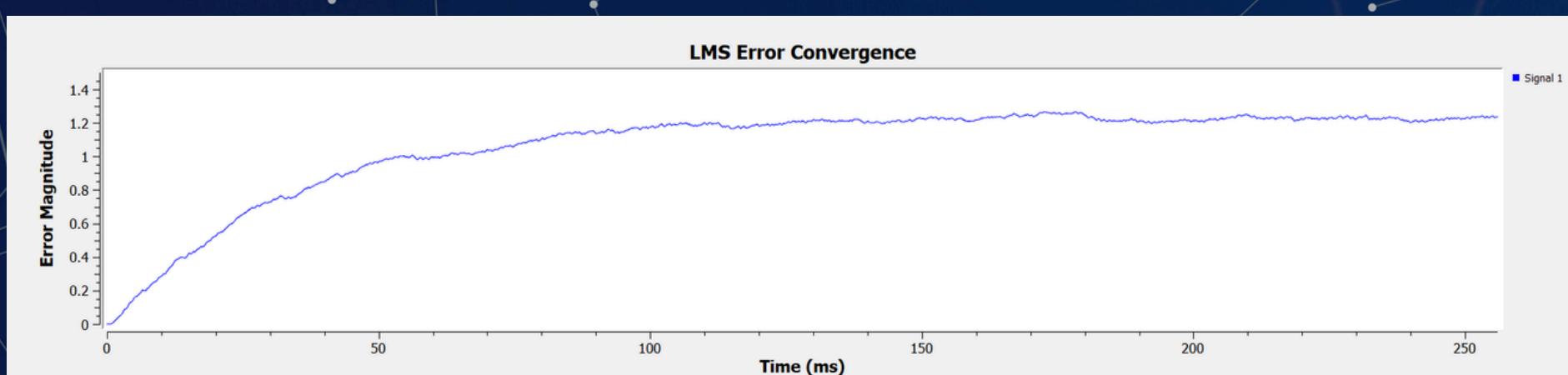


Theoretical Validation

Expectation: Steady-state error approx Noise floor (0.05).

Observation: Simulation matches theoretical exponential decay.

Analyze Dynamic & Performance Response



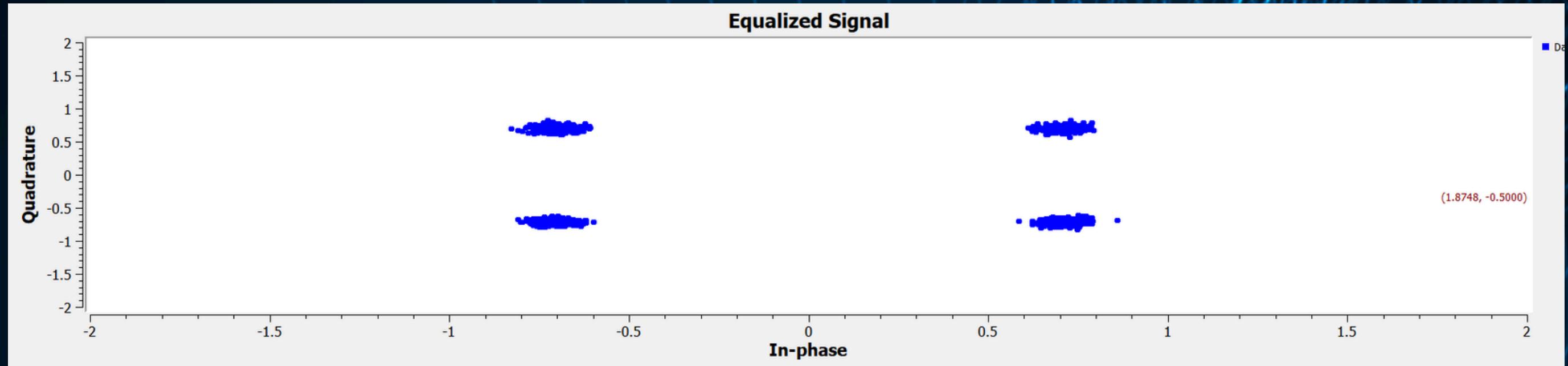
Transient Phase (0-100ms): Rapid learning.

Steady-State: Noise floor oscillation.

Validate & Optimize the Model

Validation:

Constellation "opening" confirmed the Linear Equalizer effectively inverted the Linear Channel.

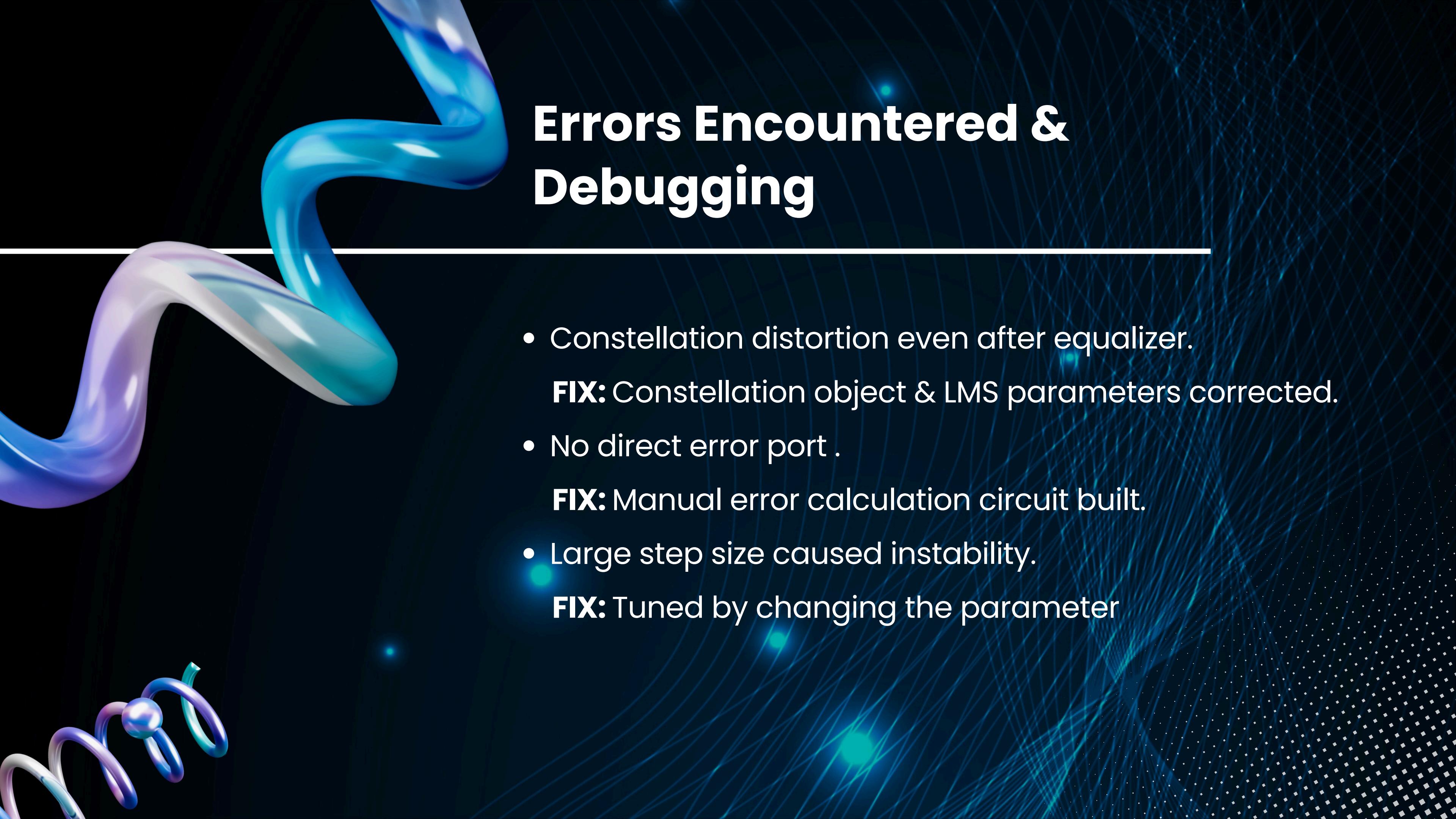


Model Optimization:

- $\mu = 0.002$ (Overdamped/Slow).
- $\mu = 0.08$ (Underdamped/Unstable).
- $\mu = 0.01$ (Optimal): Achieved best convergence speed vs. stability.

FINDINGS

- Trend 1: Higher step size μ = faster convergence but higher noise.
- Trend 2: Multipath distortion acts as a linear filter that is reversible by an adaptive FIR filter.
- Discrepancy: Real-time error signal is noisy due to the gradient approximation in LMS.



Errors Encountered & Debugging

- Constellation distortion even after equalizer.
FIX: Constellation object & LMS parameters corrected.
- No direct error port .
FIX: Manual error calculation circuit built.
- Large step size caused instability.
FIX: Tuned by changing the parameter

Conclusion

- Effective Mitigation: The LMS equalizer successfully removed severe multipath distortion and Inter-Symbol Interference (ISI).
- Blind Adaptation: The system recovered the signal without any prior knowledge of the channel characteristics.
- Validated Results: Clear QPSK clusters and stable error plots confirmed the accuracy of the model..
- Modeling Success: GNU Radio proved to be an effective tool for simulating dynamic communication systems.

Thank you!