

Design & Analysis of Space Time Trellis Codes for Different Fading Channels

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Abstract— We introduce a new family of space–time trellis codes that space–time block codes as building blocks in our new trellis codes. These codes combine set partitioning and a super set of space–time block codes in a systematic way to provide full diversity and improved coding gain.. It is also possible to maintain a tradeoff between coding gain and rate.. Simulation result (i.e. frame error rate) shows that the STTC in such environment (i.e. frequency selective) could not take full advantage of the multipath environment to increase coding advantage (i.e. shift of error rate curve) due to increase in parallel path of the decoding trellis. This paper investigates the performance of Space-time Trellis Code (STTC) designed primarily for non-frequency selective (i.e. flat) fading channel but now applied to a frequency selective fading channel. A new decoding trellis is proposed for the STTC in frequency selective fading environment. It was apparent that the number of state of the decoding trellis of the STTC in a frequency selective channel is a function of the number of divergent paths per state, the multipath ray and the original number of states of Simulation result (i.e. frame error rate) shows that the STTC in such environment (i.e. frequency selective) could not take full advantage of the multipath environment to increase coding advantage (i.e. shift of error rate curve) due to increase in parallel path of the decoding trellis. However the diversity order (i.e. slope of the error rate curve) performance is equivalent to that obtained in flat fading channel.

Index Terms— space-time codes frequency selective channel, multiple-input multiple-output

I. INTRODUCTION

A simple code providing full diversity for two transmit antennas is introduced by Alamouti in where transmitted symbols can be separately decoded based on a linear processing at the receiver. In Alamouti's scheme is generalized to an arbitrary number of transmit antennas and named as space-time block coding. When more than two transmit antennas are considered, a full rate and full diversity space-time block code (STBC) design is not possible. A STBC provides full diversity and a very simple decoding scheme, but despite the name, its main goal is not to provide additional coding gain. [10] This is in contrast to space-time trellis codes (STTC) that provide full diversity as well as significant coding gains but at a cost of higher decoding complexity. Several schemes based on the concatenation of the STBC with an outer trellis code are than proposed in the literature to achieve satisfactory coding gains. The main disadvantage of these schemes is their rates, which are below the possible maximum rate. A new class of space-time codes called space-time trellis codes (STTCs) is introduced in to overcome this problem. These codes combine set partitioning and a super set of STBCs in a systematic way to provide full diversity and improved coding gain over earlier SITC constructions. The signal set is obtained by a constellation rotation. The structure of the new codes allows an increase in the coding gain, while providing full diversity and full rate. Since designs have been used as building blocks in STTCs, the decoding complexity remains low. In addition to Jafarkhani and Seshadri's work [2], independent methods to expand the matrix set were developed in [7] and [8]. In this paper, STTC design technique is applied to space-time BPSK modulation schemes for fast fading channels in the case of 4 transmit antennas using the appropriate real design from and using the design criteria valid for this type of channel. Avoiding parallel state transitions in its trellis, a 16-state STTC is proposed for BPSK modulation with maximized symbol wise Hamming distance and maximized sum-product distance. Space-time code design criteria for fast Rayleigh fading channels and give a brief review of STTC design technique. The new BPSK STTC designed for fast-fading channels is presented in Section m. We present the frame error performance results obtained by computer simulations.Space-time trellis codes (STTC) are full rate, full diversity space-time codes with high coding gains for quasi-static fading channels. [10] The design approach is extended to fast fading channels for the case of 4 transmit antennas and a new STTC is proposed for BPSK modulation based on the design criteria valid for this type of channels In fact, the use of STBC changes the probability distribution of the channel to distribution with lower variance. It can also be observed that STBC in MIMO channels can be represented as equivalent SISO channel. Tarokh et al. Extended tie Alamouti's 2-transmit diversity scheme to more two antennas. Quaternary PSK (QPSK) is given as $0, \pi$ and $0, \pi/2, \pi, 3\pi/2$ respectively. It should be noted that when $\theta = 0$, equation 1 becomes the code presented in [4] (i.e. Alamouti code). The construction of the STTC is based on the expansion

of the transmission matrices and standard set partitioning method [5]. In the set partitioning for the STTC's are shown and the way the code maximizes coding gain, without sacrificing rate. However all the above mentioned techniques for space-time codes (i.e. STBC, STTC and STTC) performances in [2], [4] is based on two fundamental assumptions on the fading channel, viz. a) Non-frequency selective channel – the channel does not have temporal interference, b) The fading from each transmit antenna to any receive antenna are independently identically distributed – this assumption is valid if the antennas are located far apart from each other (to be precise $\lambda/2$ separation between antennas). The first assumption may not be guaranteed to be possible in an outdoor setting where delay spreads are significantly large making the channel frequency selective and thereby Space-time trellis codes provide full diversity and full rate. There exist some design criteria that must be satisfied to obtain full diversity. However there is no systematic design method available and one has to do a computer search to obtain best possible codes. Also it is not clear how to improve performance of such codes STBC provides full rate and full diversity with a very simple design but do not provide any coding gain. To achieve additional coding gain combine space - time block codes with trellis codes. However this reduces the rate of resultant code. To solve this problem, Jafarkhrmi and Seshadri proposed a, new coding also provide scheme which combines STBC with trellis codes and yet guarantees full rate. They also provide systematic design criteria similar to the design criteria of TCM. The authors of recognize that a space-time block code does not use all the possible transmission matrices. For example the following transmission matrix defines Alamouti's scheme.

$$C(s_1, s_2) = \begin{bmatrix} s_1 & s_2 \\ -s_2 & s_1^* \end{bmatrix}$$

However all possible 2 X 2 matrices are

$$c(s_1, s_2) = \begin{bmatrix} s_1 & s_2 \\ -s_2^* & s_1^* \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} s_1 & s_2 \\ -s_2 & s_1^* \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} s_1 & -s_2 \\ s_2^* & s_1^* \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} s_1 & s_2 \\ s_2^* & -s_1^* \end{bmatrix}$$

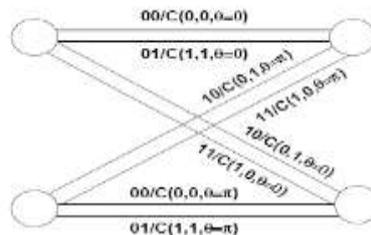


Fig .1

2- state BPSK space time trellis codes

space-time codes (STC) are essentially space-time trellis codes transmitting space-time block (STB) code words in each trellis section. The set of available STB code words are extended via rotations, while maintaining the codewords. Thus all the eight transmission matrices are used in

case of 2 transmit antenna STC. Finally a set partitioning is performed for efficient labeling of the trellis. For Example in the case of Alamouti signaling there are $n_T=2$ time intervals per trellis section and the set of codewords are represented by

$$c(s_1, s_2, \theta) = \begin{pmatrix} s_1 e^{j\theta} & -s_2^* e^{j\theta} \\ s_2 & s_1 \end{pmatrix}$$

with $\theta = 0, \frac{\pi}{2}$. The resulting code has a systematic design procedure, and shows better performance compared to the reported STT codes. A two-state BPSK code is shown in Figure The labels on the branches show output of the trellis. The output of the trellis is used with Equation and then mapped to the two transmit antennas. We unveiled a new family of codes called the Space-Time codes for transmission using multiple transmit antennas over Rayleigh or Rician wireless channels. Many subfamilies of space-time codes were also introduced. The performance of these codes was shown to be excellent, and the decoding complexity comparable to codes used in practice on Gaussian High-rate STBC-MTCM Schemes for Quasi-static and Block-fading Channels: For the case of quasi-static fading channel, high rate Space-Time Trellis Codes have already been constructed by concatenating Multiple Trellis Coded Modulation (MTCM) and Space-Time Block Codes (STBC) called the STBC-MTCM scheme. The focus in all these constructions, was to increase the rate of transmission by using more than one design, while retaining the diversity advantage and little attention was paid to increase the coding gain advantage. In this paper, we present a systematic approach by which STTCs can be constructed by STBC-MTCM scheme, which achieve high rate, full diversity and increased coding gain advantage over the existing codes under certain conditions. Also we present a systematic approach, to construct STTCs by STBC-MTCM codes which can achieve any given diversity for the case of block-fading channel. New differential space-time trellis codes (STTC) with single-symbol maximum-likelihood (ML) decoding. Firstly, a new joint constellation, which can be used to construct a unitary matrix for space-time block code (STBC), is designed. Secondly, based on the joint constellation and criterion of maximizing the coding gain distance (CGD), set-partitioning is done. Finally, we introduce the simple single-symbol maximum-likelihood (ML) decoding. Simulation results show that our differential STTC can get better performance than the differential space-time trellis code (STTC) with four transmit antennas at the transmission rate of 1.5bits/s/Hz and lower decoding complexity than the differential space-time trellis codes (STTC) [11] and the differential STTC [10] at the transmission rate of 2bits/s/Hz. In the past few years, many space-time modulation techniques for transmit diversity over the wireless channels have been studied. However, most of the space-time schemes require the knowledge of the channel state information (CSI) at the receiver. Although the CSI can be obtained by sending training symbols or pilot tones, it is difficult to estimate the CSI, especially when the channel changes rapidly. In the past few years, several differential space-time modulations (DSTM) have been proposed [1-4], in which the CSI is not needed to know at the both transmitter and receiver. Hughes [1] has proposed a DSTM based on group codes. Tarokh and

Jafarkhani [2] have proposed a DSTM by using Space-Time Block Code (STBC). Hochwald and Sweldens [3] have designed a DSTM based on unitary matrices. In order to improve the coding gain, a trellis coded differential unitary space-time modulation (TC-DUSTM) was designed in [4], which combines trellis coding and unitary space-time modulation with differential transmission. Based on the space-time trellis codes (STTC) proposed, a differential STTC scheme was proposed in [5, 6], which provides identical or higher coding gain and remarkably lower decoding complexity compared to TC-DUSTM [4]. Based on space-time codes (STBC) proposed in [7], Chau Yuen, Yong Liang Guan and Tjeng Thieng Tjhuang [8] proposed a differential scheme, in which the joint modulation and customized constellation set are used. However, the constellation set in [8] is expanded hugely if the transmission rate is more than 2bits/s/Hz. Yun Zhu and Hamid Jafarkhani [9] also proposed a differential space-time modulation scheme, which divides the STBC into two subsystems, and each subsystem is equivalent to a system with two transmit antennas and uses differential STBC modulation. A space-time trellis codes (STTC) based on the STBC with constellation rotation was introduced in [10], which can get better performance than the STTC at the same transmission rate. Because of the special construction of the STBC and the set-partitioning, the differential modulation based on the STBC [8, 9] can not be adopted in STTC. A space-time trellis code (STTC) was proposed in [11], which can be used for differential modulation, and an improved high-rate space-time code from expanded STB-MTCM (Space Time Block-Multiple Trellis Coded Modulation Temporal signal interference can severely degrade the performance of space-time codes. Space-time codes typically suffer from irreducible floor of error probability both in terms of the frame error rate and in term of the bit error rate [6]. Two main approaches are found in literature that are used to enhance the performance of space-time codes in a multipath frequency selective fading channel are frequency-division multiplexing [7] i.e. temporal signal interferences are reduced by converting the frequency selective fading channel into parallel flat fading channels. Employing maximum likelihood

sequence estimation can be employed with equalization [8]. In this paper, the later is used to mitigate the effect of the temporal signal interference. The paper proposes a new decoding trellis for the STTC to mitigate the effect of temporal signal interference. The performance of the STTC when equipped with the proposed trellis is shown with error.

II. RECEIVER STRUCTURE OF THE SPACE-TIME TRELLIS CODE IN DIFFERENT FADING CHANNEL

In this section, the receiver structures with maximum likelihood criterion for the STTC are enumerated to mitigate the effect of temporal signal interference. In this paper, we assume there are two rays in each subchannel and that the temporal interference spans two-symbol blocks. If there are more than two rays in each subchannel, the method enumerated here can be straightforwardly extended. The number of states of the receiver structure for the 2-state and 4-state QPSK STTC coding system increase to 4 and 8 respectively. The above trellises represent the equivalent decoding trellis for the 2-state and the 4-state STTC in a frequency selective fading channel with temporal interference that spans two-symbol block. The transition per state contains 64 parallel paths of signal sets. In the trellises above, A_i (or B_i) - A_j (or B_j) represent the delayed version of two-symbol block A_i (or B_i) affected by the second tap and A_j (or B_j) represent the two-symbol block affected by the first tap (our analysis assume $k=2$). It is apparent that the number of states of the receiver trellis for the STTC when the temporal interference spans two-symbol block with k rays is given by $2^{*(k-1)*l}$, where l is the original state number of the space-time trellis code.

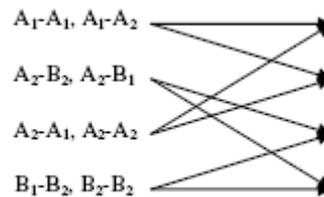


Fig .2

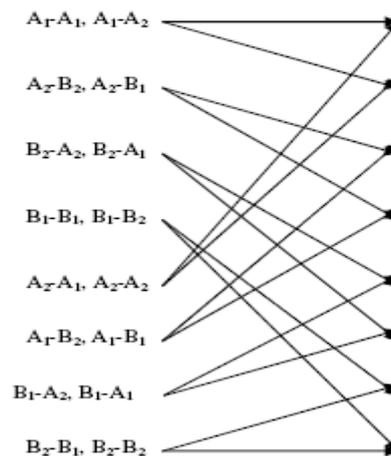


Fig .3

III. SIMULATION RESULT

In this section, the simulation results of the receiver for the 2-state and 4-state space-time trellis code are stated under the assumption that the receiver has perfect knowledge of the channel state information. The channel is modeled as a two-ray quasi-static frequency selective fading Rayleigh channel with uncorrelated channel rays. There are 130 symbols transmitted from the two transmit antennas (trellis in Figure 1 is used at the transmitter for both 2-state and 4-state STTC). At the receiver, the receiver structure enumerated in Figure 2 is used with Viterbi algorithm [9] to search for path with the lowest accumulated metric.

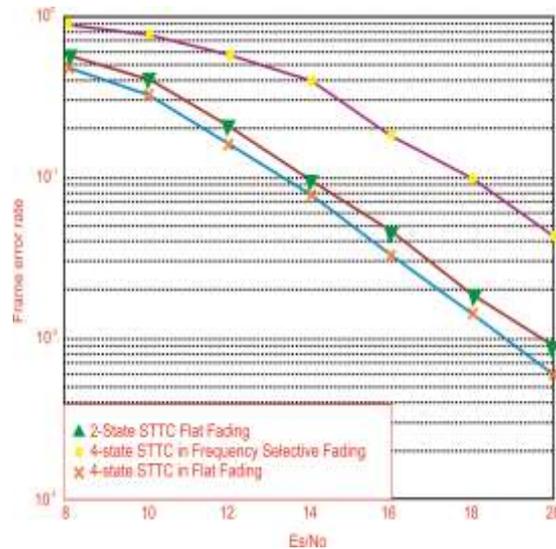


Figure.4 FER of a 2-state STTC with $N_t = 2, N_r = 1$ in fading channel

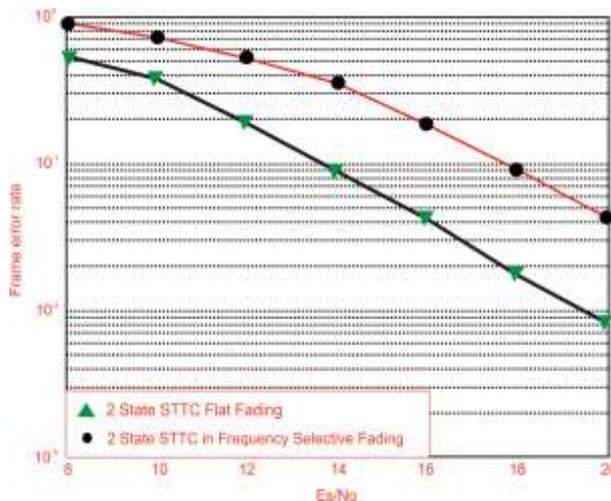


Figure 5 FER of STTC schemes with $N_t = 2, N_r = 1$ in fading channel.

Figure 4 shows the frame error rate of 2-state STTC in both frequency selective and non-frequency selective fading channel. The simulation parameters were chosen specifically to be able to compare the diversity advantage of the scheme with similar scheme. From Figure 3 we can see that the 2-state SOSTTC scheme in frequency selective channel achieve the same diversity order (i.e. slope of the error rate curve) as compared with the scheme in flat fading scenario, although the scheme suffer some coding gain loss. The simulation in Fig. 3 shows about a 4dB performance degradation of the 2-state STTC scheme in frequency selective channel. This performance degradation in Figure 3 and 4 can be attributed to the increase in number of parallel path transitions per state. If we assume that all the 64 transitions per branch in the decoding trellis (i frequency selective and non-frequency selective fading channel. The simulation parameters were chosen specifically to be able to compare the diversity advantage of the scheme with similar scheme. From Figure 4 we can see that the 2-state STTC scheme in frequency selective channel achieve the same diversity order (i.e. slope of the error rate curve) as compared with the scheme in flat fading scenario, although the scheme (i.e. Fig. 2) are equally likely to be decoded, the probability of decoding correctly a transmitter codeword per state is equal to $1/64 \cdot 1/64 = 1/4096$. The probability of decoding a transmitted codeword in the scheme under non-frequency selective fading assumption is $1/8 \cdot 1/8 = 1/64$. For a 2-state decoder (i.e. STTC code in a non-frequency selective fading channel) the probability per decoding interval becomes $1/64 \cdot 2 = 1/32$ while for a 4-state decoder (i.e. STTC in a frequency selective fading channel) the probability per decoding interval becomes $1/4096 \cdot 4 = 1/1024$. Although there is an increase in state in the STTC code decoder in frequency selective channel, the probability of decoding correctly is still lower as compared with the case of the code in a non-frequency

selective channel. This accounts for the performance loss obtained in terms of the coding advantage (i.e. shift in the error curve upward). This above stated explanation is also applicable to the performance degradation of the code in Figure 5.

IV. CONCLUSION

In this paper, the receiver structure of a space-time trellis code in a frequency selective channel is designed. The decoding trellises for a 2-state and 4-state code schemes are given. The formula for deriving the number of states of the STTC in frequency selective was derived as a function of the number of divergent paths per state, the multipath ray and the original number of states of the STTC. The simulation results proved that although the code was designed for flat fading channel, it provides at least the same diversity advantage when applied to a frequency selective Rayleigh fading channel. Simulation results demonstrate the good performance of our new space-time trellis code. This paper investigates the performance of Space-time Trellis Code (STTC) designed primarily for non-frequency selective (i.e. flat) fading channel but now applied to a frequency selective fading channel. A new decoding trellis is proposed for the STTC in frequency selective fading environment. It was apparent that the number of states of the decoding trellis of the STTC in a frequency selective channel is a function of the number of divergent paths per state, the multipath ray and the original number of states of the STTC.

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