Cover-Page/Mark-Setting for Project Assignment ANALYSIS AND SIMULATION OF A QPSK SYSTEM EQ2310 Digital Communications

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Student 1: Hugo Lime 19920707-4635				
Student 2: Baptiste Cavarec - #				
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Abstract

In this report, we investigate the influence of mutlitple parameters in a simulated QPSK radio communication channel. First, we show how the bit error rate varies with the signal-to-noise ratio in a perfectly synchronized environment. Then we study how synchronization and phase estimation modify the BER and how theses algorithms behave under AWGN.

1 Ideal Bit Error Rate (BER) performances

1.1 Exact expression

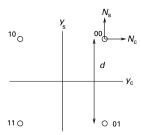


Figure 1: Gray coded bitmap from [1]

The exact expression of the BER can easily be derived as:

$$p_b = Q(\sqrt{\frac{2E_b}{N_0}})\tag{1}$$

1.2 Simulation results and comparison

In order to simulate a environment with perfect synchronization, we forced the value of t_{samp} which equals to the samples coming from the guards bits and the delay caused by the matched filter. The phase offset is set to 0. As shown in Figure 2, the simulated values are very similar

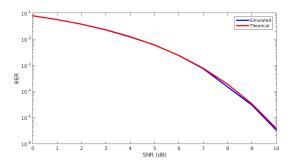


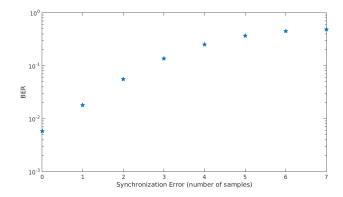
Figure 2: BER comparison

to the theorical ones. However, for very high SNR, the BER is so small that our testing set (here 300 blocks of 1000 data bits) is not large enough to be relevant.

2 Non-ideal synchronization and phase estimation

2.1 Influence of time and phase estimation on the BER

For a SNR of 5dB, we created errors in synchronization and phase estimation to see how it modifies the BER.



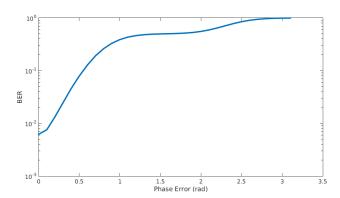


Figure 3: BER with synchronization errors

Figure 4: BER with phase errors

Figure 3 shows that one single error in the synchronization is dramatic, the BER is multiplyed by 2. With a shift of 2 samples, the BER is 10 times higher.

Figure 4 shows that phase estimation can greatly increase the BER. However, for small error (typically less than 0.1 rad) the loss is acceptable. To better understand the influence of a phase error on the BER, we can look at the constellation.

2.2 Synchronization and phase estimation under AWGN

We implemented the recommanded synchronization algorithm (maximum cross-correlation between the filtered signal and a copy of the training sequence). Figure 5 shows that this algorithm is very resilient to the noise, for a reasonable SNR errors never occur. However, one should take into account that we used a small window (around 6 symbols) centered on the real value. In a real environment we would need another system to position the window (like a power detector).

In order to estimate the phase, we searched for the angle that would minimize the norm of the difference between the rotated signal and the training sequence. We can see on Figure 5 that the estimate is quite sensible to noise. But, as stated before, a phase error of less than 0.1 rad has a resonable effect on the BER.

It could be improved by using another algorithm, or a phase-locked loop.

2.3 Influence of

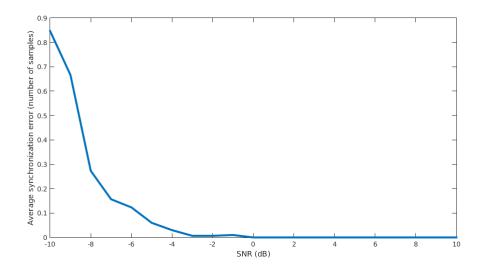


Figure 5: time estimation error $\,$

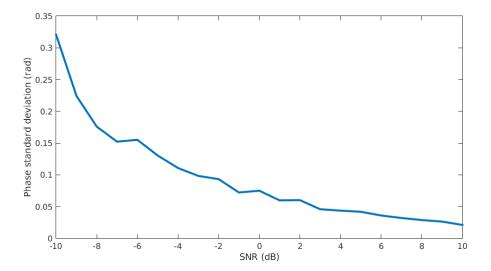


Figure 6: Phase estimation error

Conclusion

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References

[1] Upamanyu Madhow. Fundamentals of Digital Communications. Cambridge University Press, 2008.

Matlab Code

1 Detect.m

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