## Block Markov Superposition Transmission: Construction of Big Convolutional Codes from Short Codes

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## Outline

(1) Construction of Long Codes from Short Codes
(2) Superposition Block Markov Encoding in the Relay Channel
(3) Block Markov Superposition Transmission
(4) Coding Gain Analysis of the BMST
(5) Simulation Results
(6) General Behavior of BMST
(7) Conclusions

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## Construction of Long Codes from Short Codes

## Short Convolutional Codes

Convolutional codes with short constraint lengths: e.g.,


Figure: $\mathrm{A}(2,1,2)$ convolutional code encoder.

## Short Block Codes

Block codes with short length: repetition codes, single parity-check codes, Hamming codes, etc. We are actually interested in Cartesian product of short block codes. For example $[2,1,2]^{5000},[6,5,2]^{2000},[7,4,3]^{2500}$;

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- Product codes;
- Concatenated codes;
- Turbo codes: parallel concatenated convolutional codes (PCCC) and serial concatenated convolutional codes (SCCC);
- (Irregular) Repeat accumulate (RA) codes; Accumulate-repeat-accumulate (ARA) codes;
- Concatenated zigzag codes; Precoded concatenated zigzag codes;


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- Convolutional LDPC codes;
- Polar codes: concatenation of a series of simple transformation;


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- We apply a similar strategy (SBME) to the single-user communication system, resulting in the block Markov superposition transmission (BMST) scheme.


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## Block Markov Superposition Transmission

## Encoding



Figure: Encoding structure of BMST with memory $m$.

## Recursive Encoding of BMST

(1) Initialization: For $t<0$, set $\mathbf{v}^{(t)}=\mathbf{0} \in \mathbb{F}_{2}^{n}$.
(2) Recursion: For $t=0,1, \cdots, L-1$,

- Encode $\mathbf{u}^{(t)}$ into $\mathbf{v}^{(t)} \in \mathbb{F}_{2}^{n}$ by the encoding algorithm of the basic code $\mathscr{C}$;
- For $1 \leq i \leq m$, interleave $\mathbf{v}^{(t-i)}$ by the $i$-th interleaver $\Pi_{i}$ into $\mathbf{w}^{(i)}$;
- Compute $\mathbf{c}^{(t)}=\mathbf{v}^{(t)}+\sum_{1 \leq i \leq m} \mathbf{w}^{(i)}$, which is taken as the $t$-th block of transmission.
(3) Termination: For $t=L, L+1, \cdots, L+m-1$, set $\mathbf{u}^{(t)}=\mathbf{0} \in \mathbb{F}_{2}^{k}$ and compute $\mathbf{c}^{(t)}$ recursively.


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- For a rate $R=k / n$ general convolutional code, information sequence $\boldsymbol{u}=\left(\boldsymbol{u}^{(0)}, \boldsymbol{u}^{(1)}, \cdots\right)$ is encoded into code sequence $\boldsymbol{c}=\left(\boldsymbol{c}^{(0)}, \boldsymbol{c}^{(1)}, \cdots\right)$ by

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\boldsymbol{c}^{(t)}=\boldsymbol{u}^{(t)} \boldsymbol{G}_{0}+\boldsymbol{u}^{(t-1)} \boldsymbol{G}_{1}+\cdots+\boldsymbol{u}^{(t-m)} \boldsymbol{G}_{m}, t \geq 0,
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where $\boldsymbol{u}^{(t)}=0$ for $t<0$ and $\boldsymbol{G}_{i}(0 \leq i \leq m)$ is a binary $k \times n$ matrix and $m$ is called the encoder memory.

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- Let $\boldsymbol{G}$ be the generator matrix of the basic code. Let $\Pi_{1}, \cdots, \Pi_{m}$ be $m$ permutation matrices. The generator matrix of the BMST has a simple form

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- The BMST defines a special class of convolutional codes. Specialities: possibly extremely large constraint length; $\boldsymbol{G} \boldsymbol{\Pi}_{i}$ instead of $\boldsymbol{G}_{i}$.


## Block Markov Superposition Transmission

## Normal Graph



Figure: The normal graph of a BMST system with $L=4$ and $m=2$.

## Decoding

- An iterative forward-backward decoding schedule is used for basic codes with small $L$;
- An iterative sliding-window decoding schedule is used for basic codes with large $L$;
- Four types of nodes: $C,=,+$, and $\Pi$;
- Messages are processed and passed through different decoding layers forward and backward over the normal graph.


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## Coding Gain Analysis of the BMST

## Genie-Aided Lower Bound on BER

- Imagine that $\mathbf{u}^{\prime}=\left\{\mathbf{u}^{(i)}, t-m \leq i \leq t+m, i \neq t\right\}$ are known at the receiver.
- This is equivalent to transmitting $\boldsymbol{u}^{(t)}$ for $m+1$ times.
- The coding gain of the BMST can not be larger than

$$
10 \log _{10}(m+1)-10 \log _{10}(1+m / L) \mathrm{dB}
$$

- Noticing that $\operatorname{Pr}\left\{\boldsymbol{u}^{\prime} \mid \boldsymbol{y}\right\} \approx 1$ in the low error rate region, we can expect that the maximal coding gain $10 \log _{10}(m+1)-10 \log _{10}(1+m / L) \mathrm{dB}$.


## Upper Bound on BER

- The input-output weight enumerating function (IOWEF) of the BMST system can be computed from that of the basic code.
- The BER can be upper-bounded by an improved union bound.
- Notice that an incomplete (truncated) IOWEF is sufficient for upper bounds. (See Xiao Ma, Jia Liu and Baoming T-COMM 2013).


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Figure: Comparison of the weight spectrum between the independent transmission system and the ensemble of the BMST system. The basic code is a terminated systematic encoded 4 -state $(2,1,2)$ convolutional code defined by the polynomial generator matrix $G(D)=\left[1,\left(1+D+D^{2}\right) /\left(1+D^{2}\right)\right]$. The BMST system encodes $L=19$ sub-blocks of data with memory $m=1$.

## Simulation Results



Figure: Coding gain analysis of the BMST system. The basic code is a terminated convolutional code (CC) with the polynomial generator matrix $\left[1, \frac{1+D+D^{2}}{1+D^{2}}\right]$. The coding parameters of the BMST system are $m=1, L=19, d=19$, and $I_{\max }=18$. The decoding algorithm is performed after all 20 transmitted sub-blocks are received (forword-backward schedule).

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Figure: The basic code is a terminated 4 -state $(2,1,2)$ convolutional code defined by the polynomial generator matrix $G(D)=\left[1+D^{2}, 1+D+D^{2}\right]$. The system encodes $L=1000$ sub-blocks of data and the iterative sliding-window decoding algorithm is performed, where the encoding memories and the decoding delays are specified in the legends.

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(1) Construction of Long Codes from Short Codes
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(5) Simulation Results
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- Define a sequence of matrices $\boldsymbol{P}_{0}=\left\{\begin{array}{cc}\mathbf{0}, & t \leq-1, \\ \boldsymbol{I} & t=0, \\ \sum_{1 \leq \ell \leq m} \boldsymbol{P}_{t-\ell} \boldsymbol{\Pi}_{\ell} & t \geq 1,\end{array}\right.$ where $\boldsymbol{I}$ is the identity matrix of order $n$ and $\mathbf{0}$ is the zero matrix of order $n$.


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- The parity-check matrix of the BMST system is given by

$$
\boldsymbol{H}_{\mathrm{BMST}}=\operatorname{diag}\{\underbrace{\boldsymbol{H}, \cdots, \boldsymbol{H}}_{L}, \underbrace{\boldsymbol{I}, \cdots, \boldsymbol{I}}_{m}\} \boldsymbol{P}^{\mathrm{T}},
$$

where, the superscript T denotes "transpose" and

$$
\boldsymbol{P}=\left[\begin{array}{ccccc}
\boldsymbol{I} & \boldsymbol{P}_{1} & \boldsymbol{P}_{2} & \cdots & \boldsymbol{P}_{L+m-1} \\
& \boldsymbol{I} & \boldsymbol{P}_{1} & \cdots & \boldsymbol{P}_{L+m-2} \\
& & \ddots & \ddots & \vdots \\
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& & & & \boldsymbol{I}
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- What do we really care about?


## What we really care about is whether or not the basic code has efficient encoding/decoding algorithms.



Figure: Encoding of BMST with memory $m$.


Figure: Sliding-window decoding over the normal graph.

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Figure: The basic code is the Cartesian product of the optimum Nordstrom-Robinson nonlinear code $(15,256,5)^{800}$. The system encodes $L=1000$ sub-blocks of data and the iterative sliding-window decoding algorithm is performed, where the encoding memories and the decoding delays are specified in the legends.

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Figure: The basic code $\mathscr{C}$ is the Consultative Committee on Space Data System (CCSDS) standard code of dimension $k=1784$ and length $n=4092$, where the outer code is a [255, 223] Reed-Solomon (RS) code over $\mathbb{F}_{256}$ and the inner code is a terminated convolutional code with the polynomial generator matrix $G(D)=\left[1+D+D^{2}+D^{3}+D^{6}, 1+D^{2}+D^{3}+D^{5}+D^{6}\right]$. Other coding parameters of the BMST system are $L=100$ and $I_{\text {max }}=18$.

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- We presented a new method for constructing long codes from short codes;
- The encoding process can be as fast as the short code, while the decoding has a fixed but tunable delay.
- With an iterative sliding-window decoding algorithm, the performance of BMST can approach the derived lower bound in low error rate region;
- This scheme can be generalized, for example, to non-binary codes, lattice codes, and so on.
- In principle, any code can be the basic code as long as it has efficient encoding algorithm and (exact or approximated) soft-in soft-out (SISO) decoding algorithm.


## Acknowledgements

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## Thank You for Your Attention!

