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# ELG 5372 Error Control Coding

Lecture 21: Polynomial, Rational and Systematic Encoders and Introduction to Decoding of Convolutional Codes.

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# **Polynomial and Rational Encoders**

- Every rational encoder has an equivalent basic encoder.
  - This implies that it is sufficient to use only feedforward encoders to represent every code
  - However, there may not be an equivalent basic systematic code.
  - If a systematic code is desired (for example, Turbo codes), it may be necessary to use a rational encoder.



- Let G(D) be a  $k \times n$  polynomial matrix.
- G(D) can be written as A(D)Γ(D)B(D), where A(D) is a k×k polynomial matrix and B(D) is an n×n polynomial matrix where det(A(D)) = det(B(D)) = 1 and Γ(D) is the k×n diagonal matrix given below:

$$\Gamma(D) = \begin{bmatrix} \gamma_1(D) & 0 & 0 & \cdots & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & \gamma_2(D) & 0 & \cdots & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & \gamma_3(D) & \cdots & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & \cdots & \ddots & \vdots & \vdots & \vdots \\ 0 & 0 & \cdots & 0 & \gamma_k(D) & \cdots & 0 \end{bmatrix}$$



- The nonzero elements of  $\Gamma(D)$  are polynomials called invariant factors of  $\mathbf{G}(D)$ .
- Then invariant factors satisfy the property that  $\gamma_i(D)$  divides  $\gamma_{i+1}(D)$ .
- If  $\mathbf{G}(D)$  is rational,  $\mathbf{G}(D) = \mathbf{A}(D)\Gamma(D)\mathbf{B}(D)$  is still true, only  $\Gamma(D)$  is now rational and takes the form

$$\Gamma(D) = \begin{bmatrix} \frac{\alpha_1(D)}{\beta_1(D)} & 0 & 0 & \cdots & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & \frac{\alpha_2(D)}{\beta_2(D)} & 0 & \cdots & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & \frac{\alpha_3(D)}{\beta_3(D)} & \cdots & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & \cdots & \ddots & \vdots & \cdots & \vdots \\ 0 & 0 & \cdots & \cdots & \frac{\alpha_k(D)}{\beta_k(D)} & \cdots & 0 \end{bmatrix}$$



• Let us express  $\mathbf{B}(D)$  as

$$\mathbf{B}(D) = \begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{G}'(D) \\ \mathbf{B}_2(D) \end{bmatrix}$$

- Where G'(D) is a k×n polynomial matrix and B<sub>2</sub>(D) is a (n-k) × n polynomial matrix.
- Since the last (n-k) columns of  $\Gamma(D)$  are zero,  $\Gamma(D)\mathbf{B}(D) = \Gamma'(D)\mathbf{G}'(D)$



• Where  $\Gamma'(D)$  is given by

$$\Gamma'(D) = \begin{bmatrix} \frac{\alpha_1(D)}{\beta_1(D)} & 0 & 0 & \cdots & 0\\ 0 & \frac{\alpha_2(D)}{\beta_2(D)} & 0 & \cdots & 0\\ 0 & 0 & \frac{\alpha_3(D)}{\beta_3(D)} & \cdots & 0\\ \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \ddots & \vdots\\ 0 & 0 & 0 & \cdots & \frac{\alpha_k(D)}{\beta_k(D)} \end{bmatrix}$$



- Therefore, invariant factor decomposition states that for rational G(D), it can be expressed as G(D)=A(D)Γ'(D)G'(D).
- Since A(D)Γ'(D) is non singular, G(D) and G'(D) are equivalent encoders. Since B(D) is polynomial, so is G'(D).
- Also, since det(B(D)) = 1, the right inverse of B(D) is polynomial. Since G'(D) is part of B(D), it must also have a polynomial inverse. Thus G'(D) is a basic encoder.
- Every rational encoder has an equivalent basic transfer function matrix



#### **Constraint length and minimal encoders**

- Let G(D) be a basic encoder.
- Let v<sub>i</sub> = max<sub>j</sub> deg(g<sub>ij</sub>(D)) denote the maximum degree of the polynomials in row *i* of G(D).
- The constraint length  $v = v_1 + v_2 + ... + v_k$ . This represents the number of memory elements required by the encoder.
- A minimal basic encoder is a basic encoder that has the smallest constraint length among all equivalent basic encoders.
- We are interested in equivalent basic encoders as they require the least amount of hardware and have the smallest number of states.



# **Encoder matrix decomposition**

 In general a basic encoder matrix G(D) can be written as:

$$\mathbf{G}(D) = \begin{bmatrix} D^{\nu_1} & 0 & \cdots & 0 \\ 0 & D^{\nu_2} & \cdots & 0 \\ \vdots & \vdots & \ddots & \vdots \\ 0 & 0 & \cdots & D^{\nu_k} \end{bmatrix} \mathbf{G}_h + \widetilde{\mathbf{G}}(D) = \mathbf{\Lambda}(D)\mathbf{G}_h + \widetilde{\mathbf{G}}(D)$$

 Where G<sub>h</sub> is a binary matrix which contains a 1 indicating the position in each row where the highest degree term D<sup>vi</sup> occurs.





# $\mathbf{G} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & D^2 & D \\ D & 1 & 0 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} D^2 & 0 \\ 0 & D \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 1 & 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix} + \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & D \\ 0 & 1 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$



# Basic Encoder Theorem 1 (BET1)

- Let G(D) be a k×n basic encoding matrix, then G(D) is a minimal basic encoding matrix if
  - The maximum degree of the  $k \times k$  subdeterminants of **G**(*D*) is equal to *v*. (1)
  - $-\mathbf{G}_h$  is full rank. (2)
- Statements (1) and (2) are equivalent.
- See proof on pages 466-467 in text.



$$\mathbf{G}_{1} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & D^{2} & D \\ D & 1 & 0 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} D^{2} & 0 \\ 0 & D \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 1 & 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix} + \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & D \\ 0 & 1 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\mathbf{G}_{2} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1+D^{2}+D^{3} & D+D^{2} \\ 0 & D+D^{3} & D^{2} \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} D^{3} & 0 \\ 0 & D^{3} \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 \end{bmatrix} + \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1+D^{2} & D+D^{2} \\ 0 & D & D^{2} \end{bmatrix}$$



# Producing equivalent basic encoder of reduced constraint length

- Let **G** be a basic encoder.
- If G<sub>h</sub>(D) is rank deficient, then G(D) is not a minimal basic code.
- Let  $\mathbf{g}_i$  be the row of greatest degree.

- Then 
$$\mathbf{g}_i = \mathbf{g}_i + \sum_{j \neq i}^{\kappa} D^{v_i - v_d} \mathbf{g}_j$$

- Determine row of maximum degree. If it is still g<sub>i</sub>, stop. Otherwise repeat above.
- See page 466-467 for proof.



#### **Example cont'd**

$$\mathbf{G}_{2} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1+D^{2}+D^{3} & D+D^{2} \\ 0 & D+D^{3} & D^{2} \end{bmatrix}$$
  

$$\mathbf{g}_{1} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1+D^{2}+D^{3} & D+D^{2} \end{bmatrix} \mathbf{g}_{2} = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & D+D^{3} & D^{2} \end{bmatrix}$$
  
Both have degree 3. Let  $\mathbf{g}_{1} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1+D^{2}+D^{3} & D+D^{2} \end{bmatrix} + \begin{bmatrix} 0 & D+D^{3} & D^{2} \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1+D+D^{2} & D \end{bmatrix}$ , which now has degree 2.

Let  $\mathbf{g}_2 = [0 \ D + D^3 \ D^2] + D[1 \ 1 + D + D^2 \ D] = [D \ D^2 \ 0]$ 

$$\mathbf{G}_{3} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1+D+D^{2} & D \\ D & D^{2} & 0 \end{bmatrix}$$
$$\mathbf{g}_{1} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1+D+D^{2} & D \end{bmatrix} \mathbf{g}_{2} = \begin{bmatrix} D & D^{2} & 0 \end{bmatrix}$$
$$\mathbf{G}_{4} = \begin{bmatrix} 1+D & 1+D & D \\ D^{2} & D & D^{2} \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 1+D & D \\ D^{2} & 1+D+D^{2} \end{bmatrix} \mathbf{G}_{2}$$



# **Decoding convolutional codes**

- Several algorithms exist for the decoding of convolutional codes.
- Most common is Viterbi algorithm.
- Variation is the soft output Viterbi Algorithm (SOVA) which not only provides the decoded output but a reliability measure of each decoded symbol.
- Suboptimal decoding algorithms exist. These are used to reduce complexity, especially when the constraint length is large. Stack and Fano algorithms are of particular interest.



# Viterbi Algorithm

- Originally proposed by Andrew Viterbi.
- Only later was it shown to provide the maximum likely code sequence given the received data.
- It is essentially a shortest path algorithm.



#### Viterbi algorithm for hard decision decoding

- Received data is "hard" (decisions rather than likelihoods are given to the decoder).
- The algorithm attempts to find the path that produces the code sequences that is closest in terms of Hamming distance.
- The algorithm uses the trellis diagram introduced in a previous lecture.



• Consider the rate  $\frac{1}{2}$  code **G**(*D*) =  $[1+D+D^2 1+D^2]$ .























