

# • Notes Set 20: Noise in Signal Sources (Phase noise )

- handwaving re  $1/f$  noise. Small-angle PM. Spectral descriptions of PM and AM
- Amplitude noise and Phase noise sidebands. Energy relationships to find timing deviations. Phase noise in oscillators. Van Der Pol Model.
- Derivation of oscillator phase noise spectrum,  $1/f$  and  $1/f^3$  regions
- Example: Phase lock loop for subpicosecond laser timing stabilization including: phase detector noise, AM-PM conversion, etc.
- Comments on PLL design generally

①

ECE Notes Set 1820

Noise in Signal sources

In other words

AM noise and FM noise

Phase noise

Timing Noise

Timing Jitter, etc...

Once upon a time I spent  
considerable time learning how to  
measure a quantity (phase noise)  
"timing jitter" & how to  
suppress it in a laser ~~case~~ through  
use of a -phase-lock-loop-

Please: try not to use

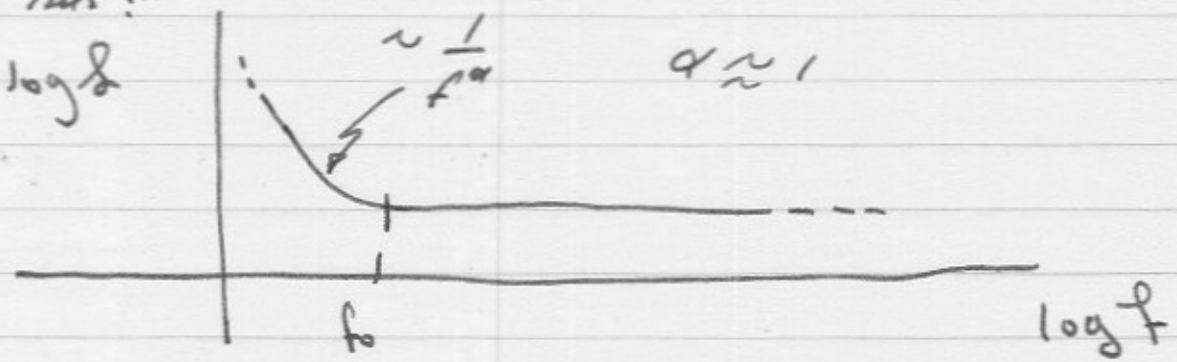
the term "jitter" - very

imprecise & unscientific language.

"1/f noise"

Most devices produce noise spectral densities

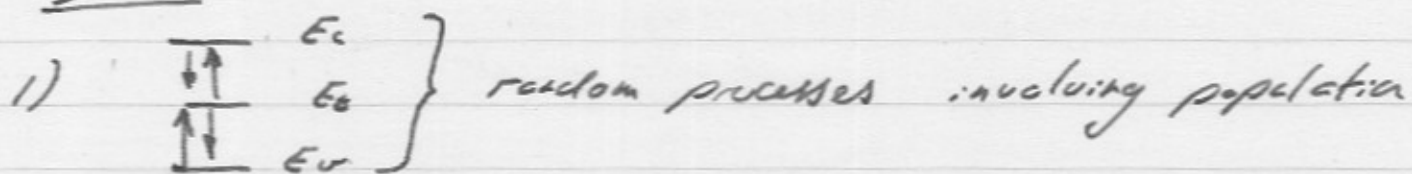
like this:



Noise power increases rapidly for frequencies

below a "1/f" noise corner frequency

Why?



and depopulations of traps involve long storage times.

These can be found using the principle of detailed balance, similar to the Shockley-Read-Hall method for generation/recombination analysis.

If we assume a distribution of traps over energy, a leakage current power spectrum can be found, and has a  $1/f^{\alpha}$  variation over a wide range of frequencies. Surfaces of semiconductors are great concentrations of traps.

devices with high surface/volume ratios (e.g. fets) have high surface effects and high  $1/f$  noise. BJTs generally are better. Our bits, with their high surface/volume ratios will resemble Fets...

2) Microphonics & mechanical vibrations, particularly in big flashlamp-pumped lasers, etc.

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$1/f$  noise is often very important, particularly with phase noise...

(6)

Cautions - regarding notation

we have often used:

$$\frac{\overline{e e^*}}{2T} \quad , \quad \text{where} \quad \int_{f_1}^{f_2} \frac{\overline{e e^*}}{2T} df$$

is the power between  $f_1$  &  $f_2$ . This is called a single-sided spectral density.

Here we shall use

$$S_{\omega}(\omega) : \quad P = \frac{1}{2\pi} \int_{-\infty}^{+\infty} S(\omega) d\omega$$

$$= \int_{-\infty}^{+\infty} S\left(f = \frac{\omega}{2\pi}\right) df$$

... or double sided spectral densities:

## Small Angle Phase Modulation

Consider a signal

$$v(t) = v_0 e^{j\omega_0 t}$$

now give it some "timing jitter"

$$v(t) = v_0 e^{j\omega_0(t+J(t))} = v_0 e^{j(\omega_0 t + \Theta(t))}$$

suppose  $J(t) = T_m \cos \omega_m t$ :

use  $e^x \approx 1+x$  for  $x \ll 1$

$$v(t) \approx v_0 e^{j\omega_0 t} (1 + j\omega_0 J(t))$$

$$= \underbrace{v_0 e^{j\omega_0 t}}_{\text{Signal}} + \underbrace{v_0 e^{j\omega_0 t} (j\omega_0 J(t))}_{\text{Modulation}}$$

Signal

Modulation.



$$v(t) = v_0 e^{-j\omega_0 t} + (v_0 e^{j\omega_0 t}) \cdot j\omega_0 I(t)$$

write a cosinusoid  $I(t) = T_m \cos \omega_m t$

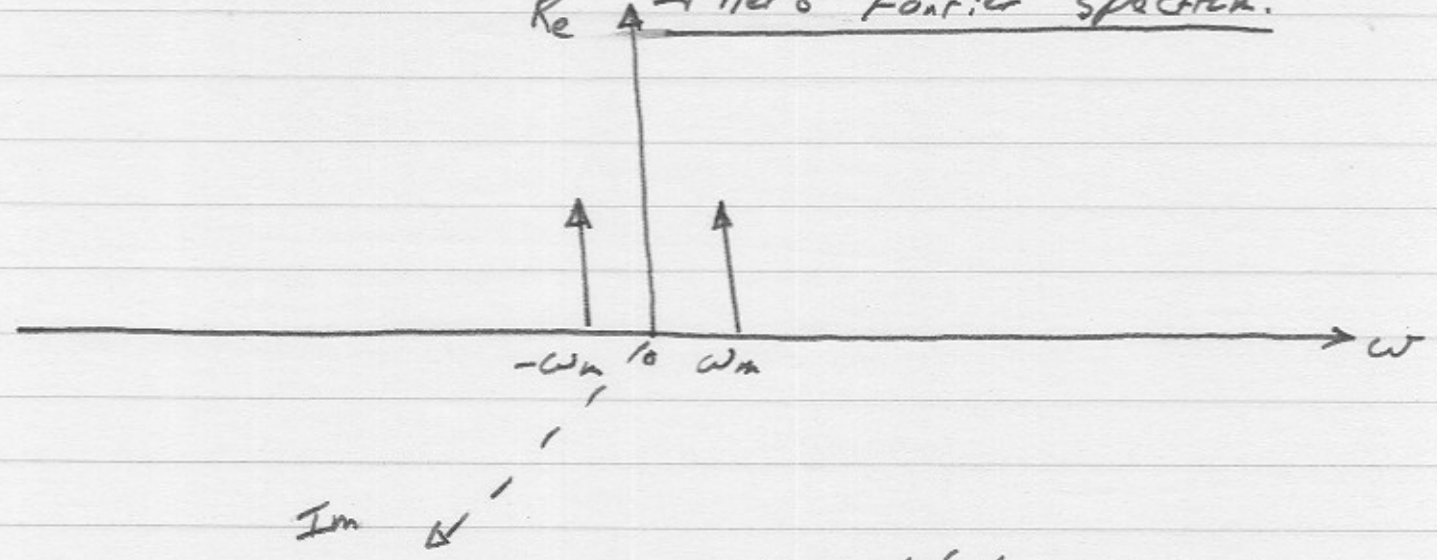
$$= \frac{T_m}{2} \left[ e^{-j\omega_m t} + e^{j\omega_m t} \right]$$

so:

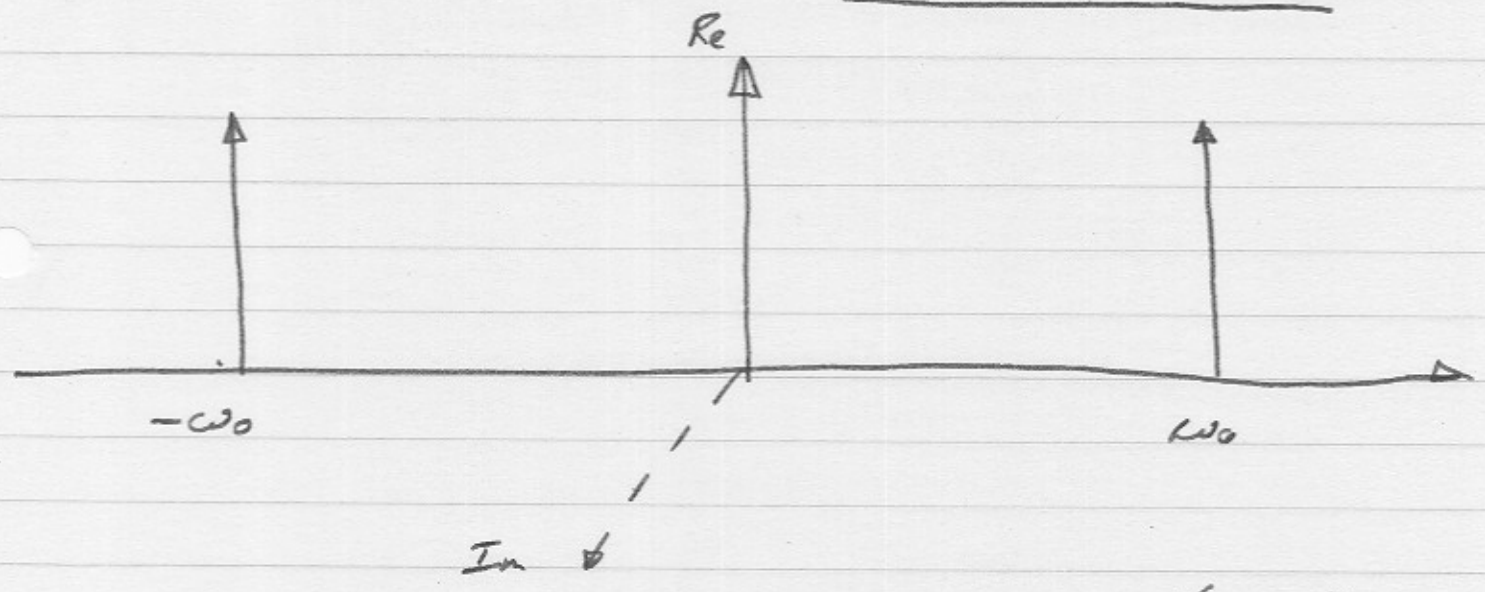
$$v(t) = v_0 e^{-j\omega_0 t} + \frac{1}{2} j\omega_0 v_0 T_m \left[ e^{-j(\omega_0 + \omega_m)t} + e^{-j(\omega_0 - \omega_m)t} \right]$$

$$J(t) = T_m \cos \omega_m t$$

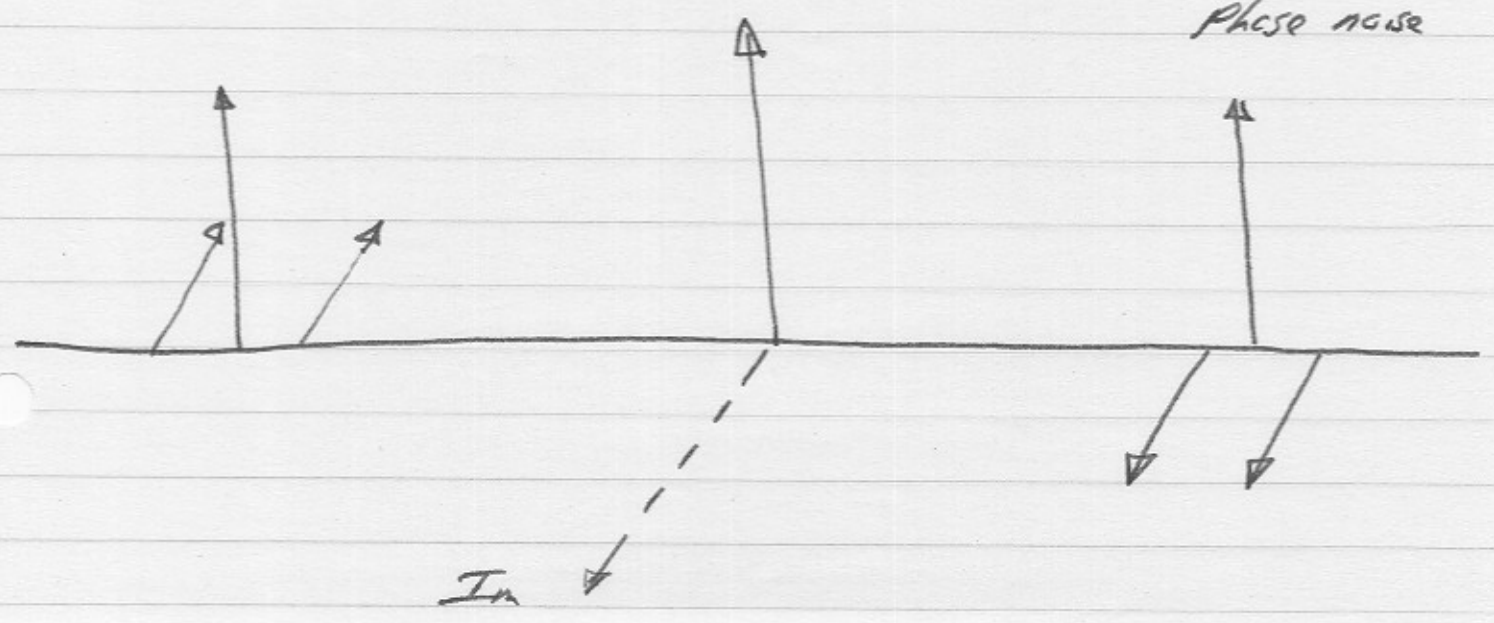
Jitter's Fourier spectrum:



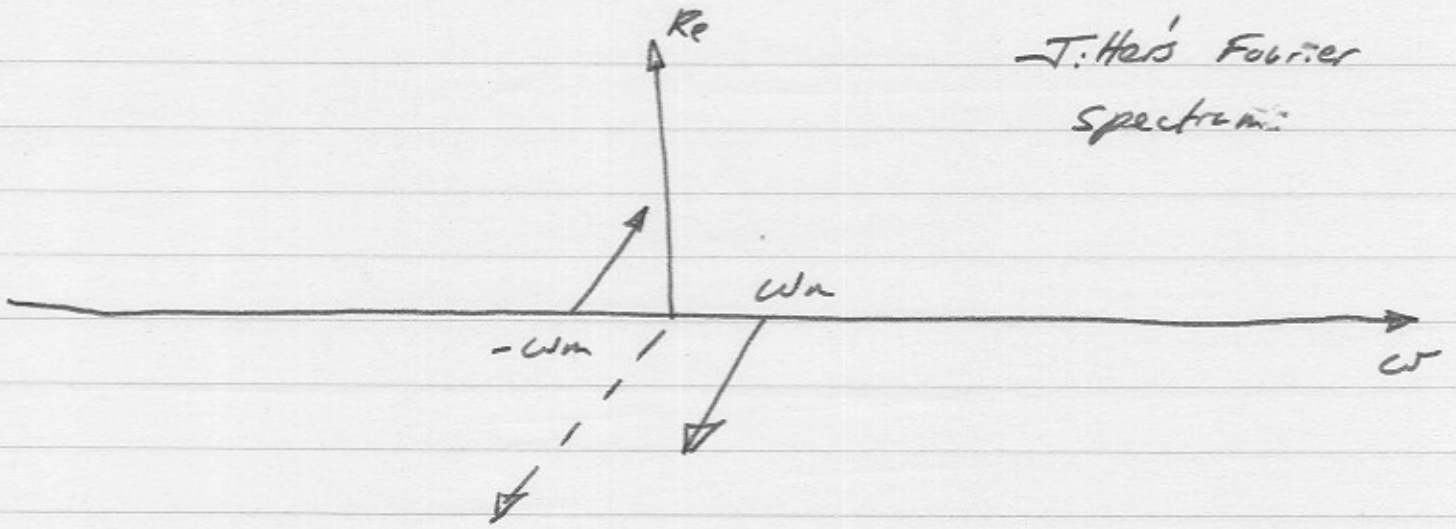
unmodulated carrier



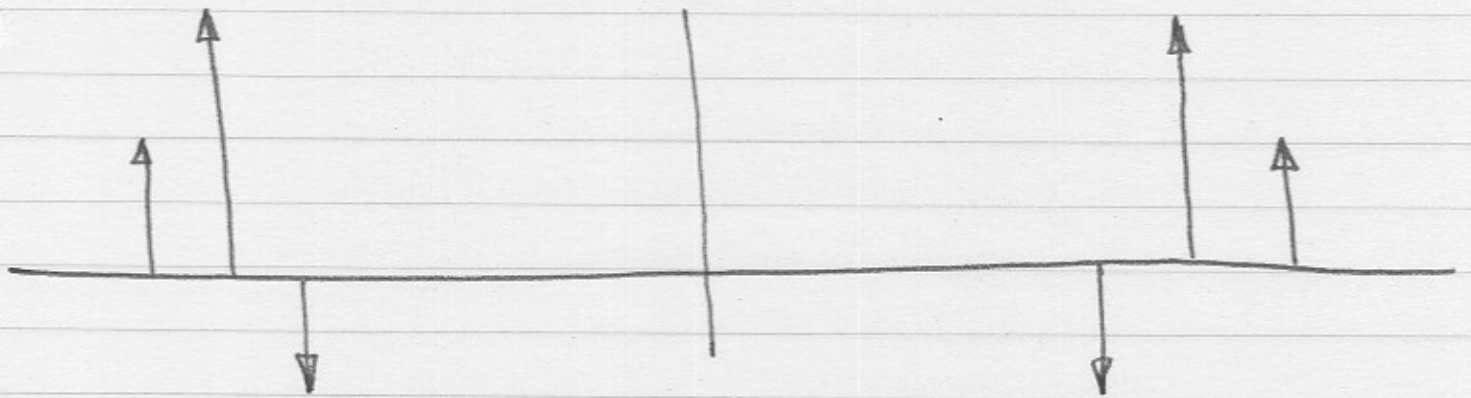
Carrier with ~~filter~~  
Phase noise



J. Her's Fourier  
Spectrum:



Carrier with  
phase noise



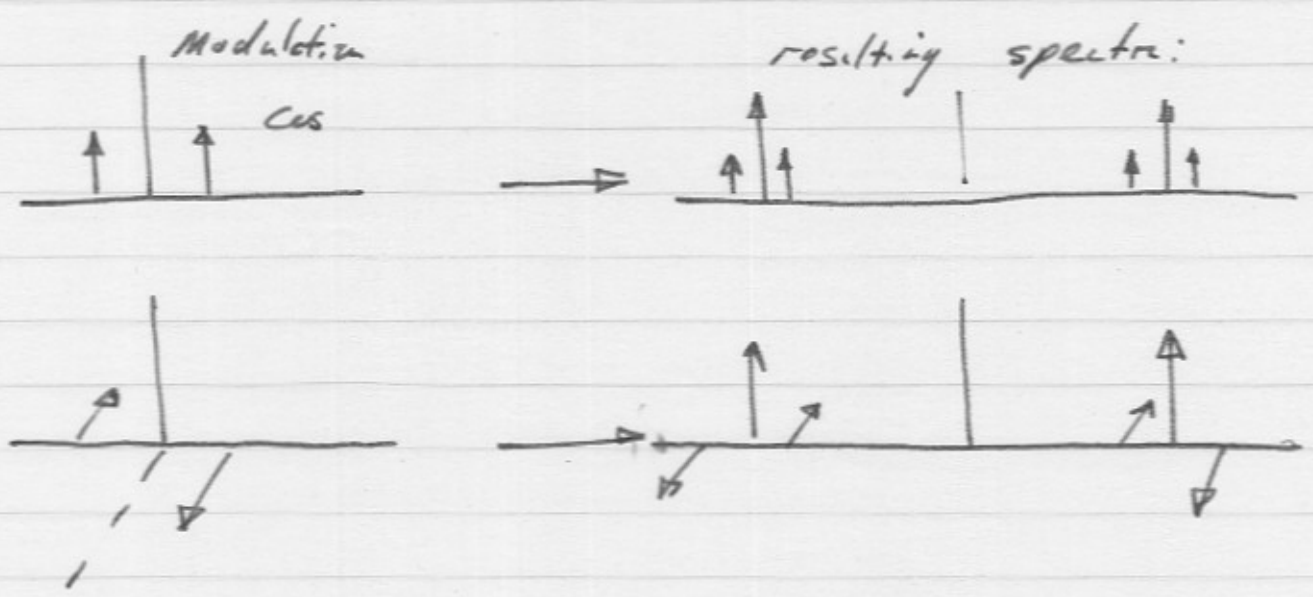
Key points, small phase angle

\* Phase modulation results in sidebands whose amplitude  $(\frac{\omega_m T_m}{2})$  is the phase deviation

\* Phase modulation sidebands are

skew Hermetian

as opposed to am sidebands, which are Hermetian



Major Comment

There is lots of math here, if we

try. Time is now running short.

I will include a paper to give  
the gory details...

IF we have a sinusoidal / cosinusoidal

signal with Deterministic Phase Modulation

$$v(t) = v_0 \cos[\omega_0(t + J(t))] = v_0 \cos[\omega_0 t + \Theta(t)]$$

$J(t)$  is the timing modulation in seconds

$\Theta(t)$  is the phase modulation in radicals

$$\Theta(t) = \omega_0 J(t)$$

Then the signal spectrum is:

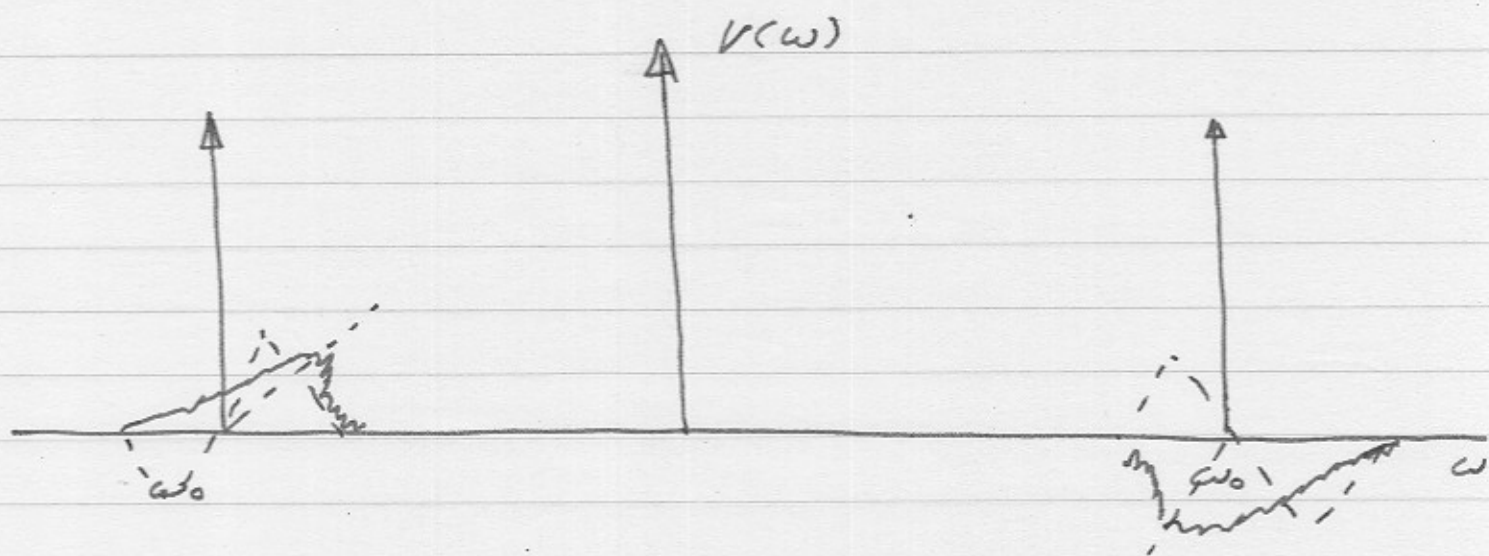
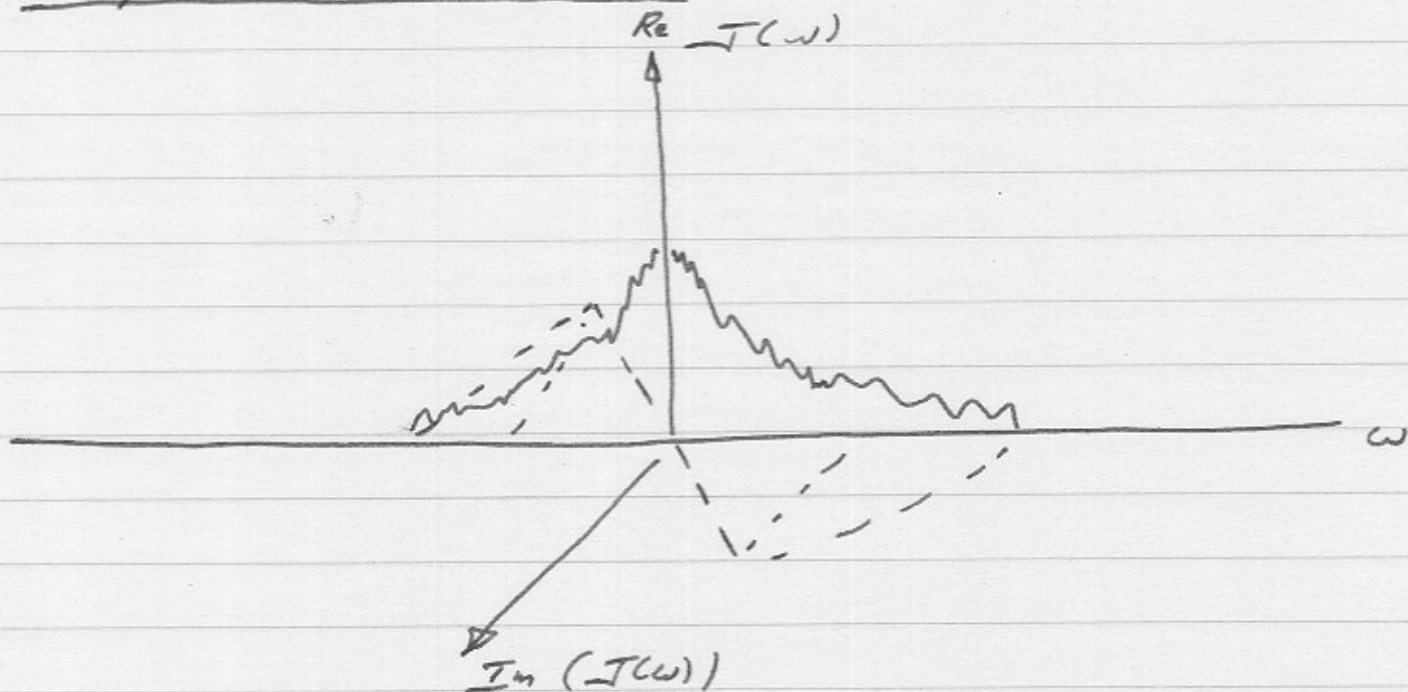
$$V(\omega) = \frac{v_0}{2} \delta(\omega - \omega_0)$$

$$+ \frac{v_0(j\omega_0)}{2} J(\omega - \omega_0)$$

$$+ \frac{v_0}{2} \delta(\omega + \omega_0)$$

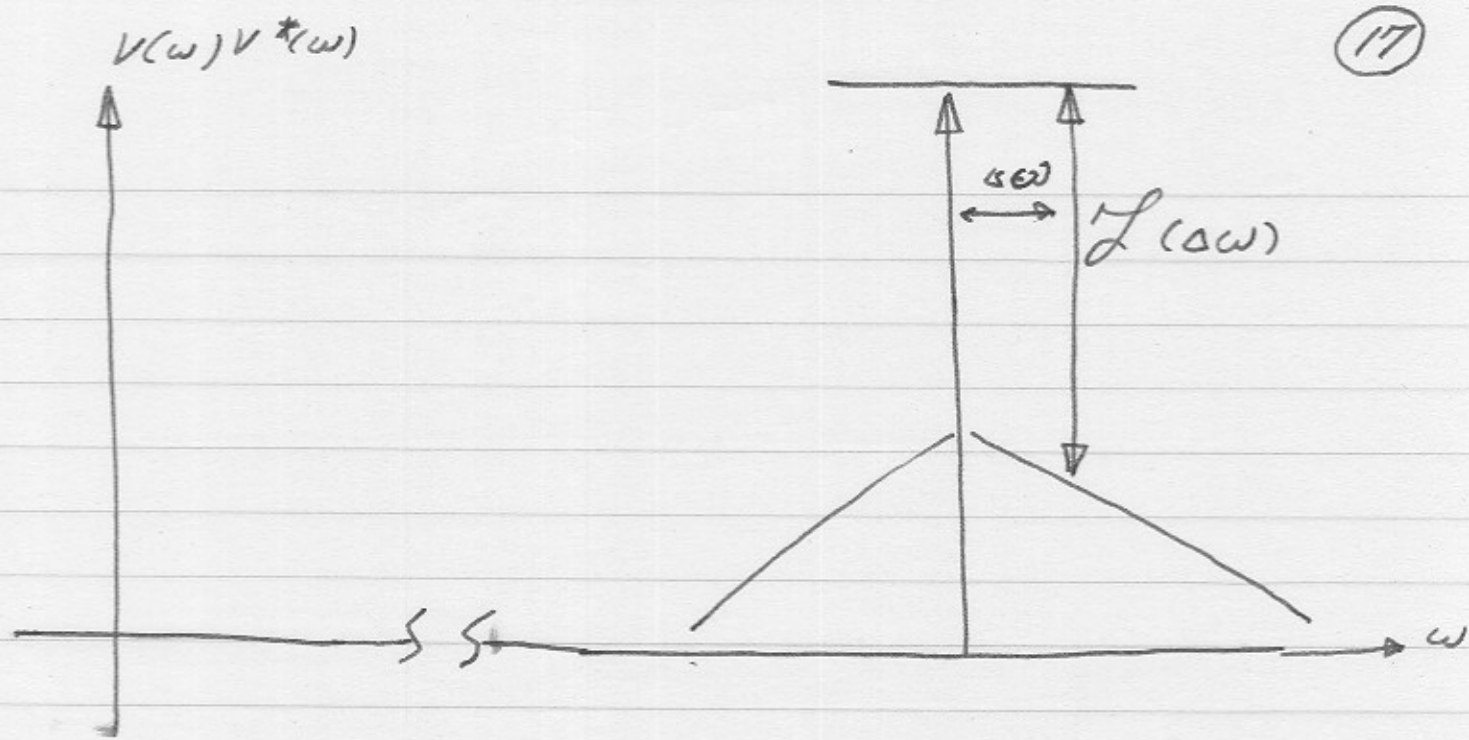
$$+ \frac{v_0(-j\omega_0)}{2} J(\omega + \omega_0)$$

A picture will help:



These are the Fourier spectra  $V(\omega)$

lets look at the power spectra  $V(\omega)V^*(\omega)$



To find Timing / Phase fluctuations:

\*  $L(\omega)$ , defined above, is the single sideband phase noise spectral density: relative power in carrier vs harmonics.

\* for our assumption:  $\theta(\omega) \ll 2\pi$  - small angles -

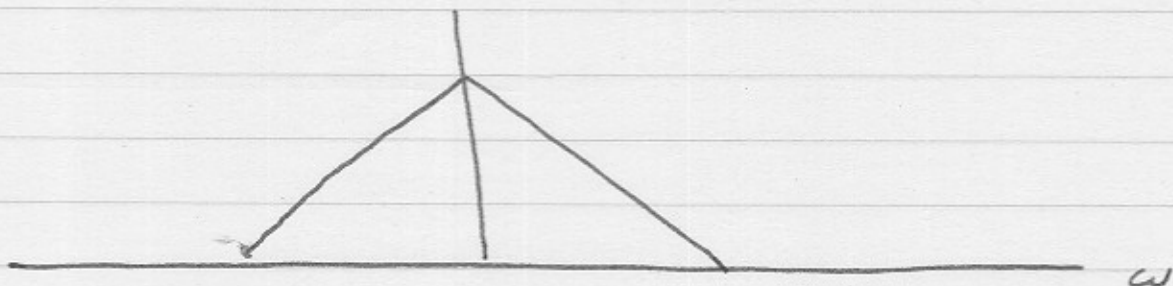
$$L(\omega) = \theta(\omega)\theta^*(\omega) = S_{\theta}(\omega)$$

"phase noise"  
 Spectral density of

spectral density of the phase deviations.

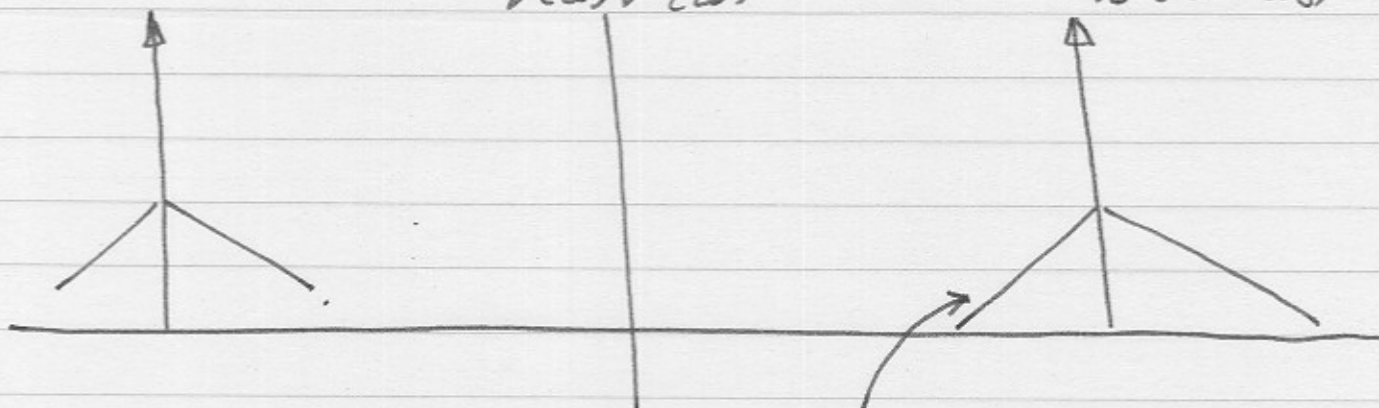


$$J(\omega)J^*(\omega)$$

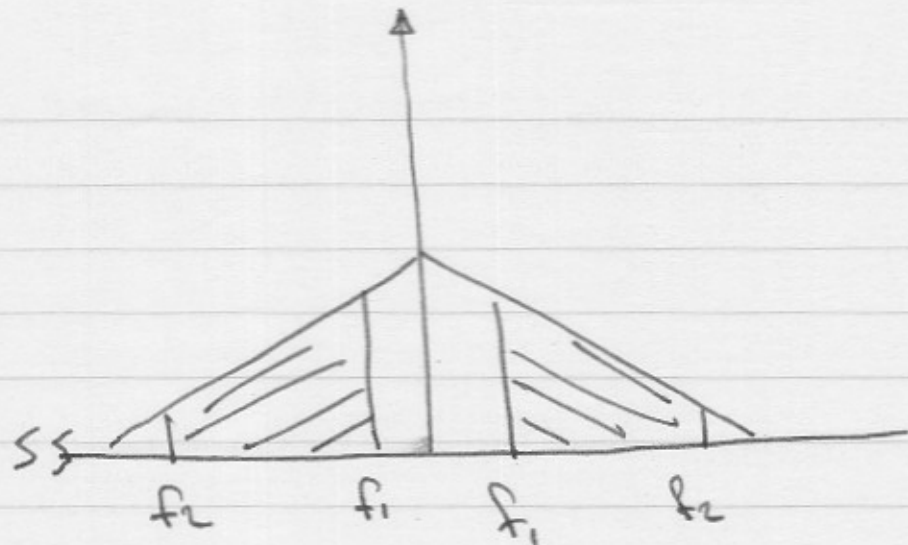


$$V(\omega)V^*(\omega)$$

$$V_0^2 \delta(\omega - \omega_0)$$



$$= V_0^2 \cdot \omega_0^2 \cdot J(\omega)J^*(\omega)$$
$$\Downarrow$$
$$= V_0^2 \Theta(\omega)\Theta^*(\omega)$$



$$\frac{\text{Energy in the sidebands}}{\text{Energy in the carrier}} = \langle \theta^2 \rangle$$

Energy in the carrier

= Mean-squared  
phase deviation

$$\langle -J(\epsilon)^2 \rangle = \text{Mean-squared } \underline{\text{timing}} \text{ deviation}$$

$$= \frac{1}{\omega_0^2} \langle \theta^2 \rangle$$

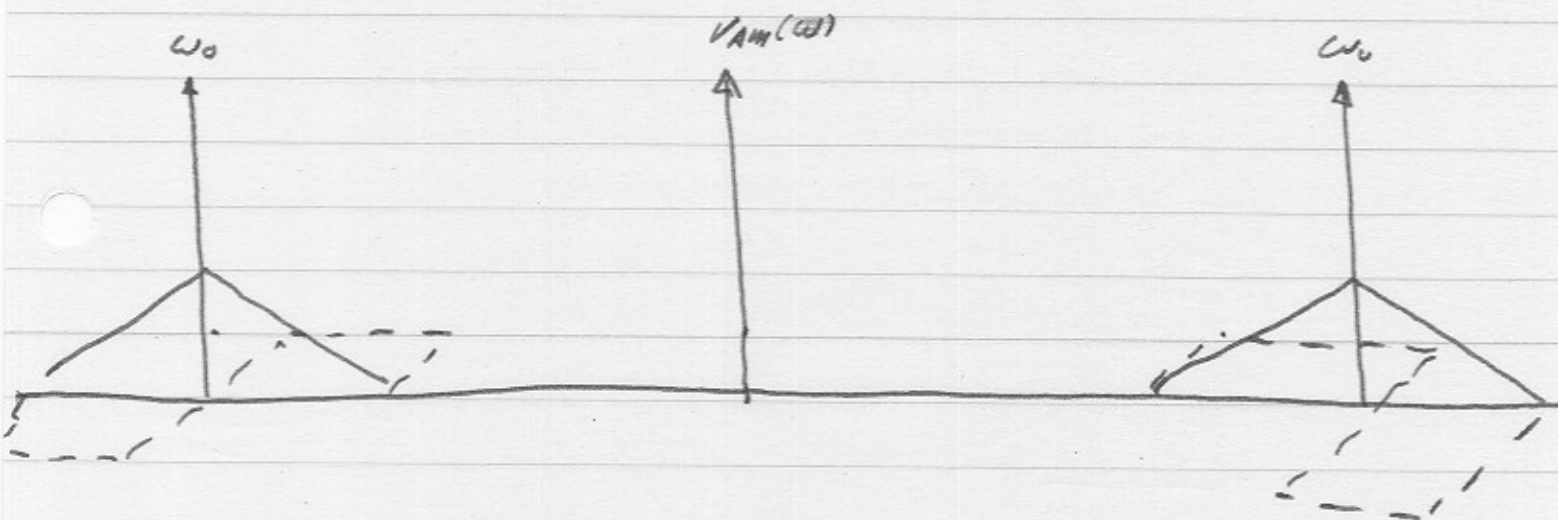
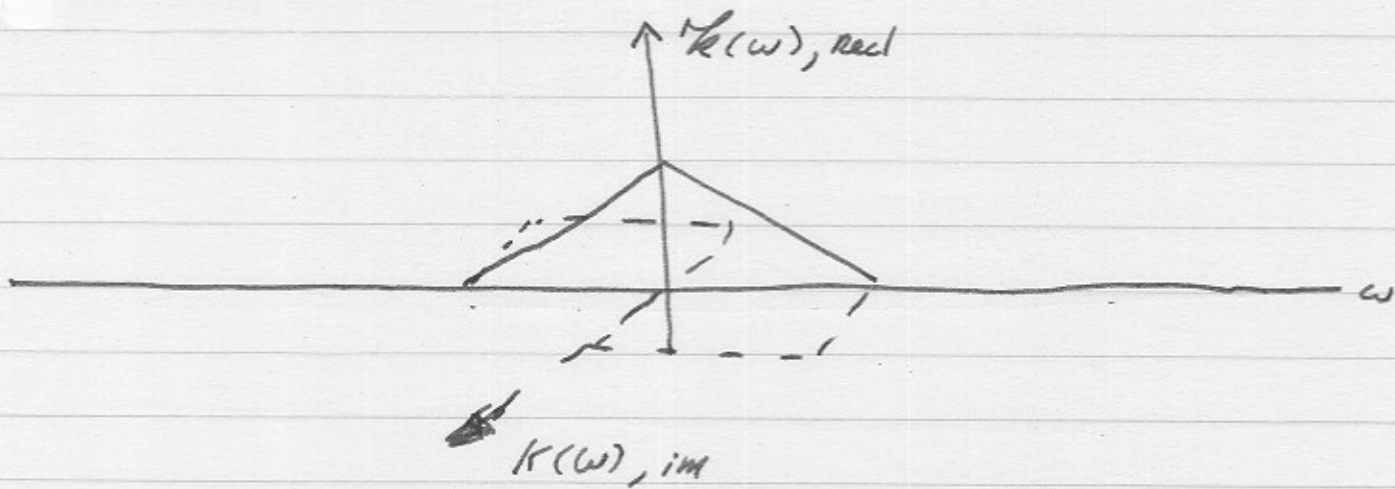
— Now you too can measure phase

noise & "timing jitter" —

modulation.

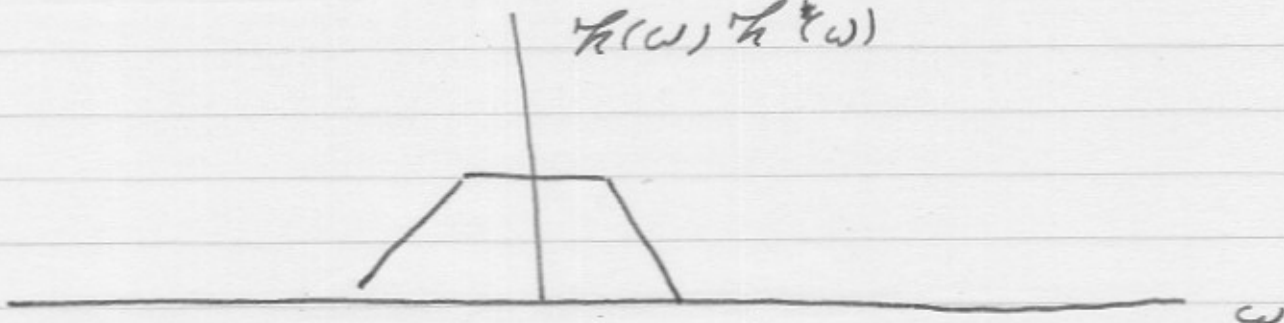
What about AM?

$$V_{AM}(t) = v_0 [1 + k(t)] \cos(\omega_0 t)$$

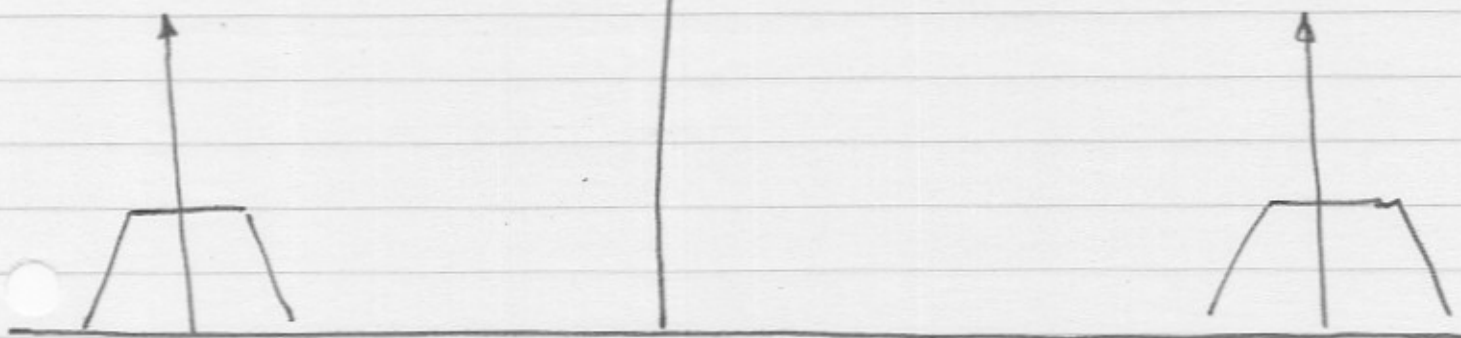


Now, once we look at power spectra

$$|h(\omega)|^2 h^*(\omega)$$



$$V_{AM}(\omega) V_{AM}^*(\omega)$$



Note the following:

1) Mean-Squared AM Modulation is found by the ratio of sideband to carrier power.

2) How do we tell AM from PM?

- signals are distinct  $V(t) = V_0 \cos(\omega_0 t + \phi(t))$

vs

$$V(t) = V_0 (1 + M(t)) \cos(\omega_0 t)$$

- Fourier spectra are distinct:

skew Hermitian (PM)

vs

Hermitian (AM) sidebands.

- Power spectra are not distinct.

-50-

So we can tell AM from PM using  
a good\* (\*we'll define later) phase  
detector.

= We cannot directly tell AM from PM using  
a spectrum analyzer.

= Fortunately, for many electronic signal sources,  
circuit physics makes  $PM \gg AM$ , so  
sidebands are predominantly PM, and a  
spectrum analyzer can be used to  
measure PM.

Comment on Meth of Random AM / PM:

\* Consider  $v(t) = v_0 \cos(\omega_0 t + \Theta(t))$

where  $\Theta(t)$  is a stationary, ergodic, gaussian R.P.

with spectral density  $S_{\Theta}(\omega)$

\*  $v(t)$  is not stationary, of course.

\* To calculate spectra, we must make  $v(t)$  at least first-order stationary by setting instead:

$$v(t) = v_0 \cos(\omega_0 t + \Theta(t) + \Theta_{dc})$$

where  $\Theta_{dc}$  is a random (not time-varying)

initial phase distributed uniformly over  $[-\pi, \pi]$

We must be careful with the consequences of this:

\* using a spectrum analyzer,  $\theta_{dc}$  is clearly real because we have no dc. phase synchronization between the signal and the spectrum analyzer.

\* But in dealing with signals with harmonics,

e.g. a pulse train: 
$$v(t) = v_0 \sum_n \delta(t - nT - J(t))$$

$$= v_0 \sum_m \exp\left[ j \omega_0^m (t + J(t)) \right]$$

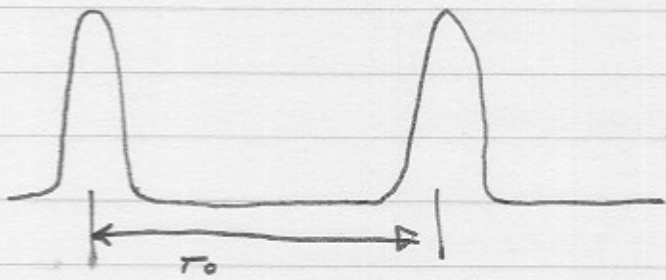
$\uparrow$   
 $\frac{2\pi}{T}$

the phase noise sidebands between successive harmonics are 100% correlated; yet to calculate a "stationary" power spectrum of this highly nonstationary process, we have to assume that each harmonic  $e^{j m \omega_0 t}$  has a separate random starting phase  $\theta_{dc, m}$ .

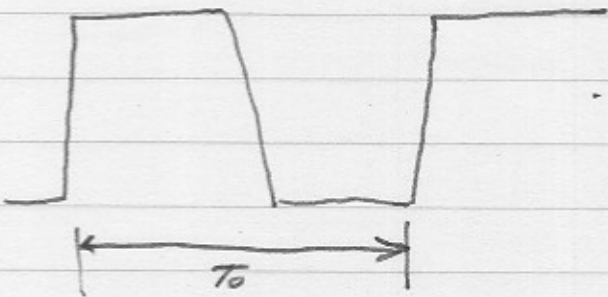
This assumption, clearly nonphysical, loses the correlation between sidebands of successive harmonics...



Subject to this condition, a pulse train



... from a laser



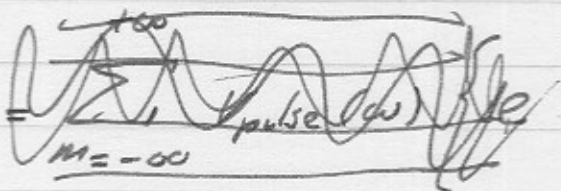
... or from a logic gate...

... which is written

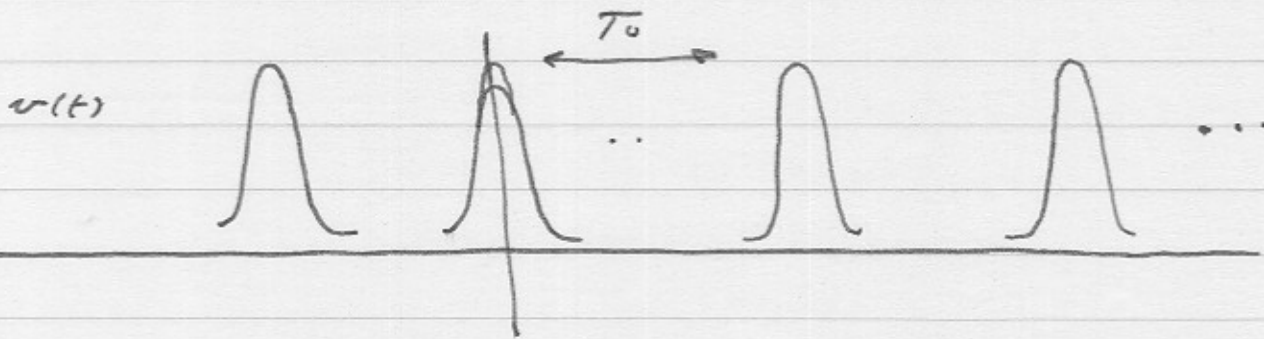
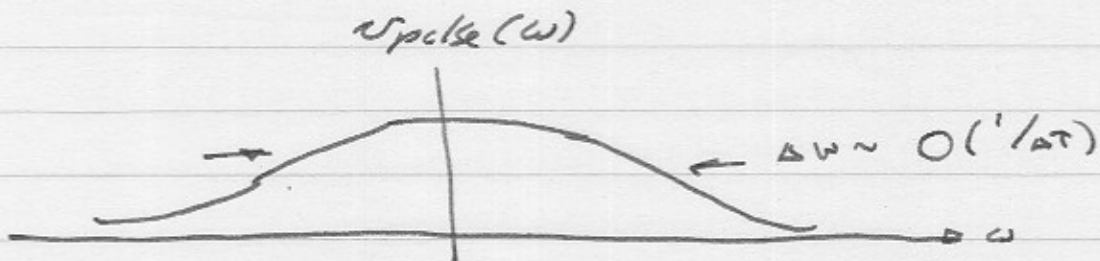
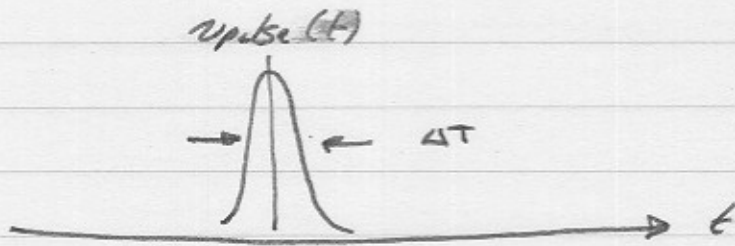
$$V(t) = \sum_{n=-\infty}^{+\infty} v_{pulse}(t - nT_0 - J(t))$$

$$\boxed{2\pi/\omega_0 = T_0}$$

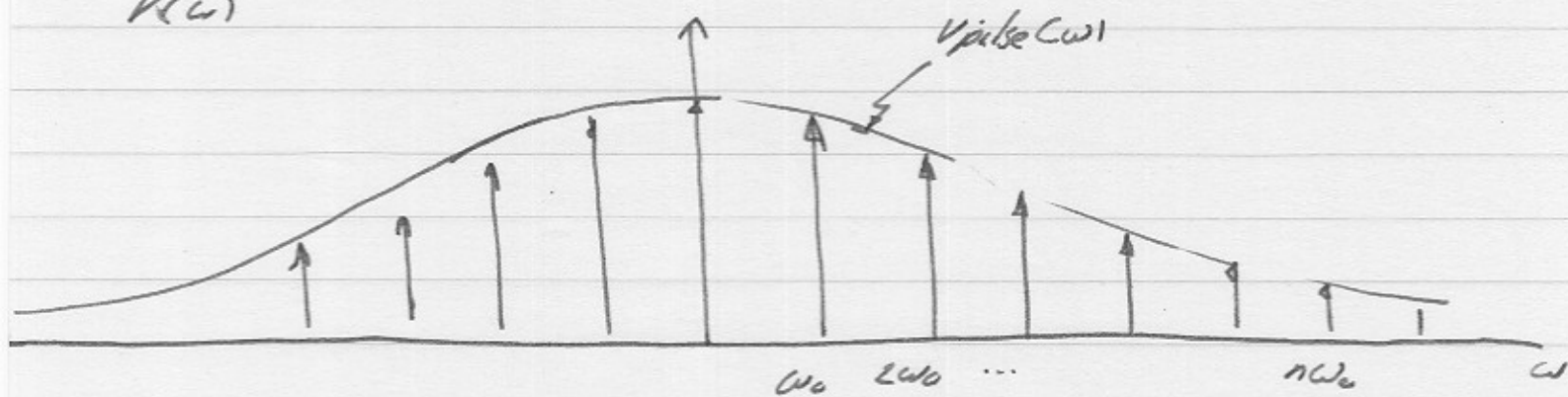
$$V(\omega) = \sum_{n=-\infty}^{+\infty} v_{pulse}(\omega) e^{-in\omega_0(t - J(t))}$$



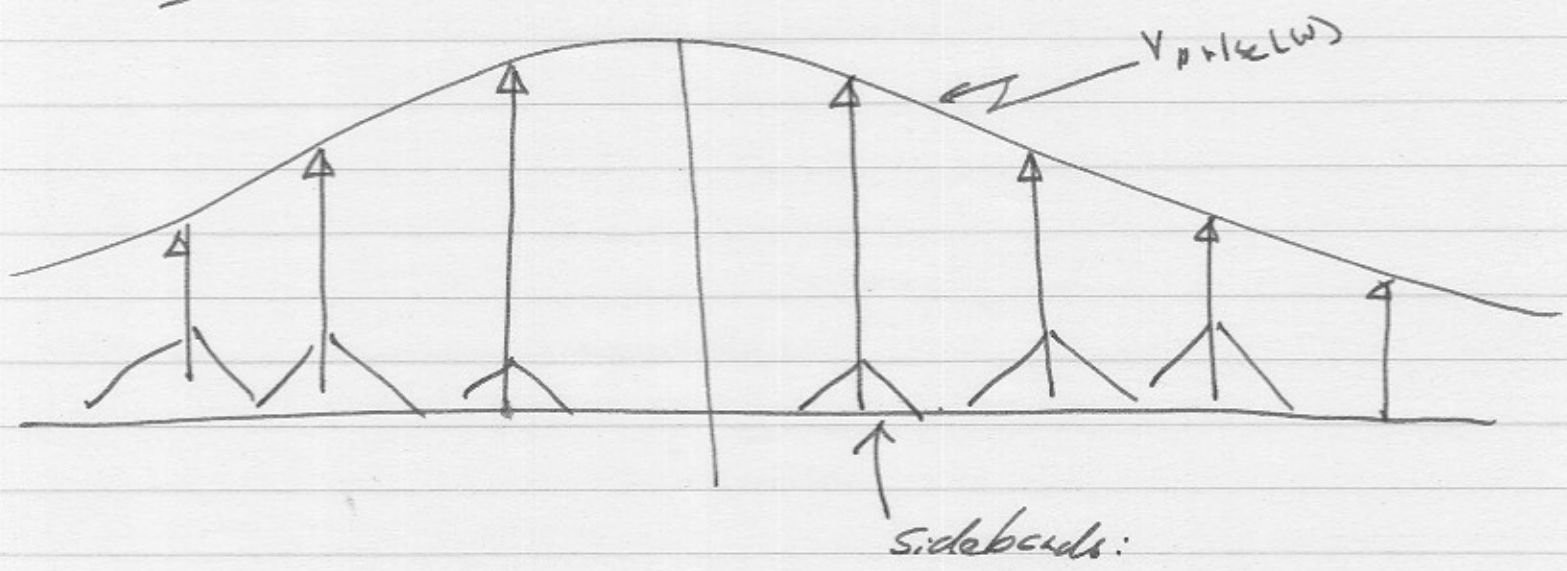
No phase Modulation



~~$v_{pulse}(\omega)$~~   
 $V(\omega)$



If we add "timing jitter" - no random timing deviations, we get:



for AM:  $\frac{\text{Sideband power}}{\text{Carrier power}} = \frac{\text{mean-squared}}{\text{amplitude modulation}}$

... so this is the same on all harmonics.

For PM:  $\frac{\text{sideband power}}{\text{Carrier power}} = \text{mean squared phase deviation}$   
 $= n^2 \omega_c^2 \langle -I(t) \rangle^2$

... so PM sideband power grows as the square of the harmonic order.

Note that

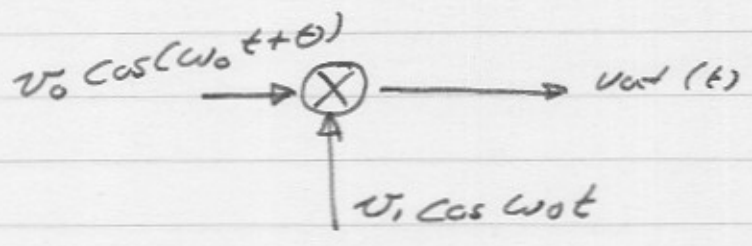
\* This can be used to conveniently measure phase noise with a spectrum analyzer.

\* At very high harmonics other spectral terms will crop up. These include pulse-width-noise spectral terms, etc.

\* One implication of the above: Frequency multiplication in a nonlinear element increases phase noise.

Why? - Because the output timing tracks the input timing, hence in N:1 multiplication the output phase deviation is N:1 bigger than the input phase deviation.

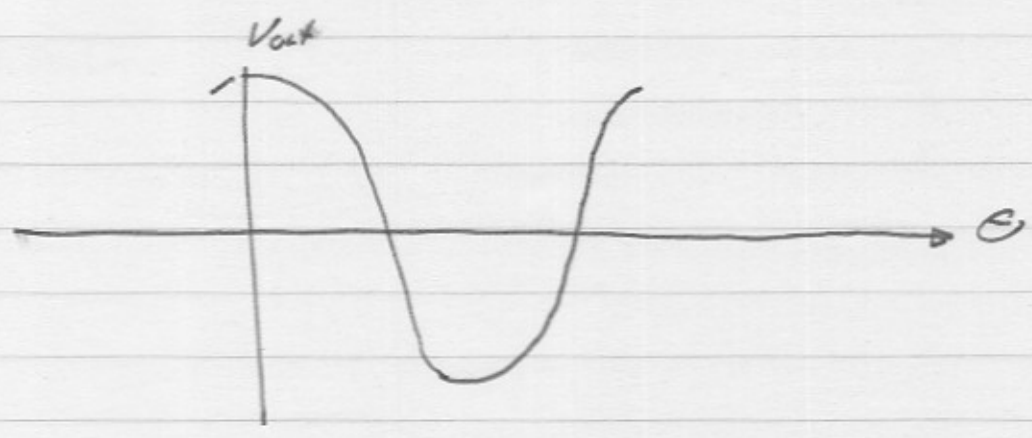
Things to know about phase detectors:



$$v_{out}(t) = \frac{v_1 v_0}{N_{mix}} \cos(\omega_0 t + \theta) \cos(\omega_0 t) + v_{os}$$

dc offset.  
↓

$$= \frac{v_1 v_0}{N_{mix}} \cos \theta + v_{os} + (\text{term at } 2\omega_0, \text{ filtered out})$$



this looks wonderful:

Mixers are phase detectors.

But beware

If:  $v_0(1+N(t)) \cos(\omega_0 t + \theta(t))$  is the input  
↑ AM ↑ PM.

Then

$$V_{out} = \frac{v_1 v_0 (1+N(t)) \cos \theta}{v_{mix}} + V_{os}$$

is the output. Write  $\Delta \theta = -\theta + \pi/2$

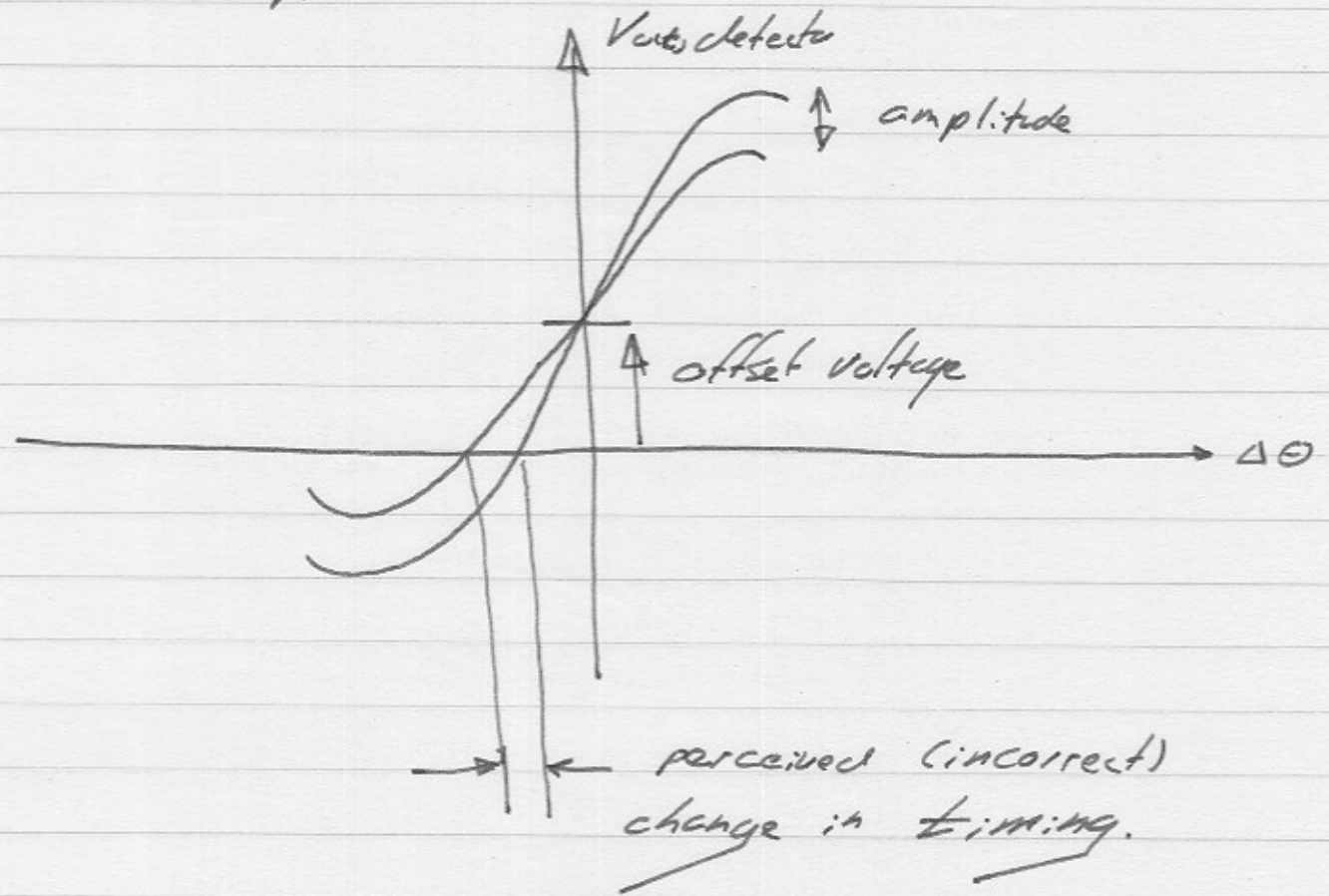
$$V_{out} = \frac{v_1 v_0}{v_{mix}} \Delta \theta \cdot (1+N(t)) + V_{os}$$

$$V_{out} \approx \underbrace{\frac{v_1 v_0}{v_{mix}} \Delta \theta}_{\text{desired}} + \underbrace{\frac{v_1 v_0}{v_{mix}} \Delta \theta \cdot N(t)}_{\text{corruption from AM}} + V_{os}$$

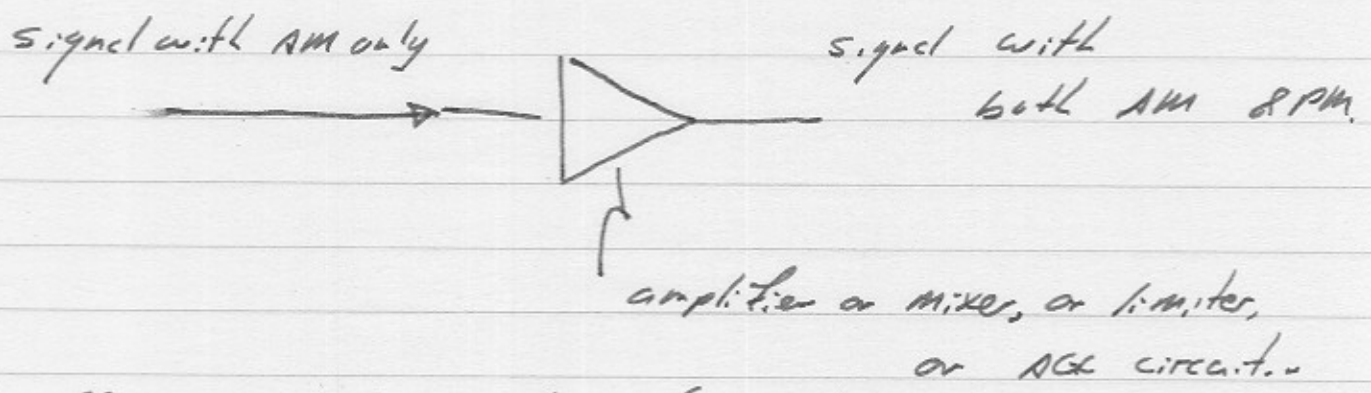
Corruption From AM May look second-order,  
 but watch out. unless  $\Delta\theta \approx 0$ , it is not  
 We might set the phase of the input to obtain  
 $V_{out} \approx V_{in}$ . Then  $\Delta\theta \neq 0$

$$\Delta\theta = \cos^{-1} \left( \frac{V_{mix}}{V_i V_o} \right) \neq 0$$

e.g. mixer offset voltage could cp indirectly giving  
 us AM corruption.



The reader is also cautioned that nonlinear elements can & will convert AM- into PM.



the effect is due to three-frequency mixing,

and is strongly related to third-order intercept. Read my paper.

$$S_{\Theta}(\omega) \leq 9 \left( \frac{P_{in}}{P_{3oi}} \right)^2 S_{AM}(\omega)$$

output phase modulation

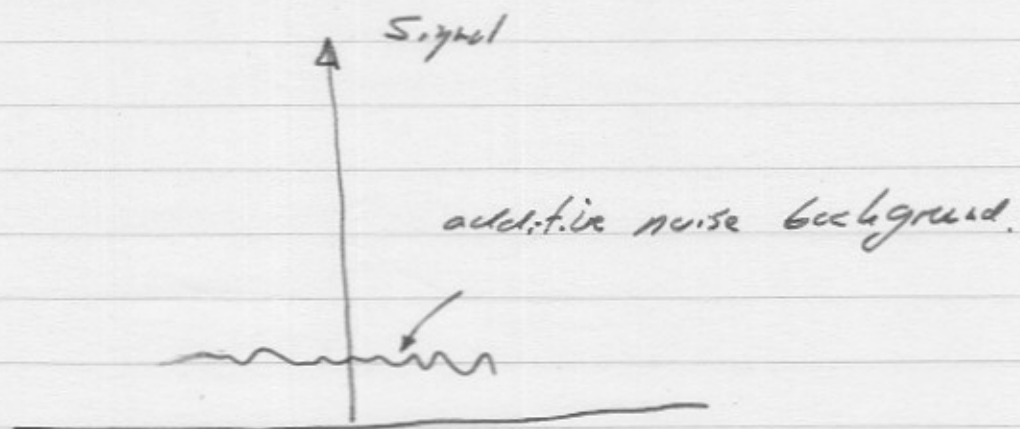
input AM

$P_{in}$  - input power to device

$P_{3oi}$  - input-referred third-order intercept.



If we add noise



- Phase of noise is random

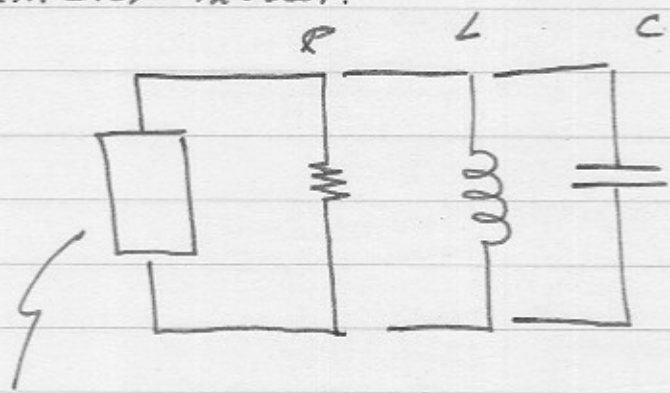
↳ 50% of noise power is AM, 50% is PM.

↳ Additive noise must be watched in

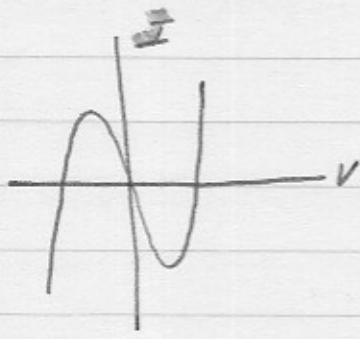
Phase lock-loops - !

# Phase noise in Oscillators:

Oscillator model:

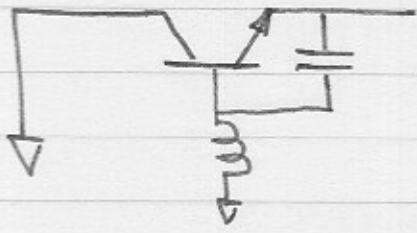


saturating negative resistance.



← cubic? fit??  
need quadratic term.

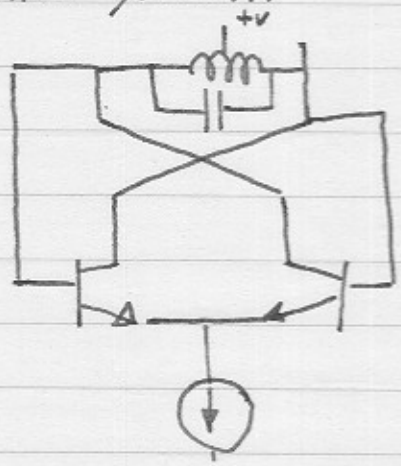
Examples of negative resistance:



←  $R_{ext}$  is negative at some  $\omega$

or 2-terminal: RTD/Gunn/Impatt, etc.

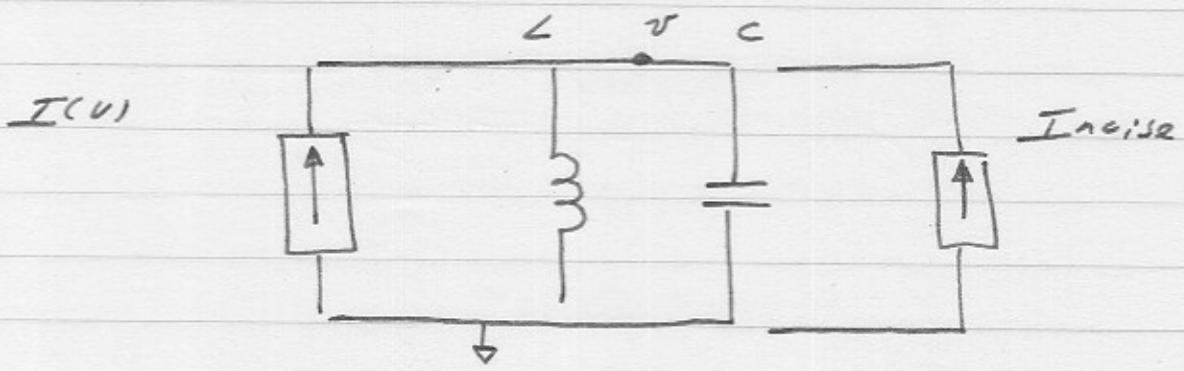
or differential pair...



In all of these we model the combination of

the  $\rightarrow$  & R as

$$I(v) = \alpha_1 v - \beta_1 v^2 - \gamma_1 v^3 + I_{noise}$$



$$C \frac{dv}{dt} + \frac{1}{L} \int v dt = I(v) + I_{noise}$$

Write  $I_{noise} = I_n \cos \omega_n t$ , summed over a range of  $\omega_n$ .

$$C \frac{\partial^2 v}{\partial t^2} + \frac{v}{L} + \frac{d}{dt} [-\alpha_1 v + \beta_1 v^2 + \gamma_1 v^3] = \omega_n I_n \sin \omega_n t$$

simplify:

$$\alpha = \alpha_1 / C = 1/R'C$$

$$\beta = \beta_1 / C$$

$$\gamma = \gamma_1 / C \quad \& \quad \frac{I_n}{C} =$$

$$[\omega_0 = 1/\sqrt{LC}]$$

$$\frac{\partial^2 v}{\partial t^2} + \omega_0^2 v - \frac{\partial}{\partial t} [\alpha v - \beta v^2 - \gamma v^3] = \frac{\omega_n^2 I_n \sin \omega_n t}{\omega_n C}$$

This, without the  $\beta$  term,  
is the Van Der Pol oscillator equation.

First set  $\beta \rightarrow 0$  & noise  $I_n \rightarrow 0$

$$\frac{\partial^2 v}{\partial t^2} + \omega_0^2 v - \frac{\partial}{\partial t} [\alpha v - \gamma v^3] = 0$$

$$\rightarrow v(t) = a_0 \cos(\omega_0 t + \theta)$$

$$a_0 = \sqrt{\frac{4\alpha}{3\gamma}}$$

The picture here:

over one cycle of the sine wave,

the average negative resistance is zero:

$$0 = \int_{\text{one cycle}} v(t) [\alpha_1 v - \gamma_1 v^3] dt \quad \text{where } v = a_0 \cos(\omega_0 t)$$

$$\rightarrow a_0 = \sqrt{4\alpha/3\gamma}$$

Now with  $\beta=0$  but very small  $I_n \neq 0$

$$\frac{d^2 v}{dt^2} + \omega_0 v - \frac{2}{c} [d v - \gamma v^3] = \omega_n^2 I_n \sin \omega t$$

$\rightarrow$  Oscillation @  $\omega_0$ , amplitude  $a_0 \sim a$   
 oscillation @  $\omega_n$ , amplitude  $b$

$$b^2 = \frac{I_n^2}{c^2} \frac{1}{d^2 + 4(\omega_n - \omega_0)^2}$$

$$a_0^2 \sim a^2 = \frac{4d}{3\gamma} = \frac{4d_1}{3\gamma_1}$$

we have also written  $\tilde{R} = 1/d_1 =$  net small signal  
negative resistance.

$$b^2 = \frac{I_n^2 \tilde{R}^2}{1 + 4(\omega_n - \omega_0)^2 \tilde{R}^2 c^2}$$

now  $\frac{1}{\tilde{R}C} = \Delta\omega_{res}$  is the linewidth of the resonator, so

$$b^2 = I_n^2 \tilde{R}^2 \frac{1}{1 + 4 \left( \frac{\omega_n - \omega_0}{\Delta\omega_{res}} \right)^2}$$

so if  $I_n$  has spectral density  $\left( \frac{4kT}{\tilde{R}} \cdot F \right)$  then

$$L(\Delta\omega) = \frac{4kTF \cdot \tilde{R}}{a^2} \frac{1}{1 + 4 \left( \frac{\Delta\omega}{\Delta\omega_{res}} \right)^2}$$

where  $a = \sqrt{\frac{4\alpha}{3\gamma}}$  is the oscillation voltage

$\tilde{R} = 1/\alpha$  is the net negative resistance.

$\Delta\omega_{res} = \frac{1}{\tilde{R}C}$  is the resonator linewidth.

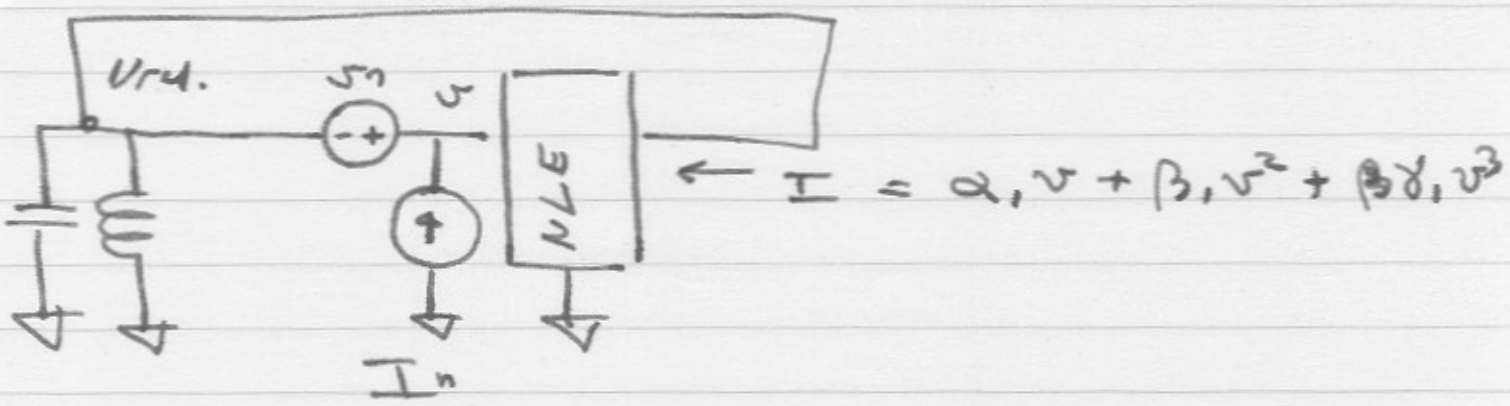
≡ The above simply predicts that the noise current is filtered by the bandpass of the resonator.

We might have been tempted to skip the non-linear analysis, but remember that the problem is highly non-linear.

Now let's quantitatively look at the effect of  $\beta_2 \dots$



Look at  $\beta v^2$  term & "1/f" noise:



We consider now only low-freq. noise of the Non-linear element...

Note first that as drawn,  $I_n$  has no effect.

Input to NLE:

$$v = v_{res} + v_n ; v_{res} \sim a_0 \cos \omega_0 t + \dots$$

Output of NLE:

$$I = \beta (a_0 \cos \omega_0 t + v_n)^2 + \text{terms } \propto \omega \text{ only.}$$

From which:

$$\delta I = 2\beta_1 (a_0 \cos \omega_0 t) v_n$$

+ terms in  $a_0 \cos \omega_0 t$  only

+ terms in  $v_n^2$  (order  $\epsilon^2$ )

If  $v_n = v_{n0} \cos \omega_n t$ , then

$$\delta I = 2 \frac{\beta_1 a_0 v_{n0}}{2} \left\{ \cos[(\omega_n + \omega_0)t] + \cos[(\omega_n - \omega_0)t] \right\}$$

... e.g. the noise voltage  $v_{n0} \cos \omega_n t$

... produces noise currents  $\frac{2\beta_1 a_0 v_{n0}}{2} \cos((\omega_0 \pm \omega_n)t)$

$$\delta I = \beta_1 a_0 v_{n0} \cos((\omega_0 \pm \omega_n)t)$$

If  $v_{no}$  has a low-frequency spectral density of  $4kT F(\omega_n) \cdot \tilde{R}$

Then SI has a spectral density of

$$4kT F(\omega_n) \beta_1^2 a_0^2 \tilde{R} = 4kT F(\omega_n) \cdot \left( \frac{4 \beta_1^2}{3 a_1 \delta_1} \right) \frac{\tilde{R}}{\tilde{R}}$$

So from our previous analysis:

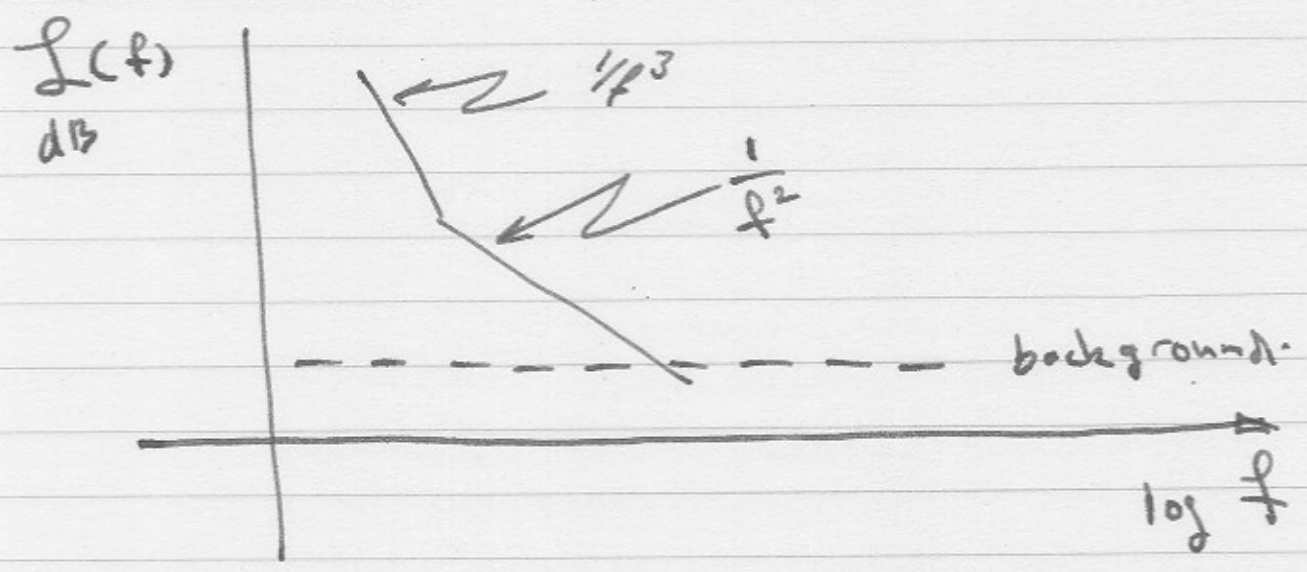
$$S(\Delta\omega) = \frac{4kT F(\Delta\omega) \cdot 4 \beta_1^2}{a^2 \cdot 3 a_1 \delta_1} \left[ \frac{1}{1 + 4 \left( \frac{\Delta\omega}{\Delta\omega_{res}} \right)^2} \right]^2$$

this is up conversion of

the transistors' 1/f noise ( $F(\omega) \sim 1/\omega^\alpha$ )

to ground carrier.

we observe:



$\frac{1}{f^2}$  is filtered high-frequency noise

$\frac{1}{f^3}$  is upconverted & filtered  $1/f$  noise.

We note

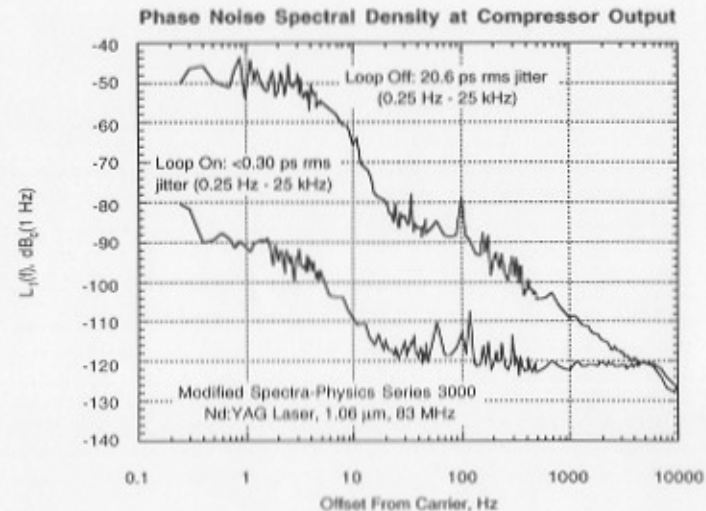
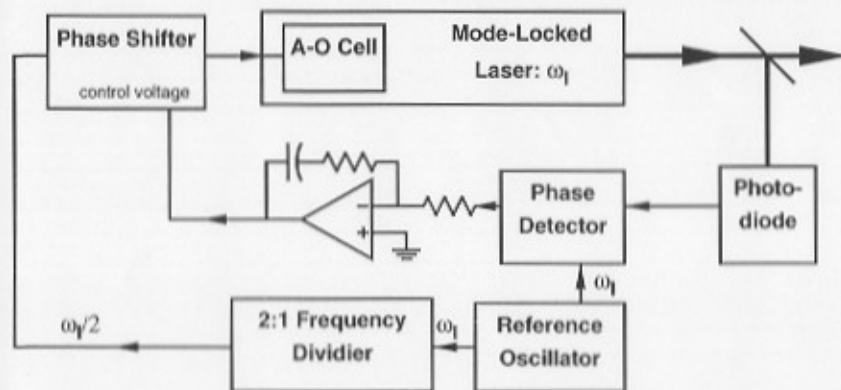
1)  $\beta v^2$  can be eliminated

(greatly reduced) by appropriate circuit  
design.

2) Source impedance at low frequencies

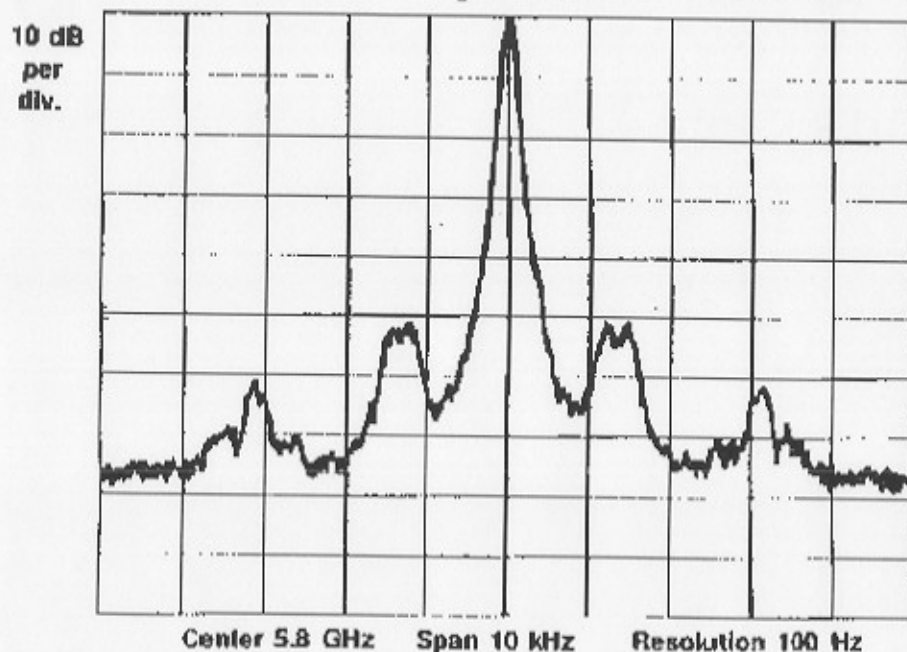
will change effect of  $1/f$  noise!

# Laser Timing Stabilization



This method is applicable to any actively mode-locked laser. Passively mode-locked lasers can be phase-locked by introducing an electrically-controlled cavity tuning element

## phase noise integration



$$\|J^2(t)\| = \sigma_J^2 = \frac{1}{\pi} \int_{\omega_{low}}^{+\omega_c/2} S_J(\omega) d\omega$$

$\omega_{low}$  is the low - frequency limit of integration

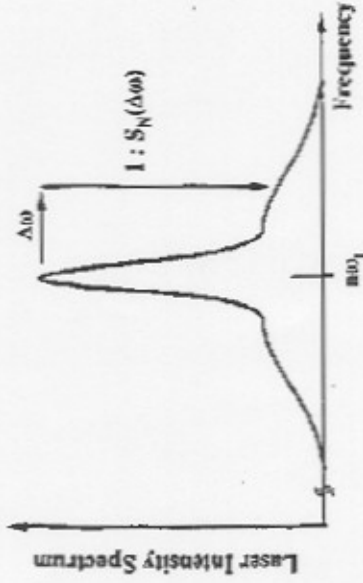
$\approx \pi / T$ , where  $T$  is the period of observation

In words: Power in sidebands divided by power in carrier is mean-squared phase deviation in radians. Divide by the radian frequency to obtain the timing deviation

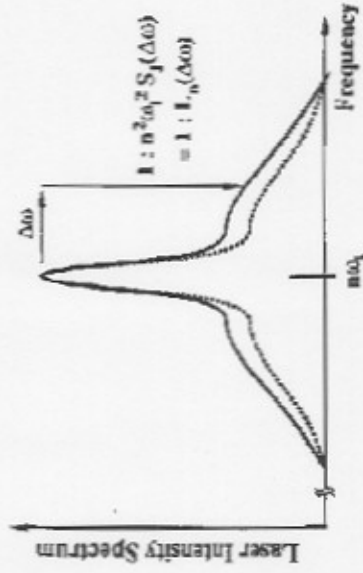
# phase noise theory and measurement

- $I(t)$  laser intensity
- $P$  = average intensity
- $T$  = pulse repetition period
- $\sigma_r$  = RMS pulse width
- $N(t)$  = intensity fluctuations
- $J(t)$  = timing fluctuations

Amplitude-Noise Sidebands: Low Harmonics



Phase-Noise Sidebands: High Harmonics





## phase noise theory and measurement

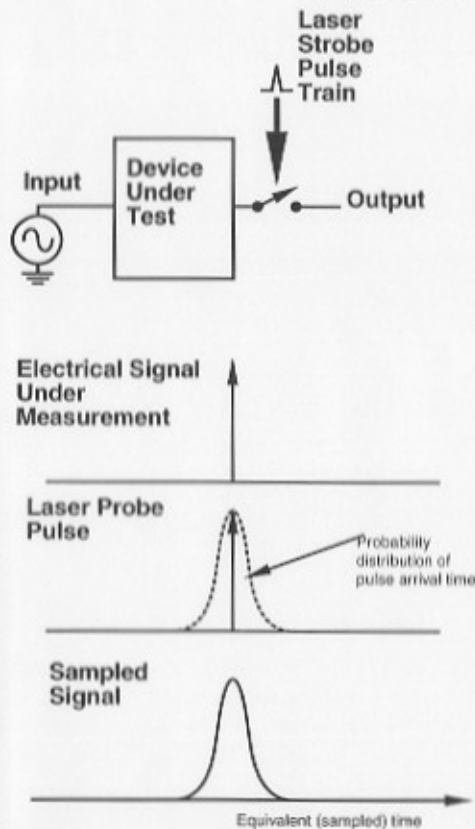
Laser timing and amplitude fluctuations:

$$I(t) \cong \bar{P}T(1 + N(t)) \sum_{-\infty}^{+\infty} \frac{1}{\sigma_t \sqrt{2\pi}} \exp\left[-(t - nT - J(t))^2 / 2\sigma_t^2\right]$$

Laser Spectrum

$$S_I(\omega) \approx \bar{P}^2 \exp(-\omega^2 \sigma_t^2) \sum_{-\infty}^{+\infty} \left[ \begin{array}{l} 2\pi\delta(\omega - \omega_0) \quad \dots \text{laser harmonics} \\ +S_N(\omega - \omega_0) \quad \dots \text{AM sidebands} \\ +n^2 \omega_t^2 S_J(\omega - \omega_0) \quad \dots \text{FM sidebands} \end{array} \right]$$

## Laser Sampling and Timing Jitter



Mode-locked lasers derive their pulse repetition rate from the cavity round-trip time. This resonator, *in terms of the laser intensity modulation intensity envelope*, has relatively poor Q (poor finesse) and pulsed lasers have substantial pulse timing fluctuations.

Relative timing fluctuations of the laser and electrical signal source degrade the system time resolution.

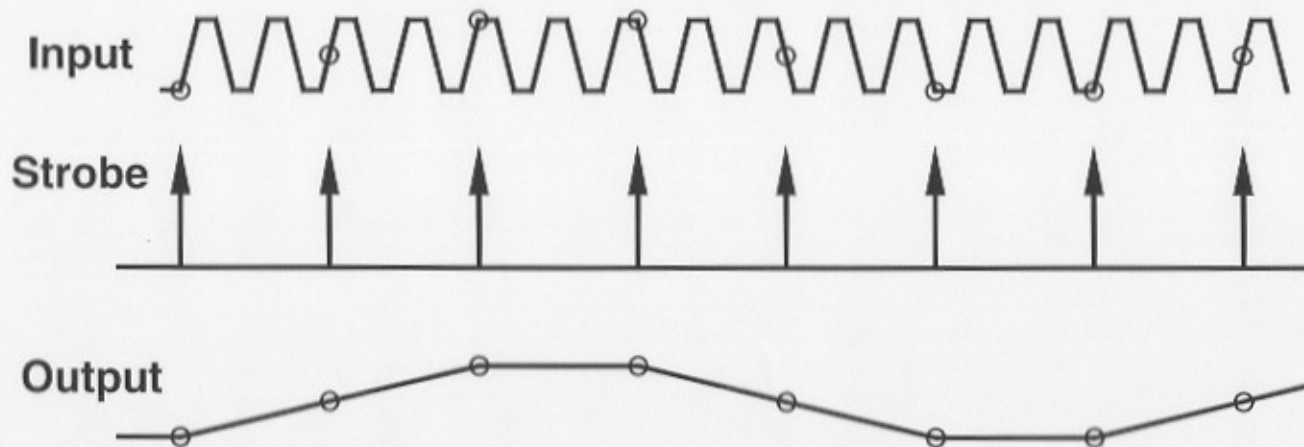
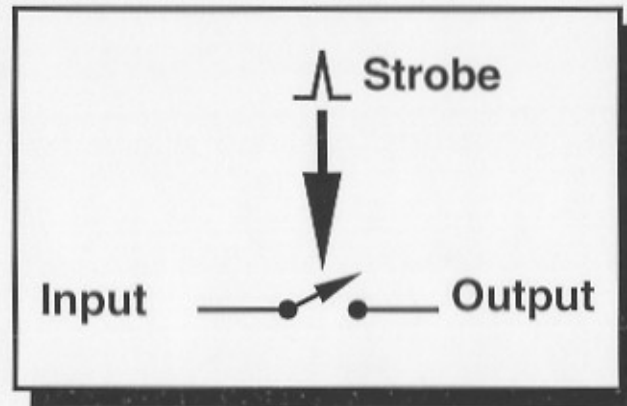
Good microwave synthesizer:  $\approx 0.2$  ps rms jitter

Mode-locked YAG laser:  $\approx 3-10$  ps rms  
(0.3 ps if phase-locked)

CPM laser:  $\approx 5$  ps rms jitter

## Sampling

Reducing the repetition frequency (bandwidth) of a signal so that it can be measured with low-frequency instruments



If the strobe signal has repetition frequency  $f_0$  and the input signal has repetition frequency  $nf_0 + \Delta f$ , the sampled output will be at frequency  $\Delta f$ .

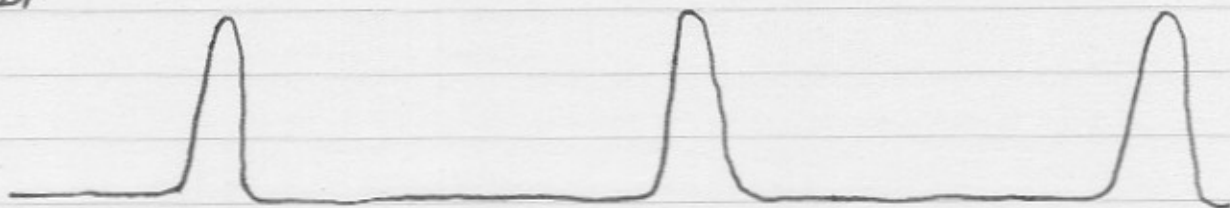
2 specific examples:

III Normal Phase Locked Loop

III PLL for laser timing stabilizer.

... Let's do the laser problem first...

Laser



$f_L = 100 \text{ MHz}$  nominal pulse rep. rate

- 1 ps pulse after compression.
- substantial timing & amplitude fluctuations.

Laser rep frequency  $\omega_L = 2\pi (100 \text{ MHz})$

$$= \frac{2\pi}{T_0} = \frac{2\pi}{10 \text{ ns}}$$

Timing Fluctuations:  $J(t)$

Amplitude:  $\alpha(1+N(t))$ ,  $N(t)$  is the normalized amplitude fluctuation.

Spectra :

$$\begin{array}{l} I(t) \rightarrow S_I(\omega) \\ N(t) \rightarrow S_N(\omega) \end{array} \left. \vphantom{\begin{array}{l} I(t) \\ N(t) \end{array}} \right\} \begin{array}{l} \text{double sided} \\ \text{radian based.} \end{array}$$

$$S_{\text{Component}} = ? = 4kTF$$

$$= \text{No!}$$

$$= 4kTF/2$$

$\equiv$  because we are using 2-sided spectral densities.

$$\text{Shot noise: } 2qI_{dc} ? \text{ No!} \rightarrow qI_{dc}$$

$$\text{Resistor thermal noise: } 4kTR ? \text{ No!} \rightarrow 2kTR$$

### Bandwidth of Noise



The continuous-time process  $J(t)$  is being sampled by the pulse train at  $F_L = \omega_L / 2\pi$

Nyquist Criterion: Noise limited to  $\pm F_L / 2$  !

On the lower limit of integration,

some process  $x(t)$  may vary as  $1/f^\alpha = f^{-\alpha}$  in spectral density

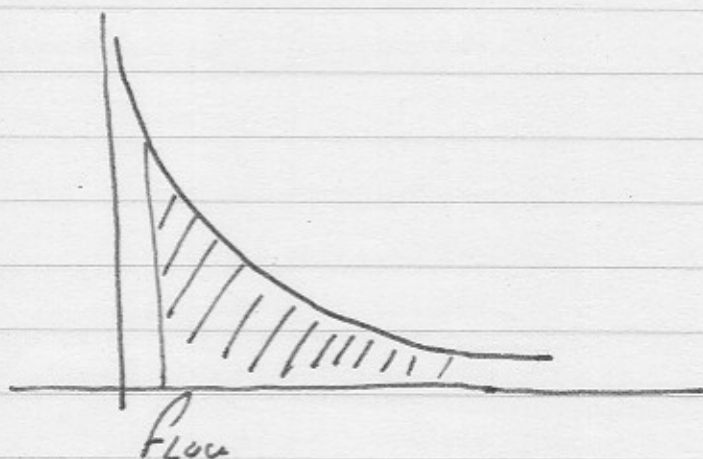
$$\langle x x \rangle = ? = 2 \int_{f_{low}}^{f_{high}} k f^{-\alpha} df$$

$$= 2k \left[ \frac{f^{1-\alpha}}{1-\alpha} \right]_{f_{low}}^{f_{high}}$$

$$= 2k \left( \left[ -\frac{f_{low}^{1-\alpha}}{1-\alpha} \right] + \left[ \frac{f_{high}^{1-\alpha}}{1-\alpha} \right] \right)$$

This is large or unbounded for  $\alpha \approx 1$  as

$$\int_{\text{low}}^{\infty} \frac{1}{x} dx \rightarrow \infty$$



does it make sense to integrate from  $\text{flow} \approx 0$ .

Example:

$$\text{flow} = 1 \text{ millihertz} = \frac{1}{1000 \text{ sec}}$$

$$= \frac{1}{16 \text{ minutes}}$$

has the instrument been on for 16 minutes?



General Comment: Real processes ain't stationary.

$4kT = \delta$ , but  $T$ , the room temperature, fluctuates.

Assuming  $\delta \sim f^{-2}$  with  $\alpha \sim 1$  & assuming

very low flow forces higher & higher demands

on the stationarity of the physical process involved.

Specific Comment we generally care about the change in some physical parameter over some period of observation  $\Delta T$ .

$\psi$  = random process

$$\begin{aligned} \psi(t + \Delta T) - \psi(t) &= \text{change over period } \Delta T \\ &= \text{a random variable} \\ \langle [\psi(t + \Delta T) - \psi(t)]^2 \rangle &= \text{its } \underline{\text{variance}} \end{aligned}$$

$$\langle (\Delta x)^2 \rangle = \langle x(t+2T) \cdot x(t+2T) \rangle$$

$$+ \langle x(t) \cdot x(t) \rangle - 2 \langle x(t) x(t+T) \rangle$$

$$= R_{xx}(0) + R_{xx}(0) - 2 R_{xx}(T)$$

$$= 2 \left[ R_{xx}(0) - R_{xx}(T) \right]$$

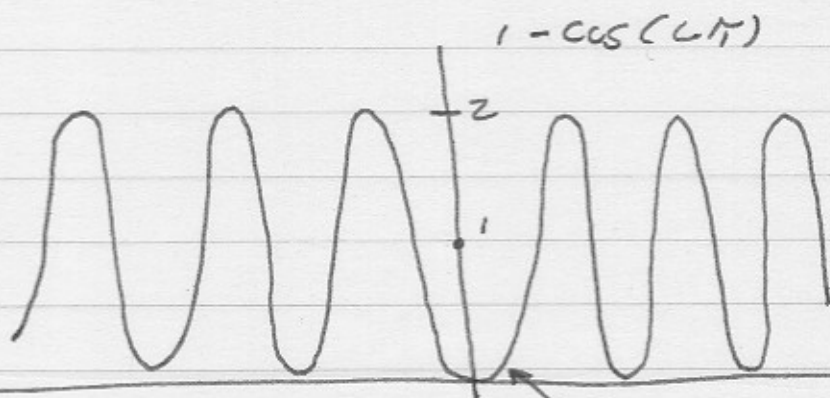
$$= 2 \cdot \frac{1}{2\pi} \int_{-\infty}^{+\infty} S_{xx}(\omega) d\omega - 2 \cdot \frac{1}{2\pi} \int_{-\infty}^{+\infty} S_{xx}(\omega) e^{-j\omega T} d\omega$$

$$= 2 \cdot \frac{1}{2\pi} \int_{-\infty}^{+\infty} S_{xx}(\omega) \left[ 1 - e^{-j\omega T} \right] d\omega$$

$S_{xx}$  is real  
 $(1 - e^{-j\omega T})$  is hermitian so...

$$\langle (\Delta x)^2 \rangle = 4 \cdot \frac{1}{2\pi} \int_0^{+\infty} S_{xx}(\omega) \cdot [1 - \cos(\omega T)] d\omega$$

$$\langle (\Delta x)^2 \rangle = 2 \cdot \frac{2}{2\pi} \int_0^{\infty} S_{xx}(\omega) \cdot [1 - \cos(\omega \tau)] d\omega$$



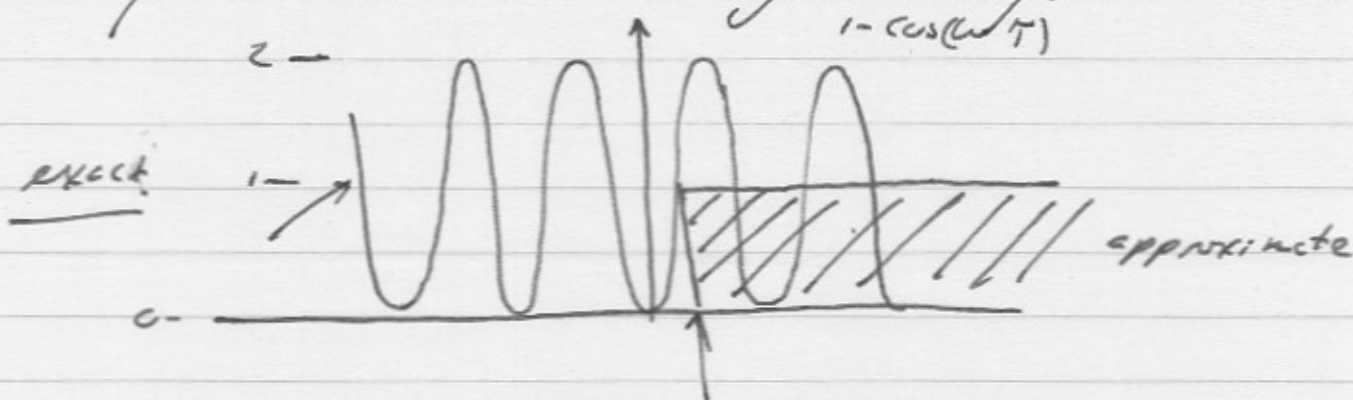
$$\sim (\omega \tau)^2 / 2 \text{ for } \omega \tau \ll 1$$

as long as  $S_{xx}(\omega) < \frac{k}{f^3}$  for some  $k$  at low frequencies,  $\langle (\Delta x)^2 \rangle$  is finite for any  $\Delta T$

Pragmatic Approach:

Since we don't always know a priori what

$\Delta T$  exactly we use as a given delay, ...



$$\omega_{low} = \frac{\pi}{2 \Delta T}$$

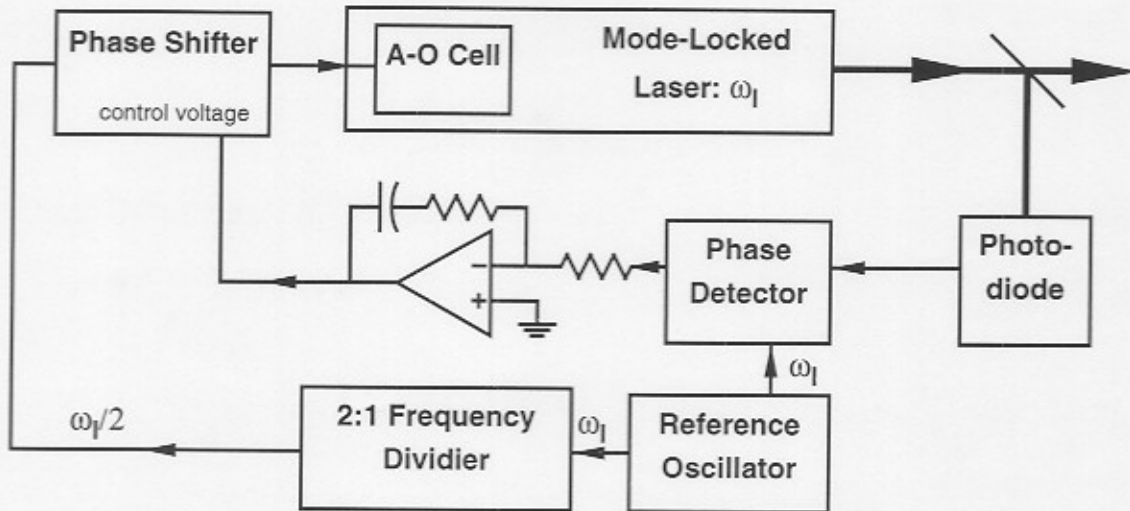
$$f_{low} = \frac{1}{4 \Delta T}$$

$$\langle (\Delta x)^2 \rangle \approx \int_{f_{low}}^{f_{high}} S_T(f) df$$

$$f_{low} = 1/4 \Delta T$$

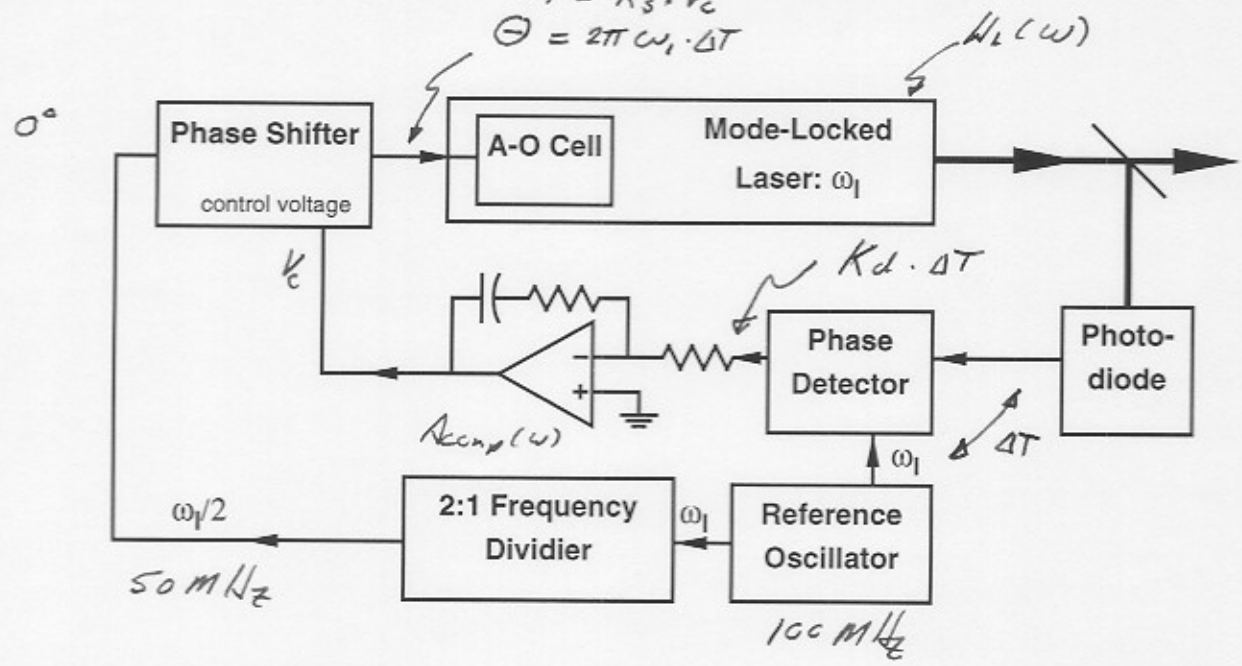
where  $\Delta T$  is the period of observation.

# Laser Timing Stabilizer



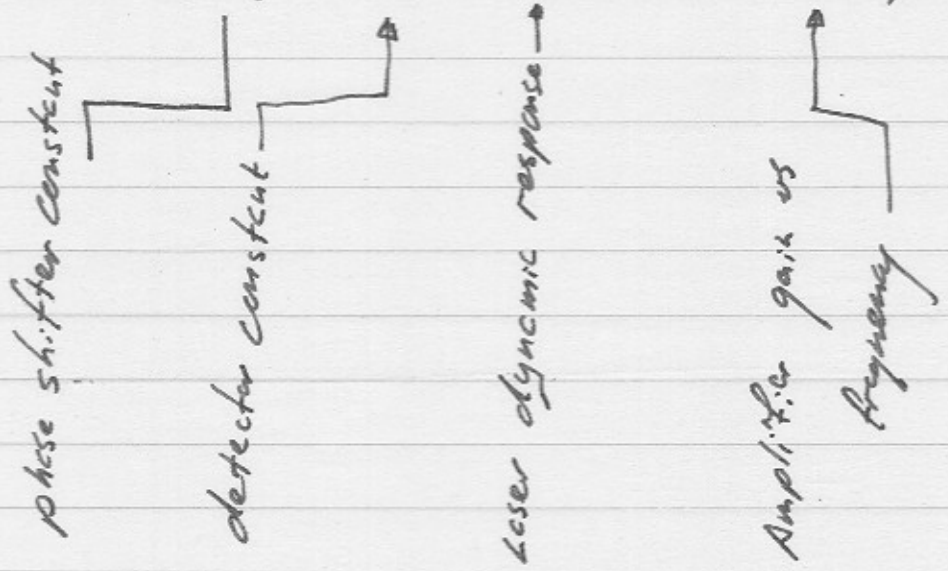
### Laser Timing Stabilizer

$$\Delta T = K_s \cdot V_c$$
$$\Theta = 2\pi \omega_1 \cdot \Delta T$$



control  
Phase detector loop transmission

$$G(\omega) = K_s \cdot K_d \cdot N_L(\omega) \cdot A_{comp}(\omega)$$



... Like any control loop, the amplifier has lead/lag etc compensation to correct for the "plant" (laser) response.

design:  $G(\omega) = \frac{f_{loop}}{j\omega} = \frac{\omega_{loop}}{j\omega}$

$$f_{loop} \approx 4 - 5 \text{ KHz.}$$



suppression of phase noise of laser

basic feedback result:  $\rightarrow$

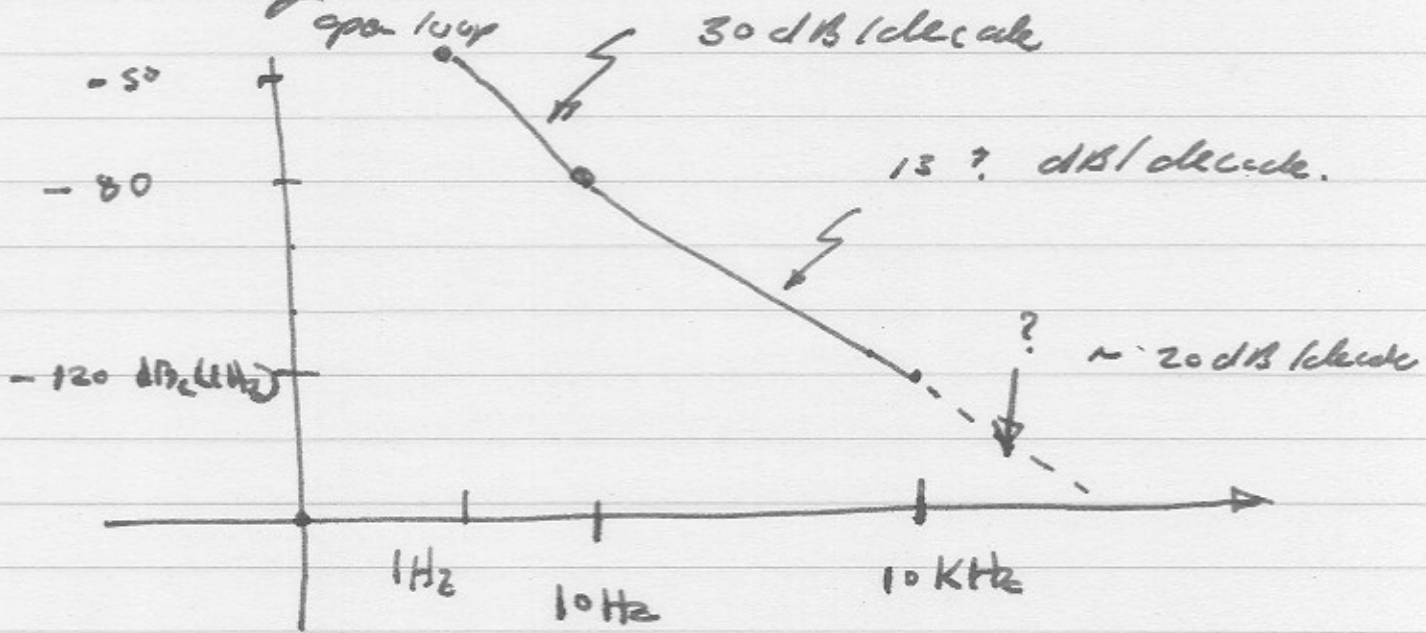
$$S_{\text{closed loop}}(\omega) = \left\| \frac{1}{1+G(\omega)} \right\|^2 S_{\text{open loop}}(\omega)$$

$$\approx \begin{cases} S_{\text{open loop}} & \omega \gg \omega_{\text{loop}} \\ S_{\text{open loop}} \cdot \frac{\omega^2}{\omega_{\text{loop}}^2} & \text{for } \omega \ll \omega_{\text{loop}} \end{cases}$$

$$L_{\omega \text{ closed loop}} = \left\| \frac{1}{1+G(\omega)} \right\|^2 \cdot L(\omega)_{\text{open loop}}$$

$$L(\omega) = S_{\phi}(\omega) = \frac{1}{\omega_c^2} \cdot S_I(\omega)$$

Observed  $f_c(w)$ :



... as best as my old notes show...

Objective: 0.3 ps rms timing "jitter"  
0.25 Hz - ? maximum observable.

$$(0.3 \text{ ps})^2 = \langle J(t)^2 \rangle \quad \text{over} \quad 1 \text{ sec. } \Delta T.$$

$$\sigma_{\Theta} = \omega_c \cdot \sigma_J = 2\pi (100 \text{ MHz}) \cdot 0.3 \text{ ps}$$

$$\sigma_{\Theta} = 2 \cdot 10^{-4} \text{ radians} \quad \nabla$$

$$(\sigma_{\Theta})^2 = 4 \cdot 10^{-8} = \frac{\text{Power in Sidebands}}{\text{Power in Carrier}}$$

$$\frac{P_{\text{sideband}}}{P_{\text{carrier}}} = L(f) = 4 \cdot 10^{-8} = -74 \text{ dBc}$$



$$L(f) = -74 \text{ dBc} \quad \text{Average, integrated over phase noise bandwidth.}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
L(f) &\sim -74 \text{ dBc} \quad (10 \text{ kHz}) \\
&\text{desired} \\
&= -74 \text{ dBc} + 10 \log_{10} \left( \frac{1 \text{ Hz}}{10 \text{ kHz}} \right) \\
&\quad (1 \text{ Hz}) \\
&= -74 \text{ dBc} (1 \text{ Hz}) - 40 \text{ dB}
\end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
L(f) &= -114 \text{ dBc} (1 \text{ Hz}) \\
&\text{desired}
\end{aligned}$$

on the next sheet I will show the phase noise suppression for the 10 kHz loop.

f, Hz	L(f) openloop	L(f) closedloop desired	Required Suppression	Actual loop suppression	Closed Loop L(f)
1	-50	-120	70	80	-130
10	-80	-120	40	60	-140
100	-93	-120	27	40	-133
1000	-106	-120	14	20	-126
10000	-120	-120	0	0	-120

Loop bandwidth 1.00E+04

All quantities Hz, dB, or dBc (1/Hz)  
as appropriate.

... So the loop is adequate!

f, Hz	L(f) openloop dBc (1 Hz)	L(f) closedloop desired	N(f) dBc (1 Hz)	Maximum Permissible AM/PM conversion, dB
1	-50	-120	-65	-55
10	-80	-120	-75	-45
100	-93	-120	-85	-35
1000	-106	-120	-95	-25
10000	-120	-120	-100	-20

Above is shown the laser Amplitude noise,  
again in dBc (1 Hz).

iii Compare these to the desired -120 dBc (1 Hz)

to obtain a bound on the maximum permissible  
level of AM-PM conversion.

AM-PM conversion by 3rd-order distortion:

$$S_{AM \rightarrow PM}(\omega) \leq \frac{9}{\omega_c^2} \cdot \left( \frac{P_{in}}{P_{3oi}} \right)^2 \cdot S_u(\omega)$$

equivalently,

$$S_{AM-PM} = L(\omega) = 9 \left( \frac{P_{in}}{P_{3oi}} \right)^2 S_u(\omega)$$

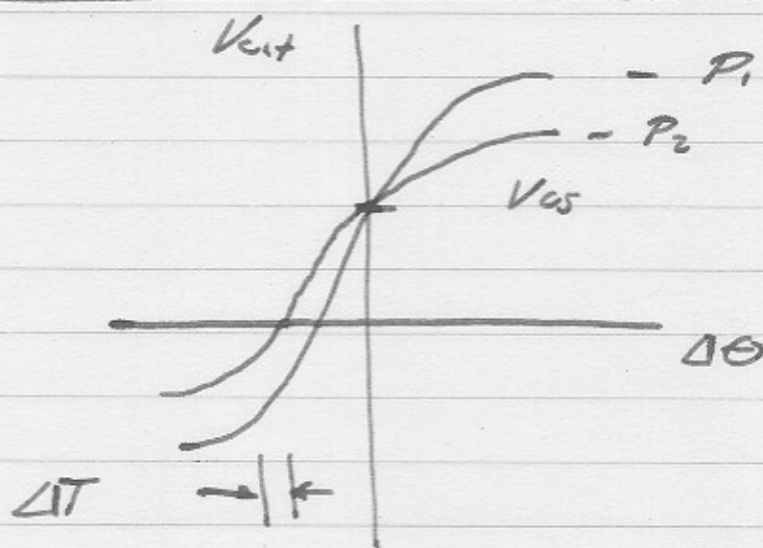
$$AM-PM \text{ conversion} = 9 \left( \frac{P_{in}}{P_{3oi}} \right)^2$$

$$= 10 \log_{10} 9 + 20 \log_{10} \left( \frac{P_{in}}{P_{3oi}} \right)$$

$$-55 \text{ dB} \geq 9.5 \text{ dB} + 2 \cdot \left[ \frac{P_{in}}{\text{dB}} - \frac{P_{3oi}}{\text{dB}} \right]$$

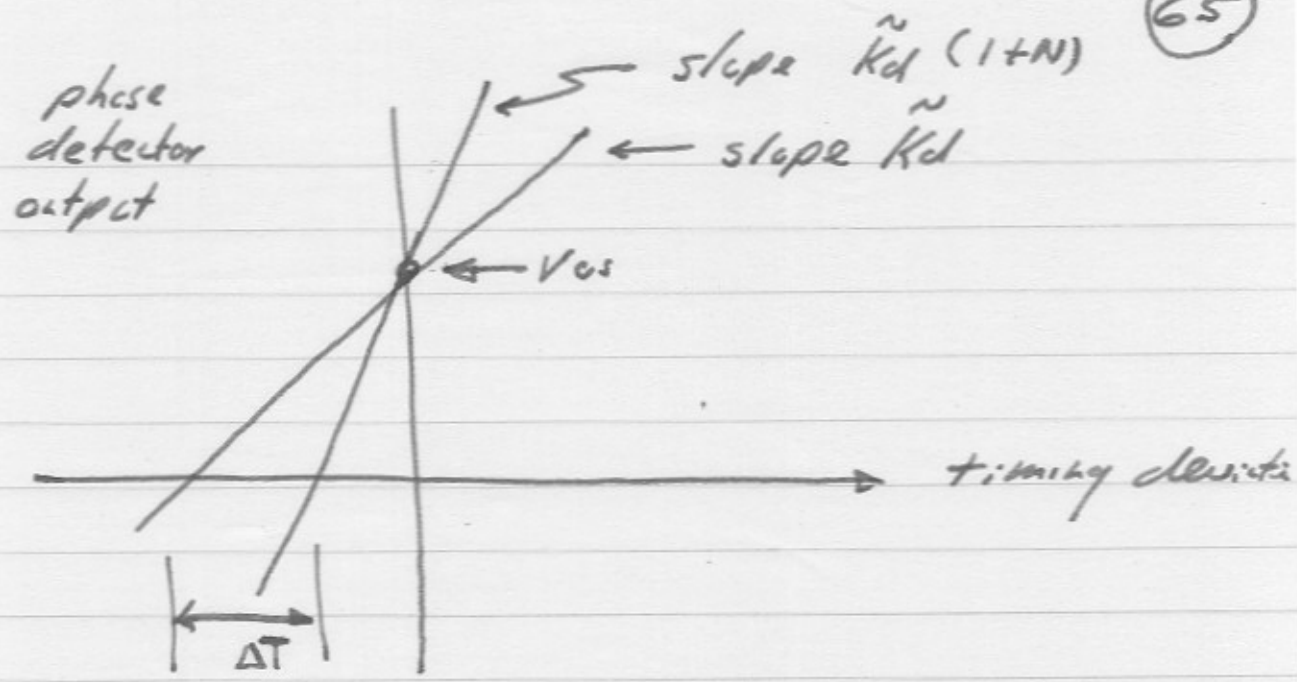
$$P_{in, \text{dBm}} \leq P_{3oi, \text{dBm}} - 32\frac{1}{4} \text{ dB}$$

All signal levels must be at least 32 dB ~~be~~ below the relevant third-order intercept points. Since there are several components, the design point was 35 dB below  $P_{3oi}$ .



There are similar restrictions on the allowable DM-PM conversion arising indirectly from phase detector offset voltage.





$$\Delta T = N(t) \cdot \frac{V_{os}}{K_d} \quad ; \quad K_d \text{ in } V/sec.$$

$$\Delta \theta = N(t) \cdot \frac{V_{os}}{K_d} \quad ; \quad K_d \text{ in } \frac{Volts}{radian}$$

$$f_{Am-pm}(\omega) = \left( \frac{V_{os}}{K_d} \right)^2 \cdot S_N(\omega)$$

detector offset

$$K_d = \left( \frac{\Delta V}{\Delta \theta} \right)$$

$$\begin{array}{c} \uparrow \\ -120 \text{ dBc} \\ (4\text{Hz}) \end{array} L(\omega) - \begin{array}{c} \uparrow \\ -65 \text{ dBc} \\ (1\text{Hz}) \end{array} S_n(\omega) = 20 \log_{10} \left( \frac{V_{os}}{K_d} \right)$$

$$-55 \text{ dB} = 20 \log_{10} \left( \frac{V_{os}}{K_d} \right)$$

$$\frac{V_{os}}{K_d} \sim 2 \cdot 10^{-3}$$

$$V_{os} \cdot \left( \frac{\Delta \theta}{\Delta V} \right) \sim 2 \cdot 10^{-3} \text{ radians.}$$

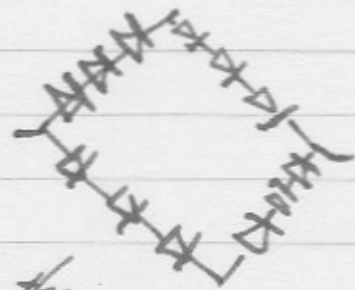
In other words, the phase detector must be kept within 2 milliradians ( $0.1^\circ$ ) of quadrature in order to be sufficiently insensitive to AM noise!

- we need a very small  $v_{os}$  offset voltage
- or a very high  $K_d$  slope coefficient
- The high  $K_d$  can be obtained by increasing the input level to the mixer.

But then third-order products kill us...

- High third-order product intercepts can be obtained by using high intercept mixers

For diodes, that is this...



but now if I have increased the offset voltage...

- we have gone in circles & accomplished nothing.

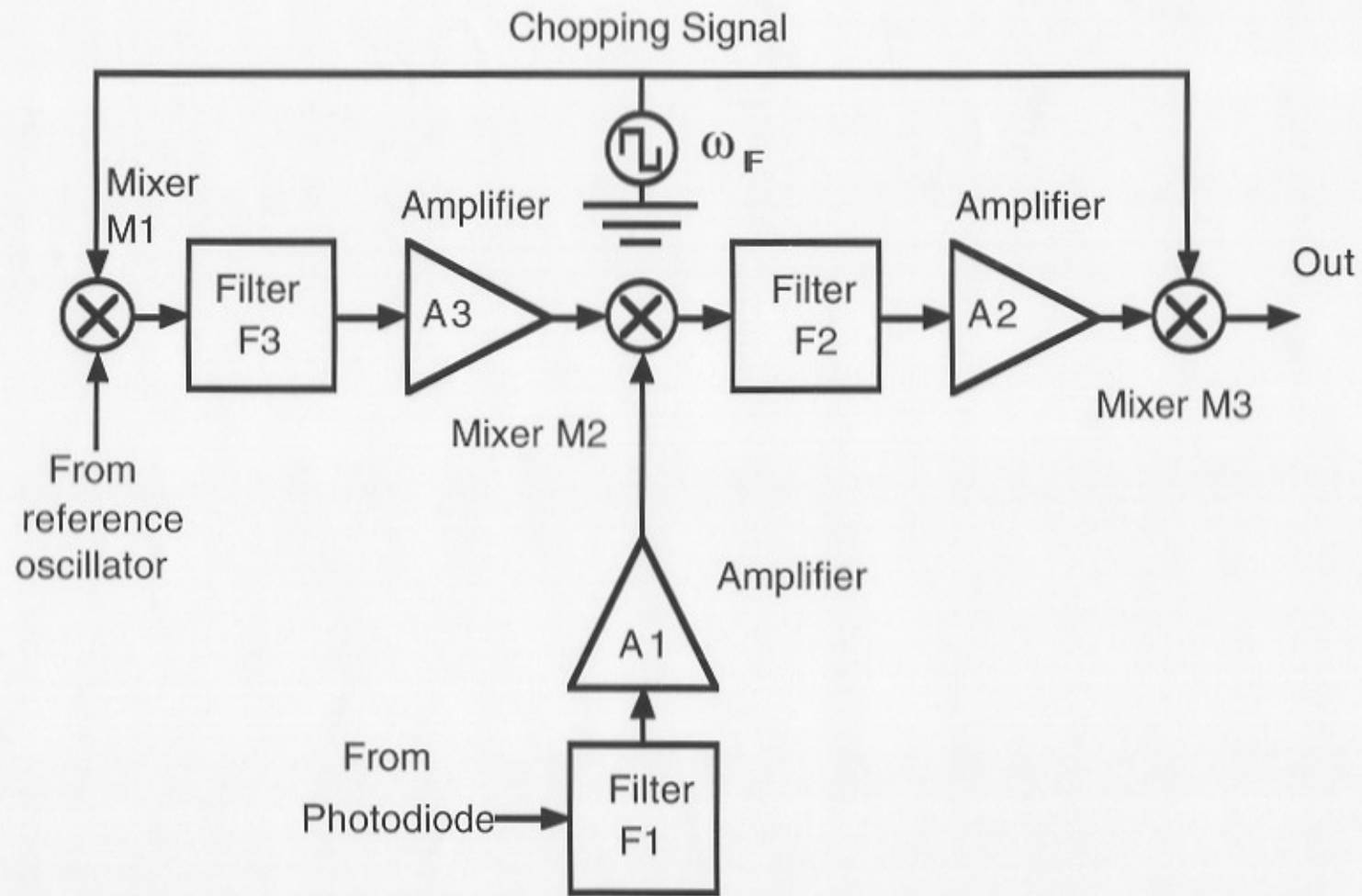
II The solution is to use chopping II

... More on this later... in the context of sensitive measurements.

\* We modulate the LO signal with a chopping signal. Say 1 MHz chopping

\* The phase detector output is now a 1 MHz signal whose amplitude varies with the phase input. The 1 MHz signal is now spectrally separated from the DC offset voltage.

\* We amplify this signal by 40-60 dB before (DSB) detecting it.



*Chopper Stabilized Phase Detector*

Noise The Friis formula for

system noise figure happily describes both the phase detection system and its subsequent baseband amplifier. Let's take

a net noise figure of 10dB. 50% of the additive noise becomes phase noise...

5 ~~take~~ ignoring the 50% factor...

$$J_{\text{min}}(f) = \frac{P_{\text{in, phase detector}}}{KTF}$$

due to KTF

ok, so lets put it all together.

Phase detector: 
$$\begin{cases} IP_3 = +10 \text{ dBm} \\ F = 10 \text{ dB} \end{cases}$$

$$\rightarrow 174 \text{ dB (Hz)} \text{ "dynamic" "range"}$$

We must be 35 dB below  $IP_3$

$$\rightarrow P_{in} = -25 \text{ dBm}$$

$$\frac{P_{in}}{kTF} = -25 \text{ dBm} + 173.8 - 10$$

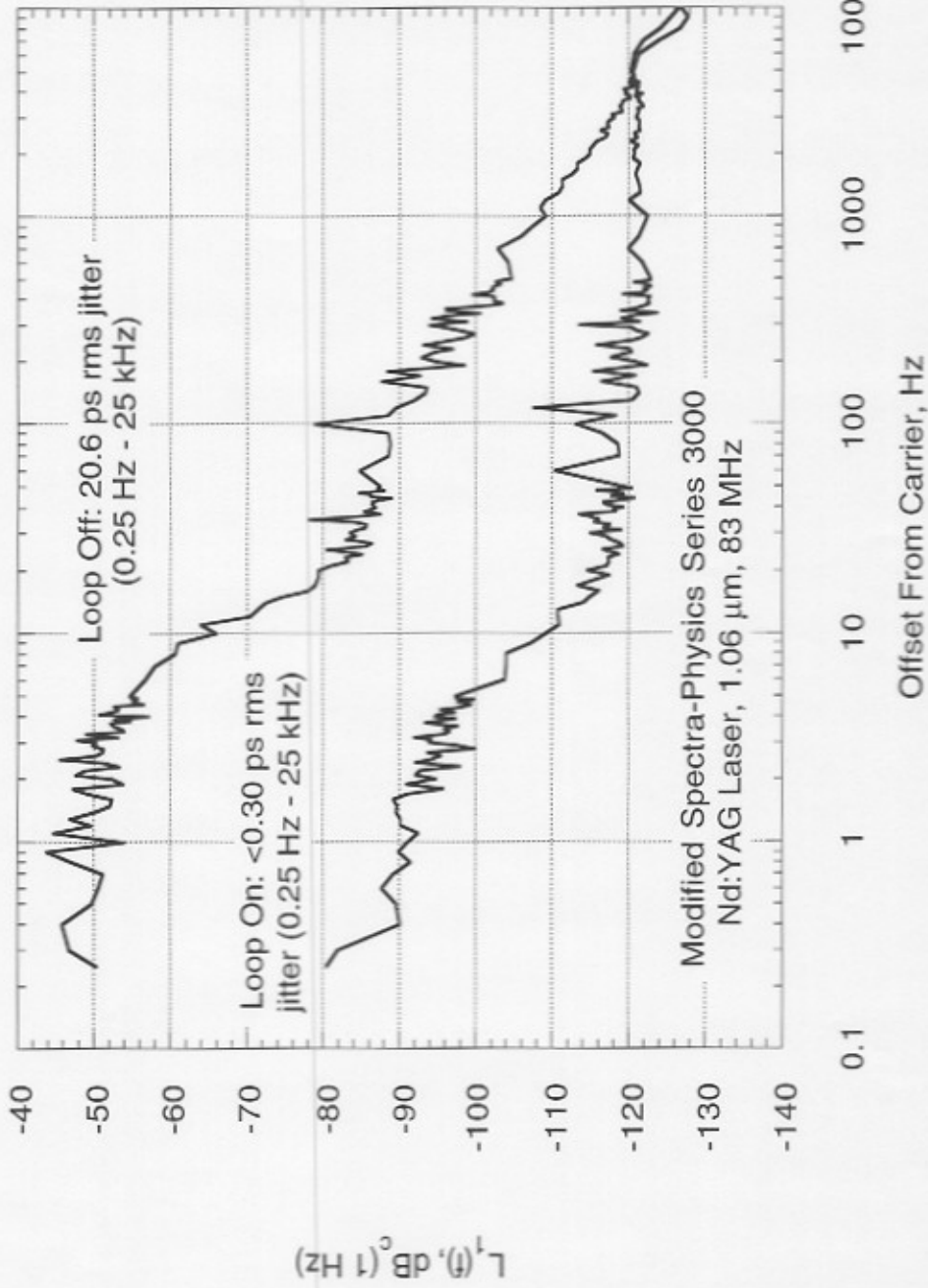
$$S/N = -138.8 \approx -140 \text{ dB (Hz)}$$

Given that we need  $-120 \text{ dBc (Hz)} \in J(f)$

we are ok. ! 20 dB margin.

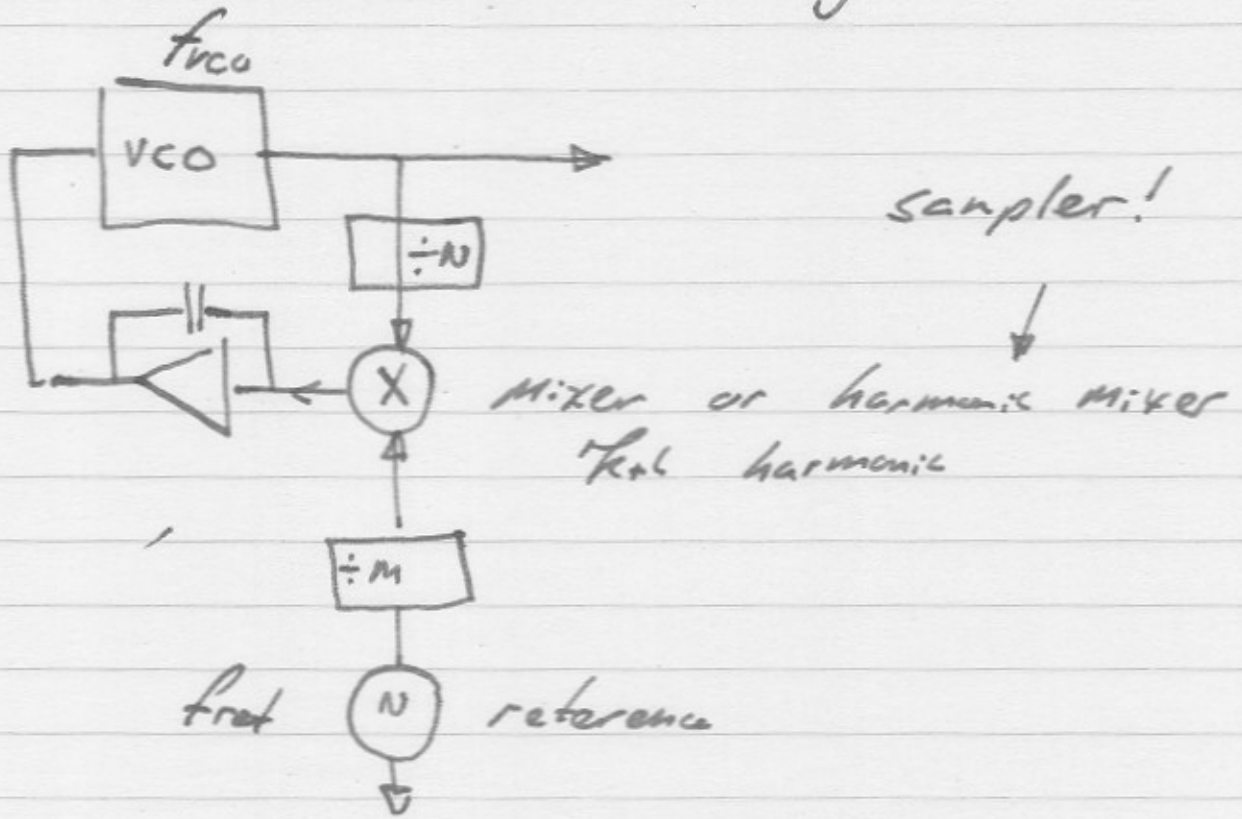
— End of design example —

# Phase Noise Spectral Density at Compressor Output





# Phase Lock-Loops Generally

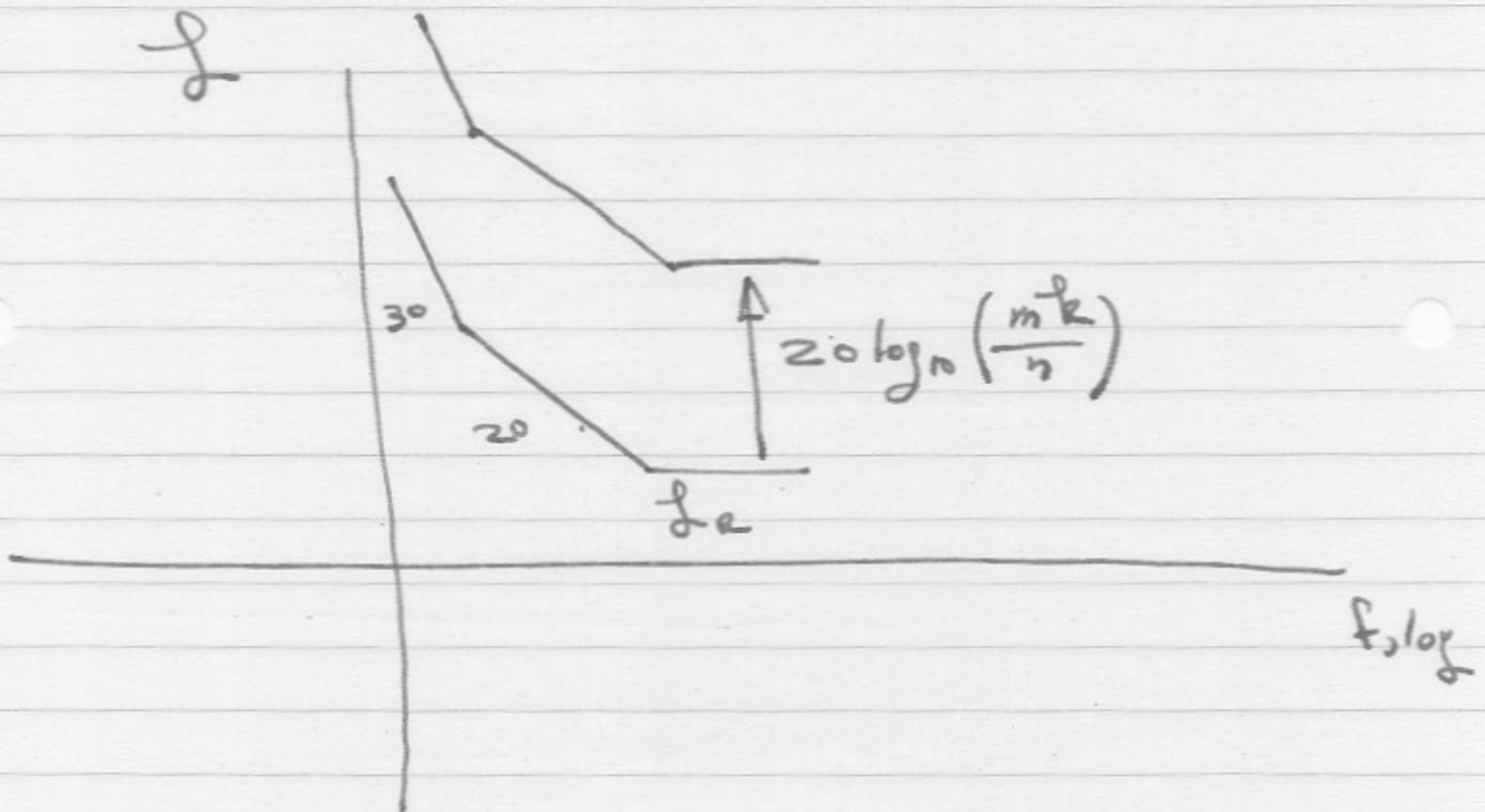


$$f_{ref} \cdot \left( \frac{M}{N} \cdot k \right) = f_{vco}$$

This is how a synthesizer works.

Note that the reference is being upconverted by  $(M^{\frac{1}{2}}/n)$

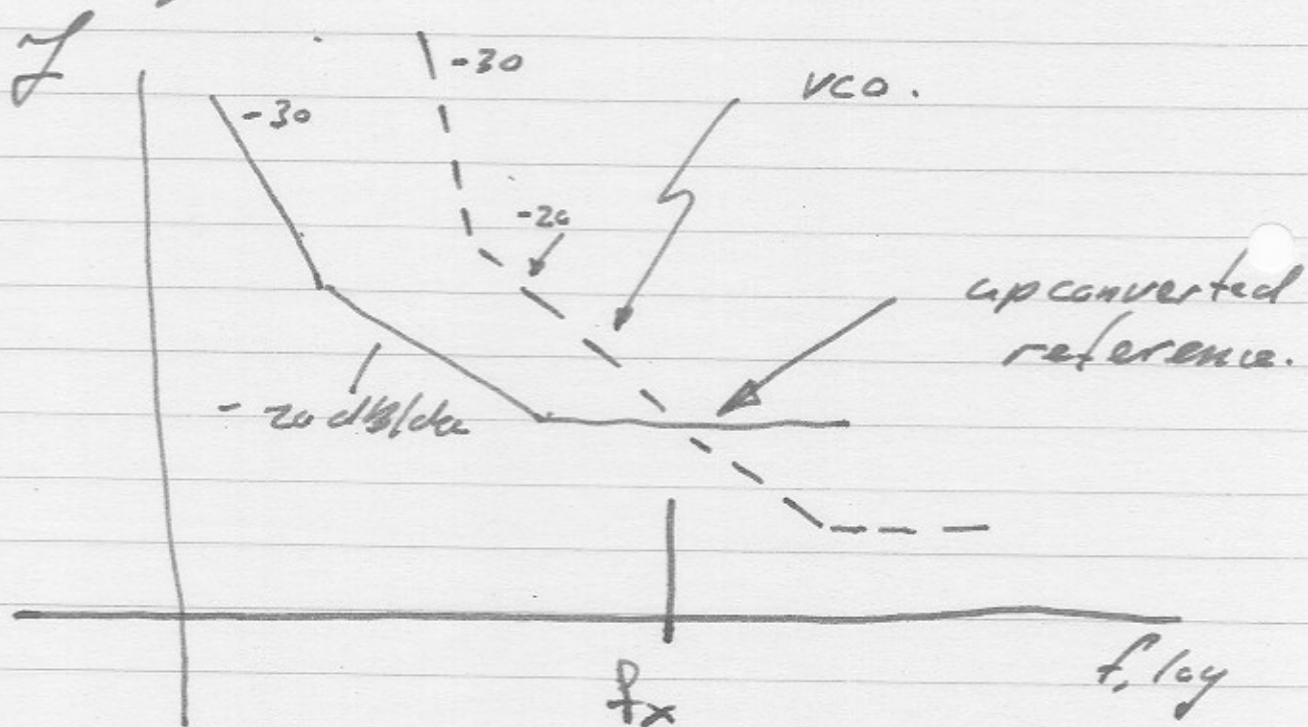
$$L_{\text{ref; upconverted}} = L_{\text{ref}} + 20 \log_{10} \left( \frac{M^{\frac{1}{2}}}{n} \right)$$



The vco also has phase noise, & its resonator is probably poorer because

\* It has to be tunable (but YTO's are great)

\* Better resonators generally at lower frequencies.



If we are smart we will make

the crossover point the loop bandwidth, as

$$L_{\text{closed loop}} = \begin{cases} L_{\text{vco}} & \text{outside loop bandwidth} \\ L_{\text{ref, mlt}} & \text{within loop bandwidth.} \end{cases}$$

Also

- 1) The last example used a  $VCO\phi$ , while PLL's usually use a VCO. The difference is an integration in the loop transfer function, plus a host of problems relating to loop locking behaviour.
- 2) PLL's used for clock recovery in communication are driven by the randomly-fluctuating message. This is a big topic. Mixer/detector offset is of paramount concern.

Finally

The Laser pll problem was hard because we were looking for 0.3 ps fluctuations on a 100 MHz = 10 ns signal. Much easier if the rep rates are higher, as the net phase angle gets bigger. Could have worked with not 100 MHz but e.g. 10 GHz, the 100<sup>th</sup> laser harmonic. Dynamic range requirements then relaxed by 40 dB, but the available hardware's max dynamic range may be 30 dB (ok) to 50 dB (bad) poorer. Cost is also 40 dB higher...