

Bit Error Rate Performance of TAPSK using Block Coded Modulation

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Abstract—In this paper, we calculate minimum non coherent distances of block-coded TAPSK (twisted amplitude and phase shift keying) and QAM (quadrature-amplitude modulation), both using hamming distance. According to the derived distances, non coherent block-coded TAPSK (NBC-TAPSK) and non coherent block-coded QAM (NBC-QAM) are presented. If we change the radius of NBC-TAPSK then it performs best among all non coherent schemes and NBC-QAM performs worse due to its small minimum non coherent distance. However, if we consider block length is not short, NBC-QAM has the best error performance because the code words with small non coherent distances are rare. Here we also change the value of r and see the performance of BER and also see the effect of Rayleigh channel on BER.

Index Terms—Non coherent detection, BCH Codes, channels Block coded modulation, multilevel coding.

I. INTRODUCTION

THE ADDITIVE white Gaussian noise (AWGN) channel which introduces an unknown carrier phase rotation has been investigated in many works. This channel offers a useful abstraction of the flat fading channel, when the effects of the phase rotation need to be studied independently of the amplitude variations. A simple model that is commonly used is one where the unknown carrier phase is constant over a block of N symbols, and independent from block to block. This model is correct for frequency hopping systems. For this non coherent channel with large N , pilot symbols used for the carrier phase estimation with codes designed for coherent decoding perform well. However, for small N , block codes designed for non coherent decoding outperform this training-based non coherent codes. The minimum non coherent distances of codes are obtained by brute-force searching for all codeword-pairs.

For the transmitted baseband codeword $\mathbf{x} = (x_1, x_2, \dots, x_N)$, the received baseband block $\mathbf{y} = (y_1, y_2, \dots, y_N)$ is given by $y = x \exp\{j\theta\} + n$. signal point in the signal constellation of 8PSK, is labeled by (a, b, c) where $a, b,$ and $c \in \{0, 1\}$. Let $(a_1, b_1, c_1), (a_2, b_2, c_2), \dots, (a_N, b_N, c_N)$ be a block of transmitted signals. If $\mathbf{c}_a = (a_1, a_2, \dots, a_N)$, $\mathbf{c}_b = (b_1, b_2, \dots, b_N)$ and $\mathbf{c}_c = (c_1, c_2, \dots, c_N)$ are code words of binary block

codes $\mathbf{C}_a, \mathbf{C}_b$ and \mathbf{C}_c , are also called component codes. the minimum non coherent Hamming distance of \mathbf{C}_i is defined by $d_{ncH,i} = \min\{d_i, \min, N - d_i, \max\}$ where $d_{i,\min}$ and $d_{i,\max}$ denote the minimum and maximum values of Hamming distance between any two code words corresponding to different data bits in \mathbf{C}_i .

II. NONCOHERENT BLOCKMODULATION USING LINEAR COMPONENT CODES

A. TAPSK For TAPSK with labeling in Fig. 1, the bit in level a decides Symbol energy. The radiuses of the inner and outer circles are denoted by r_0 and r_1 , respectively. The values of r_1 and r_0 ($r_0 \leq 1 \leq r_1$) satisfy $r=2$ when $a=0$ has the same probability as $a=1, r_0^2 + r_1^2 = 2$. With the proof given in Appendix A, we have the following theorem Define $f(d)$ by $f(d) =$

$$\frac{r_1^2 - r_0^2}{2} d - \sqrt{(r_0^2(N-d) + r_0 r_1 \cos \Phi)^2 + (r_0 r_1 d \sin \Phi)^2}$$

Block coded generalized-8TAPSK \mathbf{C} whose component codes are all linear, the minimum squared non coherent distance is

$$d_{nc}^2 = \min\{d_{nc,a}^2, d_{nc,b}^2, d_{nc,c}^2\}, \text{ where}$$

$$d_{nc,a}^2 = \min\{f(d_{a,\min}), f(d_{a,\max})\}, \quad d_{nc,b}^2 = r_0^2(N - \sqrt{(N - d_{ncH,b})^2})$$

$d_{nc,c}^2 = 2r_0^2 d_{ncH,c}$ For block-coded generalized-16TAPSK, by a similar derivation $d_{nc}^2 = \min\{d_{nc,a}^2, d_{nc,b}^2, d_{nc,c}^2, d_{nc,d}^2\}$

$$\text{Where, } d_{nc,a}^2 = \min\{f(d_{a,\min}), f(d_{a,\max})\},$$

$$d_{nc,b}^2 = r_0^2(N - \sqrt{(N - \frac{2 - \sqrt{2}}{2} d_{ncH,b})^2 + \frac{d_{ncH,b}^2}{2}}),$$

$$d_{nc,c}^2 = r_0^2(N - \sqrt{(N - d_{ncH,c})^2 + d_{ncH,c}^2}) \text{ and}$$

$d_{nc,d}^2 = 2r_0^2 d_{ncH,d}$, for NBC-8TAPSK. Table I compares NBC-8TAPSK with NBC-8PSK in terms of d for $N = 15, 31, 63,$ and $N \rightarrow 8$. In this paper, only (15,11,1) code, (31,26,1)

code and (63,57,1) BCH codes are used as component codes. The values of $(da, \min, db, \min, dc, \min)$ are shown in the column of "code", and the values of r which maximize the same rate and N , NBC-8TAPSK always has larger d^2_{nc} than NBC-8PSK. Figure 2 presents the results for $N = 4$. For the pilot optimized 16QAM, the amplitude of the pilot signal is 1.225. NBC-16QAM has better BER than 16QAM(H) and 16QAM(L), but they all do not decrease exponentially.

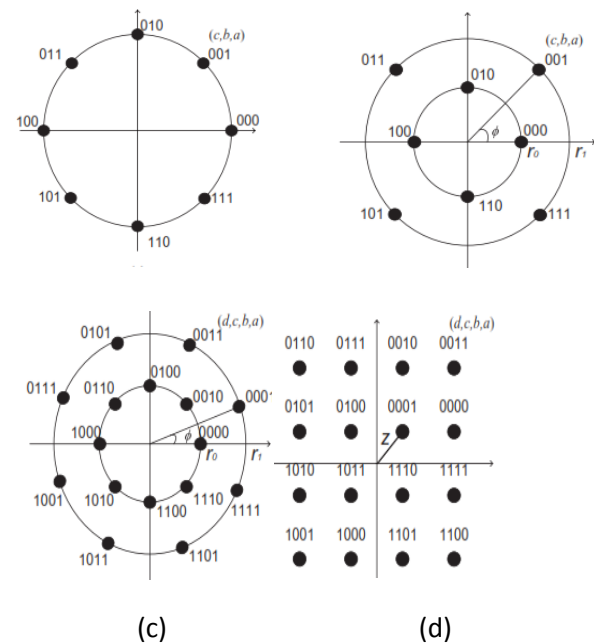
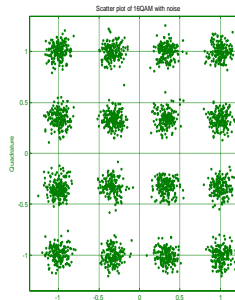


Fig. 1. Constellations with bit labeling for (a) 8PSK (b) 8TAPSK ($\phi = \pi/4$) (c) 16TAPSK ($\phi = \pi/8$) (d) 16QAM

When $r = 1$, i.e. TAPSK becomes MPSK, we have $(N) = 0$ and $f(d) = f(N - d) \forall d$. Consequently, d of block-coded MPSK is equal to (d) . Therefore, for block-coded MPSK, C_a should be a binary block code with large d . We proposed NBC-MPSK in [5] by setting $d_{a, \max}, d_{ncH, a} = N - d_{a, \min}$ such that $d_{ncH, a} = da, \min$ at the price of sacrificing one data bit. But as r increases, (N) also increases. For block-coded 8TAPSK where r is large enough, $(N) = (r_1 - r_0)^2 N / 2$ can be larger than $f(da, \min)$. If $r > 1.61238$, (N) is always larger than $f(da, \min)$ for any value of $da, \min (d = N/2)$. In such case, since $d^2_{nc, a} = f(da, \min)$, C_a, \min could be a normal code with large da, \min and thus the one-bit loss is unnecessary.

B. 16QAM

The distance between the smallest-energy point and the origin in the 16QAM constellation is denoted by z .



From this diagram we can calculate minimum non coherent distance $d^2_{nc, \min}$. If we define $d_{\min H} = 4$, then

$$d_{0, \min} = (d_{\min H} / \delta_0^2), d_{1, \min} = (d_{\min H} / \delta_1^2),$$

$$d_{2, \min} = (d_{\min H} / \delta_2^2) \text{ and } d_{3, \min} = (d_{\min H} / \delta_3^2)$$

For block-coded 16QAM whose component codes are all linear, the minimum squared non coherent distance

$$d^2_{nc} = \min \{d^2_{nc, a}, d^2_{nc, b}, d^2_{nc, c}, d^2_{nc, d}\}$$

Spectral efficiency	code	d^2_{nc}		
		N=15	N=31	N=63
4.34	8PSK	0.212	0.351	0.361
2.24	8TAPSK(H)	0.401	0.356	0.371
2.43	8TAPSK(L)	0.352	0.412	0.423
3.23	16QAM	0.450	0.453	0.464
2.56	16TAPSK	0.554	0.621	0.632

Table I compares NBC-8TAPSK with NBC-8PSK in terms of d^2_{nc} for $N = 15, 31, 63$, and $N \rightarrow 8$. In this paper, only (15,11,1) code, (31,27,1) code and (63,57,1) BCH CODES are used as component codes. The values of $(da, \min, db, \min, dc, \min)$ For the same rate and N , NBC-8TAPSK always has larger d_{nc} than NBC-8PSK. COMPARISON OF THEORETICAL BEST VALUES AND SIMULATION BEST VALUES OF r FOR NBC-16TAPSK.

Spectral efficiency	N=15		N=31		N=63	
	Theo.	Simu.	Theo.	Simu.	Theo.	simu.
2.23	0.51	0.52	0.46	0.48	0.64	0.67
3.24	0.46	0.49	0.56	0.58	0.56	0.63
3.67	0.43	0.45	0.59	0.61	0.66	0.67
4.34	0.34	0.36	0.61	0.63	0.67	0.69

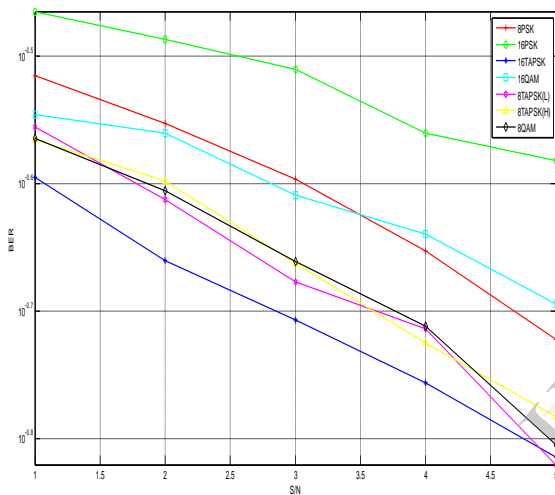
For NBC-16TAPSK, Table II compares the best values of r for simulations with the theoretical best values of r that maximize d_{nc} . The values of $(da, \min, db, \min, dc, \min)$ are shown in the column of "data rate". In the multistaged decoding, a decoding error in level a probably causes error propagation, so slightly larger r which results in better BER in level a would have the best overall BER. Let N_a and N_b denote the numbers of the nearest-neighbor codewords for C_a and C_b respectively, shown in Table II also. We find that if r is less than or approximately equal to 1, the best r for simulations is close to

(slightly larger than) the best $r_{\text{for } d_{nc}}$. But if N is not small, the BER in level α is increased due to the large number of the nearest-neighbor codewords, so the best r for simulations is larger than the best r for d_{nc} .

NBC-16TAPSK is better than NBC16QAM at high SNRs which agrees with the minimum noncoherent distance analysis. For NBC-16QAM, the gap between noncoherent decoding and ideal coherent decoding is quite wide.

III. SIMULATION RESULTS AND DISCUSSIONS

At high SNRs, the pilot-optimized 16QAM outperforms NBC-16QAM, and NBC-16TAPSK is the best among all noncoherent schemes. The results for $N = 15$ are shown in Fig. 3 in which the amplitude of the pilot signal is 1.673. We find that the average number of codewords with small noncoherent distances is too tiny to affect the curves above BER of 10^{-6} for all noncoherent 16QAM schemes.



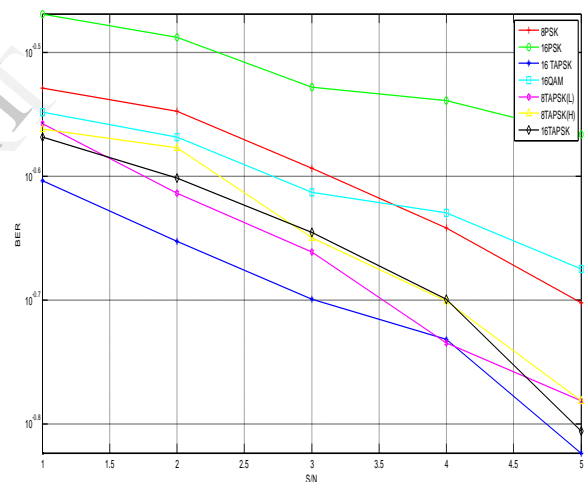
(BER Vs S/Na t(r=0.35))

At the receivers, the channel-quantization decoding algorithm in [6, Sec. III] is used. This algorithm uses the estimate of θ from the family $T = \{0, 2\pi/MQ, \dots, 2\pi(Q-1)/MQ\}$, $M = 4$ for NBC-8TAPSK and NBC-16QAM, $M = 8$ for NBC-8PSK and NBC-16TAPSK. In all simulations, we set $Q = 6$, but if C' and C are uncoded bits ($d_b, \min = d_c, \min = 1$), the labeling of bits b and c should be Gray labeling of QPSK for the minimization of bit error rate (BER). The labeling in Fig. 1(c) For NBC-TAPSK and nonlinear NBC-TAPSK, we look for the value of r that needs the lowest SNR at the BER of 10^{-6} by simulation results, and use it in simulations. In Fig. 2 and Fig. 3, we consider noncoherent block codes using sixteen signal points with data rate $(4N - 4)/N$ bits/symbol, including NBC-16TAPSK and NBC-16QAM whose $(d_a, \min, d_b, \min, d_c, \min, d_d, \min)$ is $(2, 1, 1, 1)$, and the differentially-encoded 16QAM scheme in [9] denoted by 16QAM(H). We modify the scheme in [9] by choosing the low energy codewords instead of the high-energy codewords, denoted by 16QAM(L), as suggested by [7]. The results of ideal coherent decoding for NBC-

16TAPSK and NBC 16QAM are explained in [7] is also compared.

Figure 2 presents the results for $N = 31$. For the pilot-optimized 16QAM, the amplitude of the pilot signal is 1.225. NBC-16QAM has better BER than 16QAM(L), but they all do not decrease exponentially because the average number of codewords with small noncoherent distances is little, but not little enough. For ideal coherent decoding, NBC-16TAPSK is worse than NBC-16QAM. But for noncoherent decoding, NBC-16TAPSK is better than NBC16QAM at high SNRs which agrees with the minimum noncoherent distance analysis. For NBC-16QAM, the gap between noncoherent decoding and ideal coherent decoding is quite wide given as references.

But here we take fixed minimum hamming distance, then find $\delta_a^2, \delta_b^2, \delta_c^2$, and then minimum required d_{\min}^2 . For evaluating system performance, we compute BER versus E/Nb graph for the AWGN channel or Rayleigh channel. For encoding we use the BCH encoder, then transmitted the signals by this encoding, at the receiver we use same type of decoder and see the error which place we have to correct.



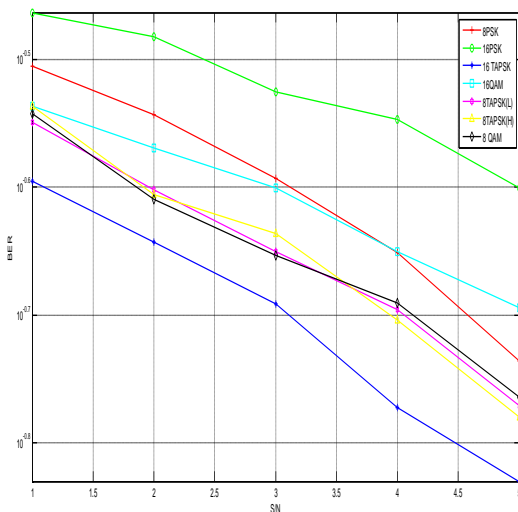
(BER Vs S/Na t(r=0.40))

At high SNRs, the pilot-optimized 16QAM outperforms NBC-16QAM, and NBC-16TAPSK is the best among all noncoherent schemes. The results for $N = 15$ are shown in Fig. 3 in which the amplitude of the pilot signal is 1.673. We find that the average number of codewords with small noncoherent distances is too tiny to affect the curves above BER of 10^{-6} for all noncoherent 16QAM schemes. NBC16QAM outperforms NBC-16TAPSK and the pilot-optimized 16QAM, and its gap between noncoherent decoding and ideal coherent decoding is less than 1dB.

Various non coherent block codes using eight or sixteen signal points with data rate $(3N - 3)/N$ bits/symbol for $N = 16$ are compared in Fig. 4. NBC-16TAPSK and NBC-16QAM both use $(d_a, \min, d_b, \min, d_c, \min, d_d, \min) = (8, 4, 1, 1)$, and NBC-8TAPSK using $C(H)$ (denoted by NBC-8TAPSK(H)) and NBC-8TAPSK (denoted by NBC-8TAPSK(L)) and both

use $(d_{a,\min}, d_{b,\min}, d_{c,\min}) = (1, 1, 1)$. NBC-8TAPSK using (0) has almost the same BER as NBC-8TAPSK and thus is not shown in the figure-2. The used values of rare 1.94, 1.95 and 1.6 for NBC 8TAPSK(H), NBC-8TAPSK(L) and NBC-8TAPSK, respectively. We find that NBC-8PSK is the worst, and NBC-8TAPSK has better BER than NBC-8TAPSK(L) and NBC-8TAPSK(H). At high SNRs, NBC-16TAPSK outperforms NBC-8TAPSK. This is reasonable since its d_{nc} , 0.6277, is larger than d_{nc} of NBC-8TAPSK, 0.6030. After all, NBC-16QAM whose d_{nc} is only 0.1649 is the best. It provides about 1.6dB gain over NBC-16TAPSK at a BER of 10^{-6} .

Quite different from NBC-MPSK and NBC-TAPSK, the average number of nearest neighbors of NBC-16QAM is very small. It is complicated to compute the average number of nearest neighbors of NBC-16QAM, so we take an example to illustrate this point as follows. Suppose that the transmitted has component codeword in level a $c_a = 0$. Consider another component codeword c_a . Help of scatter plot shown in above figure-4, then we compute BER for 16 QAM, For $N=31$, the minimum non coherent distance of energy constraint 16-MAPSK is larger than that of energy constraint 16-QAM. Therefore, it is reasonable that the performance of energy constraint 16-MAPSK is better than energy constraint 16-QAM.



(BER Vs S/Na t(r=0.55))

Quite different from NBC-MPSK and NBC-TAPSK, the average number of nearest neighbors of NBC-16QAM is very small. It is complicated to compute the average number of nearest neighbors of NBC-16QAM, so we take an example to illustrate this point as follows. Suppose that the transmitted codeword, denoted by x , has a component codeword in level a $c_a = 0$. Consider another component codeword c_a in level a and the Hamming distance between c_a and c'_a is d_{min} . Assume that $d_{nc} = d_{nc}$. For this case, we compute the number of nearest neighbors caused by C'_a for NBC-16TAPSK and NBC-16QAM as follow.

IV. CONCLUSION

In this paper, the minimum non-coherent distances of block-coded TAPSK and 16QAM using linear component codes are recalculated. The minimum non-coherent distance of block-coded QAM with more signal points can be derived similarly. We find that the minimum noncoherent distance of block-coded MPSK derived is a special case of the derived minimum noncoherent distance of block-coded TAPSK. According to the derived distances, we propose NBC-TAPSK and NBC-QAM. The comparison of minimum noncoherent distances shows the superiority of NBC-TAPSK over NBC-QAM at high data rates. We compare various non-coherent block codes based on the simulation results. By changing the value of radius in TAPSK we get optimum value of radius (r) in which TAPSK has better BER performance among all digital modulation techniques and QAM has worse error performance due to its small minimum noncoherent distance.

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