



Measurement Pathologies

Bob Johnk, Project Leader, Propagation Model Validation

ISART Workshop on Best Measurement Practices July 26, 2018

Institute for Telecommunication Sciences (NTIA/ITS)
325 Broadway St
Boulder, Colorado USA 80305

Contact: rjohnk@ntia.doc.gov





What is a Measurement Pathology?

One needs to employ good measurement practices, which in mobile environments are tougher due to:

- The complex electromagnetic environment
- Coupling of intentional emissions (in-band and adjacent band) from other systems in the measurement vehicle
- Non-linear effects due to amplifiers in the transmitting and receiving systems

...our demo





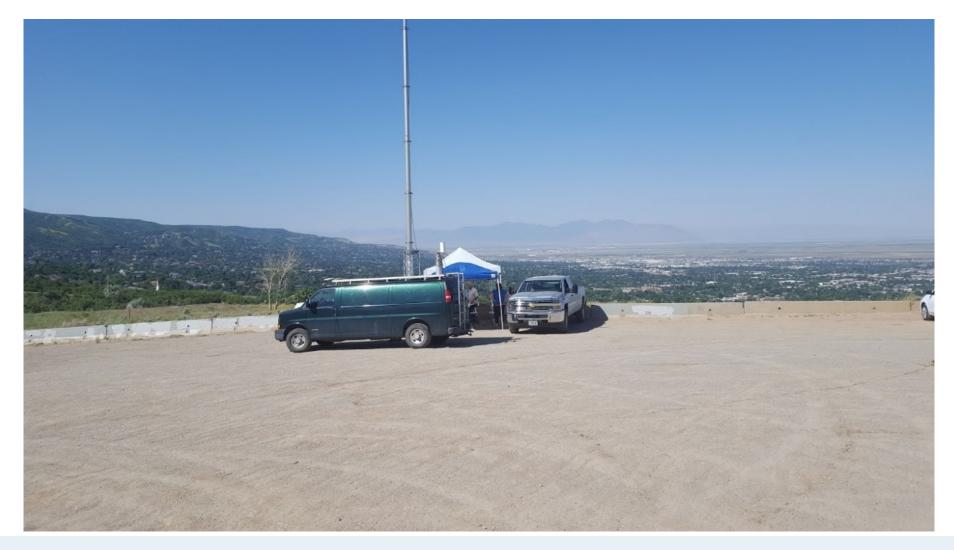
Case Studies

- Impact of adjacent-channel interference on sliding correlator measurements in Salt-Lake City at 1702 MHz
- Impact of in-band spurious signals on sliding correlator calibration at 3500 MHz at Table Mountain
- What could happen if we want to perform multiple frequency measurements to save time on a measurement campaign?





Salt Lake City Measurements at 1.7 and 3.5 GHz







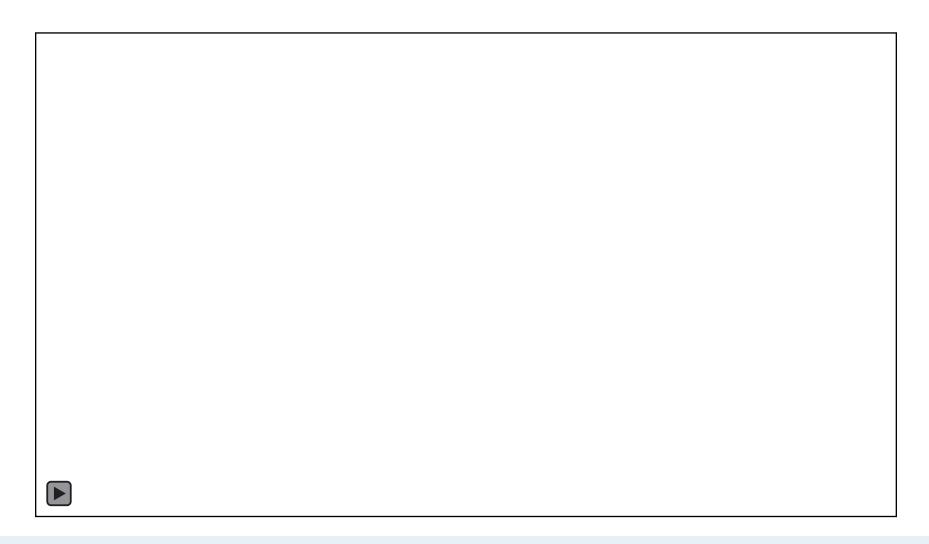
Adjacent-Channel Interference at 1711 MHz







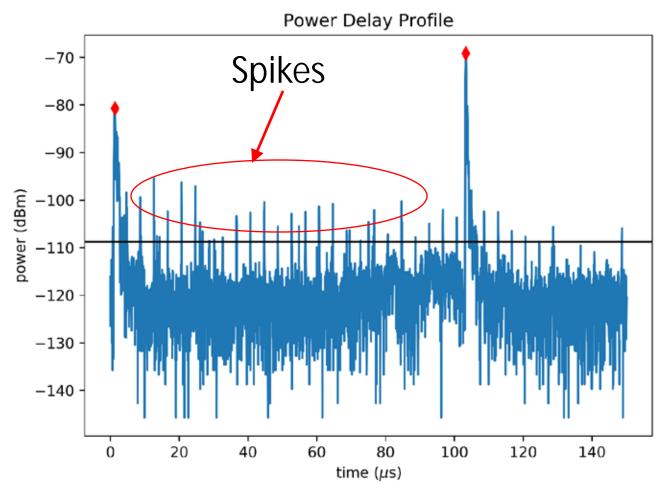
Combined SC and Interference







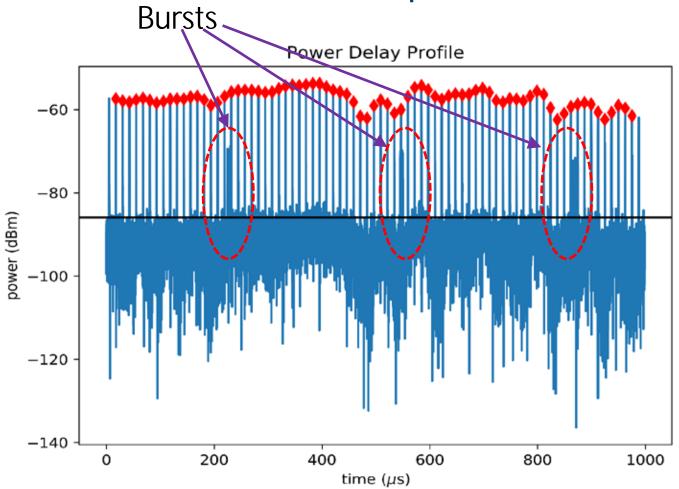
Impact on Sliding Correlator output 9-bit PN Sequence







Impact on Sliding Correlator Output 6-bit PN Sequence







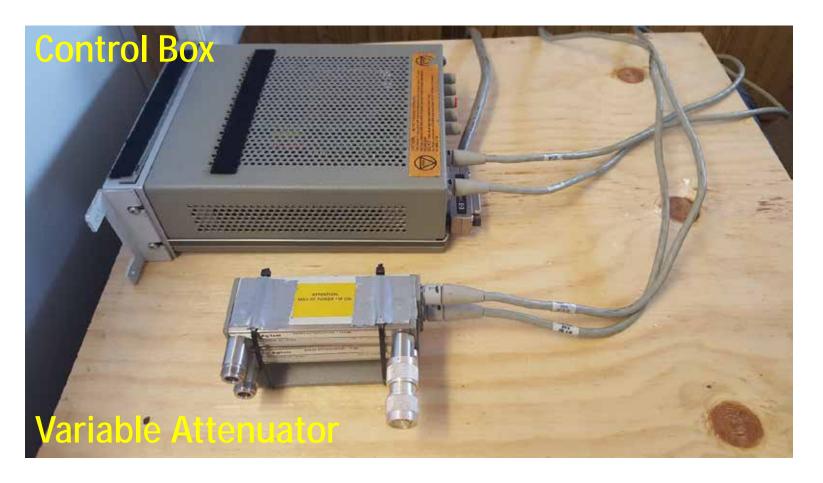
Calibrations at Table Mountain





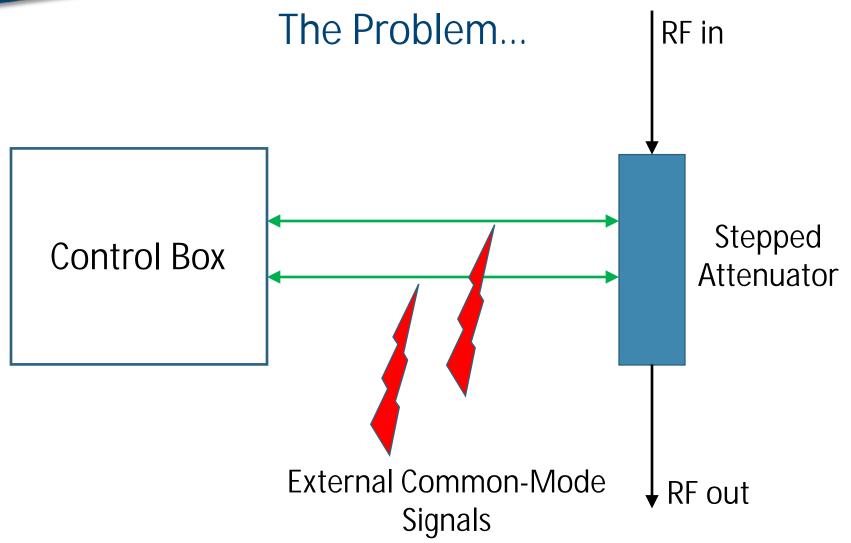


Automated Cals with Stepped Attenuator













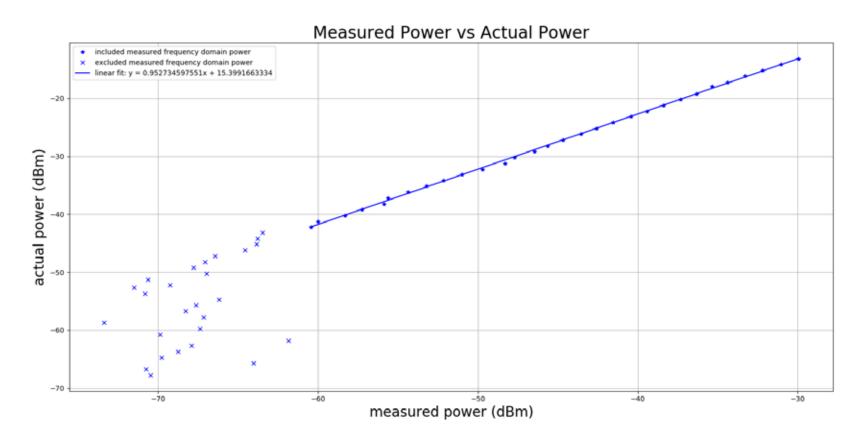
A Good Calibration







The Impact: Common-mode interference messes up calibration







Let's Perform Propagation Measurements at Two Frequencies at the Same Time...

- Let's now explore what amplifier non-linearity can do to our measurements
- Let's now explore this scenario with a demo

"The frustration, anger, and insecurity engendered by this situation is responsible for many sleepless nights, ruined marriages, and hateful children"

- Stephen Maas, Nonlinear Microwave Circuits (Artech House 1988)