

An Energy-Efficient Dual Hop Cooperative Relay Model With Best Relay Selection

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Abstract: Cooperative transmission obtains the spatial diversity gains created by sharing antennas of terminals in wireless networks mainly to overcome the channel impairments and provide high data rates. In this paper, we present end to end BER performance of dualhop wireless communication model equipped with multiple Decode and Forward relays with the best relay selection. Orthogonal space time block coding is applied at the source terminal. Best relay is selected based on the end to end channel conditions to minimize the energy requirements. We compare the BER performance using best relay selection with the BER performance of single relay. And also, outage probability of the best relay is equivalent to the outage probability when all relays take part in the transmission.

I. INTRODUCTION

Dual hop transmission is a technique by which the channel from source to destination is split into two shorter links using a relay [4]. It is an attractive technique when the direct link between the base station and the original mobile terminal is in deep fade or heavy shadowing or there is no direct link between source and destination. On the other hand transmission diversity is advantageous on a cellular base station, it might not be practical for other scenarios. Especially due to cost, size or hardware limitations, a wireless device may not be able to support multiple transmission antennas. In order to overcome this limitation a new form of diversity technique, the cooperative diversity (named so as it comes from user cooperation) has been introduced by [8, 9, 11, 14]. In ad-hoc network when one user is transmitting information to a remote terminal, other users nearby also receive it and transmit the signal to the destination. This process results in multiple copies of same signal from independent fading paths at the destination and brings diversity.

Depending on the nature and the complexity of the relays cooperative transmission system can be classified into two main categories; regenerative and non-regenerative systems. In regenerative systems, relay fully decodes the signal that went through the first hop. Then retransmits the decoded version to the second hop. This is also referred to as decode- and forward or digital relaying [5]. On the other hand, non-regenerative systems use less complex relays that just amplify and forward the incoming signal without performing any sort of decoding. It is called amplify and forward [9] or analog [15] relaying. The performance of both systems has been well studied in [3, 4, 5, 7].

Moreover, choosing the minimum number of relays for reducing cooperation overhead and saving energy without performance loss is an important concern. There are various protocols proposed to choose the best relay among a collection of available relays in literature. In [16], the author proposed to choose the best relay depending on its geographic position, based on the geographic random forwarding protocol proposed by [18, 17]. In [2], the author proposed opportunistic relay based on the instantaneous channel conditions. This single relay opportunistic selection provides no performance loss from the perspective of diversity-multiplexing gain trade off, compared to schemes that rely on distributed space time coding [14].

The paper is outlined as follows: section 2 introduces channel model. Best relay selection protocol is described in section 3. Section 4 derives the Probability Density Function (PDF) of the received SNR per bit and analyzes the BER performance of the best relay followed by the outage behaviour of the best relay. Simulation results are presented in Section 5 and finally section 6 presents conclusion and future work.

II. CHANNEL MODEL

A wireless dual hop network where a number of relay nodes are placed randomly and independently is considered. The direct link between source and destination may be blocked by some obstacles so that relays can communicate with both end points. In our model, the source equipped with two transmit antennas and each relay node has a single antenna which can be used for both transmission and reception. All transmissions are assumed to be half duplex and therefore a relay station cannot transmit and receive at the same period. During the first hop source broadcasts symbols, the relays listen and during the second hop relays forward the decoded version of the received signal to destination.

We assume that the channel remains constant during two hops with Rayleigh fading as in Figure 1. Source has no channel information and uses OSTBC. Each transmit antenna uses same power $\sigma_s^2 = \frac{P}{t}$ where P is the total transmission power and t is the number of antennas at the base station $t=2$.

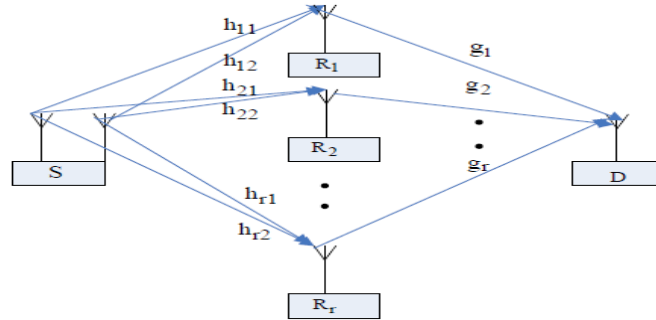


Figure 1: Dual hop cooperative relay model

For two transmit antennas, the transmission matrix is defined by $X = \begin{pmatrix} X_1 & -X_2^* \\ X_2 & X_1^* \end{pmatrix}$ where X_1 and X_2 are complex symbols to be transmitted and $*$ denotes the complex conjugate. We assume there are r relays and the number of transmit antennas at the source is 2. For the first hop, the channel matrix is given by $H_{SR} = \begin{pmatrix} h_{11} & h_{12} \\ \vdots & \vdots \\ h_{r1} & h_{r2} \end{pmatrix}$ where h_{ij} is the channel gain between the i^{th} relay and j^{th} transmission antenna of the source, $i=1,2,\dots,r$ and $j=1,2$. We assume that each element of H_{SR} is independent and identically distributed complex Gaussian random variable with zero mean and β_1 variance. So, the channel matrix for each relay can be represented as $\alpha_i = (h_{i1} \ h_{i2})$ for $i=1,2,\dots,r$. For the second hop, g_i = Individual relay to destination fading amplitude.

III. BEST RELAY SELECTION

In single relay selection, only one opportunistic relay transmits the received signal to the destination. In previous work, opportunistic relay selection is defined considering distance toward source or destination [17] or considering the channel condition [2]. This selection is not efficient since communication links between transmitter and receiver located at the same distance have enormous differences in terms of received signal due to fading and shadowing. In this paper, we consider that all relays can listen to each other. After monitoring the instantaneous channel condition, each relay broadcasts the information to each other. If relays are hidden from each other, the destination decides which is the most opportunistic relay and broadcasts it to the relay station.

Let α_{si} and α_{id} denote the total channel power from source to i^{th} relay and i^{th} relay to destination, respectively. Both α_{si} and α_{id} describe the quality of the wireless path between source to relay and destination to relay. They are calculated by the following equations:

$$\alpha_{si} = |h_{i1}|^2 + |h_{i2}|^2 + \dots$$

$$\alpha_{id} = |g_i|^2$$

α_{id} is the fading amplitude from relay to destination. Since the two hops are both important for end-to-end performance, each relay calculates the corresponding h_i based on two decision rules.

$$\text{Rule 1: } h_i = \min\{\alpha_{si}, \alpha_{id}\}$$

$$\text{Rule 2: } h_i = \frac{2}{\frac{1}{\alpha_{si}} + \frac{1}{\alpha_{id}}}$$

The relay i that maximizes the function h_i is the one with the "best" end-to-end path between the initial source to destination. After being selected as the best relay, it relays the signal to the destination. In this paper, it is assumed that the destination has perfect channel information available for decoding the received signal.

IV. BER ANALYSIS AND OUTAGE PROBABILITY

In our channel model, during the first time slot, the source transmits while all the relay nodes listen. During the next time slot, the best relay is selected, which transmits the signal to the destination. The end-to-end SNR through the selected relay is given by

$$\gamma = \max_{i \in 1, \dots, r} (\min(\gamma_{si}, \gamma_{id}))$$

where γ_{si} and γ_{id} are the instantaneous SNR of the S-R and R-D link, respectively. The selection of the best relay is done by order statistics. We obtain weaker link between the first hop and the second hop of each relay node i.e, with largest SNR. We assume S-R and R-D link have the same average channel gain.

Probability density function of γ is given by [1]

$$f(\gamma) = 2rf(\gamma^*)(1 - F(\gamma^*))(2F(\gamma^*) - F(\gamma^*)^2)^{r-1}$$

where pdf $f(\gamma^*) = \frac{1}{\gamma^*} \exp(-\frac{\gamma^*}{\gamma^*})$ and cdf $F(\gamma^*) = 1 - \exp(-\frac{\gamma^*}{\gamma^*})$ of Rayleigh distributed random variable.

Finally pdf of γ is obtained by $f(\gamma) = \frac{\exp(-\frac{\gamma^*}{\gamma^*/2})}{\frac{\gamma^*}{2}} \left(1 - \exp(-\frac{\gamma^*}{\gamma^*/2})\right)^{r-1}$ and further expanded through

$$\text{binomial expansion as } f(\gamma) = \sum_{i=1}^r (-1)^{r-1} \binom{r}{i} \frac{2i}{\gamma^*} \exp\left(-i \frac{2\gamma^*}{\gamma^*}\right)$$

Above pdf expression can be used to evaluate error performance for any modulation techniques. BER for BPSK modulation scheme is given by

$$P_{BPSK} = \frac{1}{2} \int_0^\infty \text{erfc}(\sqrt{\gamma}) f(\gamma) d\gamma = \frac{1}{2} \int_0^\infty \text{erfc}(\sqrt{\gamma}) \sum_{i=1}^r (-1)^{r-1} \binom{r}{i} \frac{2i}{\gamma^*} \exp\left(-i \frac{2\gamma^*}{\gamma^*}\right) d\gamma$$

Outage Probability:

Mutual information between source and relay nodes $i=1,2,\dots,r$ in first hop is given by

$$I_{i1} = \frac{1}{2} \log(1 + \Omega_{i1} SNR) \text{ where } \Omega_{i1} = \frac{|h_{i1}|^2 + |h_{i2}|^2}{2}, \square \Omega_{i1} \text{ is exponential distribution.}$$

Mutual information in the second hop $I_{i2} = \frac{1}{2} \log(1 + \Omega_{i2} SNR)$

Probability density functions of Ω_{i1} and Ω_{i2} are

$$f(\Omega_{i1}, \lambda_1) = \lambda_1 e^{-\Omega_{i1} \lambda_1}, f(\Omega_{i2}, \lambda_2) = \lambda_2 e^{-\Omega_{i2} \lambda_2}$$

So the capacity of network for relay I is minimum of the mutual information of this two hops.

$$C(\gamma_i) = \min(I_{i1}, I_{i2})$$

We are selecting the best relay based on end to end channel condition. Maximum capacity of the entire network depends on mutual information of the best relay as

$$\begin{aligned} I &= \max_{i \in \{1, \dots, r\}} (\min(I_{i1}, I_{i2})) \\ &= \max_{i \in \{1, \dots, r\}} \left(\min\left(\frac{1}{2} \log(1 + \Omega_{i1} SNR), \frac{1}{2} \log(1 + \Omega_{i2} SNR)\right) \right) \end{aligned}$$

So network capacity $C(\gamma) = I$. Outage probability P_{out} is defined as the probability that instantaneous capacity $C(\gamma)$ fall below outage capacity C_{out} .

$$P_{out} = \Pr(C(\gamma) < C_{out})$$

$$P_{out} = \Pr(\max_{i \in \{1, \dots, r\}} (C(\gamma_i) < C_{out}))$$

Due to channel assumption, we have $P_{out} = \prod_{i=1}^r P_{out}^i$ where $P_{out}^i = \Pr(C(\gamma_i) < C_{out})$

$$P_{out}^i = \Pr(\min(\frac{1}{2} \log(1 + \Omega_{i1} SNR), \frac{1}{2} \log(1 + \Omega_{i2} SNR)) < C_{out})$$

$$= \Pr(\min(\Omega_{i1}, \Omega_{i2}) < w), \text{ where } w = \frac{2^{2C_{out}} - 1}{SNR}$$

Then by order statistics [18], $\Pr(\min(\Omega_{i1}, \Omega_{i2}) < w) = 1 - e^{-\frac{(\lambda_1 + \lambda_2) 2^{2C_{out}} - 1}{SNR}}$

Thus $P_{out}^i = 1 - e^{-\frac{(\lambda_1 + \lambda_2) 2^{2C_{out}} - 1}{SNR}}$ Finally, we substitute this value to obtain outage probability P_{out}

V. SIMULATION RESULTS

In this section, we discuss about simulation results of BER performance and outage behavior. We consider BPSK constellation for 2 transmit antennas equipped at source in slow Rayleigh fading channel. Simulation are performed one for decision rule 1 and another for decision rule 2 in NS2 environment. We can see that the performances are nearly the same for both cases in Figure 2.

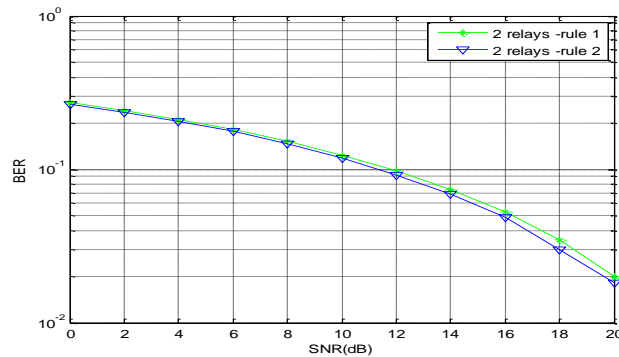


Figure 2:BER vsSNR

We have performed simulation with relays $r=2,3,5$ and 7 . BER performance of the best relay among a set of relays is always better than the BER performance of single relay shown in Figure 3. It is also shown that the better BER performance can be achieved by adopting more relay nodes. The single relay selection can reduce receiver complexity and at the same time will increase the network coverage. Figure 4 show the outage performance of the best relay compared to single relay for outage capacity $C_{out}=0.5$ bps/Hz. Outage probability decreases with increase in number of relays. By adopting more relays better outage performance can be achieved.

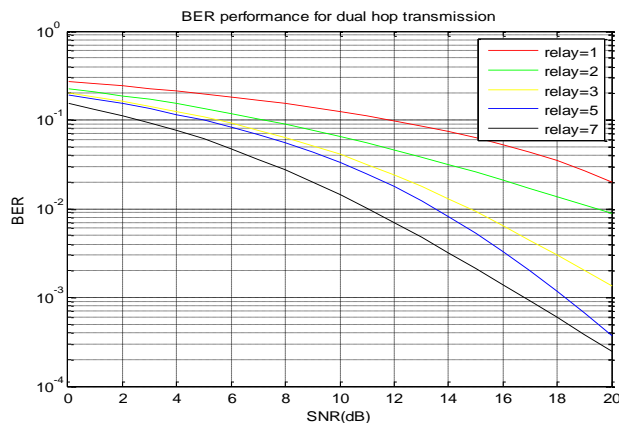
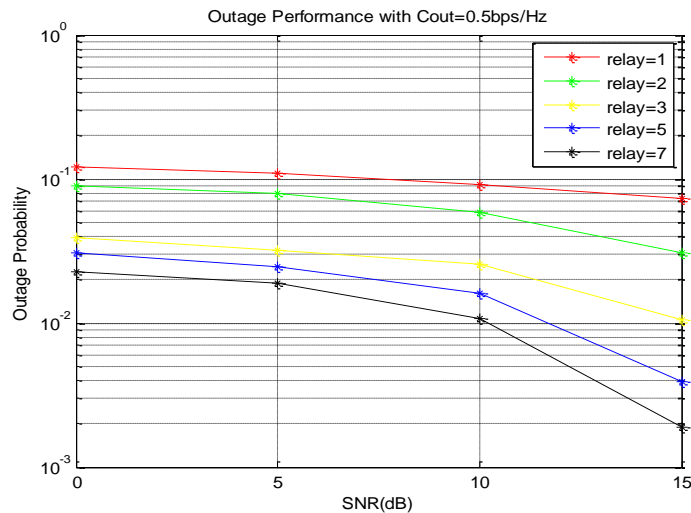


Figure 3:BER vs SNR

Figure 5: P_{out} vs SNR

VI. CONCLUSION

In this paper, an end to end BER analysis and outage performance of dual hop cooperative model by selecting the best relay based on the instantaneous channel conditions is presented. Both BER performance and outage probability can be improved by adopting more relays. However the outage performance of the best relay is equivalent to the outage behavior when all relay nodes participate in the second hop. In future, we can extend it to multi-hop transmission for covering long distance.

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