SC514-FEC Techniques for Optical Communications

Part X

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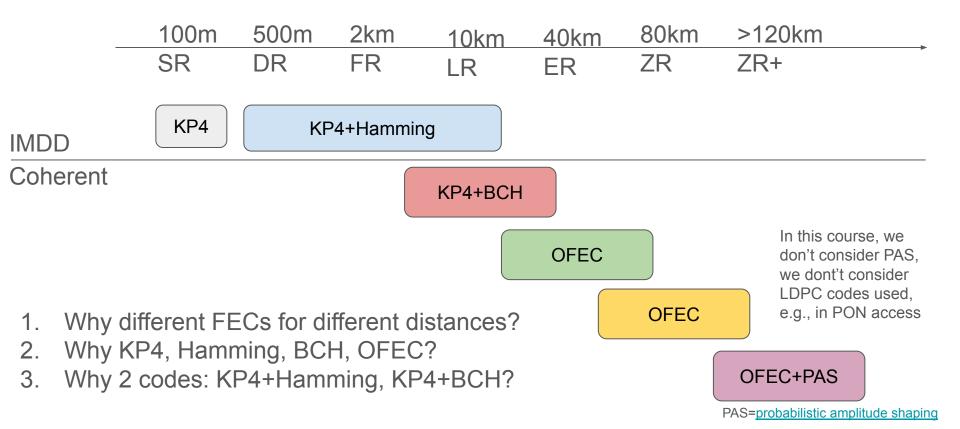
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OFC Conference 2025

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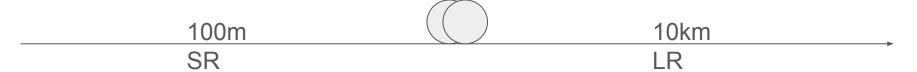
San Francisco, California, USA

FEC in 800G Standards (IEEE/OIF)



Why different FEC for different distances?

- Speed of light in glass fiber c = 2e8 m/s
- To travel 100m, 1 bit takes 0.5us
- At 800Gb/s, bit duration is 1.25ps.
- 1 million bits are 1.25us long



- To travel **100m**, 1 bit takes 0.5us
- ⇒ long FEC is latency bottleneck
- To travel 10km, 1 bit takes 50us
- ⇒ Fiber is latency bottleneck

Why KP4, Hamming, BCH, OFEC?

Color-code
Complexity
Latency
Performance

Linear codes

Reed Solomon Codes (KP4)

- Algebraic decoding
- Non-binary
- burst-tolerant

BCH Codes

- Short code
- Algebraic decoding
- Efficient soft-decoding

Hamming Codes

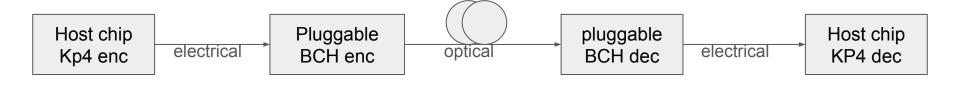
- Short code
- Efficient soft-decoding

Product-like codes

(OFEC)

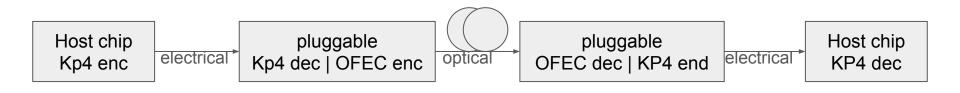
- BCH component codes
- Efficient soft-decoding

Why 2 codes: KP4+Hamming, KP4+BCH?



Short reach + Low latency

Long reach + high performance



Outline

In the remainder of the course, we develop the underlying principles mainly guided by performance.

- Part 1: Model to quantify FEC performance ("BER")
- Part 2: hard- and soft-decision decoding, net coding gain (NCG)
- Part 3 & 4: improving NCG, linear codes (e.g., Hamming codes)
- Part 5: Shannon limit: how good can we get
- Part 6: Reed-Solomon (e.g., KP4) and BCH codes
- Part 7: Product and product like codes (e.g., OFEC)

What if the errors are not independent ("AWGN")?

Correlated errors caused e.g., by band limitation, EEPN,...

EEPN=equalizer enhanced phase noise

Very short distance / low latency

Solve problem in FEC

 Non-binary, burst-error tolerant FEC, e.g., KP4 Reed-Solomon code Not so short distance

Solve problem in DSP:

- Mitigate error correlation in DSP: interleaver, digital sub-carrier multiplexing, compensation...
- Use binary FEC