

Implementation of Radar Transmitter-Receiver using DSBPSK Modulation Technique

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Abstract— In this paper, we have implemented Radar Transmitter-Receiver. Direct Sequence Spread Spectrum BPSK is chosen as modulation method because of its numerous advantages like accuracy of ranging, sensitivity, target-separation, accuracy of power-estimation, interference suppression, etc. We have employed this scheme using MATLAB Simulink which is a software package for modelling, simulating, and analysing dynamic systems at any point.

Keywords— Direct Sequence Spread Spectrum, Radar, MATLAB, Simulink, BPSK.

I. INTRODUCTION

Radar (RADio Detection And Ranging) systems are widely used now-a-days in variety of applications including air traffic control, astronomy, air defence systems, ocean surveillance, ground penetrating radars for geological observations, flight control systems, automotive radar for Intelligent Transport System (ITS). Spread spectrum techniques have some fine properties which make them an excellent candidate for Radar applications. The first major application of Spread Spectrum Techniques arose during the mid-sixties, when NASA employed the method to precisely measure the range to deep space probes. In the following years, the US military became enamoured of SST due to its ability to withstand jamming (i.e. intentional interference), and its ability to resist eavesdropping. Today this technology forms the basis for the ubiquitous NavStar Global Positioning System (GPS), the soon to become ubiquitous JTIDS (Joint Tactical Information Distribution System/Link-16) data link (used between aircraft, ships and land vehicles), and last but not least, the virtually undetectable bombing and navigation radar on the bat-winged B-2 bomber [1].

Section2 provides a brief description on mathematical background of Direct Sequence Spread Spectrum Modulation scheme using BPSK. Section 3 gives block diagram of Radar Transmitter-Receiver scheme. The procedure to implement Radar transmitter-receiver using Simulink are explained in this section. Section 4 provides simulation results at each and every step of Radar transmitter-receiver, which are supporting the theory provided in the earlier sections. Finally the work is concluded in section 5 and the scope for future work is explained.

II. DIRECT SEQUENCE SPREAD SPECTRUM MODULATION

A. Definition of Spread Spectrum Modulation

It is transmission technique in which pseudo noise code, independent of the data is employed as modulating signal to spread the signal energy over a bandwidth much greater than information signal bandwidth. At the receiver, signal is dispread using replica of pseudo noise code generator [2].

B. Benefits of using Spread Spectrum Modulation

Spread-spectrum (SS) transmissions of digital communication signals are widely used in wireless and military applications because they are very effective at suppressing interference. This interference can occur from several sources. One source could be an adversary deliberately jamming the communications channel. Another source is the result of multiple access techniques in which many users simultaneously share the same transmission bandwidth thereby interfering with each other. Lastly, the interference may be the result of channel-induced ISI due to multipath arrivals in a band-limited channel. Spread-spectrum techniques can also be used to hide a signal by transmitting it at low power. By spreading the signal energy over the widest available bandwidth and using the minimum power needed, the signal can be hidden in the channel noise. This means that any unauthorized interceptor will have a low probability of detecting the signal relative to the intended receiver. Likewise because of the pseudo-random properties of the spreading sequence, even if the signal is detected a lower probability of it being intercepted exists. As a result, spread-spectrum signals are called low probability of detection (LPD) and low probability of intercept (LPI) signals must not be used [3]. Some primary motivations for implementing spread-spectrum in radar are accuracy of ranging, sensitivity, target-separation (multi-vehicle detection), accuracy of power-estimation, interference suppression [4][5]. To be considered a spread-spectrum technique, a transmission must have two characteristics: First, the transmission bandwidth of the signal must be much larger than the minimum bandwidth associated with the information data rate W . The second requirement is that the signal's bandwidth must be spread by using a spreading signal or code that is independent of the data. This code has pseudo-random properties, which allows the receiver

to know a priori what the code is. Demodulation is then accomplished by correlating the received code with a synchronized replica in the receiver and thereby despreading the signal. There are two basic methods for implementing spread-spectrum: DSSS involves spreading using phase modulation, FHSS involves rapidly changing the carrier frequency. A basic block diagram of a spread-spectrum system is seen in Figure 1. DSSS is employed in the given system to achieve low error rate and high ranging accuracy [6].

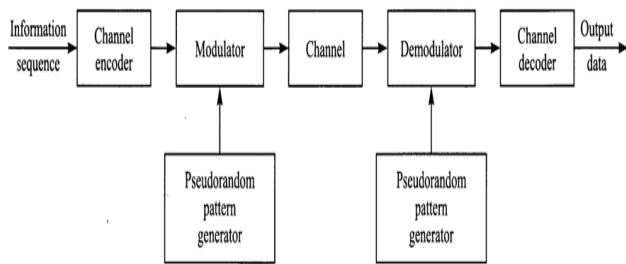


Figure 1: Block diagram of Spread Spectrum Communication system

C. Principle of DSSS

In DSSS the spreading of the signal bandwidth occurs at baseband by multiplying the baseband data pulses with a chipping sequence. This chipping sequence is a pseudo-random binary waveform with a pulse duration of T_c and a chipping rate of $R_c=1/T_c$. Each pulse is called a chip and T_c is the chip interval. For a given information symbol of duration T_s and a symbol rate of $R_s=1/T_s$, the duration of each chip is much less than the pulse length of the information symbol (i.e., $T_c \ll T_s$) and chipping rate is much higher than the symbol rate (i.e., $R_c \gg R_s$). In practical systems, the number of chips per symbol must be an integer number with the transition of the data symbols and the chips occurring at the same time. The ratio of chips to symbols is called the spreading gain k or bandwidth expansion factor B_e where:

$$k = B_e = N_c = T_s/T_c = R_c/R_s$$

A PN code has a fixed-length of N chips and can be classified as either long or short. In a short code the entire chip sequence is transmitted within every data bit. In a long code only a portion of the sequence is transmitted within each data bit and typically $N/N_c \gg 1$. The chipping sequence and the data sequence are combined by modulo-2 summing the binary sequences or by multiplying the two pulsed waveforms. The relationship between chips and symbols and the resulting spread data sequence is seen in Figure 2.

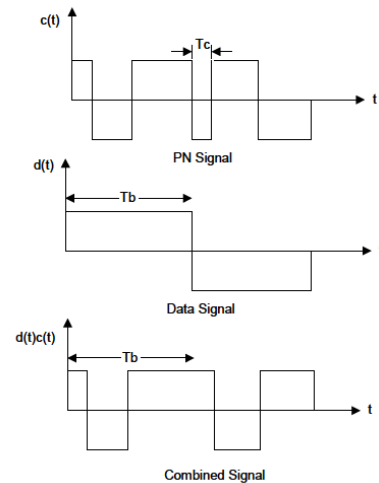


Figure 2: The relationship between the spreading sequence $c(t)$ and the information sequence $d(t)$ for a DSSS signal with six chips per bit.

The chip duration is chosen in order to spread the signal over the maximum available bandwidth of the channel. A rectangular pulse of length T has a null-to-null bandwidth $B_{nn} = 2/T$. Therefore for a channel bandwidth W , $T_c = 2/W$ or $R_c = W/2$, meaning that the chip rate should be half the available channel bandwidth. Despreading of the DSSS signal in the receiver is accomplished by again multiplying the signal by the same PN sequence.

We now examine how spreading the signal bandwidth helps suppress interference. To simplify the description, consider only baseband communication and wideband interference, which is consistent with barrage noise jamming, multi-user applications or multipath arrivals. As seen in the block diagram in Figure 3, multiplication with the PN sequence in the transmitter spreads the data signal over the entire bandwidth. At the receiver, multiplication with the same PN sequence gives a selective despreading of the data signal. Yet the interference signal is not despread since it is uncorrelated with the PN sequence and continues to occupy the entire bandwidth. This increases the received signal-to-noise ratio over the no-spreading case [2][3].

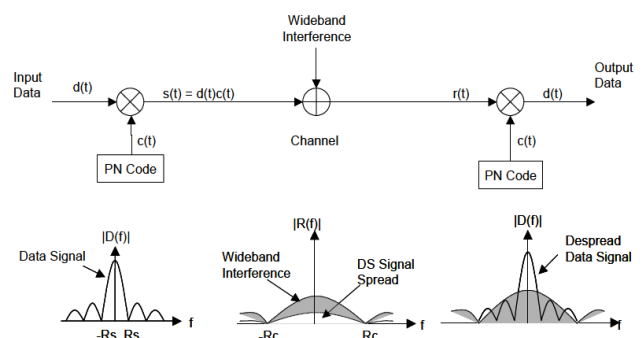


Figure 3: Effect of Wideband Interferences on DSSS signal

D. Pseudo Noise Sequence

The chipping waveform $c(t)$ is modelled as a zero mean, polar random binary wave, in that it can assume the state (+1 or -1) with equal probability. Since each $c(t)$ has a duration of T seconds, an infinite length sequence has an autocorrelation function given in Figure 4.

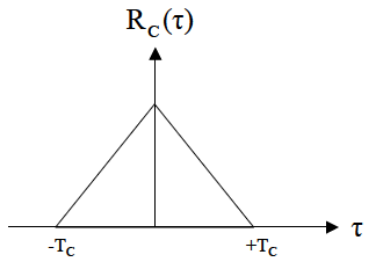


Figure 4: Autocorrelation function for a random polar binary wave

In practice $c(t)$ must be finite and deterministic because the receiver must know the sequence a priori in order to produce a replica of $c(t)$ and to despread the data. The chip sequence is generated from a pseudo-random noise (PN) sequence generator, which should have the same autocorrelation as a polar random binary wave[3].

1) *Pseudo Random:*

- Not random but looks random for those who do not know the code.
- Deterministic, periodical signal known to both transmitter and receiver.
- Statistical property of white noise.

2) *Length:*

- Short code: $N_c \cdot T_c = T_s$
- Long code: $N_c \cdot T_c \gg T_s$

3) *Correlation:*

The correlation between two sequences $x(t)$ and $y(t)$ is the complex inner product of the first sequence with a shifted version of the second sequence. The correlation is called 1) an autocorrelation if the two sequences are the same, 2) a crosscorrelation if they are distinct, 3) a periodic correlation if the shift is a cyclic shift, 4) an aperiodic correlation if the shift is not cyclic, and 5) a partial-period correlation if the inner product involves only a partial segment of the two sequences [7].

4) *Autocorrelation:*

The auto correlation function for the periodic wave is defined as number of agreements less number of disagreements in a term by term comparison over one full period of sequence with cyclic shift (position τ) of the sequence itself:

$$R_a(\tau) = \int_{-N_c T_c / 2}^{N_c T_c / 2} p_n(t) \cdot p_n(t + \tau) \cdot dt$$

The $R_a(\tau)$ & τ will be measured at the radar receiver to evaluate the Radar Cross Section(RCS) and Range of the target respectively.

E. Direct Sequence BPSK

In BPSK, the data sequence modulates the phase of a constant amplitude carrier. Typically the two phases are 0° and 180° . Figure 5 shows a typical BPSK waveform in the time domain [3].

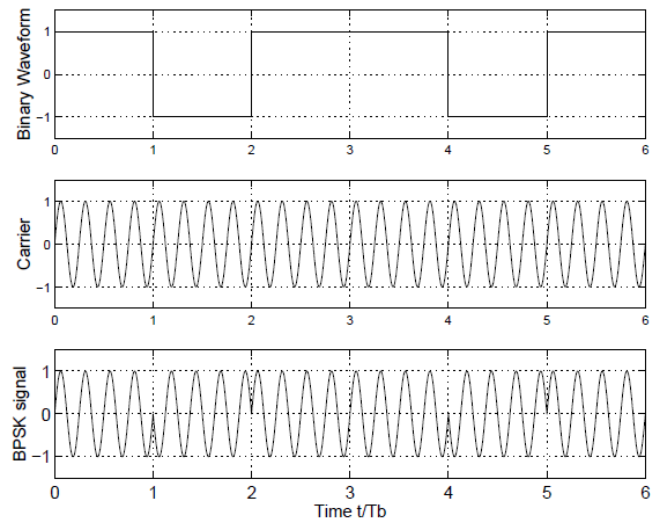


Figure 5: A BPSK signal in time domain

Figure 6 below shows the model of direct sequence spread binary PSK system [8].

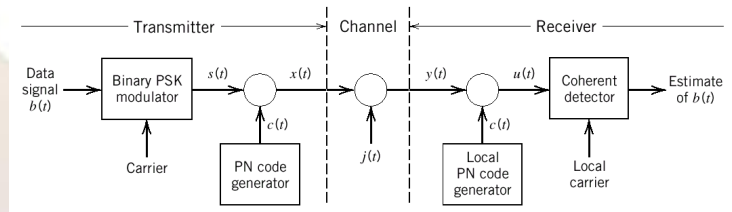


Figure 6: Model of Direct sequence spread binary PSK system

Since both spread spectrum and BPSK modulation are linear operation, we can switch their order.

III. IMPLEMENTATION OF RADAR MODEL IN MATLAB/SIMULINK

A. Radar Transmitter-Receiver Scheme

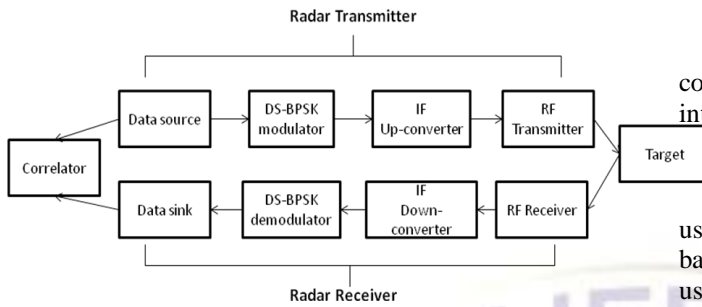


Figure 7: Model of Spread Spectrum Radar

Figure 7 shows the basic architecture of radar using spread spectrum modulation technique. Baseband part of the Transmitter Section mainly consists of pulse generation, spreading the data using PN sequence and its modulation (BPSK). The output of BPSK modulated baseband signal is up-converted to the intermediate frequency of 70MHz with the help of an up-converter mixer. In RF Subsystem, the signal is again up-converted to RF level of 2.1 GHz using RF mixer. The target can be modelled using the basic radar equation and there is the provision of changing target cross section, target distance [9].

At the receiver front end, the received signal is down converted to the IF level (i.e. 70 MHz). Autocorrelation is the important part of the system that provides uniqueness to this Radar system. The first operation of autocorrelation block is bit by bit synchronism of the received and transmitted IF and then bit by bit multiplied, integrated and dumped. This auto correlated value represents the presence of target and the delay represents the target distance from the transmitter antenna [9].

B. Radar Transmitter in Simulink

1) Generating binary data stream

By using Bernoulli binary generator block in the communication tool box, we can generate binary data stream of 250bps. By adjusting the parameters like M- ary number, initial seed, sample time and output data type, we can achieve the fixed binary stream. In a real time scenario, this data stream is supplied by application that will generate information to be transmitted [10].

2) Generating PN sequence

By using PN sequence generator block in the communication tool box, we can generate PN sequence of 4Kbps data rate. By adjusting the parameters like generator polynomial, initial states, sample time and output data type, we can achieve Pseudo Noise code.

3) Baseband modulation

By using BPSK modulator baseband block in the communication tool box, we modulate the spread signal. We need to adjust parameter like phase offset and samples per symbol. This is shown in Figure 8.

4) IF up conversion

We use general mixer block from RF block set to up convert the BPSK baseband modulated signal to 70 MHz intermediate frequency.

5) RF subsystem

The signal is again up-converted to RF level of 2.1 GHz using RF mixer. The RF signal is then band limited using band pass-pi filter. The band limited signal is then amplified using S-amplifier [9]. The o/p of RF subsystem is then transmitted as shown in Figure 8.

C. Radar Receiver in Simulink

1) RF subsystem

At the receiver front end, the received signal is down converted to the IF level (i.e. 70 MHz). IF signal is again band limited using 70MHz band pass-pi filter and once again amplified by an amplifier as shown in Figure 9.

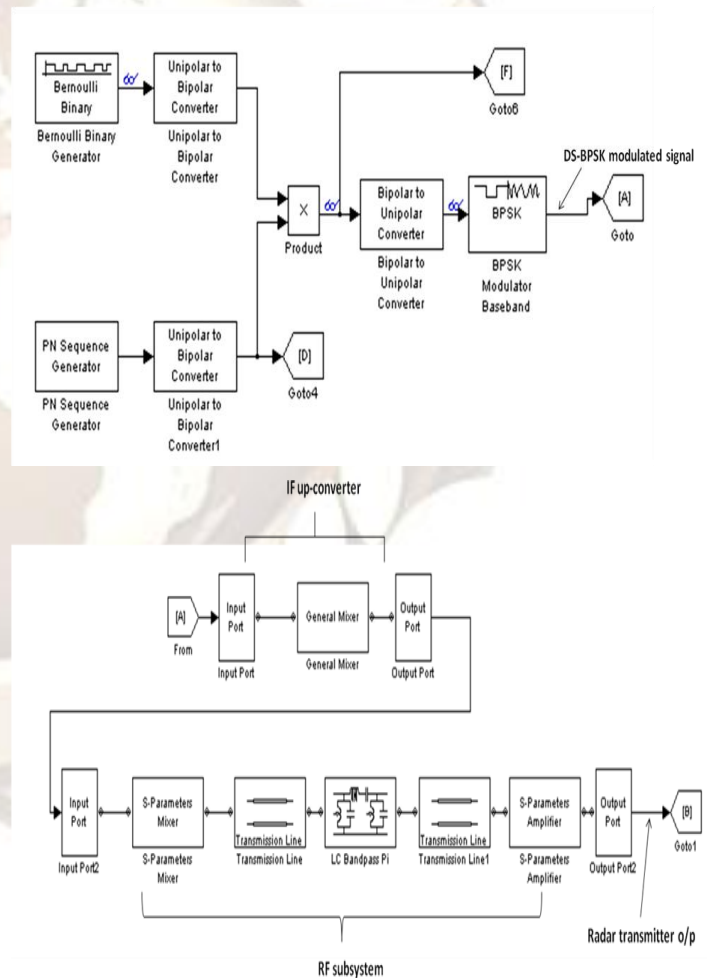


Figure 8: Implementation of Spread Spectrum Radar Transmitter in Simulink

D. Autocorrelation and Error calculation block

Autocorrelation is the one of the vital part of the system that provides uniqueness to this Radar system. As shown in Figure 10, the Align Signals block aligns a signal with a delayed, and possibly distorted, version of itself. The block is particularly useful when you want to compare a transmitted and received signal to find the bit error rate, but do not know the delay in the received signal. The Error Rate Calculation block compares input data from a transmitter with input data from a receiver. It calculates the error rate as a running statistic, by dividing the total number of unequal pairs of data elements by the total number of input data elements from one source. This block produces a vector of length three, whose entries correspond to: the error rate the total number of errors, that is, comparisons between unequal elements and the total number of comparisons that the block made [11].

The auto correlated value obtained from the align signal block represents the presence of target and the delay represents the target distance from the transmitter [9].

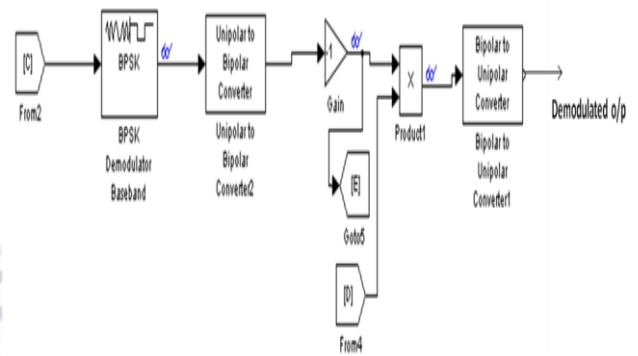


Figure 9: Implementation of Spread Spectrum Radar Receiver in Simulink

IV. SIMULATION RESULTS

A. At the transmitter end

The following figures demonstrate simulation results for Radar transmission system. The results are displayed in the form of snapshots of scope signals. These figures demonstrate we can know easily what happens exactly inside a Radar transmitter.

The input stream is generated from a Bernoulli generator. This is presented in Figure 11. It has a data rate of 250bps.

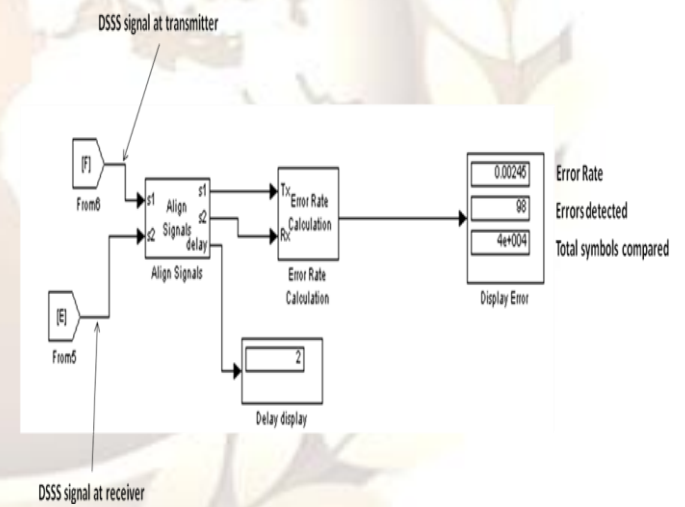
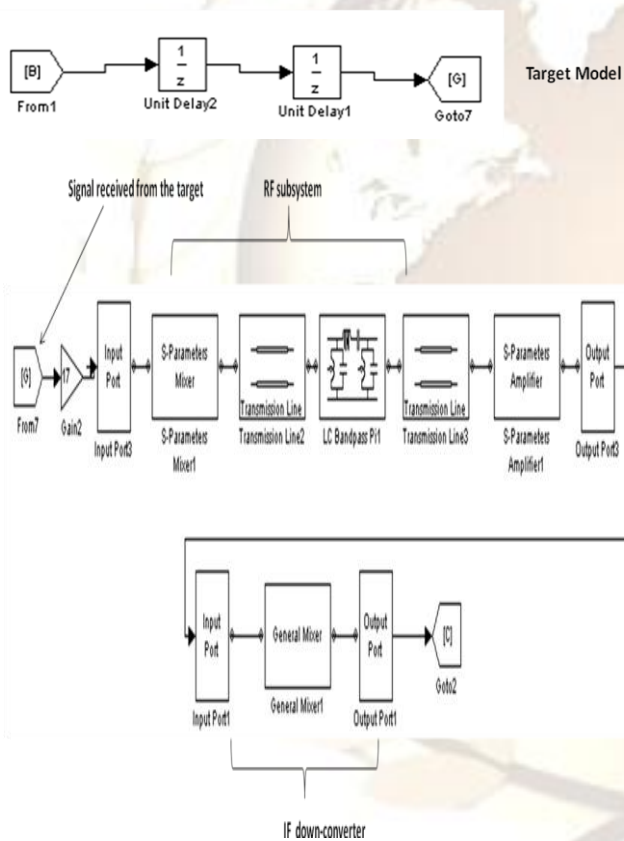


Figure 10: Delay and Error calculation between the transmitted and received sequence

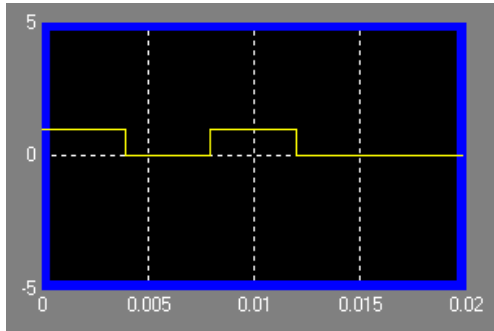


Figure 11: Binary data generated by Bernoulli Generator

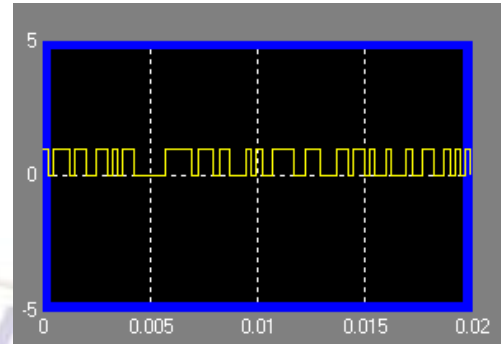


Figure 14: DSSS O/P Unipolar Form

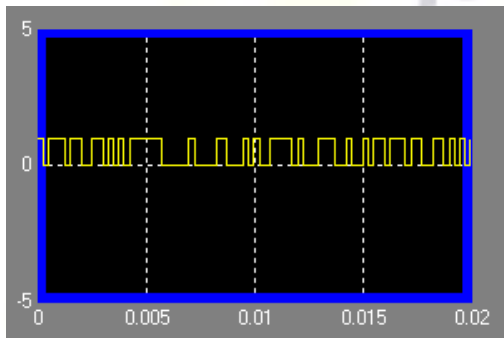


Figure 12: PN sequence generator

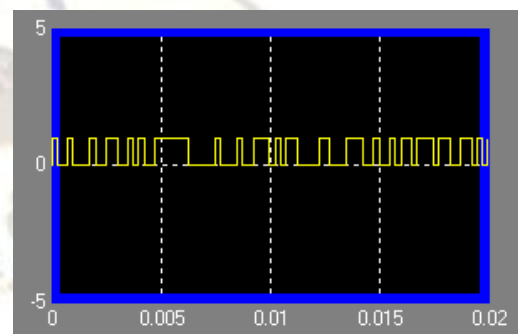


Figure 15: Baseband Demodulated O/P

The Pseudo Noise code is generated from a PN sequence generator. This is presented in Figure 12 and it has a data rate of 4Kbps.

Direct Sequence Spread signal is generated by converting the input data and PN sequence into NRZ Polar form and multiply the resultant data. This is shown in Figure 13.

Then the polar product of I/P data and PN sequence is again converted in unipolar form as shown in Figure 14 and then given to the BPSK Baseband Modulator. The DS-BPSK signal is then up converted and transmitted.

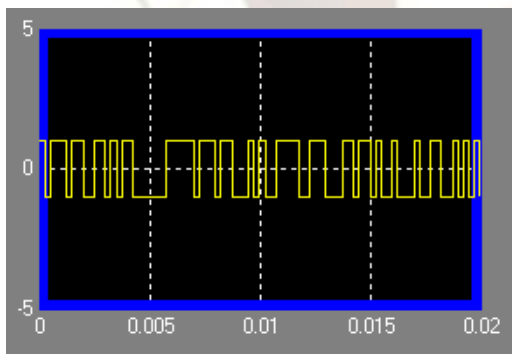


Figure 13: DSSS O/P Polar Form

B. At the receiver end

DSSS O/P waveforms (Figure 13) and Baseband Demodulated O/P waveforms (Figure 16) are auto correlated at the receiver to find the delay and the error between the transmitted and received sequence.

1) Delay Calculation

It is observed that if target introduces a delay of two clock cycles, there is a delay of 0.5ms between transmitted and received DSSS signal. This delay can be multiplied to the velocity of light to obtain the distance of target from the Radar.

2) Error Calculation

With the given design, it is observed that if 4×10^4 symbols are compared, then, 98 symbols are in error giving the error rate of 0.00245

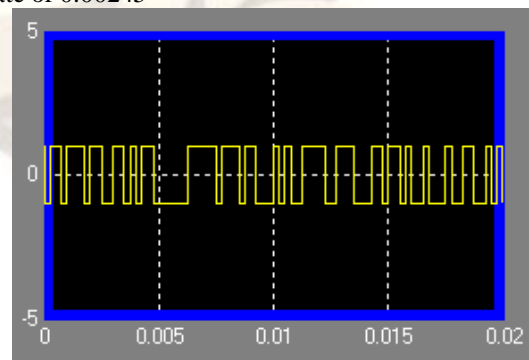


Figure 16: Baseband Demodulated O/P Polar Form

Conclusion and Future Work

The work presented here gives implementation of Transmitter and Receiver for Radar system using Matlab/Simulink. Without using mathematically complex blocks, we have designed and tested a Radar transmitter and Receiver in Matlab/Simulink. In the design presented, we have formed target block using delay elements. In future, we aspire to improvise on the target block design. In addition we would also like to observe the error produced by introduction of AWGN channel.

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