Institute for Theoretical Information Technology

Prototyping the 5G Air Interface in SDR: A Filter Bank Multicarrier Primer Milan Zivkovic, Burak Dayi, Johannes Schmitz, Rudolf Mathar

TIGR Framework

Rapid prototyping framework for performance validation and proof-of-concept of the novel communication techniques
Offered by SDR technology based on general purpose hardware
Transmitter and receiver node are composed of a host commodity computer and Universal Software Radio Peripheral (USRP)



Filter Bank Multicarrier (FBMC)

- FBMC is an alternative multicarrier technique that offers superior adjacent channel leakage ratio (ACLR) properties and increased spectral efficiency compared to OFDM
- A possible PHY-layer candidate for the fifth generation of mobile telecommunications technology (5G) standards
- Prior to transmission, the symbols are overlapped in time domain
 Near perfect reconstruction at the receiver



Figure: The framework overview

A modular, GNU Radio based reconfigurable SDR framework extends PHY layer functionalities of current wireless standards

Bandwidth (static)	Variable, up to 8MHz
FFT length (static)	64 - 1024
Frame length (static)	Variable
Carrier frequency (dynamic)	2400-2483MHz
Modulations (<i>dynamic</i>)	BPSK, QPSK, 8-PSK, 16-QAM, 32-QAM, 64-
	QAM, 128-QAM, 256-QAM
Power (<i>dynamic</i>)	Up to 20 mW

Table: The set of reconfigurable system parameters

Control and Feedback

TIGR Implementation

GNU Radio Companion (GRC) model of the FBMC transceiver
 Interactive reconfiguration of system parameters



 The control and feedback mechanisms allow for estimation of link quality and optimal assignment of predefined transmission parameters
 Low latency backbone implemented by ZeroMQ



Graphical User Interface (GUI)

- The transmitter's GUI
 - Static transmission parameters
 - Current rate and power allocation over subchannels
- The receiver's GUI
 - Estimated signal parameters (SNR, CSI, BER, CFO)
 - Interactive interface for on-the-fly configuration

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Subcarrier Powerallocation		Receiver	(

(a) FBMC transmitter.

(b) FBMC receiver.

The high reconfigurability of TIGR further allows for future easy integration and evaluation of other 5G PHY layer candidates

Preliminary Experimental Results

Over-the-air validation of spectral properties
 Experimentation in different RF scenarios



(a) OFDM interference source.

(b) FBMC interference source.

FBMC introduces less interference in comparison to OFDM, thus inducing a lower BER



Figure: The transmitter's and receiver's GUIs with interactive control interface

