

# Receiver Design and Performance; Shannon Capacity



---

COS 463: Wireless Networks  
Lecture 13

**Kyle Jamieson**

[Parts adapted from M. Perrott, C. Terman]

# Plan

---

## Today

### 1. Receiver architecture

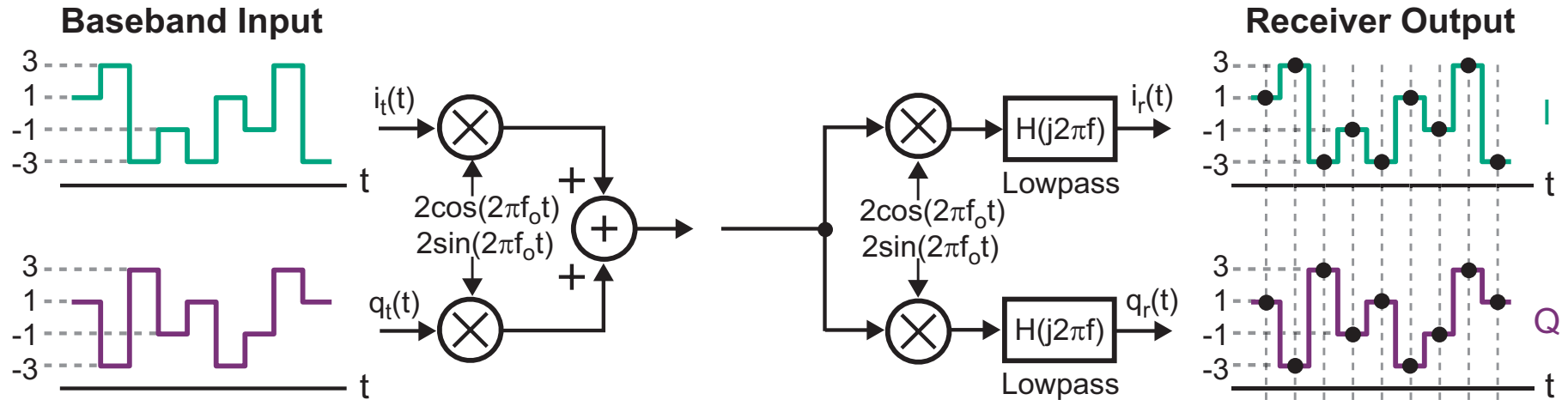
- Tradeoffs between ISI and Noise
- Transmit/receive filter design: Raised Cosine Matched Filter

### 2. Bit error rate and Shannon Capacity

## Coming up

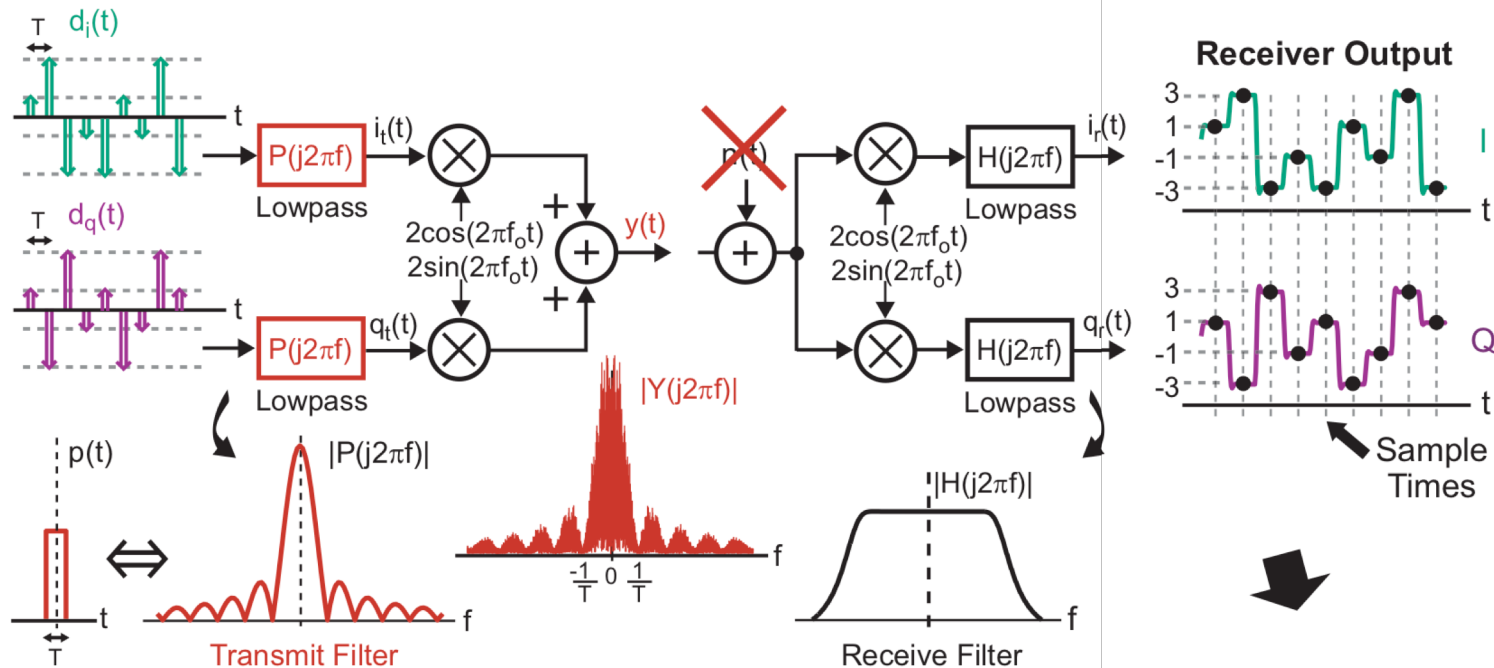
- Realistic **wireless channel**
- Using **multiple antennas** (MIMO)

# Review of Digital I/Q Modulation



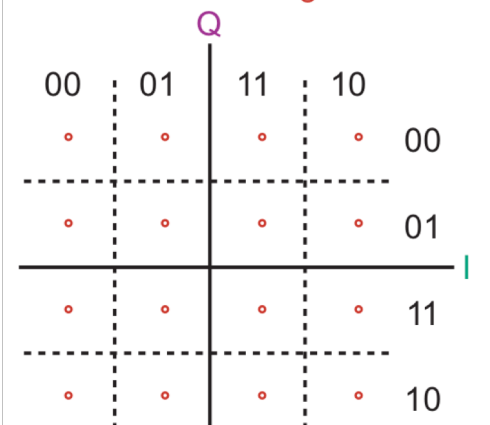
- Leverage **analog** communication channel to send **discrete-valued symbols**
  - e.g. send symbol from  $\{-3, -1, 1, 3\}$  on both I and Q channels every symbol period
- At receiver, **sample I/Q waveforms** every symbol period
  - **Associate each sampled I/Q value with symbol** from set, on both I and Q channels

# Review of Transmit and Receive Filters

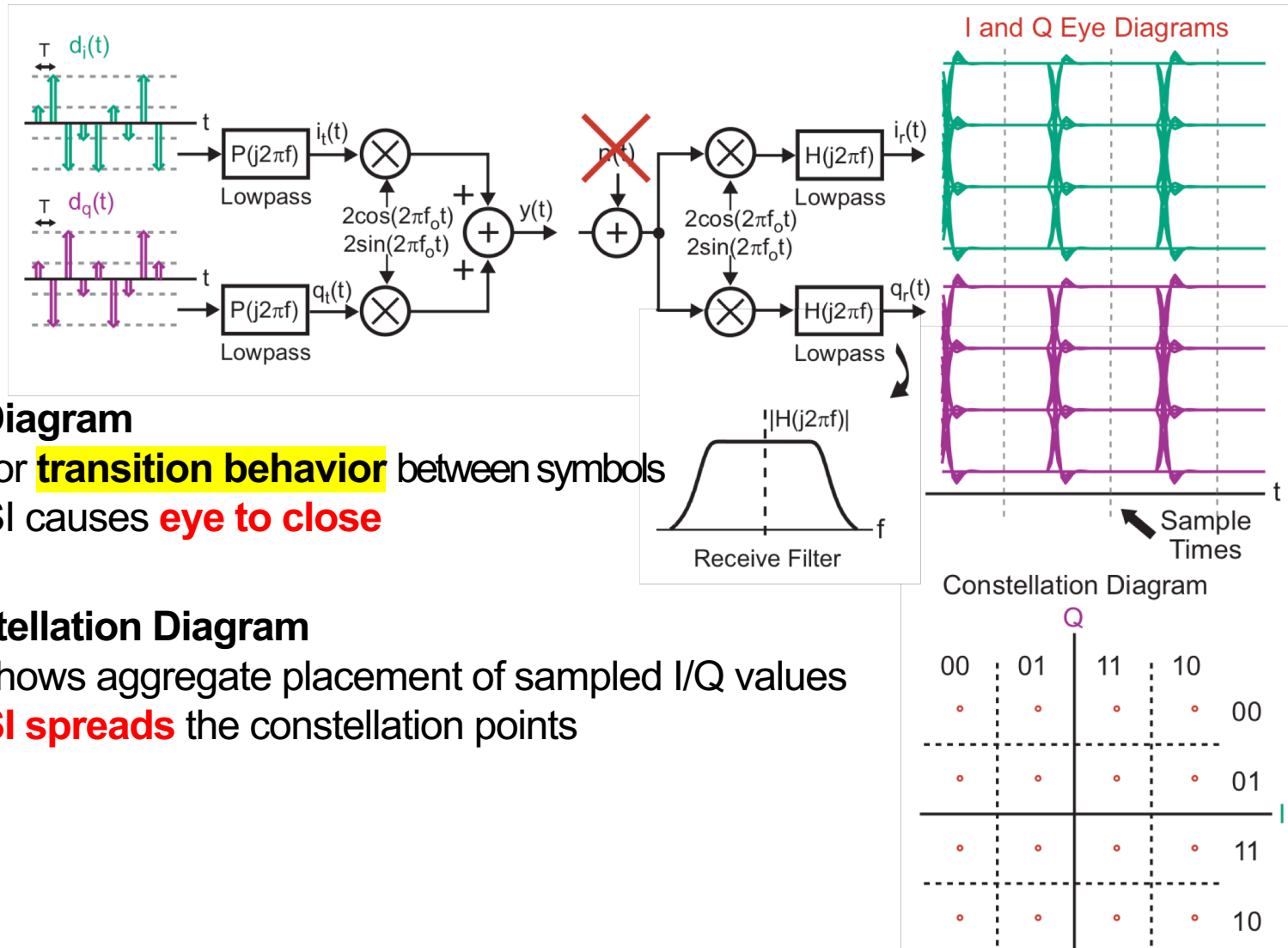


- Last time: **Transmit pulse-shaping filter**
  - Tradeoff between transmitted bandwidth and intersymbol interference (ISI)
- This time: **Receive filter** (previously assumed very wide bandwidth so as not to influence ISI)

Constellation Diagram



# Review of Tools for Examining ISI



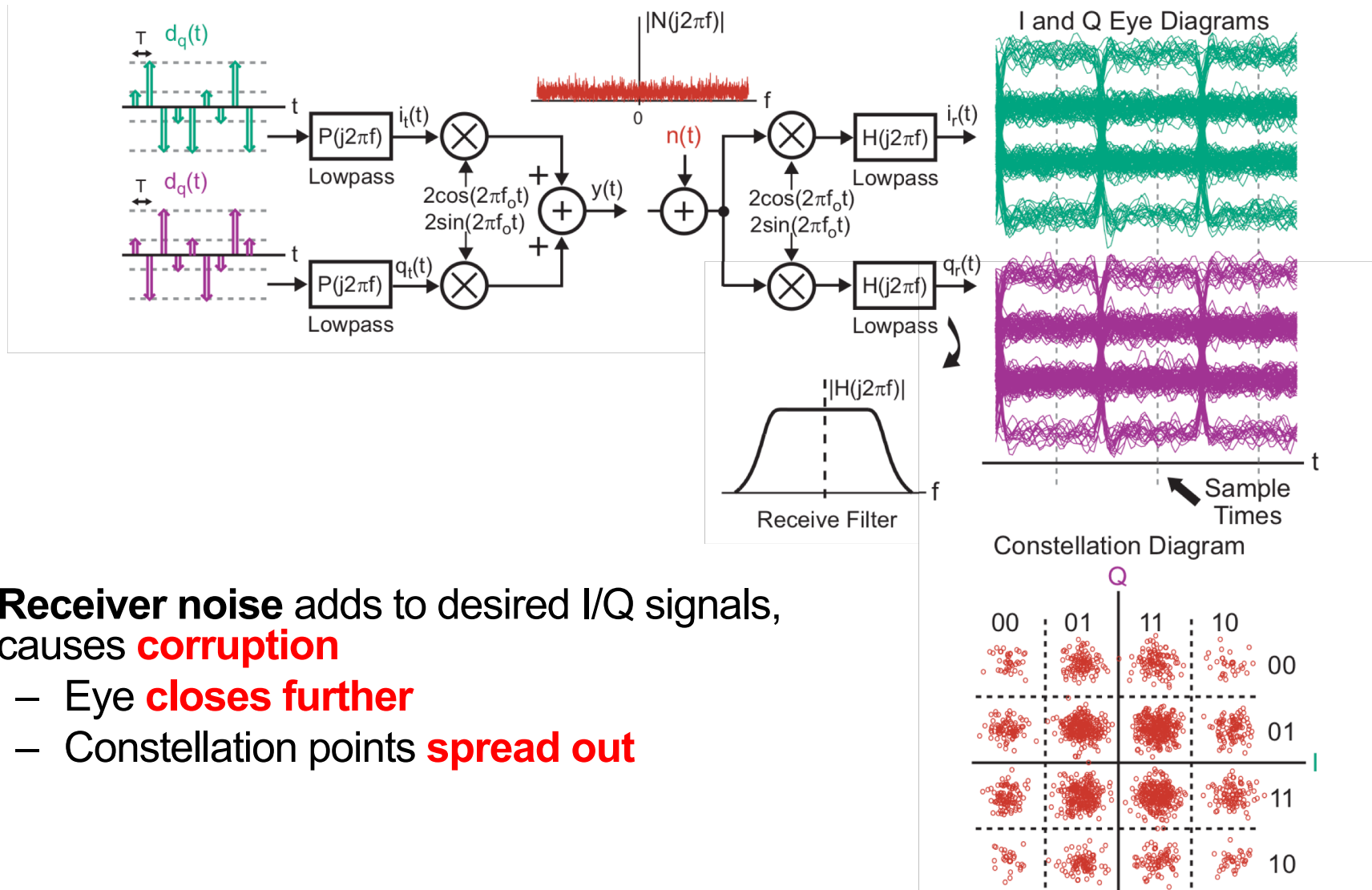
- **Eye Diagram**

- For **transition behavior** between symbols
- ISI causes **eye to close**

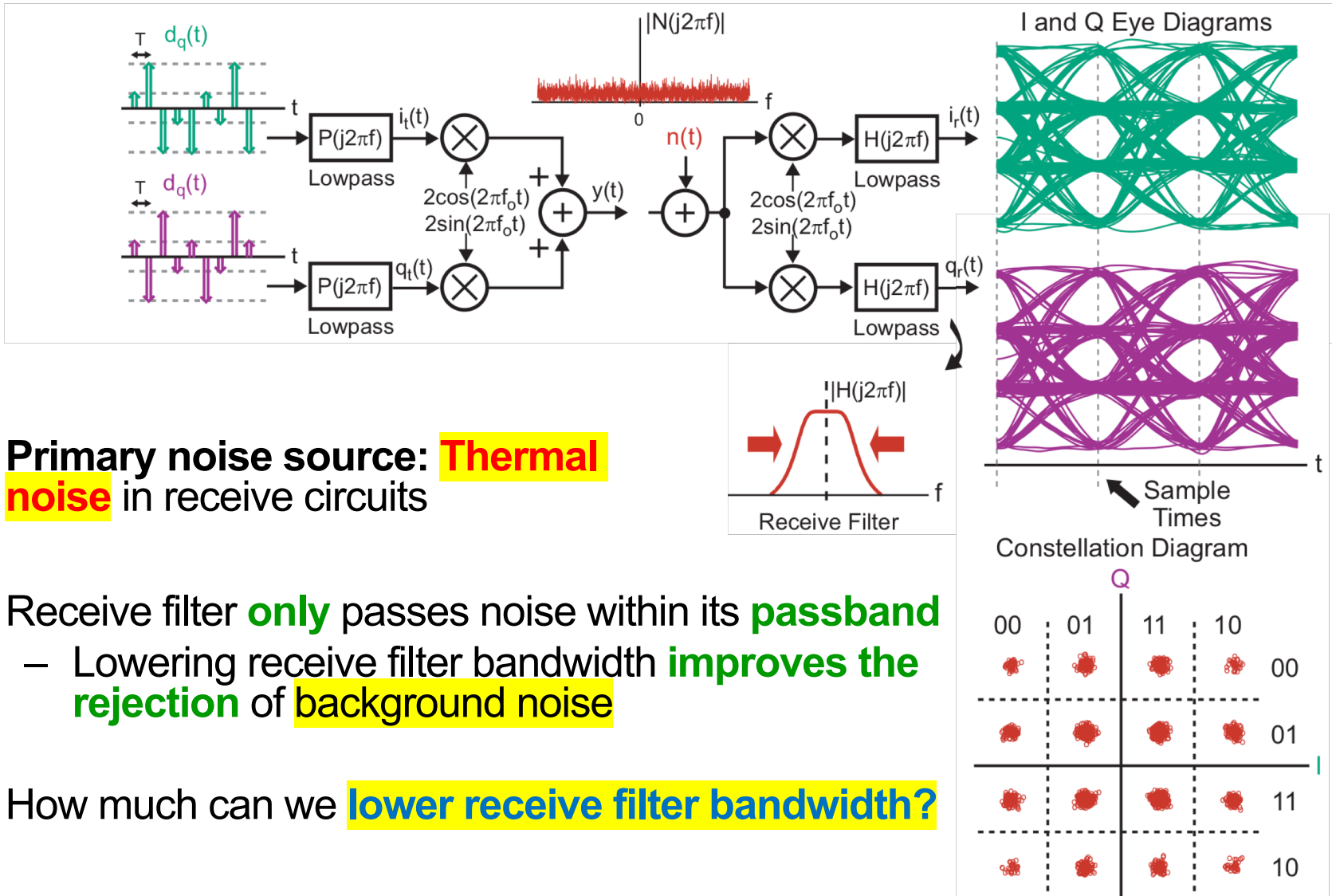
- **Constellation Diagram**

- Shows aggregate placement of sampled I/Q values
- **ISI spreads** the constellation points

# Impact of Receiver Noise

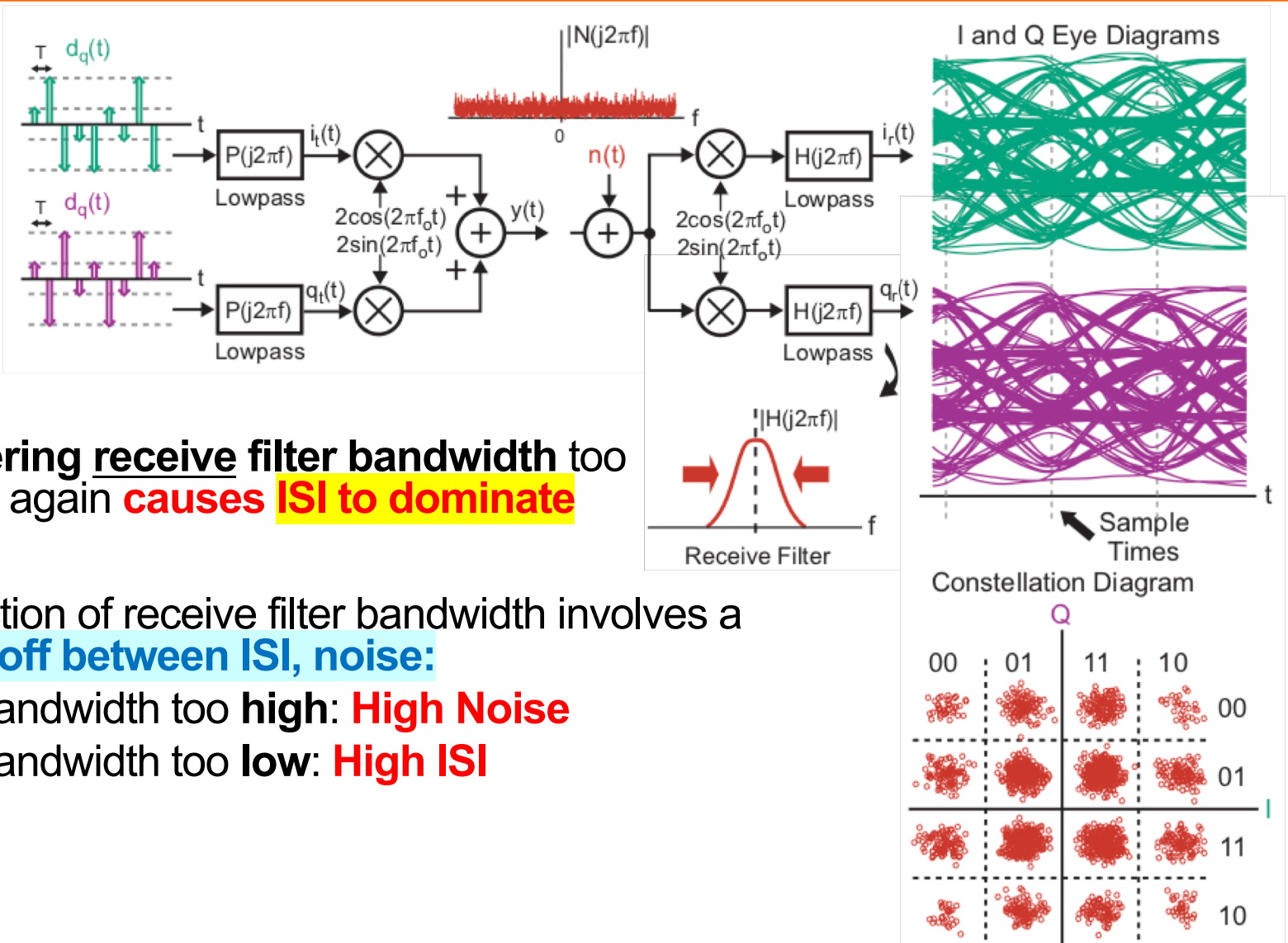


# Benefit of Lower Receiver Filter Bandwidth



- **Primary noise source: Thermal noise** in receive circuits
- Receive filter **only** passes noise within its **passband**
  - Lowering receive filter bandwidth **improves the rejection** of **background noise**
- How much can we **lower receive filter bandwidth?**

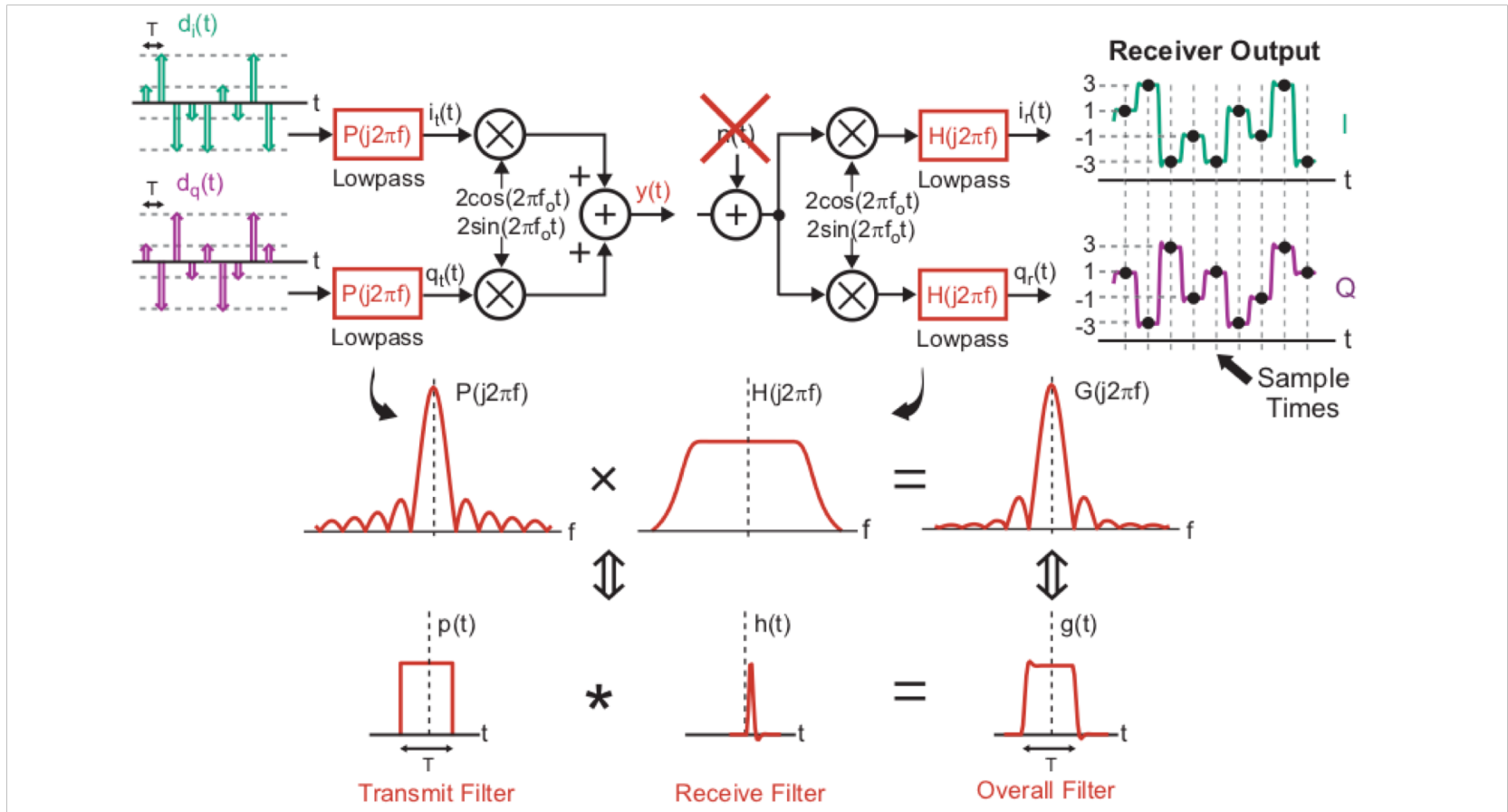
# Tradeoff: ISI Versus Noise



- Lowering receive filter bandwidth too much again **causes ISI to dominate**
- Selection of receive filter bandwidth involves a **tradeoff between ISI, noise:**
  - Bandwidth too **high**: **High Noise**
  - Bandwidth too **low**: **High ISI**

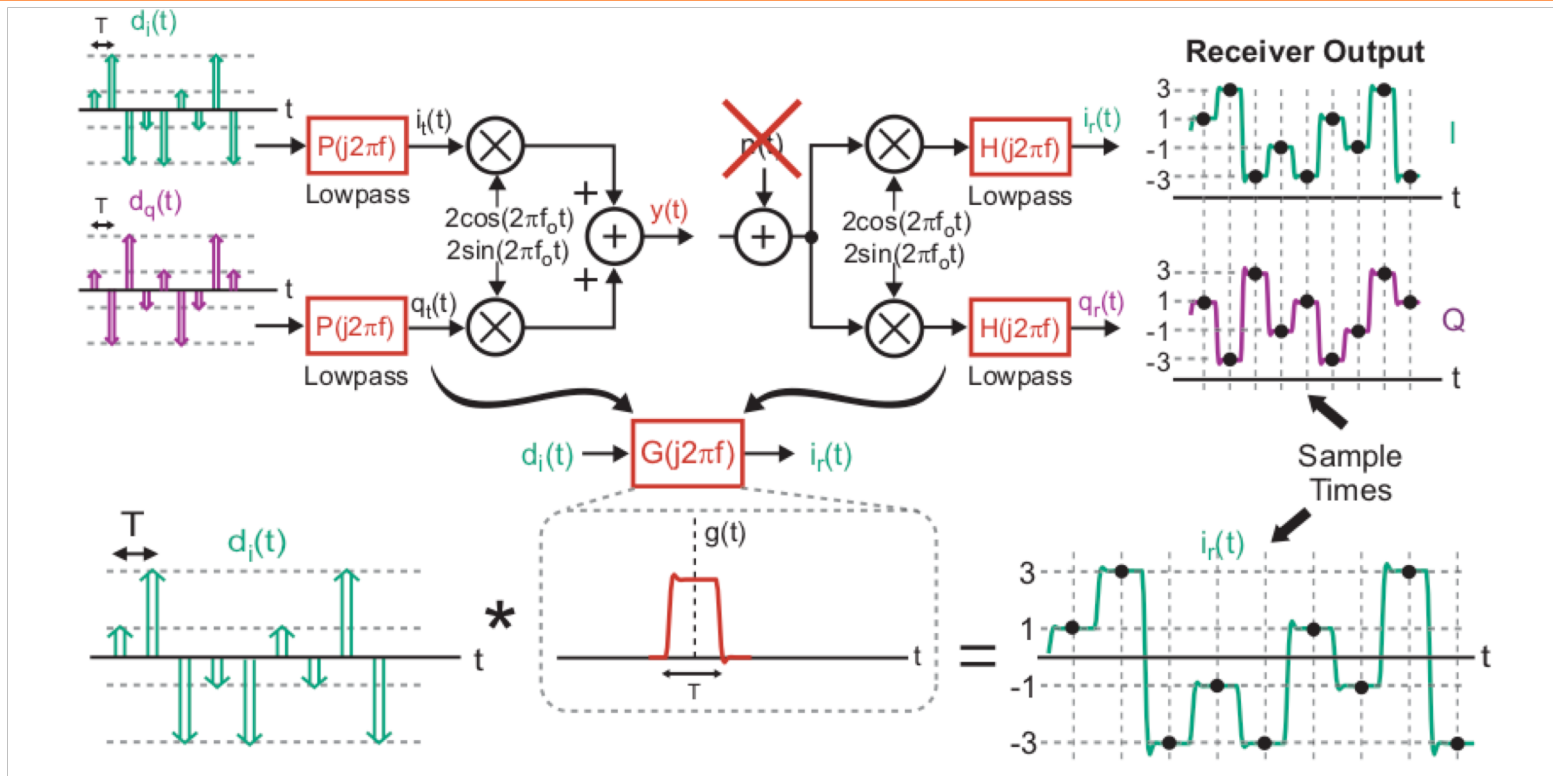


# Joint Transmit/Receive ISI Analysis



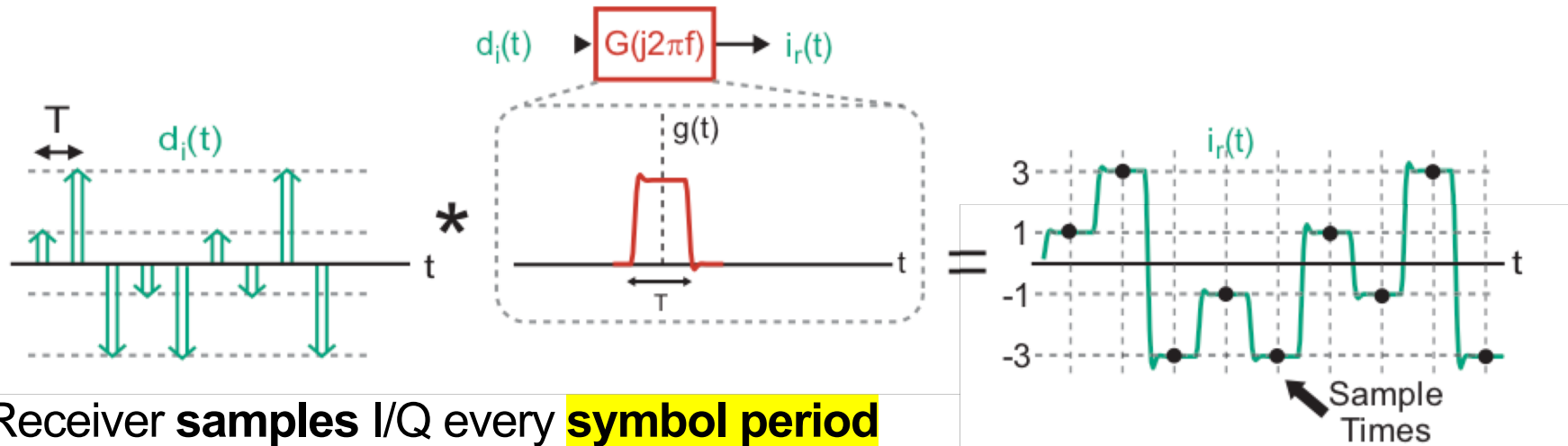
- **Both transmit and receive filters influence ISI**
  - Combined filter response:  $G(2\pi jf) = P(2\pi jf) \cdot H(2\pi jf)$

# Viewing Filtering in the Time Domain

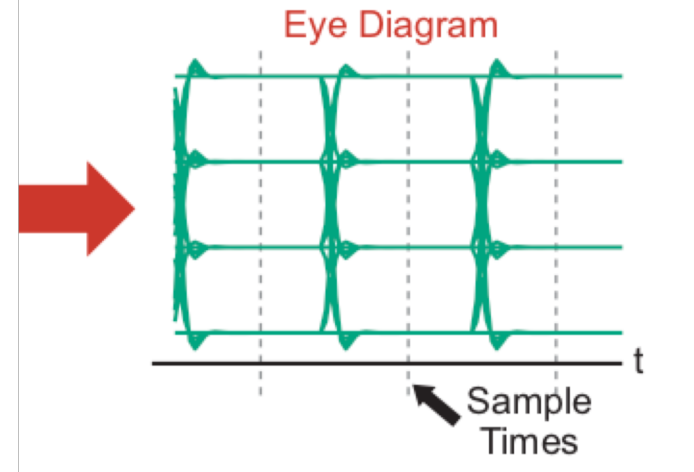


- **Combined filter G** corresponds to **convolution** in the time domain with G's **impulse response** (inverse Fourier Transform of G)
- Time domain view allows us to more clearly see **impact of overall filter on ISI**

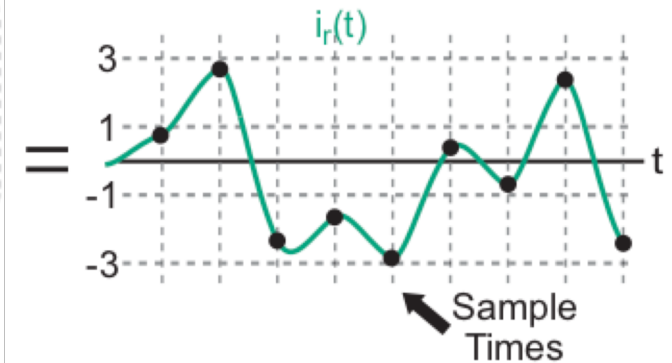
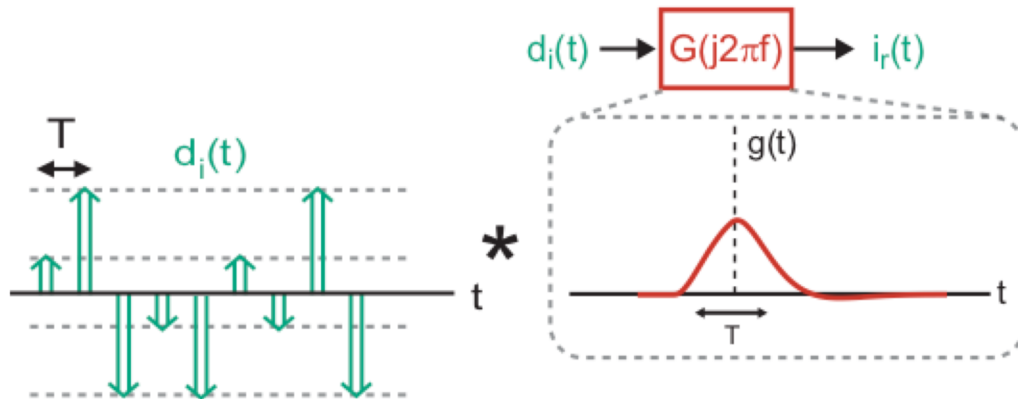
# Impulse Response and ISI: High Bandwidth



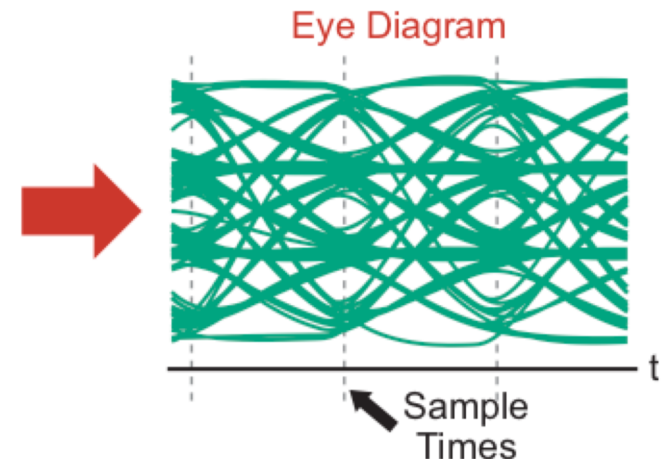
- Receiver **samples I/Q every symbol period**
  - Achieving zero ISI requires that **each symbol influence only one sample** at the combined filter output
- **Issue: Want lower overall filter bandwidth** to reduce spectrum bandwidth and lower noise
  - But this causes **smoothing of  $g(t)$**



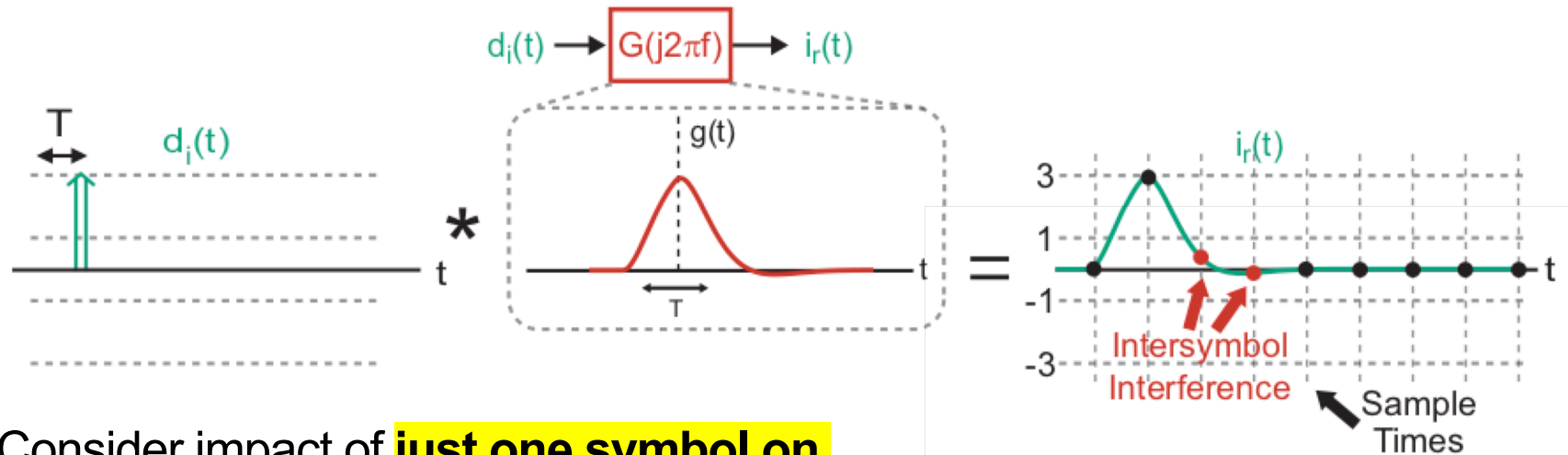
# Impulse Response and ISI: Low Bandwidth



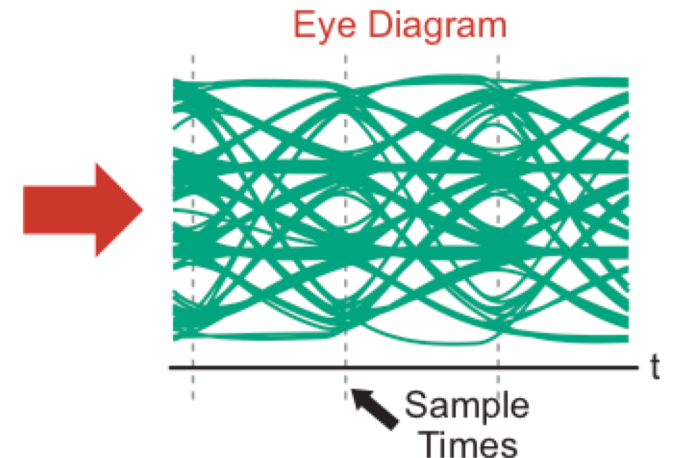
- Smoothed impulse response has a **span longer than one symbol period**
  - Convolution reveals that **each symbol impacts filter output at  $> 1$  sample value**
    - **Inter-symbol interference** occurs



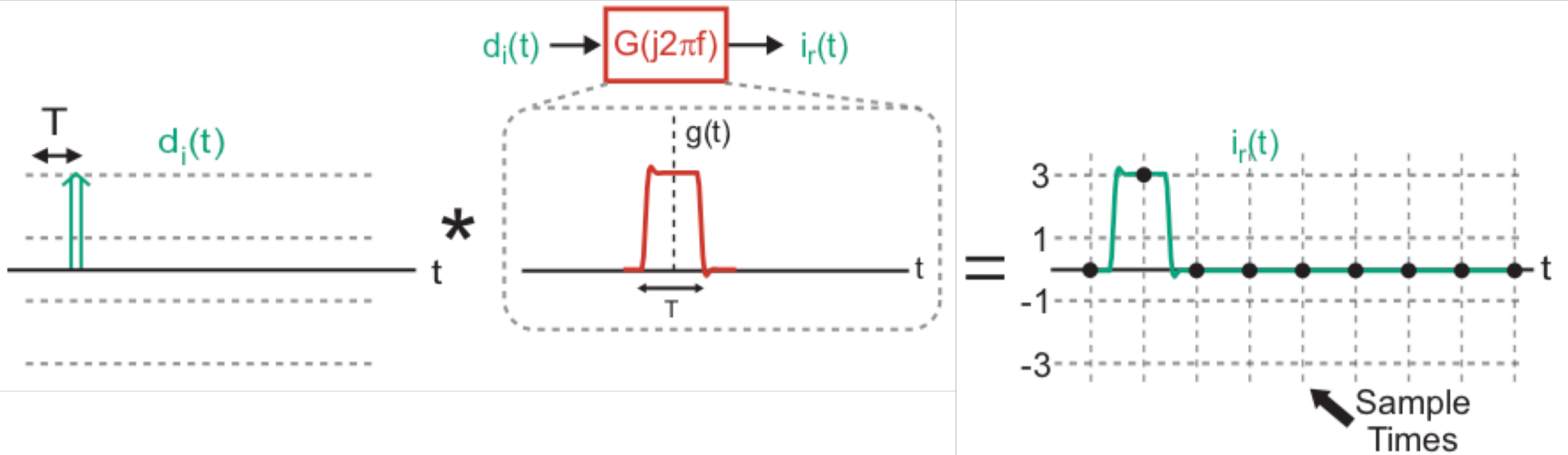
# A More Direct View of the ISI Issue



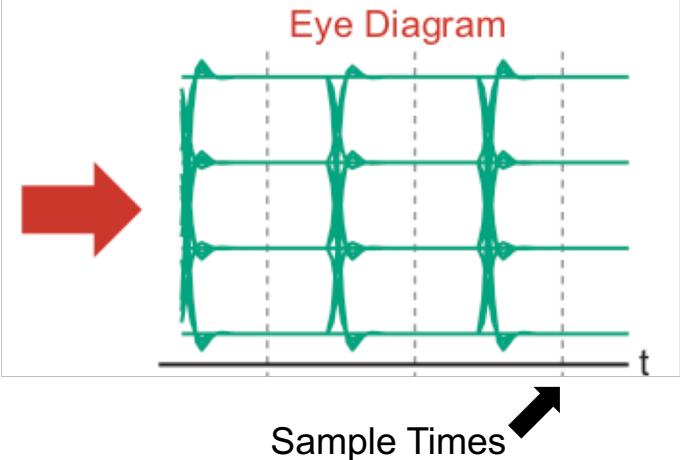
- Consider impact of **just one symbol on received signal**
  - Samples at filter output more **clearly show the impact** of the one symbol on **other sample values**



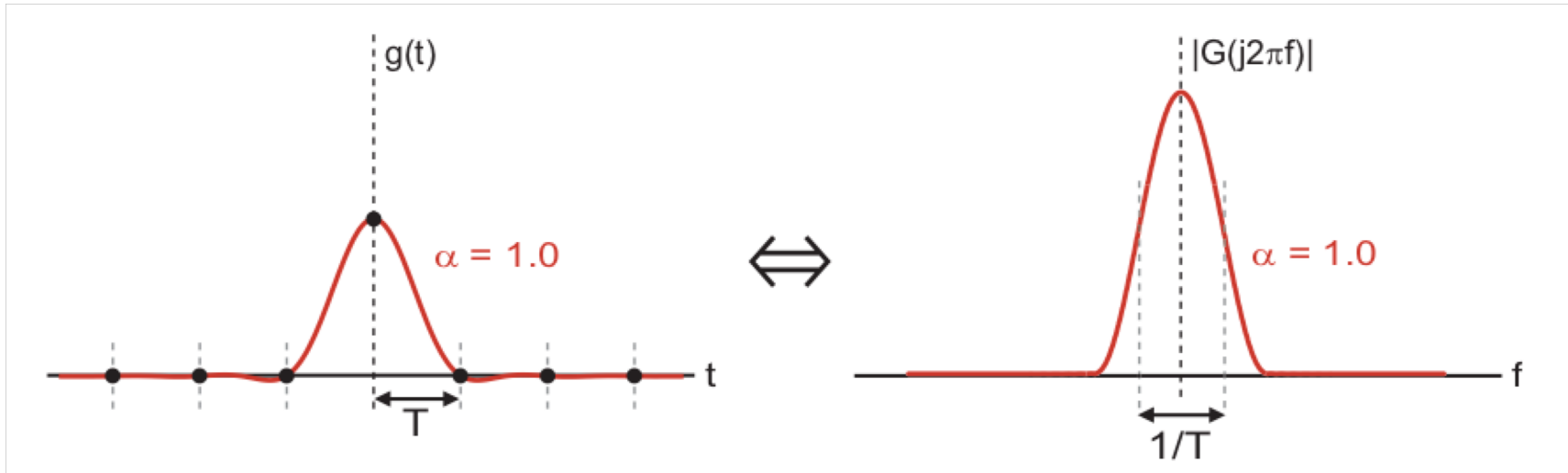
# The Nyquist Criterion for Zero ISI



- **Sample  $g(t)$  at the symbol period**
  - **Nyquist Criterion:** Samples must have only one non-zero value to achieve zero ISI
- Can  $g(t)$  span  $>1$  symbol period (**low bandwidth**) and **still meet Nyquist Criterion?**

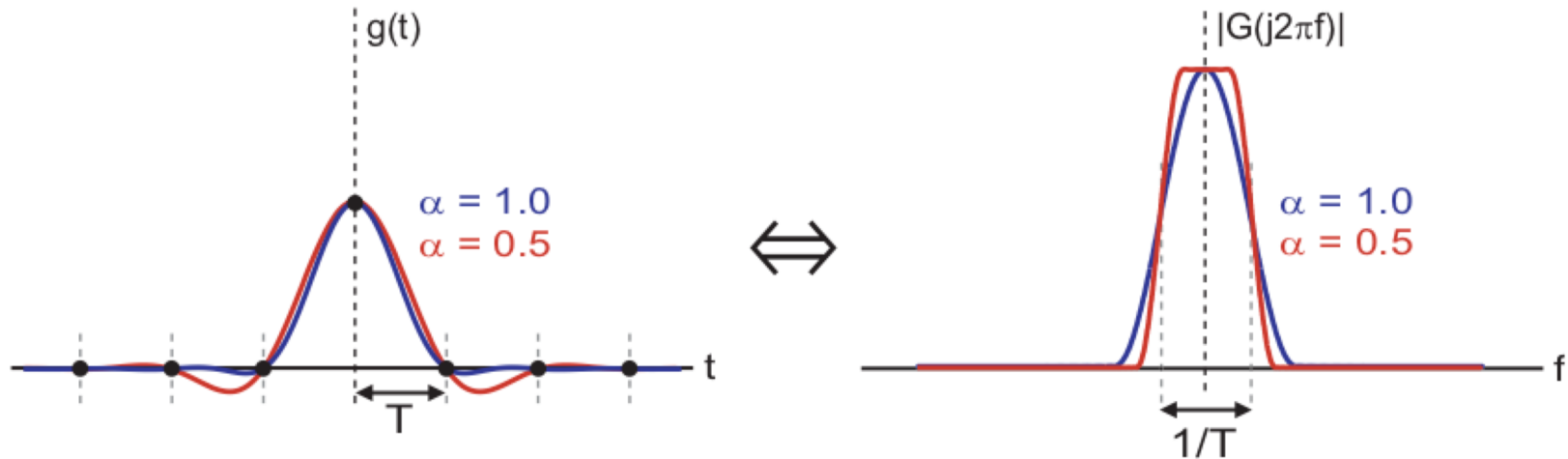


# Raised Cosine Filter



- Raised cosine filter achieves **low bandwidth and zero ISI**
  - Impulse response **spans more than one symbol**, but has **only one non-zero sample** value
  - Impulse response:  $g(t) = \frac{\sin(\pi t/T)}{\pi t/T} \frac{\cos(\alpha \pi t/T)}{1-(2\alpha t/T)^2}$

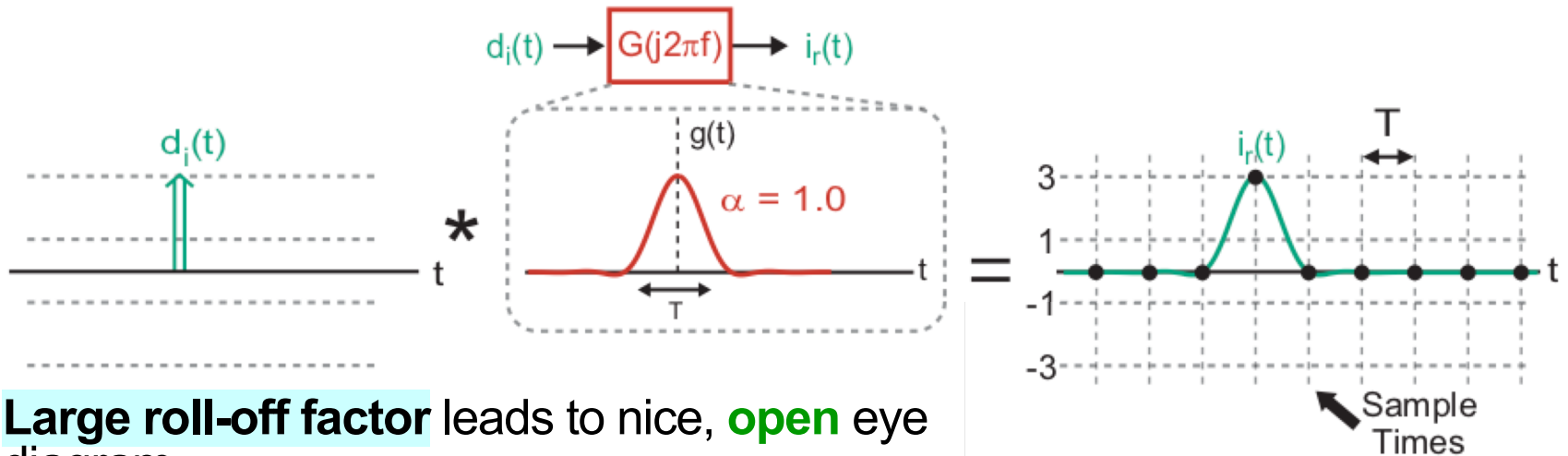
# Raised Cosine Filter: Roll-off factor



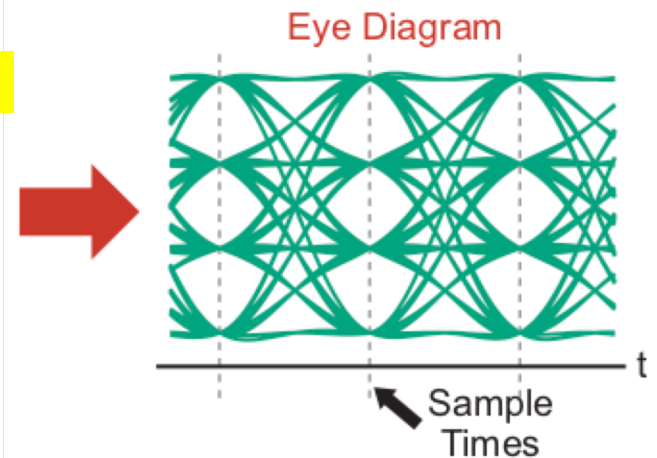
- Parameter  $\alpha$  ( $0 \leq \alpha \leq 1$ ) is referred to as the **roll-off factor** of the filter
  - Smaller values of  $\alpha$  lead to:
    - Reduced filter bandwidth
    - Increased duration of the filter impulse response
- Regardless of  $\alpha$ , the raised cosine filter **achieves zero ISI**



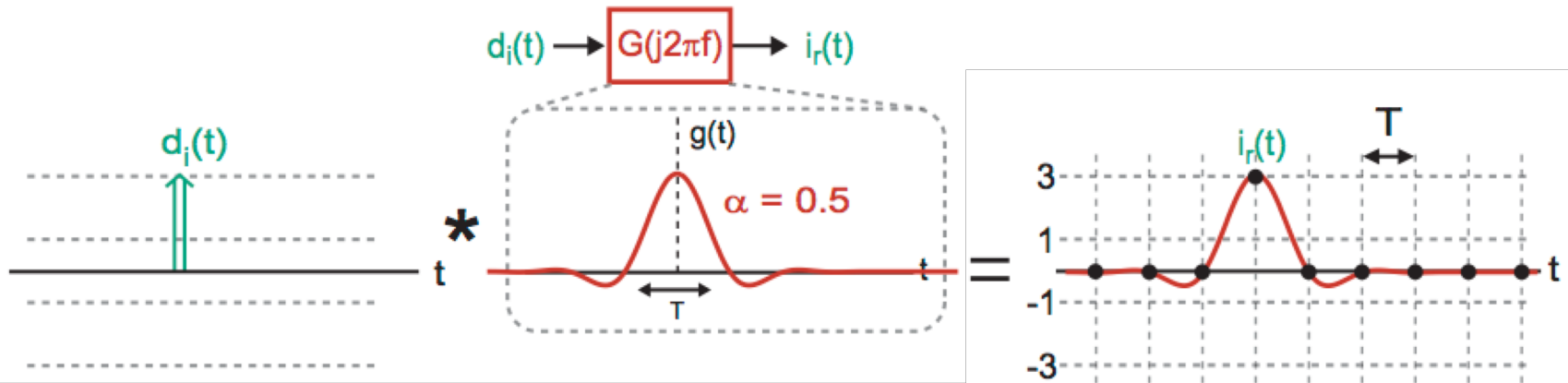
# Impact of Large $\alpha$ on Eye Diagram



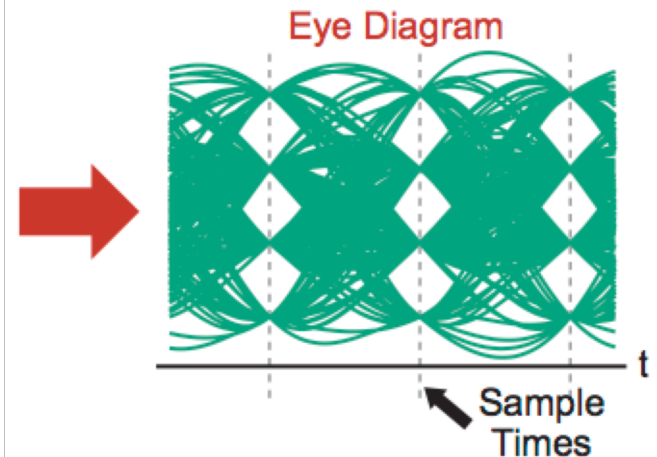
- **Large roll-off factor** leads to nice, **open** eye diagram
- **Key observation: Achieving zero ISI requires precise placement of sample times**
  - **Error** in placement of sample times leads to **substantial ISI**



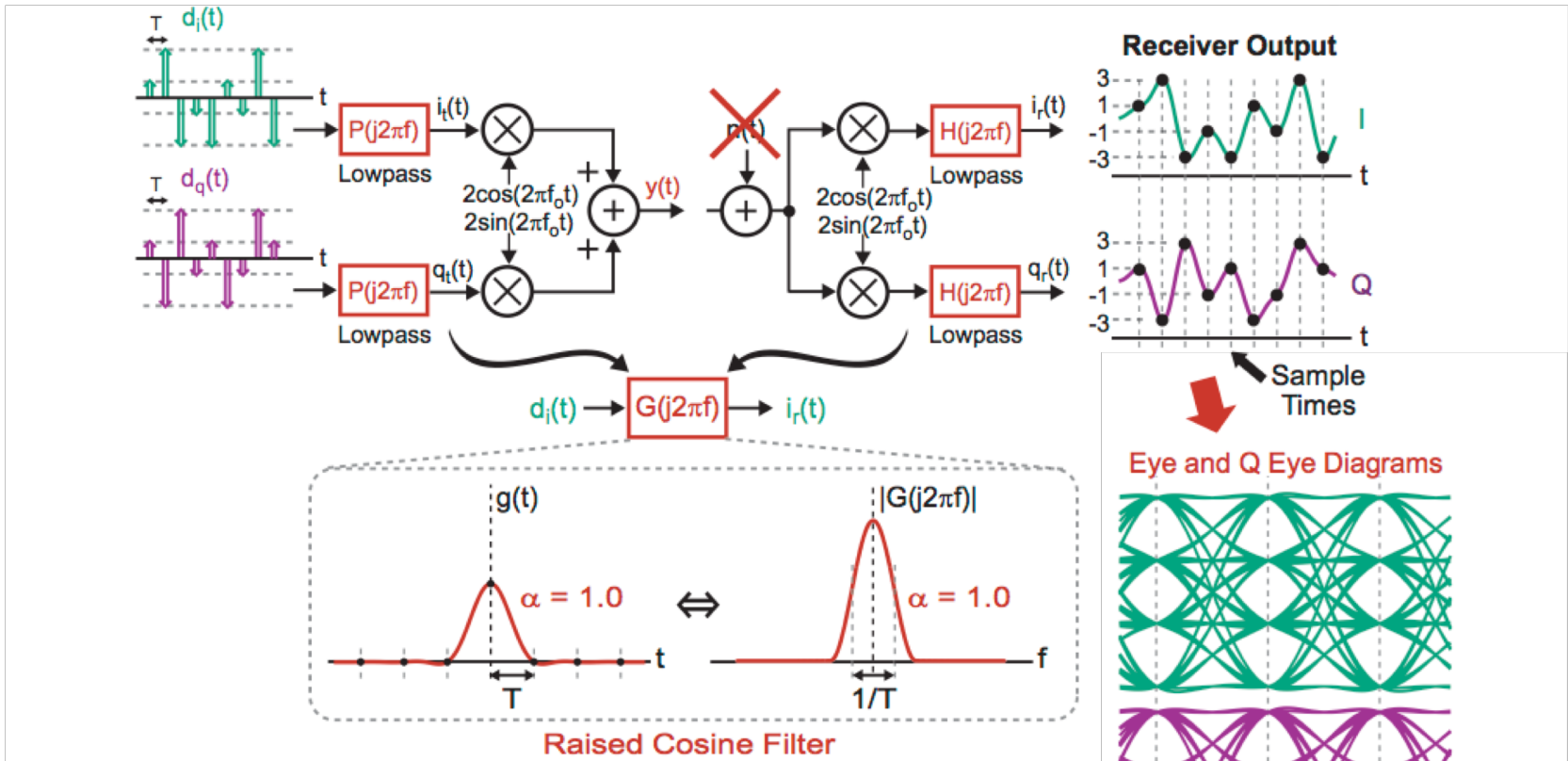
# Impact of Small $\alpha$ on Eye Diagram



- Small roll-off factor reduces the filter bandwidth and still allows zero ISI to be achieved
- **Issue: Greater sensitivity to sample time placement** than for large  $\alpha$ 
  - Needs **greater receiver complexity** to ensure precise sample time placement

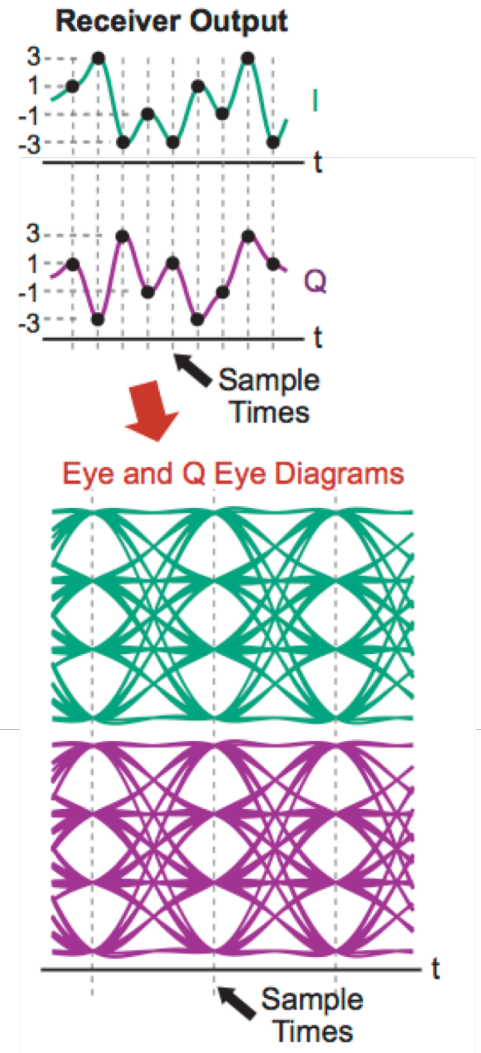
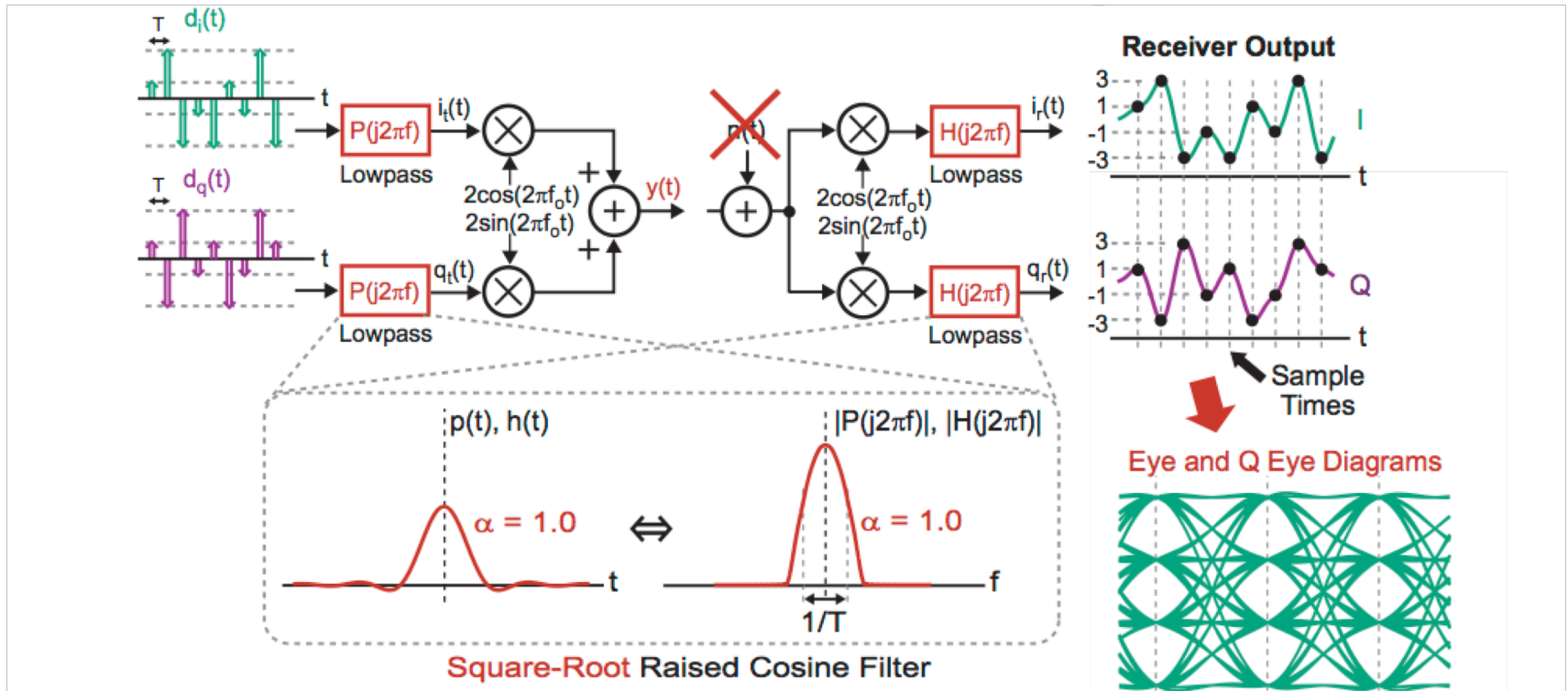


# Transmitter and Receiver Filter Design



- Overall response is  $G(j2\pi f) = P(j2\pi f)H(j2\pi f)$ 
  - **Can choose that** based on eye diagram
  - How to choose transmit pulse shape ( $P$ ) and receive filter ( $H$ )?

# Matched Filter Design



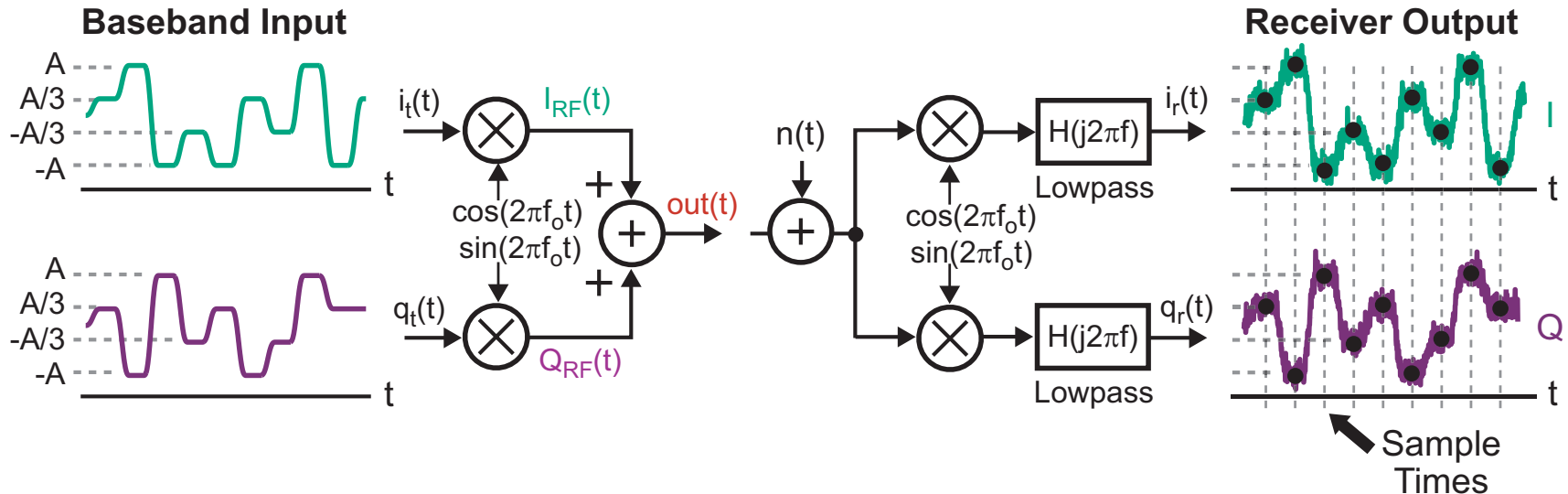
- Setting  $P(j2\pi f) = H(j2\pi f)$  yields a **matched filter** design
  - Each filter is a **square-root** raised cosine filter
  - **Maximizes SNR at receiver**

# Today

---

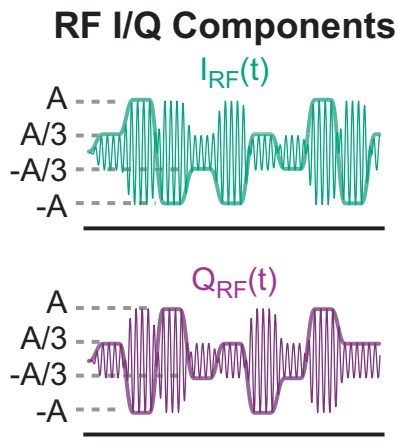
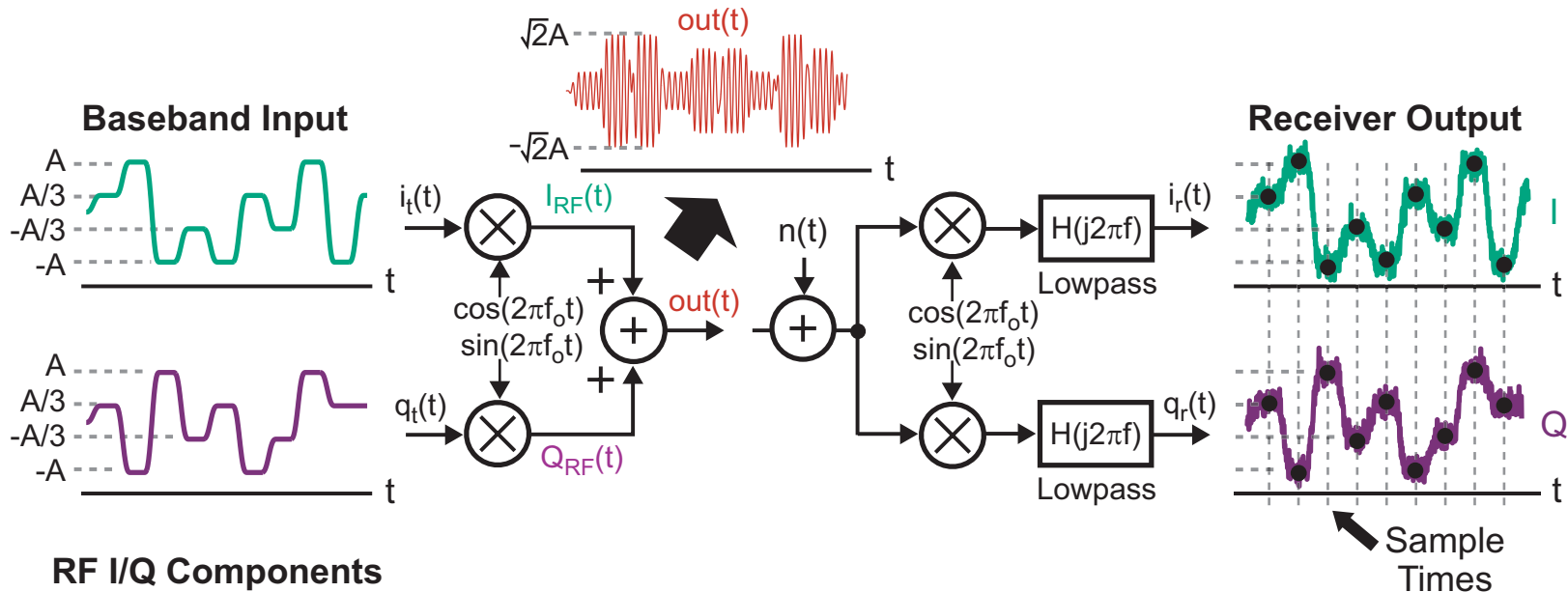
1. Receiver architecture
  - Tradeoffs between ISI and Noise
  - Transmit/receive filter design: Raised Cosine
2. **Bit error rate and Shannon Capacity**

# Review of Digital Modulation



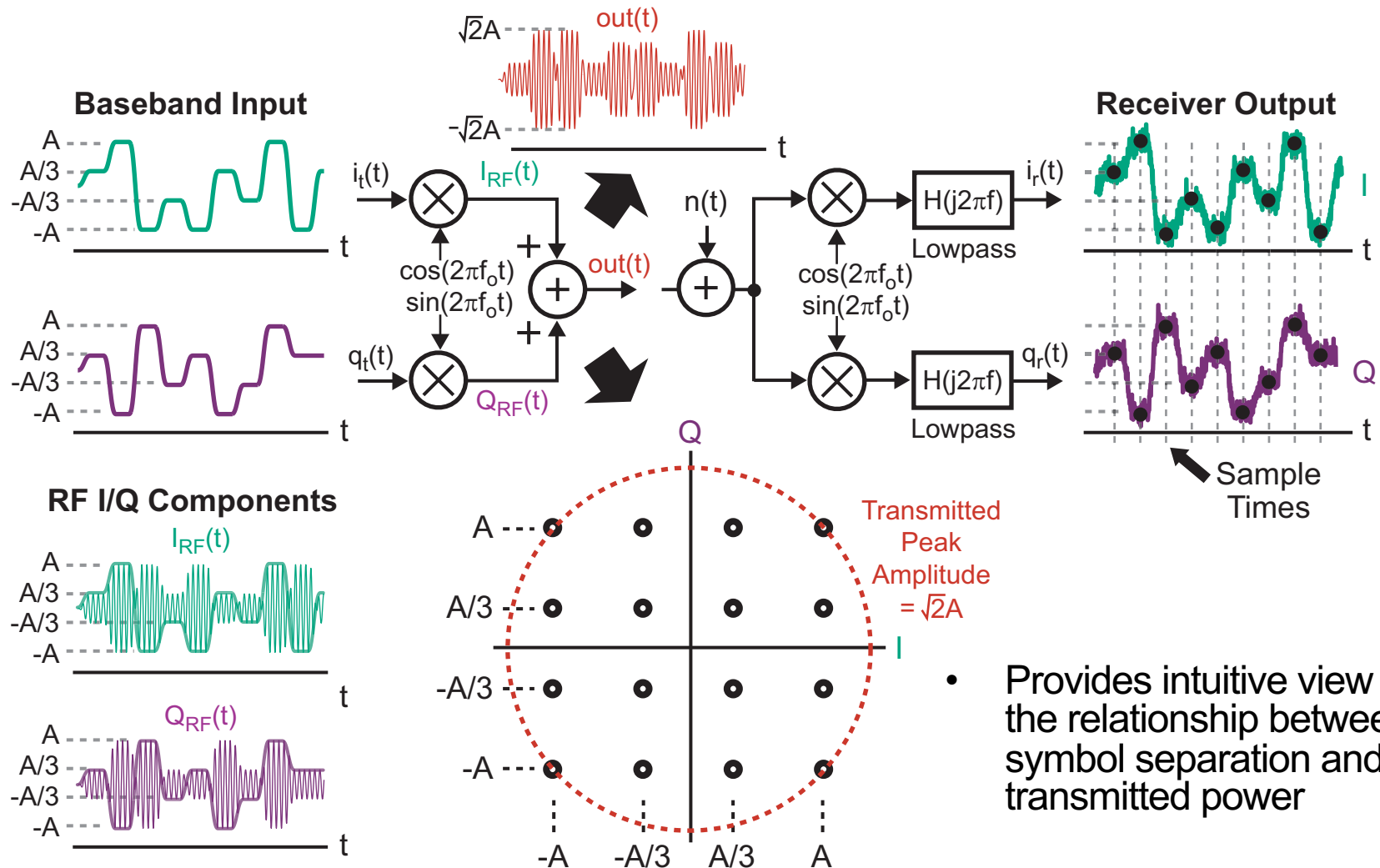
- Transmitter sends discrete-value signals over analog communication channel
- Receiver samples recovered baseband signal
  - Noise and ISI corrupt received signal
- Key techniques:
  - Properly design transmit and receive filters for low ISI
  - Sample and slice received signals to detect symbols

# A Closer Look at the Transmitter



- Amplitude of I/Q transmit signals impact power of transmitted output
  - Output power limited within a given spectral band
  - Low output power desirable for portable applications (battery life)

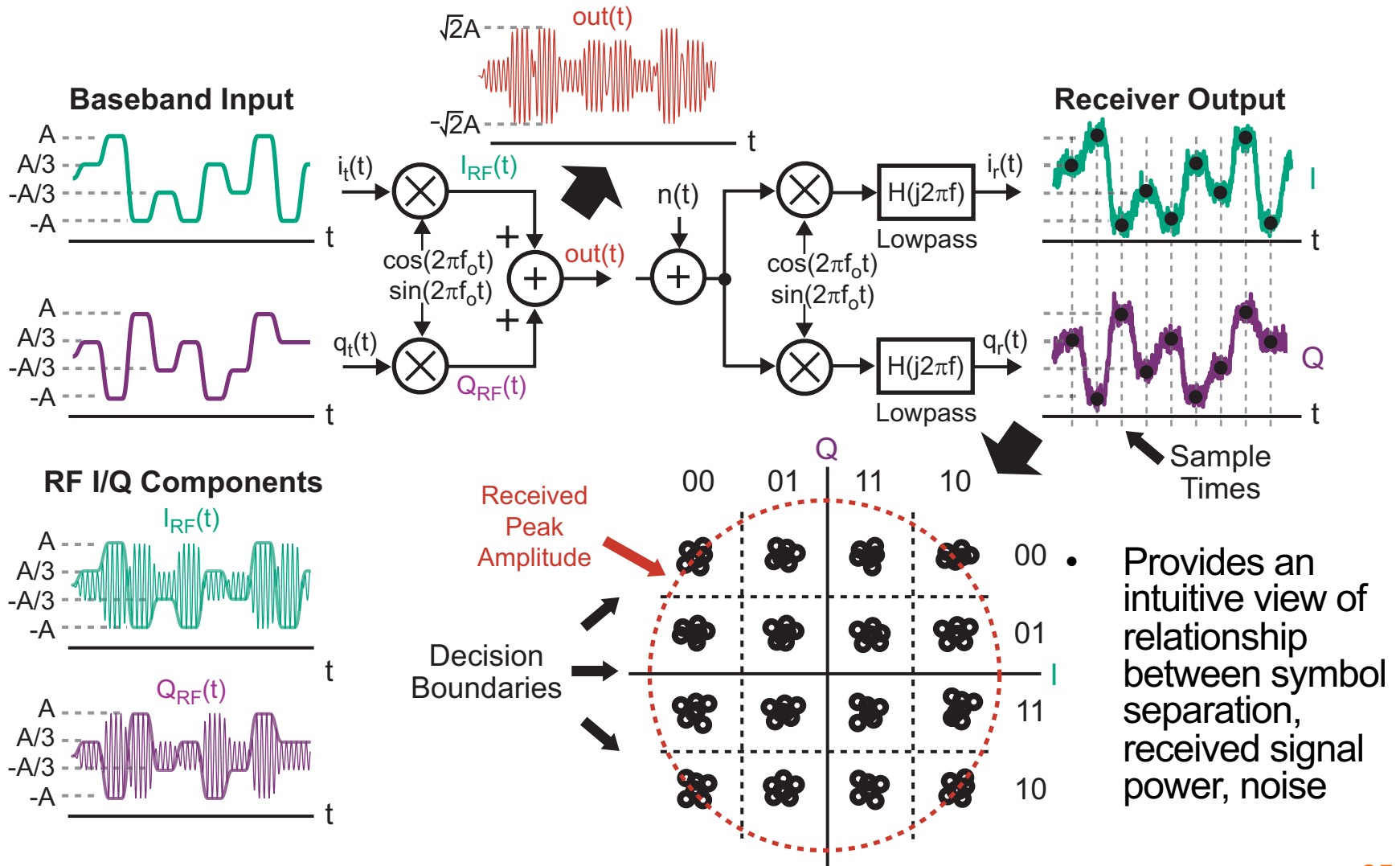
# A Constellation View of the Transmitter



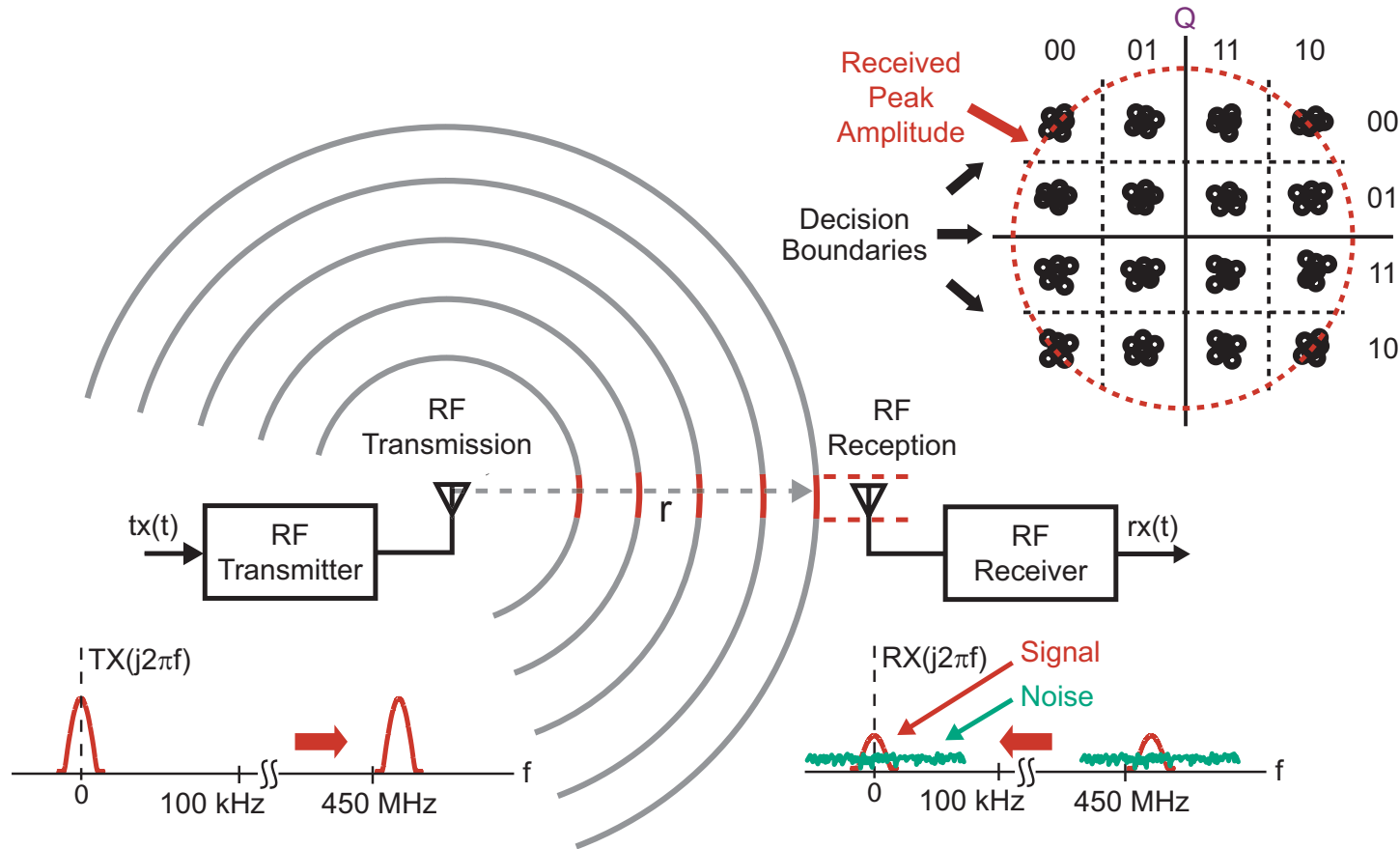
- Provides intuitive view of the relationship between symbol separation and transmitted power



# A Constellation View of the Receiver



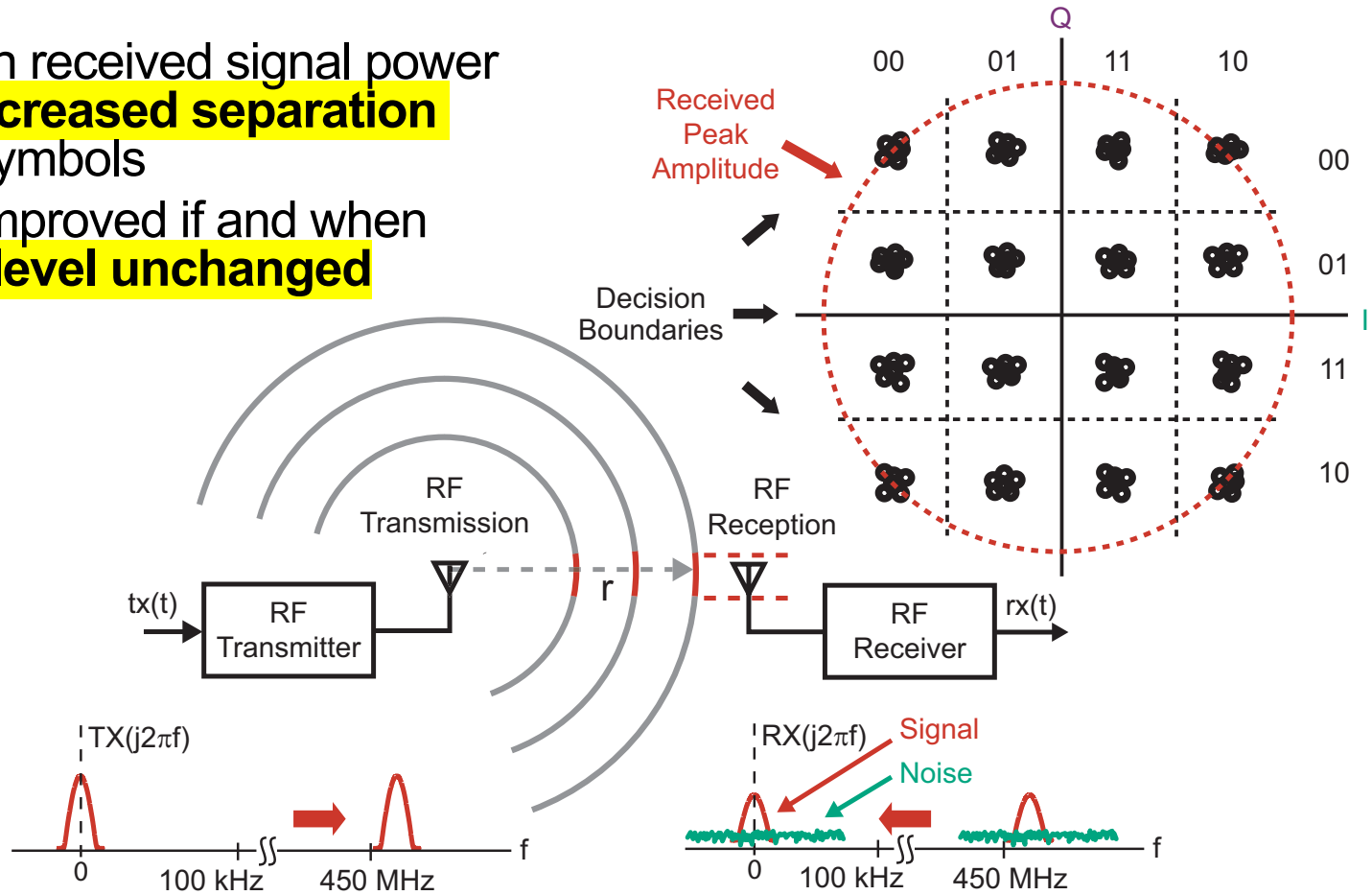
# Impact of SNR on Receiver Constellation



- **SNR (in signal frequency band)** is influenced by transmitted power, distance between transmitter & receiver, and background noise

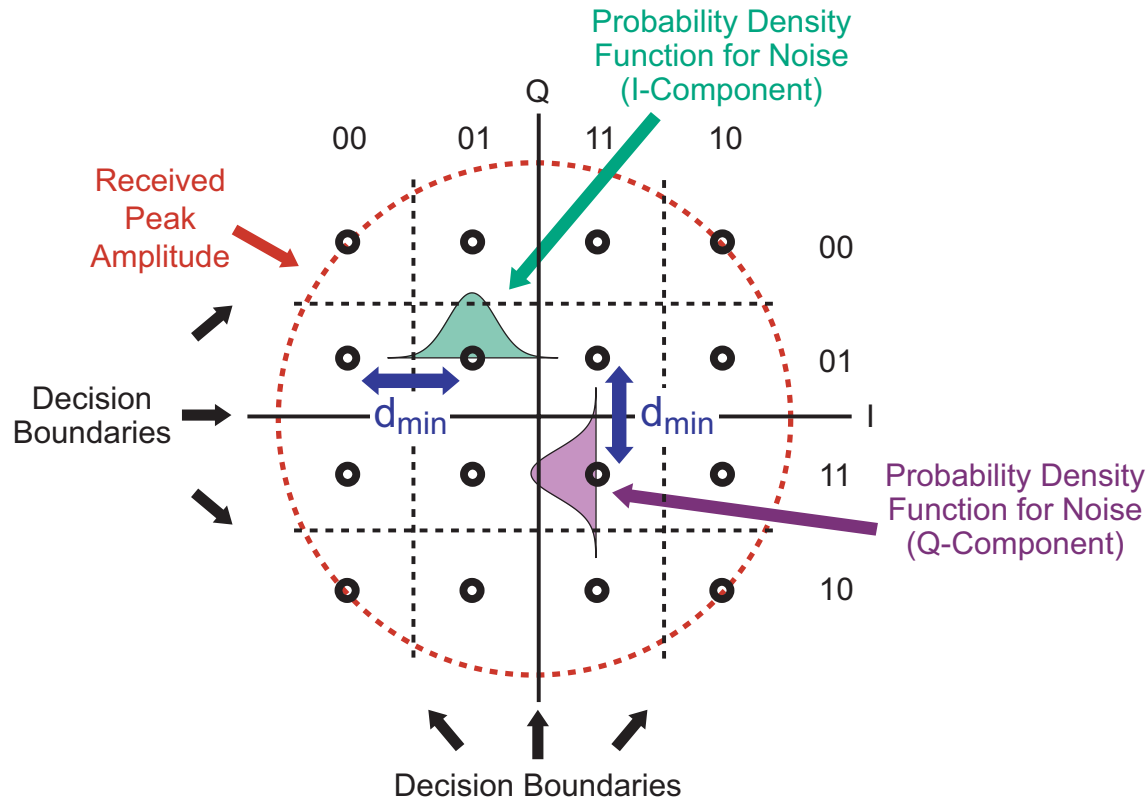
# Impact of Increased signal on Constellation

- **Increase** in received signal power leads to **increased separation** between symbols
  - SNR improved if and when **noise level unchanged**



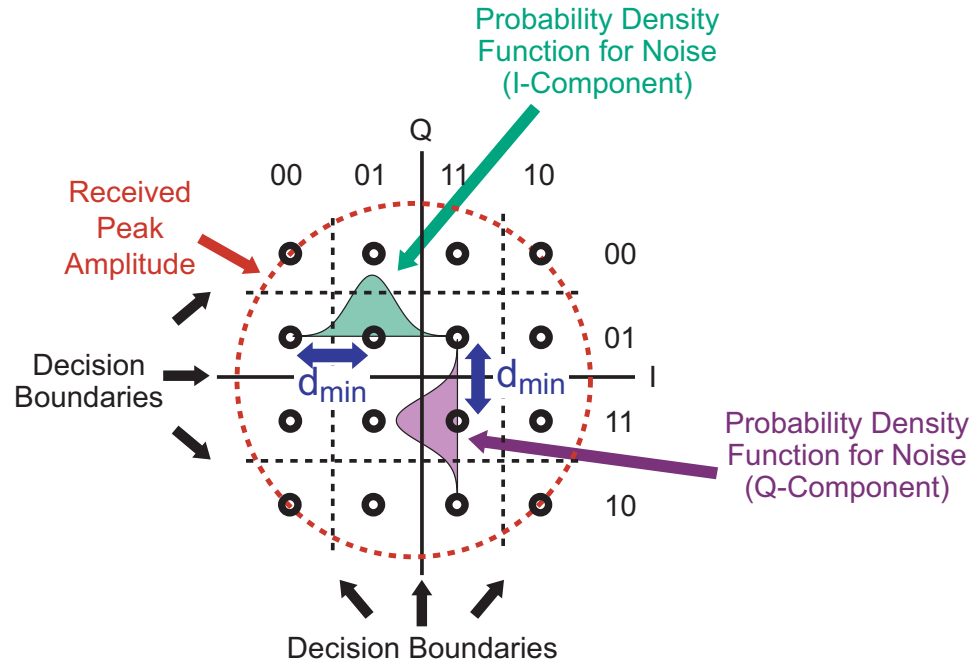
# Quantifying the Impact of Noise

- Distribution of noise: zero-mean Gaussian distribution
  - Variance of noise determines the width of the Gaussian



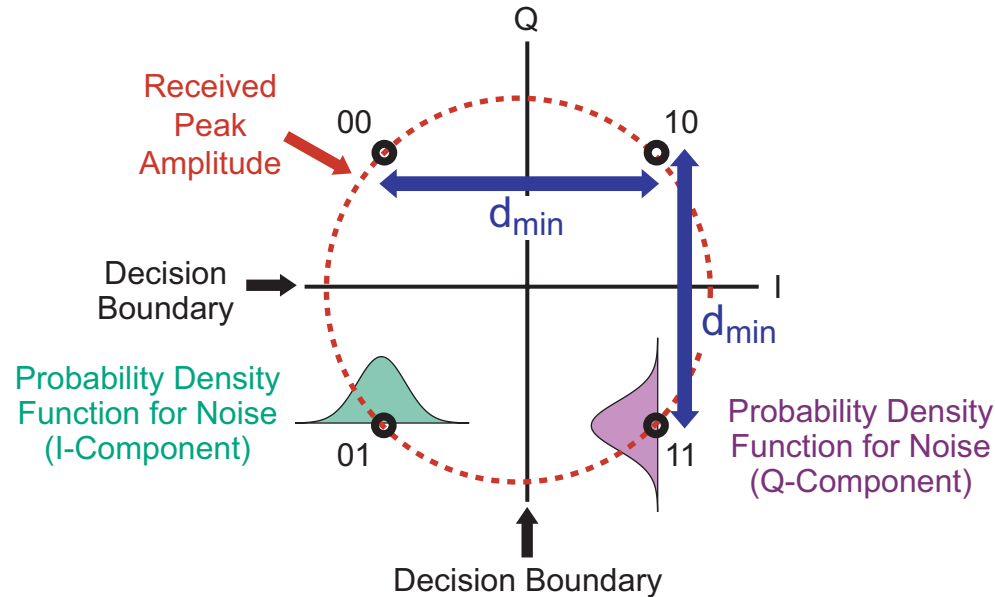
- Minimum separation between symbols:  $d_{\min}$ 
  - **Bit errors occur** when noise **moves a symbol by more than  $\frac{1}{2} d_{\min}$**

# Impact of Reduced SNR



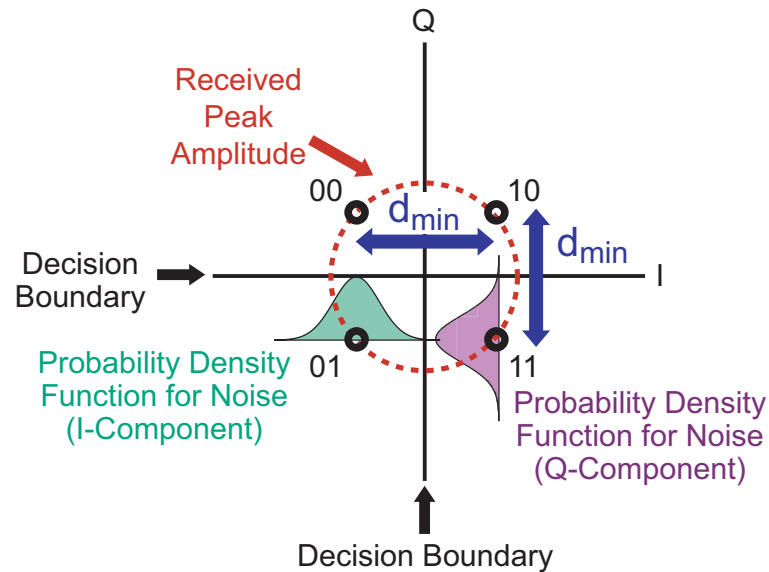
- **Lower signal power** leads to **reduced value for  $d_{\min}$**
- Leads to a **higher bit error rate**
  - Assuming noise variance unchanged
  - Assuming received signal power reduced

# Impact of Constellation Size Reduction



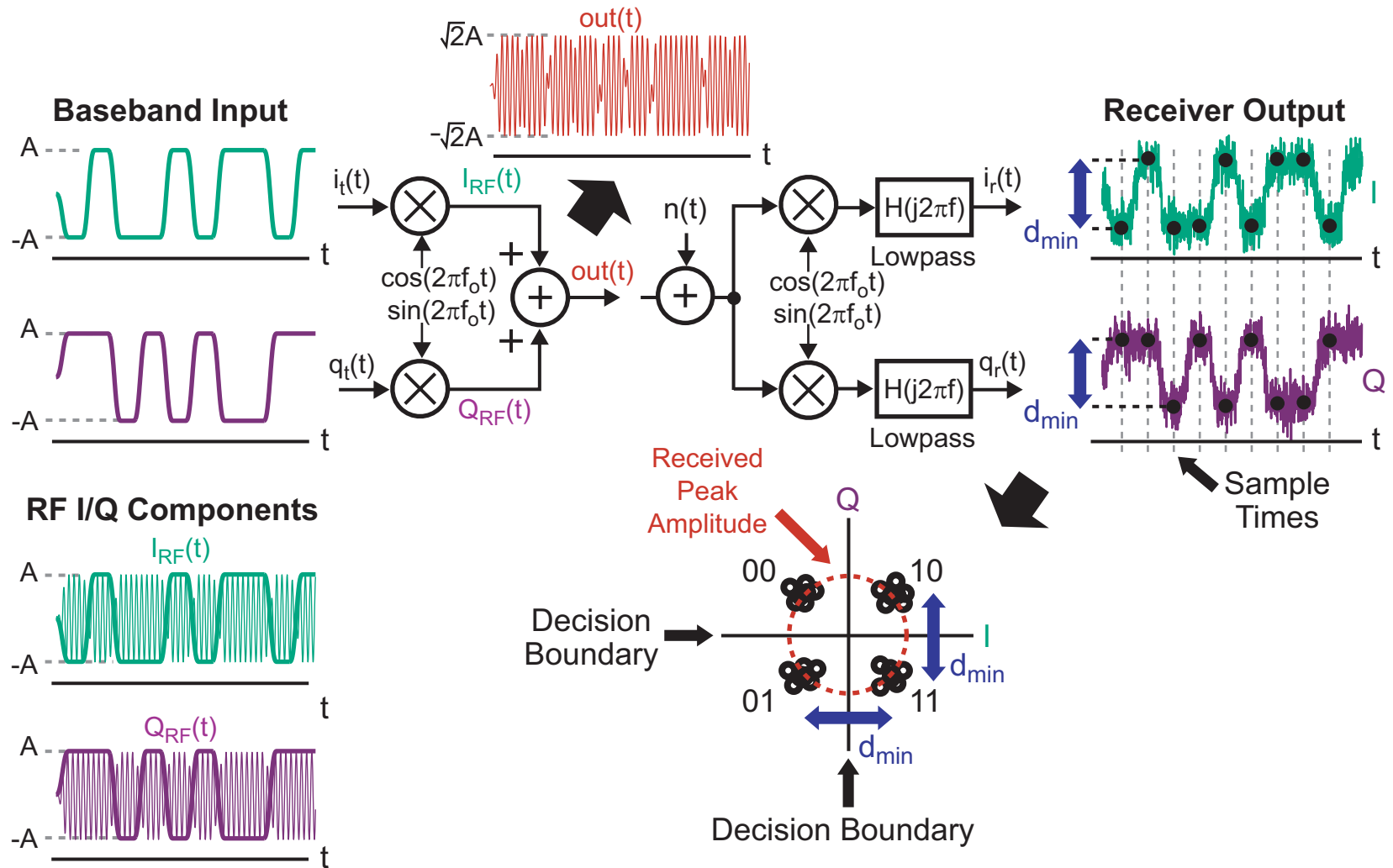
- **Reducing the number of symbols** leads to an **increased value for  $d_{min}$**
- Leads to a **lower bit error rate**
  - Assuming signal power, noise variance constant

# Can we Estimate Bit Error Rate?



- Bit Error Rate depends on two factors:
  1. **SNR** (ratio of received signal power to noise variance)
  2. # constellation points, which sets  $d_{\min}$ , given a received signal power level

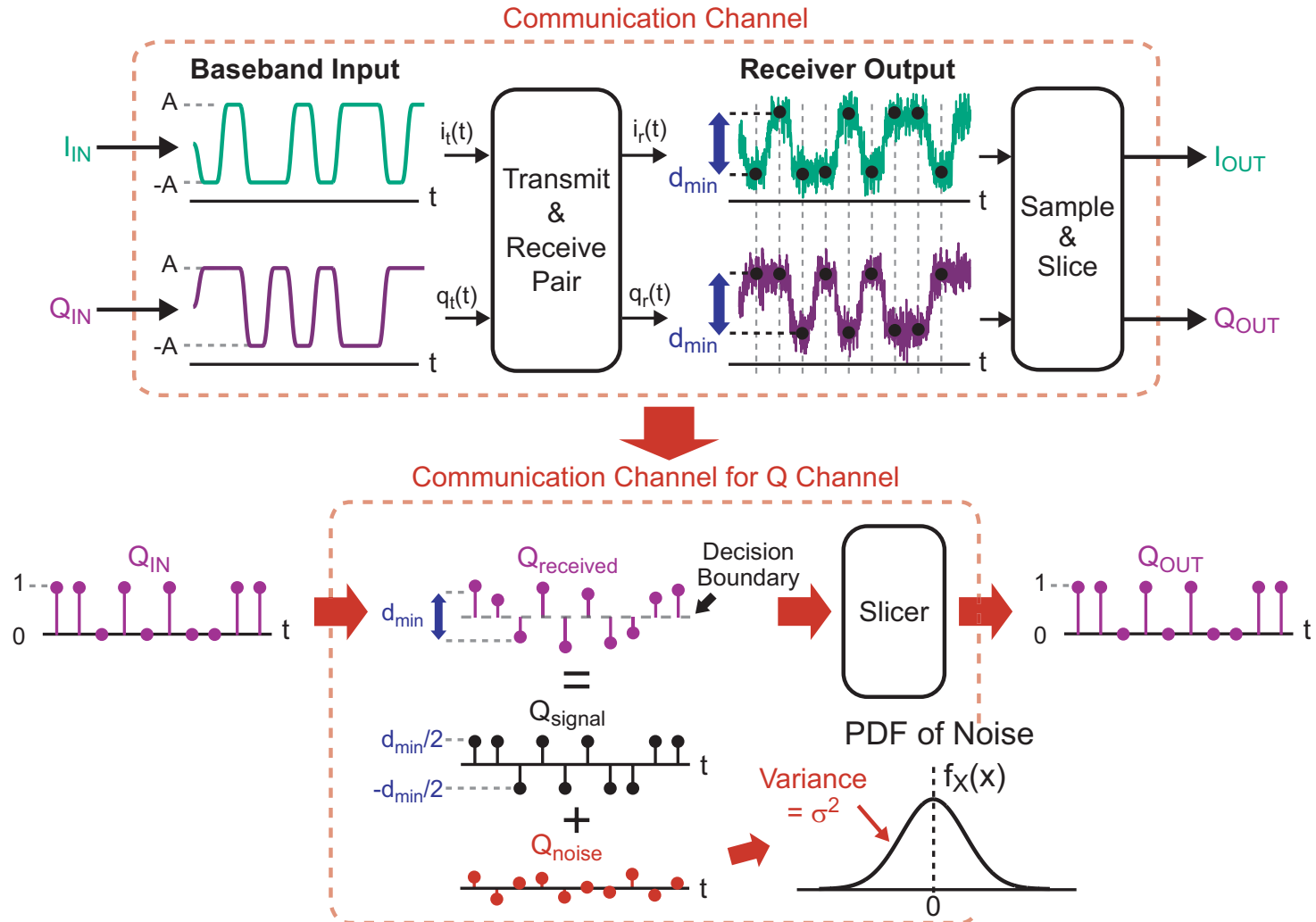
# Let's Start with a Detailed System View



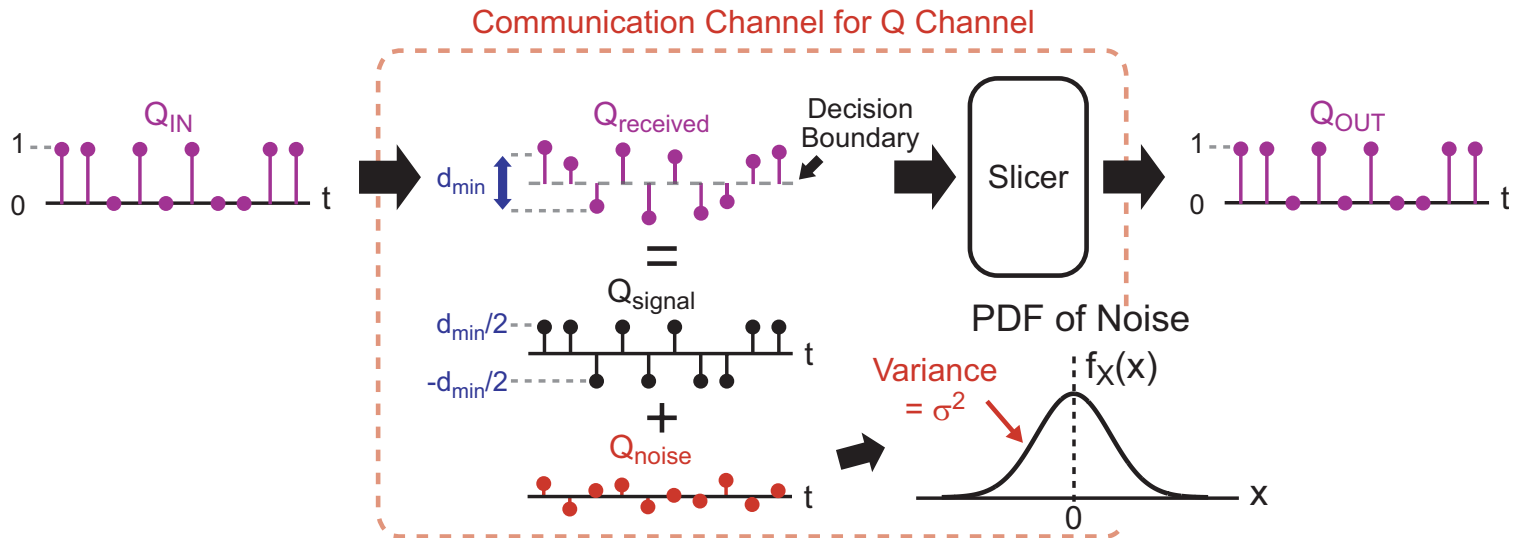
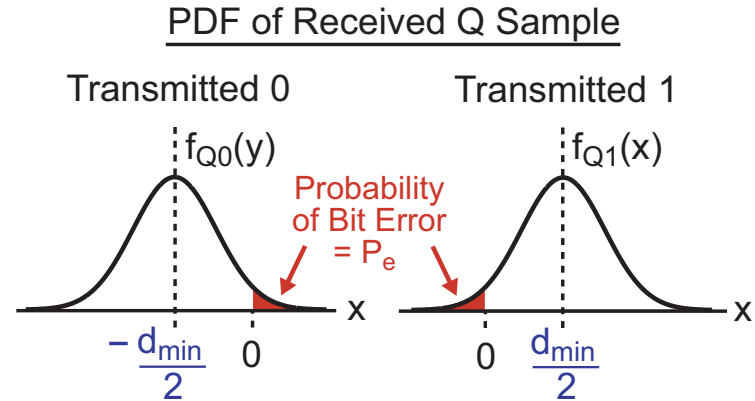
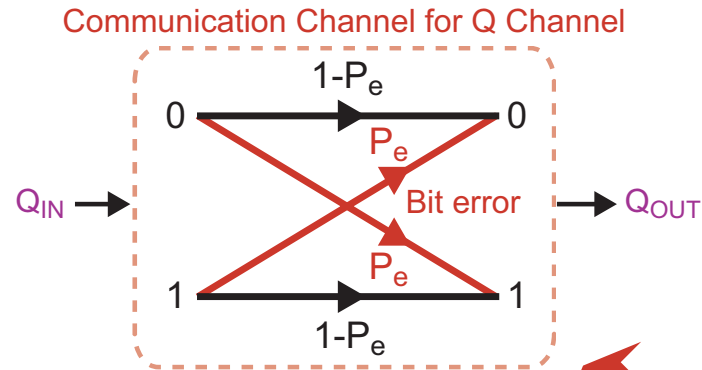
- Assumptions: No ISI, four-point constellation



# A Closer Examination of Signal and Noise

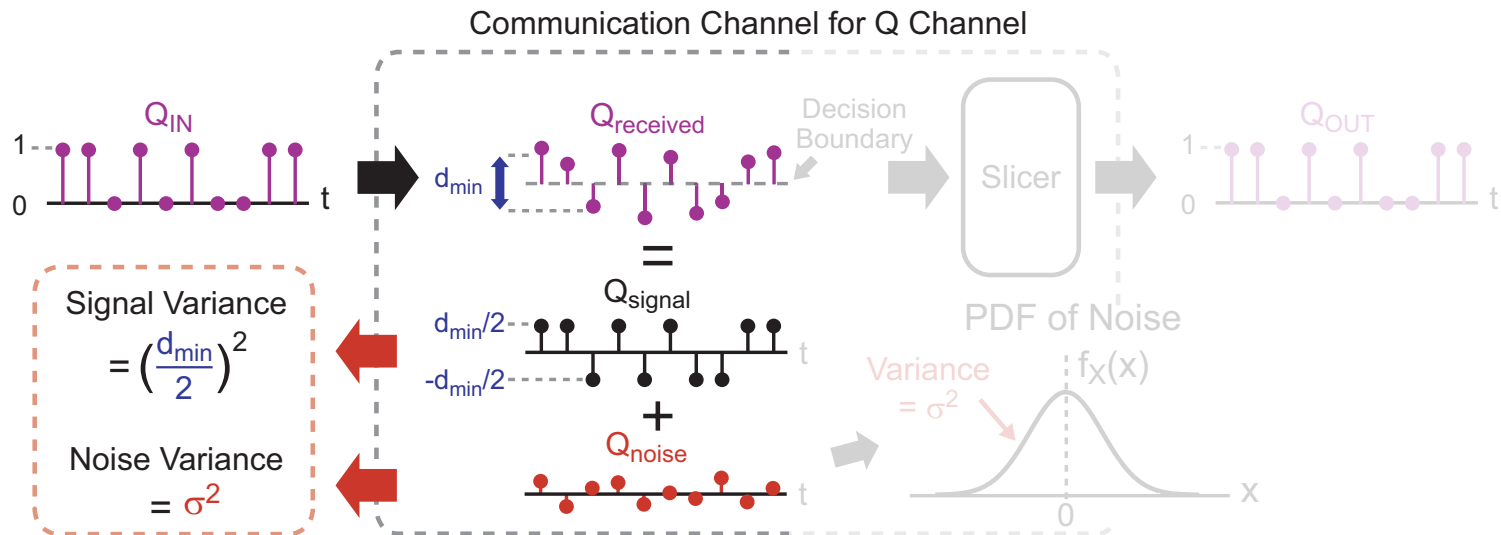
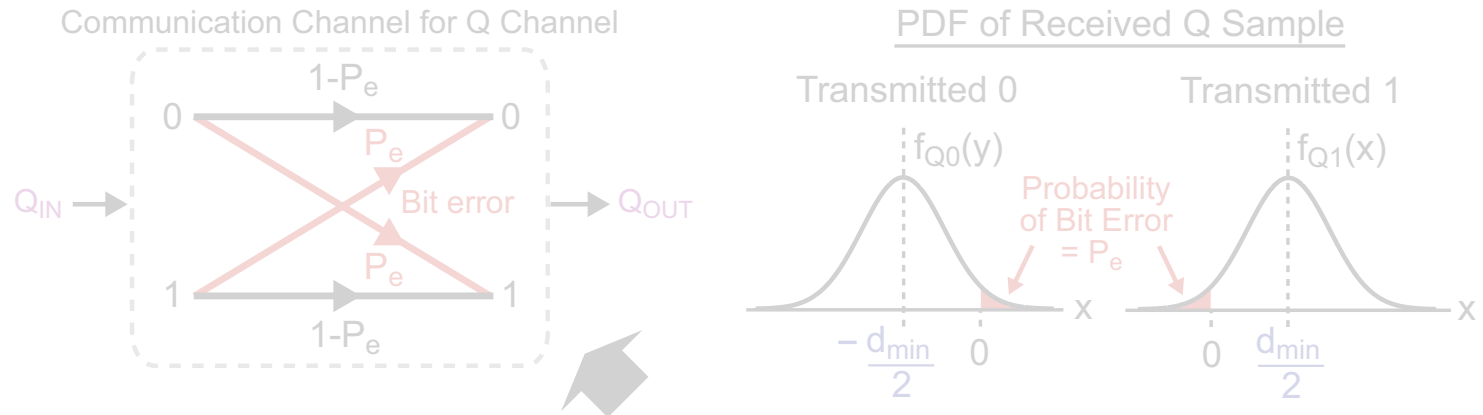


# The Binary Symmetric Channel Model



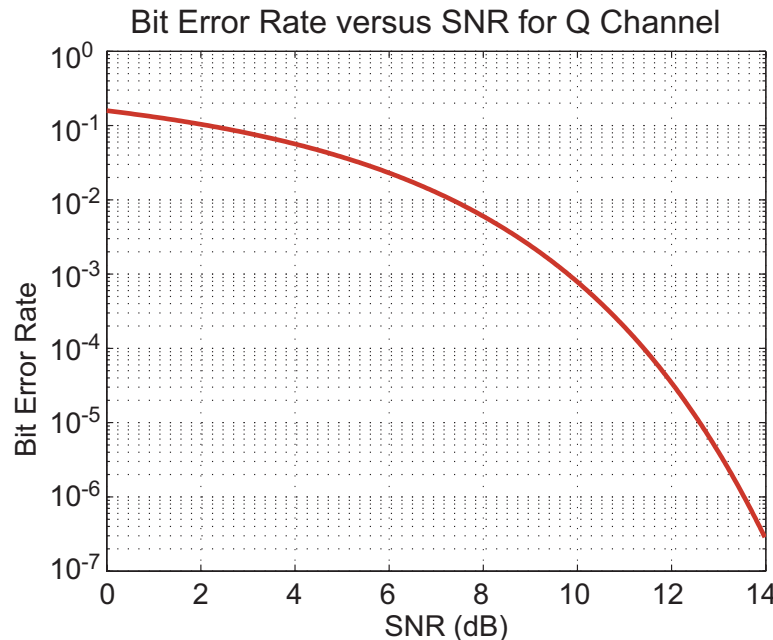
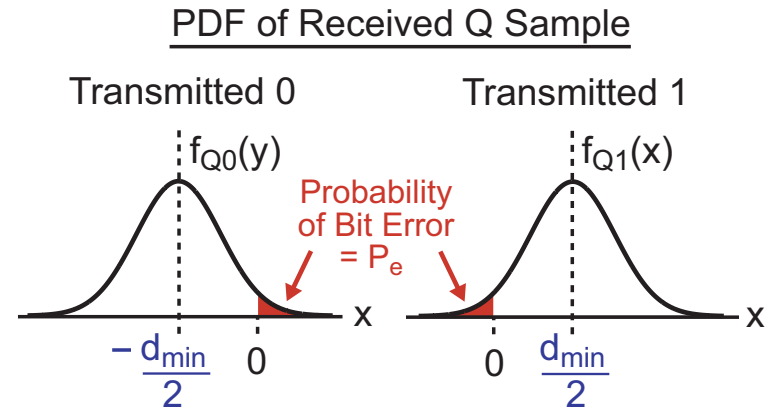
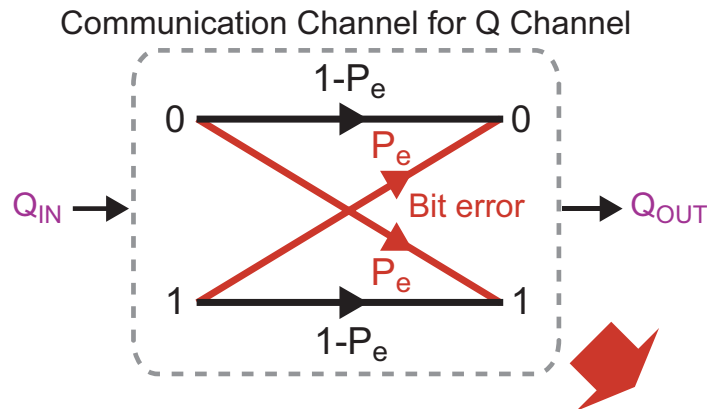
- Provides a succinct model of the wireless channel

# Computation of SNR



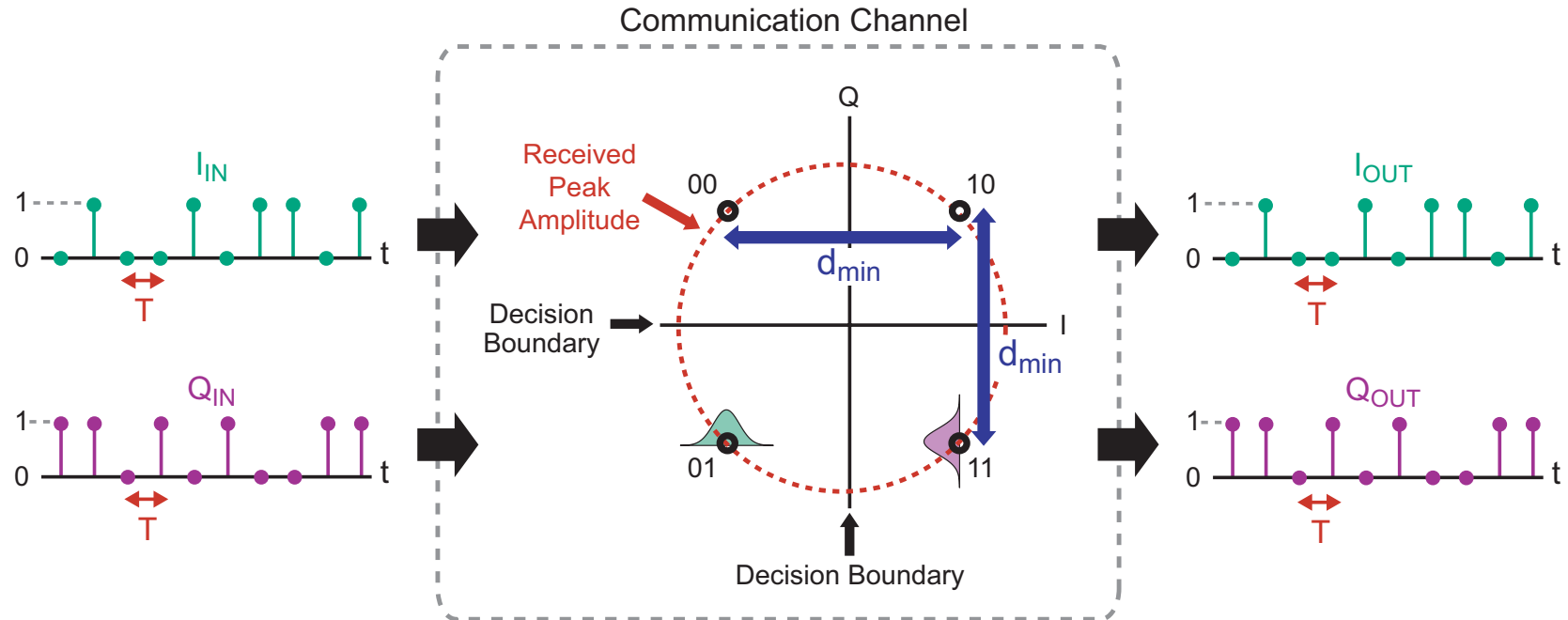
$$\Rightarrow SNR(dB) = 10 \log \left( \left( \frac{d_{min}}{2} \right)^2 / \sigma^2 \right)$$

# Resulting Bit Error Rate Versus SNR



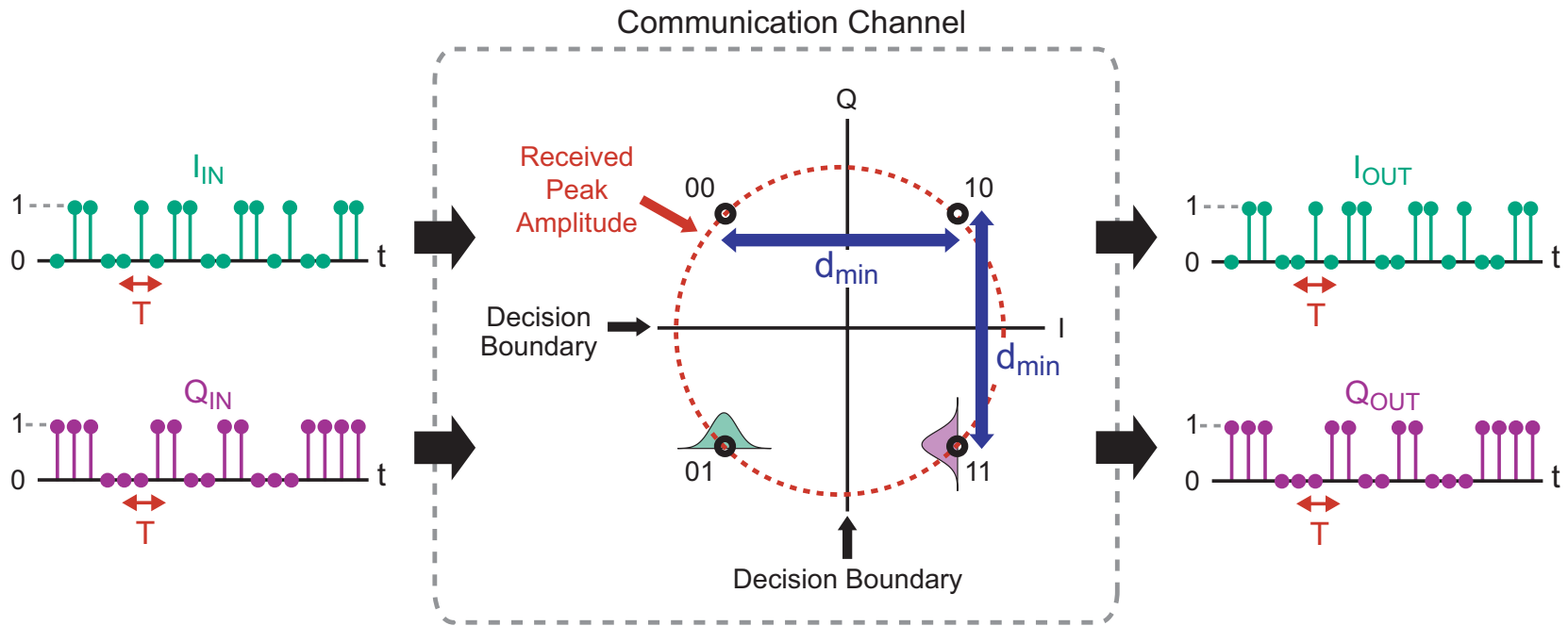
- Bit error rate  $P_e$
- $SNR \text{ (dB)} = 10 \log_{10} \left( \frac{\left(\frac{d_{min}}{2}\right)^2}{\sigma^2} \right)$
- Gaussian distribution of noise

# Shannon Capacity



- Digital communication can achieve **arbitrarily-low bit error rates** if **appropriate coding** methods are employed
- The **capacity**, or **maximum rate** of a Gaussian channel with bandwidth  $BW$  to support **arbitrarily-low bit error rate communication** is:  
$$C = BW \log_2(1 + SNR) \text{ bits/second (SNR in linear scale units)}$$

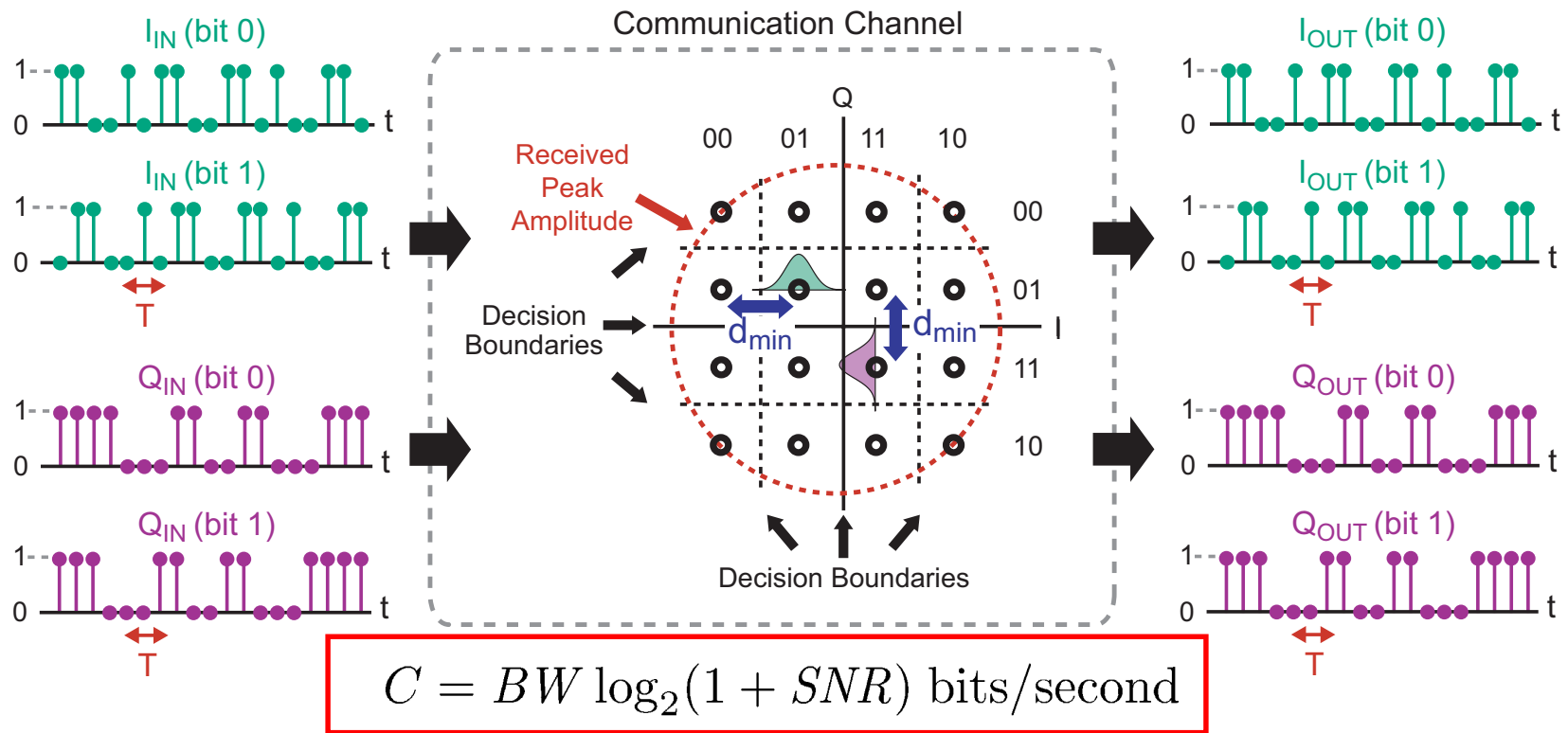
# Impact of Channel Bandwidth on Capacity



$$C = BW \log_2(1 + SNR) \text{ bits/second}$$

- A doubling of bandwidth allows twice the number of bits to be sent in time  $T$ 
  - Capacity (bits/second) increases linearly with bandwidth

# Impact of SNR on Capacity



- A higher SNR allows more bits to be sent per symbol
  - Adding  $n$  bits adds  $2^n$  constellation points, but **reduces**  $d_{min}$
- **High SNR ( $\gg 1$ ):** Capacity **increases linearly** with **SNR** (dB, log scale)

# Summary

---

- Constellation diagrams allow intuitive approach of quantifying uncoded bit error rate of a channel
  - Function of SNR and number of constellation points
- A digital communication channel can be viewed in terms of a binary signaling model
  - Focuses attention on **key issue of bit error rate**
- Coding theoretically allows **arbitrarily low bit error rate performance** of a practical digital communication link



**Tuesday Topic:**  
**The Wireless Channel**