

Coding for a Noisy Binary Multiple-access Adder Channel

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Abstract Multiple-access adder channels have been extensively studied for many years. They can be classified into several types. The type of channels we consider in this paper is discrete, memoryless, synchronized and noisy. On noisy multiple-access adder channels a receiver must derive a group of transmitted codewords uniquely from a received word garbled by errors. This means that a code suitable for this channel must have both separability and error control ability. In this paper we propose a coding method for such a channel. Our method utilizes some property of parity check matrices for Reed-Solomon codes. We present not only encoding but also decoding methods of our codes. It is also shown that our method can construct some codes with high coding rates.

Keywords Multiple-Access Adder Channel, Error Correcting, Detecting, Wireless Communications

1. Introduction

On the communication systems through a type of channels, some users can transmit each codeword, which is previously assigned to them, simultaneously. And the transmitted codewords are bitwisely added on the channels and therefore amount to a received word. Such channels are generally referred to as multiple-access adder channels.

Multiple-access adder channels have been extensively studied for many years [1-3]. They can be classified into several types on the basis of such a condition as arithmetic type of addition or noise occurring on a channel [4]. The type of channels we consider in this paper is discrete, memoryless, synchronized and noisy. And the arithmetic type of addition on a channel is modulo-2 addition. Moreover, assume that at most T users among M users ($M > T$) can transmit their codewords simultaneously. This type of communications is seen in wireless system such as satellite-based communication. Figure 1 shows this channel model.

In Figure 1 M , T , and $C_i (i=1, 2, \dots, M)$ mean the number of potential users, the maximum number of simultaneous connections and the set of the codewords assigned to each user, respectively. A code suitable for this channel, therefore, must meet all the following conditions:

1. A code can assign its codewords to all the potential users where M is much greater than the maximum number of simultaneous connections T .

2. A code can derive all the codewords transmitted simultaneously from a noisy received word r .

3. A code has error control ability to combat primary errors occurred on the channel.

In general a type of primary errors we must combat varies a great deal depending on some conditions such as channel characteristics or how transmitted data are encoded in a codeword. In this paper we propose a coding method to meet all the conditions above.

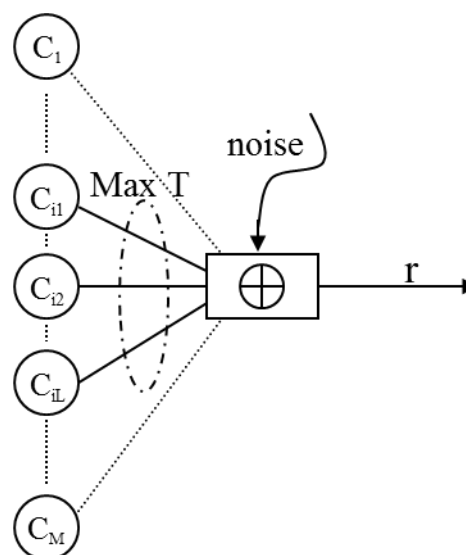


Figure 1. Binary multiple-access adder channel with noise

2. Coding Method

Firstly, we give a basic frame of our code by the use of the method indicated in [5]. Let H be a parity check matrix of a

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Reed-Solomon code over $GF(2^m)$ that corrects T random errors and \mathbf{h}_i each column of the matrix H . Assigning each column to each user i , then, produces a code C_0 whose codewords are

$$\alpha_i \mathbf{h}_i = (\alpha_i | \alpha_i \beta_i | \alpha_i \beta_i^2 | \dots | \alpha_i \beta_i^{2^{T-2}} | \alpha_i \beta_i^{2^{T-1}}) \quad (1)$$

where α_i is any nonzero element of $GF(2^m)$. After this we call each element of $GF(2^m)$ in a codeword or a received word a unit. It is obvious that for $M = 2^m - 1$ this code meets the above conditions 1 and 2 from the property of check matrix H [6]. So the code length n_0 and coding rate R_0 of this code C_0 are respectively given by

$$n_0 = 2Tm \quad (2)$$

$$R_0 = T \frac{\log_2(2^m - 1)}{2Tm} \cong \frac{1}{2} \quad (3)$$

Note that this code has no error control ability. In the following we give a method to add error control ability to C_0 . Our codes have the following error control ability:

- (1) They can detect any odd weight errors on each unit in a codeword.
- (2) They can correct an error or detect two errors on a unit.

Before describing our method we give conceptual diagram of our method in Figure 2.

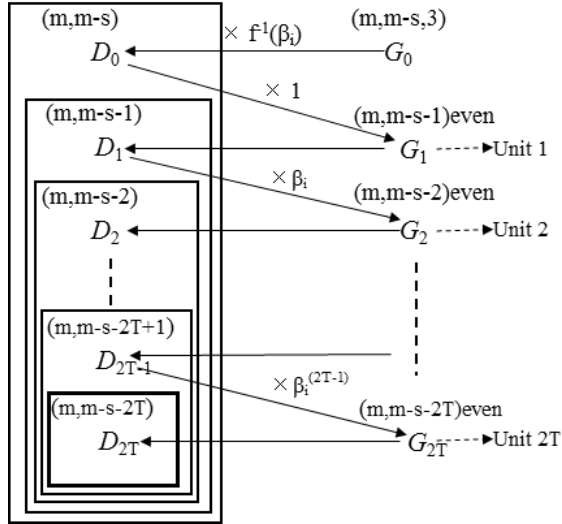


Figure 2. Conceptual diagram of our method

Let

$$f(\beta) \equiv 1 + \beta + \beta^2 + \dots + \beta^{2^{T-2}} + \beta^{2^{T-1}} \quad (4)$$

where β is any nonzero element of $GF(2^m)$.

- (1) For any nonzero element β of $GF(2^m)$ such that $f(\beta) \neq 0$

Suppose that a code $(m, m-s, 3)G_0$ is a binary code that has code length m and $(m-s)$ information bits with minimum distance 3. Then, for any basis

$$\{g_1, g_2, \dots, g_{(m-s)}\} \quad (5)$$

that spans this code over $GF(2)$,

$$\{f^{-1}(\beta_i)g_1, f^{-1}(\beta_i)g_2, \dots, f^{-1}(\beta_i)g_{(m-s)}\} \quad (6)$$

spans a $(m, m-s)$ code D_0 over $GF(2)$. All of the elements in

(6) may have even weights. If not so, an even weight subcode of D_0 can be always constructed by the following method:

- (1) If only one element in (6) has odd weight in $GF(2)$ then the resulting $(m-s-1)$ elements in (6) without the odd-weight element spans a $(m, m-s-1, 2)$ even weight subcodes of D_0 .

- (2) If some elements in (6) have odd weights in $GF(2)$ then adding of any odd-weight element selected from (6) and other odd-weight elements in (6) amounts to give a basis for a $(m, m-s-1)$ even weight subcodes of D_0 .

Since we want to give a lower bound on coding rate of our codes we shall use the above method to obtain even weight subcode.

Now let D_1 be the $(m, m-s-1)$ even weight subcode of D_0 stated above and B_1 a basis of D_0 . The products of B_1 and a multiplier β_i , then, spans a $(m, m-s-1)$ code over $GF(2)$. By the above method, hence, we can construct a $(m, m-s-2)$ even weight subcode of D_1 , which is denoted by G_2 . Obviously a basis of G_2 divided by β_i spans a $(m, m-s-2)$ subcode of D_1 . We denote this code by D_2 . Consequently, repeating this procedure by changing a multiplier from β_i to $\beta_i^{(2^{T-1})}$ produces $(m, m-s-2T)$ code D_{2T} as shown in Figure 2. Finally, each user i uses non-zero codewords of D_{2T} as α_i in (1). Then, since code D_{s+1} is a subcode of D_s ($s=0, 1, 2, \dots, 2T-1$) it follows that each unit u ($u = 1, 2, \dots, 2T$) in a codeword has even weight.

- (2) For any nonzero element β of $GF(2^m)$ such that $f(\beta) = 0$

The procedure is the same as in (1) except starting with $(m, m-1, 2)$ even weight codes as D_1 and G_1 , respectively.

Resultingly the code length n and coding rate R of our codes meet the following expressions respectively.

$$n = 2Tm \quad (7)$$

$$R \geq \frac{m-s-2T}{2m} = \frac{1}{2} - \frac{s+2T}{2m} \quad (8)$$

Note here that the numbers of the codewords each user i has are always not the same: it depends on the element β_i assigned to each user i . For example, when β_i is equal to 1 the number of information bits assigned to user i is $m-1$, which is always greater than $m-2T$. And when

$$\beta_i^x = \beta_i^y; x < y \quad (9)$$

, code D_{y+1} can be equal to code D_{x+1} and this saves one parity check bit: whether Eq.(9) holds or not depends only the order of β_i in $GF(2^m)$. In other cases, which code to be selected as G_0 influences coding rate R since it might be possible that code D_0 would be an even weight code.

3. Decoding and Numerical Results

In this section we prove the error control ability of our codes by giving a decoding method.

<decoding method>

[D1] Count the weight of each unit in a received word as an m -tuple over $GF(2)$.

[D2-1] If there are some units that have odd weight, then finish the decoding method: it means that some error occurred on not a unit but some units.

[D2-2] If there is no unit or a unit that has odd weight, then add all units in a received word r as an m -tuple over $GF(2)$ by modulo-2 addition. That is, for

$$r = (r_1 | r_2 | \cdots | r_{2T-1} | r_{2T}) , \text{ calculate } S = \sum_{j=1}^{2T} r_j \text{ and}$$

decode S by any decoding method of G_0 . If the decoder decides that an error occurred, then correct the error on the unit detected by [D1]

Obviously, [D2-1] is true because each unit in (1) must have even weight. From errors under consideration [D2-2] means that either no error or an error occurred on a unit. Hence if user ij ($j=1, 2, \dots, L-1, L; L \leq T$) in Figure 1 transmitted their codewords including α_{ij} as their information and an error e occurred on the channel, then

$$\begin{aligned} S &= \sum_{j=1}^L \alpha_{ij} (1 + \beta_{ij} + \beta_{ij}^2 + \cdots + \beta_{ij}^{2T-1}) + e \\ &= \sum_{j=1}^L \alpha_{ij} f(\beta_{ij}) + e \end{aligned} \quad (10)$$

Since α_{ij} can be expressed as a product of $f^{-1}(\beta_{ij})$ and a codeword of G_0 , S amounts to an addition of a codeword of G_0 and e . This means that our codes have the error control ability stated above.

As an example calculation we show the code length n and minimum coding rate R of our codes constructed by using a $(2^s-1, 2^s-1-s, 3)$ Hamming code as G_0 . In this example coding rate R_H meets the following expression.

$$R_H \geq \frac{1}{2} - \frac{s+2T}{2(2^s-1)} \quad (11)$$

Table 1. Parameters of Our Codes Based on Hamming Codes ($T=2$)

s	n	R
5	124	0.3548
6	252	0.4206
7	508	0.4566
8	1020	0.4765
9	2044	0.4873
10	4092	0.4931
11	8188	0.4963
12	16380	0.4980

This expression indicates that the coding rate of our code gets close to the same coding rate R_0 of C_0 , which has no error control ability, as code length increases. In Table 1 we

show some parameters of our codes based on Hamming codes when at most two users can transmit their codewords simultaneously. With increasing the number of active users the right hand of (11) gets smaller. But generally (4) tends to have more solutions in $GF(2^m)$ reversely. Coding rate, therefore, would be greater than one given by (11) when the users assigned the solutions of (4) as β_i are included in potential users.

4. Conclusions

In this paper we have proposed a coding method for a noisy binary multiple-access adder channel. And by giving a decoding method it has been shown that besides uniquely separable our codes have the property to control some errors occurred within a segment in a codeword and be uniquely separable when some codewords superimposed. Furthermore it was shown that our codes can have coding rates close to the value which is associated with the uniquely separable codes without error control ability like [5]. As stated in this paper the selection of nonzero elements in $GF(2^m)$ assigned to each user affects coding rate in a direct fashion. So which element to be chosen is an important and interesting problem. It is also future work to expand our method to deal with several types of errors occurred on transmission.

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