

# Passive Inter-modulation Cancellation in FDD System

FAN CHEN

MASTER'S THESIS

DEPARTMENT OF ELECTRICAL AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY |

FACULTY OF ENGINEERING | LTH | LUND UNIVERSITY



# **Passive Inter-modulation Cancellation in FDD System**

Master Thesis in Wireless Communication

Faculty of Engineering, Lund University and Radio System, Ericsson AB, Lund

Fan Chen

March 2017

# Abstract

Passive inter-modulation (**PIM**) shows up when two or more RF signals are mixed together via the nonlinear passive devices. With the rapid development and expansion of the wireless communication networks, PIM is recognized as one of the most critical issues.

Especially in the base station, where several networks systems have to share the same infrastructure, a few transmitted signals are physically close to each other, even they could be sharing the same antenna. So it is highly possible that several transmitted signals hit a same nonlinear junction and generate PIM distortion, then the PIM distortion falls in some bands of the receivers nearby.

Even more critically, since some technologies are developed with multi-carrier or multi-band, such as Carrier Aggregation and MIMO, the generated PIM could spread in a wide range of the spectrum and overlap with the receiver bands.

Additionally the continuous increased power of the transmitted signals and the hyper sensitivity of the received signals make PIM issue particularly critical in the base station. Even the fifth and seventh order products of PIM could cause the performance degradation on the received signals.

Isolation and shielding have been used to suppress the effect of PIM distortion, but it is costly and space-consuming solution. In this thesis, a digital self-adaptive cancellation technique is introduced. In the proposed technique, an estimated PIM is created based on the known baseband transmitted signal which is highly correlated to the PIM distortion present in the receiver chain, then the received signal is extracted by subtracting the estimated PIM signal from the distorted received signal in the digital domain.

Time-dependency is one of the natures of PIM, since the nonlinearity of the passive devices always varies with temperature, humidity and elements age. To realize an accurate estimation of PIM distortion in real time, the adaptive filter with NLMS (Normalized Least Mean Square) and RLS (Recursive Least Squares) algorithms is used to adjust the coefficients of the filter in the cancellation block.

To ensure the expected performance of the technique to be reached, many simulations under different situations are implemented and analyzed in Matlab. Additionally some proper simplifications in the cancellation block are proceeded so that this technique can be realized in the hardware at a low cost in future.

# Acknowledgements

First of all, I would like to thank Jonas Persson for giving me a challenging topic to work on at Ericsson in Lund.

I am highly grateful to my supervisors Henrik Sjöland from Lund University and Lars Lennartsson from Ericsson for their guidance and support throughout the whole phase of project. They are always there when I need help.

I would also like to thank Sven Mattisson and Peter Hallberg from Ericsson for the continuous support. Without your help and support, I couldn't accomplish the project as expected.

Finally I would like to thank all the students in Wireless Communication group who help and encourage me with my study and work.

# Abbreviations

FDD	Frequency Division Duplex
PIM	Passive Inter-modulation
RF	Radio Frequency
CA	Carrier Aggregation
MIMO	Multiple Input Multiple Output
RLS	Recursive Least Squares
LMS	Least Mean Square
NLMS	Normalized Least Mean Square
SPR	Signal-PIM-Ratio
LTE	Long Term Evolution
BTS	Base Transceiver Station
UL	Uplink
DL	Downlink
DAC	Digital-Analogue Conversion
ADC	Analogue-Digital Conversion
SS	Step Size
FF	Forgetting Factor
IIR	Infinite Impulse Response
FIR	Finite Impulse Response
OSR	Oversampling Rate
BPF	Band Pass Filter

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# 1 Introduction

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## 1.1 Background

PIM is the distortion resulting from the nonlinear mixing of two or more signals with different frequencies via passive devices. With the development of LTE and LTE Advanced networks, the technologies with multi-band and multi-carrier are used very commonly, which makes PIM issue more challenging. For example as one of the key technologies in LTE Advanced system, carrier aggregation (CA) combines the different fragmentary bands to get a wider spectrum. With the aggregation of more and more downlink carriers, PIM distortion generated by those carriers takes up relative wider spectrum resource and the generated PIM product could fall in the uplink bands. When this happens, the UL signal of BTS will degraded significantly.

Even more critical, with the development of the radio frequency communication system, the DL signal power is growing continually higher and meanwhile the UL signal is required to be hypersensitive. Any nonlinearity generated by the high-power DL signals could be critical to the sensitive UL signals.

Another key factor affecting PIM level is the RF path. With the increase of the passive devices number, such as splitters, transmission line, and connectors, these elements have to be placed closer to the antenna and this situation can contribute to PIM generation. And also the aging of the mechanical elements and devices make PIM issue more critical.

PIM distortion is a weak nonlinearity, but it could distort the UL signal significantly because of the combination of high power of the DL signal and the hypersensitive UL signal. As a consequent, PIM can limit the capacity and range of the communication system by interfering with the desired received signal. Isolation and shielding of antenna could reduce the effect of PIM, but it is a very costly and space consuming solution. In this thesis, a more effective and less expensive method is introduced.

## 1.2 Tasks and Purposes

This thesis aims to develop a self-adaptive method to suppress PIM distortion caused by the DL signals and meanwhile a low oversampling rate of the cancellation circuit should be realized. This method is based on the known baseband transmitted signal of the transceiver system and it is implemented in the digital domain.

In this thesis, a self-adaptive method with two different algorithms is developed to suppress PIM distortion in the digital domain. A quick convergence rate and a good stable state are both required under different situations and considering the environment variation such as temperature and mechanical force, the tracking capability is examined and analyzed by different designing parameters. In this proposed method, NLMS and RLS adaptive algorithms are separately applied

to update the coefficients of the FIR adaptive filter and the properties of these two algorithms are compared with the simulation results. As a result, one of these algorithms is chosen to continue the further study. The main tasks in this thesis involve,

- The mechanism of PIM distortion is studied and some general defensive measures are introduced.
- A nonlinear model – diode-like model is introduced to represent PIM distortion.
- The basic theorem of the adaptive filter is studied. NLMS and RLS algorithms are introduced and compared.
- The cancellation block with a low oversampling rate is designed to eliminate the PIM distortion in the digital domain.
- Only PIM distortion is present in the receiver chain with the absence of received signal. The diode-like model is studied via some simulations in this scenario. The validity of the simulator and the cancellation circuit is verified.
- For more realistic, the received signal is added to the receiver chain, mixed with PIM distortion. In this scenario, the distortion suppression effect and the convergence rate of LMS and RLS algorithms are analyzed and compared with many simulations under different situations. As a comparing result, RLS algorithm is chosen to continue the further study, because of the better performance.
- Time-varying PIM distortion caused by the variations of the environment and the transmitted signal is considered. To track the distortion variation promptly, different forgetting factors of RLS algorithm is evaluated. A tradeoff is made between the tracking capability and the suppression effect by the forgetting factor.

### 1.3 Limitations

Although the research has reached the aims, there are some limitations and shortcomings.

- The only imperfection of the simulator is PIM distortion
- Only the 3<sup>rd</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> order of PIM distortion is considered in the cancellation
- The simulation result is not proved in hardware due to short of time

### 1.4 Thesis Outline

In Chapter 2, PIM mechanisms is introduced including the causes and harms. Then different suppression methods are analyzed and compared. At last an accurate mathematical model of PIM is introduced and it will be used in the simulation. As the key part of the cancellation block, adaptive filter and its algorithms are introduced in Chapter 3. And also the properties and implementation of LMS and RLS algorithms are described in this chapter. Chapter 4 describes the simulation model structure and analyzes the cancellation block model design. Chapter 5 presents the simulation results and compares the performance of different adaptive algorithms in the application. Chapter 6 makes the conclusion for the simulation results.

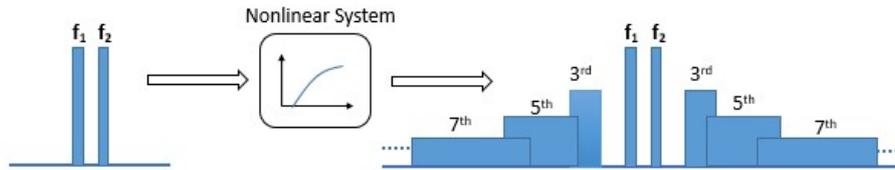
## 2 PIM Distortion

Passive Inter-modulation (PIM) has been considered as one of the critical issues in the cellular network. It is very difficult to estimate the generated PIM distortion and cancel it, because PIM is not only related to the source signal but also the RF path, which changes very often by the temperature, humidity or the elements aging and so on.

To prevent and suppress PIM distortion, it's necessary to study some basic knowledge of PIM distortion. In this chapter, the mechanism of PIM generation and an accurate PIM models will be introduced. Also the PIM suppression will be discussed briefly for a further study.

### 2.1 What is PIM Distortion

Inter-modulation is very common in the networks systems. It shows up when two or more RF signals are mixed together via the nonlinear devices (Figure 2.1). If the nonlinearity is caused by the passive device, such as connectors, antennas, cables and any contact of dissimilar metals, the inter-modulation is called passive inter-modulation, or PIM.



**Figure 2.1** Inter-modulation of Two Carriers

Just like the general inter-modulation, PIM frequencies of each order can be given by the following two equations.

$$F_{PIM(n+m)} = nF_1 - mF_2 \quad (1)$$

$$F_{PIM(n+m)} = nF_2 - mF_1 \quad (2)$$

$F_1$  and  $F_2$  are carrier frequencies and the sum  $(n+m)$  is called the PIM product order, for example the third order product is present if  $n = 2$  and  $m = 1$ . Normally the third order product is most powerful and harmful to the system and the higher order products have less power but wider spectrum.

Another important nature of PIM is time-dependency, since the mechanical devices always vary with the temperature, humidity and elements age etc. In other words, PIM is time-varying distortion.

## 2.2 Causes of PIM Distortion

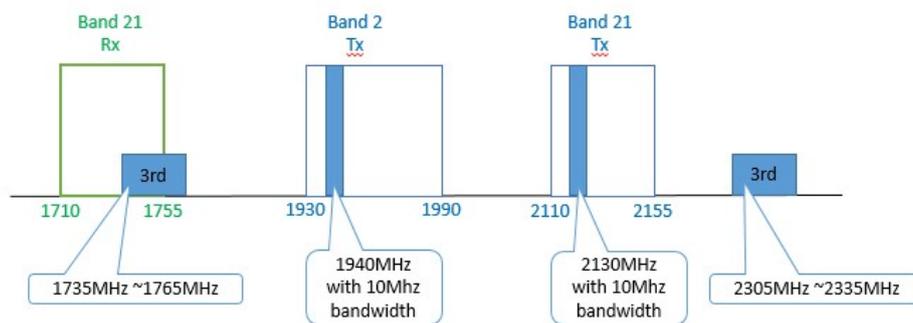
Any non-linear junctions could be the cause to generate PIM distortion due to the non-linear current-voltage behavior. Some common reasons are listed as below,

- Metal-metal contact surfaces separated by a thin oxide will exhibit MIM diode conduction
- rough contact surfaces of metal-metal will cause current crowding at spots where conduction is both resistive and capacitive
- Non-linear materials

And the state of all these reasons depends on the environment conditions, such as the temperature, humidity, mechanical force and elements age, which means PIM distortion is a time-dependency distortion and has to be detected and eliminated online. Even on the same surface, the repeated measurement could show big difference.

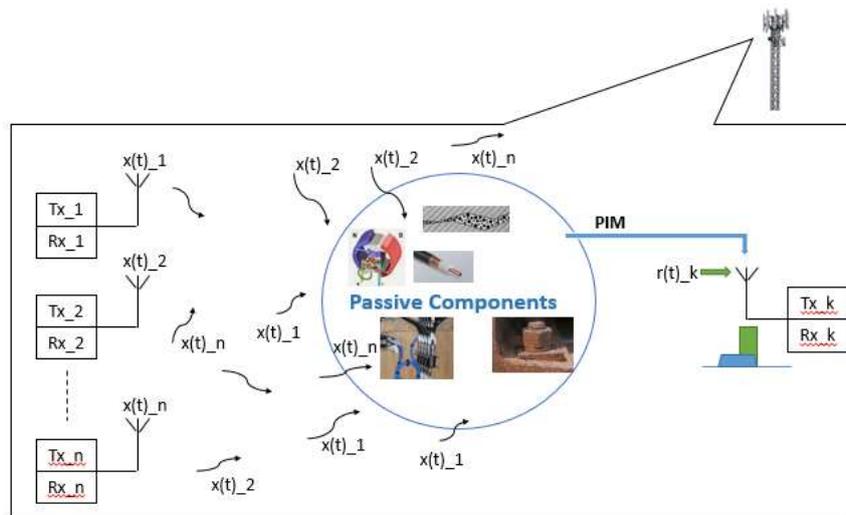
## 2.3 Harm of PIM Distortion

In the FDD system, PIM caused by the transmitted signals could fall in the receiver band and causes the performance degradation of the received signal. For example, there are two transmission channels from band 21 and band 2 separately in Figure 2.2. Assume that these two channels are physically close to each other, or even sharing the same antenna, then it is highly possible for these two signals hit on the same nonlinear junctions and generate PIM distortion. As a result, the 3<sup>rd</sup> order product will fall in the receiver band of band 21.



**Figure 2.2** PIM Caused by Transmitted Signals Falls in the Receiver Band

In this example, only two carriers are involved and that is not always the case in the real applications. Especially in the base station where several networks systems have to share the same infrastructure and some technologies with multi-carrier and multi-band are used very often. Many transmitted signals are mixed to each other over and over, so that PIM distortion is spread in a wide range of the spectrum and reach some receiver bands. The distortion will degrade the receiver's sensitivity or even block the ongoing service by hiding the wanted signal. Besides the PIM distortion created by the internal transmitted signals, the external transmitted signals from the neighbor cells could be present as a PIM source and interfere the receivers' bands.



**Figure 2.3** PIM Distortion in the Base Station

More severely, the continuous increased power of the transmitted signals and the high sensitivity of the receivers make PIM issue significantly critical in the base station.

## 2.4 Prevention and Suppression of PIM Distortion

It is apparent that a good system layout and precise mechanical dimension are the basic idea to keep PIM distortion low by improving the distortion source. After that, the proper and regular maintenance is essential, such as inspection, cleaning, torquing.

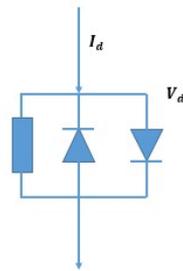
When PIM is created, isolation and shielding is the effective way to keep it away from the protected signals, but this is a costly and space-consuming solution.

Besides that, adaptive distortion suppression method introduced in the thesis is a very effective and less-expensive solution. The general idea of this technique is to use adaptive filter to estimate PIM level of each considered orders and subtract the estimated PIM distortion from the received signal. Since PIM is a time-vary signal, a self-adaptive algorithm with a quick convergence rate is used in this technique. The result shows excellent

suppression properties with a low cost. The following chapters will describe and evaluate this method with matlab simulations.

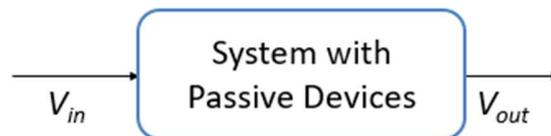
## 2.5 PIM Model

Because of the complexity of the environment variation, the precise modelling of PIM interference is very important. In this thesis, a diode-like model in Figure 2.4 is introduced, which is a very practical and simple mathematical model. It's easy to analyze the nonlinear characteristic of any odd order products by this model, and there are only two parameters which needs to be decided.



**Figure 2.4** Diode-like Model

Figure 2.5 shows a general nonlinear system composed of passive components. Here  $V_{in}$  could be one wideband signal or serval signals with different carriers and  $V_{out}$  is the generated PIM.



**Figure 2.5** Nonlinear System Composed of Passive Devices

By using the diode-like model, the transfer function of the nonlinear system can be denoted by

$$I_d = I_s \cdot \frac{\left[ \exp\left(\frac{V_d}{V_t}\right) - \exp\left(-\frac{V_d}{V_t}\right) \right]}{2} \quad (3)$$

In the diode-like model, PIM is current-based distortion. If  $V_d$  is replaced by the input signal  $V_{in}$ , then the generated PIM distortion  $V_{out}$  behaves as  $I_d$ . In this model  $I_s$  and  $V_t$  are just fitting parameters and they can be tweaked to any value until the wanted PIM is obtained. For example,  $I_s$  can be used to control the power level of PIM and  $V_t$  can be used to adjust the power distribution between different order products. A smaller  $V_t$  distributes more power to the higher order products and a larger value makes the lower order products more powerful.

If Taylor Series is used for the exponential terms of the diode-like model, it turns out that the model only contains the odd order products, which are most concerned in the real application.

$$\begin{aligned} I_d &= I_s \cdot \frac{\left[ \exp\left(\frac{V_d}{V_t}\right) - \exp\left(-\frac{V_d}{V_t}\right) \right]}{2} \\ &= I_s \cdot \left[ \frac{V_d}{V_t} + \frac{1}{6} \left(\frac{V_d}{V_t}\right)^3 + \frac{1}{120} \left(\frac{V_d}{V_t}\right)^5 \dots \dots \right] \end{aligned} \quad (4)$$

In this project, one wideband transmitted signal is modeled as the source  $V_d$  which band is designed intentionally so that every order products of PIM can reach the receiver band.

# 3 Adaptive Algorithms Theory

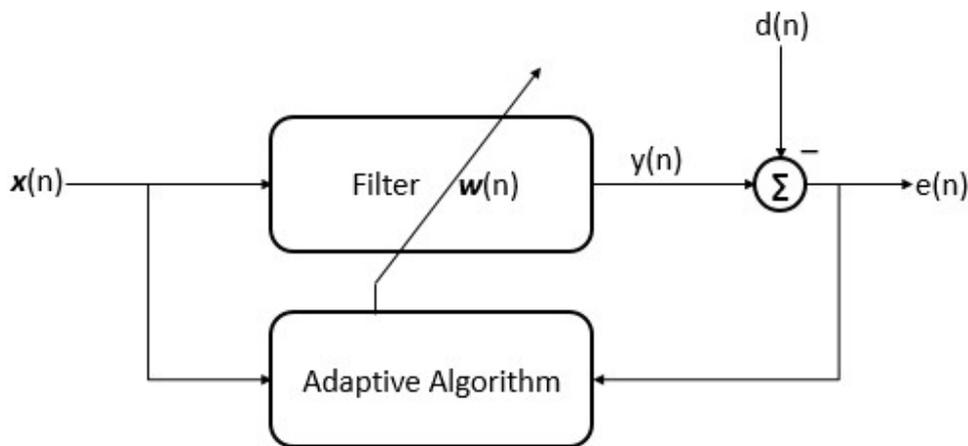
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One of the most important applications of the adaptive filter is the interference cancellation. Through the parameters self-adaptation by some algorithm, adaptive filter can cancel the interference which spectrum varies over time or overlaps with that of the wanted signals. Moreover adaptive filter can realize the real time tracking task.

As the key part of the adaptive filter, adaptive algorithm is of greatest importance for the convergence rate and the stable-state of the filter. RLS and NLMS are two of the most popular algorithms because of their own characteristics and advantages. In this project, these two algorithms will be used and evaluated to suppress PIM distortion in the FDD transceiver system.

## 3.1 Principle of Adaptive Filter

The general diagram of the adaptive filter is showed as below, where  $x(n)$  is the input signal,  $y(n)$  is the output signal of the filter,  $d(n)$  is the desired signal and  $e(n)$  is the error signal that denotes the difference between  $d(n)$  and  $y(n)$ .



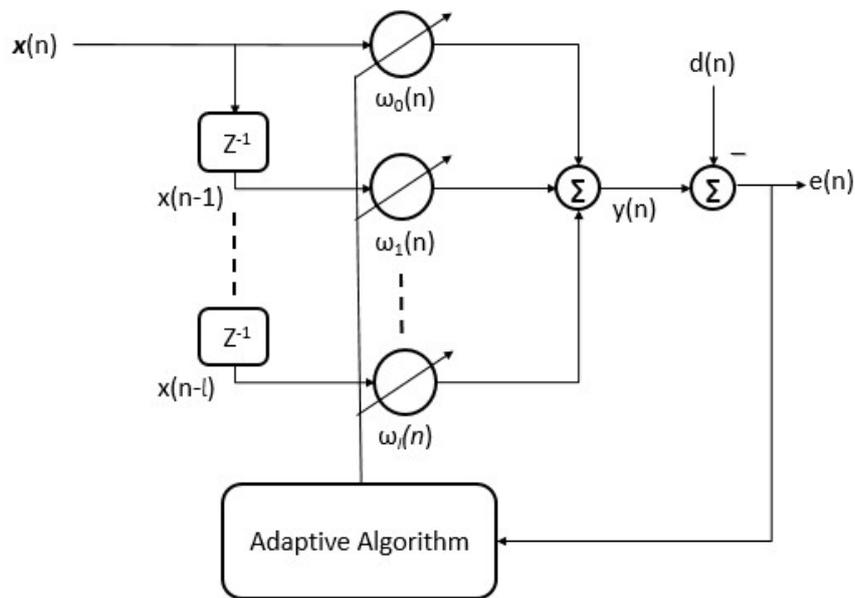
**Figure 3.1** General Diagram of Adaptive Filter

The objective of the adaptive filter is to adjust the coefficients  $w(n)$  of the filter such that the output signal  $y(n)$  is as close as possible to the desired signal  $d(n)$  by some adaptive algorithm.

In the general application, a tapped delay line FIR structure is used and the number of the delay units is called the order number of the filter. The input signal is denoted as  $\mathbf{x}(n)$ .

$$\mathbf{x}(n) = [x(n) \ x(n-1) \ \dots \ x(n-l)] \quad (5)$$

where  $l$  is the order number and  $n$  means the  $n$ 'th time. Figure 3.2 presents the brief description of how this kind of adaptive filter is configured.

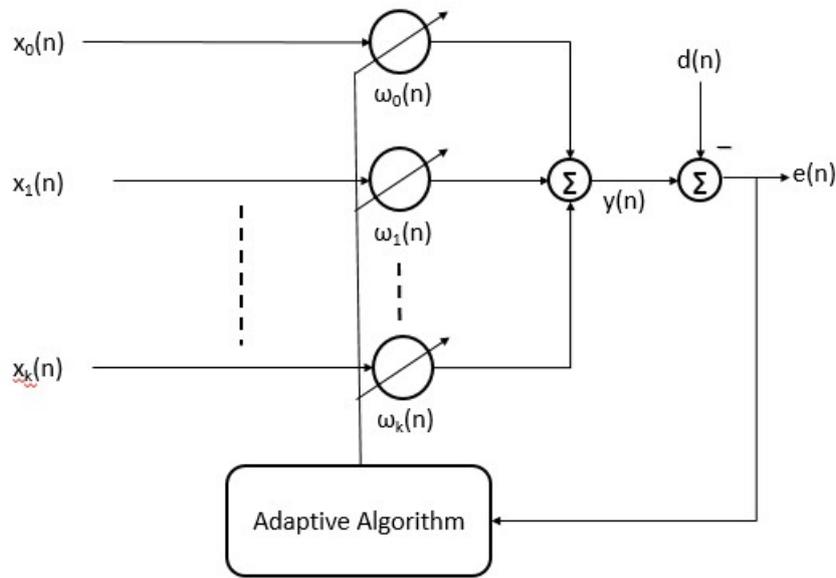


**Figure 3.2** Tapped Delay Line FIR Block Diagram

Another common adaptive filter is adaptive linear combiner, where each values of the input signal  $\mathbf{x}(n)$  are independent. The input signal  $\mathbf{x}(n)$  is denoted as

$$\mathbf{x}(n) = [x_0(n) \ x_1(n) \ \dots \ x_k(n)] \quad (6)$$

where  $k$  is the order number and  $n$  means the  $n$ 'th time. And the length of the adaptive filter is defined as  $(k+1)$ . Figure 3.3 shows the brief description of adaptive linear combiner's configured.



**Figure 3.3** Adaptive Linear Combiner Block Diagram

In the application of this thesis, there are two orders of PIM involved which are uncorrelated, so adaptive linear combiner should be used in this application and the length of adaptive filter equals the number of the considered PIM orders. In this project, the third and fifth PIM orders will be considered, so the length of the adaptive filter should be chosen by 2. And the input signal  $\mathbf{x}(n)$  is generated by the baseband transmitted signal via a designed circuit and it includes the signals that are correlated to PIM distortion in  $d(n)$  which includes the received signal and PIM distortion. The output signal  $y(n)$  is closer to PIM distortion, then the signal  $e(n)$  is more accurate for the received signal.

As the key part of the adaptive filter, the adaptive algorithm is of great concern for the suppression performance in the application of the interference cancellation. Normalized Least Mean Square (NLMS) is one of the most popular adaptive algorithm, due to the simplicity and stability. Recursive Least Square (RLS) algorithm has a better convergence rate and tracking capability, at the expense of the higher complexity. Both these two algorithms are analyzed and evaluated with PIM cancellation application in this thesis.

### 3.2 NLMS (Normalized Least Mean Square) Algorithm

As one of the most widely used and simplest algorithms, least mean squares (LMS) algorithm updates the filter coefficients vector  $\mathbf{w}(n)$  according to the following formula.

$$\mathbf{w}(n+1) = \mathbf{w}(n) - \mu \cdot \nabla \xi(n) \quad (7)$$

which depends on the current filter coefficients vector  $\mathbf{w}(n)$  and the current gradient of the cost function  $\nabla \xi(n)$  with respect to the filter coefficients vector. And the cost function is defined as,

$$\begin{aligned} \xi(n) &= E(\|e(n)\|^2) = E(\|d(n) - y(n)\|^2) \\ &= E(|d(n)|^2) - E(\mathbf{w}^H(n)\mathbf{x}(n)d(n)) - E(\mathbf{x}^H(n)\mathbf{w}(n)d(n)) \\ &\quad + E(\mathbf{w}^H(n)d(n)\mathbf{x}^H(n)\mathbf{w}(n)) \end{aligned} \quad (8)$$

Where

$$\mathbf{w}(n) = [w_0(n) \ w_1(n) \ \cdots \ w_k(n)]^T \quad (9)$$

$$\mathbf{x}(n) = [x_0(n) \ x_1(n) \ \cdots \ x_k(n)]^T \quad (10)$$

$$y(n) = \mathbf{w}^H(n)\mathbf{x}(n) \quad (11)$$

Make  $\mathbf{P} = E(\mathbf{x}(n)d(n))$  expressing the correlation between the input signal  $\mathbf{x}(n)$  and the desired signal  $d(n)$  and make  $\mathbf{R} = E(\mathbf{x}(n)\mathbf{x}^H(n))$  expressing the self-correlation matrix of the input signal, then the gradient of the cost function  $\xi(n)$  can be expressed as,

$$\nabla \xi(n) = \frac{\partial \xi(n)}{\partial \mathbf{w}(n)} = -2\mathbf{P} + 2\mathbf{R}\mathbf{w} \quad (12)$$

According to the steepest-descent algorithm,  $\nabla J = 0$  is made and the optimal solution (Wiener Solution) of the coefficients vector can be given by,

$$\mathbf{w}_{opt} = \mathbf{R}^{-1}\mathbf{P} \quad (13)$$

However the matrices  $\mathbf{R}$  and  $\mathbf{P}$  are normally unknown in the real applications, the instantaneous gradient is used instead,

$$\nabla \xi(n) = \nabla(\|e(n)\|^2) = \frac{\partial \|e(n)\|^2}{\partial \mathbf{w}(n)} \quad (14)$$

$$\nabla \xi(n) = 2e^*(n) \frac{\partial e(n)}{\partial \mathbf{w}(n)} \quad (15)$$

$$\nabla \xi(n) = 2e^*(n) \frac{\partial (d(n) - y(n))}{\partial \mathbf{w}(n)} \quad (16)$$

$$\nabla \xi(n) = -2e^*(n) \frac{\partial (\mathbf{w}^T(n)\mathbf{x}(n))}{\partial \mathbf{w}(n)} \quad (17)$$

$$\nabla \xi(n) = -2e^*(n)\mathbf{x}(n) \quad (18)$$

So the filter coefficients vector will be updated according to the following formula,

$$\mathbf{w}(n+1) = \mathbf{w}(n) + 2\mu e^*(n)\mathbf{x}(n) \quad (19)$$

Here the parameter  $\mu$  is known as the step size which determines how fast and how well the coefficients converges to the optimal values. A suitable big step size brings a fast convergence, but LMS algorithm could diverge if the step size is too large. To ensure the algorithm will converge, the step size should be chosen in the following interval range,

$$0 < \mu < \frac{2}{\lambda_{max}} \quad (20)$$

where  $\lambda_{max}$  is the largest eigenvalue of the correlation matrix  $\mathbf{R}$ . However the correlation matrix  $\mathbf{R}$  is normally unknown in reality, a more practical rule [3] is showed as

$$0 < \mu < \frac{1}{\sigma^2} \quad (21)$$

where  $\sigma^2$  is the sum of the input power. It can be given by,

$$\sigma^2 = L \cdot E(\mathbf{x}(n)\mathbf{x}^H(n)) \quad (22)$$

where  $L$  is the length of the adaptive filter.

Normalized Least Mean Square (NLMS) is the normalized LMS algorithm and it has the same algorithm except the step size is weighted as,

$$\mathbf{w}(n+1) = \mathbf{w}(n) + 2 \frac{\mu}{\|\mathbf{x}(n)\|^2} e^*(n)\mathbf{x}(n) \quad (23)$$

where  $\|\mathbf{x}(n)\|^2$  is the sum of the input power at the time  $n$ . NLMS has a better convergence rate and stability because the normalized step size removes the effect of the power of the input signal.

The choice of the step size is very important for LMS and NLMS algorithm. It reflects the tradeoff between the convergence rate and the steady-state error. A larger step size brings a relatively faster convergence, but the bigger variation presents with the steady-state. Inversely a smaller step size causes a better steady-state at the expense of a slower convergence. If the convergence rate and the steady-state turn out to be good enough by some step size, LMS or NLMS is really good choice because of the simplicity, but in some applications they cannot be realized as expected and some more advanced algorithms should be considered.

### 3.3 Recursive Least Squares Algorithm (RLS)

Recursive Least Squares Algorithm (RLS) is based on the least squares method and solves the least squares problem in recursive way. RLS algorithm avoid completely redoing the least squares problem when a new sample comes, so that a less computational resource is needed and a good on-line estimation can be realized.

Least Squares Algorithm aims to minimize the sum of the error squares which is known as the cost function. If the weighted error squares are considered, the cost function of RLS algorithm can be given by,

$$\xi(n) = \sum_{i=0}^n \lambda^{n-i} |e(i)|^2 \quad (0 \ll \lambda \leq 1) \quad (24)$$

$$\xi(n) = \sum_{i=0}^n \lambda^{n-i} |d(i) - \mathbf{w}^H(n)\mathbf{x}(i)|^2 \quad (25)$$

The parameter  $\lambda$  is called forgetting factor which is an exponential weighting factor in the interval between 0 and 1. A small forgetting factor reduces the influence of old samples and increases the weight of the new samples, as a result a better tracking capability can be realized at the cost of a higher variance of the filter coefficients. Inversely a large forgetting factor keeps more information of the old samples and has a lower variance of the filter coefficients, but it takes a longer time to converge when the environment is changed. In the time-varying environment, a tradeoff between the tracking capability and stability has to be made.

It should be noted that in NLMS algorithm a priori error is used, but in RLS algorithm  $e(i)$  is a *posterior* output error at instant  $i$ . In Equation (26), the most current coefficients  $\mathbf{w}(n)$  is always used for each iteration. To minimized the sum of the least squares, make the gradient of the cost function with respect to  $\mathbf{w}^*(n)$  equal zero,

$$\nabla \xi(n) = \frac{\partial \xi(n)}{\partial \mathbf{w}^*(n)} = \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \\ \vdots \\ 0 \end{bmatrix} \quad (26)$$

The optimal coefficients vector  $\mathbf{w}(n)$  can be given by,

$$\mathbf{w}(n) = \left( \sum_{i=0}^n \lambda^{n-i} \mathbf{x}(i) \mathbf{x}^H(i) \right)^{-1} \sum_{i=0}^n \lambda^{n-i} \mathbf{x}(i) d^*(i) = \mathbf{R}^{-1}(n) \mathbf{P}(n) \quad (27)$$

$$\mathbf{R}(n) = \sum_{i=0}^n \lambda^{n-i} \mathbf{x}(i) \mathbf{x}^H(i) \quad (28)$$

$$\mathbf{P}(n) = \sum_{i=0}^n \lambda^{n-i} \mathbf{x}(i) d^*(i) \quad (29)$$

where  $\mathbf{R}(n)$  is called the deterministic correlation matrix of the input signal and  $\mathbf{P}(n)$  is called the deterministic cross-correlation vector between the input signal and the desired signal. Here it's assumed that  $\mathbf{R}(n)$  is nonsingular matrix. Using the matrix inversion lemma [2], the inverse of  $\mathbf{R}(n)$  can be calculated by,

$$\mathbf{S}(n) = \mathbf{R}^{-1}(n) = \frac{1}{\lambda} \left( \mathbf{S}(n-1) - \frac{\mathbf{S}(n-1)\mathbf{x}(n)\mathbf{x}^H(n)\mathbf{S}(n-1)}{\lambda + \mathbf{x}^H(n)\mathbf{S}(n-1)\mathbf{x}(n)} \right) \quad (30)$$

Then the new coefficients  $\mathbf{w}(n)$  can be updated by,

$$\mathbf{w}(n) = \mathbf{w}(n-1) + e^*(n)\mathbf{S}(n)\mathbf{x}(n) \quad (31)$$

The complex RLS algorithm can be implemented by,

1) Initialization

$$\mathbf{S}_{last} = \mathbf{aI} \text{ (a can be the inverse of the estimation of the input power)}$$

$$\mathbf{w}_{last} = [0 \ 0 \ \dots \ 0 \ 0]^T$$

2) Iterations

$$e(n) = d(n) - \mathbf{w}^H(n-1)\mathbf{x}(n)$$

$$\mathbf{G} = \mathbf{S}(n-1)\mathbf{x}(n)$$

$$\mathbf{S}(n) = \frac{1}{\lambda} \left( \mathbf{S}(n-1) - \frac{\mathbf{G}\mathbf{G}^H}{\lambda + \mathbf{G}^H\mathbf{G}} \right)$$

$$\mathbf{w}(n) = \mathbf{w}(n-1) + e^*(n)\mathbf{S}(n)\mathbf{x}(n)$$

(The above derivation is introduced very detailed in Adaptive Filtering by Paulo Sergio Ramirez. Please refer to [1] for a better understanding of RLS algorithm.)

RLS algorithm is very good choice for the time-varying environment, because it has a great convergence rate and tracking capability. As the cost, RLS has more computational complexity than LMS because of the matrix operations.

# 4 Simulation Model Design

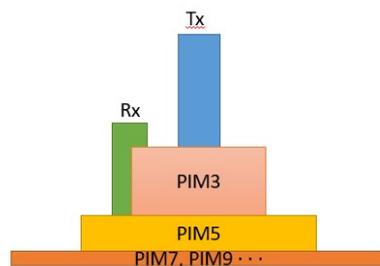
This chapter will introduce the simulator used in Matlab. The simulator composes of transmitter, receiver, PIM generator and cancellation block. The main idea of the simulator design is to make the model as simple as possible under the premise that the interference phenomena can be presented correctly and the cancellation method can be implemented in hardware. To design the model of the cancellation block, the derivation of the input signal of the adaptive filter will be made in this chapter. Meanwhile the spectrums at each stage of the system will be analyzed for a better understanding on PIM distortion.

## 4.1 General Consideration of Simulator

Too many imperfections involved is not good to study PIM properties and the cancellation behaviors, so a simplified transceiver model is created in the simulation. It is important to state some assumptions and complexity reductions before getting a deep look into the simulator design. It should be mentioned that the simplification and assumptions will not affect the study of the main points.

Assumptions and complexity reductions

- Only imperfection involved in the simulator is PIM distortion.
- A wide band transmitted signal is used for the input of the PIM generator instead of the multiple signals.
- The transmitter and receiver bands are intentionally assigned, so that PIM generated by transmitted signals can reach the receiver band.
- Only receiver BPF (Band Pass Filter) is involved in the duplexer.
- DAC (Digital-Analog Convertor) is replaced by a specific oversampling rate.

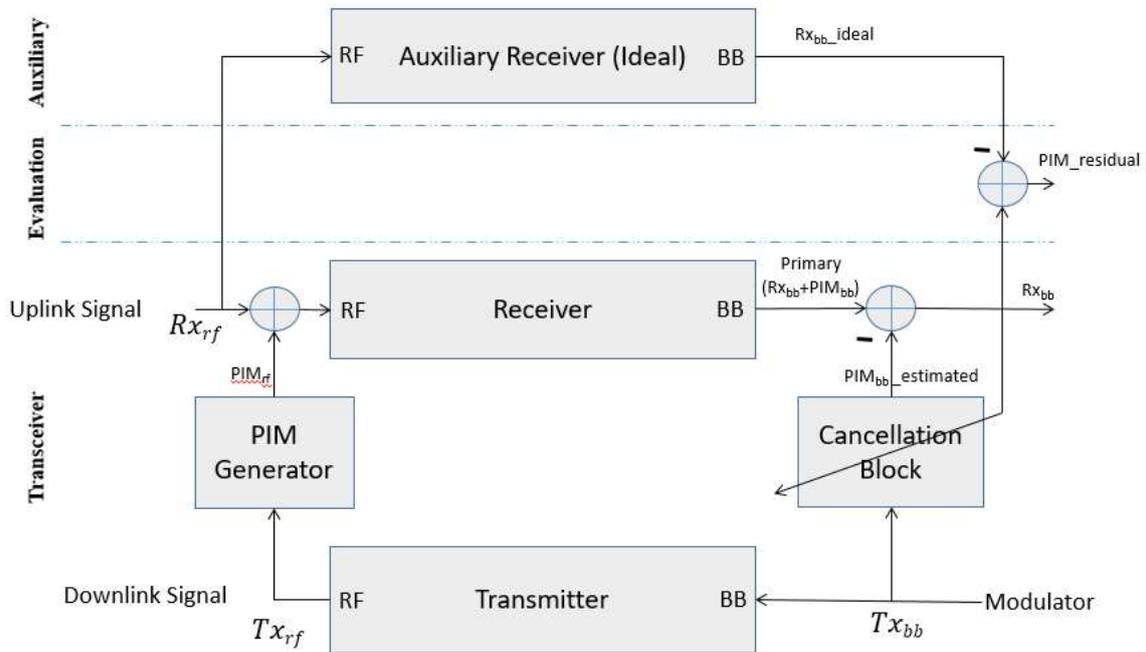


**Figure 4.1** Spectrum Pattern of the Application

The pattern in Figure 4.1 just shows how the spectrum looks like. The powerful wideband transmitted signal generates the PIM distortion via the passive devices and PIM drops into the high sensitive received signal.

## 4.2 Simulator Overview

Figure 4.2 shows the block diagram of the simulator with an ideal auxiliary receiver. The diagram is vertically split into three parts, which are transceiver, evaluation and auxiliary receiver. The main part of the modulator is the transceiver which includes the transmitter, receiver, PIM generator and the cancellation block. To evaluate the cancellation performance, an auxiliary receiver is used to generate the ideal baseband received signal so that the residual PIM after cancellation can be calculated.



**Figure 4.2** The block Diagram of Simulator Model

The simulation starts from the modulator of the transmitter, where the baseband transmitted signal is generated. After the transmitter, the RF transmitted signal is generated and sent via the antenna. Meanwhile the RF transmitted signal contributes PIM distortion as the input of PIM generator. Then the PIM distortion is mixed into the uplink signal and gets into the receiver chain. The primary signal in Figure 4.2 is the combination of the baseband received signal and PIM distortion.

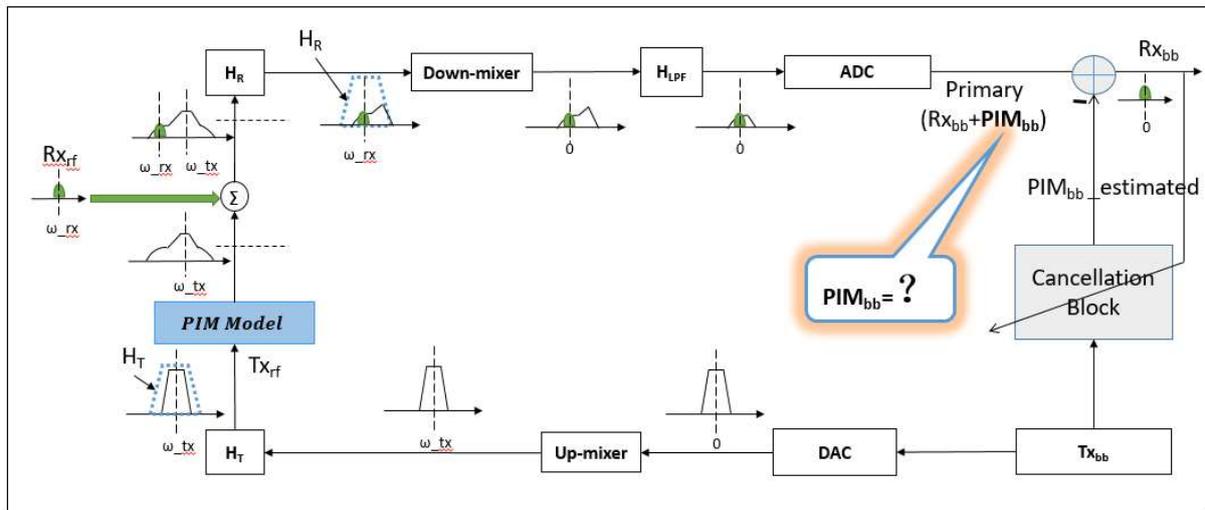
The cancellation of PIM distortion is expected to be implemented in the digital domain and it is designed based on the known baseband transmitted signal which is highly correlated to the PIM distortion and completely uncorrelated to the received signal. The estimated PIM will be subtracted from the primary signal and finally the desired baseband received signal is obtained after the cancellation.

In the evaluation part, the residual PIM distortion can be obtained by subtracting the ideal received signal ( $R_{X_{bb\_ideal}}$ ) from the PIM-suppressed received signal ( $R_{X_{bb}}$ ), so that the PIM suppression effect by the cancellation block can be analyzed and evaluated.

### 4.3 Simulator Model Design

Figure 4.3 is the equivalent transceiver model with the spectral illustration. The bandwidth is expanded when the RF transmitted signal goes through the PIM generator and reaches the receiver band. After the receiver duplexer, part of PIM distortion sneaks into the receiver chain and overlaps with the received signal in the spectrum.

The cancellation block is designed in the digital domain, so an accurate PIM model in digital domain has to be derived before designing the cancellation block. As mentioned before, the known baseband transmitted signal is used as the only reference for the cancellation block, so a mathematic model expressed by the baseband transmitted signal  $T_{X_{bb}}$  is expected. And to realize compensation for the phase shift of the real and imaginary parts, a complex model will be used instead of the model with the separated IQ channels. The simulation result shows that the suppression effect is improved a lot by the complex model.



**Figure 4.3** Digital Equivalent Model with Spectral Illustrations

#### 4.3.1 Transmitter

The complex baseband signal to be transmitted is denoted by

$$Tx_{bb} = I + jQ \quad (32)$$

This baseband signal goes through the up-sampling and then the signal is up-converted to the transmitted RF signal with an IQ modulator. Here it should be noted that the up-sampling rate should be high enough to avoid the spectrum aliasing of the transmitted RF signal.

The RF transmitted signal can be expressed as formula or formula

$$Tx_{rf} = I \cdot \cos(\omega_{tx}t) - Q \cdot \sin(\omega_{tx}t) \quad (33)$$

$$Tx_{rf} = |Tx| \cdot \cos(\omega_{tx}t + \varphi_{tx}) \quad (34)$$

Where  $\omega_{tx}$  is the carrier frequency of the transmitter and  $|Tx| = \sqrt{I^2 + Q^2}$ .

#### 4.3.2 PIM Generator

The diode-like PIM model is denoted mathematically by

$$I_d = I_s \cdot \frac{\left[ \exp\left(\frac{V_d}{V_t}\right) - \exp\left(-\frac{V_d}{V_t}\right) \right]}{2} \quad (35)$$

If the Taylor Series Expansion is applied to the terms  $\exp(\cdot)$ , the model can be expressed by

$$I_d = I_s \cdot \left( \frac{V_d}{V_t} + \frac{1}{6} \left( \frac{V_d}{V_t} \right)^3 + \frac{1}{120} \left( \frac{V_d}{V_t} \right)^5 \dots \right) \quad (36)$$

$$I_d = \frac{I_s}{V_t} V_d + \frac{I_s}{6V_t^3} (V_d)^3 + \frac{I_s}{120V_t^5} (V_d)^5 \dots \quad (37)$$

If  $k_1 = \frac{I_s}{V_t}$ ,  $k_3 = \frac{I_s}{6V_t^3}$  and  $k_5 = \frac{I_s}{120V_t^5}$  are made, the expression can be re-written again by

$$I_d = k_1 V_d + k_3 (V_d)^3 + k_5 (V_d)^5 \dots \quad (38)$$

Apparently only the odd terms of the distortion are considered by the diode-like model. Actually the odd terms are the most concerned interference in real applications, so the diode-like model is a very practical and accurate model.

If make  $V_d = Tx_{rf} = |Tx| \cdot \cos(\omega_{tx}t + \varphi_{tx})$ , then  $I_d$  is the generated PIM distortion. Apply the formulas of trigonometric functions in Equation (38), then the generated PIM distortion can be denoted by

$$PIM_1 = (a_1 \cdot |Tx| + a_3 \cdot |Tx|^3 + a_5 \cdot |Tx|^5 + \dots) \cdot \cos(\omega_{tx}t + \varphi_{tx}) + H \cdot \cos 3(\omega_{tx}t + \varphi_{tx}) + G \cdot \cos 5(\omega_{tx}t + \varphi_{tx}) + \dots \quad (39)$$

where  $a_1$ ,  $a_3$  and  $a_5$  are constants decided by  $k_1$ ,  $k_3$  and  $k_5$ , and G or H is some polynomial by  $|Tx|$ , which is not expanded here. It should be mentioned that the 3<sup>rd</sup>, 5<sup>th</sup> and higher order products will be removed by the band pass filter  $H_R$  of the receiver. Moreover the term  $a_1 \cdot |Tx| \cdot \cos(\omega_{tx}t + \varphi_{tx})$  has the same spectrum with the RF transmitted signal, so it is hardly left after the band pass filter of the receiver. At the output of the band pass filter  $H_R$ , PIM distortion can now be expressed as

$$PIM_2 = (a_3 \cdot |Tx|^3 + a_5 \cdot |Tx|^5 + \dots) \cdot \cos(\omega_{tx}t + \varphi_{tx}) \quad (40)$$

$$PIM_2 = (a_3 \cdot |Tx|^2 + a_5 \cdot |Tx|^4 + \dots) \cdot |Tx| \cdot \cos(\omega_{tx}t + \varphi_{tx}) \quad (41)$$

$$PIM_2 = (a_3 \cdot |Tx|^2 + a_5 \cdot |Tx|^4 + \dots) \cdot (I \cdot \cos(\omega_{tx}t) - Q \cdot \sin(\omega_{tx}t)) \quad (42)$$

### 4.3.3 Receiver

When PIM distortion goes through the down-mixer and down-sampling of the receiver, it is converted to the digital baseband signal expressed as

$$PIM_3 = (a_3 \cdot |Tx_{bb}|^2 \cdot Tx_{bb} + a_5 \cdot |Tx_{bb}|^4 \cdot Tx_{bb} + \dots) \cdot e^{j\Delta\omega t} \quad (43)$$

where  $\Delta\omega = \omega_{tx} - \omega_{rx}$ . The equivalent digital model of PIM distortion can be denoted by (43) and the cancellation block will be designed based on this mathematic model.

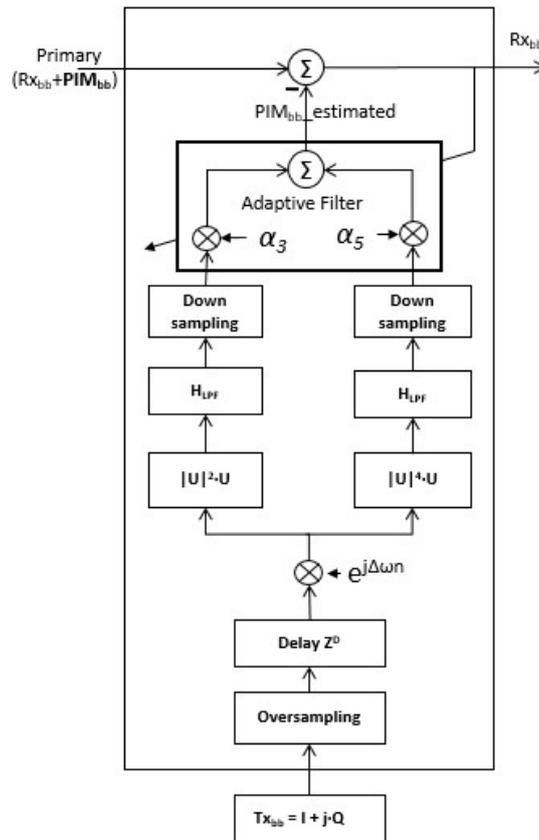
### 4.3.4 Cancellation Block Design

The designing of the cancellation block is the key of the proposed technique. The baseband PIM distortion is estimated and regenerated in the cancellation block according to the derived digital baseband PIM model.

Only the 3<sup>rd</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> order products of PIM distortion are considered in this thesis and the path delay has to be compensated, so the digital baseband model of PIM distortion can be rewritten by

$$PIM_3 = (a_3 \cdot |Tx_{bb}|^2 \cdot Tx_{bb} + a_5 \cdot |Tx_{bb}|^4 \cdot Tx_{bb}) \cdot e^{j\Delta\omega t} \cdot Z^D \quad (44)$$

In this model,  $Tx_{bb}$  is the baseband transmitted signal which is known and  $e^{j\Delta\omega t}$  is a frequency shift by  $\Delta\omega$  which is known as well. The coefficients  $a_3$  and  $a_5$  can be estimated by the adaptive filter. The cancellation block in Figure 4.4 shows how the proposed technique is realized in the digital domain based on the known baseband transmitted signal  $Tx_{bb}$ . The function of each sub-block will be introduced in the following paragraphs.



**Figure 4.4** The Cancellation Block

Firstly an oversampling is made at the beginning of the cancellation block to avoid the spectrum aliasing. In this technique, the 3<sup>rd</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> order products of PIM are considered, so the spectrum aliasing will happen without oversampling. Meanwhile a lower oversampling rate (OSR) is recommended, because a higher OSR consumes more on the hardware. Therefore an appropriate OSR is required here. To learn how the OSR affects the cancellation performance, the simulation with different OSR will be studied in Chapter 5.

The second sub-block is delay compensation. It should be mentioned that the duplexer filters of the transceiver is most dominating for the path delay because of the wide bandwidth. Normally IIR filter is used as the duplexer filters, which means the group delay of the duplexer filter is variable with the frequency due to the nonlinear phase. This sub-block only compensate for the mean path delay which can be measured offline. And it is assumed that adaptive filter will take care of the variation of the group delay.

Then frequency shift and low pass filter are added separately in the third and fifth sub-blocks. The cancellation block has the same low pass filter with that of the receiver. PIM profiles of the 3<sup>rd</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> order are present in the fourth sub-block.

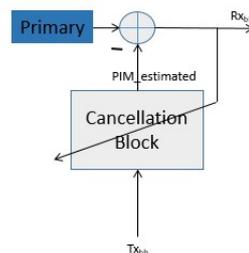
At last the most important module adaptive filter is applied. In this application, adaptive filter realizes three primary functions, which are coefficients estimation, compensation for the phase distortion and PIM tracking in a real-time. For the adaptive filter, the algorithm is the key part. In this application, recursive least squares (RLS) and normalized least square (NLMS) will be evaluated and compared.

# 5 Simulation Result

In this chapter, the simulation will be implemented in three scenarios, which are defined based on the different primary signal. In the first scenario, only PIM distortion is presented in the receiver chain. In this section, diode-like PIM model will be studied with different parameters and also the validity of the simulator model and the cancellation block will be verified. The received signal is added in the second scenario and it is interfered by an invariable PIM distortion. In this realistic scenario, PIM cancellation under different situations will be implemented and analyzed to prove the validity of the cancellation. At last, the cancellation will be implemented in the scenario of time-varying PIM distortion. The tracking capability of the cancellation will be evaluated with different forgetting factors of RLS algorithm in this scenario.

Three scenarios based on different primary signal:

- Only PIM present (No Rx Signal)
- Rx Signal interfered by invariable PIM distortion
- Rx Signal interfered by time-varying PIM distortion

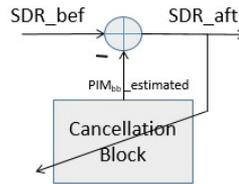


**Figure 5.1** Three Scenarios Based on Different Primary Signal

Some important information for an easy understanding of the simulation:

- The carriers of UL and DL signals are intentionally designed so that the 3<sup>rd</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> products of PIM generated by DL signal can reach the UL band
- Some parameters for the simulation:
  - SPR\_bef : Received signal-PIM distortion-Ratio just before the cancellation (in dB)
  - SPR\_aft: Received signal-PIM distortion-Ratio just after the cancellation (in dB)
  - SPR\_gain: the parameter is used to describe the PIM suppression level and it equals (SPR\_aft – SPR\_bef) when the received signal is present
  - V<sub>i</sub>: one of the parameters of diode-like model, which controls the power distribution in different orders of PIM distortion
  - FF or SS: forgetting factor of RLS algorithm or step-size of NLMS algorithm
  - OSR: the oversampling rate of the cancellation block

- The power of the received signal keeps same under different conditions
- A default state is defined by  $SPR\_bef = 15$ ,  $V_t = 1$  and  $OSR = 4$ ; when evaluating the influence by changing some specific parameter, the other parameters will keep the default values except the specific one
- The coefficients curves of the adaptive filter are used to evaluate the stability and the convergence rate of the algorithm
- Only fixed FF or SS is considered, since the aim of this thesis is to solve the problem by finding a solution as simple as possible



**Figure 5.2** Signal-PIM-Ratio

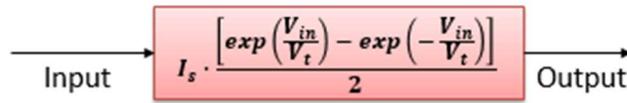
## 5.1 Cancellation of Pure PIM (Scenario 1)

The cancellation of pure PIM (without received signal) in the receiver chain is not realistic, but it is a good scenario to study diode-like model and ensure the simulator and cancellation circuit working well. How the parameters like FF, SS and OSR affect the performance of the cancellation will not be discussed in this section, but it will be done in next section where a more realistic scenario is presented.

In this section diode-like model with different  $V_t$  is simulated in the transceiver system and PIM signal spectrums at different system stages are presented, so that how the parameter  $V_t$  affects PIM distortion can be studied. After that, the cancellation with RLS and NLMS algorithms is implemented and the performance of each algorithm is compared.

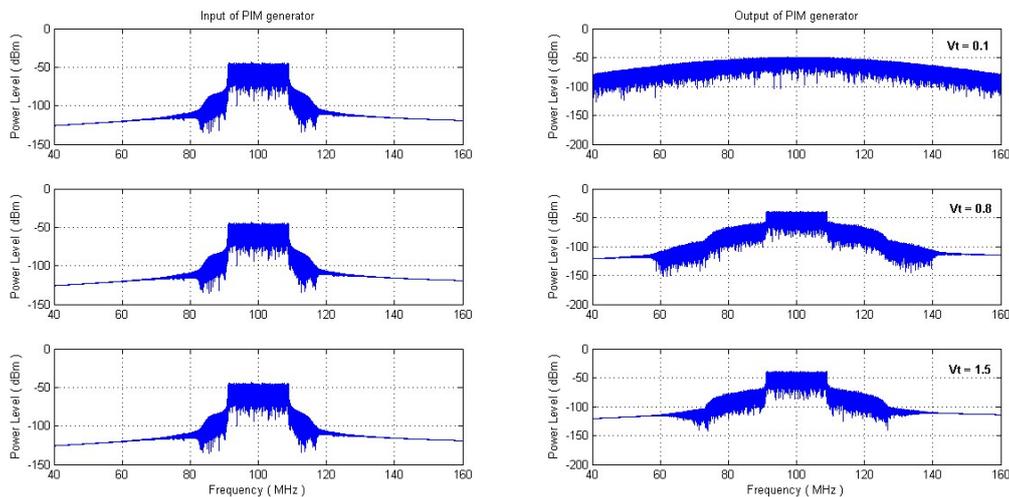
### 5.1.1 PIM Simulation by diode-like Model

In diode-like model (Figure 5.3), there are two parameters ( $I_s$  and  $V_t$ ) to decide the PIM power and the power distribution in different PIM products. Obviously  $I_s$  can be used to adjust the power of the generated PIM distortion. To study how the parameter  $V_t$  affects PIM signal, the simulation with only PIM present in Rx is implemented with different  $V_t$ .



**Figure 5.3** The Diode-like Model in The transceiver

Figure 5.4 shows the spectrums of PIM distortion when the parameter  $V_t$  is taken by different values. Here the input signal always keep same and  $V_t$  is taken by 0,1, 0,8 and 1,5 separately. The simulation results shows that more power is distributed to the higher order products with the decreasing of the parameter  $V_t$ . It should be mentioned that the parameter  $V_t$  always varies in a reasonable range based on the PIM measurement result in a real application. In most of cases, the 3<sup>rd</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> order are dominant products for PIM distortion, so the value of  $V_t$  could not be large unreasonably.

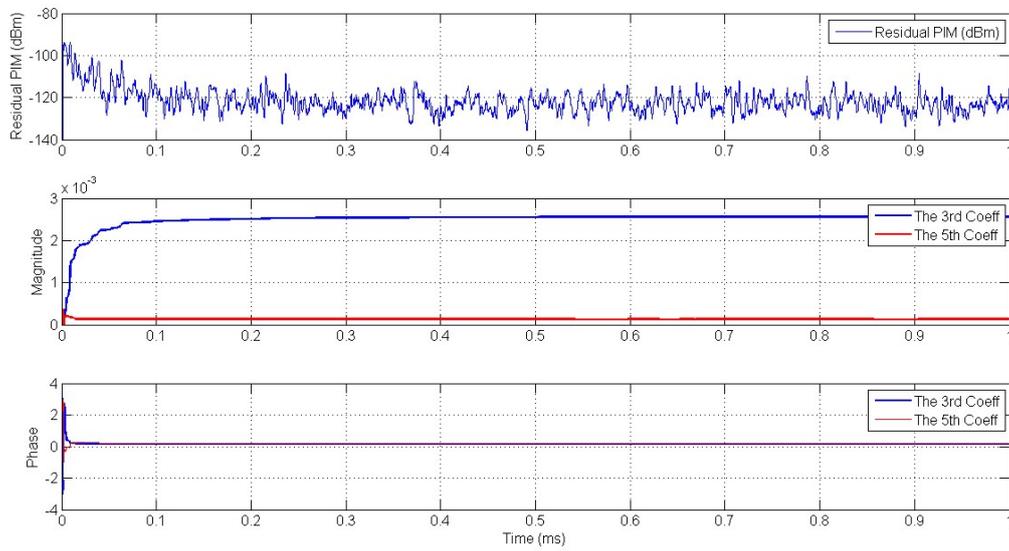


**Figure 5.4** The spectrums of the generator input and generated PIM

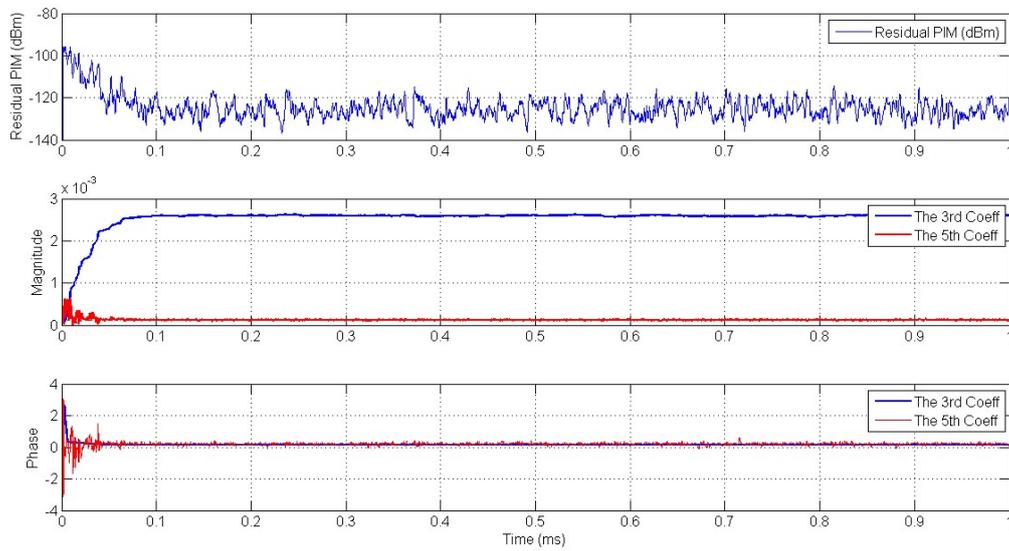
### 5.1.2 Cancellation of Pure PIM

Only PIM signal present in the receiver chain is kind of ‘ideal’ situation for the cancellation circuit, since the canceller does not have to extract PIM distortion from a mixing signal. This scenario is used to test if the simulator model and cancellation block work well with the complex signal. Figure 5.5 and Figure 5.6 are the curves of the residual PIM distortion and the coefficients of adaptive filter with RLS and NLMS algorithms respectively. Here a forgetting factor (1.0) is selected for RLS algorithm and a step-size (0.01) is chosen for NLMS algorithm. From the curves, it can be established that both RLS and NLMS have a convincing stability and convergence rate by choosing a fitting FF and SS. The effect by different forgetting factors (FF) of

RLS and step-sizes (SS) of NLMS will be evaluated in a more realistic scenario where the received signal is added in the receiver chain.

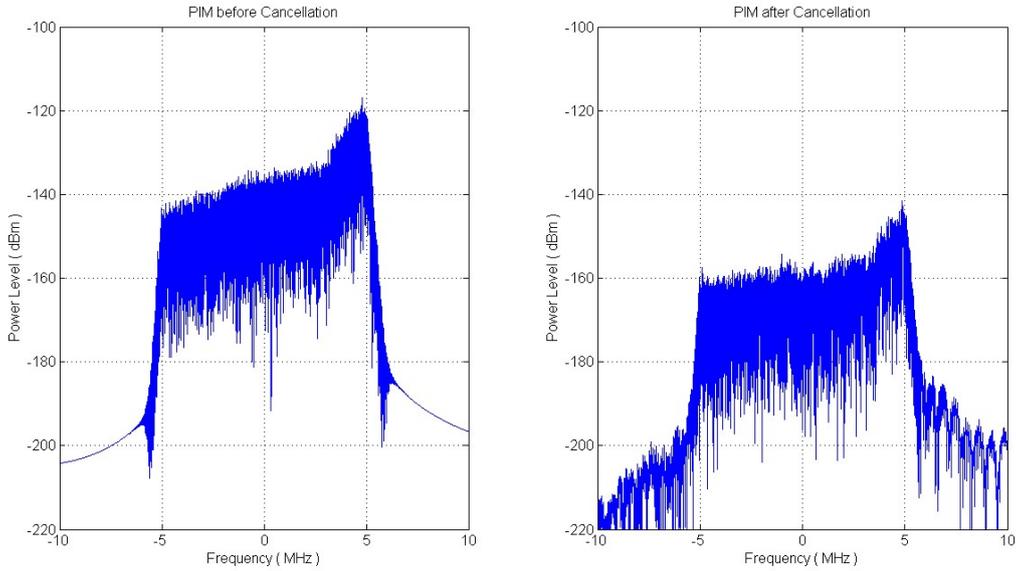


**Figure 5.5** RLS,  $FF = 1.0$ ,  $V_t = 1$ ,  $OSR = 4$

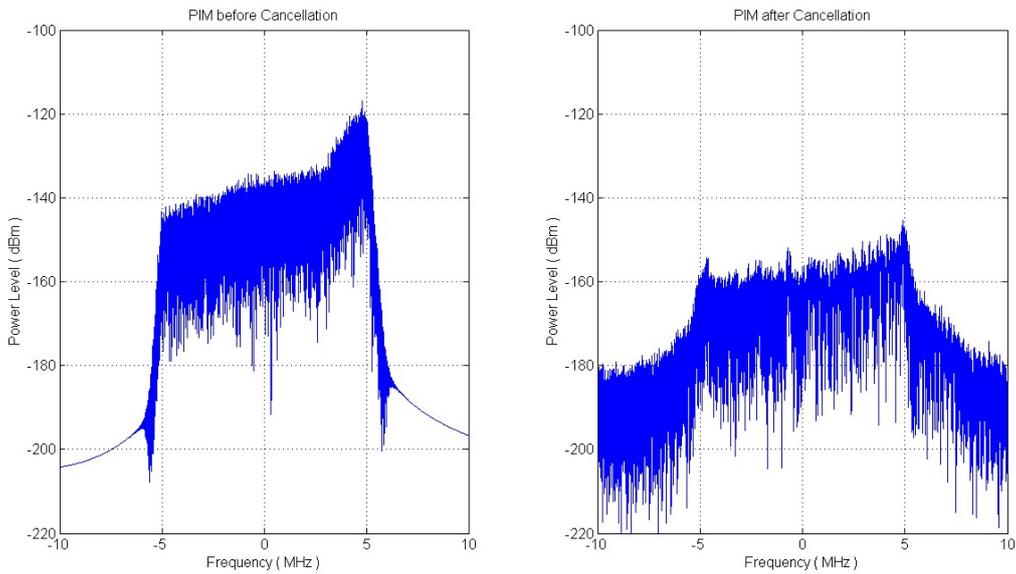


**Figure 5.6** NLMS,  $SS = 0.01$ ,  $V_t = 1$ ,  $OSR = 4$

Figure 5.7 and Figure 5.8 show the spectrums before and after the PIM cancellation separately. A considerable suppression is realized by both algorithms and the suppression levels with different algorithms is shown in Table 5-1. They almost have the same suppression effect.



**Figure 5.7** Spectrums of PIM\_bef and PIM\_aft (RLS)



**Figure 5.8** Spectrums of PIM\_bef and PIM\_aft (NLMS)

**Table 5-1** Suppression level

Algorithm	Suppression (dB)
RLS	29.8
NLMS	30.1

In this ‘ideal’ scenario, the validity of the simulator model and the cancellation block with two adaptive algorithms are verified. A deep study will be made in the next realistic scenario.

## **5.2 Cancellation of Mixed Signals**

In the scenario where only PIM distortion is present in the receiver chain, the primary signal is fully correlated to the baseband transmitted signal. The estimation of the adaptive coefficients can be made very quickly and precisely. A more realistic scenario will be implemented in this section.

In a real application, PIM distortion falls in the receiver chain and mixes with the received signal, as a result the correlation between the primary and the transmitted baseband signal will be extremely decreased. The received signal has to be extracted from the mixing signal by the canceller. It will make the convergence rate and suppression more challenging.

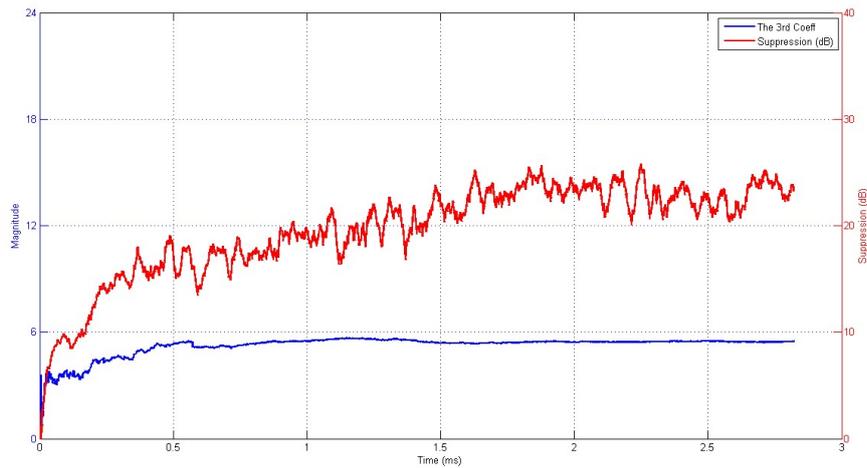
There will be four tasks made in this section. Firstly NLMS and RLS algorithms will be applied separately in the scenario of mixing signal. The algorithm with better performance will be chosen to continue a deep study. Then the simulations with different OSR, the parameter  $V_t$  and  $SPR_{bef}$  will be evaluated separately.

### **5.2.1 Comparison of Algorithm (RLS and NLMS)**

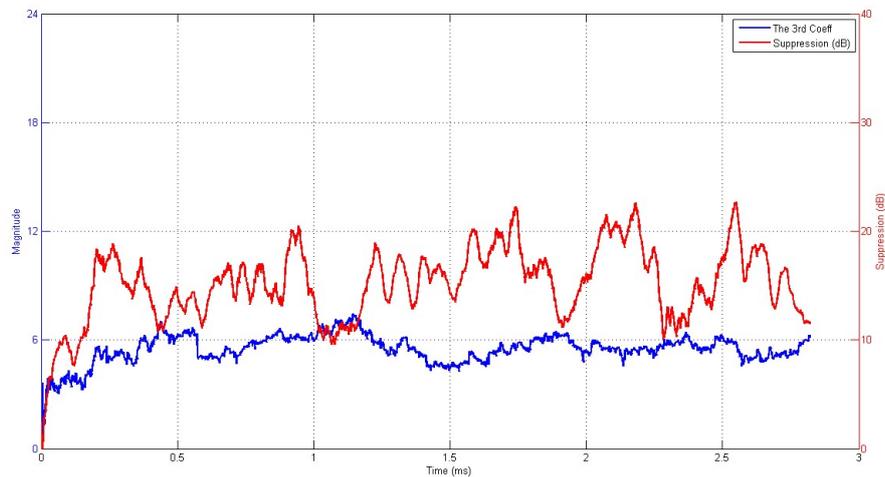
In the scenario of pure PIM, the simulation result shows that NLMS and RLS algorithms almost have the same performance by selecting a fitting SS or FF. In this subsection these algorithms will be compared again with the added received signal. The default state ( $V_t = 1$ ,  $SPR_{bef} = 15$  and  $OSR = 4$ ) will be used in the simulations.

#### **RLS with different Forgetting Factors (FF)**

The simulation result with RLS algorithm is shown in Figure 5.9 and Figure 5.10. A convincing suppression effect (**23.5 dB**) is achieved and the convergence rate corresponds to **1.5ms** when FF is taken by **1.0**. And in Figure 5.10, FF is taken by **0.9997**, as a result the convergence rate corresponds to **0.5ms** which is much quicker than that in the case with  $FF = 1.0$  and the suppression is lowered to **13.9 dB** as a cost. So a tradeoff has to be made between the suppression effect and the convergence rate through adjusting the forgetting factor (FF) of RLS algorithm. More study about the convergence rate of RLS will be discussed in the scenario varying PIM distortion.



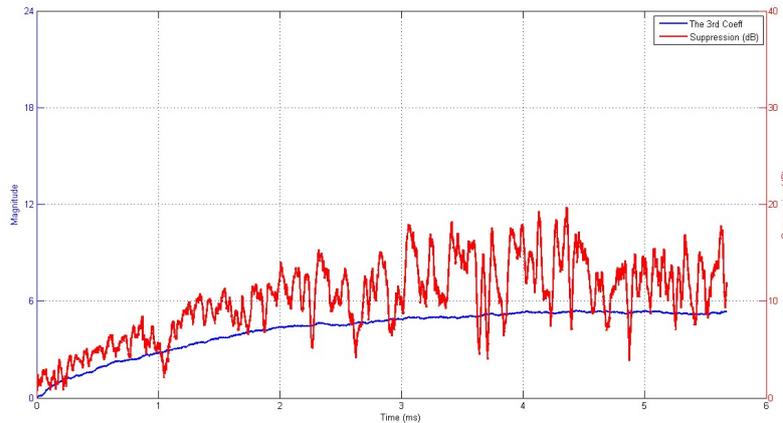
**Figure 5.9** Coefficient magnitude of the 3<sup>rd</sup> Order and Suppression Effect by RLS ( $FF = 1$ ,  $SPR_{bef} = 15$  dB and  $V_t = 1$ )



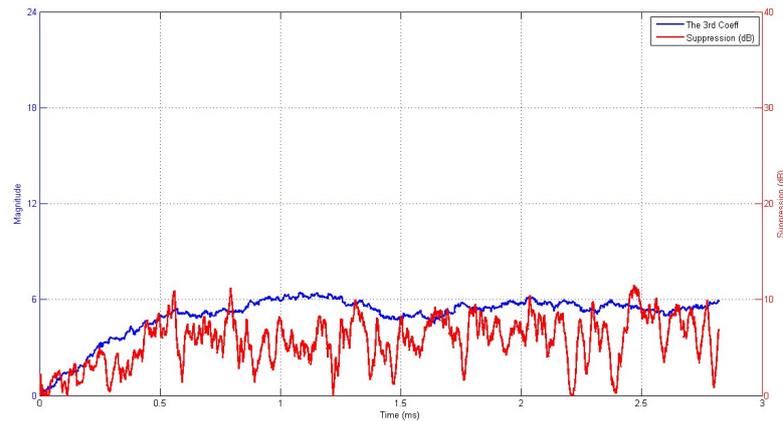
**Figure 5.10** Coefficient magnitude of the 3<sup>rd</sup> Order and Suppression Effect by RLS ( $FF = 0.9997$ ,  $SPR_{bef} = 15$  dB and  $V_t = 1$ )

### NLMS with different Step-Size (SS)

In the simulation with NLMS algorithm, SS is chosen by 0.0001 and 0.0005 separately. Figure 5.11 shows a slow convergence rate (**4.0ms**) and an ordinary suppression (**10.4 dB**) when SS is taken by 0.0001. When SS is chosen by 0.0005, the suppression effect is worse (**3.8 dB**) though the convergence rate is improved to **1.0ms** in Figure 5.12. According to the principle of NLMS algorithm, a larger SS makes a quicker convergence rate but a worse stability and the opposite happens to a smaller SS. So it's impossible for NLMS algorithm to take care of both the convergence rate and the suppression effect like RLS does in this application.



**Figure 5.11** Coefficient magnitude of the 3<sup>rd</sup> Order and Suppression Effect by NLMS (SS = 0.0001, SPR\_bef = 15 dB and  $V_t = 1$ )



**Figure 5.12** Coefficient magnitude of the 3<sup>rd</sup> Order and Suppression Effect by NLMS (SS = 0.0005, SPR\_bef = 15 dB and  $V_t = 1$ )

The numerical values of the convergence rate and the suppression effect are shown in Table 5-2. RLS algorithm has a much better performance than NLMS algorithm. RLS algorithm performs a good estimation of the coefficients, meanwhile it realizes a quick convergence rate. And the good performance makes RLS algorithm more flexible to make a tradeoff between the convergence rate and the suppression.

Obviously RLS algorithm is the better choice for the cancellation of PIM distortion, so only RLS algorithm will be used for a deep study in the following simulations.

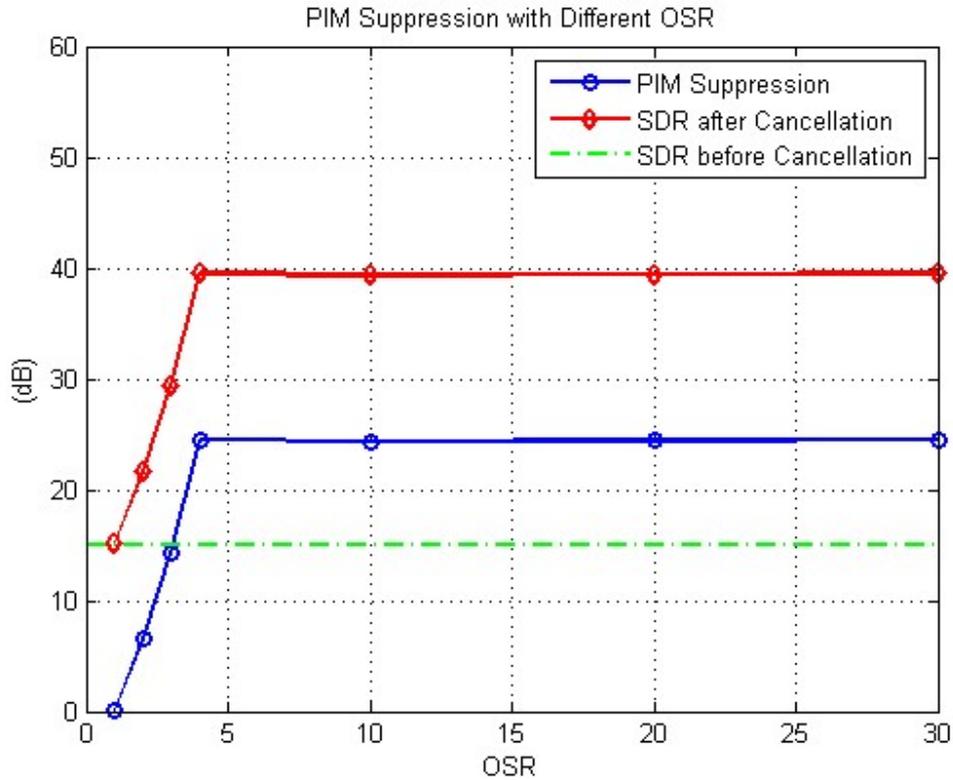
**Table 5-2** Comparison of RLS and NLMS

Algorithm	FF or SS	Suppression (dB)	Convergence rate (ms)
RLS	1.0	23.5	1.5
	0.9997	13.9	0.5
NLMS	0.0001	11.0	4.0
	0.0005	3.8	1.0

### 5.2.2 Different Oversampling Rate

Since in the proposed method the cancellation is implemented in the digital domain, the oversampling rate of the cancellation block will affect the frequency response and the group delay of the filters in the cancellation block and also the oversampling rate should be high enough to avoid the spectrum aliasing. In this subsection, how the estimation accuracy of the coefficients is affected by OSR will be studied. A lower OSR is recommended if the suppression effect is not impaired observably, since a higher OSR requires more on the hardware.

Figure 5.13 shows the simulation result implemented by different OSR. Obviously the suppression effect almost keeps same when OSR is 4 or higher and it is degraded extremely when OSR is lower than 4. OSR=4 would be the best choice for the cancellation block, since there is no gain with an oversampling rate higher than 4.

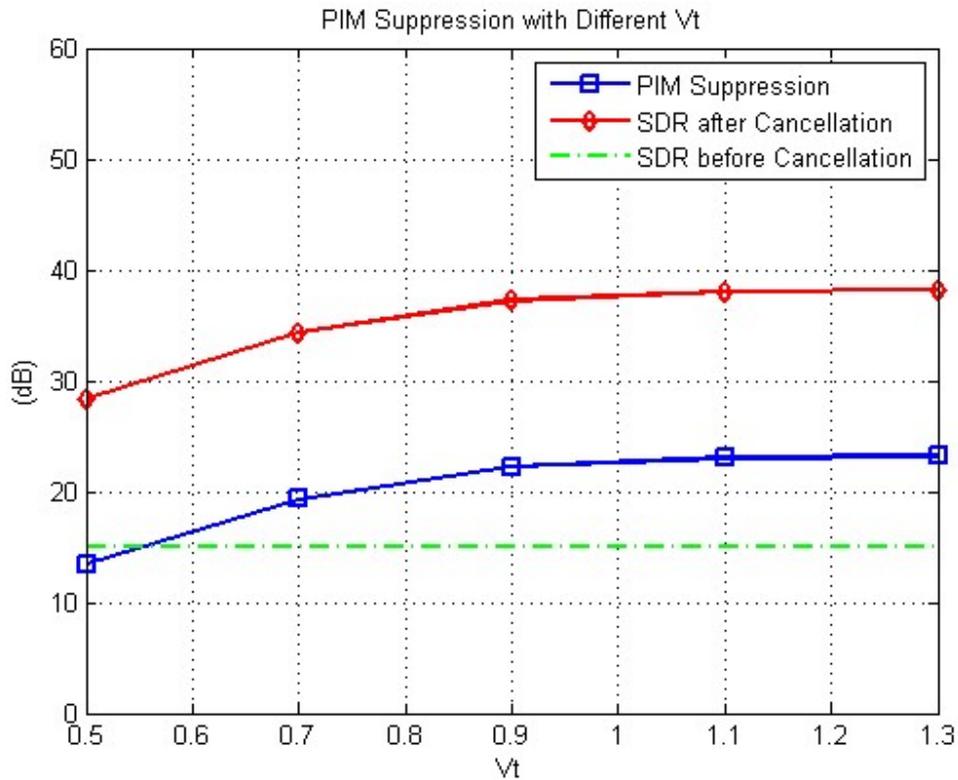


**Figure 5.13** Suppression Effect with Different OSR (The default state and FF = 1.0 is used)

### 5.2.3 Different values for the parameter $V_t$

According to the mechanism of diode-like model, the smaller  $V_t$  will distribute more power to the higher-order products of PIM distortion especially the 7<sup>th</sup> order and in this method only the 3<sup>rd</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> order PIM distortion are considered in the cancellation block, as a result the smaller  $V_t$  could degrade the suppression effect. To prove that, the suppression effect by RLS algorithm will be studied with different values for the parameter  $V_t$ . In this case, the default state is used again. Both the powers of the received signal and PIM distortion will keep constant and  $SPR_{bef} = 15$ . The value of the parameter  $I_s$  will varies with the variable  $V_t$  so that the PIM power before the cancellation can keep constant.

The simulation result in Figure 5.14 shows the suppression effect is degraded with the decreasing  $V_t$ , but the suppression effect is still kept appreciable (above 10dB), due to the dominant 3<sup>rd</sup> order in this application. In most of situations, the 3<sup>rd</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> orders are the dominant orders of PIM distortion, so in this thesis only these two orders are considered as a first research of the cancellation.

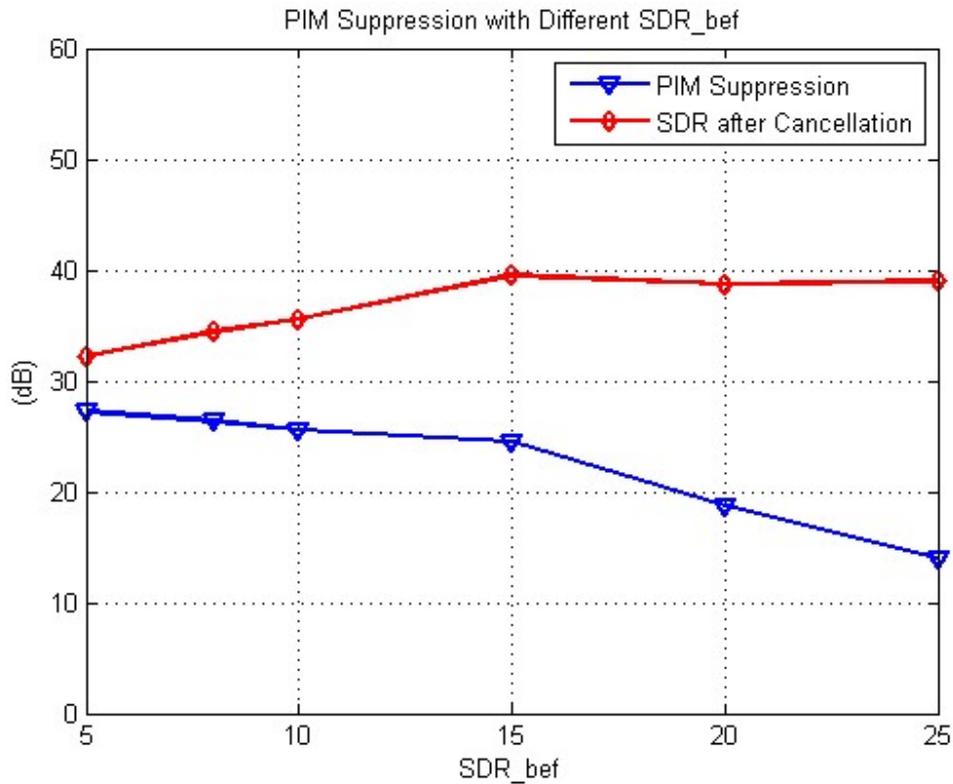


**Figure 5.14** Suppression Effect with Different  $V_t$  (The default state and FF = 1.0 is used)

#### 5.2.4 Different $SPR_{bef}$

PIM distortion is generated by the transmitted signal which power varies frequently, as a result the power of PIM distortion is not constant. In this subsection the suppression effect with different  $SPR_{bef}$  will be considered and the power variation of  $SPR_{bef}$  is realized by adjusting the value of the parameter  $I_s$  instead of changing the transmitted power in the simulation.

According to the simulation result (Figure 5.15), the suppression effect is reduced with the increasing  $SPR_{bef}$  due to the decreasing PIM power in the receiver band, but  $SPR_{aft}$  keeps above 30dB, even if  $SPR_{bef}$  is degraded from 25dB to 5dB.



**Figure 5.15** Suppression Effect with Different SPR\_bef (The default state and FF = 1.0 is used)

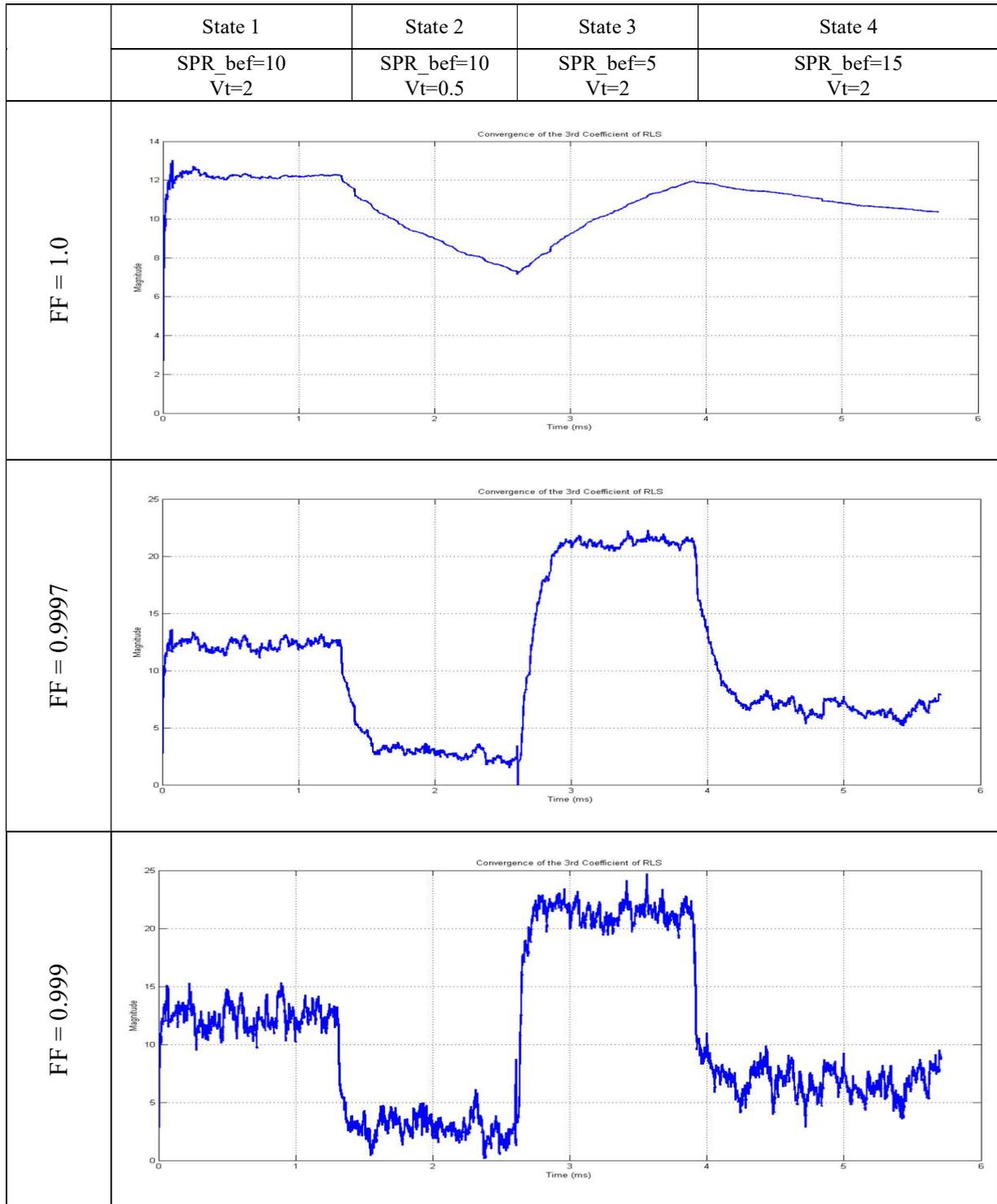
### 5.3 Cancellation in Time-Varying Environment

Since there are a lot of possible external sources for PIM distortion, PIM could varies very frequently with the variable environment, such as the temperature, humidity and elements age. The tracking capability is one of the most important performance of the cancellation method. The coefficients of adaptive filter are expected to converge very soon when PIM signal is changed by the environment. The forgetting factor (FF) of RLS algorithm is an exponential weighting factor that can adjust the influence of the old samples. By adjusting FF, a compromise between the stability and the tracking capability can be made.

In this scenario, the received signal is interfered by a time-varying PIM distortion and the tracking capability is evaluated with different FF. This scenario contains four different states for PIM distortion and they have different power or power distribution. In this simulation, only the 3<sup>rd</sup> order coefficient of the adaptive filter is present for a more intuitive and clear result.

Firstly FF is taken by 1.0 and the first curve shows the coefficient converges to the ‘optimal’ value very slowly, but it cannot reach there in one state time (1.3ms). To ‘forget’ the old samples

effect gradually, the forgetting factor is taken by 0.9997 and 0.999 separately. The simulation result shows the tracking capability is improved significantly. The convergence time corresponds to 0.3ms when FF is chosen by 0.9997 and it is lowered to 0.15ms when FF is chosen by 0.999. Both of them are shorter than one time slot if FDD LTE system is assumed and there is enough margin to make a tradeoff between the tracking capability and steady state.



**Figure 5.16** Convergence Rate with Different FF (Time-varying PIM Distortion)

## 6 Conclusion

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This thesis presented a cancellation technique to suppress PIM distortion in the digital domain. As the key part of the technique, adaptive filter was used to estimate the coefficients, compensate for the phase distortion and track the PIM variation in real time. The algorithms RLS and NLMS were explored and compared in this work to get an optimal solution. Also a lower oversampling rate realizations was required in the cancellation block.

RLS algorithm performs much better than NLMS when the received signal is interfered by PIM distortion, though both these two algorithms have a significant suppression when only PIM distortion is present in the receiver chain. And forgetting factor make RLS algorithm very flexible to make a tradeoff between the convergence rate and the steady-state. After an overall comparison and analysis, RLS was chosen as the adaptive algorithm for this technique.

A lower sampling rate was realized for the cancellation circuit without any degradation on the performance. From the power dissipation point of view a low sampling rate benefits the hardware.

In this proposed technique, only the 3<sup>rd</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> order of PIM distortion are considered for the suppression. The suppression effect was evaluated when the higher orders especially the 7<sup>th</sup> product of PIM distortion were distributed with more or less power portion. The simulation result shows that the suppression always kept a convincing effect if a reasonable power distribution is applied, though the effect was impaired with the increasing power of the higher orders.

A good signal-PIM-ratio after the cancellation (SPR<sub>aft</sub>) is expected, even though the original signal-PIM-ratio (SPR<sub>bef</sub>) is poor. The simulation shows that SPR<sub>aft</sub> was always improved to be over 30dB, even if the SPR<sub>bef</sub> is down to 5dB.

Time-dependency of PIM distortion is always a big challenge for the suppression, but in this method the flexibility of forgetting factor of RLS algorithm offers a great solution on this problem. A good tracking capability can be realized when the forgetting factor is lowered a little bit from 1.0 to 0.9997. Though the tracking capability is realized at the cost of the suppression effect, it is tolerable.

To ensure the overall goal of the project has reached, many simulations have been made under different situations in this thesis. The method provides both a good convergence rate and suppression effect. Additionally a good tracking capability was also realized by a fitting forgetting factor. As a first research of this cancellation technique, the simulation results meet the expectations.

As the future work, the cancellation of the 7<sup>th</sup> even higher orders of PIM distortion should be considered and some more imperfections from the transceiver system and the environment

should be involved in the simulation. Besides that, this technique should be implemented and verified in the hardware.

# Appendix A

## Taylor Series for exponential function

---

Taylor Series can be written as

$$f(a) + \frac{f'(a)}{1!}(x-a) + \frac{f''(a)}{2!}(x-a)^2 + \frac{f'''(a)}{3!}(x-a)^3 + \dots$$

or

$$\sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \frac{f^{(n)}(a)}{n!}(x-a)^n$$

where  $n!$  denotes the factorial of  $n$  and  $f^{(n)}(a)$  denotes the  $n$ th derivative of the  $f$  evaluated at the point  $a$ .

The Taylor series for the exponential function  $\exp(x)$  at the point  $a=0$  can be expressed as

$$\frac{x^0}{0!} + \frac{x^1}{1!} + \frac{x^2}{2!} + \frac{x^3}{3!} \dots = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \frac{x^n}{n!} = 1 + x + \frac{x^2}{2} + \frac{x^3}{6} + \frac{x^4}{24} + \frac{x^5}{120} \dots$$

The Taylor series for the function  $\exp(x) - \exp(-x)$  at the point  $a=0$  can be expressed as

$$x + \frac{x^3}{6} + \frac{x^5}{120} \dots$$

Only the odd products are left.

# Appendix B

## The Structure of LTE FDD Frame

LTE FDD frame has an overall length of 10ms, which is divided into 20 time slots. Each sub frame consists of two time slots.

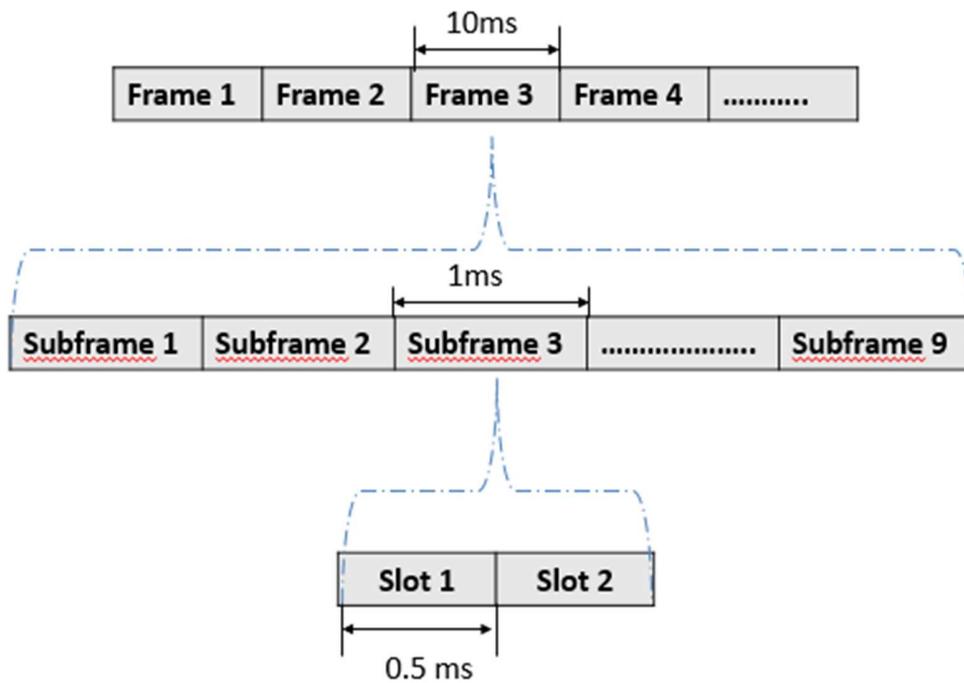


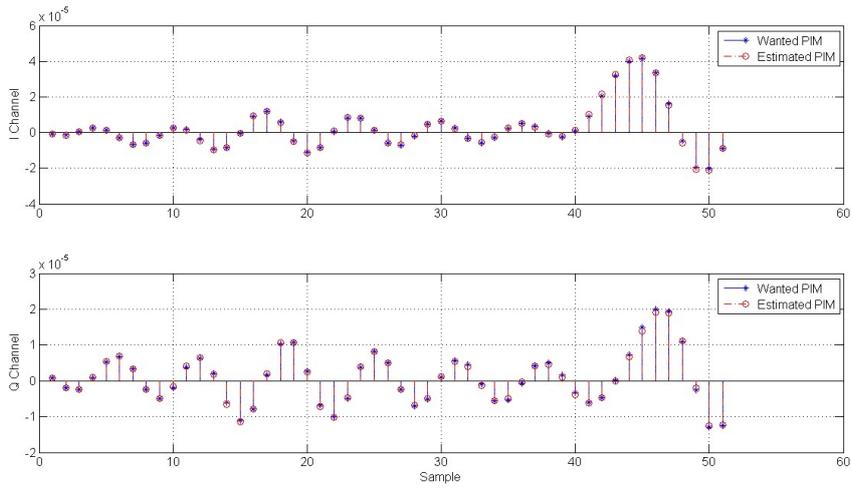
Figure A.1 LTE FDD Frame Structure

# Appendix C

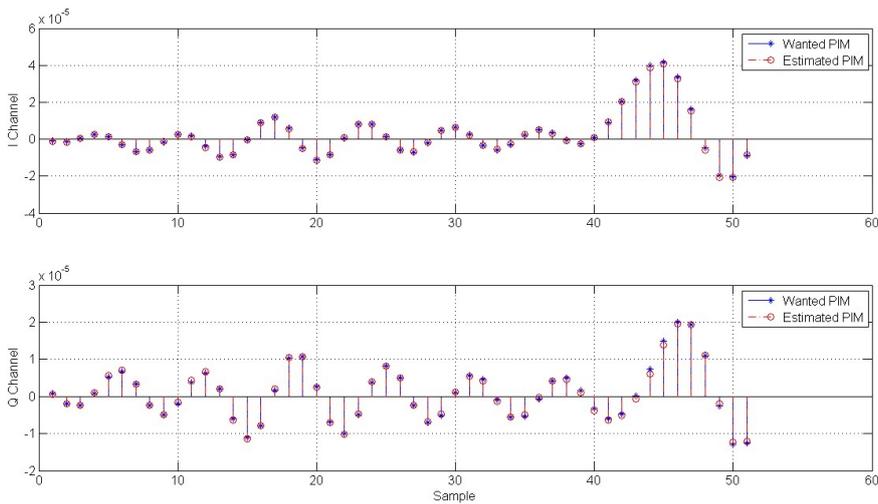
## More Simulation Results

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Scenario I: Only PIM Present (No Rx Signal)



**Figure A.2** Comparison of the wanted PIM and the estimated PIM by RLS



**Figure A.3** Comparison of the wanted PIM and the estimated PIM by NLMS

Scenario II: Rx Signal interfered by invariable PIM

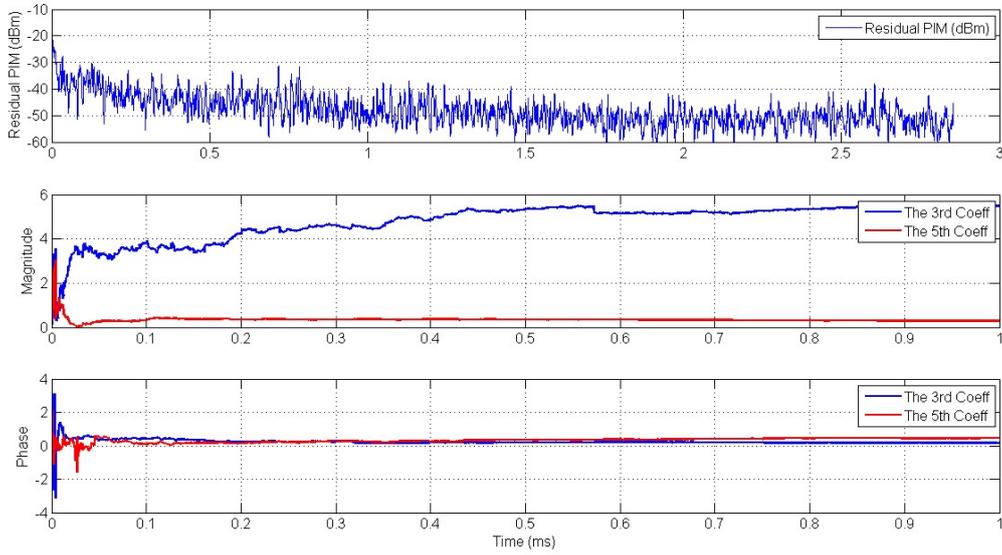


Figure A.4 Residual PIM and Coefficients (RLS,  $FF = 1.0$ ,  $SPR_{bef} = 15$ ,  $V_t = 1.0$ )

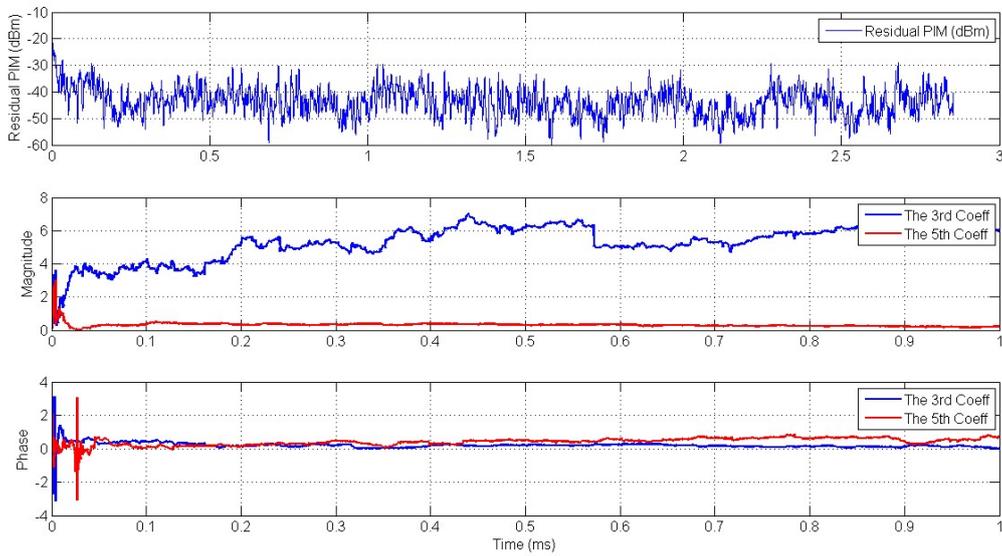
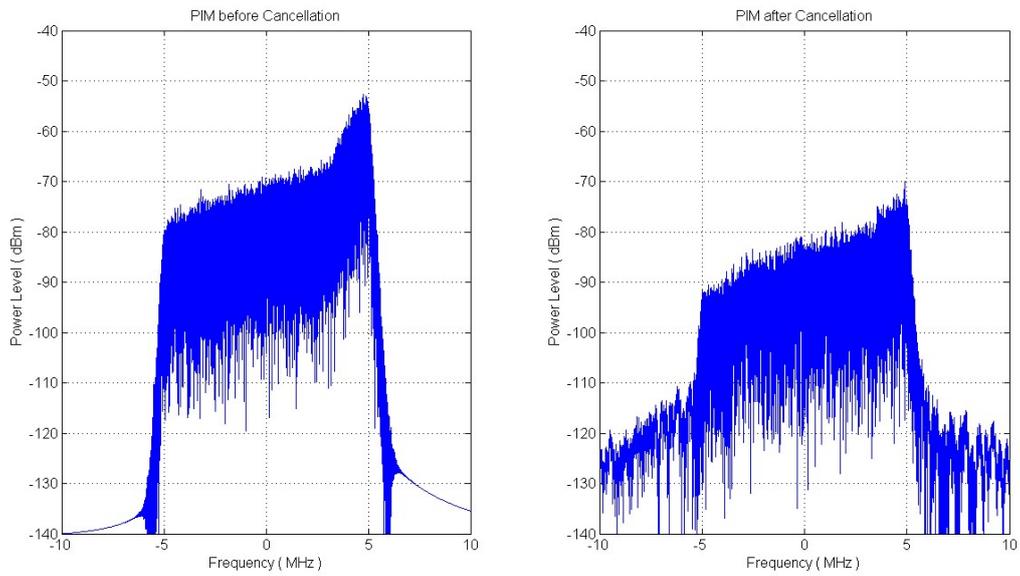
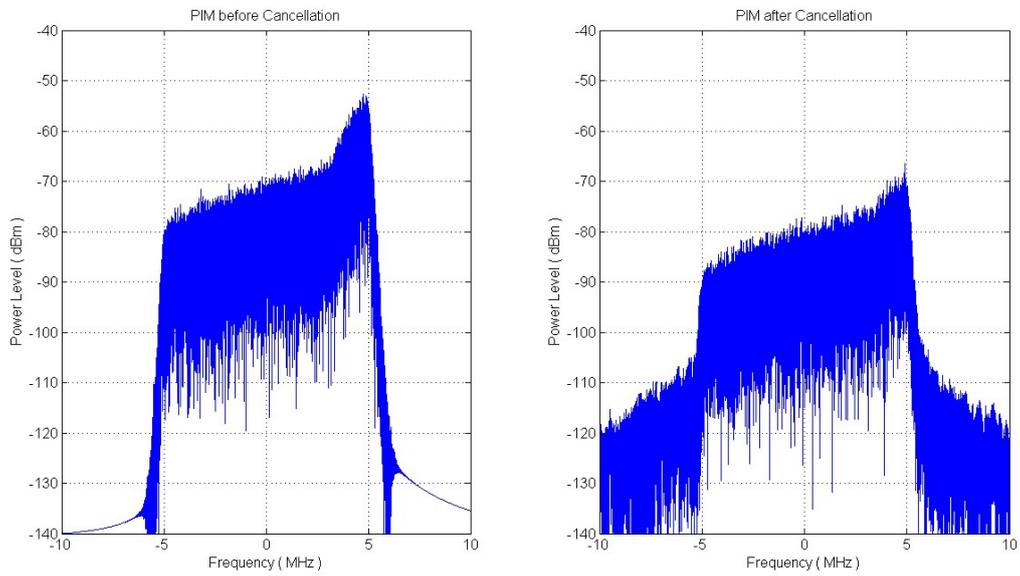


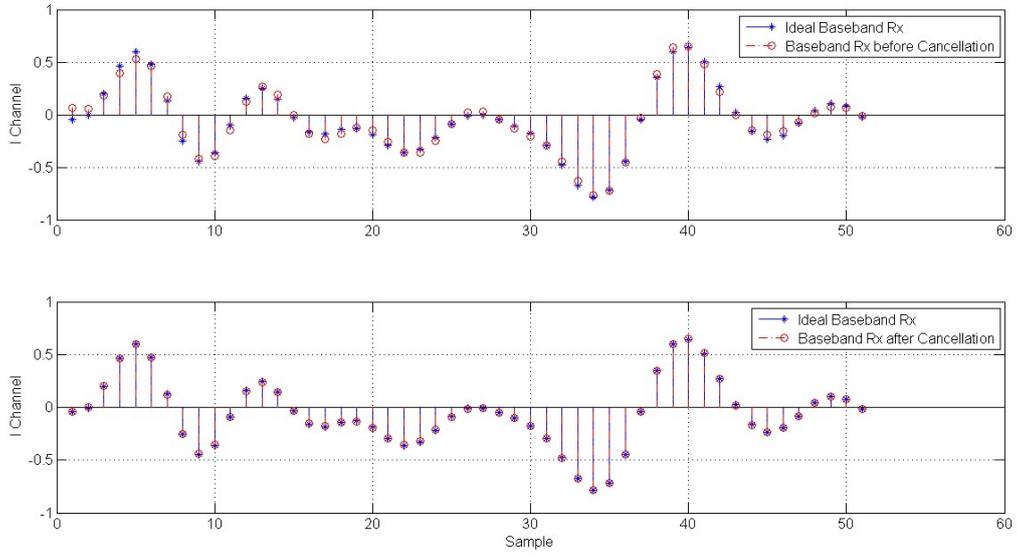
Figure A.5 Residual PIM and Coefficients (RLS,  $FF = 0.9997$ ,  $SPR_{bef} = 15$ ,  $V_t = 1.0$ )



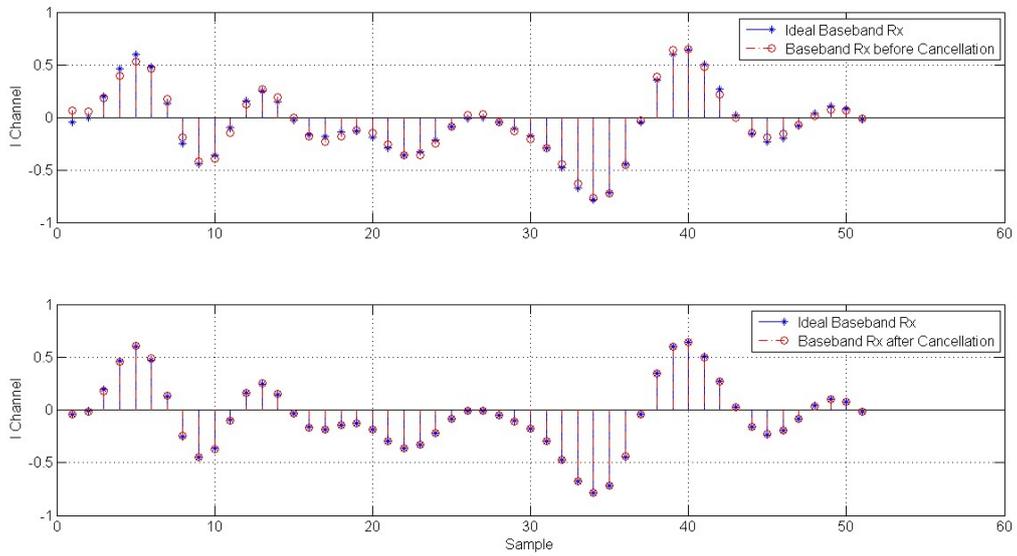
**Figure A.6** Spectrum of PIM Distortion before and after Cancellation  
(RLS,  $FF = 1.0$ ,  $SPR\_bef = 15$ ,  $V_t = 1.0$ )



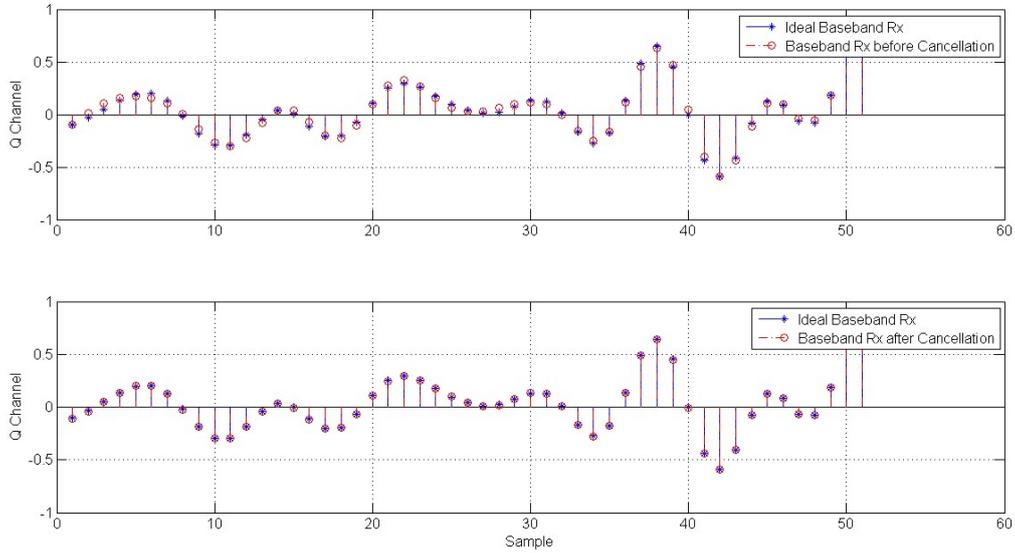
**Figure A.7** Spectrum of PIM Distortion before and after Cancellation  
(RLS,  $FF = 0.9997$ ,  $SPR\_bef = 15$ ,  $V_t = 1.0$ )



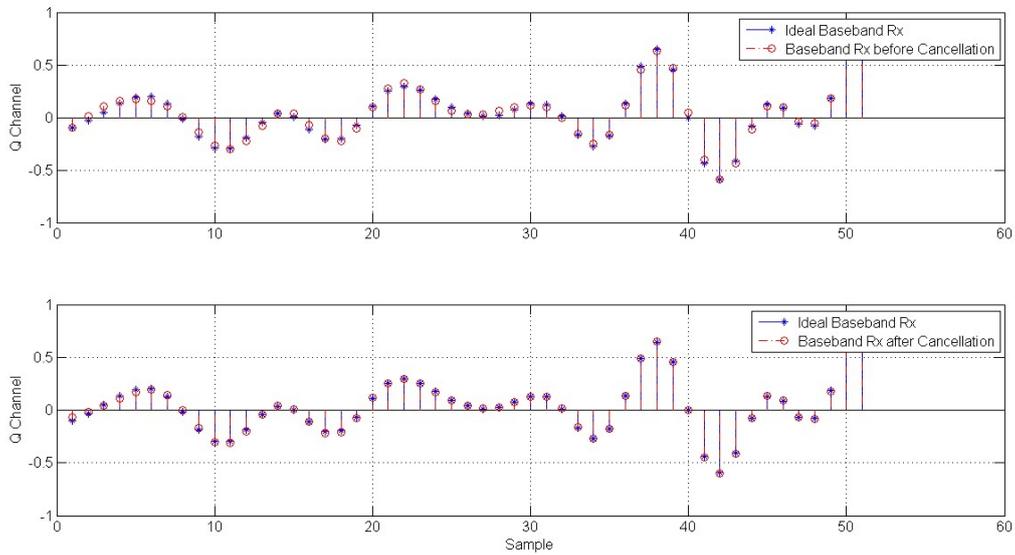
**Figure A.8** Comparison of the Ideal Baseband Rx and the Improved Baseband Rx-I Channel (RLS,  $FF = 1.0$ ,  $SPR_{bef} = 15$ ,  $V_t = 1.0$ )



**Figure A.9** Comparison of the Ideal Baseband Rx and the Improved Baseband Rx-I Channel (RLS,  $FF = 0.9997$ ,  $SPR_{bef} = 15$ ,  $V_t = 1.0$ )



**Figure A.10** Comparison of the Ideal Baseband Rx and the Improved Baseband Rx-Q Channel (RLS,  $FF = 1.0$ ,  $SPR_{bef} = 15$ ,  $V_t = 1.0$ )



**Figure A.11** Comparison of the Ideal Baseband Rx and the Improved Baseband Rx-Q Channel (RLS,  $FF = 0.9997$ ,  $SPR_{bef} = 15$ ,  $V_t = 1.0$ )

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