Realization of DQPSK Modulator on FPGA

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Abstract: A method of realizing DQPSK modulator based on FPGA is presented using VHDL and basic component of quartusII 5.1 tools of Altera. DQPSK modulation is realized by controlling the DDS output. The proposed method is verified by simulation experiment.

Keywords: DQPSK modulator; DDS; FPGA

1 Introduction

[1] shows that Differential Quadrature Phase Shift Keying (DQPSK) modulation is an important technology, which possess of many features such as high spectrum utilization rate, better spectrum specification, strong anti-jamming ability and good security. The modulation has been applied universally in mobile communication system and satellite communication system. With ultra large scale integrated circuit appearance, Field Programmable Gate Array (FPGA) has used widely in the communication system day by day. At present many kinds of methods to realize DQPSK based on FPGA have been proposed.

This paper mainly discusses the relevant topics that DQPSK is realized by a Direct Digital frequency Synthesis (DDS) technique. A phase change from one to another is simply controlled by two arrays. This technique can be applied simply and conveniently. The model is simulated on the base of QuartusII5.1, a FPGA development platform developed by Atlera.

2 Basic Principle of DQPSK Modulation

There are two kinds of implementation for DQPSK modulator, one is phase selected by logic, and the other is quadrature modulation. This paper uses the phase selected by logic to achieve DQPSK modulator. The modulator is consisted of S/P, differential code, phase selected by logic and DDS in this paper, as shown in Figure 1.

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3.1 Serial-to-Parallel Circuit

The data sequence is separated by the serial-to-parallel converter (S/P) to form the odd-numbered-bit sequence for I-channel and the even-numbered-bit sequence for Q-channel. The circuit for S/P is shown as figure 2.

Supposed the data sequence is {01100011}, the S/P converted it into I and Q signal. The simulation is shown as Figure 3; it shows that after 3 clock pulses, every 2 clock pulse, Q3 and Q6 simultaneously output a 2 bit data, which is Q1. Twin bit rate is just a half of clock signal (CLK1) frequency. In order to coordinate the following phase modulation circuit, the clock signal (CLK1) frequency is equal to 1/M of system clock frequency (fCLK).

3.2 Differential Code

Differential coder converts absolute code into relative code. Let {a} be the original binary data sequence, then a differentially encoded binary data sequence {r} is produced according to the following rule.

\[ Z_{ir} = Z_{ia} + Z_{i-1,r} \]  

In formula (1), a subscript designates absolute code, r subscript designates relative code; sign i is the serial number of quaternary symbol, Here sign + indicates modulo-4 addition.

According to formula (2), we get the result as follow.

\[ c_i \cdot 2^1 + d_i \cdot 2^0 = a_i \cdot 2^1 + b_i \cdot 2^0 + c_{i-1} \cdot 2^1 \]

\[ + d_{i-1} \cdot 2^0 = (a_i + c_{i-1}) \cdot 2^1 + (b_i + d_{i-1}) \cdot 2^0 \]

Then we can obtain the following formula.

\[ c_i = a_i \oplus c_{i-1} \oplus (b_i \cdot d_{i-1}) \quad d_i = b_i \oplus d_{i-1} \]  

From formula (4), we can obtain quaternary differential coding circuit, which is showed as Figure 4. Figure 5 shows the simulation result of quaternary differential encoding.
Figure 1. Block diagram of DPSK modulator

Figure 2. S/P circuit

Figure 3. Simulation of S/P

Here CLK is the clock signal, a b is the absolute code; c d is the relative output code. When a sequence is \{001111\}, b sequence is \{001110\}, after a delay of a clock cycle, the c output is \{001101\}, and d output is \{001011\}. The simulation result is in line with the theoretic analysis of the quaternary differential encoding.

3.3 Four-Phase Carrier Generator

Figure 6 showed Four-phase carrier generator that typically consists of two accumulators and a Look Up Table (LUT). DDS as reported in the literature \([2-4]\) generally consisted of phase accumulator, LUT and phase selected by logic which consisted of phase modulator. Figure 6 is as follow.

3.3.1 LUT

The DDS is used for generating waveforms by LUT which the samples of a harmonic function are stored in. Samples may be stored either in the distributed memory or in the block memory in FPGA structure. If data line width of phase-accumulator is N, there are 2N sampling points. Calculating the amplitude of 2N sampling points using other tool to, then the phase increment of two adjacent sampling points is 2\pi/2N, the phases of 2N sampling points are determined by the amplitude of the sampling points, LUT stored the amplitude of 2N sampling points in turn, so the allusive relationship is established between the phase of the sampling point (memory address) and the amplitude.

3.3.2 Phase Accumulator

Assuming that the initial value of phase accumulator is 0 and cumulative step length for the frequency control word is K, then every clock cycle (1/fclk) for the phase increment is K×2\pi/2N, getting a complete sine wave cycle needs 2\pi/(K×2\pi/2N)≈2N/K cumulative times, so Tout ,the output signal cycle, is (1/f clk)×2N/K, f out , the frequency of the output signal, is K×fclk/2N.

3.3.3 Phase Modulator

When the rising edge of each two-bit symbol is advent, a reset signal (RESET) is produced to clear the DDS phase accumulator, then the initial phase of carrier signal is only controlled by the phase control word (P) in order to ensure the initial phase is in line with the carrier phase for the symbol QI. While in other cases, let the sum of the phase accumulator output and P is the phase for the common carrier signal to realize phase modulation.

In this paper, let N=10, firstly we calculate the amplitudes of 2^{10}=1024 sampling points and express them with 8-bit binary. When phase is \pi/4 and 3\pi/4, the corresponding amplitude is 218, the storage address is 0001111111 and 0101111111 respectively; when phase is...
5π/4 and 7π/4, the corresponding amplitude is 38, storage address is 1001111111 and 1101111111 respectively.

The above VHD code is used in this paper to complete the circuit of phase selected by logic. As it showed, if the rising edge of each QI symbol is advent, the π/4, 3π/4, 5π/4, 7π/4 phase is selected separately, then the circuit produces four different phase of the carrier.

4 Simulation Results

In the simulation experiment, let fCLK=294912Hz, M=48, K=32, then fCLK1=fCLK/M=6144Hz, fout, the carrier frequency is K×fCLK/2N=9216Hz, the simulation results by Quartus II 5.1 are shown as Figure 7.
Figure 7. Simulation of DQPSK modulator

In Figure 7 (a), when QI is 11 and the first rising edge of the clock signal clk is advent, RESET signal resets the DDS register (T = 0), the phase accumulator output R is 32 and keep the value for one clock cycle; when QI is 11 and the third rising edge of the clock signal clk is advent, DQPSK is 218, which is consistent with the theoretic analysis when QI is 11, the initial phase of the carrier is $\pi / 4$, the amplitude is 218. Similarly, when QI is 00,10,01, respectively, the simulation results is shown as Figure 7 (b), 7 (c), 7 (d). the third rising edge of the clock signal clk is advent ,the results of the initial phase of the carrier and the amplitude are also consistent with the theoretical analysis results. Although DQPSK is produced after three clock cycle, the delayed time of the symbol QI is same, which does not affect the realization of QPSK; On the other hand, the delay time is less than one-third of the system clock cycle, it can be ignored.

5 Conclusions

[5] shows that realization of DQPSK modulator on FPGA overcome many defects of traditional analog modulator such as large volume, high expense, debugging difficulty and long production cycle .The innovation of this article lies in that the system is achieved with FPGA in addition to DA, which has a certain reference value for the realization of other modulator (such as QPSK, 8PSK, QAM, etc.), as well as the application in the software radio on FPGA.

References