Digital Mobile Radio A Brief Look Under The Hood

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How do we get from.....

Analog



Digital

10011100101101011010



And Back Again.....

Digital

10011100101101011010



Analog



The Magic Device

Analog



VOCODER

Voice Encoder

Digital

10011100101101011010



First a Bit of History





The Carrier Nature of Speech Bell Labs Homer Dudley 1928





Bell Labs Homer Dudley Demonstrated 1939-40 at NY Worlds Fair





Worlds Fair Demonstrations



Fig. 4-The vocoder as demonstrated.

CARRIER NATURE OF SPEECH



Fig. 5-The voder being demonstrated at the New York World's Fair.



The "Receive" side



Fig. 8-Schematic circuit of the voder.

MHA

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=TsdOej_nC1M

Bell Labs SIGSALY 1943 Used for encrypted Voice in WW2



The SIGSALY terminal was massive. Consisting of 40 racks of equipment, it weighed over 50 tons, and featured two turntables which were synchronized on both the sending and the receiving end by an agreed upon timing signal from the U.S. Naval Observatory. SIGSALY used 30kW of power and required air conditioning.

This was the first use of Pulse Code Modulation and was transmitted using a form of Frequency Shift Keying.

Sampling the Analog Signal?



- How often?
- What levels?
- Fundamental Characteristics
 - Pitch
 - Resonant Frequency regions
 - Loudness
- How accurate does the reproduction need to be?

- Different Voices
 - 1. Chanting Monotone
 - 2. Whisper
 - 3. Ventriloquistic
 - 4. Nasal
 - 5. Southern Drawl
 - 6. Squeak-Drunken man's hiccup effect
 - 7. Voice Breaking in an adolescent
 - 8. Talker Chewing Gum
 - 9. Crying Child
 - 10. Reversed Inflection –Swedish Voice
 - 11. Tremulousness of Old Man
 - 12. Music-Singing





RIMHAN



<u>Note</u>: 12 output signals! Each was sent over a different radio frequency. This is the first application of Direct Sequence Spread Spectrum Radio.





RMHAM

U.S. Patent

June 29, 1976 Sheet 2 of 3

2 of 3 3,567,067







How Often to Sample?

- Nyquist-Shannon Sampling Theorem
 - Establishes a method to change a continuous-time signal to a discrete-time signal.
 - It establishes a sample rate that permits a discrete sequence of samples to capture all the information from a continuous-time signal of finite bandwidth.
- <u>Theorem</u> If a function x(t) contains no frequencies higher than B hertz, then it can be completely determined from its ordinates at a sequence of points spaced less than 1/(2B) seconds apart.







Amplitude



A bit of math

- Human voice bandwidth is about 4000 Hz
- The original PCM had 8 sample points
- Applying Nyquest 1/2B seconds apart. Therefore sampling would be done every 1/8000 seconds or 8000 samples per second.
- Then with 8 sample points would result in a data stream of 8X8000 or 64,000 data points per second

This is what the phone company standardized on. 64Kbps per voice channel



This is a big bandwidth HOG!!!!

- Nyquist- Shannon has saddled us with a more or less fixed sampling frequency (8000 samples/second).
- That leaves only one parameter we can alter.
- Do we really need 8 amplitude sample points?
- What can we do to reduce the number of sample points?



Differential Pulse-Code Modulation



• C. Chapin Colter at Bell Labs 1950 + Others



Key tenants of DPCM

• The analog Signal is approximated with a series of segments

 Each segment of the approximated signal is compared to the previous bits and the successive bits are determined by this comparison

• Only the change of information is sent, either an increase or decrease in value

• However, it requires a higher sampling rate.



Adaptive Delta Modulation (1968)

- Also called Continuously Variable Slope Delta Modulation.
- The step size is not fixed.
- Selected by NASA for mission control communications.



Vocoder Exists Here





Rules Define a Layer

Before we get into the individual layers we need to present a definition of how they function and relate to one another.

 \succ A layer should be defined for every distinct level of functionality.

- \succ The function of each should be well defined and limited in its scope.
- International standardized protocols layer should be used wherever possible.
- The interface between the layers should minimize the interaction between them
- \succ The interface between layers is well defined.

Padlipsky's Rule

If you know what you're doing, three layers is enough.

If you don't, even seventeen won't help.



Ethernet Switching (Station to Station)



IP Routing (End to End)





ETSI TR 102 398 V1.4.1 (2018-11)



Electromagnetic compatibility and Radio spectrum Matters (ERM); Digital Mobile Radio (DMR) General System Design



ETSI TR 102 398



Figure 4.1: DMR protocol stack



The Vocoder is not included!

 5.1.3 The vocoder In order to achieve interoperability between units from different suppliers, the same vocoder or a completely compatible vocoder will have to be used. In order to avoid undue restrictions being placed on suppliers and thus limiting the markets that they may choose to address, it has been agreed not to specify any particular vocoder in the standard. There is a vocoder socket specified in the standard and any chosen vocoder should be compatible with the present document.

However:

Each end of the conversation has to employ the same vocoder.



Which one do we use?

(ITU) INTERNATIONAL TELECOMMUNICATION UNION

CCITT

THE INTERNATIONAL TELEGRAPH AND TELEPHONE CONSULTATIVE COMMITTEE

GENERAL ASPECTS OF DIGITAL TRANSMISSION SYSTEMS; TERMINAL EQUIPMENTS

G.726

40, 32, 24, 16 kbit/s ADAPTIVE DIFFERENTIAL PULSE CODE MODULATION (ADPCM)

Recommendation G.726



ITU-T

TELECOMMUNICATION STANDARDIZATION SECTOR OF ITU

INTERNATIONAL TELECOMMUNICATION UNION

G.711

GENERAL ASPECTS OF DIGITAL TRANSMISSION SYSTEMS TERMINAL EQUIPMENTS

PULSE CODE MODULATION (PCM) OF VOICE FREQUENCIES

ITU-T Recommendation G.711 (Extract from the Blue Book)

ITU-T TELECOMMUNICATION STANDARDIZATION SECTOR OF ITU

> SERIES G: TRANSMISSION SYSTEMS AND MEDIA, DIGITAL SYSTEMS AND NETWORKS Digital terminal equipments - Coding of voice and audio signals

G.722

(09/2012)

7 kHz audio-coding within 64 kbit/s

Recommendation ITU-T G.722





What Vocoder is being used?

Mostly Proprietary Chips from DSP Innovations[©] with the AMBE2+ Vocoder (Advanced Multi Band Excitement)

While the Vocoder is not in the ETSI standard! Project 25 specifies this chip.





Conclusion

We talked About

- The historical beginnings of the Vocoder
- A ground breaking early application of a Vocoder
- Several of the underlying methods of digitizing speech
- The OSI 7 layer model
- Applicable Standards or not!





