#### Oversampling Analog to Digital Converters 21st International Conference on VLSI Design, Hyderabad

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### Outline

- Introduction to sampling and quantization
  - Quantization noise spectral density
  - Oversampling
  - Noise shaping- $\Delta\Sigma$  modulation
- High order multi bit  $\Delta\Sigma$  modulators
- Stability of  $\Delta\Sigma$  A/D converters
- Implementation of  $\Delta\Sigma$  A/D converters
  - Loop filter design
  - Multi bit quantizer design
  - Excess delay compensation
  - Clock jitter effects
- Mitigation of feedback DAC mismatch
  - Dynamic element matching
  - DAC calibration
- Case study
  - 15 bit continuous-time  $\Delta\Sigma$  ADC for digital audio

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#### Signal processing systems



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- Natural world: continuous-time analog signals
- Storage and processing: discrete-time digital signals
- Data conversion circuits interface between the two
- Wide variety of precision and speed

#### Continuous time signals



- Signals defined for all t
- Signals can take any value in a given range

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#### **Discrete time signals**



- Signals defined for discrete instants n
- Signals can take any value in a given range

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- Signals defined for discrete instants n
- Signals can take discrete values kV<sub>LSB</sub>

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- A segment of a continuous-time signal has an infinite number of points of infinite precision
- Discretization of time (sampling) and amplitude (quantization) results in a finite number of points of finite precision
- Sampling and quantization = Analog to digital conversion
- Errors in the process?

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# Signals in time and frequency domains

- Continuous time signal  $x_{ct}(t)$
- Frequency domain representation using its Fourier transform X<sub>ct</sub>(f)

$$X_{ct}(f) = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} x_{ct}(t) \exp(-j2\pi ft) dt$$

- Discrete time signal x<sub>d</sub>[n]
- Frequency domain representation using its Fourier transform X<sub>d</sub>(ν)

$$X_d[\nu] = \sum_{n=-\infty}^{\infty} x_d[n] \exp(-j2\pi\nu n)$$

X<sub>d</sub>[v] periodic with a period of 1

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#### Signals in time and frequency domains



• Signal bandwidth  $f_b$ :  $|X_{ct}(f)| = 0$  for  $f > f_b$ 

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# Signals in time and frequency domains



- $X_d[\nu]$  periodic with a period of 1
- $X_d[\nu]$ ,  $0 \le \nu \le 0.5$  completely defines real  $x_d[n]$

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# Sampling an analog signal



 $x_d[n] = x_{ct}(nT_s)$ 

• Analog signal sampled to obtain a discrete-time signal

# Sampling



- Copies of signal spectrum at  $nf_s = n/T_s$
- Perfect reconstruction possible for  $f_s \ge 2f_b$

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# Sampling without aliasing



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#### Reconstruction from sampled signal



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# Aliasing during sampling



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# Sampling followed by quantization

Quantized Sampled analog signal



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### Quantization followed by sampling

Sampled continuous-time quantized signal



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- Nonlinearity results in harmonic distortion
- Harmonics folded about the sampling frequency

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#### Sampling and Quantization-Spectral density



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#### Sampling and Quantization-Spectral density



- $f_s/f_{in} = p/q$ , large p, q: Closely spaced tones  $\sim$  noise
- $f_s/f_{in}$  irrational: Continuous spectrum
- Approximated by a constant spectral density

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#### Quantization error model



Modelled as an additive error

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# Quantization error distribution



- Quantization error in the range  $[-V_{LSB}/2, V_{LSB}/2]$
- Uniform distribution
- Mean squared value of  $V_{LSB}^2/12$

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# Sampling and Quantization-Error



- Fully correlated to the input signal
- Statistics independent of the input signal

• Uniform distribution; mean = 0; variance =  $V_{LSB}^2/12$ 

- White spectral density
- Modelled as uncorrelated additive white noise

- $2^N$  level quantizer with  $V_{LSB}$  spacing
- Full scale sinewave input—amplitude (2<sup>N-1</sup> V<sub>LSB</sub>)
- Mean squared signal:  $(2^{N-1}V_{LSB})^2/2$
- Mean squared noise:  $V_{LSB}^2/12$

• 
$$SNR = \frac{3}{2}2^{2N} = 6.02 N + 1.78 \, \text{dB}$$

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# Sampling and Quantization

Fourier transform of a continuous-time signal



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# Sampling and Quantization





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# Sampling and Quantization

Signal and quantization noise



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### **Oversampling and Quantization**



### Oversampling and Quantization

Signal and quantization noise



- Sample at  $f_s \gg 2f_{in}$
- Oversampling ratio  $OSR = f_s/2f_{in}$
- Filter the noise using a filter of bandwidth fb
- Mean squared value of error =  $V_{LSB}^2/12/OSR$
- Increased signal to quantization noise ratio

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- $2^N$  level quantizer with  $V_{LSB}$  spacing
- Full scale sinewave input—amplitude =  $2^{N-1} V_{LSB}$
- Oversampling ratio OSR
- Mean squared signal:  $(2^{N-1} V_{LSB})^2 / 2$
- Mean squared noise:  $V_{LSB}^2/12/OSR$

• 
$$SNR = \frac{3}{2}2^{2N}OSR = 6.02N + 10\log OSR + 1.76 dB$$

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#### **Oversampling and Quantization**



Move quantization error to filter stopband?

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- Hard nonlinearity
- Modelled as additive error

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#### Linearization of soft nonlinearity



- Negative feedback loop
- Loop gain  $\rightarrow \infty \Rightarrow$  Error  $u v \rightarrow 0$

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#### Linearization of hardnonlinearity



- Quantizer output cannot equal the input
- Loop gain  $\rightarrow \infty \Rightarrow$  Error  $|u v| \rightarrow \infty$

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# Reduce error to zero only in the signal band



- Negative feedback loop with dc loop gain  $\rightarrow \infty$
- Small loop gain at high frequencies
- Error  $|u v| \rightarrow 0$  at low frequencies

# First order $\Delta\Sigma$ modulator



- Loop filter is an accumulator
- Error  $|u v| \rightarrow 0$  at low frequencies
- Differencing followed by accumulation– $\Delta\Sigma$  modulator

## Noise and Signal transfer functions



$$STF = \frac{V}{U} = \frac{z^{-1}/1 - z^{-1}}{1 + z^{-1}/1 - z^{-1}}$$
$$= z^{-1}$$
$$NTF = \frac{V}{E} = \frac{1}{1 + z^{-1}/1 - z^{-1}}$$
$$= 1 - z^{-1}$$

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# Noise transfer function



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## Output noise spectral density



$$\begin{array}{rcl} {S_{\nu_{e}}}(\nu) & = & {S_{e}}(\nu) |1 - exp(-j2\pi\nu)|^{2} \\ & = & {4S_{e}}(\nu) \sin^{2}(\pi\nu) \\ {S_{\nu_{e}}}(f) & = & {4S_{e}}(f) \sin^{2}(\pi f/f_{s}) \end{array}$$

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# Output noise in the signal band

$$\begin{aligned} v_{e}^{2} &= \int_{0}^{f_{b}} S_{v_{e}}(f) df \\ &= 4 \frac{V_{LSB}^{2}}{6f_{s}} \int_{0}^{f_{b}} \sin^{2}(\pi f/f_{s}) df \\ &\approx 4 \frac{V_{LSB}^{2}}{6f_{s}} \int_{0}^{f_{b}} (\pi f/f_{s})^{2} df \\ &= \frac{V_{LSB}^{2}}{12} \frac{\pi^{2}}{3} \left(\frac{2f_{b}}{f_{s}}\right)^{3} \\ &= \frac{V_{LSB}^{2}}{12} \frac{\pi^{2}}{3} \left(\frac{1}{OSR}\right)^{3} \end{aligned}$$

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- Output noise  $\propto \textit{OSR}^{-3}$  with first order noise shaping
- Output noise  $\propto OSR^{-1}$  with no noise shaping
- Output noise  $\propto OSR^{-(2L+1)}$  with  $L^{th}$  order noise shaping

Tremendous increase in signal to noise ratio with oversampling

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- $2^N$  level quantizer with  $V_{LSB}$  spacing
- Full scale sinewave input—amplitude =  $2^{N-1}V_{LSB}$
- Oversampling ratio OSR
- First order noise shaping
- Mean squared signal:  $(2^{N-1}V_{LSB})^2/2$
- Mean squared noise:  $(V_{LSB}^2/12)(\pi^2/3)1/OSR^3$

• 
$$SNR = \frac{9}{2\pi^2} 2^{2N} OSR^3 = 6.02 N + 30 \log OSR - 3.4 dB$$

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- $1 z^{-1}$  for a first order  $\Delta \Sigma$  modulator
- Higer order differencing ( $\sim (1 z^{-1})^N$ ) in higher order modulators
- Crucial quantity in the design of delta sigma modulators

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# $\Delta\Sigma$ analog to digital converter



- Analog to digital converter (Flash) in the forward path
- Digital to analog converter in the feedback path

• Output noise in signal band suppressed by noise shaping Output of the analog to digital converter is the oversampled digital output *v* 

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- Sampling preserves the signal if  $f_s \ge 2f_b$
- Quantization adds an error  $V_{LSB}^2/12$
- Quantization error modelled as additive white noise
- Oversampling and filtering reduces quantization error in the signal band
- Oversampling, noise shaping, and filtering provides a much higher reduction of quantization error in the signal band

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- For the first order loop
- $V(z) = X(z) + (1 z^{-1}) E(z)$
- STF = 1, NTF =  $1 z^{-1}$
- Can we do better ?

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High Order NTFs



- $V(z) = X(z) + (1 z^{-1})^2 E(z)$
- Second Order Noise Shaping
- Can be extended to higher orders

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High Order NTFs

In-band quantization noise for a first order NTF is

$$\mathsf{Q} pprox rac{\Delta^2}{12\pi} \int_0^{rac{\pi}{OSR}} \omega^2 d\omega = rac{\Delta^2}{36\pi} \left(rac{\pi}{OSR}
ight)^3$$

What if the NTF was of the form 
$$(1 - z^{-1})^N$$
?  
 $Q \approx \frac{\Delta^2}{12\pi} \int_0^{\frac{\pi}{OSR}} \omega^{2N} d\omega = \frac{\Delta^2}{12(2N+1)\pi} \left(\frac{\pi}{OSR}\right)^{2N+1}$ 

Increasing order can dramatically reduce in-band quantization noise.

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## High Order NTFs



- Higher order  $\Rightarrow$  Reduced in-band noise
- NTF gain increases at high frequencies (around  $\omega \approx \pi$ ).
- Why cant one go on increasing order ?

Stability of  $\Delta\Sigma$  Modulators



- $Y(z) = L_0(z)U(z) + L_1(z)V(z)$
- *v* is the quantized version of *y*.

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- Quantizer is modeled as an additive noise source.
- V(z) = U(z)STF(z) + E(z)NTF(z)
- Y(z) = U(z)STF(z) + E(z)(NTF(z) 1)
- In the signal band,  $STF(z) \approx 1$
- Quantizer Input  $\approx$  (ADC input) + (Shaped Noise)

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#### Stability of $\Delta\Sigma$ Modulators



Quantizer input for OBG=1.5 and OBG=3.5

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## Gain of a Nonlinear Characteristic



- Assume an infinite precision quantizer with saturation.
- What is its gain ?
- Gain depends on signal.
- Black sinewave : Gain = 1
- Red sinewave : Gain < 1</p>

## Gain of a Nonlinear Characteristic



• Gain = 
$$\frac{E(v.y)}{E(y.y)}$$

- Makes intuitive sense.
- E(v.y) is the average value of v.y.
- *E*(*v*.*y*) is a measure of how much the output "resembles" the input.

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Gain of a Nonlinear Characteristic



If input to the quantizer exceeds the quantizer range

- Quantizer gain falls.
- If quantizer gain falls, system poles can move out of the unit circle.
- Modulator will become unstable.
- Signal level dependent loop stability has to be expected.

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Intuition about Loop Stability

- Loop becomes unstable if the quantizer saturates.
- Saturation occurs if the quantizer input exceeds the quantizer range.
- Quantizer Input = ADC Input + Shaped Noise.
- Conclusions -
  - The maximum ADC input **must be smaller** than the quantizer range. (called the Maximum Stable Amplitude (MSA)).
  - $\bullet~$  More "shaped" noise  $\rightarrow$  More likelihood of instability.
- More shaped noise  $\rightarrow$  Lesser in-band noise.
- An aggressive NTF will have a reduced MSA.

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Estimating Maximum Stable Amplitude (MSA)

- Simulation is the best way.
- Keep stepping up the input sinewave amplitude.
  - For every amplitude, compute in-band SNR.
  - Beyond the MSA, the closed loop poles move out of the unit-circle.
  - Noise shaping is lost  $\Rightarrow$  In-band SNR falls.
  - Quantizer input tends to infinity.

Time consuming.

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Estimating MSA Without Sinewave Inputs

- Originally proposed by Lars Risbo.
- Put a slowly increasing ramp into the ADC.
  - Beyond the MSA, the closed loop poles move out of the unit-circle.
  - Quantizer input tends to infinity very rapidly.
  - The value of the ADC input when the quantizer input *blows up* is the MSA.
- Found (empirically) to result in an MSA close to that predicted by the sinewave method.
- Much quicker than the sinewave technique.

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## Estimating MSA Without Sinewave Inputs



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#### Estimating MSA Without Sinewave Inputs



log(Quantizer Input) versus ADC Input MSA is about 90% of the quantizer range MSA vs OBG for a Third Order NTF



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A Systematic NTF Design Procedure

- NTFs of the form  $(1 z^{-1})^N$  have stability problems.
- Why?
- The OBG is too high  $(2^N)$ .
- This saturates the quantizer even for small inputs, causing instability.
- The MSA is small.
- Worse for low quantizer resolutions.

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## A Systematic NTF Design Procedure Solution

• Introduce poles into the NTF.

• 
$$NTF(z) = \frac{(1-z^{-1})^N}{D(z^{-1})}.$$

• Recall that  $NTF(\infty) = 1$ .

• 
$$\Rightarrow D(z = \infty) = 1.$$

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- Properly chosen poles reduce OBG of the NTF, enhancing stability.
- However, stability comes at the expense of increased in-band noise.

A Systematic NTF Design Procedure

- Commonly used pole positions : Butterworth, Chebyshev, Inv. Chebyshev etc.
- Coefficients for these approximations readily gotten from MATLAB.
- Schreier's Delta-Sigma Toolbox is an invaluable design aid.
- One should understand what the toolbox does.

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- A Systematic NTF Design Procedure
  - Choose the order of the NTF.
  - OSR, number of levels (*n*) and desired SNR are known.

• Example : Order = 3, OSR = 64, *n* = 16, SNR = 115 dB.

- Basically, the NTF is a high-pass filter transfer function.
  - Example : Choose a Butterworth Highpass.
- Choose the 3 dB corner of the high pass filter -
  - Example :  $\omega_{3dB} = \frac{\pi}{8}$ .
  - For a Butterworth NTF, specifying the cutoff specifies the complete transfer function.

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A Systematic NTF Design Procedure

Get the transfer function from MATLAB

• [b,a]=butter(3,1/8,'high')  
• 
$$H(z) = \frac{0.6735 - 2.0204z^{-1} + 2.0204z^{-2} - 0.6735z^{-3}}{1 - 2.2192z^{-1} + 1.7151z^{-2} - 0.4535z^{-3}}$$
  
• MATLAB sets  $|H(e^{j\pi})| = 1$ .

• Recall that for H(z) to be a valid NTF,  $H(\infty) = 1$ .

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A Systematic NTF Design Procedure

• Scale H(z) by  $\frac{1}{0.6735}$  to obtain NTF(z). •  $NTF(z) = \frac{(1 - 3z^{-1} + 3z^{-2} - z^{-3})}{1 - 2.2192z^{-1} + 1.7151z^{-2} - 0.4535z^{-3}}$ 



- A Systematic NTF Design Procedure
  - Find loop filter using  $\frac{1}{1+L(z)} = NTF(z)$ .
  - Simulate the equations describing the modulator.
  - Compute the peak SNR.
    - In our example, we obtain SNR=102 dB after simulation.
    - MSA = 0.85.

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## A Systematic NTF Design Procedure

- If SNR is not enough, repeat the entire procedure above with a higher cutoff frequency for the Butterworth high pass filter.
  - This will increase the OBG (intuition on this later).
  - The MSA will reduce.

- If SNR is too high, repeat the entire procedure above with a lower cutoff frequency for the Butterworth high pass filter.
  - This will decrease the OBG (intuition on this later).
  - The MSA will increase.

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A Systematic NTF Design Procedure

- SNR obtained with 3 dB cutoff of  $\frac{\pi}{8}$  is inadequate.
- So, we increase the cutoff frequency to  $\frac{\pi}{4}$ .
- The peak SNR is around 116 dB.
- OBG = 2.25, MSA = 0.8.
- We are done.
- This iterative process is coded into synthesizeNTF in Schreier's toolbox.

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A Systematic NTF Design Procedure : Remarks

- Butterworth is one of several candidate high pass filters.
  - All the zeros of transmission are at the origin.
- Another useful family is the inverse Chebyshev approximation.
  - Has complex zeros (on the unit circle).





• *E* is a disturbance injected into the feedback loop.

• 
$$V(z) = X(z) \frac{L(z)}{1+L(z)} + E(z) \frac{1}{1+L(z)}$$
.

• If 
$$L(z) = \infty$$
,  $V(z) = X(z)$ .

• The loop rejects E(z), or the loop is *insensitive* to E(z).



- L(z) cannot be  $\infty$  at all frequencies.
- $V(z) = X(z) \frac{L(z)}{1+L(z)} + E(z) \frac{1}{1+L(z)}$ .
- The loop rejects *E* at frequencies where the loop gain is high.
- How effectively this is done is called the sensitivity function.
- Sensitivity is  $\frac{1}{1+L(e^{j\omega})}$

- In a  $\Delta\Sigma$  loop, sensitivity is the same as the NTF.
- Recall : The first sample of the NTF impulse response is 1.
- Equivalent to  $NTF(\infty) = 1$
- The NTF can be written as  $\frac{(1+a_1z^{-1})(1+a_2z^{-1}+a_3z^{-2})\cdots}{(1+b_1z^{-1})(1+b_2z^{-1}+b_3z^{-3})\cdots}$
- Poles must be within the unit circle (for a stable loop).
- The zeroes are on the unit circle (or inside).

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• It can be shown that  $\int_0^{\pi} \log(|1 + a_1 e^{-j\omega}|) d\omega = 0$ , if  $|a_1| \le 1$ .



The area above the 0 dB in the log magnitude plot is equal to the area below the 0 dB line.

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• 
$$\int_0^{\pi} \log(|1 + a_2 e^{-j\omega} + a_3 e^{-j2\omega}|) d\omega = 0$$
  
if the roots of  $1 + a_2 z^{-1} + a_3 z^{-2}$  lie within (or on) the unit circle.

• Straightforward to derive, if one accepts the previous result.

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$$\int_0^{\pi} \log |NTF(e^{j\omega})| d\omega =$$
$$\int_0^{\pi} \log \left| \frac{(1+a_1e^{-j\omega})(1+a_2e^{-j\omega}+a_3e^{-2j\omega})\cdots}{(1+b_1e^{-j\omega})(1+b_2e^{-j\omega}+b_3e^{-3j\omega})\cdots} \right| =$$

$$\int_{0}^{\pi} \log(|1 + a_{1}e^{-j\omega}|) d\omega + \int_{0}^{\pi} \log(|1 + a_{2}e^{-j\omega} + a_{3}e^{-j2\omega}|) d\omega - \int_{0}^{\pi} \log(|1 + b_{2}e^{-j\omega} + b_{3}e^{-j2\omega}|) d\omega + \cdots$$

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$$\int_{0}^{\pi} \log |NTF(e^{j\omega})| d\omega =$$

$$\int_{0}^{\pi} \log \left| \frac{(1+a_{1}e^{-j\omega})(1+a_{2}e^{-j\omega}+a_{3}e^{-2j\omega})\cdots}{(1+b_{1}e^{-j\omega})(1+b_{2}e^{-j\omega}+b_{3}e^{-3j\omega})\cdots} \right| =$$

$$\int_{0}^{\pi} \log(|1+a_{1}e^{-j\omega}|) d\omega + \int_{0}^{\pi} \log(|1+a_{2}e^{-j\omega}+a_{3}e^{-j2\omega}|) d\omega =$$

$$\int_{0}^{\pi} \log(|1 + a_{1}e^{-j\omega}|) d\omega + \int_{0}^{\pi} \log(|1 + a_{2}e^{-j\omega} + a_{3}e^{-j2\omega}|) d\omega - \int_{0}^{\pi} \log(|1 + b_{2}e^{-j\omega} + b_{3}e^{-j2\omega}|) d\omega + \cdots$$
  
= Zero

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$$\int_{0}^{\pi} \log |NTF(e^{j\omega})| d\omega = 0$$
  
The Integral of the Log Magnitude of an NTF is 0



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# Good inband performance at the expense of poor out-of-band performance.



# Complex zeros better than choosing all NTF zeros at the origin.

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# Complex zeros better than choosing all NTF zeros at the origin.

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Higher order  $\Rightarrow$  less in-band noise.

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- Remember : A quantizer = ADC + DAC.
- Needs ONE DAC.
- Loop filter gain goes to infinity at DC, with order 2.
- Both NTF zeros at DC (z = 1).
- Called CIFF (Cascade of Integrators Feed Forward)



- Remember : A quantizer = ADC + DAC.
- Needs TWO DACs.
- Loop filter gain goes to infinity at DC, with order 2.
- Both NTF zeros at DC (z = 1).
- Called CIFB (Cascade of Integrators Feed Back).



- CIFF loop with complex zeros.
- NTF zeros are at  $1 \pm j\sqrt{\gamma}$ .

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- CIFB loop with complex zeros.
- NTF zeros are at  $1 \pm j\sqrt{\gamma}$ .

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Loop Filter Implementation

- Traditionally done in discrete-time.
- Implemented using switched-capacitor techniques.
- Switched capacitor circuits have several advantages.
  - Exact nature of settling is irrelevant, only the settled value matters.
  - Pole-zero locations of the loop filter are set by capacitor ratios, which are exteremely accurate.
  - Insensitive to clock jitter, as long as complete settling occurs.
  - Easier to simulate.

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Loop Filter Implementation Switched capacitor loop filters have disadvantages too -

- Difficult to drive from external sources due to the large spike currents drawn.
- Upfront sampling : requires an anti-alias filter.
- Integrator opamps consume more power than continuous-time counterparts.
- Require large capacitors to lower kT/C noise.

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Continuous-time Loop Filters



- What is the NTF ?
- How does one design such a loop ?
- How does this compare with a discrete-time loop filter ?

# DAC Modeling



- The input to the DAC is a digital code a<sub>k</sub> that changes every T<sub>s</sub>.
- The DAC output is an analog waveform.
- Output =  $\sum_{k} a_{k} p(t kT_{s})$
- p(t) is called the pulse-shape.
- Commonly used shapes are the Non-Return to Zero (NRZ) and Return-to-Zero (RZ) pulses.

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### Loop Modeling



- Set input to zero.
- Replace ADC-DAC with quantization noise e(n).
- DAC is modeled as a filter with impulse response p(t).

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# Loop Modeling



- Break the loop after the sampler.
- Apply a discrete time impulse.
- What comes back is  $I[n] = p(t) * I(t)|_{kT_s}$ .
- The z-transform of *I*[*n*] is the equivalent discrete time loop filter.

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### A First Order Example



• Discrete-time equivalent impulse response of the loop filter 0, 1, 1, 1, 1 · · ·

• 
$$L(z) = \frac{z^{-1}}{1-z^{-1}}$$

• 
$$NTF(z) = \frac{1}{1+L(z)} = 1 - z^{-1}$$

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A Second Order Example



- Say we need  $NTF(z) = (1 z^{-1})^2$ .
- Discrete-time impulse response through  $k_1$  $k_1(r_1(t) - r_1(t - 1)) = \{0, k_1, k_1, k_1, k_1, \dots\}$
- Discrete-time impulse response through  $k_2$  $k_2(r_2(t) - r_2(t-1)) = \frac{1}{2}\{0, k_2, 3k_2, 5k_2 \cdots\}$

- A Second Order Example
  - Discrete-time impulse response through k<sub>1</sub>

$$k_1(r_1(t) - r_1(t-1)) = \{0, k_1, k_1, k_1, k_1, \dots\} \Rightarrow \frac{k_1 z^{-1}}{1 - z^{-1}}.$$

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# • Discrete-time impulse response through $k_2$ $k_2(r_2(t) - r_2(t-1))$ $= \frac{1}{2}\{0, k_2, 3k_2, 5k_2, 7k_2 \dots\} \Rightarrow \frac{k_2 z^{-1}}{(1-z^{-1})^2} - \frac{0.5k_2 z^{-1}}{1-z^{-1}}.$ • $L(z) = \frac{(k_1 + 0.5k_2)z^{-1} + (-k_1 + 0.5k_2)z^{-2}}{(1-z^{-1})^2}.$

A Second Order Example

• 
$$L(z) = \frac{(k_1 + 0.5k_2)z^{-1} + (-k_1 + 0.5k_2)z^{-2}}{(1 - z^{-1})^2}$$
.  
• To achieve *NTF*(*z*) =  $(1 - z^{-1})^2$ , we need  
 $L(z) = \frac{2z^{-1} - z^{-2}}{(1 - z^{-1})^2}$ .  
•  $\Rightarrow k_1 = 1.5, k_2 = 1$ .



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Continuous-time Sigma-Delta Summary

- It is possible to "emulate" a D-T loop filter with a C-T one.
- The equivalence depends on the DAC pulse shape.
- The technique can be extended to high order NTFs -
  - From the desired NTF(z), find L(z)
  - Convert *L*(*z*) into *L*(*s*) using the DAC pulse shape
  - The MATLAB command d2c will do it for you, for an NRZ DAC.
  - Implement L(s) using any one of the loop filter topologies.
- A CT loop filter has several other advantages ... listen on.

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#### Move L(s) outside the loop

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Move the sampler outside the loop

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 Replace the cascade of the DAC and L(s) by the equivalent discrete-time filter L(z).

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• NTF(z) = 1/(1 + L(z))

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- Consider a tone at frequency  $\Delta f$  in the signal band.
- Response to frequency  $\Delta f$  is  $L(\Delta f)NTF(\Delta f)$ .
- In a general ADC, a tone  $(\Delta f + f_s)$  can alias as  $\Delta f$ .
- What about a CTDSM ?
- Response to frequency  $(\Delta f + f_s)$  is  $L(\Delta f + f_s)NTF(\Delta f)$

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- Alias rejection is  $\left|\frac{L(\Delta f)}{L(\Delta f + f_s)}\right|$
- Implicit anti-aliasing without an explicit filter !
- Valuable feature of CT Delta-Sigma modulators.

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Effect of Time-Constant Variations in the Loop Filter

- On-chip RC's vary with process and temperature.
- On an integrated circuit, ratios of like elements are tightly controlled.
- We need to only worry only about quantities with "dimensions".
- What happens due to absolute variation of RC time constants ?
#### If all RC time-constants decrease

- Loop filter bandwidth increases.
- In-band loop gain increases.
- Lower in-band quantization noise better in-band NTF.
- NTF must be worse out-of-band - higher OBG.



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If all RC time-constants decrease

- Higher OBG for the NTF.
- Reduced maximum stable amplitude.
- Closer to instability.



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#### If all RC time-constants increase

- Loop filter bandwidth decreases.
- In-band loop gain decreases.
- Higher in-band quantization noise poorer in-band NTF.
- NTF must be better out-of-band - lower OBG.



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If all RC time-constants increase

- Lower OBG for the NTF.
- Increased maximum stable amplitude.
- "More" stable.



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## Effect of RC Variations on the NTF

Nominal NTF : Maximally flat with an OBG=3



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#### Effect of RC Variations: Time Domain Intuition

Nominal NTF : Maximally flat with an OBG=3



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#### Effect of RC Variations: Time Domain Intuition

Nominal NTF : Maximally flat with an OBG=3



Why is there excess loop delay ?

- Quantizer needs time to make a decision.
- Finite operational amplifier gain-bandwidth product.
- DEM logic delay in multibit converters.

# A First Order Example



- Loop filter is an integrator.
- An NRZ DAC is used.
- Sampling Rate = 1 Hz

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 Discrete-time equivalent impulse response of the loop filter 0, 1, 1, 1, 1 ···

• 
$$L(z) = \frac{z^{-1}}{1-z^{-1}}$$
  
•  $NTF(z) = \frac{L(z)}{1+L(z)} = 1 - z^{-1}$ 

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- In practice, the quantizer needs time to make a decision.
- Equivalent to a delay  $t_d$  in the loop.
- What happens to the NTF of the loop ?



• Discrete-time equivalent impulse response of the loop filter  $\{0, 1 - t_d, 1, 1, 1 \cdots\} = \{0, 1, 1, 1, 1 \cdots\} + \{0, -t_d, 0, 0, 0 \cdots\}$ •  $L(z) = \frac{z^{-1}}{1 - z^{-1}} - t_d z^{-1}$ •  $NTF(z) = \frac{L(z)}{1 + L(z)} = \frac{1 - z^{-1}}{1 - t_d z^{-1} + t_d z^{-2}}$ 



- The order of the system is increased.
- Becomes unstable for  $t_d = 1$
- Not surprising a delay in a feedback loop is always problematic.
- Aggressive NTF designs are more sensitive to excess delay.

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- Impulse response of the loop filter with delay  $\{0, t_d, 1, 1, 1 \dots\} = \{0, 1, 1, 1, 1 \dots\} + \{0, -t_d, 0, 0, 0 \dots\}$
- Add a path with discrete-time response {0, *t*<sub>d</sub>, 0, 0, 0...} to the loop filter.



• Implementation of feedforward path in the loop.

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• Equivalent implementation of loop filter feedforward.

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- Eliminate path from the input (small compared to the integrator output).
- Excess delay can be compensated by adding a direct path around the quantizer.

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Excess Delay Compensation : Summary



- Direct path around the quantizer.
- Modification of H(s) (coefficient tuning).
- General approach valid even for high order modulators.
- Determining coefficients and *k* best done numerically.

# Clock Jitter in Discrete-time $\Delta\Sigma$ ADCs



The input is sampled outside the modulator

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### Clock Jitter in Discrete-time $\Delta\Sigma$ ADCs



- Treat the input as a sinusoid with maximum amplitude A.
- Error due to jitter at the sampling instant is  $\Delta t \frac{dA \sin(2\pi f_{in}t)}{dt}$
- Assume white clock jitter with RMS value  $\sigma_i$ .
- RMS value of noise due to jitter in the signal bandwidth is  $\sigma_j \sqrt{2} A \pi f_{in} / OSR$

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Clock Jitter in Continuous-time  $\Delta\Sigma$  ADCs



The input is sampled inside the modulator.

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# The Ideal Sampler/Quantizer



- Input is sampled in the ADC.
- ADC output code is sampled by the DAC.

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## The Ideal Sampler/Quantizer



- DAC output analog waveform fedback into the loopfilter.
- No delay in the quantizer, no clock jitter.
- ADC output code is the modulator output.

## The Real Sampler/Quantizer



- ADC needs a finite time for conversion.
- DAC is clocked *t*<sub>del</sub> later.
- The clock is jittery.

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#### Effect of ADC Sampling Jitter



- Modelled as an error preceding the ADC.
- Noise shaped by the loop.

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# Effect of DAC Reconstruction Jitter



- Modelled as an error following the DAC.
- Equivalent to an error at the modulator input.
- Degrades performance.

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## Types of DACs : NRZ versus RZ



## Modeling Clock Jitter in NRZ DACs



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Modeling Clock Jitter in RZ DACs



Clock Jitter in NRZ versus RZ DACs

- Error depends on the height & number of transisitions in the DAC output waveform.
- NRZ DACs have a transition height y(n) − y(n − 1), one transistion every T<sub>s</sub>.
- RZ DACs have a transition height 2y(n), two transistions every T<sub>s</sub>.
- RZ DACs are MUCH more sensitive to clock jitter !

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# Clock Jitter in Modulators with NRZ DACs



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Effect of Jitter on SNR

$$e_{j}(n) = [y(n) - y(n-1)] \frac{\Delta t(n)}{T}$$
$$\sigma_{ej}^{2} = \sigma_{dy}^{2} \frac{\sigma_{\Delta t}^{2}}{T^{2}}$$
$$y(n) = v_{in}(n) + e_{q}(n) * h(n)$$

- v<sub>in</sub> is the input.
- $e_q$  is the quantization noise sequence.
- *h*(*n*) is the impulse response corresponding to the NTF.

$$y(n) - y(n-1) = v_{in}(n) - v_{in}(n-1) + (e_q(n) - e_q(n-1)) * h(n)$$

Due to oversampling,  $v_{in}(n) \approx v_{in}(n-1)$ 

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$$y(n) - y(n-1) \approx (e_q(n) - e_q(n-1)) * n(n)$$
  
 $e_q(n)$  is a white sequence with mean square value  $\sigma_{lsb}^2$ .

((n)) ((n A)) (a (n)) (a (n))

$$\sigma_{dy}^2 \approx \frac{\sigma_{lsb}^2}{\pi} \int_0^{\pi} |(1 - e^{-j\omega}) NTF(e^{j\omega})|^2 d\omega$$

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The in-band noise due to jitter (J) is

$$J \approx \frac{\sigma_{\Delta T_s}^2}{T^2} \frac{\sigma_{lsb}^2}{\pi OSR} \int_0^\pi |(1 - e^{-j\omega}) NTF(e^{j\omega})|^2 d\omega$$

Effect of Jitter on SNR

$$J = \frac{\sigma_{\Delta T_s}^2}{T^2} \frac{\sigma_{lsb}^2}{\pi OSR} \int_0^\pi |(1 - e^{-j\omega}) NTF(e^{j\omega})|^2 d\omega$$
(1)

- Observation : The NTF at high frequencies (close to  $\omega = \pi$ ) contributes the most to *J*.
- $\Rightarrow$  NTFs with high OBG result in more jitter noise.
- Smaller LSB, less jitter noise → multibit modulator less sensitive to jitter.

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Example Calculation

- Audio modulator, 24 kHz bandwidth.
- OSR = 64 ( $f_s$  = 3.072 *MHz*), 4-bit quantizer.
- Quantizer input range is 2 V.
- LSB size is  $2/16 \rightarrow \sigma_{lsb}^2 = \frac{(2/16)^2}{12}$
- Assume 100 ps RMS jitter.
- J = (1.28 μV)<sup>2</sup>.
- Maximum Signal Amplitude is 0.83 V peak.
- Signal to Jitter Noise Ratio is  $20 \log(\frac{0.83/\sqrt{2}}{1.28\,\mu V}) = 113 \, dB$
- Conclusion : 100 ps RMS Jitter is not an issue for 15 bit resolution.

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# Feedback DAC nonlinearity

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## $\Delta\Sigma$ analog to digital converter



Typically 4 bits (16 levels) or less in the quantizer

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## Feedback DAC architecture

quantizer output  $v = d_{2-0}$  [binary] =  $b_{1-7}$  [thermometer]



- Flash quantizer gives a thermometer coded output
- Thermometer coded DAC: high accuracy and small loop delay

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## Switched capacitor (discrete-time) $\Delta\Sigma$ modulator



- Array of *M* capacitors for M + 1 levels
- Flash quantizer output v
- v capacitors charged to  $V_{ref}$  and M v to zero volts

## Continuous-time $\Delta\Sigma$ modulator



- Array of *M* resistors for M + 1 levels
- Flash quantizer output v
- v resistors connected to  $V_{ref}$  and M v to ground

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## Continuous-time $\Delta\Sigma$ modulator



- Array of *M* current sources for M + 1 levels
- Flash quantizer output v
- v current sources turned on and M v turned off

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- Multi bit: smaller LSB  $\Rightarrow$  lower quantization noise
- Single bit: larger LSB  $\Rightarrow$  higher quantization noise



- Multi bit quantizer
  - Clearly defined gain
  - Conforms to prediction using linear models
- Single bit quantizer
  - Signal dependent quantizer gain
  - Deviates from prediction using linear models



- Multi bit quantizer
  - Characteristics not linear due to mismatch
- Single bit quantizer
  - Characteristics always linear

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## Effect of DAC nonlinearity



- DAC output equals the input *u*
- v related to the input u by inverse nonlinearity of the DAC

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## Modeling the effect of DAC nonlinearity



 Nonlinear DAC driven by an ideal ΔΣ modulator and its output w analyzed

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#### Multi bit feedback DAC nonlinearity



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#### Multi bit feedback DAC nonlinearity

• 
$$I_{out}[0] = 0$$
  
•  $I_{out}[8] = \sum_{n=1}^{8} I_n$   
•  $I_{LSB} = 1/8 \sum_{n=1}^{8} I_n$   
• DNL  $\Delta I_k = I_k - I_{LSB}$   
• INL  $I_{ek} = \sum_{n=1}^{k} I_n - nI_{LSB} = \sum_{n=1}^{k} \Delta I_k$ 

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## Effects of DAC nonlinearity



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## Effects of DAC nonlinearity



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- Distortion
- Increased in band quantization noise

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- Reduce relative mismatch of DAC elements
- $\sigma_I/I_{LSB}, \sigma_C/C, \sigma_R/R \propto 1/\sqrt{WL}$
- 100× area increase to reduce relative mismatch by 10×
- Sizing alone cannot help

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## Representing v using a thermometer DAC



- v current sources must be on—multiple possibilities
- M!/M!(M-v)! combinations can represent v
- Only one possibility for v = 0 (all off) and v = 8 (all on)

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## Different combinations of unit cells for a given input

- v = 1 can be represented by turning on any one of  $I_{1-8}$
- Average of all possibilities

$$\frac{1}{8}\sum_{n=1}^{8}I_n=I_{LSB}$$

is the ideal output!

- For all *v*, averaging all possible combinations produces the ideal output
- Use different combinations to represent a given code

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## Different combinations of unit cells for a given input



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#### Randomization



- $M \times M$  switching matrix
- In each cycle, randomly choose a set of connections
- Converts distortion to white noise
- *M*! possible connections in the switch matrix (9! = 362880)—use a smaller subset
- Switch matrix introduces delay in the loop

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## Randomization-Butterfly scrambler



- Each stage flips across 1, 2, or 4 positions
- 7 switches instead of 64
- Only 128 combinations used—but good enough in practice

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#### **Randomization-results**



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## $\Delta\Sigma$ modulator with randomization



Extra delay in the loop

(A) E > (A) E > (B)

- Distortion components converted to noise
- Increased noise floor
- Additional loop delay

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## Data weighted averaging



• Cycle through all the current sources as rapidly as possible

## DAC nonlinearity



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## Data weighted averaging—dc input



- Accumulated error is zero after a small number of cycles
- Pattern repeats every *M* cycles for an *M* + 1 level DAC
- Tones at  $f_s/M$  and its harmonics for v = 1

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### Data weighted averaging—arbitrary inputs



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### Data weighted averaging—arbitrary inputs



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# Data weighted averaging—arbitrary inputs



## Data weighted averaging—mismatch shaping



- $\infty$  D/A output error bounded by INL<sub>max</sub>
- Finite power at all frequencies
- $1 z^{-1}$  at the output provides first order shaping

# Data weighted averaging—implementation



- *M* input barrel shifter driven by accumulated ADC output
- Loop delays from thermometer-binary converter, accumulator, barrel shifter

(A) E > (A) E > (B)

## Data weighted averaging—results



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# $\Delta\Sigma$ modulator with data weighted averaging



Extra delay in the loop

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- Provides first order mismatch shaping
- Potential for tones at  $\approx f_s/M$  with an M + 1 level quantizer
- For low OSR, tones can be close to the signal band
- Additional loop delay

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# Individual level averaging



- Cycle through all current sources for each input code
- Separate pointer for each input code
- Lesser potential for tones than DWA
- More noise than DWA

# Data weighted averaging—variants



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- Bidirectional DWA: Opposite directions in each cycle
- Double index averaging: Separate pointers for v > M/2 and v ≤ M/2
- DWA with randomization: Randomize the shifts once in every few cycles to break up tones

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# Higher order mismatch shaping



- Mismatch shaped by the transfer function H<sub>mismatch</sub>
- Deviation from exact shaping due to the constraint |sv| = |v|
- Complex hardware

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# Dynamic element matching: tradeoffs

- Mismatch error reduction
  - High order noise shaping (highest)
  - DWA
  - ILA
  - Randomization (lowest)
- Potential for tones
  - Randomization (lowest)
  - High order noise shaping
  - ILA
  - DWA (highest)
- Complexity
  - High order noise shaping (highest)
  - ILA, Randomization
  - DWA (lowest)
- Excess loop delay
  - High order noise shaping (highest)
  - ILA
  - DWA
  - Randomization (lowest)

# Dynamic element matching: summary

### Data weighted averaging

- Best compromise between complexity and performance
- Works very well with high OSR
- Potential for tones at low OSR
- ILA, other DWA variants
  - More complex, less potential for tones
- Randomization
  - Can also be used for DACs without noise shaping

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- Measure DAC characteristics
- Duplicate its characteristics in the digital path
- $v' = v + \epsilon$ ;  $\epsilon \ll v$ ; Lot more bits in v' than v

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# Calibration





- Store only the error to reduce register width
- Noise shaped quantization (digital ΔΣ modulator) to reduce decimator input width

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# Analog calibration



Calibrate all current sources against a master source

• Use M + 1 current sources and calibrate one at a time

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- No additional components in the loop  $\Rightarrow$  no excess delay
- Measuring DAC characteristics inline is challenging
- Additional digital or analog complexity

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# CASE STUDY

Shanthi Pavan Nagendra Krishnapura Oversampling Analog to Digital Converters

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A 15-bit Continuous-time  $\Delta\Sigma$  ADC for Digital Audio Design Targets

- Audio ADC (24 kHz Bandwidth)
- 15 bit resolution
- OSR = 64 (*f*<sub>s</sub> = 3.072 MHz)
- 0.18µm CMOS process, 1.8 V supply

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Continuous-time versus Discrete-time A continuous-time implementation was chosen

- Implicit anti-aliasing
- Resistive input impedance
- Low power dissipation

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Architectural Choices

- Single-bit versus multibit quantization ?
- Single loop versus MASH ?
- NTF ?
- Loop Filter Architecture ?

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Architecture : Single-bit vs Multibit

Single bit quantizer

- Simple hardware
- Gentle NTF
- High jitter sensitivity
- Metastability
- Opamp slew rate

Multibit quantizer

- Complex hardware
- Aggressive NTF
- Low jitter sensitivity
- Metastability : no issue

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Reduced slew rate

A 4-bit quantizer is used.

Architecture : Single Loop vs MASH

Matching of transfer functions are needed in a MASH design

- More complicated
- Might require calibration

A single loop design is chosen.

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Architecture : Choice of the NTF

A maximally flat NTF is chosen

Small OBG

Large OBG

- High in-band quantization noise
- Low jitter noise
- Increased Maximum Stable Amplitude (MSA)

- Low in-band quantization noise
- High jitter noise
- Reduced Maximum Stable Amplitude (MSA)

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An OBG of 2.5 is chosen as a compromise

### Effect Of OBG On Jitter And Quantization Noise



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#### Effect Of Systematic RC Time Constant Variations On The NTF



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#### MSA And SQNR With Systematic RC Time Constant Variations



### Simulated Output Bit Stream



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Feedfoward versus Distributed Feedback Loopfilters



(a)  $\omega_1 = 2.67, \omega_2 = 2.08, \omega_3 = 0.059$ 



(b)  $\omega_1 = 0.34, \omega_2 = 0.71, \omega_3 = 1.225$ 

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Feedfoward versus Distributed Feedback Loopfilters

### Feedforward

- First integrator is fasest.
- Third integrator is slowest.
- First opamp is power hungry (for noise reasons).
- Third opamp is low power (slowest integrator).
- Small capacitor area.

Distributed Feedback

- Third integrator is fastest.
- First integrator is slowest.
- First opamp is power hungry (for noise).
- Third opamp is power hungry (fastest integrator).
- Large capacitor area.

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A feedforward loop filter is used.

#### Loop Filter



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**Excess Delay Compensation : Conventional** 



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Excess Delay Compensation : Proposed



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### First Opamp



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### Second Opamp



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#### Flash ADC Block Diagram



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Comparator



### Effect of Random Offset in the Comparators



#### **Digital Backend**



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#### Unit DAC Resistor



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#### Reference Generation Circuitry



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Test Setup and Die Layout



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**Test Setup Schematic** 



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#### Measured Dynamic Range



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### In Band Spectrum



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### Out of Band Spectrum



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#### Performance Summary

Table: Summary of Measured ADC performance.

Signal Bandwidth/Clock Rate	24 kHz/3.072 MHz
Quantizer Range	3 V <sub>pp,diff</sub>
Input Swing for peak SNR	-1 dBFS
Dynamic Range/SNR/SNDR	93.5 dB/92.5 dB/90.8 dB
Active Area	<b>0.72</b> mm <sup>2</sup>
Process/Supply Voltage	0.18 μm CMOS/1.8 V
Power Dissipation (Modulator)	90 µW
Power Dissipation (Modulator and	121 μW
Reference Buffers)	
Figure of Merit(DR/SNR)	0.049 pJ/level,
	0.054 pJ/level

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Some References ...

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S. Norsworthy, R. Schreier and G. Temes, *IEEE Press* The Yellow Bible of  $\Delta\Sigma$  ADCs

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S. Pavan, N. Krishnapura et. al, *IEEE Journal of Solid State Circuits, February 2008.* 

Detailed description of the case study discussed in this tutorial.

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