

# EECS4214

## Digital Communications

Sunila Akbar

Department of Electrical Engineering and Computer Science  
York University

February 10, 2025  
Week 6

# Week 6 - Lectures 11

1 Review of the Last Lecture

2 Delta Modulation

# Review of the Last Lecture

# Review

Formatting

Sampling  
↓

Quantization } OR  
↓  
PCM Coding } both together!

Each Sample → bits (depending how many levels)

Is there an alternative - MORE EFFICIENT WAY?

Will review in the lecture!

# Delta Modulation

# Delta Modulation

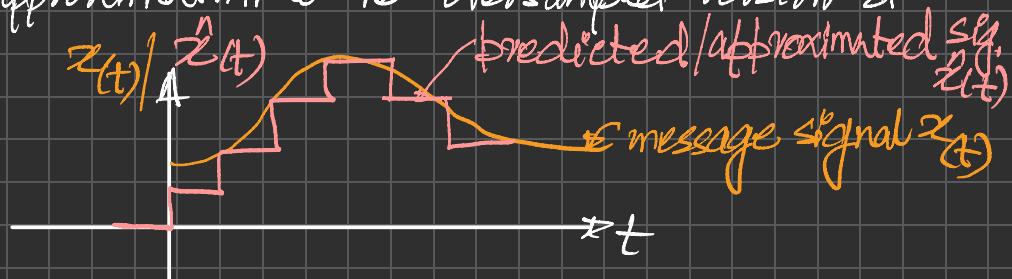
- Sample the base-band signal at a rate much higher than the Nyquist rate to increase the correlation between adjacent samples of the signal, so as to permit the use of a single quantization level strategy.
- The difference between the input and the approximation is quantized into only two levels, corresponding to positive and negative differences, respectively,
- In PCM, we encode every sample; whereas, in delta modulation we encode the difference between two sample values obtained at sampling instants as  $\Delta$ .

## Delta Modulation.

- The design of a PCM sys. involves many operations, which tend to make its practical implementation rather costly.
- To simplify the sys. designs, we may use another digital pulse modulation technique - Delta Modulation (DM)

## Basic Considerations

- An incoming sig. is oversampled - to purposely increase the correlation between the adjacent samples of the sig. (we'll see later!)
- DM provides a staircase approximation to the oversampled version of the message sig.



- Unlike PCM, the difference between the I/P sig. & its approximation is quantized into only two levels - namely,  $\pm \Delta$ , corresponding to positive & negative differences.

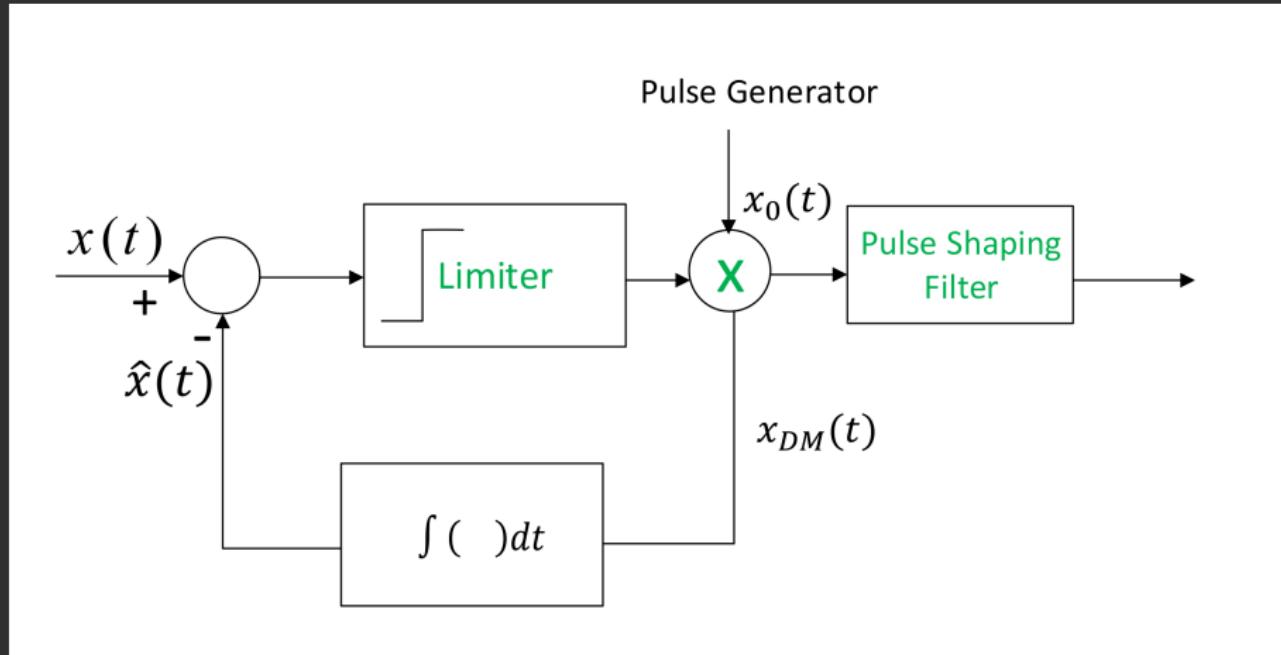
- If  $\chi_{(t)} - \hat{\chi}_{(t)} \geq 0$  we encode  $+\Delta$

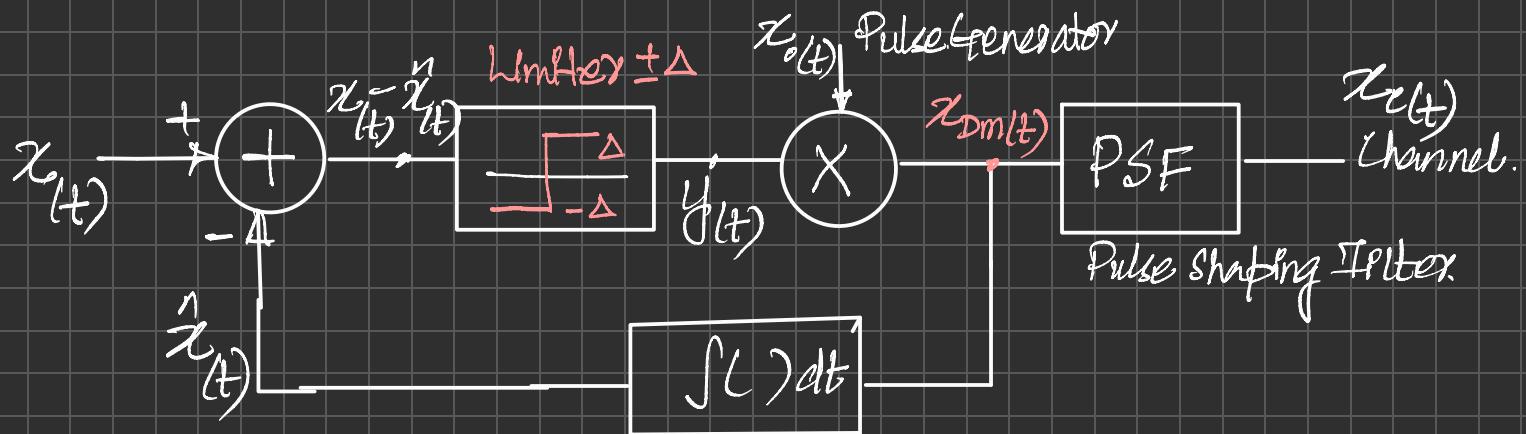
- If  $\chi_{(t)} - \hat{\chi}_{(t)} < 0$  we encode  $-\Delta$

- Notes: If we sample fast enough, the change between two samples is not big enough (we'll see later)

- Schematic Representation - Next page!

# Schematic Representation





- Pulse Train  $x_o(t) = \sum_{k=-\infty}^{\infty} \delta(t - kT_s)$   $T_s$  - Sampling Duration.

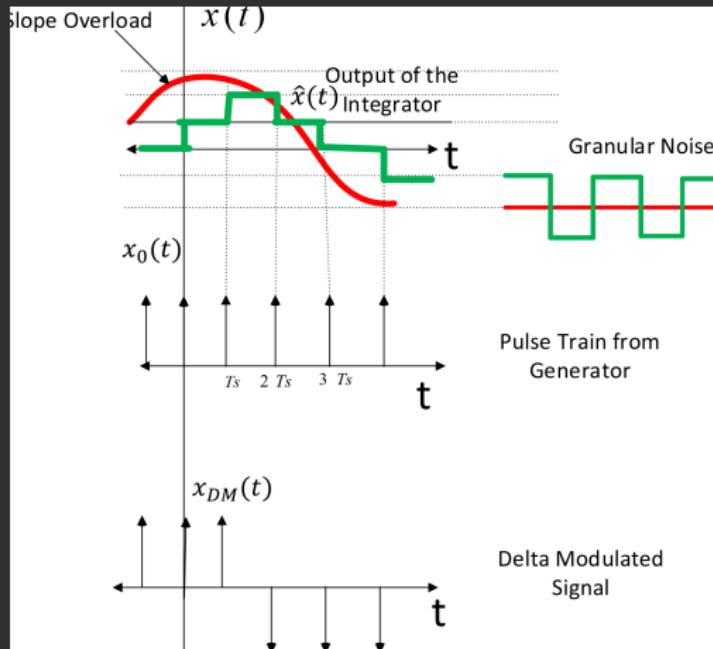
- Limiter  $y(t) = \begin{cases} +\Delta & (x(t) - \hat{x}(t)) \geq 0 \\ -\Delta & (x(t) - \hat{x}(t)) < 0 \end{cases}$

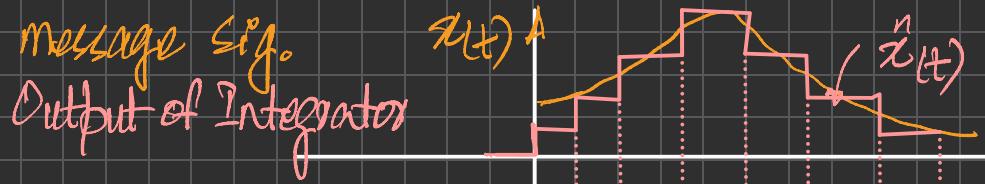
- Delta-modulated signal  $x_{Dm}(t) = \sum_{k=-\infty}^{\infty} d_k \delta(t - kT_s)$   
 where  $d_k \in \{-\Delta, \Delta\}$

- Quantized Output Sig.

$$\begin{aligned}
 \hat{x}_{(t)} &= \int_{-\infty}^t x_{\text{DM}}(t) dt \\
 &= \sum_{k=-\infty}^{\infty} d_k \int_{-\infty}^t \delta(t - kT_s) dt \\
 &= \sum_{k=-\infty}^{\infty} d_k u(t - kT_s) \quad * \quad d_k = \begin{cases} +\Delta & \text{depending} \\ -\Delta & \text{on sgn} \end{cases} \quad \text{argument} \\
 &= \sum_{k=-\infty}^{\infty} \overbrace{\Delta \operatorname{sgn}(x_{(t)} - \hat{x}_{(t)})}^{*} u(t - kT_s)
 \end{aligned}$$

# Graphical Illustration





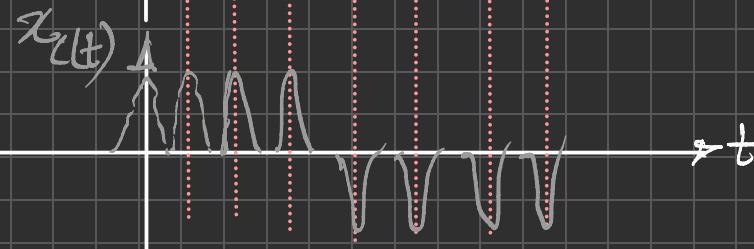
Impulse Train.

$$x_o(t) = \delta(t - kT_s) A$$


Delta Modulated Sig.

$$x_{dm}(t)$$


Output of  
Pulse shaping filter.

$$x_L(t)$$


## Schematic Representation of Receiver.

- The Integrator receives & recovers  $\tilde{x}(t)$ , which is an approximation of the original sig.

Asynchronous Demodulation



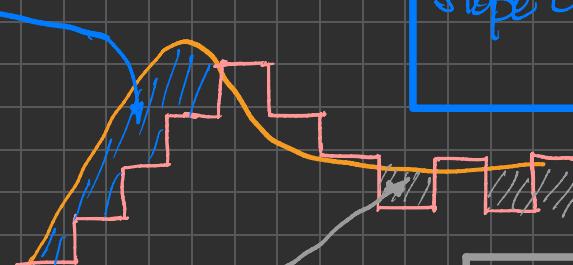
- Two Types of Noise :

1. Slope Overload.

Slope Overload  $\downarrow$   
if  $\Delta f$

2. Granular.

Granular  $\downarrow$   
if  $\Delta f$ .



## Trade-off between Slope Overload & Granular Noise

- To reduce slope overload, larger ' $\Delta$ ' is needed.
- To reduce granular, smaller ' $\Delta$ ' is needed.

### (1) Slope Overload

- To avoid slope overload:

$$|x_{(t+T_s)} - x_{(t)}| \leq \Delta \quad \text{change in the sig. should be less than } \Delta$$

$$\frac{|x_{(t+T_s)} - x_{(t)}|}{T_s} \leq \frac{\Delta}{T_s} \quad - \textcircled{A}$$

- We can write that the slope of the input sig. (or the rate of change of the I/P sig.) at any point is always at any point is always less than its max<sup>m</sup> slope.

$$\frac{|x(t+\bar{T}_s) - x(t)|}{\bar{T}_s} \leq \left| \frac{dx(t)}{dt} \right|_{\max} - \textcircled{B}$$

- Using  $\textcircled{A}$  &  $\textcircled{B}$ , we can write a condition that needs to be satisfied to prevent overload.

$$\left| \frac{dx(t)}{dt} \right|_{\max} \leq f_s \Delta$$

- From here, we can also see that the slope overload can be prevented by either increasing  $f_s$  or  $\Delta$ .

- Example:

See the slide!

# Slope Overload

To avoid slope overload, the necessary condition is:

$$\left| \frac{dx(t)}{dt} \right|_{\max} \leq f_s \Delta$$

Clearly, slope overload can be prevented either by increasing quantization step  $\Delta$  or sampling frequency  $f_s$ .

**Example:** Assume  $x(t) = A_m \cos(2\pi f_m t)$ , where  $A_m = 1V$  and  $f_m = 800\text{Hz}$ . If  $\Delta = 0.1V$ , determine  $f_s$ .

**Solution:**

$$f_s \geq \frac{2\pi f_m A_m}{\Delta}$$

## Granular Noise:

- The granular noise error is uniformly distributed between  $[-\Delta, \Delta]$

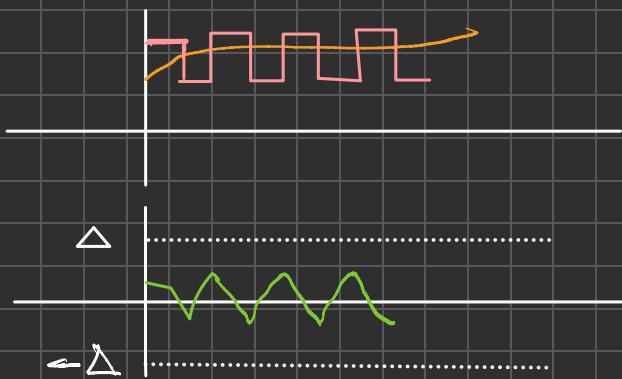


- Therefore, its probability distribution is given as:

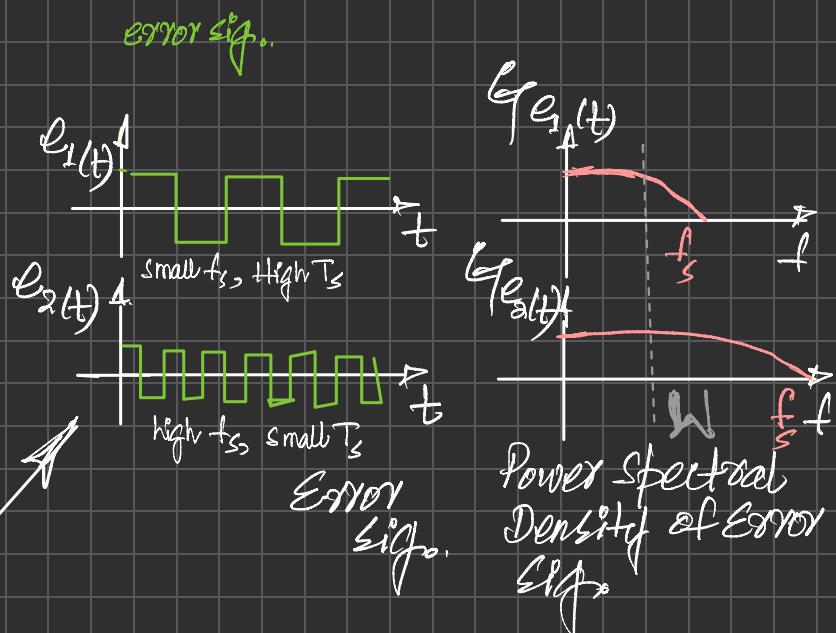
$$f_Q(q) = \begin{cases} \frac{1}{2\Delta} & -\Delta \leq q \leq \Delta \\ 0 & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

$$E[q^2] = \int q^2 f_Q(q) dq = \frac{q^3}{3} \left( \frac{1}{2\Delta} \right) \Big|_{-\Delta}^{\Delta} = \frac{2\Delta^3}{3(2\Delta)}$$

$$= \frac{\Delta^2}{3}$$



Let's look at the errors closely:



Observation (1) The error decorrelates fast with high  $f_s$ .

Observation (2) The demodulator passes the error sig. through LPF,  
Thus, Quantization Noise  $\propto \frac{W}{f_s}$

Since the noise PSD is spreaded, LPF ( $W$ ) ~~less~~ Noise Power!

Observation ③ Effective Noise Power  $\leq \frac{W}{f_s} \frac{\Delta^2}{3}$

SQNR

$$SQNR = \frac{E[X^2(t)]}{N_0}$$

$$SQNR = 10 \log_{10} E[X^2(t)] - 10 \log_{10} \frac{W}{f_s} \frac{\Delta^2}{3}$$

# Granular Noise

The granular noise is uniformly distributed between  $-\Delta$  and  $\Delta$ .

$$f_{n_g}(n_g) = \frac{1}{2\Delta}, -\Delta \leq n_g \leq \Delta$$

The average noise power can thus be given as:  $\mathbb{E}[n_g^2] = \frac{\Delta^2}{3}$

After passing the noise power through a low pass filter of bandwidth  $W$ , the effective noise power can be given as

$$N_{\text{eff}} = \frac{W}{f_s} \mathbb{E}[n_g^2] = \frac{W}{f_s} \frac{\Delta^2}{3}$$

# Problem

Consider a sinusoidal signal with maximum frequency of 3.4KHz and maximum amplitude of 1 volt. This speech signal is applied to a delta modulator whose bit rate is set at 60 kbit/sec. Explain the choice of an appropriate step size for the modulator.

## Solution:

$$f_s \geq \frac{2\pi f_m A_m}{\Delta}$$

# Problem

Consider a delta modulator system designed to operate at  $W=4$  times the Nyquist rate for a signal. The step size of the quantizer is 400mV.

- a) Find the maximum amplitude of a 1KHz input sinusoid for which the delta modulator does not show slope overload.
- b) Find post-filtered output SNR when the filter bandwidth is  $W$ .

## Solution:

$$(a) f_s \geq \frac{2\pi f_m A_m}{\Delta}$$

$$(b) \text{SNR}_o = \frac{A_m^2/2}{(\frac{W}{f_s})(\frac{\Delta^2}{3})} = \frac{3A_m^2 f_s}{2W\Delta^2} = \frac{3f_s (\frac{f_s \Delta}{2\pi f_m})^2}{2W\Delta^2} = \frac{3}{8\pi^2 W f_m^2 T_s^3}$$

Thank You  
Happy Learning

