

MODULE 1 INFORMATION THEORY

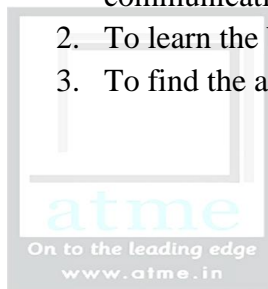
STRUCTURE

1. Objectives
2. Introduction
3. Measure of information
4. Average information Content(entropy) in long independent sequences
5. Mark-off statistical model for information sources
6. Review questions.
7. Outcomes.

OBJECTIVES

After completion of this module the student will be able

1. To learn about the probability theory, linear algebra, random processes and communication systems.
2. To learn the basic concept of information theory and coding.
3. To find the average information content.



1.1 INTRODUCTION

The block diagram of an information system can be drawn as shown in figure. The meaning of the word "information" in information theory is "message" or "intelligence". This message may be an electrical message such as voltage, current or power or speech message • picture message such as facsimile or television or music message. A source which produces these messages is called "information source".

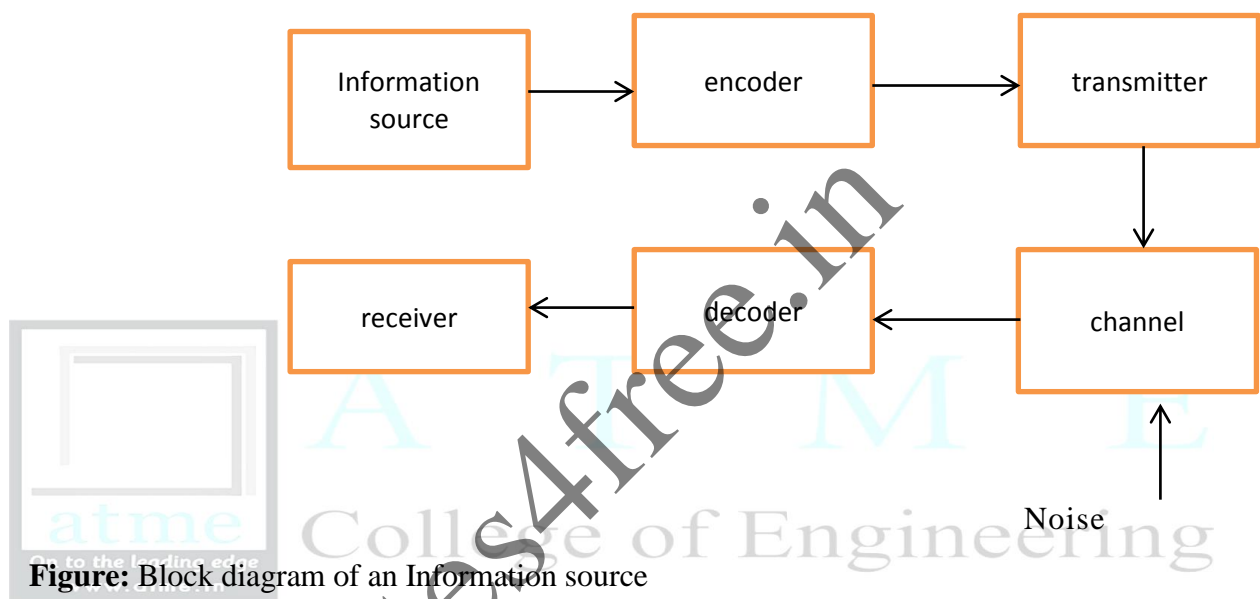


Figure: Block diagram of an Information source

Information sources can be classified into two categories: analog information sources and discrete information sources. Analog information sources, such as a microphone actuated (speech, or a TV camera scanning a scene, emit one or more continuous amplitude electrical signals with respect to time. The output of discrete information sources such as a teletype or the numerical output of a computer consists of a sequence of discrete symbols or letters. An analog information source can be transformed into a discrete information source through the process of sampling and quantizing.

Discrete information sources are characterized by (a) source alphabet (b) symbol rate (c) source alphabet probabilities and (d) probabilistic dependence of symbols in a sequence.

Example of source alphabet (discrete information source) a teletype having 26 letters of the English Alphabet plus several special characters such as full stop, comma etc. along with numerals.

The Symbol rate refers to the rate at which the teletype produces characters. Ex: If the teletype operates at the speed of 10 characters/sec, then the symbol rate is said to be symbols/sec.

If the teletype is producing messages in English language, then some letters appear more frequently than others. For example, the letter F appears more often than the letter Z and if a word starts with Q, the next letter will be U and so on. These structural properties of symbol sequences can be characterized by probability of occurrence of the individual symbols and by the conditional properties of occurrence of symbols (i.e., probabilistic dependence).

SOURCE ENCODER: Let the input to the source encoder be a string of source symbols from the source Alphabet $S = \{s_1, s_2, \dots, s_n\}$ occurring at a rate of "r," symbols/sec.

The source encoder converts the symbol sequence into its binary sequence of U's and v by assigning code-words to the symbols in the input sequence. Binary coding is preferred, because of its high efficiency of transmission and also the ease with which they can be transmitted over the channel [other types of coding such as ternary, quaternary coding etc. discussed in unit 3.1]. The simplest way of coding is to assign a fixed length binary code-word to each symbol in the input sequence. But, fixed-length coding of individual symbols in a source output is efficient only if the symbols occur with equal probabilities in a statistically independent sequence. In most practical situations, the symbols occur with unequal probabilities. The source encoder, then assigns variable length code-words to these symbols. The important parameters of a source encoder namely block size, length of code-words, average data rate and the encoder efficiency.

TRANSMITTER: The transmitter couples the input message signal to the channel. While it may sometimes be possible to couple the input transducer directly to the channel. It is often necessary to process and modify the input signal for efficient transmission over the channel. Signal processing operations performed by the transmitter include amplification, filtering and modulation. The most important of these operations is modulation - a process designed to match the properties of the transmitted signal to the channel through the use of carrier wave.

CHANNEL: A communication channel provides the electrical connection between the source and the destination. The channel may be a pair of wires (2-line transmission system) or a telephone cable or free space over which the information bearing signal is radiated. Due to physical limitations, communication channels have only finite bandwidth and the information bearing signal suffers amplitude and phase distortion as it travels over the channel. In addition to the distortion, the signal power also decreases due to attenuation of the channel.

DECODER AND RECEIVER: The source decoder converts the binary output of the channel decoder into a symbol sequence. The decoder for fixed-length code-words is quite simple, but the decoder for a system using variable-length code-words will be very complex. Therefore, the function of the decoder is to convert the corrupted signals into a symbol sequence and the function of the receiver is to identify the symbol sequence and match it with the correct sequence.

In 1948, C.E. SHANNON, known as "Father of Information Theory", published a treatise on the mathematical theory of communication in which he established basic theoretical bounds for the performances of communication systems. Shannon's theory is based on probabilistic models for information sources and communication channels. In the forthcoming sections, we present some of the important aspects of Shannon's work.

1.2 MEASURE OF INFORMATION

In order to know and compare the "information content" of various messages produced by an information source, a measure is necessary to quantitatively know that information content. For this, let us consider an information source producing independent sequence of symbols from source alphabet $S = \{s_1, s_2, \dots, s_q\}$ with probabilities $P = \{p_1, p_2, \dots, p_q\}$ respectively.

Let S_K be a symbol chosen for transmission at any instant of time with a probability equal to p_K . Then the "Amount of Information" or "Self-Information" of message S_K (provided it is correctly identified by the receiver) is given by

$$I_K = \log(1/P_K)$$

If the base of the logarithm is 2, then the units are called "BITS", which is the short form of "Binary Units". If the base is "10", the units are "HARTLEYS" or "DECITS". If the base is "e", the units are "NATS" and if the base, in general, is "r", the units are called "r-ary units".

The most widely used unit of information is "BITS" where the base of the logarithm is 2. Throughout this book, log to the base 2 is simply written as log and the units can be assumed to be bits, unless or otherwise specified.

Example 1.1 : The binary symbols '0' and '1' are transmitted with probabilities $\frac{1}{4}$ and $\frac{3}{4}$ respectively. Find the corresponding self-informations.

Solution

Self-information in a '0' = $I_0 = \log(1/P_0) = \log 4 = 2$ bits.

Self-information in a '1' = $I_1 = \log(1/P_1) = \log 4/3$

$I_1 = 0.415$ bits.

Thus, it can be observed that more information is carried by a less likely message. Logarithmic expression is chosen for measuring information because of the following reasons:

1. The information content or self-information of any message cannot be negative. Each message must contain certain amount of information.
2. The lowest possible self-information is "zero" which occurs for a sure event since P (sure event) = 1.

1.2.1 Zero-Memory Source:- It represents a model of a discrete information source emitting sequence of symbols from a fixed finite source alphabet $S = \{s_1, s_2, \dots, s_q\}$. Successive symbols are selected according to some fixed probability law and are statistically independent of one another. This means that there is no connection between any two symbols and that the source has no memory. Such type of sources are called "memoryless" or "zero-memory" sources.

1.3 AVERAGE INFORMATION CONTENT (ENTROPY) OF SYMBOLS IN LONG INDEPENDENT SEQUENCES

Let us consider a zero-memory source producing independent sequences of symbols. While the receiver of these sequences may interpret the entire message as a single unit, communication systems often have to deal with individual symbols. Let us consider the source alphabet $S = \{s_1, s_2, \dots, s_q\}$ with probabilities $P = \{p_1, p_2, \dots, p_q\}$ respectively.

Let us consider a long independent sequence of length L symbols. This long sequence contains

$P_1 L$ number of messages of type s_1

$P_2 L$ number of messages of type s_2 ,

and $P_q L$ number of messages of type s_q .

Average self-information is also called entropy is given by

$$H(S) = \sum_{i=1}^q p_i \log\left(\frac{1}{p_i}\right) \text{ bits/message symbol}$$

Note that the definition of $H(S)$ given in equation (1.4) is based on time-averaging. The definition is valid for ensemble averages provided the source is ergodic. The source entropy given by equation (1.4) is similar to the expression for entropy in statistical mechanics. The source entropy can be interpreted as follows. On the average, we can expect to get $H(S)$ bits of information per symbol in long messages from the information source even though we cannot say in advance what symbol sequences will occur in these messages. Thus $H(S)$ represents the "average uncertainty" or the 'average amount of the source'.

Illustration: Let us consider a binary source with source alphabet $S = \{s_1, s_2\}$ with probabilities $P = \{1/256, 255/256\}$

Solution:

$$H(S) = \sum_{i=1}^q p_i \log\left(\frac{1}{p_i}\right) \text{ bits/message symbol}$$

The entropy $H(S) = 0.037$ bits/message symbol

INFORMATION RATE : Let us suppose that the symbols are emitted by the source at fixed time rate " r_s " symbols/sec. The "average source information rate R ," in bits/sec is defined as the product of the average information content per symbol and the message symbol rate r_s

$$R = r_s H(S) \text{ bits/sec or BPS}$$

1.4 PROPERTIES OF ENTROPY

The entropy function is given by equation (1.4) for a source alphabet $S = \{s_1, s_2, \dots, s_q\}$ with $P = \{p_1, p_2, \dots, p_q\}$ where $q =$ number of source symbols, as

$$H(S) = \sum_{i=1}^q p_i \log\left(\frac{1}{p_i}\right) \text{ bits/message symbol}$$

Many interesting properties can be observed as listed below:

The entropy function is continuous for every independent variable p_K in the interval $(0,1)$. i.e., if p_i varies continuously from 0 to 1, so does the entropy function. [Note: Entropy function vanishes at both $p_K = 0$ and $p_K = 1$].

2. The entropy function is a symmetrical function of its arguments. i.e., $H[p_K, (1 - p_K)] = H[(1 - p_K), p_K]$ for all $K = 1, 2, \dots, q$ i.e., the value of $H(S)$ remains the same irrespective of the locations of the probabilities. i.e., as long as the probabilities are same, it does not matter in which order they are arranged. Thus the sources S_A, S_B and S_C with probabilities.

$$P_A = \{P_1, P_2, P_3\}$$

$$P_B = \{P_2, P_3, P_1\}$$

$$P_C = \{P_3, P_1, P_2\}$$

Such that $\sum_{i=1}^3 p_i = 1$ will all have the same entropy i.e., $H(S_A) = H(S_B) = H(S_C)$

1.4.1 Extremal Property

Let us consider the same source S with q symbols $S = \{s_1, s_2, \dots, s_q\}$ with probabilities $P = \{P_1, P_2, \dots, P_q\}$. the entropy of S is given by equation

$$H(S) = \sum_{i=1}^q p_i \log\left(\frac{1}{p_i}\right)$$

The entropy has an upper bound is $\log q - H(S)$.

The lower bound for $H(S)$ is zero.

1.4.2 Property of Additivity

Suppose that we split the symbol s_q into 'n' subsymbols such that $s_q = s_{q1}, s_{q2}, \dots, s_{qn}$. occurring with probabilities $P_{q1}, P_{q2}, \dots, P_{qn}$ such that

$$\sum_{j=1}^n P_{qj}$$

Source Efficiency = $H(S) / H(S)_{\max}$

Redundancy = $1 - \text{source efficiency}$

1.5 MARK OFF MODEL FOR INFORMATION SOURCES ASSUMPTION

A source puts out symbols belonging to a finite alphabet according to certain probabilities depending on preceding symbols as well as the particular symbol in question.

1.5.1. Define a random process

A statistical model of a system that produces a sequence of symbols stated above is and which is governed by a set of probs. is known as a random process.

Therefore, we may consider a discrete source as a random process

And the converse is also true.

i.e. A random process that produces a discrete sequence of symbols chosen from a finite set may be considered as a discrete source.

1.5.2. Discrete stationary Mark off process

Provides a statistical model for the symbol sequences emitted by a discrete source.

General description of the model can be given as below:

1. At the beginning of each symbol interval, the source will be in the one of "n" possible states 1, 2, n

Where "n" is defined as

$$n \leq (M)^m$$

M = no of symbol / letters in the alphabet of a discrete stationary source,

m = source is emitting a symbol sequence with a residual influence lasting

„m" symbols.

i.e. m: represents the order of the source.

m = 2 means a 2nd order source

$m = 1$ means a first order source.

The source changes state once during each symbol interval from say i to j . The probability of this transition is P_{ij} . P_{ij} depends only on the initial state i and the final state j but does not depend on the states during any of the preceding symbol intervals.

2. When the source changes state from I to j it emits a symbol. Symbol emitted depends on the initial state i and the transition ij .

3. Let s_1, s_2, \dots, s_M be the symbols of the alphabet, and let $x_1, x_2, x_3, \dots, x_k, \dots$ be a sequence of random variables, where x_k represents the k^{th} symbol in a sequence emitted by the source. Then, the probability that the k^{th} symbol emitted is s_q will depend on the previous symbols $x_1, x_2, x_3, \dots, x_{k-1}$ emitted by the source.

i.e., $P(X_k = s_q / x_1, x_2, \dots, x_{k-1})$

4. The residual influence of x_1, x_2, \dots, x_{k-1} on x_k is represented by the state of the system at the beginning of the k^{th} symbol interval.

i.e. $P(x_k = s_q / x_1, x_2, \dots, x_{k-1}) = P(x_k = s_q / S_k)$

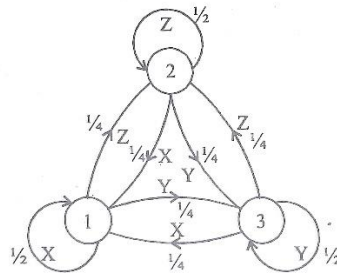
When S_k is a discrete random variable representing the state of the system at the beginning of the k^{th} interval. Term states is used to remember past history or residual influence in the same context as the use of state variables in system theory / states in sequential logic circuits.

1.5.3 System Analysis with regard to Markoff sources

Representation of Discrete Stationary Markoff sources:

1. Are represented in a graph form with the nodes in the graph to represent states and the transition between states by a directed line from the initial to the final state.
2. Transition probs. and the symbols emitted corresponding to the transition will be shown marked along the lines of the graph.

A typical example for such a source is given below.



It is an example of a source emitting one of three symbols X, Y, and Z

- The probability of occurrence of a symbol depends on the particular symbol in question and the symbol immediately preceding it.
- Residual or past influence lasts only for a duration of one symbol.

Last symbol emitted by this source

The last symbol emitted by the source can be A or B or C. Hence past history can be represented by three states- one for each of the three symbols of the alphabet.

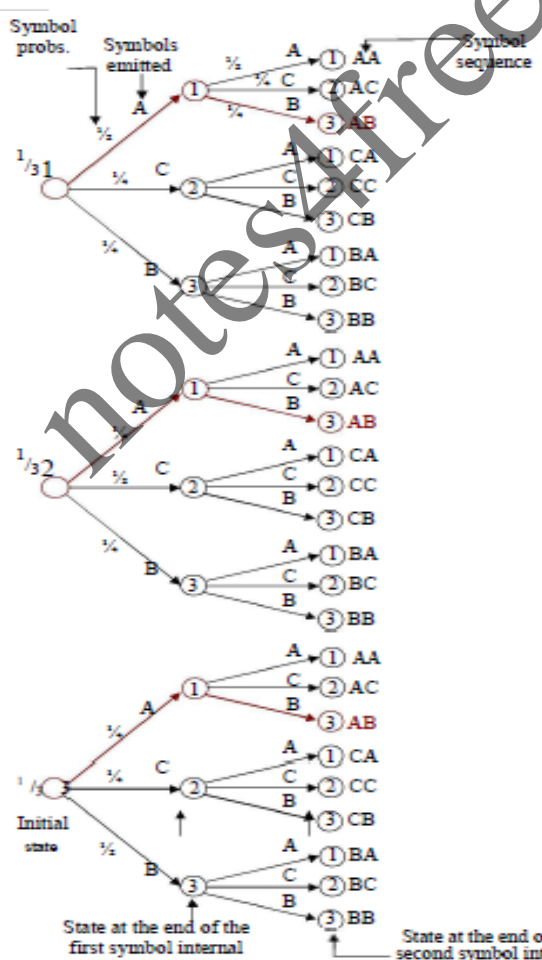
State generation tree

1.6

Tree

where the and transitions occur once branches

emitted for the



transition and symbol can also be illustrated using a diagram.

Tree diagram

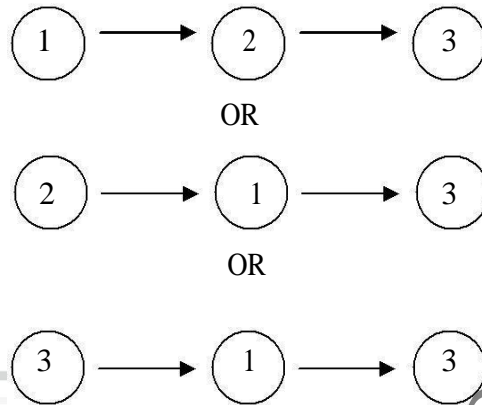
diagram is a planar graph nodes correspond to states branches correspond to Transitions between states every T_s seconds. Along the of the tree, the transition probabilities and symbols will be indicated. Tree diagram source considered

Use of the tree diagram

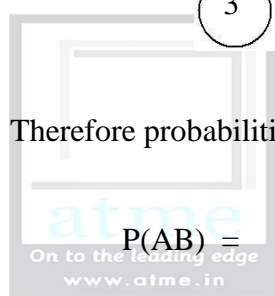
Tree diagram can be used to obtain the probabilities of generating various symbol sequences.

Generation a symbol sequence say AB

This can be generated by any one of the following transitions:



Therefore probabilities of the source emitting the two – symbol sequence AB is given by



$$P(AB) = P(S_1 = 1, S_2 = 1, S_3 = 3)$$

Or

$$P(S_1 = 2, S_2 = 1, S_3 = 3) \quad \text{----- (1)}$$

Or

$$P(S_1 = 3, S_2 = 1, S_3 = 3)$$

Note that the three transition paths are disjoint.

$$\begin{aligned}
 \text{Therefore } P(AB) &= P(S_1 = 1, S_2 = 1, S_3 = 3) + P(S_1 = 2, S_2 = 1, S_3 = 3) \\
 &+ P(S_1 = 3, S_2 = 1, S_3 = 3) \quad \text{----- (2)}
 \end{aligned}$$

The first term on the RHS of the equation (2) can be written as

$$\begin{aligned}
 &P(S_1 = 2, S_2 = 1, S_3 = 3) \\
 &= P(S_1 = 1) P(S_2 = 1 / S_1 = 1) P(S_3 = 3 / S_1 = 1, S_2 = 1) \\
 &= P(S_1 = 1) P(S_2 = 1 / S_1 = 1) P(S_3 = 3 / S_2 = 1)
 \end{aligned}$$

Review questions:

1. Explain the terms (i) Self information (ii) Average information (iii) Mutual Information (iv) Efficiency (v) Redundancy.
2. Discuss the reason for using logarithmic measure for measuring the amount of information.
3. Explain the concept of amount of information associated with message. Also explain what infinite information is and zero information.
4. A binary source emitting an independent sequence of 0's and 1's with probabilities p and $(1-p)$ respectively. Plot the entropy of the source.
5. Explain the concept of information, average information, information rate and redundancy as referred to information transmission.
6. Suppose that a large field is divided into 64 squares. In the dark night, a cow has entered in this field and it is equally likely to be in any of the squares. This cow is located by a member of searching party who sends back information giving the location of the cow as 43 rd square. Calculate the amount of information obtained in the reception of the message.

Outcome

Able to understand the concept of probability theory, linear algebra, random processes and develop applications for communication systems.

Able to apply the knowledge to find the self-information, entropy and mutual information.

Able to apply the knowledge to analyze the Mark off statistical models.

Resources

- <https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki>
- www.inference.phy.cam.ac.uk/mackay/itprnn/1997/11/node7.html
- web.ntpu.edu.tw/~yshan/intro_lin_code.pdf
- users.ece.cmu.edu/~koopman/des_s99/coding/
- elearning.vtu.ac.in/P4/EC63/S11.pdf

MODULE 2

SOURCE CODING

Structure:

1. Introduction- Encoding of the source output
2. Shannon's encoding algorithm
3. Kraft McMillan Inequality property – KMI
4. Source coding theorem
5. Outcome

Objective:

1. To study the different encoding algorithms
2. To understand the concept of channels.

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2.1 Kraft McMillan Inequality Property

Encoding' or 'Enciphering' is a procedure for associating words constructed from a finite alphabet of a language with given words of another language in a one-to-one manner.

Let the source be characterized by the set of symbols

$S =$

$\{s_1, s_2, \dots, s_q\}$

We shall call 'S' as the "Source alphabet". Consider another set, X, comprising of 'r' symbols.

$X = \{x_1, x_2, \dots, x_r\}$

We shall call 'X' as the "code alphabet". We define "coding" as the mapping of all possible

sequences of symbols of S into sequences of symbols of X. In other words "coding means representing each and every symbol of S by a sequence of symbols of X such that there shall be a one-to-one relationship" Any finite sequence of symbols from an alphabet will be called a "Word". Thus any sequence from the alphabet 'X' forms a "code word". The total number of symbols contained in the 'word' will be called "word length". For example the sequences $\{x_1; x_1x_3x_4; x_3x_5x_7x_9; x_1x_1x_2x_2x_2\}$ form code words. Their word lengths are respectively 1; 3; 4; and 5. The sequences $\{100001001100011000\}$ and $\{1100111100001111000111000\}$ are binary code words with word lengths 18 and 25 respectively.

Basic properties of codes:

The definition of codes given above is very broad and includes many undesirable properties. In order that the definition is useful in code synthesis, we require the codes to satisfy certain properties. We shall intentionally take trivial examples in order to get a better understanding of the desired properties.

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1. Block codes:

A block code is one in which a particular message of the source is always encoded into the same “fixed sequence” of the code symbol. Although, in general, block means ‘ a group having identical property’ we shall use the word here to mean a ‘ fixed sequence’ only. Accordingly, the code can be a ‘fixed length code’ or a “ variable length code” and we shall be concentrating on the latter type in this chapter. To be more specific as to what we mean by a block code, consider a communication system with one transmitter and one receiver. Information is transmitted using certain set of code words. If the transmitter wants to change the code set, first thing to be done is to inform the receiver. Otherwise the receiver will never be able to understand what is being transmitted. Thus, until and unless the receiver is informed about the changes made you are not permitted to change the code set. In this sense the code words we are seeking shall be always **finite sequences** of the code alphabet-they are **fixed sequence codes**.

Example 2.1: Source alphabet is $S = \{s_1, s_2, s_3, s_4\}$, Code alphabet is $X = \{0, 1\}$ and The Code words are: $C = \{0, 11, 10, 11\}$

2. Non – singular codes:

A block code is said to be nonsingular if all the words of the code set X_1 , are “distinct”. The Codes given in Example 6.1 do not satisfy this property as the codes for s_2 and s_4 are not different. We cannot distinguish the code words. If the codes are not distinguishable on a simple inspection we say the code set is “ **singular in the small**”. We modify the code as below.

Example 2.2: $S = \{s_1, s_2, s_3, s_4\}$, $X = \{0, 1\}$; Codes, $C = \{0, 11, 10, 01\}$

However, the codes given in Example 6.2 although appear to be non-singular, upon transmission would pose problems in decoding. For, if the transmitted sequence is **0011**, it might be interpreted as $s_1 s_1 s_4$ or $s_2 s_4$. Thus there is an ambiguity about the code. No doubt, the code is non-singular in the small, but becomes “Singular in the large”

3. Uniquely decodable codes:

A non-singular code is uniquely decipherable, if every word immersed in a sequence of words can be uniquely identified. The n^{th} extension of a code, that maps each message into the code words C , is defined as a code which maps the sequence of messages into a sequence of code words. This is also a block code, as illustrated in the following example.

Example 2.3: Second extension of the code set given in Example 6.2.

$$S^2 = \{s_1s_1, s_1s_2, s_1s_3, s_1s_4; s_2s_1, s_2s_2, s_2s_3, s_2s_4, s_3s_1, s_3s_2, s_3s_3, s_3s_4, s_4s_1, s_4s_2, s_4s_3, s_4s_4\}$$

Source Symbols	Codes	Source Symbols	Codes	Source Symbols	Codes	Source Symbols	Codes
s_1s_1	0 0	s_2s_1	1 1 0	s_3s_1	1 0 0	s_4s_1	0 1 0
s_1s_2	0 1 1	s_2s_2	1 1 1 1	s_3s_2	1 0 1 1	s_4s_2	0 1 1 1
s_1s_3	0 1 0	s_2s_3	1 1 1 0	s_3s_3	1 0 1 0	s_4s_3	0 1 1 0
s_1s_4	0 0 1	s_2s_4	1 1 0 1	s_3s_4	1 0 0 1	s_4s_4	0 1 0 1

Notice that, in the above example, the codes for the source sequences, s_1s_3 and s_4s_1 are not distinct and hence the code is “Singular in the Large”. Since such singularity properties introduce ambiguity in the decoding stage, we therefore require, in general, for unique decidability of our codes that “ *The n^{th} extension of the code be non-singular for every finite n .*”

4. Instantaneous Codes:

A uniquely decodable code is said to be “**instantaneous**” if the end of any code word is recognizable without the need of inspection of succeeding code symbols. That is **there is no time lag in the process of decoding**. To understand the concept, consider the following codes:

Example 2.4:

Source symbols	Code A	Code B	Code C
s 1	0 0	0	0
s 2	0 1	1 0	0 1
s 3	1 0	1 1 0	0 1 1
s 4	1 1	1 1 1 0	0 1 1 1

Code A undoubtedly is the simplest possible uniquely decipherable code. It is non-singular and all the code words have same length. The decoding can be done as soon as we receive two code symbols without any need to receive succeeding code symbols.

Code B is also uniquely decodable with a special feature that the 0's indicate the termination of a code word. It is called the “**comma code**”. When scanning a sequence of code symbols, we may use the comma to determine the end of a code word and the beginning of the other. Accordingly, notice that the codes can be decoded as and when they are received and there is, once again, no time lag in the decoding process.

Whereas, although **Code C** is a non-singular and uniquely decodable code it cannot be decoded word by word as it is received. For example, if we receive '01', we cannot decode it as 's2' until we receive the next code symbol. If the next code symbol is '0', indeed the previous word corresponds to s2, while if it is a '1' it may be the symbol s3; which can be concluded so if only if we receive a '0' in the fourth place. Thus, there is a definite 'time lag' before a word can be decoded. Such a 'time waste' is not there if we use either **Code A** or **Code B**. Further, what we are envisaging is the property by which a sequence of code words is uniquely and instantaneously decodable even if there is no spacing between successive words. The common English words do not possess this property. For example the words “**FOUND**”, “**AT**” and “**ION**” when transmitted without spacing yield, at the receiver, an altogether new word “**FOUNDATION**”! A sufficient condition for such property is that

“**No encoded word can be obtained from each other by the addition of more letters**” This property is called “**prefix property**”.

Let $X_k = x_k1x_k2\dots x_{km}$, be a code word of some source symbol s_k . Then the sequences of code symbols, $(x_k1x_k2\dots x_{kj})$, $j \leq m$, are called “prefixes” of the code word. Notice that a code word of length ‘m’ will have ‘m’ prefixes. For example, the code word **0111** has four prefixes, viz; **0, 01, 011** and **0111**. The complete code word is also regarded as a prefix.

Prefix property: “A necessary and sufficient condition for a code to be ‘instantaneous’ is that no complete code word be a prefix of some other code word”.

The *sufficiency* condition follows immediately from the definition of the word “Instantaneous”. If no word is a prefix of some other word, we can decode any received sequence of code symbols comprising of code words in a direct manner. We scan the received sequence until we come to subsequence which corresponds to a complete code word. Since by assumption it is not a prefix of any other code word, the decoding is unique and there will be no time wasted in the process of decoding. The “*necessary*” condition can be verified by assuming the contrary and deriving its “contradiction”. That is, assume that there exists some word of our code, say x_i , which is a prefix of some other code word x_j . If we scan a received sequence and arrive at a subsequence that corresponds to x_i , this subsequence may be a complete code word or it may just be the first part of code word x_j . We cannot possibly tell which of these alternatives is true until we examine some more code symbols of the sequence. Accordingly, there is definite time wasted before a decision can be made and hence the code is not instantaneous.

5. Optimal codes:

An instantaneous code is said to be optimal if it has “*minimum average word length*”, for a source with a given probability assignment for the source symbols. In such codes, source symbols with higher probabilities of occurrence are made to correspond to shorter code words. Suppose that a Source symbol s_i has a probability of occurrence P_i and has a code word of length l_i assigned to it, while a source symbol s_j with probability P_j has a code word of length l_j . If $P_i > P_j$ then let $l_i < l_j$. For the two code words considered, it then follows, that the average length L_1 is given by

$$L_1 = P_i l_i + P_j l_j$$

Now, suppose we interchange the code words so that the code word of length l_j corresponds to s_i and that of length l_i corresponds to s_j . Then, the average length becomes

$$L_2 = P_i l_j + P_j l_i \quad \text{It then follows,}$$

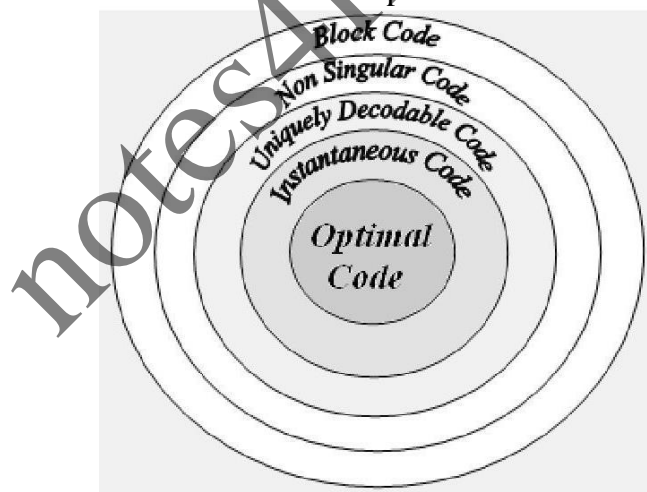
$$L_2 - L_1 = P_i(l_j - l_i) + P_j(l_i - l_j)$$

$$= (P_i - P_j)(l_j - l_i)$$

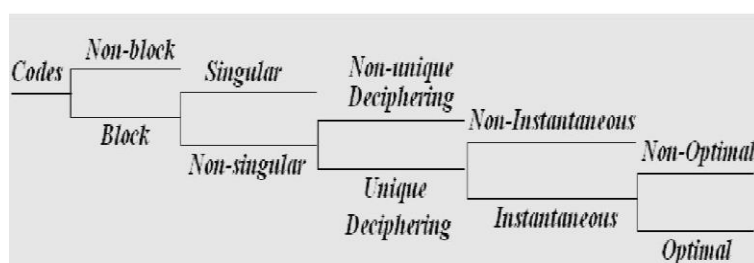
Since by assumption $P_i > P_j$ and $l_i < l_j$, it is clear that $(L_2 - L_1)$ is positive. That is assignment of source symbols and code word length corresponding to the average length L_1 is shorter, which is the requirement for optimal codes.

A code that satisfies all the five properties is called an “**irreducible code**”.

All the above properties can be arranged as shown in Fig 2.1 which serves as a quick reference of the basic requirements of a code. Fig 2.2 gives the requirements in the form of a ‘Tree’ diagram. Notice that both sketches illustrate one and the same concept.



2.1 Codes Sub grouping



2.2 Code Tree diagram

2.2 Construction of Instantaneous Codes:

Consider encoding of a 5 symbol source into Binary instantaneous codes i.e.

$$S = \{s_1, s_2, s_3, s_4, s_5\}; X = \{0, 1\}$$

We may start by assigning '0' to s_1

i.e. $s_1 \rightarrow 0$

If this is the case, to have prefix property, all other source symbols must correspond to code words beginning with 1. If we let s_2 correspond to '1', we would be left with no code symbol for encoding the remaining three source symbols. We might have

$$s_2 \rightarrow 10$$

This in turn would require the remaining code words to start with 11. If

$$s_3 \rightarrow 110;$$

Then the only 3 bit prefix unused is 111 and we might set

$$s_4 \rightarrow 1110$$

$$s_5 \rightarrow 1111$$

In the above code, notice that the starting of the code by letting s_1 correspond '0' has cut down the number of possible code words. Once we have taken this step, we are restricted to code words starting with '1'. Hence, we might expect to have more freedom if we select a 2-bit code word for s_1 . We now have four prefixes possible 00, 01, 10 and 11; the first three can be directly assigned to s_1, s_2 and s_3 . With the last one we construct code words of length 3. Thus the possible instantaneous code is

$$s_1 \rightarrow 00$$

$$s_2 \rightarrow 01$$

$$s_3 \rightarrow 10$$

$$s_4 \rightarrow 110$$

$$s_5 \rightarrow 111$$

Thus, observe that shorter we make the first few code words, the longer we will have to make the later code words.

One may wish to construct an instantaneous code by pre-specifying the word lengths. The necessary and sufficient conditions for the existence of such a code are provided by the '**Kraft Inequality**'.

Kraft Inequality:

Given a source $S = \{s_1, s_2, \dots, s_q\}$. Let the word lengths of the codes corresponding to these symbols be l_1, l_2, \dots, l_q and let the code alphabet be $X = \{x_1, x_2, \dots, x_r\}$. Then, an instantaneous code for the source exists iff is called **Kraft Inequality**.

$$\sum_{k=1}^q r^{-l_k} \leq 1$$

Example 2.5:

A six symbol source is encoded into Binary codes shown below. Which of these codes are instantaneous?

Source symbol	Code A	Code B	Code C	Code D	Code E
s1	00	0	0	0	0
s2	01	1000	10	1000	10
s3	10	1100	110	1110	110
s4	110	1110	1110	111	1110
s5	1110	1101	11110	1011	11110
s6	1111	1111	11111	1100	1111
$\sum_{k=1}^6 2^{-l_k}$	1	$\frac{13}{16} < 1$	1	$\frac{7}{8} < 1$	$1 \frac{1}{32} > 1$

As a first test we apply the Kraft Inequality and the result is accordingly tabulated. **Code E does not satisfy Kraft Inequality and it is not an instantaneous code.**

2.3 Source coding theorem:

Compact code: Huffman's Minimum Redundancy code:

The Huffman code was created by American, D. A. Huffman, in 1952. Huffman's procedure is applicable for both Binary and Non-Binary encoding. It is clear that a code with minimum average length, L, would be more efficient and hence would have minimum redundancy associated with it. A compact code is one which achieves this objective. Thus for an optimum coding we require:

- (1) Longer code word should correspond to message lowest probability.
- (2) $l_k \geq l_{k-1} \forall k = 1, 2, \dots, q^{-r+1}$
- (3) $l_{p-r} = l_{q-r-1} = l_{q-r-2} = \dots = l_q$
- (4) The codes must satisfy the prefix property.

Huffman has suggested a simple method that guarantees an optimal code even is not satisfied. The procedure consists of step-by-step reduction of the original source followed by a code construction, starting with the final reduced source and working backwards to the original source. The procedure requires α steps, where

$$q = r + \alpha(r-1)$$

Notice that α is an integer and if Eq.(6.24) is not satisfied one has to add few dummy symbols with zero probability of occurrence and proceed with the procedure or the first step is performed by setting $r_1 = q - \alpha(r-1)$ while the remaining steps involve clubbing of the last r messages of the respective stages. The procedure is as follows:

List the source symbols in the decreasing order of probabilities

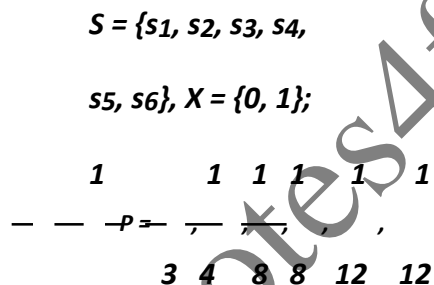
Check if $q = r + \alpha(r-1)$ is satisfied and find the integer ' α '. Otherwise add suitable number of dummy symbols of zero probability of occurrence to satisfy the equation. **This step is not required if we are to determine binary codes.**

1. Repeat steps 1 and 3 respectively on the resulting set of symbols until in the final step exactly r - symbols are left.
2. Assign codes freely to the last r -composite symbols and work backwards to the original source to arrive at the optimum code
3. Alternatively, following the steps carefully a tree diagram can be constructed starting from the final step and codes read off directly.
4. Discard the codes of the dummy symbols.

Before we present an example, it is in order to discuss the steps involved. In the first step, after arranging the symbols in the decreasing order of probabilities; we club the last r -symbols into a composite symbol, say α_1 whose probability equals the sum of the last r -probabilities. Now we are left with $q-r+1$ symbols. In the second step, we again club the last r -symbols and the second reduced source will now have $(q-r+1)-r+1 = q-2r+2$ symbols. Continuing in this way we find the k -th reduced source will have $q - kr + k = q - k(r - 1)$ symbols. Accordingly, if α -steps are required and the final reduced source should have exactly r -symbols, then we must have $r = q - \alpha(r - 1)$ last $r = q - \alpha(r - 1)$ symbols while the second and subsequent reductions involve last r -symbols only. However, if the reader has any confusion, he can add the dummy messages as indicated and continue with the procedure and the final result is no different at all.

Let us understand the meaning of "working backwards". Suppose α_k is the composite symbol obtained in the k^{th} step by clubbing the last r -Symbols of the $(k-1)^{\text{th}}$ reduced source. **Then whatever code is assigned to α_k will form the starting code sequence for the code words of its constituents in the $(k-1)^{\text{th}}$ reduction.**

Example 2.5: (Binary Encoding)



.Notice that the tree diagram can be easily constructed from the final step of the source reduction and decomposing the composite symbols towards the original symbols. Further, observe that the codes are originating from the same source and diverge out into different tree branches thus ensuring prefix property to the resultant code. Finally, notice that there is no restriction in the allocation of codes in each step and accordingly, the order of the assignment can be changed in any or all steps. Thus for the problem illustrated there can be as many as $2 \cdot (2 \cdot 2 + 2 \cdot 2) = 16$ possible instantaneous code patterns. For example we can take the compliments of First column, Second column, or Third column and combinations there off as illustrated below.

Code	I	II	III
$s_1 \dots\dots 00$	1 0	1 1	1 1
$s_2 \dots\dots 1 0$	0 0	0 1	0 1
$s_3 \dots\dots 0 1 0$	1 1 0	1 0 0	1 0 1
$s_4 \dots\dots 0 1 1$	1 1 1	1 0 1	1 0 0
$s_5 \dots\dots 1 1 0$	0 1 0 0 0 0		0 0 1
$s_6 \dots\dots 1 1 1$	0 1 1	0 0 1	0 0 0

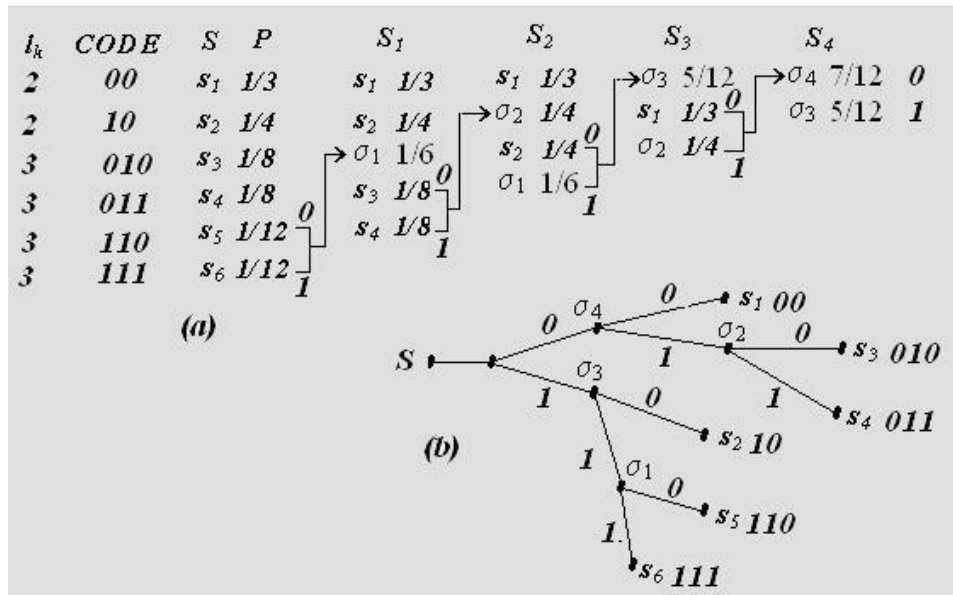


Fig 5.7 (a) Reduction Diagram (b) Tree Diagram For Binary Huffman Coding of Example 5.12

Code I is obtained by taking complement of the first column of the original code. **Code II** is obtained by taking complements of second column of **Code I**. **Code III** is obtained by taking complements of third column of **Code II**. However, notice that, l_k , the word length of the code word for s_k is a constant for all possible codes.

For the binary code generated, we have:

$$L = \sum_{k=1}^6 p_k l_k = \frac{1}{3} \times 2 + \frac{1}{4} \times 2 + \frac{1}{8} \times 3 + \frac{1}{8} \times 3 + \frac{1}{12} \times 3 + \frac{1}{12} \times 3 = \frac{29}{12} \text{ bits/sym} = 2.4167 \text{ bits/sym}$$

$$H(S) = \frac{1}{3} \log 3 + \frac{1}{4} \log 4 + 2 \times \frac{1}{8} \log 8 + 2 \times \frac{1}{12} \log 12$$

$$= \frac{1}{12} (6 \log 3 + 19) \text{ bits/sym} = 2.3758 \text{ bits/sym}$$

$$\therefore \eta_c = \frac{6 \log 3 + 19}{29} = 98.31\% ; E_c = 1.69\%$$

Example 2.6 (Trinary Coding)

We shall consider the source of Example 6.12. For Trinary codes $r = 3, [X = (0, 1, 2)]$

Since $q = 6$, we have from

$$q = r + \alpha(r-1)$$

$$\alpha = \frac{q-r}{r-1} = \frac{6-3}{2} = \frac{3}{2} = 1.5$$

Thus α is not an integer and hence we require one dummy message which makes $\alpha = 2$.

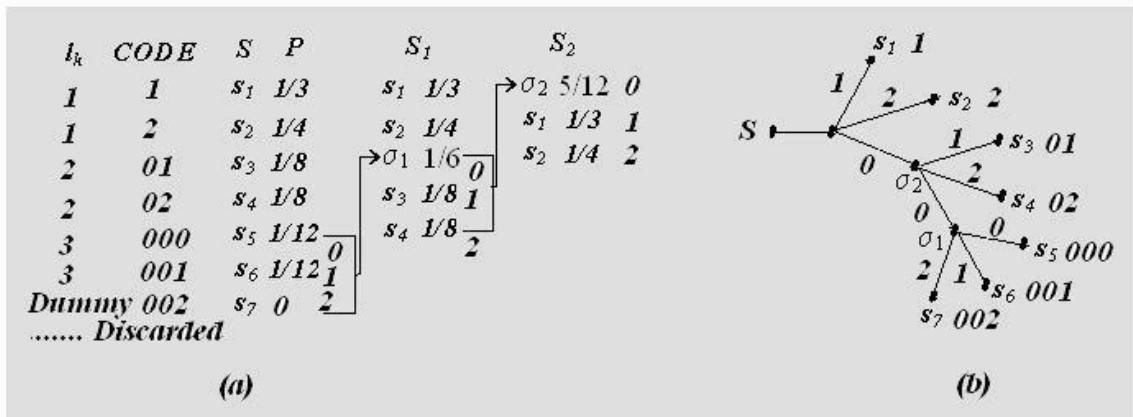


Fig 5.8 (a) Reduction Diagram (b) Tree Diagram
For Trinary Huffman Coding of Example 5.13

For this code, we have

$$L = 1 \times \frac{1}{3} + 1 \times \frac{1}{4} + 2 \times \frac{1}{8} + 2 \times \frac{1}{8} + 3 \times \frac{1}{12} + 3 \times \frac{1}{12} = \frac{19}{12} \text{ Trinits / sym .}$$

$$\frac{3}{3} \quad \frac{4}{4} \quad \frac{8}{8} \quad \frac{8}{8} \quad \frac{12}{12} \quad \frac{12}{12} \quad \frac{12}{12}$$

$$\text{And } \eta = \frac{6 \log 3 + 19}{19} = 94.672\% , E_c = 5.328\%$$

$$c = \frac{19}{19}$$

Example 2.7:

We conclude this section with an example illustrating Shannon's noiseless coding theorem. Consider a source $S = \{s_1, s_2, s_3\}$ with $P = \{1/2, 1/3, 1/6\}$

A compact code for this source is: $s_1 \rightarrow 0, s_2 \rightarrow 10, s_3 \rightarrow 11$

Hence we have

$$L = \frac{1}{2} + \frac{2}{3} + \frac{2}{6} = 1.5$$

$$H(S) = \frac{1}{2} \log 2 + \frac{1}{3} \log 3 + \frac{1}{6} \log 6 = 1.459147917 \text{ bits/sym}$$

$$\therefore \eta_c = 97.28\%$$

The second extension of this source will have $3^2 = 9$ symbols and the corresponding probabilities are computed by multiplying the constituent probabilities as shown below

	$\frac{1}{4}$	$\frac{1}{6}$	$\frac{1}{12}$
$s_1 s_1$		$s_2 s_1$	$s_3 s_1$
	$\frac{1}{6}$	$\frac{1}{9}$	$\frac{1}{18}$
$s_1 s_2$		$s_2 s_2$	$s_3 s_2$
	$\frac{1}{12}$	$\frac{1}{18}$	$\frac{1}{36}$
$s_1 s_3$		$s_2 s_3$	$s_3 s_3$

These messages are now labeled ' m_k ' and are arranged in the decreasing order of probability.

$$M = \{m_1, m_2, m_3, m_4, m_5, m_6, m_7, m_8, m_9\}$$

1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
P =	_	_	_	_	_	_	_	_
4	6	6	9	12	12	18	18	36

The Reduction diagram and tree diagram for code construction of the second extended source is shown in Fig 5.9.

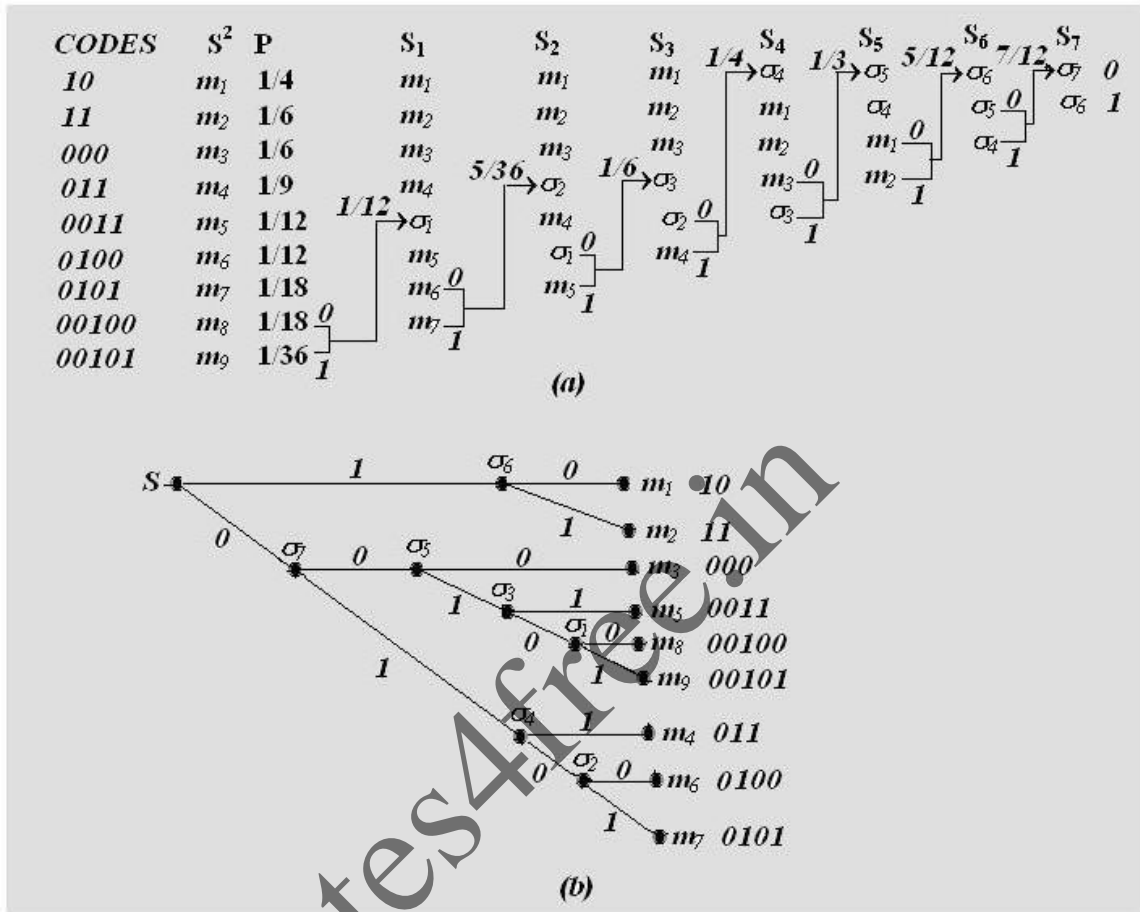


Fig 5.9 (a) Reduction Diagram (b) Tree Diagram for Example 5.14

For the codes of second extension, we have the following:

$$H(S^2) = 2 H(S)$$

$$L = 2 \times \frac{1}{4} + 2 \times \frac{1}{6} + 3 \times \frac{1}{6} + 3 \times \frac{1}{9} + 4 \times \frac{1}{12} + 4 \times \frac{1}{12} + 4 \times \frac{1}{18} + 5 \times \frac{1}{18} + 5 \times \frac{1}{36}$$

$$= \underline{107} \text{ bits/symbol} = 2.97222222$$

bits/sy

m 36

$$\eta = \frac{H(S^2)}{L \log 2} = \frac{2 \times 1.459147917}{2.97222222} = 98.186 \% \quad E_c = 1.814 \%$$

An increase in efficiency of **0.909 %** (absolute) is achieved.

This problem illustrates how encoding of extensions increase the efficiency of coding in accordance with Shannon's noiseless coding theorem.

One non-uniqueness in Huffman coding arises in making decisions as to where to move a composite symbol when you come across identical probabilities. In Shannon-Fano binary encoding you came across a situation where you are required to make a logical reasoning in deciding the partitioning. To illustrate this point, consider the following example.

Example 2.8:

Consider a zero memory source with

$$S = \{s_1, s_2, s_3, s_4, s_5\}; P = \{0.55, 0.15, 0.15, 0.10, 0.05\}; X = \{0, 1\}$$

Construct two different Huffman binary codes as directed below:

- (a) Move the composite symbol as 'high' as possible.
- (b) Move the composite symbol as 'low' as possible.
- (c) In each case compute the variance of the word lengths and comment on the results.

(a) We shall **place** the composite symbol as 'high' as possible. The source reduction and the corresponding tree diagram are shown in Fig 6.10

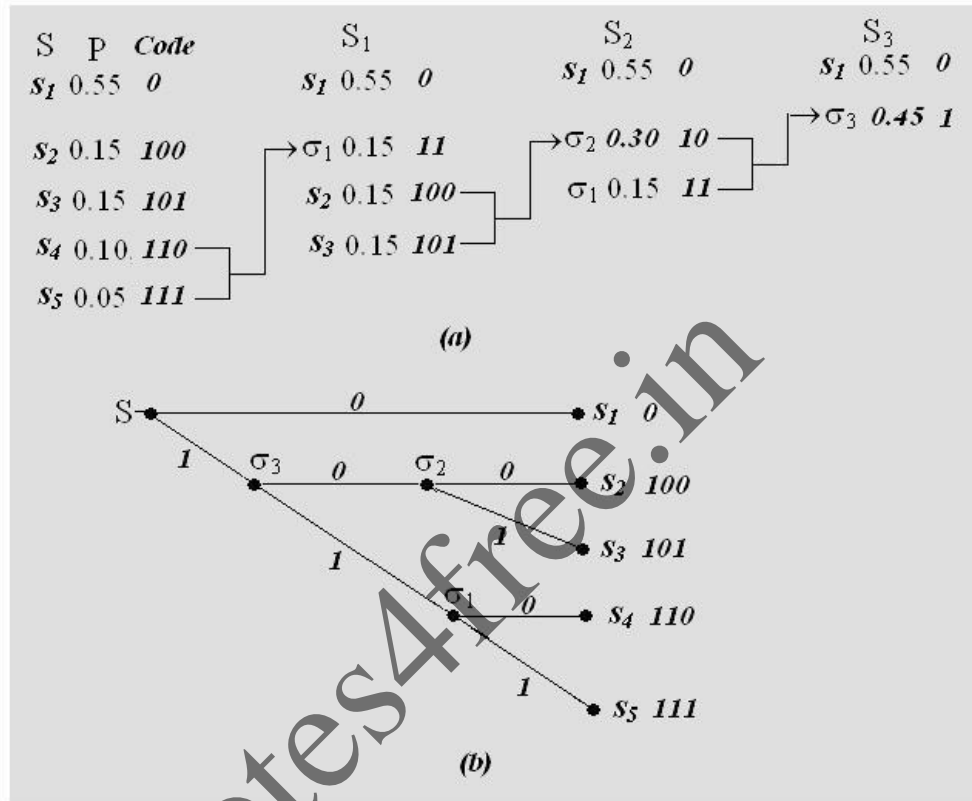


Fig 5.10 (a) Reduction Diagram (b) Tree Diagram

Symbols	s_1	s_2	s_3	s_4	s_5
Codes	0	100	101	110	111
l_k	1	3	3	3	3

We compute the average word length and variance of the word lengths as below:

$$L = 0.55 + 3(0.15 + 0.15 + 0.10 + 0.05) = 1.90 \text{ bits/symbol}$$

$$\sigma^2_l = 0.55(1 - 1.90)^2 + 0.45(3 - 1.90)^2 = 0.99 \text{ is the variance of the word length.}$$

(a) We shall **move** the composite symbol as 'low' as possible. The source reduction and the corresponding tree diagram are shown in Fig 5.11. We get yet another code, completely different in structure to the previous one.

Symbols	s_1	s_2	s_3	s_4	s_5
Codes	0	11	100	10	10
l_k	1	2	3	4	4

For this case we have: $L = 0.55 + 0.30 + 0.45 + 0.20 = 1.90$ bits/symbol

Notice that the average length of the codes is same.

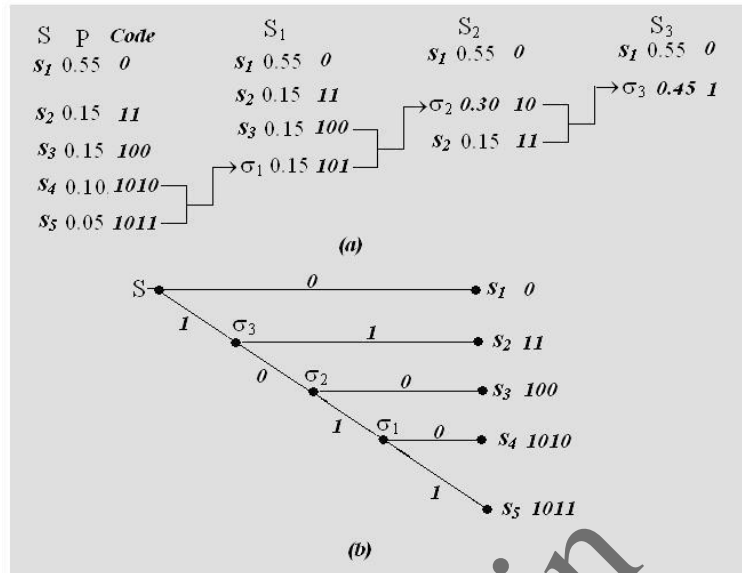


Fig 5.11 (a) Reduction Diagram (b) Tree Diagram

$$\sigma^2 = 0.55(1 - 1.9)^2 + 0.15(2 - 1.9)^2 + 0.15(3 - 1.9)^2 + 0.10(4 - 1.9)^2 + 0.05(4 - 1.9)^2$$

= 1.29 is the variance of the word lengths.

Thus, if the composite symbol is moved as high as possible, the variance of the average code word length over the ensemble of source symbols would become smaller, which, indeed, is desirable. Larger variance implies larger buffer requirement for storage purposes. Further, if the variance is large, there is always a possibility of data overflow and the time required to transmit information would be larger. We must avoid such a situation. Hence we always look for codes that have minimum possible variance of the word lengths. Intuitively “avoid reducing a reduced symbol in the immediate next step as far as possible moving the composite symbol as high as possible”

Outcome:

Able to understand the concept of Kraft McMillan Inequality property.

Able to understand and apply Shannon’s encoding algorithm steps and procedure.

Able to solve problem related to binary coding.

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MODULE - 3 INFORMATION CHANNELS

STRUCTURE

1. Objectives
2. Introduction
3. Communication channel
4. Channel model and channel capacity
5. Mutual information
6. Review questions.
7. Outcomes.

OBJECTIVES

After completion of this module the student will be able

1. To learn about different Communication channel in communication systems.
2. To find channel capacity of different channels in communication system.
3. To develop channel matrix and to find out mutual information in channel.

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3.1 COMMUNICATION CHANNELS:

Observe that the matrix is necessarily a square matrix. The principal diagonal entries are the self-impedances of the respective ports. The off diagonal entries correspond to the transfer or mutual impedances. For a passive network the impedance matrix is always symmetric i.e. $Z^T = Z$, where the superscript indicates transposition.

Similarly, a communication network may be uniquely described by specifying the joint probabilities (JPM). Let us consider a simple communication network comprising of a transmitter (source or input) and a receiver (sink or output) with the interlinking medium-the channel as shown in Fig 4.1.



Fig 4.1 A Simple Communication System

This simple system may be uniquely characterized by the ‘ Joint probability matrix’ (JPM), $P(X, Y)$ of the probabilities existent between the input and output ports.

$$\begin{matrix}
 P(x_1, y_1) & P(x_1, y_2) & P(x_1, y_3) & \dots & P(x_1, y_n) \\
 P(x_2, y_1) & P(x_2, y_2) & P(x_2, y_3) & \dots & P(x_2, y_n) \\
 \dots & \dots & \dots & \dots & \dots \\
 P(x_3, y_1) & P(x_3, y_2) & P(x_3, y_3) & \dots & P(x_3, y_n) \\
 \dots & \dots & \dots & \dots & \dots \\
 P(x_m, y_1) & P(x_m, y_2) & P(x_m, y_3) & \dots & P(x_m, y_n)
 \end{matrix} \quad (4.1)$$

For jointly continuous random variables, the joint density function satisfies the following:

$$\int_{-\infty}^{+\infty} \int_{-\infty}^{+\infty} f(x, y) dx dy = 1 \quad (4.2)$$

$$\int_{-\infty}^{+\infty} f(x, y) dy = f_x(x) \quad (4.3)$$

$$\int_{-\infty}^{+\infty} f(x, y) dx = f_y(y) \quad (4.4)$$

We shall make use of their discrete counterpart as below:

$$\sum_k \sum_j p(x_k, y_j) = 1 \text{ , Sum of all entries of JPM} \quad (4.5)$$

$$\sum_j p(x_k, y_j) = p(x_k) \text{ , Sum of all entries of JPM in the } k^{\text{th}} \text{ r} \quad (4.6)$$

$$\sum_k p(x_k, y_j) = p(y_j) \text{ , Sum of all entries of JPM in the } j^{\text{th}} \text{ column} \quad (4.7)$$

And also

Thus the joint probabilities, as also the conditional probabilities (as we shall see shortly) form complete finite schemes. Therefore for this simple communication network there are five probability schemes of interest viz: $P(X)$, $P(Y)$, $P(X, Y)$, $P(X|Y)$ and $P(Y|X)$. Accordingly there are five entropy functions that can be described on these probabilities:

$H(X)$: Average information per character or symbol transmitted by the source or the entropy of the source.

$H(Y)$: Average information received per character at the receiver or the entropy of the receiver.

$H(X, Y)$: Average information per pair of transmitted and received characters or the average uncertainty of the communication system as a whole.

$H(X|Y)$: A specific character y_j being received. This may be the result of the transmission of one of the x_k with a given probability. The average value of the Entropy associated with this scheme when y_j covers all the received symbols i.e., $E\{H(X|y_j)\}$ is the entropy $H(X|Y)$, called the 'Equivocation', a measure of information about the source when it is known that Y is received.

$H(Y|X)$: Similar to $H(X|Y)$, this is a measure of information about the receiver.

The marginal Entropies $H(X)$ and $H(Y)$ give indications of the probabilistic nature of the transmitter and receiver respectively. $H(Y|X)$ indicates a measure of the 'noise' or 'error' in the channel and the equivocation $H(X|Y)$ tells about the ability of recovery or reconstruction of the transmitted symbols from the observed output symbols.

The above idea can be generalized to an n -port communication system, problem being similar to the study of random vectors in a product space (n -dimensional random variables Theory). In each product space there are finite numbers of probability assignments (joint, marginal and conditional) of different orders, with which we may associate entropies and arrive at suitable physical interpretation. However, concepts developed for a two-dimensional scheme will be sufficient to understand and generalize the results for a higher order communication system.

3.2 JOINT AND CONDITIONAL ENTROPIES:

In view of Eq (4.2) to Eq (4.5), it is clear that all the probabilities encountered in a two dimensional communication system could be derived from the JPM. While we can compare the JPM, therefore, to the impedance or admittance matrices of an n -port electric network in giving a unique description of the system under consideration, notice that the JPM in general, need not necessarily be a square matrix and even if it is so, it need not be symmetric.

We define the following entropies, which can be directly computed from the JPM.

$$H(X, Y) = - \sum_{x_1, y_1} p(x_1, y_1) \log p(x_1, y_1) - \sum_{x_1, y_2} p(x_1, y_2) \log p(x_1, y_2) - \dots - \sum_{x_1, y_n} p(x_1, y_n) \log p(x_1, y_n) - \sum_{x_2, y_1} p(x_2, y_1) \log p(x_2, y_1) - \sum_{x_2, y_2} p(x_2, y_2) \log p(x_2, y_2) - \dots - \sum_{x_2, y_n} p(x_2, y_n) \log p(x_2, y_n)$$

$$\begin{aligned}
 & + \dots + p(x_m, y_1) \log \frac{1}{p(x_m, y_1)} + p(x_m, y_2) \log \frac{1}{p(x_m, y_2)} + \dots + p(x_m, y_n) \log \frac{1}{p(x_m, y_n)} \text{ or} \\
 H(X, Y) & = \sum_{k=1}^m \sum_{j=1}^n p(x_k, y_j) \log \frac{1}{p(x_k, y_j)} \dots \dots \dots (4.9)
 \end{aligned}$$

$$H(X) = \sum_{k=1}^m p(x_k) \log \frac{1}{p(x_k)}$$

Using Eq (4.6) only for the multiplication term, this equation can be re-written as:

$$H(X) = \sum_{k=1}^m \sum_{j=1}^n p(x_k, y_j) \log \frac{1}{p(x_k)} \dots \dots \dots (4.10)$$

Similarly, $H(Y) = \sum_{j=1}^n \sum_{k=1}^m p(x_k, y_j) \log \frac{1}{p(y_j)} \dots \dots \dots (4.11)$

Next, from the definition of the conditional probability we have:

$$P\{X = x_k | Y = y_j\} = \frac{P\{X = x_k, Y = y_j\}}{P\{Y = y_j\}}$$

i.e., $p(x_k / y_j) = p(x_k, y_j) / p(y_j)$

$$\text{Then } \sum_{k=1}^m p(x_k / y_j) = \frac{1}{p(y_j)} \sum_{k=1}^m p(x_k, y_j) = \frac{1}{p(y_j)} \cdot p(y_j) = 1 \dots \dots \dots (4.12)$$

Thus, the set $[X | y_j] = \{x_1 | y_j, x_2 | y_j, \dots, x_m | y_j\}$; $P[X | y_j] = \{p(x_1 / y_j), p(x_2 / y_j), \dots, p(x_m / y_j)\}$, forms a

complete finite scheme and an entropy function may therefore be defined for this scheme as below:

$$H(X | y_j) = \sum_{k=1}^m p(x_k / y_j) \log \frac{1}{p(x_k / y_j)}.$$

Taking the average of the above entropy function for all admissible characters received, we have the average “**conditional Entropy**” or “**Equivocation**”:

$$\begin{aligned}
 H(X | Y) & = E \{H(X | y_j)\}_j \\
 & = \sum_{j=1}^n p(y_j) H(X | y_j) \\
 & = \sum_{j=1}^n p(y_j) \sum_{k=1}^m p(x_k / y_j) \log \frac{1}{p(x_k / y_j)}
 \end{aligned}$$

$$\text{Or } H(X | Y) = \sum_{j=1}^n \sum_{k=1}^m p(x_k, y_j) \log \frac{1}{p(x_k | y_j)} \dots \dots \dots (4.13)$$

Eq (4.13) specifies the “**Equivocation** “. It specifies the average amount of information needed to specify an input character provided we are allowed to make an observation of the output produced by that input. Similarly one can define the conditional entropy $H(Y | X)$ by:

$$H(Y | X) = \sum_{k=1}^m \sum_{j=1}^n p(x_k, y_j) \log \frac{1}{p(y_j | x_k)} \dots\dots\dots (4.14)$$

Observe that the manipulations, made in deriving Eq 4.10, Eq 4.11, Eq 4.13 and Eq 4.14, are intentional. ‘*The entropy you want is simply the double summation of joint probability multiplied by logarithm of the reciprocal of the probability of interest*’. For example, if you want joint entropy, then the probability of interest will be joint probability. If you want source entropy, probability of interest will be the source probability. If you want the equivocation or conditional entropy, $H(X|Y)$ then probability of interest will be the conditional probability $p(x_k/y_j)$ and so on.

All the five entropies so defined are all inter-related. For example, consider Eq (4.14). We have:

$$H(Y | X) = \sum_k \sum_j p(x_k, y_j) \frac{1}{\log p(y_j | x_k)}$$

Since, $\frac{1}{p(y_j | x_k)} = \frac{p(x_k)}{p(x_k, y_j)}$

We can straight away write:

$$H(Y | X) = \sum_k \sum_j p(x_k, y_j) \log \frac{1}{p(y_j | x_k)} = \sum_k \sum_j p(x_k, y_j) \log \frac{p(x_k)}{p(x_k, y_j)}$$

Or $H(Y | X) = H(X, Y) - H(X)$

That is: $H(X, Y) = H(X) + H(Y | X)$ (4.15)

Similarly, you can show: $H(X, Y) = H(Y) + H(X | Y)$ (4.16)

Consider $H(X) - H(X | Y)$. We have:

$$\begin{aligned} H(X) - H(X | Y) &= \sum_k \sum_j p(x_k, y_j) \log \frac{1}{p(x_k)} - \log \frac{1}{p(x_k | y_j)} \\ &= \sum_k \sum_j p(x_k, y_j) \log \frac{p(x_k) \cdot p(y_j)}{p(x_k, y_j)} \end{aligned} \dots\dots\dots (4.17)$$

Using the logarithm inequality derived earlier, you can write the above equation as:

$$\begin{aligned} H(X) - H(X | Y) &= \log e \sum_k \sum_j p(x_k, y_j) \ln \frac{p(x_k) \cdot p(y_j)}{p(x_k, y_j)} \\ &\geq \log e \sum_k \sum_j p(x_k, y_j) \left(1 - \frac{p(x_k) \cdot p(y_j)}{p(x_k, y_j)} \right) \\ &\geq \log e \left(\sum_k \sum_j p(x_k, y_j) - \sum_k \sum_j p(x_k) \cdot p(y_j) \right) \\ &\geq \log e \left(\sum_k \sum_j p(x_k, y_j) - \sum_k p(x_k) \cdot \sum_j p(y_j) \right) \geq 0 \end{aligned}$$

Because $\sum_k \sum_j p(x_k, y_j) = \sum_k p(x_k) = \sum_j p(y_j) = 1$. Thus it follows that:

$$H(X) \geq H(X | Y) \dots\dots\dots (4.18)$$

Similarly, $H(Y) \geq H(Y|X)$ (4.19)

Equality in Eq(4.18) & Eq(4.19) holds iff $P(x_k, y_j) = p(x_k) \cdot p(y_j)$; i.e., if and only if input symbols and output symbols are statistically independent of each other.

NOTE : Whenever you write the conditional probability matrices you should bear in mind the property described in Eq.(4.12), i.e. For the CPM (conditional probability matrix) $P(X|Y)$, if you add all the elements in any column the sum shall be equal to unity. Similarly, if you add all elements along any row of the CPM, $P(Y|X)$ the sum shall be unity

Example 4.1

Determine different entropies for the JPM given below and verify their relationships.

$$P(X, Y) = \begin{matrix} & \begin{matrix} 0.2 & 0 & 0.2 & 0 \end{matrix} \\ \begin{matrix} 0.1 & 0.01 & 0.01 & 0.01 \end{matrix} & \\ \begin{matrix} 0 & 0.02 & 0.02 & 0 \end{matrix} & \\ \begin{matrix} 0.04 & 0.04 & 0.01 & 0.06 \end{matrix} & \\ \begin{matrix} 0 & 0.06 & 0.02 & 0.2 \end{matrix} & \end{matrix}$$

Using $p(x_k) = \sum_{j=1}^n p(x_k, y_j)$, we have, by adding entries of $P(X, Y)$ row-wise we get:

$$P(X) = [0.4, 0.1, 0.04, 0.15, 0.28]$$

Similarly adding the entries column-wise we get:

$$P(Y) = [0.34, 0.13, 0.26, 0.27]$$

Hence we have:

$$\begin{aligned} H(X, Y) &= 3 \times 0.2 \log \frac{1}{0.2} + 0.1 \times \log \frac{1}{0.1} + 4 \times 0.01 \log \frac{1}{0.01} + \\ &\quad 3 \times 0.02 \log \frac{1}{0.02} + 2 \times 0.04 \log \frac{1}{0.04} + 2 \times 0.06 \log \frac{1}{0.06} \\ &= 3.188311023 \text{ bits / sym} \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} H(X) &= 0.4 \log \frac{1}{0.4} + 0.13 \log \frac{1}{0.13} + 0.04 \log \frac{1}{0.04} + 0.15 \log \frac{1}{0.15} + 0.28 \log \frac{1}{0.28} \\ &= 2.021934821 \text{ bits / sym} \end{aligned} \quad 0.28$$

$$\begin{aligned} H(Y) &= 0.34 \log \frac{1}{0.34} + 0.13 \log \frac{1}{0.13} + 0.26 \log \frac{1}{0.26} + 0.27 \log \frac{1}{0.27} \\ &= 1.927127708 \text{ bits / sym} \end{aligned}$$

Since $p(x_k/y_j) = \frac{P(x_k, y_j)}{P(y_j)}$ we have:

(Divide the entries in the j^{th} column of the JPM of $p(y_j)$

$$P(X|Y) = \begin{matrix} \frac{0.2}{0.34} & 0 & \frac{0.2}{0.26} & 0 \\ \frac{0.1}{0.34} & \frac{0.01}{0.13} & \frac{0.01}{0.26} & \frac{0.01}{0.27} \\ 0 & \frac{0.02}{0.13} & \frac{0.02}{0.26} & 0 \\ \frac{0.04}{0.34} & \frac{0.04}{0.13} & \frac{0.01}{0.26} & \frac{0.06}{0.27} \\ 0 & \frac{0.06}{0.13} & \frac{0.02}{0.26} & \frac{0.20}{0.27} \end{matrix}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \therefore H(X|Y) &= 0.2 \log \frac{0.34}{0.2} + 0.2 \log \frac{0.26}{0.2} + 0.1 \log \frac{0.34}{0.1} \\ &+ 0.01 \log \frac{0.13}{0.01} + 0.01 \log \frac{0.26}{0.01} + 0.01 \log \frac{0.27}{0.01} \\ &+ 0.02 \log \frac{0.13}{0.02} + 0.02 \log \frac{0.26}{0.02} + 0.04 \log \frac{0.34}{0.04} \\ &+ 0.04 \log \frac{0.13}{0.04} + 0.01 \log \frac{0.26}{0.01} + 0.06 \log \frac{0.27}{0.06} \\ &+ 0.06 \log \frac{0.13}{0.06} + 0.02 \log \frac{0.26}{0.02} + 0.2 \log \frac{0.27}{0.2} \end{aligned}$$

= 1.261183315 bits / symbol

Similarly, dividing the entries in the k^{th} row of JPM by $p(x_k)$, we obtain the CPM $P(Y|X)$. Then we have:

$$P(Y|X) = \begin{matrix} \frac{0.2}{0.4} & 0 & \frac{0.2}{0.4} & 0 \\ \frac{0.1}{0.13} & \frac{0.01}{0.13} & \frac{0.01}{0.13} & \frac{0.01}{0.13} \\ 0 & \frac{0.02}{0.04} & \frac{0.02}{0.04} & 0 \\ \frac{0.04}{0.15} & \frac{0.04}{0.15} & \frac{0.01}{0.15} & \frac{0.06}{0.15} \\ 0 & \frac{0.06}{0.28} & \frac{0.02}{0.28} & \frac{0.20}{0.28} \end{matrix}$$

Thus by actual computation we have

$H(X, Y) = 3.188311023 \text{ bits/Sym}$ $H(X) = 2.02193482 \text{ bit/Sym}$ $H(Y) = 1.927127708 \text{ bits/Sym}$

$H(X|Y) = 1.261183315 \text{ bits/Sym}$ $H(Y|X) = 1.166376202 \text{ bits/Sym}$

Clearly, $H(X, Y) = H(X) + H(Y|X) = H(Y) + H(X|Y)$

$H(X) > H(X|Y)$ and $H(Y) > H(Y|X)$

And $H(Y|X) = 2 \times 0.2 \log \frac{0.4}{0.2} + 0.1 \log \frac{0.13}{0.1} + 3 \times 0.01 \log \frac{0.13}{0.01} + 2 \times 0.02 \log \frac{0.04}{0.02}$
 $+ 2 \times 0.04 \log \frac{0.05}{0.05} + 0.01 \log \frac{0.15}{0.15} + 0.06 \log \frac{0.15}{0.15} + 0.06 \log \frac{0.28}{0.28}$

$$+ 2 \times 0.02 \log \frac{0.28}{0.02} = 1.166376202 \text{ bits / sym .}$$

3.3 Mutual information:

On an average we require $H(X)$ bits of information to specify one input symbol. However, if we are allowed to observe the output symbol produced by that input, we require, then, only $H(X|Y)$ bits of information to specify the input symbol. Accordingly, we come to the conclusion, that on an average, observation of a single output provides with $[H(X) - H(X|Y)]$ bits of information. This difference is called ‘ *Mutual Information* ’ or ‘ *Transinformation* ’ of the channel, denoted by $I(X, Y)$. Thus:

$$I(X, Y) \triangleq H(X) - H(X|Y) \dots\dots\dots (4.20)$$

Notice that in spite of the variations in the source probabilities, $p(x_k)$ (may be due to noise in the channel), certain probabilistic information regarding the state of the input is available, once the conditional probability $p(x_k|y_j)$ is computed at the receiver end. The difference between the initial uncertainty of the source symbol x_k , i.e. $\log 1/p(x_k)$ and the final uncertainty about the same source symbol x_k , after receiving y_j , i. e. $\log 1/p(x_k|y_j)$ is the information gained through the channel. This difference we call as the mutual information between the symbols x_k and y_j . Thus

$$I(x_k, y_j) = \log \frac{1}{p(x_k)} - \log \frac{1}{p(x_k|y_j)}$$

$$= \log \frac{p(x_k|y_j)}{p(x_k)} \dots\dots\dots (4.21) \quad a)$$

$$\text{Or } I(x_k, y_j) = \log \frac{p(x_k)}{p(x_k) \cdot p(y_j)} \dots\dots\dots (4.21) \quad b)$$

Notice from Eq. (4.21a) that

$$I(x_k) = I(x_k, x_k) = \log \frac{p(x_k|x_k)}{p(x_k)} = \log \frac{1}{p(x_k)}$$

This is the definition with which we started our discussion on information theory! Accordingly $I(x_k)$ is also referred to as ‘Self Information

It is clear from Eq (3.21b) that, as $\frac{p(x_k, y_j)}{p(x_k)} = p(y_j | x_k)$,

$$I(x_k, y_j) = \log \frac{p(y_j | x_k)}{p(y_j)} = \log \frac{1}{p(y_j)} - \log \frac{1}{p(y_j | x_k)}$$

Or $I(x_k, y_j) = I(y_j, x_k)$ (4.22)

Eq (4.22) simply means that “the Mutual information ’ is symmetrical with respect to its arguments.i.e.

$$I(x_k, y_j) = I(y_j, x_k) \dots\dots\dots (4.23)$$

Averaging Eq. (4.21b) over all admissible characters x_k and y_j , we obtain the average information gain of the receiver:

$$\begin{aligned} I(X, Y) &= E \{ I(x_k, y_j) \} \\ &= \sum_k \sum_j I(x_k, y_j) \cdot p(x_k, y_j) \\ &= \sum_k \sum_j p(x_k, y_j) \log \frac{p(x_k, y_j)}{p(x_k)p(y_j)} \dots\dots\dots(4.24) \end{aligned}$$

From Eq

(4.24) we have:

$$1) I(X, Y) = \sum_k \sum_j p(x_k, y_j) \log \frac{1}{p(x_k)} - \log \frac{1}{p(x_k | y_j)} = H(X) - H(X | Y) \dots\dots (4.25)$$

$$2) I(X, Y) = \sum_k \sum_j p(x_k, y_j) \log \frac{1}{p(y_j)} - \log \frac{1}{p(y_j | x_k)} = H(Y) - H(Y | X) \dots\dots\dots (4.26)$$

$$3) I(X, Y) = \sum_k \sum_j p(x_k, y_j) \log \frac{1}{p(x_k)} + \sum_k \sum_j p(x_k, y_j) \log \frac{1}{p(y_j)} - \sum_k \sum_j p(x_k, y_j) \log \frac{1}{p(x_k y_j)}$$

Or $I(X, Y) = H(X) + H(Y) - H(X, Y) \dots\dots\dots (4.27)$

Further, in view of Eq.(4.18) & Eq.(4.19) we conclude that, “ even though for a particular received symbol, y_j , $H(X) - H(X | Y_j)$ may be negative, when all the admissible ou tput symbols are covered, the average mutual information is always non- negative”. That is to say, we cannot loose information on an average by observing the output of a channel. An easy method, of remembering the various relationships, is given in Fig 4.2.Although the diagram resembles a Venn-diagram, it is not, and the diagram is only a tool to remember the relationships. That is all. You cannot use this diagram for proving any result.

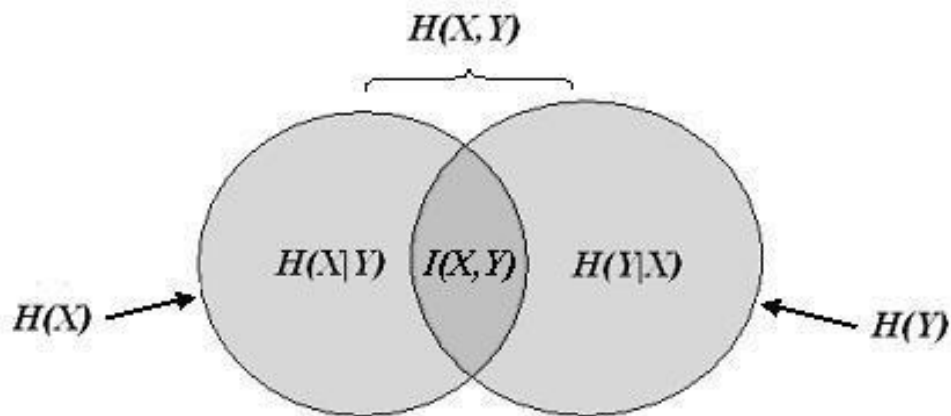


Fig 4.2 Entropy Relations

The entropy of X is represented by the circle on the left and that of Y by the circle on the right. The overlap between the two circles (dark gray) is the mutual information so that the remaining (light gray) portions of $H(X)$ and $H(Y)$ represent respective equivocations. Thus we have

$$H(X | Y) = H(X) - I(X, Y) \text{ and } H(Y | X) = H(Y) - I(X, Y)$$

The joint entropy $H(X, Y)$ is the sum of $H(X)$ and $H(Y)$ except for the fact that the overlap is added twice so that

$$H(X, Y) = H(X) + H(Y) - I(X, Y)$$

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Also observe } H(X, Y) &= H(X) + H(Y|X) \\ &= H(Y) + H(X|Y) \end{aligned}$$

For the JPM given in Example 4.1, $I(X, Y) = 0.760751505$ bits / sym

Shannon Theorem: Channel Capacity:

Clearly, the mutual information $I(X, Y)$ depends on the source probabilities apart from the channel probabilities. For a general information channel we can always make $I(X, Y) = 0$ by choosing any one of the input symbols with a probability one or by choosing a channel with independent input and output. Since $I(X, Y)$ is always nonnegative, we thus know the minimum value of the Transinformation. However, the question of $\max I(X, Y)$ for a general channel is not easily answered.

Our intention is to introduce a suitable measure for the efficiency of the channel by making a comparison between the actual rate and the upper bound on the rate of transmission of information. Shannon's contribution in this respect is most significant. Without botheration about the proof, let us see what this contribution is.

Shannon's theorem: on channel capacity("coding Theo rem")

It is possible, in principle, to devise a means where by a communication system will transmit information with an arbitrary small probability of error, provided that the information rate $R(=r \times I(X, Y))$, where r is the symbol rate) is less than or equal to a rate ' C ' called "channel capacity".

The technique used to achieve this objective is called coding. To put the matter more formally, the theorem is split into two parts and we have the following statements.

Positive statement:

“ Given a source of M equally likely messages, with $M \gg 1$, which is generating information at a rate R , and a channel with a capacity C . If $R \leq C$, then there exists a coding technique such that the output of the source may be transmitted with a probability of error of receiving the message that can be made arbitrarily small”.

This theorem indicates that for $R \leq C$ transmission may be accomplished without error even in the presence of noise. The situation is analogous to an electric circuit that comprises of only pure capacitors and pure inductors. In such a circuit there is no loss of energy at all as the reactors have the property of storing energy rather than dissipating.

Negative statement:

“ Given the source of M equally likely messages with $M \gg 1$, which is generating information at a rate R and a channel with capacity C . Then, if $R > C$, then the probability of error of receiving the message is close to unity for every set of M transmitted symbols”.

This theorem shows that if the information rate R exceeds a specified value C , the error probability will increase towards unity as M increases. Also, in general, increase in the complexity of the coding results in an increase in the probability of error. Notice that the situation is analogous to an electric network that is made up of pure resistors. In such a circuit, whatever energy is supplied, it will be dissipated in the form of heat and thus is a “lossy network”.

You can interpret in this way: Information is poured in to your communication channel. You should receive this without any loss. Situation is similar to pouring water into a tumbler. Once the tumbler is full, further pouring results in an over flow. You cannot pour water more than your tumbler can hold. Over flow is the loss.

Shannon defines “ C ” the channel capacity of a communication channel as the maximum value of Transinformation, $I(X, Y)$:

$$C = \Delta \text{Max } I(X, Y) = \text{Max } [H(X) - H(Y|X)] \quad \dots\dots\dots (4.28)$$

The maximization in Eq (4.28) is with respect to all possible sets of probabilities that could be assigned to the input symbols. Recall the maximum power transfer theorem: ‘In any network, maximum power will be delivered to the load only when the load and the source are properly matched’. The device used for this matching purpose, we shall call a “transducer “. For example, in a radio receiver, for optimum response, the impedance of the loud speaker will be matched to the impedance of the output power amplifier, through an output transformer.

This theorem is also known as “The Channel Coding Theorem” (Noisy Coding Theorem). It may be stated in a different form as below:

$$R \leq C \text{ or } r_s H(S) \leq r_c I(X,Y)_{\text{Max}} \text{ or } \{ H(S)/T_s \} \leq \{ I(X,Y)_{\text{Max}}/T_c \}$$

“If a discrete memoryless source with an alphabet ‘S’ has an entropy $H(S)$ and produces symbols every ‘ T_s ’ seconds; and a discrete memoryless channel has a capacity $I(X,Y)_{\text{Max}}$ and is used once every T_c seconds; then if

There exists a coding scheme for which the source output can be transmitted over the channel and be reconstructed with an arbitrarily small probability of error. The parameter C/T_c is called the critical rate. When this condition is satisfied with the equality sign, the system is said to be signaling at the critical rate.

Conversely, if $\frac{H(S)}{I(X,Y)} > \text{Max}$, it is not possible to transmit information over the $T_s T_c$ channel and reconstruct it with an arbitrarily small probability of error

A communication channel, is more frequently, described by specifying the source probabilities $P(X)$ & the conditional probabilities $P(Y/X)$ rather than specifying the JPM. The CPM, $P(Y/X)$, is usually referred to as the ‘**noise characteristic**’ of the channel. Therefore unless otherwise specified, we shall understand that the description of the channel, by a matrix or by a ‘Channel diagram’ always refers to CPM, $P(Y/X)$. Thus, in a discrete communication channel with pre-specified noise characteristics (i.e. with a given transition probability matrix, $P(Y/X)$) the rate of information transmission depends on the source that drives the channel. Then, the maximum rate corresponds to a proper matching of the source and the channel. This ideal characterization of the source depends in turn on the transition probability characteristics of the given channel.

Redundancy and Efficiency:

A redundant source is one that produces ‘dependent’ symbols. (Example: The Markov source). Such a source generates symbols that are not absolutely essential to convey information. As an illustration, let us consider the English language. It is really unnecessary to write “U” following the letter “Q”. The redundancy in English text is estimated to be 50% (refer J Das et al, Sham Shanmugam, Reza, Abramson, Hancock for detailed discussion.) This implies that, in the long run, half the symbols are unnecessary! For example, consider the following sentence.

“ Y.u sh..ld b. abl. t. re.d t.is ev.n tho... sev.r.l lt.rs .r. m.s..ng ”

However, we want redundancy. Without this redundancy abbreviations would be impossible and any two dimensional array of letters would form a crossword puzzle! We want redundancy even in communications to facilitate error detection and error correction. Then how to measure redundancy? Recall that for a Markov source, $H(S) < H(\bar{S})$, where \bar{S} is an adjacent, zero memory source. That is, when dependence creeps in, the entropy of the source will be reduced and this can be used as a measure indeed!

“ The redundancy of a sequence of symbols is measured by noting the amount by which the entropy has been reduced ”.

When there is no inter symbol influence the entropy at the receiver would be $H(X)$ for any given set of messages $\{X\}$ and that when inter symbol influence occurs the entropy would be $H(Y/X)$. The difference $[H(X) - H(Y/X)]$ is the net reduction in entropy and is called “**Absolute Redundancy**”. Generally it is measured relative to the maximum entropy and thus we have for the “**Relative Redundancy**” or simply, ‘**redundancy**’, E

$$E = (\text{Absolute Redundancy}) \div H(X)$$

Or
$$E = 1 - \frac{H(Y/X)}{H(X)} \dots\dots\dots (4.29)$$

Careful observation of the statements made above leads to the following alternative definition for redundancy,

$$E = 1 - \frac{R}{C} \dots\dots\dots (4.30)$$

Where R is the actual rate of Transinformation (mutual information) and C is the channel capacity. From the above discussions, a definition for the efficiency, η for the channel immediately follows:

$$\eta = \frac{\text{Actual rate of mutual information}}{\text{maximum possible rate}}$$

That is, $\eta = \frac{R}{C} \dots\dots\dots (4.31)$

and $\eta = 1 - E \dots\dots\dots (4.32)$

3.4 Capacity of Channels:

While commenting on the definition of ‘Channel capacity’, Eq. (4.28), we have said that maximization should be with respect to all possible sets of input symbol probabilities. Accordingly, to arrive at the maximum value it is necessary to use some Calculus of Variation techniques and the problem, in general, is quite involved.

Example 3.2: Consider a Binary channel specified by the following noise characteristic (channel matrix):

$$P(Y/X) = \begin{matrix} & \frac{1}{2} & \frac{1}{2} \\ \frac{1}{4} & \frac{2}{4} & \frac{3}{4} \\ \frac{3}{4} & \frac{1}{4} & \frac{2}{4} \end{matrix}$$

The source probabilities are: $p(x_1) = p, p(x_2) = q = 1-p$

Clearly, $H(X) = -p \log p - (1-p) \log (1-p)$

We shall first find JPM and proceed as below:

$$P(X,Y) = \begin{matrix} p(x_1).p(y_1/x_1) & p(x_1).p(y_2/x_1) & \frac{p}{2} & \frac{p}{2} \\ p(x_2).p(y_1/x_2) & p(x_2).p(y_2/x_2) & \frac{1-p}{4} & \frac{3(1-p)}{4} \end{matrix}$$

Adding column-wise, we get:

$$p(y_1) = \frac{p}{2} + \frac{1-p}{4} = \frac{1+p}{4} \quad \text{and} \quad p(y_2) = \frac{p}{2} + \frac{3(1-p)}{4} = \frac{3-p}{4}$$

Hence $H(Y) = \frac{1+p}{4} \log \frac{4}{1+p} + \frac{3-p}{4} \log \frac{4}{3-p}$

And $H(Y/X) = \frac{p}{2} \log 2 + \frac{p}{2} \log 2 + \frac{1-p}{4} \log 4 + \frac{3(1-p)}{4} \log \frac{4}{3}$

$$I(X, Y) = H(Y) - H(Y/X) = 1 - \frac{3 \log 3}{4} p + \frac{3 \log 3}{4} - \frac{1+p}{4} \log(1+p) - \frac{3(1-p)}{4} \log(3-p)$$

Writing $\log x = \log_e x \times \ln$ and setting $\frac{dI}{dp} = 0$ yields straight away:

$$p = \frac{3a - 1}{1 + a} = 0.488372093, \text{ Where } a = 2^{(4-3\log 3)} = 0.592592593$$

With this value of p , we find $I(X, Y)_{Max} = 0.048821 \text{ bits /sym}$

For other values of p it is seen that $I(X, Y)$ is less than $I(X, Y)_{max}$

Although, we have solved the problem in a straight forward way, it will not be the case

p	. 0.2	. 0.4	. 0.5	. 0.6	. 0.8
I(X,Y) Bits / sym	. 0.32268399	. 0.04730118	. 0.04879494	. 0.046439344	. 0.030518829

When the dimension of the channel matrix is more than two. We have thus shown that the channel capacity of a given channel indeed depends on the source probabilities. The computation of the channel capacity would become simpler for certain class of channels called the ‘symmetric ‘or ‘uniform’ channels.

Muroga’s Theorem :

The channel capacity of a channel whose noise characteristic, $P(Y/X)$, is square and non-singular, the channel capacity is given by the equation:

$$C = \log \sum_{i=1}^{i=n} 2^{-Q_i} \dots\dots\dots(4) \dots\dots\dots .33)$$

Where Q_i are the solutions of the matrix equation $P(Y/X) \cdot Q = [h]$, where $h = [h_1, h_2, h_3, h_4 \dots h_n]^t$ are the row entropies of $P(Y/X)$.

$$\begin{matrix} p_{11} & p_{12} & p_{13} & \dots & p_{1n} & Q_1 & h_1 \\ p_{21} & p_{22} & p_{23} & \dots & p_{2n} & Q_2 & h_2 \\ \dots & \dots & \dots & \dots & \dots & \dots & \dots \\ p_{n1} & p_{n2} & p_{n3} & \dots & p_{nn} & Q_n & h_n \end{matrix} =$$

From this we can solve for the source probabilities (i.e. Input symbol probabilities):

$$[p_1, p_2, p_3 \dots p_n] = [p_1', p_2', p_3' \dots p_n'] P^{-1} [Y|X], \text{ provided the inverse exists.}$$

However, although the method provides us with the correct answer for Channel capacity, this value of C may not necessarily lead to physically realizable values of probabilities and if $P^{-1} [Y|X]$ does not exist, we will not have a solution for Q_i 's as well. One reason is that we are not able to incorporate the inequality constraints $0 \leq p_i \leq 1$. Still, within certain limits; the method is indeed very useful.

Example 3.2: Consider a Binary channel specified by the following noise characteristic (channel matrix):

$$P(Y/X) = \begin{bmatrix} \frac{1}{2} & \frac{1}{2} \\ \frac{1}{4} & \frac{3}{4} \end{bmatrix}$$

The row entropies are:

$$h_1 = \frac{1}{2} \log 2 + \frac{1}{2} \log 2 = 1 \text{ bit / symbol .}$$

$$h_2 = \frac{1}{4} \log 4 + \frac{3}{4} \log 4 = 0.8112781 \text{ bits / symbol .}$$

$$P^{-1} [Y/X] =$$

$$Q_1 = P^{-1} [Y/X]_{.1} = \begin{bmatrix} -1 & 2 \\ 1 & -1 \end{bmatrix} \begin{matrix} h_1 \\ h_2 \end{matrix} = \begin{matrix} 1.3774438 \\ 0.6225562 \end{matrix}$$

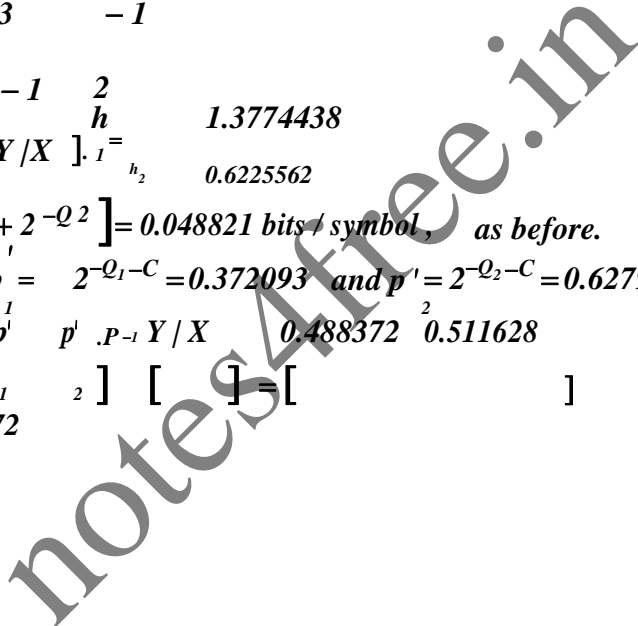
$$C = \log [2^{-Q_1} + 2^{-Q_2}] = 0.048821 \text{ bits / symbol , as before.}$$

$$\text{Further , } p_1 = 2^{-Q_1 - C} = 0.372093 \text{ and } p_2 = 2^{-Q_2 - C} = 0.627907.$$

$$p_1 = 0.488372 \quad p_2 = 0.511628$$

$$\begin{bmatrix} p_1 & p_2 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 2 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 2 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 2 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 2 \end{bmatrix}$$

Giving us $p = 0.488372$



Example 3.3:

Consider a 3×3 channel matrix as below:

$$P[Y/X] = \begin{bmatrix} 0.4 & 0.6 & 0 \\ 0.5 & 0 & 0.5 \\ 0 & 0.6 & 0.4 \end{bmatrix}$$

The row entropies are:

$$h_1 = h_3 = 0.4 \log(1/0.4) + 0.6 \log(1/0.6) = 0.9709505 \text{ bits / symbol.}$$

$$h_2 = 2 \times 0.5 \log(1/0.5) = 1 \text{ bit / symbol.}$$

$$P^{-1}[Y/X] = \begin{bmatrix} 1.25 & 1 & -1.25 \\ 5/6 & -2/3 & 5/6 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$Q_1 = \begin{bmatrix} -1.25 & 1 & 1.25 \\ 1 & & \end{bmatrix} = 1.0193633$$

$$C = \log \{ 2^{-1} + 2^{-1.0193633} + 2^{-1} \} = 0.5785369 \text{ bits / symbol.}$$

$$p_1 = 2^{-Q_1 - C} = 0.3348213 = p_3, p_2 = 2^{-Q_2 - C} = 0.3303574.$$

Therefore, $p_1 = p_3 = 0.2752978$ and $p_2 = 0.4494043$.

Suppose we change the channel matrix to:

$$P[Y/X] = \begin{bmatrix} 0.8 & 0.2 & 0 \\ 0.5 & 0 & 0.5 \\ 0 & 0.2 & 0.8 \end{bmatrix} \quad P^{-1}[Y/X] = \begin{bmatrix} 0.625 & 1 & -0.625 \\ 2.5 & -4 & 2.5 \\ -0.625 & 1 & 0.625 \end{bmatrix}$$

We have:

$$h_1 = h_3 = 0.721928 \text{ bits / symbol, and } h_2 = 1 \text{ bit / symbol.}$$

This results in:

$$Q_1 = Q_3 = 1; Q_2 = -0.39036.$$

$$C = \log \{ 2 \times 2^{-1} + 2^{+0.39036} \} = 1.2083427 \text{ bits / symbol.}$$

$$p_1 = 2^{-Q_1 - C} = 0.2163827 = p_3, p_2 = 2^{-Q_2 - C} = 0.5672345$$

Giving: $p_1 = p_3 = 1.4180863$ and $p_2 = \text{Negative!}$

Thus we see that, although we get the answer for C the input symbol probabilities computed are not physically realizable. However, in the derivation of the equations, as already pointed out, had we included the conditions on both input and output probabilities we might have got an excellent result! But such a derivation becomes very formidable as you cannot arrive at a numerical solution! You will have to resolve your problem by graphical methods only which will also be a tough proposition! The formula can be used, however, with restrictions on the channel transition probabilities. For example, in the previous problem, for a physically realizable p_{11}, p_{11} should be less than or equal to 0.64 . (Problems 4.16 and 4.18 of Sam Shanmugam to be solved using this method)

Symmetric Channels:

The Muroga's approach is useful only when the noise characteristic $P [X/Y]$ is a square and invertible matrix. For channels with $m \neq n$, we can determine the Channel capacity by simple inspection when the channel is "**Symmetric**" or "**Uniform**".

Consider a channel defined by the noise characteristic:

$$P[Y | X] = \begin{matrix} & \begin{matrix} p_{11} & p_{12} & p_{13} & \dots & p_{1n} \end{matrix} \\ \begin{matrix} p_{21} \\ p_{22} \\ p_{23} \\ \dots \\ p_{2n} \end{matrix} & \begin{matrix} p_{21} & p_{22} & p_{23} & \dots & p_{2n} \end{matrix} \\ & \vdots \\ \begin{matrix} p_{31} \\ p_{32} \\ p_{33} \\ \dots \\ p_{3n} \end{matrix} & \begin{matrix} p_{31} & p_{32} & p_{33} & \dots & p_{3n} \end{matrix} \\ & \vdots \\ \begin{matrix} p_{M1} \\ p_{M2} \\ p_{M3} \\ \dots \\ p_{Mn} \end{matrix} & \begin{matrix} p_{M1} & p_{M2} & p_{M3} & \dots & p_{Mn} \end{matrix} \end{matrix} \quad (4.34)$$

This channel is said to be Symmetric or Uniform if the second and subsequent rows of the channel matrix are certain permutations of the first row. That is the elements of the second and subsequent rows are exactly the same as those of the first row except for their locations. This is illustrated by the following matrix:

$$P[Y | X] = \begin{matrix} \begin{matrix} p_{11} & p_{12} & p_{13} & \dots & p_{1n} \end{matrix} \\ \begin{matrix} p_{n-1} \\ p_{21} & p_{22} & p_{2n} & \dots & p_{24} \end{matrix} \\ \begin{matrix} p_{31} & p_{32} & p_{31} & \dots & p_{35} \end{matrix} \\ \begin{matrix} p_{M1} & p_{M2} & p_{M3} & \dots & p_{Mn} \end{matrix} \\ \begin{matrix} p_{n-1} \\ p_{n-1} & p_{n-2} & \dots & p_{11} \end{matrix} \end{matrix} \quad (4.35)$$

Remembering the important property of the conditional probability matrix, $P [Y|X]$, that the sum of all elements in any row should add to unity; we have:

$$\sum_{j=1}^n p_{ij} = 1 \quad (4.36)$$

The conditional entropy $H (Y|X)$ for this channel can be computed from:

$$\begin{aligned} H (Y / X) &= \sum_{k=1}^m \sum_{j=1}^n p(x_k, y_j) \log \frac{1}{p(x_k, y_j)} \\ &= \sum_{k=1}^m p(x_k) \cdot \sum_{j=1}^n p(y_j | x_k) \log \frac{1}{p(y_j | x_k)} \end{aligned}$$

However, for the channel under consideration observe that:

$$\sum_{k=1}^m p(x_k) \cdot \sum_{j=1}^n p(y_j/x_k) \log \frac{1}{p(y_j/x_k)} = \sum_{j=1}^n p_j \log \frac{1}{p_j} = h \dots \dots \dots (4.37)$$

is a constant, as the entropy function is symmetric with respect to its arguments and depends only on the probabilities but not on their relative locations. Accordingly, the entropy becomes:

$$H(Y|X) = \sum_{k=1}^m p(x_k) \cdot h = h \dots \dots \dots (4.38)$$

as the source probabilities all add up to unity.

Thus the conditional entropy for such type of channels can be computed from the elements of any row of the channel matrix. Accordingly, we have for the mutual information:

$$I(X, Y) = H(Y) - H(Y|X) = H(Y) - h$$

Hence, $C = \text{Max } I(X, Y) = \text{Max } \{H(Y) - h\} = \text{Max } H(Y) - h$

Since, $H(Y)$ will be maximum if and only if all the received symbols are equally probable and as there are n – symbols at the output, we have:

$$H(Y)_{\text{Max}} = \log n$$

Thus we have for the symmetric channel:

$$C = \log n - h \dots \dots \dots (4.39)$$

The channel matrix of a channel may not have the form described in Eq (3.35) but still it can be a symmetric channel. This will become clear if you interchange the roles of input and output. That is, investigate the conditional probability matrix $P(X|Y)$.

We define the channel to be symmetric if the CPM, $P(X|Y)$ has the form:

$$P(X|Y) = \begin{matrix} p_1 & p_m & p_2 & \dots & p_m \\ & p_{m-1} & & \dots & p_{m-1} \\ p_2 & & p_6 & \dots & \\ & & & \dots & \\ P(X|Y) = & p_3 & p_4 & p_m & \dots & p_{m-2} \\ & & & & \dots & \\ & M & M & M & M & M \\ & & & p_{m-3} & \dots & p_1 \\ & & & & \dots & \end{matrix} \dots \dots \dots (4.40)$$

That is, the second and subsequent columns of the CPM are certain permutations of the first column. In other words entries in the second and subsequent columns are exactly the same as in the first column but for different locations. In this case we have:

$$H(X|Y) = \sum_{j=1}^n \sum_{k=1}^m p(x_k, y_j) \log \frac{1}{p(x_k/y_j)} = \sum_{j=1}^n p(y_j) \sum_{k=1}^m p(x_k/y_j) \log \frac{1}{p(x_k/y_j)}$$

Since $\sum_{j=1}^n p(y_j) = 1$ and $\sum_{k=1}^m p(x_k/y_j) \log \frac{1}{p(x_k/y_j)} = \sum_{k=1}^m p_k \log \frac{1}{p_k} = h$ is a constant, because all entries in any column are exactly the same except for their locations, it then follows that:

$$H(X|Y) = h' = \sum_{k=1}^m p_k \log \frac{1}{p_k} \dots\dots\dots (4.41)$$

*Remember that the sum of all entries in any column of Eq (3.40) should be unity.

As a consequence, for the symmetry described we have:

$$C = \text{Max} [H(X) - H(X|Y)] = \text{Max} H(X) - h'$$

Or $C = \log m - h'$ \dots\dots\dots(4.42)

Thus the channel capacity for a symmetric channel may be computed in a very simple and straightforward manner. Usually the channel will be specified by its noise characteristics and the source probabilities [i.e. $P(Y|X)$ and $P(X)$]. Hence it will be a matter of simple inspection to identify the first form of symmetry described. To identify the second form of symmetry you have to first compute $P(X|Y)$ – tedious!

Example 3.4:

Consider the channel represented by the channel diagram shown in Fig 3.3:

The channel matrix can be read off from the channel diagram as:

$$P(Y|X) = \begin{matrix} \frac{1}{3} & \frac{1}{6} & \frac{1}{6} & \frac{1}{6} \\ \frac{1}{6} & \frac{1}{6} & \frac{1}{3} & \frac{1}{6} \end{matrix}$$

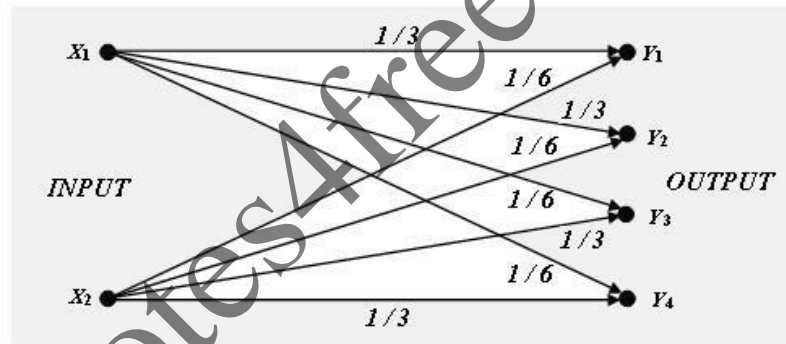


Fig 4.3 A Symmetric Channel

Clearly, the second row is a permutation of the first row (written in the reverse order) and hence the channel given is a symmetric channel. Accordingly we have, for the noise entropy, h (from either of the rows):

$$H(Y|X) = h = 2 \times \frac{1}{3} \log 3 + 2 \times \frac{1}{6} \log 6 = 1.918295834 \text{ bits / symbol.}$$

$$C = \log n - h = \log 4 - h = 0.081704166 \text{ bits / symbol.}$$

Example 4.5:

A binary channel has the following noise characteristic:

$$\begin{array}{cc}
 & 0 & 1 \\
 \hline
 0 & 2 & 1 \\
 & 3 & 3 \\
 1 & - & -2 \\
 & 3 & 3
 \end{array}$$

- (a) If the input symbols are transmitted with probabilities $3/4$ and $1/4$ respectively, find $H(X)$, $H(Y)$, $H(X, Y)$, $H(Y|X)$ and $I(X, Y)$.
- (b) Find the channel capacity, efficiency and redundancy of the channel.
- (c) What are the source probabilities that correspond to the channel capacity?

To avoid confusion, let us identify the input symbols as x_1 and x_2 and the output symbols by y_1 and y_2 . Then we have:

$$P(x_1) = 3/4 \text{ and } p(x_2) = 1/4$$

$$P(X/Y) = \begin{array}{cc}
 2 & 1 \\
 \hline
 3 & 3 \\
 1 & 2 \\
 3 & 3
 \end{array}$$

$$H(Y|X) = h = \frac{2}{3} \log \frac{3}{2} + \frac{1}{3} \log 3 = \log 3 - \frac{2}{3} = 0.918295833 \text{ bits / symbol .}$$

$$H(X) = \frac{1}{3} \log \frac{3}{1} + \frac{1}{3} \log 4 = \log 4 - \frac{1}{3} \log 3 = 2 - \frac{1}{3} \log 3 = 0.811278125 \text{ bits / symbol . 4}$$

Multiplying first row of $P(Y|X)$ by $p(x_1)$ and second row by $p(x_2)$ we get:

$$P(X, Y) = \begin{array}{cc}
 \frac{2}{3} \times \frac{3}{4} & \frac{1}{3} \times \frac{3}{4} \\
 \hline
 \frac{1}{3} \times \frac{1}{4} & \frac{2}{3} \times \frac{3}{4} \\
 \frac{1}{12} & \frac{1}{2}
 \end{array}$$

Adding the elements of this matrix columnwise, we get: $p(y_1) = 7/12$, $p(y_2) = 5/12$.

Dividing the first column entries of $P(X, Y)$ by $p(y_1)$ and those of second column by $p(y_2)$, we get:

$$P(X/Y) = \begin{array}{cc}
 \frac{6}{7} & \frac{3}{5} \\
 \hline
 1 & 2 \\
 \frac{7}{7} & \frac{5}{5}
 \end{array}$$

From these values we have:

$$H(Y) = \frac{7}{12} \log \frac{12}{7} + \frac{5}{12} \log \frac{12}{5} = 0.979868756 \text{ bits / symbol .}$$

$$H(X, Y) = \frac{1}{2} \log 2 + \frac{1}{4} \log 4 + \frac{1}{12} \log 12 + \frac{1}{6} \log 6 = 1.729573958 \text{ bits / symbol .}$$

$$H(X|Y) = \frac{1}{2} \log \frac{7}{6} + \frac{1}{4} \log \frac{5}{4} + \frac{1}{12} \log 7 + \frac{1}{6} \log \frac{5}{2} = 0.74970520 \text{ bits / symbol}$$

$$H(Y|X) = \frac{1}{2} \log \frac{3}{2} + \frac{1}{4} \log 3 + \frac{1}{12} \log 3 + \frac{1}{6} \log \frac{3}{2} = \log 3 - \frac{2}{3} = h \quad (\text{as before}).$$

$$I(X, Y) = H(X) - H(X|Y) = 0.061572924 \text{ bits / symbol.}$$

$$= H(Y) - h = 0.061572923 \text{ bits / symbol.}$$

$$C = \log n - h = \log 2 - h - 1 - h = 0.081704167 \text{ bits / symbol.}$$

$$\text{Efficiency, } \eta = \frac{I(X, Y)}{C} = 0.753608123 \text{ or } 75.3608123\%$$

$$\text{Redundancy, } E = 1 - \eta = 0.246391876 \text{ or } 24.6391876\%$$

To find the source probabilities, let $p(x_1) = p$ and $p(x_2) = q = 1 - p$. Then the **JPM** becomes:

$$P(X, Y) = \begin{matrix} & \frac{2}{3}p & \frac{1}{3}p \\ \frac{1}{3}(1-p) & & \frac{2}{3} \end{matrix}$$

Adding columnwise we get: $p(y_1) = \frac{1}{3}(1+p)$ and $p(y_2) = \frac{1}{3}(2-p)$

For $H(Y) = H(Y)_{\max}$, we want $p(y_1) = p(y_2)$ and hence $1+p = 2-p$ or $p = \frac{1}{2}$

Therefore the source probabilities corresponding to the channel capacity are: $p(x_1) = 1/2 = p(x_2)$.

Binary Symmetric Channels (BSC): (Problem 2.6.2 - Simon Haykin)

The channel considered in Example 3.6 is called a 'Binary Symmetric Channel' or (**BSC**). It is one of the most common and widely used channels. The channel diagram of a **BSC** is shown in Fig 3.4. Here 'p' is called the error probability.

For this channel we have:

$$H(Y|X) = p \log \frac{1}{p} + q \log \frac{1}{q} = H(p) \tag{4.43}$$

$$H(Y) = [p - \alpha(p-q)] \log [p - \alpha(p-q)] + [q + \alpha(p-q)] \log [q + \alpha(p-q)] \tag{4.44}$$

$I(X, Y) = H(Y) - H(Y|X)$ and the channel capacity is:

$$C = 1 + p \log p + q \log q \tag{4.45}$$

This occurs when $\alpha = 0.5$ i.e. $P(X=0) = P(X=1) = 0.5$

In this case it is interesting to note that the equivocation, $H(X|Y) = H(Y|X)$.

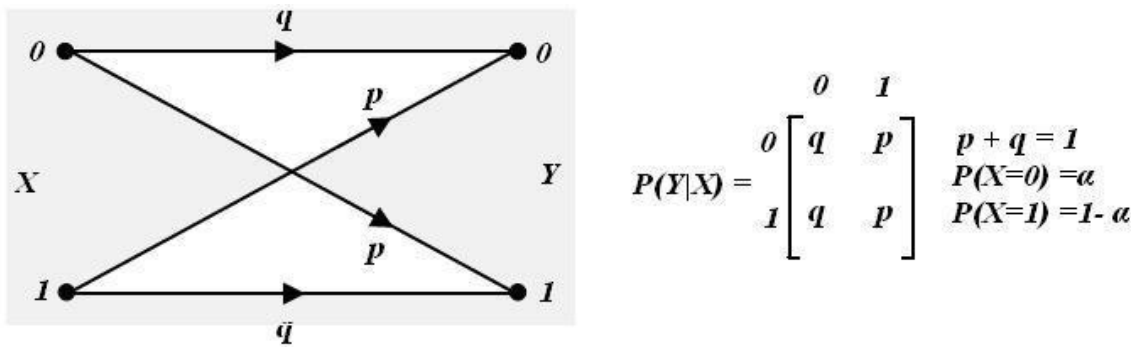


Fig 4.4 Channel diagram of a BSC and its Channel Matrix.

An interesting interpretation of the equivocation may be given if consider an idealized communication system with the above symmetric channel as shown in Fig 4.5.

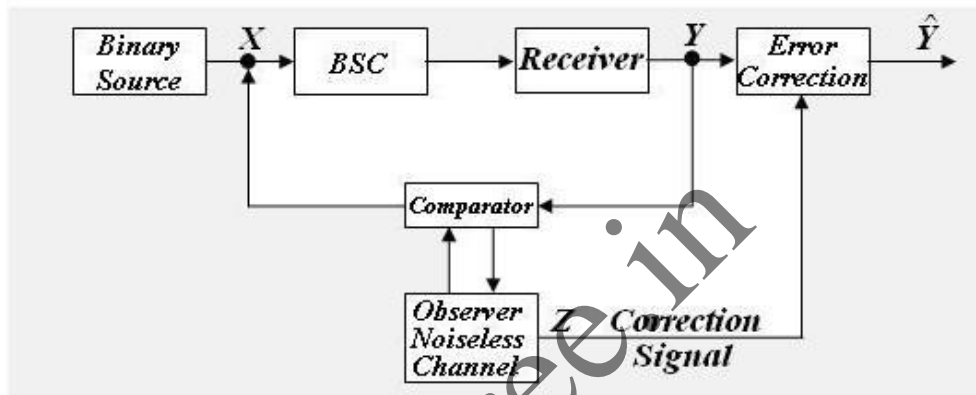


Fig 4.5 An Idealized Binary Communication System.

The observer is a noiseless channel that compares the transmitted and the received symbols. Whenever there is an error a ‘1’ is sent to the receiver as a correction signal and appropriate correction is effected. When there is no error the observer transmits a ‘0’ indicating no change. Thus the observer supplies additional information to the receiver, thus compensating for the noise in the channel. Let us compute this additional information. With $P(X=0) = P(X=1) = 0.5$, we have:

Probability of sending a ‘1’ = Probability of error in the channel.

$$\begin{aligned}
 \text{Probability of error} &= P(Y=1|X=0).P(X=0) + P(Y=0|X=1).P(X=1) \\
 &= p \times 0.5 + p \times 0.5 = p \\
 \therefore \text{Probability of no error} &= 1 - p = q
 \end{aligned}$$

Thus we have $P(Z = 1) = p$ and $P(Z = 0) = q$

Accordingly, additional amount of information supplied is:

$$= p \log \frac{1}{p} + q \log \frac{1}{q} = H(X|Y) = H(Y|X) \quad \dots\dots\dots (4.46)$$

Thus the additional information supplied by the observer is exactly equal to the equivocation of the source. Observe that if ‘p’ and ‘q’ are interchanged in the channel matrix, the trans -information of the channel remains unaltered. The variation of the mutual information with the probability of error is

shown in Fig 3.6(a) for $P(X=0) = P(X=1) = 0.5$. In Fig 4.6(b) is shown the dependence of the mutual information on the source probabilities.

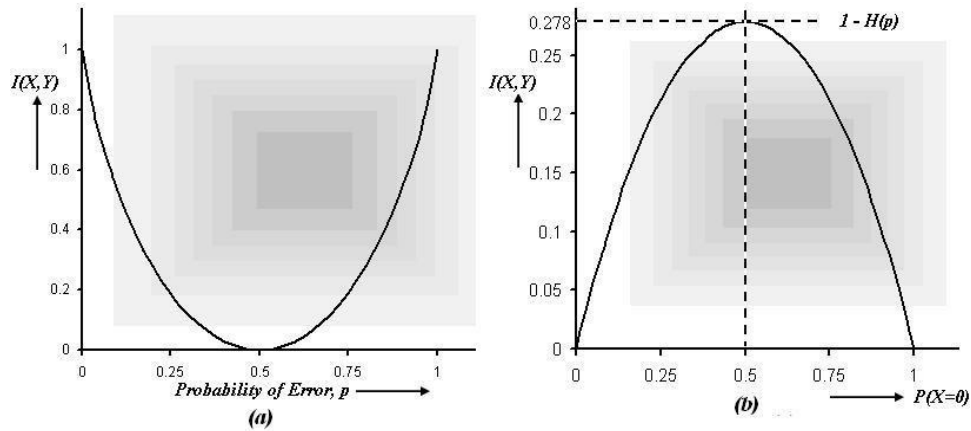


Fig 4.6 Mutual Information of a BSC

Binary Erasure Channels (BEC):

The channel diagram and the channel matrix of a BEC are shown in Fig 3.7.

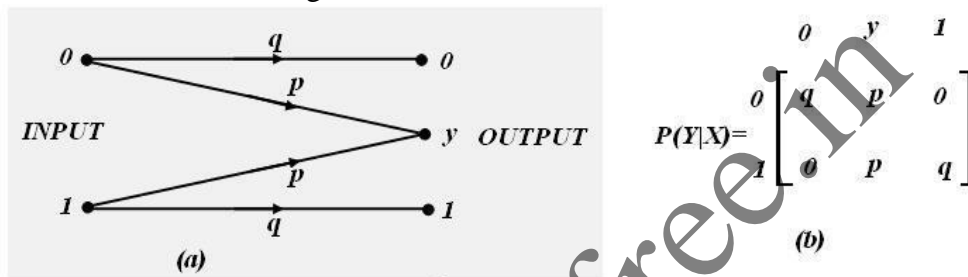


Fig 4.7 Binary Erasure Channel.

BEC is one of the important types of channels used in digital communications. Observe that whenever an error occurs, the symbol will be received as ‘y’ and no decision will be made about the information but an immediate request will be made for retransmission, rejecting what have been received (ARQ techniques), thus ensuring 100% correct data recovery. Notice that this channel also is a symmetric channel and we have with $P(X=0) = \alpha, P(X=1) = 1 - \alpha$

$$H(Y|X) = -\frac{1}{p} \log \frac{1}{p} - q \log \frac{1}{q} \tag{4.47}$$

$$H(X) = \alpha \log \frac{1}{\alpha} + (1 - \alpha) \log \frac{1}{(1 - \alpha)} \tag{4.48}$$

The JPM is obtained by multiplying first row of $P(Y|X)$ by α and second row by $(1 - \alpha)$. We get:

$$P(X,Y) = \begin{bmatrix} q\alpha & p\alpha & 0 \\ 0 & p(1 - \alpha) & q(1 - \alpha) \end{bmatrix} \tag{4.49}$$

Adding column wise we get: $P(Y) = [q\alpha, p, q(1 - \alpha)]$ (4.50)

From which the CPM $P(X|Y)$ is computed as:

$$P(X/Y) = \begin{matrix} 1 & \alpha & 0 \\ 0 & (1-\alpha) & 1 \end{matrix} \dots\dots\dots (4.51)$$

$$\therefore H(X/Y) = \alpha q \log 1 + \alpha p \log \frac{1}{\alpha} + (1-\alpha) p \log \frac{1}{(1-\alpha)} + (1-\alpha) q \log 1$$

$$= pH(X)$$

$$\therefore I(X, Y) = H(X) - H(X/Y) = (1 - p) H(X) = q \dots\dots\dots (4.52)$$

$$\therefore C = \text{Max } I(X, Y) = q \text{ bits / symbol.} \dots\dots\dots (4.53)$$

In this particular case, use of the equation $I(X, Y) = H(Y) - H(Y/X)$ will not be correct, as $H(Y)$ involves ‘y’ and the information given by ‘y’ is rejected at the receiver.

Deterministic and Noiseless Channels: (Additional Information)

Suppose in the channel matrix of Eq (3.34) we make the following modifications.

- a) Each row of the channel matrix contains one and only one nonzero entry, which necessarily should be a ‘1’. That is, the channel matrix is symmetric and has the property, for a given k and j , $P(y_j|x_k) = 1$ and all other entries are ‘0’. Hence given x_k , probability of receiving it as y_j is one. For such a channel, clearly

$$H(Y|X) = 0 \text{ and } I(X, Y) = H(Y) \dots\dots\dots (4.54)$$

Notice that it is not necessary that $H(X) = H(Y)$ in this case. The channel with such a property will be called a ‘*Deterministic Channel*’.

Example 4.6:

Consider the channel depicted in Fig 3.8. Observe from the channel diagram shown that the input symbol x_k uniquely specifies the output symbol y_j with a probability one. By observing the output, no decisions can be made regarding the transmitted symbol!!

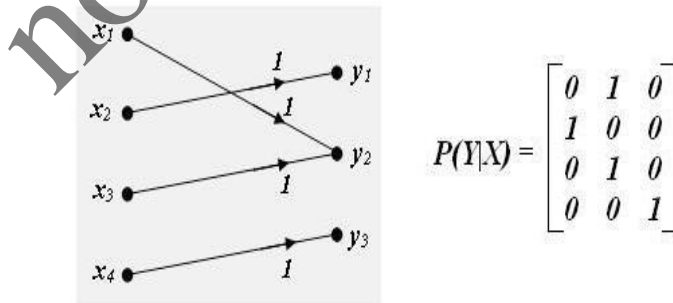


Fig 4.8

- b) Each column of the channel matrix contains one and only one nonzero entry. In this case, since each column has only one entry, it immediately follows that the matrix $P(X|Y)$ has also one and only one non zero entry in each of its columns and this entry, necessarily be a ‘1’ because:

$$\text{If } p(y_j|x_k) = \alpha, p(y_j | x_r) = 0, r \neq k, r = 1, 2, 3 \dots m.$$

$$\text{Then } p(x_k, y_j) = p(x_k) \times p(y_j|x_k) = \alpha \times p(x_k),$$

$$\begin{aligned}
 p(x_r, y_j) &= 0, r \neq k, r = 1, 2, 3 \dots m. \\
 \therefore p(y_j) &= \sum_{r=1}^m p(x_r, y_j) = p(x_k, y_j) = \alpha p(x_k) \\
 \therefore p(x_k | y_j) &= \frac{p(x_k, y_j)}{p(y_j)} = 1, \text{ and } p(x_r | y_j) = 0, \quad \forall r \neq k, r = 1, 2, 3, \dots m.
 \end{aligned}$$

It then follows that $H(X|Y) = 0$ and $I(X, Y) = \dots\dots\dots (4.55)$
 $H(X)$

Notice again that it is not necessary to have $H(Y) = H(X)$. However in this case, converse of (a) holds. That is one output symbol uniquely specifies the transmitted symbol, whereas for a given input symbol we cannot make any decisions about the received symbol. The situation is exactly the complement or mirror image of (a) and we call this channel also a deterministic channel (some people call the channel pertaining to case (b) as ‘Noiseless Channel’, a classification can be found in the next paragraph). Notice that for the case (b), the channel is symmetric with respect to the matrix $P(X|Y)$.

Example 3.7:

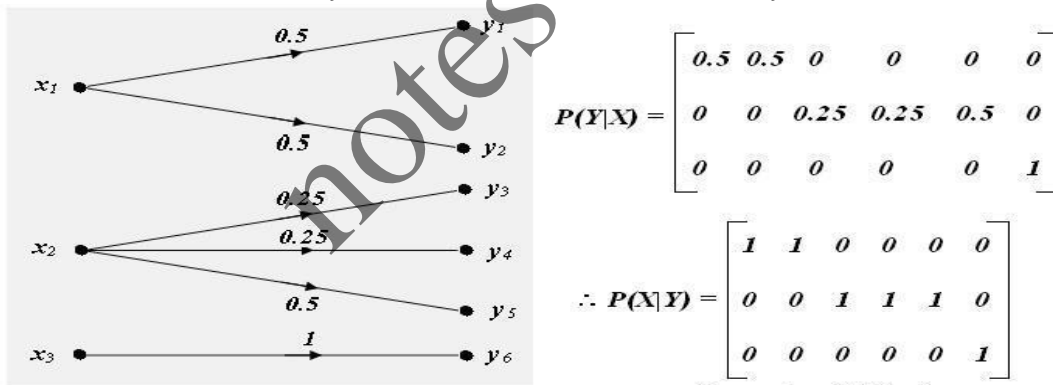
Consider the channel diagram, the associated channel matrix, $P(Y|X)$ and the conditional probability matrix $P(X|Y)$ shown in Fig 3.9. For this channel, let

$$p(x_1) = 0.5, \quad p(x_2) = p(x_3) = 0.25.$$

$$\text{Then } p(y_1) = p(y_2) = p(y_6) = 0.25, \quad p(y_3) = p(y_4) = 0.0625 \text{ and } p(y_5) = 0.125.$$

It then follows $I(X, Y) = H(X) = 1.5 \text{ bits / symbol}$,

$$H(Y) = 2.375 \text{ bits / symbol}, \quad H(Y|X) = 0.875 \text{ bits / symbol} \text{ and } H(X|Y) = 0.$$



$$P(Y|X) = \begin{bmatrix} 0.5 & 0.5 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0.25 & 0.25 & 0.5 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\therefore P(X|Y) = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 1 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

(Irrespective of P(X), the reader should verify this)

Fig 4.9 Channel diagram for Example 4.7

c) *Now let us consider a special case:* The channel matrix in Eq (3.34) is a square matrix and all entries except the one on the principal diagonal are zero. That is:

$$p(y_k|x_k) = 1 \text{ and } p(y_j|x_k) = 0 \quad \forall k \neq j$$

Or in general, $p(y_j|x_k) = \delta_{jk}$, where δ_{jk} , is the ‘Kronecker delta’, i.e. $\delta_{jk} = 1$ if $j = k$
 $= 0$ if $j \neq k$.

That is, $P(Y|X)$ is an Identity matrix of order ‘n’ and that $P(X|Y) = P(Y|X)$ and $p(x_k, y_j) = p(x_k) = p(y_j)$ can be easily verified.

For such a channel it follows:

$$H(X|Y) = H(Y|X) = 0 \text{ and } I(X, Y) = H(X) = H(Y) = H(X, Y) \tag{4.56}$$

.....

We call such a channel as “*Noiseless Channel*”. Notice that for the channel to be noiseless, it is necessary that there shall be a one-one correspondence between input and output symbols. No information will be lost in such channels and if all the symbols occur with equal probabilities, it follows then:

$$C = I(X, Y) \text{ Max} = H(X) \text{ Max} = H(Y) \text{ Max} = \log n \text{ bits / symbol.}$$

Thus a noiseless channel is symmetric and deterministic with respect to both descriptions $P(Y|X)$ and $P(X|Y)$.

Finally, observe the major concept in our classification. In case (a) for a given transmitted symbol, we can make a unique decision about the received symbol from the source end. In case (b), for a given received symbol, we can make a decision about the transmitted symbol from the receiver end. Whereas for case (c), a unique decision can be made with regard to the transmitted as well as the received symbols from either ends. This uniqueness property is vital in calling the channel as a ‘Noiseless Channel’.

d) To conclude, we shall consider yet another channel described by the following *JPM*:

$$P(X, Y) = \begin{matrix} p_1 & p_1 & p_1 & \dots & p_1 \\ p_2 & p_2 & p_2 & \dots & p_2 \\ \dots & \dots & \dots & \dots & \dots \\ p_m & p_m & p_m & \dots & p_m \end{matrix}$$

with $\sum_{k=1}^m p_k = \frac{1}{n}$ i.e. $p(y_j) = \frac{1}{n}, \forall j = 1, 2, 3, \dots, n.$

This means that there is no correlation between x_k and y_j and an input x_k may be received as any one of the y_j 's with equal probability. In other words, the input-output statistics are independent!!

This can be verified, as we have $p(x_k, y_j) = p_k$

$$= n p_k \cdot \sum_{k=1}^m p_k = p(x_k) \cdot p(y_j)$$

$\therefore p(x_k|y_j) = n p_k$ and $p(y_j|x_k) = 1/n$

Thus we have:

$$H(X, Y) = n \cdot \sum_{k=1}^m \frac{1}{p_k} \log \frac{1}{n p_k} = \sum_{k=1}^m \log \frac{1}{p_k} = \log n,$$

$$H(Y) = \sum_{j=1}^n p(y_j) \log \frac{1}{p(y_j)} = \log n,$$

$H(X|Y) = H(X), H(Y|X) = H(Y)$ and $I(X, Y) =$

∴ Such a channel conveys no information whatsoever. Thus a channel with independent input-output structure is similar to a network with largest internal loss (purely resistive network), in contrast to a noiseless channel which resembles a lossless network.

Some observations:

For a deterministic channel the noise characteristics contains only one nonzero entry, which is a '1', in each row or only one nonzero entry in each of its columns. In either case there exists a linear dependence of either the rows or the columns. For a noiseless channel the rows as well as the columns of the noise characteristics are linearly independent and further there is only one nonzero entry in each row as well as each column, which is a '1' that appears only on the principal diagonal (or it may be on the skew diagonal). For a channel with independent input-output structure, each row and column are made up of all nonzero entries, which are all equal and equal to $1/n$. Consequently both the rows and the columns are always linearly dependent!!

Franklin.M.Ingels makes the following observations:

- 1) If the channel matrix has only one nonzero entry in each column then the channel is termed as “**loss-less channel**”. True, because in this case $H(X/Y) = 0$ and $I(X, Y) = H(X)$, i.e. the mutual information equals the source entropy.
- 2) If the channel matrix has only one nonzero entry in each row (which necessarily should be a '1'), then the channel is called “**deterministic channel**”. In this case there is no ambiguity about how the transmitted symbol is going to be received although no decision can be made from the receiver end. In this case $H(Y/X) = 0$, and $I(X, Y) = H(Y)$.
- 3) An “**Ideal channel**” is one whose channel matrix has only one nonzero element in each row and each column, i.e. a diagonal matrix. An ideal channel is obviously both loss-less and deterministic. Lay man's knowledge requires equal number of inputs and outputs-you cannot transmit 25 symbols and receive either 30 symbols or 20 symbols, there shall be no difference between the numbers of transmitted and received symbols. In this case

$$I(X, Y) = H(X) = H(Y); \text{ and } H(X/Y) = H(Y/X) = 0$$

- 4) A “**uniform channel**” is one whose channel matrix has identical rows except for permutations OR identical columns except for permutations. If the channel matrix is square, then every row and every column are simply permutations of the first row.

Observe that it is possible to use the concepts of “*sufficient reductions*” and make the channel described in (1) a deterministic one. For the case (4) observe that the rows and columns of the matrix (Irreducible) are linearly independent.

Additional Illustrations:

Example 3.9

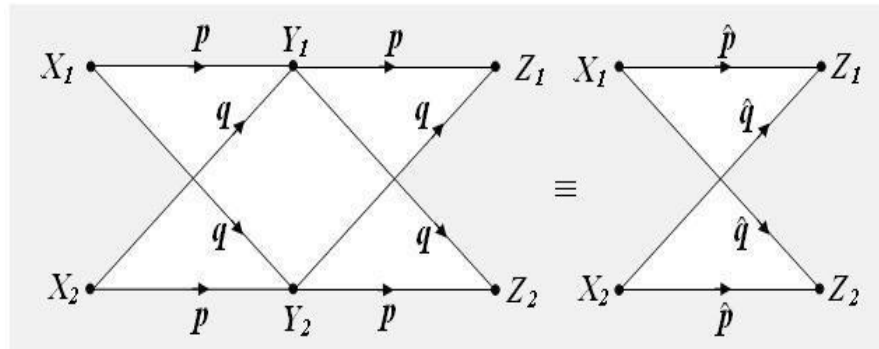


Fig 4.10 Two BSC's in Cascade

Consider two identical **BSC**'s cascaded as shown in Fig 4.10. Tracing along the transitions indicated we find:

$$p(z_1/x_1) = p^2 + q^2 = (p + q)^2 - 2pq = (1 - 2pq) = p(z_2/x_2) \text{ and } p(z_1/x_2) = 2pq = p(z_2/x_1)$$

Labeling $\hat{p} = 1 - 2pq$, $\hat{q} = 2pq$ it then follows that:

$$I(X, Y) = 1 - H(q) = 1 + p \log p + q \log q$$

$$I(X, Z) = 1 - H(2pq) = 1 + 2pq \log 2pq + (1 - 2pq) \log (1 - 2pq).$$

If one more identical **BSC** is cascaded giving the output (u_1, u_2) we have:

$$I(X, U) = 1 - H(3pq^2 + p^3)$$

The reader can easily verify that $I(X, Y) \geq I(X, Z) \geq I(X, U)$

Example 4.9:

Let us consider the cascade of two noisy channels with channel matrices:

$$P(Y/X) = \begin{bmatrix} \frac{1}{2} & \frac{1}{6} & \frac{2}{3} \\ \frac{1}{6} & \frac{1}{6} & \frac{1}{3} \\ \frac{1}{2} & \frac{1}{4} & \frac{1}{4} \end{bmatrix} \quad P(Z/Y) = \begin{bmatrix} \frac{1}{2} & \frac{1}{2} & 0 \\ \frac{1}{3} & \frac{2}{3} & 0 \\ 0 & \frac{1}{3} & \frac{2}{3} \end{bmatrix}, \text{ with } p(x_1) = p(x_2) = 0.5$$

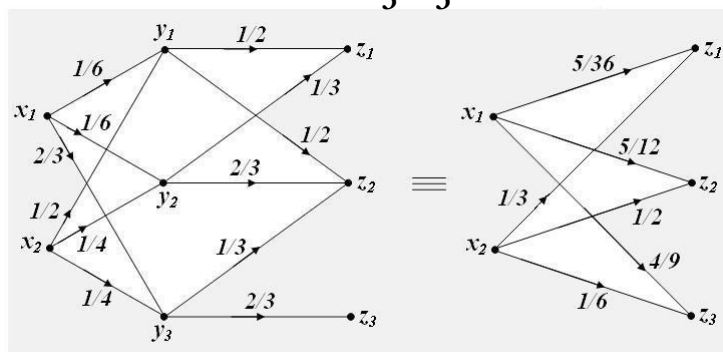


Fig 4.11 Cascade of two noisy channels.

The above cascade can be seen to be equivalent to a single channel with channel matrix:

$$P(Z|X) = \begin{matrix} & 5 & 5 & 4 \\ \hline & 36 & 12 & 9 \\ & \frac{1}{3} & \frac{1}{2} & \frac{1}{6} \end{matrix}$$

The reader can verify that: $I(X, Y) = 0.139840072 \text{ bits / symbol}$.

$$I(X, Z) = 0.079744508 \text{ bits / symbol}.$$

Clearly $I(X, Y) > I(X, Z)$.

Example 3.10: Let us consider yet another cascade of noisy channels described by:

$$P(Y|X) = \begin{matrix} 1 & 1 & 1 \\ \frac{1}{3} & \frac{1}{3} & \frac{1}{3} \\ 0 & \frac{1}{2} & \frac{1}{2} \end{matrix} \quad P(Z|Y) = \begin{matrix} 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 2 & 1 \\ \frac{3}{3} & \frac{3}{3} \\ 0 & \frac{1}{2} & \frac{1}{2} \\ 0 & 3 & 3 \end{matrix}$$

The channel diagram for this cascade is shown in Fig 4.12. The reader can easily verify in this case that the cascade is equivalent to a channel described by:

$$P(Z|X) = \begin{matrix} 1 & 1 & 1 \\ \frac{1}{3} & \frac{1}{3} & \frac{1}{3} \\ 0 & \frac{1}{2} & \frac{1}{2} \end{matrix} = P(Y|X)$$

Inspite of the fact, that neither channel is noiseless, here we have $I(X, Y) = I(X, Z)$.

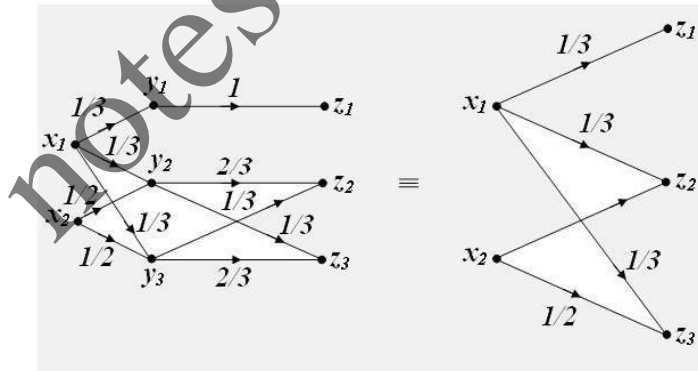


Fig 4.12 Cascade of noisy channels of Example 4.10

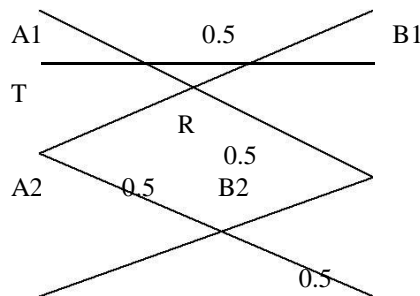
Review Questions:

1. What are important properties of the codes?
2. what are the disadvantages of variable length coding?
3. Explain with examples:
4. Uniquely decodable codes, Instantaneous codes
5. Explain the Shannon-Fano coding procedure for the construction of an optimum code
6. Explain clearly the procedure for the construction of compact Huffman code.
7. A discrete source transmits six messages symbols with probabilities of 0.3, 0.2, 0.2, 0.15, 0.1, 0.5. Device suitable Fano and Huffmann codes for the messages and determine the average length and efficiency of each code.
8. Consider the messages given by the probabilities $1/16, 1/16, 1/8, 1/4, 1/2$. Calculate H. Use the Shannon-Fano algorithm to develop a efficient code and for that code, calculate the average number of bits/message compared with H.
9. Consider a source with 8 alphabets and respective probabilities as shown:
 A B C D E F G H
 0.20 0.18 0.15 0.10 0.08 0.05 0.02 0.01
 Construct the binary Huffman code for this. Construct the quaternary Huffman and code and show that the efficiency of this code is worse than that of binary code
10. Define Noiseless channel and deterministic channel.
11. A source produces symbols X, Y,Z with equal probabilities at a rate of 100/sec. Owing to noise on the channel, the probabilities of correct reception of the various symbols are as shown:

P (j/i)	X	Y	z
X	$3/4$	$1/4$	0
y	$1/4$	$1/2$	$1/4$
z	0	$1/4$	$3/4$

Determine the rate at which information is being received.

12. Determine the rate of transmission $I(x,y)$ through a channel whose noise characteristics is shown in fig. $P(A1)=0.6, P(A2)=0.3, P(A3)=0.1$



OUTCOME:

1. Able to understand different Communication channel in communication systems.
2. Capable of finding channel capacity of different channels in communication system.
3. Able to develop channel matrix and mutual information in channel.

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MODULE 4

CHAPTER 1: ERROR CONTROL CODING

STRUCTURE

- Rationale for Coding
- Discrete memory less channel
- Shannon's theorem on channel capacity Revisited
- Types of errors
- Types of codes
- Example of Error Control Coding
- Block codes
- Minimum Distance Considerations
- Standard Array and Syndrome Decoding
- Hamming Codes

OBJECTIVE

- To analyze different types of errors
- To develop procedures for designing efficient coding schemes for controlling various types of errors in digital communication system.
- To Study various methods of detecting and/or correcting error and compare different coding schemes.

INTRODUCTION

The earlier chapters have given you enough background of Information theory and Source encoding. In this chapter you will be introduced to another important signal - processing operation, namely, “**Channel Encoding**”, which is used to provide ‘reliable’ transmission of information over the channel. In particular, we present, in this and subsequent chapters, a survey of ‘Error control coding’ techniques that rely on the systematic addition of ‘Redundant’ symbols to the transmitted information so as to facilitate two basic objectives at the receiver: ‘Error-detection’ and ‘Error correction’. We begin with some preliminary discussions highlighting the role of error control coding.

4.1 RATIONALE FOR CODING:

The main task required in digital communication is to construct ‘cost effective systems’ for transmitting information from a sender (one end of the system) at a rate and a level of reliability that are acceptable to a user (the other end of the system). The two key parameters available are transmitted signal power and channel band width. These two parameters along with power spectral density of noise determine the signal energy per bit to noise power density ratio, E_b/N_0 and this ratio, as seen in chapter 4, uniquely determines the bit error for a particular scheme and we would like to transmit information at a rate $R_{Max} = 1.443$ S/N. Practical considerations restrict the limit on E_b/N_0 that we can assign. Accordingly, we often arrive at modulation schemes that cannot provide acceptable data quality (i.e. low enough error performance). For a fixed E_b/N_0 , the only practical alternative available for changing data quality from problematic to acceptable is to use “coding”.

Another practical motivation for the use of coding is to reduce the required E_b/N_0 for a fixed error rate. This reduction, in turn, may be exploited to reduce the required signal power or reduce the hardware costs (example: by requiring a smaller antenna size).

The coding methods discussed in chapter 2 deals with minimizing the average word length of the codes with an objective of achieving the lower bound viz. $H(S) / \log r$, accordingly, coding is termed “entropy coding”. However, such source codes cannot be adopted for direct transmission over the channel. We shall consider the coding for a source having four symbols with probabilities $p(s_1) = 1/2$, $p(s_2) = 1/4$, $p(s_3) = p(s_4) = 1/8$. The resultant binary code using Huffman’s procedure is:

s_1	0	s_3	1 1 0
s_2	10	s_4	1 1 1

Clearly, the code efficiency is **100%** and $L = 1.75$ **bits/sym** = $H(S)$. The sequence $s_3s_4s_1$ will then correspond to **1101110**. Suppose a one-bit error occurs so that the received sequence is **0101110**. This will be decoded as “ $s_1s_2s_4s_1$ ”, which is altogether different than the transmitted sequence. Thus although the coding provides **100%** efficiency in the light of Shannon’s theorem, it suffers a major disadvantage. Another disadvantage of a ‘**variable length**’ code lies in the fact that output data rates

measured over short time periods will fluctuate widely. To avoid this problem, buffers of large length will be needed both at the encoder and at the decoder to store the variable rate bit stream if a fixed output rate is to be maintained.

Some of the above difficulties can be resolved by using codes with “**fixed length**”. For example, if the codes for the example cited are modified as **000**, **100**, **110**, and **111**. Observe that even if there is a one-bit error, it affects only one “**block**” and that the output data rate will not fluctuate. The encoder/decoder structure using ‘**fixed length**’ code words will be very simple compared to the complexity of those for the variable length codes.

Here after, we shall mean by “**Block codes**”, the fixed length codes only. Since as discussed above, single bit errors lead to ‘**single block errors**’, we can devise means to detect and correct these errors at the receiver. Notice that the price to be paid for the efficient handling and easy manipulations of the codes is reduced efficiency and hence increased redundancy.

In general, whatever be the scheme adopted for transmission of digital/analog information, the probability of error is a function of signal-to-noise power ratio at the input of a receiver and the data rate. However, the constraints like maximum signal power and bandwidth of the channel (mainly the Governmental regulations on public channels) etc, make it impossible to arrive at a signaling scheme which will yield an acceptable probability of error for a given application. The answer to this problem is then the use of ‘**error control coding**’, also known as ‘**channel coding**’. In brief, “**error control coding is the calculated addition of redundancy**”. The block diagram of a typical data transmission system is shown in Fig. 4.1

The information source can be either a person or a machine (a digital computer). The source output, which is to be communicated to the destination, can be either a continuous wave form or a sequence of discrete symbols. The ‘**source encoder**’ transforms the source output into a sequence of binary digits, the information sequence **u**. If the source output happens to be continuous, this involves **A-D** conversion as well. The source encoder is ideally designed such that (i) the number of bints per unit time (bit rate, r_b) required to represent the source output is minimized (ii) the source output can be uniquely reconstructed from the information sequence **u**.

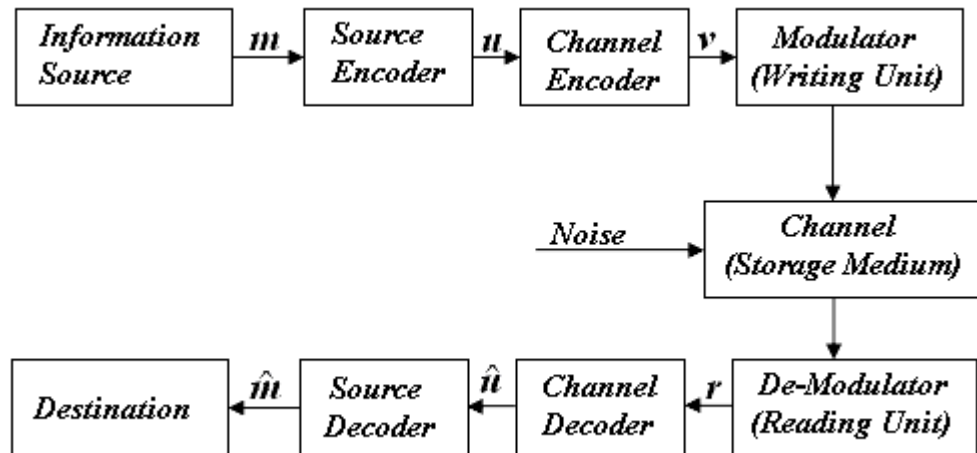


Fig 4.1: Block diagram of a typical data transmission

The ‘**Channel encoder**’ transforms \mathbf{u} to the encoded sequence \mathbf{v} , in general, a binary sequence, although non-binary codes can also be used for some applications. As discrete symbols are not suited for transmission over a physical channel, the code sequences are transformed to waveforms of specified durations. These waveforms, as they enter the channel get corrupted by noise. Typical channels include telephone lines, High frequency radio links, Telemetry links, Microwave links, and Satellite links and so on. Core and semiconductor memories, Tapes, Drums, disks, optical memory and so on are typical storage mediums. The switching impulse noise, thermal noise, cross talk and lightning are some examples of noise disturbance over a physical channel. A surface defect on a magnetic tape is a source of disturbance. The demodulator processes each received waveform and produces an output, which may be either continuous or discrete – the sequence \mathbf{r} . The channel decoder transforms \mathbf{r} into a binary sequence, $\hat{\mathbf{u}}$ which gives the estimate of \mathbf{u} , and ideally should be the replica of \mathbf{u} . The source decoder then transforms $\hat{\mathbf{u}}$ into an estimate of source output and delivers this to the destination.

Error control for data integrity may be exercised by means of ‘**forward error correction**’ (**FEC**) where in the decoder performs **error correction** operation on the received information according to the schemes devised for the purpose. There is however another major approach known as ‘**Automatic Repeat Request**’ (**ARQ**), in which a re-transmission of the ambiguous information is effected, is also used for solving error control problems. In **ARQ**, error correction is not done at all. The redundancy introduced is used only for ‘**error detection**’ and upon detection, the receiver requests a repeat transmission which necessitates the use of a return path (feed back channel).

In summary, channel coding refers to a class of signal transformations designed to improve performance of communication systems by enabling the transmitted signals to better withstand the effect of various channel impairments such as noise, fading and jamming. Main objective of error control coding is to reduce the probability of error or reduce the E_b/N_0 at the cost of expending more bandwidth than would otherwise be necessary. Channel coding is a very popular way of providing performance improvement. Use of **VLSI** technology has made it possible to provide as much as

8 – dB performance improvement through coding, at much lesser cost than through other methods such as high power transmitters or larger Antennas.

We will briefly discuss in this chapter the channel encoder and decoder strategies, our major interest being in the design and implementation of the channel ‘**encoder/decoder**’ pair to achieve fast transmission of information over a noisy channel, reliable communication of information and reduction of the implementation cost of the equipment.

4.2 Discrete memory less channel:

Referring to the block diagram in Fig. 4.2 the channel is said to be memory less if the **demodulator (Detector)** output in a given interval depends only on the signal transmitted in the interval, and not on any previous transmission. Under this condition, we may model (describe) the combination of the modulator – channel – and the demodulator as a “**Discrete memory less channel**”. Such a channel is completely described by the set of transition probabilities $\mathbf{p}(y_j | x_k)$ where x_k is the modulator input symbol.

The simplest channel results from the use of binary symbols (both as input and output). When binary coding is used the modulator has only ‘0’'s and ‘1’'s as inputs. Similarly, the inputs to the demodulator also consists of ‘0’'s and ‘1’'s provided **binary quantization** is used. If so we say a ‘**Hard decision**’ is made on the demodulator output so as to identify which symbol was actually transmitted. In this case we have a ‘**Binary symmetric channel**’ (**BSC**). The **BSC** when derived from an additive white Gaussian noise (**AWGN**) channel is completely described by the transition probability ‘**p**’. The majority of coded digital communication systems employ binary coding with hard-decision decoding due to simplicity of implementation offered by such an approach.

The use of hard-decisions prior to decoding causes an irreversible loss of information in the receiver. To overcome this problem “**soft-decision**” coding is used. This can be done by including a **multilevel quantizer** at the demodulator output as shown in Fig. 4.2(a) for the case of binary **PSK** signals. The input-output characteristics and the channel transitions are shown in Fig. 4.2(b) and Fig. 4.2(c) respectively. Here the input to the demodulator has only two symbols ‘0’'s and ‘1’'s. However, the demodulator output has ‘**Q**’ symbols. Such a channel is called a “**Binary input-Q-ary output DMC**”. The form of channel transitions and hence the performance of the demodulator, depends on the location of representation levels of the quantizer, which in turn depends on the signal level and variance of noise. Therefore, the demodulator must incorporate automatic gain control, if an effective multilevel quantizer is to be realized. Further the soft-decision decoding offers significant improvement in performance over hard-decision decoding.

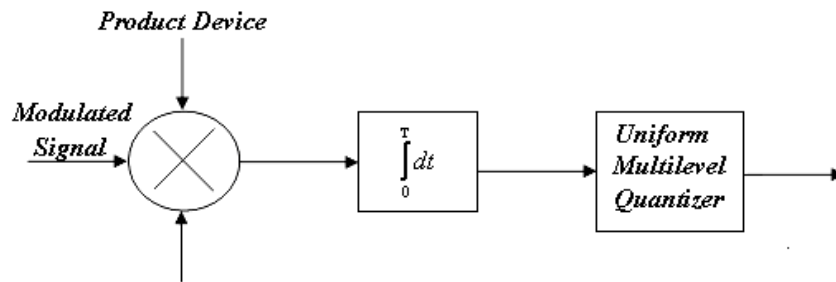


Fig. 4.2 (a) - Receiver

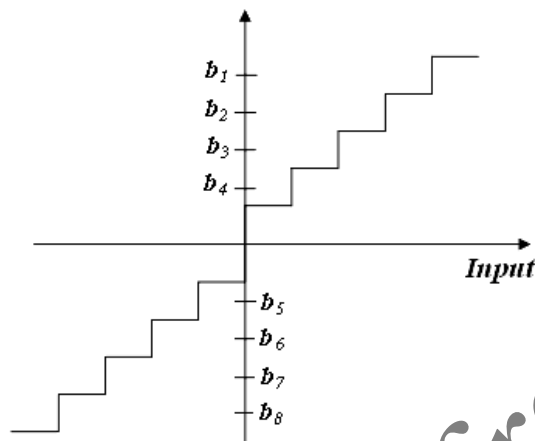


Fig 6.2 (b) Transfer Characteristics of the 8 - level Quantizer

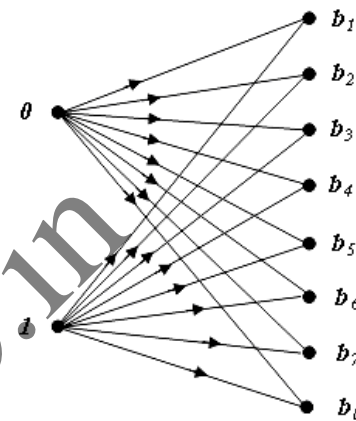


Fig 6.2 (c) Channel Diagram

Fig 4.2 (b) Transfer characteristics (c) Channel Diagram

4.3 Shannon's theorem on channel capacity Revisited:

The “Shannon's theorem on channel capacity” is re-stated here and call it the “Coding Theorem”.

“It is possible in principle, to devise a means where by a communication system will transmit information with an arbitrarily small probability of error, provided the information rate \mathbf{R} ($=\mathbf{r I(X,Y)}$ where \mathbf{r} -is the symbol rate) is less than or equal to a rate ‘C’ called the ‘channel capacity’. The technique used to achieve this goal is called “Coding”. For the special case of a BSC, the theorem tells us that if the code rate, $\mathbf{R_c}$ (defined later) is less than the channel capacity, then it is possible to find a code that achieves error free transmission over the channel. Conversely, it is not possible to find such a code if the code rate $\mathbf{R_c}$ is greater than C.

The channel coding theorem thus specifies the channel capacity as a “Fundamental limit” on the rate at which reliable transmission (error-free transmission) can take place over a DMC. Clearly, the issue that matters is not the signal to noise ratio (SNR), so long as it is large enough, but how the input is encoded.

The most un-satisfactory feature of Shannon's theorem is that it stresses only about the “existence of good codes”. But it does not tell us how to find them. So, we are still faced with the

task of finding a good code that ensures error-free transmission. The error-control coding techniques presented in this and subsequent chapters provide different methods of achieving this important system requirement.

4.4 Types of errors:

The errors that arise in a communication system can be viewed as ‘**independent errors**’ and ‘**burst errors**’. The first type of error is usually encountered by the ‘**Gaussian noise**’, which is the chief concern in the design and evaluation of modulators and demodulators for data transmission. The possible sources are the thermal noise and shot noise of the transmitting and receiving equipment, thermal noise in the channel and the radiations picked up by the receiving antenna. Further, in majority situations, the power spectral density of the Gaussian noise at the receiver input is white. The transmission errors introduced by this noise are such that the error during a particular signaling interval does not affect the performance of the system during the subsequent intervals. The discrete channel, in this case, can be modeled by a Binary symmetric channel. These transmission errors due to Gaussian noise are referred to as ‘**independent errors**’ (or **random errors**).

The second type of error is encountered due to the ‘**impulse noise**’, which is characterized by long quiet intervals followed by high amplitude **noise bursts** (As in switching and lightning). A noise burst usually affects more than one symbol and there will be dependence of errors in successive transmitted symbols. Thus errors occur in bursts.

4.5 Types of codes:

There are mainly two types of error control coding schemes – **Block codes** and **convolutional codes**, which can take care of either type of errors mentioned above.

In a block code, the information sequence is divided into message blocks of **k** bits each, represented by a binary **k**-tuple, $\mathbf{u} = (\mathbf{u}_1, \mathbf{u}_2 \dots \mathbf{u}_k)$ and each block is called a message. The symbol **u**, here, is used to denote a **k** – bit message rather than the entire information sequence. The encoder then transforms **u** into an **n**-tuple $\mathbf{v} = (\mathbf{v}_1, \mathbf{v}_2 \dots \mathbf{v}_n)$. Here **v** represents an encoded block rather than the entire encoded sequence. The blocks are independent of each other.

The encoder of a convolutional code also accepts **k**-bit blocks of the information sequence **u** and produces an **n**-symbol block **v**. Here **u** and **v** are used to denote sequences of blocks rather than a single block. Further each encoded block depends not only on the present **k**-bit message block but also on **m**-previous blocks. Hence the encoder has a memory of order ‘**m**’. Since the encoder has memory, implementation requires sequential logic circuits.

If the code word with **n**-bits is to be transmitted in no more time than is required for the transmission of the **k**-information bits and if τ_b and τ_c are the bit durations in the encoded and coded words, i.e. the input and output code words, then it is necessary that

$$\mathbf{n} \cdot \tau_c = \mathbf{k} \cdot \tau_b$$

We define the “**rate of the code**” by (also called **rate efficiency**)

$$R_c \triangleq \frac{k}{n}$$

Accordingly, with $f_b = \frac{1}{\tau_b}$ and $f_c = \frac{1}{\tau_c}$, we have $\frac{f_b}{f_c} = \frac{\tau_c}{\tau_b} = \frac{k}{n} = R_c$

4.6 Example of Error Control Coding:

Better way to understand the important aspects of error control coding is by way of an example. Suppose that we wish transmit data over a telephone link that has a useable bandwidth of **4 KHZ** and a maximum SNR at the out put of **12 dB**, at a rate of **1200 bits/sec** with a probability of error less than 10^{-3} . Further, we have **DPSK** modem that can operate at speeds of **1200, 1400** and **3600 bits/sec** with error probabilities $2 \times (10^{-3})$, $4 \times (10^{-3})$ and $8 \times (10^{-3})$ respectively. We are asked to design an error control coding scheme that would yield an overall probability of error $< 10^{-3}$. We have:

C = 16300 bits/sec, $R_c = 1200, 2400$ or 3600 bits/sec.

$[C = B \log_2 (1 + \frac{S}{N})]$, $\frac{S}{N} = 12dB \text{ or } 15.85$, **B=4KHZ**, $p = 2(10^{-3})$, $4(10^{-3})$ and $8(10^{-3})$ respectively.

Since $R_c < C$, according to Shannon's theorem, we should be able to transmit data with arbitrarily small probability of error. We shall consider two coding schemes for this problem.

(i) **Error detection:** Single parity check-coding. Consider the **(4, 3)** even parity check code.

Message	000	001	010	011	100	101	110	111
Parity	0	1	1	0	1	0	0	1
Codeword	0000	0011	0101	0110	1001	1010	1100	1111

Parity bit appears at the right most symbol of the codeword.

This code is capable of '**detecting**' all single and triple error patterns. Data comes out of the channel encoder at a rate of **3600 bits/sec** and at this rate the modem has an error probability of $8 \times (10^{-3})$. The decoder indicates an error only when parity check fails. This happens for single and triple errors only.

p_a = Probability of error detection.

= $p(X=1) + p(X=3)$, where X = Random variable of errors.

Using binomial probability law, we have with $p = 8(10^{-3})$:

$$P(X = k) = \binom{n}{k} p^k (1-p)^{n-k}$$

$$p_d = \binom{4}{1} p (1-p)^3 + \binom{4}{3} p^3 (1-p), \quad \binom{4}{1} = 4C_1 = 4, \quad \binom{4}{3} = 4C_3 = 4$$

Expanding we get $p_d = 4p - 12p^2 + 16p^3 - 8p^4$

Substituting the value of p we get:

$$p_d = 32 \times (10^{-3}) - 768 \times (10^{-6}) + 8192 \times (10^{-9}) - 32768 \times (10^{-12}) = 0.031240326 > > (10^{-3})$$

However, an error results if the decoder does not indicate any error when an error indeed has occurred. This happens when **two** or **4** errors occur. Hence probability of a detection error = p_{nd} (probability of no detection) is given by:

$$p_{nd} = P(X = 2) + P(X = 4) = \binom{4}{2} p^2 (1-p)^2 + \binom{4}{4} p^4 (1-p)^0 = 6p^2 - 12p^3 + 7p^4$$

Substituting the value of p we get $p_{nd} = 0.4 \times 10^{-3} < 10^{-3}$

Thus probability of error is less than 10^{-3} as required.

- (ii) **Error Correction:** The triplets **000** and **111** are transmitted whenever **0** and **1** are inputted. A majority logic decoding, as shown below, is employed assuming only single errors.

Received Triplet	000	001	010	100	011	101	110	111
Output message	0	0	0	0	1	1	1	1

Probability of decoding error, $p_{de} = P$ (two or more bits in error)

$$= \binom{3}{2} p^2 (1-p) + \binom{3}{3} p^3 (1-p)^0 = 3p^2 - 2p^3$$

$$=190.464 \times 10^{-6} = 0.19 \times 10^{-3} < p = 10^{-3}$$

Probability of no detection, $p_{nd} = P(\text{All 3 bits in error}) = p^3 = 512 \times 10^{-9} < < p_{de}!$

In general observe that probability of no detection, $p_{nd} < < \text{probability of decoding error, } p_{de}.$

The preceding examples illustrate the following aspects of error control coding. Note that in both examples with out error control coding the probability of error $= 8 \times (10^{-3})$ of the modem.

1. It is possible to detect and correct errors by adding extra bits-the check bits, to the message sequence. Because of this, not all sequences will constitute bonafied messages.
2. It is not possible to detect and correct all errors.
3. Addition of check bits reduces the effective data rate through the channel.
4. Since probability of no detection is always very much smaller than the decoding error probability, it appears that the error detection schemes, which do not reduce the rate efficiency as the error correcting schemes do, are well suited for our application. Since error detection schemes always go with ARQ techniques, and when the speed of communication becomes a major concern, Forward error correction (FEC) using error correction schemes would be desirable.

4.7 Block codes:

We shall assume that the output of an information source is a sequence of Binary digits. In 'Block coding' this information sequence is segmented into 'message' blocks of fixed length, say k . Each message block, denoted by \mathbf{u} then consists of k information digits. The encoder transforms these k -tuples into blocks of code words \mathbf{v} , each an n -tuple 'according to certain rules'. Clearly, corresponding to 2^k information blocks possible, we would then have 2^k code words of length $n > k$. This set of 2^k code words is called a "**Block code**". For a block code to be useful these 2^k code words must be distinct, i.e. there should be a one-to-one correspondence between \mathbf{u} and \mathbf{v} . \mathbf{u} and \mathbf{v} are also referred to as the '**input vector**' and '**code vector**' respectively. Notice that encoding equipment must be capable of storing the 2^k code words of length $n > k$. Accordingly, the complexity of the equipment would become prohibitory if n and k become large unless the code words have a special structural property conducive for storage and mechanization. This structural is the '**linearity**'.

4.7.1 Linear Block Codes:

A block code is said to be linear (n, k) code if and only if the 2^k code words from a k -dimensional sub space over a vector space of all n -Tuples over the field $\mathbf{GF}(2)$.

Fields with 2^m symbols are called 'Galois Fields' (pronounced as Galva fields), $\mathbf{GF}(2^m)$. Their arithmetic involves binary additions and subtractions. For two valued variables, $(0, 1)$. The modulo – 2 addition and multiplication is defined in Fig 4.3.

		Y	
		0	1
X	0	0	1
	1	1	0

$X \oplus Y$

		Y	
	⊗	0	1
X	0	0	0
	1	0	1

$X \otimes Y$

Fig 4.3

The binary alphabet $(0, 1)$ is called a **field** of two elements (a binary field and is denoted by $\mathbf{GF}(2)$). (Notice that \oplus represents the EX-OR operation and \otimes represents the AND operation). Further in binary arithmetic, $-X=X$ and $X - Y = X \oplus Y$. Similarly for 3-valued variables, modulo - 3 arithmetic can be specified as shown in Fig 6.4. However, for brevity while representing polynomials involving binary addition we use + instead of \oplus and there shall be no confusion about such usage.

Polynomials $f(X)$ with 1 or 0 as the co-efficients can be manipulated using the above relations. The arithmetic of $\mathbf{GF}(2^m)$ can be derived using a polynomial of degree 'm', with binary co-efficients and using a new variable α called the primitive element, such that $p(\alpha) = 0$. When $p(X)$ is irreducible (i.e. it does not have a factor of degree $< m$ and > 0 , for example $X^3 + X^2 + 1$, $X^3 + X + 1$, $X^4 + X^3 + 1$, $X^5 + X^2 + 1$ etc. are irreducible polynomials, whereas $f(X)=X^4+X^3+X^2+1$ is not as $f(1) = 0$ and hence has a factor $X+1$) then $p(X)$ is said to be a '**primitive polynomial**'.

If v_n represents a vector space of all n -tuples, then a subset S of v_n is called a subspace if (i) the all Zero vector is in S (ii) the sum of any two vectors in S is also a vector in S . To be more specific, a block code is said to be linear if the following is satisfied. "If v_1 and v_2 are any two code words of length n of the block code then $v_1 \oplus v_2$ is also a code word length n of the block code".

Example 4.1: Linear Block code with $k=3$, and $n=6$

<i>Messages</i>	<i>Code words</i>	<i>Weight</i> (No. of 1's in the code word)
m_1 000	v_1 0 0 0 0 0 0	0
m_2 001	v_2 0 0 1 1 1 0	3
m_3 010	v_3 0 1 0 1 0 1	3
m_4 100	v_4 1 0 0 0 1 1	3
m_5 011	v_5 0 1 1 0 1 1	4
m_6 101	v_6 1 0 1 1 0 1	4
m_7 110	v_7 1 1 0 1 1 0	4
m_8 111	v_8 1 1 1 0 0 0	3

Observe the linearity property: With $v_3 = (010 101)$ and $v_4 = (100 011)$, $v_3 \oplus v_4 = (110 110) = v_7$.

Remember that n represents the word length of the code words and k represents the number of information digits and hence the block code is represented as (n, k) block code.

Thus by definition of a linear block code it follows that if g_1, g_2, \dots, g_k are the k linearly independent code words then every code vector, v , of our code is a combination of these code words, i.e.

$$v = u_1 g_1 \oplus u_2 g_2 \oplus \dots \oplus u_k g_k \tag{4.1}$$

Where $u_j = 0$ or $1, \forall 1 \leq j \leq k$

Eq (6.1) can be arranged in matrix form by noting that each g_j is an n -tuple, i.e.

$$g_j = (g_{j1}, g_{j2}, \dots, g_{jn}) \tag{4.2}$$

Thus we have $v = u G$ (4.3)

Where: $u = (u_1, u_2, \dots, u_k)$ (4.4)

represents the data vector and

$$G = \begin{bmatrix} g_1 \\ g_2 \\ g_3 \\ \vdots \\ g_k \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} g_{11} & g_{12} & \dots & g_{1n} \\ g_{21} & g_{22} & \dots & g_{2n} \\ \vdots & \vdots & & \vdots \\ g_{k1} & g_{k2} & \dots & g_{kn} \end{bmatrix} \tag{4.5}$$

is called the “generator matrix”.

Notice that any k linearly independent code words of an (n, k) linear code can be used to form a Generator matrix for the code. Thus it follows that an (n, k) linear code is completely specified by the k -rows of the generator matrix. Hence the encoder need only to store k rows of G and form linear combination of these rows based on the input message u .

Example 4.2: The $(6, 3)$ linear code of Example 6.1 has the following generator matrix:

$$G = \begin{bmatrix} g_1 \\ g_2 \\ g_3 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 1 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 1 & 1 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

If $u = m_5$ (say) is the message to be coded, i.e. $u = (011)$

We have $v = u \cdot G = 0 \cdot g_1 + 1 \cdot g_2 + 1 \cdot g_3$

$$= (0,0,0,0,0) + (0,1,0,1,0,1) + (0,0,1,1,1,0) = (0, 1, 1, 0, 1, 1)$$

Thus $v = (0 1 1 0 1 1)$

“ \mathbf{v} can be computed simply by adding those rows of \mathbf{G} which correspond to the locations of 1’s of \mathbf{u} .”

4.7.2 Systematic Block Codes (Group Property):

A desirable property of linear block codes is the “Systematic Structure”. Here a code word is divided into two parts –Message part and the redundant part. If either the first k digits or the last k digits of the code word correspond to the message part then we say that the code is a “Systematic Block Code”. We shall consider systematic codes as depicted in Fig.4.5.

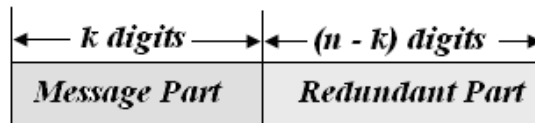


Fig 4.5 Systematic format of code word

In the format of Fig.4.5 notice that:

$$\mathbf{v}_1 = \mathbf{u}_1, \mathbf{v}_2 = \mathbf{u}_2, \mathbf{v}_3 = \mathbf{u}_3 \dots \mathbf{v}_k = \mathbf{u}_k \dots \dots \dots \quad (4.6 \text{ a})$$

$$\left. \begin{aligned} \mathbf{v}_{k+1} &= \mathbf{u}_1 p_{11} + \mathbf{u}_2 p_{21} + \mathbf{u}_3 p_{31} + \dots + \mathbf{u}_k p_{k1} \\ \mathbf{v}_{k+2} &= \mathbf{u}_1 p_{12} + \mathbf{u}_2 p_{22} + \mathbf{u}_3 p_{32} + \dots + \mathbf{u}_k p_{k2} \\ &\vdots \\ \mathbf{v}_n &= \mathbf{u}_1 p_{1,n-k} + \mathbf{u}_2 p_{2,n-k} + \mathbf{u}_3 p_{3,n-k} + \dots + \mathbf{u}_k p_{k,n-k} \end{aligned} \right\} \dots \dots \dots \quad (4.6 \text{ b})$$

Or in matrix form we have

$$[\mathbf{v}_1 \ \mathbf{v}_2 \ \dots \ \mathbf{v}_k \ \mathbf{v}_{k+1} \ \mathbf{v}_{k+2} \ \dots \ \mathbf{v}_n] = [\mathbf{u}_1 \ \mathbf{u}_2 \ \dots \ \mathbf{u}_k] \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 & \dots & 0 & p_{11} & p_{12} & \dots & p_{1,n-k} \\ 0 & 1 & 0 & \dots & 0 & p_{21} & p_{22} & \dots & p_{2,n-k} \\ \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \ddots & \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \ddots & \vdots \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & \dots & 1 & p_{k1} & p_{k2} & \dots & p_{k,n-k} \end{bmatrix} \dots \dots \dots \quad (4.7)$$

i.e., $\mathbf{v} = \mathbf{u} \cdot \mathbf{G}$

Where $\mathbf{G} = [\mathbf{I}_k, \mathbf{P}] \dots \dots \dots \quad (4.8)$

Where $\mathbf{P} = \begin{bmatrix} p_{11} & p_{12} & \dots & p_{1,n-k} \\ p_{21} & p_{22} & \dots & p_{2,n-k} \\ \vdots & \vdots & & \vdots \\ p_{k,1} & p_{k,2} & \dots & p_{k,n-k} \end{bmatrix} \dots \dots \dots \quad (4.9)$

I_k is the $k \times k$ identity matrix (unit matrix), P is the $k \times (n - k)$ ‘parity generator matrix’, in which $p_{i,j}$ are either 0 or 1 and G is a $k \times n$ matrix. The $(n - k)$ equations given in Eq (4.6b) are referred to as **parity check equations**. Observe that the G matrix of Example 4.2 is in the systematic format. The n -vectors $a = (a_1, a_2 \dots a_n)$ and $b = (b_1, b_2 \dots b_n)$ are said to be orthogonal if their inner product defined by:

$$a \cdot b = (a_1, a_2 \dots a_n) (b_1, b_2 \dots b_n)^T = 0.$$

where, ‘T’ represents transposition. Accordingly for any $k \times n$ matrix, G , with k linearly independent rows there exists a $(n - k) \times n$ matrix H with $(n - k)$ linearly independent rows such that any vector in the row space of G is orthogonal to the rows of H and that any vector that is orthogonal to the rows of H is in the row space of G . Therefore, we can describe an (n, k) linear code generated by G alternatively as follows:

“An $n -$ tuple, v is a code word generated by G , if and only if $v \cdot H^T = 0$ ”. (4.9a)
 (0 represents an all zero row vector.)

This matrix H is called a “parity check matrix” of the code. Its dimension is $(n - k) \times n$.

If the generator matrix has a systematic format, the parity check matrix takes the following form.

$$H = [P^T \cdot I_{n-k}] = \begin{bmatrix} p_{11} & p_{21} & \dots & p_{k1} & 1 & 0 & 0 & \dots & 0 \\ p_{12} & p_{22} & \dots & p_{k2} & 0 & 1 & 0 & \dots & 0 \\ \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \ddots & \vdots \\ p_{1,n-k} & p_{2,n-k} & \dots & p_{k,n-k} & 0 & 0 & 0 & \dots & 1 \end{bmatrix} \dots \dots \dots (4.10)$$

The i^{th} row of G is:

$$g_i = (0 \ 0 \ \dots \ 1 \ \dots \ 0 \ \dots \ 0 \ p_{i,1} \ p_{i,2} \ \dots \ p_{i,j} \ \dots \ p_{i,n-k})$$

\uparrow \uparrow
 i^{th} element $(k + j)^{th}$ element

The j^{th} row of H is:

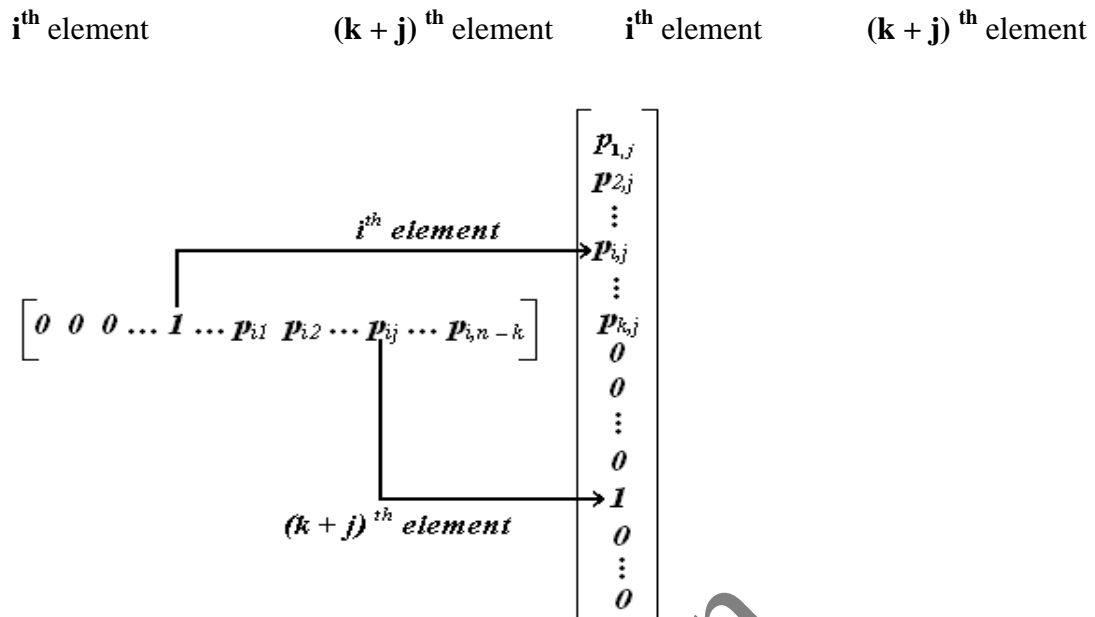
$$h_j = (p_{1,j} \ p_{2,j} \ \dots \ p_{i,j} \ \dots \ p_{k,j} \ 0 \ 0 \ \dots \ 0 \ 1 \ 0 \ \dots \ 0)$$

\downarrow \downarrow
 i^{th} element $(k + j)^{th}$ element

Accordingly the inner product of the above $n -$ vectors is:

$$g_i \times h_j = (0 \ 0 \ \dots \ 1 \ \dots \ 0 \ \dots \ 0 \ p_{i,1} \ p_{i,2} \ \dots \ p_{i,j} \ \dots \ p_{i,n-k}) (p_{1,j} \ p_{2,j} \ \dots \ p_{i,j} \ \dots \ p_{k,j} \ 0 \ 0 \ \dots \ 0 \ 1 \ 0 \ \dots \ 0)^T$$

\uparrow \uparrow \uparrow \uparrow \uparrow



$$= \mathbf{p}_{ij} + \mathbf{p}_{ij} = \mathbf{0} \text{ (as the } \mathbf{p}_{ij} \text{ are either } \mathbf{0} \text{ or } \mathbf{1} \text{ and in modulo } -2 \text{ arithmetic } \mathbf{X} + \mathbf{X} = \mathbf{0})$$

This implies simply that:

$$\mathbf{G} \cdot \mathbf{H}^T = \mathbf{O}_{k \times (n-k)} \tag{4.11}$$

Where $\mathbf{O}_{k \times (n-k)}$ is an all zero matrix of dimension $k \times (n - k)$.

Further, since the $(n - k)$ rows of the matrix \mathbf{H} are linearly independent, the \mathbf{H} matrix of Eq. (4.10) is a parity check matrix of the (n, k) linear systematic code generated by \mathbf{G} . Notice that the parity check equations of Eq. (4.6b) can also be obtained from the parity check matrix using the fact $\mathbf{v} \cdot \mathbf{H}^T = \mathbf{0}$.

Alternative Method of proving $\mathbf{v} \cdot \mathbf{H}^T = \mathbf{0}$:

$$\text{We have } \mathbf{v} = \mathbf{u} \cdot \mathbf{G} = \mathbf{u} \cdot [\mathbf{I}_k : \mathbf{P}] = [\mathbf{u}_1, \mathbf{u}_2, \dots, \mathbf{u}_k, \mathbf{p}_1, \mathbf{p}_2, \dots, \mathbf{p}_{n-k}]$$

Where $\mathbf{p}_i = (\mathbf{u}_1 \mathbf{p}_{1,i} + \mathbf{u}_2 \mathbf{p}_{2,i} + \mathbf{u}_3 \mathbf{p}_{3,i} \dots + \mathbf{u}_k \mathbf{p}_{k,i})$ are the parity bits found from Eq (4.6b).

$$\text{Now } \mathbf{H}^T = \begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{P} \\ \mathbf{I}_{n-k} \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \therefore \mathbf{v} \cdot \mathbf{H}^T &= [\mathbf{u}_1 \mathbf{p}_{11} + \mathbf{u}_2 \mathbf{p}_{21} + \dots + \dots + \mathbf{u}_k \mathbf{p}_{k1} + \mathbf{p}_1, \mathbf{u}_1 \mathbf{p}_{12} + \mathbf{u}_2 \mathbf{p}_{22} + \dots + \mathbf{u}_k \mathbf{p}_{k2} + \mathbf{p}_2, \dots \\ &\quad \mathbf{u}_1 \mathbf{p}_{1, n-k} + \mathbf{u}_2 \mathbf{p}_{2, n-k} + \dots + \mathbf{u}_k \mathbf{p}_{k, n-k} + \mathbf{p}_{n-k}] \\ &= [\mathbf{p}_1 + \mathbf{p}_1, \mathbf{p}_2 + \mathbf{p}_2 \dots \mathbf{p}_{n-k} + \mathbf{p}_{n-k}] \end{aligned}$$

$$= [0, 0 \dots 0]$$

Thus $\mathbf{v} \cdot \mathbf{H}^T = \mathbf{0}$. This statement implies that an n - Tuple \mathbf{v} is a code word generated by \mathbf{G} if and only if

$$\mathbf{v} \mathbf{H}^T = \mathbf{0}$$

Since $\mathbf{v} = \mathbf{u} \mathbf{G}$, This means that: $\mathbf{u} \mathbf{G} \mathbf{H}^T = \mathbf{0}$

If this is to be true for any arbitrary message vector \mathbf{v} then this implies: $\mathbf{G} \mathbf{H}^T = \mathbf{0}_{k \times (n-k)}$

Example 4.3:

Consider the generator matrix of Example 4.2, the corresponding parity check matrix is

$$\mathbf{H} = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 1 & 1 & 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 1 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 1 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

4.7.3 Circuit implementation of Block codes:

The implementation of Block codes is very simple. We need only combinational logic circuits. Implementation of Eq (4.6) is shown in the encoding circuit of Fig.4.6. Notice that \mathbf{p}_{ij} is either a '0' or a '1' and accordingly $\rightarrow \mathbf{p}_{ij} \leftarrow$ indicates a connection if $\mathbf{p}_{ij} = 1$ only (otherwise no connection). The encoding operation is very simple. The message $\mathbf{u} = (\mathbf{u}_1, \mathbf{u}_2 \dots \mathbf{u}_k)$ to be encoded is shifted into the message register and simultaneously into the channel via the commutator. As soon as the entire message has entered the message register, the parity check digits are formed using modulo -2 adders, which may be serialized using, another shift register – the parity register, and shifted into the channel. Notice that the complexity of the encoding circuit is directly proportional to the block length of the code. The encoding circuit for the (6, 3) block code of Example 2 is shown in Fig 4.7

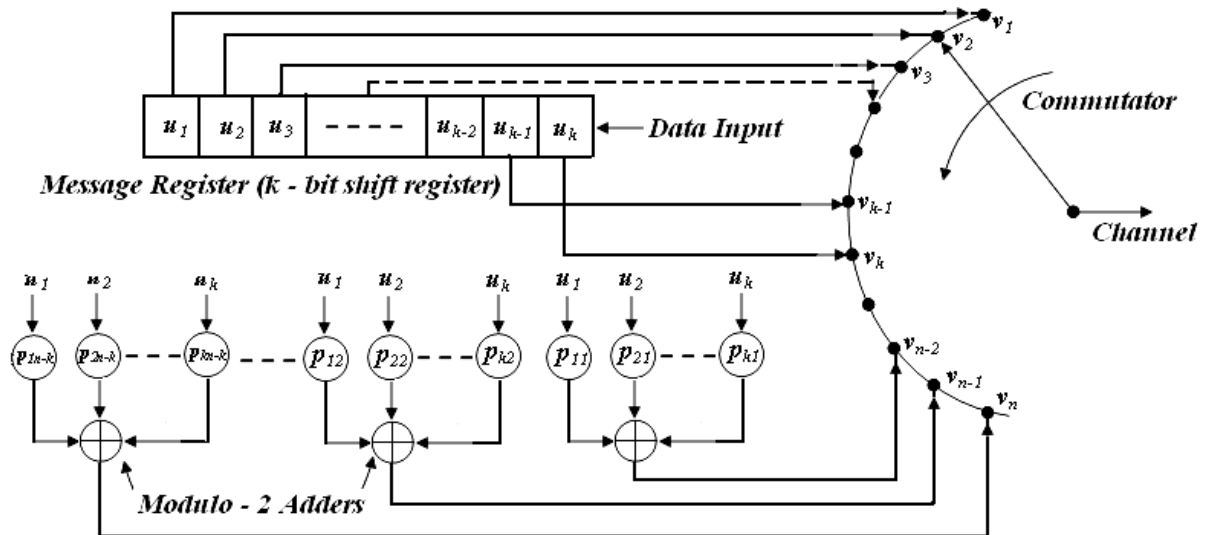


Fig 4.6 Encoding circuit for systematic block code

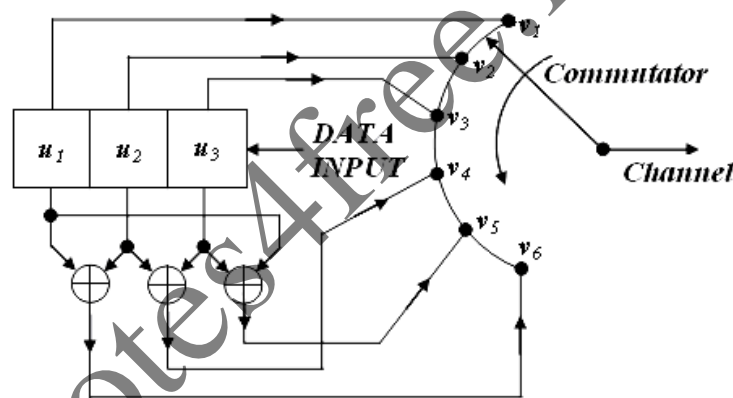


Fig 4.7 Encoder for the (6,3) block code of example 4.2

4.7.4 Syndrome and Error Detection:

Suppose $\mathbf{v} = (v_1, v_2, \dots, v_n)$ be a code word transmitted over a noisy channel and let: $\mathbf{r} = (r_1, r_2, \dots, r_n)$ be the received vector. Clearly, \mathbf{r} may be different from \mathbf{v} owing to the channel noise. The vector sum

$$\mathbf{e} = \mathbf{r} - \mathbf{v} = (e_1, e_2, \dots, e_n) \quad \dots \dots \dots \quad (4.12)$$

is an \mathbf{n} -tuple, where $e_j = 1$ if $r_j \neq v_j$ and $e_j = 0$ if $r_j = v_j$. This \mathbf{n} – tuple is called the “**error vector**” or “**error pattern**”. The 1’s in \mathbf{e} are the transmission errors caused by the channel noise. Hence from Eq (4.12) it follows:

$$\mathbf{r} = \mathbf{v} \oplus \mathbf{e} \quad \dots \dots \dots \quad (4.12a)$$

Observer that the receiver noise does not know either \mathbf{v} or \mathbf{e} . Accordingly, on reception of \mathbf{r} the decoder must first identify if there are any transmission errors and, then take action to locate these

errors and correct them (**FEC** – Forward Error Correction) or make a request for re–transmission (**ARQ**). When **r** is received, the decoder computes the following (**n-k**) tuple:

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbf{s} &= \mathbf{r} \cdot \mathbf{H}^T \\ &= (s_1, s_2 \dots s_{n-k}) \end{aligned} \tag{4.13}$$

It then follows from Eq (4.9a), that **s = 0** if and only if **r** is a code word and **s ≠ 0** iff **r** is not a code word. This vector **s** is called “**The Syndrome**” (a term used in medical science referring to collection of all symptoms characterizing a disease). Thus if **s = 0**, the receiver accepts **r** as a valid code word. Notice that there are possibilities of errors undetected, which happens when **e** is identical to a nonzero code word. In this case **r** is the sum of two code words which according to our linearity property is again a code word. This type of error pattern is referred to an “**undetectable error pattern**”. Since there are $2^k - 1$ nonzero code words, it follows that there are $2^k - 1$ error patterns as well. Hence when an undetectable error pattern occurs the decoder makes a “**decoding error**”.

Eq. (4.13) can be expanded as below:

$$\mathbf{s} = \mathbf{r} \cdot \mathbf{H}^T = (s_1, s_2 \dots s_{n-k}) = (r_1, r_2, \dots, r_k) \begin{bmatrix} p_{11} & p_{12} & \dots & p_{1, n-k} \\ p_{21} & p_{22} & \dots & p_{2, n-k} \\ \vdots & \vdots & \dots & \vdots \\ p_{k1} & p_{k2} & \dots & p_{k, n-k} \\ 1 & 0 & \dots & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & \dots & 0 \\ \vdots & \vdots & \dots & \vdots \\ 0 & 0 & \dots & 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

From which we have

$$\left. \begin{aligned} s_1 &= r_1 p_{11} + r_2 p_{21} + \dots + r_k p_{k1} + r_{k+1} \\ s_2 &= r_1 p_{12} + r_2 p_{22} + \dots + r_k p_{k2} + r_{k+2} \\ &\vdots \\ s_{n-k} &= r_1 p_{1, n-k} + r_2 p_{2, n-k} + \dots + r_k p_{k, n-k} + r_n \end{aligned} \right\} \tag{4.14}$$

A careful examination of Eq. (4.14) reveals the following point. The syndrome is simply the vector sum of the received parity digits (**r_{k+1}, r_{k+2} ...r_n**) and the parity check digits recomputed from the received information digits (**r₁, r₂ ... r_n**). Thus, we can form the syndrome by a circuit exactly similar to that of Fig.6.6 and a general syndrome circuit is as shown in Fig. 4.8.

Example 4.4:

We shall compute the syndrome for the (6, 3) systematic code of Example 4.2. We have

$$\mathbf{s} = (s_1, s_2, s_3) = (r_1, r_2, r_3, r_4, r_5, r_6) \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 1 & 1 \\ 1 & 0 & 1 \\ 1 & 1 & 0 \\ 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \text{OR } s_1 &= r_2 + r_3 + r_4 \\ s_2 &= r_1 + r_3 + r_5 \\ s_3 &= r_1 + r_2 + r_6 \end{aligned}$$

The syndrome circuit for this code is given in Fig.4.9.

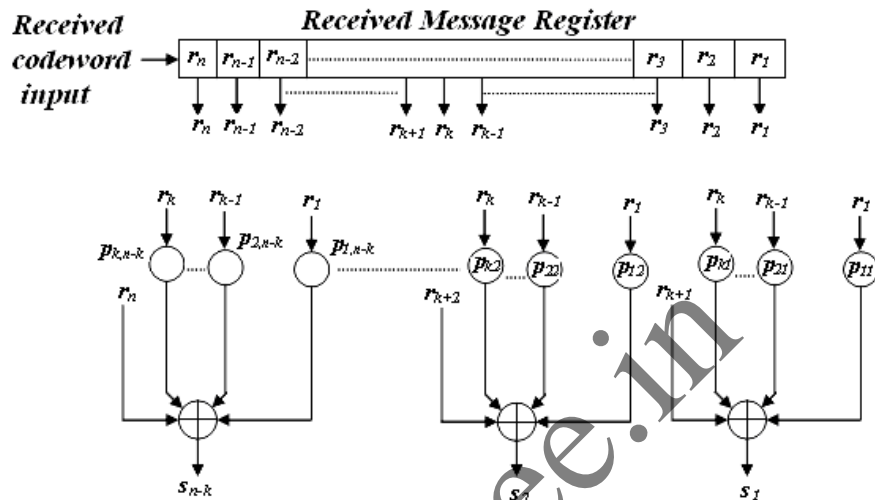


Fig 4.8 Syndrome circuit for the (n,k) Linear systematic block code

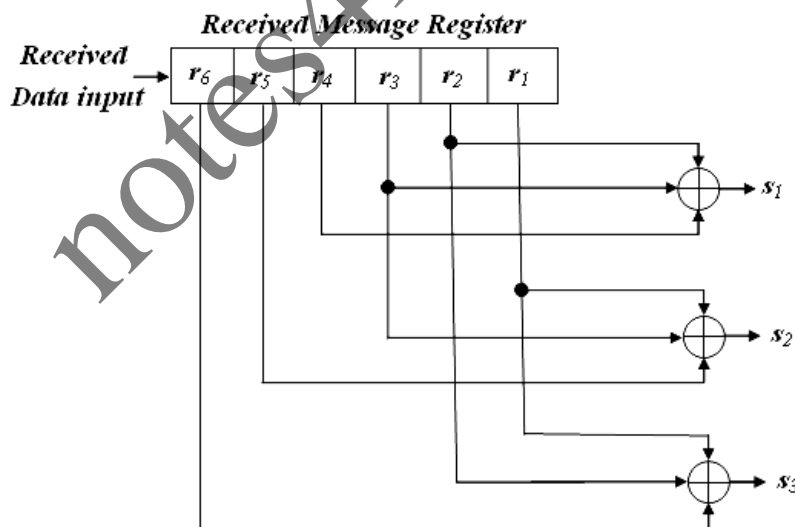


Fig 4.8 Syndrome circuit for the (6,3) systematic block code

In view of Eq. (4.12a), and Eq. (4.9a) we have

$$\begin{aligned} s &= r \cdot H^T = (v \oplus e) H^T \\ &= v \cdot H^T \oplus e \cdot H^T \end{aligned}$$

$$\text{or } \mathbf{s} = \mathbf{e} \cdot \mathbf{H}^T \dots \dots \dots (4.15)$$

as $\mathbf{v} \cdot \mathbf{H}^T = \mathbf{0}$. Eq. (4.15) indicates that the syndrome depends only on the error pattern and not on the transmitted code word \mathbf{v} . For a linear systematic code, then, we have the following relationship between the syndrome digits and the error digits.

$$\left. \begin{aligned} s_1 &= e_1 p_{11} + e_2 p_{21} + \dots + e_k p_{k,1} + e_{k+1} \\ s_2 &= e_1 p_{12} + e_2 p_{22} + \dots + e_k p_{k,2} + e_{k+2} \\ \vdots &\quad \quad \quad \vdots \quad \quad \quad \quad \quad \quad \quad \quad \quad \quad \quad \vdots \\ s_{n-k} &= e_1 p_{1,n-k} + e_2 p_{2,n-k} + \dots + e_k p_{k,n-k} + e_n \end{aligned} \right\} \dots \dots \dots (4.16)$$

Thus, the syndrome digits are linear combinations of error digits. Therefore they must provide us information about the error digits and help us in error correction.

Notice that Eq. (4.16) represents $(n-k)$ linear equations for n error digits – an under-determined set of equations. Accordingly it is not possible to have a unique solution for the set. As the rank of the \mathbf{H} matrix is k , it follows that there are 2^k non-trivial solutions. In other words there exist 2^k error patterns that result in the same syndrome. Therefore to determine the true error pattern is not any easy task!

Example 4.5:

For the $(6, 3)$ code considered in Example 4.2, the error patterns satisfy the following equations:

$$s_1 = e_2 + e_3 + e_4, \quad s_2 = e_1 + e_3 + e_5, \quad s_3 = e_1 + e_2 + e_6$$

Suppose, the transmitted and received code words are $\mathbf{v} = (0 \ 1 \ 0 \ 1 \ 0 \ 1)$, $\mathbf{r} = (0 \ 1 \ 1 \ 1 \ 0 \ 1)$

$$\text{Then } \mathbf{s} = \mathbf{r} \cdot \mathbf{H}^T = (1, 1, 0)$$

Then it follows that:

$$\begin{aligned} e_2 + e_3 + e_4 &= 1 \\ e_1 + e_3 + e_5 &= 1 \\ e_1 + e_2 + e_6 &= 0 \end{aligned}$$

There are $2^3 = 8$ error patterns that satisfy the above equations. They are:

$$\{ \underline{001000}, 10000, 000110, 010011, 100101, 011101, 101011, 111110 \}$$

To minimize the decoding error, the “**Most probable error pattern**” that satisfies Eq (4.16) is chosen as the true error vector. For a **BSC**, the most probable error pattern is the one that has the smallest number of nonzero digits. For the Example 4.5, notice that the error vector $(0 \ 0 \ 1 \ 0 \ 0 \ 0)$ has

the smallest number of nonzero components and hence can be regarded as the most probable error vector. Then using Eq. (4.12) we have

$$\begin{aligned}\hat{\mathbf{v}} &= \mathbf{r} \oplus \mathbf{e} \\ &= (\mathbf{0\ 1\ 1\ 1\ 0\ 1}) + (\mathbf{0\ 0\ 1\ 0\ 0\ 0}) = (\mathbf{0\ 1\ 0\ 1\ 0\ 1})\end{aligned}$$

Notice now that $\hat{\mathbf{v}}$ indeed is the actual transmitted code word.

4.8 Minimum Distance Considerations:

The concept of distance between code words and single error correcting codes was first developed by R .W. Hamming. Let the n-tuples,

$$\alpha = (\alpha_1, \alpha_2 \dots \alpha_n), \beta = (\beta_1, \beta_2 \dots \beta_n)$$

be two code words. The “**Hamming distance**” $d(\alpha, \beta)$ between such pair of code vectors is defined as the number of positions in which they differ. Alternatively, using Modulo-2 arithmetic, we have

$$d(\alpha, \beta) \triangleq \sum_{j=1}^n (\alpha_j \oplus \beta_j) \dots\dots\dots (4.17)$$

(Notice that Σ represents the usual decimal summation and \oplus is the modulo-2 sum, the EX-OR function).

The “**Hamming Weight**” $\omega(\alpha)$ of a code vector α is defined as the number of nonzero elements in the code vector. Equivalently, the Hamming weight of a code vector is the distance between the code vector and the ‘**all zero code vector**’.

Example 4.6: Let $\alpha = (\mathbf{0\ 1\ 1\ 1\ 0\ 1}), \beta = (\mathbf{1\ 0\ 1\ 0\ 1\ 1})$

Notice that the two vectors differ in **4** positions and hence $d(\alpha, \beta) = \mathbf{4}$. Using Eq (4.17) we find

$$\begin{aligned}d(\alpha, \beta) &= (\mathbf{0 \oplus 1}) + (\mathbf{1 \oplus 0}) + (\mathbf{1 \oplus 1}) + (\mathbf{1 \oplus 0}) + (\mathbf{0 \oplus 1}) + (\mathbf{1 \oplus 1}) \\ &= \mathbf{1} + \mathbf{1} + \mathbf{0} + \mathbf{1} + \mathbf{1} + \mathbf{0} \\ &= \mathbf{4} \dots\dots \text{(Here + is the algebraic plus not modulo - 2 sum)}\end{aligned}$$

Further, $\omega(\alpha) = \mathbf{4}$ and $\omega(\beta) = \mathbf{4}$.

The “**Minimum distance**” of a linear block code is defined as the smallest Hamming distance between any pair of code words in the code or the minimum distance is the same as the

smallest Hamming weight of the difference between any pair of code words. Since in linear block codes, the sum or difference of two code vectors is also a code vector, it follows then that **“the minimum distance of a linear block code is the smallest Hamming weight of the nonzero code vectors in the code”**.

The Hamming distance is a metric function that satisfies the triangle inequality. Let α, β and δ be three code vectors of a linear block code. Then

$$d(\alpha, \beta) + d(\beta, \delta) \geq d(\alpha, \delta) \tag{4.18}$$

From the discussions made above, we may write

$$d(\alpha, \beta) = \omega(\alpha \oplus \beta) \tag{4.19}$$

Example 4.7: For the vectors α and β of Example 4.6, we have:

$$\alpha \oplus \beta = (0\oplus 1), (1\oplus 0), (1\oplus 1), (1\oplus 0), (0\oplus 1), (1\oplus 1) = (11\ 0\ 1\ 1\ 0)$$

$$\therefore \omega(\alpha \oplus \beta) = 4 = d(\alpha, \beta)$$

If $\delta = (1\ 0\ 1\ 0\ 1\ 0)$, we have $d(\alpha, \beta) = 4$; $d(\beta, \delta) = 1$; $d(\alpha, \delta) = 5$

Notice that the above three distances satisfy the triangle inequality:

$$d(\alpha, \beta) + d(\beta, \delta) = 5 = d(\alpha, \delta)$$

$$d(\beta, \delta) + d(\alpha, \delta) = 6 > d(\alpha, \beta)$$

$$d(\alpha, \delta) + d(\alpha, \beta) = 9 > d(\beta, \delta)$$

Similarly, the minimum distance of a linear block code, ‘C’ may be mathematically represented as below:

$$d_{\min} = \text{Min} \{d(\alpha, \beta) : \alpha, \beta \in C, \alpha \neq \beta\} \tag{4.20}$$

$$= \text{Min} \{\omega(\alpha \oplus \beta) : \alpha, \beta \in C, \alpha \neq \beta\}$$

$$= \text{Min} \{\omega(v), v \in C, v \neq 0\} \tag{4.21}$$

That is $d_{\min} \triangleq \omega_{\min}$. The parameter ω_{\min} is called the **“minimum weight”** of the linear code C. The minimum distance of a code, d_{\min} , is related to the parity check matrix, **H**, of the code in a fundamental way. Suppose **v** is a code word. Then from Eq. (4.9a) we have:

$$\begin{aligned}\mathbf{0} &= \mathbf{v} \cdot \mathbf{H}^T \\ &= \mathbf{v}_1 \mathbf{h}_1 \oplus \mathbf{v}_2 \mathbf{h}_2 \oplus \dots \oplus \mathbf{v}_n \mathbf{h}_n\end{aligned}$$

Here $\mathbf{h}_1, \mathbf{h}_2 \dots \mathbf{h}_n$ represent the columns of the \mathbf{H} matrix. Let $\mathbf{v}_{j1}, \mathbf{v}_{j2} \dots \mathbf{v}_{jl}$ be the '1' nonzero components of \mathbf{v} i.e. $\mathbf{v}_{j1} = \mathbf{v}_{j2} = \dots \mathbf{v}_{jl} = 1$. Then it follows that:

$$\mathbf{h}_{j1} \oplus \mathbf{h}_{j2} \oplus \dots \oplus \mathbf{h}_{jl} = \mathbf{0}^T \quad \dots \dots \dots \quad (4.22)$$

That is "if \mathbf{v} is a code vector of Hamming weight '1', then there exist '1' columns of \mathbf{H} such that the vector sum of these columns is equal to the zero vector". Suppose we form a binary n -tuple of weight '1', viz. $\mathbf{x} = (\mathbf{x}_1, \mathbf{x}_2 \dots \mathbf{x}_n)$ whose nonzero components are $\mathbf{x}_{j1}, \mathbf{x}_{j2} \dots \mathbf{x}_{jl}$. Consider the product:

$$\mathbf{x} \cdot \mathbf{H}^T = \mathbf{x}_1 \mathbf{h}_1 \oplus \mathbf{x}_2 \mathbf{h}_2 \oplus \dots \oplus \mathbf{x}_n \mathbf{h}_n = \mathbf{x}_{j1} \mathbf{h}_{j1} \oplus \mathbf{x}_{j2} \mathbf{h}_{j2} \oplus \dots \oplus \mathbf{x}_{jl} \mathbf{h}_{jl} = \mathbf{h}_{j1} \oplus \mathbf{h}_{j2} \oplus \dots \oplus \mathbf{h}_{jl}$$

If Eq. (4.22) holds, it follows $\mathbf{x} \cdot \mathbf{H}^T = \mathbf{0}$ and hence \mathbf{x} is a code vector. Therefore, we conclude that "if there are '1' columns of \mathbf{H} matrix whose vector sum is the zero vector then there exists a code vector of Hamming weight '1'".

From the above discussions, it follows that:

- i) If no $(\mathbf{d}-1)$ or fewer columns of \mathbf{H} add to $\mathbf{0}^T$, the all zero column vector, the code has a minimum weight of at least ' \mathbf{d} '.
- ii) The minimum weight (or the minimum distance) of a linear block code \mathbf{C} , is the smallest number of columns of \mathbf{H} that sum to the all zero column vector.

For the \mathbf{H} matrix of Example 6.3, i.e. $\mathbf{H} = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 1 & 1 & 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 1 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 1 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$, notice that all columns of \mathbf{H} are non

zero and distinct. Hence no two or fewer columns sum to zero vector. Hence the minimum weight of the code is at least 3. Further notice that the 1st, 2nd and 3rd columns sum to $\mathbf{0}^T$. Thus the minimum weight of the code is 3. We see that the minimum weight of the code is indeed 3 from the table of Example 4.1.

4.8.1 Error Detecting and Error Correcting Capabilities:

The minimum distance, \mathbf{d}_{\min} , of a linear block code is an important parameter of the code. To be more specific, it is the one that determines the error correcting capability of the code. To understand this we shall consider a simple example. Suppose we consider 3-bit code words plotted at the vertices of the cube as shown in Fig.4.10.

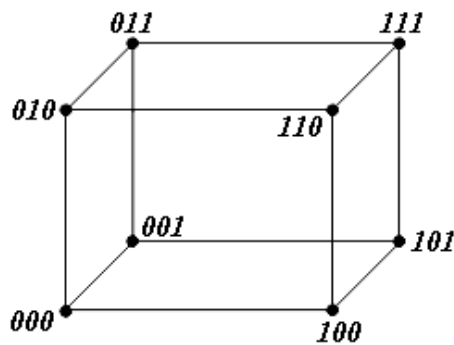


Fig 4.10 The distance concept

Clearly, if the code words used are {000, 101, 110, 011}, the Hamming distance between the words is 2. Notice that any error in the received words locates them on the vertices of the cube which are not code words and may be recognized as single errors. The code word pairs with Hamming distance = 3 are: (000, 111), (100, 011), (101, 010) and (001, 110). If a code word (000) is received as (100, 010, 001), observe that these are nearer to (000) than to (111). Hence the decision is made that the transmitted word is (000).

Suppose an (n, k) linear block code is required to detect and correct all error patterns (over a BSC), whose Hamming weight, $w \leq t$. That is, if we transmit a code vector α and the received vector is $\beta = \alpha \oplus e$, we want the decoder output to be $\hat{\alpha} = \alpha$ subject to the condition $w(e) \leq t$.

Further, assume that 2^k code vectors are transmitted with equal probability. The best decision for the decoder then is to pick the code vector nearest to the received vector β for which the Hamming distance is the smallest. i.e., $d(\alpha, \beta)$ is minimum. With such a strategy the decoder will be able to detect and correct all error patterns of Hamming weight $w(e) \leq t$ provided that the minimum distance of the code is such that:

$$d_{\min} \geq (2t + 1) \tag{4.23}$$

d_{\min} is either odd or even. Let 't' be a positive integer such that

$$2t + 1 \leq d_{\min} \leq 2t + 2 \tag{4.24}$$

Suppose δ be any other code word of the code. Then, the Hamming distances among α, β and δ satisfy the triangular inequality:

$$d(\alpha, \beta) + d(\beta, \delta) \geq d(\alpha, \delta) \tag{4.25}$$

Suppose an error pattern of ' t' ' errors occurs during transmission of α . Then the received vector β differs from α in ' t' ' places and hence $d(\alpha, \beta) = t'$. Since α and δ are code vectors, it follows from Eq. (6.24).

$$d(\alpha, \delta) \geq d_{\min} \geq 2t + 1 \quad \dots\dots\dots (4.26)$$

Combining Eq. (4.25) and (4.26) and with the fact that $d(\alpha, \beta) = t'$, it follows that:

$$d(\delta, \beta) \geq 2t + 1 - t' \quad \dots\dots\dots (4.27)$$

$$\text{Hence if } t' \leq t, \text{ then: } d(\delta, \beta) > t \quad \dots\dots\dots (4.28)$$

Eq 4.28 says that if an error pattern of ' t ' or fewer errors occurs, the received vector β is closer (in Hamming distance) to the transmitted code vector α than to any other code vector δ of the code. For a BSC, this means $P(\beta|\alpha) > P(\beta|\delta)$ for $\alpha \neq \delta$. Thus based on the maximum likelihood decoding scheme, β is decoded as α , which indeed is the actual transmitted code word and this results in the correct decoding and thus the errors are corrected.

On the contrary, the code is not capable of correcting error patterns of weight $t > t$. To show this we proceed as below:

Suppose $d(\alpha, \delta) = d_{\min}$, and let e_1 and e_2 be two error patterns such that:

$$i) \quad e_1 \oplus e_2 = \alpha \oplus \delta$$

ii) e_1 and e_2 do not have nonzero components in common places. Clearly,

$$\omega(e_1) + \omega(e_2) = \omega(\alpha \oplus \delta) = d(\alpha, \delta) = d_{\min} \quad \dots\dots\dots (4.29)$$

Suppose, α is the transmitted code vector and is corrupted by the error pattern e_1 . Then the received vector is:

$$\beta = \alpha \oplus e_1 \quad \dots\dots\dots (4.30)$$

$$\text{and } d(\alpha, \beta) = \omega(\alpha \oplus \beta) = \omega(e_1) \quad \dots\dots\dots (4.31)$$

$$\begin{aligned} d(\delta, \beta) &= \omega(\delta \oplus \beta) \\ &= \omega(\delta \oplus \alpha \oplus e_1) = \omega(e_2) \quad \dots\dots\dots (4.32) \end{aligned}$$

If the error pattern e_1 contains more than 't' errors, i.e. $\omega(e_1) > t$, and since $2t + 1 \leq d_{min} \leq 2t + 2$, it follows

$$\omega(e_2) \leq t - 1 \quad \dots\dots\dots (4.33)$$

$$\therefore d(\alpha, \beta) \geq d(\delta, \beta) \quad \dots\dots\dots (4.34)$$

This inequality says that there exists an error pattern of $l > t$ errors which results in a received vector closer to an incorrect code vector i.e. based on the maximum likelihood decoding scheme decoding error will be committed.

To make the point clear, we shall give yet another illustration. The code vectors and the received vectors may be represented as points in an n - dimensional space. Suppose we construct two spheres, each of equal radii, 't' around the points that represent the code vectors α and δ . Further let these two spheres be mutually exclusive or disjoint as shown in Fig.4.11 (a).

For this condition to be satisfied, we then require $d(\alpha, \delta) \geq 2t + 1$. In such a case if $d(\alpha, \beta) \leq t$, it is clear that the decoder will pick α as the transmitted vector.

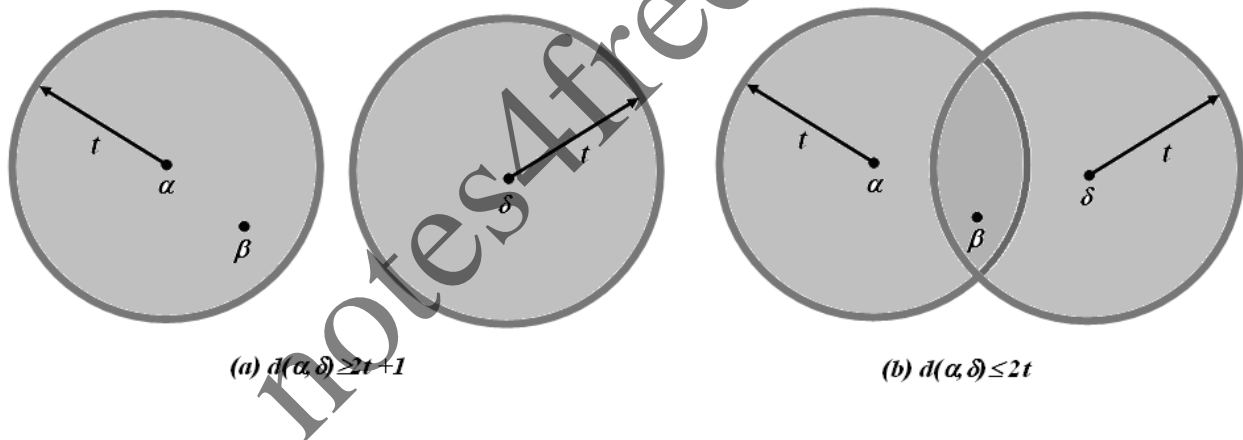


Fig. 4.11(a)

On the other hand, if $d(\alpha, \delta) \leq 2t$, the two spheres around α and δ intersect and if 'beta' is located as in Fig. 4.11(b), and α is the transmitted code vector it follows that even if $d(\alpha, \beta) \leq t$, yet β is as close to δ as it is to α . The decoder can now pick δ as the transmitted vector which is wrong. Thus it is imminent that "an (n, k) linear block code has the power to correct all error patterns of weight 't' or less if and only if $d(\alpha, \delta) \geq 2t + 1$ for all α and δ ". However, since the smallest distance between any pair of code words is the minimum distance of the code, d_{min} , 'guarantees' correcting all the error patterns of

$$t \leq \left\{ \frac{1}{2} (d_{min} - 1) \right\} \quad \dots\dots\dots (4.35)$$

where $\left\lfloor \frac{1}{2}(d_{min} - 1) \right\rfloor$ denotes the largest integer no greater than the number $\left\lfloor \frac{1}{2}(d_{min} - 1) \right\rfloor$. The parameter $t = \left\lfloor \frac{1}{2}(d_{min} - 1) \right\rfloor$ is called the “**random-error-correcting capability**” of the code and the code is referred to as a “**t-error correcting code**”. The (6, 3) code of Example 4.1 has a minimum distance of 3 and from Eq. (6.35) it follows $t = 1$, which means it is a ‘**Single Error Correcting**’ (SEC) code. It is capable of correcting any error pattern of single errors over a block of six digits.

For an (n, k) linear code, observe that, there are 2^{n-k} syndromes including the all zero syndrome. Each syndrome corresponds to a specific error pattern. If ‘j’ is the number of error locations in the n-dimensional error pattern e, we find in general, there are $\binom{n}{j} = nC_j$ multiple error patterns. It then follows that the total number of all possible error patterns = $\sum_{j=0}^t \binom{n}{j}$, where ‘t’ is the maximum number of error locations in e. Thus we arrive at an important conclusion. “**If an (n, k) linear block code is to be capable of correcting up to ‘t’ errors, the total number of syndromes shall not be less than the total number of all possible error patterns**”, i.e.

$$2^{n-k} \geq \sum_{j=0}^t \binom{n}{j} \dots\dots\dots (4.36)$$

Eq (6.36) is usually referred to as the “**Hamming bound**”. A binary code for which the Hamming Bound turns out to be equality is called a “**Perfect code**”.

.9 Standard Array and Syndrome Decoding:

The decoding strategy we are going to discuss is based on an important property of the syndrome.

Suppose $v_j, j = 1, 2, \dots, 2^k$, be the 2^k distinct code vectors of an (n, k) linear block code. Correspondingly let, for any error pattern e, the 2^k distinct error vectors, e_j , be defined by

$$e_j = e \oplus v_j, j = 1, 2, \dots, 2^k \dots\dots\dots (4.37)$$

The set of vectors $\{e_j, j = 1, 2, \dots, 2^k\}$ so defined is called the “**co-set**” of the code. That is, a ‘**co-set**’ contains exactly 2^k elements that differ at most by a code vector. It then follows that there are 2^{n-k} **co-sets** for an (n, k) linear block code. Post multiplying Eq (4.37) by H^T , we find

$$\begin{aligned} e_j H^T &= e H^T \oplus v_j H^T \\ &= e H^T \dots\dots\dots (4.38) \end{aligned}$$

Notice that the RHS of Eq (4.38) is independent of the index \mathbf{j} , as for any code word the term $\mathbf{v}_j \mathbf{H}^T = \mathbf{0}$. From Eq (4.38) it is clear that “**all error patterns that differ at most by a code word have the same syndrome**”. That is, each co-set is characterized by a unique syndrome.

Since the received vector \mathbf{r} may be any of the 2^n \mathbf{n} -tuples, no matter what the transmitted code word was, observe that we can use Eq (4.38) to partition the received code words into 2^k disjoint sets and try to identify the received vector. This will be done by preparing what is called the “**standard array**”. The steps involved are as below:

Step1: Place the 2^k code vectors of the code in a row, with the all zero vector $\mathbf{v}_1 = (\mathbf{0}, \mathbf{0}, \mathbf{0} \dots \mathbf{0}) = \mathbf{0}$ as the first (left most) element.

Step 2: From among the remaining $(2^n - 2^k) - \mathbf{n} - \text{tuples}$, \mathbf{e}_2 is chosen and placed below the all-zero vector, \mathbf{v}_1 . The second row can now be formed by placing $(\mathbf{e}_2 \oplus \mathbf{v}_j)$, $\mathbf{j} = 2, 3 \dots 2^k$ under \mathbf{v}_j

Step 3: Now take an un-used \mathbf{n} -tuple \mathbf{e}_3 and complete the 3rd row as in step 2.

Step 4: continue the process until all the \mathbf{n} -tuples are used.

The resultant array is shown in Fig. 4.12.

$\mathbf{v}_1 = \mathbf{0}$	\mathbf{v}_2	\mathbf{v}_3	.....	\mathbf{v}_{2^k}
\mathbf{e}_2	$\mathbf{v}_2 \oplus \mathbf{e}_2$	$\mathbf{v}_3 \oplus \mathbf{e}_2$	.....	$\mathbf{v}_{2^k} \oplus \mathbf{e}_2$
\mathbf{e}_3	$\mathbf{v}_2 \oplus \mathbf{e}_3$	$\mathbf{v}_3 \oplus \mathbf{e}_3$	.....	$\mathbf{v}_{2^k} \oplus \mathbf{e}_3$
\vdots	\vdots	\vdots	\vdots	\vdots
\mathbf{e}_2^{n-k}	$\mathbf{v}_2 \oplus \mathbf{e}_2^{n-k}$	$\mathbf{v}_3 \oplus \mathbf{e}_2^{n-k}$	.....	$\mathbf{v}_{2^k} \oplus \mathbf{e}_2^{n-k}$

Fig 4.12: Standard Array for an (\mathbf{n}, \mathbf{k}) linear block code

Since all the code vectors, \mathbf{v}_j , are all distinct, the vectors in any row of the array are also distinct. For, if two \mathbf{n} -tuples in the \mathbf{l} -th row are identical, say $\mathbf{e}_1 \oplus \mathbf{v}_j = \mathbf{e}_1 \oplus \mathbf{v}_m$, $\mathbf{j} \neq \mathbf{m}$; we should have $\mathbf{v}_j = \mathbf{v}_m$ which is impossible. Thus it follows that “**no two \mathbf{n} -tuples in the same row of a standard array are identical**”.

Next, let us consider that an \mathbf{n} -tuple appears in both \mathbf{l} -th row and the \mathbf{m} -th row. Then for some \mathbf{j}_1 and \mathbf{j}_2 this implies $\mathbf{e}_1 \oplus \mathbf{v}_{j_1} = \mathbf{e}_m \oplus \mathbf{v}_{j_2}$, which then implies $\mathbf{e}_1 = \mathbf{e}_m \oplus (\mathbf{v}_{j_2} \oplus \mathbf{v}_{j_1})$; (remember that $\mathbf{X} \oplus \mathbf{X} = \mathbf{0}$ in modulo-2 arithmetic) or $\mathbf{e}_1 = \mathbf{e}_m \oplus \mathbf{v}_{j_3}$ for some \mathbf{j}_3 . Since by property of linear block codes \mathbf{v}_{j_3} is also a code word, this implies, by the construction rules given, that \mathbf{e}_1 must appear in the \mathbf{m} -th row, which is a contradiction of our steps, as the first element of the \mathbf{m} -th row is \mathbf{e}_m and is an unused vector in the previous rows. This clearly demonstrates another important property of the array: “**Every \mathbf{n} -tuple appearance in one and only one row**”.

From the above discussions it is clear that there are 2^{n-k} disjoint rows or co-sets in the standard array and each row or co-set consists of 2^k distinct entries. The first n-tuple of each co-set, (i.e., the entry in the first column) is called the “**Co-set leader**”. Notice that any element of the co-set can be used as a co-set leader and this does not change the element of the co-set - it results simply in a permutation.

Suppose D_j^T is the j^{th} column of the standard array. Then it follows

$$D_j = \{v_j, e_2 \oplus v_j, e_3 \oplus v_j \dots e_{2^{n-k}} \oplus v_j\} \dots \dots \dots (4.39)$$

where v_j is a code vector and $e_2, e_3, \dots, e_{2^{n-k}}$ are the co-set leaders.

The 2^k disjoint columns $D_1^T, D_2^T \dots D_{2^k}^T$ can now be used for decoding of the code. If v_j is the transmitted code word over a noisy channel, it follows from Eq (5.39) that the received vector r is in D_j^T if the error pattern caused by the channel is a co-set leader. If this is the case r will be decoded correctly as v_j . If not an erroneous decoding will result for, any error pattern \hat{e} which is not a co-set leader must be in some co-set and under some nonzero code vector is, say, in the i -th co-set and under $v \neq 0$. Then it follows

$$\hat{e} = e_i \oplus v_i, \text{ and the received vector is } r = v_j \oplus \hat{e} = v_j \oplus (e_i \oplus v_i) = e_i \oplus v_m$$

Thus the received vector is in D_m^T and it will be decoded as v_m and a decoding error has been committed. Hence it is explicitly clear that “**Correct decoding is possible if and only if the error pattern caused by the channel is a co-set leader**”. Accordingly, the 2^{n-k} co-set leaders (including the all zero vector) are called the “**Correctable error patterns**”, and it follows “**Every (n, k) linear block code is capable of correcting 2^{n-k} error patterns**”.

So, from the above discussion, it follows that in order to minimize the probability of a decoding error, “**The most likely to occur**” error patterns should be chosen as co-set leaders. For a **BSC** an error pattern of smallest weight is more probable than that of a larger weight. Accordingly, when forming a standard array, error patterns of smallest weight should be chosen as co-set leaders. Then the decoding based on the standard array would be the ‘**minimum distance decoding**’ (the maximum likelihood decoding). This can be demonstrated as below.

Suppose a received vector r is found in the j^{th} column and l^{th} row of the array. Then r will be decoded as v_j . We have

$$d(r, v_j) = \omega(r \oplus v_j) = \omega(e_l \oplus v_j \oplus v_j) = \omega(e_l)$$

where we have assumed v_j indeed is the transmitted code word. Let v_s be any other code word, other than v_j . Then

$$d(r, v_s) = \omega(r \oplus v_s) = \omega(e_l \oplus v_j \oplus v_s) \omega(e_l) = \omega(e_l \oplus v_i)$$

as \mathbf{v}_j and \mathbf{v}_s are code words, $\mathbf{v}_i = \mathbf{v}_j \oplus \mathbf{v}_s$ is also a code word of the code. Since \mathbf{e}_1 and $(\mathbf{e}_1 \oplus \mathbf{v}_i)$ are in the same co set and, that \mathbf{e}_1 has been chosen as the co-set leader and has the smallest weight it follows $\omega(\mathbf{e}_1) \leq \omega(\mathbf{e}_1 \oplus \mathbf{v}_i)$ and hence $\mathbf{d}(\mathbf{r}, \mathbf{v}_j) \leq \mathbf{d}(\mathbf{r}, \mathbf{v}_s)$. Thus the received vector is decoded into a closet code vector. Hence, if each co-set leader is chosen to have minimum weight in its co-set, the standard array decoding results in the minimum distance decoding or maximum likely hood decoding.

Suppose “ $\mathbf{a}_0, \mathbf{a}_1, \mathbf{a}_2 \dots, \mathbf{a}_n$ ” denote the number of co-set leaders with weights $0, 1, 2 \dots n$. This set of numbers is called the “**Weight distribution**” of the co-set leaders. Since a decoding error will occur if and only if the error pattern is not a co-set leader, the probability of a decoding error for a BSC with error probability (transition probability) \mathbf{p} is given by

$$P(E) = 1 - \sum_{j=0}^n a_j p^j (1-p)^{n-j} \dots \dots \dots (4.40)$$

Example 4.8:

For the (6, 3) linear block code of Example 4.1 the standard array, along with the syndrome table, is as below:

Syndrome	Co-set Leader							
000	000 000	001 110	010 101	011 011	100 011	101 101	110 110	111 000
001	000 001	001 111	010 100	011 010	100 010	101 100	110 111	111 001
010	000 010	001 100	010 111	011 001	100 001	101 111	110 100	111010
100	000 100	001 010	010 001	011 111	100 111	101 001	110 010	111 100
110	001 000	000 110	011 101	010 011	101 011	100 101	111 110	110 000
101	010 000	011 110	000 101	001 011	110 011	111 101	100 110	101 000
011	100 000	101 110	110 101	111 011	000 011	001 101	010 110	011 000
111	001 001	000 111	011 100	010 010	101 010	100 100	111 111	110 001

The weight distribution of the co-set leaders in the array shown are $\mathbf{a}_0 = 1, \mathbf{a}_1 = 6, \mathbf{a}_2 = 1, \mathbf{a}_3 = \mathbf{a}_4 = \mathbf{a}_5 = \mathbf{a}_6 = 0$. From Eq (5.40) it then follows:

$$P(E) = 1 - [(1-p)^6 + 6p(1-p)^5 + p^2(1-p)^4]$$

With $\mathbf{p} = 10^{-2}$, we have $P(E) = 1.3643879 \times 10^{-3}$

A received vector (010 001) will be decoded as (010101) and a received vector (100 110) will be decoded as (110 110).

Notice that an (n, k) linear code is capable of detecting (2ⁿ - 2^k) error patterns while it is capable of correcting only 2^{n-k} error patterns. Further, as n becomes large 2^{n-k}/ (2ⁿ - 2^k) becomes

smaller and hence the probability of a decoding error will be much higher than the probability of an undetected error.

Let us turn our attention to Eq (5.35) and arrive at an interpretation. Let \mathbf{x}_1 and \mathbf{x}_2 be two n -tuples of weights ' t ' or less. Then it follows

$$\omega(\mathbf{x}_1 \oplus \mathbf{x}_2) \leq \omega(\mathbf{x}_1) + \omega(\mathbf{x}_2) \leq 2t \leq d_{\min}$$

Suppose \mathbf{x}_1 and \mathbf{x}_2 are in the same co-set then it follows that $(\mathbf{x}_1 \oplus \mathbf{x}_2)$ must be a nonzero code vector of the code. This is impossible because the weight of $(\mathbf{x}_1 \oplus \mathbf{x}_2)$ is less than the minimum weight of the code. Therefore, **“No two n -tuples, whose weights are less than or equal to ' t ', can be in the same co-set of the code and all such n -tuples can be used as co-set leaders”**.

Further, if \mathbf{v} is a minimum weight code vector, i.e. $\omega(\mathbf{v}) = d_{\min}$ and if the n -tuples, \mathbf{x}_1 and \mathbf{x}_2 satisfy the following two conditions:

- i) $\mathbf{x}_1 \oplus \mathbf{x}_2 = \mathbf{v}$
- ii) \mathbf{x}_1 and \mathbf{x}_2 do not have nonzero components in common places

It follows from the definition, \mathbf{x}_1 and \mathbf{x}_2 must be in the same co-set and

$$\omega(\mathbf{x}_1) + \omega(\mathbf{x}_2) = \omega(\mathbf{v}) = d_{\min}$$

Suppose we choose \mathbf{x}_2 such that $\omega(\mathbf{x}_2) = t + 1$. Since $2t + 1 \leq d_{\min} \leq 2t + 2$, we have $\omega(\mathbf{x}_1) = t$ or $(t+1)$. If \mathbf{x}_1 is used as a co-set leader then \mathbf{x}_2 cannot be a co-set leader.

The above discussions may be summarized by saying **“For an (n, k) linear block code with minimum distance d_{\min} , all n -tuples of weight $t \leq \left\lfloor \frac{1}{2}(d_{\min} - 1) \right\rfloor$ can be used as co-set leaders of a standard array. Further, if all n -tuples of weight $\leq t$ are used as co-set leaders, there is at least one n -tuple of weight $(t + 1)$ that cannot be used as a co-set leader”**.

These discussions once again re-confirm the fact that an (n, k) linear code is capable of correcting error patterns of $\left\lfloor \frac{1}{2}(d_{\min} - 1) \right\rfloor$ or fewer errors but is incapable of correcting all the error patterns of weight $(t + 1)$.

We have seen in Eq. (4.38) that each co-set is characterized by a unique syndrome or there is a one- one correspondence between a co- set leader (a correctable error pattern) and a syndrome. These relationships, then, can be used in preparing a decoding table that is made up of 2^{n-k} co-set leaders and their corresponding syndromes. This table is either stored or wired in the receiver. The following are the steps in decoding:

Step 1: Compute the syndrome $\mathbf{s} = \mathbf{r} \cdot \mathbf{H}^T$

Step 2: Locate the co-set leader \mathbf{e}_j whose syndrome is \mathbf{s} . Then \mathbf{e}_j is assumed to be the error pattern caused by the channel.

Step 3: Decode the received vector \mathbf{r} into the code vector $\mathbf{v} = \mathbf{r} \oplus \mathbf{e}_j$

This decoding scheme is called the “**Syndrome decoding**” or the “**Table look up decoding**”. Observe that this decoding scheme is applicable to any linear (\mathbf{n}, \mathbf{k}) code, i.e., it need not necessarily be a systematic code. However, as $(\mathbf{n}-\mathbf{k})$ becomes large the implementation becomes difficult and impractical as either a large storage or a complicated logic circuitry will be required.

For implementation of the decoding scheme, one may regard the decoding table as the truth table of \mathbf{n} -switching functions:

$$\mathbf{e}_1 = \mathbf{f}_1(\mathbf{s}_1, \mathbf{s}_2, \dots, \mathbf{s}_{\mathbf{n}-\mathbf{k}}); \mathbf{e}_2 = \mathbf{f}_2(\mathbf{s}_1, \mathbf{s}_2, \dots, \mathbf{s}_{\mathbf{n}-\mathbf{k}}); \dots \mathbf{e}_n = \mathbf{f}_n(\mathbf{s}_1, \mathbf{s}_2, \dots, \mathbf{s}_{\mathbf{n}-\mathbf{k}})$$

where $\mathbf{s}_1, \mathbf{s}_2, \dots, \mathbf{s}_{\mathbf{n}-\mathbf{k}}$ are the syndrome digits and are regarded as the switching variables and $\mathbf{e}_1, \mathbf{e}_2, \dots, \mathbf{e}_n$ are the estimated error digits. The stages can be released by using suitable combinatorial logic circuits as indicated in Fig 4.13.

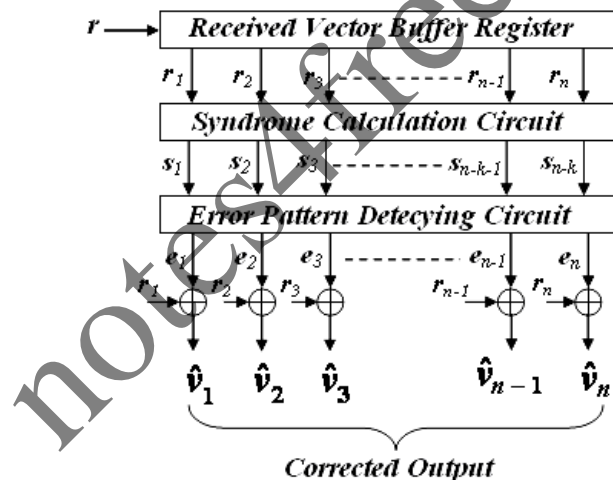


Fig. 4.13 General Decoding scheme for an (\mathbf{n}, \mathbf{k}) linear block code

Example 4.9:

From the standard array for the $(6, 3)$ linear block code of Example 4.8, the following truth table can be constructed.

s_1	s_2	s_3	e_1	e_2	e_3	e_4	e_5	e_6
0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	1
0	1	0	0	0	0	0	1	0
1	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0
1	1	0	0	0	1	0	0	0
1	0	1	0	1	0	0	0	0
0	1	1	1	0	0	0	0	0
1	1	1	0	0	1	0	0	1

Truth table for the Error patterns from the Standard Array of Example 6.8

The two shaded portions of the truth table are to be observed carefully. The top shaded one corresponds to the all-zero error pattern and the bottom one corresponds to a double error pattern which cannot be corrected by this code. From the table we can now write expressions for the correctable single error patterns as below:

$$\begin{aligned}
 e_1 &= \bar{s}_1 \cdot s_2 s_3 & e_2 &= s_1 \bar{s}_2 s_3 & e_3 &= s_1 s_2 \bar{s}_3 \\
 e_4 &= s_1 \bar{s}_2 \bar{s}_3 & e_5 &= \bar{s}_1 s_2 \bar{s}_3 & e_6 &= \bar{s}_1 \bar{s}_2 s_3
 \end{aligned}$$

The implementation of the decoder is shown in Fig.4.14.

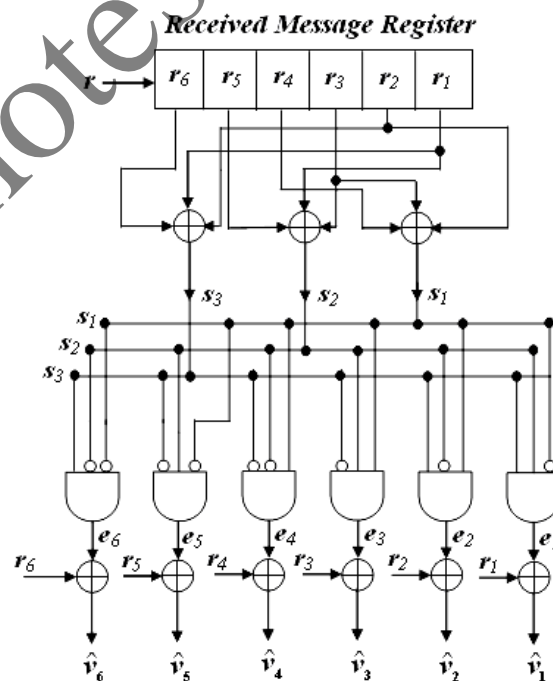


Fig 4.14: Decoding circuit for (6,3) code

Comments:

- 1) Notice that for all correctable single error patterns the syndrome will be identical to a column of the **H** matrix and indicates that the received vector is in error corresponding to that column position.

For Example, if the received vector is **(010001)**, then the syndrome is **(100)**. This is identical with the 4th column of the **H**- matrix and hence the 4th – position of the received vector is in error. Hence the corrected vector is **010101**. Similarly, for a received vector **(100110)**, the syndrome is **101** and this is identical with the second column of the **H**-matrix. Thus the second position of the received vector is in error and the corrected vector is **(110110)**.

- 2) A table can be prepared relating the error locations and the syndrome. By suitable combinatorial circuits data recovery can be achieved. For the **(6, 3)** systematic linear code we have the following table for **r = (r₁ r₂ r₃ r₄ r₅ r₆)**.

<i>Error location</i>	<i>Error in digits</i>	<i>Syndrome</i>
1	r₁	0 1 0
2	r₂	1 0 1
3	r₃	1 1 0
4	r₄	1 0 0
5	r₅	0 1 0
6	r₆	0 0 1
No error		0 0 0

Notice that for the systematic encoding considered by us **(r₁ r₂ r₃)** corresponds to the data digits and **(r₄ r₅ r₆)** are the parity digits.

Accordingly the correction for the data digits would be

$$\hat{v}_1 = r_1 + (s_2 \cdot s_3), \hat{v}_2 = r_2 + (s_1 \cdot s_3), \hat{v}_3 = r_3 + (s_1 \cdot s_2)$$

Hence the circuit of Fig 6.14 can be modified to have data recovery by removing only the connections of the outputs **\hat{v}_4, \hat{v}_5 and \hat{v}_6** .

4.10 Hamming Codes:

Hamming code is the first class of linear block codes devised for error correction. The single error correcting (**SEC**) Hamming codes are characterized by the following parameters.

$$\text{Code length: } n = (2^m - 1)$$

$$\text{Number of Information symbols: } k = (2^m - m - 1)$$

$$\text{Number of parity check symbols : } (n - k) = m$$

Error correcting capability: $t = 1$, ($d_{\min} = 3$)

The parity check matrix \mathbf{H} of this code consists of all the non-zero m -tuples as its columns. In systematic form, the columns of \mathbf{H} are arranged as follows

$$\mathbf{H} = [\mathbf{Q} \mid \mathbf{I}_m]$$

Where \mathbf{I}_m is an identity (unit) matrix of order $m \times m$ and \mathbf{Q} matrix consists of

$(2^m - m - 1)$ columns which are the m -tuples of weight 2 or more. As an illustration for $k=4$ we have from $k = 2^m - m - 1$.

$$m=1 \quad k=0, m=2 \quad k=1, m=3 \quad k=4$$

Thus we require 3 parity check symbols and the length of the code $2^3 - 1 = 7$. This results in the (7, 4) Hamming code.

The parity check matrix for the (7, 4) linear systematic Hamming code is then

$$H = \begin{bmatrix} 1110 & : & 100 \\ 1101 & : & 010 \\ 1011 & : & 001 \end{bmatrix}$$

The generator matrix of the code can be written in the form

$$G = [I_{2^m - m - 1} \mid Q^T]$$

And for the (7, 4) systematic code it follows:

$$G = \begin{bmatrix} 1000 & : & 111 \\ 0100 & : & 110 \\ 0010 & : & 101 \\ 0001 & : & 011 \end{bmatrix}$$

A non systematic Hamming code can be constructed by placing the parity check bits at $2^1, 2^2, \dots$ locations. It was the conventional method of construction in switching and computer applications (Refer, for example 'Switching circuits and applications -Marcus). One simple procedure for construction of such code is as follows:

Step 1: Write the BCD of length $(n - k)$ for decimals from 1 to n .

Step 2: Arrange the sequences in the reverse order in a matrix form.

Step 3: Transpose of the matrix obtained in step 2 gives the parity check matrix \mathbf{H} for the code.

The code words are in the form

1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17

p₁ p₂ m₁ p₃ m₂ m₃ m₄ p₄ m₅ m₆ m₇ m₈ m₉ m₁₀ m₁₁ p₅ m₁₂

Where **p₁, p₂, p₃...** are the parity digits and **m₁, m₂, m₃...** are the message digits. For example, let us consider the non systematic (7, 4) Hamming code.

Step1:

<i>Numerals</i>	<i>BCD of length (n - k) = 3</i>
1	001
2	010
3	011
4	100
5	101
6	110
7	111

Step2:

$$\mathbf{H}^T = \begin{bmatrix} 100 \\ 010 \\ 110 \\ 001 \\ 101 \\ 011 \\ 111 \end{bmatrix}$$

Step3:

$$\mathbf{H} = \begin{bmatrix} 1010101 \\ 0110011 \\ 0001111 \end{bmatrix}$$

Notice that the parity check bits, from the above **H** matrix apply to positions.

$$p_1 = 1, 3, 5, 7, 9, 11, 13, 15...$$

$$p_2 = 2, 3, 6, 7, 10, 11, 14, 15...$$

$$p_3 = 4, 5, 6, 7, 12, 13, 14, 15...$$

$$p_4 = 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15 \text{ and so on}$$

Accordingly, the check bits can be represented as linear combinations of the message bits. For the (7, 4) code under consideration we have

$$p_1 = m_1 + m_2 + m_4$$

$$p_2 = m_1 + m_3 + m_4$$

$$p_3 = m_2 + m_3 + m_4$$

Accordingly, the generator matrix can be written as

$$G = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 1 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 1 & 1 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 1 \\ \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \vdots \\ & 1 & 2 & 3 & 4 & 5 & 6 & 7 \end{bmatrix}$$

Notice that the message bits are located at the positions other than 2^i , $i = 0, 1, 2, 3, \dots$ locations. i.e., they are located in the positions of **3, 5, 7, 9, 11, 13, 15, 17, 18, \dots**. The k -columns of the identity matrix I_k are distributed successively to these locations. The Q sub-matrix in the H matrix can be identified to contain those columns which have weights more than one. The transpose of this matrix then gives the columns to be filled, in succession, in the G -matrix. For the Example of the $(7, 4)$ linear code considered, the Q -sub-matrix is:

$$Q = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1 & 0 & 1 \\ 1 & 0 & 1 & 1 \\ 0 & 1 & 1 & 1 \end{bmatrix}, \text{ and hence } Q^T = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1 & 0 \\ 1 & 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 1 & 1 \\ 1 & 1 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

The first two columns of this matrix then are the first two columns of the G -matrix and the third column is the fourth column of the G -matrix. Table below gives the codes generated by this method.

Table: Non systematic (7, 4) Hamming code.

Messages				Codes						
<i>m1</i>	<i>m2</i>	<i>m3</i>	<i>m4</i>	<i>p1</i>	<i>p2</i>	<i>p3</i>	<i>m1</i>	<i>m2</i>	<i>m3</i>	<i>m4</i>
0	0	0	1	1	1	0	1	0	0	1
0	0	1	0	0	1	0	1	0	1	0
0	0	1	1	1	0	0	0	0	1	1
0	1	0	0	1	0	0	1	1	0	0
0	1	0	1	0	1	0	0	1	0	1
0	1	1	0	1	1	0	0	1	1	0
0	1	1	1	0	0	0	0	1	1	1
1	0	0	0	1	1	1	0	0	0	0
1	0	0	1	0	0	1	1	0	0	1
1	0	1	0	1	0	1	1	0	1	0
1	0	1	1	0	1	1	0	0	1	1
1	1	0	0	0	1	1	1	1	0	0
1	1	0	1	1	0	1	0	1	0	1
1	1	1	0	0	0	1	0	1	1	0
1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1

Observe that the procedure outlined for the code construction starts from selecting the **H** matrix which is unique and hence the codes are also unique. We shall consider the correctable error patterns and the corresponding syndromes listed in the table below.

Table: Error patterns and syndromes for the (7, 4) linear non-systematic code

Error Pattern						Syndrome		
<i>e1</i>	<i>e2</i>	<i>e3</i>	<i>e4</i>	<i>e5</i>	<i>e6</i>	<i>s1</i>	<i>s2</i>	<i>s3</i>
1	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0
0	1	0	0	0	0	0	1	0
0	0	1	0	0	0	1	1	0
0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	1
0	0	0	0	1	0	1	0	1
0	0	0	0	0	1	0	1	1
0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	1

If the syndrome is read from right to left i.e. if the sequence is arranged as ' $s_3 s_2 s_1$ ' it is interesting to observe that the decimal equivalent of this binary sequence corresponds to the error location. Thus if the code vector 1011010 is received as 1010010 , the corresponding syndrome is ' 001 ', which is exactly the same as the 4th column of the H -matrix and also the sequence 100 corresponds to decimal 4.

It can be verified that (7, 4), (15, 11), (31, 26), (63, 57) are all single error correcting Hamming codes and are regarded quite useful.

An important property of the Hamming codes is that they satisfy the condition of Eq. (4.36) with equality sign, assuming that $t=1$. This means that Hamming codes are "single error correcting binary perfect codes". This can also be verified from Eq. (4.35)

We may delete any '1' columns from the parity check matrix H of the Hamming code resulting in the reduction of the dimension of H matrix to $m \times (2^m - 1 - 1)$. Using this new matrix as the parity check matrix we obtain a "shortened" Hamming code with the following parameters.

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Code length:} & \quad n = 2^m - 1 - 1 \\ \text{Number of Information symbols:} & \quad k = 2^m - m - 1 - 1 \\ \text{Number of parity check symbols:} & \quad n - k = m \\ \text{Minimum distance:} & \quad d_{\min} \geq 3 \end{aligned}$$

Notice that if the deletion of the columns of the H matrix is proper, we may obtain a Hamming code with $d_{\min} = 4$. For example if we delete from the sub-matrix Q all the columns of even weight, we obtain an $m \times 2^{m-1}$ matrix

$$\bar{H} = [\bar{Q} : I_m]$$

Where \bar{Q} contains $(2^{m-1} - m)$ columns of odd weight. Clearly no three columns add to zero as all columns have odd weight. However, for a column in \bar{Q} , there exist three columns in I_m such that four columns add to zero. Thus the shortened Hamming codes with \bar{H} as the parity check matrix has minimum distance exactly 4. The distance - 4 shortened Hamming codes can be used for correcting all single error patterns while simultaneously detecting all double error patterns. Notice that when single errors occur the syndromes contain odd number of one's and for double errors it contains even number of ones. Accordingly the decoding can be accomplished in the following manner.

- (1) If $s = 0$, no error occurred.
- (2) If s contains odd number of ones, single error has occurred. The single error pattern pertaining to this syndrome is added to the received code vector for error correction.

- (3) If \mathbf{s} contains even number of one's an uncorrectable error pattern has been detected.

Alternatively the SEC Hamming codes may be made to detect double errors by adding an extra parity check in its $(n+1)^{\text{th}}$ position. Thus (8, 4), (6, 11) etc. codes have $d_{\min} = 4$ and correct single errors with detection of double errors.

RECOMMENDATION QUESTIONS

1. Consider a (7, 4) linear code whose generator matrix is

$$G = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 1 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 1 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 1 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

- a) Find all code vectors of this code b) Find the parity check matrix for this code
c) Find the minimum weight of this code
2. For linear (n, k) block code, \mathbf{C} , prove that $\mathbf{C}\mathbf{H}^T = \mathbf{0}$, where \mathbf{H} is the parity check matrix.
3. The parity check bits of a (8,4) block code are generated by
- $$\begin{aligned} \mathbf{c}_5 &= \mathbf{d}_1 + \mathbf{d}_2 + \mathbf{d}_4 \\ \mathbf{c}_6 &= \mathbf{d}_1 + \mathbf{d}_2 + \mathbf{d}_3 \\ \mathbf{c}_7 &= \mathbf{d}_1 + \mathbf{d}_3 + \mathbf{d}_4 \\ \mathbf{c}_8 &= \mathbf{d}_2 + \mathbf{d}_3 + \mathbf{d}_4 \end{aligned}$$

Where $\mathbf{d}_1, \mathbf{d}_2, \mathbf{d}_3,$ and \mathbf{d}_4 are the message bits

- a) Find the generator matrix and parity check matrix for this code.
b) Find the minimum weight of this code
c) Find the error detecting and error correcting capabilities of this code
d) Show through an example that this code can detect 3 errors/code word.
4. Construct an encoder for the code given in problem 3.
5. Construct a syndrome circuit for the code given in problem 3.
6. Let \mathbf{H} be the parity check matrix of an (n, k) linear code \mathbf{C} that has both odd and even weight code vectors. Construct new linear codes \mathbf{C}_1 and \mathbf{C}_2 with the following parity check matrices respectively.

$$i) \mathbf{H}_1 = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & & & & & & & & \\ 0 & & & & & & & & \\ 0 & & & & & & & & \\ \vdots & & & & & & & & \\ 0 & & & & & & & & \\ \hline \mathbf{I} & \mathbf{I} & \mathbf{I} & \dots & & & \mathbf{I} & & \end{bmatrix} \quad ii) \mathbf{H}_2 = \begin{bmatrix} & & & & & & 0 & & \\ & & & & & & 0 & & \\ & & & & & & 0 & & \\ & & & & & & \vdots & & \\ & & & & & & 0 & & \\ \hline \mathbf{I} & \mathbf{I} & \mathbf{I} & \dots & & & \mathbf{I} & & \end{bmatrix}$$

(Note that the last row of \mathbf{H}_1 (\mathbf{H}_2) consists of all 1's)

- a) Show that \mathbf{C}_1 and \mathbf{C}_2 , called extensions of \mathbf{C} , are $(n+1, k)$ linear block codes.

- b) Show that every code vector of C_1 (C_2) has an even weight.
- c) Show that the minimum distance of C_1 (C_2) is $(d+1)$, where d is the minimum distance of C .
- d) Show that C_1 can be obtained from C by adding an extra parity check digit denoted by v_0 to the left of each code vector \mathbf{v} as follows (1) If \mathbf{v} has odd weight then $v_0 = 1$ and (2) If \mathbf{v} has even weight $v_0 = 0$. The parity check digit v_0 is called an “overall parity check digit”.
7. Let C be a linear code with both even and odd-weight code words. Show that the number of even weight code vectors is equal to the number of odd weight code vectors.
8. Since the $(8, 4)$ linear code of problem 3 has a minimum distance 4 , it is capable of correcting all the single error patterns and simultaneously detecting any combination of double errors. Construct a decoder for this code. The decoder must be capable of correcting any single error and detecting any double error.
9. The $(8, 4)$ linear code of problem 3 is capable of correcting 16 error patterns (The co-set leaders of a standard array). Suppose that this code is used for a **BSC**. Device a decoder for this code based on the table-look up decoding scheme. The decoder is designed to correct the 16 most probable error patterns.
10. Verify whether the dual code of the $(8, 4)$ linear code of problem 3 is identical to the code itself. Is the code self dual?
11. Form a parity check matrix for a $(15, 11)$ systematic Hamming code. Device a decoder for this code.
12. Let C_1 be an (n_1, k) linear systematic code with $d_{\min} = d_1$ and generator matrix $G_1 = [P_1, I_k]$. Let C_2 be an (n_2, k) linear systematic code with $d_{\min} = d_2$ and Generator matrix $G_2 = [P_2, I_k]$. Consider an $(n_1 + n_2, k)$ linear code with the following parity check matrix.
- $$H = \left[\begin{array}{c|ccc} I_{n_1+n_2-k} & P_1^T & & \\ & I_k & & \\ & P_2^T & & \end{array} \right]$$
- Show that this code has minimum distance at least $(d_1 + d_2)$.
13. The “design distance” of an (n, k) linear block code is defined as being equal to $(n - k + 1)$. Show that the minimum distance of the code can never exceed its design distance.
14. “**Repetition codes**” represent the simplest type of linear block codes. The generator matrix of a $(5, 1)$ repetition code is given as $G = [1 \ 1 \ 1 \ 1 \ 1]$
- a) Write its parity check matrix.
- b) Evaluate the syndrome for:
- i) All five possible single error patterns. ii) All 10 possible double error patterns.
15. Show that the decoder for a Hamming code fails if there are two or more than two transmission errors in the received sequence.

OUTCOMES

- Detection of the errors.
- Correction of the errors using different techniques.

RESOURCES

- https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Block_code
- www.inference.phy.cam.ac.uk/mackay/itprnn/1997/11/node7.html
- web.ntpu.edu.tw/~yshan/intro_lin_code.pdf
- users.ece.cmu.edu/~koopman/des_s99/coding/
- elearning.vtu.ac.in/P4/EC63/S11.pdf

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CHAPTER 2 - BINARY CYCLIC CODES

STRUCTURE

- Generator Polynomial for Cyclic Codes
- Multiplication Circuits
- Dividing Circuits
- Systematic Cyclic Codes
- Generator Matrix for Cyclic Codes
- Syndrome Calculation - Error Detection and Error Correction

OBJECTIVE

- Discuss about cyclic codes and also study about implementation methods using feedback shift registers.
- Study about syndrome calculator for cyclic codes.

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INTRODUCTION

"Binary cyclic codes" form a sub class of linear block codes. Majority of important linear block codes that are known to-date are either cyclic codes or closely related to cyclic codes. Cyclic codes are attractive for two reasons: First, encoding and syndrome calculations can be easily implemented using simple shift registers with feed back connections. Second, they possess well defined mathematical structure that permits the design of higher-order error correcting codes.

A binary code is said to be "cyclic" if it satisfies:

1. Linearity property – sum of two code words is also a code word.
2. Cyclic property – Any lateral shift of a code word is also a code word.

The second property can be easily understood from Fig. 4.1. Instead of writing the code as a row vector, we have represented it along a circle. The direction of traverse may be either clockwise or counter clockwise (right shift or left shift).

For example, if we move in a counter clockwise direction then starting at 'A' the code word is **110001100** while if we start at **B** it would be **011001100**. Clearly, the two code words are related in that one is obtained from the other by a cyclic shift.

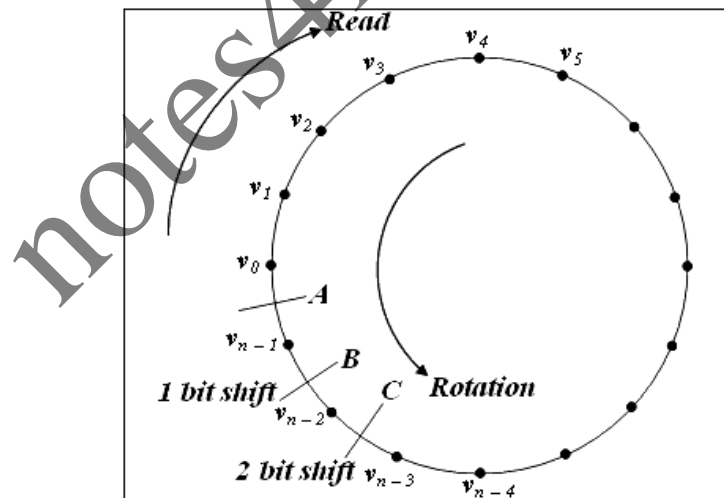


Fig 4.1: Illustrating the cyclic property

If the **n** - tuple, read from 'A' in the **CW** direction in Fig 4.1,

$$\mathbf{v} = (v_0, v_1, v_2, v_3, \dots, v_{n-2}, v_{n-1}) \quad \dots \quad (4.1)$$

is a code vector, then the code vector, read from **B**, in the **CW** direction, obtained by a one bit cyclic right shift:

$$\mathbf{v}^{(1)} = (v_{n-1}, v_0, v_1, v_2, \dots, v_{n-3}, v_{n-2}) \quad \dots \quad (4.2)$$

is also a code vector. In this way, the n - tuples obtained by successive cyclic right shifts:

$$\mathbf{v}^{(2)} = (\mathbf{v}_{n-2}, \mathbf{v}_{n-1}, \mathbf{v}_n, \mathbf{v}_0, \mathbf{v}_1, \dots, \mathbf{v}_{n-3}) \dots \dots \dots (4.3a)$$

$$\mathbf{v}^{(3)} = (\mathbf{v}_{n-3}, \mathbf{v}_{n-2}, \mathbf{v}_{n-1}, \mathbf{v}_n, \dots, \mathbf{v}_0, \mathbf{v}_1, \mathbf{v}_{n-4}) \dots \dots \dots (4.3b)$$

$$\vdots$$

$$\mathbf{v}^{(i)} = (\mathbf{v}_{n-i}, \mathbf{v}_{n-i+1}, \dots, \mathbf{v}_{n-1}, \mathbf{v}_0, \mathbf{v}_1, \dots, \mathbf{v}_{n-i-1}) \dots \dots \dots (4.3c)$$

are all code vectors. This property of cyclic codes enables us to treat the elements of each code vector as the co-efficients of a polynomial of degree $(n-1)$.

This is the property that is extremely useful in the analysis and implementation of these codes. Thus we write the "code polynomial" $\mathbf{V}(\mathbf{X})$ for the code in Eq (6.1) as a vector polynomial as:

$$\mathbf{V}(\mathbf{X}) = \mathbf{v}_0 + \mathbf{v}_1 \mathbf{X} + \mathbf{v}_2 \mathbf{X}^2 + \mathbf{v}_3 \mathbf{X}^3 + \dots + \mathbf{v}_{i-1} \mathbf{X}^{i-1} + \dots + \mathbf{v}_{n-3} \mathbf{X}^{n-3} + \mathbf{v}_{n-2} \mathbf{X}^{n-2} + \mathbf{v}_{n-1} \mathbf{X}^{n-1} \dots \dots (4.4)$$

Notice that the co-efficients of the polynomial are either '0' or '1' (binary codes), i.e. they belong to $\mathbf{GF}(2)$ as discussed in sec 5.7.1.

- . Each power of \mathbf{X} in $\mathbf{V}(\mathbf{X})$ represents a one bit cyclic shift in time.
- . Therefore multiplication of $\mathbf{V}(\mathbf{X})$ by \mathbf{X} maybe viewed as a cyclic shift or rotation to the right subject to the condition $\mathbf{X}^n = 1$. This condition (i) restores $\mathbf{XV}(\mathbf{X})$ to the degree $(n-1)$ (ii) Implies that right most bit is fed-back at the left.
- . This special form of multiplication is called "**Multiplication modulo $\mathbf{X}^n + 1$** "
- . Thus for a single shift, we have

$$\mathbf{XV}(\mathbf{X}) = \mathbf{v}_0 \mathbf{X} + \mathbf{v}_1 \mathbf{X}^2 + \mathbf{v}_2 \mathbf{X}^3 + \dots + \mathbf{v}_{n-2} \mathbf{X}^{n-1} + \mathbf{v}_{n-1} \mathbf{X}^n$$

$$(+ \mathbf{v}_{n-1} + \mathbf{v}_{n-1}) \dots \text{(Manipulate } \mathbf{A} + \mathbf{A} = \mathbf{0} \text{ Binary Arithmetic)}$$

$$= \mathbf{v}_{n-1} + \mathbf{v}_0 \mathbf{X} + \mathbf{v}_1 \mathbf{X}^2 + \dots + \mathbf{v}_{n-2} \mathbf{X}^{n-1} + \mathbf{v}_{n-1}(\mathbf{X}^n + 1)$$

$= \mathbf{V}^{(1)}(\mathbf{X}) =$ Remainder obtained by dividing $\mathbf{XV}(\mathbf{X})$ by $\mathbf{X}^n + 1$
 (Remember: $\mathbf{X} \bmod \mathbf{Y}$ means remainder obtained after dividing \mathbf{X} by \mathbf{Y})

Thus it turns out that

$$\mathbf{V}^{(1)}(\mathbf{X}) = \mathbf{v}_{n-1} + \mathbf{v}_0 \mathbf{X} + \mathbf{v}_1 \mathbf{X}^2 + \dots + \mathbf{v}_{n-2} \mathbf{X}^{n-1} \dots \dots \dots (4.5)$$

$\mathbf{V}^{(1)}$ is the code polynomial for $\mathbf{v}^{(1)}$. We can continue in this way to arrive at a general format:

$$X^i V(X) = \underset{\uparrow}{V^{(i)}(X)} + \underset{\uparrow}{q(X)}(X^n + 1) \dots \dots \dots (4.6)$$

Remainder Quotient

Where

$$V^{(i)}(X) = v_{n-i} + v_{n-i+1}X + v_{n-i+2}X^2 + \dots + v_{n-1}X^{i-1} + \dots + v_0X^i + v_1X^{i+1} + \dots + v_{n-i-2}X^{n-2} + v_{n-i-1}X^{n-1} \dots \dots \dots (4.7)$$

4.1 GENERATOR POLYNOMIAL FOR CYCLIC CODES:

An (n, k) cyclic code is specified by the complete set of code polynomials of degree ≤ (n-1) and contains a polynomial g(X), of degree (n-k) as a factor, called the "generator polynomial" of the code. This polynomial is equivalent to the generator matrix G, of block codes. Further, it is the only polynomial of minimum degree and is unique. Thus we have an important theorem

Theorem 4.1 "If g(X) is a polynomial of degree (n-k) and is a factor of (X^n + 1) then g(X) generates an (n, k) cyclic code in which the code polynomial V(X) for a data vector u = (u_0, u_1... u_{k-1}) is generated by

$$V(X) = U(X) \times g(X) \dots \dots \dots (4.8)$$

Where $U(X) = u_0 + u_1 X + u_2 X^2 + \dots + u_{k-1} X^{k-1} \dots \dots \dots (4.9)$

is the data polynomial of degree (k-1).

The theorem can be justified by Contradiction: - If there is another polynomial of same degree, then add the two polynomials to get a polynomial of degree < (n, k) (use linearity property and binary arithmetic). Not possible because minimum degree is (n-k). Hence g(X) is unique

Clearly, there are 2^k code polynomials corresponding to 2^k data vectors. The code vectors corresponding to these code polynomials form a linear (n, k) code. We have then, from the theorem

$$g(X) = 1 + \sum_{i=1}^{n-k-1} g_i X^i + X^{n-k} \dots \dots \dots (4.10)$$

As $g(X) = g_0 + g_1 X + g_2 X^2 + \dots + g_{n-k-1} X^{n-k-1} + g_{n-k} X^{n-k} \dots \dots \dots (4.11)$

is a polynomial of minimum degree, it follows that g_0 = g_{n-k} = 1 always and the remaining coefficients may be either '0' or '1'. Performing the multiplication said in Eq (4.8) we have:

$$U(X) g(X) = u_0 g(X) + u_1 X g(X) + \dots + u_{k-1} X^{k-1} g(X) \dots \dots \dots (4.12)$$

Suppose $\mathbf{u}_0=1$ and $\mathbf{u}_1=\mathbf{u}_2= \dots=\mathbf{u}_{k-1}=\mathbf{0}$. Then from Eq (4.8) it follows $\mathbf{g}(\mathbf{X})$ is a code word polynomial of degree $(n-k)$. This is treated as a 'basis code polynomial' (All rows of the \mathbf{G} matrix of a block code, being linearly independent, are also valid code vectors and form 'Basis vectors' of the code). Therefore from cyclic property $\mathbf{X}^i \mathbf{g}(\mathbf{X})$ is also a code polynomial. Moreover, from the linearity property - a linear combination of code polynomials is also a code polynomial. It follows therefore that any multiple of $\mathbf{g}(\mathbf{X})$ as shown in Eq (4.12) is a code polynomial. Conversely, any binary polynomial of degree $\leq (n-1)$ is a code polynomial if and only if it is a multiple of $\mathbf{g}(\mathbf{X})$. The code words generated using Eq (4.8) are in non-systematic form. Non systematic cyclic codes can be generated by simple binary multiplication circuits using shift registers.

In this book we have described cyclic codes with right shift operation. Left shift version can be obtained by simply re-writing the polynomials. Thus, for left shift operations, the various polynomials take the following form

$$\mathbf{U}(\mathbf{X}) = \mathbf{u}_0\mathbf{X}^{k-1} + \mathbf{u}_1\mathbf{X}^{k-2} + \dots + \mathbf{u}_{k-2}\mathbf{X} + \mathbf{u}_{k-1} \quad \dots \dots \dots \quad (4.13a)$$

$$\mathbf{V}(\mathbf{X}) = \mathbf{v}_0 \mathbf{X}^{n-1} + \mathbf{v}_1\mathbf{X}^{n-2} + \dots + \mathbf{v}_{n-2}\mathbf{X} + \mathbf{v}_{n-1} \quad \dots \dots \dots \quad (4.13b)$$

$$\mathbf{g}(\mathbf{X}) = \mathbf{g}_0\mathbf{X}^{n-k} + \mathbf{g}_1\mathbf{X}^{n-k-1} + \dots + \mathbf{g}_{n-k-1} \mathbf{X} + \mathbf{g}_{n-k} \quad \dots \dots \dots \quad (4.13c)$$

$$= \mathbf{X}_{n-k} + \sum_{i=1}^{n-k} \mathbf{g}_i \mathbf{X}^{n-k-i} + \mathbf{g}_{n-k} \quad \dots \dots \dots \quad (4.13d)$$

Other manipulation and implementation procedures remain unaltered.

4.2 MULTIPLICATION CIRCUITS

Construction of encoders and decoders for linear block codes are usually constructed with combinational logic circuits with mod-2 adders. Multiplication of two polynomials $\mathbf{A}(\mathbf{X})$ and $\mathbf{B}(\mathbf{X})$ and the division of one by the other are realized by using sequential logic circuits, mod-2 adders and shift registers. In this section we shall consider multiplication circuits.

As a convention, the higher-order co-efficients of a polynomial are transmitted first. This is the reason for the format of polynomials used in this book.

$$\text{For the polynomial: } \mathbf{A}(\mathbf{X}) = \mathbf{a}_0 + \mathbf{a}_1 \mathbf{X} + \mathbf{a}_2 \mathbf{X}^2 + \dots + \mathbf{a}_{n-1} \mathbf{X}^{n-1} \quad \dots \dots \dots \quad (4.14)$$

where \mathbf{a}_i 's are either a '0' or a '1', the right most bit in the sequence $(\mathbf{a}_0, \mathbf{a}_1, \mathbf{a}_2 \dots \mathbf{a}_{n-1})$ is transmitted first in any operation. The product of the two polynomials $\mathbf{A}(\mathbf{X})$ and $\mathbf{B}(\mathbf{X})$ yield:

$$\mathbf{C}(\mathbf{X}) = \mathbf{A}(\mathbf{X}) \times \mathbf{B}(\mathbf{X})$$

$$\begin{aligned}
 &= (a_0 + a_1 X + a_2 X^2 + \dots + a_{n-1} X^{n-1}) (b_0 + b_1 X + b_2 X^2 + \dots + b_{m-1} X^{m-1}) \\
 &= a_0 b_0 + (a_1 b_0 + a_0 b_1) X + (a_0 b_2 + b_0 a_2 + a_1 b_1) X^2 + \dots + (a_{n-2} b_{m-1} + a_{n-1} b_{m-2}) X^{n+m-3} + a_{n-1} b_{m-1} X^{n+m-2}
 \end{aligned}$$

This product may be realized with the circuits of Fig 4.2 (a) or (b), where $A(X)$ is the input and the co-efficient of $B(X)$ are given as weighting factor connections to the mod - 2 .adders. A '0' indicates no connection while a '1' indicates a connection. Since higher order co-efficients are first sent, the highest order co-efficient $a_{n-1} \times b_{m-1}$ of the product polynomial is obtained first at the output of Fig 6.2(a). Then the co-efficient of X^{n+m-3} is obtained as the sum of $\{a_{n-2} b_{m-1} + a_{n-1} b_{m-2}\}$, the first term directly and the second term through the shift register **SR1**. Lower order co-efficients are then generated through the successive **SR**'s and mod-2 adders. After $(n + m - 2)$ shifts, the **SR**'s contain $\{0, 0 \dots 0, a_0, a_1\}$ and the output is $(a_0 b_1 + a_1 b_0)$ which is the co-efficient of X . After $(n + m - 1)$ shifts, the **SR**'s contain $(0, 0, 0, 0, a_0)$ and the out put is $a_0 \times b_0$. The product is now complete and the contents of the **SR**'s become $(0, 0, 0 \dots 0, 0)$. Fig 4.2(b) performs the multiplication in a similar way but the arrangement of the **SR**'s and ordering of the co-efficients are different (reverse order!). This modification helps to combine two multiplication operations into one as shown in Fig 4.2(c).

From the above description, it is clear that a non-systematic cyclic code may be generated using $(n-k)$ shift registers. Following examples illustrate the concepts described so far.

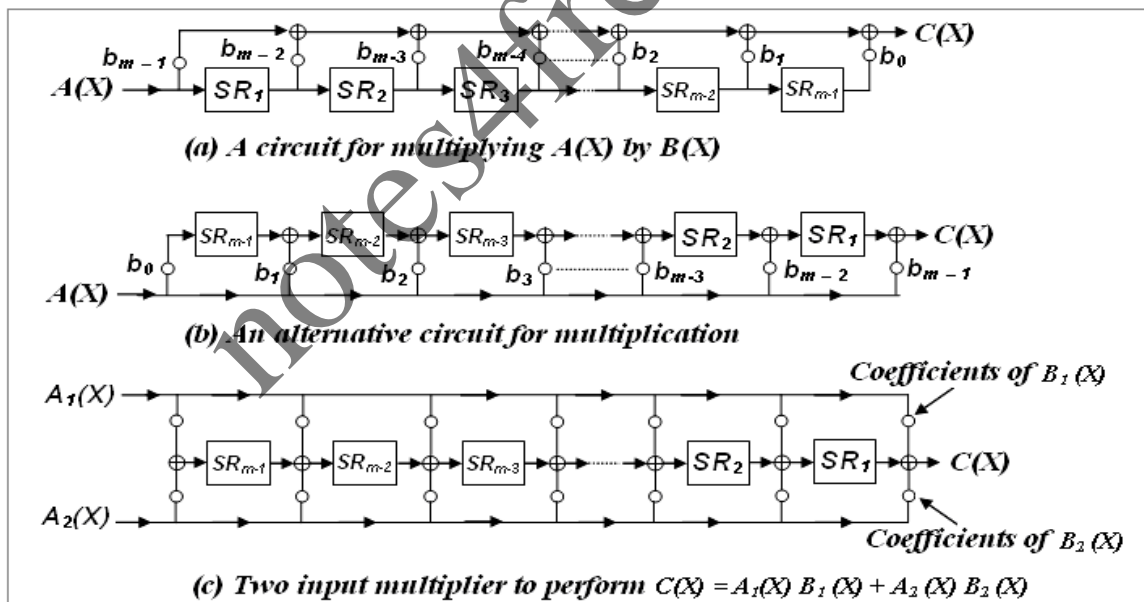


Fig 4.2: Multiplication circuits

Example 4.1: Consider that a polynomial $A(X)$ is to be multiplied by

$$B(X) = 1 + X + X^3 + X^4 + X^6$$

The circuits of Fig 4.3 (a) and (b) give the product $C(X) = A(X) \cdot B(X)$

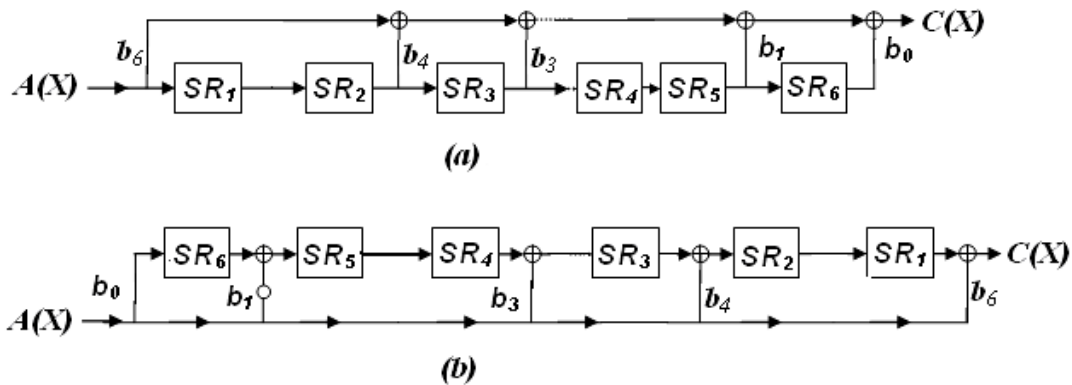


Fig 4.3: Circuit to perform $C(X) * (1 + X^2 + X^3 + X^4 + X^6)$

Example 4.2: Consider the generation of a (7, 4) cyclic code. Here $(n - k) = (7 - 4) = 3$ and we have to find a generator polynomial of degree 3 which is a factor of $X^n + 1 = X^7 + 1$.

To find the factors of degree 3, divide $X^7 + 1$ by $X^3 + aX^2 + bX + 1$, where 'a' and 'b' are binary numbers, to get the remainder as $abX^2 + (1 + a + b)X + (a + b + ab + 1)$. Only condition for the remainder to be zero is $a + b = 1$ which means either $a = 1, b = 0$ or $a = 0, b = 1$. Thus we have two possible polynomials of degree 3, namely

$$g_1(X) = X^3 + X^2 + 1 \text{ and } g_2(X) = X^3 + X + 1$$

In fact, $X^7 + 1$ can be factored as:

$$(X^7 + 1) = (X + 1)(X^3 + X^2 + 1)(X^3 + X + 1)$$

Thus selection of a 'good' generator polynomial seems to be a major problem in the design of cyclic codes. No clear-cut procedures are available. Usually computer search procedures are followed.

Let us choose $g(x) = X^3 + X + 1$ as the generator polynomial. The encoding circuits are shown in Fig 4.4(a) and (b).

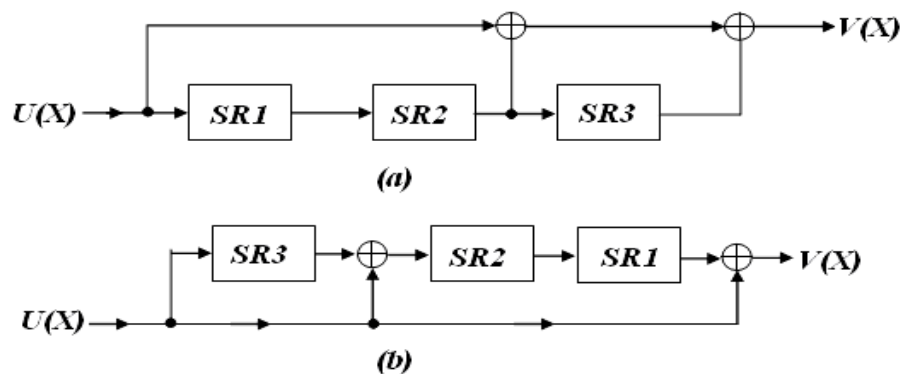


Fig 4.4 Generation of Non-systematic cyclic codes

To understand the operation, Let us consider $\mathbf{u} = (10\ 1\ 1)$ i.e.

$$U(X) = 1 + X^2 + X^3.$$

We have $V(X) = (1 + X^2 + X^3)(1 + X + X^3).$

$$= 1 + X^2 + X^3 + X + X^3 + X^4 + X^3 + X^5 + X^6$$

$$= 1 + X + X^2 + X^3 + X^4 + X^5 + X^6 \quad \text{because } (X^3 + X^3 = 0)$$

$$\Rightarrow \mathbf{v} = (1\ 1\ 1\ 1\ 1\ 1\ 1)$$

The multiplication operation, performed by the circuit of Fig 6.4(a), is listed in the Table below step by step. In shift number 4, '000' is introduced to flush the registers. As seen from the tabulation the product polynomial is:

$$V(X) = 1 + X + X^2 + X^3 + X^4 + X^5 + X^6,$$

and hence out put code vector is $\mathbf{v} = (1\ 1\ 1\ 1\ 1\ 1\ 1)$, as obtained by direct multiplication. The reader can verify the operation of the circuit in Fig 4.4(b) in the same manner. Thus the multiplication circuits of Fig 6.4 can be used for generation of non-systematic cyclic codes.

Table showing sequence of computation

Shift Number	Input Queue	Bit shifted IN	Contents of shift registers.			Output	Remarks
			SR1	SR2	SR3		
0	0001011	-	0	0	0	-	Circuit In reset mode
1	000101	1	1	0	0	1	Co-efficient of X^6
2	00010	1	1	1	0	1	Co-efficient of X^5
3	0001	0	0	1	1	1	X^4 co-efficient
*4	000	1	1	0	1	1	X^3 co-efficient
5	00	0	0	1	0	1	X^2 co-efficient
6	0	0	0	0	1	1	X^1 co-efficient
7	-	0	0	0	0	1	X^0 co-efficient

4.3 DIVIDING CIRCUITS:

As in the case of multipliers, the division of $A(X)$ by $B(X)$ can be accomplished by using shift registers and Mod-2 adders, as shown in Fig 4.5. In a division circuit, the first co-efficient of the quotient is $(a_{n-1} \div b_{m-1}) = q_1$, and $q_1 \cdot B(X)$ is subtracted from $A(X)$. This subtraction is carried out by the feed back connections shown. This process will continue for the second and subsequent terms.

However, remember that these coefficients are binary coefficients. After $(n-1)$ shifts, the entire quotient will appear at the output and the remainder is stored in the shift registers.

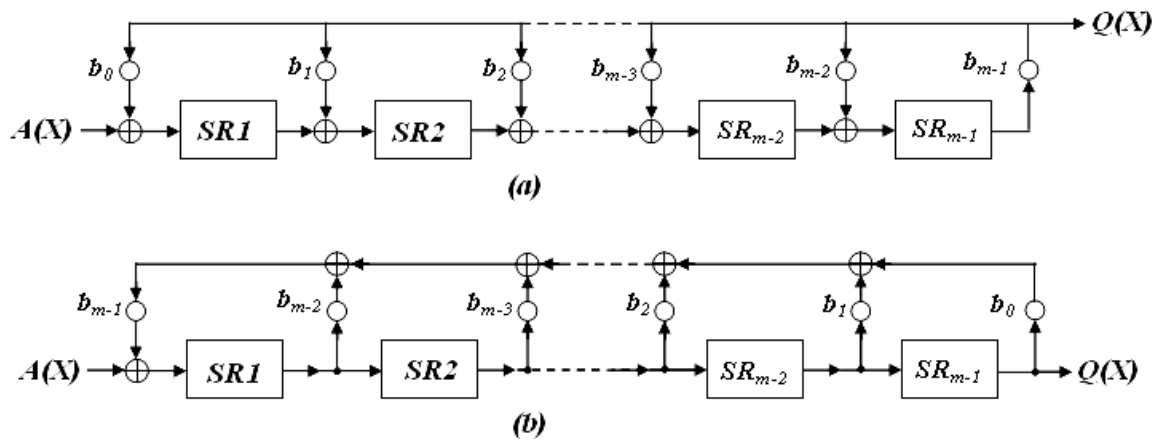


Fig 4.5: Dividing circuit

It is possible to combine a divider circuit with a multiplier circuit to build a “composite multiplier-divider circuit” which is useful in various encoding circuits. An arrangement to accomplish this is shown in Fig 4.6(a) and an illustration is shown in Fig 4.6(b).

We shall understand the operation of one divider circuit through an example. Operation of other circuits can be understood in a similar manner.

Example 4.3:

Let $A(X) = X^3 + X^5 + X^6$, $\rightarrow A = (0001011)$, $B(X) = 1 + X + X^3$. We want to find the quotient and remainder after dividing $A(X)$ by $B(X)$. The circuit to perform this division is shown in Fig 4.7, drawn using the format of Fig 4.5(a). The operation of the divider circuit is listed in the table:

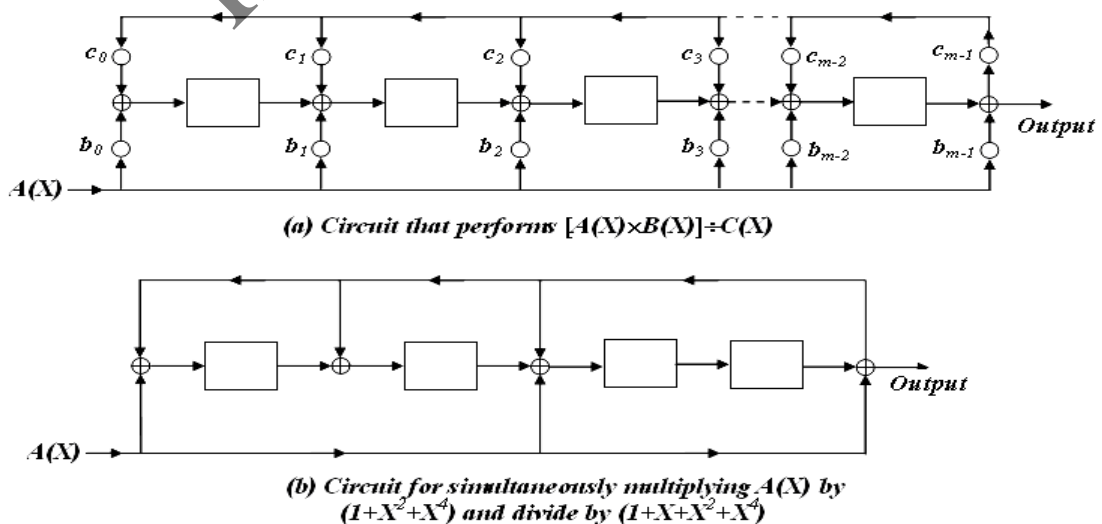


Fig 4.6 Circuits for Simultaneous Multiplication and division

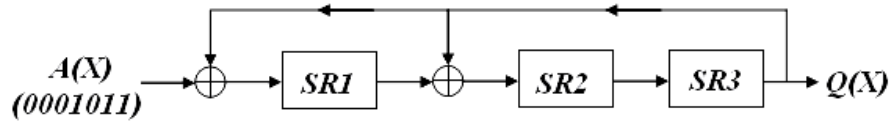


Fig 4.7 Circuits for dividing A(x) by $(1 + X + X^3)$

Table Showing the Sequence of Operations of the Dividing circuit

Shift Number	Input Queue	Bit shifted IN	Contents of shift Registers.			Output	Remarks
			SRI	SR 2	SR 3		
0	0001011	-	0	0	0	-	Circuit in reset mode
1	000101	1	1	0	0	0	Co-efficient of X^6
2	00010	1	1	1	0	0	Co-efficient of X^5
3	0001	0	0	1	1	0	X^4 co-efficient
4	*000	1	0	1	1	1	X^3 co-efficient
5	00	0	1	1	1	1	X^2 co-efficient
6	0	0	1	0	1	1	X^1 co-efficient
7	-	0	1	0	0	1	X^0 co-efficient

The quotient co-efficients will be available only after the fourth shift as the first three shifts result in entering the first 3-bits to the shift registers and in each shift out put of the last register, SR3, is zero.

The quotient co-efficient serially presented at the out put are seen to be (1111) and hence the quotient polynomial is $Q(X) = 1 + X + X^2 + X^3$. The remainder co-efficients are (1 0 0) and the remainder polynomial is $R(X) = 1$.

4.4 SYSTEMATIC CYCLIC CODES:

Let us assume a systematic format for the cyclic code as below:

$$v = (p_0, p_1, p_2 \dots p_{n-k-1}, u_0, u_1, u_2 \dots u_{k-1}) \dots \dots \dots (4.15)$$

The code polynomial in the assumed systematic format becomes:

$$V(X) = p_0 + p_1X + p_2X^2 + \dots + p_{n-k-1}X^{n-k-1} + u_0X^{n-k} + u_1X^{n-k+1} + \dots + u_{k-1}X^{n-1} \dots \dots \dots (4.16)$$

$$= P(X) + X^{n-k}U(X) \dots \dots \dots (4.17)$$

Since the code polynomial is a multiple of the generator polynomial we can write:

$$V(X) = P(X) + X^{n-k} U(X) = Q(X) g(X) \tag{4.18}$$

$$\Rightarrow \frac{X^{n-k} U(X)}{g(X)} = Q(X) + \frac{P(X)}{g(X)} \tag{4.19}$$

Thus division of $X^{n-k} U(X)$ by $g(X)$ gives us the quotient polynomial $Q(X)$ and the remainder polynomial $P(X)$. Therefore to obtain the cyclic codes in the systematic form, we determine the remainder polynomial $P(X)$ after dividing $X^{n-k} U(X)$ by $g(X)$. This division process can be easily achieved by noting that "multiplication by X^{n-k} amounts to shifting the sequence by $(n-k)$ bits". Specifically in the circuit of Fig 4.5(a), if the input $A(X)$ is applied to the Mod-2 adder after the $(n-k)^{th}$ shift register the result is the division of $X^{n-k} A(X)$ by $B(X)$.

Accordingly, we have the following scheme to generate systematic cyclic codes. The generator polynomial is written as:

$$g(X) = 1 + g_1X + g_2X^2 + g_3X^3 + \dots + g_{n-k-1} X^{n-k-1} + X^{n-k} \tag{4.20}$$

The circuit of Fig 4.8 does the job of dividing $X^{n-k}U(X)$ by $g(X)$. The following steps describe the encoding operation.

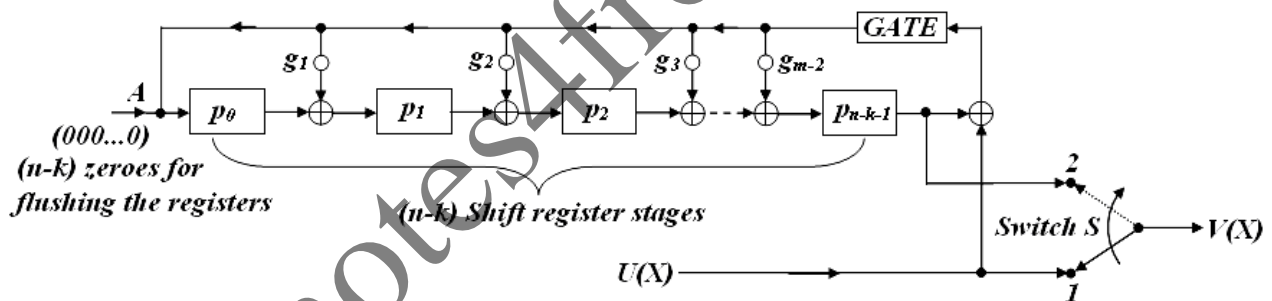


Fig 4.8 Syndrome encoding of cyclic codes using $(n-k)$ shift register stages

1. The switch **S** is in position **1** to allow transmission of the message bits directly to an out put shift register during the first **k**-shifts.
2. At the same time the '**GATE**' is '**ON**' to allow transmission of the message bits into the **(n-k)** stage encoding shift register
3. After transmission of the **kth** message bit the **GATE** is turned **OFF** and the switch **S** is moved to position **2**.
4. **(n-k)** zeroes introduced at "**A**" after step **3**, clear the encoding register by moving the parity bits to the output register
5. The total number of shifts is equal to **n** and the contents of the output register is the code word polynomial $V(X) = P(X) + X^{n-k} U(X)$.
6. After step-4, the encoder is ready to take up encoding of the next message input

Clearly, the encoder is very much simpler than the encoder of an (n, k) linear block code and the memory requirements are reduced. The following example illustrates the procedure.

Example 4.4:

Let $u = (1\ 0\ 1\ 1)$ and we want a $(7, 4)$ cyclic code in the systematic form. The generator polynomial chosen is $g(X) = 1 + X + X^3$

For the given message, $U(X) = 1 + X^2 + X^3$

$$X^{n-k} U(X) = X^3 U(X) = X^3 + X^5 + X^6$$

We perform direct division $X^{n-k}U(X)$ by $g(X)$ as shown below. From direct division observe that $p_0=1, p_1=p_2=0$. Hence the code word in systematic format is:

$$v = (p_0, p_1, p_2; u_0, u_1, u_2, u_3) = (1, 0, 0, 1, 0, 1, 1)$$

$$\begin{array}{r}
 X^3+X^2+X+1 \overline{) X^6+X^5+X^3} \\
 \underline{X^6+X^5+X^3} \\
 X^5+X^4 \\
 \underline{X^5+X^3+X^2} \\
 X^4+X^3+X^2 \\
 \underline{X^4+X^2+X} \\
 X^3+X \\
 \underline{X^3+X+1} \\
 1 \text{ (Remainder)}
 \end{array}$$

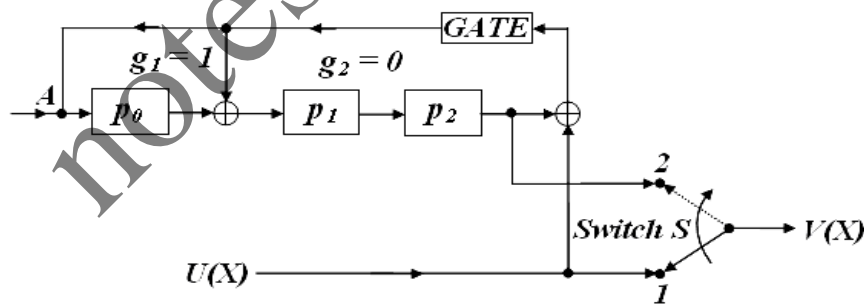


Fig 4.9 Encoder for the $(7,4)$ cyclic code

The encoder circuit for the problem on hand is shown in Fig 4.9. The operational steps are as follows:

Shift Number	Input Queue	Bit shifted IN	Register contents	Output
0	1011	-	000	-
1	101	1	110	1
2	10	1	101	1
3	1	0	100	0
4	-	1	100	1

After the Fourth shift **GATE** Turned **OFF**, switch **S** moved to position **2**, and the parity bits contained in the register are shifted to the output. The out put code vector is $v = (100\ 1011)$ which

agrees with the direct hand calculation.

4.5 GENERATOR MATRIX FOR CYCLIC CODES:

The generator polynomial $g(X)$ and the parity check polynomial $h(X)$ uniquely specify the generator matrix G and the parity check matrix H respectively. We shall consider the construction of a generator matrix for a (7, 4) code generated by the polynomial $g(X) = 1 + X + X^3$.

We start with the generator polynomial and its three cyclic shifted versions as below:

$$\begin{aligned} g(X) &= 1 + X + X^3 \\ Xg(X) &= X + X^2 + X^4 \\ X^2g(X) &= X^2 + X^3 + X^5 \\ X^3g(X) &= X^3 + X^4 + X^6 \end{aligned}$$

The co-efficients of these polynomials are used as the elements of the rows of a (4×7) matrix to get the following generator matrix:

$$G = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 1 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 1 & 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 1 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

Clearly, the generator matrix so constructed is not in a systematic format. We can transform this into a systematic format using **Row manipulations**. The manipulations are:

First row = First row; Second row = Second row; Third row = First row + Third row; and Fourth row = First row + second row + Fourth row.

These operations give the following result:

$$G = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 1 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 1 & 1 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 1 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix} = [P: I_4]$$

Using this generator matrix, which is in systematic form the code word for $u = (1 \ 0 \ 1 \ 1)$ is $v = (1 \ 0 \ 0 \ 1 \ 0 \ 1 \ 1)$ (obtained as sum of 1st row + Third row + Fourth row of the G -matrix). The result agrees with direct hand calculation.

To construct H -matrix directly, we start with the reciprocal of the parity check polynomial defined by $X^k h(X^{-1})$. Observe that the polynomial $X^k h(X^{-1})$ is also a factor of the polynomial $X^n + 1$. For the polynomial $(X^7 + 1)$ we have three primitive factors namely, $(X + 1)$, $(X^3 + X + 1)$ and $(X^3 + X^2 + 1)$. Since we have chosen $(X^3 + X + 1)$ as the generator polynomial the other two factors should give us the parity check polynomial.

$$h(X) = (X + 1)(X^3 + X^2 + 1) = X^4 + X^2 + X + 1$$

There fore with $h(X) = 1 + X + X^2 + X^4$, we have

$$\mathbf{h}(X^{-1}) = 1 + X^{-1} + X^{-2} + X^{-4}, \text{ and}$$

$$X^k \mathbf{h}(X^{-1}) = X^4 \mathbf{h}(X^{-1}) = X^4 + X^3 + X^2 + 1$$

The two cyclic shifted versions are:

$$X^5 \mathbf{h}(X^{-1}) = X^5 + X^4 + X^3 + X$$

$$X^6 \mathbf{h}(X^{-1}) = X^6 + X^5 + X^4 + X^2$$

Or $X^4 \mathbf{h}(X^{-1}) = X^4 + X^3 + X^2 + 1$

$$X^5 \mathbf{h}(X^{-1}) = X^5 + X^4 + X^3 + X$$

$$X^6 \mathbf{h}(X^{-1}) = X^6 + X^5 + X^4 + X^2$$

Using the co-efficients of these polynomials, we have:

$$H = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 1 & 1 & 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 & 1 & 1 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 1 & 1 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

Clearly, this matrix is in non systematic form. It is interesting to check that for the non-systematic matrixes obtained $\mathbf{GH}^T = \mathbf{0}$. We can obtain the \mathbf{H} matrix in the systematic format $H = [I_3 : P^T]$, by using **Row manipulations**. The manipulation in this case is simply. 'First row = First row + Third row'. The result is

$$H = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 1 & 1 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 & 1 & 1 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 1 & 1 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

Observe the systematic format adopted: $G = [P : I_k]$ and $H = [I_{n-k} : P^T]$

4.6 SYNDROME CALCULATION - ERROR DETECTION AND ERROR CORRECTION :

Suppose the code vector $\mathbf{v} = (\mathbf{v}_0, \mathbf{v}_1, \mathbf{v}_2 \dots \mathbf{v}_{n-1})$ is transmitted over a noisy channel. Hence the received vector may be a corrupted version of the transmitted code vector. Let the received code vector be $\mathbf{r} = (\mathbf{r}_0, \mathbf{r}_1, \mathbf{r}_2 \dots \mathbf{r}_{n-1})$. The received vector may not be anyone of the 2^k valid code vectors. The function of the decoder is to determine the transmitted code vector based on the received vector.

The decoder, as in the case of linear block codes, first computes the syndrome to check whether or not the received code vector is a valid code vector. In the case of cyclic codes, if the syndrome is zero, then the received code word polynomial must be divisible by the generator polynomial. If the syndrome is non-zero, the received word contains transmission errors and needs

error correction. Let the received code vector be represented by the polynomial

$$R(X) = r_0 + r_1X + r_2X^2 + \dots + r_{n-1}X^{n-1}$$

Let $A(X)$ be the quotient and $S(X)$ be the remainder polynomials resulting from the division of $R(X)$ by $g(X)$ i.e.

$$\frac{R(X)}{g(X)} = A(X) + \frac{S(X)}{g(X)} \quad \dots\dots\dots (4.21)$$

The remainder $S(X)$ is a polynomial of degree $(n-k-1)$ or less. It is called the "Syndrome polynomial". If $E(X)$ is the polynomial representing the error pattern caused by the channel, then we have:

$$R(X) = V(X) + E(X) \quad \dots\dots\dots (4.22)$$

And it follows as $V(X) = U(X)g(X)$, that:

$$E(X) = [A(X) + U(X)]g(X) + S(X) \quad \dots\dots\dots (4.23)$$

That is, the syndrome of $R(X)$ is equal to the remainder resulting from dividing the error pattern by the generator polynomial; and the syndrome contains information about the error pattern, which can be used for error correction. Fig 4.5. A "Syndrome calculator" is shown in Fig 4.10.

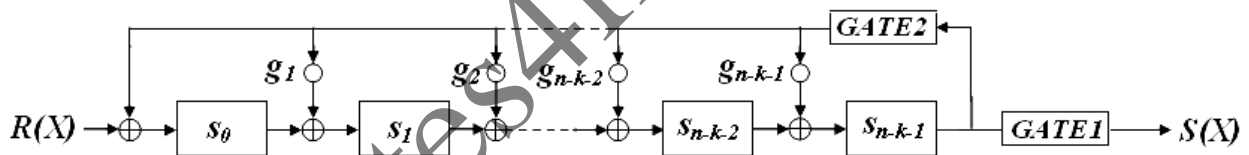


Fig 4.10 Syndrome calculator using (n-k) shift register

The syndrome calculations are carried out as below:

- 1 The register is first initialized. With **GATE 2 -ON** and **GATE1- OFF**, the received vector is entered into the register
- 2 After the entire received vector is shifted into the register, the contents of the register will be the syndrome, which can be shifted out of the register by turning **GATE-1 ON** and **GATE-2 OFF**. The circuit is ready for processing next received vector.

Cyclic codes are extremely well suited for 'error detection'. They can be designed to detect many combinations of likely errors and implementation of error-detecting and error correcting circuits is practical and simple. Error detection can be achieved by employing (or adding) an additional R-S flip-flop to the syndrome calculator. If the syndrome is nonzero, the flip-flop sets and provides an indication of error. Because of the ease of implementation, virtually all error detecting codes are invariably 'cyclic codes'. If we are interested in error correction, then the decoder must be capable of determining the error pattern $E(X)$ from the syndrome $S(X)$ and add it to $R(X)$ to

determine the transmitted $V(X)$. The following scheme shown in Fig 6.11 may be employed for the purpose. The error correction procedure consists of the following steps:

- Step1.** Received data is shifted into the buffer register and syndrome registers with switches S_{IN} closed and S_{OUT} open and error correction is performed with S_{IN} open and S_{OUT} closed.
- Step2.** After the syndrome for the received code word is calculated and placed in the syndrome register, the contents are read into the error detector. The detector is a combinatorial circuit designed to output a '1' if and only if the syndrome corresponds to a correctable error pattern with an error at the highest order position X^{n-1} . That is, if the detector output is a '1' then the received digit at the right most stage of the buffer register is assumed to be in error and will be corrected. If the detector output is '0' then the received digit at the right most stage of the buffer is assumed to be correct. Thus the detector output is the estimate error value for the digit coming out of the buffer register.

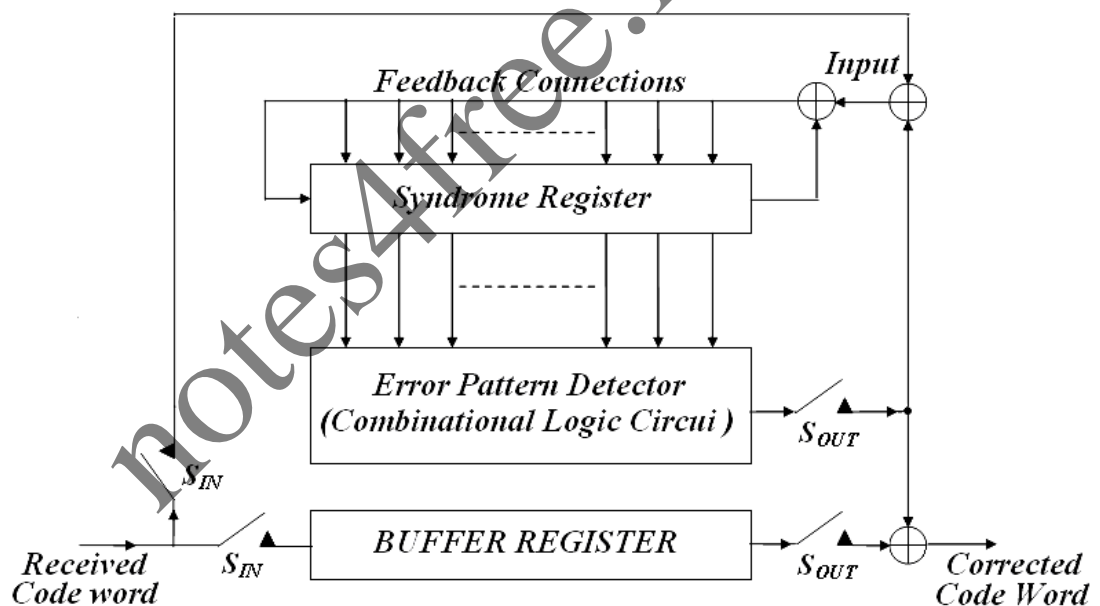


Fig 4.11 General decoder for cyclic code

- Step3.** In the third step, the first received digit in the syndrome register is shifted right once. If the first received digit is in error, the detector output will be '1' which is used for error correction. The output of the detector is also fed to the syndrome register to modify the syndrome. This results in a new syndrome corresponding to the 'altered' received code word shifted to the right by one place.
- Step4.** The new syndrome is now used to check and correct the second received digit, which is now at the right most position, is an erroneous digit. If so, it is corrected, a new syndrome is calculated as in step-3 and the procedure is repeated.
- Step5.** The decoder operates on the received data digit by digit until the entire

received code word is shifted out of the buffer.

At the end of the decoding operation, that is, after the received code word is shifted out of the buffer, all those errors corresponding to correctable error patterns will have been corrected, and the syndrome register will contain all zeros. If the syndrome register does not contain all zeros, this means that an un-correctable error pattern has been detected. The decoding schemes described in Fig 6.10 and Fig6.11 can be used for any cyclic code. However, the practicality depends on the complexity of the combinational logic circuits of the error detector. In fact, there are special classes of cyclic codes for which the decoder can be realized by simpler circuits. However, the price paid for such simplicity is in the reduction of code efficiency for a given block size.

A decoder of the form described above operates on the received data bit by bit; and each bit is tested in turn for error and is corrected whenever an error is located. Such a decoder is called a“**Meggitt decoder**”.

For illustration let us consider a decoder for a (7, 4) cyclic code generated by

$$g(X) = 1 + X + X^3$$

The circuit implementation of the Meggitt decoder is shown on Fig 6.12. The entire received vector $R(X)$ is entered in to the SR 's bit by bit and at the same time it is stored in the buffer memory. The division process will start after the third shift and after the seventh shift the syndrome will be stored in the SR 's. If $S(X) = (000)$ then $E(X) = 0$ and $R(X)$ is read out of the buffer. Since $S(X)$ can be found from $E(X)$ with nonzero coefficients, suppose $E(X) = (000\ 0001)$. Then the SR contents are given as: **(001, 110, 011, 111, 101)** showing that $S(X) = (101)$ after the seventh shift. At the eighth shift, the SR content is **(100)** and this may be used through a coincidence circuit to correct the error bit coming out of the buffer at the eighth shift. On the other hand if the error polynomial were $E(X) = (000\ 1000)$ then the SR content will be **(100)** at the eleventh shift and the error will be corrected when the buffer delivers the error bit at the eleventh shift. The SR contents for different shifts, for two other error patterns are as shown in the table below:

SR contents for the error patterns (1001010) and (1001111)

Shift Number	Input	SR-content for (1001010)	Input	SR- content for (1001111)
1	0	000	1	100
2	1	100	1	110
3	0	010	1	111
4	1	101	1	001
5	0	100	0	110
6	0	010	0	011
7	1	101	1	011 *Indicates an error
8	0	100	0	111
9	-	-	0	101
10	-	-	0	100

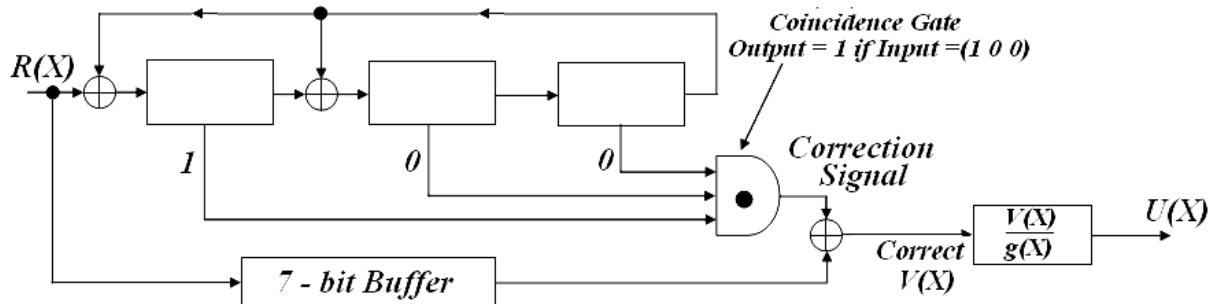


Fig 4.12 Meggitt decoder for (7,4) cyclic code

For $R(X) = (1001010)$, the SR content is (100) at the 8-th shift and the bit in X^6 position of $R(X)$ is corrected giving correct $V(X) = (1001011)$. On the other hand, if $R(X) = (1001111)$, then it is seen from the table that at the 10-th shift the syndrome content will detect the error and correct the X^4 bit of $R(X)$ giving $V(X) = (1001011)$.

The decoder for the $(15, 11)$ cyclic code, using $g(X) = 1 + X + X^4$, is shown in Fig 6.13. It is easy to check that the SR content at the 16-th shift is (1000) for $E(X) = X^{14}$. Hence a coincidence circuit gives the correction signal to the buffer output as explained earlier.

Although the Meggitt decoders are intended for Single error correcting cyclic codes, they may be generalized for multiple error correcting codes as well, for example $(15, 7)$ BCH code.

An **error trapping decoder** is a modification of a Meggitt decoder that is used for certain cyclic codes.

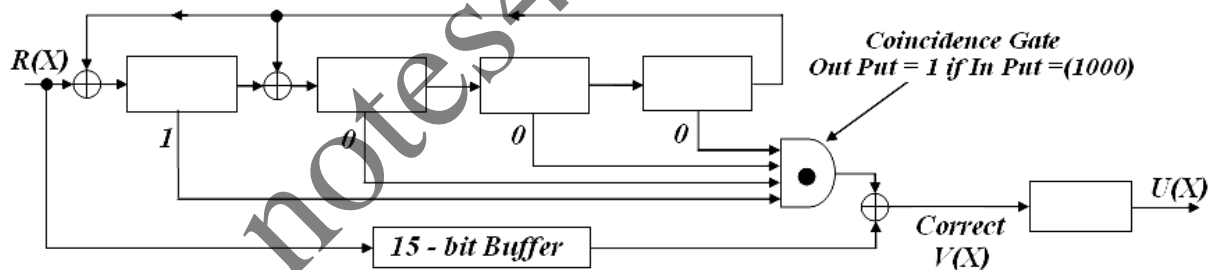


Fig 4.13 Meggitt decoder for (15,11) cyclic code

The syndrome polynomial is computed as: $S(X) = \text{Remainder of } [E(X) / g(X)]$. If the error $E(X)$ is confined to the $(n-k)$ parity check positions $(1, X, X^2 \dots X^{n-k-1})$ of $R(X)$, then $E(X) = S(X)$, since the degree of $E(X)$ is less than that of $g(X)$. Thus error correction can be carried out by simply adding $S(X)$ to $R(X)$. Even if $E(X)$ is not confined to the $(n-k)$ parity check positions of $R(X)$ but has nonzero values clustered together such that the length of the nonzero values is less than the syndrome length, then also the syndrome will exhibit an exact replica of the error pattern after some cyclic shifts of $E(X)$. For each error pattern, the syndrome content $S(X)$ (after the required shifts) is subtracted from the appropriately shifted $R(X)$, and the corrected $V(X)$ recovered.

“If the syndrome of $R(X)$ is taken to be the remainder after dividing $X^{n-k} R(X)$ by $g(X)$, and all errors lie in the highest-order $(n-k)$ symbols of $R(X)$, then the nonzero portion of the error pattern appears in the corresponding positions of the syndrome”. Fig 4.14 shows an error trapping decoder for a $(15, 7)$ BCH code based on the principles described above. A total of 45 shifts

are required to correct the double error, **15** shifts to generate the syndrome, **15** shifts to correct the first error and **15** shifts to correct the second error.

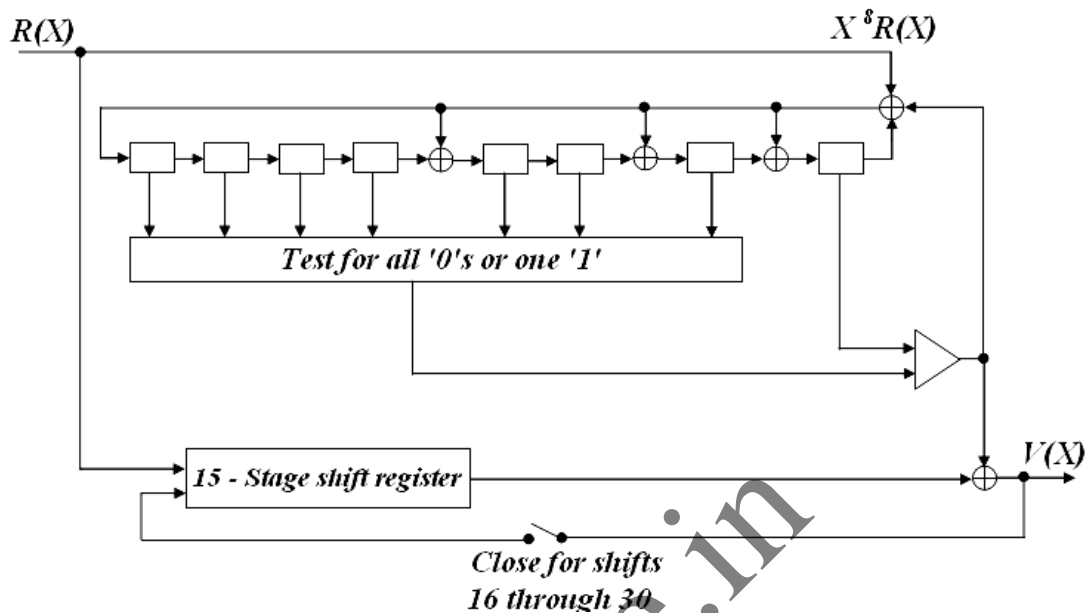


Fig 4.14 Error trapping decoder for (15,7) BCH code

Illustration:

$$U(X) = X^6 + 1; g(X) = X^8 + X^7 + X^6 + X^4 + 1$$

$$V(X) = X^{14} + X^{13} + X^{12} + X^{10} + X^8 + X^7 + X^4 + 1$$

$$E(X) = X^{11} + X$$

$$R(X) = X^{14} + X^{13} + X^{12} + X^{11} + X^{10} + X^8 + X^7 + X^4 + X + 1$$

$$r = (110010011011111)$$

Shift Number	Syndrome Generator Register	Shift Number	Middle Register	Shift Number	Bottom Register
1	10001011	16	01100011	31	00000100
2	01000101	17	10111010	32	00000010
3	00100010	18	01011101	33	00000001
4	10011010	19	10100101	34	00000000
5	11000110	20	11011001	35	;
6	01100011	21	11100111	36	:
7	00110001	22	11111000	37	:
8	00011000	23	01111100	38	All zeros
9	00001100	24	00111110	39	:
10	00000110	25	00011111	40	:
11	10001000	26	10000100	41	:
12	01000100	27	01000010	42	:

13	00100010	28	00100001	43	:
14	10011010	29	00010000	44	:
15	11000110	30	00001000	45	:

Errors trapped at shift numbers 28 and 33.

Some times when error trapping cannot be used for a given code, the test patterns can be modified to include the few troublesome error patterns along with the general test. Such a modified error trapping decoder is possible for the (23, 12) Golay code in which the error pattern $\mathbf{E}(\mathbf{X})$ will be of length 23 and weight of 3 or less ($t \leq 3$). The length of the syndrome register is 11 and if $\mathbf{E}(\mathbf{X})$ has a length greater than 11 the error pattern is not trapped by cyclically shifting $\mathbf{S}(\mathbf{X})$. In this case, it is shown that one of the three error bits must have at least five zeros on one side of it and at least six zeros the other side. Hence all error patterns can be cyclically shifted into one of the following three configurations (numbering the bit positions, $e_0, e_1, e_2 \dots e_{22}$):

- (i) All errors ($t \leq 3$) occur in the 11 high-order bits
- (ii) One error occurs in position e_5 and the other two errors occur in the 11 high-order bits.
- (iii) One error occurs in position e_6 and the remaining two errors occur in the 11 high-order bits.

In the decoder shown in Fig 4.15, the received code vector $\mathbf{R}(\mathbf{X})$ is fed at the rightmost stage of the syndrome generator (as was done in Fig 6.14), equivalent to multiplying $\mathbf{R}(\mathbf{X})$ by \mathbf{X}^{11} . Then the syndrome corresponding to e_5 and e_6 are obtained (using $g_1(\mathbf{X})$ as the generator polynomial) as:

$$S(e_5) = \text{Remainder of } [X^{16}/g_1(X)] = X + X^2 + X^5 + X^6 + X^8 + X^9 \text{ and}$$

$$S(e_6) = \text{Remainder of } [X^{17}/g_1(X)] = X^2 + X^3 + X^6 + X^7 + X^9 + X^{10}$$

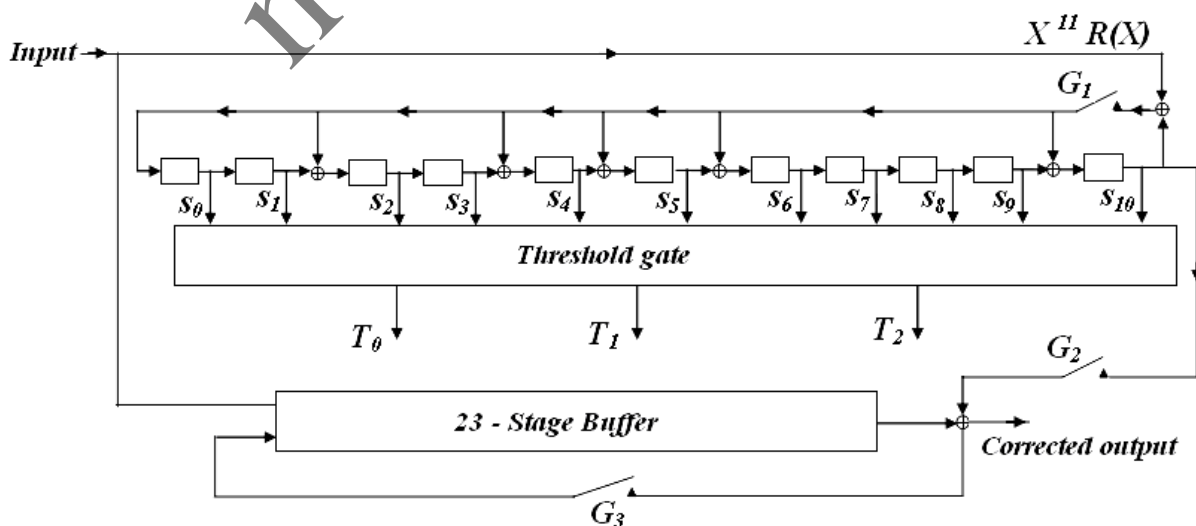


Fig 4.15 Error trapping decoder for (23,12) Golay code

The syndrome vectors for the errors e_5 and e_6 will be (01100110110) or (00110011011) respectively. Two more errors occurring in the 11 high-order bit positions will cause two 1's in the

appropriate positions of the syndrome vectors, thereby complementing the vector for \mathbf{e}_5 or \mathbf{e}_6 . Based on the above relations, the decoder operates as follows:

(i). The entire received vector is shifted into the syndrome generator (with switch \mathbf{G}_1 closed) and the syndrome $\mathbf{S}(\mathbf{X})$ corresponding to $\mathbf{X}^{11} \mathbf{R}(\mathbf{X})$ is formed.

(ii). If all the three or less errors are confined to $\mathbf{X}^{12}, \mathbf{X}^{13} \dots \mathbf{X}^{22}$ of $\mathbf{R}(\mathbf{X})$, then the syndrome matches the errors in these positions. The weight of the syndrome is now 3 or less. This is checked by a threshold gate and the gate output \mathbf{T}_0 switches \mathbf{G}_2 ON and \mathbf{G}_1 OFF. $\mathbf{R}(\mathbf{X})$ is now received from the buffer and corrected by the syndrome bits (as they are clocked bit by bit) through the modulo-2 adder circuit.

(iii). If the test in (ii) fails then it is assumed that one error is either at \mathbf{e}_5 or at \mathbf{e}_6 , and the other **two** errors are in the **11** high-order bits of $\mathbf{R}(\mathbf{X})$. Then if the weight of $\mathbf{S}(\mathbf{X})$ is more than **3** (in test (ii)), then the weights of $[\mathbf{S}(\mathbf{X}) + \mathbf{S}(\mathbf{e}_5)]$ and $[\mathbf{S}(\mathbf{X}) + \mathbf{S}(\mathbf{e}_6)]$ are tested. The decisions are:

1. If weight of $[\mathbf{S}(\mathbf{X}) + \mathbf{S}(\mathbf{e}_5)] \leq 2$ then the decision ($\mathbf{T}_1 = 1$) is that one error is at position \mathbf{e}_5 and two errors are at positions where $[\mathbf{S}(\mathbf{X}) + \mathbf{S}(\mathbf{e}_5)]$ are nonzero.
2. If weight of $[\mathbf{S}(\mathbf{X}) + \mathbf{S}(\mathbf{e}_6)] \leq 2$ then the decision ($\mathbf{T}_2 = 1$) is that one error is at position \mathbf{e}_6 and two errors are at positions where $[\mathbf{S}(\mathbf{X}) + \mathbf{S}(\mathbf{e}_6)]$ are nonzero. The above tests are arranged through combinatorial switching circuits and the appropriate corrections in $\mathbf{R}(\mathbf{X})$ are made as $\mathbf{R}(\mathbf{X})$ is read from the buffer.

(iv). If the above tests fail then with \mathbf{G}_1 and \mathbf{G}_3 ON and \mathbf{G}_2 OFF, the syndrome and buffer contents are shifted by **one** bit. Tests (ii) and (iii) are now repeated. Bit by bit shifting of $\mathbf{S}(\mathbf{X})$ and $\mathbf{R}(\mathbf{X})$ is continued till the errors are located, and then corrected. A maximum of **23** shifts will be required to complete the process. After correction of $\mathbf{R}(\mathbf{X})$, the corrected $\mathbf{V}(\mathbf{X})$ is further processed through a divider circuit to obtain the message $\mathbf{U}(\mathbf{X}) = \mathbf{V}(\mathbf{X}) / \mathbf{g}(\mathbf{X})$.

Assuming that upon shifting the block of **23** bits with $\mathbf{t} \leq 3$ cyclically, 'at most one error will lie outside the **11** high-order bits of $\mathbf{R}(\mathbf{X})$ ' at some shift, an alternative decoding procedure can be devised for a Golay coder – The systematic search decoder. Here the test (ii) is first carried out. If the test fails, then **first bit** of $\mathbf{R}(\mathbf{X})$ is inverted and a check is made to find if the weight of $\mathbf{S}(\mathbf{X}) \leq 2$. If this test is successful, then the nonzero positions of $\mathbf{S}(\mathbf{X})$ give the **two** error locations (similar to test (iii) above) and the other error is at **first** position. If this test fails, then the syndrome content is cyclically shifted, each time testing for weight of $\mathbf{S}(\mathbf{X}) \leq 3$; and if not, invert **2nd, 3rd and 12th** bit of $\mathbf{R}(\mathbf{X})$ successively and test for weight of $\mathbf{S}(\mathbf{X}) \leq 2$. Since all errors are not in the parity check section, an error must be detected in one of the shifts. Once one error is located and corrected, the other two errors are easily located and corrected by test (ii). Some times the systematic search decoder is simpler in hardware than the error trapping decoder, but the latter is faster in operation. The systematic search decoder can be generalized for decoding other multiple-error-correcting cyclic codes. It is to be observed that the Golay (**23, 12**) code cannot be decoded by majority-logic decoders.

RECOMMENDATION QUESTIONS

- Sketch the shift register circuit for multiplying $A(X)$ by $B(X) = 1 + X^3 + X^4 + X^5 + X^6$. Compute the circuit output for $A(X) = 1 + X + X^4$ by examining the shift register contents at each shift.
- Draw a shift register circuit for simultaneous multiplication by $B(X)$ and division by $D(X)$, where $B(X) = 1 + X^2 + X^5 + X^6$ and $D(X) = 1 + X^3 + X^4 + X^5 + X^8$. If the input to the circuit is $A(X) = 1 + X^7$, calculate the quotient and the remainder.
- Determine which, if any, of the following polynomials can generate a cyclic code with code word length $n \leq 7$. Find the (n, k) values of any such codes that can be generated.

(a) $1 + X^3 + X^4$

(b) $1 + X^2 + X^4$

(c) $1 + X + X^3 + X^4$

(d) $1 + X + X^2 + X^4$

(e) $1 + X^3 + X^5$

- A $(15, 5)$ linear cyclic code has a generator polynomial: $g(X) = 1 + X + X^2 + X^4 + X^5 + X^8 + X^{10}$
 - Draw block diagrams of an encoder and syndrome calculator for this code.
 - Find the code polynomial for the message polynomial $U(X) = 1 + X^2 + X^4$ in systematic form.
 - Is $V(X) = 1 + X^4 + X^6 + X^8 + X^{14}$ a code polynomial? If not, find the syndrome of $v(X)$.
 - Hard-decision detection gives the received code word as:

$$R(X) = 1 + X^4 + X^7 + X^8 + X^9 + X^{10} + X^{14}. \text{ Locate the errors.}$$

- Write the H Matrix for the $(15, 11)$ cyclic code using $g(X) = 1 + X + X^2 + X^3 + X^4$ determine the code polynomial for $U(X) = 1 + X^3 + X^7 + X^{10}$. Construct the decoder for the code.
- Write the generator polynomial for $(31, 26)$ SEC cyclic code. Write the G and H matrices for the code. Find the code polynomial for the message:

$$U(X) = 1 + X + X^4 + X^{20}. \text{ Draw the Meggitt decoder circuit for the code.}$$

- Write the G matrix for the $(15, 11)$ SEC code. Show that by successively removing some of the rows of G , one obtains $(14, 10)$, $(13, 9)$, $(12, 8)$, $(11, 7)$, $(10, 6)$ etc. SEC codes. Write H matrix for the $(10, 6)$ code. Construct the coder and decoder for the code.
- Construct a Meggitt decoder for the $(15, 7)$ BCH code. What are the error patterns which will form the test syndromes for the decoder? Is it possible to reduce the test syndromes to only 8 error patterns as below:

$$\begin{array}{l} 00000001, 00000011 \\ 00000101, 00001001 \\ 00010001, 00100001 \\ 01000001, 10000001 \end{array}$$

What is the modification required in the new decoder? What is the total number of shifts required to complete the decoding of a block?

9. The generator polynomial for a cyclic code is $g(X) = 1 + X^4 + X^6 + X^7 + X^8$
- Show that its length is **15**.
 - Find the generator matrix and parity check matrix in systematic form.
 - Devise two shift register encoder circuits using $k = 7$ stages and $(n - k) = 8$ stages.
 - Find the code vector (In systematic form) for the message polynomial $U(X) = 1 + X^2 + X^3 + X^4$
 - Assume that the first and last bits of the code vector $V(X)$ for $U(X)$ given in (a) suffer transmission errors. Find the syndrome of $V(X)$.
10. The decoder for a class of single error correcting cyclic codes (Hamming codes) is shown in Fig P7.1 Show by way of an example, that single error in a **(15, 11)** Hamming code generated by $g(X) = 1 + X + X^4$ can be decoded using the decoder shown in the figure.

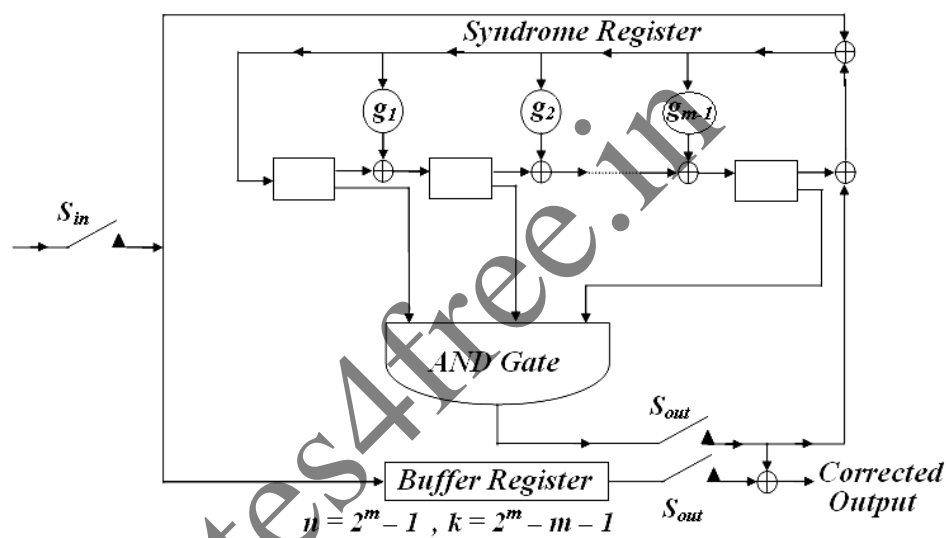


Fig P 7.1 Decoder for Hamming codes.

11. A t -error correcting code is said to be a “perfect code” if it is possible to form a standard array, with all patterns of t or fewer errors and no others as co-set leaders. Show that a **(7, 4)** linear block code generated by $g(X) = 1 + X + X^3$ is a perfect code.
12. The “**Expurgated (n, k-1) Hamming code**” is obtained from the original (n, k) Hamming code by discarding some of the code words. Let $g(X)$ Denote the generator polynomial of the original code. The most common expurgated code is the one generated by $g_1(X) = (1 + X)g(X)$, where $(1 + X)$ is a factor of $(1 + X^n)$. Consider the **(7, 4)** Hamming code generated by $g(X) = 1 + X^2 + X^3$.
- Construct the eight code words in the expurgated **(7, 3)** Hamming code, assuming a systematic format. Hence show that the minimum distance of the code is 4.
 - Determine the generator matrix G and the parity check matrix H of the expurgated Hamming code.
 - Devise the encoder and syndrome calculator for the expurgated Hamming code. Hence determine the syndrome for the received sequence **0111110**.
13. A systematic **(7, 4)** cyclic code is generated by $g(X) = 1 + X^2 + X^3$. The message is $U(X) = 1 + X + X^3$, and after detection the effective error polynomial is $E(X) = X^4$. Find the first syndrome word generated by a Meggitt decoder for decoding the first received symbol.

14. For the $(7, 4)$ cyclic code generated by $g(X)$ of problem 9, write the generator matrix and the parity check matrices. Delete the last three columns in the H matrix in order to generate a $(4, 1)$ shortened cyclic code. If the code word $v = (1101)$ is received as $r = (1111)$, show that the decoder corrects the error on the fifth clock pulse.
15. Show that a binary cyclic code of length n generated by $g(X)$ has minimum weight of at least 3 if n is the smallest integer for which $g(X)$ divides $(X^n + 1)$.
16. Let $G = [I: P]$ be the generator matrix of a cyclic code. If $h(X) = 1 + h_1X + h_2X^2 + \dots + h_{k-1}X^{k-1} + X^k$ is the parity check polynomial of the code, show that the last column of the matrix P is:
 $(h_{k-1}, h_{k-2}, \dots, h_2, h_1, 1)$
17. A $(31, 21)$ binary double error correcting code has the generator polynomial:

$$g(X) = 1 + X^3 + X^5 + X^6 + X^8 + X^9 + X^{10}$$

- Show that an error-trapping decoder cannot decode this code to the designed distance.
 - Show a simple modification of the error-trapping decoder that will decode to the designed distance.
18. The triple-error-correcting Golay $(23, 12)$ code may be constructed with the generator polynomial: $g(X) = 1 + X + X^5 + X^6 + X^7 + X^9 + X^{11}$. Find the parity check polynomial $h(X)$. Construct a decoder for the code. What are the test syndromes to be checked in the decoder?

OUTCOMES

- How the cyclic codes can be implemented using feedback shift registers.
- How the errors can be detected and corrected.

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MODULE 5

CHAPTER 1: SOME IMPORTANT CYCLIC CODES

STRUCTURE

- Golay codes
 - BCH codes
-

OBJECTIVE

- Discuss about BCH codes and Golay codes.

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5.1 GOLAY CODES

Golay code is a **(23, 12)** perfect binary code that is capable of correcting any combination of three or fewer random errors in a block of **23** bits. It is a perfect code because it satisfies the Hamming bound with the equality sign for $t = 3$ as:

$$\left[\binom{23}{0} + \binom{23}{1} + \binom{23}{2} + \binom{23}{3} \right] 2^{12} = 2^{23}$$

The code has been used in many practical systems. The generator polynomial for the code is obtained from the relation $(X^{23}+1) = (X+1) g_1(X) g_2(X)$, where:

$$g_1(X) = 1 + X^2 + X^4 + X^5 + X^6 + X^{10} + X^{11} \text{ and } g_2(X) = 1 + X + X^5 + X^6 + X^7 + X^9 + X^{11}$$

The encoder can be implemented using shift registers using either $g_1(X)$ or $g_2(X)$ as the divider polynomial. The code has a minimum distance, $d_{\min} = 7$. The extended Golay code, a **(24, 12)** code has $d_{\min} = 8$. Besides the binary Golay code, there is also a perfect ternary **(11, 6)** Golay code with $d_{\min} = 5$.

5.2 BCH CODES

BCH codes can also be used for burst error correction. If correction of single bursts is the only requirement, implementation would be much simpler. The additional error correcting ability can be used to error detection (any error pattern that the code would correct, if fully utilized, it could certainly still detect) or it can be used to correct bursts beyond its guaranteed burst correcting capability.

5.2.1 Decoding:

Burst error correcting cyclic codes can be decoded with an extremely simple version of the error trapping decoder. Fig 5.1 illustrates a scheme for decoding an **(n, k)** cyclic code with burst error correcting ability 'b' (The following description assumes a Binary code. Defining suitable q-ary logic gates it can be easily generalized for q – ary codes). To understand the operation of the circuit we proceed as below.

- Assume that a burst of length 'b' or less has occurred.
- The circuit computes a shifted version of the syndrome of the error pattern which is contained in the received word.
- If the burst is confined to the 'b' high-order positions of the received word, then the 'b' right most stages of the syndrome generator contain the burst and the **(n-k-b)** left stages will contain zeros.

- The logical OR gate detects this situation. Since its output is now **0**, the feedback path in the syndrome generator is opened and the path to the binary adder is closed.
- Upon shifting the syndrome generator and buffer register, the syndrome, which is the error burst, is added to the received word, thereby correcting it.
- If the burst has occurred elsewhere in the word, it would be corrected in exactly the same manner. For, after shifting, the burst will occupy the 'b' high-order positions of the buffer. At this time the 'b' high-order bits of the syndrome will be identical to the burst as before.
- This decoding procedure does not correct "bursts" that occupy only the 'i' high-order positions of the word and (b-i) low-order positions. Such bursts are correctable with a burst-b-correcting cyclic code, however. It is possible, even simple; to do this if a syndrome generator which does not pre multiply the received word by X^{n-k} is used.

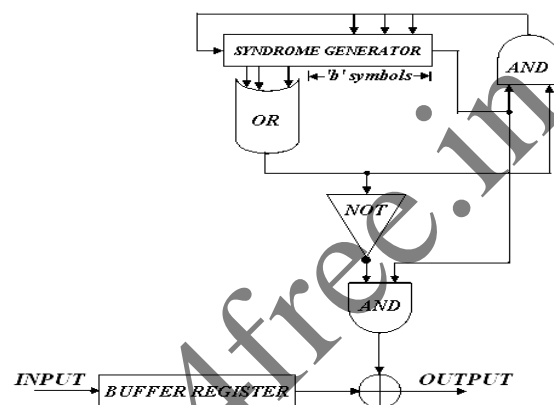


Fig 5.1 A decoder for burst error correcting cyclic codes

Example 5.1: Interleaver for a BCH code.

Consider a $(15, 7)$ BCH code generated by $g(X) = 1+X+X^2+X^4+X^8$. For this code $d_{\min}=5$, $t = \frac{d_{\min} - 1}{2} = 2$. With $\lambda = 5$, we can construct a $(75, 35)$ interleaved code with a burst error correcting capability of $b = \lambda t = 10$. A 35-bit message block is divided into five 7-bit message blocks and five code words of length 15 are generated using $g(X)$. These code words are arranged as 5-rows of a 5×15 matrix. The columns of the matrix are transmitted in the sequence shown as a 75-bit long code vector.

← Each rows is 15 – bit code word →

1	6	11	...	31	(36)	....	(66)	71
2	7	12	...	(32)	(37)	....	67	72
3	8	13	...	(33)	(38)	....	68	73
4	(9)	14	...	(34)	39	....	69	74
5	10	15	...	(35)	40	.....	(70)	75

Fig 5.2 Block Interleaver for a $(15, 7)$ BCH code.

To illustrate the burst and random error correcting capabilities of this code, we have put the bit positions **9, 32 to 38, 66** and **70** in parenthesis, indicating errors occurred in these positions. The de-interleaver now feeds the rows of Fig 5.1 to the decoder. Clearly each row has a maximum of two errors and since the **(15, 7) BCH** code, from which the rows were constructed, is capable of correcting up to two errors per row. Hence the error pattern shown in parenthesis in the Figure can be corrected. The isolated errors in bit positions **9, 66** and **70** may be thought of as random errors while the cluster of errors in bit positions **32 to 38** as a burst error.

Example 5.2: The polynomial: $G(X) = (1+X+X^4)(1+X^7) = 1+X+X^4+X^7+X^8+X^{11}$, generates a binary fire code of length $n=7(2^4-1)=105$, which corrects any single burst of length **4 or less**. It has **11** check symbols and $105-11=94$ information symbols. The encoder for the code is shown in Fig 5.3(a) and the decoder in Fig 5.3(b).

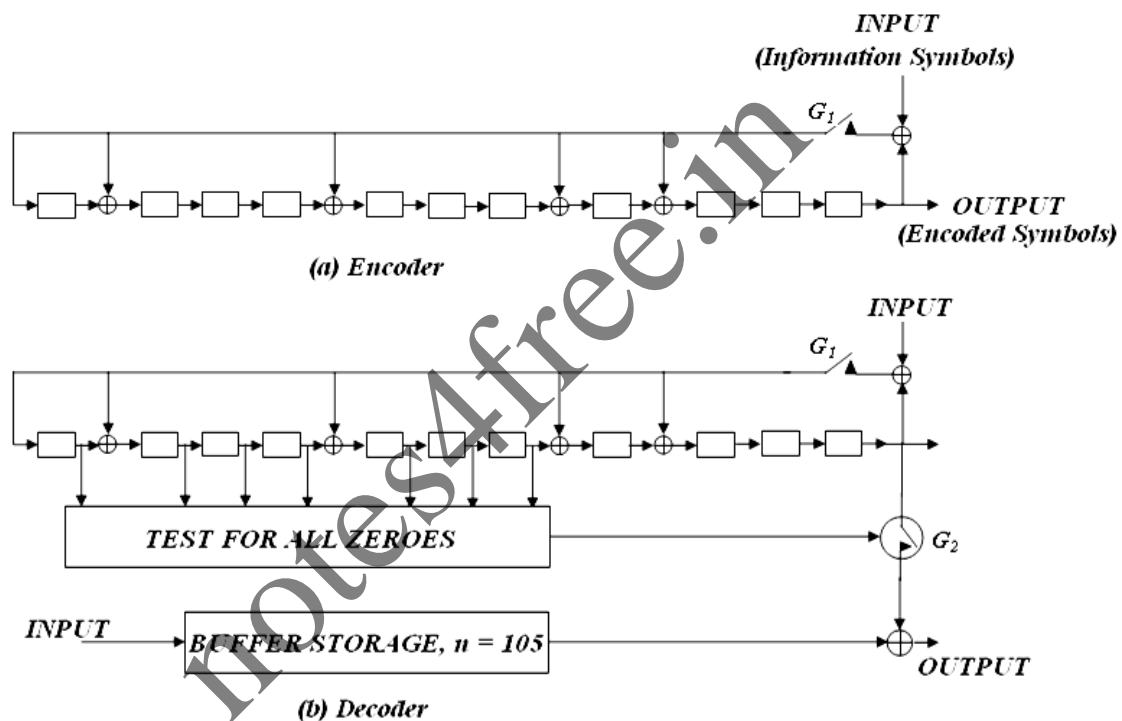


Fig 5.3 Encoder/Decoder for a (105,94)

- The decoder has a local encoder.
- The entire received vector is read into the buffer and simultaneously in to the syndrome generator with G_1 closed and G_2 open.
- After the syndrome bits have been formed, the received bits are read out from the buffer bit by bit and the syndrome bits are also shifted with flushing zero input.
- When allzero bits appear in the first 7 syndrome positions, the test circuit indicates the allzero pattern, at the same time the error pattern must be in the last 5 positions.
- The erroneous symbols are now ready to leave the buffer and they are corrected by the last 4 syndrome bits by addition while they are shifted bit by bit with gates G_2 closed and G_1 open.

It may be desirable to shorten a burst error correcting code either because (i) bursts occur too frequently or (ii) the total length or number of information bits is constrained by other system requirements. If a code of suitable natural length is not available or it cannot be found, an available

code can be shortened simply by making some high-order information bits completely '0' and omitting them. By doing this, the encoding and parity check calculations are not affected, since the leading 0's do not affect them. However, such shortening of codes do affect the error correction procedure. Suppose we want to form a shortened cyclic code of length $(n-s)$ from an existing cyclic code of natural length n . This requires omitting 's' information symbols from the original n . Then, to have an unaltered correction procedure, we must first shift the 's' omitted information bits which are assumed to be 0's before reading the actual received code word out of the buffer. One possible simplification could be achieved by an automated pre-multiplication by ' $X^s \bmod g(X)$ '.

OUTCOMES

- To know how the decoding can be done.
- How the interleaving of coded data can be obtained for burst error correction.

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CHAPTER 2 CONVOLUTIONAL CODES

STRUCTURE

- Connection Pictorial Representation
- Convolutional Encoding – Time domain approach
- Encoding of Convolutional Codes; Transform Domain Approach
- Systematic Convolutional Codes
- Structural Properties of Convolutional Codes
- Maximum Likely-hood decoding of Convolutional Codes
- Sequential Decoding

OBJECTIVE

- Discuss about Convolution codes which is used to generate encoded sequences for input sequence on bit by bit basis.
- Discuss about the decoding of convolutional codes with the help of Viterbi algorithm.

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INTRODUCTION

In block codes, a block of n -digits generated by the encoder depends only on the block of k -data digits in a particular time unit. These codes can be generated by combinatorial logic circuits. In a convolutional code the block of n -digits generated by the encoder in a time unit depends on not only on the block of k -data digits with in that time unit, but also on the preceding ' m ' input blocks. An (n, k, m) convolutional code can be implemented with k -input, n -output sequential circuit with input memory m . Generally, k and n are small integers with $k < n$ but the memory order m must be made large to achieve low error probabilities. In the important special case when $k = 1$, the information sequence is not divided into blocks but can be processed continuously.

Similar to block codes, convolutional codes can be designed to either detect or correct errors. However, since the data are usually re-transmitted in blocks, block codes are better suited for error detection and convolutional codes are mainly used for error correction.

Convolutional codes were first introduced by Elias in 1955 as an alternative to block codes. This was followed later by Wozen Craft, Massey, Fano, Viterbi, Omura and others. A detailed discussion and survey of the application of convolutional codes to practical communication channels can be found in Shu-Lin & Costello Jr., J. Das etal and other standard books on error control coding.

To facilitate easy understanding we follow the popular methods of representing convolutional encoders starting with a connection pictorial - needed for all descriptions followed by connection vectors.

5.1 CONNECTION PICTORIAL REPRESENTATION

The encoder for a (rate $1/2$, $K = 3$) or $(2, 1, 2)$ convolutional code is shown in Fig.5.1. Both sketches shown are one and the same. While in Fig.5.1 (a) we have shown a 3-bit register, by noting that the content of the third stage is simply the output of the second stage, the circuit is modified using only two shift register stages. This modification, then, clearly tells us that" the memory requirement $m = 2$. For every bit inputted the encoder produces two bits at its output. Thus the encoder is labeled $(n, k, m) \rightarrow (2, 1, 2)$ encoder.

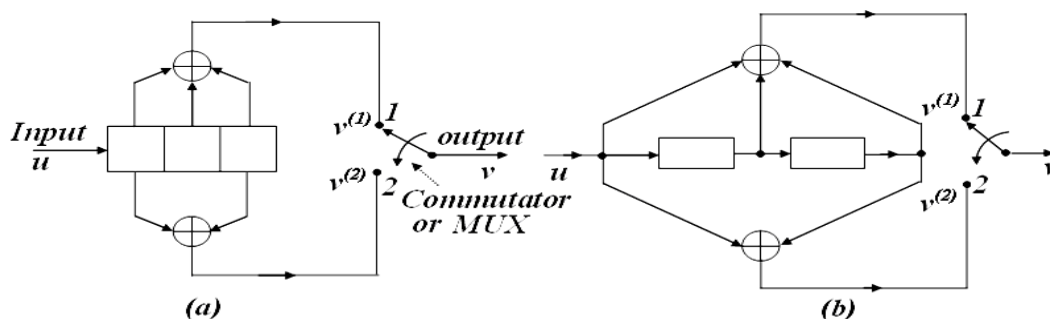


Fig 5.1 A $(2,1,2)$ Encoder (a) Representation using 3-bit shift register (b) Equivalent representation requires only two shift register stages

At each input bit time one bit is shifted into the left most stage and the bits that were present in the registers shifted to the right by one position. Output switch (commutator /MUX) samples the output of each X-OR gate and forms the code symbol pairs for the bits introduced. The final code is obtained after flushing the encoder with "m" zero's where 'm'- is the memory order (In Fig.8.1, $m = 2$). The sequence of operations performed by the encoder of Fig.5.1 for an input sequence $u = (101)$ are illustrated diagrammatically in Fig 5.2.

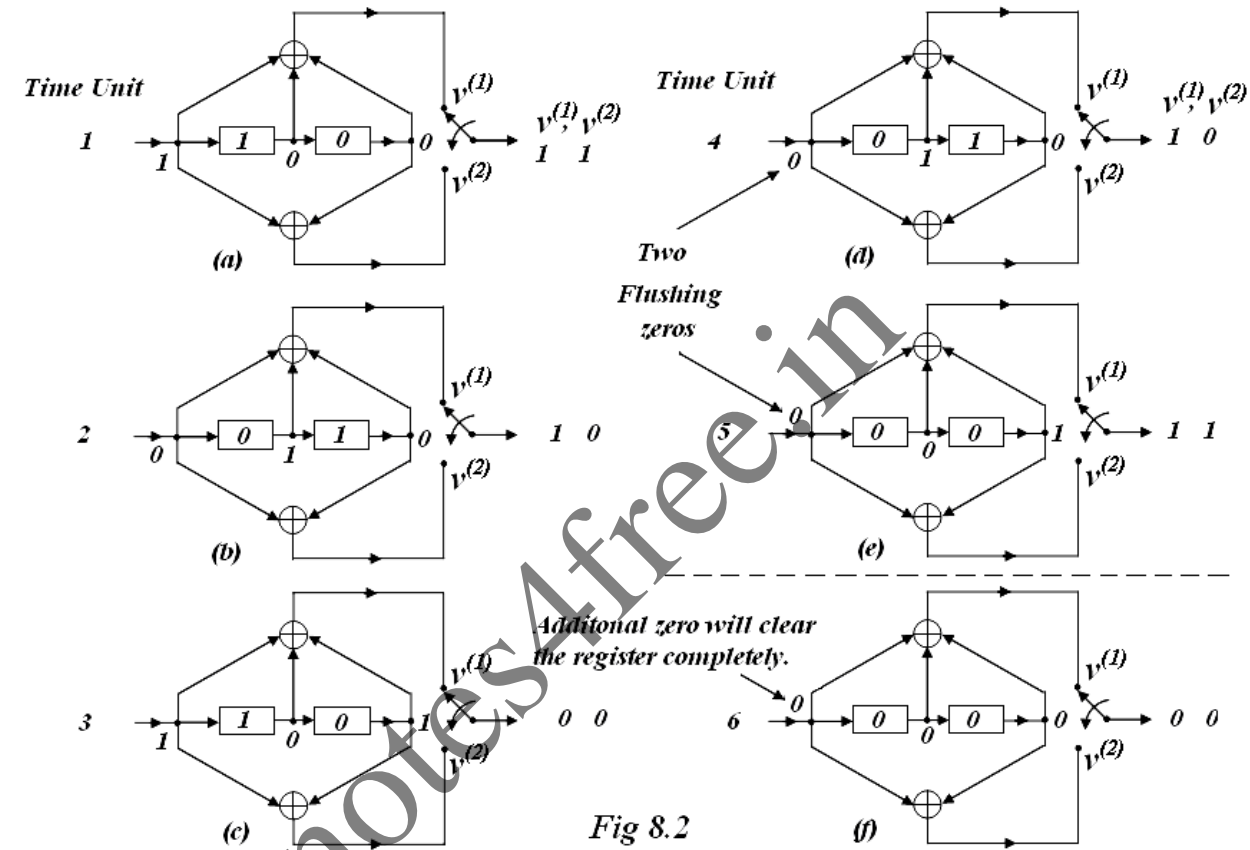


Fig 8.2

From Fig 5.2, the encoding procedure can be understood clearly. Initially the registers are in Re-set mode i.e. (0, 0). At the first time unit the input bit is 1. This bit enters the first register and pushes out its previous content namely '0' as shown, which will now enter the second register and pushes out its previous content. All these bits as indicated are passed on to the X-OR gates and the output pair (1, 1) is obtained. The same steps are repeated until time unit 4, where zeros are introduced to clear the register contents producing two more output pairs. At time unit 6, if an additional '0' is introduced the encoder is re-set and the output pair (0, 0) obtained. However, this step is not absolutely necessary as the next bit, whatever it is, will flush out the content of the second register. The '0' and the '1' indicated at the output of second register at time unit 5 now vanishes. Hence after $(L+m) = 3 + 2 = 5$ time units, the output sequence will read $v = (11, 10, 00, 10, 11)$. (Note: L = length of the input sequence). This then is the code word produced by the encoder. It is very important to remember that "Left most symbols represent earliest transmission".

As already mentioned the convolutional codes are intended for the purpose of error correction. However, it suffers from the 'problem of choosing connections' to yield good distance properties. The selection of connections indeed is very complicated and has not been solved yet. Still, good codes have been developed by computer search techniques for all constraint lengths less than

20. Another point to be noted is that the convolutional codes do not have any particular block size. They can be periodically truncated. Only thing is that they require m -zeros to be appended to the end of the input sequence for the purpose of 'clearing' or 'flushing' or 're-setting' of the encoding shift registers off the data bits. These added zeros carry no information but have the effect of reducing the code rate below (k/n) . To keep the code rate close to (k/n) , the truncation period is generally made as long as practical. The encoding procedure as depicted pictorially in Fig 5.2 is rather tedious. We can approach the encoder in terms of "Impulse response" or "generator sequence" which merely represents the response of the encoder to a single '1' bit that moves through it.

5.2 Convolutional Encoding – Time domain approach:

The encoder for a (2, 1, 3) code is shown in Fig. 8.3. Here the encoder consists of $m=3$ stage shift register, $n=2$ module-2 adders (X-OR gates) and a multiplexer for serializing the encoder outputs. Notice that module-2 addition is a linear operation and it follows that all convolution encoders can be implemented using a "linear feed forward shift register circuit".

The "information sequence" $\mathbf{u} = (u_1, u_2, u_3, \dots)$ enters the encoder one bit at a time starting from u_1 . As the name implies, a convolutional encoder operates by performing convolutions on the information sequence. Specifically, the encoder output sequences, in this case $\mathbf{v}^{(1)} = \{v_1^{(1)}, v_2^{(1)}, v_3^{(1)} \dots\}$ and $\mathbf{v}^{(2)} = \{v_1^{(2)}, v_2^{(2)}, v_3^{(2)} \dots\}$ are obtained by the discrete convolution of the information sequence with the encoder "impulse responses". The impulse responses are obtained by determining the output sequences of the encoder produced by the input sequence $\mathbf{u} = (1, 0, 0, 0, \dots)$. The impulse responses so defined are called 'generator sequences' of the code. Since the encoder has a m -time unit memory the impulse responses can last at most $(m+1)$ time units (That is a total of $(m+1)$ shifts are necessary for a message bit to enter the shift register and finally come out) and are written as:

$$\mathbf{g}^{(i)} = \{g_1^{(i)}, g_2^{(i)}, g_3^{(i)} \dots g_{m+1}^{(i)}\}.$$

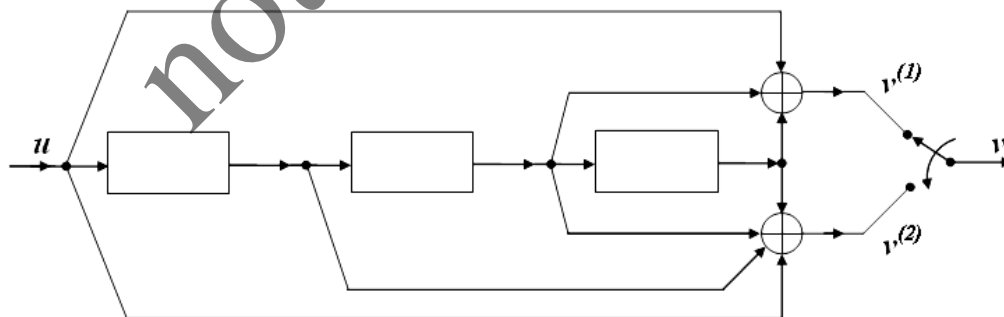


Fig 5.3 (2,1,3) binary encoder

For the encoder of Fig.5.3, we require the two impulse responses,

$$\mathbf{g}^{(1)} = \{g_1^{(1)}, g_2^{(1)}, g_3^{(1)}, g_4^{(1)}\} \text{ and}$$

$$\mathbf{g}^{(2)} = \{g_1^{(2)}, g_2^{(2)}, g_3^{(2)}, g_4^{(2)}\}$$

By inspection, these can be written as: $\mathbf{g}^{(1)} = \{1, 0, 1, 1\}$ and $\mathbf{g}^{(2)} = \{1, 1, 1, 1\}$

Observe that the generator sequences represented here is simply the 'connection vectors' of the

encoder. In the sequences a '1' indicates a connection and a '0' indicates no connection to the corresponding X - OR gate. If we group the elements of the generator sequences so found in to pairs, we get the overall impulse response of the encoder, Thus for the encoder of Fig 5.3, the over-all impulse response' will be:

$$\mathbf{v} = (11, 01, 11, 11)$$

The encoder outputs are defined by the convolution sums:

$$\mathbf{v}^{(1)} = \mathbf{u} * \mathbf{g}^{(1)} \quad \dots\dots\dots (5.1 a)$$

$$\mathbf{v}^{(2)} = \mathbf{u} * \mathbf{g}^{(2)} \quad \dots\dots\dots (5.1 b)$$

Where * denotes the 'discrete convolution', which implies:

$$\begin{aligned} v_l^{(j)} &= \sum_{i=0}^m u_{l-i} \cdot g_{i+1}^{(j)} \\ &= \mathbf{u}_1 \mathbf{g}_1^{(j)} + \mathbf{u}_{1-1} \mathbf{g}_2^{(j)} + \mathbf{u}_{1-2} \mathbf{g}_3^{(j)} + \dots + \mathbf{u}_{1-m} \mathbf{g}_{m+1}^{(j)} \quad \dots\dots\dots (5.2) \end{aligned}$$

for $\mathbf{j} = 1, 2$ and where $\mathbf{u}_{1-i} = 0$ for all $1 < i$ and all operations are modulo - 2. Hence for the encoder of Fig 5.3, we have:

$$\mathbf{v}_1^{(1)} = \mathbf{u}_1 + \mathbf{u}_{1-2} + \mathbf{u}_{1-3}$$

$$\mathbf{v}_1^{(2)} = \mathbf{u}_1 + \mathbf{u}_{1-1} + \mathbf{u}_{1-2} + \mathbf{u}_{1-3}$$

This can be easily verified by direct inspection of the encoding circuit. After encoding, the two output sequences are multiplexed into a single sequence, called the "**code word**" for transmission over the channel. The code word is given by:

$$\mathbf{v} = \{\mathbf{v}_1^{(1)} \mathbf{v}_1^{(2)}, \mathbf{v}_2^{(1)} \mathbf{v}_2^{(2)}, \mathbf{v}_3^{(1)} \mathbf{v}_3^{(2)} \dots\}$$

Example 5.1:

Suppose the information sequence be $\mathbf{u} = (10111)$. Then the output sequences are:

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbf{v}^{(1)} &= (1 0 1 1 1) * (10 1 1) \\ &= (1 0 0 0 0 0 1), \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbf{v}^{(2)} &= (1 0 1 1 1) * (1 1 1) \\ &= (1 1 0 1 1 1 0 1), \end{aligned}$$

and the code word is

$$\mathbf{v} = (11, 01, 00, 01, 01, 01, 00, 11)$$

The discrete convolution operation described in Eq (8.2) is merely the addition of shifted

$$G = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1 & 0 & 1 & 1 & 1 & 1 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 1 & 0 & 1 & 1 & 1 & 1 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 1 & 0 & 1 & 1 & 1 & 1 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 1 & 0 & 1 & 1 & 1 & 1 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 1 & 0 & 1 & 1 & 1 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

Performing multiplication, $\mathbf{v} = \mathbf{u} \mathbf{G}$ as per Eq (5.4), we get: $\mathbf{v} = (11, 01, 00, 01, 01, 00, 11)$ same as before.

As a second example of a convolutional encoder, consider the (3, 2, 1) encoder shown in Fig.8.4. Here, as $k = 2$, the encoder consists of two $m = 1$ stage shift registers together with $n = 3$ modulo -2 adders and two multiplexers. The information sequence enters the encoder $k = 2$ bits at a time and can be written as $\mathbf{u} = \{u_1^{(1)} u_1^{(2)}, u_2^{(1)} u_2^{(2)}, u_3^{(1)} u_3^{(2)} \dots\}$ or as two separate input sequences:

$$\mathbf{u}^{(1)} = \{u_1^{(1)}, u_2^{(1)}, u_3^{(1)} \dots\} \text{ and } \mathbf{u}^{(2)} = \{u_1^{(2)}, u_2^{(2)}, u_3^{(2)} \dots\}.$$

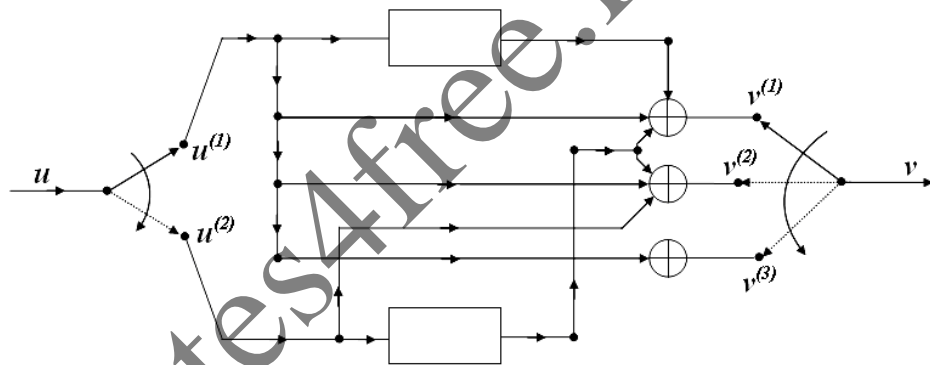


Fig 5.4 (3,2,1) Convolution encoder

There are three generator sequences corresponding to each input sequence. Letting $\mathbf{g}_i^{(j)} = \{g_{i,1}^{(j)}, g_{i,2}^{(j)}, g_{i,3}^{(j)} \dots g_{i,m+1}^{(j)}\}$ represent the generator sequence corresponding to input i and output j . The generator sequences for the encoder are:

$$\mathbf{g}_1^{(1)} = (1, 1), \mathbf{g}_1^{(2)} = (1, 0), \mathbf{g}_1^{(3)} = (1, 0)$$

$$\mathbf{g}_2^{(1)} = (0, 1), \mathbf{g}_2^{(2)} = (1, 1), \mathbf{g}_2^{(3)} = (0, 0)$$

The encoding equations can be written as:

$$\mathbf{v}^{(1)} = \mathbf{u}^{(1)} * \mathbf{g}_1^{(1)} + \mathbf{u}^{(2)} * \mathbf{g}_2^{(1)} \dots \dots \dots (5.5 a)$$

$$\mathbf{v}^{(2)} = \mathbf{u}^{(1)} * \mathbf{g}_1^{(2)} + \mathbf{u}^{(2)} * \mathbf{g}_2^{(2)} \dots \dots \dots (5.5 b)$$

$$\mathbf{v}^{(3)} = \mathbf{u}^{(1)} * \mathbf{g}_1^{(3)} + \mathbf{u}^{(2)} * \mathbf{g}_2^{(3)} \dots \dots \dots (5.5 c)$$

The convolution operation implies that:

$$\mathbf{v}_1^{(1)} = \mathbf{u}_1^{(1)} + \mathbf{u}_{1-1}^{(1)} + \mathbf{u}_{1-1}^{(2)}$$

$$\mathbf{v}_1^{(2)} = \mathbf{u}_1^{(1)} + \mathbf{u}_1^{(2)} + \mathbf{u}_{1-1}^{(2)}$$

$$\mathbf{v}_1^{(3)} = \mathbf{u}_1^{(1)}$$

as can be seen from the encoding circuit.

After multiplexing, the code word is given by:

$$\mathbf{v} = \{ \mathbf{v}_1^{(1)} \mathbf{v}_1^{(2)} \mathbf{v}_1^{(3)}, \mathbf{v}_2^{(1)} \mathbf{v}_2^{(2)} \mathbf{v}_2^{(3)}, \mathbf{v}_3^{(1)} \mathbf{v}_3^{(2)} \mathbf{v}_3^{(3)} \dots \}$$

Example 5.3:

Suppose $\mathbf{u} = (1 \ 1 \ 0 \ 1 \ 1 \ 0)$. Hence $\mathbf{u}^{(1)} = (1 \ 0 \ 1)$ and $\mathbf{u}^{(2)} = (1 \ 1 \ 0)$. Then

$$\mathbf{v}^{(1)} = (1 \ 0 \ 1) * (1,1) + (1 \ 1 \ 0) * (0,1) = (1 \ 0 \ 0 \ 1)$$

$$\mathbf{v}^{(2)} = (1 \ 0 \ 1) * (1,0) + (1 \ 1 \ 0) * (1,1) = (0 \ 0 \ 0 \ 0)$$

$$\mathbf{v}^{(3)} = (1 \ 0 \ 1) * (1,0) + (1 \ 1 \ 0) * (0,0) = (1 \ 0 \ 1 \ 0)$$

$$\therefore \mathbf{v} = (1 \ 0 \ 1, 0 \ 0 \ 0, 0 \ 0 \ 1, 1 \ 0 \ 0).$$

The generator matrix for a $(3, 2, m)$ code can be written as:

$$\mathbf{G} = \begin{bmatrix} g_{11}^{(1)} & g_{11}^{(2)} & g_{11}^{(3)} & g_{12}^{(1)} & g_{12}^{(2)} & g_{13}^{(3)} & \dots & g_{1,m+1}^{(1)} & g_{1,m+1}^{(2)} & g_{1,m+1}^{(3)} \\ g_{21}^{(1)} & g_{21}^{(2)} & g_{21}^{(3)} & g_{22}^{(1)} & g_{22}^{(2)} & g_{22}^{(3)} & \dots & g_{2,m+1}^{(1)} & g_{2,m+1}^{(2)} & g_{2,m+1}^{(3)} \\ \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & g_{11}^{(1)} & g_{11}^{(2)} & g_{11}^{(3)} & g_{12}^{(1)} & g_{12}^{(2)} & g_{12}^{(3)} & \dots \\ \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & g_{21}^{(1)} & g_{21}^{(2)} & g_{21}^{(3)} & g_{22}^{(1)} & g_{22}^{(2)} & g_{22}^{(3)} & \dots \\ \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \dots \end{bmatrix} \dots \quad (5.6)$$

The encoding equations in matrix form are again given by $\mathbf{v} = \mathbf{u} \mathbf{G}$. observe that each set of $k = 2$ rows of \mathbf{G} is identical to the preceding set of rows but shifted by $n = 3$ places or one branch word to the right.

Example 5.4:

For the Example 5.3, we have

$$\mathbf{u} = \{ \mathbf{u}_1^{(1)} \mathbf{u}_1^{(2)}, \mathbf{u}_2^{(1)} \mathbf{u}_2^{(2)}, \mathbf{u}_3^{(1)} \mathbf{u}_3^{(2)} \} = (1 \ 1, 0 \ 1, 1 \ 0)$$

The generator matrix is:

$$G = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1 & 1, & 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0, & 1 & 1 & 0 \\ & & 1 & 1 & 1, & 1 & 0 & 0 \\ & & 0 & 1 & 0, & 1 & 1 & 0 \\ & & & & 1 & 1 & 1, & 1 & 0 & 0 \\ & & & & 0 & 1 & 0, & 1 & 1 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

***Remember that the blank places in the matrix are all zeros.**

Performing the matrix multiplication, $\mathbf{v} = \mathbf{u} \mathbf{G}$, we get: $\mathbf{v} = (101,000,001,100)$, again agreeing with our previous computation using discrete convolution.

This second example clearly demonstrates the complexities involved, when the number of input sequences are increased beyond $k > 1$, in describing the code. In this case, although the encoder contains k shift registers all of them need not have the same length. If k_i is the length of the i -th shift register, then we define the encoder "memory order, m " by

$$m \triangleq \underset{1 \leq i \leq k}{\text{Max}} k_i \dots \dots \dots (5.7)$$

(i.e. the maximum length of all k -shift registers)

An example of a (4, 3, 2) convolutional encoder in which the shift register lengths are 0, 1 and 2 is shown in Fig 5.5.

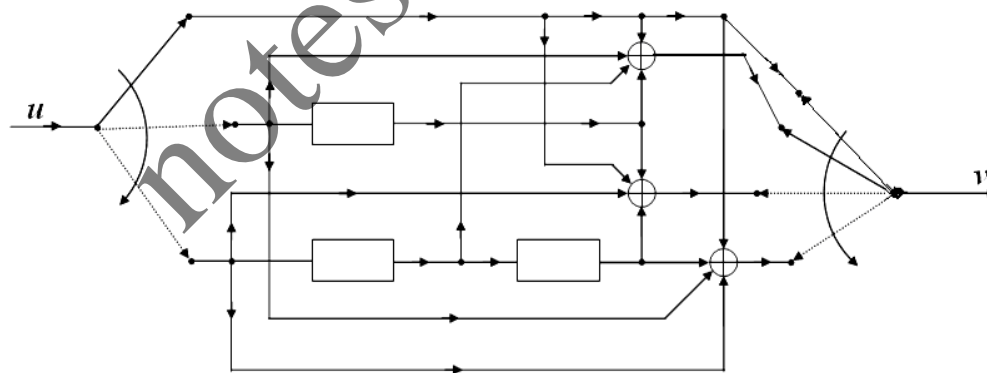


Fig 5.5 (4,3,2) Binary convolution code encoder

Since each information bit remains in the encoder up to $(m + 1)$ time units and during each time unit it can affect any of the n -encoder outputs (which depends on the shift register connections) it follows that "the maximum number of encoder outputs that can be affected by a single information bit" is

$$n_A \triangleq n(m + 1) \dots \dots \dots (5.8)$$

' n_A ' is called the 'constraint length' of the code. For example, the constraint lengths of the encoders of Figures 5.3, 5.4 and 5.5 are 8, 6 and 12 respectively. Some authors have defined the constraint length (For example: Simon Haykin) as the number of shifts over which a single message bit can

influence the encoder output. In an encoder with an m -stage shift register, the “memory” of the encoder equals m -message bits, and the constraint length $n_A = (m + 1)$. However, we shall adopt the definition given in Eq (5.8).

The number of shifts over which a single message bit can influence the encoder output is usually denoted as K . For the encoders of Fig 5.3, 5.4 and 5.5 have values of $K = 4, 2$ and 3 respectively. The encoder in Fig 8.3 will be accordingly labeled as a ‘rate 1/2, $K = 4$ ’ convolutional encoder. The term K also signifies the number of branch words in the encoder’s impulse response.

Turning back, in the general case of an (n, k, m) code, the generator matrix can be put in the form:

$$G = \begin{bmatrix} G_1 & G_2 & G_3 & \dots & G_m & G_{m+1} & & \\ & G_1 & G_2 & \dots & G_{m-1} & G_m & G_{m+1} & \\ & & G_1 & \dots & G_{m-2} & G_{m-1} & G_m & G_{m+1} \\ & & & \ddots & & & & \\ & & & & & & & \ddots \end{bmatrix} \dots \dots \dots \quad (5.9)$$

Where each G_i is a $(k \times n)$ sub matrix with entries as below:

$$G_i = \begin{bmatrix} g_{1,i}^{(1)} & g_{1,i}^{(2)} & \dots & g_{1,i}^{(n)} \\ g_{2,i}^{(1)} & g_{2,i}^{(2)} & \dots & g_{2,i}^{(n)} \\ \vdots & \vdots & \ddots & \vdots \\ g_{k,i}^{(1)} & g_{k,i}^{(2)} & \dots & g_{k,i}^{(n)} \end{bmatrix} \dots \dots \dots \quad (5.10)$$

Notice that each set of k -rows of G are identical to the previous set of rows but shifted n -places to the right. For an information sequence $u = (u_1, u_2, \dots)$ where $u_i = \{u_i^{(1)}, u_i^{(2)}, \dots, u_i^{(k)}\}$, the code word is $v = (v_1, v_2, \dots)$ where $v_j = (v_j^{(1)}, v_j^{(2)}, \dots, v_j^{(n)})$ and $v = u G$. Since the code word is a linear combination of rows of the G matrix it follows that an (n, k, m) convolutional code is a linear code.

Since the convolutional encoder generates n -encoded bits for each k -message bits, we define $R = k/n$ as the “code rate”. However, an information sequence of finite length L is encoded into a code word of length $n \times (L + m)$, where the final $n \times m$ outputs are generated after the last non zero information block has entered the encoder. That is, an information sequence is terminated with all zero blocks in order to clear the encoder memory. The terminating sequence of m -zeros is called the “Tail of the message”. Viewing the convolutional-code as a linear block code, with generator matrix G , then the block code rate is given by $kL/n(L + m)$ - the ratio of the number of message bits to the length of the code word. If $L \gg m$, then, $L/ (L + m) \approx 1$ and the block code rate of a convolutional code and its rate when viewed as a block code would appear to be same. Infact, this is the normal mode of operation for convolutional codes and accordingly we shall not distinguish between the rate of a convolutional code and its rate when viewed as a block code. On the contrary, if ‘ L ’ were small, the effective rate of transmission indeed is $kL/n (L + m)$ and will be below the block code rate by a fractional amount:

$$\frac{k/n - kL/n(L+m)}{k/n} = \frac{m}{L+m} \dots\dots\dots (5.11)$$

and is called "**fractional rate loss**". Therefore, in order to keep the fractional rate loss at a minimum (near zero), 'L' is always assumed to be much larger than 'm'. For the information 'sequence of Example 8.1, we have **L = 5, m =3** and **fractional rate loss = 3/8 = 37.5%**. If L is made 1000, the fractional rate loss is only **3/1003 ≈ 0.3%**.

5.3 Encoding of Convolutional Codes; Transform Domain Approach:

In any linear system, we know that the time domain operation involving the convolution integral can be replaced by the more convenient transform domain operation, involving polynomial multiplication. Since a convolutional encoder can be viewed as a 'linear time invariant finite state machine, we may simplify computation of the adder outputs by applying appropriate transformation. As is done in cyclic codes, each 'sequence in the encoding equations can' be replaced by a corresponding polynomial and the convolution operation replaced by polynomial multiplication. For example, for a **(2, 1, n_i)** code, the encoding equations become:

$$\mathbf{v}^{(1)}(\mathbf{X}) = \mathbf{u}(\mathbf{X}) \mathbf{g}^{(1)}(\mathbf{X}) \dots\dots\dots (5.12a)$$

$$\mathbf{v}^{(2)}(\mathbf{X}) = \mathbf{u}(\mathbf{X}) \mathbf{g}^{(2)}(\mathbf{X}) \dots\dots\dots (5.12b)$$

Where $\mathbf{u}(\mathbf{X}) = \mathbf{u}_1 + \mathbf{u}_2\mathbf{X} + \mathbf{u}_3\mathbf{X}^2 + \dots$ is the information polynomial,

$$\mathbf{v}^{(1)}(\mathbf{X}) = \mathbf{v}_1^{(1)} + \mathbf{v}_2^{(1)}\mathbf{X} + \mathbf{v}_3^{(1)}\mathbf{X}^2 + \dots, \text{ and}$$

$$\mathbf{v}^{(2)}(\mathbf{X}) = \mathbf{v}_1^{(2)} + \mathbf{v}_2^{(2)}\mathbf{X} + \mathbf{v}_3^{(2)}\mathbf{X}^2 + \dots$$

are the encoded polynomials.

$$\mathbf{g}^{(1)}(\mathbf{X}) = \mathbf{g}_1^{(1)} + \mathbf{g}_2^{(1)}\mathbf{X} + \mathbf{g}_3^{(1)}\mathbf{X}^2 + \dots, \text{ and}$$

$$\mathbf{g}^{(2)}(\mathbf{X}) = \mathbf{g}_1^{(2)} + \mathbf{g}_2^{(2)}\mathbf{X} + \mathbf{g}_3^{(2)}\mathbf{X}^2 + \dots$$

are the "generator polynomials" of the code; and all operations are modulo-2. After multiplexing, the code word becomes:

$$\mathbf{v}(\mathbf{X}) = \mathbf{v}^{(1)}(\mathbf{X}^2) + \mathbf{X} \mathbf{v}^{(2)}(\mathbf{X}^2) \dots\dots\dots (5.13)$$

The indeterminate 'X' can be regarded as a "unit-delay operator", the power of X defining the number of time units by which the associated bit is delayed with respect to the initial bit in the sequence.

Example 5.5:

For the (2, 1, 3) encoder of Fig 8.3, the impulse responses were: $\mathbf{g}^{(1)} = (1, 0, 1, 1)$, and $\mathbf{g}^{(2)} = (1, 1, 1, 1)$

The generator polynomials are: $\mathbf{g}^{(1)}(X) = 1 + X^2 + X^3$, and $\mathbf{g}^{(2)}(X) = 1 + X + X^2 + X^3$

For the information sequence $\mathbf{u} = (1, 0, 1, 1, 1)$; the information polynomial is: $\mathbf{u}(X) = 1 + X^2 + X^3 + X^4$

The two code polynomials are then:

$$\mathbf{v}^{(1)}(X) = \mathbf{u}(X) \mathbf{g}^{(1)}(X) = (1 + X^2 + X^3 + X^4) (1 + X^2 + X^3) = 1 + X^7$$

$$\mathbf{v}^{(2)}(X) = \mathbf{u}(X) \mathbf{g}^{(2)}(X) = (1 + X^2 + X^3 + X^4) (1 + X + X^2 + X^3) = 1 + X + X^3 + X^4 + X^5 + X^7$$

From the polynomials so obtained we can immediately write:

$$\mathbf{v}^{(1)} = (1\ 0\ 0\ 0\ 0\ 0\ 1), \text{ and } \mathbf{v}^{(2)} = (1\ 1\ 0\ 1\ 1\ 1\ 0\ 1)$$

Pairing the components we then get the code word $\mathbf{v} = (11, 01, 00, 01, 01, 01, 00, 11)$.

We may use the multiplexing technique of Eq (5.13) and write:

$$\mathbf{v}^{(1)}(X^2) = 1 + X^{14} \text{ and } \mathbf{v}^{(2)}(X^2) = 1 + X^2 + X^6 + X^8 + X^{10} + X^{14}; \quad X \mathbf{v}^{(2)}(X^2) = X + X^3 + X^7 + X^9 + X^{11} + X^{15};$$

$$\text{and the code polynomial is: } \mathbf{v}(X) = \mathbf{v}^{(1)}(X^2) + X \mathbf{v}^{(2)}(X^2) = 1 + X + X^3 + X^7 + X^9 + X^{11} + X^{14} + X^{15}$$

Hence the code word is: $\mathbf{v} = (1\ 1, 0\ 1, 0\ 0, 0\ 1, 0\ 1, 0\ 1, 0\ 0, 1\ 1)$; this is exactly the same as obtained earlier.

The generator polynomials of an encoder can be determined directly from its circuit diagram. Specifically, the co-efficient of X^l is a '1' if there is a "connection" from the l -th shift register stage to the input of the adder of interest and a '0' otherwise. Since the last stage of the shift register in an $(n, 1)$ code must be connected to at least one output it follows that at least one generator polynomial should have a degree equal to the shift register length 'm', i.e.

$$m = \underset{1 \leq j \leq n}{\text{Max}} \{ \text{deg } \mathbf{g}^{(j)}(X) \} \quad \dots \dots \dots \quad (5.14)$$

In an (n, k) code, where $k > 1$, there are n -generator polynomials for each of the k -inputs, each set representing the connections from one of the shift registers to the n -outputs. Hence, the length K_l of the l -th shift register is given by:

$$K_l = \underset{1 \leq j \leq n}{\text{Max}} \{ \text{deg } \mathbf{g}_l^{(j)}(X) \}, \quad 1 \leq l \leq k \quad \dots \dots \dots \quad (5.15)$$

Where $\mathbf{g}_l^{(j)}(X)$ is the generator polynomial relating the l -th input to the j -th output and the encoder memory order m is:

$$m = \underset{1 \leq l \leq k}{\text{Max}} \underset{1 \leq j \leq k}{\text{Max}} \left\{ \text{deg } g_l^{(j)}(X) \right\} \dots\dots\dots (5.16)$$

Since the encoder is a linear system and $u^{(l)}(X)$ represents the l -th input sequence and $v^{(j)}(X)$ represents the j -th output sequence the generator polynomial $g_l^{(j)}(X)$ can be regarded as the 'encoder transfer function' relating the input - l to the output - j . For the k -input, n - output linear system there are a total of $k \times n$ transfer functions which can be represented as a $(k \times n)$ "transfer function matrix".

$$G(X) = \begin{bmatrix} g_1^{(1)}(X), & g_1^{(2)}(X), & \dots & g_1^{(n)}(X) \\ g_2^{(1)}(X), & g_2^{(2)}(X), & \dots & g_2^{(n)}(X) \\ \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \vdots \\ g_k^{(1)}(X), & g_k^{(2)}(X), & \dots & g_k^{(n)}(X) \end{bmatrix} \dots\dots\dots (5.17)$$

Using the transfer function matrix, the encoding equations for an (n, k, m) code can be expressed as

$$V(X) = U(X) G(X) \dots\dots\dots (5.18)$$

$U(X) = [u^{(1)}(X), u^{(2)}(X) \dots u^{(k)}(X)]$ is the k -vector, representing the information polynomials, and $V(X) = [v^{(1)}(X), v^{(2)}(X) \dots v^{(n)}(X)]$ is the n -vector representing the encoded sequences. After multiplexing, the code word becomes:

$$v(X) = v^{(1)}(X^n) + X v^{(2)}(X^n) + X^2 v^{(3)}(X^n) + \dots + X^{n-1} v^{(n)}(X^n) \dots\dots\dots (5.19)$$

Example 5.6:

For the encoder of Fig 5.4, we have:

$$\begin{aligned} g_1^{(1)}(X) &= 1 + X, & g_2^{(1)}(X) &= X \\ g_1^{(2)}(X) &= 1, & g_2^{(2)}(X) &= 1 + X \\ g_1^{(3)}(X) &= 1, & g_2^{(3)}(X) &= 0 \end{aligned}$$

$$\therefore G(X) = \begin{bmatrix} 1+X & 1 & 1 \\ X & 1+X & 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

For the information sequence $u^{(1)} = (1 \ 0 \ 1)$, $u^{(2)} = (1 \ 1 \ 0)$, the information polynomials are:

$$u^{(1)}(X) = 1 + X^2, \quad u^{(2)}(X) = 1 + X$$

Then $V(X) = [v^{(1)}(X), v^{(2)}(X), v^{(3)}(X)]$

$$= [1 + X^2, 1 + X] \begin{bmatrix} 1+X & 1 & 1 \\ X & 1+X & 0 \end{bmatrix} = [1 + X^3, 0, 1 + X^2]$$

Hence the code word is:

$$\begin{aligned}
 \mathbf{v}(\mathbf{X}) &= \mathbf{v}^{(1)}(\mathbf{X}^3) + \mathbf{X}\mathbf{v}^{(2)}(\mathbf{X}^3) + \mathbf{X}^2\mathbf{v}^{(3)}(\mathbf{X}^3) \\
 &= (\mathbf{1} + \mathbf{X}^9) + \mathbf{X}(\mathbf{0}) + \mathbf{X}^2(\mathbf{1} + \mathbf{X}^6) \\
 &= \mathbf{1} + \mathbf{X}^2 + \mathbf{X}^8 + \mathbf{X}^9 \\
 \therefore \mathbf{v} &= (\mathbf{1} \ \mathbf{0} \ \mathbf{1}, \ \mathbf{0} \ \mathbf{0} \ \mathbf{0}, \ \mathbf{0} \ \mathbf{0} \ \mathbf{1}, \ \mathbf{1} \ \mathbf{0} \ \mathbf{0}).
 \end{aligned}$$

This is exactly the same as that obtained in Example 5.3. From Eq (5.17) and (5.18) it follows that:

$$\mathbf{v}^{(j)}(\mathbf{X}) = \sum_{i=1}^k \mathbf{u}^{(i)}(\mathbf{X}) \mathbf{g}_i^{(j)}(\mathbf{X})$$

And using Eq (8.19) we have:

$$\begin{aligned}
 \mathbf{v}(\mathbf{X}) &= \sum_{j=1}^n \mathbf{X}^{j-1} \mathbf{v}^{(j)}(\mathbf{x}^n) \\
 &= \sum_{j=1}^n \mathbf{X}^{j-1} \sum_{i=1}^k \mathbf{u}^{(i)}(\mathbf{X}^n) \mathbf{g}_i^{(j)}(\mathbf{X}^n) \\
 \therefore \mathbf{v}(\mathbf{X}) &= \sum_{i=1}^k \mathbf{u}^{(i)}(\mathbf{X}^n) \mathbf{g}_i(\mathbf{X}) \dots\dots\dots (5.20)
 \end{aligned}$$

Where $\mathbf{g}_i(\mathbf{X}) = \sum_{j=1}^n \mathbf{X}^{j-1} \mathbf{g}_i^{(j)}(\mathbf{X}^n)$

$$= \mathbf{g}_i^{(1)}(\mathbf{X}^n) + \mathbf{X}\mathbf{g}_i^{(2)}(\mathbf{X}^n) + \mathbf{X}^2\mathbf{g}_i^{(3)}(\mathbf{X}^n) + \dots + \mathbf{X}^{n-1}\mathbf{g}_i^{(n)}(\mathbf{X}^n) \dots\dots\dots (5.21)$$

is called the "composite generator polynomial" relating the **i-th** input sequence to **v(X)**.

Example 5.7:

From Example 5.6, we have:

$$\begin{aligned}
 \mathbf{g}_1(\mathbf{X}) &= \mathbf{g}_1^{(1)}(\mathbf{X}^3) + \mathbf{X}\mathbf{g}_1^{(2)}(\mathbf{X}^3) + \mathbf{X}^2\mathbf{g}_1^{(3)}(\mathbf{X}^3) = \mathbf{1} + \mathbf{X} + \mathbf{X}^2 + \mathbf{X}^3 \\
 \mathbf{g}_2(\mathbf{X}) &= \mathbf{g}_2^{(1)}(\mathbf{X}^3) + \mathbf{X}\mathbf{g}_2^{(2)}(\mathbf{X}^3) + \mathbf{X}^2\mathbf{g}_2^{(3)}(\mathbf{X}^3) = \mathbf{X} + \mathbf{X}^3 + \mathbf{X}^4
 \end{aligned}$$

For the input sequence $\mathbf{u}^{(1)}(\mathbf{X}) = \mathbf{1} + \mathbf{X}^2$, $\mathbf{u}^{(2)}(\mathbf{X}) = \mathbf{1} + \mathbf{X}$, we have

$\mathbf{v}(\mathbf{X}) = \mathbf{u}^{(1)}(\mathbf{X}^3) \mathbf{g}_1(\mathbf{X}) + \mathbf{u}^{(2)}(\mathbf{X}^3) \mathbf{g}_2(\mathbf{X}) = \mathbf{1} + \mathbf{X}^2 + \mathbf{X}^8 + \mathbf{X}^9$. This is exactly the same as obtained before.

5.4 Systematic Convolutional Codes:

In a systematic code, the first k-output sequences are exact replica of the k-input sequences i.e.

$$\mathbf{v}^{(i)} = \mathbf{u}^{(i)}, \quad \mathbf{i} = 1, 2, \dots, k \dots\dots\dots (5.22)$$

and the generating sequences satisfy:

$$\mathbf{g}_i^{(j)} = \delta_{i,j} \quad \mathbf{i} = 1, 2, 3, \dots, k \dots\dots\dots (5.23)$$

where $\delta_{i,j}$ is the Kronecker delta, having values: $\delta_{i,j} = 1 \dots$ if $j = i$
 $= 0 \dots$ if $j \neq i$

The generator matrix for such codes is given by

$$G = \begin{bmatrix} I & P_1 & O & P_2 & O & P_3 & \dots & O & P_{m+1} & & & \\ \vdots & \vdots & I & P_1 & O & P_2 & \dots & O & P_m & O & P_{m+1} & \\ \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & I & P_1 & \dots & O & P_{m-1} & O & P_m & O \\ \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \vdots \end{bmatrix} \dots \dots \dots \quad (5.24)$$

Where **I** is a $k \times k$ identity (unit) matrix, **O** is the $k \times k$ all zero matrix and **P_i** is a $k \times (n - k)$ matrix given by:

$$P_i = \begin{bmatrix} g_{1,i}^{(k+1)} & g_{1,i}^{(k+2)} & \dots & g_{1,i}^{(n)} \\ g_{2,i}^{(k+1)} & g_{2,i}^{(k+2)} & \dots & g_{2,i}^{(n)} \\ \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \vdots \\ g_{k,i}^{(k+1)} & g_{k,i}^{(k+2)} & \dots & g_{k,i}^{(n)} \end{bmatrix} \dots \dots \dots \quad (5.25)$$

Further, the transfer function matrix of the code is given by:

$$G(X) = \begin{bmatrix} I & 0 & 0 & \dots & 0 & g_1^{(k+1)}(X) & \dots & g_1^{(n)}(X) \\ 0 & I & 0 & \dots & 0 & g_2^{(k+1)}(X) & \dots & g_2^{(n)}(X) \\ 0 & 0 & I & \dots & 0 & g_3^{(k+1)}(X) & \dots & g_3^{(n)}(X) \\ \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \vdots \\ \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \vdots \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & \dots & I & g_k^{(k+1)}(X) & \dots & g_k^{(n)}(X) \end{bmatrix} \dots \dots \dots \quad (5.26)$$

The first **k**-output sequences = Input sequences → Information sequences
 Last **(n-k)** sequences → parity sequences.

Number of sequences required to specify a general **(n, k, m)** code = **kn**.

For a systematic code we require only $k \times (n-k)$ sequences. Thus systematic codes form a sub class of the set of all possible convolutional codes. Any code not satisfying Eq (5.22) to Eq (5.26) is said to be "non systematic".

Example 5.8:

Consider a **(2, 1, 3)** systematic code whose encoder is shown in Fig 5.6.

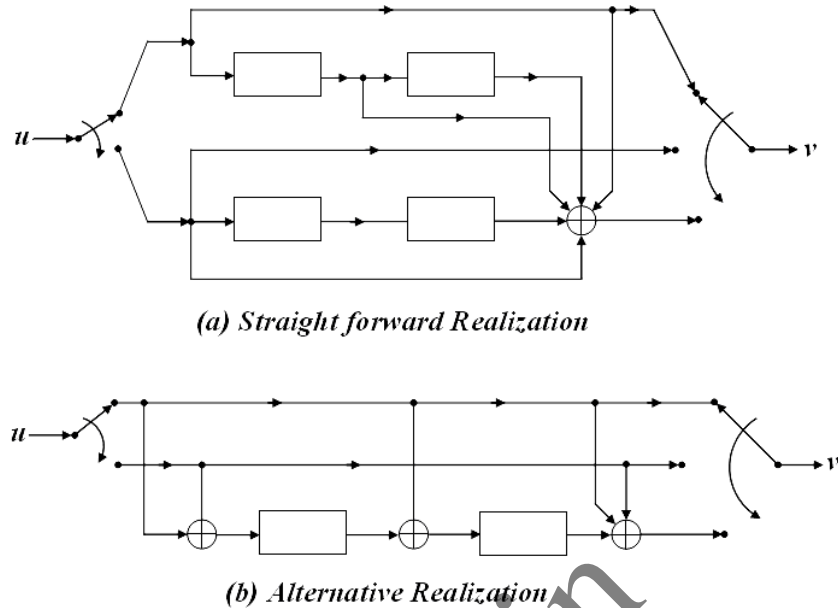


Fig 5.7 Realization of encoder for example 5.9

In majority of situations, the straight forward realization is the most efficient. However, in the case of systematic codes simpler realizations usually exist as shown in Example 5.9.

Another advantage of systematic codes is that no inverting circuit is needed for recovering information from the code word. For information recovery from a non systematic code, inversion is required in the form of an $(n \times k)$ matrix $G^{-1}(X)$ such that

$$G(X) \cdot G^{-1}(X) = I_k X^l \tag{5.27}$$

for some $l \geq 0$ and I_k is the $(k \times k)$ unit matrix. Then it follows that:

$$V(X) \cdot G^{-1}(X) = U(X) G(X) G^{-1}(X) = U(X) \cdot X^l \tag{5.28}$$

and the information sequence can be recovered with an l -time unit delay from the code word by letting $V(X)$ to be the input to the **n-input, k-output** linear sequential circuit whose transfer function matrix is $G^{-1}(X)$.

For an (n, l, m) code the transfer function matrix $G(X)$ will have a "feed forward" inverse $G^{-1}(X)$ of delay l units if and only if :

$$G.C.D [g^{(1)}(X), g^{(2)}(X) \dots g^{(n)}(X)] = X^l \tag{5.29}$$

for some $l \geq 0$; where **G.C.D** denotes the 'greatest common divisor'. For an (n, k, m) code with $k > 1$, let $\Delta_i(X)$, $i=1, 2 \dots \binom{n}{k}$ be the determinants of the $\binom{n}{k}$ distinct $k \times k$ sub-matrices of the transfer function matrix $G(X)$. Then a feed forward inverse of delay l -units exists if and only if:

$$GGD [\Delta_i(X), i=1, 2 \dots \binom{n}{k}] = X^l \tag{5.3}$$

Example 5.10:

For the $(2, 1, 3)$ encoder of Fig 5.3, we have, from Example 8.5, the generator matrix as

$$G(X) = [1 + X^2 + X^3, 1 + X + X^2 + X^3]$$

Its inverse can be computed as:

$$G^{-1}(X) = \begin{bmatrix} 1 + X + X^2 \\ X + X^2 \end{bmatrix}$$

and the implementation of the inverse is shown in Fig 5.8.

Example 5.11:

For the $(3, 2, 1)$ encoder of Fig 5.4, the generator matrix as found in Example 5.6 is:

$$G(X) = \begin{bmatrix} 1 + X & 1 & 1 \\ X & 1 + X & 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

The determinants of the (2×2) sub matrices are $1 + X + X^2$, X and $1 + X$. Their GCD is 1. A feed forward inverse with no delay exists and can be computed as:

$$G^{-1}(X) = \begin{bmatrix} 1 + X & X \\ X & 1 + X \\ X + X^2 & 1 + X^2 \end{bmatrix} \quad I$$

Implementation of this inverse is shown in Fig 5.9.

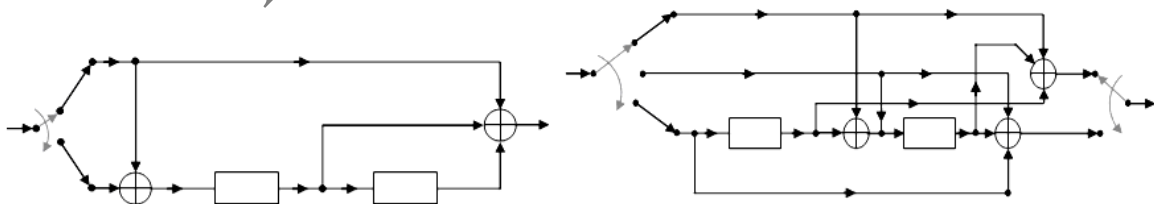


Fig 5.8 Feed forward encoder of $(2,1,3)$ code

Fig 5.9 Feed forward encoder of $(3,2,1)$ code

To understand what happens when a feed forward inverse does not exist consider an example of a $(2, 1, 2)$ encoder with generator matrix

$$G(X) = [1 + X, 1 + X^2]$$

Since the GCD of $g^{(1)}(X)$ and $g^{(2)}(X)$ is $(1 + X)$ (not of the form X^l), a feed forward inverse does not exist. Suppose the input sequence is:

$$u(X) = \frac{1}{1+X} = 1 + X^2 + X^3 + \dots \text{ Then the output sequences are: } v^{(1)}(X) = 1, v^{(2)}(X) = 1 + X.$$

That is, the code word contains only three nonzero bits even though the information sequence has infinite weight. If this code word is transmitted over a BSC and the three nonzero bits are changed to zeros by the channel noise, the received sequence will be all zeros. A maximum likelihood decoder (MLD) will then produce the all-zero code word as its estimate, since this is a valid code word and it agrees exactly with the received sequence. Thus, the estimated information sequence will be $\hat{u}(X) = 0$, implying an infinite number of decoding errors caused by a finite number (only three in this case) of channel errors. Clearly this is a very undesirable situation and the code is said to be subject to "Catastrophic error propagation" and the code is called a "catastrophic code".

Equations (5.29) and (5.30) can be shown to be necessary and sufficient conditions for a code to be 'non-catastrophic'. Hence any code for which a feed forward inverse exists is non-catastrophic. **Another advantage of systematic codes is that they are always non-catastrophic.**

8.5 STATE DIAGRAMS:

The state of an encoder is defined as its shift register contents. For an (n, k, m) code with $k > 1$, i -th shift register contains ' K_i ' previous information bits. Defining $K = \sum_{i=1}^k K_i$ as the total encoder - memory (m - represents the memory order which we have defined as the maximum length of any shift register), the encoder state at time unit T , when the encoder inputs are, $\{u_1^{(1)}, u_1^{(2)} \dots u_1^{(k)}\}$, are the binary k -tuple of inputs:

$$\{u_{1-1}^{(1)} u_{1-2}^{(1)} u_{1-3}^{(1)} \dots u_{1-k}^{(1)}; u_{1-1}^{(2)} u_{1-2}^{(2)} u_{1-3}^{(2)} \dots u_{1-k}^{(2)}; \dots; u_{1-1}^{(k)} u_{1-2}^{(k)} u_{1-3}^{(k)} \dots u_{1-k}^{(k)}\},$$

and there are a total of 2^k different possible states. For a $(n, 1, m)$ code, $K = K_1 = m$ and the encoder state at time unit l is simply $\{u_{l-1}, u_{l-2} \dots u_{l-m}\}$.

Each new block of k -inputs causes a transition to a new state. Hence there are 2^k branches leaving each state, one each corresponding to the input block. For an $(n, 1, m)$ code there are only two branches leaving each state. On the state diagram, each branch is labeled with the k -inputs causing the transition and the n -corresponding outputs. The state diagram for the convolutional encoder of Fig 8.3 is shown in Fig 8.10. A **state table** would be, often, more helpful while drawing the state diagram and is as shown.

State table for the $(2, 1, 3)$ encoder of Fig 5.3

State	S ₀	S ₁	S ₂	S ₃	S ₄	S ₅	S ₆	S ₇
Binary Description	000	100	010	110	001	101	011	111

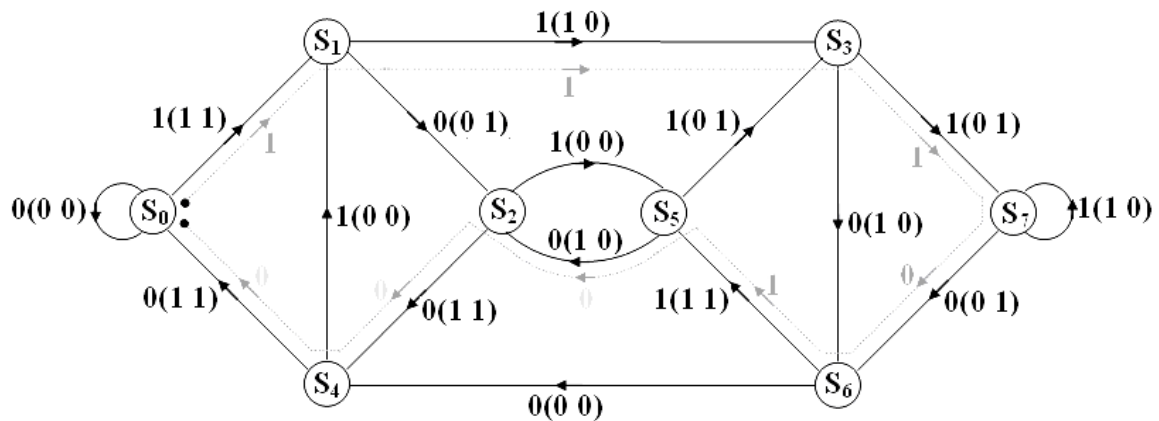


Fig 5.10 State diagram of encoder of Fig 5.3

Recall (or observe from Fig 8.3) that the two out sequences are:

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbf{v}^{(1)} &= \mathbf{u}_1 + \mathbf{u}_{1-2} + \mathbf{u}_{1-3} \quad \text{and} \\ \mathbf{v}^{(2)} &= \mathbf{u}_1 + \mathbf{u}_{1-1} + \mathbf{u}_{1-2} + \mathbf{u}_{1-3} \end{aligned}$$

Till the reader, gains some experience, it is advisable to first prepare a transition table using the output equations and then translate the data on to the state diagram. Such a table is as shown below:

State transition table for the encoder of Fig 5.3

Previous State	Binary Description	Input	Next State	Binary Description	u_1	u_{1-1}	u_{1-2}	u_{1-3}	Output
S ₀	0 0 0	0	S ₀	0 0 0	0	0	0	0	0 0
		1	S ₁	1 0 0	1	0	0	0	1 1
S ₁	1 0 0	0	S ₂	0 1 0	0	1	0	0	0 1
		1	S ₃	1 1 0	1	1	0	0	1 0
S ₂	0 1 0	0	S ₄	0 0 1	0	0	1	0	1 1
		1	S ₅	1 0 1	1	0	1	0	0 0
S ₃	1 1 0	0	S ₆	0 1 1	0	1	1	0	1 0
		1	S ₇	1 1 1	1	1	1	0	0 1
S ₄	0 0 1	0	S ₀	0 0 0	0	0	0	1	1 1
		1	S ₁	1 0 0	1	0	0	1	0 0
S ₅	1 0 1	0	S ₂	0 1 0	0	1	0	1	1 0
		1	S ₃	1 1 0	1	1	0	1	0 1
S ₆	0 1 1	0	S ₄	0 0 1	0	0	1	1	0 0
		1	S ₅	1 0 1	1	0	1	1	1 1
S ₇	1 1 1	0	S ₆	0 1 1	0	1	1	1	0 1
		1	S ₇	1 1 1	1	1	1	1	1 0

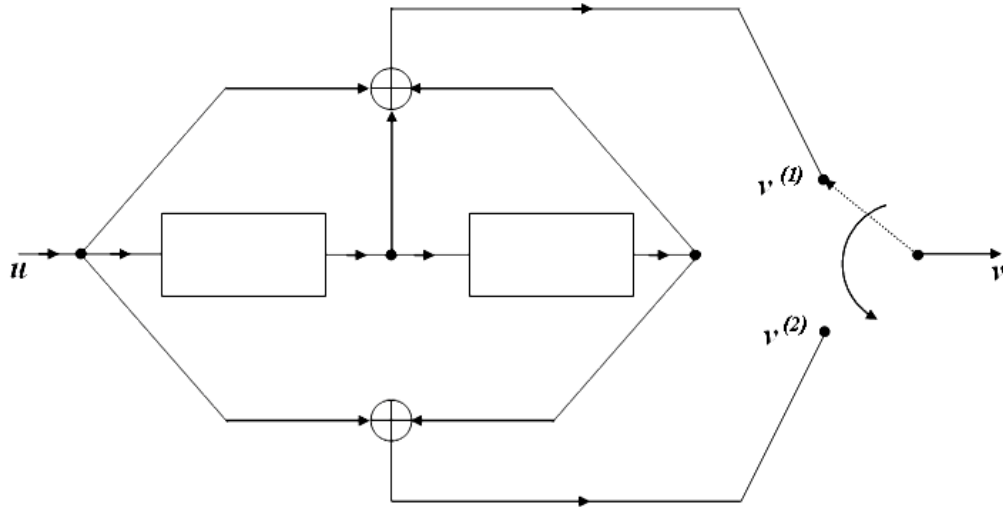


Fig 5.15 (2,1,2) convolution encoder

For this encoder we have: $v_1^{(1)} = u_1 + u_{1-1} + u_{1-2}$ and $v_1^{(2)} = u_1 + u_{1-2}$
 The state transition table is as follows.

State transition table for the (2, 1, 2) convolutional encoder of Example 5.12

Previous state	Binary description	Input	Next State	Binary description	u_1	u_{1-1}	u_{1-2}	Output
S0	0 0	0	S0	0 0	0	0	0	0 0
		1	S1	1 0	1	0	0	1 1
S1	1 0	0	S2	0 1	0	1	0	1 0
		1	S3	1 1	1	1	0	0 1
S2	0 1	0	S0	0 0	0	0	1	1 1
		1	S1	1 0	1	0	1	0 0
S3	1 1	0	S2	0 1	0	1	1	0 1
		1	S3	1 1	1	1	1	1 0

The state diagram and the augmented state diagram for computing the ‘complete path enumerator function’ for the encoder are shown in Fig 5.16.

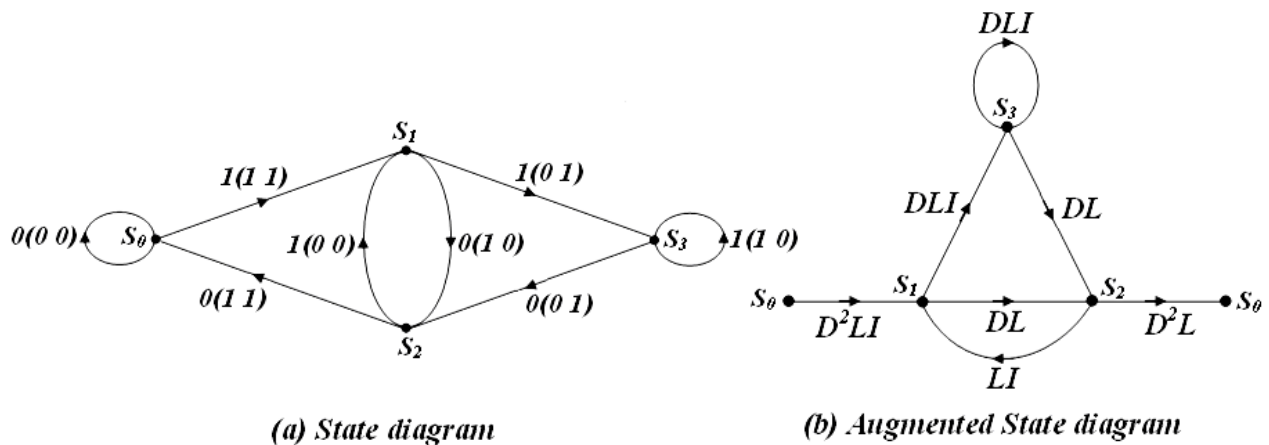


Fig 5.16 State diagram for the (2,1,2) encoder

There are three loops in the augmented state diagram:

$$S_3 \rightarrow S_3: l_1 = DLI, S_1 \rightarrow S_2 \rightarrow S_1: l_2 = DL^2I, S_1 \rightarrow S_3 \rightarrow S_2 \rightarrow S_1: l_3 = D^2L^3I^2$$

The loops l_1 and l_2 are non-touching and their gain product is: $l_1 \times l_2 = D^2L^3I^2$

$$\begin{aligned} \therefore \Delta &= 1 - (l_1 + l_2 + l_3) - l_1 l_2 \\ &= 1 - DLI(1 + L) \end{aligned}$$

There are two forward paths: $F_1 \Rightarrow S_0 \rightarrow S_1 \rightarrow S_2 \rightarrow S_0$. Path gain = D^5L^3I

$$F_2 \Rightarrow S_0 \rightarrow S_1 \rightarrow S_3 \rightarrow S_2 \rightarrow S_0, \text{ Path gain} = D^6L^4I^2$$

The loop l_1 does not touch the forward path F_1 . $\therefore \Delta_1 = 1 - l_1 = 1 - DLI$.

All the three loops touch the forward path F_2 . $\therefore \Delta_2 = 1$

Now use Mason's gain formula to get:

$$\begin{aligned} T(D, L, I) &= \frac{D^5L^3I(1 - DLI) + D^6L^4I^2}{1 - DLI(1 + L)} = \frac{D^5L^3I}{1 - DLI(1 + L)} \\ &= D^5L^3I + D^6L^4I^2(1 + L) + D^7L^5I^3(1 + L)^2 + \dots \end{aligned}$$

Thus there is one code word of weight 5 that has length 3 branches and an information sequence of weight 1, Two code words of weight 6, of which one has length 4 branches and an information sequence of weight 2, and the other has length 5 branches and an information sequence of weight 2 and so on.

8.6 TREE AND TRELIS DIAGRAMS:

Let us now consider other graphical means of portraying convolutional codes. The state diagram can be re-drawn as a 'Tree graph'. The convention followed is: If the input is a '0', then the upper path is followed and if the input is a '1', then the lower path is followed. A vertical line is called a 'Node' and a horizontal line is called 'Branch'. The output code words for each input bit are shown on the branches. The encoder output for any information sequence can be traced through the tree paths. The tree graph for the (2, 1, 2) encoder of Fig 5.15 is shown in Fig 5.18. The state transition table can be conveniently used in constructing the tree graph.

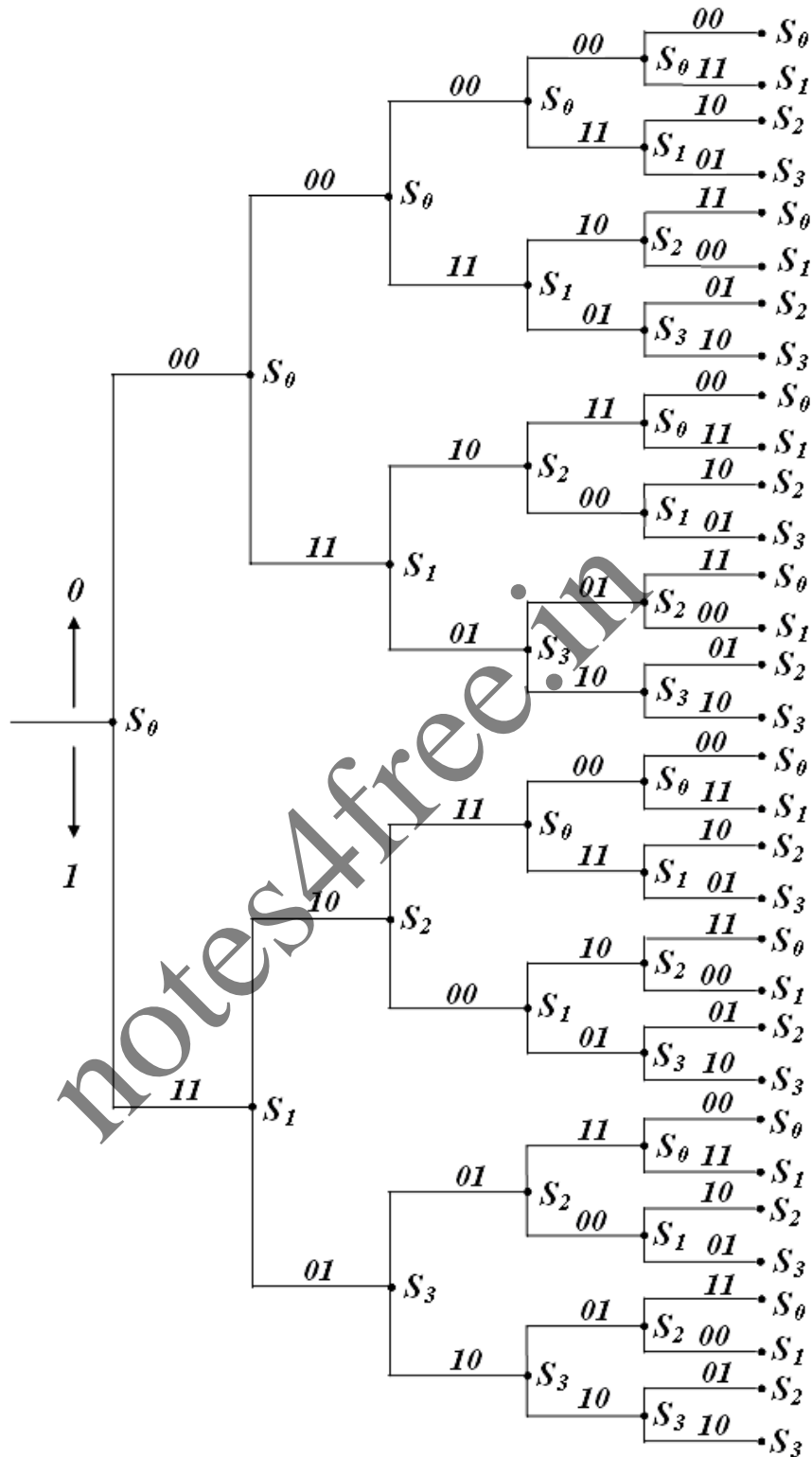


Fig 5.18: The tree graph for the (2, 1, 2) encoder of Fig 5.15

Following the procedure just described we find that the encoded sequence for an information sequence (10011) is (11, 10, 11, 11, 01) which agrees with the first 5 pairs of bits of the actual encoded sequence. Since the encoder has a memory = 2 we require two more bits to clear and re-set the encoder. Hence to obtain the complete code sequence corresponding to an information sequence of length kL , the tree graph is to extended by $n(m-1)$ time units and this extended part is called the

"Tail of the tree", and the $2kL$ right most nodes are called the "Terminal nodes" of the tree. Thus the extended tree diagram for the (2, 1, 2) encoder, for the information sequence (10011) is as in Fig 5.19 and the complete encoded sequence is (11, 10, 11, 11, 01, 01, 11).

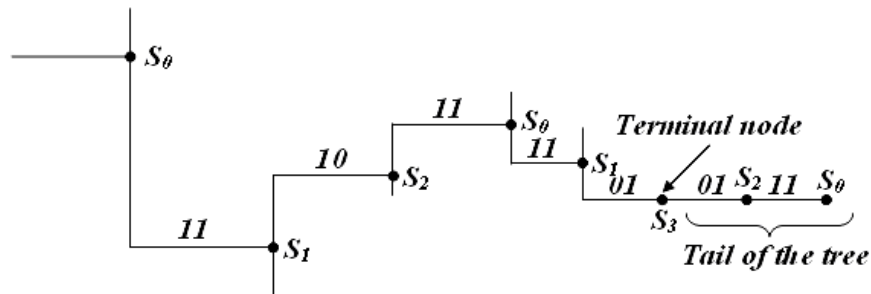


Fig 5.19 Illustration of the "Tail of the tree"

At this juncture, a very important clue for the student in drawing tree diagrams neatly and correctly, without wasting time appears pertinent. As the length of the input sequence L increases the number of right most nodes increase as 2^L . Hence for a specified sequence length, L , compute 2^L . Mark 2^L equally spaced points at the rightmost portion of your page, leaving space to complete the m tail branches. Join two points at a time to obtain 2^{L-1} nodes. Repeat the procedure until you get only one node at the left most portion of your page. The procedure is illustrated diagrammatically in Fig 5.20 for $L = 3$. Once you get the tree structure, now you can fill in the needed information either looking back to the state transition table or working out logically.

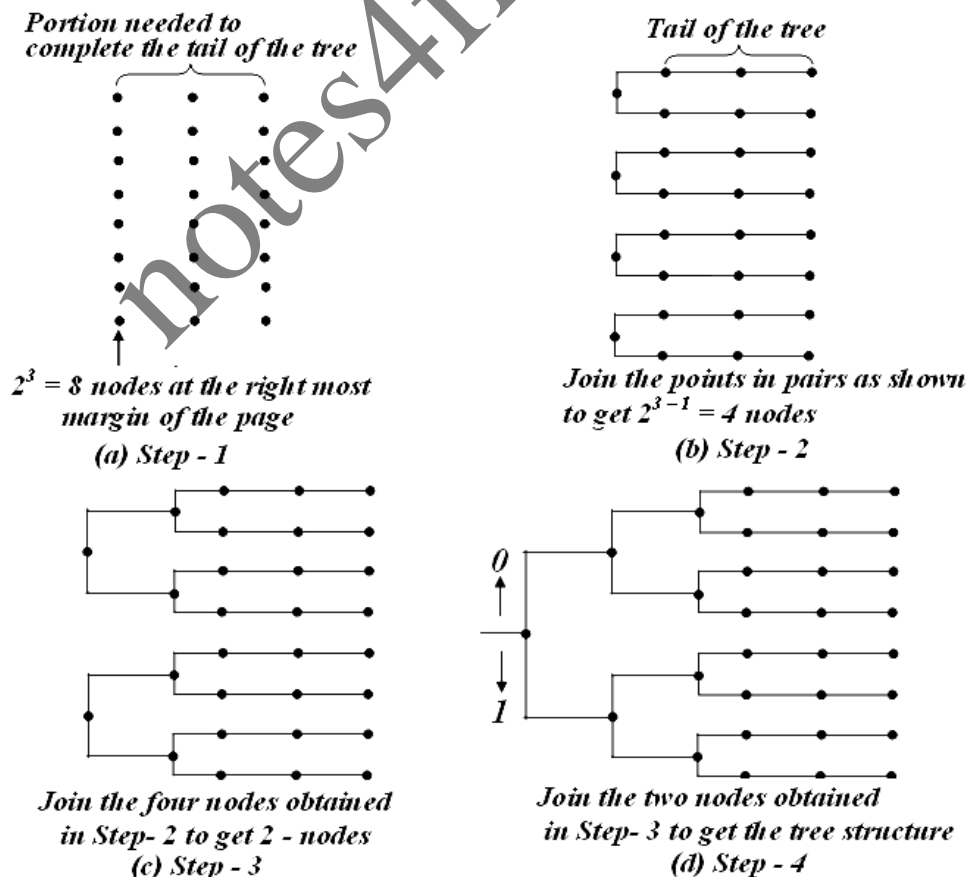


Fig 5.20 Procedure for drawing neat tree diagram

From Fig 5.18, observe that the tree becomes "repetitive" after the first three branches.

Beyond the third branch, the nodes labeled S_0 are identical and so are all the other pairs of nodes that are identically labeled. Since the encoder has a memory $m = 2$, it follows that when the third information bit enters the encoder, the first message bit is shifted out of the register. Consequently, after the third branch the information sequences $(000u_3u_4\text{---})$ and $(100u_3u_4\text{---})$ generate the same code symbols and the pair of nodes labeled S_0 may be joined together. The same logic holds for the other nodes.

Accordingly, we may collapse the tree graph of Fig 5.18 into a new form of Fig 5.21 called a "Trellis". It is so called because Trellis is a tree like structure with re-merging branches (You will have seen the trusses and trellis used in building construction).

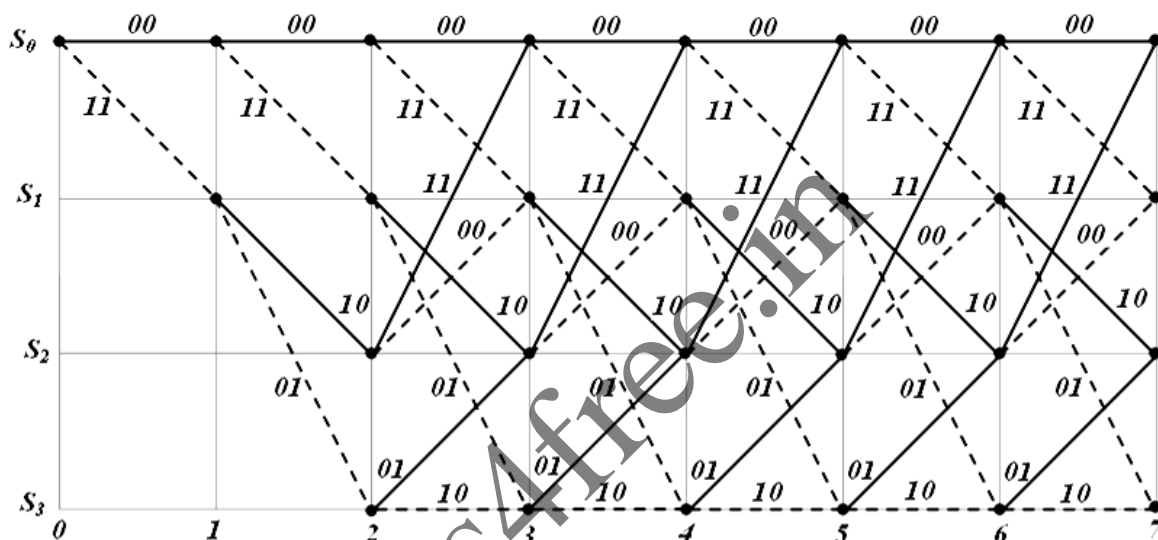


Fig 5.21 Trellis diagram for encoder of fig 5.15

The Trellis diagram contain $(L + m + 1)$ time units or levels (or depth) and these are labeled from 0 to $(L + m)$ (0 to 7 for the case with $L = 5$ for encoder of Fig 5.15 as shown in Fig 5.21). The following observations can be made from the Trellis diagram

1. There are no fundamental paths at distance 1 , 2 or 3 from the all zero path.
2. There is a single fundamental path at distance 5 from the all zero path. It diverges from the all-zero path three branches back and it differs from the all-zero path in the single input bit.
3. There are two fundamental paths at a distance 6 from the all zero path. One path diverges from the all zero path four branches back and the other five branches back. Both paths differ from the all zero path in two input bits. The above observations are depicted in Fig 8.24(a).
4. There are four fundamental paths at a distance 7 from the all-zero path. One path diverges from the all zero path five branches back, two other paths six branches back and the fourth path diverges seven branches back as shown in Fig 8.24(b). They all differ from the all zero path in three input bits. This information can be compared with those obtained from the complete path enumerator function found earlier.

8.7 THE VITERBI ALGORITHM:

The Viterbi algorithm, when applied to the received sequence \mathbf{r} from a **DMC** finds the path through the trellis with the largest metric. At each step, it compares the metrics of all paths entering each state and stores the path with the largest metric called the "**survivor**" together with its metric.

The Algorithm:

- Step: 1.** Starting at level (i.e. time unit) $\mathbf{j} = \mathbf{m}$, compute the partial metric for the single path entering each node (state). Store the path (the survivor) and its metric for each state.
- Step: 2.** Increment the level \mathbf{j} by **1**. Compute the partial metric for all the paths entering a state by adding the branch metric entering that state to the metric of the connecting survivor at the preceding time unit. For each state, store the path with the largest metric (the survivor), together with its metric and eliminate all other paths.
- Step: 3.** If $\mathbf{j} < (\mathbf{L} + \mathbf{m})$, repeat **Step 2**. Otherwise stop.

Notice that although we can use the Tree graph for the above decoding, the number of nodes at any level of the Trellis does not continue to grow as the number of incoming message bits increases, instead it remains a constant at 2^m .

There are 2^k survivors from time unit ' \mathbf{m} ' up to time unit \mathbf{L} , one for each of the 2^k states. After \mathbf{L} time units there are fewer survivors, since there are fewer states while the encoder is returning to the all-zero state. Finally, at time unit $(\mathbf{L} + \mathbf{m})$ there is only one state, the all-zero state and hence only one survivor and the algorithm terminates.

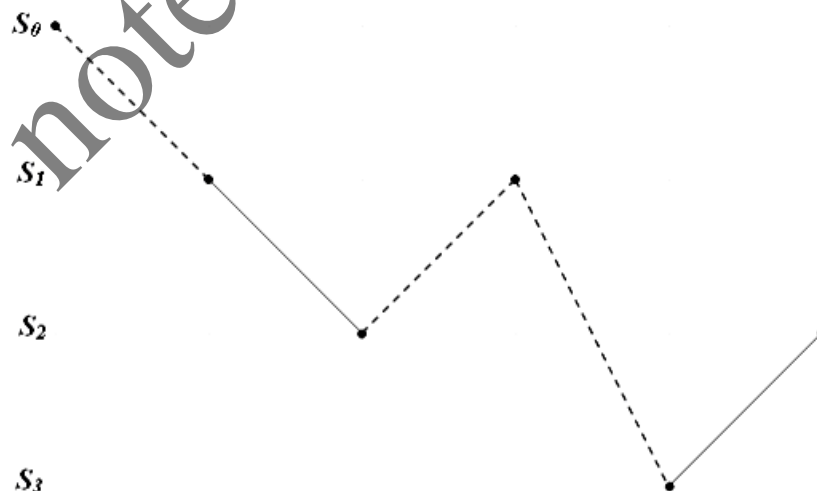


Fig 5.22 Survivor after time unit ' \mathbf{j} '

Suppose that the maximum likely hood path is eliminated by the algorithm at time unit \mathbf{j} as shown in Fig 8.22. This implies that the partial path metric of the survivor exceeds that of the maximum likely hood path at this point. Now, if the remaining portion of the maximum likely hood path is appended onto the survivor at time unit \mathbf{j} , then the total metric of this path will exceed the total metric of the maximum likely hood path. But this contradicts the definition of the 'maximum likely hood path' as the 'path with largest metric'. Hence the maximum likely hood path cannot be eliminated by the algorithm and it must be the final survivor and it follows

$M(\mathbf{r} | \hat{\mathbf{v}}) \geq M(\mathbf{r} | \mathbf{v}), \forall \mathbf{v} \neq \hat{\mathbf{v}}$. Thus it is clear that the Viterbi algorithm is optimum in the sense that it always finds the maximum likely hood path through the Trellis. From an implementation point of view, however, it would be very inconvenient to deal with fractional numbers. Accordingly, the bit metric $M(\mathbf{r}_i | \mathbf{v}_i) = \ln P(\mathbf{r}_i | \mathbf{v}_i)$ can be replaced by " $C_2 [\ln P(\mathbf{r}_i | \mathbf{v}_i) + C_1]$ ", C_1 is any real number and C_2 is any positive real number so that the metric can be expressed as an integer. Notice that a path \mathbf{v} which maximizes $M(\mathbf{r} | \mathbf{v}) = \sum_{i=1}^N M(\mathbf{r}_i | \mathbf{v}_i) = \sum_{i=1}^N \ln P(\mathbf{r}_i | \mathbf{v}_i)$ also maximizes $\sum_{i=1}^N C_2 [\ln P(\mathbf{r}_i | \mathbf{v}_i) + C_1]$.

Therefore, it is clear that the modified metrics can be used without affecting the performance of the Viterbi algorithm. Observe that we can always choose C_1 to make the smallest metric as zero and then C_2 can be chosen so that all other metrics can be approximated by nearest integers. Accordingly, there can be many sets of integer metrics possible for a given DMC depending on the choice of C_2 . The performance of the Viterbi algorithm now becomes slightly sub-optimal due to the use of modified metrics, approximated by nearest integers. However the degradation in performance is typically very low.

Example 5.13:

As an illustration let us consider a binary input-quaternary output DMC shown in Fig 5.23(a). The bit metrics $\ln P(\mathbf{r}_i | \mathbf{v}_i)$ are shown in Fig 5.23(b). Choosing $C_1 = -2.3$ and $C_2 = 7.195$ yields the "integer metric table" shown in Fig 5.23(c).

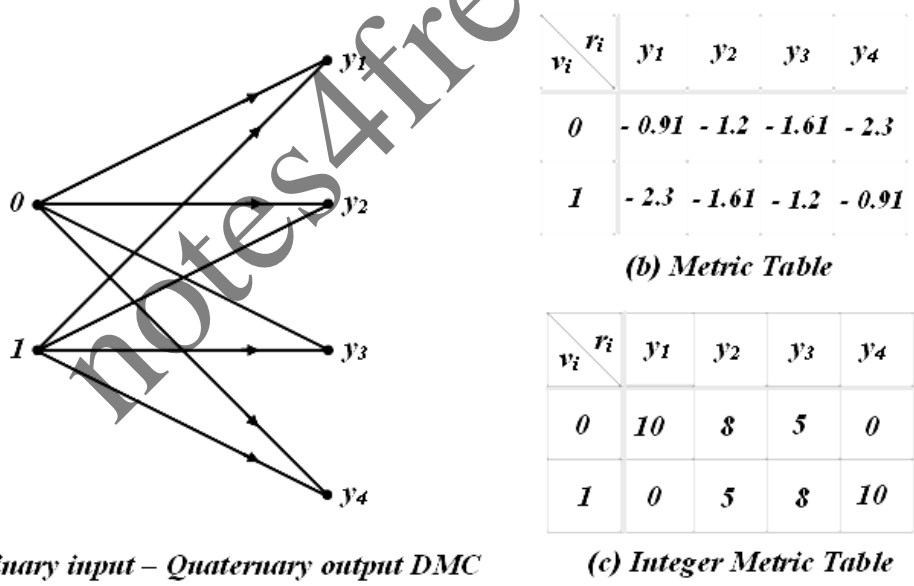


Fig 5.23 Diagram for example 5.13

Now suppose that a code word from the (2,1,2) encoder of Fig 5.15, whose Trellis diagram is shown in Fig 5.21, is transmitted over the DMC of Fig 8.26 and the quaternary received sequence is:

$$\mathbf{r} = \{y_3 y_4, y_3 y_1, y_3 y_2, y_3 y_4, y_3 y_4, y_2 y_4, y_1 y_3\}$$

Let us apply Viterbi algorithm to determine the transmitted sequence.

In the first time unit ($j = 1$) there are two branches originating from the state S_0 with output vectors (00) terminating at S_0 and (11) terminating at S_1 . The received sequence in this time unit is $(y_3 y_4)$ and using the integer metric table of Fig 8.23(c) we have:

$$M[r_1|v_1^{(1)}] = M(y_3 y_4|00) = M(y_3|0) + M(Y_4|0) = 5 + 0 = 5, \text{ and}$$

$$M[r_1|v_1^{(2)}] = M(y_3 y_4|11) = M(y_3|1) + M(Y_4|1) = 8 + 10 = 18$$

These computations are indicated in Fig 8.24(a). The path discarded is shown by a cross. Note that the branch metrics are also indicated along the branches with in brackets and the state metrics are indicated at the nodes.

For $j = 2$ there are single branches entering each state and the received sequence in this time unit is $(y_3 y_1)$. The four branch metrics are computed as below.

$$M_1 = M(y_3 y_1|00) = M(y_3|0) + M(y_1|0) = 5 + 10 = 15$$

$$M_2 = M(y_3 y_1|11) = M(y_3|1) + M(y_1|1) = 8 + 0 = 8$$

$$M_3 = M(y_3 y_1|10) = M(y_3|1) + M(y_1|0) = 8 + 10 = 18$$

$$M_4 = M(y_3 y_1|01) = M(y_3|0) + M(y_1|1) = 5 + 0 = 5$$

The metrics at the four states are obtained by adding the branch metrics to the metrics of the previous states (survivors) and are shown in Fig 8.24(b).

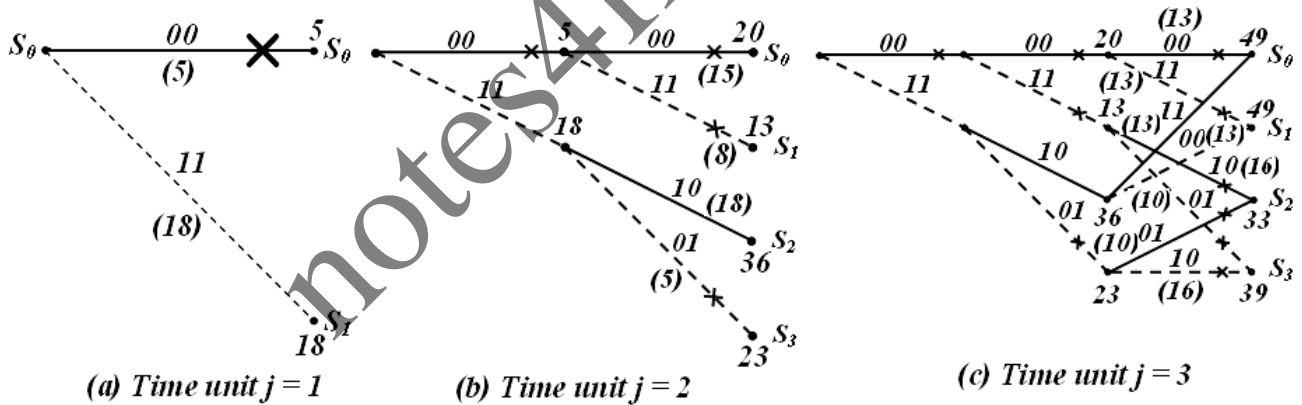


Fig 5.24 Computation for time units $j=1, j=2$ and $j=3$

Next for $j = 3$, notice that there are two branches entering each state as shown in Fig 8.24(c). The received sequence in this time unit is (y_3, y_2) and the branch metrics are computed as below:

$$M_1 = M(y_3 y_2|00) = M(y_3|0) + M(y_2|0) = 5 + 8 = 13$$

$$M_2 = M(y_3 y_2|11) = M(y_3|1) + M(y_2|1) = 8 + 5 = 13$$

$$M_3 = M(y_3 y_2|10) = M(y_3|1) + M(y_2|0) = 8 + 8 = 16$$

$$M_4 = M(y_3 y_2|01) = M(y_3|0) + M(y_2|1) = 5 + 5 = 10$$

Following the above steps, we arrive at the following diagram.

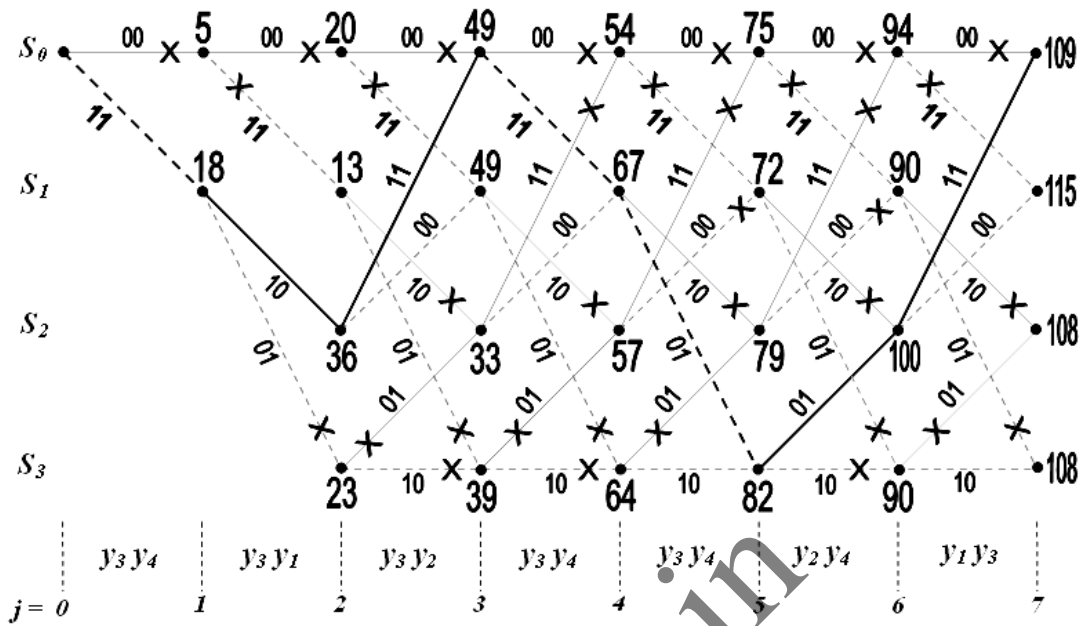


Fig 5.25 Application of Viterbi algorithm

Notice that, in the last step we have ignored the highest metric computed! Indeed, if the sequence had continued we should take this into account. However, **in the last m-time units remember that the path must remerge with S_0 .**

From the path that has survived, we observe that the transmitted sequence is:

$$\hat{v} = (11, 10, 11, 11, 01, 01, 11)$$

and the information sequence at the encoder input is: $\hat{u} = (1\ 0\ 0\ 1\ 1)$

Notice that **“the final m-branches in any trellis path always corresponds to ‘0’ inputs and hence not considered part of the information sequence”.**

As already mentioned, the **MLD** reduces to a '**minimum distance decoder**' for a **BSC** (see Eq 8.40). Hence the distances can be reckoned as metrics and the algorithm must now find the path through the trellis with the smallest metric (i.e. the path closest to \mathbf{r} in Hamming distance). The details of the algorithm are exactly the same, except that the Hamming distance replaces the log likely hood function as the metric and the survivor at each state is the path with the smallest metric. The following example illustrates the concept.

Example 5.14:

Suppose the rode word $\mathbf{r} = (01, 10, 10, 11, 01, 01, 11)$, from the encoder of Fig 5.15 is received through a **BSC**. The path traced is shown in Fig 5.25 as dark lines.

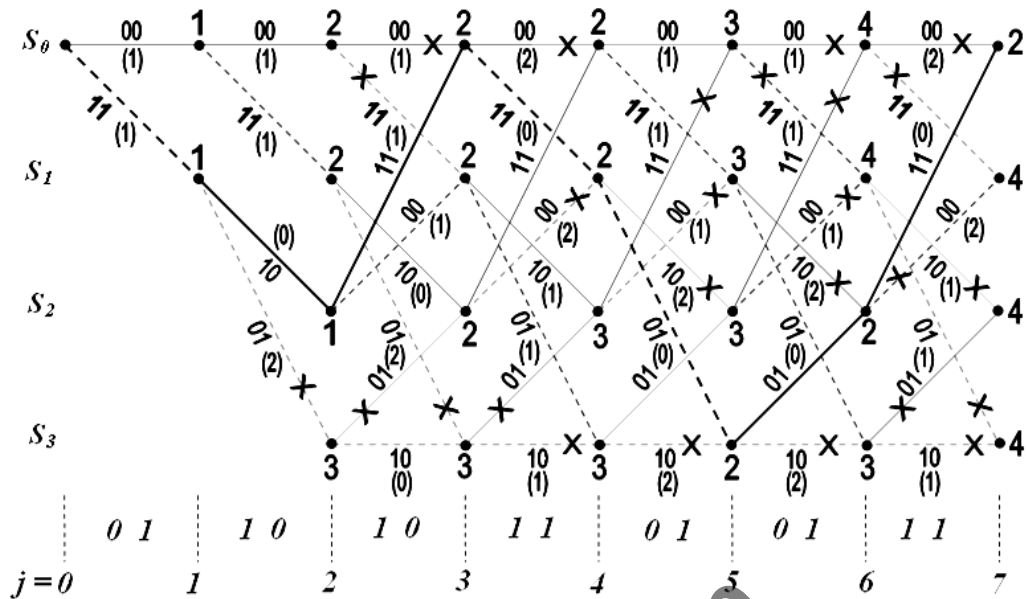


Fig 5.26 Viterbi algorithm for a BSC

The estimate of the transmitted code word is

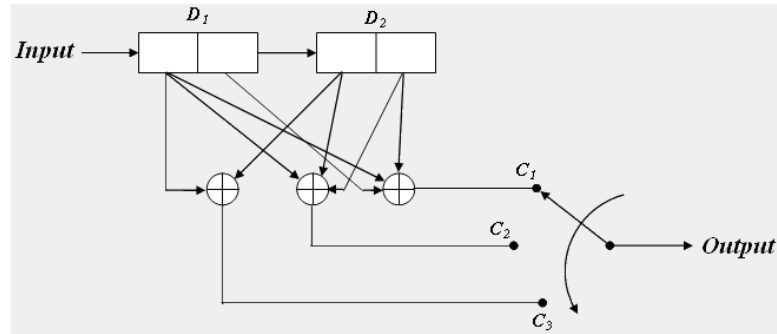
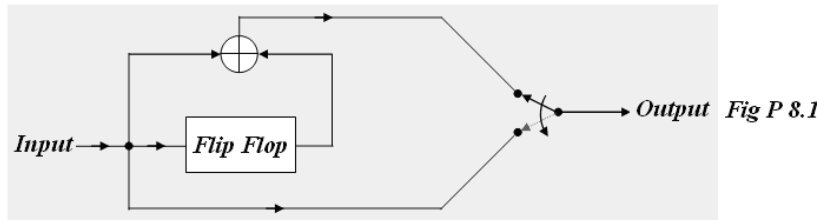
$$\hat{\mathbf{v}} = (11, 10, 11, 11, 01, 01, 11)$$

and the corresponding information sequence is: $\hat{\mathbf{u}} = (10011)$

Notice that the distances of the code words of each branch with respect to the corresponding received words are indicated in brackets. Note also that at some states neither path is crossed out indicating a tie in the metric values of the two paths entering that state. If the final survivor goes through any of these states there is more than one maximum likely hood path (i.e. there may be more than one path whose distance from \mathbf{r} is a minimum). From an implementation point of view whenever a tie in metric values occur, one path is arbitrarily selected as survivor, because of the non-practicability of storing a variable number of paths. However, this arbitrary resolution of ties has no effect on the decoding error probability. Finally, the Viterbi algorithm cannot give fruitful results when more errors in the transmitted code word than permissible by the \mathbf{d}_{free} of the code occur. For the example illustrated, the reader can verify that the algorithm fails if there are three errors. Discussion and details about the performance bounds, convolutional code construction, implementation of the Viterbi algorithm etc are beyond the scope of this book.

RECOMMENDATION QUESTIONS

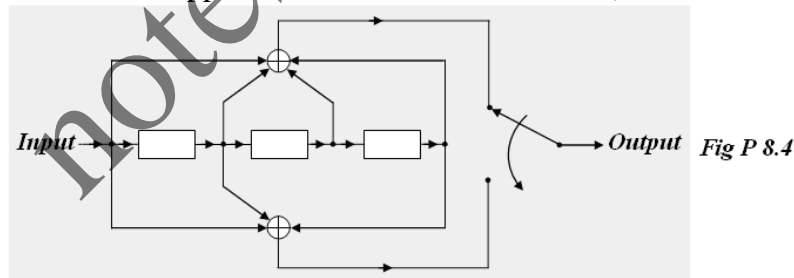
1. Fig P 8.1 shows a convolutional encoder. i) What is the constraint length and rate efficiency?
 ii) Find the encoder output produced by the sequence **101101**..... iii) Is the code systematic?



2. Consider the convolutional encoder shown in Fig P 8.2. The message bits are shifted into the encoder two bits at a time. Repeat the questions asked in problem P 8.1.
3. A convolution encoder has a single shift register with two stages (i.e. $m=2$), three Modulo-2 adders and Output multiplexer. The generator sequences of the encoder are as follows:
 $g^{(1)}=(1,0,1)$; $g^{(2)}=(1,1,0)$; $g^{(3)}=(1,1,1)$

Draw the block diagram of the encoder.

4. Fig P8.4 shows the encoder of a rate $1/2$, constraint length $=4$ convolutional encoder. Determine the encoder out-put produced by the information sequence $(10111\dots)$ using the following two approaches: i) Time domain approach, based on convolution. ii) Transform domain approach.



5. For the encoder of problem 3,
 - a) Find the generator matrix \mathbf{G}
 - b) Find the code word corresponding to the information sequence $(11101\dots)$
6. For the encoder of problem 3,
 - a) Find the transfer function matrix $\mathbf{G}(\mathbf{X})$
 - b) Find the set of output sequences $\mathbf{V}(\mathbf{X})$ and the code word $\mathbf{v}(\mathbf{X})$ corresponding to the information sequence $\mathbf{u}(\mathbf{X})=1+\mathbf{X}^2+\mathbf{X}^3+\mathbf{X}^4$.
7. Determine which of the following rate $1/2$ convolutional codes are 'catastrophic':
 - (a) $g^{(1)}(\mathbf{X}) = \mathbf{X}^2$, $g^{(2)}(\mathbf{X}) = 1 + \mathbf{X} + \mathbf{X}^3$
 - (b) $g^{(1)}(\mathbf{X}) = 1 + \mathbf{X}^2 + \mathbf{X}^4$, $g^{(2)}(\mathbf{X}) = 1 + \mathbf{X} + \mathbf{X}^3 + \mathbf{X}^4$
 - (c) $g^{(1)}(\mathbf{X}) = 1 + \mathbf{X} + \mathbf{X}^2 + \mathbf{X}^4$, $g^{(2)}(\mathbf{X}) = 1 + \mathbf{X}^3 + \mathbf{X}^4$
 - (d) $g^{(1)}(\mathbf{X}) = 1 + \mathbf{X}^4 + \mathbf{X}^5 + \mathbf{X}^6$, $g^{(2)}(\mathbf{X}) = 1 + \mathbf{X} + \mathbf{X}^3 + \mathbf{X}^5$

8. Consider the encoder of problem 3,
- Draw the state diagram of the encoder
 - Draw the modified state diagram
 - Find the generating function $T(\mathbf{X})$
 - Draw the augmented state diagram
 - Find the Complete Path Enumerator function $T(\mathbf{D}, \mathbf{L}, \mathbf{I})$
8. Consider the $(3, 1, 5)$ systematic code with $\mathbf{g}^{(2)} = (101101)$, $\mathbf{g}^{(3)} = (110011)$
- Find the generator matrix
 - Find the parity sequences corresponding to the information sequence $\mathbf{u} = (1101\dots)$
9. Consider the $(3, 2, 3)$ systematic code with $\mathbf{g}_1^{(3)}(\mathbf{X}) = 1 + \mathbf{X}^2 + \mathbf{X}^3$ and $\mathbf{g}_2^{(3)}(\mathbf{X}) = 1 + \mathbf{X} + \mathbf{X}^3$
- Draw the straight forward realization of the encoder
 - Draw a simple encoder realization which requires only three shift register stages.
10. Consider the $(2, 1, 2)$ code with $\mathbf{G}(\mathbf{X}) = [1 + \mathbf{X}^2, 1 + \mathbf{X} + \mathbf{X}^2]$
- Find the **GCD** of its generator polynomials
 - Find the transfer function matrix $\mathbf{G}^{-1}(\mathbf{X})$ of its minimum delay feed forward inverse.
11. Consider a $(2, 1, 3)$ code with $\mathbf{G}(\mathbf{X}) = [1 + \mathbf{X}^2, 1 + \mathbf{X} + \mathbf{X}^2 + \mathbf{X}^3]$
- Find the **GCD** of its generator polynomials
 - Draw the encoder state diagram.
 - Find the infinite-weight information sequence that generates a code word of finite weight
 - Is this code catastrophic?
12. Construct the code tree for the convolutional encoder of Fig P 8.1. Trace the path through the tree that corresponds to the information sequence $(101101\dots)$ and compare the output with that determined in problem 21.
2. The code tree for the encoder of Fig 8.15, assuming that the incoming message sequence has $L = 2$ is shown in Fig P 8.13. Validate this tree.

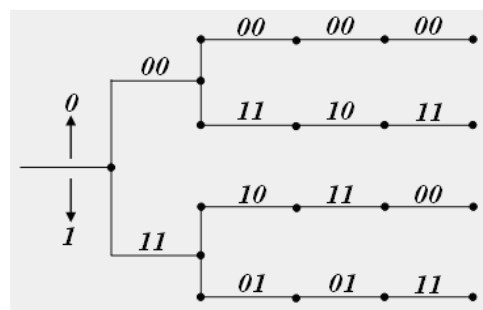


Fig P 8.13

14. Construct the code tree for the encoder of Fig P 8.4. Trace the path through the tree that corresponds to the information sequence (10111...). Compare the resulting encoder output with that found in problem 4.

15. Draw the state diagram and augmented state diagram for the encoder of Fig P.8.4.

i) Show that generating function is

$$T(X) = \frac{X^6 + X^7 - X^8}{1 - 2X - X^8}$$

ii) What is the free distance of this code? How many errors it can correct?

iii) Find the path enumerator function $T(D, L, I)$

16. Construct the Trellis diagram for the encoder of Fig P.8.4, assuming a message sequence of length 5. Trace the path through the Trellis diagram corresponding to the message sequence (10111...). Compare the resulting encoder output with that found in problem 4.

17. Consider the encoder of Fig P 8.17.

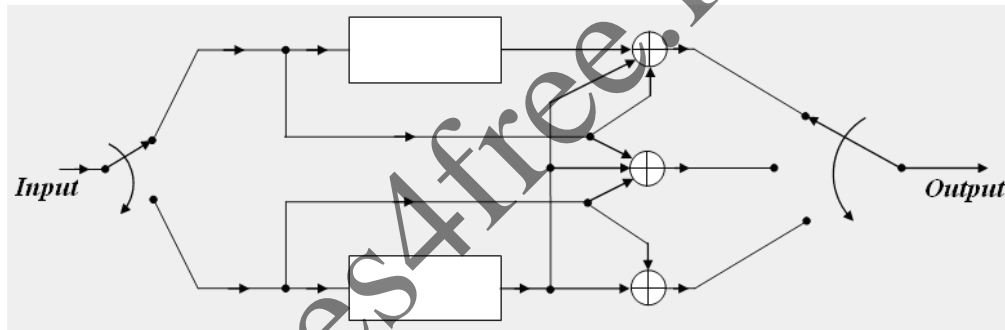


Fig P 8.17

i) What is its rate efficiency and constraint length?

ii) Using the transform domain approach, determine the code sequence produced by the information sequence (10111...).

iii) Construct the state diagram.

iv) Starting from the all zero state, trace the path that corresponds to the information sequence (10111...). Compare your answer with that in part (ii).

18. For a (3, 1, 2) code the transfer function matrix is: $G(X) = [1+X, 1+X^2, 1+X+X^2]$

a) Draw the Trellis diagram for an information sequence of length $L = 5$.

b) Trace the path and write the code word corresponding to information sequence (11101).

19. Find the integer metric table for the DMC of Fig 8.26(a) with $C_1 = -2.3$ and $C_2 = 3.0$.

Decode the receiver sequence for the encoder of problem 18:

$\mathbf{r} = (y_3y_4y_1, y_4y_4y_2, y_4y_4y_1, y_4y_4y_4, y_1y_3y_1, y_3y_2y_4, y_3y_1y_4)$ using the Viterbi algorithm

Also decode the same sequence using the integer metric table of Fig 8.26(c). Compare the results.

20. Consider a binary input 8-ary output DMC with transition probabilities $P(\mathbf{r}_i|\mathbf{v}_i)$ given by the following table.

$v_i \backslash r_i$	y_1	y_2	y_3	y_4	y_5	y_6	y_7	y_8
0	0.434	0.197	0.167	0.111	0.058	0.023	0.008	0.002
1	0.002	0.008	0.023	0.058	0.111	0.167	0.197	0.434

Find the metric table and integer table for this channel.

21. Consider the $(2, 1, 3)$ code with $G(X) = [1+X^2+X^3, 1+X+X^2+X^3]$
- Draw the trellis diagram for an information sequence of length $L = 4$.
 - Assume code vector is transmitted over the DMC of problem 20.
Decode the received sequence: $\mathbf{r} = [y_7y_8, y_7y_1, y_3y_1, y_1y_6, y_7y_2, y_3y_8, y_3y_2]$
22. The DMC of problem 20 is converted to BSC by combining the soft decision outputs y_1, y_2, y_3 and y_4 into a single hard decision output '0' and combining the soft decision outputs y_5, y_6, y_7 and y_8 into a single hard decision output '1'. A code word from code of problem 21 is transmitted over this channel. The hard decision version of the received sequence is:
- $\mathbf{r} = [11, 10, 00, 01, 10, 01, 00]$
- Decode this sequence and compare with the result of problem 21.
23. For a rate $1/3$ systematic code: $\mathbf{g}(1,1) = (1,0,1)$ and $\mathbf{g}(1,2) = (1,1,1)$
- Draw the tree graph, Trellis and state diagram.
 - Find d_{free} and 't' for the code.
 - For the information sequence $\mathbf{u} = (00110100\dots)$ find \mathbf{v} .
 - If the received vector is
 $\mathbf{r} = \{001, 110, 110, 010, 100, 001, 011, 000\}$
Find the transmitted \mathbf{u} using Viterbi algorithm.
24. Repeat the problem 23. For a systematic code if $\mathbf{g}(1, 1) = (1, 0, 1, 1)$ and $\mathbf{g}(1, 2) = (1, 1, 0, 1)$
25. For a non systematic rate $1/2$ code given by: $\mathbf{g}(1,1) = (1, 1,1)$ and $\mathbf{g}(1,2) = (1, 0,1,)$ Repeat parts (a) and (b) of problem 23 for this code. Show, by an example, that the code corrects 2 errors in six channel bits.
26. A rate $1/3$ non systematic code is given by the sub generators
 $\mathbf{g}(1,1) = (1,1,0, 1), \mathbf{g}(1,2) = (1,0,0,1)$ and $\mathbf{g}(3,1) = (1,1,1,0)$
- Construct the coder
 - Draw the tree graph, Trellis and state diagrams
 - Find d_{free} and t.
 - Tabulate the survivor paths and their Hamming distances for a given error vector $\mathbf{e} = (001, 010, 101, 000)$
27. Consider the $(2, 1, 3)$ code of problem 21.
- Draw the code tree for an information sequence of length $L= 4$.
 - Find the code word corresponding to an information sequence $\mathbf{u} = (1001)$.

28. Consider the **(2, 1, 3)** code of problem 21.
- For a BSC with $p = 0.045$, find an integer metric table for the Fano metric.
 - Decode the received sequence: $\mathbf{r} = (11, 00, 11, 00, 01, 10, 11)$ using the stack algorithm. Compare the number of decoding steps with the number required by the Viterbi algorithm.
 - Repeat part (b) for the received sequence $\mathbf{r} = (11, 10, 00, 01, 10, 01, 00)$
29. Consider again the **(2, 1, 3)** code of problem 21.
- For the binary input-8-ary-output **DMC** of problem 20, find an integer metric table for the Fano metric. (Hint: Use appropriate scale factor for each metric and round to the nearest integer).
 - Decode the received sequence: $\mathbf{r} = [y_7y_8, y_7y_1, y_3y_1, y_1y_6, y_6y_2, y_3y_8, y_3y_2]$ using the Stack algorithm. Compare the final decoded path with the result of problem 21(b) where the same received sequence is decoded using Viterbi algorithm.
30. Repeat problem 29 using Fano algorithm with threshold increments of $\Delta = 5$ and $\Delta = 9$. Compare the final decoded path and the number of computations with the Stack algorithm.
31. Refer to the code tree of Fig P 8.13. The branch metrics are specified as below.

$$M(r_j r_i / v_j v_i) = \begin{cases} 1 & \text{if } r_j = v_j \text{ and } r_i = v_i \\ -4 & \text{if } r_j = v_j \text{ and } r_i \neq v_i \text{ or } r_j \neq v_j \text{ and } r_i = v_i \\ -9 & \text{if } r_j \neq v_j \text{ and } r_i \neq v_i \end{cases}$$

Calculate the path metrics at the nodes of the tree for an all zero transmitted sequence, and the received sequence **(10, 00, 01, 01)** with three transmissions errors. Then apply Fano algorithm to decode the received sequence under the assumptions:

- The decoder chooses the lower branch in the case of a tie in path metrics.
- The decoder chooses the upper branch in the case of a tie in path metrics.

OUTCOMES

- To know the encoding of convolutional codes.
- How to decode the convolutional codes using algorithm.

REFERENCE

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