

Report on the Multi-User-MISO Simulation System Design

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1 Introduction

Currently, the multi-antenna technologies have been widely used in the modern communication system standards. Therefore building up software simulation platforms for multi-antenna communication systems have received much attention. This report introduces the design of a simulation platform for the multi-user-multi-input-single-output (MU-MISO) communication system. Zero-forcing technology is applied for beam-forming and three different power allocation algorithms are implemented and performance evaluations are conducted based on them.

2 System Model

2.1 Overview

In this simulation platform, the communication system transmits signals via J transmission antennas to support K users. Each user is assigned with a single receive antenna. The scenario is modelled in Figure 1.

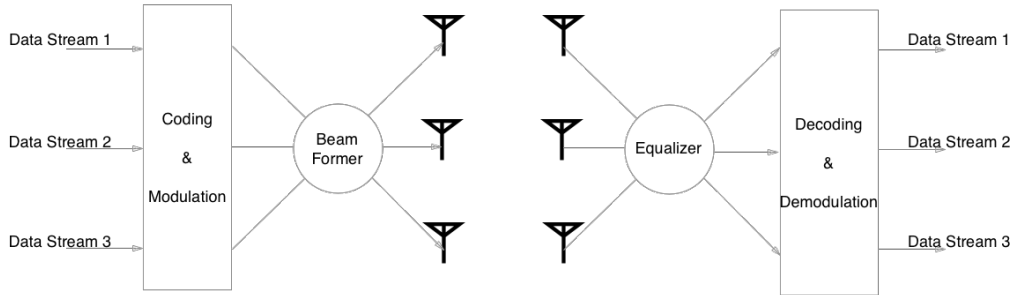


Figure 1: The Scenario Model

The system is built based on the Orthogonal Frequency Division Multiplexing and a binary data stream of a resource block length is transmitted for each user at each time slot. The data streams would be coded and modulated into the signal sequences. The sequences would be processed by the beam former to eliminate the inter-user interference. The processed sequence would be transmitted through the channel and the received signal of a user k is modelled as:

2.2 Channel Model

The channel between the J antennas and the k th user is modelled as a column vector of length J :

$$\mathbf{h}_k = \begin{bmatrix} h_{1k} \\ h_{2k} \\ \vdots \\ h_{Jk} \end{bmatrix} \quad (k = 1, \dots, K)$$

where h_{jk} stands for an i.i.d. random variable subject to $CN(0, 1)$ which represents the channel from the j th transmission antenna to the k th user.

The received signal for the k th user could be derived as:

$$\mathbf{y}_k = \mathbf{h}_k^H \mathbf{x} + \mathbf{n}_k \quad (k = 1, \dots, K)$$

Where \mathbf{x} is the beamformed sequence from the base station antennas, \mathbf{n}_k is the additive white Gaussian noise (AWGN) for the k th user, and \mathbf{y}_k is the received signal for the k th user.

2.3 Zero-Forcing Beam Former

The beam former is designed to eliminate the inter-user interference. To match with all the J antennas in the base station, the beamformer for the k th user would be modelled as a column vector:

$$\mathbf{w}_k = \begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{w}_{1k} \\ \mathbf{w}_{2k} \\ \vdots \\ \mathbf{w}_{Jk} \end{bmatrix} \quad (k = 1, \dots, K)$$

Thus the processed signal sequence \mathbf{x} could be derived as:

$$\mathbf{x} = \sum_{k=1}^K \mathbf{w}_k s_k$$

The received signal \mathbf{y}_k becomes:

$$\mathbf{y}_k = \mathbf{h}_k^H \mathbf{x} + \mathbf{n}_k = \underbrace{\mathbf{h}_k^H \mathbf{w}_1 s_1 + \mathbf{h}_k^H \mathbf{w}_2 s_2 + \mathbf{h}_k^H \mathbf{w}_3 s_3 + \dots}_{\text{interference}} + \overbrace{\mathbf{h}_k^H \mathbf{w}_k s_k}^{\text{signal}} + \underbrace{\dots + \mathbf{h}_k^H \mathbf{w}_K s_K}_{\text{interference}} + \underbrace{\mathbf{n}_k}_{\text{noise}} \quad (k = 1, \dots, K)$$

The zero-forcing beamformer is designed to eliminate the inter-user interference completely, i.e., to make the interference part in the received signal equal to 0.

$$\text{interference} = \sum_{i=1, i \neq k}^K \mathbf{h}_k^H \mathbf{w}_i s_i = 0$$

As \mathbf{s}_i is the signal sequence of user k' , $\mathbf{s}_{k'} \neq 0$, the following condition needs to be fulfilled to cancel out the interference:

$$\mathbf{h}_k^H \mathbf{w}_i = 0 \quad (i \neq k)$$

From the perspective of the whole system serving K users, the vectors of channels and beamformers could be merged into two matrices \mathbf{H} and \mathbf{W} :

$$\mathbf{H} = [\mathbf{h}_1 \quad \mathbf{h}_2 \quad \mathbf{h}_3 \quad \dots \quad \mathbf{h}_K]$$

and

$$\mathbf{W} = [\mathbf{w}_1 \quad \mathbf{w}_2 \quad \mathbf{w}_3 \quad \dots \quad \mathbf{w}_K]$$

To fulfill the requirement of the beamformer, the multiplication of matrices \mathbf{H} and \mathbf{W} should be equal to an identity matrix.

$$\mathbf{W}\mathbf{H} = \mathbf{I}$$

where \mathbf{I} is the identity matrix.

Solving this equation, the zero-forcing beamformer \mathbf{W} would be the pseudo-inverse of the channel matrix \mathbf{H} :

$$\mathbf{W} = \mathbf{H}^\dagger = (\mathbf{H}^H \mathbf{H})^{-1} \mathbf{H}$$

2.4 Power Allocation

The original beamformer would have a power gain larger than 1 which make the signal power exceeding the maximum output of the transmission antennas. In this situation, we would allocate specific power gain to each user and rescale the beamformers according to the power allocation. The power allocated to the k th user is denoted as p_k and the power constraint of a transmission antenna is set to be P :

$$\sum_{k=1}^K p_k \leq P$$

and the power-allocated beamformer for the k th user could be expressed as:

$$\mathbf{w}_k = \frac{\mathbf{w}_k \sqrt{p_k}}{\|\mathbf{w}_k\|_F}$$

Three different power allocation methods are practiced in this system: the Normalized Scheme, the Equal Power Scaling Scheme and the Water Filling Scheme.

2.4.1 Normalized Scheme

In the normalized scheme, the initial beam former matrix is normalized by its Frobenius Norm:

$$\mathbf{W} = \frac{\mathbf{W}}{\|\mathbf{W}\|_F}$$

The power allocated to the k th user would be:

$$p_k = \frac{\|\mathbf{w}_k\|_F^2}{\|\mathbf{W}\|_F^2}$$

This normalization process would simply rescale the whole matrix with a constant to fulfill the limitation.

2.4.2 Equal Power Scaling Scheme

In the equal power scaling scheme, a uniform power is allocated to each user.

$$p_k = \frac{P}{K}$$

and the beamformer for each user become:

$$\mathbf{w}_k = \frac{\mathbf{w}_k \sqrt{P}}{\|\mathbf{w}_k\|_F \sqrt{K}}$$

2.4.3 Water Filling Scheme

The water filling scheme is targeted to reach a maximum data rate for the whole group of users. The method would allocate more power to those with better channel state to boost their achievable rate while meeting the power constraint. Let the original beamformer gain to be g_k :

$$g_k = \|\mathbf{w}_k\|_F^2$$

The maximum capacity problem could be expressed as:

$$\max \sum_{k=1}^K \log(1 + p_k)$$

with the limitation of

$$\sum_{k=1}^K p_k \leq P$$

Water filling method is efficient in solving this condition. Set the water filling power to be μ and the maximization problem would be further transformed to finding the maximum value of μ that satisfies:

$$\sum_{k=1}^K (\mu - g_k)^+ \leq P$$

where x^+ denotes $\max\{x, 0\}$ [1].

Therefore, the power allocated to the k th user would be:

$$p_k = \left(\frac{\mu}{g_k} - 1\right)^+$$

Iterative division method is applied to find the value of μ to maximize the achievable rate.

2.5 Simulation Platform

The system diagram for the simulation platform is shown in figure 2.

The channel matrix \mathbf{H} is firstly generated randomly and the corresponding beamformer \mathbf{W} is calculated. Additive white Gaussian noise is generated as a random vector \mathbf{n}_k for the k th user with the noise power σ_k^2 . A data stream of a block length is simulated for each user for transmission. Signal-to-Interference-and-Noise-Ratio for each user is then calculated to determine the modulation and coding scheme. The SINR for the k th user is:

$$SINR_k = \frac{Signal}{Interference + Noise} = \frac{\mathbf{h}_k^H \mathbf{w}_k}{\sum_{i=1, i \neq k}^K \mathbf{h}_k^H \mathbf{w}_i + \sigma_k^2}$$

where the \mathbf{w}_k is the beamformer for the k th user with the power component multiplied.

The SINR is converted into decimal scale and mapped to the corresponding CQI and MCS index values.

$$SINR(dB)_k = 10 * \log_{10}(SINR_k)$$

With the specific modulation and coding scheme, a data stream of a block length is randomly generated for each user. All the data streams are converted into the signal sequences \mathbf{s} and \mathbf{s} for all users then pass through the beamformer and form the signal \mathbf{x} .

Beamformed signal \mathbf{x} would be simulated-transmitted via the channel and reach the user. The user side would decode, demodulate and detect the received signal.

The decoded data stream at the user side would be directly compared to the original one for evaluation.

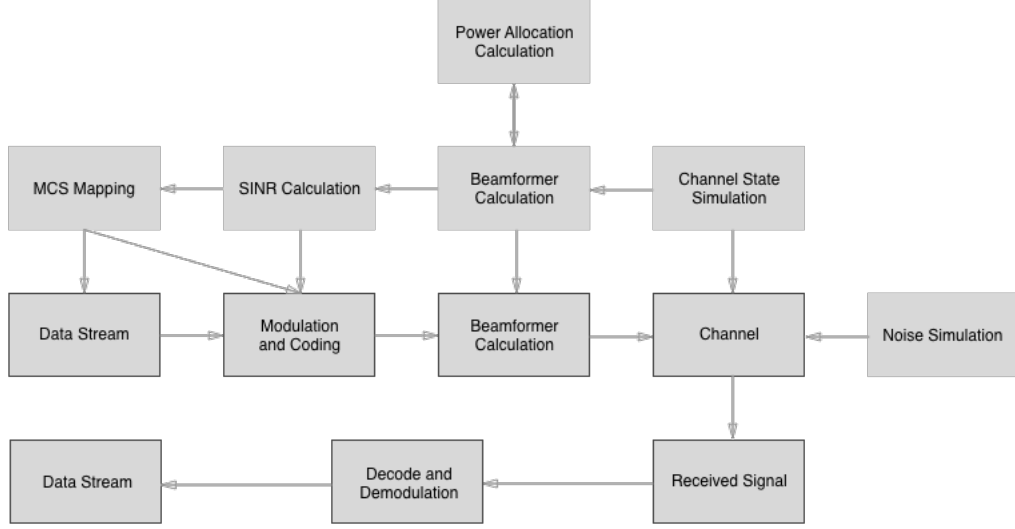


Figure 2: The System Diagram

3 Performance Evaluation and Comparison

The detected data streams are compared to the original ones and check if there is any error. The blocks successfully transmitted are counted to the total throughput.

$$ThroughPut_k = L_{Bl}N_{Bl}$$

where L_{Bl} is the block length of the specific modulation and coding scheme and the N_{Bl} is the number of blocks which are transmitted correctly.

The achievable rate for the k th user is calculated from the SINR values:

$$AcRate_k = FB_w \log_2(1 + SINR_k)$$

where F denotes the system loss of the OFDM system, and B_w stands for the bandwidth of the channel.

The comparison between the total throughput and the total achievable rate for all users is conducted to evaluate the performance. The performance of the system applying the two power allocation schemes is shown in figure 3 (2-user-2-input-single-output system).

The waterfilling power allocation method performs better in the total throughput comparing to the other two algorithms. However, the increase in total throughput is traded with the loss of throughput for users with poor channel state.

The equal power scaling method outstands in equality for all user and has a relatively good performance comparing to the normalized method. When the channel for all users is quite good, the performance of both the equal power scaling and waterfilling scheme would become quite similar.

The normalization method would be the simplest in implementation. However, this advantage over the equal power scaling scheme is nearly ignorable.

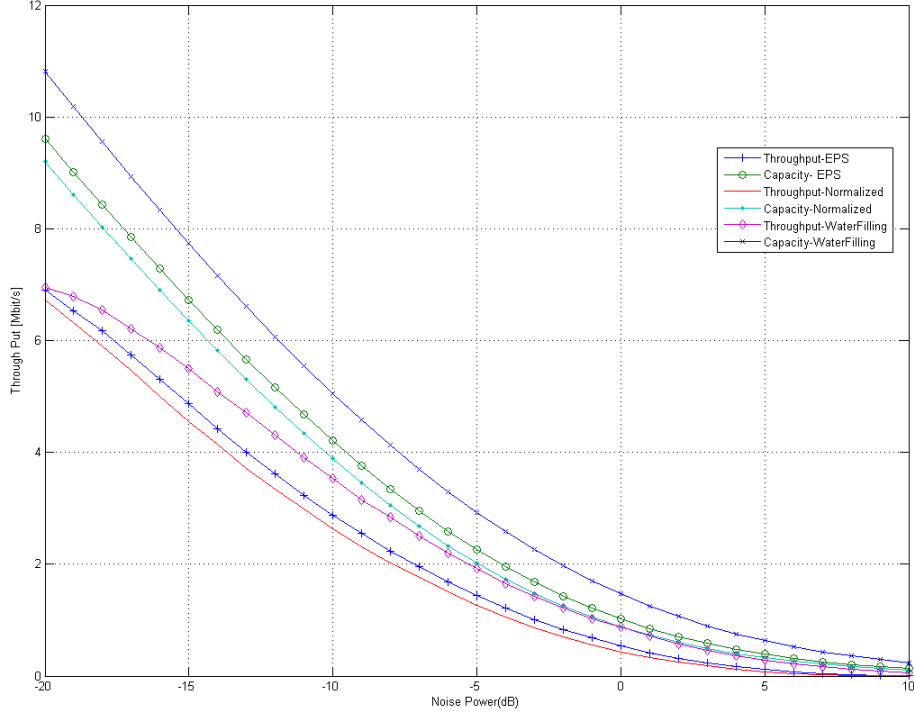


Figure 3: Comparison Between the 3 Power Allocation Methods with Zero-Forcing MU-MISO System

The performance of the adaptive Single-Input-Single-Output(SISO) system is shown in figure 4. Comparing figure 3 and figure 4, performance is much boosted for the zero-forcing MU-MISO system comparing to the SISO system with both power allocation schemes.

4 Conclusion

The simulated Multi-User MISO system with Zero-Forcing beamforming performs far better in term of total throughput. Therefore it would be more suitable for the multi-user scenario, which becomes more and more common in the modern world. The multi-antenna technology would be replacing the SISO system in modern communication systems to achieve better performances for real-world multi-user scenarios.

The water filling algorithm outstands in term of total throughput but fails to keep quality for users with poor channel state. The equal power scaling method would work well in good channel state and keep equality to all users when channel becomes poor. The Normalized scheme has a relatively poor performance comparing to the other two. The advantage in the simplicity is also small thus has little value in practice.

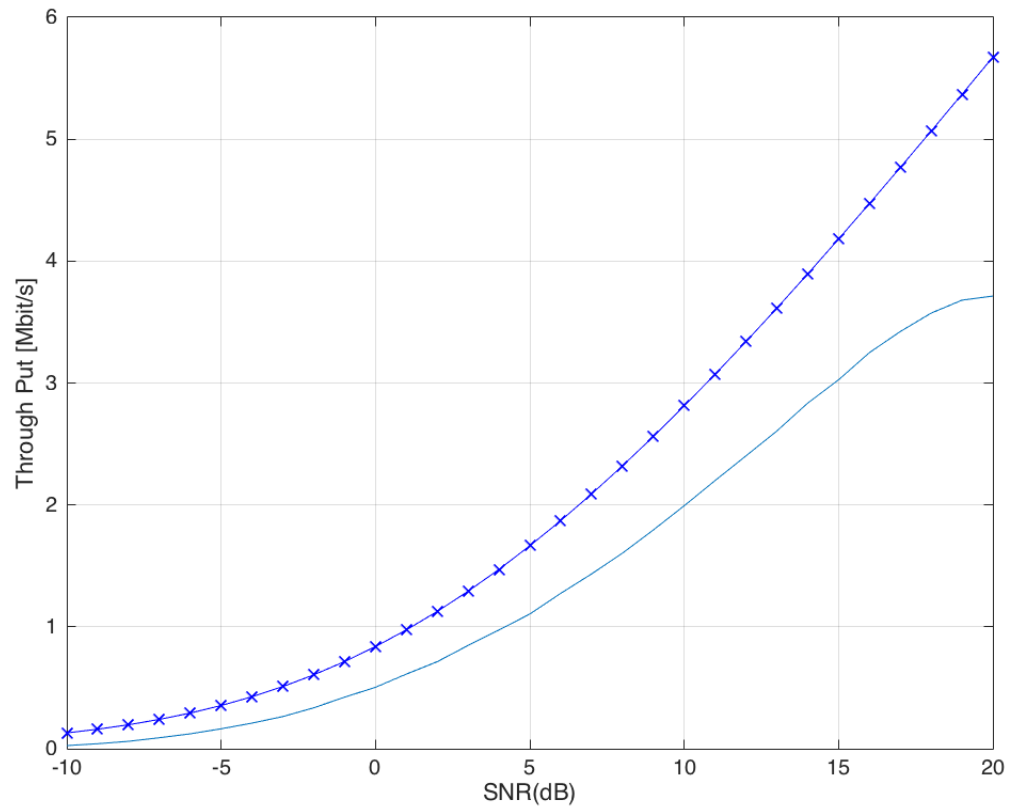


Figure 4: SISO Performance

References

- [1] Taesang Yoo and Andrea Goldsmith. On the optimality of multiantenna broadcast scheduling using zero-forcing beamforming. *IEEE Journal on Selected Areas in Communications*, 24:528–541, 2006.