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FREQUENCY HOPPING SPREAD SPECTRUM HARMONIC RADAR

by

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A Thesis Submitted in Partial Fulfillment of the Requirements for the Degree of

Master of Science in Electrical Engineering

in the Graduate Academic Unit of Electrical and Computer Engineering

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Dean of Graduate Studies

THE UNIVERSITY OF NEW BRUNSWICK

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ABSTRACT

Portable pulsed harmonic radar systems were built at UNB to track the movement of Colorado potato beetles. These systems use a high power marine magnetron to produce a microwave pulse and it is desired to upgrade the system using lower cost and low power electronics.

This thesis is an investigation of an alternative strategy. A Stepped Frequency Continuous Wave Frequency Hopping Spread Spectrum harmonic radar (SFCW-FHSS) was proposed to replace the conventional pulsed harmonic radar system. A mathematical model for the new system is presented and its performance was determined. MATLAB was used to investigate the model and a prototype was constructed and tested. From this, both performance and cost of the spread spectrum design was determined for comparison to the original system. It was found that this laboratory SFCW-FHSS harmonic radar prototype achieved the lower cost and lower power goal but it was only able to detect a signal from a tag that was 4 m away or less.
DEDICATION

I dedicate this thesis to my parents; Yasien Alfarra and Haifa Alfarra.
ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

“In the name of God, the most Gracious, the most Merciful”. I thank God first and last for all the countless blessings he gave me and the last one of them is this thesis to be completed.

I would like to thank my mother Haifa Alfarra for all the support she gave me since I was a little kid until now and my father Yasien Alfarra who supported me in every possible way he could or I could imagine. May god bless them and keep them in a good health.

I also would like to thank my supervisor Dr. Bruce Colpitts for giving me the opportunity to work with him. I am exceedingly thankful for his guidance, patience, advice, encouragement, kindness and support throughout this research work. He was really a very good and honest gentleman and whatever I say I do not think I can thank him well enough.

Finally, I would like to thank Kevin who often helped me during my research and opened his H114 lab for help at anytime. Bruce, Ryan and Michael from the technicians shop and last but not least the assistance of the Electrical and Computer Engineering stuff, Shelley Cormier, Denise Burke, and Karen Annett.

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<td>AWG</td>
<td>American Wire Gauge</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BW</td>
<td>Bandwidth</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DSSS</td>
<td>Direct Sequence Spread Spectrum</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>EIRP</td>
<td>Effective Isotropic Radiated Power</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FHSS</td>
<td>Frequency Hopping Spread Spectrum</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>GUI</td>
<td>Graphical User Interface</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HPF</td>
<td>High Pass Filter</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>IF</td>
<td>Intermediate Frequency</td>
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<tr>
<td>IQ mixer</td>
<td>In-phase Quadrature phase mixer</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LNA</td>
<td>Low Noise Amplifier</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LPF</td>
<td>Low Pass Filter</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NF</td>
<td>Noise Figure</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>RF</td>
<td>Radio Frequency</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SFCW</td>
<td>Stepped Frequency Continuous Wave</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SNR</td>
<td>Signal to Noise Ratio</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>UNB</td>
<td>University of New Brunswick</td>
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### List of Symbols

<table>
<thead>
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<th>Symbol</th>
<th>Description</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>A</td>
<td>Amplitude</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$A_r$</td>
<td>Surface area</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$A_{tagf}$</td>
<td>The effective area of the tag antenna as a receiver at the fundamental frequency</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>c</td>
<td>Speed of light</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$G_r$</td>
<td>The receiver gain</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$G_t$</td>
<td>The transmitter gain</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$G_{tagf}$</td>
<td>The tag gain at the fundamental frequency</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$G_{tagh}$</td>
<td>The tag gain at the harmonic frequency</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$P_r$</td>
<td>The received power</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$P_t$</td>
<td>The transmitted power</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$R_0$</td>
<td>Distance between the tag and the transceiver</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$R_{max}$</td>
<td>Maximum unambiguous range</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>S</td>
<td>Surface area of the sphere</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$W_0$</td>
<td>Power density</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$W_f$</td>
<td>Incident power density of the fundamental frequency</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$\Delta f$</td>
<td>Difference in frequency between two successive frequencies</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Symbol</td>
<td>Description</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>--------</td>
<td>-------------</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ΔR</td>
<td>Range resolution</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Δt</td>
<td>Difference in time between two successive frequencies</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$\lambda$</td>
<td>Wavelength</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$\lambda_f$</td>
<td>Wavelength at the fundamental frequency</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$\lambda_h$</td>
<td>Wavelength at the harmonic frequency</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$\sigma_h$</td>
<td>Harmonic cross sectional</td>
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Chapter 1

1.1 Introduction

UNB has been building harmonic radar systems since 1999 [1]. Dr. Boiteau who is an entomologist at Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada's Potato Research Centre worked with Dr. Coplitts and the CADMI Microelectronics Corporation to design and build a portable radar tracking system. Their goal was to track the movement of an insect that causes an estimated $5 billion in lost potato production annually worldwide [2]. This system is able to pick up a signal more than 30 meters away from a Colorado potato beetle which is tagged with an antenna and diode circuit glued to its back [3] [12].

A pulsed harmonic radar was used in this application which uses a high power marine radar magnetron to produce a pulse; it is desired to produce a lower power and lower cost tracking system using low power electronics and it should have the same or improved performance. A new continuous wave harmonic radar using the Frequency Hopping Spread Spectrum (FHSS) technique was built in order to achieve this goal. The weight of the new system should be less than the weight of the old one since the magnetron along with its power supply and battery will be removed and this is an important factor in such a portable device. In this thesis, the overall new harmonic radar system was modeled in MATLAB and a laboratory prototype was assembled and tested.
1.2 Literature review

**Harmonic Radar**

The normal background of trees, shrubs, grass and soil are linear and thus scatter the incident radar signal at the incident frequency. Conventional radar techniques cannot be used to study the behavior of insects flying close to the ground, because conventional radar systems transmit and receive at a single fundamental frequency [4]. Attaching a non-linear tag to the insect causes harmonics of the incident signal to be generated and thus stand-out in the vegetative background. The harmonic radar tag can be seen as a transceiver [5] that receives the fundamental frequency and transmits the second harmonic frequency. The overall system is shown in Figure 1.

![Harmonic Radar System Diagram]

Figure 1 Harmonic radar overall system showing the base unit, the tag, transmit and receive antennas as well as the fundamental and harmonic signal
Stepped Frequency Continuous Wave Frequency Hopping Spread Spectrum Radar

Range and Resolution

A Frequency Hopping Spread Spectrum (FHSS) technique will be used in the new harmonic radar. There are two main types of spread spectrum, Direct Sequence Spread Spectrum (DSSS) and Frequency Hopping Spread Spectrum (FHSS). The DSSS is “a signal generated by the direct mixing of the data with a spreading waveform” [6] this pseudorandom spreading waveform is used to stretch the message over a wide bandwidth.

FHSS uses a number of channels that hop over the bandwidth in a pseudorandom sequence. The basic thought underlying FHSS is to “change the carrier frequency of a narrowband transmission system so that transmission is done on one frequency band only for a short while” [7]. There are two types of frequency hopping waveform, the systematic hopping and the random hopping. The stepped frequency waveform is an example of a systematic type, while the Costas code waveform is a random signal [8]. A Stepped Frequency Continuous Wave (SFCW) Frequency Hopping Spread Spectrum (SFCW-FHSS) frequency-time diagram is shown in Figure 2 and will be used in this application for simplicity. It can become a random signal by coding and decoding techniques.

A SFCW transmitter transmits a series of single frequency Continuous Wave (CW) signals. In generating the SFCW signal, the single frequency CW will be incremented by Δf so the SFCW signal will have N CW signals, where N is the number of frequency
steps with each single frequency step equal to \( f_n = f_0 + (N-1) \Delta f \), where \( \Delta f \) is the frequency difference between two successive frequencies. Each frequency will be transmitted for a short time equal to the dwell time (\( \Delta t \)).

SFCW-FHSS frequency-time diagram

With a single measurement of the SFCW radar, assuming the target was at distance \( R_0 \), the phase of the backscattered wave will be proportional to the distance \( R_0 \) as given below:

\[
E[f] = Ae^{-j2kR_0}
\]  

(1)
where \( E \) is the scattered electric field, \( A \) is the scattered field amplitude, \( k \) is the wave number corresponding to the frequency vector \((f_0, f_1, f_2, \ldots, f_N)\) and it is equal to \( \frac{2\pi}{\lambda} \) where \( \lambda \) is the wavelength which is equal to the speed of light \( c \) over the frequency \( f \) and the number 2 is there because the signal is going back and forth [9].

Equation (1) is only for a single frequency step while the SFCW signal can be represented by a discrete function equal to:

\[
E[f] \text{ SFCW} = \sum_{n=0}^{N} Ae^{-j4\pi fnR_0/c}
\]

It is possible to calculate the distance \( R_0 \) by taking the inverse Fourier transform (IFT) of the output of the SFCW radar. The resulting time-domain signal will be an impulse response which has a peak corresponding to the target distance [10].

The range resolution of the SFCW radar system depends on the bandwidth and this can be represented as:

\[
\text{Range resolution } (\Delta R) = \frac{\text{Speed of light } (c)}{2\text{Bandwidth}(BW)}
\]

while the Maximum unambiguous Range resolution of the SFCW radar is:

\[
\text{Maximum unambiguous Range } (R_{max}) = \frac{c}{2\Delta f}
\]

Where \( \Delta f \) is the frequency difference between two successive frequencies and it is equal to the bandwidth divided by the number of frequency steps \( N \) so:

\[
R_{max} = N\Delta R
\]
It can be noticed that a higher resolution requires more bandwidth and for longer maximum unambiguous ranges the number of frequency steps (N) should increase [11] [9] [14]. Equations (1), (2), (3) and (4) above are only valid for a typical radar system and they should be modified for the harmonic radar case.

**Harmonic Radar Range Equation**

The operation of harmonic radar is not described by the radar range equation [15] since the frequency conversion is not accounted for. A more accurate description involves the use of Friis transmission equation for both the forward and return paths [5] as follow: If a transmitter is transmitting a power \( P_t \) with an isotropic antenna then the power density \( W_o \) is:

\[
W_o = \frac{\text{Transmitting power } (P_t)}{\text{surface area of the sphere}(S)}
\]  

(6)

where the surface area of the sphere \((S) = 4\pi R^2\) and \( R \) is the distance between the target and the transceiver. If a directional antenna is used instead of an isotropic one, then the power density at a point in space is modified by the power gain of the antenna in that direction, \( G(\Theta,\phi) \) where \( \Theta \) and \( \phi \) define the principle plane angles from the main beam of the antenna. Considering the simplest case for a target in the main beam of the radar [17], the power density is defined as:

\[
W_o = \frac{P_t}{S} \text{ transmitting antenna gain } (G_t)
\]  

(7)

The transmitting power at the receiver side \( P_r \) is:
\[ P_r = W_0 A_r \]  

where the surface area \( A_r = G_r \lambda^2 / 2\pi \), \( G_r \) is the receiving antenna gain and \( \lambda \) is the wavelength. Substituting \( W_0 \) in (8) with its value in (7) yields the overall Friis equation:

\[ \frac{P_r}{P_t} = G_t G_r \left( \frac{\lambda}{4\pi R} \right)^2 \]  

The Friis transmission equation relates the power received \( (P_r) \) to the power transmitted \( (P_t) \) between two antennas separated by a distance \( R > 2D^2/\lambda \), where \( D \) is the largest dimension of either antenna [16]. It should be noted that, higher transmitted power, higher gain antennas, lower frequency and shorter distances between antennas are required for higher received power.

The harmonic radar range equation was developed in a fashion that is similar to the conventional radar range equation except that harmonic cross-section was substituted for radar cross-section in [5]. Cross sectional area is a good method for describing the tag from a system point of view as in typical radar systems. The harmonic radar tag is a dipole antenna that is one-half wavelength long at the fundamental frequency and one wavelength long at the second harmonic frequency. This tag has three functions first, to capture the incident signal and efficiently deliver it to the frequency conversion stage; second, the frequency conversion stage is to deliver the maximum second harmonic power to the transmitting stage; and third, the transmitting stage is to efficiently radiate
the second harmonic power back to the receiver [5]. The harmonic cross section of the tag is defined as:

$$\sigma_h = \frac{EIRP}{W_f}$$ \hspace{1cm} (10)

where EIRP is the Effective Isotropic Radiated Power from the tag at the second harmonic in units of watts and $W_f$ is the fundamental frequency power incident upon the tag. Assuming an ideal tag with an efficiency of 100%; that means all of the fundamental frequency power from the receiving antenna was delivered to the transmitting antenna at the second harmonic.

$$EIRP = P_{tagh} G_{tagh} = W_f A_{tagf} G_{tagh}$$ \hspace{1cm} (11)

where $P_{tagh}$ is the power radiated out of the tag at the harmonic frequency and using (6) $P_{tagh} = W_f A_{tagf}$, where $W_f$ is the fundamental frequency incident power density, $A_{tagf}$ is the effective area of the tag antenna as a receiver at the fundamental frequency and is defined by $A_{tagf} = \lambda_f^2 G_{tagf}/4\pi$, $G_{tagf}$ is the gain of a one-half wavelength dipole and $G_{tagh}$ is the gain of a one-wavelength dipole at the harmonic frequency. The ideal harmonic cross section of the ideal tag using (10) is:

$$\sigma_h = \frac{\lambda_f^2}{4\pi} G_{tagf} G_{tagh}$$ \hspace{1cm} (12)

Using (7), the power density incident upon the tag is given by:

$$W_f = \frac{P_t G_t}{4\pi R^2}$$ \hspace{1cm} (13)
Then, using (10) the EIRP = $W_f \sigma_h$ and from (11) the EIRP = $P_{\text{tagh}} G_{\text{tagh}} = P_t G_t \sigma_h / 4\pi R^2$.

Applying Friis equation (9) on the second harmonic case where the tag is the transmitter and the harmonic radar transceiver is receiving the signal back from the tag at distance R.

$$P_r = P_{\text{tagh}} G_{\text{tagh}} G_r \lambda_h^2 / (4\pi R)^2$$ and substituting $P_{\text{tagh}} G_{\text{tagh}}$ from (12) yields:

$$P_r = \frac{P_t G_t \sigma_h G_r}{4\pi R^2} \left(\frac{\lambda_h}{4\pi R}\right)^2$$  \hspace{1cm} (14)

Rearranging the equation and solving for the distance R:

$$R = \sqrt[4]{\frac{P_t G_t \sigma_h G_r \lambda_h^2}{P_r (4\pi)^3}}$$ \hspace{1cm} (15)

Using equation (15) the range performance of a given harmonic radar system can be predicted.

1.3 Thesis contribution

A stepped frequency continuous wave frequency hopping spread spectrum technique (SFCW-FHSS) was used to build a laboratory prototype harmonic radar system for the first time. This technique can detect and estimate the range of a tagged insect. The main significance of using such a technique is that it can achieve a lower power, lower cost and lower weight portable harmonic radar system. A mathematical model for the harmonic radar system that uses the SFCW-FHSS technique was derived, a graphical user interface MATLAB program was done to simulate the mathematical model and it can be used as a
signal processor with the prototype system, the system design and cost was estimated and the overall prototype system was built and tested.

In this chapter an introduction to the harmonic radar, spread spectrum and radar range equation was illustrated in general. In the next chapter a mathematical model, parameters such as range and resolution and an actual design of the new harmonic radar are presented. In Chapter 3 a simulation of the new harmonic radar system is shown and discussed and results of various testes are analyzed while in Chapter 4 the harmonic radar tag is simulated and compared to the old one and finally in Chapter 5 results of testing the laboratory prototype are presented.
Chapter 2

Stepped Frequency Continuous Wave Frequency Hopping Spread Spectrum

Harmonic Radar (SFCW-FHSS) Design

This chapter extends conventional frequency hopping radar to the harmonic radar case in order to describe range and resolution characteristics.

2.1 System mathematical model range and resolution

Figure 3 Harmonic radar phase shift described in terms of the forward and return paths of the signal where $\lambda$ is the wavelength of the fundamental frequency

Comparing with the typical radar system illustrated in the previous chapter, in the harmonic radar case the forward term corresponding to the phase will not be changed since the transmitter transmits at the fundamental frequency $e^{-j2\pi R_0/\lambda}$ while the phase that will accumulate by the signal traveling from the tag to the receiver will be changed...
from $e^{-j2\pi R_0/\lambda}$ to $e^{-j2\pi R_0/(2\lambda)}$. Since the frequency changed to the second harmonic frequency and the wavelength for this harmonic $\lambda_h$ with respect to the fundamental wavelength $\lambda$ will be equal to $\lambda = \lambda/2$.

Equation (1) for a single frequency step will be modified and the new equation will be as follows:

$$E[f]_H = Ae^{-j\frac{3(2\pi f R_0)}{c}}$$  \hspace{1cm} (16)

And for the stepped frequency signal it will be modified as:

$$E[f]_{H\text{SFCW}} = \sum_{n=0}^{N} Ae^{-j\frac{3(2\pi f_n R_0)}{c}}$$  \hspace{1cm} (17)

Taking the Inverse Fourier Transform (IFT) of equation (17) will give the range of the tag. Let $3R_0/c = \tau$ then equation (17) becomes:

$$\text{IFT}(E[f]_{H\text{SFCW}})=\text{IFT}(\sum_{n=0}^{N} Ae^{-j2\pi f_n \tau})$$

$$E[t]_{H\text{SFCW}}=\sum_{n=0}^{N} \delta(t - \tau)$$

It can be seen that the phase is changing with frequency and it is equal to $6\pi f_n R_0/c$ for equation (17) instead of $4\pi f_n R_0/c$ for equation (2) and the distance $R_0$ will be scaled back by a $3/c$ factor for the harmonic case. An important note here is that the time delay did not change from $2R_0/c$ for the typical radar to $3R_0/c$ for the harmonic radar case as it may appear from the mathematical point of view, because the distance between the object and the radar is constant and the speed of light is constant. What changes is the phase with frequency and thus result in the modification of the scaling factor when calculating
the range from 2/c to 3/c. The next step is the range resolution and the maximum unambiguous range which need modification to include the extra phase shift introduced by the harmonic.

The transmitted signal at two successive frequencies \( f_1 \) and \( f_2 \) of the radar can be represented as:

\[
S_{t1} (t) = A_1 e^{-\frac{3(2\pi f_1 R_0)}{c}} \\
S_{t2} (t) = A_2 e^{-\frac{3(2\pi f_2 R_0)}{c}}
\]

Phases associated with the two frequencies are:

\[
\Theta_1 = \frac{6\pi f_1 R_0}{c} \quad \text{and} \quad \Theta_2 = \frac{6\pi f_2 R_0}{c}
\]

And the phase difference is:

\[
\text{Phase difference (} \Delta \Theta \text{)} = \frac{2\pi (3R_0)(f_2 - f_1)}{c}
\]

If \( \Delta f = (f_2 - f_1) \) and \( R \) is maximized when \( \Delta \Theta = 2\pi \) [18], solving for the maximum unambiguous range of the harmonic case \( R_{\text{maxH}} \):

\[
R_{\text{maxH}} = \frac{c}{3\Delta f}
\]

Where the notation H is for the term harmonic, and using equation (5) the range resolution for a harmonic system will be:
\[ \Delta R_H = \frac{c}{3BW} \]  

(19)

Where \( BW \) is the bandwidth of the entire sweep width. Table 1 illustrates the modifications that have been made on the SFCW typical radar equations in order to use them in the SFCW harmonic radar case.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>SFCW typical Radar</th>
<th>SFCW harmonic radar</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Phase</td>
<td>( 4\pi R_0 f_n / c )</td>
<td>( 6\pi R_0 f_n / c )</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Range Resolution</td>
<td>( \frac{c}{2BW} )</td>
<td>( \frac{c}{3BW} )</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Maximum Unambiguous</td>
<td>( \frac{c}{2\Delta f} )</td>
<td>( \frac{c}{3\Delta f} )</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

From Table 1 and with all parameters constant the SFCW harmonic radar has a better range resolution while the typical radar has a longer maximum unambiguous range.

### 2.2 Parameter selection

Industry Canada permits frequency hopping systems in the band 5725-5850 MHz where the maximum peak conducted output power shall not exceed 1 W, the EIRP should not exceed 4 W, and it shall use at least 75 hopping channels and “The average time of occupancy on any frequency shall not be greater than 0.4 seconds within a 30-second period” [13].
A homodyne receiver was selected to detect the signal coming back from the tag and signal processing in MATLAB will be used to determine the distance to the tag. The full 125 MHz will be used for 0.8 m resolution while 100 frequency steps were selected for an 80 m maximum unambiguous range. The dwell time was selected to be 10 ms and the power will be as close to the 4 W maximum EIRP as possible in order to maximize range performance. The 10 ms is acceptable for such a laboratory prototype and it was the best available choice while it should be noted that this is too slow in the field. The field unit needs to update every 0.1 s so the dwell time would need to be 1 ms.

2.3 The tag

The harmonic radar tag must be very small and light weight so that insects can carry it while flying. It must also be mechanically robust enough to survive both fitting to an insect in the field and the abrasion and bending that might be caused by grooming and foraging activities [20]. As mentioned earlier, the tag can be seen as a transceiver, it receives the signal at the fundamental frequency and then through the nonlinear Schottky diode the second harmonic is produced and transmitted through the dipole antenna. A thin copper wire along with the MA4E2502 low barrier silicon Schottky diode was used to build this tag in the lab. A tagged insect can be seen in in figure 4.
Figure 4 Tagged Colorado potato beetle [5]

The harmonic cross section of the ideal tag using equation 12 is:

\[ \sigma_h = \frac{\lambda_f^2 G_{tagf} G_{tagh}}{4\pi} \]

where the one-half wavelength dipole gain \( G_{tagf} = 1.64 \), the one-wavelength dipole \( G_{tagh} = 2.41 \) [19] and \( \lambda_f = 0.0524 \, \text{m} \) which is the wavelength of the smallest frequency of the selected frequency band and this should be the best case since larger harmonic cross section means easier to be detected and results better received power and at the same time larger frequencies yields the shortest wavelength which decreases the received power based on the Friis formula (14), since the bandwidth is small compared to the frequencies this should have minor effect. The ideal harmonic cross section at this new radar frequency is 863.66 mm\(^2\) which is larger than the old harmonic radar that works at a fundamental frequency 9.41 GHz and has a 320 mm\(^2\) ideal harmonic cross section and 24.3 mm\(^2\) simulated cross section for a 12 mm long dipole [5]. The 320 mm\(^2\) assumes complete conversion to the second harmonic while the 24.3 mm\(^2\) includes conversion...
losses and is a more realistic value. Taking the same ratio; the simulated cross section for the tags operating at the new radar frequency is approximately 65.5mm$^2$.

### 2.4 Stepped Frequency Continuous Wave (SFCW) harmonic radar block diagram

The system design is illustrated in the block diagram of Figure 6; the signal generator sends a stepped frequency continuous wave of 100 frequency steps in the frequency band 5.725GHz to 5.85GHz at 24dBm power level; each step is sent for a 10 ms dwell time. A 3 dB power divider is used to divide the signal into two paths, the first part of the signal (level 21 dBm) goes to a frequency multiplier that generates the second harmonic of the original signal and this multiplier has a 10 dB conversion loss, the output of the multiplier will be filtered to suppress the fundamental frequency after that the signal enters the local oscillator port of the IQ mixer. While the other part of the signal passes through a low pass filter to suppress the second harmonic frequency, this low pass filter suppress the second harmonic frequency by approximately -24 dBm over the transmitting range and adds a 1.76 dBm loss on the fundamental, a 17 dBm signal, taking into account the cables and the low pass filter losses, is transmitted via a transmitting antenna that has a 12 dBi gain. The receiving antenna that has 19 dBi gain captures the low power signal and passes it to a high pass filter to suppress the fundamental frequency then to a Low Noise Amplifier (LNA); this low noise amplifier has 11 dB gain and noise figure equal to 1.8 dB and another high pass filter is added to suppress the fundamental frequency again. An amplifier with a 13 dB gain is added after that followed by a power limiter (an amplifier with 19 dB saturated power and an attenuator of 15 dB over the range 0-18GHz) to protect the IQ mixer RF port in case of high power since the maximum power for this
mixer at the RF port is 5 dBm. The reason of adding an amplifier followed by an attenuator instead of a typical power limiter is the price; it is costly to buy an SMA power limiter for this laboratory prototype system. Adding an attenuator seems reasonable since it is a good solution in terms of gain, the effect of this is in the noise since it has a large noise figure which is equal to the insertion loss and since this comes after amplification it has a minor effect on the overall noise figure of the system. An alternative solution can be seen in Figure 5; this type of structure can be used to limit the RF swing to just above positive Vcc and just below negative Vcc.

![Diagram of a power limiter using two diodes](image)

**Figure 5 Power limiter using two diodes**

The IQ mixer has two signals on its ports; the received signal at the second harmonic on its RF port and the second harmonic from the transmitter on the LO port. The mixed signals yield a zero IF in phase (0°) signal on IF1 and a quadrature phase (90°) signal on
port IF2, this mixer has 11 dB of conversion gain. Since this is a homodyne receiver, the output of the mixer has two DC components, in phase and quadrature phase signals, corresponding to the phase difference. By sweeping the frequency over the 100 steps this complex signal can be converted to the time domain using the inverse Fourier transform and the speed of light; from that the distance to the tag can be calculated. The output of the IQ mixer passes through audio amplifiers followed by a low pass filter (LPF) then an oscilloscope is used to detect that analog signal and convert it to a digital signal that can be processed later using MATLAB to calculate the range.

![Block diagram of the complete new SFCW harmonic radar system](image)

Figure 6 The complete new SFCW harmonic radar system block diagram with the transmitter, the tag and the receiver
Figure 7 Signal processing technique that is used in MATLAB to calculate the range

The oscilloscope records a text file that has 50 thousand points and since 100 frequency steps are transmitted each 500 points in the file correspond to one frequency step. In MATLAB an average of the 500 voltage levels is taken and then assigned to its frequency step and since each step is transmitted for a dwell time equal to 10 ms this is like low pass filtering with a 100 Hz filter. After that, an inverse Fourier transform for the 100 frequency steps with their averages is applied to calculate the range. Figure 6 illustrates this process. The actual components of the designed system are presented in Table 2.
Table 2: Actual components

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Components</th>
<th>Information</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Signal Generator</td>
<td>Agilent PSG E8257C</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Oscilloscope (ADC)</td>
<td>Wave pro 950</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Power divider</td>
<td>Omni Spectra FSC 16179</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LPF</td>
<td>CLPFL-0100</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HPF</td>
<td>VH-8400 + SMA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LNA</td>
<td>Hittite HMC564LC4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Amplifier</td>
<td>AVA-183A+</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Attenuator (x-band)</td>
<td>MIDWEST MICROWAVE ATT-0290-15-SMA-02</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>IQ Mixer</td>
<td>Hittite HMC908LC5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Audio amplifier (DC-Signal)</td>
<td>Harrison 6824 A power supply-Amp.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Frequency multiplier</td>
<td>ZX-2-24-S+</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**System Gain (G) and Noise Figure (NF)**

The stepped frequency continuous wave SFCW harmonic radar receiver is illustrated in Figure 8. The total gain of this cascaded system can be found by simple summation of the gain values in dB of each stage as follow [21]:

\[ G_{total} = \sum_{n=0}^{N} G_n \]  

Where \( N \) is the number of stages and it is equal to 10 in this system. The noise figure of this system is calculated as follows [21]:

\[
NF_{total} = NF_1 + \frac{NF_2 - 1}{G_1} + \frac{NF_3 - 1}{G_1 G_2} + \frac{NF_4 - 1}{G_1 G_2 G_3} + \ldots + \frac{NF_{10} - 1}{G_1 G_2 G_3 \ldots G_{10}}
\]

Where \( NF_1 \) is the noise figure of the first stage and \( G_1 \) is the gain of the first stage and so on up to the last stage. It can be seen from equation (21) that the first stage is the most important stage in the system and the receiving antenna should be connected with a short wire to the next stage because losses in the beginning are not divided by the gain and thus result in larger noise figure values.

Figure 8 The SFCW harmonic radar receiver block diagram

Noise figures and gains values of the components are illustrated in Table 3; the noise figure value of the audio amplifier was not available and it was assumed to be 6 dB and it
has a minor effect because it is at the 8th and 9th stages as in Figure 7 and their values are divided by all the previous gains. Using values in Table 3, equations (20) and (21); the overall system noise figure is equal to 3.7 dB and the total gain is 67 dB.

Table 3: Actual components gains and noise figures values

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Components</th>
<th>Gain(dB)</th>
<th>NF(dB)</th>
<th>Gain(Linear)</th>
<th>NF(linear)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>HPF</td>
<td>-1.2</td>
<td>1.2</td>
<td>0.7586</td>
<td>1.3183</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LNA</td>
<td>11</td>
<td>1.8</td>
<td>12.5893</td>
<td>1.5136</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HPF</td>
<td>-1.2</td>
<td>1.2</td>
<td>0.7586</td>
<td>1.3183</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Amplifier</td>
<td>13</td>
<td>4.8</td>
<td>19.9526</td>
<td>3.02</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Amplifier</td>
<td>13</td>
<td>4.8</td>
<td>19.9526</td>
<td>3.02</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Attenuator</td>
<td>-15</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>0.0316</td>
<td>31.6228</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>IQ mixer</td>
<td>11</td>
<td>2.2</td>
<td>12.5893</td>
<td>1.6596</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Audio amplifier</td>
<td>18.45</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>70</td>
<td>3.94</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Audio amplifier</td>
<td>18.45</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>70</td>
<td>3.94</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LPF</td>
<td>-0.36</td>
<td>0.36</td>
<td>0.9204</td>
<td>1.0864</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

2.4 Radar range equation

The range equation is a theoretical approach that helps in estimating the maximum detectable range of a radar system. The harmonic radar range equation was developed in a fashion that is similar to the conventional radar; this was illustrated in equation (15) in Chapter 1 as follows:
\[ R = \frac{4 P_t G_t \sigma_h G_r \lambda_h^2}{P_r (4\pi)^3} \]  

(22)

Where, \( P_t \) is the transmitted power, \( \sigma_h \) is the harmonic cross section, \( G_t \) is the transmitting antenna gain, \( G_r \) is the receiving antenna gain, \( \lambda_h \) is the wavelength of the harmonic frequency and \( P_r \) is the minimum power that can be detected by the receiver.

A receiver can be represented as a black box with known total gain and noise figure as in figure 9. In order to calculate the sensitivity of the receiver, the noise power of the system should be calculated. The noise power \( (P_n) \) is defined as [21]:

\[ P_n = KTB \]  

(23)

Where, \( K \) is the Boltzman's Constant = 1.38 \( \times 10^{-23} \) joules/kelvin, \( T \) is the temperature in Kelvin and \( B \) is the 3 dB noise bandwidth. It can be seen that larger bandwidth adds more noise to the system so having the final IF bandwidth as narrow as possible is important. As mentioned earlier the averaging was taken in MATLAB for every dwell time of 10 ms which is equal to low pass filtering with a 100 Hz bandwidth. The overall noise temperature \( (T_e) \) can be obtained using the overall system noise figure as follow:

\[ \text{NF (dB)} = 10 \log \left( 1 + \frac{T_e}{T_0} \right) \]

\[ T_e = (10^{\text{NF} / 10} - 1) T_0 \]  

(24)

24
Where \( NF \) is the total noise figure of the receiver and it is equal to 3.70 dB, \( T_0 \) is a constant or a standard temperature and it is equal to 290 Kelvin. Using equation (24) the noise temperature is equal to 389.8 K. Using this noise temperature value, 100 Hz bandwidth and equation (23) the noise power is equal to -182.7 dBw. So for a signal to be received it should be above this level and if the signal to noise ratio is assumed to be 10 dB the receiver sensitivity is:

\[
P_{\text{min}} = K T B + \text{signal to noise ratio}
\]

Using 65.5 mm\(^2\) harmonic cross section, 17 dBm transmitted power \( (P_t) \), transmitting antenna gain \( (G_t) = 12 \text{dBi} \), receiving antenna gain \( (G_r) = 19 \text{dBi} \) and \( P_{\text{min}} = -172.7 \text{dBw} \) the maximum detectable range as in (15) is equal to 127.7 m.

The noise power limits the maximum detectable range of the radar since it limits the system sensitivity but this is not the only factor; for example the maximum unambiguous range of the system is 80 m and this limits the range.

![Diagram](image)

**Figure 9** The harmonic radar receiver

A 950 LeCroy WavePro oscilloscope is used as an Analog to Digital Converter (ADC); this device can detect a signal as low as -38 dBm. As in Figure 9, the total system gain is 67 dB so the minimum signal that can be detected by this ADC is -67dB-
38dBm=-105 dBm. Changing the $P_{\text{min}}$ to -105 dBm instead of -172.7 dBw or (-142.7 dBm) and using equation (15) with all other parameters retaining their same values yields a maximum detectable range of 14.5 m.

The other factor affecting the detectable range is the self-interference; in the optimal case, the SFCW harmonic radar should detect the presence of the target when there is one and should detect nothing when there is no tag. Unfortunately, this is not the case since even when there is no tag this system detects a peak at the second harmonic frequency because of the self-interference. This problem has been taken into account while building the system and in the next section the shielding process to minimize the self-interference effect is presented.

In summary, the maximum detectable range of this harmonic radar is limited by one of these: the noise power, the maximum unambiguous range, the analog to digital converter sensitivity and the self-interference.

2.5 Assembling the system

First, tags were fabricated in the laboratory using copper coated steel wire AWG#34 along with the MA4E2502 low barrier silicon Schottky diode as in Figure 10 then components were assembled based on the design in Figure 6. The first test showed that there is a strong signal coming without tag presence because of the self-interference as indicated earlier, because of that an absorber was placed above the IQ mixer to bring the signal level down and chokes were placed on the coaxial cables. This brought the signal level down a little bit and it was not a good solution since it was not stable and practical. In order to deal with the self-interference problem a shielding process must be done.
The system in Figure 6 should be shielded as in Figure 11 to prevent signal leaking between wires; the signal is leaking in all wires and this includes power supply wires. Components were placed inside an enclosure and power supply wires were mounted to the top side of the enclosure using feed-through capacitors and then power supply wires were soldered with the capacitors ends as in Figure 12, the edges of the enclosures were taped using copper tape to make sure that leaking is prevented as much as possible. The shielded box 1 has the low noise amplifier, the X-band amplifiers and the attenuator as in Figure 13; the high pass filter was placed outside of it since there is no space available for it. Shielded box 2 has the frequency multiplier, the high pass filter and the IQ mixer as in Figure 14 and a voltage regulator was built to maintain constant voltage levels for the amplifiers and IQ mixer as in Figure 16.

Figure 10 Harmonic radar tags
Figure 11 The shielded SFCW harmonic radar system block diagram

Figure 12 Power supply wires mounted to feed-through capacitors in the enclosure
Figure 13 Shielded box 1 that has the low noise amplifier, the X-band amplifiers and the attenuator

Figure 14 Shielded box 2 that has the frequency multiplier, the high pass filter and the IQ mixer
The overall system is seen in Figure 15. After the shielding process is done and measuring before the IQ mixer input using a spectrum analyzer the signal level went down by 40 dB then another test was performed using MATLAB to determine the impulse response with a peak corresponding to the tag position; the results showed that there is more than one peak corresponding to the reflection and these peaks are presented both with and without the tag. The MATLAB algorithm was modified as in Figure 17 so that the I and Q data are collected with no tag as a reference and with tag, the two complex numbers are subtracted to eliminate the common self-interference signal then the inverse Fourier transform is used to estimate the range.

Figure 15 The SFCW harmonic radar inside the anechoic chamber with all components indicated
Figure 16 Voltage regulator that was made to provide a constant voltage level for the amplifiers in order to protect them.

Figure 17 MATLAB algorithm after modification so that the two signals with and without the tag are subtracted before the inverse Fourier transform.
2.6 Conclusion

The SFCW technique was used to build a harmonic radar system for the first time in order to achieve the lower power and lower cost goal. The mathematical model was modified for the harmonic radar and different parameters such as range and resolution were modified as well. The system was designed, actual components models were selected, the MATLAB algorithm was developed and the entire system was assembled and tested.
Chapter 3

SFCW Harmonic Radar Simulation

The mathematical model that was derived in the previous chapter for the harmonic radar is simulated using MATLAB. First, the IQ data is generated as in figure 18; it represents how the phase is changing with the frequency sweep. If the frequency is not changing, the IQ data will be constant and the distance cannot be obtained. As the distance between the tag and the transceiver increases more phase change is seen as in Figure 19. The frequency band that was used in this simulation is 5.725 GHz-5.85 GHz with 100 frequency steps, this results in a 0.8 m range resolution and 80 m maximum unambiguous range. Second, the IQ data is added yielding a complex number as in Figure 20 that represents the electric field that was illustrated in the previous chapter as:

$$E(f)_{H_{SFCW}} = \sum_{n=0}^{N} Ae^{-j\frac{3(2\pi f_n R_0)}{c}}$$  \hspace{1cm} (25)

It can be seen that this complex number makes a perfect circle since there is no noise added to the signal. Taking the inverse Fourier transform of this complex number results in a peak corresponding to the tag position as in Figure 21 for a distance R=1.3 m. The distance that is measured for this simulation is an integer multiple of the range resolution; for example if the distance from the tag is 1.3 m the calculated distance will be 1.6 m which is the closest range resolution as in Table 4. The impulse response for the 10.4 m case is in Figure 22 and it has a sharper peak than in the 1.3 m case since there is no error in calculating this value and this distance is an integer multiple of the range resolution. It
can be noticed that when the distance R is at the edge such as 1.2 m it results in two peak values as in Figure 23.

Figure 18 IQ data for distance R=1.3 m

Figure 19 IQ data for distance R=10.4 m
Figure 20 Real part vs. imaginary part of the electrical field

Figure 21 Impulse response for distance R=1.3 m
Figure 22 Impulse response for distance $R=10.4$ m

Figure 23 Impulse response for distance $R=10$ m
Table 4: Range estimation based on multiples of the range resolution

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Real distance</th>
<th>Measured distance</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>0 &lt; distance&lt;0.4</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>0.4 &lt; distance&lt;1.2</td>
<td>0.8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1.2</td>
<td>0.8 or 1.6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1.2 &lt; distance&lt;2</td>
<td>1.6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>1.6 or 2.4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2 &lt; distance&lt;2.8</td>
<td>2.4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>n-0.4&lt; distance&lt;n+0.4</td>
<td>n  ;where n = m*0.8 and m is an integer</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The range resolution as mentioned earlier depends on the bandwidth; for the distance R=1.3 m the measured distance was equal to 1.6 m and if a larger bandwidth is used a close value to it could be reached as in Figure 24; the bandwidth was increased to 600 MHz instead of 125 MHz yielding 0.167 m range resolution. Range resolution can be improved using zero padding as well, adding 100 zeros to the IQ data as in Figure 25 will not add any new information about the phase since it is not changing and has a constant zero value but that will fake the range resolution as in Figure 26 for the same distance; it should be noted that this is not as clear a peak as in Figure 24 as the energy of the signal is spread across a wider bandwidth.
Figure 24 Impulse response at distance $R=1.3$ and bandwidth=$600$ MHz

Figure 25 Zero padded IQ data with a 100 zeros for $R=1.3$ m
The maximum unambiguous range of this system is 80 m assuming a 100 frequency steps is used and this yields a 1.25 MHz frequency difference between two successive frequencies Δf. This limits the maximum detectable range of the system; for example if the distance R= 80 m the simulation will not detect this distance and the maximum detectable range is 78.4 as in Figure 27; the maximum unambiguous range can be increased by increasing the number of frequency steps while keeping the bandwidth the same. Changing the frequency steps from 100 steps to 200 steps yields 160.7 m maximum unambiguous range and then distances like 120 m can be detected as in Figure 28.
Figure 27 Impulse response at distance R=78.8 m

Figure 28 Impulse response at distance R=120 m
The last part of the simulation involves adding noise to the system; if noise is added to the IQ data as in Figure 29 to simulate the real life measurements, the circle corresponding to the electric field is not perfect anymore as in Figure 30 and the range cannot be estimated as in Figure 31. Increasing the Signal to Noise Ratio SNR of the system as in Figure 32 makes it possible to measure the range as in figure 34 while the noisy circle is still not perfect but it takes a better shape as in figure 33. A GUI was built for simulation and it is also used as a signal processor since you can load ADC data into it as in Figure 35.

![Figure 29 Noisy IQ data with low SNR](image)

Figure 29 Noisy IQ data with low SNR
Figure 30 Real part vs. imaginary part of the electrical field

Figure 31 Impulse response for low SNR
Figure 32 IQ data with 10 dB SNR

Figure 33 Real part vs. imaginary part of the electrical field for 10 dB SNR
Figure 34 Impulse response at distance R=1.3 m for 10 dB SNR
Figure 35 MATLAB GUI program
Chapter 4

Harmonic Radar Tag Simulation

The Method Of Moments Simulation

This harmonic radar simulation was done to determine the performance of the tag. A method of moments simulation was used to simulate the wire dipole antenna for both SFCW and pulsed harmonic radar; it breaks the antenna into several pieces and evaluates antennas parameters using the contribution of current in each pieces summation. The 4nec2 software was used to do the method of moments simulation. This simulation gives important information such as the gain, the radiation pattern and the input impedance of the dipole antenna for different frequencies. A copper wire that has the same radius as the AWG#34 wire is simulated as in Figure 36; this wire is a half-wavelength dipole antenna at the fundamental frequency and a full-wavelength dipole antenna at the second harmonic. The dipole antenna has an isotropic radiation pattern as in Figure 37 and Table 5 illustrates the input impedance, the gain, the radiation resistance and resistance losses for the pulsed harmonic radar which works at a fundamental frequency equal to 9.41GHz and the SFCW harmonic radar which works at a fundamental frequency equal to 5.725 GHz; although it is actually a frequency hopping technique and it is hopping over the 125 MHz but for simplicity the first frequency channel was taken and the rest should give almost the same results since the difference in frequency is relatively small. In addition, the tag was fabricated to be a half-wave dipole antenna at this frequency.
Figure 36 Dipole antenna as in 4nec2 software

Figure 37 Electric field patterns as in 4nec2
Table 5: Method of moments simulation results for the pulsed harmonic radar and the SFCW radar

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Old system</th>
<th>New system</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Tx</td>
<td>Rx</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Frequency (GHz)</td>
<td>9.41</td>
<td>18.82</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gain (dBi)</td>
<td>2.15</td>
<td>3.95</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Input impedance (Ω)</td>
<td>88.10+j50</td>
<td>873-j530</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Radiation resistance (Ω)</td>
<td>86.90</td>
<td>872.30</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Losses resistance (Ω)</td>
<td>1.20</td>
<td>0.70</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The Harmonic Balance Simulation

The input impedance of the dipole antenna is taken from the method of moments simulation to be used in this simulation using Agilent ADS software. The tag can be modeled in terms of its Thevenin equivalent circuit as in Figure 38 [5]; a conjugate matched half-wavelength dipole will receive a 1.26 mW signal from a 4 kW (peak pulse) radar located at a range of 100 m operating at 9.41 GHz with an antenna gain of 24.5 dBi using Friis equation (14). Given a half-wavelength dipole impedance of 73+j42.5 Ω, the peak voltage of the equivalent source was set to 607 mV. While for the SFCW harmonic radar with the same conditions but changing the operating frequency to 5.725 GHz, the transmitted power to 4 W and the antenna gain to 12 dBi the peak voltage of the
equivalent source was set to 7.5 mV. The loop inductance is represented as a 1.5 nH inductor and it is in parallel with a Schottky diode. The parasitic elements were considered and ultimately omitted from the simulation as they are very small [5]. ADSDIODE model was modified so that it can be used to model the MA4E2502 low barrier silicon Schottky diode and the complete circuit of the harmonic balance simulation is in Figure 39 as it appears in the ADS 2011.05 software. It should be noted that the input impedance of the dipole antenna is represented using an S1P file. The significance of such a simulation is to calculate the radiated power and the power losses of each tag. Power loss is the square of the current of this circuit multiplied by the loss resistance as in Table 5 from the method of moments simulation while the radiated power is obtained using the radiation resistance instead of the resistance losses. A summary of all of the harmonic balance simulation results can be seen in Table 6. The harmonic cross-section was calculated using equation (10) where the EIRP is equal to the power radiated at the harmonic frequency from Table 6 multiplied by the gain of the tag at the harmonic frequency from the method of moments simulation and the incident power density is calculated using equation (13). For the pulsed harmonic radar and using 4 kW transmitting power, 24.5 dBi transmitting antenna gain and at a distance $R=100$ m the incident power density $W_f$ was equal to 8.97 W/m$^2$ and the harmonic cross-section for the pulsed harmonic radar was equal to 5.85 $\mu$m$^2$ using $P_{rad}=21.14$ $\mu$W from table 6 and $G_{tagh}=3.95$ dBi from table 5. While for the SFCW harmonic radar and using 4 W transmitting power, 12 dBi transmitting antenna gain and at a distance $R=100$ m the incident power density $W_f$ was equal to 0.504 mW/m$^2$ and the harmonic cross-section for the SFCW harmonic radar is equal to 2.4 nm$^2$ using $P_{rad}=0.49$ pW from table 6 and
$G_{\text{tagh}} = 3.92 \text{ dBi}$ from table 5. This means that at a distance of 100 m the pulsed harmonic radar system has a better harmonic cross-section than the SFCW one since larger harmonic cross section means easier to be detected. The cost of using lower power is -33.9 dB difference between the two harmonic cross-sections which is a large cost.

Figure 38 Complete circuit equivalent for the harmonic radar tag
Figure 39 Equivalent circuit of the tag at the fundamental frequency of the tag

Table 6: Harmonic balanced simulation results

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Frequency (GHz)</th>
<th>Current (µA)</th>
<th>Power losses (W)</th>
<th>Power radiated (W)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>5.725</td>
<td>80.7</td>
<td>2.93 nW</td>
<td>0.55 µW</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11.45</td>
<td>0.02</td>
<td>0.64 fW</td>
<td>0.49 pW</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9.41</td>
<td>4000</td>
<td>19.20 µW</td>
<td>1.4 mW</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>18.8</td>
<td>155.7</td>
<td>16.9 nW</td>
<td>21.14 µW</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Chapter 5

Testing The Laboratory Prototype

The SFCW harmonic radar was tested in the anechoic chamber; the system was assembled as in Chapter 2, the tag is placed in front of the radar system to simulate a real tagged insect then the data was collected from the oscilloscope to the computer and it is processed using the MATLAB GUI program. The collected IQ data from the oscilloscope for the distance R=0.8 m with the tag presence can be seen in Figure 40 then as previously done in the simulation this data was low pass filtered in MATLAB as in Figure 41. The same procedure was repeated with no tag present.

Figure 40 IQ data with tag as it came from the oscilloscope at a distance R=0.8 m
Figure 41 IQ data with tag after low pass filtering and assigning each average to a frequency step at a distance R=0.8 m

The impulse response of the tag was calculated for the IQ data using inverse Fourier transform as in Figure 42 with no tag and in Figure 43 with the tag; the range cannot be estimated using the impulse response of the IQ data with the presence of the tag due to the self-interference noise of the system and its corresponding peaks. The subtraction of the IQ data with and without the tag followed by an inverse Fourier transform makes it possible to estimate the range of the tag as in Figure 44. This test was repeated for different distances as in Figure 45; this figure represents the impulse response of the tag after the subtraction for 0.8, 1.6, 2.4, 3.2 and 4 m.
Figure 42 Impulse response with no tag at a distance $R=0.8$ m

Figure 43 Impulse response with the tag at a distance $R=0.8$ m
Figure 44 Impulse response with peak corresponding to the tag position at a distance

R=0.8 m

Figure 45 Impulse response of the tag at different distances R=0.8, 1.6, 2.4, 3.2 and 4 m
Conclusion

The old system uses a magnetron with 4 kW peak power to transmit a sequence of short pulses that can be used to measure the range. It costs approximately $10,000 in parts and it is able to pick up a signal up to 30 meters. The new SFCW harmonic radar maximum power is 4 W, it costs approximately $3500, it has a lighter weight since the magnetron was removed and it was able to pick a signal up to 4 meters inside an anechoic chamber although theoretically it should detect around 14 meters as mentioned earlier, the reason for that might be because the shielding was not perfect so there is still some signal leaking causing the self-interference problem. This 4 meters distance was obtained using a 17 dBm transmitting power and an oscilloscope as an analog to digital converter. It is recommended to use the full 36 dBm allowable transmitting power and a higher sensitivity analog to digital converter in order to achieve a good range. More gain was added before the analog to digital converter but this just saturates the output due to the self-interference. Using 4 W for the SFCW harmonic radar instead of 4 kW for the pulsed harmonic radar cost a large price of -33.9 dB difference between the two harmonic cross-sections at a distance R=100 m which make the tag harder to be detected.

Although this SFCW harmonic radar laboratory prototype has a cheaper price, a lower power and a lower weight compared to the old pulsed harmonic radar, the maximum range that was measured by this device is equal to 4 m which does not make it a good replacement for the old pulsed harmonic radar that is able to pick up a signal that is 30 m away.
References


Appendix A

MATLAB Code

%%scriptname (guiproject.m)
% Author: Omar Alfarra
% Id: 3460877
% Date: 2014-April-14
% Description: Calculate range, range resolution and maximum unambiguous range using collected IQ data and compare that with theoretical approach.

function varargout = guiproject(varargin)
% GUIPROJECT MATLAB code for guiproject.fig
% GUIPROJECT, by itself, creates a new GUIPROJECT or raises the existing
% singleton*.
% H = GUIPROJECT returns the handle to a new GUIPROJECT or the handle to
% the existing singleton*.
% GUIPROJECT('CALLBACK',hObject,eventData,handles,...) calls the local
% function named CALLBACK in GUIPROJECT.M with the given input arguments.
% GUIPROJECT('Property','Value',...) creates a new GUIPROJECT or raises the
% existing singleton*. Starting from the left, property value pairs are
% applied to the GUI before guiproject_OpeningFcn gets called. An unrecognized property name or invalid value makes property application
% stop. All inputs are passed to guiproject_OpeningFcn via varargin.
% "See GUI Options on GUIDE's Tools menu. Choose "GUI allows only one
% instance to run (singleton)"."
% See also: GUIDE, GUIDATA, GUIHANDLES

% Edit the above text to modify the response to help guiproject

% Last Modified by GUIDE v2.5 13-Apr-2014 15:56:36

% Begin initialization code - DO NOT EDIT
gui_Singleton = 1;
gui_State = struct('gui_Name', mfilename, ...
    'gui_Singleton', gui_Singleton, ...
    'gui_OpeningFcn', @guiproject_OpeningFcn, ...
    'gui_OutputFcn', @guiproject_OutputFcn, ...
if nargin && ischar(varargin{1})
    gui_State.gui_Callback = str2func(varargin{1});
end

if nargout
    [varargout{1:nargout}] = gui_mainfcn(gui_State, varargin{:});
else
    gui_mainfcn(gui_State, varargin{:});
end
% End initialization code - DO NOT EDIT

% --- Executes just before guiiproject is made visible.
function guiproject_OpeningFcn(hObject, eventdata, handles, varargin)
    % This function has no output args, see OutputFcn.
    % hObject    handle to figure
    % eventdata  reserved - to be defined in a future version of MATLAB
    % handles    structure with handles and user data (see GUIDATA)
    % varargin   command line arguments to guiproject (see VARARGIN)

    % Choose default command line output for guiproject
    handles.output = hObject;

    % Update handles structure
    guidata(hObject, handles);

    % UIWAIT makes guiproject wait for user response (see UIRESUME)
    % uiwait(handles.figure1);

% --- Outputs from this function are returned to the command line.
function varargout = guiproject_OutputFcn(hObject, eventdata, handles)
    % varargout    cell array for returning output args (see VARARGOUT);
    % hObject     handle to figure
    % eventdata   reserved - to be defined in a future version of MATLAB
    % handles     structure with handles and user data (see GUIDATA)

    % Get default command line output from handles structure
    varargout{1} = handles.output;

% --- Executes on button press in Harmo_theo.
function Harmo_theo_Callback(hObject, eventdata, handles)
a=handles.a;
R=handles.R;
c=handles.C;
f=handles.f;
it=a*cos(-2*pi*f*R*3/c);
qt=a*sin(-2*pi*f*R*3/c);
figure(1)
plot(f,it,'r',f,qt,'b')
figure(2)
Es=it+i*qt;

%Range scaling
df=f(2)-f(1); % frequency bandwidth
N = length(f); % total stepped frequency points
dr = c/(3*N*df); % range resolution
R = 0:dr:dr*(N-1); %set the range vector

% plot the data
plot(R,abs(ifft(Es)))
title('Impulse respose')
set(gca, 'FontName', 'Anal', 'FontSize',10, 'FontWeight', 'normal')
xlabel ( 'Range [m]'); ylabel ('Amplitude');
lo=abs(ifft(Es));
le=R;
Dishar=le(lo==max(lo(:)));
mrange=N*dr;
set(handles.D, 'String', num2str(Dishar))
set(handles.re, 'String', num2str(dr))
set(handles.max, 'String', num2str(mrange))
guida(h0bject, handles)

% --- Executes on button press in mea_harmonic.
function mea_harmonic_Callback(hObject, eventdata, handles)
a=handles.a;
R=handles.R;
c=handles.C;
f=handles.f;

it=a*cos(-2*pi*f*R*3/c);
qt=a*sin(-2*pi*f*R*3/c);
%it(101:400)=0;
%qt(101:400)=0;
Esl=it+i*qt;

%Range scaling
df=f(2)-f(1); % frequency bandwidth
N = length(f); % total stepped frequency points
dr = c/(3*N*df); % range resolution
R1 = 0:dr:dr*(N-1); %set the range vector

%-------------------------------------------------------------------
%load the measurements files
t=handles.Idata(:,1);%time for I data received signal
s1=handles.Idata(:,2);%amplitude for I data received signal
t0=handles.Ich(:,1);%time for I data channel signal
s0=handles.Ich(:,2);%amplitude forI data channel signal
t2=handles.Qdata(:,1);%time for the transmitted signal
s2=handles.Qdata(:,2);%amplitude for the received signal

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t00=handles.Qch(:,1); % time for Q data channel signal
s00=handles.Qch(:,2); % amplitude for Q data channel signal

figure(1)
plot(t,s1,'r',t0,s0,'b')
title('IQ tag data before filtering')
xlabel('samples [s]'); ylabel('Amplitude(V)');
figure(2)
plot(t2,s2,'r',t00,s00,'b')
title('IQ no tag data before filtering')
xlabel('samples [s]'); ylabel('Amplitude(V)');

% do the averaging for S1 and store it in X1
V=s1(1:50000);
count=1;
st=1;
en=st+499;
while en<50001
    x1(count)=mean(V(st:en));
    st=st+499;
    en=en+499;
    count=count+1;
end
% do the averaging for S0 and save it in x0
V0=s0(1:50000);
count0=1;
st0=1;
en0=st0+499;
while en0<50001
    x0(count0)=mean(V0(st0:en0));
    st0=st0+499;
    en0=en0+499;
    count0=count0+1;
end
% do the averaging of S00 and store it in x00
V00=s00(1:50000);
count00=1;
st00=1;
en00=st00+499;
while en00<50001
    x00(count00)=mean(V00(st00:en00));
    st00=st00+499;
    en00=en00+499;
    count00=count00+1;
end
% do the averaging for S2 and store it in X2
V2=s2(1:50000);
count2=1;
st2=1;
en2=st2+499;
while en2<50001

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x2(count2)=mean(V2(st2:en2));
st2=st2+499;
en2=en2+499;
count2=count2+1;
end

%plot data
a=f
b=s1
figure(3)
plot(f,x1,'r',f,x2,'b')
title('IQ tag data after filtering')
xlabel ( 'frequency(Hz)' ); ylabel ( 'Amplitude(V)' );
figure(4)
plot(f,x0,'r',f,x00,'b')
title('IQ no tag data after filtering')
xlabel ( 'frequency(Hz)' ); ylabel ( 'Amplitude(V)' );

%plot the Data
Es=x1+i*x2;% complex number representng the phase with tag.
Es0=x0+i*x00;%complex number representf the channel without tag.
C=Es-Es0;
df=f(2)-f(1); % frequency bandwidth
N = length(f); % total stepped frequency points
dr = c/(3*N*df); % range resolution
R = 0:dr:dr*(N-1) %set the range vector
l1=abs(ifft(Es));
l2=abs(ifft(Es0));

---------------------
figure(5)
plot(R,l2)
title('Impulse response no tag')
xlabel ( 'Range [m]' ); ylabel ( 'Amplitude(V)' );
axis([0 max(R) 0 10] )

---------------------
figure(6)
plot(R,l1)
title('Impulse response with tag')
xlabel ( 'Range [m]' ); ylabel ( 'Amplitude(V)' );
axis([0 max(R) 0 15] )

---------------------
figure(7)
l3=abs(ifft(C));
plot(R,l3,'g')
title('Impulse response(after subtraction)')
xlabel ( 'Range [m]' );
ylabel ( 'Amplitude(V)' );
axis([0 20 0 15] )
hold on
x=R;
y=l3;
Dishar=x(y==max(y(:)))
mrange=N*dr;
set(handles.D, 'String', num2str(Dishar))
set(handles.re, 'String', num2str(dr))
% --- Executes on button press in typical_theo.
function typical_theo_Callback(hObject, eventdata, handles)
a=handles.a;
R=handles.R;
c=handles.C;
f=handles.f;
it=a*cos(-2*pi*f*R/c);
qt=a*sin(-2*pi*f*R/c);
Es=it+i*qt;

%Range scaling

df=f(2)-f(1); % frequency resolution
N = length(f); % total stepped frequency points
dr = c/(N*df); % range resolution
R = 0:dr:dr*(N-1); %set the range vector

plot(R,abs(ifft(Es)))
title('Impulse respose')
set (gca, 'FontName', 'Arial', 'FontSize', 10, 'FontWeight', 'normal')
xlabel ('Range [m]'); ylabel ('Amplitude');
lo=abs(ifft(Es));
le=R;
Distyp=le(lo==max(lo(:)));
mrange=N*dr;
set(handles.D, 'String', num2str(Distyp))
set(handles.re, 'String', num2str(dr))
set(handles.max, 'String', num2str(mrange))
guidata(hObject, handles)

% --- Executes on button press in meas_typical.
function meas_typical_Callback(hObject, eventdata, handles)
a=handles.a;
R=handles.R;
c=handles.C;
f=handles.f;

it=a*cos(-2*pi*f*R/c);
qt=a*sin(-2*pi*f*R/c);
Es=it+i*qt;

t=handles.Idata(:,1);%time for the transmitted signal
s1=handles.Idata(:,2);%amplitude for the received signal
t2=handles.Qdata(:,1);%time for the transmitted signal
s2=handles.Qdata(:,2);%amplitude for the received signal
%do the averaging for S1 and store it in X1
V=s1(1:50000);
count = 1;
st = 1;
en = st + 499;
while en < 50001
    x1(count) = mean(V(st:en));
    st = st + 499;
    en = en + 499;
    count = count + 1;
end
% do the averaging for s2 and store it in X1

V2 = s2(1:50000);
count2 = 1;
st2 = 1;
en2 = st2 + 499;
while en2 < 50001
    x2(count2) = mean(V2(st2:en2));
    st2 = st2 + 499;
    en2 = en2 + 499;
    count2 = count2 + 1;
end

Es = x1 + i*x2;
df = f(2) - f(1);  % frequency resolution
N = length(f);  % total stepped frequency points
dr = c / (N*df);  % range resolution
R = 0:dr:dr*(N-1);  % set the range vector
plot(R, abs(ifft(Es)), R, abs(ifft(Es1)));
title('Impulse response')
set(gca, 'FontName', 'Arial', 'FontSize', 10, 'FontWeight', 'normal')
xlabel('Range [m]'); ylabel('Amplitude');
lo = abs(ifft(Es));
le = R;
Distyp = le(lo == max(lo(:)));
mrange = N*dr;
set(handles.D, 'String', num2str(Distyp))
set(handles.re, 'String', num2str(dr))
set(handles.max, 'String', num2str(mrange))
guidata(hObject, handles)

function R_Callback(hObject, eventdata, handles)
% hObject    handle to R (see GCBO)
% eventdata reserved - to be defined in a future version of MATLAB
% handles    structure with handles and user data (see GUIDATA)
handles.R = str2num(get(hObject, 'String'))
guidata(hObject, handles)
% Hints: get(hObject,'String') returns contents of R as text
%       str2double(get(hObject,'String')) returns contents of R as a double

% --- Executes during object creation, after setting all properties.
function R_CreateFcn(hObject, eventdata, handles)
function C_Callback(hObject, eventdata, handles)
    % hObject handle to C (see GCBO)
    % eventdata reserved - to be defined in a future version of MATLAB
    % handles structure with handles and user data (see GUIDATA)
    handles.C = str2num(get(hObject, 'String'))
    guidata(hObject, handles)
    % Hints: get(hObject,'String') returns contents of C as text
    % str2double(get(hObject,'String')) returns contents of C as a double

% --- Executes during object creation, after setting all properties.
function C_CreateFcn(hObject, eventdata, handles)
    % hObject handle to C (see GCBO)
    % eventdata reserved - to be defined in a future version of MATLAB
    % handles empty - handles not created until after all CreateFcns called
    % Hint: edit controls usually have a white background on Windows.
    % See ISPC and COMPUTER.
    if ispc && isequal(get(hObject, 'BackgroundColor'), get(0, 'defaultUicontrolBackgroundColor'))
        set(hObject, 'BackgroundColor', 'white');
    end

function f_Callback(hObject, eventdata, handles)
    % hObject handle to f (see GCBO)
    % eventdata reserved - to be defined in a future version of MATLAB
    % handles structure with handles and user data (see GUIDATA)
    handles.f = str2num(get(hObject, 'String'));
    guidata(hObject, handles)
    % Hints: get(hObject,'String') returns contents of f as text
    % str2double(get(hObject,'String')) returns contents of f as a double
% --- Executes during object creation, after setting all properties.
function f_CreateFcn(hObject, eventdata, handles)
    % hObject    handle to f (see GCBO)
    % eventdata  reserved - to be defined in a future version of MATLAB
    % handles    empty - handles not created until after all CreateFcns
called

    % Hint: edit controls usually have a white background on Windows.
    % See ISPC and COMPUTER.
    if ispc && isequal(get(hObject,'BackgroundColor'),
                      get(0,'defaultUicontrolBackgroundColor'))
        set(hObject,'BackgroundColor','white');
    end

function a_Callback(hObject, eventdata, handles)
    % hObject    handle to a (see GCBO)
    % eventdata  reserved - to be defined in a future version of MATLAB
    % handles    structure with handles and user data (see GUIDATA)

    handles.a = str2num(get(hObject,'String'))
guidata(hObject, handles)
    % Hints: get(hObject,'String') returns contents of a as text
    % str2double(get(hObject,'String')) returns contents of a as a
double

% --- Executes during object creation, after setting all properties.
function a_CreateFcn(hObject, eventdata, handles)
    % hObject    handle to a (see GCBO)
    % eventdata  reserved - to be defined in a future version of MATLAB
    % handles    empty - handles not created until after all CreateFcns
called

    % Hint: edit controls usually have a white background on Windows.
    % See ISPC and COMPUTER.
    if ispc && isequal(get(hObject,'BackgroundColor'),
                      get(0,'defaultUicontrolBackgroundColor'))
        set(hObject,'BackgroundColor','white');
    end

function D_Callback(hObject, eventdata, handles)
    % hObject    handle to D (see GCBO)
    % eventdata  reserved - to be defined in a future version of MATLAB
    % handles    structure with handles and user data (see GUIDATA)

    % Hints: get(hObject,'String') returns contents of D as text
Str2double(get(hObject,'String')) returns contents of D as a double.

% --- Executes during object creation, after setting all properties.
function D_CreateFcn(hObject, eventdata, handles)
    % hObject    handle to D (see GCBO)
    % eventdata  reserved - to be defined in a future version of MATLAB
    % handles    empty - handles not created until after all CreateFcns called

    % Hint: edit controls usually have a white background on Windows.
    % See ISPC and COMPUTER.
    if ispc && isequal(get(hObject,'BackgroundColor'),
        get(0,'defaultUicontrolBackgroundColor'))
        set(hObject,'BackgroundColor','white');
    end

function re_Callback(hObject, eventdata, handles)
    % hObject    handle to re (see GCBO)
    % eventdata  reserved - to be defined in a future version of MATLAB
    % handles    structure with handles and user data (see GUIDATA)

    % Hints: get(hObject,'String') returns contents of re as text
    %        str2double(get(hObject,'String')) returns contents of re as a double

    % --- Executes during object creation, after setting all properties.
function re_CreateFcn(hObject, eventdata, handles)
    % hObject    handle to re (see GCBO)
    % eventdata  reserved - to be defined in a future version of MATLAB
    % handles    empty - handles not created until after all CreateFcns called

    % Hint: edit controls usually have a white background on Windows.
    % See ISPC and COMPUTER.
    if ispc && isequal(get(hObject,'BackgroundColor'),
        get(0,'defaultUicontrolBackgroundColor'))
        set(hObject,'BackgroundColor','white');
    end

function max_Callback(hObject, eventdata, handles)
    % hObject    handle to max (see GCBO)
    % eventdata  reserved - to be defined in a future version of MATLAB
    % handles    structure with handles and user data (see GUIDATA)

    % Hints: get(hObject,'String') returns contents of max as text
str2double(get(hObject,'String')) returns contents of max as a double

--- Executes during object creation, after setting all properties.
function max_CreateFcn(hObject, eventdata, handles)
    % hObject    handle to max (see GCBO)
    % eventdata  reserved - to be defined in a future version of MATLAB
    % handles    empty - handles not created until after all CreateFcns called
    % Hint: edit controls usually have a white background on Windows.
    %       See ISPC and COMPUTER.
    if ispc && isequal(get(hObject,'BackgroundColor'),
                    get(0,'defaultUicontrolBackgroundColor'))
        set(hObject,'BackgroundColor','white');
    end

--- Executes on button press in Ich.
function Ich_Callback(hObject, eventdata, handles)
    % hObject    handle to Ich (see GCBO)
    % eventdata  reserved - to be defined in a future version of MATLAB
    % handles    structure with handles and user data (see GUIDATA)
    [filename, pathname] = uigetfile('*.txt')
    loaddata = fullfile(pathname,filename)
    handles.Ich=load(loaddata)
    guidata(hObject, handles)

--- Executes on button press in tagI.
function tagI_Callback(hObject, eventdata, handles)
    % hObject    handle to tagI (see GCBO)
    % eventdata  reserved - to be defined in a future version of MATLAB
    % handles    structure with handles and user data (see GUIDATA)
    [filename, pathname] = uigetfile('*.txt')
    loaddata = fullfile(pathname,filename)
    handles.Idata=load(loaddata)
    guidata(hObject, handles)

--- Executes on button press in Qch.
function Qch_Callback(hObject, eventdata, handles)
    [filename, pathname] = uigetfile('*.txt')
    loaddata = fullfile(pathname,filename)
    handles.Qch=load(loaddata)
    guidata(hObject, handles)

--- Executes on button press in tagQ.
function tagQ_Callback(hObject, eventdata, handles)
    [filename, pathname] = uigetfile('*.txt')
    loaddata = fullfile(pathname,filename)
    handles.Qdata=load(loaddata)
    guidata(hObject, handles)
% --- Executes on button press in cle.
function cle_Callback(hObject, eventdata, handles)

% --- Executes on button press in togglebutton1.
function togglebutton1_Callback(hObject, eventdata, handles)
    % hObject    handle to togglebutton1 (see GCBO)
    % eventdata  reserved - to be defined in a future version of MATLAB
    % handles    structure with handles and user data (see GUIDATA)
    % Hint: get(hObject,'Value') returns toggle state of togglebutton1

% --- Executes on button press in readme.
function readme_Callback(hObject, eventdata, handles)
    % hObject    handle to readme (see GCBO)
    % eventdata  reserved - to be defined in a future version of MATLAB
    % handles    structure with handles and user data (see GUIDATA)
    if strcmpi(get(handles.readme,'string'),'Help')
        set(handles.readme,'string','Hide Help')
        set(handles.rm, 'String', 'use these values: R=3.3 for typical radar or R=1 for Harmonic radar; f=11.45e9:2.5e6:1.16975e10, for typical radar or f=5.725e9:1.25e6:5.8488e9 for Harmonic radar; speed of propagation c=197.3e6 for typical radar and c=3e8 for Harmonic Radar; feel free for amplitude i.e 119'
    else
        % stop recording
        set(handles.readme,'string','Help')
        set(handles.rm, 'String', '')
    end
    % Hint: get(hObject,'Value') returns toggle state of readme
Curriculum Vitae

Candidate’s full name: Omar Yasien Alfarra

Universities attended: Princess Sumaya University for Science and Technology

Degree: Bachelor of Science in Communication Engineering

Place: Jordan

Date: Feb. 2012