

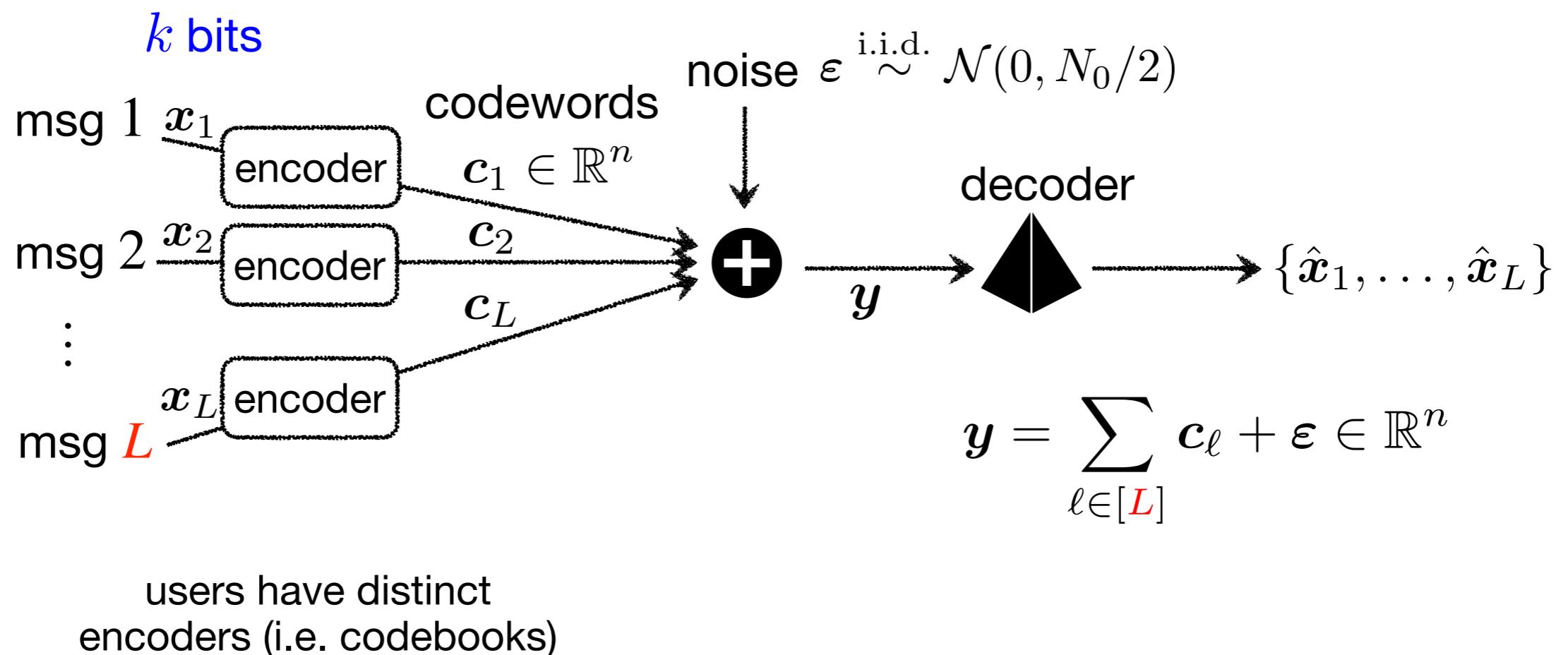
Communication over many-user channels via Approximate Message Passing

Xiaoqi (Shirley) Liu

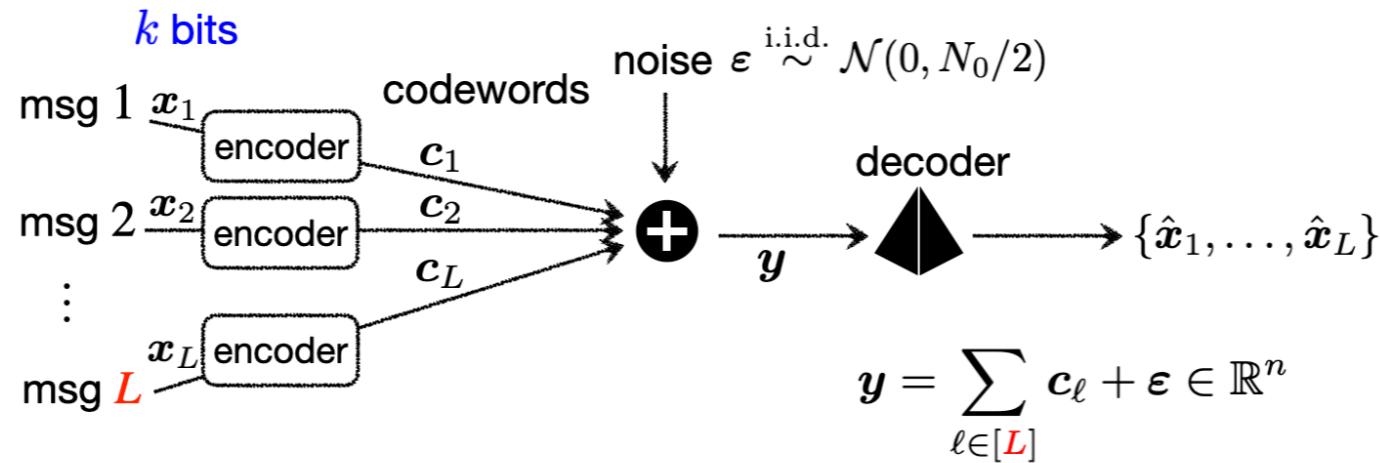
Joint work with Ramji Venkataramanan,
Pablo Pascual Cobo, Kuan Hsieh

Information Theory Seminar, Cambridge, 22 May 2024

Gaussian multiple-access channel (GMAC)



Many-user setting



- user density $\mu := L/n$
- fixed user payload k bits
- energy-per-bit constraint: $\|\mathbf{c}_\ell\|_2^2 \leq E := E_b k$
- Per-user probability of error, $\text{PUPE} = \frac{1}{L} \sum_{\ell=1}^L \mathbb{P}(\hat{x}_\ell \neq x_\ell)$

Linear scaling regime: $L, n \rightarrow \infty$ with $\mu := L/n$ fixed

Given $\mu = L/n$, what is minimum E_b/N_0 required to achieve a target PUPE?

[Chen, Chen, Guo, '17], [Ravi, Koch '19], [Polyanskiy '17], [Zadik, Polyanskiy, Thrampoulidis '19],
[Polyanskiy, Kowshik '20]



Many-user multiple-access

Previous work [Polyanskiy '17], [Zadik, Polyanskiy, Thrampoulidis '19], [Polyanskiy, Kowshik '20]

What can be achieved **without memory or computational** constraints?

random Gaussian codebooks + maximum-likelihood decoding

This talk [Hsieh, Rush, Venkataraman '22] [Liu, Hsieh, Venkataraman '24]

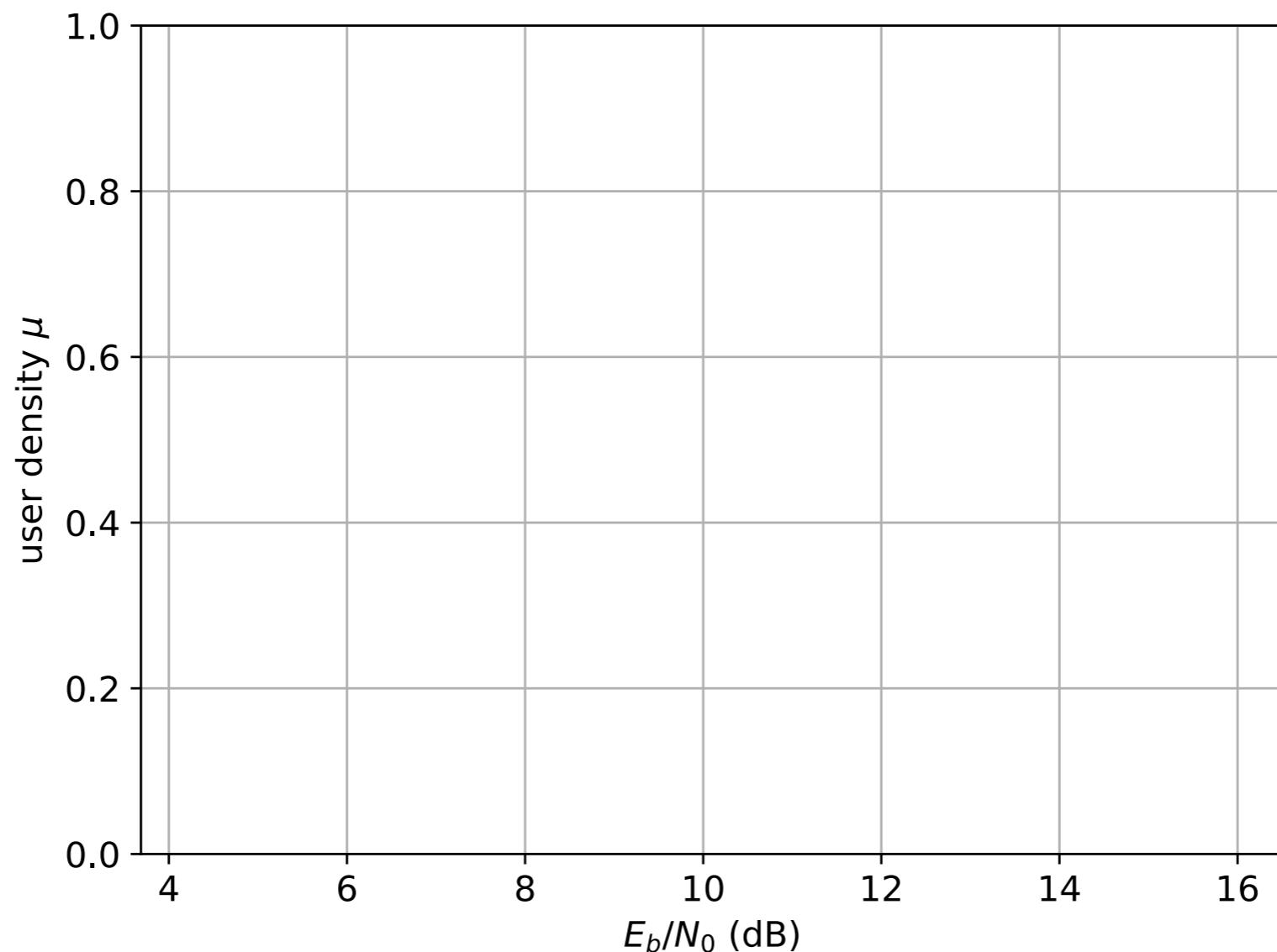
What can be achieved with **efficient** coding schemes?

random linear coding + Approximate Message Passing (AMP) decoding

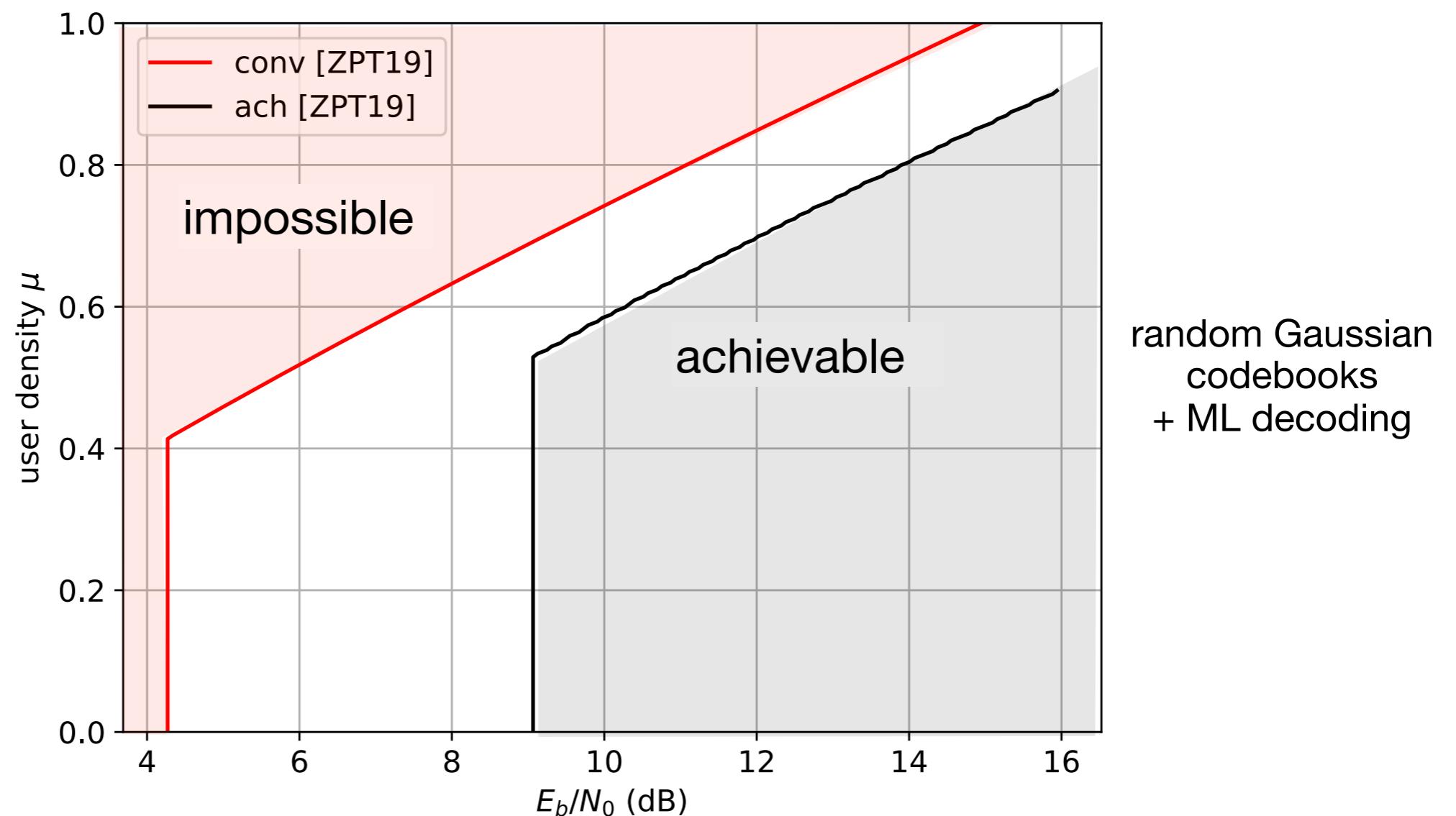
Many-user multiple-access with random user activity (last 5mins of talk)

[Liu, Cobo, Venkataraman '24]

User payload $k = 4$ bits, target PUPE $\leq 10^{-3}$



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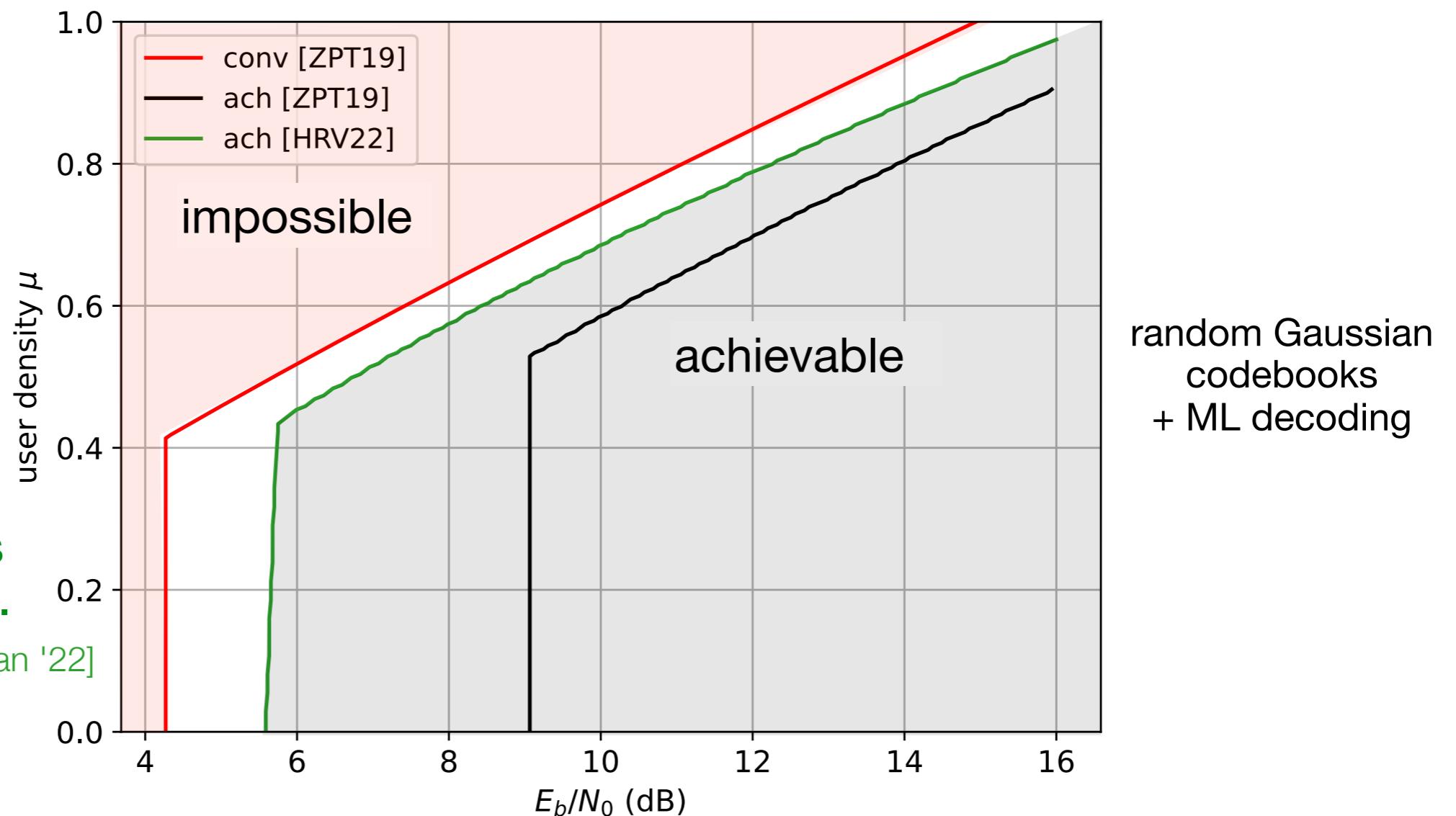


[Zadik, Polyanskiy, Thrampoulidis '19]

User payload $k = 4$ bits, target PUPE $\leq 10^{-3}$

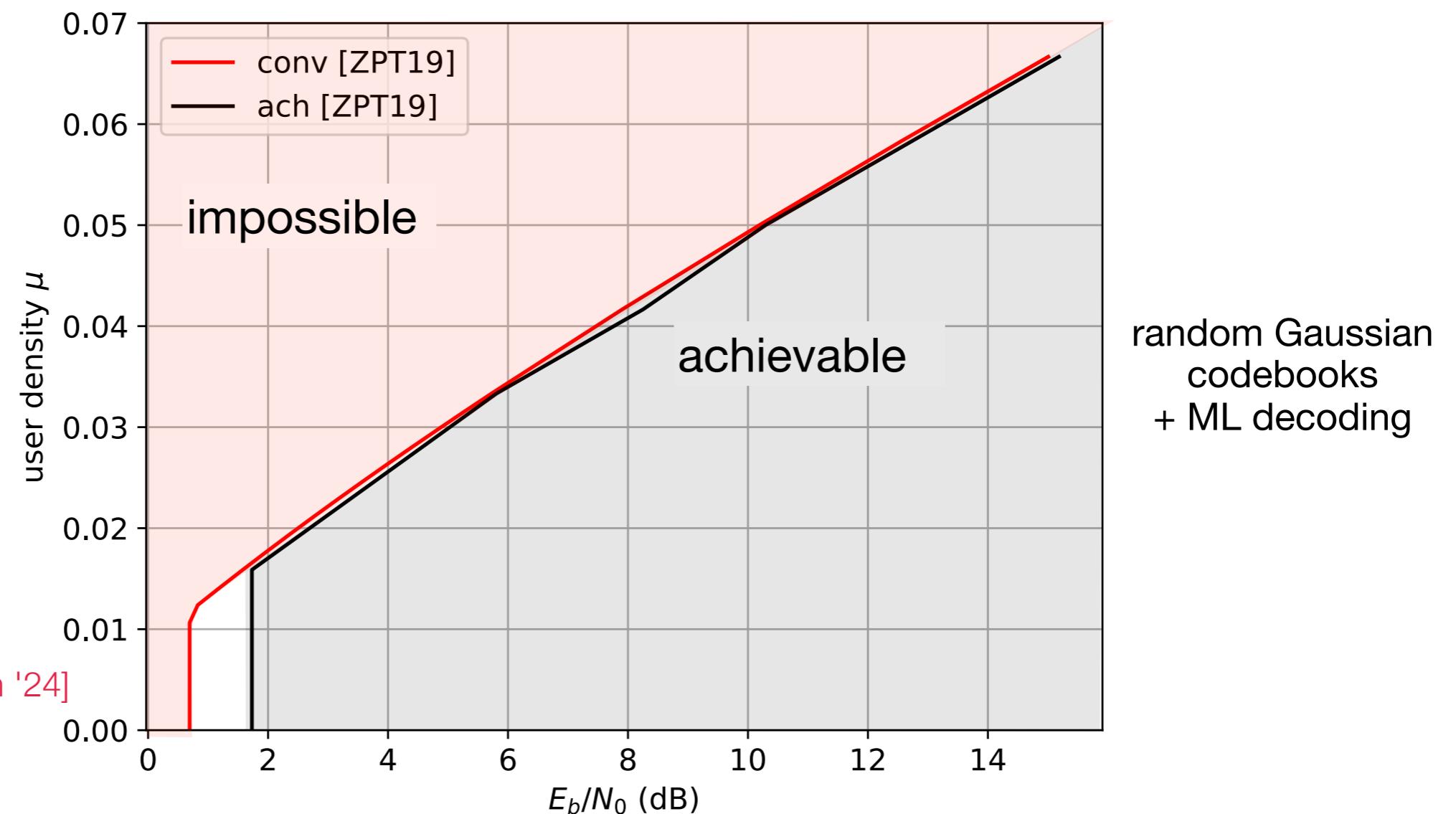
Near-optimal
practical schemes
for small payloads.

[Hsieh, Rush, Venkataraman '22]



[Zadik, Polyanskiy, Thrampoulidis '19]

User payload $k = 60$ bits, target PUPE $\leq 10^{-3}$



Practical
schemes for
larger payloads?

[Liu, Hsieh, Venkataraman '24]

[Zadik, Polyanskiy, Thrampoulidis '19]



Practical schemes for small payloads.

[Hsieh, Rush, Venkataraman '22]

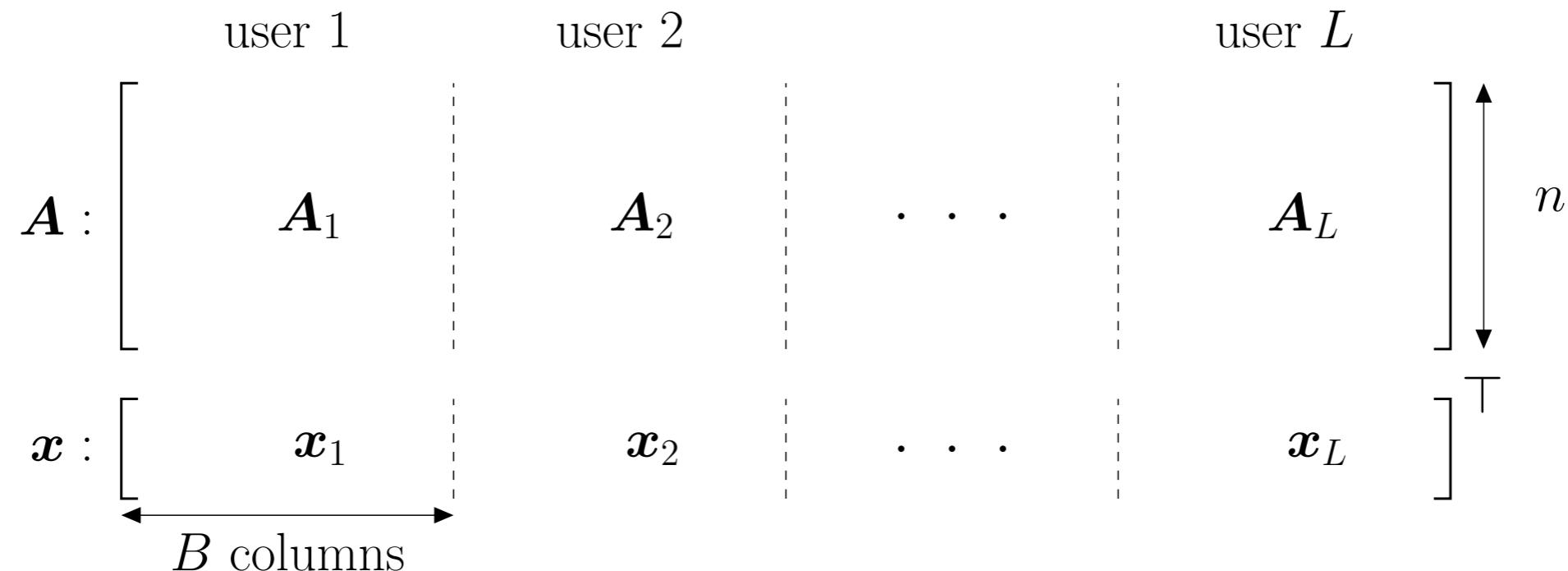
Limitations.

Practical schemes for larger payloads?

[Liu, Hsieh, Venkataraman '24]

Random linear coding

[Hsieh, Rush, Venkataraman '22]

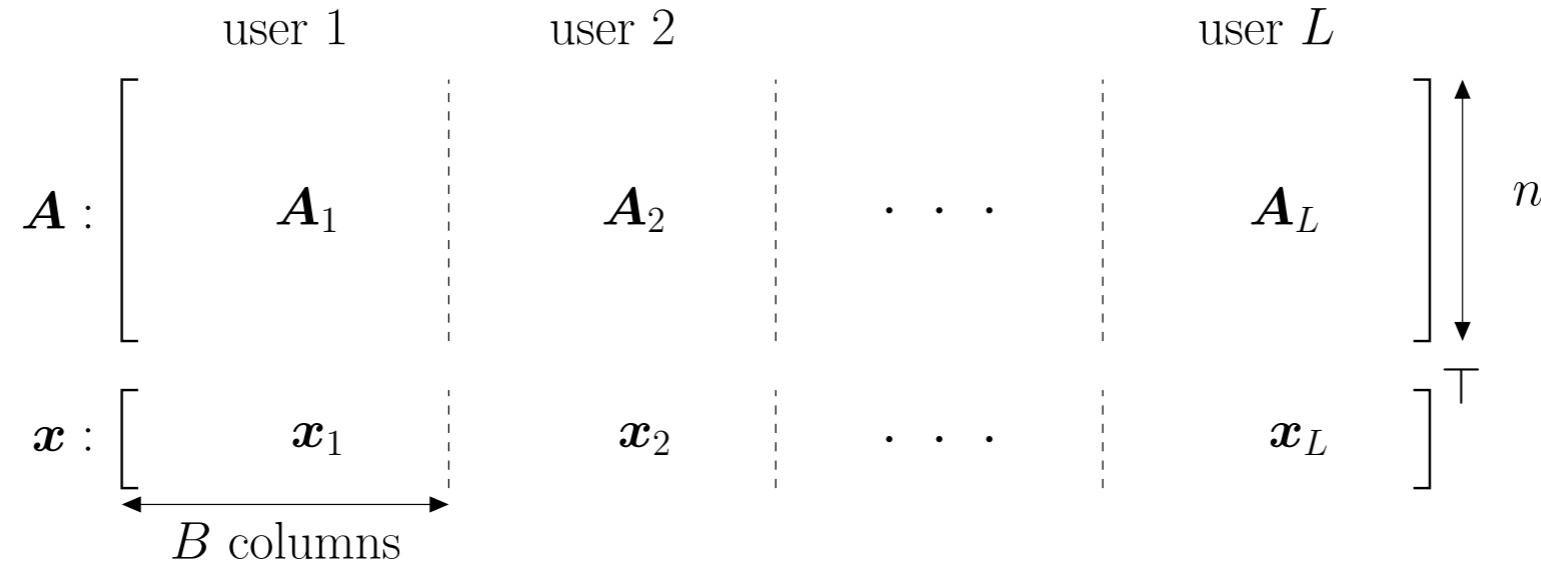


- Random matrices: $A_\ell \in \mathbb{R}^{n \times B}$
- User ℓ 's **k bits** payload encoded in $x_\ell \in \mathbb{R}^B \sim p_{\bar{x}}$
e.g. $B = 2^k$, each x_ℓ has a single non-zero entry $= \sqrt{E}$

Each user $\ell \in [L]$ creates codeword $c_\ell = A_\ell x_\ell \in \mathbb{R}^n$

Channel output: $y = \sum_{\ell \in [L]} A_\ell x_\ell + \epsilon = Ax + \epsilon$

Random linear coding

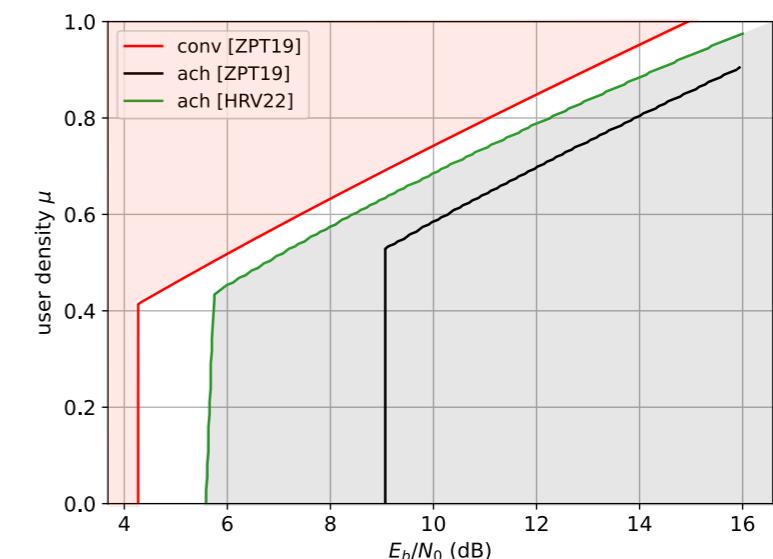


$$\mathbf{y} = \sum_{\ell \in [L]} \mathbf{A}_\ell \mathbf{x}_\ell + \boldsymbol{\varepsilon} = \mathbf{Ax} + \boldsymbol{\varepsilon}$$

Approximate Message Passing (AMP) decoding

Given \mathbf{y} and \mathbf{A} , recover \mathbf{x}

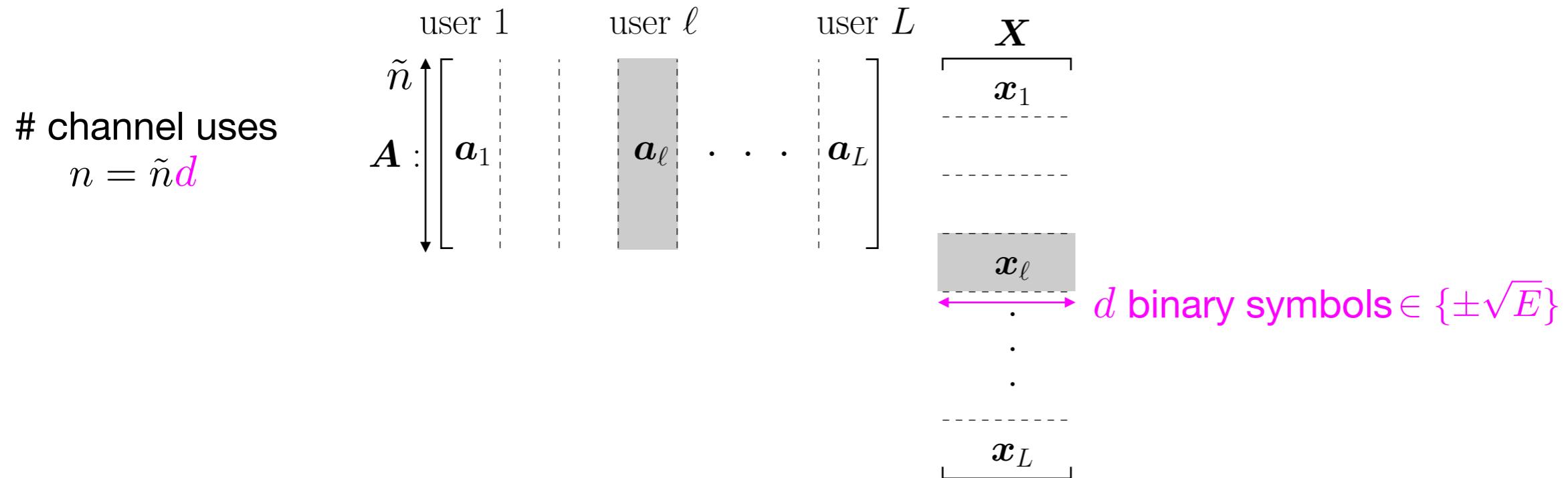
(more on this later)



Take-away: Band-diagonal random design matrix \mathbf{A} + AMP decoding gives asymptotic near-optimal error performance for small k

Limitations: memory and computational costs both $\propto 2^k$

Random binary-CDMA + outer code



For each user $\ell \in [L]$:

- Random signature sequence: $\mathbf{a}_\ell \in \mathbb{R}^{\tilde{n}}$
- Outer (k, d) linear code: k bits payload encoded in $\mathbf{x}_\ell \in \{\pm\sqrt{E}\}^d$ (e.g. LDPC code)

Channel output: $\mathbf{Y} = \sum_{\ell \in [L]} \mathbf{a}_\ell \mathbf{x}_\ell + \mathbf{\mathcal{E}} = \mathbf{AX} + \mathbf{\mathcal{E}} \in \mathbb{R}^{\tilde{n} \times d}$

Benefits: Memory and computational costs linear in k

Challenge: efficiently decode outer code?

AMP decoder for i.i.d. Gaussian A

Given $\mathbf{Y} = \mathbf{AX} + \mathcal{E} \in \mathbb{R}^{\tilde{n} \times d}$ and \mathbf{A} , recover \mathbf{X}

Start with initialiser $\mathbf{X}^0 = \mathbf{0}$, for $t \geq 1$

$$\mathbf{Z}^t = \mathbf{Y} - \mathbf{AX}^t + \boxed{\frac{1}{\tilde{n}} \mathbf{Z}^{t-1} \left[\sum_{\ell \in [L]} \eta'_{t-1}(\mathbf{s}_{\ell}^{t-1}) \right]^{\top}}$$

debias term

effective observation

$$\mathbf{X}^{t+1} = \eta_t(\mathbf{S}^t), \quad \mathbf{S}^t = \mathbf{A}^{\top} \mathbf{Z}^t + \mathbf{X}^t$$

End with hard decision estimate $\hat{\mathbf{X}}^{t+1} = h_t(\mathbf{S}^t)$

- $\eta_t : \mathbb{R}^d \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^d$ is Lipschitz and applies **row-wise** to matrix inputs
 - debias term ensures empirical dist. of rows of $(\mathbf{S}^t - \mathbf{X}) \stackrel{d}{=} \mathbf{g}^t \sim \mathcal{N}(\mathbf{0}, \Sigma^t)$
 - η_t estimates \mathbf{X} from observation in Gaussian noise
- can be
deterministically
computed

AMP decoder

$$\mathbf{Z}^t = \mathbf{Y} - \mathbf{A}\mathbf{X}^t + \frac{1}{\tilde{n}}\mathbf{Z}^{t-1} \left[\sum_{\ell \in [L]} \eta'_{t-1}(\mathbf{s}_\ell^{t-1}) \right]^\top$$

$$\mathbf{X}^{t+1} = \eta_t(\mathbf{S}^t), \quad \mathbf{S}^t = \mathbf{A}^\top \mathbf{Z}^t + \mathbf{X}^t \quad (\mathbf{s}_\ell^t - \mathbf{x}_\ell) \stackrel{d}{=} \mathbf{g}^t \sim \mathcal{N}(\mathbf{0}, \Sigma^t)$$

Hard decision estimate: $\hat{\mathbf{X}}^{t+1} = h_t(\mathbf{S}^t)$

Theorem [Liu, Hsieh, Venkataraman '24]

For $\mathbf{A} \stackrel{\text{i.i.d.}}{\sim} \mathcal{N}(0, 1/\tilde{n})$, let η_1, \dots, η_t be Lipschitz, then

Asymp. user error rate (UER)

$$\frac{1}{L} \sum_{\ell=1}^L \mathbb{1}\{\hat{\mathbf{x}}_\ell^{t+1} \neq \mathbf{x}_\ell\}$$

Asymp. bit error rate (BER)

$$\frac{1}{Ld} \sum_{\ell=1}^L \sum_{i=1}^d \mathbb{1}\{\hat{x}_{\ell,i}^{t+1} \neq x_{\ell,i}\}$$

AMP decoder

$$\mathbf{Z}^t = \mathbf{Y} - \mathbf{A}\mathbf{X}^t + \frac{1}{\tilde{n}}\mathbf{Z}^{t-1} \left[\sum_{\ell \in [L]} \eta'_{t-1}(\mathbf{s}_\ell^{t-1}) \right]^\top$$

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Asymp. user error rate (UER)

$$\lim_{L \rightarrow \infty} \frac{1}{L} \sum_{\ell=1}^L \mathbb{1}\{\hat{\mathbf{x}}_\ell^{t+1} \neq \mathbf{x}_\ell\} = \boxed{\mathbb{P}(h_t(\bar{\mathbf{x}} + \mathbf{g}^t) \neq \bar{\mathbf{x}})}$$

deterministic

Asymp. bit error rate (BER)

$$\lim_{L \rightarrow \infty} \frac{1}{Ld} \sum_{\ell=1}^L \sum_{i=1}^d \mathbb{1}\{\hat{x}_{\ell,i}^{t+1} \neq x_{\ell,i}\} = \boxed{\frac{1}{d} \sum_{i=1}^d \mathbb{P}([h_t(\bar{\mathbf{x}} + \mathbf{g}^t)]_i \neq \bar{x}_i)}.$$

- $\bar{\mathbf{x}} \in \{\pm \sqrt{E}\}^d$ uniformly distributed among 2^k codewords
- $\mathbf{g}^t \in \mathbb{R}^d \sim \mathcal{N}(\mathbf{0}, \Sigma^t)$ independent of $\bar{\mathbf{x}}$

AMP decoder

$$\mathbf{Z}^t = \mathbf{Y} - \mathbf{A}\mathbf{X}^t + \frac{1}{\tilde{n}}\mathbf{Z}^{t-1} \left[\sum_{\ell \in [L]} \eta'_{t-1}(\mathbf{s}_\ell^{t-1}) \right]^\top$$

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Hard decision estimate: $\hat{\mathbf{X}}^{t+1} = h_t(\mathbf{S}^t)$

How to choose denoiser $\eta_t : \mathbb{R}^d \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^d$?

- Bayes-optimal

computational cost

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbf{x}_\ell^{t+1} &= \eta_t(\mathbf{s}_\ell^t) = \mathbb{E} [\bar{\mathbf{x}} \mid \bar{\mathbf{x}} + \mathbf{g}^t = \mathbf{s}_\ell^t] \\ &= \sum_{\mathbf{x}'} \mathbf{x}' \cdot \frac{\exp(-\frac{1}{2}(\mathbf{x}' - 2\mathbf{s}_\ell^t)^\top (\Sigma^t)^{-1} \mathbf{x}')}{\sum_{\tilde{\mathbf{x}'}} \exp(-\frac{1}{2}(\tilde{\mathbf{x}'} - 2\mathbf{s}_\ell^t)^\top (\Sigma^t)^{-1} \tilde{\mathbf{x}'})} \end{aligned} \quad O(2^k d^3)$$

- marginal-MMSE

$$\mathbf{x}_\ell^{t+1} = \eta_t(\mathbf{s}_\ell^t) = \begin{bmatrix} \mathbb{E}[\bar{x}_1 \mid \bar{x}_1 + g_1^t = s_{\ell,1}^t] \\ \vdots \\ \mathbb{E}[\bar{x}_d \mid \bar{x}_d + g_d^t = s_{\ell,d}^t] \end{bmatrix} \quad O(d)$$

- Belief Propagation (BP) [Amalladine et al. '22], [Ebert et al. '23]

$$\mathbf{x}_\ell^{t+1} = \eta_t(\mathbf{s}_\ell^t) \approx \begin{bmatrix} \mathbb{E}[\bar{x}_1 \mid \bar{x}_1 + g_1^t = s_{\ell,1}^t, \text{ parities involving } \bar{x}_1 \text{ satisfied}] \\ \vdots \\ \mathbb{E}[\bar{x}_d \mid \bar{x}_d + g_d^t = s_{\ell,d}^t, \text{ parities involving } \bar{x}_d \text{ satisfied}] \end{bmatrix} \quad O(d)$$

AMP decoder

$$\mathbf{Z}^t = \mathbf{Y} - \mathbf{A}\mathbf{X}^t + \boxed{\frac{1}{\tilde{n}} \mathbf{Z}^{t-1} \left[\sum_{\ell \in [L]} \eta'_{t-1}(\mathbf{s}_\ell^{t-1}) \right]^\top}$$

debias term

$$\mathbf{X}^{t+1} = \eta_t(\mathbf{S}^t), \quad \mathbf{S}^t = \mathbf{A}^\top \mathbf{Z}^t + \mathbf{X}^t \quad (\mathbf{s}_\ell^t - \mathbf{x}_\ell) \stackrel{d}{=} \mathbf{g}^t \sim \mathcal{N}(\mathbf{0}, \Sigma^t)$$

Hard decision estimate: $\hat{\mathbf{X}}^{t+1} = h_t(\mathbf{S}^t)$

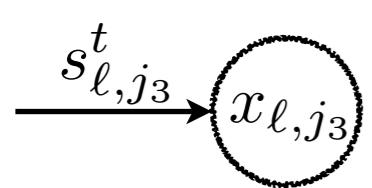
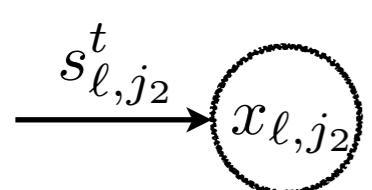
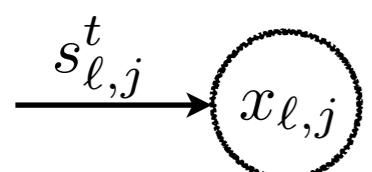
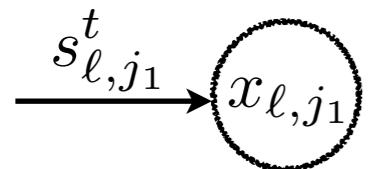
How to compute Jacobian η'_t ?

- **Belief Propagation (BP)** [Amalladine et al. '22], [Ebert et al. '23]

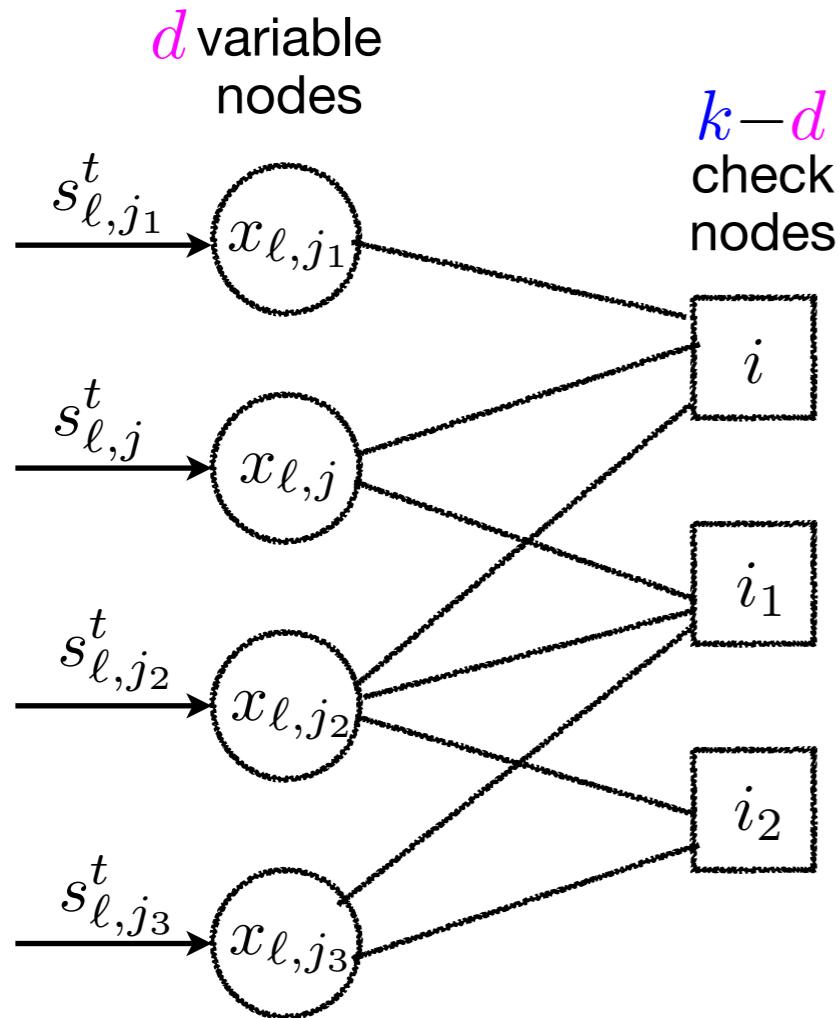
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Belief Propagation (BP) denoiser $x_\ell^{t+1} = \eta_t(s_\ell^t)$

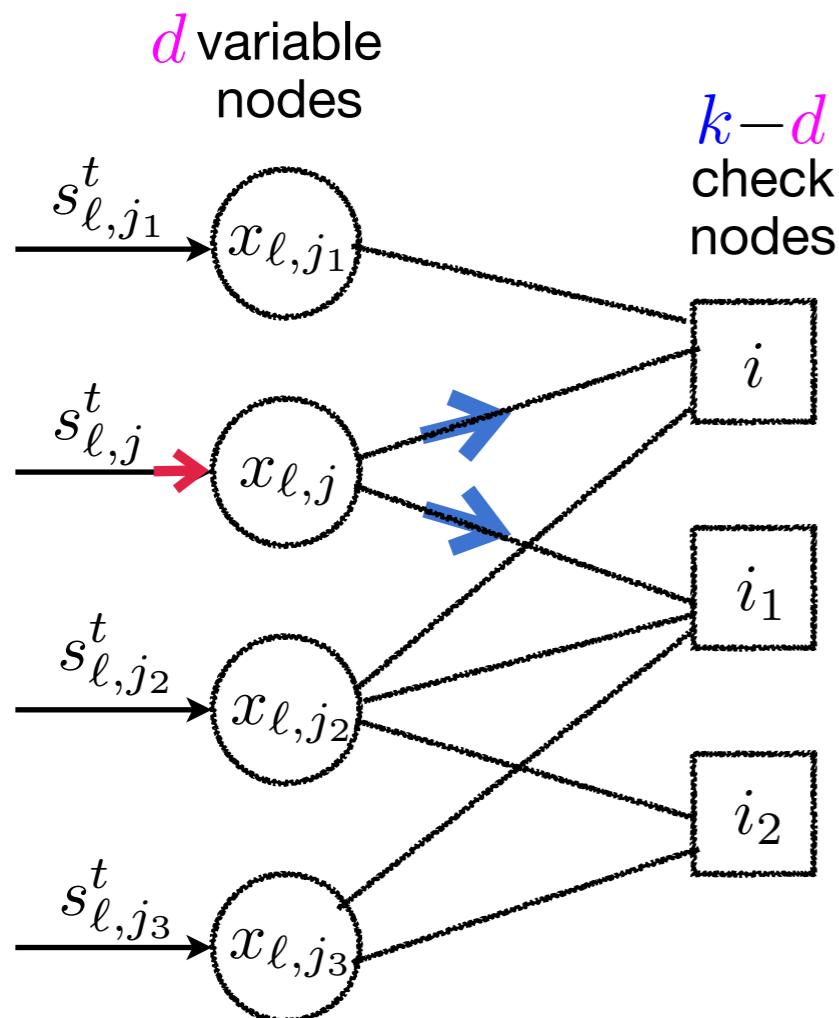
$\textcolor{magenta}{d}$ variable nodes



Belief Propagation (BP) denoiser $x_\ell^{t+1} = \eta_t(s_\ell^t)$



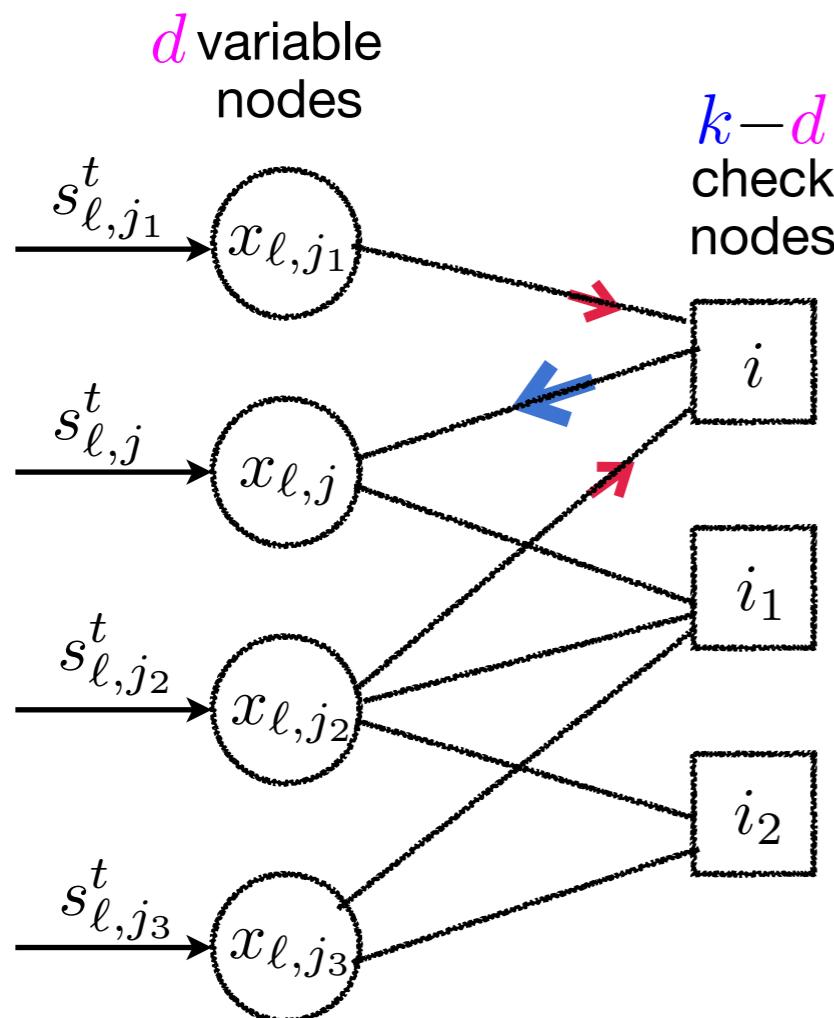
Belief Propagation (BP) denoiser $x_\ell^{t+1} = \eta_t(s_\ell^t)$



1. Initialise:

$$L_{j \rightarrow i}^{(0)} = \ln \left[\frac{p(s_{\ell,j}^t | x_{\ell,j} = +\sqrt{E})}{p(s_{\ell,j}^t | x_{\ell,j} = -\sqrt{E})} \right] = \frac{2\sqrt{E}s_{\ell,j}^t}{\Sigma_{j,j}^t} =: L(s_{\ell,j}^t)$$

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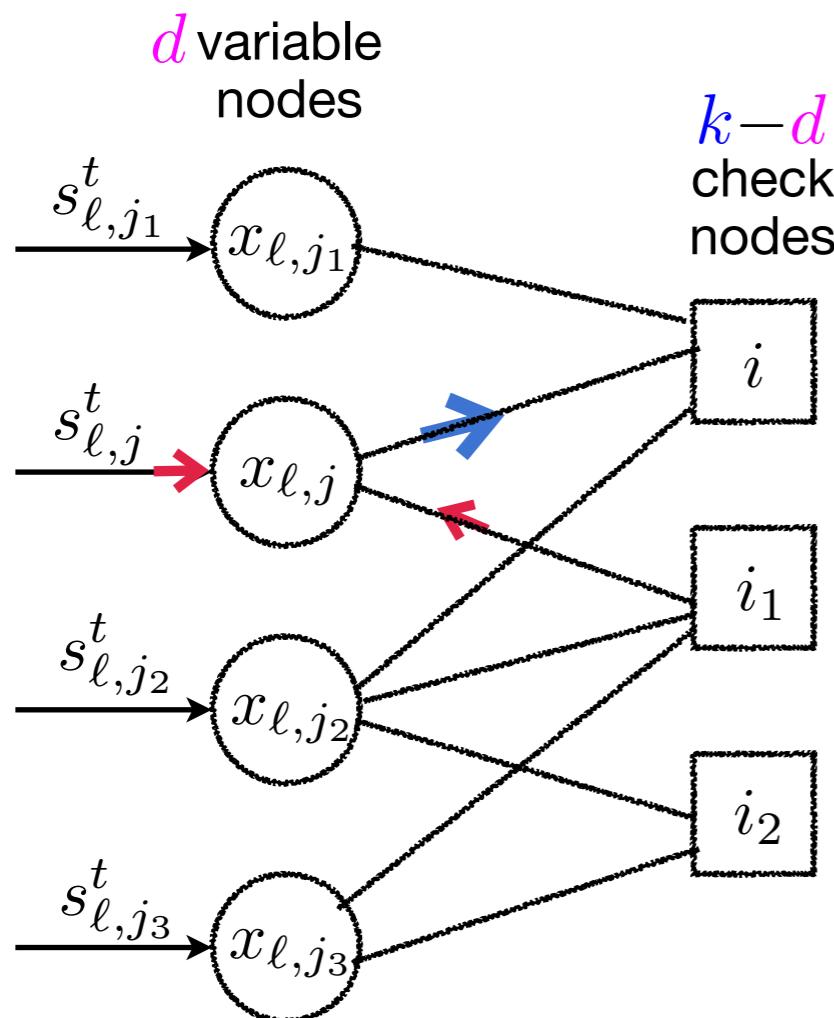
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2. Middle rounds:

$$L_{i \rightarrow j}^{(r)} = 2 \tanh^{-1} \left[\prod_{j' \in N(i) \setminus j} \tanh \left(\frac{1}{2} L_{j' \rightarrow i}^{(r-1)} \right) \right]$$

Belief Propagation (BP) denoiser $x_\ell^{t+1} = \eta_t(s_\ell^t)$



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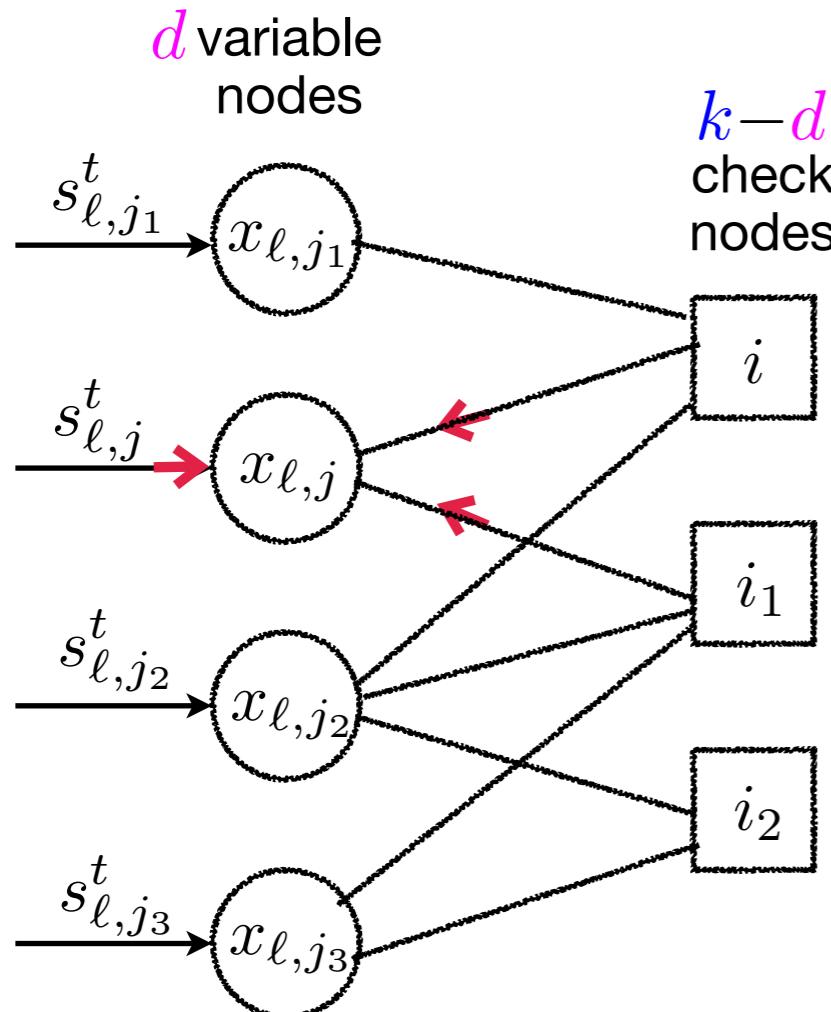
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$$L_{j \rightarrow i}^{(r)} = L(s_{\ell,j}^t) + \sum_{i' \in N(j) \setminus i} L_{i' \rightarrow j}^{(r)}$$

3. Terminate after \mathcal{R} rounds:

$$L_j^{(\mathcal{R})} = L(s_{\ell,j}^t) + \sum_{i \in N(j)} L_{i \rightarrow j}^{(\mathcal{R})}$$

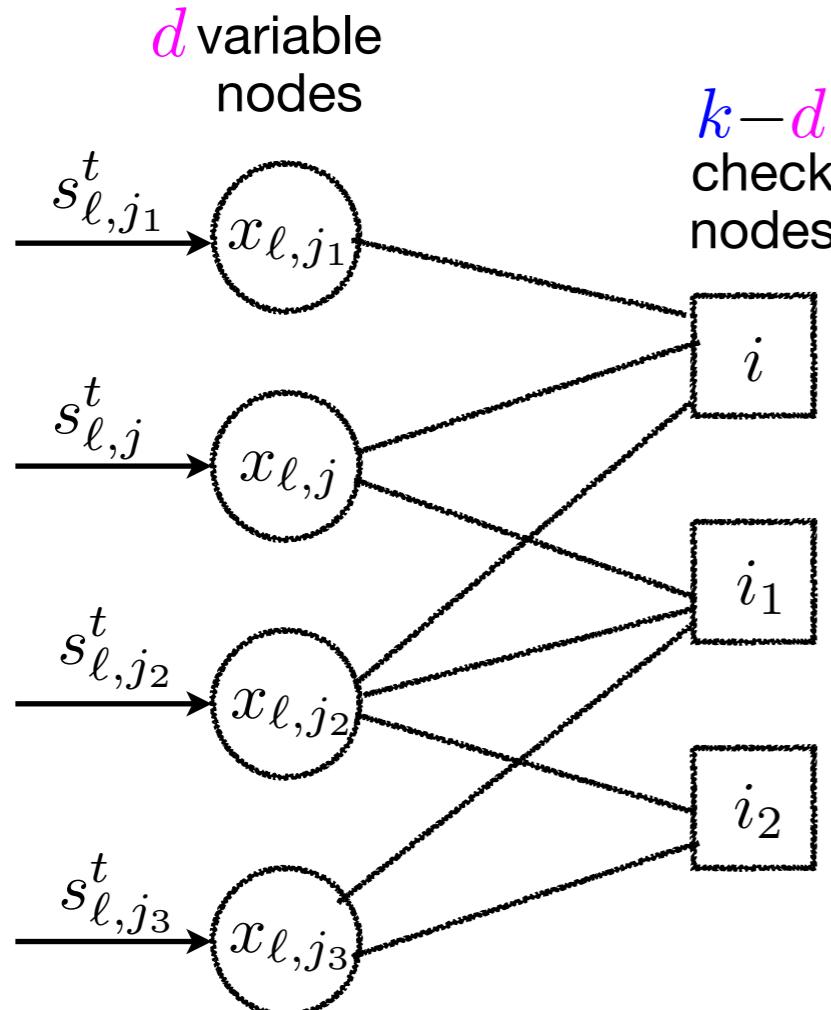
approx. marginal
posterior probabilities

4. Update AMP estimate:

$$[\eta_t(s_\ell^t)]_j = \sqrt{E} \tanh(L_j^{(\mathcal{R})}/2)$$

$$\approx \mathbb{E}[\bar{x}_j | \bar{x}_j + g_j^t = s_{\ell,j}^t, \text{ parities satisfied}]$$

Belief Propagation (BP) denoiser $x_\ell^{t+1} = \eta_t(s_\ell^t)$



Jacobian has closed form expression

when $\mathcal{R} <$ girth of bipartite graph!

[Amalladine et al. '22], [Ebert et al. '23]

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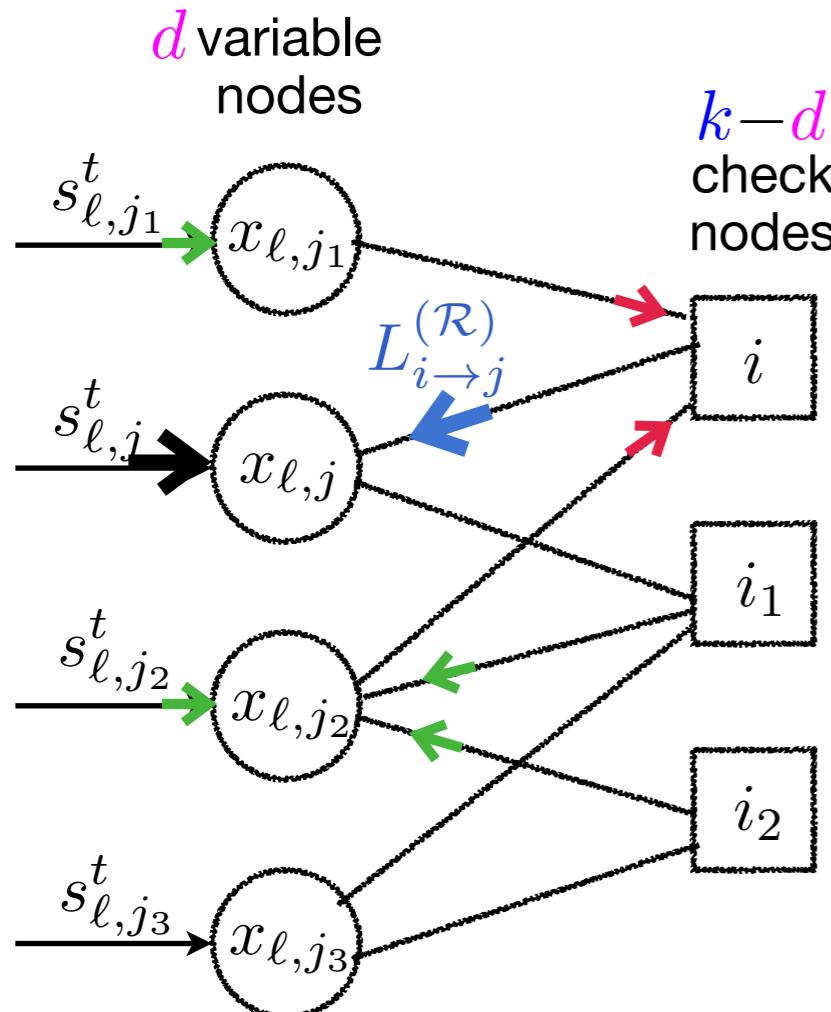
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Theorem for i.i.d. Gaussian A

[Liu, Hsieh, Venkataraman '24]

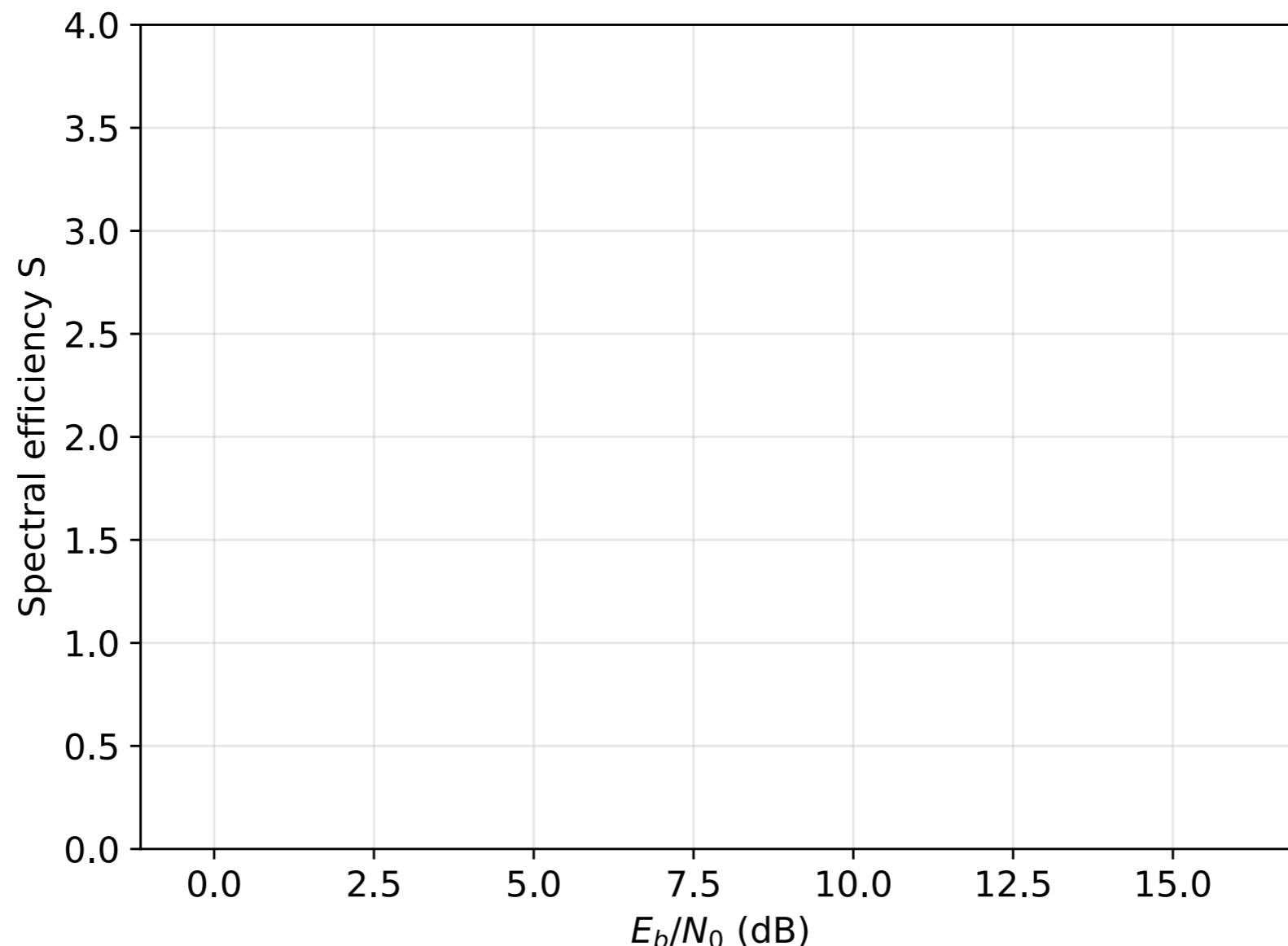
For $A \stackrel{\text{i.i.d.}}{\sim} \mathcal{N}(0, 1/\tilde{n})$, let η_1, \dots, η_t be Lipschitz, then

$$\lim_{L \rightarrow \infty} \text{UER} := \lim_{L \rightarrow \infty} \frac{1}{L} \sum_{\ell=1}^L \mathbb{1}\{\hat{x}_\ell^{t+1} \neq x_\ell\} = \boxed{\mathbb{P}(h_t(\bar{x} + g^t) \neq \bar{x})} \xleftarrow{\text{deterministic}}$$

$$\lim_{L \rightarrow \infty} \text{BER} := \lim_{L \rightarrow \infty} \frac{1}{Ld} \sum_{\ell=1}^L \sum_{i=1}^d \mathbb{1}\{\hat{x}_{\ell,i}^{t+1} \neq x_{\ell,i}\} = \boxed{\frac{1}{d} \sum_{i=1}^d \mathbb{P}([h_t(\bar{x} + g^t)]_i \neq \bar{x}_i)}$$

Applies to AMP with BP denoiser!

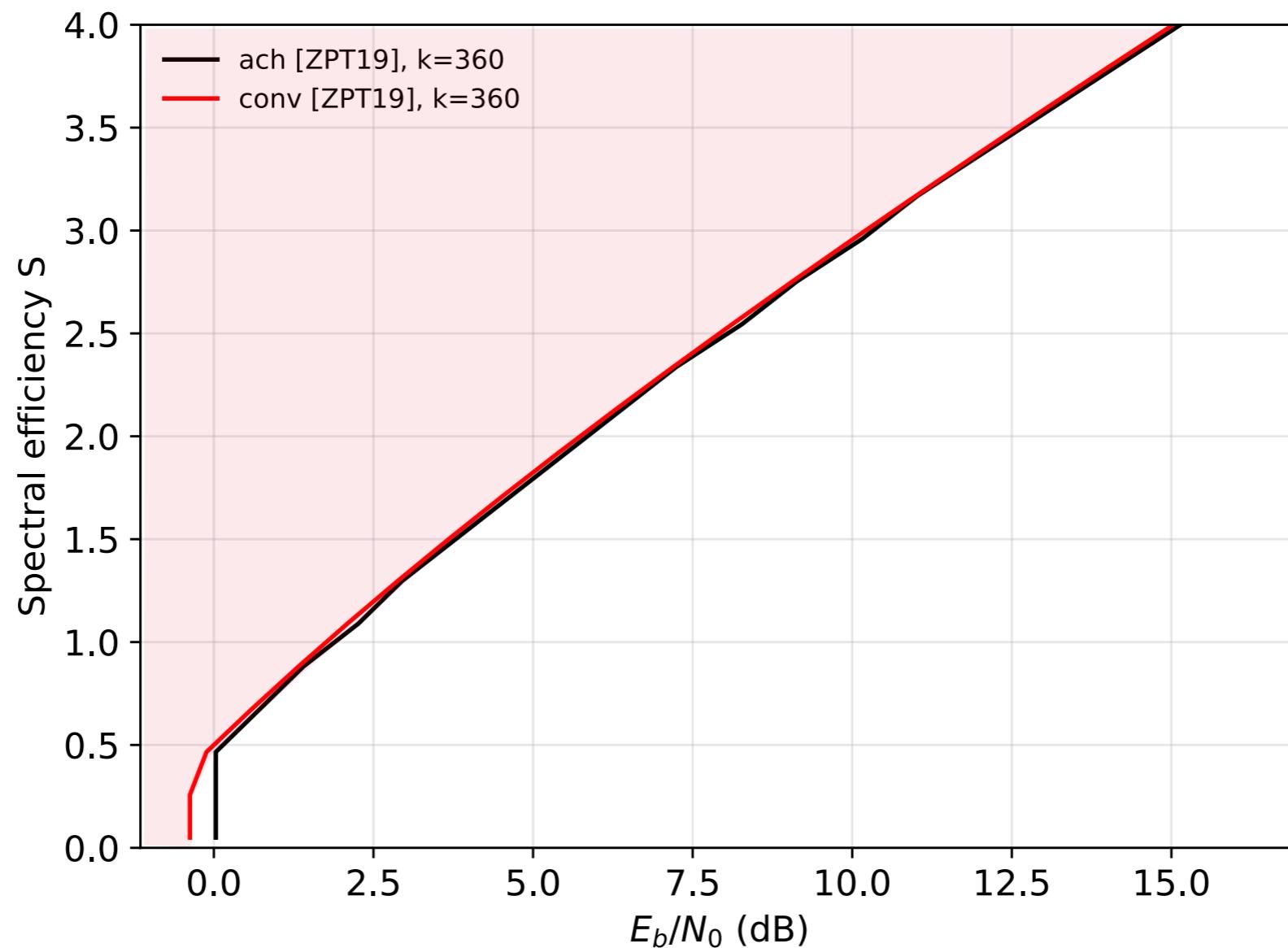
payload 360 bits, target BER = 10^{-4}



Spectral efficiency: total # bits / total # channel uses

$$S = \mu k = Lk/n$$

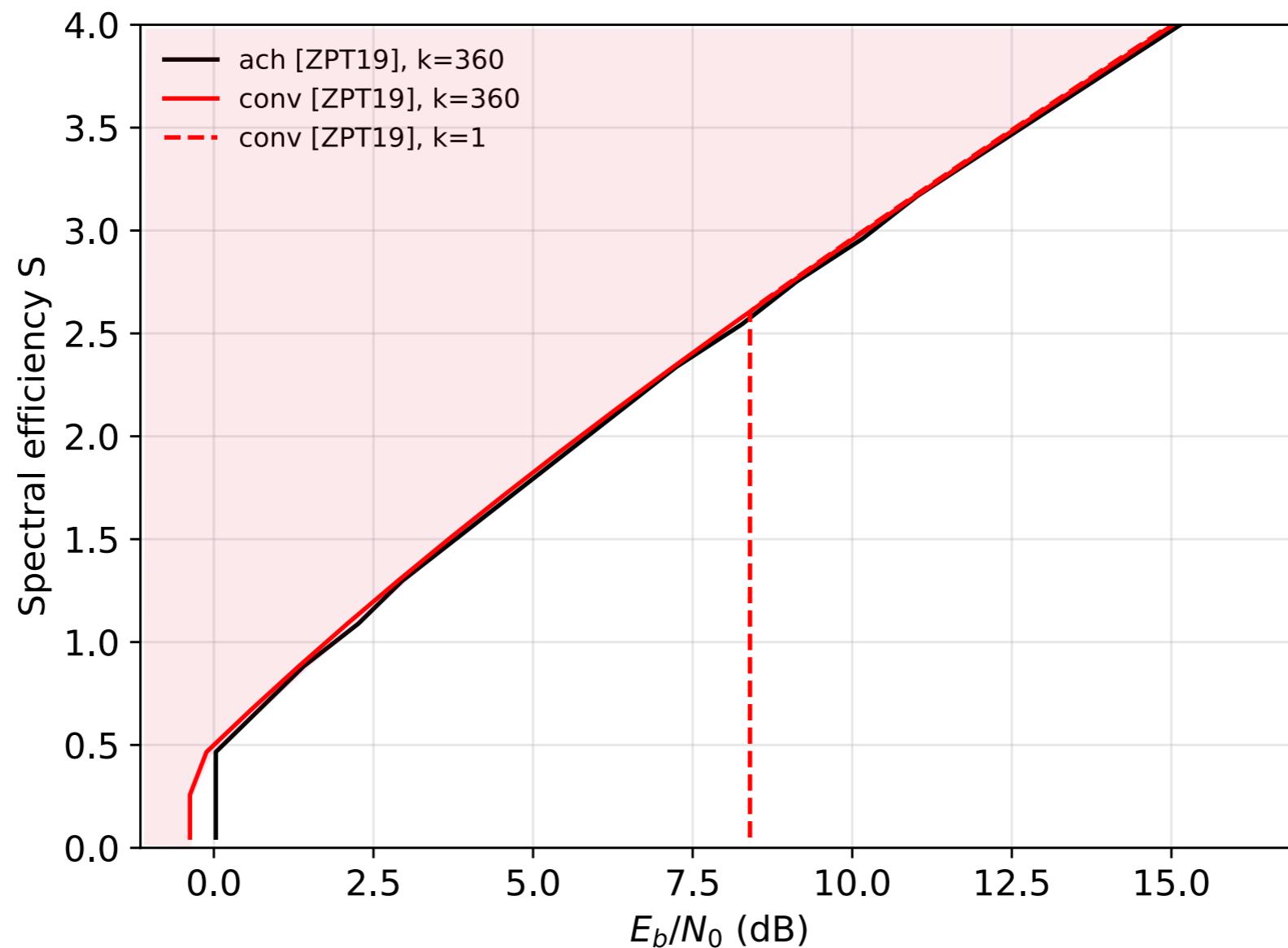
payload 360 bits, target BER = 10^{-4}



Spectral efficiency: total # bits / total # channel uses

$$S = \mu k = Lk/n$$

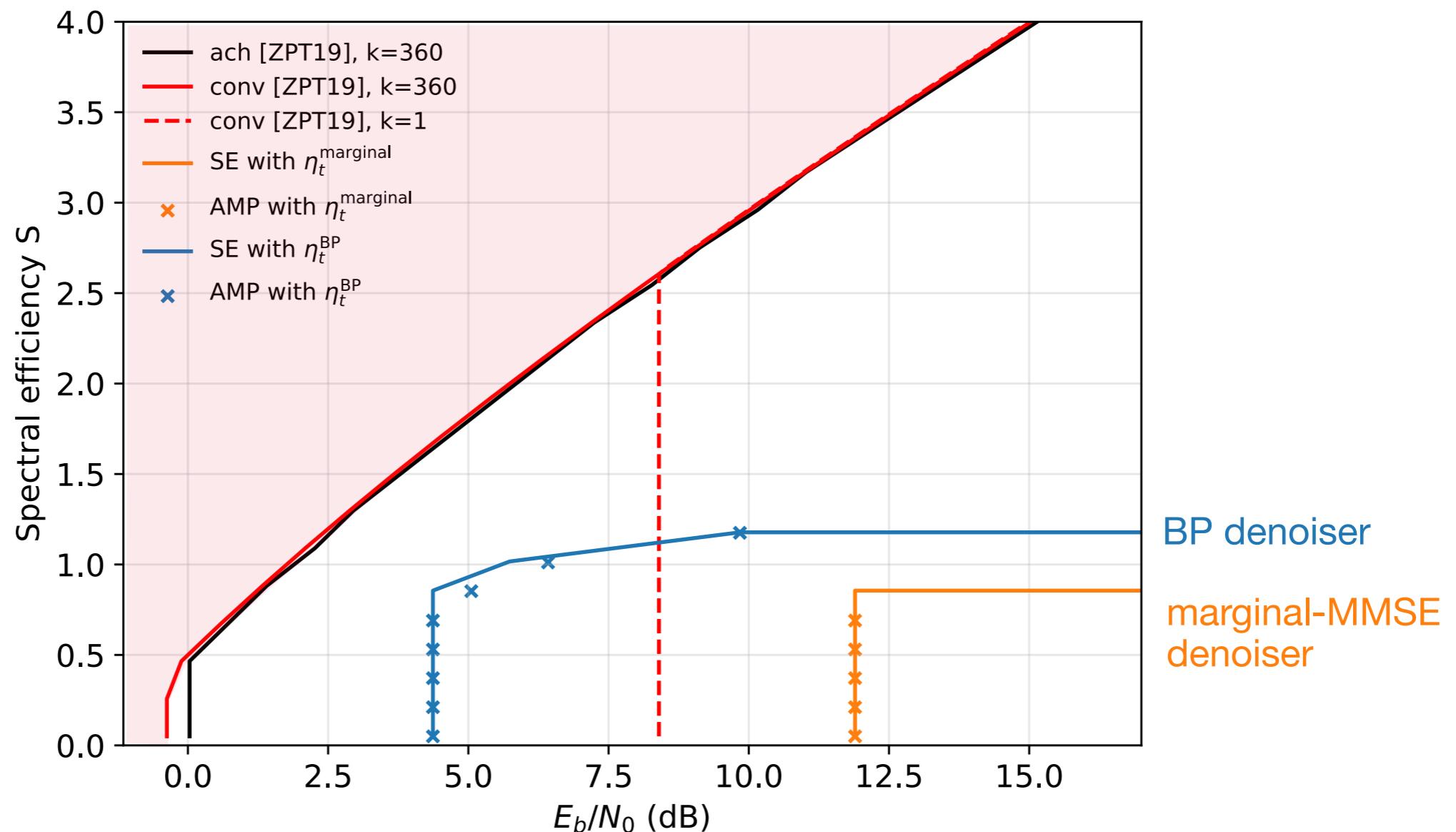
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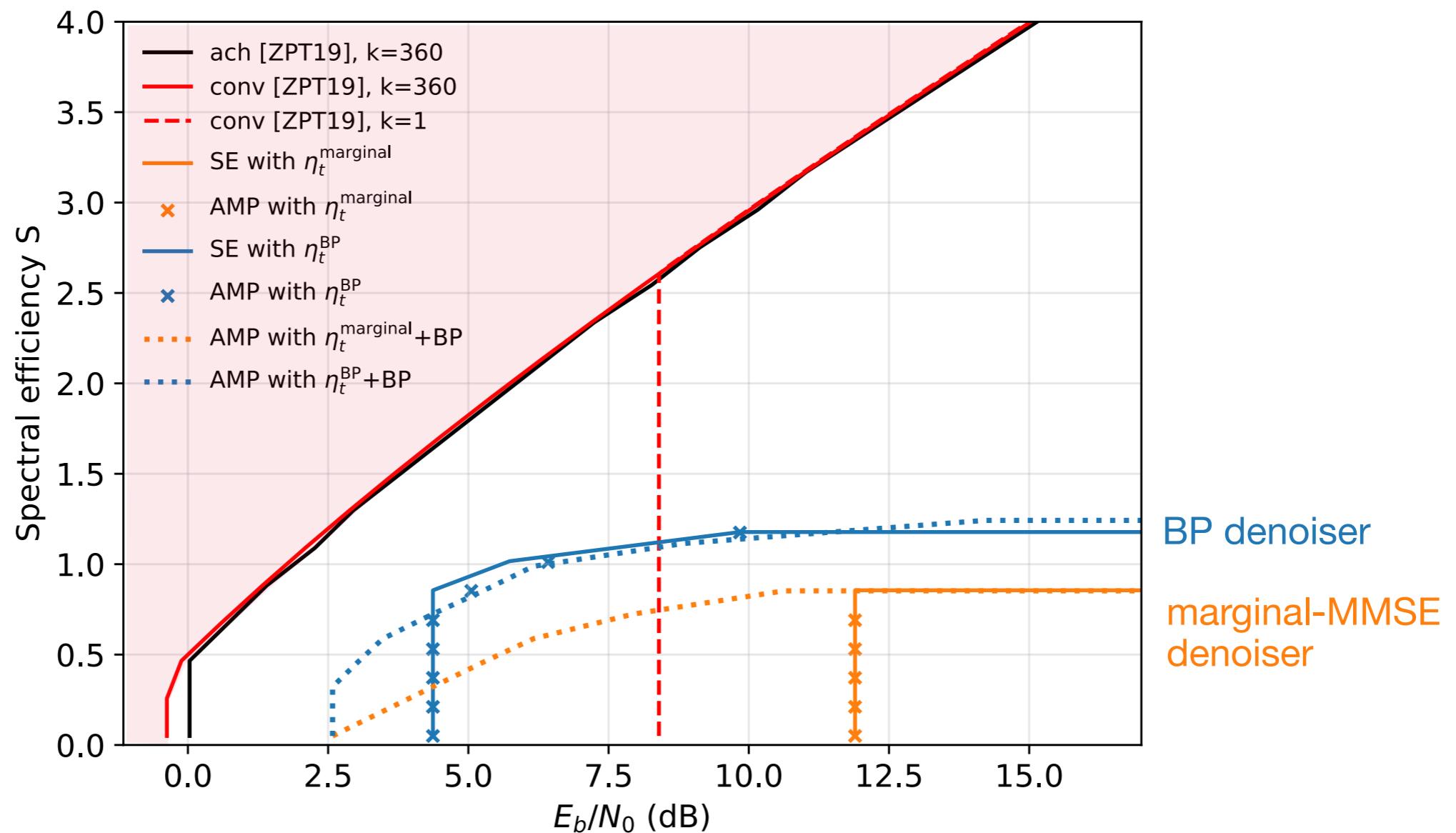
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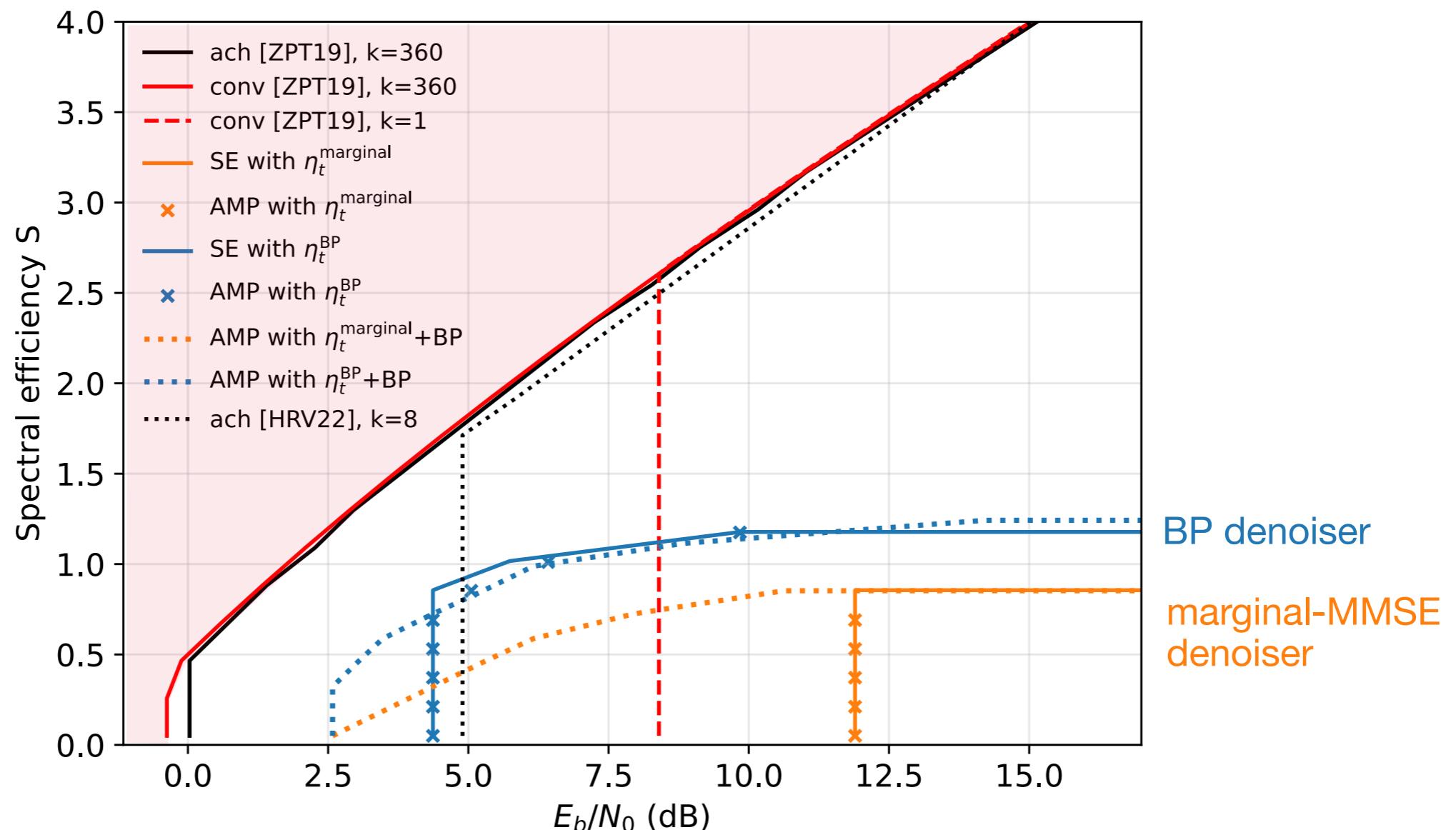
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Spectral efficiency: total # bits / total # channel uses

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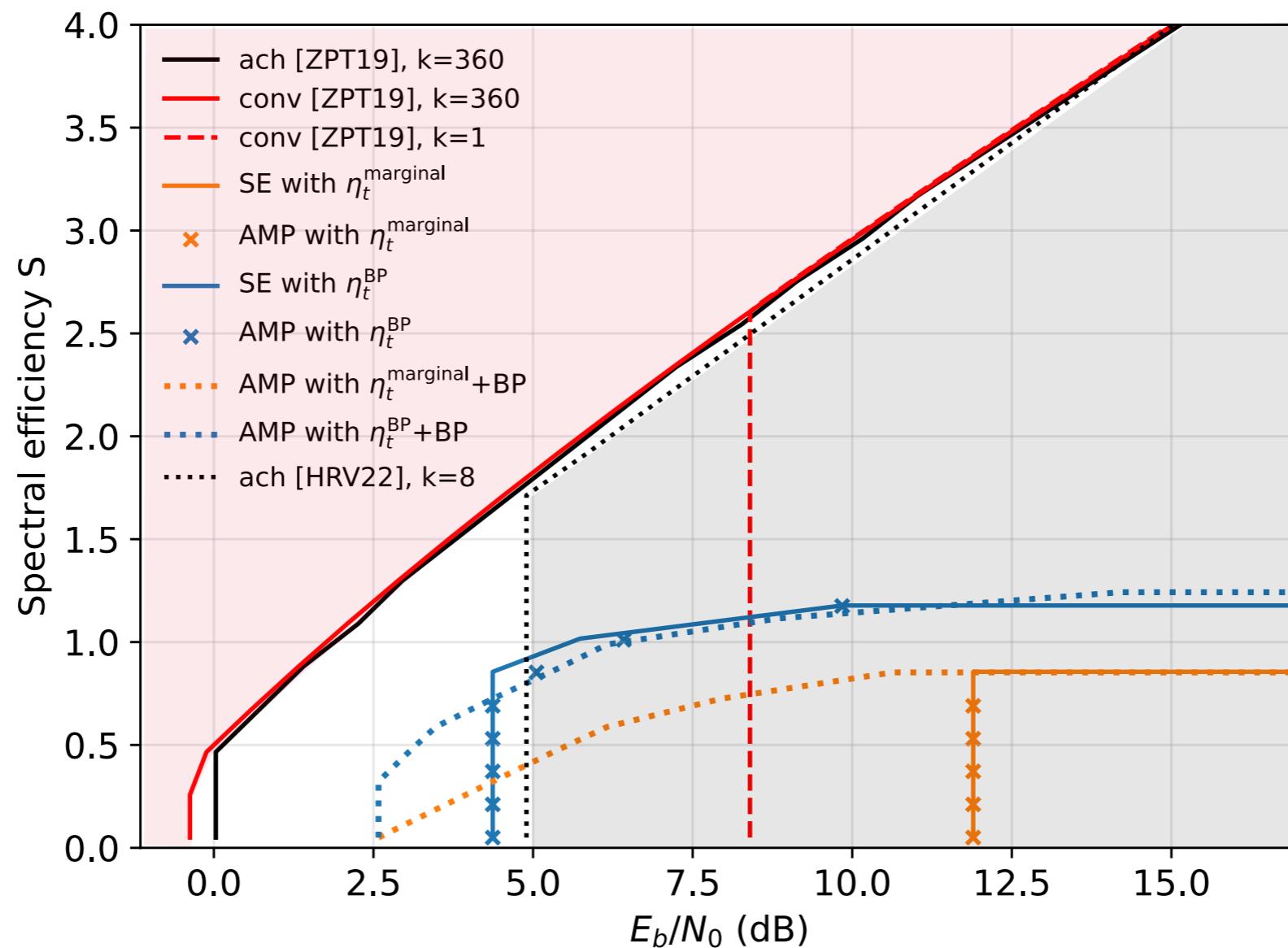
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Spectral efficiency: total # bits / total # channel uses

$$S = \mu k = Lk/n$$

payload 360 bits, target BER = 10^{-4}



[Hsieh, Rush,
Venkataramanan '22]

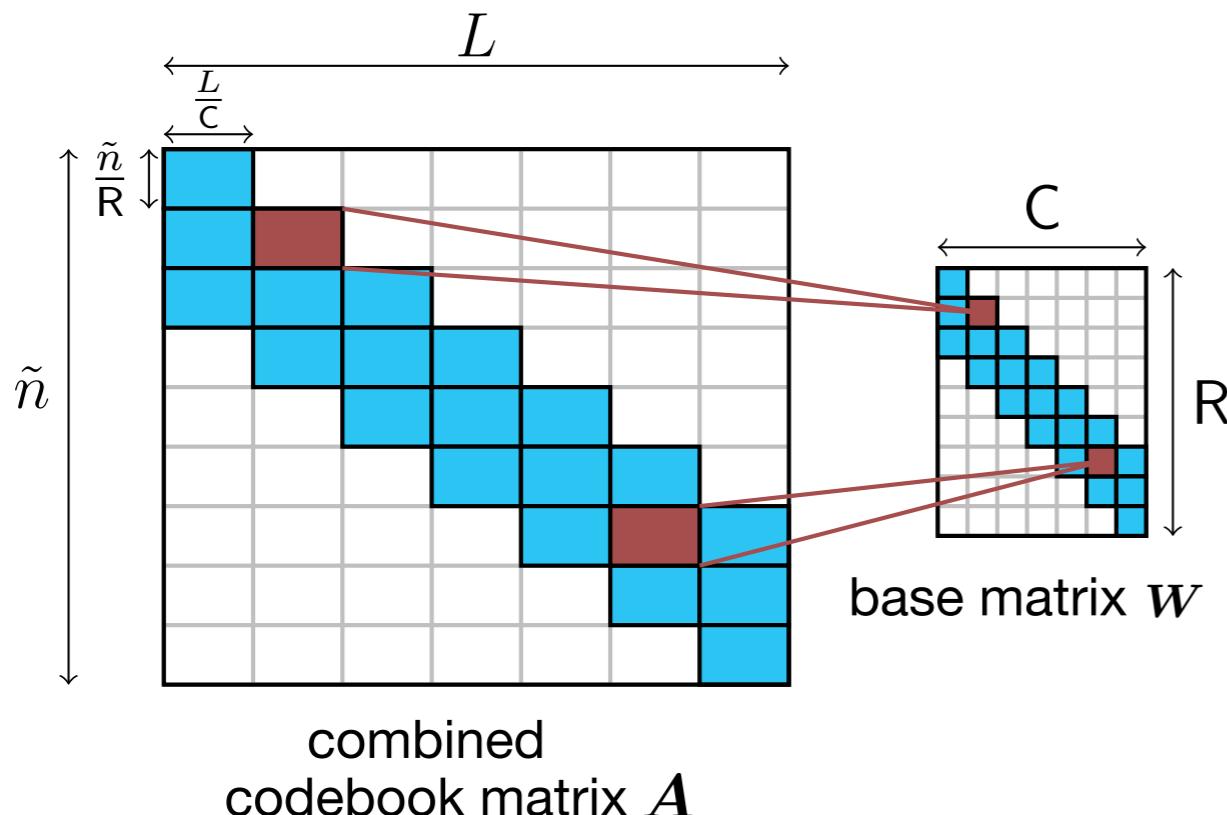
BP denoiser
marginal-MMSE
denoiser

Spectral efficiency: total # bits / total # channel uses

$$S = \mu k = Lk/n$$

Spatially coupled (SC) Gaussian matrix A

$$A : \begin{bmatrix} \tilde{n} \\ \downarrow \\ \mathbf{a}_1 & | & \mathbf{a}_\ell & | & \dots & | & \mathbf{a}_L \end{bmatrix} \quad \begin{matrix} \text{user 1} \\ \vdots \\ \text{user } \ell \\ \vdots \\ \text{user } L \end{matrix} \quad \boxed{\begin{matrix} \mathbf{x}_1 \\ \vdash \\ \vdash \\ \vdash \\ \vdash \\ \mathbf{x}_\ell \\ \vdash \\ \vdash \\ \vdash \\ \vdash \\ \mathbf{x}_L \end{matrix}}$$



$$A_{i\ell} \stackrel{\text{i.i.d.}}{\sim} \mathcal{N}\left(0, \frac{1}{\tilde{n}/R} W_{r(i),c(\ell)}\right),$$

for $i \in [\tilde{n}], \ell \in [L]$

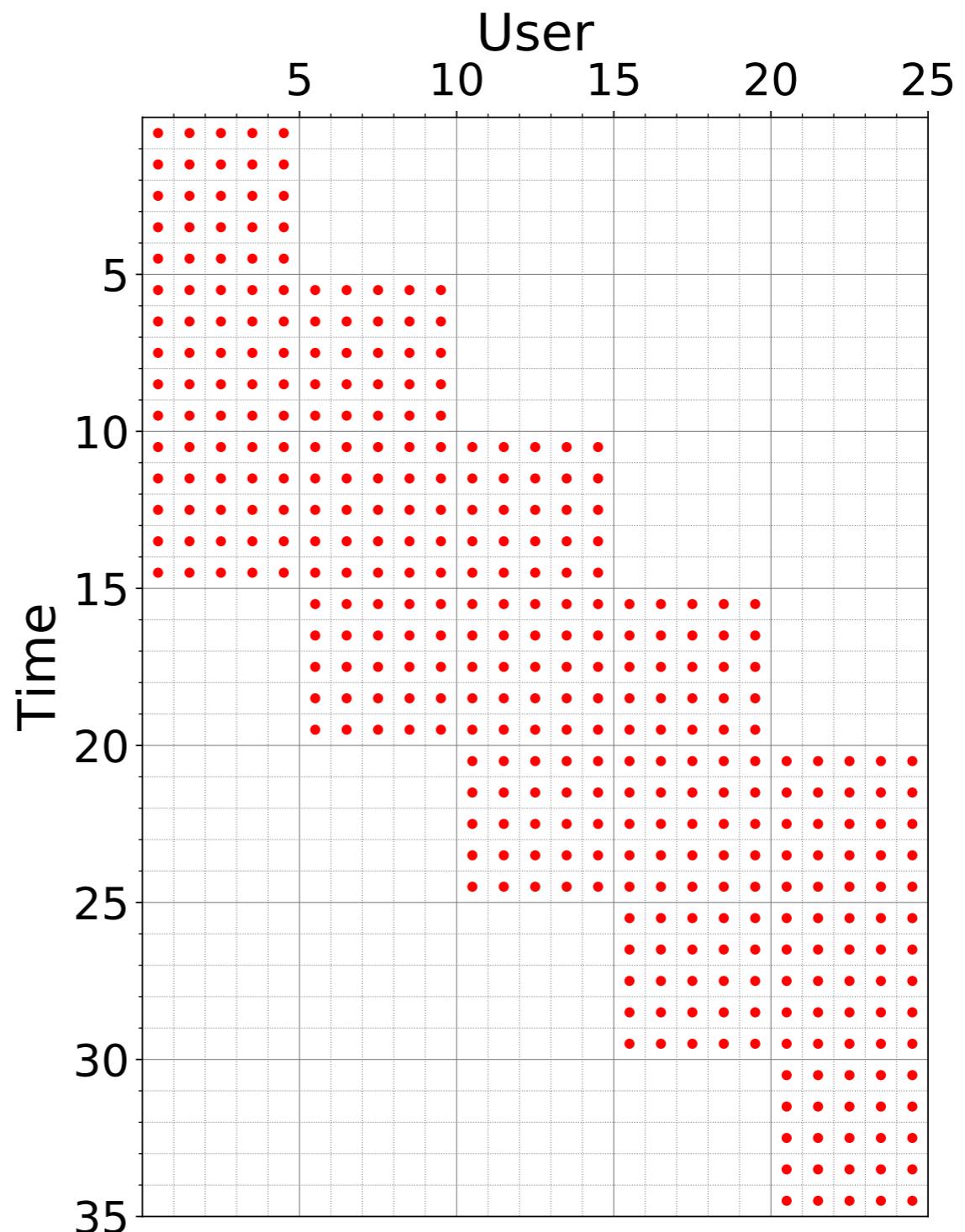
white parts are zeros

Spatially coupled (SC) Gaussian matrix A

Example:

$L = 25$ users

$\tilde{n} = 35$ transmissions

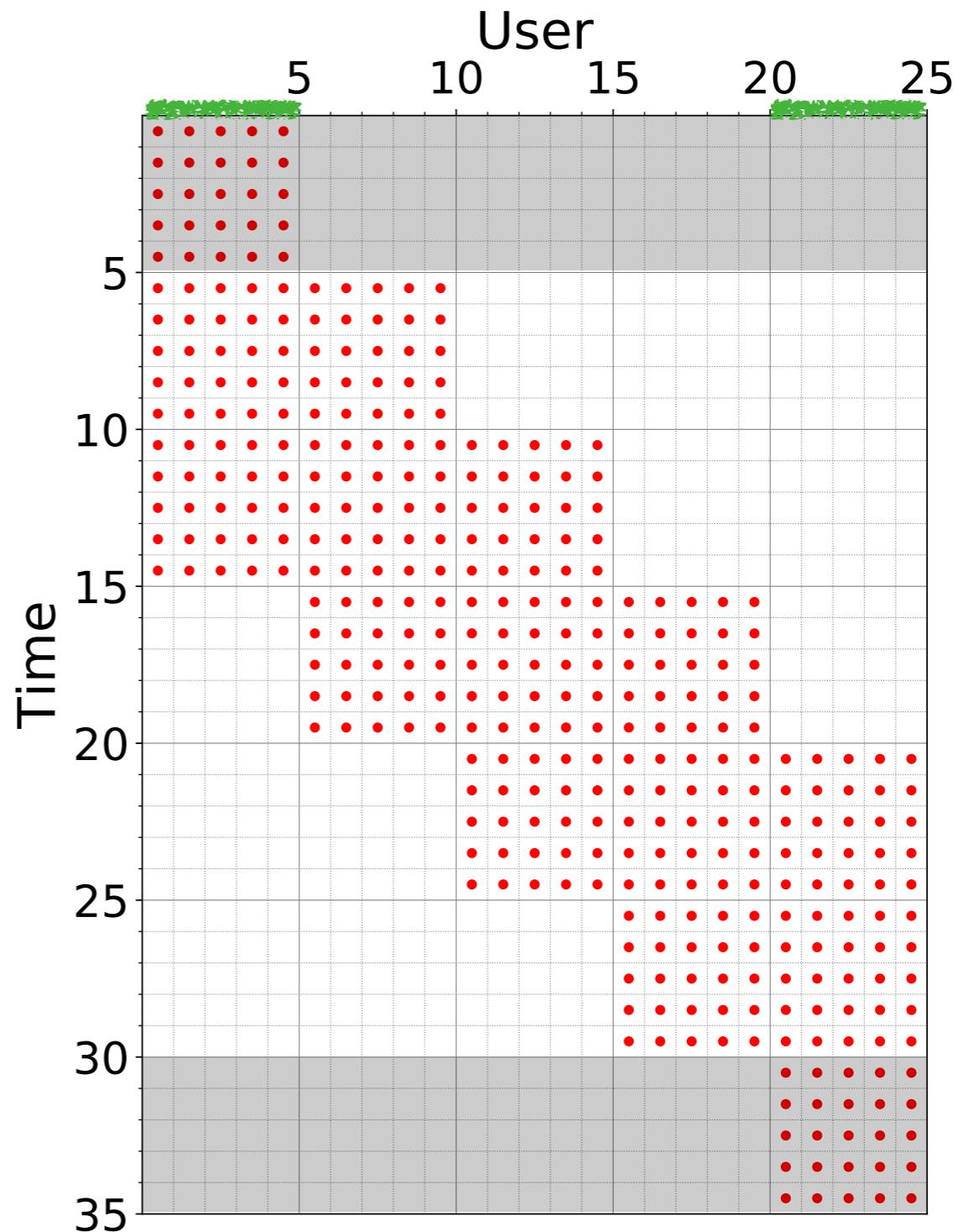


Spatially coupled (SC) Gaussian matrix A

Example:

$L = 25$ users

$\tilde{n} = 35$ transmissions

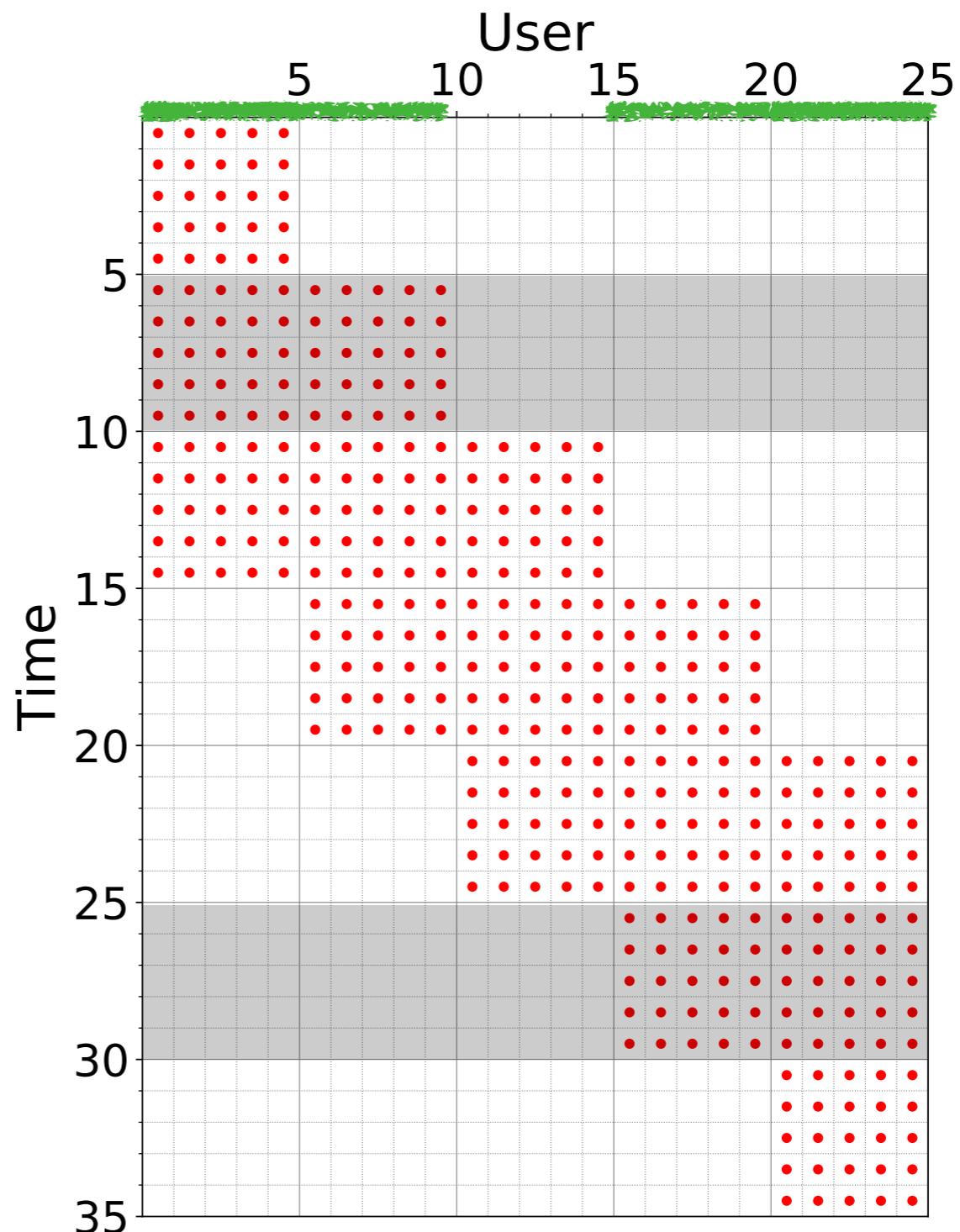


Spatially coupled (SC) Gaussian matrix A

Example:

$L = 25$ users

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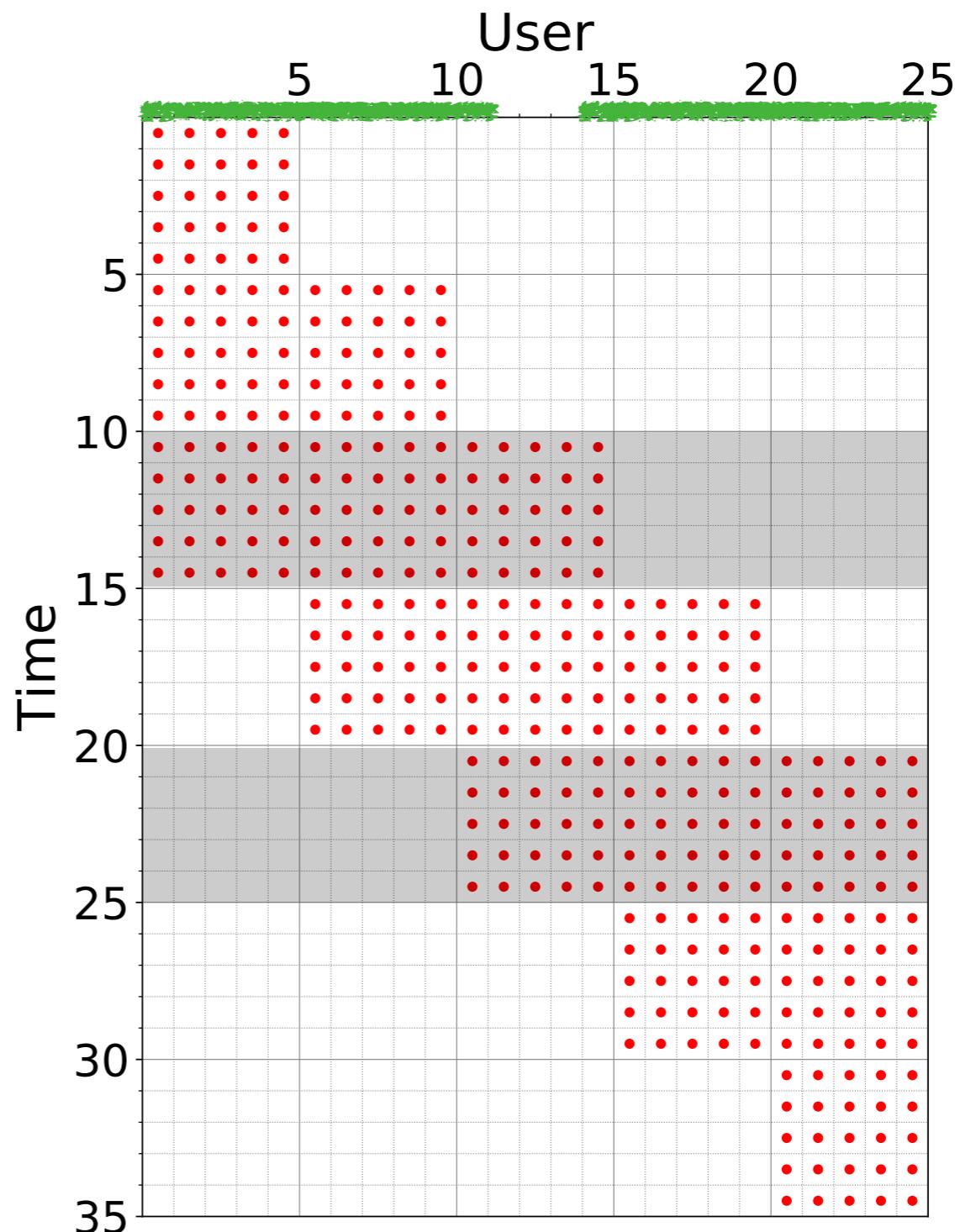


Spatially coupled (SC) Gaussian matrix A

Example:

$L = 25$ users

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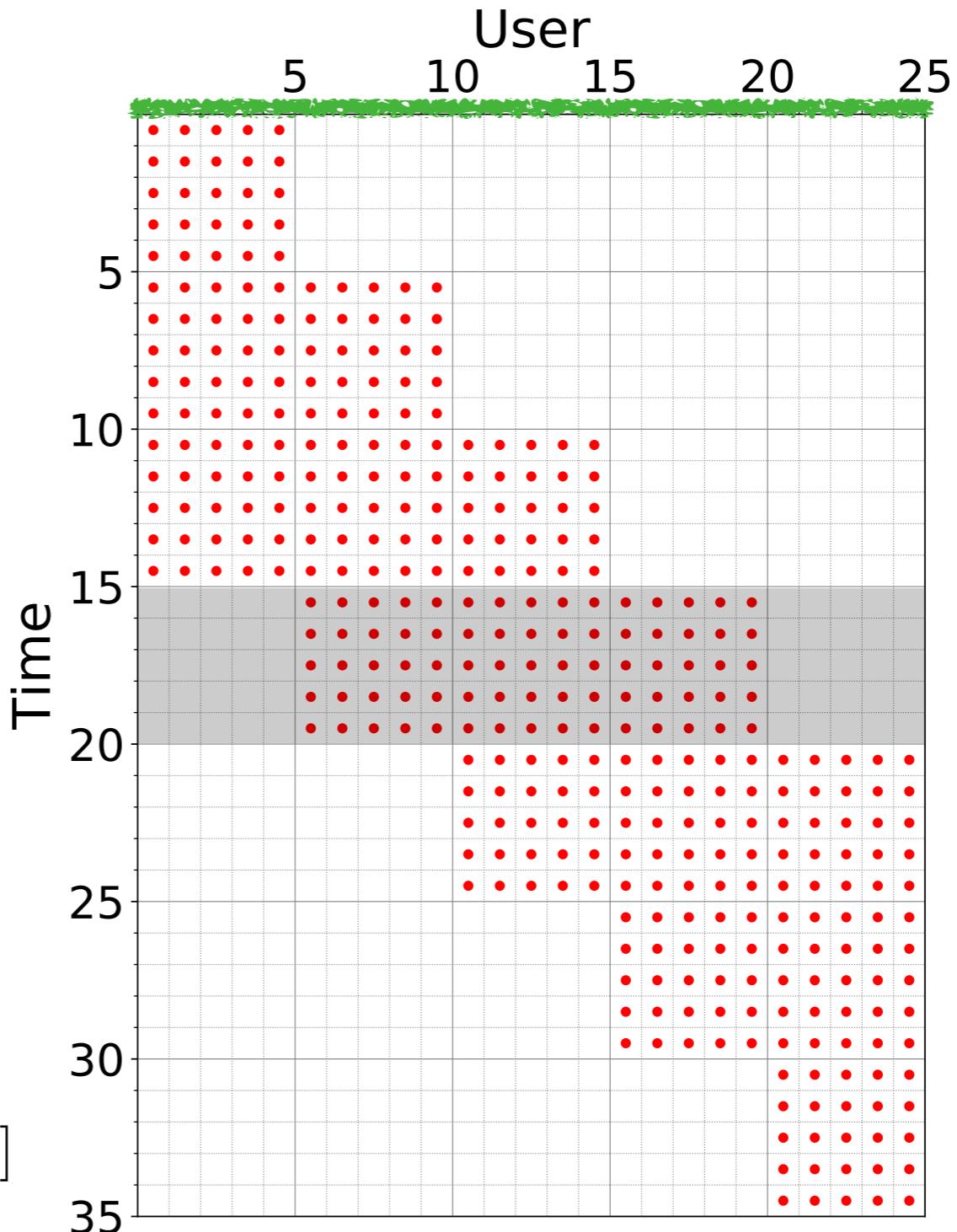
Spatially coupled (SC) Gaussian matrix A

Example:

$L = 25$ users

$\tilde{n} = 35$ transmissions

AMP decoder similar to before, but
now with **block-dependent** terms
and denoising functions $\eta_{t,c}$ for $c \in [C]$



Theorem for SC Gaussian A

[Liu, Hsieh, Venkataraman '24]

Let $\eta_{1,c}, \dots, \eta_{t,c}$ be Lipschitz for $c \in [C]$, then

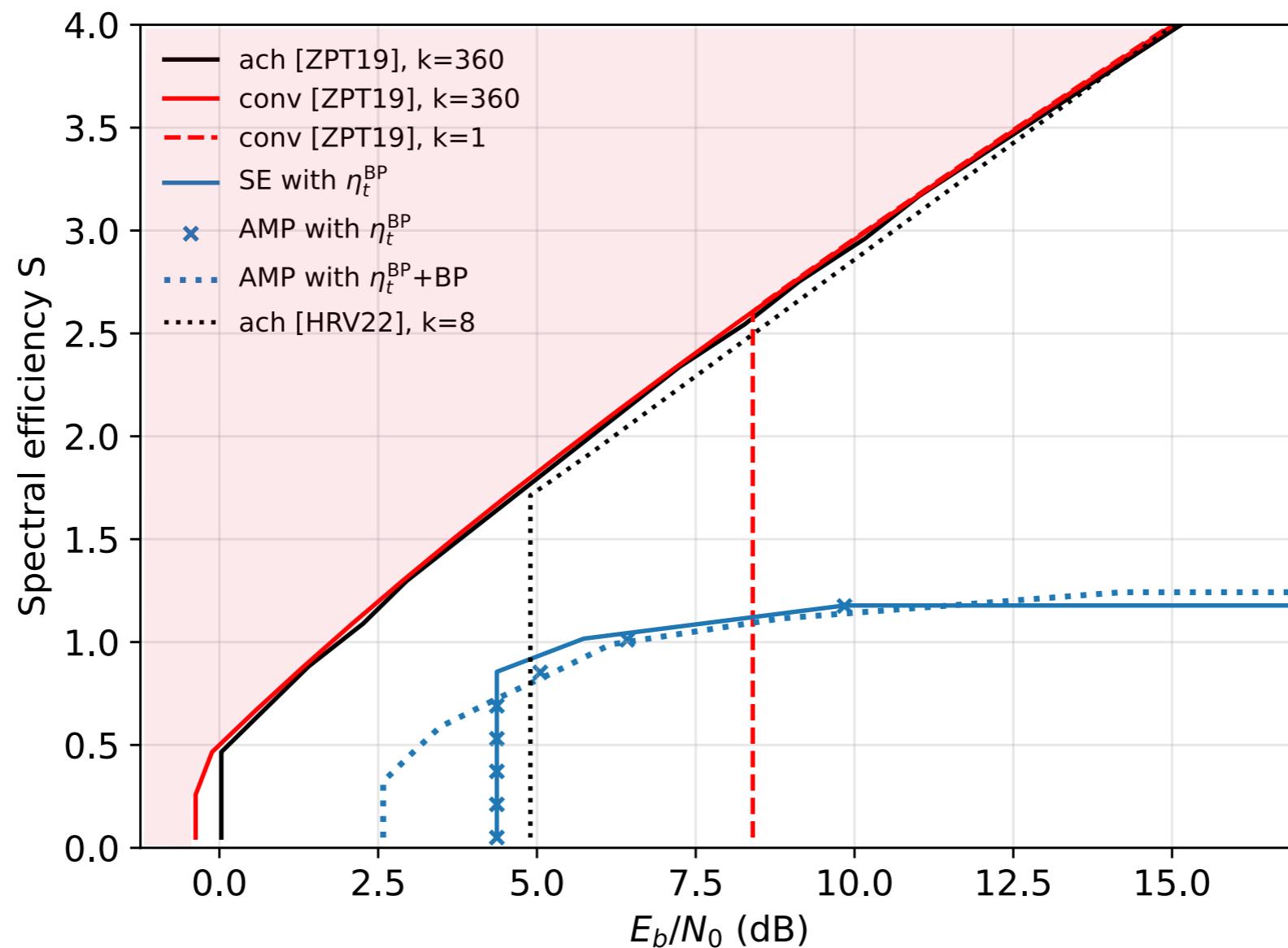
$$\lim_{L \rightarrow \infty} \text{UER} := \lim_{L \rightarrow \infty} \frac{1}{L} \sum_{\ell=1}^L \mathbb{1}\{\hat{x}_\ell^{t+1} \neq x_\ell\} = \boxed{\frac{1}{C} \sum_{c=1}^C \mathbb{P}(h_{t,c}(\bar{x} + g_c^t) \neq \bar{x})}$$

deterministic

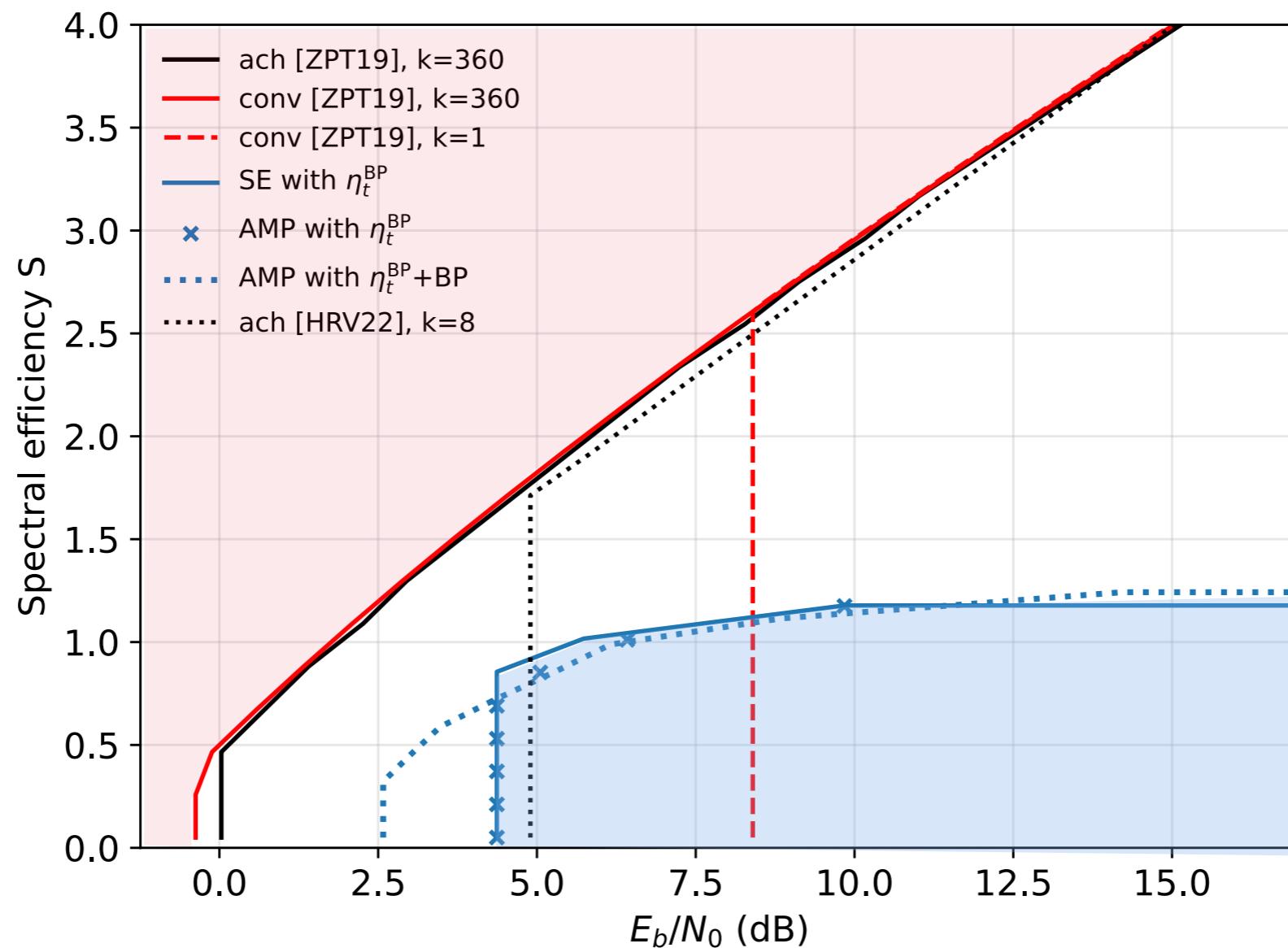
$$\lim_{L \rightarrow \infty} \text{BER} := \lim_{L \rightarrow \infty} \frac{1}{Ld} \sum_{\ell=1}^L \sum_{j=1}^d \mathbb{1}\{\hat{x}_{\ell,j}^{t+1} \neq x_{\ell,j}\} = \boxed{\frac{1}{C} \sum_{c=1}^C \frac{1}{d} \sum_{j=1}^d \mathbb{P}([h_{t,c}(\bar{x} + g_c^t)]_j \neq \bar{x}_j)}$$

- $\bar{x} \in \{\pm\sqrt{E}\}^d$ uniformly distributed among 2^k codewords
- $g_c^t \in \mathbb{R}^d \sim \mathcal{N}(\mathbf{0}, \Sigma_c^t)$ independent of \bar{x}

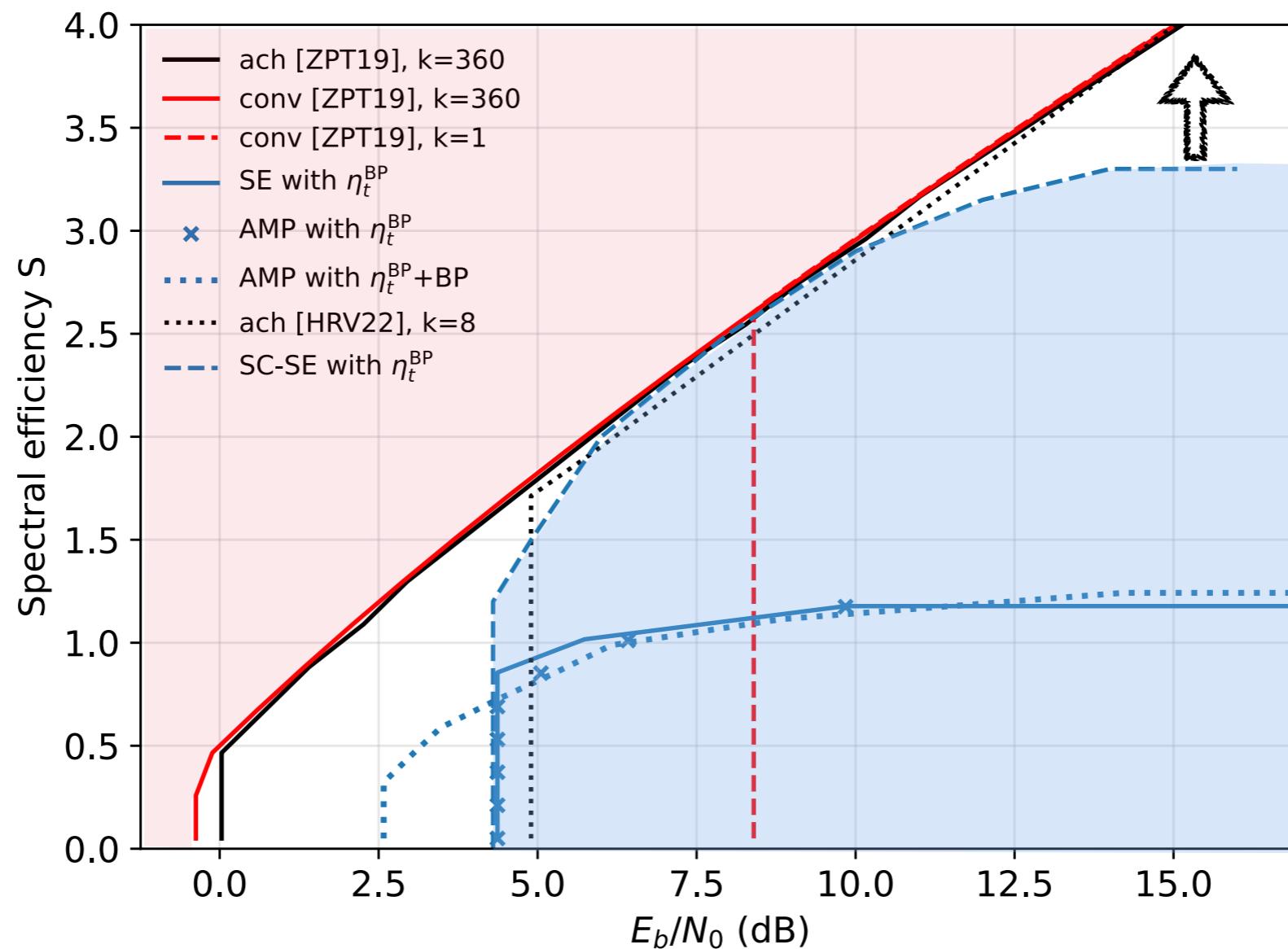
payload 360 bits, target BER = 10^{-4}



payload 360 bits, target BER = 10^{-4}



payload 360 bits, target BER = 10^{-4}



larger base matrix

SC Gaussian design +
AMP w. BP denoiser

iid Gaussian design +
AMP w. BP denoiser



Many-user multiple-access

Previous work [Polyanskiy '17], [Zadik, Polyanskiy, Thrampoulidis '19], [Polyanskiy, Kowshik '20]

What can be achieved **without memory or computational** constraints?

random Gaussian codebooks + maximum-likelihood decoding

This talk [Hsieh, Rush, Venkataraman '22] [Liu, Hsieh, Venkataraman '24]

What can be achieved with **efficient** coding schemes?

random linear coding + AMP decoding



(last 5mins of talk)

Many-user multiple-access **with random user activity**

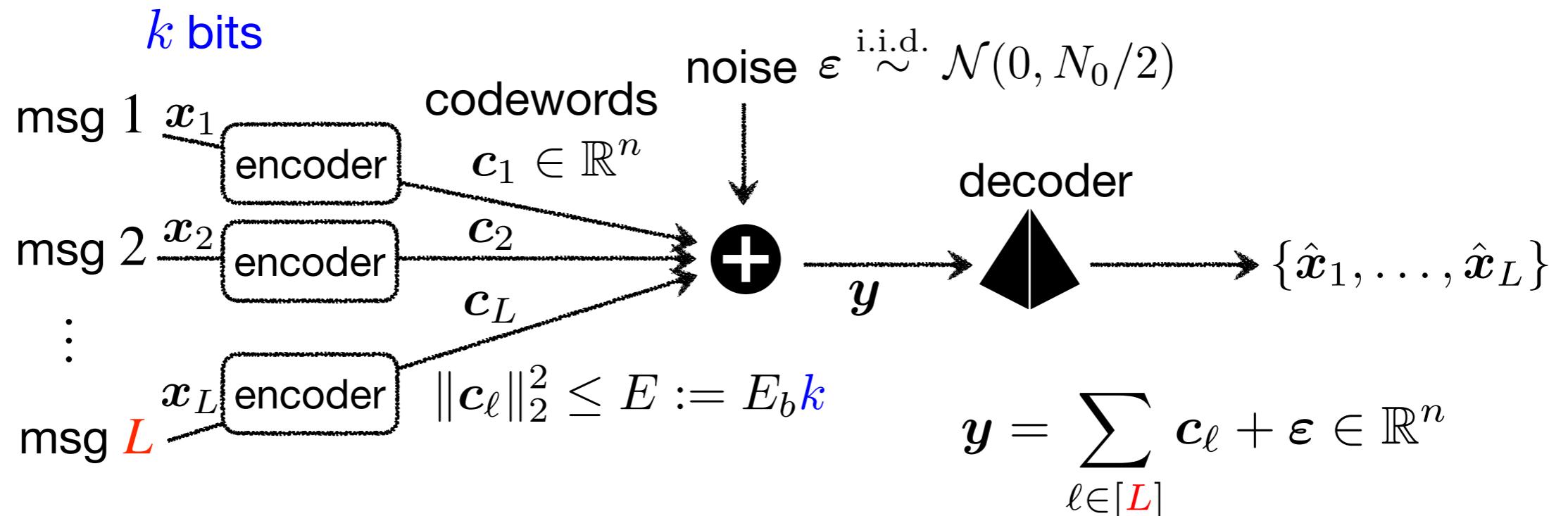
[Chen, Guo '14], [Ordentlich, Polyanskiy '17], [Yavas, Kostina, Effros '21], [Ngo, Lancho, Durisi, Graell i Amat '23]

[Liu, Cobo, Venkataraman '24]

What can be achieved **without memory or computational** constraints?

What can be achieved with **efficient** coding schemes?

Many-user GMAC with random user activity

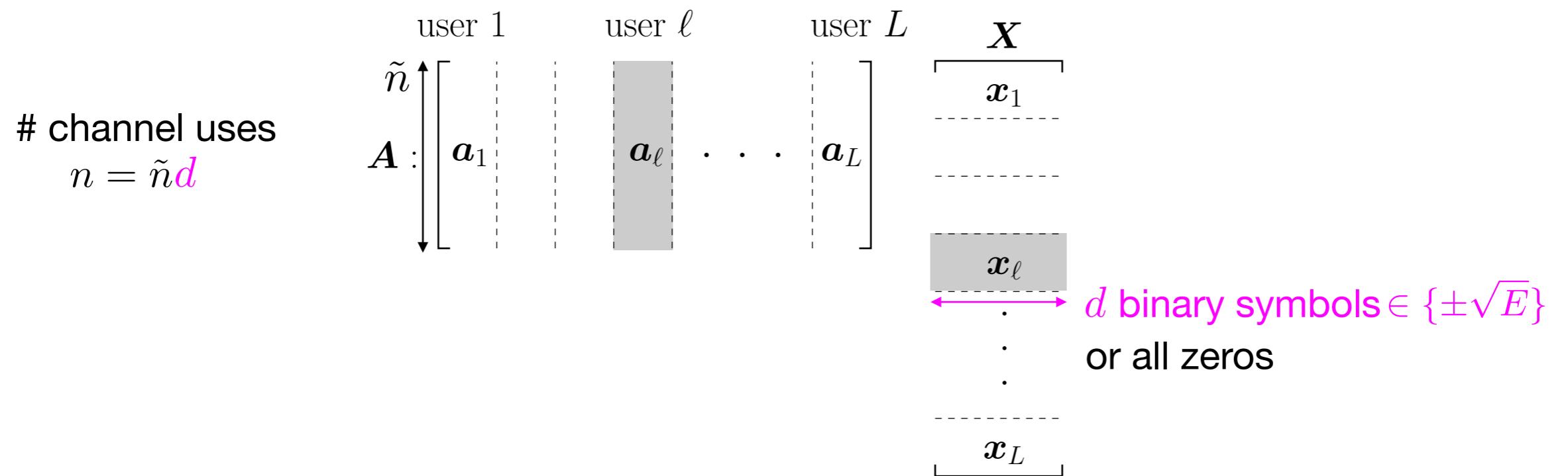


- Each user active **with probability α**
- Errors: mis-detections (MD), false alarms (FA), active-user errors (AUE)

Linear scaling regime: $L, n \rightarrow \infty$ with $\mu := L/n$ fixed

Given $\mu = L/n$, what is minimum E_b/N_0 required to achieve target error rates?

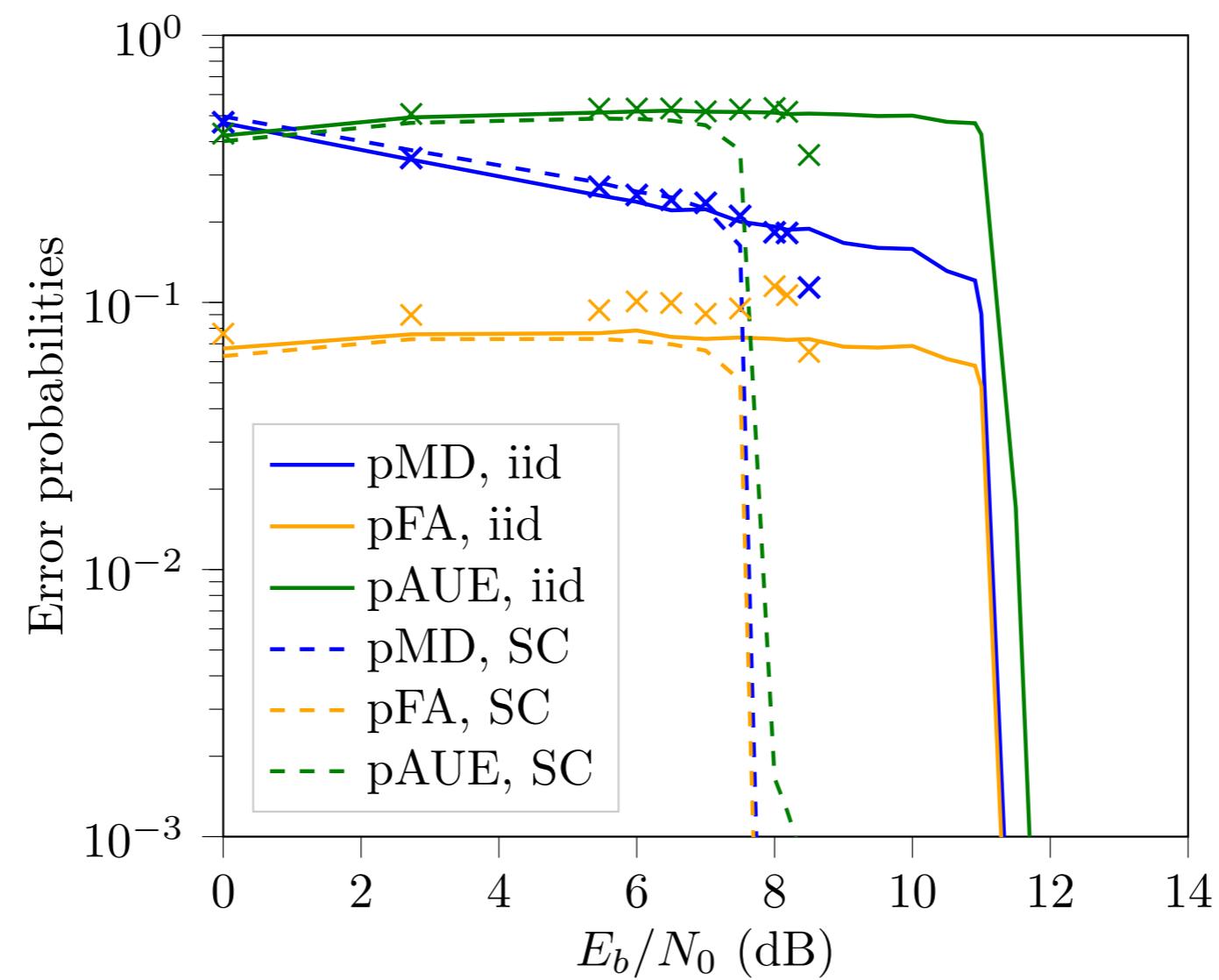
Random binary-CDMA



- $x_\ell \in \{\pm\sqrt{E}\}^d \sim p_{\bar{x}}$ with probability α , or all-zero with probability $(1 - \alpha)$
- AMP decoder can be adapted to this prior distribution
- Asymptotic $p_{\text{MD}}, p_{\text{FA}}, p_{\text{AUE}}$ can be precisely quantified

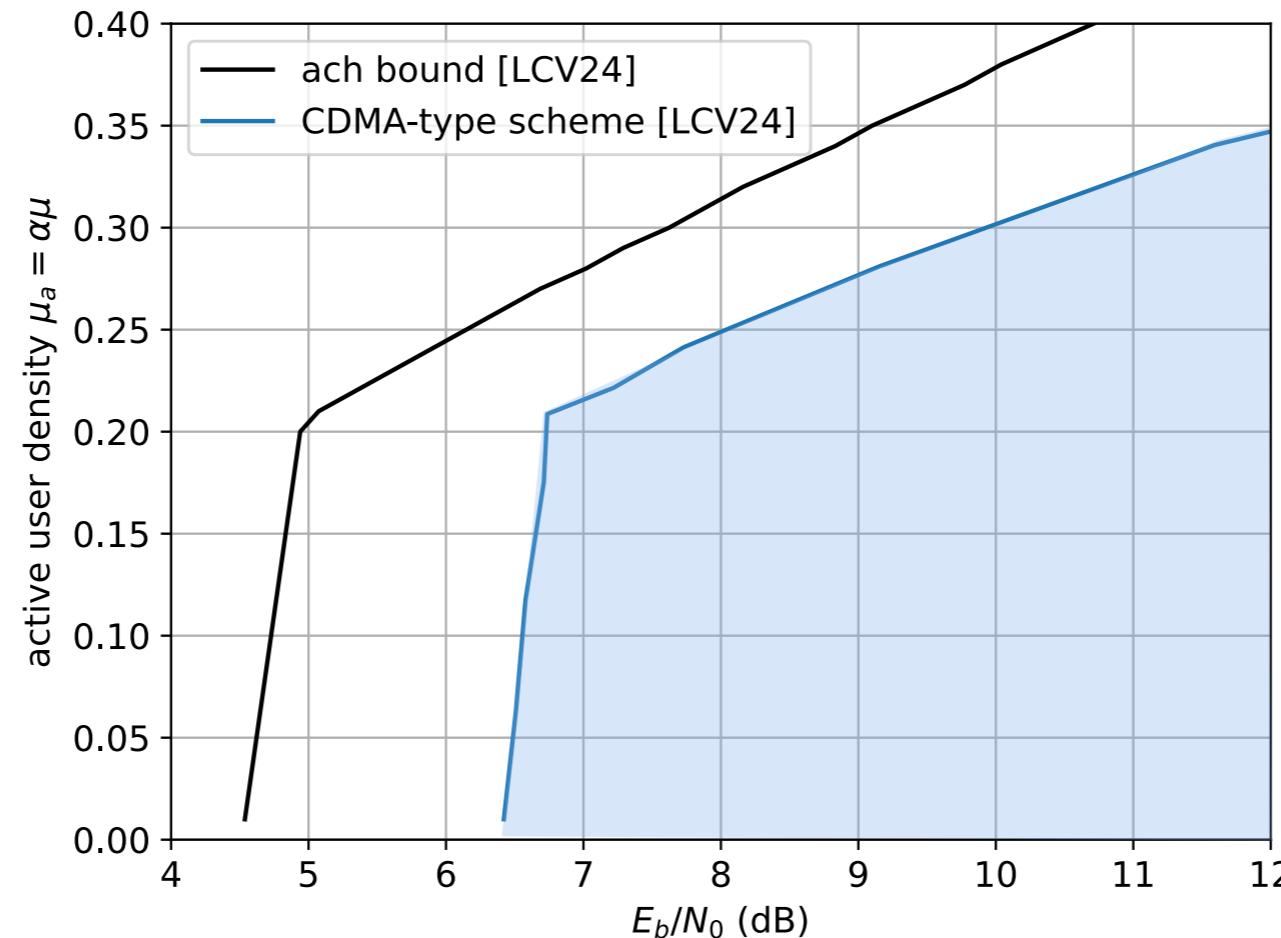
random binary-CDMA + AMP decoding

user payload $k = 8$, $\alpha = 0.7$



user payload $k = 6$, $\alpha = 0.7$

target error $p_{\text{total}} = \max\{p_{\text{MD}}, p_{\text{FA}}\} + p_{\text{AUE}} \leq 0.01$



Asymptotic achievability bounds:

- based on random linear coding + AMP decoding
- scheme impractical for larger k , but its asymptotic performance can be precisely and efficiently characterised

Summary

Many-user Gaussian multiple-access

[Liu, Hsieh, Venkataraman '24]

- Near-optimal performance for larger payloads k via random binary-CDMA with outer code + AMP decoding with BP denoiser
- Memory and computational costs linear in payload k
- Exact asymptotic error guarantees
- Extension to incorporate random user activity [Liu, Cobo, Venkataraman '24]

X. Liu, K. Hsieh, and R. Venkataraman, *Coded many-user multiple access via Approximate Message Passing*, <https://arxiv.org/abs/2402.05625>, 2024

X. Liu, P. Pascual Cobo, and R. Venkataraman, *Many-user multiple access with random user activity* (to appear at ISIT 2024)