Energy Efficient Power Allocation for MIMO Multihop Networks

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Abstract—We present a transmission energy efficient power allocation method for different end-to-end rates in a Multiple Input Multiple Output (MIMO) multihop network. This method is intended for a network consisting of MIMO nodes that use simple time division scheduling. We formulate the power allocation problem for the various degrees of freedom of MIMO hops as an energy minimization problem and present our iterative solution. Our method calculates the power allocations to the known routes for a requested data transmission time and takes the quality of the channels into account. We perform simulations to show the energy efficiency of these routes.

I. INTRODUCTION

The joint power and rate allocating has been considered for multihop networks without Multiple Input Multiple Output (MIMO) in [1]. Advanced MIMO techniques offer the opportunity to increase the capacity with multiplexing and to increase reliability with diversity gains [2]. In MIMO networks these methods are used to gain more range or capacity, but finding the route is usually done by selecting the shortest hop route [3], [4], [5]. One critical open research question in the area of MIMO networking is how different MIMO channel capabilities can affect the route selection. For example, a route where we can apply multiplexing can be more energy efficient than a route that provides only beamforming. In addition, using a longer hop route with good quality can be more energy efficient than using a bad quality shortest hop route. It is important to consider these aspects from an optimization point of view when selecting the route in wireless networks.

In the literature of MIMO power allocating, a common starting point is to minimize the transmission time or maximize the utility of the network [6], [7]. In this paper, the end-to-end transmission time is kept fixed. We present a transmission energy efficient power allocation method for MIMO ad-hoc networks, in which data flow has a specified rate requirement. This method is intended to work centralized at the destination, which knows the channel characteristics of various routes. With this method, the destination can calculate the power allocations for a set of routes, and then the most energy efficient one can be selected. This way, the channel characteristics of different routes are taken into account.

We formulate the power allocation for data transmission in a MIMO network as an energy minimization problem based on an information theoretic view of MIMO channels [8]. We represent the water-filling capacity for MIMO hops with one variable and use this formulation to reduce the problem to a lower dimensional one. We present an iterative solution using bisection with Newton-Raphson method [9]. We analyze the performance of the resulting power allocation algorithm in a multi-hop transmission through various routes.

II. SYSTEM MODEL

We consider a wireless multihop MIMO network model with homogenous nodes with n receive and transmit antennas. We assume a single flow of information between a randomly selected source node and a corresponding destination node. Nodes can be used as relays in a multihop manner, to support transmission of packets from the source to the destination. We assume that the relay nodes use decode and forward to transmit the data. The data transmissions via different hops are scheduled to different time slots with simple time division scheduling. This way there is no interference between different hops.

A route from the source to the destination consists of I hops. These hops are the links used for the data transmission between the source and the destination. We number the hops from 1 to I. The goal is to transmit D bits to the destination in T seconds. The D bits are transmitted sequentially over every hop. The time to transmit the data is $T = \sum_{i=1}^{I} T_i$, where T_i is the time to transmit the data on hop number i. The rate for the hop i is

$$r_i = \frac{D}{T_i}. (1)$$

We have full channel state information (CSI) at the transmitter and the receiver for the data transmission. We assume that the MIMO channels for different hops are slowly varying and obtaining the full CSI is possible via pilot signals. The transmitter and the receiver obtain the right and left singular vectors for the transmission respectively. The end destination for the data finds out the channel characteristics of the route during the route discovery of an on-demand routing protocol. More specifically, it is assumed that the end destination can obtain the estimated singular values of the different hops from the route request packets.

We assume that every hop uses a bandwidth B for transmitting the data symbols. Let σ^2 denote the background noise

power over this bandwidth. We refer to the spatial dimensions of the MIMO channel as subchannels. Let p_i be the power allocation vector for hop i, i.e. $p_i = [P_{i1}, \dots, P_{in}]$. These powers are allocated to the n subchannels. The achievable rate for the hop number i with power allocation p_i is given by [8]

$$R_i(\mathbf{p}_i) = B \sum_{j=1}^n \log_2 \left(1 + \frac{P_{ij} \lambda_{ij}^2}{\sigma^2} \right) \text{ bits/s}, \tag{2}$$

where λ_{ij} is the singular value of the jth subchannel of hop i. Note that the subchannels represent orthogonal decompositions of the $n \times n$ MIMO channel.

III. ENERGY MINIMIZATION PROBLEM

Our problem is to allocate power across all the hops to all the subchannels so that the sum transmission energy is minimized. We have an end-to-end time constraint for transmission of the data. We formulate the minimization problem as

Minimize
$$\sum_{i=1}^{I} (\mathbf{1}^{T} \boldsymbol{p}_{i}) T_{i}$$
(3) subject to
$$\sum_{i=1}^{I} T_{i} \leq T$$
$$R_{i}(\boldsymbol{p}_{i}) T_{i} \geq D, \ i = 1, \dots, I$$
$$\boldsymbol{p}_{i} \succeq 0, \qquad i = 1, \dots, I$$
$$T_{i} > 0, \qquad i = 1, \dots, I,$$

where the function $R_i(\mathbf{p}_i)$ is given by (2) and the variables are $\mathbf{p}_i \in \mathbb{R}^n$ and T_i for all i = 1, ..., I.

Power allocation via water-filling maximizes the rate of a hop, when full CSI is known at the transmitter and at the receiver [8]. Note that maximizing the rate for a certain power is equivalent to minimizing the transmission time for a certain power. To obtain the same transmission time at the same hop with any other power allocation method, we would need more power. Therefore, water-filling minimizes the energy used for a certain rate for a certain hop.

The power allocation for the different subchannels j at the hop i is the water-filling solution [8]

$$P_{ij} = \left(\mu_i - \frac{\sigma^2}{\lambda_{ij}^2}\right)^+,\tag{4}$$

where μ_i is selected so that

$$||p_i||_1 = \sum_{i=1}^n P_{ij} = P_i,$$
 (5)

where P_i is the amount of power at hop i.

For each MIMO link there are n degrees of freedom available for transmission. Depending on the available power, we use $k_i(P_i) \leq n$ degrees of freedom at hop i. Without loss of generality, we assume that the singular values of the channels are ordered as $\lambda_{i1} \geq \lambda_{i2} \geq \ldots \geq \lambda_{in}$. Then, the number of degrees of freedom $k_i(P_i)$ is the positive integer k

that satisfies inequalities

$$\begin{cases}
P_i > \sum_{j=1}^k (j-1) \left(\frac{\sigma^2}{\lambda_{ij}^2} - \frac{\sigma^2}{\lambda_{i(j-1)}^2} \right) & (6) \\
P_i \le \sum_{j=1}^k j \left(\frac{\sigma^2}{\lambda_{i(j+1)}^2} - \frac{\sigma^2}{\lambda_{ij}^2} \right), & (7)
\end{cases}$$

where $\lambda_{i0}=\infty$ and $\lambda_{i(n+1)}=0$. Here, the inequality (6) is the lower bound on the power P_i for using k degrees of freedom. It is obtained by setting the water-level just enough to inundate completely the k-1 subchannels while the power level in the k'th subchannel is still zero. The inequality (7) is the upper bound on the power P_i for using k degrees of freedom. It is obtained by setting the water-level just enough to inundate completely the k subchannels, while the power level in the k+1'th subchannel is still zero.

By substituting (4) into (5) and by setting the number of degrees of freedom n of (5) to be $k_i(P_i)$, we obtain

$$\mu_i = \frac{1}{k_i(P_i)} \left(P_i + \sum_{j=1}^{k_i(P_i)} \frac{\sigma^2}{\lambda_{ij}^2} \right).$$
 (8)

By substituting (8) into (4) and (4) into (2) the achievable rate for the i'th MIMO hop is

$$r_{i}(P_{i}) = B \sum_{j=1}^{k_{i}(P_{i})} \log_{2} \left(\frac{\lambda_{ij}^{2} \left(P_{i} + \sum_{u=1}^{k_{i}(P_{i})} \frac{\sigma^{2}}{\lambda_{iu}^{2}} \right)}{k_{i}(P_{i})\sigma^{2}} \right) \text{ bits/s.}$$
(9)

This is an equivalent expression of the achievable rate (2) when the power P_i is allocated to the active subchannels according to the water-filling solution. Thus $R_i(\mathbf{p}_i)$ in problem (3) can be replaced by $r_i(P_i)$, where $P_i = \mathbf{1}^T \mathbf{p}_i$ (see (5)). Note that the second constraints in problem (3) are tight. Thus by eliminating T_i between the first and the second constraint, problem (3) can be written equivalently as

$$\begin{aligned} & \text{Minimize} & & D \sum_{i=1}^{I} \frac{P_i}{r_i(P_i)} & \text{(10)} \\ & \text{subject to} & & \left(\sum_{i=1}^{I} \frac{1}{r_i(P_i)} \right) - \frac{T}{D} \leq 0, \end{aligned}$$

where the function $r_i(P_i)$ is given by (9) and P_i for $i=1,\ldots,I$ are the variables. In this problem, we have an implicit constraint $P_i>0$ for all $i=1,\ldots,I$, because the power P_i must belong to the domain of function $r_i(P_i)$ defined in (9).

Let p be the power allocation vector for all the hops, i.e. $p = [P_1, \ldots, P_I]$. Let us denote the objective function of problem (10) by $f_0(p) = D \sum_i \frac{P_i}{r_i(P_i)}$. The i'th element of its gradient is

$$[\nabla f_0(\mathbf{p})]_i = D \frac{r_i(P_i) - P_i r_i'(P_i)}{r_i(P_i)^2}.$$
 (11)

Next we show that this is positive. Note that the function $r_i(P_i)$ is a strictly concave and differentiable function of P_i with the domain $P_i>0$ (see the appendix). Thus, for all $P_i>c\geq 0$ we have

$$r_i(c) < r_i(P_i) + r'_i(P_i)(c - P_i),$$
 (12)

which for c = 0 implies that

$$0 < r_i(P_i) - P_i r_i'(P_i), \tag{13}$$

since $r_i(0) = 0$. Hence, $\nabla f_0(\mathbf{p}) \succ 0$ for $\mathbf{p} \succ 0$, i.e., $f_0(\mathbf{p})$ is increasing in each variable.

Next we observe, that the left hand side of the constraint in (10) is decreasing in each variable. Because the objective is increasing while the constraint is decreasing in each variable, it can be shown (by contradiction) that the constraint is tight (i.e., holds with equality at the optimal point of problem (10)). We solve our problem by finding the point that satisfies the Karush-Kuhn-Tucker (KKT) conditions. The KKT conditions are the first-order necessary conditions for local optimality [10]. Note that our problem has to have a minimum.

Lemma 1. The KKT conditions of problem (10) have at most one solution at p > 0.

Proof: Let us denote the constraint function of problem (10) by $f_1(\boldsymbol{p}) = \left(\sum_i \frac{1}{r_i(P_i)}\right) - \frac{T}{D}$. The KKT conditions for the optimal values of ν and \boldsymbol{p} are

- 1) $\nabla f_0(\mathbf{p}) + \nu \nabla f_1(\mathbf{p}) = 0$,
- 2) $f_1(\mathbf{p}) = 0$,
- 3) $\nu > 0$

We first proof that for a certain value of the dual variable ν , there is only one p, that satisfies the first condition. The first KKT condition can be written equivalently as

$$\nu = D\left(\frac{r_1(P_1)}{r_1'(P_1)} - P_1\right) = \dots = D\left(\frac{r_I(P_I)}{r_I'(P_I)} - P_I\right), \quad (14)$$

by replacing the elements of $\nabla f_0(\boldsymbol{p})$ with (11) and the elements of $\nabla f_1(\boldsymbol{p})$ with

$$[\nabla f_1(\mathbf{p})]_i = -\frac{r_i'(P_i)}{r_i(P_i)^2}.$$
 (15)

for all i. The equations in (14) are equalities that need to hold for the first KKT condition to hold.

The value of ν , with a power P_i for the hop i can be written as

$$\nu_i(P_i) = D\left(\frac{r_i(P_i)}{r'_i(P_i)} - P_i\right) = \nu, \quad i = 1, \dots, I.$$
 (16)

These are the *i*th functions of (14). If these functions are invertible, there is only one p, that satisfies the first condition (14) for a certain value of ν .

Next we show that the $\nu_i(P_i)$ is indeed invertible by showing that it is continuous and strictly increasing function of P_i . The function $\nu_i(P_i)$ is continuous in $P_i > 0$, because functions $r_i(P_i)$ and $r_i'(P_i)$ are continuous (see Lemma 2 in the appendix). The function $\nu_i(P_i)$ is differentiable almost everywhere $P_i > 0$ except at

$$P_{i} = \sum_{j=1}^{k} (j-1) \left(\frac{\sigma^{2}}{\lambda_{ij}^{2}} - \frac{\sigma^{2}}{\lambda_{i(j-1)}^{2}} \right), \quad k = 1, \dots, n. \quad (17)$$

This equation defines the values of power P_i where the value of $k_i(P_i)$ changes. It is obtained similarly to (6). When defined, the derivative of $\nu_i(P_i)$ with respect to P_i is

$$\nu_i'(P_i) = -D \frac{r_i(P_i)r_i''(P_i)}{r_i'(P_i)^2}.$$
(18)

Note that the second derivative $r_i''(P_i)$ is negative (see (28)). Thus, the function $\nu_i(P_i)$ has a positive derivative on all the intervals where it is defined. Recall, that it is also continuous. Therefore, it is increasing and invertible. This means that there is only one p, that satisfies the first KKT condition for a certain value of ν .

Next we proof that the optimal value for the dual variable ν is unique, e.g., there cannot exist two values of ν that satisfy the KKT conditions. The first KKT condition is written equivalently as I equations and unknown parameters P_i in (14). These unknown parameters P_i are the values of p. Note that these equations are invertible and increasing in P_i for all $i=1,\ldots,I$.

Then, there cannot be more than one ν , which inverts to p and satisfies the second KKT condition $f_1(p) = 0$, because the function $f_1(p)$ is decreasing in each variable.

Because KKT condition holds only at one point, it is the minimum for our problem. In other words, if we find a point that satisfies the KKT conditions for our problem (10), we have the optimal values of power allocated to each link. These values of power satisfy the first constraint. The first KKT condition (14) is shown to be invertible in the proof of Lemma 1, so if we find the optimal dual variable ν , we can obtain the optimal powers P_i of (16) for each hop in the route. We can solve for the values of the inverse using any efficient root finding techniques. We use the Newton-Raphson method because of its convergence speed.

We will now focus on using the Newton-Raphson method to find all P_i 's that satisfy the first KKT condition (14). More specifically, for every i we find the value of P_i that is the root of the function

$$h_i(P_i) = \nu - D\left(\frac{r_i(P_i)}{r_i'(P_i)} + P_i\right). \tag{19}$$

Let x_m denote the value of P_i at iteration number m. The Newton-Raphson iteration to find the root for a function $h_i(P_i)$ is defined as

$$g_i(x_m) = x_{m+1} = x_m - \frac{h_i(x_m)}{h'_i(x_m)},$$
 (20)

where the $g_i(x_m)$ is Newton-Raphson iteration function and the x_{m+1} is the result of this iteration function with an input x_m . We use (28) with every P_i as the second derivative of $r_i(P_i)$ when calculating the derivative of $h_i(P_i)$.

We begin the iteration with a starting value x_0 and obtain $g_i(x_0) = x_1$. We then insert the x_1 to the function (20) again, and obtain $g_i(x_1) = x_2$. We continue iteratively, until $g_i(x_m) = x_{m+1} = x_m$. This value x_m is the value of the root for the function (19). In other words, this is the value of P_i that is the inverse for $\nu_i(P_i) = \nu$ defined in the equation (16).

Due to the lack of space we omit the proof of convergence of Newton-Raphson method for our problem.

Next, we present a pseudocode for solving the KKT conditions in Algorithm 1. This algorithm is based on bisection. In this algorithm, we find the optimal value for ν . The lower limit for ν is 0. The upper limit ν_u can be found by setting the power levels for all the hops equal, and by finding the power vector \boldsymbol{p} with equal elements, that satisfy the first constraint $f_1(\boldsymbol{p})=0$. Then, the upper limit for ν_u is the maximum $\nu_i(P_i)$ obtained from the equation (16) with $i=1,\ldots,I$.

We start the bisection by first selecting ν as the middle point of the lower limit ν_l and the upper limit ν_u . We then solve the equalities (14) for all $i=1,\ldots,I$. Recall, that the invertibility of $\nu_i(P_i)$ is proven in the proof of Lemma 1. Now, the first KKT condition holds. Then we check, if the constraint $f_1(\mathbf{p})=0$ holds. If it holds, we have the optimal values for the power. If it does not hold, we change the upper or lower limit according the positivity of the constraint $f_1(\mathbf{p})$. We continue bisecting until we find the value ν that satisfy $f_1(\mathbf{p})=0$, with enough accuracy ϵ .

Algorithm 1: Finding p^* Input: $\nu_l = 0$, $\nu_u = \alpha$ Output: p^* 1 while $\nu_u - \nu_l \ge \epsilon$ do 2 $\nu := (\nu_l + \nu_u)/2$; 3 $P_i := \text{inverse of } \nu = \nu_i(P_i) \text{ for all } i = 1, \dots, I$; 4 if $f_1(p) > 0$ then 5 $\nu_l := \nu$; 6 else 7 $\nu_u := \nu$;

IV. RESULTS

8 return p

In this section, we present some sample simulation results of our algorithm for a set of different routes. We consider a scenario where the source has D=8 Mbits data to send to the destination. Without loss of generality, we also assume that the noise power is $\sigma^2=-92 {\rm dBm}$ and that the bandwidth is $B=312.5 {\rm kHz}$. We consider all the nodes to have two antennas for receiving and transmitting. In Table I we present the singular values used in the simulations. The singular values have been obtained from channel measurements in an indoor environment. The Route 1 has one long hop with non-line-of-sight (NLOS) between the source and the destination. The Route 2 has two NLOS hops. The Route 3 has one NLOS hop and one line-of-sight (LOS) hop. The Route 4 has one NLOS hop and two LOS hops.

In Fig. 1, we plot the total transmission energy used to transmit D bits to the destination as a function of total transmission time, T. To be the most energy efficient, we would transmit at a low rate via the Route 4. It is the most energy efficient route out of these routes though it has three hops. Furthermore, we observe that to transmit data energy

efficiently, we need to select different routes depending of the transmission time T we have. For a fast transmission we need to use the Route 1 with one hop. For a slow transmission we prefer the Route 4 with three hops. For a moderate transmission time the Route 3 is the most energy efficient.

TABLE I THE SINGULAR VALUES OF THE ROUTES.

	Hop 1	Hop 2	Hop 3
Route 1	$\lambda_{11} = 0.0008$		
	$\lambda_{12} = 0.0003$		
Route 2	$\lambda_{11} = 0.0036$	$\lambda_{21} = 0.0027$	
	$\lambda_{12} = 0.0012$	$\lambda_{22} = 0.0004$	
Route 3	$\lambda_{11} = 0.0033$	$\lambda_{21} = 0.0431$	
	$\lambda_{12} = 0.0015$	$\lambda_{22} = 0.0113$	
Route 4	$\lambda_{11} = 0.0074$	$\lambda_{21} = 0.0225$	$\lambda_{31} = 0.0431$
	$\lambda_{12} = 0.0039$	$\lambda_{22} = 0.0032$	$\lambda_{32} = 0.0113$

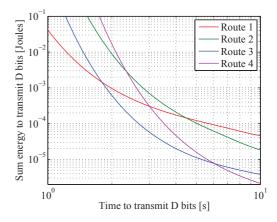


Fig. 1. The total transmission energy to transmit ${\cal D}$ bits of data as a function of the total transmission time.

V. CONCLUSION

In this work, we introduced the power allocation method for a predetermined rate in a MIMO multihop network. The method takes the degrees of freedom and the qualities of the channels into account when calculating the transmission energy efficient power allocation for the route.

We formulated the power allocation as a concave minimization problem. We presented an algorithm for solving this problem. We simulated the outcome of our algorithm for various routes, and illustrated the possible gains in transmission energy efficiency against the shortest hop routing protocol. Choosing the energy efficient route depends on the requested end-to-end rate and the channel characteristics of the different routes.

We are developing a new on-demand routing algorithm from the basis of this work. Here the most transmit energy efficient path for a specific end-to-end time constraint is found during the route discovery.

APPENDIX

Lemma 2. The function (9) is differentiable and strictly concave. Its derivative is

$$r_i'(P_i) = \frac{Bk_i(P_i)}{\ln(2)(P_i + \sum_{j=1}^{k_i(P_i)} \frac{\sigma^2}{\lambda_{ij}^2})},$$
 (21)

where $k_i(P_i)$ is a positive integer k that satisfies inequalities (6) and (7). This derivative is continuous and positive at every $P_i > 0$.

Proof: We first calculate the derivative for (9) with respect to P_i when P_i is at the interval where k subchannels are waterfilled. We then calculate the value for this derivative for the maximum value of P_i where we still use k subchannels.

Then we calculate the derivative for (9) with respect to P_i when P_i is at the interval where k+1 subchannels are waterfilled. We also calculate the value for this derivative for the maximum value of P_i where where we still use k subchannels. We notice that these values for the derivatives with k and k+1 subchannels are the same for the power, where the number of subchannels change. This means that the function (9) is differentiable.

When the P_i is at the interval, where k subchannels are water-filled, the derivative of (9) with respect to P_i is

$$\frac{Bk\frac{1}{\ln(2)}}{P_i + \sum_{j=1}^k \frac{\sigma^2}{\lambda_{ij}^2}}.$$
 (22)

When we water-fill k subchannels, the maximum P_i is

$$P_{i} = \sum_{j=1}^{k} j \left(\frac{\sigma^{2}}{\lambda_{i(j+1)}^{2}} - \frac{\sigma^{2}}{\lambda_{ij}^{2}} \right), \tag{23}$$

because it is the upper bound for P_i shown by (7). For this value of power, the value for (22) is

$$\frac{Bk\frac{1}{\ln(2)}}{\left[\sum_{j=1}^{k} j\left(\frac{\sigma^2}{\lambda_{i(j+1)}^2} - \frac{\sigma^2}{\lambda_{ij}^2}\right)\right] + \sum_{j=1}^{k} \frac{\sigma^2}{\lambda_{ij}^2}}$$

$$= \frac{B\lambda_{i(k+1)}^2}{\sigma^2 \ln(2)}.$$
(24)

Note that (24) can be established by mathematical induction. When P_i is at the interval, where k+1 subchannels are water-filled, the derivative of (9) with respect to P_i is

$$\frac{B(k+1)\frac{1}{\ln(2)}}{P_i + \sum_{j=1}^{k+1} \frac{\sigma^2}{\lambda_{i,j}^2}}.$$
 (25)

When we water-fill k+1 subchannels, the minimum P_i is bounded by value

$$P_{i} = \sum_{j=1}^{k+1} (j-1) \left(\frac{\sigma^{2}}{\lambda_{ij}^{2}} - \frac{\sigma^{2}}{\lambda_{i(j-1)}^{2}} \right), \tag{26}$$

because it is the lower bound for P_i shown by (6). Note, that the value of (23) is equal to the value of (26), because it is

the value of the power where the k changes to k+1. For this power, we water-fill only k subchannels. After this power, we water-fill k+1 subchannels. For this value of power, the value for (25) is

$$\frac{B(k+1)\frac{1}{\ln(2)}}{\left[\sum_{j=1}^{k+1}(j-1)\left(\frac{\sigma^2}{\lambda_{ij}^2} - \frac{\sigma^2}{\lambda_{i(j-1)}^2}\right)\right] + \sum_{j=1}^{k+1}\frac{\sigma^2}{\lambda_{ij}^2}}$$

$$= \frac{B\lambda_{i(k+1)}^2}{\sigma^2\ln(2)}.$$
(27)

Note that (27) can be established mathematical induction. Also note that the right hand side of (27) is identical to the right hand side of (24). Therefore, the derivative of (9) is continuous at powers where the number of subchannels change. Therefore, the derivative (21) is continuous and positive. Note, that this proof can be straightforwardly extended to the cases where some singular values are equal.

Next we proof the concavity of the function (9). The second derivative of (9) with respect to positive P_i is defined as

$$r_i''(P_i) = -\frac{Bk_i(P_i)}{\ln(2)(P_i + \sum_{j=1}^{k_i(P_i)} \frac{\sigma^2}{\lambda_{i,j}^2})^2},$$
 (28)

everywhere except in the points that satisfy (17). The second derivative is negative on all open intervals where it is defined. Note, that the derivative of the function (9) with respect to P_i is continuous. Then, the function (9) is concave.

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