



**ENGINEERS**  
NEVER STOP LEARNING

# Signal Analysis Fundamentals

是德科技資深專案經理

蘇千翔

# Engineers Never Stop Learning

## SIGNAL ANALYSIS FUNDAMENTALS

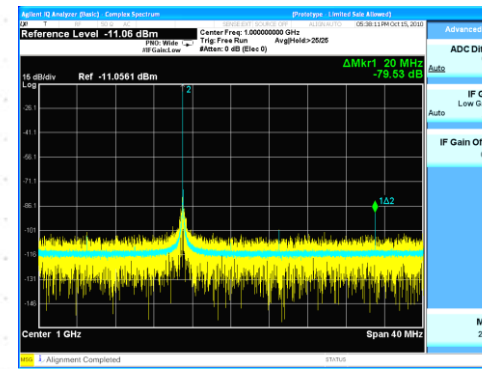
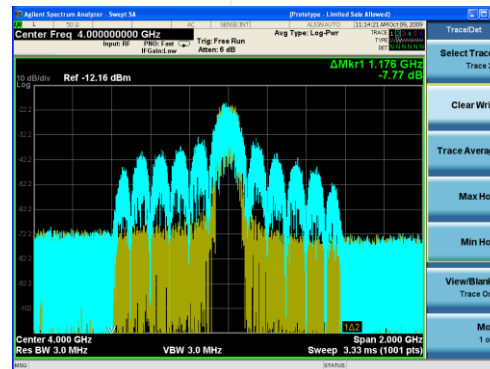
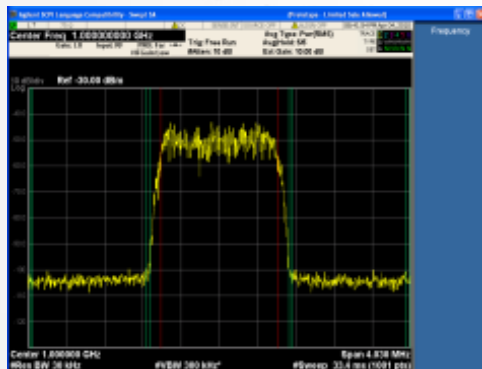
- Overview
- Theory of Operation
  - Traditional Spectrum Analyzers
  - Modern Signal Analyzers
- Specifications
- Features
- Wrap-up



# Overview

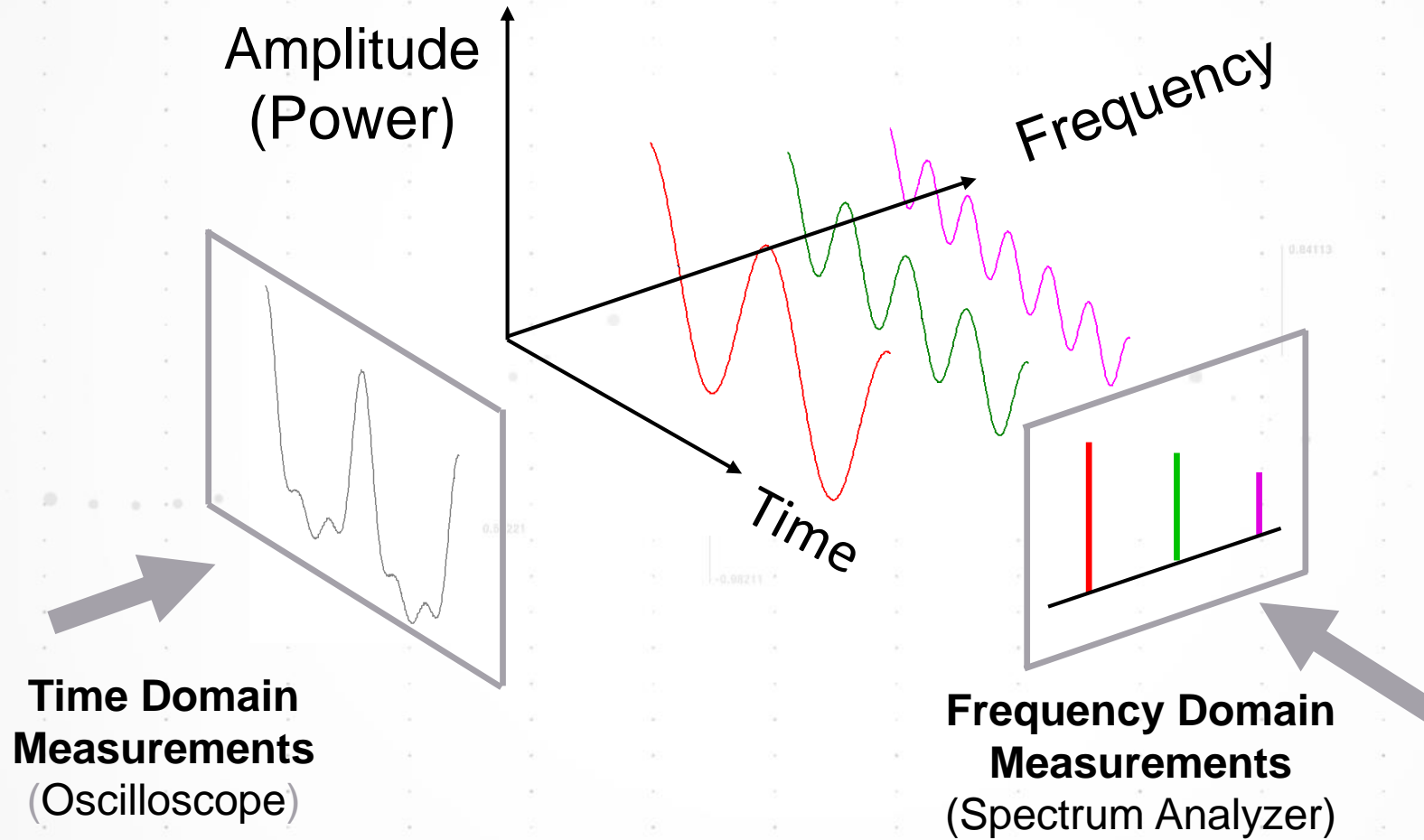
## What is Spectrum Analysis

- Passive Receiver
- Display and measure amplitude versus frequency
- Separate and resolve complex signals into their base components (sine waves)



# Overview

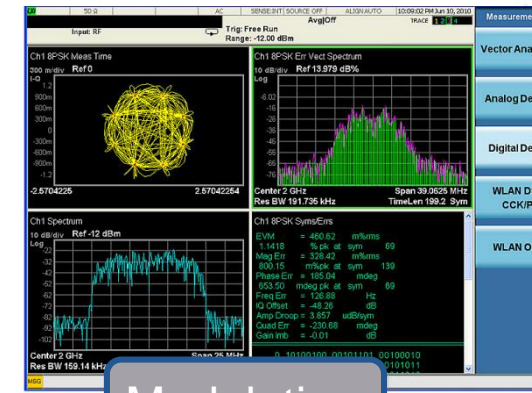
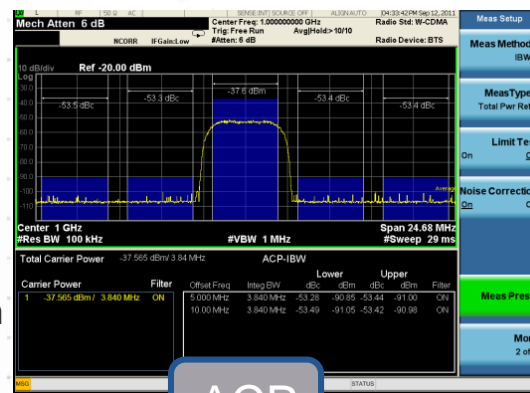
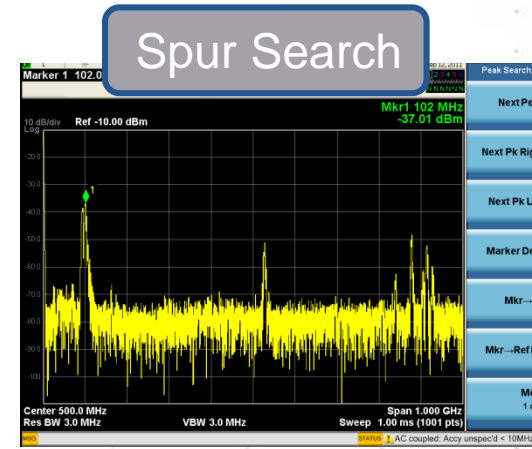
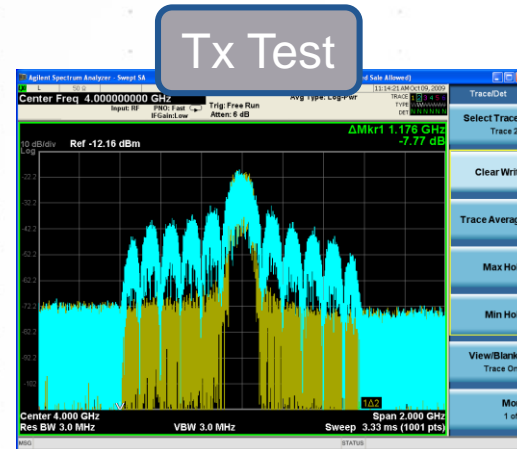
## Time-Domain vs Frequency-Domain



# Overview

## Many Measurements

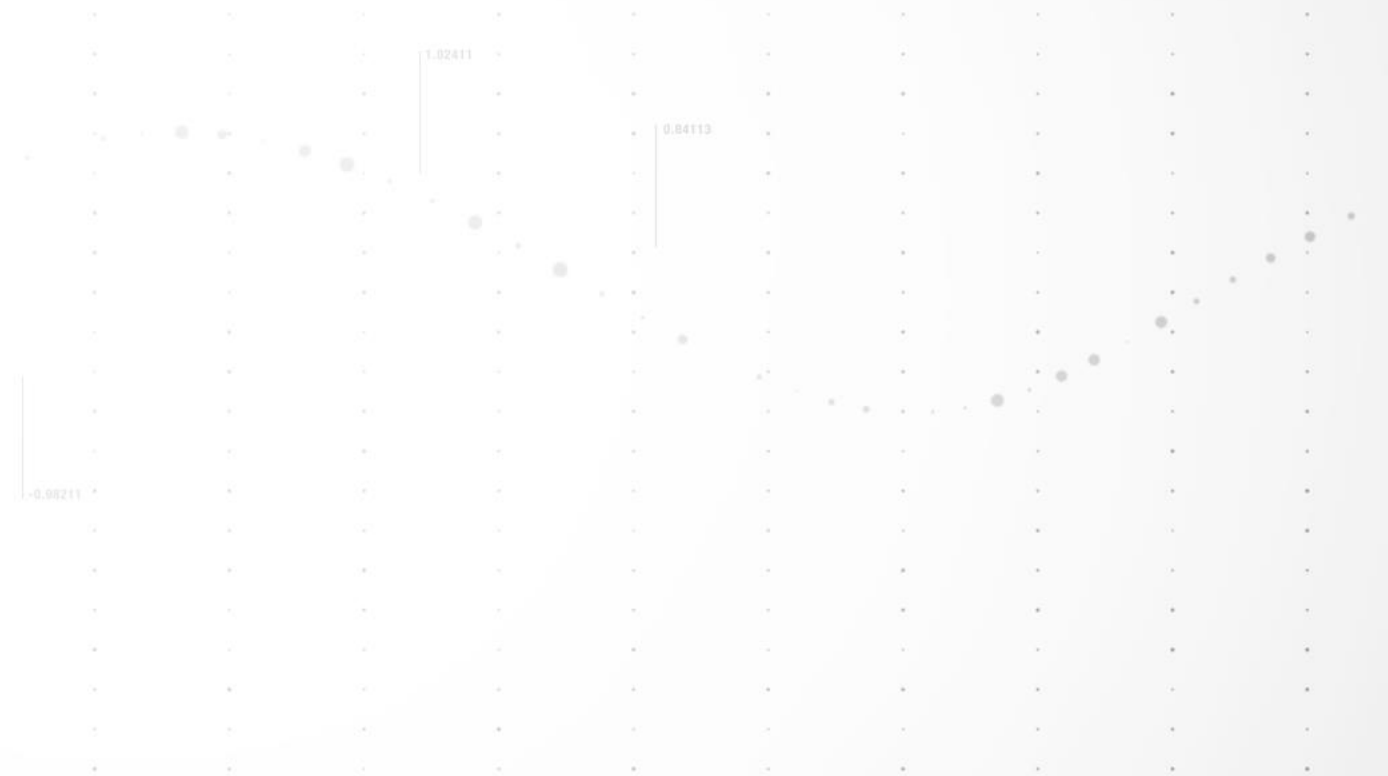
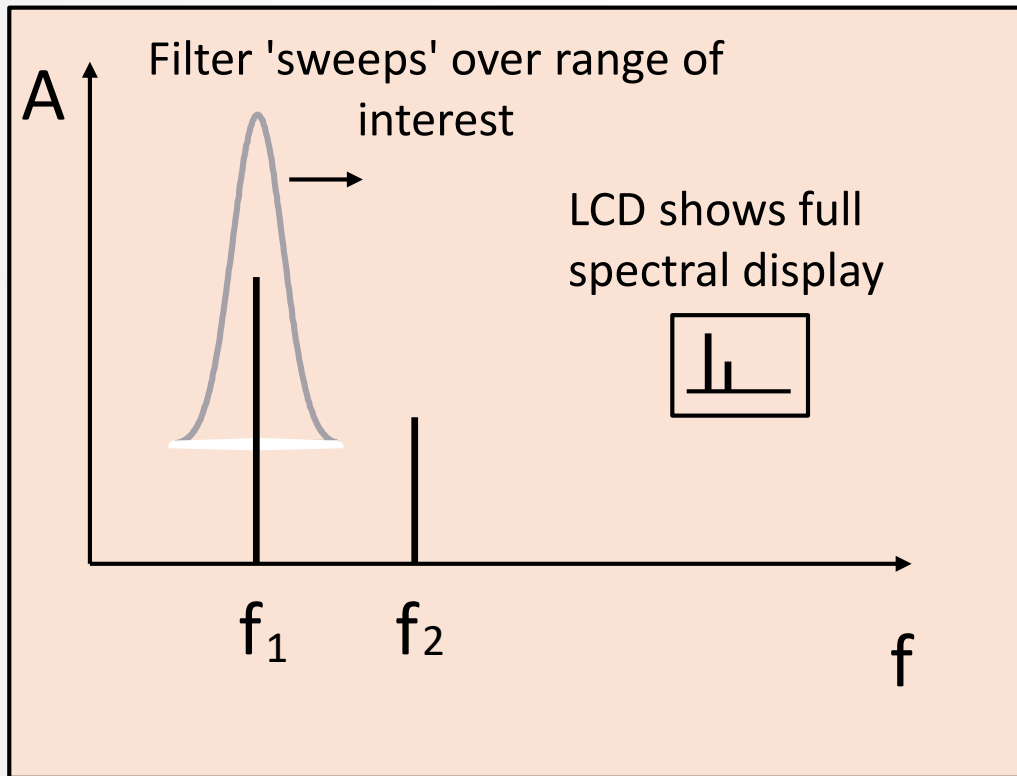
- Frequency, power, modulation, distortion, and noise
  - Transmitter test
  - Spectrum monitoring
  - Spurious emissions
  - Harmonic & intermodulation distortion
  - Noise figure & phase noise
  - Electromagnetic interference
  - Analog, digital, burst, & pulsed RF modulation
  - Wide bandwidth vector analysis
- Measurement range: -172 dBm to +30 dBm
- Frequency range: 3 Hz to 1.1 THz



# Overview

## Different Types of Analyzers

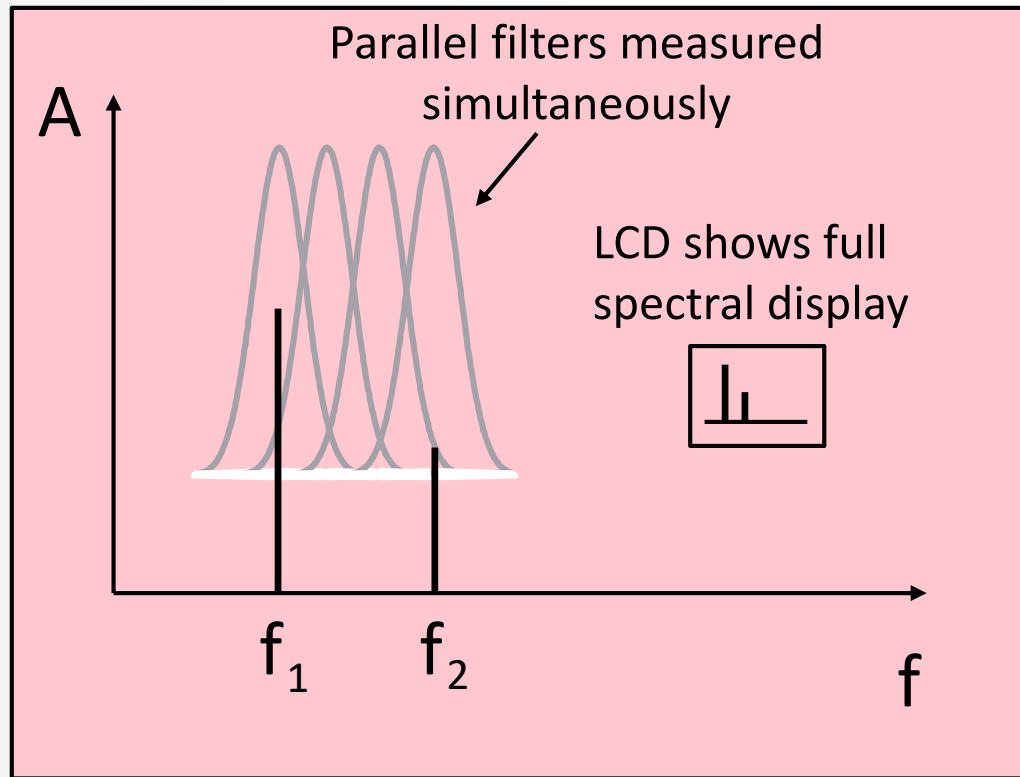
### Swept Analyzer



# Overview

## Different Types of Analyzers

### FFT Analyzer





# Analyzer Definitions

- **Spectrum Analyzer:** A spectrum analyzer measures the magnitude of an input signal versus frequency within the full frequency range of the instrument. The primary use is to display and measure Amplitude vs. Frequency of known and unknown RF and Microwave signals.





# Analyzer Definitions

- **Vector Signal Analyzer:** A vector signal analyzer measures the magnitude and phase of an input signal at a single frequency within the IF bandwidth of the instrument. The primary use is to make in-channel measurements, such as error vector magnitude, code domain power, and spectral flatness, on known signals.



# Analyzer Definitions

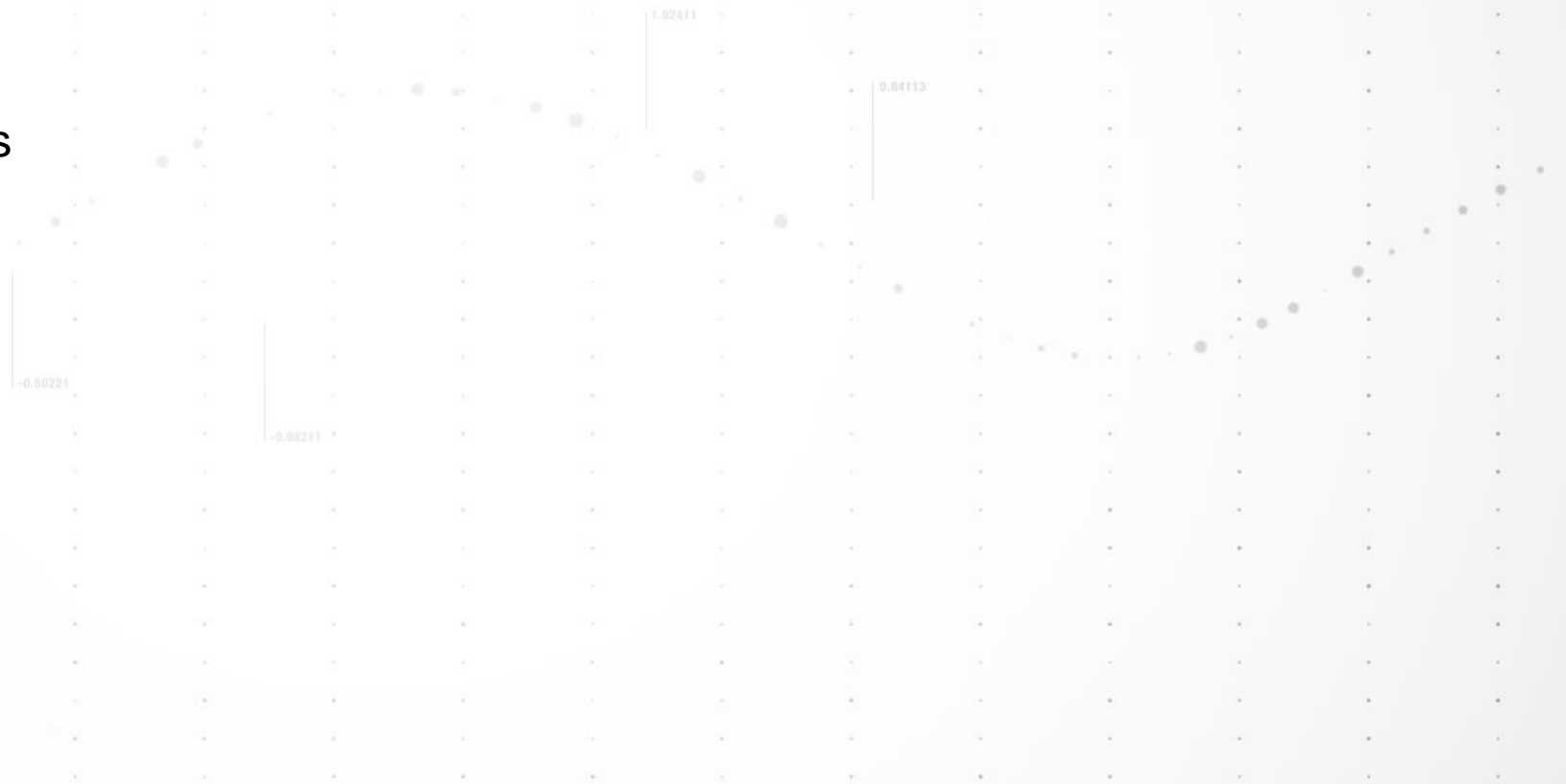
- **Signal Analyzer:** A signal analyzer provides the functions of a spectrum analyzer and a vector signal analyzer.



# Engineers Never Stop Learning

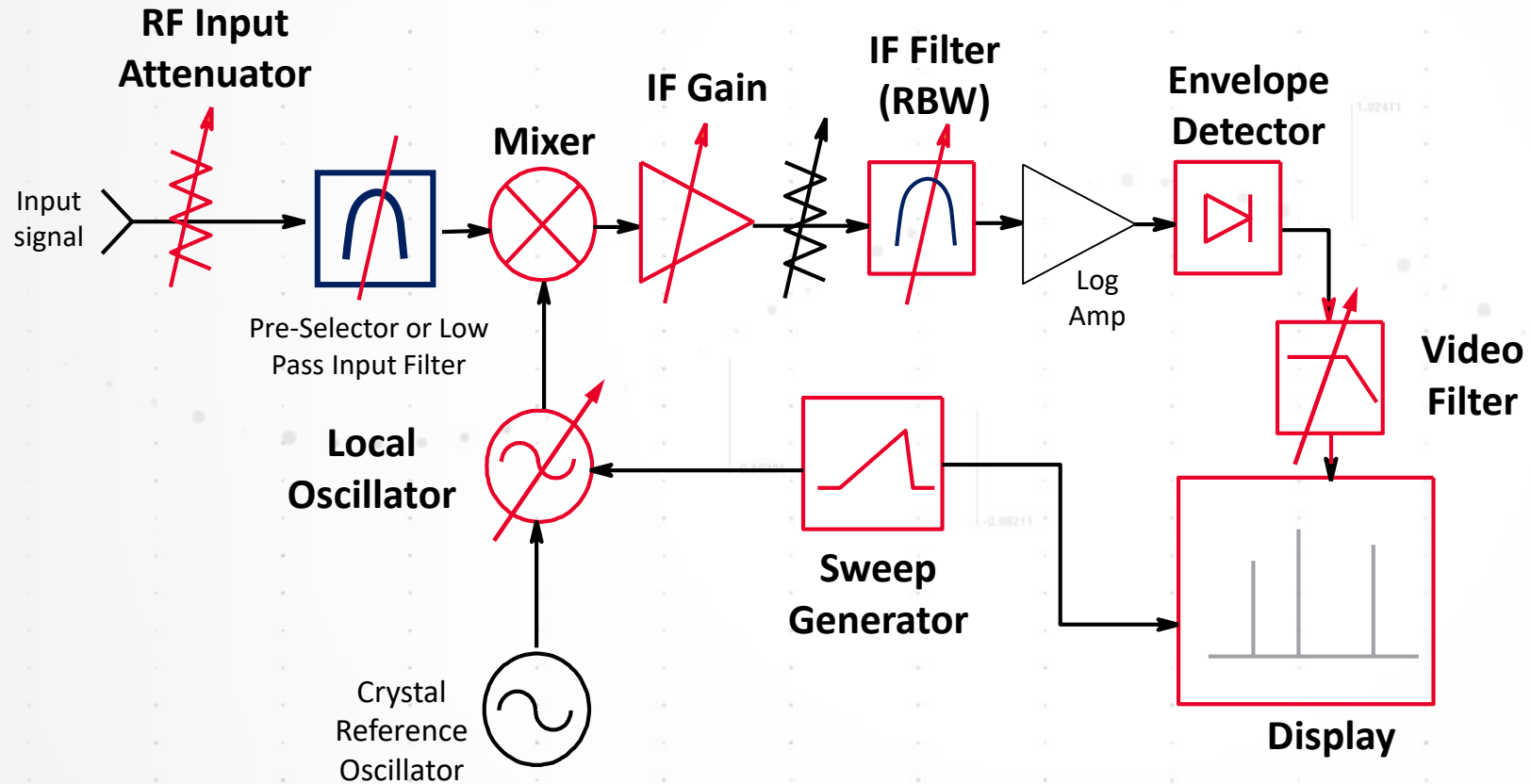
## SIGNAL ANALYSIS FUNDAMENTALS

- Overview
- Theory of Operation
  - Traditional Spectrum Analyzers
  - Modern Signal Analyzers
- Specifications
- Features
- Wrap-up



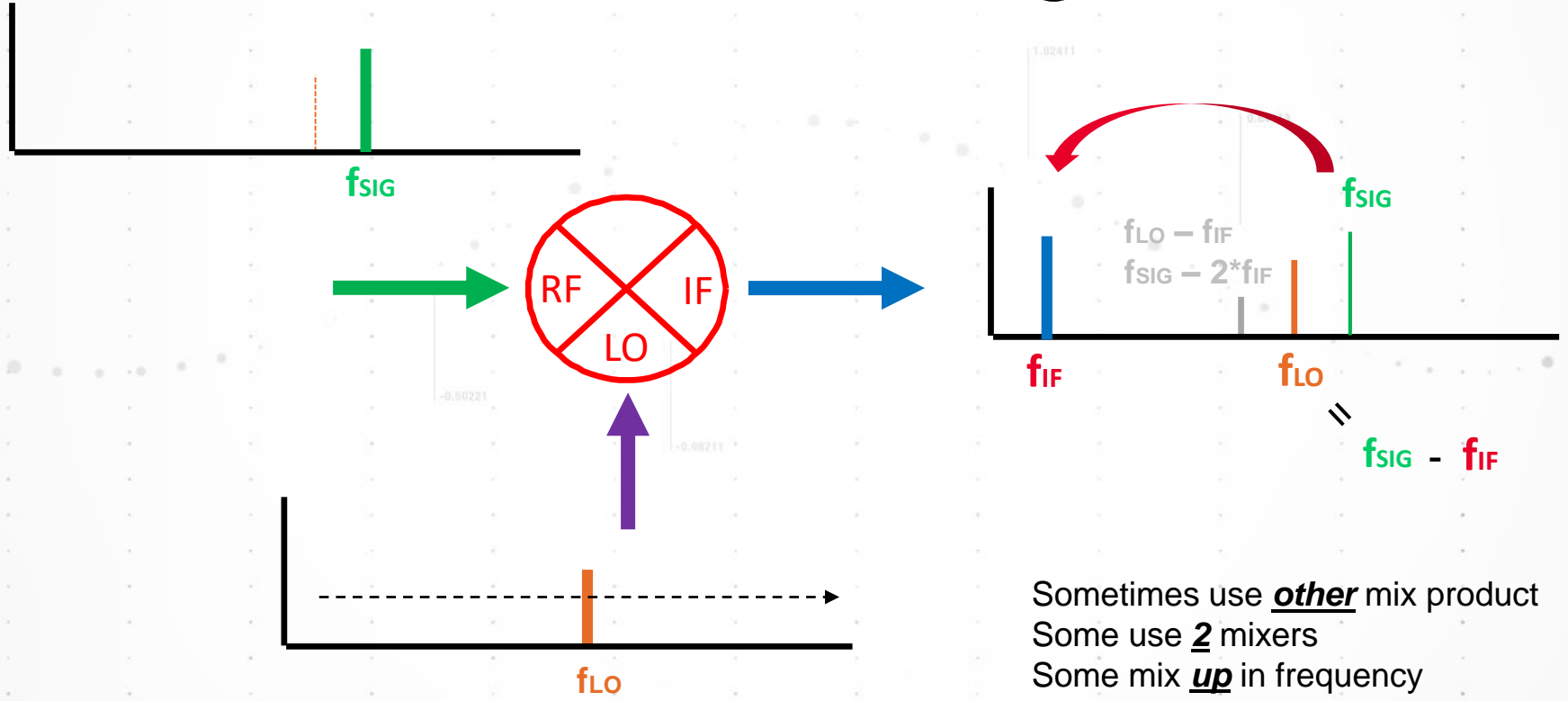
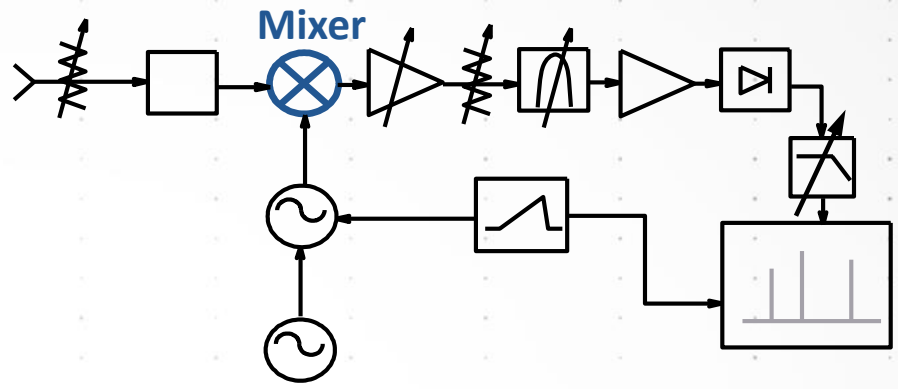
# Theory of Operation

## SWEPT SPECTRUM ANALYZER BLOCK DIAGRAM



# Theory of Operation

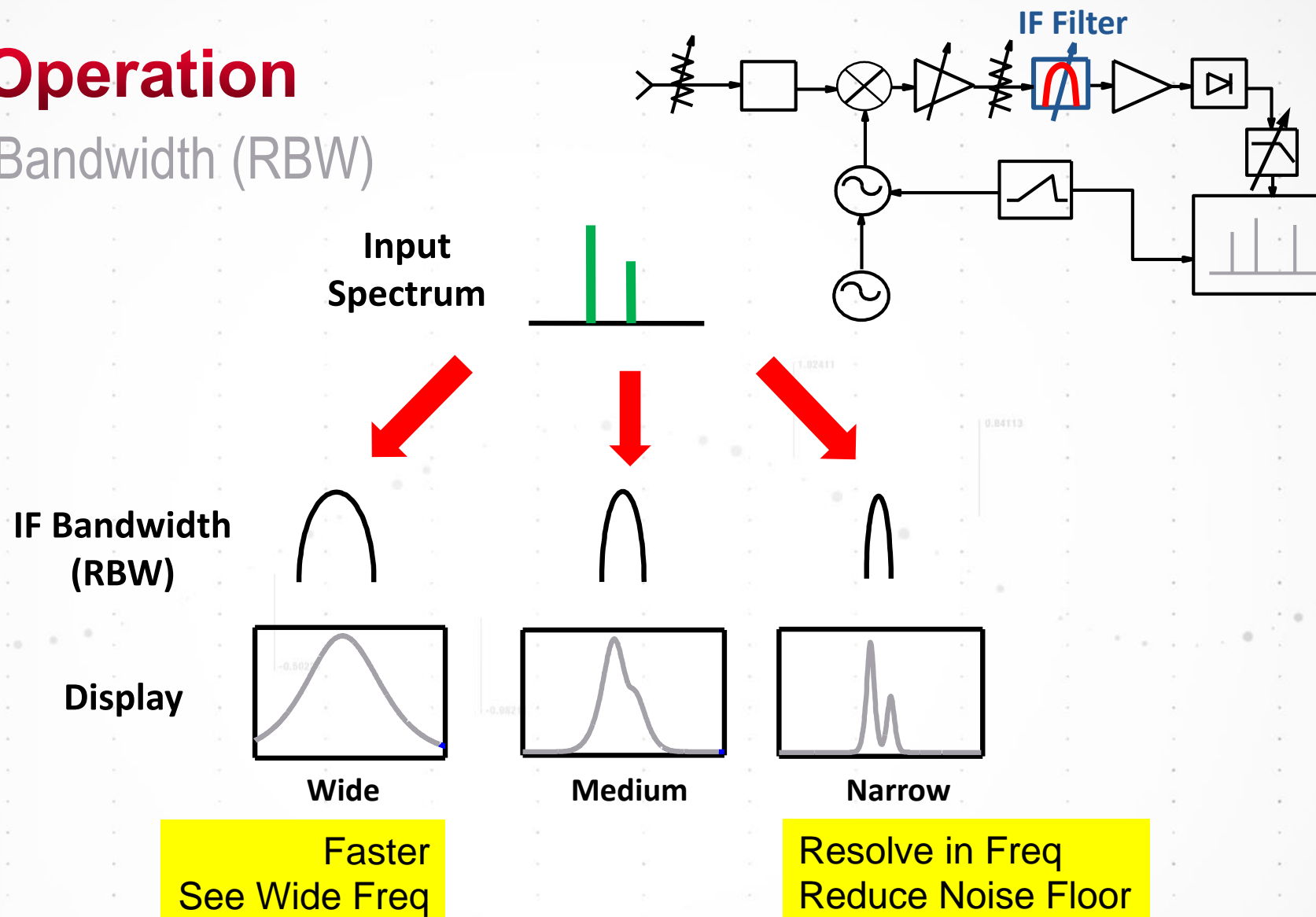
Mixer



Sometimes use **other** mix product  
 Some use **2** mixers  
 Some mix **up** in frequency

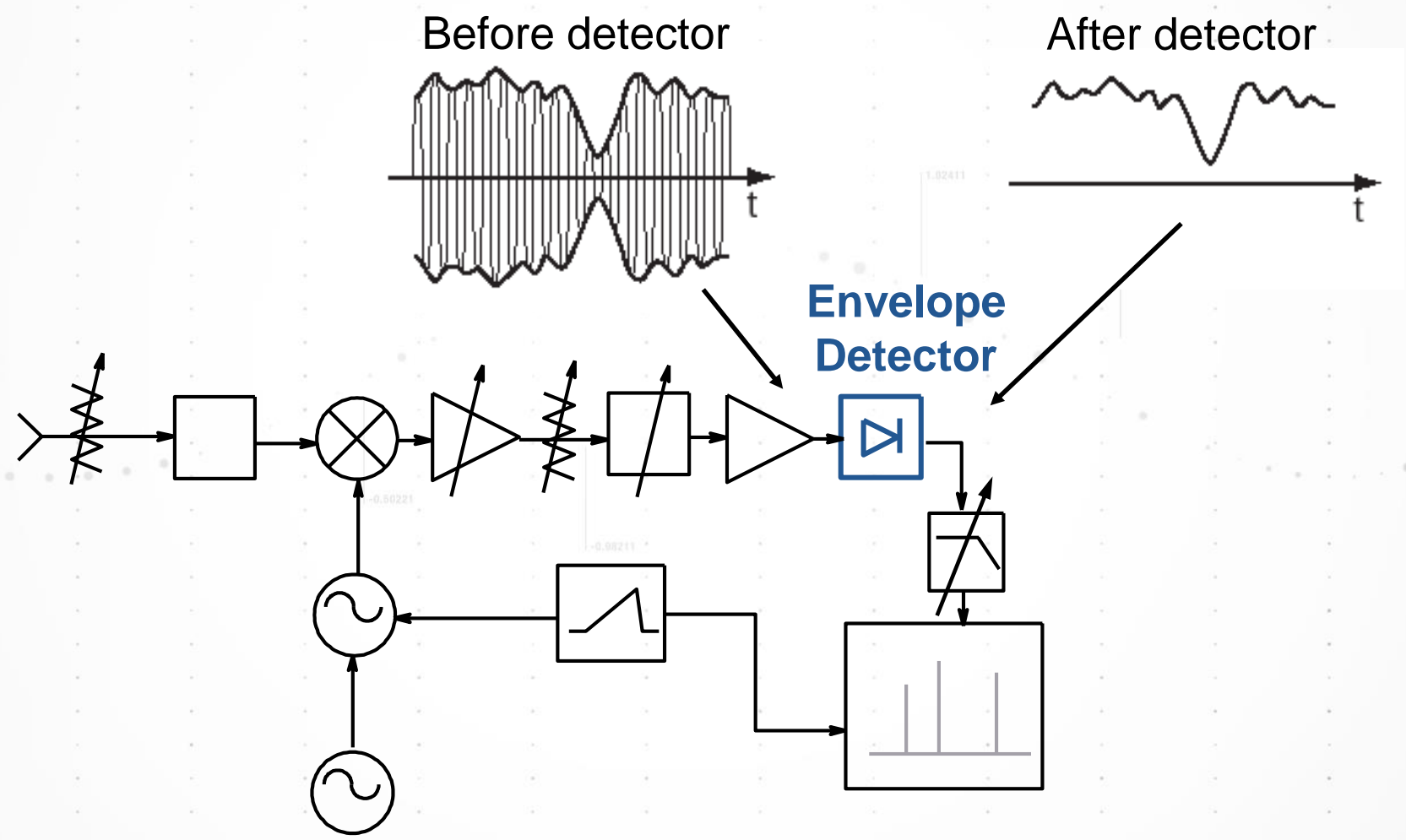
# Theory of Operation

## Resolution Bandwidth (RBW)



# Theory of Operation

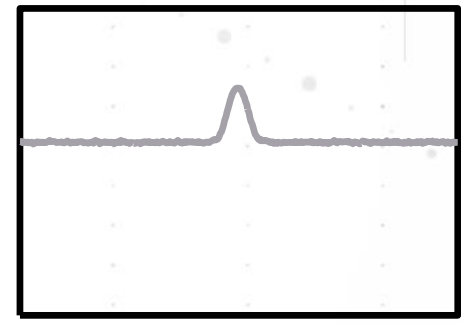
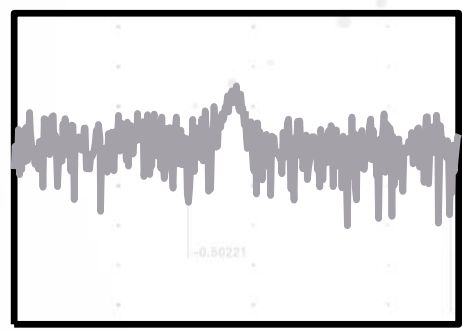
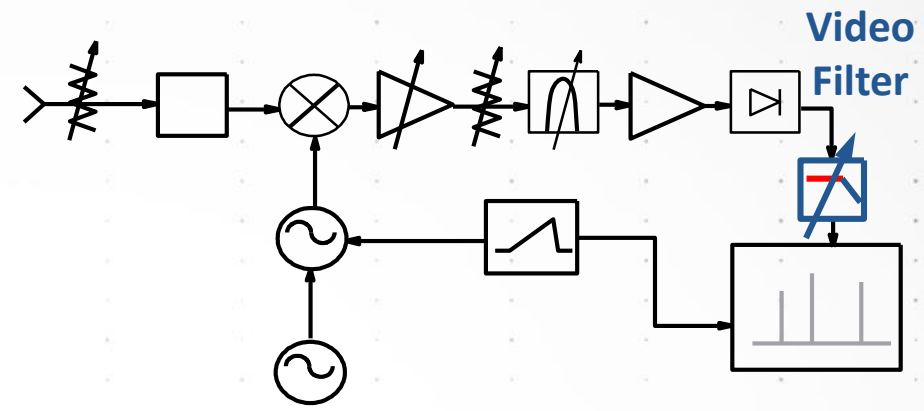
## Detector



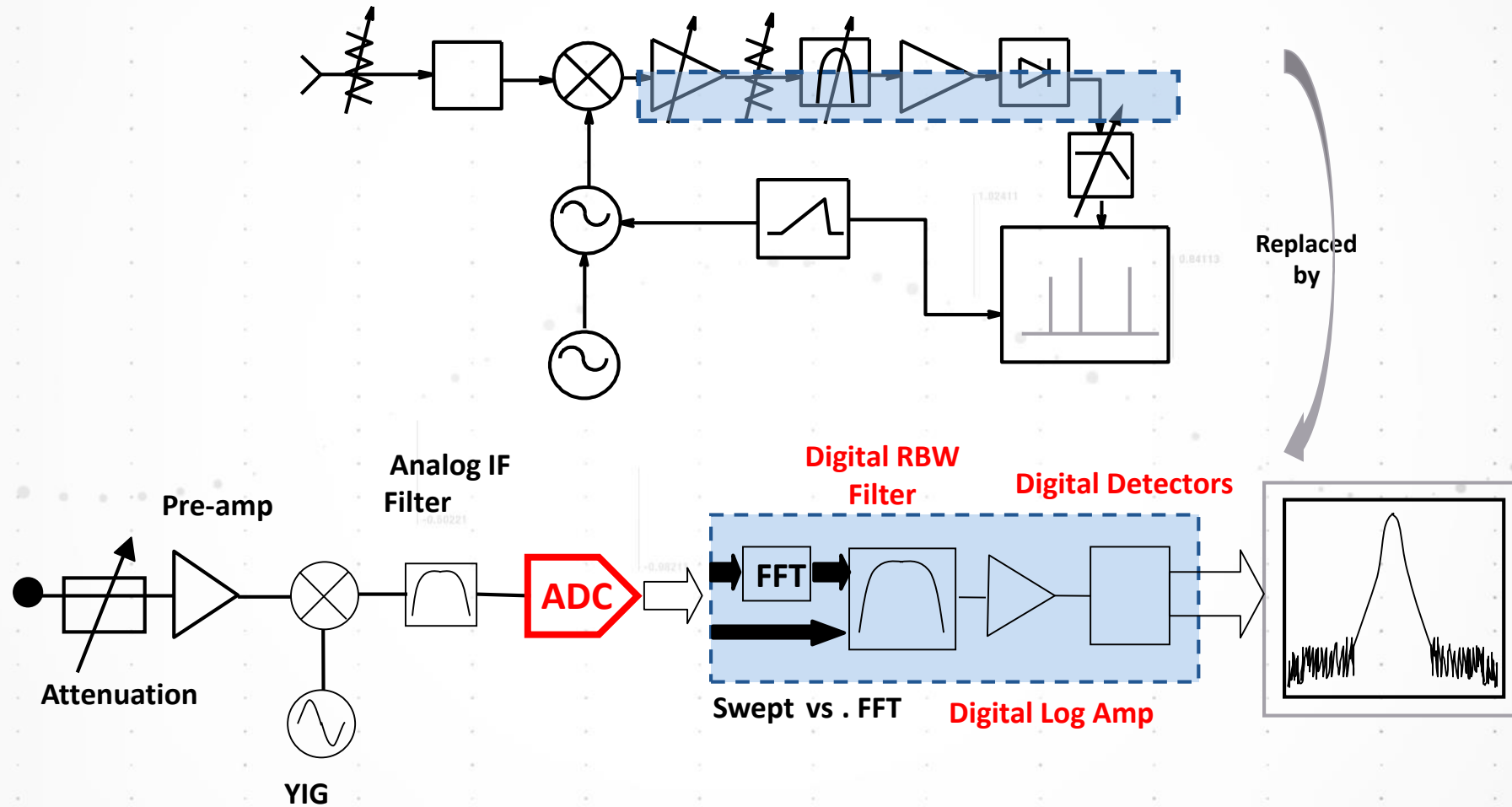


# Theory of Operation

Video Bandwidth (VBW)

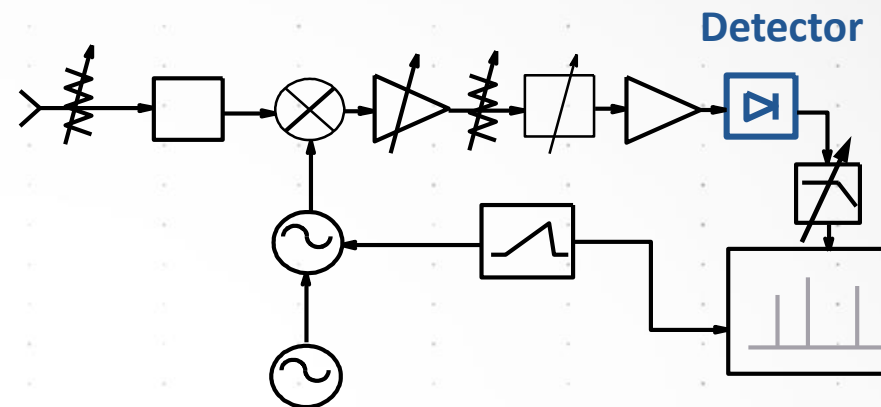


# Modern Digital IF

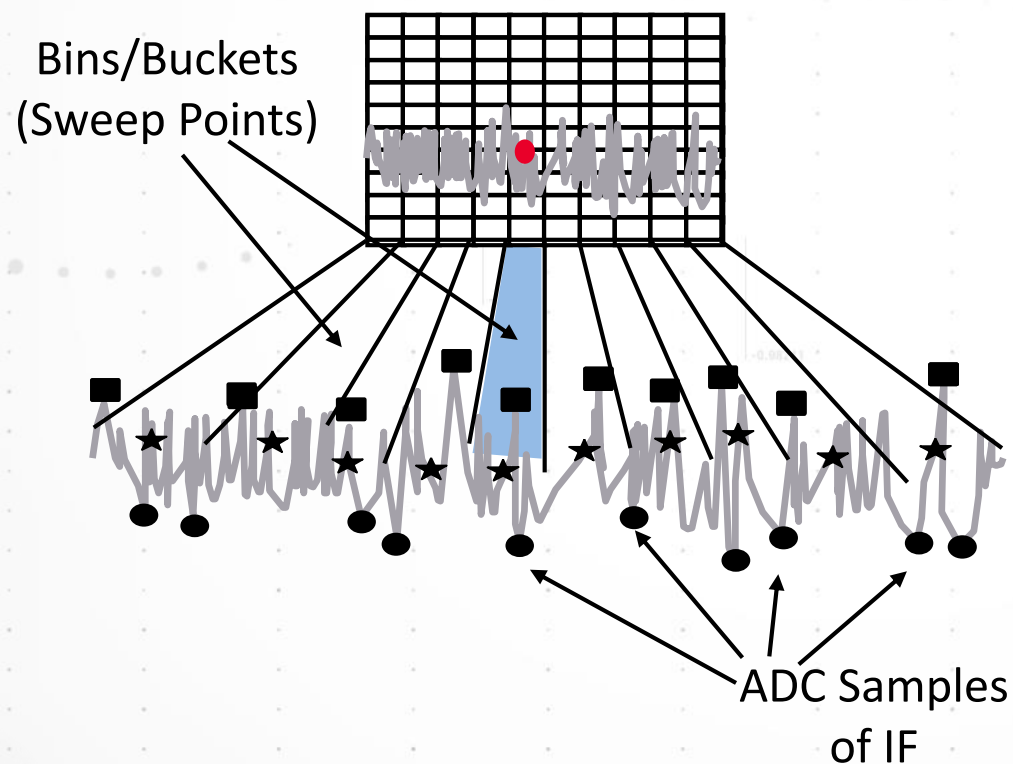


# Modern Digital IF

## Detection Types



## Digitally Implemented Detector Types



■ **Positive:** largest sample in bin displayed

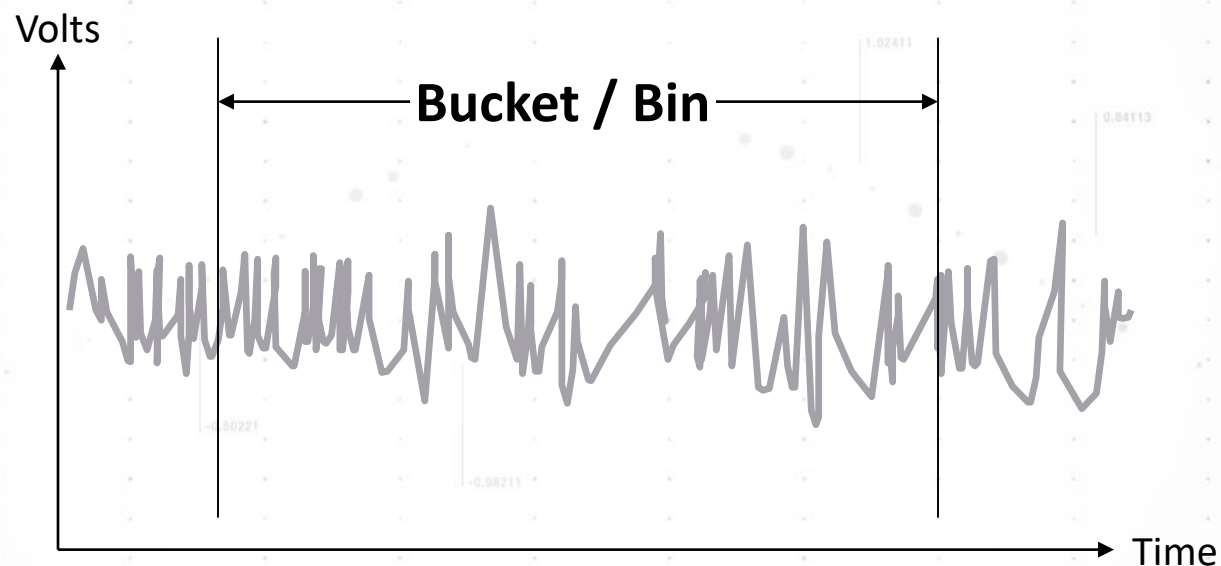
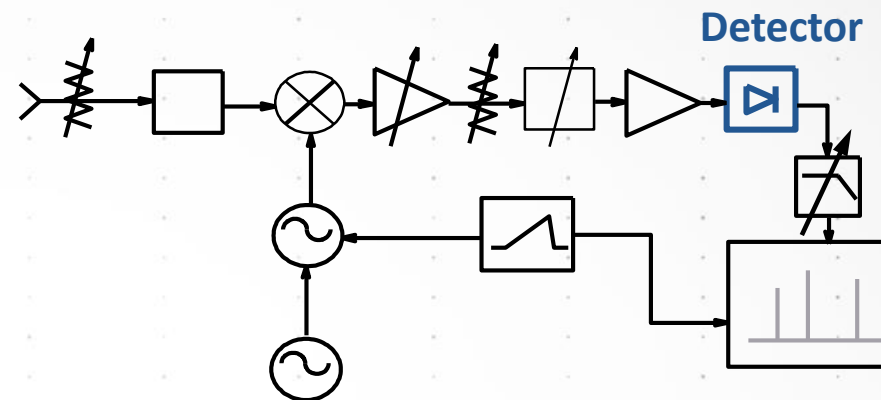
● **Negative:** smallest sample in bin displayed

★ **Sample:** middle sample in bin displayed

**Normal** (“Rosenfell”): selects sample to display using algorithm that treats noise and signals differently

# Modern Digital IF

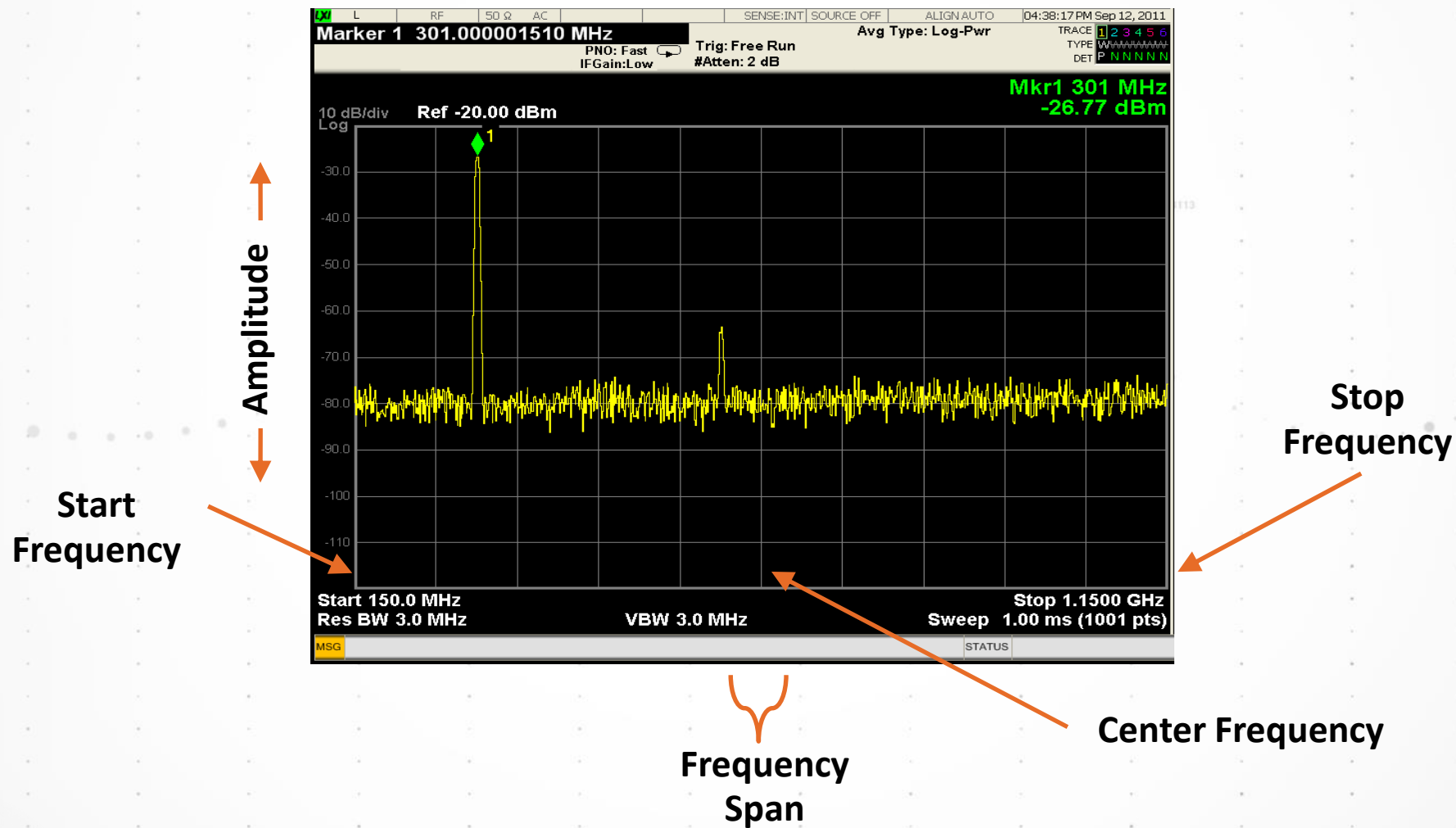
Average Detector Type



**Power Average Detector (RMS):** Square-root of the sum of the squares of **ALL** samples in the bin, expressed as power in  $50\Omega$

# Theory of Operation

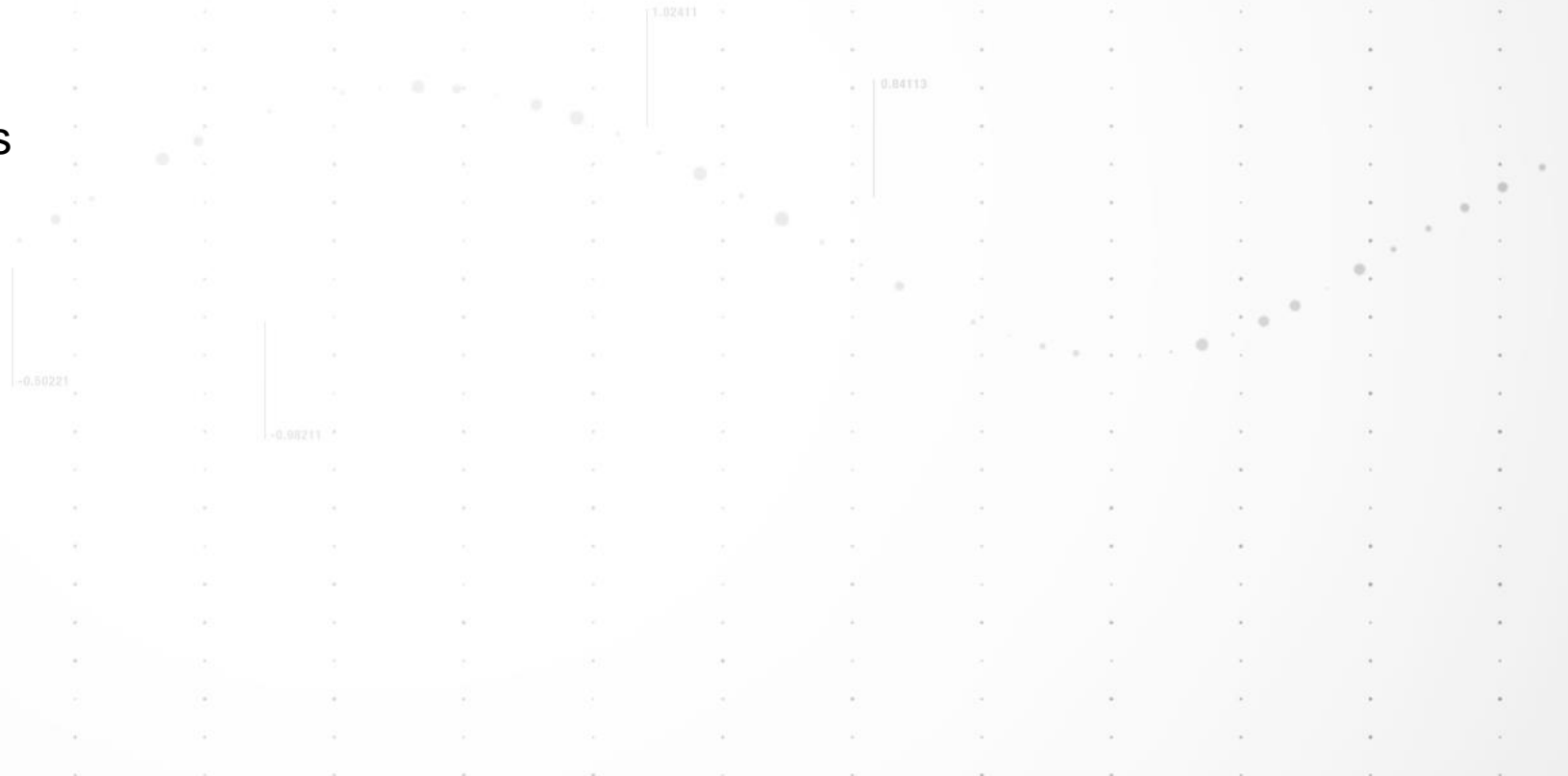
## Display Terminology



# Engineers Never Stop Learning

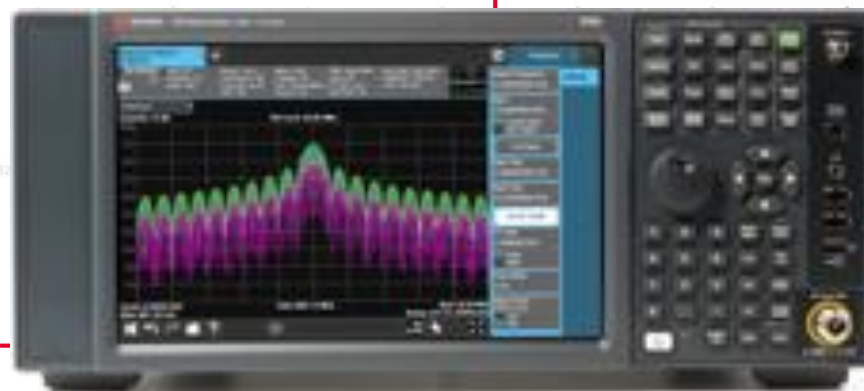
## SIGNAL ANALYSIS FUNDAMENTALS

- Overview
- Theory of Operation
  - Traditional Spectrum Analyzers
  - Modern Signal Analyzers
- **Specifications**
- Features
- Wrap-up



# Key Specifications

- Safe spectrum analysis
- Frequency Range
- Accuracy: Frequency & Amplitude
- Resolution
- Sensitivity
- Distortion
- Dynamic Range





# Specifications

## Accuracy: Frequency Readout Accuracy

Frequency Readout Accuracy =

$$\pm [(\text{Marker Frequency} \times \text{Frequency Reference Accuracy}) + (\text{0.1\%} \times \text{Span}) + (\text{5\%} \times \text{RBW}) + 2\text{Hz} + (\text{0.5} \times \text{Horizontal Resolution})]$$

$$= \pm [(\text{time since last adjustment} \times \text{aging rate}) + \text{temperature stability} + \text{calibration accuracy}] = 1.55 \times 10^{-7} / \text{year}$$

$$= \text{span} / (\text{sweep points} - 1)$$

**Example:** 1 GHz Marker Frequency, 400 kHz Span, 3 kHz RBW, 1000 Sweep Points

$$\text{Calculation: } (1 \times 10^9 \text{ Hz}) \times (\pm 1.55 \times 10^{-7} / \text{Year}) = 155 \text{ Hz}$$

$$400 \text{ kHz Span} \times 0.1\% = 400 \text{ Hz}$$

$$3 \text{ kHz RBW} \times 5\% = 150 \text{ Hz}$$

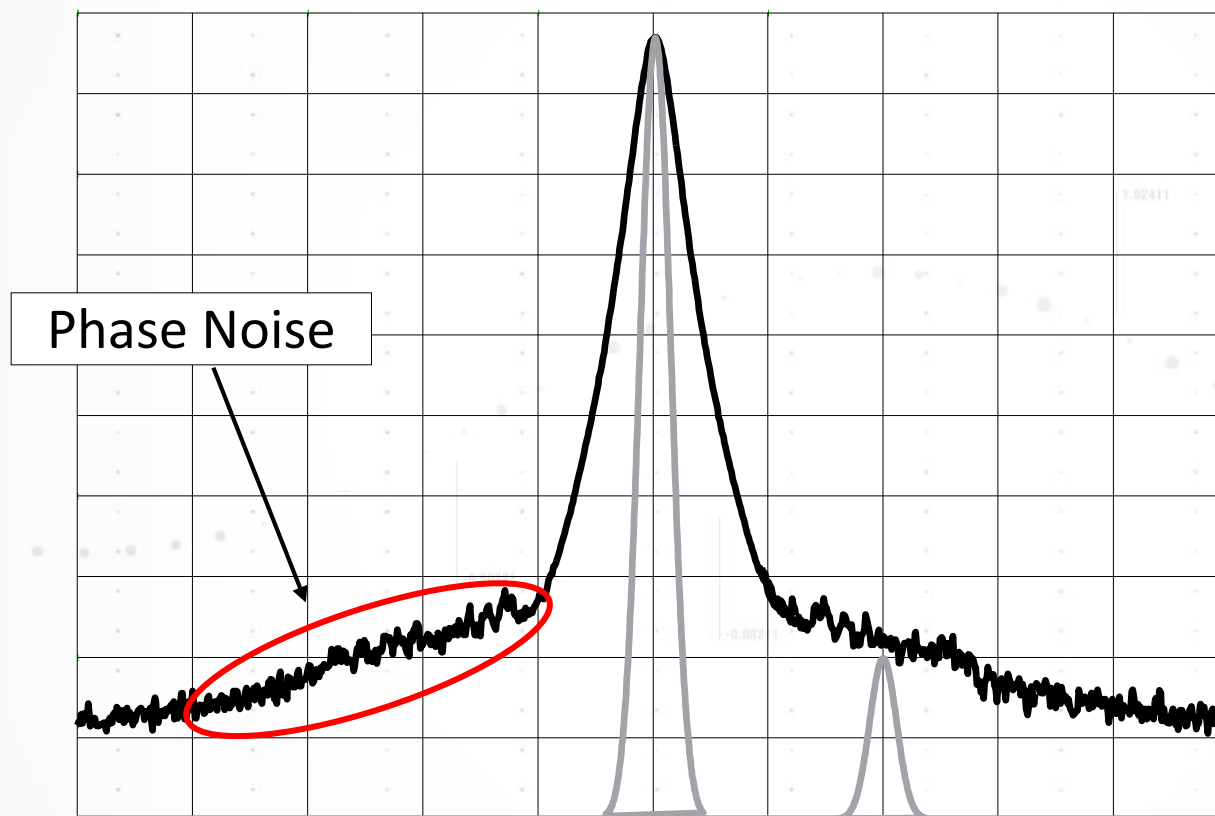
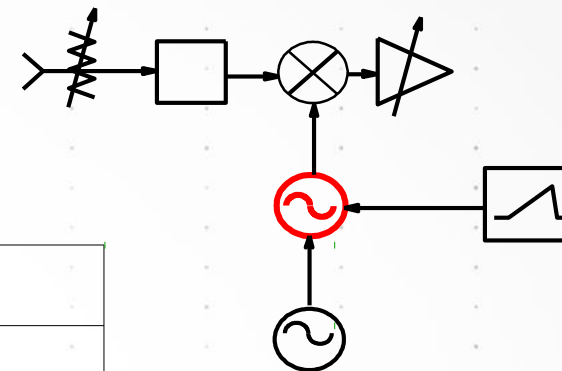
$$2 \text{ Hz} + 0.5 \times 400 \text{ kHz} / (1000 - 1) = 202 \text{ Hz}$$

$$\text{Total uncertainty} = \pm 907 \text{ Hz}$$

- Utilizing internal frequency counter improves accuracy to  $\pm 155$  Hz
- The maximum number of sweep points for the X-Series Analyzers is 40,001 which helps to achieve the best frequency readout accuracy

# Specifications

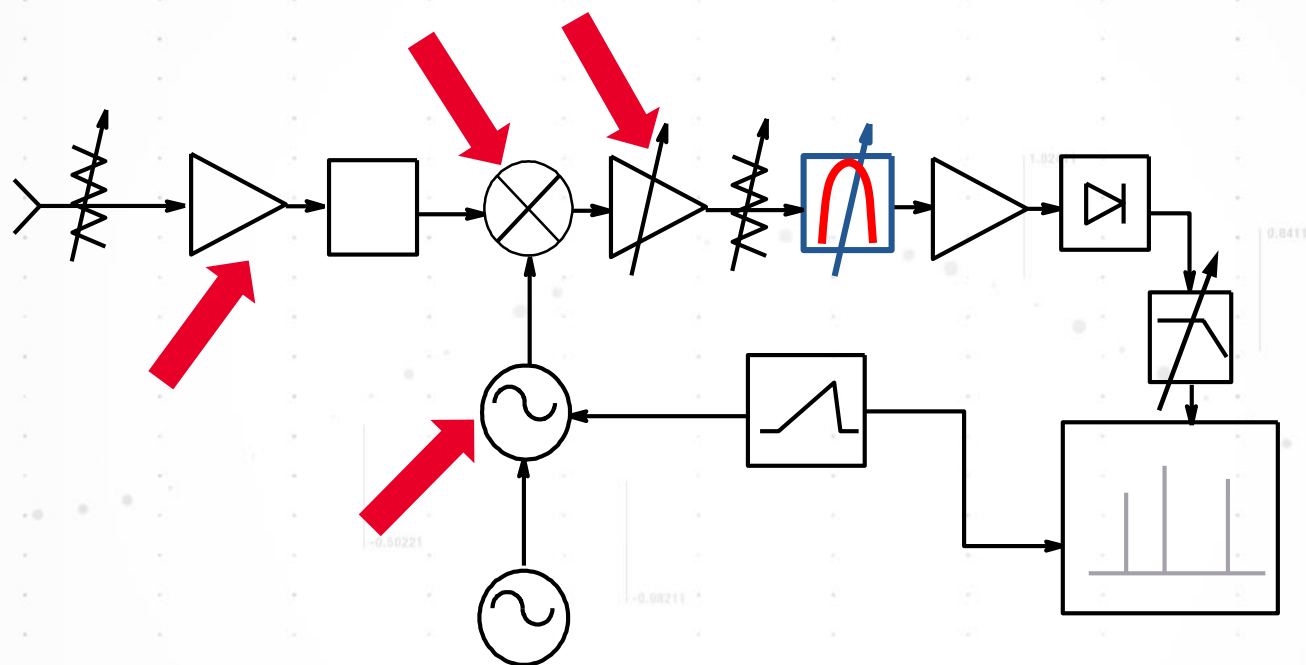
## Phase Noise or Noise Sidebands



Noise sidebands can prevent resolution of unequal signals.

# Specifications

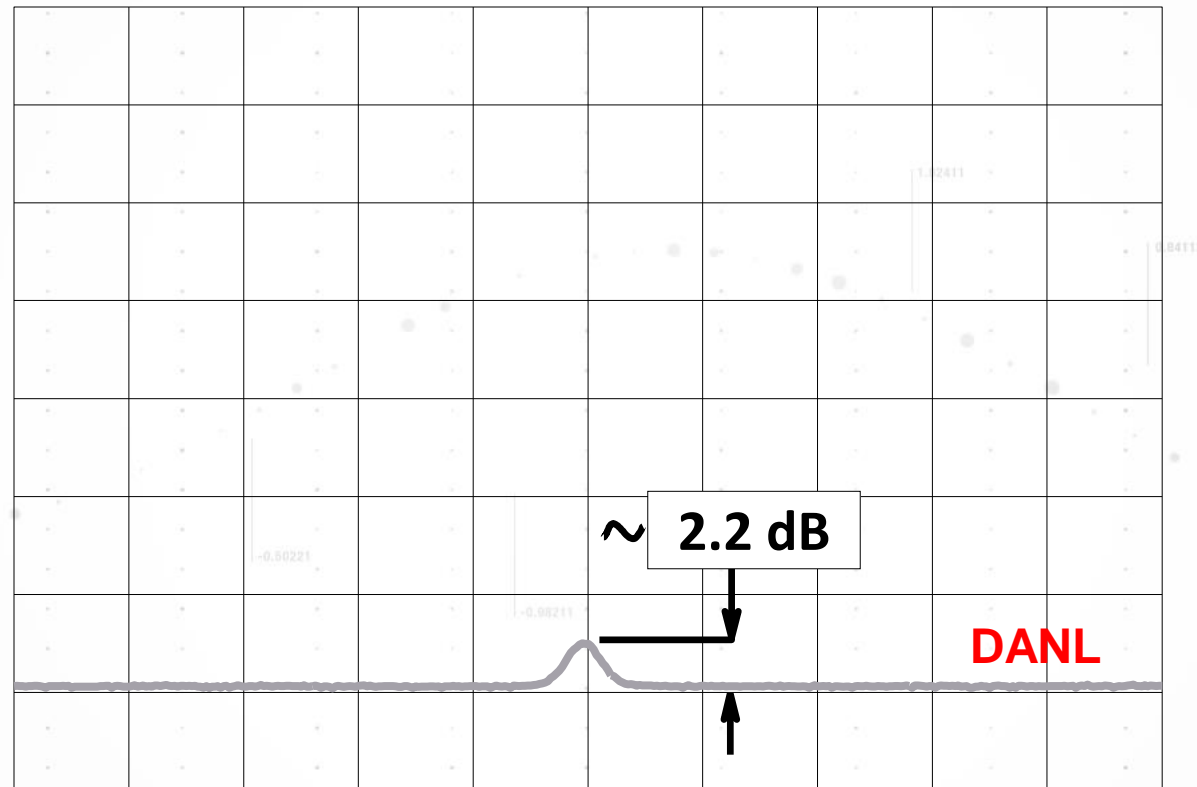
## Sensitivity



All active electronic circuits generate noise – including spectrum analyzers.

# Specifications

## Sensitivity



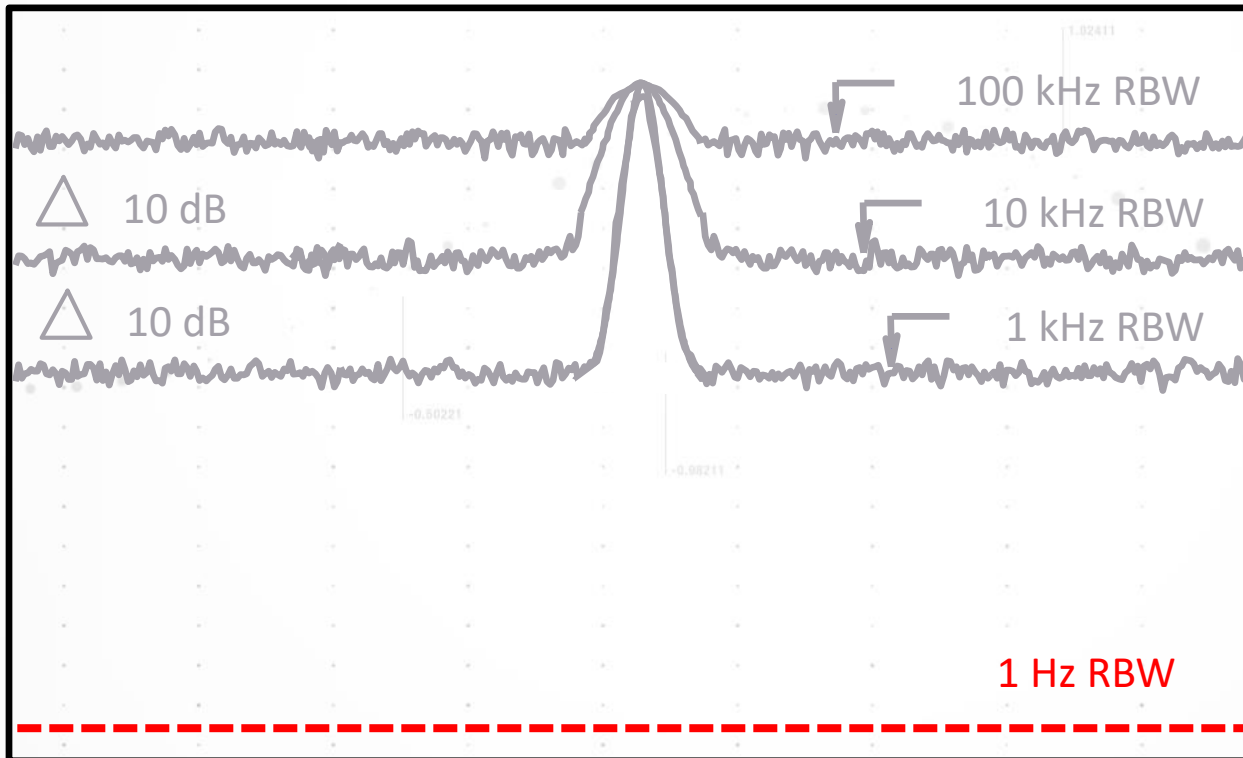
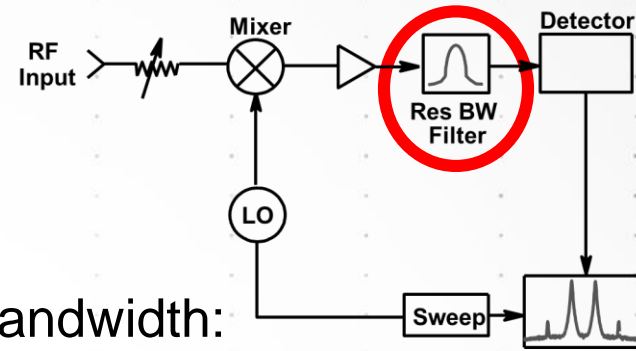
Displayed  
Average  
Noise  
Level

Sensitivity is the smallest signal that can be measured.

# Specifications

Sensitivity/DANL: RBW Filter

Displayed noise is a function of RBW filter bandwidth:  
noise decreases as bandwidth decreases.

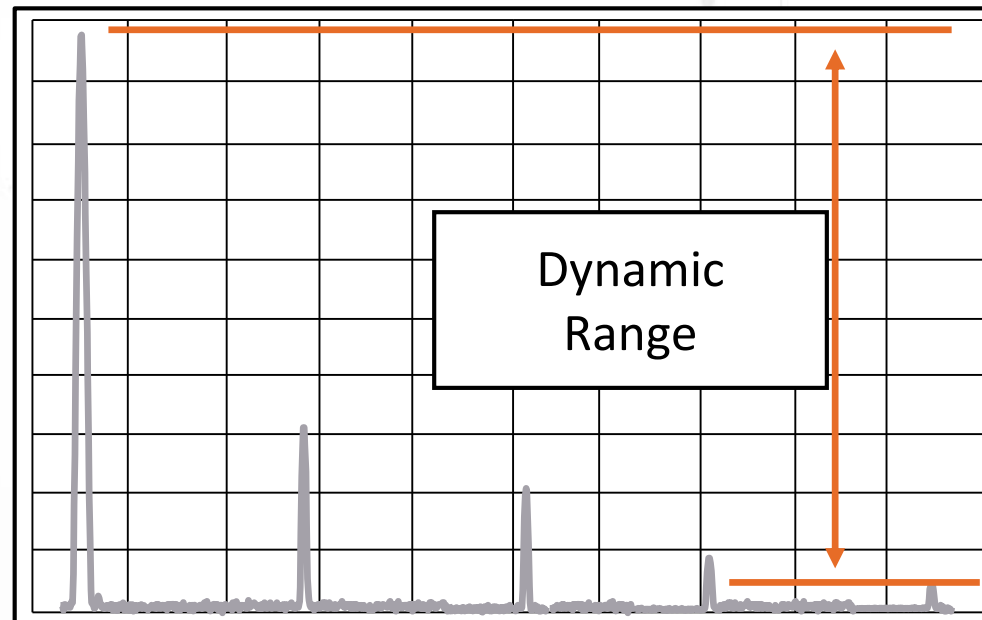


DANL spec'ed  
in 1 Hz RBW

# Specifications

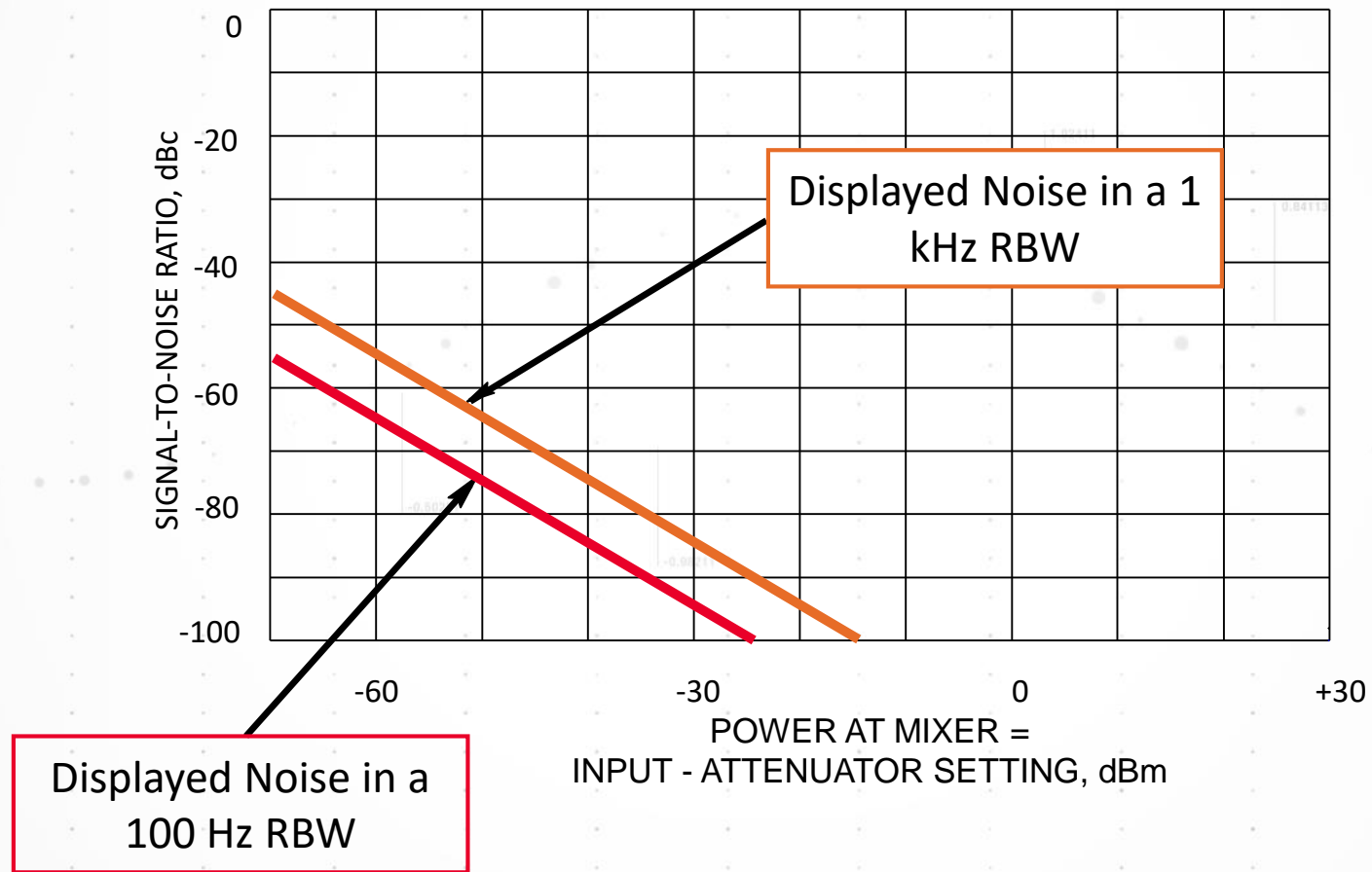
## Dynamic Range

The ratio, expressed in dB, of the largest to the smallest signals simultaneously present at the input of the spectrum analyzer that allows measurement of the smaller signal to a given degree of uncertainty.



# Specifications

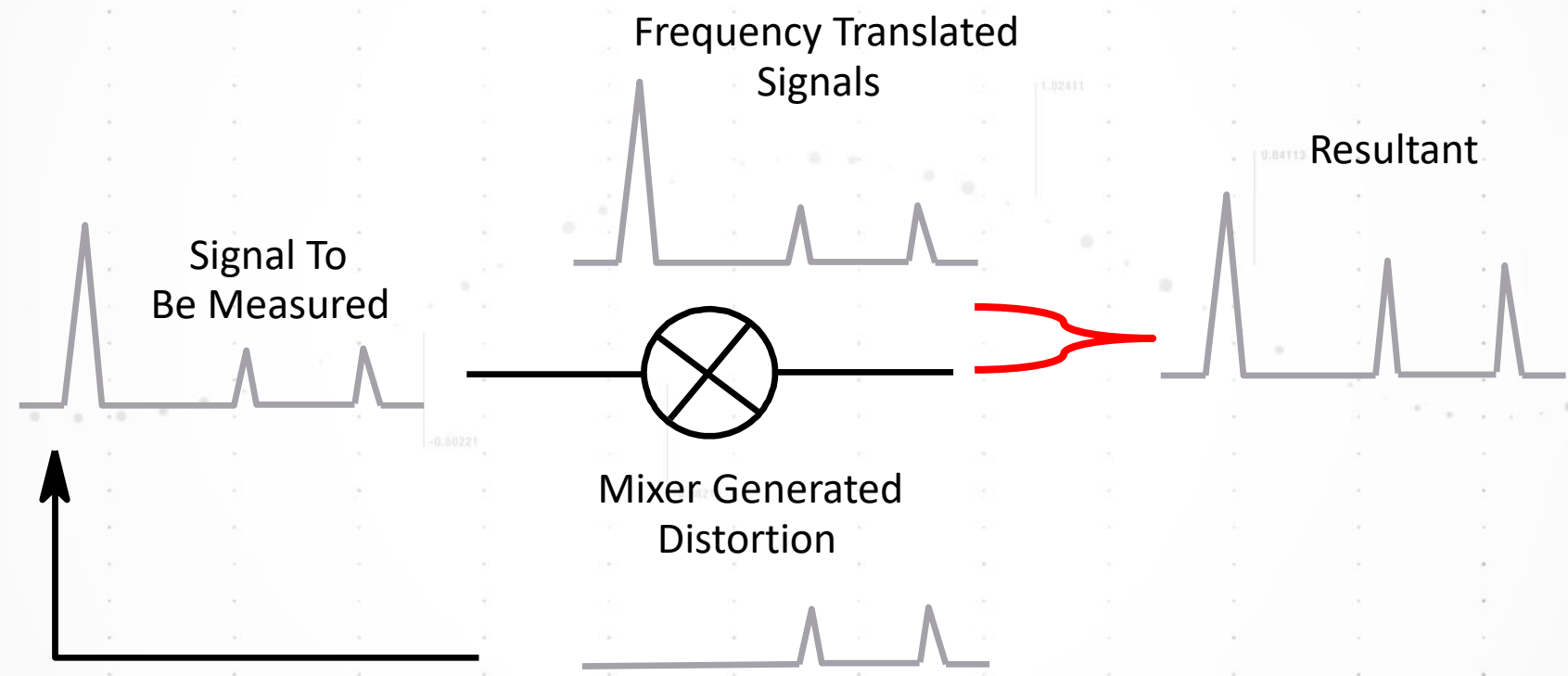
## Displayed DANL per RBW and Mixer Input Power





# Specifications

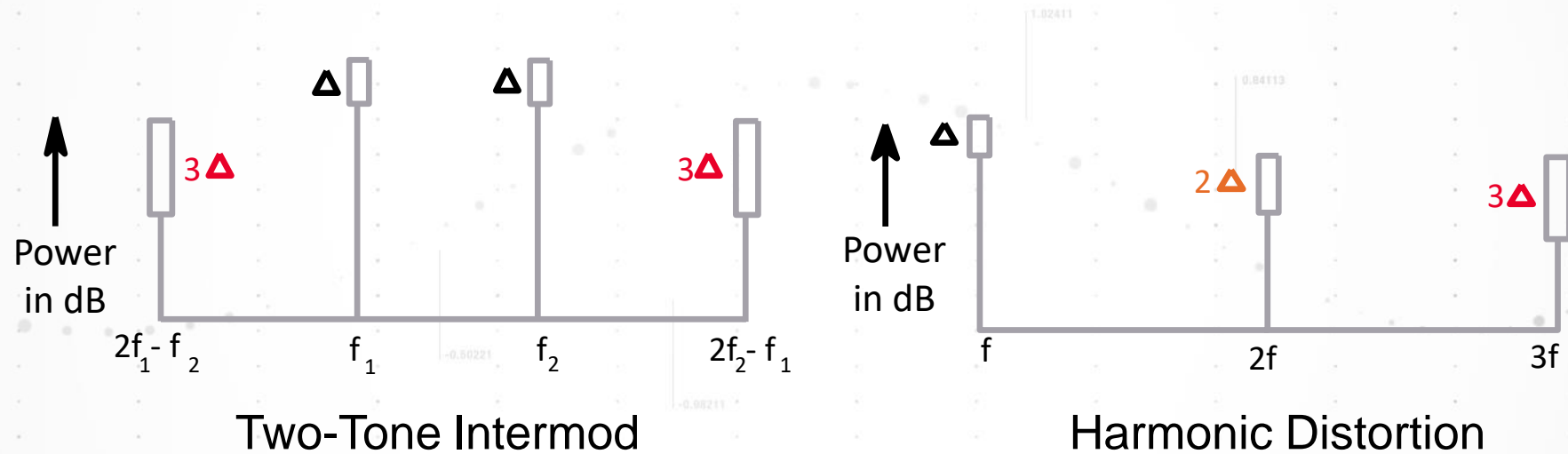
## Distortion: Mixers



# Specifications

## Distortion: Second and Third Order

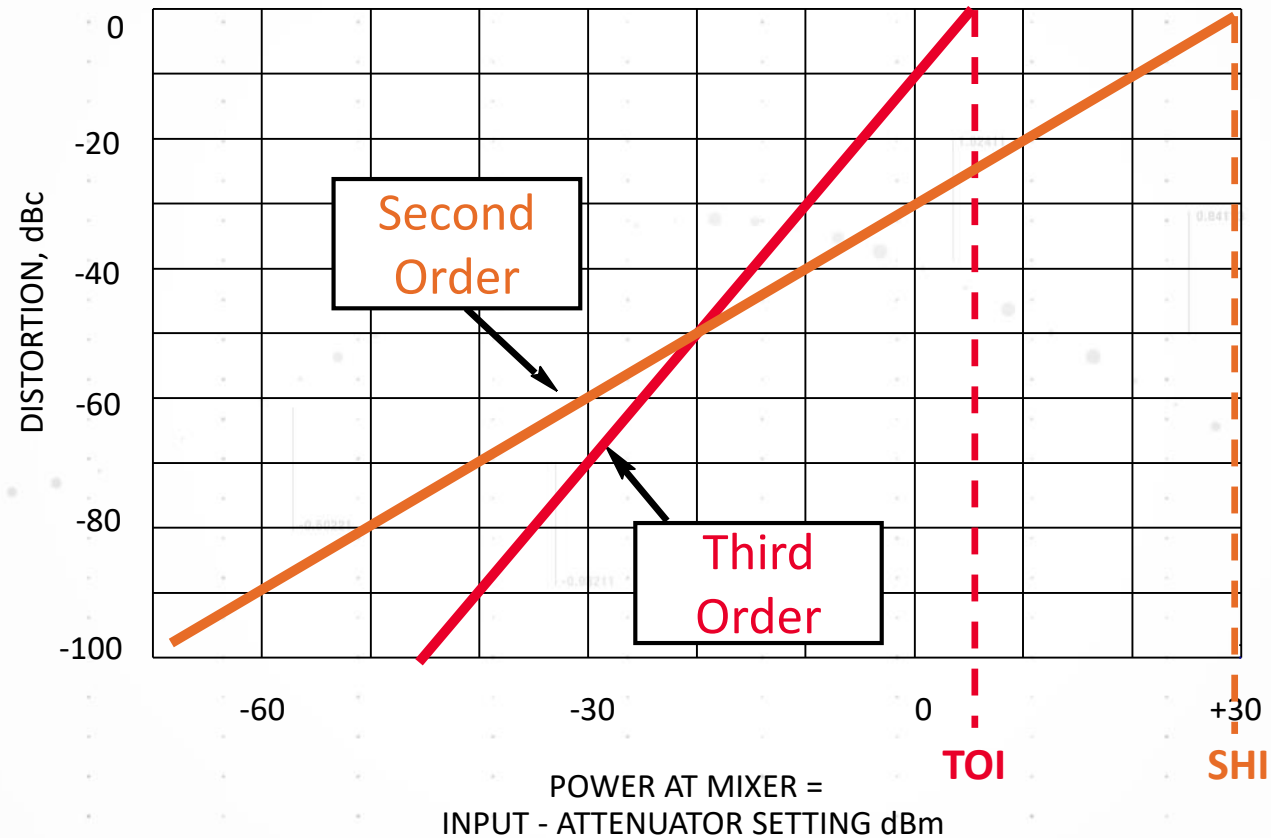
Distortion products increase as a function of fundamental's power.



Third Order:  $\Delta 3$  dB/dB of Fundamental  
 Second Order:  $\Delta 2$  dB/dB of Fundamental

# Specifications

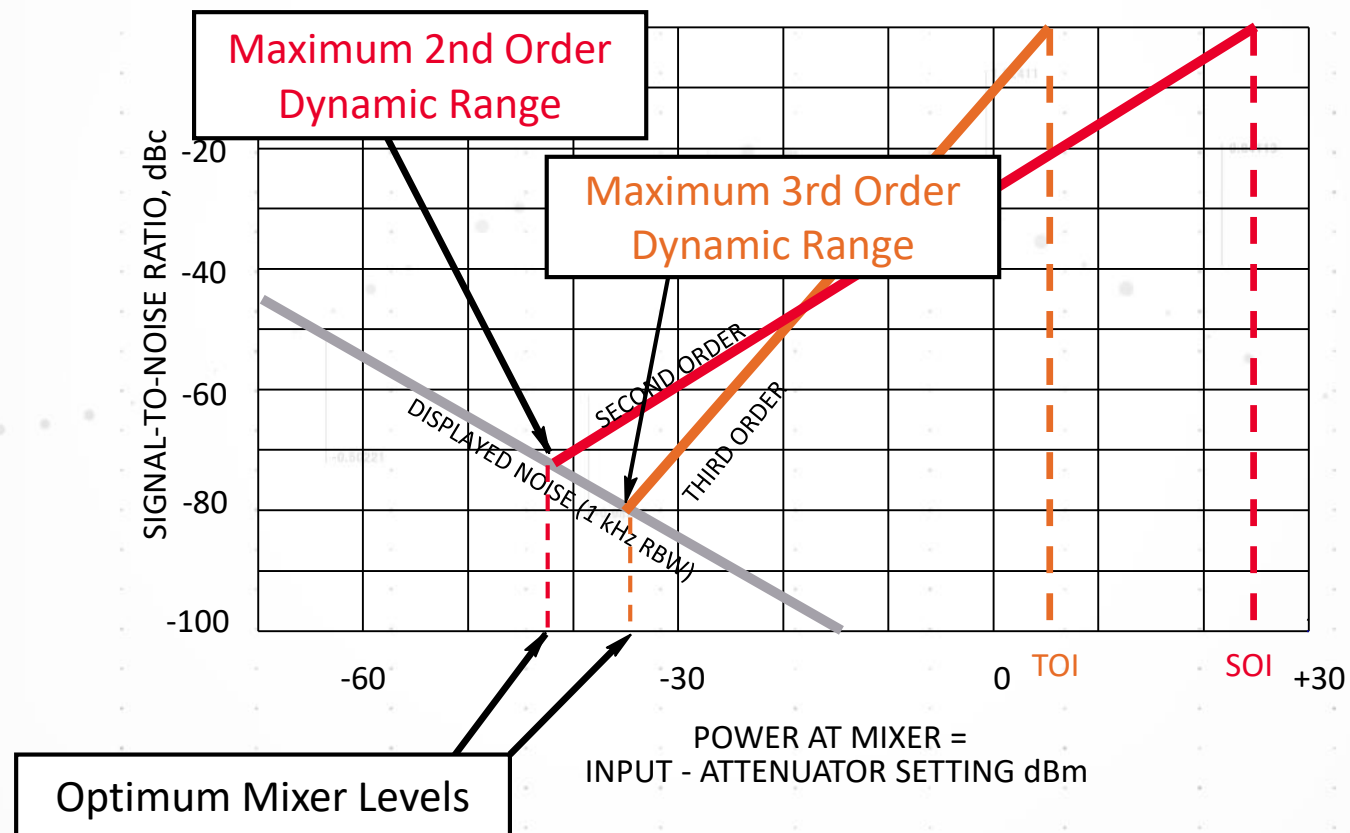
## Distortion: A Function of Mixer Level



# Specifications

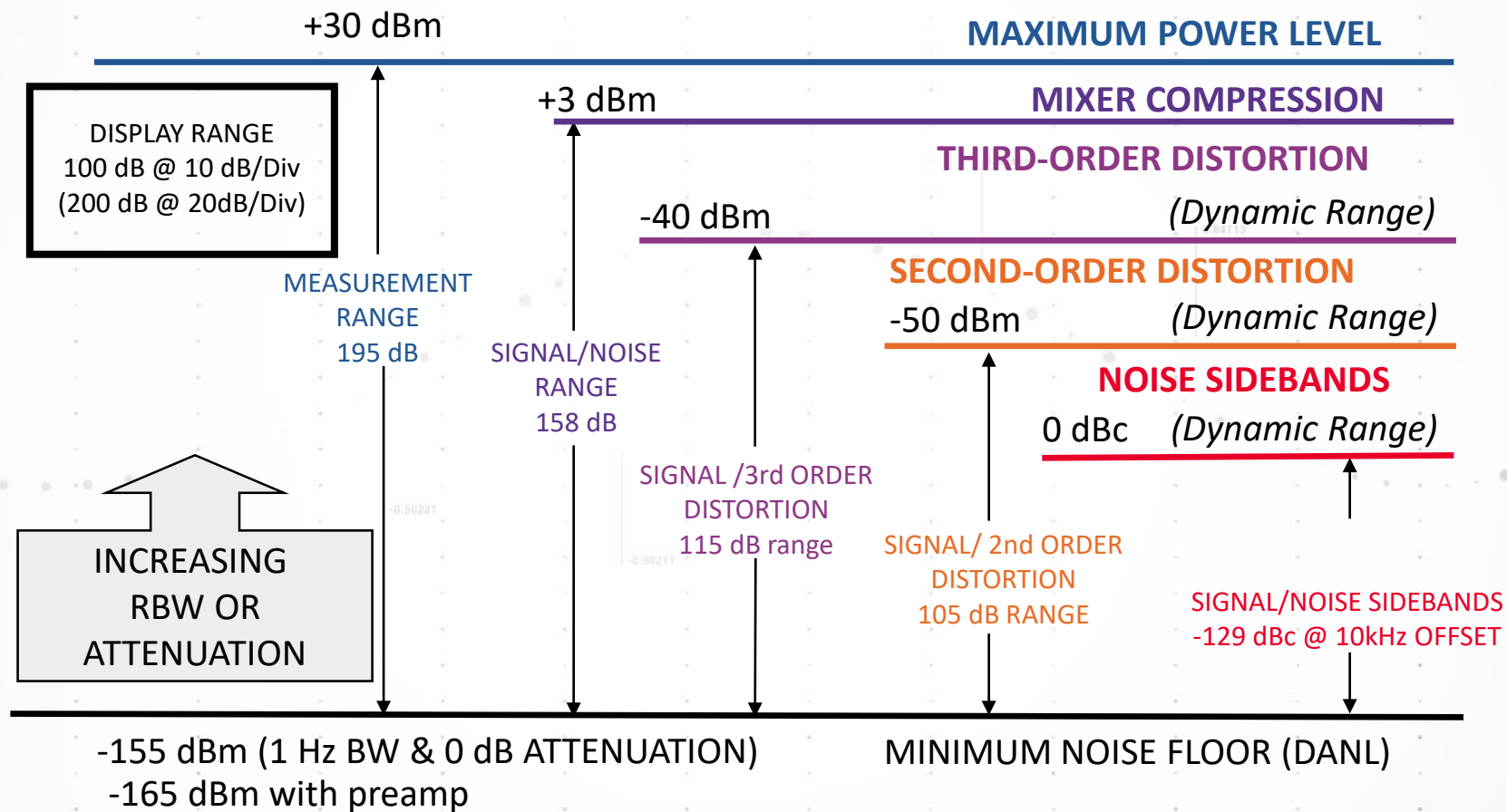
## Dynamic Range (DANL, RBW, Distortion)

Dynamic range can be presented graphically.



# Specifications

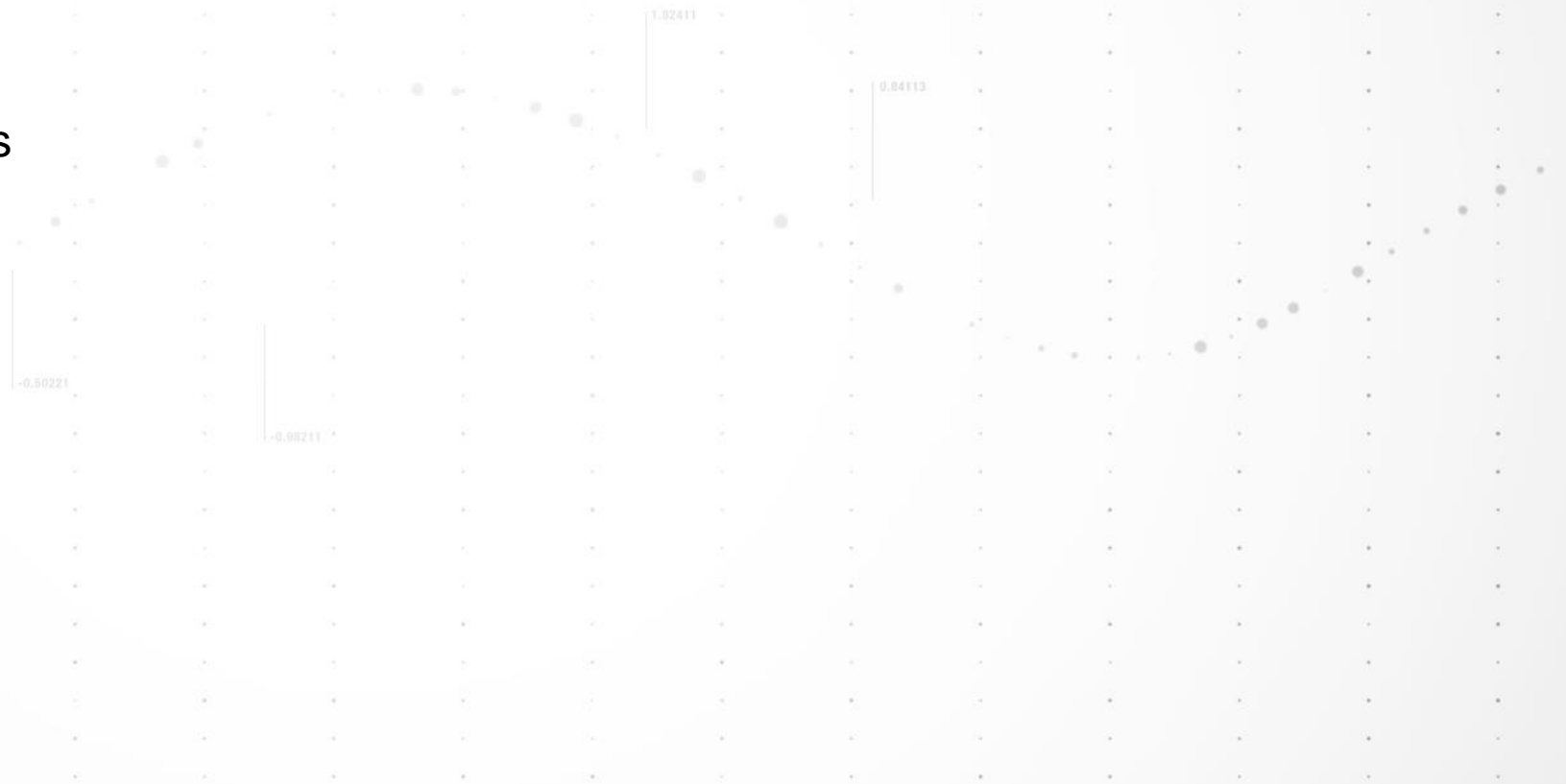
## Dynamic Range vs Measurement Range



# Engineers Never Stop Learning

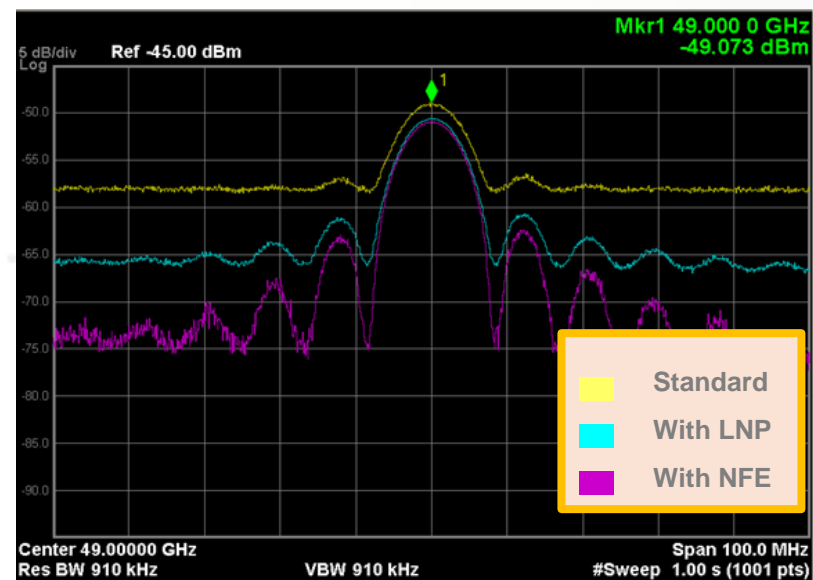
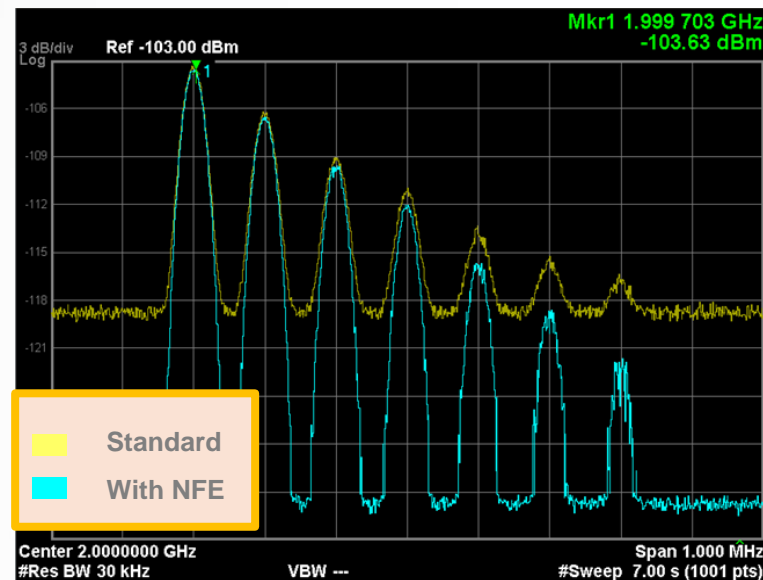
## SIGNAL ANALYSIS FUNDAMENTALS

- Overview
- Theory of Operation
  - Traditional Spectrum Analyzers
  - Modern Signal Analyzers
- Specifications
- **Features**
- Wrap-up



# Features

## Noise Floor Extension



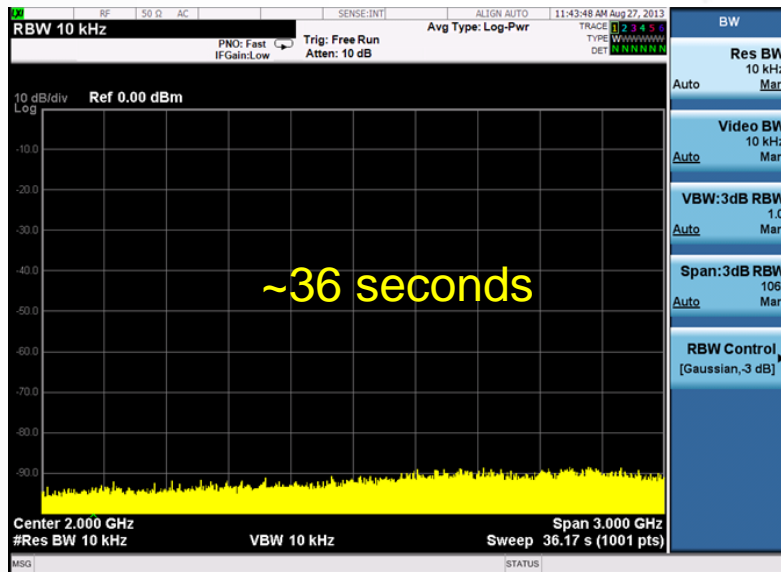
- **NFE** lowers the noise floor (DANL) of the SA, by measuring its own noise (no input), and subtracting that noise power. This only works with high averaging (low variance). The improvement can be up to 8-12 dB, depending on nature of signal near noise.
- **NF2** is “adaptive” NFE. It applies noise subtraction gradually, in proportion to averaging and reduced variance. The trace appears less chaotic while gathering averages.



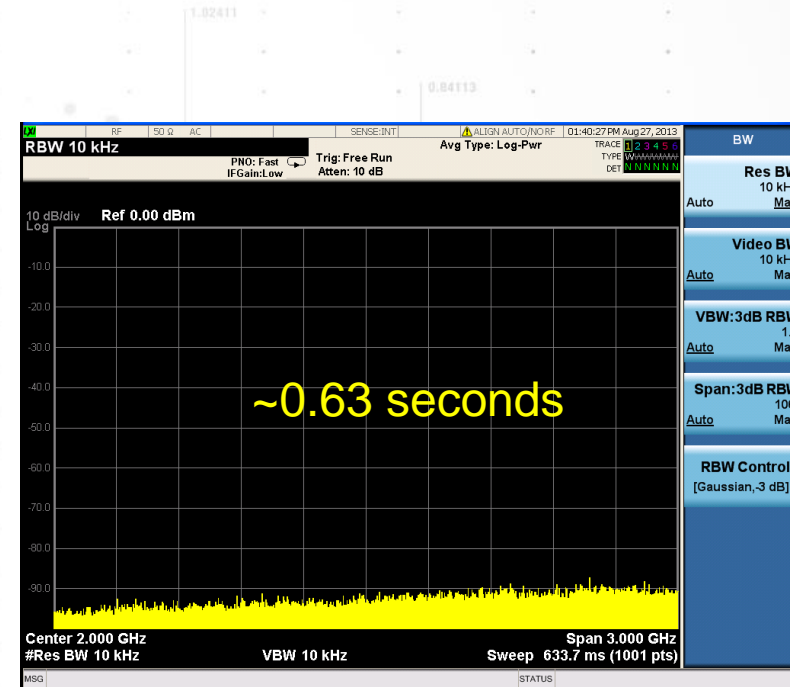
# Features

## Fast Sweep Processing

RBW filter can be “over-swept”: too fast to fully respond.  
But in digital filters, this error is well-known, and can be corrected.



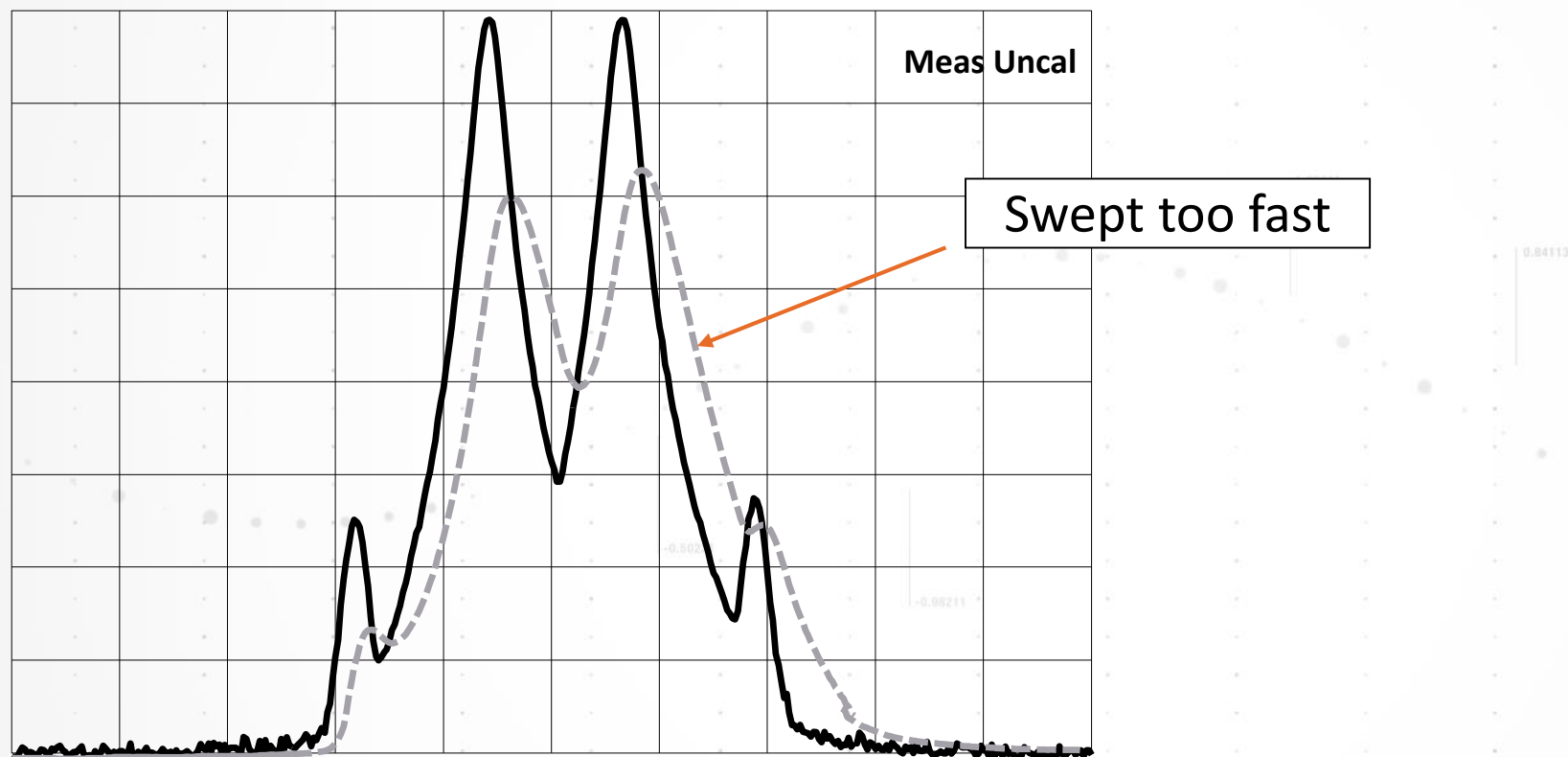
Sweep without fast sweep enabled



Sweep with fast sweep enabled

# Specifications

Resolution: RBW Determines Sweep Time

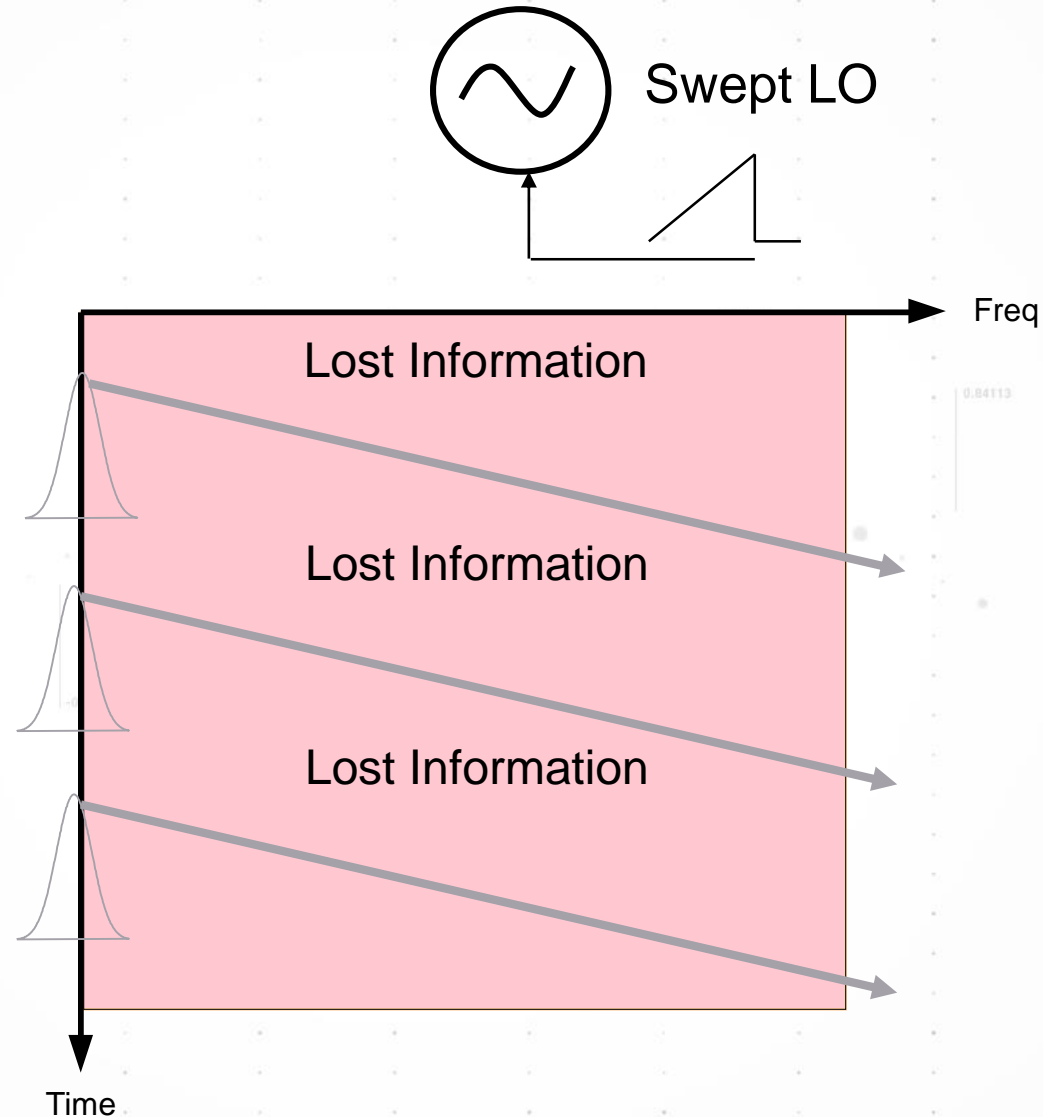


The penalty for sweeping too fast is an uncalibrated display.

# Data Acquisition and Processing

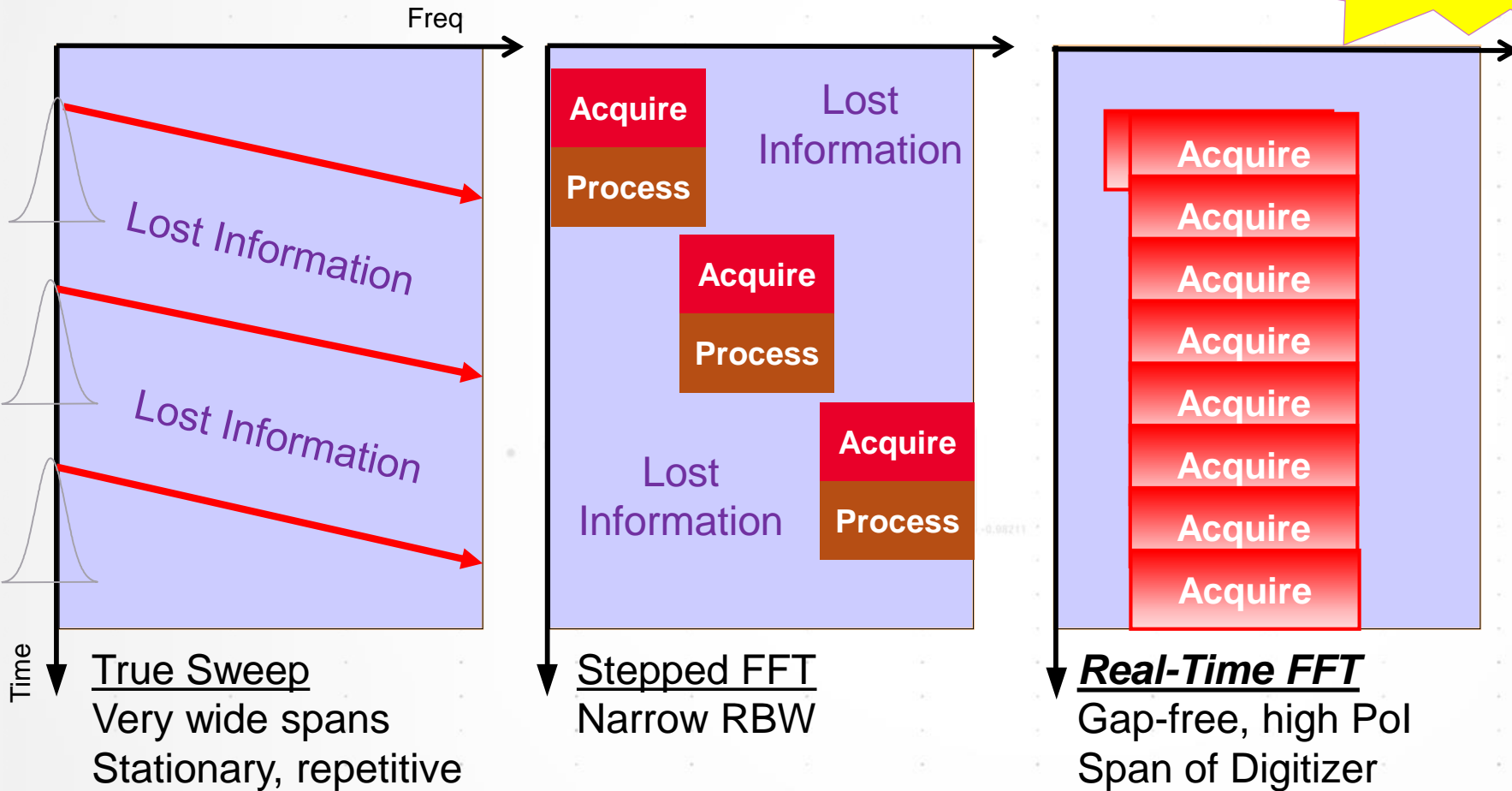
## Swept Mode

- A swept LO w/ an assigned RBW.
- Covers much wider span.
- Good for events that are stable in the frequency domain.
- Magnitude ONLY, no phase information (scalar info).
- Captures only events that occur at right time and right frequency point.
- Data (info) loss when LO is “not there”.



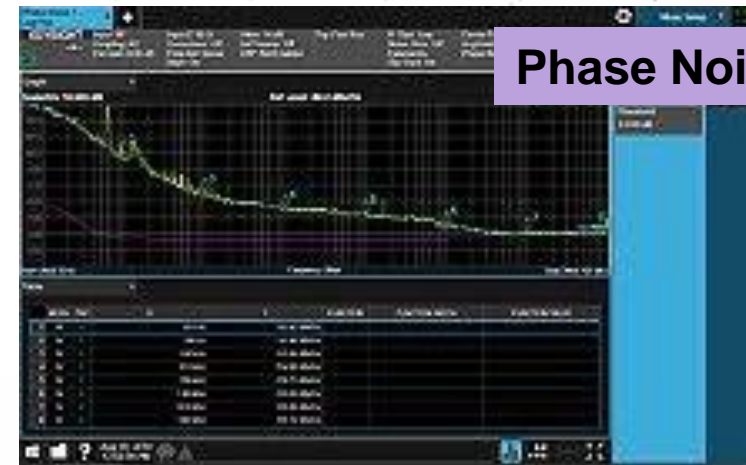
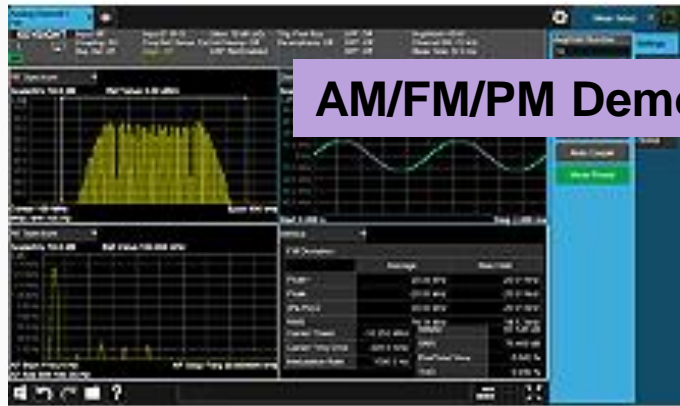
# Real-Time Spectrum Analysis

Acquisition is continuous and *gap-free*! FFT Process runs fast *during* Acquisition!





# Get More from Your Analyzer





# Extend Frequencies to 110 GHz and Beyond

- **N9041B** “flagship” covers 3 Hz to 110 GHz
- DANL ~150 dBm at 60 GHz
- 1 GHz BW internal, 5-8 GHz via IF Out to external digitizer/oscilloscope

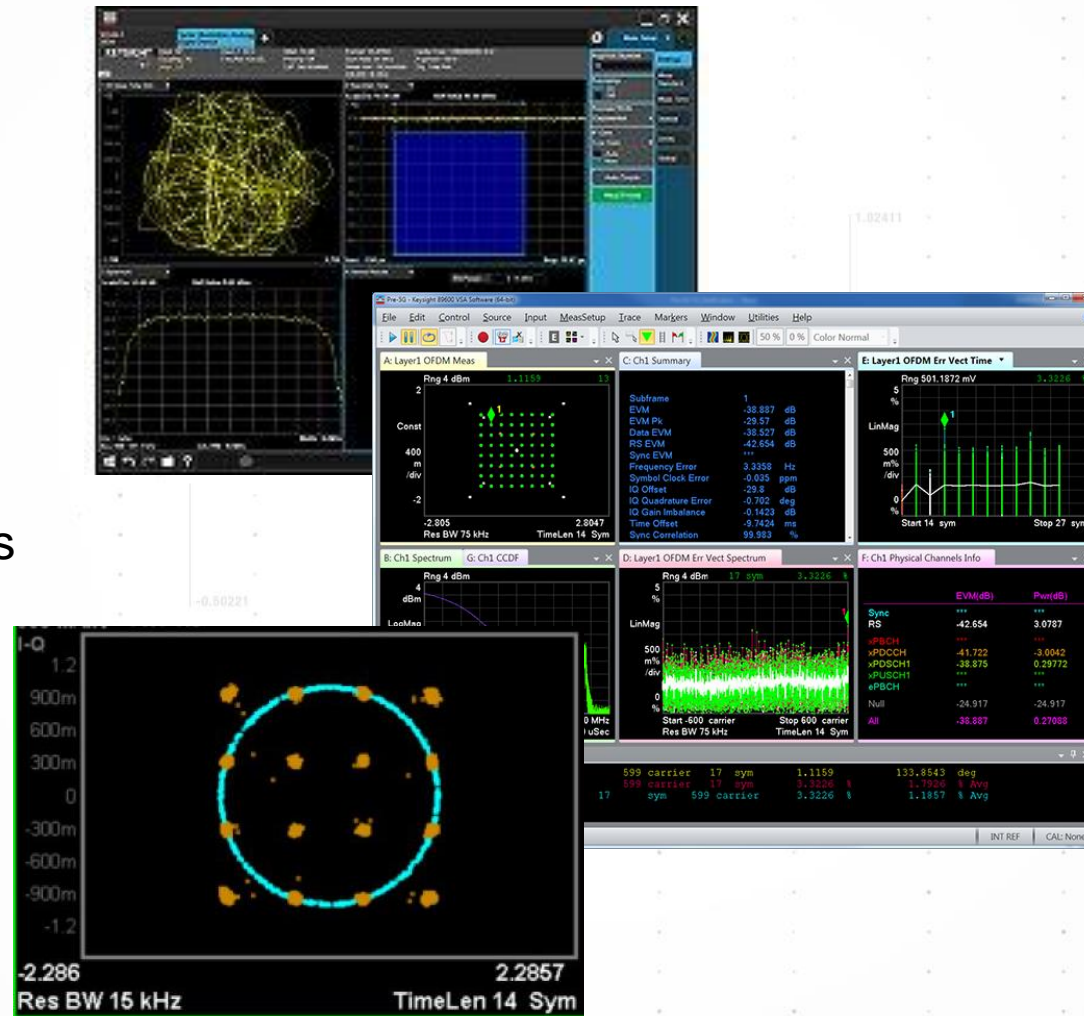


- M1971V/E/W “Smart” External Mixers to 110 GHz, waveguide, dual-conversion, wide BW out
- Legacy: M1970V/E/W and 11970 Series
- 3<sup>rd</sup> party mixers & converters, to 1.1 THz
  - OML Inc.
  - VDI



# Vector Demodulation, Wide Bandwidth

- Assess modulation quality (EVM) with in-channel vector demodulation
- Wide range of wireless formats  
*WCDMA, LTE, 5G, 802.11, Bluetooth, etc.*  
and basic constellations  
*BPSK, QPSK, QAM, etc.*
- Bandwidths from 40 MHz to 1 GHz, and beyond

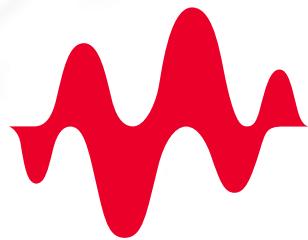




# Signal Analyzer Measurement Resources

- Keysight RF and Digital Monthly Webcast Series  
[www.keysight.com/find/webcastseries](http://www.keysight.com/find/webcastseries)
  - Live and On Demand Viewing
  - Register for Future Webcasts
- Keysight RF Learning Center [www.keysight.com/find/klc](http://www.keysight.com/find/klc)
  - Webcast Recordings
  - Application Notes
    - AN 150 – Spectrum Analysis Basics
    - 8 Hints for Better Spectrum Analysis
    - 10 Hints for Making Better Noise Figure Measurements
  - Seminar Vide





**KEYSIGHT**  
TECHNOLOGIES

4.50221



**ENGINEERS**  
NEVER STOP LEARNING

# 频谱分析典型应用分享

*Speaker Title / Company Name*

*Speaker Name*

# Engineers Never Stop Learning

## 频谱分析仪典型应用分享

- 是德科技频谱分析仪家族简介
- 5G信号的频谱测试和解调测试
- 脉冲雷达信号的测试方法
- 时变的跳频信号的捕捉和参数测试



# Engineers Never Stop Learning

## 频谱分析仪典型应用分享

- 是德科技频谱分析仪家族简介
- 5G信号的频谱测试和解调测试
- 脉冲雷达信号的测试方法
- 时变的跳频信号的捕捉和参数测试

# Engineers Never Stop Learning

## 频谱分析仪典型应用分享

- 是德科技频谱分析仪家族简介
- 5G信号的频谱测试和解调测试
- 脉冲雷达信号的测试方法
- 时变的跳频信号的捕捉和参数测试

# Engineers Never Stop Learning

## 频谱分析仪典型应用分享

- 是德科技频谱分析仪家族简介
- 5G信号的频谱测试和解调测试
- 脉冲雷达信号的测试方法
- 时变的跳频信号的捕捉和参数测试