CSE 4215/5431: Mobile Communications

Winter 2013

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Course page: http://www.cse.yorku.ca/course/4215

Some slides are adapted from the Schiller book website

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The Physical Layer – Ch 2

• Let's start with the very basic notions

Signals, channels and systems

- What is a signal?
 - Baseband signal
 - Modulation
 - Bandwidth
 - Transmission/reception
- What is a channel?
 - Bandwidth
 - Noise
 - Attenuation, Loss
- What is a communication system?

Types of signals

- (a) continuous time/discrete time
- (b) continuous values/discrete values
- analog signal = continuous time, continuous values
- digital signal = discrete time, discrete values
- Periodic signal analog or digital signal that repeats over time

 $s(t+T) = s(t) -\infty < t < +\infty$

- where *T* is the period of the signal
- signal parameters of periodic signals: period T, frequency f=1/T, amplitude A, phase shift φ
 – sine wave as special periodic signal for a carrier:

$$s(t) = A_t \sin(2 \pi f_t t + \varphi_t)$$



Figure 2.3 $s(t) = A \sin (2 ft + \phi)$

Bandwidth

- Of a signal
- Of a channel

Bandwidth vs bit rate

The underlying mathematics

Fourier representation of periodic signals



What about aperiodic signals ?

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Frequency domain

- Fundamental frequency when all frequency components of a signal are integer multiples of one frequency, it's referred to as the fundamental frequency
- Spectrum range of frequencies that a signal contains
- Absolute bandwidth width of the spectrum of a signal
- Effective bandwidth (or just bandwidth) narrow band of frequencies that most of the signal's energy is contained in

Transmitting rectangular signals

- Observations
 - Any rectangular waveform will have infinite bandwidth
 - BUT the transmission system will limit the bandwidth that can be transmitted
 - AND, for any given medium, the greater the bandwidth transmitted, the greater the cost
 - HOWEVER, limiting the bandwidth creates distortions

Bit rates, channel capacity

- Impairments, such as noise, limit data rate that can be achieved
- For digital data, to what extent do impairments limit data rate?
- Channel Capacity the maximum rate at which data can be transmitted over a given communication path, or channel, under given conditions

Nyquist Bandwidth

- For binary signals (two voltage levels)
 C = 2B
- With multilevel signaling
 - $-C = 2B \log_2 M$
 - *M* = number of discrete signal or voltage levels

Signal-to-Noise Ratio

- Ratio of the power in a signal to the power contained in the noise that's present at a particular point in the transmission
- Typically measured at a receiver
- Signal-to-noise ratio (SNR, or S/N) $(SNR)_{dB} = 10 \log_{10} \frac{\text{signal power}}{\text{noise power}}$
- A high SNR means a high-quality signal, low number of required intermediate repeaters
- SNR sets upper bound on achievable data rate

Shannon Capacity Formula

• Equation:

$$C = B \log_2(1 + \mathrm{SNR})$$

- Represents theoretical maximum that can be achieved
- In practice, only much lower rates achieved
 - Formula assumes white noise (thermal noise)
 - Impulse noise is not accounted for
 - Attenuation distortion or delay distortion not accounted for

Example of Nyquist and Shannon Formulations

- Spectrum of a channel between 3 MHz and 4 MHz; $SNR_{dB} = 24 dB$ B = 4 MHz - 3 MHz = 1 MHz $SNR_{dB} = 24 dB = 10 \log_{10}(SNR)$ SNR = 251
- Using Shannon's formula $C = 10^6 \times \log_2(1+251) \approx 10^6 \times 8 = 8 \text{Mbps}$

Example of Nyquist and Shannon Formulations

How many signaling levels are required?

$$C = 2B \log_2 M$$

$$8 \times 10^6 = 2 \times (10^6) \times \log_2 M$$

$$4 = \log_2 M$$

$$M = 16$$

Modulation

- Why?How?

Frequencies for wireless communication

- VLF = Very Low Frequency
- LF = Low Frequency
- MF = Medium Frequency
- HF = High Frequency
- VHF = Very High Frequency
- Frequency and wave length

$$-\lambda = c/f$$

- wave length λ , speed of light c \cong 3x10⁸m/s, frequency f



- UHF = Ultra High Frequency
- SHF = Super High Frequency
- EHF = Extra High Frequency

UV = Ultraviolet Light

Frequencies for wireless communication

- VHF-/UHF-ranges for mobile radio
 - simple, small antenna for cars
 - deterministic propagation characteristics, reliable connections
- SHF and higher for directed radio links, satellite communication
 - small antenna, beam forming
 - large bandwidth available
- Wireless LANs use frequencies in UHF to SHF range
 - some systems planned up to EHF
 - limitations due to absorption by water and oxygen molecules (resonance frequencies)
 - weather dependent fading, signal loss caused by heavy rainfall etc.

Frequencies and regulations

• ITU-R holds auctions for new frequencies, manages frequency bands worldwide (WRC, World Radio Conferences)

Examples	Europe	USA	Japan
Cellular phones	GSM 880-915, 925- 960, 1710-1785, 1805-1880 UMTS 1920-1980, 2110-2170	AMPS, TDMA, CDMA, GSM 824- 849, 869-894 TDMA, CDMA, GSM, UMTS 1850-1910, 1930-1990	PDC, FOMA 810-888, 893-958 PDC 1429-1453, 1477-1501 FOMA 1920-1980, 2110-2170
Cordless phones	CT1+ 885-887, 930- 932 CT2 864-868 DECT 1880-1900	PACS 1850-1910, 1930-1990 PACS-UB 1910-1930	PHS 1895-1918 JCT 245-380
Wireless LANs	802.11b/g 2412-2472	802.11b/g 2412-2462	802.11b 2412-2484 802.11g 2412-2472
Other RF systems	27, 128, 418, 433, 868	315, 915	426, 868

Multiplexing



- space (s_i)
- time (t)
- frequency (f)
- code (c)
- Goal: multiple use of a shared medium
- Important: guard spaces needed!



Frequency multiplexing

- Separation of the whole spectrum into smaller frequency bands
- A channel gets a certain band of the spectrum for the whole time

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- Advantages
 - no dynamic coordination necessary
 - works also for analog signals



- Disadvantages
 - waste of bandwidth if the traffic is distributed unevenly
 - inflexible

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Time division multiplexing

- A channel gets the whole spectrum for a certain amount of time
- Advantages
 - only one carrier in the medium at any time
 - throughput high even for many users





Time and frequency multiplex

- Combination of both methods
- A channel gets a certain frequency band for a certain amount of time
- Example: GSM



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Code multiplex

- Each channel has a unique code k₁
- All channels use the same spectrum at the same time
- Advantages
 - bandwidth efficient
 - no coordination and synchronization necessary
 - good protection against interference and tapping
- Disadvantages
 - varying user data rates
 - more complex signal regeneration
- Implemented using spread spectrum technology

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Example

• Lack of coordination requirement is an advantage.

Aside: Digital Communications

- What is coding?
- What is source coding?
- What are line codes?
- What is channel coding?
- What is pulse shaping?