

Final thesis

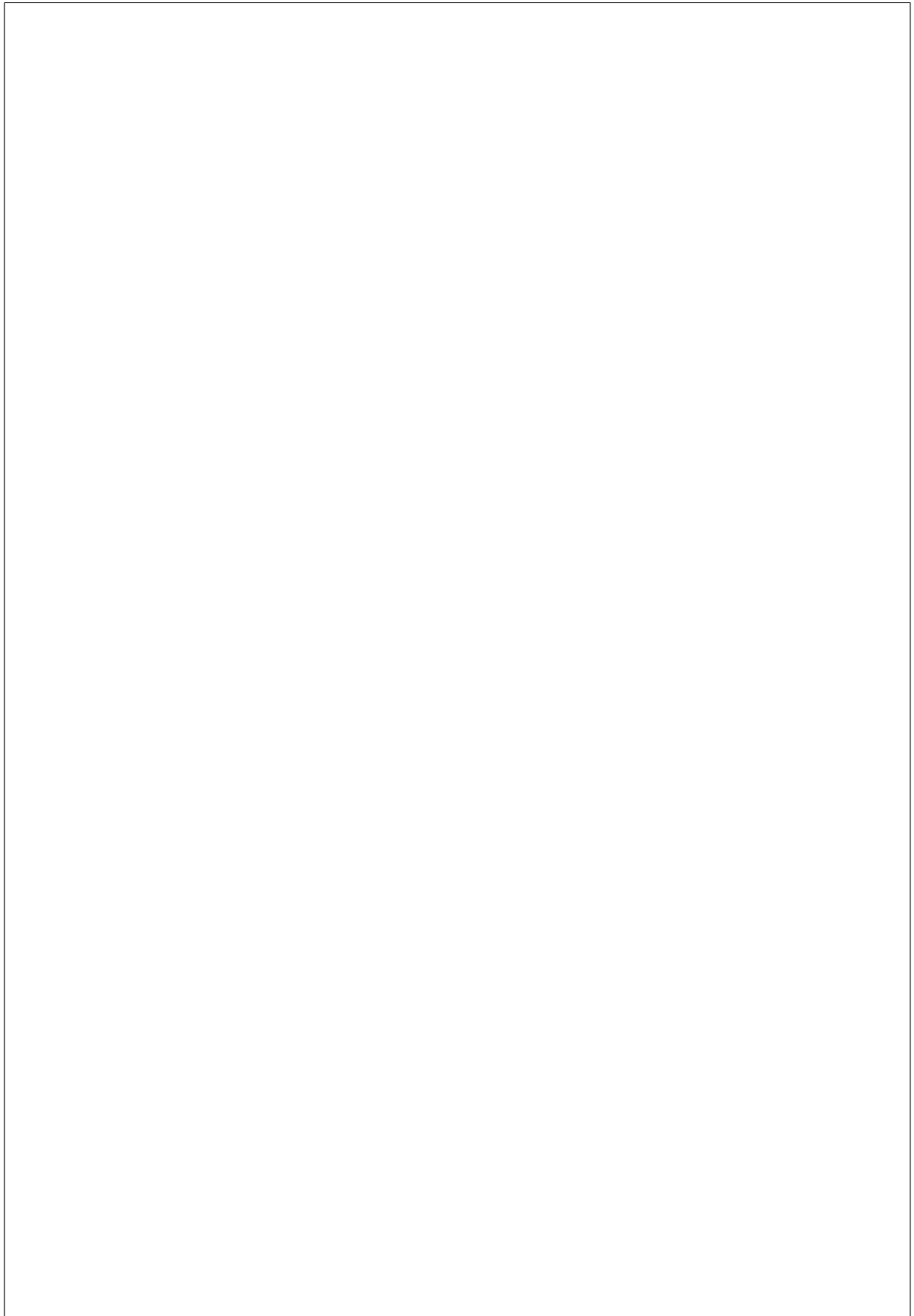
Test Data Post-Processing and Analysis of LA

by

Paul Nedstrand & Razmus Lindgren

LITH-IDA-EX-2015/THESISNUMBER

December 8, 2014



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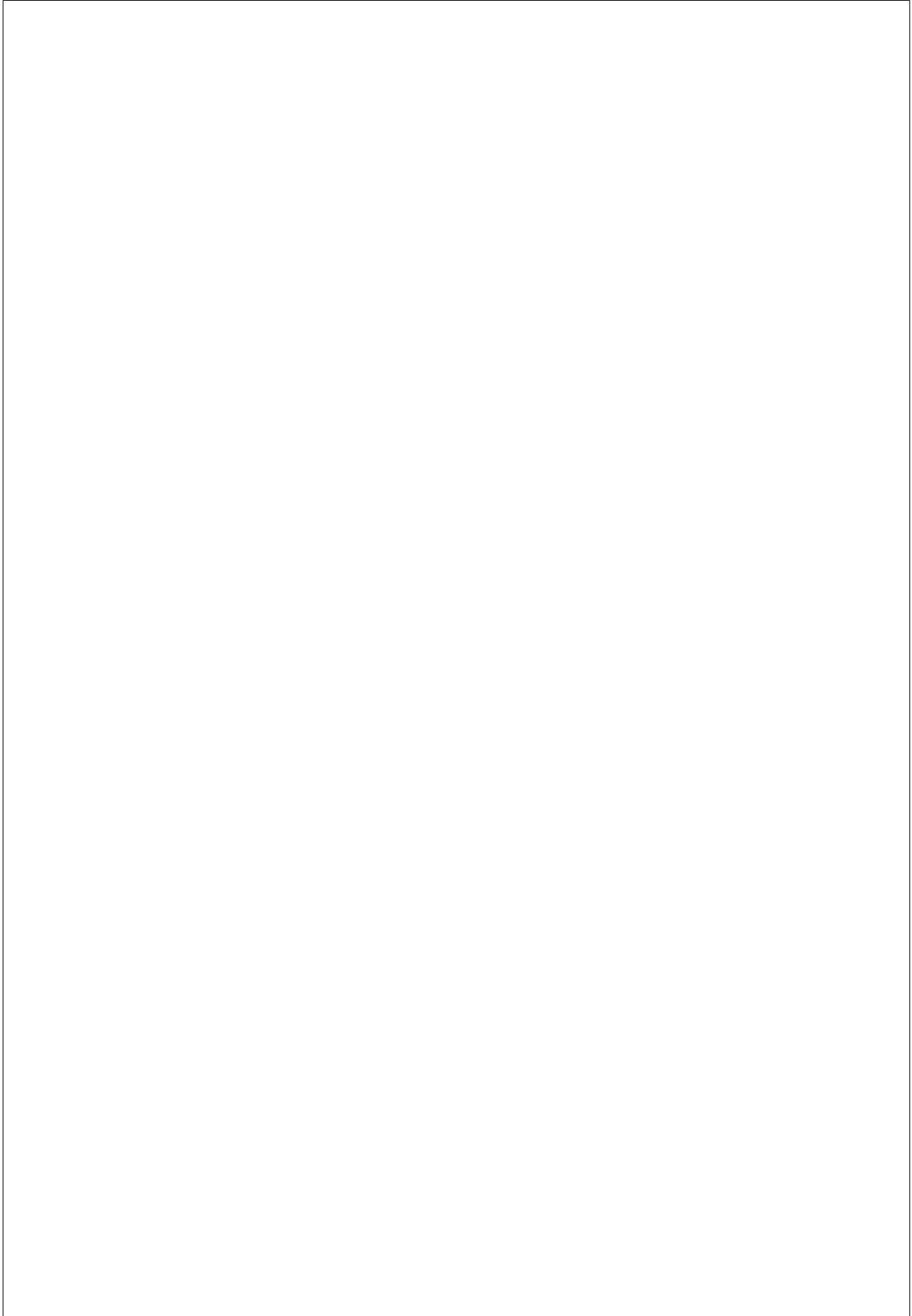
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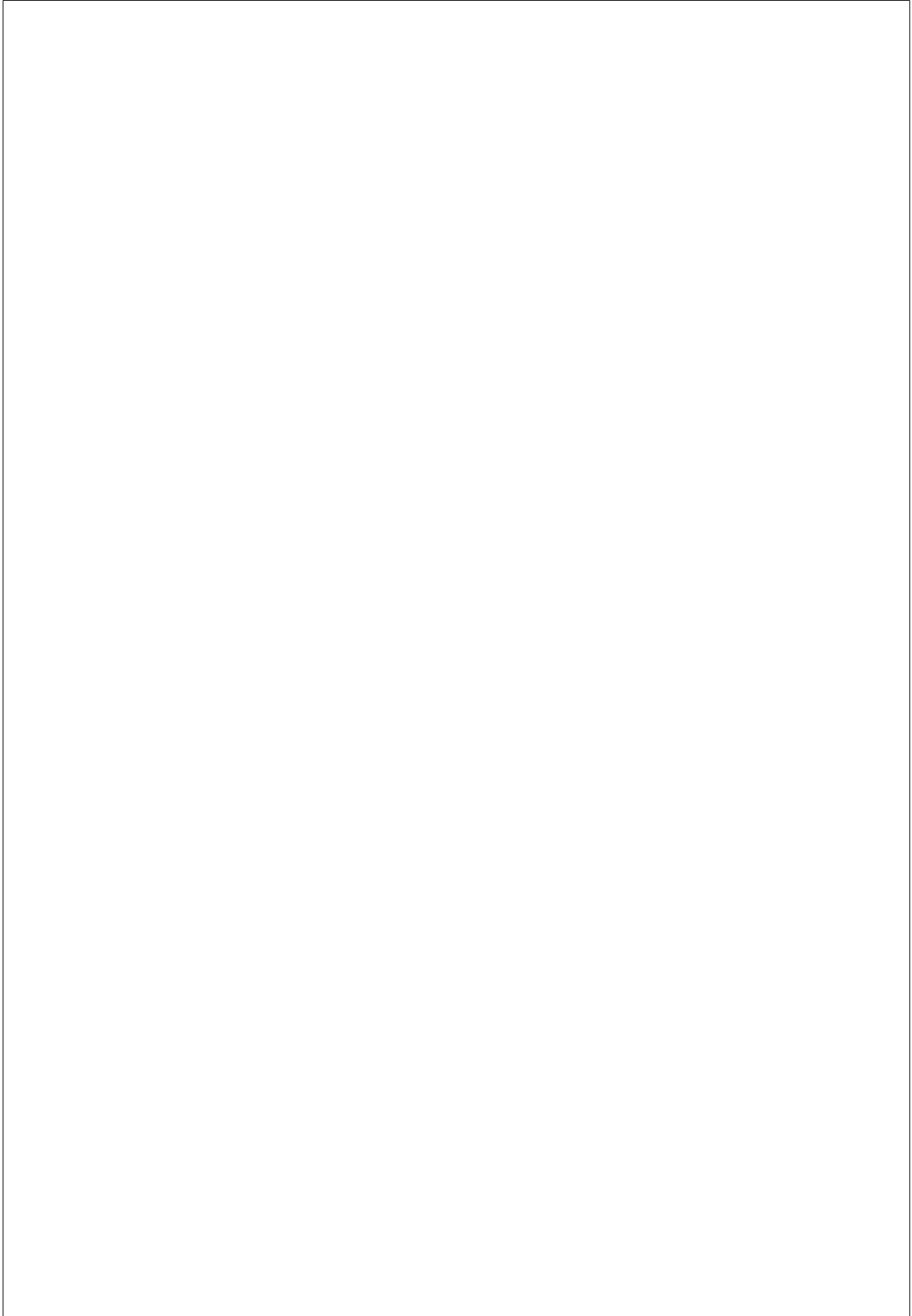
Supervisor: Ola Leifler

Examiner: Johannes Schmidt



Abstract

§ This Master thesis involves developing a lightweight analyser that produce statistics from the communication between a cell phone and a E-UTRAN base station. The analyser tool will produce graphs with information about the correlation between a signal throughput and the interference in the channel that the signal is sent through. From the statistics produced by the analyser tool, the testing personal at Ericsson can more easily deduce where the interference in signals arises from. With the help of this tool we shall make an analysis of link adaptation and HARQ.



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acknowledgements

Abbreviations

CQI Channel Quality Index, an indicator of how good the channel quality is.

SINR Signal to Interference plus Noise Ratio, defined as $\frac{P_{signal}}{P_{interference} + P_{noise}}$, where P_{signal} is the Power of the signal, $P_{interference}$ is the power of the interference in watt and P_{noise} is the power of the noise.

eNodeB enhanced Node-B, the base station that transmits or receives data from the UE.

UE User Equipment, a device that can send data

LTE Long Term Evolution, is the begrepp of the next generation mobile standard.

LA Link Adaptation, is an algorithm that changes MCS according to the channel quality.

MCS Modulation and Coding Scheme, when you send wireless data this is coded and modulated

AMC text

3GPP is a standard for mobile broadband

FEC Forward Error Correction. A method to correct errors in the receiver.

Modulation order is the the order of the modulation, can be translated to how many bits a symbol consists of.

Symbol TODO write good description

OFDM Symbol .

OFDM

Chapter 1

Introduction

TODO: write about how we use the tool from making a trace to generating graph

TODO: write about all web pages and libraries which contained information about LTE

1.1 Motivation

The purpose with this master thesis is to help Long Term Evolution Interoperability Development Testing (LTE IODT) Data analysis. LTE IODT wants to automatically generate analysis of Link Adaptation (LA) and Hybrid Automatic Repeat Request (HARQ) tests where we sweep through Signal to Interference plus Noise Ratio (SINR) for different channel models. The LTE IODT lab test logs gives a unique opportunity to look into detailed behaviour of link and rank adaptation for both downlink and uplink.

In order for us to choose a suitable tool for presenting data we used the following guide lines:

- Can our tool provide functionality that is useful to the testers?
- Can a tester perform a set of tasks faster with our tool than without it?
- Is our tool easy to use?
- Will it be available for all testers?

Ericsson needed a tool for allowing the testers to better analyse the performance in UE-to-eNodeB implementations. The performance in this sense is whether Ericsson and/or their customer had implemented their system according to the minimum criterion of the specification for said implementation or not. To be able to judge where in the implementation the loss of performance had occurred, Ericsson needed a tool to plot the values of signal-variables that are most affected by HARQ and LA, so that their own personnel could use that information to further analyse the algorithms. To be able to plot relevant values for debugging we first had to gain vast knowledge about how LTE, HARQ and LA.

The visualization tool which we used in this project was an Ericsson internal project called Logtool. We implemented our program as a plugin project to Logtool. Logtool is built upon the eclipse framework and we also developed the plugin in eclipse development environment. The language that Logtool is written in is Java.

1.2 Background

The following section is to provide with information useful to understand the contents of the report. This chapter briefly explains link adaptation, modulation, coding and code rate etc.

1.3. GOALS AND METHODOLOGY CHAPTER 1. INTRODUCTION

1.3 Goals and Methodology

Our task from Ericsson was to develop a lightweight analyzer tool that:

- Simply produces statistics
- Handle multiple input sources
- Produce data in form of graphs

We also had the following criteria:

- Study and understand the 3GPP standards and Ericsson Research
- Analyze from processing for the final graph
- Evaluate a suitable tool for the processing of data, e.g. MATLAB or something similar
- Capability to correlate the graph to logs in order to facilitate troubleshooting

1.4 Thesis Outline

This thesis is divided into the following Parts

- we planned to do a analyzer tool that can post-process data that is sent between the UE and eNB
- part 2 we implemented stuff here
- part 3 we analyzed stuff here
- part 4 we reviewed stuff here
- part 5 we got a conclusion here with feedback from Ericsson etc

Chapter 2

Theoretical Background

Here is a full description of LTE, LA, HARQ, Modulation, Coding and Code Rate

2.1 Basic Overview of LTE

Here we will give a general overview of the basics of LTE.

2.2 Link Adaptation

Link adaptation is a way to enhance the performance in wireless systems. Dependent on the channel condition the modulation scheme and code rate is changed. The better channel condition the higher modulation scheme and higher code rate [source on this]?. The modulation scheme used in the LTE systems are QPSK, 16QAM and 64QAM [source]. The codes used is QPP (quadrature polynomial permutation) turbo codes [source]?. When data is sent from a base station to a UE (DL) the UE will report a CQI (channel quality indicator) value to the base station indicating how good the channel is. CQI can take values from 0 to 15 (4 bits), where 0 represent a very bad channel condition and 15 a very good one. Out from this value The eNB decides a MCS (modulation and coding scheme). For downlink MCS can take values between 0-28 and uplink 0-24 [source]. Each one of these values represent a modulation scheme and code rate, were MCS = 0 has the lowest code rate and lowest modulation order (QPSK). MCS = 28 in downlink and 24 in uplink has the highest code rate and the highest modulation order (64-QAM).

2.3 HARQ Algorithm

Here is text about HARQ.

2.4. MODULATION CHAPTER 2. THEORETICAL BACKGROUND

2.4 Modulation

A modulation scheme is a way to map digital bits to analog signals in wireless systems. it is a way to represent the bits in the air. There are different modulation schemes and the ones that are used in LTE are 4QAM (QPSK), 16QAM and 64QAM. The signals are modulated in the following way (bild pa 4QAM 16QAM and 64QAM over I-phase and Q-phase).

The I-phase is basically a Sinus wave and Q-phase is a Cosine wave. What the points on the two axes represent is the the power of the signal [source]. So in the QPSK case, what the different signals will be is:

$$A \cdot \sin(f \cdot t)$$

$$A \cdot \cos(f \cdot t)$$

$$-A \cdot \sin(f \cdot t)$$

$$-A \cdot \cos(f \cdot t)$$

So in this case it fits 2 bits in each signal. Therefore, the different possible signals are 00, 01, 10 and 11. In 16QAM and 64QAM each signal point is represented by 4 and 6 bits respectively.

The signals in LTE are modulated with an IQ-modulator and decoded with and IQ-Demodulator TODO(write stuff about IQ-Modulator/demodulator)

2.5 Coding and Code Rate

Coding is a way to create redundancy in the data that are send. The data will consist of real data bits and coded bits. This way you are able to correct bits that are incorrect in the receiver. The more coded bits you have in your message the more errors you can detect and correct, but the slower data rate you will have. The code rate states how many bits that are coded in a message. the Code rate is between 0 and 1 and is simply

$$\frac{\#realbits}{\#realbits + \#codedbits}.$$

example: if we have a code rate of 0.73 we have 73% real bits in the message and 27% coded bits.

Chapter 3

The Analysis Tool

Our analysis tool was first and foremost developed for the testers at Ericsson, but it was also a means for us to be able to do our analysis of LA and HARQ in an effective way. It has been developed so that IODT in an easier way can do an analyzation of the data transfer between the UE and eNodeB. Some questions we will answer is:

- Can a tester perform a faster analysis on deciding whether the throughput in a test run is stable or not? (time test)(how sure are the tester on the validity of their answer?)
- Can a tester perform a faster analysis on how the mcs values are coorelated to the SINR values in the LA algorithm from trace data?
- Is it easier and/or faster to get a better overview with our tool than before for large(¿300MB) quantities of trace data? (questionare)
- Is it easier and/or faster to get a better overview with our tool than before for small(¿300MB) quantities of trace data? (questionare)
-

The tool is mainly developed to perform analyzation of data over SINR and CQI, i.e. the channel condition. But it is also able to use all parameters (that are sent between the UE and eNodeB) as axes in graphs so that the tester can validate any data he/she wants.

3.1 Motivation for choosing Logtool

In the beginning of the project we had to make a decision on how we would create our analysis tool. What we needed to do was produce a program that would:

- Read tracedata (from different kinds of sources)

- Rewrite it into a better format (for easier parameter data extraction)
- Analyse the data and plot graphs with data from the analyzation

Since we didn’t have any advanced criteria on what our program should do we felt that it was best to build it upon an already existing project or in an environment that already had the functionality to do all we needed.

We started to analyse available (already existing) tools by asking personel at Ericsson if they had any preferences or any tools that they knew that they already had licences for or tools that was already used in the lab testers environment. Unfortunately they didn’t have any recommendations, so we started to search the web for good tools that would be able to produce graphs and analyse big sets of data. Our initial idea was Matlab since both of us have experience with Matlab and it contains extensive libraries for calculating signal data and for plotting graphs. Some of the other tools we looked at was [TODO add list of tools]. But mostly all programs seemed to do pretty much what Matlab did or less, and since we had experience with Matlab since earlier we felt that Matlab was our best choice.

We were still pretty open minded about using other softwares at this point, but started out with just writing code for displaying graphs. After about a week we found out from our supervisor that Ericsson did indeed already have a Ericsson-developed program called Logtool that the labtesters used for handling tracedata. It was written in java and the program was built upon the eclipse framework, all of which Razmus already had experience with since earlier. The team in charge of the project was situated in Linköping, and using Logtool would enable us to get tracedata in a good format without us having to write a single line of code to filter the unfiltered logfiles, plus our program wouldn’t need any form of extra integration for Ericsson. We therefore decided to develop our program as a plugin to Logtool.

3.2 Logtool Plugin

Logtool is a program that contains different analyzers that does individual analyzations on raw trace data. Each analyzer that the project uses is added as a plugin-project and not directly integrated into the project. We needed the raw trace data in a BB-filtered(BaseBand-filtered) format, and it existed a plugin which already did that. We could have written our project as a new plugin but both we and Ericsson were agreed on that it would be unnecessary to implement a new plugin which would need to BB-filter the data when that functionality already existed.

3.3 Description of the Tool

Ericsson first requested us to do a lightweight analyzer that would plot graphs in a basic interface. We included extra functionality and created a

3.3. DESCRIPTION OF THE TOOL CHAPTER 3. THE ANALYSIS TOOL

total of 3 different kinds of views (a separate window in eclipse) with unique functionality.

3.3.1 Basic Graph View

In the first view we plot graphs with specific values over SINR and CQI (CQI is for downlink and SINR is for uplink). The reason for this is that you can only extract the SINR at the eNodeB and only CQI in the UE. The graphs you can look at is Throughput/SINR, Throughput/CQI, PRB/CQI PRB/SINR BLER/CQI, BLER/SINR, SINR/(UL MCS) CQI/(DL MCS) ... These graph are presented in a two dimensional graph as showed in picture X. Where the data is on the Y-axis (vertical axis) and SINR / CQI / MCS is on the X-axis (horizontal axis). The parameters were chosen at request of Ericsson.

Image X (Basic Graphs View Image)

3.3.2 Multiple Graph View

The second functionality is that you are able to save graphs. If you have a set of data you should be able to compare them. There is a save button in the basic graph view. After you have saved your graphs you can run several other bb-filtrations. The user can then load saved datasets that you wish to compare. Each loaded dataset can be toggled on/off by a list in the right corner of the view.

Image X (Multiple Graphs View Image)

3.3.3 Advanced Graph View

The third view is a more advanced graph tab. In this view you are able to look at data in any form graphs where you choose what you want to look at in the X and Y-axis, and then plot your graph there. The user can also save the BB-filtered data to file and load it later.

Image X (Advanced Graphs View Image)

Chapter 4

The Physical Layer of the LTE System

The layer we have been working in is called layer 1, also known as the physical layer. It is the description of how the signals are sent through the air, how they are scheduled (eller?).

Chapter 5

Analysis of Link Adaptation and HARQ

In this chapter the analysis of the Link Adaptation is described.

5.1 The Analysis of Link Adaptation

Paul skriver nedanstående

What our analysis is intended to do is to look at how well performed the different MCS values are in the link adaptation. this is dependent on the CQI in downlink (SINR in uplink), and the BLER (block error rate) value the eNB chooses is a 5-bit MCS value. What our analysis is intended to study is to see if the optimal MCS is chosen according to the UL SINR (DL CQI) value. This way we can see if some mcses might be redundant and that some mcs value should be at other cqi reports.

Uplink:

Data is sent from the UE to the eNodeB. The eNodeB is calculating SINR and from this value and block error rate (and maybe something more) the eNodeB decides which MCS the UE shall send at. MCS in uplink varies between 0-22, where mcs = 0 in the worst channel conditions (lowest SINR's) and mcs = 22 in the highest SINR's.

Downlink:

Data is sent from the eNodeB to the UE. When the data is sent from the eNodeB the UE is calculating a CQI value (0-15) which represent the channel condition. 0 is the worst channel condition and 15 is the best channel conditions. This value is sent back to the eNodeB and from this value and some other parameters (BLER) an MCS is chosen. In this case the value varies between 0-28 where 0 is the modulation and coding scheme for the worst channel conditions and 28 is the modulation schemes for the best

5.2. THE ANALYSIS OF LINK ADAPTATION AND HARQ

channel conditions.

What we will look at is both uplink and downlink throughput over SINR and CQI. In the downlink we did 30 different simulations. 29 simulations where we have hardcoded the eNodeB to run at a specific MCS (0-28) and one where we did not hardcode a MCS. We compared all these curves to each other look at which SINR / CQI value the throughput value they intersect each other and if the hardcoded MCS value were higher than the actual value it had.

5.1.1 expected result

here we describe what we expect out of the simulation.

5.1.2 Simulated results

Here we describe what the actual result was

5.1.3 Summary

5.2 The Analysis of HARQ

In the harq analysis we will look at the Bler target rate, Which in LTE is at 10%. Is this the optimal target rate? what is the throughput at 11% or 9%. This analysis we do from the traces we have done were we change the MCS values from 0-22(28). In our tool the only thing we have to change is that we look at throughput per BLER instead of throughput per CQI/SINR

5.2.1 Results

5.2.2 Summary

5.3 optional analysis


If the above analysis is not able to do. (There is at the moment some technical difficulties at the lab. And currently we are not able to do our intended simulation.)

What we will do in this analysis is that we look at only the bler target. For this analysation we don't have to have a specific MCS value. We do a trace were we change the SINR value pseudorandomly. We do a simulation were we have default bler target (10 %) and do other simulation were we have different bler target 11 % 10.5 % 9.5 % etc. then we look at the throughput for these simulations over time and compare them. Do we really have the highest throughput when we have at bler target at 10 %, is there any difference in different channel condition?

Chapter 6

Closing

text...

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