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# Suitability of Modern Wi-Fi for Wireless-Infield-Communication of Agricultural Machines

Diploma Thesis in Information Systems Engineering

10 February 2023

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# **Suitability of Modern Wi-Fi for Wireless-Infield-Communication of Agricultural Machines**

Diploma Thesis in Information Systems Engineering

vorgelegt von

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geb. am 29. Juni 1998  
in Magdeburg

angefertigt an der

**Technischen Universität Dresden  
Fakultät Informatik  
Networked Systems Modeling**

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Abgabe der Arbeit: **10. Februar 2023**

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I certify that the work has not been submitted in the same or any similar form for assessment to any other examining body and all references, direct and indirect, are indicated as such and have been cited accordingly.

(Karl Christian Lautenschläger)

Dresden, 10 February 2023

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# Abstract

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about 1/2 page:

1. Motivation (Why do we care?)
2. Problem statement (What problem are we trying to solve?)
3. Approach (How did we go about it)
4. Results (What's the answer?)
5. Conclusion (What are the implications of the answer?)

The abstract is a miniature version of the thesis. It should be treated as an entirely separate document. Do not assume that a reader who has access to an abstract will also have access to the thesis. Do not assume that a reader who reads the thesis has read the abstract.

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## Kurzfassung

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Gleicher Text (sinngemäß, nicht wörtlich) in Deutsch

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## Chapter 1

# Introduction

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- general motivation for your work, context and goals.
- context: make sure to link where your work fits in
- problem: gap in knowledge, too expensive, too slow, a deficiency, superseded technology
- strategy: the way you will address the problem
- recommended length: 1-2 pages.

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## Chapter 2

# Fundamentals

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- describe methods and techniques that build the basis of your work
- include what's needed to understand your work (e.g., techniques, protocols, models, hardware, software, ...)
- exclude what's not (e.g., anything you yourself did, anything your reader can be expected to know, ...)
- review related work(!)
- recommended length: approximately one third of the thesis.

-1/3 ist kurz, weil der Bezug und die Relation zur Landwirtschaft groß ist...  
Aber wen interessiert das? -1/3 related Work erwähnt man dann Unterstützung von Professor Klingler wie und wo? erwähnt man sich selber ? ‘

### 2.1 Wireless-Infield Communication

Given that there are many different agricultural technology companies worldwide and a mix of their machines is often used together in an agricultural company, a demand for interoperability between agricultural machines of different brands emerged. In 2008, the Agricultural Industry Electronics Foundation (AEF) was founded to develop and implement electronic standards in the agriculture industry. By creating common standards and protocols, the AEF enables interoperability between Agricultural Technologies.

The AEF has defined a binary unit system, the ISO 11783 standard, for agricultural machinery communication, mainly tractors and implements [1]. According to Schlingmann and Benishek [2], the ISO 11783 standard is known as the ISOBUS system.

The authors mention that the AEF is currently working on other projects. Among these is also the WIC. The associated project group WIC develops and standardizes solutions for Machine-To-Machine (M2M) communication between cooperating agricultural machines.

For this purpose, the authors name the following use cases:

- **Real-Time Machine-to-Machine Control** is the exchange of control data under real-time conditions with defined latency policies. This use case enables leader-follower scenarios where agricultural machines follow a leading agricultural machine at a lateral and longitudinal distance. Throughout this thesis, I will refer to Real-Time Machine-to-Machine Control as Agricultural Platooning Service.
- **Streaming Services** are communications that stream video from remote cameras and monitors at a high data rate and low latency. The authors estimate the distance between the communication participants to be less than 100 m. As a result, this data is available on another agricultural vehicle and can be analyzed and processed there. I will refer to Streaming Services as Agricultural Streaming Services in this thesis.
- **Process Data Exchange** describes the exchange of process data. One example is the exchange of already sprayed field areas to prevent multiple spraying of fertilizers and pesticides on the same field area by different machines. According to the authors, this WIC use case requires long-range technologies because agricultural fields worldwide can be vast.
- **Fleet Management & Logistics** is the potential retrieval of data from the ongoing agricultural process. This information can influence economic or agronomic decisions of agricultural enterprises or service companies and is therefore required in a Farm Management Information System (FMIS). Since not all agricultural machines may be connected to the FMIS, the WIC project group is looking at how to use M2M communications to bridge the missing communications infrastructure until the data reaches a machine that can connect to the FMIS.
- **Road Safety** describes a use case which is already a project between the European Telecommunication Standard Institute and the AEF. Since agricultural vehicles are repeatedly underestimated in their size and speed by other road users when they suddenly turn off the field onto the road, the other road users need to be warned in this situation. In this way, smart technologies in cars and motorcycles can brake these vehicles in advance and prevent possible accidents.

Considering that I investigate the Suitability of modern Wifi for Wireless-Infield-Communication and Wi-Fi 6 and Wi-Fi 5 are no long range technologies, I will focus on investigating the suitability of these two Wi-Fi standards for the WIC use cases Real-Time Machine-to-Machine Control and Streaming Services. Throughout this thesis, I will refer to real-time machine-to-machine control as Agricultural Platooning.

## 2.2 Related Work

### AEF Vorgehen

#### Lösungen Technologien

Schlingmann et al. [2] of the Agricultural Industry Electron- ics Foundation AEF, one of the major industry associations, are investigating the concept of cooperative agricultural ma- chinery using Inter-Vehicular Communication (IVC). One of the often-mentioned use cases is precisely this exchange of cultivated areas. Arguing that only 30 covered by wireless connections [3], the authors suggest using IEEE 802.11p-based technology for connecting agricultural machinery. Supported by the AEF, Klingler et al. [4] thus conducted a feasibility study for the use of IEEE 802.11p in an agricultural environment. They tested Received Signal Strength (RSS), delay, and goodput of IEEE 802.11p. The result of the study was a maximum distance of 1700 m since no further data could be exchanged after Line-of-Sight (LOS) was lost. Additional RSS reductions decreasing channel quality were due to the size and shape of the agricultural machinery, in particular harvesters. Zhang et al. [5] took a different approach and used IEEE 802.15.4 to exchange the relevant control data for a leader-follower system in which an unmanned tractor can follow another one. Still, the authors state that their system does not offer a wider range.

#### AEF Papers

Kein Cellular 11p Klingler FCC 802.15.4 Zhang LoRa

Claas Ivan Schmolnik

Außerhalb der AEF Platooning: There are also more developments in the field of wireless infield communication from the industry. In this context, Thomasson et al. [3] describe the John Deere Machine Sync and Case IH V2V systems as follows:

John Deere Machine Sync enables the WIC uses cases Process Data Exchange and Agricultural Platooning Service. Liu et al. [4] have extended the system to use Combine Harvesters, adding that the Machine Sync system is based on metzler\_system\_2006's patent.

Case IH V2V also offers an agricultural platooning service. However, the system can only be used for harvesting and loading scenarios, according to the authors.

Auf dem Markt ist aktuell auch das System Raven Autonomy™ Driver Assist Harvest Solution <sup>1</sup> von Raven Industries. Dieses System ermöglicht dem Harvester die Kontrolle über eine Transport Machine (TM) ab einer Distanz von 70 m zu übernehmen. Der Harvester führt dann die TM automatisch in die perfekte Position, um das geerntete Gut über den Überwerfer perfekt auf die TM zu laden. Ist der Harvest und Loading Process abgeschlossen, übernimmt der Fahrer der TM wieder die Kontrolle.

Also currently on the market is the Raven Autonomy™ Driver Assist Harvest Solution <sup>2</sup> system from Raven Industries. This system allows the harvester to take control of a TM from a distance of 70 m. The harvester then automatically guides the TM into the perfect position to load the harvested crop onto the TM via the spout. Once the harvesting and loading process is complete, the driver of the TM retakes control.

Also currently on the market is the Raven Autonomy™ Driver Assist Harvest Solution <sup>3</sup> system from Raven Industries. This system allows the harvester to take control of a TM from a distance of 70 m. The harvester then automatically guides the TM into the perfect position to load the harvested crop onto the TM via the spout. Once the harvesting and loading process is complete, the driver of the TM retakes control.

A comparable system is CartACE from AgLeader <sup>4</sup>

The technology used in the mentioned systems is not known. In response to questions about how the systems can be used on farms worldwide and what prerequisites must be created for this, the manufacturers refer to the regional distribution options.

Aufbau:

WIC Umsetzungen:

Klingler 802.11p Elektrische Deichsel Fendt Beyond Sensing ???

John Deere Machine Sync Raven Machine Sync Cellular networks

cellular network coverage AEF paper

Wifi 6 Outdoorcommunication

In order to implement these described WIC use cases, the WIC project group has been searching for a technology that can realize the required data rates, latencies and high transmission range. The plans for doing so are written down by members of the WIC project group in [5].

The authors consider the fundamental use of cellular networks as very problematic because, according to [6], only 30 % of the land surface has network coverage. For this reason, there is a major concern that the required data cannot be exchanged

OcuSync Lightbridge  
DJI Mavic

<sup>1</sup><https://ravenind.com/products/autonomy/driver-assist-harvest-solution> Accessed: 5.2.2023

<sup>2</sup><https://ravenind.com/products/autonomy/driver-assist-harvest-solution> Accessed: 2/5/2023

<sup>3</sup><https://ravenind.com/products/autonomy/driver-assist-harvest-solution> Accessed: 2/5/2023

<sup>4</sup><https://www.agleader.com/harvest/cartace/> Accessed: 5.2.2023

because there is no network connectivity in many fields. Nevertheless, the authors want to leave the future WIC system open to cellular standards.

The current focus of the authors is on IEEE 802.11 technologies, which must first be evaluated for use in the agricultural environment.

In collaboration with Klingler, Blobel, and Dressler [7], the authors investigated IEEE 802.11p technology for WIC in agricultural scenarios. Experiments revealed that data could be exchanged over a maximum range of 1700 m. But during the measurement in an agricultural work scenario from the corn harvest, there were collapses in the Received Signal Strength due to shadowing effects of the machines. The high range, data rate, and possible latencies make IEEE 802.11p a good technology for WIC according to Schlingmann et al. [5].

As of July 2, 2021, the frequency spectrum of IEEE 802.11p in the United States of America, ranging from 5.850 GHz . . . 5.925 GHz, has been split. The upper 30 MHz are reserved for Intelligent transportation systems now. The lower 45 MHz have been released for unlicensed operations [8].

Since the use of IEEE 802.11p has now been newly regulated by the FCC, the WIC project group is looking for an alternative technology that enables WIC.

## 2.3 Wireless Lans according to IEEE 802.11

According to Kauffels [9] the first version of the Standard IEEE 802.11 was published in 1999 to enable a wireless alternative to Ethernet - or Token-Ring - networks. Sauter [10] considers IEEE 802.11 also to be an implementation of Ethernet with the help of wireless radio technologies. The author lists the extensions to the original standard, which range from 802.11b, 802.11g, 802.11a, 802.11n, 802.11ac to the latest enhancement 802.11ax. The different IEEE 802.11 standards can operate in the 2.4 GHz - , 5 GHz and 6 GHz - frequency band. **jacobs** fügt dazu noch hinzu, dass es zusätzlich noch die zwei Erweiterungen IEEE 802.11p und dessen Nachfolger IEEE 802.11bd gibt. Diese operieren in einem reservierten Frequency spectrum for Vehicle-to-everything (V2X) nach den Autoren im 5.9 GHz frequency spectrum

Kauffels [9] defines the following three basic architectures for IEEE 802.11.

If two or more stations communicate directly without an AP, they form an ad hoc network. According to the author, this can be set up quickly and easily and is also called Independent Basic Service Set (IBSS).

The Infrastructure Basic Service Set (BSS) mode allows all stations within the range of defined range around the Access Point (AP) to communicate via a central AP. Within the area of the BSS, all stations can move freely and communicate with one another.

Paper Christoph Sommer, Doktorarbeit, Diplomarbeit, Mario Franke, Tobias Hardes

Since an AP has limited range and can only cover a certain area, the Extended Service Set (ESS) was introduced. It contains a distribution system, which links several BSS with each other.

Thereby, the BSS coverage areas can physically overlap so that continuous connection of stations within the ESS can be provided. For a better performance the BSS can be placed physically on top of each other. One can also have physically separate BSSs so that these BSSs can be linked together over long distances. According to the author, the standard does not specify a distance limit for such connections.

He also mentions, that the standard defines the following three mobility types for station in an ESS, where a station can do no-transition and thereby stay within a BSS, BSS-transitioning and move from one BSS to another BSS within the same ESS and ESS-transition, where the Station moves from a ESS to another one but no stable connection can be guaranteed.

Sauter [10] adds, that usually Ethernet is used to link APs in within an ESS. But according to the author this can be replaced by a wireless connection, which is called wireless bridge.

ESS not needed?

Sauter 2022 Ad-Hoc Infos

## Wi-Fi Physical Layer

The further development of IEEE 802.11 is accompanied by a constant change of the physical layer. Sauter [10] mentions, that all new enhancements of the physical layer of IEEE 802.11 are backward compatible to previous definitions of the it.

According to the Author, IEEE 802.11 initially used DSSS and FHSS as modulation methods. Since IEEE 802.11g the modulation method Orthogonal Frequency-Division Multiplexing (OFDM) can be used in the 2.4 GHz frequency band. the author explains OFDM as following. OFDM divides the transmission channel in subcarriers with different amplitudes, frequencies and phases. Each subcarrier is orthogonal to another one, as they send the information "Low", where only one other subcarrier is sending the information "High".

Die Daten werden dann als sogenannte Symbole über die einzelnen Subcarrier gesendet. Der Abstand der zwischen den "High" der subcarrier wird als subcarrier spacing angegeben und entspricht der reziproken Symbollänge. Diese hat sich nun von 3.2  $\mu$ s für IEEE 802.11n auf 12.8  $\mu$ s für IEEE 802.11ax erhöht. Das entspricht einem subcarrier spacing von 312.5 kHz und 78.125 kHz respectively. Für die Standards IEEE 802.11p und IEEE 802.11bd gilt eine Symbollänge von 6.4  $\mu$ s, was einem subcarrier spacing von 156.25 kHz entspricht **jacobs**.

For the modulation and demodulation der übertragenden bits wird the FFT and IFFT are used respectively. Mit der Verringerung des subcarrier spacings entstehen

mehr subcarriers im transmission channel, sodass die FFT Größe erhöht werden muss.

Kauffels [9] adds, that OFDM can be used in the 5 GHz frequency band since IEEE 802.11a.

### Modulation and Coding Scheme

Um soviel bits wie möglich auf ein OFDM Symbol zu codieren können verschiedene MCSs genutzt werden. These MCSs for the IEEE 802.11 standards are based on Phase Shift Keying (PSK) or Quadrature Amplitude Modulation (QAM) [9]. Das kleinste MCS ist Binary-PSK und codiert 1 bit pro Symbol. IEEE 802.11ax hat das komplexeste MCS von 256-QAM IEEE 802.11ac auf 1024-QAM und codiert damit jetzt 10 bit pro symbol **axChallenge**. In den V2X Bereich kann ebenso e

An imaginary, theoretical transmission channel is usually specified as a square-wave signal in the frequency domain with the limits of both minimum and maximum amplitude and cut-off frequency. Kauffels [9] defines the roll-off factor as a cosine-shaped flattening of the square signal between 0 and 1. In addition, the author points out that QAM can generate high roll-off factors, so that signals interfere significantly more with adjacent channels.

In this regards the author recommends setting the parameters in an OFDM system in such a way that first the coding rate and then the complexity of the MCS is reduced in difficult transmission environments. Denn je mehr bits ein MCS auf einem Symbol codiert, desto fehleranfällig ist die richtige Decodierung des Symbols.

### Forward Error Correction

Trotzdem können bei der übertragung bitfehler entstehen. Dazu erwähnt und erklärt **knaufel** FEC als eine Technique to reduce bit errors during transmission. FEC adds redundant bits to the data. The receiver uses these redundant bits to check the integrity or correct errors of the received data.

Dafür wird nach **axChallenge** binary convolutional coding (BCC) für die Standard IEEE 802.11n und IEEE 802.11ac genutzt. Ebenso nutzt IEEE 802.11p die Technik BCC, welche beim Nachfolger IEEE 802.11ax von low-density parity-check (LDPC) abgelöst wurde **jacobs Comparison**. **Comparison** argue, that this step was important, as LDPC offers better error correction possibilities for higher communication ranges greater than 50 m.

The next layer in the OSI model is the Data Link Layer. The Data Link Layer consists of Medium Access - and Logic Link Control functionalities.

According to Kauffels [9], the medium access control functionalities cover network entry - ,network authentication - and media access methods. The author explains, that every AP send beacon frames periodically to synchronise its stations

Symbol length, GI, subcarrier spacing reciprocal

Wellenausbreitung, Überlagerungseffekte, Reflexion, Reflexion nicht bei Metall

Knauffel OFDM PHY



in the BSS and that the beacon frame contains the Service Set Identifier (SSID), which identifies the BSS or ESS of the station. Sauter [10] adds that a beacon frame contains a 16 bit - long capability information element. Each bit here signals that the AP provides a particular function or has a specific feature.

Kauffels [9] explains the procedure for network entry of a station. A station can use the passive or the active scanning mode. In passive scanning mode, the station listens for a beacon frame in the various transmission channels. Alternatively, in active scanning mode, a station can also send out a probe frame. This can contain an already known SSID to test the presence of the AP. To get an AP in range, the probe-frame can also contain a broadcast SSID that causes all nearby APs to respond. The response of an AP to the probe frame is the probe-response frame, which contains the same information as a beacon frame. With the information from the beacon frame, a station can start the authentication process.

For this process, Kauffels [9] names the two methods Open System Authentication and Shared Key Authentication. Sauter [10] explains that Open System Authentication is based on a device making an authentication request to the AP. If the AP answers with a positive status in the Authentication Frame, the station is included in the BSS. The actual encryption and authentication is then performed by the Wi-Fi Protected Access (WPA) functions. The author points out that Shared Key Authentication is no longer used today.

the IEEE 802.11 standard describes the two media access methods Distribution Coordination Function (DCF) and Point Coordination Function (PCF).

Sauter [10] explains that DCF is based on the media access method Carrier Sense Multiple Access/Collision Avoidance (CSMA/CA). In CSMA/CA a device that is willing to transmit senses in the air transmission medium for a transmitting activity. If no other device is transmitting, the device can transmit. In the case of transmit activity, the terminal must wait at least until the transmission and Distributed Coordination Function Interframe Space (DIFS) are over. Since data transmission via the air transmission medium is very vulnerable to errors, the standard IEEE 802.11 requires that each received packet must be confirmed with an Acknowledgement (ACK) frame. The DIFS ensures that an ACK frame can be sent before another station uses the same channel to send a data frame. To avoid multiple devices transmitting at the same time after DIFS, each ready-to-transmit device determines a random backoff time. The device with the shortest backoff time transmits next and all other ready-to-transmit devices restart the media access procedure. In case two devices start sending next because they both randomly chose the shortest backoff time, the transmitted signal will interfere and the packets will not be answered with an ACK frame. In case of such a faulty transmission, the backoff time of the ready-to-transmit devices can increase exponentially afterwards.

To share the knowledge of a transmission time and the subsequently interframe space, a packet contains a Network Allocation Vector (NAV) that specifies the time the air transmission medium is used.

In various network architectures the "hidden station"-problem may occur. As you can see in Figure 2.1, Station A is not able to sense a transmission of station B and vice versa. In case of simultaneous transmission of both stations, interference around the AP may occur.

### 2.3.1 Forward Error Correction

low-density parity check (LDPC)

#### Guard Interval

Pulimamidi, Nulu, and Tahernezehadi [11] erläutern das Guard Interval als ein cyclic prefix OFDM Symbole vor Inter Symbol Interference und durch Inter Carrier Interference. Inter Symbol Interference is caused by multipath delays , where the reflected delayed previous symbol can interfere with the current received symbol[12]. Ebenso wird bei Inter Carrier Interference durch time-varying channel eine längere OFDM symbol duration erzeugt, dass genauso eine Interferenz with the following OFDM symbol entstehen kann [13].

Über das Guard Interval führen Pulimamidi, Nulu, and Tahernezehadi [11] weiterhin folgendes auf. Da das Guard Interval die mögliche Interferenz auf das Folgesymbol verhindern soll, muss es mindestens so lang sein, sodass alle channel impulse responses mit dem entstehenden Delay im Guard Interval aufgefangen werden. Das Guard Interval wird dann am Receiver wieder entfernt. Dadurch entsteht eine attenuation of bandwidth welche sich durch die folgende Formel beschreiben lässt: **BERECHNET SICH ALS: NAHTLOSER ÜBERGANG**

longer GI Wifi 6 Outdoor Communication

Parameter einführen?

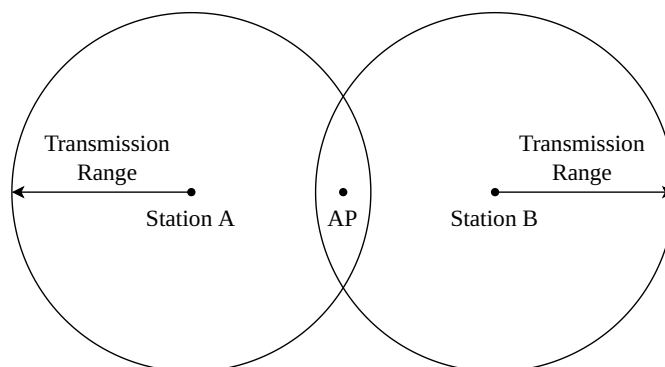


Figure 2.1 – Hidden Station Problem

$$GI\_Bandwidth\_Attenuation = \frac{OFDM\_symbol\_duration \times 100}{OFDM\_symbol\_duration + GI}, \quad (2.1)$$

Seit IEEE 802.11n ist ein verkürztes GI von 400 ns nutzbar, welches gegenüber dem üblichen GI von 800 ns die maximale Datenrate von 270 Mbit/s auf 300 Mbit/s steigert [10]. IEEE 802.11ax unterstützt GIs von 800 ns, 800 ns and 800 ns um einen besseren Schutz gegen multipath effects in der indoor und outdoor communication zu ermöglichen.

better source

## Dual Carrier Modulation

In order to introduce additional robustness DCM can be applied to the physical layers of IEEE 802.11ax and IEEE 802.11bd according to **jacobs**. Die Autoren beschreiben DCM als Möglichkeit Daten doppelt über zwei coherent carriers gesendet werden. Am Empfänger werden die Datenkopien mit dem log-likelihood ratio combiniert. Das erhöht die Empfangswahrscheinlichkeit der Daten auf Kosten der Datenrate. Die gleiche Anzahl von Daten benötigt nun doppelt so lange für die Übertragung.

**standard** only for HE MCS 0, 1, 2, 3, 4

Table 27-81—HE-MCSs for 242-tone RU, NSS = 3 Data MAXimum 2 Stream only  
1 and 2 spatial streams

Allowed relative constellation error versus constellation size

Table 27-51—Receiver minimum input level sensitivity

Table 27-52—Minimum required adjacent and nonadjacent channel rejection levels

Frame stucture plotting maybe in tikz -> looks nicer

### 2.3.2 Extended Range

**Deng** explains, that the HE ER SU Physical layer convergence protocol data unit (PPDU) format is intendet to extend the range of a single station to access point transmission. Das wird nach den Autoren damit erreicht, dass die PPDU eine Wiederholung des HE-SIG-A Feldes beinhaltet.

**Standard** spezifiziert, dass das HE ER SU PPDU format nur verwendet werden darf, wenn 20 Mhz transmissions mit entweder 242 RU mit HE-MCS-0 - HE-MCS-2 oder 106 RU mit HE-MCS-0 auf einem spatial Stream verwendet werden.

Weiterhin wird nach **Deng** über ein power-boosting der preamble, welches nach in **standard** auf 3 dB limitiert ist, eine reliable transmission für weite Reichweiten gewährleistet.

### 2.3.3 Multiple Input Multiple Output (MIMO)

In order to furhter exploit the physical layer capabilities, the single transmitting and receiving antenna systems called Single-Input-Single-Output can be extended to

MIMO - systems. **sauter** describe the idea behind MIMO as the usage of multiple transmit antennas and multiple receiving antenna. Dabei wird Spatial Multiplexing genutzt, sodass die gesendeten Signaler von jeder Antenne unterschiedlich an Objekten reflektiert werden und somit aus unterschiedlichen Richtung an den Receiver-Antennen empfangen werden können.

Seit IEEE 802.11n sind bis zu vier MIMO-Streams möglich. Diese wurde bei IEEE 802.11ax nochmal auf bis zu acht MIMO-Streams erhöht. Da über jeden MIMO-Stream gleichzeitig Daten geschickt werden können, kann so die theoretische Datenrate in Abhängigkeit der nutzbaren Streams proportional steigen. Das ist nach **abbas** spatial multiplexing.

Jedoch sagen die Autoren zudem, dass MIMO dazu genutzt werden kann, um die Qualität des empfangenen Signals zu verstärken. Das geschieht in Form von spatial diversity und Space-Time-Block-Code (STBC).

### 2.3.4 STBC

Dabei werden den Autoren nach redundant copies of data transmitted via different antenna to the receiver. At the receiver the received data copies are combined and a maximum likelihood detector is applied in order to retain a high quality signal **Santumon**. STBC is a technique used in Wi-Fi networks to improve the reliability and robustness of wireless communications. STBC encodes multiple redundant copies of data at the transmit side, which are transmitted in different spatial streams to reduce the effects of fading and interference. At the receiver side, these multiple copies are combined to improve the signal quality and increase the data rate. This results in a more reliable and efficient wireless communication system, with improved data transfer speed and reduced error rates. STBC in Wi-Fi networks improve the reliability and robustness of wireless communications. Here, **Stamoulis** has investigated the potential effect of STBC on Wi-Fi. Their simulations showed that STBC can increase the range and robustness for IEEE 802.11a. In addition, the authors concluded that STBC increases the Signal Noise Ratio (SNR) in nearly all cases at the same throughput or even allows higher MCS values to be used, thus allowing a higher throughput at the same SNR.

26.11.9 STBC and DCM

HE Capabilities nur so gut, wie das schlechteste Glied

Group addressed frames

### 2.3.5 Bandwidth

Um das hidden station problem zu umgehen kann eine Station nach Sauter [10] Point coordinator ohne Wettbewerb mit optionaler Priorisierung

PIFS interval kürzer, beacon frame CF Parameter set-element

nicht genauer eingehen, weil nicht relevant für die Arbeit? Darf ich das schreiben?

CSMA /CA Point Coordination Function  
 Sauter [10] DCF oberbegriff für CSMA /CA  
 Short Interframe Space SIFS ACK Frame  
 Hidden Station Problem CTS and RTS  
 IEEE 802.11e DCF erweiterung für Video Streaming  
 CSMA CA Backoff zeit Network allocation Vector NAV Zeitspanne Datensendungs-  
 dauer  
 MAC Header  
 Netzeintritt: passives und Aktives Scanning Service Set Identifier Timing Syn-  
 chronisationsfunktion TSF Timer-Wert  
 Sauter [10] every package management or usage data send acknowledgement  
 Hidden Station Szenario Reservieren RTS CTS meist nicht konfiguriert / aus-  
 geschalten, bei großen Paketen sinnvoll  
 Authentifizierung - Open System -Authentication - Shared key Authentication  
 (nach neu nicht mehr verwendet)

### IEEE 802.11ac - Wi-Fi 5

The 5th generation WLAN is IEEE 802.11ac (802.11ac) and operates in the 5 GHz frequency range [14].

According to Perahia and Gong [15], 802.11ac is a further evolution of IEEE 802.11n, where 802.11ac adds to the known bandwidth of IEEE 802.11n of 40 MHz the bandwidths 80 MHz, 160 MHz and the interrupted bandwidth of 80 MHz + 80 MHz.

nach Sauter [10] ist die Aufspaltung in zwei 80 Mhz Kanäle sehr nützlich, wenn das frequenzband reservierte Regionen enthält. Dadurch kann ein 160 Mhz breiter Kanal um eine reservierte region des frequenzbandes gebaut werden.

The modulation technique used is OFDM. Additionally, a new MIMO Downlink functionality for multiple users, called DL MU-MIMO, with up to 8 partial streams is introduced according to the authors. Together with the new MCS from 64 QAM to 256 QAM, these three enhancements ensure that a higher data rate can be achieved. The maximum data rate is 6.9 GHz according to the authors.

As declared by Abdelrahman, Mustafa, and Osman [16], the 5th generation of WLAN has made it possible to expect better performance as in addition to a longer communication range compared to the previous IEEE 802.11 standards This statement could be proven at least for indoor range. Dhawankar, Le-Minh, and Aslam [14] were able to demonstrate that 802.11ac with a range of over 60 m enables a longer indoor communication range than previous IEEE 802.11 standards.

new Physical Layer Very High Throughput (VHT) Physical Layer  
 80 Mhz

Beamforming

### IEEE 802.11ax - Wi-Fi 6

The 6th generation of WLAN is IEEE 802.11ax (802.11ax). Khorov et al. [17] reveals what has changed from 802.11ac to 802.11ax. For this, the authors make the following statements.

802.11ax uses the same bandwidths in the 5 GHz range and can also operate in the 2.4 GHz frequency range with a maximum bandwidth of 40 MHz. Similar to DL MU transmission, 802.11ax enables UL MU transmissions. These can also use Orthogonal Frequency-Division Multiple Access (OFDMA) in addition to the already known MIMO of 802.11ac. OFDMA groups the orthogonal frequency subcarriers into Resource Unit (RU)s, which can be selected by the transmitter for optimal transmission to the receiver. This increases the Signal-to-Interference-plus-Noise Ratio (SINR).

An extension in the PHY layer are the new MCS's of up to 1024-QAM. However, these should only be used with very good channel characteristics. For better outdoor communication 802.11ax increases the OFDM symbol duration from 3.2  $\mu$ s for 802.11ac to up to 12.8  $\mu$ s and the OFDM Guard Interval from a maximum of 0.8  $\mu$ s for 802.11ac to up to 3.2  $\mu$ s.

MIMO und OFDMA MU Streams

BSS Coloring

Backward Kompatibilität über CTS Reservierungen.

Tabelle Vergleich

Parameter	IEEE 802.11ac	IEEE 802.11ax
Frequency bands	5 GHz	2.4 GHz, 5 GHz, 6 GHz
Symbol Length	3.2 $\mu$ s	12.8 $\mu$ s
OFDM Subcarrier Spacing	312.5 kHz	78.125 kHz
OFDM Subcarriers in 80 MHz	256	1024
max. MCS	256 -QAM	1024 -QAM
max. GI	0.8 $\mu$ s	3.2 $\mu$ s

**Table 2.1** – Comparison of IEEE 802.11ac and IEEE 802.11ax

## 2.4 Harvest and Loading Processes as a Use Cases for Wireless-Infield Communication

The Forage harvester has proven to be an essential agricultural machine for harvesting and loading forage. Seifert, Grimm, and Schurig [18] define a forage harvester as an agricultural loading machine for nearly all types of animal feed. By mounting different cutting and loading devices, a forage harvester can load the following animal feed, according to the authors: Hay, Straw, Corn, Grass and Clover.

In the harvesting and loading process, a TM typically drives alongside or behind the Forage Harvester (FH) so that the FH can load the harvested goods onto the trailer of the TM using the spout. Drivers operate both machines and try to keep the speed and distance so that the spout only throws the harvested goods into the trailer of the TM. An image of a harvesting and loading process for corn can be seen in Figure 2.2.

Taking a corn harvest scenario as an example, key figures can be looked up in [19], a standard reference book in agricultural literature. This book contains key figures of agricultural processes, which 80 experts have compiled. The key figures, which are shown in Table 2.2, are dependent on the Plant Population Density (PPD) and show the large amount of forage harvested by a FH every hour.

The harvesting and loading processes are examples of the use of an agricultural Platooning Services as described by Zhang et al. [20]. This Platooning Service creates a leader and follower system where an uncrewed agricultural machine follows a leading operated agricultural machine. For the harvesting and loading process, a Platooning service could be used as follows. The operated FH, as a leader, sets the path and speed and transmits the data via WIC to the TM. Based on the path and

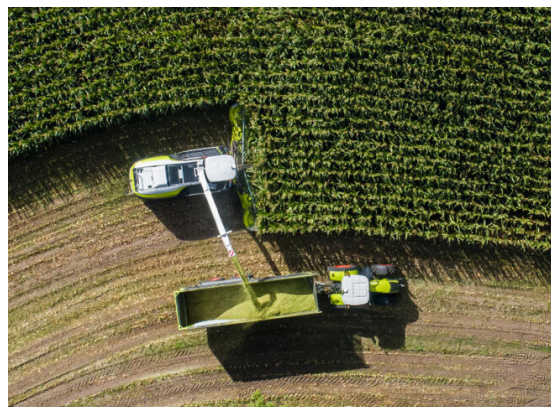


Figure 2.2 – Forage Harvester (FH) and TM while

## 2.4 Harvest and Loading Processes as a Use Cases for Wireless-Infield Communication16

Kennzahlen	PPD 20 t/ha	PPD 30 t/ha	PPD 50 t/ha
Required TMs	5	7	10
Harvesting performance volume [m <sup>3</sup> /h]	285.7- 333.3	428.6- 500.0	595.7- 695.0
Harvesting performance TM loads [t/h]	5.7 - 6.7	8.6 - 10.0	11.9 - 13.9
Harvesting performance mass [t/h]	100	150	208.5

**Table 2.2** – Key figures from [19] of corn harvest of a FH with a working width of 6.2 m in a 80 ha-field in regard to PPD

speed data of the FH, TM follows unmanned with a longitudinal and lateral offset, as Figure 2.3 displays.

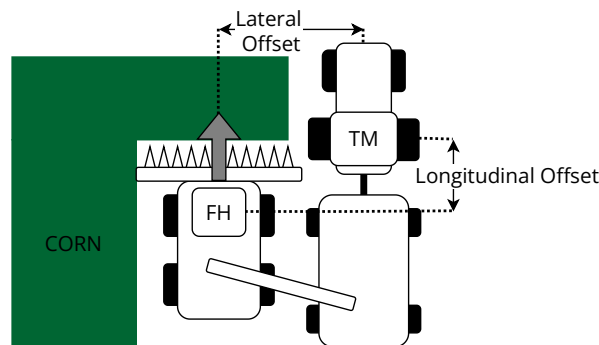
This Platooning Service positions the TM optimally to the FH so that the forage can be loaded ideally from the FH onto the TM.

Figure 2.4 shows that the number of workers in the agriculture domain is declining. Because fewer and fewer workers are working in agriculture, the use of platooning services for harvest and loading processes can save and free up labour for other activities [4].

As stated in Table 2.2, already ten drivers for the TMs are needed in the corn harvest process with a high PPD.

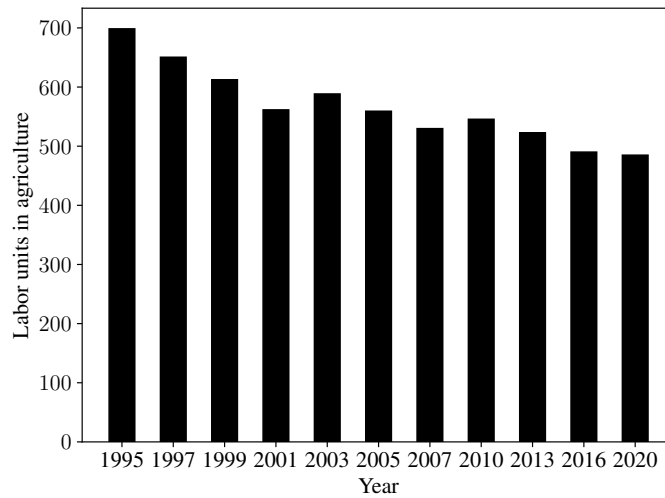
Using an agricultural Platooning Service, each TM can drive unmanned in the field leading to a smaller number of workers needed in the corn harvest process.

At the same time, the harvest and loading processes are examples of the video streaming WIC use case. During these harvest and loading processes the spout of the FH must be controlled to set the loading position of the forage into the trailer of the TM.



**Figure 2.3** – Lateral and longitudinal Offset between the two agricultural machines FH and TM in a corn harvest scenario





**Figure 2.4** – Decrease in the agricultural labor force in Germany based on the data from [21]

According to Murcia [22], different spout guidance and control systems have been developed to automate the filling of the trailer. Spout guidance and control systems use a camera attached to the spout to determine the fill volume at each point of the trailer via machine vision and set the spout to fill the empty parts of the trailer accordingly. The author describes Autofill - systems from Claas and Intellifill - systems from CNH Industrial as examples of spout guidance systems.

Streaming the video of a camera at the spout from the FH to the TM would be a practical application of the video streaming use case in the harvesting process. If the TM driver can watch a live stream of the trailer's fill level, he will always be informed and knows when the trailer is full and can drive the forage back to the farm.

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## Chapter 3

# Analyzing Corn Harvest Process Data

---

To gain a better insight into requirements of the WIC use cases Platooning and Streaming Services, I analysed process data of a corn harvest scenario as the example for I collected GPS tracks of a FH and two to three TMs harvesting corn on a field in Germany on two days in September. For this, I placed tablets in the driver's cabs of a FH and three TMs, which recorded the position and speed in an NMEA data stream of the tablet's GPS every second.

The workflow for collecting the corn harvest process data was as follows. I handed out the tablets to the drivers, which left the farm with the tablets in the driver's cabs to drive to the field in the morning. The tablets recorded the position and speed of the FH and the TMs all day. During breaks, the tablets continued to capture the NMEA data stream of their GPS even if the positions and speed did not change.

After recording the process data, I anonymized it. First, I deleted data points of the log files until the recorded accuracy of the following data points was less than 2 m. Then, I replaced the timestamp and the date for all data points with a continuous index.

After that, I anonymized the location data by adding a random offset to the GPS coordinates. As a result, this procedure moved the areas to a random location in the world.

The goal of analysing the corn harvest data was to investigate the machines moving in the working scenarios relative to each other. The speed and distance of the machines in tracked data of harvest platoons may result in new use case requirements, e.g. latency or communication range of Platooning and Streaming Services. The machinery movement profile can be used to identify when shadowing effects may occur in the work scenario or when machines meet in the field.

I had to develop an intelligent algorithm to detect harvest platoons in the Harvest Process data. It can detect them in the recorded process data.

For this purpose, I built a dashboard with the Python framework *Dash*<sup>5</sup>. In the dashboard, I initially plotted all the positions in a polyline for each machine on a map. A slider allows one to set a time interval that narrows down the data points for display in the dashboard. In addition, one could select which TMs are displayed next to the FH. For the chosen time interval, the distance and velocity difference between the selected TMs and the FH were plotted in graphs as time histories.

In the dashboard, I could get an overview of the machine's behaviour before, during, and after the overloading scenario. In the overview, it can be seen that a FH is nearly always in the overloading process with a TM. In doing so, the FH may occasionally stay in the same place if the cutter is clogged or there is a transition of TMs where a full TM moves away from the FH and a empty TM catches up to the FH to take over the forage.

A TM is in a platoon with a FH if it is close to the FH and they are moving at nearly the same speed. During a turning manoeuvre on the field, the distance between TM and FH increases. Since both machines have different curve radii in a turning manoeuvre, a different speed can be observed on both machines to finish turning simultaneously. A TM is in a platoon with a FH if it is close to the FH and they are moving at nearly the same speed. During a turning manoeuvre on the field, the distance between TM and FH increases. Since both machines have different curve radii in a turning manoeuvre, a different speed of the machines can be observed to finish turning simultaneously.

A new harvesting process begins as soon as the machines finish turning and are at the beginning of a new lane. The machines again drive closely and nearly at the same speed to harvest and overload forage.

Furthermore, sometimes another TM can be close to the FH. This TM is empty and waits to work with the FH in the next platoon. For that purpose, the empty TM drives close behind the current platoon at the same speed so as not to catch up even closer to the platoon and be ready in the close vicinity.

Based on these observations above, I developed an intelligent algorithm for detecting platooning scenarios. It uses a weighted sum of distance and speed difference between FH and TM to detect the platooning scenarios.

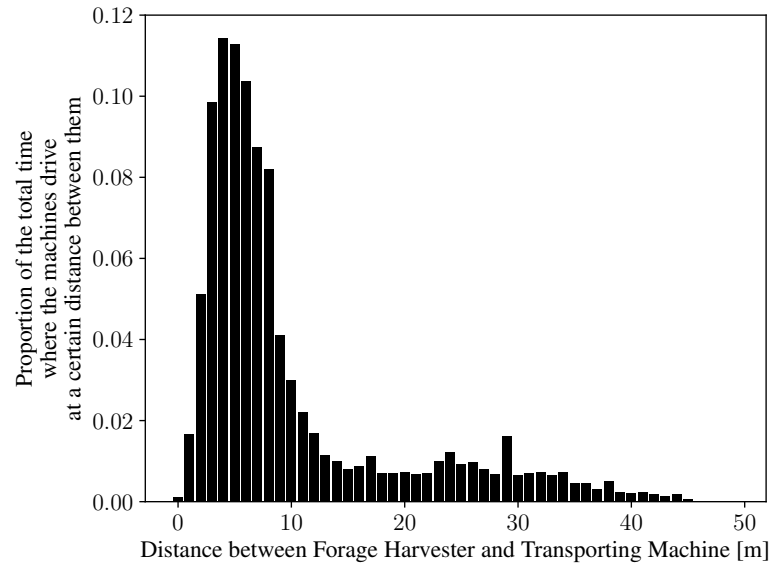
For verification purposes, I displayed the found platoons scenarios on the map and confirmed the algorithm's functioning.

Additionally, I implemented the following further verification method. I observed that a fully loaded TM leaves the field via one of the field exits to bring the crop to a farm building. Via a check if a TM has left the field and thereby passed the exit after leaving a platoon, wrongly recognized platoons can be discarded.

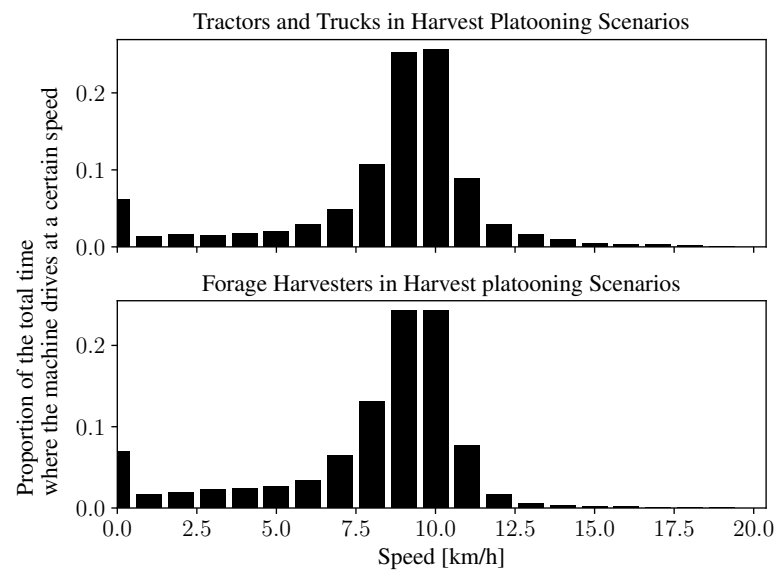
After the platoons scenarios were correctly detected, I included the data points before each platoons scenario till a maximum distance of 50 m between FH and TM

---

<sup>5</sup><https://dash.plotly.com/introduction> Accessed: 5.12.2022



**Figure 3.1** – Distribution of time proportions where a given distance was between FH and TM in a harvest platoon scenario.



**Figure 3.2** – Distribution of time proportions where FH and TM drove with a certain speed in a harvest platoon scenario

was exceeded. These data points are also relevant to the requirements because at the beginning of an agricultural platooning service, the FH, as the leader of the system, must be able to guide an empty TM to the appropriate position for overloading.

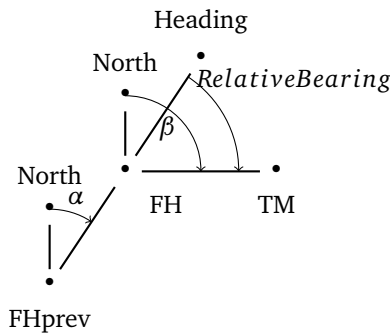
For the detected data points of the platooning services from recorded data of the corn harvest, the proportion where the FH and TM move in a specific distance is shown in Figure 3.1. For the same data points, the proportion in which FH and TM move at a given speed is available in Figure 3.2.

These analysing results show that the TM and the FH usually move with a distance of less than 10 m. In addition, the distance can also be higher, e.g. in turning manoeuvres or before the overloading process.

One notable observation in Figure 3.2 is that the FH and TMs in the corn harvesting platooning scenario often travel at a speed of approximately 10 km/h. This speed is significantly higher than the average speed of 5.6 km/h of a FH in an entire corn harvesting process from [19]. It is necessary to classify that in the year of the recorded data was little precipitation, so the corn was not dense and high, and the last speed value is an average value of the entire corn harvest process, which can be calculated from the data in [19]. Nevertheless, the recorded data shows that a platooning service in agriculture must also be designed for higher speeds.

Klingler, Blobel, and Dressler [7] investigated the suitability of IEEE 802.11p for WIC. The authors detected that shadowing effects occur in the harvest scenario. The authors explain the effect because another tractor or the spout of the FH was in Line-of-sight (LOS). I reviewed the recorded position data to get an overview of where a TM is in the overloading process relative to the FH. The relative bearing is the angle between B and the heading of point A. Using the previous position of the FH, the relative bearing between FH and TM can be calculated with the angles  $\alpha$  and  $\beta$  in Figure 3.3 as:

$$Relative\_Bearing = \beta - \alpha, \quad (3.1)$$



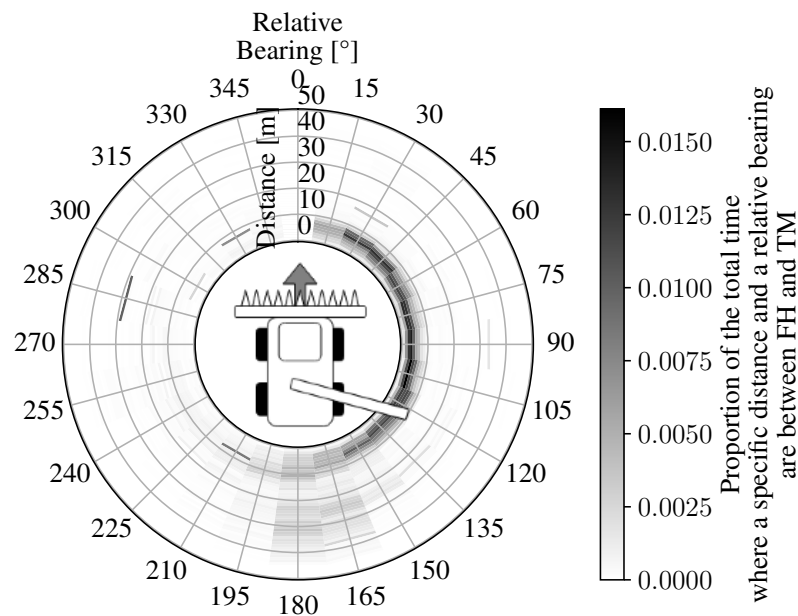
**Figure 3.3** – Relative bearing between FH and TM which is calculated using the previous location of FH by using  $\beta$  and  $\alpha$  for Equation 3.1

Assuming that the FH does not move backwards, we can see from the relative bearing in which angle from the FH the TM is located. The result is displayed in Figure 3.4. It can be observed that the TM is mainly close to the FH at an angle of  $30^\circ \dots 150^\circ$  at a distance between 0 m ... 10 m.

In addition, it is noticeable that the machine can also be directly behind the FH. This driving behind each other is common when a new part of the field is being cut in harvesting, as can be seen in Figure 3.5. When there is a greater distance between TM and FH, the TM is usually behind the FH at a angle of  $157.5^\circ \dots 187.5^\circ$ . At these moments, the TM is empty and closes up to the FH to operate in a new platooning Service together.

Another notable fact is that the TM hardly ever stayed to the left of the FH. Since the FH often made left turns, the crop was usually already harvested to the right of the FH so that the TM could drive there without running over the crop. On rare occasions, the TM was also to the left of the FH. Such a platooning scenario can be an exception or a driving manoeuvre to start cutting a new part of the field.

The results reveal only a first impression of the requirements of a harvest and loading process. More data from around the world needs to be analyzed to make a general statement. The low rainfall this year has already set a low plant population. This field condition made a higher process speed possible. To make a general



**Figure 3.4** – Distribution of time proportion at specific distances and relative bearings between FH and TM



Figure 3.5 – FH and TM start cutting a new field section

statement, I should use data from different years because they can reveal different initial field conditions.

Heading Annahme Vorwärts Fahrt. Ansonsten Überprüfen und nochmal  
Einzelfahrt plotten und anschauen. Wie oft dreht sich das Heading ?  
Möglicherweise Rückwärtsfahrt erkennen? Oder WIC Requirements erwäh-  
nen?

---

## **Chapter 4**

# **Field Measurements**

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## Chapter 5

# Developed architecture / System design / Implementation / ...

---

- describe everything you yourself did (as opposed to the fundamentals chapter, which explains what you built on)
- start with a theoretical approach
- describe the developed system/algorithm/method from a high-level point of view
- go ahead in presenting your developments in more detail
- recommended length: approximately one third of the thesis.

---

## Chapter 6

# Simulation

---

Seite 77 von 93 02 simulation.pdf Propagation Model: Two Ray Ground only mathematics Rappaport Jakes Model Three Log Distance

Data Simulation

### 6.1 ns-3 Network Simulator

Bei der Wahl der Network Simulator Wifi 6 Implementierungen

According to **ns3manual** ns-3 is a discrete-event network simulator project, which was founded in 2006. The ns-3 project is open source with a licence based on n GNU GPLv2 compatibility. It aims to provide an open, extensible network simulator for research and educational use. ns-3 scripts can be written in C++ or Python. ns-API Python uses models in C++ build system Cmake

ATM no pre-built libraries and packages for operating systems

The concept of ns3 is based on the abstraction of simulated systems. For this purpose, the term node was introduced for basic computing devices. The Node class offers the possibility to install protocol stacks and applications or to add peripheral cards and mobility models to the node. Applications are the abstraction of the user-level applications, which represent an activity to be simulated. For this purpose, the applications use resources and functionalities provided by the system software of a node. An example for the

QUESTIONS open 7

Möglichkeiten outdoor  
wifi was für Effecte

Robustheit: Matlab?

Goodput: ns3 Range:  
Matlab? Somehow?  
overview other papers?  
Enough?

Warum nicht was an-  
deres GNS3, MININET,  
... ?

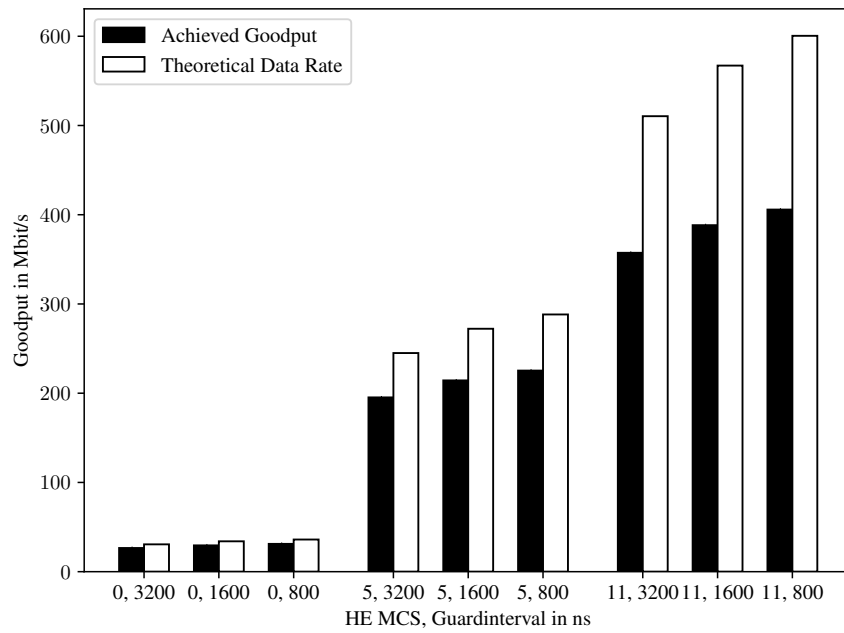
### 6.2 Data Rate

GI and Coding Rate (CR)

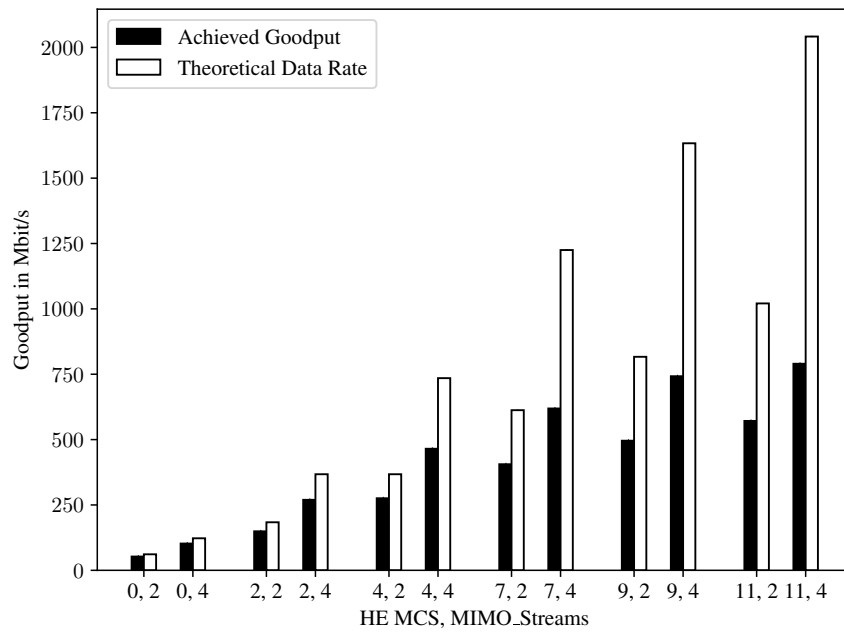
attenuation of bandwidth : 800ns : 94 % 89 % 80 %

Factors apply for MCS0 but may also apply later

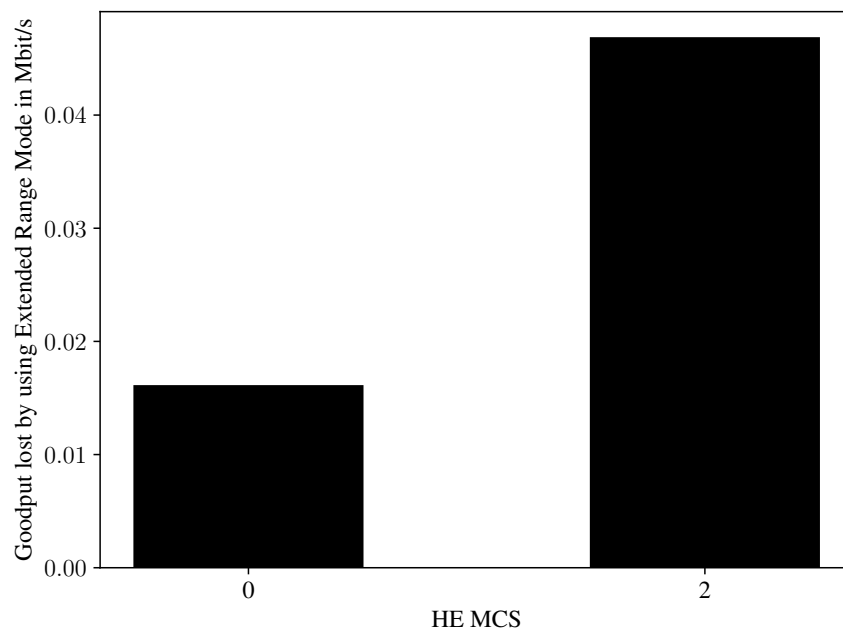
DataRate for STBC



**Figure 6.1** – Achieved Goodput and theoretical Datarate of two WiFi 6 stations in Ad-Hoc Mode with 2 MIMO streams and a bandwidth of 80 MHz in regards to the number of MIMO streams and the chosen MCS and CR



**Figure 6.2** – Achieved Goodput and theoretical Datarate of two WiFi 6 stations in Ad-Hoc Mode with a GI of 3200 ns and a bandwidth of 80 MHz in regards to the number of MIMO streams and the chosen MCS and CR



**Figure 6.3** – Achieved Goodput and theoretical Datarate of two WiFi 6 stations in Ad-Hoc Mode with a GI of 3200 ns and a bandwidth of 20 MHz in regards to the number of MIMO streams and the chosen MCS and CR

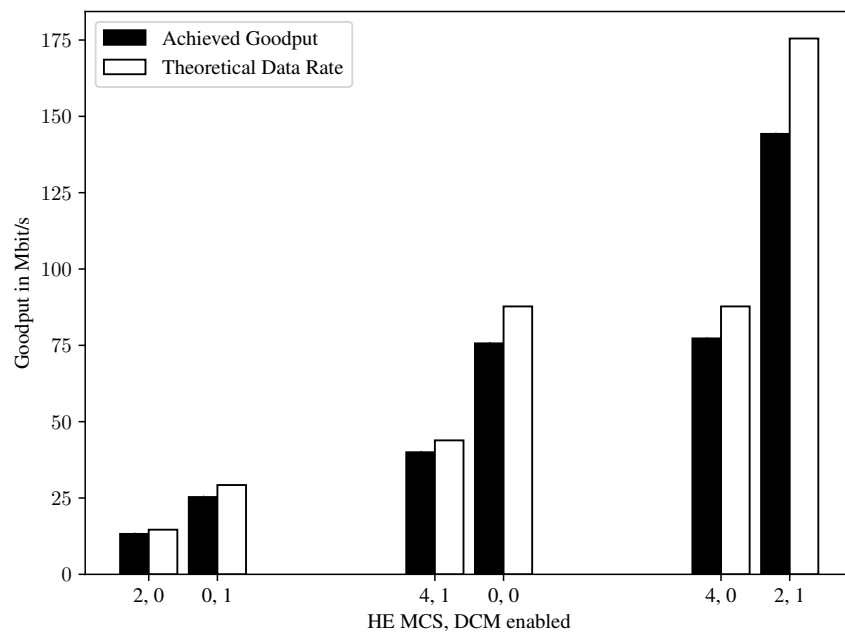
STBC and DCM \* 2 payload / half data rate

But Latency? Robustness?

Fixed Wifi 6 devices: 4 Streams, 2.4, 5.0 Ghz Fixed Wifi bd devices: 1 Stream, 5.9 Ghz,

Leave it open for future work? look for different chips?

Auf different paper stützen?



**Figure 6.4** – Achieved Goodput and theoretical Datarate of two WiFi 6 stations in Ad-Hoc Mode with a GI of 3200 ns and a bandwidth of 40 MHz in regards to the number of the chosen MCS and CR and whether DCM is enabled

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## Chapter 7

# Evaluation

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- measurement setup / results / evaluation / discussion
- whatever you have done, you must comment it, compare it to other systems, evaluate it
- usually, adequate graphs help to show the benefits of your approach
- each result/graph must not only be described, but also discussed (What's the reason for this peak? Why have you observed this effect? What does this tell about your architecture/system/implementation?)
- recommended length: approximately one third of the thesis.

---

## Chapter 8

# Conclusion

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- summarize again what your paper did, but now emphasize more the results, and comparisons
- write conclusions that can be drawn from the results found and the discussion presented in the paper
- future work (be very brief, explain what, but not much how, do not speculate about results or impact)
- recommended length: one page.

---

## List of Abbreviations

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<b>802.11ac</b>	IEEE 802.11ac
<b>802.11ax</b>	IEEE 802.11ax
<b>ACK</b>	Acknowledgement
<b>AEF</b>	Agricultural Industry Electronics Foundation
<b>AP</b>	Access Point
<b>BCC</b>	binary convolutional coding
<b>BSS</b>	Basic Service Set
<b>CR</b>	Coding Rate
<b>CSMA/CA</b>	Carrier Sense Multiple Access/Collision Avoidance
<b>DCF</b>	Distribution Coordination Function
<b>DCM</b>	Dual Carrier Modulation
<b>DIFS</b>	Distributed Coordination Function Interframe Space
<b>ESS</b>	Extended Service Set
<b>FEC</b>	Forward Error Correction
<b>FH</b>	Forage Harvester
<b>FMIS</b>	Farm Management Information System
<b>GI</b>	Guard Interval
<b>IBSS</b>	Independent Basic Service Set
<b>LDPC</b>	low-density parity-check
<b>LOS</b>	Line-of-sight
<b>M2M</b>	Machine-To-Machine
<b>MCS</b>	Modulation and Coding Scheme
<b>MIMO</b>	Multiple Input Multiple Output
<b>NAV</b>	Network Allocation Vector
<b>OFDM</b>	Orthogonal Frequency-Division Multiplexing
<b>OFDMA</b>	Orthogonal Frequency-Division Multiple Access
<b>PCF</b>	Point Coordination Function
<b>PPD</b>	Plant Population Density
<b>PPDU</b>	Physical layer convergence protocol data unit
<b>PSK</b>	Phase Shift Keying



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<b>QAM</b>	Quadrature Amplitude Modulation
<b>RU</b>	Resource Unit
<b>SINR</b>	Signal-to-Interference-plus-Noise Ratio
<b>SNR</b>	Signal Noise Ratio
<b>SSID</b>	Service Set Identifier
<b>STBC</b>	Space-Time-Block-Code
<b>TM</b>	Transport Machine
<b>V2X</b>	Vehicle-to-everything
<b>WIC</b>	Wireless-Infield Communication
<b>WPA</b>	Wi-Fi Protected Access

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## Todo list

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