

Fundamental Limits in Asynchronous Communication

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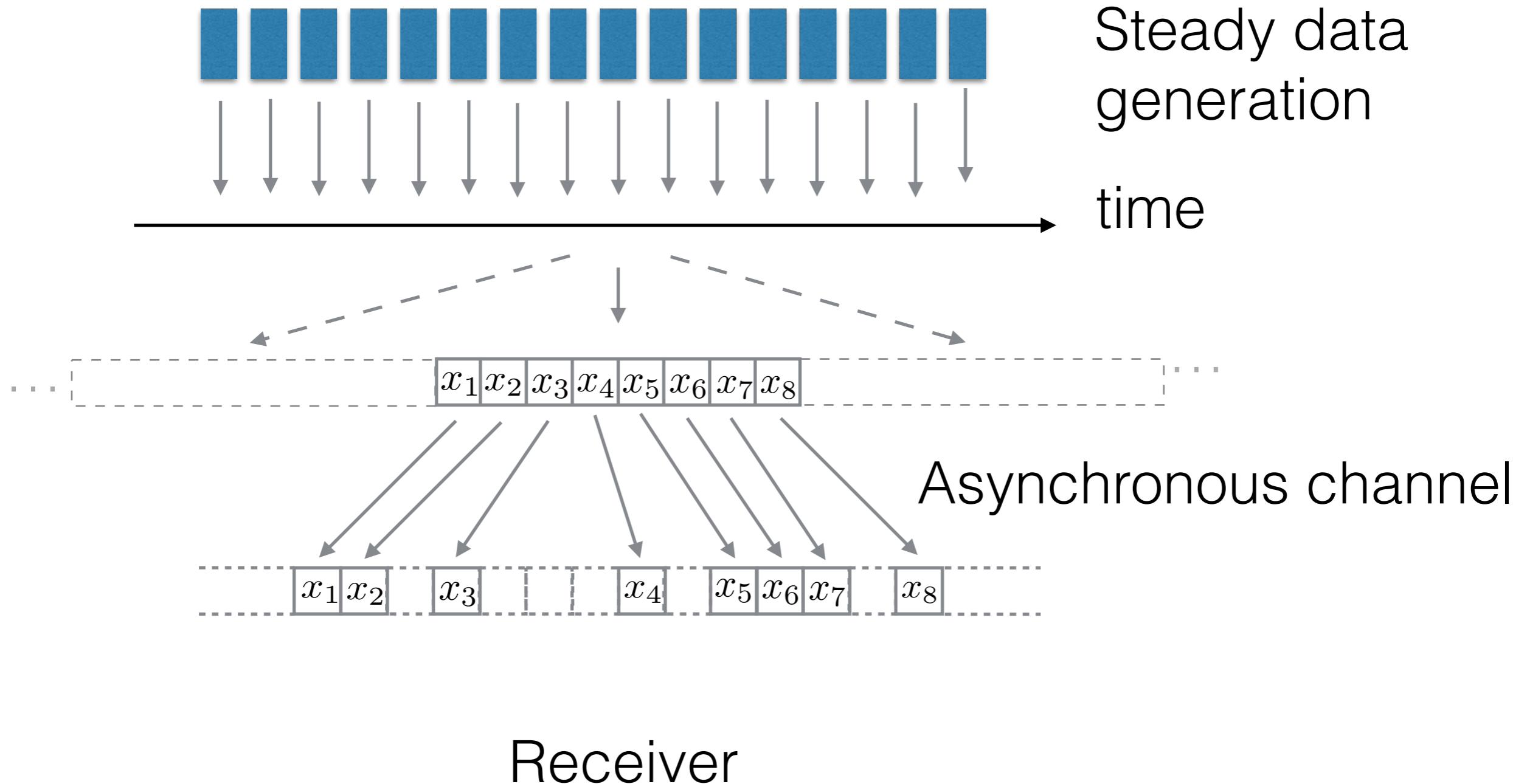
What is asynchronism?

“When timing of information transmission is unknown to the receiver.”

Why important?

Because virtually all communication systems are a priori asynchronous.

Channel burstiness



Channel burstiness: models

Insertion-deletion-substitution channel (Dobrushin 1967)

$$W(\mathbf{y}|x), \quad x \in \mathcal{X}, \mathbf{y} \in \mathcal{Y}^*$$

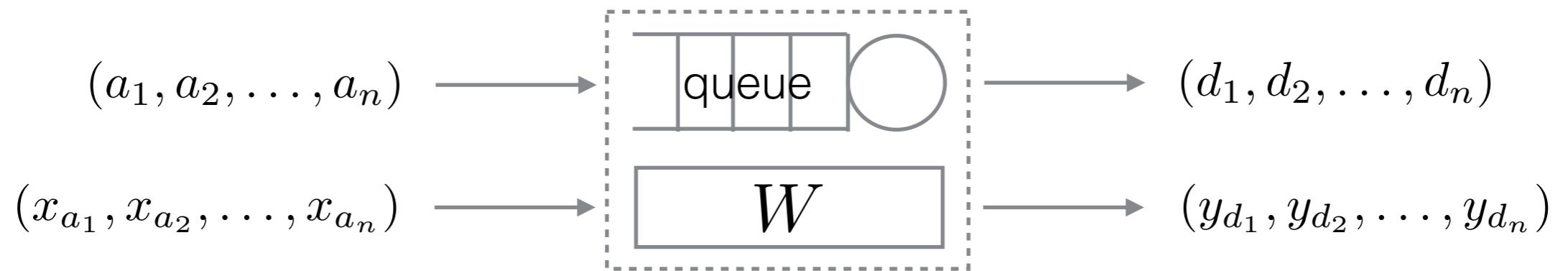
Channel coding theorem exists:

$$C = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{1}{n} \max_{\mathbf{X}^n} I(X^n; \mathbf{Y}^n)$$

but no known single letter expression, even for the purely deletion channel (Kanoria-Montanari 2013).

assumes that positions are known

Timing channels (Anantharam-Verdù 1996)

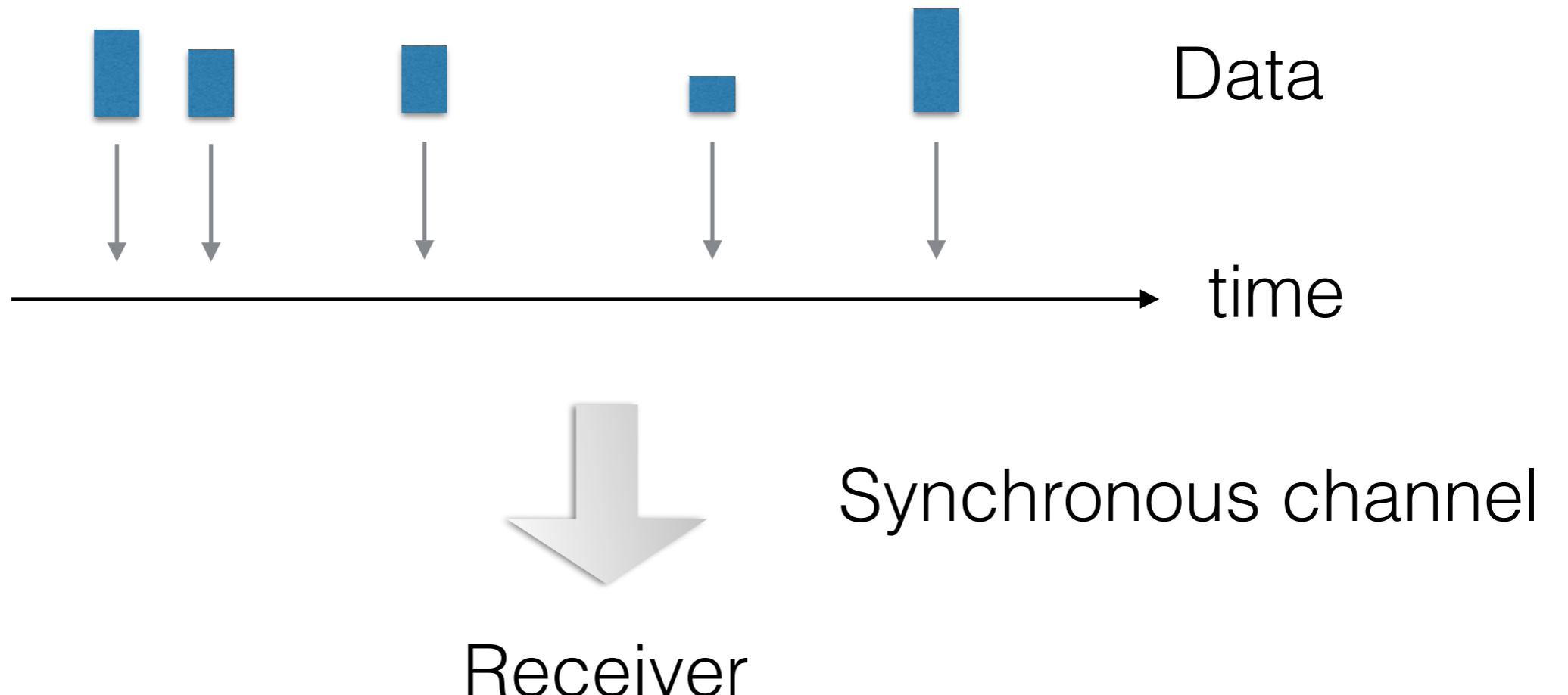


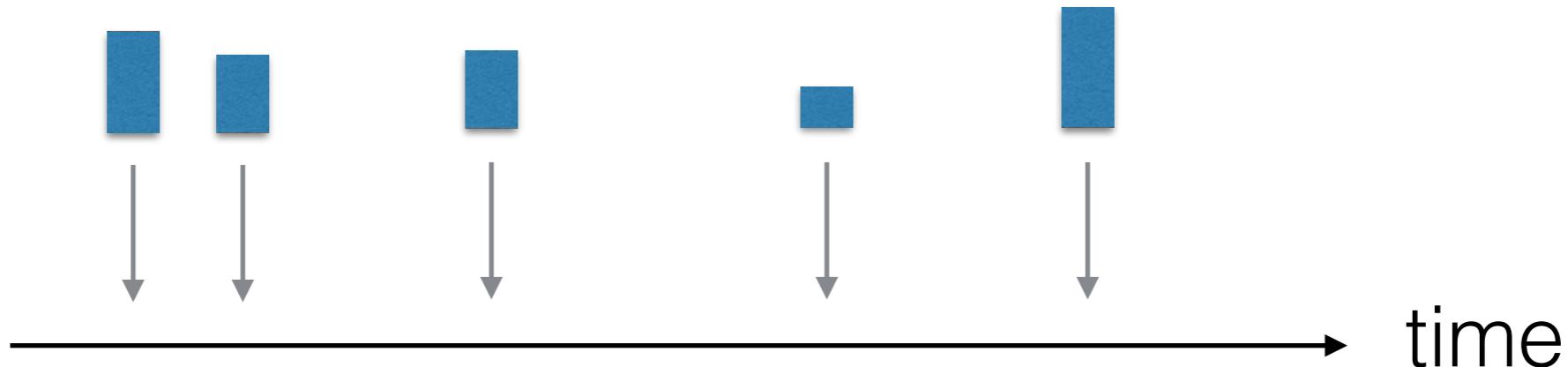
Timing information embedded into $a_{i+1} - a_i$ and $d_{i+1} - d_i$.

Well understood for exponential service, less so for other service times.

this tutorial will focus mostly on one type of asynchronism, here we briefly review other setups

Source burstiness

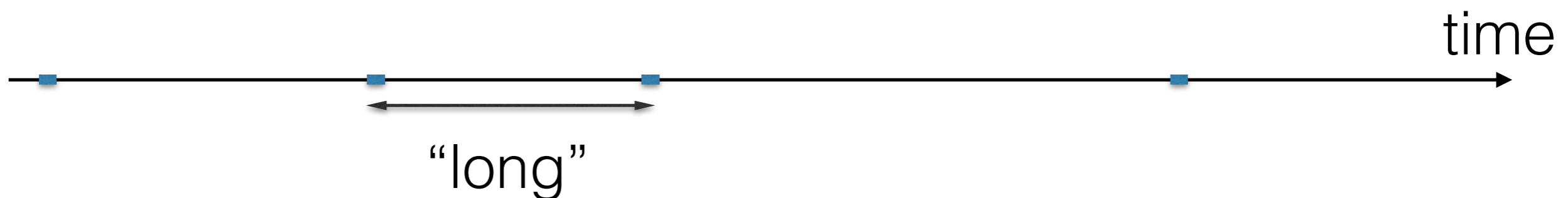




Small amounts of data because

- sources produces small amounts of data
- limited resources for transmission (energy harvesting systems, Ulukus et al. 2015)

This tutorial: source burstiness



- Packets sent once in a “long” while
- Fundamental limits (bits/channel use or /joule)?
- Efficient communication strategies?

Roadmap

- Preliminaries
- Detection
- Capacity & capacity per unit cost
- Receiver sampling constraint
- Finite length analysis

Preliminaries

Channel

- $W = \{W(y|x), x \in \mathcal{X}, y \in \mathcal{Y}\}$ DMC
- X input random variable to channel W
- Y output random variable to channel W

Hence if $X \sim P$ then $(X, Y) \sim PW = P(\cdot)W(\cdot|\cdot)$

Notation

$$W_a = W(\cdot|a) \quad Y_a \sim W_a$$

$$D(Y_a||Y_b) = D(W(\cdot|a)||W(\cdot|b)) = \sum_y W(y|a) \log \frac{W(y|a)}{W(y|b)}$$

Typicality

- empirical distribution: $\hat{P}_{x^n}(a) = \frac{1}{n} |\{i : x_i = a\}|$
- typical sequence: $x^n \in T(V)$ if $||\hat{P}_{x^n} - V||_1 = \begin{cases} o(1) \\ \omega(1/\sqrt{n}) \end{cases}$
- if X^n i.i.d. P then $Pr(X^n \in T(P)) = 1 - o(1)$

$$Pr(X^n \in T(V)) \doteq 2^{-nD(V||P)}$$

where $D(V||P) = \sum_x V(x) \log \frac{V(x)}{P(x)}$

$$a_n \doteq b_n \equiv \log \frac{a_n}{b_n} \xrightarrow{n \rightarrow \infty} 0$$

Typicality (cont.)

Hence, if (X^n, Y^n) i.i.d. PW

then $Pr((X^n, Y^n) \in T(J)) \doteq 2^{-nD(J||PW)}$

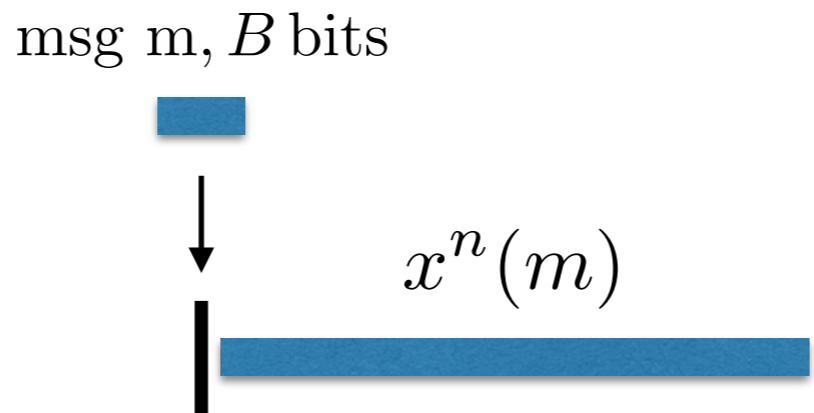
and if (X^n, Y^n) i.i.d. PW_a

then $Pr((X^n, Y^n) \in T(J)) \doteq 2^{-nD(J||P,W_a)}$

where

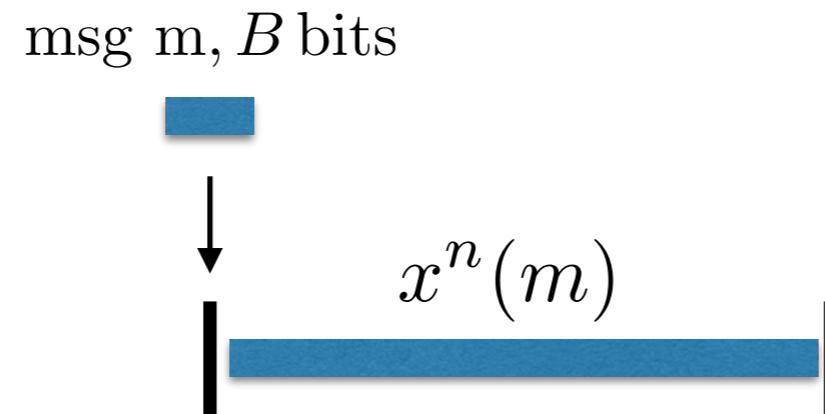
$$D(J||P, W_a) = \sum_{x,y} J(x, y) \log \frac{J(x, y)}{P(x)W(y|a)}$$

Energy-limited synchronous communication



- Input cost: $x \mapsto k(x) \in \mathbb{R}_+$
- Encoding: $m \mapsto x^n(m)$
- Cost for sending m : $k(x^n(m)) \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \sum_{i=1}^n k(x_i(m))$
- Channel: $x \longrightarrow Y \sim W(\cdot|x)$
- Decoding: $\hat{m}(Y^n)$

Energy-limited synchronous communication

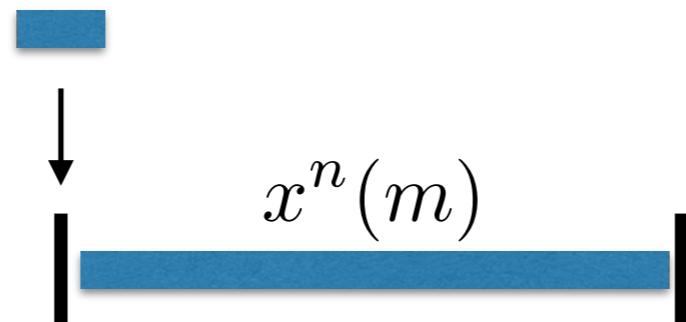


$$\mathbf{R} = \frac{B}{\max_m k(x^n(m))} \text{ bits/joule}$$

\mathbf{R} achievable if $Pr(\hat{m} \neq m) \xrightarrow{n \rightarrow \infty} 0$

$$\mathbf{C}_{\text{sync.}} = \sup\{\text{achievable } \mathbf{R}\}$$

msg m, B bits



Theorem (Gallager, Verdú, late 80's)

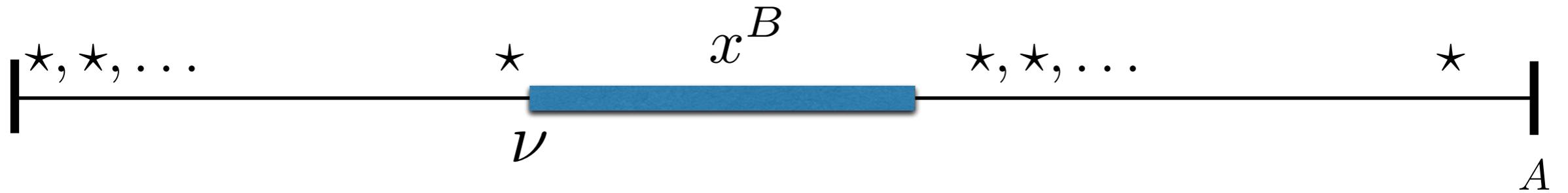
$$C_{\text{sync.}} = \max_X \frac{I(X; Y)}{\mathbb{E} k(X)}$$

If there exists a zero cost symbol

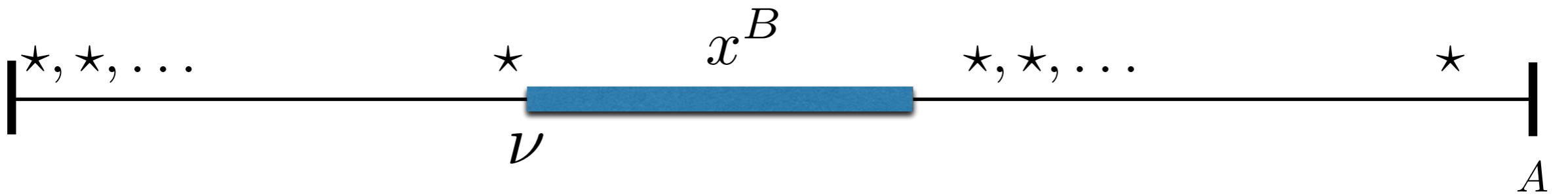
$$C_{\text{sync.}} = \max_x \frac{D(Y_x || Y_0)}{k(x)}$$

Detection

Detection

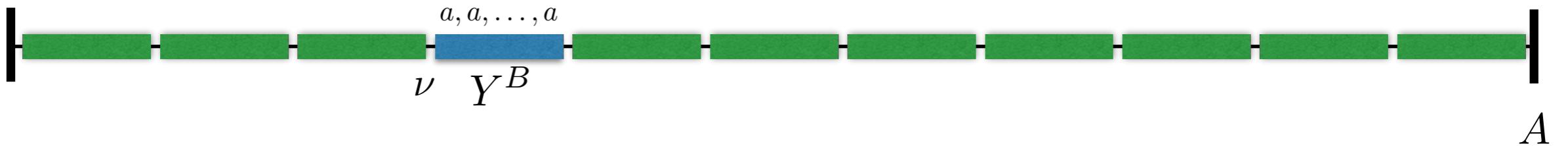


- Single message x^B
- Sent at random time $\nu \sim \{1, 2, \dots, A\}$ across W
- Receiver: $Y^B \sim W_{x^B}$ over $\{\nu, \nu + 1, \dots, \nu + B - 1\}$ and $Y \sim W_\star$ otherwise.



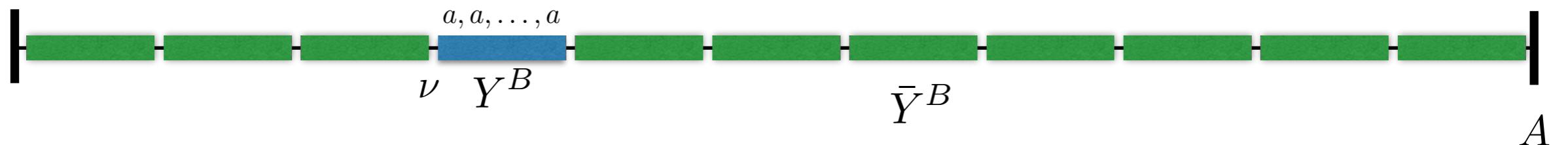
- Given Y^{A+B-1} produce estimate $\hat{\nu}(Y^{A+B-1})$ of ν
- Largest A for which $Pr(\hat{\nu} \neq \nu) \xrightarrow{B \rightarrow \infty} 0$?
- Optimal x^B ?

A natural scheme



- Suppose slotted model, i.e., receiver knows $\nu \bmod B$
- Suppose $x^B = a, a, \dots, a$
- Declare $\hat{\nu}$ such that $Y_{\hat{\nu}}^{\hat{\nu}+B-1}$ is W_a -typical

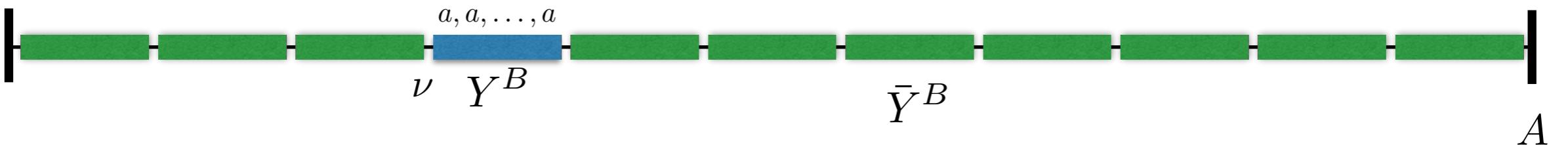
Analysis



$$\begin{aligned} P(\hat{\nu} \neq \nu) &\leq P(\text{miss detection}) + P(\text{false-alarm}) \\ &= P(Y_\nu^{\nu+B-1} \notin T(W_a)) + (A/B)P(\bar{Y}^B \in T(W_a)) \end{aligned}$$

where \bar{Y}^B is i.i.d. $\sim W_*$

Analysis



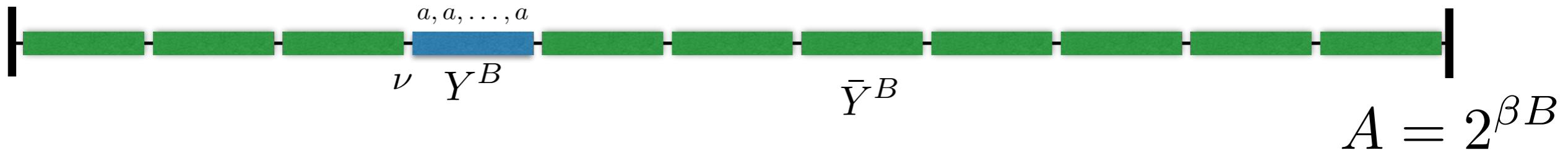
$$P(Y_\nu^{\nu+B-1} \notin T(W_a)) = o(1)$$

$$Pr(\bar{Y}^B \in T(W_a)) \doteq 2^{-BD(Y_a||Y_\star)}$$

$$\Rightarrow (A/B)P(\bar{Y}^B \in T(W_a)) = o(1)$$

if $A = 2^{\beta B}$ with $\beta < D(Y_a||Y_\star)$

Analysis



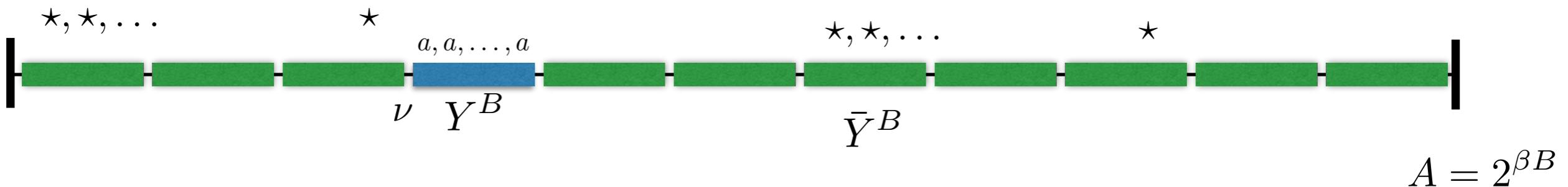
Hence $Pr(\hat{\nu} \neq \nu) = o(1)$ as $B \rightarrow \infty$

if $A = 2^{\beta B}$ with $\beta < D(Y_a || Y_\star)$

largest β : $\beta_o = \max_a D(Y_a || Y_\star)$

which corresponds to $\bar{a} = \arg \max_a D(Y_a || Y_\star)$

All observations?



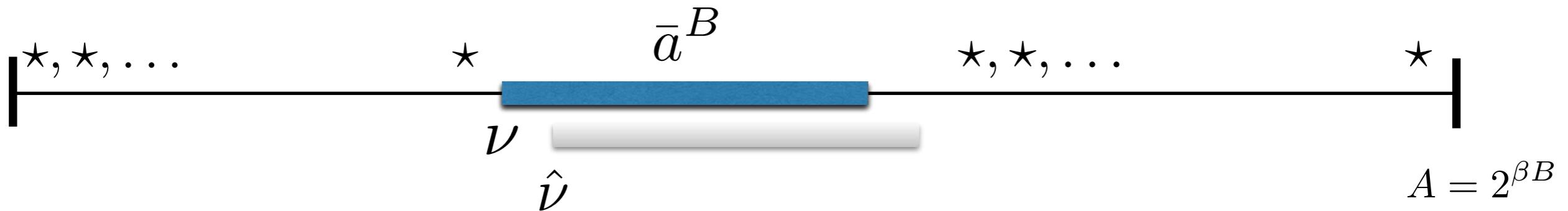
Sliding window sequential detection:

$$\tau = \min\{t \geq 1 : Y_t^{t+B-1} \in T(W_{\bar{a}})\}$$

achieves same performance as non-sequential.

Non-slotted model ?

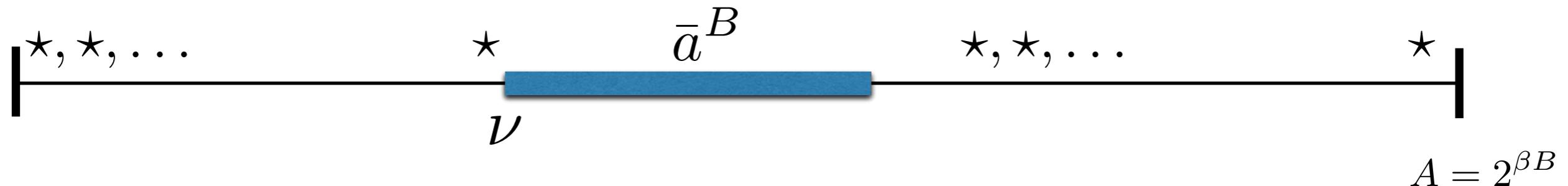
Slotted model guarantees “pure hypothesis”



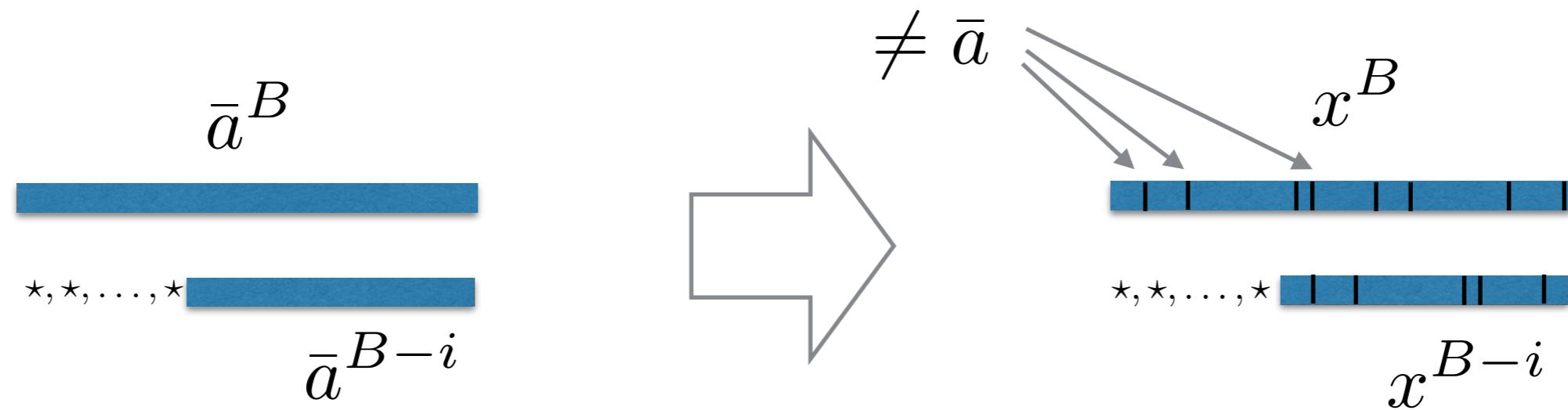
If non-slotted

$$\Pr(|\hat{\nu} - \nu| \geq 1) = \Theta(1) !$$

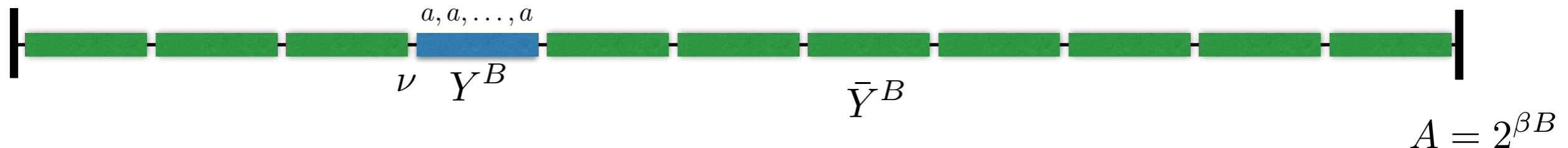
Non-slotted model?



Modify \bar{a}^B slightly to get low autocorrelation;
Hamming distance with any of its shift is $\Theta(B)$.

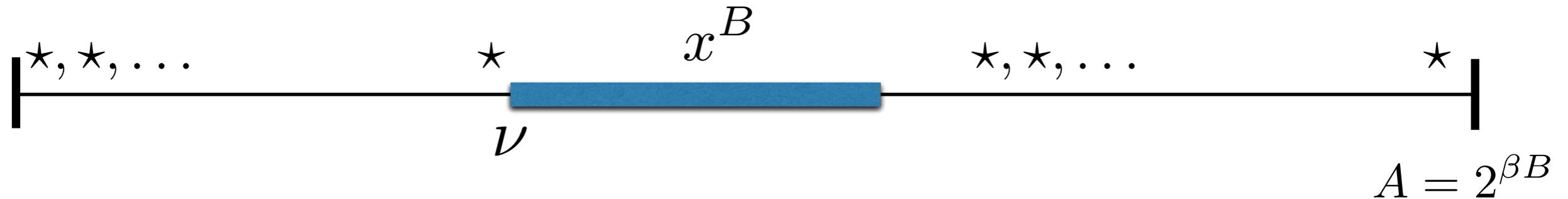


$\beta > \beta_o$: converse (intuition)



- Assume $x^B = a^B$
- Reveal $\nu \bmod B$
- Typicality decoding \approx MAP (can be shown)
 - █: $Pr(Y^B \in T(W_a)) = 1 - o(1)$
 - █: $Pr(\bar{Y}^B \in T(W_a)) \doteq 2^{-B D(Y_a || Y_\star)}$
- $Pr(\text{false-alarm}) \doteq 2^{-B(D(Y_a || Y_\star) - \beta)}$
- Non constant x^B , no gain (can be shown).

Summary



Theorem (Chandar-T-Wornell 2008):

$$\Pr(\hat{\nu} \neq \nu) = o(1) \text{ as } B \rightarrow \infty$$

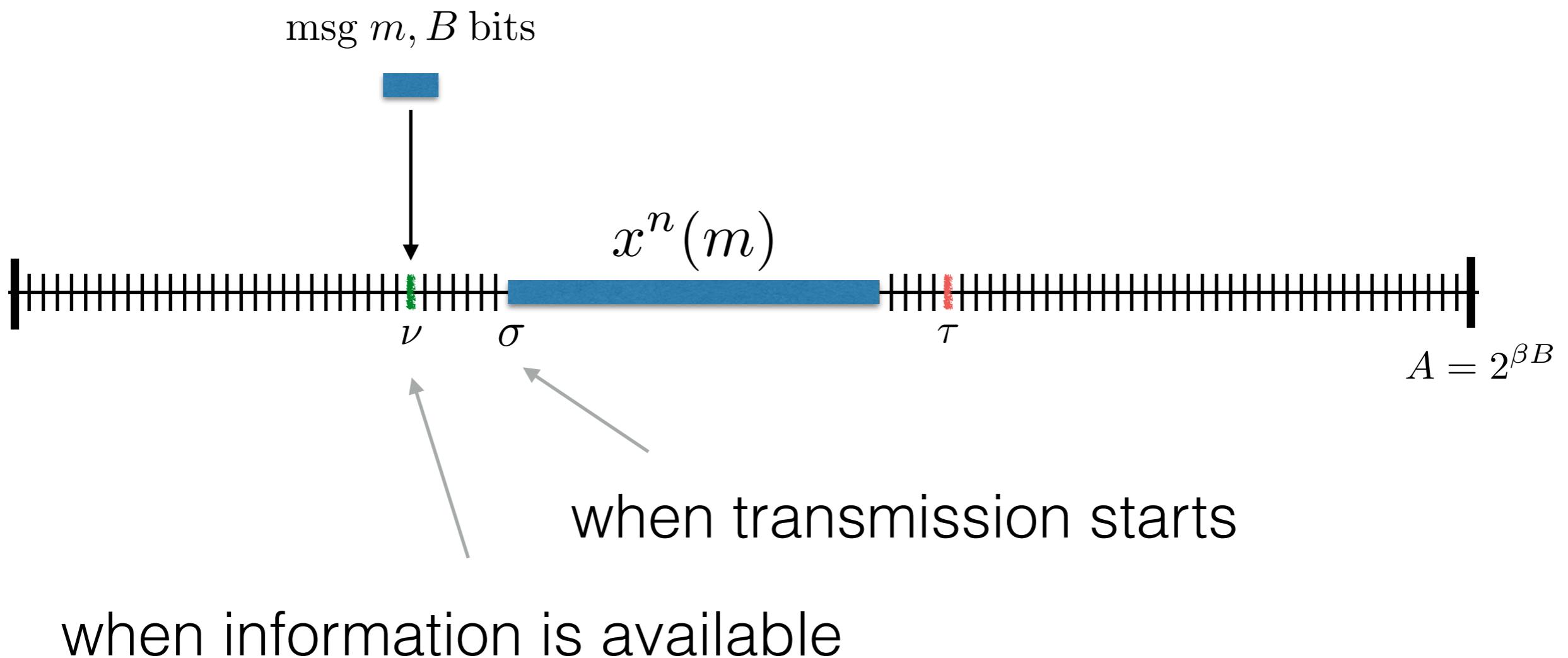
$$\text{iff } A = 2^{\beta B} \text{ with } \beta < \max_a D(Y_a || Y_\star)$$

Optimal rule:

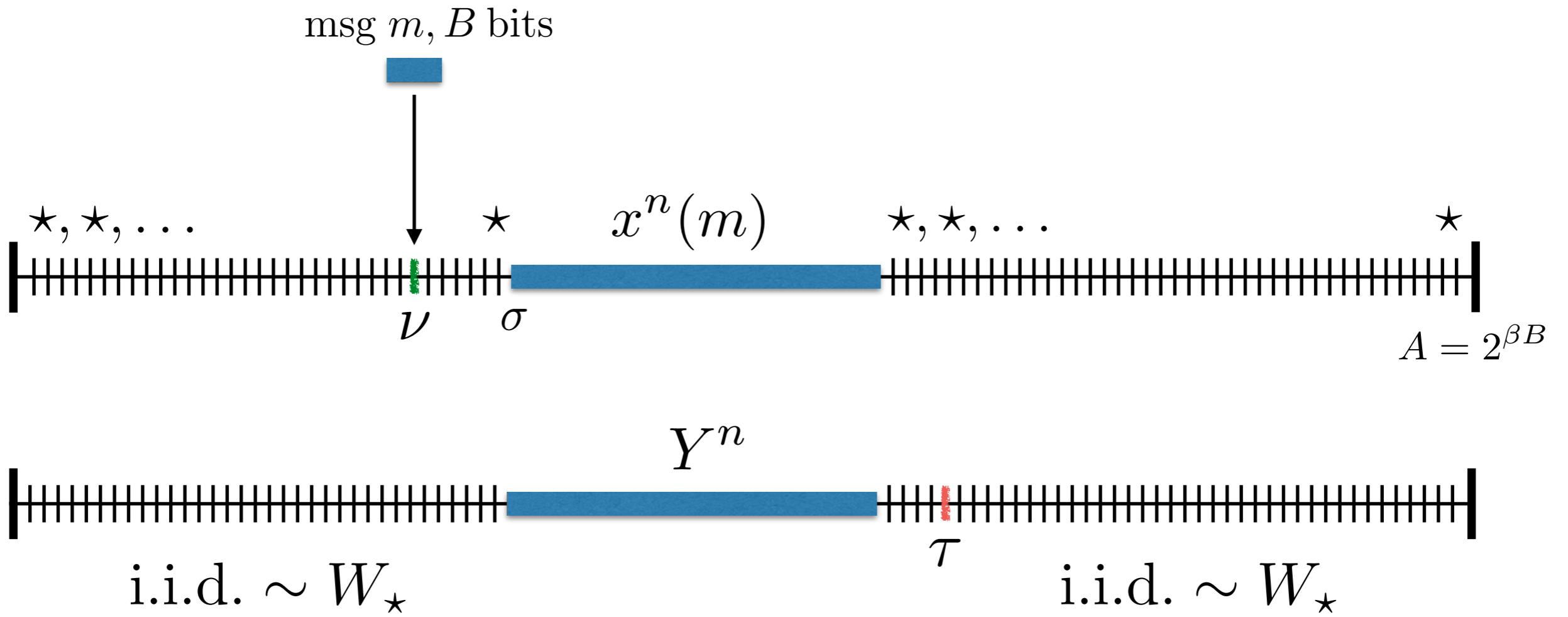
$$\tau = \min\{t \geq 1 : Y_t^{t+B-1} \in T(W_{x^B})\}$$

Information transmission

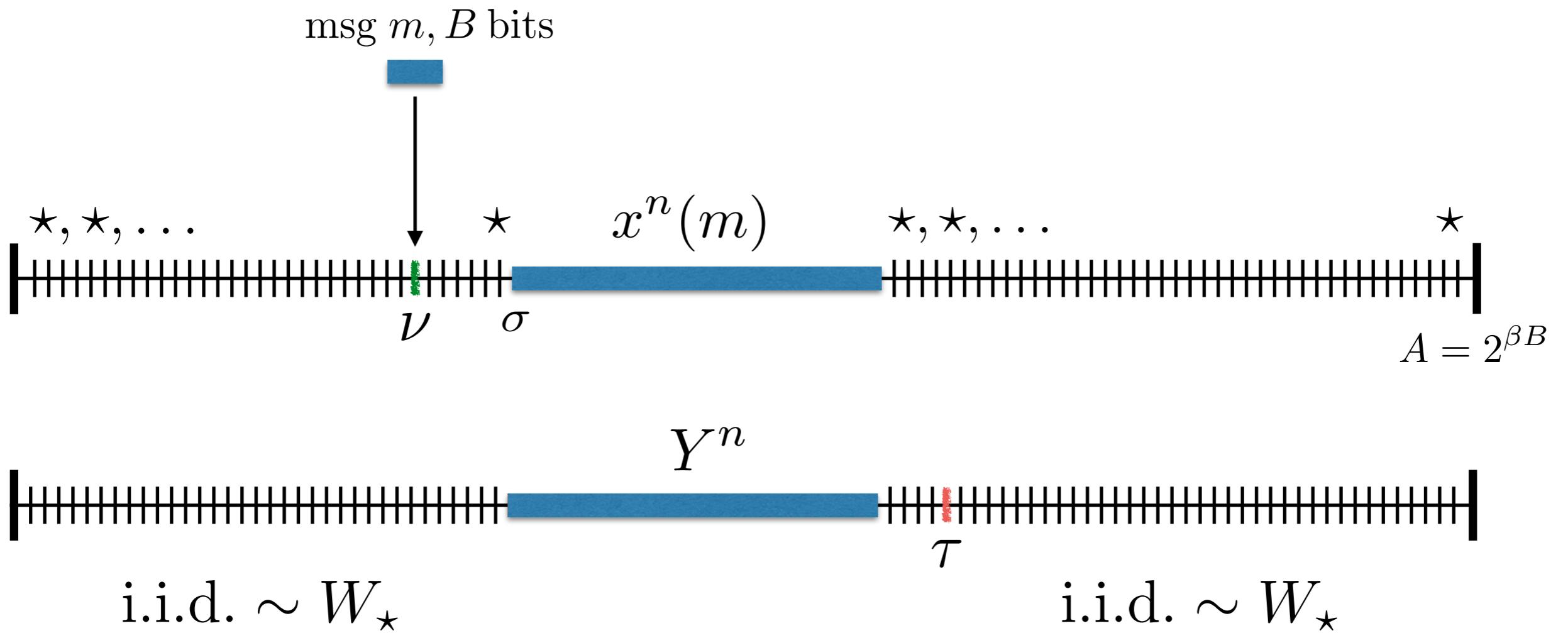
Bursty communication model



Information transmission



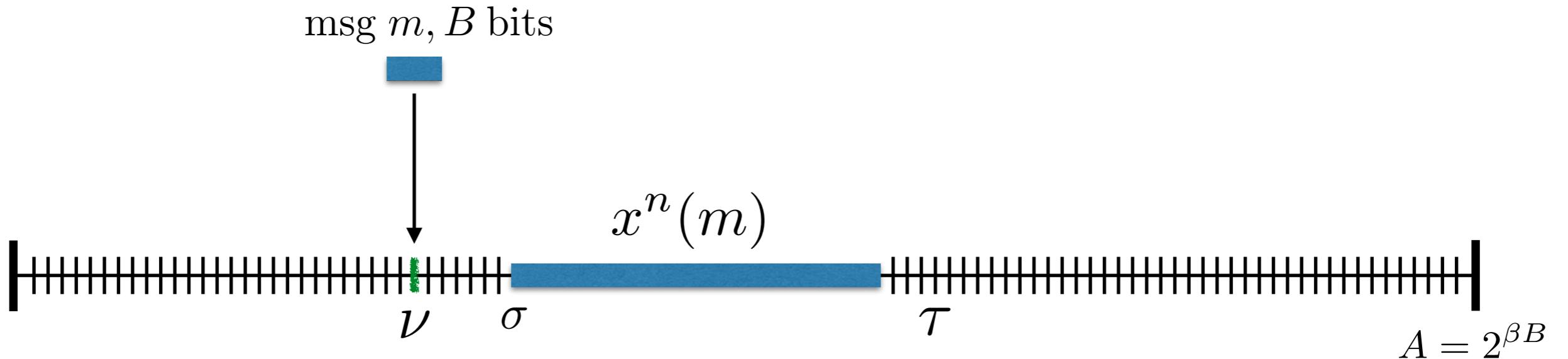
Delay constraint (for a meaningful problem):
given d we want $Pr(\tau - \nu \leq d) = 1 - o(1)$.



$$C(A, d) ?$$

How does it compare with $C = \max_X I(X; Y)$?

Small delay capacity

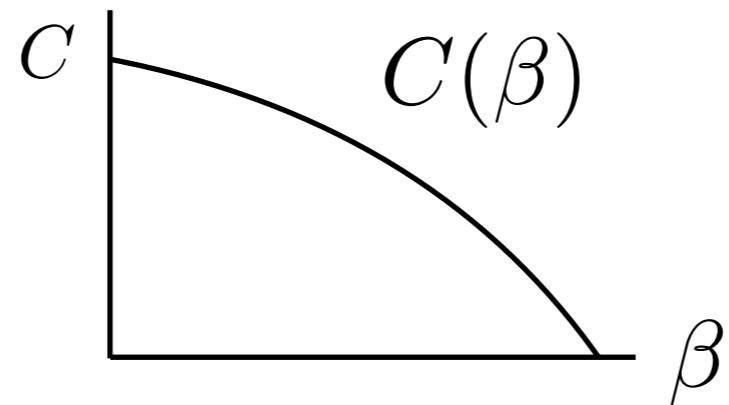


Theorem (Chandar-T-Tse 2013):

- $C(\beta, d = 2^{o(B)}) = \max_X \min \left\{ I(X; Y), \frac{D(XY||X, Y_\star)}{1 + \beta} \right\}$
- $d_{\min}(\beta) = \frac{B}{\max_{X \in \mathcal{P}_\beta} I(X; Y)}$

where \mathcal{P}_β is the set of inputs that achieve $C(\beta, \delta = 0)$.

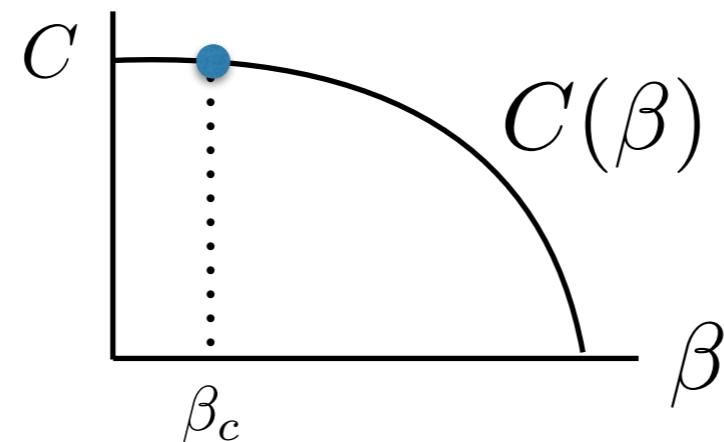
Remark



$$C(\beta, d = 2^{o(B)}) = \max_X \min \left\{ I(X; Y), \frac{D(XY || X, Y_\star)}{1 + \beta} \right\}$$

$$\Rightarrow C(\beta, d = 2^{o(B)}) \leq C$$

Remark (cont.)



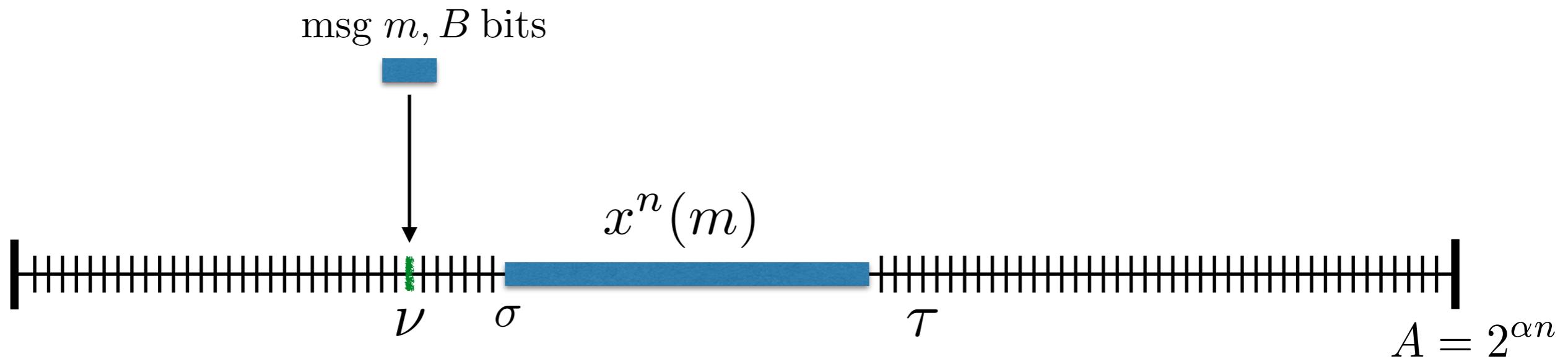
$$C(\beta, d = 2^{o(B)}) = \max_X \min \left\{ I(X; Y), \frac{D(XY||X, Y_\star)}{1 + \beta} \right\}$$

$$\beta_c = \sup\{\beta : C(\beta) = C\} > 0$$

iff (unique) capacity achieving output \tilde{Y} of sync channel differs from Y_\star since

$$\begin{aligned} D(XY||X, Y_\star) &= I(X; Y) + D(\tilde{Y}||Y_\star) \\ &= C + \underbrace{D(\tilde{Y}||Y_\star)}_{>0} \end{aligned}$$

Small delay capacity: alternative scaling



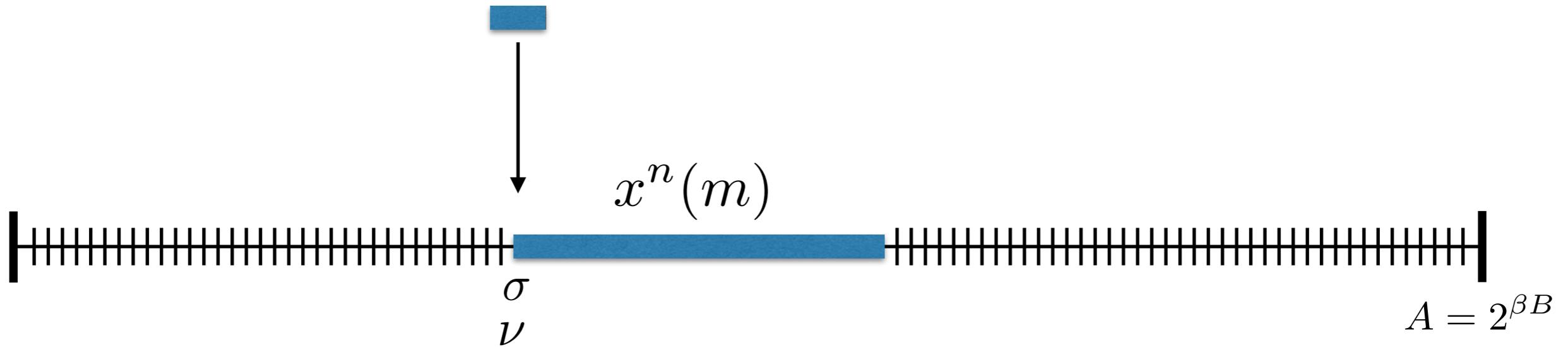
$$A = 2^{\beta B} = 2^{\alpha n} \Leftrightarrow \alpha = \beta R$$

Theorem (Chandar-T-Tse 2013):

- $C(\alpha, d = 2^{o(n)}) = \max_{X: D(Y||Y_\star) \geq \alpha} I(X; Y)$
- $d_{\min}(\alpha) = n$

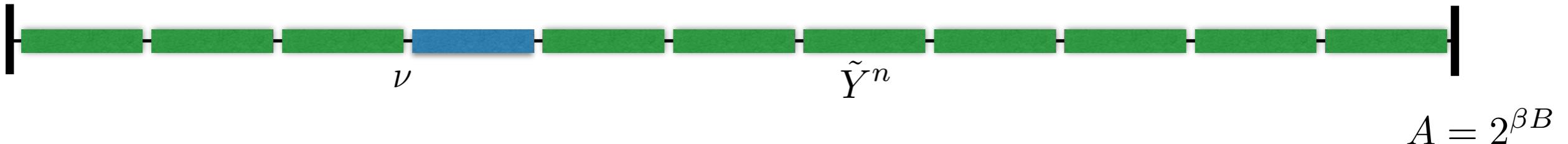
Achievability

msg m, B bits



- $\{x^n(m)\}$ i.i.d. $P, \sigma = \nu$
- $\tau = \min\{t \geq 1 : \exists m \text{ s.t. } (x^n(m), Y_{t-n+1}^t) \in T(PW)\}$

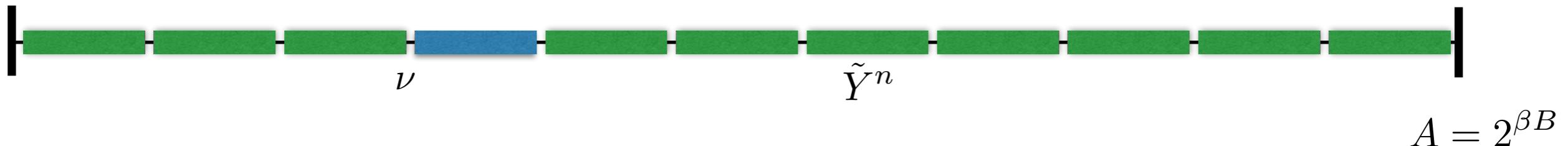
Simplified analysis (slotted)



Assume $m = 1$ is sent

- $P((X^n(1), Y^n) \in T(PW)) = 1 - o(1)$
- $P((X^n(2), Y^n) \in T(PW)) \doteq 2^{-nD(XY||X,Y)}$
- $P((X^n(2), \tilde{Y}^n) \in T(PW)) \doteq 2^{-nD(XY||X,Y_\star)}$

Simplified analysis (slotted)



Hence $Pr(\text{error}) \rightarrow 0$ if

■ $2^{nR} 2^{-nD(XY||X,Y)} = o(1)$

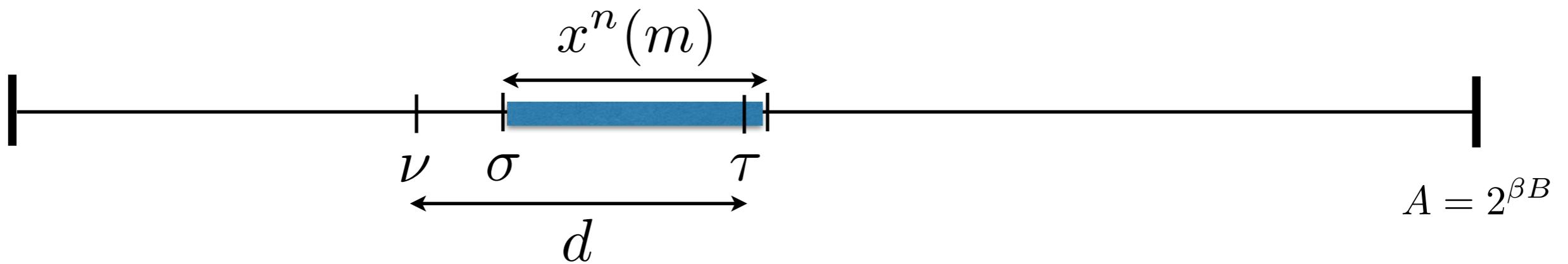
■ $(A/n) 2^{nR} 2^{-nD(XY||X,Y_\star)} \doteq 2^{-n(D(XY||X,Y_\star)-R(1+\beta))} = o(1)$

i.e. $R < D(XY||X,Y) = I(X;Y)$

$$R(1 + \beta) < D(XY||X,Y_\star) \quad \#$$

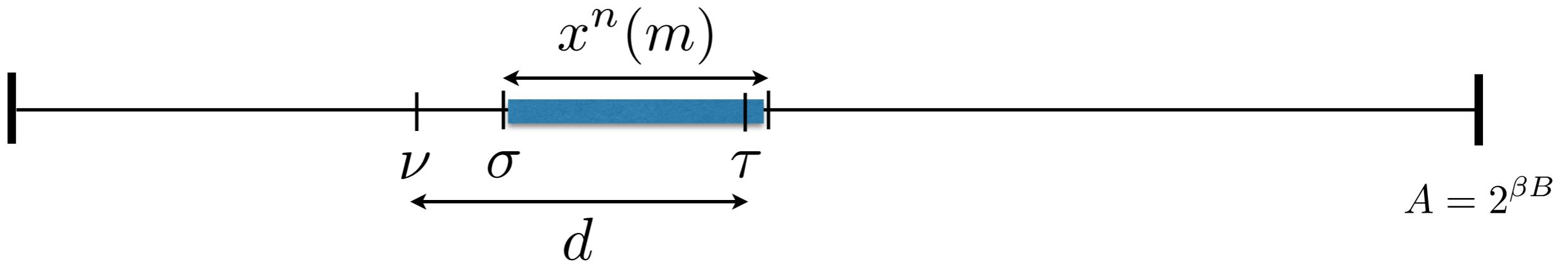
$$\Rightarrow C(\beta, \delta = 0) \geq \max_X \min \left\{ I(X;Y), \frac{D(XY||X,Y_\star)}{1 + \beta} \right\}$$

Converse: intuition (small delay, $\delta = 0$)



- Effective output process: pure noise from $\nu + d$ onwards
- Differs from real output process when $\sigma + n > \tau + d$
- Reveal effective output process to receiver

Converse: intuition ($\delta = 0$)



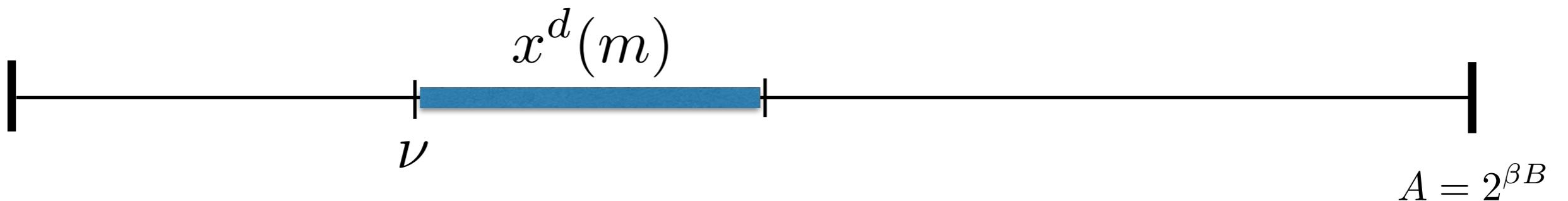
Consider extended codewords: symbols sent from ν to $\nu + d$



$$\nu + d \geq \sigma + n$$

$$\nu + d < \sigma + n$$

Converse: intuition ($\delta = 0$)



Without essential loss of generality assume $\{x^d(m)\}$ is of constant composition P .

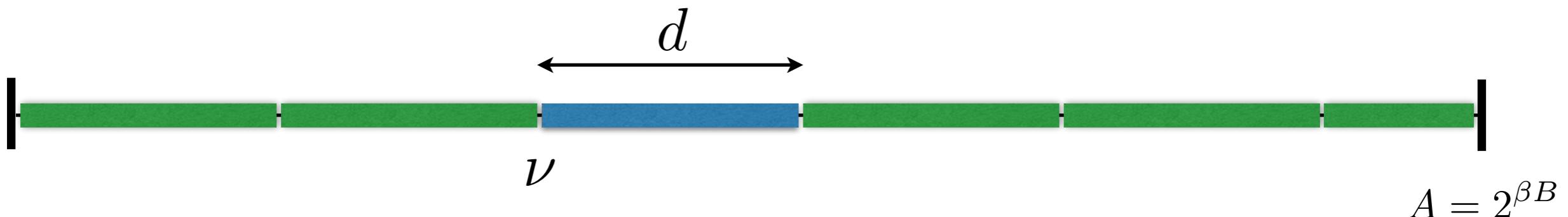
From synchronous communication:

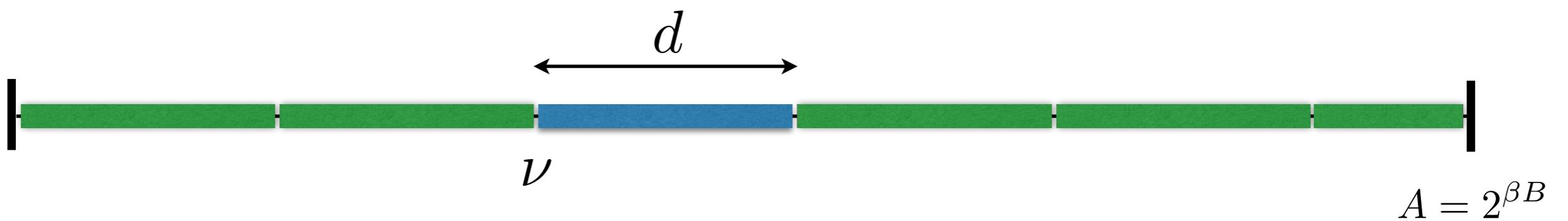
$$\tilde{R} = \frac{\log M}{d} \leq I(X; Y) \quad \text{with } X \sim P$$

Converse (cont.)

Decoding delay implies the receiver can locate codeword

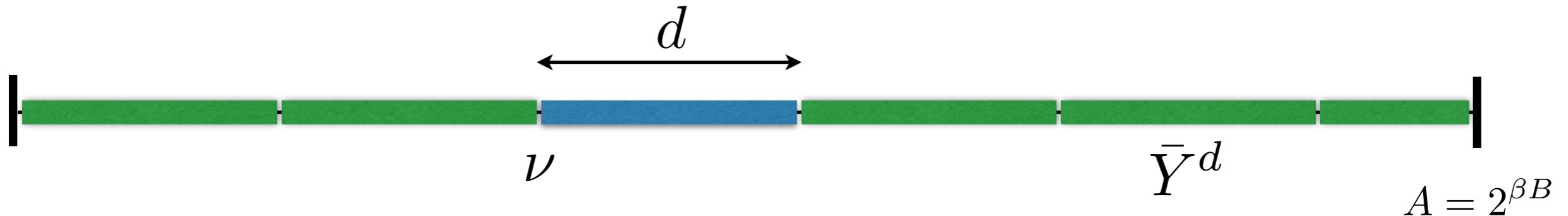
- Reveal effective output process to receiver
- Reveal $\nu \bmod d$
- Ask receiver to detect and isolate sent codeword





Topic-decoding is essentially optimal (can be shown).

Typic-decoding error probability



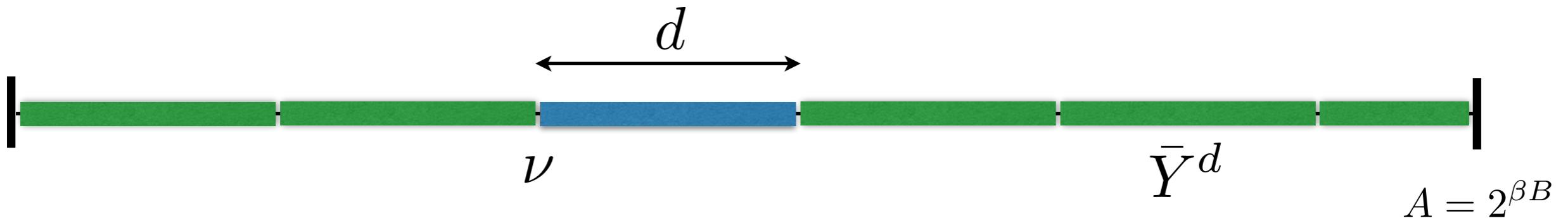
Assuming $m = 1$ is sent:

- $P((X^d(1), Y^d) \in T(PW)) = 1 - o(1)$
- $P((X^d(2), Y^d) \in T(PW)) \doteq 2^{-dD(XY||X,Y)}$
- $P((X^d(2), \bar{Y}^d) \in T(PW)) \doteq 2^{-dD(XY||X,Y_\star)}$

Union bound over msg: $\tilde{R} \leq D(XY||X,Y) = I(X;Y)$

Union bound over msg/slots: $\tilde{R}(1 + \beta) \leq D(XY||X,Y_\star)$

Typic-decoding error probability



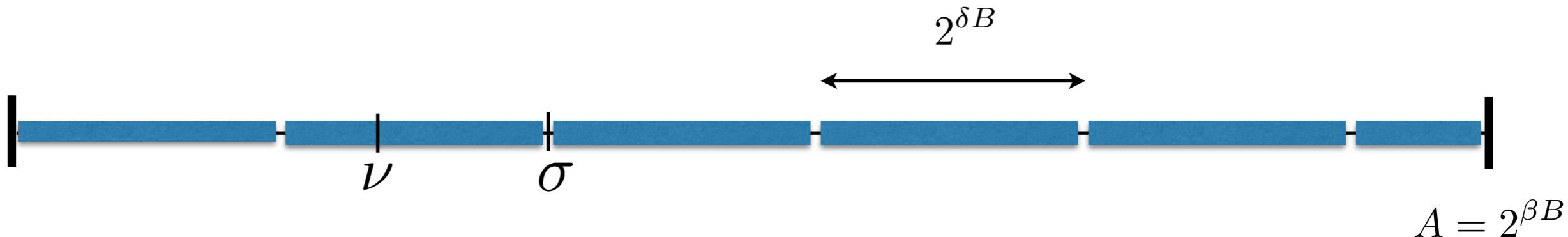
$$\tilde{R} \leq D(XY||X, Y) = I(X; Y)$$

$$\tilde{R}(1 + \beta) \leq D(XY||X, Y_\star)$$

$$\Leftrightarrow \tilde{R} \leq \min \left\{ I(X; Y), \frac{D(XY||X, Y_\star)}{1 + \beta} \right\}$$

$$\Rightarrow C(\beta, \delta = 0) \leq \max_X \min \left\{ I(X; Y), \frac{D(XY||X, Y_\star)}{1 + \beta} \right\} \#$$

Large delay capacity $d = 2^{\delta B}$



Theorem (Chandar-T-Tse 2013):

$$C(\beta, \delta) = C(\beta - \delta, 0) \text{ for any } \beta \geq \delta > 0$$

Proof: reduce asynchronism by delaying transmission

Energy to transmit
asynchronously

Capacity per unit cost

Theorem (Chandar-T-Tse 2013):

- $\mathbf{C}(\beta, \delta = 0) = \max_X \min \left\{ \frac{I(X; Y)}{\mathbf{E}k(X)}, \frac{D(XY||X, Y_\star)}{(1 + \beta)\mathbf{E}k(X)} \right\}$
 - $d_{\min}(\beta) = \frac{B}{\max_{X \in \mathcal{P}_\beta} I(X; Y)}$
- where \mathcal{P}_β is the set of inputs that achieve $\mathbf{C}(\beta, \delta = 0)$.
- $\mathbf{C}(\beta, \delta) = \mathbf{C}(\beta - \delta, 0) \quad \beta \geq \delta \geq 0$

Proof: follow capacity arguments.

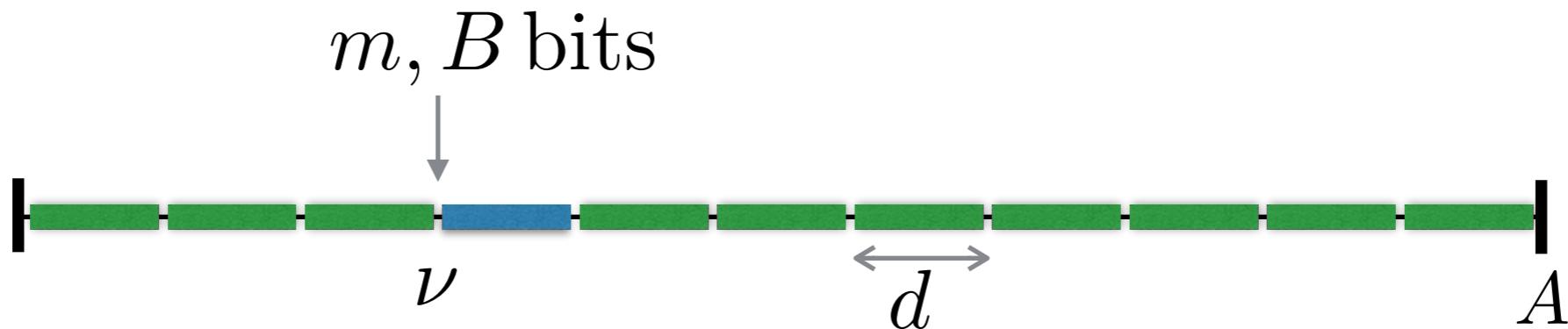
A natural case: $k(\star) = 0$

$$\begin{aligned}\mathbf{C}(\beta, \delta = 0) &= \frac{1}{1 + \beta} \max_x \frac{D(Y_x || Y_\star)}{k(x)} \\ &= \frac{1}{1 + \beta} \mathbf{C}\end{aligned}$$

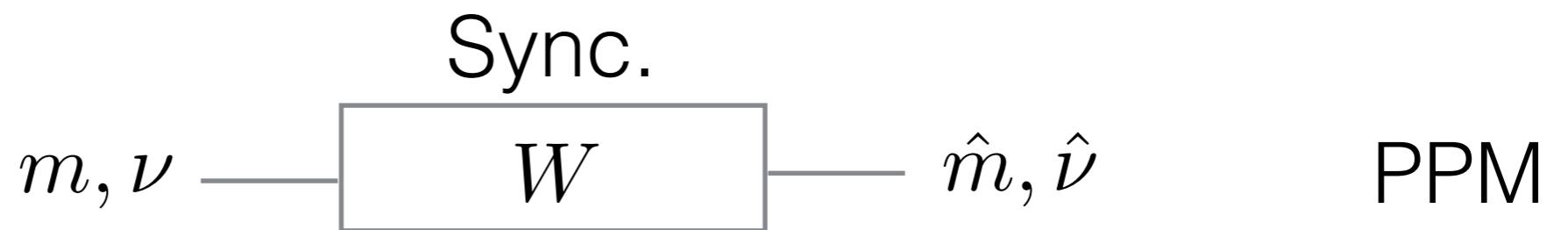
Example: Gaussian channel

- $x \rightarrow x + Z(0, N_o/2)$ $\mathbf{C}(\beta) = \frac{\log_2 e}{N_o(1 + \beta)}$
- $k(x) = x^2, \star = 0$

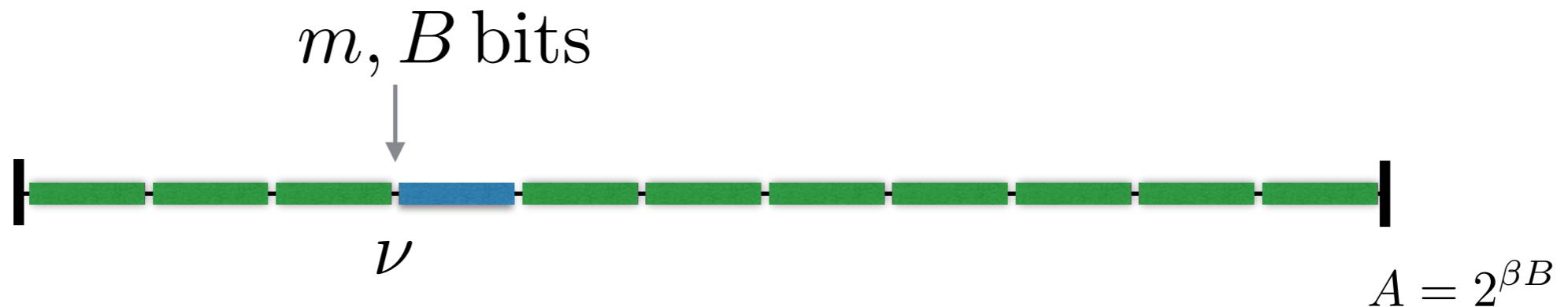
Alternative “proof” for $\mathbf{C}(\beta, \delta = 0)$ when $k(\star) = 0$



Equivalent scenarios



Alternative “proof” for $\mathbf{C}(\beta)$ when $k(\star) = 0$



Since $k(\star) = 0$:

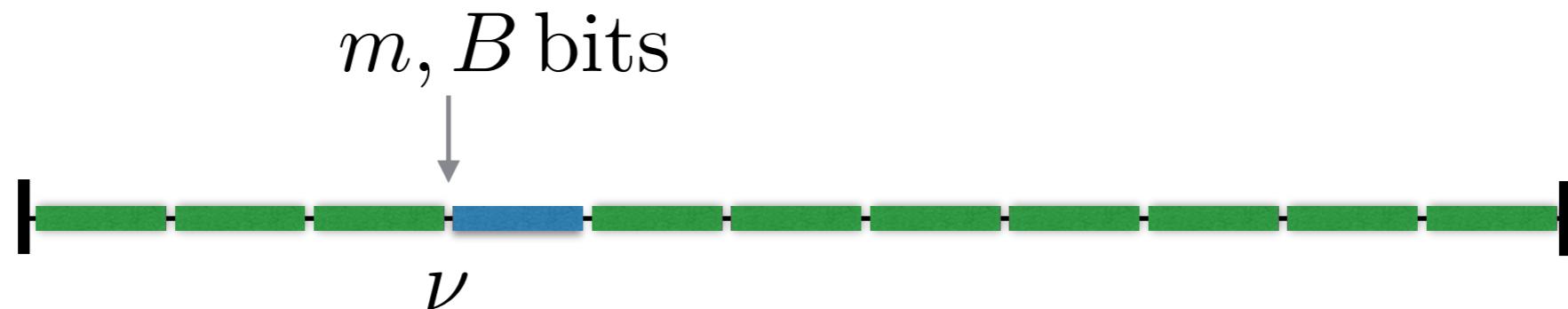
cost to transmit B bits asynchronously

=

cost to transmit $\log(A/d) + B \doteq \beta B + B$ bits

synchronously via PPM.

Alternative “proof” for $\mathbf{C}(\beta)$ when $k(\star) = 0$



Hence,

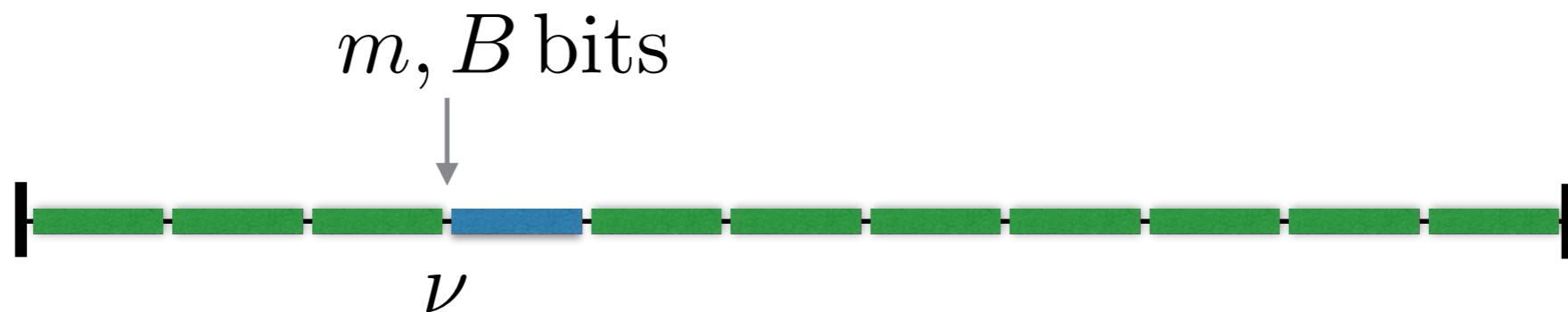
minimum cost to transmit 1 bit asynchronously

\geq

minimum cost to transmit $1 + \beta$ bits synchronously, i.e.

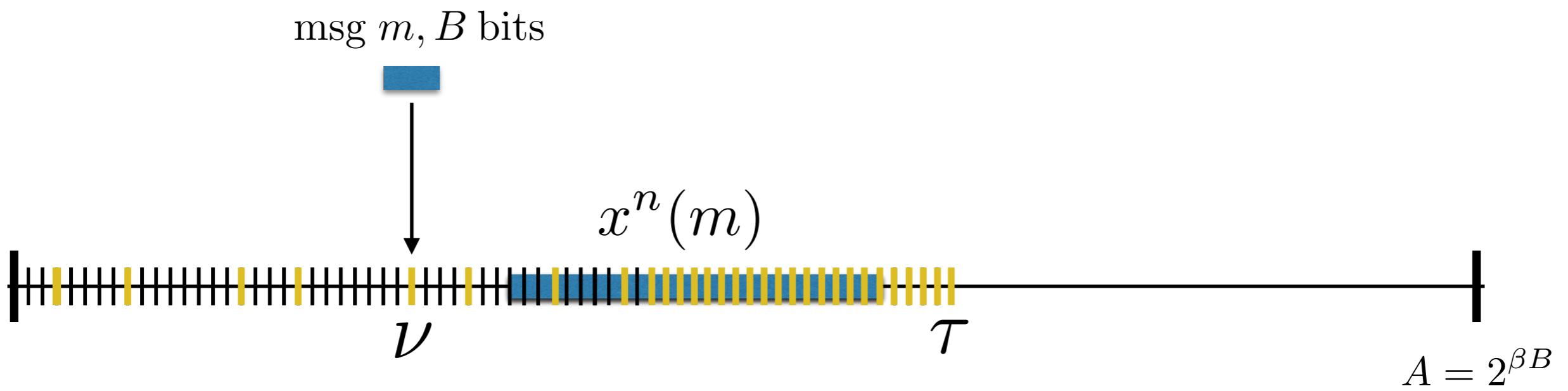
$$\frac{1}{\mathbf{C}(\beta)} \geq (1 + \beta) \frac{1}{\mathbf{C}} \Leftrightarrow (1 + \beta)\mathbf{C}(\beta) \leq \mathbf{C}$$

Alternative “proof” for $\mathbf{C}(\beta)$ when $k(\star) = 0$



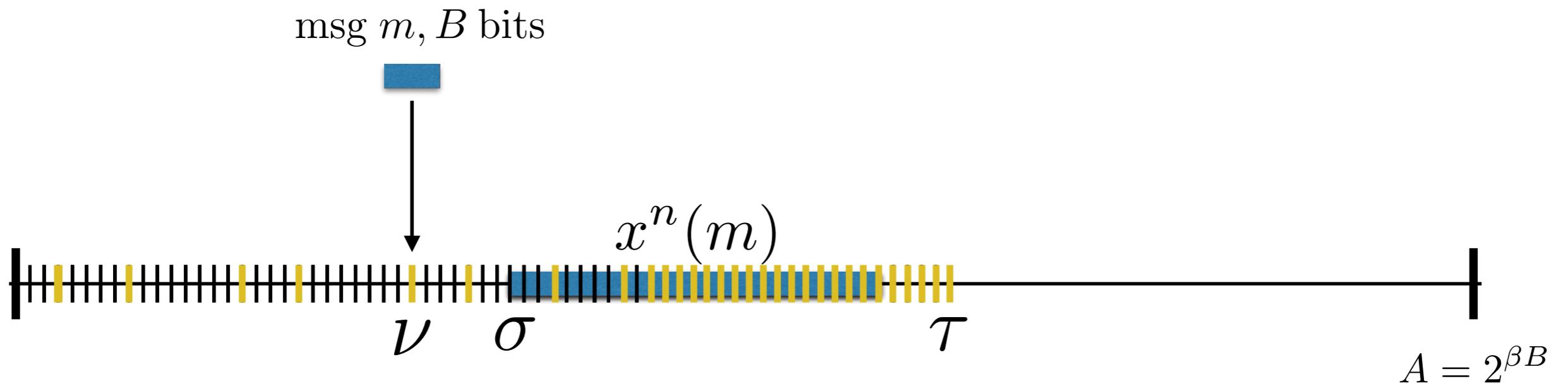
Converse: optimality of PPM $\Rightarrow (1 + \beta)\mathbf{C}(\beta) \geq \mathbf{C}(\beta)$ #

Energy to transmit and
receive asynchronously



- Transmission cost: $k(x)$
- Reception cost: sampling rate

Motivation: power at receivers scales \approx linearly with ρ .

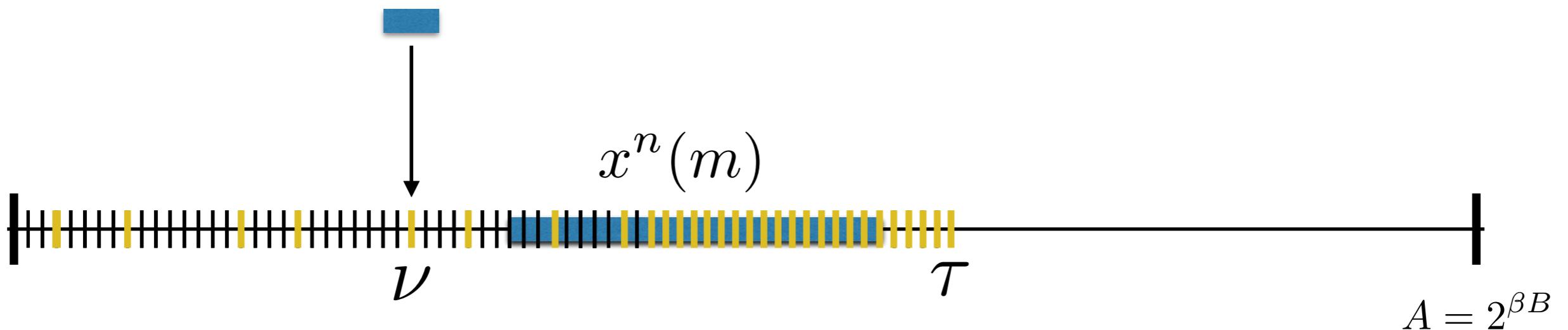


- Transmitter: $x^n(m)$ at time σ
- Receiver: sampling, stop, decode

$$\rho = \frac{\text{number of } | \text{ until } \tau}{\tau}$$

Receiver operates at rate 30% if $Pr(\rho \leq 30\%) = 1 - o(1)$

msg m, B bits



$\mathbf{C}_{\text{async.}}(\beta, \rho)?$

Theorem (non-adaptive sampling, T-Chandar-Caire 2014):

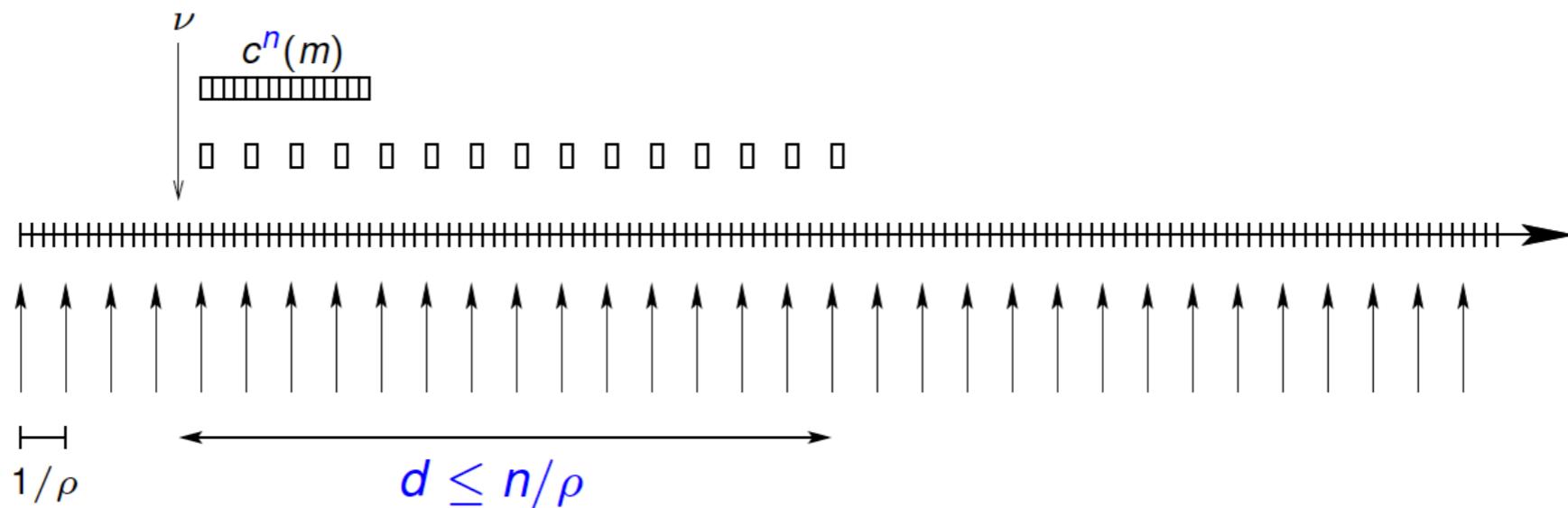
For any $\beta > 0$ and $0 < \rho < 1$

- $\mathbf{C}_{\text{async.}}(\beta, \rho) = \mathbf{C}_{\text{async.}}(\beta, 1)$

$$d_{\min}(\beta, \rho) = \frac{1}{\rho} d_{\min}(\beta, 1)$$

Achievability (asynchronism reduction)

- consider coding scheme under full sampling
- stretch codewords by $1/\rho$, sample each $1/\rho$ output



Converse

Non-adaptive sampling budget ρA implies delay $1/\rho$.
(change of measure argument).

Theorem (adaptive sampling, T-Chandar-Caire 2014):

For any $\beta \geq 0$ and $0 < \rho \leq 1$

- $\mathbf{C}_{\text{async.}}(\beta, \rho) = \mathbf{C}_{\text{async.}}(\beta, 1)$

$$d_{\min}(\beta, \rho) = d_{\min}(\beta, 1)(1 + o(1))$$

Minimum input energy,
minimum delay,
arbitrarily small sampling rate.

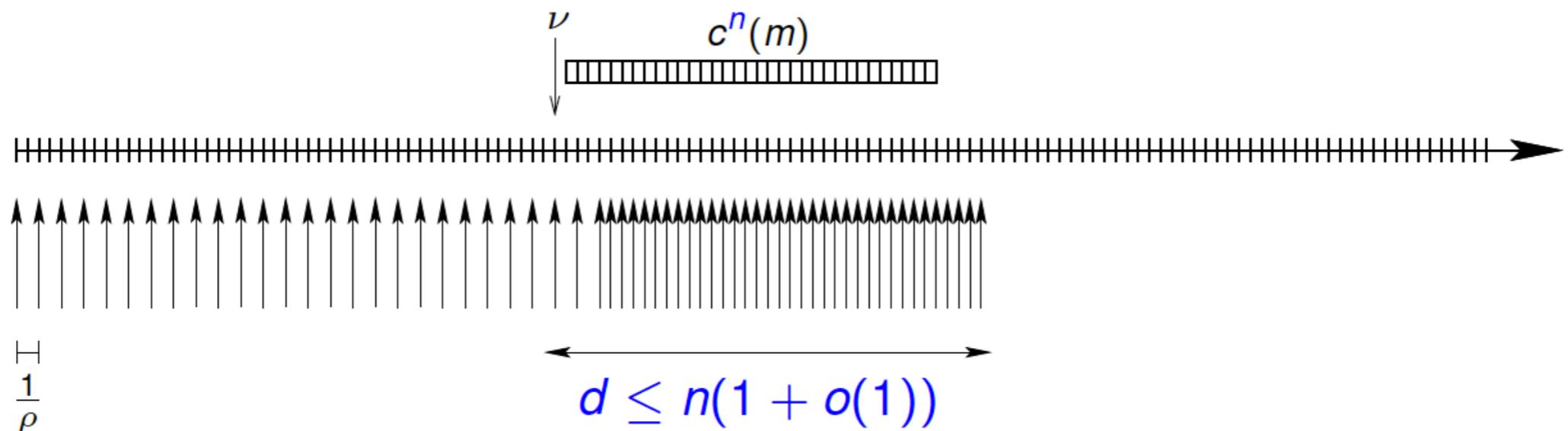
Achievability

Transmitter: random coding, $\sigma = \nu$ ✓

Receiver: decoding function ✓
 stopping rule
 sampling strategy



Two-phase scheme



- **Sparse sampling:** at multiples of $1/\rho$ compute empirical distribution \hat{P} of the last $\rho \log(n)$ samples.
- If $\mathbb{P}_*(T(\hat{P})) \leq \varepsilon$ switch to **full sampling** for period n
- At the end of the full sampling period, typic-decode or return to sparse mode if no codeword is found.

Theorem (adaptive sampling, T-Chandar-Caire 2014):

For any $\beta \geq 0$ and $0 < \rho \leq 1$

- $C_{\text{async.}}(\beta, \rho) = C_{\text{async.}}(\beta, 1)$
 $d_{\min}(\beta, \rho) = d_{\min}(\beta, 1)(1 + o(1))$

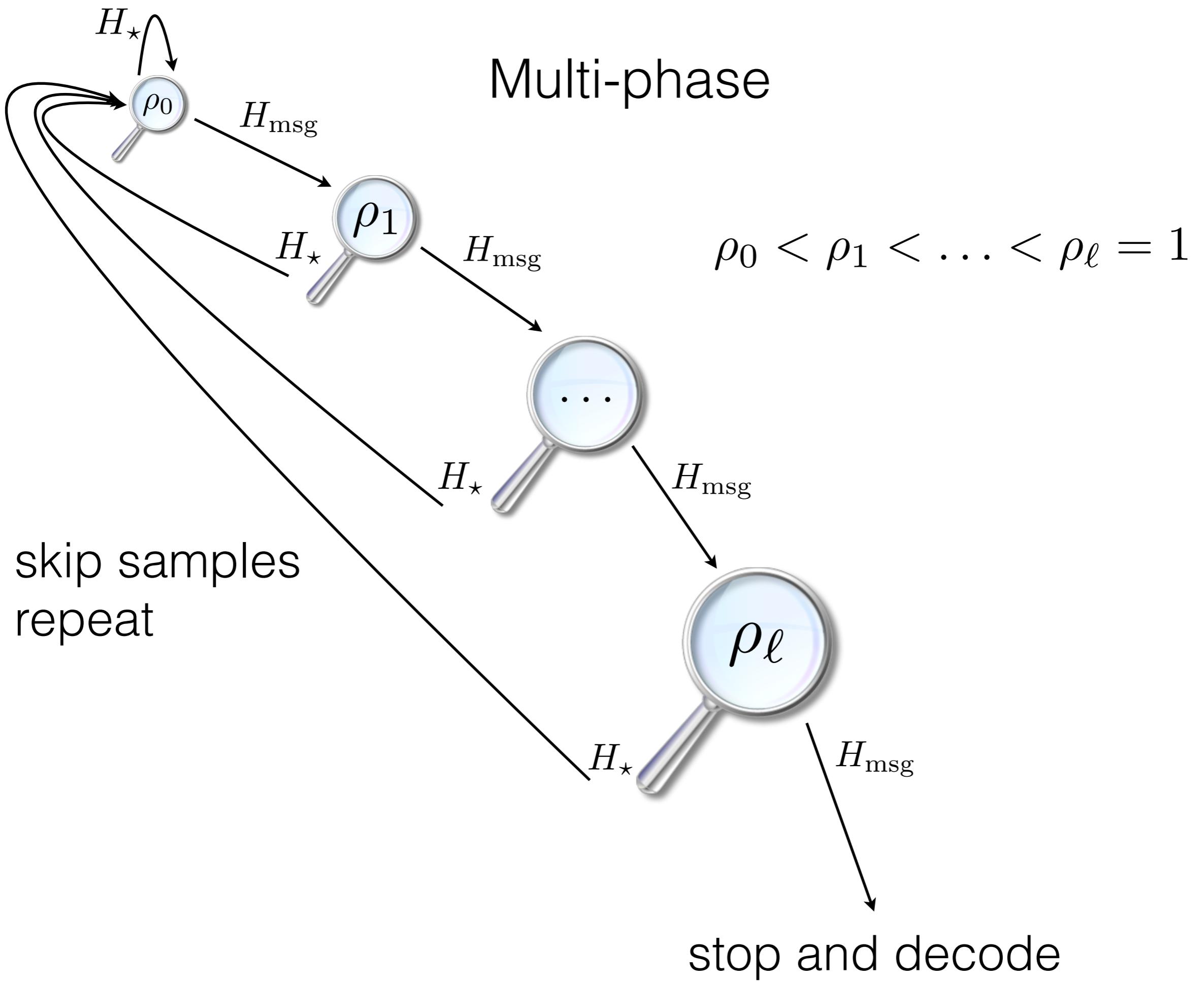
No loss for constant sampling rate but what if

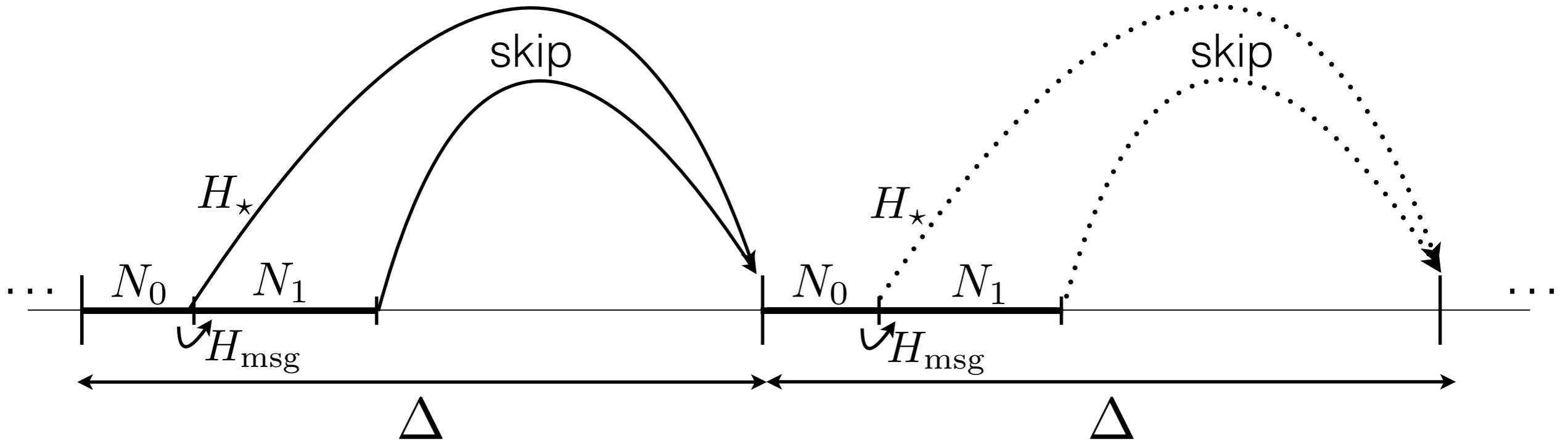
$$\rho \rightarrow 0 ?$$

Theorem (min,min,min Chandar-T 2016):

For any $\beta \geq 0$ and $0 < \rho \leq 1$

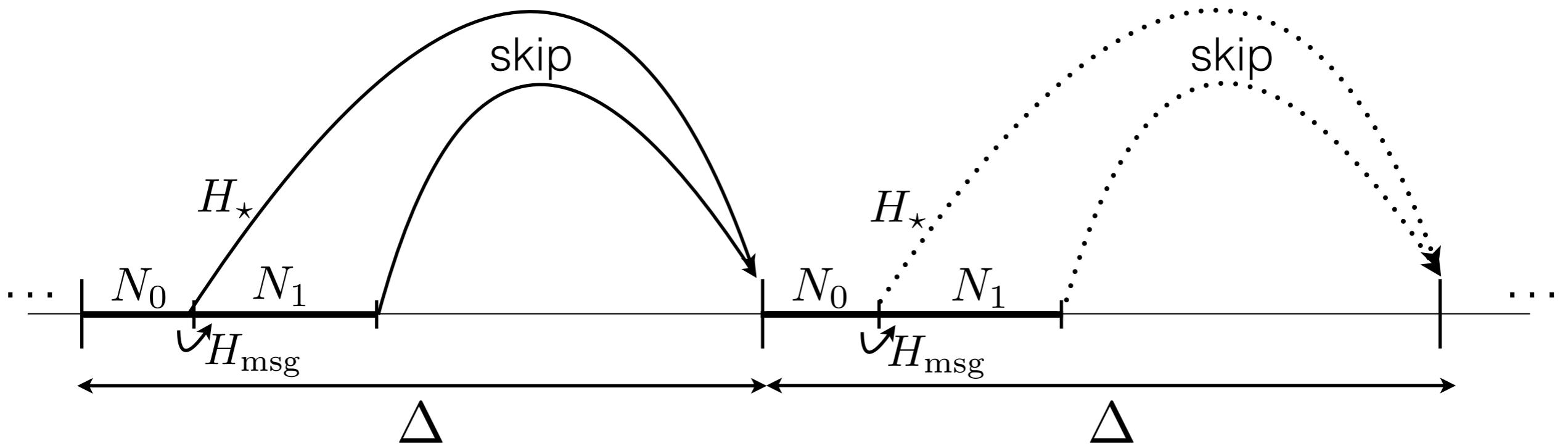
- if $\rho = \omega(1/B)$ $\mathbf{C}_{\text{async.}}(\beta, \rho) = \mathbf{C}_{\text{async.}}(\beta, 1)$
 $d_{\min}(\beta, \rho) = d_{\min}(\beta, 1)(1 + o(1))$
- if $\rho = o(1/B)$ unreliable communication





At each s-instant $\{t = j \cdot \Delta, j \in \mathbb{N}\}$

- test N_0, N_1, \dots, N_ℓ samples
- if a test $\rightarrow H_*$ skip samples until next s-instant, repeat
- if ℓ consecutive test $\rightarrow H_{\text{msg}}$, decode



Parameters can be chosen such that

$$\rho = \omega(1/B)$$

Theorem (min,min,min Chandar-T 2016):

For any $\beta \geq 0$ and $0 < \rho \leq 1$

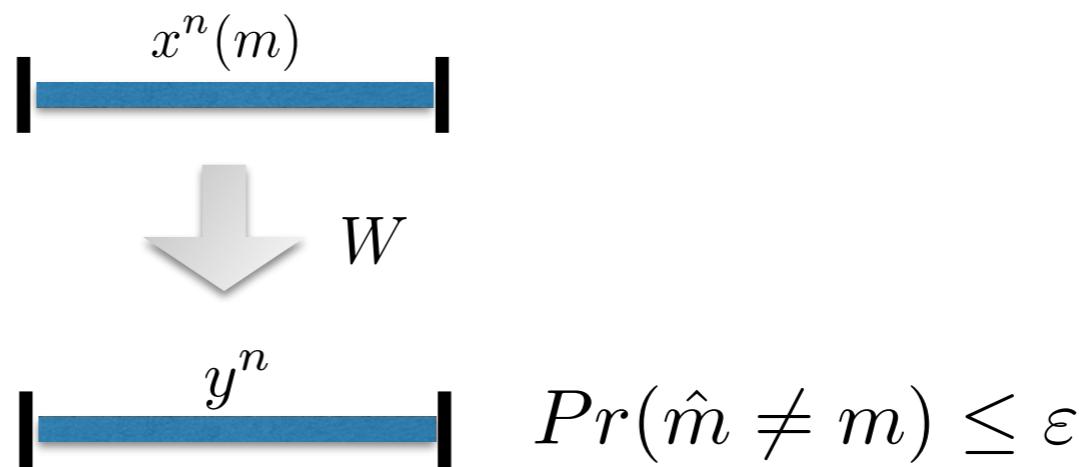
- if $\rho = \omega(1/B)$ $\mathbf{C}_{\text{async.}}(\beta, \rho) = \mathbf{C}_{\text{async.}}(\beta, 1)$
 $d_{\min}(\beta, \rho) = d_{\min}(\beta, 1)(1 + o(1))$
- if $\rho = o(1/B)$ unreliable communication

Artefacts of asymptotic analysis?

Finite length analysis

($k(x) = 1$)

Synchronous communication

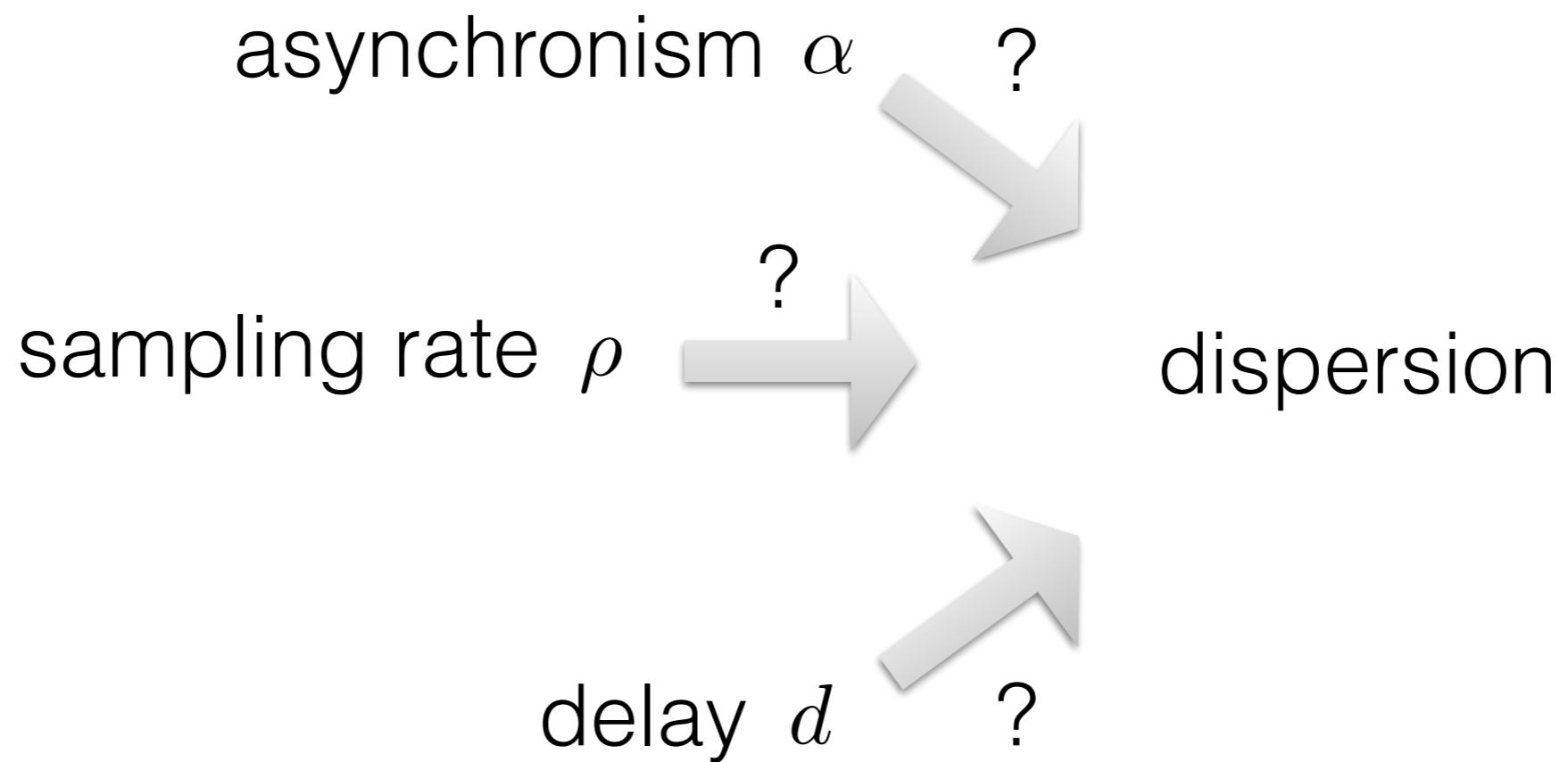
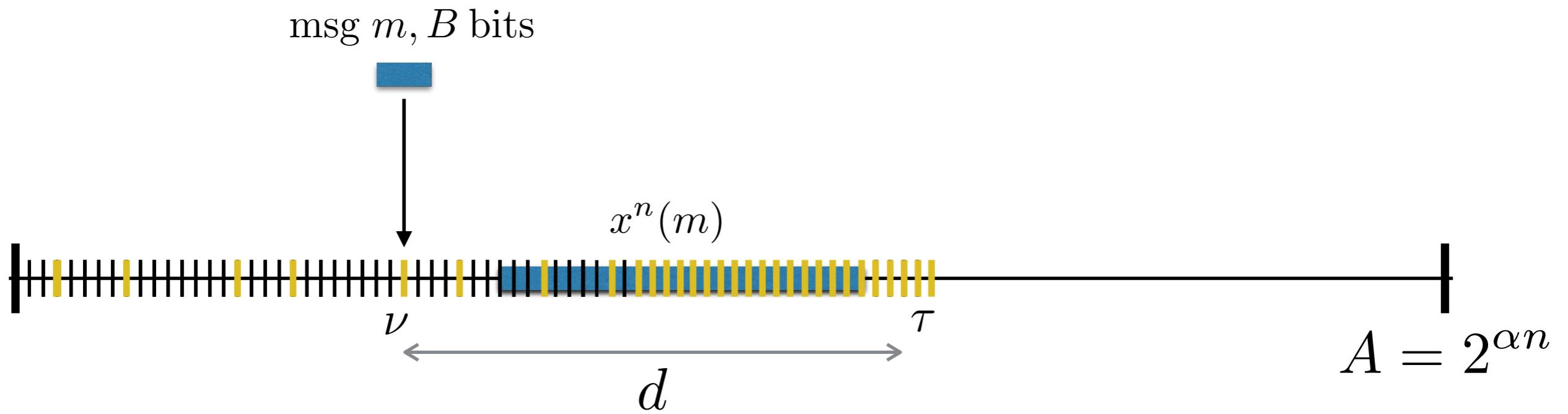


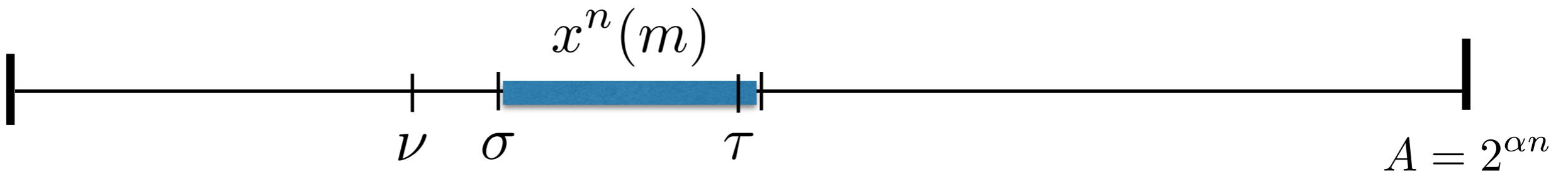
Theorem (Strassen 1962, Polyanskiy et al. 2010)

$$B^*(n, \varepsilon) = nC - \sqrt{n\mathcal{V}_\varepsilon(W)}Q^{-1}(\varepsilon) + O(\log n)$$

↑
largest message size

↑
dispersion, “gap to capacity”



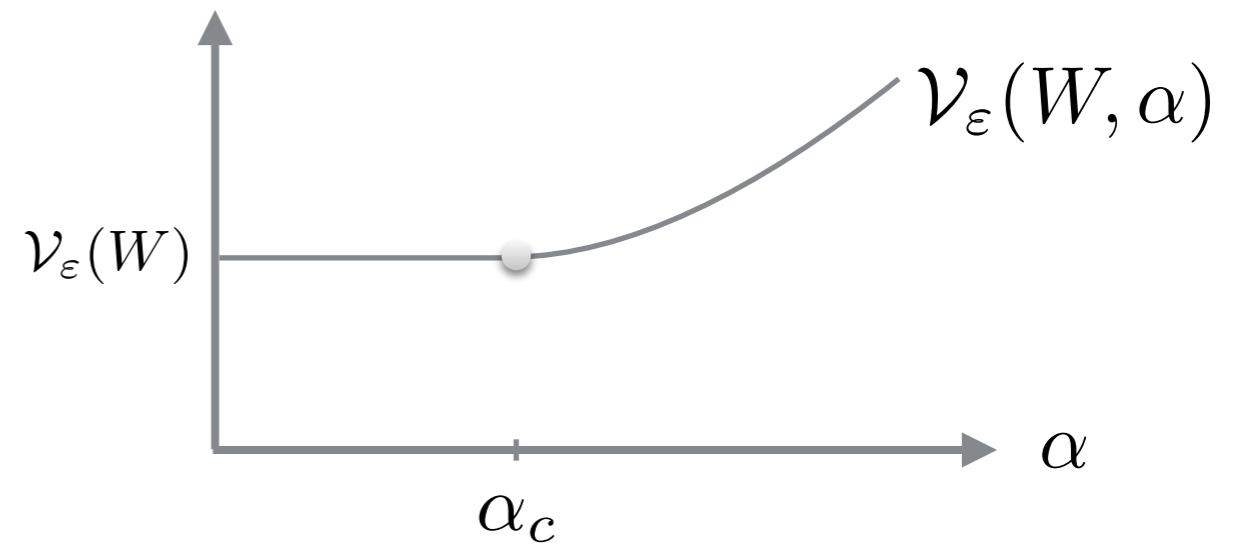


Recall $C(\alpha) = \max_{X: D(Y||Y_\star) \geq \alpha} I(X; Y)$

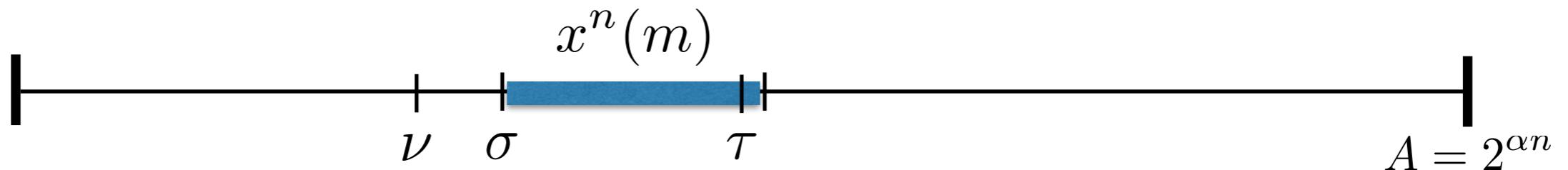
$$d_{\min}(\alpha) = n$$

Definition:

$\mathcal{V}_\varepsilon(W, \alpha)$ dispersion of
synchronous channel W
under input constraint
 $D(Y||Y_\star) \geq \alpha$.



Minimum delay: $d_n = d_{\min} = n$



Theorem (full sampling, Polyanskiy 2013, Li-T. 2017)

$$B^*(n, \varepsilon, \alpha, \rho_n = 1) = nC(\alpha) - \sqrt{n\mathcal{V}_\varepsilon(W, \alpha)}Q^{-1}(\varepsilon) + O(\log n)$$

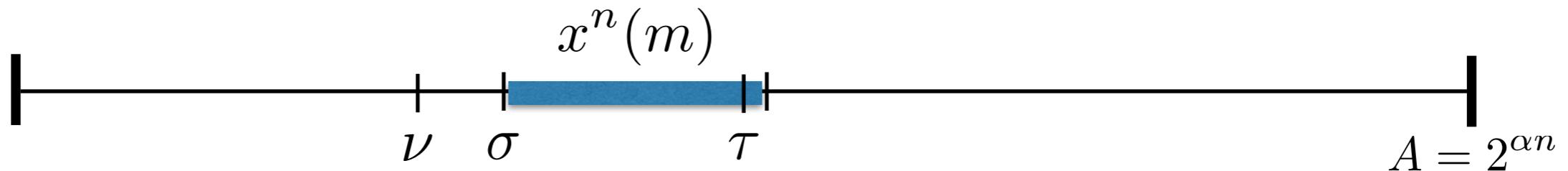
Theorem (sparse sampling, Li-T. 2017)

$$B^*(n, \varepsilon, \alpha, \omega(1/\sqrt{n})) = nC(\alpha) - \sqrt{n\mathcal{V}_\varepsilon(W, \alpha)}Q^{-1}(\varepsilon) + o(\sqrt{n})$$

$$B^*(n, \varepsilon, \alpha, \omega(1/n)) = nC(\alpha) - \Theta(1/\rho_n) + O(\sqrt{n})$$

$$\& O(1/\sqrt{n})$$

Close to minimum delay: $d_n = n(1 + o(1))$



Theorem (sparse sampling, Li-T. 2017)

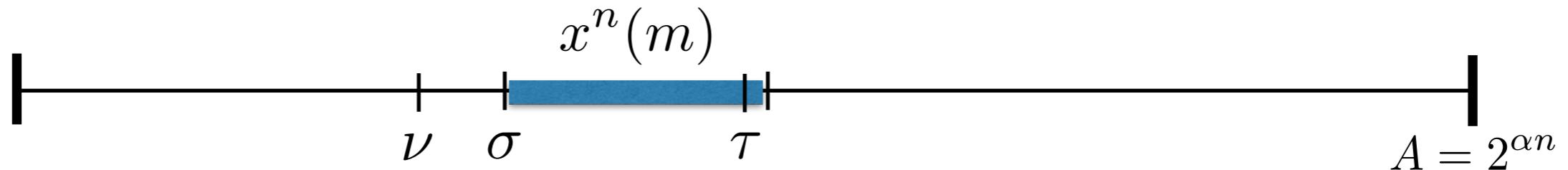
$$B^*(n, \varepsilon, \alpha, \omega(1/n)) = nC(\alpha) - \sqrt{n\mathcal{V}_\varepsilon(W, \alpha)}Q^{-1}(\varepsilon) + O(\log n)$$

minimum sampling rate
&
 $d = n(1 + o(1))$

$$\equiv_{\text{dispersion}}$$

minimum delay
&
 $\rho_n = \omega(1/\sqrt{n})$

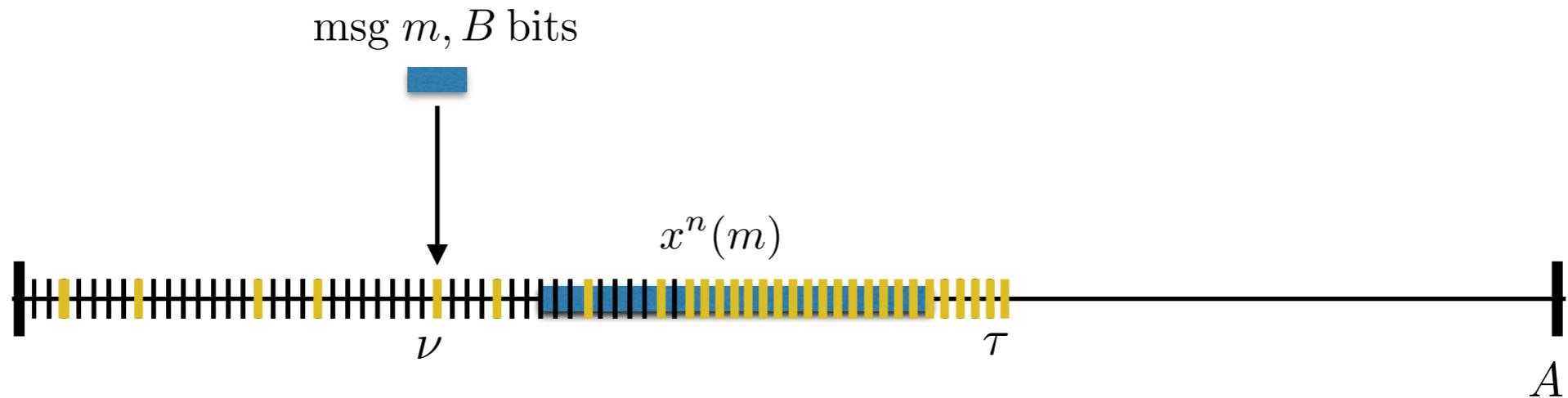
Intuition: $d_n = d_{\min} = n$



$$B^*(n, \varepsilon, \alpha, \omega(1/n)) = nC(\alpha) - \Theta(1/\rho_n) + O(\sqrt{n})$$

- At sampling rate ρ we miss $\Theta(1/\rho)$ symbols of the sent codeword.
- So if $\rho = o(1/\sqrt{n})$ decoder will miss $\omega(\sqrt{n})$ of the sent codeword.
- Codes of length $n - \omega(\sqrt{n})$ have $\omega(\sqrt{n})$ order synchronous dispersion.

Summary



- Capacity, capacity per unit cost
- Tradeoffs between rate, delay, sampling rate
- Finite length analysis

Open issues

- Bit asynchronism: capacity per unit cost?
- Random/multiple access: bursty interference
(Chandar-T.-Caire 2014, Shahi et. al. 2016, Farkas-Kói 2016)
- Asynchronous networks (Shomorony et al. 2014, Gallager 1976)

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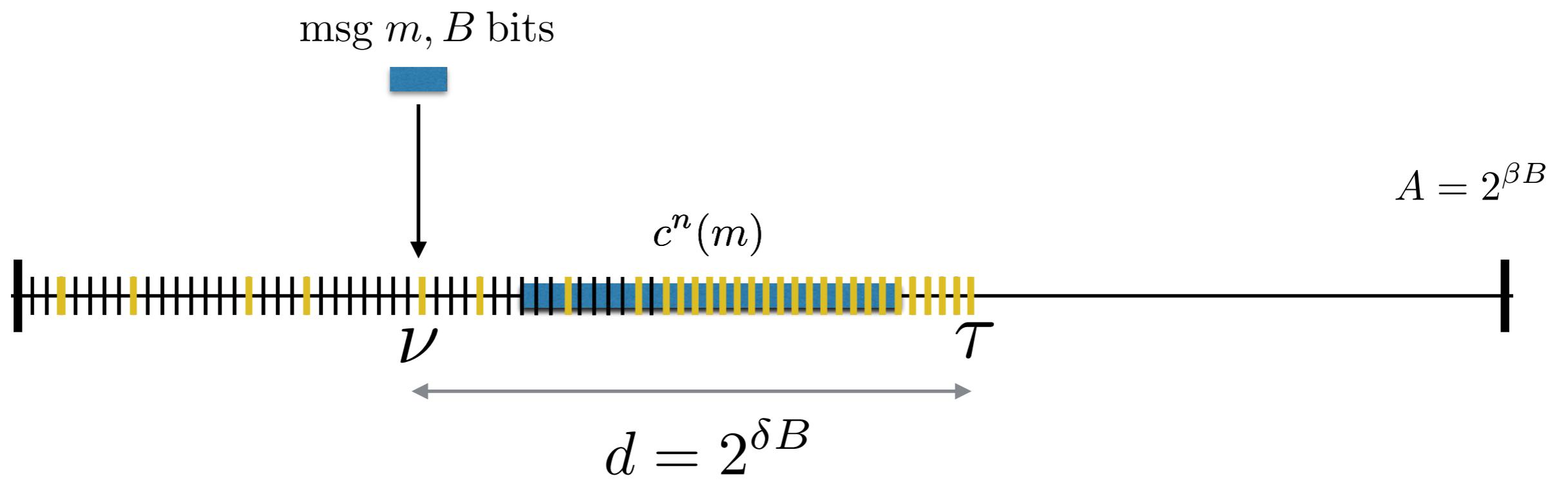
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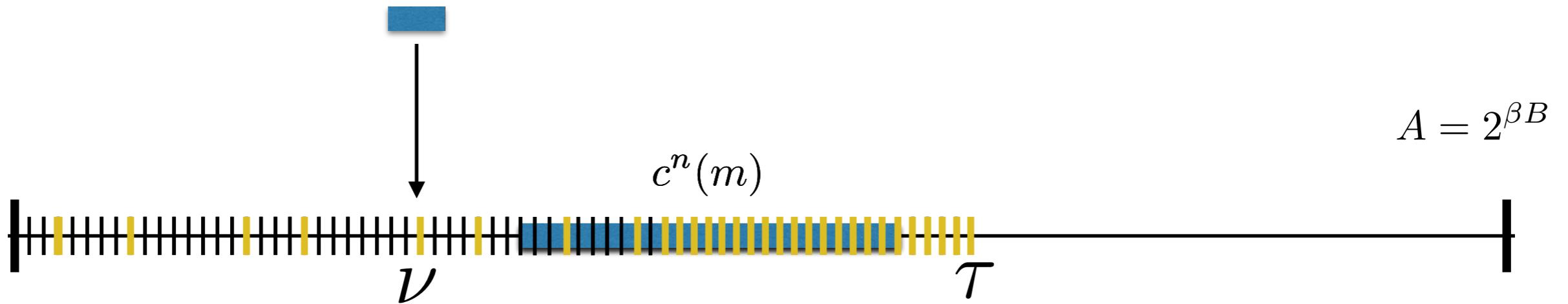
Typical scenarios

	Message at transmitter			Receiver		Performance
	arrival time	size	delay	sampling	decision time	
Continuous	fixed	fixed	fixed	fixed	fixed	asymptotic
Bursty	random	random	variable	adaptive	adaptive	finite



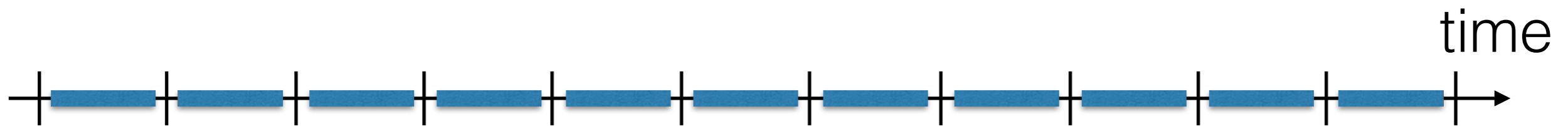
$\mathbf{C}_{\text{async.}}(\beta, \delta, \rho)?$

msg m, B bits



$C_{\text{async.}}(\beta, \rho)?$

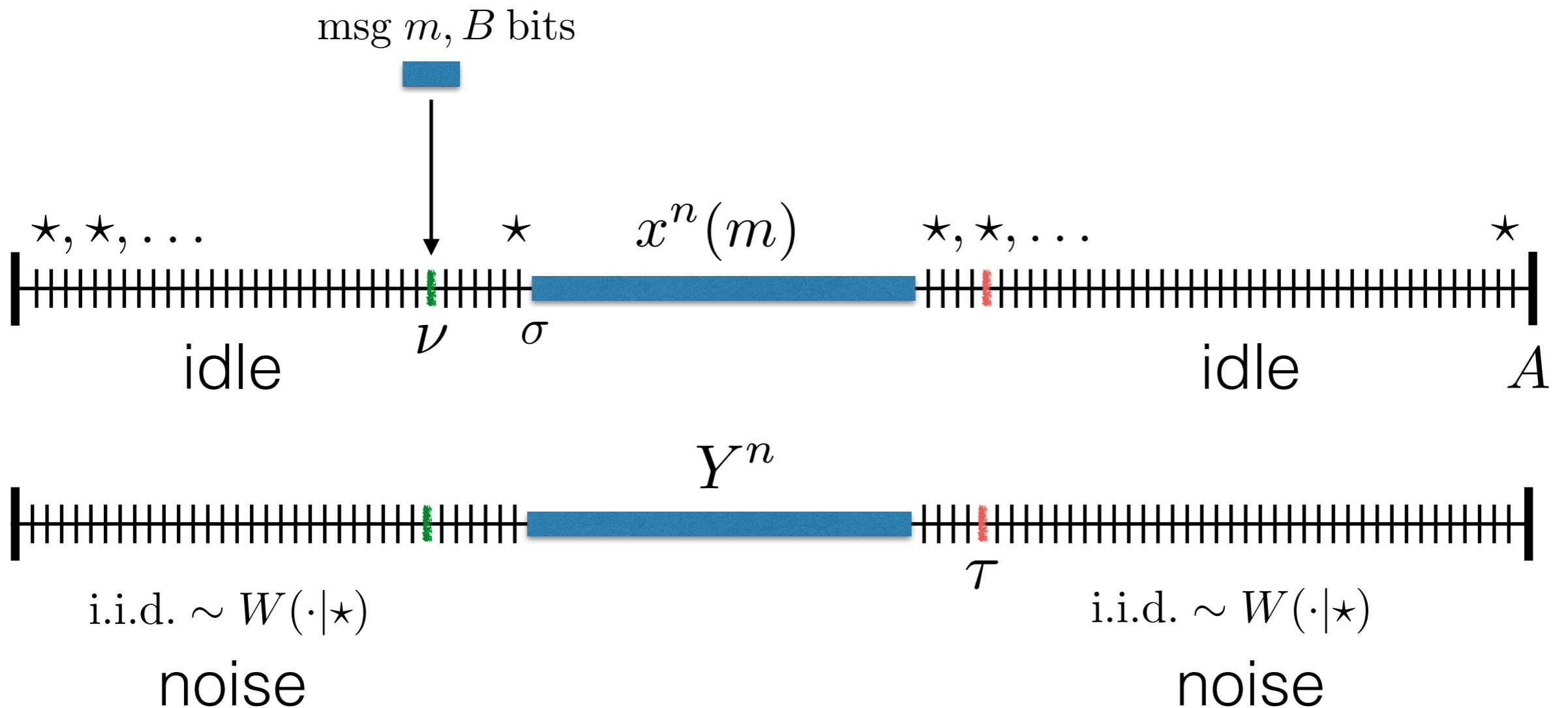
Synchronous communication



- Voice, video
- Packets sent contiguously
- Negligible cost to acquire synchronization

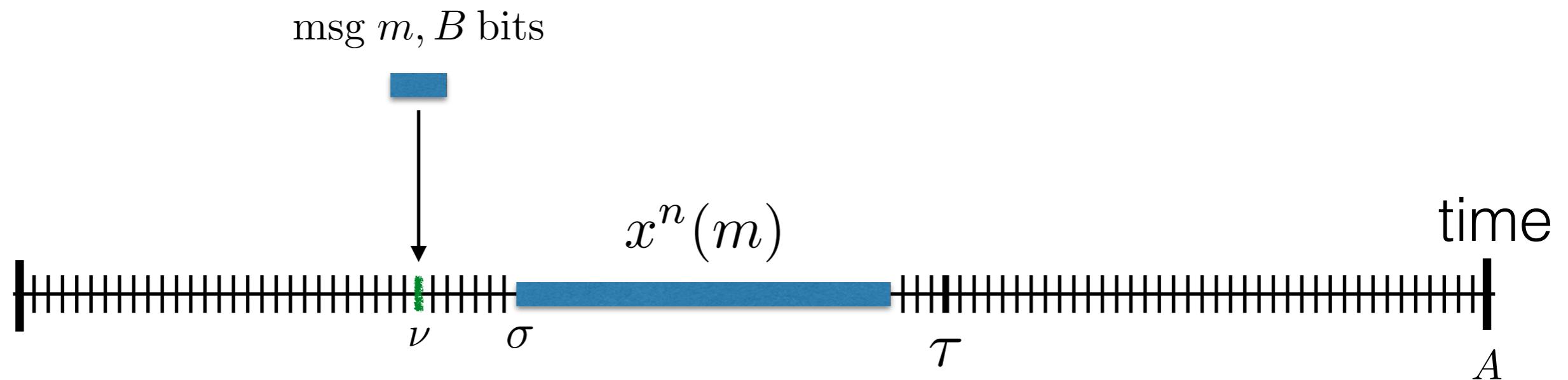
How does asynchronism impact capacity per unit cost?

Bursty communication model



τ : stopping time with respect to Y_1, Y_2, \dots

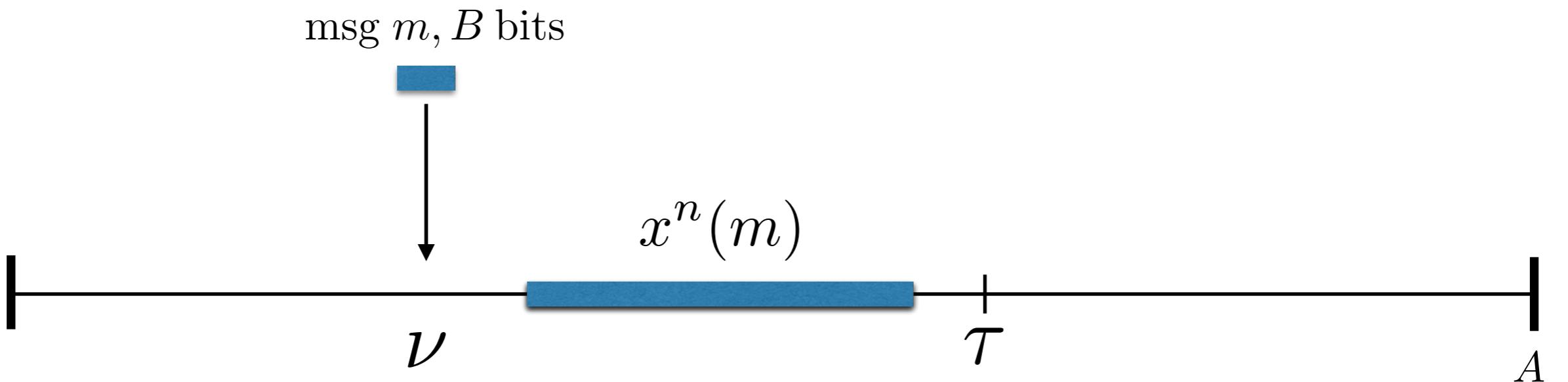
Bursty communication model



A :level of asynchronism

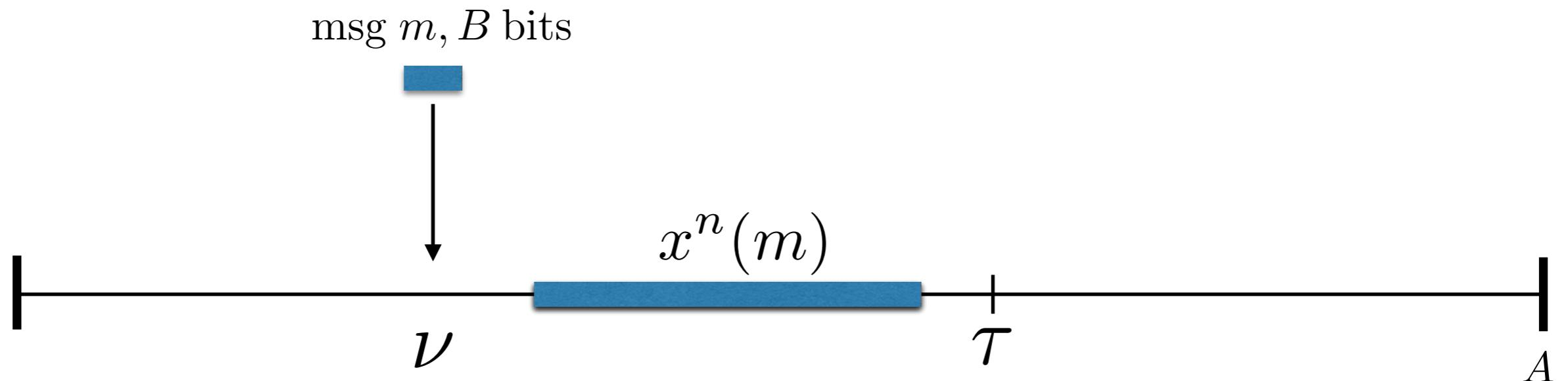
σ :transmission start time

One message sent over the $[1, A]$



- Given A
- Find $\mathbf{C}_{\text{async.}}(A) = \sup\{\text{achievable } \mathbf{R}\}$
-

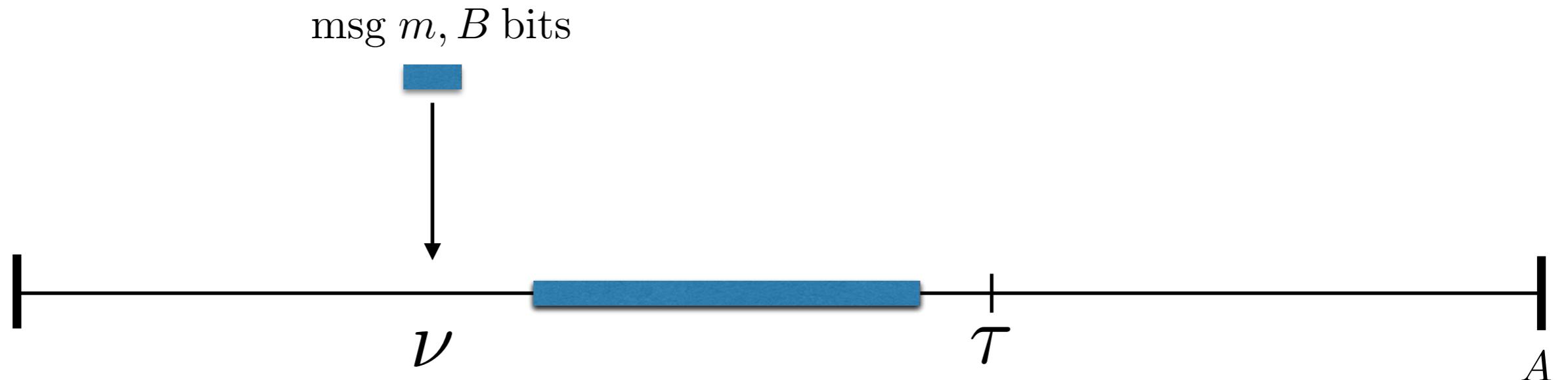
A natural scheme



- Random code $\{x^n(m)\}$ i.i.d. P
- Sequential typicality:

$$\tau = \inf\{t \geq 1 : (x^n(m), y_{t-n+1}^t) \text{ PW-typical for some } m\}$$

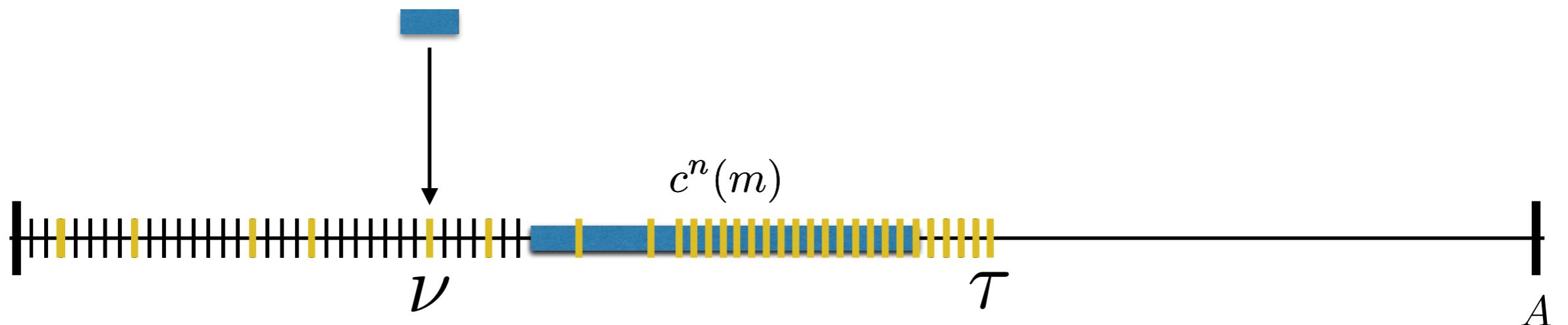
Analysis



- Random code $\{x^n(m)\}$ i.i.d. P
- Sequential typicality:

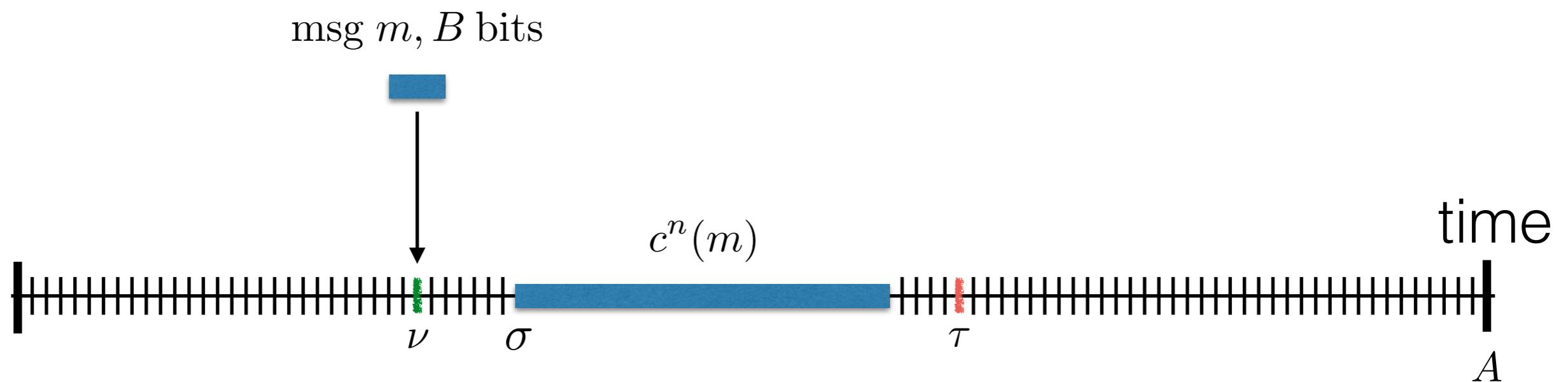
$$\tau = \inf\{t \geq 1 : (x^n(m), y_{t-n+1}^t) \text{ PW-typical for some } m\}$$

msg m, B bits

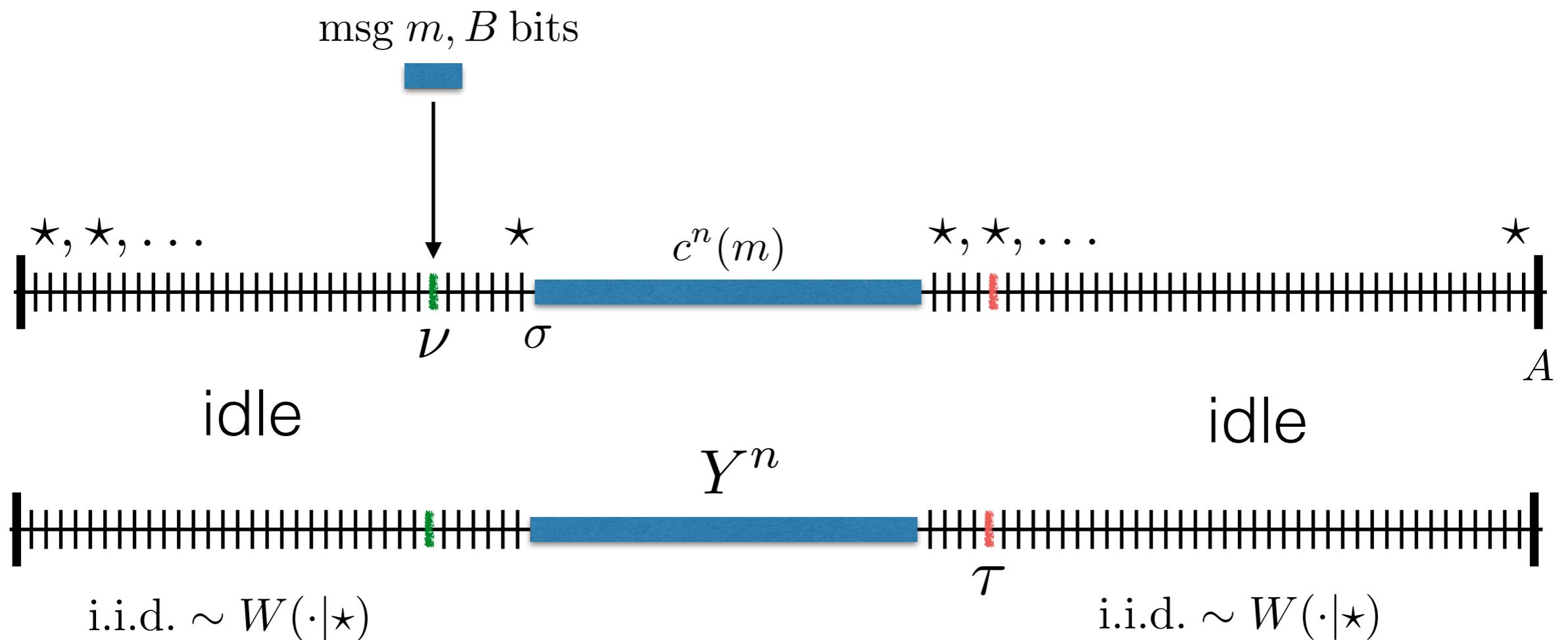


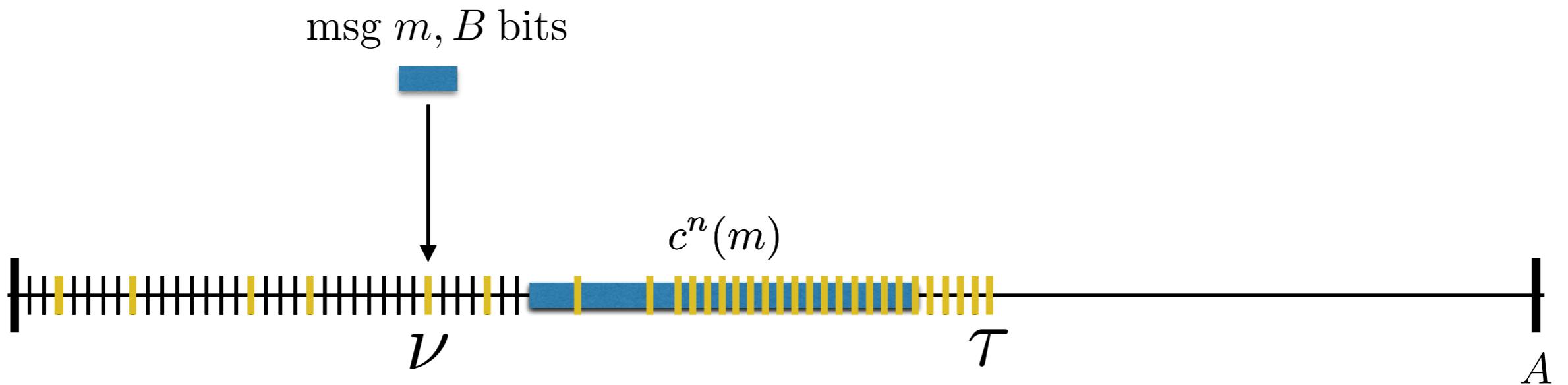
$\mathbf{C}_{\text{async.}}(A, \rho)?$

Bursty communication model



Bursty communication model

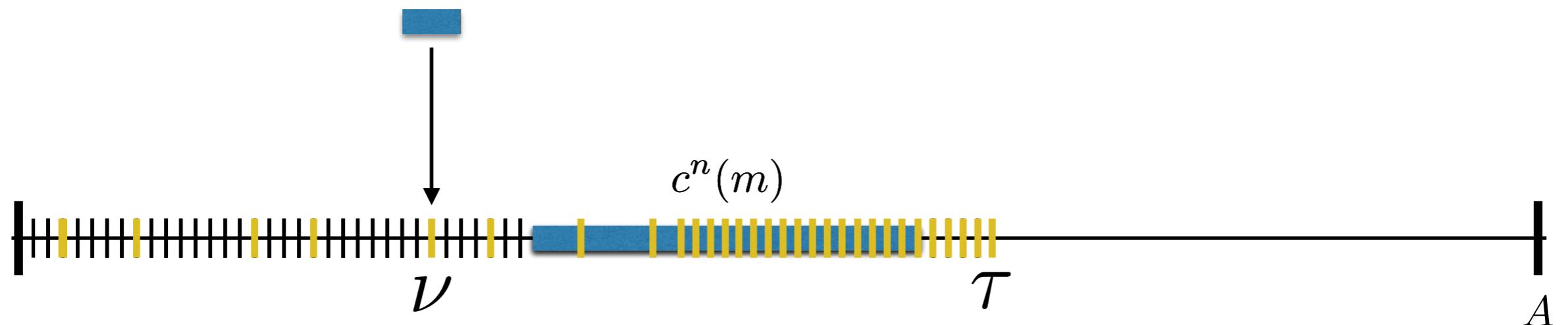




- Input cost
- Output cost: sampling rate

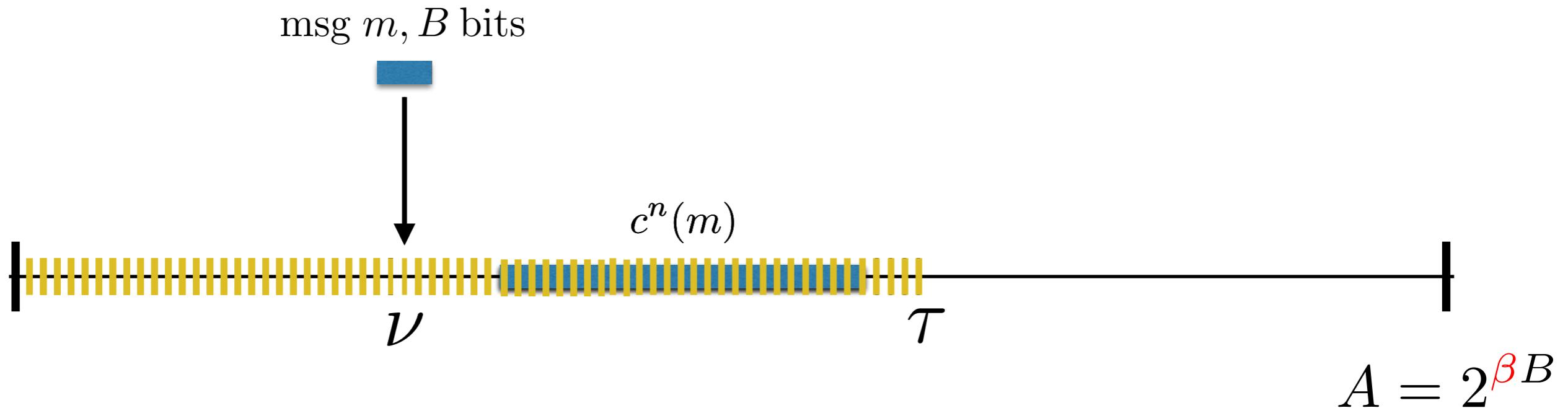
$$\rho = \frac{\text{number of } | \text{ until } \tau}{\tau}$$

msg m, B bits



$\mathbf{C}_{\text{async.}}(A, \rho)?$

$$\rho = 1$$

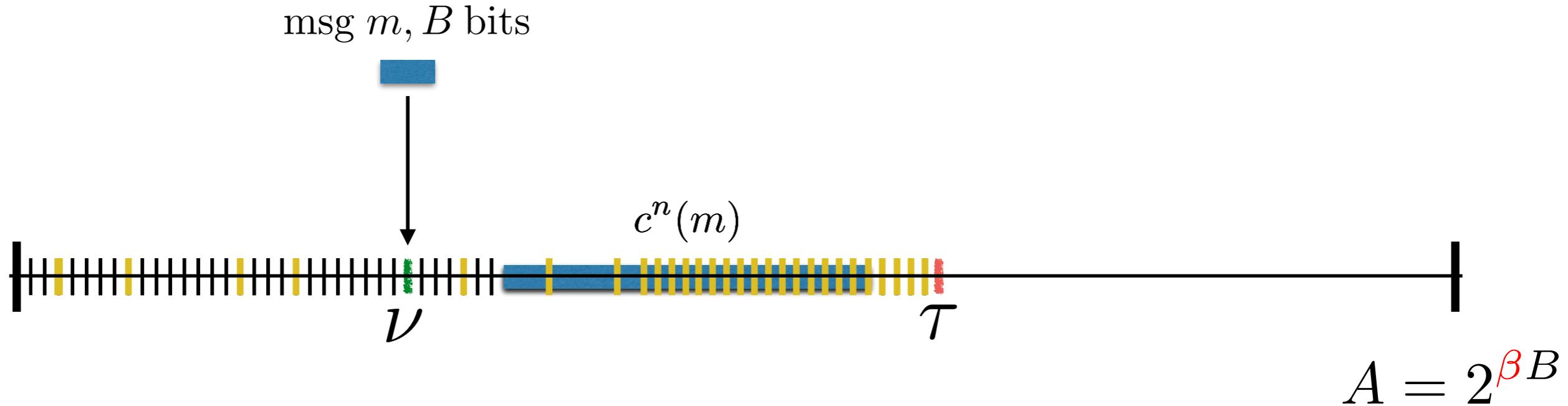


Theorem (Chandar, T., Tse 2010):

$$C_{\text{async.}}(A, \rho = 1) = \max_X \min \left\{ \frac{I(X; Y)}{\mathbb{E} k(X)}, \frac{I(X; Y) + D(Y||Y_\star)}{(1 + \beta)\mathbb{E} k(X)} \right\}$$

Minimum delay $d_{\min}(\beta, \rho = 1)(= \Theta(B))$

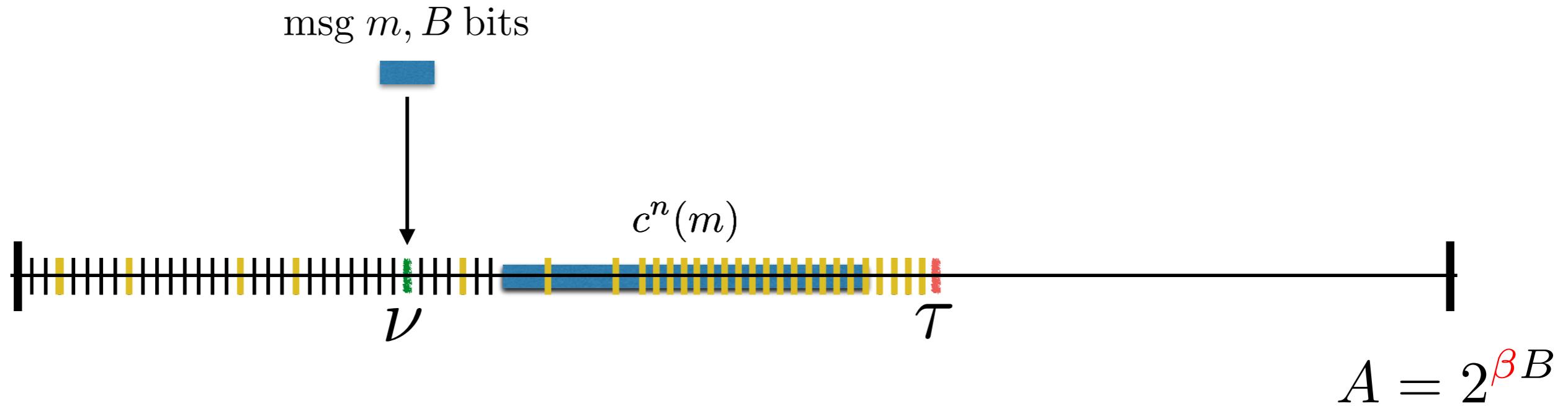
$$0 < \rho \leq 1$$



Theorem (Chandar, T., Caire 2013): for any $\beta > 0$

$$\mathbf{C}_{\text{async.}}(\beta, \rho) = \mathbf{C}_{\text{async.}}(\beta, 1)$$

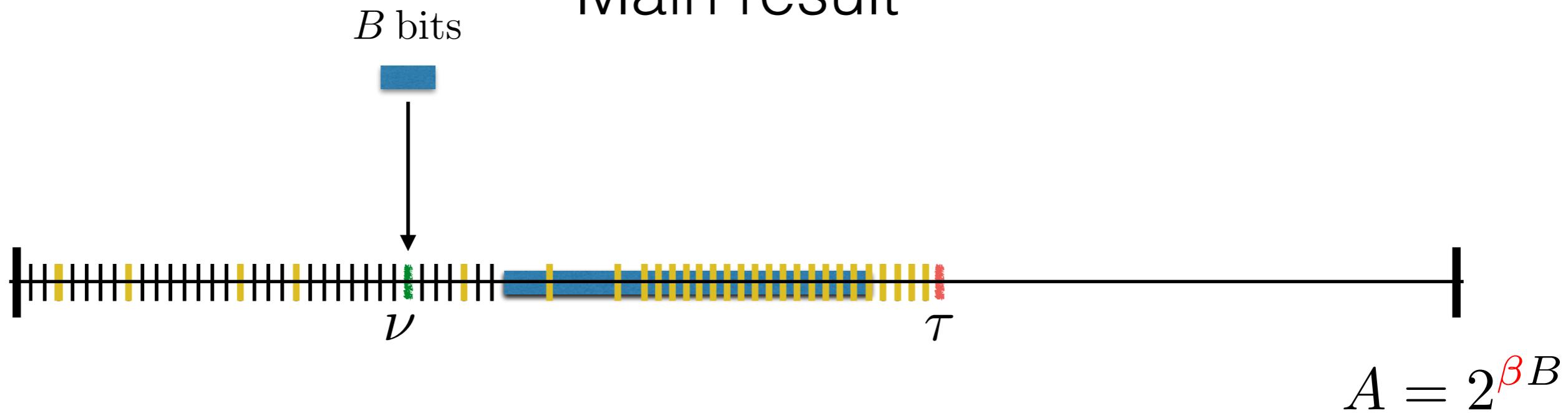
$$d_{\min}(\beta, \rho) \sim d_{\min}(\beta, \rho = 1)$$



No loss for constant sampling rate.

$$\rho \rightarrow 0 ?$$

Main result



Theorem: for any $\beta > 0$

- if $\rho = \omega(1/B)$ $\mathbf{C}_{\text{async.}}(A, \rho) = \mathbf{C}_{\text{async.}}(A, 1)$
 $d_{\min}(\beta, \rho) \sim d_{\min}(\beta, \rho = 1)$
- if $\rho = o(1/B)$ unreliable communication

Achievability

Transmitter: random coding ✓

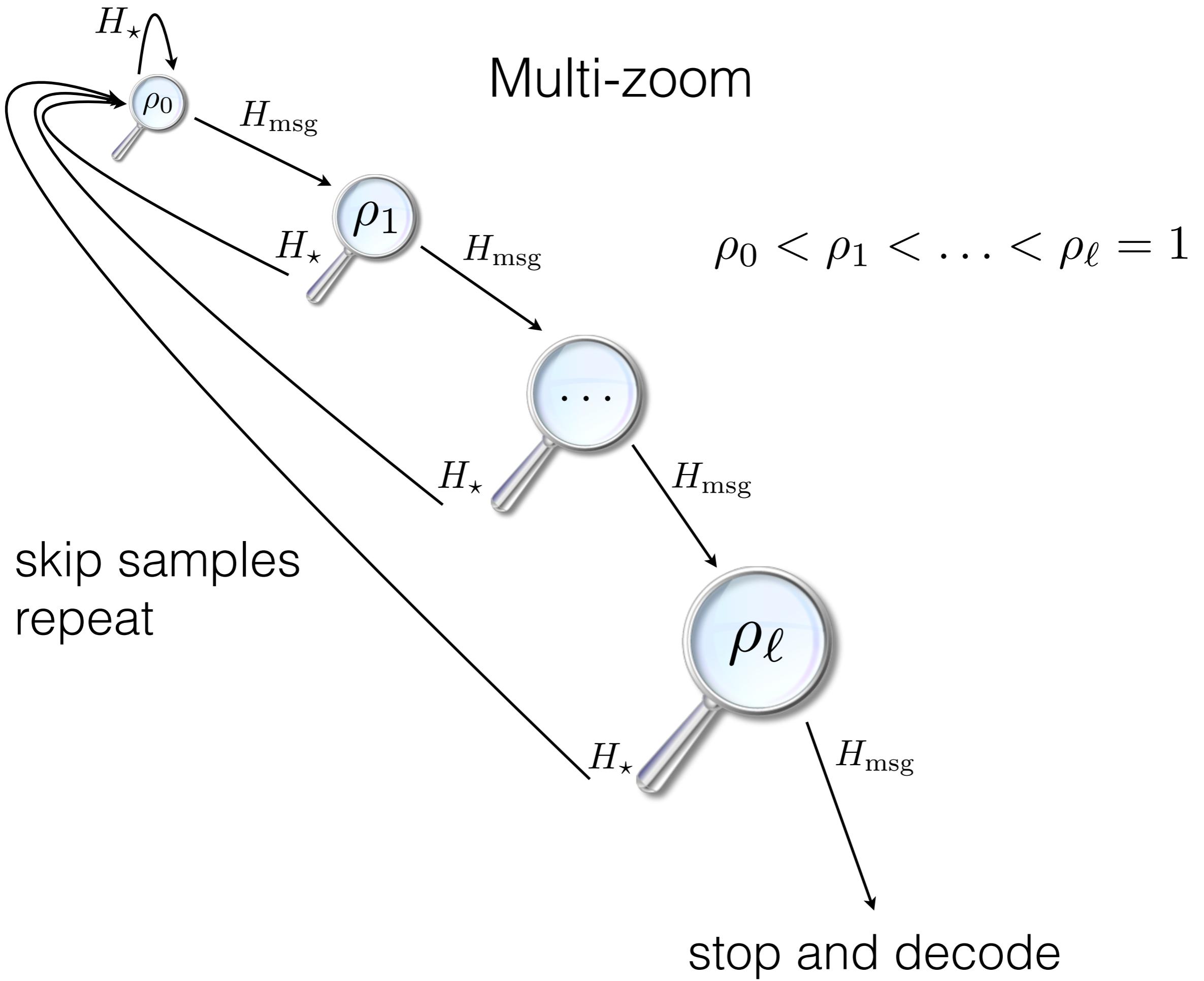
decoding function ✓

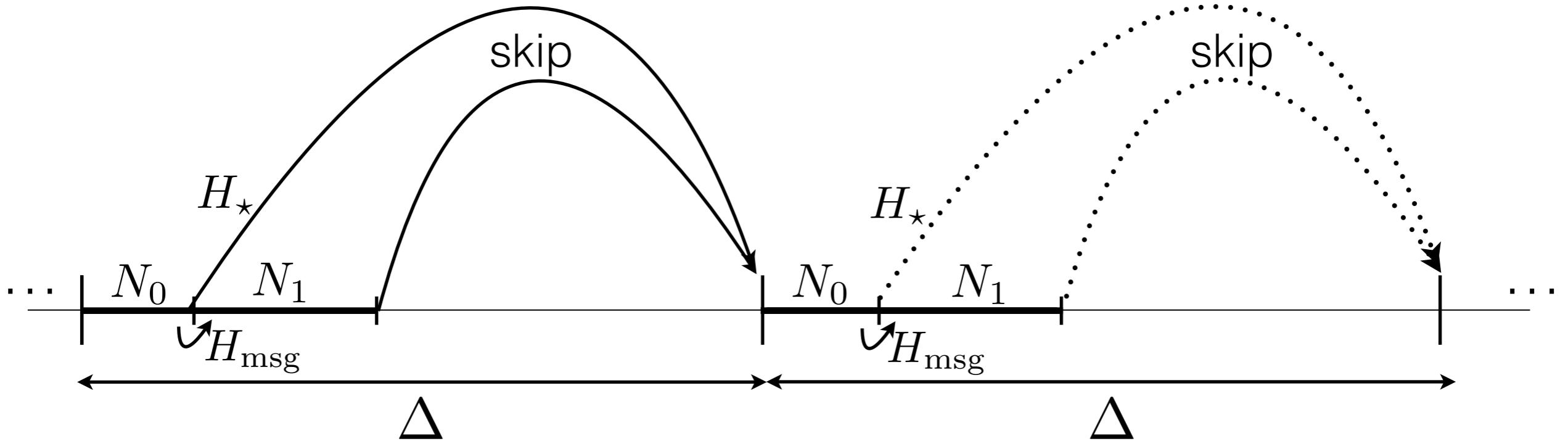
Receiver: stopping rule

sampling strategy



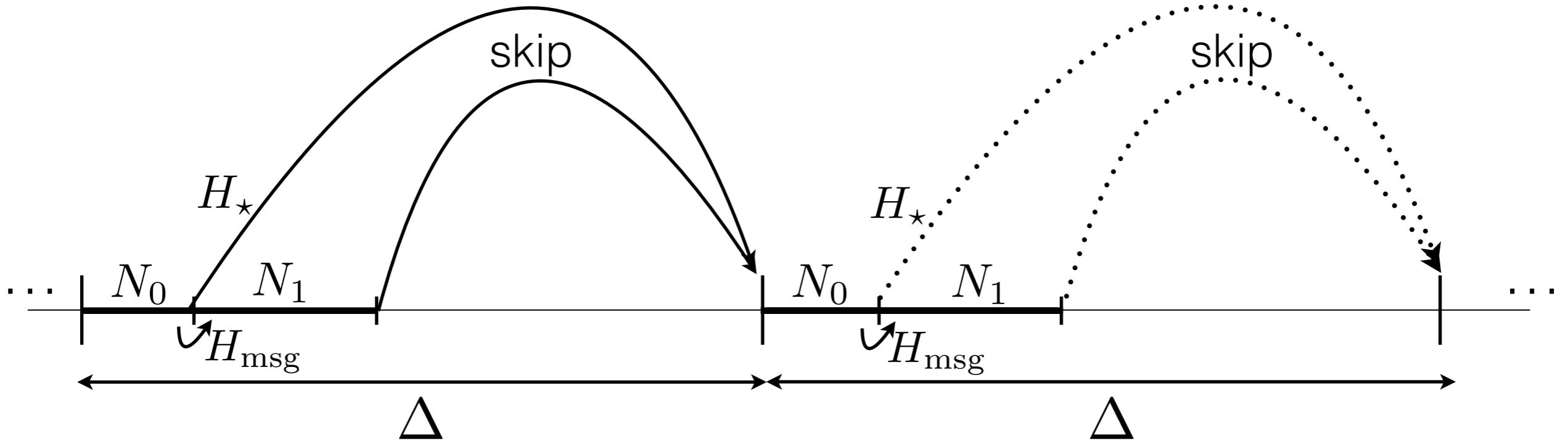
Message detection with $\rho = \omega(1/B)$ samples?





At each s-instant $\{t = j \cdot \Delta, j \in \mathbb{N}\}$

- test N_0, N_1, \dots, N_ℓ samples
- if a test $\rightarrow H_*$ skip samples until s-instant, repeat
- if ℓ consecutive test $\rightarrow H_{\text{msg}}$, decode

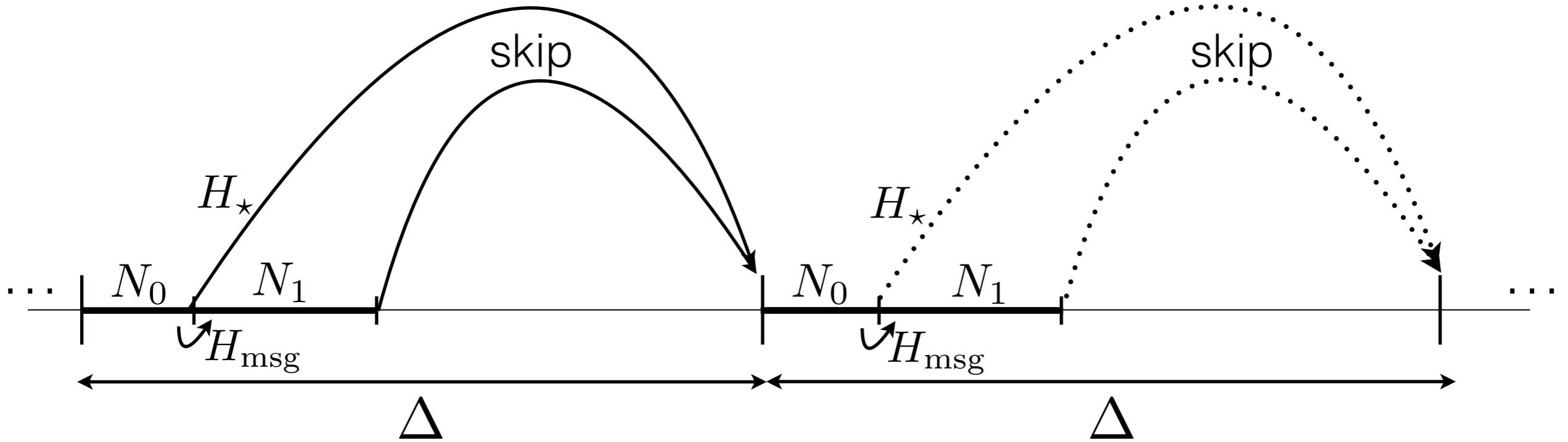


Parameters can be chosen such that

$$\rho = \omega(1/B)$$

Summary

- Fundamental tradeoffs for bursty communication
- To combat asynchronism we only need strong signals; better output sampling does not help
- Decoder can sleep almost all the time and yet be maximally efficient (asympt.).



Design tests such that first phase dominates:

$$\Rightarrow \begin{cases} \#\{\text{noise samples at } s\text{-instant}\} \sim N_0 \\ N_0 = \omega(1) \end{cases}$$

$$\Rightarrow \rho \sim \frac{\omega(1)}{\Delta}$$

But $\Delta = o(B)$ otherwise change is missed.

$$\Rightarrow \rho \sim \omega(1/B)$$