

MULTI INPUT MULTI OUTPUT (MIMO) ORTHOGONAL FREQUENCY DIVISION
MULTIPLE ACCESS (OFDMA) COMMUNICATION SYSTEM

BACKGROUND

FIELD OF THE INVENTION

[001] Embodiments of the invention relate to the field of communication, and more specifically, to MIMO OFDMA communication systems.

DESCRIPTION OF RELATED ART.

[002] MIMO OFDMA systems are becoming popular as a key technology for the next generation of wired and wireless or mobile communications. The Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers (IEEE) has provided several standards supporting air interface for fixed and mobile broadband wireless access (BWA) systems using MIMO OFDMA such as the IEEE 802.16e for mobile BWA systems.

[003] One of the challenges facing MIMO OFDMA systems design is transmitter diversity. Existing techniques to provide transmitter diversity has a number of drawbacks. One technique uses a space time coding (STC) scheme. The STC scheme takes advantage of space and temporal diversities as well as coding gain. This technique suffers performance degradation in no multi-path channel such as Additive White Gaussian Noise (AWGN) channel, requires a special standard supporting STC scheme, and may limit maximum service range. Another technique uses an equal power joint maximum ratio combining method for a beam-forming based system. This technique is complex, requiring complex solutions for weight vectors and complex procedure for calibration. Many other techniques have been proposed but these techniques requires complex processes such as time domain processing, interactive processing, hand-shaking or collaboration between the base station (BS) and the mobile station (MS).

BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWINGS

[004] Embodiments of invention may best be understood by referring to the following description and accompanying drawings that are used to illustrate embodiments of the invention. In the drawings:

[005] Figure 1 is a diagram illustrating a system in which one embodiment of the invention can be practiced.

[006] Figure 2 is a diagram illustrating a 2x2 MIMO OFDMA system according to one embodiment of the invention.

[007] Figure 3 is a diagram illustrating a communication unit according to one embodiment of the invention.

[008] Figure 4 is a diagram illustrating a receiver processing unit according to one embodiment of the invention.

[009] Figure 5 is a diagram illustrating a receive signal processing unit according to one embodiment of the invention.

[0010] Figure 6 is a diagram illustrating a transmitter processing unit according to one embodiment of the invention.

[0011] Figure 7 is a diagram illustrating an UL allocation according to one embodiment of the invention.

[0012] Figure 8 is a diagram illustrating a CSI and MIMO controller according to one embodiment of the invention.

[0013] Figure 9 is a diagram illustrating a transmit signal processing unit according to one embodiment of the invention.

DESCRIPTION

[0014] An embodiment of the present invention is a technique to process signals in a communication system. In one embodiment, a plurality of signal processing units processes signals received from a plurality of antennae. The signal processor units are controlled by operational mode control signals. A channel estimator estimates channel responses using the processed signals according to an operational mode. An equalizer and combiner generates an equalized and combined signal using the received signals and the estimated channel responses. A Carrier-to-Interference Noise Ratio (CINR) estimator estimates CINR from the equalized and combined signal. The estimated CINR is used to generate the operational mode control signals. In another embodiment, a sub-carrier allocation controller generates sub-carrier allocation signals using an allocation base. A channel status information (CSI) and multiple input multiple output (MIMO) controller generates sub-carrier CSI signals and operational mode control signals using the sub-carrier allocation signals, estimated channel responses provided by a channel estimator, and an estimated CINR provided by a CINR estimator. The operational mode control signals select one of a plurality of antenna paths associated with a plurality of antennae. A transmitter diversity processor generates transmitter diversity signals as a function of at least a mapped signal M_k , the sub-carrier CSI signals, and the operational mode control signals.

[0015] In the following description, numerous specific details are set forth. However, it is understood that embodiments of the invention may be practiced without these specific details. In other instances, well-known circuits, structures, and techniques have not been shown to avoid obscuring the understanding of this description.

[0016] One embodiment of the invention may be described as a process, which is usually depicted as a flowchart, a flow diagram, a structure diagram, or a block diagram. Although a flowchart may describe the operations as a sequential process, many of the operations can be performed in parallel or concurrently. A loop or iterations in a flowchart may be described by a single iteration. It is understood that a loop index or loop indices or counter or counters are maintained to update the associated counters or pointers. In addition, the order of the operations may be re-arranged. A process terminates when its operations are completed. A process may correspond to a method, a program, a procedure, etc. A block diagram may contain blocks or modules that describe an element, an item, a component, a device, a unit, a subunit, a structure, a method, a process, a function, an operation, a

functionality, or a task, etc. A functionality or an operation may be performed automatically or manually.

[0017] An embodiment of the invention includes a transmitter processing unit and a receiver processing unit for wired and wireless communications based on MIMO OFDMA techniques. The receiver processing unit provides estimates of the channel responses and CINR to the transmitter processing unit. The transmitter processing unit provides transmitter diversity by selecting a transmitter antenna path using the estimated channel responses and CINR. Transmitter diversity is achieved by selecting the transmitter antenna path which has a better CSI than other transmitter antenna paths for a given bundle. A bundle is a set of sub-carrier indices. The technique has a number of advantages including simple architecture, good performance, reduced power consumption, and does not require special standard specifications.

[0018] Figure 1 is a diagram illustrating a system 100 in which one embodiment of the invention can be practiced. The system 100 includes a base station (BS) 110 and a number of mobile stations. For illustrative purposes, only two mobile stations 120 and 130 are shown. As is known by one skilled in the art, any number of mobile stations may be used.

[0019] The base station 110 has a number of antennae 115_0 to 115_{L-1} . The mobile station (MS) 120 has a number of antennae 125_0 to 125_{L-1} . The MS 130 has a number of antennae 135_0 to 135_{M-1} . L , M , and N are any positive integers. The MS 120 or 130 represents any mobile unit or sub-system such as cellular phones, mobile personal digital assistant (PDA), mobile hand-held devices or computers. In one embodiment, the BS 110 and the MS's 120 and 130 are compatible with a MIMO OFDMA standard, such as the IEEE 802.16e.

[0020] The MS 120 includes a user's interface 140, an input entry device 145, a display element 150, a communication unit 160, and a controller 170. The user's interface 140 provides interface to the user. It may include graphics user's interface (GUI), menu, icons, etc. The input entry device 145 may include any input entry devices such as keyboard, pointing device (e.g., stylus), mouse, etc. to allow the user to enter data or commands. The display element 150 provides a display. It may be any type of display suitable for mobile devices such as thin-film transistor (TFT) liquid crystal display (LCD), color super-twist nematic (CSTN), double-layer super-twist nematic (DSTN), high-performance addressing (HPA), or any other active or passive-matrix displays. The communication unit 160 receives and transmits data via the antennae 125_0 to 125_{L-1} . The communication unit 160 provides transmitter diversity and selects an antenna path from a number of antenna paths

using estimates of channel responses and CINR. The controller 170 controls the operation of the MS 120 including processing receive and transmit data, controlling the input entry device 145 and/or the display element 150, and performing other house-keeping tasks. It may include a processor, a digital signal processor, a micro-controller, etc. and associated memory and peripheral devices.

[0021] Figure 2 is a diagram illustrating a 2x2 MIMO OFDMA system 200 according to one embodiment of the invention. The system 200 includes the BS 110 and the MS 120. The system 200 is an illustrative system where each of the BS 110 and MS 120 has two antennae. It is contemplated that each of the BS 110 and MS 120 may have any number of antennae as shown in Figure 1.

[0022] The BS 110 has two antennae 115₀ and 115₁ corresponding to BS antennae 0 and 1, respectively. The MS 120 has two antennae 125₀ and 125₁ corresponding MS antennae 0 and 1, respectively. The MS 120 contains the communication unit 160 as shown in Figure 1. For clarity, not all of the elements or components are shown.

[0023] The BS 110 may activate both antennae 115₀ and 115₁ or one of them depending on a BS operational mode. Similarly, the MS 120 may activate both antennae 125₀ and 125₁ or one of them depending on a MS operational mode. It depends on the system operational mode of standard base or non-standard base to decide how many activated antennae to be used in either the BS 110 or the MS 120.

[0024] The communication between the BS 110 and the MS 120 may be carried out through four channels: H_{00} between antennae 115₀ and 125₀, H_{01} between antennae 115₀ and 125₁, H_{10} between antennae 115₁ and 125₀, and H_{11} between antennae 115₁ and 125₁. Any configuration of the state of the antennae 115₀, 115₁, 125₀ and 125₁ may be possible.

[0025] Table 1 shows all the possible system configurations according to the state of the antennae 115₀, 115₁, 125₀ and 125₁. The state of the antennae may be active or inactive. An active state corresponds to the state where the antenna is actively receiving or transmitting signals. An inactive state corresponds to the state where the antenna is not actively receiving or transmitting signals or in power-down or power-saving mode.

115 ₀	115 ₁	125 ₀	125 ₁	MIMO system	Channels available
active	active	active	active	2x2	$H_{00}, H_{01}, H_{10}, H_{11}$
active	active	active	inactive	2x1	H_{00}, H_{10}
active	active	inactive	active	2x1	H_{01}, H_{11}
active	inactive	active	active	1x2	H_{00}, H_{01}

inactive	active	active	active	1x2	H_{10}, H_{11}
active	inactive	active	inactive	1x1	H_{00}
active	inactive	inactive	active	1x1	H_{01}
inactive	active	active	inactive	1x1	H_{10}
inactive	active	inactive	active	1x1	H_{11}

Table 1

[0026] Figure 3 is a diagram illustrating the communication unit 160 shown in Figure 1 according to one embodiment of the invention. The communication unit 160 includes a receiver processing unit 310, a transmitter processing unit 320, and a medium access control (MAC) processor 330. The designation of the terms “receiver” and “transmitter” is mainly for clarity. An element in the receiver processing unit 310 may belong to the transmitter processing unit 320, or vice versa.

[0027] The receiver processing unit 310 processes the RF signals received from the antennae 125₀ and 125₁ via a downlink (DL) reception path. It provides a decoded signal or a base-band data stream to the MAC processor 330. It also provides a CINR estimate and estimated channel responses to the transmitter processing unit 320.

[0028] The transmitter processing unit 320 receives the transmit data, transmitter diversity mode and an allocation base from the MAC processor 330 to generate the RF transmit signals to the antennae 125₀ and 125₁ via an uplink (UL) transmission path. The transmitter processing unit 320 provides operational mode control signals to select one of the antennae for transmission via a transmitter diversity technique.

[0029] The MAC processor 330 performs data processing on the decoded signal from the receiver processing unit 310 and the transmit data to be sent to the transmitter processing unit 320. It also provides a transmitter diversity mode to select the mode for transmitter diversity. In addition, it also provides an allocation base for the transmitter processing unit 320.

[0030] Figure 4 is a diagram illustrating the receiver processing unit 310 shown in Figure 3 according to one embodiment of the invention. The receiver processing unit 310 includes receive signal processing units 410 and 420, a channel estimator 430, an equalizer and combiner 440, a CINR estimator 450, a de-mapper 460, and a decoder 470.

[0031] The signal processing units 410 and 420 are connected to the antennae 125₀ and 125₁, respectively. They define the antenna paths associated with the antennae 125₀ and 125₁. Each of the signal processing units 410 and 420 processes the signal received from the

corresponding antenna under control of operational mode control signals P_0 and P_1 provided by the transmitter processing unit 320. The operational mode control signals may set the antennae 125₀ and 125₁ and the signal processing units 410 and 420 in active or inactive mode in any combination. In active mode, the antennae 125₀ and 125₁ and the signal processing units 410 and 420 are in a normal operational state. In inactive mode, the antennae 125₀ and 125₁ and the signal processing units 410 and 420 may be in power-save or power-down state. The signal processing units 410 and 420 generate frequency domain signals $R_{0,k}$ and $R_{1,k}$, respectively.

[0032] The channel estimator 430 estimates channel responses using the processed signals $R_{0,k}$ and $R_{1,k}$ from the signal processing units 410 and 420 according to an operational mode. The channel estimator computes the estimated channel responses according to the following equation:

$$\begin{aligned} H_{ij,k} &= \text{estimate of } H_{ij} \text{ if } H_{ij} \text{ is defined,} \\ &= 0 \text{ otherwise} \end{aligned} \quad (1)$$

where H_{ij} is an estimate of the channel ij associated with antenna i and antenna j ; $i, j = 0, 1$, and $k = -N/2, \dots, N/2 - 1$. N is a positive integer that corresponds to the total number of subcarrier points used in the signal processing units 410 and 420.

[0033] For example, suppose a system configuration is a 1x2 MIMO system and the MIMO operational mode corresponds to active BS antenna 115₀, inactive BS antenna 115₁, active MS antenna 125₀, and active MS antenna 125₁. As shown in Table 1, this operational mode corresponds to two available channels H_{00} and H_{01} . In this case, from equation (1) above, the estimated channel responses $H_{00,k}$ and $H_{01,k}$ may have certain valid values, whereas the estimated channel responses $H_{10,k}$ and $H_{11,k}$ have zero values.

[0034] The equalizer and combiner 440 generates an equalized and combined signal using the processed signals $R_{0,k}$ and $R_{1,k}$ and the estimated channel responses $H_{ij,k}$'s provided by the channel estimator 430. It is also controlled by the MIMO operational mode. For example, in case of 2x2 MIMO, the equalizer and combiner 440 uses the estimated channel responses $H_{00,k}$, $H_{01,k}$, $H_{10,k}$ and $H_{11,k}$ to equalize and combine the $R_{0,k}$ and $R_{1,k}$ signals. In case of 1x1 MIMO, the equalizer and combiner 440 uses only the estimated channel response $H_{00,k}$ to simply equalize the $R_{0,k}$.

[0035] The CINR estimator 450 estimates the CINR from the equalized and combined signal. The estimated CINR is used to generate the operational mode control signals in the transmitter processing unit 320.

[0036] The de-mapper 460 de-maps the equalized and combined signal. The decoder 470 decodes the de-mapped signal. The decoded signal is then processed by the MAC processor 330.

[0037] Figure 5 is a diagram illustrating the receive signal processing unit 410/420 shown in Figure 4 according to one embodiment of the invention. The receive signal processing unit 410/420 includes a RF front end processor 510, a guard remover 520, and a frequency domain processor 530.

[0038] The RF front end processor 510 performs RF functions on the corresponding received RF signal. The RF functions may include RF signal conditioning, filtering, down-conversion, and analog-to-digital conversion. The guard remover 520 removes a guard interval from the received signal.

[0039] The frequency domain processor 530 converts the received signal to a frequency domain signal having N data points. The frequency domain signal corresponds to the processed signal $R_{i,k}$ where $i = 0, 1$. They are sent to the equalizer and combiner 430 and the channel estimator 440. In one embodiment, the frequency domain processor 530 computes the Fast Fourier Transform (FFT) of the corresponding received data stream where the FFT size is N .

[0040] Figure 6 is a diagram illustrating the transmitter processing unit 320 shown in Figure 3 according to one embodiment of the invention. The transmitter processing unit 320 includes a sub-carrier allocation controller 610, an encoder 620, a mapper 630, a channel status information (CSI) and multiple input multiple output (MIMO) controller 640, a transmit diversity processor 650, and transmit signal processing units 660 and 670.

[0041] The sub-carrier allocation controller 610 generates sub-carrier allocation signals using the allocation base from the MAC processor 330. The sub-carrier allocation signals include an allocation information signal S_{alloc} and a diversity unit, Bunit. The allocation information signal contains information on the diversity unit. The diversity unit Bunit is one of a burst, a slot, and an allocation unit. The allocation base is discussed further in Figure 7.

[0042] The encoder 620 encodes transmit data provided by the MAC processor 330. The mapper 630 maps and modulates the encoded transmit data for a sub-carrier index based on the allocation information signal to provide the mapped signal M_k , according to the following equation:

$$M_k = \begin{cases} \text{Mapping \& Modulation,} & \text{if } k \text{ is allocated} \\ 0, & \text{Otherwise} \end{cases} \quad (2)$$

where $k = -N/2, \dots, N/2 - 1$

[0043] For a 2x2 MIMO, the CSI and MIMO controller 640 generates sub-carrier CSI signals $C_{0,k}$ and $C_{1,k}$ and operational mode control signals P_0 and P_1 corresponding the antennae 125₀ and 125₁, respectively, using the sub-carrier allocation signals, the estimated channel responses provided by the channel estimator 440, and the estimated CINR provided by the CINR estimator 470. The operational mode control signals P_0 and P_1 select one of the antenna paths associated with the antennae 125₀ and 125₁. The antenna paths correspond to the transmit signal processing units 660 and 670. The operational mode control signals P_0 and P_1 may assume two values: active or inactive, to indicate whether the antennae 125₀ or 125₁ is active or inactive. The details of the computation of the sub-carrier CSI signals $C_{0,k}$ and $C_{1,k}$ and operational mode control signals P_0 and P_1 are shown in Figure 8.

[0044] The transmitter diversity processor 650 generates transmitter diversity signals as a function of at least the mapped signal M_k , the sub-carrier CSI signals, and the operational mode control signals. The transmitter diversity processor 650 generates the transmitter diversity signals according to a transmitter diversity mode corresponding to whether phase alignment is used. The transmitter diversity mode is provided by the MAC processor 330.

[0045] For a 2x2 MIMO, the transmitter diversity processor 650 generates a first transmitter diversity signal $T_{0,k}$ and a second transmitter diversity signal $T_{1,k}$ corresponding to the first and second antenna paths, respectively, according to the transmitter diversity mode (TxD). When the TxD indicates that the phase alignment is used, $T_{0,k}$ and $T_{1,k}$ are determined according to the following equations:

$$T_{0,k} = \begin{cases} M_k \times \frac{H_{a0,k}^*}{|H_{a0,k}|} & \text{if } (P_0 \text{ Active and } P_1 \text{ Inactive}) \\ M_k \times \frac{H_{a0,k}^*}{|H_{a0,k}|} & \text{elseif } (C_{0,k} \geq C_{1,k}) \text{ and } (P_0 \text{ Active and } P_1 \text{ Active}) \\ 0 & \text{else} \end{cases}, \quad \begin{cases} k = -N/2, \dots, N/2 - 1 \\ a = 0 \text{ if BS use ant 0} \\ a = 1 \text{ if BS use ant 1} \end{cases} \quad (3a)$$

$$T_{1,k} = \begin{cases} M_k \times \frac{H_{a1,k}^*}{|H_{a1,k}|} & \text{if } (P_0 \text{ Inactive and } P_1 \text{ Active}) \\ M_k \times \frac{H_{a1,k}^*}{|H_{a1,k}|} & \text{elseif } (C_{0,k} < C_{1,k}) \text{ and } (P_0 \text{ Active and } P_1 \text{ Active}) \\ 0 & \text{else} \end{cases}, \quad \begin{cases} k = -N/2, \dots, N/2-1 \\ a = 0 \text{ if BS use ant 0} \\ a = 1 \text{ if BS use ant 1} \end{cases}$$

where $k = -N/2, \dots, N/2 - 1$; $a = 0$ if the first antenna 125₀ is used and $a = 1$ if the second antenna 125₁ is used. $H_{ij,k}^*$ indicate the complex conjugate of $H_{ij,k}$ and $|H_{ij,k}|$ is the magnitude of $H_{ij,k}$. The $H_{ij,k}$'s are determined according to equation (1) above.

[0046] When the TxD indicates that the phase alignment is not used, $T_{0,k}$ and $T_{1,k}$ are determined according to the following equations:

$$T_{0,k} = \begin{cases} M_k & \text{if } (P_0 \text{ Active and } P_1 \text{ Inactive}) \\ M_k & \text{elseif } (C_{0,k} \geq C_{1,k}) \text{ and } (P_0 \text{ Active and } P_1 \text{ Active}) \\ 0 & \text{else} \end{cases}, \quad k = -N/2, \dots, N/2 - 1 \quad (4a)$$

$$T_{1,k} = \begin{cases} M_k & \text{if } (P_0 \text{ Inactive and } P_1 \text{ Active}) \\ M_k & \text{elseif } (C_{0,k} < C_{1,k}) \text{ and } (P_0 \text{ Active and } P_1 \text{ Active}) \\ 0 & \text{else} \end{cases}, \quad k = -N/2, \dots, N/2 - 1 \quad (4b)$$

where $k = -N/2, \dots, N/2 - 1$.

[0047] The transmitter signal processing units 660 and 670 correspond to the antenna paths for transmission. The transmitter signal processing unit 660 is associated with the antenna 125₀ and processes a first transmitter diversity signal $T_{0,k}$ of the transmitter diversity signals using the first operational mode control signal P_0 . The transmitter signal processing unit 670 is associated with the antenna 125₁ and processes a second transmitter diversity signal $T_{1,k}$ of the transmitter diversity signals using the second operational mode control signal P_1 .

[0048] Figure 7 is a diagram illustrating an UL allocation according to one embodiment of the invention. The UL allocation indicates the allocation base used in the system.

[0049] According to the IEEE 802.16e standard, a frame structure may have a number of frames. The n-th frame consists of a DL sub-frame, an UL sub-frame, transmit-to-receive transition gap (TTG), and receive-to-transmit transition gap (RTG). The DL sub-frame

consists of a preamble, a frame control header (FCH), a DL map, and several DL bursts. The UL sub-frame consists of ranging sub-channels and several UL bursts.

[0050] The DL and UL bursts are defined in two dimensional plane defined by a sub-carrier axis (or sub-channel axis) and an OFDMA symbol axis, respectively. The i -th UL burst 710 consists of one or more than one slot 720_j's. Each slot 720_j consists of several Allocation Units 730_k's which have all same structure. There are three different UL Allocation Units as basic allocation units: a partial usage of the sub-channels (PUSC) 740, an optional PUSC 750, and an AMC allocation 760.

[0051] The PUSC Allocation Unit is composed of 4 sub-carriers and 3 symbols. There are 4 pilot sub-carriers P's and 8 data sub-carriers in a Tile (4x3). In UL PUSC permutation method, a slot is constructed from 6 Tiles(4x3). The optional PUSC Allocation Unit is composed of 3 sub-carriers and 3 symbols. There are 1 pilot sub-carrier P and 8 data sub-carriers in a Tile (3x3). In UL optional PUSC permutation method, a slot is constructed from 6 Tiles (3x3). The UL AMC Allocation Unit is composed of 9 sub-carriers and 1 symbol. There are 1 pilot sub-carrier P and 8 data sub-carriers in a Bin (9x1). In the UL AMC permutation method, a slot is constructed from 1x6 (sub-carrier axis x symbol axis) Bins (9x1)s, 2x3 Bins (9x1), 3x2 Bins (9x1), or consecutive 6 Bins (9x1) along the allocation region.

[0052] Figure 8 is a diagram illustrating the CSI and MIMO controller 640 shown in Figure 6 according to one embodiment of the invention. The CSI and MIMO controller 640 includes a bundle CSI generator 810, a sub-carrier CSI channel generator 820, an overall CSI generator 830, and an operational mode controller 840.

[0053] The bundle CSI generator 810 generates bundle CSI signals based on a bundle b using the estimated channel responses. The bundle CSI generator 810 generates a first bundle CSI signal $BC_{0,b}$ and a second bundle CSI signal $BC_{1,b}$ corresponding to first and second antenna paths associated with first and second antennae, respectively, according to the following equations:

$$BC_{0,b} = \frac{1}{L} \sum_{l=1}^L (|H_{00,x_b(l)}|^2 + |H_{10,x_b(l)}|^2), \quad b = 1, \dots, B, \quad x_b(l) \in X_b \quad (5a)$$

$$BC_{1,b} = \frac{1}{L} \sum_{l=1}^L (|H_{01,x_b(l)}|^2 + |H_{11,x_b(l)}|^2), \quad b = 1, \dots, B, \quad x_b(l) \in X_b \quad (5b)$$

[0054] where $H_{00,x_b(l)}$, $H_{01,x_b(l)}$, $H_{10,x_b(l)}$, and $H_{11,x_b(l)}$ correspond to the estimated channel responses, and $X_b = \{x_b(1), \dots, x_b(l), \dots, x_b(L)\}$ is a set of sub-carrier indices, $x_b(l)$ is the l -th

element of the b-th bundle and has an integer value representing a sub-carrier index greater than or equal to $-N/2$ and less than $N/2$, N being a positive integer; L is number of elements of the bundle b ; and B represents a total number of bundles and is provided by the sub-carrier allocation signals.

[0055] The sub-carrier CSI generator 820 generates the sub-carrier CSI signals $C_{0,k}$ and $C_{1,k}$ using the bundle CSI signals. The sub-carrier CSI generator 820 generates a first sub-carrier CSI signal $C_{0,k}$ and a second sub-carrier CSI signal $C_{1,k}$ corresponding to the first and second antenna paths, respectively, according to the following equations:

$$C_{0,k} = \begin{cases} 0, & \text{initialization} \\ BC_{0,b} & \text{if } k \in X_b, \end{cases}, \quad k = -N/2, \dots, N/2 - 1, \quad 1 \leq b \leq B \quad (6a)$$

$$C_{1,k} = \begin{cases} 0, & \text{initialization} \\ BC_{1,b} & \text{if } k \in X_b, \end{cases}, \quad k = -N/2, \dots, N/2 - 1, \quad 1 \leq b \leq B \quad (6b)$$

[0056] The overall CSI generator 830 generates overall CSI signals using the sub-carrier CSI signals $C_{0,k}$ and $C_{1,k}$. The overall CSI generator 830 generates a first overall CSI signal PC_0 and a second overall CSI signal PC_1 corresponding to the first and second antenna paths, respectively, according to the following equations:

$$PC_0 = \sum_k C_{0,k}, \quad k = -N/2, \dots, N/2 - 1 \quad (7a)$$

$$PC_1 = \sum_k C_{1,k}, \quad k = -N/2, \dots, N/2 - 1 \quad (7b)$$

[0057] The operational mode controller 840 generates the operational mode control signals using the overall CSI signals and a threshold THR_{CINR} . The threshold THR_{CINR} may be selected according to the channel state or the type of modulation. The operational mode generator 840 generates a first operational mode signal P_0 and a second operational mode signal P_1 corresponding to the first and second antenna paths, respectively, according to the following equations:

$$P_0 = \begin{cases} \text{Active}, & \text{if } CINR < THR_{CINR} \\ \text{Active}, & \text{elseif } CINR \geq THR_{CINR} \text{ and } PC_0 \geq PC_1 \\ \text{Inactive}, & \text{elseif } CINR \geq THR_{CINR} \text{ and } PC_0 < PC_1 \end{cases} \quad (8a)$$

$$(8b)$$

$$P_1 = \begin{cases} \text{Active,} & \text{if } \text{CINR} < \text{THR}_{\text{CINR}} \\ \text{Inactive,} & \text{elseif } \text{CINR} \geq \text{THR}_{\text{CINR}} \text{ and } PC_0 \geq PC_1 \\ \text{Active,} & \text{elseif } \text{CINR} \geq \text{THR}_{\text{CINR}} \text{ and } PC_0 < PC_1 \end{cases}$$

where CINR is the estimated CINR provided by the CINR estimator 470.

[0058] The operational mode control signals P_0 and P_1 may be used to adjust the number of antenna paths using the estimated CINR and CSI. Consequently, the power consumption of the communication unit 160 may be reduced or minimized. This is especially useful for hand-held mobile wireless devices.

[0059] Figure 9 is a diagram illustrating the transmit signal processing unit 660/670 according to one embodiment of the invention. The transmit signal processing unit 660/670 includes an inverse frequency domain processor 910, a guard inserter 920, and a RF front end processor 930.

[0060] The inverse frequency domain processor 910 converts one of the first and second transmitter diversity signals to a transmit signal. In one embodiment, the inverse frequency domain processor 910 computes the inverse FFT of the transmit diversity signal using an inverse FFT size of N . The guard inserter 920 inserts a guard band to the transmit signal.

[0061] The RF front end processor 930 performs RF functions on the transmit signal. The RF functions may include digital-to-analog conversion, RF signal condition, filtering, and up-conversion.

[0062] As discussed above, the transmitter diversity scheme used in the present invention may be applied to any systems without changing the standard specification (e.g., IEEE 802.16e). In other words, any receiver conforming to the standard may receive, de-map, demodulate, and decode the transmit signal. In addition, the communication unit 160 is not limited to two antennae. The above discussion may be extended to any number of antennae. The structure of the communication unit 160 may be modified accordingly.

[0063] Elements of embodiments of the invention may be implemented by hardware, firmware, software or any combination thereof. The term hardware generally refers to an element having a physical structure such as electronic, electromagnetic, optical, electro-optical, mechanical, electro-mechanical parts, components, or devices, etc. The term software generally refers to a logical structure, a method, a procedure, a program, a routine, a process, an algorithm, a formula, a function, an expression, etc. The term firmware

generally refers to a logical structure, a method, a procedure, a program, a routine, a process, an algorithm, a formula, a function, an expression, etc., that is implemented or embodied in a hardware structure (e.g., flash memory). Examples of firmware may include microcode, writable control store, micro-programmed structure. When implemented in software or firmware, the elements of an embodiment of the present invention are essentially the code segments to perform the necessary tasks. The software/firmware may include the actual code to carry out the operations described in one embodiment of the invention, or code that emulates or simulates the operations. The program or code segments can be stored in a processor or machine accessible medium or transmitted by a computer data signal embodied in a carrier wave, or a signal modulated by a carrier, over a transmission medium. The "processor readable or accessible medium" or "machine readable or accessible medium" may include any medium that can store, transmit, or transfer information. Examples of the processor readable or machine accessible medium include an electronic circuit, a semiconductor memory device, a read only memory (ROM), a flash memory, an erasable ROM (EROM), an erasable programmable ROM (EPROM), a floppy diskette, a compact disk (CD) ROM, an optical disk, a hard disk, a fiber optic medium, a radio frequency (RF) link, etc. The computer data signal may include any signal that can propagate over a transmission medium such as electronic network channels, optical fibers, air, electromagnetic, RF links, etc. The code segments may be downloaded via computer networks such as the Internet, Intranet, etc. The machine accessible medium may be embodied in an article of manufacture. The machine accessible medium may include data that, when accessed by a machine, cause the machine to perform the operations described above. The machine accessible medium may also include program code embedded therein. The program code may include machine readable code to perform the operations described above. The term "data" here refers to any type of information that is encoded for machine-readable purposes. Therefore, it may include program, code, data, file, etc.

[0064] All or part of an embodiment of the invention may be implemented by hardware, software, or firmware, or any combination thereof. The hardware, software, or firmware element may have several modules coupled to one another. A hardware module is coupled to another module by mechanical, electrical, optical, electromagnetic or any physical connections. A software module is coupled to another module by a function, procedure, method, subprogram, or subroutine call, a jump, a link, a parameter, variable, and argument passing, a function return, etc. A software module is coupled to another module to receive

variables, parameters, arguments, pointers, etc. and/or to generate or pass results, updated variables, pointers, etc. A firmware module is coupled to another module by any combination of hardware and software coupling methods above. A hardware, software, or firmware module may be coupled to any one of another hardware, software, or firmware module. A module may also be a software driver or interface to interact with the operating system running on the platform. A module may also be a hardware driver to configure, set up, initialize, send and receive data to and from a hardware device. An apparatus may include any combination of hardware, software, and firmware modules.

[0065] While the invention has been described in terms of several embodiments, those of ordinary skill in the art will recognize that the invention is not limited to the embodiments described, but can be practiced with modification and alteration within the spirit and scope of the appended claims. The description is thus to be regarded as illustrative instead of limiting.

CLAIMS

What is claimed is:

1. An apparatus comprising:
 - a plurality of signal processing units to process signals received from a plurality of antennae, the signal processor units being controlled by operational mode control signals;
 - a channel estimator to estimate channel responses using the processed signals according to an operational mode;
 - an equalizer and combiner coupled to the channel estimator to generate an equalized and combined signal using the processed signals and the estimated channel responses; and
 - a Carrier to Interference Noise Ratio (CINR) estimator coupled to the equalizer and combiner to estimate CINR from the equalized and combined signal, the estimated CINR being used to generate the operational mode control signals.
2. The apparatus of claim 1 wherein each of the signal processing units comprises:
 - a radio frequency (RF) front end processor to perform RF functions on one of the signals;
 - a guard remover coupled to the RF front end processor to remove a guard band from the one of the signals; and
 - a frequency domain processor coupled to the guard remover to convert the one of the signals to a frequency domain signal having N data points, the frequency domain signal corresponding to the processed signal.
3. The apparatus of claim 2 wherein the channel estimator computes the estimated channel responses according to

$$H_{ij,k} = \begin{cases} \text{estimate of } H_{ij} & \text{if } H_{ij} \text{ is defined,} \\ 0 & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$
 wherein H_{ij} is an estimate of channel ij associated with antenna i and antenna j ; and $k = -N/2, \dots, N/2 - 1$.
4. The apparatus of claim 1 further comprising:
 - a de-mapper coupled to the equalizer and combiner to de-map the equalized and combined signal; and

a decoder coupled to the de-mapper to decode the de-mapped signal.

5. The apparatus of claim 4 wherein the decoded signal is processed by a Medium Access Control (MAC) processor.

6. The apparatus of claim 1 wherein the signals are compatible with a multi input multi output (MIMO) orthogonal frequency division multiplexing access (OFDMA) standard.

7. An apparatus comprising:

a sub-carrier allocation controller to generate sub-carrier allocation signals using an allocation base;

a channel status information (CSI) and multiple input multiple output (MIMO) controller coupled to the sub-carrier allocation controller to generate sub-carrier CSI signals and operational mode control signals using the sub-carrier allocation signals, estimated channel responses provided by a channel estimator, and an estimated Carrier to Interference Noise Ratio (CINR) provided by a CINR estimator, the operational mode control signals selecting one of a plurality of antenna paths associated with a plurality of antennae; and

a transmitter diversity processor coupled to the CSI and MIMO controller to generate transmitter diversity signals as a function of at least a mapped signal M_k , the sub-carrier CSI signals, and the operational mode control signals.

8. The apparatus of claim 7 wherein the allocation base corresponds to one of a partial usage of sub-channels (PUSC), an optional PUSC, an AMC, and allocation regions for corresponding bursts.

9. The apparatus of claim 8 wherein the sub-carrier allocation signals include an allocation information signal and a diversity unit, the allocation information signal containing information on the diversity unit, the diversity unit being one of a burst, a slot, and an allocation unit.

10. The apparatus of claim 7 wherein the CSI and MIMO controller comprise:

a bundle CSI generator to generate bundle CSI signals based on a bundle b using the estimated channel responses; and

a sub-carrier CSI generator coupled to the bundle CSI generator to generate the sub-carrier CSI signals using the bundle CSI signals.

11. The apparatus of claim 10 wherein the bundle CSI generator generates a first bundle CSI signal $BC_{0,b}$ and a second bundle CSI signal $BC_{1,b}$ corresponding to first and second antenna paths associated with first and second antennae, respectively, according to:

$$BC_{0,b} = \frac{1}{L} \sum_{l=1}^L (|H_{00,x_b(l)}|^2 + |H_{10,x_b(l)}|^2), \quad b = 1, \dots, B, \quad x_b(l) \in X_b$$

$$BC_{1,b} = \frac{1}{L} \sum_{l=1}^L (|H_{01,x_b(l)}|^2 + |H_{11,x_b(l)}|^2), \quad b = 1, \dots, B, \quad x_b(l) \in X_b$$

wherein $H_{00,x_b(l)}$, $H_{01,x_b(l)}$, $H_{10,x_b(l)}$, and $H_{11,x_b(l)}$ correspond to the estimated channel responses, and $X_b = \{x_b(1), \dots, x_b(l), \dots, x_b(L)\}$ is a set of sub-carrier indices, $x_b(l)$ is the l -th element of the b -th bundle and has an integer value representing a sub-carrier index greater than or equal to $-N/2$ and less than $N/2$, N being a positive integer, L is number of elements of the bundle b ; and B represents a total number of bundles and is provided by the sub-carrier allocation signals.

12. The apparatus of claim 11 wherein the sub-carrier CSI generator generates a first sub-carrier CSI signal $C_{0,k}$ and a second sub-carrier CSI signal $C_{1,k}$ corresponding to the first and second antenna paths, respectively, according to:

$$C_{0,k} = \begin{cases} 0, & \text{initialization} \\ BC_{0,b} & \text{if } k \in X_b, \end{cases}, \quad k = -N/2, \dots, N/2-1, \quad 1 \leq b \leq B$$

$$C_{1,k} = \begin{cases} 0, & \text{initialization} \\ BC_{1,b} & \text{if } k \in X_b, \end{cases}, \quad k = -N/2, \dots, N/2-1, \quad 1 \leq b \leq B$$

13. The apparatus of claim 12 wherein the CSI and MIMO controller further comprises:

an overall CSI generator coupled to the sub-carrier CSI generator to generate overall CSI signals using the sub-carrier CSI signals; and

an operational mode controller to generate the operational mode control signals using the overall CSI signals and a threshold.

14. The apparatus of claim 13 wherein the overall CSI generator generates a first overall CSI signal PC_0 and a second overall CSI signal PC_1 corresponding to the first and second antenna paths, respectively, according to:

$$PC_0 = \sum_k C_{0,k}, \quad k = -N/2, \dots, N/2-1$$

$$PC_1 = \sum_k C_{1,k}, \quad k = -N/2, \dots, N/2-1$$

15. The apparatus of claim 14 wherein the operational mode generator generates a first operational mode signal P_0 and a second operational mode signal P_1 corresponding to the first and second antenna paths, respectively, according to:

$$P_0 = \begin{cases} \text{Active}, & \text{if } \text{CINR} < \text{THR}_{\text{CINR}} \\ \text{Active}, & \text{elseif } \text{CINR} \geq \text{THR}_{\text{CINR}} \text{ and } PC_0 \geq PC_1 \\ \text{Inactive}, & \text{elseif } \text{CINR} \geq \text{THR}_{\text{CINR}} \text{ and } PC_0 < PC_1 \end{cases}$$

$$P_1 = \begin{cases} \text{Active}, & \text{if } \text{CINR} < \text{THR}_{\text{CINR}} \\ \text{Inactive}, & \text{elseif } \text{CINR} \geq \text{THR}_{\text{CINR}} \text{ and } PC_0 \geq PC_1 \\ \text{Active}, & \text{elseif } \text{CINR} \geq \text{THR}_{\text{CINR}} \text{ and } PC_0 < PC_1 \end{cases}$$

wherein CINR is the estimated CINR provided by the CINR estimator.

16. The apparatus of claim 15 wherein the transmitter diversity processor generates the transmitter diversity signals according to a transmitter diversity mode corresponding to whether phase alignment is used, the transmitter diversity mode being provided by a Medium Access Control (MAC) processor.

17. The apparatus of claim 16 wherein the transmitter diversity processor generates a first transmitter diversity signal $T_{0,k}$ and a second transmitter diversity signal $T_{1,k}$ corresponding to the first and second antenna paths, respectively, when the transmitter diversity mode indicates that phase alignment is used, according to:

$$T_{0,k} = \begin{cases} M_k \times \frac{H_{a0,k}^*}{|H_{a0,k}|} & \text{if } (P_0 \text{ Active and } P_1 \text{ Inactive}) \\ M_k \times \frac{H_{a0,k}^*}{|H_{a0,k}|} & \text{elseif } (C_{0,k} \geq C_{1,k}) \text{ and } (P_0 \text{ Active and } P_1 \text{ Active}) \\ 0 & \text{else} \end{cases}, \quad \begin{cases} k = -N/2, \dots, N/2-1 \\ a=0 \text{ if BS use ant 0} \\ a=1 \text{ if BS use ant 1} \end{cases}$$

$$T_{1,k} = \begin{cases} M_k \times \frac{H_{a1,k}^*}{|H_{a1,k}|} & \text{if } (P_0 \text{ Inactive and } P_1 \text{ Active}) \\ M_k \times \frac{H_{a1,k}^*}{|H_{a1,k}|} & \text{elseif } (C_{0,k} < C_{1,k}) \text{ and } (P_0 \text{ Active and } P_1 \text{ Active}) \\ 0 & \text{else} \end{cases},$$

wherein $k = -N/2, \dots, N/2 - 1$; $a = 0$ if the first antenna is used and $a = 1$ if the second antenna is used.

18. The apparatus of claim 16 wherein the transmitter diversity processor generates a first transmitter diversity signal $T_{0,k}$ and a second transmitter diversity signal $T_{1,k}$ corresponding to the first and second antenna paths, respectively, when the transmitter diversity mode indicates that phase alignment is not used, according to:

$$T_{0,k} = \begin{cases} M_k & \text{if } (P_0 \text{ Active and } P_1 \text{ Inactive}) \\ M_k & \text{elseif } (C_{0,k} \geq C_{1,k}) \text{ and } (P_0 \text{ Active and } P_1 \text{ Active}) \\ 0 & \text{else} \end{cases}$$

$$T_{1,k} = \begin{cases} M_k & \text{if } (P_0 \text{ Inactive and } P_1 \text{ Active}) \\ M_k & \text{elseif } (C_{0,k} < C_{1,k}) \text{ and } (P_0 \text{ Active and } P_1 \text{ Active}) \\ 0 & \text{else} \end{cases}$$

wherein $k = -N/2, \dots, N/2 - 1$.

19. The apparatus of claim 7 further comprises:

an encoder to encode transmit data provided by a Medium Access Control (MAC) processor; and

a mapper coupled to the encoder and the sub-carrier allocation controller to map and modulate the encoded transmit data for a sub-carrier index based on the allocation information signal, according to:

$$M_k = \begin{cases} \text{Mapping \& Modulation,} & \text{if } k \text{ is allocated} \\ 0, & \text{Else} \end{cases}$$

wherein $k = -N/2, \dots, N/2 - 1$.

20. The apparatus of claim 15 wherein the plurality of signal processing units comprises:

a first signal processor associated with a first antenna and coupled to the transmitter diversity processor to process a first transmitter diversity signal of the transmitter diversity signals using the first operational mode control signal; and

a second signal processor associated with a second antenna and coupled to the transmitter diversity processor to process a second transmitter diversity signal of the transmitter diversity signals using the second operational mode control signal.

21. The apparatus of claim 20 wherein each of the first and second signal processors comprises:

an inverse frequency domain processor to convert one of the first and second transmitter diversity signals to a transmit signal;

a guard inserter coupled to the inverse frequency domain processor to insert a guard band to the transmit signal; and

a radio frequency (RF) front end processor coupled to the guard inserter to perform RF functions on the transmit signal.

22. The apparatus of claim 7 further comprises:

an encoder to encode transmit data provided by a Medium Access Control (MAC) processor; and

a mapper coupled to the encoder and the sub-carrier allocation controller to map and modulate the encoded transmit data for a sub-carrier index based on the allocation information signal to provide the mapped signal M_k , according to:

$$M_k = \begin{cases} \text{Mapping \& Modulation,} & \text{if } k \text{ is allocated} \\ 0, & \text{Else} \end{cases}$$

wherein $k = -N/2, \dots, N/2 - 1$.

23. The apparatus of claim 7 wherein the transmitter diversity signals are compatible with a multi input multi output (MIMO) orthogonal frequency division multiplexing access (OFDMA) standard.

24. A method comprising:
 processing signals received from a plurality of antennae under control by operational mode control signals;
 estimating channel responses using the processed signals according to an operational mode;
 generating an equalized and combined signal using the processed signals and the estimated channel responses; and
 estimating Carrier to Interference Noise Ratio (CINR) from the equalized and combined signal, the estimated CINR being used to generate the operational mode control signals.

25. The method of claim 24 wherein processing the signals comprises:
 performing radio frequency (RF) functions on one of the signals;
 removing a guard band from the one of the signals; and
 converting the one of the signals to a frequency domain signal having N data points, the frequency domain signal corresponding to the processed signal.

26. The method of claim 25 wherein estimating channel responses comprises computing the estimated channel responses according to

$$H_{ij,k} = \begin{cases} \text{estimate of } H_{ij} & \text{if } H_{ij} \text{ is defined,} \\ 0 & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$
 wherein H_{ij} is an estimate of channel ij associated with antenna i and antenna j ; and
 $k = -N/2, \dots, N/2 - 1$.

27. The method of claim 24 further comprising:
 de-mapping the equalized and combined signal; and
 decoding the de-mapped signal.

28. The method of claim 26 further comprising:
 processing the decoded signal using a Medium Access Control (MAC) processor.

29. The method of claim 24 wherein the signals are compatible with a multi input multi output (MIMO) orthogonal frequency division multiplexing access (OFDMA) standard.

30. A method comprising:

generating sub-carrier allocation signals using an allocation base;

generating sub-carrier channel status information (CSI) signals and operational mode control signals using the sub-carrier allocation signals, estimated channel responses provided by a channel estimator, and an estimated Carrier to Interference Noise Ratio (CINR) provided by a CINR estimator, the operational mode control signals selecting one of a plurality of antenna paths associated with a plurality of antennae; and

generating transmitter diversity signals as a function of at least a mapped signal M_k , the sub-carrier CSI signals, and the operational mode control signals.

31. The method of claim 30 wherein the allocation base corresponds to one of a partial usage of sub-channels (PUSC), an optional PUSC, an AMC, and allocation regions for corresponding bursts.

32. The method of claim 31 wherein the sub-carrier allocation signals include an allocation information signal and a diversity unit, the allocation information signal containing information on the diversity unit, the diversity unit being one of a burst, a slot, and an allocation unit.

33. The method of claim 30 wherein generating sub-carrier CSI signals and operational mode control signals comprise:

generating bundle CSI signals based on a bundle b using the estimated channel responses; and

generating the sub-carrier CSI signals using the bundle CSI signals.

34. The method of claim 33 wherein generating the bundle CSI signals comprises generating a first bundle CSI signal $BC_{0,b}$ and a second bundle CSI signal $BC_{1,b}$ corresponding to first and second antenna paths associated with first and second antennae, respectively, according to:

$$BC_{0,b} = \frac{1}{L} \sum_{l=1}^L (|H_{00,x_b(l)}|^2 + |H_{10,x_b(l)}|^2), \quad b = 1, \dots, B, \quad x_b(l) \in X_b$$

$$BC_{1,b} = \frac{1}{L} \sum_{l=1}^L (|H_{01,x_b(l)}|^2 + |H_{11,x_b(l)}|^2), \quad b = 1, \dots, B, \quad x_b(l) \in X_b$$

wherein $H_{00,x_b(l)}$, $H_{01,x_b(l)}$, $H_{10,x_b(l)}$, and $H_{11,x_b(l)}$ correspond to the estimated channel responses, and $X_b = \{x_b(1), \dots, x_b(l), \dots, x_b(L)\}$ is a set of sub-carrier indices, $x_b(l)$ is the l -th element of the b -th bundle and has an integer value representing a sub-carrier index greater than or equal to $-N/2$ and less than $N/2$, N being a positive integer, L is number of elements of the bundle b ; and B represents a total number of bundles and is provided by the sub-carrier allocation signals.

35. The method of claim 34 wherein generating the sub-carrier CSI signals comprises generating a first sub-carrier CSI signal $C_{0,k}$ and a second sub-carrier CSI signal $C_{1,k}$ corresponding to the first and second antenna paths, respectively, according to:

$$C_{0,k} = \begin{cases} 0, & \text{initialization} \\ BC_{0,b} & \text{if } k \in X_b, \end{cases}, \quad k = -N/2, \dots, N/2-1, \quad 1 \leq b \leq B$$

$$C_{1,k} = \begin{cases} 0, & \text{initialization} \\ BC_{1,b} & \text{if } k \in X_b, \end{cases}, \quad k = -N/2, \dots, N/2-1, \quad 1 \leq b \leq B$$

36. The method of claim 35 wherein generating the sub-carrier CSI signals and the operational mode control signals further comprises:

generating overall CSI signals using the sub-carrier CSI signals; and

generating the operational mode control signals using the overall CSI signals and a threshold.

37. The method of claim 36 wherein generating overall CSI signals comprises generating a first overall CSI signal PC_0 and a second overall CSI signal PC_1 corresponding to the first and second antenna paths, respectively, according to:

$$PC_0 = \sum_k C_{0,k}, \quad k = -N/2, \dots, N/2-1$$

$$PC_1 = \sum_k C_{1,k}, \quad k = -N/2, \dots, N/2-1$$

38. The method of claim 37 wherein generating the operational mode control signals comprises generating a first operational mode signal P_0 and a second operational mode signal P_1 corresponding to the first and second antenna paths, respectively, according to:

$$P_0 = \begin{cases} \text{Active,} & \text{if } \text{CINR} < \text{THR}_{\text{CINR}} \\ \text{Active,} & \text{elseif } \text{CINR} \geq \text{THR}_{\text{CINR}} \text{ and } PC_0 \geq PC_1 \\ \text{Inactive,} & \text{elseif } \text{CINR} \geq \text{THR}_{\text{CINR}} \text{ and } PC_0 < PC_1 \end{cases}$$

$$P_1 = \begin{cases} \text{Active,} & \text{if } \text{CINR} < \text{THR}_{\text{CINR}} \\ \text{Inactive,} & \text{elseif } \text{CINR} \geq \text{THR}_{\text{CINR}} \text{ and } PC_0 \geq PC_1 \\ \text{Active,} & \text{elseif } \text{CINR} \geq \text{THR}_{\text{CINR}} \text{ and } PC_0 < PC_1 \end{cases}$$

wherein CINR is the estimated CINR provided by the CINR estimator.

39. The method of claim 38 wherein generating transmitter diversity signals comprises generating the transmitter diversity signals according to a transmitter diversity mode corresponding to whether phase alignment is used, the transmitter diversity mode being provided by a Medium Access Control (MAC) processor.

40. The method of claim 39 wherein generating transmitter diversity signals comprises generating a first transmitter diversity signal $T_{0,k}$ and a second transmitter diversity signal $T_{1,k}$ corresponding to the first and second antenna paths, respectively, when the transmitter diversity mode indicates that the phase alignment is used, according to:

$$T_{0,k} = \begin{cases} M_k \times \frac{H_{a0,k}^*}{|H_{a0,k}|} & \text{if } (P_0 \text{ Active and } P_1 \text{ Inactive}) \\ M_k \times \frac{H_{a0,k}^*}{|H_{a0,k}|} & \text{elseif } (C_{0,k} \geq C_{1,k}) \text{ and } (P_0 \text{ Active and } P_1 \text{ Active}) \\ 0 & \text{else} \end{cases}$$

$$T_{1,k} = \begin{cases} M_k \times \frac{H_{a1,k}^*}{|H_{a1,k}|} & \text{if } (P_0 \text{ Inactive and } P_1 \text{ Active}) \\ M_k \times \frac{H_{a1,k}^*}{|H_{a1,k}|} & \text{elseif } (C_{0,k} < C_{1,k}) \text{ and } (P_0 \text{ Active and } P_1 \text{ Active}) \\ 0 & \text{else} \end{cases}$$

wherein $k = -N/2, \dots, N/2 - 1$; $a = 0$ if the first antenna is used and $a = 1$ if the second antenna is used.

41. The method of claim 39 wherein generating transmitter diversity signals comprises generating a first transmitter diversity signal $T_{0,k}$ and a second transmitter

diversity signal $T_{1,k}$ corresponding to the first and second antenna paths, respectively, when the transmitter diversity mode indicates that the phase alignment is not used, according to:

$$T_{0,k} = \begin{cases} M_k & \text{if } (P_0 \text{ Active and } P_1 \text{ Inactive}) \\ M_k & \text{elseif } (C_{0,k} \geq C_{1,k}) \text{ and } (P_0 \text{ Active and } P_1 \text{ Active}) \\ 0 & \text{else} \end{cases}$$

$$T_{1,k} = \begin{cases} M_k & \text{if } (P_0 \text{ Inactive and } P_1 \text{ Active}) \\ M_k & \text{elseif } (C_{0,k} < C_{1,k}) \text{ and } (P_0 \text{ Active and } P_1 \text{ Active}) \\ 0 & \text{else} \end{cases}$$

wherein $k = -N/2, \dots, N/2 - 1$.

42. The method of claim 30 further comprises:

encoding transmit data provided by a Medium Access Control (MAC) processor;

and

mapping and modulating the encoded transmit data for a sub-carrier index based on the allocation information signal, according to:

$$M_k = \begin{cases} \text{Mapping \& Modulation,} & \text{if } k \text{ is allocated} \\ 0, & \text{Else} \end{cases}$$

wherein $k = -N/2, \dots, N/2 - 1$.

43. The method of claim 38 wherein generating the transmit signal comprises:

processing a first transmitter diversity signal of the transmitter diversity signals

using the first operational mode control signal; and

processing a second transmitter diversity signal of the transmitter diversity signals

using the second operational mode control signal.

44. The method of claim 43 wherein processing one of the first and second transmitter diversity signals comprises:

converting one of the first and second transmitter diversity signals to the transmit signal;

inserting a guard band to the transmit signal; and

performing RF functions on the transmit signal.

45. The method of claim 30 further comprises:

encoding transmit data provided by a Medium Access Control (MAC) processor;

and

mapping and modulating the encoded transmit data for a sub-carrier index based on the allocation information signal to provide the mapped signal M_k , according to:

$$M_k = \begin{cases} \text{Mapping \& Modulation,} & \text{if } k \text{ is allocated} \\ 0, & \text{Else} \end{cases}$$

wherein $k = -N/2, \dots, N/2 - 1$.

46. The method of claim 30 wherein the transmitter diversity signals are compatible with a multi input multi output (MIMO) orthogonal frequency division multiplexing access (OFDMA) standard.

47. A system comprising:
 a plurality of antennae;
 a transmitter processing unit coupled to the antennae to generate radio-frequency (RF) transmit signals; and
 a receiver processing unit coupled to the antennae, the receiver processing unit comprising:
 a plurality of receive signal processing units to process the RF receive signals, the signal processor units being controlled by operational mode control signals,
 a channel estimator to estimate channel responses using the processed signals according to an operational mode,
 an equalizer and combiner coupled to the channel estimator to generate an equalized and combined signal using the processed signals and the estimated channel responses, and
 a Carrier to Interference Noise Ratio (CINR) estimator coupled to the equalizer and combiner to estimate CINR from the equalized and combined signal, the estimated CINR being used to generate the operational mode control signals.

48. The system of claim 47 wherein each of the receive signal processing units comprises:
 a RF front end processor to perform RF functions on one of the signals;

a guard remover coupled to the RF front end processor to remove a guard band from the one of the signals; and

a frequency domain processor coupled to the guard remover to convert the one of the signals to a frequency domain signal having N data points, the frequency domain signal corresponding to the processed signal.

49. The system of claim 48 wherein the channel estimator computes the estimated channel responses according to

$$\begin{aligned} H_{ij,k} &= \text{estimate of } H_{ij} \text{ if } H_{ij} \text{ is defined,} \\ &= 0 \text{ otherwise} \end{aligned}$$

wherein H_{ij} is an estimate of channel ij associated with antenna i and antenna j ; and $k = -N/2, \dots, N/2 - 1$.

50. The system of claim 47 wherein the receiver processing unit further comprising:

a de-mapper coupled to the equalizer and combiner to de-map the equalized and combined signal; and

a decoder coupled to the de-mapper to decode the de-mapped signal.

51. The system of claim 47 wherein the transmitter processing unit comprises:
a sub-carrier allocation controller to generate sub-carrier allocation signals using an allocation base;

a channel status information (CSI) and multiple input multiple output (MIMO) controller coupled to the sub-carrier allocation controller to generate sub-carrier CSI signals and operational mode control signals using the sub-carrier allocation signals, estimated channel responses provided by a channel estimator, and an estimated Carrier to Interference Noise Ratio (CINR) provided by a CINR estimator, the operational mode control signals selecting one of a plurality of antenna paths associated with a plurality of antennae; and

a transmitter diversity processor coupled to the CSI and MIMO controller to generate transmitter diversity signals as a function of at least a mapped signal M_k , the sub-carrier CSI signals, and the operational mode control signals.

52. The system of claim 51 wherein the CSI and MIMO controller comprise:
a bundle CSI generator to generate bundle CSI signals based on a bundle b using the estimated channel responses; and

a sub-carrier CSI generator coupled to the bundle CSI generator to generate the sub-carrier CSI signals using the bundle CSI signals.

53. The system of claim 52 wherein the CSI and MIMO controller further comprises:

an overall CSI generator coupled to the sub-carrier CSI generator to generate overall CSI signals using the sub-carrier CSI signals; and

an operational mode controller to generate the operational mode control signals using the overall CSI signals and a threshold.

54. The system of claim 51 wherein the transmitter diversity processor generates the transmitter diversity signals according to a transmitter diversity mode corresponding to whether phase alignment is used, the transmitter diversity mode being provided by a Medium Access Control (MAC) processor.

55. The system of claim 51 wherein the transmitter processing unit further comprises:

an encoder to encode transmit data provided by a Medium Access Control (MAC) processor; and

a mapper coupled to the encoder and the sub-carrier allocation controller to map and modulate the encoded transmit data for a sub-carrier index based on the allocation information signal, according to:

$$M_k = \begin{cases} \text{Mapping \& Modulation,} & \text{if } k \text{ is allocated} \\ 0, & \text{Else} \end{cases}$$

wherein $k = -N/2, \dots, N/2 - 1$.

56. The system of claim 51 wherein the transmitter processing unit further comprises:

a plurality of transmit signal processing units associated with the plurality of antenna paths to generate a transmit signal to one of the antennae corresponding to the selected antenna path from the transmitter diversity signals using the operational mode control signals.

57. The system of claim 56 wherein each of the transmit signal processing units comprises:

an inverse frequency domain processor to convert one of the transmitter diversity signals to a transmit signal;

a guard inserter coupled to the inverse frequency domain processor to insert a guard band to the transmit signal; and

a RF front end processor coupled to the guard inserter to perform RF functions on the transmit signal.

58. The system of claim 47 wherein the RF transmit and receive signals are compatible with a multi input multi output (MIMO) orthogonal frequency division multiplexing access (OFDMA) standard.