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System Level Simulation of Energy-Detection Based UWB Receivers

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ABSTRACT

The performance of a non-coherent UWB receiver with Binary pulse position modulation is simulated with MATLAB; taking into account the effect of non-linearity, noise, pulse shape and channel effects. This simulation examines the minimum requirements for LNA, AGC, squarer, and operational transconductance amplifier in analog front-end for sensor network application with 100Kb/s data rate and 10^{-3} BER. The linearity requirement in OTA is achieved using Gilbert cell OTA with the technique of multiple gated transistors. For sensor network applications, analog front-end modules must have 4dB NF (Noise figure), -12dBm IIP3, 50dB gain and -75dBm sensitivity for 100Kb/s data rates. The transceiver power consumption is assumed to be below 50mW. The performance of energy detection non-coherent receiver is simulated in Simulink of MATLAB, it shows that BER of Gaussian pulse is lower than doublet and 4th Gaussian pulse. By increasing the number of transmitted pulse per bit and IIP3, the performance of receiver is improved.

Keywords: Non-coherent receiver, BER, OTA, Squarer, CM

Introduction

Energy detection Non-coherent UWB receivers [1, 2] are used in wireless sensor networks, which require devices with low complexity, low cost, and low power consumption. Sensor network receivers [3, 4] are used for location and ranging in indoor environments.

In [5, 6] system level of energy detection non-coherent receiver with VHDL-AMS hardware description language was presented. In [7] the implementation of low complexity detection, synchronization, and decoding algorithms for a non-coherent UWB receiver was explained. In [8, 9] circuit design of a Gaussian monocycle pulse generator and an UWB-IR non-coherent energy detection receiver consisting of LNA and digital baseband was presented.

A system-level simulation for energy detection non-coherent receiver was performed; taking into account the effect of 3rd order nonlinearty, slew rate, and noise. Simulations are performed to analyze the receiver performance versus non-ideal parameters, SNR of channel and data rate. The minimum requirements for analog frond-end blocks are examined and the circuit structure and the techniques for linearity improvement are discussed. Linearity improvement in OTA with second order transconductance derivative (gm'') cancellation with multiple gated transistors [10] is presented. Linearity improvement in Gilbert cell Squarer is investigated by utilizing modified superposition scheme [11] to cancel out both the second and third-order nonlinear currents.

Energy detection based transceiver

The architecture of energy detection based UWB transceiver illustrates in Figure 1. Assume binary pulse position modulation (BPPM) with rate 1/T. Symbol "zero" corresponds to transmitting a pulse in the first half of the interval (0, T), while symbol "one" corresponds to transmitting a pulse in the second half. Received signal is given by [6, 12]:

$$r(t) = \sum_{k=-\infty}^{\infty} s(t - jT_s - a_k \frac{T_s}{2} - \tau) + n(t) \qquad (1)$$

s(t) is channel response to transmitted pulse; a_k is Binary data, T_s is symbol period, and n(t) represents

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white Gaussian noise (AWGN) [12]. If $a_k = 0$, the pulse is in the first half; if $a_k = 1$, the pulse is in the second half of interval. The output data ($Z_k^{(i)}$) is given by:

$$Z_k^{(0)} = \int_{kT_s+\tau}^{kT_s+\tau+\Delta} r^2(t)dt \qquad (2)$$

$$Z_k^{(1)} = \int_{(k+\frac{1}{2})T_s+\tau}^{(k+\frac{1}{2})T_s+\tau+\Delta} r^2(t)dt \qquad (3)$$

It means that, the incoming waveform is first squared and then fed to an integrator-and-dump (I&D) circuit; Δ represents channel spread [13]. If $z_k^{(0)} > z_k^{(1)}$ output binary sets to "0" (â=0), otherwise â=1.

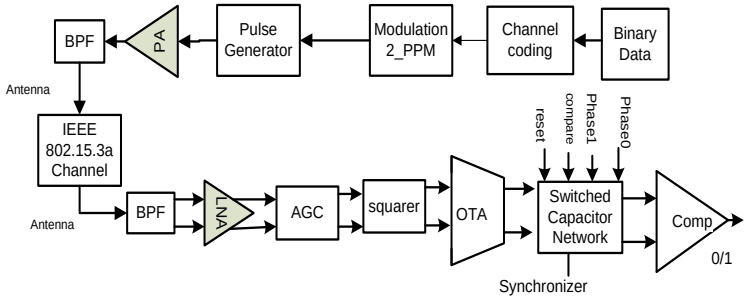


Figure 1. Transceiver architecture based on energy detection.

IEEE802.15.3a standard [14] as a typical multipath channel model for UWB systems is given by [15]:

$$h(t) = \sum_m \sum_l a_{ml}\, \delta(t - \tau_m - \tau_{ml}) + n(t) \qquad (4)$$

where a_{ml} is amplitude of reflected signals, τ is path delay, and n(t) represents AWGN. The channel models [16, 17] are categorized as CM1-CM4, depending on the distance and line of sight condition.

Stem level simulation

An energy detection (ED) non-coherent UWB receiver is simulated with BPPM modulation for CM1-CM4 channel models. Transmitter is composed of channel coding, modulation block, UWB pulse generator and power amplifier. Receiver consists of LNA, AGC, squarer module, integrator (I&D) and synchronizer [12].

System level simulation of transceiver is performed in the Simulink/Matlab. Requirements of analog front-end modules are achieved for 10^{-3} BER. For sensor network application, analog front-end modules must have 4dB NF (Noise figure), -12dBm IIP3, 50dB gain and -75dBm sensitivity for 100Kb/s data rate. The transceiver power consumption is assumed to be below 50mW. The required performance of analog front-end modules are listed in Table1.

BER versus SNR for Gaussian pulse shape and its derivatives is shown in Figure 2. Gaussian pulse has more energy than its derivatives, and hence the BER of Gaussian pulse is lower than doublet and the 4th derivatives of Gaussian pulse.

Figure 3 illustrates the effect of the number of pulse per bit (pulse/bit) on receiver performance with Gaussian pulse. The above figures show that by increasing the number of pulse per bit, the system performance is improved at the cost of decreasing transmission capacity. Figure 4 shows the effect of channel (CM1, CM2, CM3 and CM4) on BER of ED receiver.

Table 1
Required performance of analog front-end modules.

Module	Gain (dB)	NF (dB)	B.W GHz	IIP3 (dBm)	P_{diss} (mW)
LNA	15~20	2.3	3~5	-10	5
AGC	DR=50	5	3~5	8	8
Squarer	10	---	3~5	15	3
OTA	0	----	10MHz	15	2

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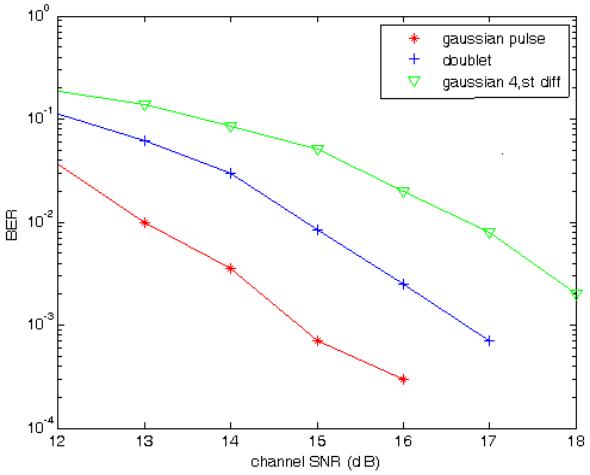


Figure 2. Transmitted pulse shape effect on receiver performance with 5pulse/Bit.

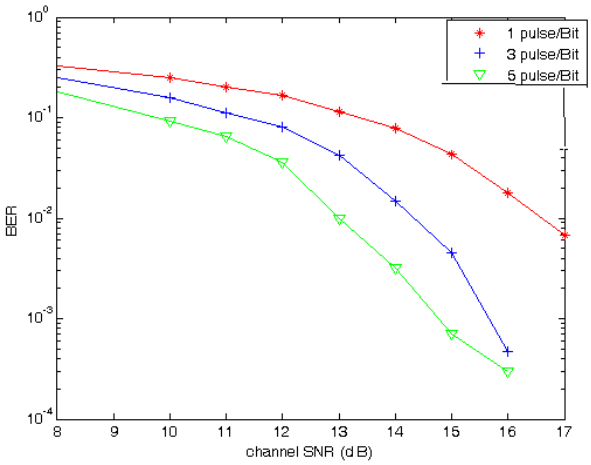
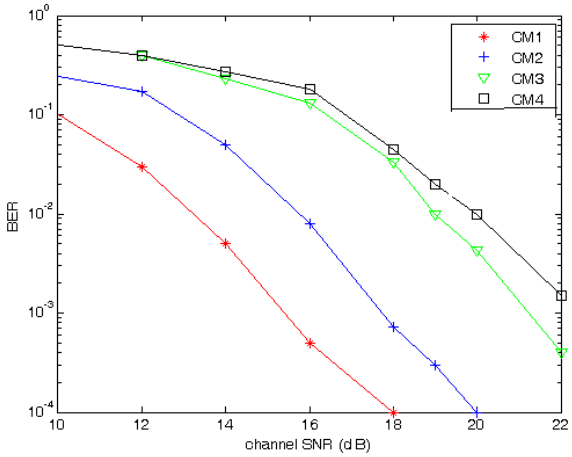


Figure 3. The effect of the number of pulse per bit on receiver performance for CM1 channel model.



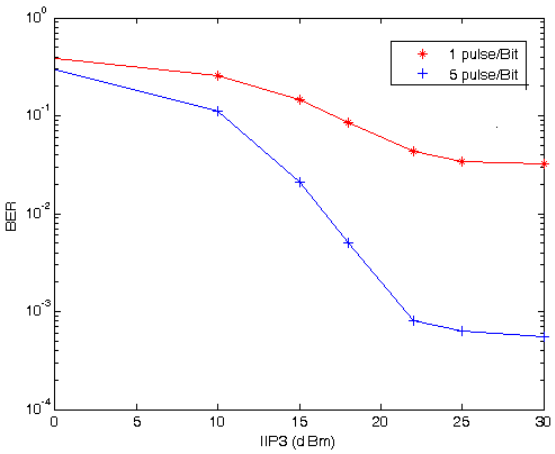


Figure 4. Channel effect on BER of ED receiver for 5pulse/Bit. **Figure 5.**The effect of Non-linear coefficient on BER.

The effect of 3rd order non-linear parameters on receiver performance is shown in Figure 5. This figure shows BER versus IIP3. By increasing IIP3, receiver performance will improve. Due to BER sensitivity to non-linear effects, linearization techniques at circuit level are critical in receiver design. In the next section we describe the design of a highly linear OTA and squarer block.

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Integrator for energy detection

In order to design the integrator block, an OTA (operational transconductance amplifier) is required with 20dBm of linearity and power consumption around 1mW [1].
To achieve the required performance, LNA needs a gain of 19dB, and power consumption below 5mW. s11 and s22 should be below -10dB. In addition, a squarer module is required with 10dB gain, 20dBm IIP3, 95dBm IIP2 and power consumption around 1mW. Squarer based on Gilbert cell with intrinsic (second and third) distortion cancellation with PMOS auxiliary transistor is the best choice for this receiver. By using common gate structure in lower tree of Gilbert cell with flipped voltage followers [18], wide operation bandwidth is achieved.
Three common architectures of differential OTAs are: fully differential (FD), pseudo-differential (PD) and Gilbert cell. FD is typically based on a differential pair with a tail current source [19]. Disadvantage of a PD circuit is that, the common-mode and differential gain is the same. Differences between the two signal paths, arising from device mismatch, will propagate to output. OTA based on Gilbert cell with third order distortion cancellation is a proper choice for energy detection receivers because of its linearity [20, 21]. In this paper, we examine the second order transconductance derivative (gm'') cancellation with multiple gated transistors for linearity improvement in OTA.
Gm-C architecture has high frequency (Parasitic can be absorbed to Capacitors), high tunability, high linearity and low power dissipation. Thus, Gm-C integrator is suitable for energy detection receivers because of linearity and high frequency response [19]. Switched capacitor as shown in Fig.6a is used to integrator design. A model of MOSFET switch is demonstrated in Fig.6b. Output voltage of capacitors CL0 and CL1 feed to a comparator to decide on output bits. Fig.6c shows Phase "0" control signal of switched capacitor. Phase "1" is in 40ns to 80ns and comparator control signals are in 85-100ns for 10Mpulse/bit (maximum rate for non-coherent UWB receivers).

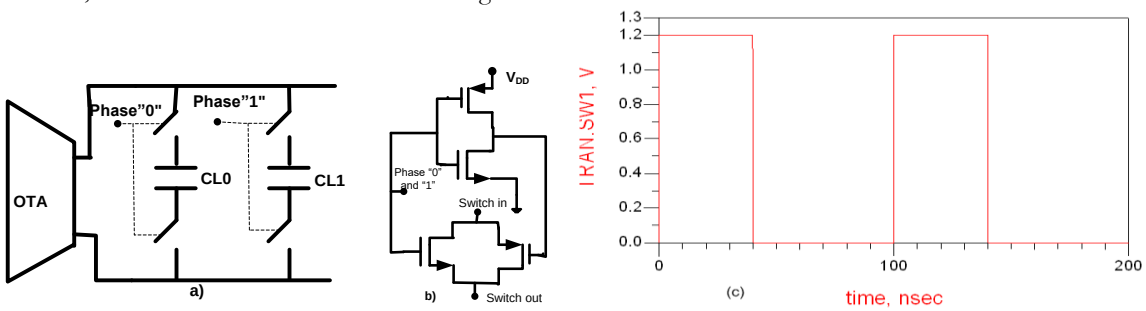


Figure 6. a) Gm-C integrator b) MOS switch scheme c) Phase "0" control signal for 1Mb/s and 10Mpulse/s

Conclusion

The performance of energy detection non-coherent receiver is simulated in MATLAB. Simulation results show that Gaussian pulse BER is lower than doublet and 4th Gaussian pulse. By increasing the number of transmitted pulse per bit and IIP3, system performance is improved. System level simulation of a non-coherent receiver with desired squarer and OTA, illustrates improvement of BER from $3e^{-2}$ to $6e^{-4}$.

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