

## Multicast beamforming and admission control for UMTS-LTE and 802.16e

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## Parts of the talk

- Part I:
  - QoS + max-min fair multicast beamforming
- Part II: •
  - Joint QoS multicast beamforming and admission control

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## Motivation

- Multicasting increasingly important (network TV, streaming media, software updates, network management)
- Increasingly over wireless for last hop
- PHY-layer multicasting exploits wireless "broadcast advantage" + CSI-T [SidDavLuo:04-06]
- Complements packet-level multicasting  $\rightarrow$  higher efficiency



## **Motivation: E-MBMS / UMTS-LTE**

- Evolved Multimedia Broadcast/Multicast Service (E-MBMS) in the context of 3GPP / UMTS-LTE
- Motorola Inc., "Long Term Evolution (LTE): A Technical Overview," Technical White Paper:

http://business.motorola.com/experiencelte/pdf/LTE%20Technical%20Overview.pdf

#### 2. Multicast Traffic Channel (MTCH)

(DL point-to-multipoint channel for transmission of MBMS data)

#### EVOLVED MULTICAST BROADCAST MULTIME-DIA SERVICES (E-MBMS)

There will be support for MBMS right from the first version of LTE specifications. However, specifications for E-MBMS are in early stages. Two important scenarios have been identified for E-MBMS: One is single-cell broadcast, and the second is MBMS Single Frequency Network (MBSFN).

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## Prelude



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#### **Broadcast**



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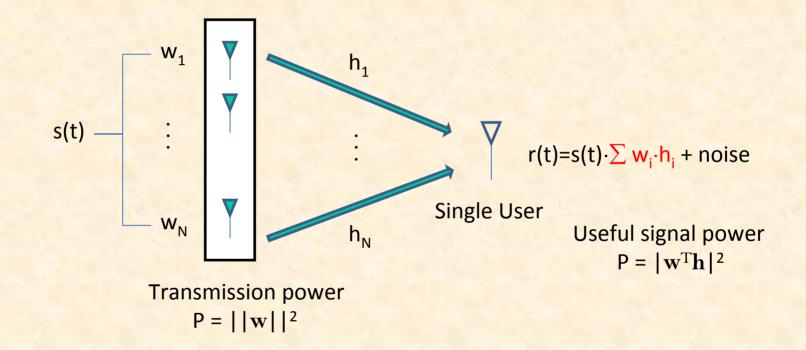


## **Multicast beamforming**



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#### Beamforming



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# **Part I: Transmit Beamforming for Multicasting**

- Joint work w/ Tim Davidson, Tom Luo, Lefteris Karipidis
- Problem statement:
  - Transmit beamforming for multicasting to multiple co-channel groups
- QoS formulation
- NP-hardness
- Multicast power control
- Max-min-fair version
- The Vandermonde case
- Robust formulations



## **Problem Setup**

- Downlink Transmission: BS has N antenna elements
- *M* single-antenna intended mobile receivers
- $1 \leq G \leq M$  co-channel multicast groups  $\mathcal{G}_k, k \in \{1, \dots, G\},$  $\mathcal{G}_k \cap \mathcal{G}_l = \emptyset, l \neq k, \cup_k \mathcal{G}_k = \{1, \dots, M\}$

 $\nabla$ 

Ψ

 $\mathbb{V}_{\lambda}$ 

- s<sub>k</sub>(t): modulated signal,
  sent to group G<sub>k</sub>,
  - $\sum_{k=1}^{G} s_k(t) \mathbf{w}_k^H$ : Tx signal

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 $\mathcal{G}_2$ 

 $\mathcal{G}_1$ 

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 $\mathcal{G}_G$ 

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 $s_1(t)\mathbf{w}_1^H$ 

 $s_G(t)\mathbf{w}_G^H$ 

 $s_2(t)\mathbf{w}_2^H$ 



## **QoS formulation**

- Optimal joint design of transmit beamformers (full CSI at Tx)
- QoS formulation: Minimize total Tx power, subject to meeting prescribed lower bounds on the received SINRs

$$\begin{aligned} \mathcal{I}: & \min_{\substack{\{\mathbf{w}_k \in \mathbb{C}^N\}_{k=1}^G \sum_{k=1}^G \|\mathbf{w}_k\|_2^2 \\ \text{ s.t.: } & \frac{|\mathbf{w}_k^H \mathbf{h}_i|^2}{\sum_{l \neq k} |\mathbf{w}_l^H \mathbf{h}_i|^2 + \sigma_i^2} \geq \gamma_i, \, \forall i \in \mathcal{G}_k, \, \forall k \in \{1, \dots, G\} \end{aligned}$$

- Special cases:
  - multiuser downlink (G = M) is SOCP (Bengtsson & Ottersten);
  - broadcasting (G = 1) (Sidiropoulos, Davidson, Luo)
  - middle ground

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## Single multicast group (G=1)

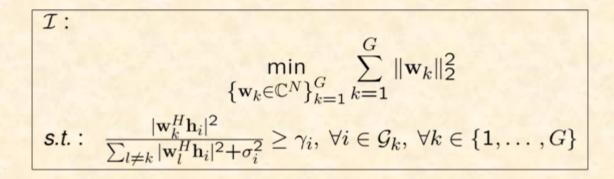
$$\begin{split} \min_{\mathbf{w} \in \mathbb{C}^{N}} \|\mathbf{w}\|_{2}^{2} \\ s.t. : \frac{|\mathbf{w}^{H}\mathbf{h}_{i}|^{2}}{\sigma_{i}^{2}} \geq \gamma_{i}, \ \forall i \end{split}$$

- Seems benign ...
- ... but non-convex, and in fact NP-hard!
- Contains *partition* (Sidiropoulos, Davidson, Luo '06)

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#### Hence ....



 $\rightarrow$  NP-hard in general  $\otimes$ 

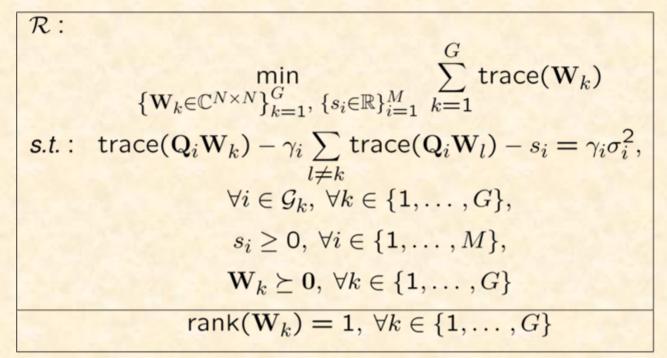
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## **Recasting to isolate non-convexity**

• Equivalent reformulation for  $\mathbf{Q}_i := \mathbf{h}_i \mathbf{h}_i^H$  and  $\mathbf{W}_k := \mathbf{w}_k \mathbf{w}_k^H$ 



- $\mathcal{R}$  is SDP: lin. cost func. & M lin. eq., M nonneg., G psd constraints
- Lagrange bi-dual interpretation

## Algorithm [KarSidLuo:TSP08]

- *Relaxation*: Solve the SDP Problem  $\mathcal{R}$ , denote solution  $\{\mathbf{W}_k\}_{k=1}^G$ •
- Randomization / Scaling Loop: For each k, generate a vector in • the span of  $\sqrt{\mathbf{W}_k}$ , using the Gaussian randomization technique, and solve multicast power control problem (LP) for given configuration; If feasible, then feasible solution for original problem
- Repeat, select best configuration (minimum Tx power) ٠
- If rank( $\mathbf{W}_k$ ) = 1,  $\forall k$ ,  $\Rightarrow$  Problem  $\mathcal{R}$  equiv to  $\mathcal{I}$ •
- Quality of approximate solution:  $\frac{\min(\sum_{k=1}^{G} \beta_k p_k)}{\sum_{k=1}^{G} \operatorname{trace}(\mathbf{X}_k)}$ •





## **Multi-group Multicast Power Control**

- If Problem I feasible ⇒ Problem R feasible (converse, not true in general)
- Solution blocks of relaxed problem, not rank-one in general
- *Randomization*: generate candidate beamforming vectors
- Ensure constraints of Problem  $\mathcal{I} \Rightarrow$  solve  $\mathcal{MGPC}$
- LP 😳

$$a_{k,i} := |\mathbf{w}_k^H \mathbf{h}_i|^2$$

 $\beta_k := \|\mathbf{w}_k\|_2^2$ 

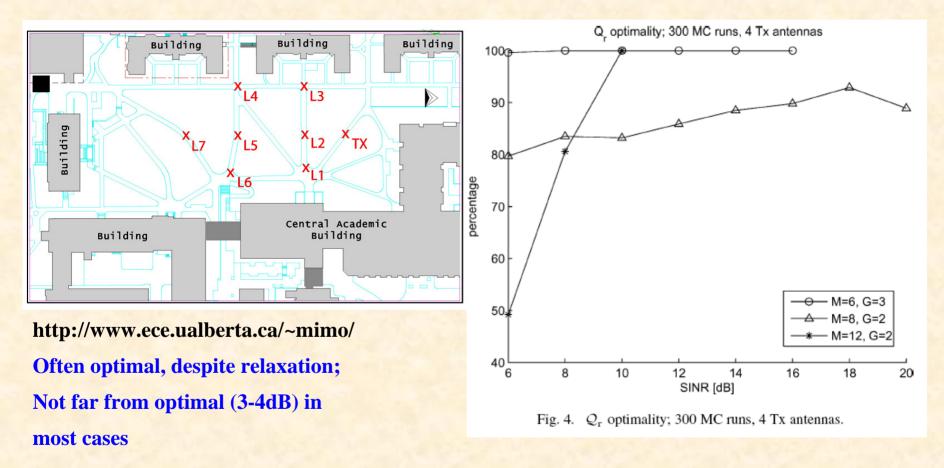
 $p_k$  power boost factor for multicast group k

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MGPC :	$\min_{\{p_k \in \mathbb{R}\}_{k=1}^G} \sum_{k=1}^G \beta_k p_k$
s.t. :	$\frac{p_k a_{k,i}}{\sum_{l \neq k} p_l a_{l,i} + \sigma_i^2} \ge c_i,$
10.7	$\forall i \in \mathcal{G}_k, \ \forall k \in \{1, \ldots, G\},$
	$p_k \ge 0, \ \forall k \in \{1, \ldots, G\}.$



#### **Experimental results**



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#### **Analytical Approximation Performance Guarantees**

Result (LuoSidTseZha SIOPT): Let  $v_o$  denote the optimum value of the single-group multicast beamforming problem (which is NP-hard), and  $v_r$  denote the optimum value of the associated SDR. Then, in the complex case,

$$v_r \le v_o \le 8Mv_r$$

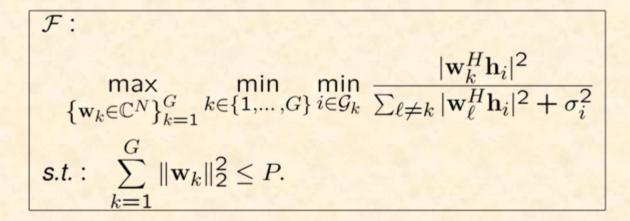
(*M* is the total number of subscribing receivers) and Gaussian randomization with  $\sim 50$  samples generates a feasible approximate solution that satisfies this bound with very high probability.

• (Usually pessimistic:  $c \ll 8M$  often the case in practice)





#### **Max-min-fair version**



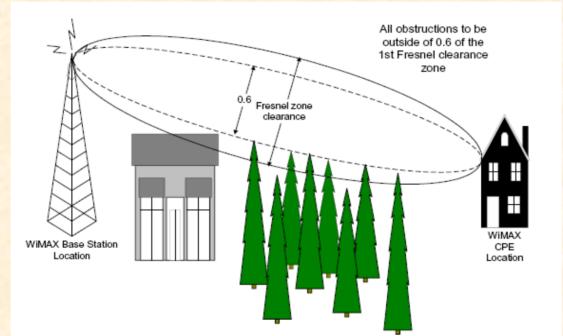
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#### **Exact Globally Optimal Solution in the Vandermonde Case (1)**

• Motivation: fixed wireless LoS communications, e.g., WiMAX



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#### **Exact Globally Optimal Solution in the Vandermonde Case (2)**

- For ULA, far-field / LoS (or, single-path) scenario
  → Vandermonde channel vectors h<sub>i</sub> = [1 e<sup>jθ<sub>i</sub></sup> e<sup>j2θ<sub>i</sub></sup> ··· e<sup>j(N-1)θ<sub>i</sub></sup>]<sup>T</sup>
- <u>Numerical observation</u>: SDR consistently rank-1!
  <u>Suggests</u>: Problem not NP-hard, in fact convex in this case?
- Rx signal power at user *i* from beam  $k : |\mathbf{w}_k^H \mathbf{h}_i|^2 = \sum_{\ell=-(N-1)}^{N-1} r_k(\ell) e^{j\theta_i \ell}$
- Autocorrelation fun.:  $r_k(\ell) = \sum_{m=1}^{N-\ell} w_k(m) w_k^*(m+\ell), \quad 0 < \ell \le N-1$
- Conjugate-symmetric about the origin:  $r_k^*(-\ell) = r_k(\ell)$



#### **Exact Globally Optimal Solution in the Vandermonde Case (3)**

•  $\mathbf{r}_k := [r_k(-N+1), \cdots, r_k(-1), r_k(0), r_k(1), \cdots, r_k(N+1)]^T$ 

 $\mathbf{f}_i := [e^{-j\theta_i(N-1)}, \cdots, e^{-j\theta_i}, 1, e^{j\theta_i}, \cdots, e^{j\theta_i(N-1)}]^T$ 

 $|\mathbf{w}_{k}^{H}\mathbf{h}_{i}|^{2} = \mathbf{f}_{i}^{T}\mathbf{r}_{k}$   $r_{k}(0) = \mathbf{r}_{k}(N) = \sum_{m=1}^{N} w_{k}(m)w_{k}^{*}(m) = ||\mathbf{w}_{k}||_{2}^{2}$ 

• Equivalent reformulation:

$$\min_{\mathbf{r}_k\}_{k=1}^G} \sum_{k=1}^G \mathbf{r}_k(N)$$

s.t.: 
$$\mathbf{f}_i^T \mathbf{r}_k \ge \gamma_i \sum_{\ell \ne k} \mathbf{f}_i^T \mathbf{r}_\ell + \gamma_i \sigma_i^2, \ \forall i \in \mathcal{G}_k, \ \forall k \in \{1, \dots, G\},\$$

 $\mathbf{r}_k$  : autocorrelation vector,  $\forall k \in \{1, \ldots, G\}$ 

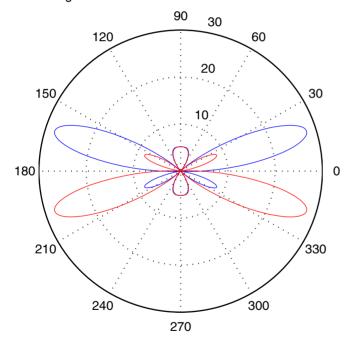
- Autocorrelation constraints equivalent to LMIs [AlkVan02]  $\rightarrow$  SDP
- ACS  $\rightarrow$  spectral factorization  $\rightarrow$  optimal beamvectors



## Example

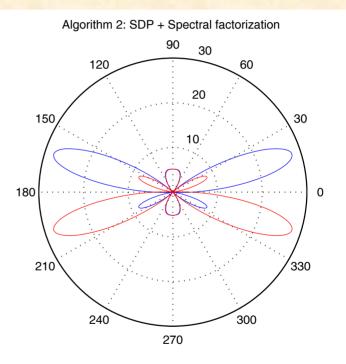
• 
$$N = 4, \sigma_i^2 = \sigma^2 = 1, \gamma_i = \gamma = 10$$
dB

Algorithm 1: SDR + Randomization + MGPC



24 users in 2 groups, spaced 10 deg apart





24 users in 2 groups, spaced 10 deg apart



#### **Robust Multicast Beamforming for imperfect CSI**

• Perfect CSI: 
$$\tilde{\mathbf{h}}_i := \mathbf{h}_i / \sqrt{\gamma_i \sigma_i^2}$$

 $\begin{array}{|c|c|} \mathcal{ONRB}: & \min_{\mathbf{w} \in \mathbb{C}^N} \|\mathbf{w}\|_2^2 \\ \textbf{s.t.:} & |\mathbf{w}^H \tilde{\mathbf{h}}_i|^2 \geq \mathbf{1}, \quad \forall \ i \in \{1, \dots, M\}. \end{array}$ 

• Robust version for imperfect CSI:

$$\begin{array}{l} \mathcal{RB}:\\ & \min_{\mathbf{w}\in\mathbb{C}^{N}}\|\mathbf{w}\|_{2}^{2}\\ \textbf{s.t.:} & \|\mathbf{w}^{H}\tilde{\mathbf{h}}_{i}\|^{2}\geq1, \ \forall \ \tilde{\mathbf{h}}_{i}\in\mathsf{B}_{\epsilon}(\bar{\mathbf{h}}_{i}), \ \forall \ i\in\{1,\ldots,M\}. \end{array}$$

#### **Robust Multicast Beamforming**

 → Result: Let w' be an exact solution of RB. Then w'/(1 + ϵ||w'||) is an exact solution of ONRB. Conversely, if w<sub>o</sub> is an exact solution of ONRB, then w<sub>o</sub>/(1 - ϵ||w<sub>o</sub>||) is an exact solution of RB.

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## **Multicast Beamforming: Recap**

- Multi-group multicast transmit beamforming under SINR constraints is NP-hard in general [KarSidLuo,SidDavLuo]
- Good & efficient approximation algorithms via SDR
- In the important special case of Vandermonde steering vectors it is in fact SDP – can be solved exactly & efficiently!
- For general steering vectors, exact solutions of the robust and nonrobust versions of the single-group (broadcast) problem related via simple one-to-one scaling transformation!
- For Vandermonde steering vectors, robust version of the multi-group multicast problem is convex as well! [KarSidLuo]



## **Part II: Joint Multicast Beamforming and Admission Control**

- Joint work w/ Vivi Matskani, Tom Luo, Leandros Tassiulas
- Inter-group interference and/or power constraint → infeasibility → admission control
- Joint multicast beamforming and admission control: MDR
- Single multicast group: important special case, in view of UMTS-LTE / E-MBMS
- MDR works for multiple co-channel multicast groups; will focus on single group for brevity
- In this case, infeasibility arises due to Tx power constraint



## **Infeasibility and Admission Control**

- Often infeasible → admission control
- Goal: max # users served @ pre-specified SNR levels for a given P.
- Two stages:

$$\begin{split} S_o &= \operatorname{argmax}_{S \subseteq \mathcal{U}, \{\mathbf{w} \in \mathbb{C}^N\}} |S| \\ \text{subject to} : \|\mathbf{w}\|_2^2 \leq P, \\ &\frac{|\mathbf{w}^H \mathbf{h}_i|^2}{\sigma_i^2} \geq c_i, \forall i \in S, \end{split}$$

$$\min_{\mathbf{w}\in\mathbb{C}^N}\|\mathbf{w}\|_2^2$$

$$\frac{|\mathbf{w}^H \mathbf{h}_i|^2}{\sigma_i^2} \ge c_i, \; \forall i \in S_o.$$

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## **Single-stage reformulation**

$$\begin{split} \min_{\mathbf{w}\in\mathbb{C}^N,\{s_i\in\{-1,+1\}\}_{i\in\mathcal{U}}} \epsilon \|\mathbf{w}\|_2^2 + (1-\epsilon) \sum_{i\in\mathcal{U}} (s_i+1)^2 \\ \text{subject to} : \|\mathbf{w}\|_2^2 \leq P, \\ \frac{|\mathbf{w}^H\mathbf{h}_i|^2 + \delta^{-1}(s_i+1)^2}{\sigma_i^2} \geq c_i, \ \forall i\in\mathcal{U}. \end{split}$$

Result: (Cf. [MatSidLuoTas:07-08]) For  $\delta \leq \min_{i \in U} \frac{4c_i^{-1}}{\sigma_i^2}$ and  $\epsilon < \frac{1}{P/4+1}$ , the reformulated problem is always feasible, and its solution simultaneously maximizes the number of users served and minimizes the power required to serve them.

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## Getting 'close' to a convex problem

 $\mathbf{W} := \mathbf{w}\mathbf{w}^H, \mathbf{S}_i := \mathbf{s}_i\mathbf{s}_i^T$ , where  $\mathbf{s}_i := [s_i \ 1]^T$ , and  $\mathbf{H}_i := \mathbf{h}_i\mathbf{h}_i^H$ ; rewrite as

$$\begin{split} \min_{\mathbf{W}\in\mathbb{C}^{N\times N}, \left\{\mathbf{S}_{i}\in\mathbb{R}^{2\times2}\right\}_{i\in\mathcal{U}}} \epsilon \operatorname{Tr}(\mathbf{W}) + (1-\epsilon) \sum_{i\in\mathcal{U}} \operatorname{Tr}(1_{2\times2}\mathbf{S}_{i}) \\ \text{subject to : } \operatorname{Tr}(\mathbf{W}) \leq P, \\ \frac{\operatorname{Tr}(\mathbf{H}_{i}\mathbf{W}) + \delta^{-1}\operatorname{Tr}(1_{2\times2}\mathbf{S}_{i})}{\sigma_{i}^{2}} \geq c_{i}, \ \forall i\in\mathcal{U}, \\ \mathbf{W}\geq0, \operatorname{rank}(\mathbf{W}) = 1, \\ \mathbf{S}_{i}\geq0, \operatorname{rank}(\mathbf{S}_{i}) = 1, \\ \mathbf{S}_{i}(1,1) = \mathbf{S}_{i}(2,2) = 1, \ \forall i\in\mathcal{U}. \end{split}$$

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## **Semidefinite Relaxation (SDR)**

Drop rank-1 constraints  $\rightarrow$  convex

 $\min_{\mathbf{W}\in\mathbb{C}^{N\times N}, \{\mathbf{S}_{i}\in\mathbb{R}^{2\times2}\}_{i\in\mathcal{U}}} \epsilon \mathsf{Tr}(\mathbf{W}) + (1-\epsilon) \sum_{i\in\mathcal{U}} \mathsf{Tr}(1_{2\times2}\mathbf{S}_{i})$ 

subject to :  $Tr(W) \leq P$ ,

$$\frac{\operatorname{Tr}(\mathbf{H}_{i}\mathbf{W}) + \delta^{-1}\operatorname{Tr}(\mathbf{1}_{2\times 2}\mathbf{S}_{i})}{\sigma_{i}^{2}} \geq c_{i}, \forall i \in \mathcal{U},$$

 $W \ge 0$ ,

 $\mathbf{S}_i \geq 0, \mathbf{S}_i(1,1) = \mathbf{S}_i(2,2) = 1, \forall i \in \mathcal{U}.$ 

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## **MDR-** Algorithm

1.  $\mathcal{U} \leftarrow \{1, ..., K\}$ 

2. Solve the relaxed problem and let  $\check{\mathbf{W}}$  denote the resulting transmit covariance matrix

3.  $\breve{w}$  = principal component of  $\breve{W}$ , scaled to power  $Tr(\breve{W})$ .

4. For each  $i \in \mathcal{U}$ , check whether

$$\frac{|\check{\mathbf{w}}^H \mathbf{h}_i|^2}{\sigma_i^2} \ge c_i.$$

If true for all  $i \in U$ , stop (a feasible solution has been found); else pick the user with largest gap to its target SNR, remove from U and go to step 2.



## Lozano's Algorithm

1. Init:  $\mathbf{w} = [1 \ 0 \ \cdots \ 0]^T$ 

2. Compute  $SNR_i(t-1) = P\mathbf{w}_{t-1}^H \mathbf{H}_i \mathbf{w}_{t-1}, \forall i \in U$ 

3. Sort  $SNR_i(t-1), \forall i \in \mathcal{U}$ .

4. Drop a fixed proportion of users with lowest attained *SNRs*.

5. Find weakest link among remaining ones  $(\rightarrow k)$ 

6. Take step in its direction:  $\mathbf{w}_t = \mathbf{w}_{t-1} + \mu \mathbf{H}_k \mathbf{w}_{t-1}$ ;

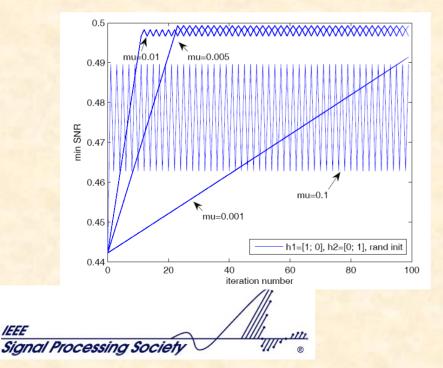
then  $\mathbf{w}_t = \mathbf{w}_t / \|\mathbf{w}_t\|_2$ 

7. Repeat until no significant change in minimum SNR.



## **Issues w/ Lozano's algorithm**

- Simple algorithm, but intricate convergence behavior
- No guidelines for choosing μ
- We show via toy counter-example:
  - May shut-off users completely (no chance of admission) fairness issue
  - May not converge
  - Can exhibit limit cycle behavior, even for very small  $\mu$



Example of limit cycle behavior of Lozano's algorithm. N = 2 Tx, K = 2 users,  $\mathbf{h}_1 = [1 \ 0]^T$ ,  $\mathbf{h}_1 = [0 \ 1]^T$  $\sigma_1 = \sigma_2 = P = 1$ . Random initialization,  $\mu = 0.1$ .



## **Proposed improvement - I: LLI**

[Lopez:2004]: Max average SNR beamformer ← → pricipal component:

$$\mathbf{H} := [\mathbf{h}_1, \cdots, \mathbf{h}_K] (N \times K);$$

$$[\mathbf{U}, \mathbf{S}, \mathbf{V}] = \mathsf{svd}(\mathbf{H}^H); \mathbf{w}_0 = \mathbf{V}(:, 1);$$

- Use this for initialization
- PC can be tracked, e.g., using power method → overall solution remains simple, adaptive
- LLI: Lozano with Lopez Initialization

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## **Proposed improvement - II: dLLI**

• Simple and effective way to suppress limit cycle behavior: damp  $\mu$  according to a predefined back-off schedule. This should be balanced against our primary objective, which is to find a good solution

• The weight update of Lozano's algorithm can be interpreted as taking a step in the direction of the *local* subgradient of  $\min_{i \in A_t} SNR_i(t-1)$ , where the minimum is taken over the currently active user set  $A_t$ .



### **Proposed improvement - II: dLLI**

• There are two difficulties here: this is not a subgradient in the usual sense, because it is only a local, not a global under-estimator of  $\min_{i \in A_t} SNR_i(t-1)$ ; and  $A_t$  can change as iterations progress. These difficulties arise because we are dealing with a non-convex and NP-hard problem.

• dLLI:  $\mu_t = \frac{\mu_{t-1}}{t/10}$  if  $t \mod 10 = 0$ , else  $\mu_t = \mu_{t-1}$  (back-off every 10 iterations).

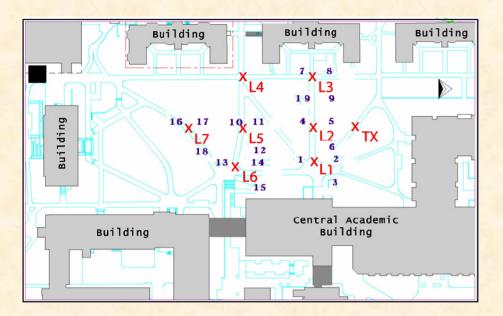


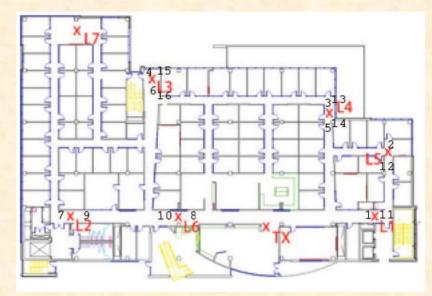
## **Fair comparison**

- MDR fixes min SNR, attempts to optimize coverage
- Lozano and (d)LLI fix coverage, attempt to optimize min SNR
- Proper comparison: min SNR vs. coverage operating characteristic (similar to ROC)
- Using measured channel data
- Benchmark: enumeration over all subsets; for each use SDR
- Per-subset problem is still NP-hard, but
  - enumeration+SDR ('ENUM') yields upper bound on min SNR (attainable performance)
  - when SDR returns rank-1 solution for maximal subset, it is overall optimal; this happens in vast majority of cases considered → ENUM yields tight upper bound



#### **Measured channel data**





http://www.ece.ualberta.ca/~mimo/ N = 4 Tx antennas

Left: Outdoor

**Right: Indoor** 

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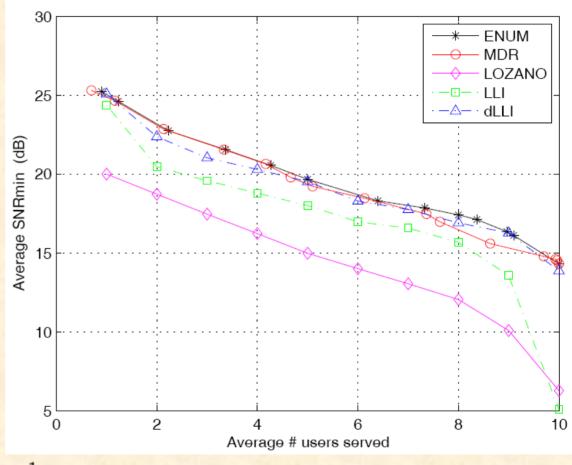
**Technical University of Crete** Department of Electronic and Computer Engineering

## **Results – I: Outdoor, I-CSIT**

Instantaneous CSI-T. 30 Measured channel snapshots.

K = 10 users, P = 30,  $N = 4 \operatorname{Tx}, c_i = c,$  $\sigma_i^2 = \sigma^2 = 1, \forall i.$ MDR:  $\epsilon = 10^{-10}$ ,  $\delta < \min_{i \in \mathcal{U}} 4c^{-1}/\sigma_i^2$ . Lozano's, LLI:  $\mu = 10^{-2}$ , accuracy (convergence)  $= 10^{-3}$ .

Complexity (per problem instance): ENUM: about 2 min MDR: between 10<sup>-2</sup> and 1 sec Lozano's, LLI: between  $10^{-2}$  and  $10^{-1}$  sec.



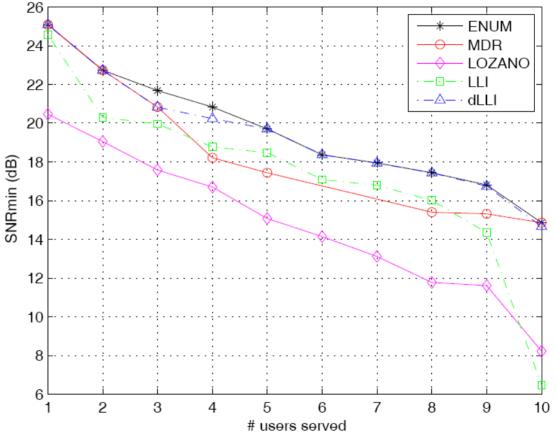


## **Results – II: Outdoor, LT-CSIT**

Long-term CSI-T. K = 10 users, P = 30, N = 4 Tx,  $c_i = c$ ,  $\sigma_i^2 = \sigma^2 = 1$ ,  $\forall i$ . MDR:  $\epsilon = 10^{-10}$ ,  $\delta < \min_{i \in \mathcal{U}} 4c^{-1}/\sigma_i^2$ . Lozano's, LLI:  $\mu = 10^{-2}$ , accuracy (convergence)  $= 10^{-3}$ .

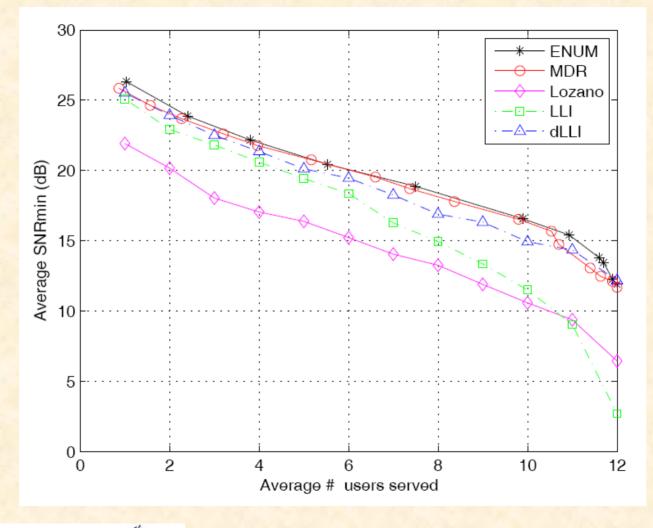
Complexity: ENUM: about 2 min MDR: between  $10^{-2}$  and 1 sec Lozano's, LLI: between  $10^{-2}$  and  $10^{-1}$  sec.

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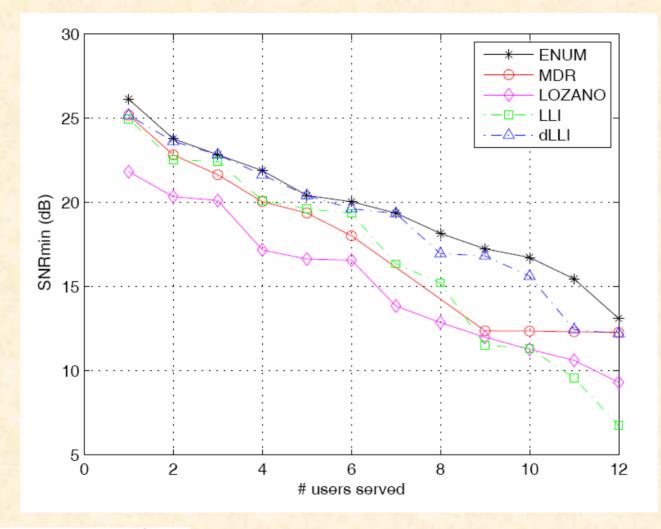


## **Results – III: Indoor, I-CSIT**

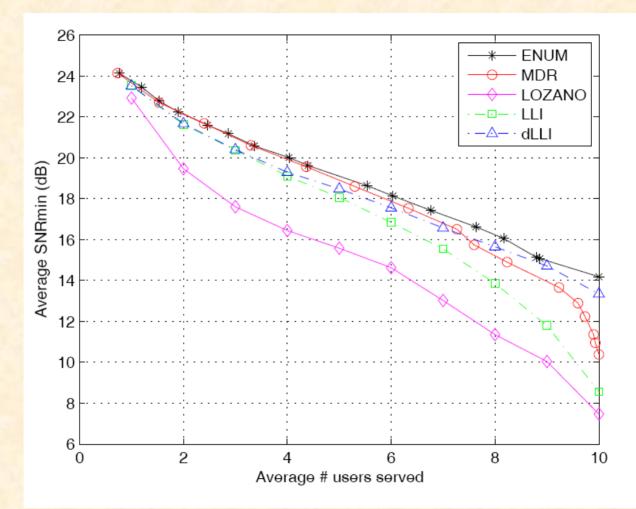




### **Results – IV: Indoor, LT-CSIT**



### **Results – V: iid Rayleigh, I-CSIT**



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# Conclusions

- ENUM returned rank-1 solutions in all cases except full coverage; complexity exponential in K; prohibitive for large K.
- dLLI and MDR emerge as clear winners
- dLLI best for LT-CSIT
- MDR best in certain I-CSIT cases
- dLLI is simpler and faster than MDR
- ... but MDR works for multiple groups
- Both close to optimal
- dLLI : significant improvement over Lozano's original algorithm; due to adaptive nature and only quadratic complexity → ideal candidate for practical implementation in LTE / E-MBMS



# **Sneak preview:**

*Multicast beamforming for minimum outage* (Ntranos, Sidiropoulos, Tassiulas, IEEE TWC)

- Assume channel vectors random, drawn from, say, Gaussian
- Max # customers served under power constraint is NPhard, even if you know their channels exactly.
- For large # customers, can approx. max # served by min P(outage)
- Trivial for single Gaussian and it doesn't require channel state only channel statistics!
- NP-hard problem  $\rightarrow$  trivial one!  $\bigcirc$



#### **Sneak preview:**

*Multicast beamforming for minimum outage* (Ntranos, Sidiropoulos, Tassiulas, IEEE TWC)

• Promising ... but *Gaussian mixture* model is far more realistic for multicast



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#### **Sneak preview:**

#### Multicast beamforming for minimum outage: Results

- When # kernels in mixture > # Tx antennas, there's no escape from NP-hardness ... ☺
- But for 2-3 kernels (practical), optimal solution is tractable.
- For any number of kernels, effective approximation of very low computational complexity.
- Very interesting because approach requires no CSI, and still delivers (probabilistic) service guarantee
- Respects subscriber privacy concerns; requires no logging
- No reverse-link signaling

#### Thank you for your attention ©