

MODULATION DESIGN IN AMPLIFY-AND-FORWARD TWO-WAY RELAY HARQ CHANNEL

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ABSTRACT

As a practical transmission enhancement technique for relay and HARQ system, Modulation Diversity (MoDiv) uses distinct mappings to the same constellation for different (re)transmissions. In this work, we study the MoDiv optimization in a Amplify-and-Forward (AF) Two-Way Relay Channel (TWRC). The design of MoDiv to minimize the bit-error rate (BER) is formulated into a successive Koopmans-Beckmann Quadratic Assignment Problem (QAP), which is solved sequentially with a robust taboo search method. The performance gain of our MoDiv scheme over retransmission without remapping and a heuristic MoDiv scheme is demonstrated with numerical results.

Index Terms— Modulation diversity, two-way relay, amplify-and-forward, HARQ, QAP

1. INTRODUCTION

As an advanced technique to improve the robustness of high-rate wireless transmissions against poor channel conditions, Hybrid Automatic Repeat reQuest (HARQ) has found its application in various communication systems [1]. HARQ works on both PHY layer and MAC sublayer to mitigate packet loss due to channel fading and link-adaptation accuracy. Recently, substantial research interest has been drawn to HARQ in Two-Way Relay Channel (TWRC) [2-4]. In [2], the average throughput of naive Type-I HARQ policy for both Amplify and Forward (AF) and Decode and Forward (DF) TWRC schemes have been analyzed. The energy-delay tradeoff, and the diversity-multiplexing tradeoff of type-II HARQ policy, also known as full Incremental Redundancy (IR), for AF TWRC scheme have been studied in [3] and [4], respectively. Related works about TWRC with ARQ for different relay schemes and retransmission policies can also be found in [5, 6, 7] and the references therein.

Apart from the naive Type-I HARQ and HARQ-IR, Type-I HARQ with maximal ratio combining (MRC), also known as HARQ-Chase Combining (HARQ-CC) [8], is another simple and practical HARQ scheme supported by such standards as HSPA [9], LTE [10] and so forth. As practical transmissions often admit linear modulations of finite-alphabet con-

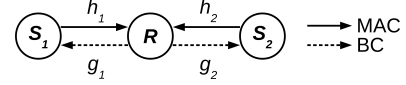


Fig. 1. Two-way relay channel with analog network coding.

stellation (e.g. Q-ary QAM), the performance of HARQ-CC can be improved with Modulation Diversity (MoDiv) [11], in which a same group of $\log_2 Q$ bits are mapped to different symbols in a same constellation in different round of (re)transmissions. MoDiv has been studied for HARQ [12], relay networks [13, 14] and relay-HARQ systems [15, 16].

In this paper, we study the MoDiv design for the TWRC under a simple AF scheme and HARQ-CC protocol. We first derive an upper bound for the uncoded bit-error rate (BER) of TWRC-AF channel under the Rayleigh fading condition, given M different mapping schemes corresponding to each (re)transmission. Based on this upper bound, we formulate a successive BER minimization MoDiv design into a series of Quadratic Assignment Problem (QAP) in Koopmans-Beckmann (KB) form [17]. Although QAP is NP-hard, efficient numerical algorithms have been extensively researched [18], some of which have shown extremely high performance over QAPLIB [19]. We adopt a taboo search algorithm [20] to solve each QAP in our formulation. Moreover, the coefficients of QAP problem can be also be computed efficiently in a successive manner based on the solution to the preceding QAP problem. Our numerical results demonstrate significant BER reduction over both non-MoDiv and a simple heuristic MoDiv retransmission scheme for 16-QAM, 32-QAM and 64-QAM constellation, even under mismatching design parameters.

The paper is organized as follows. Section 2 introduces the TWRC-AF model and the HARQ protocol we are using. Section 3 presents the successive BER minimization MoDiv design problem. In Section 4, we present the numerical results to show the performance gain of our MoDiv scheme. Finally, Section 5 concludes the paper.

2. SYSTEM MODEL

Consider a TWRC with analog network coding (ANC) protocol [3], a generalization the AF protocol, as shown in Fig. 1.

the relay node R is totally unaware of the HARQ procedure and simply performs ANC. Each round of ANC transmission is composed of two phases. In the multiple access (MAC) phase, the two source nodes S_1 and S_2 transmit to R simultaneously. In the broadcast (BC) phase, R amplify and broadcast the signal received during the MAC phase to both S_1 and S_2 . Denote the uplink channel from S_i to R and downlink channel from R to S_i as h_i and g_i , respectively, where $i = 1, 2$. We assume that all the channels follow Rayleigh distribution, i.e. $h_i \sim \mathcal{CN}(0, \beta_{h_i})$ and $g_i \sim \mathcal{CN}(0, \beta_{g_i})$, $i = 1, 2$. Denote the transmitted symbol from S_i as x_i whose average power $\mathbb{E}[|x_i|^2] = P_i$. Then the signal received by R during the MAC phase is

$$y_R = h_1 x_1 + h_2 x_2 + n_R, \quad (1)$$

where $n_r \sim \mathcal{CN}(0, \sigma_R^2)$ is the received noise at R . Assuming that the relay R has an expected power constraint of P_R , and that S_1 and S_2 perform perfect self-interference cancellation (SIC), then the received signal at S_i after SIC is

$$y_i = \alpha g_i y_R + n_i, \quad i = 1, 2, \quad (2)$$

where $n_i \sim \mathcal{CN}(0, \sigma_i^2)$ is the received noise at S_i , and

$$\alpha = \sqrt{\frac{P_R}{|h_1|^2 P_1 + |h_2|^2 P_2 + P_R}} \quad (3)$$

is the power normalization factor at R .

On top of this settings, S_1 and S_2 performs the HARQ-CC protocol in an unsynchronized manner. Consequently, the MoDiv design at S_1 and S_2 can be handled independently. Without loss of generality, we study the HARQ transmission from S_1 to S_2 . Denote \mathcal{C} as the constellation used by S_1 whose cardinality equals $Q = |\mathcal{C}|$. As a convention, during the initial transmission of a packet, S_1 converts a bit sequence of length $\log_2 Q$ into symbols with Gray mapping $\psi_0 : \{0, \dots, Q-1\} \rightarrow \mathcal{C}$. The bit sequence is labeled by its decimal equivalence $p \in \{0, \dots, Q-1\}$. What distinct HARQ-CC with MoDiv from conventional HARQ-CC is that, during the m -th retransmission, S_1 is allowed to use a mapping function $\psi_m \neq \psi_0$ to remap the same label p . We assume $m \leq M$ where M is the maximum number of retransmissions. According to Eq. (1)(2), the signal received by S_2 after SIC during the m -th (re)transmission of p is

$$y_2^{(m)} = \alpha^{(m)} g_2^{(m)} h_1^{(m)} \psi_m[p] + \alpha^{(m)} g_2^{(m)} n_R^{(m)} + n_2^{(m)}, \quad (4)$$

where $X^{(m)}$ is the m -th realization of random variable X .

Assume that S_2 acquires perfect channel state information (CSI). After the m -th retransmission, it attempts to demodulate the received symbols by identifying label p with $y_2^{(0)}, \dots, y_2^{(m)}$ via the maximum likelihood (ML) detection:

$$p^* = \arg \min_p \sum_{j=0}^m \frac{|y_2^{(j)} - \alpha^{(j)} g_2^{(j)} h_1^{(j)} \psi_j[p]|^2}{\sigma_2^2 + (\alpha^{(j)})^2 \sigma_R^2 |g_2^{(j)}|^2}. \quad (5)$$

3. SUCCESSIVE CONSTELLATION MAPPING DESIGN FOR MODULATION DIVERSITY

3.1. A BER upperbound

3.2. The Successive Quadratic Assignment Problem

4. NUMERICAL RESULTS

5. CONCLUSION

6. REFERENCES

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