# Multiuser Detection in Massive Spatial Modulation MIMO With Low-Resolution ADCs

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Abstract—In this paper, we research the multiuser detection (MUD) in a new Spatial Modulation Multiple-Input-Multiple-Output (SM-MIMO) system, whose Base Station (BS) is equipped with massive Radio-Frequency (RF) chains with low-resolution Analog-to-Digital Convertors (ADCs), and the User Equipments (UEs) have multiple Transmit Antennas (TAs) but single RF chain. In the uplink, UEs transmit their data by the Cyclic-Prefix Single-Carrier (CP-SC) SM technique. The key is how to design practical MU detectors to handle the severely quantized measurements and antenna correlations. Coherent detection is focused, so a Least-Square (LS) channel estimator is designed to acquire the the channel side information (CSI) at the Receiver (CSIR). Then, we firstly solve the MUD problem by the Sum-Product-Algorithm (SPA) on a clustered factor graph (FG) whose variable nodes correspond to the transmitted vectors from the UEs. Next, based on the Central Limit Theorem (CLT) and Taylor expansions, the SPA detector (SPAD) is simplified as a new low-complexity Message Passing De-Quantization Detector (MPDQD), which exploits both the structured sparsity and prior probability distribution of the transmitted signal. By utilizing the clustering technique, damping mechanism, and Analog Spatial Filtering (ASF), the robustness of MPDQD is improved significantly. Simulation results show that MPDQD outperforms the linear detectors, works steadily under strong channel correlations, and even performs similarly as its counterpart in the un-quantized SM-MIMO.

Index Terms—Analog spatial filtering, massive MIMO, low-resolution ADC, message passing de-quantization, multiuser detection, spatial modulation, structured sparsity.

## I. INTRODUCTION

ASSIVE Spatial Modulation Multiple-Input-Multiple-Output (SM-MIMO) [1]–[6] is a new multiuser (MU) system, where the Base Station (BS) is equipped with massive ( $N_t$ ) antenna chains, and every User Equipment (UE) has multiple transmit antennas (TAs) but single Radio-Frequency (RF)

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chain. Through harvesting extremely high MIMO multiplexing and diversity gains [7], the rates, reliability, and power efficiency of the uplink transmission can be improved significantly [3], [8]–[11]. Moreover, by introducing multiple TAs (i.e. additional spatial constellation [12], [13]), the spectral efficiency can be increased without sacrificing the advantages of single-RF chain [2] at the UEs. Finally, hardware implementations of SM-MIMO have been reported in [14]–[16].

However, massive SM-MIMO has a potential drawback that its massive RF chains at the BS could incur high circuit power consumption, which would offset the benefits of "massive" (e.g., the decrease of the transmission power [9], [10]). High circuit-power problem has been noticed in massive MIMO [11], [17], and handled by low-resolution Analog-to-Digital Convertors (ADCs) in our prior works [18], [19]. In this paper, we introduce low-resolution ADCs into massive SM-MIMO to decrease the circuit power consumption at the BS. Similar as [3], the Cyclic-Prefix Single-Carrier (CP-SC) technique [20] is utilized to handle the frequency-selective channels. Finally, we construct a new MU CP-SC massive SM-MIMO system with low-resolution ADCs over frequency-selective channels (called as *massive SM-MIMO* from then on).

However, the new problem is how the BS fulfills the Multiuser Detection (MUD) based on the severely quantized measurements and under the antenna correlations at both the BS and UEs. We focus on the coherent detection, so a Least-Square (LS) channel estimator is proposed to acquire the Channel Side Information at the Receiver (CSIR). For the un-quantized SM-MIMO, there exist bunch of detectors, such as Maximum Likelihood (ML) detector [4], [12], Minimum Mean Square Error (MMSE) detector [12], [13], and message passing detector [3]. But they are not suitable for the quantized massive SM-MIMO due to the following three reasons. Firstly, current detectors failed to consider the quantization effects which cannot be omitted when low-resolution ADCs are used. Secondly, their computational complexities become extraordinarily high due to the curse of dimensionality of massive SM-MIMO (i.e. the numbers of users, BS antennas, and subcarriers are all huge). For example, MMSE has to solve large system of linear equations for every input SC symbol. The message passing detector [3] could be cumbersome because it has to maintain and update a large number of messages. Finally, some of them are not robust to the channel correlations. For example, our numerical results indicate that the performance of MMSE degrades quickly with the increase of the UE antenna correlations.

Consequently, new multiuser detectors have to be constructed for the quantized massive SM-MIMO. In this paper,

we firstly solve the MUD problem by the Sum-Product-Algorithm (SPA) on a clustered factor graph (FG) [3], [21]– [23] whose variable nodes correspond to the transmitted vectors from the UEs. However, the SPA detector (SPAD) requires high computational complexity and message passing overhead [24]–[26]. Therefore, it is simplified as a new Message Passing De-Quantization Detector (MPDQD) based on the Central Limit Theorem (CLT) and Taylor expansions [23], [25], [26]. MPDQD has the following four advantages. First, it calls for only matrix-vector multiplication and small-scaled matrix inversions as its most complex operations. Moreover, we show that the matrix inversions can be removed by exploiting the channel correlation statistics. Second, MPDQD exploits both the structured sparsity and prior probability distribution function (pdf) of the transmitted signal. Third, it is quite robust to the quantization losses. Finally, it is also robust to the antenna correlations at the BS and UEs after adopting the clustering technique [21]-[23], damping mechanism [3], [27], and Analog Spatial Filtering (ASF) [28]. Simulation results show that MPDQD outperforms the linear detector and MPDQ [25], and even performs similarly as its counterpart in the un-quantized SM-MIMO. It works steadily even under extremely high channel correlations. In addition, in comparison to massive MIMO [10], [11], massive SM-MIMO shows more superior detection performance, and is more robust to the channel estimation (CE) errors. "To be massive" (making the BS antennas much more than the total TAs of the UEs) is effective to combat with the CSIR errors and quantization losses.

For clarity, our contributions are summarized as follows.

- i): We research the multiuser detection in massive SM-MIMO with low-resolution ADCs and over correlated frequency-selective channels. Based on our survey, this has never been discussed.
- ii): We develop a low-complexity detector (MPDQD) for the above system. MPDQD is actually a vectorized version of MPDQ [25], and firstly handles the structured-sparse signal reconstruction from the quantized measurements (e.g., a special case is the MUD problem in the quantized SM-MIMO).
- iii): We accelerate the matrix-vector multiplications and matrix-inversions in MPDQD, and improve the stability of MPDQD by the damping [3], [27] and ASF [28] techniques. Moreover, a group-wised ASF is proposed to decrease the hardware complexity of the full-scaled ASF.
- iv): We construct a new MMSE detector by combining the modified MMSE for the quantized MIMO [29] with the stage-wised MMSE for the un-quantized SM-MIMO [12], [13].

The remainder of this paper is organized as follows. Section II describes the system model of massive SM-MIMO. Section III discusses the CE, and MUD under the CE errors. Section IV develops the stage-wised MMSE detector, and develops two message-passing detectors based on MPDQ [25], and the SPA on a clustered FG. In Section V, MPDQD is constructed. Finally, simulation results are presented in Section VI, and the paper is concluded by Section VII.

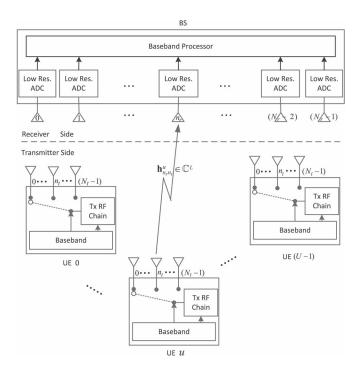


Fig. 1. System configuration of massive SM-MIMO with low-resolution ADCs and over frequency-selective fading channels.

Notation:  $[N] = \{0, 1, \dots, N-1\}$  where N is a positive integer.  $\mathcal{CN}(\bar{\mu}, \bar{\Sigma})$  indicates the complex Gaussian distribution with mean vector  $\bar{\mu}$  and covariance matrix  $\bar{\Sigma}$ .  $\mathbf{0}_M$  is an allzero vector with dimension M, and  $\mathbf{0}_{M \times N}$  is an allzero matrix with size  $M \times N$ .  $\mathbf{I}_N$  is an identity matrix with dimension  $N \times N$ . For a matrix  $\mathbf{B}$ ,  $\mathrm{tr}(\mathbf{B})$  is the trace,  $B_{mn}$  is the (m,n)th element, and  $\mathbf{B}_{\Omega}$  contains the columns of  $\mathbf{B}$  whose indexes come from the integer set  $\Omega$ .  $b_n$  or  $\mathbf{b}(n)$  is the nth element of the vector  $\mathbf{b}$ .  $\mathbf{b}^*$  is the component-wise conjugate of  $\mathbf{b}$ .  $\|\mathbf{b}\|_P = (\sum_{n=0}^{N-1} |b_n|^p)^{1/p}$ .  $\mathbf{b}_{\Omega}$  contains the entries of  $\mathbf{b}$  whose indexes come from  $\Omega$ . a:b indicates the integers increasing from a to b.  $\Re(\cdot)$  and  $\Im(\cdot)$  extract the real and imaginary parts of a complex vector or matrix.  $\mathrm{mod}(x,y) = x - \lfloor x/y \rfloor y$  where  $y \neq 0$  and  $\lfloor \cdot \rfloor$  is the flooring function.  $(\cdot)^T$  and  $(\cdot)^H$  indicate transpose and conjugate transpose, respectively.

## II. SYSTEM MODEL

In Section II-A, we mainly introduce the system configuration of massive SM-MIMO. Then, the signal transmitting and receiving processes are described in Section II-B and C, respectively.

# A. System Configuration of Massive SM-MIMO With Low-Resolution ADCs

Fig. 1 shows the system configuration of massive SM-MIMO. At the transmitter side, there exists U UEs. Every UE has  $N_t$  TAs but only one RF chain. At the receiver side, the BS possesses  $N_r$  antennas chains with low-resolution ADCs [18], [19]. For  $n_r \in [N_r]$ ,  $n_t \in [N_t]$  and  $u \in [U]$ ,  $\mathbf{h}_{n_r n_t}^u \in \mathbb{C}^L$  indicates the multipath channel response between the  $n_r$ th BS antenna and the  $n_t$ th TA of the uth UE, where L is the number of channel taps.  $\bar{\mathbf{h}}_{n_r n_t}^u(l)$  as the

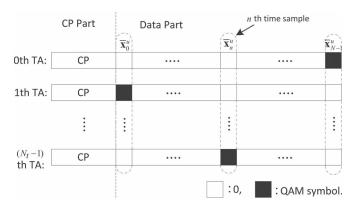


Fig. 2. Example of the SC symbols transmitted by the uth UE;  $\overline{\mathbf{x}}_n^u \in \mathbb{C}^{N_t}$  ( $n \in [N]$ ) is the transmitted vector during the nth time sample. Every column hasone and only one non-zero element, so the transmitted signal has structured sparsity.

 $(n_r, n_t)$ th element, is the *l*th MIMO channel tap between the BS and the *u*th UE. It is modeled as

$$\bar{\mathbf{H}}_{I}^{u} = \mathbf{R}_{rx}^{u\frac{1}{2}} \tilde{\mathbf{H}}_{I}^{u} \mathbf{R}_{tx}^{u\frac{1}{2}} \tag{1}$$

where  $\mathbf{R}^u_{rx}$  and  $\mathbf{R}^u_{tx}$  are the receive and transmit correlation matrices at the uth UE, and  $\tilde{\mathbf{H}}^u_l \in \mathbb{C}^{N_r \times N_t}$  is a complex Gaussian matrix with independent and identically distributed (i.i.d.) elements  $\sim \mathcal{C}\mathcal{N}(0,1/L)$ . In (1), we assume the correlation matrices for the L MIMO channel taps are the same, and  $\operatorname{tr}(\mathbf{R}^u_{rx}) = N_r$  and  $\operatorname{tr}(\mathbf{R}^u_{rx}) = N_t$ .

#### B. Transmitting Operations at the UEs

In the uplink, UEs transmit data-bits to the BS simultaneously through the CP-SC SM technique [20]. Without loss of generality, we only focus on the transmission procedures of the uth UE during one SC symbol. Fig. 2 shows an example of the SC symbols transmitted by the  $N_t$  TAs. There, one SC symbol is composed by the CP part and data part which contain L and N time samples, respectively. The CP part is a repetition of the last L time samples of the data part. Therefore, we only focus on the generation of the data part based on the principles of CP-SC SM [20].

Base on [20], the data part can transmit  $N \log_2(N_t M)$  databits by jointly exploiting the spatial and Quadrature Amplitude Modulation (QAM) constellations of SM [2], [12], [13]. The total data-bits are denoted

$$\mathbf{b}^{u} = \begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{b}_{0}^{u} \dots \mathbf{b}_{n}^{u} \dots \mathbf{b}_{N-1}^{u} \end{bmatrix}$$
 (2)

where  $\mathbf{b}_n^u \in \{0,1\}^{\log_2(N_t M)}$  is a binary row vector. At the  $n \in [N]$ th time-sample,  $\mathbf{b}_n^u$  is extracted from  $\mathbf{b}^u$ . Its first  $\log_2 N_t$  bits is mapped as the index of the chosen active TA  $(j_n^u)$ , and the remaining  $\log_2 M$  bits are mapped as a QAM symbol  $(q_n^u)$  belonging to a M-QAM alphabet

$$\mathbb{A} = \left\{ \mathbb{I}_{k_R} + i \mathbb{I}_{k_I}, k_R, k_I \in [\sqrt{M}] \right\}. \tag{3}$$

In (3),  $\mathbb{I}_k$  is the  $k \in [\sqrt{M}]$ th element of the Pulse Amplitude Modulation (PAM) alphabet  $\mathbb{I} = A \times \{\pm (2c+1), c \in [\sqrt{M}/2]\}$ , where M is the QAM modulation order and A is a power normalization factor (e.g.,  $1/\sqrt{10}$  for 16-QAM).  $q_n^u$  will be

transmitted by the active TA (i.e.,  $j_n^u$ th TA). Finally,  $\mathbf{b}_n^u$  is mapped as

$$\bar{\mathbf{x}}_n^u = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & \dots & 0 & q_n^u \\ 0 & \dots & 0 & \uparrow & 0 & \dots & 0 \end{bmatrix}_{N_t \times 1}^T, \quad (4)$$

which is the signal vector transmitted by the *u*th UE at the *n*th time-sample. Note that silent TAs transmit 0s. All the *U* UEs can be discussed similar as the *u*th UE above.

Consequently, by stacking the (4) over u,

$$\bar{\mathbf{x}}_n = \begin{bmatrix} \left(\bar{\mathbf{x}}_n^0\right)^T & \dots & \left(\bar{\mathbf{x}}_n^u\right)^T & \dots & \left(\bar{\mathbf{x}}_n^{U-1}\right)^T \end{bmatrix}^T$$
 (5)

is formulated as the signal vector transmitted by all the U UEs at nth time-sample. Finally, by assembling the (5) over n together and adding CP, we can obtain

$$\underbrace{\left[\underline{\bar{\mathbf{x}}_{N-L} \dots \bar{\mathbf{x}}_{N-1}}}_{\text{CP matrix}} \vdots \underline{\bar{\mathbf{x}}_{0} \dots \bar{\mathbf{x}}_{n} \dots \bar{\mathbf{x}}_{N-1}}_{\text{Data matrix}}\right] \tag{6}$$

as the signal matrix transmitted by the  $UN_t$  TAs of the U UEs during one SC symbol. The  $(uN_t + n_t)$ th row of (6) is the SC symbol transmitted by the  $n_t$ th TA of the uth UE.

#### C. Receiving Operations at the BS

In this paper, ADC sampling happens at the baseband. After removing CP, at the *n*th time-sample, the BS receives

$$\bar{\mathbf{y}}_n = Q_c \underbrace{\left(\sum_{l=0}^{L-1} \bar{\mathbf{H}}_l \bar{\mathbf{x}}_{\bmod (n-l,N)} + \bar{\mathbf{w}}_n\right)}_{\bar{\mathbf{z}}_n} \tag{7}$$

where  $\bar{\mathbf{z}}_n$  is the signal before quantization,  $\bar{\mathbf{H}}_l = [\sqrt{p_s^0}\bar{\mathbf{H}}_l^0 \sqrt{p_s^1}\bar{\mathbf{H}}_l^1 \dots \sqrt{p_s^{U-1}}\bar{\mathbf{H}}_l^{U-1}]$  is the lth MIMO channel tap between the  $N_r$  BS antennas and the U UEs ( $p_s^u$  is the signal transmission power of the uth UE),  $\bar{\mathbf{w}}_n \sim \mathcal{CN}(\mathbf{0}_{N_r}, \sigma_c^2 \mathbf{I}_{N_r})$  is the complex Gaussian noise with variance  $\sigma_c^2$ .  $Q_c(\cdot)$  is a component-wise complex quantizer defined as

$$Q_c(\mathbf{c}) = \left\{ Q\left(c_k^R\right) + iQ\left(c_k^I\right) \right\}_{k=0}^{T-1},\tag{8}$$

where  $\mathbf{c} \in \mathbb{C}^T$  is an arbitrary complex vector with  $c_k = c_k^R + ic_k^I$  as its kth element, and  $Q(\cdot)$  is the midrise b-bit uniform quantizer [30]

$$r = Q(x) = \begin{cases} \operatorname{sign}(x) \cdot \left( \left\lfloor \frac{|x|}{\Delta} \right\rfloor \Delta + \frac{\Delta}{2} \right), & |x| < S + \frac{\Delta}{2}, \\ \operatorname{sign}(x) \cdot S, \text{ otherwise.} \end{cases}$$
 (9)

where r is the quantization measurement of a real number  $x \in \mathbb{R}$ ,  $\Delta$  is the quantization step, and  $S = (2^{b-1} - 1/2)\Delta$  is the saturation level (ADC saturation happens once  $|x| \ge S + \Delta/2$ ). Note that  $Q(\cdot)$  comes from the low-resolution ADCs at the BS.

Furthermore, the upper and lower quantization boundaries of r in (9) can be recovered by a de-quantization operation

$$Q^{-1}(r) = \begin{cases} \left(S - \frac{\Delta}{2}, +\infty\right), & \text{if } r = S\\ \left(-\infty, -S + \frac{\Delta}{2}\right], & \text{if } r = -S\\ \left(r - \frac{\Delta}{2}, r + \frac{\Delta}{2}\right], & \text{otherwise.} \end{cases}$$
(10)

By stacking (7) over  $n \in [N]$ , we have

$$\bar{\mathbf{y}} = Q_c \left( \underbrace{\bar{\mathbf{H}} \bar{\mathbf{x}} + \bar{\mathbf{w}}}_{\bar{\mathbf{z}}} \right) \tag{11}$$

where  $\bar{\mathbf{y}} = [\bar{\mathbf{y}}_0^T \ \bar{\mathbf{y}}_1^T \ \dots \ \bar{\mathbf{y}}_{N-1}^T]^T$ ,  $\bar{\mathbf{z}} = [\bar{\mathbf{z}}_0^T \ \bar{\mathbf{z}}_1^T \ \dots \ \bar{\mathbf{z}}_{N-1}^T]^T$ ,  $\bar{\mathbf{x}} = [\bar{\mathbf{x}}_0^T \ \bar{\mathbf{x}}_1^T \ \dots \ \bar{\mathbf{x}}_{N-1}^T]^T$ ,  $\bar{\mathbf{x}} = [\bar{\mathbf{w}}_0^T \ \bar{\mathbf{w}}_1^T \ \dots \ \bar{\mathbf{w}}_{N-1}^T]^T$ , and the equivalent channel matrix  $\bar{\mathbf{H}} \in \mathbb{C}^{N_r N \times U N_r N}$  is

where **0** is  $\mathbf{0}_{N_r \times UN_t}$ . During MUD, the Signal-to-Noise Ratio (SNR) is defined as  $SNR_{\text{MUD}} = 10\log_{10}(P_s/\sigma_c^2)$  where  $P_s = \sum_u p_s^u$ .

Finally, we discuss how to determine the quantization step  $\Delta$  based on (7). Because  $Q_c(\cdot)$  is a component-wise operation, we focus on the  $n_r$ th elements of  $\bar{\mathbf{y}}_n$  and  $\bar{\mathbf{z}}_n$ , which are denoted as  $\bar{\mathbf{y}}_n^{n_r}$  and  $\bar{\mathbf{z}}_n^{n_r}$ . In this paper,  $\Delta$  is chosen to minimize the mean square error (MSE)  $E(|\bar{\mathbf{y}}_n^{n_r} - \bar{\mathbf{z}}_n^{n_r}|^2)$ . Based on the channel model (1),  $\bar{z}_n^{n_r}$  is a Gaussian random variable  $\sim \mathcal{CN}(0, \sum_u r_s^u p_s^u + \sigma_c^2)$ , where  $r_s^u$  is the square of the  $l_2$ -norm of the  $n_r$ th row of  $\mathbf{R}_{\mathrm{rx}}^{u_1}$ . Based on [18], [31],  $\Delta$  should be set as  $\Delta_s = \sqrt{(\sum_u r_s^u p_s^u + \sigma_c^2)/2}\Delta^*$ , where  $\Delta^*$  is the optimal quantization step for the uniform ADC whose input signal is standard Gaussian noise  $\sim \mathcal{N}(0,1)$  [31]. For example,  $\Delta^*$  is 0.3352 for the 4-bit ADC. However, the above strategy could be not optimal. Because the un-quantized measurements  $\bar{\mathbf{z}}_n$  are correlated, vector-quantization [30] can be considered to decrease the quantization loss. This is left as our future research topic.

# III. CHANNEL ESTIMATION AND MULTIUSER DETECTION IN MASSIVE SM-MIMO

We focus on coherent detection, so the channels  $\{\mathbf{h}_{n_rn_t}^u\}_{n_r,n_t}^u$  should be firstly estimated before MUD. In this paper, Least-Square (LS) channel estimator is designed based on the principles of the uplink MU CE in Long-Term Evolution (LTE) [32]. The core idea is: different UEs transmit their own training sequences which are generated by cyclic-shifting a common sequence with different steps, and their channel estimations are separated out in the time domain by the BS.

At the transmitter side, without loss of generality, the uth UE is focused. Its channel training sequence is generated by cyclic right-shifting a common-sequence  $\mathbf{t} \in \mathbb{C}^{UK}$  ( $p_t$  is the training power, and  $\mathbf{t}$  is defined latter) with uK steps ( $K \ge L$ ), and repeating the last L symbols of the shifted sequence as the CP. During the stage of CE, this pilot sequence is transmitted alternatively by the  $N_t$  TAs (from the 0th to ( $N_t - 1$ )th TA) because the UE has only one RF chain [2], [13].

Without loss of generality, we focus on the CE at the  $n_r$ th BS antenna after the U UEs have transmitted their training-sequences by their  $n_t$ th TAs. After removing CP and based on the basic properties of the circular convolution [7], the received measurements are

$$\mathbf{r}_{n_r} = Q_c \left( \sqrt{p_t} \mathbf{T} \bar{\mathbf{h}}_{n_r n_t} + \mathbf{n}_{n_r} \right) \tag{13}$$

where  $\bar{\mathbf{h}}_{n_r n_t} = \left[ (\bar{\mathbf{h}}_{n_r n_t}^0)^T (\bar{\mathbf{h}}_{n_r n_t}^1)^T \cdots (\bar{\mathbf{h}}_{n_r n_t}^{U-1})^T \right]^T$  with  $\bar{\mathbf{h}}_{n_r n_t}^u = \left[ (\mathbf{h}_{n_r n_t}^u)^T \mathbf{0}_{(K-L)}^T \right]^T$ ,  $\mathbf{n}_{n_r} \sim \mathcal{C} \mathcal{N}(\mathbf{0}, \sigma_c^2 \mathbf{I}_{UK})$  is the noise during CE, and T is a  $UK \times UK$ -sized circulant Toeplitz matrix generated from t. The SNR during CE is defined as  $SNR_{\text{CE}} = 10\log_{10}(UKp_t/\sigma_c^2)$ . Based on Section II-C, the quantization step  $\Delta$  in (13) is chosen as  $\Delta_t = \sqrt{(p_t U + \sigma_c^2)/2}\Delta^*$ .

(13) can be transformed as

$$\mathbf{r}_{n_r} = \sqrt{p_t} \mathbf{T} \bar{\mathbf{h}}_{n_r n_t} + \mathbf{n}_{n_r} + \mathbf{n}_{n_r}^q \tag{14}$$

where  $\mathbf{n}_{n_r}^q = (\mathbf{r}_{n_r} - \sqrt{p_t} \mathbf{T} \bar{\mathbf{h}}_{n_r n_t} - \mathbf{n}_{n_r})$  is the quantization noise. After treating  $\mathbf{n}_{n_r}^q$  as the Gaussian noise  $\sim \mathcal{CN}(\mathbf{0}, \Delta_t^2/6\mathbf{I}_{UK})$ , the least-square (LS) estimation of  $\bar{\mathbf{h}}_{n_r n_t}$  is approximated as

$$\hat{\mathbf{h}}_{n_r n_t} = \frac{1}{\sqrt{p_t}} (\mathbf{T}^H \mathbf{T})^{-1} \mathbf{T}^H \mathbf{r}_{n_r}.$$
 (15)

Based on [33], **t** is designed to satisfy the orthogonality constraint  $\mathbf{T}^H \mathbf{T} = U K \mathbf{I}_{UK}$ .

Based on the relationship between  $\bar{\mathbf{h}}_{n_r n_t}$  and  $\mathbf{h}_{n_r n_t}^u$ , we know that  $\mathbf{h}_{n_r n_t}^u$  can be estimated as the uK: (uK+L-1)th entries of  $\hat{\mathbf{h}}_{n_r n_t}$ , which are denoted as

$$\hat{\mathbf{h}}_{n_r n_t}^u = \mathbf{h}_{n_r n_t}^u + \mathbf{e}_{n_r n_t}^u, \tag{16}$$

where the CE error  $\mathbf{e}^u_{n_r n_t}$  is approximately distributed as  $\mathcal{CN}(0, \sigma_e^2 \mathbf{I}_{UK})$  with  $\sigma_e^2 = (\sigma_c^2 + \Delta_t^2/6)/(UKp_t)$ . Consequently, in (11), the channel matrix  $\hat{\mathbf{H}}$  is approximated as  $\hat{\mathbf{H}} = \text{TOEP}(\{\sqrt{p_s^u}\hat{\mathbf{h}}^u_{n_r n_t}\}^u_{n_r,n_t})$ . The CE error matrix is  $\mathbf{E} = \mathbf{H} - \hat{\mathbf{H}} = \text{TOEP}(\{-\sqrt{p_s^u}\mathbf{e}^u_{n_r n_t}\}^u_{n_r,n_t})$ . Then, (11) is converted as

$$\bar{\mathbf{y}} = Q_c(\hat{\mathbf{H}}\bar{\mathbf{x}} + \underbrace{\mathbf{E}\bar{\mathbf{x}} + \bar{\mathbf{w}}}_{\hat{\mathbf{w}}}) = Q_c(\underbrace{\hat{\mathbf{H}}\bar{\mathbf{x}} + \hat{\mathbf{w}}}_{\bar{\mathbf{z}}})$$
(17)

 $\hat{\mathbf{H}}$  has similar structure as  $\bar{\mathbf{H}}$  except replacing  $\{\mathbf{H}_l\}_l$  as their estimations  $\{\hat{\mathbf{H}}_l\}_l$ . Note that  $\hat{\mathbf{H}}_l = [\sqrt{p_s^0}\hat{\mathbf{H}}_l^0\sqrt{p_s^1}\hat{\mathbf{H}}_l^1\dots\sqrt{p_s^{U-1}}\hat{\mathbf{H}}_l^{U-1}]$  where  $\hat{\mathbf{H}}_l^u$  contains  $\hat{\mathbf{h}}_{n_rn_t}^u(l)$  as its  $(n_r,n_t)$ -th element. Based on the statistics of the CE errors, the interference  $\mathbf{E}\bar{\mathbf{x}}$  is approximated as Gaussian noise  $\sim \mathcal{CN}(\mathbf{0},L\sigma_e^2P_s\mathbf{I}_{N_rN})$ . Consequently,  $\hat{\mathbf{w}}\sim \mathcal{CN}(\mathbf{0},\hat{\sigma}_c^2\mathbf{I}_{UN_tN})$  where  $\hat{\sigma}_c^2=L\sigma_e^2P_s+\sigma_c^2$ .

In the future, more advanced channel estimators could be developed to handle the quantization effects of the low-resolution ADCs based on the AMP-like algorithms [23], [25], [26]. The inference from CE errors  $(E\bar{x})$  is actually correlated with the transmitted signal (x). It is simply treated as Gaussian noise in this paper, but could be handled more efficiently by the joint CE and MUD technique [34].

# IV. STAGE-WISED MMSE DETECTOR AND TWO DETECTORS BASED ON EXISTING MESSAGE PASSING ALGORITHMS

In Section III-A, we develop a stage-wised MMSE detector for the quantized SM-MIMO. In Section III-B, two message passing detectors are constructed based on MPDQ [25], and the SPA on a clustered FG [21].

A. Stage-Wised Minimum Mean Square Error Detector
Based on Section II-B,

$$\Omega = \{ nUN_t + uN_t + j_n^u \}_{n \in [N], u \in [U]}$$
(18)

and the QAM vector  $\bar{\mathbf{x}}_{\Omega} = [q_0^0 \ q_0^1 \ \cdots \ q_0^{U-1} \ \cdots \ q_{N-1}^0 \ q_{N-1}^1 \ \cdots \ q_{N-1}^U]_{UN}^T$  represent the positions and values of the non-zero elements of  $\mathbf{x}$ , respectively. To recover  $\{\mathbf{b}^u\}_{u=0}^U$ ,  $\Omega$  and  $\mathbf{x}_{\Omega}$  should be estimated firstly. This problem is solved as follows.

At first, (17) is reformulated as

$$\bar{\mathbf{y}} = \hat{\mathbf{H}}\bar{\mathbf{x}} + \hat{\mathbf{w}} + \hat{\mathbf{w}}^q \tag{19}$$

where  $\hat{\mathbf{w}}^q = \bar{\mathbf{y}} - \hat{\mathbf{H}}\bar{\mathbf{x}} - \hat{\mathbf{w}}$  is the quantization noise.

Next, by combining the modified MMSE for the quantized MIMO [29] with the stage-wised MMSE for the un-quantized SM-MIMO [2], [13], a new Minimum Mean Square Error (MMSE) detector is constructed for the quantized massive SM-MIMO. It contains three stages named as *support detection*, *signal reconstruction*, and *bit-stream recovery*, which are designed to estimate the support set  $\Omega$ , reconstruct the signal vector  $\mathbf{x}_{\Omega}$ , and recover the bit-streams  $\{\mathbf{b}^u\}_{u=0}^{U-1}$ , respectively. Finally, the algorithm details are listed as follows.

i) Support Detection: Firstly,  $\bar{\mathbf{x}}$  is estimated as  $\hat{\bar{\mathbf{x}}} = G_{\text{MMSE}}\bar{\mathbf{y}}$ , where

$$\mathbf{G}_{\text{MMSE}} = \arg\min_{\mathbf{G}} \|\bar{\mathbf{x}} - \mathbf{G}\bar{\mathbf{y}}\|_{2}^{2}$$
 (20)

is the Minimum Mean Square Error (MMSE) operator. Unfortunately, (20) has no closed-form expression due to the nonlinear quantization operation. A modified MMSE has been constructed for quantized MIMO system in [29]. Similar as [29], after adopting a series of approximations on the second-order statistical relationships between the quantization noise, and the un-quantized and quantized measurements,  $G_{\rm MMSE}$  is approximated as

$$\mathbf{G}_{\mathrm{MMSE}} \approx \mathbf{R}_{\bar{\mathbf{x}}\bar{\mathbf{x}}}\hat{\mathbf{H}}^{H} \left( (1 - \rho_{q}) \mathbf{R}_{\bar{\mathbf{z}}\bar{\mathbf{z}}} + \rho_{q} \mathbf{R}_{\bar{\mathbf{z}}\bar{\mathbf{z}}}^{D} \right)^{-1}, \tag{21}$$

where  $\rho_q$  is the distortion factor [29] whose values under different ADC resolutions are tabulated in [31],  $\mathbf{R}_{\bar{\mathbf{z}}\bar{\mathbf{z}}} = \hat{\sigma}_c^2 \mathbf{I}_{N_r N} + \hat{\mathbf{H}} \mathbf{R}_{\bar{\mathbf{x}}\bar{\mathbf{x}}} \hat{\mathbf{H}}^H$ , and  $\mathbf{R}_{\bar{\mathbf{z}}\bar{\mathbf{z}}}^D$  is a diagonal matrix containing the main diagonal entries of  $\mathbf{R}_{\bar{\mathbf{z}}\bar{\mathbf{z}}}$ .

To accelerate the massive matrix inversion in (21),  $\mathbf{R}_{\bar{\mathbf{z}}\bar{\mathbf{z}}}^D$  is approximated as  $(\hat{\sigma}_c^2 + P_s)\mathbf{I}_{N_rN}$ . Based on the above approximation,  $\mathbf{R}_{\bar{\mathbf{x}}\bar{\mathbf{x}}} = 1/N_t\mathbf{I}_{UN_tN}$ , and the Woodbury identity [35], (21) is simplified as

$$\mathbf{G}_{\mathrm{MMSE}} \approx \left( (1 - \rho_q) \hat{\mathbf{H}}^H \hat{\mathbf{H}} + \left( \hat{\sigma}_c^2 + \rho_q P_s \right) N_t \mathbf{I}_{UN_t N} \right)^{-1} \hat{\mathbf{H}}^H, \quad (22)$$

which can be decomposed as  $NUN_t \times UN_t$  sized matrix-inversions by exploiting the block-Toeplitz structure of  $\hat{\mathbf{H}}$ .

Secondly, we estimate  $\Omega$  based on  $\hat{\mathbf{x}}$ . Without loss of generality, we focus on  $j_n^u$ . Based on (5) and the structure of  $\bar{\mathbf{x}}$  in (11),  $\bar{\mathbf{x}}_n^u$  is approximated as  $\hat{\bar{\mathbf{x}}}_n^u = \hat{\bar{\mathbf{x}}}(nUN_t + uN_t : nUN_t + uN_t + N_t - 1)$ . Then,  $j_n^u$  is estimated as  $\hat{j}_n^u = \arg\max_{j \in [N_t]} |\hat{\bar{\mathbf{x}}}_n^u(j)|$  as [2], [13].

Consequently,  $\Omega$  is approximated as

$$\hat{\Omega} = \left\{ nUN_t + uN_t + \hat{j}_n^u \right\}_{n \in [N], u \in [U]}.$$
(23)

ii) Signal Reconstruction: Based on  $\hat{\Omega}$ , (19) is shrank as

$$\bar{\mathbf{y}} \approx \hat{\mathbf{H}}_{\hat{\mathbf{O}}} \bar{\mathbf{x}}_{\hat{\mathbf{O}}} + \bar{\mathbf{w}} + \bar{\mathbf{n}}^q$$
(24)

where " $\approx$ " appears because  $\hat{\Omega}$  could be not equal to  $\Omega$  precisely. Similar as (21), the approximated MMSE estimation of  $\bar{\mathbf{x}}_{\hat{\Omega}}$  is

$$\hat{\mathbf{x}}_{\hat{\mathbf{\Omega}}} = \left( (1 - \rho_q) \hat{\mathbf{H}}_{\hat{\mathbf{\Omega}}}^H \hat{\mathbf{H}}_{\hat{\mathbf{\Omega}}} + \left( \hat{\mathbf{\sigma}}_c^2 + \rho_q P_s \right) \mathbf{I}_{UN} \right)^{-1} \hat{\mathbf{H}}_{\hat{\mathbf{\Omega}}}^H \bar{\mathbf{y}}$$
(25)

which is the final estimation of  $\bar{\mathbf{x}}_{\Omega}$ .

iii) Bit-Stream Recovery: With  $u \in [U]$  and  $n \in [N]$ ,  $j_n^u$  has been estimated  $\hat{j}_n^u$ , and  $q_n^u$  can be approximated as  $\hat{q}_n^u$ , which is the QAM hard decision of the (nU+u)th entry of  $\hat{\mathbf{x}}_{\hat{\Omega}}$ . At last, the hard decisions of  $\{\mathbf{b}^u\}_{u \in [U]}$  can be recovered from  $\{\hat{j}_n^u, \hat{q}_n^u\}_{u,n}$  by reverting the SM mapping procedures in Section II-B.

However, the MMSE detector has the following four drawbacks. First, at the stage of Support Detection, (22) calls for  $NUN_t \times UN_t$  sized matrix-inversions (the block-Toeplitz structure of  $\hat{\mathbf{H}}$  has been exploited), which could be problematic in hardware implementation when  $UN_t$  is relatively large (e.g., 16 pointed out by [8]). Second, (25) is equivalent to solving large system of linear equations, where  $\hat{\mathbf{H}}_{\hat{\mathbf{O}}}^H\hat{\mathbf{H}}_{\hat{\mathbf{O}}}$  has to be formulated explicitly, and a  $UN \times UN$ -sized Cholesky decomposition has to be executed. To make matters worse, this cumbersome operation has to be repeated for every input SC symbols because  $\Omega(\hat{\Omega})$  would change quickly. Third, MMSE loses its effectiveness once the total number of TAs at the UEs  $(UN_t)$  is larger than the number of BS antennas  $(N_r)$ . Under this case, (11) is under-determined, so (22) fails to provide reliable signal estimation for *support detection*. Fourth, numerical results in Section VI-B show that MMSE is sensitive to the antenna correlations. The second drawback can be circumvented by simply jumping over the stage of Signal Reconstruction. However, this incurs performance loss (see Section VI-B), and the simplified MMSE still suffer from the other three drawbacks.

#### B. MUD Based on Existing Message-Passing Algorithms

In this subsection, we solve the MUD problem in the quantized SM-MIMO by two existing message passing algorithms (i.e., MPDQ [25], and the SPA on a clustered FG [21]).

Firstly, we transform (17) into the real-domain. We define:  $\mathbf{y}_{n} = \left[ \mathfrak{R}(\bar{\mathbf{y}}_{n}^{T}) \ \mathfrak{I}(\bar{\mathbf{y}}_{n}^{T}) \right]^{T}, \mathbf{H}_{l} = \left[ \sqrt{p_{s}^{0}} \mathbf{H}_{l}^{0} \ \sqrt{p_{s}^{1}} \mathbf{H}_{l}^{1} \ \dots \ \sqrt{p_{s}^{U-1}} \mathbf{H}_{l}^{U-1} \right]$  with  $\mathbf{H}_{l}^{u} = \begin{bmatrix} \mathfrak{R}(\hat{\mathbf{H}}_{l}^{u}) & -\mathfrak{I}(\hat{\mathbf{H}}_{l}^{u}) \\ \mathfrak{I}(\hat{\mathbf{H}}_{l}^{u}) & \mathfrak{R}(\hat{\mathbf{H}}_{l}^{u}) \end{bmatrix}, \ \mathbf{x}_{n} = \left[ (\mathbf{x}_{n}^{0})^{T} \ \dots \ (\mathbf{x}_{n}^{u})^{T} \ \dots \right]$   $(\mathbf{x}_{n}^{U-1})^{T} \mathbf{w} \quad \mathbf{x}_{n}^{u} = \left[ \mathfrak{R}((\bar{\mathbf{x}}_{n}^{u})^{T}) \ \mathfrak{I}((\bar{\mathbf{x}}_{n}^{u})^{T}) \right]^{T}, \ \text{and} \ \mathbf{w}_{n} = \mathbf{x}_{n}^{U-1} \mathbf{x}_{n}^{U-1}$ 

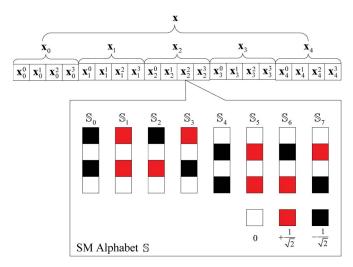


Fig. 3. Structured sparse signal x under N = 5, U = 4,  $N_t = 2$ , and QPSK (M=4). It basic unit  $\mathbf{x}_n^u$   $(n \in [N])$  and  $u \in [U]$  takes values from the SM alphabet  $\mathbb{S}$  (show in the box). In  $\mathbb{S}$ , every element (e.g.,  $\mathbb{S}_k$  with  $k \in [N_t M]$ ) has only two non-zero elements (red or black blocks) at the same positions of its upper and lower halves.

 $\left[\Re(\hat{\mathbf{w}}_n^T)\Im(\hat{\mathbf{w}}_n^T)\right]^T(\hat{\mathbf{w}}_n \text{ is a sub-vector containing the } nN_r:((n+1)N_r-1)\text{-th elements of } \hat{\mathbf{w}})$ . Based on the above definitions, (17) is converted as

$$\mathbf{y} = Q(\mathbf{H}\mathbf{x} + \mathbf{w}),\tag{26}$$

where  $\mathbf{y} = [\mathbf{y}_0^T \ \mathbf{y}_1^T \ \dots \ \mathbf{y}_{N-1}^T]^T$ , **H** is constructed by replacing  $\{\bar{\mathbf{H}}_l\}_{l\in[L]}$  in (12) as  $\{\mathbf{H}_l\}_{l\in[L]}$ ,  $\mathbf{x}=[\mathbf{x}_0^T \mathbf{x}_1^T \dots \mathbf{x}_{N-1}^T]^T$ ,  $\mathbf{w}=[\mathbf{w}_0^T \mathbf{w}_1^T \dots \mathbf{w}_{N-1}^T]^T$  is the real-valued Gaussian noise with variance  $\sigma^2 = \hat{\sigma}_c^2/2$ .

Consequently, the MUD problem is about how to recover x based on y. Similar as our previous work [18], it can be solved by MPDQ [25] after treating the entries of  $\mathbf{x}$  as i.i.d. random variables distributed as

$$p_X(x) = \left(1 - \frac{1}{N_t}\right)\delta(x) + \frac{1}{N_t\sqrt{M}} \sum_{k \in [\sqrt{M}]} \delta(x - \mathbb{I}_k), \quad (27)$$

where  $\delta(\cdot)$  is the Dirac function, and  $\mathbb{I}_k$  is the kth element of the PAM alphabet  $\mathbb{I}$  defined in (3).

Unfortunately, MPDQ has the following two drawbacks which limit its application in SM-MIMO. First, through (27), it has exploited only the sparsity but not the structure sparsity of  $\mathbf{x}$ . We claim  $\mathbf{x}$  has structured sparsity due to the following reasons. Based on the expressions of  $\mathbf{x}$  and  $\mathbf{x}_n$ , one can find that  $\{\mathbf{x}_n^u\}_{n\in[N]}^{u\in[U]}$  are the basic units of  $\mathbf{x}$ . Because  $\bar{\mathbf{x}}_n^u$  (4) is a all-zero vector except the M-QAM symbol at the  $j_n^u$ th position, and its real and imaginary parts share the same non-zero position  $j_n^u$ ,  $\mathbf{x}_n^u$  has only two non-zero elements at the positions  $j_n^u$  and  $(N_t + j_n^u)$ . Therefore, the non-zero entries of **x** are structured organized (see a simple example in Fig. 3). This is quite different to the common sparse signals [25], [36] whose non-zero entries scatter randomly at any positions of the signal vector. So we claim x is structured sparse signal. Second, MPDQ [25] is sensitive to the UE antenna correlations, under which divergence phenomenon has been observed in Section VI-E (see Fig. 11).

Interestingly, one UE with  $N_t$  TAs can be viewed as  $N_t$ single-antenna UEs sharing correlated channels. [22], [37], [38]

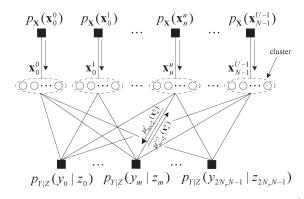


Fig. 4. Factor graph for the MUD problem (26) after clustering  $\{\mathbf{x}_n^u\}_{n\in[N]}^{u\in[U]}$  as independent variable nodes (dashed ellipses). Black blocks indicate the factor nodes and solid lines represent the edges between the factor and variable nodes. The bidirectional messages on the edges are given as (30), (31).

showed that grouping or saying clustering technique was quite useful in designing robust iterative detection algorithms. The core idea is that the signals transmitted from the correlated UEs should be processed as a whole. Therefore,  $\mathbf{x}_n^u$  is processed as whole, and treated as a random vector  $\sim$ 

$$p_{\mathbf{X}}(\mathbf{x}_{n}^{u}) = \frac{1}{N_{t}M} \sum_{k \in [N,M]} \delta(\mathbf{x}_{n}^{u} - \mathbb{S}_{k}), \qquad (28)$$

where

is the  $k = (j_n^u M + m)$ th  $(j_n^u \in [N_t]$  and  $m \in [M]$ ) element of the SM alphabet  $\mathbb S$  (see the example in Fig. 3). Under the terminology of FG [21],  $\{\mathbf{x}_n^u\}_{n\in[N]}^{u\in[U]}$  are clustered as independent variable nodes. Then, the MUD problem (26) is described by the FG in Fig. 4. Note clustered FG was proposed by [21], and has been used in the un-quantized SM-MIMO [3]. Here, it is extended to the quantized SM-MIMO by modifying the posterior pdfs  $\{p_{Y|Z}(y_m|z_m)\}_{m\in[N_rN]}$  (on the factor nodes) as  $\frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi}\sigma}\int_{t\in Q^{-1}(y_m)}\exp\left(-\frac{(t-z_m)^2}{2\sigma^2}\right)dt$ , where  $y_m$  and  $z_m$  are the mth

element of y and z = Hx, respectively.

Based on the above clustered FG, SPAD is developed for the quantized massive SM-MIMO as follows. Firstly, the MMSE estimation of  $\mathbf{x}_n^u$  is

$$\mathbf{x}_{n,\text{MMSE}}^{u} = \sum_{\mathbf{x}_{n}^{u} \in \mathbb{S}} \mathbf{x}_{n}^{u} p_{\mathbf{X}_{n}^{u} | \mathbf{Y}} \left( \mathbf{x}_{n}^{u} | \mathbf{y} \right). \tag{29}$$

Unfortunately,  $p_{\mathbf{X}_n^u|\mathbf{Y}}(\mathbf{x}_n^u|\mathbf{y})$  is difficult to be obtained explicitly because high-dimensional summations are needed [21], [23]. Nevertheless, it can be approximately calculated by the SPA iterations:

$$\mu_{m \leftarrow n}^{t}(\mathbf{x}_{n}^{u}) \propto p_{\mathbf{X}}(\mathbf{x}_{n}^{u}) \prod_{m' \neq m} \mu_{m' \rightarrow n}^{t}(\mathbf{x}_{n}^{u})$$

$$\tag{30}$$

$$\mu_{m \to n}^{l+1}(\mathbf{x}_n^u) \propto \sum_{\substack{\mathbf{x}_n^{u'} \in \mathbb{S}, \\ n \neq n, u' \neq u}} m_{Y|Z}(y_m|z_m) \prod_{\substack{n' \neq n, \\ u' \neq u}} \mu_{m \leftarrow n'}^{l}\left(\mathbf{x}_{n'}^{u'}\right)$$
(31)

$$p_{\mathbf{X}_{n}^{u}|\mathbf{Y}}^{t}(\mathbf{x}_{n}^{u}|\mathbf{y}) \propto p_{\mathbf{X}}(\mathbf{x}_{n}^{u}) \prod_{m} \mu_{m \to n}^{t}(\mathbf{x}_{n}^{u}),$$
(32)

where the iteration index "t" starts from 0,  $\{\mu_{m\to n}^0(\cdot)\}_{m,n}^u$  are initialized as 1, "n" represents the variable node  $\mathbf{x}_n^u$ . After the termination of the SPA iteration (e.g., the maximum iteration number is reached, or the reconstructed signals from two adjacent iterations change slowly), (32) is substituted into (29) to obtain the final estimation of  $\mathbf{x}_n^u$ .

However, SPAD still involves high-dimensional summations in (31), and has to maintain and update  $o(N_rUNL)$  messages, which are rather cumbersome (the message passing detector in [3] has similar problems). Therefore, similar as the stage-wised MMSE detector, SPAD is also not suitable for massive SM-MIMO. Fortunately, a new low-complexity detector (MPDQD) will be developed in the next section.

### V. Message Passing De-Quantization DETECTOR FOR MASSIVE SM-MIMO

This section is the core of this paper. A new message passing de-quantization detector (MPDQD) is developed in Section V-A, and its quick version is given in Section V-B. In Section V-C, damping mechanism and analog spatial filtering are used to improve the stability of MPDQD. Finally, the computational complexity of MPDQD is analyzed in Section V-D.

#### A. Message Passing De-Quantization Detector

By exploiting the CLT and Taylor expansions [23], [25], [26], SPAD in Section IV can be simplified as a new MPDQD, whose computational complexity is low because it involves matrixvector multiplications and small-scaled matrix-inversions, and possesses only  $o((N_r + U)N)$  messages. The core ideas of the above simplification are rather straightforward. Based on CLT and Taylor expansions, (31) is approximated as a Gaussian function. Consequently, only mean and variance are transformed between variable and factor nodes. Furthermore, based on Taylor expansions, the messages from the one factor (variable) nodes to its connected variable (factor) nodes are not distinguished anymore. So the total number of messages is decreased significantly. Derivation is omitted here due to space constraints. Please refer to [23] and [25] for more details. Finally, the algorithm details of MPDQD are listed as follows.

- 1) Initialization: Set the iteration index t as 0. For all  $m \in$  $[2N_rN]$ ,  $n \in [N]$ , and  $u \in [U]$ , set  $\hat{s}_m(-1) = 0$ , and initialize the mean vector and covariance matrix of  $\mathbf{x}_n^u$  as  $\hat{\mathbf{x}}_n^u(0) = \mathbf{0}_{2N_t}$  and  $\Sigma_n^{x,u}(0) = 1/2N_t \mathbf{I}_{2N_t}$ , respectively.
  - 2) *Iteration*: For each  $m \in [2N_rN]$ , compute:

$$\tau_m^p(t) = \sum_{n,u} (\mathbf{h}_{mn}^u)^T \Sigma_n^{x,u}(t) \mathbf{h}_{mn}^u$$
 (33)

where  $(\mathbf{h}_{mn}^u)^T$  is the mth row of the sub-matrix  $\mathbf{H}_{2(nU+u)N_t:2(nU+u+1)N_t-1}$ , and "(t)" indicates the tth iteration. Calculate:

$$\hat{p}_{m}(t) = \sum_{n} (\mathbf{h}_{mn}^{u})^{T} \hat{x}_{n}^{u}(t) - \tau_{m}^{p}(t) \hat{s}_{m}(t-1)$$
(34)

$$\hat{s}_m(t) = \frac{1}{\tau_w^p(t) + \sigma^2} \left( \mathbb{E} \left( v_m | v_m \in Q^{-1}(y_m) \right) - \hat{p}_m(t) \right)$$
(35)

$$\tau_m^s(t) = \frac{1}{\tau_m^p(t) + \sigma^2} \left( 1 - \frac{\text{var}\left(v_m | v_m \in Q^{-1}(y_m)\right)}{\tau_m^p(t) + \sigma^2} \right), \quad (36)$$

where the expectation and variance are evaluated with respect to a Gaussian random variables  $v_m \sim \mathcal{N}(\hat{p}_m(t), \tau_m^p(t) + \sigma^2)$ .  $Q^{-1}(\cdot)$  is the de-quantization operation (10).

Compute:

$$\Sigma_n^{r,u}(t) = \left[\sum_m \tau_m^s(t) \mathbf{h}_{mn}^u \left(\mathbf{h}_{mn}^u\right)^T\right]^{-1}.$$
 (37)

For each pair of  $u \in [U]$  and  $n \in [N]$ , calculate

$$\hat{r}_{n}^{u}(t) = \hat{x}_{n}^{u}(t) + \sum_{n}^{r,u}(t) \sum_{m} \hat{s}_{m}(t) \mathbf{h}_{mn}^{u}$$
 (38)

$$\hat{x}_{n}^{u}(t+1) = \mathbb{E}\left(\mathbf{x}_{n}^{u}|\hat{r}_{n}^{u}(t), \Sigma_{n}^{r,u}(t)\right)$$
(39)

$$\hat{r}_{n}^{\mu}(t) = \hat{x}_{n}^{\mu}(t) + \sum_{n}^{r,u}(t) \sum_{m} \hat{s}_{m}(t) \mathbf{h}_{mn}^{\mu}$$
(38)  

$$\hat{x}_{n}^{\mu}(t+1) = \mathbf{E}(\mathbf{x}_{n}^{\mu}|\hat{r}_{n}^{\mu}(t), \sum_{n}^{r,u}(t))$$
(39)  

$$\sum_{n}^{r,u}(t+1) = var(\mathbf{x}_{n}^{u}|\hat{r}_{n}^{\mu}(t), \sum_{n}^{r,u}(t)).$$
(40)

(39) and (40), the mean vector and variance matrix of  $\mathbf{x}_n^u$ , are evaluated with respect to

$$p\left(\mathbf{x}_{n}^{u}|\hat{r}_{n}^{u}(t), \Sigma_{n}^{r,u}(t)\right) \propto \mathcal{N}\left(\mathbf{x}_{n}^{u}; \hat{r}_{n}^{u}(t), \Sigma_{n}^{r,u}(t)\right) p_{\mathbf{X}}\left(\mathbf{x}_{n}^{u}\right), \tag{41}$$

where  $p_{\mathbf{X}}(\mathbf{x}_n^u)$  is the signal prior pdf (28).

3) Termination Judgment: Set t = t + 1. If the termination condition

$$\frac{\|\hat{x}(t) - \hat{x}(t-1)\|_{2}}{\|\hat{x}(t)\|_{2}} \le tol \tag{42}$$

 $(\hat{\mathbf{x}}(t))_{2(nU+u)N_t:2(nU+u+1)N_t-1}$  is  $\hat{\mathbf{x}}_n^u(t)$  is satisfied, set G=t (G records the number of iterations before termination), and output  $\hat{\mathbf{x}}(G)$  as the final estimation of  $\mathbf{x}$ ; otherwise, go to step 2) for the next iteration.

By substituting (28) into (39)–(41), we have

$$\hat{x}_n^u(t+1) = \sum_{k \in [MN_t]} p_k \mathbb{S}_k \tag{43}$$

$$\sum_{n}^{X,u} (t+1) = \sum_{k} p_{k} S_{k} S_{k}^{T} - \hat{x}_{n}^{u} (t+1) \left( \hat{x}_{n}^{u} (t+1) \right)^{T}, \quad (44)$$

where  $p_k = \phi(\mathbb{S}_k; \hat{\mathbf{r}}_n^u(t), \Sigma_n^{r,u}(t))/P$  with  $\phi(\mathbf{s}; \mu, \Sigma) = \exp(-1/2)$  $2(\mathbf{s}-\mu)^T \Sigma^{-1}(\mathbf{s}-\mu)$ , and a normalization factor P= $\sum_{k\in[M]} \phi(\mathbb{S}_k; \hat{\mathbf{r}}_n^u(t), \Sigma_n^{r,u}(t))$ . Similar as the *Bit-stream Recovery* in MMSE, one can recover the hard-decisions of  $\{\mathbf{b}^u\}_{u\in[U]}$ based on  $\hat{\mathbf{x}}(G)$  (details are omitted here due to space constraints). Until now, MPDQD is constructed by (33), (44).

MPDQD can be easily extended to the un-quantized system, which can be viewed as a special quantized system with ADC resolution  $b \to \infty$  bits. Under the unquantized scenario, the dequantization function  $Q^{-1}(\cdot)$  is degraded as  $\delta(\cdot)$ . Then, (35), (36) are changed as

$$\hat{s}_m(t) = \frac{y_m - \hat{p}_m(t)}{\tau_m^p(t) + \sigma^2}$$
 (45)

$$\tau_m^s(t) = \frac{1}{\tau_m^p(t) + \sigma^2}.$$
 (46)

At the same time, other equations of MPDQD need no modifications.

At last, we briefly comment MPDQD as follows. Firstly, (33)–(41) are routinely obtained by exerting the vectorized SPA-to-AMP simplification [23] on the SPAD (29)–(32). They represent a vectorized version of MPDQ [25], and degrade as (10)–(16) in [25] when the vector size  $2N_t$  is 1. Through adjusting the signal prior pdf  $p_{\mathbf{X}}(\cdot)$  in (41), they can easily applied to recover structured-sparse signals (e.g., block-sparse signal with intra-block correlations [39]) from the quantized measurements. In contrast, MPDQ can only handle the classical sparse signals [25], [36]. That is why, compared to MPDQ, MPDQD is more suitable for our MUD problem where the signal to be reconstructed (x) has structured sparsity. This conclusion is further validated by our numerical results in Section VI.

Secondly,  $\{\hat{s}_m(t), \tau_m^s(t)\}_{m \in [N_rN]}$  in (35), (36) are the messages on the factor nodes in the lower half of Fig. 4. They are updated based on the messages  $\{\hat{\mathbf{x}}_n^u(t), \Sigma_n^{x,u}(t)\}_{n\in[N]}^{u\in[U]}$  from the variable nodes. (39), (40) can be explained similarly. The message updating operations are simple, and involve only two matrix vector multiplications in (34) and (38), and small-scaled matrix inversions in (37). The latter are further accelerated in Section V-B. Different to MPDQ [25], the messages of MPDQD on the variable nodes are mean-vectors and covariance-matrices. This is because MPDQD is simplified from the SPA on a clustered FG whose UN variable nodes indicate  $2N_t$ -dimensional vectors (i.e.  $\{\mathbf{x}_n^u\}_{n\in[N]}^{u\in[U]}$ ), but MPDQ [25] is simplified from the SPA on the classical FG whose  $2UN_tN$ variable nodes represent single variables (i.e.  $\{x_k\}_{k \in [2UN_tN]}$ , and  $x_k$  is the kth entry of x). So the message updating of MPDQD is more complex than that of MPDQ [25]. For example, (33) is much more complex than its counterpart in [25], and (37) involves many  $2N_t \times 2N_t$ -sized matrix inversions.

Thirdly, similar as the classical Bernoulli-Gaussian sparsity inducing pdf [36], (28) is actually a SM structured sparsity inducing pdf. This point can be intuitively explained as follows. The signal prior pdf (28) is exploited in (39), (40) which are calculated as (43), (44). (43) indicates that the reconstructed  $\{\hat{\mathbf{x}}_n^u(t+1)\}_{n\in[N]}^{u\in[U]}$  are prone to peak at  $\{\mathbb{S}_k\}_{k\in[N_tM]}$ . Therefore,  $\hat{\mathbf{x}}(t)$  would have similar structure as  $\mathbf{x}$ . That is why we say the structured sparsity has been exploited by MPDQD.

Finally, MPDQD takes the influences of the UE antenna correlations into consideration through (37), so it is robust to the latter. In contrast, MPDQ is quite sensitive to the UE antenna correlations. Please refer to Section VI-E for the numerical results.

#### B. Quick Version of MPDQD

Because even small-scaled matrix-inversions are undesired [8], (37) is simplified by exploiting the channel correlation statistics as follows.

Without loss of generally, we specially consider the *u*th UE. Based on the structure of **H** in (26),  $\mathbf{h}_{mn}^{u} \in \mathbb{R}^{2N_t}$  is either an all-zero vector or the  $l \in [L]$ th multipath channel tap between the uth UE and the mth BS antenna. In this paper,  $\mathbf{h}_{mn}^{u}(\mathbf{h}_{mn}^{u})^{T}$  is replaced as

$$E\left(\mathbf{h}_{mn}^{u}\left(\mathbf{h}_{mn}^{u}\right)^{T}\right) = \begin{cases} \mathbf{0}_{2N_{t} \times 2N_{t}}, & m \notin \Phi_{n} \\ \mathbf{R}^{u}, & m \in \Phi_{n} \end{cases}$$
(47)

where  $\Phi_n$  is the index set of the non-zero rows of the sub-matrix  $\mathbf{H}_{2(nU+u)N_t:2(nU+u+1)N_t-1}$ , and  $\mathbf{R}^u$  is the covariance matrix of the non-zero  $\mathbf{h}_{mn}^{u}$ . For example, if  $\mathbf{R}_{tx}^{u}$  in (1) is real-valued,  $\mathbf{R}^{u} \approx \frac{p_{s}^{u}}{2L} \begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{R}_{tx}^{u} & \mathbf{0}_{N_{t} \times N_{t}} \\ \mathbf{0}_{N_{t} \times N_{t}} & \mathbf{R}_{tx}^{u} \end{bmatrix} + \frac{p_{s}^{u} \sigma_{e}^{2}}{2} \mathbf{I}_{2N_{t}}$ .

$$\frac{p_s^u}{2L} \begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{R}_{tx}^u & \mathbf{0}_{N_t \times N_t} \\ \mathbf{0}_{N_t \times N_t} & \mathbf{R}_{tx}^u \end{bmatrix} + \frac{p_s^u \sigma_e^2}{2} \mathbf{I}_{2N_t}$$

By substituting (47) into (37), we have

$$\Sigma_n^{r,u}(t) \approx \frac{1}{\sum_{m \in \Phi_n} \tau_m^s} (\mathbf{R}^u)^{-1}.$$
 (48)

Because the inversion of  $\mathbf{R}^u$  can be pre-computed and prestored, the matrix-inversions in MPDQD have been removed successfully. Simulation results in Section VI-D show that this quick MPDQD generally performs as well as its original version, and loses its effectiveness only when the BS antennas are strongly correlated with each other. Interestingly, under the i.i.d. case, the above quick-version of MPDQD is exactly the method given in [1].

#### C. Increasing the Stability of MPDQD by Damping and ASF

MPDQD could diverge due to the aggressive message updating in (39) and (40), and the correlations among the BS measurements. The first type of divergence can be solved by the well-known damping technique [3], [27] which changes (39) and (40) as

$$\begin{split} \hat{\chi}_n^{\boldsymbol{u}}(t+1) &= \lambda \hat{\chi}_n^{\boldsymbol{u}}(t) + (1-\lambda) \mathrm{EXP}\left(\mathbf{x}_n^{\boldsymbol{u}} | \hat{r}_n^{\boldsymbol{u}}(t), \boldsymbol{\Sigma}_n^{\boldsymbol{r},\boldsymbol{u}}(t)\right) \\ \boldsymbol{\Sigma}_n^{\boldsymbol{x},\boldsymbol{u}}(t+1) &= \lambda \boldsymbol{\Sigma}_n^{\boldsymbol{x},\boldsymbol{u}}(t) + (1-\lambda) \mathrm{VAR}\left(\mathbf{x}_n^{\boldsymbol{u}} | \hat{r}_n^{\boldsymbol{u}}(t), \boldsymbol{\Sigma}_n^{\boldsymbol{r},\boldsymbol{u}}(t)\right). \end{split}$$

where  $\lambda \geq 0$  is a damping parameter.

In this paper, we deal the second divergence by de-correlating the BS measurements through ASF [28]. Without loss of generality, we focus on the  $n \in [N]$ th time-sample.  $\bar{\mathbf{z}}_n \in \mathbb{C}^{N_r}$  in (7) is the measurement vector before ADC sampling. Due to the antenna correlation at the BS, its entries are not independent, and their covariance matrix is  $\mathbf{R}_{\bar{\mathbf{z}}_n\bar{\mathbf{z}}_n} = \mathbf{E}_{\mathbf{x},\mathbf{H}}(\bar{\mathbf{z}}_n\bar{\mathbf{z}}_n^T)$ , which is approximated as

$$\mathbf{R}_{\bar{\mathbf{z}}_n\bar{\mathbf{z}}_n} \approx \mathbf{R}_{\bar{\mathbf{z}}\bar{\mathbf{z}}} = \sum_{u \in [U]} p_s^u \mathbf{R}_{rx}^u + \sigma_c^2 \mathbf{I}_{N_r}. \tag{49}$$

after omitting the inter-column correlations in H. Therefore,  $\bar{\mathbf{y}}_n = Q_c(\bar{\mathbf{z}}_n)$  in (7) is also a correlated vector, so is  $\mathbf{y}$  in (26). Consequently, the messages output from the factor nodes in the lower half of Fig. 4 are correlated with each other. This causes the instabilities of the message passing algorithms (e.g., divergence of MPDQ is observed in Section VI-E). For the above instability problem, one potential solution is de-correlating the factor nodes, which is achieved by exerting ASF on the  $\bar{\mathbf{z}}_n$  as

Firstly, we calculate the singular value decomposition (SVD) of  $\mathbf{R}_{\bar{\mathbf{z}}\bar{\mathbf{z}}}$  as  $\mathbf{Q}\Lambda\mathbf{Q}^H$ , where  $\mathbf{Q}$  is a unitary matrix and  $\Lambda$  is a diagonal matrix. Then, by left-multiplying  $\mathbf{Q}^H$  with  $\bar{\mathbf{z}}_n$ , we obtain a new measurement vector

$$\tilde{\mathbf{z}}_n = \mathbf{Q}^H \bar{\mathbf{z}}_n \tag{50}$$

whose covariance matrix is defined as  $\mathbf{R}_{\tilde{\mathbf{z}}_n \tilde{\mathbf{z}}_n} = \mathbf{E}_{\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{H}}(\tilde{\mathbf{z}}_n \tilde{\mathbf{z}}_n^T)$ , and can be approximated as  $\Lambda$ . Therefore,  $\tilde{\mathbf{z}}_n$  is an approximately un-correlated vector, so is the new quantized measurement vector  $\tilde{\mathbf{y}}_n = Q_c(\tilde{\mathbf{z}}_n)$ . Because  $\bar{\mathbf{z}}_n$  corresponds to the analog signal before ADC quantization, the matrix-vector multiplication in (50) has to be implemented in the analog domain, and is exactly the ASF operation in [28]. After ASF, the MUD will be executed as follows. (17) is modified by replacing  $\bar{\mathbf{y}}_n$  as  $\tilde{\mathbf{y}}_n$ , and  $\hat{\mathbf{H}}_l$  as  $\mathbf{Q}\hat{\mathbf{H}}_l$ . Then, the modified equation is transformed into the real domain as (26). Finally, MPDQD is executed to

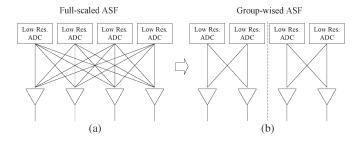


Fig. 5. (a) Full-scaled ASF [28]. (b) Group-wised ASF. Every line implicitly contains a phase shifter and Variable Gain Amplifier (VGA).

TABLE I
COMPLEXITIES OF THE MOST COMPUTATION-INTENSIVE
STEPS AMONG MPDQD AND MMSE

| MPDQD | (33)             | (34) and (38)            | (37)             |
|-------|------------------|--------------------------|------------------|
| flops | $o(LNUN_rN_t^2)$ | $o(NUN_tN_r)$            | $o(LNUN_rN_t^2)$ |
| MMSE  | (22)             | (25)                     | -                |
| flops | $o(NU^3N_t^3)$   | $o(LN^2N_rU^2 + U^3N^3)$ | -                |

recover **x**. Simulation results in Section VI-E validate that, after adopting ASF (50), MPDQD can work steadily even when the BS antennas are strongly correlated with each other.

However, the above ASF scheme requires a  $N_r \times N_r$ -sized analog beamforming (BF) network, which is composed by phase shifters and variable gain amplifiers (VGAs) [28]. Because  $N_r$  is as large as hundreds [10], [11], ASF incurs high hardware cost and energy consumption, which will partially offset the benefits from adopting low-resolution ADCs. Considering this, we propose a group-wised ASF design. The basic idea is simple. The  $N_r$  BS antennas are uniformly divided into K groups, and every group contains  $N_r^g = N_r/K$  antennas (for clarity, we assume  $\text{mod}(N_r, K) = 0$ ). Then, the inter-group antenna correlations are omitted, and the intra-group correlations are diminished by K parallel small-scaled ASF networks. A simple example is given in Fig. 5.

Mathematically, we firstly approximate  $R_{\bar{z}\bar{z}}$  as a blockdiagonal matrix  $\hat{\mathbf{R}}_{\bar{\mathbf{z}}\bar{\mathbf{z}}}$  after retaining only the  $kN_r^g:[(k+1)N_r^g-$ 1]-th (with  $k \in [K]$ ) rows and columns of  $\mathbf{R}_{\bar{\mathbf{z}}\bar{\mathbf{z}}}$ . Then, the SVD of  $\hat{\mathbf{R}}_{\bar{\mathbf{z}}\bar{\mathbf{z}}}$  is calculated as  $\hat{\mathbf{Q}}\hat{\Lambda}\hat{\mathbf{Q}}^H$ . Finally,  $\hat{\mathbf{Q}}$ , which is also a blockdiagonal matrix, is applied into ASF. Therefore, only  $KN_r^g \times$  $N_r^g$ -sized analog BF networks are required. Compared to the original  $N_r \times N_r$ -sized one, they call for  $(1-1/K)N_r^2$  less phaseshifters and VGAs. So the corresponding hardware cost and energy consumption can be decreased significantly especially when K is large (i.e.  $N_r^g$  is small). Our numerical results in Section VI-E indicate that, when  $N_r^g = 8$ , MPDQD with groupsized ASF reaches similar convergence performance as the fullscaled case. Finally, once the correlation matrix (49) is changed, the coefficients of ASF must be adjusted correspondingly. Fortunately, they could be kept constant in a long time period, because (49) is usually changed slowly [40].

# D. Computational Complexity of MPDQD

Based on Table I, the total computational complexity of MPDQD is  $o(G(NUN_rN_t + LNUN_rN_t^2))$ , where G is the number of iterations before MPDQD is terminated (i.e. (42) is satisfied). Based on [25], [26], the convergence speed of the AMP-like algorithms (including MPDQD) are irrelevant to the

problem dimensions. So, once  $\alpha = U/N_r$  is fixed, G keeps almost unchanged no matter how large U and  $N_r$  are. Therefore, the complexity of MPDQD is with the order  $o(NUN_tN_r + LNUN_rN_t^2)$ . Based on [19], [25], the complexity of MPDQ is  $o(NUN_tN_r)$ , which is lower than that of MPDQD. Finally, the complexity of MMSE is  $o(NU^3N_t^3 + LN^2N_rU^2 + U^3N^3)$ , which is much higher than that of both MPDQD and MPDQ.

#### VI. SIMULATION

For clarity, the common system parameters are summarized as follows. The ADC resolution is fixed as b = 4 bits. In one SC symbol, the data length is N = 128, and the CP length is L = 20which is equal to the number of channel taps. The termination parameters in (42) is  $tol = 10^{-3}$ . The channel correlation matrices in (1) are generated as  $\mathbf{R}_{tx}^{u} = \mathrm{R}(\rho_{\mathrm{UE}}, N_{t})$  and  $\mathbf{R}_{rx}^{u} =$  $R(\rho_{BS}, N_t)$ , where  $\rho_{BS}$  and  $\rho_{UE}$  are the common correlation coefficients for all the U UE, and the operator  $R(\rho, N)$  formulates a  $N \times N$ -sized matrix whose (m,n)th element is  $\rho^{|m-n|}$  (0° is defined as 1). Without special note, full-scaled ASF is always adopted in MPDQD when  $\rho_{BS}$  is non-zero. The noise variance  $\sigma_c^2$  is fixed as 1, and the signal transmission powers  $(\{p_s^u\}_{u \in [U]})$ are the same as  $p_s$ , i.e. all the U UEs transmit signals with the same power. During the CE in Section III, K is fixed as 2L. The BERs are obtained by averaging across all the U UEs. The the damping parameter  $\lambda$  is fixed as 0.3.

# A. Robustness of MPDQD to the Channel Estimation Errors and Quantization Losses

MPDQD is tested under three types of CSIRs, i.e. oracle CSIR ("oral. CSIR"), and the CSIRs acquired by the LS estimator under two  $SNR_{CE}$ s (i.e. 20 and 25 dB). The BER lower bound is provided by MPDQD in the un-quantized SM-MIMO. Fixed system parameters are:  $N_r = 128$ ,  $N_t = 4$ , and 16-QAM. U is varied as 16 and 48, which correspond to two interesting cases that  $UN_t < N_r$  and  $UN_t > N_r$ .

Fig. 6 provides two important observations. Firstly, under different CSI precisions, MPDQD still successfully approaches to its lower bound (black curves). The performance gaps are especially small if the "massive" condition (i.e.  $N_r \gg UN_t$ ) is satisfied (e.g., U = 16). For example, when  $SNR_{CE} = 25$  dB, at BER  $10^{-2}$ , the SNR gap is 2.5 dB when U is 48, and decreased as 0.4 dB when U is 16. Under the oracle CSI case, the performance gap between MPDQD and its lower bound are caused only by the 4-bit quantization losses. Surprisingly, its value is very small. For example, compared to the lower bound, MPDQD shows only  $0 \sim 0.6 \ (0 \sim 2)$  dB performance losses when U is 16 (48). In summary, MPDQD is robust to the quantization losses, and "to be massive" is effective to combat with both the CE errors and the quantization noises (a special type of hardware imperfection). The latter is a famous conclusion in massive MIMO [10], [11], and observed again in massive SM-MIMO.

Secondly, the detection performance of MPDQD strongly relies on the CSI quality. Fig. 6 shows that, with the increase of the CSI precision, detection performances of MPDQD is gradually improved. Fortunately, when *SNR*<sub>CE</sub> is moderately high

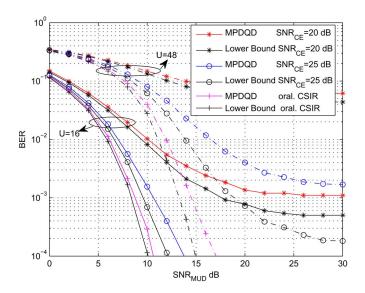


Fig. 6. BER performance of MPDQD under different CSIR accuracies. "Lower Bound" is provided by MPDQD in the un-quantized SM-MIMO.  $SNR_{CE}$  is varied as 20 and 25 dB, and "Oral. CSIR" means CSIR is precisely known by the BS.  $\rho_{BS}=0.5$ ,  $\rho_{UE}=0.3$ , b=4 bits,  $N_r=128$ ,  $N_t=4$ , and 16-QAM. U is varied as 16 (solid lines) and 48 (dash lines) which correspond to  $UN_t < N_r$  and  $UN_t > N_r$ , respectively.

(e.g., 25 dB), the performance lose caused by the CSI errors could be acceptable. For example, we consider  $SNR_{CE} = 25$  dB and BER  $10^{-2}$ . When U is 16 (48), the SNR loss of MPDQD is 0.9 (4.5) dB compared to the oracle CSI case. Consequently, the CE errors are not the bottleneck of massive SM-MIMO with  $N_r \gg UN_t$  and relatively high  $SNR_{CE}$ . Note that high  $SNR_{CE}$  can be reached by increasing the transmission power  $p_t$  or emitting longer training sequences. In the future, channel sparsity [41] could be exploited to decrease the consumption of the training resources.

#### B. MPDQD v.s. MMSE and MPDQ

In the first experiment, we consider the i.i.d. case (i.e.  $\rho_{BS}$  = 0 and  $\rho_{UE} = 0$ ). The fixed parameters are:  $SNR_{CE} = 25$  dB,  $N_r = 128$ ,  $N_t = 4$ , and 16-QAM. U is varied as 16 and 40, which correspond to  $UN_t < N_r$  and  $UN_t > N_r$ , respectively. Fig. 7 shows that MPDQD outperforms both MPDQ and MMSE significantly. When U = 16, MPDQD shows about 3 dB gains over MPDQ. Compared to MMSE, its performance gain keeps increasing with the increase of SNR<sub>MUD</sub>. For example, the gain is 2.7 dB at BER  $10^{-2}$ , and 5 dB at BER  $10^{-3}$ . The performance gains of MPDQD over both MPDQ and MMSE becomes more apparent when U is increased as 40. Actually, when  $N_r < UN_t$ , MMSE almost loses its effectiveness, and stuck at a high "error floor"  $10^{-1.3}$  once  $SNR_{MUD}$  exceeds 15 dB. This is because (19) is under-determined, and (22) fails to provide reliable signal estimation for support detection. In contrast, by exploiting the sparsity of the transmitted signal  $\mathbf{x}$  in (26). MPDO outperforms MMSE, but still shows a high "error floor" at BER  $10^{-2.1}$ . In contrast, MPDQD beats the previous two detectors. At BER  $10^{-2}$ , it has 9 dB SNR gain over MPDQ, which should attribute to the successful exploitation of the structured sparsity of  $\mathbf{x}$ (see Section V-A for more details). Due to the CE errors and quantization losses, MPDQD also shows "error floor" at BER

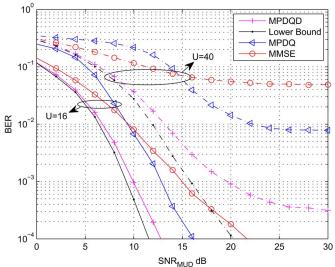


Fig. 7. BER performances of MPDQD, MPDQ and MMSE over the i.i.d. channels ( $\rho_{BS} = \rho_{UE} = 0$ ). "Lower Bound" is provided by MPDQD in the un-quantized SM-MIMO.  $SNR_{CE} = 25$  dB, b = 4 bits,  $N_r = 128$ ,  $N_t = 4$ , and 16-QAM. U is varied as 16 (solid lines) and 40 (dashed lines) which correspond to  $UN_t < N_r$  and  $UN_t > N_r$ , respectively.

 $10^{-3.5}$ . Interestingly, under the case of  $U = 16(N_r > UN_t)$ , MPDQD has only  $0 \sim 1.5$  dB SNR loss compared with its lower bound. Similar as Section VI-A, this observation further validates the power of "massive" in combating with the CE errors and quantization losses.

In the second experiment, we discuss how different detectors are influenced by the antenna correlations at the UE side. MPDQD and MMSE are used. A simplified MMSE ("simp. MMSE") is also considered. It is obtained after jumping over the stage of signal reconstruction in MMSE, and has much lower complexity (refer to Section III-A for more details). MPDQ is not used because it could diverge (see Section VI-E). Fixed parameters are:  $\rho_{BS} = 0.5$ ,  $SNR_{CE} = 25$  dB,  $N_r = 196$ , U = 16,  $N_t = 4$ , and 16-QAM. Fig. 8 provides three important observations. First, compared to MMSE and "simp. MMSE", MPDQD is more robust to antenna correlations. For example, when  $\rho_{\text{IJE}}$  is increased from 0.3 to 0.7, the SNR loss of MPDQD is 1.2 (3.5) dB at BER  $10^{-2}$  ( $10^{-3}$ ). In contrast, at BER  $10^{-2}$ , MMSE and "simp. MMSE" show 3 and 4.5 dB SNR loss, respectively. MMSE shows 10.5 dB losses at BER  $10^{-3}$ , and "simp. MMSE" failed to reach the BER  $10^{-3}$ . Second, MPDQD can approach its performance lower bound even when there exist antenna correlations at the UE side. Third, MMSE outperforms "simp. MMSE", and its performance gain is more apparent when the UE antenna correlation is high. For example, at BER  $10^{-2}$ , the SNR advantage is enlarged from 1.5 dB to 5 dB when  $\rho_{UE}$  is increased from 0.3 to 0.7.

#### C. Spatial Modulation or Not?

[3] validated that SM-MIMO outperformed the classical MU-MIMO system [7]. However, [3] focused on the unquantized case, perfect CSI, and i.i.d. channels. A natural question is: whether the advantages of SM can still be kept under the low-resolution quantization, imperfect CSI, and channel correlation in our paper? To answer this question, the

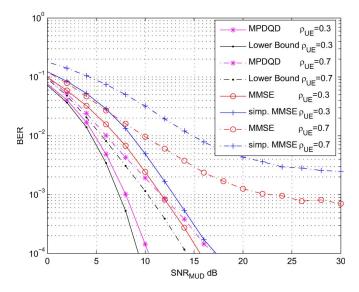


Fig. 8. Robustness to the UE antenna correlations ( $\rho_{\text{UE}}$  is varied as 0.3 and 0.7, which correspond to weak and strong antenna correlations).  $\rho_{\text{BS}} = 0.4$ ,  $SNR_{\text{CE}} = 25 \text{ dB}$ , b = 4 bits,  $N_r = 192$ , U = 16,  $N_t = 4 \text{ and } 16 \text{-QAM}$ .

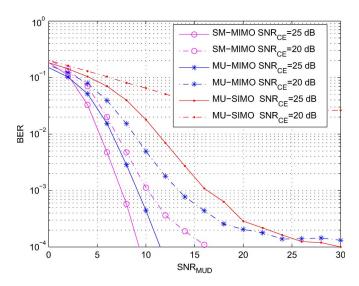


Fig. 9. SM-MIMO with  $N_t = 4$  and QPSK, v.s. two MU MIMOs [7] (i.e. "MU-SIMO" with  $N_t = 1$  and 16-QAM, and "MU-MIMO" with  $N_t = 2$  and QPSK).  $\rho_{\rm BS} = \rho_{\rm UE} = 0.4$ , b = 4 bits,  $N_r = 120$ , and U = 32.

following experiment is designed. Under the same system throughput 4*U* bits-per-channel-usage (bpcu), SM-MIMO with  $\{N_t = 4, QPSK\}$  is compared to two classical MU MIMOs [7] with  $\{N_t = 1, 16\text{-}QAM\}$  and  $\{N_t = 2, QPSK\}$ , respectively. The latter two are named as "MU-SIMO" and "MU-MIMO" based on whether the UE has single RF chain (i.e. whether  $N_t$  is 1). The fixed parameters are: U = 32,  $N_r = 120$ ,  $\rho_{BS} = 0.4$ , and  $\rho_{UE} = 0.4$ . MPDQD is extended to the MU-MIMO case by simply adjusting the signal prior pdf  $p_X(\cdot)$  in (41).

Fig. 9 shows that SM-MIMO outperforms the two MU-MIMOs. For example, when  $SNR_{\rm CE}$  is 25 dB, compared to "MU-SIMO" and "MU-MIMO", its performance gains are 1.3 and 6 dB at BER  $10^{-2}$ , respectively. With the decrease of  $SNR_{\rm CE}$  (i.e. the CSI precision), the BER performances of the two MU-MIMOs degrades much more quickly than that of SM-MIMO. For example, when  $SNR_{\rm CE}$  is decreased from 25 dB to

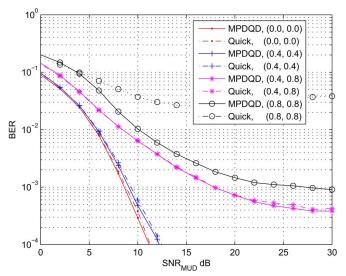


Fig. 10. MPDQD (solid curves) versus its quick version (dash curves) under different degrees of antenna correlations at the BS and UEs. Numbers in the legend indicate different ( $\rho_{BS}$ ,  $\rho_{UE}$ )s.  $SNR_{CE}=25$  dB, b=4 bits,  $N_r=160$ , U=16,  $N_t=4$  and 16-QAM.

20 dB, at BER  $10^{-3}$  ( $10^{-2}$ ), the SNR loss of SM-MIMO is 2.5 (1.7) dB, and the SNR loss of "MU-MIMO" is 4.5 (2.2) dB; the "error floor" of "MU-SIMO" is quickly raised from  $10^{-4}$  to  $10^{-1.6}$ . In summary, compared to the classical MU-MIMO [7], SM-MIMO shows more superior detection performance, and is more robust to CE errors. The latter phenomenon has been observed in the un-quantized SM-MIMO over the flat-fading channels [42], [43].

#### D. MPDQD v.s. Its Quick Version

In this part, MPDQD is compared to its quick version introduced in Section V-B. Fixed parameters are:  $N_r = 128$ , U = 32. Fig. 10 indicates that the quick algorithm approaches to the performance of MPDQD when the BS antenna correlation is relatively weak (e.g.,  $\rho_{BS} = 0.4$  in the "+" and "\*" lines). This conclusion exists even when the UE antenna correlation is extremely high ( $\rho_{UE} = 0.8$  in the star lines). But the quick MPDQD diverges when the BS antenna correlation is strong (e.g.,  $\rho_{BS} = 0.8$  in the circle lines). The effectiveness of the quicken method is also validated under the i.i.d. case (point lines) for which more simulations results can be found in [1]. In the future, we would develop quick MPDQD under extremely strong antenna correlation at the BS.

#### E. Convergence Performance

Both  $\rho_{BS}$  and  $\rho_{UE}$  are increased from 0 to 0.9. Under different values of  $\{\rho_{BS}, \rho_{UE}\}$ , MPDQ and MPDQD are executed 500 times. Their maximum numbers of iterations are limited as 50. "Divergence" is claimed to happen if the final reconstructed signal is not better than the initial all-zero vector, or signal recovery at some specified iteration becomes numerically unstable, i.e. NAN ("Not A Number") is detected during the Matlab simulations.

Fig. 11 provides two important observations. Firstly, clustering technique ensures MPDQD is robust to the antenna

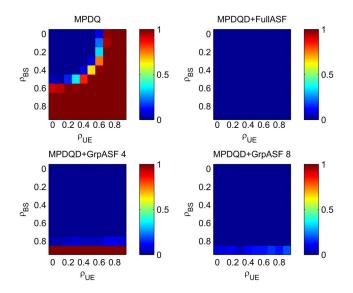


Fig. 11. Divergence probabilities of MPDQ and MPDQD under different different degrees of antenna correlations at the BS and UEs (i.e. different  $\rho_{\text{UES}}$  and  $\rho_{\text{BS}}$ s). Their values are indicated by different colors. "FullASF" means the full-scaled ASF, and "GrpASF #" indicates group-wised ASF with the group-size  $N_r^g = \#$ .  $SNR_{\text{MUD}} = 5$  dB,  $SNR_{\text{CE}} = 25$  dB, b = 4 bits,  $N_r = 128$ , U = 16,  $N_t = 4$  and 16-QAM.

correlations at the UE side. When  $\rho_{BS}=0$ , divergence of MPDQ appears once  $\rho_{UE}$  exceeds 0.5, and happen with probability 1 once  $\rho_{UE}$  is larger than 0.75. In contrast, MPDQD can converge safely even when the antenna correlation at the UE side is extremely strong (e.g.,  $\rho_{UE}=0.9$ ). This is because MPDQD specially considers the channel correlations in (37)–(40).

Secondly, ASF ensures MPDQD to be robust to the antenna correlations at the BS. Moreover, the proposed group-wised ASF could be as effective as the full-scaled one [28], and its hardware complexity is much lower than the latter (see Section V-C). Fig. 11 indicates that, even when the group-size  $N_r^g$  is as small as 4, MPDQD can converge with probability 1 except when the BS antenna correlation is extremely strong (e.g.,  $\rho_{BS} = 0.9$ ). When  $N_r^g$  is increased as 8, even when  $\rho_{BS}$  is as large as 0.9, divergence still happens with very small probability  $0.01 \sim 0.056$ .

#### VII. CONCLUSION

In this paper, we proposed a low-complexity Message Passing De-Quantization Detector (MPDQD) for massive spatial modulation MIMO system with low-resolution ADCs and over frequency-selective channels. MPDQD can exploit both the structured sparsity and prior probability distribution of the transmitted signals. It relies on the clustering technique and analog spatial filtering to handle the antenna correlations at the transmitter and receiver side. Simulation results validate that MPDQD significantly outperforms the linear detector, successfully offsets the quantization effects from the low-resolution ADCs, and works steadily even under strong antenna correlations. Compared to classical massive MIMO systems, massive SM-MIMO is more robust to channel estimation errors. In the future, MPDQD should be tested under more practical channel models.

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