

METHOD AND APPARATUS OF SYSTEM SCHEDULER

BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION

[0001] Next generation cellular networks (e.g., Long Term Evolution (LTE) cellular systems) may provide higher data rate compared to current and prior wireless technologies. In order to achieve the higher data rate, different multiple input multiple output (MIMO) technologies may be used. In general, MIMO schemes may be characterized by different features. For example, MIMO using diversity schemes (e.g. Alamouti space time block codes, space time trellis\Turbo codes, and etc.) and MIMO using multiplexing schemes.

[0002] Diversity schemes limit the over all channel variations in compare to single input single output (SISO) channel and effect the signal to noise (SNR) per link, thus improves the quality of service (QoS) of individual links. In multiplexing schemes the network scheduler assigns users to share substantially the same Time\Frequency (T\F) resources and interference is eliminated by receiver and/or transmitter (Rx\Tx) beam-forming techniques or by interference cancellation\suppression at the receiver. In wireless systems which may operating according to these diversity schemes, a user link may suffer larger variations in signal to noise ratio (SNR) due to rapid variation of an interference. Thus, the QoS per link may be degraded.

BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWINGS

[0003] The subject matter regarded as the invention is particularly pointed out and distinctly claimed in the concluding portion of the specification. The invention, however, both as to organization and method of operation, together with objects, features and advantages thereof, may best be understood by reference to the following detailed description when read with the accompanied drawings in which:

[0004] FIG. 1 is a schematic illustration of a wireless communication system according to exemplary embodiments of the present invention;

[0005] FIG. 2 is a schematic time symbol/frequency slots diagram of a multiplexing scheme in OFDM according to an exemplary embodiment of the invention;

[0006] FIG. 3 is a schematic time symbol/frequency slots diagram of a multiplexing scheme in SC-FDMA according to another exemplary embodiment of the invention; and

[0007] FIGs. 4 and 5 are diagrams helpful to demonstrate a wireless communication system performance according to embodiments of the present invention.

[0008] It will be appreciated that for simplicity and clarity of illustration, elements shown in the figures have not necessarily been drawn to scale. For example, the dimensions of some of the elements may be exaggerated relative to other elements for clarity. Further, where considered appropriate, reference numerals may be repeated among the figures to indicate corresponding or analogous elements.

DETAILED DESCRIPTION OF THE INVENTION

[0009] In the following detailed description, numerous specific details are set forth in order to provide a thorough understanding of the invention. However it will be understood by those of ordinary skill in the art that the present invention may be practiced without these specific details. In other instances, well-known methods, procedures, components, and circuits have not been described in detail so as not to obscure the present invention.

[0010] Some portions of the detailed description, which follow, are presented in terms of algorithms and symbolic representations of operations on data bits or binary digital signals within a computer memory. These algorithmic descriptions and representations may be the techniques used by those skilled in the data processing and signal processing arts to convey the substance of their work to others skilled in the art.

[0011] Unless specifically stated otherwise, as apparent from the following discussions, it is appreciated that throughout the specification discussions utilizing terms such as “processing,” “computing,” “calculating,” “determining,” or the like, refer to the action and/or processes of a computer or computing system, or similar electronic computing device, that manipulate and/or transform data represented as physical, such as electronic, quantities within the computing system’s registers and/or memories into other data similarly represented as physical quantities within the computing system’s memories, registers or other such information storage,

transmission or display devices. In addition, the term “plurality” may be used throughout the specification to describe two or more components, devices, elements, parameters and the like. For example, “plurality of mobile stations” describes two or more mobile stations.

[0012] It should be understood that the present invention may be used in a variety of applications. Although the present invention is not limited in this respect, the circuits and techniques disclosed herein may be used in many apparatuses such as transmitters and/or receivers of a radio system. Transmitters and/or receivers intended to be included within the scope of the present invention may be included, by way of example only, within a wireless local area network (WLAN), two-way radio communication system, digital communication system, analog communication system transmitters, cellular radiotelephone communication system, LTE cellular communication systems, metropolitan wireless local area communication systems (MWLAN) and the like.

[0013] Types of cellular radiotelephone communication system intended to be within the scope of the present invention include, although are not limited to, Wideband Code Division Multiple Access (WCDMA), Global System for Mobile communication (GSM), General Packet Radio Service (GPRS), extended GPRS extended data rate for global evolution (EDGE), and the like.

[0014] Turning first to FIG. 1, a wireless communication system 100 in accordance with an exemplary embodiment of the invention is shown. Although the scope of the present invention is not limited in this respect, wireless communication system may include at least one base station (BS) 110 and mobile stations 120 and 140, if desired. In this exemplary embodiment of the invention, MS 120 and MS 140 may have a similar structure. Thus, only the structure and operation of one MS (e.g., MS 120) will be described in detail.

[0015] According to this exemplary embodiment of the invention, transmitter 130 may include an information (INFO) source 132, a modulator (MOD) 134, an encoder 136 and antennas 137 and 139. MS 140 may include a transmitter 141 and antennas 148 and 149. Transmitter 141 may include an information (INFO) source 142, a modulator (MOD) 144 and an encoder 146. Base Station 110 may include a scheduler 112 and antennas 115 and 117.

[0016] Although the scope of the present invention is not limited in this respect, types of antennas that may be used with embodiments of the present invention (e.g., antennas 115, 117, 137, 139, 148 and 149) may include an internal antenna, a dipole antenna, an omni-directional antenna, a monopole antenna, an end fed antenna, a circularly polarized antenna, a micro-strip antenna, a diversity antenna and the like.

[0017] According to embodiments of the present invention, Space Division Multiple Access (SDMA) scheme may be provided to enable plurality of users, for example MS 120 and 140, to share the substantially the same Time-Frequency resources, if desired. According to the SDMA scheme, scheduler 112 of BS 110 is able to select at least one of the users (e.g., MS 120) suitable for multiplexing. Furthermore, scheduler 112 may assign Time-Frequency resources and power control for the one or more selected user.

[0018] According to other embodiment of the present invention, mobile stations 120 and 140 may transmit space time block codes for example, Alamouti space time block codes, according to a predetermined diversity scheme on substantially the same Time-Frequency resources and scheduler 112 may schedule the transmission of substantially the same Time-Frequency resources by both MS 120 and 140, if desired.

[0019] According to some exemplary embodiments of the present invention, the transmitter is able to transmit at least two chains of data symbols to provide transmit diversity. For example, the data of the selected user may be encoded by Alamouti space time block code, if desired. The Alamouti space time block code may be performed over at least two transmit antennas of the at least one selected user (e.g., a mobile station). The at least two Alamouti space time block code instances may be performed in coupled data symbols in time and/or sub-carriers in frequency.

[0020] For example, the transmission of the Alamouti space time codes by antennas 137 and 139 of MS 120 may be done at approximately the same time. Antenna 137 may transmit the Alamouti space time codes at a first frequency and antenna 139 may transmit the Alamouti space time codes at a second frequency.

[0021] The wireless communication system of claim 1, wherein at least one of the first and second mobile stations includes an antenna and the transmission of the space time codes is done using the antenna.

[0022] Although the scope of the present invention is not limited in this respect, in some embodiments of the invention, information source may include an application operated by a processor, if desired. For example, the application may generate data bits for transmission. Modulator 134 may modulate the data bits, for example, according to Orthogonal Frequency Division Multiplexing (OFDM) scheme and/or according to a Single Carrier – Frequency Division Multiple Access (SC-FDMA) scheme or the like. Encoder 136 may encode modulated symbols, for example Z_1 and Z_2 which may be two symbols that designated for Alamoti encoding by space time encoding scheme and/or by space frequency encoding scheme, if desired. Encoder 146 of MS 140 may encode X_1 and X_2 which may be two symbols that designated for Alamoti encoding, if desired.

[0023] According to some exemplary embodiments of the invention, MS 120 may transmit modulated symbols which may be denoted as $Z^1 = [Z_1 - Z_2^*]$ and $Z^2 = [Z_2 \ Z_1]$ via antennas 137 and 139, respectively, to antennas 115 and 117 of BS 110. Antenna 137 may transmit via a channel 160, which may be denoted as $g_{1,1}$, to antenna 115 of base station 110 and via channel 162, which may be denoted as $g_{2,1}$, to antenna 117 of base station 110. Antenna 139 may transmit modulated symbols, which may be denoted as $Z^2 = [Z_2 \ Z_1]$, via a channel 164, which may be denoted as $g_{1,2}$, to antenna 115 of base station 110 and via channel 166, which may be denoted as $g_{2,2}$, to antenna 117 of base station 110. MS 140 may transmit modulated symbols, which may be denoted as $X^1 = [X_1 - X_2^*]$ and $X^2 = [X_2 \ X_1]$, via antennas 148 and 149, respectively, to antennas 115 and 117 of BS 110. Antenna 148 may transmit modulated symbols via a channel 168, which may be denoted as $h_{1,1}$, to antenna 115 of base station 110, via channel 170, which may be denoted as $h_{2,1}$, to antenna 117 of base station 110. Antenna 149 may transmit modulated symbols via a channel 172, which may be denoted as $h_{1,2}$, to antenna 115 of base station 110 via channel 174, which may be denoted as $h_{2,2}$, to antenna 117 of base station 110.

[0024] Although the scope of the present invention is not limited to this respect, BS 110 may receive a summation of the multiplexed MS 120 and MS 130 signals (passed through the channel media) as depicted in Equation 1.

$$\begin{bmatrix} r_1^j = h_{j,1}X_1 + h_{j,2}X_2 + g_{j,1}Z_1 + g_{j,2}Z_2 + n_1^j \\ r_2^j = -h_{j,1}X_2^* + h_{j,2}X_1^* - g_{j,1}Z_2^* + g_{j,2}Z_1^* + n_2^j \end{bmatrix} \quad \text{Equation 1.}$$

[0025] BS 110 may perform Maximal Ratio Combining over the signals received by antennas 115 and 117, followed by 'Alamouti' decoding scheme for the 2 multiplexed users (e.g., MS 120, 140), as shown in Equation 2.

$$\begin{cases} \hat{X}_1 = \sum_{j=1}^{N_{rx}} [h_{j,1}^* r_1 + h_{j,2} r_2^*] \\ \hat{X}_2 = \sum_{j=1}^{N_{rx}} [h_{j,2}^* r_1 - h_{j,1} r_2^*] \\ \hat{Z}_1 = \sum_{j=1}^{N_{rx}} [g_{j,1}^* r_1 + g_{j,2} r_2^*] \\ \hat{Z}_2 = \sum_{j=1}^{N_{rx}} [g_{j,2}^* r_1 - g_{j,1} r_2^*] \end{cases} \quad \text{Equation 2.}$$

Where,

X_1, X_2 may be the 2 symbols of User₁ (e.g., MS 120) designated for Alamouti encoding;

Z_1, Z_2 may be the 2 symbols of User₂ (e.g., MS 140) designated for Alamouti encoding; and

r_1^j, r_2^j are the received signals at the j^{th} antenna at the base, at the 1st and 2nd instances of the Alamouti encoding.

[0026] Furthermore, BS 110 decode the received signals according to Equation 3 which depicts the BS 110 receiver metric for decoding a subset of 2 symbols of 2 multiplexed users (e.g., MS 120 and MS 140) at each Alamouti block code interval.

$$\begin{cases} \hat{X}_1 = \sum_{i=1}^2 \sum_{j=1}^{N_{rx}} [h_{j,i}^* r_1^i] X_1 + \sum_{j=1}^{N_{rx}} [h_{j,1}^* n_1^j + h_{j,2} n_2^{j*}] + \sum_{j=1}^{N_{rx}} [(h_{j,1}^* g_{j,1}^j + h_{j,2} g_{j,2}^{j*}) Z_1] + \sum_{j=1}^{N_{rx}} [(h_{j,1}^* g_{j,2}^j - h_{j,2} g_{j,1}^{j*}) Z_2] \\ \hat{X}_2 = \sum_{i=1}^2 \sum_{j=1}^{N_{rx}} [h_{j,i}^* r_1^i] X_2 + \sum_{j=1}^{N_{rx}} [h_{j,2}^* n_1^j - h_{j,1} n_2^{j*}] + \sum_{j=1}^{N_{rx}} [(h_{j,2}^* g_{j,1}^j - h_{j,1} g_{j,2}^{j*}) Z_1] + \sum_{j=1}^{N_{rx}} [(h_{j,2}^* g_{j,2}^j + h_{j,1} g_{j,1}^{j*}) Z_2] \\ \hat{Z}_1 = \sum_{i=1}^2 \sum_{j=1}^{N_{rx}} [g_{j,i}^* r_1^i] Z_1 + \sum_{j=1}^{N_{rx}} [g_{j,1}^* n_1^j + g_{j,2} n_2^{j*}] + \sum_{j=1}^{N_{rx}} [(g_{j,1}^* h_{j,1}^j + g_{j,2} h_{j,2}^{j*}) X_1] + \sum_{j=1}^{N_{rx}} [(g_{j,1}^* h_{j,2}^j - g_{j,2} h_{j,1}^{j*}) X_2] \\ \hat{Z}_2 = \sum_{i=1}^2 \sum_{j=1}^{N_{rx}} [g_{j,i}^* r_1^i] Z_2 + \sum_{j=1}^{N_{rx}} [g_{j,2}^* n_1^j - g_{j,1} n_2^{j*}] + \sum_{j=1}^{N_{rx}} [(g_{j,2}^* h_{j,1}^j - g_{j,1} h_{j,2}^{j*}) X_1] + \sum_{j=1}^{N_{rx}} [(g_{j,2}^* h_{j,2}^j + g_{j,1} h_{j,1}^{j*}) X_2] \end{cases}$$

Equation 3.

[0027] Equation 4 depicts a representation of vectors of Equation 3.

$$\begin{aligned}
 \alpha &= \sum_{i=1}^2 \sum_{j=1}^{N_{rx}} \left[\left| h_{j,i} r_1 \right|^2 \right] \\
 \beta &= \sum_{i=1}^2 \sum_{j=1}^{N_{rx}} \left[\left(h_{j,1}^* g_{j,1}^j + h_{j,2} g_{j,2}^{j*} \right) \right] \\
 \gamma &= \sum_{i=1}^2 \sum_{j=1}^{N_{rx}} \left[\left(h_{j,1}^* g_{j,2}^j - h_{j,2} g_{j,1}^{j*} \right) \right] \\
 \xi &= \sum_{i=1}^2 \sum_{j=1}^{N_{rx}} \left[\left(g_{j,1}^* h_{j,2}^j + g_{j,2} h_{j,2}^{j*} \right) \right] \\
 \rho &= \sum_{i=1}^2 \sum_{j=1}^{N_{rx}} \left[\left(g_{j,1}^* h_{j,2}^j - g_{j,2} h_{j,1}^{j*} \right) \right] \\
 \delta &= \sum_{i=1}^2 \sum_{j=1}^{N_{rx}} \left[\left| g_{j,i} r_1 \right|^2 \right]
 \end{aligned}
 \tag{Equation 4.}$$

[0028] Equation 5 depicts the metric of equation 3, as a linear system, for which a solution could be obtained in various known in the art ways.

$$\begin{pmatrix} \hat{X}_1 \\ \hat{X}_2 \\ \hat{Z}_1 \\ \hat{Z}_2 \end{pmatrix} = \underbrace{\begin{pmatrix} \alpha & 0 & \beta & \gamma \\ 0 & \alpha - \gamma^* & \beta^* & 0 \\ \xi & \rho & \delta & 0 \\ -\rho^* & \xi^* & 0 & \delta \end{pmatrix}}_A \begin{pmatrix} X_1 \\ X_2 \\ Z_1 \\ Z_2 \end{pmatrix} + \begin{pmatrix} \tilde{n}_1 \\ \tilde{n}_2 \\ \tilde{n}_3 \\ \tilde{n}_4 \end{pmatrix}
 \tag{Equation 5.}$$

[0029] According to some exemplary embodiments of the present invention, one of the possible solutions may be obtained according to linear Minimum Mean Squared Error (LMMSE) as depicted in Equation 5: $W = (R_{nn} + AA^H)^{-1}A$ where, W is the linear MMSE and R_{nn} is the noise covariance matrix as depicted in Equation 6 below. Other embodiments of the invention, may involve successive interference cancellation techniques or Zero-Forcing criteria, if desired.

$$R_{nn} = \begin{bmatrix} h_{1,1}' & h_{2,1}' & h_{1,2} & h_{2,2} \\ h_{1,2}' & h_{2,2}' - h_{1,1}' - h_{2,1}' & & \\ g_{1,1}' & g_{2,1}' & g_{1,2} & g_{2,2} \\ g_{1,2}' & g_{2,2}' - g_{1,1}' & g_{2,1}' & \end{bmatrix} * \begin{bmatrix} h_{1,1}' & h_{2,1}' & h_{1,2} & h_{2,2} \\ h_{1,2}' & h_{2,2}' - h_{1,1}' - h_{2,1}' & & \\ g_{1,1}' & g_{2,1}' & g_{1,2} & g_{2,2} \\ g_{1,2}' & g_{2,2}' - g_{1,1}' & g_{2,1}' & \end{bmatrix}^H * N_0 \quad \text{Equation 6.}$$

[0030] Turning to FIG. 2, a schematic time symbol/frequency slots diagram 200 of a multiplexing scheme in OFDM according to an exemplary embodiment of the invention is shown. Although the scope of the present invention is not limited in this respect, in a presence of multi-path channel, a base station (e.g., BS 110) may direct a mobile station having a single antenna to transmit data symbols according to the Alamouti space time block codes in distinct sub-carriers 210 and 220. For example, the mobile station may transmit the first symbol at frequency 210 and the second symbol at frequency 220. According to some embodiments of the invention, frequencies 210 and 220 may be orthogonal frequencies and the mobile station may transmit the Alamouti time space code by using an orthogonal frequency-division multiplexing transmission scheme, if desired.

[0031] Turning to FIG. 3, a schematic time symbol/frequency slots diagram 300 of a multiplexing scheme in a Single Carrier - Frequency Division Multiple Access (SC-FDMA) according to an exemplary embodiment of the invention is shown. Although the scope of the present invention is not limited in this respect, in a presence of multi-path channel, a base station (e.g., BS 110) may direct a mobile station having a single antenna to transmit data symbols according to the Alamouti space time block codes in distinct and separated in time sub-carriers 310 and 320. For example, the transmission of the Alamouti space time codes using the antenna is done by transmitting a first symbol on sub-carrier frequency 310 and a second symbol at sub-carrier frequency 320.

[0032] Turning to FIGs. 4 and 5 schematic diagrams of performance of the wireless communication system according to some exemplary embodiments of the invention is shown. Although the scope of the present invention is not limited in this respect, FIGs 4 and 5 illustrate the potential simulated gains of the multiplexing scheme according to some embodiments of the invention, over diversity scheme and SDMA scheme, in both MMSE solution and Successive Interference Cancellation (SIC) technologies.

[0033] For example, FIG. 4 shows two rates of two multiplex user in MMSE and SIC and FIG. 5 shows the overall system rates as the sum of the rates of the two multiplexed users. Both diagrams (e.g., FIGs. 4 and 5) show that the present invention may obtain the diversity gains for individual links and may benefit the large system capacity due to the user multiplexing. The results shown in FIGs 4 and 5 are for uncorrelated single path channels.

[0034] While certain features of the invention have been illustrated and described herein, many modifications, substitutions, changes, and equivalents will now occur to those skilled in the art. It is, therefore, to be understood that the appended claims are intended to cover all such modifications and changes as fall within the true spirit of the invention.

What is claimed is:

1. A wireless communication system comprising:
first and second mobile stations to transmit space time block codes according to a predetermined diversity scheme on substantially the same Time-Frequency resources; and
a base station having a scheduler to schedule the transmission of substantially the same Time-Frequency resources by both first and second mobile stations.
2. The wireless communication system of claim 1, wherein the space time block codes comprises Alamouti space time block codes.
3. The wireless communication system of claim 1, wherein the base station comprises at least two antennas.
4. The wireless communication system of claim 1, wherein at least one of the first and second mobile stations includes at least two antennas and the transmission of the space time codes is done by using the at least two antennas.
5. The wireless communication system of claim 4, wherein the transmission of the space time codes using the at least two antennas is done at approximately the same time.
6. The wireless communication system of claim 4, wherein the transmission of the space time codes using the at least two antennas is done at a first frequency at a first antenna and a second frequency at a second antenna.

7. The wireless communication system of claim 1, wherein at least one of the first and second mobile stations includes an antenna and the transmission of the space time codes is done using the antenna.
8. The wireless communication system of claim 7, wherein the transmission of the space time codes using the antenna is done by transmitting a first symbol at a first frequency and a second symbol at a second frequency.
9. The wireless communication system of claim 8, wherein the first and second frequency are orthogonal frequencies.
10. The wireless communication system of claim 8, wherein the first and second mobile stations are able to transmit the time space code by using a orthogonal frequency-division multiplexing transmission scheme.
11. The wireless communication system of claim 7, wherein the transmission of the space time codes using the antenna is done by transmitting a first symbol on a first sub-carrier frequency and a second symbol at a second sub-carrier frequency.
12. The wireless communication system of claim 11, wherein the first and second mobile stations are able to transmit the time space codes by using a single carrier frequency division multiple access transmission scheme.
13. A method of scheduling resources a wireless communication system comprising:
scheduling Time-Frequency resources of wireless communication system to be used by both first and second wireless communication devices which able to transmit space time block codes according to a predetermined diversity scheme on substantially the same Time-Frequency resources.

14. The method of claim 13, comprising:
- transmitting the space time block codes approximately at the same time by using at least two antennas of the first and second wireless communication devices.
15. The method of claim 14, wherein the transmitting comprises:
- transmitting the space time block codes at a first frequency at a first antenna; and
 - transmitting the space time block codes at a second frequency at a second antenna.
16. The method of claim 13, comprising:
- transmitting the space time block codes by using a single antenna.
17. The method of claim 16, wherein transmitting further comprises:
- transmitting a first symbol at a first frequency; and
 - transmitting a second symbol at a second frequency.
18. The method of claim 16, wherein transmitting the time space block codes by using a single carrier frequency division multiple access transmission schemes and the method further comprises:
- transmitting a first symbol on a first carrier frequency; and
 - transmitting a second symbol at a second carrier frequency.
19. A mobile station comprising:
- a transmitter to transmit space time block codes according to a predetermined diversity scheme on substantially the same Time-Frequency resources which are used by another mobile station.
20. The mobile station of claim 19, wherein the space time block codes comprises Alamouti space time block codes.

21. The mobile station of claim 19, comprising at least two antennas.
22. The mobile station of claim 21, wherein the transmission of the space time codes is done by using the at least two antennas at approximately the same time.
23. The mobile station of claim 21, wherein the transmission of the space time codes using the at least two antennas is done at a first frequency at a first antenna and a second frequency at a second antenna.
24. The mobile station of claim 19, comprising an antenna and the transmission of the space time codes is done using the antenna.
25. The mobile station of claim 24, wherein the transmission of the space time codes using the antenna is done by transmitting a first symbol at a first frequency and a second symbol at a second frequency.
26. The mobile station of claim 24, wherein the transmission of the space time codes using the antenna is done by transmitting a first symbol on a first sub-carrier frequency and a second symbol at a second sub-carrier frequency.
27. The mobile station of claim 19, wherein the transmitter is able to transmit the time space code by using a orthogonal frequency-division multiplexing transmission scheme.
28. A mobile station comprising:
 - a transmitter to transmit space time block codes according to a predetermined diversity scheme on substantially the same Time-Frequency resources which are used by another mobile station; and
 - one or more dipole antennas to transmit the space time block codes.

29. The mobile station of claim 28, wherein the space time block codes comprises Alamouti space time block codes.
30. The mobile station of claim 28, wherein the transmission of the space time codes is done by using an at least two antennas at approximately the same time.
31. The mobile station of claim 30, wherein the transmission of the space time codes using the at least two antennas is done at a first frequency at a first antenna and a second frequency at a second antenna.
32. The mobile station of claim 28, comprising an antenna and the transmission of the space time codes is done using at least one antenna.
33. The mobile station of claim 32, wherein the transmission of the space time codes using the antenna is done by transmitting a first symbol at a first frequency and a second symbol at a second frequency.
34. The mobile station of claim 32, wherein the transmission of the space time codes using the antenna is done by transmitting a first symbol on a first sub-carrier frequency and a second symbol at a second sub-carrier frequency.
35. The mobile station of claim 28, wherein the transmitter is able to transmit the time space code by using a orthogonal frequency-division multiplexing transmission scheme.