

Capacity of Multi-antenna Gaussian Channels (I. E. Telatar, 1999)

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In this presentation I will talk about the capacity of a single-user Gaussian channel with multiple receiving and/or transmitting antennas (also known as **MIMO** channel).

I will talk about 3 cases:

- Deterministic channel
- Random i.i.d. ergodic channel
- *Bonus*: multi-user case

The notation adopted is halfway between the one used during the course and the one from the original paper.

Let's denote with t the number of transmitting and with r the number of receiving antennas.

We will consider the classical linear model, where $\mathbf{x} \in \mathbb{C}^t$ is the transmitted vector and $\mathbf{y} \in \mathbb{C}^r$ is the received vector, $H \in \mathbb{C}^{r \times t}$ is the complex channel matrix and $\mathbf{n} \in \mathbb{C}^r$ is the noise

$$\mathbf{y} = H\mathbf{x} + \mathbf{n}$$

Notation II

We assume noise at different receivers to be independent and normalized, i.e. $E[\mathbf{x}\mathbf{x}^\dagger] = I_r$.

The dag (\dagger) notation is used for the conjugate-transpose operation.

We have the power constraint

$$E[\mathbf{x}^\dagger \mathbf{x}] = E[\text{tr}(\mathbf{x}\mathbf{x}^\dagger)] = \text{tr}(E[\mathbf{x}\mathbf{x}^\dagger]) \leq P$$

A complex random vector (r.v.e.) $\mathbf{x} \in \mathbb{C}^n$ is said to be Complex Gaussian if its real extension $\hat{\mathbf{x}} \triangleq \begin{bmatrix} \text{Re}\{\mathbf{x}\} \\ \text{Im}\{\mathbf{x}\} \end{bmatrix} \in \mathbb{R}^{2n}$ is Gaussian.

The r.v.e. \mathbf{x} will have *mean* and *covariance* respectively $\mu = E[\mathbf{x}]$ and $Q = \text{Cov}(Q) = E[(\mathbf{x} - \mu)(\mathbf{x} - \mu)^\dagger]$

Defining for a complex matrix A

$$\hat{A} = \begin{bmatrix} \text{Re}(A) & -\text{Im}(A) \\ \text{Im}(A) & \text{Re}(A) \end{bmatrix}$$

we say that a Complex Gaussian r.v.e. is *circularly symmetric* if

$$\text{Cov}(\hat{\mathbf{x}}) = E[(\hat{\mathbf{x}} - \hat{\mu})(\hat{\mathbf{x}} - \hat{\mu})^T] = \frac{1}{2}\hat{Q}$$

pdf of circularly symmetric Complex Gaussian

The pdf of a circularly symmetric Complex Gaussian is

$$\begin{aligned} \gamma_{\mu, Q} &= \det(\pi \hat{Q})^{-\frac{1}{2}} e^{-(\hat{x} - \hat{\mu})^T \hat{Q} (\hat{x} - \hat{\mu})} \\ &= \det(\pi Q)^{-1} e^{-(x - \mu)^\dagger Q (x - \mu)} \end{aligned}$$

Lemma 1

The following properties hold:

$$C = AB \iff \hat{C} = \hat{A}\hat{B} \quad (1a)$$

$$C = A + B \iff \hat{C} = \hat{A} + \hat{B} \quad (1b)$$

$$C = A^\dagger \iff \hat{C} = \hat{A}^T \quad (1c)$$

$$C = A^{-1} \iff \hat{C} = \hat{A}^{-1} \quad (1d)$$

$$\det(\hat{A}) = |\det(A)|^2 = \det(AA^\dagger) \quad (1e)$$

$$z = x + y \iff \hat{z} = \hat{x} + \hat{y} \quad (1f)$$

$$y = Ax \iff \hat{y} = \hat{A}\hat{x} \quad (1g)$$

$$\operatorname{Re}\{x^\dagger y\} = \hat{a}^T \hat{y} \quad (1h)$$

Properties and Lemmas II

Corollary 1

A matrix $U \in \mathbb{C}^{n \times n}$ is unitary if and only if $\hat{U} \in \mathbb{R}^{2n \times 2n}$ is orthonormal.

Corollary 2

If $Q \in \mathbb{C}^{n \times n}$ is positive semi-definite, then so is $\hat{Q} \in \mathbb{R}^{2n \times 2n}$.

Lemma 2

Suppose the complex r.v.e. $\mathbf{x} \in \mathbb{C}^n$ is zero-mean and satisfies $E[xx^\dagger] = Q$. Then the differential entropy of \mathbf{x} satisfies $h(\mathbf{x}) \leq \log \det(\pi e Q)$ if and only if \mathbf{x} is circularly symmetric Complex Gaussian with

$$E[xx^\dagger] = Q$$

In other words, circularly symmetric Complex Gaussian r.v.e. are entropy maximizers for the class of complex random vectors.

Lemma 3

If $\mathbf{x} \in \mathbb{C}^n$ is a circularly symmetric Complex Gaussian then so is $\mathbf{y} = A\mathbf{x}$ for any $A \in \mathbb{C}^{m \times n}$.

Lemma 4

If \mathbf{x} and \mathbf{y} are independent circularly symmetric Complex Gaussians, then $\mathbf{z} = \mathbf{x} + \mathbf{y}$ is also circularly symmetric Complex Gaussian.



E. Telatar, “Capacity of multi-antenna gaussian channels,” *European Transactions on Telecommunications*, vol. 10, no. 6, pp. 585–595, 1999.