

Design of Underwater Acoustic Channel Model for OFDM Communication System

Naveen H, Chetan H, Sudatta Mohanty, Sangmesh Melinmani, Sreerama Reddy G M

Abstract— The paper describes the design of underwater acoustic channel model for OFDM communication system. The underwater acoustic channel considered includes multipath effect, attenuation loss, absorption loss, spreading loss and total noise due to thermal Noise, turbulence Noise, shipping Noise, wave Noise. The acoustic channel model used for OFDM Communication will have the noise effect due to attenuation loss and ambient noise (Total Noise). In this research work, In the underwater channel, Multipath parameters such as length, width and depth and attenuation parameters such as frequency, salinity, radial range, SPS and ambient noise parameters such as shipping factor, wave factor are considered in calculating total noise.

Keywords: Attenuation, Spreading, Absorption, Underwater Acoustic channel.

I. INTRODUCTION

Physical and chemical properties of seawater affect sound propagation. Due to spreading and absorption, an underwater acoustic signal will suffer attenuation. Furthermore, depending on channel geometry, multipath fading may occur and produce significant inter-symbol-interference (ISI) at the receiver hydrophone. For calculations of the Signal-to-Noise ratio (SNR) or Bit Error Rate (BER) estimation, it is then crucial to understand and establish a good channel model.

Discovering and exploring new environments is an important human endeavor, a motor for mankind's evolution. One vast environment which is still much unexplored is the underwater world. Crucial for its successful exploration are reliable communication systems.

The topic is complex and there are various difficulties in underwater communications, such as water chemical constitution, environmental variables, and the presence of various types of noise. A promising solution, which has been studied and implemented for communicating within this environment, is the use of acoustic waves for the transmission of signals. Electromagnetic waves usually are not considered as a solution for underwater communications

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because their attenuation is too high.

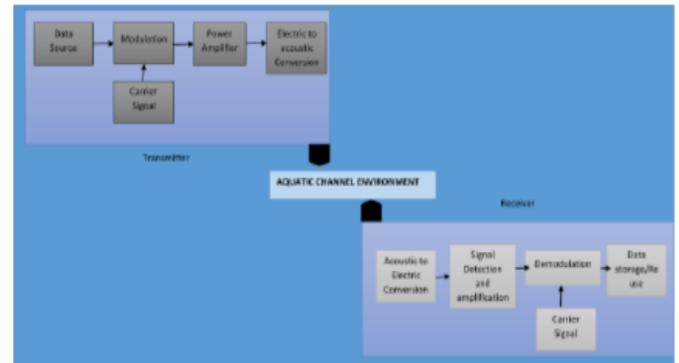


Figure.1. Top level Block Diagram of Underwater Acoustic Model

Acoustic waves appear as a good alternative, despite some associated negative aspects. For long communicating distances, an abrupt decay in pressure may occur, impairing the communication quality. This phenomenon may occur even for medium distances and it is dependent of the transmitting acoustic wave frequency.

Interest from the research community in the area of underwater communications has increased recently and this work aims to be a contribution to the development of the Underwater Acoustic Communication (UWAC) field.

II. UNDERWATER CHANNEL CHARACTERISTICS

The present work focuses on the aquatic channel software model for verification with real-world measurements. Fig. Below gives the aquatic channel block breakdown in several internal blocks.

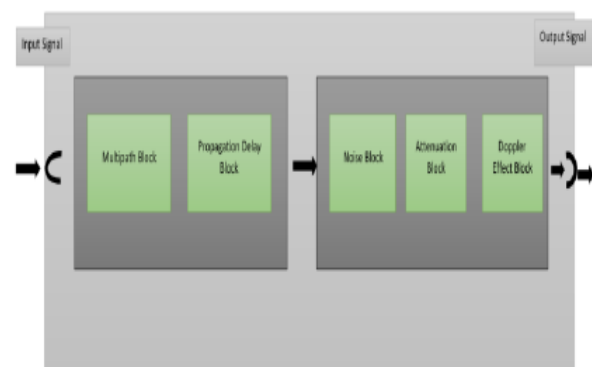


Figure 2. Aquatic Channel Model

A. Spreading loss

As the wave front moves outward from source, spreading loss occurs due to ever-increasing area covered by same amount of sound signal energy, and it is given by

$$PL \text{ spreading}(r) = k \times 10 \log(r) \text{ (dB)} \quad (1)$$

Where r is the range in meters and k is the spreading factor.

B. Absorption Loss

$$PL \text{ absorption}(r, f) = 10 \log(\alpha(f)) \times r \text{ (dB)} \quad (2)$$

α = Absorption Co-Efficient depends on Frequency
Absorption coefficient, α , increases with increasing frequency and decreases as depth increases.

Effect of viscosity becomes significant with high frequencies above 100 kHz, whereas ionic relaxation effects of magnesium affect mid frequency range from 10 kHz up to 100 kHz, and boric acid effects dominate at low frequencies, which go up to a few kHz.

C. Path loss

Total path loss, or just path loss, is combined contribution of both spreading and absorption losses

$$PathLoss(r, f, d, t) = k \times 10 \log(r) + \alpha(f, d, t) \times r \times 10^3 \text{ db} \quad (3)$$

D. Ambient Noise

For underwater channel four noise components are considered. There is thermal noise ($N_{th}(f)$), that can be taken as additive white Gaussian noise that is always present in communications systems. Then, there is noise due to movement of waves ($N_w(f)$), making water medium unstable and varying static properties of channel. Another type of noise can be water movement caused by ship traffic ($N_s(f)$) and, finally, noise due to natural causes ($N_t(f)$), like turbulence caused by some storms or during rain events and presence of bubbles.

Turbulence Noise

$$N_t = 10^{\frac{((17-30 \log_{10}(f)))}{10}} N_{t \text{ soff}} \quad (4)$$

Shipping Noise

$$N_s = 10^{\frac{((40+(20(s-0.5)))+(26 \log_{10}(f)))-(60 \log_{10}(f+0.03))}{10}} N_{s \text{ soff}} \quad (5)$$

Wave Noise

$$N_w = 10^{\frac{\left(50 + \left(7.5 \left(\frac{1}{w^2}\right)\right)\right) + (20 \log_{10}(f)) - (40 \log_{10}(f+0.4))}{10}} N_{w \text{ off}} \quad (6)$$

Thermal Noise

$$N_{th} = 10^{\frac{((-15 + 20 \log_{10}(f)))}{10}} N_{th \text{ off}} \quad (7)$$

$$Total \text{ Noise} = N_t + N_s + N_w + N_{th}$$

E. Multipath

Width of aquarium was in x axis, the length in the y axis, depth in the z axis, and these dimensions are represented by constants W, L and D, respectively.

$$Rx1 = [x_2, y_2, z_2]$$

$$D1 = \sqrt{(x_2 - x_1)^2 + (y_2 - y_1)^2 + (z_2 - z_1)^2}$$

$$Rx2 = [2 * W - x_2, y_2, z_2]$$

$$D2 = \sqrt{(2 * W - x_2 - x_1)^2 + (y_2 - y_1)^2 + (z_2 - z_1)^2}$$

$$Rx3 = [-x_2, y_2, z_2]$$

$$D3 = \sqrt{(-x_2 - x_1)^2 + (y_2 - y_1)^2 + (z_2 - z_1)^2}$$

$$Rx4 = [x_2, y_2, 2 * D - z_2]$$

$$D4 = \sqrt{(x_2 - x_1)^2 + (y_2 - y_1)^2 + (2 * D - z_2 - z_1)^2}$$

$$Rx5 = [x_2, y_2, -z_2]$$

$$D5 = \sqrt{(x_2 - x_1)^2 + (y_2 - y_1)^2 + (-z_2 - z_1)^2}$$

$$Rx6 = [x_2, 2 * L - y_2, z_2]$$

$$D6 = \sqrt{(x_2 - x_1)^2 + (2 * L - y_2 - y_1)^2 + (z_2 - z_1)^2}$$

$$Rx7 = [x_2, -y_2, z_2]$$

$$D7 = \sqrt{(x_2 - x_1)^2 + (-y_2 - y_1)^2 + (z_2 - z_1)^2}$$

Absorption Coefficient is given by

$$\alpha = \frac{0.106 * f^{1.7} * e^{\frac{Ph-8}{0.56}}}{f_1^2 + f^2} + \frac{0.52 * \left(1 + \frac{f}{43}\right)^{\frac{5}{43}} * f^2 * e^{\frac{-D}{6}}}{f_2^2 + f^2} + 0.00049 * f^2 * e^{\left(\frac{-T}{27} + \frac{D}{17}\right)} \quad (8)$$

Absorption Loss for different path is given by

$$\alpha 1 = \frac{\alpha * D1}{10^5} \quad \alpha 2 = \frac{\alpha * D2}{10^5} \quad \alpha 3 = \frac{\alpha * D3}{10^5} \quad \alpha 4 = \frac{\alpha * D4}{10^5}$$

$$\alpha 5 = \frac{\alpha * D5}{10^5} \quad \alpha 6 = \frac{\alpha * D6}{10^5} \quad \alpha 7 = \frac{\alpha * D7}{10^5}$$

Spreading Loss and Total Path Loss for different path is given by

$$sp1 = 10 \log_{10} \left(\frac{(2 * \text{ang} * D1^2) + de}{de} \right)$$

$$PL1 = 10^{\frac{(-\alpha 1 - sp1)}{10}}$$

$$sp2 = 10 \log_{10} \left(\frac{(2 * \text{ang} * D2^2) + de}{de} \right)$$

$$PL2 = 10^{\frac{(-\alpha 2 - sp2)}{10}}$$

$$sp3 = 10 \log_{10} \left(\frac{(2 * \text{ang} * D3^2) + de}{de} \right)$$

$$PL3 = 10^{\frac{(-\alpha 3 - sp3)}{10}}$$

$$sp4 = 10 \log_{10} \left(\frac{(2 * \text{ang} * D4^2) + de}{de} \right)$$

$$PL4 = 10^{\frac{(-\alpha 4 - sp4)}{10}}$$

$$sp5 = 10 \log_{10} \left(\frac{(2 * \text{ang} * D5^2) + de}{de} \right)$$

$$PL5 = 10^{\frac{(-\alpha 5 - sp5)}{10}}$$

$$sp6 = 10 \log_{10} \left(\frac{(2 * \text{ang} * D6^2) + de}{de} \right)$$

$$PL6 = 10^{\frac{(-\alpha 6 - sp6)}{10}}$$



$$sp7 = 10 \log_{10} \left(\frac{(2 \cdot \text{ang} \cdot D7^2) + de}{de} \right)$$

$$PL7 = 10 \frac{(-\alpha7 - sp7)}{10}$$

$$de = \pi * rr^2 \text{ if } r < \lambda \quad \text{ang} = \pi/2$$

$$r > \lambda \quad \text{ang} = \text{asin}(\lambda/d)$$

Attenuation Loss

$$at1 = \frac{D1}{c} * SPS \quad at2 = \frac{D2}{c} * SPS \quad at3 = \frac{D3}{c} * SPS$$

$$at4 = \frac{D4}{c} * SPS \quad at5 = \frac{D5}{c} * SPS \quad at6 = \frac{D6}{c} * SPS$$

$$at7 = \frac{D7}{c} * SPS$$

III. MATHEMATICAL MODEL

A. Multipath Parameters

Let us consider TX = (x1,y1,z1) = (3,4,5) and Rx = (x2,y2,z2) = (7,8,9) and aquarium dimension as Width W = 20 Length = 30 Depth = 10

$$D1 = \sqrt{(7-3)^2 + (8-4)^2 + (9-5)^2} = 6.9283$$

$$Rx2 = [2 * 20 - 7, 8, 9] = [33, 8, 9]$$

$$D2 = \sqrt{(33-3)^2 + (8-4)^2 + (9-5)^2} = 30.52$$

$$Rx3 = [-7, 8, 9]$$

$$D3 = \sqrt{(-7-3)^2 + (8-4)^2 + (9-5)^2} = 11.48$$

$$Rx4 = [7, 8, 2 * 10 - 9] = [7, 8, 11]$$

$$D4 = \sqrt{(7-3)^2 + (8-4)^2 + (11-5)^2} = 8.246$$

$$Rx5 = [x_2, y_2, -z_2] = [7, 8, -9]$$

$$D5 = \sqrt{(7-3)^2 + (8-4)^2 + (-9-5)^2} = 15.099$$

$$Rx6 = [7, 2 * 30 - 8, 9] = [7, 52, 9]$$

$$D6 = \sqrt{(7-3)^2 + (52-4)^2 + (9-5)^2} = 48.33$$

$$Rx7 = [x_2, -y_2, z_2] = [7, -8, 9]$$

$$D7 = \sqrt{(7-3)^2 + (-8-4)^2 + (9-5)^2} = 13.266$$

B. Attenuation Parameters

Let us consider attenuation parameters, Frequency f = 1000 kHz, Radius r = 1cm, Depth D = 1 Radius Reference rr = 10 cm, Salinity S = 1 ppt, Temperature = 30, Ph = 7.2ppm, SPS = 2.5 e^7 = 2741.58

$$f1 = 0.78 * \sqrt{\frac{1}{35}} * e^{\frac{30}{26}} = 0.4163$$

$$f2 = 42 * e^{\frac{30}{17}} = 245.27$$

$$C_{\text{metro}} = 1535.275$$

$$C = C_{\text{metro}} * 100 = 153527.5$$

$$\lambda = \frac{c}{(f * 1000)} = 0.15353$$

Absorption Co-Efficient

$$\alpha = \frac{0.106 * f1 * f2 * e^{\frac{Ph-8}{0.36}}}{f1^2 + f2^2} + \frac{0.52 * (1 + \frac{T}{43}) * \frac{S}{43} * f2 * f2 * e^{\frac{-D}{6}}}{f2^2 + f2^2} + 0.00049 * f2 * e^{(-\frac{T}{27} + \frac{D}{17})}$$

$$= 155.9422$$

Absorption Loss :

$$\alpha1 = \frac{\alpha * D1}{10^5} = 155.942 * 6.9283 / 10^5 = 0.010804$$

$$\alpha2 = \frac{\alpha * D2}{10^5} = 155.942 * 30.52 / 10^5 = 0.0475$$

$$\alpha3 = \frac{\alpha * D3}{10^5} = 155.942 * 11.48 / 10^5 = 0.0179$$

$$\alpha4 = \frac{\alpha * D4}{10^5} = 155.942 * 8.246 / 10^5 = 0.01285$$

$$\alpha5 = \frac{\alpha * D5}{10^5} = 155.942 * 15.099 / 10^5 = 0.023547$$

$$\alpha6 = \frac{\alpha * D6}{10^5} = 155.942 * 48.33 / 10^5 = 0.07822$$

$$\alpha7 = \frac{\alpha * D7}{10^5} = 155.942 * 13.266 / 10^5 = 0.029423$$

Spreading Parameters :

$$de = \pi * rr^2 = 314.15 \quad \text{if } r < \lambda \quad \text{ang} = \pi/2$$

$$d = 2 * r = 2 * 1 = 2 \text{cm} \quad r > \lambda \quad \text{ang} = \text{asin}(\lambda/d) \quad \text{ang} = \text{asin}(0.15353/2) = 0.07684$$

Spreading Loss

$$sp1 = 10 \log_{10} \left(\frac{(2 * \text{ang} * D1^2) + de}{de} \right) = 10 \log_{10} \left(\frac{(2 * 0.07684 * 6.9283^2) + 314.15}{314.15} \right) = 0.1008$$

$$sp2 = 10 \log_{10} \left(\frac{(2 * \text{ang} * D2^2) + de}{de} \right) =$$

$$10 \log_{10} \left(\frac{(2 * 0.07684 * 30.52^2) + 314.15}{314.15} \right) = 1.6313$$

$$sp3 = 10 \log_{10} \left(\frac{(2 * \text{ang} * D3^2) + de}{de} \right) =$$

$$10 \log_{10} \left(\frac{(2 * 0.07684 * 11.48^2) + 314.15}{314.15} \right) = 0.27175$$

$$sp4 = 10 \log_{10} \left(\frac{(2 * \text{ang} * D4^2) + de}{de} \right) =$$

$$10 \log_{10} \left(\frac{(2 * 0.07684 * 8.246^2) + 314.15}{314.15} \right) = 0.14211$$

$$sp5 = 10 \log_{10} \left(\frac{(2 * \text{ang} * D5^2) + de}{de} \right) = 10 \log_{10} \left(\frac{(2 * 0.07684 * 15.099^2) + 314.15}{314.15} \right) = 0.45922$$

$$sp6 = 10 \log_{10} \left(\frac{(2 * \text{ang} * D6^2) + de}{de} \right) =$$

$$10 \log_{10} \left(\frac{(2 * 0.07684 * 48.33^2) + 314.15}{314.15} \right) = 3.4845$$

$$sp7 = 10 \log_{10} \left(\frac{(2 * \text{ang} * D7^2) + de}{de} \right) =$$

$$10 \log_{10} \left(\frac{(2 * 0.07684 * 13.266^2) + 314.15}{314.15} \right) = 0.69722$$

Total Path Loss

$$PL1 = 10 \frac{(-\alpha1 - sp1)}{10} = 10 \frac{(-0.010804 - 0.1008)}{10} = 0.9746$$

$$PL2 = 10 \frac{(-\alpha2 - sp2)}{10} = 10 \frac{(-0.0475 - 1.6313)}{10} = 0.6793$$

$$PL3 = 10 \frac{(-\alpha3 - sp3)}{10} = 10 \frac{(-0.0179 - 0.27175)}{10} = 0.9354$$

$$PL4 = 10 \frac{(-\alpha4 - sp4)}{10} = 10 \frac{(-0.01285 - 0.14211)}{10} = 0.9649$$

$$PL5 = 10 \frac{(-\alpha5 - sp5)}{10} = 10 \frac{(-0.023547 - 0.45922)}{10} = 0.8948$$

$$PL6 = 10 \frac{(-\alpha6 - sp6)}{10} = 10 \frac{(-0.07822 - 3.4845)}{10} = 0.4402$$

$$PL7 = 10 \frac{(-\alpha7 - sp7)}{10} = 10 \frac{(-0.029423 - 0.69722)}{10} = 0.8459$$

Attenuation Loss :

$$at1 = \frac{D1}{c} * SPS = \frac{6.92}{153527.5} * 2741.5 = 0.1235$$

$$at2 = \frac{D2}{c} * SPS = \frac{30.52}{153527.5} * 2741.5 = 0.42143$$

$$at3 = \frac{D3}{c} * SPS = \frac{11.48}{153527.5} * 2741.5 =$$

$$0.081443$$



$$at4 = \frac{D4}{c} * SPS = \frac{8.24}{153527.5} * 2741.5 = 0.023535$$

$$at5 = \frac{D5}{c} * SPS = \frac{15.09}{153527.5} * 2741.5 = 0.14592$$

$$at6 = \frac{D6}{c} * SPS = \frac{48.33}{153527.5} * 2741.5 = 0.77197$$

$$at7 = \frac{D7}{c} * SPS = \frac{13.26}{153527.5} * 2741.5 = 0.21321$$

C. Ambient Noise Parameters

Let us consider the shipping Factor =1 Wind Speed = 10 MEV = 1, Ntoff =1, Nsoff=1, Nwoff = 1, Nthoff = 1

Turbulence Noise

$$N_t = 10^{\frac{((17-30\log_{10}(f)))}{10}} N_{t\text{off}} = 10^{\frac{((17-30\log_{10}(1000))}{10}} * 1 = 5.01187 \times 10^{-8}$$

Shipping Noise

$$N_s = 10^{\frac{((40+(20(s-0.5))+26\log_{10}(f))-(60\log_{10}(f+0.03)))}{10}} N_{s\text{off}}$$

$$= 10^{\frac{((40+(20(1-0.5))+26\log_{10}(1000))-(60\log_{10}(1000+0.03)))}{10}} * 1$$

$$= 6.309 \times 10^{-6}$$

Wave Noise

$$N_w = 10^{\frac{\left(50 + \left(7.5 \left(\frac{1}{w^2}\right)\right) + (20\log_{10}(f)) - (40\log_{10}(f+0.4))\right)}{10}} N_{w\text{off}}$$

$$= 10^{\frac{\left(50 + \left(7.5 \left(\frac{1}{10^2}\right)\right) + (20\log_{10}(1000)) - (40\log_{10}(1000+0.4))\right)}{10}} * 1 = 23.49$$

Thermal Noise

$$N_{th} = 10^{\frac{((-15+20\log_{10}(f)))}{10}} N_{th\text{off}}$$

$$= 10^{\frac{((-15+20\log_{10}(1000))}{10}} * 1 = 31622.7766$$

$$\text{Total Ambient Noise} = N_t + N_s + N_w + N_{th} = 31647.2737$$

IV. RESULT AND ANALYSIS

Below section provides the Graphical user interface (GUI) developed for Underwater Acoustic Channel Model considering Multipath Parameters, Attenuation parameters and Ambient Noise Parameters.

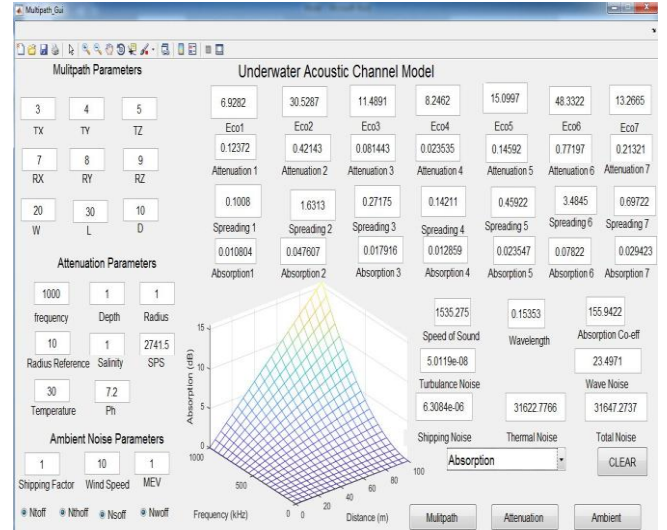


Figure 3. Underwater Acoustic Channel Model GUI with Absorption loss

Figure 3 shows MATLAB GUI for Underwater acoustic channel mode with absorption loss variation with frequency and distance (m).

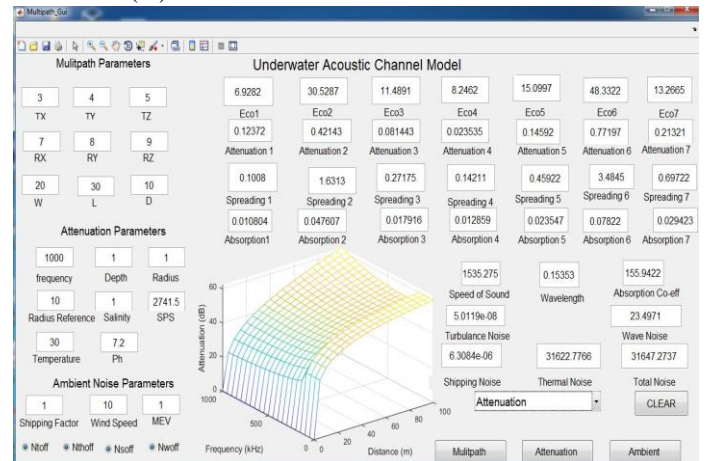


Figure 4: Underwater Acoustic Channel Model GUI with Attenuation loss

Figure 4 shows MATLAB GUI for Underwater acoustic channel mode with Attenuation loss variation with frequency and distance (m).

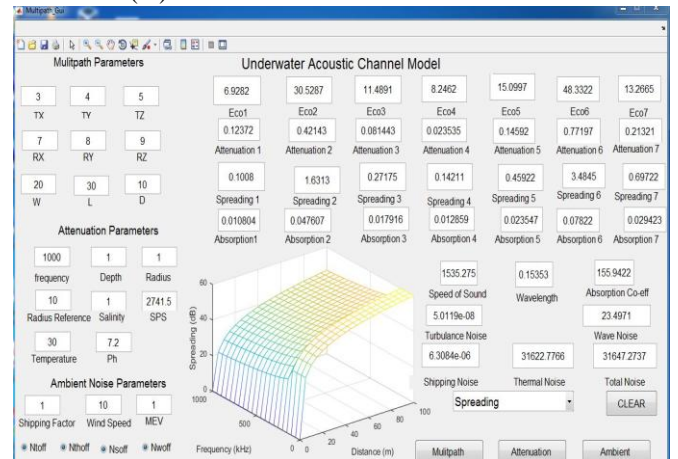


Figure 5: Underwater Acoustic Channel Model GUI with spreading loss



V. CONCLUSION

MATLAB GUI for Underwater acoustic channel model is been achieved in the research work. Underwater channel characteristics like Multipath parameters, Attenuation parameters and ambient noise Parameters are considered in modeling the Aquatic channel. GUI results provide with the total noise due to ambient noise parameters such as wave noise, thermal noise, turbulence noise and shipping noise. Attenuation loss is due to spreading loss and absorption loss and it is recorded for different path. Multipath distance is calculated by considering the aquarium dimension of specified Width, Length and height between a transmitter and receiver. Calculated ambient noise and attenuation loss values will be used as underwater acoustic channel in OFDM Communication system and results will be compared with OFDM Communication system in AWGN Channel.

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