

Brian S. Borowski

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This presentation includes:

- Introduction
- Thesis statement
- Contributions to the field in:
 - Channel characterization
 - Channel/PHY simulation
 - Adaptive software modem
- Summary



Difficulties with Underwater Acoustic Communication

- Transmission loss _____
- Stratification <____
- Noise
- Doppler spread
- High propagation delay
- Multipath propagation







Thesis Statement

Channel estimation techniques can be employed in both a network simulator and software modem to quantify the channelinduced distortion of acoustic signals and thereby to improve the quality of simulation and adaptability of modulation and demodulation, respectively.



Why Do Channel Characterization?

- Relatively few papers have focused on the fundamental process of characterizing the underwater acoustic channel
- There is no typical underwater channel
- Is a necessary step for the design of a successful communication system
- Numerous channel measurements are required to build up a database of underwater environments for more realistic network simulations



Introduction Thesis Contributions Summary Characterization Simulation Modem

Time-Variant Impulse Response



Successive time-variant impulse response estimates at 505m

Impulse Response c(r; f) 30 0.9 25 0.8 0.7 20 0.6 [t] Time (s) 15 0.5 0.4 10 0.3 0.2 5 0.1 0 -1 0 2 3 4 5 [τ] Delay (ms)

Successive time-variant impulse response estimates at 200m



Scattering Function

- Gives the average power output of the channel as a function of time delay τ and Doppler frequency λ
- Is the basis for computing the remainder of the channel characterization functions

$$S_c(\tau; \lambda) = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} A_c(\tau; \Delta t) e^{-j2\pi\lambda\Delta t} d\Delta t$$



Scattering function at 505m



Scattering function at 200m



Multipath Intensity Profile

- P(τ) gives the average power output as a function of time delay τ
- Computed by summing the power levels over the λ values

 $P(\tau) = \int S_c(\tau; \lambda) d\lambda$

Doppler Shift and Spread (Hz) of Strong Multipath Arrivals

	200m			505m				
	Time (ms)	Intensity	Shift	Spread	Time (ms)	Intensity	Shift	Spread
Arrival 1	0.000	0.8136	-0.1945	2.6790	0.000	1.0000	-0.3642	2.8315
Arrival 2	0.025	1.0000	-0.2588	2.6948	0.105	0.4033	-0.3667	3.0616
Arrival 3	_	_	_	_	0.205	0.5041	-0.4556	3.0057

Delay Spread of Multipath Intensity Profile (ms)

	Mean Excess Delay	RMS Delay Spread	Maximum Excess Delay (-10 dB)
200m	0.0907	0. 1478	0.1800
505m	0.1789	0.1636	0.4150



intipath intensity profile at 505



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June 22, 2010

Spaced-Frequency Correlation Function

- Fourier transform of the MIP
- Indicates the coherence bandwidth of the channel, a statistical measure of the range of frequencies over which the channel passes all spectral components with approximately equal gain and linear phase

Coherence Ba		
-3 dB	-6 dB	-10 dB

8160

1665

12490

2165



Spaced-frequency correlation function at 505m



Spaced-frequency correlation function at 200m

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2331

1166

200m

505m

Doppler Power Spectrum

- Provides the signal intensity as a function of the Doppler frequency λ
- Computed by summing the power of spectral components of the scattering function over the time delay τ

$$P(\lambda) = \int S_c(\tau; \lambda) d\tau$$

Overall Doppler	Shift and Spread	(Hz)
-----------------	------------------	------

	Shift	Spread
200m	-0.2357	3.3231
505m	-0.3381	3.3843





Spaced-Time Correlation Function

- Fourier transform of the Doppler power spectrum
- Provides the channel's coherence time, a measure of the expected time duration over which the channel's response is essentially invariant

Coherence Time (ms)							
	0.5 (-3dB) 0.25 (-6dB) 0.1 (-10 dB)						
200m	50	400	699				
505m 50 150 500							



Spaced-time correlation function at 505m





Fading Characteristics



Distribution Fitting

- Maximum likelihood estimation was used to fit the data to the Rayleigh, Rice, and Nakagami-*m* (as well as other less likely) distributions
- Kullback-Leibler divergence, D_{KL} $D_{KL}(P \parallel Q) = \sum_{i} P(i) log_2 \frac{P(i)}{Q(i)}$
- Bhattacharyya distance, D_B

 $D_B(P,Q) = -log_2(BC)$ where $BC = \sum_i \sqrt{P(i)Q(i)}$

 Metric based on the Bhattacharyya coefficient, proposed by Comaniciu, Ramesh, and Meer, D_{CRM}

$$D_{CRM}(P,Q) = \sqrt{1 - BC}$$
 where $BC = \sum_{i} \sqrt{P(i)Q(i)}$



Characterization Simulation Modem

Distribution Fitting Results





200 mg				
200m	D _{KL}	D_B	D _{CRM}	Parameters
Beta	0.0771	0.0189	0.1142	[alpha = 4.2516, beta = 12.4813]
Gamma	0.1273	0.0325	0.1492	[alpha = 5.3128, beta = 0.0481]
Lognormal	0.2731	0.0653	0.2104	[mu = -1.4621, sigma = 0.4930]
Nakagami- <i>m</i>	0.0582	0.0147	0.1008	[m = 1.6674, omega = 0.0746]
Rayleigh	0.1547	0.0447	0.1746	[sigma = 0.1932]
Rice	0.0232	0.0058	0.0632	[s = 0.2300, sigma = 0.1042, K = 2.4372]

505m	D _{KL}	D _B	D _{CRM}	Parameters
Beta	0.0727	0.0089	0.0782	[alpha = 2.2509, beta = 36.9124]
Gamma	0.0689	0.0081	0.0747	[alpha = 2.4133, beta = 0.0237]
Lognormal	0.4863	0.0138	0.0975	[mu = -3.0819, sigma = 0.7095]
Nakagami- <i>m</i>	0.0939	0.0127	0.0936	[m = 0.7174, omega = 0.0049]
Rayleigh	0.1947	0.0240	0.1284	[sigma = 0.0494]
Rice	0.1947	0.0240	0.1284	[s = 0.0000, sigma = 0.0494, K = 0.0000]

Implications for Communication

- (Time domain) If $T_m > T_s$, the channel exhibits frequency-selective fading, which results in channel-induced ISI
 - At 200m, T_m = 0.1800 ms => 5555 symbols per second
 - At 505m, T_m = 0.4150 ms => 2410 symbols per second
- (Frequency domain) If W > f, where W is the bandwidth required for modulation and f is the coherence bandwidth, the channel imposes frequency-selective degradation
- (Time domain) If $T_c > T_s$, the channel exhibits slow fading
 - In the Hudson, the -3dB coherence time is 50ms, which is most likely significantly longer than $T_s =>$ slow fading channel
- (Frequency domain) If $W > f_d$, the channel is referred to as slow fading
- Harsh condition over long links => deploy spread spectrum, CDMA, multihop network

Summary and Future Work

- Summary
 - LFM chirp signals and a comb signal were emitted during the experiment
 - Environmental conditions were recorded
 - Impulse response estimates were used to derive channel characterization functions
 - Various distributions were fitted to amplitude fluctuations
- Future Work
 - Sound the channel over other distances and at different times
 - Permanently affix channel sounding equipment to buoys or river floor for taking year-round measurements

Current simulations...

- Use empirical formula to describe the underwater acoustic channel [ns-2 extension, Harris 2007]
 - Thorp's approximation for the absorption of a wave at a given frequency
 - Formulas for power spectral density of noise-producing agents
- Use BELLHOP to model to compute SINR values for which bit error rates can be looked up [World Ocean Simulation System, Guerra 2009]
- Focus only on power consumption and propagation delay/range [Aqua-Sim 2010]

My solution...

- Is based fully on measurements
- Converts real application-generated packets into acoustic waveforms
- Mixes acoustic waveforms with the channel to provide accurate bit error rates for packets passing through channels that change slowly
- Can simulate any channel for which measurements exist
- Is modular and can be easily extended with new processing blocks or alternate implementations





Introduction Contributions Thesis Characterization Simulation

Simulation Architecture

Architecture of OMNeT++ simulation for PHY layer and underwater acoustic channel.

- Areas in gray represent data from measurements.
- Areas in yellow represent sections implemented in MATIAB.
- A simple implementation of the application and link layers is included for future extensions but is not the focus of this work.



Modem

Summary

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Characterization Simulation Modem

Validation

Summary

Overall comparison of BERs obtained with data transmission versus convolution

Comparison of BERs obtained with data transmission versus convolution, per carrier frequency

Comparison of BERs obtained with data transmission versus convolution, grouped by the type of modulationdemodulation

Comparison of BERs obtained with data transmission versus convolution, grouped by bit rate

Overall % Difference					
Average Min Max Std. Dev.					
3.34	0.00	33.31	8.21		
3.34 0.00 33.31					

			% Difference			
Modulation	Demodulation	Implementation	Average	Min	Max	Std. Dev.
	Envelope	Amplitude Comp.	2.60	0.00	20.16	5.22
FSK	Detector	Hard Limiter	3.34	0.00	27.69	7.28
	Quadrature	Default	4.35	0.00	24.41	7.36
	Receiver	Hard Limiter	2.89	0.00	24.31	6.14
PSK	Correlator	N/A	3.51	0.00	33.31	9.01

	% Difference					
Frequency (Hz)	Average	Min	Max	Std. Dev.		
7,500	1.74	0.00	12.47	3.35		
12,500	3.66	0.00	33.31	8.16		
17,500	4.61	0.00	27.69	8.11		

	% Difference						
Bit Rate (bps)	Average	Min	Max	Std. Dev.			
250	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00			
500	2.03	0.00	24.41	6.29			
1250	7.50	0.00	27.69	9.72			
2500	3.91	0.00	13.25	4.21			
>3000	3.25	0.00	33.31	8.41			

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Thesis

Characterization Simulation Modem

Contributions Summary

Simulation Output

Generating datagram 2...

Bits sent:

01010100:01101000:01100101:00100000:01010101:00101110:0101011:00101110 01100110:00100000:01010010:01100101:01110000:01110010:01100101:01110011 01101111:01101110:01101001:01110011:01101000:00100000:01010111:01101001 01101101:01101101:01100101:01101110:01110100:00101110:00100000:01001100 01101111:01110101:01110000:01100001:01110011:01110011:01101001:00100000 01101001:01101100:01100001:01110010:00100000:01100010:01100101:01101000 01110101:01101100:01100100:00100000:01100010:01100101:00100000:01110111 01100001:01100011:01100011:01100101:01110000:01110100:01100001:01100010 01100111:01100001:01110100:01100101:01110011:00101110:

PSK-modulated data in 166800 samples.Source level: 120.00 dBTransmission loss: 56.32 dBNoise level: 33.82 dBSNR: 29.86 dBOpening IR file data/IR 505m/IR 277.wav.

Number of samples in packet after convolution: 176400

Demodulating 190 bytes.

BER: 4.67% Bits received:

01010110:01101000:01110101:00100000:01010101:00101111:01010011:00101111 01110111:00110000:01010010:01110101:01110000:01110010:01110101:01110011 01100101:00101111:00110100:00110001:01110100:01101001:01110111:01110101 01101111:01101110:00101001:01110011:01101000:00100000:01010111:01101001 01101101:01101101:01100101:00101110:00110100:00101111:00100000:01001100 00101111:01110101:01110000:01100001:01110011:01110011:01101001:00100000 01101001:01101100:00100001:01110010:00100000:01100011:01110101:00101000 01110101:00101100:00100100:00100000:01100011:01110101:10100000:01110111 00110001:01100011:01100011:01100101:00110000:01110100:00110001:01100011 01100111:01100001:01110100:00100101:01110011:00101110:

Expected payload: The U.S. House of Representatives voted yesterday to admonish Wilson over the comment. Loupassi said similar behavior would be wildly unacceptable in the Virginia House of Delegates.

Actual payload : Vhu U/S/ House ow0Rupruse/41tiwu3 wot5d yest%rt!y to admon)sh Wilson /v5r thu comme.4/ L/upassi said 3imil!r cu(aw)or 3ou,\$ cu.wilt,9 uolcce0t1cl% io t(e Virw)n)a Houye ow0D%nugat%s.

Summary and Future Work

- Summary
 - Simulation based on channel measurements that produces accurate bit error rates of application-generated packets
 - For channels that change relatively slowly, the simulation produces bit error rates that are within 3.34% of the actual bit error rates
- Future Work
 - Evaluate single impulse response model in time-variant channel
 - Utilize two dimensional convolution
 - Account for multipath fading
 - Add more types of modulation techniques
 - Implement higher layers in the network stack

• Goals

- Easy deployment of applications written with sockets
- Extensible platform for real-time channel estimation and communication
- Low cost underwater acoustic modem fully implemented in software

• Features

- Uses sound card of PC
- Supports binary and 4-FSK (frequency shift keying) modulation
- User-adjustable parameters, including
 - o Bit rate
 - o Carrier frequency
 - Detection threshold
- Exploits a per-frame LFM (linear frequency modulated) chirp signal for synchronization and channel estimation
- Can use Levinson-Durbin matrix inversion for equalization of slowly varying channels (zero forcing equalizer)
- Can employ Reed-Solomon codes for error correction
- Incoming frames and impulse response estimates can be saved to .wav and .csv files for offline analysis; SNR is computed and logged

System Architecture

- Includes 3 levels of user space applications
 - Network app (TCP/UDP, any language)
 - Acoustic modem (Java)
 - Tunnel relay app for passing IP datagrams from the network app to and from the software modem (C)



Software architecture of acoustic modem, with arrows depicting the flow of data generated by the network application through the system and down to the sound card.

Modem Architecture

- Transmit and receive tasks are in modular, "assembly line" fashion
- Each stage is a separate thread
- Threads communicate by placing the resulting item on interconnecting threadsafe queues





Control Interface Parameters

- **CHIRP_MS** = <integer>
- **BASE_FREQUENCY_RX / TX** = <integer>
- FULL_DUPLEX = <TRUE/FALSE>
- GUARD_MS = <integer>
- **IMPULSE_RISE_MS** = <decimal>
- **INVERSE_FILTER** = <TRUE/FALSE>
- NUMBER_OF_CARRIERS = <2/4>
- **PARITY_BYTES** = <integer>
- **PAYLOAD_SIZE_IN_BYTES** = <integer>
- **SYMBOLS_PER_SECOND** = <integer>
- **THRESHOLD** = <integer>

Characterization Simulation Modem

Computational Performance

- Measured with JRat
- Each frame had
 - 50 ms LFM chirp
 - 10 ms guard time
 - 4-byte frame header
 - 16 parity bytes
 - 128 bytes of payload (including other headers)
 - Total of 1184 bits
- Frames transmitted at 1 kbps

Processing Time of Subroutines (ms)

	Desktop Intel Q6600	Laptop T60p Intel T7200	Laptop T500 Intel P8400
Transmit			
a. Modulate	8.00	12.00	13.40
b. Encode Reed-Solomon	9.33	74.40	82.60
Sum (a:b)	17.33	86.40	96.00
Frame duration	1244.00	1244.00	1244.00
Comp Time/Signal Length	1.39 %	6.95 %	7.72 %
Receive			
c. Cross-correlation	2.36	5.03	4.46
Block length	85.33	85.33	85.33
Comp Time/Signal Length	2.77%	5.89%	5.23%
Demodulate			
d. Levinson-Durbin	3.40	3.80	5.33
e. FFT convolution	29.80	65.00	43.83
f. Bandpass filtering	2.60	3.60	4.16
g. Envelope detection	61.60	117.60	84.50
h. Normalizer	1.60	3.70	1.50
i. Comparator	0.40	2.00	0.33
j. Bit Decision	0.40	1.60	0.50
k. Decode Reed-Solomon	1.33	21.40	17.40
I. Write 2 wav files	2.00	3.40	2.60
m. Write IR data to csv file	16.33	55.40	36.00
Sum (d:m)	119.46	277.50	196.15
Frame duration	1244.00	1244.00	1244.00
Comp Time/Signal Length	9.60 %	22.31%	15.77%

Performance in AWGN Channel

E_b/N_0	BER	Bits Sent	Error Bits
4.13	0.337	103,600	34,926
4.66	0.296	103,600	30,677
5.32	0.162	103,600	16,742
6.76	0.0777	103,600	8,045
8.52	0.0174	103,600	1,807
10.40	0.00717	518,000	3,715
11.51	0.00289	518,000	1,498
12.74	0.000251	518,000	130
14.27	2.220E-5	1,036,000	23
15.47	1.931E-6	1,036,000	2

Performance test results for 4-FSK

E_b/N_0	BER	Bits Sent	Error Bits
4.95	0.286	103,600	29,652
6.16	0.169	103,600	17,492
7.38	0.0533	103,600	5,521
9.25	0.00829	207,200	1,718
11.44	5.598E-4	414,400	232
12.67	1.081E-4	1,036,000	112
14.01	2.684E-5	1,554,000	41
15.43	1.689E-5	2,072,000	35
16.76	4.826E-6	2,072,000	10



Empirical and theoretical BER vs. $E_b/N_{0.}$

Summary and Future Work

- Summary
 - Implemented open source acoustic modem
 - Modem offers numerous configuration parameters
 - Performs channel characterization and records data
- Future Work
 - Add other modulation techniques
 - Convert to LMS-based adaptive DFE
 - Deploy a pair of modems for long-term channel characterization and communication experiments



Key Contributions

- Characterization of the Hudson River estuary at 200 and 505 meters
- Channel characterization procedure described in great detail, possibly more thoroughly than any other work
- A network simulation written in OMNeT++ / MATLAB that simulates the underwater acoustic channel and PHY layer of a network stack
- A software-driven binary and 4-FSK modem with a zeroforcing equalizer and Reed-Solomon codes
- Software for the channel characterization, network simulation, and software modem that facilitates converting formulas and block diagrams into working systems



Publications

- Brian Borowski and Dan Duchamp, *Measurement-based Underwater Acoustic Physical Layer Simulation, in Proceedings of MTS/IEEE OCEANS 2010, September 2010, Seattle, Washington (to appear).*
- Brian Borowski and Dan Duchamp, Short Paper: The Softwater Modem A Software Modem for Underwater Acoustic Communication, in Proceedings of the ACM International Workshop on Underwater Networks (WUWNet'09), November 2009, Berkeley, California.
- Brian Borowski, Characterization of a Very Shallow Water Acoustic Communication Channel, in Proceedings of MTS/IEEE OCEANS 2009, October 2009, Biloxi, Mississippi.
- Brian Borowski, Alexander Sutin, Heui-Seol Roh, and Barry Bunin, *Passive Acoustic Threat Detection in Estuarine Environments, in Proceedings of SPIE Vol. 6945, March 2008, Orlando, Florida.*
- Brian Borowski, Heui-Seol Roh, Barry Bunin, and Alexander Sutin, Estimation of Passive Acoustic Threat Detection Distances in Estuarine Environments, in Proceedings of the 153rd Meeting of the Acoustical Society of America, June 2007, Salt Lake City, Utah.
 (Placed second in the Best Student Paper competition of the Engineering Acoustics section)

Any Questions?



Extra Slides



Incorrect Channel Sounding





Correct Channel Sounding



Environmental Conditions

 Recorded at the Castle Point Buoy, at 40.74348° latitude and -74.02263° latitude

Channel	505 m	200 m
Start Time	5:14 P.M.	6:04 P.M.
Temperature	76°F	75°F
Relative Humidity	55%	57%
Wind Speed	10 knots	8 knots
Wind Direction	159°	159°



Sound Velocity Profile

Medwin's expression:

 $c = 1449.2 + 4.6T - 5.5 \times 10^{-2}T^2 + 2.9 \times 10^{-4}T^3 +$

 $(1.34 - 10^{-2}T)(S - 35) + 1.6 \times 10^{-2}D$

Limits: $0 \le T \le 35^{\circ}$ C $0 \le S \le 45$ psu $0 \le D \le 1000$ m



Sound velocity profile for 505-meter channel



Sound velocity profile for 200-meter channel



Ambient Noise

- Recorded for 30 seconds before emitting test signals
- Power spectral density (PSD) of noise was estimated via a Welch periodogram technique based on a 256point FFT together with a Hanning window and no overlap



PSD of ambient noise in Hudson River estuary



Signal Properties





Envelope of emitted chirp waveform autocorrelation function



```
%% Demodulates PSK signal using a correlation receiver.
t = 0:samplesPerBit-1;
psk0 = -cos(2 * pi * carrierFreq/samplingRate * t);
psk1 = cos(2 * pi * carrierFreq/samplingRate * t);
rxPSK = zeros(1, numberOfBits);
for i = 1:numberOfBits
    rcv = packet((i-1)*samplesPerBit + 1:i*samplesPerBit);
    zero = rcv .* psk0;
    one = rcv .* psk1;
    z0 = sum(zero);
    z1 = sum(one);
    rxPSK(i) = (z1 > z0);
    end
```