



# A Construction of Non-binary Polar codes with 4 by 4 kernels

**Sung Chul Byun, Gangsan Kim, Won Jun Kim, and Hong-Yeop Song**  
Yonsei University

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# The main flow of this talk

**First,**

We investigate the FER of non-binary polar codes with all the non-binary  $2 \times 2$  kernels of type  $\begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ \eta & 1 \end{bmatrix}$



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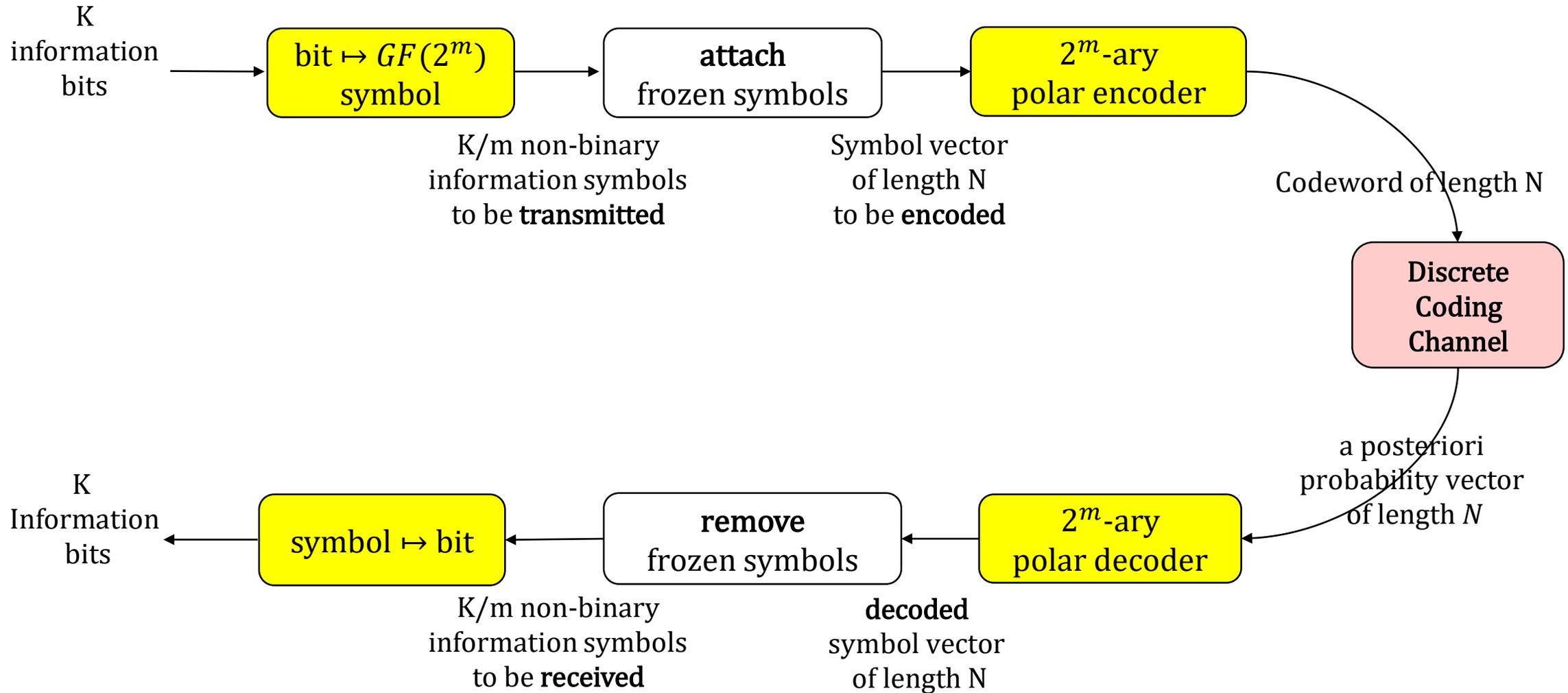
**First,**

We investigate the FER of non-binary polar codes with all the non-binary  $2 \times 2$  kernels of type  $\begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ \eta & 1 \end{bmatrix}$

**Second,**

We propose non-binary  $4 \times 4$  kernels with the same complexity of encoding and SC decoding but better FER performance

# System model





bit  $\mapsto GF(2^m)$   
symbol

$F_2^4$

$F_{2^4}$



**Binary 4-bits**

**conversion**

**Symbols in  $GF(2^4)$**

Ex) 1 1 0 1

$$1 \cdot \alpha^0 + 1 \cdot \alpha^1 + 0 \cdot \alpha^2 + 1 \cdot \alpha^3 = \begin{cases} 0 \\ \text{or} \\ \alpha^t \end{cases}$$

$b_0 \ b_1 \ b_2 \ b_3$

$$b_0 \cdot \alpha^0 + b_1 \cdot \alpha^1 + b_2 \cdot \alpha^2 + b_3 \cdot \alpha^3 \in GF(2^4)$$

**4 bits**



**basis of  $GF(2^4)$**

**Polar encoding  
with kernel**

Minimal polynomial ( $GF(16)$ )	Root (power of $\alpha$ )
$x + 1$	0
$x^4 + x + 1$	1, 2, 4, 8
$x^4 + x^3 + x^2 + x + 1$	3, 6, 12, 9
$x^2 + x + 1$	5, 10
$x^4 + x^3 + 1$	7, 14, 13, 11

$\{1, \alpha, \alpha^2, \alpha^3\}$

$\{1, \alpha^2, \alpha^4, \alpha^6\}$

$\{1, \alpha^4, \alpha^8, \alpha^{12}\}$

$\{1, \alpha^8, \alpha^{16}, \alpha^{24}\}$



$$\begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ \alpha^z & 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

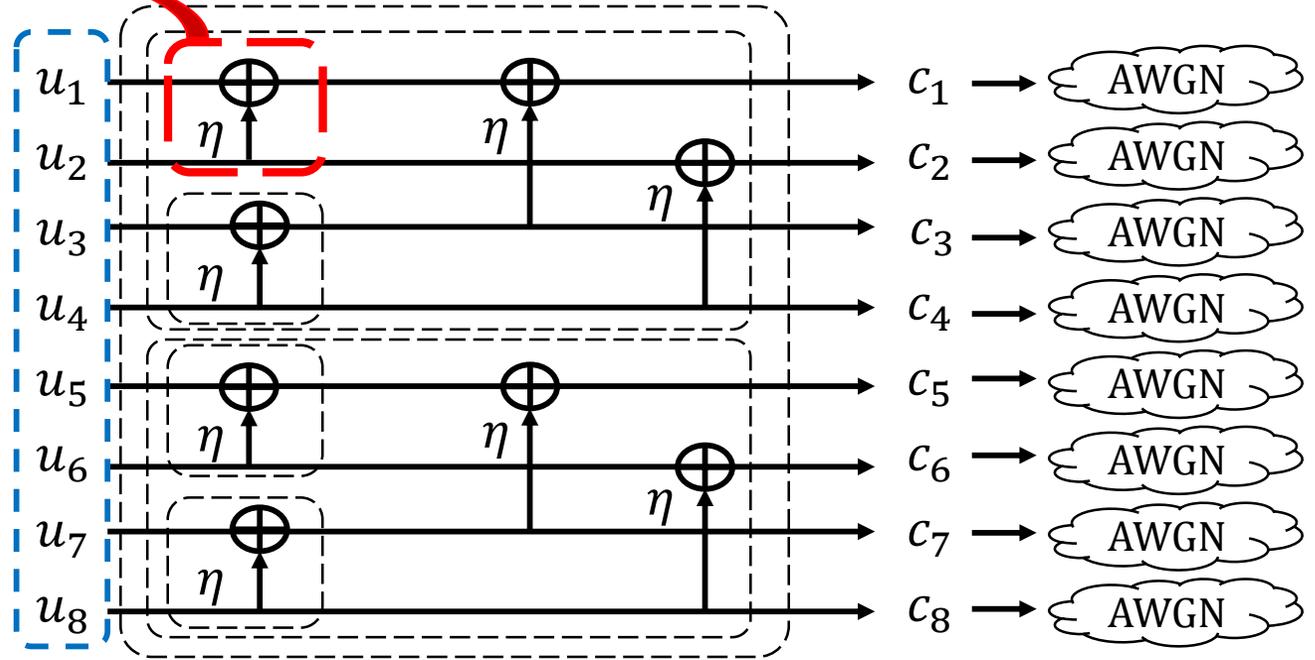
$z = 1, 3, 5, 7$



# Encoding with $2 \times 2$ kernels $\begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ \eta & 1 \end{bmatrix}$

- $2 \times 2$  kernel :  $F_2 = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ \eta & 1 \end{bmatrix}, \eta \in GF(2^m)$

- $\mathbf{c} = \mathbf{uG}$  where  $G = F_2^{\otimes r} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ \eta & 1 \end{bmatrix}^{\otimes r}$



Some frozen symbols are sent thru the channel in which the reliability is lower; and information symbols are sent thru the channels in which the reliability is higher

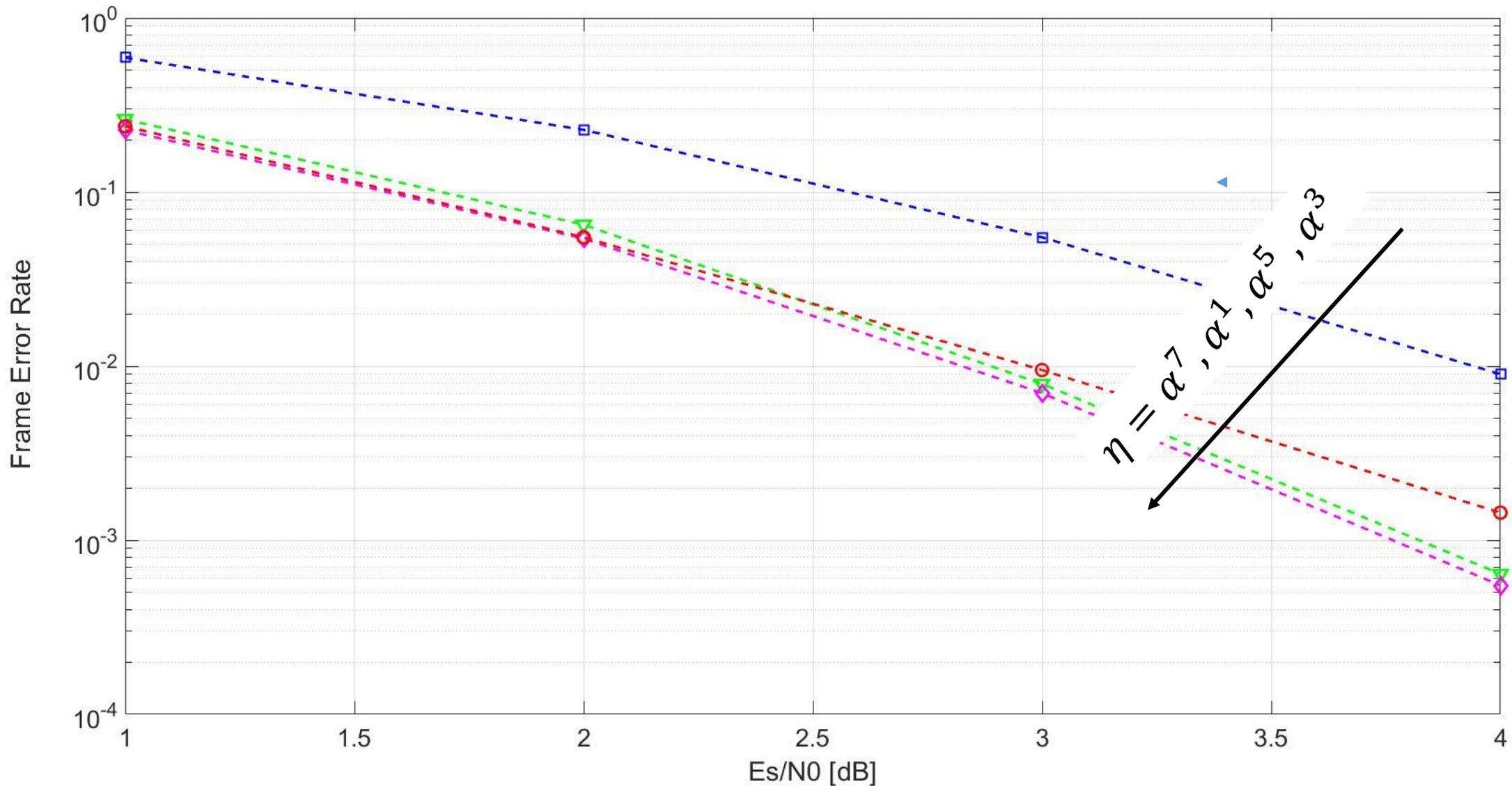


# Simulation environment

- Non-binary symbols over GF(16)
- Code length : 64 symbols = 256 bits
- Code rate :  $\frac{1}{2}$  (32 frozen symbols and 32 data symbols)
- **2 × 2 kernels**  $\begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ \eta & 1 \end{bmatrix}$
- Channel : AWGN channel
- Modulation : 16 QAM (each symbol has 4-bit meaning)
- Decoding : Successive Cancellation (SC) decoding



# Simulation result with $2 \times 2$ kernels $\begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ \eta & 1 \end{bmatrix}$





# Question

Can we improve the performance using some  **$4 \times 4$  kernels** instead of  **$2 \times 2$  kernels**, while maintaining the complexity of encoding/SC decoding ?

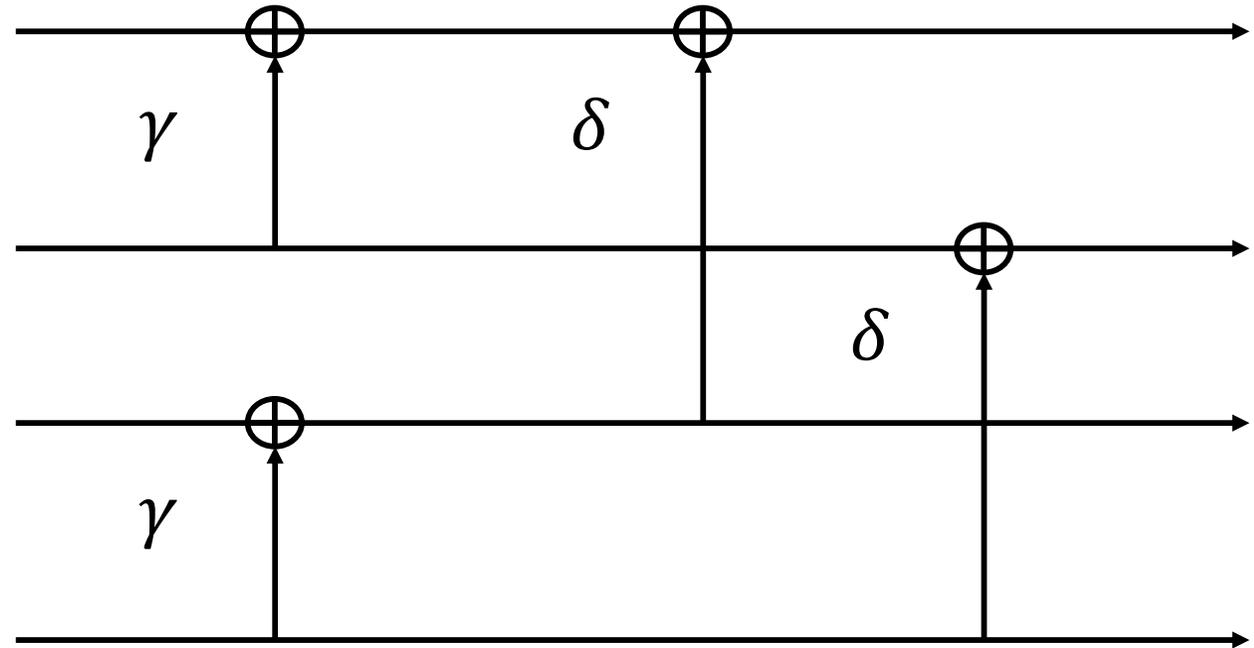
# Proposed type of $4 \times 4$ kernel

$$F = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ \gamma & 1 & 0 & 0 \\ \delta & 0 & 1 & 0 \\ \gamma\delta & \delta & \gamma & 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$= \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ \gamma & 1 \end{bmatrix} \otimes \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ \delta & 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

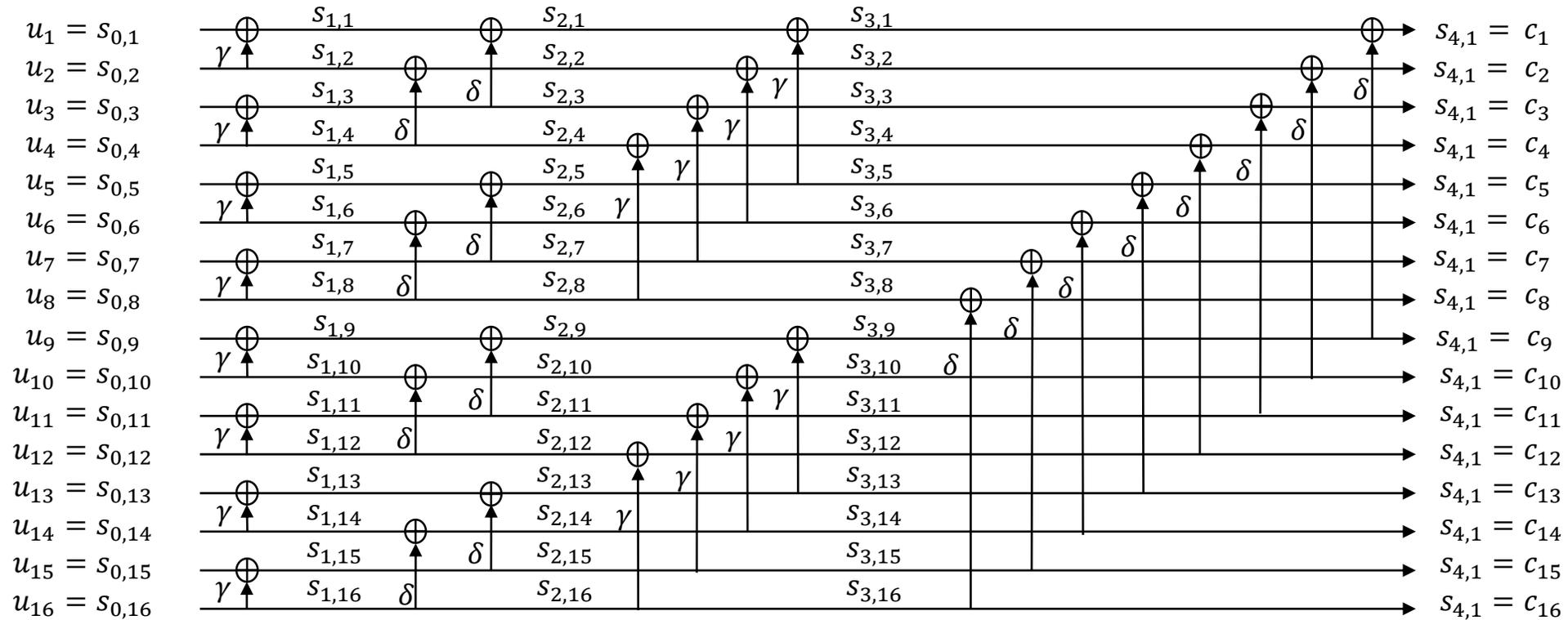
where

$$\gamma, \delta \in GF(2^m), \gamma, \delta \neq 0$$

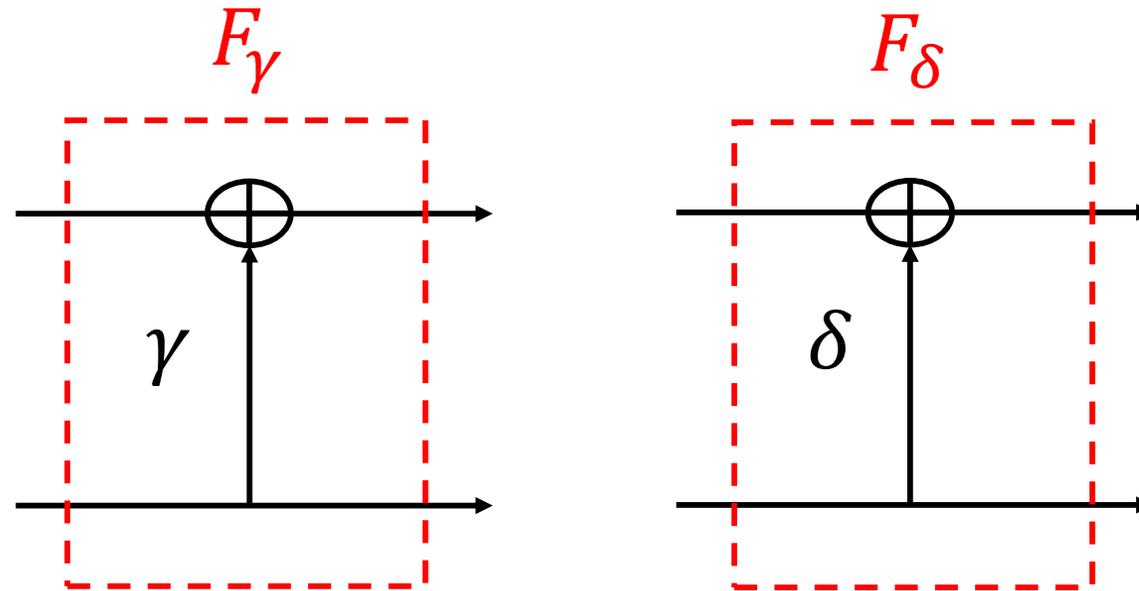


The **same complexity of encoding/decoding**  
as those using  $2 \times 2$  kernels  $\begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ \eta & 1 \end{bmatrix}$

# Non-binary polar code of length 16 using the proposed $4 \times 4$ kernel



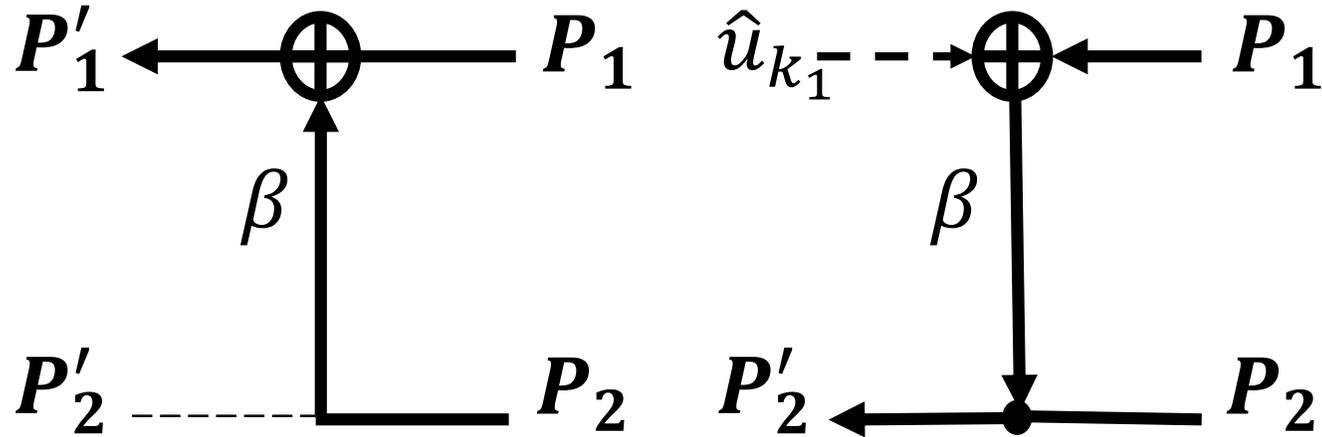
# Sub-kernels $F_\gamma$ and $F_\delta$ for $\gamma$ and $\delta$ of the proposed $4 \times 4$ kernels



The sub-kernels  $F_\gamma$  and  $F_\delta$  appear alternately during the encoding and decoding process



# The message update rule (2/2)



$$P'_1(u_{k_1}) = \frac{1}{2^m} \sum_{u_{k_2} \in GF(2^m)} P_1(u_{k_1} \oplus \beta u_{k_2}) P_2(u_{k_2})$$

$$P'_2(u_{k_2}) = \frac{1}{2^m} P_1(u_{k_1} \oplus \beta u_{k_2}) P_2(u_{k_2})$$

In decoding phase  $k_i$ ,

$$P_{U_{k_i}|Y^n, U^{k_{i-1}}} = \left[ \dots, P_{U_{k_i}|Y^n, U^{k_{i-1}}}(u|y^n, u^{k_{i-1}}), \dots \right], \text{ where } u \in GF(2^m)$$

$$\hat{u}_{k_i} = \underset{u \in GF(2^m)}{\operatorname{argmax}} P_{U_{k_i}|Y^n, U^{k_{i-1}}}(u|y^n, u^{k_{i-1}})$$

by recursively updating the messages



# Simulation environment

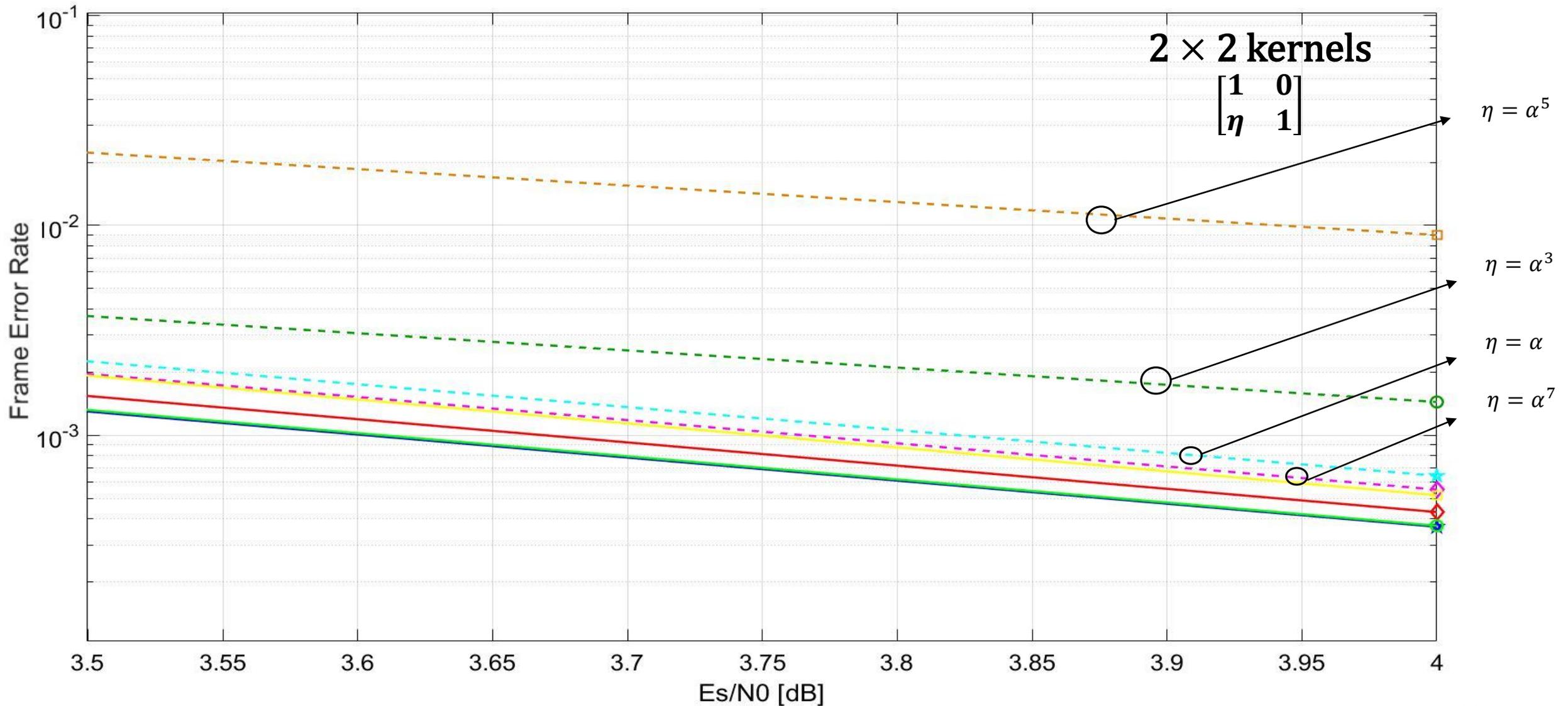


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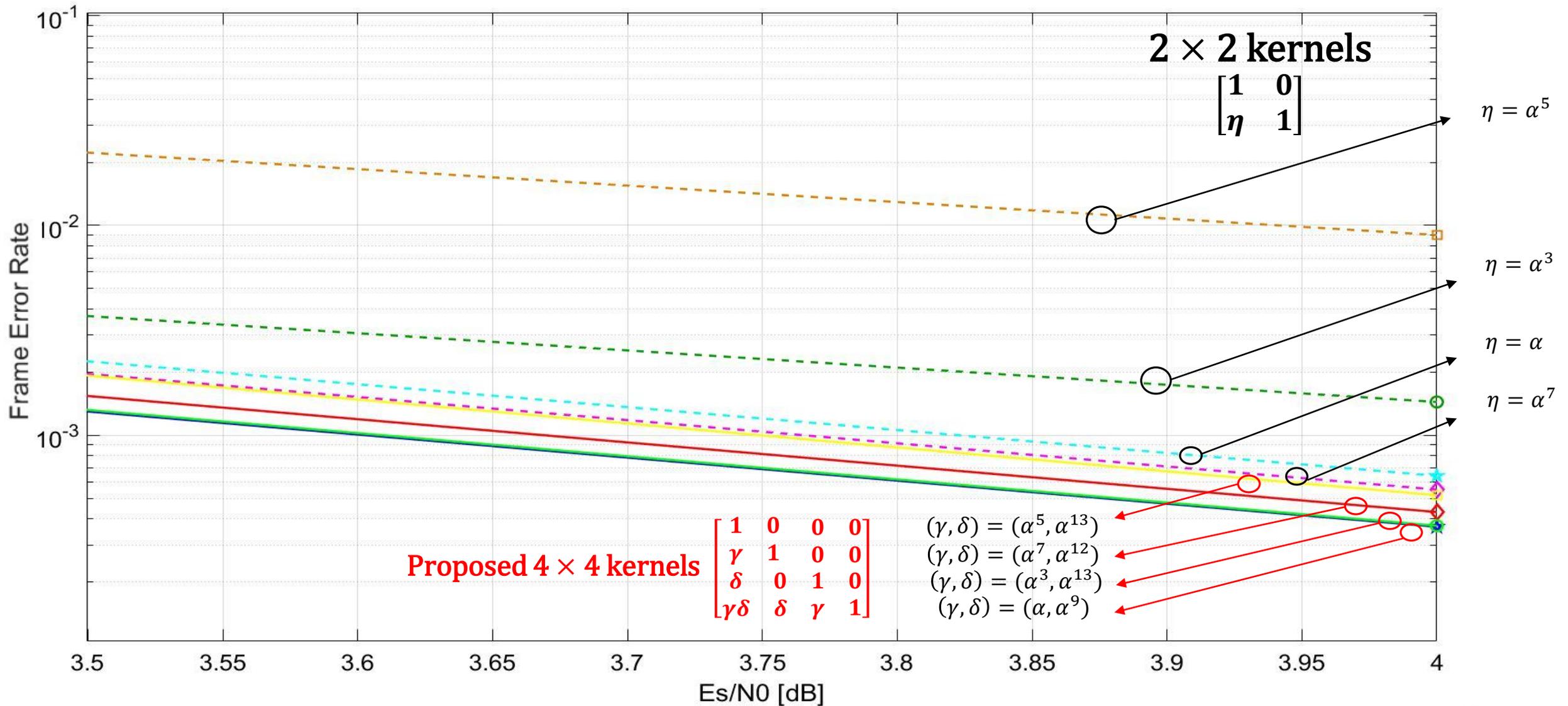
- **4 × 4 kernels** 
$$\begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ \gamma & 1 & 0 & 0 \\ \delta & 0 & 1 & 0 \\ \gamma\delta & \delta & \gamma & 1 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ \gamma & 1 \end{bmatrix} \otimes \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ \delta & 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

- Channel : AWGN channel
- Modulation : 16 QAM (each symbol has 4-bit meaning)
- Decoding : Successive Cancellation (SC) decoding

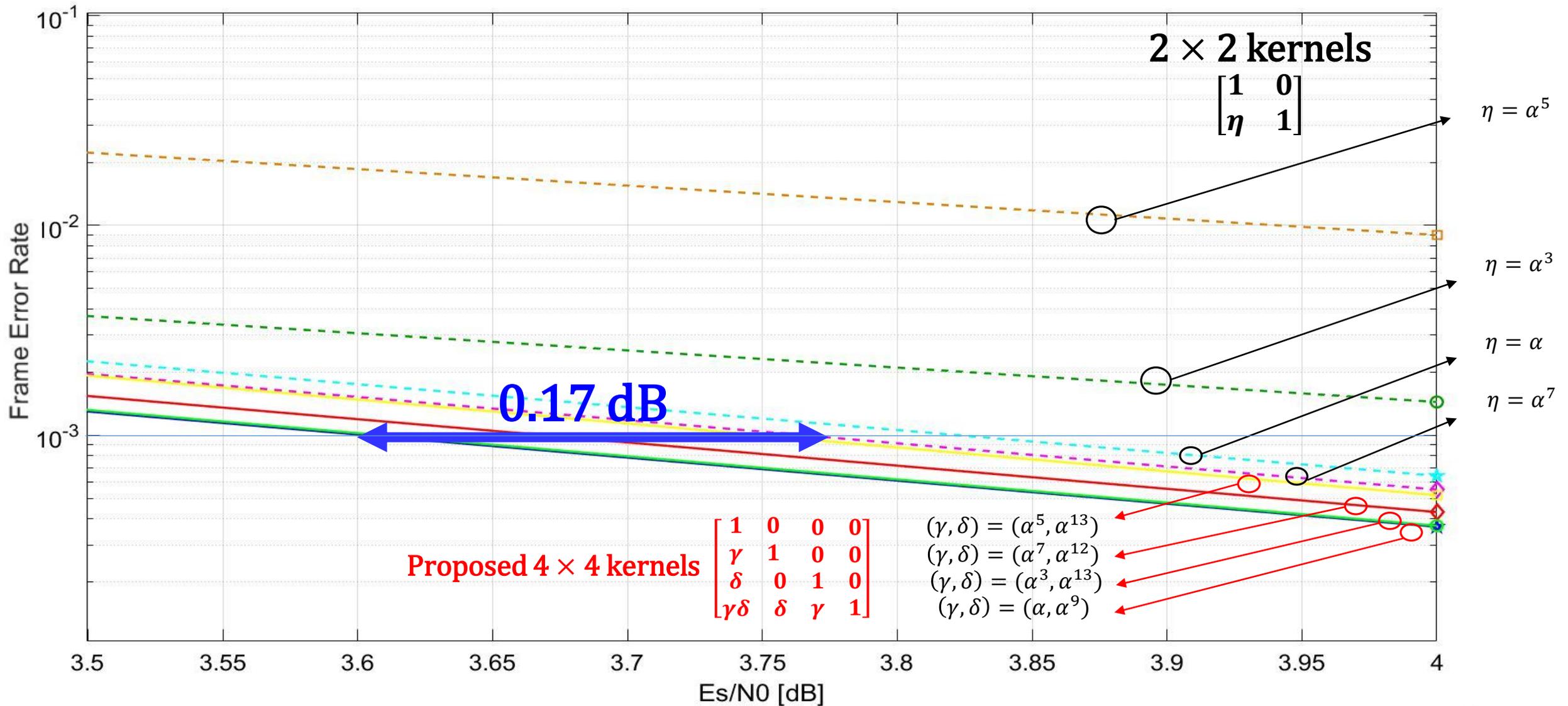
# Comparison of FER performance



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# Conclusion

- We confirmed the existence of  $4 \times 4$  kernels with better FER performance than using the best  $2 \times 2$  kernel of type  $\begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ \eta & 1 \end{bmatrix}$
- This also has the advantage of having the same complexity of encoding and SC decoding



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## ❖ Future research:

1. For 2 by 2 case, do we know some fundamental reason why one is better than the other?
2. Is it true that the best 4 by 4 is always better than the best 2 by 2 ? Why?
3. Can an 8 by 8 or larger size kernels improve more?

**Any Questions or Comments?**