

Signals and Communication Technology

Joachim Speidel

# Introduction to Digital Communications

Second Edition

 Springer

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# Signals and Communication Technology

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ISSN 1860-4862 ISSN 1860-4870 (electronic)  
Signals and Communication Technology  
ISBN 978-3-030-67356-7 ISBN 978-3-030-67357-4 (eBook)  
<https://doi.org/10.1007/978-3-030-67357-4>

1<sup>st</sup> & 2<sup>nd</sup> edition: © Springer Nature Switzerland AG 2019, 2021

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# Preface

Digital communication has found an increasing interest in the past 70 years starting with the telephone network on copper wires, the development of the optical transmission, and the emerging Internet based on wire-line and wireless transmission technologies. Today, the trend to serve an increasing number of mobile users and also machines with information through digital networks is unbroken.

The new book *Introduction to Digital Communications* is aiming at graduate students, scientists, and engineers, who are interested in getting an introduction to modern digital communications. The main focus is on the fundamentals of the physical layer from the perspective of the theory of linear time-invariant as well as time-variant systems. The book draws a bow from single input single output to multiple input multiple output systems with an emphasis on wireless transmission over time-variant channels. The main concern lies on an accurate mathematical description, wherein the findings and lemmas are proven in detail. Various chapters are enriched by numerical examples and also illustrated with results from computer simulations provided by the open platform “webdemo” of the Institute of Telecommunications at the University of Stuttgart, <http://www.inue.uni-stuttgart.de>.

## Organization of the Book

The book covers three main parts and a fourth part with two Appendices.

### Part I

Deals with the principles of digital transmission, which are important for wire-line as well as wireless communications. It describes the main building blocks for Single Input Single Output (SISO) systems. The concept of quadrature amplitude modulation is introduced. An important part is the design of the overall system for minimal

intersymbol interference with Nyquist's first criterion. The introduction of the equivalent baseband system allows the concise definition of the link between the transmitter input and the receiver output as a "black box" without details of the modulation, the spectral signal shaping, and the channel. For the receive signal, several detection methods are described in detail, such as threshold decision, maximum likelihood, and maximum a posteriori detection. Also the difference between symbol-by-symbol and sequence detection is addressed and the maximum likelihood sequence estimator is described as an example. With an adequate model of the noise at the receiver, the symbol error probability is calculated.

The following chapters in Part I are devoted to the wireless transmission. The main difference is the wireless channel, which changes its characteristic with time. Therefore, the theory of linear time-variant systems is introduced to describe the building blocks of the system with time-variant impulse responses and delay spread functions. As not all students and engineers are frequently involved with this topic, the book contains an own Part II devoted to the theory of linear time-variant systems. Selected points are briefly reported for Part I, hence the reader is not required to study Part II beforehand. However, for a deeper understanding, the reader should get involved in Part II. The introduction of the equivalent baseband system, which is then time-variant, follows. With this model the increase of the output signal bandwidth at the receiver compared to the transmit signal is shown as an example. The multipath channel model is described in detail. As the wireless transmission link is multifaceted, a statistical characterization of the channel is helpful. To this end, various channel models are reviewed, such as the Rayleigh and Nakagami- $m$  fading as well as the model according to Clarke and Jakes.

## Part II

Is devoted to the theory of linear time-variant systems. In many cases, this topic is just touched upon during the education of graduate students in Electrical Engineering and Computer Science. Therefore, this dedicated Part II is provided. The input-output relation given by the time-variant convolution is addressed in detail and the mathematical properties are derived. We outline the relation with the well-known (time-invariant) convolution used by engineers in most applications. The time-variant impulse response and the delay spread function turn out to be the proper system descriptions in the time domain. Also the system functions in the frequency domain are presented, such as the time-variant transfer function and the Doppler spread function. For the statistical description of randomly changing time-variant systems autocorrelation functions as well as power spectral densities of the system functions are studied.

## Part III

Deals with Multiple Input Multiple Output (MIMO) systems. First, the input-output relation is derived using matrix notation. We discuss the principle MIMO channel models, such as the time-variant finite impulse response and the i.i.d. Gaussian model. Furthermore, spatial correlations at the transmitter and the receiver are incorporated leading to the Kronecker model. Linear and nonlinear MIMO receivers are investigated in detail, such as the zero-forcing, the minimum mean squared error, and the maximum likelihood receiver. An important question is how many bits per channel use can be transmitted over MIMO channels. This issue is studied together with the maximization of the channel capacity. Next, the principles of spatial prefiltering and space-time encoding are investigated to improve transmission quality and to increase the data rate. In the last chapter, we leave the single-user transmission and consider the MIMO principle for a multitude of users in a network. Various multi-user MIMO schemes for the uplink and downlink are discussed, which can reduce the interference when the users transmit their signals in the same time slots and frequency bands.

## Appendix

In Appendix A a summary on the characterization of random variables and stochastic processes is given.

Appendix B provides an overview on the most important lemmas of linear algebra required for the understanding of some topics of this book.

## Second Edition of the Book

In Part I of the Second Edition, a new chapter deals with block-wise digital signal transmission over channels with finite impulse response (FIR) and the corresponding matrix descriptions are derived. As an alternative to Nyquist impulses for reduction of intersymbol interference, block-wise transmission with and without cyclic prefixes is studied. An introduction of the Discrete Fourier Transform (DFT) enables equalization in the DFT domain. On top of that the Second Edition is enhanced by a new chapter on Multicarrier Modulation and Orthogonal Frequency Division Multiplexing (OFDM). Part II contains more examples and diagrams on time-variant systems. In several other parts of the book an increased number of examples, tables, graphs, and figures illustrates the material. Finally, a nomenclature list is provided and extended by a summary of formulas, transforms, and important definitions used throughout this book.



## Acknowledgments

The author is indebted to Prof. Stephan ten Brink for providing the facilities of the Institute of Telecommunications at the University of Stuttgart and to Mrs. Agnes Schoen-Abiry for drawing a lot of figures.

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