# Jitter in Oscillators with $1 / \mathbf{f}$ Noise Sources and Application to True RNG for Cryptography 

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To my wife


#### Abstract

In the design of voltage-controlled oscillators (VCOs) for communication systems, timing jitter is of major concern since it is the largest contributor to the bit-error rate. The latest deep submicron processes provide the possibility of higher oscillator speed at the cost of increased device noise and a higher $1 / \mathrm{f}$ noise corner. Therefore it is crucial to characterize the upconverted $1 / \mathrm{f}$ noise for practical applications.

This dissertation presents a simple model to relate the time domain jitter and frequency domain phase noise in the presence of non-negligible $1 / \mathrm{f}$ noise sources. It will simplify the design, simulation, and testing of the PLL, since with this technique only the open loop VCO needs to be considered. Design methodologies for white noise dominated ring oscillators and PLLs are also developed by analyzing the upconverted thermal noise in time domain using a LTI model. The trade-off and relationship between jitter, speed, power dissipation and VCO geometry are evaluated for different applications. This model is supported by the measured data from 24 ring oscillators with different geometry fabricated in TSMC $0.18 \mu \mathrm{~m}$ process.

The theory developed in this dissertation is applied to the design of PLL- and DLL- based true random number generators (TRNG) for application in the area of "smart cards". New architectures of dual-oscillator sampling and delay-line sampling are proposed for random number generation, which has the advantage of lower power dissipation and lower cost over traditional approaches. Both structures are implemented in test chips fabricated in AMI $1.5 \mu \mathrm{~m}$ process. The PLL-based TRNG passed the NIST SP800-22 statistical test suite and the DLLbased TRNG passed both the NIST SP800-22 statistical test suite and the Diehard battery of tests.


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## TABLE OF CONTENTS

Abstract ..... iv
Acknowledgments ..... V
Table of Contents ..... vi
List of Tables ..... X
List of Figures ..... xi
1 Introduction ..... 1
1.1 Motivation ..... 2
1.2 Organizations ..... 3
2 Jitter and Phase Noise Concepts ..... 4
2.1 Definition ..... 4
2.2 Jitter Classification ..... 6
2.3 Current and Noise Models for MOSFETs ..... 7
2.3.1 Current Model ..... 7
2.3.2 Thermal Noise ..... 12
2.3.3 1/f Noise ..... 15
3 Technique to Relate Freq. and Time Domain Oscillator Jitter Performance. ..... 18
3.1 Introduction ..... 18
3.2 VCO Jitter and Phase Noise Performance Characterization ..... 22
3.2.1 Frequency Domain Using Spectrum Analyzers ..... 22
3.2.2 Time Domain: Equivalent Time Oscilloscope Method ..... 24
3.2.3 Time Domain: Real Time Oscilloscope Method ..... 27
3.3 Theoretical Development ..... 30
3.3.1 Near Carrier Oscillator Spectrum ..... 30
3.3.2 Relationship between Jitter and Phase Noise ..... 32
3.3.3 Jitter due to White Noise ..... 33
3.3.4 Jitter due to $1 / \mathrm{f}$ Noise ..... 34
3.3.5 1/f Transition Time $\mathrm{t}_{\mathrm{c}}$ ..... 37
3.4 Experimental Verification ..... 38
4 Technique to Relate Freq. and Time Domain PLL Jitter Performance ..... 40
4.1 Loop and Noise Transfer Function ..... 40
4.2 Frequency Domain Using Spectrum Analyzers ..... 43
4.3 Time Domain, PLL Clock Referenced ..... 45
4.3.1 Case I: White Noise Dominated ..... 46
4.3.2 Case II: In the Presence of Non-negligible 1/f Noise ..... 47
4.4 Time Domain, PLL Self Referenced ..... 49
4.4.1 Case I: White Noise Dominated ..... 50
4.4.2 Case II: In the Presence of Non-negligible 1/f Noise ..... 51
5 Jitter and the Geometry of Ring Oscillators ..... 53
5.1 Introduction ..... 53
5.2 VCO Design in Time Domain with $\kappa$ ..... 55
$5.3 \kappa$ of the CMOS Inverter ..... 57
5.3.1 Propagation Delay of the CMOS Inverter ..... 58
5.3.2 Drain Thermal Noise in the Switching MOSFET ..... 61
5.3.3 KTC Noise due to the Loading Transistor. ..... 64
5.3.4 $\kappa_{\text {total }}$ of the CMOS Inverter ..... 66
5.4 Jitter and VCO Geometry ..... 67
5.4.1 $\kappa$ and VCO Geometry ..... 67
5.4.2 Normalized RMS Jitter and VCO Geometry. ..... 79
5.4.3 Normalized Cycle-to-Cycle Jitter and VCO Geometry ..... 83
5.4.4 Summary ..... 86
5.5 Jitter and VCO Tuning ..... 87
5.5.1 Tuning Transistors in Saturation. ..... 88
5.5.2 Tuning Transistors in Triode ..... 91
5.6 Experimental Results ..... 92
5.6.1 Test Chip Design ..... 92
5.6.2 Inverter Delay and Geometry ..... 95
5.6.3 $\kappa$ and the VCO Geometry. ..... 98
5.6.4 Normalized RMS Jitter and VCO Geometry ..... 104
5.6.5 Normalized Cycle-to-cycle Jitter and VCO Geometry ..... 107
5.6.6 k and VCO Tuning ..... 110
5.7 Summary: Design of Low Jitter Ring Oscillators ..... 112
5.7.1 Design for $\kappa$ ..... 112
5.7.2 Design for Normalized RMS Jitter ..... 114
5.7.3 Design for Normalized Cycle-to-Cycle Jitter ..... 115
6 Design of Digital PLL-based True Random Number Generator ..... 116
6.1 Introduction ..... 116
6.2 Review of TRNG Design Techniques ..... 118
6.3 System Architecture ..... 121
6.4 Time Domain Analysis and System Simulation. ..... 124
6.5 DAC-controlled Ring Oscillator ..... 131
6.5.1 Sizing Transistors ..... 132
6.5.2 DAC Control ..... 134
6.6 Low Metastability D Flip-flop ..... 135
6.7 Up/Down Counters ..... 141
6.8 Digital Post-processing. ..... 143
6.9 Experimental Results ..... 146
6.9.1 Test Chip Design ..... 146
6.9.2 Measurement Results ..... 148
7 Design of DLL-based True Random Number Generator ..... 153
7.1 Delay-locked Loops ..... 153
7.2 System Architecture ..... 155
7.3 Voltage-controlled Delay Line ..... 160
7.4 Improved Low Metastability D Flip-flop ..... 162
7.5 Experimental Results ..... 165
7.5.1 Test Chip Design ..... 165
7.5.2 Measurement Results ..... 167
8 Conclusion ..... 178
8.1 Future Work ..... 180
Appendix A. Kappa Plot Extraction from TIE Data ..... 181
Appendix B. RNG Simulation by Matlab ..... 182
Appendix C. Diehard Test Results for DLL-based RNG with the Classic Von Neumann Corrector ..... 186
Appendix D. Diehard Test Results for DLL-based RNG with the Modified Von Neumann Corrector ..... 204
References ..... 212

## LIST OF TABLES

Table 3.1 Measured and predicted $\zeta$ for implemented ring oscillators ..... 39
Table 5.1 Predicted and simulated $\kappa_{\text {total }}$ vs. L for 7-stage ring oscillators ..... 76
Table 5.2 Relationship between jitter, VCO geometry, and ring configuration ..... 86
Table 5.3 Relationship between jitter, power dissipation and die area ..... 86
Table 5.4 Geometry range of the implemented oscillators. ..... 93
Table 5.5 Ring configuration of the implemented oscillators ..... 93
Table 5.6 Measured min. inverter delay for implemented oscillators. ..... 96
Table 5.7 Measured $\kappa$ versus VCO geometry ..... 99
Table 5.8 Measured $\kappa$-to- $\mathrm{T}_{\mathrm{d}}$ ratio and VCO geometry ..... 105
Table 5.9 The extracted $\kappa$-to-sqrt( $\mathrm{T}_{\mathrm{d}}$ ) ratio and VCO geometry ..... 108
Table 6.1 NIST SP800-22 statistical test results for the PLL-based RNG (Post-processed by the classic von Neumann corrector) ..... 150
Table 6.2 NIST SP800-22 statistical test results for the PLL-based RNG (Post-processed by the modified von Neumann corrector) ..... 151
Table 6.3 Performance summary for the PLL-based RNG ..... 152
Table 7.1 NIST SP800-22 statistical test results for the DLL-based RNG (Post-processed by the classic von Neumann corrector) ..... 175
Table 7.2 NIST SP800-22 statistical test results for the DLL-based RNG (Post-processed by the modified von Neumann corrector) ..... 176
Table 6.3 Summary and comparison of the PLL- and DLL-based RNG ..... 177

## LIST OF FIGURES

Figure 2.1 Clock jitter in time and frequency domains ........................................... 4
Figure 2.2 Evaluation of the current model in equation (2.9) ................................ 10
Figure 2.3 Simulated drain current versus L.......................................................... 11
Figure 2.4 Channel cross section of a MOSFET in the saturation region ............. 13
Figure 2.5 Higher 1/f noise corner for MOSFETs with shorter channel length .... 17
Figure 3.1 Typical oscillator phase noise spectrum............................................... 19
Figure 3.2 Phase noise p.s.d. of a 155 MHz VCO in a $5 \mathrm{GHz}_{\mathrm{T}}$ bipolar process ... 20
Figure 3.3 Typical phase noise p.s.d. of VCOs in a $0.18 \mu \mathrm{~m}$ process..................... 20
Figure 3.4 Free-running oscillators measurement in frequency domain ............... 22
Figure 3.5 Frequency domain measurement result: VCO open loop..................... 22
Figure 3.6 Jitter measurement over time delay $\Delta T$....................................................... 24
Figure 3.7 Measurement result: Time domain, open loop..................................... 25
Figure 3.8 Time interval error ............................................................................... 27
Figure 3.9 TIE data post-processing ...................................................................... 28
Figure 3.10 TIE and post-processed kappa plot for a 150 MHz VCO...................... 29
Figure 3.11 Phase noise p.s.d. with close-in corner frequencies.............................. 30
Figure 3.12 Evaluation of $\alpha$..................................................................................... 37
Figure 3.13 The current-starved inverter ................................................................. 38
Figure 4.1 Basic block diagram of the PLL........................................................... 40
Figure 4.2 Bode plots of the PLL loop transfer functions ..................................... 42
Figure 4.3 Phase noise shaping by the PLL........................................................... 42
Figure 4.4 Typical PLL phase noise spectrum ...................................................... 43
Figure 4.5 Measurement technique: Time domain, PLL clock referenced............ 45
Figure 4.6 Measurement result: Time domain, PLL clock referenced .................. 45
Figure 4.7 Phase noise shaping by the PLL with different loop bandwidth $\mathrm{f}_{\mathrm{L}} \ldots . . . .48$
Figure 4.8 Measurement technique: Time domain, self referenced ..... 49
Figure 4.9 Measurement result: Time domain, self referenced. ..... 49
Figure 4.10 Numerical evaluation of the integral in (4.27) ..... 52
Figure 5.1 A three-stage ring oscillator and resulting waveform ..... 55
Figure 5.2 The CMOS inverter ..... 57
Figure 5.3 Modeling of propagation delay for the CMOS inverter ..... 58
Figure 5.4 Drain thermal noise of the switching MOSFET ..... 61
Figure 5.5 Ideal output and actual output due to the drain thermal noise ..... 62
Figure 5.6 KTC noise due to the loading transistor ..... 64
Figure 5.7 The MOSFET layout under SCMOS design rules ..... 71
Figure 5.8 Threshold voltage versus channel length for MOSFETs ..... 74
Figure 5.9 Inverter configuration for 7-stage oscillators ..... 76
Figure 5.10 Plot of predicted and simulated $\kappa$ for 7 -stage ring oscillators ..... 77
Figure 5.11 Simulated input referred noise versus channel length ..... 78
Figure 5.12 Simulated roll-up of the threshold voltage ..... 78
Figure 5.13 The normalized rms jitter. ..... 79
Figure 5.14 The current-starved inverter ..... 87
Figure 5.15 Die micrograph ..... 94
Figure 5.16 Micrograph of a 7 -stage ring oscillator on chip ..... 94
Figure 5.17 Measured oscillator output waveforms ..... 95
Figure 5.18 Measured minimum inverter delay versus VCO geometry ..... 97
Figure 5.19 Measured duty cycle for the ring oscillator with $\mathrm{M}_{1}$ size of $600 \mu \mathrm{~m} / 0.18 \mu \mathrm{~m}$ ..... 98
Figure 5.20 Measured relationship between $\kappa$ and channel width ..... 99
Figure 5.21 Measured relationship between $\kappa$ and channel length ..... 100
Figure 5.22 Simulated $V_{T}$ roll-up for TSMC $0.18 \mu \mathrm{~m}$ process ..... 101
Figure 5.23 Measured $\gamma_{\mathrm{s}}$ for TSMC $0.18 \mu \mathrm{~m}$ process in [95] ..... 102
Figure 5.24 Predicted and measured $\kappa$ for the VCOs with $\mathrm{M}_{1}$ width of $20 \mu \mathrm{~m}$ ..... 103
Figure 5.25 Measured $\kappa$-to- $\mathrm{T}_{\mathrm{d}}$ ratio versus W ..... 106
Figure 5.26 Measured $\kappa$-to- $\mathrm{T}_{\mathrm{d}}$ ratio versus L ..... 106
Figure 5.27 Measured $\kappa$-to-sqrt( $\mathrm{T}_{\mathrm{d}}$ ) ratio versus W ..... 108
Figure 5.28 Measured $\kappa$-to-sqrt $\left(\mathrm{T}_{\mathrm{d}}\right)$ ratio versus L ..... 109
Figure 5.29 Measured tuning characteristic for the ring oscillator with $\mathrm{M}_{1}$ size of $600 \mu \mathrm{~m} / 0.18 \mu \mathrm{~m}$ ..... 110
Figure 5.30 Measured relationship between $\kappa$ and inverter during tuning ..... 111
Figure 5.31 Contour plot for measured $\kappa$ and minimum inverter delay ..... 112
Figure 6.1 RNG implemented by direct amplification ..... 118
Figure 6.2 RNG implemented by oscillator-sampling ..... 119
Figure 6.3 Architecture of the digital PLL-based RNG ..... 121
Figure 6.4 Autocorrelation and p.s.d. ..... 122
Figure 6.5 Definition of random processes for clock with jitter ..... 124
Figure 6.6 Data sampling by the D flip-flop ..... 126
Figure 6.7 Sampling a Gaussian random variable ..... 126
Figure 6.8 System behavior simulated by Matlab ..... 128
Figure 6.9 RNG output simulated by Matlab ..... 129
Figure 6.10 RNG output after dividing by 20 simulated by Matlab ..... 130
Figure 6.11 DAC-controlled ring oscillator ..... 131
Figure 6.12 Capacitor array with dummy transistors ..... 134
Figure 6.13 Rising edge triggered master-slave D flip-flop ..... 135
Figure 6.14 D flip-flop sampling of closely positioned edges ..... 136
Figure 6.15 Simulation results for the master-slave D flip-flop in Figure 6.13 ..... 136
Figure 6.16 The low metastability D flip-flop ..... 137
Figure 6.17 The pre-amplifier in the designed D flip-flop ..... 138
Figure 6.18 The D latch in the designed D flip-flop ..... 138
Figure 6.19 Simulation results for the designed D flip-flop ..... 140
Figure 6.20 Analog loop filter ..... 141
Figure 6.21 Bandwidth versus configuration of the counter p ..... 141
Figure 6.22 System simulation without the stabilizing zero ..... 142
Figure 6.23 The digital post-processing circuits ..... 143
Figure 6.24 The classic von Neumann corrector ..... 143
Figure 6.25 The modified von Neumann corrector ..... 144
Figure 6.26 Chip micrograph of the PLL-based RNG ..... 147
Figure 6.27 Jitter performance of the free-running ring oscillator at 30 MHz ..... 148
Figure 6.28 Spectrum and autocorrelation coefficient of post-processed data. ..... 149
Figure 7.1 Basic block diagram of the DLL ..... 153
Figure 7.2 Architecture of the DLL-based RNG ..... 155
Figure 7.3 Block diagram of the DLL-based RNG ..... 156
Figure 7.4 Loop filter. ..... 157
Figure 7.5 Voltage-controlled delay line ..... 160
Figure 7.6 Improved low metastability D flip-flop. ..... 162
Figure 7.7 Simulation results for the improved D flip-flop ..... 164
Figure 7.8 Chip micrograph for the DLL-based RNG ..... 166
Figure 7.9 Measured tuning characteristic of the implemented VCDL ..... 167
Figure 7.10 Measured jitter versus tuning for the implemented VCDL ..... 168
Figure 7.11 Measured $\kappa$ versus tuning for the implemented VCDL ..... 168
Figure 7.12 Rising edges of CLK locked to falling edges of DATA ..... 169
Figure 7.13 Spectrum and autocorrelation of the raw data at the RNG output ..... 170
Figure 7.14 Spectrum and autocorrelation of the post-processed data ..... 171
Figure 7.15 Experiment to justify the noise source ..... 172
Figure 7.16 Measured CDF and PDF of the jitter sampling process from the Experiment in Figure 7.15 ..... 173

## Chapter 1: Introduction

### 1.1 Motivation

Voltage-controlled oscillators (VCOs) are widely used in modern communication systems and play a critical role in applications such as clock generation and recovery [1]-[3]. VCOs are also applicable in the area of cryptography; the method of oscillator-sampling is the most popular approach by far to generate high quality random numbers in system-on-chip designs for data encryption [4]-[6], due to the advantages of less die area, improved power efficiency, and high speed.

In most applications, the dominant sources of jitter in oscillators are $1 / \mathrm{f}$ and white noise. Previous research in this area was concentrated on white noise and the theory was well developed [7]-[11]. Since the $1 / f^{3}$ phase noise corner was usually inside the loop bandwidth of the phase-locked loops (PLL), the $1 / \mathrm{f}$ noise contribution was "tracked out" by the PLL so that it was negligible.

The latest deep submicron processes provide the possibility of higher VCO speed. But they also introduce the problem of a higher $1 / \mathrm{f}^{3}$ phase noise corner. In previous work [7] and [8], the VCO design process was simplified by assuming the $1 / \mathrm{f}^{3}$ phase noise corner to lie below the PLL loop bandwidth. In a deep submicron process this assumption is no longer valid.

Several analytical models for the phase noise upconverted from $1 / \mathrm{f}$ device noise have been proposed recently [12]-[14]. The data from ring oscillators in [15] suggest that the jitter introduced by the $1 / \mathrm{f}$ noise over time delay $\Delta \mathrm{T}$ is of the form $\zeta \Delta \mathrm{T}$, but no analytical model was provided for calculating $\zeta$.

This dissertation will extend the work in [8] to account for the $1 / \mathrm{f}$ noise contribution, discuss the relationship between jitter and the geometry of ring
oscillators, and apply the developed theory to the design of true random number generators for cryptography applications.

## The key contributions of this work are:

1. A technique to relate frequency and time domain oscillator and PLL performance in the presence of non-negligible $1 / \mathrm{f}$ noise sources. This technique will give designers the flexibility of working in whatever domain is easiest while still being able to accurately predict performance when measured by the end user. It also simplifies the design, simulation, and testing of the PLL, since with this technique only the open loop VCO needs to be considered.
2. Design methodologies for white noise dominated ring oscillators and PLLs. Thermal noise upconversion in ring oscillators is analyzed in time domain using a LTI model. This developed theory is supported by the measured relationship of jitter and VCO geometry from a test chip fabricated in TSMC $0.18 \mu \mathrm{~m}$ process. As feature sizes scale down, wider PLL loop bandwidth is necessary to minimize the higher $1 / \mathrm{f}$ noise corner effect. This work also shows that jitter caused by white noise sources can be reduced by increasing the VCO's channel width and carefully choosing channel length and number of stages.
3. The design and implementation of PLL- and DLL- based true random number generators based on the theory developed in this dissertation for application in the area of "smart cards". New architectures of dual-oscillator sampling and delay-line sampling are proposed for random number generation. The main advantage over the traditional approach is the capability of achieving the same data rate using slower clocks, thus enabling cheaper process, lower power, and lower cost.

### 1.2 Organization

This dissertation is divided into eight chapters. Chapter 2 introduces the basic concepts of jitter and phase noise. Chapter 3 presents the developed technique to relate frequency and time domain oscillator jitter performance. VCO jitter and phase noise measurement techniques are first reviewed in Section 3.2. Detailed theory derivations are covered in Section 3.3.

In Chapter 4, the relationship between jitter and phase noise are analyzed for closed-loop PLLs. It starts with reviews of PLL loop and jitter transfer functions and frequency domain measurement techniques. Time domain measurement techniques are then discussed with theory development for each case. Two important results in this chapter are the close-loop jitter prediction in Section 4.3.2 and the upper bound for the total self-referenced jitter in Section 4.4.2.

Chapter 5 proposes ring oscillator and PLL design methodologies for different applications based on the developed relationship between jitter, speed, power dissipation and VCO geometry. The jitter upconverted by thermal noise is modeled in time domain for CMOS inverters in Section 5.3. This developed model is discussed in Section 5.4 and 5.5 for different applications and supported by experimental results in Section 5.6. Proposed design methodologies are then summarized in Section 5.7.

The model developed in Chapter 5 is applied to the design of PLL- and DLLbased true random number generators (RNGs) in Chapter 6 and Chapter 7. There are detailed time domain analysis, Matlab simulation, and circuit description for the PLL-based RNG in Chapter 6, while only a quick analysis is presented for the DLL-based RNG in Chapter 7 since these two architectures are similar.

Chapter 8 summarizes the contributions of the thesis and pointing out possible areas for future work.

## Chapter 2: Jitter and Phase Noise Concepts

### 2.1 Definition

Phase noise and jitter are different ways of quantifying the same phenomenon. Jitter is the time domain manifestation of the noise sources in oscillators, and is defined as the short-term variations of a digital signal's significant instants from their ideal positions in time [16].

As illustrated in Figure 2.1, for an ideal noiseless sinusoidal oscillator, the zero crossing times of the oscillation waveform are evenly spaced at intervals of half of the period $\mathrm{T}_{0}$. In frequency domain, the entire power of the oscillator will be located at the fundamental frequency, $\mathrm{f}_{0}=1 / \mathrm{T}_{0}$, and the spectrum is an ideal impulse.


Figure 2.1 Clock jitter in time and frequency domains.
However, the noise adds uncertainty to the zero crossing times and introduces jitter. This results in variations in oscillating frequency from the ideal constant.

Since phase is the integral of frequency, the output phase will not increase uniformly, but executes a "random walk" around the ideal phase. This rapid, short-term, random fluctuation in the phase caused by time domain instability is defined as phase noise. In the frequency domain, the phase noise appears as "close in" sidebands around the carrier frequency as shown in Figure 1.1. Phase noise is usually specified in $\mathrm{dBc} / \mathrm{Hz}$ at a given offset frequency, where dBc is the level in dB relative to the carrier.

By convention, timing variations are split into two categories, jitter and wander [17]. Wander is timing variations that occur slowly. According to ITU specifications [18], the threshold between wander and jitter is defined to be 10 Hz .

### 2.2 Jitter Classification

There are two main types of jitter: deterministic jitter (DJ) and random jitter (RJ). DJ and RJ are also referred to as systematic and non systematic jitter respectively [19].

DJ is timing jitter that is repeatable and predictable. It is always bounded in amplitude and the bounds can usually be observed or predicted with high confidence. DJ comprises data dependent jitter (DDJ) and jitter which is bounded and uncorrelated to the data (BUJ) [19]. DDJ is the jitter that is added when the transmission pattern is changed from a clock like to a non-clock like pattern. The main sources of BUJ are duty cycle distortion, crosstalk, EMI radiation, and noise from power supply and substrate.

Random jitter (RJ) is the timing jitter due to random fluctuations and noise sources, and cannot be predicted. The main sources of RJ are 1/f noise (flicker noise) and white noise (shot noise and thermal noise). The jitter due to white noise is Gaussian random processes since the sum of a large number of statistically independent events will approach a Gaussian distribution by the central limit theorem.

This work will concentrate on RJ since RJ is not bounded in amplitude, and there is no way to eliminate RJ from a system since it is caused by fundamental noise.

### 2.3 Current and Noise Models for MOSFETs

### 2.3.1 Current Model

For long-channel MOS transistors in the saturation region, the drain current is $\mathrm{I}_{\mathrm{D}}$ given by the square-law model [20]

$$
\begin{equation*}
I_{D}=\frac{1}{2} \mu_{e f f} C_{o x} \frac{W}{L} V_{e f f}^{2} \tag{2.1}
\end{equation*}
$$

where $\mu_{\text {eff }}$ is the effective mobility, $\mathrm{C}_{\mathrm{ox}}$ is the gate-oxide capacitance per unit area, W and L are the channel width and length, and $\mathrm{V}_{\text {eff }}$ is the transistor gate overdrive voltage defined by

$$
\begin{equation*}
V_{e f f}=V_{G S}-V_{T} \tag{2.2}
\end{equation*}
$$

where $\mathrm{V}_{\mathrm{GS}}$ is the gate-to-source voltage and $\mathrm{V}_{\mathrm{T}}$ is the threshold voltage.
The transconductance $\mathrm{g}_{\mathrm{m}}$ is

$$
\begin{equation*}
g_{m}=\frac{\partial I_{D}}{\partial V_{e f f}}=\mu_{e f f} C_{o x} \frac{W}{L} V_{e f f} \tag{2.3}
\end{equation*}
$$

Mobility depends on bias conditions and many process parameters such as gate oxide thickness, substrate doping concentration, threshold voltage, gate and substrate voltages, etc [21]. Reference [22] proposed an empirical unified mobility model as

$$
\begin{equation*}
\mu_{e f f}=\frac{\mu_{0}}{1+\left(\frac{E_{\text {eff }}}{E_{0}}\right)^{n}} \tag{2.4}
\end{equation*}
$$

where $\mu_{0}$ is the zero field mobility, $\mathrm{E}_{0}$ and n are empirical constants, and $\mathrm{E}_{\text {eff }}$ is the average electrical field experienced by the carriers in the inversion layer which can be approximated by [21]

$$
\begin{equation*}
E_{e f f} \approx \frac{V_{G S}+V_{T}}{6 T_{o x}} \tag{2.5}
\end{equation*}
$$

where $\mathrm{T}_{\mathrm{ox}}$ is the gate oxide thickness.
By taking the Taylor approximation of (2.4), the effective mobility is modeled in the BSIM3 model as [21]

$$
\begin{equation*}
\mu_{e f f}=\frac{\mu_{0}}{1+U_{a}\left(\frac{V_{G S}+V_{T}}{T_{o x}}\right)+U_{b}\left(\frac{V_{G S}+V_{T}}{T_{o x}}\right)^{2}} \tag{2.6}
\end{equation*}
$$

where $U_{a}$ and $U_{b}$ are first and second order mobility degradation coefficients, which can be determined by fitting (2.6) to the unified formulation of (2.4).

For short-channel MOS transistors in the saturation region, the drain current will deviate from the value predicted by the square-law model of (2.1) due to the short channel effects [20]. When the electric field under the gate of MOSFETs reaches a critical value $E_{c}$, the velocity of the carriers will saturate at a value $v_{\text {sat }}$. The $\mu_{\text {eff }}$ is no longer a constant and is a function of the transverse field in the inversion layer. The empirical expression for the velocity of the carriers is [22]

$$
v_{d}= \begin{cases}\frac{\mu_{e f f} E}{1+\frac{E}{E_{c}}} & \text { for } E \leq E_{c}  \tag{2.7}\\ v_{\text {sat }} & \text { for } E \geq E_{c}\end{cases}
$$

where the critical electric field $E_{c}$ is

$$
\begin{equation*}
E_{c}=\frac{2 v_{s a t}}{\mu_{e f f}} \tag{2.8}
\end{equation*}
$$

By taking into account the velocity saturation, the drain current $I_{D}$ can be modeled by [23]

$$
\begin{equation*}
I_{D}=W C_{o x} v_{s a t} \frac{V_{e f f}^{2}}{V_{e f f}+E_{c} L_{e f f}} \tag{2.9}
\end{equation*}
$$

where $\mathrm{L}_{\text {eff }}$ is the effective channel length due to the short channel modulation.
Equation (2.9) will approach the classic square-law of (2.1) for long-channel MOS transistors since the $\mathrm{V}_{\text {eff }}$ in the denominator of (2.9) is negligible when $\mathrm{L} \gg \mathrm{V}_{\text {eff }} / \mathrm{E}_{\mathrm{c}}$. Therefore the current model of (2.9) is applicable to both long- and short-channel MOSFETs operating in the saturation region.

By defining the critical channel length $L_{c}$ as

$$
\begin{equation*}
L_{c}=\frac{V_{e f f}}{E_{c}} \tag{2.10}
\end{equation*}
$$

the drain current can also be modeled by

$$
\begin{equation*}
I_{D}=\frac{1}{2} \mu_{e f f} C_{o x} \frac{W}{L_{e f f}+L_{c}} V_{e f f}^{2} \tag{2.11}
\end{equation*}
$$

When $\mathrm{L} \ll \mathrm{L}_{\mathrm{c}}$, (2.9) and (2.11) will approach

$$
\begin{equation*}
I_{D}=W C_{o x} v_{\text {sat }} V_{\text {eff }} \quad \text { when } L \ll L_{c} \tag{2.12}
\end{equation*}
$$

and the transconductance $\mathrm{g}_{\mathrm{m}}$ is [22]

$$
\begin{equation*}
g_{m}=W C_{o x} v_{\text {sat }}=\frac{I_{D}}{V_{\text {eff }}} \quad \text { when } L \ll L_{c} \tag{2.13}
\end{equation*}
$$

Therefore for a MOSFET operating in the saturation region with extremely short channel, the drain current increases linearly with $\mathrm{V}_{\text {eff }}$ and the only way to get a larger transconductance is to increase the channel width since decreasing channel length will not help any more.

Figure 2.2 shows the comparison of the drain current $\mathrm{I}_{\mathrm{D}}$ calculated by (2.9) and simulated by Spectre using the BSIM3 model [21] for a NMOS transistor in

IBM $0.13 \mu \mathrm{~m}$ process which is biased in the saturation region. The agreement between the predicted and simulated results is within $10 \%$.

(a) Drain current versus the channel width.

(b) Drain current versus the channel length.

Figure 2.2 Evaluation of the current model in equation (2.9).

The relationships between the drain current $\mathrm{I}_{\mathrm{D}}$ and the transistor geometry observed from Figure 2.2 are as follows:

1. $\mathrm{I}_{\mathrm{D}}$ is proportional to W for both long- and short-channel MOSFETs;
2. The current model of (2.9) predicts that $\mathrm{I}_{\mathrm{D}}$ is inversely proportional to L for long-channel MOSFETs and has no dependency on $L$ for short-channel MOSFETs. From Figure 2.3 which shows only the simulated $\mathrm{I}_{\mathrm{D}}$ in Figure 2.2 b on a $\log -\log$ scale, $I_{D}$ is observed with a slope of -1 for $L$ around $1 \mu \mathrm{~m}$. When L gets shorter, $\mathrm{I}_{\mathrm{D}}$ shows less dependency on L . For L in the range of $[0.18 \mu \mathrm{~m}, 0.3 \mu \mathrm{~m}]$, the observed slope of $I_{D}$ has changed from -1 to -0.5 , indicating $I_{D}$ is inversely proportional to square root of L in this region.
3. From Figure 2.2b, the drain current is not entirely saturated even at the minimum channel length of $0.12 \mu \mathrm{~m}$.

For MOSFETs in the triode region, it is straightforward that the drain current is given by

$$
\begin{equation*}
I_{D}=\mu C_{o x} \frac{W}{L_{e f f}+L_{c}}\left(V_{G S}-V_{T}-\frac{1}{2} V_{D S}\right) V_{D S} \tag{2.14}
\end{equation*}
$$



Figure 2.3 Simulated drain current versus L.

### 2.3.2 Thermal Noise

Thermal noise is generated by the effective channel resistance $\mathrm{R}_{\mathrm{ch}}$ and is modeled by [24]

$$
\begin{equation*}
\frac{\overline{i_{n}^{2}}}{\Delta f}=\frac{4 k T}{R_{c h}}\left[\frac{\mathrm{~A}^{2}}{\mathrm{H}_{\mathrm{z}}}\right] \tag{2.15}
\end{equation*}
$$

where k is the Boltzmann's constant and T is the temperature in Kelvin.
For long channel CMOS transistors, the thermal noise current spectral density is given by [20]

$$
\begin{equation*}
\frac{\overline{i_{n}^{2}}}{\Delta f}=\frac{4 k T}{L^{2}} \mu_{e f f} Q_{i n v} \tag{2.16}
\end{equation*}
$$

with

$$
\begin{gather*}
Q_{i n v}=C_{o x} W L V_{e f f} \frac{1-\eta+\frac{\eta^{2}}{3}}{1-\frac{\eta}{2}}=C_{o x} W L V_{e f f} \gamma  \tag{2.17}\\
\eta=\frac{A_{b u l k}\left(\psi_{S L}-\psi_{S 0}\right)}{V_{e f f}} \tag{2.18}
\end{gather*}
$$

where $A_{\text {bulk }}$ is the correction factor for the linearized bulk charge, $\psi_{\mathrm{s} 0}$ is the surface potential at source and $\psi_{\text {SL }}$ is the surface potential at the drain.

By defining the zero-bias drain source conductance $g_{d 0}$ as

$$
\begin{equation*}
g_{d 0}=\mu_{e f f} C_{o x} \frac{W}{L} V_{e f f} \tag{2.19}
\end{equation*}
$$

(2.16) can be written as

$$
\begin{equation*}
\frac{\overline{i_{n}^{2}}}{\Delta f}=4 k T \gamma g_{d 0} \quad\left[\frac{\mathrm{~A}^{2}}{\mathrm{H}_{\mathrm{z}}}\right] \tag{2.20}
\end{equation*}
$$

with $\gamma=2 / 3$ for MOSFETs in the saturation region and $\gamma$ varies from $2 / 3$ to 1 as the drain-to source voltage $\mathrm{V}_{\mathrm{DS}}$ varies from zero to the onset of the saturation [20].

Substituting the expression of $\mathrm{g}_{\mathrm{d} 0}$ in (2.19) into (2.20), the thermal noise current spectral density of long-channel MOSFETs in the saturation region is

$$
\begin{equation*}
\frac{\overline{i_{n}^{2}}}{\Delta f}=\frac{8}{3} k T \mu_{e f f} C_{o x} \frac{W}{L} V_{e f f} \quad\left[\frac{\mathrm{~A}^{2}}{\mathrm{H}_{\mathrm{z}}}\right] \tag{2.21}
\end{equation*}
$$

For short-channel MOSFETs in the saturation region, equation (2.21) will not be valid since the mobility of the carriers is degraded due to the lateral electric field and the infinitesimal channel segment cannot be regarded as a linear resistor any more [26]. Reference [25] reported large excess channel noise in shortchannel MOS transistors. The representation of (2.20) can still be used, with the parameter $\gamma$ observed to be two or three times larger than that of long-channel MOS transistors in saturation [26], [27], [31].

The thermal noise behavior of short-channel MOSFETs in the saturation region is not well understood yet and even controversial. Many approaches are based on a two-section channel model in which the channel of the MOSFET is divided into two regions: a gradual channel region of length $\mathrm{L}_{\text {elec }}$ and a velocity saturation region of length $\Delta \mathrm{L}$ [27], as shown in Figure 2.4.


Figure 2.4 Channel cross section of a MOSFET in the saturation region.

References [25] and [28]-[30] attempted to explain the excess factor $\gamma$ by introducing the hot electron effect in velocity saturation region. But the reported thermal noise in MOSFETS fabricated in $0.18 \mu \mathrm{~m}$ processes shows that the excess factor $\gamma$ does not exceed more than two at strong inversion [31], [32]. And some experimental works even address that the excess noise due to hot electrons in velocity saturation region is negligible [31], [33]. Reference [27] states that there is no noise current (or current fluctuation) generated in the velocity saturation region, because Ohm's law is not valid in the velocity saturation region and the carriers which travel at their saturation velocity will not respond to the local change of the electric field caused by the noise voltage fluctuation.

The latest work in [26] developed a model which takes into account both velocity saturation effect and carrier heating effect, while ignoring the noise in the velocity saturation region. It shows that the well-known formula (2.16), which is valid for the long-channel MOS devices, can be extended into the short channel. This model has been verified by measurement results from MOSFETs in a $0.18 \mu \mathrm{~m}$ process, and the extracted excess factor $\gamma$ increased steadily with the drain bias in the saturation region due to the channel length modulation effect.

In order to simplify the analysis, this work will still use the compact noise model in (2.20), and let the factors $\gamma_{s}$ and $\gamma_{t}$ vary to account for the excess noise in short-channel MOSFETs operating in the saturation and triode region respectively. Therefore for short-channel MOSFETs in saturation, the thermal noise current spectral density is modeled by

$$
\begin{equation*}
\frac{\overline{i_{n}^{2}}}{\Delta f}=4 K T \gamma_{s} \cdot \mu_{e f f} C_{o x} \frac{W}{L} V_{e f f} \quad\left[\frac{\mathrm{~A}^{2}}{\mathrm{H}_{\mathrm{z}}}\right] \tag{2.22}
\end{equation*}
$$

### 2.3.3 1/f Noise

First observed by Johnson [34] in early amplifiers, the 1/f (flicker) noise prevails in many semiconductor devices. There are two theories to explain the physical origins of $1 / \mathrm{f}$ noise. Originally proposed by McWhorter [35], the carrier number fluctuation theory [36]-[39] believes that the $1 / \mathrm{f}$ noise is attributed to the random trapping and detrapping processes of charges in the oxide traps associated with contamination and crystal defects near the $\mathrm{Si}-\mathrm{SiO}_{2}$ interface. The charge fluctuation results in fluctuation of the surface potential and thus modulates the channel carrier density. Since the carrier lifetime in silicon is on the order of tens of microseconds, the resulting current fluctuations are concentrated at lower frequencies [40]. Typically PMOS transistors have less 1/f noise than NMOS transistors since their majority carriers (holes) are less likely to be trapped [41].

The mobility fluctuation theory [42]-[45] explains the $1 / \mathrm{f}$ noise as a result of the fluctuations in the mobility based on the Hooge's empirical equation [42]. Reference [46] and [47] found that both carrier number fluctuations and correlated mobility fluctuations result in 1/f noise of MOS devices and unified 1/f noise models were proposed [46]-[49].

The BSIM3v3 noise model in [48] is available in SPICE and shows good fittings with experimental $1 / \mathrm{f}$ noise results. It models the $1 / \mathrm{f}$ noise of MOSFETs in saturation as

$$
\begin{align*}
\frac{\overline{i_{n}^{2}}}{\Delta f}= & \frac{k T q^{2} I_{D} \mu_{e f f}}{10^{8} C_{o x} L^{2} f}\left[A \operatorname{In} \frac{N_{0}+N^{*}}{N_{L}+N^{*}}+B\left(N_{0}-N_{L}\right)+\frac{C}{2}\left(N_{0}^{2}-N_{L}^{2}\right)\right] \\
& +\Delta L \frac{k T I_{D}^{2}}{10^{8} W L^{2} f} \frac{A+B N_{L}+C N_{L}^{2}}{\left(N_{L}+N^{*}\right)^{2}} \tag{2.23}
\end{align*}
$$

with

$$
\begin{equation*}
q N_{0}=q N(0)=C_{o x}\left(V_{G S}-V_{T}\right) \tag{2.24}
\end{equation*}
$$

$$
\begin{gather*}
q N_{L}=q N(L)=C_{o x}\left(V_{G S}-V_{T}-V_{D S}\right)  \tag{2.25}\\
N^{*}=\frac{k T\left(C_{o x}+C_{d}+C_{i t}\right)}{q^{2}} \tag{2.26}
\end{gather*}
$$

where $A, B$ and $C$ are three noise fitting parameters, $N_{0}$ is the charge density at the source side, $\mathrm{N}_{\mathrm{L}}$ is the charge density at the drain side, $\mathrm{C}_{\mathrm{d}}$ is the depletion layer capacitance and $\mathrm{C}_{\mathrm{it}}$ is the interface trap capacitance, and $\Delta \mathrm{L}$ is the electrical channel length reduction due to channel length modulation.

Substituting the expression of $\mathrm{I}_{\mathrm{D}}$ in (2.1) and (2.12) into (2.23), the $1 / \mathrm{f}$ noise current spectral density is related to the channel length $L$ by

$$
\frac{\overline{i_{n}^{2}}}{\Delta f} \propto \begin{cases}\frac{1}{L^{3}} & \text { when } L \gg L_{c}  \tag{2.27}\\ \frac{1}{L^{2}} & \text { when } L \ll L_{c}\end{cases}
$$

Reference [50] reported that the $1 / \mathrm{f}$ noise spectral density is proportional to $1 / \mathrm{L}^{3}$ from the experimental results of four MOSFETs with L from $0.8 \mu \mathrm{~m}$ to $3.8 \mu \mathrm{~m}$, which supports the relationship of (2.27) for the long-channel case.

From (2.27), as the channel length scales down in the same semiconductor process, the $1 / \mathrm{f}$ noise current spectral density will increase at least quadratically, while the thermal noise current spectral density only increases linearly with a slightly increased excess factor $\gamma$ according to (2.22). This results in that the $1 / \mathrm{f}$ noise corner, at which the $1 / \mathrm{f}$ noise and white noise have the same level of spectral density, increases at least linearly when the channel length scales down as illustrated in Figure 2.5.

For the scaling across different deep submicron processes, the experimental results in [51] show that with technology scaling from $0.35 \mu \mathrm{~m}$ to $0.13 \mu \mathrm{~m}$ at a constant drain current of 10 mA , the $1 / \mathrm{f}$ noise current spectra density is proportional to $1 / L^{3}$ for thin gate oxide NMOS transistors with minimum channel
lengths. These results showed a much stronger dependence of $L$ than the model of (2.23) which predicts that the $1 / \mathrm{f}$ noise current spectra density is proportional to $1 / L^{2}$ when the drain current is kept constant. The authors of [51] explained their results with the process-dependent parameters in (2.23) and the use of nitrided gate oxide for the processes with feature sizes of 250 nm and below.

The use of nitrided oxides has become attractive in deep submicron processes for a number of reasons [52-54]. It provides resistance to interface state generation during hot-carrier degradation, it is robust in a radiation environment, it is essential to suppress impurity diffusion into the gate oxide, and it is able to provide increased gate dielectric capacitance density without compromising the gate leakage current [55]. However, the use of nitrided oxides significantly increases the $1 / \mathrm{f}$ noise in MOSFETs through the introduction of interface traps [53], [56].

Summarizing the above, downscaling CMOS technologies in general raises the average $1 / \mathrm{f}$ noise level and introduces higher $1 / \mathrm{f}$ noise corner. Since the $1 / \mathrm{f}$ noise will be upconverted in oscillators and giving rise to a $1 / f^{3}$ sideband around the carrier frequency, the characterization of $1 / \mathrm{f}$ noise becomes critical for oscillators designed in deep submicron processes.


Figure 2.5 Higher 1/f noise corner for MOSFETs with shorter channel length.

## Chapter 3: Technique to Relate Frequency and Time Domain Oscillator Jitter Performance

### 3.1 Introduction

The oscillation frequency of a VCO is specifically designed to be controlled by a voltage input $\mathrm{V}_{\mathrm{ct}}$, which is given by

$$
\begin{equation*}
\omega_{o u t}=\omega_{0}+K_{V C O} \cdot V_{c t l} \tag{3.1}
\end{equation*}
$$

where $\omega_{0}$ is the center frequency and $\mathrm{K}_{\mathrm{VCO}}$ is the VCO gain factor in the unit of [ $\mathrm{rad} / \mathrm{V} \cdot \mathrm{sec}]$.

Phase is the integral of frequency. Assuming the initial phase to be zero, the phase at the VCO output is

$$
\begin{equation*}
\phi(t)=\int_{0}^{t} \omega_{\text {out }}(t) \cdot d t=\omega_{0} t+K_{V C O} \int_{0}^{t} V_{\text {ctl }} \cdot d t \tag{3.2}
\end{equation*}
$$

Therefore the transfer function of the VCO is [57]

$$
\begin{equation*}
H(s)=\frac{K_{V C O}}{s} \tag{3.3}
\end{equation*}
$$

The noise sources within the VCO and at the VCO input terminal directly modulate the oscillation frequency, which results in the upconverted close-in phase noise. The typical oscillator phase noise spectrum is shown in Figure 3.1. Since the VCO is a perfect integrator, the integrated white noise is sort of random walk and is not stationary, showing a spectrum proportional to $1 / \mathrm{f}^{2}$, where f is the offset frequency from the carrier. The $1 / \mathrm{f}^{3}$ region is due to $1 / \mathrm{f}$ noise, showing a slope of $-30 \mathrm{~dB} / \mathrm{dec}$ in the phase noise spectrum on a $\log -\log$ scale. The corner between the $1 / f^{2}$ and $1 / \mathrm{f}^{3}$ regions is called the $1 / \mathrm{f}^{3}$ phase noise corner, denoted by $\mathrm{f}_{\mathrm{c}}$ in Figure 3.1, and is smaller than 1/f noise corner of the oscillator's components
by a factor determined by the symmetry properties of the oscillation waveform [10].


Figure 3.1 Typical oscillator phase noise spectrum.
Jitter can also be characterized in time domain by measuring the standard deviation of the jitter process using oscilloscopes. Therefore a technique for relating jitter measures from either domain is desirable so that the designer can work in whichever domain is easiest while still being able to accurately predict performance when measured by the end user.

In [8], a technique was developed to relate frequency and time domain oscillator performance for oscillators dominated by white noise sources. The VCO design process is simplified by assuming the $1 / f^{3}$ phase noise corner to lie below the PLL loop bandwidth and the $1 / \mathrm{f}$ noise contribution will be filtered out by the loop. Figure 3.2 shows the measured phase noise p.s.d. from a 155 MHz ring oscillator in a $5 \mathrm{GHz}_{\mathrm{T}}$ bipolar process [8]. The $1 / \mathrm{f}^{3}$ corner frequency is so low that only white noise upconverted phase noise is observed.

Although the use of a deep submicron process allows the possibility of higher VCO frequency, it also introduces the problem of a higher 1/f noise corner. Figure 3.3 shows a typical phase noise spectrum from the single-ended ring oscillators
implemented in this work in a $0.18 \mu \mathrm{~m}$ process. The $1 / \mathrm{f}^{3}$ phase noise corner is located at an offset frequency of approximately 1 MHz for a 60 MHz carrier, locked by a PLL with 30 kHz loop bandwidth. Therefore the assumption of white noise domination is no longer valid, and the theory in [8] needs to be extended.


Figure 3.2 Phase noise p.s.d. of a 155 MHz VCO in a $5 \mathrm{GHz}_{\mathrm{T}}$ bipolar process.


Figure 3.3 Typical phase noise p.s.d. of VCOs in a $0.18 \mu \mathrm{~m}$ process.

The high $1 / f^{3}$ phase noise corner is due to the poor $1 / \mathrm{f}$ device noise in the deep submicron process. Even though the $1 / f^{3}$ phase noise corner can be significantly
lowered by improving waveform symmetry [10], the applicability is limited for ring oscillators since it is impossible to get symmetric rising and falling edges. Differential ring oscillators do not have symmetry advantage over single-ended peers since it is the symmetry of the half circuits that matters [10].

The goal of this chapter is to find an easy link between time domain and frequency domain figures of merit without getting into the details of where the $1 / f^{3}$ phase noise corner comes from. Section 3.2 will briefly review the characterization of VCO jitter and phase noise performance. The development of the technique to relate frequency and time domain oscillator performance in the presence of non-negligible $1 / \mathrm{f}$ noise sources is presented in Section 3.3. Section 3.4 gives supporting experimental results.

### 3.2 VCO Jitter and Phase Noise Performance Characterization

### 3.2.1 Frequency Domain Using Spectrum Analyzers

The free-running VCO can be characterized in the frequency domain using a spectrum analyzer. The spectrum analyzer can measure the spectral density of phase fluctuations per unit bandwidth. As shown in Figure 3.4, the output of the free-running VCO is directly applied to the spectrum analyzer. The resulting spectrum, normalized to the carrier power, is $\mathrm{S}_{\Phi \circ L}(\mathrm{f})$, as shown in Figure 3.5a. Figure 3.5 b shows the typical phase noise p.s.d. measured by spectrum analyzers on a log-log scale.


Figure 3.4 Free-running oscillators measurement in frequency domain.

(a) VCO output spectrum.

(b) Typical phase noise p.s.d.

Figure 3.5 Frequency domain measurement result: VCO open loop.

White noise upconverted phase noise dominates at higher offset frequencies. Its phase noise p.s.d. can be fitted to a characteristic [7]

$$
\begin{equation*}
S_{W}=\frac{N_{1}}{f^{2}} \quad\left[\operatorname{rad}^{2} / \mathrm{Hz}\right] \tag{3.4}
\end{equation*}
$$

where $\mathrm{N}_{1}$ is the frequency domain white noise figure of merit in the unit of $\left[\mathrm{rad}^{2} \cdot \mathrm{~Hz}\right]$. This spectrum shows a slope of $-20 \mathrm{~dB} / \mathrm{dec}$ in Figure 3.5b.

The $-30 \mathrm{~dB} /$ dec region is upconverted from the $1 / \mathrm{f}$ noise. Its p.s.d. has the form of

$$
\begin{equation*}
S_{1 / f}(f)=\frac{C}{|f|^{3}} \tag{3.5}
\end{equation*}
$$

where C is the frequency domain $1 / \mathrm{f}$ noise figure of merit in the unit of $\left[\mathrm{rad}^{2} \cdot \mathrm{~Hz}^{2}\right]$.
Since at $1 / f^{3}$ phase noise corner frequency $f_{c}$, the phase noise due to white noise and the $1 / \mathrm{f}$ noise are equal, the figure of merit C is calculated as

$$
\begin{equation*}
C=N_{1} f_{c} \tag{3.6}
\end{equation*}
$$

In order to ensure that only phase noise power is present in the waveform, some form of limiting is usually used to remove the amplitude noise in practice [58]. And to get accurate results, the noise floor of the spectrum analyzer must be lower than the phase noise of the oscillator under test.

This is a simple, quick test to obtain frequency domain figures of merit $N_{1}$ and C. But in general, the free-running VCO drifts randomly with typical rate of 10 $\mathrm{ppm} / \mathrm{min}$ [59], while it usually takes 2 to 5 minutes for the spectrum analyzer to perform a single test, which introduces measurement errors. To stabilize the frequency of the device-under-test, the VCO is usually locked to an ultra low noise reference clock in the measurement, rather than free-running, which will be discussed in Chapter 4.

### 3.2.2 Time Domain: Equivalent Time Oscilloscope Method

Most types of jitter can be characterized in the time domain by equivalent time sampling oscilloscopes using the method of two-sample standard deviation [8].

The idea is to construct a histogram of threshold crossings from the VCO output waveform during a user defined time window. As illustrated in Figure 3.6, the output of the free-running VCO is directly applied to the sampling oscilloscope as both the trigger and the input. The sampling oscilloscope compares the phase difference between transitions in the clock waveform, separated by a delay $\Delta \mathrm{T}$ derived from the internal time base of the sampling oscilloscope. Then a distribution of the threshold crossing times is observed, and the standard deviation of this distribution, $\sigma_{\Delta \mathrm{T}}$, is the rms jitter accumulated in the time delay $\Delta \mathrm{T}$.


Figure 3.6 Jitter measurement over time delay $\Delta T$.

The amount of the accumulated jitter depends on the delay $\Delta T$. As shown in Figure 3.7, by varying the time delay $\Delta \mathrm{T}$ and repeating the measurement procedure, the measured standard deviation $\sigma_{\Delta T}$ can be plotted as a function of delay $\Delta \mathrm{T}$ on a log-log scale, which is called a "kappa plot".


Figure 3.7 Measurement result: Time domain, open loop.
For short delays the VCO is dominated by white noise. The rms jitter after time delay $\Delta \mathrm{T}$ is [7]

$$
\begin{equation*}
\sigma_{W}(\Delta T)=\kappa \sqrt{\Delta T} \quad[\mathrm{sec} \mathrm{rms}] \tag{3.7}
\end{equation*}
$$

where $\kappa$ is the time domain white noise figure of merit. Therefore it shows a slope of 0.5 in the kappa plot on a log-log scale. $\kappa$ is related to the frequency domain white noise figure of merit $\mathrm{N}_{1}$ by [7]

$$
\begin{equation*}
\kappa=\frac{\sqrt{N_{1}}}{f_{0}} \quad[\sqrt{\mathbf{s e c}}] \tag{3.8}
\end{equation*}
$$

where $\mathrm{f}_{0}$ is the VCO's oscillating frequency.
For longer delays over which the VCO is dominated by the $1 / \mathrm{f}$ noise, (3.7) changes to [15]

$$
\begin{equation*}
\sigma_{1 / f}(\Delta T)=\zeta \Delta T \tag{3.9}
\end{equation*}
$$

where $\zeta$ is the time domain $1 / \mathrm{f}$ noise figure of merit, and it is a dimensionless constant.

The time delay at the "corner" between these two regions is the $1 / \mathrm{f}$ transition time, denoted by $\mathrm{t}_{\mathrm{c}}$ in Fig. 3.7.

In this measurement, the internal time base of the sampling oscilloscope is the reference which defines the delay interval $\Delta \mathrm{T}$. Therefore the jitter floor of the sampling oscilloscope must be better than the clock under test.

### 3.2.3 Time Domain: Real-Time Oscilloscope Method

The equivalent time sampling oscilloscopes can only acquire statistics for a clock edge at a single delay [60]. Recently introduced digital oscilloscopes [61] can acquire jitter information on thousands of clock edges in a single shot and store results as time interval error (TIE) data, as illustrated in Figure 3.8.


Figure 3.8 Time interval error.
TIE is the timing variation for each active clock edge from the ideal position [61], given by:

$$
\begin{equation*}
\operatorname{TIE}_{\text {clock }}[n]=T_{\text {clock }}[n]-n \cdot T_{0} \tag{3.10}
\end{equation*}
$$

where $\operatorname{TIE}_{\text {clock }}[\mathrm{n}]$ is the clock time interval error after the $\mathrm{n}_{\text {th }}$ clock cycle, $\mathrm{T}_{\text {clock }}[\mathrm{n}]$ is the specified clock edge, and $\mathrm{T}_{0}$ is the calculated ideal clock period.

TIE actually consists of samples of the continuous time phase noise process. The time domain figures of merit $\kappa$ and $\zeta$ can be obtained by post-processing the TIE data. The algorithm is as follows:

1. Construct the distributions of threshold crossing times by calculating the distribution matrix

$$
\begin{equation*}
\operatorname{Distribution}[n, j]=T I E_{\text {clock }}[j+n]-T I E_{\text {clock }}[j] \quad n, j=1,2, \ldots \tag{3.11}
\end{equation*}
$$

The $\mathrm{n}_{\text {th }}$ row of the distribution matrix forms the histogram of threshold crossing times with jitter accumulated in n clock cycles.
2. Calculate the standard deviation of each row in the distribution matrix to obtain the rms jitter accumulated in different cycles as illustrated in Figure 3.9:

$$
\begin{equation*}
\sigma\left(n T_{0}\right)=\operatorname{stdev}\left(T I E_{\text {clock }}[j+n]-T I E_{\text {clock }}[j]\right) \quad n, j=1,2, \ldots \tag{3.12}
\end{equation*}
$$

3. Plot the rms jitter vector $\sigma\left(\mathrm{nT}_{0}\right)$ versus its time stamp, $\mathrm{nT}_{0}$, to get "Kappa" plot. Then the time domain figures of merit $\kappa$ and $\zeta$ can be extracted.


Figure 3.9 TIE data post-processing.
Appendix A shows a Matlab implementation of this proposed algorithm. Fig. 3.10 shows the TIE and post-processed kappa plot for a 150 MHz VCO designed in this work.

(a) Time Interval Error for a 150 MHz VCO in this work.

(b) Extracted kappa plot from the TIE data in (a).

Fig. 3.10 TIE and post-processed kappa plot for a 150 MHz VCO.

### 3.3 Theoretical Development

### 3.3.1 Near-carrier Oscillator Spectrum

As discussed in Section 3.2.1, the typical phase noise spectrum for an openloop VCO is as shown in Fig. 3.11a.

(a)

(b)

Fig. 3.11 Phase noise p.s.d with close-in corner frequencies.

The white noise integrated phase noise has the p.s.d. in the form of

$$
\begin{equation*}
S_{W}=\frac{N_{1}}{f^{2}} \tag{3.13}
\end{equation*}
$$

The $1 / \mathrm{f}$ noise upconverted phase noise has the p.s.d. in the form of

$$
\begin{equation*}
S_{1 / f}(f)=\frac{N_{1} f_{c}}{f^{3}} \tag{3.14}
\end{equation*}
$$

However both equation (3.13) and (3.14) indicate that the phase noise power goes to infinity at the carrier frequency which is obviously contradictory to reality. In [12] and [13] mathematical models are developed for the near-carrier phase noise spectrum, but the theory is still incomplete. For practical purposes, cutoff
frequencies $\gamma_{1 / \mathrm{f}}$ and $\gamma_{\mathrm{w}}$ are assumed to exist at very small offset frequencies (several hertz or below) in this work so that the phase noise power at the carrier is finite, as shown in Fig. 3.11b. Therefore, the double sideband p.s.d. of the white noise and $1 / \mathrm{f}$ noise upconverted phase noise are modeled as

$$
\begin{align*}
S_{W}(f) & =\frac{\frac{N_{1}}{\gamma_{w}^{2}}}{1+\left(\frac{f}{\gamma_{w}}\right)^{2}}  \tag{3.15}\\
S_{1 / f}(f) & =\frac{\frac{N_{1} f_{c}}{\gamma_{1 / f}^{3}}}{1+\left(\frac{|f|}{\gamma_{1 / f}}\right)^{3}} \tag{3.16}
\end{align*}
$$

### 3.3.2 Relationship between Jitter and Phase Noise

The time domain jitter measurement using the method of two-sample standard deviation in Section 3.2.2 is actually a sampling process of the phase difference between the threshold crossings of the reference and the observed transitions. The testing equipment, such as the sampling oscilloscope, can be modeled as a linear time invariant (LTI) sampling system with the impulse response of

$$
\begin{equation*}
h(t)=\delta(t+\Delta T)-\delta(t) \tag{3.17}
\end{equation*}
$$

The transfer function of this LTI system is

$$
\begin{equation*}
H(j \omega)=e^{j \omega \Delta T}-1 \tag{3.18}
\end{equation*}
$$

If the upconverted phase noise is wide sense stationary (WSS), the variance of the jitter process at the output of this system can be obtained by

$$
\begin{equation*}
\sigma^{2}(\Delta T)=\int_{-\infty}^{\infty} S_{\Phi}(f)|H(j 2 \pi f)|^{2} d f \quad\left[\operatorname{rad}^{2}\right] \tag{3.19}
\end{equation*}
$$

Therefore the relationship between jitter and phase noise is

$$
\begin{equation*}
\sigma^{2}(\Delta T)=8 \int_{0}^{\infty} S_{\Phi}(f) \sin ^{2}(\pi \Delta T f) d f \quad\left[\operatorname{rad}^{2}\right] \tag{3.20}
\end{equation*}
$$

or

$$
\begin{equation*}
\sigma^{2}(\Delta T)=\frac{2}{\pi^{2} f_{0}^{2}} \int_{0}^{\infty} S_{\Phi}(f) \sin ^{2}(\pi \Delta T f) d f \quad\left[\sec ^{2}\right] \tag{3.21}
\end{equation*}
$$

### 3.3.3 Jitter Due to White Noise

Since the jitter process due to white noise over a finite time interval is WSS [8], its variance can be calculated by applying (3.21)

$$
\begin{equation*}
\sigma_{W}^{2}(\Delta T)=\frac{2}{\pi^{2} f_{0}^{2}} \int_{0}^{\infty} \frac{N_{1} / \gamma_{w}^{2}}{1+\left(f / \gamma_{w}\right)^{2}} \sin ^{2}(\pi \Delta T f) d f \tag{3.22}
\end{equation*}
$$

The result is

$$
\begin{equation*}
\sigma_{W}^{2}(\Delta T)=\frac{N_{1}}{2 \pi \gamma_{w} f_{0}^{2}}\left(1-\exp \left(-2 \pi \gamma_{w} \Delta T\right)\right) \tag{3.23}
\end{equation*}
$$

Since the time delay $\Delta \mathrm{T}$ usually cannot exceed several milliseconds in the measurements due to the record length limitation of the sampling or the digital oscilloscope, it is reasonable to assume

$$
\begin{equation*}
2 \pi \gamma_{w} \Delta T \ll 1 \tag{3.24}
\end{equation*}
$$

Using the Taylor approximation,

$$
\begin{equation*}
\exp \left(-2 \pi \gamma_{w} \Delta T\right) \approx 1-2 \pi \gamma_{w} \Delta T \tag{3.25}
\end{equation*}
$$

equation (3.23) is approximated by

$$
\begin{equation*}
\sigma_{W}^{2}(\Delta T)=\frac{N_{1}}{f_{0}^{2}} \Delta T \tag{3.26}
\end{equation*}
$$

Therefore the rms jitter due to white noise is

$$
\begin{equation*}
\sigma_{W}(\Delta T)=\frac{\sqrt{N_{1}}}{f_{0}} \sqrt{\Delta T}=\kappa \sqrt{\Delta T} \quad[\sec \mathrm{rms}] \tag{3.27}
\end{equation*}
$$

Result of (3.27) matches the result in [7] for white noise integrated phase noise.

### 3.3.4 Jitter due to the $1 / f$ Noise

The $1 / \mathrm{f}$ noise is a non-stationary process, and there is still controversy about its modeling. But for practical purposes it can be modeled as a colored stationary process [14]. After the upconversion, the integrated jitter process with p.s.d. modeled by (3.16) is well-behaved and upper bounded. For simplicity in analysis, it is also modeled as a WSS process. Under this assumption, the jitter due to the 1/f noise can be computed by applying (3.21)

$$
\begin{equation*}
\sigma_{1 / f}^{2}(\Delta T)=\frac{2}{\pi^{2} f_{0}^{2}} \int_{0}^{\infty} \frac{N_{1} f_{c} / \gamma_{1 / f}^{3}}{1+\left(f / \gamma_{1 / f}\right)^{3}} \sin ^{2}(\pi \Delta T f) d f \tag{3.28}
\end{equation*}
$$

The integral in (3.28) is too complicated to be computed analytically. For simplification, (3.28) is approximated as the summation of the integral of two parts, the plateau region and the $-30 \mathrm{~dB} / \mathrm{dec}$ region in Fig. 3.11.

The jitter due to the plateau region of the phase noise p.s.d. is

$$
\begin{equation*}
\sigma_{P}^{2}(\Delta T)=\frac{2}{\pi^{2} f_{0}^{2}} \int_{0}^{\gamma_{1 / f}} \frac{N_{1} f_{c}}{\gamma_{1 / f}^{3}} \sin ^{2}(\pi \Delta T f) d f \tag{3.29}
\end{equation*}
$$

which equals

$$
\begin{equation*}
\sigma_{P}^{2}(\Delta T)=\frac{N_{1} f_{c}}{\pi^{2} f_{0}^{2} \gamma_{1 / f}^{2}}\left(1-\frac{\sin \left(2 \pi \gamma_{1 / f} \Delta T\right)}{2 \pi \gamma_{1 / f} \Delta T}\right) \tag{3.30}
\end{equation*}
$$

Under the condition of (3.24), and using the Taylor approximation,

$$
\begin{equation*}
\sin (x) \approx x-\frac{1}{6} x^{3} \tag{3.31}
\end{equation*}
$$

(3.30) can be simplified to

$$
\begin{equation*}
\sigma_{P}^{2}(\Delta T)=\frac{2 N_{1} f_{c}}{3 f_{0}^{2}} \Delta T^{2} \tag{3.32}
\end{equation*}
$$

Result of (3.32) does not show any dependency on the cut-off frequency $\gamma_{1 / \mathrm{f}}$. The reason is that the shaping function

$$
\begin{equation*}
\sin ^{2}(\pi \Delta T f) \approx(\pi \Delta T f)^{2} \quad \text { when } \pi \Delta T f \ll 1 \tag{3.33}
\end{equation*}
$$

and the integral of this shaping function over the frequency in $\left[0, \gamma_{1 / f}\right]$ is proportional to $\gamma^{3}{ }_{1 / \mathrm{f}}$, while the p.s.d. in the plateau region is proportional to $1 / \gamma^{3}{ }_{1 / f}$, with the results that the product of both is independent of $\gamma_{1 / f}$.

The jitter due to the $-30 \mathrm{~dB} / \mathrm{dec}$ region is computed by

$$
\begin{equation*}
\sigma_{F}^{2}(\Delta T)=\frac{2}{\pi^{2} f_{0}^{2}} \int_{\gamma_{1 / f}}^{\infty} \frac{N_{1} f_{c}}{f^{3}} \sin ^{2}(\pi \Delta T f) d f \tag{3.34}
\end{equation*}
$$

The result is

$$
\begin{equation*}
\sigma_{F}^{2}(\Delta T)=\frac{N_{1} f_{c} \beta}{f_{0}^{2}} \Delta T^{2} \tag{3.35}
\end{equation*}
$$

where

$$
\begin{equation*}
\beta=\left(\frac{\sin \left(\pi \gamma_{1 / f} \Delta T\right)}{\pi \gamma_{1 / f} \Delta T}\right)^{2}+\frac{\sin \left(2 \pi \gamma_{1 / f} \Delta T\right)}{\pi \gamma_{1 / f} \Delta T}-2 \operatorname{cosint}\left(2 \pi \gamma_{1 / f} \Delta T\right) \tag{3.36}
\end{equation*}
$$

The function $\operatorname{cosint}(x)$ in (3.36) is the cosine integral function defined by

$$
\begin{equation*}
\cos \operatorname{int}(x)=\gamma+\operatorname{In}(x)+\int_{0}^{x} \frac{\cos t-1}{t} d t \tag{3.37}
\end{equation*}
$$

where $\gamma$ is Euler's constant $0.577215664 \ldots$ Under the condition of (3.24),

$$
\begin{equation*}
\frac{\sin \left(2 \pi \gamma_{1 / f} \Delta T\right)}{2 \pi \gamma_{1 / f} \Delta T} \approx 1 \tag{3.38}
\end{equation*}
$$

Therefore,

$$
\begin{equation*}
\beta \approx 3-2 \operatorname{cosint}\left(2 \pi \gamma_{1 / f} \Delta T\right) \tag{3.39}
\end{equation*}
$$

The total jitter due to the $1 / \mathrm{f}$ noise is obtained by the summation of (3.32) and (3.35), which is

$$
\begin{equation*}
\sigma_{1 / f}^{2}(\Delta T)=\frac{N_{1} f_{c}}{f_{0}^{2}} \alpha^{2} \Delta T^{2} \tag{3.40}
\end{equation*}
$$

where

$$
\begin{equation*}
\alpha^{2}=\frac{11}{3}-2 \operatorname{cosint}\left(2 \pi \gamma_{1 / f} \Delta T\right) \tag{3.41}
\end{equation*}
$$

So the rms jitter due to the $1 / \mathrm{f}$ noise is

$$
\begin{equation*}
\sigma_{1 / f}(\Delta T)=\frac{\sqrt{N_{1} f_{c}} \alpha}{f_{0}} \Delta T \quad[\sec \mathrm{rms}] \tag{3.42}
\end{equation*}
$$

or

$$
\begin{equation*}
\sigma_{1 / f}(\Delta T)=\kappa \sqrt{f_{c}} \alpha \Delta T \quad[\mathrm{sec} \mathrm{rms}] \tag{3.43}
\end{equation*}
$$

Thus the analytical expression of the figure of merit $\zeta$ is

$$
\begin{equation*}
\zeta=\kappa \sqrt{f_{c}} \alpha \tag{3.44}
\end{equation*}
$$

Fig. 3.12 shows that $\alpha$ varies very slowly versus $2 \pi \gamma_{1 / f} \Delta \mathrm{~T}$ through an 11 decade range of arguments. In the measurement of just 2 or 3 decades, $\alpha$ is almost a constant. Therefore from (3.43) we are able to approximate that the rms jitter due to the $1 / \mathrm{f}$ noise is proportional to the measurement time delay $\Delta \mathrm{T}$.

Since $1 / \mathrm{f}$ noise dominates at longer delays and the jitter due to $1 / \mathrm{f}$ noise usually appears in the time delay interval of [1E-7, 1E-5] second, $\alpha$ can be taken to be approximately as 5 . Hence equation (3.43) can be simplified to

$$
\begin{equation*}
\sigma_{1 / f}(\Delta T) \approx 5 \kappa \sqrt{f_{c}} \Delta T \quad[\mathrm{sec} \mathrm{rms}] \tag{3.45}
\end{equation*}
$$

And the frequency domain and time domain $1 / \mathrm{f}$ noise figures of merit are related as

$$
\begin{equation*}
\zeta \approx \frac{5 \sqrt{C}}{f_{0}} \tag{3.46}
\end{equation*}
$$



Fig. 3.12 Evaluation of $\alpha$.

### 3.3.5 1/f Transition Time $\mathbf{t}_{\mathbf{c}}$

The total rms jitter over time delay $\Delta \mathrm{T}$ is

$$
\begin{equation*}
\sigma_{\text {total }}=\kappa \sqrt{\Delta T+f_{c} \alpha^{2} \Delta T^{2}} \quad[\mathrm{sec} \mathrm{rms}] \tag{3.47}
\end{equation*}
$$

By solving for the time at which equation (3.27) and (3.43) are equal, the $1 / \mathrm{f}$ transition time $t_{c}$ is related to the $1 / f^{3}$ phase noise corner $f_{c}$ by

$$
\begin{equation*}
t_{c}=\frac{1}{\alpha^{2} f_{c}} \quad[\mathrm{sec}] \tag{3.48}
\end{equation*}
$$

### 3.4 Experimental Verification

To verify the model proposed in Section 3.3, jitter and phase noise measurements were made for single-ended CMOS ring oscillators fabricated in TSMC $0.18 \mu \mathrm{~m}$ process. The measurements were performed using a LeCroy Wavemaster 8600A digital oscilloscope [61] and an Agilent Technologies E4440A spectrum analyzer [63].

The ring oscillators under test were implemented with the so-called currentstarved inverters [40] as shown in Figure 3.13. $\mathrm{M}_{1}$ and $\mathrm{M}_{2}$ form the CMOS inverter. $M_{3}$ and $M_{4}$ are the control transistors which determine the current available for switching and thus control the speed of the VCO. The PMOS transistors are sized relative to NMOS transistors to provide rise and fall times that as symmetric as possible, and the control transistors are twice the size of the switching transistors.


Figure 3.13 The current-starved inverter.

Table 3.1 gives information on the VCO configurations and measurement results, as well as predicted $\zeta$ based on the measured $\kappa$ and $f_{c}$ by equation (3.45). The agreement between the predicted and measured results is within $10 \%$.

TABLE 3.1 Measured and predicted $\zeta$ for implemented ring oscillators.

| Index | N | $\mathrm{f}_{0}[\mathrm{~Hz}]$ | $\begin{gathered} \text { W/L } \\ \text { of M1 } \\ {[\mu \mathrm{m} / \mu \mathrm{m}]} \end{gathered}$ | $\kappa[\sqrt{\sec }]$ | $\mathrm{f}_{\mathrm{c}}[\mathrm{Hz}]$ | Pred. $\zeta$ | Meas. $\zeta$ | Error |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| $\begin{aligned} & \text { VCO } \\ & \text { set I } \end{aligned}$ | 25 | 250M | 10/0.18 | $4.49 \mathrm{E}-09$ | 1.14 M | $2.40 \mathrm{E}-05$ | $2.62 \mathrm{E}-05$ | 8.51\% |
|  |  |  | 20/0.18 | $3.13 \mathrm{E}-09$ | 950k | $1.53 \mathrm{E}-05$ | $1.60 \mathrm{E}-05$ | 4.66\% |
|  |  |  | 60/0.18 | $1.80 \mathrm{E}-09$ | 1.13 M | $9.57 \mathrm{E}-06$ | 9.12E-06 | 4.90\% |
|  |  |  | 100/0.18 | $1.45 \mathrm{E}-09$ | 805k | 6.50E-06 | $7.07 \mathrm{E}-06$ | 8.06\% |
| $\begin{aligned} & \text { VCO } \\ & \text { set II } \end{aligned}$ | 7 | 250M | 10/0.6 | $4.48 \mathrm{E}-09$ | 921k | 2.15E-05 | $2.09 \mathrm{E}-05$ | 2.86\% |
|  |  |  | 20/0.6 | $3.64 \mathrm{E}-09$ | 1.16 M | $1.96 \mathrm{E}-05$ | $1.82 \mathrm{E}-05$ | 7.70\% |
|  |  |  | 60/0.6 | $2.81 \mathrm{E}-09$ | 884k | 1.32E-05 | $1.29 \mathrm{E}-05$ | 2.40\% |
|  |  |  | 100/0.6 | $2.49 \mathrm{E}-09$ | 878k | $1.17 \mathrm{E}-05$ | $1.07 \mathrm{E}-05$ | 9.03\% |
| $\begin{aligned} & \text { VCO } \\ & \text { set III } \end{aligned}$ | 3 | 90M | 10/1.8 | 9.76E-09 | 766k | $4.27 \mathrm{E}-05$ | $4.13 \mathrm{E}-05$ | 3.42\% |
|  |  |  | 20/1.8 | 7.13E-09 | 740k | $3.07 \mathrm{E}-05$ | 3.01E-05 | 1.88\% |
|  |  |  | 60/1.8 | 5.68E-09 | 699k | $2.37 \mathrm{E}-05$ | $2.20 \mathrm{E}-05$ | 7.93\% |
|  |  |  | 100/1.8 | 4.95E-09 | 689k | $2.05 \mathrm{E}-05$ | 2.18E-05\| | 5.76\% |

## Chapter 4: Technique to Relate Frequency and Time Domain PLL Jitter Performance

### 4.1 Loop and Noise Transfer Function

A phase-locked loop is basically and oscillator whose frequency is locked onto a clock reference by a feedback control loop [64]. Figure 4.1 shows a block diagram of the PLL consisting of a phase detector (PD), a loop filter (LP), and a VCO. $\theta_{\mathrm{i}}$ is the input phase that PLL is trying to track, and $\theta_{\mathrm{o}}$ is the phase of the VCO output. $\theta_{\mathrm{n}}$ represents the phase noise of the VCO referred to its output. $\mathrm{K}_{\mathrm{d}}$ is the phase-detector gain factor and is measured in unit of [V/rad]. $\mathrm{K}_{\mathrm{VCO}}$ is the VCO gain factor and has the unit of [rad/V•sec]. Any of the PLL components shown in Figure 4.1 can contribute to jitter. But usually jitter from the VCO dominates [8].


Figure 4.1 Basic block diagram of the PLL.

The signal transfer function $H_{s}(s)$ from $\theta_{i}$ to $\theta_{0}$ is

$$
\begin{equation*}
H_{s}(s)=\frac{\theta_{o}}{\theta_{i}}=\frac{K_{d} K_{V C O} F(s)}{s+K_{d} K_{V C O} F(s)} \tag{4.1}
\end{equation*}
$$

The VCO output-referred phase noise transfer function $H_{n}(s)$ from $\theta_{n}$ to $\theta_{0}$ is

$$
\begin{equation*}
H_{n}(s)=\frac{\theta_{o}}{\theta_{n}}=\frac{s}{s+K_{d} K_{V C O} F(s)}=1-H_{s}(s) \tag{4.2}
\end{equation*}
$$

When lag-lead compensation is used, the PLL is a second-order system [57]. In clock recovery PLLs, however, it is common to overdamp the loop to avoid peaking in the jitter transfer function [8], and the loop transfer function can be approximated as a first-order system by

$$
\begin{align*}
& H_{s}(s)=\frac{2 \pi f_{L}}{s+2 \pi f}  \tag{4.3}\\
& H_{n}(s)=\frac{s}{s+2 \pi f} \tag{4.4}
\end{align*}
$$

where $f_{\mathrm{L}}$ is the loop bandwidth.
Equation (4.3) shows that the PLL acts as a low-pass filter for the input phase. The output phase of the PLL is only able to follow input phase fluctuations that occur at frequencies below the loop bandwidth $\mathrm{f}_{\mathrm{L}}$ while the input phase fluctuations at frequencies above $f_{L}$ are attenuated at the output. Equation (4.4) indicates that the PLL acts as a high-pass filter for the VCO phase noise, and is able to attenuate VCO phase noise that occurs at frequencies below $f_{L}$. Figure 4.2 shows Bode plots of the PLL loop transfer functions, and Figure 4.3 shows the phase noise shaping by the PLL.

Although the open loop VCO noise process is nonstationary, the process at the output of the closed loop VCO is stationary, due to shaping of the noise by the feedback loop [8]. This means transform techniques can be used when the PLL loop is closed.


Figure 4.2 Bode plots of the PLL loop transfer functions.


Figure 4.3 Phase noise shaping by the PLL.

### 4.2 Frequency Domain Using Spectrum Analyzers

Depending on whether the PLL loop bandwidth is able to cover the $1 / f^{3}$ phase noise corner $f_{c}$, two different types of phase noise spectrum will be observed by spectrum analyzers as illustrated in Figure 4.4. Since the VCO is locked to a reference clock, the measured phase noise power is the sum of the jitter contributions from both the reference clock and the VCO. As long as the jitter of the reference clock is much smaller than that of VCO, the VCO will be the dominant contributor of the phase noise at all offset frequencies.

(a) PLL phase noise spectrum when $f_{L}>f_{c}$.

(b) PLL phase noise spectrum when $\mathrm{f}_{\mathrm{L}}<\mathrm{f}_{\mathrm{c}}$.

Figure 4.4 Typical PLL phase noise spectrum.

Equation (4.4) shows that the noise transfer function of PLL corresponds to the first-order high-pass transfer function. When the PLL loop bandwidth $f_{L}$ is able to cover the corner frequency $f_{c}$, only the $-20 \mathrm{~dB} /$ dec region is observed in the
phase noise spectrum, as shown in Figure 4.4a. Most of the 1/f noise contribution is filtered out by the loop and negligible. The closed loop phase noise p.s.d. has the form of [8]

$$
\begin{equation*}
S_{W}(f)=\frac{N_{1} / f_{L}^{2}}{1+\left(f / f_{L}\right)^{2}} \tag{4.5}
\end{equation*}
$$

When the PLL loop bandwidth $f_{L}$ is lower than the corner frequency $f_{c}$, the phase noise due to $1 / \mathrm{f}$ noise dominates at the offset frequencies lower than $\mathrm{f}_{\mathrm{c}}$. After the shaping by the first order loop, the slope of the $1 / \mathrm{f}$ noise upconverted phase noise should theoretically change from $-30 \mathrm{~dB} / \mathrm{dec}$ to $-10 \mathrm{~dB} / \mathrm{dec}$ at the offset frequencies below $f_{\mathrm{L}}$ in the measured spectrum on a $\log -\log$ scale. But in reality, there are always extra poles at lower frequency which will further shape the loop [8]. Thus it is reasonable to assume the phase noise power approaches a constant at offset frequencies lower than $\mathrm{f}_{\mathrm{L}}$, as illustrated in Figure 4.4b. The introduced error by this assumption is negligible since the variance (average power) of the PLL jitter process is the integral of the phase noise p.s.d. over all frequencies [8], or the area under the phase noise p.s.d. in Figure 4.4. Under this approximation, the closed loop p.s.d. can be expressed as

$$
\begin{equation*}
S_{\Phi C L}(f)=\underbrace{\frac{N_{1} f_{c} / f_{L}^{3}}{1+\left(|f| / f_{L}\right)^{3}}}_{S_{1 / f}(f)}+\underbrace{\frac{N_{1} / f_{L}^{2}}{1+\left(f / f_{L}\right)^{2}}}_{S_{W}(f)} \tag{4.6}
\end{equation*}
$$

### 4.3 Time Domain, PLL Clock Referenced

In this measurement technique, the setup is as shown in Figure 4.5. The reference clock is used as the trigger while the PLL output is applied to the input of the sampling oscilloscope. In the presence of jitter, the distribution of threshold crossing times is observed. The standard deviation of this distribution is the output rms jitter of this PLL system, $\sigma_{\mathrm{x}}$, as shown in Figure 4.6.

As discussed in Section 4.1, with the PLL loop closed, the phase noise process is stationary. According to the Wiener-Khinchin theorem, the variance of the jitter process can be obtained by integrating the phase noise p.s.d. over all frequencies.


Figure 4.5 Measurement technique: Time domain, PLL clock referenced.


Figure 4.6 Measurement result: Time domain, PLL clock reference.

### 4.3.1 Case I: White Noise Dominated ( $f_{L}>f_{c}$ )

In the case that the $1 / \mathrm{f}^{3}$ phase noise corner $\mathrm{f}_{\mathrm{c}}$ is located inside the PLL loop bandwidth $\mathrm{f}_{\mathrm{L}}$, white noise dominates. The end user's measure of jitter performance, rms jitter $\sigma_{\mathrm{x}}$, is obtained by taking the integral [8]

$$
\begin{gather*}
\left(\sigma_{x}^{2}\right)_{W}=\int_{-\infty}^{+\infty} S_{W}(f) d f=\int_{-\infty}^{+\infty} \frac{N_{1} / f_{L}^{2}}{1+\left(f / f_{L}\right)^{2}} d f=\frac{N_{1} \pi}{f_{L}}  \tag{4.7}\\
\left(\sigma_{x}\right)_{W}=\sqrt{\frac{N_{1} \pi}{f_{L}}} \quad[\mathrm{rad} \mathrm{rms}] \tag{4.8}
\end{gather*}
$$

By normalizing to the carrier frequency $f_{0}, \sigma_{x}$ can be expressed in seconds rms as

$$
\begin{equation*}
\left(\sigma_{x}\right)_{W}=\frac{1}{f_{0}} \sqrt{\frac{N_{1}}{4 \pi f_{L}}}=\kappa \sqrt{\frac{1}{4 \pi f_{L}}} \quad[\mathrm{sec} \mathrm{rms}] \tag{4.9}
\end{equation*}
$$

Therefore, for PLL dominated by white noise, only the open loop VCO white noise figure of merit $\kappa$ and the PLL loop bandwidth $f_{L}$ are needed for closed loop jitter prediction. And increasing loop bandwidth $\mathrm{f}_{\mathrm{L}}$ will help to reduce the PLL rms jitter since from (4.9),

$$
\begin{equation*}
\left(\sigma_{x}\right)_{W} \propto \frac{1}{\sqrt{f_{L}}} \tag{4.10}
\end{equation*}
$$

### 4.3.2 Case II: In the Presence of Non-negligible $1 / \mathrm{f}$ Noise ( $\mathbf{f}_{\mathrm{L}}<\mathbf{f}_{\mathrm{c}}$ )

In the case that the $1 / f^{3}$ phase noise corner $\mathrm{f}_{\mathrm{c}}$ is located outside the PLL loop bandwidth $f_{L}$, the end user's measure of jitter performance $\sigma_{x}$ is obtained by taking the integral

$$
\begin{equation*}
\left(\sigma_{x}^{2}\right)_{\text {Total }}=\int_{-\infty}^{+\infty} S_{\Phi C L}(f) d f=\underbrace{\int_{-\infty}^{+\infty}\left(\frac{N_{1} f_{c} / f_{L}^{3}}{1+\left(|f| / f_{L}\right)^{3}}\right) d f}_{\left(\sigma_{x}^{2}\right)_{1 / f}}+\underbrace{\int_{-\infty}^{+\infty}\left(\frac{N_{1} / f_{L}^{2}}{1+\left(f / f_{L}\right)^{2}}\right) d f}_{\left(\sigma_{x}^{2}\right)_{W}} \tag{4.11}
\end{equation*}
$$

The result is

$$
\begin{align*}
& \left(\sigma_{x}^{2}\right)_{\text {Total }}=\underbrace{\frac{N_{1} \pi}{f_{L}} \cdot \frac{4 f_{c}}{3 \sqrt{3} f_{L}}}_{\left(\sigma_{x}^{2}\right)_{1 / f}}+\underbrace{\frac{N_{1} \pi}{f_{L}}}_{\left(\sigma_{x}^{2}\right)_{W}} \quad\left[\mathrm{rad}^{2}\right]  \tag{4.12}\\
& \left(\sigma_{x}\right)_{\text {Total }}=\sqrt{\frac{N_{1} \pi}{f_{L}}\left(1+\frac{4 f_{c}}{3 \sqrt{3} f_{L}}\right)} \quad[\mathrm{rad} \mathrm{rms}] \tag{4.13}
\end{align*}
$$

By normalizing to the carrier frequency $\mathrm{f}_{0}, \sigma_{\mathrm{x}}$ can be expressed in seconds rms as

$$
\begin{equation*}
\left(\sigma_{x}\right)_{\text {Total }}=\frac{1}{f_{0}} \sqrt{\frac{N_{1}}{4 \pi f_{L}}\left(1+\frac{4 f_{c}}{3 \sqrt{3} f_{L}}\right)} \quad[\mathrm{sec} \mathrm{rms}] \tag{4.14}
\end{equation*}
$$

or

$$
\begin{equation*}
\left(\sigma_{x}\right)_{\text {Total }}=\kappa \sqrt{\frac{1}{4 \pi f_{L}}\left(1+\frac{4 f_{c}}{3 \sqrt{3} f_{L}}\right)} \quad[\mathrm{sec} \mathrm{rms}] \tag{4.15}
\end{equation*}
$$

When $f_{c}$ is much less than $f_{L}$, equation (4.15) will reduce to the result of white noise dominated case as equation (4.9). As illustrated in Figure 4.7a, the 1/f noise contribution is much less than the phase noise upconverted by white noise after the filtering by the PLL.

As illustrated in Figure 4.7b, if $f_{c}$ is much greater $f_{L}$, the white noise contribution is much less than the $1 / \mathrm{f}$ noise upconverted phase noise due to the shaping by the. The result of (4.15) can be approximated by

$$
\begin{equation*}
\left(\sigma_{x}\right)_{\text {Toala }} \approx\left(\sigma_{x}\right)_{1 / f}=\frac{\kappa}{f_{L}} \sqrt{\frac{f_{c}}{3 \sqrt{3} \pi}} \text { when } f_{c} \gg f_{L} \tag{4.16}
\end{equation*}
$$

From (4.16), increasing the loop bandwidth $\mathrm{f}_{\mathrm{L}}$ is more important to reduce the PLL rms jitter since

$$
\begin{equation*}
\left(\sigma_{x}\right)_{1 / f} \propto \frac{1}{f_{L}} \quad \text { when } f_{c} \gg f_{L} \tag{4.17}
\end{equation*}
$$


(a)

(b)

Figure 4.7 Phase noise shaping by the PLL with different loop bandwidth $f_{L}$.

### 4.4 Time Domain, PLL Self Referenced

The measurement setup is shown in Figure 4.8. The output of the closed-loop PLL is applied to the sampling oscilloscope as both the trigger and the input. As shown in Figure 4.9, due to the filtering of the loop, the low frequency noise will be tracked out. Therefore the rms jitter will stop accumulation after time $t_{\mathrm{L}}$, and $\mathrm{t}_{\mathrm{L}}$ is related to the PLL loop bandwidth $\mathrm{f}_{\mathrm{L}}$ by [8]

$$
\begin{equation*}
t_{L}=\frac{1}{2 \pi f_{L}} \tag{4.18}
\end{equation*}
$$



Figure 4.8 Measurement technique: Time domain, self referenced.


Figure 4.9 Measurement result: Time domain, self referenced.

### 4.4.1 Case I: White Noise Dominated ( $\mathbf{t}_{L}<\mathrm{t}_{\mathrm{c}}$ )

In the case that the PLL loop bandwidth $f_{L}$ is higher than the $1 / \mathrm{f}^{3}$ phase noise corner frequency $f_{c}$, the time domain PLL jitter versus measurement time delay $\Delta \mathrm{T}$ is as shown in Figure 4.9a. The $1 / \mathrm{f}$ noise contribution is negligible as discussed in Section 4.2. Since the jitter process at the output of the closed loop VCO is stationary, the jitter as a function of delay in the self reference time domain measurement can be calculated by substituting the closed loop phase noise p.s.d. (4.5) into (3.21)

$$
\begin{align*}
& \sigma_{W}^{2}(\Delta T)=\frac{2}{\pi^{2} f_{0}^{2}} \int_{0}^{\infty} \frac{N_{1} / f_{L}^{2}}{1+\left(f / f_{L}\right)^{2}} \sin ^{2}(\pi \Delta T f) d f \quad\left[\mathrm{sec}^{2}\right]  \tag{4.19}\\
& \sigma_{W}^{2}(\Delta T)=\frac{N_{1}}{2 \pi f_{L} f_{0}^{2}}\left(1-e^{-2 \pi f_{L} \Delta T}\right)=2\left(\sigma_{x}^{2}\right)_{W}\left(1-e^{-2 \pi f_{L} \Delta T}\right) \quad\left[\mathrm{sec}^{2}\right] \tag{4.20}
\end{align*}
$$

Result of (4.20) agrees the result in [8].
From (4.20), the rms jitter of a white noise dominated PLL is upper bounded by

$$
\begin{equation*}
\left(\sigma_{W}\right)_{\max }=\sqrt{2}\left(\sigma_{x}\right)_{W} \tag{4.21}
\end{equation*}
$$

### 4.4.2 Case II: In the Presence of Non-negligible $1 / f$ Noise ( $t_{L}>t_{c}$ )

In the case that the PLL loop bandwidth $f_{L}$ is lower than the $1 / f^{3}$ phase noise corner frequency $f_{c}$, the time domain PLL jitter versus measurement time delay $\Delta T$ is as shown in Figure 4.9 b. Since the random processes of jitter due to white and $1 / \mathrm{f}$ noise are independent, the variance of the jitter process is

$$
\begin{equation*}
\sigma_{\text {Total }}^{2}(\Delta T)=\sigma_{1 / f}^{2}(\Delta T)+\sigma_{W}^{2}(\Delta T) \quad\left[\sec ^{2}\right] \tag{4.22}
\end{equation*}
$$

For the jitter process due to $1 / \mathrm{f}$ noise, applying (3.21)

$$
\begin{equation*}
\sigma_{1 / f}^{2}(\Delta T)=\frac{2}{\pi^{2} f_{0}^{2}} \int_{0}^{\infty} \frac{N_{1} f_{c} / f_{L}^{3}}{1+\left(f / f_{L}\right)^{3}} \sin ^{2}(\pi \Delta T f) d f \quad\left[\sec ^{2}\right] \tag{4.23}
\end{equation*}
$$

Since

$$
\begin{equation*}
\sin ^{2}(x)=\frac{1-\cos (2 x)}{2} \tag{4.24}
\end{equation*}
$$

equation (4.23) is computed as

$$
\begin{equation*}
\sigma_{1 / f}^{2}(\Delta T)=\frac{N_{1} f_{c}}{\pi^{2} f_{0}^{2} f_{L}^{2}}\left(\int_{0}^{\infty} \frac{1}{1+\left(f / f_{L}\right)^{3}} d\left(\frac{f}{f_{L}}\right)+\int_{0}^{\infty} \frac{\cos \left(2 \pi \Delta T f_{L} \frac{f}{f_{L}}\right)}{1+\left(f / f_{L}\right)^{3}} d\left(\frac{f}{f_{L}}\right)\right) \tag{4.25}
\end{equation*}
$$

which equals

$$
\begin{equation*}
\sigma_{1 / f}^{2}(\Delta T)=\frac{N_{1} f_{c}}{\pi^{2} f_{0}^{2} f_{L}^{2}}\left(\frac{2}{3 \sqrt{3}} \pi-\int_{0}^{\infty} \frac{\cos \left(\frac{\Delta T}{t_{L}} x\right)}{1+x^{3}} d x\right) \tag{4.26}
\end{equation*}
$$

or

$$
\begin{equation*}
\sigma_{1 / f}(\Delta T)=\sqrt{\frac{2}{3 \sqrt{3} \pi}} \frac{\sqrt{N_{1} f_{c}}}{f_{0} f_{L}} \sqrt{1-\int_{0}^{\infty} \frac{3 \sqrt{3} \cos \left(\frac{\Delta T}{t_{L}} x\right)}{2 \pi\left(1+x^{3}\right)} d x} \tag{4.27}
\end{equation*}
$$

where

$$
\begin{equation*}
x=\frac{f}{f_{L}} \tag{4.28}
\end{equation*}
$$

It is too complicated to compute the integral in equation (4.27). As illustrated in Figure 4.10, the numerical evaluation of this integral indicates that

$$
\begin{equation*}
\int_{0}^{\infty} \frac{3 \sqrt{3} \cos \left(\frac{\Delta T}{t_{L}} x\right)}{2 \pi\left(1+x^{3}\right)} d x \rightarrow 0 \quad \text { when } \quad \Delta \mathrm{T}>4 \mathrm{t}_{\mathrm{L}} \tag{4.29}
\end{equation*}
$$

So for time delays larger than $t_{L}$, the closed loop rms jitter due to the $1 / f$ noise is upper bounded by

$$
\begin{equation*}
\left(\sigma_{1 / f}\right)_{\max }=\sqrt{\frac{2}{3 \sqrt{3} \pi}} \frac{\sqrt{N_{1} f_{c}}}{f_{0} f_{L}}=\sqrt{2} \frac{\kappa}{f_{L}} \sqrt{\frac{f_{c}}{3 \sqrt{3} \pi}}=\sqrt{2}\left(\sigma_{x}\right)_{1 / f} \tag{4.30}
\end{equation*}
$$

The total variance of the PLL jitter process is the summation of (4.20) and (4.27). Therefore the upper bound for the total self-referenced jitter is

$$
\begin{equation*}
\left(\sigma_{\text {Total }}\right)_{\max }=\sqrt{2\left(\sigma_{x}^{2}\right)_{1 / f}+2\left(\sigma_{x}^{2}\right)_{W}}=\sqrt{2}\left(\sigma_{x}\right)_{\text {Total }} \quad[\mathrm{sec} \mathrm{rms}] \tag{4.31}
\end{equation*}
$$



Figure 4.10 Numerical evaluation of the integral in (4.27).

## Chapter 5: Jitter and the Geometry of Ring Oscillators

### 5.1 Introduction

While the LC oscillators are able to offer clock signals with fastest speed possible and excellent jitter performance, they also require the use of integrated high Q inductors and capacitors, both of which consume large amounts of die area. This results in the ring oscillator being more appealing for applications requiring high speed but moderate jitter. Even though their jitter performance is not as good as LC oscillators, ring oscillators have the advantages of simpler circuit design, easier integration, and less die area. Therefore ring oscillators have been widely used in applications such as clock recovery for serial data communications [1], [65]-[67], multiphase clock generation [68]-[70], and frequency synthesizers [71][73].

Phase and frequency fluctuations in LC oscillators have been the subject of numerous studies [74]-[77] since the 1960's. In 1990's, References [7]-[9] started the jitter analysis and modeling for bipolar and CMOS differential ring oscillators in the time domain, both of which are based on the linear time invariant (LTI) system assumption, and concentrated on the white noise upconverted jitter. [10] and [15] proposed a general theory for phase noise in oscillators, which is a frequency domain approach based on a linear time variant (LTV) model, and successfully get around the mathematical difficulties to derive accurate analytical expressions for the oscillator output waveform.

Historically, the differential structure has been the more popular approach for implementing ring oscillators. Single-ended ring oscillators are receiving more attention recently since they can achieve better jitter performance compared to differential ring oscillators due to the larger voltage swings [15]. Even though the
single-ended configuration is more susceptible to common-mode noise such as noise from power supply and substrate, an interpolating network [78] can be used to convert the single-ended output to differential signal to overcome this drawback.

The design of ring oscillators involves many tradeoffs in terms of speed, power, and area. This chapter will follow the work in [7]-[9], [79] and [80] to evaluate the jitter performance in terms of the geometry for CMOS ring oscillators in time domain with LTI modeling, since the LTI model is easier to manipulate mathematically as an extension of the theory in [8]. The analysis will focus on white noise integrated jitter. The oscillation waveform symmetry criteria required to minimize the the $1 / f^{3}$ phase noise corner $f_{c}$ is assumed to have been met. The $1 / \mathrm{f}$ noise contribution can be negligible if the designer has the freedom to increase the loop bandwidth to cover the $1 / \mathrm{f}^{3}$ phase noise corner as discussed in Section 4.3.2. And the system jitter performance is thus limited by the integrated white noise.

### 5.2 VCO Design in Time Domain with $\kappa$

Ring oscillators are usually realized by placing an odd number of inverters in a feedback loop, as illustrated in Figure 5.1 [81]. They can also be implemented by an even number of differential stages, with simply interchanging the outputs of the last inverter before feeding them back to the input.

The waveforms obtained at the outputs of the three inverters are also shown in Figure 5.1 [81]. It is obvious that the signal must go through each of the delay stages twice to provide one period of oscillation. Since each stage provides a delay of $\mathrm{T}_{\mathrm{d}}$, the oscillation frequency of an N -stage ring oscillator is [81]

$$
\begin{equation*}
f_{0}=\frac{1}{2 N T_{d}} \tag{5.1}
\end{equation*}
$$



Figure 5.1 A three-stage ring oscillator and resulting waveform.
Since the transition of each stage is triggered by the previous stage, at a single time only one stage in the ring is switching and thus contributing jitter. Therefore the white noise figure of merit $\kappa$ is independent of the number of stages in the ring [7]. This concept has been verified by the measured data from five differential
bipolar ring oscillators with different number of identical delay stages [8]. Therefore $\kappa$ is actually a property of the delay stage and the jitter analysis for a single delay stage is enough to estimate the $\kappa$ of the VCO. This simplifies the PLL system design, simulation, and testing, because only the open loop VCO needs to be considered. The closed-loop jitter performance can be predicted with the technique developed in Section 4.3.

## $5.3 \kappa$ of the CMOS Inverter

As illustrated in Figure 5.2, the CMOS inverter with equal-length NMOS and PMOS transistors is the simplest implementation of the delay stage. $\mathrm{C}_{\mathrm{L}}$ is the total capacitance at the output node. Since the CMOS inverter offers the fewest number of noise sources and rail-to-rail output swing, it has the minimum $\kappa$ among the practical implementation of delay stage for ring oscillators. Therefore the jitter analysis for the CMOS inverter is the best way to characterize the capacity of jitter optimization for different semiconductor processes.


Figure 5.2 The CMOS inverter.
During the analysis, the following assumptions are made for simplification:

1. The conducting MOSFET is considered to be always in saturation with the input of an ideal step function switching between $V_{D D}$ and ground;
2. The loading MOSFET is always off since the input is an ideal step;
3. The gate capacitance of the next stage dominates the load capacitance $\mathrm{C}_{\mathrm{L}}$;
4. The threshold voltages for the NMOS and PMOS transistors are equal;
5. The NMOS and PMOS transistors are sized to have identical first-order transconductance:

$$
\begin{equation*}
W_{p}=\frac{\mu_{n}}{\mu_{p}} W_{n}=m W_{n} \tag{5.2}
\end{equation*}
$$

Therefore, all the parameters in the following sections, such as $\mathrm{W}, \mathrm{L}$, and $\mu$, are parameters of the NMOS transistor $\mathrm{M}_{1}$ if not specified.

### 5.3.1 Propagation Delay of the CMOS Inverter

Much effort has been devoted to the extraction of accurate model for the inverter delay [82]-[84]. Since the simple circuit of ring oscillators bundle so many nonlinear effects, all of these results are in the form of complicated analytical equations. For simplicity and giving the designers more insight, a first order model will be derived for the CMOS inverter by approximating the output waveform in transition as a linearly rising or falling ramp as illustrated in Figure
5.3.


Figure 5.3 Modeling of propagation delay for the CMOS inverter.

When the input to the CMOS inverter is an ideal step function switching from $\mathrm{V}_{\mathrm{DD}}$ to ground and the PMOS transistor $\mathrm{M}_{2}$ is always in the saturation region, the DC current charging the load capacitor, $\mathrm{I}_{\mathrm{D}}$, is constant in switching, and the voltage at the output node increases linearly as illustrated in Figure 5.3 with the slope of

$$
\begin{equation*}
\text { slope }=\frac{I_{D}}{C_{L}} \tag{5.3}
\end{equation*}
$$

Since the inverter threshold is $\mathrm{V}_{\mathrm{DD}} / 2$, the ideal inverter propagation delay $\mathrm{T}_{\mathrm{d}}$ is

$$
\begin{equation*}
T_{d}=\frac{V_{D D} C_{L}}{2 I_{D}} \tag{5.4}
\end{equation*}
$$

The load capacitance $C_{L}$ is given by [40]

$$
\begin{equation*}
C_{L}=\frac{5}{2} C_{o x} W L(1+m) \tag{5.5}
\end{equation*}
$$

where W and L are the channel width and length of the NMOS transistor $\mathrm{M}_{1}$, and $m$ is the mobility ratio of $n$ - and $p$-type carriers defined in (5.2).

Substituting the expression of load capacitance $C_{L}$ of (5.5) and the drain current model of (2.11) into (5.4), the inverter propagation delay is

$$
\begin{equation*}
T_{d}=\frac{5 C_{o x} W L(1+m) V_{D D}}{4 I_{D}} \tag{5.6}
\end{equation*}
$$

or

$$
\begin{equation*}
T_{d}=\frac{5(1+m) V_{D D}}{4 v_{s a t}\left(V_{D D}-V_{T}\right)} \cdot L\left(1+\frac{L}{L_{c}}\right) \tag{5.7}
\end{equation*}
$$

For the case of long channel, (5.7) simplifies to

$$
\begin{equation*}
T_{d}=\frac{5(1+m) V_{D D}}{2 \mu_{e f f}\left(V_{D D}-V_{T}\right)^{2}} \cdot L^{2} \quad \text { when } L \gg L_{c} \tag{5.8}
\end{equation*}
$$

For the case of short channel, (5.7) simplifies to

$$
\begin{equation*}
T_{d}=\frac{5(1+m) V_{D D}}{4 v_{s a t}\left(V_{D D}-V_{T}\right)} \cdot L \quad \text { when } L \ll L_{c} \tag{5.9}
\end{equation*}
$$

(5.8) and (5.9) indicate the relationship between the speed and geometry for the CMOS inverter as follows:

1. The inverter propagation delay has very weak dependency on the channel width W. From the first order analysis, a wider channel width W will increase the drain current while the gate capacitance will increase by the same ratio. The slope of the switching transition, which is the ratio between the charging current and the load capacitance, will remain the same. Therefore, as long as the voltage swing is
unchanged, the propagation delay will keep constant. If taking account to second order effects, the inverter delay will show a very weak dependency on W. But increasing W usually does not affect the inverter delay much.
2. The inverter propagation delay is proportional to $L^{2}$ for the case of long channel since a shorter channel length $L$ will not only increase the drain current, but also reduce the gate capacitance.
3. The inverter propagation delay is proportional to $L$ for the case of short channel. The drop in the power is due to the velocity saturation of the carriers and no dependency of drain current on $L$. The decrease of the propagation delay with a shorter L is due to less load capacitance.

The speed of ring oscillators formed by CMOS inverters is computed by (5.1)

$$
\begin{gather*}
T_{0}=2 N T_{d}=\frac{5 N(1+m) V_{D D}}{2 v_{s a t}\left(V_{D D}-V_{T}\right)} \cdot L\left(1+\frac{L}{L_{c}}\right)  \tag{5.10}\\
f_{0}=\frac{2 v_{\text {sat }}\left(V_{D D}-V_{T}\right)}{5 N(1+m) V_{D D}} \cdot \frac{1}{L\left(1+\frac{L}{L_{c}}\right)} \tag{5.11}
\end{gather*}
$$

Therefore, the dependency of the oscillation frequency on the channel length L is

$$
f_{0} \propto \begin{cases}\frac{1}{L^{2}} & \text { when } L \gg L_{c}  \tag{5.12}\\ \frac{1}{L} & \text { when } L \ll L_{c}\end{cases}
$$

### 5.3.2 Drain Thermal Noise in the Switching MOSFET

The thermal noise current density $\mathrm{i}_{\mathrm{n}}$ in Figure 5.4 can be viewed as series of current pulses of duration T centered on the DC drain current of the switching MOSFET, when the pulse width T is chosen such that $1 / \mathrm{T}$ is much greater than the highest frequency of interest in the circuit [8]. The amplitude of the pulses are independent, identically distributed Gaussian random process with standard deviation $\sigma_{i}$ as [8]

$$
\begin{equation*}
\sigma_{i}=\frac{1}{\sqrt{2 T}} \cdot \frac{i_{n}}{\sqrt{\Delta f}} \quad[\mathrm{Arms}] \tag{5.13}
\end{equation*}
$$



Figure 5.4 Drain thermal noise of the switching MOSFET.

In the presence of the drain thermal noise, there will be variation of the time to reach the next inverter threshold as illustrated in Figure 5.5. The standard deviation of this varying time distribution, $\sigma_{\mathrm{t}}$, is the accumulated jitter over the inverter propagation delay $T_{d}$.

Using (5.13), the rms noise current is

$$
\begin{equation*}
\sigma_{i n d}=\frac{1}{\sqrt{2 \cdot d t}} \cdot \frac{i_{n}}{\sqrt{\Delta f}} \quad[\mathrm{~A} \mathrm{rms}] \tag{5.14}
\end{equation*}
$$

This noise current will charge the load capacitor $C_{L}$. The standard deviation of the charge due to this drain thermal noise current is

$$
\begin{equation*}
\sigma_{q}(d t)=\sigma_{\text {ind }} \cdot d t=\frac{i_{n}}{\sqrt{\Delta f}} \cdot \sqrt{\frac{d t}{2}} \quad[\mathrm{C} \mathrm{rms}] \tag{5.15}
\end{equation*}
$$

The variance $\sigma^{2}{ }_{q}(\mathrm{dt})$ is

$$
\begin{equation*}
\sigma_{q}^{2}(d t)=\frac{1}{2} \cdot \frac{i_{n}^{2}}{\Delta f} \cdot d t \quad\left[\mathrm{C}^{2} \mathrm{rms}\right] \tag{5.16}
\end{equation*}
$$

Integrating the charge variance of (5.16) from the time that the inverter begins to switch until the ideal output voltage reaches the next inverter threshold will give the total charge variance in the output transition:

$$
\begin{align*}
& \sigma_{q}^{2}(\text { tot })=\int_{0}^{T_{d}} \frac{1}{2} \cdot \frac{i_{n}^{2}}{\Delta f} \cdot d t \quad\left[\mathrm{C}^{2} \mathrm{rms}\right]  \tag{5.17}\\
& \sigma_{q}^{2}(\text { tot })=\frac{1}{2} \cdot \frac{i_{n}^{2}}{\Delta f} \cdot T_{d} \quad\left[\mathrm{C}^{2} \mathrm{rms}\right] \tag{5.18}
\end{align*}
$$

The voltage change due to this total charge is

$$
\begin{equation*}
\sigma_{v}=\frac{\sigma_{q}(t o t)}{C_{L}}=\frac{1}{C_{L}} \cdot \frac{i_{n}}{\sqrt{\Delta f}} \cdot \sqrt{\frac{T_{d}}{2}} \quad[\mathrm{~V} \mathrm{rms}] \tag{5.19}
\end{equation*}
$$



Figure 5.5 Ideal output and actual output due to the drain thermal noise.

From Figure 5.5, the standard deviation in time can be calculated by

$$
\begin{equation*}
\sigma_{t}=\frac{\sigma_{v}}{\text { slope }} \tag{5.20}
\end{equation*}
$$

Substituting (5.3) into (5.20), the standard deviation in time is

$$
\begin{equation*}
\sigma_{t}=\frac{1}{I_{D}} \cdot \frac{i_{n}}{\sqrt{\Delta f}} \cdot \sqrt{\frac{T_{d}}{2}} \quad[\sec \mathrm{rms}] \tag{5.21}
\end{equation*}
$$

The rms jitter of (5.21) is the jitter accumulated in time delay $\mathrm{T}_{\mathrm{d}}$. Therefore the white noise figure of merit $\kappa_{\text {sw }}$ due to the switching MOSFET is as [79]

$$
\begin{equation*}
\kappa_{s w}=\frac{\sigma_{t}}{\sqrt{T_{d}}}=\frac{i_{n}}{\sqrt{\Delta f}} \frac{1}{\sqrt{2} I_{D}} \quad[\sqrt{\mathrm{sec}}] \tag{5.22}
\end{equation*}
$$

Substituting (2.11) and (2.22) into (5.22), the figure of merit $\kappa_{\mathrm{sw}}$ is

$$
\begin{equation*}
\kappa_{s w}=\left(1+\frac{L_{c}}{L}\right) \sqrt{4 k T \gamma_{s} \cdot \frac{1}{\frac{1}{2} \mu_{e f f} C_{o x} \frac{W}{L}\left(V_{D D}-V_{T}\right)^{3}}} \quad[\sqrt{\mathrm{sec}}] \tag{5.23}
\end{equation*}
$$

or

$$
\begin{equation*}
\kappa_{s w}=\frac{\sqrt{2 k T \gamma_{s} \cdot \mu_{e f f} C_{o x} \frac{W}{L}\left(V_{D D}-V_{T}\right)}}{I_{D}}[\sqrt{\mathrm{sec}}] \tag{5.24}
\end{equation*}
$$

### 5.3.3 KTC Noise due to the Loading Transistor

With the assumption of the ideal step input, the loading transistor will be always off during switching. But this does not mean that the noise contributed by the loading transistor should be ignored.


Figure 5.6 KTC noise due to loading transistor.

As illustrated in Figure 5.6, the loading transistor is modeled by its off channel resistance $\mathrm{R}_{\text {off }}$, and the thermal noise density for this resistor is

$$
\begin{equation*}
\frac{e_{n}}{\Delta f}=\sqrt{4 k T \gamma_{t} R_{o f f}} \tag{5.25}
\end{equation*}
$$

The noise bandwidth of this system is determined by the pole at the output:

$$
\begin{equation*}
\Delta f=\frac{\pi}{2} \cdot \frac{1}{2 \pi R_{o f f} C_{L}} \tag{5.26}
\end{equation*}
$$

Therefore, this noise source manifests itself as KTC noise with rms voltage of

$$
\begin{equation*}
\sigma_{v}=\sqrt{\frac{k T}{C_{L}} \gamma_{t}} \quad[\mathrm{~V} \mathrm{rms}] \tag{5.27}
\end{equation*}
$$

This noise source affects the initial condition of the switching output voltage as illustrated in Figure 5.6, thereby varying the effective gate delay. The standard deviation of this varying time distribution $\sigma_{t}$, is

$$
\begin{equation*}
\sigma_{t}=\frac{\sigma_{v}}{\text { slope }}=\sqrt{\frac{k T C_{L} \gamma_{t}}{I_{D}^{2}}} \quad[\mathrm{sec} \mathrm{rms}] \tag{5.28}
\end{equation*}
$$

$\sigma_{t}$ is the accumulated jitter over the inverter propagation delay $\mathrm{T}_{\mathrm{d}}$. Therefore the noise figure of merit $\kappa_{\text {load }}$ due to the loading MOSFET is

$$
\begin{equation*}
\kappa_{\text {load }}=\frac{\sigma_{t}}{\sqrt{T_{d}}}=\sqrt{\frac{2 k T \gamma_{t}}{I_{D} V_{D D}}}[\sqrt{\mathrm{sec}}] \tag{5.29}
\end{equation*}
$$

or

$$
\begin{equation*}
\kappa_{\text {load }}=\sqrt{\frac{4 k T \gamma_{t}}{\mu_{e f f} C_{o x} \frac{W}{L}\left(V_{D D}-V_{T}\right)^{2} V_{D D}}\left(1+\frac{L_{c}}{L}\right)} \quad[\sqrt{\mathrm{sec}}] \tag{5.30}
\end{equation*}
$$

### 5.3.4 $\kappa_{\text {total }}$ of the CMOS Inverter

Since noise sources in the switching and loading transistors are independent, the total $\kappa$ for the CMOS inverter is

$$
\begin{equation*}
\kappa_{\text {total }}=\sqrt{\kappa_{s w}^{2}+\kappa_{\text {load }}^{2}} \tag{5.31}
\end{equation*}
$$

The ratio between $\kappa_{\text {sw }}$ and $\kappa_{\text {load }}$ is computed as

$$
\begin{equation*}
\frac{\kappa_{s w}}{\kappa_{\text {load }}}=\sqrt{\left(1+\frac{L_{c}}{L}\right) \frac{2 \gamma_{s}}{\gamma_{t}} \cdot \frac{V_{D D}}{\left(V_{D D}-V_{T}\right)}}=\sqrt{\frac{1}{\delta}\left(1+\frac{L_{c}}{L}\right)} \tag{5.32}
\end{equation*}
$$

where $\delta$ is the coefficient defined by

$$
\begin{equation*}
\delta=\frac{\gamma_{t}\left(V_{D D}-V_{T}\right)}{2 \gamma_{s} V_{D D}} \tag{5.33}
\end{equation*}
$$

Therefore, $\kappa_{\text {total }}$ can be expressed as

$$
\begin{equation*}
\kappa_{\text {total }}=\kappa_{s w}\left(1+\sqrt{\frac{\delta}{\left(1+\frac{L_{c}}{L}\right)}}\right) \tag{5.34}
\end{equation*}
$$

Substituting (5.23) or (5.24) into (5.34), $\kappa_{\text {total }}$ is

$$
\begin{equation*}
\kappa_{\text {total }}=\left(1+\frac{L_{c}}{L}\right) \sqrt{\frac{8 k T \gamma_{s}}{\mu_{e f f} C_{o x} \frac{W}{L}\left(V_{D D}-V_{T}\right)^{3}}} \cdot \sqrt{1+\frac{\delta}{\left(1+\frac{L_{c}}{L}\right)}} \tag{5.35}
\end{equation*}
$$

or

$$
\begin{equation*}
\kappa_{\text {total }}=\frac{1}{I_{D}} \sqrt{2 k T \gamma_{s} \cdot \mu_{e f f} C_{o x} \frac{W}{L}\left(V_{D D}-V_{T}\right)} \cdot \sqrt{1+\frac{\delta}{\left(1+\frac{L_{c}}{L}\right)}} \tag{5.36}
\end{equation*}
$$

### 5.4 Jitter and VCO Geometry

### 5.4.1 к and VCO Geometry

## (i) CMOS inverters with long-channel MOSFETs

For CMOS inverters with long-channel MOSFETs, $\gamma_{s}=2 / 3$, and $L \gg L_{c}$. Under these conditions, $\kappa_{\text {sw }}$ in (5.23) simplifies to

$$
\begin{equation*}
\kappa_{s w}=\sqrt{\frac{8}{3} k T \cdot \frac{1}{\frac{1}{2} \mu_{e f f} C_{o x} \frac{W}{L}\left(V_{D D}-V_{T}\right)^{3}}} \quad[\sqrt{\mathrm{sec}}] \tag{5.37}
\end{equation*}
$$

and $\kappa_{\text {load }}$ in (5.30) simplifies to

$$
\begin{equation*}
\kappa_{\text {load }}=\sqrt{\frac{2 k T \gamma_{t}}{\frac{1}{2} \mu_{e f f} C_{o r} \frac{W}{L}\left(V_{D D}-V_{T}\right)^{2} V_{D D}}}[\sqrt{\mathrm{sec}}] \tag{5.38}
\end{equation*}
$$

The ratio between $\kappa_{\text {sw }}$ and $\kappa_{\text {load }}$ is

$$
\begin{equation*}
\frac{\kappa_{s w}}{\kappa_{\text {load }}}=\sqrt{\frac{4 V_{D D}}{3 \gamma_{t}\left(V_{D D}-V_{T}\right)}} \tag{5.39}
\end{equation*}
$$

Since the value of $\gamma_{\mathrm{t}}$ is between $2 / 3$ and 1 for long-channel MOSFETs, and the threshold voltage $V_{T}$ is usually less than half of the power supply $V_{D D}$, the ratio between $\kappa_{\text {sw }}$ and $\kappa_{\text {load }}$ is in the range of

$$
\begin{equation*}
\sqrt{\frac{4}{3}}<\frac{\kappa_{s w}}{\kappa_{\text {load }}}<2 \tag{5.40}
\end{equation*}
$$

Result of (5.40) indicates that the drain thermal noise of the switching MOSFET is always larger than the KTC noise of the loading MOSFET, but not much in the long-channel case.

Substituting (5.37) and (5.38) into (5.31), the expression for $\kappa_{\text {total }}$ in (5.35) will reduce to

$$
\begin{equation*}
\kappa_{\text {total }}=\sqrt{\frac{2 k T}{\frac{1}{2} \mu_{e f f} C_{o x} \frac{W}{L}\left(V_{D D}-V_{T}\right)^{2}}} \sqrt{\frac{4}{3\left(V_{D D}-V_{T}\right)}+\frac{\gamma_{t}}{V_{D D}}} \quad[\sqrt{\mathrm{sec}}] \tag{5.41}
\end{equation*}
$$

or

$$
\begin{equation*}
\kappa_{\text {total }}=\sqrt{\frac{2 k T}{I_{D} V_{D D}}} \sqrt{\frac{4 V_{D D}}{3\left(V_{D D}-V_{T}\right)}+\gamma_{t}} \quad[\sqrt{\mathrm{sec}}] \tag{5.42}
\end{equation*}
$$

From the results of (5.41) and (5.42), the following conclusions can be drawn for CMOS inverters with long-channel MOSFETs:

1. $\kappa_{\text {total }}$ is inversely proportional to the square root of the power dissipation.

$$
\begin{equation*}
\kappa_{\text {total }} \propto \frac{1}{\sqrt{P}} \quad \text { when } L \gg L_{c} \tag{5.43}
\end{equation*}
$$

This agrees the results in [15].
2. $\kappa_{\text {total }}$ is inversely proportional to the square root of the channel width W .

$$
\begin{equation*}
\kappa_{\text {total }} \propto \frac{1}{\sqrt{W}} \quad \text { when } L \gg L_{c} \tag{5.44}
\end{equation*}
$$

The current of MOSFETs is proportional to the channel width. So increasing the channel width will increase power dissipated on the oscillation waveform and thus reduce jitter according to (5.43).
3. $\kappa_{\text {total }}$ is proportional to the square root of the channel length $L$.

$$
\begin{equation*}
\kappa_{\text {total }} \propto \sqrt{L} \text { when } L \gg L_{c} \tag{5.45}
\end{equation*}
$$

The reason is that using a shorter length will increase the current of long-channel MOSFETs and thus more power is dissipated on the oscillation waveform to improve the VCO jitter performance.

## (ii) CMOS inverters formed by MOSFETs with extremely short channels

For MOSFETs with extremely short channels, $\mathrm{L} \ll \mathrm{L}_{\mathrm{c}} . \kappa_{\mathrm{sw}}$ in equation (5.23) will reduce to

$$
\begin{equation*}
\kappa_{s w}=\sqrt{\frac{4 k T \gamma_{s}}{E_{c} L \nu_{s a t} C_{o x} W\left(V_{D D}-V_{T}\right)}}=\sqrt{\frac{4 k T \gamma_{s}}{E_{c} L \cdot I_{D}}} \quad[\sqrt{\mathrm{sec}}] \tag{5.46}
\end{equation*}
$$

And $\kappa_{\text {load }}$ in (5.30) simplifies to

$$
\begin{equation*}
\kappa_{\text {load }}=\sqrt{\frac{2 k T \gamma_{t}}{v_{\text {sat }} C_{o x} W\left(V_{D D}-V_{T}\right) V_{D D}}}=\sqrt{\frac{2 k T \gamma_{t}}{I_{D} V_{D D}}} \quad[\sqrt{\mathrm{sec}}] \tag{5.47}
\end{equation*}
$$

The ratio between $\kappa_{\text {sw }}$ and $\kappa_{\text {load }}$ is

$$
\begin{equation*}
\frac{\kappa_{s w}}{\kappa_{\text {load }}}=\sqrt{\frac{2 \gamma_{s}}{\gamma_{t}} \cdot \frac{V_{D D}}{E_{c} L}} \tag{5.48}
\end{equation*}
$$

Since

$$
\begin{equation*}
L \gg L_{c} \text { or } E_{c} L \gg V_{D D}-V_{T} \tag{5.49}
\end{equation*}
$$

The ratio between $\kappa_{\mathrm{sw}}$ and $\kappa_{\text {load }}$ is much larger than 1 .

$$
\begin{equation*}
\frac{\kappa_{s w}}{\kappa_{\text {load }}} \gg 1 \tag{5.50}
\end{equation*}
$$

Therefore when the channel length is extremely short, the drain thermal noise of the switching MOSFET is much larger than the KTC noise of the loading MOSFET, and the KTC noise is negligible. $\kappa_{\text {total }}$ of the inverter is dominated by $\kappa_{\text {sw }}$ of (5.46), and is

$$
\begin{equation*}
\kappa_{\text {total }}=\sqrt{\frac{4 k T \gamma_{s}}{E_{c} L v_{s a t} C_{o x} W\left(V_{D D}-V_{T}\right)}}=\sqrt{\frac{4 k T \gamma_{s}}{E_{c} L \cdot I_{D}}} \quad[\sqrt{\mathrm{sec}}] \tag{5.51}
\end{equation*}
$$

From the result of (5.51), the following conclusions can be draw for CMOS inverters formed by MOSFETs with extremely short channels:

1. $\kappa_{\text {total }}$ is inversely proportional to the square root of the drain current $\mathrm{I}_{\mathrm{D}}$, thus is still inversely proportional to the square root of the power dissipation since the power supply $\mathrm{V}_{\mathrm{DD}}$ is usually fixed in the VCO design.

$$
\begin{equation*}
\kappa_{\text {total }} \propto \frac{1}{\sqrt{P}} \quad \text { when } L \ll L_{c} \tag{5.52}
\end{equation*}
$$

2. $\kappa_{\text {total }}$ is still inversely proportional to the square root of the channel width W .

$$
\begin{equation*}
\kappa_{\text {total }} \propto \frac{1}{\sqrt{W}} \quad \text { when } L \ll L_{c} \tag{5.53}
\end{equation*}
$$

The reason is that from the current model (2.11) the drain current $I_{D}$ is still proportional to the channel width W for short-channel MOSFETs.
3. $\kappa_{\text {total }}$ is inversely proportional to the square root of the channel length $L$.

$$
\begin{equation*}
\kappa_{\text {total }} \propto \frac{1}{\sqrt{L}} \quad \text { when } L \ll L_{c} \tag{5.54}
\end{equation*}
$$

When the carriers' velocity is totally saturated, using shorter channel length will not increase the drain current of MOSFETs from (2.12). It will not add more power to the oscillation waveform either. However the channel noise power will increase at a shorter channel length due to degraded mobility and hot-electron effect according to (2.22). So the total jitter on the output clock will increase with a shorter channel length.

Usually the designer does not have the freedom to increase the power supply $\mathrm{V}_{\mathrm{DD}}$ in the deep-submicron process. To achieve the same $\kappa$ while using a shorter channel length, the only way is to increase the channel width in the same ratio, and thus increasing the power dissipated in the oscillation waveform to compensate the increased noise power.

Equation (5.51) shows that

$$
\begin{equation*}
\kappa_{\text {total }} \propto \frac{1}{\sqrt{W L}} \quad \text { when } L \ll L_{c} \tag{5.55}
\end{equation*}
$$

Therefore to achieve the same $\kappa$, ring oscillators in the same deep submicron process will consume the same gate area. However, the die area consumption is different. Figure 5.7 shows the layout for a MOSFET under the MOSIS scalable CMOS (SCMOS) design rules [85]. The $\lambda$ is half of feature size of the semiconductor process. The minimum channel length $L_{\text {min }}$ is usually of $2 \lambda$. From the SCMOS design rules, the size of contacts to connect the active region and metal layers must be exactly of $2 \lambda$ by $2 \lambda$, the minimum space between contacts and the gate poly is $2 \lambda$, and the minimum space between the contacts and the edge of the active is $\lambda$. Therefore, the minimum length for the drain or source area is $5 \lambda$, and the minimum area for this one-finger MOSFET is

$$
\begin{equation*}
\left(A_{M O S}\right)_{\min }=W(L+10 \lambda) \tag{5.56}
\end{equation*}
$$



Figure 5.7 The MOSFET layout under SCMOS design rules.

In the design of ring oscillators, due to the requirement of the speed, the designer usually does not have too much room to play with the channel length according to (5.12). And the channel length is usually less than $5 \mathrm{~L}_{\text {min }}$, or $10 \lambda$. In this case, the transistor area is not a strong function of $L$, and decreasing channel length will not save the consumed area much. Therefore the transistor area is approximately decided by the channel width.

Again from (5.55), to achieve the same $\kappa$, ring oscillators in the same deep submicron process will consume the same gate area. But the ring oscillator with a shorter channel length L and a wider channel width W will consume not only more power, but also more die area. If assuming that the die area consumed by the VCO is dominated by the transistor area, the relationship between the VCO die area and geometry can be approximated by

$$
\begin{equation*}
A_{V C O} \propto \lambda W \tag{5.57}
\end{equation*}
$$

With the feature size of the semiconductor processes scaling down aggressively for higher transistor density and faster speed, the noise performance of transistors usually gets worse as analyzed in Section 2.3, while the power supply always gets lower in order to maintain safe and reliable device operations. Therefore, implementing ring oscillators in a process with smaller feature size usually requires larger channel width not only to compensate the increased noise but also the lowered $\mathrm{V}_{\mathrm{DD}}$.

The above discussion can be extended to generic analog circuit design in deep submicron processes. When the velocity of the carriers is saturated, using shorter channel length will not add more power to the output signal, while the noise power increases. This will result in the drop of the SNR. There are two options to achieve the previous SNR when using a longer channel length. The first one is to increase the power in the output signal, which is same as the analysis above for ring oscillators; the second one is to use other techniques to limit the noise power, such as using larger capacitance to limit the KTC noise in the OPAMP design. But both methods require more die area. This indicates that while the digital circuits are enjoying the benefits from the smaller feature size such as faster speed and higher circuit density, the analog circuits will suffer the increased noise, which will be a big challenge for analog design.

## (iii) Optimum channel length for jitter optimization

From (5.45) and (5.54), $\kappa_{\text {total }}$ is proportional to the square root of the channel length L in the long-channel case while is inversely proportional to the square root of L in the short-channel case. Therefore, an optimum channel length must exist to minimize $\kappa_{\text {total }}$. This optimum length can be obtained by differentiating $\kappa_{\text {total }}$ of (5.35) with respect to L , and solving the equation of

$$
\begin{equation*}
\frac{d \kappa_{\text {total }}}{d L}=0 \tag{5.58}
\end{equation*}
$$

Performing a first-order analysis and not considering the effect of increased excess noise factor $\gamma_{\mathrm{s}}$ with a shorter length, the optimum channel length L is obtained as

$$
\begin{equation*}
L_{\text {optimum }}=L_{c} \sqrt{\frac{1}{1+\delta}} \tag{5.59}
\end{equation*}
$$

However, the increasing of $\gamma_{\mathrm{s}}$ and second order effects may result in a optimum length larger than that predicted by (5.59).

As discussed in Section 2.3, $\gamma_{\mathrm{s}}$ of short-channel MOSFETs is about two or three times larger than that of long-channel MOSFETs, which will cause a larger $\kappa$ at shorter L. From the measurement results in [26] for MOSFETs in a $0.18 \mu \mathrm{~m}$ process, as $L$ scales down from $0.5 \mu \mathrm{~m}$ to $0.18 \mu \mathrm{~m}, \gamma_{\mathrm{s}}$ increased from 0.72 to 1.3 at the DC bias of $\mathrm{V}_{\mathrm{GS}}=0.6 \mathrm{~V}$ and $\mathrm{V}_{\mathrm{DS}}=1.8 \mathrm{~V}$. At the DC bias of $\mathrm{V}_{\mathrm{GS}}=1.8 \mathrm{~V}$ and $\mathrm{V}_{\mathrm{DS}}=1.8 \mathrm{~V}, \gamma_{\mathrm{s}}$ increased from 0.67 to 0.83 .

The threshold voltage $\mathrm{V}_{\mathrm{T}}$ is a complicate function of L as illustrated in Figure 5.8. For long-channel MOSFETs, $\mathrm{V}_{\mathrm{T}}$ is almost of a constant value $\mathrm{V}_{\mathrm{T} 0}$. As L scales down, a roll-up region will be observed followed by a roll-off region. The roll-up of $\mathrm{V}_{\mathrm{T}}$ is due to the reverse short channel effect (RSCE) [86], [87], which is caused by the boron dopant pile-up phenomenon at the edge of the source and drain
regions. The roll-off of $\mathrm{V}_{\mathrm{T}}$ is due to the short channel effect (SCE) and draininduced barrier lowering effect (DIBL) [86]-[88].


Figure 5.8 Threshold voltage versus channel length for MOSFETs.

From (5.35),

$$
\begin{equation*}
\kappa_{\text {total }} \propto \sqrt{\frac{1}{\left(V_{D D}-V_{T}\right)^{3}}} \tag{5.60}
\end{equation*}
$$

So the roll-up of $\mathrm{V}_{\mathrm{T}}$ will increase jitter while the roll-off of $\mathrm{V}_{\mathrm{T}}$ will help to reduce jitter. The roll-off of $\mathrm{V}_{\mathrm{T}}$ leads to several reliability issues such as a lack of pinchoff and hot-carrier effect at increasing drain voltage [89]. Research has been conducted to minimize the short channel effects and the $\mathrm{V}_{\mathrm{T}}$ roll-off by using thinbody single material gate (MSG) silicon-on-insulator (SOI) MOSFETs, double material gate (DMG) SOI MOSFETs, and double gate (DG) SOI MOSFETs [89], [90]. Both [91] and [92] reported nanoscale MOSFETs with little $\mathrm{V}_{\mathrm{T}}$ roll-off down to $0.05 \mu \mathrm{~m}$. For deep submicron processes with feature size of $0.25 \mu \mathrm{~m}$ and below, $\mathrm{V}_{\mathrm{T} 0}$ is usually less than 0.5 V . The actual roll-up and roll-down of $\mathrm{V}_{\mathrm{T}}$, if exists, usually has a very limited range.

Since $L_{c}$ and $\mu_{\text {eff }}$ are functions of $V_{T}$, they are functions of $L$ too. The variation of $\kappa_{\text {total }}$ due to $L_{c}$ and $\mu_{\text {eff }}$ is much less than that due to (5.60) since (5.60) is of higher order of $\mathrm{V}_{\text {eff }}$.

The $\delta$ in (5.35) is a function of $\gamma_{\mathrm{s}}, \gamma_{\mathrm{t}}$, and $\mathrm{V}_{\mathrm{T}}$ according to (5.33), and

$$
\begin{equation*}
\kappa_{\text {total }} \propto \sqrt{1+\frac{\delta}{\left(1+\frac{L_{c}}{L}\right)}} \tag{5.61}
\end{equation*}
$$

The optimum channel length is around $L_{c}$ according to (5.59). Since $\gamma_{s}$ is usually larger than 1 at short lengths, $\delta$ is usually less than 0.5 , and

$$
\begin{equation*}
\frac{\delta}{\left(1+\frac{L_{c}}{L}\right)}<\frac{1}{3}<1 \tag{5.62}
\end{equation*}
$$

Thus the variation of $\kappa_{\text {total }}$ due to $\delta$ is not a big factor comparing to the impact due to $\gamma_{\mathrm{s}}$ directly in (5.35).

Summarizing the analysis above, the increasing of $\gamma_{\mathrm{S}}$ and the roll-up of $\mathrm{V}_{\mathrm{T}}$ usually push the optimum length larger than that predicted by (5.59).

Table 5.1 lists the predicted and simulated $\kappa_{\text {total }}$ for fifteen seven-stage ring oscillators in the IBM $0.13 \mu \mathrm{~m}$ process. All the ring oscillators are implemented by the CMOS inverter in Figure 5.9 with different channel length L. The prediction is made by equation (5.35) and the simulation is performed by Cadence with Spectre simulator using the BSIM3 model [21]. For convenience, the data in Table 5.1 are also plotted in Figure 5.10.

To calculate the channel thermal noise using the compact model of (2.22), the excess noise parameter $\gamma_{\mathrm{s}}$ is determined by fitting the calculated noise density to the simulated noise density using the BSIM3v3 model for a single MOSFET which is biased with the assumed condition in analysis. The parameter $\gamma_{\mathrm{t}}$ is set to 1 for simplification.

From table 5.1 and Figure 5.10 , $\kappa_{\text {total }}$ is dominated by $\kappa_{\text {sw }}$ as L scales down. The agreement of the predicted results and the simulation results is within $15 \%$.


Figure 5.9 Inverter configuration for 7 -stage ring oscillators.

Table 5.1 Predicted and simulated $\kappa_{\text {total }}$ vs. L for 7 -stage ring oscillators.

| Index | $\mathrm{L}(\mu \mathrm{m})$ | $\mathrm{L}_{\text {eff }}(\mu \mathrm{m})$ | Predicted |  |  | Simulated <br> $\kappa_{\text {total }}$ |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  |  |  | $\mathrm{K}_{\text {sw }}$ | $\kappa_{\text {load }}$ | $\kappa_{\text {total }}$ |  |
| 1 | 0.12 | 0.092 | 2.44E-09 | 1.12E-09 | $2.69 \mathrm{E}-09$ | $2.47 \mathrm{E}-09$ |
| 2 | 0.18 | 0.15 | $2.14 \mathrm{E}-09$ | $1.22 \mathrm{E}-09$ | $2.46 \mathrm{E}-09$ | $2.27 \mathrm{E}-09$ |
| 3 | 0.24 | 0.21 | $2.04 \mathrm{E}-09$ | $1.30 \mathrm{E}-09$ | $2.41 \mathrm{E}-09$ | 2.25E-09 |
| 4 | 0.30 | 0.27 | 2.08E-09 | $1.37 \mathrm{E}-09$ | $2.49 \mathrm{E}-09$ | $2.34 \mathrm{E}-09$ |
| 5 | 0.36 | 0.33 | $2.13 \mathrm{E}-09$ | $1.44 \mathrm{E}-09$ | $2.58 \mathrm{E}-09$ | $2.44 \mathrm{E}-09$ |
| 6 | 0.42 | 0.39 | $2.19 \mathrm{E}-09$ | $1.51 \mathrm{E}-09$ | $2.67 \mathrm{E}-09$ | $2.56 \mathrm{E}-09$ |
| 7 | 0.48 | 0.45 | $2.26 \mathrm{E}-09$ | $1.58 \mathrm{E}-09$ | $2.76 \mathrm{E}-09$ | $2.68 \mathrm{E}-09$ |
| 8 | 0.54 | 0.51 | 2.32E-09 | $1.65 \mathrm{E}-09$ | $2.85 \mathrm{E}-09$ | $2.81 \mathrm{E}-09$ |
| 9 | 0.60 | 0.57 | $2.39 \mathrm{E}-09$ | $1.71 \mathrm{E}-09$ | 2.94E-09 | 2.93E-09 |
| 10 | 0.66 | 0.63 | $2.45 \mathrm{E}-09$ | $1.77 \mathrm{E}-09$ | $3.03 \mathrm{E}-09$ | $3.08 \mathrm{E}-09$ |
| 11 | 0.72 | 0.69 | $2.52 \mathrm{E}-09$ | $1.83 \mathrm{E}-09$ | $3.11 \mathrm{E}-09$ | $3.24 \mathrm{E}-09$ |
| 12 | 0.78 | 0.75 | 2.58E-09 | $1.89 \mathrm{E}-09$ | $3.20 \mathrm{E}-09$ | $3.36 \mathrm{E}-09$ |
| 13 | 0.84 | 0.81 | $2.64 \mathrm{E}-09$ | $1.95 \mathrm{E}-09$ | $3.28 \mathrm{E}-09$ | $3.54 \mathrm{E}-09$ |
| 14 | 0.90 | 0.87 | $2.70 \mathrm{E}-09$ | $2.00 \mathrm{E}-09$ | $3.36 \mathrm{E}-09$ | $3.70 \mathrm{E}-09$ |
| 15 | 0.96 | 0.93 | $2.76 \mathrm{E}-09$ | $2.05 \mathrm{E}-09$ | $3.44 \mathrm{E}-09$ | $3.88 \mathrm{E}-09$ |


(a) Predicted $\kappa_{\text {sw }}, \kappa_{\text {load }}$, and $\kappa_{\text {total }}$ for 7-stage ring oscillators

(b) Predicted and simulated $\kappa_{\text {total }}$ vs. L for 7-stage ring oscillators

Figure 5.10 Plot of predicted and simulated $\kappa$ for 7 -stage ring oscillators.
The optimum $L$ obtained from simulation is $0.24 \mu \mathrm{~m}$, which is two times of the minimum channel length $0.12 \mu \mathrm{~m}$, while the optimum L predicted by (5.59) is
only $0.082 \mu \mathrm{~m}$. Figure 5.11 shows the input referred noise obtained from simulation which is plotted on a log-log scale. The maximum extracted $\gamma_{\mathrm{s}}$ from the noise simulation results is just 1 . Figure 5.12 shows the simulated $V_{T}$ as $L$ scales down. Only the roll-up region is observed. The increased excess factor $\gamma_{\mathrm{s}}$ and the roll-up $\mathrm{V}_{\mathrm{T}}$ of is the reason of the higher optimum channel length than predicted by (5.59).


Figure 5.11 Simulated input referred noise versus channel length.


Figure 5.12 Simulated roll-up of threshold voltage.

### 5.4.2 Normalized RMS Jitter and VCO Geometry

For applications in data communications such as modulation and clock recovery, the local oscillator (LO) is locked to a reference by a PLL to provide synchronized clock for the following circuits. From the derivations in Section 4.3, due to the filtering of the loop, the PLL rms jitter with respect to the reference clock is

$$
\begin{equation*}
\sigma_{x}=\kappa \sqrt{\frac{1}{4 \pi f_{L}}\left(1+\frac{4 f_{c}}{3 \sqrt{3} f_{L}}\right)} \quad[\sec \mathrm{rms}] \tag{5.63}
\end{equation*}
$$



Figure 5.13 The normalized rms jitter.

From figure 5.11, more error will be observed at the output of the D flip-flop if the jitter-to-period ratio of the clock increases. In order to minimize the bit-error rate (BER), the normalized rms jitter, which is defined by the ratio between the PLL rms jitter and the clock period in the unit of UI (unit interval), should be minimized. From this definition, the normalized rms jitter is computed as

$$
\begin{equation*}
\left(\sigma_{x}\right)_{U I}=\frac{\sigma_{x}}{T_{0}}=\frac{\kappa}{T_{0}} \sqrt{\frac{1}{4 \pi f_{L}}\left(1+\frac{4 f_{c}}{3 \sqrt{3} f_{L}}\right)} \quad[\mathrm{UI}] \tag{5.64}
\end{equation*}
$$

where $T_{0}$ is the period of the clock signal, $f_{L}$ is the PLL loop bandwidth, and $f_{c}$ is the $1 / f^{3}$ phase noise corner.

From the discussions in chapter 4, the PLL loop bandwidth $\mathrm{f}_{\mathrm{L}}$ should be as high as possible for jitter filtering, and the $f_{c}$ is related to the symmetry properties of the oscillating waveform [10]. All the analysis from now on will assume that $f_{L}$ and $f_{c}$ are fixed. Thus the goal of this section is to minimize the $\kappa$-to-period ratio by carefully sizing the MOS transistors.

From the expression of $\kappa_{\text {total }}$ in (5.31), the $\kappa$-to-period ratio can be separated into two parts,

$$
\begin{equation*}
\frac{\kappa}{T_{0}}=\sqrt{\left(\frac{\kappa_{s w}}{T_{0}}\right)^{2}+\left(\frac{\kappa_{\text {load }}}{T_{0}}\right)^{2}} \tag{5.65}
\end{equation*}
$$

The first part is the $\kappa_{\text {sw }}$-to-period ratio derived from (5.6) and (5.24), which is

$$
\begin{equation*}
\frac{\kappa_{s w}}{T_{0}}=\frac{1}{5 N(1+m) V_{D D}} \sqrt{\frac{8 k T \gamma_{s} \cdot \mu_{e f f}\left(V_{D D}-V_{T}\right)}{C_{o x} W L^{3}}} \tag{5.66}
\end{equation*}
$$

So it is valid for CMOS inverters implemented with both long- and short-channel MOSFETs that

$$
\begin{equation*}
\frac{\kappa_{s w}}{T_{0}} \propto \frac{1}{\sqrt{W L^{3}}} \tag{5.67}
\end{equation*}
$$

The second part is the $\kappa_{\text {load }}$-to-period ratio derived from (5.10) and (5.30), which is

$$
\begin{equation*}
\frac{\kappa_{\text {load }}}{T_{0}}=\frac{1}{5 N(1+m) V_{D D}} \sqrt{\frac{8 k T \gamma_{t} v_{\text {sat }}}{C_{o x} W L^{2} V_{D D}} \cdot \frac{\left(V_{D D}-V_{T}\right)}{1+\frac{L}{L_{c}}}} \tag{5.68}
\end{equation*}
$$

Substituting (5.66) and (5.68) into (5.65), the $\kappa_{\text {total- }}$-to-period ratio is

$$
\begin{equation*}
\frac{\kappa_{\text {total }}}{T_{0}}=\frac{1}{5 N(1+m) V_{D D}} \sqrt{\frac{4 k T \mu_{e f f}\left(V_{D D}-V_{T}\right) 2 \gamma_{s}}{C_{o x} W L^{3}}} \cdot \sqrt{1+\frac{\delta}{\left(1+\frac{L_{c}}{L}\right)}} \tag{5.69}
\end{equation*}
$$

For the case of long channel, $\mathrm{L} \gg \mathrm{L}_{\mathrm{c}}$, (5.69) simplifies to

$$
\begin{equation*}
\frac{\kappa_{\text {total }}}{T_{0}}=\frac{\sqrt{1+\delta}}{5 N(1+m) V_{D D}} \sqrt{\frac{4 k T \mu_{e f f}\left(V_{D D}-V_{T}\right) 2 \gamma_{s}}{C_{o x} W L^{3}}} . \tag{5.70}
\end{equation*}
$$

For the case of short channel, $\mathrm{L} \ll \mathrm{L}_{\mathrm{c}}$, (5.69) simplifies to

$$
\begin{equation*}
\frac{\kappa_{\text {total }}}{T_{0}}=\frac{1}{5 N(1+m) V_{D D}} \sqrt{\frac{4 k T \mu_{e f f}\left(V_{D D}-V_{T}\right) 2 \gamma_{s}}{C_{o x} W L^{3}}} \tag{5.71}
\end{equation*}
$$

Therefore, no matter long or short channel, it always holds that

$$
\begin{equation*}
\frac{\kappa_{\text {total }}}{T_{0}} \propto \frac{1}{\sqrt{W L^{3}}} \tag{5.72}
\end{equation*}
$$

For the case of long channel, according to (5.12), (5.57), and (5.72), to achieve the same $\kappa_{\text {total }}$-to-period ratio for a ring oscillator which is $\mathrm{Z}^{2}$ times faster realized by decreasing the channel length L by Z times, the channel width W needs to be increased cubically by $Z^{3}$ times, which means that the transistor area increases by about $Z^{3}$ times. Since the drain current $I_{D}$ is proportional to $W / L$, the power dissipation will increase by $\mathrm{Z}^{4}$ times.

For the case of short channel, to achieve the same $\kappa_{\text {total }}$-to-period ratio for a ring oscillator which is $Z^{2}$ times faster, $L$ needs to be decreased by $Z^{2}$ times. W still needs to be increased cubically according to (5.72), which is by $Z^{6}$ times. This means that the transistor area increases by about $Z^{6}$ times. Since the drain current $\mathrm{I}_{\mathrm{D}}$ is proportional to W and has nothing to do with L according to (2.12), the power dissipation will increase by $\mathrm{Z}^{6}$ times!

Therefore, under the condition of achieving same $\kappa_{\text {total }}$-to-period ratio, the relationship between the speed, power dissipation, and die area is

$$
\begin{align*}
& f_{0} \propto \begin{cases}P^{\frac{1}{2}} & \text { when } L \gg L_{c} \\
P^{\frac{1}{3}} & \text { when } L \ll L_{c}\end{cases}  \tag{5.73}\\
& f_{0} \propto \begin{cases}A_{V C O}^{\frac{2}{3}} & \text { when } L \gg L_{c} \\
A_{V C O}^{\frac{1}{3}} & \text { when } L \ll L_{c}\end{cases} \tag{5.74}
\end{align*}
$$

Results of (5.73) and (5.74) show that in deep submicron process, much more power and die areas are needed to achieve similar normalized rms jitter or BER while improving the speed.

If the designer does have the freedom of the PLL loop bandwidth $f_{L}$, the power dissipation and die area consumption can be improved. From (5.64), if $f_{L} \gg f_{c}$, the normalized rms jitter is

$$
\begin{equation*}
\left(\sigma_{x}\right)_{U I}=\frac{\sigma_{x}}{T_{0}}=\frac{\kappa}{T_{0}} \sqrt{\frac{1}{4 \pi f_{L}}} \quad[\mathrm{UI}] \tag{5.75}
\end{equation*}
$$

Since the $f_{L}$ can be as high as $10 \%$ of the PLL's speed [93], with an increased $f_{L}$, the power dissipation in (5.73) and the die area in (5.74) can be improved as

$$
\begin{align*}
& f_{0} \propto \begin{cases}P & \text { when } L \gg L_{c} \\
P^{\frac{1}{2}} & \text { when } L \ll L_{c}\end{cases}  \tag{5.76}\\
& f_{0} \propto \begin{cases}A_{V C O}^{2} & \text { when } L \gg L_{c} \\
A_{V C O}^{\frac{1}{2}} & \text { when } L \ll L_{c}\end{cases} \tag{5.77}
\end{align*}
$$

### 5.4.3 Normalized Cycle-to-cycle Jitter and VCO Geometry

For applications such as clock generation for processors, the local oscillator (LO) is free-running to provide the master clock. In this case it is the ratio of the jitter accumulated in one cycle to the clock period that matters. The jitter accumulated in one clock period is the cycle-to-cycle jitter, which is

$$
\begin{equation*}
\sigma_{T_{0}}=\kappa \sqrt{T_{0}} \quad[\mathrm{sec} \mathrm{rms}] \tag{5.78}
\end{equation*}
$$

The ratio between the jitter accumulated in one cycle and the clock period is defined as the normalized cycle-to-cycle jitter, which is

$$
\begin{equation*}
\left(\sigma_{T_{0}}\right)_{U I}=\frac{\kappa}{\sqrt{T_{0}}} \quad[\mathrm{UI}] \tag{5.79}
\end{equation*}
$$

From (5.31), (5.79) can be rewritten as

$$
\begin{equation*}
\left(\sigma_{T_{0}}\right)_{U I}=\sqrt{\left(\sigma_{s w}\right)_{U I}^{2}+\left(\sigma_{\text {load }}\right)_{U I}^{2}} \quad[\mathrm{UI}] \tag{5.80}
\end{equation*}
$$

where

$$
\begin{gather*}
\left(\sigma_{s w}\right)_{U I}=\frac{\kappa_{s w}}{\sqrt{T_{0}}} \quad[\mathrm{UI}]  \tag{5.81}\\
\left(\sigma_{\text {load }}\right)_{U I}=\frac{\kappa_{\text {load }}}{\sqrt{T_{0}}} \quad[\mathrm{UI}] \tag{5.82}
\end{gather*}
$$

Substituting $\mathrm{T}_{0}$ in (5.10), $\kappa_{\mathrm{sw}}$ in (5.23), and $\kappa_{\text {load }}$ in (5.30) into (5.81) and (5.82), the normalized cycle-to-cycle jitter due to the switching and load MOSFETs are

$$
\begin{gather*}
\left(\sigma_{s w}\right)_{U I}=\sqrt{\frac{8 k T \gamma_{s}}{5 N(1+m) C_{o x}\left(V_{D D}-V_{T}\right) V_{D D}} \cdot \frac{L+L_{c}}{W L^{2}}} \quad[\mathrm{UI}]  \tag{5.83}\\
\left(\sigma_{\text {load }}\right)_{U I}=\sqrt{\frac{4 k T \gamma_{t}}{5 N(1+m) C_{o x} W L V_{D D}^{2}}} \quad[\mathrm{UI}] \tag{5.84}
\end{gather*}
$$

Thus

$$
\begin{gather*}
\left(\sigma_{s w}\right)_{U I} \propto \begin{cases}\frac{1}{\sqrt{W L}} & \text { when } L \gg L_{c} \\
\frac{1}{\sqrt{W L^{2}}} & \text { when } L \ll L_{c}\end{cases}  \tag{5.85}\\
\left(\sigma_{\text {load }}\right)_{U I} \propto \frac{1}{\sqrt{W L}} \quad \text { for all } \mathrm{L} \tag{5.86}
\end{gather*}
$$

Substituting (5.83) and (5.84) into (5.80), the normalized cycle-to-cycle jitter is

$$
\begin{equation*}
\left(\sigma_{T_{0}}\right)_{U I}=\sqrt{\frac{8 k T \gamma_{s}}{5 N(1+m) C_{o x} V_{D D}\left(V_{D D}-V_{T}\right)} \cdot \frac{1}{W L}} \sqrt{\frac{L+L_{c}}{L}+\delta} \quad \text { [UI] } \tag{5.87}
\end{equation*}
$$

In the case of long channel, $\mathrm{L} \gg \mathrm{L}_{\mathrm{c}}$, (5.87) simplifies to

$$
\begin{equation*}
\left(\sigma_{T_{0}}\right)_{U I}=\sqrt{\frac{8 k T \gamma_{s}(1+\delta)}{5 N(1+m) C_{o x} V_{D D}\left(V_{D D}-V_{T}\right)} \cdot \frac{1}{W L}} \quad[\mathrm{UI}] \tag{5.88}
\end{equation*}
$$

In the case of short channel, $\mathrm{L} \ll \mathrm{L}_{\mathrm{c}}$, (5.87) simplifies to

$$
\begin{equation*}
\left.\left(\sigma_{T_{0}}\right)_{U I} \approx\left(\sigma_{s w}\right)_{U I}=\sqrt{\frac{8 k T \gamma_{s}}{5 N(1+m) C_{o x} V_{D D} E_{c}} \cdot \frac{1}{W L^{2}}} \quad \text { [UI }\right] \tag{5.89}
\end{equation*}
$$

Therefore,

$$
\left(\sigma_{T_{0}}\right)_{U I} \propto \begin{cases}\frac{1}{\sqrt{W L}} & \text { when } L \gg L_{c}  \tag{5.90}\\ \frac{1}{\sqrt{W L^{2}}} & \text { when } L \ll L_{c}\end{cases}
$$

For the case of long channel, to achieve the same normalized cycle-to-cycle jitter for a ring oscillator which is $Z^{2}$ times faster realized by decreasing the
channel length L by Z times, the channel width W needs to be increased linearly by Z times according to (5.90), which means that the die area increases by about Z times. Since the drain current $\mathrm{I}_{\mathrm{D}}$ is proportional to $\mathrm{W} / \mathrm{L}$, the power dissipation will increase by $Z^{2}$ times.

For the case of short channel, to achieve the same normalized cycle-to-cycle jitter for a ring oscillator which is $Z^{2}$ times faster, the channel length $L$ needs to be decreased by $\mathrm{Z}^{2}$ times. The channel width W needs to be increased squarely according to (5.90), which is by $\mathrm{Z}^{4}$ times. This means that the die area increases by $Z^{4}$ times. Since the drain current $I_{D}$ is proportional to $W$ and has nothing to do with L according to (2.12), the power dissipation will increase by $\mathrm{Z}^{4}$ times.

Therefore, under the condition of achieving same normalized cycle-to-cycle jitter, the relationship between the speed, power dissipation, and die area is

$$
\begin{align*}
& f_{0} \propto \begin{cases}P & \text { when } L \gg L_{c} \\
P^{\frac{1}{2}} & \text { when } L \ll L_{c}\end{cases}  \tag{5.91}\\
& f_{0} \propto \begin{cases}A_{V C O}^{2} & \text { when } L \gg L_{c} \\
A_{V C O}^{\frac{1}{2}} & \text { when } L \ll L_{c}\end{cases} \tag{5.92}
\end{align*}
$$

Results of (5.91) and (5.92) show that in deep submicron process, the cost of power dissipation and die area to improve oscillator speed while achieving the same normalized cycle-to-cycle jitter is a little better than the case discussed in last section which is to achieve the same normalized rms jitter. But still, more power and die area are needed.

### 5.4.4 Summary

For convenience, the relationship between jitter, VCO geometry, and ring configuration discussed in previous sections is summarized in Table 5.2. The relationship between jitter, power dissipation, and die area is summarized in Table 5.3. For the analysis of die area consumption, the channel lengths of VCO are assumed to near the minimum channel length of the semiconductor process.

Table 5.2 Relationship between jitter, VCO geometry, and ring configuration.

|  | Long-channel |  | Short-channel |  | N |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | W | L | W | L |  |
| $f_{0}$ | WD | $\frac{1}{\mathrm{~L}^{2}}$ | WD | $\frac{1}{L}$ | $\frac{1}{N}$ |
| $\kappa_{\text {total }}$ | $\frac{1}{\sqrt{W}}$ | $\sqrt{L}$ | $\frac{1}{\sqrt{W}}$ | $\frac{1}{\sqrt{L}}$ | WD |
| $\left(\sigma_{x}\right)_{U I}$ | $\frac{1}{\sqrt{W}}$ | $\frac{1}{\sqrt{L^{3}}}$ | $\frac{1}{\sqrt{W}}$ | $\frac{1}{\sqrt{L^{3}}}$ | $\frac{1}{N}$ |
| $\left(\sigma_{T_{0}}\right)_{U I}$ | $\frac{1}{\sqrt{W}}$ | $\frac{1}{\sqrt{L}}$ | $\frac{1}{\sqrt{W}}$ | $\frac{1}{L}$ | $\frac{1}{\sqrt{N}}$ |

(WD: very weak dependency if considering second order effects)
Table 5.3 Relationship between jitter, power dissipation and die area.

|  | Long-channel |  | Short-channel |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | P | $\mathrm{A}_{\text {vCo }}$ | P | $\mathrm{A}_{\mathrm{VCo}}$ |
| $f_{0}$ | $P^{2}$ | WD | WD | WD |
| $\kappa_{\text {lotal }}$ | $\frac{1}{\sqrt{P}}$ | $\frac{1}{\sqrt{A_{V C O}}}$ | $\frac{1}{\sqrt{P}}$ | $\frac{1}{\sqrt{A_{V C O}}}$ |
| $\left(\sigma_{x}\right)_{U I}$ fixed | $f_{0} \propto \sqrt{P}$ | $f_{0} \propto \sqrt[3]{A_{V C O}^{2}}$ | $f_{0} \propto \sqrt[3]{P}$ | $f_{0} \propto \sqrt[3]{A_{V C O}}$ |
| $\left(\sigma_{T_{0}}\right)_{U I}$ fixed | $f_{0} \propto P$ | $f_{0} \propto A_{V C O}^{2}$ | $f_{0} \propto \sqrt{P}$ | $f_{0} \propto \sqrt{A_{V C O}}$ |

### 5.5 Jitter and VCO Tuning

The ring oscillator formed by the CMOS inverters in last section always runs at constant speed. But for the VCO, the speed should be able to be controlled by an applied voltage. According to (5.4), the inverter propagation delay $\mathrm{T}_{\mathrm{d}}$ can be controlled by tuning the switching current $\mathrm{I}_{\mathrm{D}}$ [7], [9], output swing $\mathrm{V}_{\mathrm{SW}}$ [80], or the load capacitance $\mathrm{C}_{\mathrm{L}}$. The most popular method is limiting the inverter's switching current.


Figure 5.14 The current-starved inverter.
Figure 5.14 shows a simple implementation of tuning the switching current of the CMOS inverter, the current-starved inverter [40]. MOSFETs $\mathrm{M}_{1}$ and $\mathrm{M}_{2}$ operate as an inverter. When $\mathrm{M}_{3}$ and $\mathrm{M}_{4}$ are biased in saturation they operate as current sources to limit the current available for switching. In other words, the inverter is starved for current. When $\mathrm{M}_{3}$ and $\mathrm{M}_{4}$ are biased in triode, they are equivalent to voltage-controlled resistors to affect the switching current.

### 5.5.1 Tuning Transistors in the Saturation Region

When the tuning transistors are biased in saturation, they operate as current sources to control the current available for switching, and their output resistance is usually much higher than the equivalent resistance of the switching transistors. Since the switching current is starved, the output swing may not go rail-to-rail.

When the input to the current-starved inverter is switching from low $\left(\mathrm{V}_{\mathrm{L}}\right)$ to high $\left(V_{H}\right), M_{1}$ in Figure 5.14 is the switching MOSFET. The $\kappa_{\text {sw }}$ is the same as that for the simple inverter in (5.22) with the current $I_{D}$ is controlled by $M_{3}$ :

$$
\begin{equation*}
\kappa_{s w}=\frac{i_{n}}{\sqrt{\Delta f}} \frac{1}{\sqrt{2} I_{c t l}}=\frac{\sqrt{4 k T \gamma_{s} \mu_{e f f} C_{o x} \frac{W_{s w}}{L_{s w}}\left(V_{H}-V_{T}\right)}}{\sqrt{2} I_{c t l}}[\sqrt{\mathrm{sec}}] \tag{5.93}
\end{equation*}
$$

where $\mathrm{W}_{\mathrm{sw}}$ and $\mathrm{L}_{\mathrm{sw}}$ are the channel width and length for the switching NMOS transistor, $\mathrm{I}_{\mathrm{ctl}}$ is the drain current of the control transistor. From (2.11), the relationship between $\mathrm{I}_{\mathrm{ct}}$ and the control voltage $\mathrm{V}_{\mathrm{ctt}}$ is

$$
I_{c t l} \propto \begin{cases}\left(V_{c t l}-V_{T}\right)^{2} & \text { when } L \gg L_{c}  \tag{5.94}\\ \left(V_{c t l}-V_{T}\right) & \text { when } L \ll L_{c}\end{cases}
$$

For the case of long channel, $\mathrm{L} \gg \mathrm{L}_{\mathrm{c}}$, and (5.93) simplifies to

$$
\begin{equation*}
\kappa_{s w}=\frac{i_{n}}{\sqrt{\Delta f}} \frac{1}{\sqrt{2} I_{c t l}}=\sqrt{\frac{16 k T}{3 \mu_{e f f} C_{o x}} \cdot \frac{W_{s w}}{W_{c t l}^{2}} \cdot \frac{L_{c t l}^{2}}{L_{s w}} \cdot \frac{\left(V_{H}-V_{T}\right)}{\left(V_{c t l}-V_{T}\right)^{4}}} \quad \text { when } L \gg L_{c} \tag{5.95}
\end{equation*}
$$

where $\mathrm{W}_{\text {ctl }}$ and $\mathrm{L}_{\text {ctl }}$ are the channel width and length for the NMOS tuning transistor.

For the case of short channel, $\mathrm{L} \ll \mathrm{L}_{\mathrm{c}}$, and (5.93) simplifies to

$$
\begin{equation*}
\kappa_{s w}=\sqrt{\frac{4 k T \gamma_{s}}{E_{c} v_{s a t} C_{o x}} \cdot \frac{W_{s w}}{W_{c t l}^{2}} \cdot \frac{1}{L_{s w}} \frac{\left(V_{H}-V_{T}\right)}{\left(V_{c t l}-V_{T}\right)^{2}}} \quad \text { when } L \ll L_{c} \tag{5.96}
\end{equation*}
$$

From (5.95) and (5.96), larger $\mathrm{W}_{\mathrm{ctt}}$ and shorter $\mathrm{L}_{\mathrm{ctl}}$ at a fixed $\mathrm{V}_{\text {ctl }}$ are able to provide more switching current, thus better to minimize the jitter due to the switching transistors. The control voltage $\mathrm{V}_{\mathrm{ctt}}$ is usually less than half of the power supply $\mathrm{V}_{\mathrm{DD}}$ to maintain the tuning transistor in saturation, which is the major factor for the increased switching noise.

The channel thermal noise from the control transistor $\mathrm{M}_{3}$ will also introduce an integrated noise voltage over the load capacitance. The figure of merit for this integrated noise is defined as $\kappa_{\mathrm{ctt}}$. The analysis for $\kappa_{\mathrm{ctl}}$ is similar to that for $\kappa_{\mathrm{sw}}$, the result is

$$
\begin{equation*}
\kappa_{c t l}=\sqrt{\frac{8}{3} k T \cdot \frac{1}{\frac{1}{2} \mu_{e f f} C_{o x} \frac{W_{c t l}}{L_{c t l}}\left(V_{c t l}-V_{T}\right)^{3}}} \quad \text { when } L \gg L_{c} \tag{5.97}
\end{equation*}
$$

and

$$
\begin{equation*}
\kappa_{c t l}=\sqrt{\frac{4 k T \gamma_{s}}{E_{c} L_{s w} v_{s a t} C_{o x} W_{c t l}\left(V_{c t l}-V_{T}\right)}} \quad \text { when } L \ll L_{c} \tag{5.98}
\end{equation*}
$$

Usually $\mathrm{W}_{\mathrm{ct}}$ is larger than $\mathrm{W}_{\mathrm{sw}}$ for jitter and speed considerations. Comparing the results of (5.95), (5.96), (5.97), and (5.98), $\kappa_{\mathrm{ctt}}$ is usually larger than $\kappa_{\mathrm{sw}}$.
$\mathrm{M}_{2}$ and $\mathrm{M}_{4}$ are loading transistors and can be modeled as resistors in series. The combined noise is still the KTC noise analyzed in last section. But the inverter propagation delay changes to

$$
\begin{equation*}
T_{d}=\frac{V_{S W} C_{L}}{2 I_{c t l}} \quad[\mathrm{sec}] \tag{5.99}
\end{equation*}
$$

where $\mathrm{V}_{\mathrm{SW}}$ is the output swing which equals $\left(\mathrm{V}_{\mathrm{H}}-\mathrm{V}_{\mathrm{L}}\right)$.
Thus $\kappa_{\text {load }}$ is

$$
\begin{equation*}
\kappa_{\text {load }}=\sqrt{\frac{2 k T \gamma_{t}}{I_{c l l} V_{S W}}} \quad[\sqrt{\mathrm{sec}}] \tag{5.100}
\end{equation*}
$$

$\kappa_{\text {load }}$ is worse than that for the CMOS inverter since both the switching current and the voltage swing are smaller.

The ratio between $\kappa_{\text {sw }}$ and $\kappa_{\text {load }}$ has been evaluated in Section 5.3. According to (5.40) and (5.50),

$$
\begin{cases}\sqrt{\frac{4}{3}}<\frac{\kappa_{s w}}{\kappa_{\text {load }}}<2 & \text { when } L \gg L_{c}  \tag{5.101}\\ \frac{\kappa_{s w}}{\kappa_{\text {load }}} \gg 1 & \text { when } L \ll L_{c}\end{cases}
$$

Since now there are two switching noise sources for the current-starved inverter and $\kappa_{\mathrm{ctl}}$ is usually larger than $\kappa_{\mathrm{sw}}$, the $\kappa_{\text {total }}$ of the current-starved invert is usually dominated by $\kappa_{\mathrm{sw}}$ and $\kappa_{\mathrm{ct1}}$. Therefore from (5.93) and (5.97),

$$
\begin{equation*}
\kappa_{\text {total }} \propto \frac{1}{I_{c t l}} \tag{5.102}
\end{equation*}
$$

Since the propagation delay is inversely proportional to $\mathrm{I}_{\mathrm{ct}}$ as of (5.99), the relationship between $\kappa$ and the inverter delay during tuning is

$$
\begin{equation*}
\kappa_{\text {total }} \propto T_{d} \tag{5.103}
\end{equation*}
$$

### 5.5.2 Tuning Transistors in the Triode Region

When the tuning transistors are biased in the triode region, they can be modeled as voltage-controlled resistors as shown in Figure 5.14. The equivalent resistance $\mathrm{R}_{\text {triode }}$ can be approximated by

$$
\begin{equation*}
R_{\text {triode }}=\frac{1}{\mu_{e f f} C_{o x} \frac{W_{c t l}}{L_{c t l}}\left(V_{c t l}-V_{T}\right)} \tag{5.104}
\end{equation*}
$$

From (5.104), the MOSFET with larger channel width has a smaller equivalent resistance. $\mathrm{R}_{\text {triode }}$ will reach its minimum value when $\mathrm{V}_{\text {ctl }}$ reaches the power supply $V_{D D}$, which is

$$
\begin{equation*}
\left(R_{t r i o d e}\right)_{\min }=\frac{1}{\mu C_{o x} \frac{W_{c l l}}{L_{c t l}}\left(V_{D D}-V_{T}\right)} \tag{5.105}
\end{equation*}
$$

The inverter propagation delay is proportional to the time constant at the output node,

$$
\begin{equation*}
T_{d} \propto\left(R_{\text {triode }}+R_{s w}\right) C_{L} \tag{5.106}
\end{equation*}
$$

where $\mathrm{R}_{\mathrm{sw}}$ is the equivalent resistance of the switching transistor. So $\mathrm{V}_{\text {ctl }}$ has less impact to the total resistance at the output node. And the VCO gain factor, $\mathrm{K}_{\mathrm{VCO}}$, will be much less than that when the tuning transistors are biased in saturation.

Since the channel width of the tuning transistors are usually larger than that of the switching MOSFETs to provide reasonable output swing, $\mathrm{R}_{\text {triode }}$ is comparable or even smaller than $\mathrm{R}_{\text {sw }}$. Therefore the switching current is much higher than the case that the tuning transistors are biased in saturation, the output swing is more likely to be rail-to-rail, and $\kappa_{\text {total }}$ is better. When $R_{\text {triode }}$ goes to zero, the $\kappa_{\text {total }}$ of the current-starved inverter will approach the $\kappa_{\text {total }}$ of the CMOS inverter.

Therefore, in order to minimize $\kappa$, tuning should be limited and the VCO should run at or nearby its maximum speed.

### 5.6 Experimental Results

### 5.6.1 Test Chip Design

Four sets of single-ended ring oscillators were designed to evaluate the relationship between the white noise figure of merit $\kappa$ and the VCO geometry. The delay stage is implemented by the current-starved inverter in Figure 5.14.

Table 5.4 shows the geometry range of the NMOS switching transistor $\mathrm{M}_{1}$. The size of the PMOS switching transistor $\mathrm{M}_{2}$ is 1.4 times as that of the $\mathrm{M}_{1}$ to provide rise and fall times as symmetric as possible. The control transistors $\mathrm{M}_{3}$ and $\mathrm{M}_{4}$ are twice the size of the switching transistors.

The ring configuration for the four VCO sets is listed in Table 5.5. If the oscillators are all implemented with 3-stage ring, the VCO speed will be as high as 2.7 GHz for VCOs in set I. Due to package limitations and the difficulty to maintain signal integrity of GHz signal off the chip, 25- and 7-stage ring are used for VCO set I and II to reduce the speed. $\kappa$ is the property of the individual stage, not the number of stages. Therefore the figure of merit $\kappa$ will not be affected by adding more stages as discussed in Section 5.2.

Each ring oscillator on the chip has its own power supply $\mathrm{V}_{\mathrm{DD}}$ so that the rest oscillators can be disabled and will not introduce interference to the oscillator under test. In order to save the die area, all the oscillator outputs are fed into a multiplexer followed by a current buffer to drive the signal off the chip.

This test chip was fabricated in TSMC $0.18 \mu \mathrm{~m}$ 1-poly 6-metal CMOS process with power supply of 1.8 V . Figure 5.15 shows the die micrograph, and Figure 5.16 shows the micrograph of a 7 -stage ring oscillator with $M_{1}$ size of $20 \mu \mathrm{~m} / 0.6 \mu \mathrm{~m}$.

Table 5.4 Geometry range of the implemented oscillators ( $\mathrm{W} / \mathrm{L} \mu \mathrm{m}$ ).

| Set I | $10 / 0.18$ | $20 / 0.18$ | $60 / 0.18$ | $100 / 0.18$ | $200 / 0.18$ | $600 / 0.18$ |
| :--- | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Set II | $10 / 0.6$ | $20 / 0.6$ | $60 / 0.6$ | $100 / 0.6$ | $200 / 0.6$ | $600 / 0.6$ |
| Set III | $10 / 1.8$ | $20 / 1.8$ | $60 / 1.8$ | $100 / 1.8$ | $200 / 1.8$ | $600 / 1.8$ |
| Set IV | $10 / 6$ | $20 / 6$ | $60 / 6$ | $100 / 6$ | $200 / 6$ | $600 / 6$ |

(Only the geometry of M1 is listed)

Table 5.5 Ring configuration of the implemented oscillators.

| Set | L $(\mu \mathrm{m})$ | N | Measured <br> Min. Inv. Delay | Measured <br> fmax | fmax for N=3 |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| I | 0.18 | 25 | $61.6 \mathrm{ps} /$ gate | 325 MHz | 2.7 GHz |
| II | 0.6 | 7 | $272.1 \mathrm{ps} /$ gate | 263 MHz | 613 MHz |
| III | 1.8 | 3 | $1.73 \mathrm{~ns} /$ gate | 96 MHz | 96 MHz |
| IV | 6 | 3 | $16.2 \mathrm{~ns} /$ gate | 10.3 MHz | 10.3 MHz |



Figure 5.15 Die micrograph.


Figure 5.16 Micrograph of a 7 -stage ring oscillator on chip.

### 5.6.2 Inverter Delay and Geometry

The ring oscillators are tested using digital oscilloscopes of LeCroy Wavemaster 8600A [61] and Tektronix TDS6604 [94] in the time domain, and Agilent Technologies E4440A spectrum analyzer [63] in the frequency domain.
Figure 5.17 shows the measured output waveforms for oscillators in set I and III.

(a) Measured output waveform for an oscillator in set I.

(b) Measured output waveform for an oscillator in set III.

Figure 5.17 Measured oscillator output waveforms.

Table 5.6 lists the measured minimum inverter delay $\mathrm{T}_{\mathrm{d}}$ for all the implemented ring oscillators. The data are also plotted in Figure 5.18 on a $\log -\log$ scale. From Figure 5.18a, increasing the channel width W has a very weak effect on the VCO's speed. This matches the prediction in (5.7) that $T_{d}$ has no dependency on W based on a first-order analysis.

In Figure 5.18b, the data from oscillators with longer channels $(\mathrm{L}=6 \mu \mathrm{~m}$ and $1.8 \mu \mathrm{~m}$ ) show a slope of 2 , which indicates that

$$
\begin{equation*}
T_{d} \propto L^{2} \tag{5.107}
\end{equation*}
$$

This matches the prediction in (5.8).
For oscillators with shorter channels $(\mathrm{L}=0.6 \mu \mathrm{~m}$ and $0.18 \mu \mathrm{~m}), \mathrm{T}_{\mathrm{d}}$ deviates the relationship of (5.107) due to the short channel effects.

Table 5.6 Measured min. inverter delay [sec] for implemented oscillators.

| W | $0.18 \mu \mathrm{~m}$ | $0.6 \mu \mathrm{~m}$ | $1.8 \mu \mathrm{~m}$ | $6 \mu \mathrm{~m}$ |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| $10 \mu \mathrm{~m}$ | $6.16 \mathrm{E}-11$ | $2.83 \mathrm{E}-10$ | $1.73 \mathrm{E}-09$ | $1.62 \mathrm{E}-08$ |
| $20 \mu \mathrm{~m}$ | $7.89 \mathrm{E}-11$ | $2.72 \mathrm{E}-10$ | $1.75 \mathrm{E}-09$ | $1.62 \mathrm{E}-08$ |
| $60 \mu \mathrm{~m}$ | $7.87 \mathrm{E}-11$ | $3.02 \mathrm{E}-10$ | $1.80 \mathrm{E}-09$ | $1.67 \mathrm{E}-08$ |
| $100 \mu \mathrm{~m}$ | $8.38 \mathrm{E}-11$ | $2.99 \mathrm{E}-10$ | $1.82 \mathrm{E}-09$ | $1.66 \mathrm{E}-08$ |
| $200 \mu \mathrm{~m}$ | $8.33 \mathrm{E}-11$ | $3.07 \mathrm{E}-10$ | $1.87 \mathrm{E}-09$ | $1.70 \mathrm{E}-08$ |
| $600 \mu \mathrm{~m}$ | $7.96 \mathrm{E}-11$ | $3.25 \mathrm{E}-10$ | $1.95 \mathrm{E}-09$ | $1.90 \mathrm{E}-08$ |


(a) Measured minimum inverter delay versus channel width.

(b) Measured minimum inverter delay versus channel length.

Figure 5.18 Measured minimum inverter delay versus VCO geometry.

### 5.6.3 $\kappa$ and VCO Geometry

Duty cycle distortion will result asymmetry in the oscillating waveform and introduce more integrated $1 / \mathrm{f}$ noise [10]. Figure 5.19 shows the measured duty cycle of the ring oscillator with $\mathrm{M}_{1}$ size of $600 \mu \mathrm{~m} / 0.18 \mu \mathrm{~m}$ for the full tuning range. All measured data are around $50 \%$.


Figure 5.19 Measured duty cycle for the ring oscillator with $\mathrm{M}_{1}$ size of $600 \mu \mathrm{~m} / 0.18 \mu \mathrm{~m}$.

Table 5.7 lists the measured $\kappa$ for all implemented ring oscillators running at their maximum speed. The data are also plotted in Figure 5.20 and 5.21 on a log$\log$ scale.

Figure 5.20 shows the measured relationship between the extracted $\kappa$ and the channel width W. From the prediction in (5.44) and (5.53),

$$
\begin{equation*}
\kappa \propto \frac{1}{\sqrt{W}} \tag{5.108}
\end{equation*}
$$

Using the least square method, the extracted slopes for the four VCO sets are $-0.3841,-0.3668,-0.3668$, and -0.3705 respectively, showing reasonable correspondence with errors between $23 \%$ and $27 \%$.

Table 5.7 Measured $\kappa$ versus VCO geometry.
(All oscillators are running at maximum speed)

| $10 \mu \mathrm{~m}$ | $3.72 \mathrm{E}-09$ | $4.78 \mathrm{E}-09$ | $7.93 \mathrm{E}-09$ | $1.53 \mathrm{E}-08$ |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| $20 \mu \mathrm{~m}$ | $2.98 \mathrm{E}-09$ | $3.42 \mathrm{E}-09$ | $6.55 \mathrm{E}-09$ | $1.24 \mathrm{E}-08$ |
| $60 \mu \mathrm{~m}$ | $1.83 \mathrm{E}-09$ | $2.57 \mathrm{E}-09$ | $5.31 \mathrm{E}-09$ | $9.36 \mathrm{E}-09$ |
| $100 \mu \mathrm{~m}$ | $1.51 \mathrm{E}-09$ | $2.20 \mathrm{E}-09$ | $4.34 \mathrm{E}-09$ | $7.51 \mathrm{E}-09$ |
| $200 \mu \mathrm{~m}$ | $1.14 \mathrm{E}-09$ | $1.55 \mathrm{E}-09$ | $2.61 \mathrm{E}-09$ | $4.90 \mathrm{E}-09$ |
| $600 \mu \mathrm{~m}$ | $8.06 \mathrm{E}-10$ | $1.02 \mathrm{E}-09$ | $1.82 \mathrm{E}-09$ | $3.48 \mathrm{E}-09$ |



Figure 5.20 Measured relationship between $\kappa$ and channel width.

Figure 5.21 shows the measured relationship between the extracted $\kappa$ and the channel length $L$ on a log-log scale.


Figure 5.21 Measured relationship between $\kappa$ and channel length.
From prediction in (5.45) and (5.54),

$$
\begin{align*}
& \kappa \propto \sqrt{L} \quad \text { when } L \gg L_{c}  \tag{5.109}\\
& \kappa \propto \frac{1}{\sqrt{L}} \quad \text { when } L \ll L_{c} \tag{5.110}
\end{align*}
$$

For TSMS $0.18 \mu \mathrm{~m}$ process, $\mathrm{v}_{\text {sat }}=8.4 \mathrm{E} 4 \mathrm{~m} / \mathrm{sec}, \mu_{0}=0.0459 \mathrm{~m}^{2} / \mathrm{V} \cdot \mathrm{sec}$, the computed $\mu_{\mathrm{eff}}=0.0205 \mathrm{~m}^{2} / \mathrm{V} \cdot \mathrm{sec}$ and $\mathrm{V}_{\mathrm{T}}$ is around 0.5 V for short-channel MOSFETs. From (2.10),

$$
\begin{equation*}
L_{c}=\frac{V_{e f f}}{E_{c}}=\frac{V_{D D}-V_{T}}{2 v_{\text {sat }} / \mu_{e f f}}=\frac{1.8-0.5}{2 \times(8.4 \mathrm{E} 4) / 0.0205} \approx 0.16 \mu \mathrm{~m} \tag{5.111}
\end{equation*}
$$

For VCO sets II to IV with channel lengths $(0.6 \mu \mathrm{~m}, 1.8 \mu \mathrm{~m}$, and $6 \mu \mathrm{~m})$ much longer than $L_{c}$ of $0.16 \mu \mathrm{~m}$, the measured $\kappa$ is proportional to the square root of $L$ as predicted by (5.109), and showing a slope of 0.5 on the $\log -\log$ scale plot of Figure 5.21.

For oscillators in set I, the channel lengths are all $0.18 \mu \mathrm{~m}$ and affected by the short channel effect. The measured $\kappa$ deviates from the relationship predicted by (5.109). Due to short of data points, the optimum length is not observed. From the analysis in Section 5.4.1, the optimum length could be larger or smaller than $0.18 \mu \mathrm{~m}$ depending on the dependency of $\gamma_{\mathrm{S}}$ and $\mathrm{V}_{\mathrm{T}}$ on the channel length L .

Figure 5.22 shows the simulated $\mathrm{V}_{\mathrm{T}}$ for a single MOSFET biased in the saturation region with both $\mathrm{V}_{\mathrm{GS}}$ and $\mathrm{V}_{\mathrm{DS}}$ of 1.8 V . Only the roll-up of $\mathrm{V}_{\mathrm{T}}$ is observed.


Figure 5.22 Simulated $\mathrm{V}_{\mathrm{T}}$ roll-up for $\mathrm{TSMC} 0.18 \mu \mathrm{~m}$ process.

There are no MOSFETs dedicated for $\gamma_{\mathrm{s}}$ extraction in this test chip. Figure 5.23 shows the extracted $\gamma_{\mathrm{s}}$ for MOSFETs in TSMC $0.18 \mu \mathrm{~m}$ from the measurement results of [95]. The bias condition of $\mathrm{V}_{\mathrm{GST}}$ in Figure 5.23 is the gate
overdrive voltage which is $\left(\mathrm{V}_{\mathrm{GS}}-\mathrm{V}_{\mathrm{T}}\right)$. The $\gamma_{\mathrm{s}}$ at bias condition of $\mathrm{V}_{\mathrm{GST}}=1.3 \mathrm{~V}$ and $\mathrm{V}_{\mathrm{GST}}=1 \mathrm{~V}$ are obtained by linear interpolation and plotted on Figure 5.23 with dashed lines.


Figure 5.23 Measured $\gamma_{\mathrm{s}}$ for TSMC $0.18 \mu \mathrm{~m}$ process in [95].
From the results in Figure 5.22 and 5.23, the $\mathrm{V}_{\mathrm{T}}$ roll-up and increased $\gamma_{\mathrm{s}}$ will result in a longer optimum length than $L_{c}(0.16 \mu \mathrm{~m})$.

Figure 5.24 shows the predicted and measured $\kappa$ for the VCOs with $\mathrm{M}_{1}$ width of $20 \mu \mathrm{~m}$. The agreement is within $30 \%$. The $\gamma_{\mathrm{s}}$ for the switching and tuning MOSFETs in prediction are the interpolated $\gamma_{\mathrm{s}}$ in Figure 5.23. The drain current $\mathrm{I}_{\mathrm{D}}$, threshold voltage $\mathrm{V}_{\mathrm{T}}$, and the gate overdrive voltage $\mathrm{V}_{\mathrm{GST}}$ are obtained by simulation of the half circuit in Figure 5.24 by Cadence. The predicted optimum length is around $0.36 \mu \mathrm{~m}$. Unfortunately there is no actual measured data to prove it.


Figure 5.24 Predicted and measured $\kappa$ for the VCOs with $\mathrm{M}_{1}$ width of $20 \mu \mathrm{~m}$.

### 5.6.4 Normalized RMS Jitter and VCO Geometry

From (5.64), the normalized rms jitter is

$$
\begin{equation*}
\left(\sigma_{x}\right)_{U I}=\frac{\sigma_{x}}{T_{0}}=\frac{\kappa}{2 N T_{d}} \sqrt{\frac{1}{4 \pi f_{L}}\left(1+\frac{4 f_{c}}{3 \sqrt{3} f_{L}}\right)} \quad[\mathrm{UI}] \tag{5.112}
\end{equation*}
$$

Thus only the $\kappa$-to- $\mathrm{T}_{\mathrm{d}}$ ratio is related to the VCO geometry. From (5.69), the $\kappa$-to- $\mathrm{T}_{\mathrm{d}}$ ratio is

$$
\begin{equation*}
\frac{\kappa}{T_{d}}=\frac{2}{5(1+m) V_{D D}} \sqrt{\frac{4 k T \mu_{e f f}\left(V_{D D}-V_{T}\right) 2 \gamma_{s}}{C_{o x} W L^{3}}} \cdot \sqrt{1+\frac{\delta}{\left(1+\frac{L_{c}}{L}\right)}} \tag{5.113}
\end{equation*}
$$

For $\mathrm{L} \gg \mathrm{L}_{\mathrm{c}}$ and $\mathrm{L} \ll \mathrm{L}_{\mathrm{c}}$, the relationship between the $\kappa$-to- $\mathrm{T}_{\mathrm{d}}$ ratio and the VCO geometry is predicted by (5.72),

$$
\begin{equation*}
\frac{\kappa}{T_{d}} \propto \frac{1}{\sqrt{W L^{3}}} \tag{5.114}
\end{equation*}
$$

Table 5.8 lists the measured $\kappa$-to- $\mathrm{T}_{\mathrm{d}}$ for all implemented ring oscillators running at their maximum speed. The data are also plotted in Figure 5.25 and 5.26 on a log-log scale.

Figure 5.25 shows the relationship between the measured $\kappa$-to- $\mathrm{T}_{\mathrm{d}}$ ratio and the channel width W on a $\log -\log$ scale. The extracted slopes are from -0.3960 to -0.4360 , showing errors between $13 \%$ and $21 \%$.

Figure 5.26 shows the relationship between the extracted $\kappa$-to- $\mathrm{T}_{\mathrm{d}}$ ratio and the channel length $L$ on a $\log -\log$ scale. From (5.111), $L_{c}$ is calculated as $0.16 \mu \mathrm{~m}$. So only the channel lengths of VCOs in set III $(1.8 \mu \mathrm{~m})$ and IV $(6 \mu \mathrm{~m})$ qualifies the condition of $\mathrm{L} \gg \mathrm{L}_{\mathrm{c}}$. If just calculate the slopes from the data of VCO set III and IV, the results are between -1.3104 and -1.3823 . Comparing to the predicted -1.5 from (5.114), the errors are within $13 \%$.

For VCO set I and II, L is $0.18 \mu \mathrm{~m}$ and $0.6 \mu \mathrm{~m}$ respectively and not much larger than $L_{c}$. The $\kappa$-to- $T_{d}$ ratio is actually proportional to

$$
\begin{equation*}
\frac{\kappa}{T_{d}} \propto \sqrt{\frac{1}{W L^{3}}} \cdot \sqrt{1+\frac{\delta}{\left(1+\frac{L_{c}}{L}\right)}} \tag{5.115}
\end{equation*}
$$

So when $L$ approaches $L_{c}$, the $\kappa$-to- $\mathrm{T}_{\mathrm{d}}$ ratio will drop from the value predicted by (5.114), which is exactly shown in Figure 5.26.

Table 5.8 Extracted $\kappa$-to- $\mathrm{T}_{\mathrm{d}}$ ratio and VCO geometry.

| L | $0.18 \mu \mathrm{~m}$ | $0.6 \mu \mathrm{~m}$ | $1.8 \mu \mathrm{~m}$ | $6 \mu \mathrm{~m}$ | Slope <br> (when L>>Lc) |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| $10 \mu \mathrm{~m}$ | 60.39 | 16.91 | 4.58 | 0.94 | -1.3134 |
| $20 \mu \mathrm{~m}$ | 37.77 | 12.57 | 3.74 | 0.77 | -1.3160 |
| $60 \mu \mathrm{~m}$ | 23.25 | 8.50 | 2.95 | 0.56 | -1.3807 |
| $100 \mu \mathrm{~m}$ | 18.02 | 7.35 | 2.39 | 0.45 | -1.3823 |
| $200 \mu \mathrm{~m}$ | 13.69 | 5.04 | 1.40 | 0.29 | -1.3104 |
| $600 \mu \mathrm{~m}$ | 10.13 | 3.14 | 0.93 | 0.18 | -1.3552 |
| Slope | -0.4360 | -0.4055 | -0.3960 | -0.4078 |  |



Figure 5.25 Measured $\kappa$-to- $\mathrm{T}_{\mathrm{d}}$ ratio versus W .


Figure 5.26 Measured $\kappa$-to- $\mathrm{T}_{\mathrm{d}}$ ratio versus L .

### 5.6.5 Normalized Cycle-tocycle Jitter and VCO Geometry

From (5.79), the normalized cycle-to-cycle jitter is

$$
\begin{equation*}
\left(\sigma_{T_{0}}\right)_{U I}=\frac{\kappa}{\sqrt{T_{0}}}=\frac{\kappa}{\sqrt{2 N T_{d}}}[\mathrm{UI}] \tag{5.116}
\end{equation*}
$$

Thus only the $\kappa$-to-sqrt $\left(\mathrm{T}_{\mathrm{d}}\right)$ ratio is related to the VCO geometry. From (5.87), the $\kappa$-to-sqrt $\left(T_{d}\right)$ ratio is

For $\mathrm{L} \gg \mathrm{L}_{\mathrm{c}}$ and $\mathrm{L} \ll \mathrm{L}_{\mathrm{c}}$, the relationship between the $\kappa$-to-sqrt( $\mathrm{T}_{\mathrm{d}}$ ) ratio and the VCO geometry is predicted by (5.90),

$$
\frac{\kappa}{\sqrt{T_{d}}} \propto \begin{cases}\frac{1}{\sqrt{W L}} & \text { when } L \gg L_{c}  \tag{5.118}\\ \frac{1}{\sqrt{W L^{2}}} & \text { when } L \ll L_{c}\end{cases}
$$

Table 5.9 lists the measured $\kappa$-to-sqrt $\left(\mathrm{T}_{\mathrm{d}}\right)$ for all implemented ring oscillators running at their maximum speed, and the data are also plotted in Figure 5.27 and 5.28 on a $\log$-log scale.

Figure 5.27 shows the relationship between the extracted $\kappa$-to-sqrt $\left(\mathrm{T}_{\mathrm{d}}\right)$ ratio and the channel width W in a log-log scale. The extracted slopes are from -0.3812 to -0.4099 , showing errors between $18 \%$ and $24 \%$.

Figure 5.28 shows the relationship between the extracted $\kappa$-to-sqrt $\left(\mathrm{T}_{\mathrm{d}}\right)$ ratio and the channel length $L$ in a log-log scale. Only the data from VCO set III and IV satisfy $L \gg L_{c}$. The extracted slopes are from -0.3837 to -0.4634 , showing errors between $24 \%$ and $7 \%$.

Table 5.9 The extracted $\kappa$-to-sqrt $\left(\mathrm{T}_{\mathrm{d}}\right)$ ratio and VCO geometry.

| W | $0.18 \mu \mathrm{~m}$ | $0.6 \mu \mathrm{~m}$ | $1.8 \mu \mathrm{~m}$ | $6 \mu \mathrm{~m}$ | Slope <br> (when L>>Lc) |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| $10 \mu \mathrm{~m}$ | $4.74 \mathrm{E}-04$ | $2.84 \mathrm{E}-04$ | $1.91 \mathrm{E}-04$ | $1.20 \mathrm{E}-04$ | -0.3837 |
| $20 \mu \mathrm{~m}$ | $3.35 \mathrm{E}-04$ | $2.07 \mathrm{E}-04$ | $1.56 \mathrm{E}-04$ | $9.75 \mathrm{E}-05$ | -0.3930 |
| $60 \mu \mathrm{~m}$ | $2.06 \mathrm{E}-04$ | $1.48 \mathrm{E}-04$ | $1.25 \mathrm{E}-04$ | $7.23 \mathrm{E}-05$ | -0.4550 |
| $100 \mu \mathrm{~m}$ | $1.65 \mathrm{E}-04$ | $1.27 \mathrm{E}-04$ | $1.02 \mathrm{E}-04$ | $5.83 \mathrm{E}-05$ | -0.4634 |
| $200 \mu \mathrm{~m}$ | $1.25 \mathrm{E}-04$ | $8.84 \mathrm{E}-05$ | $6.04 \mathrm{E}-05$ | $3.76 \mathrm{E}-05$ | -0.3936 |
| $600 \mu \mathrm{~m}$ | $9.03 \mathrm{E}-05$ | $5.66 \mathrm{E}-05$ | $4.12 \mathrm{E}-05$ | $2.52 \mathrm{E}-05$ | -0.4084 |
| Slope | -0.4099 | -0.3858 | -0.3812 | -0.3878 |  |



Figure 5.27 Measured $\kappa$-to-sqrt( $\mathrm{T}_{\mathrm{d}}$ ) ratio versus W .


Figure 5.28 Measured $\kappa$-to-sqrt $\left(\mathrm{T}_{\mathrm{d}}\right)$ ratio versus L.

### 5.6.6 $\kappa$ and VCO Tuning

Figure 5.29 shows the measured VCO tuning characteristic for the ring oscillator with $\mathrm{M}_{1}$ size of $600 \mu \mathrm{~m} / 0.18 \mu \mathrm{~m}$.


Figure 5.29 Measured tuning characteristic for the ring oscillator with $\mathrm{M}_{1}$ size of $600 \mu \mathrm{~m} / 0.18 \mu \mathrm{~m}$.

The voltage to frequency transfer characteristic is not linear in the full tuning range. The reason has been discussed in Section 5.5. When $\mathrm{V}_{\mathrm{ct}}$ is lower, the tuning MOSFETs are biased in saturation, and from (5.94)

$$
I_{c t l} \propto \begin{cases}\left(V_{c t l}-V_{T}\right)^{2} & \text { when } L \gg L_{c}  \tag{5.119}\\ \left(V_{c t l}-V_{T}\right) & \text { when } L \ll L_{c}\end{cases}
$$

Since the propagation delay is inversely proportional to the switching current, the oscillating speed $f_{0}$ is

$$
f_{0} \propto \begin{cases}\left(V_{c t l}-V_{T}\right)^{2} & \text { when } L \gg L_{c}  \tag{5.120}\\ \left(V_{c t l}-V_{T}\right) & \text { when } L \ll L_{c}\end{cases}
$$

When $\mathrm{V}_{\text {ctl }}$ is high, the tuning MOSFETs are biased in triode. There is more current for switching and the speed is faster. However as analyzed in Section 5.5, the resulting VCO gain factor dropped from $465 \mathrm{MHz} / \mathrm{V}$ to $42 \mathrm{MHz} / \mathrm{V}$.

Figure 5.30 shows the measured relationship between the extracted $\kappa$ and the measured inverter delay $\mathrm{T}_{\mathrm{d}}$ on a $\log$-log scale for the VCO with $\mathrm{M}_{1}$ size of $10 \mu \mathrm{~m} / 0.6 \mu \mathrm{~m}$. Similar results are obtained for other oscillators. The tuning is realized by varying the control voltage to limit the switching current. It is equivalent to limiting the power dissipation and thus degrading the VCO's jitter performance.

When the tuning transistors are biased in the saturation region, a slope of 1 is extracted for the data plotted in a log-log scale. Thus measured results match the analysis in (5.103) that during tuning,

$$
\begin{equation*}
\kappa_{\text {total }} \propto T_{d} \tag{5.121}
\end{equation*}
$$

When the tuning transistors are biased in triode, a slope of 1.5 is extracted for the data plotted on a log-log scale, which matches the prediction that the jitter will be much better than the case that the tuning transistors are biased in saturation.


Figure 5.30 Measured relationship between $\kappa$ and inverter during tuning.

### 5.7 Summary: Design of Low Jitter Ring Oscillators

### 5.7.1 Design for $\kappa$

The measurement results for minimum inverter delay and $\kappa$ as a function of the VCO geometry are summarized by the contour plot in Figure 5.31 with an interpolated optimum channel length around $0.24 \mu \mathrm{~m}$. Thus the optimum geometry of ring oscillators to minimize $\kappa$ is along the arrow in Figure 5.31.


Figure 5.31 Contour plot for measured $\kappa$ and minimum inverter delay.

From the analysis in Section 5.4.1 and the measurement results in Figure 5.31, the ring oscillator design procedure is as follows:

1. Find the optimum $L$ by noise simulation or using the prediction technique developed in this chapter.
2. Simulate the 3 -stage ring with L set to the $\mathrm{L}_{\text {optimum. }}$. Check if the oscillating speed is higher than the design goal. The tuning range should be as close to the maximum speed as possible since tuning will degrade $\kappa$.
3. If the 3 -stage ring is fast enough, $\mathrm{L}_{\text {optimum }}$ should be used for the oscillator. The desired speed can be realized by adjusting the number of stages N or adding capacitive load. Both methods will not affect $\kappa$, since $\kappa$ is independent of the N and load capacitance $\mathrm{C}_{\mathrm{L}}$.
4. If the 3-stage ring is not fast enough, set the number of stages N to 3 . Then decreasing $L$ until the speed of the 3 -stage ring meets the design goal.
5. Increase the channel width W until the desired $\kappa$ is met when the oscillator runs at the lowest speed in the tuning range. This will not affect the oscillating speed much since the inverter propagation delay has a very weak dependency on W.

Using the optimum length in VCO design will only guaranty minimum power dissipation for single-ended ring oscillators. The die area is usually not the minimum since more stages may be needed to lower the speed of the 3 -stage ring. For differential ring oscillators, insert more stages is not a good idea since each stage will consume power no matter it is switching or not due to the tail current. Therefore carefully select channel length and weighing the tradeoffs between speed, jitter performance, power dissipation and die area is critical in ring oscillator design.

### 5.7.2 Design for Normalized RMS Jitter

From (5.64), the normalized rms jitter is

$$
\begin{equation*}
\left(\sigma_{x}\right)_{U I}=\frac{\sigma_{x}}{T_{0}}=\frac{\kappa}{T_{0}} \sqrt{\frac{1}{4 \pi f_{L}}\left(1+\frac{4 f_{c}}{3 \sqrt{3} f_{L}}\right)} \quad \text { [UI] } \tag{5.122}
\end{equation*}
$$

From the analysis in this chapter, the k-to-period ratio is proportional to

$$
\begin{equation*}
\frac{\kappa}{T_{0}} \propto \frac{1}{N \sqrt{W L^{3}}} \tag{5.123}
\end{equation*}
$$

Therefore, the PLL and ring oscillator design procedure is as follows:

1. If the designer has the freedom in the PLL loop bandwidth $f_{L}$, increased it as high as possible. Higher $\mathrm{f}_{\mathrm{L}}$ not only helps to filter out the $1 / \mathrm{f}$ noise contribution but also reduce the normalized rms jitter according to (5.122). Then the required k -to-period ratio can be calculated from the jitter requirement by (5.122).
2. Set the number of stages N to 3 , and find maximum L at which the oscillating speed meets the design goal. This $L$ should be used for the ring oscillator. The tuning range should be as close to the maximum speed as possible since tuning will degrade $\kappa$. Increasing $L$ is better than increasing $N$ to achieve better normalized rms jitter. The reason is that the oscillating frequency $f_{0}$ is inversely proportional to N and L for the case of short channel; from (5.123) the k-to-period ratio is inversely proportional to L to the power of 1.5 , while just inversely proportional to N . For the long-channel case, larger N can be considered since $f_{0}$ is inversely proportional to $L^{2}$. But larger $L$ will help to lower the $1 / \mathrm{f}$ noise too.
3. Increase the channel width W until the desired k -to-period ratio is met when the oscillator runs at the lowest speed in the tuning range. This will not affect the oscillating speed since the dependency of inverter delay to W is very weak.

### 5.7.3 Design for Normalized Cycle-to-cycle Jitter

From (5.87), the normalized cycle-to-cycle jitter is

$$
\begin{equation*}
\left(\sigma_{T_{0}}\right)_{U I}=\sqrt{\frac{8 k T \gamma_{s}}{5 N(1+m) C_{o x} V_{D D}\left(V_{D D}-V_{T}\right)} \cdot \frac{1}{W L}} \sqrt{\frac{L+L_{c}}{L}+\delta} \quad \text { [UI] } \tag{5.124}
\end{equation*}
$$

From the analysis in Section 5.4.3, the normalized cycle-to-cycle jitter is proportional to

$$
\left(\sigma_{T_{0}}\right)_{U I} \propto \begin{cases}\frac{1}{\sqrt{N W L}} & \text { when } L \gg L_{c}  \tag{5.125}\\ \frac{1}{\sqrt{N W L^{2}}} & \text { when } L \ll L_{c}\end{cases}
$$

Therefore, the ring oscillator design procedure is as follows:

1. Set the number of stages N to 3 , and find the maximum L at which the oscillating speed meets the design goal. And this L should be used for the ring oscillator. The tuning range should be as close to the maximum speed as possible since tuning will degrade $\kappa$. Increasing $L$ is better than increasing $N$ to achieve better normalized rms jitter, since from (5.125) the normalized cycle-to-cycle jitter is inversely proportional to L, while just inversely proportional to square root of N at short channel lengths. And larger L will also help to lower the $1 / \mathrm{f}$ noise.
2. Increase the channel width W until the desired normalized cycle-to-cycle jitter is met when the oscillator runs at the lowest speed in the tuning range. This will not affect the oscillating speed since the inverter propagation delay has a very weak dependency on W.

## Chapter 6: Design of Digital PLL-based True Random Number Generator

### 6.1 Introduction

Almost all cryptographic applications require the generation of random numbers as secret keys, starting states, or other secret quantities [4], [96]-[98]. The quality of the randomness is essential since security protocols rely on the irreproducibility and unpredictability of the random numbers they use. Therefore, the random number generator (RNG) for cryptographic applications must meet stringent requirements.

There are two kinds of RNGs, pseudo-random number generators (PRNGs) and true random number generators (TRNGs). PRNGs can be implemented by both software and hardware. The numbers generated by PRNGs are not truly random, but are able to approximate some of the properties of random numbers. Complex mathematical functions are often used to generate high-quality pseudorandom bit streams. The classic algorithms include linear congruential generators, lagged Fibonacci generators, linear feedback shift registers and generalized feedback shift registers [100]. These algorithms are mostly insecure and easily predictable. Recent instances of algorithms include Blum Blum Shub [101], Fortuna [102], and the Mersenne twister [103].

However, there are also many well-documented ways to attack systems that utilize the PRNG approach [104]. A well-known remark by John von Neumann emphasized this: "Anyone who considers arithmetical methods of producing random digits is, of course, in a state of sin."

TRNGs can only be implemented by hardware. Popular approaches utilize electrical noise from a resistor or semiconductor devices as the source of randomness [105]. The numbers generated by ideal TRNGs are pure random and can not be predicted. However in the real world, there is always some kind of correlation between the data bits of the TRNG output. There are many statistical tests for the randomness. The most popular ones are the NIST SP800-22 test suite [106] and the Diehard battery test [107].

The target application for the TRNG designed in this work is the "smart card" [108]. The smart card resembles a credit card in size and shape with an embedded microprocessor which is under a gold contact pad on one side of the card. Compared to the magnetic strip technology which is still widely used in the United States, smart cards are able to provide more security since the data stored on the magnetic stripe can easily be read, written, deleted, or changed with off-the-shelf equipments. Therefore smart cards are better media to store sensitive information, and a good replacement to the usual magnetic stripe on a credit or debit card. Other applications for smart cards are computer security systems, wireless communication and government identification.

Smart cards are usually powered by a card reader, and may have up to 8 kilobytes of RMA, 346 kilobytes of ROM, 256 kilobytes of programmable ROM, and a 16-bit microprocessor. The smart-card reader is usually attached to a personal computer and communicates with the smart card through a serial interface. To authenticate the card and terminal, a built-in RNG for key generation is required [99]. Usually the key will not be regenerated after every transaction, but after a certain period such as a month. Since the users do not care to wait one more second for the key generation, the quality of the RNG is far more important than its speed.

### 6.2 Review of TRNG Design Techniques

There are three common ways to implement a TRNG: direct amplification, discrete-time chaos such as metastablility [98] and oscillator-sampling [4]-[6].

As illustrated in Figure 6.1, direct amplification uses a high-gain, highbandwidth amplifier to process voltage changes produced by noise sources such as a resistor or a diode [109]. Then the amplified noise is sampled by the comparator to generate random number bits. Since the thermal noise from a resistor is in the order of $\mu \mathrm{V}$, this type of RNGs is very sensitive to signal coupling, such as deterministic noise sources from the power supply and the substrate [110]. Another drawback is the power dissipation due to the requirement of the high-gain high-bandwidth amplifier.


Figure 6.1 RNG implemented by direct amplification.

Chaos-based RNGs use analog signal-processing techniques and the randomness is obtained from robust dynamics. Traditional designs using this technique provide good randomness but require complicated circuits using large area and high power while only low data rates can be obtained [110].

The most popular approach by far is the method of oscillator-sampling due to the advantages of less die area, improved power efficiency, and high speed. As
illustrated in Figure 6.2, a low frequency oscillator with high jitter samples the output of a high frequency oscillator using a D flip-flop to produce the randomnumber sequences. Post-processing circuits are usually required to improve the randomness. In order to achieve high level randomness, the rms jitter of the low frequency oscillator must be much greater than the period of the fast oscillator [5]. Experimental results in [5] have shown that for CMOS ring oscillators in a $0.18 \mu \mathrm{~m}$ digital library, the jitter-to-mean-period ratio is less than $10^{-4}$, which limits the maximum output data rate to $100 \mathrm{~kb} / \mathrm{s}$ if a 1 GHz fast oscillator is used.


Figure 6.2 RNG implemented by oscillator-sampling.
To overcome this problem, more noise sources are mixed to the low speed oscillator to obtain a high jitter-to-mean-period ratio. The RNG in [5] uses an OPAMP with 45 dB gain and 40 MHz bandwidth to amplify the thermal noise of resistors and modulate the low speed oscillator. A 10 Mbps throughput is obtained when the low speed oscillator runs at 10 MHz and the high frequency oscillator runs at 1 GHz .

Even with the noise modulation, the speed ratio of these two oscillators still needs to be above 100:1 [4]. Therefore, the RNG using the structure in Figure 6.2 usually requires that the high frequency oscillator runs above 1 GHz [5], [110]. This requires relatively expensive processes. In this chapter, a new dual-oscillator sampling architecture for random number generation is proposed. The main advantage over the previous designs is the capability of achieving comparable data rate using slower clocks, thus cheaper process and lower cost.

The architecture of the proposed RNG is introduced in Section 6.3. Section 6.4 perform system analysis in the time domain and illustrate Matlab simulation results. The RNG components, such as the DAC-controlled ring oscillators, the low metastability D flip-flop, and the up/down counters, will be discussed in detail in Section 6.5, 6.6, and 6.7 respectively. The digital post-processing circuits are presented in Section 6.8 and Section 6.9 gives the experimental results.

### 6.3 System Architecture

The architecture of the proposed digital PLL-based RNG is illustrated in Figure 6.3. Two identical noisy ring oscillators are designed with white noise dominated jitter. Oscillator I is free-running and serving as the clock. The phase error of the two oscillators is sampled by a low metastability D flip-flop, which also acts as a bang-bang phase detector. Two up/down counters form the loop filter. The 24-bit up/down counter $p$ integrates the phase error of the two ring oscillators to set the average frequency of oscillator II, and introduces a pole to the loop transfer function. The 1-bit up/down counter $z$ introduces the zero to stabilize the loop, and provides instantaneous phase correction without affecting the average oscillating frequency. Therefore the two oscillators are always synchronized through the feedback. The whole system is powered by a voltage regulator to reject the noise from the power supply. It should be noted that the whole system is nonlinear and thus it is difficult to be modeled analytically.


Figure 6.3 Architecture of the digital PLL-based RNG.

From the analysis in Chapter 4, the PLL acts as a low-pass filter for the input phase and a high-pass filter for jitter of the local oscillator. If the loop bandwidth $f_{L}$ is wide enough, most jitter of Oscillator I will pass through to the PLL output. The 1/f noise upconverted jitter in Oscillator II will be filtered out. Therefore, the jitter difference of the two oscillators is the filtered jitter of Oscillator II, which is correlated white noise. After sampling by the D flip-flop, a correlated data stream with equal probability for ' 1 's and ' 0 's is generated.

The closed-loop spectrum of white noise upconverted phase noise has the form [7]

$$
\begin{equation*}
S_{\Phi C L}(f)=\frac{N_{1} / f_{L}^{2}}{1+\left(f / f_{L}\right)^{2}} \tag{6.1}
\end{equation*}
$$

By the Wiener-Khinchin theorem, the autocorrelation function of this jitter process can be obtained by taking inverse Fourier transform of its power spectrum density in (6.1). As illustrated in Figure 6.4, the autocorrelation coefficient of this jitter process is calculated as [8]

$$
\begin{equation*}
\rho_{\mathrm{xx}}(\Delta \mathrm{t})=\exp \left(-2 \pi \mathrm{f}_{\mathrm{L}}|\Delta \mathrm{t}|\right) \tag{6.2}
\end{equation*}
$$



Figure 6.4 Autocorrelation and p.s.d.

From equation (6.2), the autocorrelation coefficient is down to $0.2 \%$ when $\Delta t$ equals $1 / \mathrm{f}_{\mathrm{L}}$. Thus the autocorrelation of the output data can be significantly
reduced by dividing the output data rate down to around or below the PLL loop bandwidth $\mathrm{f}_{\mathrm{L}}$, so that the data stream can be considered as random. Therefore for the proposed RNG, the maximum data rate achievable is limited by the loop bandwidth of this system. Since the PLL loop bandwidth can be as high as $10 \%$ of the clock frequency [93], ideally the maximum RNG data rate can be as high as $10 \%$ of the ring oscillator frequency.

However, wider loop bandwidth results in lower PLL output jitter. From [7], the rms jitter with respect to the reference clock for white noise dominated PLL is

$$
\begin{equation*}
\sigma_{x}=\kappa \sqrt{\frac{1}{4 \pi f_{L}}} \tag{6.3}
\end{equation*}
$$

Therefore the rms jitter is inversely proportional to the square root of $\mathrm{f}_{\mathrm{L}}$ :

$$
\begin{equation*}
\sigma_{x} \propto \frac{1}{\sqrt{f_{L}}} \tag{6.4}
\end{equation*}
$$

The rms jitter of this digital PLL should be much larger than the LSB of the DAC, or the phases of the two ring oscillators will not be synchronized but oscillate. Thus the key factors of this design are the DAC resolution, the PLL loop bandwidth $f_{L}$, and the noise figure of merit $\kappa$.

The goal of this design is to implement a TRNG with data rate of 1 Mbps . From the analysis above, the loop bandwidth of this PLL system should be 1 MHz or higher, which requires that the oscillator's speed is faster than 10 MHz . To give more room to adjust the loop, the actual oscillators are designed to run at 30 MHz .

### 6.4 Time Domain Analysis and System Simulation

From the analysis in last section, oscillator I is free running with a fixed frequency. The speed of oscillator II is continually adjusted by the loop so that it is synchronized to oscillator I. As illustrated in Figure 6.5, in the presence of jitter and assuming that there is no frequency drift, the transition time for the two white noise dominated oscillators can be expressed as

$$
\begin{gather*}
t_{1}[n]=t_{1}[n-1]+T_{1}+\varepsilon_{1}[n]  \tag{6.5}\\
t_{2}[n]=t_{2}[n-1]+T_{2}[n]+\varepsilon_{2}[n] \tag{6.6}
\end{gather*}
$$

where $T_{1}$ is the constant average period of the free-running oscillator $I, T_{2}[n]$ is the average period of the oscillator II in the $\mathrm{n}^{\text {th }}$ interval, and $\varepsilon_{i}[\mathrm{n}]$ is the jitter accumulated within the $\mathrm{n}^{\text {th }}$ interval which expresses the deviation of the period from the average.


Figure 6.5 Definition of random processes for clock with jitter.

The terminals shared by the two oscillators are power supply, ground, and substrate. The noise from these terminals will introduce deterministic jitter which is in common mode to the two oscillators, and most of them will be rejected since the two oscillators are identical and laid out next to each other. By carefully sizing the transistors using the technique developed in last chapter, the ring oscillators are designed with white noise dominated jitter. Thus $\varepsilon_{\mathrm{i}}$ can be approximated as
zero-mean, uncorrelated, discrete Gaussian random processes. Since the thermal noise of each MOSFET and resistor is generated independently, the random processes $\varepsilon_{1}$ and $\varepsilon_{2}$ are independent too.

From the analysis in Chapter 3, the standard deviation of cycle-to-cycle jitter $\varepsilon_{i}[\mathrm{n}]$ is

$$
\begin{equation*}
\sigma_{\varepsilon i}=\kappa_{i} \sqrt{T_{i}} \quad i=1,2 \tag{6.7}
\end{equation*}
$$

The transition time for the two oscillators in equation (6.5) and (6.6) can be rewritten by

$$
\begin{gather*}
t_{1}[n]=t_{1}[0]+n T_{1}+\sum_{j=1}^{n} \varepsilon_{1}[j]  \tag{6.8}\\
t_{2}[n]=t_{2}[0]+\sum_{j=1}^{n} T_{2}[j]+\sum_{j=1}^{n} \varepsilon_{2}[j] \tag{6.9}
\end{gather*}
$$

From probability theory, a sum of Gaussian random variables is also Gaussian, and the random variable $(\mathrm{A}+\mathrm{B})$ is correlated to both random variables A and B . Thus $\mathrm{t}_{1}[\mathrm{n}]$ is a Gaussian random variable with mean of $\mathrm{nT}_{1}$ and the transition time sequence $t_{1}$ is a correlated Gaussian random process. The standard deviation of the random variable $t_{1}[n]$ is

$$
\begin{equation*}
\sigma_{t_{1}}[n]=\sqrt{\sum_{j=1}^{n} \sigma_{\varepsilon_{1}}^{2}[j]}=\kappa_{1} \sqrt{n T_{1}} \tag{6.10}
\end{equation*}
$$

As illustrated in Figure 6.6, assuming there is no metastability for the D flipflop, the phase error sequence $\mathrm{rb}[\mathrm{n}]$, which is also the output sequence of this RNG system, is as

$$
\begin{equation*}
r b[n]=\left(\operatorname{sign}\left(t_{d i f f}[n]\right)+1\right) / 2 \tag{6.11}
\end{equation*}
$$

where $\operatorname{sign}()$ is the signum function, and $\mathrm{t}_{\text {diff }}[\mathrm{n}]$ is

$$
\begin{equation*}
t_{d i f f}[n]=t_{1}[n]-t_{2}[n] \tag{6.12}
\end{equation*}
$$



Figure 6.6 Data sampling by the D flip-flop.

When the PLL is in lock, the two oscillators are synchronized together. Therefore $\mathrm{t}_{\text {diff }}[\mathrm{n}]$ is the PLL rms jitter with respect to the reference clock. From the analysis in [8], the random process $\mathrm{t}_{\text {diff }}$ is zero-mean, correlated Gaussian random process with correlation coefficient in (6.2) and standard deviation in (6.3). As long as $\mathrm{t}_{\text {diff }}[\mathrm{n}]$ behaves as a zero-mean Gaussian random variable, the probability of $t_{\text {diff }}[n]>0$ equals that of $t_{\text {diff }}[n]<0$ as shown in Figure 6.7. And the RNG will generate a sequence of unbiased ' 1 's and ' 0 's.


Figure 6.7 Sampling a Gaussian random variable.
The frequency of oscillator II is adjusted in every clock cycle. From Figure 6.6, if the speed of the oscillator I is faster than that of the oscillator II, there will be more ' 1 's than ' 0 's at the output of the D flip-flop. The up/down counter records this information of imbalance, and the loop will decrease the speed of the oscillator I until equilibrium is reached. Thus the frequency of oscillator II can be modeled as

$$
\begin{equation*}
f_{2}[n+1]=f_{2}[1]-\left(k_{p} \cdot \operatorname{ctr}_{p}[n]+k_{z} \cdot \operatorname{ctr}_{z}[n]\right) \cdot K_{v c o} \tag{6.13}
\end{equation*}
$$

where $k_{p}$ and $k_{z}$ are the gain of the counters $p$ and $z, \operatorname{ctr}_{p}[n]$ and $\operatorname{ctr}_{z}[n]$ are their counting results, and $\mathrm{K}_{\mathrm{vco}}$ is the VCO gain factor in the unit of $\mathrm{Hz} / \mathrm{bit}$.

In the design implementation, the eight most significant bits of the 24 -bit counter p are connected to the DAC control of the oscillator I, while the output of 1-bit counter z is connected to the DAC directly. So equation (6.13) changes to

$$
\begin{equation*}
f_{2}[n+1]=f_{2}[1]-\left(\operatorname{fix}^{\left.\left(\operatorname{ctr}_{p}[n] / 2^{16}\right)+\operatorname{ctr}_{z}[n]\right) \cdot K_{v c o}}\right. \tag{6.14}
\end{equation*}
$$

where fix(A) is the Matlab fix function which rounds the elements of A toward zero, resulting in an array of integers.

The behavior of this PLL system is simulated by Matlab. During simulation, oscillator I is free-running at 30 MHz . Oscillator II is running at 29.9 MHz and 20 ns ahead of oscillator I. The LSB of the DAC is $20 \mathrm{kHz} / \mathrm{bit}$, which is equivalent of 22 ps resolution. The cycle-to-cycle jitter of both oscillators is 60 ps . A 16-bit $u p /$ down counter $p$ and 1 -bit up/down counter $z$ are used in simulation.

Figure 6.8 shows the simulated loop acquisition process. It takes about 5000 cycles, which is $167 \mu \mathrm{~s}$, for the two oscillators to be synchronized. Figure 6.9 shows the output data bits, the autocorrelation coefficient, and the spectrum of the RNG output. The autocorrelation coefficient is as high as $62 \%$ for the adjacent bits.

To lower the autocorrelation, the simplest way is to divide the data rate down. Figure 6.10 shows simulated results for dividing the RNG output down by 20 . The autocorrelation coefficient is reduced to below $7 \%$ for the adjacent bits.


Figure 6.8 System behavior simulated by Matlab.


Figure 6.9 RNG output simulated by Matlab.


Figure 6.10 RNG output after dividing by 20 simulated by Matlab.

### 6.5 DAC-controlled Ring Oscillator

The ring oscillators in the standard digital libraries are all optimized for both noise performance and speed. Therefore customized ring oscillators are needed in this design to provide high jitter.

The DAC-controlled ring oscillator is realized by adding a capacitor array to the load of the 3-stage single-ended ring oscillator as illustrated in Fig. 6.11. The delay stage is the current-starved inverter discussed in last chapter. The two ring oscillators are designed to be noisy. They are totally symmetric and next to each other in the layout. Thus the deterministic jitter due to the power supply and the substrate is in common-mode and will be rejected.


Figure 6.11 DAC-controlled ring oscillator.

The design considerations for the DAC-controlled ring oscillator are:

1. Relatively high speed. The loop bandwidth should be no higher than $10 \%$ of the oscillator speed. Therefore the oscillator frequency decides the maximum output data rate. In order to get $1 \mathrm{Mb} / \mathrm{s}$ throughput, the speed is set to be 30 MHz .
2. High $\kappa$ to provide enough jitter from (6.3). This will relax the resolution requirements for the DAC and the D flip-flop.
3. DAC resolution. If the DAC LSB is not much smaller than the PLL rms jitter, the phases of the two ring oscillators will oscillate.
4. Adjustable range of VCO. This will decide the locking range, which is the maximum frequency mismatch that this PLL system can tolerate.

### 6.5.1 Sizing Transistors

Since this structure is implemented in AMI $1.5 \mu \mathrm{~m}$ process, the analysis in Chapter 5 for the case of long-channel is applicable to this design. The two oscillators are powered by a voltage regulator which converts the $5 \mathrm{~V} \mathrm{~V}_{\mathrm{DD}}$ to 2.5 V . The purpose is to reject the deterministic jitter from the power supply and limit the power dissipated in the oscillators, thus generating more jitter.

From Section 5.6.1, the speed of ring oscillators formed by the current-starved inverter is

$$
\begin{equation*}
f_{0}=\frac{I_{c t l}}{N V_{S W} C_{L}} \tag{6.15}
\end{equation*}
$$

Therefore,

$$
\begin{equation*}
f_{0} \propto \frac{1}{N} \cdot \frac{I_{c t l}}{W_{s w} L_{s w}} \tag{6.16}
\end{equation*}
$$

When the tuning transistors are in saturation, the KTC noise is negligible, and the noise figures of merit are

$$
\begin{align*}
& \kappa_{s w}=\frac{i_{n}}{\sqrt{\Delta f}} \cdot \frac{1}{\sqrt{2} I_{c t l}}=\sqrt{\frac{16 k T}{3 \mu C_{o x}} \cdot \frac{W_{s w}}{W_{c t l}^{2}} \cdot \frac{L_{c c l}^{2}}{L_{s w}} \cdot \frac{\left(V_{H}-V_{T}\right)}{\left(V_{c t l}-V_{T}\right)^{4}}}  \tag{6.17}\\
& \kappa_{c t l}=\frac{i_{n}}{\sqrt{\Delta f}} \cdot \frac{1}{\sqrt{2} I_{c t l}}=\sqrt{\frac{8}{3} k T \cdot \frac{1}{\frac{1}{2} \mu C_{o x} \frac{W_{c t l}}{L_{c t l}}\left(V_{c t l}-V_{T}\right)^{3}}} \tag{6.18}
\end{align*}
$$

So

$$
\begin{equation*}
\kappa_{\text {total }} \propto \frac{\sqrt{W_{s w} / L_{s w}}}{I_{c t l}} \tag{6.19}
\end{equation*}
$$

From (6.16), at the required speed of 30 MHz , the ratio between $\mathrm{I}_{\mathrm{ct}}$ and $\mathrm{W}_{\text {sw }}$ should be constant. From (6.19), decreasing $\mathrm{I}_{\text {ctl }}$ is better than increasing $\mathrm{W}_{\text {sw }}$ to maximize $\kappa_{\text {totala }}$. Therefore, $\mathrm{W}_{\mathrm{sw}}, \mathrm{N}$, and $\mathrm{L}_{\mathrm{sw}}$ should use the minimum value possible to minimize $\mathrm{I}_{\mathrm{ctl}}$ and die area, which is equivalent to minimize power dissipation. Based on this analysis, $\mathrm{W}_{\mathrm{sw}}$ is set to be $4.5 \mu \mathrm{~m}$, which is the minimum width recommended by MOSIS for AMI $1.5 \mu \mathrm{~m}$ process; N is set to be 3 , which means the VCO is a 3 -stage ring. $\mathrm{L}_{\mathrm{sw}}$ is set to be $1.75 \mu \mathrm{~m}$, which is not the minimum value of $1.5 \mu \mathrm{~m}$. The reason is that through simulation, for $\mathrm{L}_{\mathrm{sw}}=1.5 \mu \mathrm{~m}$, the $\mathrm{I}_{\mathrm{ctt}}$ is so low that the output swing is too small.

To save die area consumed by the tuning transistors, $\mathrm{L}_{\mathrm{ctl}}$ is set to be $1.5 \mu \mathrm{~m}$ and $\mathrm{W}_{\mathrm{ct}}$ is set to be three times of $\mathrm{W}_{\text {sw }}$. The minimum $\mathrm{I}_{\mathrm{ctt}}$ to achieve the 30 MHz speed is realized by tuning the control voltage $\mathrm{V}_{\mathrm{ct}}$, which is actually biased around the threshold voltage of the tuning transistors.

Even though with all the above efforts, the $\kappa_{\text {total }}$ obtained from simulation is just $8.32 \mathrm{E}-8$. For the loop bandwidth of 1 MHz , the PLL rms jitter is only 23.5 ps . To provide more jitter, six $50 \mathrm{~K} \Omega$ resistors are added at the voltage control nodes. The reason for using six resistors is to provide independent thermal noise to each stage. The simulated $\kappa_{\text {total }}$ increases to $1.25 \mathrm{E}-7$. The PLL rms jitter is 35 ps when the loop bandwidth is 1 MHz and 50 ps when the loop bandwidth is 500 kHz .

Since the power dissipation is minimized to maximize jitter, the power dissipated by this DAC-controlled ring oscillator is only $44.25 \mu \mathrm{~W}$.

### 6.5.2 DAC Control

The DAC is realized by the capacitor array as shown in Figure 6.11. The control word decides the amount of loading capacitance at the output node of the ring oscillator, and thus controls the speed. The switches are implemented by NMOS transistors with the minimum size, which is $4.5 \mu \mathrm{~m} / 1.5 \mu \mathrm{~m}$.

The capacitors to form the four least significant bits in the DAC should be much less than $\mathrm{C}_{\text {load }}$ in Figure 6.11 to provide good linearity. The linearity for the four most significant bits is not important since their controls will only switch during loop acquisition.

The total loading capacitance should be as small as possible so that the current $\mathrm{I}_{\mathrm{ct}}$ is minimized while achieving the speed of 30 MHz . The 1 x capacitor in the array is implemented by metal-meta 2 capacitor with the size of $3 \mu \mathrm{~m}$ by $3 \mu \mathrm{~m}$, which is about 360 aF and is the smallest capacitor possible in AMI $1.5 \mu \mathrm{~m}$ process.

VCO Output Node


Figure 6.12 Capacitor array with dummy transistors.
As shown in Figure 6.12 for each MOSFET as a switch, when the control bit changes there will be transient current to charge or discharge the parasitic capacitor $\mathrm{C}_{\mathrm{gd}}$. This transient current will affect the VCO's speed. In order to mitigate this transient current, dummy switches with open source and complement controls are added for each capacitor in the array as illustrated in Figure 6.12.

From simulation by Cadence, the LSB the DAC is 20 kHz , which is equivalent to a timing resolution of 20ps. The total adjusting range is 3 MHz .

### 6.6 Low Metastability D Flip-flop

Since the edges of the oscillators are always aligned to each other, a low metastability D flip-flop is required in this system so that the D flip-flop is able to resolve itself to a valid logic level within one clock period.

Figure 6.13 shows a typical master-slave D flip-flop in the standard digital libraries. The regeneration path is a positive feedback formed by two CMOS inverters. This type of D flip-flop cannot work properly when the edges of clock and data are too close, which is known as the setup time requirement. The limitation is mainly from the low gain CMOS inverter in the regeneration path.


Figure 6.13 Rising edge triggered master-slave D flip-flop.

If assuming the threshold of the CMOS inverters in Figure 6.13 is at half of the power supply $\mathrm{V}_{\mathrm{DD}}$, the phase difference $\Delta \mathrm{t}$ of the two clocks in Figure 6.14 will result in an input voltage $\Delta \mathrm{V}$ to the regeneration path in the slave latch. $\Delta \mathrm{V}$ is related to $\Delta t$ by the slope of the rising edge,

$$
\begin{equation*}
\Delta V=\Delta t \cdot \frac{d V}{d t} \tag{6.20}
\end{equation*}
$$

If the rising time of the clocks is 2.5 ns and the logic ' 1 ' is $2.5 \mathrm{~V}, 1 \mathrm{ps}$ of $\Delta \mathrm{t}$ will result in a $\Delta \mathrm{V}$ around 1 mV . Apparently the latch in Figure 6.13 cannot process a 1 mV input.


Figure 6.14 D flip-flop sampling of closely positioned edges.


Figure 6.15 Simulation results for the master-slave D flip-flop in Figure 6.13.

Figure 6.15 shows simulated results of two clock signals being sampled by the master-slave D flip-flop designed in AMI $1.6 \mu \mathrm{~m}$ process. The logic ' 1 ' in the simulation is 2.5 V , and the rising time for both signals is 1 ns . So the slope of the rising edges is $2.5 \mathrm{~V} / \mathrm{ns}$. As shown in Figure 6.15, the setup time needed for this D flip-flop is 1.038 ns , which is larger than the 1 ns rising time. Therefore the latch formed by two inverters needs input voltage of 2.5 V to resolve itself. There is also a 220 ps gap during which this D flip-flop can not resolve itself to the correct output. This indicates that this D flip-flop needs extra overdrive to overcome its
initial condition. Unless the clock jitter is much larger than this gap, this type of D flip-flops should not be used in this proposed PLL-based RNG, or the RNG output will be always series of ' 1 's and series of ' 0 ' following each other.

To solve the problems described above, a falling edge triggered D flip-flop is designed in this work as illustrated in Fig. 6.16. When the CLK is high, both the pre-amplifier [111] and the D latch [111] will be reset. The transmission gate is on and the data is sampled. The reset of both the pre-amplifier and the D latch enables the D flip-flop to have the same initial condition every time when the regeneration starts. This 'fresh' start solves the gap problem of the typical masterslave D flip-flop illustrated in Figure 6.15. When the CLK switches to low, the transmission gate is closed and the gate capacitance of the pre-amplifier holds the sampled data. The pre-amplifier amplifies the difference between the held data and half of the power supply $\mathrm{V}_{\mathrm{DD}} / 2$, and the D latch regenerates this amplified difference to a valid logic level. The reference voltage $\mathrm{V}_{\mathrm{DD}} / 2$ is provided by another voltage regulator to convert the main regulator output 2.5 V to 1.25 V . To reduce the metastability error, two D flip-flops are cascaded.

The schematics of the pre-amplifier and the D latch are illustrated in Figure 6.17 and 6.18.


Figure 6.16 The low metastability D flip-flop.


Figure 6.17 The pre-amplifier in the designed D flip-flop.


Figure 6.18 The D latch in the designed D flip-flop.

As shown in Figure 6.14 and equation (6.20), sharp clock and data edges will relax the resolution requirement of the D flip-flop. In this design, the output signals of the two ring oscillators are buffered by a three-stage inverter chain. The resulting waveforms have rise and fall times of 1 ns and are fed into the D flip-flop. According to (6.20) with $\mathrm{V}_{\mathrm{DD}}$ of $2.5 \mathrm{~V}, 1 \mathrm{ps}$ of edge location difference will result in a 2.5 mV input to the pre-amplifier.

This D flip-flop is simulated by Cadence. Figure 6.19 shows the simulation results. During simulation, the input clock is ahead the input data signal by 1 ps . And the D flip-flop successfully resolves itself to logic ' 1 ' before next cycle starts. The output clock of this D flip-flop is intentionally delayed so that its rising edge is positioned about 2 ns ahead of the rising edge of the input clock. This allows the D flip-flop to have more time for regeneration. Since the output of the $D$ latch will be reset to $V_{D D}$ for the half cycle during which the transmission gate samples data, the outputs of this D flip-flop are return-to- $\mathrm{V}_{\mathrm{DD}}$ data.

From simulation, the currents drawn from the power supply for the preamplifier and the D latch are $20 \mu \mathrm{~A}$ each. Thus the power dissipation for this D flip-flop is only $100 \mu \mathrm{~W}$.


Figure 6.19 Simulation results for the designed D flip-flop.

### 6.7 Up/Down Counters

The up/down counters act as a loop filter. The idea is from the widely used analog loop filter in Figure 6.20.


Figure 6.20 Analog loop filter.
The loop bandwidth of this digital PLL system is a function of the oscillator control constant $\mathrm{K}_{\mathrm{vco}}$, and the counters' gain, $\mathrm{k}_{\mathrm{p}}$ and $\mathrm{k}_{\mathrm{z}}$. Figure 6.21 shows the loop acquisition process simulated by Matlab with different configuration of counter p. The parameters used in this simulation are shown in Figure 6.21 too. A shorter locking time indicates a wider loop bandwidth [57]. Therefore to get higher loop bandwidth, the counter p should use fewer bits.


Figure 6.21 Bandwidth versus configuration of the counter p .

The counter z is important in stabilizing the loop. The simulation in Section 6.4 is rerun by taking the counter z out. Figure 6.21 shows that the system oscillates without the counter z , which means the system is not stable.


Figure 6.22 System simulation without the stabilizing zero.

### 6.8 Digital Post-processing

The digital post-processing circuit in the designed RNG is illustrated in Figure 6.23. As discussed in Section 6.3 and 6.4, the raw output data of this RNG is highly autocorrelated, and the autocorrelation of the RNG output can be reduced by dividing the data rate down. In order to improve the final throughput, a von Neumann corrector is inserted between two dividers to help reducing the autocorrelation and bias. The division ratio of divider I should be larger than that of divider II to provide a much less autocorrelated data input to the von Neumann corrector. The total division ratio can be estimated by the ratio of the oscillator speed and system bandwidth simulated by Matlab.


Figure 6.23 The digital post-processing circuits.

The von Neumann corrector is widely used in RNGs to reduce bias in a stream of random bits. It converts pairs of bits into output bits as illustrated in Figure 6.24. Suppose the probability of ' 1 's is p , and there is no autocorrelation, the probability of getting ' 0,1 ' and ' 1,0 ' is same, which is $\mathrm{p}(1-\mathrm{p})$. Thus the bias is eliminated.

| Input Bits | Output Bits |
| :---: | :---: |
| 0,0 | none |
| 0,1 | 0 |
| 1,0 | 1 |
| 1,1 | none |

Figure 6.24 The classic von Neumann corrector.

Since the raw output data is highly autocorrelated, a relatively high bias will be introduced after divider I. The von Neumann corrector is able to dramatically reduce the bias and the remaining autocorrelation in the divided data stream, but with a high bit-drop rate.

To improve the bit-drop rate, a modified von Neumann corrector is designed and tested with this RNG. The modified algorithm monitors the bias information in real-time and records the difference $D_{\text {diff }}$ of ' 1 's and ' 0 's by an up/down counter. The modified von Neumann corrector still takes successive pairs of bits. If the two bits are different use the first one as the von Neumann corrector does; if they are same and the counting result of $\mathrm{D}_{\text {diff }}$ is within the preset threshold $\mathrm{D}_{\mathrm{TH}}$, discard both bits; if they are same and the counting result of $\mathrm{D}_{\text {diff }}$ is beyond the preset threshold $\mathrm{D}_{\mathrm{TH}}$, insert one bit of ' 1 ' or ' 0 ' to the output as illustrated in Figure 6.25. Experimental results show the optimum preset threshold $\mathrm{D}_{\mathrm{TH}}$ is 3900.

| Input Bits | Output Bits |
| :---: | :---: |
| $\begin{gathered} 0,0 \\ \text { or } \\ 1,1 \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{cases}\text { none } & \text { if }\left\|D_{\text {diff }}\right\| \leq D_{\text {TH }} \\ 0 & \text { if } D_{\text {diff }}>D_{\text {TH }} \\ 1 & \text { if } D_{\text {diff }}<-D_{\text {TH }}\end{cases}$ |
| 0,1 | 0 |
| 1, 0 | 1 |

Figure 6.25 The modified von Neumann corrector.

It should be emphasized that this modified von Neumann corrector will introduce serious bias to the output, since it will automatically insert a ' 1 ' or ' 0 ' when it thinks that it has to do so. However in reality, it is possible for the RNG to
output a million of ' 1 's or ' 0 's in a row, even though the probability is tiny. This inserted bias will be mitigated by the divider II.

In nature, this modified von Neumann corrector is a feedback system. It provides an option to improve the output data rate by an engineering solution with trading off the best nature of the classic von Neumann corrector, and should be used with caution.

### 6.9 Experimental Results

### 6.9.1 Test Chip Design

The customized part of this design including the oscillators, the D flip-flops, and the voltage regulators are implemented in AMI $1.5 \mu \mathrm{~m}$ 2-poly 2-metal CMOS process and consume an area of $1 \mathrm{~mm}^{2}$. The chip micrograph is shown in Fig. 6.26.

Excluding the output buffers, the total power dissipation of this customized design is 1.92 mW . Half of the power is burned in the main voltage regulator. If the main regulator is implemented in the card reader, the power dissipation for this RNG system will be 0.96 mW , most of which is consumed by the internal current buffer to reduce the rise and fall times of the oscillator output waveforms.

The counters and the digital post-processing circuits are implemented in an off-chip FPGA for design flexibility.


Figure 6.26 Chip micrograph of the PLL-based RNG.

### 6.9.2 Measurement Results

The two oscillators are running at 30 MHz in this RNG system. Figure 6.27 shows the measured rms jitter over the measurement time delay for the open-loop ring oscillators. The extracted white noise figure of merit $\kappa$ is $1.48 \mathrm{E}-7$. The $1 / \mathrm{f}$ noise contribution was not optimized. The reason is that with high loop bandwidth the upconverted $1 / \mathrm{f}$ noise will be filtered by the loop. The $1 / \mathrm{f}$ noise figure of merit $\varsigma$ is measured as $2.54 \mathrm{E}-4$. The $1 / \mathrm{f}^{3}$ phase noise corner is located around 100 kHz .


Figure 6.27 Jitter performance of the free-running ring oscillator at 30 MHz .

The DAC has a measured LSB of 44 ps with the total adjusting range of $\pm 1.6 \mathrm{~ns}$. The resolution is not as fine as expected 20 ps due to variation in the fabrication process. Due to this problem, the loop bandwidth has to be decreased to 500 kHz by using the 24 -bit counter p . According to equation (6.3), the rms jitter of this system is about 60 ps . Comparing to the measured LSB of 44 ps , more division than expected is necessary to lower the autocorrelation sufficiently. The actual division ratio for the divider I and II in Figure 6.23 is ten and seven respectively. With the classic von Neumann corrector, a data rate of only 60 kbps is achieved. With the modified von Neumann corrector, the data rate is improved
to 100 kbps . It is expected that this rate will be improved in a future iteration of the design.

Figure 6.28 shows the spectrum and autocorrelation coefficient of the postprocessed data.


Figure 6.28 Spectrum and autocorrelation coefficient of post-processed data.

The quality of the randomness has been verified by the NIST SP800-22 test suite [106] over 2 Mbit long sequences. This test suite consists of 16 statistical tests, and the passing criteria for each test is that the p-value is larger than 0.01
[106]. Table 6.1 shows the complete test results for three data sequences postprocessed by the classic von Neumann. Table 6.2 shows the test results for data sequences post-processed by the modified von Neumann. Table 6.3 summaries the performance of this digital PLL-based TRNG.

Table 6.1 NIST SP800-22 statistical test results for the PLL-based RNG.
(Post-processed by the classic von Neumann corrector)

| Test | P-value |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | Data Set I | Data Set II | Data Set III |
| Frequency | 0.483198 | 0.911958 | 0.901273 |
| Block Frequency | 0.538931 | 0.659396 | 0.456440 |
| Cusum-Forward | 0.438645 | 0.832364 | 0.296615 |
| Cusum-Reverse | 0.461142 | 0.918811 | 0.372568 |
| Runs | 0.015319 | 0.028246 | 0.021048 |
| Longest Run | 0.314287 | 0.323623 | 0.326702 |
| Rank | 0.098052 | 0.178995 | 0.398939 |
| FFT | 0.652276 | 0.614894 | 0.078635 |
| Universal | 0.080439 | 0.474608 | 0.783055 |
| Approx. Entropy | 0.131380 | 0.288881 | 0.858016 |
| Serial1 | 0.451467 | 0.675619 | 0.022897 |
| Serial2 | 0.374261 | 0.416942 | 0.051895 |
| Lempel Ziv | 1.000000 | 1.000000 | 1.000000 |
| Linear Complexity | 0.671359 | 0.699883 | 0.257862 |
| Periodic Templates | 0.982131 | 0.154475 | 0.878092 |
| Aperiodic Templates | all passed | all passed | all passed |
| Random Excursions | all passed | all passed | all passed |
| Random Ex. Variant | all passed | all passed | all passed |

Table 6.2 NIST SP800-22 statistical test results for the PLL-based RNG. (Post-processed by the modified von Neumann corrector)

| Test | P-value |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | Data Set I | Data Set II | Data Set III |
| Frequency | 0.403123 | 0.321518 | 0.346485 |
| Block Frequency | 0.151636 | 0.755148 | 0.055258 |
| Cusum-Forward | 0.323588 | 0.556027 | 0.677662 |
| Cusum-Reverse | 0.338798 | 0.243561 | 0.506432 |
| Runs | 0.17792 | 0.194128 | 0.903376 |
| Longest Run | 0.891002 | 0.945998 | 0.124246 |
| Rank | 0.239545 | 0.24964 | 0.141371 |
| FFT | 0.270026 | 0.6652 | 0.718271 |
| Universal | 0.685955 | 0.673109 | 0.841297 |
| Approx. Entropy | 0.399766 | 0.196523 | 0.981364 |
| Seriall | 0.866552 | 0.183901 | 0.619666 |
| Serial2 | 0.793059 | 0.411532 | 0.319159 |
| Lempel Ziv | 1.000000 | 1.000000 | 1.000000 |
| Linear Complexity | 0.448407 | 0.187954 | 0.980834 |
| Periodic Templates | 0.362154 | 0.65189 | 0.299952 |
| Aperiodic Templates | all passed | all passed | all passed |
| Random Excursions | all passed | all passed | all passed |
| Random Ex. Variant | all passed | all passed | all passed |
|  |  |  |  |

Table 6.3 Performance summary for the PLL-based RNG.

| Technology | $1.5 \mu \mathrm{~m} 2 \mathrm{P} 2 \mathrm{M}$ CMOS |
| :--- | :--- |
| Supply Voltage | 5 V |
| Voltage Regulator Output | 2.5 V |
| Ring Oscillator Speed | 30 MHz |
| $\kappa$ of Ring Oscillators | $1.48 \mathrm{E}-07$ |
| System Loop Bandwidth | 500 kHz |
| PLL RMS Jitter | 60 ps |
| DAC LSB | 40 ps |
| RNG Output Data Rate | 100 kbps |
| Statistical Test Passed | NIST SP800-22 over 2Mbit long sequences |
| Power Consumption* | 1.92 mW |
| Die Area* | $1 \mathrm{~mm}^{2}$ |

* Excluding digital on FPGA


## Chapter 7: Design of DLL-based True Random Number Generator

### 7.1 Delay-locked Loops

Delay-locked loops (DLLs) have been widely used in applications such as frequency synthesizers [112], clock deskewing circuits [113], and memories [114]. Comparing to PLLs, DLLs have the advantage of unconditional stability and faster locking time [115].


Figure 7.1 Basic block diagram of the DLL

Figure 7.1 shows the block diagram of a DLL consisting of a phase detector, a loop filter, and a voltage-controlled delay line (VCDL) [40]. The loop transfer function is [40]

$$
\begin{equation*}
\frac{\theta_{o}}{\theta_{i}}=\frac{1}{1-K_{D} K_{V} F(s)} \tag{7.1}
\end{equation*}
$$

where $\theta_{\mathrm{i}}$ is the phase of the input data; $\theta_{\mathrm{o}}$ is the phase of the output data; $\mathrm{K}_{\mathrm{D}}$ is the phase-detector gain factor in the unit of [V/rad]; $\mathrm{K}_{\mathrm{V}}$ is the delay line gain factor in
the unit of $[\mathrm{rad} / \mathrm{V}] ; \mathrm{F}(\mathrm{s})$ is the transfer function of the loop filter; $\omega_{\mathrm{clk}}$ is the clock frequency.

The loop filter in the DLL usually consists of only a capacitor. The transfer function contains a single pole and the loop is a first-order feedback loop. Thus the loop is unconditional stable.

The DLL can not transfer the jitter to the clock and the jitter transfer function of the DLL is zero [116]

$$
\begin{equation*}
\frac{\theta_{\text {clock }}}{\theta_{o}}=0 \tag{7.2}
\end{equation*}
$$

So jitter filtering is independent of loop configurations such as the loop bandwidth. This allows the DLL to increase the loop bandwidth to reduce the acquisition time as long as the loop is stable.

### 7.2 System Architecture

The architecture of the proposed DLL-based RNG is illustrated in Figure 7.2. Two identical noisy voltage-controlled delay lines are designed with white noise dominated jitter. Delay line I is biased with fixed delay. The external clock passes both delay lines and the delay error is sampled by a low metastability D flip-flop, which also acts as a bang-bang phase detector. A loop filter converts the phase error to a control voltage and adjusts the delay of the delay line II so that the two delay lines are synchronized through the feedback. This system is still a nonlinear system.


Analog IC
Figure 7.2 Architecture of the DLL-based RNG.

If the D flip-flop is replaced by a linear phase detector, this DLL system can be analyzed as a LTI system. Since the external clock serves as both the reference clock and the input data, as shown in Figure 7.3, the phase shift $\theta_{\mathrm{d} 2}$ by the delay line II is

$$
\begin{equation*}
\theta_{d 2}=\left(\theta_{\text {clock }}+\theta_{d 1}-\theta_{o}\right) K_{D} F(s) K_{V} \tag{7.3}
\end{equation*}
$$

where $\theta_{\text {clock }}$ is the phase of the external clock, $\theta_{\mathrm{d} 1}$ is the phase shift by delay line I , $\theta_{\mathrm{o}}$ is the output phase of this DLL.

The output phase $\theta_{0}$ of this DLL is

$$
\begin{equation*}
\theta_{o}=\theta_{c l o c k}+\theta_{d 2} \tag{7.4}
\end{equation*}
$$

Substituting (7.4) into (7.3), the phase shift $\theta_{\mathrm{d} 2}$ by the delay line II is related to the phase shift $\theta_{\mathrm{d} 2}$ by the delay line I by

$$
\begin{equation*}
\frac{\theta_{d 2}}{\theta_{d 1}}=\frac{K_{D} K_{V} F(s)}{1+K_{D} K_{V} F(s)} \tag{7.5}
\end{equation*}
$$

If define the forward loop gain $\mathrm{G}(\mathrm{s})$ by

$$
\begin{equation*}
G(s)=K_{D} K_{V} F(s) \tag{7.6}
\end{equation*}
$$

The loop transfer function is

$$
\begin{equation*}
H_{s}(s)=\frac{\theta_{d 2}}{\theta_{d 1}}=\frac{G(s)}{1+G(s)} \tag{7.7}
\end{equation*}
$$

Therefore, as long as the forward loop gain $G(s)$ is much larger than 1 , the loop will synchronize the phase shift by the two delay lines.

The noise transfer function $H_{n}(s)$ from $\theta_{n}$ to $\theta_{0}$ is

$$
\begin{equation*}
H_{n}(s)=\frac{\theta_{0}}{\theta_{n}}=\frac{1}{1+G(s)} \tag{7.8}
\end{equation*}
$$



Figure 7.3 Block diagram of the DLL-based RNG.

The loop filter in this system is illustrated in Figure 7.4. The transfer function of this loop filter is

$$
\begin{equation*}
F(s)=\frac{1}{R_{p} C_{p}} \cdot \frac{s+\frac{1}{R_{z} C_{z}}}{s^{2}+\left(\frac{1}{R_{z} C_{z}}+\frac{1}{R_{z} C_{p}}+\frac{1}{R_{p} C_{p}}\right) s+\frac{1}{R_{z} C_{z} R_{p} C_{p}}} \tag{7.9}
\end{equation*}
$$

The resistor $R_{p}$ should be much larger than $R_{z}$ to form a voltage divider, which attenuates the output of the phase detector to provide the instantaneous phase change to VCDL II. In this system, $\mathrm{R}_{\mathrm{p}}$ is $10 \mathrm{k} \Omega$ and $\mathrm{R}_{\mathrm{z}}$ is $10 \Omega$.


Figure 7.4 Loop Filter.

If the capacitor $C_{p}$ is selected much larger than $C_{z}$, the poles of this loop filter are located at

$$
\begin{equation*}
p_{1,2}=-\frac{1}{2}\left(\frac{1}{R_{z} C_{z}}\right) \pm \frac{1}{2} \sqrt{\left(\frac{1}{R_{z} C_{z}}\right)^{2}-\frac{4}{R_{z} C_{z} R_{p} C_{p}}} \tag{7.10}
\end{equation*}
$$

Since

$$
\begin{equation*}
\left(\frac{1}{R_{z} C_{z}}\right)^{2} \gg \frac{4}{R_{z} C_{z} R_{p} C_{p}} \tag{7.11}
\end{equation*}
$$

(7.10) is approximated to

$$
\begin{equation*}
p_{1} \approx 0 \tag{7.12}
\end{equation*}
$$

$$
\begin{equation*}
p_{2} \approx-\frac{1}{R_{z} C_{z}} \tag{7.13}
\end{equation*}
$$

Thus the zero of this loop filter will be cancelled by the pole $\mathrm{p}_{2}$. And the loop transfer function is approximated to

$$
\begin{equation*}
F(s) \approx \frac{1}{R_{p} C_{p} s} \tag{7.14}
\end{equation*}
$$

Substituting (7.14) into (7.7), the loop transfer function is

$$
\begin{equation*}
H_{s}(s)=\frac{f_{L}}{s+f_{L}} \tag{7.15}
\end{equation*}
$$

where

$$
\begin{equation*}
f_{L}=\frac{K_{D} K_{V}}{R_{p} C_{p}} \tag{7.16}
\end{equation*}
$$

The noise transfer function $\mathrm{H}_{\mathrm{n}}(\mathrm{s})$ is

$$
\begin{equation*}
H_{n}(s)=\frac{s}{s+f_{L}} \tag{7.17}
\end{equation*}
$$

Transfer functions of (7.15) and (7.17) are same as those of first-order PLLs. Therefore the behavior of this DLL-based RNG is same as that of the PLL-based RNG. The output of the D flip-flop is in the format of return-to- $\mathrm{V}_{\mathrm{DD}}$ data as discussed in Chapter 6. It is converted to non-return-to- $V_{D D}$ data in the FPGA to correctly represent the phase error of the two delay lines.

Both delay lines in this DLL system are noisy and designed with white noise dominated jitter. From the analysis in Chapter 6, the added jitter to the external clock by two delay lines are independent Gaussian random variables with mean $\mu_{\mathrm{i}}$ and standard deviation $\sigma_{i}$ as

$$
\begin{gather*}
\mu_{i}=t_{d i} \quad i=1,2  \tag{7.18}\\
\sigma_{i}=\kappa_{i} \sqrt{t_{d i}} \quad i=1,2 \tag{7.19}
\end{gather*}
$$

where $\kappa_{\mathrm{i}}$ is the white noise figure of merit of the delay line, $\mathrm{t}_{\mathrm{di}}$ is the average time delay of the delay line which is related to the phase shift $\theta_{\text {di }}$ by

$$
\begin{equation*}
\theta_{d i}=t_{d i} \frac{2 \pi}{T_{\text {clock }}} \tag{7.20}
\end{equation*}
$$

Unlike the ring oscillators, the jitter at the output of the delay line is not fed back into the input. So the jitter process at the clock input of the D flip-flop is an uncorrelated Gaussian random process. The jitter process at the data input of the D flip-flop is a correlated Gaussian random process due to the feedback by the loop. The difference of these two Gaussian random processes is a zero-mean correlated Gaussian random process as analyzed in Chapter 6. Therefore a serial of correlated ' 1 's and ' 0 's with equal probability are generated by the D flip-flop.

### 7.3 Voltage-controlled Delay Line

The single-ended ring oscillators designed in Chapter 6 only achieved $\kappa$ of $1.48 \mathrm{E}-7$ with six extra $50 \mathrm{k} \Omega$ resistors. In this design, differential delay stage is used in the VCDL to provide more jitter since the voltage swing is much smaller [10]. The cost is more power dissipation since the tail current of the differential stage always burns power while the current-starved inverter will not burn power when it is not switching.

The voltage-controlled delay line designed in this work is a simple differential pair with the symmetric load [117] as illustrated in Figure 7.5. The self-biased technique is not used since the effect of the tail current to the RNG was planned to be evaluated. The power supply $\mathrm{V}_{\mathrm{DD}}$ is 3.3 V to be compatible with the off-chip FPGA. A 0.3 pF of capacitor is placed between $\mathrm{V}_{\mathrm{DD}}$ and control node of the delay stage to bypass the deterministic noise from power supply and stabilize the voltage buffer.


Figure 7.5 Voltage-controlled delay line.

To obtain high jitter, the power dissipation and the voltage swing should be minimized. The tail current is biased with $10 \mu \mathrm{~A}$ and the power dissipation for each stage is $33 \mu \mathrm{~W}$. The output swing is designed to be around 600 mV peak-topeak. The output swing could be smaller to provide more jitter. However smaller output swing will consume more power in the following buffer to square it up for the D flip-flop.

From simulation, the $\kappa$ for this differential stage achieved 2E-7 without using any extra resistor. The propagation delay of this delay stage is 5 ns . To provide as much jitter as possible, the voltage-controlled delay line consists of 50 delay stages. The rms jitter of this delay line is

$$
\begin{equation*}
\sigma(\Delta T)=\kappa \sqrt{\Delta T}=(2 E-7) \cdot \sqrt{50 \cdot(5 E-9)}=100 \mathrm{ps} \tag{7.21}
\end{equation*}
$$

And the total power dissipation for each voltage-controlled delay line is 1.65 mW .

### 7.4 Improved Low Metastability D Flip-flop

The differential outputs of both delay lines are 'squared up' by current buffers to square waveforms with rise and fall times of 2 ns . The D flip-flop designed in the PLL-based RNG is modified to take the differential clock. As illustrated in Figure 7.6, the pre-amplifier compares the difference of the clock and data directly and the voltage reference in the previous design is not needed any more. A dummy load is added at the data input of the D flip-flop so that both current buffers drive same amount of impedance.


Figure 7.6 Improved low metastability D flip-flop.

This rising edge triggered D flip-flop is simulated by Cadence. Figure 7.7 shows the simulation results. During simulation, the edge of the input clock is ahead the edge of the input data by only 0.1 ps . All input signals have rise and fall times of 2 ns . The D flip-flop successfully resolves itself to logic ' 1 ' before next cycle starts. With this performance, one D flip-flop is enough for this RNG. The outputs of the D latch are delayed by three stages of inverters so that the output data have enough setup time ahead of the output clock. A 5-stage push-pull buffer
is implemented in this design to drive the outputs of this D flip-flop off the chip, which converts the data format back to return-to- $\mathrm{V}_{\mathrm{DD}}$ data.

From simulation, the rms current drawn from the power supply for the preamplifier is $120 \mu \mathrm{~A}$; the rms supply current for the D latch is $50 \mu \mathrm{~A}$. Thus the total power dissipation for this D flip-flop is $560 \mu \mathrm{~W}$.


Figure 7.7 Simulation results for the improved D flip-flop.

### 7.5 Experimental Results

### 7.5.1 Test Chip Design

The customized part of this design including the voltage-controlled delay lines, the D flip-flop, and the voltage buffer are implemented in AMI 1.5 $\mu \mathrm{m}$ 2-poly 2metal CMOS process and consume an area of $2.4 \mathrm{~mm}^{2}$. The chip micrograph is shown in Fig. 7.8.

The delay lines consume 3.3 mW of power; the D flip-flop consumes 0.56 mW of power; the buffers between the delay lines and the D flip-flop consume 1.6 mW of power. Therefore, excluding the output buffers, the total power dissipation of this customized design is 5.46 mW .

The loop filter is implemented on the PCB board. The digital post-processing circuits are implemented in an off-chip FPGA for design flexibility. Similar to the post-processing circuits designed for the PLL-based RNG, the raw output data pass a divider first before being fed into the classic von Neumann corrector or a modified von Neumann corrector to reduce the bias. Finally another frequency divider is used to further reduce the autocorrelation. The preset threshold in the modified Von Neumann corrector is still 3900.


Figure 7.8 Chip micrograph for the DLL-based RNG.

### 7.5.2 Measurement Results

The jitter performance of the voltage-controlled delay lines was measured by Tektronix 11801C digital sampling oscilloscope [60] in time domain. A 2 MHz 3.3 V peak-to-peak square wave is used as both the clock input to the voltagecontrolled delay lines and the trigger for the oscilloscope.

Figure 7.9 shows the measured tuning characteristic of the implemented VCDL. The measured relationship between the jitter of the VCDL and tuning is plotted in Figure 7.10. From (7.19), the white noise figure of merit $\kappa$ is

$$
\begin{equation*}
\kappa=\frac{\sigma(\Delta t)}{\sqrt{\Delta t}} \tag{7.22}
\end{equation*}
$$

By processing the data in Figure 7.9 and 7.10 , the computed $\kappa$ is plotted in Figure 7.11 versus tuning. The results in Figure 7.11 do not agree with the analysis in Section 5.6. The reason is that the tuning for the differential delay stage is realized by varying the load impedance rather than tail current, which in fact varies both the output swing and the RC constant at the output node.


Figure 7.9 Measured tuning characteristic of the implemented VCDL.


Figure 7.10 Measured jitter versus tuning for the implemented VCDL.


Figure 7.11 Measured $\kappa$ versus tuning for the implemented VCDL.

When the control voltage is less than 1.9 V , the tuning characteristic of VCDL in Figure 7.9 shows two different slopes. The delay line gain factor $\mathrm{K}_{\mathrm{V}}$ is measured as $22 \mathrm{~ns} / \mathrm{V}$ and $335 \mathrm{~ns} / \mathrm{V}$ for these two regions. Since smaller $\mathrm{K}_{V}$ introduces less feedback when the loop is in lock, the VCDL II is managed to be locked in the $22 \mathrm{~ns} / \mathrm{V}$ region to reduce the autocorrelation. However, from Figure 7.10 the $22 \mathrm{~ns} / \mathrm{V}$ region can only provides rms jitter of less than 75 ps . To overcome this problem, VCDL I is biased at 1.95 V to provide rms jitter of 180 ps at delay of 330 ns . The complement of the RNG output is connected to the loop filter so that the rising edges of the VCDL I is locked to the falling edges of VCDL II, as shown in Figure 7.12. When the loop finishes the acquisition process, VCDL II is locked at delay of 80 ns and provides jitter of 50 ps .


Figure 7.12 Rising edges of CLK locked to falling edges of DATA.

Figure 7.13 shows the spectrum and the autocorrelation of the raw data at the RNG output. Since for this design the RNG outputs data are in the return-to- $\mathrm{V}_{\mathrm{DD}}$ format and the conversion to non-return-to- $\mathrm{V}_{\mathrm{DD}}$ data is conducted in the FPGA, the signal integrity is not maintained well when the converted data are transferred back to the PCB board. This causes the duty cycle of the raw data is $43 \%$ for the ' 1 's, which results in the power at DC in the spectrum. Figure 7.14 shows the spectrum and the autocorrelation of the data post-processed by the FPGA with the classic von Neumann corrector. Similar plots are obtained for post-processing circuits with modified von Neumann corrector. During post-processing, the raw data are divided by two before fed into the classic or modified von Neumann
corrector. The preset threshold in the modified von Neumann corrector is still 3900. Finally the data is divided by two again to further reduce the autocorrelation. The obtained average throughput of this DLL-based RNG is 100 kbps with the classic von Neumann corrector, and 160kbps with the modified von Neumann corrector.


Figure 7.13 Spectrum and autocorrelation of the raw data at the RNG output.


Figure 7.14 Spectrum and autocorrelation of the post-processed data.

In order to justify the noise sources which generate the random bits are Gaussian, the experiment illustrated in Figure 7.15 is performed for the delay lines under their locking conditions. In this experiment, the loop is broken and the control voltage of VCDL II is manually adjusted through a voltage attenuator so that the delay of the VCDL II changes from 79 ns to 81 ns . The raw data of the RNG output is collected by a data acquisition board and the duty cycle is computed. The computed duty cycle is a good estimate for the mean of the jitter difference at the specified time delay of VCDL II, and the CDF of this jitter sampling process is able to be constructed. The results are plotted in Figure 7.16. Each data point in Figure 7.16 is obtained from a data sequence of 50 M bits.


Figure 7.15 Experiment to justify the noise source.
The red curve in Figure 7.16 is the best-fit Gaussian CDF extracted by Matlab. The extracted standard deviation is 215.4 ps . Since the loop is broken, the jitter processes at the inputs of the D flip-flop are independent. The standard deviation of the sampled jitter process is expected to be

$$
\begin{equation*}
\sigma_{d i f f}=\sqrt{\sigma_{1}^{2}+\sigma_{2}^{2}}=\sqrt{(180 p s)^{2}+(50 p s)^{2}}=186.8 p s \tag{7.23}
\end{equation*}
$$

The measured rms jitter of 215.4 ps shows good agreement to the predicted 186.8 ps with an error of $15 \%$. These results show that the D flip-flop implemented is good enough for this RNG system.


Figure 7.16 Measured CDF and PDF of the jitter sampling process from the experiment in Figure 7.15.

The quality of the randomness has been verified by the NIST SP800-22 test suite [106] over 2Mbit long sequences and the Diehard battery of tests [107] with data streams over 80 M bits.

Table 7.1 shows the complete test results for three data sequences postprocessed by the classic von Neumann. Table 7.2 shows the test results for data sequences post-processed by the modified von Neumann. The passing criteria for the NIST SP800-22 test suite is that each p-value is larger than 0.01 [106].

Although the Diehard test is one of the most comprehensive test suites, there are no well-defined pass criteria. Intel states in reference [118] that after considering of all 250 p -values, the interval of 0.0001 and 0.9999 for the p-value yields a $95 \%$ confidence. "Therefore, the RNG fails the Diehard tests if there is a p-value greater than or equal to 0.9999 or less than or equal to 0.0001 ." Appendix C and D contains sample Diehard test results performed on data streams with 120M bits post-processed by the classic and modified von Neumann corrector.

The performance of this DLL-based RNG and the comparison with the PLLbased RNG in Chapter 6 are summarized in Table 7.3.

Table 7.1 NIST SP800-22 statistical test results for the DLL-based RNG.
(Post-processed by the classical von Neumann corrector)

| Test | P-value |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | Data Set I | Data Set II | Data Set III |
| Frequency | 0.906613 | 0.663750 | 0.924133 |
| Block Frequency | 0.563954 | 0.024046 | 0.462740 |
| Cusum-Forward | 0.397421 | 0.603638 | 0.617986 |
| Cusum-Reverse | 0.485023 | 0.286945 | 0.534325 |
| Runs | 0.992284 | 0.342987 | 0.316359 |
| Longest Run | 0.566233 | 0.846357 | 0.491218 |
| Rank | 0.923367 | 0.697882 | 0.214056 |
| FFT | 0.791636 | 0.274584 | 0.720179 |
| Universal | 0.827000 | 0.079229 | 0.640332 |
| Approx. Entropy | 0.873657 | 0.350029 | 0.490515 |
| Seriall | 0.320603 | 0.534539 | 0.495508 |
| Serial2 | 0.831176 | 0.785853 | 0.435948 |
| Lempel Ziv | 1.000000 | 1.000000 | 1.000000 |
| Linear Complexity | 0.675385 | 0.333256 | 0.683934 |
| Periodic Templates | 0.323844 | 0.654655 | 0.254631 |
| Aperiodic Templates | all passed | all passed | all passed |
| Random Excursions | all passed | all passed | all passed |
| Random Ex. Variant | all passed | all passed | all passed |

Table 7.2 NIST SP800-22 statistical test results for the DLL-based RNG.
(Post-processed by the modified von Neumann corrector)

| Test | P-value |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | Data Set I | Data Set II | Data Set III |
| Frequency | 0.774009 | 0.819892 | 0.956624 |
| Block Frequency | 0.056670 | 0.201523 | 0.111477 |
| Cusum-Forward | 0.640330 | 0.223384 | 0.826477 |
| Cusum-Reverse | 0.896763 | 0.345715 | 0.872350 |
| Runs | 0.848565 | 0.680978 | 0.074707 |
| Longest Run | 0.208117 | 0.848426 | 0.894307 |
| Rank | 0.373764 | 0.489182 | 0.374340 |
| FFT | 0.739574 | 0.066587 | 0.648725 |
| Universal | 0.703728 | 0.467987 | 0.423756 |
| Approx. Entropy | 0.894936 | 0.918398 | 0.896017 |
| Seriall | 0.778287 | 0.022665 | 0.489608 |
| Serial2 | 0.791241 | 0.102496 | 0.385671 |
| Lempel Ziv | 1.000000 | 1.000000 | 1.000000 |
| Linear Complexity | 0.924310 | 0.364511 | 0.124683 |
| Periodic Templates | 0.736223 | 0.257206 | 0.054056 |
| Aperiodic Templates | all passed | all passed | all passed |
| Random Excursions | all passed | all passed | all passed |
| Random Ex. Variant | all passed | all passed | all passed |

Table 7.3 Summary and comparison of the PLL- and DLL-based RNG

|  | PLL-based RNG | DLL-based RNG |
| :--- | :--- | :--- |
| Technology | $1.5 \mu \mathrm{~m}$ 2P2M CMOS | $1.5 \mu \mathrm{~m} 2 \mathrm{P} 2 \mathrm{M}$ CMOS |
| Supply Voltage | 5 V | 3.3 V |
| Voltage Regulator Output | 2.5 V | $\mathrm{~N} / \mathrm{A}$ |
| Clock Speed | 30 MHz | 2 MHz |
| System Loop Bandwidth | 500 kHz | 200 kHz |
| RMS Jitter | 60 ps | 215 ps |
| DAC LSB | 40 ps | $\mathrm{N} / \mathrm{A}$ |
| RNG Output Data Rate | 100 kHz | 160 kHz |
|  |  | NIST SP800-22 <br> over 2Mbits |
| Statistical Test Passed | NIST SP800-22 <br> over 2Mbits | Diehard test <br> over 80 Mbits |
| Power Consumption* | 1.92 mW | 5.46 mW |
| Die Area* | $1 \mathrm{~mm}^{2}$ | $2.4 \mathrm{~mm}^{2}$ |

* Excluding digital on FPGA


## Chapter 8: Conclusion

With the feature size of semiconductor processes scaling down aggressively for higher transistor density and faster speed, analog circuit design will face the challenge of increased fundamental noise, higher $1 / \mathrm{f}$ noise corner frequency, and lower power supply.

In Chapter 3, a simple practical model for jitter in the presence of $1 / \mathrm{f}$ noise has been developed. This model is consistent with measurements showing that accumulated jitter due to $1 / \mathrm{f}$ noise is proportional to the measurement time delay, and an analytical expression for the figure of merit $\zeta$ is also provided. The $1 / \mathrm{f}$ transition time is related to the $1 / \mathrm{f}^{3}$ phase noise corner by equation (3.48).

As feature sizes become smaller, wider PLL loop bandwidth is necessary to minimize the higher $1 / \mathrm{f}$ noise corner effect. The simple technique of (4.9) requires only $\kappa$ and PLL loop bandwidth to predict jitter performance of a PLL [8]. It ignores $1 / \mathrm{f}$ noise because the $1 / \mathrm{f}$ noise corner is assumed to be inside the loop bandwidth frequency. It has been showed in this work that in a deep submicron process, the $1 / \mathrm{f}^{3}$ corner can move above the PLL loop bandwidth so that there will be more jitter than expected. A general technique is proposed in Chapter 4 for closed loop jitter prediction. If system specifications allow, the PLL loop bandwidth can be increased to a value above the $1 / \mathrm{f}^{3}$ noise corner, maintaining the applicability of the simple theory in [8]. If the PLL loop bandwidth is constrained to be below the $1 / f^{3}$ noise corner, then the developed technique must be used to account for the $1 / \mathrm{f}$ noise contribution.

The most important contribution of this dissertation has been to develop a methodology to guide design of low jitter CMOS voltage-controlled ring oscillators in deep submicron processes. Thermal noise upconversion in CMOS ring oscillators is analyzed in time domain using a LTI model. The trade-off and
relationship between jitter, speed, power dissipation and VCO geometry are evaluated for different applications. And the results indicate that jitter caused by white noise sources can be reduced by increasing the VCO's channel width and carefully choosing channel length and number of stages. This developed model is supported by the measured data from 24 ring oscillators with different geometry fabricated in TSMC $0.18 \mu \mathrm{~m}$ process.

A new type of true RNG based on digital PLL has been proposed. The random bits are generated by the jitter sampling of two identical synchronized ring oscillators. Comparing to the traditional oscillator sampling approach, this method is able to achieve higher data rate when using same speed of clocks. This structure has been realized in a 1.5 um process, and has successfully passed the NIST SP800-22 statistical test suite.

The VCO design methodology developed in this dissertation is applied to the design of PLL- and DLL- based true random number generators (TRNG) for application in the area of "smart cards". New architectures of dual-oscillator sampling and delay-line sampling are proposed for random number generation, which has the advantage of lower power dissipation and lower cost over traditional approaches. Both structures are implemented in test chips fabricated in AMI $1.5 \mu \mathrm{~m}$ process. The PLL-based TRNG passed the NIST SP800-22 statistical test suite and the DLL-based TRNG passed both the NIST SP800-22 statistical test suite and the Diehard battery of tests.

### 8.1 Future Work

There are several possibilities for future work in this general area.
Only CMOS single-ended ring oscillators is discussed in detail in this thesis. Using the methodology in Chapter 5 and references [8] and [9], with the current and noise model in Chapter 2, the analytical expression of $\kappa$ for differential ring oscillators with extremely short channels can be derived and analyzed. This work proposed the idea of the optimum channel length for $\kappa$ minimization in VCO design but short of data to prove its validity. Another test chip is necessary to evaluate the differential ring oscillators and to prove the proposed optimum length.

The upconversion of $1 / \mathrm{f}$ noise can be analyzed following the same way in Chapter 5 if a good approximation for the standard deviation of $1 / \mathrm{f}$ noise in time domain, which is similar to the one for the thermal noise in (5.13) developed in [8], is available.

The best TRNG using delay line sampling can be implemented with a 'smart' background calibration circuit, which will stop the feedback to the delay lines when the loop acquisition finishes, monitor the delay drift in background, and automatically restart if necessary. As long as a digital controlled delay line is available, this background calibration circuit should be able to be implemented in a FPGA to test its performance.

## Appendix A. Kappa Plot Extraction from TIE Data

This appendix shows the Matlab program to implement the algorithm in Section 3.2.3 which post-processes the TIE data measured by the digital oscilloscopes to extract the "kappa plot".

```
% TIEstd.m
    clear;
    load tie.dat;
    f=150E6; % The VCO frequency;
    T=1/f; %period % The VCO period;
    n=length(tie);
    for i=1:1:n
        histogram=zeros(1,n-i); % Reset the variable;
        for j=1:1:(n-i)
            histogram(j)=tie(j+i)-tie(j); % Construct the histogram;
        end
        rmsjitter(i)=std(histogram); % Compute the standard deviation;
    end
    t=T:T:n*T;
    loglog(t,rmsjitter,'+-');
```


## Appendix B. RNG Simulation by Matlab

This appendix includes the Matlab code to simulate the system behavior and loop acquisition for the PLL-based RNG.

## \% PLLRNG.m

clear;

| $\mathrm{t} 1(1)=0 ;$ | \% Transition time sequence for VCO I |
| :--- | :--- |
| $\mathrm{t} 2(1)=20 \mathrm{e}-9 ;$ | \% VCO II is ahead of VCO I for 20ns at the beginning |
| $\mathrm{f} 1=30 \mathrm{E} 6 ;$ | \% VCO I is free-running at 30 MHz |
| $\mathrm{T} 1=1 / \mathrm{f} 1 ;$ | \% Period of VCO I |
| $\mathrm{f} 2(2)=29.9 \mathrm{e} 6 ;$ | \% The initial speed of Oscillator II is 29.9 MHz |
| $\mathrm{stop}=10000 ;$ | \% The clock cycle to stop simulation |

tindex $=0: \mathrm{T} 1: \mathrm{T} 1 *($ stop -1$)$;
output_start=5500; $\%$ The number of cycles needed for loop acquisition
nstd $=60 \mathrm{E}-12 ; \quad$ \% The oscillator cycle-to-cycle jitter is 60 ps
$\operatorname{ctrp}(2)=0 ; \quad \%$ Counter $p$
ctrbit=16; $\quad \%$ The bits in counter p
$\mathrm{kz}=1$; $\quad \%$ Gain of counter Z is 1
$\operatorname{rb}(2)=0 ; \quad$ \% Output of RNG
$\mathrm{LSB}=20000 ; \quad$ \% LSB of DAC is 20 kHz
for $\mathrm{n}=2$ : stop
\% update transition times
$\mathrm{t} 1(\mathrm{n})=\mathrm{t} 1(\mathrm{n}-1)+\mathrm{T} 1 \quad+\mathrm{nstd} * \operatorname{randn}(1) ;$
$\mathrm{t} 2(\mathrm{n})=\mathrm{t} 2(\mathrm{n}-1)+1 / \mathrm{f} 2(\mathrm{n})+\mathrm{nstd} *$ randn $(1)$;
\% | | |
\% previous average noise
\% position period

```
    %
    rb(n)=sign(t1(n)-t2(n)); % Determine the random bit in [-1,1]
    ctrp(n+1)=ctrp(n)+rb(n); % Increment the up/down counter p
    % The 8 most significant bits are connected to VCO
    DAC(n)=fix(ctrp(n)/2^(ctrbit-8));
    % Adjusting VCO II running freq.
    f2(n+1)=f2(2) - DAC(n)*LSB - kz*rb(n)*LSB;
end
% Discard the bits generated during loop acquisition
rb_stable=rb(output_start:1:end);
% Divide the data rate down to lower autocorrelation
division=20;
rb_division=rb(output_start:division:end);
% autocorrelation coefficient of the RNG output
correff1=xcorr(rb_stable, 'coeff');
correff2=xcorr(rb_division, 'coeff');
% Plot results
subplot(8,1,1)
plot((t1-t2),'k') % The difference of transition times
subplot(8,1,2)
```

```
plot (ctrp, 'k'); % Plot the value of counter p
subplot(8,1,3)
plot(DAC, 'k') % Plot the control at the DAC
```

subplot $(8,1,4)$
stem((rb_stable(1:1:100)+1)/2,'k');
subplot $(8,1,5)$
\% Plot the autocorrelation coefficient for 30 adjacent bits
start $1=($ length $($ correff1 $)+1) / 2-15$;
stem(-15:1:15, correff1(start1:1:(start1+30)),'k');
subplot $(8,1,6)$
\% Plot the FFT of the RNG output
fmax $=1 / 2 / \mathrm{T} 1$;
fstep $=2 *$ fmax $/($ length(rb_stable)-1);
$\mathrm{f}=-\mathrm{fmax}: \mathrm{fstep}: f m a x$;
plot(f,abs(fftshift(fft(rb_stable))),'k')
subplot $(8,1,7)$
\% Plot the autocorrelation coefficient for the divided data
start2 $=($ length $($ correff2 $)+1) / 2-15$;
stem(-15:1:15, correff2(start2:1:(start2+30)),'k');
subplot $(8,1,8)$
\% Plot the FFT of the divided data
fmax $=1 / 2 /$ T1/division;
fstep $=2 *$ fmax $/($ length(rb_division)-1);
$\mathrm{f}=-\mathrm{fmax}: f \mathrm{fstep}: f m a x$;
plot(f,abs(fftshift(fft(rb_division))),'k')

# Appendix C. Diehard Test Results for DLL-based RNG with the Classic Von Neumann Corrector 

```
    NOTE: Most of the tests in DIEHARD return a p-value, which
    should be uniform on [0,1) if the input file contains truly
    independent random bits. Those p-values are obtained by
    p=F(X), where F is the assumed distribution of the sample
    random variable X---often normal. But that assumed F is just
    an asymptotic approximation, for which the fit will be worst
    in the tails. Thus you should not be surprised with
    occasional p-values near 0 or 1, such as .0012 or .9983.
    When a bit stream really FAILS BIG, you will get p's of 0 or
    1 to six or more places. By all means, do not, as a
    Statistician might, think that a p < .025 or p> . }975\mathrm{ means
    that the RNG has "failed the test at the . }05\mathrm{ level". Such
    p's happen among the hundreds that DIEHARD produces, even
    with good RNG's. So keep in mind that " p happens".
::::: : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : :
:: This is the BIRTHDAY SPACINGS TEST ::
:: Choose m birthdays in a year of n days. List the spacings ::
:: between the birthdays. If j is the number of values that ::
:: occur more than once in that list, then j is asymptotically ::
:: Poisson distributed with mean m^3/(4n). Experience shows n ::
:: must be quite large, say n>=2^18, for comparing the results ::
:: to the Poisson distribution with that mean. This test uses ::
:: n=2^24 and m=2^9, so that the underlying distribution for j ::
:: is taken to be Poisson with lambda=2^27/(2^26)=2. A sample ::
:: of 500 j's is taken, and a chi-square goodness of fit test ::
:: provides a p value. The first test uses bits 1-24 (counting ::
:: from the left) from integers in the specified file. ::
:: Then the file is closed and reopened. Next, bits 2-25 are ::
:: used to provide birthdays, then 3-26 and so on to bits 9-32. ::
:: Each set of bits provides a p-value, and the nine p-values ::
:: provide a sample for a KSTEST. ::
```



```
\begin{tabular}{|c|c|c|c|}
\hline \multirow[t]{2}{*}{BIRTHDAY S} & \multicolumn{2}{|l|}{SPACINGS TEST, M= \(512 \mathrm{~N}=2 * * 24\) LAMBDA= Results for dibin} & \multirow[t]{3}{*}{\[
\begin{aligned}
& 2.0000 \\
& \text { mean } \\
& 1.890
\end{aligned}
\]} \\
\hline & For a & mple of size 500: & \\
\hline \multicolumn{2}{|c|}{d1bin} & using bits 1 to 24 & \\
\hline duplicate & number & number & \\
\hline spacings & observed & expected & \\
\hline 0 & 76. & 67.668 & \\
\hline 1 & 145. & 135.335 & \\
\hline 2 & 135. & 135.335 & \\
\hline 3 & 80. & 90.224 & \\
\hline 4 & 43. & 45.112 & \\
\hline 5 & 10. & 18.045 & \\
\hline 6 to INF & 11. & 8.282 & \\
\hline Chisquare w & 6 d.o.f. & 7.45 p -value= & 719024 \\
\hline
\end{tabular}
::::::::::::::: :: : :: :: : :: : : : : : : : : : : : : :
```



```
    ::::::::::::::::::::: :: : : : : : : : : : : : : : :
                For a sample of size 500: mean
            d1bin
                using bits 6 to 2
                            1.914
                    number
                number
duplicate
observed
                                expected
                                67.668
    spacings
                                150. 135.335
                            138. 135.335
                                81. 90.224
                                44. 45.112
                                20. 18.045
6 to INF 2. 8.282
Chisquare with 6 d.o.f. = 7.69 p-value= .738584
    ::: :: : :: :: : :: : : : : : : : : : :: : : : : : : : : : : : : :
                                    For a sample of size 500: mean
            d1bin
                        1.
                using bits
    luplicate 
    spacings 
                                74. 67.668
                                142. 135.335
                                80. 90.224
                                39. 45.112
                                23. 18.045
    6 to INF 5. 8.282
Chisquare with 6 d.o.f. = 5.59 p-value= .529236
```



```
                For a sample of size 500: mean
            dlbin using bits 8 to 31 2.038
    duplicate number number
    spacings observed expected
            0 68. 67.668
            1 128. 135.335
            145. 135.335
                            79. 90.224
                                    49. 45.112
                                    23. 18.045
    6 to INF 8. 8.282
Chisquare with 6 d.o.f. = 4.19 p-value= .349164
    ::::::::::: :: : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : 
                For a sample of size 500: mean
            d1bin
                using bits 9 to 32 2.038
    duplicat
    luplicate 
    duplicate 
    spacings
                        observed
                    78. 67.668
                            123. 135.335
                        119. 135.335
                            103. 90.224
                            48. 45.112
                            19. 18.045
    6 ~ t o ~ I N F
                            10. 
                            10.
                            8.282
Chisquare with 6 d.o.f. =
                        7.07 p-value= . 686026
```

```
    ::::::::::::::::::: : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : :
    The 9 p-values were
.719024 .633610 .820170 . 561584 . 266783
        .738584 . 529236 . 349164 . }68602
    A KSTEST for the 9 p-values yields . }73964
$$$$$$$$$$$$$$$$$$$$$$$$$$$$$$$$$$$$$$$$$$$$$$$$$$
    ::::: : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : :
    :: THE OVERLAPPING 5-PERMUTATION TEST ::
    :: This is the OPERM5 test. It looks at a sequence of one mill- ::
    :: ion 32-bit random integers. Each set of five consecutive ::
    :: integers can be in one of 120 states, for the 5! possible or- ::
    :: derings of five numbers. Thus the 5th, 6th, 7th,...numbers ::
    :: each provide a state. As many thousands of state transitions ::
    :: are observed, cumulative counts are made of the number of ::
    :: occurences of each state. Then the quadratic form in the ::
    :: weak inverse of the 120x120 covariance matrix yields a test ::
    :: equivalent to the likelihood ratio test that the 120 cell ::
    :: counts came from the specified (asymptotically) normal dis- ::
    :: tribution with the specified 120x120 covariance matrix (with ::
    :: rank 99). This version uses 1,000,000 integers, twice. ::
    :::::: :: : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : :
            OPERM5 test for file d1bin
    For a sample of 1,000,000 consecutive 5-tuples,
chisquare for 99 degrees of freedom= 85.968; p-value= .178095
            OPERM5 test for file dibin
    For a sample of 1,000,000 consecutive 5-tuples,
chisquare for 99 degrees of freedom= 97.365; p-value= .472313
    ::: : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : :
    :: This is the BINARY RANK TEST for 31x31 matrices. The leftmost ::
    :: 31 bits of 31 random integers from the test sequence are used ::
    :: to form a 31x31 binary matrix over the field {0,1}. The rank ::
    :: is determined. That rank can be from 0 to 31, but ranks< 28 ::
    :: are rare, and their counts are pooled with those for rank 28. ::
    :: Ranks are found for 40,000 such random matrices and a chisqua-::
    :: re test is performed on counts for ranks 31,30,29 and <=28. ::
    :::: :: :: : :: : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : :
    Binary rank test for dlbin
            Rank test for 31x31 binary matrices:
            rows from leftmost 31 bits of each 32-bit integer
        rank observed expected (o-e)^2/e sum
            28 200 211.4 .616651 . 617
            29 5193 5134.0 . 677792 1.294
            30 23101 23103.0 .000181 1.295
            31 11506 11551.5 .179411 1.474
chisquare= 1.474 for 3 d. of f.; p-value= .424080
```



```
    :: This is the BINARY RANK TEST for 32x32 matrices. A random 32x ::
    :: 32 binary matrix is formed, each row a 32-bit random integer. ::
    :: The rank is determined. That rank can be from 0 to 32, ranks ::
    :: less than 29 are rare, and their counts are pooled with those ::
    :: for rank 29. Ranks are found for 40,000 such random matrices ::
    :: and a chisquare test is performed on counts for ranks 32,31, ::
    :: 30 and <=29.
```



```
    Binary rank test for dibin
        Rank test for 32x32 binary matrices:
        rows from leftmost 32 bits of each 32-bit integer
    rank observed expected (o-e)^2/e sum
        29 214 211.4 .031533 .032
        30 5163 5134.0 . 163694 . }19
        31 23089 23103.0 . 008541 . 204
        32 11534 11551.5 . 026586 . 230
    chisquare= . 230 for 3 d. of f.; p-value= . 343085
```

\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$
: : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : :
: : This is the BINARY RANK TEST for $6 x 8$ matrices. From each of : :
:: six random 32-bit integers from the generator under test, a :
:: specified byte is chosen, and the resulting six bytes form a : :
:: 6x8 binary matrix whose rank is determined. That rank can be ::
: from 0 to 6 , but ranks $0,1,2,3$ are rare; their counts are :
:: pooled with those for rank 4. Ranks are found for 100,000 : :
: : random matrices, and a chi-square test is performed on : :
: : counts for ranks 6,5 and $<=4$. :
: : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : :
Binary Rank Test for dibin
Rank of a $6 x 8$ binary matrix,
rows formed from eight bits of the RNG dibin
b-rank test for bits 1 to 8

|  | OBSERVED | EXPECTED | $(O-E)^{\wedge} 2 / E$ | SUM |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | ---: |
| $r<=4$ | 977 | 944.3 | 1.132 | 1.132 |
| $r=5$ | 21731 | 21743.9 | .008 | 1.140 |
| $r=6$ | 77292 | 77311.8 | .005 | 1.145 |

Rank of a $6 x 8$ binary matrix,
rows formed from eight bits of the RNG dibin b-rank test for bits 2 to 9

|  | OBSERVED | EXPECTED | $(O-E)^{\wedge} 2 / E$ | SUM |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| $r<=4$ | 938 | 944.3 | .042 | .042 |
| $r=5$ | 21861 | 21743.9 | .631 | .673 |
| $r=6$ | 77201 | 77311.8 | .159 | .831 |

Rank of a $6 x 8$ binary matrix,
rows formed from eight bits of the RNG dibin b-rank test for bits 3 to 10

|  | OBSERVED | EXPECTED | $(O-E)^{\wedge} 2 / E$ | SUM |
| :--- | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| $r<=4$ | 968 | 944.3 | .595 | .595 |
| $r=5$ | 21743 | 21743.9 | .000 | .595 |
| $r=6$ | 77289 | 77311.8 | .007 | .602 |

```
        p=1-exp(-SUM/2)= . 25974
    Rank of a 6x8 binary matrix,
rows formed from eight bits of the RNG d1bin
b-rank test for bits 4 to 11
\begin{tabular}{lcccr} 
& OBSERVED & EXPECTED & \((0-E)^{\wedge} 2 / E\) & SUM \\
\(r<=4\) & 916 & 944.3 & .848 & .848 \\
\(r=5\) & 21949 & 21743.9 & 1.935 & 2.783 \\
\(r=6\) & 77135 & 77311.8 & .404 & 3.187
\end{tabular}
```

Rank of a $6 x 8$ binary matrix, rows formed from eight bits of the RNG dibin b-rank test for bits 5 to 12

|  | OBSERVED | EXPECTED | $(\mathrm{O}-\mathrm{E})^{\wedge} 2 / \mathrm{E}$ | SUM |
| :--- | :---: | :---: | :---: | ---: |
| $\mathrm{r}<=4$ | 928 | 944.3 | .281 | .281 |
| $r=5$ | 21793 | 21743.9 | .111 | .392 |
| $r=6$ | 77279 | 77311.8 | .014 | .406 |

Rank of a 6x8 binary matrix, rows formed from eight bits of the RNG dibin b-rank test for bits 6 to 13

|  | OBSERVED | EXPECTED | $(O-E)^{\wedge} 2 / E$ | SUM |
| :--- | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| $r<=4$ | 931 | 944.3 | .187 | .187 |
| $r=5$ | 21664 | 21743.9 | .294 | .481 |
| $r=6$ | 77405 | 77311.8 | .112 | .593 |

Rank of a $6 x 8$ binary matrix,
rows formed from eight bits of the RNG dibin b-rank test for bits 7 to 14

|  | OBSERVED | EXPECTED | $(O-E)^{\wedge} 2 / E$ | SUM |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | ---: |
| $r<=4$ | 965 | 944.3 | .454 | .454 |
| $r=5$ | 21665 | 21743.9 | .286 | .740 |
| $r=6$ | 77370 | 77311.8 | .044 | .784 |

Rank of a $6 x 8$ binary matrix,
rows formed from eight bits of the RNG d1bin b-rank test for bits 8 to 15

|  | OBSERVED | EXPECTED | $(\mathrm{O}-\mathrm{E})^{\wedge} 2 / \mathrm{E}$ | SUM |
| :--- | :---: | :---: | :---: | ---: |
| $\mathrm{r}<=4$ | 973 | 944.3 | .872 | .872 |
| $r=5$ | 21516 | 21743.9 | 2.389 | 3.261 |
| $r=6$ | 77511 | 77311.8 | .513 | 3.774 |

Rank of a $6 x 8$ binary matrix,
rows formed from eight bits of the RNG dibin b-rank test for bits 9 to 16

|  | OBSERVED | EXPECTED | $(0-E)^{\wedge} 2 / E$ | SUM |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| $r<=4$ | 955 | 944.3 | .121 | .121 |
| $r=5$ | 21700 | 21743.9 | .089 | .210 |
| $r=6$ | 77345 | 77311.8 | .014 | .224 |

Rank of a $6 x 8$ binary matrix,
rows formed from eight bits of the RNG dibin b-rank test for bits 10 to 17

|  | OBSERVED | EXPECTED | $(O-E) \wedge 2 / E$ | SUM |
| :--- | :---: | :---: | :---: | ---: |
| $r<=4$ | 860 | 944.3 | 7.526 | 7.526 |
| $r=5$ | 21606 | 21743.9 | .875 | 8.400 |
| $r=6$ | 77534 | 77311.8 | .639 | 9.039 |

```
        p=1-exp (-SUM/2)= .98911
    Rank of a 6x8 binary matrix,
rows formed from eight bits of the RNG d1bin
b-rank test for bits 11 to 18
\begin{tabular}{lcccr} 
& OBSERVED & EXPECTED & \((O-E)^{\wedge} 2 / E\) & SUM \\
\(r<=4\) & 922 & 944.3 & .527 & .527 \\
\(r=5\) & 21504 & 21743.9 & 2.647 & 3.174 \\
\(r=6\) & 77574 & 77311.8 & .889 & 4.063
\end{tabular}
```

Rank of a $6 x 8$ binary matrix, rows formed from eight bits of the RNG dibin b-rank test for bits 12 to 19

| OBSERVED | EXPECTED | $(\mathrm{O}-\mathrm{E})^{\wedge} 2 / \mathrm{E}$ | SUM |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | ---: |
| 916 | 944.3 | .848 | .848 |
| 21767 | 21743.9 | .025 | .873 |
| 77317 | 77311.8 | .000 | .873 |
| $\mathrm{p}=1$-exp $(-$ SUM $/ 2)=.35374$ |  |  |  |

Rank of a 6x8 binary matrix, rows formed from eight bits of the RNG d1bin b-rank test for bits 13 to 20

|  | OBSERVED | EXPECTED | $(O-E))^{\wedge} 2 / E$ | SUM |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | ---: |
| $r<=4$ | 917 | 944.3 | .789 | .789 |
| $r=5$ | 21783 | 21743.9 | .070 | .860 |
| $r=6$ | 77300 | 77311.8 | .002 | .861 |

Rank of a $6 x 8$ binary matrix,
rows formed from eight bits of the RNG dibin b-rank test for bits 14 to 21

|  | OBSERVED | EXPECTED | $(O-E) \wedge 2 / E$ | SUM |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| $r<=4$ | 952 | 944.3 | .063 | .063 |
| $r=5$ | 21751 | 21743.9 | .002 | .065 |
| $r=6$ | 77297 | 77311.8 | .003 | .068 |

Rank of a 6x8 binary matrix,
rows formed from eight bits of the RNG d1bin b-rank test for bits 15 to 22

|  | OBSERVED | EXPECTED | $($ O-E)^2/E | SUM |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| $r<=4$ | 948 | 944.3 | .014 | .014 |
| $r=5$ | 21832 | 21743.9 | .357 | .371 |
| $r=6$ | 77220 | 77311.8 | .109 | .480 |

Rank of a $6 x 8$ binary matrix,
rows formed from eight bits of the RNG dibin b-rank test for bits 16 to 23

|  | OBSERVED | EXPECTED | $(\text { O-E })^{\wedge} 2 / E$ | SUM |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | ---: |
| $r<=4$ | 991 | 944.3 | 2.309 | 2.309 |
| $r=5$ | 21691 | 21743.9 | .129 | 2.438 |
| $r=6$ | 77318 | 77311.8 | .000 | 2.439 |

Rank of a $6 x 8$ binary matrix,
rows formed from eight bits of the RNG dibin b-rank test for bits 17 to 24

|  | OBSERVED | EXPECTED | $(O-E) \wedge 2 / E$ | SUM |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | ---: |
| $r<=4$ | 943 | 944.3 | .002 | .002 |
| $r=5$ | 21664 | 21743.9 | .294 | .295 |
| $r=6$ | 77393 | 77311.8 | .085 | .381 |

```
        p=1-exp(-SUM/2)= . 17332
Rank of a \(6 x 8\) binary matrix,
rows formed from eight bits of the RNG dibin
b-rank test for bits 18 to 25
\begin{tabular}{ccccc} 
& OBSERVED & EXPECTED & \((O-E)^{\wedge} 2 / E\) & SUM \\
\(r<=4\) & 931 & 944.3 & .187 & .187 \\
\(r=5\) & 21735 & 21743.9 & .004 & .191 \\
\(r=6\) & 77334 & 77311.8 & .006 & .197
\end{tabular}
```

Rank of a $6 x 8$ binary matrix, rows formed from eight bits of the RNG dibin b-rank test for bits 19 to 26

|  | OBSERVED | EXPECTED | $(\mathrm{O}-\mathrm{E})^{\wedge} 2 / \mathrm{E}$ | SUM |
| :--- | :---: | :---: | :---: | ---: |
| $\mathrm{r}<=4$ | 928 | 944.3 | .281 | .281 |
| $r=5$ | 21821 | 21743.9 | .273 | .555 |
| $r=6$ | 77251 | 77311.8 | .048 | .603 |

Rank of a 6x8 binary matrix, rows formed from eight bits of the RNG d1bin b-rank test for bits 20 to 27

|  | OBSERVED | EXPECTED | $(O-E)^{\wedge} 2 / E$ | SUM |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | ---: |
| $r<=4$ | 924 | 944.3 | .436 | .436 |
| $r=5$ | 21812 | 21743.9 | .213 | .650 |
| $r=6$ | 77264 | 77311.8 | .030 | .679 |
|  | $\mathrm{p}=1-\exp (-$ SUM $/ 2)=.28798$ |  |  |  |

Rank of a $6 x 8$ binary matrix,
rows formed from eight bits of the RNG dibin b-rank test for bits 21 to 28

|  | OBSERVED | EXPECTED | $(O-E)^{\wedge} 2 / E$ | SUM |
| :--- | :---: | :---: | :---: | ---: |
| $r<=4$ | 934 | 944.3 | .112 | .112 |
| $r=5$ | 21595 | 21743.9 | 1.020 | 1.132 |
| $r=6$ | 77471 | 77311.8 | .328 | 1.460 |

Rank of a $6 x 8$ binary matrix,
rows formed from eight bits of the RNG dibin b-rank test for bits 22 to 29

|  | OBSERVED | EXPECTED | $(O-E)^{\wedge} 2 / E$ | SUM |
| :--- | :---: | :---: | :---: | ---: |
| $r<=4$ | 986 | 944.3 | 1.841 | 1.841 |
| $r=5$ | 21539 | 21743.9 | 1.931 | 3.772 |
| $r=6$ | 77475 | 77311.8 | .344 | 4.117 |

Rank of a $6 x 8$ binary matrix,
rows formed from eight bits of the RNG dibin b-rank test for bits 23 to 30

|  | OBSERVED | EXPECTED | $(O-E)^{\wedge} 2 / E$ | SUM |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| $r<=4$ | 954 | 944.3 | .100 | .100 |
| $r=5$ | 21648 | 21743.9 | .423 | .523 |
| $r=6$ | 77398 | 77311.8 | .096 | .619 |
|  | $\mathrm{p}=1-\exp (-$ SUM $/ 2)=.26607$ |  |  |  |

Rank of a $6 x 8$ binary matrix,
rows formed from eight bits of the RNG dibin b-rank test for bits 24 to 31

|  | OBSERVED | EXPECTED | $(O-E)^{\wedge} 2 / E$ | SUM |
| :--- | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| $r<=4$ | 936 | 944.3 | .073 | .073 |
| $r=5$ | 21629 | 21743.9 | .607 | .680 |
| $r=6$ | 77435 | 77311.8 | .196 | .876 |

```
                    p=1-exp (-SUM/2)=.35482
    Rank of a 6x8 binary matrix,
rows formed from eight bits of the RNG dibin
b-rank test for bits 25 to 32
\begin{tabular}{ccccc} 
& OBSERVED & EXPECTED & \((O-E)^{\wedge} 2 / E\) & SUM \\
\(r<=4\) & 997 & 944.3 & 2.941 & 2.941 \\
\(r=5\) & 21644 & 21743.9 & .459 & 3.400 \\
\(r=6\) & 77359 & 77311.8 & .029 & 3.429
\end{tabular}
TEST SUMMARY, 25 tests on 100,000 random \(6 \times 8\) matrices These should be 25 uniform [0,1] random variables:
\begin{tabular}{lllll}
.435887 & .340149 & .259745 & .796802 & .183802 \\
.256698 & .324233 & .848480 & .106001 & .989106 \\
.868842 & .353736 & .349957 & .033390 & .213551 \\
.704563 & .173318 & .093974 & .260147 & .287977 \\
.518052 & .872334 & .266068 & .354819 & .819924
\end{tabular}
```


## brank test summary for dibin

```
The KS test for those 25 supposed UNI's yields
KS p-value= . 823936
\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$
: : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : :
: THE BITSTREAM TEST : :
:: The file under test is viewed as a stream of bits. Call them : :
: : b1,b2,... . Consider an alphabet with two "letters", 0 and 1 ::
: : and think of the stream of bits as a succession of 20 -letter : :
:: "words", overlapping. Thus the first word is b1b2...b20, the : :
:: second is b2b3...b21, and so on. The bitstream test counts : :
: : the number of missing \(20-1 e t t e r(20-b i t)\) words in a string of :
: : 2^21 overlapping 20 -letter words. There are \(2 \wedge 20\) possible 20 : :
:: letter words. For a truly random string of \(2 \wedge 21+19\) bits, the : :
: : number of missing words j should be (very close to) normally : :
: : distributed with mean 141,909 and sigma 428. Thus
: : (j-141909)/428 should be a standard normal variate (z score) : :
: : that leads to a uniform [0,1) p value. The test is repeated : :
: : twenty times.
```



```
THE OVERLAPPING 20-tuples BITSTREAM TEST, 20 BITS PER WORD, N words
This test uses \(\mathrm{N}=2^{\wedge} 21\) and samples the bitstream 20 times
No. missing words should average 141909. with sigma=428.
------------
tst no 1: 141610 missing words, -. 70 sigmas from mean, p-value= 24216
tst no 2: 142217 missing words, .72 sigmas from mean, p-value= .76389
tst no 3: 141713 missing words, -.46 sigmas from mean, p-value \(=.32322\)
tst no 4: 142240 missing words, .77 sigmas from mean, p-value \(=.78012\)
tst no 5: 141431 missing words, -1.12 sigmas from mean, \(p-v a l u e=.13187\)
tst no 6: 142101 missing words, . 45 sigmas from mean, p-value \(=.67286\)
tst no 7: 142237 missing words, . 77 sigmas from mean, p-value= . 77804
tst no 8: 141510 missing words, -.93 sigmas from mean, p-value= .17541
tst no 9: 142200 missing words, .68 sigmas from mean, p-value \(=.75148\)
tst no 10: 141252 missing words, -1.54 sigmas from mean, p-value= .06229
tst no 11: 142402 missing words, 1.15 sigmas from mean, p-value \(=.87515\)
tst no 12: 142434 missing words, 1.23 sigmas from mean, p-value \(=.88988\)
tst no 13: 142147 missing words, .56 sigmas from mean, p-value= .71066
tst no 14: 141600 missing words, -.72 sigmas from mean, p-value \(=.23492\)
```



OPSO test for generator dibin

| Output: No. missing words (mw), equiv normal variate (z), p-value (p) |  |  |
| :--- | ---: | :--- |
| OPSO for dibin | using bits 23 to 32 | mw |
| OPSO for dibin | using bits 22 to 31 | 141332 |


DNA test for generator dibin
Output: No. missing words (mw), equiv normal variate (z), p-value (p)
DNA for dibin


[^0]

```
    : This is the COUNT-THE-1's TEST for specific bytes. ::
    :: Consider the file under test as a stream of 32-bit integers. ::
    :: From each integer, a specific byte is chosen , say the left- ::
    :: most:: bits 1 to 8. Each byte can contain from 0 to 8 1's, ::
    :: with probabilitie 1,8,28,56,70,56,28,8,1 over 256. Now let ::
    :: the specified bytes from successive integers provide a string ::
    :: of (overlapping) 5-letter words, each "letter" taking values ::
    :: A,B,C,D,E. The letters are determined by the number of 1's, ::
    :: in that byte:: 0,1,or 2 ---> A, 3 ---> B, 4 ---> C, 5 ---> D,::
    :: and 6,7 or 8 ---> E. Thus we have a monkey at a typewriter ::
    :: hitting five keys with with various probabilities:: 37,56,70,::
    :: 56,37 over 256. There are 5^5 possible 5-letter words, and ::
    :: from a string of 256,000 (overlapping) 5-letter words, counts ::
    :: are made on the frequencies for each word. The quadratic form ::
    :: in the weak inverse of the covariance matrix of the cell ::
    :: counts provides a chisquare test:: Q5-Q4, the difference of ::
    :: the naive Pearson sums of (OBS-EXP)^2/EXP on counts for 5- ::
    :: and 4-letter cell counts.
```



```
Chi-square with 5^5-5^4=2500 d.of f. for sample size: 256000
                    chisquare equiv normal p value
Results for COUNT-THE-1's in specified bytes:
\begin{tabular}{|c|c|c|c|c|c|}
\hline bits & 1 to & 8 & 2506.19 & . 088 & . 534866 \\
\hline bits & 2 to & 9 & 2513.90 & . 197 & . 577936 \\
\hline bits & 3 to & 10 & 2455.18 & -. 634 & . 263092 \\
\hline bits & 4 to & 11 & 2478.94 & -. 298 & . 382929 \\
\hline bits & 5 to & 12 & 2466.89 & -. 468 & . 319808 \\
\hline bits & 6 to & 13 & 2516.40 & . 232 & . 591725 \\
\hline bits & 7 to & 14 & 2518.41 & . 260 & . 602721 \\
\hline bits & 8 to & 15 & 2523.63 & . 334 & . 630859 \\
\hline bits & 9 to & 16 & 2489.03 & -. 155 & . 438370 \\
\hline bits & 10 to & 17 & 2540.37 & . 571 & . 715986 \\
\hline bits & 11 to & 18 & 2508.98 & . 127 & . 550502 \\
\hline bits & 12 to & 19 & 2388.93 & -1.571 & . 058118 \\
\hline bits & 13 to & 20 & 2478.18 & -. 309 & . 378817 \\
\hline bits & 14 to & 21 & 2600.21 & 1.417 & . 921783 \\
\hline bits & 15 to & 22 & 2562.88 & . 889 & . 813070 \\
\hline bits & 16 to & 23 & 2424.03 & -1.074 & .141340 \\
\hline bits & 17 to & 24 & 2507.55 & . 107 & . 542502 \\
\hline bits & 18 to & 25 & 2433.16 & -. 945 & . 172254 \\
\hline bits & 19 to & 26 & 2444.37 & -. 787 & . 215701 \\
\hline bits & 20 to & 27 & 2499.65 & -. 005 & . 497997 \\
\hline bits & 21 to & 28 & 2427.56 & -1.024 & . 152823 \\
\hline bits & 22 to & 29 & 2525.05 & . 354 & . 638408 \\
\hline bits & 23 to & 30 & 2502.74 & . 039 & . 515476 \\
\hline bits & 24 to & 31 & 2642.83 & 2.020 & . 978301 \\
\hline bits & 25 to & 32 & 2500.56 & . 008 & . 503154 \\
\hline
\end{tabular}
```

```
$$$$$$$$$$$$$$$$$$$$$$$$$$$$$$$$$$$$$$$$$$$$$$$$$$$$
    ::: : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : :
    :: THIS IS A PARKING LOT TEST ::
    :: In a square of side 100, randomly "park" a car---a circle of ::
    :: radius 1. Then try to park a 2nd, a 3rd, and so on, each ::
    :: time parking "by ear". That is, if an attempt to park a car ::
    :: causes a crash with one already parked, try again at a new ::
    :: random location. (To avoid path problems, consider parking ::
    :: helicopters rather than cars.) Each attempt leads to either ::
    :: a crash or a success, the latter followed by an increment to ::
    :: the list of cars already parked. If we plot n: the number of ::
    :: attempts, versus k:: the number successfully parked, we get a::
    :: curve that should be similar to those provided by a perfect ::
    :: random number generator. Theory for the behavior of such a ::
    :: random curve seems beyond reach, and as graphics displays are ::
    :: not available for this battery of tests, a simple characteriz ::
    :: ation of the random experiment is used: k, the number of cars ::
    :: successfully parked after n=12,000 attempts. Simulation shows ::
    :: that k should average 3523 with sigma 21.9 and is very close ::
    :: to normally distributed. Thus (k-3523)/21.9 should be a st- ::
    :: andard normal variable, which, converted to a uniform varia- ::
    :: ble, provides input to a KSTEST based on a sample of 10. ::
    :::: : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : :
            CDPARK: result of ten tests on file d1bin
            Of 12,000 tries, the average no. of successes
                should be 3523 with sigma=21.9
\begin{tabular}{|c|c|c|c|c|c|}
\hline Successes: & 3525 & z-score: & . 091 & p-value: & , \\
\hline Successes: & 3514 & z-score: & -. 411 & \(p-v a l u e:\) & 340551 \\
\hline Successes: & 3531 & z-score: & . 365 & p-value: & . 642555 \\
\hline Successes: & 3559 & z-score: & 1.644 & p-value: & . 949895 \\
\hline Successes: & 3522 & \(z\)-score & -. 046 & \(p-v a l u e:\) & 481790 \\
\hline Successes: & 3550 & z-score: & 1.233 & \(p-v a l u e:\) & . 891189 \\
\hline Successes: & 3520 & z-score: & -. 137 & \(p-v a l u e:\) & . 445521 \\
\hline Successes: & 3557 & z-score: & 1.553 & \(p-v a l u e:\) & . 939730 \\
\hline Successes: & 3519 & z-score: & -. 183 & p-value: & . 427537 \\
\hline Successes: & 3563 & z-score: & 1.826 & p-value & . 966111 \\
\hline
\end{tabular}
            square size avg. no. parked sample sigma
            100. 3536.000 18.067
            KSTEST for the above 10: p= .925296
$$$$$$$$$$$$$$$$$$$$$$$$$$$$$$$$$$$$$$$$$$$$$$$$$$$$
::: : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : :
:: THE MINIMUM DISTANCE TEST ::
:: It does this 100 times:: choose n=8000 random points in a ::
:: square of side 10000. Find d, the minimum distance between ::
:: the (n^2-n)/2 pairs of points. If the points are truly inde- ::
:: pendent uniform, then d^2, the square of the minimum distance ::
:: should be (very close to) exponentially distributed with mean ::
:: .995 . Thus 1-exp(-d^2/.995) should be uniform on [0,1) and ::
:: a KSTEST on the resulting 100 values serves as a test of uni- ::
:: formity for random points in the square. Test numbers=0 mod 5 ::
:: are printed but the KSTEST is based on the full set of 100 ::
:: random choices of }8000\mathrm{ points in the 10000x10000 square. ::
:::::: : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : :
    This is the MINIMUM DISTANCE test
```

```
            for random integers in the file dlbin
    Sample no. d^2 avg equiv uni
            5 . 3179 1.0223 . 273513
        10 .5802 1.1477 .441837
        15 4.0468 1.3053 . 982873
        20 2.5662 1.2760 .924159
        25 1.4633 1.2612 . 770220
        30 . 3392 1.1946 . }28885
        40 . .4344 1.1244 % . .353728
        45 . 7437 1.1456 . 526444
        50 .2360 1.0942 . . . 211180
        55 1.7649 1.0528 . .830316
        60 3.0577 1.0567 ..953720
        65 1.0864 1.0489 1.0914 1.0625 % .083142
        70 1.3914 1.0625 1.6058 1.1034 
        80 .1231 1.0799 . }11641
        85 . 1280 1.0696 . 120752
        90 2.7471 1.1285 .936768
        95 2.4284 1.1296 % .912890
        MINIMUM DISTANCE TEST for dlbin
        Result of KS test on 20 transformed mindist^2's:
                                p-value= .820154
$$$$$$$$$$$$$$$$$$$$$$$$$$$$$$$$$$$$$$$$$$$$$$$$$$$
    :: : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : :
    :: THE 3DSPHERES TEST ::
    :: Choose 4000 random points in a cube of edge 1000. At each ::
    :: point, center a sphere large enough to reach the next closest ::
    :: point. Then the volume of the smallest such sphere is (very ::
    :: close to) exponentially distributed with mean 120pi/3. Thus ::
    :: the radius cubed is exponential with mean 30. (The mean is ::
    :: obtained by extensive simulation). The 3DSPHERES test gener- ::
    :: ates 4000 such spheres 20 times. Each min radius cubed leads ::
    :: to a uniform variable by means of 1-exp(-r^3/30.), then a ::
    :: KSTEST is done on the 20 p-values. ::
    ::: : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : :
    The 3DSPHERES test for file dibin
sample no: 1 r^3=102.828 p-value= .96753
sample no: 2 r^3= 38.879 p-value= .72637
sample no: 3 r^3= 38.802 p-value= .72566
sample no: 4 r^3= 11.399 p-value= .31613
sample no: 5 r^3= 14.289 p-value= . 37893
sample no: 6 r^3= 5.748 p-value= .17437
sample no: 7 r^3= 21.723 p-value= .51525
sample no: 8 r^3= 23.658 p-value= .54551
sample no: 9 r^3= 87.443 p-value= .94578
sample no:10 r^3= 59.161 p-value= .86083
sample no: 11 r^3= 48.727 p-value= .80294
sample no: 12 r^3= 4.125 p-value= .12846
sample no: 13 r^3= 2.826 p-value=.08991
sample no: 14 r^3= 13.584 p-value= . 36415
sample no:15 r^3= 39.334 p-value= . 73049
```


\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$


```
        Test no. 8 p-value . }89733
        Test no. 9 p-value . }17996
        Test no. 10 p-value . }17541
    Results of the OSUM test for d1bin
        KSTEST on the above 10 p-values: . }15925
$$$$$$$$$$$$$$$$$$$$$$$$$$$$$$$$$$$$$$$$$$$$$$$$$
    :: : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : :
:: This is the RUNS test. It counts runs up, and runs down, ::
:: in a sequence of uniform [0,1) variables, obtained by float- ::
:: ing the 32-bit integers in the specified file. This example ::
:: shows how runs are counted: .123,.357,.789,.425,.224,.416,.95::
:: contains an up-run of length 3, a down-run of length 2 and an ::
:: up-run of (at least) 2, depending on the next values. The ::
:: covariance matrices for the runs-up and runs-down are well ::
:: known, leading to chisquare tests for quadratic forms in the ::
:: weak inverses of the covariance matrices. Runs are counted ::
:: for sequences of length 10,000. This is done ten times. Then ::
:: repeated.
:!:: : : : : : : : : : : !
            The RUNS test for file dibin
Up and down runs in a sample of 10000
```


: : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : :
: : This is the CRAPS TEST. It plays 200,000 games of craps, finds:
: : the number of wins and the number of throws necessary to end : :
: : each game. The number of wins should be (very close to) a : :
: : normal with mean 200000 p and variance $200000 \mathrm{p}(1-\mathrm{p})$, with :
: : $p=244 / 495$. Throws necessary to complete the game can vary :
: : from 1 to infinity, but counts for all>21 are lumped with $21 .::$
: : A chi-square test is made on the no.-of-throws cell counts. : :
: : Each 32-bit integer from the test file provides the value for : :
: : the throw of a die, by floating to [0,1), multiplying by 6 : :
: : and taking 1 plus the integer part of the result. : :
: : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : :
Results of craps test for dibin
No. of wins: Observed Expected
$98212 \quad 98585.86$
$98212=$ No. of wins, z-score=-1.672 pvalue= . 04725
Analysis of Throws-per-Game:
Chisq= 28.97 for 20 degrees of freedom, $p=.91165$
Throws Observed Expected Chisq Sum
$1 \quad 66818 \quad 66666.7 \quad .344 \quad .344$
$2 \quad 37465 \quad 37654.3 \quad .952 \quad 1.295$
$\begin{array}{lllll}3 & 26708 & 26954.7 & 2.258 & 3.554\end{array}$
$\begin{array}{lllll}4 & 19630 & 19313.5 & 5.188 & 8.742\end{array}$

```
                    13942 13851.4 .592 9.334
    9888 9943.5 .310 9.644
    6932 7145.0 6.351 15.996
    5185 5139.1 .410 16.406
    3830 3699.9 4.577 20.983
    2658 2666.3 .026 21.009
    1946 1923.3 . 267 21.276
    1375 1388.7 . 136 21.412
        980 1003.7 .560 21.973
        720 726.1 .052 22.025
        538 525.8 .281 22.306
        359 381.2 1.287 23.593
        285 276.5 .259 23.852
        204 200.8 .050 23.902
        165 146.0 2.477 26.379
        111 106.2 . 216 26.595
        261 287.1 2.375 28.970
        SUMMARY FOR d1bin
        p-value for no. of wins: .047251
        p-value for throws/game: . }91165
$$$$$$$$$$$$$$$$$$$$$$$$$$$$$$$$$$$$$$$$$$$$$$$$$$$$
Results of DIEHARD battery of tests sent to file dlout
```


# Appendix D. Diehard Test Results for DLL-based RNG with the Modified Von Neumann Corrector 



```
    :: This is the BIRTHDAY SPACINGS TEST ::
```



```
    The 9 p-values were
        . }852559 .579032 . 202074 . 140017 . 726268
        .449922 . 313803 . 034697 . }64890
A KSTEST for the 9 p-values yields .099358
```



```
    :: THE OVERLAPPING 5-PERMUTATION TEST ::
```



```
        OPERM5 test for file d11bin
    For a sample of 1,000,000 consecutive 5-tuples,
chisquare for 99 degrees of freedom= 98.897; p-value= .515964
            OPERM5 test for file dl1bin
        For a sample of 1,000,000 consecutive 5-tuples,
chisquare for 99 degrees of freedom= 72.910; p-value= .022821
```



```
    :: This is the BINARY RANK TEST for 31x31 matrices.
```



```
        Binary rank test for d11bin
            Rank test for 31x31 binary matrices:
            rows from leftmost 31 bits of each 32-bit integer
            rank observed expected (o-e)^2/e sum
            28 216 211.4 .099304 .099
            29 5103 5134.0 . }187307 .28
            30 23011 23103.0 . 366732 . 653
            31 11670 11551.5 1.215118 1.868
chisquare= 1.868 for 3 d. of f.; p-value= .485675
    :::::::::::::::::::::::::::::::::::::::::::::::::::::::::::::::::: :
    :: This is the BINARY RANK TEST for 32x32 matrices ::
```



```
    Binary rank test for d11bin
            Rank test for 32x32 binary matrices:
            rows from leftmost 32 bits of each 32-bit integer
            rank observed expected (o-e)^2/e sum
            29 204 211.4 . 260276 . 260
            30 5288 5134.0 4.618776 4.879
            31 22912 23103.0 1.579831 6.459
            32 11596 11551.5 . }171240 6.63
chisquare= 6.630 for 3 d. of f.; p-value= .920344
```

```
: : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : 
:: This is the BINARY RANK TEST for 6x8 matrices ::
: : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : 
```

TEST SUMMARY, 25 tests on 100,000 random $6 x 8$ matrices These should be 25 uniform [0,1] random variables:

| .547019 | .518735 | .409699 | .593021 | .831824 |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |
| .157193 | .826177 | .833724 | .840834 | .688300 |
| .964288 | .575887 | .478705 | .306609 | .725766 |
| .902957 | .275850 | .522065 | .182574 | .401655 |
| .184181 | .187329 | .906712 | .440660 | .346315 |

brank test summary for d11bin
The KS test for those 25 supposed UNI's yields KS p-value= . 507025


```
:: THE BITSTREAM TEST ::
```



THE OVERLAPPING 20-tuples BITSTREAM TEST, 20 BITS PER WORD, N words
This test uses $\mathrm{N}=2^{\wedge} 21$ and samples the bitstream 20 times.
No. missing words should average 141909. with sigma=428.
-------------------------------------------------------------------1
tst no 1: 142019 missing words, .26 sigmas from mean, p-value= . 60112
tst no 2: 141574 missing words, -.78 sigmas from mean, $p$-value= .21667
tst no 3: 142154 missing words, .57 sigmas from mean, p-value= .71622
tst no 4: 141531 missing words, -.88 sigmas from mean, p-value= . 18836
tst no 5: 142487 missing words, 1.35 sigmas from mean, p-value= . 91144
tst no 6: 141870 missing words, -.09 sigmas from mean, p-value= .46339
tst no 7: 142066 missing words, . 37 sigmas from mean, p-value= . 64284
tst no 8: 141397 missing words, -1.20 sigmas from mean, $p$-value $=.11565$
tst no 9: 141829 missing words, -.19 sigmas from mean, p-value= . 42556
tst no 10: 142228 missing words, .74 sigmas from mean, p-value= . 77173
tst no 11: 142024 missing words, .27 sigmas from mean, p-value= .60562
tst no 12: 141510 missing words, -.93 sigmas from mean, p-value= . 17541
tst no 13: 142219 missing words, .72 sigmas from mean, p-value= . 76532
tst no 14: 141472 missing words, -1.02 sigmas from mean, p-value= . 15344
tst no 15: 141093 missing words, -1.91 sigmas from mean, p-value= . 02824
tst no 16: 141620 missing words, -.68 sigmas from mean, p-value= .24952
tst no 17: 142570 missing words, 1.54 sigmas from mean, p-value= . 93866
tst no 18: 141981 missing words, . 17 sigmas from mean, p-value= . 56650
tst no 19: 141236 missing words, -1.57 sigmas from mean, $p$-value $=.05784$
tst no 20: 141344 missing words, -1.32 sigmas from mean, p-value= . 09327

```
: : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : :
:: The tests OPSO, OQSO and DNA ::
::: : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : :
```

OPSO test for generator dilbin



DNA test for generator d11bin
Output: No. missing words (mw), equiv normal variate (z), p-value (p)
mw z p
DNA for dilbin using bits 31 to $32141513-1.169$. 1212

| DNA for dlibin | using bits 30 to 31 | 141493 | -1.228 | . 1097 |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| DNA for d11bin | using bits 29 to 30 | 141291 | -1.824 | . 0341 |
| DNA for dilbin | using bits 28 to 29 | 142129 | . 648 | . 7415 |
| DNA for dilbin | using bits 27 to 28 | 142081 | . 506 | . 6937 |
| DNA for dilbin | using bits 26 to 27 | 141911 | . 005 | . 5020 |
| DNA for dlibin | using bits 25 to 26 | 142282 | 1.099 | . 8642 |
| DNA for dlibin | using bits 24 to 25 | 142138 | . 675 | . 7500 |
| DNA for dlibin | using bits 23 to 24 | 142305 | 1.167 | . 8784 |
| DNA for dilbin | using bits 22 to 23 | 142045 | . 400 | . 6555 |
| DNA for dlibin | using bits 21 to 22 | 141927 | . 052 | . 5208 |
| DNA for dlibin | using bits 20 to 21 | 141476 | -1.278 | . 1006 |
| DNA for dilbin | using bits 19 to 20 | 142027 | . 347 | . 6357 |
| DNA for dilbin | using bits 18 to 19 | 142313 | 1.191 | . 8831 |
| DNA for dlibin | using bits 17 to 18 | 141683 | -. 668 | . 2522 |
| DNA for dlibin | using bits 16 to 17 | 141827 | -. 243 | . 4041 |
| DNA for dlibin | using bits 15 to 16 | 141956 | . 138 | . 5548 |
| DNA for dlibin | using bits 14 to 15 | 141491 | -1.234 | . 1086 |
| DNA for dilbin | using bits 13 to 14 | 141930 | . 061 | . 5243 |
| DNA for dlibin | using bits 12 to 13 | 142158 | . 734 | . 7684 |
| DNA for dlibin | using bits 11 to 12 | 142387 | 1.409 | . 9206 |
| DNA for dlibin | using bits 10 to 11 | 142294 | 1.135 | . 8718 |
| DNA for dilbin | using bits 9 to 10 | 141806 | -. 305 | . 3803 |
| DNA for dlibin | using bits 8 to 9 | 142337 | 1.262 | . 8964 |
| DNA for dllbin | using bits 7 to 8 | 141922 | . 037 | . 5149 |
| DNA for dllbin | using bits 6 to 7 | 141524 | -1.137 | . 1278 |
| DNA for dilbin | using bits 5 to 6 | 142216 | . 905 | . 8172 |
| DNA for dilbin | using bits 4 to 5 | 141975 | . 194 | . 5768 |
| DNA for dlibin | using bits 3 to 4 | 141729 | -. 532 | . 2974 |
| DNA for dilbin | using bits 2 to 3 | 141440 | -1.384 | . 0831 |
| DNA for dilbin | using bits 1 to 2 | 141431 | -1.411 | . 0791 |

```
:: : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : :
:: This is the COUNT-THE-1's TEST on a stream of bytes. ::
::: : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : :
```

Test results for dilbin
Chi-square with 5^5-5^4=2500 d.of f. for sample size:2560000 chisquare equiv normal p-value
Results fo COUNT-THE-1's in successive bytes:

| byte stream for d11bin | 2633.78 | 1.892 | .970754 |
| :--- | ---: | ---: | ---: |
| byte stream for d11bin | 2526.02 | .368 | .643570 |

: : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : :
: $\quad$ This is the COUNT-THE-1's TEST for specific bytes. :
: : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : :
Chi-square with 5^5-5^4=2500 d.of f. for sample size: 256000 chisquare equiv normal p value
Results for COUNT-THE-1's in specified bytes:

| bits | 1 | to | 8 | 2502.74 | .039 |
| :--- | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: |
| bits | 2 | to | 9 | 2507.58 | .107 |
| bits | 3 | to | 10 | 2638.79 | 1.963 |
| bits | 4 | to | 11 | 2640.33 | 1.985 |
| bits | 5 | to | 12 | 2595.06 | 1.344 |
| bits | 6 | to | 13 | 2626.80 | 1.793 |
| bits | 7 | to 14 | 2587.76 | 1.241 | .975161 |
| bin |  |  |  | .9640582 |  |

```
\begin{tabular}{lrrrrr} 
bits & 8 to 15 & 2509.95 & .141 & .555966 \\
bits & 9 & to 16 & 2473.72 & -.372 & .355097 \\
bits 10 to 17 & 2492.51 & -.106 & .457798 \\
bits 11 to 18 & 2507.87 & .111 & .544289 \\
bits 12 to 19 & 2364.14 & -1.921 & .027341 \\
bits 13 to 20 & 2518.69 & .264 & .604222 \\
bits 14 to 21 & 2564.83 & .917 & .820375 \\
bits 15 to 22 & 2501.72 & .024 & .509696 \\
bits 16 to 23 & 2596.05 & 1.358 & .912821 \\
bits 17 to 24 & 2547.50 & .672 & .749130 \\
bits 18 to 25 & 2405.25 & -1.340 & .090121 \\
bits 19 to 26 & 2609.88 & 1.554 & .939902 \\
bits 20 to 27 & 2531.23 & .442 & .670642 \\
bits 21 to 28 & 2524.29 & .343 & .634377 \\
bits 22 to 29 & 2405.70 & -1.334 & .091166 \\
bits 23 to 30 & 2431.60 & -.967 & .166694 \\
bits 24 to 31 & 2418.52 & -1.152 & .124603 \\
bits 25 to 32 & 2496.66 & -.047 & .481167
\end{tabular}
```

```
. . . . . . . . .
```

. . . . . . . . .
:: THIS IS A PARKING LOT TEST ::
:: THIS IS A PARKING LOT TEST ::
:::::: :: :: : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : :
CDPARK: result of ten tests on file d11bin
Of 12,000 tries, the average no. of successes
should be 3523 with sigma=21.9
Successes: 3514 z-score: -.411 p-value: . }34055
Successes: 3510 z-score: -. 594 p-value: . 276387
Successes: 3543 z-score: . 913 p-value: . }81944
Successes: 3512 z-score: -. 502 p-value: . }30773
Successes: 3538 z-score: . }685\mathrm{ p-value: . }75330
Successes: 3493 z-score: -1.370 p-value: . 085365
Successes: 3538 z-score: . 685 p-value: . }75330
Successes: 3499 z-score: -1.096 p-value: . }13656
Successes: 3524 z-score: .046 p-value: . 518210
Successes: 3540 z-score: . 776 p-value: . 781201
square size avg. no. parked sample sigma
100. 3521.100 17.193
KSTEST for the above 10: p= .150814
:::: : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : :
:: THE MINIMUM DISTANCE TEST ::
: : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : :
This is the MINIMUM DISTANCE test
for random integers in the file d11bin
Sample no. d^2 avg equiv uni
5.0325 . 9348 . 032101
10.0252 .9132 .024990
15 .5097 . 8756 . 400834
20.8975 . 8627 . 594252
25 .6175 1.0155 . 462363
30 1.7802 1.3062 . 832893
35 .0373 1.2388 .036832
40 3.0709 1.3279 .954333

```
```

| .6012 | 1.3276 | .453494 |
| ---: | ---: | ---: |
| 2.7984 | 1.2860 | .939946 |
| .0409 | 1.1847 | .040281 |
| .7388 | 1.1551 | .524094 |
| .2785 | 1.1268 | .244149 |
| .0470 | 1.1216 | .046166 |
| .4693 | 1.0770 | .376056 |
| .0395 | 1.0410 | .038903 |
| .0351 | .9958 | .034691 |
| 2.0689 | 1.0192 | .874983 |
| .0074 | 1.0169 | .007437 |
| .0419 | 1.0233 | .041233 |

MINIMUM DISTANCE TEST for d11bin Result of $K$ test on 20 transformed mindist^2's: p -value $=.862979$
\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$

```
```

::: :: : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : :

```
::: :: : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : :
:: THE 3DSPHERES TEST ::
:: THE 3DSPHERES TEST ::
:::::: :: :: : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : :
    The 3DSPHERES test for file dl1bin
\begin{tabular}{|c|c|c|c|c|c|}
\hline sample no: & 1 & \(r^{\wedge} 3=\) & 4.011 & \(\mathrm{p}-\) value= & . 12515 \\
\hline sample no: & 2 & \(r^{\wedge} 3=\) & 56.222 & \(\mathrm{p}-\) value= & . 84650 \\
\hline sample no: & 3 & \(r^{\wedge} 3=\) & 30.593 & \(p-v a l u e=\) & . 63933 \\
\hline sample no: & 4 & \(r^{\wedge} 3=\) & 15.715 & \(\mathrm{p}-\) value= & . 40775 \\
\hline sample no: & 5 & \(r^{\wedge} 3=\) & 49.868 & \(p-v a l u e=\) & . 81029 \\
\hline sample no: & 6 & \(r^{\wedge} 3=\) & 32.296 & \(p-v a l u e=\) & . 65923 \\
\hline sample no: & 7 & \(r^{\wedge} 3=\) & 82.573 & \(p-v a l u e=\) & . 93623 \\
\hline sample no: & 8 & \(r^{\wedge} 3=\) & 28.254 & \(p-v a l u e=\) & . 61008 \\
\hline sample no: & 9 & \(r^{\wedge} 3=\) & 19.457 & \(p-v a l u e=\) & . 47720 \\
\hline sample no: & 10 & \(r^{\wedge} 3=\) & 19.992 & \(p-v a l u e=\) & . 48645 \\
\hline sample no: & 11 & \(r^{\wedge} 3=\) & 11.267 & \(p-v a l u e=\) & . 31310 \\
\hline sample no: & 12 & \(r^{\wedge} 3=\) & 18.247 & \(p-v a l u e=\) & . 45570 \\
\hline sample no: & 13 & \(r^{\wedge} 3=\) & 2.726 & \(p-v a l u e=\) & . 08686 \\
\hline sample no: & 14 & \(r^{\wedge} 3=\) & 11.050 & \(p-v a l u e=\) & . 30811 \\
\hline sample no: & 15 & \(r^{\wedge} 3=\) & 12.423 & \(p-v a l u e=\) & . 33907 \\
\hline sample no: & 16 & \(r^{\wedge} 3=\) & 19.996 & \(\mathrm{p}-\) value \(=\) & . 48652 \\
\hline sample no: & 17 & \(r^{\wedge} 3=\) & 12.793 & \(p-v a l u e=\) & . 34716 \\
\hline sample no: & 18 & \(r^{\wedge} 3=\) & 20.675 & \(\mathrm{p}-\) value \(=\) & . 49801 \\
\hline sample no: & 19 & \(r^{\wedge} 3=\) & 18.166 & \(p-v a l u e=\) & . 45422 \\
\hline sample no: & 20 & \(r^{\wedge} 3=\) & 8.134 & \(p-v a l u e=\) & . 23750 \\
\hline
\end{tabular}
    A KS test is applied to those 20 p-values.
        3DSPHERES test for file dl1bin p-value= . 654979
:: : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : :
:: This is the SQEEZE test
...:!:!:: : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : ! : ! : 
            RESULTS OF SQUEEZE TEST FOR d11bin
            Table of standardized frequency counts
( (obs-exp)/sqrt(exp) )^2
            for j taking values <=6,7,8,...,47,>=48:
-1.5 -.7 .1 -1.0 -.1 . - 
```

```
\begin{tabular}{rrrrrr}
.2 & -.8 & .6 & .4 & .2 & -.6 \\
-.6 & .6 & -1.3 & -.9 & .3 & .0 \\
.9 & -.4 & .5 & -.3 & 1.8 & -.6 \\
-.6 & .1 & .4 & .9 & .6 & 1.3 \\
-.3 & -.7 & .6 & 2.0 & .8 & .1 \\
-.2 & -.1 & .1 & -1.3 & .9 & .0
\end{tabular}
\[
-1.1
\]
Chi-square with 42 degrees of freedom: 27.584 \(z\)-score \(=-1.573 \quad p\)-value \(=.042261\)
```



```
    :: The OVERLAPPING SUMS test ::
```



```
        Test no. 1 p-value .476134
        Test no. 2 p-value . }56904
        Test no. 3 p-value . }30082
        Test no. 4 p-value .062252
        Test no. 5 p-value . }08360
        Test no. 6 p-value . }56916
        Test no. 7 p-value . }49971
        Test no. 8 p-value . }70033
        Test no. 9 p-value . }64982
        Test no. 10 p-value . 340612
    Results of the OSUM test for d11bin
        KSTEST on the above 10 p-values: . }60051
```



```
    :: This is the RUNS test.
    ::::::::::::::::::::::::::::::::::::::::::::::::::::::::::::::::::: :: :
            The RUNS test for file dl1bin
    Up and down runs in a sample of 10000
```

```
                    Run test for d11bin
        runs up; ks test for 10 p's: . }74447
    runs down; ks test for 10 p's: .924207
                        Run test for dl1bin
        runs up; ks test for 10 p's: . }18033
    runs down; ks test for 10 p's: . }89957
```



```
    :: This is the CRAPS TEST.
```



```
            Results of craps test for d11bin
No. of wins: Observed Expected
                                    98872 98585.86
                    98872= No. of wins, z-score= 1.280 pvalue= . 89969
Analysis of Throws-per-Game:
Chisq= 19.19 for 20 degrees of freedom, p= .49042
        Throws Observed Expected Chisq Sum
            1 66868 66666.7 . .608 . 608
            2 37479 37654.3 . 816 1.424
            3 27091 26954.7 . 689 2.113
            4 19445 19313.5 . .896 3.009
```



```
            6
```

```
                8 4994 5139.1 4.095 9.445
            9 3691 3699.9 .021 9.466
            10 2591 2666.3 2.126 11.593
            11 1937 1923.3 .097 11.690
            12 1422 1388.7 .797 12.486
            13 1006 1003.7 .005 12.492
            14 729 726.1 .011 12.503
            15 518 525.8 . 117 12.620
            16 361 381.2 1.065 13.685
            17 298 276.5 1.665 15.350
            18 187 200.8 .952 16.303
            19 143 146.0 .061 16.364
\begin{tabular}{rrrrr}
90 & 97 & 106.2 & .800 & 17.163
\end{tabular}
\begin{tabular}{lllll}
21 & 263 & 287.1 & 2.026 & 19.189
\end{tabular}
SUMMARY FOR dl1bin
    p-value for no. of wins: . }89969
    p-value for throws/game: .490416
$$$$$$$$$$$$$$$$$$$$$$$$$$$$$$$$$$$$$$$$$$$$$$$$$$$$
Results of DIEHARD battery of tests sent to file dllout
```


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