

# WLAN 802.11a Spec. (Physical Layer)



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2005/04/28

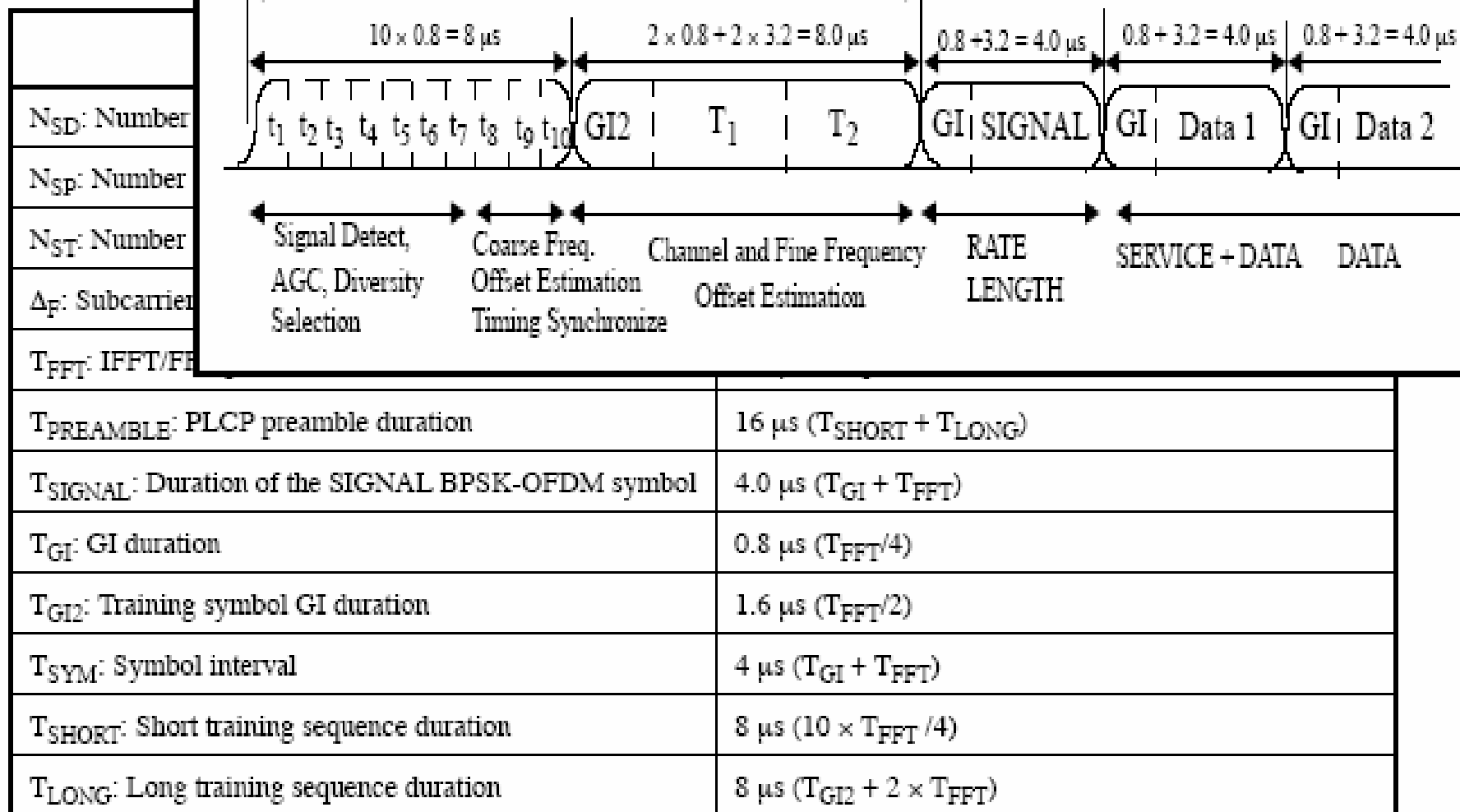
## ☀ Introduction

- ☀ The radio frequency LAN system is initially aimed for the 5.15-5.25, 5.25-5.35 GHz, & 5.725-5.825 GHz unlicensed national information infrastructure (U-NII) band.
- ☀ The support of transmitting & receiving at data rates of 6, 12, 24 Mbit/s is mandatory. (9, 18, 36, 48, 54Mbit/s)
- ☀ The system uses 52 subcarriers that are modulated using binary or quadrature phase shift keying (BPSK/QPSK), 16-quadrature amplitude modulation (QAM), or 64-QAM.
- ☀ Forward error correction coding (convolutional coding) is used with a coding rate of  $1/2$ ,  $2/3$ , or  $3/4$

# RATE-dependent parameters

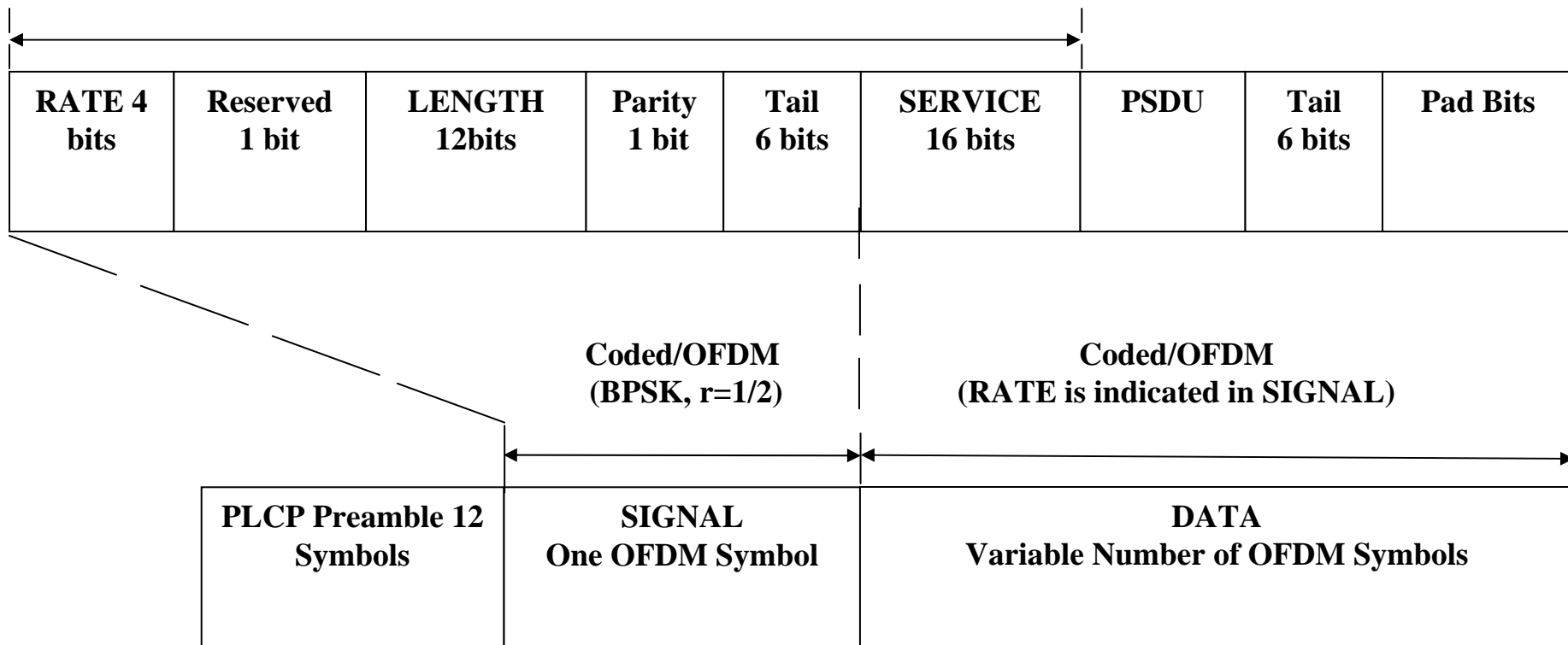
Data rate (Mbits/s)	Modulation	Coding rate (R)	Coded bits per subcarrier ( $N_{BPSC}$ )	Coded bits per OFDM symbol ( $N_{CBPS}$ )	Data bits per OFDM symbol ( $N_{DBPS}$ )
6	BPSK	1/2	1	48	24
9	BPSK	3/4	1	48	36
12	QPSK	1/2	2	96	48
18	QPSK	3/4	2	96	72
24	16-QAM	1/2	4	192	96
36	16-QAM	3/4	4	192	144
48	64-QAM	2/3	6	288	192
54	64-QAM	3/4	6	288	216

# Timing related parameters

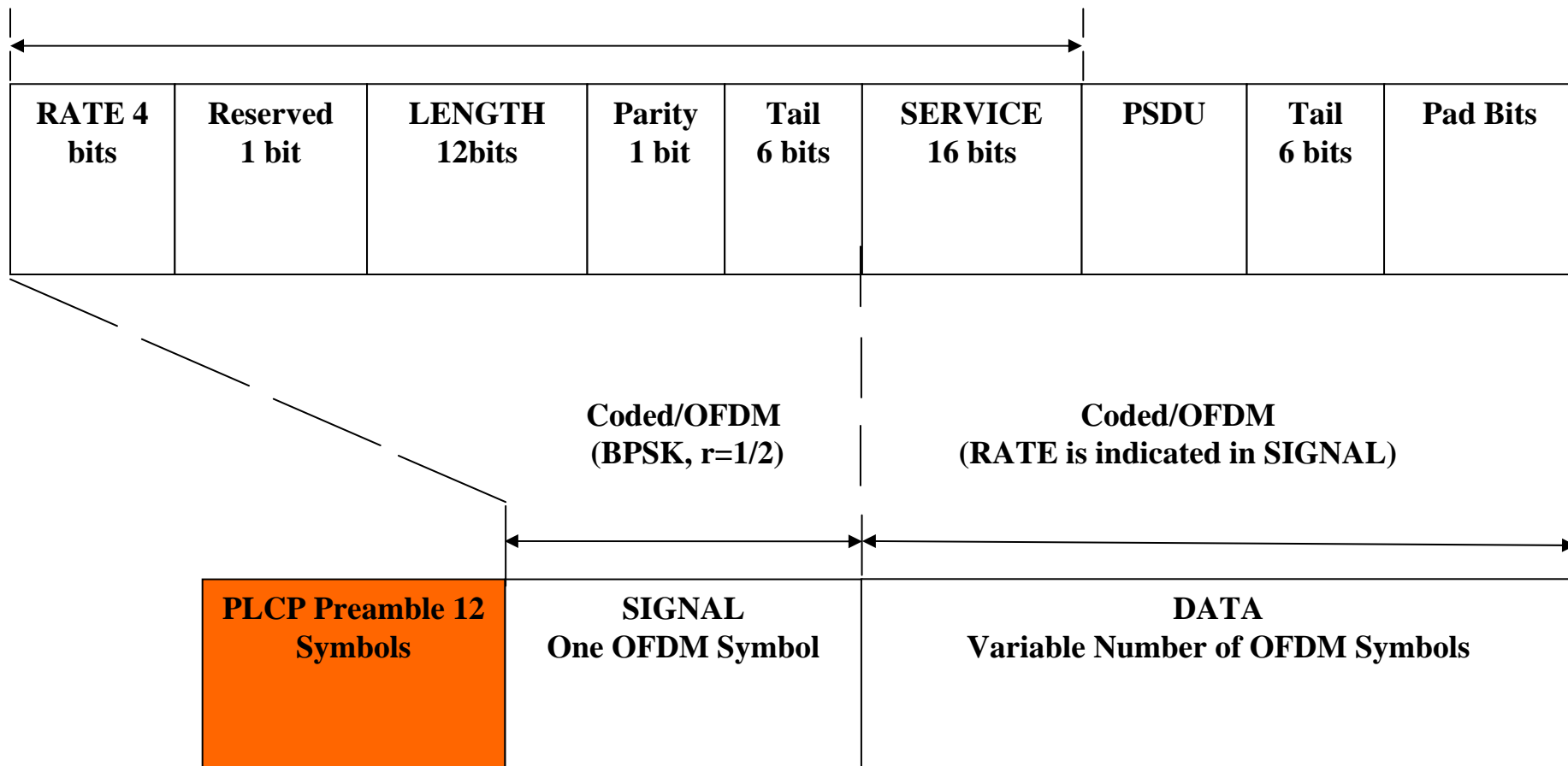


# PLCP sublayer

## PLCP Header

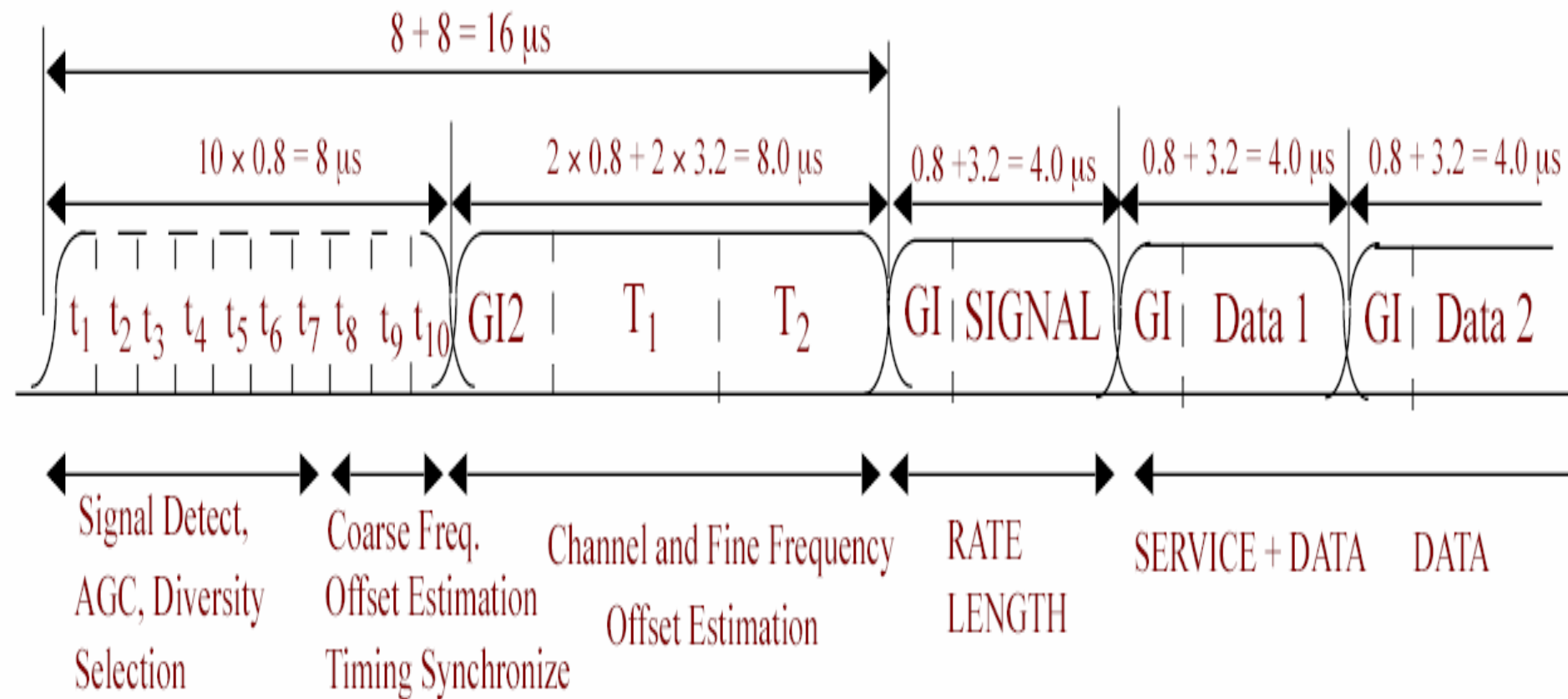


# PLCP preamble (SYNC)



# PLCP preamble (SYNC)

- It consists of 10 short training symbols & 2 long training symbols



# PLCP preamble (SYNC)

- ✿ In the PLCP (Physical Layer Convergence Procedure) preamble field
  - ✿ Composed of 10 repetitions of a “shorting training sequence”, used for
    - AGC (Automatic Gain Control) convergence
    - Diversity selection
    - Timing acquisition
    - Coarse frequency acquisition in the receiver
  - ✿ Two repetitions of a “long training sequence”, used for
    - Channel estimation
    - Fine frequency acquisition in the receiver



# Short training symbol

- A short OFDM training symbol consists of **12 subcarriers**, which are modulated by the elements of the sequence  $S$ , given by

$$S_{-26:26} = \sqrt{13/6} \times \{ \overset{-24}{0}, \overset{-20}{0}, \overset{-16}{1+j}, \overset{-12}{0}, \overset{-8}{0}, \overset{-4}{0}, \overset{0}{-1-j}, \overset{4}{0}, \overset{8}{0}, \overset{12}{-1+j}, \overset{16}{0}, \overset{20}{0}, \overset{24}{0}, \overset{28}{-1-j}, \overset{32}{0}, \overset{36}{0}, \overset{40}{-1+j}, \overset{44}{0}, \overset{48}{0}, \overset{52}{-1-j} \}$$

- The multiplication by a factor of  $\sqrt{13/6}$  is in order to **normalize** the average power of the resulting OFDM symbol, which utilizes 12 out of 52 subcarriers.
- The fact that only spectral lines of  $S_{-26:26}$  with indices that are **a multiple of 4** have nonzero amplitude results in a periodicity of 0.8  $\mu$ s.

# Short training symbol

- ✿ The signal shall be generated according to the following equation:

$$r_{SHORT}(t) = w_{TSHORT}(t) \sum_{k=-N_{ST}/2}^{N_{ST}/2} S_k \exp(j2\pi k \Delta_F t)$$

# Long training symbol

- ✿ A long training symbol consists of **53 subcarriers** (including a zero value at dc), which are modulated by the elements of the sequence  $L$ , given by

$$L_{-26,26} = \{1, 1, -1, -1, 1, 1, -1, 1, -1, 1, 1, 1, 1, 1, 1, -1, -1, 1, 1, -1, 1, -1, 1, 1, 1, 1, 0, 1, -1, -1, 1, 1, -1, 1, -1, 1, -1, -1, -1, -1, -1, 1, 1, -1, -1, 1, -1, 1, -1, 1, 1, 1, 1\}$$

- ✿ A long OFDM training symbol shall be generated according to the following equation:

$$r_{LONG}(t) = w_{TLONG}(t) \sum_{k=-N_{ST}/2}^{N_{ST}/2} L_k \exp(j2\pi k \Delta_F (t - T_{GI2}))$$

- ✿ where  $T_{GI2} = 1.6\mu s$

## Long training symbol

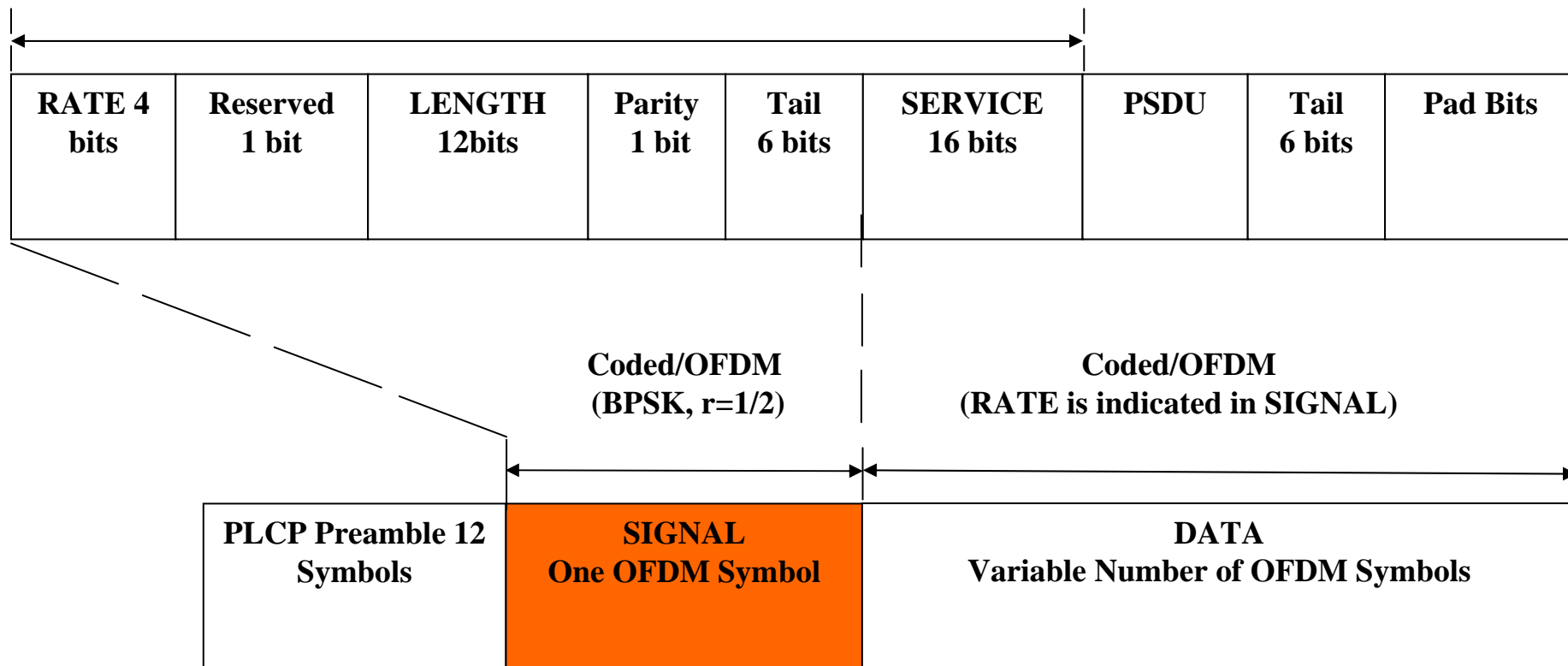
- Two period of the long sequence are transmitted for improved channel estimation accuracy, yielding

$$T_{LONG} = 1.6 + 2 \times 3.2 = 8 \mu s$$

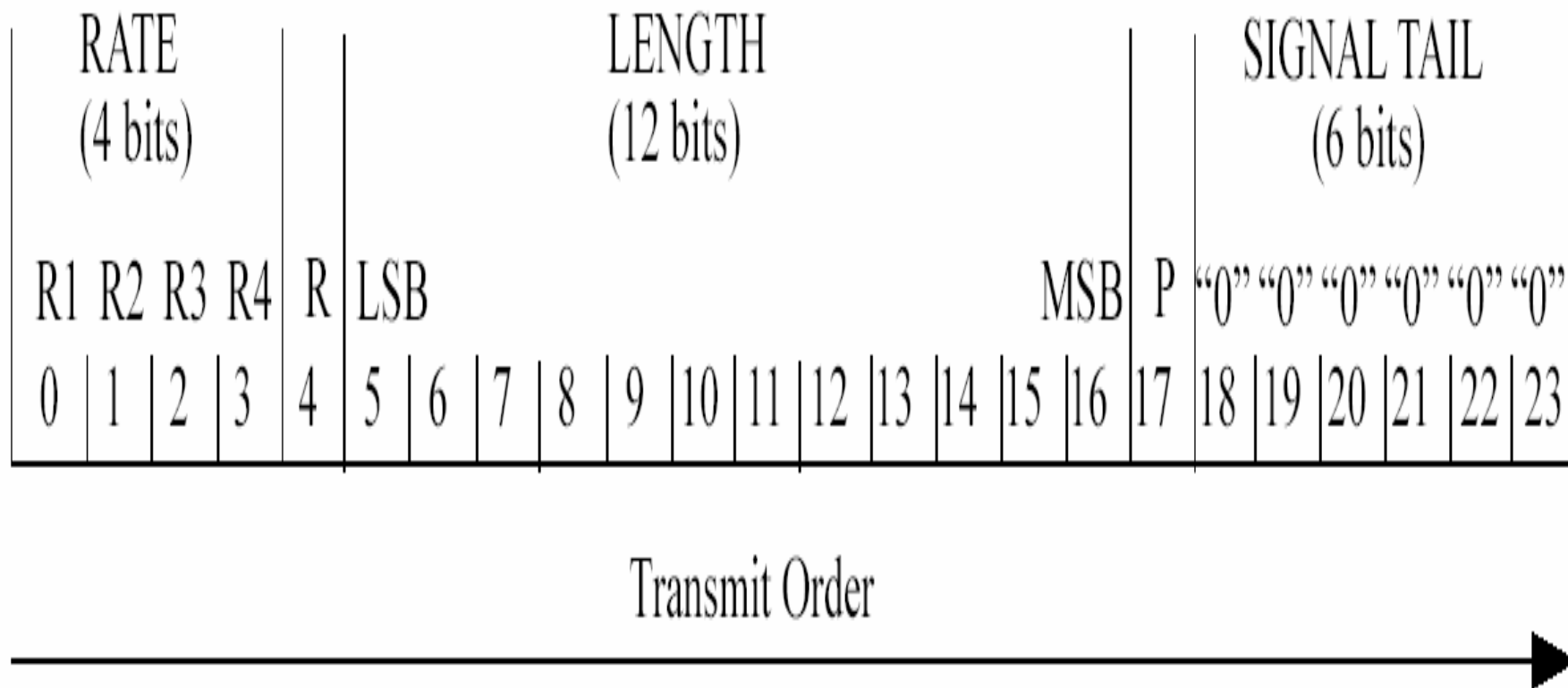
- The sections of short repetitions and long repetitions shall be concatenated to form the preamble

$$r_{PREAMBLE}(t) = r_{SHORT}(t) + r_{LONG}(t - T_{SHORT})$$

# Signal field (SIGNAL)



## Signal field (SIGNAL)



**Figure 111—SIGNAL field bit assignment**

## Signal field (SIGNAL)

- ✿ Bit 4 : shall be reserved for future use
- ✿ Bit 17: shall be positive parity (**even parity**) bit for bit 0~16
- ✿ Bit 18~23 : all 6 bits shall be set to zero
- ✿ Data rate

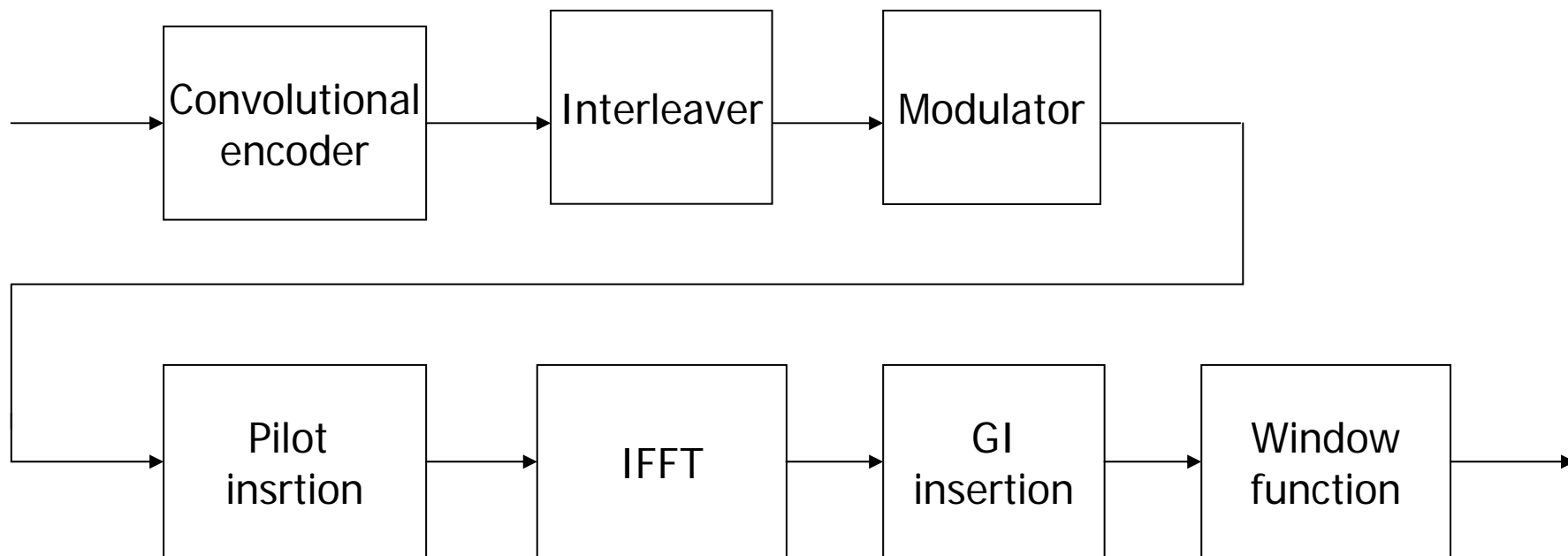
Rate (Mbits/s)	R1-R4
6	1101
9	1111
12	0101
18	0111
24	1001
36	1011
48	0001
54	0011

## Signal field (SIGNAL)

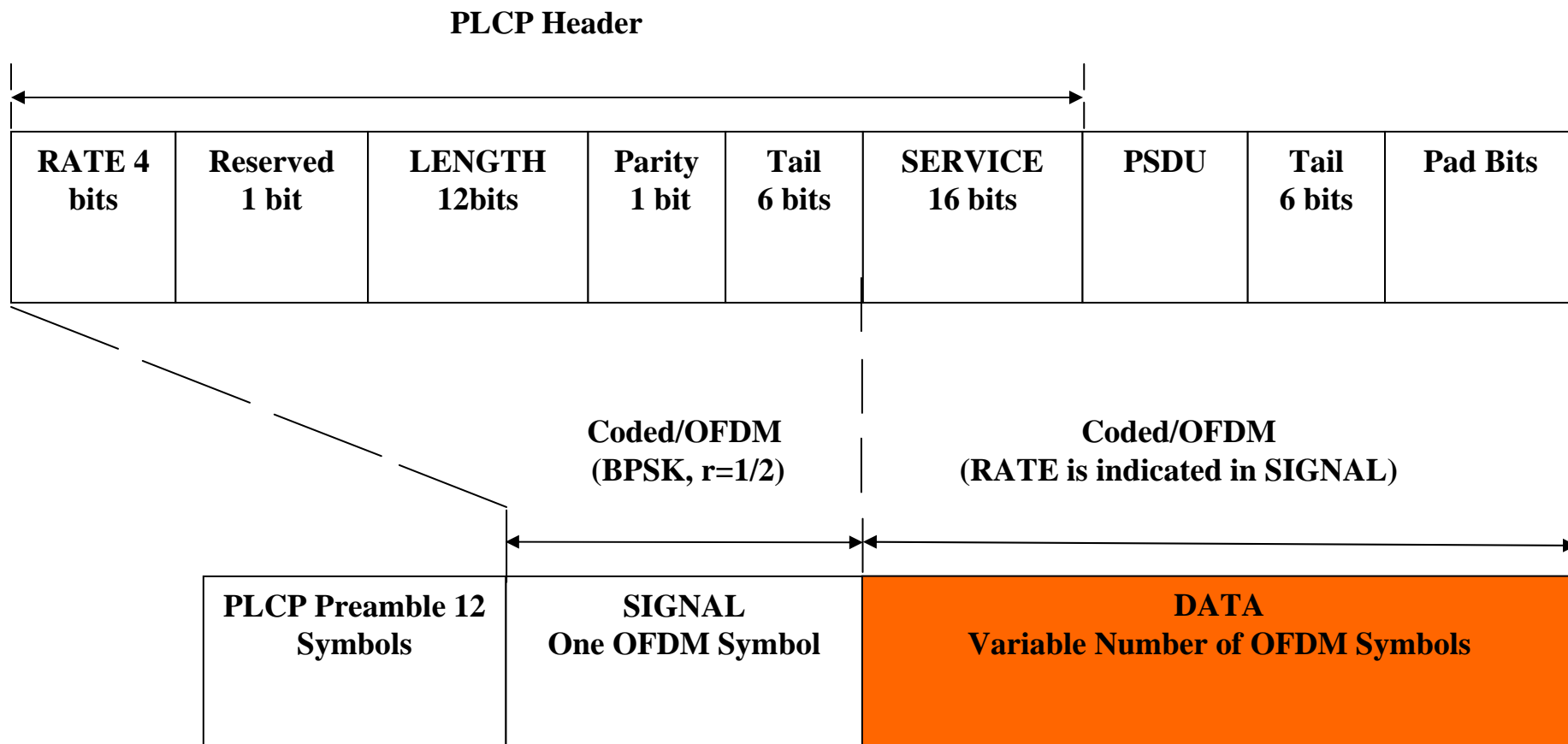
- ✿ The SIGNAL field contains the RATE & the LENGTH field of the TXVECTOR
- ✿ The RATE field conveys information about the type of modulation & the coding rate as used in the rest of the packet
- ✿ The LENGTH field indicates the number of octets in the PSDU
- ✿ The encoding procedure, which includes convolutional encoding, interleaving, modulation mapping processes, pilot insertion, & OFDM modulation as used for a transmission of data at a 6 Mbit/s rate



## Block diagram (SIGNAL)

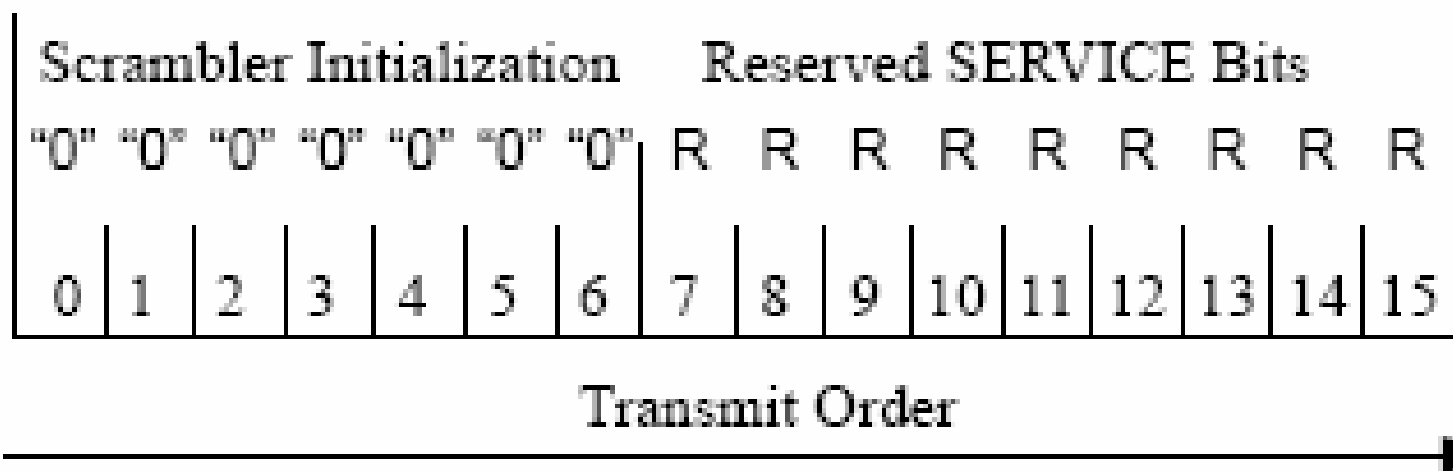


# Data field (DATA)



## Service field

- ✿ The 0 ~ 6 bits are set to zeros and are used to **synchronize** the descrambler in the receiver



## Tail bit field

- ✿ The tail bit field shall be six bits of “0,” required to return the convolutional encoder to the “zero state.”
- ✿ This procedure improves the error probability of the convolutional decoder, which relies on future bits when decoding and which may not be available past the end of the message.

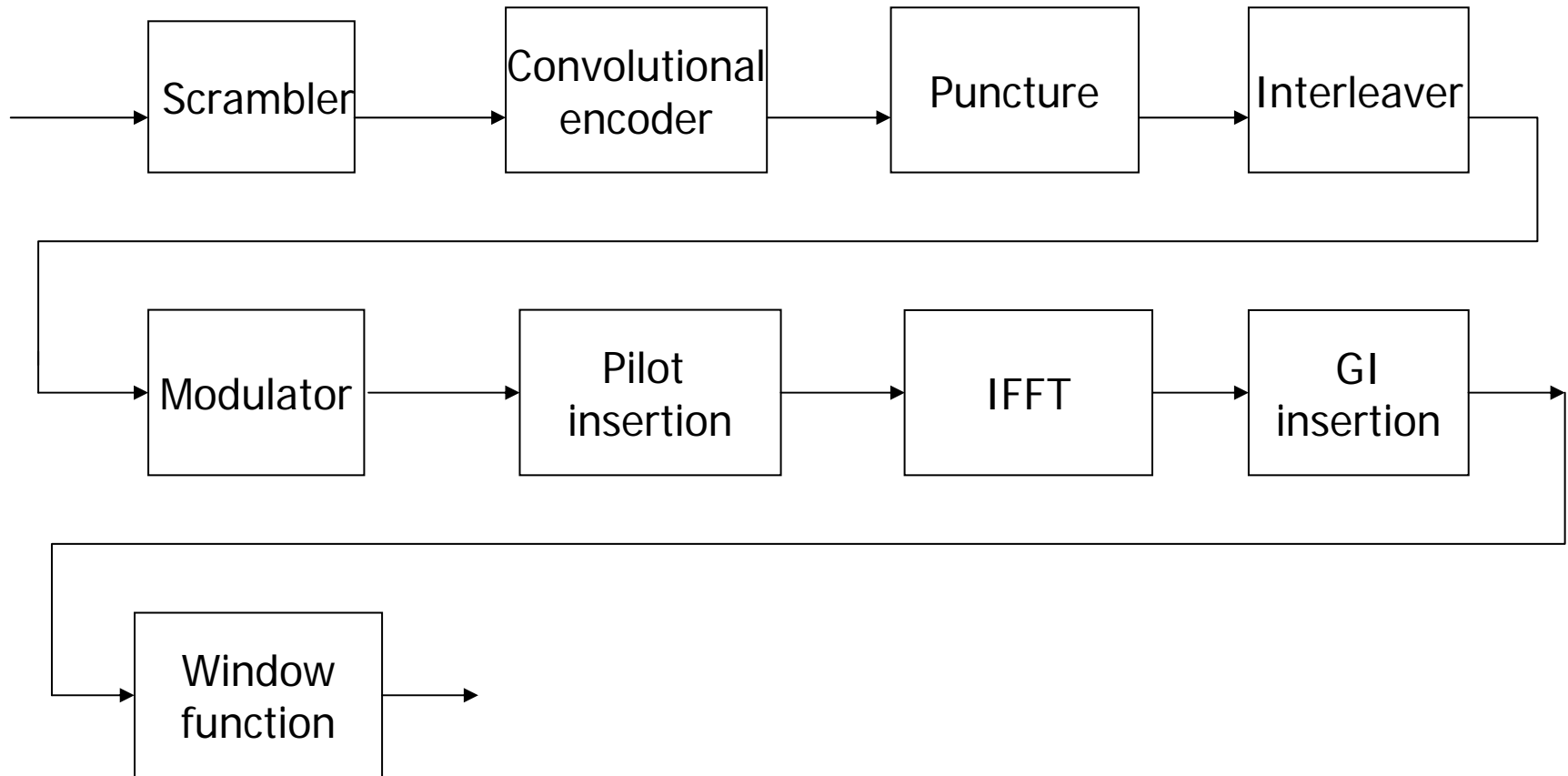
- ✿ The number of bits in the DATA field shall be a multiple of  $N_{CBPS}$  (the number of coded bits in an OFDM symbol)
- ✿ To achieve that, the length of the message is extended so that it becomes a multiple of  $N_{DBPS}$  (the number of data bits per OFDM symbol)

- ✿  $N_{\text{SYM}} = \text{Ceiling} ((16 + 8 \times \text{LENGTH} + 6)/N_{\text{DBPS}})$
- ✿  $N_{\text{DATA}} = N_{\text{SYM}} \times N_{\text{DBPS}}$
- ✿  $N_{\text{PAD}} = N_{\text{DATA}} - (16 + 8 \times \text{LENGTH} + 6)$

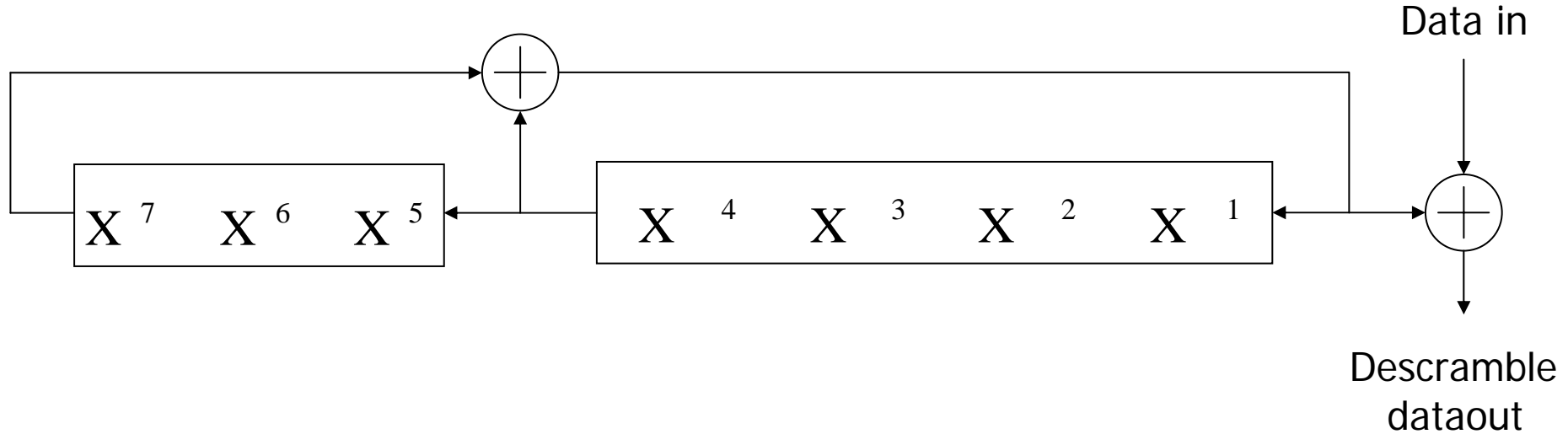
✿ where

- ✿  $N_{\text{SYM}}$  : The number of OFDM symbols
- ✿  $N_{\text{DATA}}$  : The number of bits in the DATA field
- ✿  $N_{\text{PAD}}$  : The number of pad bits
- ✿ LENGTH : The length of the PSDU

# Block diagram



# Scrambler and descrambler





# PLCP DATA scrambler and descrambler

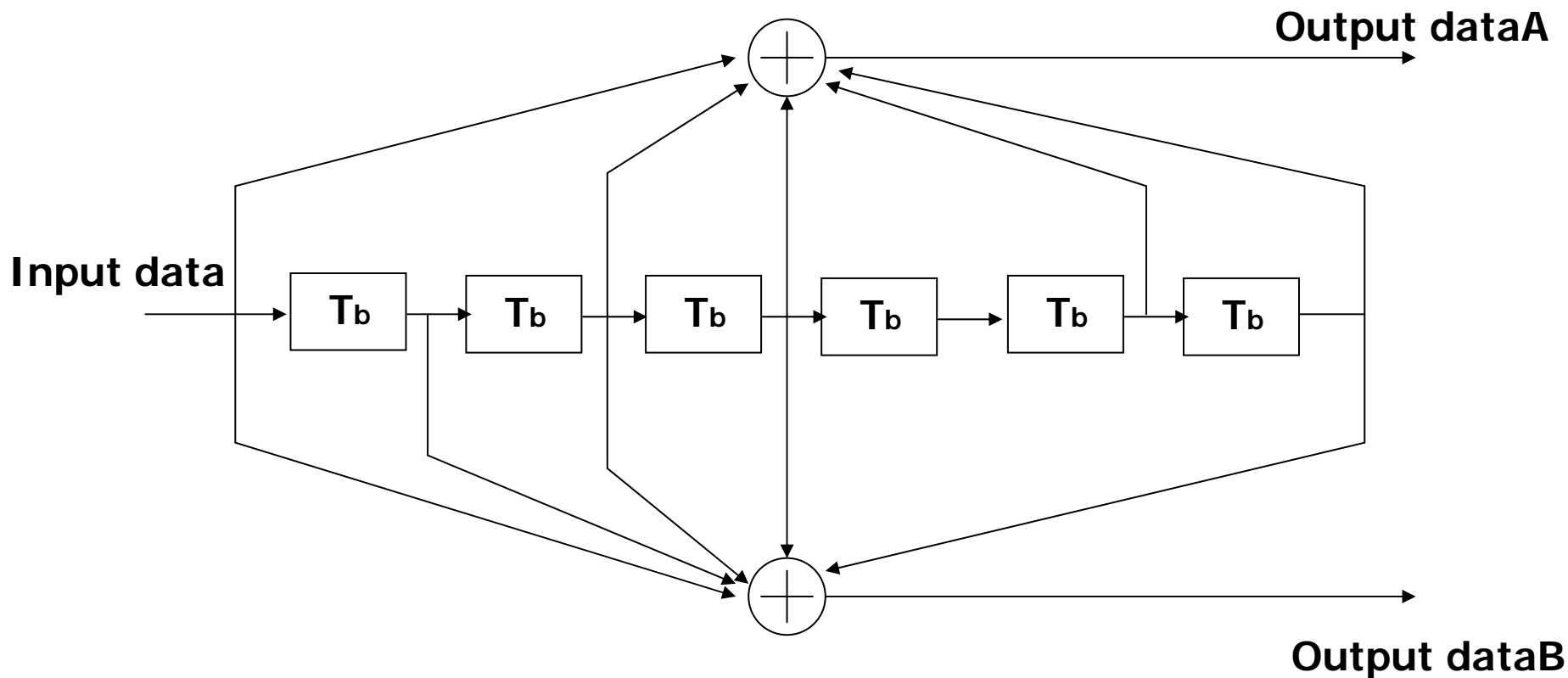
- ✿ The frame scrambler uses the generator polynomial  $S(x)$  is

$$S(x) = x^7 + x^4 + 1$$

- ✿ The 127-bit sequence generated repeatedly by the scrambler shall be (leftmost used first), 00001110 11110010 11001001 00000010 00100110 00101110 10110110 00001100 11010100 11100111 10110100 00101010 11111010 01010001 10111000 11111111, when the all ones initial state is used.

# Convolutional encoder

- The DATA field shall be coded with a convolutional encoder of coding rate  $R = 1/2$



- ✿ Higher code rate:  $2/3$ , or  $3/4$
- ✿ **Puncturing** is a procedure for omitting some of the encoded bits in the transmitter (thus reducing the number of transmitted bits and increasing the coding rate)
- ✿ Increasing the BW efficiency
- ✿ Increasing the bit error rate (BER)

# Puncturing




Punctured Coding ( $r = 2/3$ )

Source Data

$X_0$	$X_1$	$X_2$	$X_3$	$X_4$	$X_5$
-------	-------	-------	-------	-------	-------



Encoded Data

$A_0$	$A_1$	$A_2$	$A_3$	$A_4$	$A_5$
$B_0$		$B_2$		$B_4$	



Stolen Bit






Bit Stolen Data  
(sent/received data)

$A_0$	$B_0$	$A_1$	$A_2$	$B_2$	$A_3$	$A_4$	$B_4$	$A_5$
-------	-------	-------	-------	-------	-------	-------	-------	-------



Bit Inserted Data

$A_0$	$A_1$	$A_2$	$A_3$	$A_4$	$A_5$
$B_0$		$B_2$		$B_4$	



Inserted Dummy Bit



Decoded Data

$y_0$	$y_1$	$y_2$	$y_3$	$y_4$	$y_5$
-------	-------	-------	-------	-------	-------

- ✿ In order to avoid the presence of **deep fade**
- ✿ The interleaver is defined by a **two-step** permutation
- ✿ The permutation ensures that adjacent coded bits are mapped on to nonadjacent subcarriers
- ✿ We shall denote by
  - ✿  $k$  the index of the coded bit before the first permutation
  - ✿ Permutation  $i$  shall be the index after the first and before the second permutation
  - ✿ Second permutation  $j$  shall be the index after the second permutation

✱ first permutation

$$i = (N_{\text{CBPS}} / 16)(k \bmod 16) + \text{floor}(k / 16) \quad k = 0, 1, \dots, N_{\text{CBPS}} - 1$$

✱ second permutation

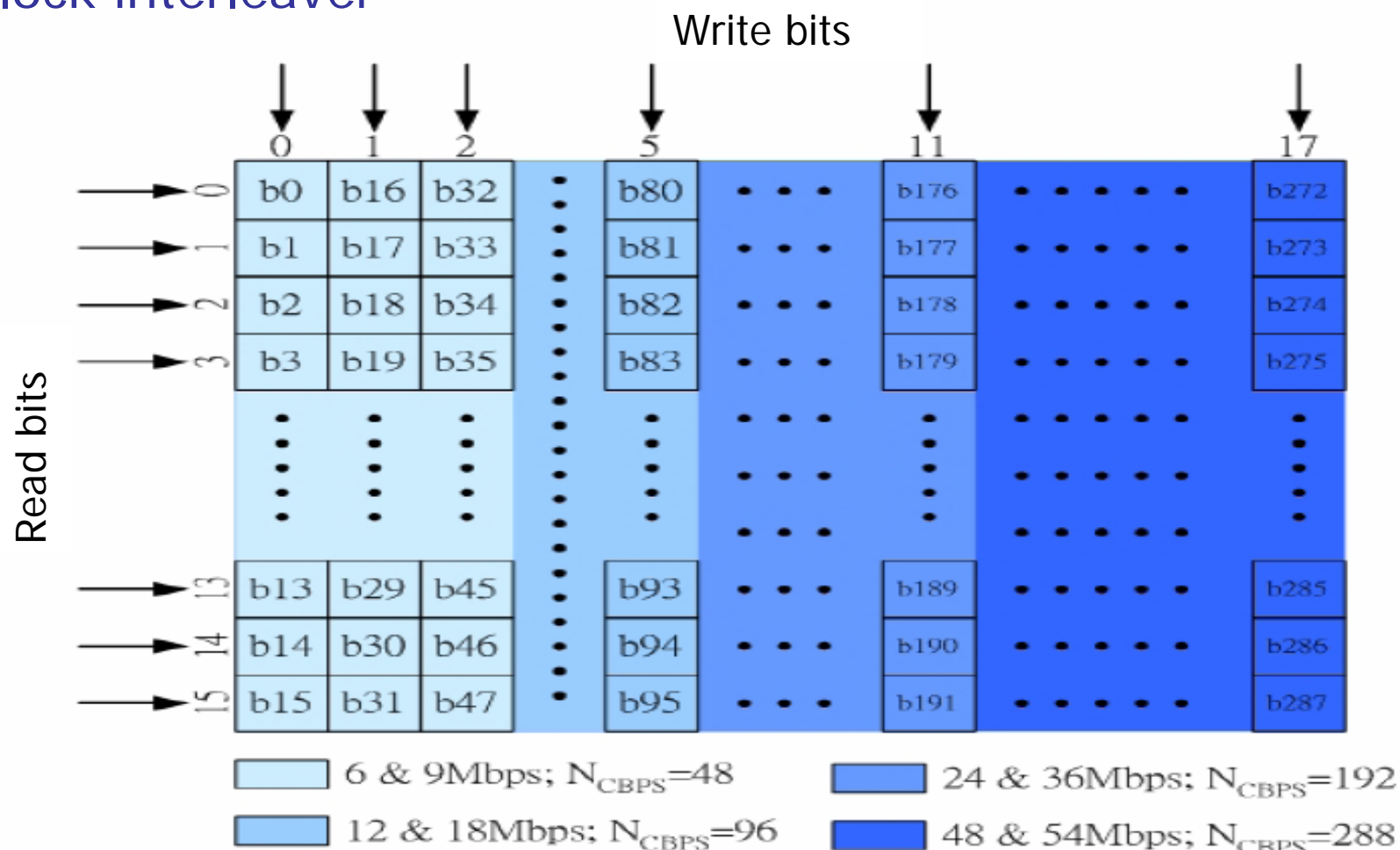
$$j = s \times \text{floor}(i / s) + (i + N_{\text{CBPS}} - \text{floor}(16 \times i / N_{\text{CBPS}})) \bmod s$$

$$i = 0, 1, \dots, N_{\text{CBPS}} - 1$$

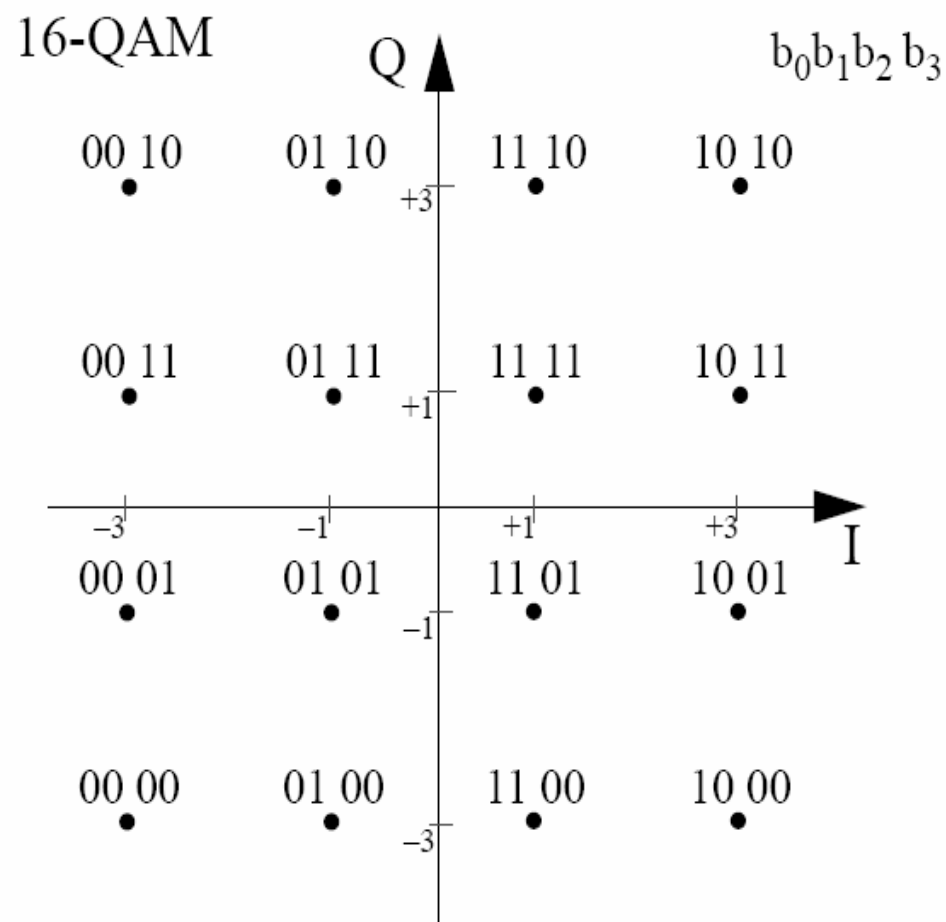
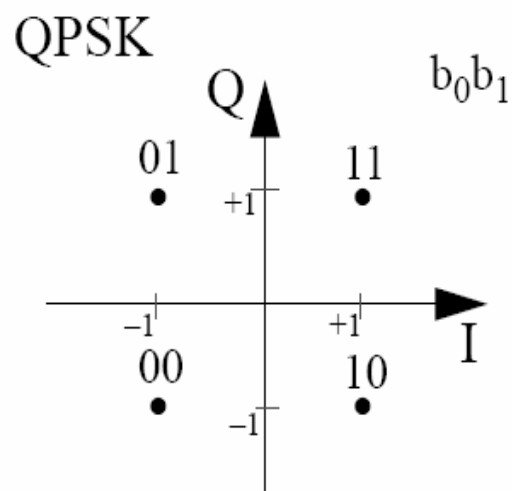
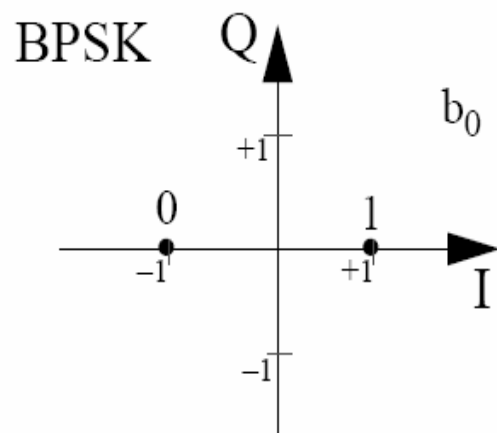
$$s = \max(N_{\text{BPSC}} / 2, 1)$$

# Data interleaving

## Block interleaver

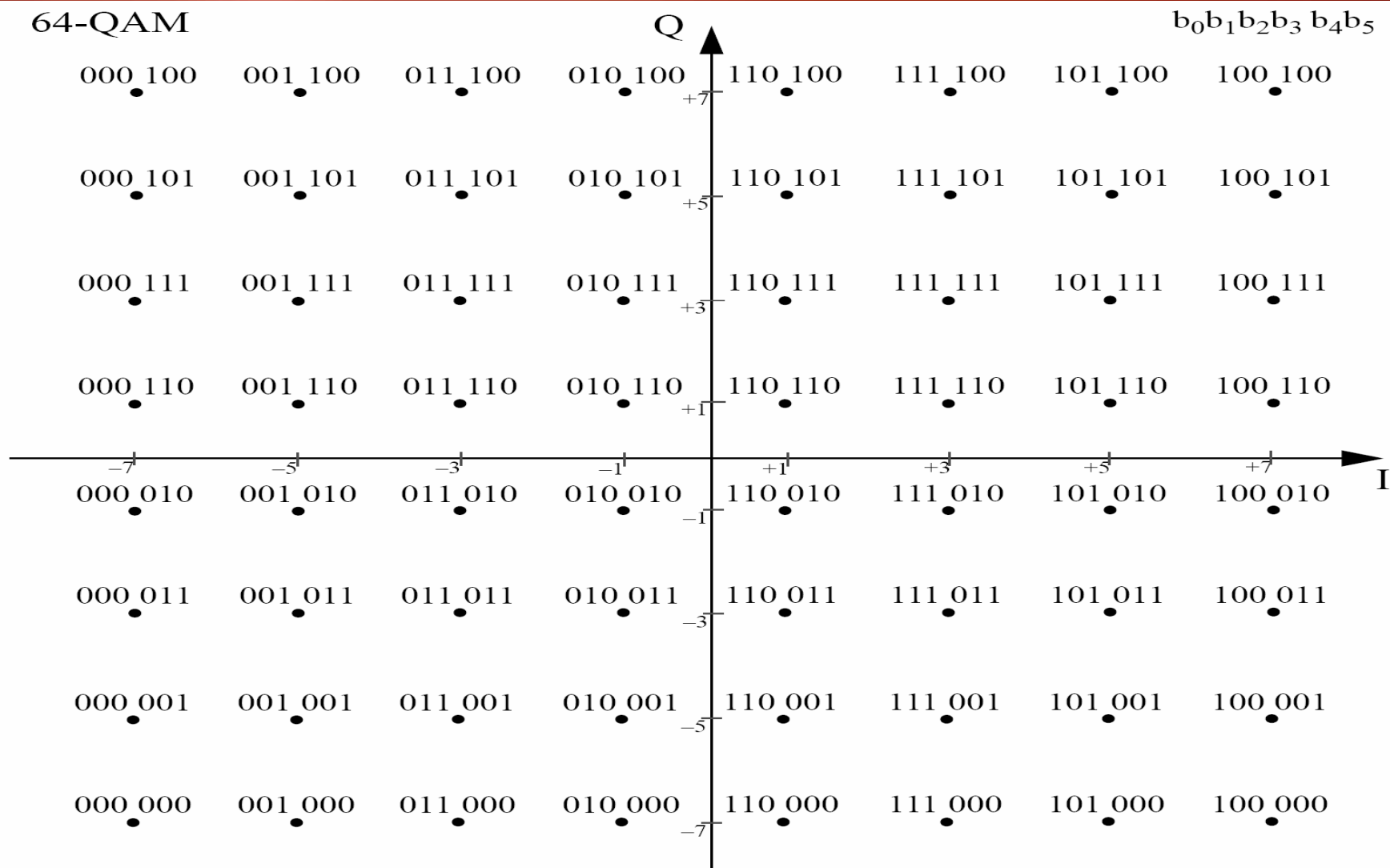


# Modulator



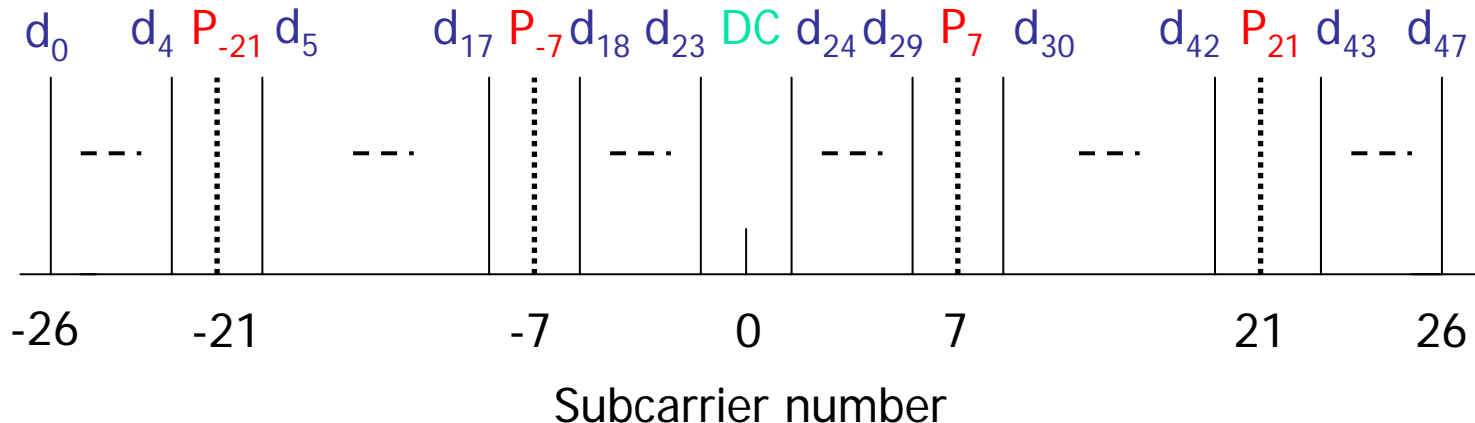


# Modulator



# Pilot subcarriers

- In each OFDM symbol, four of the subcarriers are dedicated to pilot signals in order to make the coherent detection robust against frequency offsets and phase noise.
- These pilot signals shall be put in subcarriers  $-21, -7, 7$  and  $21$ . The pilots shall be BPSK modulated by a pseudo binary sequence to prevent the generation of spectral lines.

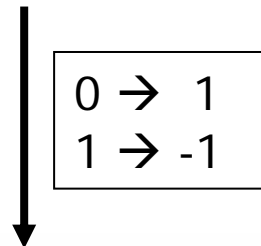


## Pilot subcarriers

- ✿ The polarity of the pilot subcarriers is controlled by the  $P_n$  sequence ( i.e. the output sequence of the scrambler )
- ✿ Replacing all 1's with -1 and all 0's with 1
- ✿ Each sequence element is used for one OFDM symbol
- ✿ In the sequence of the pilot polarity, the first element,  $p_0$ , multiplies the pilot subcarriers of the SIGNAL symbol, the others  $p_n$  are used for the DATA symbols

# Pilot subcarriers

The 127-bit sequence generated repeatedly by the scrambler shall be (leftmost used first), 00001110 11110010 11001001 00000010 00100110 00101110 10110110 00001100 11010100 11100111 10110100 00101010 11111010 01010001 10111000 1111111, when the “all ones” initial state is used.



[illegible]

## Polarity of the pilot subcarriers

$$P_{0,126v} = \{1,1,1,1, -1,-1,-1,1, -1,-1,-1,-1, 1,1,-1,1, -1,-1,1,1, -1,1,1,-1, 1,1,1,1, 1,1,-1,1, \\ 1,1,-1,1, 1,-1,-1,1, 1,1,-1,1, -1,-1,-1,1, -1,1,-1,-1, 1,-1,-1,1, 1,1,1,1, -1,-1,1,1, \\ -1,-1,1,-1, 1,-1,1,1, -1,-1,-1,1, 1,-1,-1,-1, -1,1,-1,-1, 1,-1,1,1, 1,1,-1,1, -1,1,-1,1, \\ -1,-1,-1,-1, -1,1,-1,1, 1,-1,1,-1, 1,1,1,-1, -1,1,-1,-1, -1,1,1,1, -1,-1,-1,-1, -1,-1,-1\}$$

i	OFDM symbol	Element of $p_i$	Pilot at #-21	Pilot at #-7	Pilot at #7	Pilot at #21
0	SIGNAL	1	1.0 +0 j	1.0 +0 j	1.0 +0 j	-1.0 +0 j
1	DATA 1	1	1.0 +0 j	1.0 +0 j	1.0 +0 j	-1.0 +0 j
2	DATA 2	1	1.0 +0 j	1.0 +0 j	1.0 +0 j	-1.0 +0 j
3	DATA 3	1	1.0 +0 j	1.0 +0 j	1.0 +0 j	-1.0 +0 j
4	DATA 4	-1	-1.0 +0 j	-1.0 +0 j	-1.0 +0 j	1.0 +0 j
5	DATA 5	-1	-1.0 +0 j	-1.0 +0 j	-1.0 +0 j	1.0 +0 j
6	DATA 6	-1	-1.0 +0 j	-1.0 +0 j	-1.0 +0 j	1.0 +0 j

- ✿ An OFDM symbol,  $r_{DATA, n}(t)$ , is defined as  $N_{SD}$ :

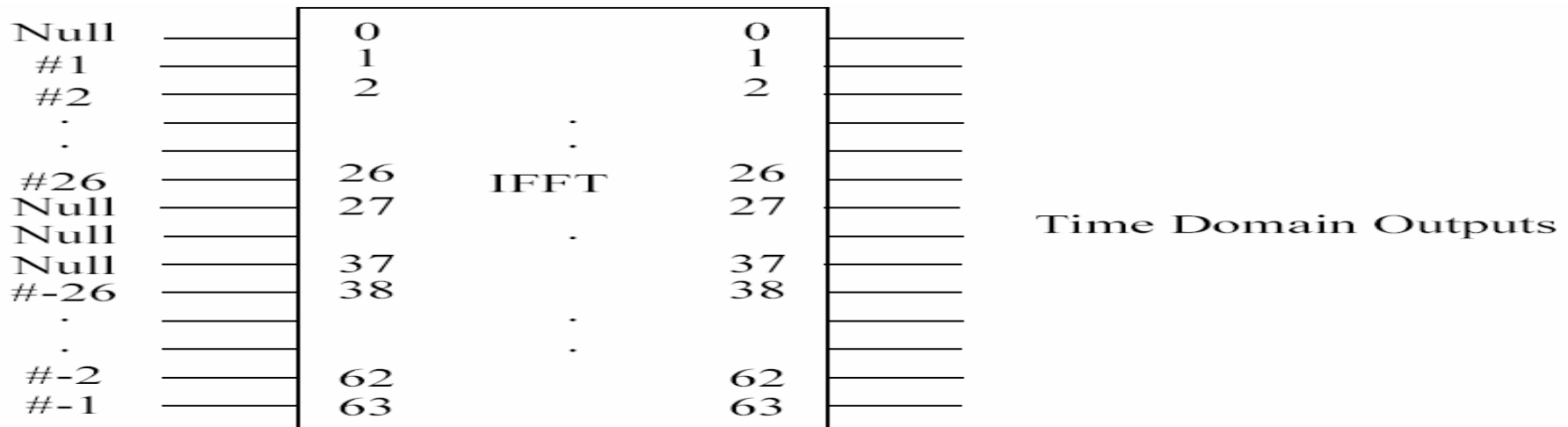
$$r_{DATA, n}(t) = w_{TSYM}(t) \left( \sum_{k=0}^{N_{SD}-1} d_{k,n} \exp(j2\pi M(k)\Delta_F(t - T_{GI})) + p_{n+1} \sum_{k=-N_{ST}/2}^{N_{ST}/2} p_k \exp(j2\pi\Delta_F(t - T_{GI})) \right)$$

$N_{SD}$ : the number of modulated data symbols

$N_{ST}$ : the number of pilot symbols

# IFFT

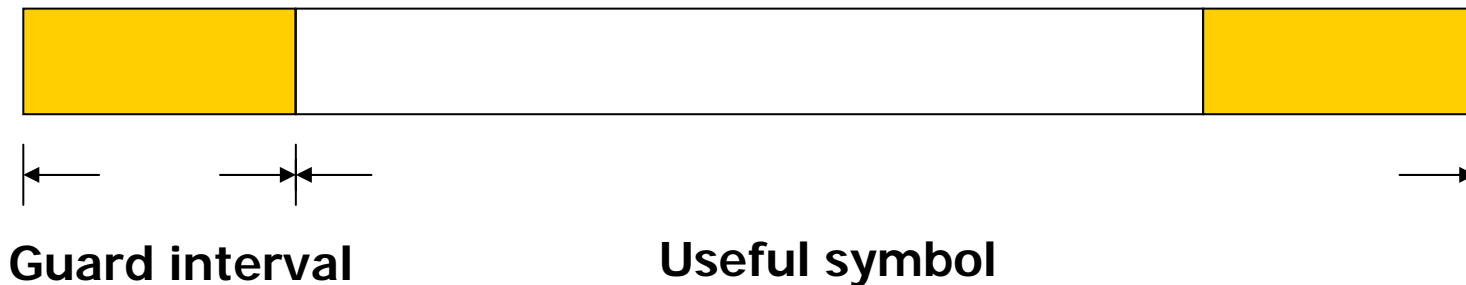
- ✿ The common way to implement the inverse Fourier transform is by an **Inverse Fast Fourier Transform (IFFT)** algorithm
- ✿ **An example**, a 64-point IFFT is used, the coefficient
  - ✿ 1~26 are mapped to the same numbered IFFT inputs
  - ✿ -26~-1 are copied into the IFFT inputs 38~63
  - ✿ The rest of the input are set to zero



**Figure 109—Inputs and outputs of IDFT**

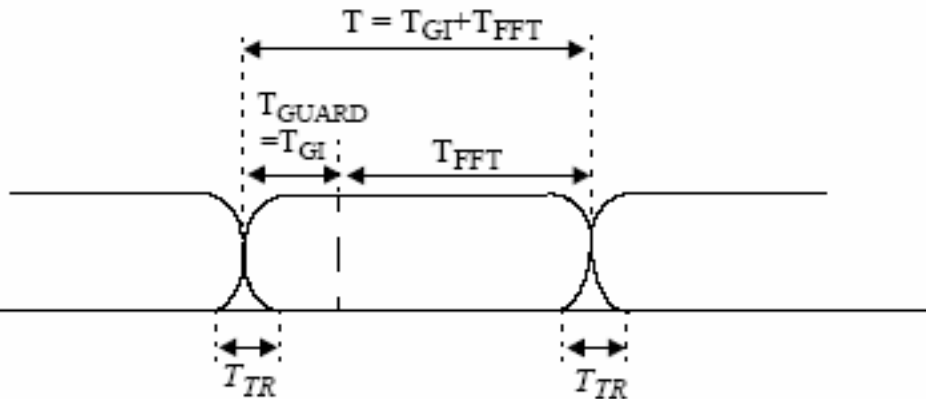
# Guard Interval

- ✿ Shifting the time by  $T_{\text{GUARD}}$  creates the “cyclic prefix” used in OFDM to avoid ISI from the previous frame
- ✿ Three kinds of  $T_{\text{GUARD}}$  are defined
  - ✿ For the short training sequence ( $0 \mu\text{s}$ )
  - ✿ For the long training sequence ( $T_{\text{GI2}} = 1.6 \mu\text{s}$ )
  - ✿ For the data OFDM symbols ( $T_{\text{GI}} = 0.8 \mu\text{s}$ )





# Windowing function



T: Time-windowing function duration

$T_{FFT}$ : IFFT/FFT period

$T_{GI}$  : GI duration

$$w_t(t) = \begin{cases} \sin^2\left(\frac{\pi}{2}\left(0.5 + t/T_{TR}\right)\right) & (-T_{TR}/2 < t < T_{TR}/2) \\ 1 & (T_{TR}/2 < t < T - T_{TR}/2) \\ \sin^2\left(\frac{\pi}{2}\left(0.5 - (t - T)/T_{TR}\right)\right) & (T - T_{TR}/2 < t < T + T_{TR}/2) \end{cases}$$

$T_{TR}$  : Transition time is the transition time between two consecutive periods of FFT (about 100ns), smooth the transition is required in order to reduce the spectral sidelobes of the transmitted waveform