



# ANALYSIS OF LOW RATE CONVOLUTIONAL CODES ON OPTICAL INTERLEAVE-DIVISION MULTIPLE-ACCESS SCHEME

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## ABSTRACT

The efficient bandwidth utilization is one of the key aspects for improving the accomplishment of any optical fiber based communication system. Code-Division Multiple- Access (CDMA) scheme has been popularly deployed, in optical platform, for attaining the higher spectrum efficiency throughout the globe. However, the entire Optical CDMA (O-CDMA) scheme based communication systems have been victim of increased multiple access interference (MAI) with increment in user count. Recently, Interleave-Division Multiple-Access (IDMA) scheme has attracted the researchers for working on its feasibility with optical communication. From the literature, it has been revealed that IDMA scheme, which employs interleavers as the only means for user separation, mitigates efficiently with MAI and other interferences. In this paper, the performance of Optical Interleave Division Multiple Access (O-IDMA) based system has been evaluated using low rate convolution codes. During the simulation, the combination of coding and spreading operations has been employed for maximizing the coding gain using low rate codes. The simulation results establishes that with low rate convolution encoding technique, O-IDMA system contributes significant refinement in system performance in comparison to its counterpart i.e. O-CDMA system.

**Keywords:** optical IDMA, convolution codes, Viterbi decoding, iterative CBC decoding, interleavers.

## INTRODUCTION

For establishment of communication link in wired communication, the optical fiber has been frequently employed for achieving high spectral efficiency with O-CDMA based system. Till now, the CDMA scheme has been the most popular alternative of design engineers due to better bandwidth efficiency than its counterparts including Frequency-Division Multiple-Access (FDMA) and Time-Division Multiple-Access (TDMA) schemes. The performance of Optical-CDMA (O-CDMA) scheme is reported to be predominately limited by multiple access interference (MAI) and inter-symbol interference (ISI) in addition to other constraints. The solution of aforesaid constraints may be attained by replacing CDMA scheme with the alternate mechanism familiar as Interleave-Division Multiple-Access (IDMA) scheme, defined by Ping et al., 2006, in which, most of above specified problems do not subsist due to implementation of user-specific interleavers having modest cross-correlation amongst them (Cristea et al., 2009, Mahadevappa et al., 2002, Ping et al., 2006, and Kusumeet et al., 2012). The comparison between CDMA and IDMA schemes have been exhibited in (Kusumeet et al., 2012) and deduced that user-specific interleavers may anticipate better orthogonality and emerge least interference between each other in the channel.

The O-IDMA scheme is a recently proposed multiple access technique in optical domain, in which various user-specific interleaves are being used to distinguish the user-specific data, during communication process. It uses a low-cost iterative chip-by-chip (CBC) multiuser detection algorithm in which the complexity is independent on the count of users, therefore higher number of users can be supported.

In general, the optical fiber is used as channel between transmitter and receiver for long distance communication with high bandwidth efficiency while channel coding is employed for providing secure and accurate transmission of message signal through a communication channel. In this paper, the performance of Optical Interleave-Division Multiple-Access (O-IDMA) scheme using low rate convolution encoding technique has been presented with random interleaving mechanism in addition to its comparison with its counterpart i.e. O-CDMA scheme based communication systems. The simulations have been performed on MATLAB environment.

## O-IDMA SYSTEM MODEL

In proposed optical fiber based communication system, the IDMA scheme has been utilized for achieving high spectral efficiency along with modest receiver complexity and improved performance (Depanget et al., 2008, Pupeza, 2006, Shuanget et al., 2009, Xinyiet al., 2007, and Yeon, 2007). The IDMA scheme pivots on interleaving as the only means to distinguish the signals from various users and therefore it has been named as IDMA scheme.

The application of IDMA in Optical domain plays a vital role for enhancing the accomplishment in terms of bit error rate (BER). The O-IDMA consist the transmitter, optical channel and receiver. The block diagram of O-IDMA transmitter is introduced in Figure-1, while receiver model for O-IDMA system is introduced in Figure-4.

## Transmitter structure of O-IDMA system

The transmitter structure of the Optical IDMA system is presented in Figure-1. It consist the channel coders (c), interleavers ( $\pi$ ), electrical to optical converters



(E/O) and combiner block for various activities. The input data sequence  $d_k$  of user- $k$  is encoded employing convolution channel encoder which is in fact a low rate encoder  $c$ , generating a coded sequence  $c_k \equiv [c_k(1), \dots, c_k(j), \dots, c_k(J)]^T$ , where  $J$  is the frame length. The elements in  $c_k$  are referred to as coded bits. Here convolutional encoder is utilized with  $(n=2, l=3, m=2)$  and the generation of convolutional codes is explained just after this section. Coded sequence  $c_k$  is rightly permuted by user-specific interleaver  $\pi_k$ , which constructs  $x_k = [x_k(1) \dots x_k(j) \dots x_k(J)]^T$  data streams. The elements in  $x_k$  are referred to as 'chips' (Ping, 2005 and Wu, 2006).

The decisive principle of IDMA system is implementation of user-specific interleavers  $\{\pi_k\}$  for the impetus of user separation in terms of respective data streams. Conventionally, it is also supposed that the interleavers are precipitated randomly and separately. The interleavers are utilized to disperse the coded sequences. Therefore the adjacent chips are approximately uncorrelated, which makes chip-by-chip detection process relatively facile and fast with smallest BER (Ping, 2005, Shukla, Srivastava *et al.*, 2010).

Succeeding the user-specific interleaver initiation, electrical to optical converter (E/O) is rightly utilized for accomplishing specific optical pulses. The electric field of mode locked laser can be stated as (Shukla, Gupta M. *et al.*, 2010),

$$E_{MLL} = e^{i\omega t} \sum_{k=0}^{k-1} e^{ik(\Delta\omega)t} \quad (1)$$

Where,  $k$  and  $\Delta\omega$  are designated as the number of modes and channel spacing between two consecutive modes in the mode locked laser (MLL) system respectively.

Additionally, the output of MLL system is modulated with interleaved data  $x_k(j)$  which is generally a simple on off keying (OOK) modulation. The transmitted data can be stated as:

$$E_{MLL} X_k(j) = X_k(j) e^{i\omega t} \sum_{k=0}^{k-1} e^{ik(\Delta\omega)t} \quad (2)$$

Where,  $x_k(j) \in (1, 0)$

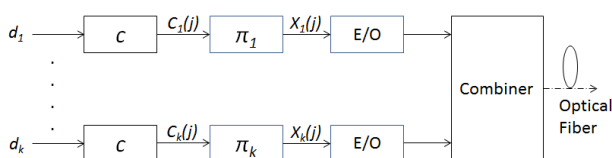


Figure-1. Transmitter structure of O-IDMA system.

### Low rate convolutional codes

Convolution codes are represented by three parameters  $n, l, k$ , where  $k$  represents the number of shift registers used in the encoding part (Hochwald, 1998). Where  $l$  represents the encoder's input. The coded sequence of  $n$  bits obtained after encoding not only

depends on the  $k$  bit information message but also on the previous information bits that is transmitted (Cox, 1994). In convolution codes decoding is done by using both hard decision method and soft decision method. For constraint length  $k < 5$ , Viterbi algorithm (Viterbi, 1990) is used and for  $k > 5$  MAP algorithm is used (Maiya, 2012). In this system, convolution encoder and decoder are implemented. Convolution encoder having shift registers (constraint length)  $k=2$  and  $k=3$  having code rate  $1/2$  and  $1/3$  is implemented.

Simple convolution encoders are shown in Figure-2 and Figure-3. In Figure-2 constraint length is 2 and adders are 3. The coding rate of this encoder is  $1/3$  because three adders are used in it. In Figure-3 constraint length is 2 and two adders are used in this encoder. Therefore coding rate is  $1/2$ . A bit is shifted into the leftmost stage at each input and the bits previously existing in the shift registers are shifted one position to right. After applying the modulo-2 operation corresponding outputs are obtained. This process is continuing until the arrival of data at the input of encoder. The choice of connection between the shift registers and adders describes the characteristics of code. To describe an encoder, set of ' $m$ ' connection vectors are required. These vectors have the same dimension as that of  $k$  (shift registers). These connections describe which shift register is connected with  $m$  adders. A value of '1' in the position demonstrates that particular shift register is connected to the adder and a '0' in given position indicate that no connection exists between the stage and adder.

For encoder shown in Figure-2, we can write the connection vector  $G_1$  and  $G_2$  and  $G_3$  as follows:

$$G_1 = [1 \ 0 \ 0] \quad G_2 = [1 \ 1 \ 0] \quad G_3 = [1 \ 1 \ 1]$$

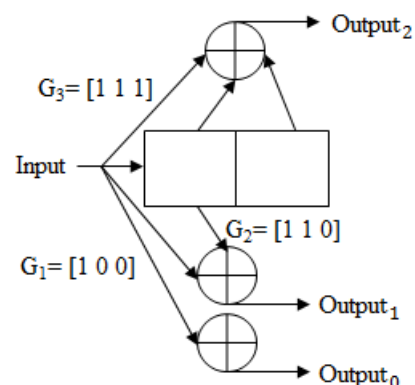
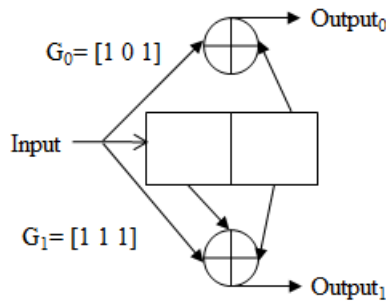


Figure-2. Convolution encoder with coding rate  $1/3$ .

For encoder shown in Figure-3, we can write the connection vector  $G_1$  and  $G_2$  as follows:

$$G_1 = [1 \ 0 \ 1] \quad G_2 = [1 \ 1 \ 1]$$



**Figure-3.**Convolution encoder with coding rate 1/2.

The output of encoder produces coded sequence  $c_k$  which is applied to an interleaver  $\pi_k$  and used for further processing.

### Communication channel of O-IDMA system

Pulse propagation in nonlinear optical fiber can be explained by using nonlinear Schrodinger equation (NLS).  $A(z,t)$  is denoted as the slowly varying envelope of an optical pulse propagating through nonlinear optical fiber. NSE can be written as [13],

$$\frac{\partial A(z,t)}{\partial z} + \beta_1 \frac{\partial A(z,t)}{\partial t} + \frac{j}{2} \frac{\partial^2 A(z,t)}{\partial t^2} = j\gamma A^2(z,t)A(z,t) - \frac{\alpha}{2} A(z,t) \quad (3)$$

Where,  $j = \sqrt{-1}$ ,  $t$  is time,  $\beta_1$  and  $\beta_2$  are the first and second derivatives of the propagation constant respectively,  $z$  is distance along the fiber,  $\alpha$  is the attenuation and  $\gamma$  is the non-linear coefficient (Agrawal *et al.*, 1989, Weideman *et al.*, 1986).

The Nonlinear Schrodinger equation (NLS) describing the pulse propagation  $A(z,t)$  in an optical fiber can be written as,

$$A_z = (L + N)A \quad (4)$$

Which, is the nonlinear partial differential equation,  $L$  and  $N$  are the linear and nonlinear operators, respectively. The properties influencing the optical system performance are fiber attenuation and dispersion (Sriwas *et al.*, 2016).

By using split step method the pulse propagation can also be expressed as

$$A_z = -\frac{\alpha}{2} A - i\frac{\beta}{2} A_n + i\gamma |A|^2 A \quad (5)$$

The linear part can be given in terms of attenuation and dispersion. The attenuation can be written as

$$\text{Attenuation} = e^{\frac{\alpha}{2} \times \frac{dz}{2}} \quad (6)$$

Where,  $\alpha$  is the attenuation factor.  $dz$  is split-step distance. The dispersion is expressed as,

$$\text{Dispersion} = e^{(\beta_1 \frac{w}{2} + \beta_2 \frac{w^2}{2} + \beta_3 \frac{w^3}{2}) \times \frac{dz}{2}} \quad (7)$$

For single mode fiber intermodal, or modal, dispersion equal to zero ( $\beta_1 = 0$ ),

$$\beta_2 = \frac{\lambda^2 \times D_1}{-2\pi c} \quad (8)$$

$$\beta_3 = \frac{1}{(-2\pi c)^2} (D_3 + \frac{2D_2}{\lambda_{ref}}) \lambda_{ref}^4 \quad (9)$$

Where,  $c$  is the velocity of light free space.  $D_2$  is the second order dispersion;  $D_3$  is the third order dispersion.

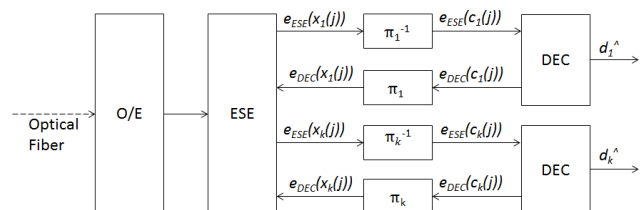
For long distance communication in optical fiber based system, the non-linear distortion is quite crucial parameter in addition to dispersion mechanism which, in a fiber, causes optical signal pulse to broaden as they travel along a fiber. If these pulses travel sufficiently far distance, they will eventually be bound to overlap with the neighbouring pulses, thereby creating errors in the receiver output. Hence, the signal distortion ultimately becomes responsible for limiting the information carrying capacity of a fiber. The nonlinearities are not significant at low power but dependent on the intensity of the signals. The nonlinear part can be given as

$$A_z = e^{\frac{2\pi n_2 I}{\lambda A_{eff}}} \times dz \quad (10)$$

Where,  $I = |\text{signal}|^2$ ,  $n_2$  is the nonlinear factor,  $A_{eff}$  is the effective cross-section core area of the fiber.

### Receiver model of O-IDMA system

Optical IDMA receiver is shown in Figure-4 which consist the optical to electrical converter (O/E), elementary signal estimator (ESE), de-interleavers ( $\pi^{-1}$ ), interleavers ( $\pi$ ) and decoders (DEC).



**Figure-4.** Receiver structure of O-IDMA system.

The role of optical receiver is to convert the optical signal back into electrical form and recover the transmitted data. The main component of optical receiver is a photodetector that converts light into electricity through the photoelectric effect. At the receiver front the avalanche photo detector (APD) is used (Agrawal, 2001). Optical detectors must have a wide bandwidth and sharp response to achieve the high bit-rate which is required by such a system. If the input power  $P_{in}$  launched at the input end of a fiber of length  $L$ , the output optical power  $P_{out}$  is given by (Agrawal, 2001)

$$P_{out} = P_{in} \exp(-\alpha L) \quad (11)$$



$\alpha$  can be written as in dB/km

$$\alpha \left( \frac{dB}{km} \right) = -\frac{10}{L} \log_{10} \left( \frac{P_{out}}{P_{in}} \right) \quad (12)$$

The Photo-current  $I_p$  generated by the detector is directly proportional to the incident optical power  $P_{in}$  and is given by

$$I_p = R P_{in} \quad (13)$$

Where,  $R$  is the responsivity of the photodetector (in units of A/W). The quantum efficiency  $\eta$  can be expressed in term of responsivity  $R$  as

$$\eta = \frac{\text{electron generation rate}}{\text{photon incidence rate}} = \frac{I_p/q}{P_{in}/h\nu} = \frac{h\nu}{q} \quad (14)$$

The responsivity in terms of gain and quantum efficiency is

$$I_p = \frac{G q \eta}{h \omega} P_{out} \quad (15)$$

Where,  $G$  and  $\eta$  are avalanche gain and the internal quantum efficiency respectively,  $h$  is Planck's constant ( $6628 \times 10^{-38}$  J/s), and  $\omega$  is the optical frequency,  $q$  is the electron charge ( $1.6 \times 10^{-19}$  C).

The probability that a specified number of photons are absorbed from an incident optical field by a PIN detector over a chip interval with is given by a Poisson distribution. The average number of absorbed photons over  $T_c$  is shown as

$$\lambda_s = \frac{\eta P_0}{h f} \quad (16)$$

Where,  $\lambda_s$  is the photon absorption rate,  $P_0$  is the received laser power.

After APD, receiver consists of an elementary signal estimator (ESE) and  $K$ , a posteriori probability (APP) decoders (DECs) (Cristea *et al.*, 2009, Mahadevappa *et al.*, 2002). The outputs of the ESE and DECs are extrinsic log-likelihood ratios (LLRs) about  $\{x_k(j)\}$  defined below

$$e_{ESE}(x_k(j)) \equiv \log \left( \frac{p_r(x_k(j)=+1)}{p_r(x_k(j)=-1)} \right) \quad (17)$$

Here,  $e_{ESE}(x_k(j))$  denotes the extrinsic *a posteriori* log-likelihood ratios (LLRs) produced by the decoding for user  $k$ .

The received signal  $r(j)$  at the ESE can be stated as,

$$r(j) = h_k x_k(j) + n(j) \quad (18)$$

Where,  $h_k$  denotes the channel coefficient for user  $k$  and  $n(j)$  denotes the noise sample. For a particular user  $k$ , the

equation (18) can be modified as (Ping *et al.*, 2006, Ping, 2005, Mahadevappa *et al.*, 2002).

$$r(j) = h_k x_k(j) + \xi_k(j) \quad (19)$$

Where,

$$\xi_k(j) \equiv r(j) - h_k x_k(j) = \sum_{k' \neq k} h_{k'} x_{k'}(j) + n(j) \quad (20)$$

Here,  $E(\cdot)$  and  $\text{Var}(\cdot)$  are the mean and variance functions respectively. The list the CBC detection algorithm as follows (with initialization  $e_{DEC}(x_k(j)) = 0, \forall k, j$ ).

The CBC algorithm (Ping *et al.*, 2006)

$$E(x_k(j)) = \tanh(e_{DEC}(\frac{x_k(j)}{2})) \quad (21)$$

$$\text{var}(x_k(j)) = 1 - (E(x_k(j)))^2 \quad (22)$$

$$E(\xi_k(j)) = \sum_{k' \neq k} h_{k'} E(x_{k'}(j)) \quad (23)$$

$$\text{var}(\xi_k(j)) = \sum_{k' \neq k} |h_{k'}|^2 \text{var}(x_{k'}(j)) + \sigma^2 \quad (24)$$

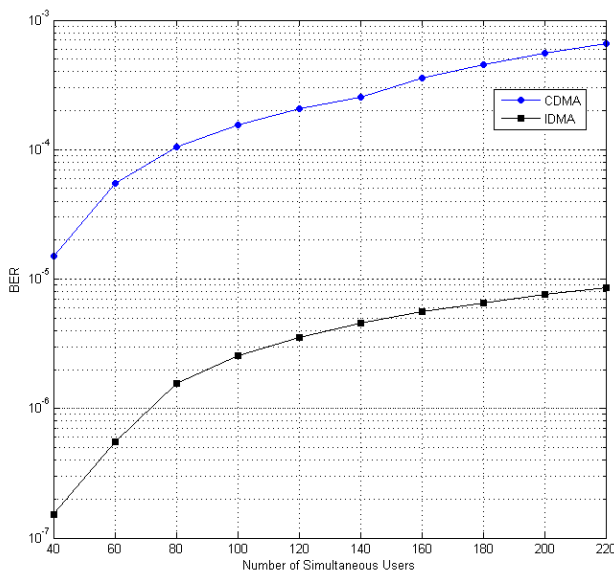
$$e_{ESE}(x_k(j)) = \frac{2hk}{\text{var}(\xi_k(j))} (r(j) - E(\xi_k(j))) \quad (25)$$

After the APP decoding process, further operations are performed in the DECs for generating the LLRs  $\{e_{DEC}(x_k(j)), \forall k, j\}$ . Now, again the iterations are repeated back to (21) for the next iteration, if required.

With count of iterations in the receiver, the accuracy of the decoded data increases however, it also increases the mathematical complexity and high power requirement at the receiver side. It has been perceived with numerous simulations that count of 15 iterations in the receiver section, are sufficient for recovery of any user-specific data. The BER vs. number of iteration are shown in figure 3 and explanation is in result and discussion section.

## RESULT AND DISCUSSIONS

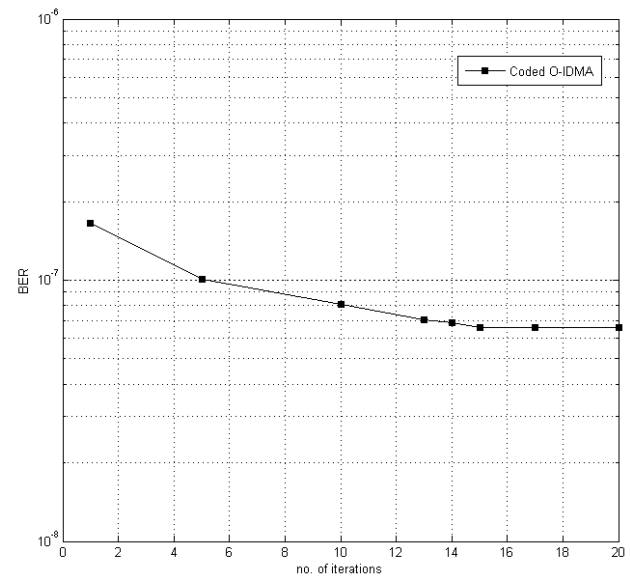
The performance of uncoded CDMA and uncoded IDMA in optical fiber channel is shown in Figure-5. The graph between BER vs. number of simultaneous users conforms that O-CDMA system did not have the required the BER while O-IDMA system have the required BER. As the no. of user increases the BER also increases proportionally but in O-CDMA the level of BER is high due to MAI and ISI while in O-IDMA the level of BER is low and desired to transmit the information. It is cleared here that the effect of MAI and ISI is reduced by using the IDMA in optical communication system and the utilization of bandwidth of optical fiber channel is more efficient and it is good for high data rate transmission.



**Figure-5.** Unencoded O-CDMA vs. unencoded O-IDMA.

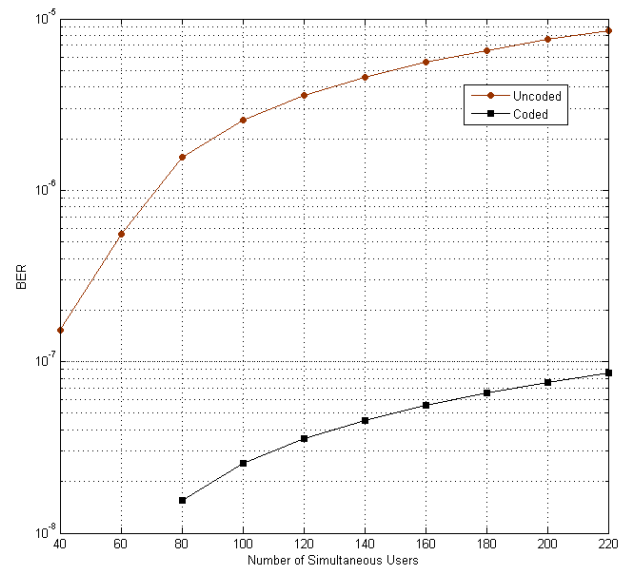
The variation in count of simultaneous users has been opted as parameter of performance during performance comparison to O-IDMA system. The performance evaluation has been carried out considering the optimal value of parameters with MATLAB environment. The bit error probability (BER) has been employed as essential tool for estimating the system accomplishment. During the simulation process, the spreading length has been chosen as 16, and the iterative number is set to be 15. With higher count of iterations in receiver section, the accuracy of user-specific data detection increases however it has been observed from figure 6 that with iteration count more than 15, no significant improvement in BER performance is observed. Further to note that with increment in iteration count, the complexity of receiver also increases.

For simulation purpose, the input data for each user is assumed to be same i.e. 2048 bits. Optical fiber has been operated with 155nm wavelength with maximum bit rate of 1Gbps capability. The transmitted power is chosen to be 1mW, while intensity dependent refractive index parameter is  $2.35 \times 10^{-20}$ . The responsivity and efficiency is 0.65 and 0.80 respectively. The input signal at optical fiber is in the form of a Gaussian pulses and ON-OFF keying (OOK) modulation is used for pulse transmission. The interleaving mechanism opted for user separation is taken to be based on random interleavers since random interleavers are easy to generate and computational complexities is low at the receiver end.



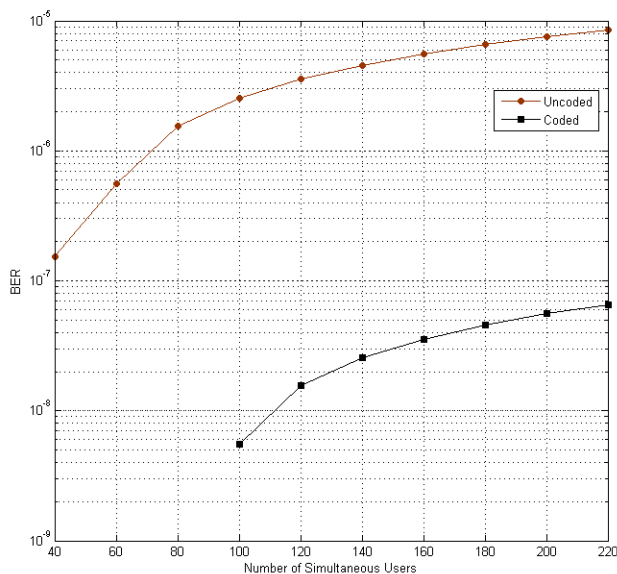
**Figure-6.** Count of iterations vs. BER.

The BER performance of O-IDMA system using simultaneous users for convolution codes is demonstrated in Figure-7 with 1/3 coding rate and in Figure-8 with 1/2 coding rate. The simulation results display that, in unencoded O-IDMA, there is zero BER before 40 users while in case of 1/3 convolution coded Optical IDMA system, the error is zero up to 80 users. Moreover, Figure-8 displays convolution coded Optical IDMA with coding rate 1/2, no error is observed up to 100 users.



**Figure-7.** Performance of rate 1/3 coded O-IDMA system.





**Figure-8.** Performance of rate 1/2 coded O-IDMA system.

It is evident from Figure-7 and Figure-8 that the convolution coded O-IDMA scheme produces better BER as compared to the uncoded Optical IDMA scheme with random interleavers. Therefore convolution coded Optical IDMA system can support the higher number of simultaneous users as compared to the uncoded Optical IDMA scheme.

## CONCLUSIONS

In this paper, the essential requirement O-IDMA communication system has been justified by comparison of O-IDMA vs. O-CDMA and describes the complete system. In addition to it, the performance of the O-IDMA system using low rate convolution code has also been demonstrated. It has been observed from the simulations that the convolution coded O-IDMA system has better system performance and may support higher count of simultaneous users as compared to uncoded system in comparison to its counterpart i.e. O-CDMA system. The coding rate is an important parameter for convolutional encoder with O-IDMA system and with appropriate coding rate, the performance can further be improved.

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