

#### PIM

#### Lokalizace a odstranění příčin pasivních intermodulací v anténních systémech a jejich okolí



## Jak vznikají pasivní intermodulace

elektronické měřicí přístroje



- PIM = interference
- PIM = new frequencies generated by Tx signals at a cell site when they encounter "non-linear" junctions in the RF path
- PIM falling in an operator's uplink can elevate the noise floor:
  - Dropped calls
    Access failures
    Slower data rates

## Co je nelinearita



Linear junctions



- Current increases linearly with applied voltage
- High pressure, metal-to-metal contacts
- Welded or soldered connections.

Non-Linear junctions

- Current does not increase linearly with voltage
- Low pressure, metal-to-metal contacts
- Oxide layers on metal surfaces
- Arcing across small air gaps or cracks





## Nelinearity v anténních systémech



Metal flakes inside connector

Touching inner conductor

Touching outer conductor

## Nelinearity v anténních systémech elektronické měřicí přístroje



Connectors only hand tightened

Must be torqued with at torque wrench

## Nelinearity v anténních systémech



Rusty mounting brackets

Metal objects in front of antennas

## Nelinearity v anténních systémech





Antennas flush mounted to ceiling **External PIM Sources** 

- Fire suppression pipes
- Air handling ductwork
- Metal hangers
- Lighting fixtures
- Ceiling tile frames
- Etc., etc., etc.



## Měření spektrálním analyzátorem





#### Amplituda PIM



- Low order IM products (IM3 & IM5) are higher magnitude than high order products (IM7, IM9, etc)
- Higher magnitude = more likely to cause interference
- Does not mean IM7, IM9, etc. are never a problem... just less likely







- PIM bandwidth increases as carrier bandwidth increases
- PIM bandwidth increase with PIM order



#### Jak odstranit nelinearity



Improving linearity reduces PIM

- Loose RF connector
- Metal flakes in connectors
- Braided cables
- Antenna near PIM source



- Tight RF connector
- Connectors clean
- Corrugated cables
- Antenna re-located



## Jak se nelinearita změří



- With a PIM tester!
- Inject two CW test signals at a known magnitude
- Measure 3rd order intermodulation product (IM3)
- IM3 "characterizes" the linearity of the system
  - If IM3 is low = linearity is good
  - If IM3 is high = linearity is poor



elektronické měřicí přístroje

**PIM** tester

- Take good care of your equipment
- Verify PIM performance daily before use
- Test equipment PIM must be 10 dB lower than the system you will test

Example:

Customer spec: <-140 dBc (<-97 dBm)

Test equipment: <-150 dBc (<-107 dBm)





- PIM level increases as power increases
- IM3 typically increases is 2.2 to 2.8 dB for each 1 dB increase in power
- Different PIM sources behave differently
- PIM vs. Power shown above for PIM standard, jumper cable & antenna



#### PIM Master – wifi ovládání





- Control PIM Master using web browser software on Wi-Fi enabled device (tablet, phone, laptop PC)
- Safari 6, Internet Explorer 10, Chrome 30, FireFox 23 (or later)
- Firmware v1.15 (or greater)
- ZyXEL MWR102 router (or equiv.)
- Range: >100m (328FT) line-of-site

See Application Note 11410-00784 for step-by-step instructions





- F1 and F2 fixed
- PIM magnitude vs. time
- Visual indication of PIM stability
- Peak PIM held for Pass/Fail
- Used for dynamic PIM testing







# Šumové pozadí – první test



- Measures IM frequency with transmitters turned OFF
- Verify no external interference
- If interference:
  - Turn off all cell phones
  - Change test frequencies



## Posun mimo oblast citlivosti



- F2 moved 6.5 MHz
- Noise reduced 60 dB





#### Rozmítané měření PIM

Multiple PIM signals on a line combining in and out of phase



- F1 fixed, F2 swept
- F2 fixed, F1 swept
- PIM magnitude vs. frequency
- Shows worst case PIM level
- 30 dB variation due to phasing!



#### DTP – Distance to PIM



- F1 fixed, F2 swept
- PIM magnitude vs. distance
- The fastest way to locate PIM
- See PIM beyond the antenna
- 6 markers + marker table



## Překrytí DTP náměrů



- Compare two DTP measurements
- Automatically displays distance between peaks
- Useful for:
  - Showing "before" & "after" results
  - Identifying PIM beyond the antenna
- Saving the measurement keeps both traces for reports



#### Kovová vata jako marker







Steel wool as "PIM marker"

- Green trace = DTP with steel wool on antenna radome
- Yellow trace = DTP with steel wool removed
- Both peaks occur at the same location ( $\Delta$  distance = 0 ft)
- PIM source is at the antenna aperture
- The antenna is bad



## DTP / DTP překrytí



- Compare DTP to previously recorded DTF measurement
- PIM often occurs at RF connections
- DTF provides a "map" showing connector locations
- Use high resolution DTF to help identify PIM location.



#### Kalibrace přístroje





#### Krok 1 – zahřátí





MW82119A - Warm-up

- Turn on MW82119A
- Warm-up 10 minutes before calibration
- New calibration required after 20°C temp change

Warm-up

## Nepodceňujte čistotu





- Clean RF connectors with alcohol wipe
- Push wipe with non-metallic stick
- Remove all metal flakes inside connector
- Visually inspect connectors for damage



#### Kontrola nastavení



SHIFT <6>

- Previous test settings remain active until changed
- Set-up files can be saved / recalled to save time



## Kalibrace krok za krokem

#### SHIFT

<2>



#### Step 1 screen instructions

Attention
TO CALIBRATE:
1. Connect a PIM standard to TEST PORT.
2. Connect a Low PIM Termination onto the PIM Standard.
**Note** Before calibration verify: – Power Level – Test Frequencies (F1, F2) – IM Order Changing these parameters may require re-calibration.
3. Press ENTER to Calibrate or ESCAPE to Exit.

• Either PIM standard (910 or 1775 MHz) can be used for calibration





#### Kalibrace krok za krokem



#### Step 2 screen instructions

#### Attention

Remove the PIM Standard and Low PIM Termination from the TEST PORT.
 Re-connect ONLY the Low PIM Termination to the TEST PORT.

Press ENTER to Calibrate or ESCAPE to Exit.

- This step must be low PIM
- No metal flakes in connector during calibration
- Connectors must be tight for this step









- Measure PIM vs. TIME with low PIM termination attached to instrument
- Lightly tap termination with rubber end of wrench
- PIM must remain 10 dB lower than limit





#### Ověření PIM standardem



- Measure PIM standard
- Verify measurement = expected value ± 3 dB



#### Ověření měřicího kabelu



- You test lead will eventually wear out!
- Attach test lead to instrument
- Attach low PIM termination to other end
- Lightly flex cable at connectors
- PIM must remain 10 dB lower than limit
- Save results



#### Stavový diagram měřicí procedury elektronické měřicí přístroje **START** Verify Test Equipment



Sweeps

PIM vs. TIME

Repair

PIM vs. TIME

DTP

Repair

**END**