

Chapter 5 Radio Equipment

Building Blocks Transmitters, Receivers Station Installation, Interference

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Fundamental Circuits - Oscillators

Produces a single frequency sine wave for use as an input to other circuits.

- An amplifier with a resonant filter feedback network
- Positive feedback greater than unity for oscillation
- Network can be Resistance-Capacitance or Inductance-Capacitance – RC or LC
- In Variable Frequency Oscillator VFO C or L can be varied
- A quartz crystal can act like LC at one frequency
- Other methods: PLL and DDS

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Oscillator Symbol and Circuit



Fundamental Circuits - Mixers

A mixer output is the product of the mixer inputs. One wave is multiplied by the other wave.

- Mixing is also called heterodyning and produces new frequencies at the sum and difference of the input frequencies.
- The output will also contain the input frequencies unless they are suppressed or filtered out.
- Usually only one of the mixer output frequencies is selected by using a filter.
- Do not confuse this mixer with an audio mixer where inputs are added together.

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Mixer Symbols and Signals





Fundamental Circuits - Multipliers

A Frequency Multiplier outputs a signal which is a *harmonic* of the input frequency. This is Not the same type of multiplication used in mixers.

- Amplifier driven to distortion produces harmonics.
- Resonant LC circuits are used to select the desired harmonic
- Multipliers may be cascaded for large frequency ratios. 7MHz => 2X => 5X => 3X => 210MHz
- Multipliers are called "Doubler", "Tripler", ... etc.
- Used to multiply a stable oscillator to a higher band.



Multiplier Symbol and Inputs



Fundamental Circuits – Modulators

Modulators, like mixers, perform a multiplication of one signal by another.

- Amplitude modulation voltage is multiplied by a voltage
- Frequency modulation frequency is multiplied by a voltage.
- Modulation creates new frequencies just like mixing.
- Balanced modulators cancel out one of the input frequencies, usually the carrier.





Modulator Symbol and Signals



Amplitude Modulation Methods

Historical method is to apply modulating voltage to plate or grid of a high-level amplifier.

Low level method uses a mixer in *balanced modulator* configuration.

If f1 is the modulating signal and f2 is the carrier:

- Balance in the mixer output can eliminate the carrier frequency f2, leaving f2 + f1 and f2 – f1 – the USB and LSB. (f1 is too low in frequency to be RF.)
- For Double sideband with carrier, some f2 can be added in by unbalancing the mixer.



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Frequency Modulation Methods

FM and PM are equivalent if the audio for PM has high frequency de-emphasis. Which one is used depends on the design. Both are called *angle modulation* because changing the frequency causes a change to the phase angle.

- FM is produced by a reactance modulator in the Oscillator.
- PM is produced by a reactance modulator in an amplifier stage.
- The phase of the carrier will vary but the average frequency is not changed
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