

# Design of a Distribution Matcher for Rate-Adaptive MacKay-Neal Codes

## Master's Thesis

### Project

In modern communication systems, rate adaptivity is crucial to allow for a dynamic adaption to the channel quality. MacKay-Neal (MN) codes enable rate adaptivity by introducing a distribution matcher mapping a uniform source into a sequence with a prescribed distribution before channel encoding. Thereby, the overall rate can be adapted by changing the distribution after the distribution matcher.

In contrast to other schemes, MN codes provide a rate adaptivity scheme with constant block length. This is interesting for different reasons. First, the rate can be adapted without changing the channel encoder/decoder. Hence, it possibly limits the implementation complexity. Furthermore, it facilitates the introduction of periodic synchronization markers, with benefits for frame synchronization.

The goal of this work is to design a suitable distribution matcher for an MN coding scheme that allows for simple decoding using the BCJR algorithm.

### Tasks

1. Understand MN coding schemes
2. Reproduce state-of-the-art approaches
3. Design of novel distribution matching schemes

### Requirements

- ✓ Interest in programming (C++, Python or Matlab)
- ✓ Interest in channel coding and communications

### Institute

Communications  
Engineering  
Lab

Hertzstr. 16  
Gebäude 06.45  
76187 Karlsruhe  
[www.cel.kit.edu](http://www.cel.kit.edu)

### Contact

M.Sc.  
Haizheng Li

Room 212  
[haizheng.li@kit.edu](mailto:haizheng.li@kit.edu)

M.Sc.  
Jonathan Mandelbaum

Room 204  
[jonathan.mandelbaum@kit.edu](mailto:jonathan.mandelbaum@kit.edu)