

# A Review on the Design of Equalizers for Frequency Selective Channels

Shubham Vishwakarma<sup>1</sup>, Prof. Neelam Sharma<sup>2</sup>

**Abstract:** Wireless channels rarely fulfill the conditions required for distortion-less transmission. Sensible wireless channels suffer from the impact of a non-flat magnitude response and a non-linear phase response that leads to distortions within the received signals. What is more, effects like frequency scale weakening, massive scale weakening and phase shifts cause dissimilarity between the transmitted and received signals. Wireless channels not showing the perfect impulse response end up in the reception of multiple copies of the transmitted signal at the receiver thereby leading to intersymbol Interference (ISI). An additive and cascading impact of the on top of mentioned reasons ends up in the degraded performance of electronic communication systems. To avoid these prejudicial effects, many equalizer styles are projected. This paper focuses on the design aspects of equalizers with an inclination towards decision feedback equalizers, due to their efficiency in nullifying the detrimental effects of practical wireless channels.

**Keywords:** Frequency Selective Channel, Equalizer, Decision Feedback Equalizer, Bit Error Rate (BER), Probability of Error ( $P_e$ ), Throughput.

## INTRODUCTION

Since wireless channels introduce several degradation effects on the signal passing through them, therefore it is important to reverse the effects of the channel. A mechanism that reverses or nullifies the uncomplimentary effects of distortion introducing channel is termed as an equalizer [1]. The speed of information transmissions over a communication system is proscribed attributable to the consequences of linear and distortion. Linear distortions occur in the form of intersymbol interference (ISI), co-channel interference (CCI) and adjacent channel interference (ACI) within the presence of additive white Gaussian noise. Non-linear distortions are caused attributable to the subsystems like amplifiers, modulator and detector along with the nature of the medium. Generally burst noise happens in a communication system. Totally different techniques are accustomed to mitigate these effects. Totally different applications and channel models suit a distinct technique.

## SYSTEM IMPLEMENTATION

The block diagram of a digital communication system with an equalizer is shown below

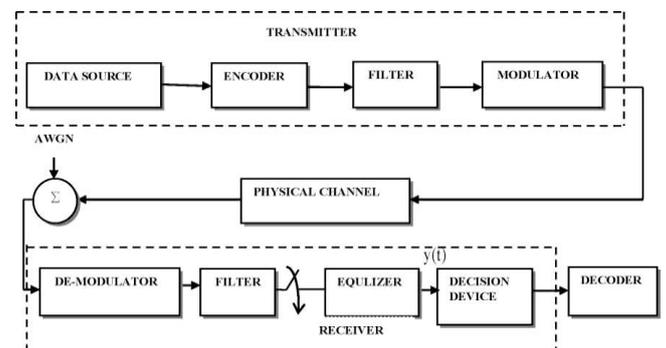


Fig.1 Block Diagram Digital Communication with Equalizer

The equalizer tries to mitigate the results of the wireless channels that cause distortions at the receiver. It is seen that the equalizer acts simply before the receiver when sensing what the channel has done to an indication. In mobile radio channels, which continually change and multipath causes time dispersion of the digital data, it is thought of as intersymbol interference. It is too tough to discover the particular data at the receiver. What is more, it cannot be corrected even by increasing the signal power at the transmitter. Hence such errors are irreversible errors which cannot be mitigated using regular techniques [2].

Let the channel have an impulse response  $h(t)$ . Since any practical system can sense the channel in the discrete time domain, therefore the channel impulse response can be re-

considered as  $h(n)$ . Let the channel in the frequency domain be  $H(z)$ . Then the output of the channel is:

$$y(n) = x(n) * h(n) \quad (1)$$

$$Y(z) = X(z) \cdot H(z) \quad (2)$$

Where, \* stands for convolution  
 $x(n)$  is the input to the channel  
 $y(n)$  is the output of the channel

The aim at design of an equalizer is the design of a system with a transfer function

$$E(z) = \frac{1}{H(z)} \quad (3)$$

There are several ways in which the system with the transfer function  $E(z)$  can be practically implemented. The different techniques result in different equalizer structures. Different equalizer structures can be Linear Equalizers, MLSE Equalizers, Zero Forcing Equalizers, Adaptive Equalizers, and Decision Feedback Equalizers etc.

### THE DECISION FEEDBACK EQUALIZER

The main idea behind the design of a decision feedback equalizer is the fact that if bit errors in the output can be fed back to the system to update tap weights of the equalizer filter, then subsequent errors can be reduced. The following figure shows the design of a DFE.

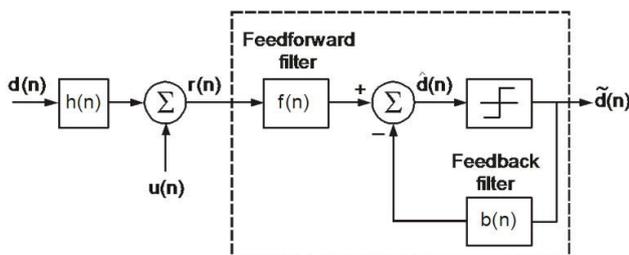


Fig.2 Block Diagram Digital of a Decision Feedback Equalizer

Here,

$d(n)$  is the input to the equalizer,

$f(n)$  and  $b(n)$  are the time domain response of the feed forward and feedback filter s respectively

$d(n)$  is time domain response of the decision device

### PREVIOUS WORK

Zhang et al. in [1] proposed an adaptive transmission scheme with frequency-domain precoding matrix composed of the eigenvectors of the channel matrix

is proposed to improve the system performance under MMSE equalization, and its optimized performance is derived with simple expression. Finally, considering two extreme channel conditions, the lower and upper bounds for the diversity performance of the adaptive transmission scheme are derived. Simulation results show that the proposed adaptive transmission achieves significantly better performance for short signal frames and can work well with imperfect channel state information (CSI). The derived performance bounds can serve as benchmarks for OTFS and other precoded OFDM systems.

Caciularu et al. in [2] proposed a new approach for blind channel equalization and decoding, variational inference, and variational autoencoders (VAEs) in particular, is introduced. Authors first consider the reconstruction of uncoded data symbols transmitted over a noisy linear intersymbol interference (ISI) channel, with an unknown impulse response, without using pilot symbols. Then the approach is to derive an approximate maximum likelihood estimate to the channel parameters and reconstruct the transmitted data. Results demonstrate significant and consistent improvements in the error rate of the reconstructed symbols, compared to existing blind equalization methods such as constant modulus, thus enabling faster channel acquisition.

Suneel et al. in [3] proposed a equalization of channel coefficients is done through evolutionary adaptive algorithms. Conventional differential evolution (DE) and particle swarm optimization (PSO) are used for equalizing second order channel. Later a new optimization technique called teaching learning based optimization (TLBO) is used which provides a better solution. In this paper a comparative study of discussed optimization techniques for different scenarios are provided.

Duan et al. in [4] proposed the concept of turbo equalization for MIMO systems. This approach was rather very pivotal in MIMO systems since MIMO systems encounter different channel conditions for different entries of the channel matrix (H) and hence need an adaptive equalization technique that caters to the needs of the different channel conditions prevailing for the different

transmitter and receiver conditions. Turbo encoding was the approach used in this case.

Peng et al. in [5] proposed a 56Gb/s NRZ Transceiver in 40nm CMOS technology that was an equalizer design that was able to sample the data samples at 56Bbps speed for high speed communications. The practical implementation of such a transceiver design was done using the CMOS technology. The reception mechanism was using a non return to zero (NRZ) approach for the equalization. The performance parameters for the design was the compactness (size) and the power dissipation of the circuit.

Chen et al. in [6] proposed a Complex-Valued B-Spline equalizer model for frequency selective channel models. The approach was iterative in nature and the Polynomial Models Applied to Iterative Frequency-Domain Decision Feedback Equalization was used. The simulation of the channels was done based on the Hammerstein Channel models. The approach as shown to attain better results compared to the existing approaches.

Magueta et al. in [7] proposed a Hybrid Iterative Space-Time Equalization mechanism that was again to be used for MIMO systems. The challenge pertaining to this system design was the fact that the proposed system had to adjust iteratively to the Multi-User mm Wave Massive MIMO Systems. The massive MIMO systems had the channel response matrix to be updated continuously and hence the equalizer too had to adapt accordingly in real time applications.

Belazi et al. in [8] proposed a Bidirectional Soft-Decision Feedback equalizer. The approach also used the concept of Turbo Equalization that changes the equalizer filter's coefficients as per the changes in the channel matrix in case for MIMO Systems. The equalization mechanism was further designed as an iterative mechanism that was to reduce the errors as the number of iterations was to increase synonymous with a Monte Carlo simulation for BER

Prakash et al. in [9] proposed a distributed approach for equalizer design. This included the Arithmetic-Based Realization of equalizers. The approach also incorporated the decision feedback mechanism that is to feed back the errors corresponding to every sensing iteration of the channel response. The channel is to be however sensed continuously so as to update the error profile of the

predicted output and to match the input-output mapping of the system.

Tao in [10] proposed a low complexity decision feedback mechanism for wireless channels. The approach used the concept of soft-output linear equalizer (Soft-LE), the soft-input, soft-output decision-feedback equalizer (Soft-DFE) is much less investigated.. The performance metrics was the Bit Error Rate (BER) of the system. It was shown through scatter plots that the proposed system attains coherent results in both the complex signaling points and the BER scenario of the proposed system.

## PERFORMANCE METRICS

The major performance metrics to decide the performance of equalizers are Bit Error Rate (BER) or Probability of Error ( $P_e$ ) and throughput [11]. The above parameters can be defined as:

$$BER = \frac{\text{Bit Errors}}{\text{Total Number of Bits}} \quad (4)$$

$$\text{Throughput} = \frac{\text{Bits Transmitted}}{\text{Time Consumed}} \quad (5)$$

It should be noted that low value of BER is envisaged while a high value of Throughput is aimed in the design of equalizers [12].

## CONCLUSION

The previous discussions suggest the fact that although different equalizer techniques are available at the disposal of a design engineer, still decision feedback equalizer is one of the most effective ways of mitigating the ill effects of frequency selective channels and multi path propagation causing inter symbol interference. This paper throws light on the design aspects of different equalizing technique evaluating the pros and cons of each design thereby arriving at the conclusion that the most effective equalization technique is the decision feedback mechanism.

**REFERENCES**

- [1] H. Zhang, X. Huang and J. A. Zhang, "Adaptive Transmission With Frequency-Domain Precoding and Linear Equalization Over Fast Fading Channels," in *IEEE Transactions on Wireless Communications*, 2021, vol. 20, no. 11, pp. 7420-7430
- [2] A. Caciularu and D. Burshtein, "Unsupervised Linear and Nonlinear Channel Equalization and Decoding Using Variational Autoencoders," in *IEEE Transactions on Cognitive Communications and Networking*, 2020, vol. 6, no. 3, pp. 1003-1018.
- [3] D.Suneel Varma, P.Kanvitha, K.R.Subhashini, "Adaptive Channel Equalization using Teaching Learning based Optimization", *IEEE* 2019.
- [4] Weimin Duan, Jun Tao and Y. Rosa Zheng, "Efficient Adaptive Turbo Equalization for Multiple-Input-Multiple-Output Underwater Acoustic Communications", *IEEE* 2018
- [5] Pen-Jui Peng, Jeng-Feng Li, Li-Yang Chen, Jri Lee, "A 56Gb/s PAM-4/NRZ Transceiver in 40nm CMOS", *IEEE* 2017.
- [6] Sheng Chen, Xia Hong, Emad Khalaf, Fuad E. Alsaadi and Chris J. Harris, "Comparative Performance of Complex-Valued B-Spline and Polynomial Models Applied to Iterative Frequency-Domain Decision Feedback Equalization of Hammerstein Channels", *IEEE* 2017.
- [7] Roberto Magueta, Daniel Castanheira, Adão Silva, Rui Dinis, and Atilio Gameiro, "Hybrid Iterative Space-Time Equalization for Multi-User mmW Massive MIMO Systems", *IEEE* 2017.
- [8] A Belazi, AAA El-Latif, AV Diaconu, R Rhouma, "Bidirectional Soft-Decision Feedback Turbo Equalization for MIMO Systems", *IEEE* 2016.
- [9] M. Surya Prakash, Rafi Ahamed Shaik, Sagar Koorapati, "An Efficient Distributed Arithmetic-Based Realization of the Decision Feedback Equalizer", *Springer* 2016
- [10] Jun Tao, "On Low-Complexity Soft-Input Soft-Output Decision-Feedback Equalizers", *IEEE* 2015.
- [11] Jun Won Jung and Behzad Razavi "A 25 Gb/s 5.8 mW CMOS Equalizer", *IEEE* 2015.
- [12] Hiroshi Kimura, Pervez M. Aziz, Tai Jing, Ashutosh Sinha, Shiva Prasad Kotagiri, Ram Narayan, Hairong Gao, Ping Jing, Gary Hom, Anshi Liang, Eric Zhang, Aniket Kadkol, Ruchi Kothari, Gordon Chan, Yehui Sun, Benjamin Ge, Jason Zeng, Kathy Ling, Michael C. Wang, Amaresh Malipatil, Lijun Li, Christopher Abel, and Freeman Zhong, "A 28 Gb/s 560 mW Multi-Standard SerDes With Single-Stage Analog Front-End and 14-Tap Decision Feedback Equalizer in 28 nm CMOS", *IEEE* 2014.
- [13] Rui Bai, Samuel Palermo, Patrick Yin Chiang, "A 0.25pJ/b 0.7V 16Gb/s 3-Tap Decision-Feedback Equalizer in 65nm CMOS", *IEEE* 2014
- [14] Deniz Kilinc, and Ozgur B. Akan, "Receiver Design for Molecular Communication", *IEEE* 2013
- [15] Rodrigo C. de Lamare, "Adaptive and Iterative Multi-Branch MMSE Decision Feedback Detection Algorithms for Multi-Antenna Systems", *IEEE* 2013.
- [16] Shayan Shahramian, Hemesh Yasothara, and Anthony Chan Carusone, "Decision Feedback Equalizer Architectures With Multiple Continuous-Time Infinite Impulse Response Filters", *IEEE* 2012.
- [17] Peng Li and Rodrigo C. de Lamare, "Adaptive Decision Feedback Detection with Constellation Constraints for MIMO Systems", *IEEE* 2012.
- [18] Chao Zhang, Zhaocheng Wang, Changyong Pan, Sheng Chen, and Lajos Hanzo, "Low-Complexity Iterative Frequency Domain Decision Feedback Equalization", *IEEE* 2011.