



Universally Decodable Matrices for Distributed Matrix-Vector Multiplication

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Motivation

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Given:

- a matrix \mathbf{A} of size $m \times n$ over the reals;
 - a vector \mathbf{x} of length n over the reals.
-

Task: compute the vector \mathbf{y} of length m over the reals, where

$$\mathbf{y} \triangleq \mathbf{A} \cdot \mathbf{x}.$$

Explicitly:

$$\begin{pmatrix} y_1 \\ \vdots \\ y_m \end{pmatrix} \triangleq \begin{pmatrix} a_{1,1} & \cdots & a_{1,n} \\ \vdots & \cdots & \vdots \\ a_{m,1} & \cdots & a_{m,n} \end{pmatrix} \cdot \begin{pmatrix} x_1 \\ \vdots \\ x_n \end{pmatrix}.$$

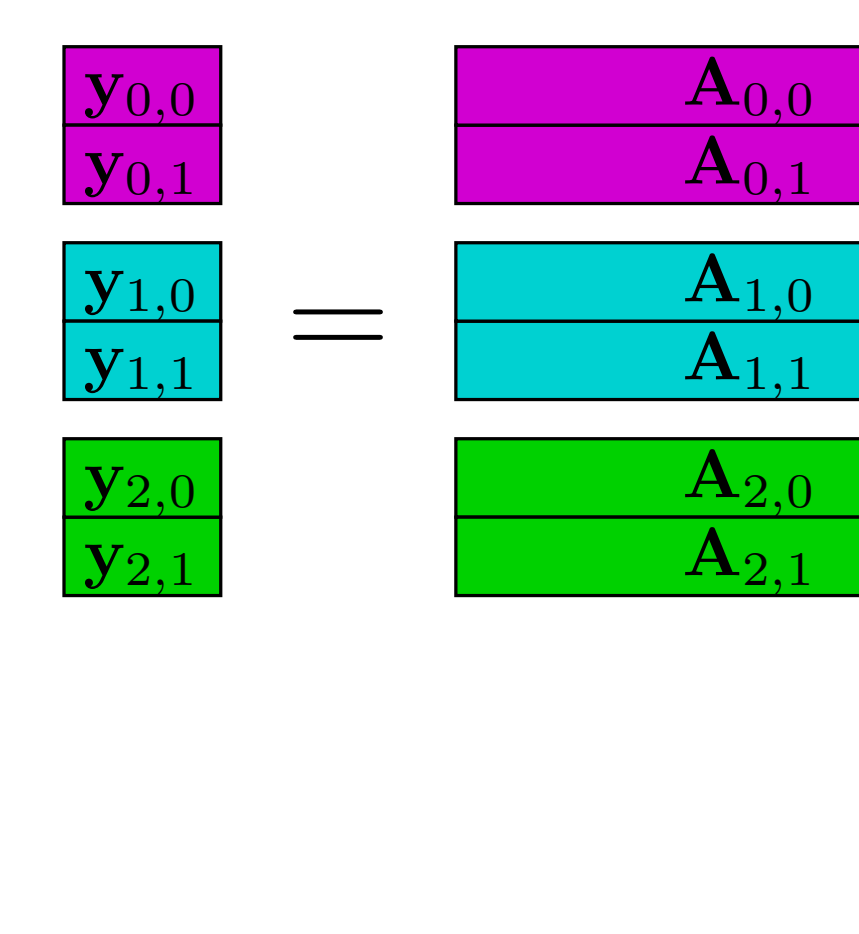
Motivation

We can split up the task into several submatrix-vector-multiplication tasks:

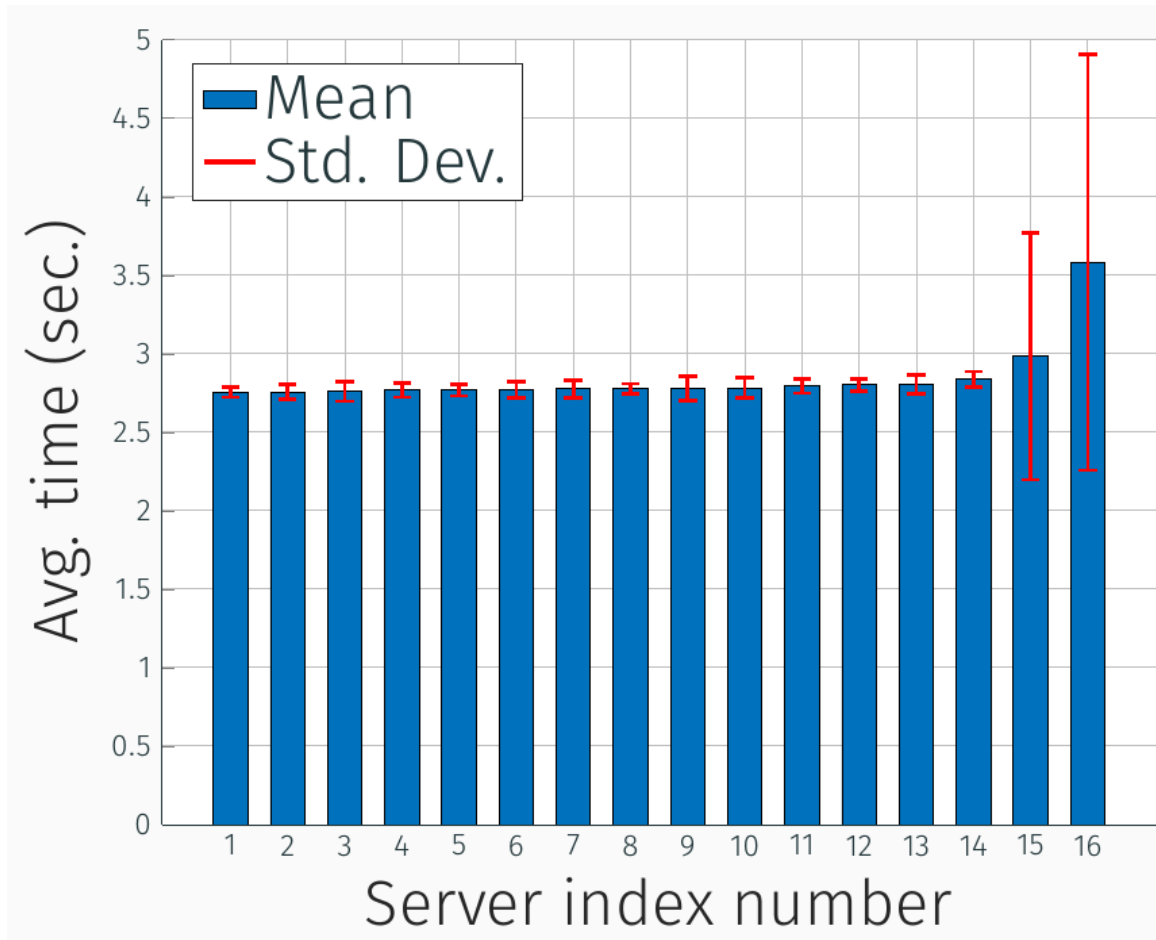
$$\begin{array}{|c|} \hline y_{0,0} \\ \hline y_{0,1} \\ \hline y_{1,0} \\ \hline y_{1,1} \\ \hline y_{2,0} \\ \hline y_{2,1} \\ \hline \end{array} = \begin{array}{|c|} \hline A_{0,0} \\ \hline A_{0,1} \\ \hline A_{1,0} \\ \hline A_{1,1} \\ \hline A_{2,0} \\ \hline A_{2,1} \\ \hline \end{array} \cdot \mathbf{x}$$

Motivation

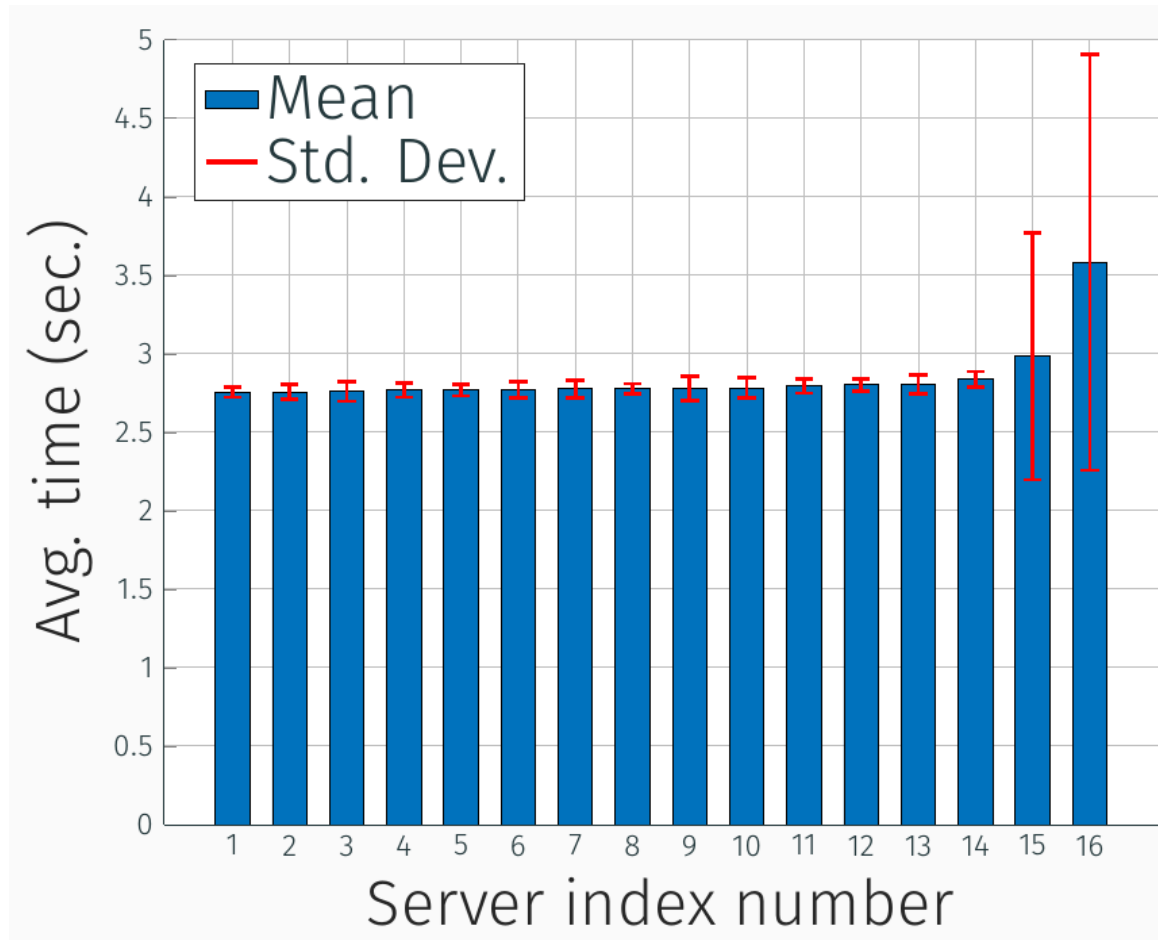
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Motivation



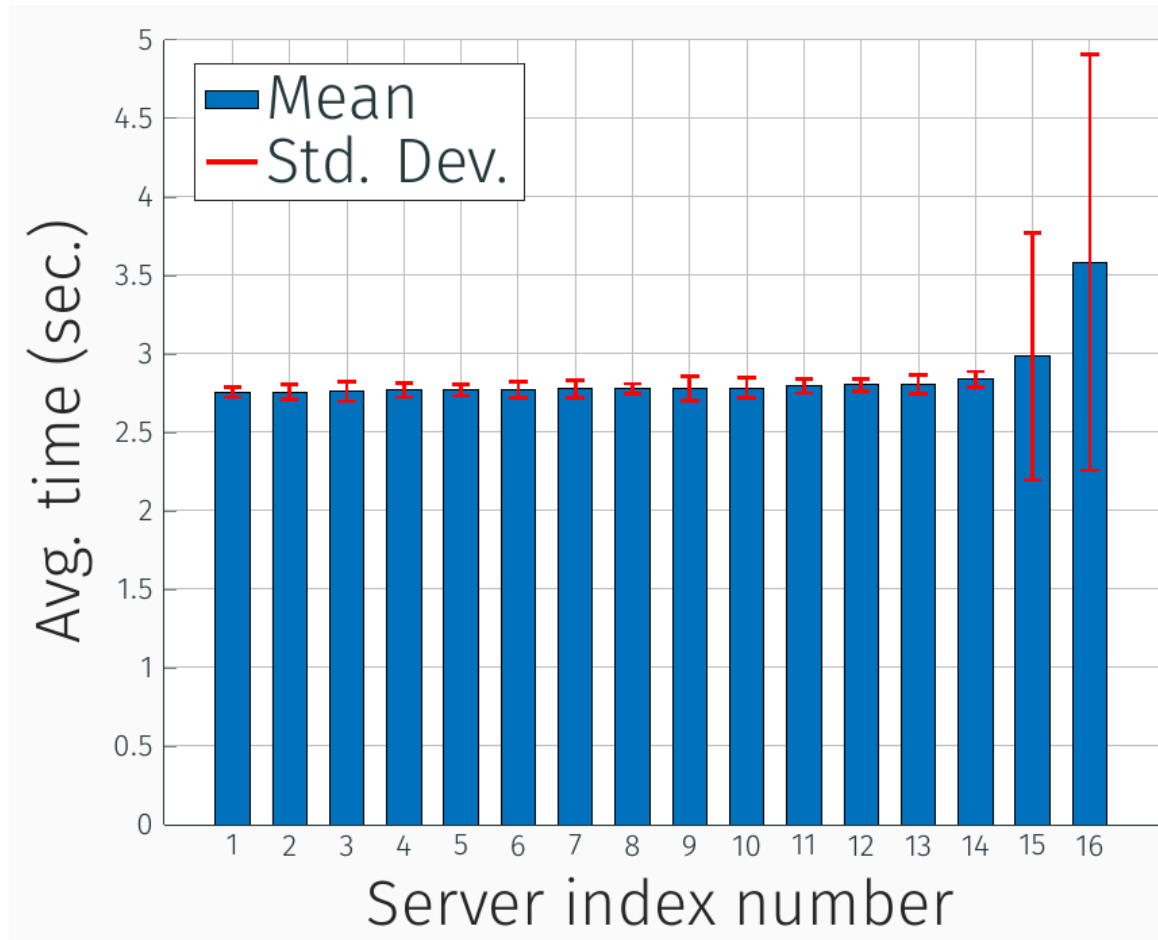
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Idea:

- Use **coding theory** to alleviate delay issues because of **stragglers**.

Motivation

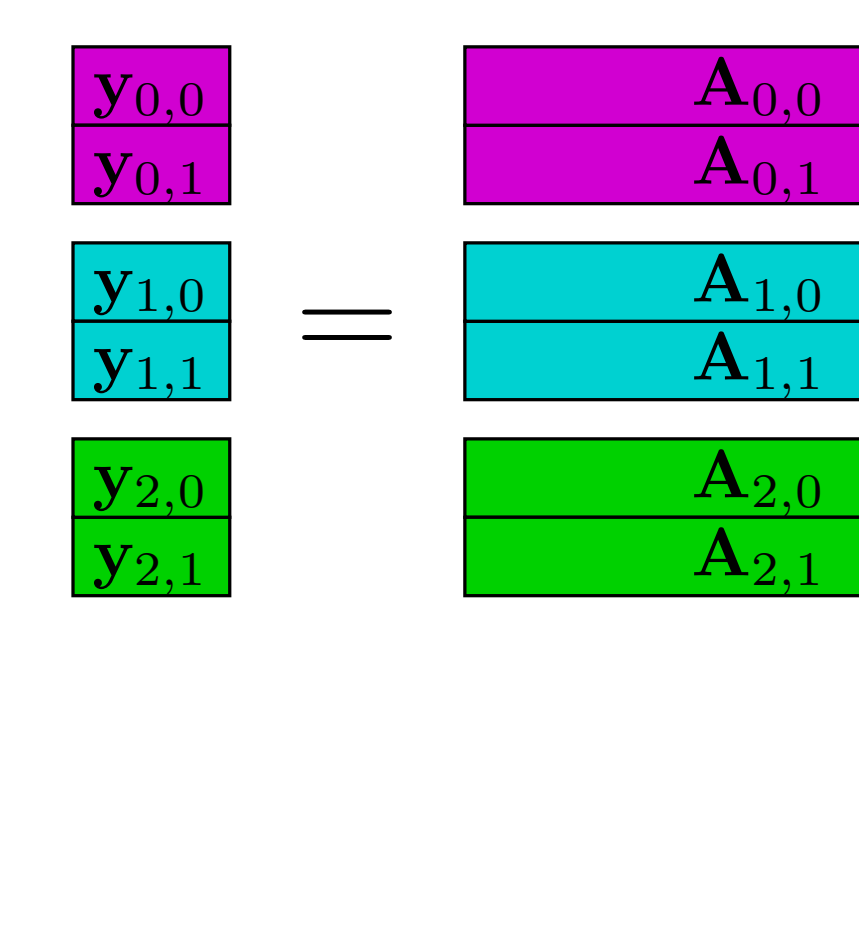


Idea:

- Use **coding theory** to alleviate delay issues because of **stragglers**.
- **Unavailable partial results** can be seen as **erasures**.

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Idea:

- Coding scheme should take advantage of the fact that **erasures are correlated**.

Erasures are correlated because

if a partial result by one of the workers is not available,

then **all subsequent results by the same worker** are not available either.

Motivation

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Idea:

- Base coding scheme on so-called **universally decodable matrices (UDMs)**.

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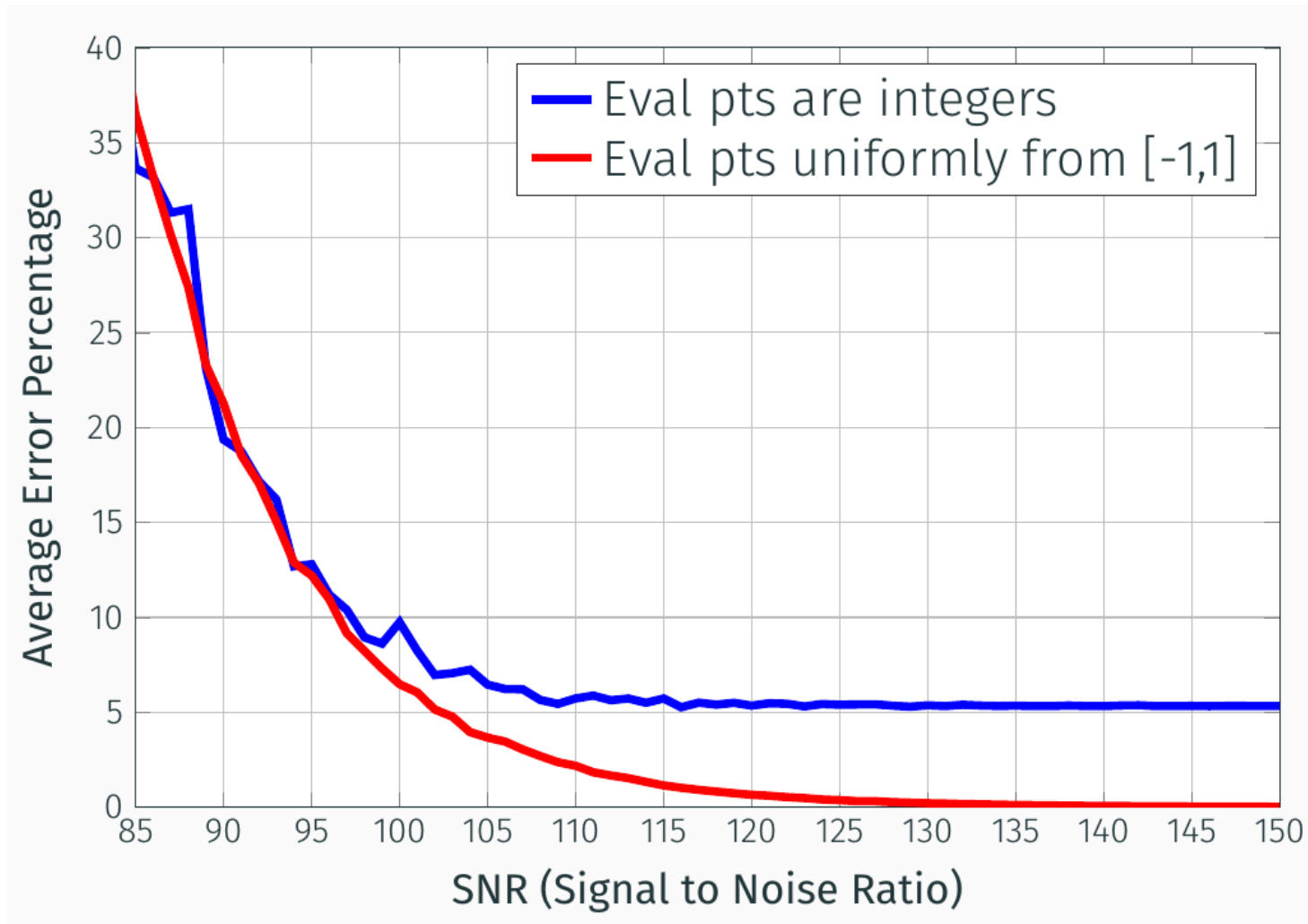
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Idea:

- Base coding scheme on so-called **universally decodable matrices (UDMs)**.
- Use **companion matrices** in order to **reduce issues with condition numbers** when adapting a coding scheme over some finite field to a coding scheme over the reals.

Motivation

Bad condition number of unsuitably chosen encoding matrices is an issue.



Context (Part 1/2)

- Q. Yu, M. Maddah-Ali, and S. Avestimehr, “Polynomial codes: an optimal design for high-dimensional coded matrix multiplication,” in Proc. of Adv. in Neural Inf. Proc. Sys. (NIPS), 2017, pp. 4403–4413.
- L. Tang, K. Konstantinidis, and A. Ramamoorthy, “Erasure coding for distributed matrix multiplication for matrices with bounded entries,” IEEE Comm. Lett., vol. 23, no. 1, pp. 8–11, 2019.
- K. Lee, C. Suh, and K. Ramchandran, “High-dimensional coded matrix multiplication,” in IEEE Int. Symp. Inf. Theory, 2017, pp. 2418–2422.
- K. Lee, M. Lam, R. Pedarsani, D. Papailiopoulos, and K. Ramchandran, “Speeding up distributed machine learning using codes,” IEEE Trans. Inf. Theory, vol. 64, no. 3, pp. 1514–1529, 2018.
- S. Dutta, V. Cadambe, and P. Grover, “Short-dot: Computing large linear transforms distributedly using coded short dot products,” in Proc. of Adv. in Neural Inf. Proc. Sys. (NIPS), 2016, pp. 2100–2108.

Context (Part 2/2)

- A. Mallick, M. Chaudhari, and G. Joshi, “Rateless codes for near-perfect load balancing in distributed matrix-vector multiplication,” preprint, 2018. arXiv: 1804.10331.
- S. Wang, J. Liu, and N. B. Shroff, “Coded sparse matrix multiplication,” in Proc. 35th Int. Conf. Mach. Learning, ICML, 2018, pp. 5139–5147.
- S. Kiani, N. Ferdinand, and S. C. Draper, “Exploitation of stragglers in coded computation,” in IEEE Int. Symp. Inf. Theory, 2018, pp. 1988–1992.
- A. B. Das, L. Tang, and A. Ramamoorthy, “C³LES: Codes for coded computation that leverage stragglers,” in IEEE Inf. Th. Workshop, 2018, pp. 1–5.
- N. Raviv, Y. Cassuto, R. Cohen, and M. Schwartz, “Erasure correction of scalar codes in the presence of stragglers,” in IEEE Int. Symp. Inf. Theory, 2018, pp. 1983–1987.
- N. Raviv, Q. Yu, J. Bruck, and S. Avestimehr, “Download and access tradeoffs in Lagrange coded computing,” in IEEE Int. Symp. Inf. Theory, 2019.

Overview

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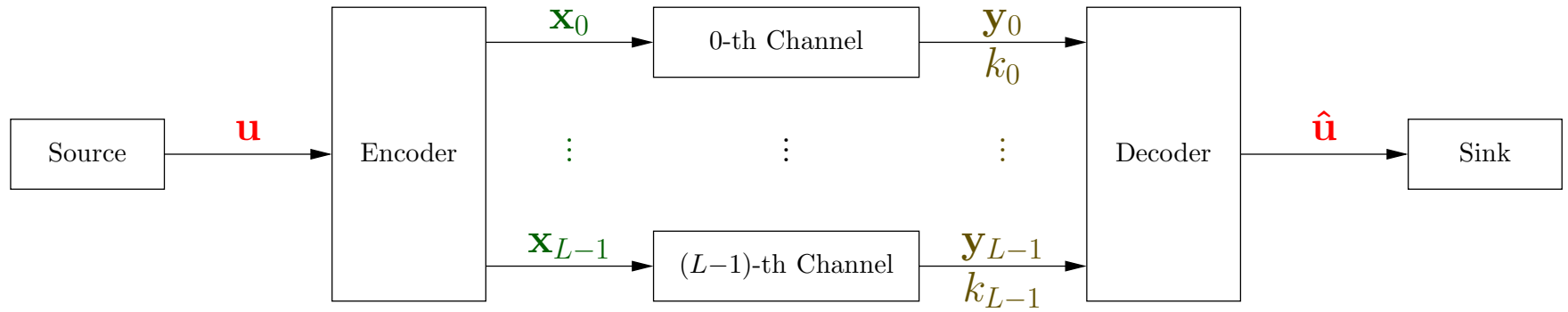
- Motivation
 - A communication system with L parallel channels
 - ⇒ Coding for this system using **universally decodable matrices**
 - Embedding into the reals
 - ⇒ **Companion matrices**
-

For more details:

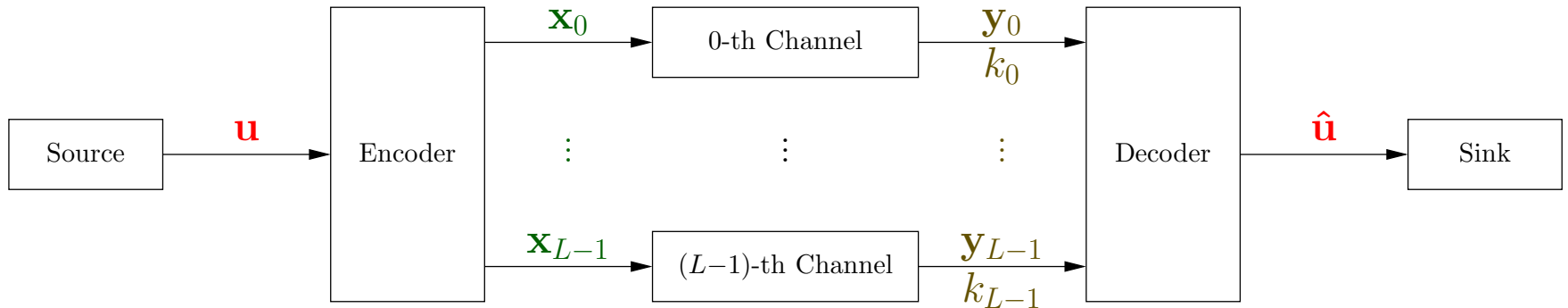
- A. Ramamoorthy, L. Tang, and P. O. Vontobel, “**Universally decodable matrices for distributed matrix-vector multiplication,**” Proc. IEEE Int. Symp. Inf. Theory, Paris, France, pp. 1777-1781, July 2019.
- arXiv: 1901.10674

**Communication system
with L parallel channels**

Comm. System with L Parallel Channels

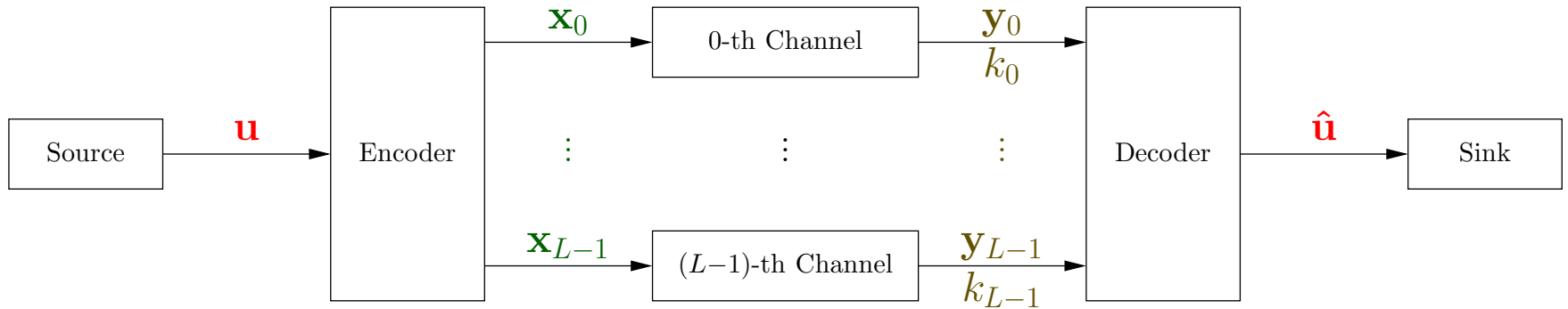


Comm. System with L Parallel Channels



$$\begin{aligned} \left(u_0 \quad \cdots \quad u_{n-1} \right) &\mapsto \begin{pmatrix} x_{0,0} & \cdots & x_{0,n-1} \\ \vdots & \vdots & \vdots \\ x_{L-1,0} & \cdots & x_{L-1,n-1} \end{pmatrix} \\ &\Rightarrow \begin{pmatrix} y_{0,0} & \cdots & y_{0,n-1} \\ \vdots & \vdots & \vdots \\ y_{L-1,0} & \cdots & y_{L-1,n-1} \end{pmatrix} \Rightarrow \left(\hat{u}_0 \quad \cdots \quad \hat{u}_{n-1} \right) \end{aligned}$$

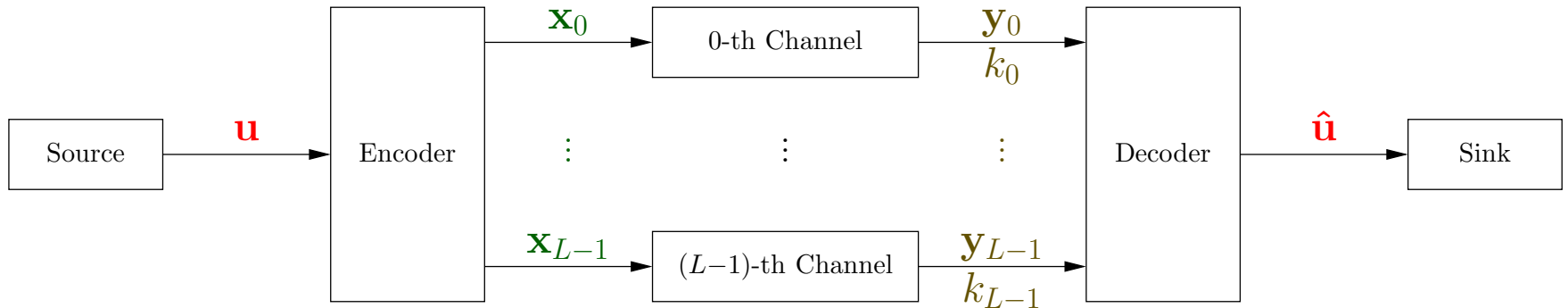
Comm. System with L Parallel Channels



E.g. $L = 4, n = 3$.

$$\begin{pmatrix} u_0 & u_1 & u_2 \end{pmatrix} \mapsto \begin{pmatrix} x_{0,0} & x_{0,1} & x_{0,2} \\ x_{1,0} & x_{1,1} & x_{1,2} \\ x_{2,0} & x_{2,1} & x_{2,2} \\ x_{3,0} & x_{3,1} & x_{3,2} \end{pmatrix} \Rightarrow \begin{pmatrix} y_{0,0} & y_{0,1} & y_{0,2} \\ y_{1,0} & y_{1,1} & y_{1,2} \\ y_{2,0} & y_{2,1} & y_{2,2} \\ y_{3,0} & y_{3,1} & y_{3,2} \end{pmatrix} \Rightarrow \begin{pmatrix} \hat{u}_0 & \hat{u}_1 & \hat{u}_2 \end{pmatrix}$$

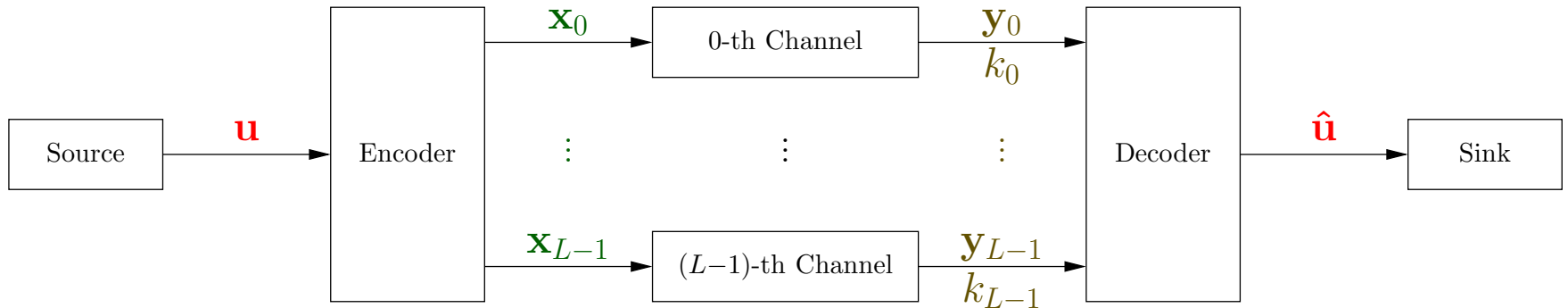
Comm. System with L Parallel Channels



E.g. $L = 4, n = 3, q = 3$.

$$\begin{pmatrix} \mathbf{1} & \mathbf{1} & \mathbf{2} \end{pmatrix} \mapsto \begin{pmatrix} \mathbf{1} & \mathbf{1} & \mathbf{2} \\ \mathbf{2} & \mathbf{1} & \mathbf{1} \\ \mathbf{1} & \mathbf{2} & \mathbf{2} \\ \mathbf{2} & \mathbf{0} & \mathbf{2} \end{pmatrix} \Rightarrow \begin{pmatrix} ? & ? & ? \\ \mathbf{2} & ? & ? \\ ? & ? & ? \\ \mathbf{2} & \mathbf{0} & ? \end{pmatrix} \Rightarrow \left(\hat{\mathbf{u}}_0 \quad \hat{\mathbf{u}}_1 \quad \hat{\mathbf{u}}_2 \right)$$

Comm. System with L Parallel Channels

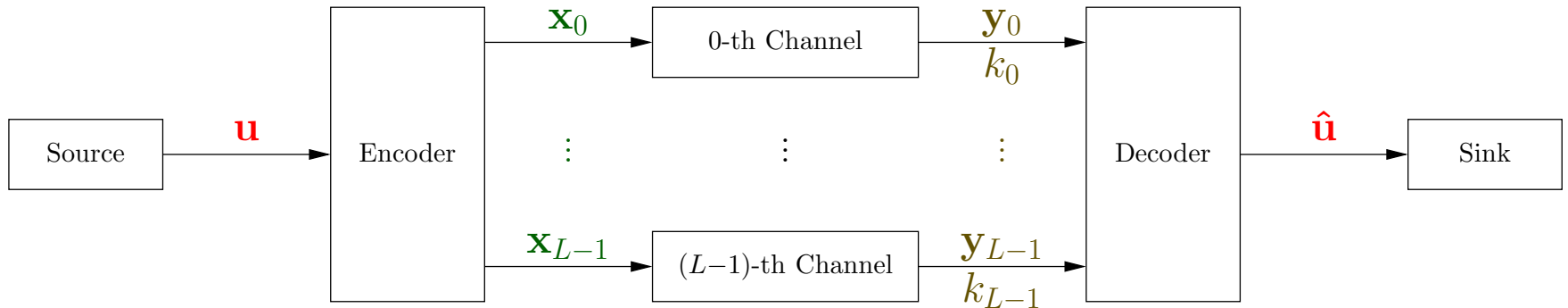


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The channels are such that if $y_{\ell,t}$ is erased then also $y_{\ell,t'}$ is erased for all $t' > t$.

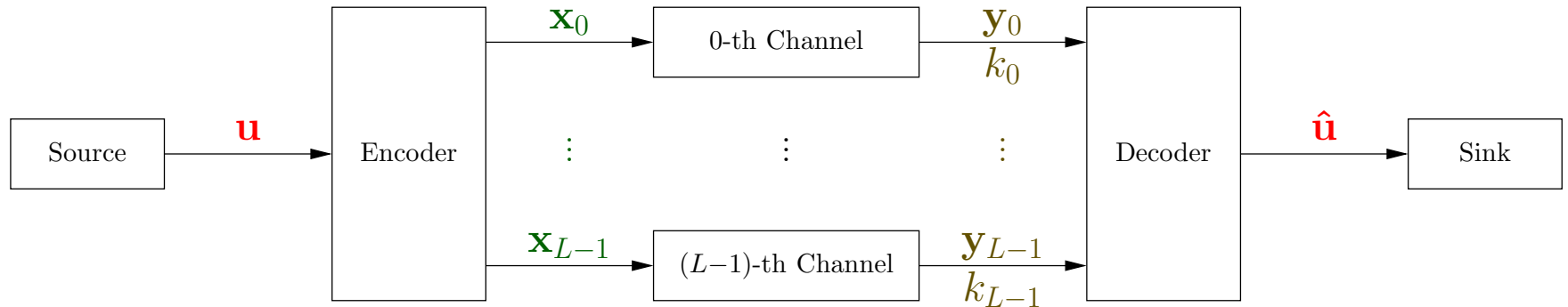
Comm. System with L Parallel Channels



E.g. $L = 4, n = 3, q = 3$.

$$\begin{pmatrix} 1 & 1 & 2 \end{pmatrix} \mapsto \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 1 & 2 \\ 2 & 1 & 1 \\ 1 & 2 & 2 \\ 2 & 0 & 2 \end{pmatrix} \Rightarrow \begin{pmatrix} ? & ? & ? \\ \mathbf{2} & ? & ? \\ ? & ? & ? \\ \mathbf{2} & \mathbf{0} & ? \end{pmatrix} \begin{matrix} k_0 = 0 \\ k_1 = 1 \\ k_2 = 0 \\ k_3 = 2 \end{matrix} \Rightarrow \begin{pmatrix} \hat{u}_0 & \hat{u}_1 & \hat{u}_2 \end{pmatrix}$$

Comm. System with L Parallel Channels

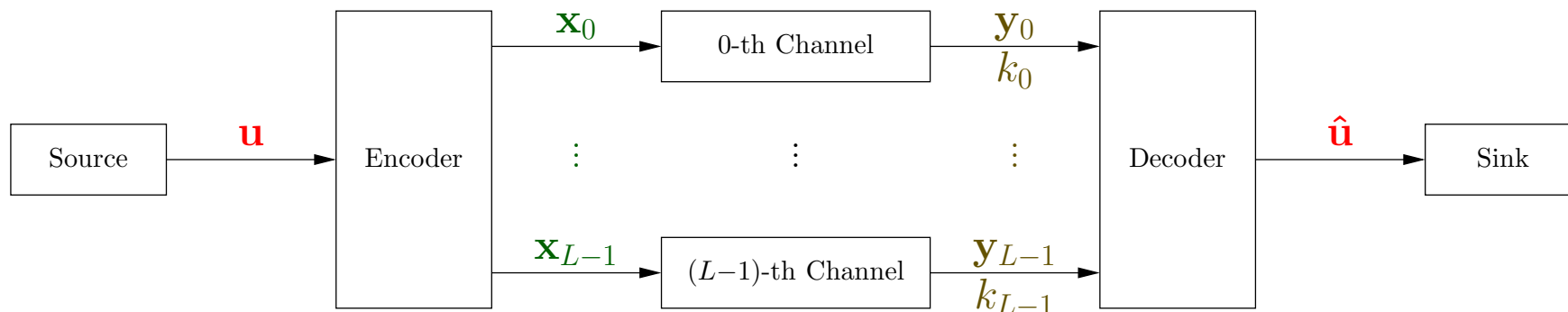


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We want **unique decodability** as long as $\sum_{\ell \in [L]} k_\ell \geq n$,

Comm. System with L Parallel Channels



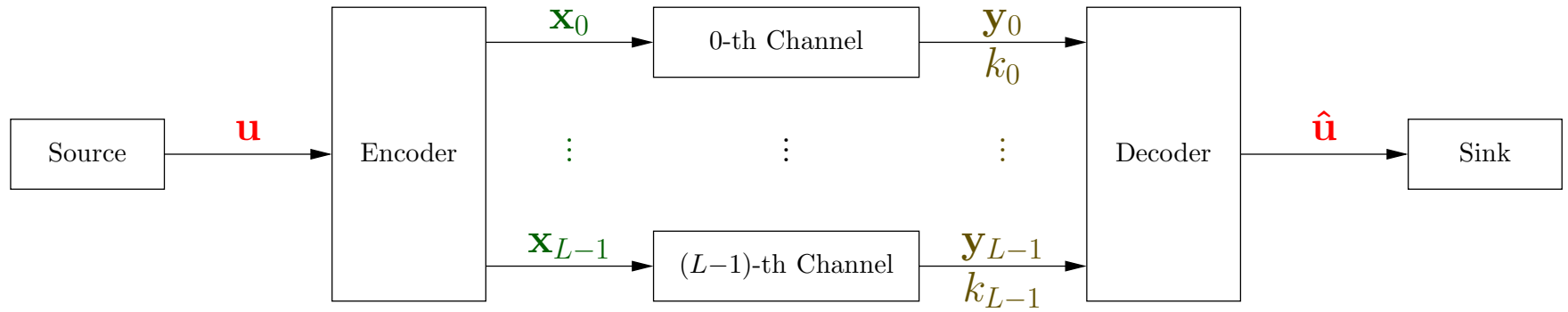
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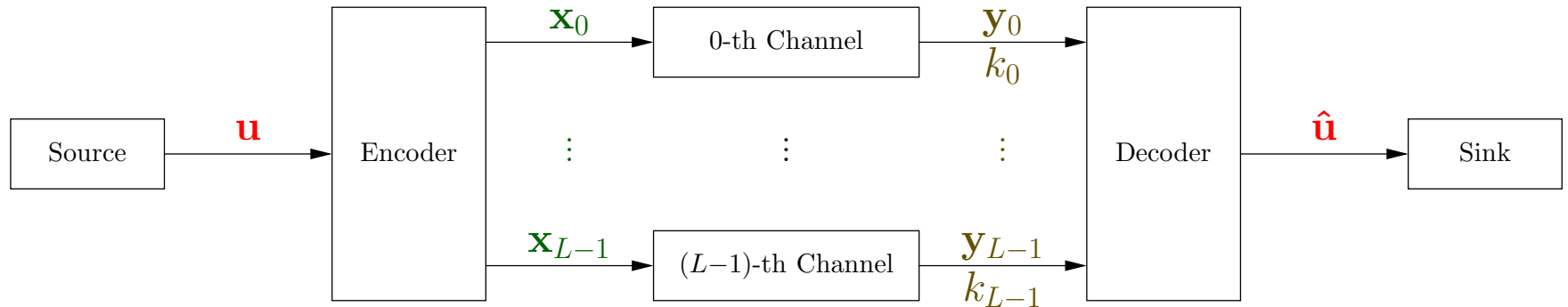
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here: $k_0 + k_1 + k_2 + k_3 \geq 3$.

Comm. System with L Parallel Channels



Comm. System with L Parallel Channels

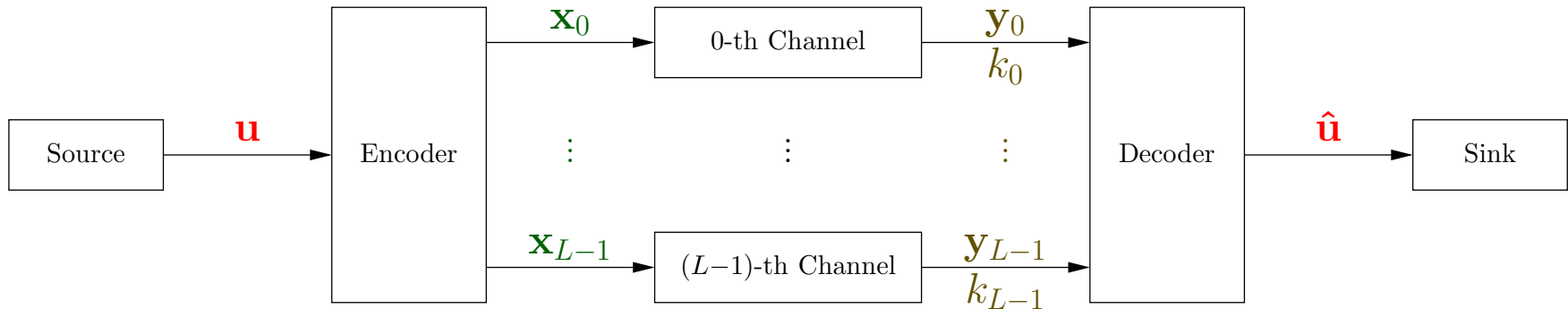


For reasons of simplicity, we would like the encoding to be linear:

$$\mathbf{x}_0 = \mathbf{u} \cdot \mathbf{G}_0, \quad \dots, \quad \mathbf{x}_{L-1} = \mathbf{u} \cdot \mathbf{G}_{L-1},$$

where $\mathbf{G}_0, \dots, \mathbf{G}_{L-1}$ are $n \times n$ matrices.

Comm. System with L Parallel Channels



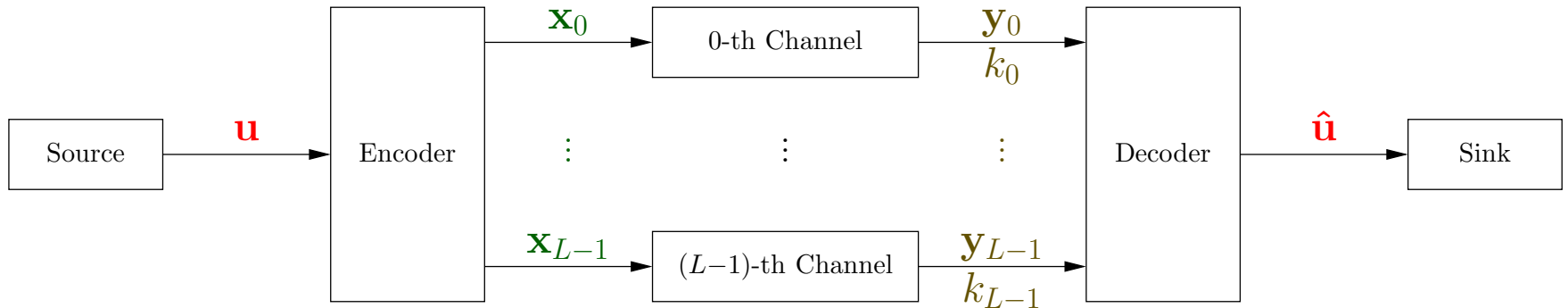
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where $\mathbf{G}_0, \dots, \mathbf{G}_{L-1}$ are $n \times n$ matrices.

Definition: If the above matrices lead to unique decodability for any k_0, \dots, k_{L-1} with $\sum_{\ell \in [L]} k_\ell \geq n$, then we call these matrices **universally decodable matrices (UDMs)**.

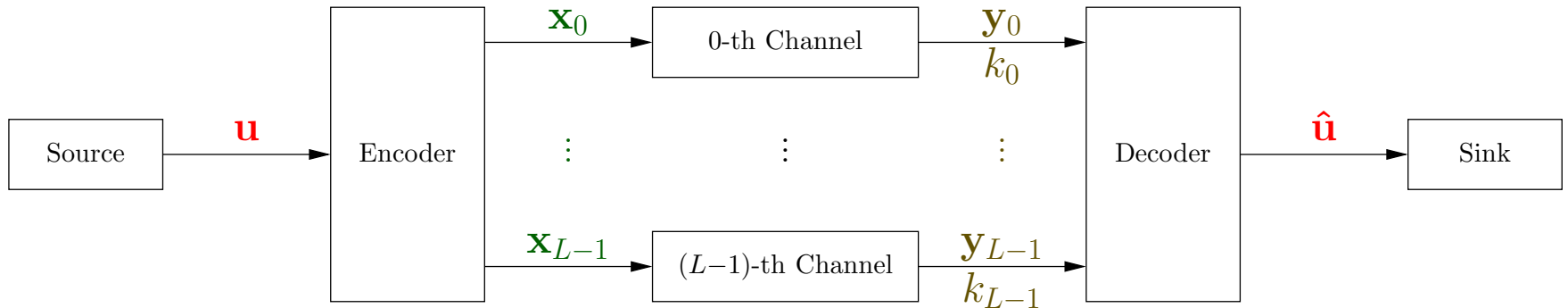
Comm. System with L Parallel Channels



E.g. $L = 2$, $n = 5$, any q . The matrices \mathbf{G}_0 and \mathbf{G}_1 are **UDMs**:

$$\mathbf{G}_0 = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix}, \quad \mathbf{G}_1 = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix}.$$

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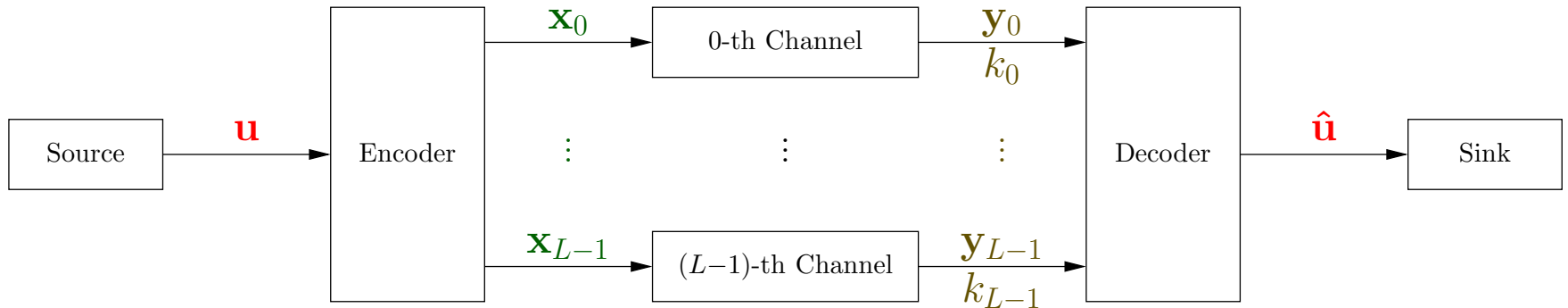


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$$\mathbf{u} = (u_0 \ u_1 \ u_2 \ u_3 \ u_4),$$

Comm. System with L Parallel Channels

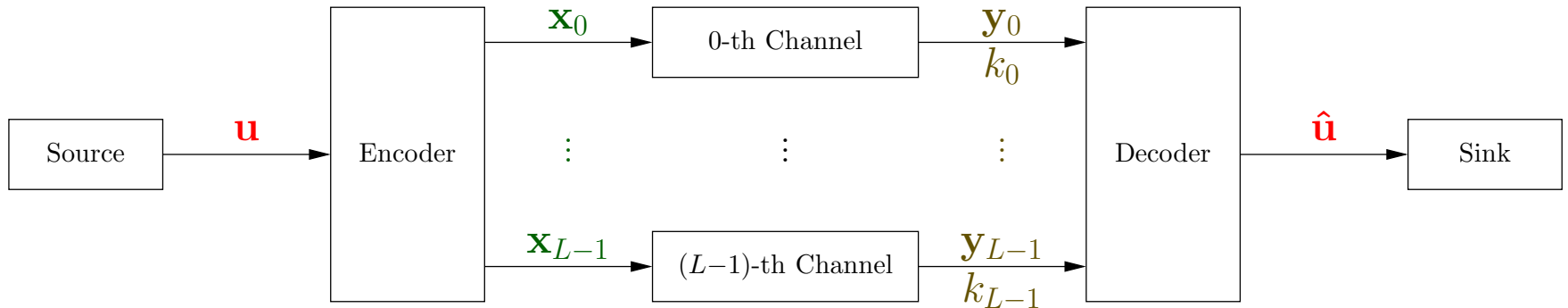


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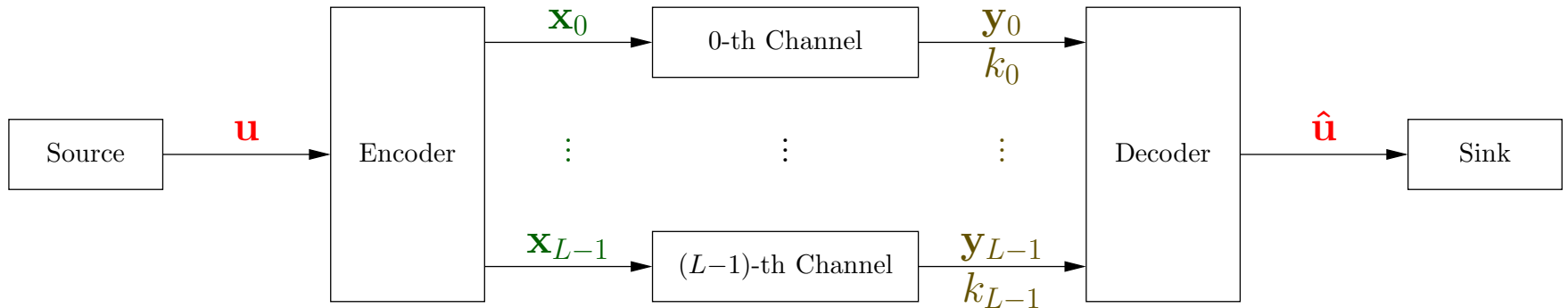


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$$\mathbf{u} = (u_0 \ u_1 \ u_2 \ u_3 \ u_4), \quad \mathbf{x}_0 = (u_0 \ u_1 \ u_2 \ u_3 \ u_4), \quad \mathbf{x}_1 = (u_4 \ u_3 \ u_2 \ u_1 \ u_0).$$

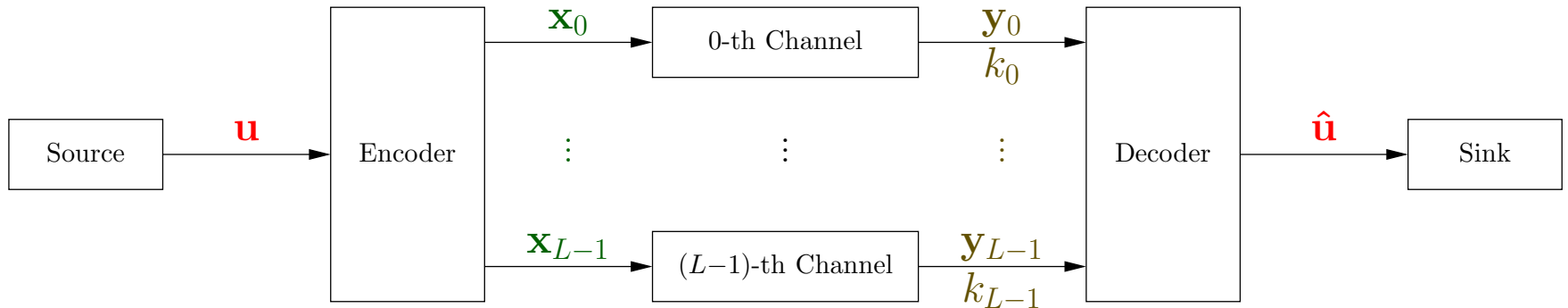
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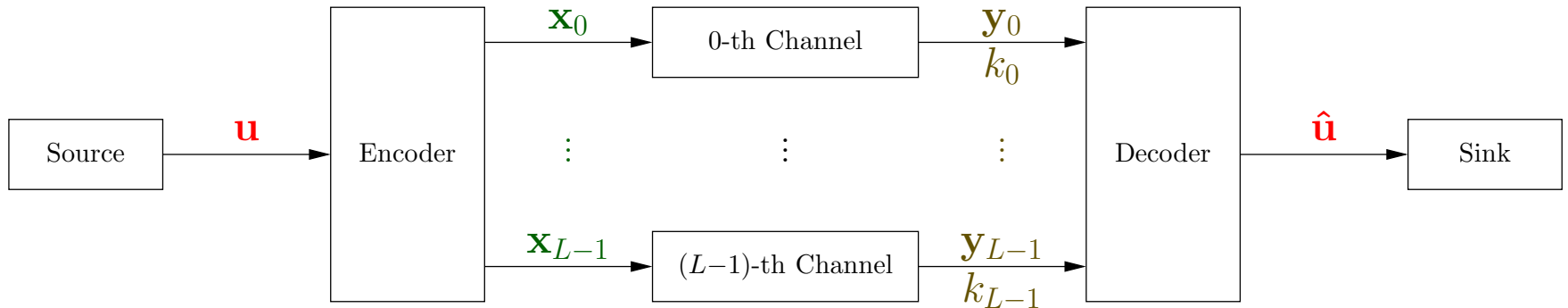


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$$\mathbf{u} = \begin{pmatrix} u_0 & u_1 & u_2 & u_3 & u_4 \end{pmatrix},$$

Comm. System with L Parallel Channels

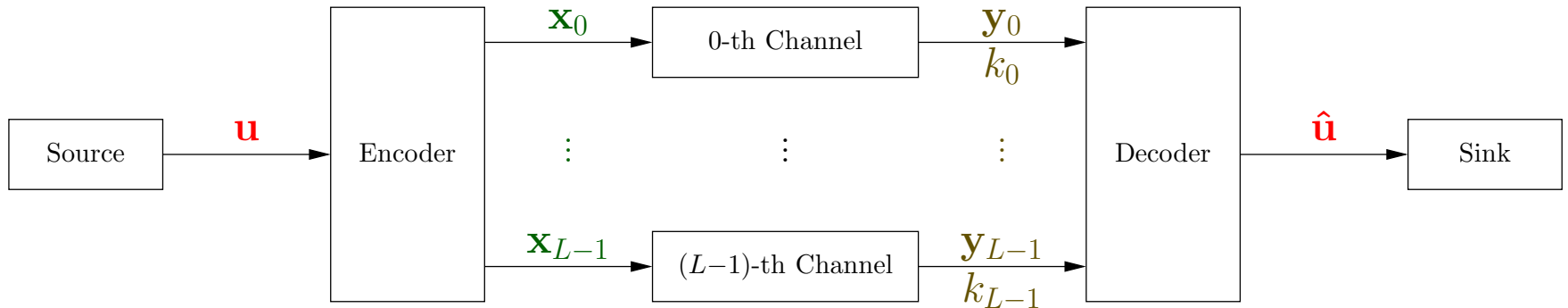


E.g. $L = 2, n = 5$, any q . The matrices \mathbf{G}_0 and \mathbf{G}_1 are **UDMs**:

$$\mathbf{G}_0 = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix}, \quad \mathbf{G}_1 = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix}.$$

$$\mathbf{u} = (u_0 \ u_1 \ u_2 \ u_3 \ u_4), \quad \mathbf{y}_0 = (u_0 \ u_1 \ u_2 \ ? \ ?),$$

Comm. System with L Parallel Channels

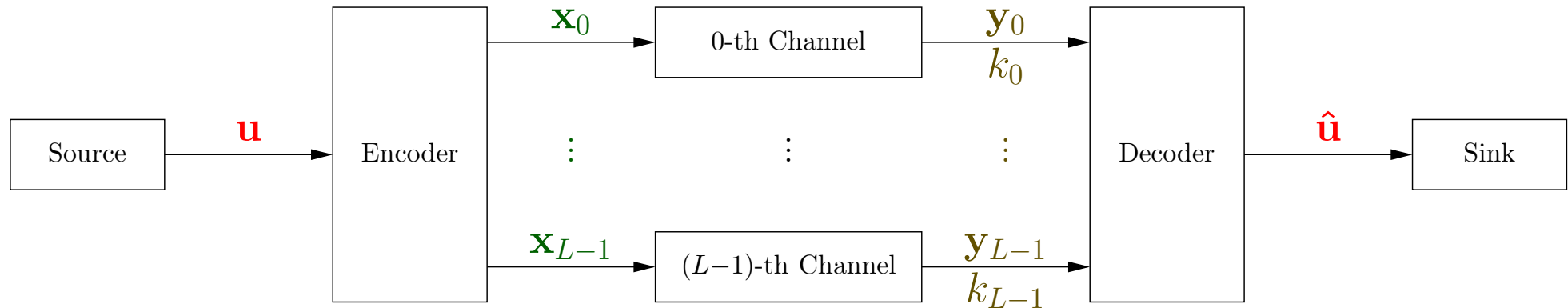


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Comm. System with L Parallel Channels



E.g. $L = 4, n = 3, q = 3$. The matrices $\mathbf{G}_0, \mathbf{G}_1, \mathbf{G}_2, \mathbf{G}_3$ are UDMs:

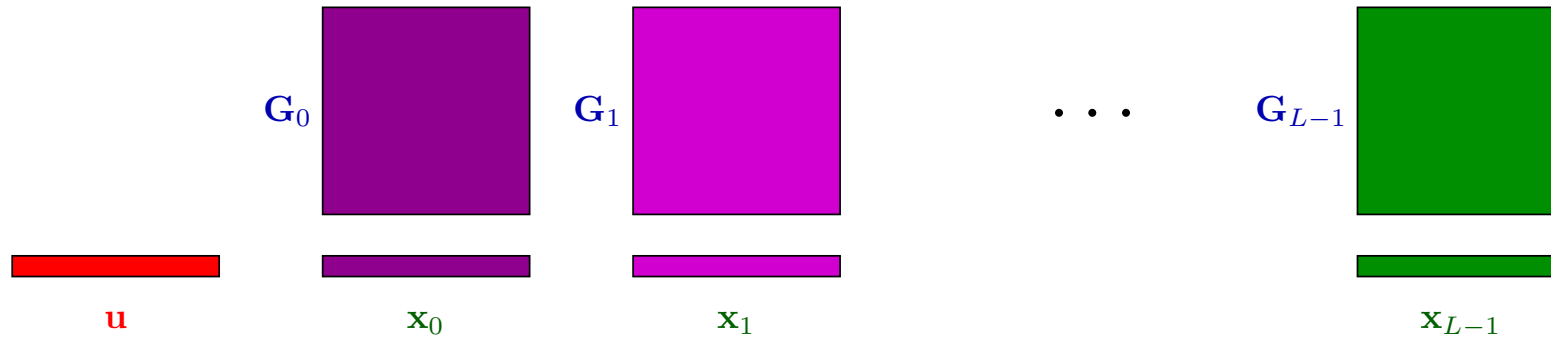
$$\mathbf{G}_0 = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix}, \quad \mathbf{G}_1 = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 1 & 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix}, \quad \mathbf{G}_2 = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 1 & 1 & 0 \\ 1 & 2 & 1 \end{pmatrix}, \quad \mathbf{G}_3 = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 2 & 1 & 0 \\ 1 & 1 & 1 \end{pmatrix}.$$

Comm. System with L Parallel Channels

What does unique decodability imply for the matrices $\mathbf{G}_0, \dots, \mathbf{G}_{L-1}$?

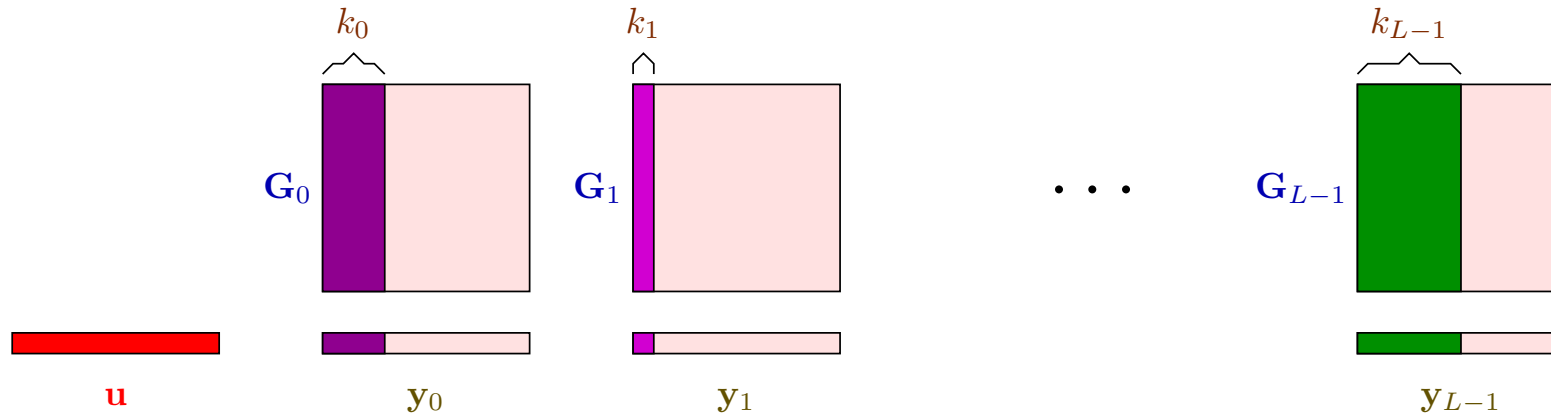
Comm. System with L Parallel Channels

What does unique decodability imply for the matrices G_0, \dots, G_{L-1} ?



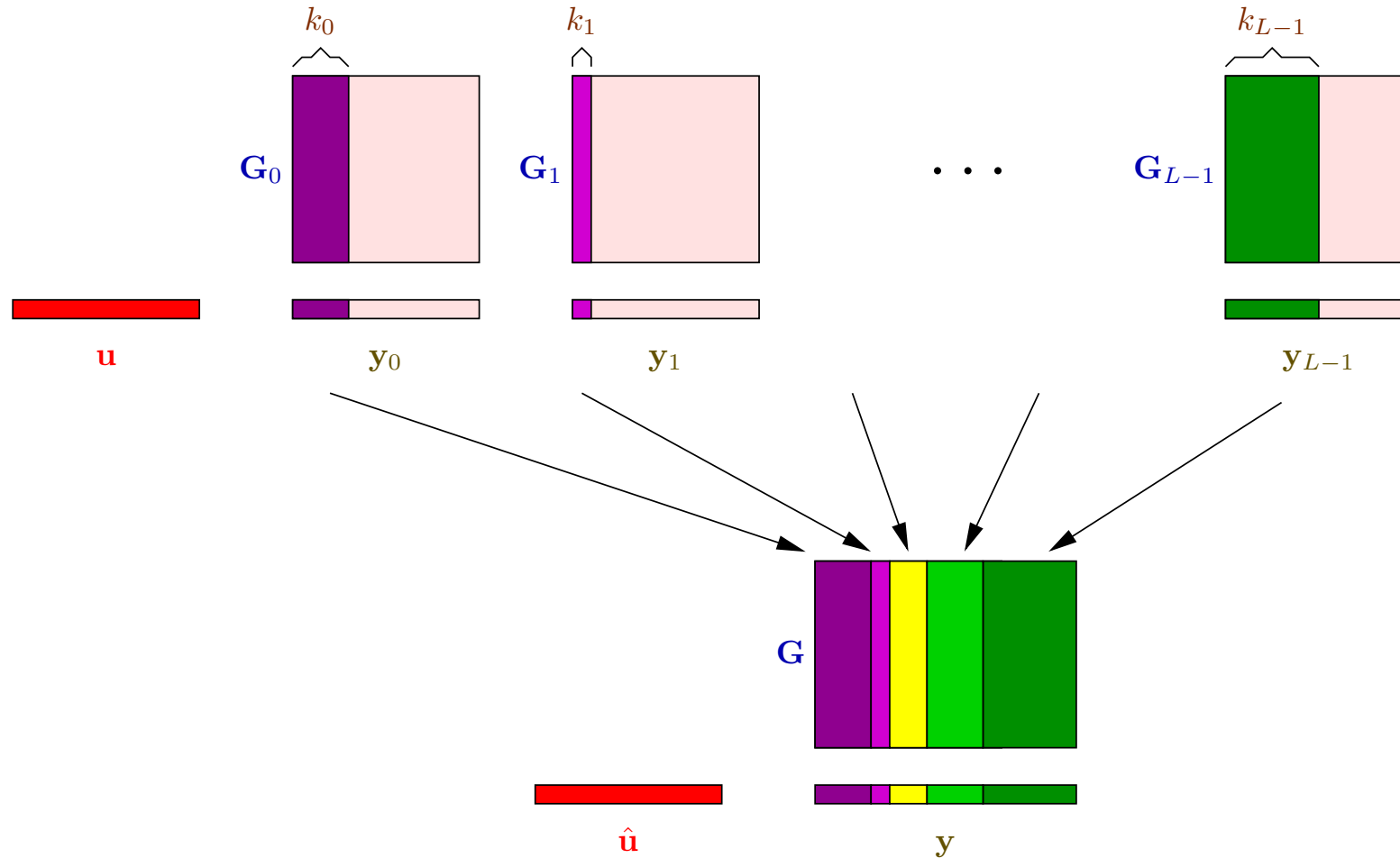
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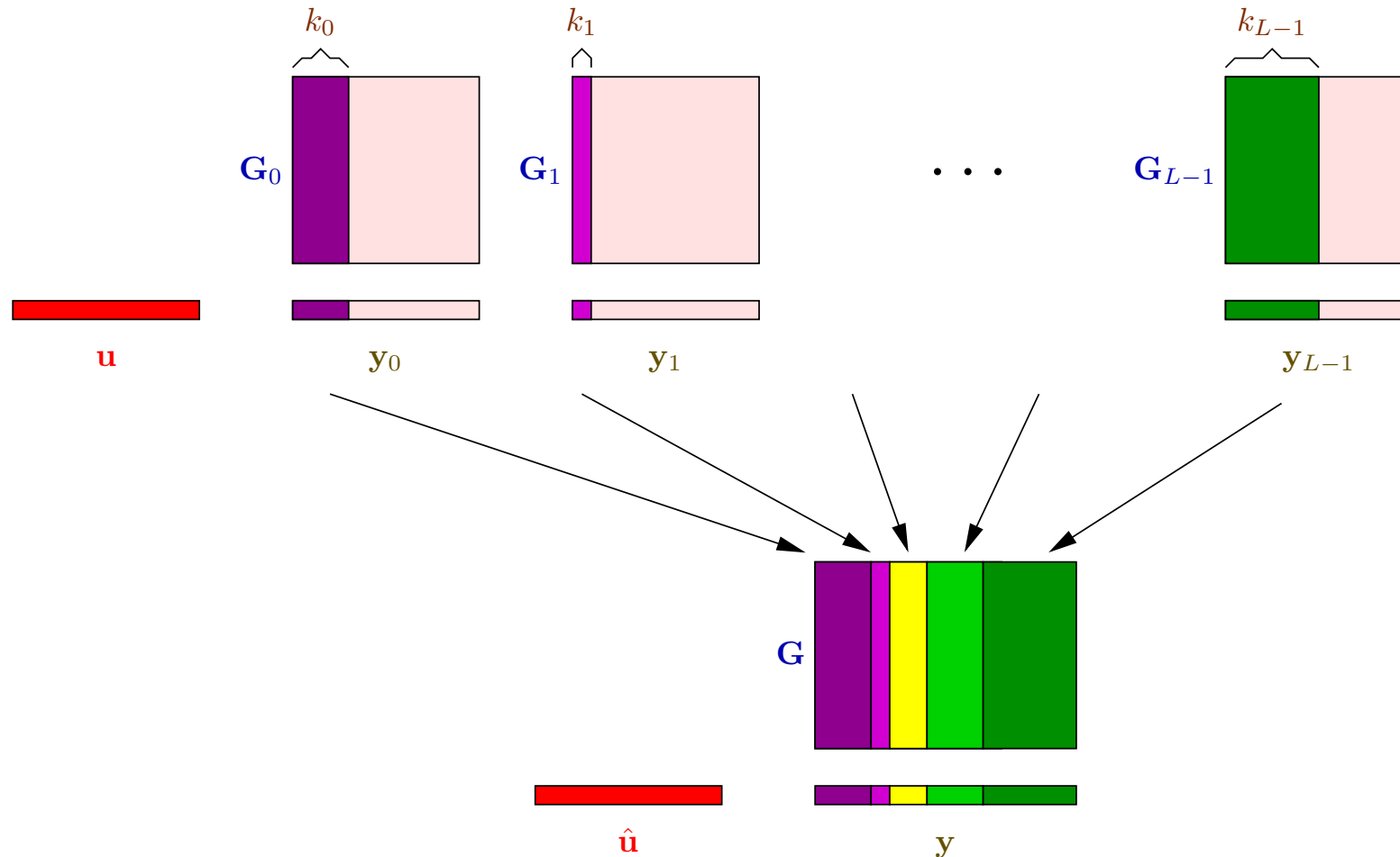
Comm. System with L Parallel Channels

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Comm. System with L Parallel Channels

What does unique decodability imply for the matrices $\mathbf{G}_0, \dots, \mathbf{G}_{L-1}$?



For any k_0, \dots, k_{L-1} with $\sum_{\ell \in [L]} k_\ell \geq n$ the matrix \mathbf{G} must have **full rank**.

Comm. System with L Parallel Channels

- **Another motivation** for this channel model: paper by Tavildar and Viswanath, “Approximately universal codes over slow fading channels”, IEEE Trans. Inf. Theory, IT-52, no. 7, pp. 3233–3258, July 2006.

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$$\mathbf{y}[m] = \mathbf{H} \cdot \mathbf{x}[m] + \mathbf{w}[m].$$

The complex matrix of fading gains \mathbf{H} stays constant over the time-scale of communication; we suppose the exact characterization of \mathbf{H} is known to the receiver while the transmitter has only access to its statistical characterization.

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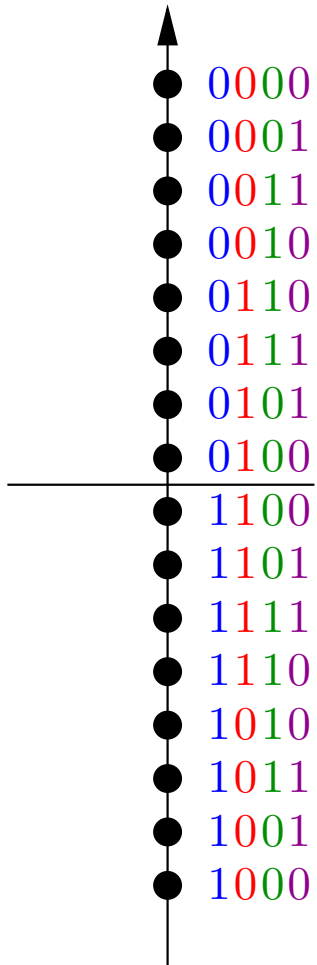
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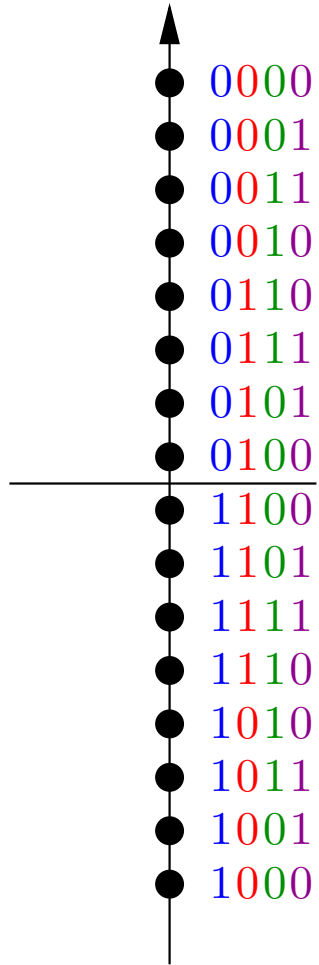
- The focus in the paper is on the **high-SNR** regime.
- Coding for this channel can be seen as **space-time coding**.

Comm. System with L Parallel Channels

- Depending on what h_e is, we can recover more or fewer of the most-significant bits.



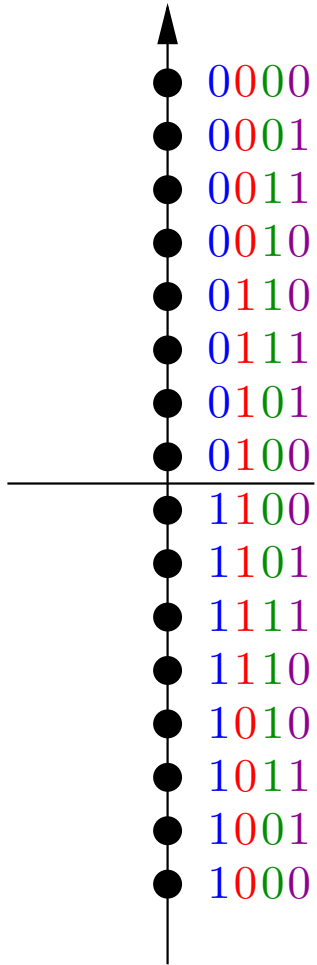
Comm. System with L Parallel Channels



- Depending on what h_ℓ is, we can recover more or fewer of the most-significant bits.
- Assume $L = 2$: channel is not in outage if

$$\log(1 + |h_0|^2 \text{SNR}) + \log(1 + |h_1|^2 \text{SNR}) > 2R.$$

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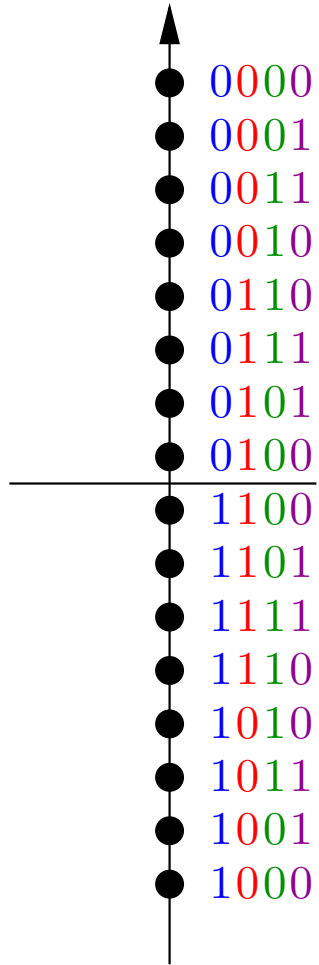
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for some k_0 and k_1 , i.e. we can recover k_0 bits from the zeroth channel and k_1 bits from the first channel.

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- Not being in outage means that $k_0 + k_1 \geq R$.

Coding via Evaluation

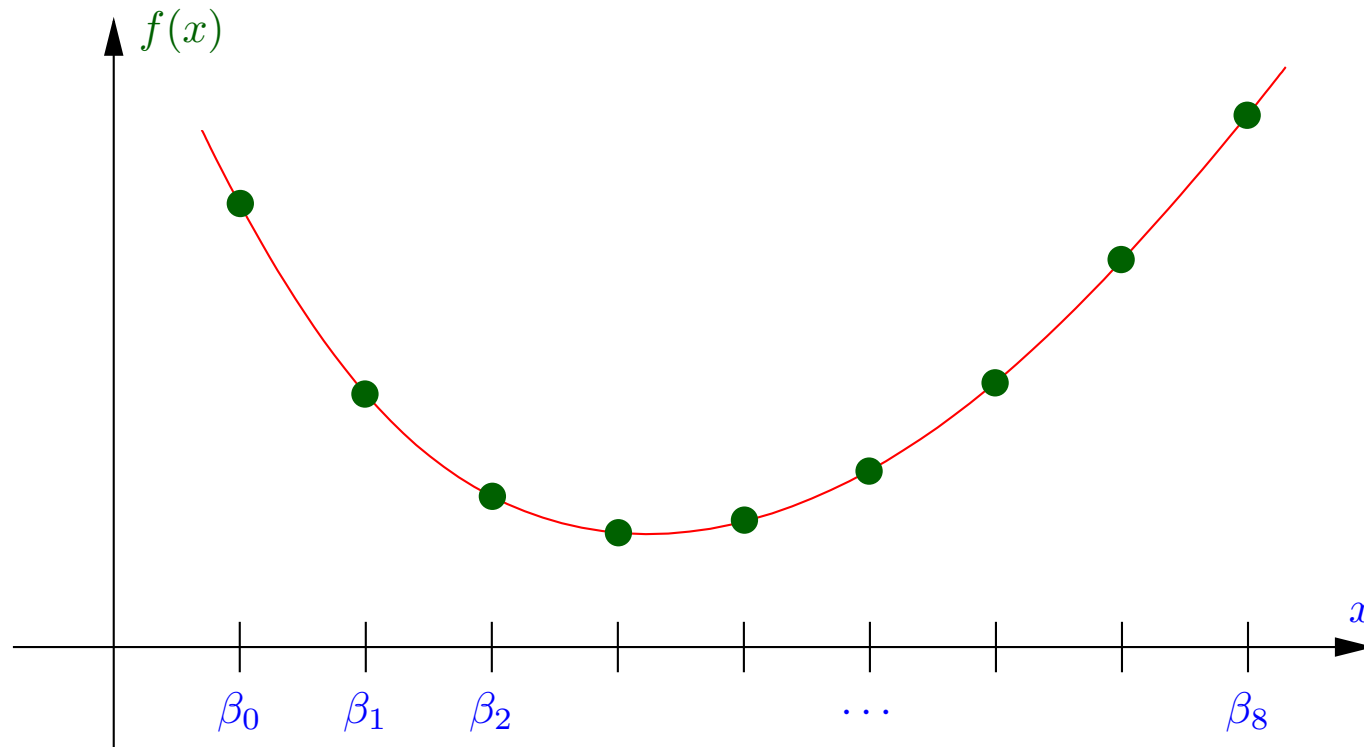
Coding via Evaluation (First Setup)

Encoding map (evaluation map):

$$(u_0, u_1, u_2) \mapsto (f(\beta_0), f(\beta_1), f(\beta_2), f(\beta_3), f(\beta_4), f(\beta_5), f(\beta_6), f(\beta_7), f(\beta_8)),$$

where $f(x) = u_0x^0 + u_1x^1 + u_2x^2$.

Coding via Evaluation (First Setup)

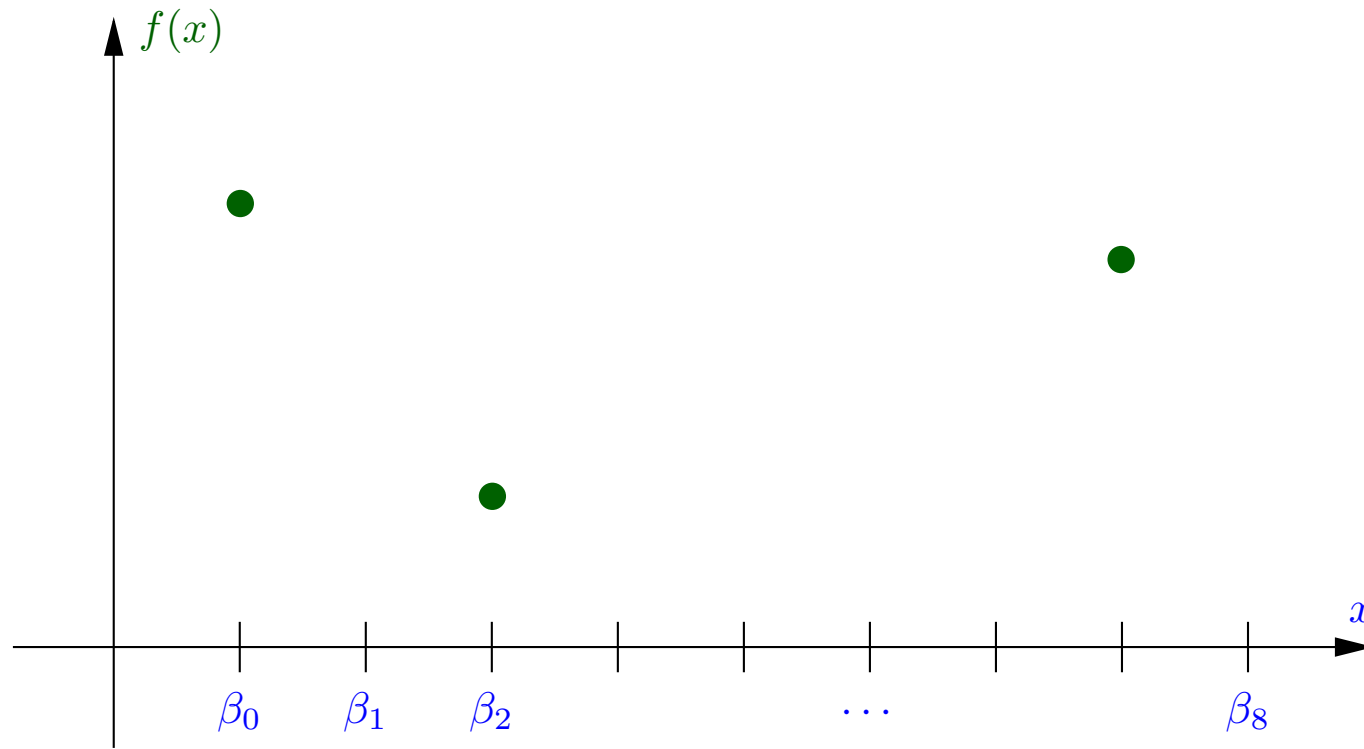


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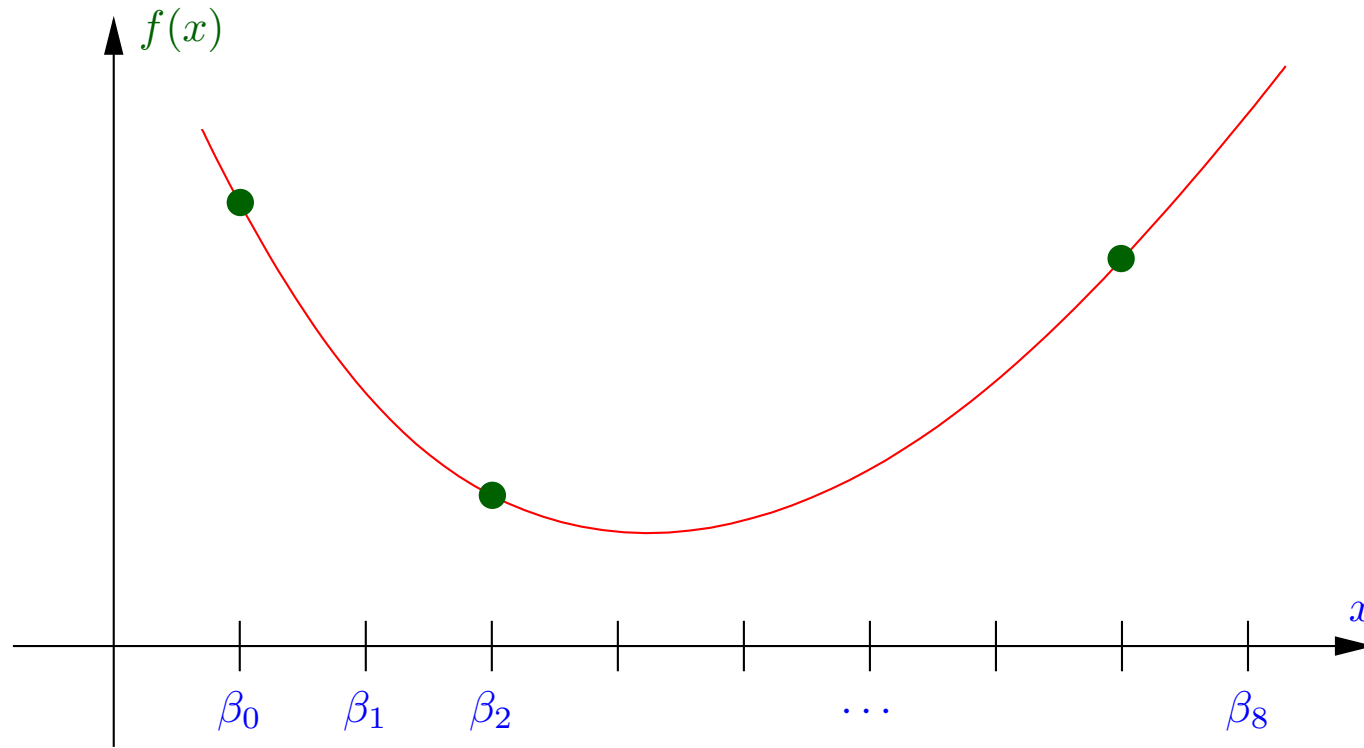


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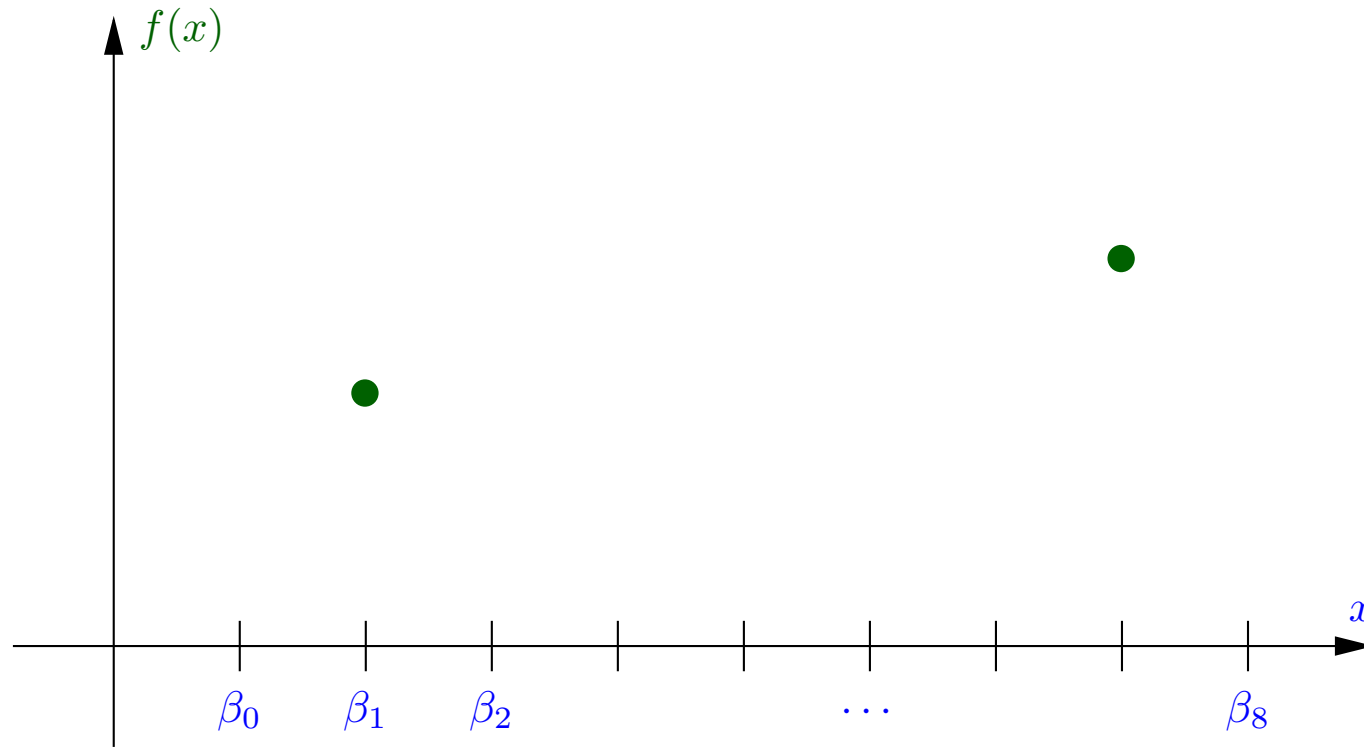


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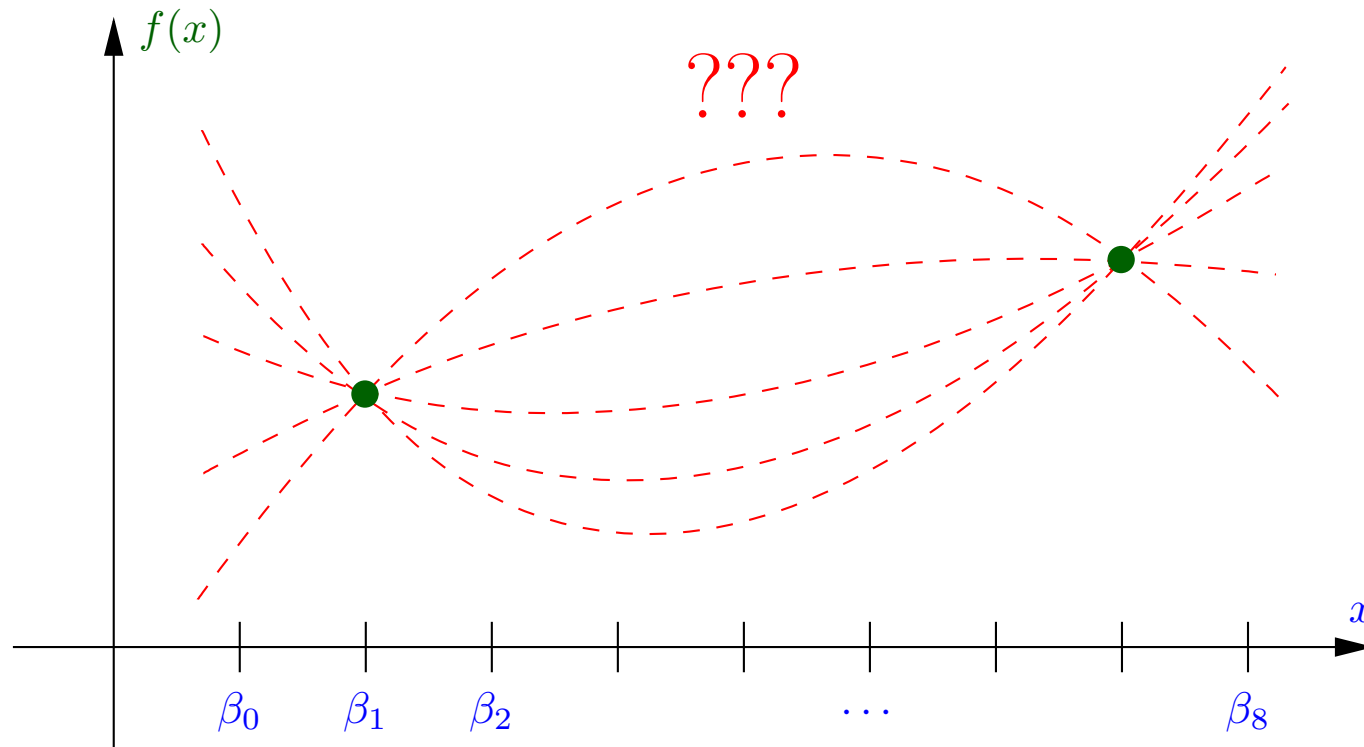


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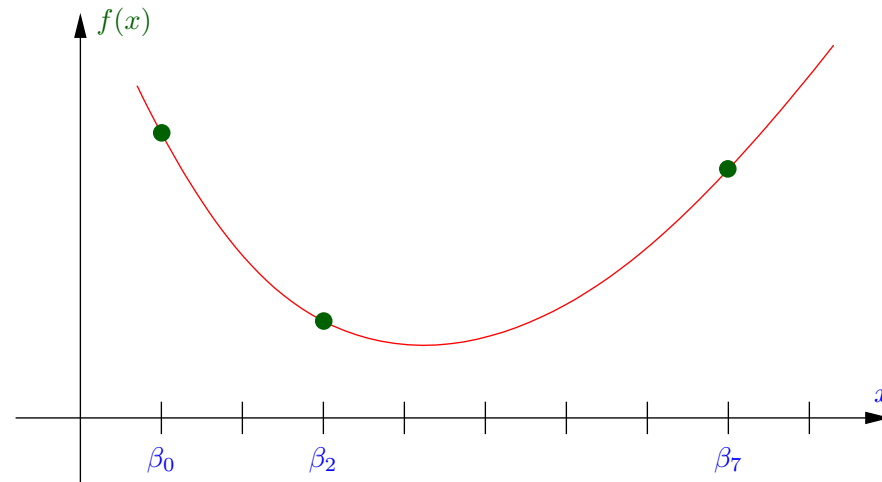
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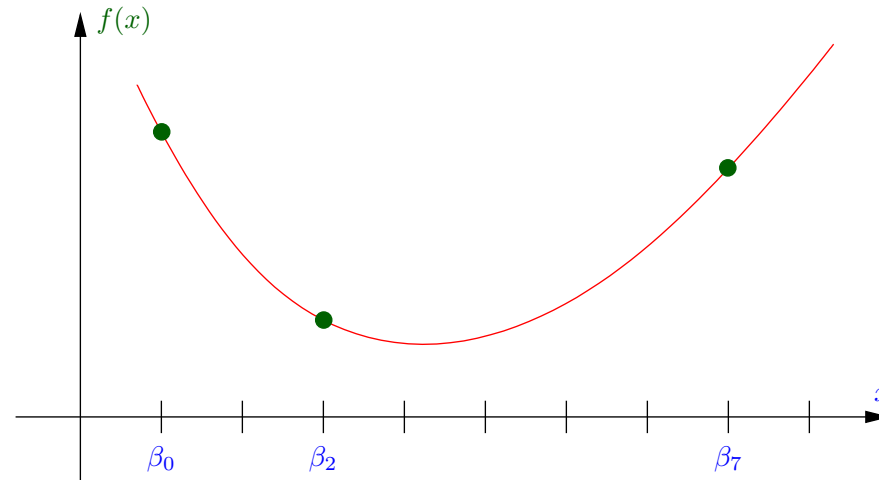
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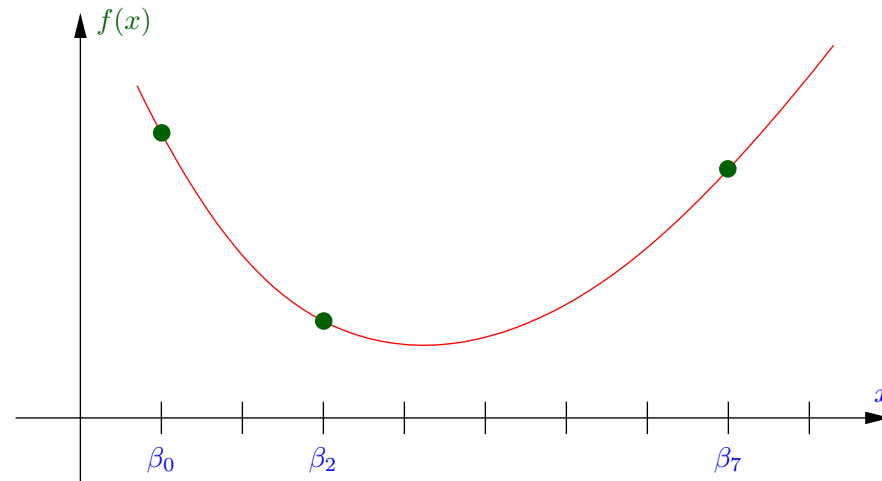
- We have to show that the mapping

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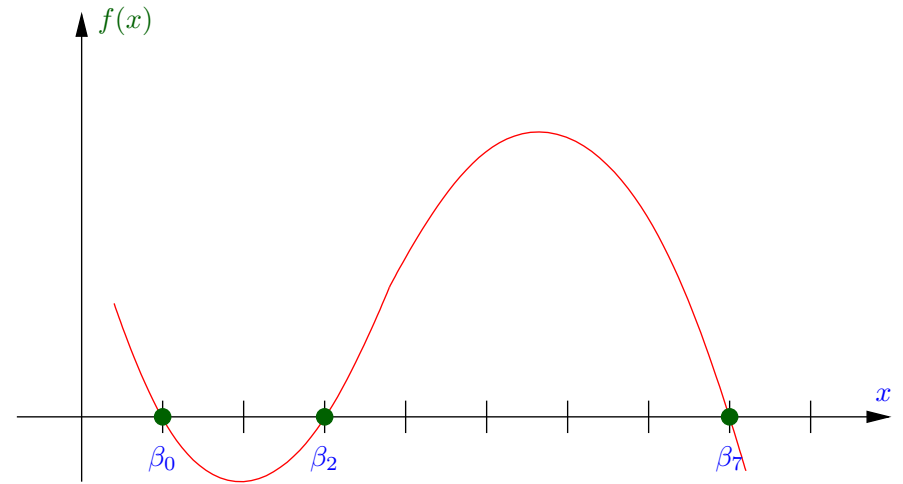
- We have to show that the mapping

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- Because the above mapping is linear it is sufficient to show that the kernel is trivial.

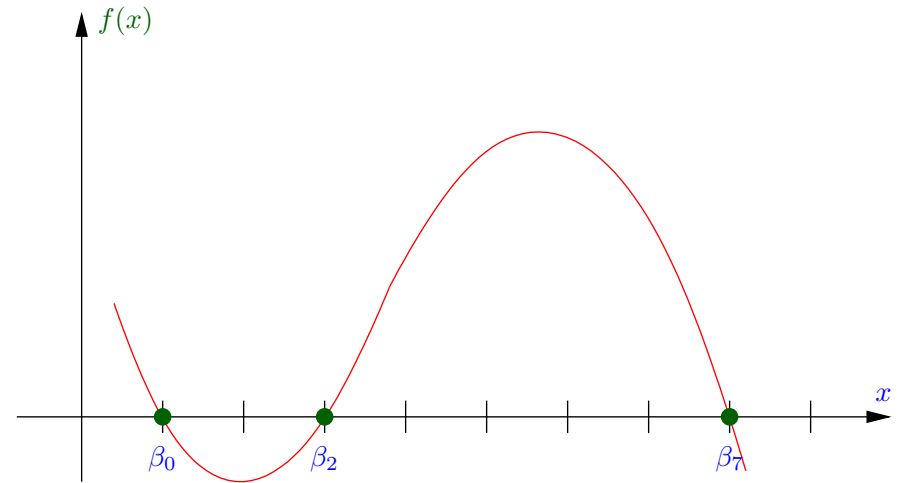
Coding via Evaluation (First Setup)



Case 2:

$f(x) \neq 0$ with at least three zeros.

Coding via Evaluation (First Setup)

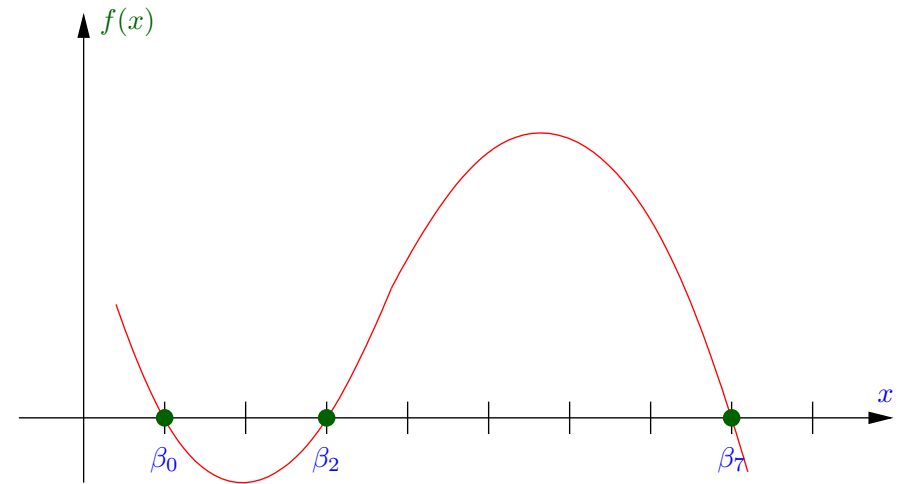


Case 2:

$f(x) \neq 0$ with at least three zeros.

The fundamental theorem of algebra implies that $\deg(f(x)) \geq 3$.

Coding via Evaluation (First Setup)

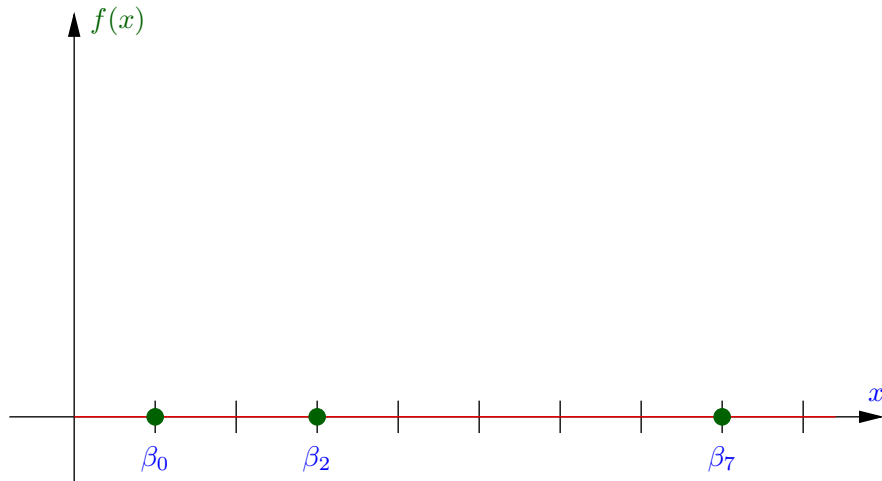


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The fundamental theorem of algebra implies that $\deg(f(x)) \geq 3$. However, **no quadratic function** can have more than two zeros.

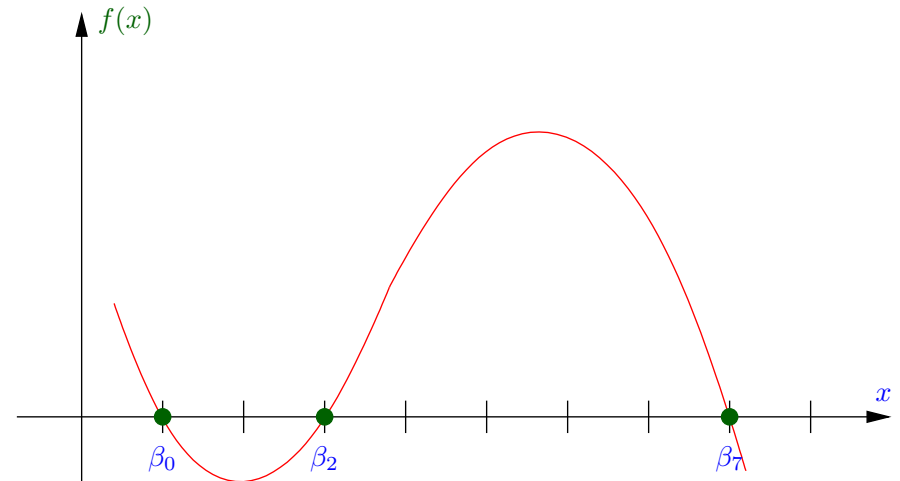
Coding via Evaluation (First Setup)



Case 1:

$$f(x) = 0,$$

$$\Rightarrow (u_0, u_1, u_2) = (0, 0, 0).$$

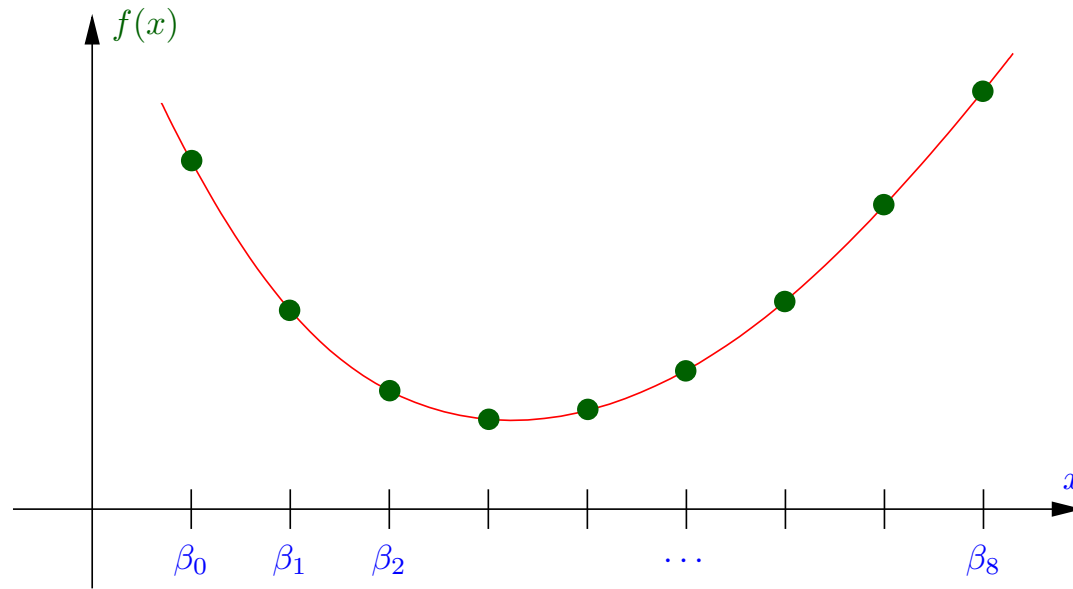


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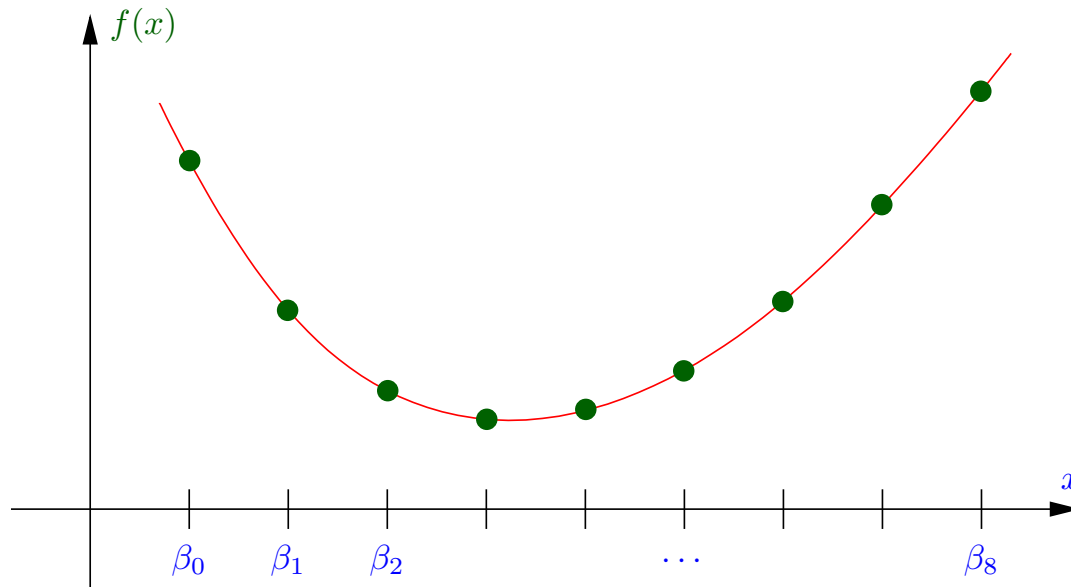


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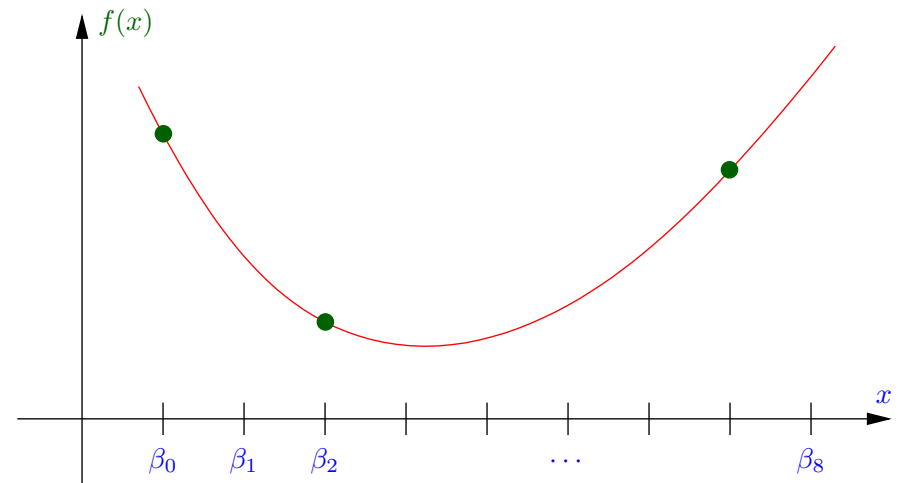
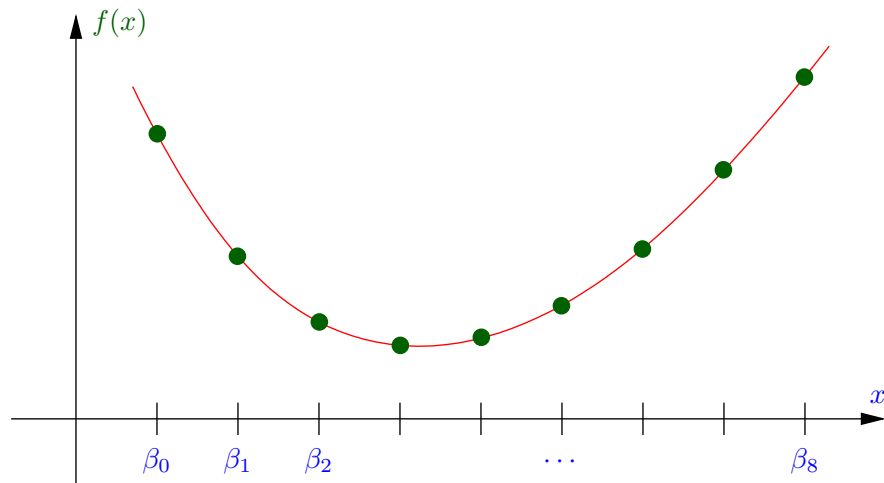
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Note: the codes that result from this evaluation map are the well-known **Reed-Solomon codes**.

Coding via Evaluation (First Setup)

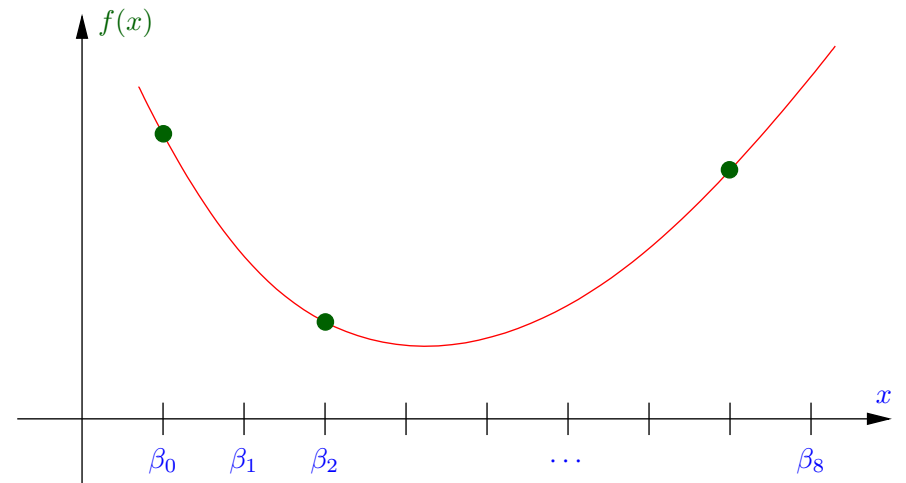
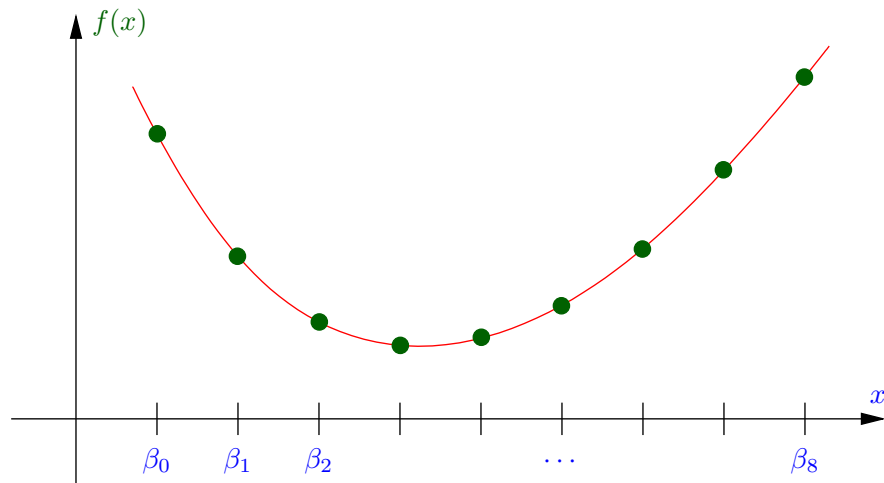


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A way to find (u_0, u_1, u_2) is to specify **at least three function values**.

Coding via Evaluation (Second Setup)

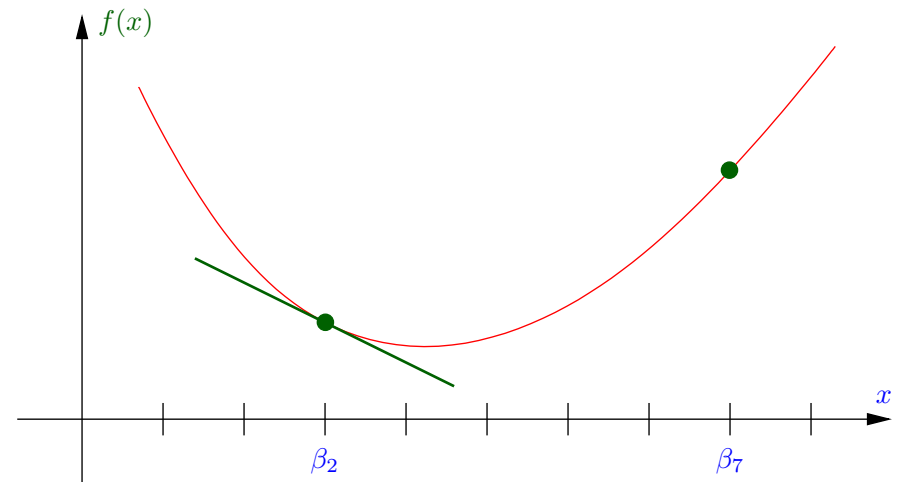
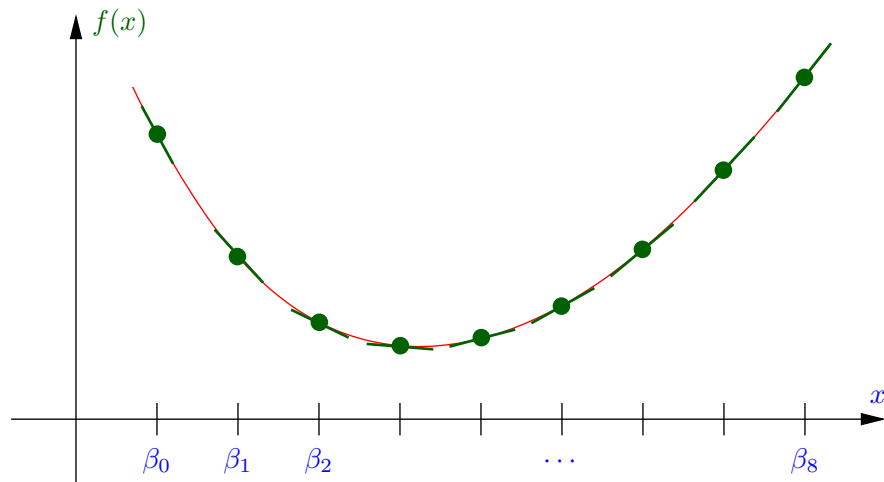
However, there are also other quantities that we can specify

so that we can find out (u_0, u_1, u_2) .

Coding via Evaluation (Second Setup)

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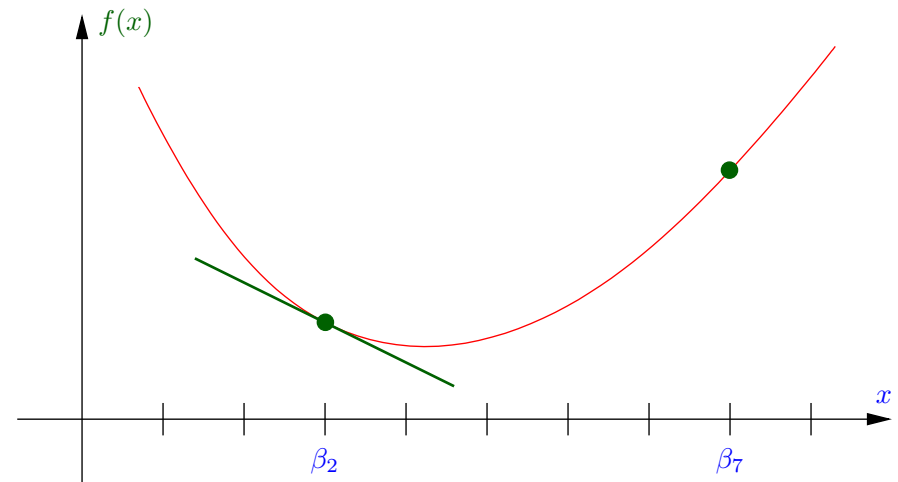
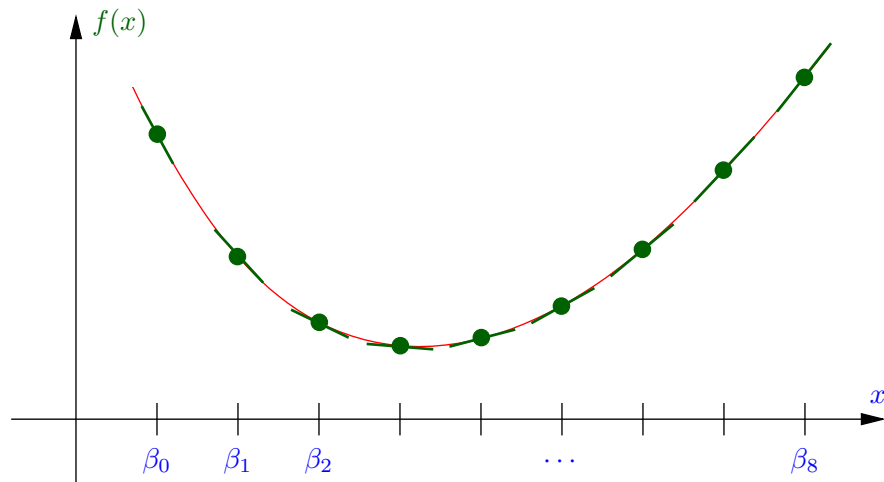
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For example, knowing

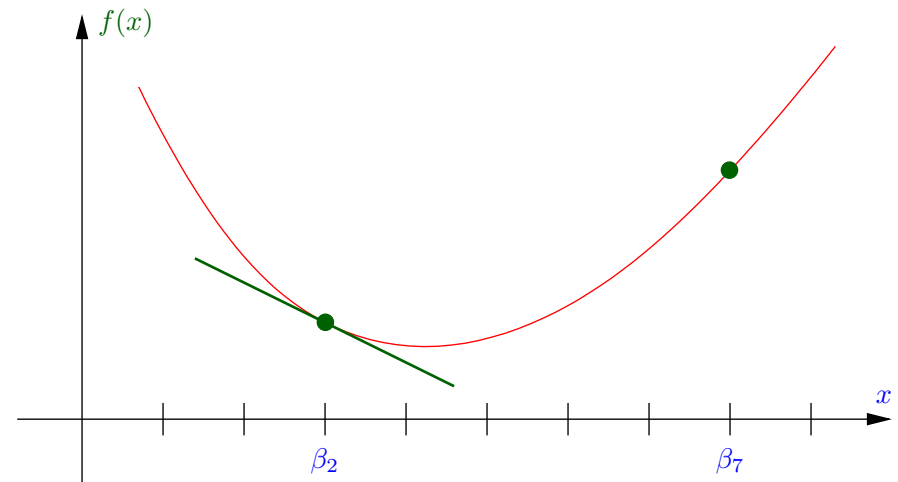
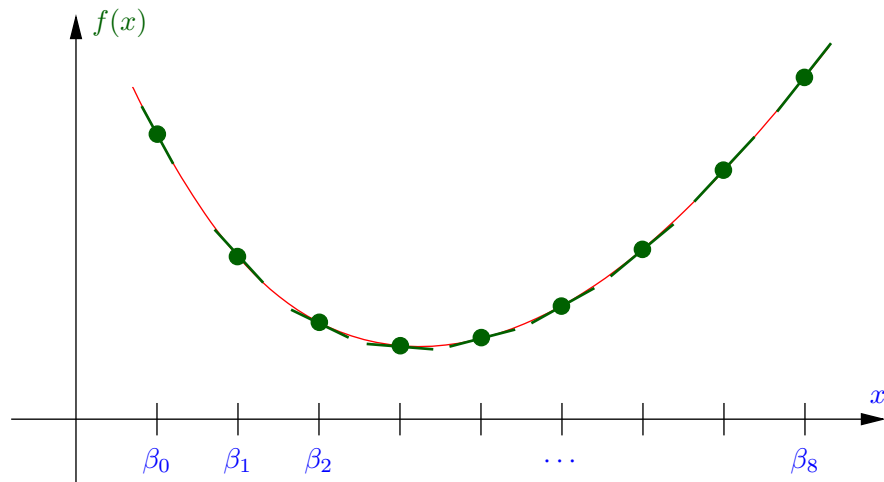
- the function value plus the value of the function derivative for one place and
- the function value at another place,

is sufficient to find (u_0, u_1, u_2) .

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Consider the following new evaluation map:

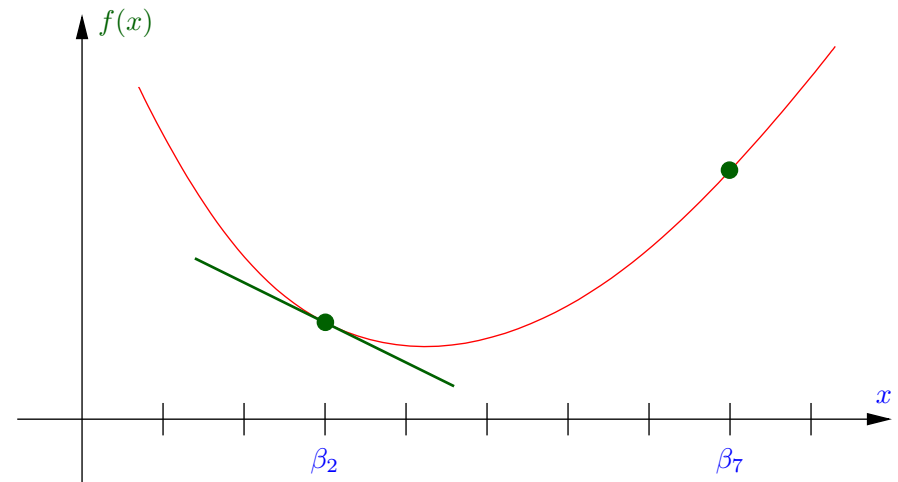
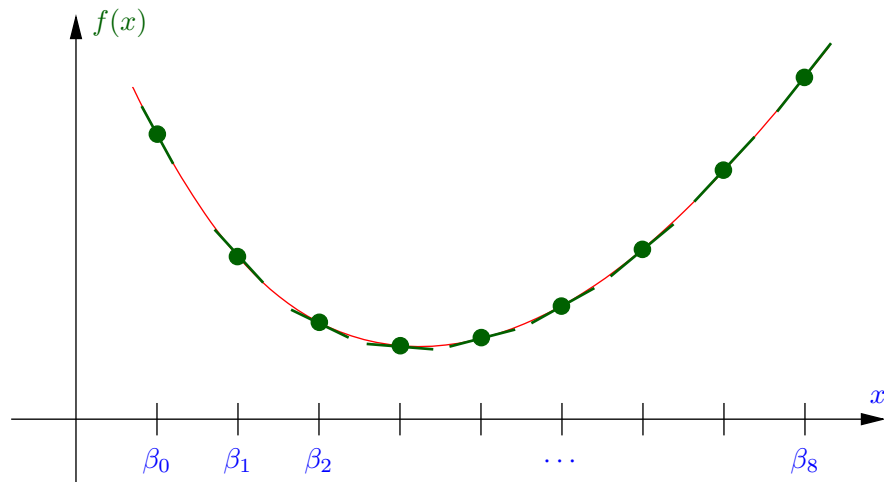
$$(u_0 \quad u_1 \quad u_2) \mapsto \begin{pmatrix} f(\beta_0) & f'(\beta_0) \\ \vdots & \vdots \\ f(\beta_8) & f'(\beta_8) \end{pmatrix}$$

where $f(x) = u_0 x^0 + u_1 x^1 + u_2 x^2$ and $f'(x) = u_1 x^0 + 2u_2 x^1$.

Coding via Evaluation (Second Setup)

However, there are also other quantities that we can specify

so that we can find out (u_0, u_1, u_2) .



General formula for the evaluation map:

$$(u_0 \quad \dots \quad u_{n-1}) \mapsto \begin{pmatrix} f^{(0)}(\beta_0) & f^{(1)}(\beta_0) & \dots & f^{(n-1)}(\beta_0) \\ \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \vdots \\ f^{(0)}(\beta_{L-1}) & f^{(1)}(\beta_{L-1}) & \dots & f^{(n-1)}(\beta_{L-1}) \end{pmatrix}$$

where $f^{(i)}(x) = \sum_{t=0}^{n-1} \frac{t!}{(t-i)!} u_t x^t$ for $0 \leq i \leq n-1$.

Coding via Evaluation (Second Setup)

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where we used the formal derivatives

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There is a **problem** if we want to use this approach when we work over finite fields: if p is the characteristic of \mathbb{F}_q then the i -th formal derivative is zero for $i \geq p$ and the corresponding channel symbols do not carry any information.

Coding via Evaluation (Second Setup)

General formula for the evaluation map:

$$\begin{pmatrix} u_0 & \cdots & u_{n-1} \end{pmatrix} \mapsto \begin{pmatrix} f^{(0)}(\beta_0) & f^{(1)}(\beta_0) & \cdots & f^{(n-1)}(\beta_0) \\ \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \vdots \\ f^{(0)}(\beta_{L-1}) & f^{(1)}(\beta_{L-1}) & \cdots & f^{(n-1)}(\beta_{L-1}) \end{pmatrix}$$

where we used the formal derivatives

$$f^{(i)}(x) = \sum_{t=0}^{n-1} \frac{t!}{(t-i)!} u_t x^t \quad \text{for } 0 \leq i \leq n-1.$$

There is a **problem** if we want to use this approach when we work over finite fields: if p is the characteristic of \mathbb{F}_q then the i -th formal derivative is zero for $i \geq p$ and the corresponding channel symbols do not carry any information.

However, replacing the formal derivative by the **Hasse derivative**, this approach works!

Coding via Evaluation (Second Setup)

General formula for the evaluation map:

$$\begin{pmatrix} u_0 & u_1 & u_2 \end{pmatrix} \mapsto \begin{pmatrix} \tilde{f}^{(0)}(\beta_0) & \tilde{f}^{(1)}(\beta_0) & \dots & \tilde{f}^{(n-1)}(\beta_0) \\ \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \vdots \\ \tilde{f}^{(0)}(\beta_{L-1}) & \tilde{f}^{(1)}(\beta_{L-1}) & \dots & \tilde{f}^{(n-1)}(\beta_{L-1}) \end{pmatrix}$$

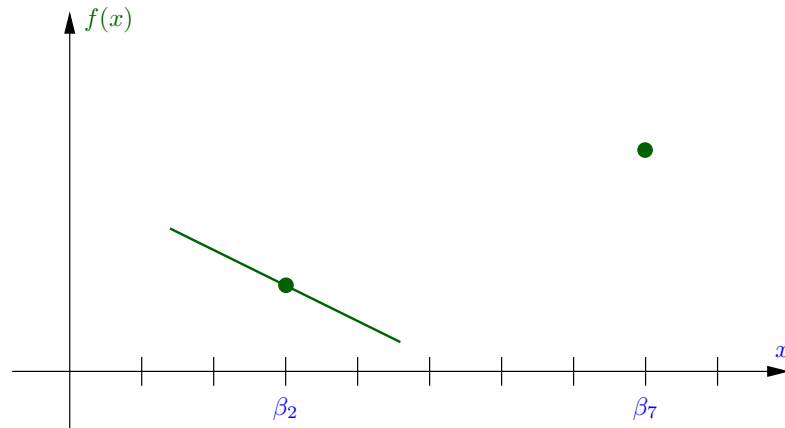
where we used the Hasse derivatives

$$\tilde{f}^{(i)}(x) = \sum_{t=0}^{n-1} \binom{t}{i} u_t x^t = \sum_{t=0}^{n-1} \frac{t!}{i!(t-i)!} u_t x^t \quad \text{for } 0 \leq i \leq n-1.$$

Coding via Evaluation (Second Setup)

Assume that we only receive

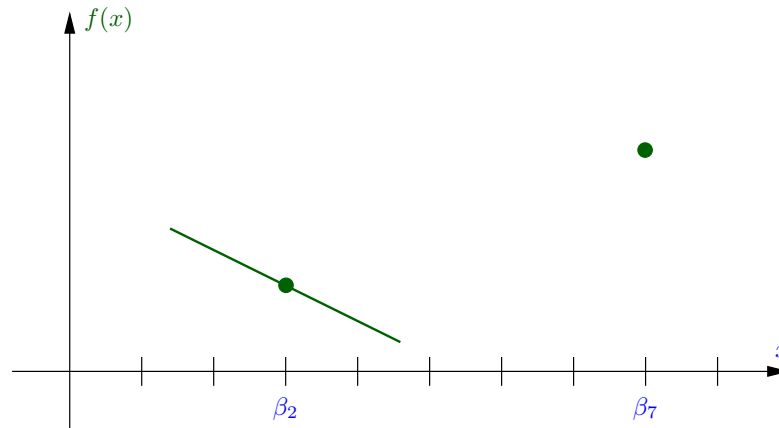
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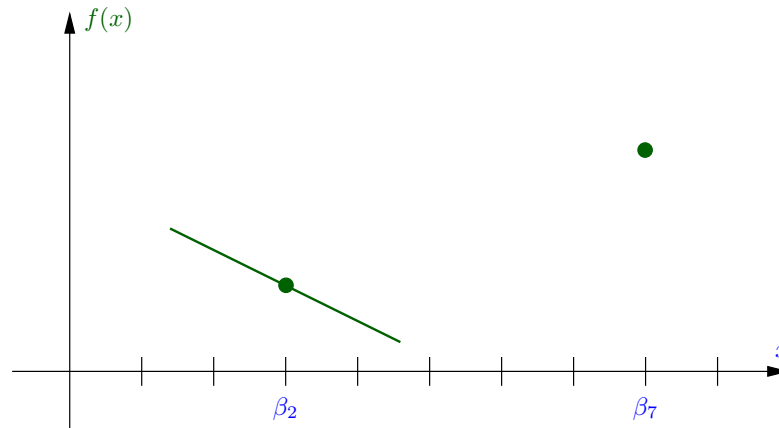


- We have to show that the mapping $(u_0, u_1, u_2) \mapsto (\tilde{f}^{(0)}(\beta_2), \tilde{f}^{(1)}(\beta_2), \tilde{f}^{(0)}(\beta_7))$ is injective.

Coding via Evaluation (Second Setup)

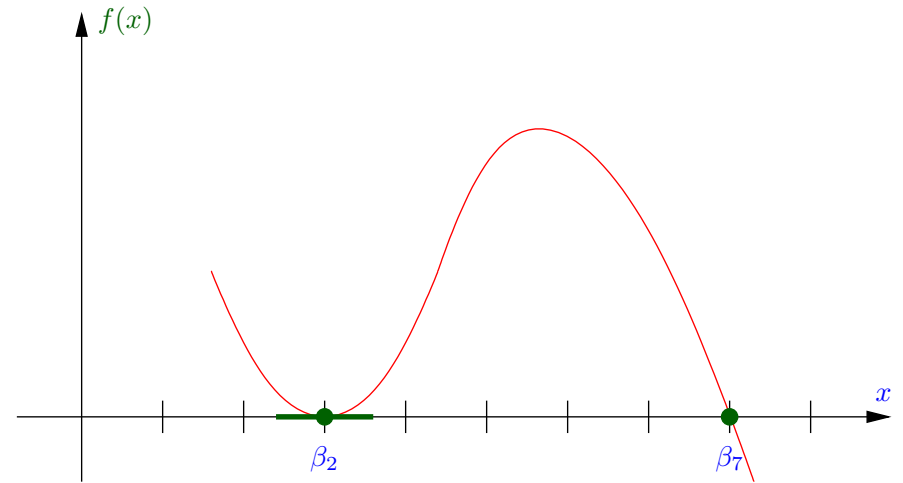
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- We have to show that the mapping $(u_0, u_1, u_2) \mapsto (\tilde{f}^{(0)}(\beta_2), \tilde{f}^{(1)}(\beta_2), \tilde{f}^{(0)}(\beta_7))$ is injective.
- Because the above mapping is linear it is sufficient to show that the kernel is trivial.

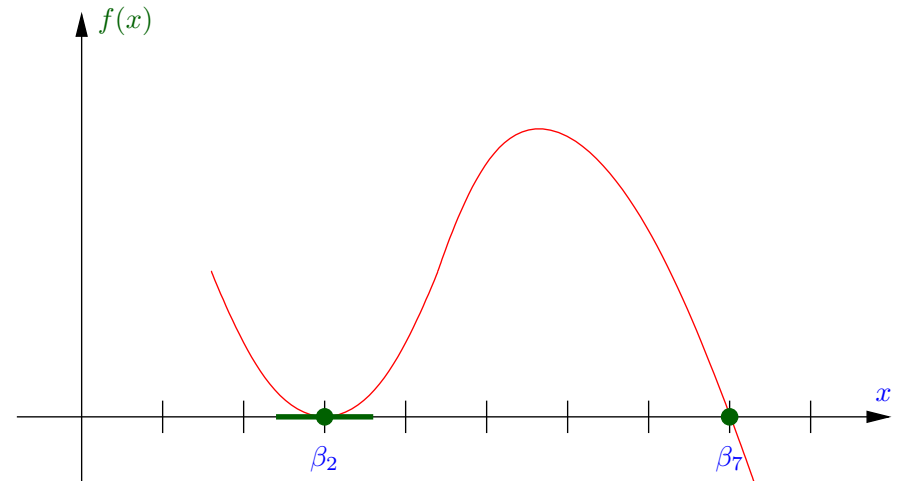
Coding via Evaluation (Second Setup)



Case 2:

$f(x) \neq 0$ with at least three zeros
(counting with multiplicities).

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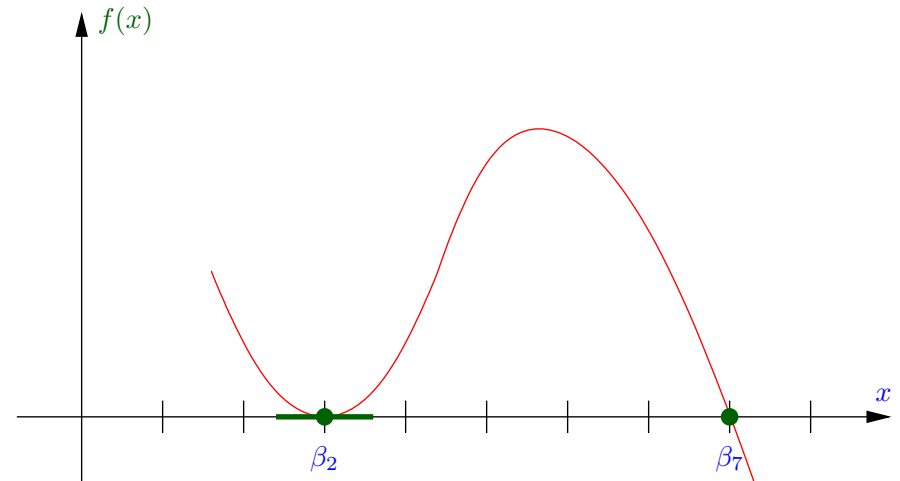


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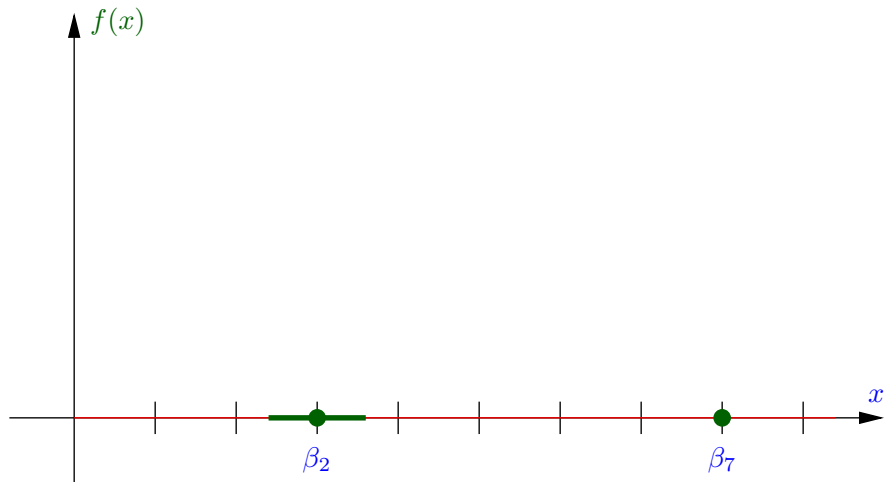


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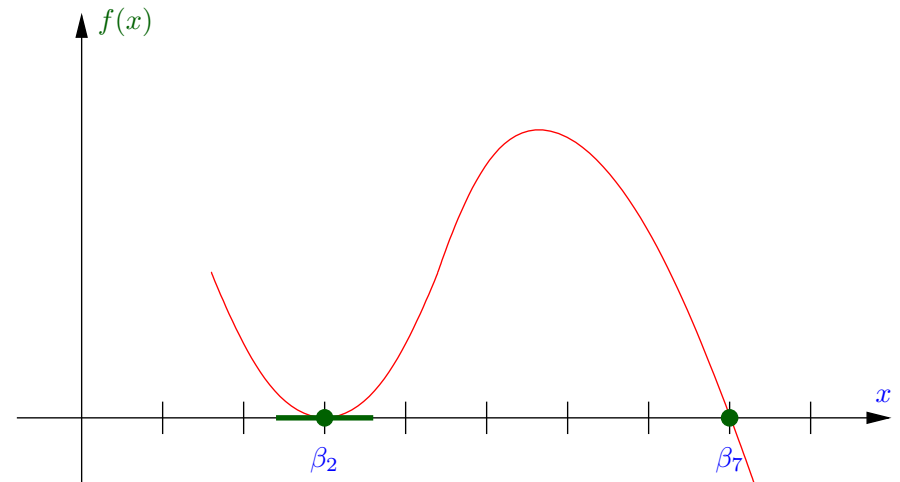
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Coding via Evaluation (Second Setup)



Case 1:

$$f(x) = 0,$$
$$\Rightarrow (u_0, u_1, u_2) = (0, 0, 0).$$



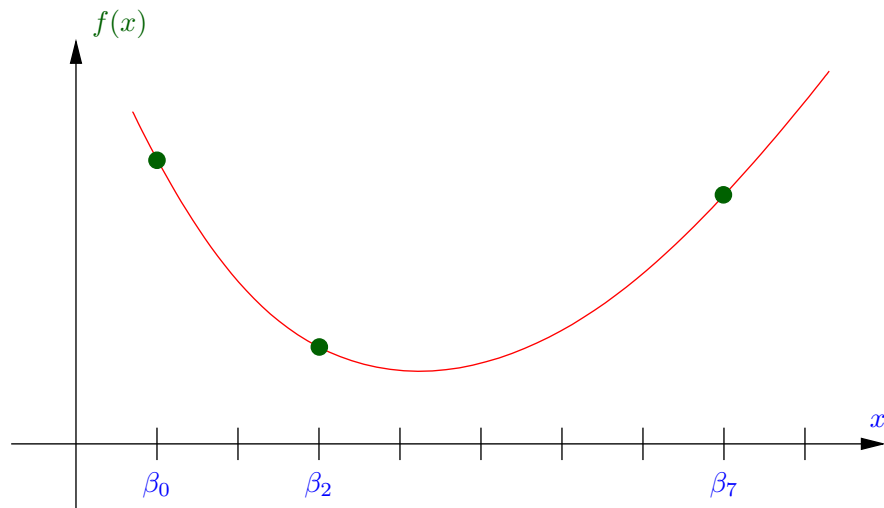
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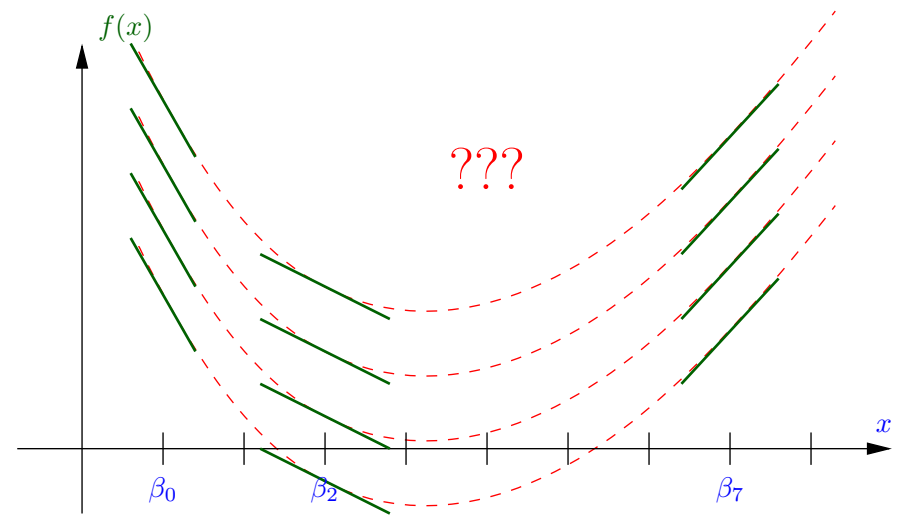
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Coding via Evaluation (Second Setup)

Note that this second interpolation setup is not simply a special case of the first interpolation setup:



Knowing three points where a parabola goes through is **sufficient** to find out the parameters of the parabola.



Knowing e.g. the derivatives at three points of a parabola is **not sufficient** to find out the parameters of the parabola.

Universally decodable matrices (UDMs)

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Proposition

- Let n be some positive integer, let q be some prime power.
- Let α be a primitive element in \mathbb{F}_q .
(i.e. α is an $(q - 1)$ -th primitive root of unity.)
- If $L \leq q + 1$ then the following L matrices over \mathbb{F}_q of size $n \times n$ are (L, n, q) -UDMs:

$$\mathbf{G}_0 \triangleq \mathbf{I}_n, \quad \mathbf{G}_1 \triangleq \mathbf{J}_n, \quad \mathbf{G}_2, \quad \dots, \quad \mathbf{G}_{L-1},$$

where

- \mathbf{J}_n is an $n \times n$ matrix with ones in the anti-diagonal and zeros otherwise;
- $[\mathbf{G}_{\ell+2}]_{t,i} \triangleq \binom{t}{i} \alpha^{\ell(t-i)}$, $(\ell, t, i) \in [L - 2] \times [n] \times [n]$.

Universally Decodable Matrices

E.g. $L = 4, n = 3, q = 3$.

$$\mathbf{G}_0 = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix}, \quad \mathbf{G}_1 = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 1 & 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix},$$

$$\mathbf{G}_2 = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 1 & 1 & 0 \\ 1 & 2 & 1 \end{pmatrix}, \quad \mathbf{G}_3 = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 2 & 1 & 0 \\ 1 & 1 & 1 \end{pmatrix}.$$

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Note that $[\mathbf{G}_2]_{t,i} \triangleq \binom{t}{i}$, therefore **Pascal's triangle** plays an important role when constructing these matrices.

Comments

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- In the last ten years, the resulting codes have also appeared under the name **“multiplicity codes”** in the theoretical computer science literature.
- The mathematics that is needed is very similar to the mathematics that is needed when studying so-called **repeated-root cyclic codes** [Castagnoli et al., 1991].
- Are there **other constructions of UDMs** that are not simply reformulations of the above UDMs? Note that one can show that the given construction is in a certain sense a **unique extension of Reed-Solomon codes** [Vontobel and Ganesan, 2006].

Efficient Decoding

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Generalizations (Part 1/2)

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\Rightarrow The above construction of UDMs can be extended straightforwardly to this new setup.

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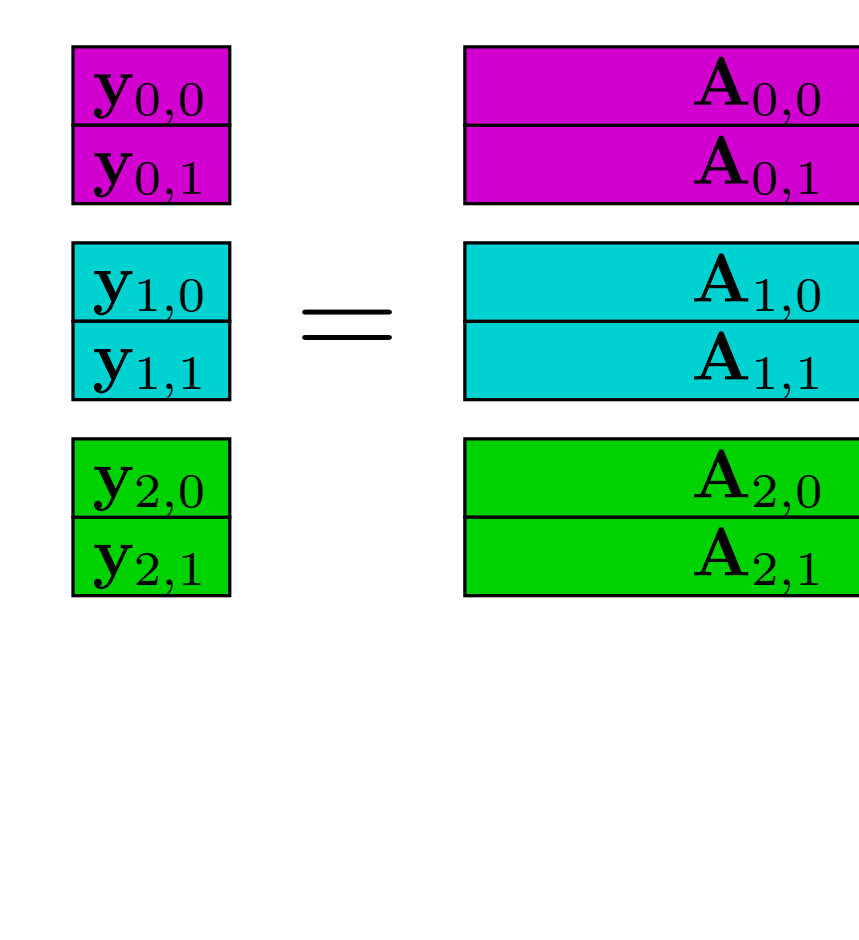
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- **Riemann-Roch theorem** gives new proof.
- **Hasse-Weil-Serre bound** can be used to give new necessary conditions for L .

Back to the setup of interest

Motivation

We can split up the task into several submatrix-vector-multiplication tasks:

$$\begin{array}{l} \text{Worker 0} \\ \text{Worker 1} \\ \text{Worker 2} \end{array} \left\{ \begin{array}{l} \mathbf{y}_{0,0} \\ \mathbf{y}_{0,1} \\ \mathbf{y}_{1,0} \\ \mathbf{y}_{1,1} \\ \mathbf{y}_{2,0} \\ \mathbf{y}_{2,1} \end{array} \right. = \begin{array}{l} \mathbf{A}_{0,0} \\ \mathbf{A}_{0,1} \\ \mathbf{A}_{1,0} \\ \mathbf{A}_{1,1} \\ \mathbf{A}_{2,0} \\ \mathbf{A}_{2,1} \end{array} \cdot \mathbf{x}$$


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Idea:

- Coding scheme should take advantage of the fact that **erasures are correlated**.

Erasures are correlated because

if a partial result by one of the workers is not available,

then **all subsequent results by the same worker** are not available either.

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Idea:

- Base coding scheme on so-called **universally decodable matrices (UDMs)**.

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Idea:

- Base coding scheme on so-called **universally decodable matrices (UDMs)**.
- Use **companion matrices** in order to **reduce issues with condition numbers** when adapting a coding scheme over some finite field to a coding scheme over the reals.

**Embedding into the reals:
companion matrices**

Companion Matrices

Assume that the field $\langle \mathbb{F}_{p^s}, +, \cdot \rangle$ is constructed based on the primitive polynomial

$$\pi(X) = X^s + \pi_{s-1}X^{s-1} + \dots + \pi_1X + \pi_0 \in \mathbb{F}_p[X].$$

The **companion matrix** associated with $\pi(X)$ is defined to be the following matrix of size $s \times s$ over \mathbb{F}_p :

$$\mathbf{C} \triangleq \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 & \dots & 0 & -\pi_0 \\ 1 & 0 & \dots & 0 & -\pi_1 \\ 0 & 1 & \dots & 0 & -\pi_2 \\ \vdots & \vdots & \ddots & \vdots & \vdots \\ 0 & 0 & \dots & 1 & -\pi_{s-1} \end{pmatrix}.$$

This matrix yields the following field isomorphism:

$$\langle \mathbb{F}_{p^s}, +, \cdot \rangle \cong \langle \{0, \mathbf{C}, \mathbf{C}^2, \mathbf{C}^3, \dots, \mathbf{C}^{p^s-1}\}, +, \cdot \rangle.$$

Companion Matrices

Lemma: let M be a square matrix with entries in \mathbb{Z} .

If M satisfies

$$\det(M) \neq 0 \pmod{p},$$

then also

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and with that

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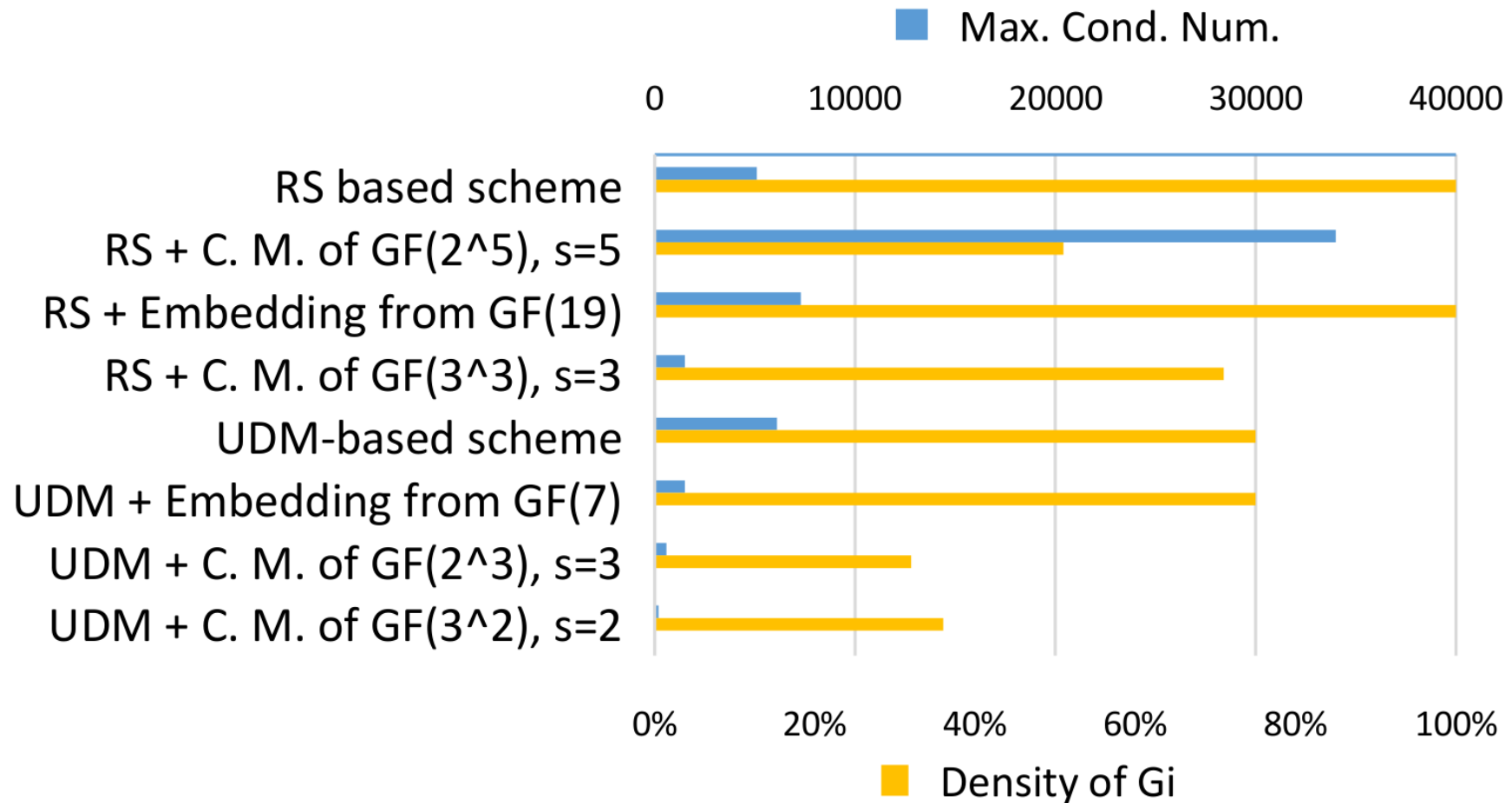
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The above observations can be used to embed matrices over \mathbb{F}_{p^s} into \mathbb{R} , and then give guarantees on them.

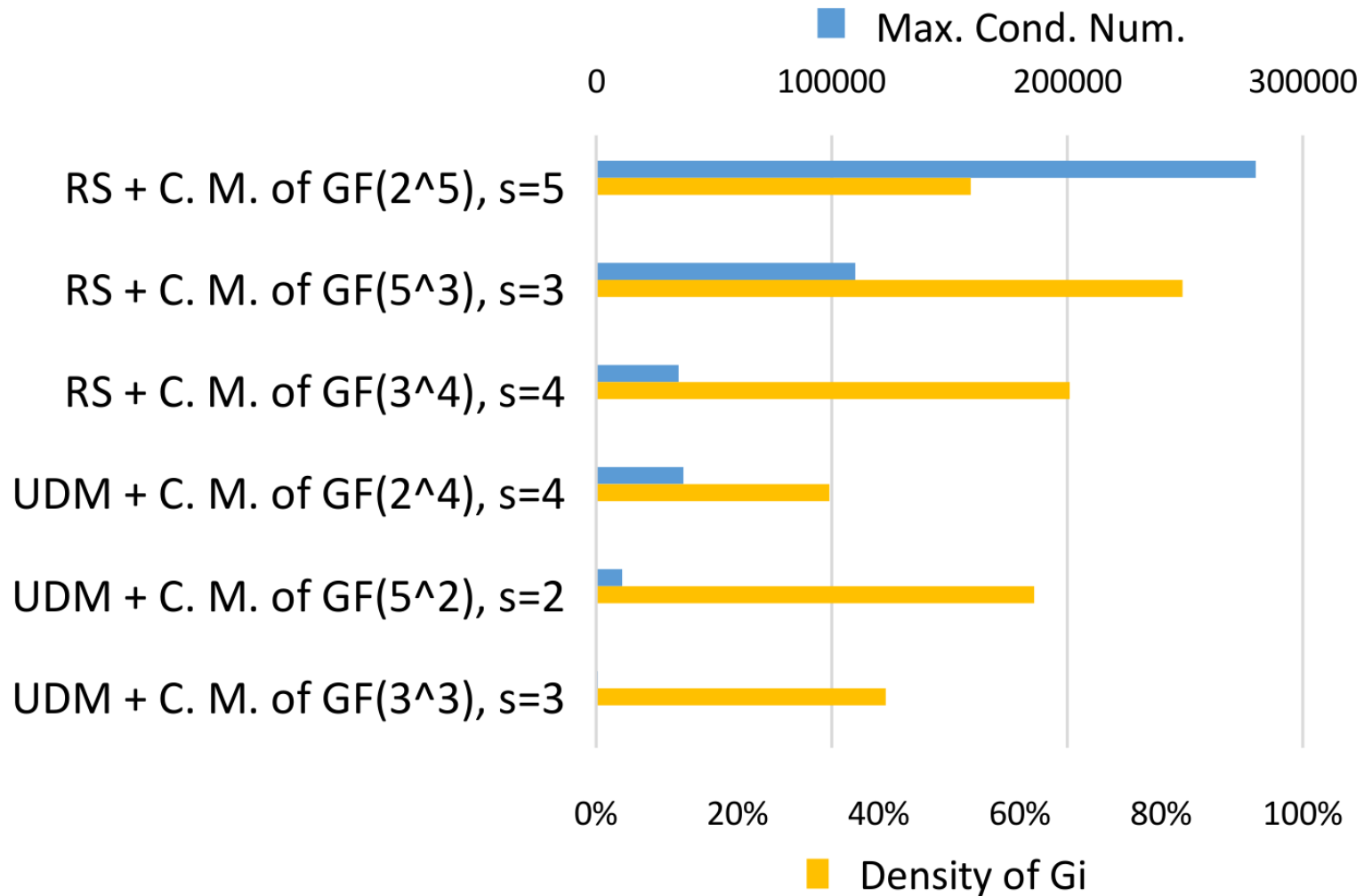
Performance comparison

Performance Comparison (Part 1/2)



Setup: $N = 6$, $\gamma = 3/4$, and $Q_b = 4$.

Performance Comparison (Part 2/2)



Setup: $N = 15$, $\gamma = 1/2$, and $Q_b = 4$.

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Thank you!