AMPLITUDE MODULATION: SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY

NEWS: What are AM, FM, and signal modulation?

WHAT'S IN THE NEWS?

Signal modulation simplifies the technologies required to transmit signals carrying information, like the news on TV or songs on the radio

AM (Amplitude Modulation)

- Encodes information by varying the amplitude of a constant frequency carrier wave.
- Amplitude changes represent audio signals; higher amplitudes correspond to louder sounds.
- Used in AM radio broadcasts; more susceptible to noise and interference.

FM (Frequency Modulation)

- Encodes information by varying the frequency of the carrier wave.
- Frequency changes with the amplitude of the input signal.
- Provides better sound quality and less prone to interference; used in FM radio broadcasts.

Signal Modulation

- Technique to encode information onto a carrier wave for transmission.
- Types include AM, FM, and PM (Phase Modulation).
- Modulation helps transmit signals over long distances and reduces interference.

Phase Modulation (PM)

- Encodes information by varying the phase of the carrier wave.
- Common in digital communication; less affected by interference.

Analog vs. Digital

• AM and FM are analog techniques, while PM is often used in digital communication.

Advantages of Modulation

- Allows multiple signals to share the same channel.
- Enhances signal quality by minimizing noise and static.



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Source: https://www.thehindu.com/sci-tech/science/what-are-am-fm-and-signal-modulation-explained/article68641239.ece

