

Channel Coding Theorem - I

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Level of Reliability

- The inevitable presence of noise in a channel causes **discrepancies (errors) between the output and input data sequences** of a digital communication system.
- For a **relatively noisy channel**, (e.g. wireless communication channel) , the probability of error may reach a value as high as **10^{-1}** . which means that (on the average) only 9 out of 10 transmitted bits are received correctly.



Need of Channel Coding

- For many applications, this level of reliability **10^{-1}** is unacceptable.
- A probability of error equal to 10^{-6} or even lower is the necessary requirement.
- To achieve such a high level of performance, we use the **channel coding**.



Design Goal of Channel Coding

- To increase the resistance of a digital communication system to channel noise.

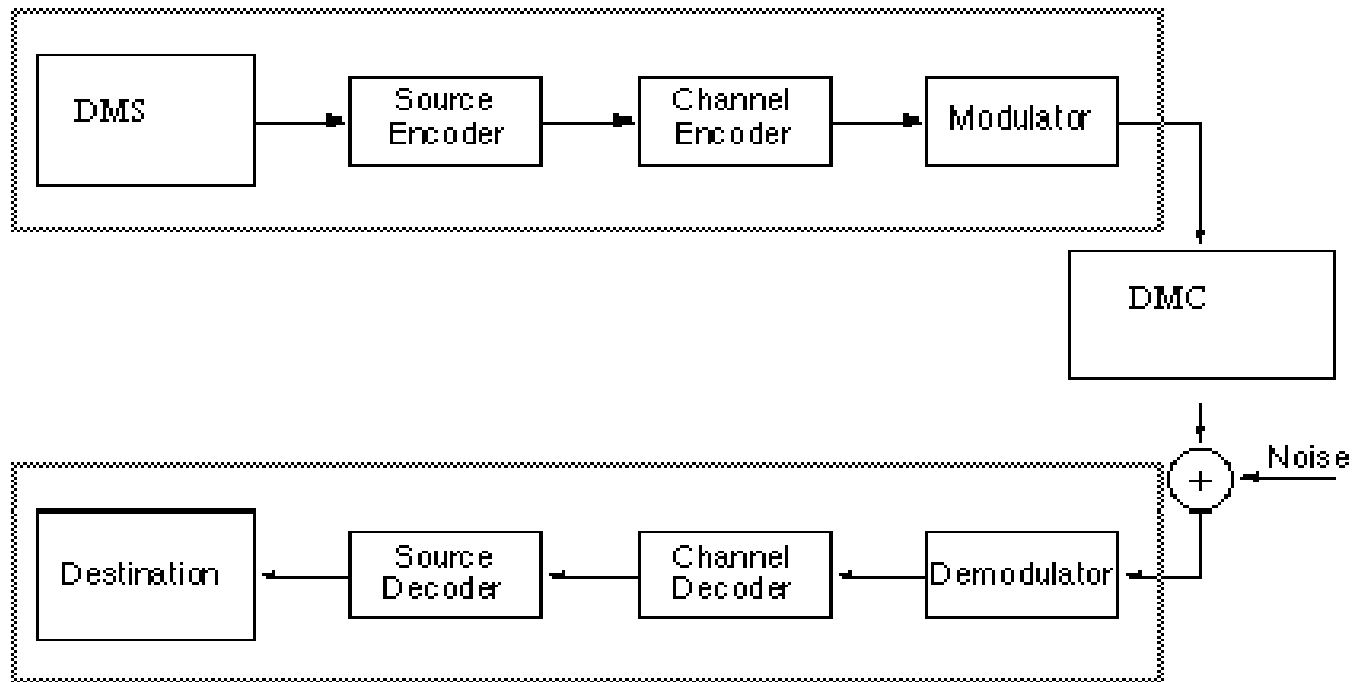
Channel Coding Operations

- Involves two operations:
 - **Mapping** the incoming data sequence into a channel input sequence (at transmitter).
 - and **inverse mapping** the channel output sequence into an output sequence (at receiver) in such a way that the overall effect of channel noise is minimized.

Channel Encoder and Decoder

- The first mapping operation is performed in the transmitter by a **channel encoder**.
- The inverse mapping operation is performed in the receiver by a **channel decoder**.

Block Diagram of Digital Communication System



Design of a Channel Encoder and Decoder

- Need:
 - To optimize the overall reliability of the communication system.
- Design Principle:
 - Introduce redundancy in the channel encoder so as to reconstruct the original sequence as accurately as possible at the channel decoder.

Channel Coding Vs Source Coding

- Channel coding **introduces controlled redundancy to improve reliability.**
- Source coding **reduces redundancy to improve efficiency.**

Block Codes

- Most popular channel code is **block code**.
- Principle:
 - The message sequence to be transmitted thru the channel is first subdivided into a number of (sequential) blocks each having the length as same (assume k bits).
 - i.e. each k -bit block is mapped into an n -bit block, where $n > k$.
 - The number of redundant bits added by the channel encoder to each transmitted block is $n - k$ bits.



Code Rate (r)

- The ratio k/n is also called the code rate denoted by r .

$$r = k/n$$

- r is less than unity.
- When the block length n approaches ∞ , the code rate reaches zero., therefore the coding efficiency η approaches zero.

