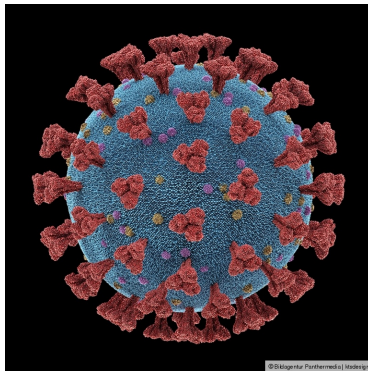


COVID-19 Measures

- **Wear a mask** (medical or FFP2) until you have taken a seat
- When seated you can take off the mask if you can maintain an **interpersonal distance of 1,5 m**
- **Behave reasonable** and **use common sense**



Computer Networks

Physical Layer - Data Signals

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November 02, 2021

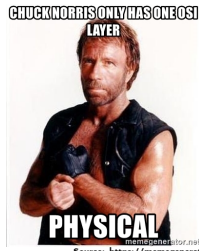
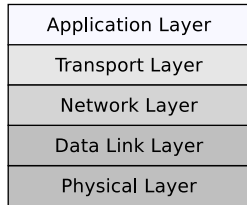
Agenda

- Fundamentals of Data Signals
- Data Encoding
- Modulation

Recap: Physical Layer

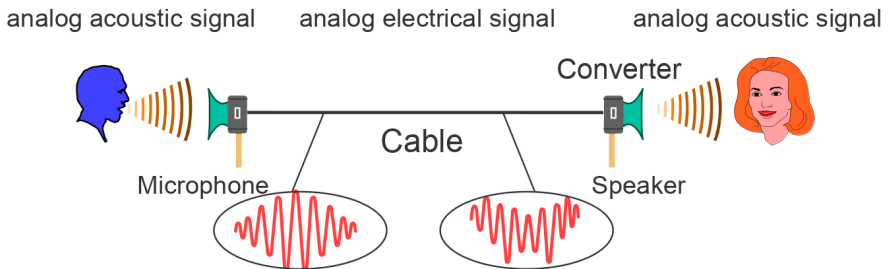
- **Transmits the ones and zeros**
 - **Physical connection** to the network
 - Conversion of data into **signals**
- Protocol and transmission medium specify among others:
 - The **data encoding** on the transmission medium
 - The **directional dependence** of data transmission
 - The **mechanical** and **electronic** aspects (e.g., access point plug design, pin usage)

Hybrid Reference Model



Source: <https://memegenerator.net>

The Telephone Example

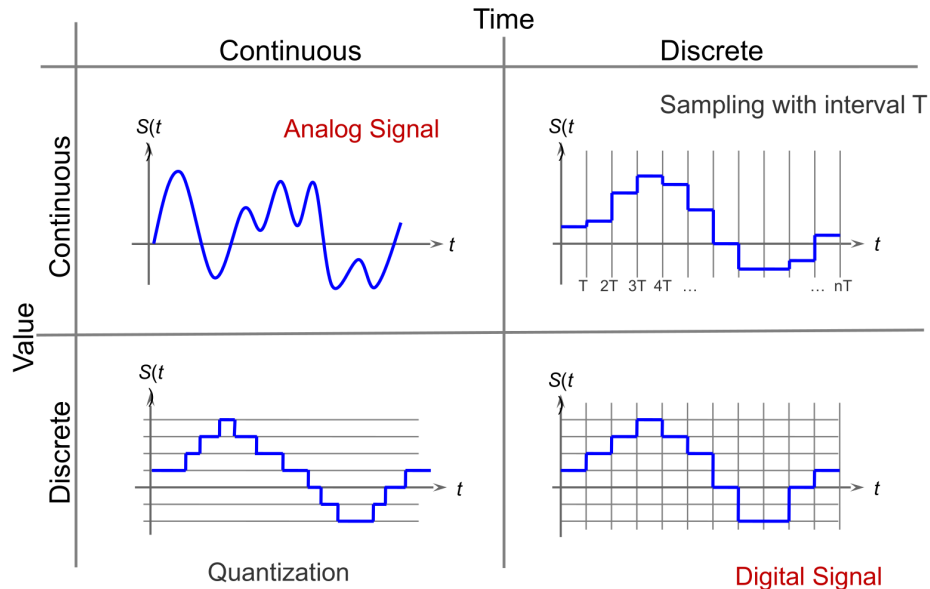


- Data is converted into a **signal** to be sent over a **transmission channel**
- A transmission channel consists of **access points** and the **physical medium** to carry the signal
- A signal is a **chronological sequence of physical values** measured on the medium

Physical Representation of Data

- A physical representation of data is called a **signal**
- It can be either
 - An **analog** signal → a sequence of **continuous** values
 - A **digital** signal → a sequence of **discrete** values
- The transmitter **Network Interface Controller (NIC)** acts as a **Coder** and **Decoder** → **CODEC**

Continuous vs. Discrete Signals



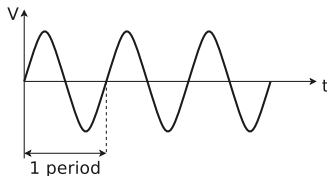
Quantization and Sampling

In order to transmit data over a transmission medium, it needs to be ...

- ... converted → **Quantization**
 - Computer networks deal with digital data ⇒ **discrete signals**
 - Physical mediums are by nature analog ⇒ **continuous signals**
 - Conversion from digital to analog signals and vice versa is required
- ... measured → **Sampling**
 - Computer networks deal with discrete time ⇒ **discrete time**
 - Physical mediums have a continuously varying state ⇒ **continuous time**
 - Periodical measurement of the physical medium is required

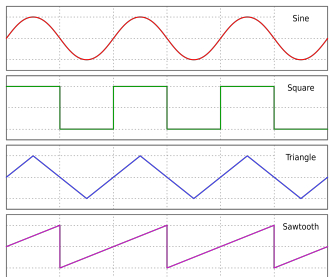
Basics of Signal Processing

- Periodic signals are the simplest signals
- Parameters for periodic signals:
 - Period T
 - Frequency $f = 1/T$
 - Amplitude $S(t)$
 - Phase ϕ



Examples

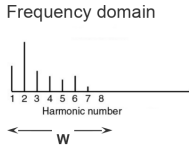
- Sinus (period = $2 * \pi$)
- Square wave
- Triangle wave
- Sawtooth wave



Wikipedia, CC3 3.0

Fundamentals of Sampling

- In order to transform signals between **time domain** and **frequency domain** a **discrete Fourier transform** is required
- It specifies the **bandwidth W** of a signal in Hz



Whittaker-Kotel'nikov-Shannon (WSK) sampling theorem ¹

In order to allow for reconstruction of the original analog signal, the sampling frequency f_S has to be twice as large as the highest frequency:

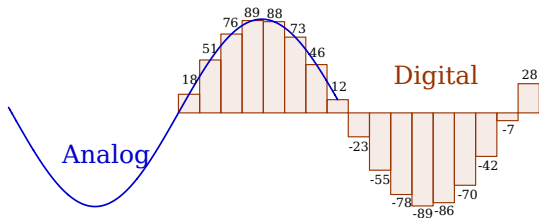
$$f_S = 2 * f_{max} \rightarrow \text{for baseband transmissions: } f_S = 2W$$

¹Historically also called **Nyquist-Shannon** sampling theorem

Fundamentals of Quantization

- Quantization approximates the full range of an analog signal into a finite number of discrete values
→ Analog-to-Digital Conversion (ADC)
- The approximation error is called the **quantization error**
- The entire range is divided into equal intervals → the length of each interval is called **quantization interval**
- To recover an analog signal the center of the quantization interval is used for the → **Digital-to-Analog Conversion (DAC)**

Sampling, Quantization, and Coding



Author: Bjarne Skurdal

■ Sampling and Quantization

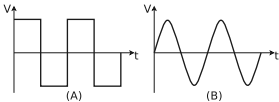
- The analog signal is converted to a digital representation by periodical measurements and converted by dividing the analog signal range into quantization intervals

■ Coding

- The quantization intervals are assigned to a binary code

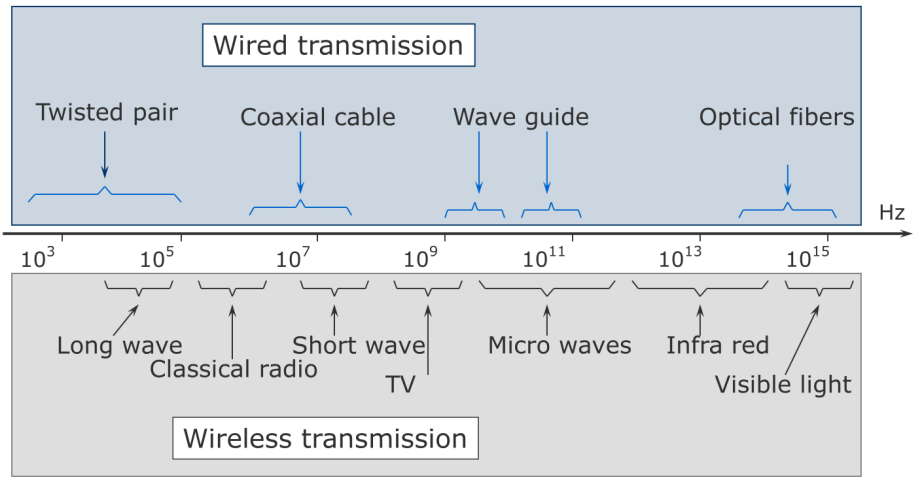
Frequency

- Electrical engineering distinguishes between 2 types of voltage:
 - 1 Direct current voltage:** Polarity of voltage and voltage level remain constant
 - 2 Alternating current voltage:** Polarity of voltage and voltage level change periodically



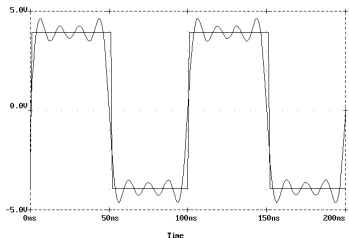
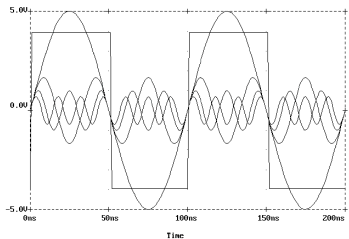
- Fig. A: *Rectangular shaped* alternating current voltage in theory
- Fig. B: *Sinus shaped* alternating current voltage in practice
 - The unit for frequency is the **hertz (Hz)**
 - 1 Hz = 1 event (oscillation) per second
 - **Example:** Alternating current voltage in Europe with 50 Hz
 - **Example:** Classical telephony supports frequencies between 300 and 3400 Hz, i.e., the bandwidth
$$B = 3400 \text{ Hz} - 300 \text{ Hz} = 3100 \text{ Hz}$$

Electromagnetic Spectrum



Fourier Series

Image source: Jörg Rech, Ethernet, Heise

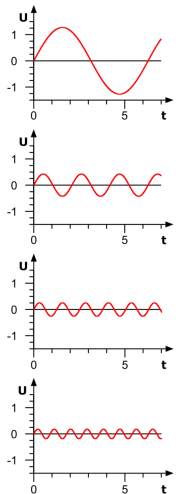


- According to the **Fourier series**² a square-wave signal consists of the sum of a set of oscillating functions
 - A square wave signal consists of a **fundamental frequency** and **harmonics**
 - Harmonics are integer multiples of the fundamental frequency
 - They are often referred to as harmonics of the 3rd, 5th, 7th, etc. order
 - The more harmonics are taken into account, the more similar becomes the result with a square wave signal

²Named in honour of the French mathematician and physicist Jean-Baptiste Joseph Fourier (1768-1830)

Fourier Series and Bandwidth

- To transmit a square-wave signal clearly via the transmission medium, at least the fundamental frequency and the harmonics of the 3rd and 5th order need to be transmitted
 - The harmonics of the 3rd and 5th order are necessary for keeping the square wave its rectangular shape and preventing that it looks rounded (see next slide)
 - In practice, the harmonics are more attenuated than the fundamental frequency
- The bandwidth, from the viewpoint of the transmission medium, is the range of frequencies which can be transmitted via the transmission medium without interferences



Images source: René Schwarz. Wikipedia (CC-BY-SA-1.0)

Fourier Synthesis of a square-wave Signal

Source: Wikipedia

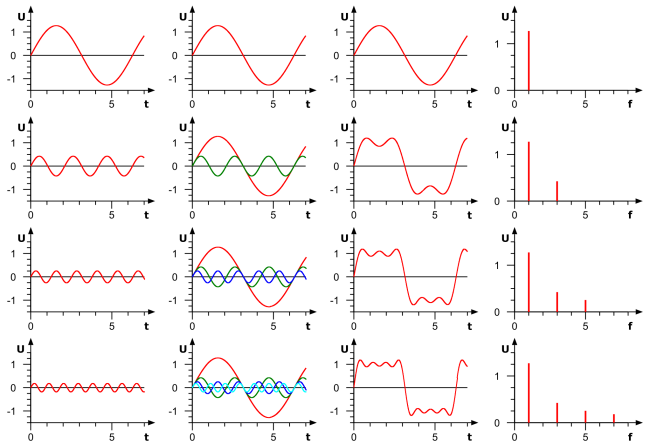


Image source:
 René Schwarz.
 Wikipedia
 (CC-BY-SA-1.0)

- The graphs in the 1st column show the oscillation, which is added in the respective row. The graphs in the 2nd column show all so far recognized oscillations, which are then added to the diagrams of the 3rd column, to reach as close as possible the signal which shall be generated. The more harmonics (multiples of the fundamental frequency) are taken into account, the more we get an ideal square-wave signal. The 4th column shows the **amplitude spectrum**, normalized to the fundamental frequency

Data Rate and Bandwidth

Two exemplary calculations of the **data rate** for a given **bandwidth** with **five harmonics**:

- Example with $f = 1\text{MHz}$
 - Bandwidth of the signal $s(t)$
 $(5 * 10^6\text{Hz}) - (1 * 10^6\text{Hz}) = 4\text{MHz}$
 - Period $T = 1/f = 1/10^6\text{s} = 10^{-6}\text{s} = 1\mu\text{s} \Rightarrow$ A bit occurs every $0.5 \mu\text{s}$
 - Data rate = $2\text{bit} * 10^6\text{Hz} = 2\text{Mbps}$

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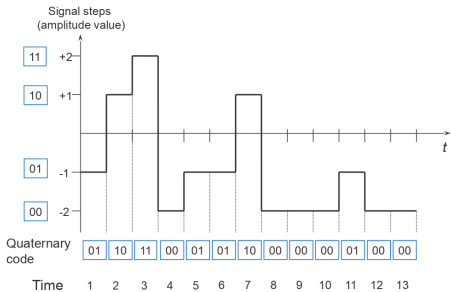
■ Example with $f = 2 \text{MHz}$

- Bandwidth of the signal $s(t)$

$$(5 * 2 * 10^6 \text{Hz}) - (1 * 2 * 10^6 \text{Hz}) = 8\text{MHz}$$

- Period $T = 1/f = 1/2 * 10^6 \text{s} = 0.5\mu\text{s} \Rightarrow$ A bit occurs every $0.25 \mu\text{s}$
- Data rate = $2\text{bit} * 2 * 10^6 \text{Hz} = 4\text{Mbps}$

Symbol Rate

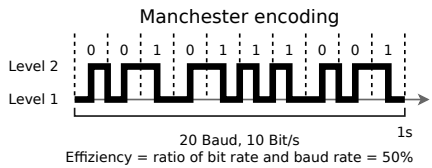
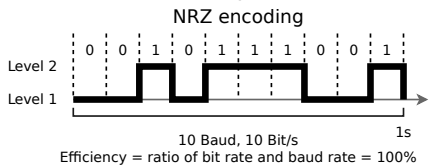


The number of discrete values of a signal are denoted as ...

- $n = 2 \rightarrow$ binary
- $n = 3 \rightarrow$ ternary
- $n = 4 \rightarrow$ quaternary
- $n = 8 \rightarrow$ octonary
- $n = 10 \rightarrow$ denary

Bit Rate and Symbol Rate

- **Bit rate**: Number of transferred bits per time unit specified as (**bit/s** or **bps**)
- **Symbol Rate**: More generically, the number of transferred symbols per time unit, specified as **baud**
 - Initially, the baud rate indicated the signaling rate of a telegraph, thus the number of Morse code characters per second
- The ratio between bit rate and symbol rate depends on the → **line encoding scheme** used
 - Two examples. . .

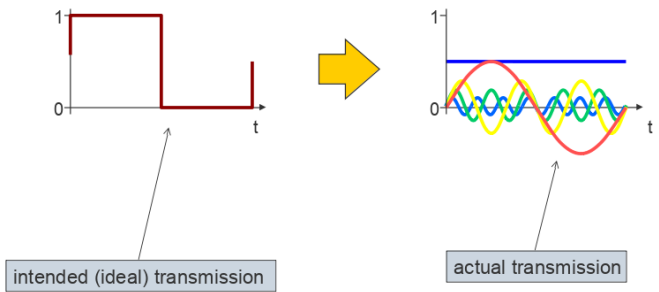


- The line code specifies in computer networks the maximum number of signals that can be transmitted via the transmission media used
- The line code of a network technology is specified by the layer protocol used

Ideal vs. Real Transmission

Claude Shannon

“The fundamental problem of communication consists in reproducing on one side exactly or approximated a message selected on the other side.”³



³Source: A Mathematical Theory of Communication, Bell Systems, 1948

Attenuation

- The signals are subject to physical laws
 - This includes the **attenuation** (signal weakening)
 - Attenuation weakens the **amplitude of a signal** more and more over distance on all transmission media
 - If the amplitude of a data signal has dropped below a certain value, it can no longer be clearly interpreted
 - Thus, the attenuation **limits the maximum bridgeable distance** for all transmission media
 - The **higher** the **frequency**, the **higher** is the **attenuation**

Data Rate

- The **capacity** of a channel is defined by the possible **data rate**
- Using **symbols** with multiple values increases the data rate

Hartley's law (1924) ⁴

$$\text{maximum data rate [bit/s]} = 2 * H * \log_2(V)$$

- V : number of different symbol values
- H : the channel bandwidth in *Hertz (Hz)*

This equation gives the maximum data rate for a finite-bandwidth **noiseless channel**

⇒ Given an unlimited amount of symbol levels an unlimited data rate can be achieved

⁴Also called Nyquist theorem or Nyquist Bit Rate

Data Rate on a Noisy Channel

- Any real existing channel is polluted by **noise**
- The achievable data rate depends on the relationship between **signal strength** and **noise**
⇒ The **Signal-to-Noise Ratio** (SNR, S/N)

Shannon-Hartley theorem

maximum data rate[bit/s] = $H * \log_2(1 + S/N)$

- S : Signal strength
- N : Noise level
- H : the channel bandwidth in *Hertz* (Hz)

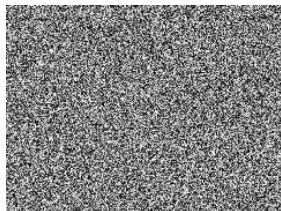
The SNR is commonly expressed in decibel (dB):

$$\text{SNR[dB]} = 10 * \log_{10}(S/N)$$

→ The Shannon-Hartley theorem is the basis for the **information theory**.

Noise and Distortion

- Typical sources for **noise** are
 - Thermal noise (also *Nyquist noise*)
 - Intermodulation noise
 - Crosstalk
 - Impulse noise
- Other **distortions**
 - Echoes
 - Extreme low frequency (ELF), e.g., AC
 - Delay distortion
 - ...
- Plus **attenuation**, refraction, reflection ...
- Typical noise model: **AWGN**⁵:
 - Additive
 - White Noise
 - Gaussian



Source: Jorge Stolfi, Wikipedia, CC 3.0

⁵Also called *Gaussian Channel*

Bit Error Rate

Effects of noise

- Noise degrades the **signal quality** of an analog signal
- Noise causes **bit errors** for digital signals

It is possible to boost the signal amplitude, but there are tradeoffs:

- It increases the energy consumption
- It may cause interference in shared medium (like wireless transmissions)

Bit Error Rate (BER)

$$\text{BER} = \frac{\text{Number of erroneous bits}}{\text{Number of transmitted bits}}$$

Typical BER values for different link types:

POTS⁶ $2 * 10^{-4}$

Radio link $10^{-3} - 10^{-4}$

Ethernet $10^{-9} - 10^{-10}$

Fiber $10^{-10} - 10^{-12}$

⁶Plain Old Telephone System

Agenda

■ Fundamentals of Data Signals

■ Data Encoding

■ Modulation

Baseband and Broadband

How can we eventually transmit the single bits on the transmission medium?

Baseband

- A → **data encoding** is required to specify which symbols represent a 0 resp. an 1
- The data is transmitted *as is* over the medium
- → Typically used in LANs or inside a computer

Broadband

- A → **modulation** is used to transmit the data over a **carrier** analog signal
- By using different carrier signals (frequencies), several transmissions can happen simultaneously
- → Mainly used in optical networks, in radio communication, and cable distribution systems

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Encoding Requirements

The encoding must be ...

- **robust**: tolerate as much distortion as possible
- **efficient**: achieve the highest possible data transmission rate

Using code words:

- **binary** code: 2 states
 - **ternary** code: 3 states
 - **quaternary** code: 4 states (coding of two bits at the same time)
 - ...
- **synchronized**: allow the receiver to keep in synch

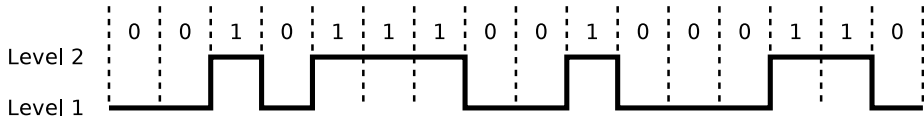
Synchronization can be achieved by:

- transmission of an explicit clock signal
- synchronize on certain points, e.g., start of character
- self-synchronizing signal

Non-Return-to-Zero (NRZ) ⁷

■ Simple approach

- Encode a logical 0 with physical signal level 1 (low value, e.g., -5V)
- Encode a logical 1 with physical signal level 2 (high value, e.g., +5V)



Implemented by the serial CAN (Controller Area Network) bus system, which was developed by Bosch in the 1980s for connecting control devices in cars

- **Advantage:** Very simple and efficient
- **Disadvantage:**
 - When transmitting a long series of logical 0 bits or logical 1 bits, the physical signal level does not change
 - This results in 2 problems:
 - 1 Baseline Wander**
 - 2 Clock Recovery**

⁶Also called Non-Return-to-Zero Level (NRZL)

Baseline Wander

- **Problem:** Shift of the **average signal level**
- The receiver distinguishes the physical signal levels by using the average signal level of a certain number of received signals
 - Signals **below** the average signal level, interprets the receiver as logical 0
 - Signals **above** the average signal level, interprets the receiver as logical 1
- When transmitting long sequences of logical 0 or 1 bits, the average signal level may shift so much, making it difficult to detect a change of the physical signal

Sources

- Steve Zdancewic (2004). <http://www.cis.upenn.edu/~cse331/Fall104/Lectures/CSE331-3.pdf>
- Charles Spurgeon, Joann Zimmerman. *Ethernet: The Definitive Guide*. O'Reilly (2014)

Detailed source, which explains baseline wander from the electrical engineering perspective

- Maxim Integrated (2008). *NRZ Bandwidth – LF Cutoff and Baseline Wander*. <http://pdfserv.maximintegrated.com/en/an/AN1738.pdf>

Avoid Baseline Wander

- In order to prevent **Baseline Wander**, when using a line code with 2 physical signal levels, the usage of both signal levels must be **distributed equally**
 - Therefore, the data to be transmitted must be encoded in a way, that the signal levels occur equally often
 - The data must be **scrambled**
- If a network technology uses 3 or 5 physical signal levels, the average signal level must match the middle signal level over the time

Clock Recovery

- **Problem:** Recover the **clock signal** from the transmission
- Even if the processes for encoding and decoding run on different computers, they need to be controlled by the same **clock**

You can imagine the local clock as an internal signal, switching from low to high. A low/high pair is a **clock cycle**

- In each clock cycle, the sender transmits a bit and the receiver receives a bit
- If the clocks of sender and receiver drift apart, the receiver may lose count during a sequence of logic 0 or 1

Avoid the Problem of Clock Recovery

- One option: Using a **separate line, which transmits just the clock**

A network technology with a separate signal line just for the clock is the serial bus system I²C (Inter-Integrated Circuit)

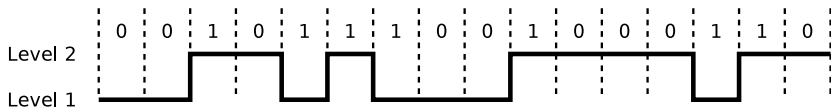
But like comparable systems this bus system is only suited for local application and cannot be used to span large distances

- In computer networks, a separate signal line just for the clock is **not practical** because of the cabling effort
 - Instead, it is recommended to **increase the number of signal level changes** to enable the clock recovery from the data stream

The next slides present several line codes, which all...

- (more or less successful) try to solve the challenges of baseline wander and/or clock recovery
- must consider the limitations of the transmission medium used
 - Fiber-optic cables and wireless transmissions via infrared and laser provide just 2 physical signal levels
 - Copper cables and wireless transmissions via radio waves provide ≥ 2 physical signal levels

Non-Return-to-Zero, Inverted (NRZI) ⁸



- Similar to NRZ

- Encode 1 as voltage level change
- Encode 0 as missing voltage level change

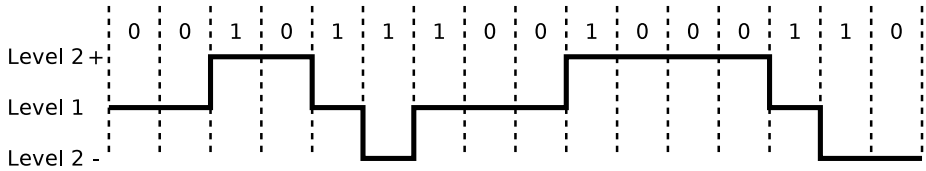
- Property:

- Same advantages as for NRZ, but the disadvantages only occur for sequences of zeroes
⇒ Therefore, **baseline wander can occur**

⁷Sometimes called differential NRZ

Multilevel Transmission Encoding - 3 Levels (MLT-3)

- This line code uses **3 signal levels** +, 0 and -
 - If a logical 0 is transmitted, no signal level change takes place
 - A logical 1 is alternating encoded, according to the sequence [+ , 0 , - , 0]
- Just as for NRZI, the **clock recovery problem exists** with series of logical 0 and **baseline wander can occur**

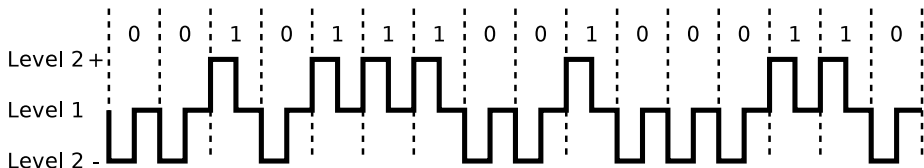


Implemented by Ethernet 100BASE-TX

Return to Zero (RZ)

■ RZ uses 3 signal levels

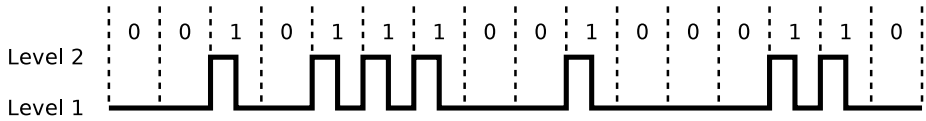
- Transmit a logical 1 \implies high signal level is transmitted for a **half clock** and then the signal level returns to the middle signal level
- Transmit a logical 0 \implies low signal level is transmitted for a **half clock** and then the signal level returns to the middle signal level



- **Advantage:** Each transmitted bit causes a signal level change
 - Enables the receiver to do the **clock recovery** (synchronization)
- **Drawbacks:**
 - Requires **double as much bandwidth** compared with NRZ
 - **Baseline wander can occur** for series of logical 0 or 1

Unipolar RZ Encoding

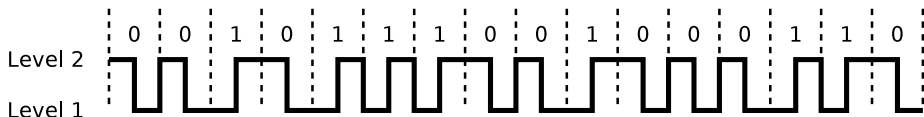
- Special form of return-to-zero (RZ)
 - Uses only 2 signal levels
 - Logical 0 bits are encoded as low signal level
 - Transmit a logical 1 bit \implies high signal level is transmitted for a half clock and then the signal level returns to the low signal level
- Clock recovery is impossible for series of logical 0 bits
- The usage of the different signal level is not equally distributed
 - Therefore baseline wander can occur



This line code is used for optical wireless data transmission via IrDA in the transmission mode SIR

Manchester Code

- Uses 2 signal levels
 - A logical 1 is encoded with a **rising edge**
 - Change from signal level 1 (low value) to signal level 2 (high value)
 - A logical 0 is encoded with a **falling edge**
 - Change from signal level 2 (high value) to signal level 1 (low value)
- If 2 identical bits follow each other, at the end of the **bit cell**, the signal level changes to the initial level
 - Bit cell = time period, that is reserved for the transmission of a single bit



10 Mbps Ethernet (e.g. 10BASE2 and 10BASE-T) uses this line code

Manchester Code Properties

■ Advantages:

- Signal level changes happen all the time to allow clock recovery
⇒ Clock recovery is no problem for the receiver
- The usage of the signal levels is equally distributed
⇒ baseline wander cannot occur

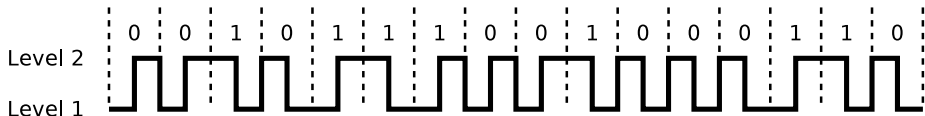
- **Disadvantage:** The transmission of a single bit requires on average 1.5 signal level changes

Because the number of level changes is a limiting factor of the transmission medium, modern network technologies do not use the Manchester encoding as line code

- For this line code, the bit rate is half the baud rate
 - Therefore, the efficiency of the line code is only 50 % compared to NRZ

Differential Manchester Code

- Also called **Conditional DePhase encoding (CDP)**
 - Transmit a logical 1 \implies only in the middle of the bit cell changes the signal level
 - Transmit a logical 0 \implies a change of the signal level will take place at the beginning and in the middle of the bit cell
- In this variant of the Manchester encoding, too, . . .
 - clock recovery is possible for the receiver and
 - baseline wander cannot occur
- Depending on the initial signal level, **2 signal sequences, inverse to each other, are possible**



Token Ring (IEEE 802.5) uses this line code

Interim Conclusion

■ All line codes presented so far have drawbacks

1 Baseline wander

- Problem with series of logical 0 and 1 when NRZ is used
- Problem with series of logical 0 when NRZI, MLT-3 or Unipolar RZ are used

2 Clock recovery

- Not guaranteed when NRZ, NRZI, MLT-3, or Unipolar RZ are used

3 Lack of efficiency

- With the variants of the Manchester encoding

→ **Possible Solution:** encode **groups of bits**

The objective is to achieve the positive characteristics of the Manchester encoding and a high efficiency at the same time

4B/5B Code

- Groups of 4 payload bits onto groups of 5 code bits
 - With 5 bits, 32 different encodings are possible
 - Only 16 encodings are used for data (0–9 and A–F)
 - Some of the remaining 16 encodings are used for connection control
 - Because of the additional bit, added to each group of 4 bits payload, the output is increased by factor 5/4
 - Efficiency of the 4B5B encoding: 80%
 - Each 5-bit encoding has a maximum of a single leading 0 bit and in the output data stream, a maximum of three 0 bits in a row
 - Therefore, clock recovery for the receiver is possible
 - After the encoding with 4B5B, another encoding e.g. with NRZI or MLT-3 takes place
 - If 4B5B is combined with NRZI (for 2 signal levels) or with MLT-3 (for 3 signal levels), baseline Wander cannot occur
- Ethernet 100BASE-TX: After 4B5B, a further encoding with MLT-3 takes place
 - FDDI and Ethernet 100BASE-FX: After 4B5B, a further encoding with NRZI takes place

4B5B Encoding (Table)

Label	4B	5B	Function
0	0000	11110	0 hexadecimal (Payload)
1	0001	01001	1 hexadecimal (Payload)
2	0010	10100	2 hexadecimal (Payload)
3	0011	10101	3 hexadecimal (Payload)
4	0100	01010	4 hexadecimal (Payload)
5	0101	01011	5 hexadecimal (Payload)
6	0110	01110	6 hexadecimal (Payload)
7	0111	01111	7 hexadecimal (Payload)
8	1000	10010	8 hexadecimal (Payload)
9	1001	10011	9 hexadecimal (Payload)
A	1010	10110	A hexadecimal (Payload)
B	1011	10111	B hexadecimal (Payload)
C	1100	11010	C hexadecimal (Payload)
D	1101	11011	D hexadecimal (Payload)
E	1110	11100	E hexadecimal (Payload)
F	1111	11101	F hexadecimal (Payload)
Q	—	00000	Quiet (the line is gone dead) ⇒ Signal loss
I	—	11111	Idle (the line is idle) ⇒ Pause
J	—	11000	Start (Part 1)
K	—	10001	Start (Part 2)
T	—	01101	Stop (Part 1)
R	—	00111	Stop (Part 2) ⇒ Reset
S	—	11001	Set
H	—	00100	Halt (transmission failure)

- The missing 5-bit combinations are invalid because they contain more than a single leading 0 bits or more than two 0 bits in a row

If Fast Ethernet 100BASE-TX is used, frames begin with JK and end with TR

Agenda

■ Fundamentals of Data Signals

■ Data Encoding

■ **Modulation**

Baseband and Broadband

How can we eventually transmit the single bits on the transmission medium?

Baseband

- A → data encoding is required to specify which symbols represent a 0 resp. an 1
- The data is transmitted as is over the medium
- → Typically used in LANs or inside a computer

Broadband

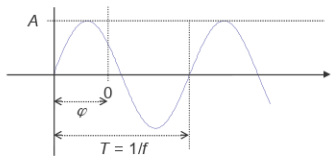
- A → **modulation** is used to transmit the data over a **carrier** analog signal
- By using different carrier signals (frequencies), several transmissions can happen simultaneously
- → Mainly used in optical networks, in radio communication, and cable distribution systems

Principle of Modulation

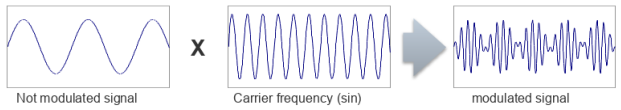
Electromagnetic signal

$$s(t) = A * \sin(2 * \pi * f * t + \phi)$$

- A** Amplitude
- f** Frequency
- T** Duration of one oscillation, period
- ϕ** Phase



The data is **modulated** into a **carrier frequency**



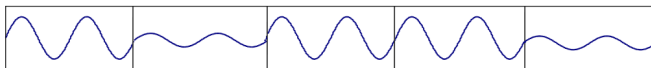
→ **Modem = Modulation-Demodulation process**

Amplitude Shift Keying (ASK)



$$s(t) = A * \sin(2 * \pi * f * t + \phi)$$

Amplitude Modulation (discrete, Amplitude Shift Keying, ASK)



- Technically easy to realize
- Does not need much bandwidth
- Not very robust against distortion
- Often used in optical transmission (→ low noise)

Frequency Shift Keying (FSK)



$$s(t) = A * \sin(2 * \pi * f * t + \phi)$$

Frequency Modulation (discrete, Frequency Shift Keying, FSK)



- Waste of frequencies
- Needs a lot of bandwidth
- Initial principle used in data transmission on phone lines

Phase Shift Keying (PSK)



$$s(t) = A * \sin(2 * \pi * f * t + \phi)$$

Phase Modulation (discrete, Phase Shift Keying, PSK)



- Complex demodulation process
- Robust against distortion
- Best generic solution

Advanced PSK Techniques

- Quadrature Phase Shift Keying (QPSK)
- Binary Phase Shift Keying (BPSK)
- Carrier-less Amplitude Phase Modulation (CAP/QAM)
- Differential Phase Shift Keying (DPSK)

You should now be able to answer the following questions:

- How can data be transmitted over different transmission media?
- What does quantization, sampling, encoding, and modulation mean?
- Why do we need line codes, which properties are important, and which typical line codes exist?
- How can data signals be modulated onto a carrier frequency?

