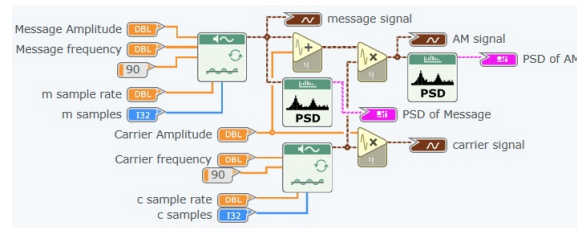


Lab 2 - AM Simulation and USRP

Exercise 1 - AM Modulation

In this first exercise, we built an AM modulator following the standard equation where the carrier wave's amplitude is changed with respect to the message signal. The fully built diagram is as follows:



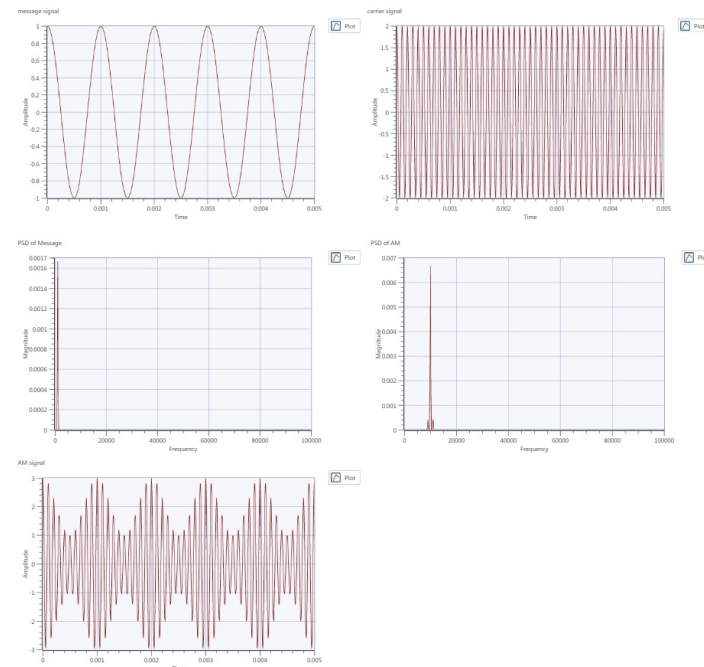
We set the parameters for the message and carrier signal to the following:

	Message Signal	Carrier Signal
Frequency	1kHz (Control)	10kHz (Control)
Phase	90° (Constant)	90° (Constant)
Amplitude	Message Amplitude (Control)	Carrier Amplitude (Control)
Sample rate	200k (Control)	200k (Control)
Samples	1000 (Control)	1000 (Control)

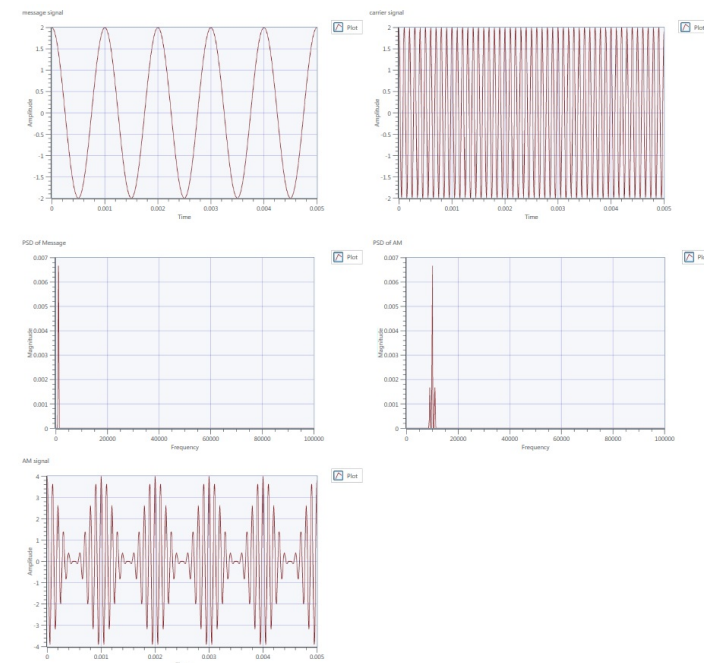
We then altered the modulation index and looked at the changes that appeared:

Effect of Modulation Index

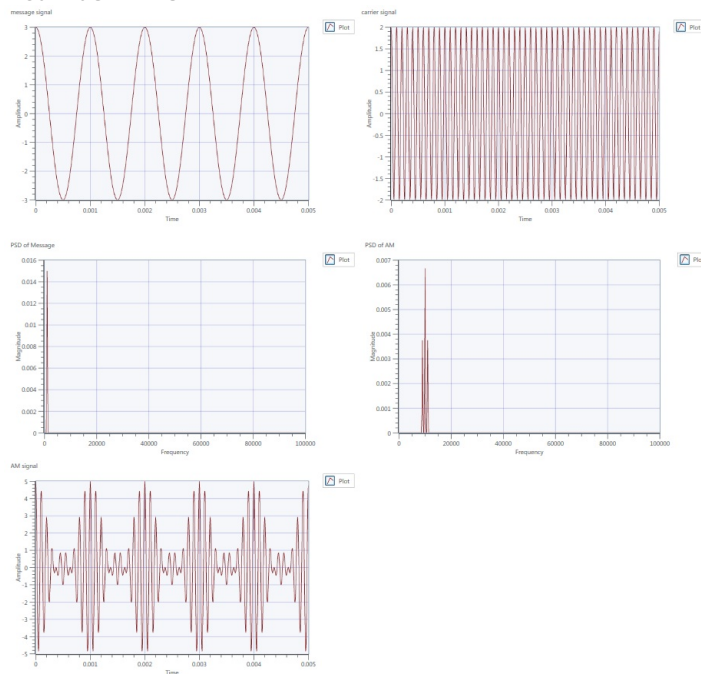
Mod Index = 0.5:



Mod Index = 1:



Mod Index = 1.5:

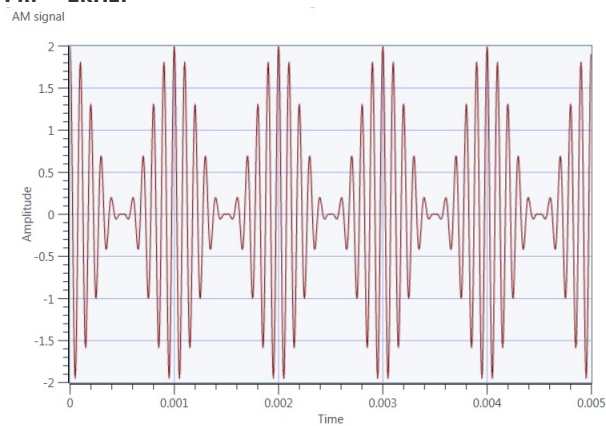


Observations

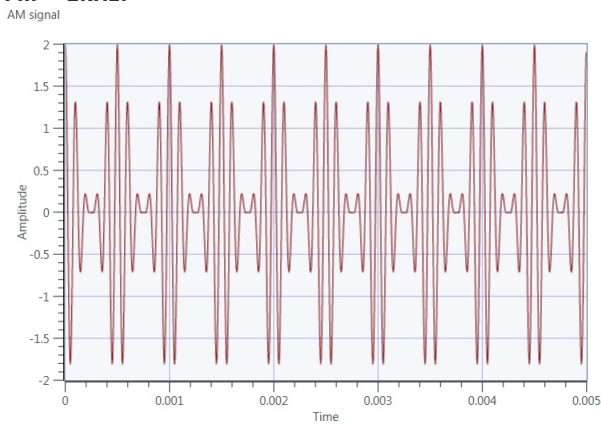
Two points can be observed with increasing modulation index: The sidebands extend out and increase in magnitude; there is an increase modulation depth. At 0.5, the signal is undermodulated, has low modulation depth and therefore does not utilise the carrier efficiently. At 1, the modulation depth reaches zero and at index of 1.5 over modulation occurs. The carrier signal goes below the zero point and phase reversal is exhibited. The phase reversal caused the sidebands to stretch out - this may cause interference and must be filtered.

Effect of increasing frequency of the message

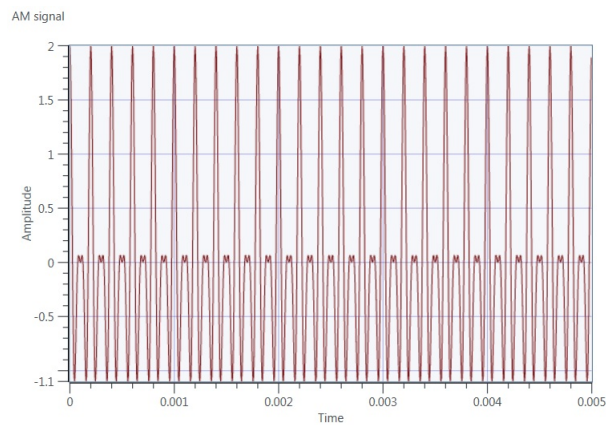
F_m = 1kHz:



F_m = 2kHz:



F_m = 5kHz:

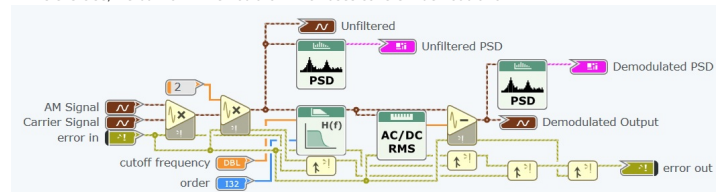


Observations

- When the message frequency is lower, the waveform is symmetrical around the x-axis.
- At 5k, the waveform becomes malformed because there is an overlap between $-f_c + f_m$ and $f_c - f_m$.
- "Nyquist Rate" - message bandwidth must be at most half the carrier bandwidth.

Exercise 2a) - Coherent Demodulation

In this exercise, we built a AM Demodulator which uses coherent demodulation.



Theory

The carrier signal $m(t)\cos(2\pi f_c t)$ when received by the receiver is multiplied by $\cos(2\pi f_c t)$.

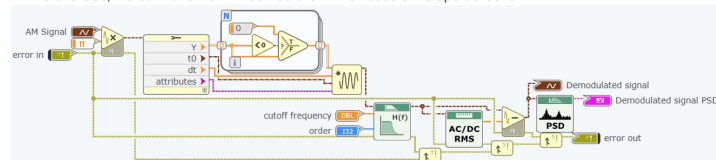
$$m(t) \cos(2\pi f_c t)^2 = m(t) \left(\frac{1}{2} (1 + \cos(4\pi f_c t)) \right)$$

Using a low pass filter, centered around the baseband, the output signal will be $1/2 m(t)$.

Therefore to retrieve the original signal amplitude, we multiply the output by 2.

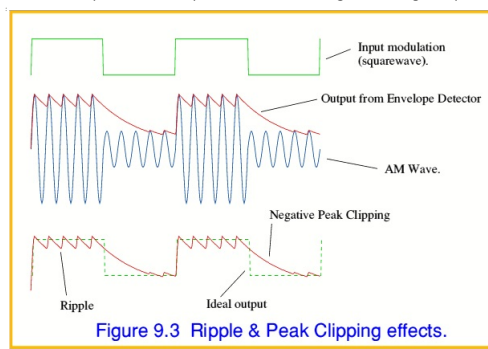
Exercise 2b) - Envelope Detection

In this exercise, we built another AM demodulator which uses envelope detection.



Theory

The envelope detector outputs the envelope of one half of the signal. The high frequency element is then

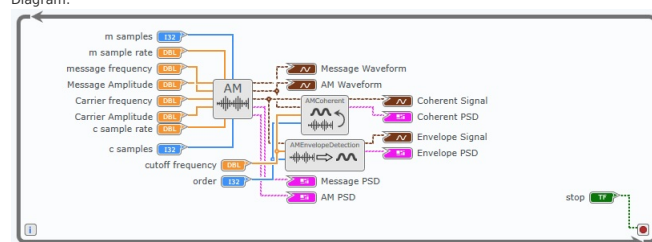


filtered out.

Exercise 3

Here we simulated the AM Modulator and Demodulator working together.

Diagram:



- Envelope detection is better at high frequencies.
- Envelope detection works until the modulation index goes above 1; at that point only coherent detection works correctly because during modulation the envelope signal has parts that are left negative.
- Coherent detection is fine at >1 modulation indexes, but requires the transmitter and receiver to be in

phase and at the same frequency.

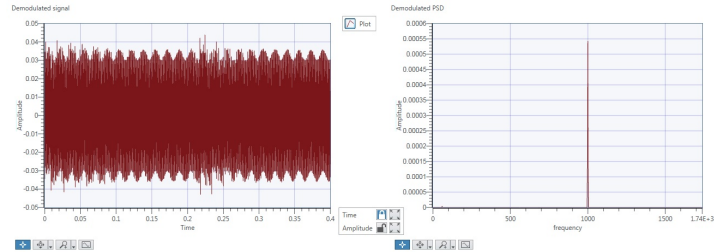
Exercise 4

Universal Software Radio Peripheral components: 1. niUSRP Open Tx Session 2. niUSRP Configure Signal 3. niUSRP Write Tx Data 4. niUSRP Close Session 5. niUSRP Open Rx Session 6. niUSRP Initiate 7. niUSRP Fetch Rx data 8. niUSRP Abort

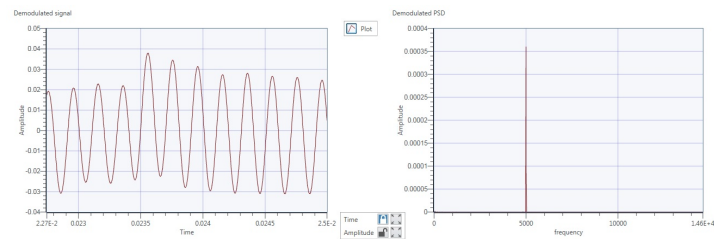
If the baseband discrete time signal is expressed as: $\tilde{g}[nT_x] = g_I[nT_x] + jg_Q[nT_x]$ then the continuous time transmitted signal from the USRP is $g(t) = Ag_I(t) \cos(2\pi f_c t) - Ag_Q(t) \sin(2\pi f_c t)$

Explain how the transmitter and receiver work.

- The modules provide the USRP with complex data representing the signal.
- The USRP modulates the signal, giving the above continuous time signal if given a baseband time signal as above.
- At the receiver the USRP demodulates the signal and returns the demodulated signal.
- The signal is very noisy.



Single tone 5kHz



To observe the effect of noise in the demodulated signal, increase the receiver's gain to 20 dB (your receiver will start to detect other weaker signals in addition to the transmitted signal), and adjust the X axis of the demodulated message (in time domain) to show values between 0 second (s) and 0.004 s. Then, change the modulation index (μ) value and observe the effects on the plots of the demodulated signal in both time and frequency. From what value of can noise be clearly noticed in the plots?

- We increased the receiver gain to 20, and the modulation index all the way up to 100, and received the following noise:

