

EECS 242:
**Analysis of Memoryless
Weakly Non-Linear Systems**

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Review of Linear Systems

$$y(t) = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} h(t, \tau) x(\tau) d\tau$$

Linear:

$$\hat{x} = \alpha x_1(t) + \beta x_2(t)$$

$$y(t) = \alpha \underbrace{\int_{-\infty}^{\infty} h(t, \tau) x_1(\tau) d\tau}_{y_1(t)} + \beta \underbrace{\int_{-\infty}^{\infty} h(t, \tau) x_2(\tau) d\tau}_{y_2(t)}$$

$$= \alpha y_1(t) + \beta y_2(t) \quad \checkmark \text{ Linear}$$

- Complete description of a general time-varying linear system. Note output cannot have a DC offset!

Time-invariant Linear Systems

- Time-invariant Linear Systems has $h(t,\tau)=h(t-\tau)$
- Relative function of time rather than absolute
- The transfer function is “stationary”

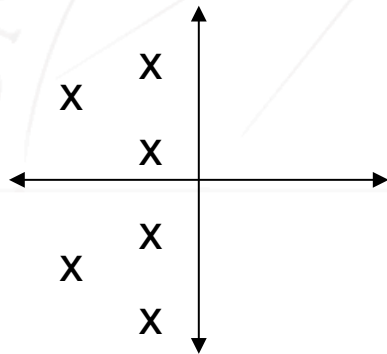
$$y(t) = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} h(t - \tau) x(\tau) d\tau = h(t) * x(t)$$

$$Y(j\omega) = H(j\omega)X(j\omega)$$

convolution in time is
product in frequency

Stable Systems

- Linear, time invariant (LTI) system cannot generate frequency content not present in input



Poles of H are strictly in the left hand plane (LHP)

$$Y(j\omega_k) = 0 \quad \text{if} \quad X(j\omega_k) = 0$$

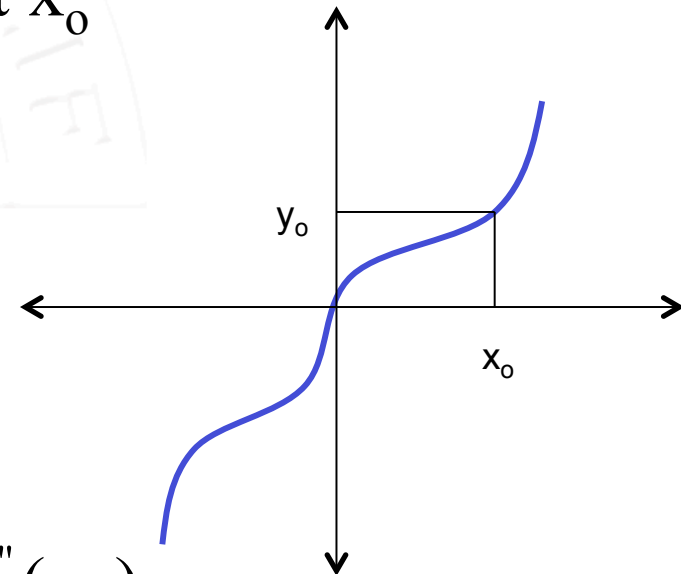
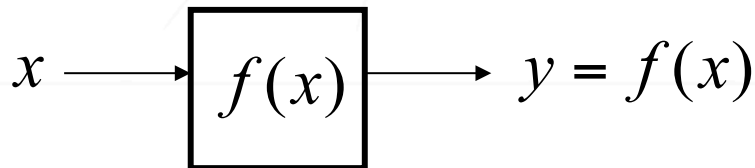
Memoryless Linear System

$$y(t) = \alpha x(t)$$

No “DC”

No Delay

- If function is continuous at x_0 , then we can do a Taylor Series expansion about x_0 :



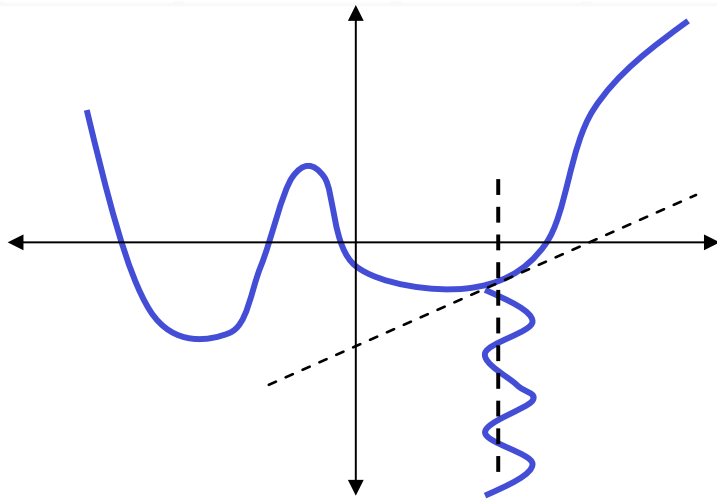
$$\hat{y}(x) = f(x_0) + f'(x_0)(x - x_0) + \frac{f''(x_0)}{2!}(x - x_0)^2 + \dots$$

Taylor Series Expansion

- This expansion has a certain radius of convergence. If we truncate the series, we can compute a bound on the error $y - \hat{y}$

$$s_o(x) = \hat{y}(x) - y_o = a_o + a_1x + a_2x^2 + a_3x^3 + \dots$$

- Let's assume: $x(t) = \sum_{n=1}^N A_n \cos(\omega_n t)$



Maximum excursion must be less than radius of convergence. Certainly the $\max A_k$ has to be smaller than the radius of convergence.

Sinusoidal Excitation

$$y_m = \left(\sum_{n=1}^N A_n \cos \omega_n t \right)^m = \left(\sum_{n=1}^N \frac{A_n}{2} \left(e^{j\omega_n t} + e^{-j\omega_n t} \right) \right)^m$$

$$= \left(\sum_{n=-N}^N \frac{A_n}{2} e^{j\omega_n t} \right)^m \quad \begin{array}{l} A_0 \equiv 0 \\ \omega_{-k} = -\omega_k \end{array}$$

$$= \underbrace{\sum() \sum() \sum() \sum()}_{m\text{-times}}$$

$$= \sum_{k_1=-N}^N \sum_{k_2=-N}^N \dots \sum_{k_m=-N}^N \frac{A_{k_1} A_{k_2} \dots A_{k_m}}{2^m} e^{j(\omega_{k_1} + \omega_{k_2} + \dots + \omega_{k_m})t}$$

General Mixing Product

We have frequency components: $\omega_{k_1} + \omega_{k_2} + \dots + \omega_{k_m}$
 where k_p ranges over $2N$ values

Terms in summation: $(2N)^m$

Example: Take $m=3, N=2$ $\left\{ \begin{array}{l} \omega_1, \omega_{-1} \\ \omega_2, \omega_{-2} \end{array} \right. (2N)^m = 4^3 = 64$

64 Terms in summation!

$$\omega \in \{-\omega_2, -\omega_1, \omega_1, \omega_2\}$$

64 Terms $\left\{ \begin{array}{l} \omega_1 + \omega_1 + \omega_1 \rightarrow 3\omega_1 \quad \leftarrow \text{HD}_3 \\ \omega_1 + \omega_1 + \omega_2 \rightarrow 2\omega_1 + \omega_2 \\ \omega_1 + \omega_1 - \omega_2 \rightarrow 2\omega_1 - \omega_2 \quad \leftarrow \text{IM}_3 \\ \omega_1 + \omega_1 - \omega_1 \rightarrow \omega_1 \quad \leftarrow \text{gain expression or compression} \end{array} \right.$

Vector Frequency Notation

Define $\vec{k} = (k_{-N}, \dots, k_{-1}, k_1, \dots, k_N)$

$2N$ -vector where k_j denotes the number of times a particular frequency appears in a give summation:

$$\left. \begin{array}{l} \omega_2 + \omega_1 + \omega_2 \\ \omega_1 + \omega_2 + \omega_2 \\ \omega_2 + \omega_2 + \omega_1 \end{array} \right\} \vec{k} = \begin{pmatrix} -2 & -1 & 0 & 1 & 2 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 2 \end{pmatrix}$$

No DC terms

$$\omega_1 + \omega_1 - \omega_2 \quad \vec{k} = (1 \quad 0 \quad 2 \quad 0)$$

$$\sum_{k=-N}^{k=+N} k_j = k_{-N} + \dots + k_{-1} + k_1 + \dots + k_N = m$$

Sum = order of non-linearity

Multinomial Coefficient

For a fixed vector \vec{k}_o , how many different sum vectors are there?

m frequencies can be summed $m!$ different ways, but order is immaterial.

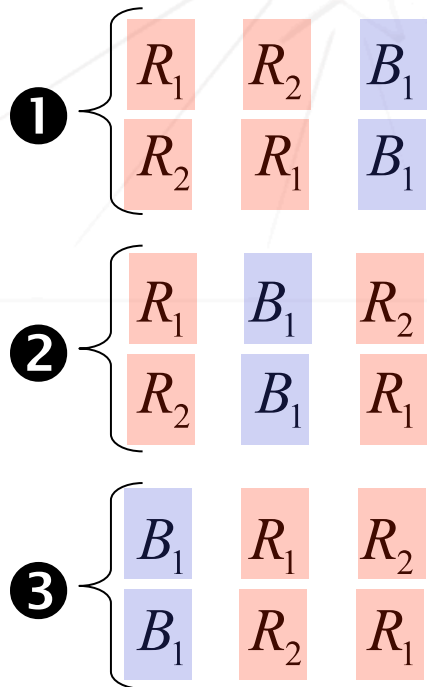
Each coefficient k_j can be ordered $k_j!$ ways. Therefore, we have:

$$\binom{m; k} = \frac{m!}{(k_{-N})! \cdots (k_{-1})! (k_{+1})! \cdots (k_N)!}$$

Multinomial coefficient

Game of Cards (example)

- 3 Cards: 3! or six ways to order cards



$$\frac{3!}{1! 2!} = 3 \text{ ways to order}$$

Since $R_1 = R_2$,

Reds not distinguished

Making Conjugate Pairs

Usually, we only care about a particular frequency mix generated by certain order non-linearity

Since our signal is real, each term has a complex conjugate. Hence, there is another:

$$\vec{k} = (k_N, \dots, k_1, k_{-1}, \dots, k_{-N})$$

reverse order

Taking the complex conjugates in pairs:

$$2 \operatorname{Re} \left(e^{j(\omega_{k_1} + \omega_{k_2} + \dots + \omega_{k_m})t} \right) = 2 \cos \left(\omega_{k_1} + \omega_{k_2} + \dots + \omega_{k_m} \right) t$$

Amplitude of Mix

Thus the amplitude of any particular frequency component is:

$$\frac{2 \times \binom{m; \bar{k}}{2^m}}{2^m} = \frac{\binom{m; \bar{k}}{2^{m-1}}}{2^{m-1}}$$

Ex: IM_3 product generated by the cubic term

$$IM_3: (2\omega_1 - \omega_2) \Rightarrow \bar{k} = \begin{pmatrix} -2 & -1 & 1 & 0 \\ 1 & 0 & 2 & 0 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$\begin{array}{l} m=3 \\ N=2 \end{array} \quad \binom{m; \bar{k}}{1!2!} = \frac{3!}{1!2!} = 3 \quad 2^{m-1} = 2^2 = 4$$

Amplitude of IM_3 relative to fundamental:

$$IM_3 = \frac{3}{4} \frac{a_3 s_i^3}{a_1 s_i} = \frac{3}{4} \frac{a_3}{a_1} s_i^2$$

Gain Compression/Expansion

- How much gain compression occurs due to cubic and pentic (x^5) terms?

cubic: $m=3, N=1$ $\omega_1 + \omega_1 - \omega_1 = \omega_1$ $\vec{k} = (1, 2)$

$\frac{(m; k)}{2^{m-1}} = \frac{3!}{2! \cdot 2^2} = \frac{3}{4}$ amp. of fund: $a_1 s_i + \frac{3}{4} a_3 s_i^3$

App. Gain: $a_i + \frac{3}{4} a_3 s_i^2$ Gain depends on signal amplitude

$\vec{k} = (1, 2)$
 ↑ ↘
 $-\omega_1$ $+\omega_1$
 appear anywhere This to appear twice anywhere

pentic: $m=5, N=1$ $\omega_1 - \omega_1 + \omega_1 - \omega_1 + \omega_1 = \omega_1$

$\vec{k} = \begin{pmatrix} -1 & 1 \\ 2 & 3 \end{pmatrix}$ $(m; \vec{k}) = \frac{5!}{3! 2!} = \frac{5 \cdot 4}{2} = 10$ $2^{m-1} = 2^4 = 16$

App. Gain: $= a_1 + \frac{3}{4} a_3 s_i^2 + \frac{10}{16} a_5 s_i^4$

Who wins? Pentic or Cubic?

$$R = \frac{\text{Gain Reduction due to Cubic}}{\text{Gain Reduction due to Pentic}} = \frac{\frac{3}{4} a_3 s_i^2}{\frac{5}{8} a_5 s_i^4}$$

$$R = \frac{1}{s_i^2} \frac{a_3}{a_5} \frac{6}{5}$$

Take an exponential transfer function and consider gain compression: $I_C = I_S e^{V_{BE}/V_T}$ $V_{BE} = V_Q + v_s$

$$I_C = I_S e^{V_Q/V_T} e^{v_s/V_T}$$

$$= I_Q \left(1 + \left(\frac{v_s}{V_T} \right) + \frac{\left(\frac{v_s}{V_T} \right)^2}{2!} + \dots \right)$$

Compression for Exp (BJT)

$$a_3 = \frac{\left(\frac{1}{V_T}\right)^3}{3!} \quad a_5 = \frac{\left(\frac{1}{V_T}\right)^5}{5!}$$

$$R = \frac{1}{s_i^2} \frac{a_3}{a_5} \frac{6}{5} = \frac{1}{s_i^2} \left(\frac{1}{V_T}\right)^3 \frac{1}{3!} \frac{5!}{\left(\frac{1}{V_T}\right)^5} \frac{6}{5} = \frac{1}{s_i^2} \frac{5 \cdot 4 \cdot 6}{\left(\frac{1}{V_T}\right)^2 \cdot 5} = 24 \left(\frac{V_T}{s_i}\right)^2$$

- When $R=1$, pentic non-linearity contributes equally to gain compression...

$$R=1 \quad \Rightarrow \quad s_i = V_T \sqrt{24} \approx \underline{127\text{mV}}$$

Summary of Distortion

$$\begin{array}{c} x(t) \longrightarrow \boxed{f(x)} \longrightarrow y(t) \\ f(x) = a_1x + a_2x^2 + a_3x^3 + \dots \end{array}$$

- Due to non-linearity, $y(t)$ has frequency components not present in input. For sinusoidal excitation by N tones, we M tones in output:

$$M = \frac{(2N + m - 1)!}{m! (2N - 1)!}$$

m: Order of highest term in non-linearity (Taylor exp.)

Amplitude of Frequency Mix

Particular frequency mix \vec{k} has frequency

$$f_{\vec{k}} = \sum_{\substack{j=-N \\ j \neq 0}}^N k_j f_j = (k_1 - k_{-1})f_1 + \dots + (k_N - k_{-N})f_N$$

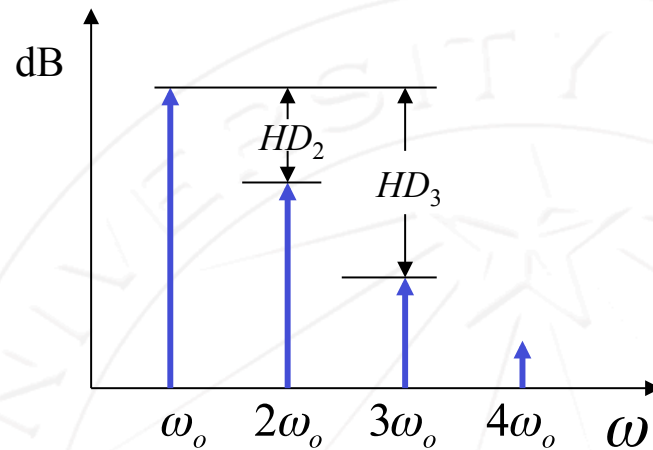
$$\sum_{j=-N}^{+N} k_j = k_{-N} + \dots + k_{-1} + k_1 + \dots + k_N = m$$

$$\theta_{\vec{k}} = \sum \theta_j k_j = (k_1 - k_{-1})\theta_1 + \dots + (k_N - k_{-N})\theta_N$$

The amplitude of any particular frequency mix

$$\underbrace{\left(\frac{\binom{m; \vec{k}}{2^{m-1}} |A_1|^{k_1+k_{-1}} \dots |A_N|^{k_N+k_{-N}} \right)}{\text{amplitude}} \times \cos(\omega_k t + \theta_k)$$

Harmonic Distortion



- For an input frequency ω_j , each order non-linearity (power) produces a j th order harmonic in output

$$\begin{aligned}
 HD_2 &= \frac{1}{2} \frac{a_2}{a_1} s_i \\
 &= \frac{1}{2} \frac{a_2}{a_1^2} s_o
 \end{aligned}$$

$$HD_2 \propto \text{Signal amplitude}$$

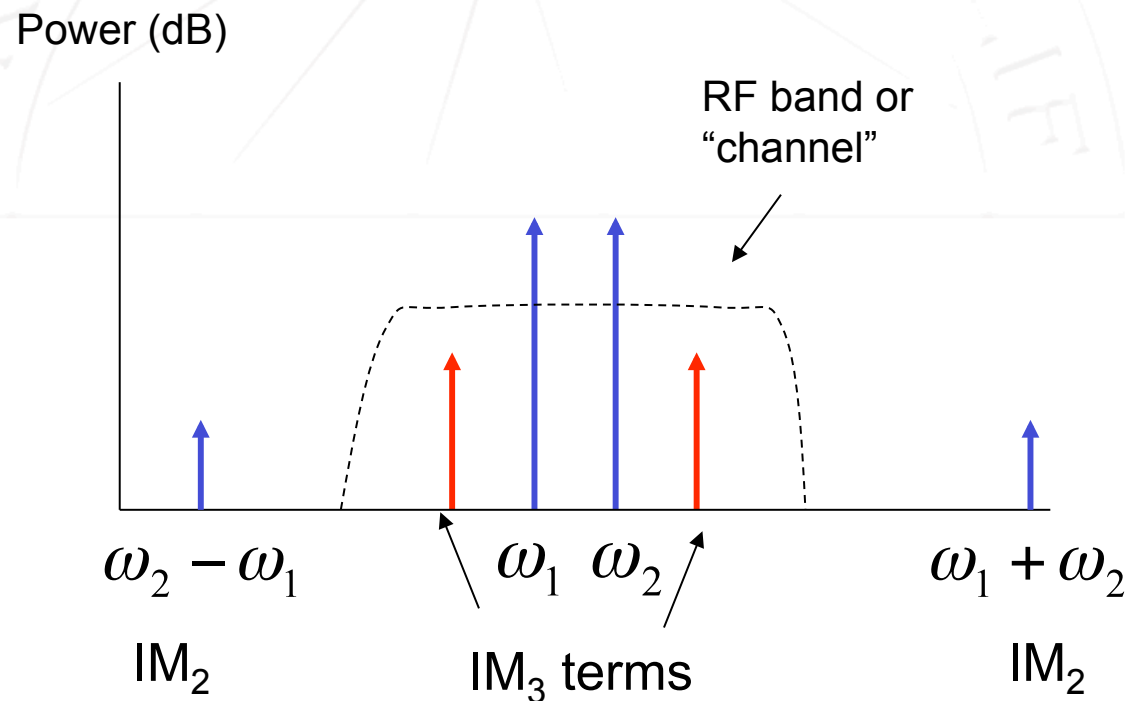
$$\begin{aligned}
 HD_3 &= \frac{1}{4} \frac{a_3}{a_1} s_i^2 \\
 &= \frac{1}{4} \frac{a_3}{a_1^3} s_o^2
 \end{aligned}$$

$$HD_3 \propto (\text{Signal amplitude})^2$$

2 dB increase for 1 dB signal increase

Intermodulation

- For a two-tone input to a memoryless non-linearity, output contains $(2\omega_1 - \omega_2)$ & $(2\omega_2 - \omega_1)$ due to cubic power and $(\omega_2 - \omega_1)$ & $(\omega_2 + \omega_1)$ due to second order power.

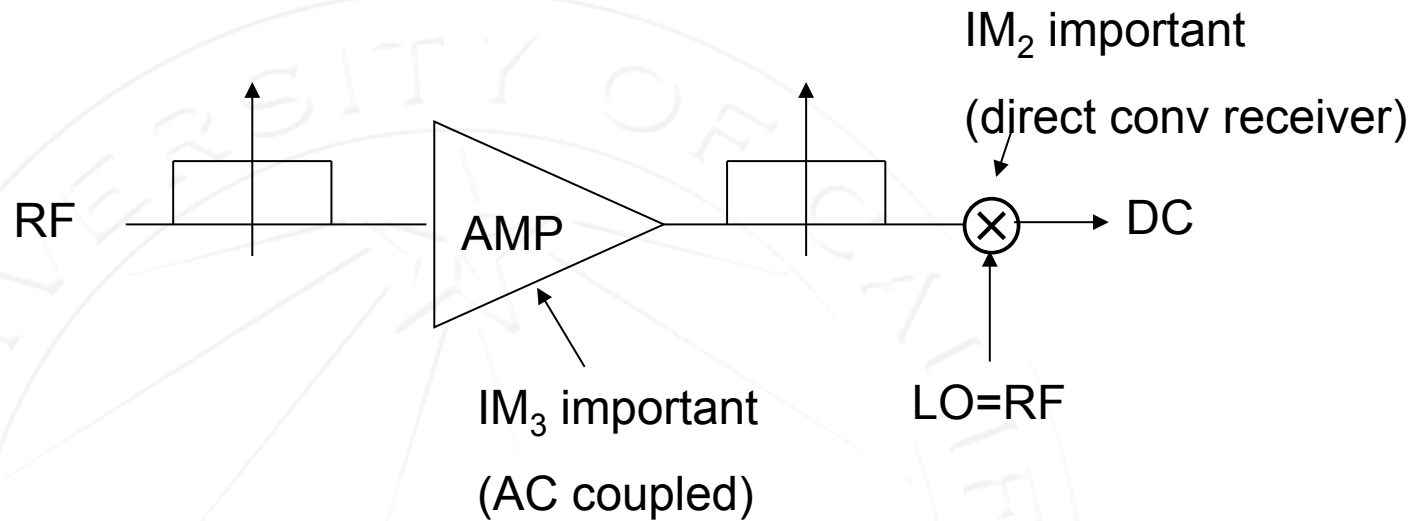


$$\omega_1 \approx \omega_2 \approx \omega_o$$

$$IM_2 \approx DC, 2\omega_o$$

$$IM_3 \approx \omega_o$$

Filtering Intermodulation



- IM₂ products fall at much lower (DC) and higher frequencies ($2\omega_o$). These signals appear as interference to others, but can be attenuated by filtering
- IM₃ products cannot be filtered for close tones.
- In a direct conversion receiver, IM2 is important due to DC.

IM/Harmonic Relations

$$IM_2 = \frac{a_2}{a_1} s_i = \frac{a_2}{a_1} s_o = HD_2(dB) + 6dB$$

$$IM_2 = 2HD_2$$

$$IM_2 \propto \text{Signal level}$$

$$IM_3 = \frac{3}{4} \frac{a_3}{a_1} s_i^2 = \frac{3}{4} \frac{a_3}{a_1} s_o^2 = HD_3(dB) + 9.5dB$$

$$IM_3 = 3HD_3$$

$$IM_3 \propto (\text{Signal level})^2$$

Triple Beat

- Triple Beat: Apply three sine waves and observe effect of cubic non-linearity

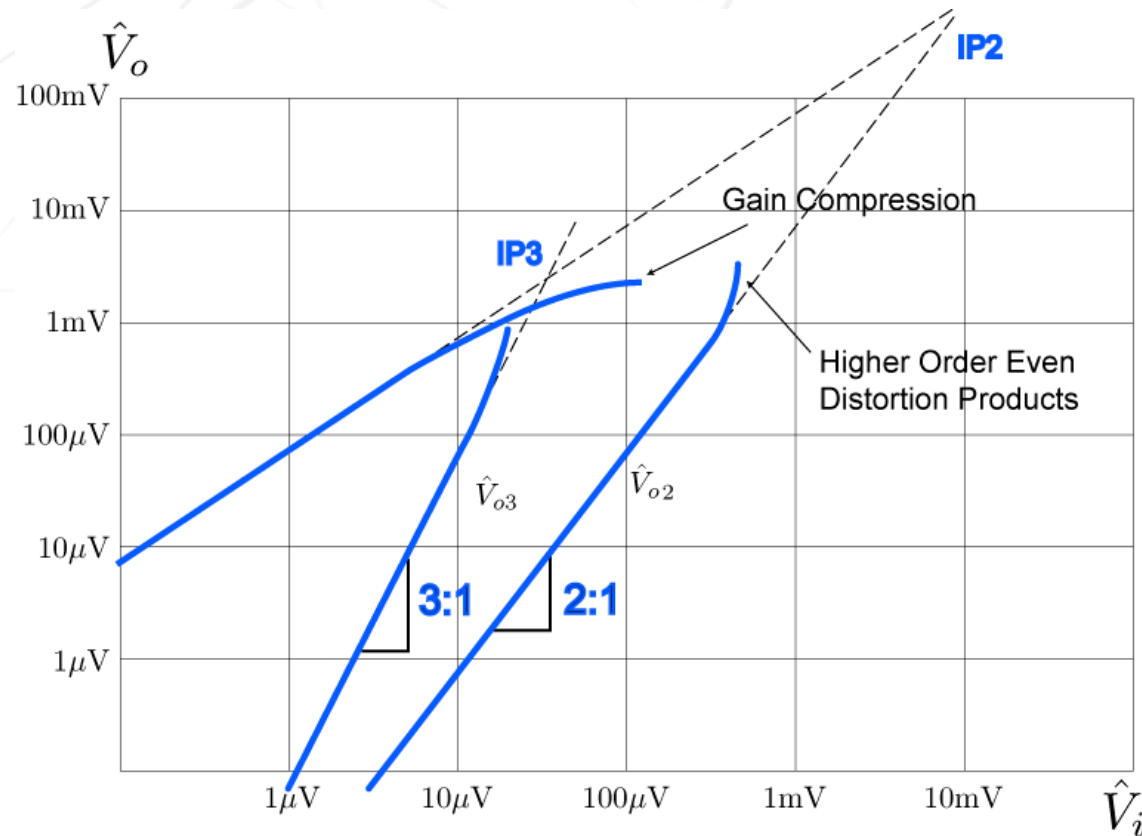
$$\begin{array}{l} \omega_1 + \omega_2 + \omega_3 \\ \omega_1 - \omega_2 + \omega_3 \\ \omega_1 - \omega_2 - \omega_3 \\ \omega_1 + \omega_2 - \omega_3 \end{array} \quad \begin{array}{l} \text{-3 -2 -1 1 2 3} \\ \vec{k}_{TB} = (0 \ 0 \ 0 \ 1 \ 1 \ 1) \\ 111 \\ 111 \end{array}$$

$$a_{k_p} = \frac{\binom{3; \vec{k}_{TB}}{2^{3-1}}}{2^{3-1}} s_i^3 = \frac{3! s_i^3}{4} = \frac{3}{2} s_i^3$$

$$TB = \frac{3}{2} \frac{a_3}{a_1} \frac{s_i^3}{s_i} = \frac{3}{2} \frac{a_3}{a_1} s_i^2$$

Intercept Point

- Intercept Point: Apply a two tone input and plot output power and IM powers. The intercept point in the *extrapolated* signal power level which causes the distortion power to equal the fundamental power.



Intercept/IM Calculations

- Say an amplifier has an IIP3 = -10 dBm. What is the amplifier signal/distortion (IM3) ratio if we drive it with -25 dBm?
 - Note: IM3 = 0 dB at Pin = -10 dBm
 - If we back-off by 15 dB, the IM3 improves at a rate of 2:1
 - For Pin = -25 dBm (15 dB back-off), we have therefore IM3 = 30dBc

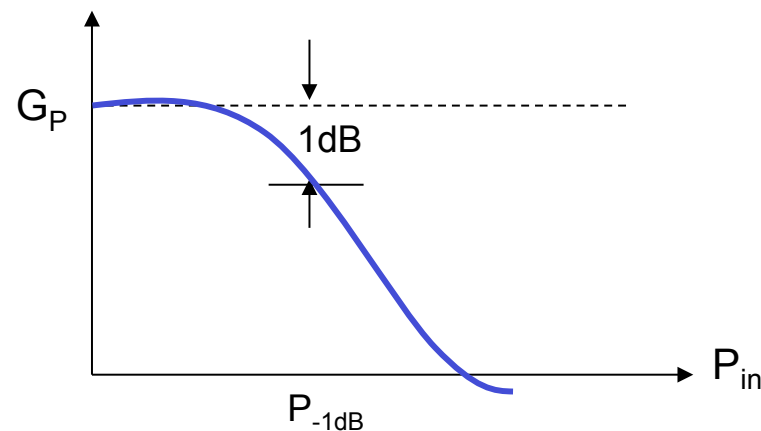
$$IM_3 = \frac{3}{4} \frac{a_3}{a_1} V_{IIP3}^2 = 1 \quad \rightarrow \quad V_{IIP3} = \sqrt{\frac{4}{3} \left| \frac{a_1}{a_3} \right|}$$

intercept signal level

Gain Compression and Expansion

- To regenerate the fundamental for the N 'th power, we need to sum k positive frequencies with $k-1$ negative frequencies, so $N = 2k-1 \rightarrow N$ must be an odd power

$$\underbrace{\omega_1 + \omega_1 + \dots + \omega_1}_k - \underbrace{\omega_1 - \omega_1 - \dots - \omega_1}_{k-1} = \omega_1$$



P1dB Compression Point

- An important specification for an amplifier is the 1dB compression point, or the input power required to lower the gain by 1dB

$$G(s_i) = a_1 + \frac{3}{4} a_3 s_i^2 = a_1 \left(1 + \frac{3}{4} \frac{a_3}{a_1} s_i^2 \right)$$

$$G_0 = \lim_{s_i \rightarrow 0} G(s_i) = a_1 \quad \frac{G_0 \cdot 10^{-0.05}}{G_0} = \left(1 + \frac{3}{4} \frac{a_3}{a_1} s_i^2 \right) = 10^{-0.05}$$

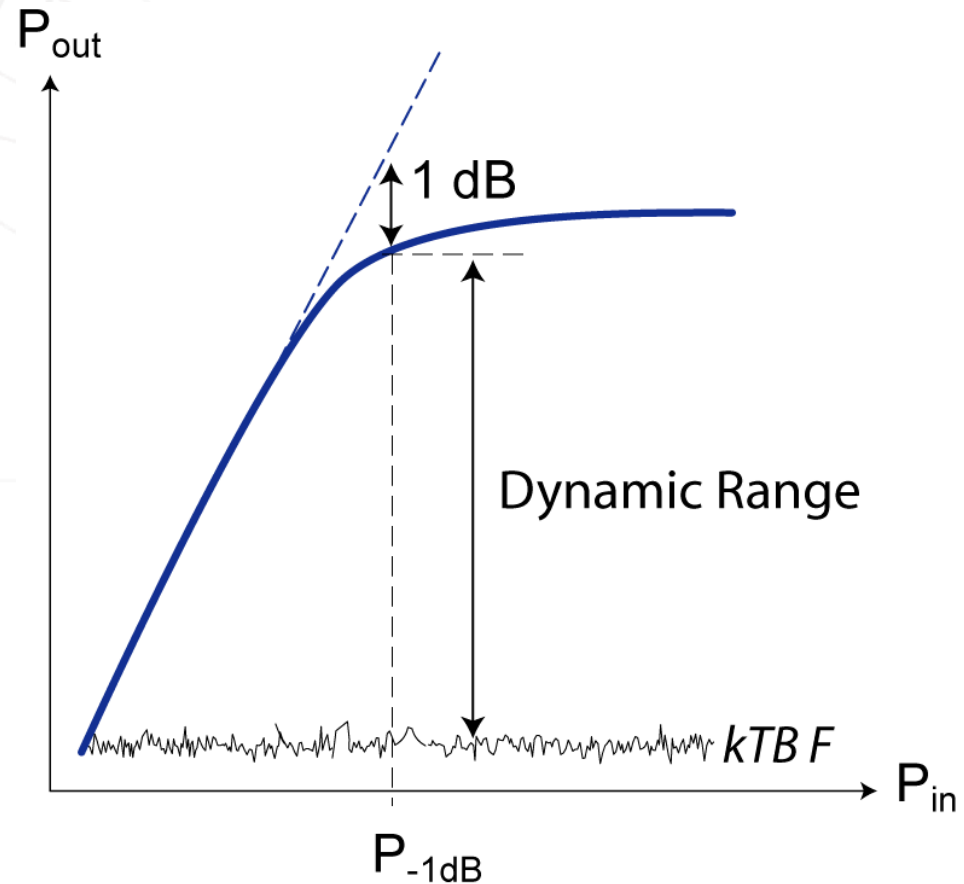
$$s_i^2 = \left(1 - 10^{-0.05} \right) \frac{4}{3} \left| \frac{a_1}{a_3} \right| \quad \text{Assume } a_3/a_1 < 0$$

$$s_i = \sqrt{\left(1 - 10^{-0.05} \right) \frac{4}{3} \left| \frac{a_1}{a_3} \right|} = \sqrt{\left(1 - 10^{-0.05} \right)} V_{IIP3}$$

About 9.6dB
lower than
IIP3

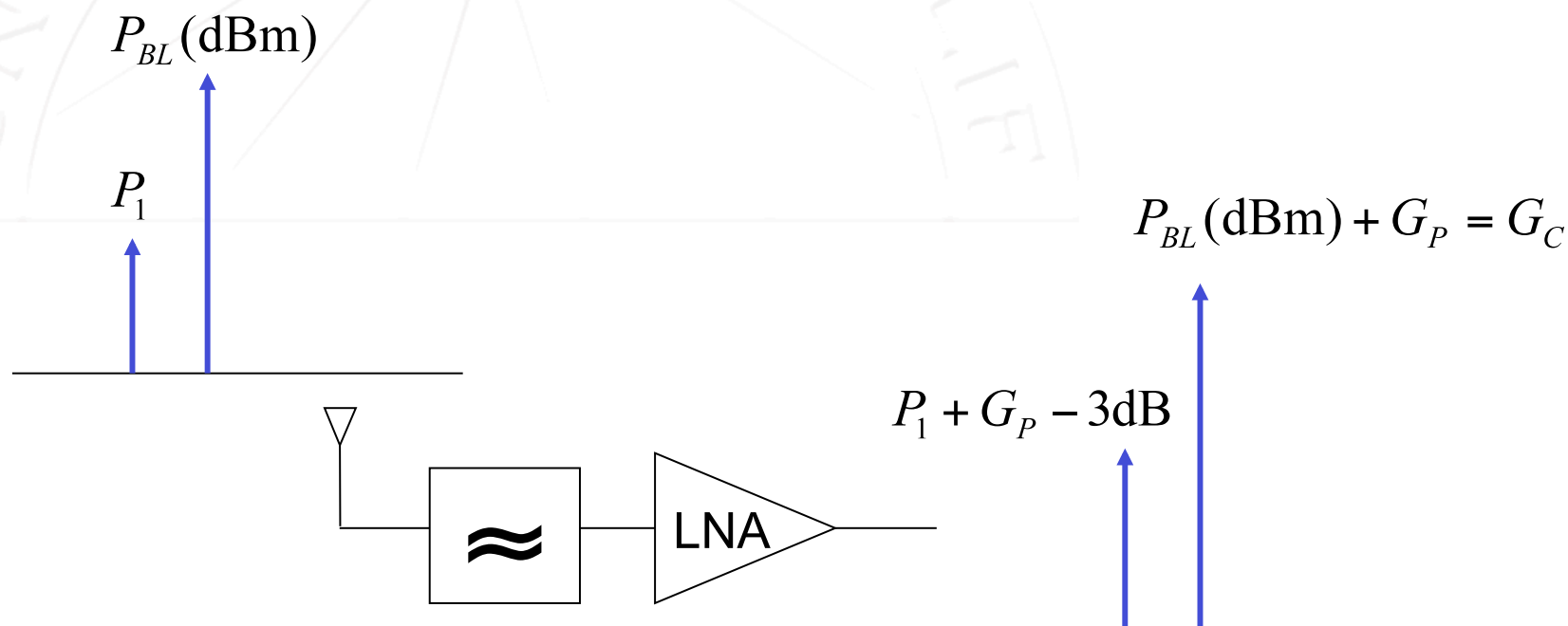
Dynamic Range

- P_{-1dB} is a convenient “maximum” signal level which sets the upper bound on the amplifier “linear” regime. Note that at this power, the $IM3 \sim 20$ dBc.
- The lower bound is set by the amplifier noise figure.



Blocking (or Jamming)

- Blocker: Any large interfering signal
- P_{BL} = Blocking level. Interfering signal level in dBm which causes a +3dB drop in gain for small desired signal



Jamming Analysis

Let: $s_i = s_1 \cos \omega_1 t + S_2 \cos \omega_2 t$

$\underbrace{\hspace{10em}}$
 small desired signal Large blocker

Cubic non-linearity at ω_1

$s_1^{k_1+k_{-1}}$ $S_2^{k_2+k_{-2}}$

	$s_1^3 S_2^0$	Regular gain compression
	$s_1^2 S_2$	Gain compression of desired signal on blocker
$k_{-1} + k_1 = 1$	$s_1 S_2^2$	Gain compression of blocker on desired signal
$k_{-2} + k_2 = 2$	$s_1^0 S_2^3$	Gain compression of blocker on blocker

$\omega_1 + \omega_2 - \omega_2$
 \swarrow
 ω_1

Jamming Analysis (cont)

Count the ways: $(m; \bar{k}_B)$

$$Amplitude = \frac{s_1 S_2^2 (3; \bar{k}_B)}{2^{m-1}} = \frac{3}{2} s_1 S_2^2$$

$$\bar{k}_B = \begin{pmatrix} -2 & -1 & +1 & +2 \\ 1 & 0 & 1 & 1 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$Apparent\ gain = a_1 \left(1 + \frac{3}{2} \frac{a_3}{a_1} S_2^2 \right)$$

gain w/o blocker

gain reduction or
expansion due to
blocker

$$\propto S_{BLOCKER}^2$$

Blocking Power $\sim P_{1dB}$

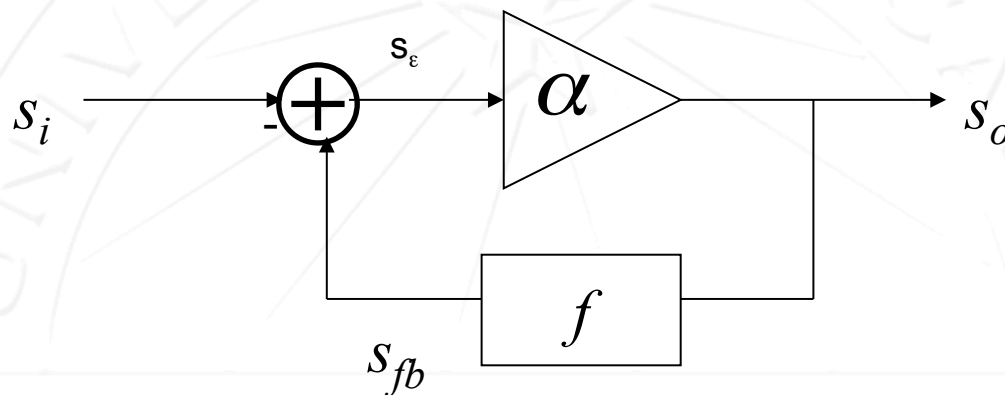
$$20\log\left(1 + \frac{3}{2} \frac{a_3}{a_1} S_2^2\right) = -3\text{dB}$$

$$S_2 = \underbrace{\sqrt{\frac{4}{3} \left| \frac{a_1}{a_3} \right|}}_{V_{IIP3}} = \frac{\sqrt{0.293}}{\sqrt{2}}$$

$$\begin{aligned} P_{BL} &= P_{IIP3} - 8.3\text{dB} \\ &= P_{-1\text{dB}} + 1\text{dB} \end{aligned}$$

Effect of Feedback on Disto

- Review from 142:



$$s_\epsilon = s_i - s_{fb} \quad f < 1$$
$$s_{fb} = f s_o$$

$$\begin{aligned} s_o &= a_1 s_\epsilon + a_2 s_\epsilon^2 + a_3 s_\epsilon^3 + \dots \\ &= a_1 (s_i - f s_o) + a_2 (s_i - f s_o)^2 + a_3 (s_i - f s_o)^3 + \dots \\ &= b_1 s_i + b_2 s_i^2 + b_3 s_i^3 + \dots \end{aligned}$$

New Non-Linear Coefficients

$$b_1 = \frac{a_1}{1 + \underbrace{a_1 f}_{\text{Loop gain } T}}$$

$$b_1 \cong \frac{1}{f} (T \rightarrow \infty)$$

$$b_2 = \frac{a_2}{(1 + T)^3}$$

$$b_3 = \frac{a_3(1 + T) - 2a_2^2 f}{(1 + T)^5}$$

For high loop gain, the distortion is very small. Even though the gain drops, the distortion drops with loop gain since b_2 drops with a higher power.

The cubic term has two components, the original cubic and a second order interaction term. If an amplifier does not have cubic, FB creates it (MOS with R_s)

Series Inversion

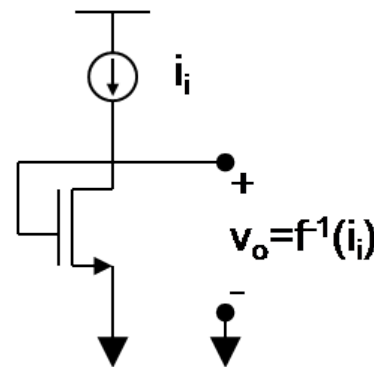
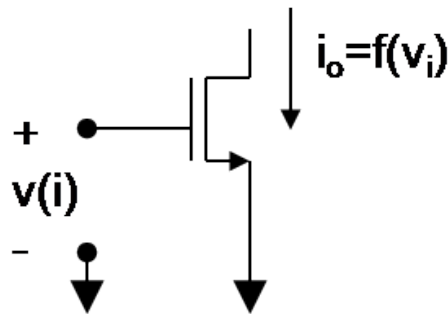


$$s_a = a_1 s_b + a_2 s_b^2 + a_3 s_b^3 + \dots$$

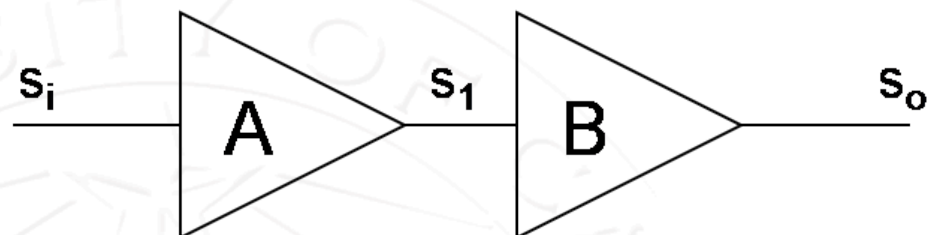
$$s_b = b_1 s_a + b_2 s_a^2 + b_3 s_a^3 + \dots$$

$$s_a = a_1 (b_1 s_a + b_2 s_a^2 + \dots) + a_2 (b_1 s_a + b_2 s_a^2 + \dots)^2 + \dots$$

$$b_1 = \frac{1}{a_1} \quad b_2 = -\frac{a_2}{a_1^3} \quad b_3 = \frac{2a_2^2}{a_1^5} - \frac{a_3}{a_1^4}$$



Series Cascade



$$s_1 = a_1 s_i + a_2 s_i^2 + \dots \quad c_1 = a_1 b_1$$

$$s_0 = b_1 s_1 + b_2 s_1^2 + \dots$$

$$\Rightarrow s_0 = c_1 s_i + c_2 s_i^2 + \dots \quad c_2 = b_1 a_2 + b_2 a_1^2$$

$$c_3 = b_1 a_1^3 + 2b_2 a_1 a_2 + b_3 a_1^3$$

Second-order
interaction

IIP2 Cascade

- The cascade IIP2 is reduced due to the gain of the first stage:

$$\frac{c_2}{c_1} = \frac{b_1 a_2 + b_2 a_1^2}{b_1 a_1} = \frac{a_2}{a_1} + \frac{b_2}{b_1} a_1$$

$$\frac{1}{IIP2} = \frac{1}{IIP2^A} + \frac{a_1}{IIP2^B}$$

- To calculate the overall IIP2, simply input refer the second stage IIP2 by the *voltage gain* of the first stage.
- The overall IIP2 is a parallel combination of the first and second stage.

IIP3 Cascade

- Using the same approach, we can calculate the IIP3 of a cascade. To simplify the result, neglect the effect of second order interaction:

$$\frac{c_3}{c_1} = \frac{b_1 a_3 + b_2 a_1 a_2 + b_3 a_1^3}{b_a a_1} = \left(\frac{a_3}{a_1} + \frac{b_3}{b_1} a_1^2 + \frac{b_2}{b_1} 2a_2 \right)$$

$$\frac{1}{IIP3^2} = \frac{1}{IIP3_A^2} + \frac{a_1^2}{IIP3_B^2}$$

- Input refer the IIP3 of the second stage by the *power gain* of the first stage.

References

- **UCB EECS 242 Class Notes**, Robert G. Meyer, Spring 1995
- **Sinusoidal analysis and modeling of weakly nonlinear circuits : with application to nonlinear interference effects**, Donald D. Weiner, John F. Spina. New York : Van Nostrand Reinhold, c1980.