

College of Engineering & Technology

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ET-314 Telecommunication Technology

Lecture 11

Digital Modulation

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Digital Modulation



Digital Modulation

• Digital Data (0 and 1) is translated into an analog signal (baseband signal)

 It is required if the digital data has to be transmitted over a medium that only allows for analog transmission

Digital Modulation

- Example
 - An old analog telephone system (wired network)
 - To connect a computer to this system a modem is needed
 - The modem then translate the digital data into analog signals and vice versa



Limitations of Digital Transmission

- In wireless networks, digital transmission cannot be used
- Here, the binary bit stream has to be translated into analog signal first
- Wireless transmission requires an additional modulation, an analog modulation that shifts the centre frequency of the baseband signal generated by the digital modulation up to the radio carrier



Modulation In A Transmitter



Demodulation And Data Reconstruction In the Receiver

Types Of Digital Modulation

- Three basic methods for translating the binary bit-stream into an analog signal are:
 - Amplitude Shift Keying (ASK)
 - Frequency Shift Keying (FSK)
 - Phase Shift Keying (PSK)

Types Of Digital Modulation

- These digital modulation schemes differ in many issues e.g.
- Spectral Efficiency
 - How efficiently the modulation scheme utilizes the available frequency spectrum
- Power Efficiency
 - How much power is needed to transfer the bits which is very important for portable devices that are battery dependent
- Robustness
 - How much robust it is to multipath propagation, noise, interference

Amplitude Shift Keying (ASK)

Amplitude Shift Keying (ASK)

- The most simple digital modulation scheme is shown.
- The two binary values, 1 and 0, are represented by two different amplitudes

$$x_c(t) = \begin{cases} A \cos \omega_c t & symbol \ 1 \\ 0 & symbol \ 0 \end{cases}$$



Disadvantages

- This simple scheme only requires low bandwidth, but is very susceptible to interference.
- Effects like multipath propagation, noise, or path loss heavily influence the amplitude.
- In a wireless environment, a constant amplitude cannot be guaranteed, so ASK is typically not used for wireless radio transmission

Uses:

- The wired transmission scheme with the highest performance, namely **Optical Transmission**, uses ASK
- Here, a light pulse may represent a 1, while the absence of light represents a 0
- The carrier frequency in optical systems is some hundred THz.
- ASK can also be applied to Wireless Infra-red Transmission, using directed beam or diffuse light.

Frequency Shift Keying (FSK)

Frequency Shift Keying (FSK)

- A modulation scheme often used for wireless transmission
- Simplest form known as Binary FSK (BFSK)
- Assigns one frequency f1 to binary 1 and frequency f2 to binary 0

$$x_{c}(t) = \begin{cases} A \cos \omega_{1} t & symbol \ 1 \\ A \cos \omega_{1} t & symbol \ 0 \end{cases}$$



Modulator Implementation

 A very simple way to implement FSK is to switch between two oscillators, one with frequency f1 and other with f2, depending on the input

Demodulator Implementation

- A simple way to implement demodulator is by using two bandpass filters
 - One for f1
 - Other for f₂
- A comparator can then compare the signal levels of the filter outputs to decide which of them is stronger

Some Other Properties

- Compared to ASK, it needs a larger bandwidth
- Compared to ASK, it is much less susceptible to errors
- To avoid sudden changes in phase, special frequency modulators with continuous phase modulation (CPM) can be used

Advanced Frequency Shift Keying

- A famous FSK scheme used in many wireless systems is Minimum Shift Keying (**MSK**)
- It is basically BFSK without abrupt phase changes i.e. belongs to CPM scheme
- The figure next, shows the implementation of MSK

Minimum Shift Keying (MSK)



Minimum Shift Keying (MSK)



No phase shifts!

Minimum Shift Keying (MSK)

- In the first step, data bits are separated into even and odd bits.
- Duration of each bit being doubled
- This scheme also uses two frequencies:
 - f₁, the lower frequency
 - f_2 , the higher frequency, with $f_2 = 2f_1$
- The lower or higher frequency is chosen (either inverted or non-inverted) to generate the MSK signal

Rules:

- If even bit = 0 & odd bit = 0

 Higher frequency f₂ is Inverted (Phase Shift of 180°)
- If even bit = 1 & odd bit = 0

- Lower frequency f_1 is Inverted.

• If even bit = 0 & odd bit = 1

- Lower frequency f_1 is taken without changing.

If even bit = 0 & odd bit = 0

- Higher frequency f_2 is taken without changing.

Summary of Rules

• A high frequency is always chosen if

• Even Bit = Odd Bits

• The signal is inverted if

• Odd Bit = 0

This scheme avoids all phase shifts in the resulting MSK signal

Gaussian-Minimum Shift Keying

- Adding a so called Gaussian Low Pass Filter to the MSK scheme results in Gaussian-MSK (GMSK)
- The filter reduces the large spectrum needed by MSK
- This is a Digital modulation scheme for many European Wireless Standards e.g. GSM

Phase Shift Keying (PSK)

Phase Shift Keying (PSK)

- Uses Shifts in the Phase of a Signal to Represent Data
- Figure shows a phase shift of 180° or π as the 0 follows the 1 (the same happens as the 1 follows the 0).
- **Binary PSK (BPSK)** shifts the phase by 180° each time the value of data changes.

Modulator Implementation

The Simple Implementation of a BPSK modulator could multiply a frequency f with +1 if the binary data is 1 and with -1 if the binary data is 0.

Demodulator Implementation

• To receive the signal correctly, the receiver must synchronize in frequency and phase with the transmitter.

 This can be done using a Phase Lock Loop (PLL).

Comparison

• Compared to FSK, PSK is more resistant to interference

 Receiver and Transmitter are also more complex

- The simple PSK scheme can be improved in many ways.
- The basic **BPSK** scheme only uses one possible phase shift of 180°.
- The Figure below shows BPSK in the phase domain (which is typically the better representation compared to the time domain representation)



- One of the Most Common PSK Schemes is Quadrature PSK (QPSK) (Sometimes also called Quaternary PSK).
- Higher bit rates can be achieved for the same bandwidth by coding two bits into one phase shift.
- Alternatively, one can reduce the bandwidth and still achieve the same bit rates as for BPSK.



- The phase shift can always be relative to a **Reference Signal** (with the same frequency).
- If this scheme is used, a phase shift of 0 means that the signal is in phase with the reference signal.
- A QPSK signal will then exhibit a phase shift of:

45° for the data 11,135° for the data 10,225° for the data 00, and315° for the data 01



– With all phase shifts being relative to the reference signal.

• The transmitter 'selects' parts of the signal as shown in Figure and concatenates them.



• To reconstruct data, the receiver has to compare the incoming signal with the reference signal.

Disadvantage

- One Problem of this Scheme Involves Producing a **Reference Signal** at the Receiver.
- Transmitter and Receiver have to be Synchronized Very Often, e.g., By Using Special Synchronization Patterns Before User Data Arrives or Via a Pilot Frequency as Reference.

Solution

- One way to avoid this problem is to use **Differential QPSK (DQPSK)**.
- Here the phase shift is not relative to a reference signal but to the phase of the previous two bits.
- In this case, the receiver does not need the reference signal but only compares two signals to reconstruct data.
- DQPSK is used in US wireless technologies IS-136 and PACS and in Japanese PHS.



Can This Scheme Be Enhanced Any Further???

Further Advancements

- One could think of extending the scheme to more and more angles for shifting the phase.
- For example, one can think of coding 3 bits per phase shift using 8 angles.



Quadrature Amplitude Modulation (QAM)

- The PSK scheme could be combined with ASK as is done in Quadrature Amplitude Modulation (QAM) for Standard 9,600 bit/s modems
- Here, three different amplitudes and 12 angles are combined coding 4 bits per phase/amplitude change.



Quadrature Amplitude Modulation (QAM)

- Problems occur for Wireless Communication in case of Noise or ISI.
- The more 'points' used in the phase domain, the harder it is to separate them.
- DQPSK has been proven as one of the most efficient schemes under these considerations (Wesel, 1998).

Further Advancements

- A more advanced scheme is a hierarchical modulation as used in the digital TV standard DVB-T.
- A 64 QAM can code 6 bit per symbol.
- Here the two most significant bits are used for the QPSK signal embedded in the QAM signal.
- If the reception of the signal is good the entire QAM constellation can be resolved.
- Under poor reception conditions, e.g., with moving receivers, only the QPSK portion can be resolved.



64 QAM

- A **High Priority Data** stream in DVB-T is coded with QPSK using the **two** most significant bits.
- The remaining 4 bits represent **Low Priority Data**.
- For TV this could mean that
 - the Standard Resolution data stream is coded with High Priority,
 - the High Resolution information with Low Priority.
- If the signal is distorted, at least the standard TV resolution can be received.



Chapter# 4 (Bernard Sklar)

Bandpass Modulation & Demodulation

• A process (either Analog or Digital) by which an information is converted to a sinusoidal waveform

Or

- The process whereby the Amplitude, Frequency, or Phase of an RF carrier, or a combination of them, is varied in accordance with the information to be transmitted
- For Digital Modulation, such a sinusoid of duration T is referred to as a Digital Symbol

Digital Bandpass Signaling

Types

- Coherent
 - Phase Shift Keying (PSK),
 - Frequency Shift Keying (FSK),
 - Amplitude Shift Keying (ASK),
 - Continuous Phase Modulation (CPM),
 - Hybrids
- Non-Coherent
 - Differential Phase Shift Keying (DPSK),
 - Frequency Shift Keying (FSK),
 - Amplitude Shift Keying (ASK),
 - Continuous Phase Modulation (CPM),
 - Hybrids

- Coherent Modulation
 - Receiver exploits the knowledge of carrier's phase to detect the signal
 - Ideally, a prototype of each possible arriving signal is available at the receiver
 - These prototype waveforms attempt to duplicate the transmitted signal set in every respect, even RF phase
 - The receiver is then phase locked to the incoming signal

- Coherent Detection/Demodulation
 - The receiver multiplies and integrates (Correlates) the incoming signal with each of its prototype replicas

- Non-Coherent Demodulation
 - The receiver does not utilize Phase Reference
 Information
 - Refers to the systems employing demodulators that are designed to operate without knowledge of the absolute value of the incoming signal's phase
 - Thus, Phase estimation is not required

Any Advantage



Coherent Vs. Non-Coherent

• The advantage of Non-Coherent over Coherent system is **Reduced Complexity**

Trade-off

Increased probability of Error (P_E)

Bandpass Modulation & Demodulation



Phasor Representation of a Sinusoid

Phasor Representation of a Sinusoid

 Consider the trigonometric identity called the Euler's Theorem:

$$e^{j\omega_0 t} = \cos(\omega_0 t) + j\sin(\omega_0 t)$$

• Using this identity, we can have the phasor representation of the sinusoids:



Phasor Representation of a Sinusoid

- e^{jw_ot} contains the inphase (real) and the quadrature (imaginary) components that are orthogonal to each other
- The unmodulated carrier wave is conveniently represented in a polar coordinate system as a unit vector or phasor rotating counter-clockwise at a constant rate of w_o radians/s
- As time is increasing, we can visualize the time varying projections of the rotating phasor on the Inphase (I) axis and the Quadrature (Q) axis
- To modulate the carrier wave with information, this modulation can be viewed as a perturbation of the rotating phasor (and its projections)

Phasor Representation of a Sinusoid

• Consider the AM signal in phasor form

$$s(t) = \operatorname{Re}\left\{e^{j\omega_0 t}\left(1 + \frac{e^{j\omega_m t}}{2} + \frac{e^{-j\omega_m t}}{2}\right)\right\}$$

