

## **Monte Carlo simulation**

*.....for better yield and performance*

***--A tutorial***

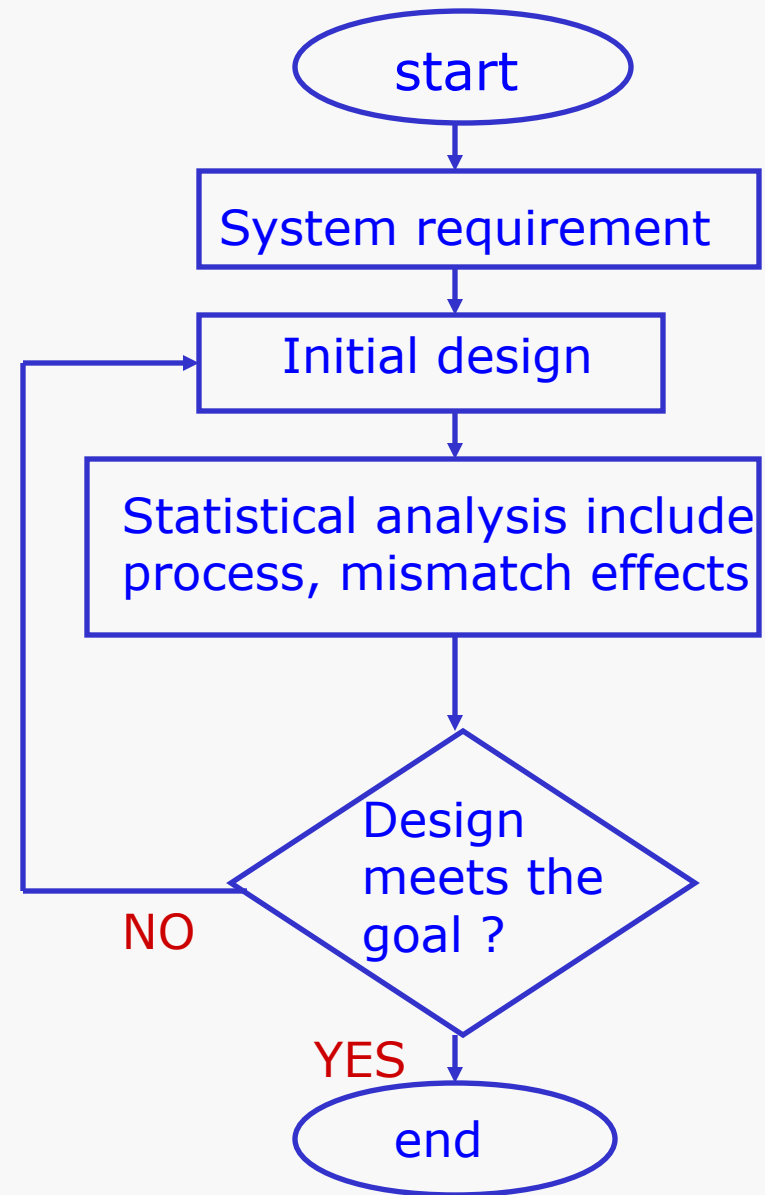
# Monte Carlo simulation

*.....for better yield and performance*

If fabrication process parameter and device mismatch effect on same die are not taken in to account then→

- Some design may degrade in performance
- Overall design yield could be unexpectedly low

Hence statistical analysis must find a high place in design cycle



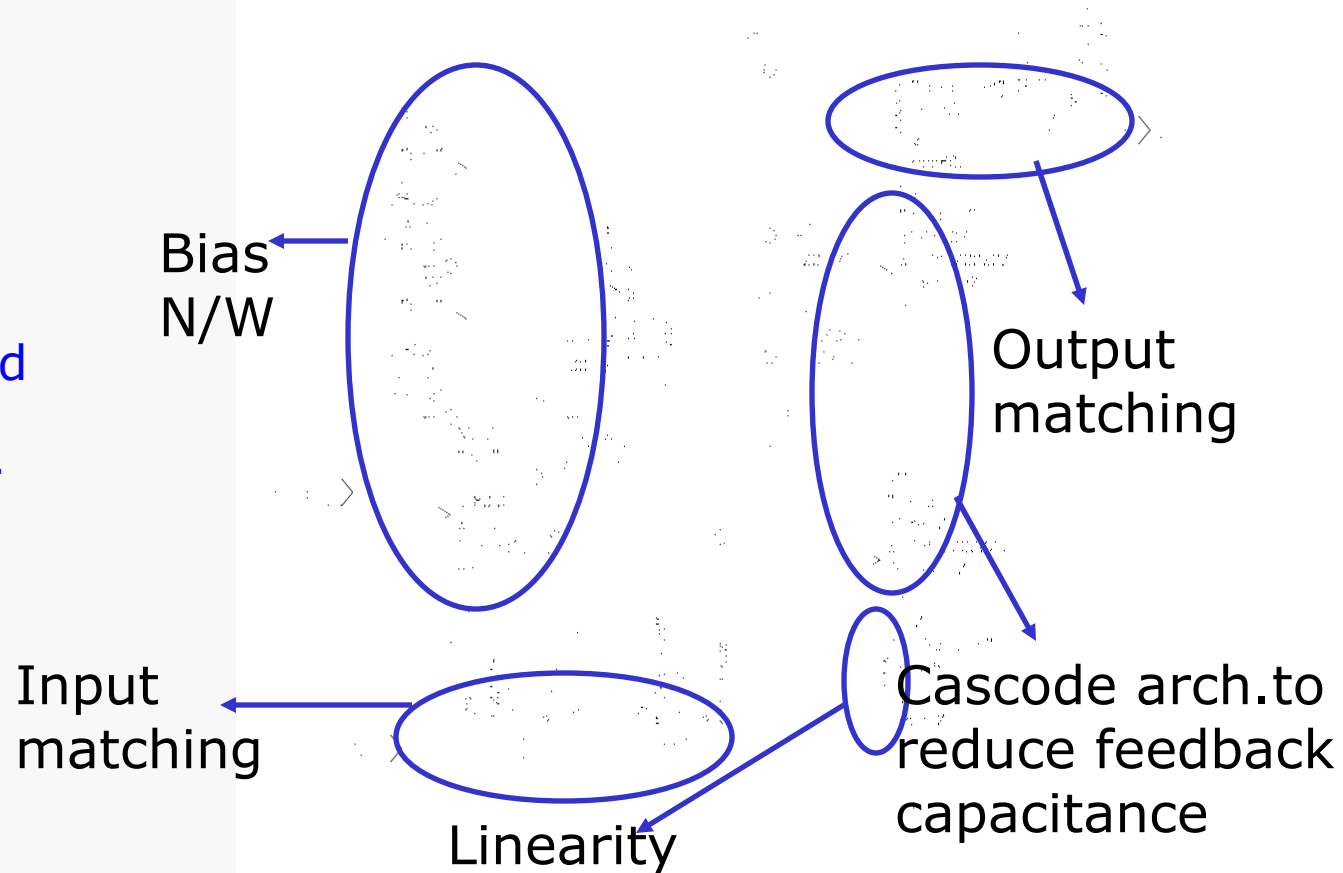
# Monte Carlo simulation

- We will perform Monte Carlo analysis on an RF-front end LNA and compare the result if no statistical analysis is done.
- We will also see how to analyze yield and scalar data in Monte Carlo with the help of Low pass filter example.

# Monte Carlo simulation(example)

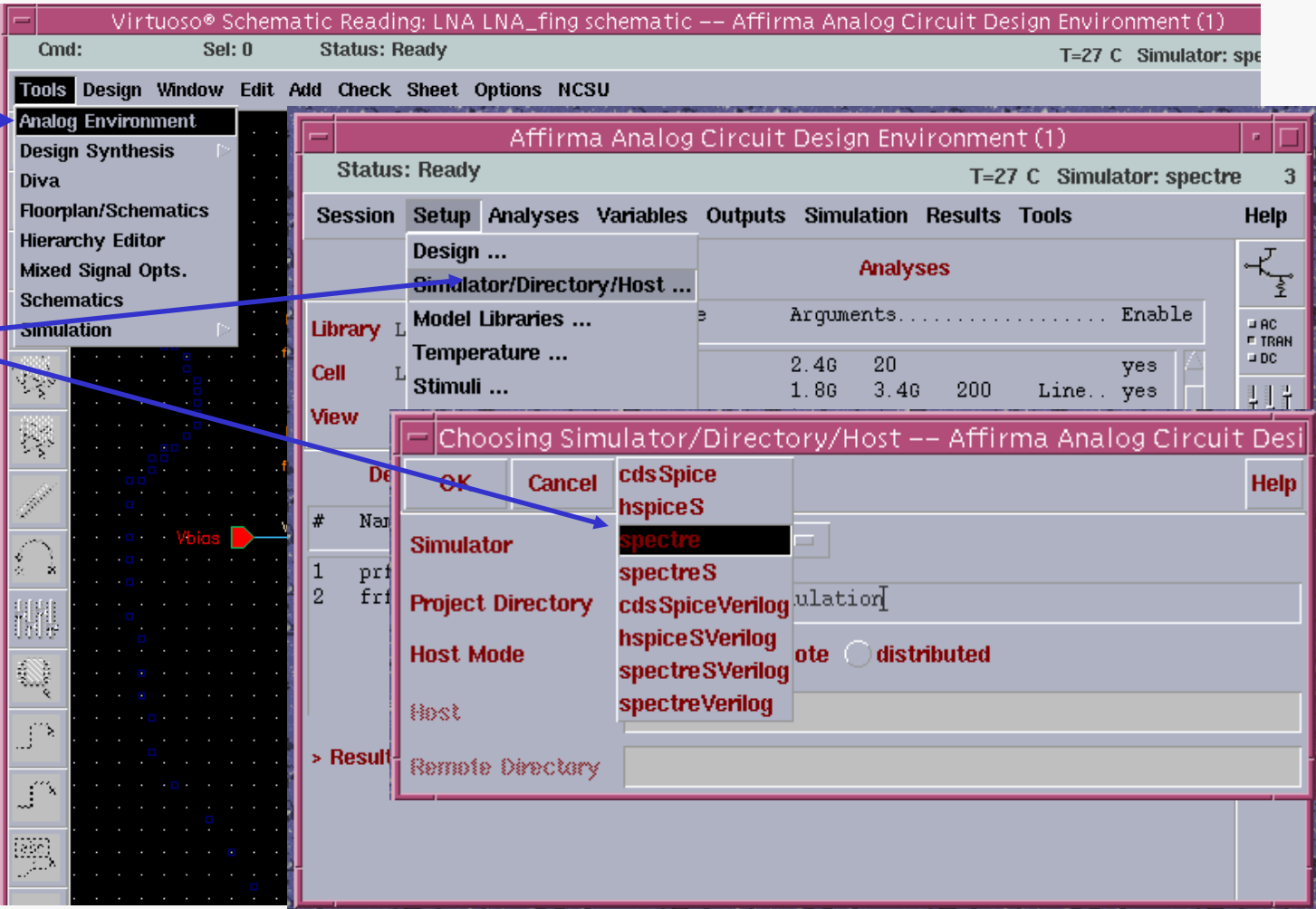
## RF-front end (LNA)

- Knowing System requirement
- Initial design based on requirement like noise, gain, narrow or wide band.



# Monte Carlo simulation

- 1. Choosing affirma analog artist
- 2. Choosing Spectre simulator

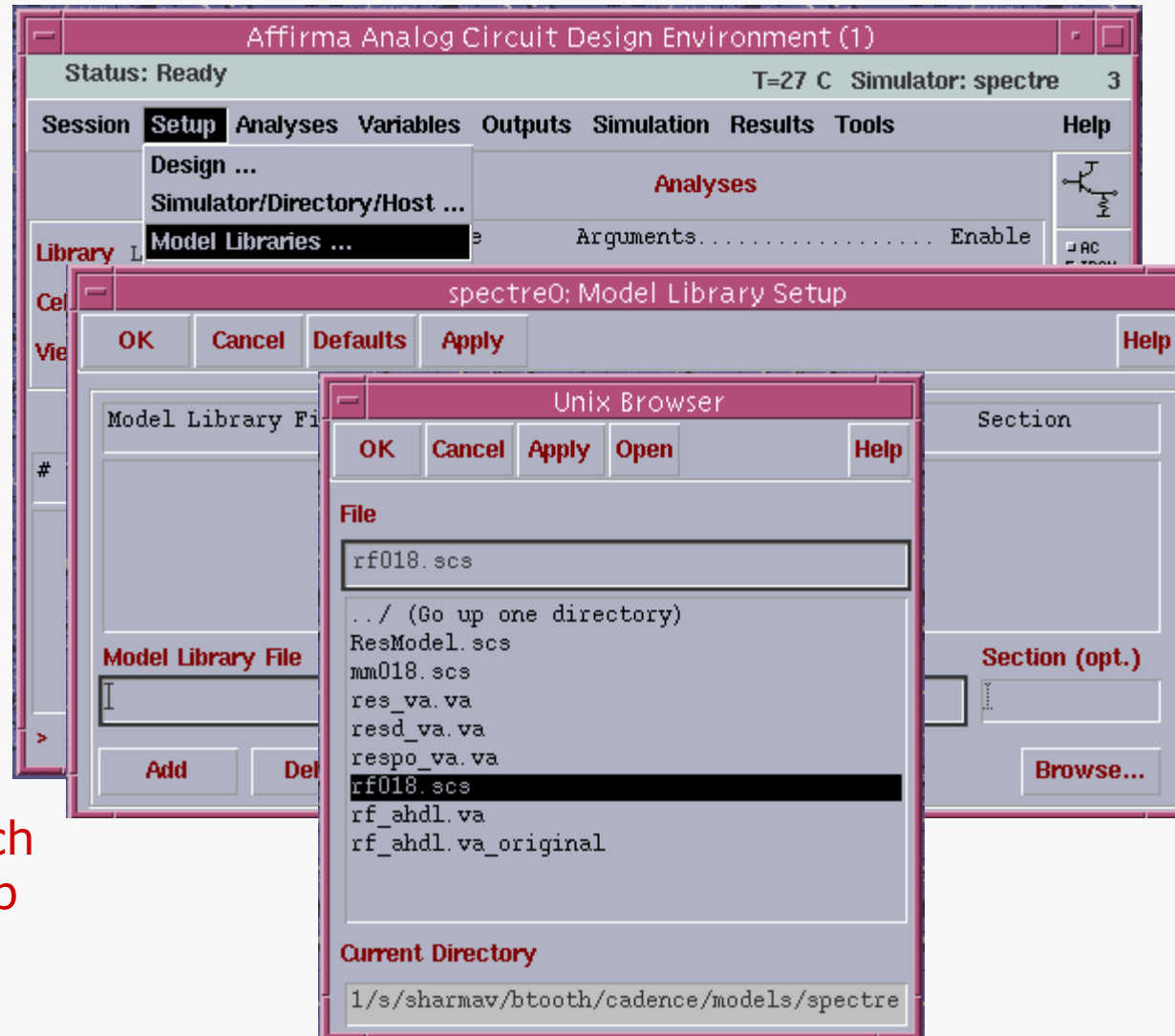


Cadence simulation setup (Normal)

# Monte Carlo simulation

1. Choose  
setup → model libraries

2. Browse and choose  
model file in the directory



Choosing model file, which  
contains all MOS, reg., cap  
model parameters.

Cadence simulation setup (Normal)

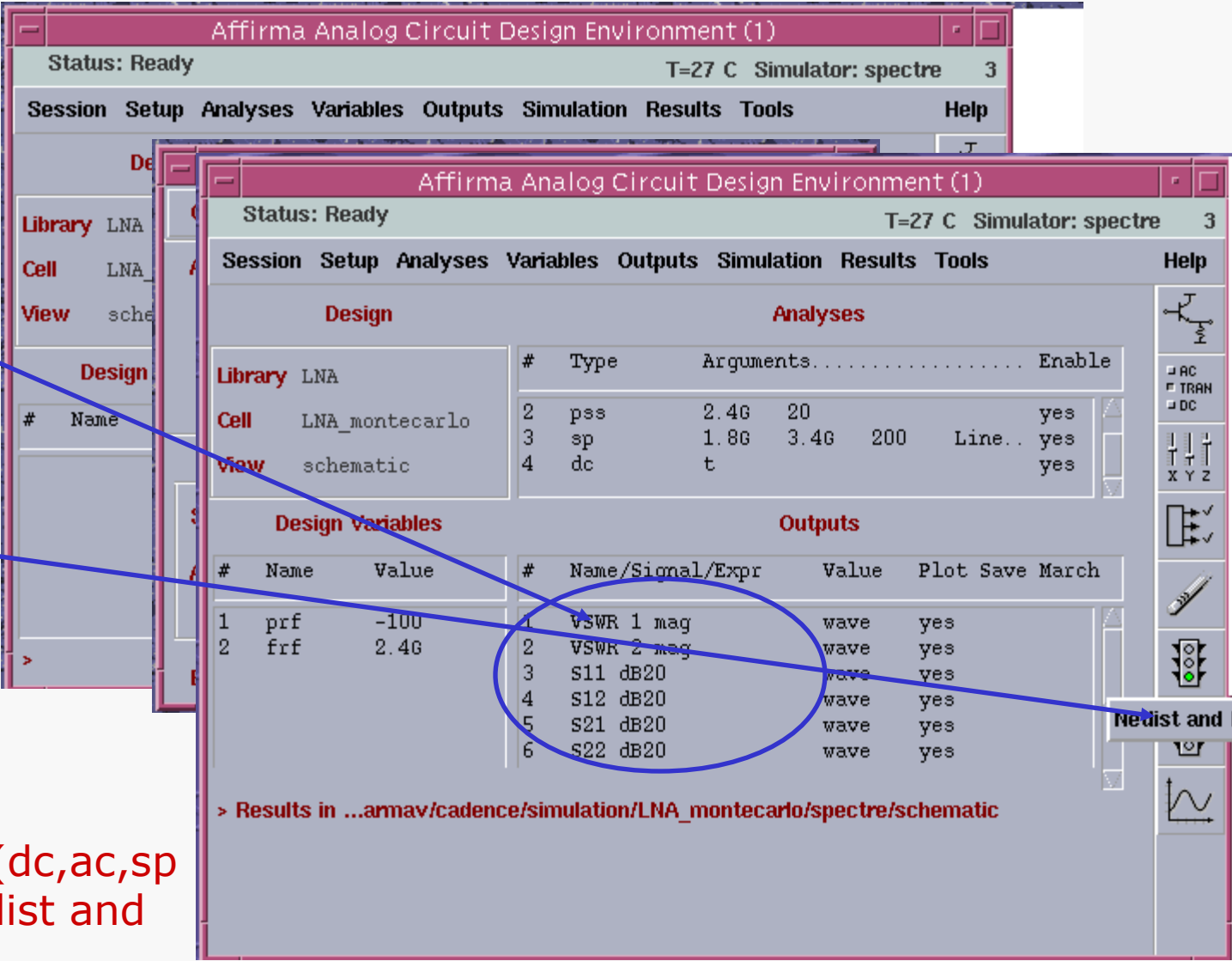
# Monte Carlo simulation

1. Choose analysis to run

2. Choose output to plot

3. Create netlist and run

Set up analysis(dc,ac,sp etc.), create netlist and run simulator



Cadence simulation setup (Normal)

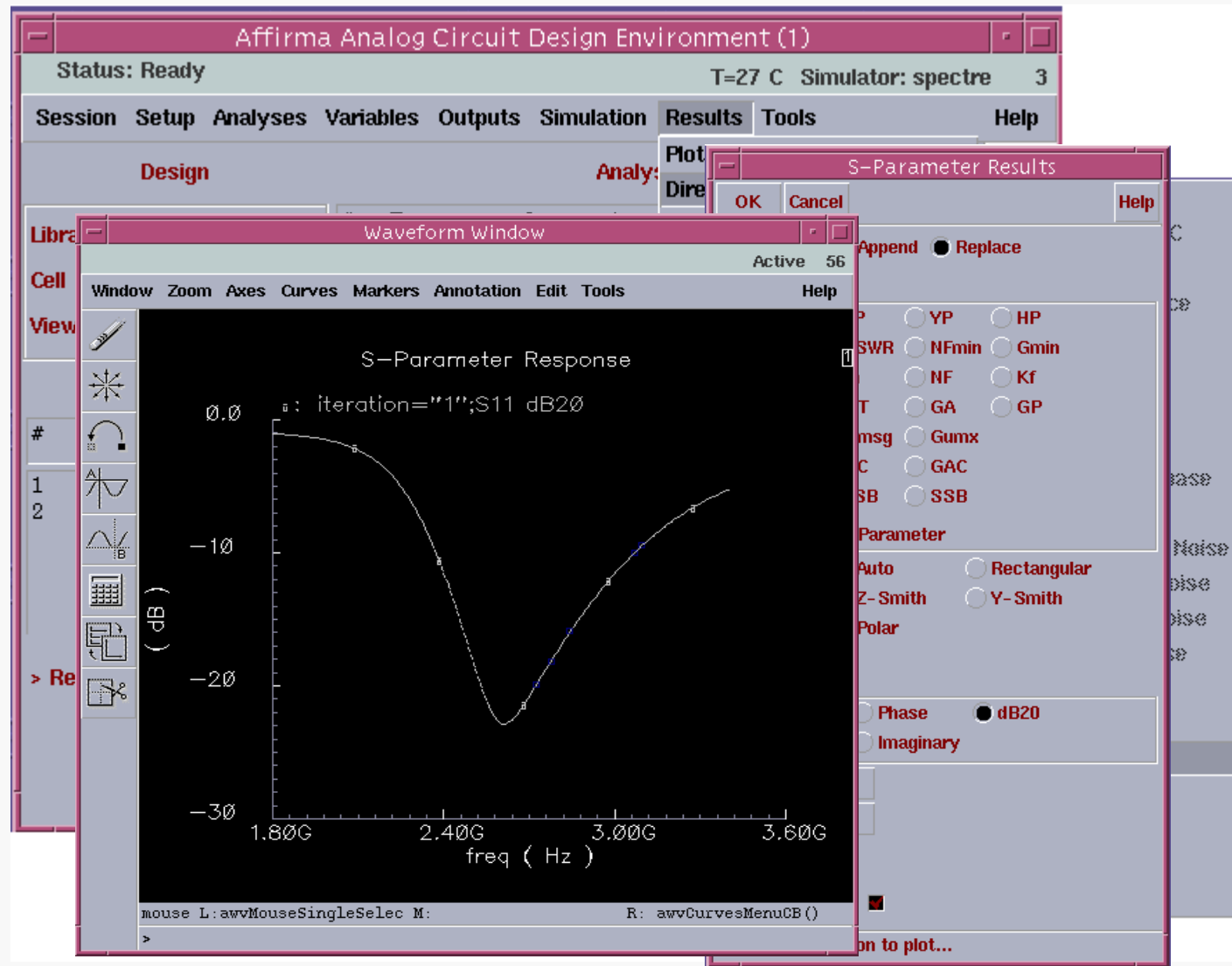
# Monte Carlo simulation

Plotting results

1. Choose direct plot for analysis

2. Click to view the desired result

3. Analyze waveform



Cadence simulation setup (Normal)



# Monte Carlo simulation

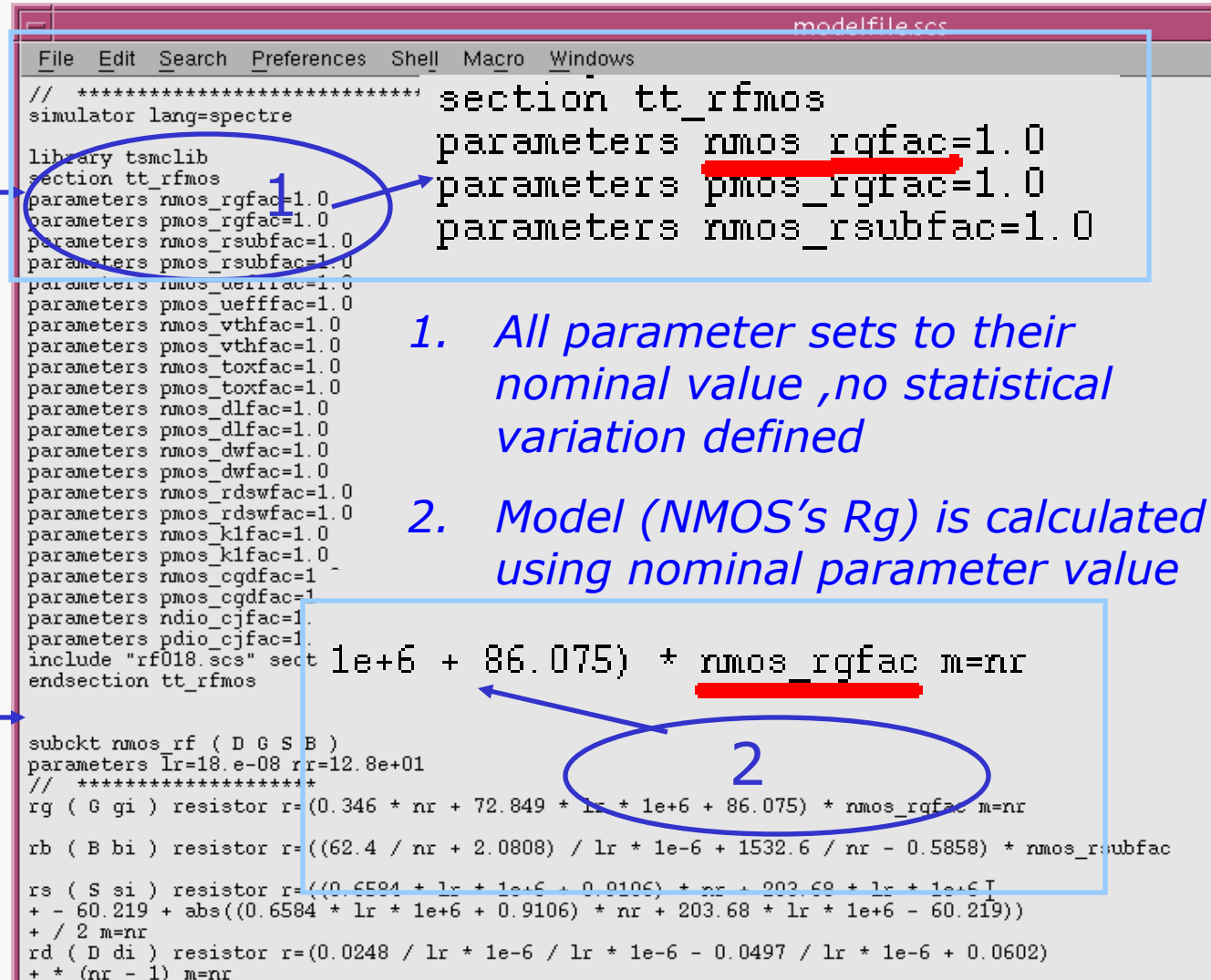
## Monte Carlo modeling in Cadence spectre simulator

- **Process Section** - describes manufacturing parameter, their statistical variation and a model for device that calculates its (width, length, cap, res. Etc.) according to process parameter.
- **Design- Specific Section** – designer according to his need can specify Monte Carlo analysis. For example in a current mirror circuit, matched transistors are used and designer can give some correlation factor between these matched transistor.

# Monte Carlo simulation

## Typical Model File

### Process Section



```
// *****  
simulator lang=spectre  
  
library tsmclib  
section tt_rfmos  
parameters nmos_rgfac=1.0  
parameters pmos_rgfac=1.0  
parameters nmos_rsubfac=1.0  
parameters pmos_rsubfac=1.0  
parameters nmos_uerffac=1.0  
parameters pmos_ueffac=1.0  
parameters nmos_vthfac=1.0  
parameters pmos_vthfac=1.0  
parameters nmos_toxfac=1.0  
parameters pmos_toxfac=1.0  
parameters nmos_dlfac=1.0  
parameters pmos_dlfac=1.0  
parameters nmos_dwfac=1.0  
parameters pmos_dwfac=1.0  
parameters nmos_rdsfac=1.0  
parameters pmos_rdsfac=1.0  
parameters nmos_k1fac=1.0  
parameters pmos_k1fac=1.0  
parameters nmos_cgdfac=1.0  
parameters pmos_cgdfac=1.0  
parameters ndio_cjfac=1.0  
parameters pdio_cjfac=1.0  
include "rf018.scs" sect 1e+6 + 86.075) * nmos_rgfac m=nr  
endsection tt_rfmos  
  
subckt nmos_rf ( D G S B )  
parameters lr=18.e-08 rr=12.8e+01  
// *****  
rg ( G gi ) resistor r=(0.346 * nr + 72.849 * lr * 1e+6 + 86.075) * nmos_rgfac m=nr  
rb ( B bi ) resistor r=((62.4 / nr + 2.0808) / lr * 1e-6 + 1532.6 / nr - 0.5858) * nmos_rsubfac  
rs ( S si ) resistor r=((0.6584 * lr * 1e+6 + 0.9106) * nr + 203.68 * lr * 1e+6 - 60.219 +  
abs((0.6584 * lr * 1e+6 + 0.9106) * nr + 203.68 * lr * 1e+6 - 60.219))  
+ / 2 m=nr  
rd ( D di ) resistor r=(0.0248 / lr * 1e-6 / lr * 1e-6 - 0.0497 / lr * 1e-6 + 0.0602)  
+ * (nr - 1) m=nr
```

1. All parameter sets to their nominal value ,no statistical variation defined
2. Model (NMOS's Rg) is calculated using nominal parameter value

Cadence simulation setup (Monte Carlo)

# Monte Carlo simulation

Defining process, mismatch parameter as statistically assigned value

## Process Section

Assesses the device mismatch on different die, which could have gone through some different process parameters during fabrication.

Assesses the device mismatch on same die, which could have gone through some different process parameter.

```
modelTitle.scs
File Edit Search Preferences Shell Macro Windows
parameters pmos_rdsfac=1.0
parameters rmos_klfac=1.0
parameters pmos_klfac=1.0
parameters rmos_cgdfac=1.0
parameters pmos_cgdfac=1.0
parameters ndio_cjfac=1.0
parameters pdio_cjfac=1.0
include "rf018.scs" section=rf_macro
endsection tt_rfmos

//*****Include one STATISTICAL Section in the model file *****/
section stats
simulator lang=spectre
statistics {
  process {
    vary      rmos_rgfac      dist=gauss std= 15e-2
    vary      rmos_rsubfac    dist=gauss std= 18e-2
    vary      rmos_vthfac     dist=gauss std= 12e-2
    vary      rmos_toxfac     dist=gauss std= 8e-2
  }
  mismatch {
    vary      rmos_rgfac      dist=gauss std= 12e-3
    vary      rmos_rsubfac    dist=gauss std= 15e-3
    vary      rmos_vthfac     dist=gauss std= 16e-3
    vary      rmos_toxfac     dist=gauss std= 11e-4
  }
}
endsection stats
```

Variation defined as a distributed function

Cadence simulation setup (Monte Carlo)

# Monte Carlo simulation

## Design Specific Section

This includes the circuit connectivity (two resistors, and corresponding current sources that feed them)

Defining correlation between two devices (R1, R2) †

†Note: Alternatively this information can also be inserted through Artist Monte Carlo Tool.

```
vary      rmos_rdsfac      dist=gauss std=2e-3
vary      rmos_klfac       dist=lnorm  std=2e-3
vary      rmos_cgdfac      dist=gauss  std=0.10

}

}

//*****DESIGN SPECIFIC SECTION *****
//Two resistors ,4K nominal, different geometries
R1(1 0) RPLR Rnom=4k0hm WB=5
R2(2 0) RPLR Rnom=4k0hm WB=10

//Current source biasing
J1(0 1) isource dc=1mA //force 1 mA through R1
J2(0 2) isource dc=1mA //force 1 mA through R2

//Monte Carlo analysis specification
m1 montecarlo saveprocessparams=yes processscalarfile="../../process_simple.dat"
+      numruns=3 variations=mismatch seed=10

{
    dcop dc
    export v1 =oceanEval("v(\"1\")")
    export v2 =oceanEval("v(\"2\")")
    export v1_2 =oceanEval "v(\"1\")- "v(\"2\")"
}

// Match pairs, specify correlation Co-efficients
statistics {
    correlate dev= [R1 R2]  cc=0.75 //correlate the resistors
endsection state

//*****
```

Cadence simulation setup (Monte Carlo)

# Monte Carlo simulation

Model file used for  
LNA example

**Note**→This is not based on  
foundry data but modeled  
for illustrative purposes.

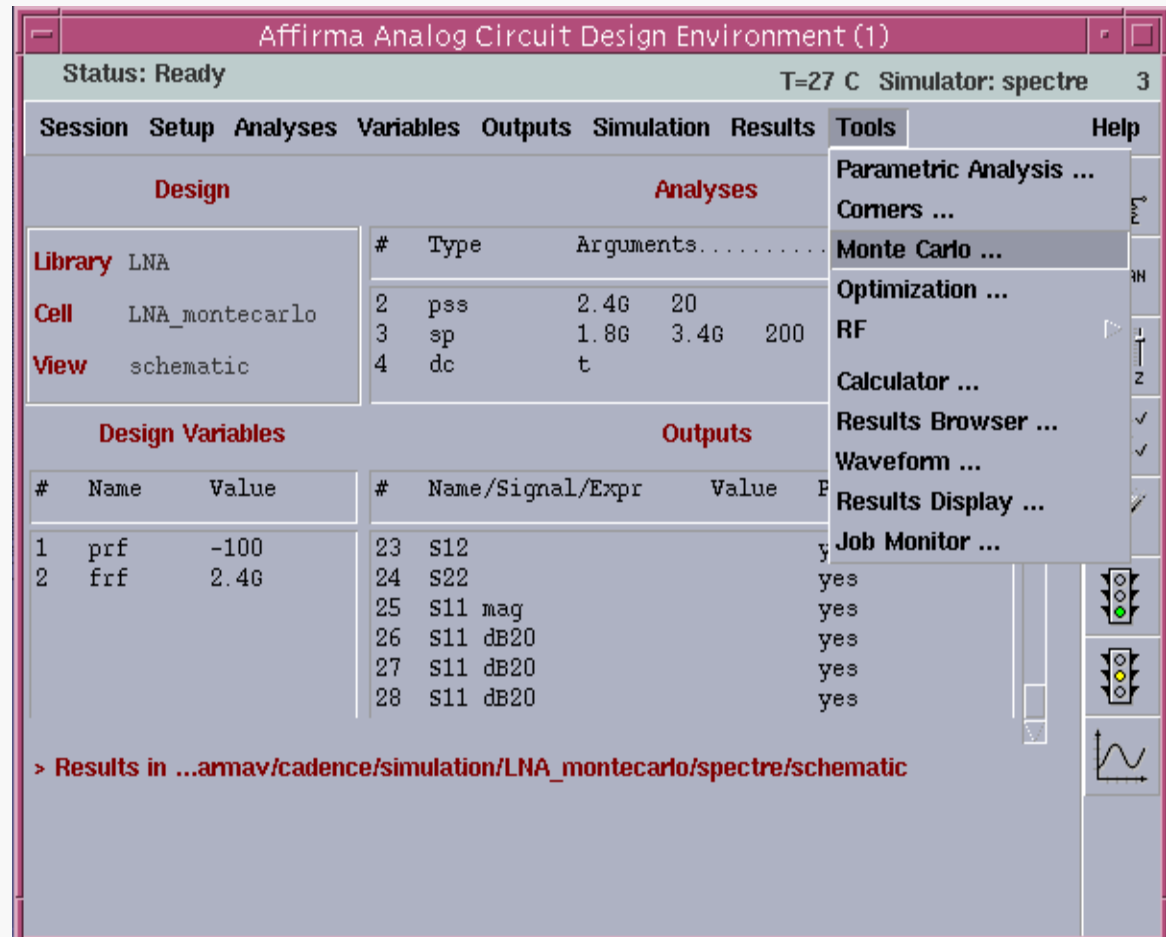
```
modelfile.scs
File Edit Search Preferences Shell Macro Windows
simulator lang=spectre
statistics {
  process {
    vary      nmos_rgfac      dist=gauss std=0.10
    vary      pmos_rgfac      dist=gauss std=0.10
    vary      nmos_rsubfac     dist=gauss std=0.12
    vary      pmos_rsubfac     dist=gauss std=0.170
    vary      nmos_uefffac     dist=lnorm std=0.9
    vary      pmos_uefffac     dist=lnorm std=1.1
    vary      nmos_vthfac      dist=gauss std=12e-2
    vary      pmos_vthfac      dist=gauss std=12e-2
    vary      nmos_toxfac      dist=gauss std=0.17
    vary      pmos_toxfac      dist=gauss std=0.9
    vary      nmos_dlfac       dist=gauss std=0.11
    vary      pmos_dlfac       dist=gauss std=0.8
    vary      nmos_dwfac       dist=gauss std=0.15
    vary      pmos_dwfac       dist=gauss std=0.14
    vary      nmos_rdswfac     dist=gauss std=0.11
    vary      pmos_rdswfac     dist=gauss std=12e-2
    vary      nmos_klfac       dist=lnorm std=20e-2
    vary      pmos_klfac       dist=lnorm std=19e-2
    vary      nmos_cgdfac      dist=gauss std=0.12
    vary      pmos_cgdfac      dist=gauss std=0.13
    vary      ndio_cjfac       dist=gauss std=0.15
    vary      pdio_cjfac       dist=gauss std=0.16
  }
  mismatch {
    vary      nmos_rgfac      dist=gauss std=0.01
    vary      pmos_rgfac      dist=gauss std=0.01
    vary      nmos_rsubfac     dist=gauss std=2e-3
    vary      pmos_rsubfac     dist=gauss std=2e-3
    vary      nmos_uefffac     dist=lnorm std=0.10
    vary      pmos_uefffac     dist=lnorm std=0.10
    vary      nmos_vthfac      dist=gauss std=2e-3
    vary      pmos_vthfac      dist=gauss std=2e-3
    vary      nmos_toxfac      dist=gauss std=0.10
    vary      pmos_toxfac      dist=gauss std=0.10
    vary      nmos_dlfac       dist=gauss std=0.10
    vary      pmos_dlfac       dist=gauss std=2e-3
    vary      nmos_dwfac       dist=gauss std=2e-3
    vary      pmos_dwfac       dist=gauss std=0.10
    vary      nmos_rdswfac     dist=gauss std=0.10
    vary      pmos_rdswfac     dist=gauss std=2e-3
    vary      nmos_klfac       dist=lnorm std=2e-3
    vary      pmos_klfac       dist=lnorm std=2e-3
    vary      nmos_cgdfac      dist=gauss std=0.10
    vary      pmos_cgdfac      dist=gauss std=0.10
    vary      ndio_cjfac       dist=gauss std=0.10
    vary      pdio_cjfac       dist=gauss std=0.10
  }
}
```

Cadence simulation setup (Monte Carlo)

# Monte Carlo simulation

After Initial design that meets the system requirement, statistical analysis must have to be carried out.

1. Make sure the addition of process and mismatch parameter section in model file.
2. Make certain to include the particular section (for exa. Stats in spectre) in simulation model library
3. Go to tool→Monte Carlo in affirma analog artist



Cadence simulation setup (Monte Carlo)

# Monte Carlo simulation

Choose no of iteration(default=100)

1.Choose which variation to include

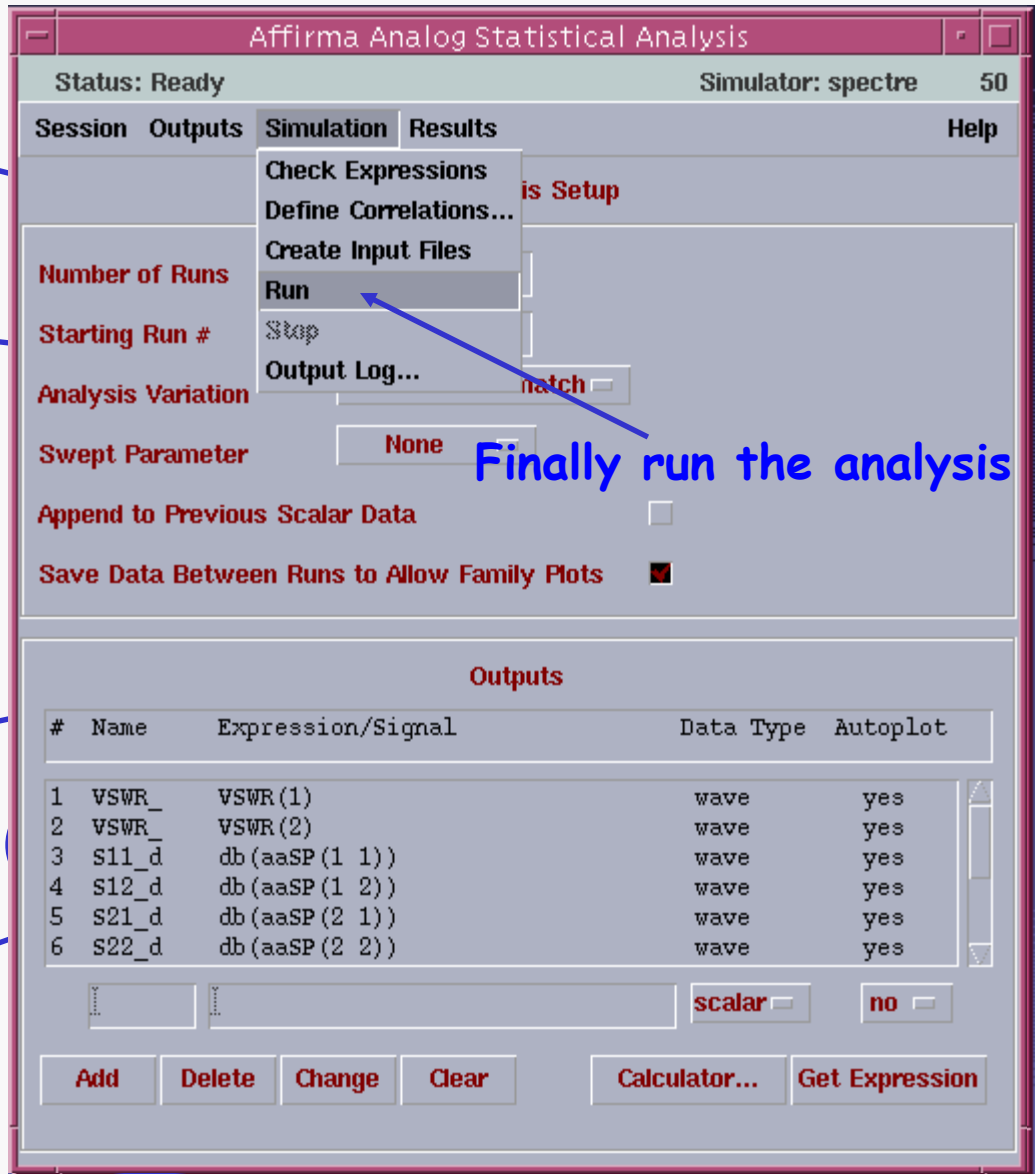
Process→device mismatch effect on two diff.die

Mismatch→device mismatch effect on same die

2.Click if you want to see the family of curve i.e. curve from each iteration

3.Define the expressions / signals on which Monte Carlo analysis will be performed.

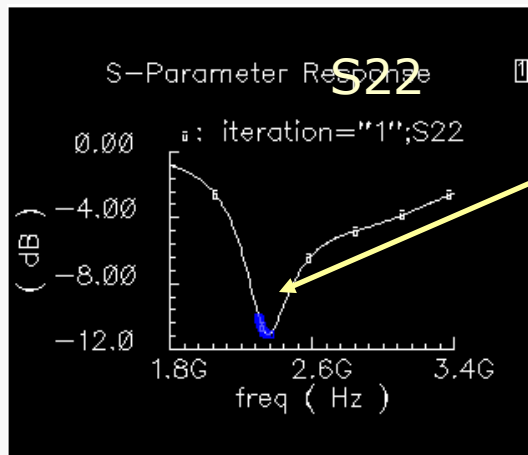
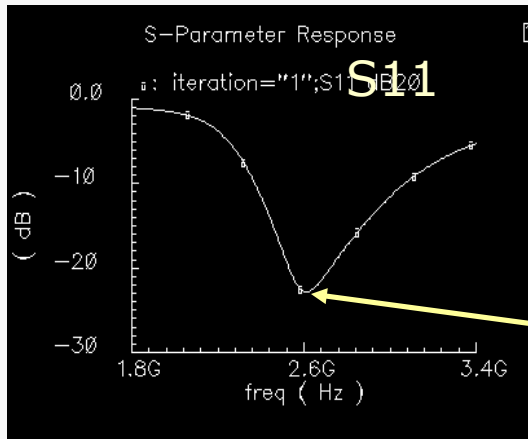
Note: calculator can also be used to get these expression



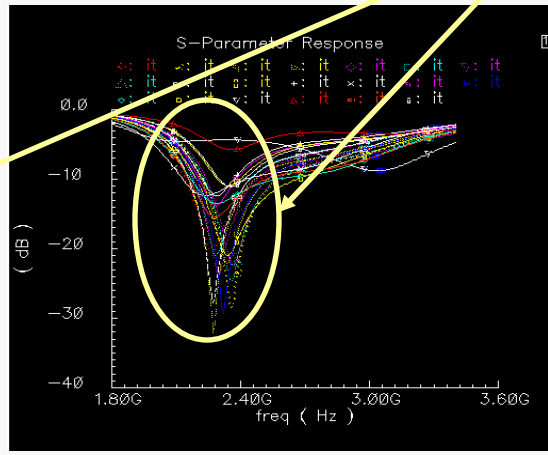
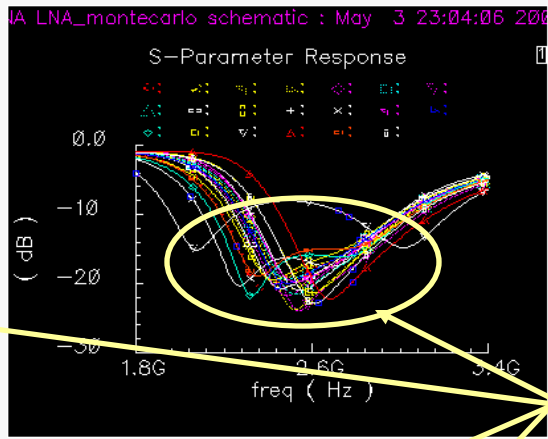
Cadence simulation setup (Monte Carlo)

# Monte Carlo simulation (Analyzing waveform)

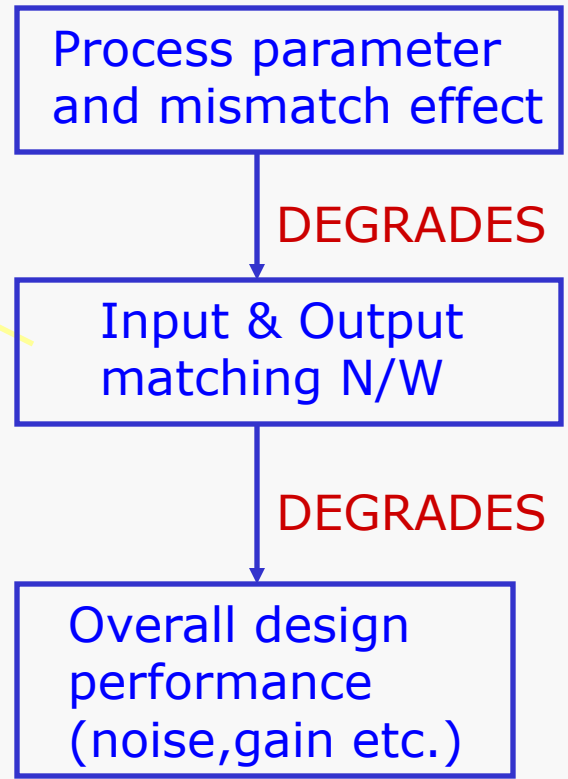
## Matching



Normal simulation  
(without statistical  
variation)



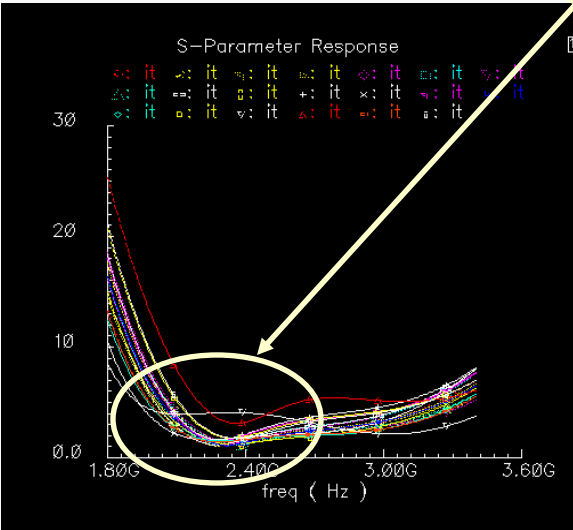
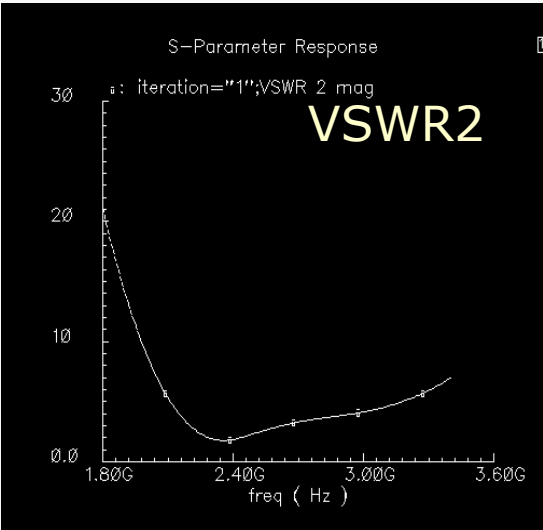
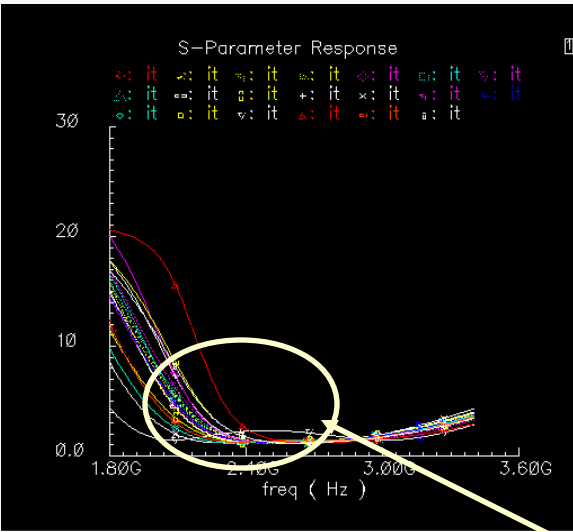
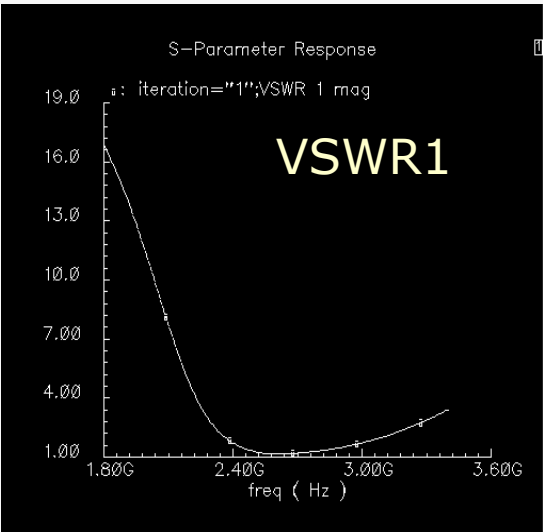
Monte Carlo Simulation  
(with statistical variation)





# Monte Carlo simulation (Analyzing waveform)

Matching(VSWR): It tells how well input and output N/W are matched.



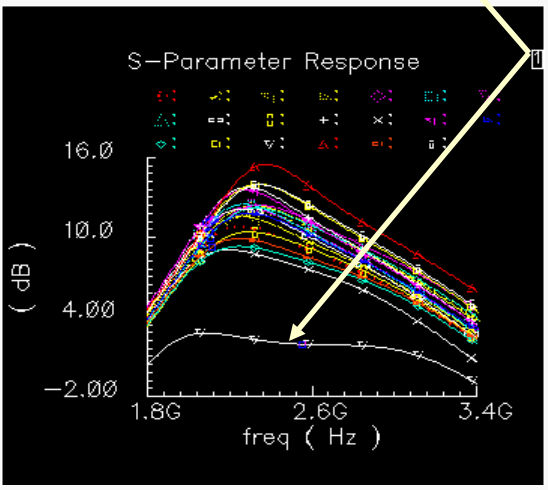
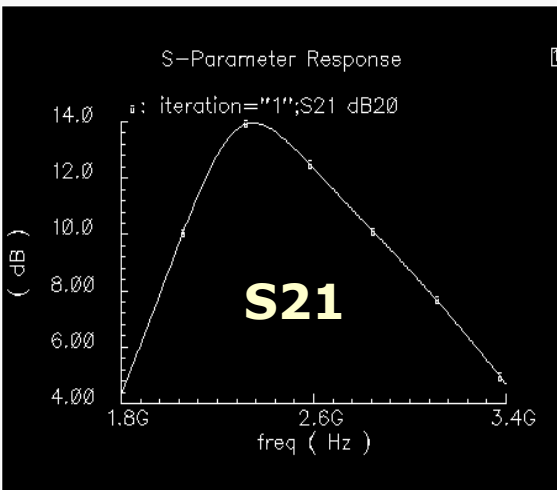
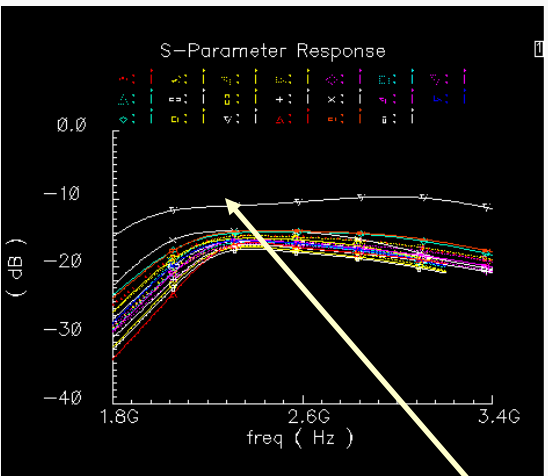
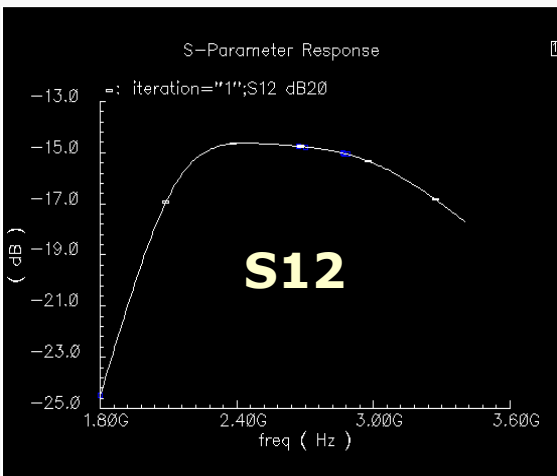
Variations in VSWR

Normal simulation

Monte Carlo simulation

# Monte Carlo simulation (Analyzing waveform)

## Matching(forward and reverse transmission gain)



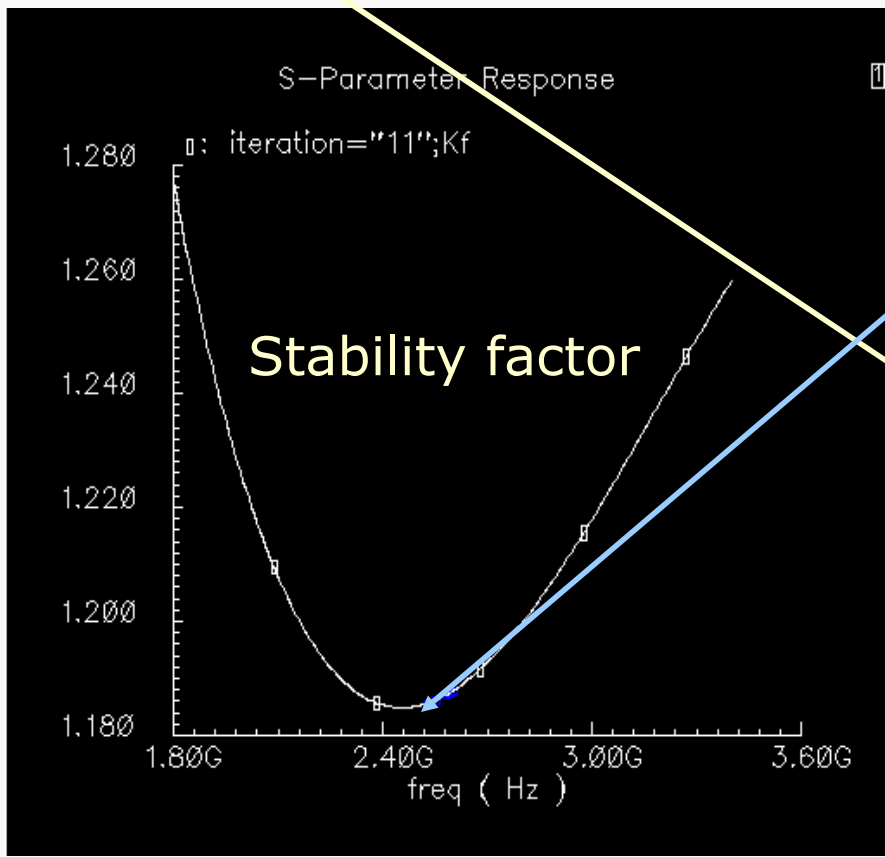
It has deteriorated the performance significantly, as a minimum S12 and maximum S21 value is desirable.

Normal simulation

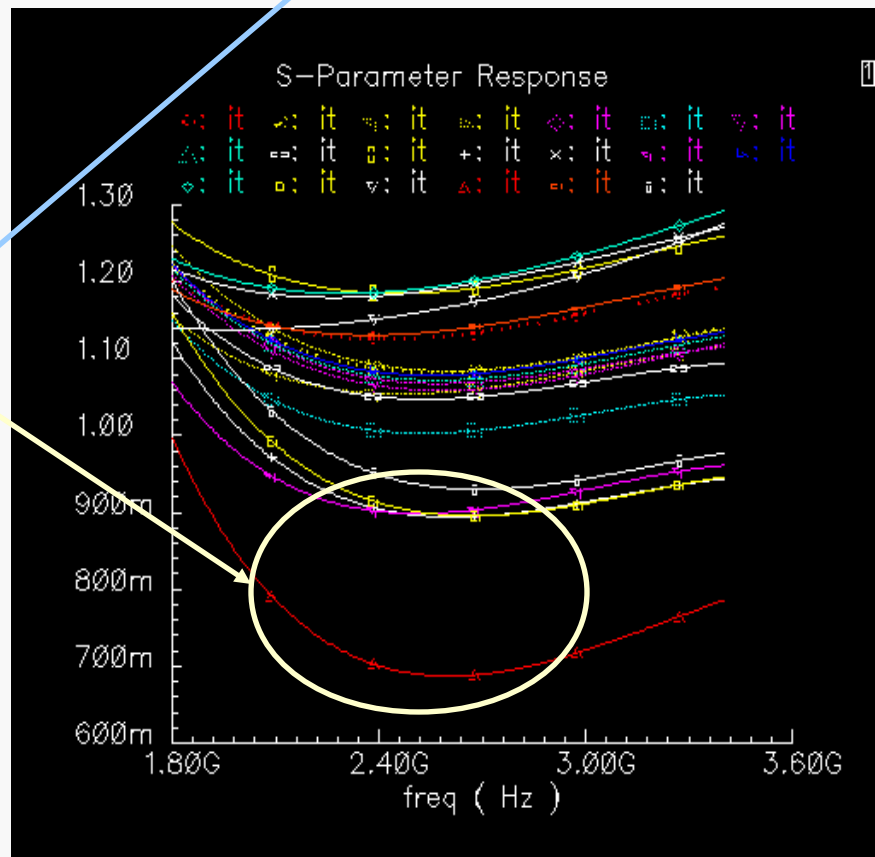
Monte Carlo simulation

# Monte Carlo simulation (Analyzing waveform)

Stability: A Kf value  $> 1$ , is desired for an stable amplifier  
Kf value has become  $< 1$ , and consequently creating a potential unstability, hence a large margin is required at initial design phase.



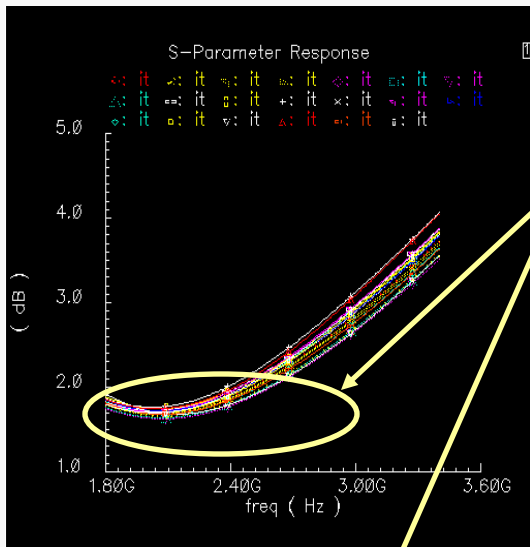
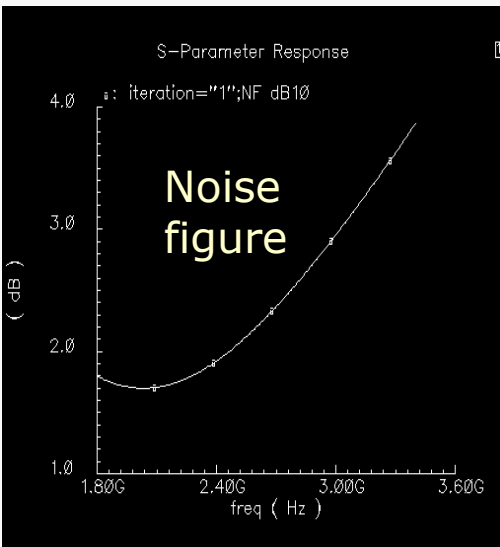
Normal simulation



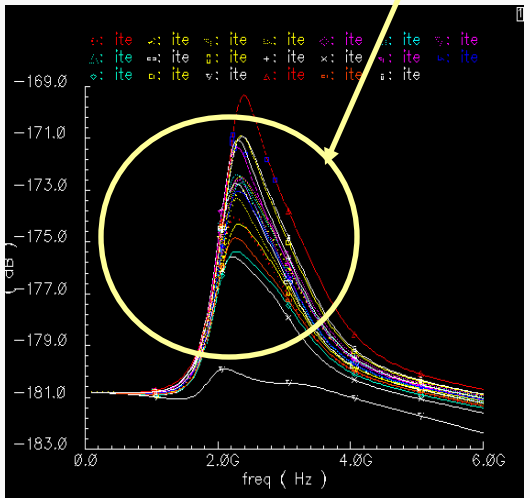
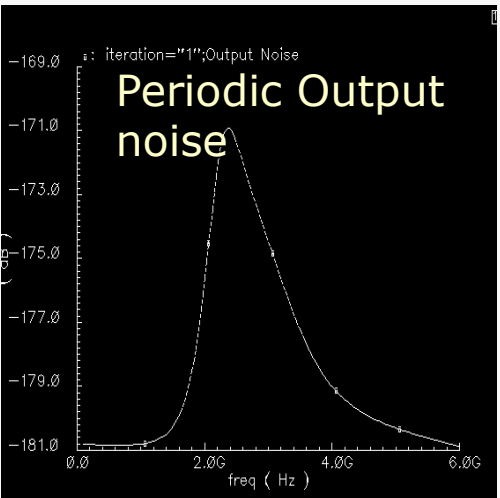
Monte Carlo simulation

# Monte Carlo simulation (Analyzing waveform)

## Noise Performance



As visible, design has a robust noise performance at desired band(2.4-2.5 GHz) **BUT....→**



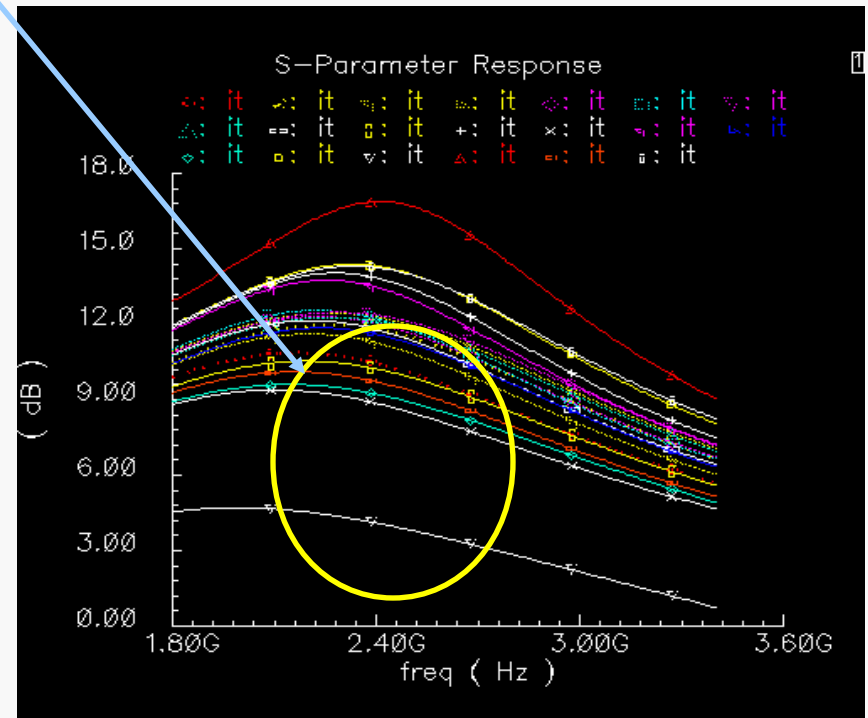
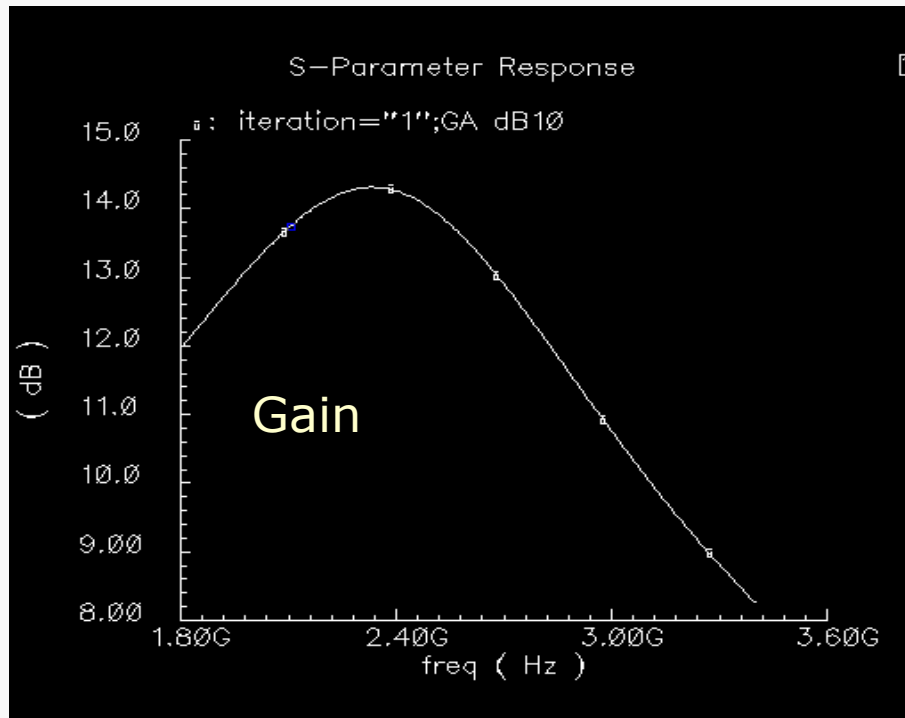
Normal simulation

Monte Carlo simulation

# Monte Carlo simulation (Analyzing waveform)

**But...** → LNA as an RF-front end has to provide enough gain with maximum noise suppression to maintain an allowable SNR at demodulator's input.

It fails to meet the gain requirement



# Monte Carlo simulation

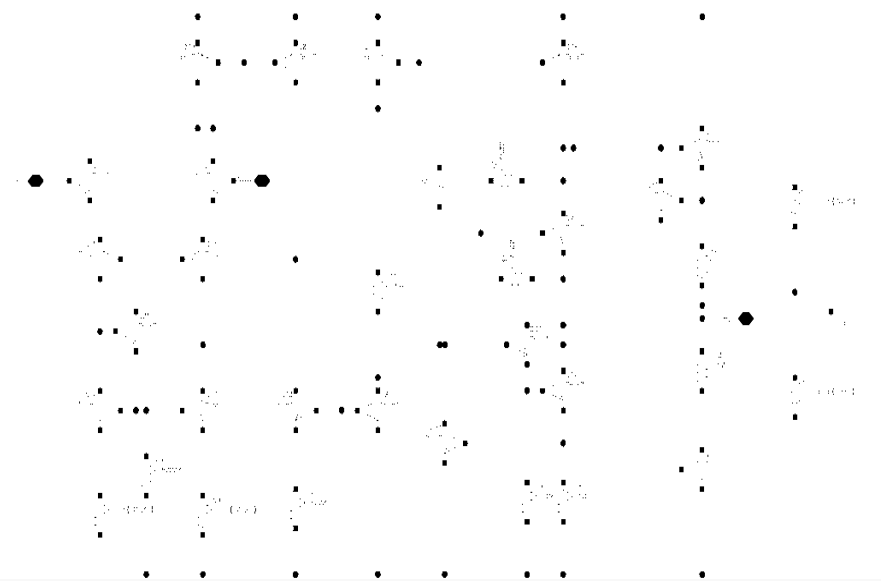
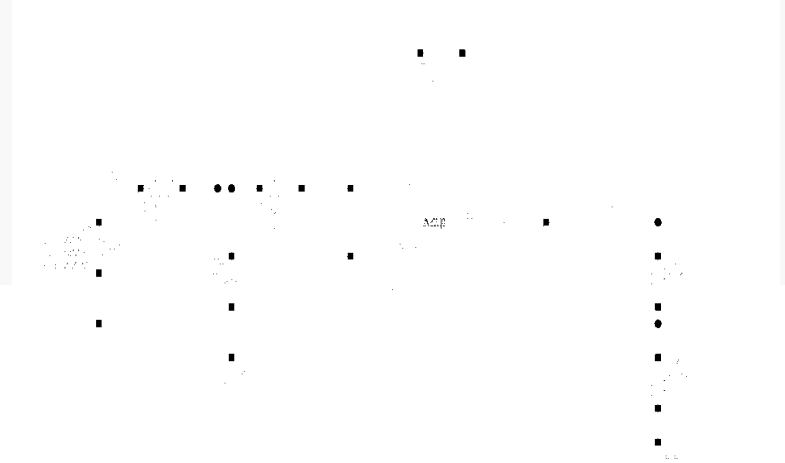
**We will quickly go over another example of low pass filter and see how to analyze scalar data and yield through Monte Carlo simulation**

# Monte Carlo simulation

## Low-Pass Filter

### Initial Design:

Circuit designing according to  
system requirement



# Monte Carlo simulation

1. Running normal analysis

2. Specifying statistical variation in model file

3. Running Monte Carlo analysis

Status: Ready

Session

Library a

Cell 1

View s

Des

#	Name
1	Rin
2	Cfb

1

```
section stats
simulator
statistics pro
} mis:
endsection
section mo
simulator
inline sub
parameters
model mynp:
+ ikf=0.01
+ var=27.0
+ xtf=0.00
+ xtf=3 cj
+ xtf=4.35
+ xtf=0.33
```

Affirma Analog Statistical Analysis

Status: Ready

Simulator: spectre 4

Session Outputs Simulation Results Help

Analysis Setup

Number of Runs

100

Starting Run #

1

Analysis Variation

Process & Mismatch

Swept Parameter

None

Append to Previous Scalar Data

Save Data Between Runs to Allow Family Plots

Outputs

#	Name	Expression/Signal	Data Type	Autoplot
1	db20	dB20(VF("/OUT"))	unknown	yes
2	phase	phase(VF("/OUT"))	unknown	yes
3	ymax	ymax(dB20(VF("/OUT")))	unknown	yes
4	bw	bandwidth(VF("/OUT") 3 "low")	unknown	yes

scalar

no

3 Add

Delete

Change

Clear

Calculator...

Get Expression

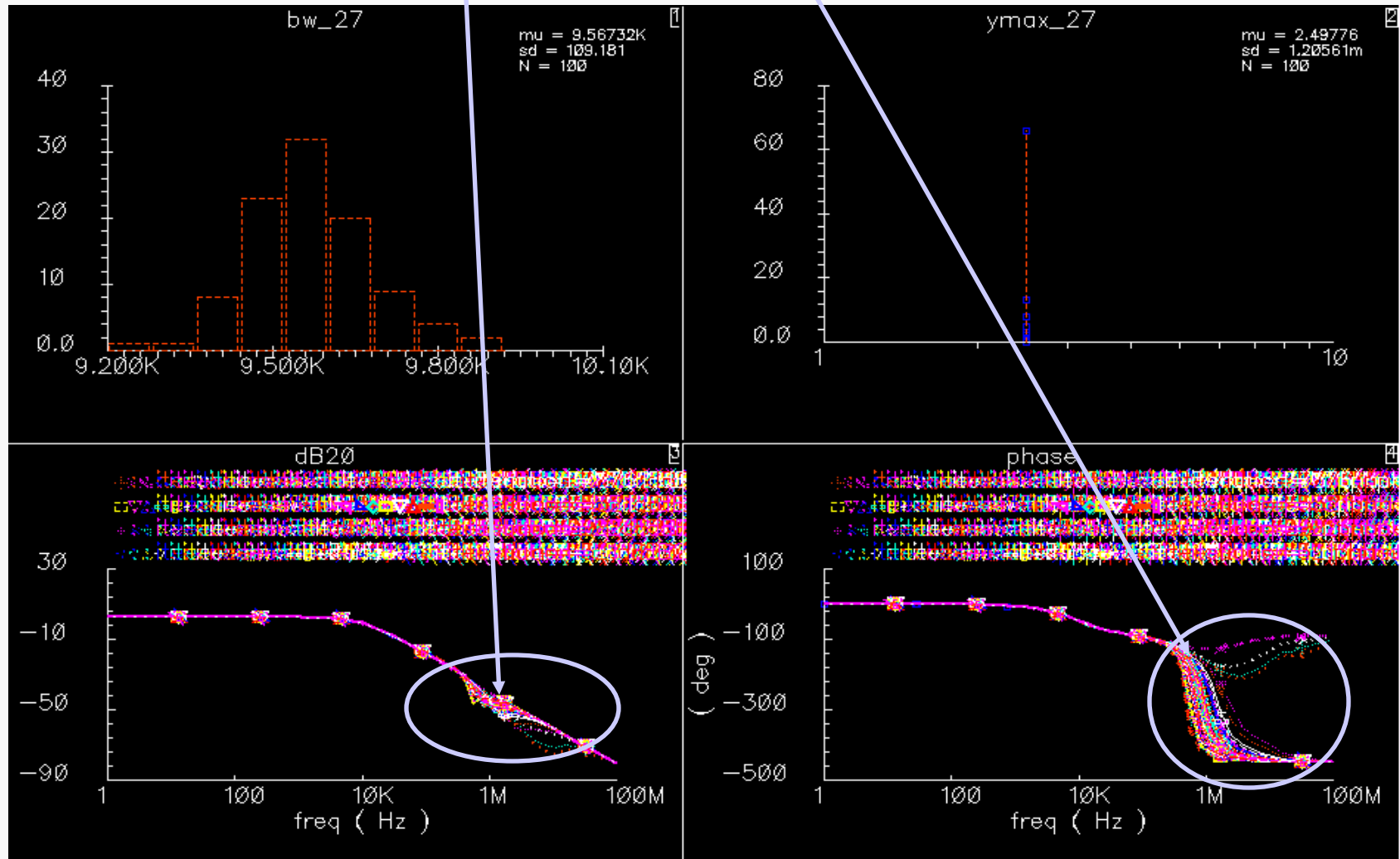
Cadence simulation setup (Monte Carlo)



# Monte Carlo simulation

(Analyzing results)

Simulation shows *db20* and *phase* values are greatly affected by statistical variations introduced in transistor.  
Hence the need for **redesigning** the circuit

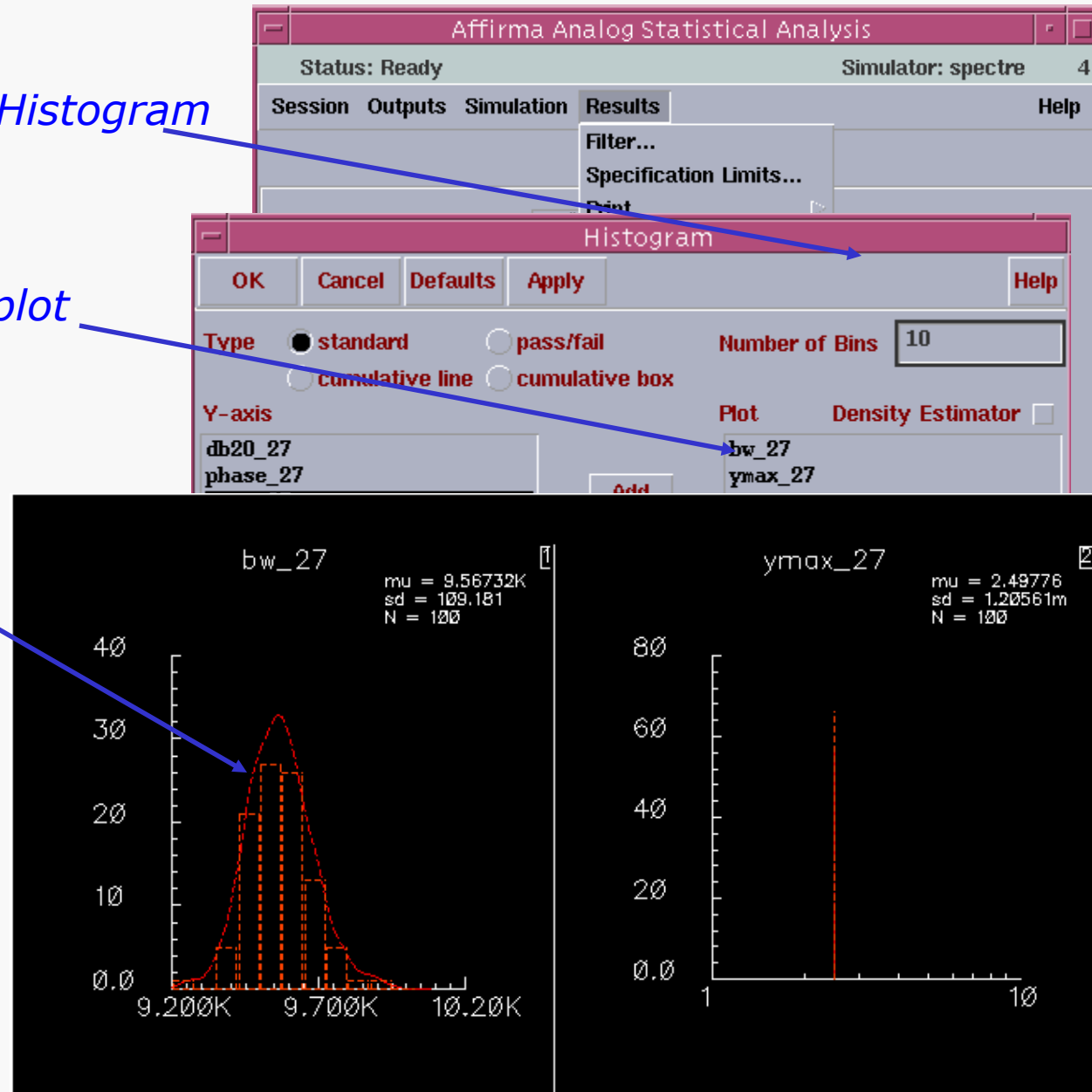


# Monte Carlo simulation (Analyzing Scalar data)

1. Choose *results* → *plot* → *Histogram*

2. Choose *parameters to plot*

3. Analyze the histogram  
appeared in waveform  
window



# Monte Carlo simulation

(Analyzing Yield)

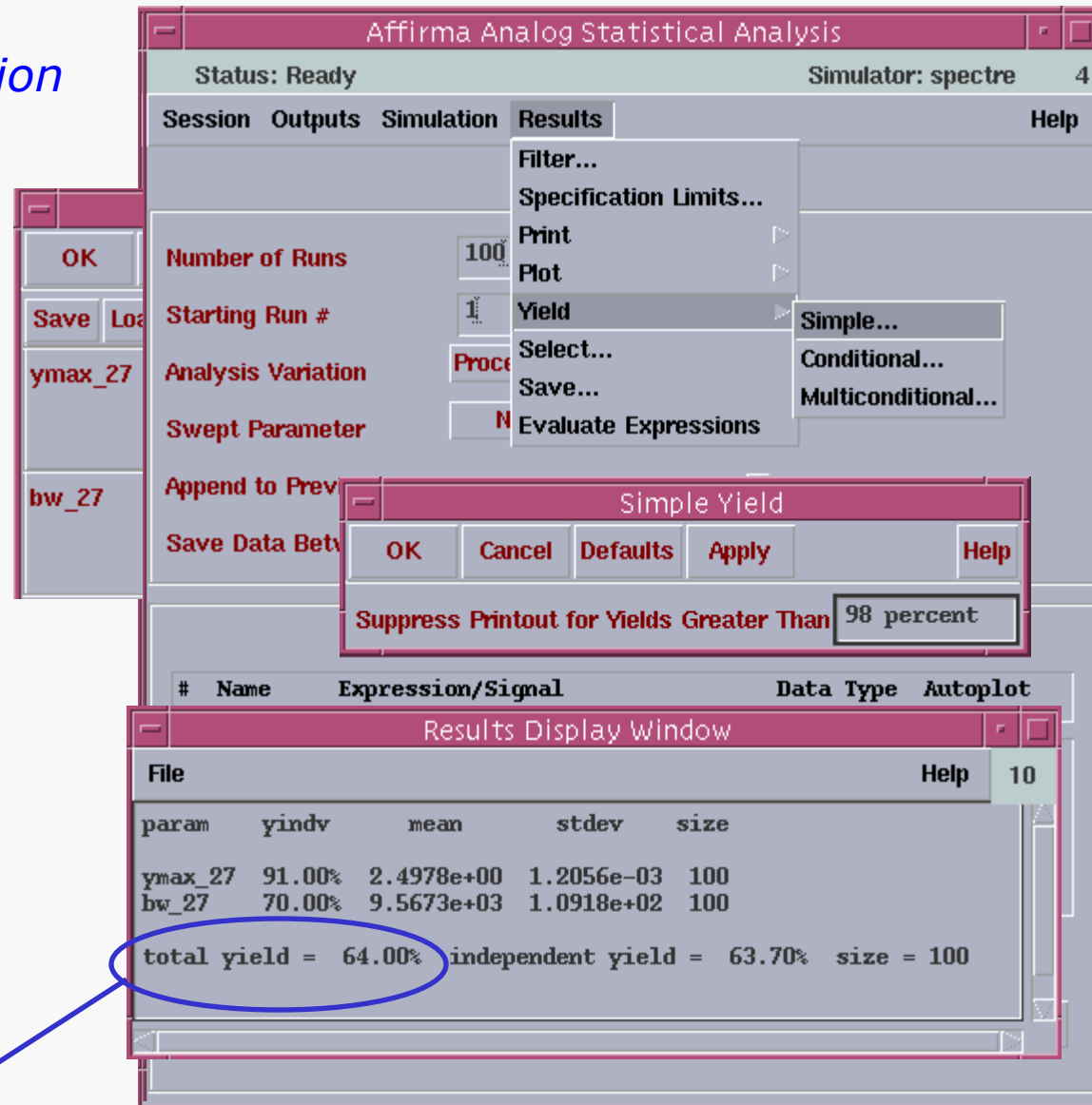
1. Choose *results* → *specification limits*

2. Set *bounds* and *limits*

3. Choose  
Results → *yield* → *simple* in  
analysis window

4. Set suppression value for  
yield

5. Analyze yield

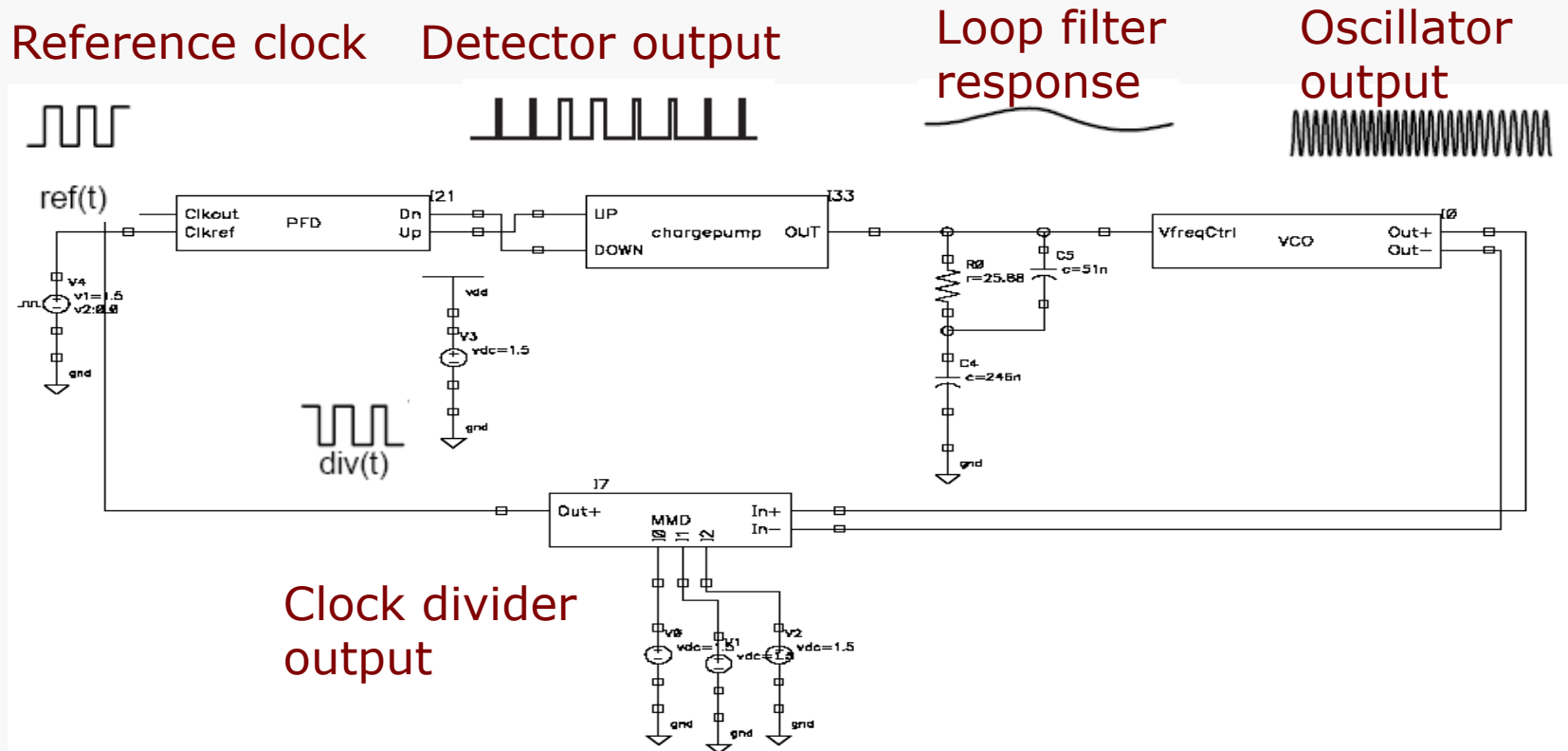


Only 64% iterations passes the specified limits for bandwidth and ymax

# Monte Carlo simulation (PLL Components)

## Overview

- Phase/frequency detector determines the difference between the phase or frequency of two signals
- The loop filter removes the high-frequencies from the voltage-controlled oscillator (VCO) controlling voltage
- The VCO produces and output frequency controlled by a voltage



# Monte Carlo simulation (PLL Components)

## Noise Sources

In PLL design it is highly desirable to be able to see the impact of all noise sources, which in turn affects the overall PLL performance.

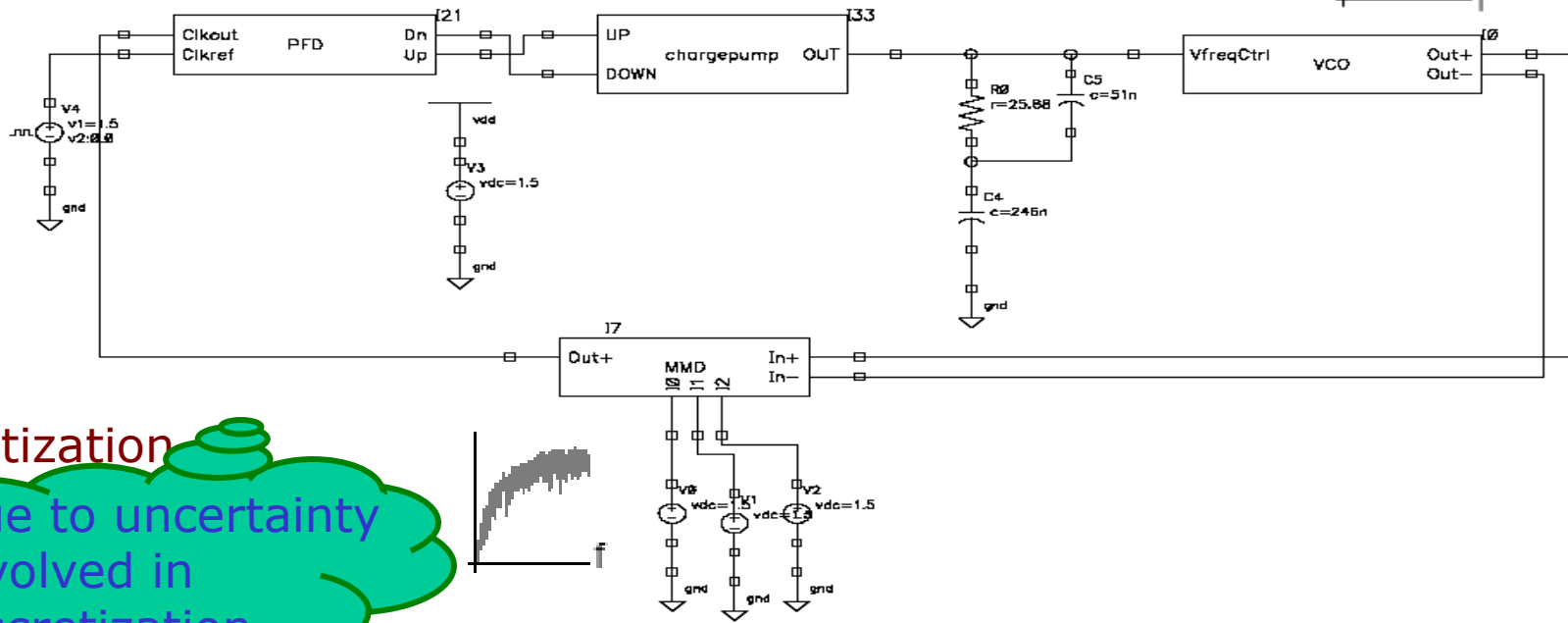
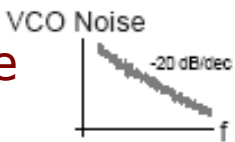
Due to reference jitter

Detector noise



Due to variation in control voltage

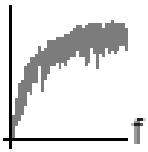
VCO noise



$\Sigma - \Delta$

Quantization

Due to uncertainty involved in discretization



# Monte Carlo simulation (VCO)

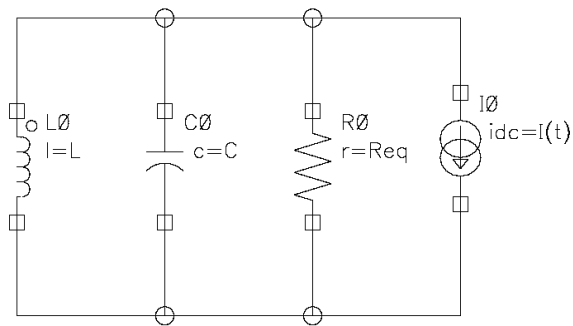
An oscillator is a circuit capable of maintaining electric oscillations.

Frequency of oscillation  $= 1/(LC)^{1/2}$

Controlled by voltage dependent capacitance (varactor)

## Complimentary Cross-Coupled LC VCO

- Power efficient since bias current is shared between the two transconductors.

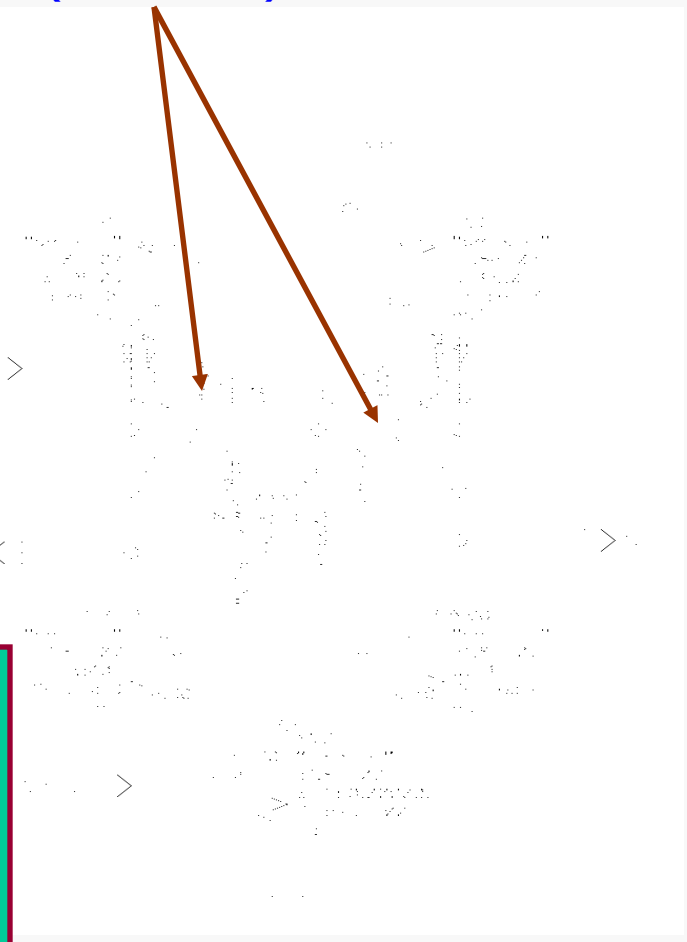


equivalent

For operation in current -limited regime:

$$VO = (4/\pi) \cdot I_{bias} \cdot R_{eq} \text{ (Ideal switching)}$$

$$VO(apx) = I_{bias} \cdot R_{eq} \text{ (High frequency)}$$



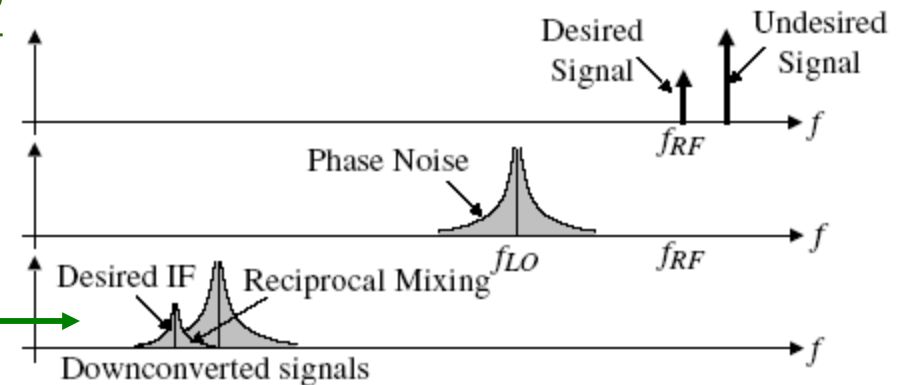
# Monte Carlo simulation (VCO – Phase Noise)

## Causes of spectral purity degradation (phase noise):

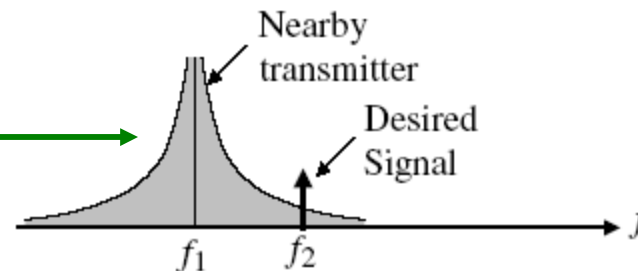
- 1.) Random noise in the reference input, the PFD, loop filter and VCO (also dividers if the PLL is a frequency synthesizer)
- 2.) Spurious sidebands – high energy sidebands with no harmonic relationship to the generated output signal. It is systematic in origin.

## Why is spectral purity important?

➤ Phase noise can degrade the sensitivity of a receiver due to reciprocal mixing



➤ Phase noise produces adjacent channel interference



# Monte Carlo simulation (VCO – Phase Noise)

How do the process and mismatch variation affect phase noise?

-- **we will perform monte carlo analysis to assess this.**

➤ Step1 – Varying the process parameter only

➤ Step2 – investigating the device mismatch(in diff VCO one side mismatched to the other) in presence of process variation

## *Cadence Spectre modeling:*

- The statistics block contains the distributions for parameters:

Distributions specified in the process block are sampled once per Monte Carlo run, are applied at global scope, and are used typically to represent batch-to-batch (process) variations.

- Distributions specified in the mismatch block are applied on a per-subcircuit instance basis, are sampled once per subcircuit instance, and are used typically to represent device-to-device (on chip) mismatch for devices on the same chip.



# Monte Carlo simulation (VCO – Phase Noise) model file

## Process section

Define statistical blocks in the model file (ideally it should be provided from the foundry)

## Mismatch section

```
simulator lang=spectre

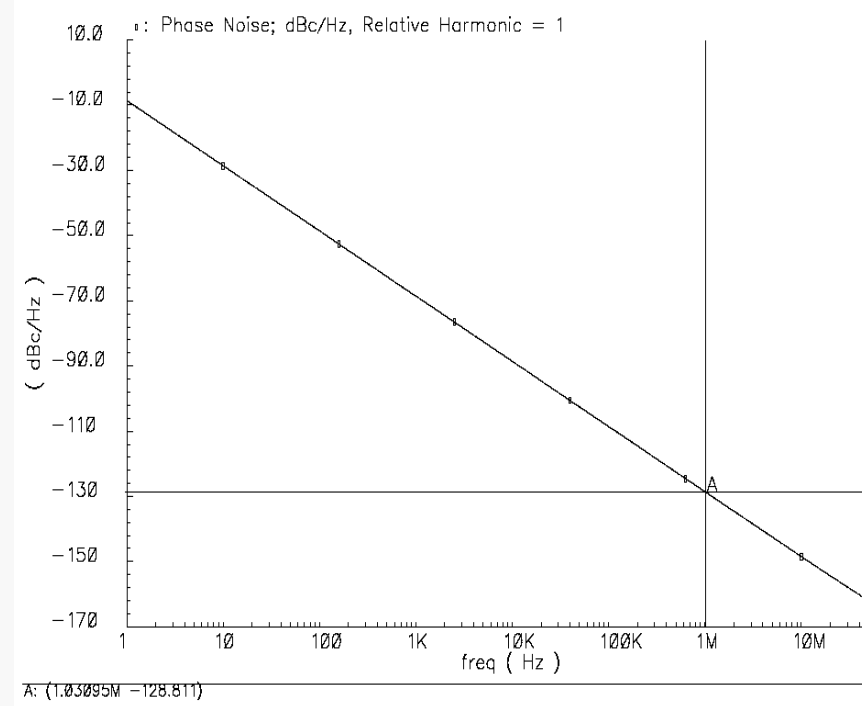
statistics {
  process {
    vary      nmos_rgfac      dist=gauss std=0.09
    vary      pmos_rgfac      dist=gauss std=0.09
    vary      nmos_rsubfac    dist=gauss std=0.10
    vary      pmos_rsubfac    dist=gauss std=0.10
    vary      nmos_uefffac    dist=gauss std=0.13
    vary      pmos_uefffac    dist=gauss std=0.13
    vary      nmos_vthfac     dist=gauss std=0.12
    vary      pmos_vthfac     dist=gauss std=0.12
    vary      nmos_toxfac     dist=gauss std=0.05
    vary      pmos_toxfac     dist=gauss std=0.05
    vary      nmos_dlfac      dist=gauss std=0.08
    vary      pmos_dlfac      dist=gauss std=0.08
    vary      nmos_dwfac      dist=gauss std=0.10
    vary      pmos_dwfac      dist=gauss std=0.10
    vary      nmos_rdsfac     dist=gauss std=0.10
    vary      pmos_rdsfac     dist=gauss std=0.10
    vary      nmos_klfac      dist=gauss std=0.10
    vary      pmos_klfac      dist=gauss std=0.10
    vary      nmos_cgdfac     dist=gauss std=0.12
    vary      pmos_cgdfac     dist=gauss std=0.12
    vary      ndio_cjfac      dist=gauss std=0.11
    vary      pdio_cjfac      dist=gauss std=0.11
  }

  mismatch {
    vary      nmos_rgfac      dist=gauss std=0.02
    vary      pmos_rgfac      dist=gauss std=0.02
    vary      nmos_rsubfac    dist=gauss std=0.01
    vary      pmos_rsubfac    dist=gauss std=0.01
    vary      nmos_uefffac    dist=gauss std=0.02
    vary      pmos_uefffac    dist=gauss std=0.02
    vary      nmos_vthfac     dist=gauss std=0.01
    vary      pmos_vthfac     dist=gauss std=0.01
    vary      nmos_toxfac     dist=gauss std=0.01
    vary      pmos_toxfac     dist=gauss std=0.01
    vary      nmos_dlfac      dist=gauss std=0.03
    vary      pmos_dlfac      dist=gauss std=0.03
    vary      nmos_dwfac      dist=gauss std=0.01
    vary      pmos_dwfac      dist=gauss std=0.01
    vary      nmos_rdsfac     dist=gauss std=0.02
    vary      pmos_rdsfac     dist=gauss std=0.02
  }
}
```

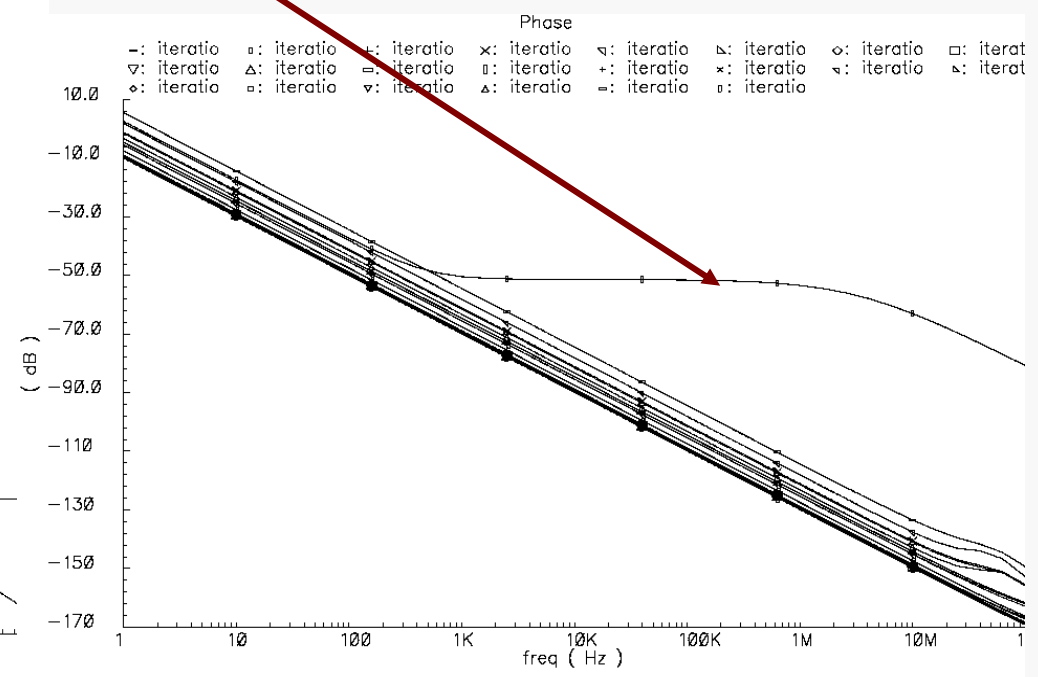
# Monte Carlo simulation (VCO – Phase Noise)→STEP-1

## Running Monte Carlo for process variation only

With applied statistical variation(in model file) an increase in noise can be observed, and at this run resulted noise is worst and unacceptable.



Normal simulation

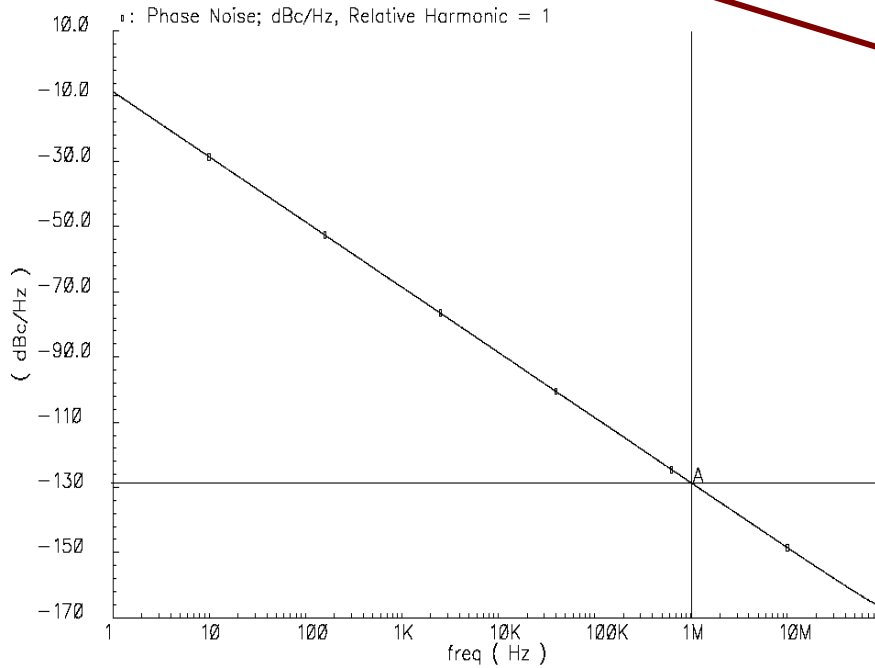


Monte Carlo simulation

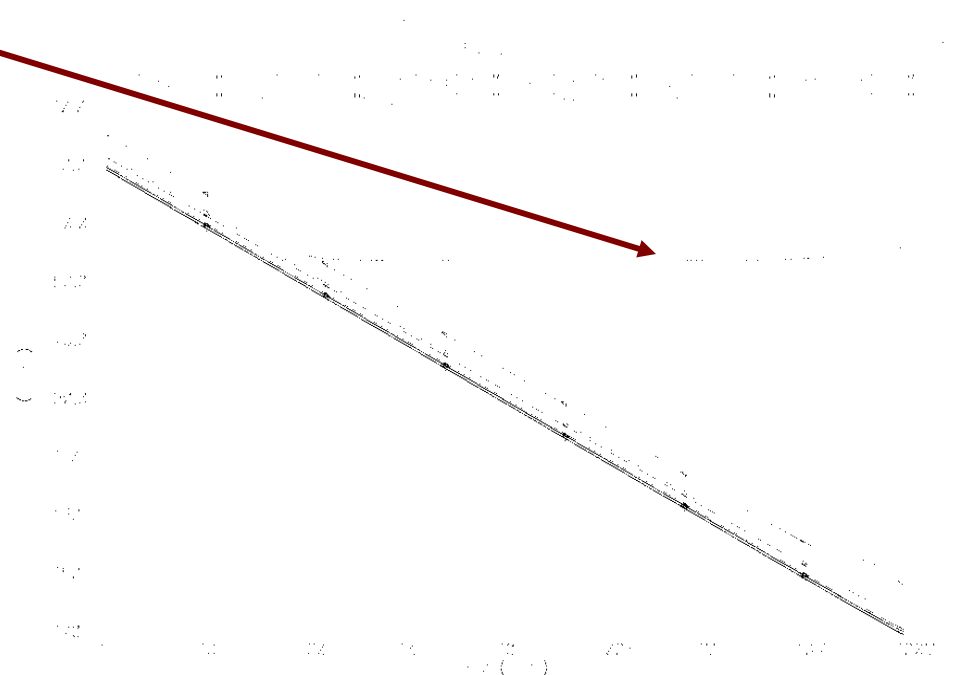
# Monte Carlo simulation (VCO – Phase Noise) → STEP-2

## Running Monte Carlo for mismatch in 2 sides of Diff. VCO

Again similar looking but not the same results appears and noise at this run is unacceptable .



Normal simulation



Monte Carlo simulation

**Note:** When the same parameter is subject to both process and mismatch variations, the sampled process value becomes the mean for the mismatch random number generator for that particular parameter.

# Monte Carlo simulation (VCO – Phase Noise)-- more insight

To get more insight we will vary only few parameter and check how values are assigned for different run as well as the simulation result

Defining variation for only two parameters in the model file ->

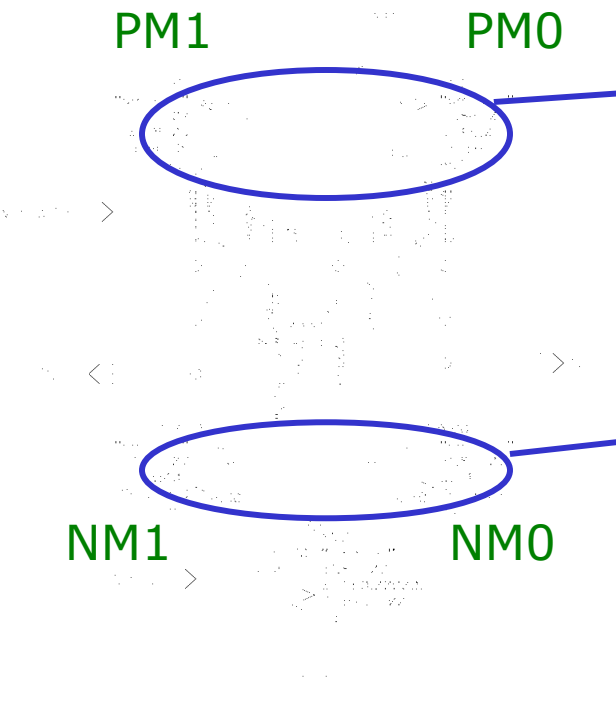
-Vth

-tox

```
rf018_monte_sim.scs
File Edit Search Preferences Shell Macro Windows Help
endsection param
section stats
simulator lang=spectre
statistics {
  process {
    vary rmos vthfac dist=gauss std=0.075
    vary pmos vthfac dist=gauss std=0.075
    vary rmos toxfac dist=gauss std=0.12
    vary pmos toxfac dist=gauss std=0.12
  }
  mismatch {
    vary rmos_vthfac dist=gauss std=0.02
    vary pmos_vthfac dist=gauss std=0.02
    vary rmos_toxfac dist=gauss std=0.013
    vary pmos_toxfac dist=gauss std=0.013
  }
}
endsection stats
```

# Monte Carlo simulation (VCO – Phase Noise)-- more insight

Process variation only



Window Expressions Info				Help	9
iteration	MP("/I10/PM1"	MP("/I10/PM1"	MP("/I10/PM1"		
string	vtho	tox	cj		
1	-435.5m	4.825n	1.121u		
2	-457.5m	4.25n	1.121u		
3	-431.4m	4.127n	1.121u		
4	-407m	3.508n	1.121u		
iteration	MP("I10.PM0"	MP("I10.PM0"	MP("I10.PM0"		
string	vtho	tox	cj		
1	-435.5m	4.825n	1.121u		
2	-457.5m	4.25n	1.121u		
3	-431.4m	4.127n	1.121u		
4	-407m	3.508n	1.121u		
iteration	MP("/I10/NM1"	MP("/I10/NM1"	MP("/I10/NM1"		
string	vtho	tox	cj		
1	360.2m	4.516n	1u		
2	563m	4.168n	1u		
3	465.6m	4.53n	1u		
4	475.7m	3.547n	1u		
iteration	MP("I10.NM0"	MP("I10.NM0"	MP("I10.NM0"		
string	vtho	tox	cj		
1	360.2m	4.516n	1u		
2	563m	4.168n	1u		
3	465.6m	4.53n	1u		
4	475.7m	3.547n	1u		

Here both nmos (pmos) transistors have been assigned same process variation. In each run they take on different parameter according to distribution defined

## Monte Carlo simulation (VCO – Phase Noise)-- more insight

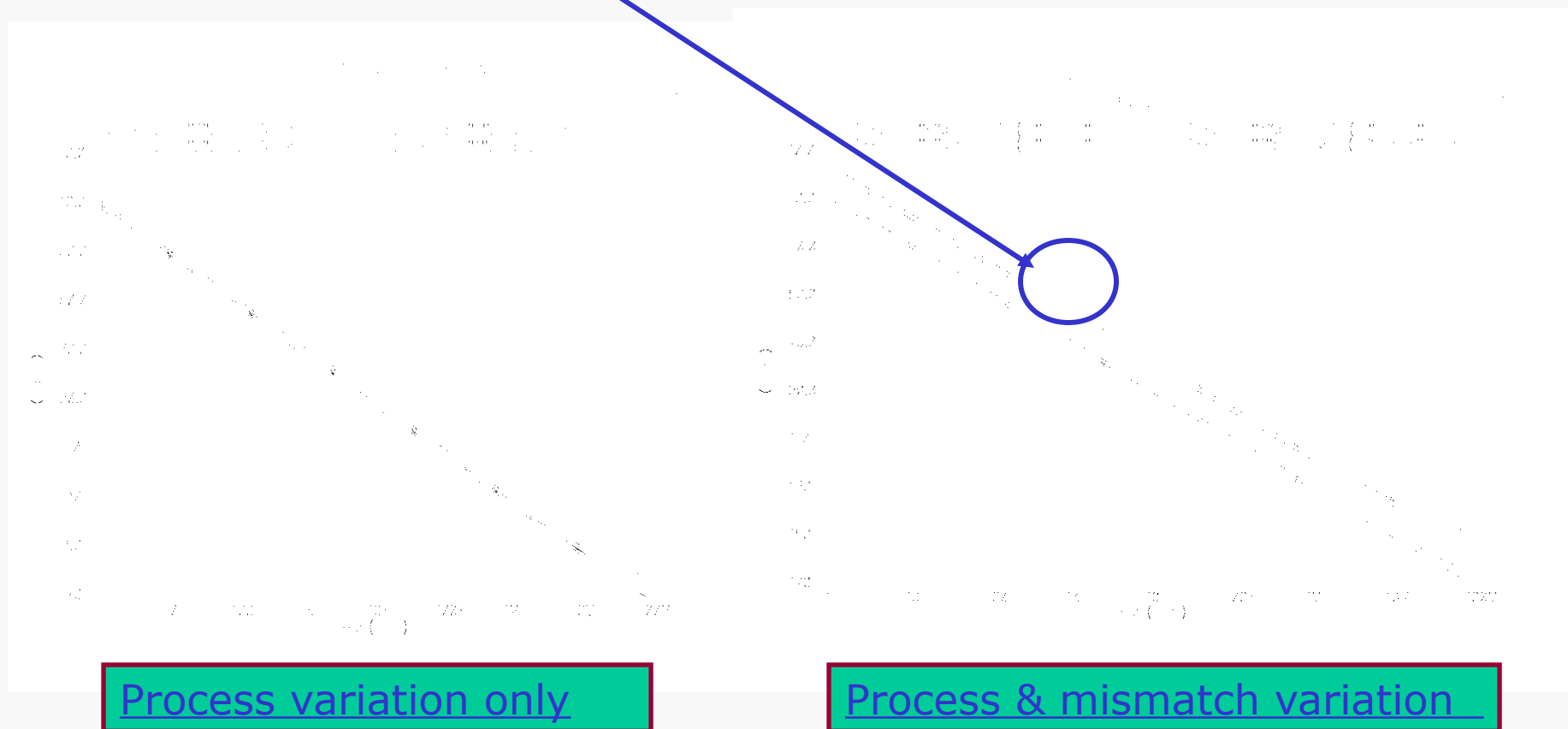
Process and Mismatch both variation together, with correlation of 0.2 between the two nmos(pmos) transistor

Window Expressions		Info		Help	4
iteration	MP("/I10/PM1"	MP("/I10/PM1"	MP("/I10/PM1"		
string	vt	tox	cj		
1	-439.6m	4.751n	1.121u		
2	-455.1m	4.233n	1.121u		
3	-436.8m	4.122n	1.121u		
4	-419.7m	3.565n	1.121u		
iteration	MP("/I10/NM1"	MP("/I10/NM1"	MP("/I10/NM1"		
string	vt	tox	cj		
1	394.7m	4.472n	1u		
2	536.6m	4.159n	1u		
3	468.4m	4.485n	1u		
4	475.5m	3.601n	1u		
iteration	MP("I10.PM0" "	MP("I10.PM0" "	MP("I10.PM0" "		
string	vt	tox	cj		
1	-440.3m	4.713n	1.121u		
2	-454.7m	4.224n	1.121u		
3	-437.7m	4.12n	1.121u		
4	-421.9m	3.594n	1.121u		
iteration	MP("I10.NM0" "	MP("I10.NM0" "	MP("I10.NM0" "		
string	vt	tox	cj		
1	400.4m	4.45n	1u		
2	532.2m	4.155n	1u		
3	468.9m	4.462n	1u		
4	475.5m	3.627n	1u		

*As conspicuous each nmos(pmos) transistor is getting different parameter value in each run.*

# Monte Carlo simulation (VCO – Phase Noise)-- more insight

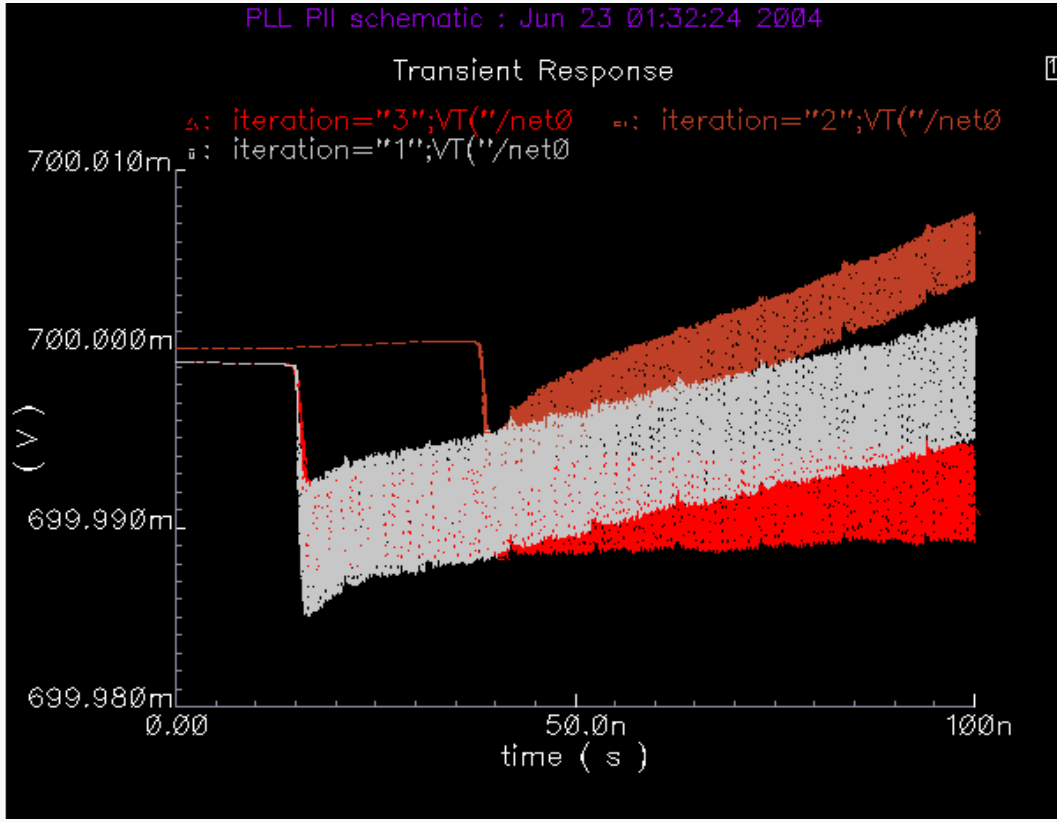
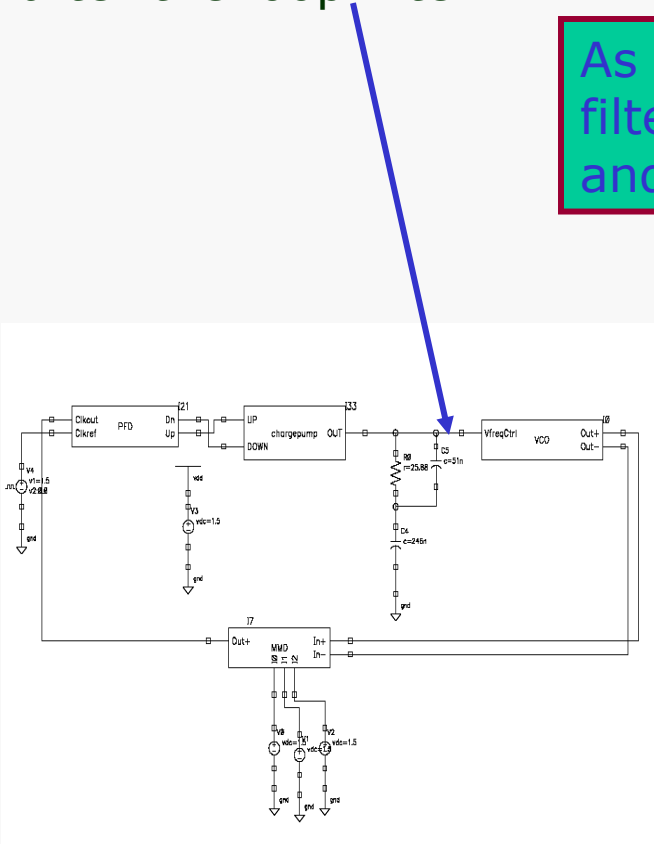
As visible in the case of process variation with device mismatch noise has been increased.



# Monte Carlo simulation (PLL at a glance)

In a PLL all these process variation can degrade it's overall performance significantly. To see the impact of process variation we probe the output after the loop filter.

As clear in one case control voltage (i.e. loop filter output) is ramping rapidly compare to other and thus will result in different performance.



Monte Carlo simulation



# Monte Carlo simulation

- In our design PLL has a settling time of 65  $\mu$ s. To simply run the analysis (transistor level) for this much period may take 2-3 days on a single machine.
- To do monte carlo simulation even for 10 run will make the situation worse.

- To speed up Monte Carlo analyses—to make them run in minutes as opposed to days—
  - We need to reduce the run time and can utilize Parallel simulation.
  - Such as variance reduction technique can be employed.

# Monte Carlo simulation (Seed no & parallel simulation)

## Seed

If Monte Carlo simulation for different seed is required then.....

Step 1. Create netlist(input file)

a) Either from analog artist *or*

b) Tools → monte carlo →  
simulation → create\_input\_files

Note:

(1) Input file should have '.scs' extension (for exa.input.scs)

(2) In spectre one can not specify different seed from GUI (by default it always takes seed=1).



# Monte Carlo simulation (Seed no & parallel simulation)

## Seed

### Step 2.

Edit input.scs file manually →

edit SEED=? line  
(number you want)

```
=1.0 scale=1.0 gmin=1e-12  
{0 pivrel=1e-3 ckptclock=1800  
sf/sens.output"
```

```
runs=4 seed=1 variations=process  
'monteCarlo/mcdata" paramfile=".../monteCarlo/mcparam"  
saveprocessparams=yes processparamfile=".../monteCarlo/processParam"  
processscalarfile=".../monteCarlo/processData" savefamilyplots=yes {  
an tran stop=350n write="spectre.ic" writefinal="spectre.fc" \  
i write="spectre.ic"
```

```
input.scs
File Edit Search Preferences Shell Macro Windows Help

ad=2.4e-13 ps=1.96u pd=1.96u m=(1)*(1)
PM6 (net078 net078 net082 vdd!) pch w=2u l=180.0n as=9.6e-13 \
ad=9.6e-13 ps=4.96u pd=4.96u m=(1)*(1)
PM7 (net049 net082 vdd! vdd!) pch w=2u l=180.0n as=5.86667e-13 \
ad=5.86667e-13 ps=2.80889u pd=2.80889u m=(1)*(9)
NM9 (net049 net049 0 0) nch w=1u l=180.0n as=4.8e-13 ad=4.8e-13 \
ps=2.96u pd=2.96u m=(1)*(1)
NM8 (net078 net078 0 0) nch w=500n l=180.0n as=2.4e-13 ad=2.4e-13 \
ps=1.96u pd=1.96u m=(1)*(1)
L0 (net0 net1) spiral_turn nr=2.5 rad=60u
C1 (VfreqCtrl net1) moscap_g3 m=1
C0 (VfreqCtrl net0) moscap_g3 m=1
NM2 (net30 net049 0 0) rmos_rf lr=1.8e-07 nr=100 m=1
NM1 (net0 net1 net30 net30) rmos_rf lr=1.8e-07 nr=16 m=1
NM0 (net1 net0 net30 net30) rmos_rf lr=1.8e-07 nr=16 m=1
PM1 (net0 net1 vdd! vdd!) pmos_rf lr=1.8e-07 nr=38 m=1
PM0 (net1 net0 vdd! vdd!) pmos_rf lr=1.8e-07 nr=38 m=1
ends VCO
// End of subcircuit definition.

// Library name: PLL
// Cell name: VCO_test
// View name: schematic
(n023 0) capacitor c=1p
(n025 0) capacitor c=1p
(vdd! 0) vsource dc=1.5 type=dc
(n52 0) vsource dc=1.2 type=pwl wave=[ 0 0 3n 1.2 ]
(n54 net53 net52) VCO
ulatorOptions options reltol=1e-3 vabstol=1e-6 iabstol=1e-12 temp=27 \
tnom=27 scalem=1.0 scale=1.0 gmin=1e-12 rforce=1 maxnotes=5 maxwarns=5 \
digits=5 cols=80 pivrel=1e-3 ckptclock=1800 \
sensfile=".../psf/sens.output"

1 monteCarlo numruns=4 seed=1 variations=process donominal=yes \
scalarfile=".../monteCarlo/mcdata" paramfile=".../monteCarlo/mcparam" \
saveprocessparams=yes processparamfile=".../monteCarlo/processParam" \
processscalarfile=".../monteCarlo/processData" savefamilyplots=yes {
an tran stop=350n write="spectre.ic" writefinal="spectre.fc" \
annotate=status maxiters=5
nalTimeOP info what=oppoint where=rawfile
Op dc write="spectre.dc" maxiters=150 maxsteps=10000 annotate=status
dcOpInfo info what=oppoint where=rawfile
nss ( net54 net53 ) nss fund=2 4G harms=5 errpreset=moderate
```

# Monte Carlo simulation (Seed no & parallel simulation)

## Seed

Step 3.Run spectre from command line with option for example.....

```
spectre -env artist4.4.6 +log ../psf/spectre.out  
-format psfbin -raw ../psf input.scs
```

Here one should execute spectre command(or executable file)  
from the netlist directory.

For example one wants to simulate “PLL” design from command line

Then go to your simulation directory

```
cd ../simulation/pll/spectre/schematic/netlist
```

and here execute spectre command

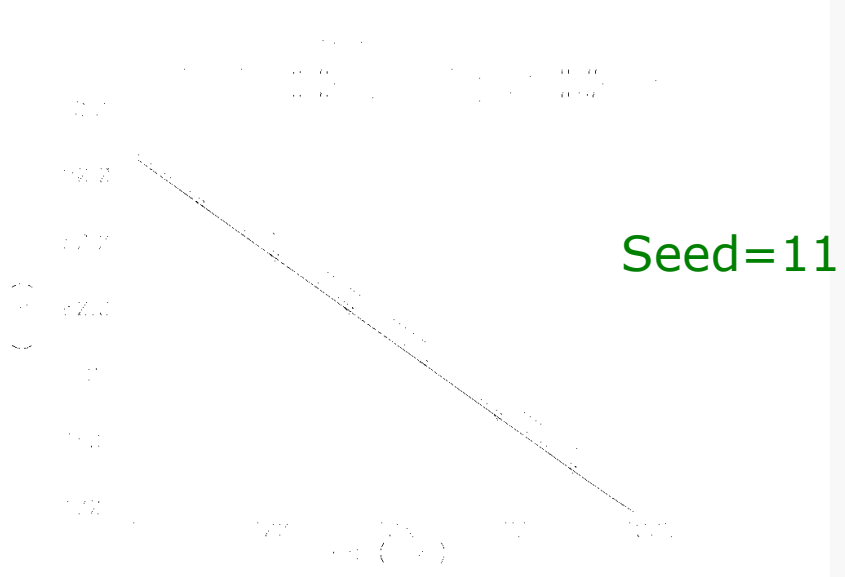
# Monte Carlo simulation (Seed no & parallel simulation)

## Seed

Step 4. Results can be plotted with either from calculator or from Monte Carlo tool.....



Fig:Plots for different seed value simulation



# Monte Carlo simulation (Seed no & parallel simulation)

## A way around from GUI

Another way of doing similar thing(giving different seed value) from GUI would be to start simulation from different run,or say to skip some initial run as shown in the fig.

➤ Here it will skip first 10 runs and simulate from 11'th to 110'th run for 100 iteration

➤ This is quite similar to assigning different seed value.

➤ *But beware skipping these runs could take much longer time for a complex design*



Affirma Analog Statistical Analysis

Status: Ready Simulator: spectre 4

Session Outputs Simulation Results Help

### Analysis Setup

Number of Runs: 100

Starting Run #: 10

Analysis Variation: Process Only

Swept Parameter: None

Append to Previous Scalar Data: ☐

Save Data Between Runs to Allow Family Plots: ☒

### Outputs

#	Name	Expression/Signal	Data Type	Autoplot
---	------	-------------------	-----------	----------

scalar ☐ no ☐

Add Delete Change Clear Calculator... Get Expression

# Monte Carlo simulation (Seed no & parallel simulation)

## Running multiple analysis from one file

This can be done by defining multiple monte carlo analysis statement in the input file as shown below

Analysis 1

```
mc1 montecarlo numruns=4 seed=1 variations=process donominal=yes \  
+ scalarfile="../../monteCarlo/mcdata" paramfile="../../monteCarlo/mcparam" \  
+ saveprocessparams=yes processparamfile="../../monteCarlo/processParam" \  
+ processscalarfile="../../monteCarlo/processData" savefamilyplots=yes {  
  tran1 tran stop=350n write="spectre.ic" writefinal="spectre.fc" \  
  annotate=status maxiters=5  
finalTimeOP1 info what=oppooint where=rawfile  
dcOp1 dc write="spectre.dc" maxiters=150 maxsteps=10000 annotate=status  
dcOpInfo1 info what=oppooint where=rawfile  
pss1 ( net54 net53 ) pss fund=2.4G harms=5 errpreset=moderate  
+ tstab=100.5n saveinit=yes annotate=status  
pnoise1 ( net54 net53 ) pnoise sweeptype=relative  
+ relharmnum=1 start=1 stop=100M dec=5 maxsideband=0  
+ noisetype=sources annotate=status  
modelParameter1 info what=models where=rawfile  
element1 info what=inst where=rawfile  
outputParameter1 info what=output where=rawfile  
export noExprs1=oceanEval("0")  
}  
saveOptions1 options save=allpub
```

Analysis 2

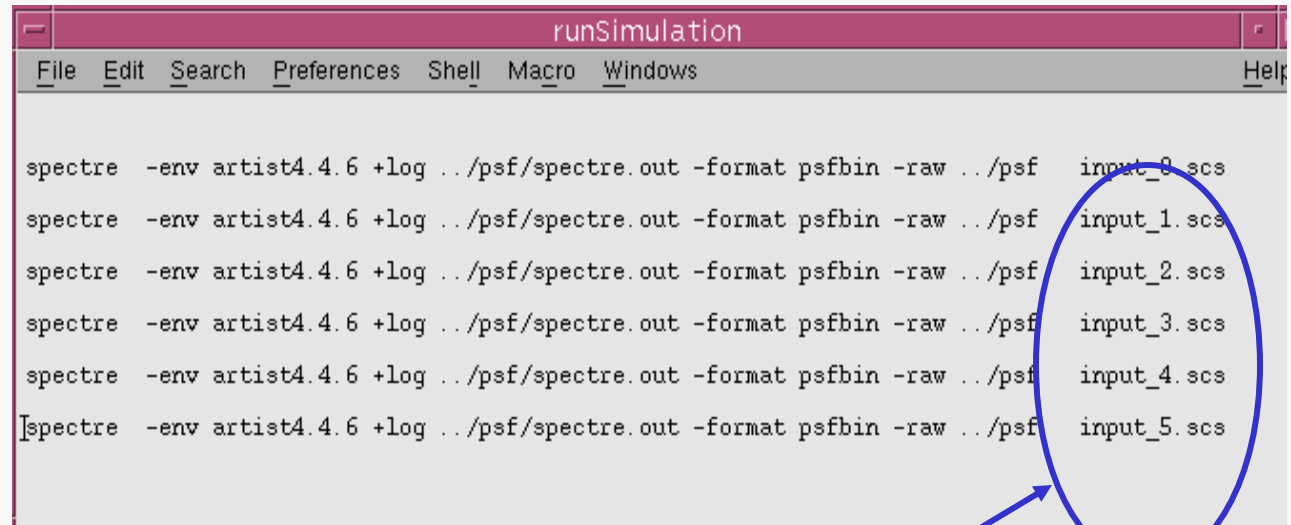
```
mc2 montecarlo numruns=4 seed=5 variations=process donominal=yes \  
+ scalarfile="../../monteCarlo/mcdata" paramfile="../../monteCarlo/mcparam" \  
+ saveprocessparams=yes processparamfile="../../monteCarlo/processParam" \  
+ processscalarfile="../../monteCarlo/processData" savefamilyplots=yes {  
  tran2 tran stop=350n write="spectre.ic" writefinal="spectre.fc" \  
  annotate=status maxiters=5  
finalTimeOP2 info what=oppooint where=rawfile  
dcOp2 dc write="spectre.dc" maxiters=150 maxsteps=10000 annotate=status  
dcOpInfo2 info what=oppooint where=rawfile  
pss2 ( net54 net53 ) pss fund=2.4G harms=5 errpreset=moderate  
+ tstab=100.5n saveinit=yes annotate=status  
pnoise2 ( net54 net53 ) pnoise sweeptype=relative  
+ relharmnum=1 start=1 stop=100M dec=5 maxsideband=0  
+ noisetype=sources annotate=status  
modelParameter2 info what=models where=rawfile  
element2 info what=inst where=rawfile  
outputParameter2 info what=output where=rawfile  
export noExprs2=oceanEval("0")  
}  
saveOptions2 options save=allpub
```

Note: For each analysis a different name to child analysis(for example ac,dc,tran) and to output file has to be assigned.

# Monte Carlo simulation (Seed no & parallel simulation)

## Running script for executing multiple files (sequentially)

This can be done by making an executable file as shown and running it from command window



```
runSimulation
File Edit Search Preferences Shell Macro Windows Help

spectre -env artist4.4.6 +log ../psf/spectre.out -format psfbin -raw ../psf input_0.scs
spectre -env artist4.4.6 +log ../psf/spectre.out -format psfbin -raw ../psf input_1.scs
spectre -env artist4.4.6 +log ../psf/spectre.out -format psfbin -raw ../psf input_2.scs
spectre -env artist4.4.6 +log ../psf/spectre.out -format psfbin -raw ../psf input_3.scs
spectre -env artist4.4.6 +log ../psf/spectre.out -format psfbin -raw ../psf input_4.scs
spectre -env artist4.4.6 +log ../psf/spectre.out -format psfbin -raw ../psf input_5.scs
```

These file can be used to simulate different design as well as same design (with different seed value in it)

**NOTE:**In all cases spectre command(or executable file) must be excited from the netlist directory.



# Monte Carlo simulation (Seed no & parallel simulation)

## Parallel Simulation

One can easily set up queues, where a particular queue is set up using the built in Cadence "LBS" system.

1. Create a configuration file:

```
queueName numberOfMachines  
                                machine1 numberOfJobs
```

```
machine2 numberOfJobs
```

```
queue2 numberOfMachines ...
```

```
e.g. parallelQueue 1 linuxMachine 4
```

2. Pick a machine as your queue manager, and then run:

```
cdsqmgr /path/to/the/queue_config
```

3. Before running DFII, do:

```
setenv LBS_CLUSTER_MASTER queueMachineName
```

where **queueMachineName** was the machine you ran cdsqmgr on.

4. Then one can submit Artist jobs as "distributed" as shown in the

.....**next slide**

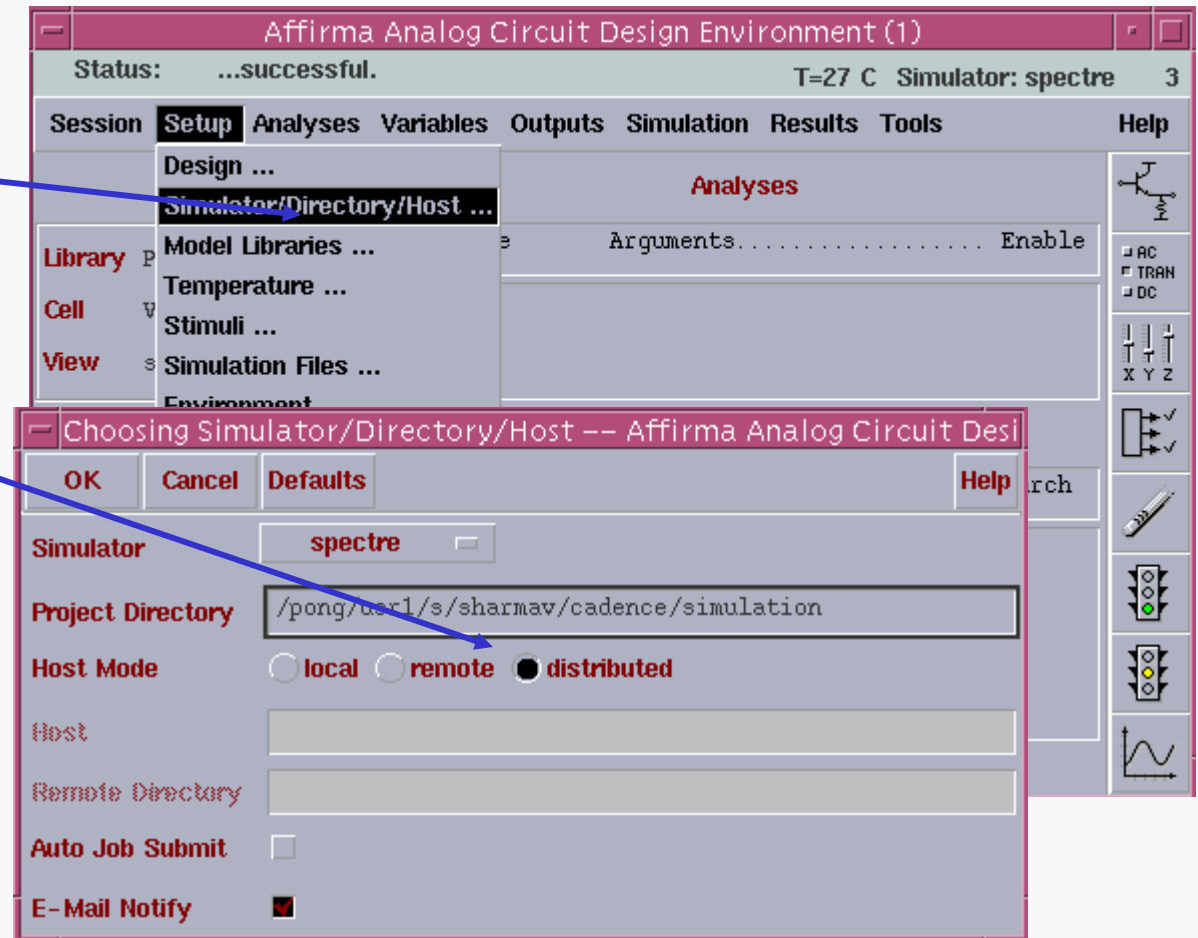
# Monte Carlo simulation (Seed no & parallel simulation)

## Parallel Simulation

Setting for distributive processing

1. from analog  
artist go to

2. set distributive  
and assign jobs to  
all machine



# Monte Carlo simulation (Seed no & parallel simulation)

## References:

1. Lecture notes of *Michael Perrott* Massachusetts Institute of Technology.
2. Lecture notes of *Phillip Allen* Georgia institute of technology.\_
3. Cadence Spectre user guide.
4. Inputs from Andrew Beckett, cadence Inc.