

Delta Modulation → Delta modulation (DM) is a DPCM scheme in which the difference signal $\Delta(t)$ is encoded into just a single bit. The signal bit providing for just two possibilities, is used to increase or decrease the estimate $\hat{m}(t)$.

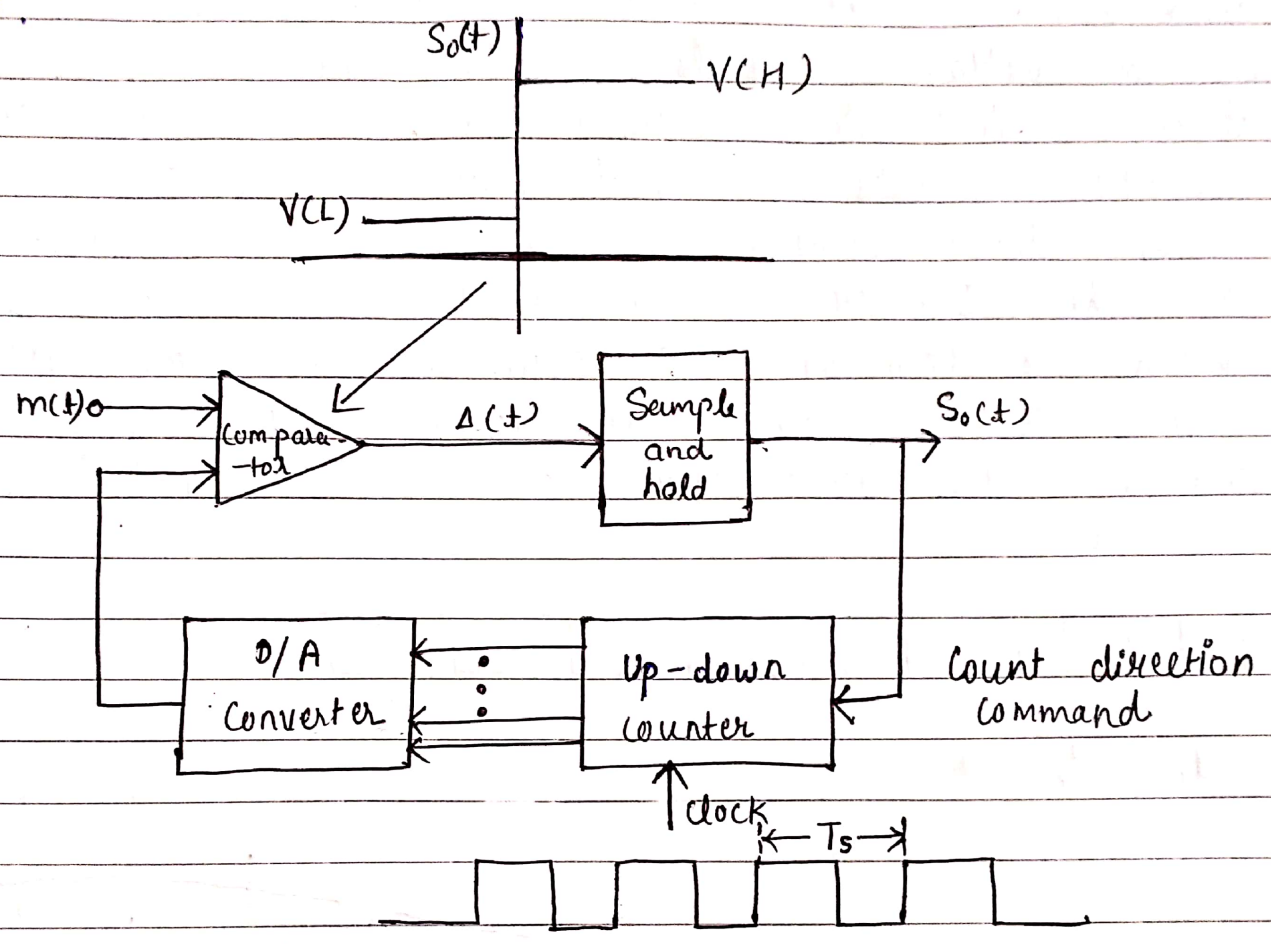


Fig:- A delta modulator.

This scheme is known as linear delta modulation. The original signal $m(t)$ and the approximated signal $\hat{m}(t)$ are applied as inputs to a comparator and comparator makes a comparison b/w two inputs. The comparator

makes a comparison between two inputs -
has fixed o/p $V(H)$ when $m(t) > \hat{m}(t)$ and
a different o/p $V(L)$ when $m(t) < \hat{m}(t)$.

The up-down counter increments or decrements its count by 1 at each active edge of clock waveform. The count direction is determined by the voltage levels at the input to the counter. When this binary input is at the levels $V(H)$, the counter counts up and when it is at the level $V(L)$ the counter counts down. The digital o/p of the counter is converted to the analog signal with the help of D/A converter. The waveform obtain by the system in fig (a) is fig (b) by assuming that the active edge is the falling edge.

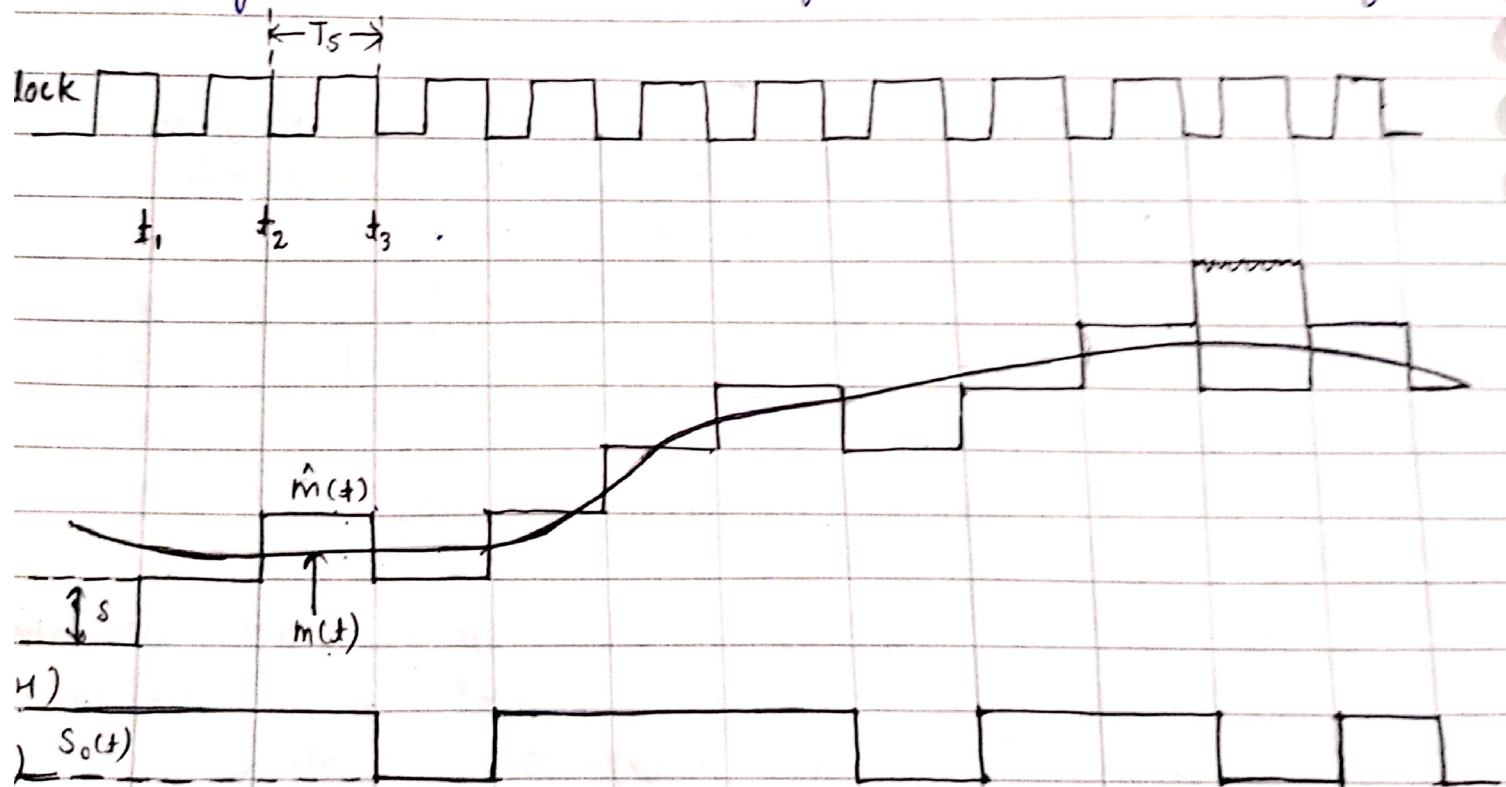


Fig (b) The response of a data modulator to a baseband signal $m(t)$

For time before t_1 , we find $m(t)$ is greater than $\hat{m}(t)$ so that o/p is $V(H)$. at time t_1 , when the active clock edge appears the counter is incremented and immediately the signal $\hat{m}(t)$ jumps by an amount equals to step size.

At time t_2 we still find $m(t)$ is greater than $\hat{m}(t)$ so that o/p remains at $V(H)$ and there is another upward jump in $\hat{m}(t)$.

At time t_3 $m(t)$ is less than $\hat{m}(t)$ so o/p is $V(L)$ the counter decrement and there is a downward jump in $\hat{m}(t)$ and so on.

From fig. it is clear that even when $\hat{m}(t)$ has caught up $m(t)$ and even though $m(t)$ remains almost constant, $\hat{m}(t)$ swings up and down, above and below $m(t)$.

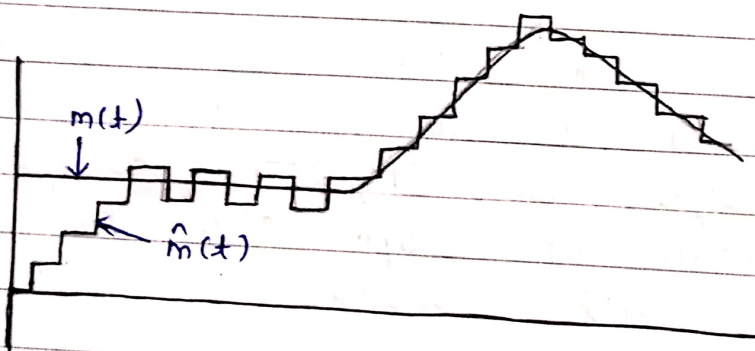
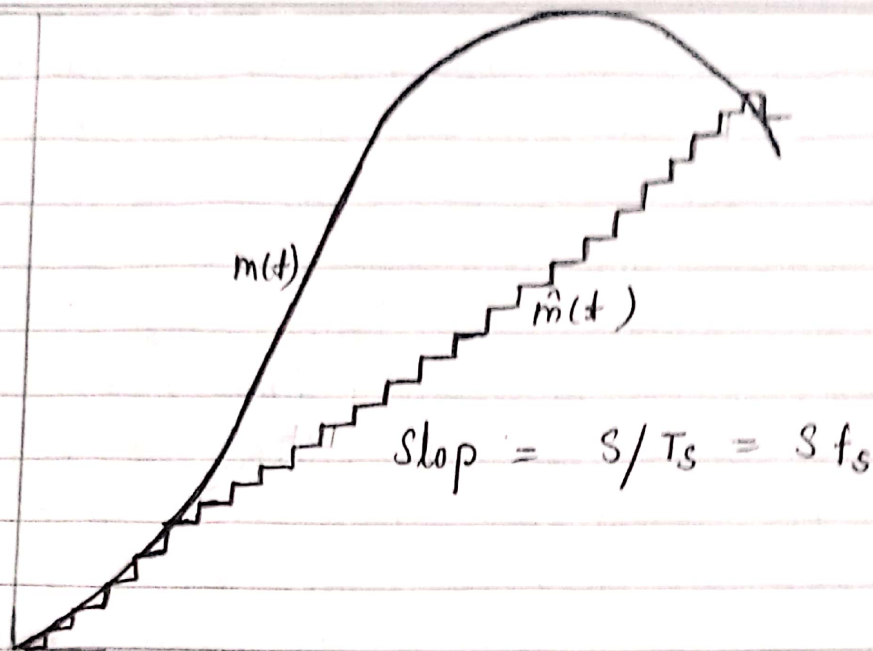


Fig. (c) Illustrating the "Start-up" response in delta modulation and the "hunting" of $\hat{m}(t)$ about $m(t)$.

The limited ability of delta modulation is described in fig.



fig(d) Slope overload in the linear DM.

Here we have a signal $m(t)$ which over an extended time exhibits a slope which is so large that o/p $\hat{m}(t)$ can not keep up with it. The large disparity b/w $m(t)$ and $\hat{m}(t)$ is known as slope overload error.

Slope overload error occur whenever original signal has a slope larger than S/T_s where $S =$ step size and $T_s =$ sampling time. The linear form of o/p accounts for the name linear delta modulation.