Traffic Aware Precoder Design for Space Frequency Resource Allocation

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Section 1

Introduction



Introduction and Motivation

- Complex algorithms are adopted to maximize throughput to satisfy the data requirements from higher layers
- Available wireless resources are to be utilized efficiently to minimize the backlogged packets
- Spatial and Frequency resources are exploited to empty the packets waiting at the BSs
- We discuss precoder designs for multiple users MIMO-OFDM setup to minimize the number of queued packets



Section 2

System Model & Problem Formulation







Symbols used

- OFDM system with N sub-channels and N_B BSs, each equipped with N_T transmit antennas
- Let K be the total number of users with N_R antennas
- lacksquare Let ${\cal B}$ and ${\cal U}$ denote the set of coordinating BSs and users in the system
- Let L be the total available spatial streams for a user k, given by $\min(N_T, N_R)$



System Model

The Ith spatial signal received on sub-channel n of user k is given by

$$\hat{d}_{l,k,n} = \mathbf{w}_{l,k,n}^{H} \mathbf{H}_{b_{k},k,n} \, \mathbf{m}_{l,k,n} d_{l,k,n} + \mathbf{w}_{l,k,n}^{H} \mathbf{n}_{l,k,n} + \mathbf{w}_{l,k,n}^{H} \sum_{i \in \mathcal{U} \setminus \{k\}} \mathbf{H}_{b_{i},k,n} \sum_{j=1}^{L} \mathbf{m}_{j,i,n} d_{j,i,n} \quad (1)$$

where $\mathbf{m}_{l,k,n}$ and $\mathbf{w}_{l,k,n}$ are transmit and receive beamformers corresponding to the /th spatial stream on the nth sub-channel of user k



System Model

- $\mathbf{H}_{b_{k},k,n} \in \mathbb{C}^{N_{R} \times N_{T}}$ denotes the channel between BS b_{k} and user k
- $d_{l,k,n}$ and $n_{l,k,n}$ correspond to data symbol and equivalent noise on Ith spatial stream of user k
- Using the above notations, the SINR seen by the /th spatial stream on the nth sub-channel for user k is given by

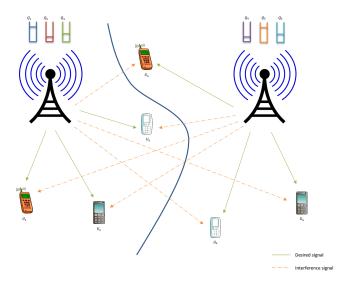
$$\gamma_{I,k,n} = \frac{\left| \mathbf{w}_{I,k,n}^{H} \mathbf{H}_{b_{k},k,n} \mathbf{m}_{I,k,n} \right|^{2}}{\mathring{N}_{0} + \sum_{(j,i) \neq (I,k)} \left| \mathbf{w}_{I,k,n}^{H} \mathbf{H}_{b_{i},k,n} \mathbf{m}_{j,i,n} \right|^{2}}$$
(2)

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where $\hat{N}_0 = \|\mathbf{w}_{l,k,n}^{\mathrm{H}} \mathbf{n}_{l,k,n}\|^2$



System Model with User Queues





Queueing Model

- **Each** user is associated with backlogged packets of size Q_k packets.
- **Queued** packets Q_k of each user follows dynamic equation at the *i*th instant as

$$Q_k(i+1) = \left[Q_k(i) - t_k(i)\right]^+ + \lambda_k(i) \tag{3}$$

- where $t_k = \sum_{n=1}^{N} \sum_{l=1}^{L} t_{l,k,n}$ denotes the total number of transmitted packets corresponding to user k in the previous ith instant
- lacksquare λ_k represents the fresh arrivals of user k at BS b_k



Problem Formulation

- Objective to minimize the number of backlogged packets waiting at BSs
- Optimization variables transmit precoders and receive beamformers
- MIMO-OFDM scheduling of users across sub-channels is inherently performed by precoders



Section 3

Centralized Solutions



Queue-Weighted Sum Rate Maximization (Q-WSRM)

- Q-WSRM formulation is the result of minimizing the conditional Lyapunov drift¹
- Q-WSRM formulation is also called as back pressure algorithm, since it acts greedily in minimizing the backlogged packets at each instant

$$\underset{t_{l,k,n}}{\mathsf{minimize}} \quad \sum_{k \in \mathcal{U}} \left\{ Q_k(i)^2 - Q_k(i-1)^2 \right\},$$

where Q_k follows the dynamic Queue expression in (3)



¹Neely, Michael J. "Stochastic network optimization with application to communication and queueing systems." Synthesis Lectures on Communication Networks 3.1 (2010): 1-211.

Queue-Weighted Sum Rate Maximization (Q-WSRM)

Q-WSRM formulation, which is obtained by solving Lyapunov drift, is given by

$$\max_{t_{l,k,n}} \min z_{k \in \mathcal{U}} \quad \sum_{k \in \mathcal{U}} Q_k \left(\sum_{n=1}^{N} \sum_{l=1}^{L} t_{l,k,n} \right) \tag{4a}$$

$$\sum_{n=1}^{N} \sum_{l=1}^{L} t_{l,k,n} \le Q_k / Q_{k,n}$$
 (4b)

- Queue-Rate product is maximized
- Users with more number of backlogged packets are favored over good channel users



JSFRA Formulation (SINR Relaxation)

- \blacksquare Centralized Design precoders are designed by a controller, which are then used by all BSs in ${\cal B}$
- The objective used to design transmit precoders is

$$v_k = \left| Q_k - \sum_{n=1}^{N} \sum_{l=1}^{L} t_{l,k,n} \right|^q$$
 (5)

- To generalize the objective, we use $\tilde{v}_k \triangleq a_k^{\frac{1}{q}} v_k$, where a_k is arbitrary weights used control the priorities
- Exponent q plays different role based on the value it assumes
 - $ightharpoonup \ell_{q=1}$ results in greedy allocation
 - $ightharpoonup \ell_{q=2}$ ideal for the delay or buffer size limited scenarios
 - lacktriangledown provides fair resource allocation in each transmission instant



JSFRA Formulation (SINR Relaxation)

 Optimization problem with queue difference objective is nonconvex due to the constraint

$$\underset{\mathbf{m}_{I,k,n}}{\text{minimize}} \qquad \left| Q_k - \sum_{n=1}^{N} \sum_{l=1}^{L} \log \left(1 + \gamma_{I,k,n} \right) \right|^q \tag{6a}$$

$$\hat{N}_{0} + \sum_{(j,i)\neq(l,k)} |\mathbf{w}_{l,k,n}^{\mathbf{H}} \mathbf{H}_{b_{\hat{l}},k,n} \mathbf{m}_{j,i,n}|^{2} \le \beta_{l,k,n}$$
(6c)

- The nonconvex constraints are approximated by sequence of convex subsets and solved iteratively by successive convex approximation (SCA) method
- Receive beamformers are designed by the MMSE receivers using the converged transmit precoders



JSFRA Formulation (MSE Reformulation)

Alternatively, we solve the queue minimization problem by utilizing the relation between the MSE and the SINR as

$$\epsilon_{l,k,n} = (1 + \gamma_{l,k,n})^{-1}$$
 (7)

- Equivalence is valid only when the receivers are designed with the mean squared error (MSE) objective, i.e., using MMSE receivers
- Problem involves nonconvex constraint

$$t_{l,k,n} \leq -\log_{2}(\epsilon_{l,k,n})$$

$$\epsilon_{l,k,n} = \mathbb{E}\left[\left(d_{l,k,n} - \hat{d}_{l,k,n}\right)^{2}\right] = \left|1 - \mathbf{w}_{l,k,n}^{H} \mathbf{H}_{b_{k},k,n} \mathbf{m}_{l,k,n}\right|^{2}$$

$$+ \sum_{(j,l)\neq(l,k)} \left|\mathbf{w}_{l,k,n}^{H} \mathbf{H}_{b_{i},k,n} \mathbf{m}_{j,i,n}\right|^{2} + \mathring{N}_{0}$$
(8b)



JSFRA Formulation (MSE Reformulation)

- The nonconvex constraint is approximated by a sequence of convex constraints, which is performed using SCA technique
- The iterative procedure is carried out until convergence or for suitable number of iterations
- The above reformulation works only with the MMSE receiver



Centralized Solutions

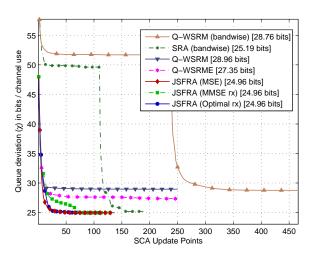


Figure: System Model - $\{N, N_R, K, N_T, N_R\} = \{2, 3, 9, 4, 2\}$



Time Correlated Fading - Centralized Performance

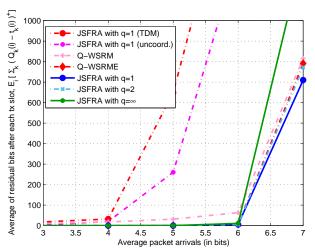


Figure: System Model - $\{N, N_B, K, N_B\} = \{3, 2, 8, 1\}$ after 250 transmissions





Section 4

Distributed Solutions



Distributed Methods

- Small System centralized approach is viable, provided channel remains constant for multiple transmission slots
- However, overhead involved in the centralized design scales up significantly as the network size grows
- Distributed approaches based on primal decomposition or ADMM can be used to reduce the signaling requirements
- Signaling involved in the design of precoders are only scalar interference variables
- Approximated convex subproblem in each SCA step is performed via distributed methods



Primal Decomposition Method

- Precoder design is based on master-slave approach
- Interference to the neighboring BS users are bounded by a scalar variable, treated as a constant in subproblems
- The interference thresholds are determined by the master problem and used in each slave subproblem constraint as

$$\zeta_{l,k,n,b} \ge \sum_{i \in \mathcal{U}_b} \sum_{j=1}^{L} |\mathbf{w}_{l,k,n}^{H} \mathbf{H}_{b,k,n} \mathbf{m}_{j,i,n}|^2 \ \forall b \in \bar{\mathcal{B}}_{b_k}. \tag{9}$$



ADMM based Decomposition Method

- The ADMM is superior to other distributed schemes in terms of the convergence speed
- ADMM includes an additional quadratic term

$$\|v_k\|_q + \sum_{l,k,n} \nu_{l,k,n}^{(j)} \left(\zeta_b - \zeta_b^{(j)}\right) + \frac{\rho}{2} \|\zeta_b - \zeta_b^{(j)}\|^2$$
 (10)

in objective, where $\zeta_b^{(j)}$ is global consensus variable

- $\zeta_{l,k,n,b}$ in (9) is treated as an optimization variable in ADMM
- Consensus variables are updated upon exchanging corresponding local $\zeta_{l,k,n,b}$'s among coordinating BSs



KKT based Distributed Solution

- Decentralization methods involve significant signaling exchanges via backhaul
- Overhead is large for multi-antenna receivers iterative design should reduce the backlogged packets significantly in first few iterations
- To achieve that, we design precoders by solving the Karush-Kuhn-Tucker (KKT) equations of the JSFRA problem via MSE reformulation
- Group update of all involved optimization variables to speed up the convergence of precoder design



Performance of Distributed Solutions

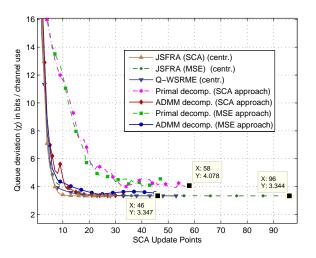


Figure: System Model - $\{N, N_R, K, N_T, N_R\} = \{3, 2, 8, 4, 1\}$



Performance of KKT based Approach

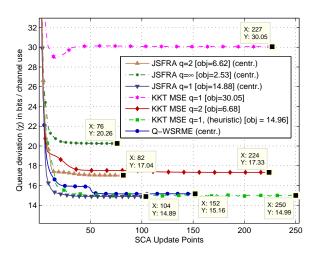


Figure: System Model - $\{N, N_P, K, N_T, N_P\} = \{5, 2, 8, 4, 1\}$









Section 5

Time Correlated Fading Performance







Time Correlated Precoder Design - Introduction

- So far, we have discussed few methods to design precoders in a distributed manner
- Now, we discuss a practical approach to design precoders with minimal backhaul usage
- To discuss further, we consider KKT based design for following reasons
 - Due to closed form solution, each SCA update requires only single exchange of coupling variables
 - Moreover, transmit and receive precoders expressions can be formed by using precoded pilot transmissions
- We adopt Bi-directional training (BiT) to update transmit and receive beamformers²



²P. Komulainen, A. Tölli & M. Juntti, Effective CSI Signaling and Decentralized Beam Coordination in TDD Multi-Cell MIMO Systems, IEEE Transactions on Signal Processing, vol. 61, no. 9, pp. 2204 – 2218, May 2013

Time Correlated Precoder Design - Strategy A

 To devise over-the-air (OTA) based iterative algorithm - let us consider transmit and receive beamformer expressions

$$\begin{split} \mathbf{m}_{l,k,n}^{(i)} &= \Big(\sum_{x \in \mathcal{U}} \sum_{y=1}^{L} \alpha_{y,x,n}^{(i-1)} \mathbf{H}_{b_k,x,n}^{\mathrm{H}} \mathbf{w}_{y,x,n}^{(i-1)} \mathbf{w}_{y,x,n}^{\mathrm{H}\,(i-1)} \mathbf{H}_{b_k,x,n} + \delta_b \mathbf{I}_{N_T} \Big)^{-1} \alpha_{l,k,n}^{(i-1)} \mathbf{H}_{b_k,k,n}^{\mathrm{H}} \mathbf{w}_{l,k,n}^{(i-1)} \\ \mathbf{w}_{l,k,n}^{(i)} &= \Big(\sum_{x \in \mathcal{U}} \sum_{y=1}^{L} \mathbf{H}_{b_x,k,n} \mathbf{m}_{y,x,n}^{(i)} \mathbf{m}_{y,x,n}^{\mathrm{H}\,(i)} \mathbf{H}_{b_x,k,n}^{\mathrm{H}\,(i)} + N_0 \mathbf{I}_{N_R} \Big)^{-1} \mathbf{H}_{b_k,k,n} \mathbf{m}_{l,k,n}^{(i)} \end{split}$$

- Note that transmit precoders $\mathbf{m}_{l,k,n}$ depend on $\mathbf{H}_{b_k,i,n}^{\mathrm{T}}\mathbf{u}_{l,i,n}$, *i.e.*, effective uplink channel
- Similarly, receive beamformers $\mathbf{w}_{l,k,n}$ depend on $\mathbf{H}_{b_k,i,n}\mathbf{m}_{l,k,n}$, *i.e.*, effective downlink channel



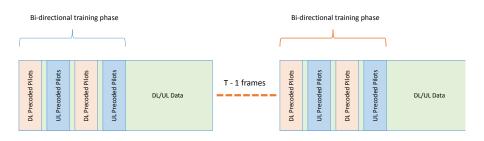
Time Correlated Precoder Design - Strategy A

- To update receive beamformers at the user terminals, each BS transmits precoded downlink pilots orthogonally by using $\mathbf{m}_{l,k,n}^{(i)}$
- Upon receiving effective channel, each user update the respective receive beamformer
- Similarly, to update transmit beamformers at BSs, each user transmits two precoded pilot transmission, namely, $\sqrt{\alpha_{l,k,n}^{(i-1)}}\mathbf{w}_{l,k,n}^*$ and $\alpha_{l,k,n}\mathbf{w}_{l,k,n}^*$
- Upon receiving two uplink precoded pilots, each BS then evaluates the respective transmit beamformers of all users
- The above iterative procedure is performed until convergence or for predetermined number of updates - Strategy A



Bi-directional Frame Structure

- To perform iterative OTA based update, we consider time division duplexing (TDD) frame format
- Using OTA transmissions, effective channel can be conveyed to BSs and users by precoded pilots



Frame - n Frame - n + T









Time Correlated Precoder Design - Strategy B

- To speed up the convergence of iterative algorithm, we update the precoders of desired users locally by fixing neighboring BSs transmit beamformers
- To do so, in addition to the signaling requirements in strategy A, inter-cell interference covariance seen by desired users is also fed back to serving BS, i.e.,

$$\mathbf{Z}_{l,k,n} = \sum_{i \in \mathcal{U} \setminus \mathcal{U}_b} \mathbf{H}_{b_i,i,n} \mathbf{m}_{l,i,n} \mathbf{m}_{l,i,n}^{\mathrm{H}} \mathbf{H}_{b_i,i,n}^{\mathrm{H}} + N_0 \mathbf{I}_{N_R}.$$
(11)

- Since inter-cell interference covariance is not required explicitly, effective whitened channel is enough to evaluate precoders
- \blacksquare The whitening filter $\mathbf{Q}_{l,k,n}$ is given by $\mathbf{Z}_{l,k,n}^{-1}=\mathbf{Q}_{l,k,n}^{\mathrm{H}}\mathbf{Q}_{l,k,n}$
- Whitened channel is constructed at BS by transmitting columns of $\mathbf{Q}_{l,k,n}$ orthogonally from each user



Time Correlated Precoder Design - Strategy B

- Upon receiving $\mathbf{Q}_{I,k,n}$, each BS can construct whitened channel as $\mathbf{\bar{H}}_{b_k,k} = \mathbf{Q}_{I,k,n}\mathbf{H}_{b_k,k}$
- The BS specific local iteration j to update transmit and receive beamformer is given as

$$\begin{split} \mathbf{m}_{l,k,n}^{(j)} &= \Big(\sum_{x \in \mathcal{U}_b} \sum_{y=1}^{L} \alpha_{y,x,n}^{(j-1)} \bar{\mathbf{H}}_{b_k,x,n}^{\mathrm{H}} \mathbf{w}_{y,x,n}^{(j-1)} \mathbf{w}_{y,x,n}^{\mathrm{H}\,(j-1)} \bar{\mathbf{H}}_{b_k,x,n} + \delta_b \mathbf{I}_{N_T} \Big)^{-1} \alpha_{l,k,n}^{(j-1)} \bar{\mathbf{H}}_{b_k,k,n}^{\mathrm{H}\,(j-1)} \mathbf{w}_{l,k,n}^{\mathrm{H}\,(j)} \\ \mathbf{w}_{l,k,n}^{(j)} &= \Big(\sum_{x \in \mathcal{U}_b} \sum_{y=1}^{L} \bar{\mathbf{H}}_{b_x,k,n} \mathbf{m}_{y,x,n}^{(j)} \mathbf{m}_{y,x,n}^{\mathrm{H}\,(j)} \bar{\mathbf{H}}_{b_x,k,n}^{\mathrm{H}\,+} + \mathbf{I}_{N_R} \Big)^{-1} \bar{\mathbf{H}}_{b_k,k,n} \, \mathbf{m}_{l,k,n}^{(j)} \end{split}$$

 The above iterative procedure is performed until convergence or for predetermined number of updates - Strategy B



Summary - Signaling Requirement for OTA based Updates

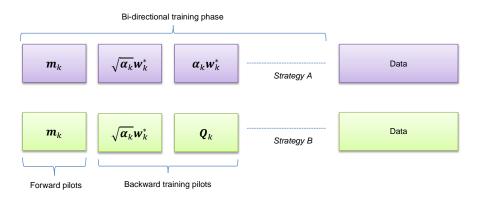


Figure: TDD frame structure with BiT signaling

Assumptions and Evaluation Model

- Every BS and user terminal uses orthogonal pilots in UL and DL OTA signaling
- For simplicity, pilot transmissions used to convey the equivalent channel information in one BiT iteration consume η resource share.³
- Under this assumption, the effective rate by considering the signaling overhead is given as

$$\tilde{t}_{l,k,n} = (1 - I_{\text{max}} \eta) \times t_{l,k,n} \tag{12}$$

- lacksquare Total number of backlogged packets is evaluated as $\chi = \sum_{k=1}^K \left[Q_k ilde{t}_k
 ight]^+$
- lacksquare In all simulations, we consider $\eta=1\%$



³In practice, the performance depends on the amount of available pilots and the size of coherence block.

Average Backlogged Packets - Distributed Design

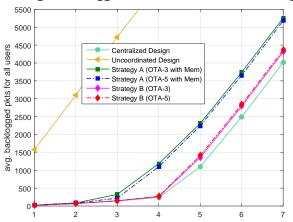


Figure: Average backlogged packets for $\{N, N_B, K, N_T, N_B\} = \{3, 2, 12, 4, 2\}$ evaluated over 250 slots with $f_d T_s \approx 0.1$



Average Backlogged Packets - Distributed Design

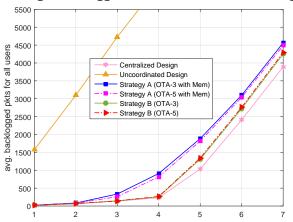


Figure: Average backlogged packets for $\{N, N_B, K, N_T, N_R\} = \{3, 2, 12, 4, 2\}$ evaluated over 250 slots with $f_d T_s \approx 0.01$



Section 6

Conclusions



Conclusions

- We studied cross layer problem of designing transmit and receive beamformers based on the number of residual packets
- Since the problem is nonconvex, we solve the problem iteratively by solving convex subproblems in each iteration
- We also proposed a practical way of implementing the precoder design in a distributed manner by solving the KKT expressions
- Extensions of the proposed work in time-correlated fading scenario with limited number of information exchange cycle is also presented



Questions!

