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# Importance of Symbol Equity in Coded Modulation for Power Line Communications ISIT 2012

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2 An Additional Parameter  $E_c$ 

3 Optimality of Equitable Symbol Weight Codes wrt  $E_C$ 



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# Coding for PLC



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# Coding for PLC



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2 An Additional Parameter E<sub>C</sub>

3 Optimality of Equitable Symbol Weight Codes wrt  $E_{C}$ 



# Transmission in general



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Summary

## Coded Modulation for PLC



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Summary

## A Coded Modulation Scheme

Let  $C_1$  consist of the following words:

(0, 2, 4, 2, 1, 4, 5, 5, 3, 6)	(0, 5, 3, 1, 6, 3, 4, 4, 1, 2)	(0, 3, 6, 6, 5, 1, 2, 2, 4, 1)
(6, 1, 3, 5, 3, 2, 5, 6, 4, 0)	(5, 1, 6, 4, 2, 0, 4, 5, 2, 3)	(3, 1, 4, 0, 0, 6, 2, 3, 5, 2)
(6, 0, 2, 4, 6, 4, 3, 0, 5, 1)	(5, 6, 2, 0, 5, 3, 1, 6, 3, 4)	(3, 4, 2, 5, 1, 1, 0, 4, 6, 3)
(4, 0, 1, 3, 5, 0, 5, 1, 6, 2)	(2, 6, 0, 3, 1, 6, 4, 0, 4, 5)	(1, 4, 5, 3, 6, 2, 2, 5, 0, 4)
(6, 5, 1, 2, 4, 6, 1, 2, 0, 3)	(5, 3, 0, 1, 4, 2, 0, 1, 5, 6)	(3, 2, 5, 6, 4, 0, 3, 6, 1, 5)
(2, 0, 6, 2, 3, 5, 0, 3, 1, 4)	(1, 6, 4, 1, 2, 5, 3, 2, 6, 0)	(4, 4, 3, 6, 0, 5, 1, 0, 2, 6)
(1, 3, 1, 0, 3, 4, 6, 4, 2, 5)	(4, 2, 0, 5, 2, 3, 6, 3, 0, 1)	(2, 5, 5, 4, 0, 1, 6, 1, 3, 0)

Then  $\mathcal{C}_1$  is a code of length 10 over alphabet  $\Sigma=\{0,1,2,3,4,5,6\}$  with minimum distance 9.

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## A Coded Modulation Scheme

### Consider a codeword

$$\mathbf{u} = (0, 2, 4, 2, 1, 4, 5, 5, 3, 6)$$



## Narrowband Noise

*Narrowband noise* results in certain frequencies being received at all timeslots. For example, narrowband noise occurs at frequency 2.

Time

	0	*	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Frequency	1	-	-	-	-	*	-	-	-	-	-
	2	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	*	-
	4	-	-	*	-	-	*	-	-	-	-
	5	-	-	-	-	-	-	*	*	-	-
	6	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	*

Signal Fading

*Signal fading* results in certain frequencies **not** being received at all timeslots. For example, signal fading occurs at frequency 5.

Time

			1 11110								
	0	*	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Frequency	1	-	-	-	-	*	-	-	-	-	-
	2	-	*	-	*	-	-	-	-	-	-
	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	*	-
	4	-	-	*	-	-	*	-	-	-	-
	5	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	6	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	*

## Impulse Noise

*Impulse noise* results in all frequencies being received at certain timeslots. For example, impulse noise occurs at the last timeslot.

T:....

			Time								
	0	*	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	*
Frequency	1	-	-	-	-	*	-	-	-	-	*
	2	-	*	-	*	-	-	-	-	-	*
	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	*	*
	4	-	-	*	-	-	*	-	-	-	*
	5	-	-	-	-	-	-	*	*	-	*
,	6	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	*

# Background Noise

*Insertion noise* results in certain frequencies being received at certain timeslots. *Deletion noise* results in certain frequencies **not** being received at certain timeslots.

			I ime								
											-
	0	*	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Frequency	1	-	-	-	-	*	-	-	-	-	-
	2	-	*	-	*	-	-	-	-	-	-
	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	*	-
	4	-	-	*	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	5	-	-	-	-	-	-	*	*	-	-
	6	-	*	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	*

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## Demodulator Output



Represent this output as

 $\bm{v} = \bigl(\{0,2\},\{2,6\},\{2,4\},\{2\},\{1,2\},\{2\},\{2\},\{2\},\{2,3\},\{0,1,2,3,4,5,6\}\bigr)$ 

# Minimum distance decoding

### Objective of Decoder

Output the unique codeword in  ${\mathcal C}$  with the least distance from  ${\boldsymbol v}$ 

For any  $\mathbf{c} \in \Sigma^n$  and  $\mathbf{v} \in (2^{\Sigma})^n$ , let

$$d(\mathbf{c},\mathbf{v}) = |\{i:\mathbf{c}_i \notin \mathbf{v}_i\}|$$

So, when  $\mathbf{u}$  and  $\mathbf{v}$  are respectively,

$$\mathbf{u} = (0, 2, 4, 2, 1, 4, 5, 5, 3, 6)$$
$$\mathbf{v} = (\{0, 2\}, \{2, 6\}, \{2, 4\}, \{2\}, \{1, 2\}, \{2\}, \{2\}, \{2\}, \{2, 3\}, \{0, 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6\})$$
$$d(\mathbf{u}, \mathbf{v}) = 3$$

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## Minimum distance decoding

Compute  $d(\mathbf{c}, \mathbf{v})$  for all  $\mathbf{c} \in C_1$ .

 $(0, 2, 4, 2, 1, 4, 5, 5, 3, 6) \leftarrow 3$  $(0, 3, 6, 6, 5, 1, 2, 2, 4, 1) \leftarrow 6$  $(0, 5, 3, 1, 6, 3, 4, 4, 1, 2) \leftarrow 8$  $(6, 1, 3, 5, 3, 2, 5, 6, 4, 0) \leftarrow 8$  $(5, 1, 6, 4, 2, 0, 4, 5, 2, 3) \leftarrow 7$  $(3, 1, 4, 0, 0, 6, 2, 3, 5, 2) \leftarrow 7$  $(6, 0, 2, 4, 6, 4, 3, 0, 5, 1) \leftarrow 8$  $(5, 6, 2, 0, 5, 3, 1, 6, 3, 4) \leftarrow 6$  $(3, 4, 2, 5, 1, 1, 0, 4, 6, 3) \leftarrow 7$  $(4, 0, 1, 3, 5, 0, 5, 1, 6, 2) \leftarrow 9$  $(2, 6, 0, 3, 1, 6, 4, 0, 4, 5) \leftarrow 6$  $(1, 4, 5, 3, 6, 2, 2, 5, 0, 4) \leftarrow 7$  $(6, 5, 1, 2, 4, 6, 1, 2, 0, 3) \leftarrow 7$  $(5, 3, 0, 1, 4, 2, 0, 1, 5, 6) \leftarrow 8$  $(3, 2, 5, 6, 4, 0, 3, 6, 1, 5) \leftarrow 8$  $(2, 0, 6, 2, 3, 5, 0, 3, 1, 4) \leftarrow 7$  $(1, 6, 4, 1, 2, 5, 3, 2, 6, 0) \leftarrow 5$  $(4, 4, 3, 6, 0, 5, 1, 0, 2, 6) \leftarrow 8$  $(1, 3, 1, 0, 3, 4, 6, 4, 2, 5) \leftarrow 8$  $(4, 2, 0, 5, 2, 3, 6, 3, 0, 1) \leftarrow 7$  $(2, 5, 5, 4, 0, 1, 6, 1, 3, 0) \leftarrow 7$ 

Choose a codeword u' which attains the minimum distance and decode v to u'. In our example, v is correctly decoded to u.

#### Observation

The code  $C_1$  was able to correct

- one narrowband noise error,
- one signal fading error,
- one impulse noise error,
- two background noise errors.

### Another code with same parameters

Let  $C_2$  consist of the following words:

Then  $\mathcal{C}_2$  is a code of length 10 over alphabet  $\Sigma=\{0,1,2,3,4,5,6\}$  with minimum distance 9.

## Another code with same parameters

Let  $\mathcal{C}_2$  consist of the following words:

Then  $\mathcal{C}_2$  is a code of length 10 over alphabet  $\Sigma=\{0,1,2,3,4,5,6\}$  with minimum distance 9.

#### But...

The correctness of the minimum distance decoder with code  $C_2$  cannot be guaranteed if one narrowband noise error occurs.

### Another code with same parameters

Suppose we transmit

and narrowband noise occurs at frequency 1. So, we receive

 $\mathbf{v} = (\{0,1\},\{0,1\},\{0,1\},\{0,1\},\{0,1\},\{0,1\},\{0,1\},\{0,1\},\{0,1\},\{0,1\},\{0,1\},\{1,6\}).$ 

But

$$d((0,0,0,0,0,0,0,0,0,0,0),\mathbf{v}) = 0$$
  
$$d((1,1,1,1,1,1,1,1,1,0),\mathbf{v}) = 0$$

and the minimum distance decoder is unable to give an output.

#### Conclusion

An additional parameter is required to determine the error-correcting capability of a code with respect to narrowband noise and signal fading.





2 An Additional Parameter  $E_C$ 

3 Optimality of Equitable Symbol Weight Codes wrt  $E_{C}$ 



### Error-correction for narrowband noise

Let C be a *q*-ary code of length *n* over  $\Sigma$ .

Write a codeword  $\mathbf{u}$  as  $(\mathbf{u}_1, \mathbf{u}_2, \dots, \mathbf{u}_n)$ . Let  $w_{\sigma}(\mathbf{u}) = |\{i : \mathbf{u}_i = \sigma\}|$  for  $\sigma \in \Sigma$ .

#### Definition

 $E_{\mathcal{C}}$  is a function  $E_{\mathcal{C}}: \{1, \ldots, q\} \rightarrow \{1, 2, \ldots, n\}$ , such that

$$E_{\mathcal{C}}(e) = \max_{\substack{|\Gamma|=e\\ r \in \Sigma}} \left( \max_{\mathbf{c} \in \mathcal{C}} \left\{ \sum_{\sigma \in \Gamma} w_{\sigma}(\mathbf{c}) \right\} \right)$$

Roughly speaking,  $E_{\mathcal{C}}(e)$  measures the maximum number of coordinates, over all codewords in  $\mathcal{C}$ , affected by *e* narrowband noise and/or fading errors.

# Determining $E_{\mathcal{C}}$

## Example

### Consider $C_2$ :

(0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 6)	(1, 1, 1, 1, 1, 1, 1, 1, 1, 6)	(2, 2, 2, 2, 2, 2, 2, 2, 2, 2, 6)
(3, 3, 3, 3, 3, 3, 3, 3, 3, 3, 3, 6)	(4, 4, 4, 4, 4, 4, 4, 4, 4, 4, 6)	(5, 5, 5, 5, 5, 5, 5, 5, 5, 5, 6)

#### Then

$$E_{\mathcal{C}_2}(1)=9, ext{ and } E_{\mathcal{C}_2}(e)=10 ext{ if } e\geq 2.$$

#### Definition

 $E_{\mathcal{C}}$  is a function  $E_{\mathcal{C}}: \{1,\ldots,q\} 
ightarrow \{1,2,\ldots,n\}$ , such that

$$\mathsf{E}_{\mathcal{C}}(e) = \max_{\substack{|\Gamma|=e\\ \Gamma \subset \Sigma}} \left( \max_{\mathbf{c} \in \mathcal{C}} \left\{ \sum_{\sigma \in \Gamma} w_{\sigma}(\mathbf{c}) \right\} \right)$$

# Determining $E_{\mathcal{C}}$

## Example

Consider  $C_1$ :

(0, 2, 4, 2, 1, 4, 5, 5, 3, 6)	(0, 5, 3, 1, 6, 3, 4, 4, 1, 2)	(0, 3, 6, 6, 5, 1, 2, 2, 4, 1)
(6, 1, 3, 5, 3, 2, 5, 6, 4, 0)	(5, 1, 6, 4, 2, 0, 4, 5, 2, 3)	(3, 1, 4, 0, 0, 6, 2, 3, 5, 2)
(6, 0, 2, 4, 6, 4, 3, 0, 5, 1)	(5, 6, 2, 0, 5, 3, 1, 6, 3, 4)	(3, 4, 2, 5, 1, 1, 0, 4, 6, 3)
(4, 0, 1, 3, 5, 0, 5, 1, 6, 2)	(2, 6, 0, 3, 1, 6, 4, 0, 4, 5)	(1, 4, 5, 3, 6, 2, 2, 5, 0, 4)
(6, 5, 1, 2, 4, 6, 1, 2, 0, 3)	(5, 3, 0, 1, 4, 2, 0, 1, 5, 6)	(3, 2, 5, 6, 4, 0, 3, 6, 1, 5)
(2, 0, 6, 2, 3, 5, 0, 3, 1, 4)	(1, 6, 4, 1, 2, 5, 3, 2, 6, 0)	(4, 4, 3, 6, 0, 5, 1, 0, 2, 6)
(1, 3, 1, 0, 3, 4, 6, 4, 2, 5)	(4, 2, 0, 5, 2, 3, 6, 3, 0, 1)	(2, 5, 5, 4, 0, 1, 6, 1, 3, 0)

Then

$$E_{\mathcal{C}_1}(1) = 2, E_{\mathcal{C}_1}(2) = 4, \dots, E_{\mathcal{C}_1}(6) = 9, E_{\mathcal{C}_1}(7) = 10$$

### Definition

 $E_{\mathcal{C}}$  is a function  $E_{\mathcal{C}}:\{1,\ldots,q\}
ightarrow\{1,2,\ldots,n\}$ , such that

$$E_{\mathcal{C}}(e) = \max_{\substack{|\Gamma|=e\\ \tau \subset \Sigma}} \left( \max_{\mathbf{c} \in \mathcal{C}} \left\{ \sum_{\sigma \in \Gamma} w_{\sigma}(\mathbf{c}) \right\} \right)$$

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## Error-correction for PLC

#### Proposition

Let C be a code of length n over alphabet  $\Sigma$  of size q with distance d. On transmission of any codeword, the code C is able to correct  $e_{NBD}$  narrowband noise errors  $e_{SFD}$  signal fading errors,  $e_{IMP}$  impulse errors noise,  $e_{INS}$  insertion errors and  $e_{DEL}$  deletion errors, if and only if the following holds:

 $e_{\mathsf{DEL}} + e_{\mathsf{IMP}} + e_{\mathsf{INS}} + E_{\mathcal{C}}(e_{\mathsf{SFD}}) + E_{\mathcal{C}}(e_{\mathsf{NBD}}) < d.$ 

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## Error-correction for PLC

### Example

 $C_1$  was able to correct **one** narrowband noise error, **one** signal fading error, **one** impulse noise error, **two** background noise errors, because

$$e_{\text{DEL}} + e_{\text{IMP}} + e_{\text{INS}} + E_{C_1}(e_{\text{SFD}}) + E_{C_1}(e_{\text{NBD}})$$
  
= 1 + 1 + 1 +  $E_{C_1}(1) + E_{C_1}(1)$   
= 7  
< 9 = d

 $\mathcal{C}_2$  was **unable** to correct **one** narrowband noise error

$$e_{\text{DEL}} + e_{\text{IMP}} + e_{\text{INS}} + E_{C_2}(e_{\text{SFD}}) + E_{C_2}(e_{\text{NBD}})$$
$$= E_{C_2}(1)$$
$$= 9 = d$$

# Determining $E_{\mathcal{C}}$ for Permutation Codes

#### Example

When n = q, C is a *permutation code* if  $w_{\sigma}(\mathbf{u}) = 1$  for all  $\mathbf{u} \in C$  and  $\sigma \in \Sigma$ .

 $E_{\mathcal{C}}(e) = e$ 

if and only if  $\ensuremath{\mathcal{C}}$  is a permutation code.

So,  ${\mathcal C}$  is able to correct  $\ldots$  if and only if

 $e_{\text{DEL}} + e_{\text{IMP}} + e_{\text{INS}} + e_{\text{SFD}} + e_{\text{NBD}} < d.$ 

# Determining $E_{\mathcal{C}}$ for certain classes of codes

#### Example

When  $n \leq q$ , C is an *injection code* if  $w_{\sigma}(\mathbf{u}) \leq 1$  for all  $\mathbf{u} \in C$  and  $\sigma \in \Sigma$ .

$$E_{\mathcal{C}}(e) = egin{cases} e, & ext{if } e \leq n \ n, & ext{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

if and only if C is an injection code. In particular, when q = n, this gives  $E_C(e) = e$  for all e if and only if C is a *permutation code*, that is,  $w_{\sigma}(\mathbf{u}) = 1$  for all  $\mathbf{u} \in C$  and  $\sigma \in \Sigma$ .

#### Example

When q|n, C is a frequency permutation array if  $w_{\sigma}(\mathbf{u}) = n/q$  for all  $\mathbf{u} \in C$  and  $\sigma \in \Sigma$ .

$$E_{\mathcal{C}}(e) = ne/q$$

if and only if C is a FPA.

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## Determining $E_{\mathcal{C}}$ for certain classes of codes

### Example

Let  $\Sigma = \{1, \ldots, q\}$ . Consider a vector  $(c_1, c_2, \ldots, c_q)$  with  $c_1 \ge c_2 \ge \cdots \ge c_q$ such that  $\sum_{j=1}^{q} c_j = n$ . C is a *constant-composition code* if  $w_j(\mathbf{u}) = c_j$  for all  $\mathbf{u} \in C$  and  $1 \le j \le q$ . If C is constant-composition code, then

$$E_{\mathcal{C}}(e) = \sum_{i=1}^{e} c_i.$$

Consider  $\mathcal{C}_3$  consist of the following words:

(0, 0, 0, 0, 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6)(1, 2, 3, 4, 0, 0, 0, 0, 5, 6)

Then,

$$E_{\mathcal{C}_3}(e)=e+3$$

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## Determining $E_{\mathcal{C}}$ for certain classes of codes

#### Example

A codeword **u** has symbol weight *r*, where  $r = \max_{\sigma \in \Sigma} w_{\sigma}(\mathbf{u})$ .

A code has bounded symbol weight r if all its codewords have symbol weight at most r.

If C has bounded symbol weight r, then

$$E_{\mathcal{C}}(1) = r$$
,  $E_{\mathcal{C}}(e) \geq \min\{n, r+e-1\}$ .

Consider  $C_4$  consist of the following words:

Then,

$$E_{\mathcal{C}_4}(e) = egin{cases} 2e, & ext{if } e \leq 5 \ 10, & ext{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

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## Determining $E_{\mathcal{C}}$ for certain classes of codes

### Definition

A codeword **u** has equitable symbol weight if  $w_{\sigma}(\mathbf{u}) \in \{\lfloor n/q \rfloor, \lceil n/q \rceil\}$  for any  $\sigma \in \Sigma$ . A code is an equitable symbol weight code if all the codewords have equitable symbol weight.

#### Example

If C is an equitable symbol weight code,

$$E_{\mathcal{C}}(e) = egin{cases} re, & ext{if } e \leq q - \ r(q-t) + (e-q+t)(r-1), & ext{otherwise}, \end{cases}$$

where  $r = \lceil n/q \rceil$  and t = qr - n.

# Determining $E_{\mathcal{C}}$ for certain classes of codes

### $\mathsf{Recall}\ \mathcal{C}_1:$

(0, 2, 4, 2, 1, 4, 5, 5, 3, 6)	(0, 5, 3, 1, 6, 3, 4, 4, 1, 2)	(0, 3, 6, 6, 5, 1, 2, 2, 4, 1)
(6, 1, 3, 5, 3, 2, 5, 6, 4, 0)	(5, 1, 6, 4, 2, 0, 4, 5, 2, 3)	(3, 1, 4, 0, 0, 6, 2, 3, 5, 2)
(6, 0, 2, 4, 6, 4, 3, 0, 5, 1)	(5, 6, 2, 0, 5, 3, 1, 6, 3, 4)	(3, 4, 2, 5, 1, 1, 0, 4, 6, 3)
(4, 0, 1, 3, 5, 0, 5, 1, 6, 2)	(2, 6, 0, 3, 1, 6, 4, 0, 4, 5)	(1, 4, 5, 3, 6, 2, 2, 5, 0, 4)
(6, 5, 1, 2, 4, 6, 1, 2, 0, 3)	(5, 3, 0, 1, 4, 2, 0, 1, 5, 6)	(3, 2, 5, 6, 4, 0, 3, 6, 1, 5)
(2, 0, 6, 2, 3, 5, 0, 3, 1, 4)	(1, 6, 4, 1, 2, 5, 3, 2, 6, 0)	(4, 4, 3, 6, 0, 5, 1, 0, 2, 6)
(1, 3, 1, 0, 3, 4, 6, 4, 2, 5)	(4, 2, 0, 5, 2, 3, 6, 3, 0, 1)	(2, 5, 5, 4, 0, 1, 6, 1, 3, 0)

### Example

Then  $\mathcal{C}_1$  is an equitable symbol weight code of length 10 over alphabet  $\Sigma=\{0,1,2,3,4,5,6\}$  with minimum distance 9 and

$$\mathsf{E}_{\mathcal{C}_1}(e) = egin{cases} 2e, & ext{if } e \leq 3 \ e+3, & ext{otherwise}. \end{cases}$$





2 An Additional Parameter E<sub>C</sub>

## 3 Optimality of Equitable Symbol Weight Codes wrt $E_C$

## 4 Summary

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# Comparing $E_{\mathcal{C}}$

Fix *n* and *q*. Let  $\mathcal{F}_{n,q}$  be the following family of functions,

 $\mathcal{F}_{n,q} := \{ E_{\mathcal{C}} : \mathcal{C} \text{ is a } q \text{-ary code of length } n \}$ 

#### Definition

Define an ordering relation on the finite family  $\mathcal{F}_{n,q}$  as follows:  $f \leq g$  if either f(e) = g(e) for all  $1 \leq e \leq q$ , or there exists an  $1 \leq e' \leq q$  such that f(e) = g(e) for all  $e \leq e' - 1$  and f(e') < g(e').

Intuitively, given two codes C and C',  $E_C \leq E_{C'}$  means that C has better error-correcting capability than C' in PLC.

Summary

# Comparing $E_{C_1}$ and $E_{C_2}$



### Conclusion

Therefore,  $C_1$  has better error-correcting capability than  $C_2$  in PLC.

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## Importance of symbol equity

#### Proposition

Let  $f_{n,q}^*$  be defined as

$$f^*_{n,q}(e) = \left\{ egin{array}{cc} re, & ext{if } e \leq q-t, \ r(q-t)+(e-q+t)(r-1), & ext{otherwise}, \end{array} 
ight.$$

where  $r = \lceil n/q \rceil$  and t = qr - n. Then  $f_{n,q}^*$  is the unique least element in  $\mathcal{F}_{n,q}$  with respect to the total order  $\preceq$ .

#### Corollary

C is a q-ary equitable symbol weight code of length n if and only if  $E_C = f_{n,q}^*$ .

# Importance of symbol equity

#### Definition

Let C be a code of distance d. The narrowband noise and signal fading error-correcting capability of C is

$$c(\mathcal{C}) = \min\{e : E_{\mathcal{C}}(e) \ge d\}.$$

A code C can correct up to c(C) - 1 narrowband noise and signal fading errors.

#### Corollary

Let C be an q-ary code of length n and distance d. Then

$$c(\mathcal{C}) \leq \min \{e : f_{n,q}^*(e) \geq d\},\$$

and equality is achieved when C is an equitable symbol weight code.

So, an equitable symbol weight code has the best narrowband noise and signal fading error-correcting capability, among codes of the same distance and symbol weight.

## Simulation Results



Optimal Codes of Length 25 over alphabet of size 17 with minimum distance 24

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2 An Additional Parameter E<sub>C</sub>

3 Optimality of Equitable Symbol Weight Codes wrt  $E_{C}$ 



## Codes for PLC



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# Thank you for your attention!

