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Re:	In response to the Call for Contributions on Project 802.16m System Description Document (SDD) issued on 2008-01-24 (IEEE 802.16m-08/005) Topic covered: Pilot Structures as relevant to downlink MIMO
Abstract	This proposal present a pilot design and structure to support precoding on downlink MIMO
Purpose	For discussion and approval by IEEE 802.16m TG
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Release	
Patent Policy	

Pilot design for precoding in Multiuser MIMO on IEEE802.16m downlink

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Introduction

This contribution is provided in response to the Call for Contribution on Project 802.16m System Description Document (SDD) issued on 2008-01-24 (IEEE 802.16m-08/005) to propose a pilot design and structure to support precoding on downlink MIMO.

In time-division duplexed (TDD) systems, channel estimates on the uplink transmission might be utilized at the base station to employ precoding on the downlink. A multiple antenna base station can transmit spatially multiplexed streams over shared frequency resources. This can be a single-user (SU-MIMO) transmission, when all spatial streams are allocated to a single user, or a multi-user (MU-MIMO) transmission, when multiple users are served.

Further to our previous contribution [C80216m-08/058r1] on Vector Perturbation, we introduce a MU-MIMO technique based on Multiuser Tomlinson Harashima Precoding (THP) in this contribution. In addition we also introduce a problem for the channel estimation and propose a pilot structure to solve the problem.

Description of Multiuser Tomlinson Harashima Precoding (THP)

Channel Inversion (CI) precoding overcomes the changes made by the channel during the transmission by applying the Moore-Penrose pseudo inverse of the channel at the transmitter side, i.e., the data vector is precoded in order to remove inter-user interference. The basic assumption at this point is therefore perfect channel state information (CSI). A drawback of CI precoding is the increase of the transmit power [1]. Prior to transmission, the precoded signal has to be scaled in order to normalize the transmit power according to the restrictions of the base station. In order to solve the problem, the multiuser THP uses modulo operation to reduce the transmit power, in combination with the successive cancellation at the transmitter. The block diagram of the multiuser THP is shown in Figure 1.

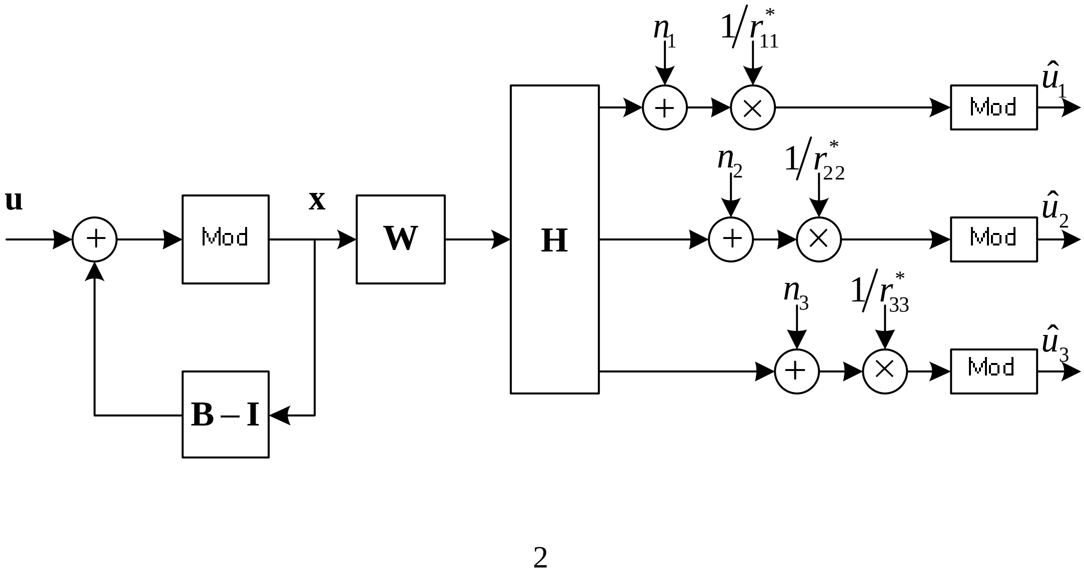


Figure 1: Block diagram of the multiuser THP

In the multiuser THP, a channel matrix can be decomposed as

$$\mathbf{H} = \mathbf{R}^H \mathbf{Q}^H \quad (1)$$

where Q is a unitary matrix and R is a upper triangular. We can then define the feedback matrix B, with ones on the diagonal, as

$$\mathbf{B} = \mathbf{G}\mathbf{R}^H \quad (2)$$

where the scaling matrix $\mathbf{G} = \mathrm{diag}\left((\mathrm{r}_{11}^*)^{-1}, (\mathrm{r}_{22}^*)^{-1}, \cdots, (\mathrm{r}_{\mathrm{KK}}^*)^{-1} \right)$. Because the triangular structure of the feedback matrix B, the symbols x_k, are successively generated from the data symbols
$u_k \in A = \left\{ a_I + ja_Q \,|\, a_I, a_Q \in \pm 1, \pm 3, ..., \left(\sqrt{M} - 1\right) \right\}$

$$x_k = u_k - \sum_{l=1}^{k-1} b_{kl} x_l, k = 1, ..., K \quad (3)$$

Since this strategy would increase transmit power significantly, the modulo reduction reduces the transmit symbols into the boundary region of A. Mathematically, integer multiples of $2\sqrt{M}$ are added to the real and imaginary part of x_k. Now, the channel symbols are given as

$$x_k = u_k + p_k - \sum_{l=1}^{k-1} b_{kl} x_l \quad (4)$$

where $p_k \in \left\{ 2\sqrt{M} \cdot (p_I + jp_Q) \,|\, p_I, p_Q \in \mathbf{Z} \right\}$. In other words, instead of feeding the data symbols u_k into the linear pre-equalization, the effective data symbols $v_k = u_k + p_k$ are passed into B^{-1}, which is implemented by the feedback structure. Note that this choice is unique and done implicitly by the modulo operation.

The output of the modulo operator is input to the feed forward matrix W that can be defined as

$$\mathbf{W} = \mathbf{Q}. \quad (5)$$

It is worth noting that the signal x is in the boundary region of A and the feed forward matrix is unitary so that there is no power penalty in multiuser THP.

The received signal denoted by y, can be written as

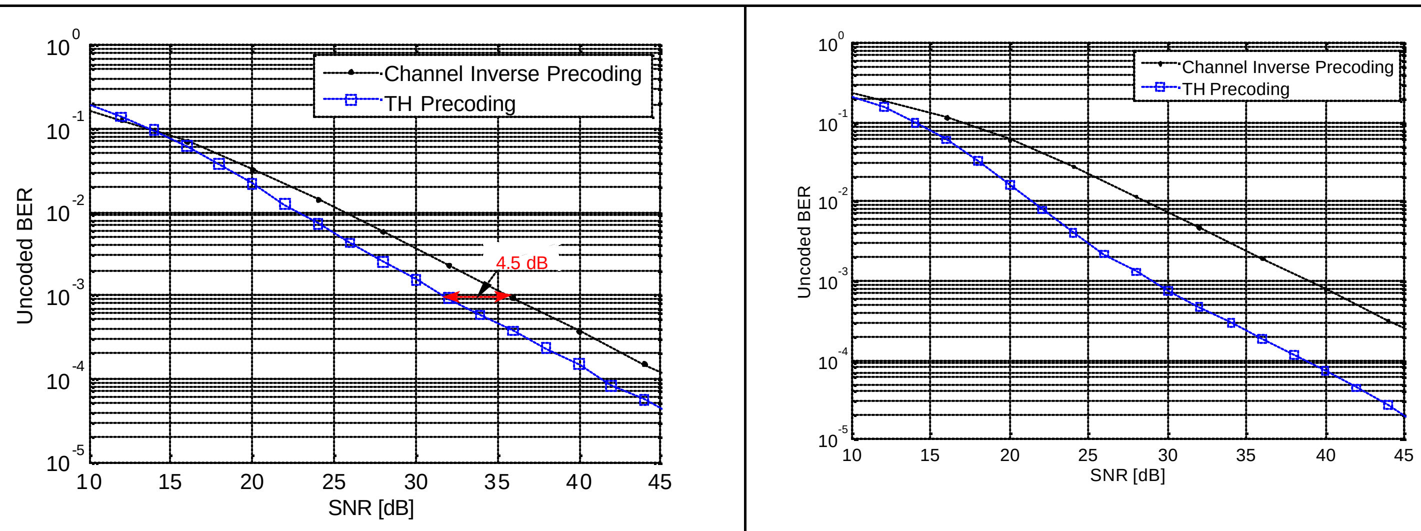
$$\begin{aligned} \mathbf{y} &= \mathbf{H}\frac{1}{\sqrt{g}}\mathbf{W}\mathbf{x} + \mathbf{n} = \frac{1}{\sqrt{g}}\mathbf{H}\mathbf{Q}\mathbf{B}^{-1}\mathbf{v} + \mathbf{n} \\ &= \frac{1}{\sqrt{g}}\mathbf{R}^H\left(\mathbf{G}\mathbf{R}^H\right)^{-1}\mathbf{v} + \mathbf{n} \\ &= \frac{1}{\sqrt{g}}\mathbf{G}^{-1}\mathbf{v} + \mathbf{n} \\ &= \frac{1}{\sqrt{g}}\mathbf{G}^{-1}(\mathbf{u} + \mathbf{p}) + \mathbf{n} \end{aligned} \quad (6)$$

where $g = \|\mathbf{W}\mathbf{x}\|^2$.

Since the G^{-1} is a diagonal, the interference at the users are eliminated . After the scaling operation of $\sqrt{g}\mathbf{G}$, the received signal is fed into the modulo reduction at the receiver and the original sequence u is recovered, because the modulo reduction is a unique operation.

Performance of the multiuser THP

In the section we demonstrate the performance achieved by the proposed non-linear technique Tomlinson-Harashima Precoding (THP) compared to linear Channel Inversion (CI) precoding. Here, we consider a multi-user downlink with a Gaussian MIMO channel. We assume a base station having two or four transmit antennas, and two or four users equipped with one receive antenna each, respectively. We further assume perfect channel knowledge at the transmitter. In each frame, spatial streams are being transmitted to the users, one per user.



(a) MU-MIMO 2x2 | (b) MU-MIMO 4x4

Figure 2: Comparison of THP and Channel Inverse Precoding

Note that MU-MIMO 2x2 is the configuration of 2 transmit antennas with 2 users with 1 antenna each and MU-MIMO 4x4 is for 4 transmit antenna with 4 users. Figure 2 shows the average performance of an uncoded transmission using 16-QAM modulation. The gain in terms of uncoded bit error rate (UBER) between Channel Inversion Precoding and multiuser THP is evident, as we can observe a performance gap of approx. 10 dB and 5 dB respectively at the 0.1% UBER line, which has shown clearly that the proposed nonlinear THP precoding achieves significant gain over linear precoding.

Proposed pilot structure

In 802.16e, procoding was specified to employ the dedicated pilot (pilot is precoded in the same way as data) in order for MS to estimate the effective channel $g^{-1/2}\mathbf{G}$ without any knowledge of the precoding scheme. However in the multiuser THP, because the increase of the data symbols is compensated by the modulo reduction, it cannot be used for the pilot because the pilot have to reflect the channel state information. The reduction of the modulo part could be a straight forward manner to transmit the pilot, however, there must be a problem of the increase of transmit power owing to the feedback matrix and it decreases the channel estimation performance.

In this contribution we propose to use the feedforward matrix for the transmission of the pilot. Here we show the examples for 2x2 system. The received pilot represented by y_{pilot} is written as

$$\begin{aligned}
\mathbf{y}_{pilot} &= \mathbf{H}\frac{1}{\sqrt{g}}\mathbf{W}\mathbf{u}_{pilot} + \mathbf{n}_{pilot} \\
&= \frac{1}{\sqrt{g}}\mathbf{R}^{H}\mathbf{Q}^{H}\mathbf{Q}\mathbf{u}_{pilot} + \mathbf{n}_{pilot} \\
&= \frac{1}{\sqrt{g}}\mathbf{R}^{H}\mathbf{u}_{pilot} + \mathbf{n}_{pilot} \\
&= \frac{1}{\sqrt{g}}\begin{bmatrix} r_{11}^{*}u_{pilot,1} \\ r_{22}^{*}u_{pilot,2} + r_{12}^{*}u_{pilot,1} \end{bmatrix} + \mathbf{n}_{pilot}
\end{aligned} \qquad (7)$$

Since only the unitary matrix is used, this transmit signal does not suffer from the power penalty. The received signal, however, suffers from the interference owing to the triangular stricture of R^H. It can be eliminated by using the orthogonal structure of the pilot and the pilot allocation. Figure 3 shows one example of the pilot structure and allocation with multiuser THP.

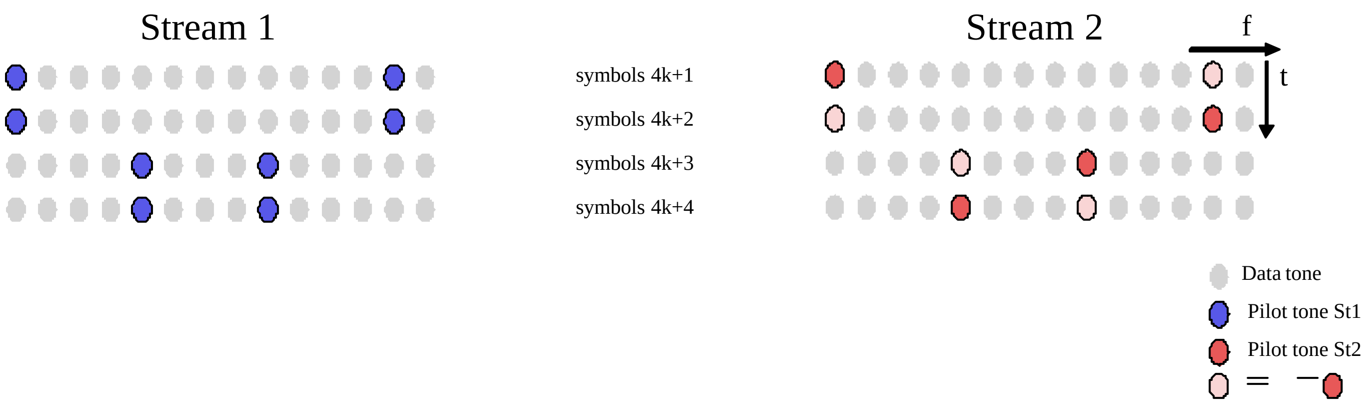


Figure 3: Designed pilot structure and allocation with multiuser THP

For example, the stream 1 transmits $u_{pilot,1}$ and $u_{pilot,2}$ at the symbols of 4k+1 and of 4k+2, respectively. On the other hand, the stream 2 transmits $u_{pilot,1}$ and $-u_{pilot,2}$, respectively. The orthogonal operation within the two symbols can eliminate the interference in (7) .

Channel estimation performance

We'll show how much degradation occurs in a straightforward manner (denoted as *conventional*) and also show the proposed structure can solve the problem. The mean square errors (MSE) of the pilot estimation is calculated to evaluate the channel estimation performance. For example, the MSE for user 1 is

$$MSE = E\left\{\left(r_{11}^{*} - \hat{r}_{11}^{*}\right)^{2}\right\} = E\left\{\left(r_{11}^{*} - r_{11}^{*} - \sqrt{g}\,n_{1}\right)^{2}\right\} = E\{g\}\,s_{n}^{2} \qquad (8)$$

In the conventional scheme, the transmit power denoted by g_c is written as

$$g_c = \|\mathbf{Wx}\|^2 = \|\mathbf{QB}^{-1}\mathbf{u}\|^2 = \mathbf{u}^H\mathbf{B}^{-H}\mathbf{B}^{-1}\mathbf{u} \qquad (9)$$

On the other hand, the transmit power of the proposed scheme becomes

$$g_s = \|\mathbf{Wx}\|^2 = \|\mathbf{Qu}\|^2 = \|\mathbf{u}\|^2 = s_s^2 \qquad (10)$$

The definition of the SNR is $SNR = \frac{s_s^2}{s_n^2}$, where s_n^2 shows the noise variance. The gain achieved by using the proposed scheme can be written as g_c / g_s.

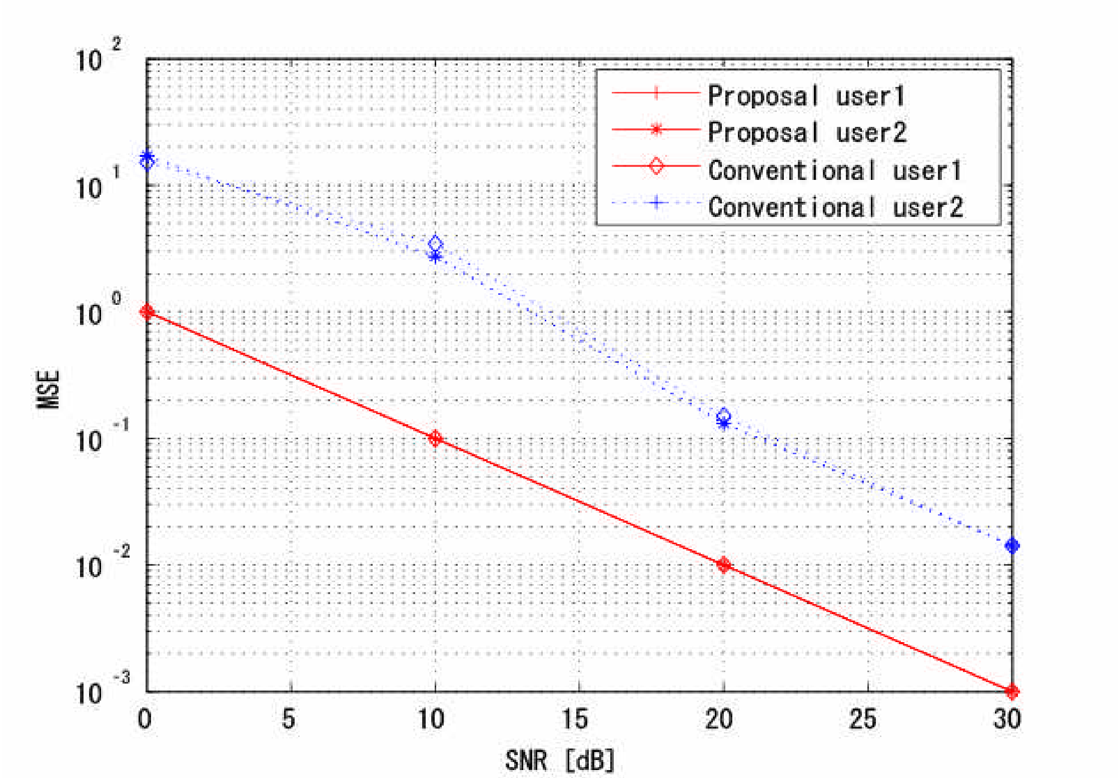


Figure 4: MSE performance of channel estimation

Figure 4 shows the MSE performance of the channel estimation by using computer simulation. The channel is iid fat-Raleigh fading channel. It can be seen that the MSE of the conventional pilot structure suffer from the power penalty as in (9). By using the proposed algorithm, the MSE performance is improved as predicted in (10).

Conclusions and recommendations

Multiuser THP is proposed to be one of the technique for the MU-MIMO which shall be specified in the System Description Document (SDD). The multiuser THP gives better performance than the linear channel inversion algorithm. However, there is a problem of transmitting the pilot signal. The proposed algorithm can transmit the pilot without power penalty, and therefore it represented better channel estimation performance.

We propose to specify Multiuser THP in SDD with proposed pilot structure.

~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~ Text Input start ~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~

x.x.x MU-MIMO

[Insert the following subclause]

x.x.x.y Multiuser THP

[Yong Sun: shall we provide here a concise definition and specification of Multiuser THP]

The multiuser THP uses the modulo operation in combination with the successive cancellation at the transmitter.

x.x.x.y.z Pilot structure to support 2x2 MU-MIMO

For MU-MIMO THP operation, the pilot structure shall have a converse pilot pattern on one stream. There is no restriction on location of the pilot which can adopt legacy pilot pattern. One example of the pilot structure for Multiuser THP is defined as shown in Figure xyz to support 2x2 MU-MIMO.

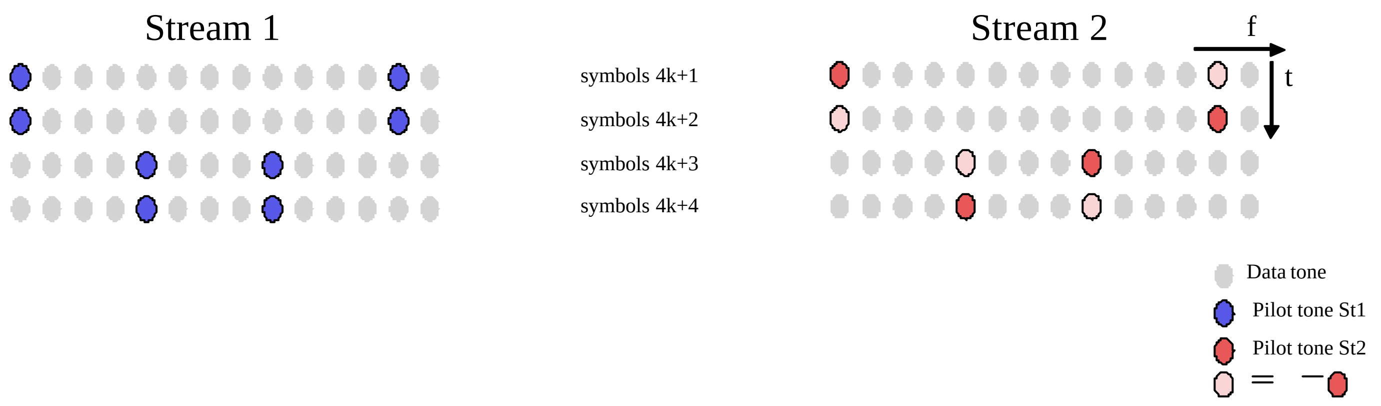


Figure xyz: Designed pilot structure and allocation with multiuser THP

[Yong Sun: I think it might be good to give a short description on the proposed pilot and its structure here, how do you feel? However, I am wondering if this is the exact pilot and structure we want to propose? - as I noticed that it is mentioned that this is only an example…]

yyy. TLV Encodings

yyy.x. SS capabilities encodings

[Insert new subclauss yyy.x.yz]

yyy.x.yz. Modulo capability support

Name	Type	Length	Value	Scope
Modulo capability	TBD	1	0: no modulo support 1: modulo support	REG-REQ REG-RSP

yyy.y. Modulo mode support

This field indicates the SS operation mode. A SS uses this field in SBC-REQ in indicate its modulo operation mode.

The BS uses this field in SBC-RSP to confirm the SS mode.

Name	Type	Length	Value	Scope
Modulo mode	TBD	1	0: no modulo mode 1: modulo mode	SBC-REQ/RSP

yyy.z. MU-MIMO feature support

This TLV indicates the MU-MIMO features supported by the BS

Name	Type	Length	Value	Scope
MU-MIMO feature	TBD	1	Bit #0: Linear Precoding Bit #1: Vector Perturbation Bit #2: THP Bit #3-7: Reserved	REG-REQ REG-RSP

While the TLV indicates the MU-MIMO features supported by the BS is THP precoding, the pilot specified in subclause x.x.x.y.z shall be adopted.

~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~ Text Input end ~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~

References

[1] C. Windpassinger, R. F. H. Fischer, T. Vencel, and J. B. Huber, "Precoding in multiantenna and multiuser communications," *IEEE Trans. Wireless Commun.*, vol. 3, no. 4, pp. 1305-1316, July 2004.