PERFORMANCE OF COOPERATIVE DIVERSITY SYSTEMS WITH DECODE AND FORWARD RELAYING

by

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Certificate

This is to certify that the thesis entitled “Performance of Cooperative Diversity Systems with Decode and Forward Relaying” being submitted by M. D. Selvaraj to the Department of Electrical Engineering, Indian Institute of Technology, Delhi, for the award of the degree of Doctor of Philosophy is the record of the bona-fide research work carried out by him under my supervision. In my opinion, the thesis has reached the standards fulfilling the requirements of the regulations relating to the degree.

The results contained in this thesis have not been submitted either in part or in full to any other university or institute for the award of any degree or diploma.

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Abstract

Diversity techniques mitigate the adverse effects of fading in wireless communications. One of the several forms of diversity is spatial diversity, which creates multiple fading paths between the transmitter and the receiver. Achieving spatial diversity in a mobile unit requires the use of multiple antennas, which, in turn, increases its hardware complexity and size. To overcome this problem, a recent development envisages a type of spatial diversity called “distributed spatial diversity”, where mobile units which are distributed in different geographical locations generate multiple communication paths. Practical implementation of distributed spatial diversity requires some sort of cooperation among the mobile units, which is achieved through a method called “user cooperation”. In this method, single antenna mobile units share their antennas with other mobile units, thereby creating space diversity.

A variety of low complexity protocols has been developed to enhance performance of cooperative communication. One such protocol is the decode and forward (DF) protocol, where one or more relays detect the source’s data and forward it to the destination. We focus on a scenario where, for the transmission of a data symbol from the source to the destination, the relays cooperate with the source through the DF protocol. We consider flat Rayleigh fading, and assume perfect channel state information (CSI) at the relays and at the destination. Although it has been shown that cooperative diversity systems with error correcting codes can improve the system performance considerably, to bring out analytically the effect of the system parameters on the raw data error performance, we focus on only uncoded
cooperative diversity systems.

In this thesis, we first consider a single-relay cooperative diversity system consisting of a source, a relay and a destination. A selection combining scheme is used to obtain an easily implementable receiver structure at the destination. We derive, in closed form, the end-to-end symbol error probability (SEP) of the system for binary phase-shift keying (BPSK). By means of a paired error approach, the analysis is extended to the case of M-ary phase-shift keying (MPSK).

Next, we consider a multi-relay cooperative diversity network consisting of a source, $N$ relays, and a destination. In a conventional signal-to-noise ratio (SNR) based selection combining scheme at the destination, the effect of the source-to-relay links is not accounted for when choosing one link from the set consisting of the source-to-destination link and the $N$ relay-to-destination links. To overcome this drawback, we modify the conventional scheme by including, in the selection process, a deterministic scale factor that incorporates the effect of the source-to-relay links. We call this modified scheme a scaled selection combining scheme. For statistically independent links that undergo flat Rayleigh fading, we derive, in closed form, the end-to-end SEP of this scheme for both BPSK and MPSK constellations. We also give a method of obtaining the optimum scale factor that minimizes the end-to-end SEP.

Finally, the performance of the optimum receiver is analyzed for a single-relay cooperative diversity system. The optimum receiver for this system is presented, and, from the decision rule, the end-to-end SEP is analyzed. We propose a suboptimum receiver which does not need the CSI of the source-to-relay link and performs close to the optimum receiver.
Contents

1 Introduction .................................................. 1
  1.1 Introduction ............................................... 1
  1.2 Fading Models ............................................ 3
  1.3 Diversity ................................................ 7
  1.4 Cooperative Diversity ..................................... 13
  1.5 Related Work ............................................. 14
  1.6 Motivation ................................................. 16
    1.6.1 Motivating Example ................................... 17
  1.7 Key Contributions ......................................... 18
  1.8 System Model of a Cooperative Diversity System ......... 19
  1.9 Organization of Thesis .................................... 25

2 Single-Relay Cooperative Diversity with Selection Combining 27
  2.1 Introduction ............................................. 27
  2.2 Study on Source-to-Destination Link ....................... 28
    2.2.1 BPSK Signaling ....................................... 28
    2.2.2 MPSK Signaling ....................................... 29
  2.3 Decision Rule of Selection Combining ...................... 30
  2.4 Symbol Error Probability ................................ 31
    2.4.1 BPSK Signaling ....................................... 31
    2.4.2 MPSK Signaling ....................................... 37
3 Multi-Relay Cooperative Diversity with Scaled Selection Combining

3.1 Introduction ................................................. 51
3.2 Decision Rule of Scaled Selection Combining .................. 52
3.3 Performance Analysis ........................................ 52
    3.3.1 BPSK Constellation .................................. 53
    3.3.2 MPSK Constellation .................................. 58
3.4 Numerical Results .......................................... 66
3.5 Summary .................................................. 72

4 Performance Analysis of the Optimum Receiver .................. 75

4.1 Introduction ................................................ 75
4.2 Decision Rule of Optimum Receiver .......................... 76
4.3 Performance of the Optimum Receiver ......................... 77
4.4 Suboptimum Receiver ........................................ 83
4.5 Numerical Results .......................................... 84
4.6 Summary .................................................. 84

5 Conclusions and Scope for Future Work ........................ 87

5.1 Conclusions ................................................. 87
5.2 Scope for Future Work ....................................... 88