# The Degrees of Freedom of Compute-and-Forward 

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## Problem Setting



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■ Decode any deterministic function $a_{\ell}$ of the messages $m_{1}, \ldots, m_{K}$
■ Invert all computed functions $a_{1}, \ldots, a_{K}$ to recover the messages $m_{1}, \ldots, m_{K}$

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■ $C(P, \boldsymbol{H}, \boldsymbol{A})$ for linear function $\left\{\boldsymbol{a}_{\ell}\right\}$
■ Computation capacity

$$
C(P, \boldsymbol{H}) \triangleq \max _{\left\{a_{\ell}\right\}} C\left(P, \boldsymbol{H},\left\{\boldsymbol{a}_{\ell}\right\}\right)
$$

with maximization over all invertible functions $\left\{a_{\ell}\right\}$

## Computation Capacity <br> Some Special Cases and Bounds



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(Motahari et al. 2009)

$$
C(P, \boldsymbol{H}) \geq C(P, \boldsymbol{H}, \boldsymbol{I})=\frac{K}{4} \log (P)+o(\log (P))
$$

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(Telatar 1999)
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Lattice Codes


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■ Two transmitters, one receiver, $\boldsymbol{h}=(1,1)$
■ Decode $\boldsymbol{a}=(1,1)$

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## Questions

■ We already know that the computation capacity satisfies

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$\square$ What are the degrees of freedom achieved by lattice codes

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## Performance of Lattice Codes

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R_{L}(P, \boldsymbol{h}, \boldsymbol{a}) \triangleq \frac{1}{2} \log \left(\frac{1+P\|\boldsymbol{h}\|^{2}}{\|\boldsymbol{a}\|^{2}+P\left(\|\boldsymbol{a}\|^{2}\|\boldsymbol{h}\|^{2}-\left(\boldsymbol{h}^{T} \boldsymbol{a}\right)^{2}\right)}\right)
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## Theorem 1

For any $K \geq 2$ and almost every $\boldsymbol{H} \in \mathbb{R}^{K \times K}$

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Compare to:

- MIMO upper bound of $K$ on the degrees of freedom of compute-and-forward
■ Decode-and-forward lower bound of $K / 2$ on the degrees of freedom compute-and-forward


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Is compute-and-forward useful at high SNR?

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-O\left(\log ^{K^{2} /\left(1+K^{2}\right)}(P)\right) \leq C(\boldsymbol{H}, P)-\frac{1}{2} K \log (P) \leq O(1)
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## Lower Bound in Theorem 2

■ Channel computes noisy linear combinations with real coefficients

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- Use signal alignment to transform real linear combinations into integer linear combinations
- Use a linear outer code to transform noisy linear combinations into noiseless linear combinations


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Preliminaries

Groshev's Theorem
For any $\varepsilon>0$, and almost all $\left(h_{1}, h_{2}, \ldots, h_{K}\right) \in \mathbb{R}^{K}$,

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\min _{q_{i} \in \mathbb{Z}}\left|h_{1} q_{1}+\ldots+h_{K} q_{K}\right| \geq \Omega\left(\left(\max _{i}\left|q_{i}\right|\right)^{1-K-\varepsilon}\right)
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■ Minimum distance between $\left(x_{1}, \ldots, x_{K}\right) \neq\left(x_{1}^{\prime}, \ldots, x_{K}^{\prime}\right)$

## Lower Bound in Theorem 2

Preliminaries

## Groshev's Theorem

For any $\varepsilon>0$, and almost all $\left(h_{1}, h_{2}, \ldots, h_{K}\right) \in \mathbb{R}^{K}$,

$$
\min _{q_{i} \in \mathbb{Z}}\left|h_{1} q_{1}+\ldots+h_{K} q_{K}\right| \geq \Omega\left(\left(\max _{i}\left|q_{i}\right|\right)^{1-K-\varepsilon}\right) .
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- For $A \approx P^{(K-1) / 2 K}$ and $Q \approx P^{1 / 2 K}$ satisfy power constraint and can remove noise


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Signal Alignment

Consider a simple interference channel without noise

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& y_{2}=x_{1}+h x_{2}
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■ Groshev's Theorem to separate equations
■ Linear outer code to drive probability of error to zero

## Summary

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- Lattice codes achieve at most 2 degrees of freedom over a $K \times K$ channel
- However, a different implementation of compute-and-forward achieves $K$ degrees of freedom
- Matches MIMO upper bound of $K$ degrees of freedom
- Compute-and-forward achieves twice the degrees of freedom of decode-and-forward

