

## **Adaptive Modulation Coding Overview and Learning**

### **Zixia Shang**

Communications Engineering at the University of New South Wales, Kensington NSW 2052, Australia.

*Abstract:* Adaptive modulation coding (AMC) is a technique that changes the modulation and coding modes according to the channel conditions. This paper introduces the principles and applications of adaptive modulation coding, mainly for beginners. By reading this paper, beginners can have a general concept of adaptive modulation coding relatively quickly. Meanwhile, this paper uses MATLAB to simulate the adaptive modulation coding based on QPSK and Turbo codes to improve the performance of BER decoding by limiting the number of iterations and BER requirements using adaptive modulation coding. And by comparing the two, the superiority of adaptive modulation coding compared with normal coding is ju dged, thus facilitating beginners to learn and understand.

Keywords: Adaptive Modulation Coding (AMC); MATLAB; QPSK; Turbo Codes; BER

### 1. Introduction

Adaptive modulation and Coding (AMC) is a technology that ADAPTS to change modulation and coding modes according to channel conditions.

As a simple example, in a system using AMC, users in the center of the cell are often assigned to higher order modulation or coding rates (64QAM, 3/4 bit rate Turbo code), while users at the edge of the cell are assigned to lower order modulation or coding rates (QPSK, 1/2 bit rate Turbo code).

The concept of "Adaptive modulation and coding" was put forward from the late 1960s to the early 1970s (J.F.Howes, 1968.FEB), but due to the limitations of hardware technology and lack of appropriate channel estimation algorithm, Adaptive modulation and coding did not attract much attention at that time.

However, with the development of technology and the progress of hardware equipment, the problems that originally hindered the adaptive modulation and coding system were gradually solved. In addition to the increasingly limited bandwidth resources, the adaptive modulation and coding technology has gradually attracted people's attention due to its own advantages.

### 2. Principle

The basic principle of adaptive modulation and coding (AMC) technology is that when the channel state changes, the transmitting terminal keeps the transmitting power constant, but the modulation and coding mode change adaptively with the channel state, so as to obtain the maximum throughput under different channel states. To put it simply, it is the mutual transformation between modulation methods, among which the modulation methods used are mainly BPSK\QPSK\8PSK\16APSK\32APSK\16QAM\64QAM\etc, like literature 2 and 3.In this paper, an adaptive modulation system of QPSK\16QAM\64QAM is proposed and its spectrum utilization is analyzed.

Also in literature 3, such modulation methods as BPSK\QPSK\8PSK\16APSK are adopted. In modern mobile communication, the system has various physical layer (PHY) transmission modes to choose from, and adaptive modulation coding is actually a reasonable choice of PHY transmission mode according to channel conditions.

However, with PHY mode 8 (64 QAM modulation, with a bit rate of 3/4 convolutional code encoding), although the system throughput is high at a high SNR, normal communication cannot be carried out when the channel is at a low SNR. The adaptive modulation coding technique achieves a good compromise between the reliability and stability of communication and the system throughput, and successfully solves the contradiction between the two. The choice of transmission mode is determined by the adaptive modulation coding algorithm adopted by the system.

### 3. Adaptive modulation and coding system model

According to the change of channel condition, the modulation of speed and power can be adaptively changed, and the lower average bit error rate and the higher spectral efficiency can be obtained. Among them, the selection of the appropriate modulation series and the algorithm to determine the power distribution are the core factors of adaptive modulation, which determine the performance of the system. At the same time, the code rate can be changed to further improve the transmission efficiency.



Figure 1 Flow chart of adaptive modulation and coding system

Figure 1 is a block diagram of adaptive modulation and coding for third-generation mobile

communications. Inside the dotted line is the core part of the adaptive system. The receiving end makes channel estimation according to the received signals, determines the coding scheme, modulation scheme and corresponding modulation parameters, and then sends back the unified feedback channel (assuming that the delay of the feedback channel is negligible and the feedback is error-free) to the sending end, which makes corresponding adjustments for the next transmission. It is assumed that the channel is time-invariant in a short period of time. It is assumed that the speech is modulated in BPSK mode, convolutional encoding with constraint length L = 5 is adopted, and the data is modulated in MPASK, MAM or MQAM mode, and convolutional encoding with L = 6 is adopted, with orthogonal transmission of speech and data. Voice services need real-time transmission but have low requirements for BER, data services have low requirements for real-time but high requirements for bit error rate, which can be detected and re-sent. Therefore, the voice bit error rate threshold BERvth  $\leq 10$ -3 and the data bit error rate threshold BERdth  $\leq 10$ -4 can be set, and the modulation series M and bit rate R can be determined according to the relationship between bit error rate and noise ratio (CNR), and the power can be allocated.

### 4. Simulation of adaptive tuning to coding

The previous sections briefly introduce adaptive modulation coding and its principle. I will conduct comparative experiments in this section to explore the characteristics and performance improvement of adaptive modulation coding.

### 4.1 The simulation design

In the iteration process, the difference between the last iteration and the current iteration is judged to determine whether the iteration should be terminated. If the SNR is poor, the maximum number of iterations set by the iteration value will be output.

In the same code environment, the advantages of adaptive modulation coding are analyzed by comparing the differences between conventional modulation coding and adaptive modulation coding.

### 4.2 Turbo code

Turbo Code, also known as Parallel Concatenated Convolutional Code (PCCC, Parallel Concatenated Convolutional Code), ingeniously combines the Convolutional Code and the random interleaver, at the same time, the Convolutional Code is realized by the interleaver to construct the long Code from the short Code, and the soft-output iterative decoding is used to approximate the maximum likelihood decoding.

It can be seen that Turbo code charging utilizes the basic conditions of Shannon channel coding theorem, so the performance close to Shannon limit is obtained.

### 4.3 QPSK code

Quadrature Phase Shift Keying (QPSK) is a digital modulation method. It is divided into absolute phase shift and relative phase shift. Because of the phase fuzzy problem in absolute phase shift mode, relative phase shift mode DQPSK is mainly used in practice.

The sinusoidal carrier of PSK signal has four possible discrete phase states, and each carrier phase carries two binary symbols. The signal representation is as follows:

Si(t) = (+)

Between 0 and Ts, I is equal to 1,2,3,4. Where Ts is the quaternary symbol interval, (I = 1,2,3,4) is the phase of the sinusoidal carrier, and there are four possible states.

# 4.4 Adaptive modulation coding based on QPSK and Turbo codes

```
1 clc
    2 close all
     3 clear all
    5 g = [1 1 1; 1 0 1];
    6 [n,K] = size(g);
     7 \text{ m} = \text{K} - 1;
     8 nstates = 2^{m};
    9 puncture = 1; \% 1 – the bit rate is 1/3 0 - 1/2
     10 \text{ rate} = 1 / (2 + \text{puncture});
     11 a = 1;
     12 RUNS = 100; % Run number
     14 L total = 1024;
     15 len code = L total * 3; % bit rate 1/3
     17 ITER = 5; % Set the maximum number of Turbo decoding iterations, generally greater than or
equal to 5
     18 \text{ EbN0db} = -4 : 1 : 8;
     19 G err bit = zeros(1, length(EbN0db)); % Demodulation bit error rate Statistics
    20 errs bits = zeros(1, length(EbN0db)); % Decoding bit error rate
     statistics
    21 iterNumStatic = zeros(1, length(EbN0db)); % Decoding bit error rate statistics
    22 tic
     23 for idB = 1 : length(EbN0db)
    24 en = 10^{(EbN0db(idB) / 10)}; % DB SNR conversion
    25 L c = 4 * a * en * rate; % Channel parameter coefficient
    26 \text{ sigma} = 1/\text{sqrt}(2 * \text{en}); \% Standard Gaussian white noise variance
    28 % Load the interleaver required for Turbo coding and decoding
    29 load('interleaver1024.mat','alpha')
    30 % The state transition relation of coding and decoding is established
     31 [next out, next state, last out, last state] = trellis(g);
     33 dec bit = zeros(1,len code);
     34 for iRun = 1 : RUNS
     35 % Generates a random data source for modulation coding src
    = randn(1, L total) > 0; % Turbo
     37 en output = encoderm(src, g, alpha, puncture) ; % encoder output
```

(+1/-1)

 $39 \mod Signal = (en \operatorname{output}(1:2:end) + 1i * en \operatorname{output}(2:2:end)) / sqrt(2);$ 

40 % Add channel noise -white Gaussian noise channel noiseSignal = modSignal + sigma \* (randn(1, length(modSignal)) + 1i \* randn(1,

length(modSignal))) / sqrt(2);

41 % QPSK demodulation

42 decSignal(1 : 2 : len\_code) = real(noiseSignal);

43 decSignal(2 : 2 : len\_code) = imag(noiseSignal);

44 dec\_bit =  $2 * (decSignal(1 : len_code) > 0) - 1;$ 

45 % Turbo decoding

46 [decBits, iterr] = TurboDecoder\_adp(decSignal, ITER, g, alpha,

L\_total, next\_out, next\_state, last\_out, last\_state);

48 % Demodulation error bit statistics

49 G\_err\_bit(idB) = G\_err\_bit(idB) + sum(dec\_bit ~= en\_output);

50 % Turbo decoding error bit statistics

51 errs\_bits(idB) = errs\_bits(idB) + sum(decBits ~= src);

52 % Iteration count

53 iterNumStatic(idB) = iterNumStatic(idB) + iterr;

54 end

55 % Modulation and demodulation bit error rate

56 G\_err\_bit(idB) = G\_err\_bit(idB) / (RUNS \* len\_code);

57 % Turbo decoding bit error rate

58 errs\_bits(idB) = errs\_bits(idB) / (RUNS \* L\_total);

59 end

60 toc

62 figure(1)

63 % plot(EbN0db, G\_err\_bit);

64 semilogy(EbN0db, G\_err\_bit)

65 title("QPSK demodulation bit error rate");

66 figure(2)

67 % plot(EbN0db, errs\_bits);

68 semilogy(EbN0db, errs bits)

69 title("Turbo decoding bit error rate ");

70 figure(3)

71 plot(EbN0db, iterNumStatic);

72 title("Turbo decoding iteration times ");

# 4.5 Conventional modulation coding based on QPSK and Turbo codes

```
1 clc
     2 close all
     3 clear all
     5 g = [1 1 1; 1 0 1];
     6 [n,K] = size(g);
     7 \text{ m} = \text{K} - 1;
     8 nstates = 2^{m};
     9 puncture = 1;
      10 \text{ rate} = 1 / (2 + \text{puncture});
      11 a = 1;
      12 \text{ RUNS} = 100;
      14 \text{ L} total = 1024;
      15 len code = L total * 3;
      17 ITER = 5;
      18 \text{ EbN0db} = -4 : 1 : 8;
      19 errs bits = zeros(1, length(EbN0db));
     20 iterNumStatic = zeros(1, length(EbN0db));
     22 tic
     23 for idB = 1 : length(EbN0db)
     24 \text{ en} = 10^{(EbN0db(idB) / 10)};
     25 L c = 4 * a * en * rate;
     26 \text{ sigma} = 1/\text{sqrt}(2 * \text{en});
     28 load('interleaver1024.mat','alpha')
     30 [next out, next state, last out, last state] = trellis(g);
     32 dec_bit = zeros(1,len_code);
     33 for iRun = 1 : RUNS
     35 \operatorname{src} = \operatorname{randn}(1, \operatorname{L_total}) > 0;
     37 en output = encoderm(src, g, alpha, puncture) ; % encoder output
     (+1/-1)
     39 \mod Signal = (en \quad output(1:2:end) + 1i * en \quad output(2:2:end))
     / sqrt(2);
     41 noiseSignal = modSignal + sigma * (randn(1, length(modSignal)) + 1irandn(1, length(modSignal)))
/ sqrt(2);
     43 decSignal(1 : 2 : len code) = real(noiseSignal);
```

44 decSignal(2 : 2 : len\_code) = imag(noiseSignal); 45 dec bit = 2 \* (decSignal(1 : len code) > 0) - 1;

```
47 decBits = TurboDecoder_com(decSignal, ITER, g, alpha, L_total,
next_out, next_state, last_out, last_state);
50 errs_bits(idB) = errs_bits(idB) + sum(decBits ~= src);
52 iterNumStatic(idB) = iterNumStatic(idB) + ITER;
53 end
55 errs_bits(idB) = errs_bits(idB) / (RUNS * L_total);
56 end
57 toc
58 figure(1)
59 % plot(EbN0db, errs_bits);
60 semilogy(EbN0db, errs_bits)
title("Turbo decoding bit error rate");
61 % Output iteration times is constant.
62 figure(2)
63 semilogy(EbN0db,iterNumStatic )
```

64 title("Turbo decoding iteration times");

## 4.6 Simulation results and comparison 4.6.1 Performance time

### Adaptive modulation coding based on QPSK and Turbo codes

探音器				
□ 加速 中高語 渡要 中高語 渡要 中高語     □	Turbo_encode_adp Turbo_encode_adp			▼ 送行井 计时
文件 导航 搜索 视图	探查			
生成于 25-10-2020 01:52:59,使用 性能 时间。				
函数名称	调用次数	总时间(秒) 🔸	自用时间* (秒)	总时间图 (深色条带 = 自用时间)
Turbo_encode_adp	1	177.374	0.800	
TurboDecoder_adp	1300	98.884	0.840	
maxlogmapo	6542	97.975	97.932	
encoderm	1300	76.915	0.231	
rsc_encode	2600	76.684	45.541	
encode_bit	2662504	31.149	31.149	
close	1	0.320	0.001	
newplotwrapper	3	0.318	0.005	
newplot	3	0.313	0.065	
close>request_close	1	0.274	0.002	
closereq	1	0.262	0.205	
CanvasPlugin.CanvasPlugin>CanvasPlugin.createCanvas	3	0.199	0.016	
CanvasSetup>CanvasSetup.createScribeLayers	3	0.101	0.012	

Figure2 Adaptive modulation coding based on QPSK and Turbo codes

The total time is 177347s.

Conventional modulation coding based on QPSK and Turbo codes

探查器				?		
→ 新語 注意 ◇ 新語 注意 ◇ 新語 注意 ◇ 新語 文件 - 号約 接索 接索 報題	Turbo_encod	e_com	探查	<b>运</b> 行并 计时		
生成于 25-10-2020 02:23:43,使用 性能 时间。						
函数名称	调用次数	总时间(秒) +	自用时间* (秒)	总时间图 (深色条带 = 自用时间)		
Turbo_encode_com	1	275.828	0.767			
TurboDecoder_com	1300	195.141	0.848			
maxlogmapo	13000	194.218	194.138			
encoderm	1300	79.561	0.235			
rsc_encode	2600	79.326	47.058	-		
encode_bit	2662504	32.289	32.289			
newplotwrapper	1	0.216	0.005			
newplot	1	0.212	0.044			
CanvasPlugin.CanvasPlugin>CanvasPlugin.createCanvas	1	0.145	0.013			
mpower	13443	0.082	0.082			
demultiplex	1300	0.075	0.075			
ToolbarFactory>ToolbarFactory.getToolbar	1	0.071	0.045			
trellis	13	0.060	0.027			

Figure3 Conventional modulation coding based on QPSK and Turbo codes

The total time is 275828s.

## 4.6.2 QPSK demodulation bit error rate

Adaptive modulation coding based on QPSK and Turbo codes



Figure4 QPSK demodulation decoding bit error rate

Conventional modulation coding based on QPSK and Turbo codes

It is same as Adaptive modulation coding based on QPSK and Turbo codes.

## 4.6.3 Turbo decoding bit error rate

Adaptive modulation coding based on QPSK and Turbo codes



Figure5 Turbo decoding bit error rate

Conventional modulation coding based on QPSK and Turbo codes



Figure6 Turbo decoding bit error rate

## 4.6.4 Turbo decoding iteration times

Adaptive modulation coding based on QPSK and Turbo codes



Figure7 Turbo decoding iteration times

Conventional modulation coding based on QPSK and Turbo codes



Figure8 Turbo decoding iteration times

### 4.7 Conclusion of simulation

By using the running time of MATLAB, assuming that the running time of MATLAB is the actual hardware running time, the running time of the program using adaptive response modulation coding is 177,347 seconds, which is far less than the 275,828 seconds of the conventional modulation coding. Therefore, we can conclude that adaptive modulation coding will bring greater performance improvement to the hardware. In the bit-error rate diagram comparing adaptive and conventional decoding, we can intuitively see that under the same conditions, the best information quality transmission is always adaptive modulation coding. Similarly, by comparing the variation diagram of iteration times with SNR and iteration times, the accuracy of adaptive modulation coding is improving continuously, while the conventional modulation. Adaptive modulation coding is based on channel estimation and feedback. At one end of the transmitting information, the receiver's feedback channel state information or the channel state information obtained by the receiver's own channel estimation is precoded to eliminate the influence of channel and noise on the signal as much as possible, so as to greatly improve the correctness of the signal transmission.

### 5. The characteristics of adaptive modulation coding technology

Adaptive modulation coding technology in mobile communication system can not only counter the time variability of channel, but also overcome the influence of average path loss, slow fading and fast fading. Through research and simulation, I found that adaptive modulation coding technology has the following characteristics:

(1) The adaptive modulation coding techniques along with the change of channel environment change the rate of data transmission, can guarantee the data of fixed rate and time delay, so do not apply to the need of fixed data rate and delay circuit exchange of business, such as voice business, video phone business, applies only to the data rate and the delay did not require packet switching operations, such as the web browsing and file downloads.

(2) Adaptive coded modulation technology to keep the transmission power constant, letter condition good user has higher data transfer rate, poor channel conditions and the user can only communicate with low data rate, not only to avoid the "near-far effect" of the power control technique, but also overcome the interference of the user to other user change problem, reduces the network interfered with allowance, solved the fast power control technology of "noise" effect should be, to increase the capacity of the system.

### References

[1] J.F.Howes, "Adaptive Feedback Communications," 1968.FEB,pp.29-34.

[2] Takeda,D;Chow,Y.C;Strauch,P; Tsurumi,H;, "Threshold controlling scheme for adaptive modulation and coding system," [C] //PIMRC 2004.15th IEEE International Symposium on Personal, Indoor and Mobile Radio Communications,2004. vol.2, no, pp.1351-1355 Vol.2,5-8.

[3] T.Kwon; Dong-H Cho;,"Adaptive-Modulation-and-Coding –based Transmission of Control Messages for Resource Allocation in Mobile Communication Systems," [J], IEEE Transactions on Vehicular Technology, July 2009. Vol.58,no.6,pp.2769-2782.

[4] Boussemart,V.; Brandt, H.;Berioli, M.; "Subset Optimization of Adaptive Coding and Modulation Schemes for Broadband Satellite Systems,"[C]//2010 IEEE International Conference on Communications (ICC), May 2010, vol, no, pp.1-5, 23-27.

[5] Kamerman A, Monteban L. WaveLAN II : "A high performance wireless LAN for the unlicensed band [J]". Bell Labs Technical, Summer 1997 118-133.

[6] Qiao DJ, Sunghyun Choi, "Goodput analysis and link Adaptation for IEEE 802. 11a Wireless LANs [J]". IEEE Trans. Mobile Computing, 2002, 1 (4): 278 292.

[7] Webb WT, Steele R."Variable rate QAM for mobile radio [J]". IEEE Trans. Comm, .1995,43 (7): 22232230.

[8] 3GPP Technical Report, Physical Layer Aspects of U TRA H igh Speed Downlink Packet Access, 3GPP TR25. 848, V4. 0. 0.

[9] IEEE 802. 11. Wireless LAN Medium Access Control (MAC) and Physical Layer (PHY) Specifications [J]. Standard, IEEE, 1999, (8).10. 802. 16a IEEE Standard for Local and metropolitan area networks [J]. IEEE, 2003, 1 (3).

#### About the Author:

Zixia Shang

Bachelor of Science in Electrical Engineering, Xi'an University of Science and Technology.

Bachelor of Communication Engineering, Macquarie University, Australia.

Currently pursuing a Master's degree in Communications Engineering at the University of New South Wales, Australia This article was written while the author was studying for his Bachelor of Communication Engineering.