

## =====PWL\_Spectrum\_Noise\_Scale=====

Because noise is often formatted in terms of a RMS value, this can cause some confusion when viewing a PWL random signal on a spectrum plot.

Charles D.H. Williams (the man behind MacSpice) has written a spice file which can generate a Piece Wise Linear Noise source. This spice file usually is installed in the MacSpice folder of the Document folder.

Calling out the file name and sample rate and total period in a MacSpice console will create the file.

## =====Create\_PWL\_Noise\_File=====

```
MacSpice 2 -> rndsrc .5m 1
PWL_File.inc has been created in the MacSpice folder
MacSpice 3 ->
```

=====

In this case the sample rate will be **.5ms** and the total time is **1 second**.

The Full code for this spice file is shown below. Except for what is **red**, this is Charles code.

## ===== "rndsrc" File Needs To Be In MacSpice Folder =====

```
* rndsrc -- by CDHW -- writes a gaussian random voltage source
*
* Note: see also the frontend command 'compose'
*
.control
begin
  setplot new
  set outfile = "PWL_File.inc"
  if ($argc = 2)
    let step = $argv[1]
    let duration = $argv[2]
  else
    echo "usage - rndsrc timestep duration"
    echo "effect - gaussian source written to file -- $outfile"
    unset outfile
    goto done
  endif

  set parity = true
  let time = 0
  echo "VpwlT OUT 0 PWL(" > $outfile

  while time < duration
    let time = time + step
    if $parity
      let X1 = (1+rnd(32768))/32769
      let X2 = rnd(32768)/32768*8*atan(1)
      let Vnoise = sqrt(-2*ln(X1))*cos(X2)
      set parity = false
    else
      let Vnoise = 1.3*sqrt(-2*ln(X1))*sin(X2)
      set parity = true
    endif
    echo "+ $&time $&Vnoise" >> $outfile
  end
  echo "+ )" >> $outfile
  unset outfile parity
  label done
destroy
end

echo "PWL_File.inc has been created in the MacSpice folder"

.endc
```

======"PWL\_File.inc" \_in\_MacSpice\_Folder"=====

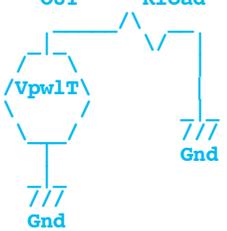
The output file is in this format...

```
VpwlT OUT 0 PWL(  
+ 0.0005 1.04178  
+ 0.001 0.772328  
+ 0.0015 -0.276687  
+ 0.002 -0.314243  
+ 0.0025 0.412586  
+ 0.003 -0.619019  
+ 0.0035 1.81929  
.....  
+ 0.9995 -0.432622  
+ 1 -0.0988927  
+ 1.0005 -0.726563  
+ )
```

======"PWL\_Noise\_Simulation"=====

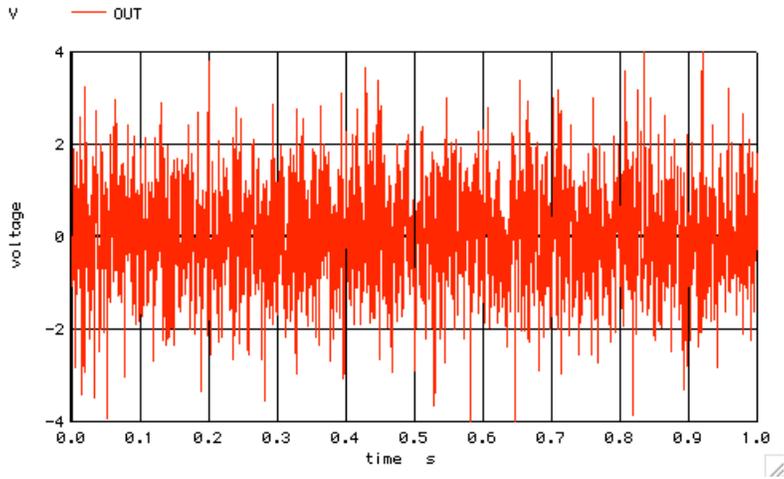
An **include** statement can import this random noise waveform into a transient simulation.

======"Simulate\_Noise\_in\_Transient"=====

```
PWL_Noise_1VRMS_@1KHz  
* www.idea2ic.com  
* dsauersanjose@aol.com 1/17/10 replace(OPT-SPACE)=>SPACE  
* OUT Rload  
*  need to have a file called  
* "rndsrc" in the "MacSpice"  
* folder inside "Documents"  
* First typing in a MacSpice  
* window "rndsrc .5m 1"  
* Then run this file  
* timestep = .5m means 1KHz bandwidth  
* duration = 1 means 1Hz resolution  
* type into a MacSpice window => "rndsrc .5m 1"  
* it will generate PWL_File.inc in this format..  
* VpwlT OUT 0 PWL( + 0.0005 0.988835 +.....
```

```
======"Circuit_Netlist"=====  
.include PWL_File.inc  
Rload OUT 0 1k  
*TRAN TSTEP TSTOP TSTART TMAX ?UIC?  
.tran .05m 1 0 .05m UIC  
======"Run_Transient"=====  
.control  
run  
plot OUT ylimit -3 +3  
=====
```

======"Eye\_Ball\_Noise"=====



RMS and standard deviation in this case are the same thing. It is convenient to set this noise to 1V rms. Plotting the noise shows that the standard deviation is about +/- 1V. Another eye ball test is that the noise should be within +/-3V for 99.9% of the time.

=====**RMS\_The\_Noise**=====

Why eyeball the RMS value when it can be directly calculated.

```

*=====Find_RMS_Input=====
let num = length(out)-1
let i = 0
let vpwr = 0
repeat $&num
let i = i + 1
let vpwr = vpwr + (mag(OUT[i])*mag(OUT[i]))/num
end
let vrms1 = sqrt(vpwr)
echo INPUT RMS = $&vrms1
*=====

```

**INPUT RMS = 1.00587**

A little tweeking was done to "rndsrc" to set the result to be close to 1Vrms

=====**Now\_Do\_The\_Spectrum**=====

```

*=====Find_Spectrum=====
linearize
set specwindow = "rectangular"
*SPEC FSTART FSTOP FSTEP VECTOR
spec 1 10k 1 v(OUT)
*=====

```

The total test time was set to 1sec and the transient is set to run at .05ms. This set the min and max frequencies to 1Hz and 10KHz.

The Noise signal it self has a sample rate of .5msec. This means the noise bandwidth should be 1KHz.

It might be convenient to average up all the noise in the spectrum output and plot it with the spectrum output.

```

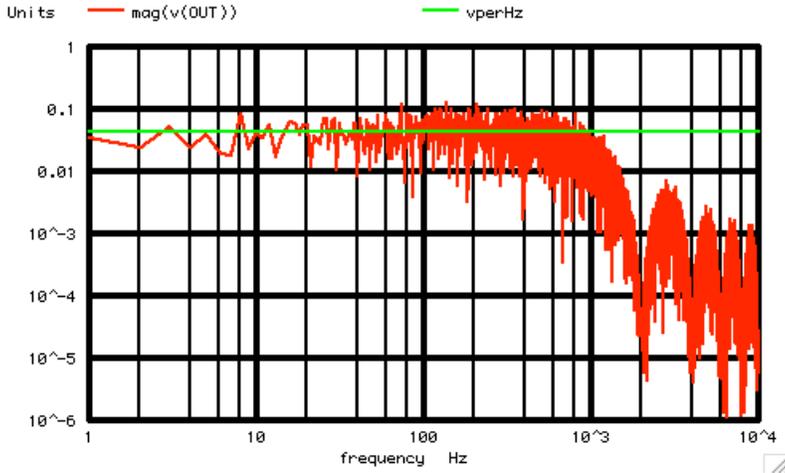
*=====Find_Spectrum_RMS=====
let num = length(out)-1
let i = 0

```

```

let vpwr = 0
repeat $&num
let i = i + 1
let vpwr = vpwr + mag(OUT[i])* mag(OUT[i])
end
let vrms2 = sqrt(vpwr)
echo SPECTRUM RMS = $&vrms2
=====View Spectrum=====
let BandW = 1000
let vperHz = vrms2/sqrt(BandW)
set pensize = 2
plot mag(v(OUT)) vperHz loglog
=====

```



SPECTRUM RMS = 1.36041

The average of the noise appears to plot nicely on the spectrum output. But the RMS value is about **3dB** higher than 1.

=====**The\_Surprise**=====

MacSpice is formatting a unity sine waves as unity in the spectrum output. But a unity sine wave has an RMS value of .707vrms. A 1.414 magnitude sine wave would have the same power as a 1vrms noise signal. Macspice is not plotting noise as a RMS value. It is plotting both noise and a sine wave in a magnitude format.

=====**Full\_Netlist\_For\_Copy\_Paste**=====

```

PWL_Noise_1VRMS_@1KHz
* www.idea2ic.com
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* OUT Rload
* need to have a file called
* "rndsrc" in the "MacSpice"
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* /VpwlT\
* First typing in a MacSpice
* window "rndsrc .5m 1"
* Then run this file
* Gnd
* timestep = .5m means 1KHz bandwidth
* duration = 1 means 1Hz resolution
* type into a MacSpice window => "rndsrc .5m 1"
* it will generate PWL_File.inc in this format..
* VpwlT OUT 0 PWL( + 0.0005 0.988835 +.....
=====Circuit Netlist=====
.include PWL_File.inc
Rload OUT 0 1k
*TRAN TSTEP TSTOP TSTART TMAX ?UIC?
.tran .05m 1 0 .05m UIC
=====Run_Transient=====
.control
run
set pensize = 1

```

```

plot          OUT          ylimit -4 +4
=====Find_RMS_Input=====
let num = length(out)-1
let i = 0
let vpwr = 0
repeat $&num
let i = i +1
let vpwr = vpwr + (mag(OUT[i])*mag(OUT[i]))/num
end
let vrms1 = sqrt(vpwr)
echo INPUT RMS = $&vrms1
=====Find_Spectrum=====
linearize
set specwindow = "rectangular"
*SPEC FSTART FSTOP FSTEP VECTOR
spec 1 10k 1 v(OUT)
=====Find_Spectrum_RMS=====
let num = length(out)-1
let i = 0
let vpwr = 0
repeat $&num
let i = i +1
let vpwr = vpwr + mag(OUT[i])* mag(OUT[i])
end
let vrms2 = sqrt(vpwr)
echo SPECTRUM RMS = $&vrms2
=====View_Spectrum=====
let BandW = 1000
let vperHz = vrms2/sqrt(BandW)
set pensize = 2
plot mag(v(OUT)) vperHz loglog
.endc
.end

```

**rndsrc .5m 1**

**2.12.10\_2.39PM**

**dsauersanjose@aol.com**

**Don Sauer**

**<http://www.idea2ic.com/>**