We investigate receiver designs and CQI (channel quality indicator) measures for the jointly encoded (JE) and separately encoded (SE) types of MIMO transmission. For the JE transmission, we develop a per-Walsh code joint detection structure consisting of a front-end linear filter followed by joint symbol detection among all the streams. We derive a class of filters that maximize the so-called constrained mutual information, and show that the conventional LMMSE and MVDR equalizers belong to this class. This constrained mutual information also provides us with a CQI measure describing the MIMO link quality, similar to the notion of generalized SNR. Such a measure is essential for both link adaptation and also to provide a means of link-to-system mapping. For the case of SE transmission, we extend the successive decoding algorithm of per-antenna rate control (PARC) to multipath channels, and show that in this case successive decoding achieves the constrained mutual information. Meanwhile, similar to the case of JE schemes, we also derive proper CQI measures for the SE schemes.

Keywords and phrases: CDMA, MIMO, PARC, CQI, link-to-system mapping, constrained optimization.

1. INTRODUCTION

Information-theoretic studies in [4, 5] showed that multiple-transmit, multiple-receive-antenna MIMO systems offer potential for realizing high spectral efficiency in a wireless communications system. In [6, 7], a practical MIMO configuration, a Bell Labs layered space-time (BLAST) system, is deployed to realize this high spectral efficiency for a narrowband TDMA system. MIMO schemes are also being considered for standardization in WCDMA/HSDPA, and may be considered for CDMA2000 as well in the near future. From the point of view of packet transmission with forward error-correction coding, MIMO schemes can be classified into two categories, namely, jointly encoded (JE) and separately encoded (SE). In a JE scheme, a single encoded packet is transmitted over multiple spatial streams, whereas in SE each spatial stream consists of a separately encoded packet. Coded-VBLAST and its variants [8], as well as space-time codes [9], fall under the JE category, while schemes such as per-antenna rate control (PARC) and its variants belong to the SE category [2, 10, 11].

For both JE and SE schemes, one key aspect of the MIMO-CDMA system study is to design receivers that can reliably decode the transmitted signals in a frequency-selective channel, where the signal is corrupted by both the interchip interference (ICI) and the cochannel interference (CCI). The linear minimum mean square error (LMMSE) or minimum variance distortionless response (MVDR) chip equalizers [12, 13, 14, 15] are shown to be promising means of improving the receiver performance. The adaptive version of these algorithms can be found in [16, 17]. Another alternative is the recursive Kalman filtering approach.
proposed in [18]. The study of advanced receivers also leads us to a better characterization of the MIMO-CDMA link. Such characterization of a wireless link, usually known as channel quality indicator (CQI), is very important from the overall system evaluation perspective, both in terms of link adaptation and link-to-system mapping [19]. In SISO systems, the CQI of a wireless link is usually reported to the base station (BS) in the form of the instantaneous SNR seen at the mobile station (MS). At the BS, the scheduler performs the link adaptation by comparing this CQI with some preset threshold to determine the proper modulation and coding scheme (MCS) for this MS. The CQI is also used in generating the so-called short-term frame error rate (FER) versus SNR curves, which provides a simple abstraction of the link for the purpose of system-level simulations. In SISO systems, the mappings of CQI to both MCS and FER, denoted as MCS(CQI) and FER(CQI), are single-dimensional mappings. For MIMO systems, if an SE MIMO scheme is used, the CQI of each coded stream can still be represented by a single SNR and hence, the single-dimensional mapping of both MCS(CQI) and FER(CQI), just as in the SISO case. However, for JE MIMO schemes, various portions of a packet see different SNRs, and hence the mapping is potentially a complicated multidimensional problem.

In this paper, we first derive a single CQI measure for the JE systems in frequency-selective channels, in order to avoid the complications of multidimensional mappings. The CQI proposed here is based on a so-called per-Walsh code joint detection structure consisting of a front-end linear filter followed by joint symbol detection among all the streams. We derive a class of filters that maximizes the so-called constrained mutual information, and show that the conventional LMMSE and MVDR equalizers belong to this class. Similar to the notion of generalized SNR (GSNR) [1], this constrained mutual information provides us with a CQI measure describing the MIMO link quality. Such a CQI measure is essential in providing a simple one-dimensional mapping for the purpose of link-to-system mapping for JE schemes. For the case of SE transmission, on the other hand, we extend the successive decoding algorithm of PARC [2, 3] to multipath channels, and show that in this case successive decoding achieves the constrained mutual information mentioned earlier. We also derive the link quality measures for the SE transmission similar to those for JE transmission. We use these measures in simulations with link adaptation.

The rest of the paper is organized as follows. Section 2 presents the MIMO signal model and notation, followed by the treatment of JE MIMO schemes in Section 3 and SE PARC-type schemes in Section 4. Finally, the simulation results are presented in Section 5.

2. MIMO SIGNAL MODEL FOR CDMA DOWNLINK

Consider an $M$-transmit-antenna, $N$-receive-antenna MIMO CDMA system as illustrated in Figure 1. After channel coding (which can be either jointly encoded over antennas, or separately for different antennas), the modulated symbol streams are demultiplexed before transmission. We denote the number of active users in the system as $U$ and the number of Walsh codes assigned to these users as $K_1, ..., K_U$, where $K = \sum_{u=1}^{U} K_u$ is the total number of active Walsh codes. Without loss of generality, we assume throughout this paper that the first user is the user of interest. As shown in Figure 2, the signal model at the $m$th transmit antenna is given as follows:

$$d_m(i) = c(i) \sum_{k=1}^{K} \alpha_k a_{k,m}(j)s_k(i - jG),$$  \hfill (1)
where \( G \) is the spreading gain of the system,\(^1\) and \( i, j, m, \) and \( k \) are chip, symbol, transmit antenna, and spreading code indices. Note that by definition, \( j = \lfloor i/G \rfloor \), where \( \lfloor \cdot \rfloor \) denotes ceiling operation. The base station scrambling code \( b_{cs} \) is denoted by \( c(i) \). Meanwhile, \( a_k \) stands for the signal amplitude associated with spreading code \( k \) (we assume for simplicity that for a given Walsh code \( k \), the amplitudes are the same for all antennas, extension to MIMO systems with uneven powers across antennas is possible), \( a_{km}(j) \) is the \( j \)th symbol transmitted at antenna \( m \) on Walsh code \( k \), and \( s_k = [s_k(1), \ldots, s_k(G)]^T \) is the \( k \)th Walsh code. Note that in this model we have implicitly assumed that the same set of Walsh codes is used across all the transmit antennas.

The transmitted signals propagate through the MIMO multipath fading channel denoted by \( \mathcal{H}_0, \ldots, \mathcal{H}_L \), where each matrix is of dimension \( N \Delta \times M \), where \( \Delta \) is an integer that denotes number of samples per chip. The signal model at the receive antennas are thus given by the following equation, after stacking up the received samples across all the receive antennas for the \( i \)th chip interval:

\[
y_i = \sum_{l=0}^{L} \mathcal{H}_l d_{i-l} + n_i, \tag{2}
\]

Note that \( y_i = [y_{i,1}^T, \ldots, y_{i,N}^T]^T \) is of length \( N \Delta \), and each small vector \( y_{i,m} \) includes all the temporal samples within the \( i \)th chip interval. Meanwhile, \( L \) is the channel memory length, \( d_{i-l} = [d_i(l-1), \ldots, d_M(l-1)]^T \) is the transmitted chip vector at time \( i-l \), and \( n_i \) is the \((N \Delta - 1)\)-dimensional white Gaussian noise vector with \( n_i \sim \mathcal{N}(0, \sigma^2 I_{N \Delta}) \). Note that \( \sigma^2 \) denotes noise variance and \( I_{N \Delta} \) is the identity matrix of size \( N \Delta \times N \Delta \). Furthermore, in order to facilitate the discussion on the linear filters at the receiver, we stack up a block of \( 2F+1 \) small received vectors (note that the notation of \( 2F+1 \) suggests that we are assuming the filters to be “centered” with \( F \) taps on both the causal and anticausal side):

\[
y_{i+F-1} = H d_{i+F-1-L} + n_{i+F-1}, \tag{3}
\]

where \( 2F+1 \) is the length of the LMMSE equalizing filter and

\[
y_{i+F-1} = [y_{i,F}^T, \ldots, y_{i,0}^T]^T \quad (2F+1)N \Delta \times 1),
\]

\[
n_{i+F-1} = [n_{i,F}^T, \ldots, n_{i,0}^T]^T \quad (2F+1)N \Delta \times 1),
\]

\[
d_{i+F-1-L} = [d_{i,F}^T, \ldots, d_{i,0}^T]^T \quad (2F+L+1)M \times 1),
\]

\[
H = \begin{bmatrix}
\mathcal{H}_0 & \cdots & \mathcal{H}_L \\
\vdots & \ddots & \vdots \\
\mathcal{H}_0 & \cdots & \mathcal{H}_L
\end{bmatrix} \quad ((2F+1)N \Delta \times (2F+L+1)M),
\]

where the dimensions of the matrices are given next to them. Note that to keep the notation more intuitive, we keep the subscripts at a “block” level. For instance, \( y_{i+F-1} \) is the vector that contains blocks \( y_{i,F}, \ldots, y_{i,1} \), where each block is a vector of size \( N \Delta \times 1 \). The transmitted chip vector \( d_{i+F-1-L} \) is assumed to be zero-mean, white random vectors whose covariance matrix is given by \( R_{dd} = \sigma_d^2 I_{2F+L+1} \). We further define some more notation for future use. We define \( d_i = [d_{i+L+1}, \ldots, d_{i+L}] \), where \( d_{i+L} \) denotes the submatrix of \( d_{i+F-1-L} \) that includes all the elements of \( d_{i+L} \) except those in \( d_i \). With this definition, we rewrite the signal model (3) as

\[
y_{i+F-1} = H d_{i+F-1-L} + n_{i+F-1}, \tag{5}
\]

\( H \) is the submatrix in \( H \) that is associated with the subvector \( d_i \) and \( H_0 = H \mid d_i \). Furthermore, we define the covariance matrix of the received signal \( y_{i+F-1} \) as \( R \triangleq E[y_{i+F-1} y_{i+F-1}^H] = \sigma_d^2 I_{2F+L+1} + \sigma^2 I \) and a related matrix \( \bar{R} \triangleq R - \sigma_d^2 H_0 H_0^H = \sigma_d^2 H_0 H_0^H + \sigma^2 I \).

### 3. RECEIVERS AND CQI MEASURES FOR JE SCHEMES

In this section, we first propose a suboptimal yet computationally feasible receiver structure, the per-Walsh code joint spatial detection structure consisting of a front-end linear filter followed by joint detection across all spatial streams. We derive a class of filters that maximize the so-called constrained mutual information and show that this mutual information can act as a single CQI that characterizes the JE MIMO link.

Before we discuss the per-Walsh code joint detection structure, we note that at the first glance one may be tempted to use the instantaneous mutual information of the channel \( I(d_{i+F-1-L}; y_{i+F-1}) \) as the CQI of interest. While it is indeed a single quantity that fully characterizes the MIMO link at the moment, in a frequency-selective channel, the optimal decoding needed to achieve this mutual information requires a joint sequence detection algorithm known as vector Viterbi algorithm (VVA) [20]. Unfortunately, the VVA has a computational complexity that is exponential with both the number of transmit antennas \( M \) and number of Walsh codes \( K \), which becomes prohibitively high as \( M \) or \( K \) grows. Therefore, the channel mutual information by itself is not a good CQI measure since its associated receiver cannot be implemented in a realistic system.

To avoid these complexity issues, in this paper, we focus on a class of suboptimal receivers with the so-called per-Walsh code joint detection structure, as illustrated in Figure 3. In this structure, a front-end linear filter bank \( W \) (of size \( (2F+1)N \Delta \times M \)) converts the multipath MIMO channel into an effective single-path MIMO channel in some optimal fashion. That is,

\[
r_i(W) = W^H y_{i+F-1} = W^H H_0 d_i + \bar{n}, \tag{6}
\]

\(^1\)Although practical systems such as 1xEV-DV use different spreading gains for data and voice traffic, we assume a fixed spreading gain in this paper for simplicity of notation.
where the $M \times M$ matrix $W^H H_0$ denotes the effective postfiltering single-tap MIMO channel, $\hat{\mathbf{n}} \triangleq W^H \mathbf{d}_i + W^H \mathbf{n}_{i,F_s-F} \sim \mathcal{N}(0, W^H RW)$ is the $M \times 1$ postfiltering interference plus noise.

Our idea is to use the so-called constrained mutual information $I(\mathbf{d}_i; r_i(W))$ as the single CQI that characterizes the MIMO link. Let us verify if this is a valid choice, that is, if there is a computationally feasible receiver associated with this choice of CQI. To this end, we note that since $r_i(W)$ sees an effective single-path MIMO channel, the orthogonality of the Walsh codes allow us to separate symbols carried on different Walsh codes, and joint detection is only needed along the spatial dimension for each Walsh code, as shown in Figure 3. Therefore, the per-Walsh code joint detection structure is computationally feasible and $I(\mathbf{d}_i; r_i(W))$ is a valid choice of CQI to describe this MIMO link.

Since $I(\mathbf{d}_i; r_i(W))$ is dependent on the filter $W$, one would naturally want to design the filter $W$ such that the constrained mutual information $I(\mathbf{d}_i; r_i(W))$ is maximized. In the following sections, we turn our attention to the problem of optimizing the filter $W$, and show that this solution coincides with the LMMSE or MVDR solutions. Before we proceed, we complete the description of the signal models in Figure 3. Recall that $c(i)$ is the scrambling code and that $j = [i/G]$ is the valid index, we define $C(j) \triangleq \text{diag}\{c(jG), \ldots, c(jG + G - 1)\}$ as the diagonal matrix that denotes the scrambling operation for the $j$th symbol interval. With this nomenclature, we arrive at the output signals of the composite operations of chip-to-symbol downconversion, descrambling, and despreading on the collection of chip vectors $\{r_{jG}, \ldots, r_{jG+G-1}\}$:

$$
\mathbf{t}_k(j) = [r_{jG}, \ldots, r_{jG+G-1}] C^H(j) \mathbf{s}_k
= a_k W^H H_0 a_k(j) + \hat{\mathbf{n}}, \quad k = 1, \ldots, K_1,
$$

(7)

where $a_k(j) \triangleq [a_{k,1}(j), \ldots, a_{k,M}(j)]^T$ is the transmitted symbol vector carried on the $k$th Walsh code for the $j$th symbol interval and $\hat{\mathbf{n}} \sim \mathcal{N}(0, (1/G) W^H RW)$. Note that in (7) we have implicitly used the facts that (a) the Walsh codes are orthonormal, that is, $s_k^T s_{k2} = \delta_{k1,k2}$; (b) the scrambling code is pseudorandom, that is, $E[c(i)c^*(iG)] = \delta_{i,i,G}$, where $E[\cdot]$ denotes expectation operation and $(\cdot)^*$ denotes conjugate operation.

### 3.1 Optimizing $W$ by mutual information maximization

We proceed to obtain the filter $W$ that maximizes $I(\mathbf{d}_i; r_i(W))$. In order to obtain a closed-form solution, we assume $\mathbf{d}_i$ to be Gaussian and therefore we are really maximizing the (Gaussian) upper bound of this mutual information. Note that it is well understood that the MMSE receiver is mutual information maximizing in a more general context [21] and we provide the proof for the particular MIMO-CDMA system of interest for completeness.

Theorem 1. Assuming $\mathbf{d}_i$ to be Gaussian, the conditional mutual information $I(\mathbf{d}_i; r_i(W)|H)$ is maximized by (MC stands for maximum capacity) $W_{MC} = \bar{R}^{-1}H_0 A$ for any $M \times M$ invertible matrix $A$.

For the proof, see Appendix A.

#### 3.1.1 Connection to the LMMSE or MVDR chip MIMO equalizers

The idea of transforming a multipath channel to a single-path channel is better known as chip-level equalization of CDMA downlink, mostly using LMMSE or MVDR algorithms. Defining an error vector of $\mathbf{z} = \mathbf{d}_i - W^H \mathbf{y}_{i,F_s-F}$ and an error covariance matrix $R_{zz} = E[\mathbf{z}\mathbf{z}^H]$, the MIMO LMMSE chip-level equalizer $W$ is the solution of the following problem:

$$
W_{LMMSE} = \arg \min_W \text{Trace} (R_{zz})
= \arg \min_W E[\|\mathbf{d}_i - W^H \mathbf{y}_{i,F_s-F}\|^2],
$$

(8)

whose optimal solution is given by

$$
W_{LMMSE} = \frac{1}{\sigma_d^2} R_0^{-1} H_0.
$$

Defining $\tilde{\mathbf{d}}_{LMMSE} = W_{LMMSE}^H \mathbf{y}_{i,F_s-F}$ as the estimated chip vector, it is easy to see that this estimate is biased, since $E[\tilde{\mathbf{d}}_{LMMSE} | \mathbf{d}_i] = \sigma_d^2 H_0^2 R_0^{-1} H_0 \mathbf{d}_i \neq \mathbf{d}_i$. An unbiased estimate

![Figure 3: Block diagram of per-Walsh code joint detection.](image-url)
can be obtained by solving instead the MIMO MVDR problem:
\[ W_{\text{MVDR}} = \arg \min_W \text{Trace} \left( W^H R W \right), \quad \text{s.t.} \ W^H H_0 = I_M, \]

whose solution is \( W_{\text{MVDR}} = R^{-1} H_0 (H^H R^{-1} H_0)^{-1} \). Note that one can show that the MVDR solution is a special case of the so-called FIR MIMO channel-shortening filter [1]. We proceed to show in the following corollary that both LMMSE and MVDR solutions are actually mutual information maximizing. This result shows that one cannot do better than the simple LMMSE or MVDR filter, as long as these filters are followed by joint detection in the spatial dimension.

Corollary 1. Both the LMMSE and MVDR equalizer solutions, \( W_{\text{LMMSE}} \) and \( W_{\text{MVDR}} \), are mutual information maximizing.

For the proof, see Appendix B.

3.2. Two alternative CQI measures for JE MIMO

From the discussion above, it is clear that we can use \( I(d_i; y_{1:i:F-i:F}) \) as the single CQI to describe the MIMO link. However, the constrained mutual information \( I(d_i; y_{1:i:F-i:F}) \) is obtained with the assumption that modulation and coding are applied directly on the chip signals \( d_i \). Since a realistic CDMA systems the modulation and coding are always applied on symbol signals \( a_k(j) \), we should instead use the symbol-level mutual information \( I(a_k(j); t_k(j)) \) as the CQI of the link. To this end, note that once the front-end filter \( W_{\text{MC}} = R^{-1} H_0 A \) is fixed in Figure 3, it is straightforward to show that

\[ I(a_k(j); t_k(j)) = \log \left( I_M + \beta_k \sigma_k^2 H^H R^{-1} H_0 \right), \]

and consequently the single-dimensional mappings are defined as MCS(\( I(a_k(j); t_k(j)) \)) and FER(\( I(a_k(j); t_k(j)) \)), where \( \beta_k = \beta G \) is a scalar factor that translates the chip-level SNR (SNR of \( d_i \)) to the symbol-level SNR (SNR of \( t_k(j) \)). Note that here we have implicitly assumed that \( \alpha_1 = \cdots = \alpha_K \), which is a reasonable assumption for most practical situations.

Alternatively, we may also use another symbol-level CQI based on the so-called generalized SNR (GSNR) [1]:

\[ \text{GSNR}_k \triangleq \beta_k \frac{\text{Trace} \left( \sigma_k^2 I_M \right)}{\text{Trace} \left( R_{zz} (W_{\text{MVDR}}) \right)}, \]  

where \( R_{zz} \) is defined above (8). With this definition of GSNR, the single-dimensional mappings are defined as MCS(GSNR) and FER(GSNR).

Remark 1. The difference between chip and symbol mutual information suggests that we may combine the filter block \( W \) and the following block (down-conversion, etc.) in Figure 3 into a composite filter block, and then directly optimize this composite filter. However, a closer examination shows that doing so increases the complexity significantly without revealing much additional insight about the problem. The chip versus symbol mutual information discussion is analogous to the chip versus symbol-level equalization problem discussed in [15].

4. RECEIVERS AND CQIS FOR PARC-TYPE SE SCHEMES

We now turn our attention to PARC-type SE schemes. In this section, we extend the successive decoding algorithm of PARC [2, 3] to multipath channels, and show that in this case successive decoding achieve the constrained mutual information mentioned earlier. We also derive the link quality measures for the SE transmission similar to those for JE transmission.

4.1. Successive decoding in the presence of multipath

In [3], a capacity achieving successive decoding procedure is developed for a memoryless GMAC (Gaussian multiple-access channel). Here we follow the treatment in [3] and derive the successive decoding procedure in the presence of multipath, and show that in this case the successive decoding achieves the constrained mutual information \( I(d_i; y_{1:i:F-i:F}) \) we discussed in Section 3.1. Again, in the information analysis we assume that modulation and coding are directly applied on the chip signals for ease of exposition. We will show in a later subsection the changes and additions necessary for a realistic CDMA system where successive decoding and cancellation occur at symbol level.

We start by rewriting the signal model of (5) as \( y_{1:i:F-i:F} = H_0 d_i + n_i \), where \( n_i \sim \mathcal{N}(0,R) \), to stress that successive decoding is intended for the elements of \( d_i = [d_{i1}, \ldots, d_{iM}]^T \). To this end, let there be a successive decoding algorithm that decodes \( d_{i1} \rightarrow d_{i2} \rightarrow \cdots \rightarrow d_{iM} \) in that order. At each stage \( m \), assuming that all the previous symbols \( d_{i1}, \ldots, d_{i(m-1)} \) are correctly decoded, a decision variable \( u_{i,m} \) is generated as a linear combination of the output \( y_i \) and the previously decoded signals:

\[ u_{i,m} = f_m^H y_{1:i:F-i:F} - \sum_{l=1}^{m-1} b_{ml}^* d_{il} \]

\[ = f_m^H H_0 d_i + f_m^H n_i - \sum_{l=1}^{m-1} b_{ml}^* d_{il} \]

for \( 1 < m \leq M \) and \( 1 \leq l \leq m - 1 \). Note here each \( f_m \) is a \( (2F+1)N \Delta \times 1 \) vector known as feedforward vector and each \( b_{ml}^* \) is a scalar feedback coefficient (the conjugate operation \(* \) is here only for notational convenience when we move to vector-matrix representation). At each stage \( m \), we intend to maximize the mutual information \( I(u_{i,m}; d_{i,m}) \) by optimizing

\[ C_m = \max_{u_{i,m}} I(u_{i,m}; d_{i,m}), \]

where \( C_m \) denotes the maximum mutual information obtained at each stage. To solve (13), we first rewrite (12) as

\[ u_{i,m} = f_m^H H_0 d_{i,m} + f_m^H (H_0 y_{1:i:F-i:F} + n_i^* ) \]

\[ + f_m^H (H_0 y_{1:i:F-i:F} - b_{ml}^* d_{il}^*) d_{i,l} \]

\[ + f_m^H (H_0 y_{1:i:F-i:F} - b_{ml}^* d_{il}^*) d_{i,l} \], (14)
where \([m, 1] \triangleq \{1, \ldots, m - 1\}\) and \((m, 1 \ldots M\) are the indices before and after \(m\) within the set \(\{1, \ldots, M\}\), respectively. Accordingly, partitions of \(H_0\) and \(d_i\) are defined as \(H_0 = [H_{0,m}, h_{0,m}, H_{0,m}^*]\) and \(d_i = [d_{i,m}^T, d_{i,m}^*, d_{i,m}^*]^T\). Finally, the vector \(b_{m,m}\) is defined as \(b_{m,m} = [b_{m,1}, \ldots, b_{m,m-1}, 1]^T\). Defining the signal-to-interference-plus-noise ratio (SINR) of the (14) as \(y_m(f_m, b_{m,m})\), we have

\[
y_m(f_m, b_{m,m}) = \frac{\sigma_{d,m}^2 H_{0,m} b_{m,m} H_{0,m}^* f_m}{f_m^* R_m f_m + \sigma_{d,m}^2 H_{0,m}^* b_{m,m} - b_{m,m}^*},
\]

(15)

where \(R_m \triangleq \sigma_{d,m}^2 H_{0,m} H_{0,m}^* + \sigma^2 R\). Similar to [3, Theorem 1], we argue that since \(I(u_{m,i}, d_{m,i}) = \log(1 + y_m(f_m, b_{m,m}))\), the maximum mutual information \(C_m\) is achieved by maximizing the SINR in (15). However, after the obvious step of setting \(f_m^* R_m f_m + \sigma_{d,m}^2 H_{0,m}^* b_{m,m} - b_{m,m}^* = 0\), the remainder of \(y_m(f_m, b_{m,m})\) is a generalized eigenproblem [22] whose solution is given by \(\text{opt} f_m = y_m R_m h_{0,m}\) for any \(y_m > 0\). Therefore, the solution of (13) is

\[
C_m = \max_{f_m, b_{m,m}, d_{m,i}} I(u_{m,i}, d_{m,i}) = \log(1 + \sigma_{d,m}^2 H_{0,m} R_m^{-1} h_{0,m}).
\]

(16)

Denoting \(\mathcal{C} \triangleq I(d; y_{i+F+i-F})\) as the constrained mutual information discussed in Section 3.1, all we are left to do is to show that \(C = \sum_{m=1}^{M} C_m\). However, from (16), one can verify that \(C_m = I(d_{m,i}; y_{i+F+i-F} | d_{i,m})\) and use the chain rule of mutual information [23] \(I(d_{m,i}; y_{i+F+i-F} = \sum_{m=1}^{M} I(d_{m,i}; y_{i+F+i-F} | d_{i,m})\) to arrive at \(C = \sum_{m=1}^{M} C_m\). What we have shown is that for MIMO-CDMA systems in a frequency-selective channel, if the transmitter can somehow have the feedback knowledge of the maximum mutual information \(C_m\) for antenna \(m\) and assign a transmission rate of \(R_m = C_m\) on that antenna, we can design a successive decoding scheme similar to those in the memoryless channel [2, 3], to achieve the constrained mutual information \(C = I(d; y_{i+F+i-F})\). Before we proceed, we rewrite (12) in a more compact form:

\[
u_i = F^H y_{i+F+i-F} - B^H d_i,
\]

(17)

where \(u_i \triangleq [u_{i,1}, \ldots, u_{i,M}]^T\), \(F \triangleq [f_1, \ldots, f_M]\), and

\[
B^H \triangleq \begin{bmatrix}
0 & \cdots & 0 \\
\vdots & \ddots & \vdots \\
b_{M,1}^* & \cdots & b_{M,M-1}^*
\end{bmatrix},
\]

(18)

and we denote the optimal solution of \(F\) and \(B\) as \(F_{SD}\) and \(B_{SD}\).

### 4.1.1. Connection between \(F_{SD}\) and \(W_{MC}\)

In this subsection, we show how the optimal feedforward filter \(F_{SD}\) relates to the \(W_{MC}\) we designed for joint detection a little earlier in Section 3.1. To this end, we note that instead of performing successive decoding directly on the received signal \(y_{i+F+i-F}\), we can first pass \(y_{i+F+i-F}\) through \(W_{MC}\) to get \(r_i(W_{MC})\), on which we then perform successive decoding. Similar to (17), we define the decision vector in this case as:

\[
u_i' = F^H r_i(W_{MC}) - B^H d_i,
\]

(19)

and find the optimal \(F'\) and \(B'\) (which we denote as \(F_{SD}'\) and \(B_{SD}'\)) by maximizing \(C_m \triangleq \max_{F', B'} I(u_i', d_{i,m})\) for \(m = 1, \ldots, M\). From the derivation in Section 4.1, it is easy to see that \(C_m = \frac{1}{2} I(r_i(W_{MC}); d_i) = I(y_{i+F+i-F}; d_i) = \sum_{m=1}^{M} C_m\) (note the second equality comes from Theorem 1), meaning that successive decoding after the filter \(W_{MC}\) achieves the same constrained mutual information as direct successive decoding. In fact, we can further show in the following proposition that \(C_m' = C_m\) and \(F_{SD}' = W_{MC}F_{SD}\) for certain situations. The proof is straightforward and is omitted here.

**Proposition 1.** \(C_m' = C_m\). Furthermore, if the two sets of filters, \((F_{SD}, B_{SD})\) and \((F_{SD}', B_{SD}')\), are chosen such that the decision vectors \(u_i\) and \(u_i'\) are both unbiased \(\mathbb{E}[u_i|d_i] = E[u_i|d_i] = 0\), then \(F_{SD}' = W_{MC}F_{SD}\).

#### 4.1.2. Connection to the constrained MIMO LMMSE equalizer

In Section 3.1.1, we showed the connection between the mutual information maximizing filter \(W_{MC}\) and the conventional MIMO chip equalizers \(W_{LMMSE}\) and \(W_{MVDR}\). In this section, we show that similar connection can be made between the successive decoding filter pair \((F_{SD}, B_{SD})\) and the so-called constrained MIMO LMMSE equalizer presented in [24] for a more general EDGE MIMO system where the feedback channel includes more than one effective tap. On the contrary, the constrained LMMSE equalizer for a CDMA MIMO system has only one feedback channel tap and can be viewed as a special case of [24]. The constrained LMMSE for MIMO CDMA is given by the following optimization problem with a structural constraint requiring \(\hat{B}^H \hat{B} + I_M\) to be lower triangular with unit diagonals:

\[
\begin{align*}
F_{C_{CL}}, & B_{C_{CL}} = \min \text{ Trace } (R_{zz}) \\
& = \min_{F_{FB}} E\left| F^H y_{i+F+i-F} - \hat{B}^H d_i \right|^2, \\
& \text{s.t. } \hat{B}^H = \hat{B}^H + I_M = \begin{bmatrix}
1 & \cdots & 0 \\
\vdots & \ddots & \vdots \\
b_{M,1}^* & \cdots & b_{M,M-1}^* \end{bmatrix},
\end{align*}
\]

(20)

where the error vector is defined as \(z = \hat{B}^H d_i - F^H y_{i+F+i-F}\). We show in the following proposition that the constrained LMMSE solution is indeed the same as the successive decoding solution with unbiased output.

\[2\text{The unbiased solution can be achieved, for example, by setting } y_m = (b_{m,m}^* h_{0,m})^{-1} \text{ in the solution } f_m^{\text{opt}} = y_m R_m^{-1} h_{0,m}.\]
Proposition 2. If the successive decoding filter pair \((F_{\text{SD}}, B_{\text{SD}})\) is chosen such that the decision vector \(u_i\) is unbiased, that is, \(E[u_i d_i^*] = d_i\), then \(F_{\text{SD}} = F_{\text{CL}}\) and \(B_{\text{SD}} = B_{\text{CL}} - I_M\).

Proof. See [24] for details about the solution of (20). □

Remark 2. Throughout our discussion, we have used the argument that as long as the rate assigned on antenna \(m\) is below \(C_m: R_m \leq C_m\), we can provide the correct decision on \(d_{im}\) to drive the successive decoding process. However, in a practical system many factors (such as Doppler shift, imperfect feedback, etc), can lead to decision errors on \(d_{im}\) which propagates through the successive decoding process. From a receiver design point of view, the constrained LMMSE problem of (20) can be modified to imitate the impact of error propagation. However, it is much harder to account for these error propagation effects in the information-theoretical analysis of the successive decoding approach.

4.2. Successive decoding at symbol level

In the discussion of successive decoding above, we have assumed that modulation and coding are directly applied on the chip signals \(d_i\). In Figure 4, we show the changes necessary to perform successive decoding at symbol level for a realistic CDMA system. Here we assume \(a_1 = \cdots = a_K\) for simplicity of notation. In this case, the feedforward filter \(F\) still operates on chip signals \(y_{r+F+2\cdot F}\) whereas the feedback filter \(a_1 B\) (\(a_1\) is needed to ensure correct symbol amplitude) operates on estimated symbol signals \(\{\hat{a}_{km}(j)\}\) instead. Note that unlike Figure 3, the output of the despreading blocks \(v_i(j), \ldots, v_M(j)\) is organized into \(M\) vectors of size \(K_1 \times 1\) along the spatial dimension.

4.3. CQI measures for PARC-type systems

Since each antenna is separately encoded, the link-to-system mapping for PARC-Type systems is much easier than in the case of joint space-time encoding. Again we have two alternative CQIs for the link-to-system mapping purpose. One can use the symbol SINR given by

\[
\gamma_{m,k} = \frac{\beta_k}{\sigma_d^2} \gamma_m = \beta_k \sigma_d^2 h_{km}^H R_{(m)}^{-1} h_{om}
\]  

as the CQI to generate the mapping as \(\text{FER}(\gamma_{m,k})\) for each antenna \(m\). Recall from Section 3.2 that \(\beta_k \triangleq \alpha_k^2 G\) is a scalar factor that translates the chip-level SINR to the symbol-level SINR. Alternatively, one can use the symbol-level mutual information given by

\[
C_{m,k} = \log \left(1 + \beta_k \sigma_d^2 h_{km}^H R_{(m)}^{-1} h_{om}\right)
\]  

as the CQI to generate the mapping as \(\text{FER}(C_{m,k})\) for each antenna \(m\).

5. SIMULATION RESULTS

The algorithms described in this paper are evaluated in a realistic link-level simulator conforming to the CDMA2000 1xEV-DV standard [19, 25]. The simulation results are presented in three subsections. In the first subsection, we compare the performance results of different receiver algorithms assuming a simple coded VBLAST [8] transmission scheme. In the second subsection, we present some preliminary link throughput results for both coded VBLAST and PARC schemes with link adaptation. Lastly, we show the effectiveness of the two CQI measures discussed in Section 3.2 when coded VBLAST scheme is used at the transmitter. Note that although we have focused on the coded VBLAST and PARC schemes in this paper, the algorithms and concepts described here can be extended to other more complicated MIMO transmission schemes.

5.1. Receiver performance comparison

We assume the coded VBLAST [8] scheme at the MIMO transmitter. In the coded VBLAST scheme, the coded frame is simply split across the \(M\) transmit antennas after modulation, therefore it can also be viewed as a simple form of space-time code. Here we compare three receivers: LMMSE with separate detection, LMMSE with joint detection, and constrained LMMSE as shown in (20) with separate detection. Note that, in this case, successive decoding is not possible since the transmit signals are coded across all antennas. Therefore, the symbol estimates \(\{\hat{a}_{km}(j)\}\) in Figure 4 cannot be reconstructed from decoder outputs and should be regenerated successively from the signals \(v_i(j), \ldots, v_M(j)\). Without going into too much detail, we state that there are two approaches for generating these symbol estimates: hard-decision or soft-decision estimates. In the simulation results presented here, we have used conditional mean-based soft estimates that are similar to those used in [26].

The simulation parameters are tabulated in Table 1 and the simulation result is shown in Figure 5. Note that the traffic Ec/IoR on the \(x\)-axis stands for the percentage of the transmit power that is assigned to each active Walsh code. Not surprisingly, the LMMSE filter followed by joint detection performs the best, since it retains the constrained mutual information as we discussed earlier. Meanwhile, even though in this case the constrained LMMSE filter as defined in (20) does not achieve the maximum mutual information without successive decoding, it loses only about 0.5 dB against the joint detector.
Receivers and CQI Measures for MIMO-CDMA Systems

Table 1: Simulation parameters. Note that geometry is the ratio of average received power from the serving BS versus average received power from interfering BSs.

| Parameter name          | Parameter value |
|-------------------------|-----------------|
| System                  | CDMA 1xEV-DV    |
| Spreading length        | 32              |
| Channel profile         | Vehicular A     |
| Mobile speed            | 30 km/h         |
| Filter length           | 16              |
| Number of Tx/Rx antennas| 2/2             |
| Modulation format       | QPSK            |
| Information data rate   | 312 kbps        |
| Turbo code rate         | 0.6771          |
| Geometry (dB)           | 6               |
| Number of Walsh codes assigned to the user $K_1$ | 3 |
| Total number of active Walsh codes in the system $K$ | 25 |

Table 2: Modulation and coding schemes for link adaptation [27].

| MCS number | Modulation | Coding rate | Spectral efficiency |
|------------|------------|-------------|---------------------|
| 1          | QPSK       | 1/4         | 0.5                 |
| 2          | QPSK       | 1/2         | 1.0                 |
| 3          | 16-QAM     | 1/2         | 2.0                 |
| 4          | 16-QAM     | 3/4         | 3.0                 |

Table 3: 1xEV-DV PDCH parameters for link adaptation (4 Walsh codes assigned).

| MCS number | Packet size | Modulation | Coding rate |
|------------|-------------|------------|-------------|
| 1          | 408         | QPSK       | 0.2656      |
| 2          | 792         | QPSK       | 0.5156      |
| 3          | 1560        | 16-QAM     | 0.5078      |
| 4          | 2328        | 16-QAM     | 0.7378      |

Figure 5: Comparison of performances for different receivers.

5.2. Link throughput with link adaptation

In order to demonstrate the performance of MIMO schemes with link adaptation, we derive the parameters of each packet transmission from a table consisting of 4 sets of parameters, each set being known as a modulation and coding scheme (MCS). This is illustrated in Table 2.

Table 2 is a subset of the 5-level table used in HSDPA [27]. In order to achieve these spectral efficiencies approximately, we use the set of parameters shown in Table 3 in the context of the 1X-EVDV packet data channel. Note that we have taken necessary measures to make sure the comparison is fair in the sense that the throughput results of the two schemes are obtained with the same allocated bandwidth and transmission time.

The throughput comparison between coded VBLAST and PARC is shown in Figure 6. For the coded BLAST scheme, the per-Walsh code joint detection is used at the receiver and, on the other hand, the successive decoding method is used for the PARC scheme. Note that most of the other simulation parameters are the same as those in Table 1, except that here we fixed the traffic Ec/Io and let the Geometry vary. Of course, the MCS is also a variable in this case due to link adaptation. Perfect feedback with no delay is assumed for the link adaptation, that is, the transmitter changes the MCS instantaneously at the end of every frame. The results show that coded VBLAST outperforms PARC slightly in these simulations. On the other hand, PARC has more flexibility with respect to link adaptation, which is not
Remark. In Sections 3 and 4, we have assumed Gaussian modulation in calculating the mutual information-based CQI. However, since 16-QAM or QPSK modulation is used in practice, using the Gaussian mutual information (here we denote as $C_{\text{Gau}}$) may portray an overly optimistic picture of the channel and thus mislead the BS in transmitting at a rate that is above the “true” information rate of the channel under the additional constraint of the practical constellation. To see this, we assume a measured $C_{\text{Gau}} = 3.3 \text{ bps/Hz}$ at the MS. According to Table 2, we can support the fourth MCS scheme (MCS4) which has a coding rate of 0.75 and a 16-QAM modulation. However, if we recalculate the mutual information of the channel under the additional constraint of 16-QAM modulation (here we denote as $C_{\text{QAM}}$) [29], it may happen that $C_{\text{QAM}} = 2.8 \text{ bps/Hz}$, which means that transmitting with MCS4 will always result in a packet error and we should be using MCS3 instead.

In the simulation, we have devised two mechanisms to avoid the negative effects of the overly optimistic Gaussian CQI measure.

(i) By simply multiplying $C_{\text{Gau}}$ with a scaling factor $\alpha < 1$, we can make the CQI estimate a bit more conservative. This scaling can also account for other practical imperfections such as channel estimation error, Doppler, and so forth. Typically $\alpha = 0.8$ to 0.9.

(ii) Adopt a confirmation process such that after an MCS scheme is selected, the mutual information under the additional constellation constraint of that particular MCS is recalculated. If this constellation-constrained mutual information falls below the information rate prescribed by the current MCS scheme, move one grade up in the MCS table and pick the next MCS scheme with lower information rate. This confirmation process repeats until the first MCS scheme in the table, or until we find an MCS scheme where the constellation-constrained mutual information is greater than the information rate associated with this MCS scheme.

5.3. Short-term FER (CQI) curves

In this section, we use computer simulations to obtain the FER(CQI) curves as the first step of link-to-system mapping for the JE coded VBLAST scheme. As mentioned earlier, both the GSNR and the constrained mutual information $I(\mathbf{d};\mathbf{y}+F_i-F)$ measures enable us to characterize the MIMO link by a single CQI, so that a multidimensional mapping can be avoided. In the simulations, we assume the spatial channel model (SCM) specified by [30]. Particularly, the urban macro scenario [30] is implemented. In the SCM model, the channel delay profile itself is a random vector with a different multipath channel profile for each realization. In our simulation, we first generate 10 such independent realizations of delay profiles and then generate thousands of channel realizations for each delay profile.

At the receiver, we use the LMMSE receiver followed by the per-Walsh joint detection algorithm. The parameters of the link are illustrated in Table 1 (except we set Geometry = 0 dB in the simulations presented here). The modulation and coding scheme used is MCS1. Figure 7 plots the FER as a function of the instantaneous value of the GSNR, while Figure 8 provides a similar plot with respect to the constrained mutual information.

One observes that there are 10 curves in each of the plots, representing 10 independent realizations of channel delay profiles. Ideally, if a CQI measure perfectly characterizes the MIMO channel at the moment, then the FER(CQI) curved should be independent of the channel delay profile and all 10 curves should overlap. For practical CQI measures such as the GSNR and the mutual information measure proposed in this paper, we note that the lesser the variation of the curves...
with different realizations, the more effective the measure is as an indicator of link quality. Given this criterion, the constrained mutual information is seen to be more suitable than the GSNR. These are, however, preliminary results requiring further investigation since we have not accounted for other system-level issues such as HARQ in these simulations.

6. CONCLUSION

In this paper, we investigate receiver designs for the jointly encoded (JE) and separately encoded (SE) types of MIMO transmission. For the JE transmission, we develop a per-Walsh code joint detection structure consisting of a front-end linear filter followed by joint symbol detection among all the streams. We derive a class of filters that maximize the so-called constrained mutual information, and show that the conventional LMMSE and MVDR equalizers belong to this class. This constrained mutual information also provides us with a quantity describing the link quality, similar to the notion of GSNR. For the case of SE transmission, we extend the successive decoding algorithm of PARC to multipath channels, and show that in this case successive decoding achieves the constrained mutual information. Finally, the algorithms and concepts developed in the paper are evaluated in a realistic CDMA 1xEV-DV link simulator with and without link adaptation.

APPENDICES

A. PROOF OF THEOREM 1

Since \( d_i \) is Gaussian, \( r_i(W) \) is also Gaussian. One can write out this mutual information as \(^3 I(d_i; r_i(W)|H) = H(r_i(W)|H) - H(r_i(W)|H, d_i) = \log |W^H W| - \log |W^H \tilde{W}| \) (note \( |A| \) denotes the determinant of matrix \( A \)), and obtain the optimal filter \( W_{MC} \) by solving

\[
W_{MC} = \arg \max_w \log |W^H W| - \log |W^H \tilde{W}|
\]

\[
= \arg \max_w \log \left| I_M + \sigma_d^2 W^H H_0^H I_M W (W^H W)^{-1} \right|
\]

(A.1)

where \( I_M \) is the identity matrix of size \( M \times M \). The direct optimization of (A.1) is difficult, given that \( W \) is a \((2F+1)N_A \times M \) matrix. Here we resort to the data processing lemma [23] to provide an upper bound on \( I(d_i; r_i(W)|H) \) and then show the bound is achievable. To this end, we note that since \( r_i(W) = W^H y_i(F_i - F), d_i - y_i(F_i - F) - r_i(W) \) forms a Markov chain, conditioned on the knowledge of the channel \( H \). Therefore, by the data processing lemma, the inequality

\[
I(d_i; r_i(W)|H) \leq I(d_i; y_i(F_i - F)|H)
\]

(A.2)

holds for any \( W \). From the signal model \( y_{i+2F-F} = H_0 d_i + H_0 d_i + n_{i+2F-F} \), one can use the identity \( I(d_i; y_{i+2F-F} - H) = H(y_{i+2F-F} - H, d_i) \) to show that

\[
I(d_i; y_{i+2F-F} - H) = \log |I_{(2F+1)N_A} + \sigma_d^2 R^{-1} H_0 H_0^{-1}|
\]

\[
= \log |I_M + \sigma_d^2 H_0^{-1} R^{-1} H_0|,
\]

(A.3)

where the last equality is a result of the identity \( \log |I + A B| = \log |I + B A| \) [4]. From (A.1) and (A.3), one can verify that this upper bound is achieved by setting \( W_{MC} = H^{-1} H_0 A \) for any invertible matrix \( A \), that is, \( I(d_i; r_i(W_{MC})|H) = I(d_i; y_{i+2F-F} - H) \).

B. PROOF OF COROLLARY 1

It is obvious for \( W_{MVDR} \) since all we need to do is to set \( A = (H_0^H R_0^{-1})^{-1} \) and apply Theorem 1. On the other hand, with the help of matrix inversion lemma [31] one can rewrite \( W_{LMMSE} \) as

\[
W_{LMMSE} = \sigma_0^2 R^{-1} H_0 (I_M + \sigma_d^2 H_0^H R^{-1} H_0)^{-1},\]

(B.1)

and then set \( A = \sigma_0^2 (I_M + \sigma_d^2 H_0^H R^{-1} H_0)^{-1} \) to complete the proof.

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Jianzhong (Charlie) Zhang received the B.S. degree in both electrical engineering and applied physics from Tsinghua University, Beijing, China, in 1995, the M.S. degree in electrical engineering from Clemson University in 1998, and the Ph.D. degree in electrical engineering from the University of Wisconsin at Madison in 2003. He has been with Nokia Research Center, Irving, Texas, since June 2001. His research has focused on the application of statistical signal processing methods to wireless communication problems. From 2001 to 2004, he worked on the transceiver designs for both EDGE and CDMA2000/WCDMA cellular systems. Since July 2004, he has focused on the standardization of IEEE 802.16e standard, especially in the areas of LDPC codes and limited feedback-based MIMO precoding.

Balaji Raghothaman received his B.E. degree in electronics and communication engineering from Coimbatore Institute of Technology (1994), and his M.S. (1997) and Ph.D. (1999) degrees in electrical engineering from The University of Texas at Dallas. During his graduate studies, he spent two summers in the Wireless Products Group, Texas Instruments. Dr. Raghothaman joined Nokia Research Center in Dallas in 1999 as a Research Engineer. In 2004, he moved to Nokia Research Center in San Diego as a Principal Scientist, where he manages the CDMA Radio Systems Group. He has been conducting research in the CDMA physical layer, including multi-antenna algorithms, transmit diversity, beamforming, MIMO, and advanced receiver algorithms. He was actively involved in the Dallas Chapter of the IEEE Signal Processing Society as a Program Chairman in 2000–2001 and later as the Chairman in 2001–2002, and has served on the technical committees of several conferences.
Yan Wang received the B.S. degree from the Department of Electronics, Peking University, China, in 1996, and the M.S. degree from the School of Telecommunications Engineering, Beijing University of Posts and Telecommunications (BUPT), China, in 1999. From 1999 to 2000, he was a member of BUPT-Nortel R&D Center, Beijing, China. In 2003, he received his Ph.D. degree from the Department of Electrical Engineering, Texas A&M University. Since 2003, he has been a Research Engineer in Nokia Research Center, Irving, Texas. His research interests are in the area of statistical signal processing and its applications in wireless communication systems.

Giridhar Mandyam is the Director of the Radio Systems Group in the Radio Communications Laboratory, Nokia Research Center (NRC), and the Head of NRC, San Diego. Born in Dallas, Dr. Mandyam received the B.S.E.E. degree (magna cum laude) from Southern Methodist University in 1989, the M.S.E.E. degree from the University of Southern California in 1993, and the Ph.D. E.E. degree from the University of New Mexico in 1996. From 1989 to 1998 he held positions with Rockwell International, Qualcomm, and TI. He joined NRC in 1998 and became a Principal Scientist in 2000. In 2004, he became the First Head of the NRC San Diego. While at NRC, he was instrumental in development of Nokia’s proposal for 3GPP2’s 1xEV-DV standardization effort. Dr. Mandyam is the inventor or coinventor of six issued US patents. He has published over 50 conference and journal papers, and 4 book chapters. He was a Guest Editor for a special issue of the EURASIP Journal on Applied Signal Processing entitled “3G Wireless Communications and Beyond” (August 2002). He is a coauthor of the text Third-Generation CDMA Systems for Enhanced Data Services (Academic Press, 2002). He is an Adjunct Full Professor at the University of Texas at Dallas. Dr. Mandyam is a Senior Member of the IEEE.