PAPR Reduction Method based on In-phase/Quadrature Data Symbol Components in MIMO-OFDM Systems

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Abstract—To overcome unpredictable spikes in the peak-to-average power ratio (PAPR) in the presence of an orthogonal frequency-division multiplexing (OFDM) for multi-input-multi-output (MIMO) systems, implementation of a new SLM scheme is presented in this paper, which is extended from our previous study of IQ-SLM in SISO-OFDM system. In each transmit antenna, both real and imaginary parts of the base-band data symbol were modified independently using a corresponding phase element within a commonly generated phase vector, instead of modifying the complex data symbol as a single component. After applying an inverse fast Fourier transform (IFFT) for the real, imaginary, and original base-band vectors, the minimum PAPR component was observed. Therefore, the phase vector that introduced the minimal PAPR was considered to convert the original data block for transmission. This technique is called the In-phase/Quadrature-SLM (IQ-SLM) scheme. In this proposal, only $U$ phase vectors were generated to treat all $N_t$ data blocks, simultaneously, unlike the conventional MIMO-SLM techniques which generate $U N_t$ candidate phase blocks. The thing which, in turn, can be considered as a further computational complexity reduction, specifically in data-phase conversion stages. As a result, in terms of the complementary cumulative distribution function of PAPR performance (CCDF-PAPR), the proposal achieved a greater decibel reduction than conventional SLM methods such as dSLM, oSLM, and sSLM, at different subcarrier lengths $N_t$, candidate phase vectors $U$, transmit antennas $N_t$. Also, it shows a comparable BER performances over the dSLM scheme referencing to the theoretical curves, in the case where $N_t \leq N_r$ for both zero-forcing (ZF) and ZF with vertical Bell laboratories layered space-time (V-BLAST) detector.

Keywords—Peak-to-average power ratio (PAPR), ZF-VBLAST, selective mapping (SLM), IQ-SLM, complementary cumulative distribution function (CCDF), MIMO-OFDM.

I. INTRODUCTION

A HIGH peak-to-average-power-ratio (PAPR) reduction in transmitter is essential in preventing the orthogonal frequency-division multiplexing (OFDM) signals from being clipped by non-linear high-power amplifiers (HPA). Increasing the linearity range of the power amplifier is optional solution; however, a shorter battery life and higher cost will be assumed [2], [3]. Thus, a PAPR reduction technique is demanded as another option to cope with this phenomenon. Hence, numerous proposals for PAPR reduction have been developed, for both single-input-single-output (SISO) and multi-input-multi-output (MIMO) systems, including tone reservation [4], clipping and filtering [5] and [12], block-coding [6] and [11], and probabilistic methods [2], [7], [8]. All of these attractive methods help reduce PAPR at the expense of system performance, efficiency, or computational complexity. Among these techniques, selected mapping (SLM) is the most commonly applied being free of distortion, hence it has been considered in this paper.

For SLM PAPR reduction in MIMO and massive-MIMO systems, a great number of proposals has been put forwarded. For instance, in the last few years, attractive schemes that deal with PAPR reduction via different mechanisms have been described [21]–[24]. Adaptive tone reservation scheme for PAPR reduction in large scale Multi-User MIMO-OFDM (MU MIMO-OFDM) systems was investigated by Chunxing Ni. et al. [21]. They found that only a segment of the signals has substantial power among all transmit antennas. An adaptive tone reservation (ATR) scheme was proposed to iteratively perform the TR scheme on the antenna with the maximum PAPR. Moreover, Bao et al. [22] represented a perturbation-assisted scheme and developed it to reduce the PAPRs of the transmitted signals by exploiting the redundant degrees-of-freedom inherent in the large-scale antenna array. In consequence, two efficient algorithms, referred to as PROXINF-ADMM1 and PROXINF-ADMM2, have been developed. Further, a letter by Long Chen et al. [23] proposed a two-step peak clipping (TPC) scheme to specifically decrease the PAPRs of the DM signals and presents a highly efficient DM transmitter with digital predistortion (DPD). However, these schemes suffer from the BER increment due to signal clipping, in addition to the fact that all these attractive proposals cannot be classified under the umbrella of distortionless (probabilistic) schemes. Moreover, by looking at a recent investigation method reported by Byung Moo Lee [24], attractive results via an SLM-based PAPR reduction scheme that can be applied to massive MIMO-OFDM antenna systems based on antenna grouping was illustrated. Lee’s basic idea was to divide the entire antenna system into several groups and apply a different set of phase
sequences to each group. Then, various adjustable parameters for the performance complexity trade-off can be obtained. He called this method grouping-based concurrent SLM (gbcSLM). Further, he assigned more phase sequences for those antennas that had higher PAPR signals to improve PAPR performance more efficiently by sorting the antennas based on the PAPR of the OFDM signal of each antenna, hence further modified gbcSLMs were generated and were referred to as group-based different phase sequence concurrent SLMs (gbdp(SLM)). This technique, however, emanated from the concurrent/simplified SLM (sSLM) [20], which will be considered in this paper for comparison purposes. While the obtained results in Lee were performed when applying a massive-MIMO system, the improvement was, somehow limited, while the number of candidate phase vectors \(V\) was very high compared to the sSLM scheme, which introduced more complexity. Most earlier techniques, which are referred to as ordinary-SLM and simplified/concurrent-SLM (oSLM and sSLM/cSLM), were provided by Back and Lee, respectively [19], [20]. Briefly, the oSLM scheme individually applies different \(U\)-SLM vectors to each of the \(N_t\) parallel OFDM frames, where \(N_t\) is the maximum number of transmit antennas, and the best phase modification for each \(U\) group is individually selected, whereas, applying the same \(U\)-SLM vectors for all \(N_t\)-OFDM frames, simultaneously, is called sSLM (or cSLM). From this point on, the most famous directed-SLM (dSLM) scheme has been represented by Fischer and Siegle [18], in the dSLM scheme, the budget of \(N_t\)-\(U\)-SLM vectors are applied to improve the currently highest PAPR over the antennas, only where needed. According to the investigated dSLM PAPR performance, the entire budget was specifically implemented such that the same complexity of \(U\) \(N_t\) IDFTs as that of oSLM and sSLM was required. However, for dSLM, instead of applying only \(U\) phase vectors per a transmit antenna, \(U\) \(N_t\) phase vectors were generated and implemented which, in return, improved the performance better than the other methods, oSLM and sSLM. These techniques will be included in Section III, for comparisons purposes.

Based on the above survey and to the best of our knowledge, two studies depending on complex data decomposition have been reported regarding a PAPR reduction. The first is a technique developed in part by Sudha and Kumar [13], who described a low-complexity PAPR reduction in an SLM-OFDM system using a time-domain sequence separation. Prior to the IDFT process, this method introduced a computational complexity in the same manner as a conventional SLM, where \(U\) IDFTs copies are processed. Moreover, after the IDFT process, the real/imaginary and even/odd components were decomposed for a PAPR reduction, which likely introduced extra complexity. Next, GAO et al. [14] discussed a method for use in a MIMO-OFDM system, where the complex data components were decomposed to implement \(V\) SLM vectors per component. However, this study reported a large value of the candidate vectors to be implemented at the OFDM, i.e. \(V^2\), with only a small CCDF-PAPR reduction gained compared to conventional SLM-MIMO techniques.

This paper is extended based on the concept of IQ-SLM technique which was applied to the transmission side only of the SISO-OFDM system and proposed by Al-Rayif [1]. The idea of this proposal has been modified to be implemented in the transmitter/receiver MIMO-OFDM system. That is, for each transmit antenna, the real and imaginary parts of each transmitted base-band symbol are separated and converted into modified phases by the corresponding candidate phase element, which is generated randomly, as demonstrated in the following section. In addition, for selecting the best PAPR, this proposed method was expanded to consider the original PAPR instead of comparing only the modified PAPRs of the inverse discrete Fourier transform (IDFT) copies. This proposal shows an extreme comparable result in terms of CCDF-PAPR and BER performances, at the same computational complexity as the conventional MIMO PAPR-reduction schemes like oSLM, sSLM, and dSLM schemes. It is worth mentioning that the source of such a computational complexity is mainly from the IDFT operation, although the process of the PAPR reduction method itself can introduce an additional complexity under certain scenarios. Therefore, the comparisons in this proposal consider the fundamental complexity of the represented IDFT, with a PAPR reduction method, as a reference. The main contributions of this proposal are as follows:

- A comparable PAPR reduction can be obtained when considering the original PAPR at the stage of counting for the lowest PAPR.
- By applying only \(U\) candidate phase vectors for all \(N_t\)-IDFT data blocks, the achieved PAPR reduction is still remarkable. Moreover, a significantly low number of bits of side information (SI) is needed, in case the designed system requires the transmission of SI, in contrast with dSLM and oSLM schemes.
- Regarding the computational complexity of the IDFT system, the complexity of the proposed approach and the oSLM, sSLM, and dSLM schemes can be considered equal \((U N_t\) - IDFTs), owing to the fact that the proposed real and imaginary parts are real quantities when each component is IDFT-processed separately.
- For testing the system performances, in terms of bit error rate (BER), both schemes dSLM and the proposed IQ-SLM were recovered without transmitting any side information. Keeping in mind that both schemes of IQ-SLM [1] and dSLM [18] were represented at only the transmission stage, hence, in this paper, its receivers have been designed as appropriate for the MIMO-OFDM system by coupling them with other schemes as follows. The approach of [2] and [16] was implemented with the proposed IQ-SLM to recover the original data at the receiver, whereas the recovery method of [17], partial orthogonal SLM (POSLM), was implemented with dSLM for conversion phases purposes. Based on that, BER performances have been investigated by the sub-optimal ZF and ZF-V-BLAST detection. Accordingly, the proposed IQ-SLM showed improvement and superior performance to the other technique at \(N_t \leq N_r\).

The remainder of this paper is organized as follows: The proposed system model is provided in Section II, followed by the simulation results and discussion in Section III. Finally, in Section IV, some concluding remarks are provided.
By extending this concept to MIMO-OFDM system, for each transmit antenna, the same described processes are implemented. Consequently, the $u$-th OFDM symbol of $i$-th transmit antenna with the lowest PAPR, $x_i^u$, is considered for transmission, i.e.,

$$x_i^u = x_i^u \left\{ \arg \min_{0 \leq u < U-1} \left\{ PAPR_i^{u,R}, PAPR_i^{u,I} \right\} \right\},$$

(2)

As for CCDF-PAPR counting, depending on the description of Equation (3) in [18], which expressed the CCDF-PAPR of the conventional SISO SLM as $\left(1 - (1 - e^{-\zeta_{th}})^N\right)^U$, and taking into consideration that in this proposal the $U$ are implemented separately to the real and imaginary parts, hence the joint probability can be formulated by $\left(1 - (1 - e^{-\zeta_{th}})^N\right)^{2U}$, where $\zeta_{th}$ is a certain threshold which is exceeded by the measured OFDM-PAPR. Since we count for the worst-case of this probability for all given $N_t$, the theoretical CCDF-PAPR in MIMO-OFDM system can be approximated to

$$\Pr \{ PAPR_{u'} > \zeta_{th} \} = \left(1 - (1 - e^{-\zeta_{th}})^N\right)^{N_t u'^2}. \tag{3}$$

Here, the maximum PAPR $i$ is considered for the worst case. Finally, the received $[N_t \times N]$ matrix $y$ can be expressed as

$$y = Hx^u + \eta$$

where $H \sim N_{[N_t \times N]} \{0, I_{N_t}\}$ perfectly known matrix of Rayleigh fading channel which contains uncorrelated complex Gaussian fading gains. $x^u$ is the $[N_t \times N]$ matrix of transmit symbols to which phases have been converted based on the phases of vector $v$ where

$$v \in \{0, 1, ..., U\}, \quad \text{and} \quad \eta \sim N_{[0, \sigma_{\eta}^2 I_{N_t}]} \{0, \sigma_{\eta}^2 I_{N_t}\}$$

matrix of i.i.d white complex Gaussian noise.

Thereafter, to reshape this received signal back to the original phase vector, the technique represented by [2], [16] was implemented with this proposal (IQ-SLM), whereas the scheme of [17] was implemented with dSLM and both detected by the sub-optimal zero-forcing (ZF) and ZF-VBLAST detectors without explicit side information. In brief, both methods introduced an extension factor $C > 1$ at a specific elements of the candidate phase vector according to the concept of each method. From this point on, at the receiver side, the recovery model of [16] can estimate the desired phase vector $P^u$ for each transmitted frame of the proposed IQ-SLM (in MIMO-OFDM system) via the following metric;

$$\alpha_v = \arg \min_{0 \leq u < U-1} \left\{ |E \left[ |Y|^2 \right] - \sigma_{\eta}^2 - \Gamma |H|^2 \left( P^u \right)^2 | \right\}$$

where $\Gamma$ denotes the average energy per transmitted complex symbol, $Y = \text{DFT} \{y\}$, and $P^u$ is the library of the generated phases vectors at the receiver. While the recovery model of [17] can be expressed as

$$P^u = \arg \max_{0 \leq u < U-1} \left\{ \sum_{n=\beta+1}^{N-1} \left\{ |Y \left[ |n| \right]|^2 - \left( p \left[ |n| \right] \right)^2 \right\} \right\}$$

to estimate the received phase vector of dSLM scheme, noting that only the subblock of the candidate phases from element $\beta + 1$ was generated orthogonally, and hence extending only the positive elements to the factor $C > 1$. Whereas, in the proposed IQ-SLM, because all phase blocks were generated randomly, hence each subblock with length $l = \frac{1}{2}$ per a phase vector was extended to the same value of $C$ whether the element was positive or negative, as represented in [2].

Under these assumptions, the increase energy per transmitted

$$PAPR = \max n \left[ \frac{|x_n|^2}{E \left[ |x_n|^2 \right]} \right]. \tag{1}$$
block can be determined as $10 \log_{10} \left( \frac{N(c^2-1)}{U} + 1 \right)$ (dB) for the proposed scenario, and $10 \log_{10} \left( \frac{\beta(1-c^2)+N(1+c^2)}{2N} \right)$ (dB) for the dSLM scenario.

### III. Numerical Results and Discussions

In this section, characteristics of the proposed scheme are numerically investigated. This investigation is based on an IQ decomposition, in terms of CCDF-PAPR reduction and bit error rate (BER) in MIMO-OFDM system. The numerical simulations were obtained at various parameters, including the OFDM block length $N$ (subcarriers/block/transmitter), transmit $N_t$ and receive $N_r$ antennas, the input-back-off (IBO) values, and the number of candidate phase vectors $U$. Last but not least, it is worth mentioning that the PAPR of discrete time samples were generated, which gives an estimate of the PAPR of continuous time signals when adding an oversampling factor $N_{os} = 4$ to the discrete OFDM frames. For simplicity, such a factor is omitted from the formulas of this paper.

#### A. CCDF-PAPR Performance and Computational Complexity in MIMO-OFDM

As mentioned above, this study considered the schemes dSLM, oSLM, and sSLM for comparison purposes where all depended on the SLM concept. It is also worth noting that the dSLM scheme showed superior performance over the sSLM and oSLM. Hence, based on the number of IDFTs (computational complexity), all methods, including the proposed IQ-SLM, were equivalent, i.e., $N_tU$ IDFTs plus the original $N_tU$ phase vectors. However, as for the complexity of the SLM conversion process, treatment with $U$ phase vectors (like the proposal and sSLM) performed at a lower complexity than $N_tU$ vectors (like oSLM and dSLM). Moreover, in terms of the number of bits side information (SI) required for recovery procedure, the proposed version and sSLM scheme were nearly the same, i.e., only $\log_2(U+1)$ and $\log_2(U)$, respectively. This was because all $N_t$ IDFTs were modulated with the same generated $U$ phase block, aside from the original data phase block, in the proposed version. Unlike the dSLM, which is operated with a budget of $N_tU$ phase blocks, $N_t \log_2(N_tU+1)$ bits SI were required, while in the oSLM version, $N_t \log_2(U)$ bits SI were required, to which each transmit antenna generated a different $U$ phase blocks. For example, if $N_t = 4$ antennas, and $U = 4$ phase blocks, then the proposed scheme needed about 3 bits SI, whereas about 16 bits SI were required in the dSLM version. In this paper, none of these procedures was necessary because the implemented system needed no SI for recovery of original data phases. According to the CCDF-PAPR characteristics, Figs. 2-4 display the CCDF-PAPR for the proposed IQ-SLM, sSLM, oSLM, and dSLM schemes. In Fig.2, it is visible that the proposed IQ-SLM performed superbly compared with the dSLM for all numbers of transmit antennas $N_t$. Such was the case when fixing the number of transmit antennas and candidate phase blocks to $N_t = 4$ and $U = 4$, respectively, while varying the number of subcarriers/block to $N = 64$ and 512, as illustrated in Fig.3. It should be noted that the reduction gain of the proposed IQ-SLM was achieved by implementing only $U$ phase blocks to all transmit antennas, while in the dSLM, $U N_t$ phase blocks were implemented to reach the illustrated PAPR reductions. More specifically, in Fig.4, for $N = 256$ subcarriers/block, $U = 4$ phase blocks and $N_t = 4$ transmit antennas, equivalent budget of phase blocks was generated, i.e., $U_{sSLM} = U_{dSLM} = U_{oSLM} = U_{IQSLM} = 16$ phase vectors implemented for all schemes to represent the favorable results. Once again, the proposed IQ-SLM performed better than all other techniques and was able to gain more than $5dB$ from the original PAPR reduction, and about 1.25dB from the dSLM scheme.

To conclude, two main reasons could be stand behind these behaviors of results. The first is from the fact that the norm value of the complex symbol is greater than that of a real or imaginary part separately. Therefore, the overall average power and the maximum peak are reduced in IQ-SLM, and in consequence, the PAPR ratio is reduced as well. The second possible reason is that when applying $U$ phase vectors randomly on each separated real and imaginary component, the similarity of each OFDM copy to the other can be reduced to the best level, particularly when having larger number of differences (choices) of data conversions. As a consequence, the chance to obtain a lower PAPR is increased as demonstrated in the simulation results. This is not what happens when completely non-random phase vectors (partly orthogonal phase vectors) $U$ are implemented.

#### B. Bit Error Rate (BER) Performance

This section studies the impact of the proposed IQ-SLM on the performance of the MIMO-OFDM system in terms of BER, in comparison to the dSLM scheme at the same inputs. Considering that, as mentioned in Section-II, the proposed IQ-SLM structure depends on $l$ extended elements, for recovery purpose, as represented in [2] and [16], while the dSLM system depends on the concept of POSLM recovery as discussed in [17] with $\beta \ll N$ and $(N - \beta)$ is the number

![Fig. 2. PAPR reduction for multiple transmit antennas (MIMO) at different numbers of $N_t$: $N = 512$ subcarriers, $U = 4$ phase vectors.](image-url)
of orthogonal elements in which only its positive elements are extended. From this point on, performances were obtained at different number of transmit \(N_t\) and receive \(N_r\) antennas, \(N\) subcarriers/ frame/ transmit antenna, non-linear power amplifier input-back-off (IBO), extension factor \(C\), and different length of parameter \(l = \frac{C}{r}\). Accordingly, we can classify the obtained results into two groups: the first group for which the number of transmit and receive antennas are equal, \(N_t = N_r\), and the results for which the number of transmit antennas are less than the receivers, \(N_t > N_r\), as drawn in Figs. 5 and 6, respectively. Looking at Fig. 5, it is possible to observe that with increasing the length of a transmitted OFDM block \(N\) while fixing all other inputs, as illustrated in Fig. 5a, Fig. 5b, and Fig. 5c, the overall performances are mended, however it is interesting to note that the performances of the proposed IQ-SLM is much superior to the dSLM performances, for all cases. Also, it can be demonstrated that the estimated signals of the proposal technique outperform the other when implementing the ZF-V-BLAST detector. Furthermore, Fig. 6 displays the BER performances at \(N_r > N_t\) and the input-back-off is increased from IBO = 5 dB (Fig. 6a) to IBO = 7 dB (Fig. 6b). This figure shows how the increase in the number of receive antennas participates in improving both ZF and ZF-V-BLAST performances, in comparison to the previous figure. On the other hand, from Fig. 6a, we can recognize that, despite the proposed IQ-SLM superiority, its performance diverges from the theoretical lines, which is due to the impact of IBO decreasing, even with high \(E_b/N_r\). Whereas in Fig. 6b, the estimated IQ-SLM are very near to the theoretical lines, unlike the dSLM scheme which still suffers from the IBO effect. To end, the small differences between the theoretical lines and the estimated lines of the proposal can be caused by the extension factor, that is \(C = 1.5\). Accordingly, the reason behind this distinction of the proposed system IQ-SLM can be summarized in the following factors. The first is due to the structure of the generated POSLM phase sequence itself, which is designed to consist of two parts: the first is random (up to \(\beta\)) and the second is orthogonal (from \(\beta + 1\) to \(N\)), so that the latter is used to reconstruct the original phases at the receiver side. Thus, the shorter the length of the generated phase vector, the shorter the length of the orthogonal part, and thus the reconstruction process resulted in more errors in the side information, as illustrated in Fig. 7. From this figure, it can be noticed that the dSLM scheme (via POSLM) needs higher value of \(C\), i.e. extra energy, to achieve the same performance of the proposal (IQ-SLM), for all inputs of IBO (dB) and SNR (dB). For instance, at SIER = \(10^{-3}\), the dSLM scheme requires extra extended value to perform as the same as the proposed IQ-SLM, at both low and high SNR = 10 and 30 dB. The second factor is the amount of increase energy per a frame when injecting the extension factor \(C\) inside the generated phase vector, for recovery process. To clarify, assume the length of the generated phase sequence is \(N = 128\) elements for both schemes, IQ-SLM and POSLM. Hence, based on the POSLM design, only the +1s inside the orthogonal part (say at \(\beta = \frac{N}{4} = 64\)) is extended to \(C\) (say \(C = 1.5\)). However, in the proposed IQ-SLM, \(l\) elements are extended to \(C\). In other words, if \(U = 4\) candidate phase vectors, then \(l = 2^{l_1} = 32\) elements/vector must be extended to \(C = 1.5\) either the element was +1 or -1. Consequently, the overall increased energy for the IQ-SLM is greater than that of POSLM, therefore the recovery metric of the proposal operates better than the recovery metric of POSLM. Fig. 8 demonstrates a comparisons between the increase energy versus extension factor \(C\) for both POSLM and IQ-SLM at different lengths of subvector \(l\), \(N = 128\) elements/block and \(\beta = 64\). This figure shows that the POSLM technique requires lower energy than the proposed IQ-SLM scheme for all values of \(N \geq l \geq 1\) which is a logical reason behind the improvement in the IQ-SLM BER performance, but at the expense of the energy consumed. Should the reader need further details about these schemes, it is recommended to see the proposal of [2], [16], and [17].

IV. CONCLUSION

In this paper, IQ-SLM PAPR reduction method based on In-phase and Quadrature data symbol components was
The performance of this technique was shown for each transmitter, simultaneously, then the maximum PAPR among the real and imaginary parts separately. By considering the lowest PAPR among the original phases of data sequence after decomposing its blocks, for all transmit antennas, to convert the performances. The PAPR was reduced by approximately 10 dB from the dSLM, oSLM, and sSLM curves, respectively. The results of the proposed IQ-SLM showed impressive and superior achievement in terms of PAPR and BER performances. The PAPR was reduced by approximately 1, 2, and 2.5 dB from the dSLM, oSLM, and sSLM curves, respectively, at \( N = 256 \) subcarriers and \( P_{r}[PAPR > PAPR_0] = 10^{-4} \), specifically, at \( U_{IQSLM} = U_{oSLM} = U_{sSLM} = U_{SLM} = 16 \) phase vectors. In addition, this proposal represents a satisfactory BER performances when \( N_t \leq N_r \) in comparison with the performances of dSLM scheme, when implementing both ZF and ZF-VBLAST detectors. Nevertheless, this is at expense of energy consumed per a transmitted phase vector, which can be considered as a future study.

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Fig. 7. Side information error rate (SIER) versus different levels of extension factor $C$ at $U = 4$ phase blocks, $N = 128$ subcarriers, $N_I = 2$ antennas, and $\beta = 64$ orthogonal elements/frame with SNR = 10 and 30 dB.

Fig. 8. Comparisons of increase energy (dB) per a frame versus different levels of extension factor $C$ at $U = 4$ phase blocks, $N = 128$ subcarriers, $N_I = 2$ antennas, and $\beta = 64$ orthogonal elements/frame.

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