

Frequency and Time Hopping PPM UWB Multiple Access Communication Scheme

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Abstract—In this paper we propose frequency and time hopping pulse position modulation (FTH-PPM) ultra wideband (UWB) for multiple access communications. We have derived and investigated the bit error probability for the multi-user synchronous transmitter case in multipath channels with Additive White Gaussian Noise (AWGN). Simulation results show that bit error probability performance of FTH-PPM UWB out performs the time hopping pulse position modulated (TH-PPM) UWB system. It also show that multiuser capacity of FTH-PPM UWB system is much better than TH-PPM UWB system.

Index Terms—Frequency hopping, Hybrid hopping, Modulation, Multiple access, Time hopping, UWB.

I. INTRODUCTION

Ultra wideband [1] is a new technology that has the potential to revolutionize wireless communication by delivering high data rates with very low power densities. According to the FCC definition, UWB technique is a transmission scheme that occupies a bandwidth of more than 20% of its centre frequency, or nominally more than 500 MHz. The UWB nature offers extensive multipath diversity and support multiple access. The unique characteristics of UWB make it a viable candidate for future wireless communications, especially indoor wireless systems. Several attempts are being made to use UWB as the physical layer for Personal Area Networks (PAN) to meet the FCC standards [2]. FCC has released 3.1 GHz to 10.6 GHz frequency spectrum with restrictions on minimum transmission bandwidth of 500 MHz and transmit power spectral density of -41.3 dBm/MHz, which restricts the UWB to be used for PAN. Earlier UWB systems were carrier-free but to utilize FCC's 3.1 GHz to 10.6 GHz band of spectrum UWB system requires the use of a carrier.

In a multiple access scenario, the presence of multiple signals being transmitted at the same time is a typical source of interference for wireless signals. There are several multiple access schemes proposed for UWB, namely, Time Hopping (TH) [3], [4], Frequency Hopping (FH) [5] and Direct Sequence (DS) [6] wherein orthogonal codes are used to avoid multiple access interference (MAI). Efforts have been made to reduce the multiple access interference by designing orthogonal hopping sequences [7]–[9]. However, in practice, the received signal from different users are not orthogonal because of multipath

and asynchronous transmission. Moreover, it is not possible to design orthogonal codes for all shifts. In TH, MAI can be reduced by increasing the number of time hops but at the cost of reduced data rate. Frequency Hopping OFDM considered in [10] shows that MAI can be completely removed using Costas sequence under synchronized multiple access communication. Time hopping and frequency hopping is studied separately for enhancing the information rate in [11]. In [12] Time-Frequency hopping multiple access packet communication is considered for studying throughput of ALOHA protocol.

In this paper, we propose a new modulation technique based on frequency and time hopping PPM UWB which greatly reduces the MAI under multiple access communication in comparison with conventional time hopping or frequency hopping schemes. The probability of error is derived for multi-user synchronous transmitter in UWB multipath channel with AWGN. Simulations are carried out for synchronous transmitter case. Second derivative of Gaussian pulse is considered for multiple access analysis.

This paper is organized as follows. In Section II, the system model and construction of the frequency and time hopping PPM UWB signals is described. In Section III, multiple access interference and error probability analysis is presented. Simulation results are discussed in Section IV and concluding remarks are presented in Section V.

II. SIGNAL AND SYSTEM MODEL

The frequency and time hopping M-ary PPM system model for v th user is given by

$$s^v(t) = \sum_{j=-\infty}^{\infty} A_{d_{\lfloor j/N_s \rfloor}}^{(v)} p(t - jT_f - c_j^{(v)}T_c - \delta_{d_{\lfloor j/N_s \rfloor}}^{(v)}) e^{-j2\pi k_j^{(v)}t} \quad (1)$$

where, $A^{(v)}$ is the signal amplitude, $p(t)$ represents the second derivative of Gaussian pulse with pulse width T_p , T_f is the frame duration, where a frame is divided into N_{th} time slots with duration T_c . The pulse shift pattern $c_j^{(v)}$, $0 \leq c_j^{(v)} \leq N_{th}$ ($N_{th}T_c = T_f$) is also called the time hopping sequence for v th source and it is pseudo random with period T_c . This additional shift avoids catastrophic collisions due to multiple access interference. The sequence d is the data stream generated by the v th source after channel coding and δ is the additional time shift utilized by M-ary PPM. N_s represents repetition

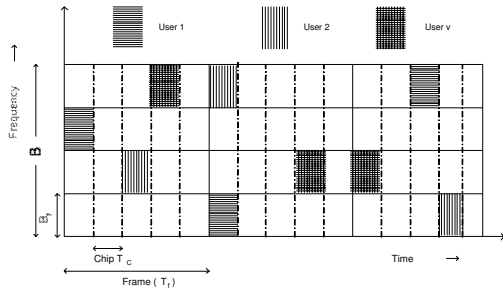


Figure 1. Principle of frequency and time hopping UWB system

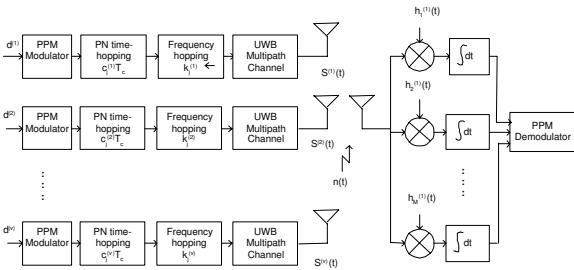


Figure 2. System model of FTH-MA M-ary PPM UWB system

code length with N_s pulses being used to transmit the same information. Frequency spectrum is divided into N_{fh} bands with minimum bandwidth (B_f) of 500 MHz. $k_j^{(v)}$ is carrier frequency during the j th frame of v th user which is pseudo random and takes any one of the frequency bands $0 \leq k_j^{(v)} \leq N_{fh}$ ($N_{fh}B_f = B$).

Fig. 1 shows the frequency and time hopping representation of the UWB signals for multiple users. Here the UWB pulse is transmitted in any one time slot occupying T_c seconds and B_f bandwidth.

For M-ary PPM, signal amplitude $A^{(v)} = 1$ so that (1) can be written as

$$s^v(t) = \sum_{j=-\infty}^{\infty} p(t - jT_f - c_j^{(v)}T_c - \delta_{d_{[j/N_s]}}^{(v)}) e^{-j2\pi k_j^{(v)}t} \quad (2)$$

The received signal from multipath channel for each user is:

$$r(t) = \sum_{v=1}^{N_u} s^{(v)}(t) \otimes g(t) + n(t) \quad (3)$$

where, $n(t)$ is AWGN noise with power spectral density $N_0/2$, \otimes represents the convolution operator. $g(t)$ is unknown multipath channel given by:

$$g(t) = \sum_{l=1}^L \alpha_l^{(v)} \delta(t - \tau_l) \quad (4)$$

where, $\alpha_l^{(v)}$ is multipath gain co-efficient of v th user in l th path, and τ_l is the multipath delay.

Substituting $s^{(v)}$ in (3), $r(t)$ can be written as:

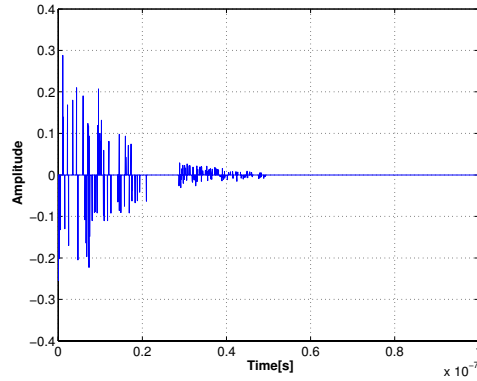


Figure 3. Channel impulse response of CM1

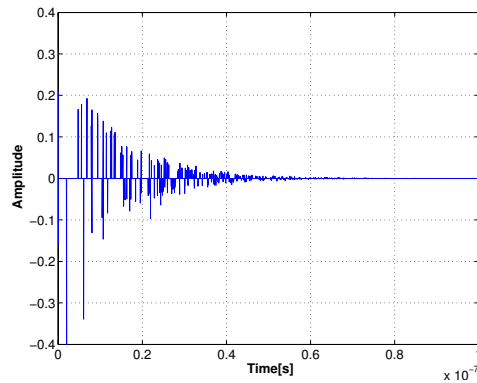


Figure 4. Channel impulse response of CM2

$$r(t) = \sum_{l=1}^L \sum_{v=1}^{N_u} \sum_{j=-\infty}^{\infty} p(t - jT_f - c_j^{(v)}T_c - \delta_{d_{[j/N_s]}}^{(v)}) \alpha_l^{(v)} \delta(t - \tau_l) + n(t) \quad (5)$$

PPM receiver uses Rake receiver followed by matched filter. Even though the number of users is more than one, an M-ary correlation receiver is typically used for simplicity.

III. MULTIPLE ACCESS INTERFERENCE AND ERROR PROBABILITY

MAI is the factor limiting the performance and capacity of the system when more than one user is active. MAI can be modeled as a zero mean Gaussian random variable if number of users are large [13]. Assuming M-ary PPM signal to be orthogonal (i.e $\delta \geq T_p$) the MAI and error probability analysis is carried out as follows.

In order to evaluate MAI, we make the following assumptions:

- (a) $s^{(v)}(t)$ for $v = 1, 2, \dots, N_u$, where N_u is the number of active users, and the noise $n(t)$ are assumed to be independent.
- (b) The time hopping sequence $c_j^{(v)}$ and multipath time delay τ_l are assumed to be independent and identically distributed (iid) over the time interval $[0, T_f]$.
- (c) The frequency hopping sequence $k_j^{(v)}$ is assumed to be independent and identically distributed over the

frequency band B .

(d) Perfect synchronization is assumed at the receiver, i.e. τ_l is known at the receiver.

Assume that $N_s = 1$ and that the desired user corresponds to $v = 1$.

Rake receiver consists of a M-ary correlator in each finger. User 1 basis function $h_i^{(1)}(t)$ is given by:

$$h_i^{(1)}(t) = p(t - \delta_i), \quad i = 1, 2, \dots, M. \quad (6)$$

At sampling instant, $t = jT_f$, the output of L finger Rake filter $\hat{r}_i, i = 1, \dots, M$ is

$$\hat{r}_i = \sum_{l=1}^L \sum_{j=nN_s+1}^{(n+1)N_s} \int_{(j-1)T_f}^{T_f} \mathbf{r}(t) h_i^{(1)}(t - jT_f - c_j^{(v)}T_c - \delta_i) dt \quad (7)$$

Assuming PPM signal s_m is transmitted by user 1, (7) can be written as

$$\hat{r}_i = \begin{cases} LN_s \sqrt{E_g} + N_{MAI} + N & i = n \\ N_{MAI} + N & i \neq n \end{cases} \quad (8)$$

where, E_g is average signal energy. MAI component N_{MAI} is

$$N_{MAI} = \begin{cases} \sum_{l=1}^L \sum_{v=2}^{N_u} \sum_{j=nN_s+1}^{(n+1)N_s} \int_{(j-1)T_f}^{T_f} p(t - jT_f - c_j^{(v)}T_c - \delta_{d_{\lfloor j/N_s \rfloor}}) p(t - \delta_i - \tau_l - jT_f - c_j^{(v)}T_c) dt & \text{for } k_j^{(1)} = k_j^{(v)} \\ 0 & \text{otherwise} \end{cases} \quad (9)$$

and AWGN component N is

$$N = \sum_{l=1}^L \sum_{j=nN_s+1}^{(n+1)N_s} \int_{(j-1)T_f}^{T_f} n(t) p(t - \delta_i - \tau_l - jT_f - c_j^{(v)}T_c) dt \quad (10)$$

By defining the autocorrelation function of $p(t)$ as

$$\rho(\Delta) = \int_0^{T_f} p(t) p(t + \Delta) dt \quad (11)$$

(9) can be written as

$$N_{MAI} = \begin{cases} \sum_{l=1}^L \sum_{j=1}^{N_s} \sum_{v=2}^{N_u} \rho(\Delta_j^{(v)}) & k_j^{(1)} = k_j^{(v)} \\ 0 & \text{otherwise} \end{cases} \quad (12)$$

where $\Delta_j^{(v)} = (c_j^{(1)} - c_j^{(v)})T_c - (\delta_i^{(1)} - \delta_{d_{\lfloor j/N_s \rfloor}}^{(v)})$ is the time difference between user 1 and user v .

Under the assumptions listed above, Δ can be modeled as a random variable which is uniformly distributed over $[-T_f, T_f]$. The MAI is modeled as a Gaussian random process for the multi-user environment [14]. With the Gaussian approximation we require the mean and variance of (8) to characterize the output of the cross correlators.

The AWGN component has zero mean and variance $N_s N_0 / 2$ while the mean and variance of MAI are pulse waveform specific. The calculations are carried out considering the double differentiated Gaussian pulse as the transmitted pulse and all PPM signals are equally likely a priori. The double differentiated Gaussian pulse is defined as

$$p(t) = \begin{cases} \sqrt{E_g} \left(1 - \frac{4\pi t^2}{\lambda T_p^2}\right) e^{-\frac{2\pi t^2}{\lambda T_p^2}} & -\frac{T_p}{2} \leq t \leq \frac{T_p}{2} \\ 0 & \text{otherwise} \end{cases} \quad (13)$$

where, λ is the pulse shaping parameter. The autocorrelation of double differentiated Gaussian pulse is then given by

$$\rho(\Delta) = \begin{cases} E_g \sqrt{\frac{\lambda T_p^2}{8}} e^{-\frac{\pi \Delta^2}{\lambda T_p^2}} \left(1.0606 - 30.72 \frac{\Delta^2}{\lambda T_p^2} + 11.6856 \frac{\Delta^4}{\lambda^2 T_p^4}\right) & 0 \leq |\Delta| \leq \frac{T_p}{2} \\ 0 & \text{otherwise} \end{cases} \quad (14)$$

$$E[\rho(\Delta)] = \frac{1}{2T_f} \int_{-T_f}^{T_f} \rho(\Delta) d\Delta = 0 \quad (15)$$

The mean of N_{MAI} can be calculated as

$$E[N_{MAI}] = E \left[\sum_{l=1}^L \sum_{j=1}^{N_s} \sum_{v=2}^{N_u} \rho(\Delta_j^{(v)}) \right] \quad (16)$$

$$E[MAI] = 0$$

and variance N_{MAI} is

$$\begin{aligned} Var[N_{MAI}] &= Var \left[\sum_{l=1}^L \sum_{j=1}^{N_s} \sum_{v=2}^{N_u} \rho(\Delta_j^{(v)}) \right] \\ &= \sum_{l=1}^L \sum_{j=1}^{N_s} \sum_{v=2}^{N_u} E[\rho^2(\Delta_j^{(v)})] \end{aligned} \quad (17)$$

$$\begin{aligned} &= LN_s E_g (N_u - 1) \frac{35\sqrt{2}T_p}{192T_f} \\ &\approx LN_s E_g (N_u - 1) \frac{T_p}{4T_f} \end{aligned} \quad (18)$$

Since $T_f/2T_p = N_{th}$ (18) can be written as,

TABLE I.
IEEE UWB CHANNEL MODEL PARAMETERS.

Parameter	CM1	CM2
	LOS (0-4m)	NLOS (0-4m)
Cluster arrival rate, Λ (1/ns)	0.0233	0.4
Ray arrival rate, λ (1/ns)	2.5	0.5
Cluster decay factor, Γ	7.1	5.5
Ray decay factor, γ	4.3	6.7
Std. dev. of cluster, σ_ζ (dB)	3.3941	3.3941
Std. dev. of ray, σ_ξ (dB)	3.3941	3.3941
Std. dev. of total MP, σ_g (dB)	3	3

$$\sigma_{MAI}^2 \approx LN_s E_g (N_u - 1) \frac{1}{8N_{th}} \quad (19)$$

Now, due to frequency hopping, it can be easily shown that σ_{MAI}^2 will be reduced by a factor N_{fh} , and therefore (19) can be rewritten as

$$\sigma_{MAI}^2 \approx LN_s E_g (N_u - 1) \frac{1}{8N_{th}N_{fh}} \quad (20)$$

Note that σ_{MAI}^2 increases with N_s , E_g and the number of users N_u , but decreases with the spread ratio N_{th} and N_{fh}

Using standard techniques [15] the average probability of error for a single user under multiple access interference for binary PPM is given by

$$P_M \leq Q \left(LN_s \sqrt{\frac{E_g}{\sigma_{MAI}^2 + \frac{N_s N_0}{2}}} \right) \quad (21)$$

IV. SIMULATION RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

Simulations were carried out for synchronous user case. Bit error rate (BER) results are presented as a function of E_b/N_0 and number of users. The parameters considered for simulations are binary PPM with sampling frequency of 50 GHz, chip duration of 1 nanosecond, double differentiated Gaussian pulse of width 0.5 nanosecond and δ of 0.5 nanosecond. Frequency spectrum 3.1 GHz -10.6 GHz is divided into a maximum of 8 bands (N_{fh}) each of 900 MHz with a guard band of 42 MHz. Pseudo random

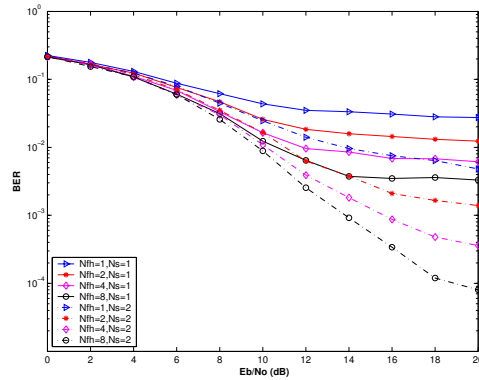


Figure 6. BER plot for Frequency-Time hopping with $N_u=16$ in CM1

frequency and time hopping codes of length 50000 is generated and assigned to each user.

Binary data is generated using uniform random number generator for each user and modulated using UWB pulse. Each user undergoes a different UWB channel. Channel models CM1 and CM2 from IEEE P802.15 [16] are used. Channel impulse response for CM1 and CM2 is shown in Figs. 3 and 4 respectively. Simulations are carried out for 1) fixed frequency hopping with varying time hops, 2) fixed number of time hops and varying frequency hops with and without repetitive coding (N_s). Bit error probability is averaged over 100 channels for each user with 1000 bits/channel. The receiver implemented is a L finger Rake matched filter with Equal Gain Combiner. It is assumed that the frequency and time hopping sequence of the user of interest is known. To verify and investigate BER performance in a multiuser scenario, $N_u = 16$ is considered.

Fig. 5 shows the BER performance of fixed frequency hopping ($N_{fh} = 1$) and varying time hopping PPM modulation in CM1 with $N_s=1$ and 2. It is observed that by doubling the number of time hops BER performance improves by an average of 3 db in lower E_b/N_0 range. However for $E_b/N_0 > 10$ dB, BER performance is limited by the MAI floor which is due to multi-access

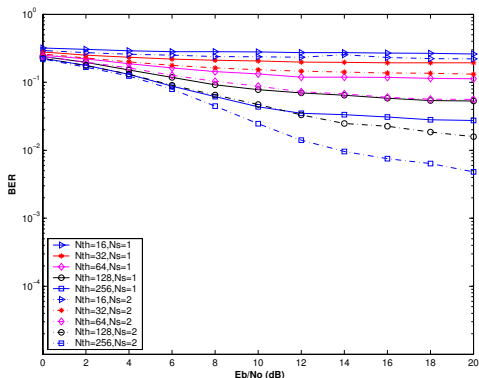


Figure 5. BER plot for Time hopping with $N_u=16$ in CM1

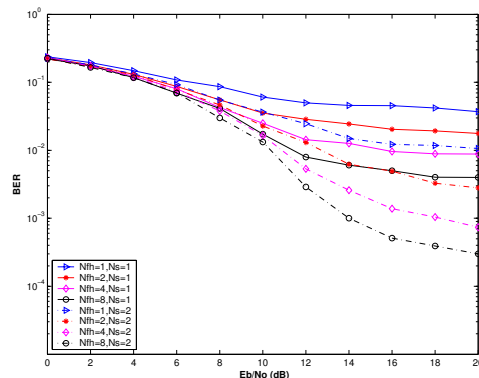


Figure 7. BER plot for Frequency-Time hopping with $N_u=16$ in CM2

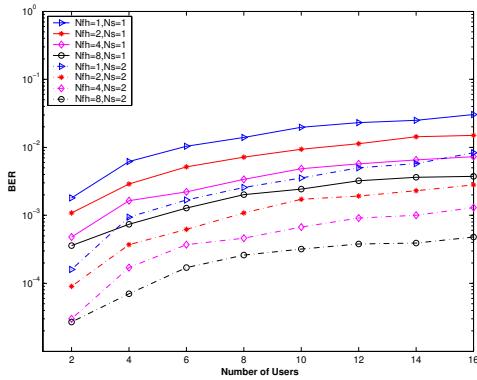


Figure 8. BER vs. Number of users in CM1

and intersymbol interference. It is also observed that with a repetition coding ($N_s = 2$) the BER performance is much better than without coding giving an advantage of 3 dB. It is to be noted that increase in number of time hops reduces the data rate.

Fig. 6 shows the time and frequency hopping BER plots for fixed time hops ($N_{th} = 256$) and varying frequency hops in CM1 with $N_s=1$ and 2. It is observed that introduction of frequency hopping along with time hopping gives an improvement of 3 dB. Further, doubling the frequency hops gives an average improvement of 1 dB at BER of 10^{-2} . This improved performance is due to a reduction in Multi-access and intersymbol interference. Once again it is observed that repetition coding gives substantial improvement for $BER < 10^{-2}$.

Fig. 7 shows the time and frequency hopping BER plots for fixed time hops ($N_{th} = 256$) and varying frequency hops in CM2 with $N_s=1$ and 2. It is observed that BER performance in CM2 is inferior than CM1 by 1 dB. This is due to a large number of multipaths present in CM2, which results in increased intersymbol interference.

Fig. 8 and Fig. 9 show the BER vs. number of users performance for time hopping and time-frequency hopping for CM1 and CM2 respectively. It can be observed that the probability of error decreases with the introduction of frequency hopping as a result of which more number of

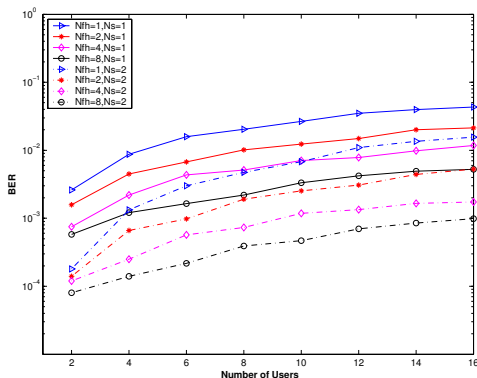


Figure 9. BER vs. Number of users in CM2

users is supported for a given BER. It is also observed that for a given BER, by doubling the number of frequency hops two more users can be accommodated.

V. CONCLUSION

In this paper we have proposed and analyzed bit error probability performance of frequency and time hopping PPM UWB multiple access communication in IEEE P802.15 multipath channel. We have derived an expression for the bit error probability for multi-user synchronous transmitter case. It is observed that introduction of frequency hopping along with time hopping improves BER performance by an average of 4 dB. Further, doubling the number of frequency hops improves BER performance by 1 dB. The proposed technique improves BER performance without reducing the data rate.

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