



STANFORD

*Supplementary Lecture 10B*  
**ORBGRAND<sub>n</sub> & SOGRAND Iteration**  
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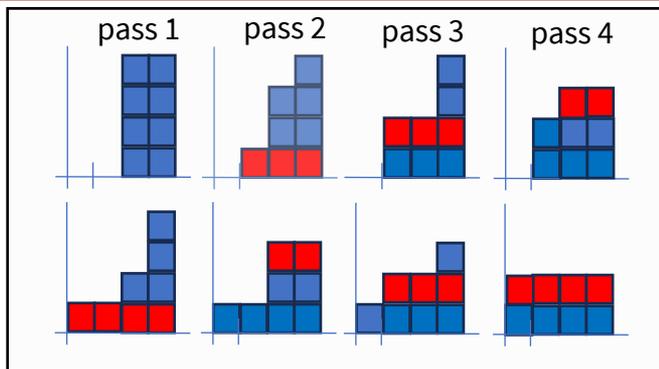
Instructor EE379A – Winter 2026

# Agenda

- S10B Topics
  - Rate – ½ Example (follows L10 soft-output generation on slides L10:31;33) with ORBGRAND1
  - Piecewise Linear Extension (ORBGRANDn)
  - Iterative GRAND software

The rapid landslide GRAND search has 2 exploitations:  
 Extends to piecewise linear SNR approximation,  
 Allows iterative decoding (soft output information generation)

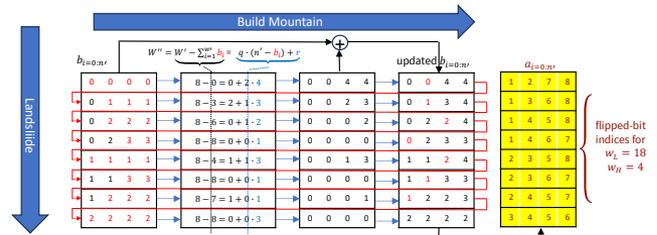
Verbal error in S10A:  
 Here correct to always  
 increases by 1 in the  
 position of max drop



$$n = 8, w_H = 4;$$

$$w_L = 18; w'_L = w_L - 5 \cdot 4/2 = 8;$$

$$n' = n - w_H = 4$$



# Rate – $\frac{1}{2}$ (6/12) CC example (ORBGRAND1)

[Section 7.2.3.2](#)

# SOGRAND's Probability of Codeword Found

- GRAND decision (codeword) is not necessarily MAP/ML, nor is it always correct.

- $q^*$  is 1<sup>st</sup> decoder-decision index when  $\left[ \hat{\mathbf{n}}_{q^*} \oplus \frac{\text{hard}(\hat{\mathbf{y}}_{q^*}) + 1}{2} \right] \in \mathcal{C}$
- where "hard" rounds to  $\pm 1$ , and  $\hat{\mathbf{n}}_q \leftrightarrow \hat{\mathbf{x}}_q$ , which is 1-to-1 for codewords when found, **THUS**:

- SOGRAND for  $q = 0, \dots, q^*$ , accumulates  $\sum_{q=0}^{q^*} P(\mathbf{n}_q)$ .
  - The probability a decision  $\hat{\mathbf{v}}$  (codeword) remains not found is

$$p_{nf} = 1 - \underbrace{\sum_{q=0}^{q^*} P(\mathbf{n}_q)}_{\text{before and } q^*}$$

- Each (output) channel bit position has  $LL_{q,i} = -\frac{\ln(2\pi \cdot \sigma^2)}{2} - \frac{(y_i - [2 \cdot v_{q,i} - 1])^2}{2 \cdot \sigma^2} - \ln(p_i)$  or  $LLR_i = -\frac{2 \cdot y_i}{\sigma^2}$ .
  - If there is an  $\hat{a}$  priori (intrinsic) for position  $i$  with  $LL_{ap,i}(v_i)$ , then this should replace the  $-\ln(p_i)$  above.
- The guess-sequence probabilities are each  $P(\mathbf{n}_q) = \sum_{i=1}^n e^{LL_{q,i}}$ , and then they can be summed over  $q$ .

Easier way is to compute  $LL_{0,i}$  and then just compute/add  $w_q$  correction terms for each guess



# Rate 1/2 cc Example

$$\underbrace{[1 + D^2 \quad 1 + D + D^2]}_{H(D)}$$

```
H= [110000000000
    011100000000
    110111000000
    001101110000
    000011011100
    000000110111];
```

- First compute the 12 values of  $LL_{q,i} = -\frac{\ln(2\pi \cdot \sigma^2)}{2} - \frac{(y_i - [2 \cdot v_{q,i-1}])^2}{2 \cdot \sigma^2} + \ln(p_i)$  for

$y_{1:12} = [-0.9000 \quad 0.5000 \quad -1.1000 \quad -0.9000 \quad -0.5000 \quad 1.0000 \quad -0.8000 \quad -0.7000 \quad 0.9000 \quad 1.0000 \quad -0.9000 \quad 1.0000];$

- Add their magnitudes for  $LL_0$ .
- For each subsequent guess, subtract  $|LL_{0,i}|$  and add  $-\frac{\ln(2\pi \cdot \sigma^2)}{2} - \frac{(y_i - [2 \cdot v_{q,i-1}])^2}{2 \cdot \sigma^2} + \ln(p_i)$  in the  $w_{H,q}$  positions that differ from all zeros to get  $LL_q$ .
- Then iteratively compute

$$\sum_{q=0}^{q^*} P(\mathbf{n}_q)$$

For the r=1/2 convolutional code, see L10 simplified calculation

- Proceed with calculations on L10:33 for individual soft-bit outputs and compute  $p'_{nf} (= \frac{2^k - 1}{2^{n-q^*}} \cdot p_{nf})$ .
  - Non-initial iterations remove intrinsic components,  $LL_{ext,i} = LLR_i - LLR_{q,chan,i} - LLR_{q,int,i}$ , before passing to another GRAND.



# More detail on $1 - p_{nf} = \sum_{q=0}^{q^*} P(\mathbf{n}_q)$ calculation

- Recall from S10A:6
- $N_i \triangleq$  number of flips of bit  $i$  at/before guess  $q^*$ .

Guess	LLR  sum	[dimension indices]			
			13	3.59324470	[12]
			14	3.95256917	[3]
1	0.00000000	[ ]	15	4.31189364	[2 8]
2	1.79662235	[2]	16	4.31189364	[5 8]
3	1.79662235	[5]	17	4.67121811	[2 7]
4	2.51527129	[8]	18	4.67121811	[5 7]
5	2.87459576	[7]	19	5.03054258	[1 2]
6	3.23392023	[1]	20	5.03054258	[2 4]
7	3.23392023	[4]	21	5.03054258	[1 5]
8	3.23392023	[9]	22	5.03054258	[4 5]
9	3.23392023	[11]	23	5.03054258	[2 9]
10	3.59324470	[2 5]	24	5.03054258	[5 9]
11	3.59324470	[6]	25	5.03054258	[2 11]
12	3.59324470	[10]	26	5.03054258	[5 11]
			27	5.38986705	[2 6] $q^* + 1 = 27$
			28	5.38986705	[5 6]
			29	5.38986705	[7 8]
			30	5.38986705	[2 10]

Bit $i$	$N_i$
1	3
2	8
3	1
4	3
5	8
6	1
7	3
8	3
9	3
10	1
11	3
12	1

- The LL is  $LL_{q,i} = -\frac{\ln(2\pi\cdot\sigma^2)}{2} - \frac{(y_i - [2\cdot v_{q,i-1}])^2}{2\cdot\sigma^2} + \ln(p_i)$
- $LL_{q^*,i}(1) = -\frac{\ln(2\pi\cdot\sigma^2)}{2} - \frac{(y_i-1)^2}{2\cdot\sigma^2} + \ln(1 - p_i)$  for  $N_i$  occurrences in  $\sum_{q=0}^{q^*} P(\mathbf{n}_q)$
- And  $LL_{q^*,i}(0) = -\frac{\ln(2\pi\cdot\sigma^2)}{2} - \frac{(y_i+1)^2}{2\cdot\sigma^2} + \ln(p_i)$  for  $(2^{q^*+1} - N_i)$  occurrences in  $\sum_{q=0}^{q^*} P(\mathbf{n}_q)$
- Compute  $LL_0 = \sum_{i=1}^{n=12} LL_{0,i}$
- Then  $1 - p_f = \sum_{q=0}^{q^*} P(\mathbf{n}_q) = 2^{q^*+1} \cdot LL_0 - \sum_{i=1}^{n=12} (2^{q^*+1} - N_i) \cdot LLR_{0,i}$

Design might use recursive implementation of step 5.



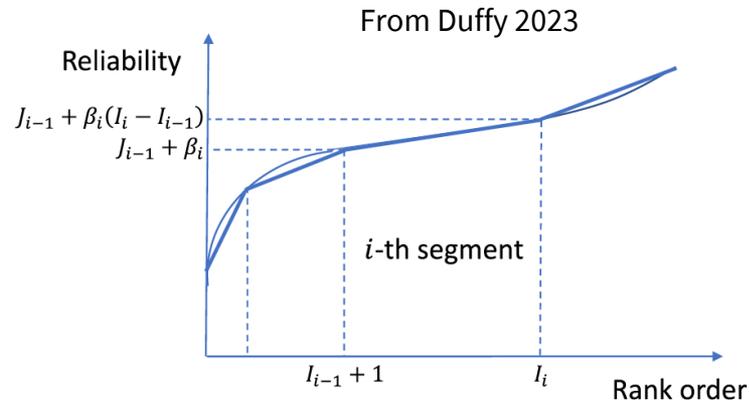
# Piecewise Linear Extension (ORBGRAND<sub>n</sub>)

## Section 7.1.2

# Piecewise Linear Fits in ORBRAND

- ORBRANDn uses Landslide in  $n + 1$  segments.
- The  $n$  choice depends on the  $LLR_i$  data
  - $n \leq 3$  in practice.
  - Segment endpoints are  $(I_i, J_i)$ .
  - The  $m$  sets are:

$$\Xi_i = \left\{ \underbrace{[w_{L,1}, \dots, w_{L,m}]}_{\mathbf{w}_L} \in (\mathbb{Z}^+)^m \mid \sum_{i=1}^m w_{L,i} = w_L \right\}$$



- Scaling ensures integers everywhere, so scale all  $\{LLR_i\}$  by  $Q$ :

$$Q = \min \left\{ \frac{LLR_{I_1} - LLR_1}{I_1 - 1}, \min_{i \in [2, m]} \left[ \frac{LLR_i - LLR_{i-1}}{I_i - I_{i-1}} \right] \right\}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \beta_1 &= \left\lfloor \frac{LLR_{I_1} - LLR_1}{(I_1 - 1) \cdot Q} \right\rfloor, i = 1 \\ \beta_i &= \left\lfloor \frac{LLR_{I_i} - LLR_{i-1}}{(I_i - I_{i-1}) \cdot Q} \right\rfloor, i = 2 : m \\ J_0 &= \left\lfloor \frac{LLR_{i-1}}{Q} \right\rfloor - \beta_1, i = 0 \\ J_i &= \left\lfloor \frac{LLR_i}{Q} \right\rfloor, i = 1 : m - 1 \end{aligned}$$

$$\widehat{LLR}_j = \beta_i \cdot (j - I_{i-1}) + J_{i-1}, \forall I_{i-1} < j \leq I_i, i = 0 : m \wedge j = 1 : n .$$



# Adjusting Algorithms for each segment

- Each segment has logistic-weight increment,
  - which is integer using  $Q$  on previous slide

$$\delta w_{L,i} = \frac{w_{L,i} - w_{H,i} \cdot J_{i-1}}{\beta_i}$$

- This is the part to which the segment's landslide/mountain-build is applied for the given  $w_{L,i}$ .
- But for each  $w_L$ , what are the individual values  $w_{L,i}$  ?
- This requires a second level of integer partitioning (next slide on integer splitting).



# All the segments' logistic weight must add to total.

- Integer-splitting enumerates the possible  $w_{L,i}$  partitions for each of the  $m$  segments that add to  $w_L$ .
- Integer Splitting** (another integer partitioning problem – find them all)

**Inputs:**  $w_L$  and  $m$

**Outputs:**  $\{w_L^{m,k}\}$

## Integer Splitting Algorithm

- $w_L = \emptyset$
- $k = 0$
- for  $w_{L,1} = 0 : w_L$ 
  - for  $w_{L,2} = 0 : w_L - w_{L,1}$ 
    - $\dots$   
for  $w_{L,m} = 0 : w_L - \sum_{i=1}^{m-1} w_{L,i}$   
 $w_L^{m,k} = \{w_L, [w_{L,1} \dots w_{L,m}]\}$   
endfor

## Collection Constraints

- Discard  $w_L^{m,k}$  that do not meet these constraints:

$$w_{L,i} = 0 \text{ or } w_{L,i} - w_{H,i} \cdot J_{i-1} \geq \frac{w_{H,i} \cdot (w_{H,i} + 1)}{2}$$
$$w_{L,i} - w_{H,i} \cdot J_{i-1} \leq (I_i - I_{i-1} + 1) \cdot w_{H,i} - \frac{w_{H,i} \cdot (w_{H,i} + 1)}{2}$$
$$w_{L,i} - w_{H,i} \cdot J_{i-1} / \beta_i \quad (\text{That is } \beta_i \text{ divides } w_{L,i} - w_{H,i} \cdot J_{i-1})$$

- Substantially fewer guesses to test with parity check.
- More segments increase search complexity,
  - but performance approaches more closely SGRAND.



# Iterative GRAND

## *Section 7.3.6.5*

# Iterative GRAND software

- Special version provided by K. Duffy – not available at github, just at course web site, sim\_product.m

```
clear;
%% Monte-Carlo parameters
EbN0dB = 1.5:0.25:2.5;
NoErrors = 20;
maxIt = 10^6;
minIt = 10^2;
%% Code parameters
n = 31;
k = 25;
code_class = 'CRC';
[G, H] = getGH_sys_CRC(n, k); % CRC from Koopman's database
```

Currently a circular binary code  
Comment these out.

```
%% Alternative classic TPC component code suggestion
```

```
%
% n = 32;
% k = 26;
% code_class = 'eBCH';
% [G, H] = getGH_sys_eBCH(n, k); % Extended BCH
```

insert your own binary code parameters  
here with [G, H] and uncomment these in.

```
%% Decoder parameters
L = 4; % Maximum list size
Imax = 20; % maximum number of iterations
Tmax = Inf; % Maximum number of queries per componet decoding
p_ET = 1e-5;
thres = 1 - p_ET; % Abandon decoding if list already has >thres prob.
alpha = 0.5 * ones(1, 50); % Extrinsic LLR scaling
```

```
>> sim_product
---CRC^2, [961,625]---Eb/N0 dB 1.5
dB:---
BLER      = 0.48
BER       = 0.03024
lavg      = 13.865
NGavg     = 115747.79
NGavg/(info bit) = 185.1965
NGavg_p   = 8365.34
---CRC^2, [961,625]---Eb/N0 dB 1.75
dB:---
BLER      = 0.18519
BER       = 0.01083
lavg      = 7.9167
NGavg     = 67827.4537
NGavg/(info bit) = 108.5239
NGavg_p   = 4840.7778
---CRC^2, [961,625]---Eb/N0 dB 2 dB:--
-
BLER      = 0.056022
BER       = 0.0025725
lavg      = 4.8768
NGavg     = 43061.4566
NGavg/(info bit) = 68.8983
NGavg_p   = 3069.3838
```

```
---CRC^2, [961,625]---Eb/N0 dB 2.25
dB:---
BLER      = 0.0060772
BER       = 0.00024114
lavg      = 3.1123
NGavg     = 27736.5336
NGavg/(info bit) = 44.3785
NGavg_p   = 1931.7581
---CRC^2, [961,625]---Eb/N0 dB 2.5
dB:---
BLER      = 0.0014484
BER       = 3.0127e-05
lavg      = 2.3366
NGavg     = 21048.873
NGavg/(info bit) = 33.6782
NGavg_p   = 1446.9421
```

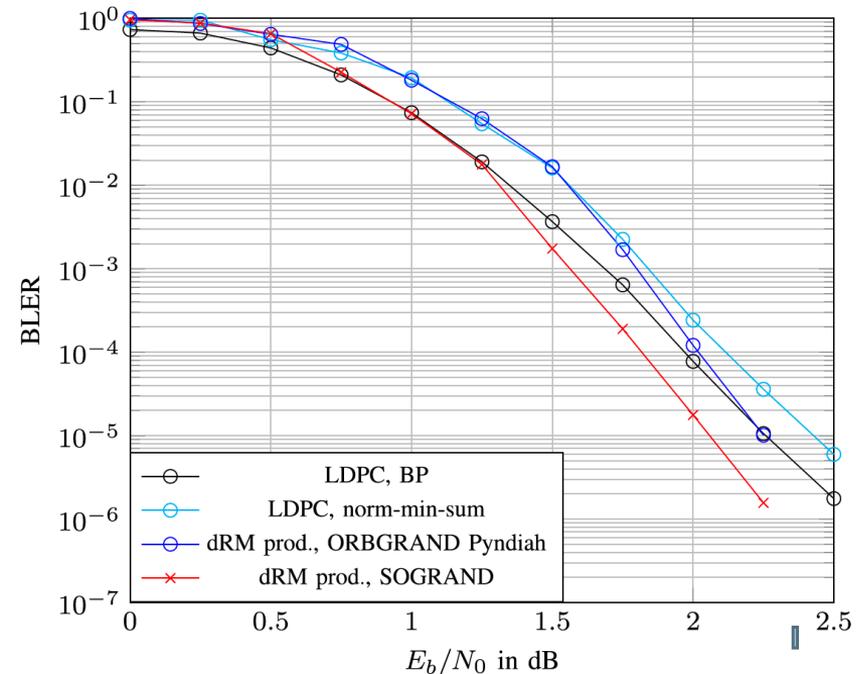
lavg = average iterations to converge  
NGavg = ave number of guesses/iter  
NGavg/(info bit) = ave guesses/bit  
NGavg\_p = # passes / iter

Use to produce Pe vs SNR plots



# Product Code Example

- Product Code is RM (32, 21) code squared,
  - So rate is 441/1024
  - Same rate for LDPC code
- The simple product code is 1 dB better than best 5G LDPC code with GRAND.
- There remains some dispute on best code use, but instructor believes the GRAND approach is the next step in most powerful codes, using product codes of well known BCH (extended to be even) and RM.
- Beyond GRAND, only shaping gain (which is independently applied, see Chapter 8) for large constellations remains.
- Basically, we've met Shannon's AWGN promise with these simple product codes, GRAND, and BICM



As EE379AB students progress, they will see that these good single-user codes will be reusable canonically on all multiuser, filtered additive Gaussian noise channels.





# End Lecture S10B