EMP Analysis of an FM Communications Radio with a Long-Wire Antenna
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A Norton equivalent circuit is developed for a long-wire antenna used with a man-pack FM radio exposed to an incident electromagnetic pulse (EMP). The required short-circuit current and antenna impedance are computed by use of a transmission-line model for the antenna, and the computations are compared with measurements of the short-circuit current and antenna impedance. The comparison shows that the transmission-line model for the antenna is adequate for performing a vulnerability analysis of the radio. (cont'd on back)
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(20) A network model is developed for a portion of the radio and is used as the load in the Norton equivalent circuit. Load currents in response to an incident electromagnetic pulse from the Army EMP Simulator Operation (AESOP) are computed when the radio is tuned to specific frequencies in the low and high bands. The computed load currents are compared with experiment and show excellent agreement between theory and experiment.
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1. INTRODUCTION

1.1 Description of Radio and Antenna

The AN/PRC-77 radio set is a frequency-modulated (FM) receiver transmitter used to provide two-way voice communication. This short-range manpack-portable radio set is fully transistorized and can be operated over two bands covering the frequency range from 30 to 75.95 MHz. The radio set can be used with a number of different types of antennas such as monopole, dipole and log-periodic. In this paper we will analyze the radio when it is used with a long-wire antenna, as shown in figure 1. The antenna is simply a thin wire 45.72 m long, supported parallel to ground at a height of approximately 1.22 m above ground. When placed in this manner, the radio is used for communications in the direction of the wire antenna with an angular range of approximately 12 deg on either side of the antenna.1

![Figure 1. Radio set AN/PRC-77 used with antenna AT-984A/G.](image)

1.2 Analysis Approach

Since the receiver contains nonlinear components, we must analyze the antenna with nonlinear loads. A useful approach to this problem for dipole and monopole antennas has been developed by Toulios,2 who uses a lumped-parameter network (LPN) representation of both the effective height and the antenna impedance. With this approach, the antenna is represented in terms of a Thevenin equivalent

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circuit in which the source voltage is generated by the transient voltage representing the incident electromagnetic pulse (EMP) operating on the effective height circuit. When the dipole or monopole antenna is located near ground, the source voltage also operates on a network which takes into account the ground interaction. Once the Thevenin equivalent circuit has been defined it can be included with the network representing the antenna load, and standard network analysis techniques can be used to determine the energy delivered to the various circuit components, including nonlinear devices.

Figure 2 shows that the above technique can be simplified somewhat by representing the antenna with either a Thevenin or Norton equivalent circuit, in which the source (open-circuit voltage or short-circuit current) is computed directly from antenna theory, rather than from network analysis of the effective height circuit. Since the network analysis of the Thevenin or Norton equivalent circuit is performed in the time domain, the antenna impedance for this circuit must be represented in terms of its equivalent LPN.

![Thevenin and Norton Equivalent Circuits](image)

**Figure 2.** Equivalent circuits for an antenna.

2. EQUIVALENT CIRCUIT FOR ANTENNA

2.1 Antenna Impedance

The antenna is approximately 50 m long; thus, multiple resonances will be excited when it is driven by the frequency spectral content of an incident electromagnetic pulse (EMP). Under these conditions the antenna certainly cannot be considered to be effectively
small; i.e., we cannot simply represent the antenna impedance by a single capacitor or inductor. Our approach toward determining the network representation of the antenna impedance will be to compute this impedance in the frequency domain from an approximate analytical model valid over the appropriate frequency range and then to apply network synthesis to determine the LPN for this impedance.

We can model the antenna in terms of a single conductor parallel to a finitely conducting ground, terminated by a load at one end and open at the other end. An approximate solution for this geometry can be obtained in terms of a transmission-line model, in which the transmission line consists of the conductor and its image in the ground plane. This approximate solution has been applied to specific EMP transient problems and is described in the DNA-2114 EMP Handbook. Figure 3 (p 8) shows a comparison of the solution for the antenna impedance (computed from the transmission-line model) with experimental data for the antenna impedance. The measurements were made by driving the antenna from an external source and measuring the ratio of induced voltage to current over the frequency range of interest. Described elsewhere are details of the measurement process using the Harry Diamond Laboratories continuous wave facility (HDL-CW).

2.2 Network Synthesis for Antenna Impedance

The subject of network synthesis is discussed in detail in many textbooks. A necessary and sufficient condition for an impedance function to be realizable as an LPN is that the function be positive real. This condition is satisfied by the antenna impedance for the long-wire antenna. We can determine the LPN for this impedance by making the observation that behavior of the impedance function at each of the resonances is similar to that of the impedance of a parallel resonant circuit. The R, L, and C values of this circuit can be determined from the amplitude, location, and Q of the resonance. The total LPN for the antenna impedance is then obtained from the series sum of the LPN's of all the parallel resonant circuits for all the resonances.
Figure 3. Comparison of theory and experiment for antenna impedance.
resonances over the frequency range of interest. This technique applies also to network synthesis of input impedance for multiconductor transmission lines, and excellent comparisons can be obtained for impedance functions and corresponding synthesized networks. For the long-wire antenna, the impedance shows approximately a 1/ω dependence between zero frequency and the location of the first antiresonance. This behavior can be adequately described by a capacitor in series with the parallel resonant circuits. The synthesized network for the antenna impedance is then as shown in figure 4.

Figure 4. Equivalent circuit for long-wire antenna.

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2.3 Equivalent Short-Circuit Current

For the present analysis we will choose the Norton equivalent circuit for the antenna, so we must compute the antenna's short-circuit current. Our model of the antenna is that of a single conductor parallel to a finitely conducting ground. An approximate solution for this model is given in the DNA-2114 EMP Handbook (eq. 11.4-53) for arbitrary angles of incidence relative to the ground plane and the conductor. Since the solution is only approximate, we will first evaluate the solution by comparison with experimental data. If we are satisfied with the accuracy of the solution, we will then determine the worst-case angle of incidence of the EMP.

3. COMPARISON OF THEORY AND EXPERIMENT

3.1 Horizontally Polarized Incident Field

A set of measurements was made to determine the short-circuit current at the receiver end of the antenna when the antenna was shorted to the case of the receiver and oriented at various angles relative to a horizontally polarized incident field. The receiver was positioned on earth (finitely conducting) ground with the antenna used as shown in figure 1. The system was positioned approximately 450 m from the Army EMP Simulator Operation (AESOP). This simulator is the fixed-position version of the Transportable Electromagnetic Pulse Simulator (TEMPS). Since the horizontal section of the radio's antenna was much longer than the vertical section, the antenna responded primarily to the horizontal electric field along its length. For the AESOP, this horizontal field consists of radial and theta components, where the radial and theta directions refer to the usual directions in a spherical coordinate system having its origin in the gap of the wave-launcher section with the Z-axis along the simulator's horizontal axis. Measurements of the radio antenna's response to the AESOP environment are compared with computations by using the transmission-line model in figure 5. The response to the radial component is significant only near end-on incidence. Peak amplitudes in the response result for an angle of approximately 23 deg between the incident field and the wire; however, the pulse width of the signal at this angle is small. The received energy depends on both peak amplitude and pulse width, and we

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5 E. F. Vance, Defense Nuclear Agency EMP Handbook, 2114, Ch 11, Coupling to Cables (December 1974).
Figure 5. Computed and experimental short-circuit current on antenna for various angles of incidence of transient field from AESOP.

will see in a later section that for this particular antenna, the worst-case angle of incidence is not necessarily the angle resulting in maximum amplitudes of the received signal.

3.2 Vertically Polarized Field

The short-circuit current at the receiver end of the antenna was also measured when the antenna was illuminated by a transient pulse from a 30-m vertical monopole antenna. Measurements were made for both end-on and broadside incidence. We will show only the results for end-on incidence, since, as we would expect, the response for end-on incidence was significantly higher than for broadside. For end-on incidence, the receiver was 90 m from the transmit antenna, with the long-wire antenna pointing directly at the transmit antenna. Both the vertical and radial components of the incident field were measured in the absence of the receive antenna at 30, 60, and 90 m from the transmit antenna. The overall waveshapes of the measured fields varied only slightly for both components, except that they both exhibited a 1/R dependence, and the high-frequency components were more rapidly
attenuated at large distances. The radial component of the electric field results from the fact that the vertically polarized wave has a forward tilt near the surface of the earth, due to the earth's finite ground conductivity. Our measurements showed that the wave shape for both components was similar, with the overall amplitude of the radial component about 1/10 of the amplitude of the vertical component.

The upper part of figure 6 shows measured vertical component of the incident electric field component 60 m from the transmit antenna. The analytic approximation was obtained from a fit to the data by using exponential functions. The radial electric field component was taken as 1/10 of the vertical component and was used in the computations of the antenna response for the end-on incidence. The 1/R dependence of the radiated field was ignored for this computation; instead, we used an average value of the field. The results of the measurements and the analytical predictions based on the transmission-line model for the antenna are shown in the lower part of figure 6.

Figure 6. Computed and experimental short-circuit current on antenna for end-on incidence of transient field from a vertical monopole antenna (cont'd on p 13).

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4. WORST-CASE ORIENTATION OF ANTENNA

4.1 Maximum Energy Received by Antenna

The purpose of studying the EMP response of an antenna is to ultimately compute the energy delivered to a receiver connected to the antenna, so that one can determine any possible vulnerability of the receiver components. Before computing the maximum energy delivered to the receiver, we will compute the maximum possible energy received by an ideal load. From the maximum-power transfer theorem, such a load is equal to the complex conjugate of the antenna impedance.

A corollary to the maximum-power transfer theorem states that the maximum power which can be absorbed from a source network equals $V_{oc}^2/4\ Re(Z_s)$, where $V_{oc}$ is the open-circuit voltage at the source and $Re(Z_s)$ is the real component of the source impedance. If we use this corollary, the maximum energy, $E$, received by an antenna terminated in the complex conjugate of the antenna impedance is equal to

$$E = 1/2 \int_0^\infty \frac{|V_{oc}|^2}{Re(Z_A)} \ df$$
We computed the above expression for $E$ using numerical integration and the transmission-line solutions for $V_{oc}$ and $Z_a$ for a range of angles of incidence relative to ground and relative to the antenna. The total maximum energy at each angle of incidence was normalized to the maximum possible received energy and figure 7 shows the results. Clearly, overhead incidence for horizontal polarization results in the maximum possible energy delivered to an ideal load for this particular antenna.

**Figure 7.** Relative maximum energy received by antenna for various angles of incidence of high-altitude EMP.

### 4.2 Maximum Energy Input to Receiver

The fundamental resonant frequency of our long-wire antenna is approximately 3 MHz, whereas the receiver can be tuned to a frequency range of 30 to 76 MHz. Obviously, the load represented by the receiver cannot possibly receive the maximum energy received by the ideal load described in the previous section. In order to estimate the energy received when the receiver is tuned to a given frequency, we must examine $V_{oc}$ over the entire operating frequency range for various angles of the incident EMP relative to ground and the antenna. The results for such a parametric study are shown in figure 8, and we can make some
Figure 8. Open-circuit voltage over operating bands of radio; (a) $\gamma = 23$ and 45 deg (cont'd on p 16).
Figure 8. Open-circuit voltage over operating bands of radio; (b) $\gamma = 60$ and 90 deg (cont'd from p 15).
general observations from these results. For almost all frequencies, and for all angles of incidence relative to the wire, peak \( V_{oc} \) results for overhead incidence at the lower end of the operating frequency range. When the receiver is tuned to the low band, the input impedance to the receiver is essentially zero, except for a narrow band of frequencies approximately 1 MHz wide centered about the tuning frequency. Thus, all frequency components are filtered by the tuning network, except those near the tuning frequency. The total energy that can be transmitted to sensitive receiver components is given from equation (1), where the integration is carried out only over the 1-MHz bandwidth at the tuning frequency. At frequencies above 30 MHz, \( \Re (Z_A) \) varies slowly as a function of frequency, so the variation in received energy essentially depends on the integral of \( |V_{oc}|^2 \) over the tuning range. It is clear from figure 8 that maximum energy is transmitted to sensitive receiver components from overhead incidence when the receiver is tuned to approximately 31.5 MHz, with a worst-case angle of incidence of 23 deg relative to the antenna. Although some geometry could result in a higher energy transfer, we can see that the maximum energy at 31.5 MHz for overhead incidence does not vary to a great extent for the various angles relative to the antenna. Thus, we might expect that energy computations using a finer grid for various angles of incidence will not result in energy estimates much larger than that for overhead incidence at 23 deg.

5. NETWORK ANALYSIS OF THE RADIO

5.1 Network Model for the Radio

The AN/PRC-77 radio set is described fully in the maintenance manual\(^\text{11}\) for the radio. Figure 9 shows a block diagram for the radio set as used with the various optional antennas. In this paper we will investigate the coupling of the long-wire antenna at the short/long antenna terminal into module A28 through module A32 to the transmitter power amplifier (module A36).

Amplifier A36 is a 2-W class-C, common-emitter, transistor power amplifier with single-tuned input and output circuits. A switch controls the tuning circuits for high-band (53.00-75.95 MHz) or low-band (30.00-53.00 MHz) operation. Figure 10 shows the low-band circuit topology. For low-band operation, transformer T1 and capacitors C1, C2, and C1B comprise the tuned circuit. Variable gang capacitor C1B provides continuous tuning across the band. Transformer T3 and capacitors C8, C9, and gang capacitor C1A comprise the tuned circuit.

Inductor L5 matches the load impedance to the collector of transistor Q1. Inductor L6 and capacitor C10 form a low-pass rf filter to suppress harmonic radiation. The parallel combination of resistors R10 and R11 provides a load to the collector Q1.
5.2 Validation of Radio Network Model

The depot maintenance manual describes a signal trace performed by inserting a 130-ohm dummy load at the output of A28 and applying a 6 V, 30-MHz rms signal to the input of A36. The manual then specifies the resulting dc and signal levels at key points within the module. A computer run was made for the network shown in figure 10 and table I shows a comparison of computed results and values specified in the maintenance manual for selected points in the circuit. Table I(a) shows the dc levels for no signal input and Table I(b) shows the rms levels when the 6-V rms signal is applied to the input of module A36.

### TABLE I. COMPARISON OF MANUAL-SPECIFIED AND COMPUTED VOLTAGES

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<th>Point in circuit</th>
<th>(a) dc levels (no signal input)</th>
<th>(b) ac signal levels</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Maintenance manual (V)</td>
<td>Computed (V)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Q1 emitter</td>
<td>0.0</td>
<td>0.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Q1 base</td>
<td>0.89</td>
<td>0.7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Q1 collector</td>
<td>12.5</td>
<td>12.2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Across dummy load</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C11-CR1 junction</td>
<td>2.2</td>
<td>1.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>R7-CR2 junction</td>
<td>-5.5</td>
<td>-8</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The discrepancies between ac voltages specified in the manual and computed voltages are partially due to the fact that the tabulated computed voltages are not steady-state values but represent the transient response out to 1 µs. Low-frequency transients introduced from the power supply when the radio is initially turned on do not decay until after several microseconds. In addition to this, the model was not fine tuned to the frequency of the driving waveform (such tuning is time-consuming on the computer) so that optimized network response was not realized. However, the above comparison was good enough to indicate that the simulated circuit was functional and reasonably close in operating level to the actual circuit. The power dissipated in the semiconductors during normal operation was noted for comparison with that dissipated during an EMP excitation.

#### 5.3 Received Transient Signals--Comparison of Theory and Experiment

When the antenna was driven by transient fields from the AESOP, the Thevenin equivalent circuit for the antenna (fig. 4) was combined with the network model for the radio (fig. 9) and the transient response of the system was computed. Figure 11 shows the comparison of the computed and measured current at the input to the radio with the radio tuned to 30 MHz on the low band. Figure 12 shows the same type of comparison with the receiver tuned to 75 MHz on the high band. The agreement is excellent in view of all the errors in both the network analysis and the experiment.

Having validated the theoretical model for the antenna response, the radio network model, and the combination of the two models, the EMP response of the radio could be computed. The results of
Figure 11. Transient current at input to radio (low band).

Figure 12. Transient current at input to radio (high band).
this analysis are reported elsewhere. As an illustration of the kind of effect a transient incident field can have on the response of a radio, figure 13 shows a comparison of the current on the transistor collector of Q1 (amplifier A36) during normal operation and during excitation of the antenna by an incident transient EMP. For normal operation, a 6-V rms 30-MHz signal was used to drive the amplifier. In the transient case, the output of the antenna loading network was added to the steady-state signal when the antenna was driven by a low-level peak value of 218-V/m EMP. We can see the significance of disrupting normal operation of the radio, even by a low-level transient signal.

6. CONCLUSIONS

We have shown that a reasonably accurate equivalent circuit of a long-wire antenna used with a radio set near a finitely conducting

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Figure 13. Current on transistor collector Q1 for steady-state and transient conditions.

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ground plane can be developed from a transmission-line model of the antenna. The accuracy of this model was determined by comparing experimental data with pertinent quantities such as antenna impedance and short-circuit current for various angles of the incident field.

We developed a lumped-parameter-network (LPN) representation of the antenna so that this network could be used in combination with the time-domain short-circuit current at the antenna terminal in a network analysis of the antenna-radio combination. Finally, we have developed a network model of the front end of the radio used with the antenna so that this network could be used as a load for the Thevenin equivalent circuit of the antenna. Computed results for the load circuit when the radio was tuned to various frequencies showed good agreement with experimental data.

The technique used for the analysis of the long-wire antenna with its radio is useful, since it can be generalized to other types of antennas. A frequency-domain solution already exists for many types of antennas and the major problem remaining is to perform an accurate LPN synthesis of the antenna impedances. It may well be that a simple approach such as the one used here is applicable to many types of antennas—i.e., synthesis of the antenna impedance in terms of a series sum of parallel resonant circuits. The source current or source voltage can be obtained simply from Fourier analysis of the frequency-domain solution.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

The authors would like to thank Charles A. Berkley, Jr., for his assistance on this project. Mr. Berkley contributed to the test plan for the experiments and performed all the measurements, taking care to minimize any experimental error. He also transferred the data in digital form to an on-line computer for subsequent data analysis.
LITERATURE CITED


APPENDIX A.--COMPUTER-AIDED SYSTEM SIMULATION ERROR

A-1. SOURCES OF ERROR

Considerable controversy surrounds the validity of using computer-simulated electromagnetic pulse (EMP) coupling sources and circuit response to predict circuit damage. The controversy stems from the lack of a comprehensive error analysis for the computer network analysis. This appendix considers the feasibility of such an error analysis and examines the variance in AN/PRC-77 damage predictions due to theoretical versus experimental EMP-induced antenna waveforms.

All simulation programs are subject to errors due primarily to

(a) Incomplete models

(b) Simplified driving function representation

(c) Limited experimental data

(d) Variance in real system component characteristics

(e) Numerical differentiation/integration

(f) Nonlinear equation convergence check tolerances

It has been the express object of the AN/PRC-77 analysis to minimize error-source categories (a) through (c). Sections 3.1, 3.2, and 5.2 in the main report discuss the model verification for the antenna and circuit responses. Verification is based on the "proof of the pudding, seeing is believing" adages. That the code-predicted system response compares favorably with oscilloscope traces indicates an adequately modeled system.

Error-source category (d) affects the circuit modeling for the AN/PRC-77 in that a signal tolerance of ±20 percent is acceptable in the real circuit. An inherent uncertainty in the real system response broadens the admissible range for the modeled circuit's behavior. It should also be noted here that the 20-percent tolerance in voltage propagates as a 40-percent spread in dissipated power, such that a factor of 2.25 separates the low tolerance power from the high tolerance power.

APPENDIX A

The numerical problems associated with the computer codes themselves (error-source categories (e) and (f)) have been subjected to scrutiny during the code development. The amount of error introduced by numerical techniques is a function of the system under analysis. In general, the more complex the system and the more parameters which come into play to characterize that system, the greater is the associated numerical error. To rigorously quantify the numerical error would be a costly and time-consuming task.

A-2. DAMAGE PREDICTION

Remembering that the ultimate aim of the system analysis is to assess possible circuit damage from EMP-induced transient overstress, the error associated with the damage indicators calculated by the circuit analysis is brought into question. Such a question cannot be fully treated by the study of one system. Obviously, the errors associated with the damage indicators fall into the same six categories listed in section A-1. The two predominating sources of uncertainty for simulating damage are, specifically,

(a) The inherent large spread in experimental power-to-damage semiconductor components (error-source category (d)).

(b) The intractability of device behavior at the instant of failure (error-source category (a)).

The large power-to-damage spread (~1 decade for many semiconductors) is due to the catastrophic nature of the junction failure mechanism. Failure is an irreversible thermal phenomenon. Simulation of the device behavior in the failure region involves the solution of a nonlinear heat-flow equation requiring the determination of parameters (some temperature dependent) relating to the structure and composition of the device in question. To avoid the laborious task of characterizing failure behavior and to avoid the wide dispersion of the device characteristics at thermal breakdown, no attempt is made to simulate failure during the circuit simulation. Instead, the device prefailure characteristic equations are used to simulate device behavior regardless of incident signal strength. During the time-domain circuit-response simulation, the device junction instantaneous power P(t) is recorded. Following the simulation, auxiliary subroutines are called which determine whether a given junction would have experienced enough power to precipitate thermal breakdown. This approach is consistent with the experimental method used to establish device damage thresholds. In that case, square-pulse waveforms incident at the junction terminals are incrementally increased until thermal breakdown is affected. Failure is characterized by a sudden surge of current through the device at some point during the pulse duration (fig. A-1).
The pre-failure power \( (I_d \cdot V_d) \) and pre-failure pulse duration are then used as the damage threshold indicators. Thus, it is unnecessary to track device post-failure behavior since one knows the pre-thermal breakdown device characteristics and the failure threshold.

If we assume that the power to damage a device may be characterized as an experimentally determined function of pulse duration, \( P_d = f(t) \), then the damage criteria for an arbitrary power signature, \( P(\lambda) \), may be characterized by the following integral equation.\(^2\)

\[
\int_{0}^{t} P(\lambda) \frac{d}{d(t - \lambda)} \left( \frac{1}{f(t - \lambda)} \right) d\lambda \geq 1 .
\]

The above equation follows from the application of Duhamel's theorem to the rate of heat production in the semiconductor material. The equation states that we can expect damage if the result of the integral exceeds unity.

APPENDIX A

A-3. COMPARISON OF DAMAGE THRESHOLD DUHAMEL INTEGRAL FOR EXPERIMENTAL VERSUS SIMULATED ANTENNA RESPONSE

The Duhamel integral value for the power dissipated in the 2N3375 can be calculated for both field-measured and LPN-simulated antenna responses using the circuit model constructed for the AN/PRC-77 response to the long wire. The comparison of these values will provide some indication of the sensitivity of the circuit to the approximation used in the antenna model. In performing the Duhamel integral, the familiar Wunsch-Bell damage equation was used for $P_d(t)$,

$$P_d(t) = \frac{K}{t_d^b}$$

where $P$ is the failure power threshold and $t_d$ is the pulse duration which precipitates failure. Figures A-2 through A-5 show comparisons of the base-emitter and collector-emitter voltages and instantaneous power for the field-measured and LPN-simulated antenna responses.

![Figure A-2. Emitter power.](image-url)
Figure A-3. Collector power.

Figure A-4. Emitter voltage.
The Duhamel integral values (dimensionless) were for FIELD-MEASURED ANTENNA RESPONSE for LPN ANTENNA RESPONSE

E-B $13 \times 10^{-6}$ $6.5 \times 10^{-4}$
C-B $2.5 \times 10^{-3}$ $3.8 \times 10^{-3}$

A maximum factor of two difference between the LPN and field-antenna response is indicated for the emitter-base junction. The LPN-simulated collector-base response differs by 34 percent from the field-measured response. Admittedly, this exercise leaves much to be desired with regard to establishing confidence bands for the circuit damage-prediction techniques employed here. However, it does indicate that the simulated antenna response induces damage indicators within a factor of 2 of the experimental response. For a log normal distribution, where $2 = 10^{1}$ (as in a typical experimental device damage curve), a factor of 2 is well within one standard deviation of the mean. Note again the factor of 2.25 spread of the acceptable signal power limits discussed in section A-1.
A-4. CONCLUSIONS

As evidenced by our discussion, a consideration of the error inherent in system simulation becomes almost philosophical. Given the manifold error sources and complex error interactions, the analyst is forced by time and cost considerations to justify his simulation results solely on visual comparison of computer-generated responses with real data. It is suggested that such justification is adequate for the purposes of EMP vulnerability analysis, given the spread in experimental device failure data. Given the multiplicity of error sources with their complex interplay and propagation, a comprehensive error analysis for most real system-response simulations is not practical. The real merit of a computer system simulation occurs when it is used to produce conservative estimates of system vulnerability levels: adjusting those parameters most subject to error to their worst-case values.
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