

## Question 1(a) [3 marks]

**Define modulation and explain its need.**

**Answer:**

Modulation is the process of varying one or more properties of a high-frequency carrier signal with a modulating signal containing information.

**Table: Need for Modulation**

Need	Explanation
<b>Antenna Size Reduction</b>	Allows practical antenna size ( $\lambda/4$ ) by increasing frequency
<b>Signal Propagation</b>	Higher frequencies travel farther through atmosphere
<b>Multiplexing</b>	Allows multiple signals to be transmitted simultaneously
<b>Interference Reduction</b>	Shifts signal to band with less noise/interference
<b>Bandwidth Allocation</b>	Enables efficient spectrum usage by different services

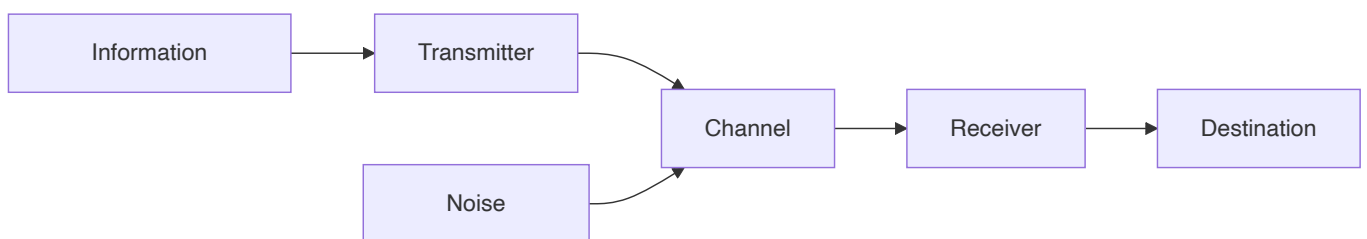
**Mnemonic:** "ASPIM" - Antenna size, Signal propagation, Proper multiplexing, Interference reduction, Manage bandwidth

## Question 1(b) [4 marks]

**Draw & explain block diagram of Communication system**

**Answer:**

A communication system transfers information from source to destination through a channel.



**Table: Communication System Components**

Component	Function
Information Source	Produces message to be transmitted (voice, video, data)
Transmitter	Converts message to suitable signals (modulation, coding)
Channel	Medium through which signals travel (wire, fiber, air)
Noise Source	Unwanted signals that corrupt the transmitted signal
Receiver	Extracts original message from received signal (demodulation)
Destination	Where the message is delivered (human, machine)

**Mnemonic:** "I Try Communicating Neatly, Receive Data" (I-T-C-N-R-D)

## Question 1(c) [7 marks]

**Derive voltage equation for Amplitude modulation.**

**Answer:**

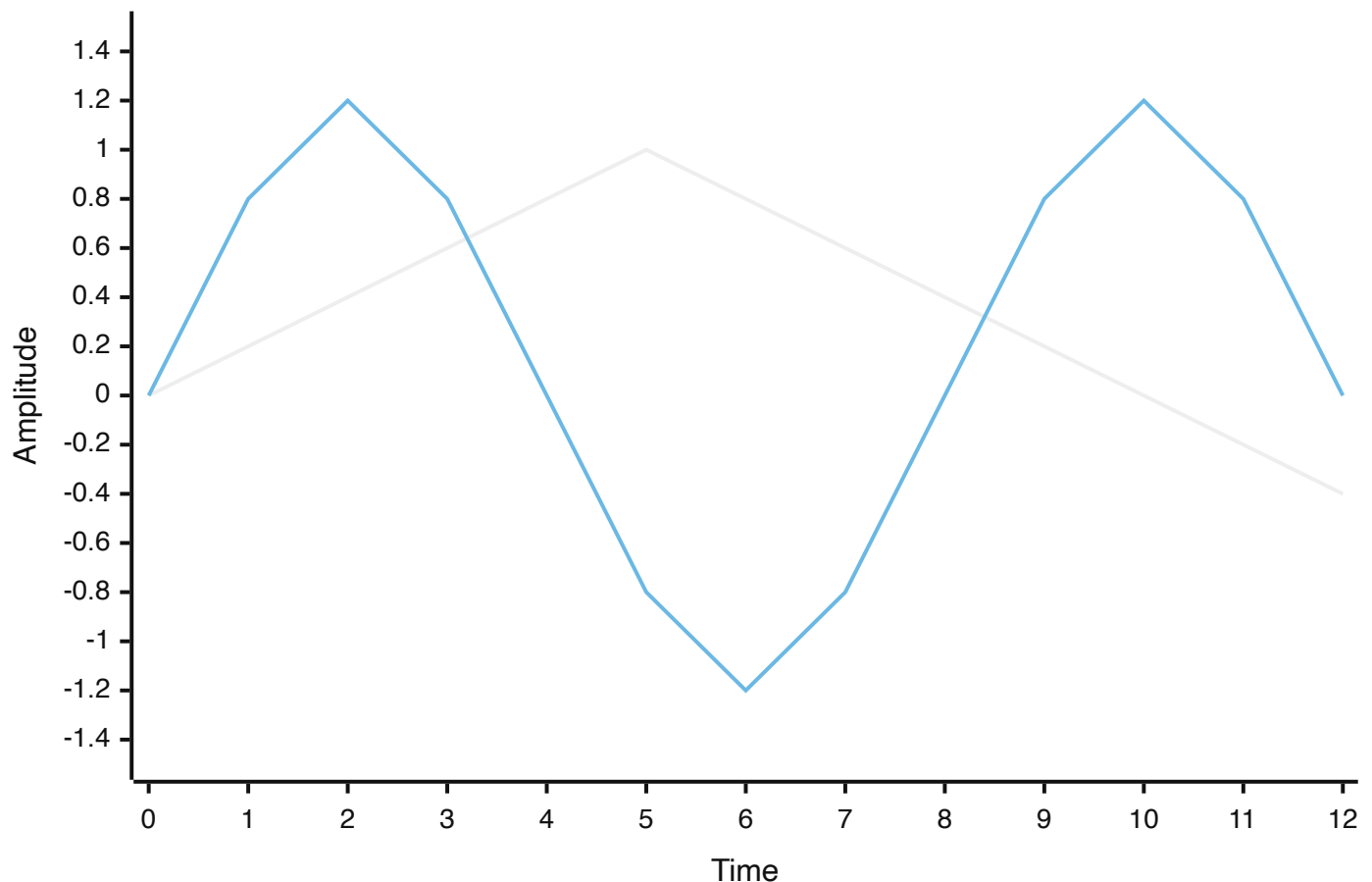
Amplitude modulation varies the amplitude of carrier signal proportionally to the message signal.

**Mathematical Derivation:**

- Let carrier signal be:  $c(t) = A_c \cos(\omega_c t)$
- Message signal:  $m(t) = A_m \cos(\omega_m t)$
- AM signal:  $s(t) = A_c [1 + \mu \cdot m(t)/A_m] \cos(\omega_c t)$
- Where  $\mu$  = modulation index =  $A_m/A_c$
- Substituting  $m(t)$ :  $s(t) = A_c [1 + \mu \cdot \cos(\omega_m t)] \cos(\omega_c t)$
- Expanding:  $s(t) = A_c \cdot \cos(\omega_c t) + \mu \cdot A_c \cdot \cos(\omega_m t) \cdot \cos(\omega_c t)$
- Using identity ( $\cos A \cdot \cos B$ ):  $s(t) = A_c \cdot \cos(\omega_c t) + (\mu \cdot A_c / 2) [\cos(\omega_c + \omega_m)t + \cos(\omega_c - \omega_m)t]$

**Diagram: AM Signal in Time Domain**

## AM Signal



**Mnemonic:** "CAMDS" - Carrier Amplitude Modulated by Data Signal

### Question 1(c) OR [7 marks]

**Derive the equation for total power in AM, calculate percentage of power savings in DSB and SSB.**

**Answer:**

For an AM signal with modulation index  $\mu$ , the total power consists of carrier power and sideband power.

**Table: Power Distribution in AM**

Component	Power Formula	Percentage of Total Power
Carrier	$P_c = A_c^2/2$	$1/(1+\mu^2/2) \times 100\%$
Upper Sideband	$P_{USB} = P_c \cdot \mu^2/4$	$(\mu^2/4)/(1+\mu^2/2) \times 100\%$
Lower Sideband	$P_{LSB} = P_c \cdot \mu^2/4$	$(\mu^2/4)/(1+\mu^2/2) \times 100\%$
Total	$P_T = P_c(1+\mu^2/2)$	100%

#### Power Savings Calculation:

- In DSB-SC: 100% carrier suppression =  $(P_c/P_T) \times 100\% = 1/(1+\mu^2/2) \times 100\%$ 
  - For  $\mu = 1$ : Saving =  $2/3 \times 100\% = 66.67\%$

- In SSB: One sideband + carrier suppression =  $(P_c + P_{LSB})/P_T \times 100\% = (1 + \mu^2/4)/(1 + \mu^2/2) \times 100\%$ 
  - For  $\mu = 1$ : Saving =  $5/6 \times 100\% = 83.33\%$

**Mnemonic:** "CAPS" - Carrier And Power in Sidebands

## Question 2(a) [3 marks]

**Define Image frequency in a radio receiver and explain it with suitable example.**

**Answer:**

Image frequency is an unwanted frequency that can produce the same IF (Intermediate Frequency) as the desired signal in a superheterodyne receiver.

**Table: Image Frequency**

Parameter	Formula	Example
Desired Signal	$f_s$	100 MHz
Local Oscillator	$f_{LO}$	110 MHz
IF	$f_{IF} = f_{LO} - f_s$	10 MHz
Image Frequency	$f_{image} = f_{LO} + f_{IF}$	120 MHz

If both 100 MHz and 120 MHz signals exist, both will produce 10 MHz IF, causing interference.

**Mnemonic:** "LIDS" - Local oscillator plus/minus IF gives Desired signal and Signal image

## Question 2(b) [4 marks]

**Draw and explain block diagram for envelope detector.**

**Answer:**

Envelope detector extracts the modulating signal from AM wave by following the envelope.



**Table: Envelope Detector Components**

Component	Function
Diode	Rectifies the AM signal (passes positive half)
Capacitor	Charges to peak value of rectified signal
Resistor	Discharges capacitor with time constant RC
RC Value	$1/\omega_m < RC < 1/\omega_c$ (where $\omega_m$ is message frequency, $\omega_c$ is carrier)

**Mnemonic:** "DRCT" - Diode Rectifies, Capacitor Tracks

Question 2(c) [7 marks]

Draw block diagram of AM radio receiver and explain working of each block.

**Answer:**

AM receiver converts radio signal to audio output.

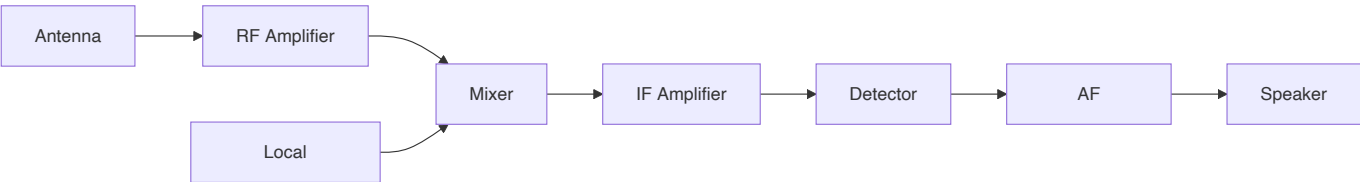


Table: AM Receiver Blocks

Block	Function
Antenna	Captures electromagnetic signals from air
RF Amplifier	Amplifies weak RF signals, provides selectivity
Local Oscillator	Generates frequency to mix with incoming signal
Mixer	Combines RF and oscillator signals to produce IF
IF Amplifier	Amplifies fixed IF signal with high gain
Detector	Extracts audio signal from AM carrier
AF Amplifier	Boosts audio signal power to drive speaker
Speaker	Converts electrical signal to sound

**Mnemonic:** "ARMLIDAS" - Antenna Receives, Mixer Links Input and Detector, Audio to Speaker

Question 2(a) OR [3 marks]

Define any FOUR characteristics of radio receiver.

**Answer:**

Table: Radio Receiver Characteristics

Characteristic	Definition
<b>Sensitivity</b>	Minimum signal strength that produces standard output
<b>Selectivity</b>	Ability to separate desired signal from adjacent channels
<b>Fidelity</b>	Accuracy of reproducing original modulating signal
<b>Image Rejection</b>	Ability to reject image frequency signals
<b>Signal-to-Noise Ratio</b>	Ratio of desired signal power to noise power

**Mnemonic:** "SSFIS" - Super Sensitive Fidelity with Image Suppression

## Question 2(b) OR [4 marks]

**Explain Ratio detector circuit for FM detection.**

**Answer:**

Ratio detector extracts audio from FM signals while rejecting amplitude variations.



**Table: Ratio Detector Components**

Component	Function
<b>Transformer</b>	Creates phase shifts proportional to frequency deviation
<b>Diodes</b>	Arranged in opposite polarity to produce voltage ratio
<b>Stabilizing Capacitor</b>	Large value (10 $\mu$ F) to suppress AM variations
<b>RC Network</b>	Extracts the audio signal from ratio of voltages

**Mnemonic:** "RADS" - Ratio detector Avoids Disturbance from Strength variations

## Question 2(c) OR [7 marks]

**Draw and explain block diagram of super heterodyne receiver.**

**Answer:**

Superheterodyne receiver converts all incoming RF to fixed IF for better amplification.

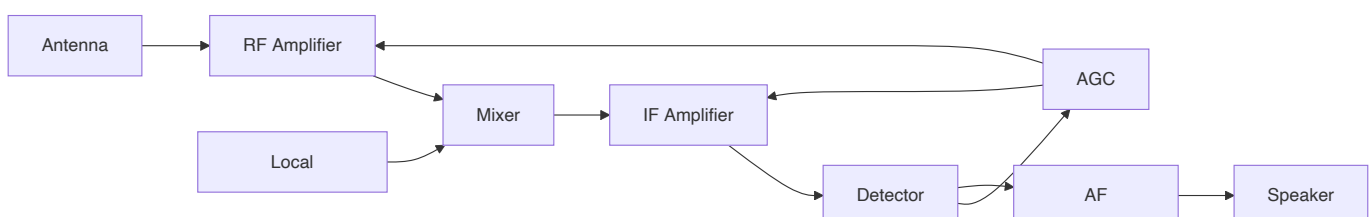


Table: Superheterodyne Receiver Components

Block	Function
Antenna	Captures RF signals
RF Amplifier	Amplifies and selects desired frequency band
Local Oscillator	Generates frequency above/below signal by IF value
Mixer	Heterodynes signal and oscillator to produce IF
IF Amplifier	Provides most gain and selectivity at fixed frequency
Detector	Recovers original modulating signal
AGC	Automatic Gain Control - maintains constant output level
AF Amplifier	Amplifies audio to drive speaker
Speaker	Converts electrical signal to sound

Mnemonic: "ARMLIADS" - Antenna Receives, Mixer Links, Intermediate Amplifies, Detector Separates

Question 3(a) [3 marks]

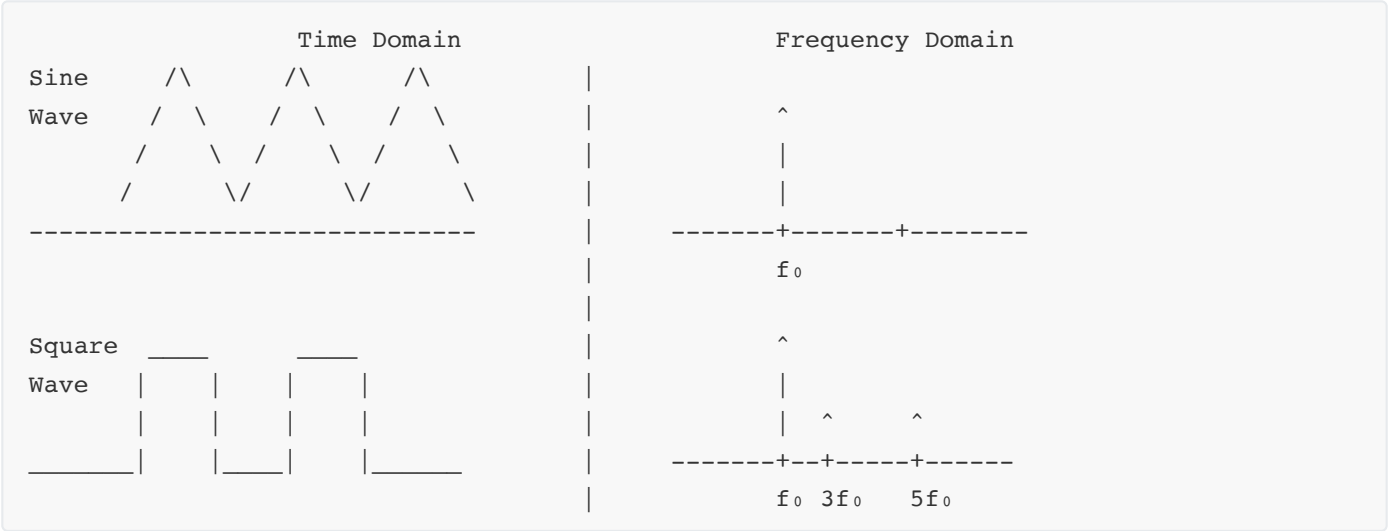
Draw the Time and frequency domain representation of the below signals. 1. Analog signal (sine) 2. Digital signal (square).

Answer:

Table: Signal Representations

Signal Type	Time Domain	Frequency Domain
Sine Wave	Sinusoidal curve	Single spike at frequency f
Square Wave	Alternating levels	Fundamental and odd harmonics (1/n pattern)

Diagram: Signal Representations





Explain PAM, PPM and PWM.

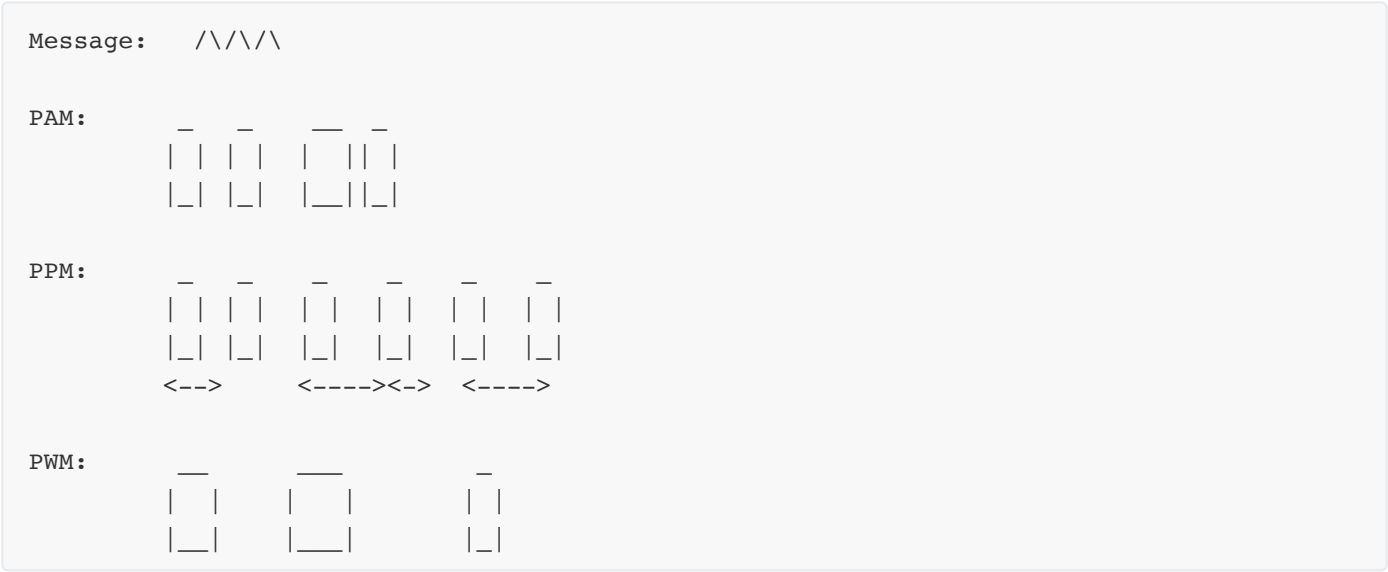
Answer:

These are pulse modulation techniques where a parameter of pulse is varied.

Table: Pulse Modulation Types

Type	Full Form	Parameter Varied	Characteristics
PAM	Pulse Amplitude Modulation	Amplitude	Direct sampling of analog signal
PPM	Pulse Position Modulation	Position/Time	Better noise immunity than PAM
PWM	Pulse Width Modulation	Width/Duration	Superior noise immunity, widely used in control systems

Diagram: Pulse Modulation Techniques



Mnemonic: "AAA-PPW" - Amplitude, Position, Width are modulated in PAM, PPM, PWM

Question 3(a) OR [3 marks]

Define Nyquist rate and explain.

Answer:

Nyquist rate is the minimum sampling frequency required for accurate signal reconstruction.

Table: Nyquist Rate

Aspect	Description
Definition	Minimum sampling frequency needed to avoid aliasing ( $f_s = 2f_{max}$ )
Implications	Sampling below Nyquist rate causes irreversible distortion
Formula	$f_s \geq 2f_{max}$ where $f_{max}$ is highest frequency in signal
Application	CD audio: 44.1 kHz sampling for 20 kHz audio

**Mnemonic:** "TANS" - Twice As Needed for Sampling

## Question 3(b) OR [4 marks]

**Explain quantization process.**

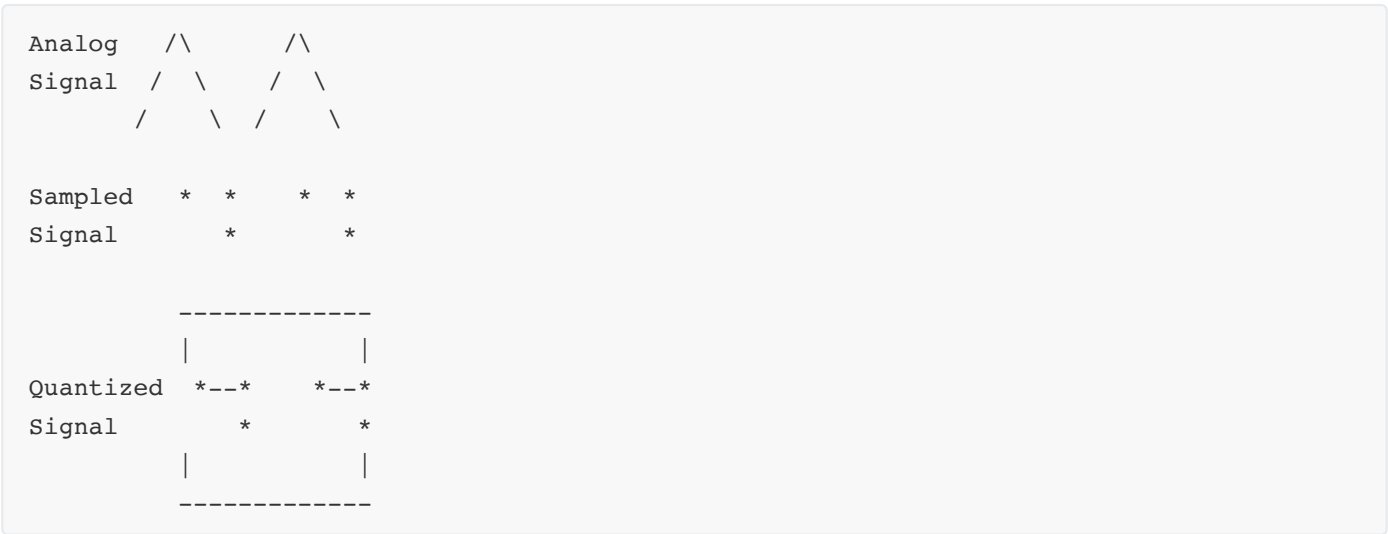
**Answer:**

Quantization assigns discrete amplitude levels to sampled values in analog-to-digital conversion.

**Table: Quantization Process**

Step	Description
Sampling	Discrete-time samples taken from continuous signal
Level Assignment	Each sample assigned to nearest quantization level
Quantization Error	Difference between actual and quantized value
Quantization Noise	Statistical effect of errors in signal
Resolution	Determined by number of bits ( $2^n$ levels for $n$ bits)

**Diagram: Quantization Process**



**Mnemonic:** "SLERN" - Sample, Level assign, Error occurs, Resolution determines Noise

## Question 3(c) OR [7 marks]

Explain Ideal, Natural and Flat top sampling.

**Answer:**

These are different practical implementations of sampling process.

**Table: Sampling Types Comparison**

Type	Description	Characteristics	Mathematical Representation
<b>Ideal</b>	Instantaneous samples at zero width	Theoretical concept, not physically realizable	$s(t) = m(t) \times \sum \delta(t-nT_s)$
<b>Natural</b>	Samples modulate pulse train	Practical implementation using analog switch	$s(t) = m(t) \times p(t)$
<b>Flat-top</b>	Holds sample value until next sample	Easiest to implement, sample-and-hold circuit	$s(t) = \sum m(nT_s)[u(t-nT_s)-u(t-(n+1)T_s)]$

**Diagram: Sampling Types**

Original:    /\ /\ /\

Ideal:        |   |   |   |   |

Natural:     

Flat-top:     

**Mnemonic:** "INF" - Ideal is theoretical, Natural is practical, Flat-top holds values

## Question 4(a) [3 marks]

List the advantages and disadvantages of PCM.

**Answer:**

**Table: PCM Advantages and Disadvantages**

Advantages	Disadvantages
High noise immunity	Requires higher bandwidth
Better signal quality	Complex circuitry
Compatible with digital systems	Quantization noise
Secure communication possible	Higher power consumption
Can be regenerated without degradation	Synchronization required

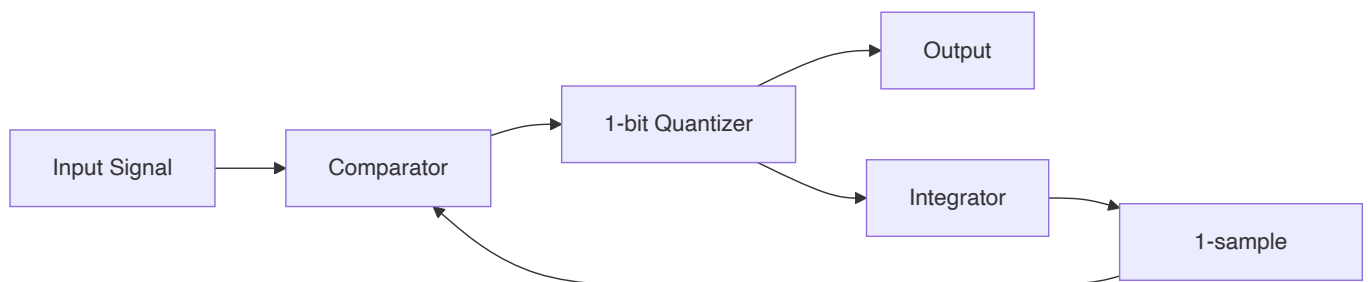
**Mnemonic:** "NICHE" vs "BCQPS" - Noise immunity, Integration, Complex circuitry, Higher bandwidth, Error correction vs Bandwidth, Cost, Quantization, Power, Synchronization

## Question 4(b) [4 marks]

**Draw and Explain Block Diagram of Delta Modulation.**

**Answer:**

Delta modulation transmits only changes in signal level using 1-bit quantization.



**Table: Delta Modulation Components**

Block	Function
Comparator	Compares input with predicted value
1-bit Quantizer	Outputs 1 if difference positive, 0 if negative
Integrator	Accumulates step values to track input
Delay	Provides previous output for comparison

**Mnemonic:** "CQID" - Compare, Quantize with 1-bit, Integrate, Delay

## Question 4(c) [7 marks]

**Compare PCM, DM and DPCM.**

**Answer:**

**Table: Comparison of Digital Modulation Techniques**

Parameter	PCM	DM	DPCM
Bits per sample	8-16 bits	1 bit	4-6 bits
Bandwidth	Highest	Lowest	Medium
Signal-to-Noise Ratio	Highest	Lowest	Medium
Circuit Complexity	High	Simple	Medium
Sampling Rate	Nyquist	Multiple of Nyquist	Nyquist
Error Types	Quantization error	Slope overload, granular noise	Prediction error
Applications	CD audio, digital telephony	Low-quality voice	Speech, video coding

**Mnemonic:** "PCM-DM-DPCM: More Bits Better Quality, More Complexity Needed"

## Question 4(a) OR [3 marks]

**Explain DPCM.**

**Answer:**

Differential Pulse Code Modulation encodes difference between actual and predicted sample.

**Table: DPCM Characteristics**

Aspect	Description
Basic Principle	Encodes difference between actual and predicted value
Predictor	Uses previous samples to predict current value
Advantage	Requires fewer bits than PCM (exploits correlation)
Bit Rate Reduction	Typically 25-50% compared to PCM
Applications	Speech coding, image compression

**Mnemonic:** "DPCM: Difference Predicted, Correlation Matters"

## Question 4(b) OR [4 marks]

**List the advantages and disadvantages of Delta Modulation.**

**Answer:**

**Table: Delta Modulation - Pros and Cons**

Advantages	Disadvantages
Simple implementation	Slope overload distortion
Low bit rate	Granular noise at low amplitudes
Single bit transmission	Limited dynamic range
Robust against channel errors	Higher sampling rate required
Low complexity hardware	Lower SNR than PCM

**Mnemonic:** "SLSRL" vs "SGLSH" - Simple, Low bit-rate, Single bit, Robust, Low cost vs Slope overload, Granular noise, Limited range, Sampling high, SNR low

Question 4(c) OR [7 marks]

Explain Block diagram of basic PCM-TDM system.

Answer:

PCM-TDM combines multiple digitized signals into a single high-speed channel.

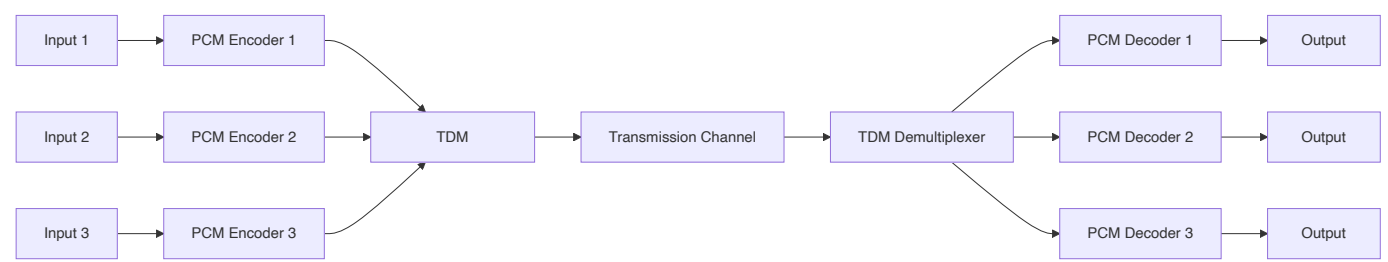


Table: PCM-TDM System Components

Block	Function
PCM Encoder	Converts analog signal to digital (sampling, quantization, coding)
TDM Multiplexer	Combines multiple PCM streams into single high-speed stream
Transmission Channel	Medium for signal transmission
TDM Demultiplexer	Separates time-multiplexed stream back into individual channels
PCM Decoder	Converts digital back to analog (decoding, filtering)
Synchronization	Clock and frame sync signals ensure proper demultiplexing
Frame Structure	Contains samples from all channels plus sync bits

**Mnemonic:** "PETDSF" - PCM Encodes, TDM combines, Digital transmits, Separation occurs, Frames synchronize

Question 5(a) [3 marks]

Explain Adaptive Delta modulation.

Answer:

Adaptive Delta Modulation adjusts step size based on signal characteristics.

Table: Adaptive Delta Modulation

Feature	Description
Basic Principle	Varies step size according to signal slope
Step Size Control	Increases when same bit pattern repeats (signal changing rapidly)
Advantages	Reduced slope overload and granular noise
Implementation	Uses shift register to detect bit patterns
Performance	Better SNR than standard DM

Diagram: Step Size Adaptation



Mnemonic: "ASSG" - Adaptive Step Size Gives better performance

Question 5(b) [4 marks]

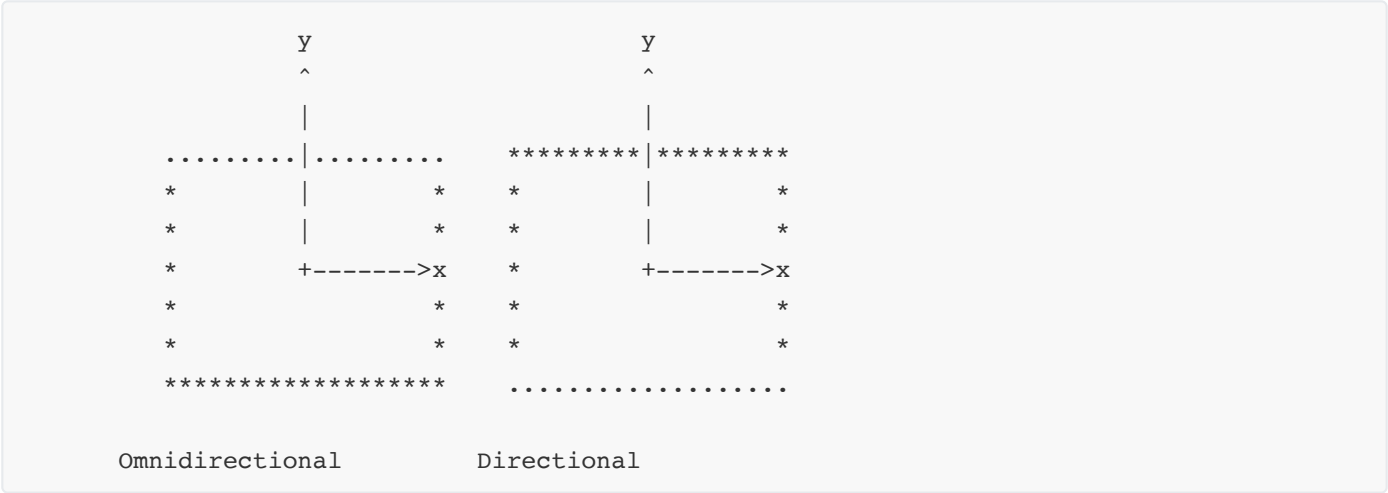
Define the terms 1. Radiation Pattern 2. Antenna gain.

Answer:

Table: Antenna Terms

Term	Definition	Characteristics
Radiation Pattern	Graphical representation of radiation properties of antenna in space	Shows directional dependencies of radiated power
Antenna Gain	Measure of antenna's ability to direct or concentrate radio energy in a particular direction	Expressed in dB, compared to isotropic radiator (dBi)

Diagram: Radiation Pattern Types



**Mnemonic:** "RPGD" - Radiation Pattern shows Gain Direction

### Question 5(c) [7 marks]

**Explain Base station antenna and Mobile station antenna.**

**Answer:**

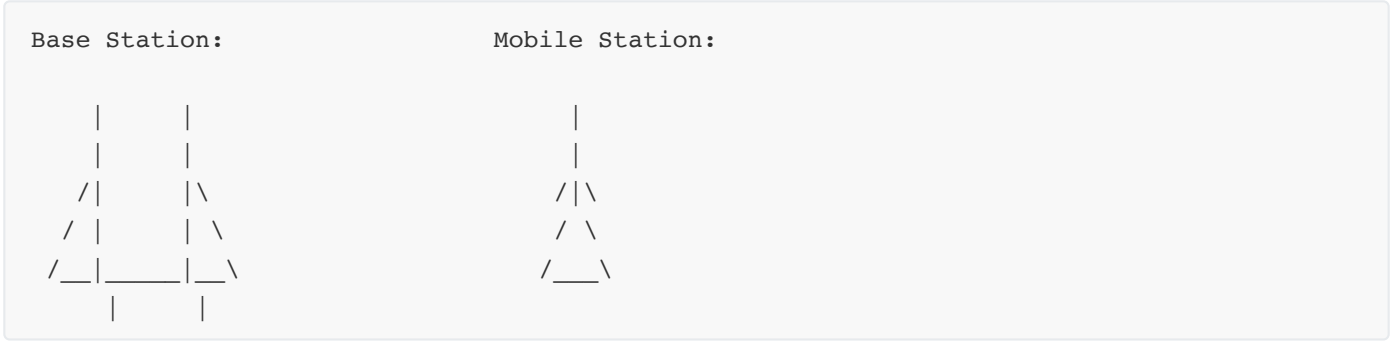
Different antenna designs serve different purposes in wireless communication systems.

**Table: Comparison of Base Station and Mobile Station Antennas**

Parameter	Base Station Antenna	Mobile Station Antenna
Height	15-50 meters	Less than 2 meters
Gain	Higher (10-20 dBi)	Lower (0-3 dBi)
Pattern	Sectoral (120° sectors)	Omnidirectional
Size	Larger arrays	Compact, integrated
Types	Panel, Yagi, Collinear	Monopole, PIFA, chip
Polarization	Vertical, cross-polarized	Typically vertical
Beamforming	Often used	Rarely used in basic devices
Diversity	Space/polarization diversity	Rarely implemented

**Diagram: Antenna Types**





**Mnemonic:** "BHPSTBD" - Base stations Have Power, Size, Tower mounting, Beamforming, Diversity

## Question 5(a) OR [3 marks]

Write down range of frequencies for HF, VHF and UHF.

Answer:

Table: Frequency Bands

Band	Frequency Range	Wavelength	Notable Applications
HF	3-30 MHz	100-10 m	Shortwave radio, amateur radio, aviation
VHF	30-300 MHz	10-1 m	FM radio, TV channels 2-13, air traffic
UHF	300-3000 MHz	1-0.1 m	TV channels 14-83, mobile phones, Wi-Fi

**Mnemonic:** "3-30-300-3000" - Each band starts at 3 times a power of 10 MHz

## Question 5(b) OR [4 marks]

Define the terms 1. Antenna Directivity 2. Polarization.

Answer:

Table: Antenna Properties

Term	Definition	Characteristics
Directivity	Ratio of radiation intensity in a given direction to average radiation intensity	Measured in dBi, indicates focus of antenna
Polarization	Orientation of electric field vector of radiated wave	Linear (vertical/horizontal), circular, elliptical

Diagram: Polarization Types

Vertical:	Horizontal:	Circular:
	----	/ \
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	----	\ /
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**Mnemonic:** "DIVE POLE" - DIrectivity shows Vector Excellence, POLarization shows Electric field

## Question 5(c) OR [7 marks]

**Explain Ground wave propagation and Space wave propagation in detail.**

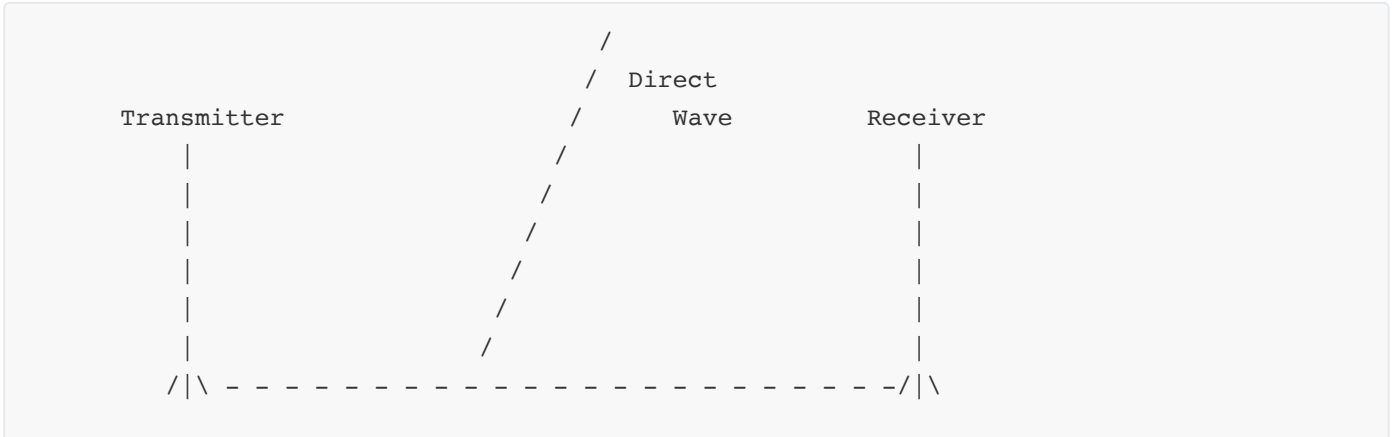
**Answer:**

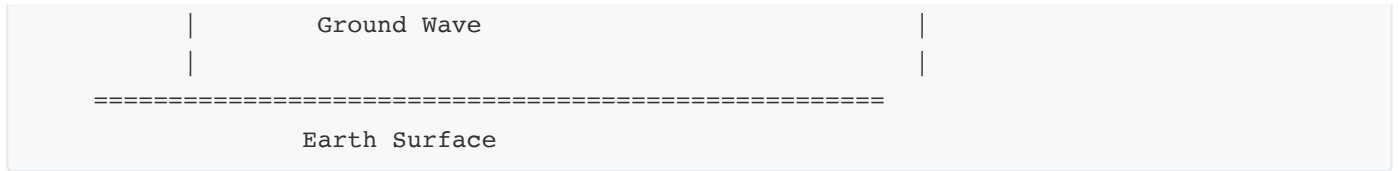
These are two primary modes of radio wave propagation in the lower atmosphere.

**Table: Wave Propagation Comparison**

Parameter	Ground Wave	Space Wave
Frequency Range	Below 2 MHz	Above 30 MHz
Distance Coverage	100-300 km	Limited to line-of-sight + diffraction
Path	Follows earth's curvature	Direct and ground-reflected paths
Mechanism	Diffraction around earth's surface	Line-of-sight propagation with reflection
Attenuation	Higher (increases with frequency)	Lower at VHF/UHF ranges
Polarization	Vertical polarization preferred	Both vertical and horizontal usable
Applications	AM broadcasting, navigation beacons	TV, FM radio, microwave links
Factors Affecting	Ground conductivity, terrain	Antenna height, terrain, obstacles

**Diagram: Ground Wave vs Space Wave Propagation**





### Ground Wave Propagation:

- Travels along earth's surface
- Signal strength decreases with distance
- Better propagation over sea than land
- Affected by ground conductivity and dielectric constant
- Used for AM broadcasting, maritime communication

### Space Wave Propagation:

- Consists of direct wave and ground-reflected wave
- Range extended by atmospheric refraction
- Range formula:  $d = \sqrt{2Rh}$  where R is earth's radius, h is antenna height
- Affected by diffraction over obstacles
- Used for line-of-sight communications like TV, FM, microwave links

**Mnemonic:** "GAFFS" - Ground Adheres to earth, Follows surface, Frequencies low, Short wavelengths