TSN: Lecture 18
Line Coding

Topics Covered

- Line encoding C/Cs

Note

Although the actual bandwidth of a digital signal is infinite, the effective bandwidth is finite.

Example 4.2

The maximum data rate of a channel (see Chapter 3) is Nmax = 2 × B × $\log_2$ L (defined by the Nyquist formula). Does this agree with the previous formula for N_{max}?

Solution

A signal with L levels actually can carry $\log_2 L$ bits per level. If each level corresponds to one signal element and we assume the average case (c = 1/2), then we have

$$N_{\max} = \frac{1}{c} \times B \times r = 2 \times B \times \log_2 L$$

Considerations for choosing a good signal element referred to as line encoding

- Baseline wandering - a receiver will evaluate the average power of the received signal (called the baseline) and use that to determine the value of the incoming data elements. If the incoming signal does not vary over a long period of time, the baseline will drift and thus cause errors in detection of incoming data elements.
- A good line encoding scheme will prevent long runs of fixed amplitude.

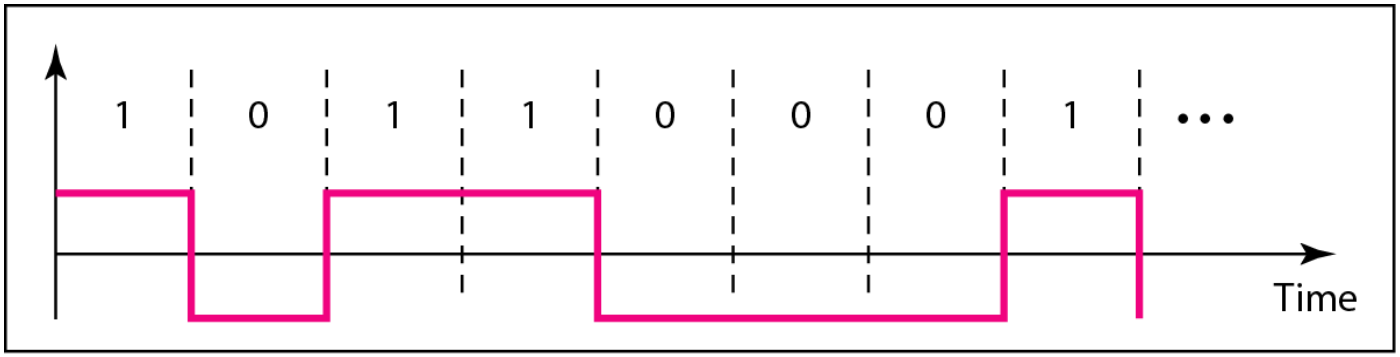
Line encoding C/Cs

- DC components - when the voltage level remains constant for long periods of time, there is an increase in the low frequencies of the signal. Most channels are bandpass and may not support the low frequencies.
- This will require the removal of the dc component of a transmitted signal.

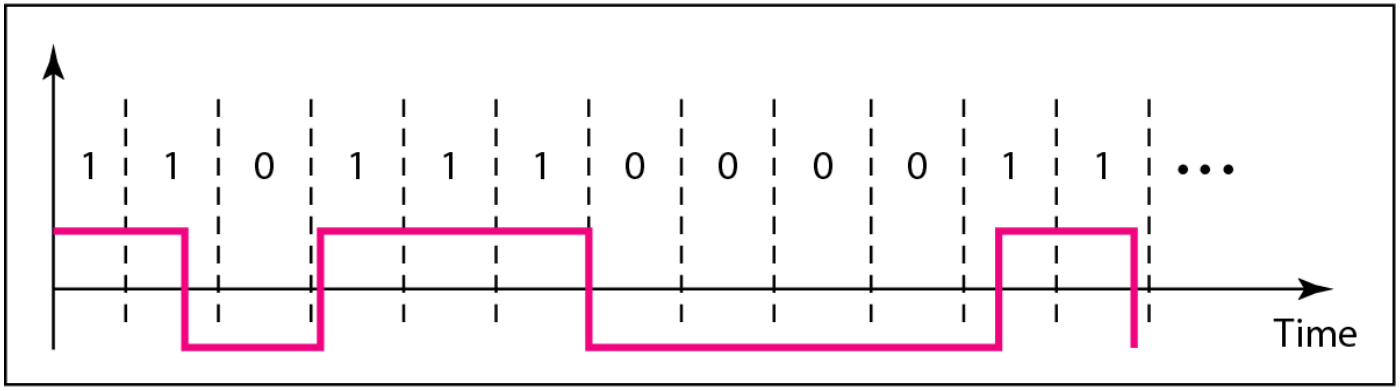
Line encoding C/Cs

- Self synchronization - the clocks at the sender and the receiver must have the same bit interval.
- If the receiver clock is faster or slower it will misinterpret the incoming bit stream.

Figure 4.3 *Effect of lack of synchronization*



a. Sent



b. Received

Example 4.3

In a digital transmission, the receiver clock is 0.1 percent faster than the sender clock. How many extra bits per second does the receiver receive if the data rate is 1 kbps? How many if the data rate is 1 Mbps?

Solution

At 1 kbps, the receiver receives 1001 bps instead of 1000 bps.

1000 bits sent	1001 bits received	1 extra bps

At 1 Mbps, the receiver receives 1,001,000 bps instead of 1,000,000 bps.

1,000,000 bits sent	1,001,000 bits received	1000 extra bps

Line encoding C/Cs

- Error detection - errors occur during transmission due to line impairments.
- Some codes are constructed such that when an error occurs it can be detected. For example: a particular signal transition is not part of the code. When it occurs, the receiver will know that a symbol error has occurred.

Line encoding C/Cs

- Noise and interference - there are line encoding techniques that make the transmitted signal "immune" to noise and interference.
- This means that the signal cannot be corrupted, it is stronger than error detection.

Line encoding C/Cs

- Complexity - the more robust and resilient the code, the more complex it is to implement and the price is often paid in baud rate or required bandwidth.

Figure 4.4 *Line coding schemes*