

An introduction to coding theory

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Lecture #16B: Problem solving session-VI



Fundamental limit

- **Problem # 1:** For reliable communication in presence of Gaussian noise, what is the minimum signal-to-noise E_b/N_0 required?



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- **Solution:** Capacity of Gaussian memoryless channel with two-sided noise power spectral density $N_0/2$ and without bandwidth limitation is given by

$$\begin{aligned} C^\infty &= \lim_{W \rightarrow \infty} W \log \left(1 + \frac{S}{N_0 W} \right) \\ &= \frac{S}{N_0 \ln 2} \text{ bits/s} \end{aligned}$$

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- If we transmit K information bits over τ seconds, where τ is a multiple of T , we have

$$E_b = \frac{S\tau}{K}$$



Fundamental limit

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- Thus signal to noise ratio E_b/N_0 cannot be less than Shannon limit -1.6 dB for reliable communications.



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- Hence

$$R_t = K/\tau = 2WK/N = 2WR \text{ bits/s}$$



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- If we let $R \rightarrow 0$, we get $E_b/N_0 > \ln 2$.
- If we let $R = 1/2$, we get $E_b/N_0 > 1 = 0 \text{ dB}$.



Convolutional codes

- **Problem # 3:** Prove that every convolutional code C has a generator matrix that is delayfree.



Convolutional codes

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- **Solution:** Let $G(D)$ be any generator matrix for C . The nonzero entries of $G(D)$ can be written as

$$g_{ij}(D) = D^{s_{ij}} f_{ij}(D) / q_{ij}(D)$$

where s_{ij} is an integer such that
 $f_{ij}(0) = q_{ij}(0) = 1, 1 \leq i \leq k, 1 \leq j \leq n$.



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- The number s_{ij} is the delay of the sequence

$$g_{ij}(D) = D^{s_{ij}} f_{ij}(D) / q_{ij}(D) = D^{s_{ij}} + g_{s_{ij}+1} D^{s_{ij}+1} + \dots$$



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- Let $s = \min_{i,j} \{s_{ij}\}$, then

$$G'(D) = D^{-s} G(D)$$

is both delayfree and realizable and both $G(D)$ and $G'(D)$ generate the same convolutional code.



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- **Solutions:** Let $G(D)$ be any realizable and delayfree generator for C and let $q(D)$ be the least common multiple of all the denominators of the nonzero entries of $G(D)$.
- Since $q(D)$ is a delayfree polynomial, we have

$$G'(D) = q(D)G(D)$$

is a polynomial delayfree generator matrix for C .



Convolutional codes

- **Problem # 5:** The dual code C^\perp to a convolutional code C is the set of all n -tuples of sequences \mathbf{v}^\perp such that the inner product

$$(\mathbf{v}, \mathbf{v}^\perp) = \mathbf{v}(\mathbf{v}^\perp)^T$$

is zero.

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- Let rate k/n convolutional code be generated by the semi-infinite generator matrix \mathbf{G} and the rate $R = (n - k)/n$ dual code C^\perp be generated by the semi-infinite generator matrix \mathbf{G}^\perp , where

$$\mathbf{G}^\perp = \begin{pmatrix} G_0^\perp & G_1^\perp & \cdots & G_m^\perp & & \\ & G_0^\perp & G_1^\perp & \cdots & G_m^\perp & \\ & & \ddots & \ddots & & \ddots \end{pmatrix}$$

Then

$$\mathbf{G}(\mathbf{G}^\perp) = \mathbf{0}$$

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Convolutional codes

- Let $\mathbf{v} = \mathbf{uG}$ and $\mathbf{v}^\perp = \mathbf{u}^\perp \mathbf{G}^\perp$, where \mathbf{v} and \mathbf{v}^\perp are orthogonal. Then we have

$$\mathbf{v}(\mathbf{v}^\perp)^\mathsf{T} = \mathbf{uG}(\mathbf{u}^\perp \mathbf{G}^\perp)^\mathsf{T} = \mathbf{uG}(\mathbf{G}^\perp)^\mathsf{T}(\mathbf{u}^\perp)^\mathsf{T} = \mathbf{0}$$



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- Thus we have

$$\mathbf{G}(\mathbf{G}^\perp) = \mathbf{0}$$

- The convolutional dual code C^\perp to a convolutional code C which is encoded by the rate $R = k/n$ generator matrix $G(D)$ is the set of all codewords encoded by any rate $R = (n - k)/n$ generator matrix $G_\perp(D)$ such that

$$\mathbf{G}(\mathbf{D})\mathbf{G}_{\perp}^{\mathsf{T}}(\mathbf{D}) = \mathbf{0}$$



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- Let us consider a rate $R = k/n$ convolutional code encoded by the polynomial generator matrix

$$G(D) = G_0 + G_1 D + \cdots + G_m D^m$$

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- Let us consider a rate $R = k/n$ convolutional code encoded by the polynomial generator matrix

$$G(D) = G_0 + G_1 D + \cdots + G_m D^m$$

- Let $\tilde{G}^\perp(D)$ denote the rate $R=(n-k)/n$ polynomial generator matrix

$$\tilde{G}^\perp(D) = G_m^\perp + G_{m^\perp-1}D + \cdots + G_0D^{m^\perp}$$

which is the reciprocal of the generator matrix

$$G^\perp(D) = G_0^\perp + G_1^\perp D + \cdots + G_{m^\perp}^\perp$$

for the dual code C^\perp .

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Convolutional codes

- Then we have

$$\begin{aligned} G(D)(\tilde{G}(D))^T &= G_0(G_{m^\perp}^\perp)^T + G_0(G_{m^\perp-1}^\perp)^T + G_1(G_{m^\perp}^\perp)D \\ &\quad + \cdots + G_m(G_0^\perp)^T D^{m+m^\perp} \\ &= \left(\sum_{j=-m}^{m^\perp} \left(\sum_{i=0}^m G_i(G_{i+j}^\perp)^T \right) \right) D^{m+j} = 0 \end{aligned}$$



Convolutional codes

- **Problem # 7:** Show that the free distance for any binary rate $R = k/n$ convolutional code encoded by a minimal encoding matrix of memory m and overall constraint length ν satisfies

$$d_{\text{free}} \leq \min_{i \geq 1} \left\{ \left\lfloor \frac{(m+i)n}{2(1 - 2^{\nu-k(m+i)})} \right\rfloor \right\}$$



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- There exist $2^{k(m+i)}/2^\nu$ information sequences starting in the zero state leading to the zero state.



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- There exist $2^{k(m+i)}/2^\nu$ information sequences starting in the zero state leading to the zero state.
- Corresponding code sequences constitute a block code with $M = 2^{k(m+i)-\nu}$ codewords and blocklength $N = (m+i)n$ for $i = 1, 2, \dots$.



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- From Plotkin bound, we have

$$d_{\min} \leq \left\lfloor \frac{NM}{2(M-1)} \right\rfloor$$



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- Putting the value of N and M, we get the desired bound.



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- **Problem #8:** The free distance for any binary $R = k/n$ convolutional code encoded by minimal encoding matrix of memory m satisfies

$$d_{\text{free}} \leq \min_{i \geq 1} \left\{ \frac{(m+i)n}{2(1-2^{-ki})} \right\}$$



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- **Problem #8:** The free distance for any binary $R = k/n$ convolutional code encoded by minimal encoding matrix of memory m satisfies

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- Also

$$\lim_{m \rightarrow \infty} \frac{d_{\text{free}}}{mn} \leq \frac{1}{2}$$



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- Let $m \rightarrow \infty$, and noting that $(1 - 2^{-ki}) < 1$, we get the desired result.

