

METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR FLEXIBLE PILOT PATTERN

CROSS-REFERENCE TO RELATED APPLICATION

[0001] This application claims the benefit of U.S. Provisional Patent application Serial No. 60/839,357 entitled “METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR FLEXIBLE PILOT PATTERN” which was filed August 21, 2006. The entirety of the aforementioned application is herein incorporated by reference.

BACKGROUND

I. Field

[0002] The following description relates generally to wireless communications, and more particularly to providing a mechanism for having a flexible pilot pattern in an orthogonal frequency-division multiplexing (OFDM) system.

II. Background

[0003] Wireless communication systems are widely deployed to provide various types of communication content such as, for example, voice, data, and so on. Typical wireless communication systems may be multiple-access systems capable of supporting communication with multiple users by sharing available system resources (*e.g.*, bandwidth, transmit power, ...) Examples of such multiple-access systems may include code division multiple access (CDMA) systems, time division multiple access (TDMA) systems, frequency division multiple access (FDMA) systems, 3GPP LTE systems, orthogonal frequency division multiplexing (OFDM), localized frequency division multiplexing (LFDM), orthogonal frequency division multiple access (OFDMA) systems, and the like.

[0004] In a wireless communication system, a Node B (or base station) may transmit data to user equipment (UE) on a downlink and/or receive data from the UE on an uplink. The downlink (or forward link) refers to a communication link from Node B to the UE, and the uplink (or reverse link) refers to a communication link from the UE to Node B. Node B may also send control information (*e.g.*, assignments of system resources) to the UE. Similarly, the UE may send control information to the Node B to support data transmission on the downlink, or for other purposes.

[0005] In state of the art systems a multicast/broadcast transmission mode is used where Node B may transmit to multiple UEs operating within the system. It would be feasible to operate multicast/broadcast (point to multipoint) transmissions as a single frequency network (SFN) and take advantage of higher enhanced data rate provided by the SFN transmission. The SFN allows one or more neighboring cells to transmit same content on a same sub-channel during downlink. However, SFN transmission may not be efficient if an entire portion of bandwidth is used on the downlink when other non-data information is also required to be transmitted.

SUMMARY

[0006] The following presents a simplified summary of one or more embodiments in order to provide a basic understanding of such embodiments. This summary is not an extensive overview of all contemplated embodiments, and is intended to neither identify key or critical elements of all embodiments nor delineate the scope of any or all embodiments. Its sole purpose is to present some concepts of one or more embodiments in a simplified form as a prelude to the more detailed description that is presented later.

[0007] In accordance an aspect, a method for a wireless communication system, determining a location in time of a sub-frame when SFN transmission for data will occur, determining a first transmission pattern and a second transmission pattern for reference signals, wherein the transmission patterns indicate the symbols and tones of a sub-frame to use for reference signals, selecting for use, between the first transmission pattern and second transmission pattern for reference signals depending on whether SFN data will be transmitted in the sub-frame, and broadcasting information about the selected transmission pattern prior to use thereof.

[0008] In accordance an aspect, a method for a wireless communication system, determining a location in time of a sub-frame when a SFN transmission for data will occur, determining a first transmission pattern for transmitting reference signals, wherein the first transmission pattern comprises location of tones and location of symbols within the sub-frame allocated for transmitting reference signals and broadcasting information about the first transmission pattern prior to use thereof.

[0009] In accordance an aspect, a method for a wireless communication system, using a first transmission pattern, wherein the first transmission pattern comprises tones

for transmitting a set of data according a single frequency network (SFN) transmission scheme, using a second transmission pattern, wherein the second transmission pattern comprises tones for transmitting reference signals, and broadcasting information about the first and second transmission pattern prior to use thereof.

[0010] In accordance an aspect, a method for a wireless communication system, receiving location in time of a sub-frame when a SFN transmission for data will occur, and receiving information about a first transmission pattern, wherein the information comprises location information in time and frequency of at least one resource block used for transmitting a set of data according a single frequency network (SFN) transmission scheme.

[0011] In accordance an aspect, a method for a wireless communication system, receiving location in time of a sub-frame when a SFN transmission for data will occur, and receiving information about a first transmission pattern, wherein the information comprises location information in time and frequency of at least one resource block used for transmitting reference signal.

[0012] To the accomplishment of the foregoing and related ends, the one or more embodiments comprise the features hereinafter fully described and particularly pointed out in the claims. The following description and the annexed drawings set forth in detail certain illustrative aspects of the one or more embodiments. These aspects are indicative, however, of but a few of the various ways in which the principles of various embodiments may be employed and the described embodiments are intended to include all such aspects and their equivalents.

BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWINGS

[0013] FIG. 1 illustrates a wireless communication system in accordance with various aspects set forth herein.

[0014] FIG. 2 depicts an example communications apparatus for employment with a wireless communications environment.

[0015] FIG. 3 illustrates a cell specific pilot transmission pattern.

[0016] FIG. 4 illustrates a transmission pattern having SFN transmission.

[0017] FIG. 5 illustrates a transmission pattern having SFN transmission on every symbol of a sub-frame.

- [0018] FIG. 6 illustrates a frame structure that uses various downlink transmission.
- [0019] FIG. 7 illustrates a sample methodology for facilitating a broadcasting of an indication of a selected DL TX pattern.
- [0020] FIG. 8 illustrates a sample methodology for facilitating receiving an indication of a selected DL TX pattern.
- [0021] FIG. 9 depicts an exemplary access terminal that can provide feedback to communications networks.
- [0022] FIG. 10 illustrates an exemplary base station that can be employed in conjunction with a wireless networking environment disclosed herein.
- [0023] FIG. 11 depicts an exemplary system that facilitates providing feedback to a wireless communication environment in accordance with one or more aspects.
- [0024] FIG. 12 depicts an exemplary system that facilitates a use of flexible transmit pattern technique in accordance with one or more aspects.
- [0025] FIG. 13 depicts an exemplary system that facilitates a use of flexible transmit pattern technique in accordance with one or more aspects.
- [0026] FIG. 14 depicts an exemplary system that facilitates a use of flexible transmit pattern technique in accordance with one or more aspects.
- [0027] FIG. 15 depicts an exemplary system that facilitates a use of flexible transmit pattern technique in accordance with one or more aspects.

DETAILED DESCRIPTION

- [0028] Various aspects are now described with reference to the drawings, wherein like reference numerals are used to refer to like elements throughout. In the following description, for purposes of explanation, numerous specific details are set forth in order to provide a thorough understanding of one or more aspects. It may be evident, however, that such aspect(s) may be practiced without these specific details. In other instances, well-known structures and devices are shown in block diagram form in order to facilitate describing one or more aspects.
- [0029] In addition, various aspects of the disclosure are described below. It should be apparent that the teaching herein may be embodied in a wide variety of forms and that any specific structure and/or function disclosed herein is merely representative. Based on the teachings herein one skilled in the art should appreciate that an aspect

disclosed herein may be implemented independently of any other aspects and that two or more of these aspects may be combined in various ways. For example, an apparatus may be implemented and/or a method practiced using any number of the aspects set forth herein. In addition, an apparatus may be implemented and/or a method practiced using other structure and/or functionality in addition to or other than one or more of the aspects set forth herein. As an example, many of the methods, devices, systems and apparatuses described herein are described in the context of an *ad-hoc* or unplanned/semi-planned deployed wireless communication environment that provides synchronized transmission and retransmission of SFN data. One skilled in the art should appreciate that similar techniques could apply to other communication environments.

[0030] As used in this application, the terms “component,” “system,” and the like are intended to refer to a computer-related entity, either hardware, software, software in execution, firmware, middle ware, microcode, and/or any combination thereof. For example, a component may be, but is not limited to being, a process running on a processor, a processor, an object, an executable, a thread of execution, a program, and/or a computer. One or more components may reside within a process and/or thread of execution and a component may be localized on one computer and/or distributed between two or more computers. Also, these components can execute from various computer readable media having various data structures stored thereon. The components may communicate by way of local and/or remote processes such as in accordance with a signal having one or more data packets (*e.g.*, data from one component interacting with another component in a local system, distributed system, and/or across a network such as the Internet with other systems by way of the signal). Additionally, components of systems described herein may be rearranged and/or complemented by additional components in order to facilitate achieving the various aspects, goals, advantages, *etc.*, described with regard thereto, and are not limited to the precise configurations set forth in a given figure, as will be appreciated by one skilled in the art.

[0031] Furthermore, various aspects are described herein in connection with a subscriber station. A subscriber station can also be called a system, a subscriber unit, mobile station, mobile, remote station, remote terminal, access terminal, user terminal, user agent, a user device, or user equipment. A subscriber station may be a cellular

telephone, a cordless telephone, a Session Initiation Protocol (SIP) phone, a wireless local loop (WLL) station, a personal digital assistant (PDA), a handheld device having wireless connection capability, or other processing device connected to a wireless modem or similar mechanism facilitating wireless communication with a processing device.

[0032] Moreover, various aspects or features described herein may be implemented as a method, apparatus, or article of manufacture using standard programming and/or engineering techniques. The term "article of manufacture" as used herein is intended to encompass a computer program accessible from any computer-readable device, carrier, or media. For example, computer-readable media can include but are not limited to magnetic storage devices (*e.g.*, hard disk, floppy disk, magnetic strips...), optical disks (*e.g.*, compact disk (CD), digital versatile disk (DVD)...), smart cards, and flash memory devices (*e.g.*, card, stick, key drive...). Additionally, various storage media described herein can represent one or more devices and/or other machine-readable media for storing information. The term "machine-readable medium" can include, without being limited to, wireless channels and various other media capable of storing, containing, and/or carrying instruction(s) and/or data.

[0033] Moreover, the word "exemplary" is used herein to mean serving as an example, instance, or illustration. Any aspect or design described herein as "exemplary" is not necessarily to be construed as preferred or advantageous over other aspects or designs. Rather, use of the word exemplary is intended to present concepts in a concrete fashion. As used in this application, the term "or" is intended to mean an inclusive "or" rather than an exclusive "or". That is, unless specified otherwise, or clear from context, "X employs A or B" is intended to mean any of the natural inclusive permutations. That is, if X employs A; X employs B; or X employs both A and B, then "X employs A or B" is satisfied under any of the foregoing instances. In addition, the articles "a" and "an" as used in this application and the appended claims should generally be construed to mean "one or more" unless specified otherwise or clear from context to be directed to a singular form.

[0034] As used herein, the terms to "infer" or "inference" refer generally to the process of reasoning about or inferring states of the system, environment, and/or user from a set of observations as captured via events and/or data. Inference can be employed to identify a specific context or action, or can generate a probability

distribution over states, for example. The inference can be probabilistic—that is, the computation of a probability distribution over states of interest based on a consideration of data and events. Inference can also refer to techniques employed for composing higher-level events from a set of events and/or data. Such inference results in the construction of new events or actions from a set of observed events and/or stored event data, whether or not the events are correlated in close temporal proximity, and whether the events and data come from one or several event and data sources.

[0035] The techniques described herein may be used for various wireless communication networks such as Code Division Multiple Access (CDMA) networks, Time Division Multiple Access (TDMA) networks, Frequency Division Multiple Access (FDMA) networks, Orthogonal FDMA (OFDMA) networks, Single-Carrier FDMA (SC-FDMA) networks, etc. The terms “networks” and “systems” are often used interchangeably. A CDMA network may implement a radio technology such as Universal Terrestrial Radio Access (UTRA), cdma2000, etc. UTRA includes Wideband-CDMA (W-CDMA) and Low Chip Rate (LCR). cdma2000 covers IS-2000, IS-95 and IS-856 standards. A TDMA network may implement a radio technology such as Global System for Mobile Communications (GSM). An OFDMA network may implement a radio technology such as Evolved UTRA (E-UTRA), IEEE 802.11, IEEE 802.16, IEEE 802.20, Flash-OFDM®, etc. UTRA, E-UTRA, and GSM are part of Universal Mobile Telecommunication System (UMTS). Long Term Evolution (LTE) is an upcoming release of UMTS that uses E-UTRA. UTRA, E-UTRA, GSM, UMTS and LTE are described in documents from an organization named “3rd Generation Partnership Project” (3GPP). cdma2000 is described in documents from an organization named “3rd Generation Partnership Project 2” (3GPP2). These various radio technologies and standards are known in the art. For clarity, certain aspects of the techniques are described below for LTE, and LTE terminology is used in much of the description below.

[0036] Single carrier frequency division multiple access (SC-FDMA), which utilizes single carrier modulation and frequency domain equalization is a technique. SC-FDMA has similar performance and essentially the same overall complexity as those of OFDMA system. SC-FDMA signal has lower peak-to-average power ratio (PAPR) because of its inherent single carrier structure. SC-FDMA has drawn great attention, especially in the uplink communications where lower PAPR greatly benefits the mobile

terminal in terms of transmit power efficiency. It is currently a working assumption for uplink multiple access scheme in 3GPP Long Term Evolution (LTE), or Evolved UTRA.

[0037] **Fig. 1** illustrates a wireless communication system 100 with multiple base stations 110 and multiple terminals 120, such as may be utilized in conjunction with one or more aspects. A base station is generally a fixed station that communicates with the terminals and may also be called an access point, a Node B, or some other terminology. Each base station 110 provides communication coverage for a particular geographic area, illustrated as three geographic areas, labeled 102a, 102b, and 102c. The term “cell” can refer to a base station and/or its coverage area depending on the context in which the term is used. To improve system capacity, a base station coverage area may be partitioned into multiple smaller areas (*e.g.*, three smaller areas, according to cell 102a in Fig. 1), 104a, 104b, and 104c. Each smaller area can be served by a respective base transceiver subsystem (BTS). The term “sector” can refer to a BTS and/or its coverage area depending on the context in which the term is used. For a sectorized cell, the BTSs for all sectors of that cell are typically co-located within the base station for the cell. The transmission techniques described herein may be used for a system with sectorized cells as well as a system with un-sectorized cells. For simplicity, in the following description, the term “base station” is used generically for a fixed station that serves a sector as well as a fixed station that serves a cell.

[0038] Terminals 120 are typically dispersed throughout the system, and each terminal may be fixed or mobile. A terminal may also be called a mobile station, user equipment, a user device, or some other terminology. A terminal may be a wireless device, a cellular phone, a personal digital assistant (PDA), a wireless modem card, and so on. Each terminal 120 may communicate with zero, one, or multiple base stations on the downlink and uplink at any given moment. The downlink (or forward link) refers to the communication link from the base stations to the terminals, and the uplink (or reverse link) refers to the communication link from the terminals to the base stations.

[0039] For a centralized architecture, a system controller 130 couples to base stations 110 and provides coordination and control for base stations 110. For a distributed architecture, base stations 110 may communicate with one another as needed. Data transmission on the forward link occurs from one access point to one access terminal at or near the maximum data rate that can be supported by the forward

link and/or the communication system. Additional channels of the forward link (*e.g.*, control channel) may be transmitted from multiple access points to one access terminal. Reverse link data communication may occur from one access terminal to one or more access points.

[0040] **Fig. 2** is an illustration of an *ad hoc* or unplanned/semi-planned wireless communication environment 200, in accordance with various aspects. System 200 can include one or more base stations 202 in one or more sectors that receive, transmit, repeat, *etc.*, wireless communication signals to each other and/or to one or more mobile devices 204. As illustrated, each base station 202 can provide communication coverage for a particular geographic area, illustrated as three geographic areas, labeled 206a, 206b, 206c and 206d. Each base station 202 can include a transmitter chain and a receiver chain, each of which can in turn comprise a plurality of components associated with signal transmission and reception (*e.g.*, processors, modulators, multiplexers, demodulators, demultiplexers, antennas, and so forth.), as will be appreciated by one skilled in the art. Mobile devices 204 can be, for example, cellular phones, smart phones, laptops, handheld communication devices, handheld computing devices, satellite radios, global positioning systems, PDAs, and/or any other suitable device for communicating over wireless network 200. System 200 can be employed in conjunction with various aspects described herein in order to a flexible pilot pattern.

[0041] The transmission techniques described herein can be used for various wireless communication systems such as CDMA, TDMA, FDMA, OFDMA, and SC-FDMA systems. The terms “system” and “network” are often used interchangeably. A CDMA system may implement a radio technology such as Universal Terrestrial Radio Access (UTRA), cdma2000, *etc.* UTRA includes Wideband CDMA (W-CDMA) and Low Chip Rate (LCR). cdma2000 covers IS-2000, IS-95 and IS-856 standards. A TDMA system may implement a radio technology such as Global System for Mobile Communications (GSM). An OFDMA system may implement a radio technology such as Evolved UTRA (E-UTRA), IEEE 802.11, IEEE 802.16, IEEE 802.20, Flash-OFDM®, *etc.* These various radio technologies and standards are known in the art. UTRA, E-UTRA, and GSM are part of Universal Mobile Telecommunication System (UMTS). Long Term Evolution (LTE) is an upcoming release of UMTS that uses E-UTRA. UTRA, E-UTRA, GSM, UMTS and LTE are described in documents from an organization named “3rd Generation Partnership Project” (3GPP). CDMA2000 is

described in documents from an organization named “3rd Generation Partnership Project 2” (3GPP2). For clarity, certain aspects of the techniques are described below for uplink transmission in LTE, and 3GPP terminology is used in much of the description below.

[0042] LTE utilizes orthogonal frequency division multiplexing (OFDM) on the downlink and single-carrier frequency division multiplexing (SC-FDM) on the uplink. OFDM and SC-FDM partition the system bandwidth into multiple (N) orthogonal subcarriers, which are also commonly referred to as tones, bins, etc. Each subcarrier may be modulated with data. In general, modulation symbols are sent in the frequency domain with OFDM and in the time domain with SC-FDM. For LTE, the spacing between adjacent subcarriers may be fixed, and the total number of subcarriers (N) may be dependent on the system bandwidth. In one design, $N = 512$ for a system bandwidth of 5 MHz, $N = 1024$ for a system bandwidth of 10 MHz, and $N = 2048$ for a system bandwidth of 20 MHz. In general, N may be any integer value.

[0043] The LTE downlink transmission scheme is partitioned by radio frames (*e.g.* 10 ms radio frame). Each frame comprises a pattern made of frequency (*e.g.* sub-carrier) and time (*e.g.* OFDM symbols). The 10 ms radio frame is divided into plurality of adjacent .5 ms sub-frames (also referred to as sub-frames or timeslots and interchangeably used hereinafter). Each sub-frame comprises plurality of resource blocks, wherein each resource block made up of one or more sub-carrier and one or more OFDM symbol. One or more resource blocks may be used for transmission of data, control information, pilot (also referred to as reference signal), or any combination thereof.

[0044] In order to achieve most effective use of SFN and cell specific (*e.g.*, unicast or multicast) schemes, different approaches for multiplexing SFN and cell specific pilots in the downlink are described herein. A cell specific pilot is transmitted in FDM and is scrambled with a cell specific scrambled code. Use of FDM operation allows for frequency reuse larger than 1, wherein the pilot tones from few neighboring cells do not collide with each other. This results in an improved channel estimate, especially at cell edge.

[0045] **Fig. 3** illustrates a cell specific pilot transmission pattern 300 for sub-frame of a downlink transmission according to an example. According to an example, the cell specific pilot pattern is for a sub-frame of a radio frame made of time period 360

by frequency bandwidth of 362. In the exemplary pilot pattern, all tones for a symbol 306 are allocated for transmitting pilot information. According to this example, a maximum of six cells would not collide as their pilot transmission is accomplished using different tones during a symbol period. For example, cell 0 pilot information is transmitted using tones 304, 320, and 332; cell 1, pilot information is transmitted using tones 310, 322, and 334; cell 2, pilot information is transmitted using tones 312, 324, and 336; cell 3, pilot information is transmitted using tones 314, 326, and 338; cell 4, pilot information is transmitted using tones 316, 328, and 340; and cell 5, pilot information is transmitted using tones 318, 330, and 342. This pattern may be repeated several symbol period, for example symbol period 352 and 354. For the remaining tones in a sub-frame, the transmitter may transmit non-pilot information. According to an aspect, the cell 0 may transmit data or other information (*e.g.* non pilot information) on tones where cells 1, 2, 3, 4, and 5 transmit pilots. Thus, the pilot tones experience a lower interference power spectral density (PSD) and higher signal to noise ratio (SNR), which leads to an improved channel estimate. Depending on the system deployment, fewer or more cell may be designated to not collide.

[0046] **Fig. 4** illustrates transmission pattern having SFN transmission 400 used for a sub-frame of downlink transmission according to an aspect wherein the cell specific pilots are multiplexed with SFN data (*e.g.* data transmitted using SFN transmission scheme) on the same sub-frame. According to an example, the transmission pattern is for a sub-frame of a radio frame made of time period 460 by frequency bandwidth of 462. In the exemplary pattern, all tones for a symbol 406 are allocated for transmitting pilot information. In this example, six cells are shown which do not collided with each other. This is achieved by allocating a tone for each cell to transmit pilot information. For example, cell 0 pilot information is transmitted using tones 404, 420, and 432; cell 1, pilot information is transmitted using tones 410, 422, and 434; cell 2, pilot information is transmitted using tones 412, 424, and 436; cell 3, pilot information is transmitted using tones 414, 426, and 438; cell 4, pilot information is transmitted using tones 416, 428, and 440; and cell 5, pilot information is transmitted using tones 418, 430, and 442. This pattern may be repeated several symbol period, for example symbol period 452 and 454. The remaining tones are designated for SFN transmission (shown in Fig. 4 as shaded). In an aspect, when SFN and cell specific transmissions are multiplexed in the same sub-frame, the frequency reuse may not be

larger than 1 for cell specific sub-frame where cells are not allowed to collide with each other. This is due to the nature of SFN transmission. Thus, in this example, cell 0 can not transmit SFN transmission where cells 1, 2, 3, 4 and 5 transmit the pilot information. Thus, if pilots from different cells are not allowed to collide with each other, then for a given cell, non-pilot tones can not be used for SFN data. However, cell 0 may transmit other information such as control information, assignments, null tones (such that frequency reuse pattern on the null tones is identical to the frequency reuse pattern on the data tones), or any non-pilot and non-SFN data. Thus, the transmission pattern for a cell 0 may comprise transmission of a pilot tone repeated based on number of cells designated to avoid collision, for example, tones 404, 420 and 432. The transmission pattern may further comprise transmission of non-pilot and non-SFN transmission on tones used by other cells for the pilot transmission. For example, tones 410, 412, 414, 416, 418, 422, 424, 426, 428, 430, 434, 436, 438, 440 and 442. The remaining tones in the exemplary sub-frame would be used for SFN transmission.

[0047] **Fig. 5** shows a downlink (DL) transmission (TX) pattern 500 (also referred to as SFN+CS transmission pattern) according to another aspect wherein the cell specific pilots are multiplexed with SFN data (*e.g.* data transmitted using SFN transmission scheme) on the same sub-frame. According to an example, the transmission pattern is for a sub-frame of a radio frame made of time period 560 by frequency bandwidth of 562. According to an aspect, all cells in the system are required to use designated tones for pilot transmission (shown as unicast.), for null tones or any combination thereof. According to the exemplary transmission pattern, resource blocks defined at sub-carrier 504, 520, and 532 and for symbol 506, 552 and 554 are used for pilot information transmission by all the cells in the system. According to another aspect, a transmission pattern (not shown) may be used to allocate pilot tones which do not collide with pilot tone used by other cells. The remaining tones are allocated for SFN transmission scheme for delivering content to the UE. Thus, the pilots of each cell are allowed to collide and allowing SFN transmission on a larger set of tones.

[0048] For a flexible pilot pattern scheme, the tones designated for pilot transmission, may be adjacent in frequency, in time or any combination thereof. Thus, in an aspect, a SFN+CS transmission pattern having all pilot tones adjacent in frequency. In another aspect, a SFN+CS transmission pattern having all pilot tones adjacent in time. In another aspect, a SFN+CS transmission pattern having all tones

designated for cell specific pilot transmission adjacent in frequency and clustered in top of frequency bandwidth of a sub-frame. For example all the pilot transmission tones are adjacent at 570 for symbols 506, 552 and 554. In another aspect, a SFN+CS transmission pattern having all tones designated for cell specific pilot transmission adjacent in frequency and clustered in middle of frequency bandwidth of a sub-frame. For example all the pilot transmission tones are adjacent at 572 for symbols 506, 552 and 554. In another aspect, a SFN+CS transmission pattern having all tones designated for cell specific pilot transmission adjacent in frequency and clustered in bottom of frequency bandwidth of a sub-frame. For example all the pilot transmission tones are adjacent at 574 for symbols 506, 552 and 554. It should be noted that depending on the system, not all cells may repeat transmission of pilots in frequency and in time. Thus, for example, a cell may only transmit pilots on tones designated by sub-carrier 504 for symbols 506, 552 and 554 or on sub-carrier 504, 520 and 532 for symbol period 552.

[0049] Fig. 6 shows a frame structure 600 that uses the downlink transmission patterns described above during the operation of the system. According to an aspect, the cell specific pilots are transmitted using one or more patterns selected from a set of DL transmission patterns. For example, during a time period 602, four sub-frames are transmitted 604, 606, 608 and 610. In an aspect, for sub-frame 604, system may select a first pattern (*e.g.* cell specific – reuse > 1 as described in Fig. 3) or a second pattern (*e.g.* cell specific + SFN as described in Fig. 5 and all the variation of that pattern.) For 606, 608 and 610 sub-frames, the system may use first pattern or second pattern. Thus, in sub-frames wherein there are no SFN a transmission, the cell specific pilot pattern corresponds to a frequency reuse is greater than 1. In other sub-frames, the pattern corresponds to a frequency reuse of 1.

[0050] Each cell comprises a mechanism for selecting the downlink transmission pattern based on over all condition of the system, the requirement of data rate, the rate at which certain content must be delivered, etc. The use of SFN+CS transmission pattern may be periodic. In such case, the allocation of a sub-frame selected to use SFN+CS transmission pattern is periodically broadcasted in every cell. Once the DL transmission pattern is selected, all the cells in system will broadcast (*e.g.* signaling using a broadcast channel) the information about selected DL transmission pattern. This may achieved by transmitting to UE an indicator (one or more bits) and the sub-frame when DL transmission pattern will used by the cell. The DL transmission

pattern may be effective only for a sub-frame, wherein the indication must be re-signaled or broadcasted prior to use of the selected DL TX pattern. Alternatively, one or more sub-frames may be allocated for using a selected DL TX pattern. In such situations, information about the allocated sub-frames that will use for example the SFN+CS transmission pattern will be broadcasted by the cells to the UE.

[0051] In an aspect, the DL TX patterns described above may be identified using identifiers. In order to reduce overhead, only the TX pattern identifier and designated sub-frame number are broadcasted to the UE. The UE then can extract the exact processing methods associated with TX pattern from memory and apply the method to process received transmission for the designated sub-frame.

[0052] Referring to **Figs. 7-8**, methodologies relating a mechanism for using and broadcasting an indication of the SFN+CS transmission pattern allocated as DL transmission of a sub-frame. While, for purposes of simplicity of explanation, the methodologies are shown and described as a series of acts, it is to be understood and appreciated that the methodologies are not limited by the order of acts, as some acts may, in accordance with the claimed subject matter, occur in different orders and/or concurrently with other acts from that shown and described herein. For example, those skilled in the art will understand and appreciate that a methodology could alternatively be represented as a series of interrelated states or events, such as in a state diagram. Moreover, not all illustrated acts may be required to implement a methodology in accordance with the claimed subject matter.

[0053] Turning specifically to **Fig. 7**, an example methodology 700 that facilitates a broadcasting of an indication of selected DL TX pattern in wireless communication system according to an aspect is illustrated. Method 700 can facilitate transmitting indication from a cell (*e.g.*, an enhanced Node base station, eNode B, access point (AP), base station or like mechanism) to one or more terminal devices (*e.g.* user equipment, UE, AT, or like mechanism) of a wireless communication network. The method starts at 702, the method determines if it is time to use a SFN transmission for downlink transmission. In an aspect, the cell periodically determines if the SFN transmission is required to transmit content at enhanced data rate or receives a request from the system to start using SFN transmission. In an aspect, the cell receives and indication from the system perform a SFN transmission and location in time of sub-frame when SFN transmission for data should occur. If determined that SFN

transmission is required, the method executes blocks 704, 706 and 708. Otherwise, at block 720, the method continues using a default transmit pattern, for example the first pattern described in Fig. 3. At block 704, the cell determines a SFN transmission pattern from one or more transmission patterns, each indicating the symbols and tone of sub-frame to use for reference signals (*e.g.* pilot data) and for transmitting data using SFN transmission scheme. Once the transmission is selected the cell allocates the selected pattern for a designated sub-frame. Depending on the system, the method selects one SFN of the transmission patterns from a list of several types of SFN transmission patterns available. For example, the SFN+CS transmission pattern described above in Fig. 5 or variations of that pattern (*e.g.* patterns having clustered or staggered pilot tones based on frequency and/or time). After selecting a transmission pattern, the method moves to block 706. At 706, the cell broadcasts the selected DL transmission pattern information and the designated sub-frame effected to all the UEs that the cell serves. Depending on requirement of the system, the method may broadcast the indication *a priori* and allow all the UEs to receive the indication before using the selected DL transmission pattern. The indication may be a predetermined TX pattern identifier or more detailed information about the selected transmission pattern. At block 708, the method transmits data (*e.g.* content) using the selected DL transmission pattern for the designated sub-frame.

[0054] Turning to **Fig. 8**, an example methodology 800 that facilitates a receiving an indication of a selected DL TX pattern in wireless communication system according to an aspect is illustrated. Method 800 can facilitate receiving an indication from a cell (*e.g.*, an enhanced Node base station, eNode B, access point (AP), base station or like mechanism) a wireless communication network. According to an aspect, at block 802, the method receives on the forward link, an indication to use a designated SFN TX pattern (*e.g.* SFN+CS transmission pattern) for processing a designated sub-frame. At block 804, the method begins processing of received transmissions based on designated SFN TX pattern for a designated sub-frame.

[0055] **Fig. 9** depicts an exemplary access terminal 900 that can provide feedback to communications networks, in accordance with one or more aspects. Access terminal 900 comprises a receiver 902 (*e.g.*, an antenna) that receives a signal and performs typical actions on (*e.g.*, filters, amplifies, downconverts, *etc.*) the received signal. Specifically, receiver 902 can also receive a service schedule defining services

apportioned to one or more blocks of a transmission allocation period, a schedule correlating a block of downlink resources with a block of uplink resources for providing feedback information as described herein, or the like. Receiver 902 can include a demodulator 904 that can demodulate received symbols and provide them to a processor 906 for evaluation. Processor 906 can be a processor dedicated to analyzing information received by receiver 902 and/or generating information for transmission by a transmitter 916. Additionally, processor 906 can be a processor that controls one or more components of access terminal 900, and/or a processor that analyzes information received by receiver 902, generates information for transmission by transmitter 916, and controls one or more components of access terminal 900. Additionally, processor 906 can execute instructions for interpreting a correlation of uplink and downlink resources received by receiver 902, identifying un-received downlink block, or generating a feedback message, such as a bitmap, appropriate to signal such un-received block or blocks, or for analyzing a hash function to determine an appropriate uplink resource of a plurality of uplink resources, as described herein.

[0056] Access terminal 900 can additionally comprise memory 908 that is operatively coupled to processor 906 and that may store data to be transmitted, received, and the like. Memory 908 may store information related to downlink resource scheduling, protocols for evaluating the foregoing, protocols for identifying un-received portions of a transmission, for determining an indecipherable transmission, for transmitting a feedback message to an access point, and the like.

[0057] It will be appreciated that the data store (*e.g.*, memory 908) described herein can be either volatile memory or nonvolatile memory, or can include both volatile and nonvolatile memory. By way of illustration, and not limitation, nonvolatile memory can include read only memory (ROM), programmable ROM (PROM), electrically programmable ROM (EPROM), electrically erasable PROM (EEPROM), or flash memory. Volatile memory can include random access memory (RAM), which acts as external cache memory. By way of illustration and not limitation, RAM is available in many forms such as synchronous RAM (SRAM), dynamic RAM (DRAM), synchronous DRAM (SDRAM), double data rate SDRAM (DDR SDRAM), enhanced SDRAM (ESDRAM), Synchlink DRAM (SLDRAM), and direct Rambus RAM (DRRAM). The memory 908 of the subject systems and methods is intended to comprise, without being limited to, these and any other suitable types of memory.

[0058] Receiver 902 is further operatively coupled to multiplex antenna 910 that can receive a scheduled correlation between one or more additional blocks of downlink transmission resources and a block of uplink transmission resources (*e.g.*, to facilitate providing multiple NACK or ACK messages in a bitmap response). A multiplex processor 906 can include a multi-digit bitmap within a feedback message that provides an ACK or NACK message indicating whether a first downlink block and each of one or more additional downlink blocks are received or un-received, over a single uplink resource. Further, a calculation processor 912 can receive a feedback probability function, wherein the function limits a probability that a feedback message is provided by access terminal 900, as described herein, if the block of downlink transmission resources, or data associated therewith, is not received. Specifically, such probability function can be employed to reduce interference if multiple devices are reporting lost data simultaneously.

[0059] Access terminal 900 still further comprises a modulator 914 and a transmitter 916 that transmits the signal to, for instance, a base station, an access point, another access terminal, a remote agent, *etc.* Although depicted as being separate from the processor 906, it is to be appreciated that signal generator 910 and indicator evaluator 912 may be part of processor 906 or a number of processors (not shown).

[0060] **Fig. 10** is an illustration of a system 1000 that facilitates provision of feedback related to lost transmission data for an LTE network. System 1000 comprises a base station 1002 (*e.g.*, access point, ...) with a receiver 1010 that receives signal(s) from one or more mobile devices 1004 through a plurality of receive antennas 1006, and a transmitter 1022 that transmits to the one or more mobile devices 1004 through a transmit antenna 1008. Receiver 1010 can receive information from receive antennas 1006 and can further comprise a signal recipient (not shown) that receives feedback data related to an un-received or indecipherable data packet. Additionally, receiver 1010 is operatively associated with a demodulator 1012 that demodulates received information. Demodulated symbols are analyzed by a processor 1014 that is coupled to a memory 1016 that stores information related to correlating uplink and downlink resources, providing dynamic and/or static correlations from a network, as well as data to be transmitted to or received from mobile device(s) 1004 (or a disparate base station (not shown)), and/or any other suitable information related to performing the various actions and functions set forth herein.

[0061] Processor 1014 is further coupled to an association processor 1018 that can schedule a correlation during an allocation period between a block of downlink transmission resources and a block of uplink transmission resources for a multicast or broadcast service. Additionally, association processor 1018 can further schedule a correlation between one or more additional blocks of uplink transmission resources and the block of downlink transmission resources, to enable receipt of a plurality of feedback messages for the downlink resource. As a result, a relative number of feedback messages related to the downlink resource can be determined. Moreover, association processor 1018 can schedule a correlation between a plurality of blocks of downlink transmission resources and an uplink transmission resource for a multicast or broadcast service, such that a single bitmap included within a feedback message can indicate ACK or NACK information for the plurality of blocks of downlink transmission resources.

[0062] Association processor 1018 can be coupled to a calculation processor 1020 that generates a probability factor, which can limit likelihood that a terminal device will provide the feedback message. The probability factor can be employed by base station 1002 to reduce feedback interference from multiple terminal devices. Additionally, calculation processor 1020 can generate a hash function transmitted by base station 1002 that can indicate to each of a plurality of terminal devices a particular uplink transmission resource to use in submitting a feedback message. The hash function indication can be based at least in part on an access class of each terminal device, a hash of each terminal identity, an identity of a service utilized by each terminal device, or block-specific information, or a combination thereof.

[0063] Additionally, calculation processor 1020 can be coupled to a sorting processor 1021 that can determine a number of received feedback messages related to the block of downlink transmission resources. For instance, if a block of downlink transmission resources is coupled with multiple uplink transmission resources (*e.g.*, by association processor 1018, as described above), two or more feedback messages can be received by base station 1002 for the downlink resource. The sorting processor 1021 can therefore identify what feedback messages correspond to the downlink block, which can indicate a retransmission priority for that downlink block. Furthermore, the sorting processor 1021 can elect between retransmitting multiple blocks of downlink

transmission resources based at least in part on the number of received feedback messages related to each block of downlink transmission resources.

[0064] Referring now to **Fig. 11**, on a downlink, at access point 1105, transmit (TX) data processor 1110 receives, formats, codes, interleaves, and modulates (or symbol maps) traffic data and provides modulation symbols (“data symbols”). A symbol modulator 1115 receives and processes the data symbols and pilot symbols and provides a stream of symbols. A symbol modulator 1115 multiplexes data and pilot symbols and provides them to a transmitter unit (TMTR) 1120. Each transmit symbol may be a data symbol, a pilot symbol, or a signal value of zero. The pilot symbols may be sent continuously in each symbol period. The pilot symbols can be frequency division multiplexed (FDM), orthogonal frequency division multiplexed (OFDM), time division multiplexed (TDM), frequency division multiplexed (FDM), or code division multiplexed (CDM).

[0065] TMTR 1120 receives and converts the stream of symbols into one or more analog signals and further conditions (*e.g.*, amplifies, filters, and frequency upconverts) the analog signals to generate a downlink signal suitable for transmission over the wireless channel. The downlink signal is then transmitted through an antenna 1125 to the terminals. At terminal 1130, an antenna 1135 receives the downlink signal and provides a received signal to a receiver unit (RCVR) 1140. Receiver unit 1140 conditions (*e.g.*, filters, amplifies, and frequency downconverts) the received signal and digitizes the conditioned signal to obtain samples. A symbol demodulator 1145 demodulates and provides received pilot symbols to a processor 1150 for channel estimation. Symbol demodulator 1145 further receives a frequency response estimate for the downlink from processor 1150, performs data demodulation on the received data symbols to obtain data symbol estimates (which are estimates of the transmitted data symbols), and provides the data symbol estimates to an RX data processor 1155, which demodulates (*e.g.*, symbol demaps), deinterleaves, and decodes the data symbol estimates to recover the transmitted traffic data. The processing by symbol demodulator 1145 and RX data processor 1155 is complementary to the processing by symbol modulator 1115 and TX data processor 1110, respectively, at access point 1105.

[0066] On uplink, a TX data processor 1160 processes traffic data and provides data symbols. A symbol modulator 1165 receives and multiplexes the data symbols with pilot symbols, performs modulation, and provides a stream of symbols. A

transmitter unit 1170 then receives and processes the stream of symbols to generate an uplink signal, which is transmitted by the antenna 1135 to the access point 1105.

[0067] At access point 1105, the uplink signal from terminal 1130 is received by the antenna 1125 and processed by a receiver unit 1175 to obtain samples. A symbol demodulator 1180 then processes the samples and provides received pilot symbols and data symbol estimates for the uplink. An RX data processor 1185 processes the data symbol estimates to recover the traffic data transmitted by terminal 1130. A processor 1190 performs channel estimation for each active terminal transmitting on the uplink. Multiple terminals may transmit pilot concurrently on the uplink on their respective assigned sets of pilot subbands, where the pilot subband sets may be interlaced.

[0068] Processors 1190 and 1150 direct (*e.g.*, control, coordinate, manage, *etc.*) operation at access point 1105 and terminal 1130, respectively. Respective processors 1190 and 1150 can be associated with memory units (not shown) that store program codes and data. Processors 1190 and 1150 can also perform computations to derive frequency and impulse response estimates for the uplink and downlink, respectively.

[0069] For a multiple-access system (*e.g.*, FDMA, OFDMA, CDMA, TDMA, *etc.*), multiple terminals can transmit concurrently on the uplink. For such a system, the pilot subbands may be shared among different terminals. The channel estimation techniques may be used in cases where the pilot subbands for each terminal span the entire operating band (possibly except for the band edges). Such a pilot subband structure would be desirable to obtain frequency diversity for each terminal. The techniques described herein may be implemented by various means. For example, these techniques may be implemented in hardware, software, or a combination thereof. For a hardware implementation, which may be digital, analog, or both digital and analog, the processing units used for channel estimation may be implemented within one or more application specific integrated circuits (ASICs), digital signal processors (DSPs), digital signal processing devices (DSPDs), programmable logic devices (PLDs), field programmable gate arrays (FPGAs), processors, controllers, micro-controllers, microprocessors, other electronic units designed to perform the functions described herein, or a combination thereof. With software, implementation can be through modules (*e.g.*, procedures, functions, and so on) that perform the functions described herein. The software codes may be stored in memory unit and executed by the processors 1190 and 1150.

[0070] It is to be understood that the embodiments described herein may be implemented in hardware, software, firmware, middleware, microcode, or any combination thereof. For a hardware implementation, the processing units may be implemented within one or more application specific integrated circuits (ASICs), digital signal processors (DSPs), digital signal processing devices (DSPDs), programmable logic devices (PLDs), field programmable gate arrays (FPGAs), processors, controllers, micro-controllers, microprocessors, other electronic units designed to perform the functions described herein, or a combination thereof.

[0071] When the embodiments are implemented in software, firmware, middleware or microcode, program code or code segments, they may be stored in a machine-readable medium, such as a storage component. A code segment may represent a procedure, a function, a subprogram, a program, a routine, a subroutine, a module, a software package, a class, or any combination of instructions, data structures, or program statements. A code segment may be coupled to another code segment or a hardware circuit by passing and/or receiving information, data, arguments, parameters, or memory contents. Information, arguments, parameters, data, *etc.* may be passed, forwarded, or transmitted using any suitable means including memory sharing, message passing, token passing, network transmission, *etc.*

[0072] For a software implementation, the techniques described herein may be implemented with modules (*e.g.*, procedures, functions, and so on) that perform the functions described herein. The software codes may be stored in memory units and executed by processors. The memory unit may be implemented within the processor or external to the processor, in which case it can be communicatively coupled to the processor via various means as is known in the art.

[0073] Referring now to **Fig. 12**, a system 1200 that facilitates a use of flexible transmit pattern in a wireless communication is illustrated. System 1200 may include a module 1202 for determining a location in time of a sub-frame when SFN transmission for data will occur. A module 1204 for determining a first transmission pattern and a second transmission pattern for reference signals 1206 for selecting for use, between the first transmission pattern and second transmission pattern for reference signals depending on whether SFN data will be transmitted in the sub-frame and a module 1208 for broadcasting information about the selected transmission pattern prior to use thereof.

Modules 1202-1208 may be a processor or any electronic device and may be coupled to memory module 1210.

[0074] Referring now to **Fig. 13**, a system 1300 that facilitates a use of flexible transmit pattern in a wireless communication is illustrated. System 1300 may include a module 1302 for determining a location in time of a sub-frame when a SFN transmission for data will occur. A module 1304 for determining a first transmission pattern and a second transmission pattern for reference signals and a module 1306 for broadcasting information about the selected transmission pattern prior to use thereof. Modules 1302-1306 may be a processor or any electronic device and may be coupled to memory module 1308.

[0075] Referring now to **Fig. 14**, a system 1400 that facilitates a use of flexible transmit pattern in a wireless communication is illustrated. System 1400 may include a module 1402 for using a first transmission pattern, wherein the first transmission pattern comprises tones for transmitting a set of data according a single frequency network (SFN) transmission scheme. A module 1404 for using a second transmission pattern, wherein the second transmission pattern comprises tones for transmitting reference signals and a module 1406 for broadcasting information about the selected transmission pattern prior to use thereof. Modules 1402-1406 may be a processor or any electronic device and may be coupled to memory module 1408.

[0076] Referring now to **Fig. 15**, a system 1500 that facilitates a use of flexible transmit pattern in a wireless communication is illustrated. System 1500 may include a module 1502 for receiving location in time of a sub-frame when a SFN transmission for data will occur. A module and a module 1502 for receiving information about a first transmission pattern, wherein the information comprises location information in time and frequency of at least one resource block used for transmitting a set of data according a single frequency network (SFN) transmission scheme. Modules 1502-1502 may be a processor or any electronic device and may be coupled to memory module 1506.

[0077] What has been described above includes examples of one or more aspects. It is, of course, not possible to describe every conceivable combination of components or methodologies for purposes of describing the aforementioned aspects, but one of ordinary skill in the art may recognize that many further combinations and permutations of various aspects are possible. Accordingly, the described aspects are intended to embrace all such alterations, modifications and variations that fall within the

scope of the appended claims. Furthermore, to the extent that the term “includes” is used in either the detailed description or the claims, such term is intended to be inclusive in a manner similar to the term “comprising” as “comprising” is interpreted when employed as a transitional word in a claim.

CLAIMS

What is claimed is:

1. A method operable in wireless communication, the method comprising:
 - determining a location in time of a sub-frame when SFN transmission for data will occur;
 - determining a first transmission pattern and a second transmission pattern for reference signals, wherein the transmission patterns indicate the symbols and tones of a sub-frame to use for reference signals;
 - selecting for use, between the first transmission pattern and second transmission pattern for reference signals depending on whether SFN data will be transmitted in the sub-frame; and
 - broadcasting information about the selected transmission pattern prior to use thereof.
2. The method of claim 1, further comprising receiving location in time of a sub-frame when the SFN transmission for data will occur and the information about the first and second transmission patterns to use for reference signals.
3. The method of claim 1, further comprising broadcasting information about the first and second transmission patterns of reference signals prior to use.
4. The method of claim 1, further comprises determining a third transmission pattern for transmitting the SFN data, wherein the third transmission pattern comprises location of tones within the sub-frame allocated for transmitting data using a SFN transmission scheme.
5. The method of claim 4, wherein broadcasting the information about the third transmission pattern comprises transmitting location information, in time and frequency, about one or more resource block of the sub-frame used for data using a SFN transmission scheme.

6. The method of claim 1, further comprises selecting a second transmission pattern for reference signal if no SFN data will be transmitted in the sub-frame.
7. The method of claim 1, wherein determining the first transmission pattern and the second transmission pattern comprises receiving the parameters for the first transmission pattern and the second transmission pattern.
8. The method of claim 1, wherein broadcasting the information comprises transmitting location information of resource blocks in time and frequency of the sub-frame used for SFN transmission, and the location in time of the sub-frame allocated for the SFN transmission.
9. The method of claim 4, wherein broadcasting the information comprises transmitting the location in time of the sub-frame allocated for the SFN transmission.
10. The method of claim 1, wherein determining the first transmission pattern comprises receiving the parameters of the first transmission pattern.
11. The method of claim 1, wherein determining the first transmission pattern comprise selecting the first transmission pattern from a set of transmission patterns.
12. The method of claim 11, wherein selecting the first transmission pattern comprises selecting the first transmission pattern wherein every symbol of a sub-frame contains a data tone for SFN transmission.
13. The method of claim 11, wherein selecting a pattern having one or more tones for pilots, comprises selecting a pattern wherein the tones for pilots are not adjacent.
14. The method of claim 11, wherein selecting a pattern having one or more tones for pilots, comprises selecting a pattern wherein the tones for pilots are adjacent.
15. The method of claim 1, further comprising receiving an indication to perform a SFN transmission for data.

16. The method of claim 3, wherein determining the second transmission pattern comprises selecting the second transmission pattern having tones allocated for transmitting data according to the SFN transmission scheme on each symbol of a sub-frame.

17. A method operable in wireless communication, the method comprising:
determining a location in time of a sub-frame when a SFN transmission for data will occur;
determining a first transmission pattern for transmitting reference signals, wherein the first transmission pattern comprises location of tones and location of symbols within the sub-frame allocated for transmitting reference signals; and
broadcasting information about the first transmission pattern prior to use thereof.

18. The method of claim 17, further comprising receiving location in time of a sub-frame when the SFN transmission for data will occur and the information about the first transmission pattern.

19. The method of claim 17, further comprises determining a SFN transmission pattern for transmitting SFN data, wherein the SFN transmission pattern comprises location of tones within the sub-frame allocated for transmitting data using a SFN transmission scheme.

20. The method of claim 19, further comprise broadcasting information about the SFN transmission pattern prior to use.

21. The method of claim 20, wherein broadcasting the information about the SFN transmission pattern comprises transmitting location information, in time and frequency, about one or more resource block of the sub-frame used for transmitting the SFN transmission data.

22. A method operable in a wireless communication, the method comprising:

using a first transmission pattern, wherein the first transmission pattern comprises tones for transmitting a set of data according a single frequency network (SFN) transmission scheme;

using a second transmission pattern, wherein the second transmission pattern comprises tones for transmitting reference signals; and

broadcasting information about the first and second transmission pattern prior to use thereof.

23. The method of claim 22, further comprising receiving location in time of a sub-frame when a SFN transmission for data will occur and the information about the first transmission pattern.

24. The method of claim 22, further comprising designating a sub-frame which will use the first transmission pattern.

25. The method as claimed in claim 24, wherein using the first transmission pattern comprises selecting a first transmission pattern from one or more transmission patterns.

26. The method as claimed in claim 22, wherein using the first transmission pattern comprises selecting the first transmission pattern having tones allocated for transmitting data according to SFN transmission scheme on each symbol of a sub-frame.

27. A method operable in a wireless communication, the method comprising:
receiving location in time of a sub-frame when a SFN transmission for data will occur; and
receiving information about a first transmission pattern, wherein the information comprises location information in time and frequency of at least one resource block used for transmitting a set of data according a single frequency network (SFN) transmission scheme.

28. The method of claim 27, wherein receiving comprises receiving location information in time and frequency of at least one resource block used for transmitting reference signal.

29. The method of claim 27, further comprising processing the resource block based on the first transmission pattern.

30. The method of claim 29, wherein processing comprises determining if the current sub-frame contains data transmitted using SFN transmission scheme.

31. The method of claim 27, further comprising receiving an indication to use a first transmission pattern.

32. A method operable in a wireless communication, the method comprising:
receiving location in time of a sub-frame when a SFN transmission for data will occur; and
receiving information about a first transmission pattern, wherein the information comprises location information in time and frequency of at least one resource block used for transmitting reference signal.

33. The method of claim 32, further comprising receiving an indication to use a first transmission pattern.

34. The method of claim 32, wherein processing comprises determining if the current sub-frame contains data transmitted using SFN transmission scheme.

35. The method of claim 34, further comprising receiving an indication to use a first transmission pattern.

36. An apparatus operable in wireless communication, the apparatus comprising:
means for determining a location in time of a sub-frame when SFN transmission for data will occur;
means for determining a first transmission pattern and a second transmission pattern for reference signals, wherein the transmission patterns indicate the symbols and tones of a sub-frame to use for reference signals;

means for selecting for use, between the first transmission pattern and second transmission pattern for reference signals depending on whether SFN data will be transmitted in the sub-frame; and

means for broadcasting information about the selected transmission pattern prior to use thereof.

37. The apparatus of claim 36, further comprising means for receiving location in time of a sub-frame when the SFN transmission for data will occur and the information about the first and second transmission patterns to use for reference signals.

38. The apparatus of claim 36, further comprising means for broadcasting information about the first and second transmission patterns of reference signals prior to use.

39. The apparatus of claim 36, further comprises means for determining a third transmission pattern for transmitting the SFN data, wherein the third transmission pattern comprises location of tones within the sub-frame allocated for transmitting data using a SFN transmission scheme.

40. The apparatus of claim 4, wherein means for broadcasting the information about the third transmission pattern comprises means for transmitting location information, in time and frequency, about one or more resource block of the sub-frame used for data using a SFN transmission scheme.

41. The apparatus of claim 36, further comprises means for selecting a second transmission pattern for reference signal if no SFN data will be transmitted in the sub-frame.

42. The apparatus of claim 36, means for determining the first transmission pattern and the second transmission pattern comprises means for receiving the parameters for the first transmission pattern and the second transmission pattern.

43. The apparatus of claim 36, wherein means for broadcasting the information comprises means for transmitting location information of resource blocks in time and frequency of the sub-frame used for SFN transmission, and the location in time of the sub-frame allocated for the SFN transmission.

44. The apparatus of claim 39, wherein means for broadcasting the information comprises means for transmitting the location in time of the sub-frame allocated for the SFN transmission.

45. The apparatus of claim 36, wherein means for determining the first transmission pattern comprises means for receiving the parameters of the first transmission pattern.

46. The apparatus of claim 36, wherein means for determining the first transmission pattern comprise selecting the first transmission pattern from a set of transmission patterns.

47. The apparatus of claim 46, wherein means for selecting the first transmission pattern comprises means for selecting the first transmission pattern wherein every symbol of a sub-frame contains a data tone for SFN transmission.

48. The apparatus of claim 46, wherein means for selecting a pattern having one or more tones for pilots, comprises means for selecting a pattern wherein the tones for pilots are not adjacent.

49. The apparatus of claim 46, wherein means for selecting a pattern having one or more tones for pilots, comprises means for selecting a pattern wherein the tones for pilots are adjacent.

50. The apparatus of claim 36, further comprising receiving an indication to perform a SFN transmission for data.

51. The apparatus of claim 38, wherein means for determining the second transmission pattern comprises means for selecting the second transmission pattern

having tones allocated for transmitting data according to the SFN transmission scheme on each symbol of a sub-frame.

52. An apparatus operable in wireless communication, the apparatus comprising:
means for determining a location in time of a sub-frame when a SFN transmission for data will occur;
means for determining a first transmission pattern for transmitting reference signals, wherein the first transmission pattern comprises location of tones and location of symbols within the sub-frame allocated for transmitting reference signals; and
means for broadcasting information about the first transmission pattern prior to use thereof.

53. The apparatus of claim 52, further comprising receiving location in time of a sub-frame when the SFN transmission for data will occur and the information about the first transmission pattern.

54. The apparatus of claim 52, further comprises means for determining a SFN transmission pattern for transmitting SFN data, wherein the SFN transmission pattern comprises location of tones within the sub-frame allocated for transmitting data using a SFN transmission scheme.

55. The apparatus of claim 54, further comprise broadcasting information about the SFN transmission pattern prior to use.

56. The apparatus of claim 55, wherein means for broadcasting the information about the SFN transmission pattern comprises means for transmitting location information, in time and frequency, about one or more resource block of the sub-frame used for transmitting the SFN transmission data.

57. An apparatus operable in a wireless communication, the apparatus comprising:
means for using a first transmission pattern, wherein the first transmission pattern comprises tones for transmitting a set of data according a single frequency network (SFN) transmission scheme;

means for using a second transmission pattern, wherein the second transmission pattern comprises tones for transmitting reference signals; and

means for broadcasting information about the first and second transmission pattern prior to use thereof.

58. The apparatus of claim 57, further comprising receiving location in time of a sub-frame when a SFN transmission for data will occur and the information about the first transmission pattern.

59. The apparatus of claim 57, further comprising designating a sub-frame which will use the first transmission pattern.

60. The apparatus as claimed in claim 59, wherein means for using the first transmission pattern comprises means for selecting a first transmission pattern from one or more transmission patterns.

61. The apparatus as claimed in claim 59, wherein means for using the first transmission pattern comprises means for selecting the first transmission pattern having tones allocated for transmitting data according to SFN transmission scheme on each symbol of a sub-frame.

62. An apparatus operable in a wireless communication, the apparatus comprising:
means for receiving location in time of a sub-frame when a SFN transmission for data will occur; and

means for receiving information about a first transmission pattern, wherein the information comprises location information in time and frequency of at least one resource block used for transmitting a set of data according a single frequency network (SFN) transmission scheme.

63. The apparatus of claim 62, wherein means for receiving comprises means for receiving location information in time and frequency of at least one resource block used for transmitting reference signal.

64. The apparatus of claim 62, further comprising processing the resource block based on the first transmission pattern.
65. The apparatus of claim 64, wherein means for processing comprises means for determining if the current sub-frame contains data transmitted using SFN transmission scheme.
66. The apparatus of claim 62, further comprising receiving an indication to use a first transmission pattern.
67. An apparatus operable in a wireless communication, the apparatus comprising:
means for receiving location in time of a sub-frame when a SFN transmission for data will occur; and
means for receiving information about a first transmission pattern, wherein the information comprises location information in time and frequency of at least one resource block used for transmitting reference signal.
68. The apparatus of claim 67, further comprising receiving an indication to use a first transmission pattern.
69. The apparatus of claim 67, wherein means for processing comprises means for determining if the current sub-frame contains data transmitted using SFN transmission scheme.
70. The apparatus of claim 69, further comprising receiving an indication to use a first transmission pattern.
71. A computer program product, comprising:
a computer-readable medium comprising:
code for causing at least one computer to determine a location in time of a sub-frame when SFN transmission for data will occur;
code for causing at least one computer to determine a first transmission pattern and a second transmission pattern for reference signals, wherein the

transmission patterns indicate the symbols and tones of a sub-frame to use for reference signals;

code for causing at least one computer to select for use, between the first transmission pattern and second transmission pattern for reference signals depending on whether SFN data will be transmitted in the sub-frame; and

code for causing at least one computer to broadcast information about the selected transmission pattern prior to use thereof.

72. A computer program product, comprising:

a computer-readable medium comprising:

code for causing at least one computer to determine a location in time of a sub-frame when a SFN transmission for data will occur;

code for causing at least one computer to determine a first transmission pattern for transmitting reference signals, wherein the first transmission pattern comprises location of tones and location of symbols within the sub-frame allocated for transmitting reference signals; and

code for causing at least one computer to broadcast information about the first transmission pattern prior to use thereof.

73. A computer program product, comprising:

a computer-readable medium comprising:

code for causing at least one computer to receive location in time of a sub-frame when a SFN transmission for data will occur; and

code for causing at least one computer to receive information about a first transmission pattern, wherein the information comprises location information in time and frequency of at least one resource block used for transmitting a set of data according a single frequency network (SFN) transmission scheme.

74. An apparatus operable in a wireless communication, comprising:

at least one processor configured to

determine a location in time of a sub-frame when SFN transmission for data will occur;

determine a first transmission pattern and a second transmission pattern for reference signals, wherein the transmission patterns indicate the symbols and tones of a sub-frame to use for reference signals;

select for use, between the first transmission pattern and second transmission pattern for reference signals depending on whether SFN data will be transmitted in the sub-frame; and

broadcast information about the selected transmission pattern prior to use thereof.

75. An apparatus operable in a wireless communication, comprising:
at least one processor configured to

determine a location in time of a sub-frame when a SFN transmission for data will occur;

determine a first transmission pattern for transmitting reference signals, wherein the first transmission pattern comprises location of tones and location of symbols within the sub-frame allocated for transmitting reference signals; and

broadcast information about the first transmission pattern prior to use thereof.

76. An apparatus operable in a wireless communication, comprising:
at least one processor configured to

receive location in time of a sub-frame when a SFN transmission for data will occur; and

receive information about a first transmission pattern, wherein the information comprises location information in time and frequency of at least one resource block used for transmitting a set of data according a single frequency network (SFN) transmission scheme.

77. A method operable in wireless communication, the method comprising:

determining a location in time of a sub-frame when a SFN transmission for data will occur;

determining a first transmission pattern for transmitting reference signals, wherein the first transmission pattern comprises location of tones and location of

symbols within the sub-frame allocated for transmitting reference signals and for null tones; and

broadcasting information about the first transmission pattern prior to use thereof.