A Low Complexity Adaptive Scheme for Massive MIMO Systems with MRC Receiver

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A low complexity adaptive scheme for massive MIMO systems with MRC Receiver

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Abstract: This paper evaluates a low-complexity Multiuser Adaptive Modulation (MAM) scheme for an uplink massive multiple input and multiple output (MIMO) systems with maximum-ratio combining linear receivers, which requires only slow-varying large-scale shadowing information for the users. For a channel that includes both small-scale and large-scale fading, the probability density function of signal-to-interference-plus-noise ratio is analytically calculated for the first time and verified by simulation. Also, closed-form expressions are derived for the average spectral efficiency and bit error outage. Since, the MRC is desirable in low transmit power, the previous expression is approximated at low power values. Moreover, the paper investigates different users’ arrangements around the base station to achieve the maximum possible bit rate. For MAM with joint power control, optimal power adaptation strategy switching thresholds are also acquired. Compared to the research literature, the proposed adaptive scheme by the MRC receiver, gives similar performance as a proper adaptive method at low power transmission.

Keywords: Adaptive modulation, massive MIMO, power control, maximum-ratio combining, large-scale fading.

1- Introduction

Spectral efficiency can be improved by two effective methods, adaptive modulation and power control with regard to the inherent channel fading in wireless communication systems. By having the certain quality of service requirement, the spectral efficiency can be increased by setting proper level of modulation or transmit power in the transmitter [1], [2]. Recently, different kinds of adaptive modulation and coding (ACM) schemes have been proposed to achieve higher spectral efficiency as well as improving network reliability for optical networks [3], [4]. In addition, adaptive schemes in contribution of various machine learning algorithms have been of interest which aims to compute decision-making tasks automatically [5]-[7]. In many works considering adaptations mentioned above, the transmitter should access the instantaneous channel state information (CSI). However, according to the variation of wireless channels, pursuing the instantaneous CSI is costly. Nevertheless, statistical CSI-based design with low-complexity has been under attention to evaluate ergodic spectral efficiency in the literature [8], [9]. Hence, adaptive modulation scheme based on slowly changing large-scale fading is also desirable [10]-[12].

However, a low-complexity multiuser adaptive modulation scheme was investigated, where zero-forcing (ZF) detection is employed at the receiver [12]. The outcomes of [12] suggest multiuser adaptive modulation (MAM) scheme that can achieve similar average spectral efficiency performance as the fast adaptive modulation (FAM) scheme. Moreover, among simple linear detectors, the MMSE is the best where it maximizes the received signal-to-interference-plus-noise ratio (SINR). For high transmission
power, ZF and MMSE have nearly equal performance and for low transmit power maximum ratio combining (MRC) performs as well as MMSE because any inter-user interference portion can be degraded. While ZF receiver in contrast to MRC mitigates multiuser interferences by pseudo-inverse channel matrix, neglects noise effects. Therefore, the noise is significantly amplified by the pseudo-inverse channel matrix, when the channel is not well conditioned. This amplifying consequently results in degrading the performance of ZF receivers [13], [14]. MRC receivers, on the other hand, use a very low-complexity algorithm, because they do not have the implementation complexity due to pseudo-inverse channel matrix as we have for both ZF and MMSE. This complexity is an important problem where some recent researches proposed different algorithms to reduce the complexity due to the large-dimensional matrix inversion specially for massive MIMO systems [15]- [17].

In [18], Beiranvand et. al only assumed the transmission under Rayleigh fast-varying flat-fading channel. They investigated probability density function of SINR for the first time employing MRC at the receiver. However, large scale slow-varying fading was not provided in their research. Motivated by the above key observations, in this paper, we evaluate a low-complexity multiuser adaptive modulation scheme when MRC is employed at the receiver. In this way, we derive an analytical expression for the exact distribution of SINR$_{\text{MRC}}$ under Rayleigh fast-varying flat-fading along with slow-varying large-scale shadowing conditions. Then, we use the exact analytical expressions to calculate the average spectral efficiency (ASE) and bit error outage (BEO). As mentioned before that MRC is desirable in low powers, we approximate pervious exact expressions on low powers to evaluate system performance. Meantime regarding to the MRC structure, we investigate that how a set of users’ distances (arrangement) from B.S should be to achieve the best ASE. The outcomes of this paper suggest that the proposed low-complexity MAM scheme can achieve similar ASE performance as the FAM scheme with even less complexity than [12]. Furthermore, this ASE with joint power control can be substantially improved.

In the following, in Section 2, the system model is presented in detail. Section 3 also describes the MAM. Approximation on low power is completed at section 4, and then Section 5 reports the results. At the end, the article is concluded by Section 6.

2- System Model

We consider the uplink transmission for massive MIMO system containing one BS with $M$ antennas and $K$ single antenna users ay single cell. Hence the $M \times 1$ received signal at the BS can be expressed as:

$$\mathbf{y} = \mathbf{G}\mathbf{p}^{1/2}\mathbf{x} + \mathbf{n}$$

where $\mathbf{G} \in \mathbb{C}^{M \times K}$ is the channel matrix between the BS antennas and the $K$ users, $\mathbf{P} \triangleq \text{diag}\{p_1, ..., p_K\}$ where $p_k$ is average transmit power of user $k$, $\mathbf{x}$ is the $K \times 1$ transmit signal vector with element $x_k$ satisfying $E\{x_k^2\} = 1$ and $\mathbf{n}$ is the additive zero-mean white Gaussian noise with unit variance.

The channel matrix is provided by both large-scale and small-scale fading, hence the channel matrix $\mathbf{G}$ can be expressed as [12]:

$$\mathbf{G} = \mathbf{H}\mathbf{D}^{1/2}$$
Where $H \in \mathbb{C}^{M \times K}$ is the fast fading channel matrix consisting of independent and identically distributed circular complex zero-mean Gaussian variable with unit variance. $D = \text{diag}\{\beta_1, ..., \beta_K\}$, where $\beta_k = z_k \left(\frac{r_k}{r_h}\right)^v$ is the large-scale fading coefficient that accounts for both path loss and shadowing, $r_k$ is the distance between the user $k$ and the BS, $r_h$ is the reference distance to the BS, and $v$ is the path loss exponent [12]. Moreover, for analytical tractability, we consider the gamma distribution to model the shadow fading $z_k$ as in [12] and [19]. Hence:

$$f_{z_k}(x) = \frac{x^{\alpha-1} \Gamma(\alpha)}{b^\alpha b^\alpha} \exp\left(-\frac{x}{b}\right)$$  \hspace{1cm} (3)$$

where $\alpha$, $b$ are shape and scale parameters respectively. Using linear receivers at the BS, the received signal is multiplied by a detection matrix $A \in \mathbb{C}^{M \times K}$ forming $K$ separate streams:

$$r = A^H y$$  \hspace{1cm} (4)$$

$$A = G$$  \hspace{1cm} for MRC.  \hspace{1cm} (5)$$

If we denote the $k$-th column of $A$ and $G$ by $a_k$ and $g_k$ respectively, the $k$-th element in the vector $r$ can be obtained from:

$$r_k = \sqrt{p} a_k^H g_k x_k + \sum_{i=1}^{K} \sqrt{p} a_k^H g_i x_i + a_k^H n$$  \hspace{1cm} (6)$$

$$r_k = \sqrt{p} \beta_k \|h_k\|^2 x_k + \sum_{i=1}^{K} \sqrt{p} \beta_k \beta_i |h_k^H h_i x_i| + \sqrt{\beta_k} h_k^H n$$  \hspace{1cm} (7)$$

where for simplicity, all average transmit powers by users are assumed to be the same. Moreover in this equation, $\sqrt{p} \beta_k \|h_k\|^2 x_k$ is the desired signal, $\sum_{i=1}^{K} \sqrt{p} \beta_k \beta_i |h_k^H h_i x_i|$ is the interference caused by other users and $\sqrt{\beta_k} h_k^H n$ denotes the additive noise. Finally, the SINR for the $k$th user is given by:

$$\gamma_k = \frac{p \beta_k \|h_k\|^2}{p \sum_{i=1}^{K} \beta_i \frac{|h_k^H h_i|^2}{\|h_k\|^2} + 1}$$  \hspace{1cm} (8)$$

In the next section in order to evaluate MAM scheme, we will introduce averaged out fast fading SINR ($\bar{\gamma}$) by the help of channel hardening property. In this way, use the conditional PDF of instantaneous SINR on $\bar{\gamma}$ under three shadowing and path loss states:

I. Same shadowing and path loss for all users.
II. Different shadowing and same path loss from user to user.

III. Different shadowing and path loss from user to user.

3- Multiuser Adaptive Modulation Scheme (MAM)

In this section, we first investigate a low-complexity MAM scheme proposed at [12] for massive MIMO systems using MRC detection at the BS, then present closed-form exact expressions for the ASE and BEO.

A. Multiuser Adaptive Modulation Scheme

In order to use a receiver that has a low-complexity to implement, MRC receiver is employed at the BS. Rewriting (8), the received SINR of user \( k \) can be expressed as:

\[
\gamma_k = \frac{pM\beta_k [H^H M H^H]_{kk}}{\sum_{i=1}^K pM\beta_i [H^H M^H H^H M]_{ki}^2 + 1}
\]

By recalling the massive MIMO regime, the column vectors of the channel matrix are asymptotically orthogonal, i.e., \([H^H M] \xrightarrow{a.s.} I\), where \( \xrightarrow{a.s.} \) denotes almost sure convergence as \( M \gg K \). Thus, we have:

\[
[H^H M]_{kk} \xrightarrow{a.s.} 1 \text{ and } [H^H M]_{ki} \xrightarrow{a.s.} 0
\]

Therefore, the approximated SINR of user \( k \) can be evaluated by:

\[
\overline{\gamma}_k \approx Mp\beta_k
\]

We refer all discussions about the properties of approximated SINR variable and selecting different modulation types to [12].

B. SINR Thresholds

Before computing the SINR thresholds, we need conditional PDF on \( \overline{\gamma}_k \) calculated in Appendix in three states. However, the conditional PDF of the instantaneous SINR can be written as:

State I: Exact PDF

\[
f_{\gamma_k|\bar{\gamma}}(\gamma|\bar{\gamma}) = M \sum_{i=0}^M (-1)^i e^{-\bar{\gamma} M} \gamma^{M-1} \left( \frac{\rho}{M} \right)^i \frac{(\gamma + 1)^{i-M-K+1}}{(\bar{\gamma} M)^i i!}
\]

Where: \( \rho = 1 - K \).
State II: Exact PDF

\[f_{\bar{y}_k | \bar{y}}(y | \bar{y}) = \frac{(M \overline{y})^M y^{M-1} \exp \left( \frac{\overline{y} \gamma - M \overline{y}}{2MBK_y} \right)}{(pB)^{\frac{a+K-2}{2}} \Gamma(M) \Gamma(K-1) \Gamma(a)} \times \left[ \sum_{i=0}^{M} \binom{M}{i} \left( \frac{M \overline{y}}{Y} \right)^{\gamma+1} \Gamma(\gamma + i) \Gamma(K-1 + i) \times W_{\overline{y}, \frac{1}{2}(a-K+1)} \left( \frac{Y}{MBK_y} \right) \right]
\]

(12)

The related parameters are defined in Appendix (see (56), (57) and (66)).

State III: Approximated PDF

\[f_{\bar{y}_k | \bar{y}}(y | \bar{y}) = \frac{(M \overline{y}_k)^M y^{M-1} \exp \left( \frac{\overline{y}_k \gamma - M \overline{y}_k}{2MBK_y} \right)}{(pB_K)^{\frac{A_k}{2}} \Gamma(M) \Gamma(A_k)} \times \left[ \sum_{i=0}^{M} \binom{M}{i} \left( \frac{M \overline{y}_k}{\overline{y}_k} \right)^{\gamma+1} \Gamma(\gamma + i) \Gamma(A_k + i) \times \Gamma(\gamma+1) \right]
\]

(13)

where \(W_{k,m}(x)\) is the Whittaker function that has been defined at [21, 9.22-9.23], \(A_k\) and \(B_k\) are defined in Appendix (see (80)).

Then the approximated BER as a function of \(\overline{y}_k\) obtained by averaging instantaneous BER over the fast fading effect as follows:

\[P_b(\overline{y}_k) = \int_0^\infty P_b(y) f_{\bar{y}_k | \bar{y}}(y | \overline{y}_k) dy
\]

(14)

For state I, we consider below tight BER bounds to derive approximated BER [2]:

\[P_b^{BPSK}(\gamma) \approx Q(\sqrt{2\gamma})
\]

(15)

\[P_b^{MPSK}(\gamma) \approx 0.25 e^{-8\gamma/2^{1.94 n}}
\]

(16)

\[P_b^{MQAM}(\gamma) \approx 0.2 e^{-1.6\gamma/(2^{n-1})}
\]

(17)

where \(M = 2^n, (n > 1)\). So for calculating (14), we use the identity \(Q(\sqrt{2\gamma}) = \frac{1}{2\sqrt{\pi}} \Gamma(\frac{1}{2}, \gamma)\), with the help of [21, eq. (6.455.1)] and [21, eq. (3.381.4)] the approximated theoretical BER for different modulation schemes can be respectively evaluated as (assume : \(r_i = i - M - K + 1\):
\[ P_{b}^{BPSK}(\bar{\gamma}) = M \sum_{i=0}^{M} (-1)^i \left( \frac{M}{\bar{\gamma}} \right)^i \left( \frac{\rho}{M-i} \right) \frac{1}{i!} \left( \sum_{l=0}^{\infty} \binom{\eta_l}{l} \frac{\Gamma(M+l-1)}{2\sqrt{\pi}(M+l) \left(1 + \frac{M}{\bar{\gamma}} \right)^{M+l+1/2}} \right) \times _2F_1 \left( 1, M + l + \frac{1}{2}; M + l + 1; \frac{1}{\bar{\gamma}M+1} \right) \] (18)

And the probability of error for M-array phase-shift keying modulation (MPSK) can be written like below:

\[ P_{b}^{MPSK}(\bar{\gamma}) = \frac{M}{4} \sum_{i=0}^{M} (-1)^i \left( \frac{M}{\bar{\gamma}} \right)^i \left( \frac{\rho}{M-i} \right) \frac{1}{i!} \left( \sum_{l=0}^{\infty} \binom{\eta_l}{l} \frac{1}{\left( \frac{M}{\bar{\gamma}} + \frac{8}{21.94\pi} \right)^{M+l} \Gamma(M+l)} \right) \] (19)

Then for M-array quadrature amplitude modulation (MQAM), we have:

\[ P_{b}^{MQAM}(\bar{\gamma}) = \frac{M}{5} \sum_{i=0}^{M} (-1)^i \left( \frac{M}{\bar{\gamma}} \right)^i \left( \frac{\rho}{M-i} \right) \frac{1}{i!} \left( \sum_{l=0}^{\infty} \binom{\eta_l}{l} \frac{1}{\left( \frac{M}{\bar{\gamma}} + \frac{1.6}{2^n-1} \right)^{M+l} \Gamma(M+l)} \right) \] (20)

For state II and III, we consider exact formulas to compute closed form for approximated BER as follows (same equation for BPSK as (15)):

\[ P_{b}^{MPSK}(\gamma_s) \approx \frac{2}{\log_2 N} \frac{1}{Q\left(\sqrt{2\gamma_s \sin \left(\frac{\pi}{N}\right)}\right)} \] (21)

\[ P_{b}^{MQAM-rectangular}(\gamma_s) \approx \frac{4 (\sqrt{N} - 1)}{\sqrt{N} \log_2 N} \frac{1}{Q\left(\frac{3\gamma_s}{\sqrt{(N-1)}}\right)} \] (22)

where \( N \) is the level of modulation. So for calculating (14) in state II, we use the identity \( Q\left(\sqrt{2\gamma}\right) = \frac{1}{2\sqrt{\pi}} \gamma^{-\frac{1}{2}} e^{-\frac{\gamma}{2}} W_{-\frac{1}{4}, \frac{1}{4}}(\gamma), \) with the help of [21, eq. (7.631.3)] the approximated theoretical BER for different modulation schemes can be respectively evaluated as (assume \( \xi_l = -\frac{1}{2}(K + a - 2 + 2i) \)):
\[ P_{b}^{BPSK}(\bar{y}) = \frac{(M/\bar{y})^M}{2\sqrt{\pi}(p\beta)^{a+K-2}/2}\frac{a+K-2}{\Gamma(M)\Gamma(K-1)\Gamma(a)} \left( \sum_{i=0}^{M} \left( \frac{M}{\bar{y}} \right)^i \frac{\xi_i}{\Gamma(\alpha+i)\Gamma(K-1+i)} \right) \times \left( \sum_{l=0}^{\infty} \frac{(-M/\bar{y} - 1)^i}{l!} \frac{M^{M+i+\xi_i-1/4}}{(M\beta)^{M+i+\xi_i}} G_{24}^{40} \left( \frac{\bar{y}}{M\beta} \mid \frac{5}{4}, \frac{5}{4}, \frac{5}{4}, \frac{5}{4} - 2\xi_i, M_i - 1 \right) \right) \right) \]

(23)

And the approximated BER for MPSK

\[ P_{b}^{MPSK}(\bar{y}) = \frac{(M/\bar{y})^M \left( \sin\left(\frac{\pi}{N} \right) \right)^{-1/2}}{(\log_2 N)\sqrt{\pi}(p\beta)^{a+K-2}/2}\frac{a+K-2}{\Gamma(M)\Gamma(K-1)\Gamma(a)} \left( \sum_{i=0}^{M} \left( \frac{M}{\bar{y}} \right)^i \frac{\xi_i}{\Gamma(\alpha+i)\Gamma(K-1+i)} \right) \times \left( \sum_{l=0}^{\infty} \frac{(-M/\bar{y} - 1)^i}{l!} \frac{M^{M+i+\xi_i-1/4}}{(M\beta)^{M+i+\xi_i}} G_{24}^{40} \left( \frac{\bar{y}}{M\beta} \mid \frac{3}{4}, \frac{1}{4}, \frac{5}{4}, \frac{1}{2}, \frac{1}{2}(a-K) - M_i - \xi_i, \frac{1}{4}, \frac{1}{2}(a-K) - M_i - \xi_i \right) \right) \right) \]

(24)

Then for MQAM, we have:

\[ P_{b}^{MQAM-rectangular}(\bar{y}) = \frac{(2(\sqrt{N} - 1))^{M/\bar{y}}}{(\sqrt{N}\log_2 N)\sqrt{\pi}(p\beta)^{a+K-2}/2}\frac{a+K-2}{\Gamma(M)\Gamma(K-1)\Gamma(a)} \left( \sum_{i=0}^{M} \left( \frac{M}{\bar{y}} \right)^i \frac{\xi_i}{\Gamma(\alpha+i)\Gamma(K-1+i)} \right) \times \left( \sum_{l=0}^{\infty} \frac{(-M/\bar{y} - 2(N-1))^i}{l!} \frac{M^{M+i+\xi_i-1/4}}{(M\beta)^{M+i+\xi_i}} G_{24}^{40} \left( \frac{\bar{y}}{M\beta} \mid \frac{3}{2}, \frac{3}{2}, \frac{3}{2}, \frac{3}{2} - 2\xi_i, M_i - 1 \right) \right) \right) \]

(25)
\[ P_b^{MQAM-\text{non-rect.}}(\bar{\gamma}) = \frac{\sqrt{N}}{\sqrt{N - 1}} P_b^{MQAM-\text{rect.}}(\bar{\gamma}) \]  

(26)

For approximated PDF in state III, all BER expressions above are the same except below changes:

\[ \bar{\gamma} \rightarrow \bar{\gamma}_k, a \rightarrow A_k, B \rightarrow B_k \]

Hence in all cases above, the thresholds \( \{\bar{x}_{th}^n\}_{n=1}^{N+1} \) for MAM with different modulation schemes obtained by solving \( P_b(\bar{x}_{th}^n) = P_b^* \). However, to circumvent the infinite summation, we compute approximated BER by (14) numerically. In state I, we can see from the summation in PDF that for \( i = 0 \) if \( \bar{\gamma} \) goes to infinity then the approximated BER will not go to zero and also will be independent from \( \bar{\gamma} \). So we have a saturated probability of error that just depends on the number of BS antennas (M), number of users (K) and shadowing parameters (a,b). In fact, by increasing M or decreasing K, the saturated probability decreases. Calculations reveal that for a maximum level of modulation 64-QAM and K = 5, by \( M \geq 1024 \), BER_{design} = 10^{-3} can be achieved. In state II and III, there is not something similar as state I, so we don’t have error floor. It is worth pointing out that in state II, as we can see from the conditional PDF, the SINR threshold values depend on power and also users’ distance from B.S. Therefore, for each power and users’ distance, we have a table of SINR thresholds for different modulations. It’s more complicated for state III, where in addition to the dependence on power, the threshold values are different for each user. In fact, for a specific users’ arrangement, we have different conditional PDFs for each of users. Then in this case for each users’ arrangement, we have a table of SINR thresholds for different modulations for each user and power value.

C. Average Spectral Efficiency

Now we compute the ASE of the proposed adaptive modulation scheme. Particularly, the spectral efficiency of user \( k \) is \( n \) if \( \bar{\gamma}_k \) is in the range of \( [\bar{x}_{th}(p_k,k), \bar{x}_{th}^{n+1}(p_k,k)] \), that \( \bar{x}_{th}(p_k,k) \) shows SINR thresholds that generally depends on power and is different for each user. Hence, the ASE of user \( k \) can be expressed as:

\[
\sum_{n=1}^{N} n P(\bar{x}_{th}^n(p_k,k) \leq \bar{\gamma}_k \leq \bar{x}_{th}^{n+1}(p_k,k)) = \sum_{n=1}^{N} n \int_{\bar{x}_{th}^n(p_k,k)}^{\bar{x}_{th}^{n+1}(p_k,k)} f_{\bar{\gamma}_k}(\xi) \, d\xi
\]

(27)

Where \( f_{\bar{\gamma}_k}(\xi) \) is the PDF of \( \bar{\gamma}_k \), which is given by:

\[
f_{\bar{\gamma}_k}(\xi) = \frac{1}{\Gamma(a) b^a} \frac{d_k^v}{M p_k} \left( \frac{d_k^v \xi}{M p_k} \right)^{a-1} \exp\left( - \frac{d_k^v \xi}{M p_k b} \right)
\]

(28)

Finally, the ASE of the system can be expressed as [12]:
\[
\overline{SE} = \sum_{k=1}^{K} \sum_{n=1}^{N} \frac{n}{\Gamma(a)} \left[ \gamma \left( a, \frac{x_{th}^{n+1}(p_k, k) d_v^k}{M p_k b} \right) \right] - \gamma \left( a, \frac{x_{th}^n(p_k, k) d_v^k}{M p_k b} \right) \]
\]

(29)

Where \( \gamma(.,.) \) is the incomplete Gamma function [18, eq. (8.350.1)].

**D. Bit Error Outage**

The BEO is defined as the probability that the BEP exceeds the target BEP value [11], [12]. In the following, we compute the BEO for both FAM and MAM schemes. For the FAM scheme, the BEO is the probability that the instantaneous value of the SINR falls under a given threshold while in the MAM scheme approximated SINR have to be considered:

\[
BEO_{FAM} = P(\gamma < \bar{x}_{th}^1)
\]

(30)

Using the conditional PDF given (11), (12) and (13), the BEO of user \( k \) can be expressed by:

\[
BEO_{FAM} = \int_{0}^{\bar{x}_{th}(p,k)} \int_{0}^{\infty} f(\gamma_k|\bar{\gamma}_k) f(\bar{\gamma}_k) d\bar{\gamma}_k d\gamma_k
\]

(31)

There is no closed-form solution for above integral so it has to be calculated numerically.

As mentioned before about MAM scheme, the transmission of user \( k \) will be in outage if the approximated SINR \( \bar{\gamma}_k \) is under the corresponding threshold \( \bar{x}_{th}^1(p,k) \). Hence, the BEO of user \( k \) in all states is [12]:

\[
BEO_{MAM} = P(\bar{\gamma}_k < \bar{x}_{th}^1(p,k)) = \frac{1}{\Gamma(a)} \gamma \left( a, \frac{x_{th}^1(p_k, k) d_v^k}{M p_k b} \right)
\]

(32)

It’s worth adding that adaptation with joint power control subject to an average transmit power and BER constraints and the optimization problem therein, are the same as what mentioned at [12].

**4- Approximation on Low Power**

As we can see, the previous expressions for PDFs are so complicated to use for performance evaluation. On the other hand, in massive MIMO systems, MRC receivers are mostly used in lower SNRs [18]. This motivates us to approximate PDFs that derived above section, in low power condition.

Regarding (8), when \( p \to 0 \):
\[ \gamma_k = \frac{\bar{Y}_k}{M} X \]

where:

\[ X = ||h_{lk}||^2 \]  

\( X \) follows the gamma distribution with the parameters \((M, 1)\). Finally, the corresponding PDF is approximated by:

\[
 f_{\gamma_k|\bar{Y}_k}(\gamma|\bar{\gamma}) \approx \frac{\gamma^{M-1} \exp\left(-\frac{M}{\bar{\gamma}} \gamma\right)}{\Gamma(M) \left(\frac{\bar{\gamma}}{M}\right)^M}
\]

(E. SINR Thresholds)

In this part, we use tight BER bounds as mentioned in [12], then we have:

\[
P_{b_{BPSK}}(\bar{\gamma}) \approx \frac{\Gamma\left(M + \frac{1}{2}\right) \left(\frac{\bar{\gamma}}{M}\right)^{\frac{1}{2}}}{2\sqrt{\pi} \Gamma(M + 1) \left(1 + \left(\frac{\bar{\gamma}}{M}\right)^{M + \frac{1}{2}}\right)} \times 2F1\left(1, M + \frac{1}{2}; M + 1, 1\right)
\]

\[
P_{b_{MPSK}}(\bar{\gamma}) \approx \frac{1}{4 \left(1 + \frac{8 \left(\frac{\bar{\gamma}}{M}\right)^m}{2^{1.94n}}\right)}
\]

\[
P_{b_{MQAM}}(\bar{\gamma}) \approx \frac{1}{5 \left(1 + \frac{1.6 \left(\frac{\bar{\gamma}}{M}\right)^m}{2^n - 1}\right)}
\]

As we can see from BER equations at (36) to (38), the SINR threshold values do not depend on power and also they are the same for all users in low power transmission.

(F. Average Spectral Efficiency)

The ASE relation in MAM scheme still is same because it depends on the approximated SINR \(\bar{\gamma}\) PDF. To compute the ASE for the FAM scheme, the PDF of the instantaneous SINR is substituted in equation (27). Also the instantaneous SINR thresholds for the integral boundaries have to be considered.
\[
\overline{SE}_{k}^{FAM} = \sum_{n=1}^{N} n P(x_{th}^{n} \leq y_{k} \leq x_{th}^{n+1}) = \sum_{n=1}^{N} \int_{x_{th}^{n}}^{x_{th}^{n+1}} f_{Y_{k}}(\xi) \, d\xi
\]

(39)

Where \( f_{Y_{k}}(\gamma) \) is the PDF of \( y_{k} \), which is given by (29). Finally, the ASE of the system can be expressed as:

\[
\overline{SE}_{k}^{FAM} = \\
\sum_{k=1}^{K} \sum_{n=1}^{N} n \left[ \sum_{m=0}^{M-1} \left( \frac{2(x_{th}^{n}d_{k}^{\nu}b)}{p} \right)^{a-m} \frac{m! \Gamma(a) b a p m}{2} \sqrt{\frac{2(\sqrt{x_{th}^{n}d_{k}^{\nu}b})}{pb}} \right] K_{a-m} \left( \frac{2(\sqrt{x_{th}^{n}d_{k}^{\nu}b})}{pb} \right)
\]

(40)

Above expression is obtained with the assistance of [21, eq. (8.352.1)] and [21, eq. (3.471.9)].

G. Bit Error Outage

The BEO for MAM scheme is still the same like (33). For the FAM scheme as mentioned in (32) by the help of (35) we have:

\[
\text{BEO}_{k}^{FAM} = \int_{0}^{x_{th}} \int_{0}^{\infty} f_{Y_{k} | \gamma}(\xi | \gamma) f_{Y_{k}}(\gamma) \, d\gamma \, d\xi
\]

\[
= 1 - \sum_{m=0}^{M-1} \frac{2(\sqrt{x_{th}^{1}d_{k}^{\nu}b})^{m}}{m! \Gamma(a) b a p m} \sqrt{\frac{2(\sqrt{x_{th}^{1}d_{k}^{\nu}b})}{pb}} K_{a-m} \left( \frac{2(\sqrt{x_{th}^{1}d_{k}^{\nu}b})}{pb} \right)
\]

(41)

5- Numerical Results

In this section, numerical results are provided to investigate the performance of the proposed adaptive modulation scheme. For the simulation setup, we assume a cell radius \( R = 1000 \, m \) with \( K \) uniformly distributed users, the reference distance is \( r_{h} = 100 \, m \). The path-loss exponent \( \nu \) equals to 3.8, and the parameters of shadow fading are set as \( a = 10 \), and \( b = \frac{1}{a} \left( b = \frac{E[z_{k}]}{a} \right) \), the expectation of \( z_{k} \) is usually
chosen to be 1) [12]. Without loss of generality, the average transmit power of each user is assumed to be the same i.e., $p_1 = p_2 = \cdots = p_K = p$.

Fig. 1 shows the ASE of the MAM and FAM schemes by using (11) and (16) as PDFs of state I, II. As expected, the ASE of the MAM scheme is inferior to that of corresponding FAM scheme and also shows the ASE of MRC receiver is so similar to corresponding ZF detector (that has been provided at [12]) with negligible difference.

Fig. 2 depicts the ASE theory results of the ZF and MRC receivers along with the simulation results for different users’ arrangement. In fact, in Fig. 2, the different groups of users’ distances are considered to show the impact of the users’ arrangement on the ASE, where the users’ distances are assumed to be normalized to the reference distance ($r_h$).

---

**Fig. 1.** ASE for state I and II in the FAM and MAM schemes

**Fig. 2.** ASE for state III in the MAM scheme for different user’s arrangement; $M = 2048$, $K = 5$, $r = [400 450 500 550 600]$, mean and var. (normalized to $r_h$) of distances = [500, 0.6250] 
$r = [300 400 500 600 700]$, mean and var. = [500, 2.500] 
$r = [303 302 500 695 700]$, mean and var. = [500, 3.9010]
It can be observed that simulation results confirm theoretical analysis. Also Fig. 2 shows that different variances of users’ distances have different maximum ASE. The reason is that for each user’s arrangement, we have different approximated SINR thresholds for each power.

Fig. 2 shows that when the variance of users’ distances for one arrangement increases, then the maximum ASE value that happens in high power, decreases and apparently enhances in low powers. This can be interpreted by interference and attenuation effects. By increasing variances at a fixed mean of distances, some users will be closer to the BS and some others will be farther from the BS. However, it’s clear that in the moderate toward high power, these close users have stronger signal power, because the attenuation of the far users have a negligible effect. In opposition, these close users have a giant interference effect on far users in the way that the portion of far users’ desire signal can be negligible compared to the interference term. As a result, by increasing the variance of user’s distances, the close users have the dominate portion of the spectral efficiency or in the other words, they seize all the ASE and then it will be limited to a constant value.

In Fig. 3, simulation results show that our analytical results are close enough to Monte Carlo simulation results for the ASE in low power transmission. Furthermore, we can see by increasing the number of BS antennas, higher average spectral efficiency can be achieved.

Fig. 4 confirms our claim about the effect of mean and variance (of user’s distances) on the average spectral efficiency in Fig. 2. It is seen that, in low power range, the average spectral efficiency is increased by increasing the variance. It can be justified that, in the low power transmission, we mitigate all the interferences, then by increasing the variance, close users to the BS, will have better SINR values and consequently higher amounts of the spectral efficiency without concerning of their interference effect on far users. Because of the interference mitigation point of view in this scenario, this story can be all true for the ZF receivers as well. Also, as it was expected, increasing the mean of users’ distances can result in decreasing the ASE, since the SINR will be more attenuated by the path-loss coefficient.
Fig. 4: ASE for the MRC and ZF receivers in different users’ arrangement, $M = 512$, $K = 5$

Fig. 5 shows the BEO of the MAM and FAM schemes. It is observed that the analytical results are in perfect agreement with the simulation results in the low power transmission. We can see by increasing the number of BS antennas, the MAM performs as well as FAM.

Fig. 6 illustrates a comparison for BEO between the MRC and ZF in different values for the number of BS antennas ($M$) in low power transmission. As we can see, when the value of $M$ is small then MRC outperforms ZF slightly, but by increasing $M$, the gap can be removed. The reason of the better performance of the MRC is due to the better spatial diversity gain that equals to $M$ for MRC based on (15) and equals to $M - K + 1$ for the ZF receiver as mentioned in [12]. However, by increasing the value of $M$, the difference between diversity gains will be negligible.

Fig. 5: Impact of $M$ on the BEO with $K = 5$, for an arbitrary distance with MRC receiver
We investigated a low-complexity MAM scheme for an uplink massive MIMO systems employing MRC receiver. Analytical closed-form expressions for the ASE and BEO in general form and an approximation was derived for low power regime. Moreover, MAM with joint power control was studied, and by the help of the optimal power allocation strategy and switching threshold obtained at [12], the SINR thresholds and spectral efficiency were reassessed for our system. We saw in state I and II, the ASE for MRC in MAM scheme is as well as ZF but with a negligible gap. But by increasing the power, the ASE in state III can’t reach to the maximum values while the gap between MRC and ZF receivers is significant. Meantime we saw this maximum significantly depends on variance and mean of the users’ distances, where by decreasing
variance (going toward state II) and mean, we achieve higher maximum values. On the other hand, in low power regime although lower mean is still desirable but variance plays a good role, where by increasing it we can see better ASE can be achieved. Simulation results in agreement with the analytical results show that, by increasing the number of BS antennas as diversity gain, better ASE and BEO performance can be achieved, where the gap between the proposed MAM scheme and the FAM one is relatively small.

Appendix

In this appendix, we evaluate PDF for three states and some approximations:

State I:

Instantaneous SINR of user \( k \) that mentioned in (8) will be as below:

\[
\gamma_k = \frac{\|h_k\|^2}{\sum_{l=1\atop l \neq k}^{K} |h_k H h_l|^2 + \frac{1}{\beta p}} \quad (42)
\]

Then:

\[
\gamma_k = \frac{X}{\sum_{l=0\atop l \neq k}^{K} z_{lk} + \frac{M}{\gamma}} \quad (43)
\]

\[
X = \|h_k\|^2, z_{lk} = \frac{\|h_k H h_l\|^2}{\|h_k\|^2} \quad (44)
\]

Where:

\[
Z = \sum_{l=1\atop l \neq k}^{K} z_{lk}, \quad Z \sim G(K-1,1), X \sim G(M,1) \quad (45)
\]

\[
T = Z + \frac{M}{\gamma} \quad (46)
\]

\[
T \sim G(K-1,1,\frac{M}{\gamma}) \quad (Shifted Gamma)
\]

By Jacobian Method \( \gamma_k = \frac{X}{T} \), \( T = T : f_{\gamma_k,T}(\gamma_k,t) = |t|^{-1} f_{X,T}(x,t) \):

\[
f_{\gamma_k|\gamma}(\gamma|\gamma) = \int_{-\infty}^{+\infty} f_{\gamma_k,T}(\gamma_k,t) \, dt
\]

\[
= \frac{\gamma^{M-1} e^{\frac{M}{\gamma}}}{\Gamma(M)\Gamma(K-1)} \int_{\frac{M}{\gamma}}^{\infty} t^M e^{-(\gamma+1)t} \, dt \quad (47)
\]

This integral can be solved using equation [21, (3.383-4)]:

\[
\int_{\frac{M}{\gamma}}^{\infty} t^M e^{-(n+1)t} \, dt = \frac{1}{(n+1)t} \int_{\frac{M}{\gamma}}^{\infty} t^{n} e^{-(\gamma+1)t} \, dt
\]
\[ f_{\gamma_k|\bar{\gamma}}(\gamma|\bar{\gamma}) = \frac{\gamma^{M-1} e^{-M\gamma + M\bar{\gamma}}}{\Gamma(M) \left( \frac{M + K - 2}{2} \right)} \times W_{M-K+2, 1-M-K} \left( \frac{M}{\bar{\gamma}} (\gamma + 1) \right) \]

\[ = (-1)^M \frac{M e^{-M\bar{\gamma}} \gamma^{M-1} I_{M}^{(1-K-M)} \left( \frac{M}{\bar{\gamma}} (\gamma + 1) \right)}{(\gamma + 1)^{M+K-1}} \]  

(48)

Where \( L_n^\gamma \) is [21, (8.970.1)]:

\[ L_n^\gamma(x) = \sum_{i=0}^{n} (-1)^n \left( \frac{n + \alpha}{n - i} \right) \frac{x^i}{i!} \]  

(49)

\[ f_{\gamma_k|\bar{\gamma}}(\gamma|\bar{\gamma}) = M \sum_{i=0}^{M} (-1)^i \frac{e^{-M\bar{\gamma}} \gamma^{M-1}}{(\gamma + 1)^{i-M-K+1}} \frac{\rho}{(\bar{\gamma})^i} \]  

(50)

Where \( \rho = 1 - K \).

Fig. 8: The conditional PDF of \( \gamma_k \) for state I, \( M = 2048 \), \( K = 5 \) and \( \bar{\gamma} = 10 \), \( p = 0 \) dB.

State II:

Instantaneous SINR of user \( k \) in this state will be as below:

\[ \gamma_k = \frac{p \beta_k ||h_k||^2}{p \sum_{i=1}^{K} \beta_i \frac{||h_k h_i||^2}{||h_k||^2 + 1}} \]  

(51)

\[ \gamma_k = \frac{\bar{\gamma}_k}{M \rho} \frac{X}{\sum_{i=0}^{K} z_{ik} + 1} \]  

(52)
\[ X = \| h_k \|^2, z_{ik} = \beta_i \frac{| h_k^H h_i \|^2}{\| h_k \|^2} \] (53)

As we know:

\[ \beta_i \sim \mathcal{G}(a, \beta), \quad \frac{| h_k^H h_i \|^2}{\| h_k \|^2} \sim \exp(1) \] (54)

\[ z_{ik} \sim K - \text{distribution} (a\beta, a, 1) \] (55)

Where:

\[ \beta = \frac{b}{d^v} \] (56)

\[ d^v = (r/r_h)^v, \quad r = r_k, k = 1, ..., K \] (57)

\[ Z = \sum_{i=1}^{K} z_{ik} \] (58)

\[ Z \sim K - \text{distribution}((K-1)a\beta, a, K-1) \] [1]

\[ T = pZ + 1 \] (59)

By Jacobian Method like previous part, we have (PDF without closed form):

\[ f_\Psi(\psi) = \frac{2\psi^{M-1}}{(p\beta)^{\frac{a+K-1}{2}}} \Gamma(M)\Gamma(K-1)\Gamma(a) \times \int_{1}^{\infty} t^M e^{-\psi t} (t-1)^{\frac{a+K-3}{2}} K_{a-K+1}(2\frac{\sqrt{t-1}}{p\beta}) dt \] (60)

If we put:

\[ I = \int_{1}^{\infty} t^M e^{-\psi t} (t-1)^{\frac{a+K-3}{2}} K_{a-K+1}(2\frac{t-1}{p\beta}) dt \] (61)

Then by changing of variable \( \psi = (t - 1)^{\frac{1}{2}} \) eventually, we have:

[1] WWW.letdl.org, H. Samimi
\[ I = 2e^{-\psi} \sum_{i=0}^{M} \binom{M}{i} \int_{0}^{\infty} \varphi^{K+a-2+2i} e^{-\psi \varphi^2} K_{a-K+1} \left( \frac{2\varphi}{\sqrt{p\beta}} \right) d\varphi \]  

This integral is solved using equation [21, (6.631-3)]:

\[ I = \frac{\sqrt{p\beta}}{2} e^{\psi \left[ \frac{1}{2p\beta} - \psi \right]} \left( \sum_{i=0}^{M} \binom{M}{i} \psi^{-\frac{1}{2}(K+a-2+2i)} \times \Gamma(a + i) \Gamma(K - 1 + i) \times W_{-\frac{1}{2}(K+a-2+2i), \frac{1}{2}(a-K+1)} \left( \frac{1}{p\beta \psi} \right) \right) \]  

\[ f_{y_{k}|\bar{y}}(y|\bar{y}) = \frac{\binom{M}{\bar{y}} y^{M-1} \exp \left( \frac{\bar{y}}{\lambda} - \frac{M}{\bar{y}} \right) \left( \sum_{i=0}^{M} \binom{M}{i} \left( \frac{M y}{\bar{y}} \right)^{2i} \Gamma(a + i) \Gamma(K - 1 + i) \times W_{-\frac{1}{2}(a-K+1)} \left( \frac{\bar{y}}{M \lambda} \right) \right)}{\binom{a+K-2}{\frac{1}{2}(a-K+1)} \Gamma(M) \Gamma(K - 1) \Gamma(a)} \]  

Finally, the PDF is as follows:
Where:

\[ z_i = -\frac{1}{2}(K + a - 2 + 2i) \]  

State III:

Instantaneous SINR of user \( k \) that mentioned in (8) will be as below:

\[ y_k = \frac{\bar{y}_k}{Mp} \frac{X}{\sum_{i=0}^{K} z_{ik} + 1} \]  

\[ X = ||h_k||^2, \ z_{ik} = \beta_i y_{ik} \]  

As we know:

\[ \beta_i \sim G(a, \beta_i) \]  

\[ y_k = y_{ik} = \frac{||h_k^H h_i||^2}{||h_k||^2} \sim \exp(1) \]  

Where omitting index \( i \) in (70) can by asymptotically true only for small number of users \( K \).

As we know:

\[ \beta_i = \frac{b}{\bar{d}_i}, \ d_i^\nu = (\bar{r}_i/\bar{r}_k)^\nu \]  

By fixing \( \beta_i \) and writing \( y_k = z_{ik}/\beta_i \), we obtain the conditional PDF \( f_{z_{ik}\mid y_k}(z\mid y) \) as follows:

\[ f_{z_{ik}\mid y_k}(z\mid y) = \frac{z^{a-1}}{\Gamma(a)(\bar{y}\beta_i)^a} e^{-z/(\bar{y}\beta_i)} \]  

So, the distribution for the RV \( z_{ik} \) can be described as:

\[ f_{z_{ik}}(z) = E_y[f_{z_{ik}\mid y_k}(z\mid y)] \]  

Considering (72), each \( z_{ik} \) can be viewed as a Gamma-distributed RV with shape parameter \( a \), and random scale parameter \( \bar{y}\beta_i \). It follows that given \( y_k \), the RV \( Z \) in (58) is the sum of \( K - 1 \) independent gamma-
distributed RVs with different second parameters. Finally, the PDF of $Z$ conditioned on $y_k$ can be computed by Satterthwaite Procedure. This procedure will be described concisely as follows.

\[
\frac{\nu \, \mathbb{U}}{\mathbb{E}(\mathbb{U})}
\]

has an approximate $\chi^2$ distribution with the following degree of freedom:

\[
\nu = \frac{\left(\sum_{i=1}^{k} a_i \mathbb{E}\{U_i\}\right)^2}{\sum_{i=1}^{k} (a_i \mathbb{E}\{U_i\})^2 / \nu_i}
\]

(74)

We can assume $X_i = a_i U_i \sim G( K_i, \theta_i)$ where $K_i = \nu_i/2$ and $\theta_i = 2a_i$.

\[
X = \sum_{i} X_i ; \quad \frac{\nu \, X}{\mathbb{E}\{X\}} \sim \chi(\nu)
\]

(75)

\[
\nu = \frac{\left(\sum_{i=1}^{k} K_i \theta_i\right)^2}{\sum_{i=1}^{k} (K_i \theta_i)^2 / 2K_i}, \quad \mathbb{E}\{X\} = \sum K_i \theta_i
\]

(76)

So we have:

\[
X \sim G( K_{sum}, \theta_{sum})
\]

(77)

\[
K_{sum} = \frac{\left(\sum_{i=1}^{k} K_i \theta_i\right)^2}{\sum_{i=1}^{k} K_i \theta_i^2}, \quad \theta_{sum} = \frac{\sum_{i=1}^{k} K_i \theta_i}{K_{sum}}
\]

(78)

In our case we substitute $K_i$ with $a$ for all $i$, $\theta_i = yB_i$ and also $X_i$ with conditional $z_{i,k}$ on $y_k$ so we have approximated conditional pdf for $Z$ as bellow:

\[
Z \sim G( A_k, yB_k)
\]

(79)

Where:

\[
A_k = a \frac{\left(\sum_{l=k, l \neq k}^{k} B_l\right)^2}{\sum_{l=k, l \neq k}^{k} B_l^2}, \quad B_k = a \frac{\sum_{l=k, l \neq k}^{k} B_l}{A_k}
\]

(80)

So, the unconditional distribution of $Z$ can be obtained by averaging the PDF over $y_k$, that is:

\[
f_Z(Z) = \int_{y=0}^{\infty} f_{Z|y}(Z|y) f_y(y) dy = \frac{Z^{A_k-1}}{\Gamma(A_k)B_k A_k} \int_{y=0}^{\infty} y^{-A_k} e^{-(y+Z/(yB_k))} dy
\]

(81)

Again regarding what we did in (59) to (63), we have:
\[ f_{\gamma_k | \bar{Y}_k}(\gamma | \bar{Y}_k) = \left( \frac{M}{\bar{Y}_k} \right)^M \gamma^{M-1} \exp\left( \frac{\bar{Y}_k}{M \bar{p} B_k} - \frac{M}{\bar{Y}_k} \right) \left( \sum_{i=0}^{M} \binom{M}{i} \left( \frac{M \gamma \bar{Y}_k}{\bar{Y}_k} \right)^i \Gamma(A_k + i) \right) \times \Gamma(i + 1) W_i^{-\frac{1}{2}(A_k + 2i), \frac{1}{2}(A_k - 1)} \left( \frac{\bar{Y}_k}{M \bar{p} B_k} \right) \right) \]

(82)

Fig. 10: The conditional PDF of \( \gamma_k \) for state III, \( M = 2048 \), \( K = 5 \) and \( \bar{\gamma} = 10 \), \( p = 0 \) dB

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**Availability of data and material**

Data sharing not applicable to this article as no datasets were generated or analysed during the current study.
Code availability
I have implemented the equations that was provided in the paper by matlab codes then validated them by simulation.

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