

# **Error Control Coding Options for Next Generation Wireless Systems**

**Joint WG4/5 White Paper**

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**Editors: T. Lestable\*, M. Ran +**

**\* Samsung Electronics UK**

**+ H.I.T - Holon Institute of Technology, Israel**

# Contributors

Name	Affiliation
Thierry Lestable	Samsung Electronics Research Institute, UK. Advanced Technology & Standard Group. <a href="mailto:Thierry.lestable@samsung.com">Thierry.lestable@samsung.com</a>
Moshe Ran	Horon Institute of Technology (H.I.T), Israel <a href="mailto:ranmoshe@bezeqint.net">ranmoshe@bezeqint.net</a>
Gerhard Bauch	DoCoMo Eurolabs, Germany <a href="mailto:bauch@docomolab-euro.com">bauch@docomolab-euro.com</a>
David Declercq	ENSEA/ETIS, France <a href="mailto:Declercq@ensea.fr">Declercq@ensea.fr</a>
Jossy Sayir	FTW, Austria <a href="mailto:Jossy.sayir@FTW.at">Jossy.sayir@FTW.at</a>
Marcos .B.S Tavares	TUD Vodafone Chair, Germany <a href="mailto:tavares@ifn.et.tu-dresden.de">tavares@ifn.et.tu-dresden.de</a>

- **11 Specialists**
- **8 Organizations**
- **6 Countries**

Marie-Helene Hamon	France Telecom R&D, France <a href="mailto:mhelene.hamon@orange-ft.com">mhelene.hamon@orange-ft.com</a>
Carlos De Segovia	France Telecom R&D, France <a href="mailto:carlos.desegovia@orange-ft.com">carlos.desegovia@orange-ft.com</a>
Isabelle Siaud	France Telecom R&D, France <a href="mailto:Isabelle.siaud@orange-ft.com">Isabelle.siaud@orange-ft.com</a>
Xiangming Li	DoCoMo Beijing Labs, China <a href="mailto:lixm@docomolabs-beijing.com.cn">lixm@docomolabs-beijing.com.cn</a>
Frank Kienle	University of Kaiserslautern, Microelectronic Systems Design Research Group, <a href="mailto:kienle@eit.uni-kl.de">kienle@eit.uni-kl.de</a>

- **Abstract**
- **Table of Content for the White Paper**
- **Latest Presentation given during Call for Contribution in Shangai**
  - **Introduction**
  - **General Code Types**
  - **LDPC Codes**
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- *Abstract* – The objective of this White Paper (WP) is twofold: first we would like to identify current state of advanced channel coding technologies, by assessing their respective performance, computational complexity, implementation solutions, and thus comparing them relying on their maturity. Then identifying for all of them new and promising research directions would be the second and complementary target of this WP.

The outstanding near-capacity performances of advanced channel coding schemes have attracted for more than 10 years the interest of the overall information theory community and their industry partners. The maturity of both the theoretical framework and the technology has given birth to many different design and analysis tools, together with outperforming applications, and new business opportunities (Flarion, Digital Fountain).

After some years of an unshared reign from the technology supporting the Turbo-Codes (PCCC, SCCC and TPC), we are now entering an era of fierce competition where many different iterative decoding solutions are available, with their respective performance and complexity.

It becomes thus crucial and highly interesting to give a fair state of art of such leading-edge solutions, and then to sketch their pros and cons, in terms of both theoretical advances and implementations aspects.

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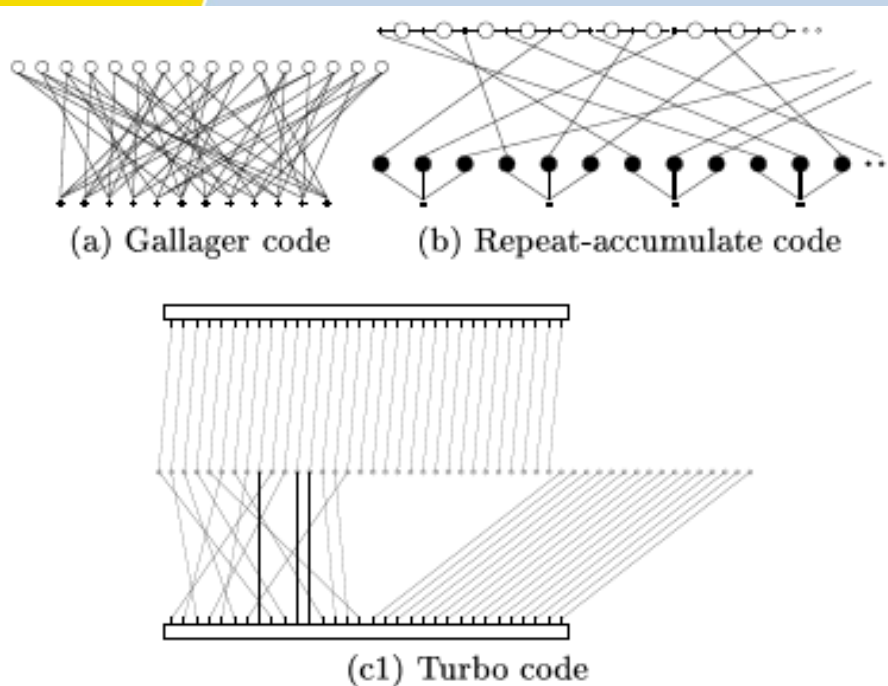
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# Introduction

- 
- 
- **Sparsity**

- Generalized Parity-Check Matrices





- 9 open questions

- Are State variable going to be present in the best codes?
- How many weight-two columns can a Gallager code of Rate  $R$  have, and still remain a 'good' code?
- Are there optimization methods that optimize block error probability instead of bit-error probability?
- Are there any advantages in terms of code strength to making the code by parallel concatenation of two or more codes? ...

D. McKay, "Relationships between Sparse Graph Codes", Information-Based Induction Science, IBIS 2000, July 17-18 2000, Shizuoka, Japan

# General Code Types

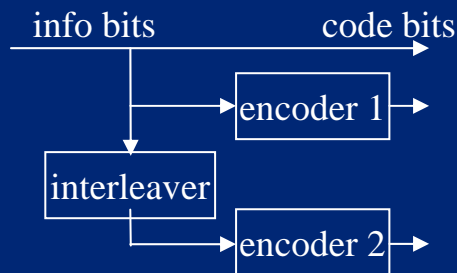
- 
- 
- Turbo-PCCC
  - Turbo-SCCC
  - LDPC Codes
  - RA...

# Forward Error Control (FEC) Coding with Iterative (“Turbo”) Detection

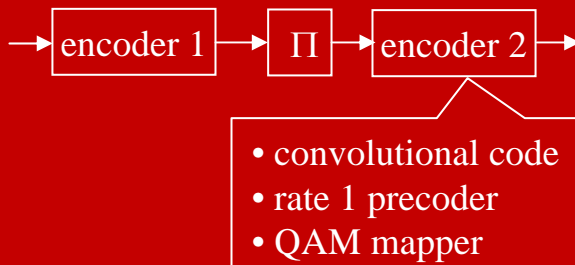
## Goals:

- Close to capacity performance for high power and bandwidth efficiency.
- Reasonable encoding and detection complexity.
- High flexibility for code rate adaptation to channel quality and QoS requirements.

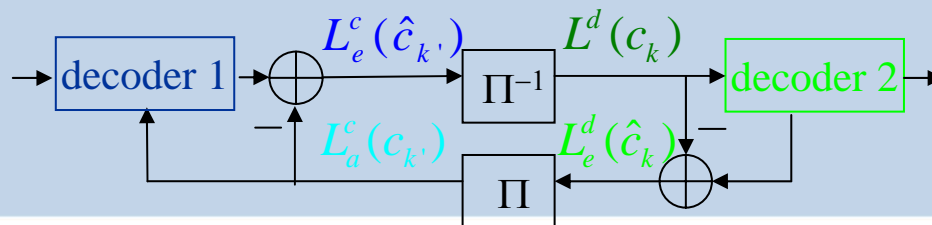
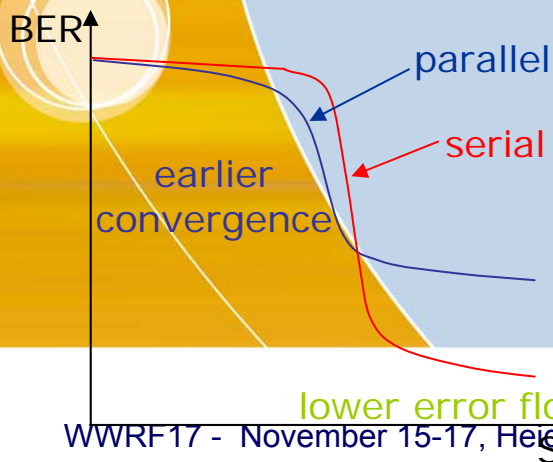
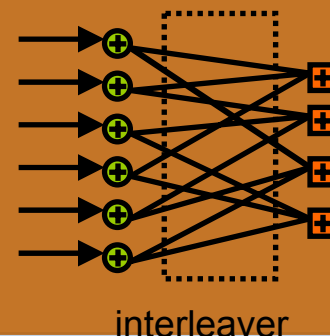
### Parallel Concatenation (Turbo Codes)



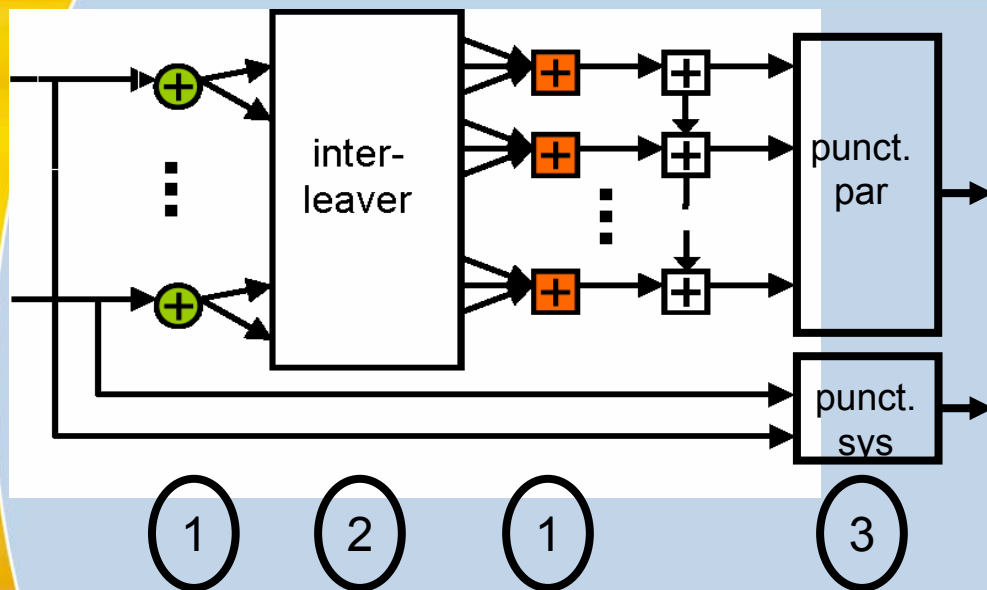
### Serial Concatenation



### LDPC Codes



## Design Approach for Rate Comp. RA Code



### Mother Code

- ① Degree distrib.
- ② Interleaver
- ③ (Code doping)

### Rate Compatibility

- ③ Puncturing

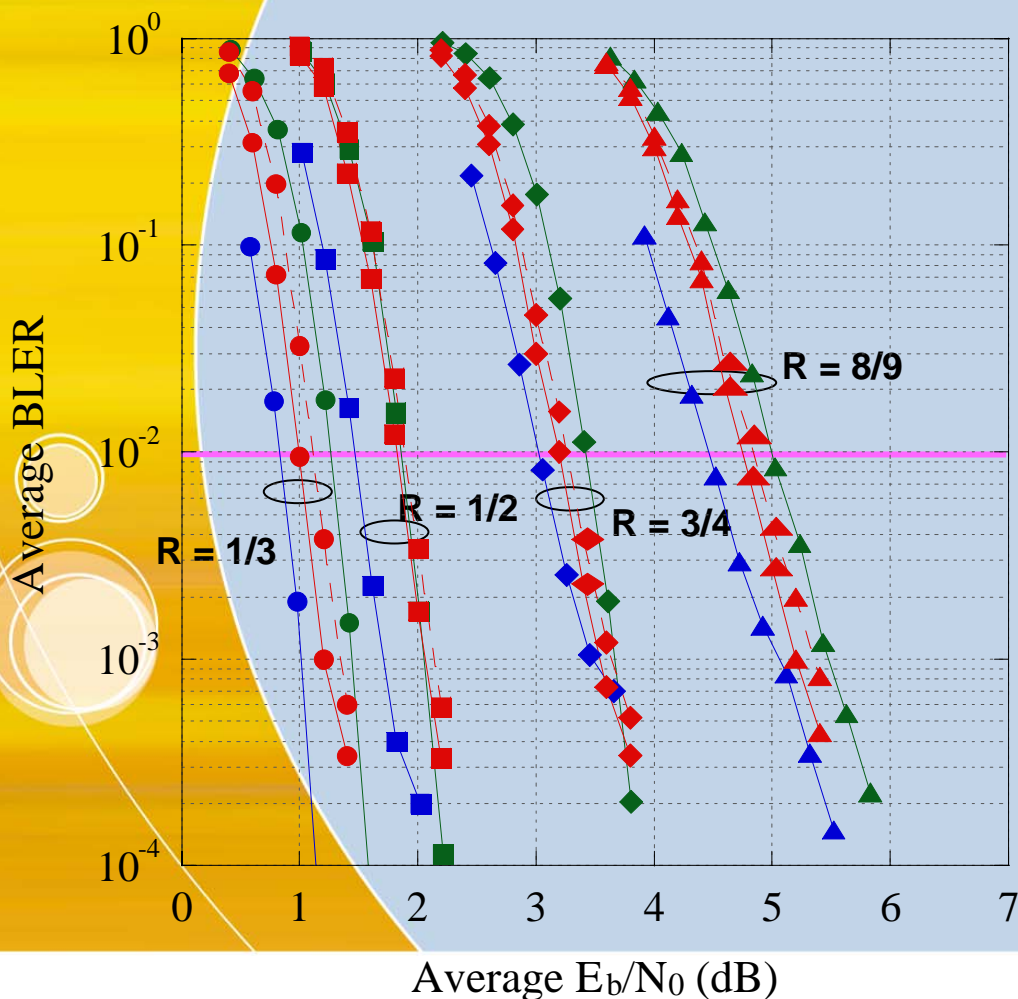
### Advantages:

- Repeat-accumulate (RA) structure allows low-complexity encoding.
- Regular puncturing requires low memory for storing puncturing pattern.
- RA structure allows for different decoding strategies: message passing (highly parallel) and mixed trellis-based/message passing decoding (less iterations).

### Problems:

- Interleaver not algebraic  $\Rightarrow$  high memory requirement
- Performance degradation at high rates

# BLER comparison of rate compatible codes



- **AWGN channel**
- **QPSK**
- **Sub-optimum decoding**
  - PCCC, SCCC: Norm. Max-Log.
  - RA: Box-plus with correct. term
- **Information length**
  - PCCC, SCCC: 996 w/o tail bits
  - RA: 1000
- **Regular Puncturing for SCCC**

- PCCC (8it)
- SCCC (8it)
- RA (30it)
- - RA (20it)

**Degradation to PCCC(at  $10^{-2}$  BLER)**

- SCCC : 0.4 dB – 0.6 dB
- RA : 0.2 dB – 0.5 dB

# Decoder Complexity

Decoder complexity

- SCCC, PCCC : Max log with correction term
- RA : Box plus with correction term
- Required Operation per iteration per info. bit

	PCCC	SCCC	RA
Addition (1)	198	128.5	120
Comparison (1)	60	35	140
Multiplication (10)	2	2.5	
Total	278	187	260

# LDPC Codes

- 
- LDPC Convolutional Codes
  - Non-Binary LDPC Codes

# Motivation for LDPC Convolutional Codes

- **LDPC Convolutional Codes are not limited to a fixed Block Length** as LDPC Block Codes, i.e. a single Code can be used for several Block Lengths
- **Low-Complexity Encoding** using Shift-Registers
- **Continuous Decoding** using Pipeline-Decoder
- **VLSI Implementation** of the Decoder is facilitated due to **Convolutional Structure** of the underlying Graph
- **For a given Complexity, LDPC Convolutional Codes have better Performance than LDPC Block Codes**

# General Definition of LDPC Convolutional Codes

A  $(m_s, J, K)$  regular time-varying LDPC Convolutional Code is a Set of Sequences  $\mathbf{v}$  satisfying the equation  $\mathbf{v}\mathbf{H}^T = 0$ , where

$$\mathbf{H}^T = \begin{bmatrix} H_0^T(0) & \cdots & H_{m_s}^T(m_s) & & \\ & \ddots & & \ddots & \\ & & H_0^T(t) & \cdots & H_{m_s}^T(t+m_s) \\ & & & \ddots & \\ & & & & \ddots \end{bmatrix}$$

For a LDPC Convolutional Code of rate  $R = b/c$ ,  $b < c$ , the elements  $H_i^T(t)$ ,  $i=0,1,\dots,m_s$ , are binary  $c \times (c-b)$  sub-matrices defined as:

$$H_i^T(i) = \begin{bmatrix} h_i^{(1,1)}(t) & \cdots & h_i^{(1,c-b)}(t) \\ \vdots & & \vdots \\ h_i^{(c-1,1)}(t) & \cdots & h_i^{(c,c-b)}(t) \end{bmatrix}$$

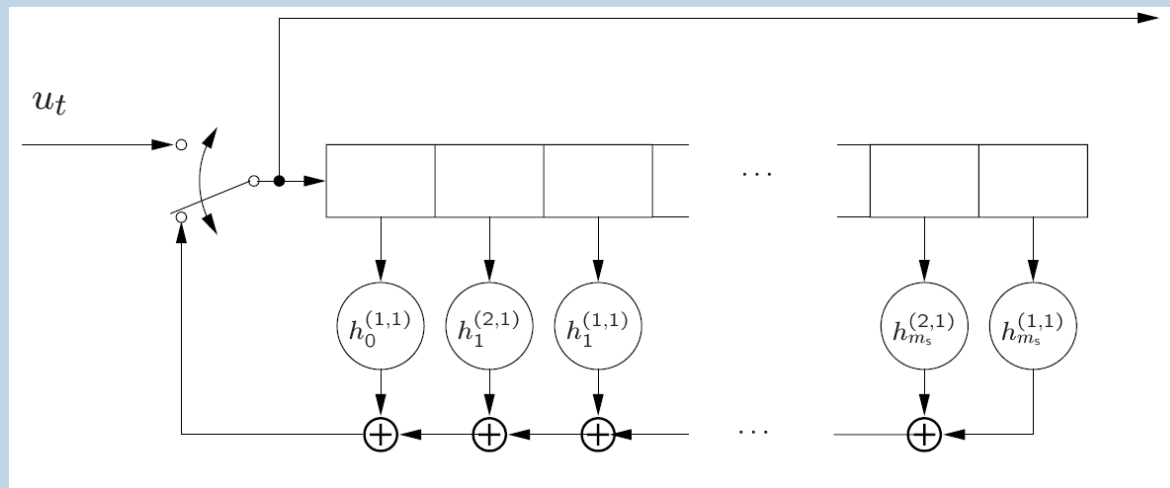
The value  $m_s$  is called the syndrome former memory and the associated constraint length is defined as  $\nu_s = (m_s + 1)c$ .

# Encoding of LDPC Convolutional Codes

A systematic encoder for a rate  $R = b/c$  convolutional code can be obtained from:

$$v_t H_0^T(t) + v_{t-1} H_1^T(t) + \dots + v_{t-m_s} H_{m_s}^T(t) = 0$$

Shift-Register Implementation for  $R = 1/2$ :

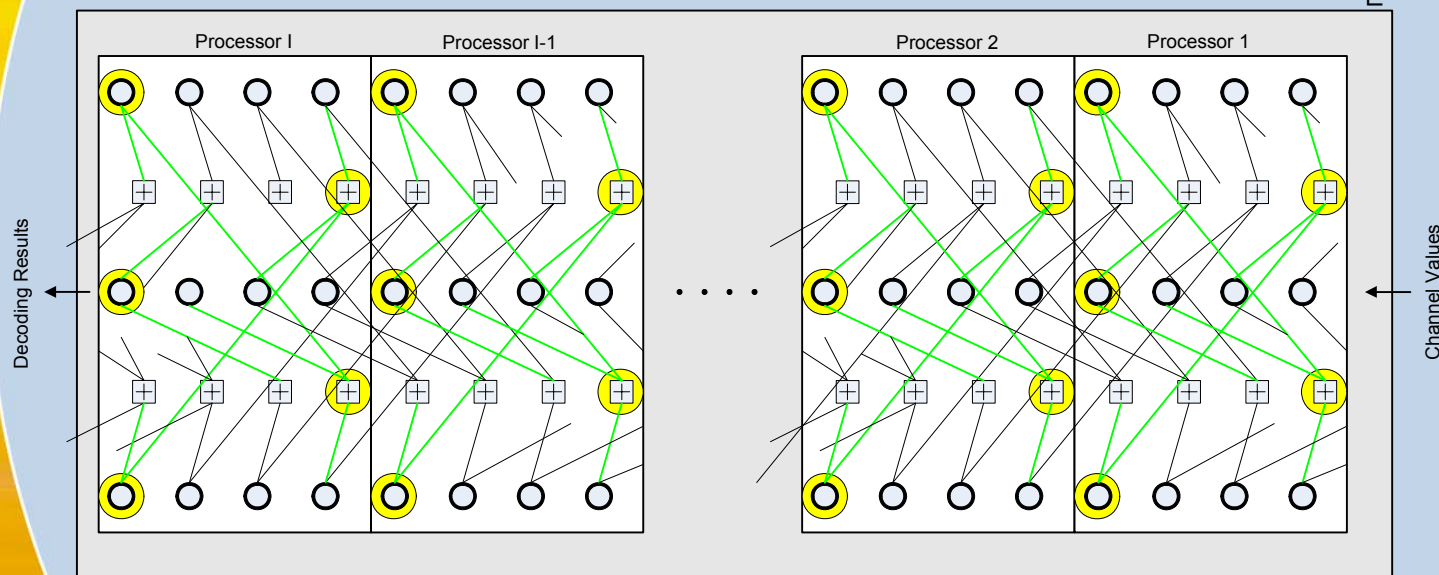


- The Tap Weights  $h_i^{(\cdot, \cdot)}$  can vary on time or not, depending on the code (time-varying or time-invariant code)
- Each Time  $K-1$  Taps are active  $\rightarrow$  Complexity independent of  $m_s$

# Decoding of LDPC Convolutional Codes

## Pipeline-Decoder:

$$H(D) = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & D & D^3 \\ D^3 & D^2 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$$



Decoding Window, Size =  $l(m_s+1)$

- Continuous Decoder that operates on a Finite Window, sliding along the received sequence
- Identical, Independent Processors perform  $l$  iterations in parallel



# Non binary LDPC codes are good candidates for small packet lengths

## Binary LDPC codes for small packet length

→ Even with good construction methods (PEG, quasi-cyclic, etc), binary LDPC codes start to show their weakness when the codeword becomes small ( $500 < N < 3000$ ).

❖ LDPC codes with good convergence (asymptotic performance) are highly irregular = the LDPC code is strongly connected.

❖ Strongly connected LDPC codes have a lot of Stopping/Trapping sets = bad error floor region performance.

→ There is a necessary “tradeoff” between good convergence and low error floor with binary LDPC codes.

# Non binary LDPC codes are good candidates for small packet lengths

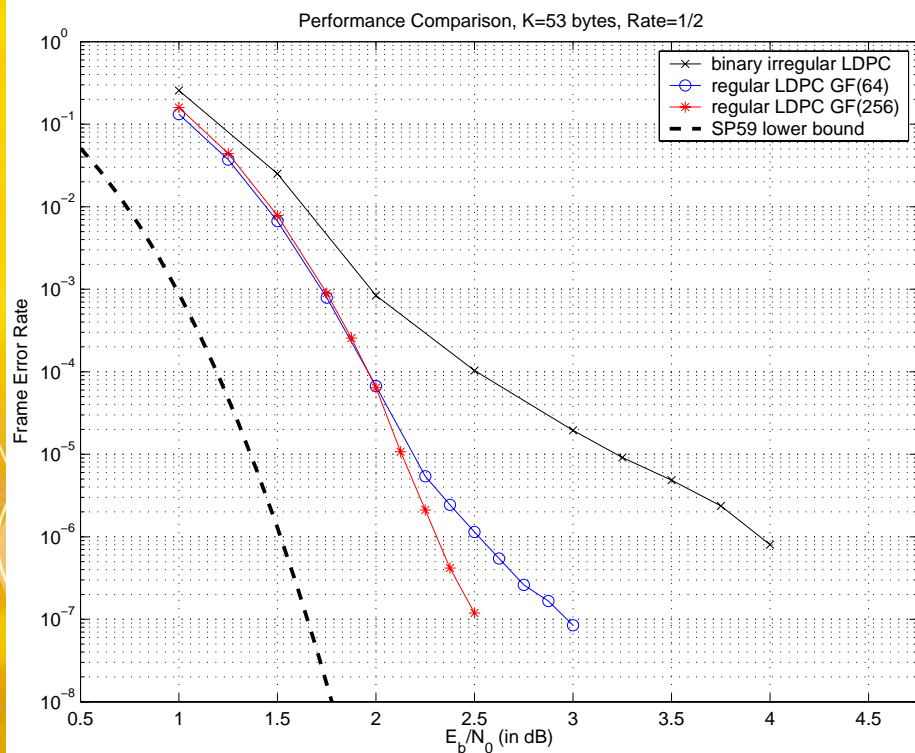
## Non Binary LDPC codes for small packet length

→ Ultra-sparse LDPC codes are defined as strictly regular LDPC codes with minimum symbol variable node degree  $d_v=2$ . With non binary ultra-sparse LDPC codes over  $GF(q)$

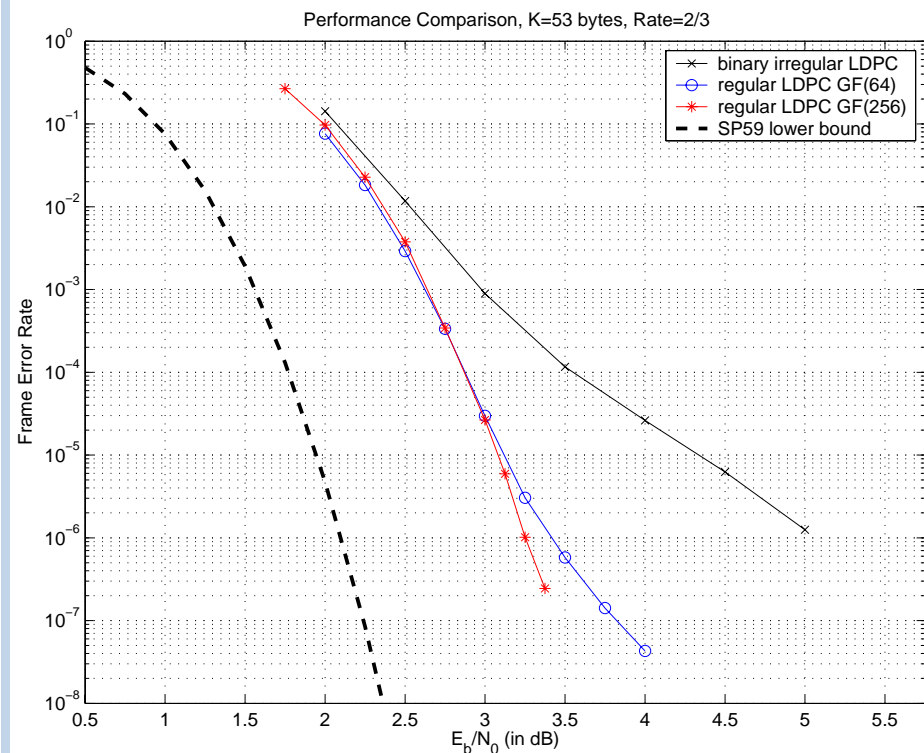
- ❖ The girth of the Tanner graph is excellent and the BP decoder operates close to MLD (less stopping sets).
- ❖ Increasing  $q$  lead to codes whose binary image has increasing average density = codes with good minimum distance (although asymptotically bad).
- ❖ The “tradeoff” between good convergence and low error floor is solved by considering non binary LDPC codes over high order Galois Fields.

# Small codeword length performance of optimized ultra-sparse GF(q) LDPC codes

## Rate=0.5 N=848 bits (ATM size)



## Rate=0.66 N=848 bits (ATM size)



\* C. Poulliat, M.P. Fossorier and D. Declercq "Using binary image of LDPC codes over GF(q) to improve overall performance", ISTC'06, April 2006, Munich, Germany.

# Decoding Algorithms for non binary LDPC codes

## Brute force Belief Propagation is too complex

→ The complexity of a check node processing has complexity  $O(q^2)$ , which is not feasible for high order fields ( $q > 32$ ).

- ❖ Computing the check node in the Fourier domain with  $\log_2(q)$ -dimensional FFT reduces the complexity to  $O(q \log_2(q))$ ,
- ❖ Using  $(q-1)$  log-density-ratios (LDR) to define the message on the edges of the Tanner graph allows to consider only additions in BP-like decoders.
- ❖ Generalizing Min-Sum decoders to non-binary codes can further reduce the decoding complexity without sacrificing much performance (Extended min-sum = EMS).

\* D. Declercq and M.P. Fossorier, "Extended MinSum Algorithm for Decoding LDPC Codes over  $GF(q)$ ", ISIT'05, April 2006, Munich, Germany.

# Short Packet Length

- 
- Soft Decision Decoders



# Motivation for Soft Decision Decoders (SDD) for Short Packet Lengths over wireless channels

## Motivation

- short messages with few bytes (e.g., less than 64 bytes) are commonly used in PHY headers, control messages of MAC protocols in many multi-user systems
- Very good codes (e.g. LDPC, Repeat Accumulate, Turbo codes, Turbo-product...) for long messages are well known
- Focus on
  - ❖ iterative algebraic SDD of binary and non-binary (e.g., Reed-Solomon) codes
  - ❖ Adaptive algorithms that reduce complexity when SNR is increased (as in all practical wireless channels)
  - ❖ bound meeting performance, optimal Vs. suboptimal

# Basics of Iterative SDD decoders

- Maximum-Likelihood (ML) decoding of linear codes is NP-hard
- open problem:**  
**find polynomial-time decoding algorithm with “near ML” for good codes with large minimum distance**
- ML of binary codes over AWGN maximizes

$$\log P(\underline{r} | \underline{c}), \quad \underline{r} = (r_0, \dots, r_{n-1}) \text{ SD received sequence,}$$
$$\underline{c} = (c_0, \dots, c_{n-1}) \text{ transmitted binary codeword}$$

Or minimizing  $d_E^2(\underline{r}, \underline{x}),$  where  $x_i = (-1)^{c_i}$

Or maximizing  $M(\underline{r}, \underline{c}) = \sum_{i=0}^{n-1} r_i x_i$

## Binary codes

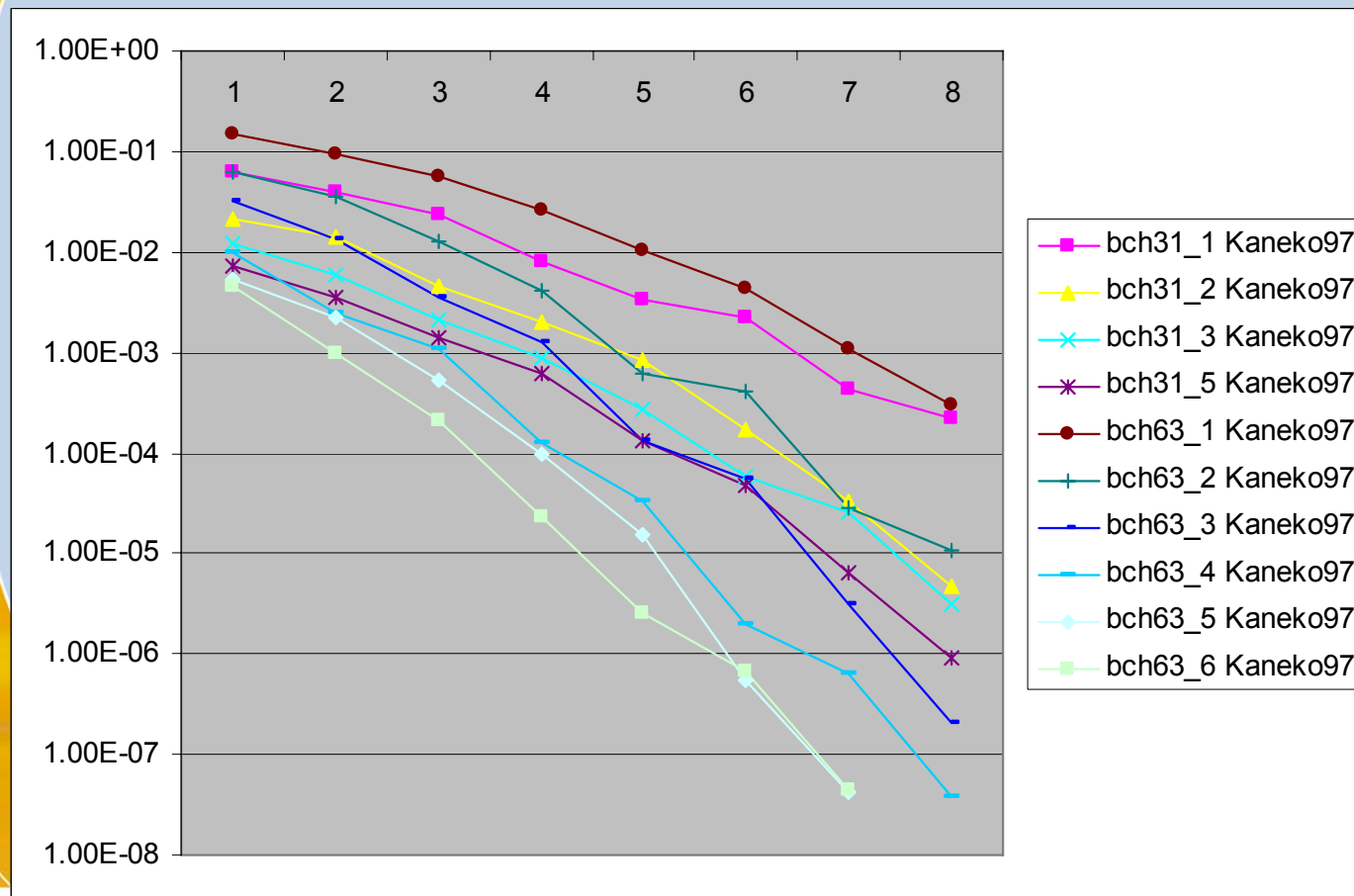
- Generalized min. distance (GMD) [Forney 66]
- Chase II [72]
- Reduced list syndrome decoder (RLSD) [Snyders91]
- KNIH [94]
- Constrained Designs [Ran95]
- Ordered Statistic Decoding (OSD) [Fossorier95]
- KNH [97]

## Non-Binary

- GMD
- Chase II – GMD
- Koetter-Vardy (KV, 2003)
- Jiang-Narayanan (JN, 2004)
- Al-Khamy-McEliece (KM,2006)



# ML-SDD decoders for short BCH based on KNH97

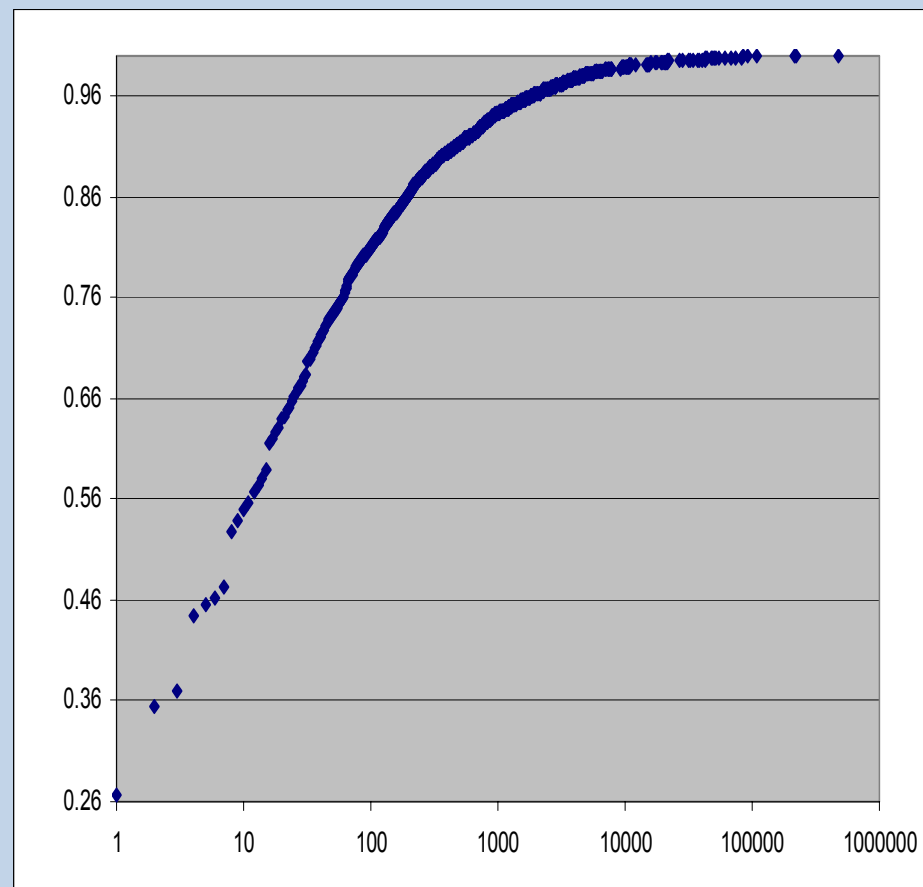
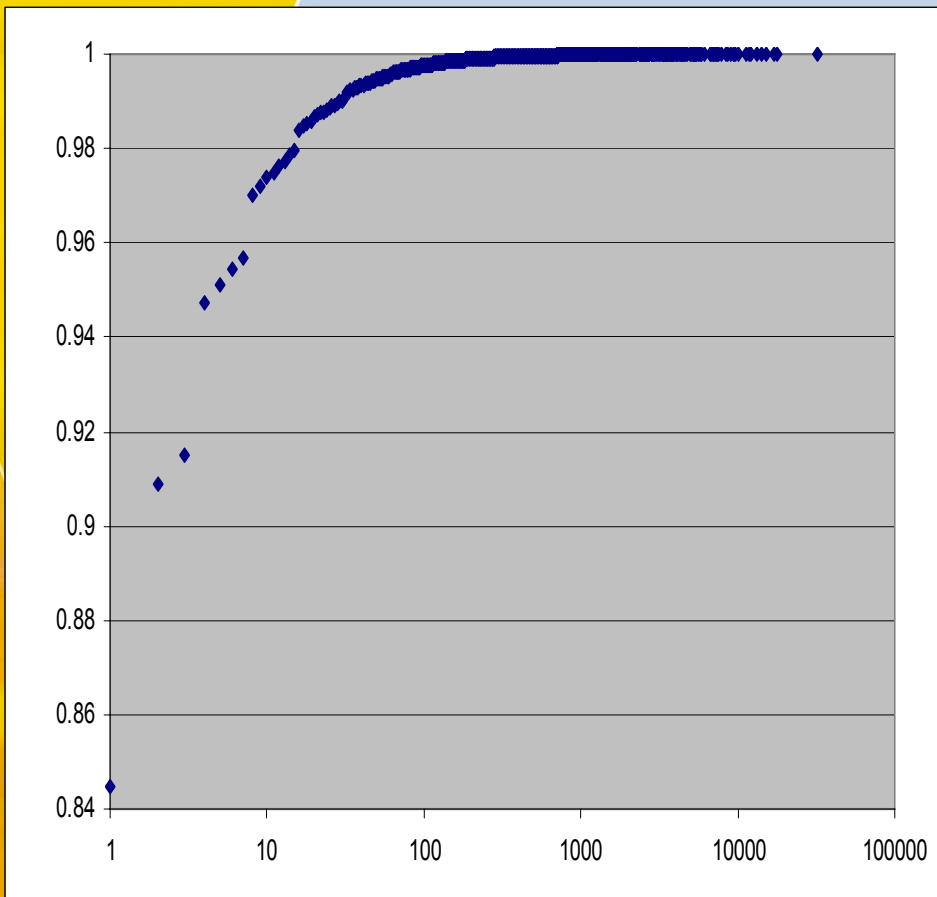




# Complexity of ML-SDD for BCH[63, t=6] at

(1)  $E_b/N_0=5\text{dB}$

(2)  $E_b/N_0=3\text{dB}$



## Complexity analysis of algebraic soft-decoders

- Main drawback of all algebraic soft decoders is the Worst case complexities at low SNR e.g., for KNH and KNIH decoders for BCH[128,64,22]  $t=10$

SNR [dB]	5.0	5.5	6.0	6.5	7.0
$N_{\max}$	2097152	32768	1024	5	1

KNH improves 10 times at SNR  $\sim 5$ dB over KNIH

$N_{\max} = \text{max. number of operations of BCH HD decoder}$

# Soft Syndrome Decoder approach

\* J. Snyders, "Reduced list of error patterns for Maximum likelihood soft decoding," IEEE Trans. Inform. Theory vol. IT-37 pp.1194-1200 July 1991

- Let  $H = (\underline{h}_1, \underline{h}_2, \dots, \underline{h}_n)$  be a check matrix of  $[n, k, d]$  binary linear block code  $C$  of length  $n$ , dimension  $k$  and min. distance  $d$
- Codewords  $\underline{x} = (x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n)$  at channel input are transmitted with equal probabilities over AWGN channel. Assume  $\underline{y} = (y_1, y_2, \dots, y_n)$   $x_i = (-1)^{c_i}$ ,  $c_i \in \{0, 1\}$
- Received sequence

where  $y_i$  received signal when  $x_i$  was transmitted

- The reliability  $\alpha_i$  matched to the AWGN channel is the bit-log-likelihood ratio

$$\alpha_i = K \cdot \ln \frac{p(y_i | c_i = 1)}{p(y_i | c_i = 0)} \quad i = 1, 2, \dots, n$$

$|\alpha_i| = \rho(\underline{h}_i)$  indicates reliability of received  $y_i$  (weight of location  $i$ )

$K$  arbitrary positive const.

$p(y_i | x_i)$  probability of receiving  $y_i$  when transmitting  $x_i$

Note that  $\underline{\alpha} = (\alpha_1, \alpha_2, \dots, \alpha_n)$  is generated by SDD from received sequence  $\underline{y} = (y_1, y_2, \dots, y_n)$



## Soft Syndrome Decoder approach: elimination rules to reduce complexity

- Eliminations is based on a set of  $r < n-k$  linearly independent columns of H
- Let

$$\Omega_j = \{ \underline{v}_1, \underline{v}_2, \dots, \underline{v}_j \}, j \leq n - k$$

Be a set of linearly independent columns of H sorted in increasing weights

### Elimination rule 1 If

- (a)  $\underline{z} = \underline{v}_1 \Rightarrow$  single error occurred at location  $j=1$
- (b)  $\underline{z} = \underline{v}_2 \Rightarrow$  single error occurred at location  $j=2$
- (c)  $\underline{z} = \underline{v}_1 + \underline{v}_2 \Rightarrow$  Need to compare the single (possible) error at  $\underline{z} = \underline{h}_i$  with double error occurred at locations  $j=1,2$



## Soft Syndrome Decoder approach: elimination rules to reduce complexity

### Elimination rule 2: Let $\underline{z} = \underline{h}$

$\rho(\underline{h}) < \rho(\underline{v}_j)$  for an  $\underline{h} \in \{\underline{h}_1, \underline{h}_2, \dots, \underline{h}_n\}$  implies  $\underline{h} \in Ls(\Omega_{j-1})$

That is – the “single” should be compared to “duets”, “triplets” etc. only in the subspace spanned by the  $j-1$  “least reliable” columns of  $H$

#### Notes:

- many cases are eliminated by this rule.
- obviously if the “single” is e.g.,  $\underline{z} = \underline{v}_5$  then all pairs as

$\underline{v}_i + \underline{v}_j$ ,  $i$  or  $j$  are greater than 5 are eliminated

- Sorting stage: re-order the columns

$\underline{h}_i$  in an increasing order of reliabilities

- for each case  $\underline{z} = \underline{h}_i$  compare the “single” error at location  $i$  with weight  $\rho_i = \rho(\underline{h}_i)$  with all possible “duet” errors expressed by the pairs  $\underline{z} = \underline{h}_{i_1} + \underline{h}_{i_2}$  such that
 
$$\rho_{i_1} < \rho_i, \quad \rho_{i_2} < \rho_i$$

replace the “single” with the “duet” if  $\rho(\underline{h}_{i_1}) + \rho(\underline{h}_{i_2}) < \rho(\underline{h}_i)$

- Compare the “duets” with the “triplets” by splitting columns of “duets”

$$\underline{h}_{i_1} \rightarrow \underline{v}_i + \underline{v}_j \quad \text{if } \rho(\underline{v}_i) + \rho(\underline{v}_j) < \rho(\underline{h}_{i_1})$$

- Continue with  $L$ -patterns with cardinality up to  $n-k$

# Example 1: Apply ML soft syndrome decoding for the [7,4,3] binary Hamming code, apply when possible eliminations rules

Given

$$H = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 1 & 1 & 1 \\ 0 & 1 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 1 \\ 1 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix} = [\underline{h}_1, \underline{h}_2, \underline{h}_3, \underline{h}_4, \underline{h}_5, \underline{h}_6, \underline{h}_7]$$

"duet" 1\*:  $\underline{h}_6 = \underline{h}_1 + \underline{h}_7 \rightarrow \rho_1 + \rho_7 = 15.5$   
 (\*eliminated by the "single" (rule 2))

"duet" 2:  $\underline{h}_6 = \underline{h}_2 + \underline{h}_4 \rightarrow \rho_2 + \rho_4 = 5$

"duet" 3\*:  $\underline{h}_6 = \underline{h}_3 + \underline{h}_5 \rightarrow \rho_3 + \rho_5 = 9$   
 (\*eliminated by "duet" 2)

"triplet" 1\*:  $\underline{h}_6 = \underline{h}_1 + (\underline{h}_2 + \underline{h}_5) \rightarrow \rho_1 + \rho_2 + \rho_5 = 8.5$   
 (\*eliminated by "duet" 2)

"triplet" 2\*:  $\underline{h}_6 = \underline{h}_1 + (\underline{h}_3 + \underline{h}_4) \rightarrow \rho_1 + \rho_3 + \rho_4 = 6.5$   
 (\*eliminated by "duet" 2)

"triplet" 3\*:  $\underline{h}_6 = \underline{h}_2 + (\underline{h}_3 + \underline{h}_7) \rightarrow \rho_2 + \rho_3 + \rho_7 = 10$   
 (\*eliminated by "single" and "duet" 2)

"triplet" 4\*:  $\underline{h}_6 = (\underline{h}_4 + \underline{h}_7) + \underline{h}_5 \rightarrow \rho_4 + \rho_7 + \rho_5 = 26$   
 (\*eliminated by "single" and "duet" 2)

$$\underline{\alpha} = [+0.5, -1, +2, -4, +7, +11, +15]$$

$$\underline{y}^H = [0, 1, 0, 1, 0, 0, 0]$$

$$\underline{z} = H [\underline{y}^H]^T = \underline{h}_2 + \underline{h}_4 = \underline{h}_6 = \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix}$$

"single"  $\underline{z} = \underline{h}_6 \rightarrow \rho_6 = 11$

Since the single has weight 11 and "duet" 2 is the only survivor to be considered, the ML

selection should be: choose

"duet" 2. Hence  $\underline{e} = [0, 1, 0, 1, 0, 0, 0]$

$$\hat{\underline{c}} = \underline{y}^H + \underline{e} = \underline{0}$$

## Example 2: Apply ML soft syndrome decoding for the [7,4,3] binary Hamming code, apply when possible eliminations rules

Given

$$H = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 1 & 1 & 1 \\ 0 & 1 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 1 \\ 1 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix} = [\underline{h}_1, \underline{h}_2, \underline{h}_3, \underline{h}_4, \underline{h}_5, \underline{h}_6, \underline{h}_7]$$
$$\underline{\alpha} = [+0.5, -1, +0.4, -6.4, +7, +11, +15]$$

In this case the  $\underline{h}_i$  are NOT sorted

Now the "duet" 2

$$\underline{h}_6 = \underline{h}_2 + \underline{h}_4 \rightarrow \rho_2 + \rho_4 = 7.4$$

but "triplet" 3 is

$$\underline{h}_6 = \underline{h}_1 + \underline{h}_3 + \underline{h}_4 \rightarrow \rho_1 + \rho_3 + \rho_4 = 7.3$$

$$\underline{y}^H = [0, 1, 0, 1, 0, 0, 0]$$

$$\underline{z} = H [\underline{y}^H]^T = \underline{h}_2 + \underline{h}_4 = \underline{h}_6 = \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix}$$

"single"  $\underline{z} = \underline{h}_6 \rightarrow \rho_6 = 11$

Since the single has weight 11 and "duet" 2 has weight 7.4 but the triplet 2 has weight 7.3. Thus

$$\underline{e} = [1, 0, 1, 1, 0, 0, 0]$$

$$\hat{c} = \underline{y}^H + \underline{e} = [1, 1, 1, 0, 0, 0, 0]$$

# Conclusion



- **Call For Contribution**

# Call for Contribution

- **8 Organizations / 11 Contributors**

- Samsung Electronics UK
- H.I.T - Holon Institute of Technology
- DoCoMo, Eurolabs & Beijing
- France Telecom R&D
- ENSEA/ETIS
- FTW
- TU Dresden, Vodafone Chair
- University of Kaiserslautern
- ...

- **Scope of White Paper widened**

- **Table of Content**

- Stabilized
- Still living doc.

- **Comparison**

- Performance
- Complexity
- HW inputs

- **Future Research directions**

- **Reviewing starts on 11<sup>th</sup> of September**

- **I – Introduction [M. Ran & T. Lestable]**
- **II – Codes Types [G. Bauch]**
- **IV – Decoding [M. Ran]**
- **V – Architecture & HW requirements [F. Kienle]**
- **VI – Standardization Overview [M-H. Hamon & T. Lestable]**
- **VII – Extensions : Turbo-Principle [T. Lestable]**
- **VII – Conclusions [M. Ran & T. Lestable]**



**Thank you...**

**Any Question ?**



**[Thierry.Lestable@samsung.com](mailto:Thierry.Lestable@samsung.com)**



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