

# Short Message Noisy Network Coding

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## Outline

- 1) Cooperative Communications
- 2) **Relaying** is the core concept (1979-)
- 3) Relaying via **Quantization** (2011-)
- 4) **Network Coding** (2000-) via Relaying

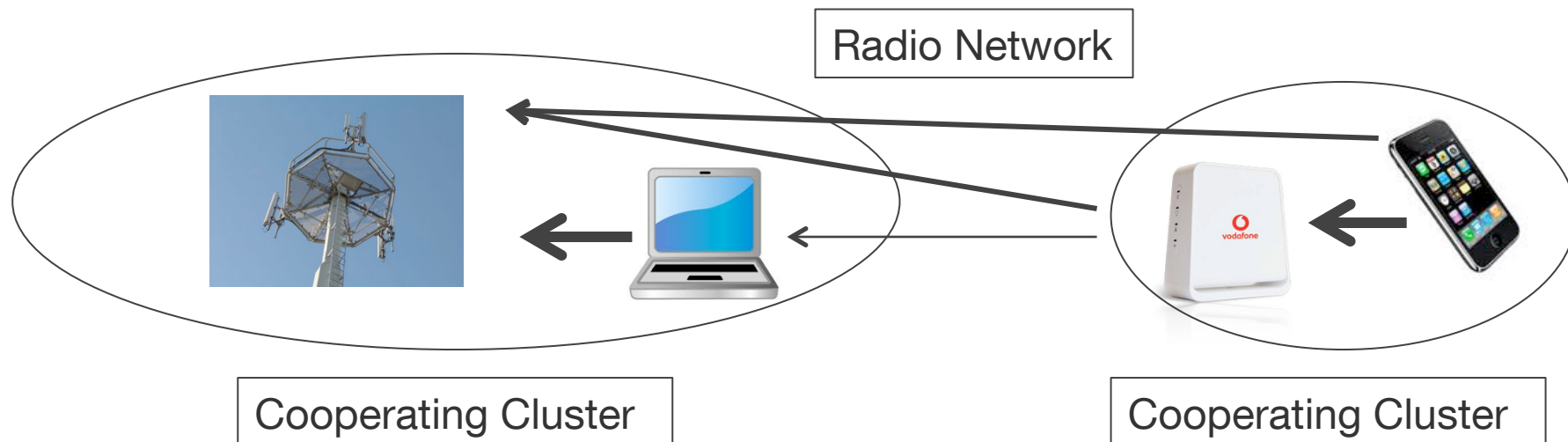


# 1) What is Cooperative Communications?

**Network** communication where nodes **cooperate**, rather than **compete**, to transmit data for themselves **and others**

- Classic networks: TDM/FDM, admission control, routing
- Question: **how** should devices **best** operate?

To answer this question fundamentally we need ...



## Network Information Theory

- Two Pioneers: **Ahlswede** and **Cover**
- Two of their many important contributions:
  - 1) **Network Coding** (2000) ... see examples on next pages
  - 2) **Relaying** strategies (1979)

Thomas Cover (7.8.38 - 26.3.12)



1990 Shannon Lecturer

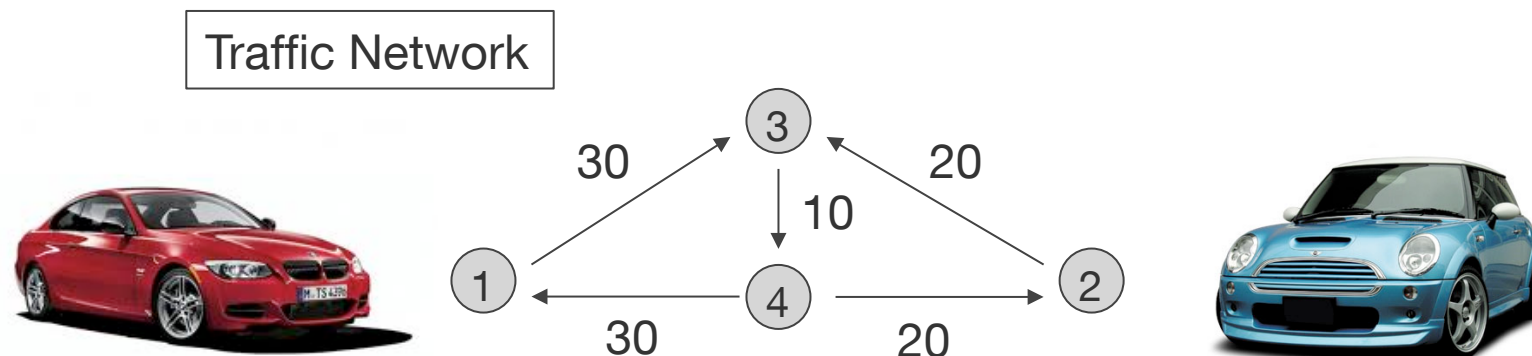
Rudolf Ahlswede (15.9.38 – 18.12.10)



2006 Shannon Lecturer

## Example: Traffic Network

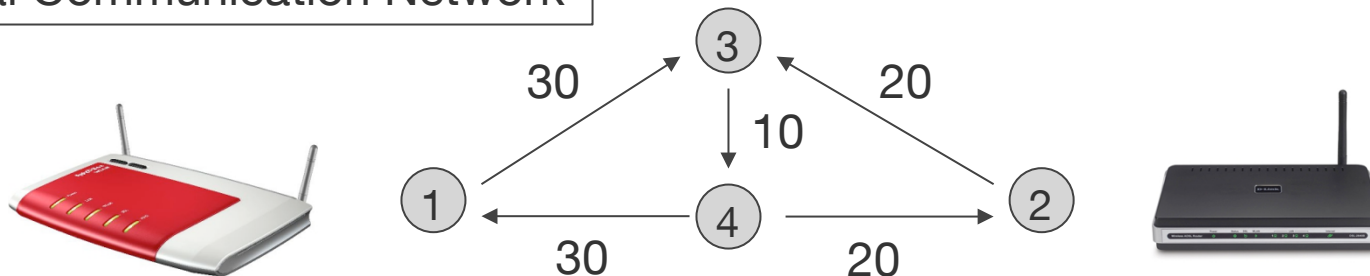
- Consider a traffic network with capacities in cars/minute. How many **cars** can flow between nodes 1 and 2 per minute?
- The bottleneck is clearly street (3,4). The answer is 10 cars per minute, **either** red **or** blue.
- But the answer is different for **digital communication** networks



## Example: Communication Network

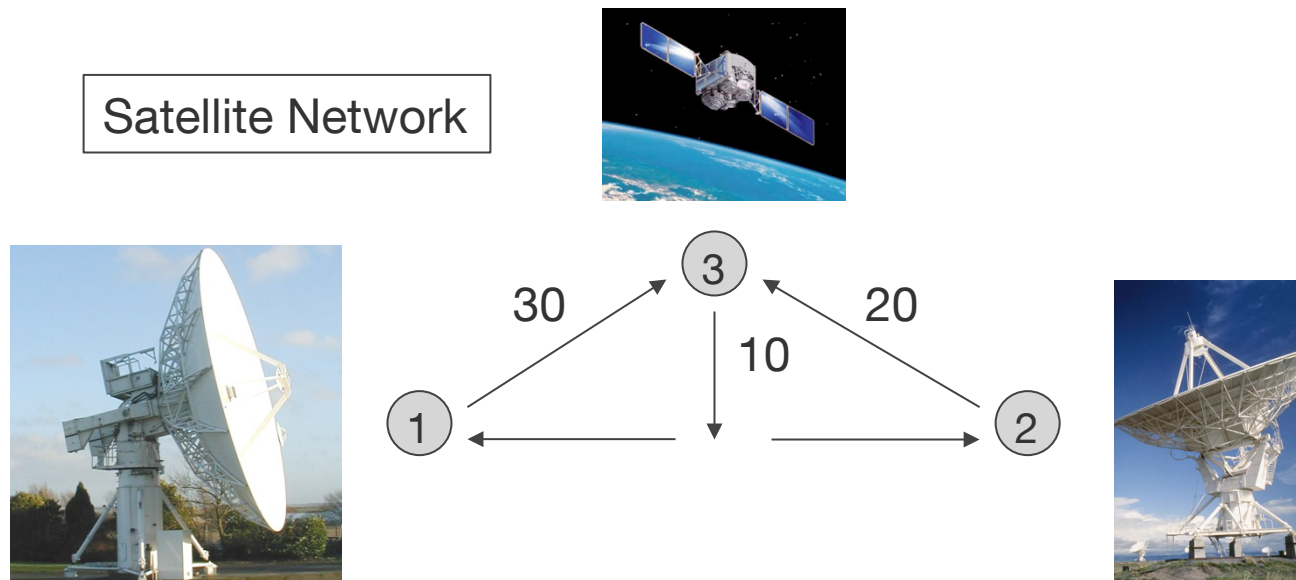
- Bottleneck: 10 Mbit/sec (say) but now **both** nodes can send 10 Mbit/sec **simultaneously** by using **network coding**
- Trick: node 3 takes bits  $B_1$  and  $B_2$  from nodes 1 and 2, respectively, and sends bit  $C=B_1\oplus B_2$  to node 4
- Node 1 computes  $B_2=C\oplus B_1$  and Node 2 computes  $B_1=C\oplus B_2$
- Many **recent** (2000-) results using Galois field algebra

Digital Communication Network



## Example: Two-Way Satellite Network

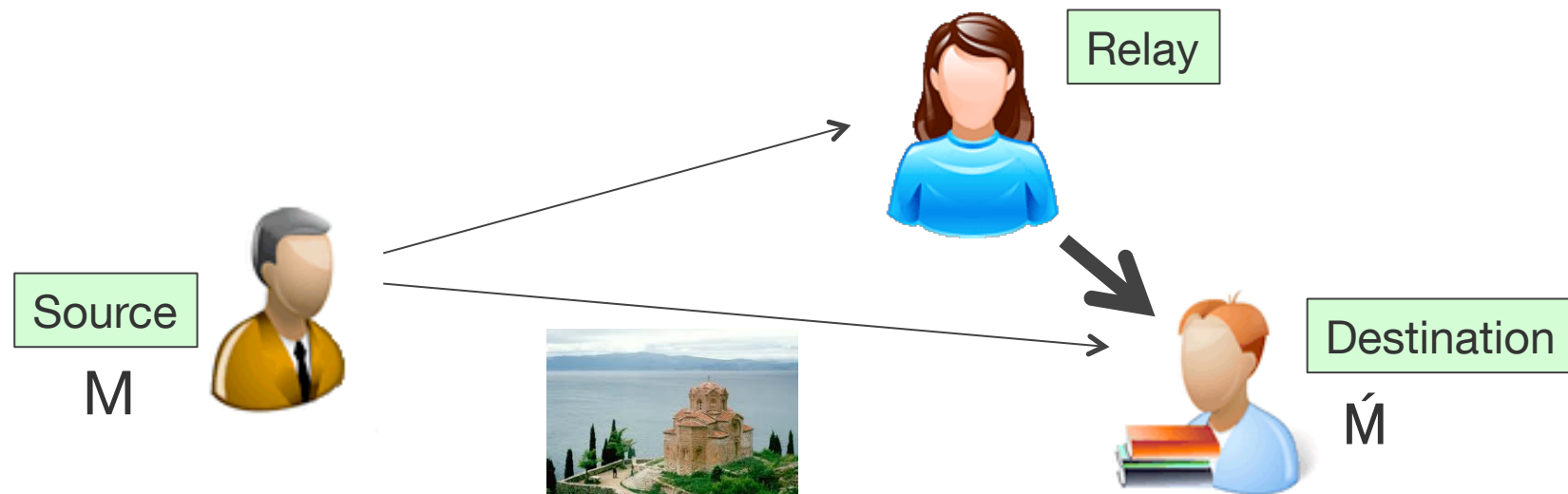
- Nodes 1 & 2 send  $B_1$  &  $B_2$  to node 3 that **broadcasts**  $C=B_1 \oplus B_2$
- Savings:  $\frac{3}{4}$  **time resources** or large **energy** gains via coding
- Demonstrator: TUM-DLR-IQW collaboration



## 2) Relaying

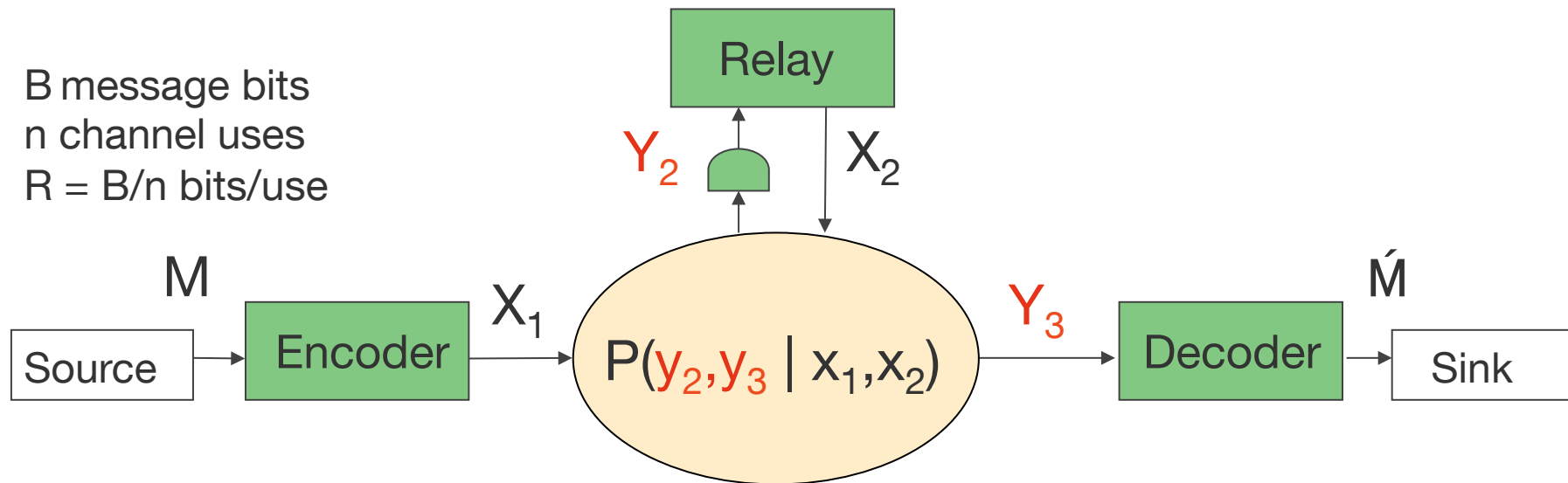
The core of **cooperative communications** is **relaying**

- Examples: amplification and multi-hop
- Question: are there **other** good strategies?  
To answer this question fundamentally we first study a basic ...



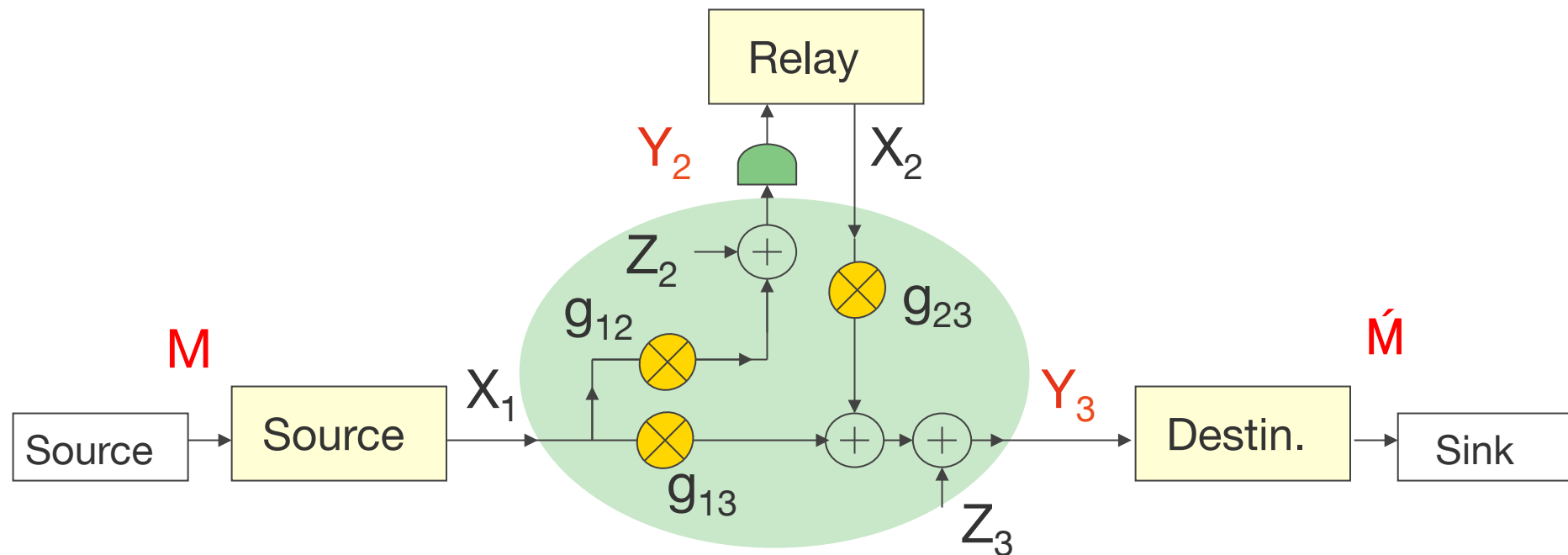


# Relay Channel (Capacity an Open Problem)



- Problem: maximize  $R$  for **reliability** ( $B$  and  $n$  can be large)
- **Network coding** doesn't seem to play a role, does it?

## Example: Gaussian Relay Channel



- Gaussian noise  $Z_t$ ,  $t=2,3$
- Cost:  $\sum_i |X_{ti}|^2/n \leq P_t$ ,  $t=1,2$   
(or use total power, peak power, etc.)

## Basic Methods and Recent Method

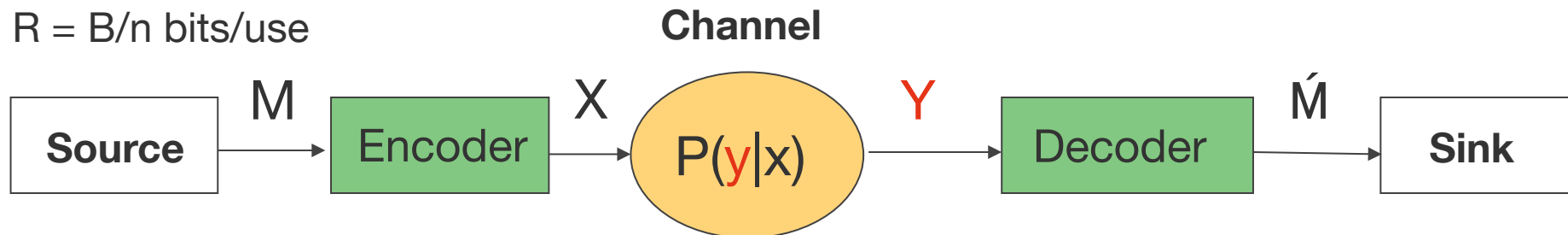
- ① Amplify-Forward (AF): **amplify**  $Y_2$   
Symbol Relaying: forward  $f(Y_2)$  with optimized  $f(\cdot)$
- ② Decode-Forward (DF): **decode** message and re-encode
- ③ New: Compute-Forward with Lattices

## Compression-Based Methods

- ① Classic Compress-Forward (CF), 1979
- ② Quantize-Map-and-Forward (QMF), 2007
- ③ Noisy Network Coding (NNC), 2010
- ④ **Short-Message NNC (SNNC)**, 2010

# Channel Coding Review (Warning: Some IT Math!)

B message bits  
n channel uses  
 $R = B/n$  bits/use



- Cost constraint for n symbols:  $\sum_i s(X_i, Y_i) \leq nS$
- Problem: find the maximum R for **reliable** communications (small  $\Pr[M \neq \hat{M}]$ ) under the cost constraint
- Shannon's **Capacity-Cost** Function:

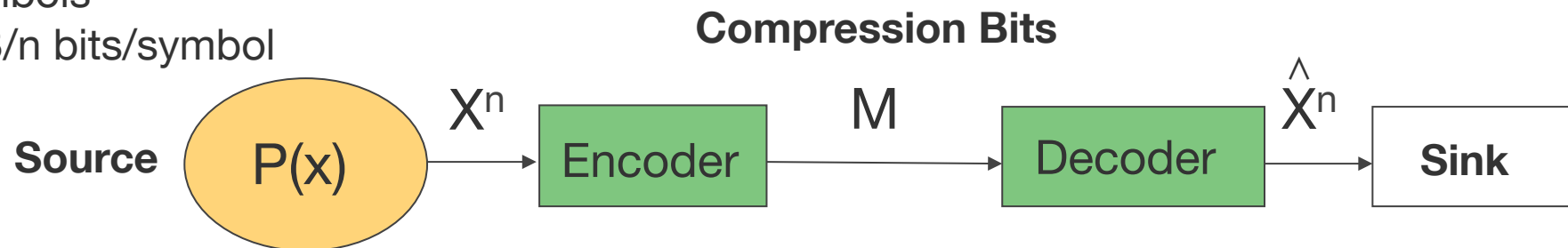
$$C(S) = \max_{P(x) : E[s(X, Y)] \leq S} I(X; Y)$$

# Source Coding Review

B compression bits

n symbols

$R = B/n$  bits/symbol



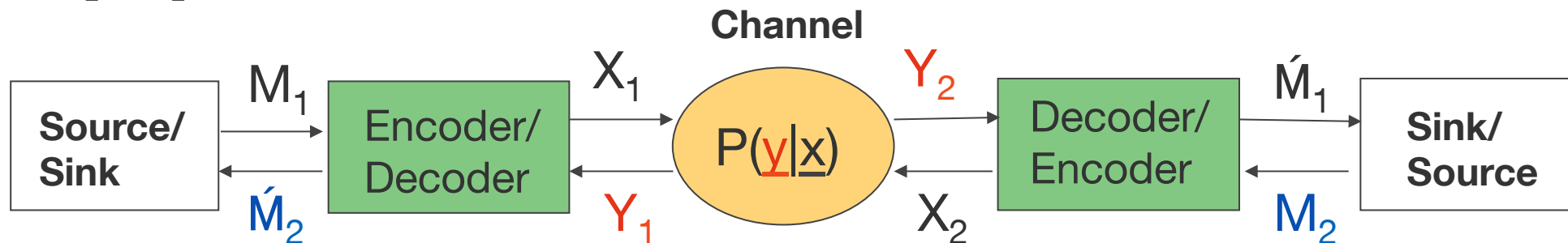
- Distortion constraint for n symbols:  $\sum_i d(X_i, \hat{X}_i) \leq nD$
- Problem: find the minimum R under the distortion constraint
- Shannon's **Rate-Distortion** Function:

$$R(D) = \min_{P(\hat{X} | x) : E[d(X, \hat{X})] \leq D} I(X; \hat{X})$$

## Two-Way Channel Review

$$R_1 = B_1/n \text{ bits/use}$$

$$R_2 = B_2/n \text{ bits/use}$$

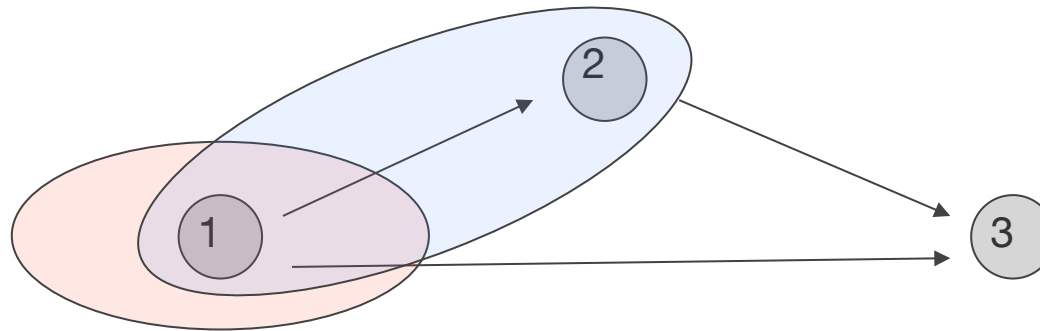


- Shannon's **Capacity** Bound: given  $P(x_1, x_2)$  we have

$$R_1 \leq I(X_1; Y_2 | X_2) \quad R_2 \leq I(X_2; Y_1 | X_1)$$

- Cut Bound**: partition network nodes into 2 sets  $(S, S^c)$  and develop similar bound. Method applies to **any information network** (biological, physical, financial, social, etc.)

## Example: Relay Channel Cut Bounds

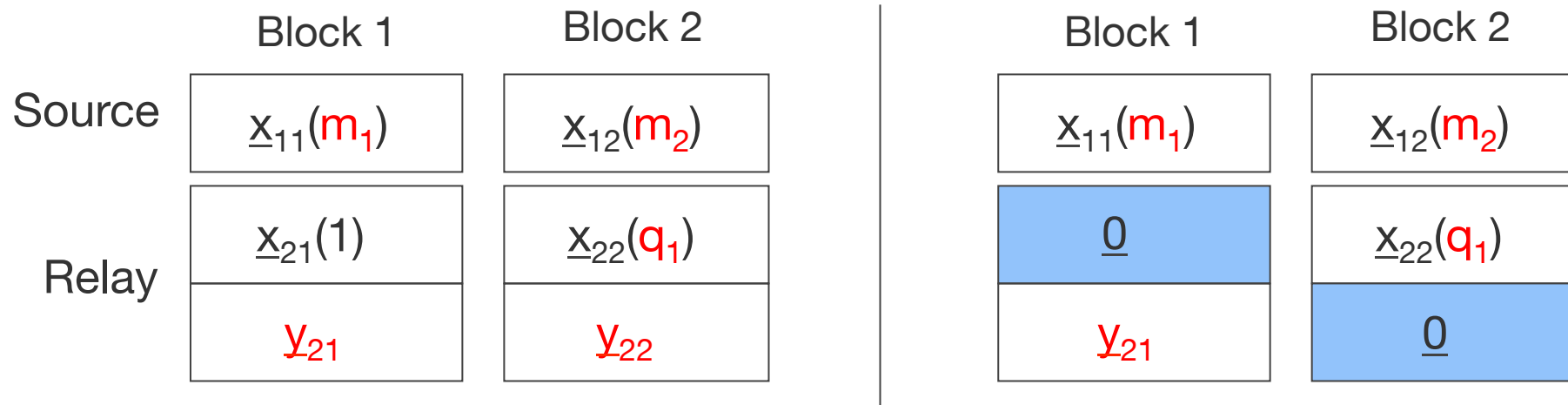


- Two cuts:  $(S, S^c) = (\{1\}, \{2, 3\})$  and  $(S, S^c) = (\{1, 2\}, \{3\})$

$$R < \max \min [ I(X_1; Y_2 Y_3 | X_2), I(X_1 X_2; Y_3) ]$$

where the max is over all  $P(x_1, x_2)$

## Full-Duplex vs. Half-Duplex



- Claim: Half-duplex rates are special full-duplex rates
- The trick is to **model properly**: a half-duplex channel is a “Discrete Memoryless Network”
- But coding for half-duplex nodes is easier to explain



① **Classic QF** (here with a Half-Duplex Relay)

	Block 1	Block 2
Source	$\underline{x}_{11}(\underline{m}_1)$	$\underline{x}_{12}(m_2)$
Relay	$\underline{0}$	$\underline{x}_{22}(\underline{q})$
	$\hat{\underline{y}}_{21}(\underline{q})$	$\underline{0}$

- Relay **quantizes**  $\underline{Y}_2$  to bits  $\underline{q}$  representing  $\hat{\underline{Y}}_2$  and transmits  $\underline{X}_2(\underline{q})$
- Simple: use **scalar** quantization (good for high-rate quantization)
- Better: use **vector** quantization after canceling effect of  $X_2$ .  
Quantization:  $I(\underline{Y}_2; \hat{\underline{Y}}_2 | X_2) < R_Q(D)$  where, e.g.,  $E[(\underline{Y}_2 - \hat{\underline{Y}}_2)^2] \leq D$
- FEC Coding:  $R_Q(D) < I(X_2; \underline{Y}_3)$

## Classic CF

	Block 1	Block 2
Source	$\underline{x}_{11}(\mathbf{m}_1)$	$\underline{x}_{12}(\mathbf{m}_2)$
Relay	$\underline{0}$	$\underline{x}_{22}(h(\mathbf{q}))$
	$\hat{\underline{y}}_{21}(\mathbf{q})$	$\underline{0}$

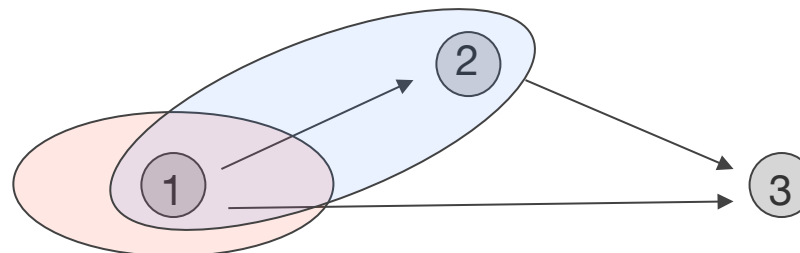
- Improvement #1: relay **hashes**  $\mathbf{q}$  (aka Wyner-Ziv coding)  
Quantization bound improves to:  $I(\mathbf{Y}_2; \hat{\mathbf{Y}}_2 | \mathbf{X}_2 \mathbf{Y}_3) < R_Q(D)$
- Improvement #2: **bursty** transmission helps at **low** SNR, i.e., use high power for short time intervals. Formally take into account via a “time-sharing” random variable  $T$ .

# CF Rate

	Block 1	Block 2
Source	$\underline{x}_{11}(\underline{m}_1)$	$\underline{x}_{12}(m_2)$
Relay	$\underline{0}$	$\underline{x}_{22}(h(\underline{q}))$
	$\hat{y}_{21}(\underline{q})$	$\underline{0}$

- **Final CF Rate\***: with a **cut-set** interpretation for 2 error events

$$R < \max \min [ I(X_1; \hat{Y}_2 Y_3 | X_2 T), I(X_1 X_2; Y_3 | T) - I(Y_2; \hat{Y}_2 | X_1 X_2 Y_3 T) ]$$

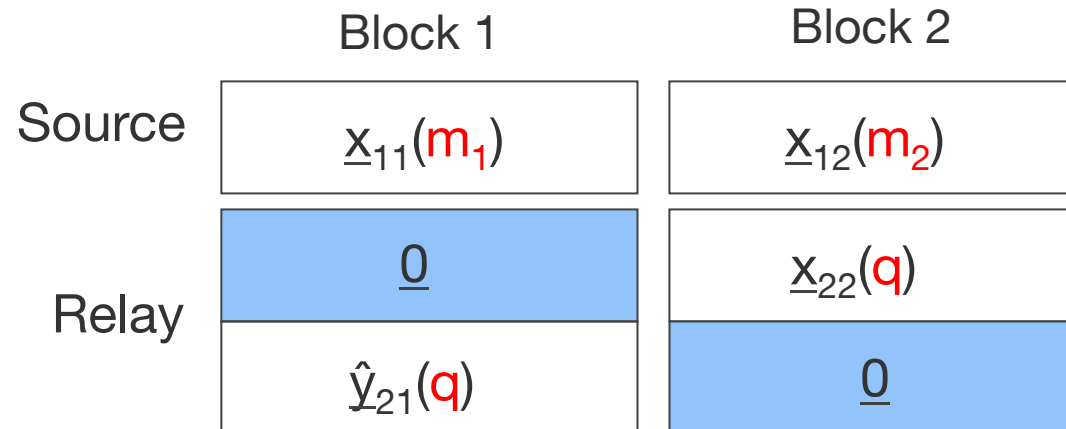


## ②③ QMF/NNC\*

	Block 1	Block 2
Source	$\underline{x}_{11}(\mathbf{m})$	$\underline{x}_{12}(\mathbf{m})$
Relay	$\underline{0}$	$\underline{x}_{22}(\mathbf{q})$
	$\hat{\underline{y}}_{21}(\mathbf{q})$	$\underline{0}$

- Source repetitively encodes a long message  $\mathbf{m}$   
Relay quantizes only (no hashing)  
Destination decodes  $\mathbf{m}$  and  $\mathbf{q}$  jointly
- Advantage: theory **extends** nicely to many sources and relays
- Issues: long (en/de)coding delay, limited DF possibilities

## ④ SNNC\*



- Results (since late 2010):
  - (1) classic **short** messages achieve same rates\*
  - (2) can use a mixed **joint/backward** decoding strategy\*
  - (3) can use **per-block** processing via a multi-hop initialization\*\*
  - (4) enables **DF** which improves flexibility, rates, and reliability\*\*
  - (5) extension to **multiple multicast**\*\*\*

## (1) Proof of Equivalence for 1 Relay

- Fix the coding distribution. **NNC** rate with **joint** decoding:

$$R < \max \{ I(X_1; Y_3|T)^* , \\ \min [ I(X_1; \hat{Y}_2 Y_3|X_2 T), I(X_1 X_2; Y_3|T) - I(Y_2; \hat{Y}_2|X_1 X_2 Y_3 T) ] \} \quad (1)$$

- Additional bound for **SNNC** with **backward** decoding:

$$0 \leq I(X_2; Y_3|X_1 T) - I(Y_2; \hat{Y}_2|X_1 X_2 Y_3 T) \quad (2)$$

- If (2) is violated, subtract (2) from 3<sup>rd</sup> expression in (1) to get:

$$R < I(X_1; Y_3|T)^*$$

- Proof method generalizes to many relays and sources \*\*

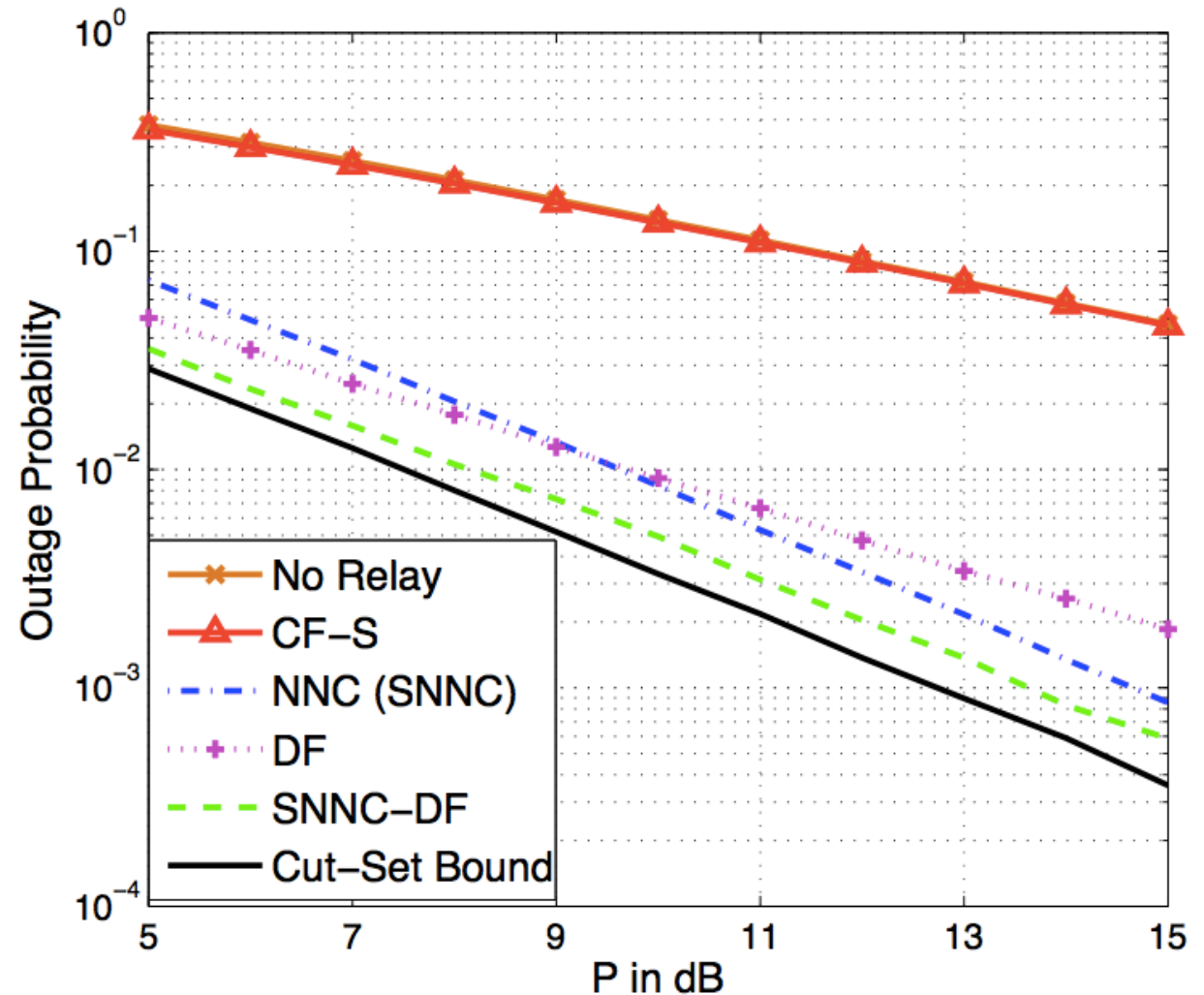
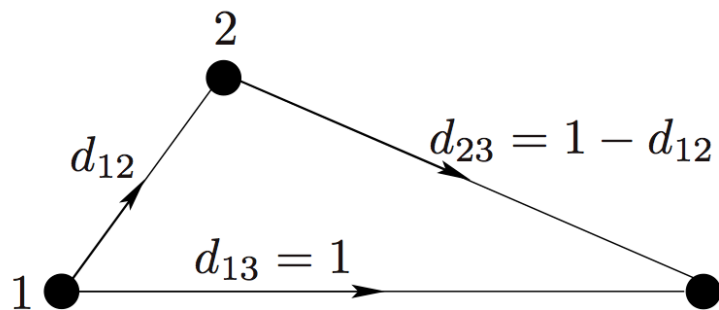
## (2)(3) Full-Duplex SNNC and Backward Decoding

	Block 1	Block 2	Block 3
Source	$\underline{x}_{11}(\mathbf{m}_1)$	$\underline{x}_{12}(\mathbf{m}_2)$	$\underline{x}_{13}(\mathbf{m}_3)$
Relay	$\underline{x}_{21}(\mathbf{1})$	$\underline{x}_{22}(\mathbf{q}_1)$	$\underline{x}_{23}(\mathbf{q}_2)$
	$\hat{y}_{21}(\mathbf{q}_1 \mid \mathbf{1})$	$\hat{y}_{22}(\mathbf{q}_2 \mid \mathbf{q}_1)$	$\hat{y}_{23}(\mathbf{q}_3 \mid \mathbf{q}_2)$

- Added: superposition encode  $\hat{y}_{2b}(\mathbf{q}_b \mid \mathbf{q}_{b-1})$  on  $\underline{x}_{2b}(\mathbf{q}_{b-1})$
- At block 3:  $\mathbf{q}_3$  is known and decode  $\mathbf{m}_3$  and  $\mathbf{q}_2$  jointly
- **NNC**: don't care about  $\mathbf{q}_b$  if  $\mathbf{m}$  is recovered; get 2 bounds
- **SNNC**: need  $\mathbf{q}_2$  for the next backward step; get 3 bounds  
(To initialize: can send  $\mathbf{q}_3$  to destination using various methods)

## (4) Enabling DF

- Single-relay,  $d_{12}=0.3$
- Attenuation exponent 3, slow Rayleigh fading, Gaussian noise
- Per-node power: relay power  $P$ , source power  $2P$
- Rate target = 2 bit/symbol
- SNNC gains 1 dB over NNC



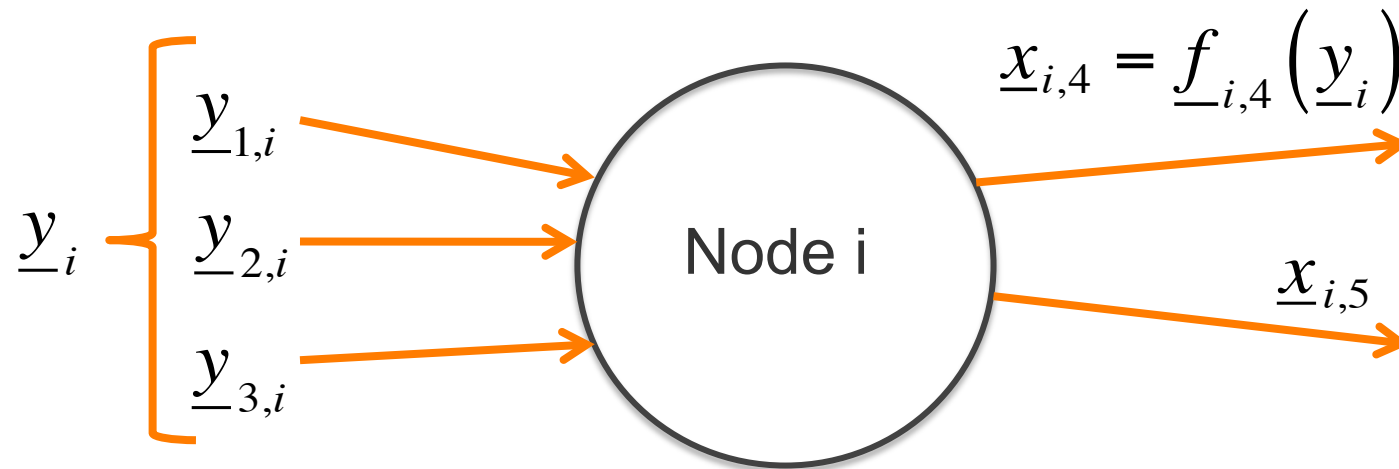


## Discussion: Deterministic and Gaussian Channels

- $R < \max \min [ I(X_1; \hat{Y}_2 Y_3 | X_2 T), I(X_1 X_2; Y_3 | T) - I(Y_2; \hat{Y}_2 | X_1 X_2 Y_3 T) ]$
- **Deterministic** channels:  $Y_2 = f(X_1, X_2)$  so choose  $\hat{Y}_2 = Y_2$  and achieve cut-bound with independent inputs  
(Note: capacity known and achieved by “Partial DF”)
- **Gaussian** channel: choose  $\hat{Y}_2 = Y_2 + \hat{Z}_2$  where  $\hat{Z}_2 \sim N(0, N_2)$ . Get
  - $I(Y_2; \hat{Y}_2 | X_1 X_2 Y_3 T=1) = I(Z_2; Z_2 + \hat{Z}_2) = \log(2N_2/N_2) = 1 \text{ bit}$
  - $I(X_1; Y_2 Y_3 | X_2 T=1) - I(X_1; \hat{Y}_2 Y_3 | X_2 T=1) \leq \log(2) = 1 \text{ bit}$
- R is within 1 bit of the cut-set bound with indep.  $X_1$  and  $X_2$
- High SNR: beamforming gains are small so virtually optimal  
Low SNR: bursty signals mimic high SNR, but no beamforming

## 4) Network Coding via Relaying

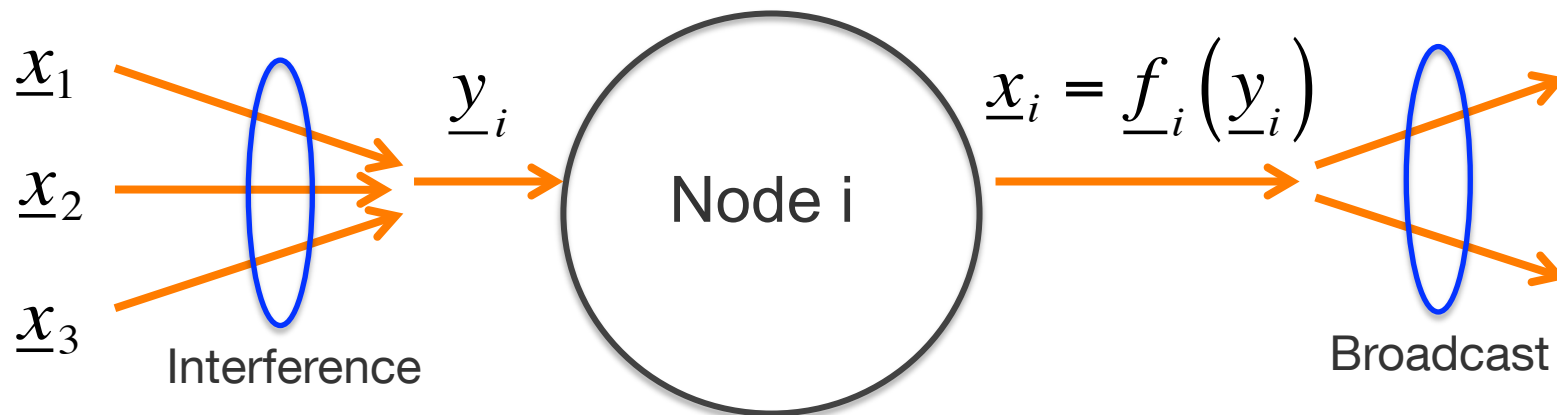
- **Classic** networks: for each **edge**  $(i,j)$ , **network coding** chooses  $f_{i,j}(\cdot)$  to **uniformly** map  $\{\underline{y}_i\}$  to  $\underline{x}_{i,j}$
- **Linear** coding:  $\underline{x}_{i,j} = A_{i,j} \underline{y}_i$  where  $A_{i,j}$  is often taken to be random



**Interface:** Discrete, Uniform Mapping, Independent across Nodes

# Network Coding for Wireless

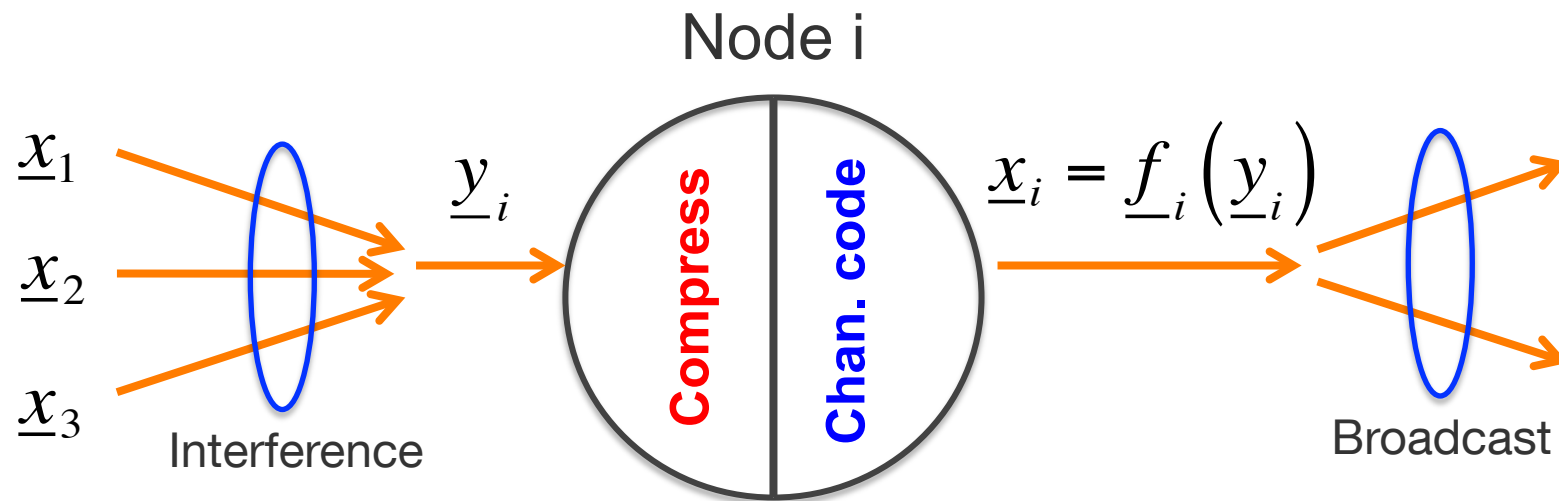
- Nodes with interference and broadcast constraints\*:  
For each **node**  $i$ , choose  $\underline{f}_i(\cdot)$  to **map**  $\underline{y}_i$  to an  $\underline{x}_i$
- Non-linear  $\underline{f}_i(\cdot)$  needed in general



**Interface:** Uniform Mapping. But what if the  $\underline{y}_i$  are continuous?

# Noisy (Digital) Network Coding

- **Two-step**: (1) compress (quantize/hash) and (2) channel code
- Method is **digital** (**binary** interface) and **non**-linear in general
- Surprise(?): includes classic network coding as a special case



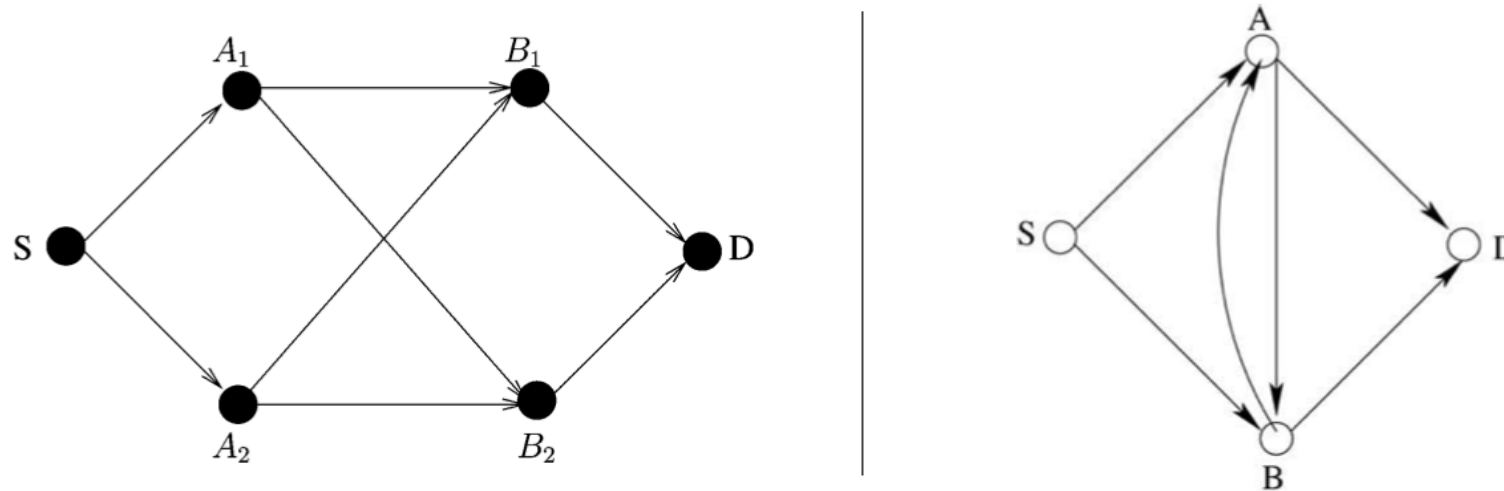
**Interface:** Digital, Uniform Mapping, Independent across Nodes

## Many Nodes, either Sources or Relays

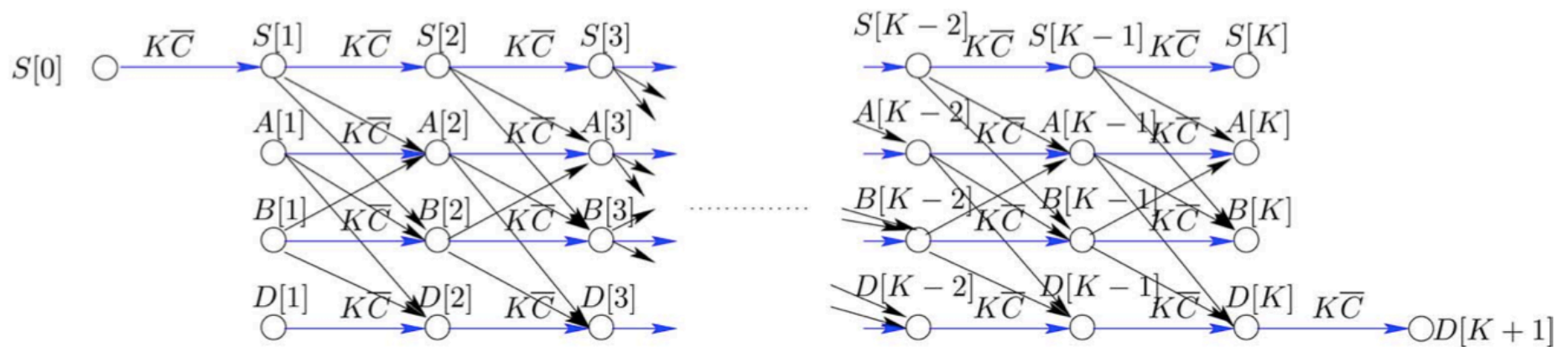
	Block b	Block b+1
Source	$\underline{x}_{1b}(\mathbf{m}_{1b})$	$\underline{x}_{1(b+1)}(\mathbf{m}_{1(b+1)})$
Source/Relay k	$\underline{0}$	$\underline{x}_{k(b+1)}(\mathbf{m}_{k(b+1)}, \mathbf{q}_{kb})$
	$\hat{\underline{y}}_{kb}(\mathbf{q}_{kb})$	$\underline{0}$

- **NNC properly extends** classic network coding
- **SNNC** achieves same rates
- Relation to Monday's talk:
  - theory was based on **layered** networks so that non-layered networks require "time expansion"
  - layered analysis is useful, but is not needed

# Layered Networks vs. General Networks

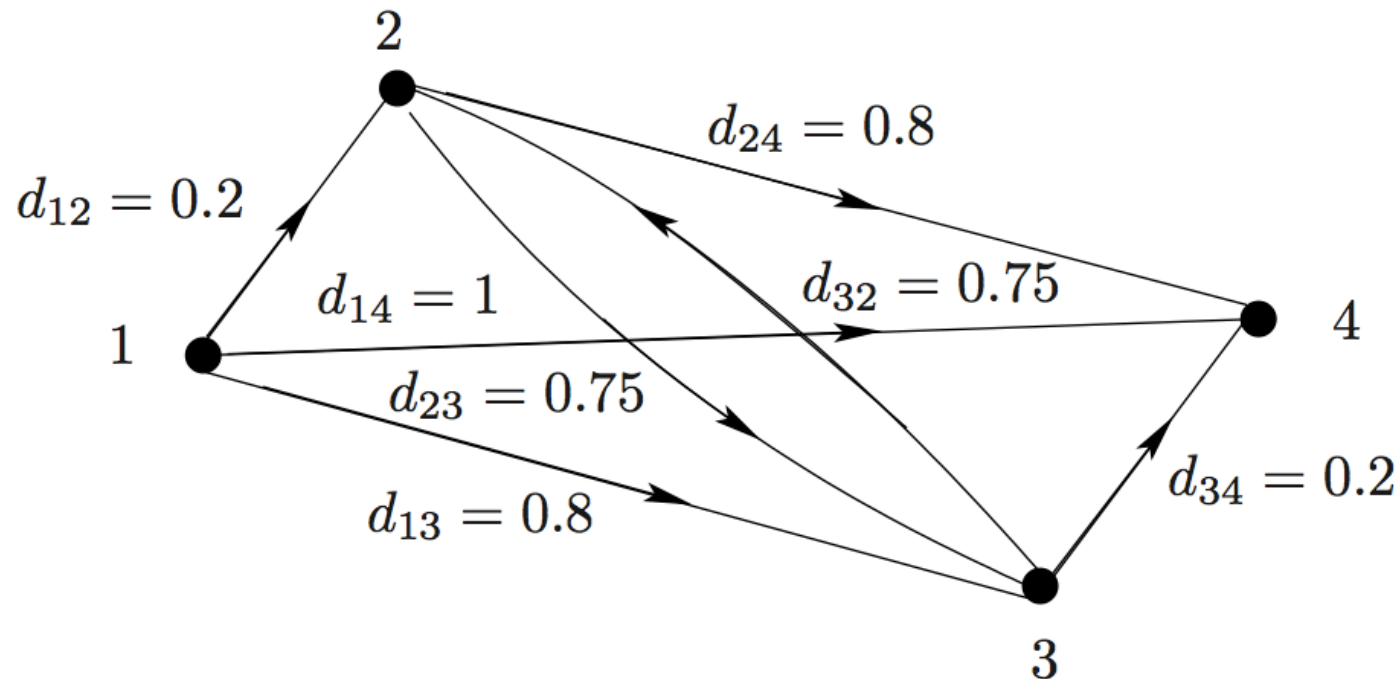


- Time-unfolded graph to get a layered network:

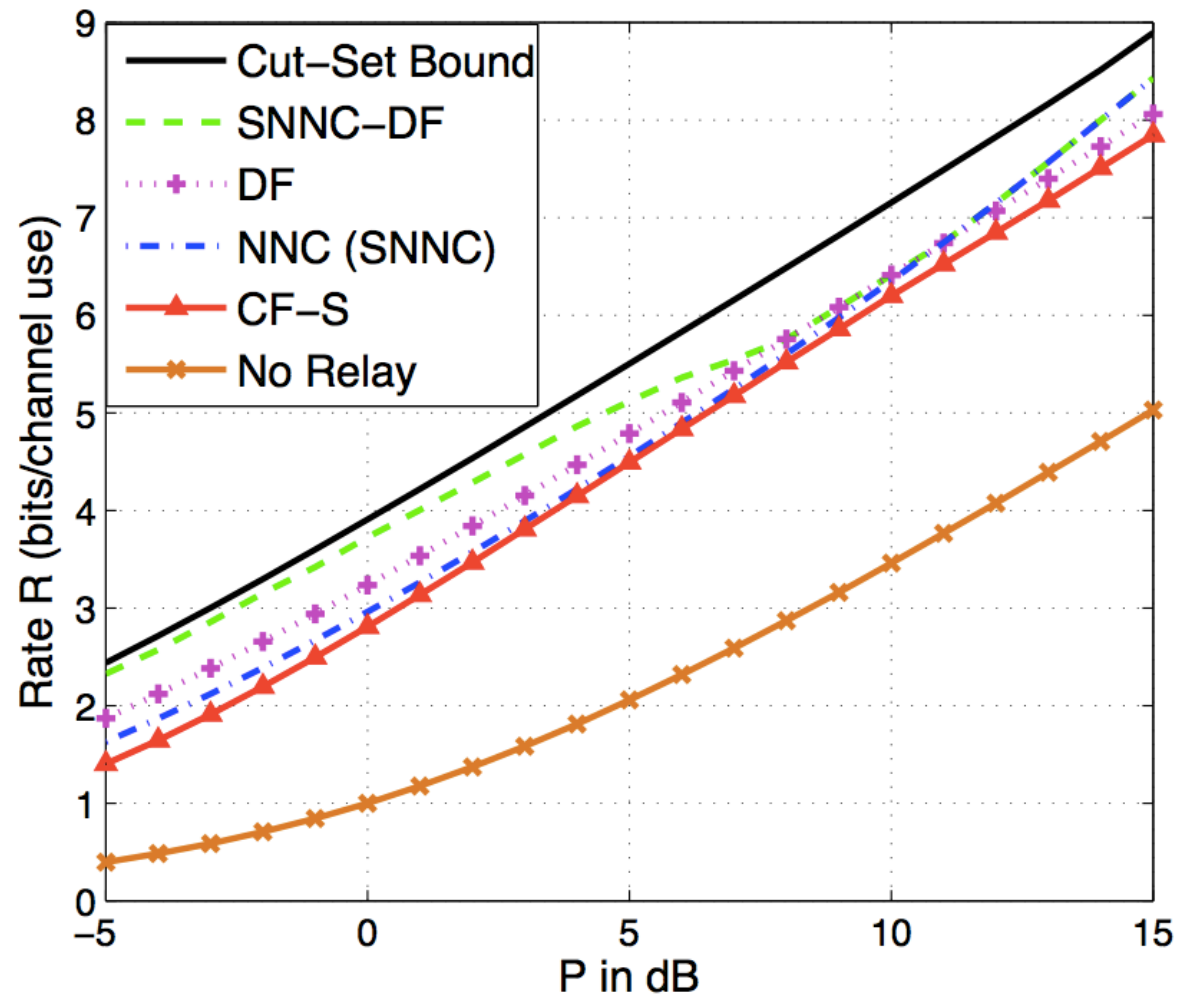


## Experiment with 2 Relays (Full Duplex)

- Source (node 1), Relays (nodes 2 and 3), Destination (node 4)
- AWGN, unit-variance noise, attenuation exponent 3
- Common, per-node, per-symbol power constraint



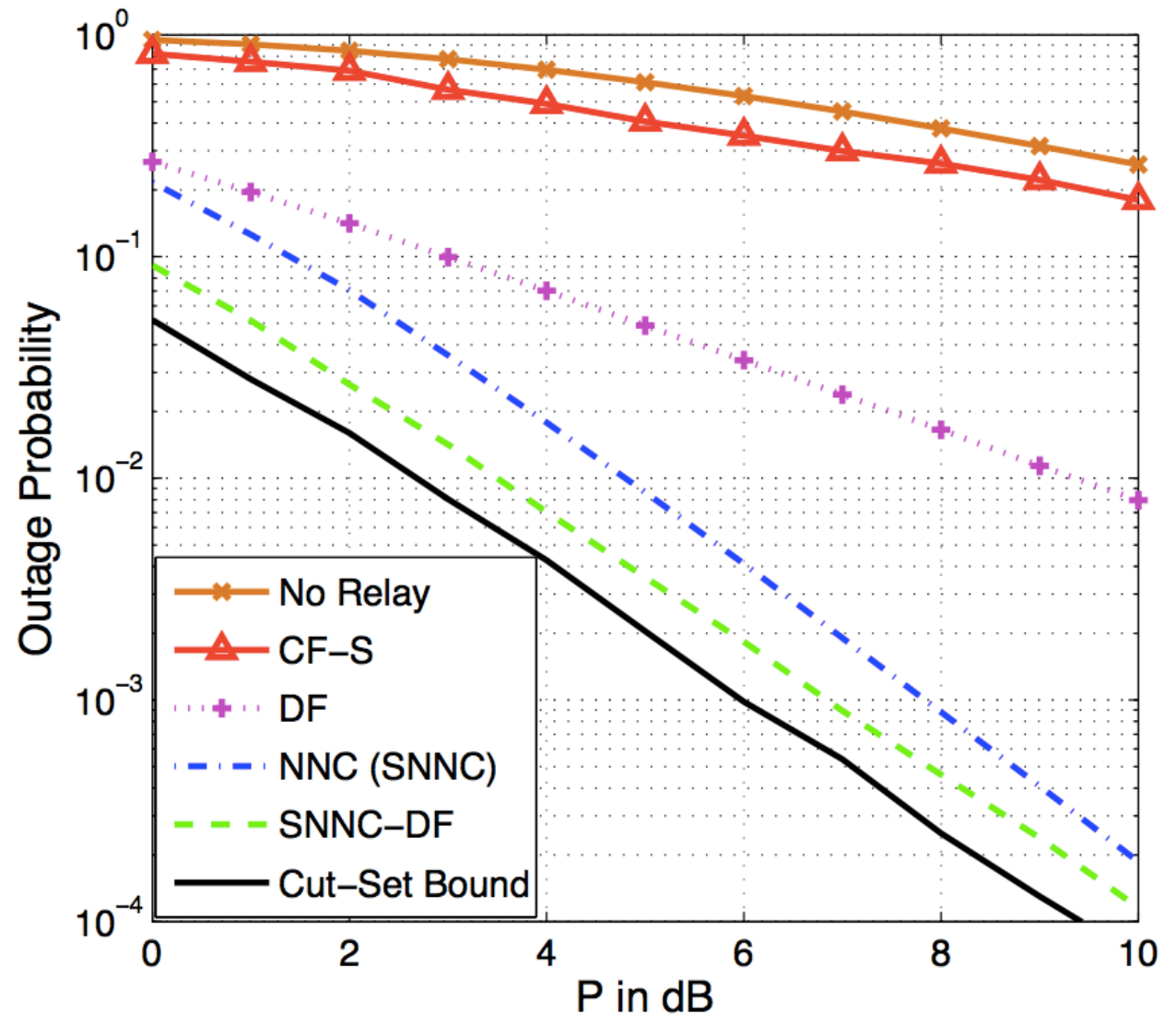
## Experiment with 2 Relays (continued)





## Experiment (cont'd)

- Attenuation exponent 3, slow Rayleigh fading, Gaussian noise
- Per-node power: common power constraint
- Rate target = 2 bit/symbol
- SNNC gains 1 dB over NNC

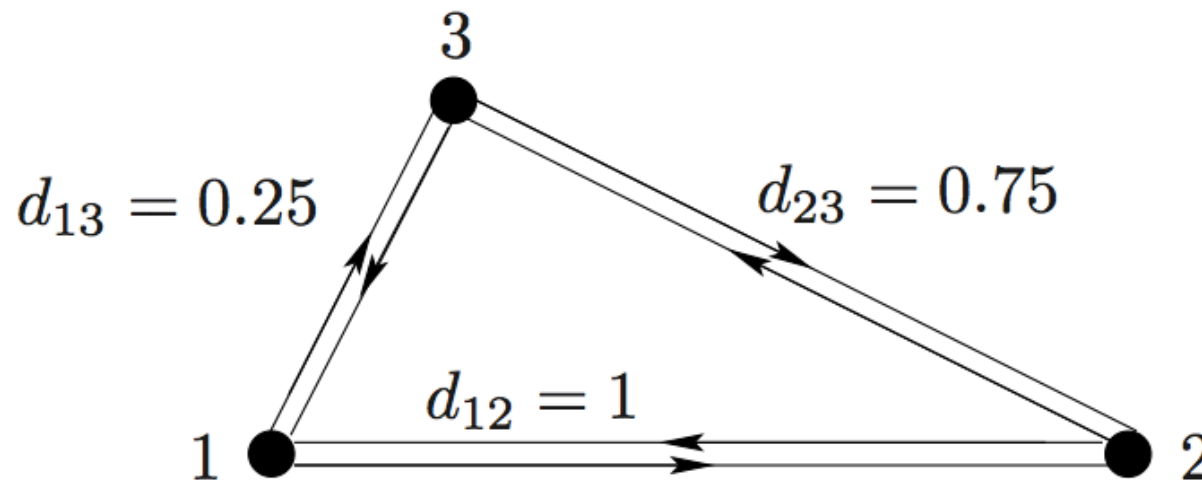


## Discussion\* (1 Source/Many Relays)

- $R_S < \max \min_{(S, \hat{S})} I(X_S; \hat{Y}_{\hat{S}} Y_d | X_{\hat{S}} T) - I(Y_S; \hat{Y}_S | X_S X_{\hat{S}} Y_{\hat{S}} Y_d T)$
- **Deterministic** (e.g. classic) networks: choose  $\hat{Y}_i = Y_i$  and achieve cut-set bound with independent inputs
- **Gaussian** networks: choose  $\hat{Y}_k = Y_k + \hat{Z}_k$ ,  $\hat{Z}_k \sim \text{CN}(0, N)$ , optimize  $N$ , to get within  $0.63|V|$  bits of the cut-set bound (a **true** upper bound with dependent inputs)
- Can use short messages and multi-hop/backward decoding to enable **DF** and **per-block** processing
- Results extend to many sources & many relays

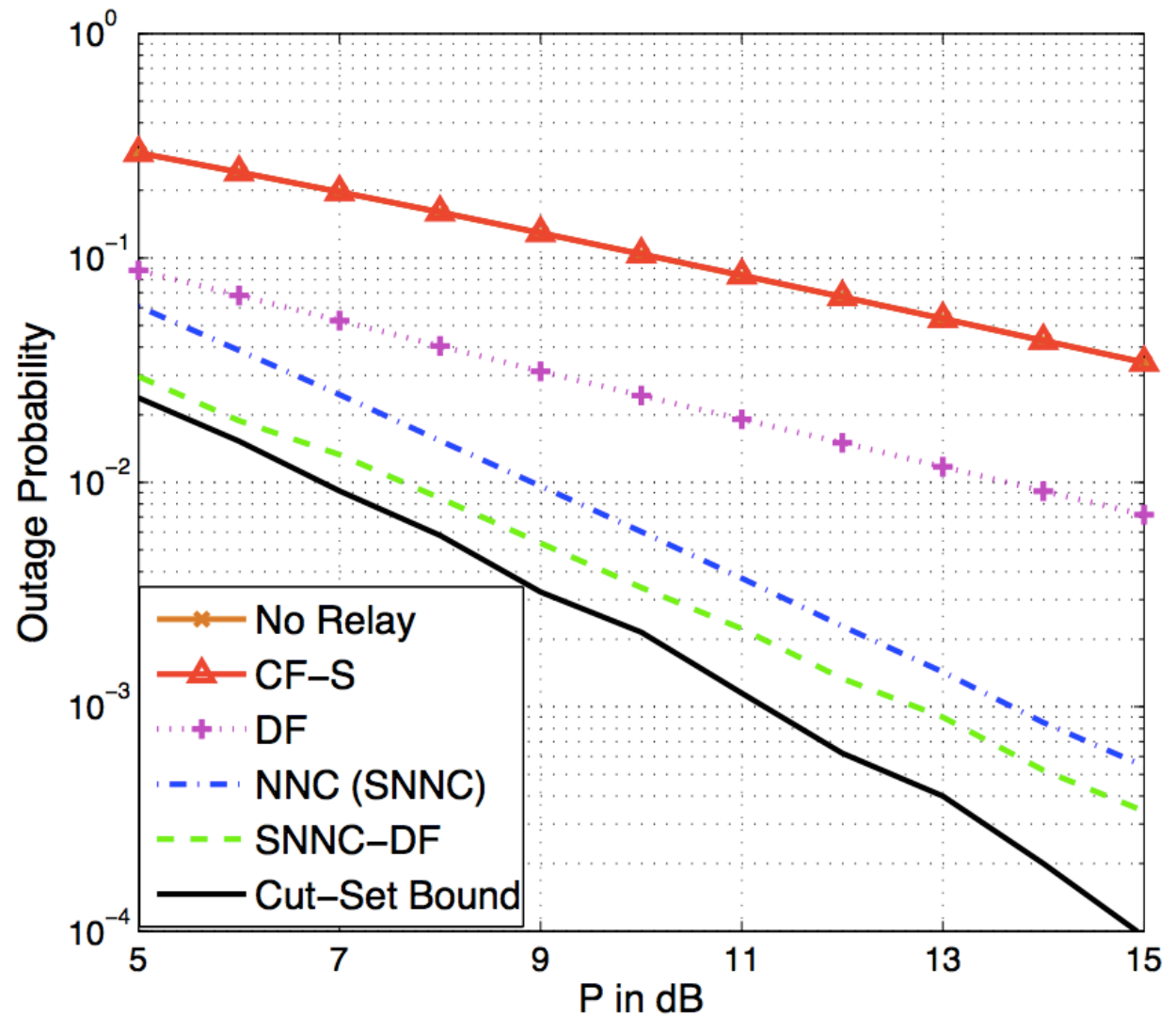
## Experiment with 2 Sources, 1 Relay (Full Duplex)

- 2 Sources (nodes 1 and 2), 1 Relay (node 3)
- AWGN, unit-variance noise, attenuation exponent 3
- Per-node, per-symbol power constraint,  $P_1=5P$ ,  $P_2=2P$ ,  $P_3=P$



## Experiment

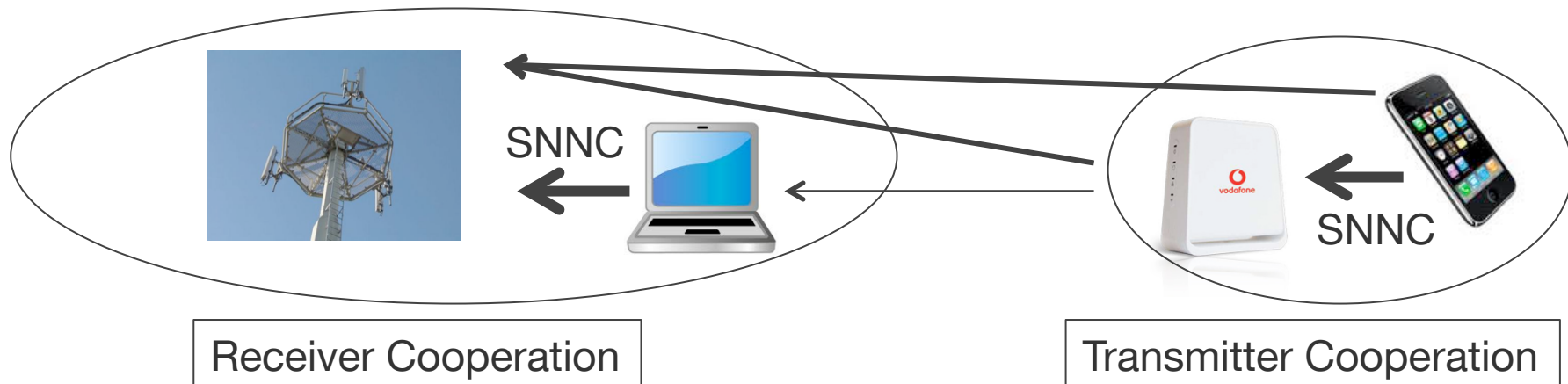
- Attenuation exponent 3, slow Rayleigh fading, Gaussian noise
- Per-node power: common power constraint
- Rate target 1=2 bit/symbol  
Rate target 2=1 bit/symbol
- SNNC gains 1-2 dB over NNC



## Application Question

Does SNNC have a practical future?

- relays can operate in a **distributed** and **autonomous** fashion
- achieves the “multi-output” gains of MIMO
- SNNC with DF achieves “multi-input” gains of MIMO
- method applies to **more** than radio, e.g., classic & optical networks
- **Difficulty and Research:** how to design practical codes and decoders?



# Extra Slides

## Proof\* of Equivalence for 1 Source/Many Relays

- Fix a coding distribution. Let  $V$  be the set of relays.  
Let  $S \subseteq T \subseteq V$  and  $\hat{S}$  be the complement of  $S$  in  $T$ . Define

$$R_T(S) = I(X_1 X_S; Y_{\hat{S}} Y | X_{\hat{S}}) - I(Y_S; \hat{Y}_S | X_1 X_T Y_{\hat{S}} Y)$$

$$Q_T(S) = I(X_S; Y_{\hat{S}} Y | X_1 X_{\hat{S}}) - I(Y_S; \hat{Y}_S | X_1 X_T Y_{\hat{S}} Y)$$

- QF/NNC bounds:  $R \leq \max_T \min_S R_T(S)$  (1)
- Backward** decoding:  **$T$  must satisfy  $0 \leq Q_T(S)$  for all  $S \subseteq T$**  (2)
- Suppose (2) is violated for some  $S$ . Then for all  $B$  with  $S \subseteq B \subseteq T$  we have  $R \leq R_T(B) < R_T(B) - Q_T(S) = R_{T \setminus S}(B \setminus S)$
- This means the destination can treat the  $X_k$  with  $k \in S$  as noise
- Repeat argument until all bounds (2) satisfied
- Proof method generalizes to many sources (ISIT 2012)