

CONTENTS

1	INTRODUCTION	1
1.1	The Market for Cellular Phones and Wireless Data Transmission Equipment /	1
1.2	Organization of the Book /	3
1.3	Part I: RF Principles /	4
1.4	Summary of Chapter 2: Characteristics of RF Signals /	4
1.5	Summary of Chapter 3: Mismatches /	4
1.6	Summary of Chapter 4: Digital Modulation /	4
1.7	Part II: RF Measurement Equipment /	9
1.8	Summary of Chapter 5: RF Signal Generators /	9
1.9	Summary of Chapter 6: Power Meters /	10
1.10	Summary of Chapter 7: Frequency Counters /	10
1.11	Summary of Chapter 8: VNAs /	14
1.12	Summary of Chapter 9: Spectrum Analyzers /	14
1.13	Summary of Chapter 10: VSAs /	17
1.14	Summary of Chapter 11: Noise Figure Meters /	17
1.15	Summary of Chapter 12: Coaxial Cables and Connectors /	19
1.16	Summary of Chapter 13: Measurement Uncertainties /	19
1.17	Summary of Chapter 14: Measurement of Components Without Coaxial Connectors /	21
1.18	Part III: Measurement of Individual RF Components /	21

- 1.19 Summary of Chapter 15: RF Communications
System Block Diagram / 22
- 1.20 Summary of Chapter 16: Signal Control Components / 22
- 1.21 Summary of Chapter 17: PLOs / 22
- 1.22 Summary of Chapter 18: Upconverters / 24
- 1.23 Summary of Chapter 19: Power Amplifiers / 24
- 1.24 Summary of Chapter 20: Antennas / 29
- 1.25 Summary of Chapter 21: RF Receiver Requirements / 31
- 1.26 Summary of Chapter 22: RF Filters / 33
- 1.27 Summary of Chapter 23: LNAs / 35
- 1.28 Summary of Chapter 24: Mixers / 36
- 1.29 Summary of Chapter 25: Noise Figure Measurement / 38
- 1.30 Summary of Chapter 26: Intermodulation Product Measurement / 38
- 1.31 Summary of Chapter 27: Overall Receiver / 39
- 1.32 Summary of Chapter 28: RFICs and SOC / 39
- 1.33 Part IV: Testing of Devices and Systems with Digitally
Modulated RF Signals / 41
- 1.34 Summary of Chapter 29: Digital Communications Signals / 42
- 1.35 Summary of Chapter 30: FDMA, TDMA, and CDMA Multiple Access
Techniques / 44
- 1.36 Summary of Chapter 31: OFDM and OFDMA / 46
- 1.37 Summary of Chapter 32: ACP / 48
- 1.38 Summary of Chapter 33: Constellation, Vector, and Eye Diagrams, and
EVM / 48
- 1.39 Summary of Chapter 34: CCDF / 51
- 1.40 Summary of Chapter 35: BER / 53
- 1.41 Summary of Chapter 36: Measurement of GSM
Evolution Components / 54
- 1.42 Annotated Bibliography / 55

PART I RF AND WIRELESS PRINCIPLES 57

2 CHARACTERISTICS OF RF SIGNALS 59

- 2.1 Electric and Magnetic Fields / 60
- 2.2 Electromagnetic Waves / 62
- 2.3 Properties of RF Waves / 63
 - Frequency / 64
 - Wavelength / 64
 - Impedance / 67

Power Density / 67	
Phase / 68	
2.4 RF Power Expressed in dB and dBm / 69	
dB Terminology / 70	
dBm Terminology / 72	
2.5 Using dB and dBm to Determine an RF Link Budget / 73	
2.6 Alternate Names for dB and dBm / 78	
2.7 Annotated Bibliography / 78	
3 MISMATCHES	79
3.1 The Mismatch Problem / 79	
3.2 Ways of Specifying Mismatches / 80	
3.3 Conversion Between Different Ways of Expressing Mismatch / 82	
3.4 S-Parameters / 85	
3.5 Matching with the Smith Chart / 87	
3.6 Derivation of the Smith Chart / 89	
3.7 Plotting Mismatches on the Smith Chart / 94	
3.8 Matching Calculations with the Smith Chart / 99	
3.9 Using Parallel Matching Elements / 103	
3.10 Lumped Elements in Combination / 105	
3.11 Smith Chart Software / 106	
3.12 Annotated Bibliography / 111	
4 DIGITAL MODULATION	113
4.1 Modulation Principles / 113	
4.2 Multilevel Modulation / 115	
4.3 Special Phase Modulation Techniques / 118	
DPSK / 118	
$\pi/4$ QPSK / 119	
$3/8\pi$ 8PSK Modulation for EDGE / 119	
4.4 Digital Frequency Modulation / 120	
4.5 Upconversion Requirements / 122	
4.6 Annotated Bibliography / 122	
PART II RF MEASUREMENT EQUIPMENT	123
5 RF SIGNAL GENERATORS	125
5.1 What an RF Signal Generator Does / 125	

- 5.2 Supported Wireless Communication Formats / 127
- 5.3 RF Signal Generator Displays / 127
- 5.4 RF Signal Generator Controls / 127
- 5.5 Modulation Architectures / 129
- 5.6 Phase Noise of the RF Signal Generator / 130
- 5.7 Annotated Bibliography / 130

6 RF POWER METERS 131

- 6.1 RF Power Meter Basics / 131
- 6.2 Power Meter Sensors / 133
- 6.3 A Schottky Diode for Power Measurements in Cellular Phone Systems / 134
- 6.4 The Power Meter Unit / 135
- 6.5 Power Meter Controls / 138
- 6.6 Annotated Bibliography / 138

7 FREQUENCY COUNTERS 139

- 7.1 Frequency Counter Operation / 139
- 7.2 Annotated Bibliography / 141

8 VNAs 143

- 8.1 What a VNA Does / 143
- 8.2 What a VNA Can Measure / 143
- 8.3 VNA Controls / 144
 - Display Control / 144
 - Channel Setup / 145
 - Trace Setup / 145
 - Entry Control / 147
- 8.4 VNA Display Notations / 147
- 8.5 Error Correction / 147
- 8.6 Example of VNA Measurements on an RF Part / 152
- 8.7 Swept Measurements on the VNA as a Function of Power / 154
- 8.8 Example Measurement Procedure Using the VNA / 157
 - Objective / 157
 - Measurements Being Demonstrated / 158
 - DUT Specifications / 161
 - Significance to Wireless System Performance / 161
 - Generic Procedure / 161
- 8.9 Annotated Bibliography / 165

9	SPECTRUM ANALYZERS	167
9.1	Spectrum Analyzer Principles / 167	
9.2	What a Spectrum Analyzer Can Measure / 168	
9.3	Spectrum Analyzer Block Diagram / 170	
9.4	Spectrum Analyzer Controls / 171	
	Center Frequency and Span / 171	
	Reference Level and Attenuation / 172	
	Resolution Bandwidth / 173	
	Video Bandwidth / 173	
	Markers / 175	
9.5	Power Suite Measurements / 175	
9.6	Basic Modulation Formats / 175	
9.7	Example Spectrum Analyzer Operation and FM Spectrum Measurement / 178	
	Objective / 178	
	FM Theory / 178	
	Measurements Being Demonstrated / 178	
	Generic Procedure / 178	
9.8	Annotated Bibliography / 180	
10	VSA s	183
10.1	What a VSA Does / 183	
10.2	VSA Equipment / 183	
10.3	What the VSA Can Measure / 185	
10.4	Annotated Bibliography / 191	
11	NOISE FIGURE METERS	193
11.1	Noise Figure Meter Setup / 193	
11.2	Noise Figure Principles / 193	
11.3	Annotated Bibliography / 197	
12	COAXIAL CABLES AND CONNECTORS	199
12.1	Coaxial Connectors / 199	
12.2	Cables and Connectors Best Practices / 200	
12.3	Popular Coaxial Cable Connectors / 200	
12.4	Coaxial Cables / 202	
12.5	Annotated Bibliography / 202	

13	RF MEASUREMENT UNCERTAINTIES	203
13.1	Mismatch Uncertainties / 204	
13.2	RF Power Meter Measurement Uncertainties / 205	
	Mismatch Uncertainties / 205	
	Calibration Factor Uncertainty / 207	
	Magnification and Offset / 207	
13.3	Uncertainty of VNA Measurement of Absolute Power / 207	
13.4	Uncertainty of Spectrum Analyzer Measurements / 210	
	Frequency Measurement Uncertainty / 210	
	Power Measurement Uncertainty / 210	
	Examples of Measurement Uncertainty of PSA 4440E Spectrum Analyzer Under Different Measurement Conditions / 211	
13.5	Measurement Uncertainties of Ratioed Measurements with a VNA / 211	
13.6	Noise Figure Measurement Uncertainty / 215	
13.7	Annotated Bibliography / 216	
14	COMPONENTS THAT DO NOT HAVE COAXIAL CONNECTORS	219
14.1	Using SOLT Calibration Standards Fabricated in Microstrip / 220	
14.2	TRL Standards in Microstrip / 222	
14.3	De-Embedding / 222	
14.4	Including the Fixture Effects as Part of the VNA Calibration / 223	
14.5	Annotated Bibliography / 223	
PART III	MEASUREMENT OF INDIVIDUAL RF COMPONENTS	225
15	RF COMMUNICATIONS SYSTEM BLOCK DIAGRAM	227
15.1	RF Communications System Components / 227	
15.2	Annotated Bibliography / 232	
16	SIGNAL CONTROL COMPONENTS	233
16.1	RF Semiconductors / 233	
16.2	Electronically Controlled Attenuators and Switches / 236	
16.3	Measurements of PIN Diode Attenuators and Switches / 240	
16.4	Annotated Bibliography / 240	

17 PLOs	241
17.1 Characteristics and Operation of a PLO /	241
17.2 Phase Noise and its Significance in a Digital RF Communications System /	246
17.3 Characteristics of PLOs that Need to be Measured /	248
Frequency /	248
Tuning Sensitivity /	249
Power /	249
Phase Noise /	249
17.4 Example Procedure for Phase Noise Measurements of PLOs /	252
Measurements Being Described /	252
Specifications of PLO /	252
Significance to Wireless System Performance /	252
Generic Procedure /	252
17.5 Annotated Bibliography /	254
18 UP CONVERTERS	255
18.1 How an Upconverter Works /	255
18.2 Mathematical Theory of Upconverter and Mixer Action /	257
18.3 Measurement of Upconverter Performance /	258
18.4 Generic Procedure for Upconverter Measurement /	261
18.5 Annotated Bibliography /	262
19 POWER AMPLIFIERS	263
19.1 RF Transistors /	263
19.2 Semiconductor Materials for RF Transistors /	264
19.3 Transistor Fabrication Processes /	265
MESFETs /	265
Bipolar Transistor /	268
HEMTs and HBTs /	270
LDMOS /	271
19.4 Modulation Distortion Caused by Power Amplifier Nonlinearity /	272
19.5 Measurements to be Performed on RF Power Amplifiers /	278
19.6 Measurements of Amplifier Output Characteristics Versus Frequency and Input Power /	278
19.7 Harmonic Power Measurements /	283

19.8	Example Power Amp Measurements on the VNA / 284	
	Objective / 284	
	Measurements Being Demonstrated / 285	
	Specifications of Power Amplifier / 285	
	Generic Procedure / 285	
19.9	Annotated Bibliography / 287	
20	ANTENNAS	289
20.1	Antenna Functions / 289	
	Gain / 289	
	Pattern / 291	
	Gain / 292	
	Side Lobes / 292	
	Polarization / 292	
	Impedance Match / 293	
	Antenna Area / 293	
20.2	Types of Antennas / 293	
	Half-Wave Dipole Antenna / 293	
	Patch Antenna / 295	
	Colinear Dipole Array / 296	
	Parabolic Dish Antennas / 297	
	Patch Antenna Array / 297	
20.3	Measurement of Antennas / 299	
20.4	Duplexers / 301	
20.5	Annotated Bibliography / 302	
21	RF RECEIVER REQUIREMENTS	303
21.1	Annotated Bibliography / 305	
22	RF FILTERS	307
22.1	RF Filter Characteristics / 307	
22.2	RF Filter Design / 308	
22.3	Types of Filters / 309	
	Microstrip Filter / 309	
	Ceramic Block Filter / 309	
	Surface Acoustic Wave (SAW) Filters / 310	
	Film Bulk Acoustic Resonator (FBAR) Filters / 311	
	Base Station Filters / 312	

22.4	Measurement of RF Filters / 313	
22.5	Group Delay and its Measurement / 314	
22.6	Example Filter Measurement / 318	
	Objective / 318	
	Measurements Being Demonstrated / 318	
	Specifications of DUT / 318	
	Generic Procedure / 319	
22.7	Annotated Bibliography / 319	
23	LNAs	321
23.1	Thermal Noise / 322	
23.2	Noise Figure Principles / 322	
	Noise Figure of Passive Components / 323	
	Cascaded Noise Figure / 324	
	Mismatching of the Transistor Input to Reduce Noise Figure / 325	
23.3	Intermodulation Products / 328	
23.4	S-Parameters and How they are Used / 331	
23.5	Example LNA Measurement on the VNA / 334	
	Objective / 334	
	Measurements Being Demonstrated / 335	
	Specifications of LNA / 335	
	Generic Procedure / 335	
23.6	Annotated Bibliography / 344	
24	MIXERS	345
24.1	Basic Mixer Performance / 345	
24.2	Selection of Individual Voice and Data Channels / 349	
24.3	The Removal of Image Noise / 350	
24.4	ZIF Mixer / 351	
24.5	Mixer Measurements / 353	
24.6	Annotated Bibliography / 355	
25	NOISE FIGURE MEASUREMENT	357
25.1	Noise Figure Measurement Setup and Procedure / 357	
25.2	Measurement of the Noise Figure and Gain of LNAs, Filters, and Mixers / 358	

- 25.3 Approximate Measurements of Noise Figure Without the NF Hardware and Software / 363
- 25.4 Measurement of Noise Figure Contours on the Smith Chart / 364
- 25.5 Annotated Bibliography / 364

26 INTERMODULATION PRODUCT MEASUREMENT 367

- 26.1 Intermodulation Products / 367
- 26.2 Third-Order Intercept Point / 369
- 26.3 Calculation of Maximum Input Power / 370
- 26.4 Cautions When Measuring Distortion Products / 371
- 26.5 Example Measurement for Intermodulation Products / 371
 - Objective / 371
 - Measurements Being Demonstrated / 372
 - Generic Procedure / 372
- 26.6 Annotated Bibliography / 373

27 OVERALL RECEIVER PERFORMANCE 375

- 27.1 Overall Performance of a Typical RF Receiver / 376
- 27.2 Formulas for Combining Gain, Noise Figure, and OIP3 of the Receiver Components / 379
- 27.3 Software for Calculation of Overall Receiver Performance / 379
- 27.4 Calculation of Overall Receiver Performance as a Function of Part Temperature / 383
- 27.5 Switching the LNA Into and Out of the Overall Receiver / 384
- 27.6 Annotated Bibliography / 385

28 RFICs 387

- 28.1 Wireless LAN / 388
- 28.2 Four Band GSM, GPRS, EDGE Handset / 389
- 28.3 Annotated Bibliography / 392

PART IV TESTING OF DEVICES WITH DIGITALLY MODULATED SIGNALS 393

29 WIRELESS COMMUNICATION SYSTEMS 395

- 29.1 Block Diagram of the Complete Wireless Communication System / 396
- 29.2 Analog Voice and Video Signals / 398

29.3	The Digitizing of Analog Signals / 400	
29.4	Data Signals / 403	
29.5	Compression of Digital Voice and Data Signals / 404	
	Compression of Voice Signals / 404	
	Compression of Video Signals / 406	
29.6	Error Correction / 407	
29.7	Typical Bit Rates of Communications Systems / 409	
29.8	Packet Switching / 410	
29.9	Annotated Bibliography / 411	
30	MULTIPLE ACCESS TECHNIQUES: FDMA, TDMA, AND CDMA	413
30.1	Frequency Division Multiple Access (FDMA) / 413	
30.2	Time Division Multiple Access (TDMA) / 416	
30.3	Code Division Multiple Access (CDMA) / 418	
30.4	3G Cell Phones / 424	
30.5	High Data Rate Systems for Cell Phones / 425	
	Cdma2000 Systems / 425	
	HSDPA High Data Rate Systems / 426	
30.6	Measurement of the Distortion of Digitally Modulated Signals by RF Components / 429	
30.7	Annotated Bibliography / 429	
31	OFDM, OFDMA, AND WIMAX	431
31.1	802.11 Specifications / 431	
31.2	OFDM Multiple Access Principles / 433	
31.3	WiMAX / 435	
31.4	Annotated Bibliography / 437	
32	ACP	439
32.1	ACP / 439	
32.2	Measuring ACP / 440	
32.3	ACP for North American Digital Cellular (NADC) Versus GSM Modulation Formats / 440	
32.4	Backoff / 441	
32.5	ACP Measurement Results for NADC and GSM / 441	
32.6	Zero Span / 443	
32.7	Annotated Bibliography / 444	

33	CONSTELLATION, VECTOR, AND EYE DIAGRAM AND EVM	445
33.1	Power Amplifier Backoff / 446	
33.2	Constellation, Vector, and Eye Diagrams / 447	
	Constellation Diagram / 447	
	Vector Diagram / 447	
	Eye Diagram / 447	
33.3	EVM / 451	
	EVM Troubleshooting / 451	
	EVM Versus Time / 451	
	EVM Spectrum / 451	
	IQ Modulator Impairments / 454	
33.4	Measurements of Constellation, Vector, and Eye Diagrams and EVM on an RF Power Amplifier and on an IF Filter / 454	
33.5	EVM Trouble Shooting Tree / 463	
33.6	Annotated Bibliography / 463	
34	CCDF	465
34.1	CCDF Curves / 466	
34.2	Derivation of CCDF Curves / 467	
34.3	Comparison of Vector Diagrams and CCDF / 467	
34.4	The Effect of the Number of Active Spread Spectrum Codes / 470	
34.5	CCDF in Component Design / 470	
34.6	Annotated Bibliography / 473	
35	BER	475
35.1	BER (Bit Error Rate) Testing / 475	
35.2	Annotated Bibliography / 477	
36	MEASUREMENT OF GSM EVOLUTION COMPONENTS	479
36.1	Measurement of EDGE Signal Distortion / 481	
36.2	Measurement of WCDMA and HSDPA Distortions / 482	
36.3	Annotated Bibliography / 489	
	TERMINOLOGY	491
	INDEX	497