

Texas A&M University
Department of Electrical and Computer Engineering

ECEN 720 – High-Speed Links

Spring 2019

Exam #2

Instructor: Sam Palermo

- Please write your name in the space provided below
- Please verify that there are **6** pages in your exam
- You may use one double-sided page of notes and equations for the exam
- Good Luck!

Problem	Score	Max Score
1		30
2		35
3		35
Total		100

Name: _____ SAM PALERMO _____

UIN: _____

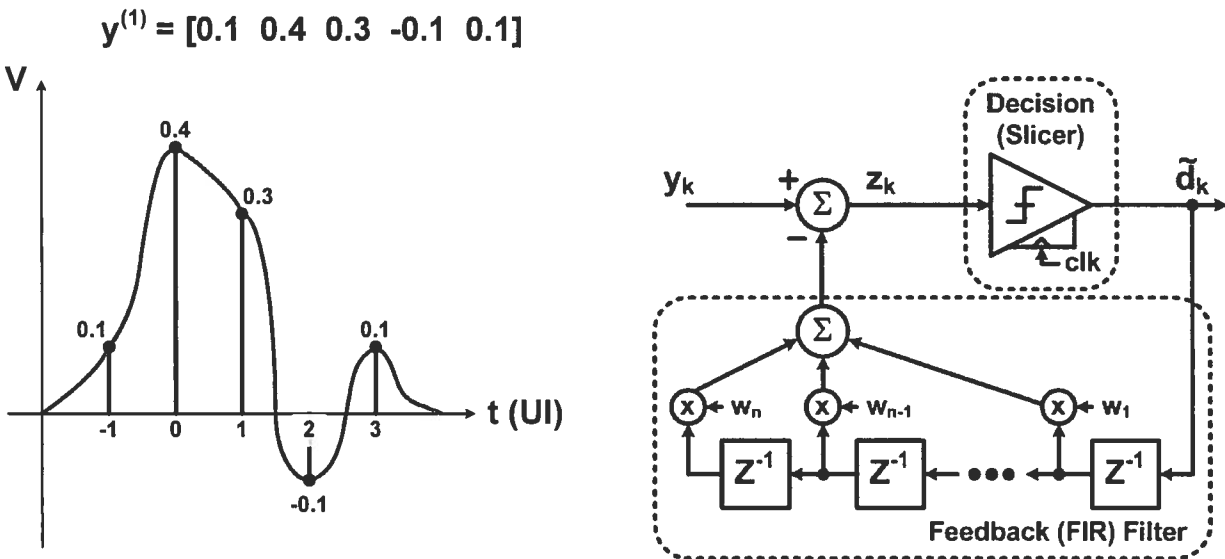
TABLE 13-1. Q_{BER} as a Function of the Bit Error Rate

BER	Q_{BER}	BER	Q_{BER}	BER	Q_{BER}
1×10^{-3}	6.180	1×10^{-10}	12.723	1×10^{-17}	16.987
1×10^{-4}	7.438	1×10^{-11}	13.412	1×10^{-18}	17.514
1×10^{-5}	8.530	1×10^{-12}	14.069	1×10^{-19}	18.026
1×10^{-6}	9.507	1×10^{-13}	14.698	1×10^{-20}	18.524
1×10^{-7}	10.399	1×10^{-14}	15.301	1×10^{-21}	19.010
1×10^{-8}	11.224	1×10^{-15}	15.882	1×10^{-22}	19.484
1×10^{-9}	11.996	1×10^{-16}	16.444	7.7×10^{-24}	20.000

Problem 1 (30 points)

A channel has the pulse response, $y^{(1)}$, below for a "1" bit. A DFE with FIR feedback filter is used for equalization. Assume ideal delay cells.

- a) What is the minimum number of DFE taps required for a worst-case eye height of 0.4V? What are the tap values?
- b) Assume that you can have as many FIR feedback taps in the DFE as you would like. What is the best (worst-case) eye height that you can achieve with only this DFE equalization?



Worst -case Eye Height = $2[\text{cursor} - \sum |ISI|]$

* DFE only cancels post-cursor ISI!!!

Best eye height w/o DFE only is w/ $w = [0.3 \ -0.1 \ 0.1]$

Eye height = $2(0.4 - 0.1) = 0.6$

* To achieve eye height of 0.4

$2(0.4 - 0.6 + \sum |taps|) = 0.4 \Rightarrow \sum |taps| = 0.4$

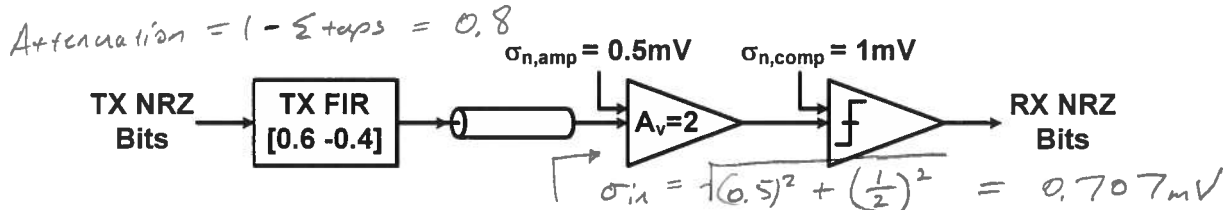
This can be achieved w/ 2-taps $w = [0.3 \ -0.1]$

Minimum DFE taps required for worst-case eye height of 0.4V = $[0.3 \ -0.1]$

Best (worst-case) eye height achievable with many DFE taps = 0.6V

Problem 2 (35 points)

This problem involves the voltage noise budgeting of a serial link system. Here we will conservatively assume that all distributions combine in a worst-case manner. The system consists of a transmitter with a 2-tap FIR filter which sends NRZ bits over a channel to a receiver modeled as a simple amplifier followed by a comparator. Each receiver block has a noise component which should be referred to the receiver input.



Complete the following noise budget table assuming a TX peak differential swing of $1V_{ppd}$ and a target $BER=10^{-12}$. You can refer to the Q_{BER} table on page 2 if needed. (15 points)

Parameter	K_n	RMS	Value (BER= 10^{-12})
Peak Differential Swing, V_{swing}			1V
RX Offset + Sensitivity			5mV
Power Supply Noise			5mV
Residual ISI	0.05		= 50mV
Crosstalk	0.05		= 50mV
Random Noise		= 0.707mV	= 9.95mV
Attenuation (TX FIR)	= 0.8		= 800mV
Total Noise			= 919.95mV
Differential Eye Height Margin			= 80.05mV

What is the minimum peak differential swing, V_{swing} , for a $BER=10^{-12}$, i.e. as the differential eye height margin goes to zero? (15 points)

$$V_{swing} (1 - \sum K_n) - \text{Fixed Noise} \geq 0$$

$$V_{swing} \geq \frac{\text{Fixed Noise}}{1 - \sum K_n} = \frac{19.95mV}{1 - 0.9} = 199.5mV$$

What is the minimum peak differential swing, V_{swing} , for a $BER=10^{-15}$, i.e. as the differential eye height margin goes to zero? (5 points)

For $BER = 10^{-15} \implies \text{Random Noise} = 15.882(0.707) = 11.23mV$

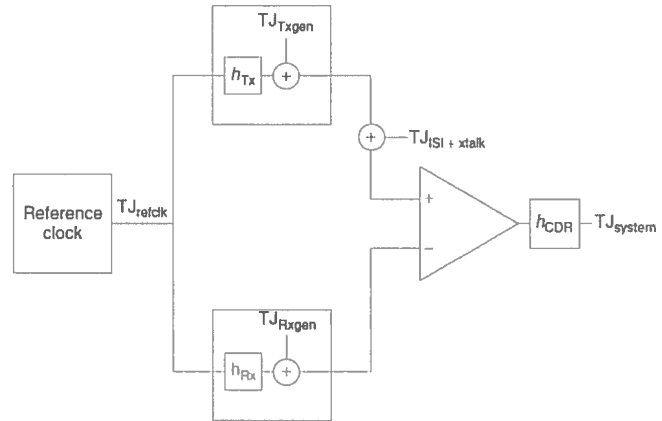
$$V_{swing} \geq \frac{21.23mV}{1 - 0.9} = 212.3mV$$

Problem 3 (35 points)

This problem involves computing a jitter budget for the system below, which should operate at a **10⁻¹⁵ BER**.

- a) Complete the system jitter budget table below.
- b) What is the maximum possible data rate?

$10^{-15} \text{ BER} \Rightarrow Q = 15.882$



Parameter	Term	σ_{RJ} (ps)	$DJ_{\delta\delta}$ (ps)	TJ (BER=10 ⁻¹⁵)
Reference Clock	TJ _{refclk}	2.1	27.9	61.25
Transmitter	TJ _{TXgen}	1.3	30.1	50.75
Channel	TJ _{ISI+xtalk}	0	43	43
Receiver	TJ _{RXgen}	1.5	65.7	89.52
TOTAL (BER=10⁻¹⁵)		2.89	166.7	212.60

Max Data Rate = $\frac{1}{212.6 \text{ ps}} = 4.70 \text{ Gb/s}$

Max Data Rate (BER = 10⁻¹⁵) = 4.70 Gb/s

Scratch Paper