

Signal processing at the mm wave frontier



Upamanyu Madhow

Dept. of Electrical and Computer Engineering

University of California, Santa Barbara







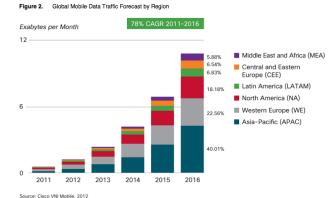
Plenary lecture at SPAWC 2014, June 23, 2014

Why the buzz?



- "Unlimited" spectrum
 - 30-300 GHz (with strict defn of 10-1 mm wavelength)
 - 60 GHz has received the most recent attention (unlicensed)
 - 71-76 and 81-86 GHz for semi-unlicensed point-to-point
 - 100+ GHz: the wild west of wireless
- Why now?
 - Because we can (mass market RFICs now feasible)
 - Smart phone induced capacity crisis
 - Fits with logic of continued WiFi growth





Agenda today



- How not to fight physics
 - How tiny wavelengths impact us
 - What applications are a natural fit to mm wave
- Case study: from application to theory and back
 - A Xtreme spatial reuse via 1000 elt antennas → new theory of compressive estimation
 - Algorithms for attaining CRB
 - Tracking users for mm wave to the mobile
- Challenges and opportunities
 - New MIMO architectures
 - Very high bandwidths

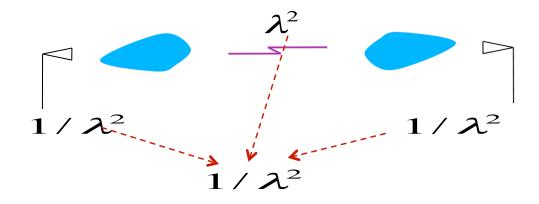
Message: Beyond the hype lie significant intellectual opportunities



How not to fight physics

High directionality is essential





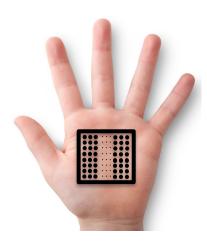
Friis formula for free space propagation

 $P_{RX} = P_{TX} \ G_{TX} \ G_{RX} \ \frac{\lambda^2}{16\pi^2 R^2}$, in terms of antenna gains $P_{RX} = P_{TX} \ \frac{A_{TX} A_{RX}}{\lambda^2 R^2}$, in terms of antenna apertures

Highly directional antennas critical for adequate link budget High directionality attainable with reasonable form factor

High directionality is attainable



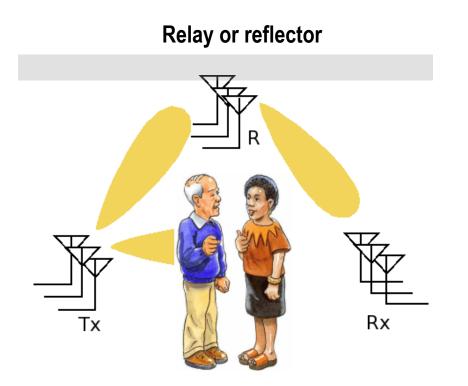


Massive MIMO in your palm 32 x 32 element array fits within 8cm x 8cm Electrically large, physically small

But how would we steer such large arrays?

Electronic steerability is essential



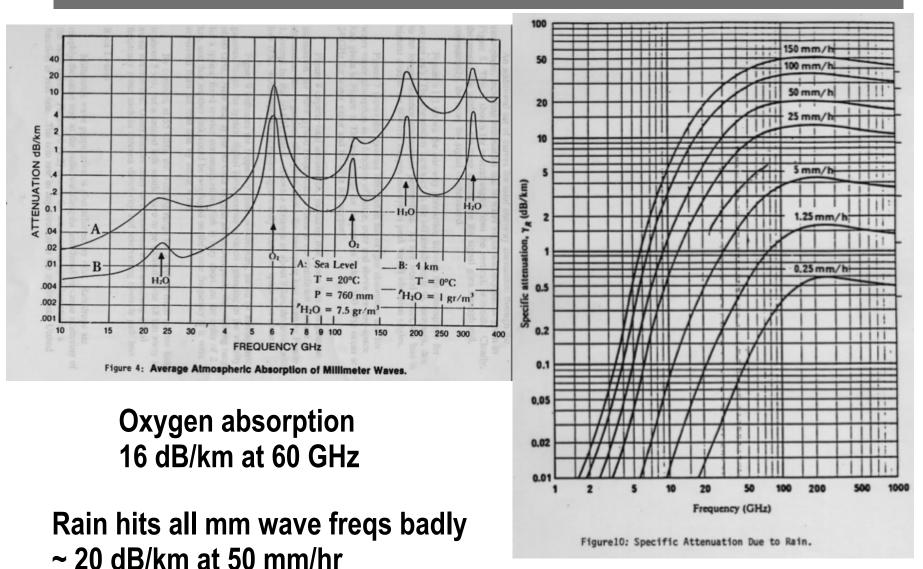


Objects look bigger at smaller wavelengths (Huygen's principle) → Cannot burn through or diffract around obstacles → Must steer around them

Again, how do we steer large arrays?



Oxygen absorption and rain can be scary



Millimeter Wave Propagation: Spectrum Management Implications, FCC Bulletin 70, Juy 1997



- Must use directional TX and RX
 - Hence electronically steerability is key if we want flexible usage
- Must steer around, not burn through, obstacles
 - Hence electronic steerability is key if we want robust usage
- Should not shoot for kilometers range
 - 16 dB/km (O2) or 20 dB/km (rain) or 36 dB/km (both) are all bad news
- But can certainly go well beyond indoor WPAN
 - Oxygen absorption + heavy rain costs only 3.6 dB at 100m

What applications are consistent with these guidelines?

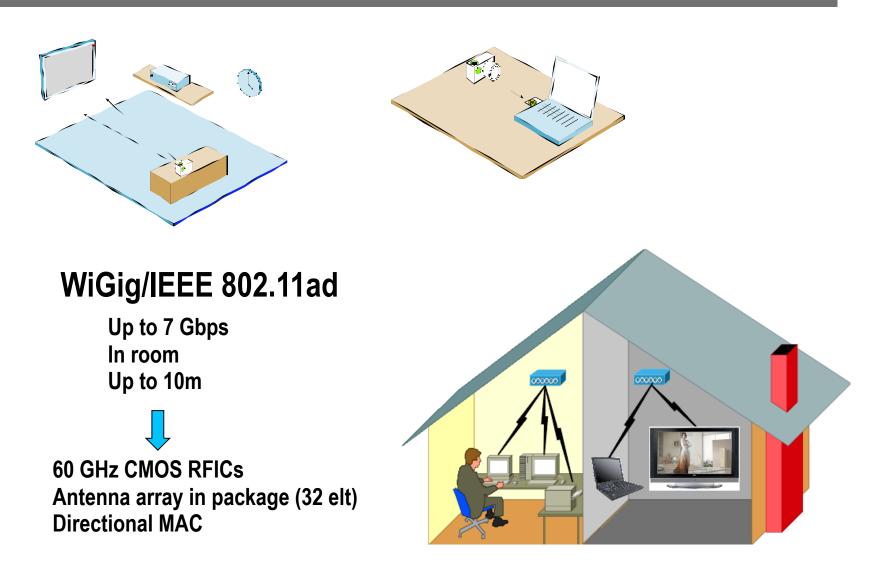


Example applications

Consistent with the physics Consistent with mass market economics

Indoor focus over the past few years





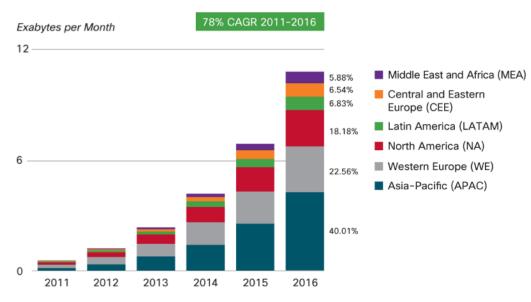
Showed feasibility of steering around obstacles

But is mm wave comm just nice to have?



- 802.11n is pretty fast already
- Once we upgrade WLAN speeds to a few Gbps, are we done?
- Not quite...
- Millimeter wave communication can play a crucial role in today's cellular capacity crunch

Figure 2. Global Mobile Data Traffic Forecast by Region

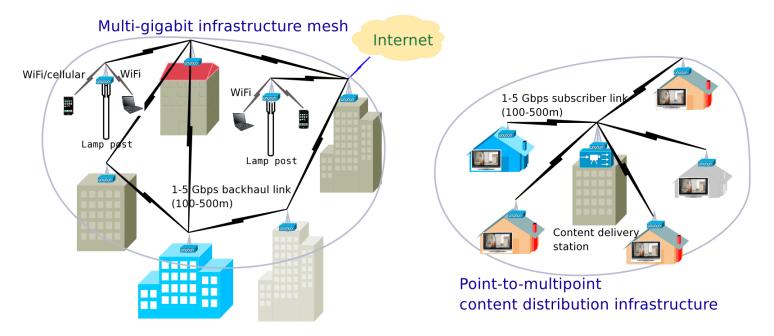


Source: Cisco VNI Mobile, 2012

mm wave for small cells, stage 1



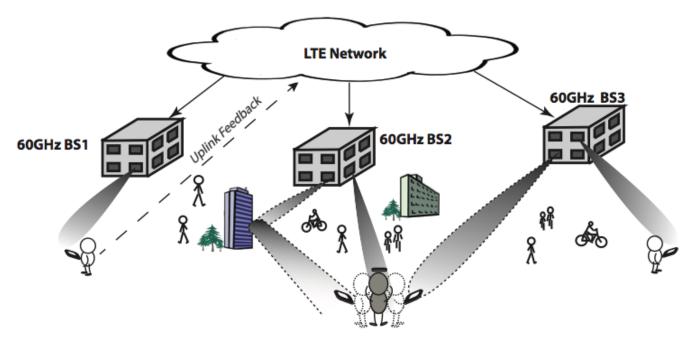
- Increase cellular capacity by drastically increasing spatial reuse
 - Base stations on lampposts, 200 m cell size
 - 4G to mobile, mm wave between base stations
- MultiGigabit wireless mesh backhaul enables dense picocell deployments



Need flexible beamsteering to form mesh Need five 9s reliability for backhaul



- Up the ante on spatial reuse
 - Highly directional mm wave (+LTE) to the mobile
 - 28 GHz being pushed as a possibility
 - Alternative: Downlink 60 GHz with uplink LTE feedback
 - Leverage WiGig radio on mobile device in receive-only model

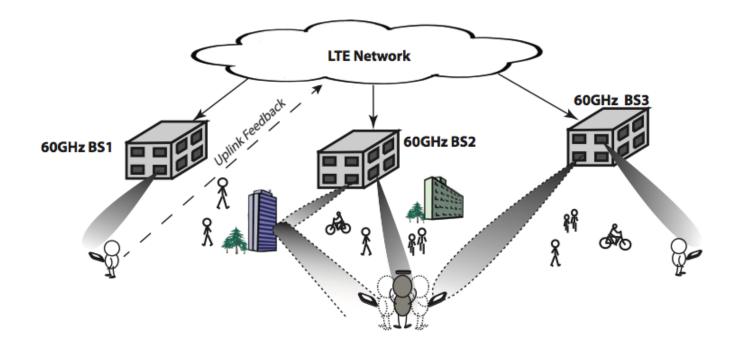


Need robustness to blockage by user's body and other obstacles



Focus today: Beamsteering with very large arrays

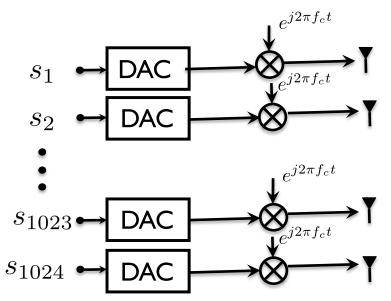
(The key to "unlimited" spatial reuse)



Beamforming today



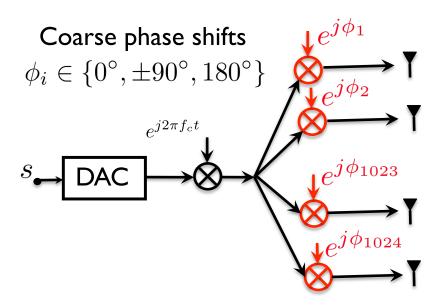
DSP-centric, one RF chain per antenna element



Does not scale to 1000 elements!

RF Beamforming with hardware constraints

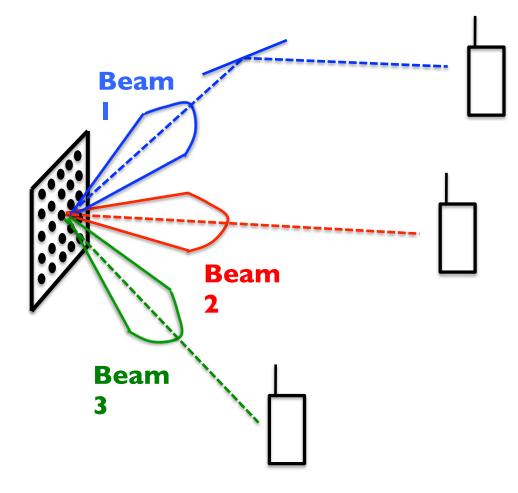




Much more feasible But how do we adapt it? No access to individual elements -> least squares does not work

Beam scanning architecture unattractive

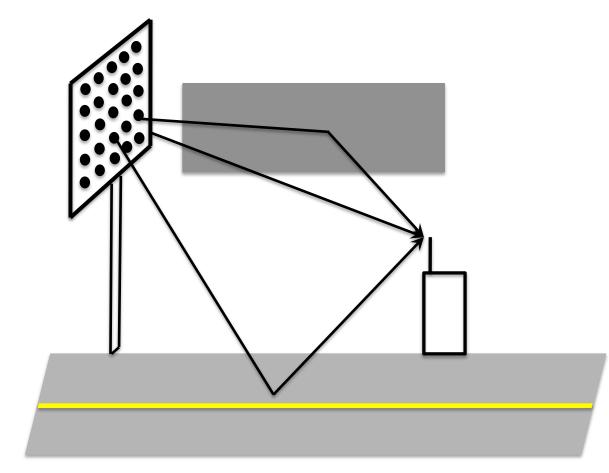




- Requires fine control of phases
- Slow adaptation

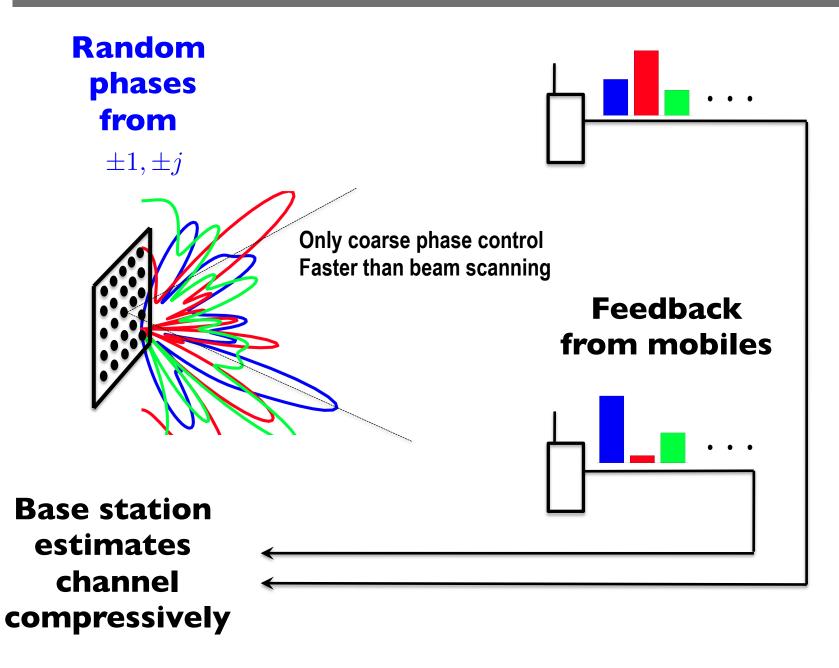
Can we use the sparsity of the mm wave channel?





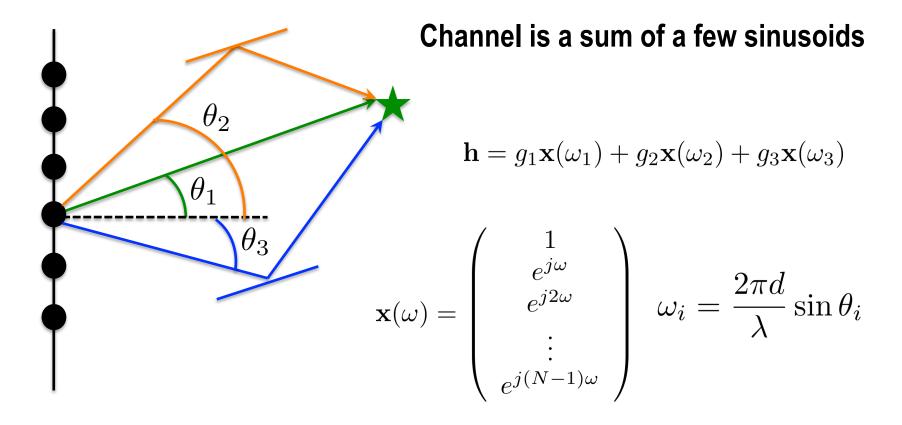
Compressive adaptation





Estimation problem

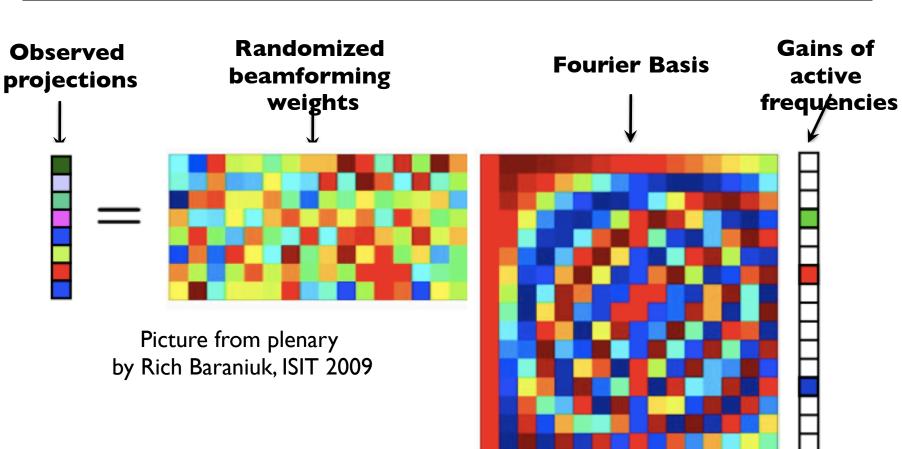




Mobile makes compressive measurements $y_i = \mathbf{a}_i^T \mathbf{h}, i = 1, 2, \dots, M$

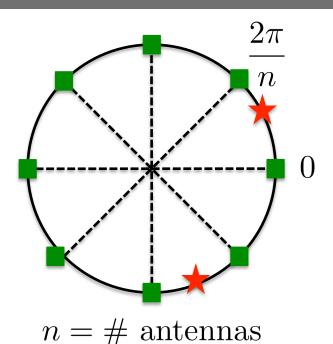
Estimate gains and spatial frequencies from compressive measurements

Can we use standard compressed sensing?

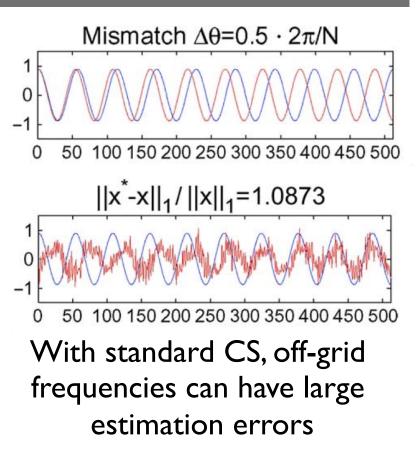


$$\mathbf{y} = \sum_{k=1}^{L} g_k \mathbf{A} \mathbf{x}(\omega_k) + \mathbf{n}$$

Not quite: basis mismatch is the problem



Frequencies come from a continuum, not a grid



Sensitivity to Basis Mismatch in Compressed Sensing, Y. Chi, L. Scharf, A. Pezeshki, R. Calderbank

Need a new theory of compressive estimation!



Compressive estimation in AWGN

Ramasamy, Venkateswaran, Madhow, "Compressive Parameter Estimation in AWGN," IEEE Transactions on Signal Processing, April 2014



$$\mathbf{y} = \mathbf{s}(\boldsymbol{\theta}) + \mathbf{z}, \ \mathbf{z} \sim \mathcal{CN}(\mathbf{0}, \sigma^2 \mathbf{I}_M)$$
$$\widehat{\boldsymbol{\theta}}_{ML} = \arg \min_{\boldsymbol{\theta}} \| \mathbf{y} - \mathbf{s}(\boldsymbol{\theta}) \|$$
$$\overrightarrow{\mathbf{ZZB}}$$
Performance measures
Cramer-Rao Bound (CRB) when close to truth
Ziv-Zakai bound (ZZB) more generally
(are you in the right bin? How close, once in the right bin?)

ZZB tends to CRB at high SNR (high prob of right bin). This is when estimation can be expected to "work well."



CRB depends on Fisher Information Matrix

$$F_{m,n}(\boldsymbol{\theta}) = \frac{2}{\sigma^2} \Re \left\{ \left(\frac{\partial \mathbf{s}(\boldsymbol{\theta})}{\partial \theta_m} \right)^H \frac{\partial \mathbf{s}(\boldsymbol{\theta})}{\partial \theta_n} \right\}$$

Depends on changes in signal geometry for small changes in parameter

Ziv-Zakai bound is based on an associated detection problem

$$H_1: \mathbf{y} = \mathbf{s}(\boldsymbol{\theta}_1) + \mathbf{z}, \ \Pr(H_1) = \frac{p(\boldsymbol{\theta}_1)}{p(\boldsymbol{\theta}_1) + p(\boldsymbol{\theta}_2)}$$
$$H_2: \mathbf{y} = \mathbf{s}(\boldsymbol{\theta}_2) + \mathbf{z}, \ \Pr(H_2) = \frac{p(\boldsymbol{\theta}_2)}{p(\boldsymbol{\theta}_1) + p(\boldsymbol{\theta}_2)}.$$

Depends on changes in signal geometry for general changes in parameter

$$d(\boldsymbol{\theta}_1, \boldsymbol{\theta}_2) = \|\mathbf{s}(\boldsymbol{\theta}_1) - \mathbf{s}(\boldsymbol{\theta}_2)\|$$

Compressive measurements: model



High-dimensional signal space $\mathbf{x}(\boldsymbol{\theta}) \in \mathbb{R}^N$

(but unknown parameter lies in low-dimensional space)

M compressive measurements

$$\begin{split} y_i &= \langle \ \mathbf{w}_i \ , \ \mathbf{x}(\boldsymbol{\theta}_t) + \mathbf{z}_i \ \rangle \\ \boldsymbol{A} &= [\mathbf{w}_1 \ \cdots \ \mathbf{w}_M]^T \\ \mathbf{y} &= \boldsymbol{A} \mathbf{x}(\boldsymbol{\theta}_t) + \mathbf{z} \end{split} \qquad \begin{array}{l} \mathbf{z}_i \sim \mathcal{N}(\mathbf{0}, \sigma^2 \mathbb{I}_N) \\ \text{Noise power is same} \\ \mathbf{z} \sim \mathcal{N}(\mathbf{0}, \sigma^2 \mathbb{I}_M) \end{split}$$

When does this provide the "same" performance as standard estimation?



1) Signal space geometry is preserved (similar to RIP for compressive sensing)

2) "Effective SNR" is high enough



GENERAL STRUCTURE

1) Required isometries CRB: Preserve distance changes under small perturbations ZZB: Preserve distance changes generally

2) SNR penalty (→ "effective SNR") Dimension reduction from *N* to *M* → SNR reduction by *M/N*

3) Definition of "working well" ZZB tends to CRB (coarse errors highly unlikely)

PROBLEM-SPECIFIC ANALYSIS

How many observations needed to preserve isometries?



Tangent plane isometry (for CRB)

$$\sqrt{\frac{M}{N}}(1-\epsilon) \leq \frac{\|\boldsymbol{A}\sum a_m(\partial \mathbf{x}(\boldsymbol{\theta})/\partial \boldsymbol{\theta}_m)\|}{\|\sum a_m(\partial \mathbf{x}(\boldsymbol{\theta})/\partial \boldsymbol{\theta}_m)\|} \leq \sqrt{\frac{M}{N}}(1+\epsilon) \forall [a_1, a_2, \dots, a_K]^T \in \mathbb{R}^K \setminus \{\mathbf{0}\}, \forall \boldsymbol{\theta} \in \Theta$$

Pairwise ϵ -isometry (for ZZB)

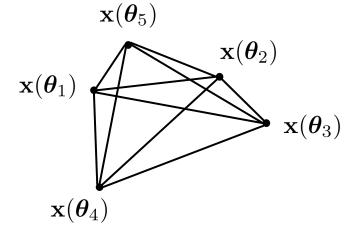
$$\sqrt{\frac{M}{N}}(1-\epsilon) \le \frac{\|\mathbf{A}\mathbf{x}(\boldsymbol{\theta}_1) - \mathbf{A}\mathbf{x}(\boldsymbol{\theta}_2)\|}{\|\mathbf{x}(\boldsymbol{\theta}_1) - \mathbf{x}(\boldsymbol{\theta}_2)\|} \le \sqrt{\frac{M}{N}}(1+\epsilon)$$
$$\forall \, \boldsymbol{\theta}_1, \boldsymbol{\theta}_2 \in \Theta.$$

What geometry preservation looks like



All measurements

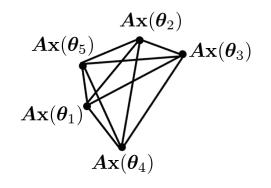
$$\mathbf{y} = \mathbf{x}(\boldsymbol{\theta}_t) + \mathbf{z} \quad \mathbf{z} \sim \mathcal{N}(\mathbf{0}, \sigma^2 \mathbb{I}_N)$$



$$\hat{oldsymbol{ heta}} = rgmin_{oldsymbol{ heta}_i} \|\mathbf{y} - \mathbf{x}(oldsymbol{ heta}_i)\|^2$$

Compressive measurements

$$\mathbf{y} = \mathbf{A}\mathbf{x}(\boldsymbol{\theta}_t) + \mathbf{z} \quad \mathbf{z} \sim \mathcal{N}(\mathbf{0}, \sigma^2 \mathbb{I}_M)$$



$$\in \mathbb{R}^{M}$$

$$\hat{oldsymbol{ heta}} = rgmin_{oldsymbol{ heta}_i} \| \mathbf{y} - oldsymbol{A} \mathbf{x}(oldsymbol{ heta}_i) \|^2$$

$$\mathbf{v} = \mathbf{x}(\boldsymbol{\theta}_i) - \mathbf{x}(\boldsymbol{\theta}_j)$$

Random projections must preserve norm of

$$\frac{1}{M} \|\mathbf{A}\mathbf{v}\|^2 = \frac{1}{M} \sum_{i=1}^{i=M} |\mathbf{w}_i^T \mathbf{v}|^2 \xrightarrow{\mathbf{M} \text{ large enough}} \text{ Mean } (1/N) \|\mathbf{v}\|^2$$

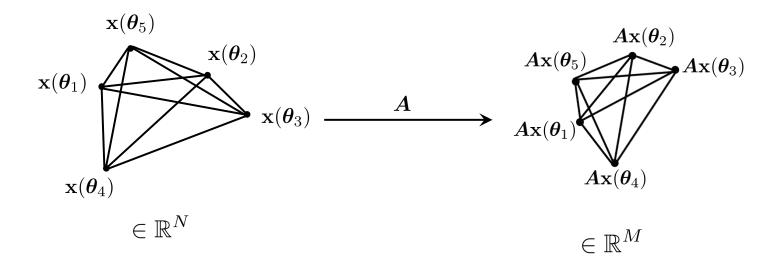
$$\stackrel{\uparrow}{\underset{\text{i.i.d. with mean } (1/N) \|\mathbf{v}\|^2}{\mathbf{M}}$$

• Chernoff bound on deviations from the mean (with tolerance ε) + Union bound (for all pairwise differences)

Johnson-Lindenstrauss (JL) Lemma

Achlioptas, "Database-friendly Random Projections", 2001





Johnson-Lindenstrauss (JL) lemma: Pairwise ε -isometry for *finite* signal model $\mathcal{H} = {\mathbf{x}(\theta_i)}$ when the number of random projections :

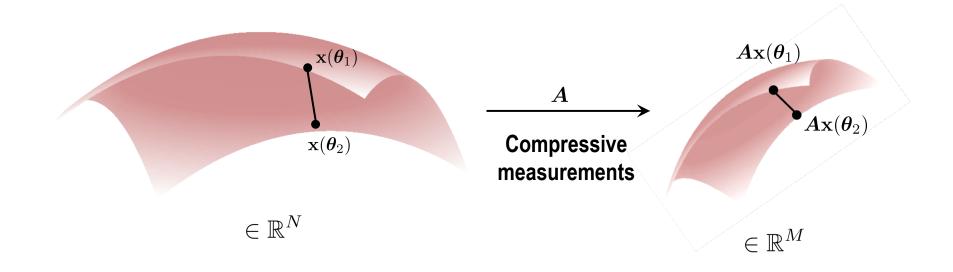
$$M = O\left(\epsilon^{-2} \log |\mathcal{H}|\right)$$

K signals, *M* measurements Chernoff bound + Union bound ~ $K^2 e^{-\alpha M}$ $\Rightarrow M = O(\log K)$



Parameters come from a continuum $\boldsymbol{\theta} \in \mathbb{R}^{K}$

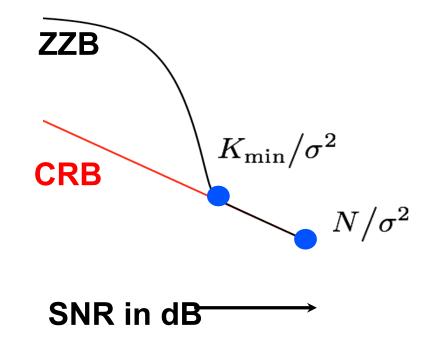
Need pairwise isometries for $all(\theta_1, \theta_2)$ pairs



Cannot directly use JL lemma But discretization, JL lemma, and smoothness can be used to do the trick

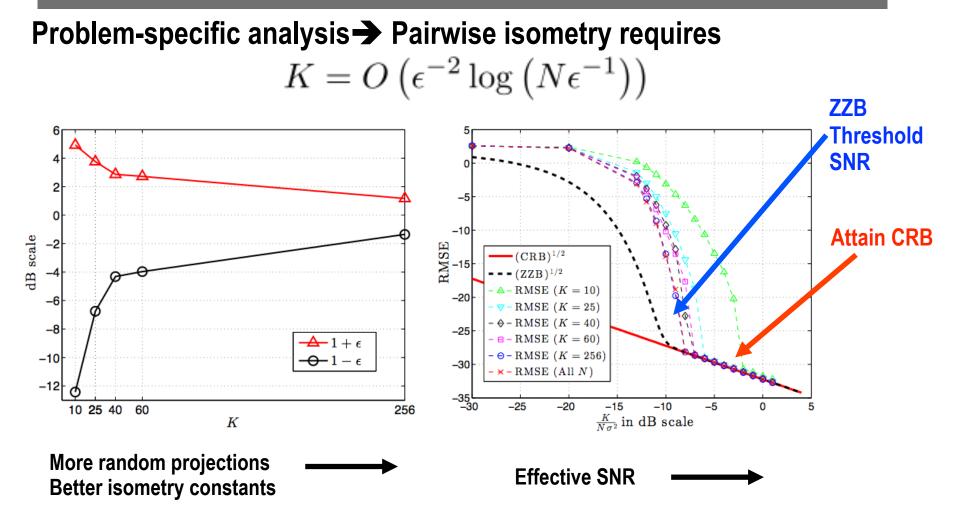
How many measurements for good performance?

- If pairwise isometry holds, then both CRLB and ZZB go through
- ➔ Only effect of compressive measurements is SNR reduction
- Number of measurements must satisfy two criteria for good performance
 - Should be enough to provide pairwise isometry
 - Effective SNR should be such that ZZB tends to CRLB



Attaining the CRB for a sinusoid





RMSE performance for 40+ measurements closely follows that for all N=256 measurements Isometry constants good for 40+ measurements

 $K = \min(40, \text{ZZB threshold SNR} \times N\sigma^2)$

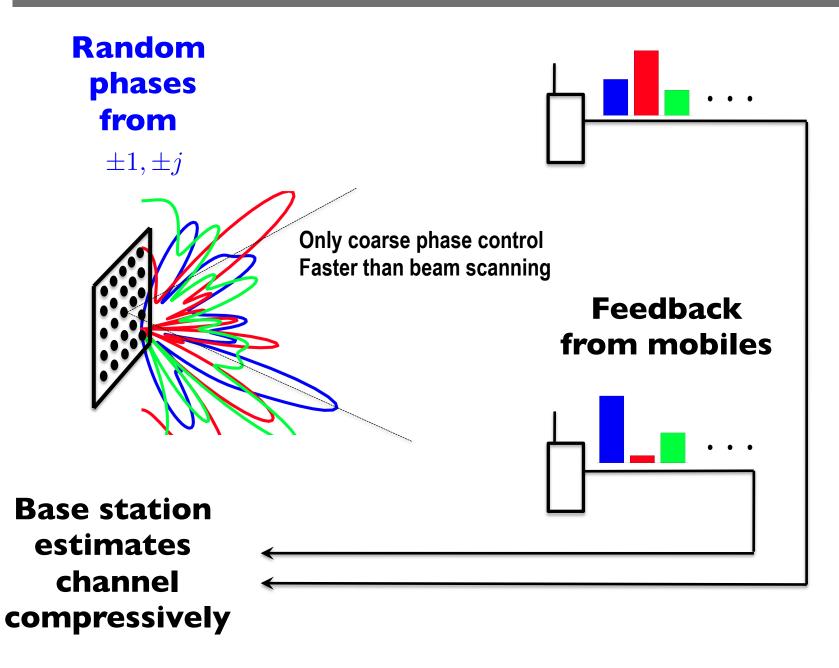


Back to the application at hand

How to estimate a 1000-dimensional spatial channel?

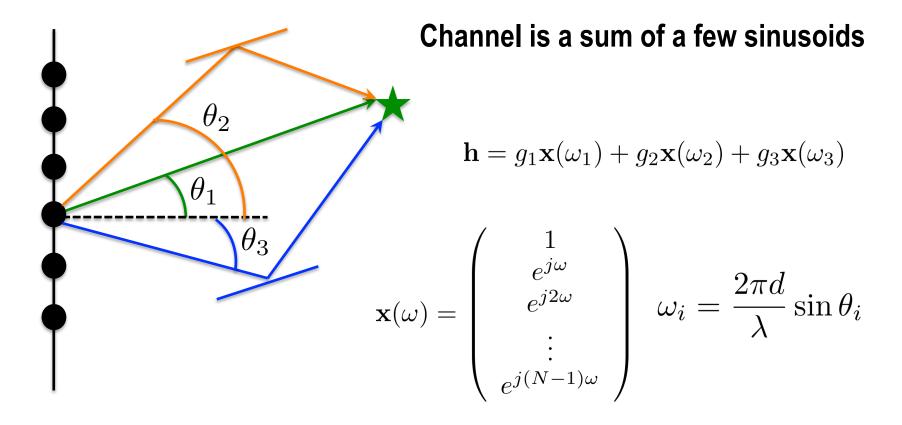
Compressive adaptation





Estimation problem





Mobile makes compressive measurements $y_i = \mathbf{a}_i^T \mathbf{h}, i = 1, 2, \dots, M$

Estimate gains and spatial frequencies from compressive measurements

Algorithm



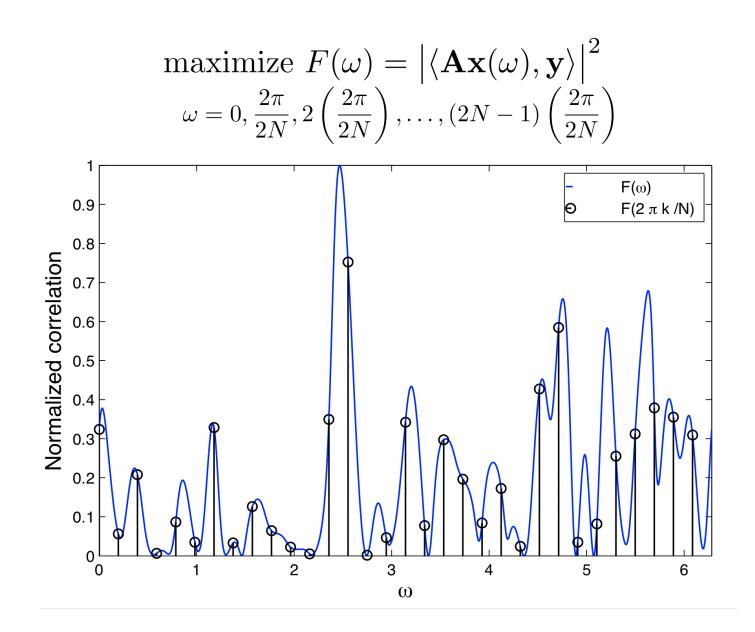
Acquisition

- No knowledge of spatial frequencies whatsoever

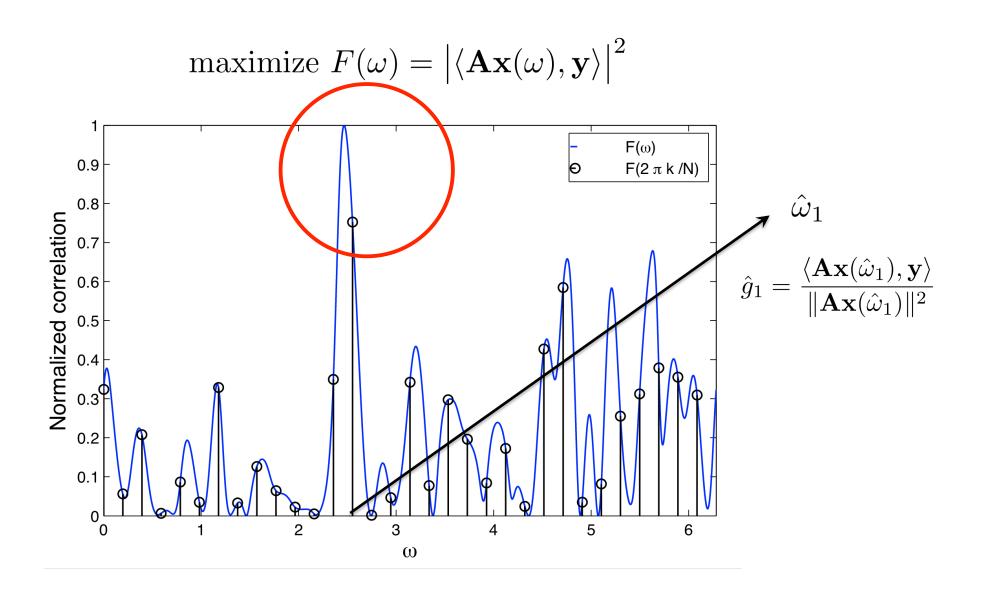
• Tracking

- Leverage frequency estimate from previous round
- Refine based on new measurements

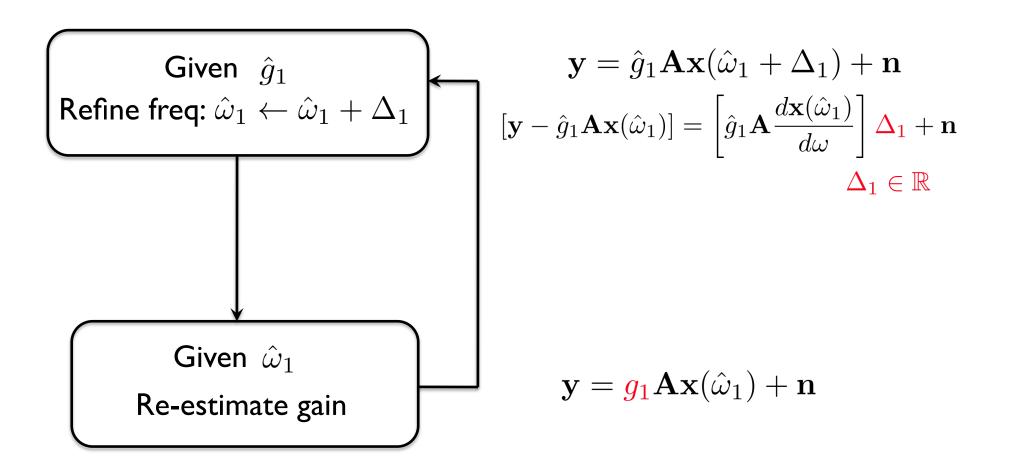


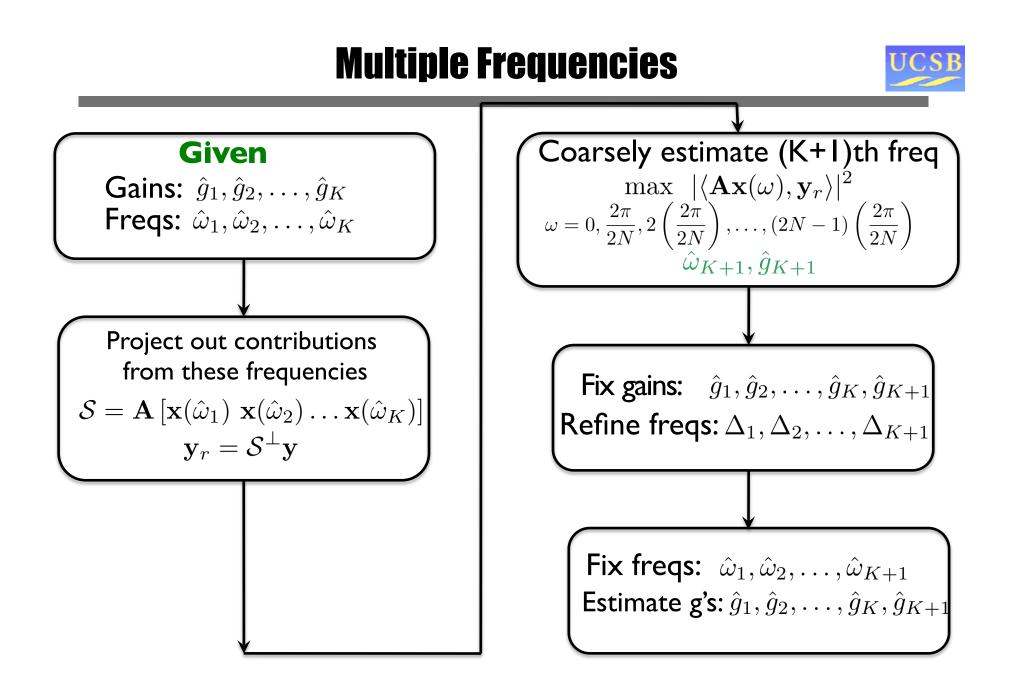






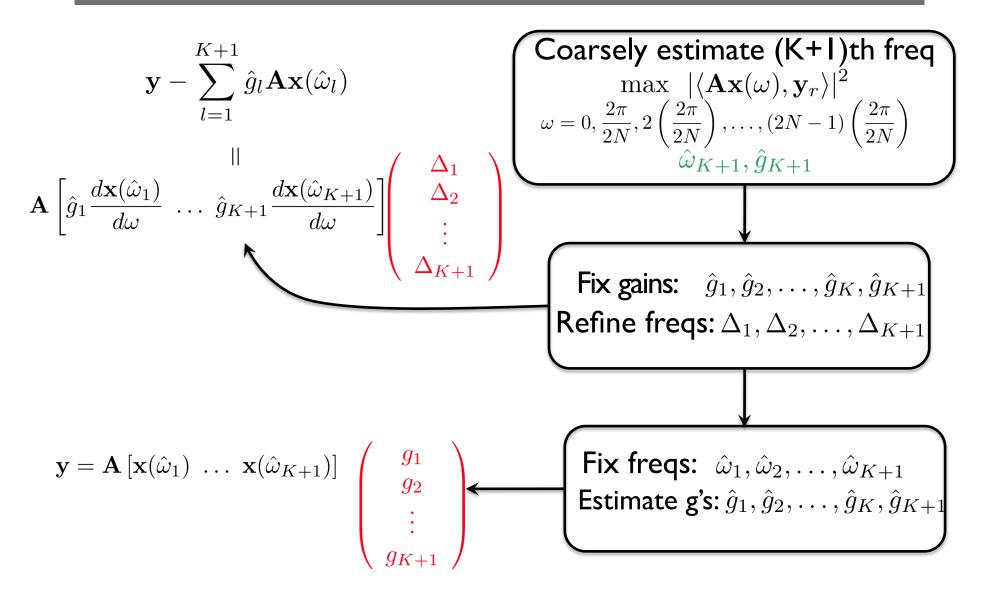






Multiple Frequencies

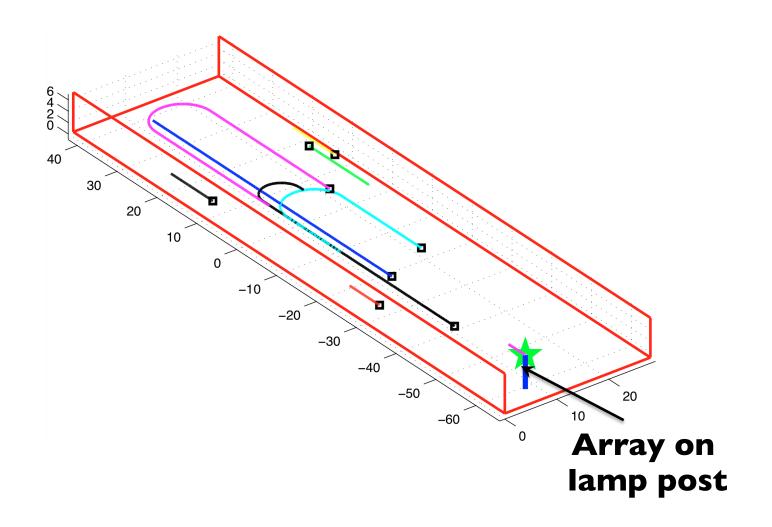




Same algorithm works for tracking, just bootstrap with estimate from prior round

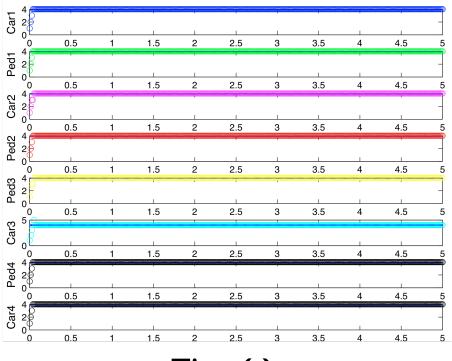
Simulation Setup

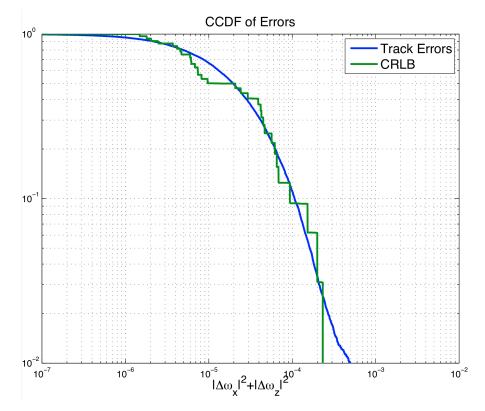




Results







Time(s)

Estimated number of beams

Estimation errors close to CRB



- Unique challenges of adapting large mm wave arrays
- Compressive adaptation approach
- New theory of compressive estimation
- New insight on algorithms attaining CRB
 - Coarse grid, then gradient or Newton based refinement does work
 (If SNR is high enough to get past ZZB threshold)
- Specific motivating application, but leads to rather general techniques



This is only the beginning...

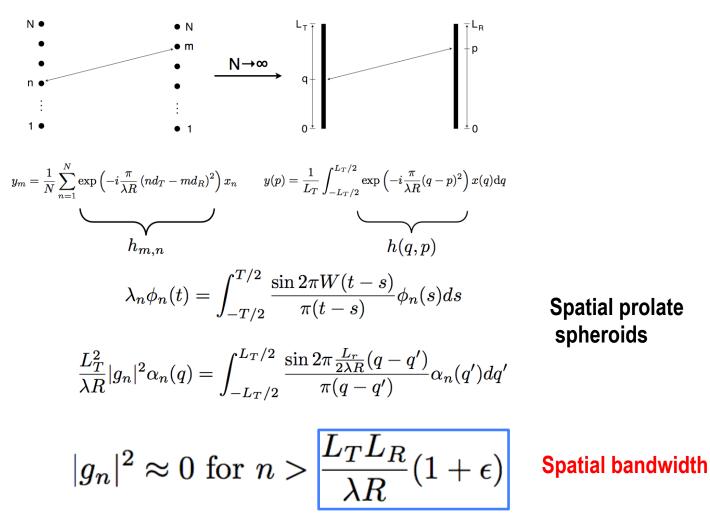
A sampling of new and exciting problems in SPAWC



New MIMO paradigms

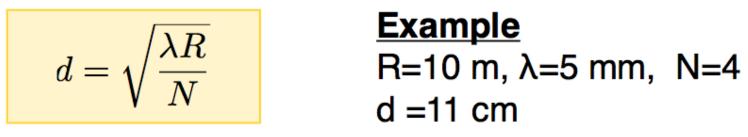


- MIMO at small carrier wavelengths does not need "rich scattering"
 - Degrees of freedom depend on form factor





Vectors are orthogonal when $N\phi=Nrac{\pi d^2}{\lambda R}=\pi$

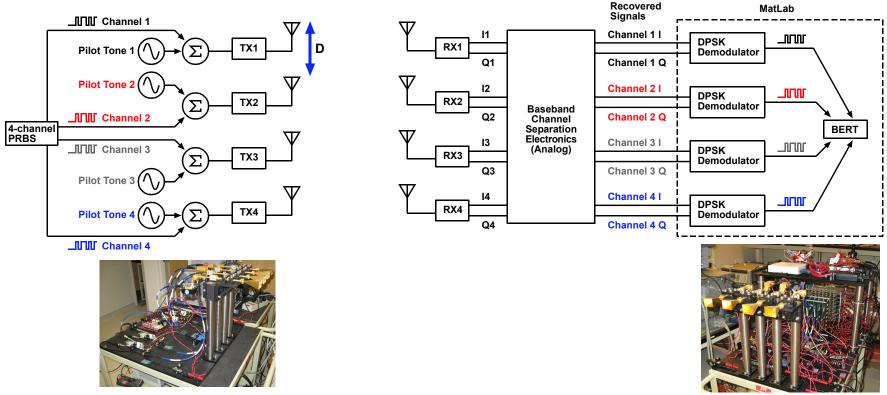


Torklidson, Madhow, Rodwell, IEEE Trans. Wireless Comm., Dec 2011.

Demonstrating LoS MIMO: 4x4 Prototype

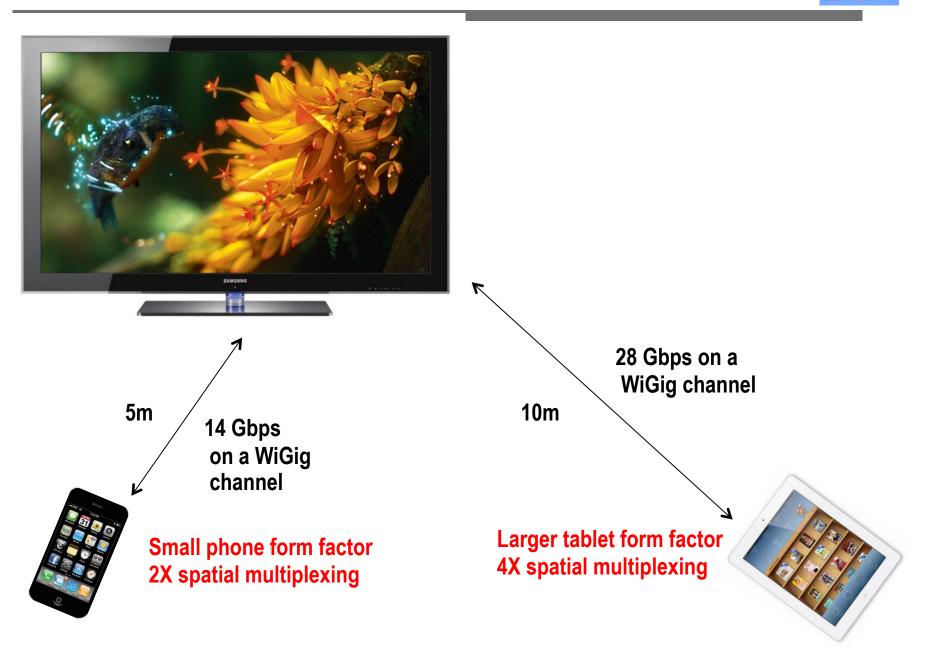


In collaboration with Prof. Mark Rodwell

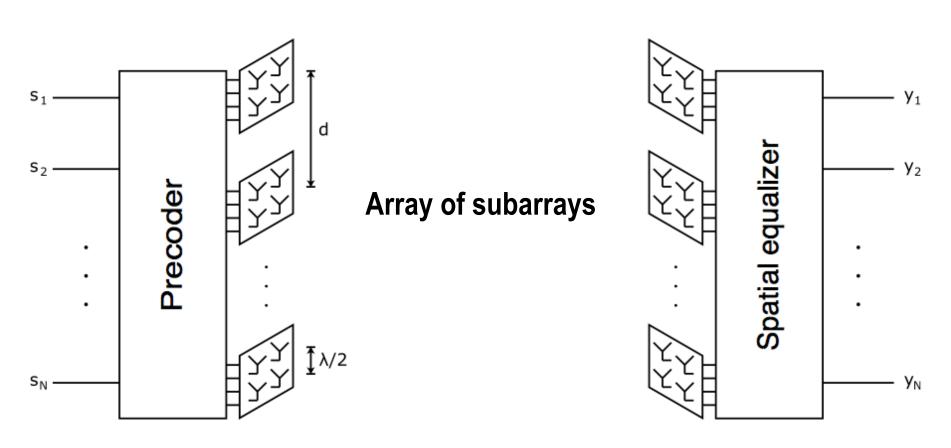


- Embedded pilot tones used to identify channels at the receiver
- Decouple receiver functions: channel separation and data demodulation
- Channel separation network implemented with baseband analog circuits
 Sheldon et al, IEEE APSURSI 2010.

Spatial multiplexing for WiGig





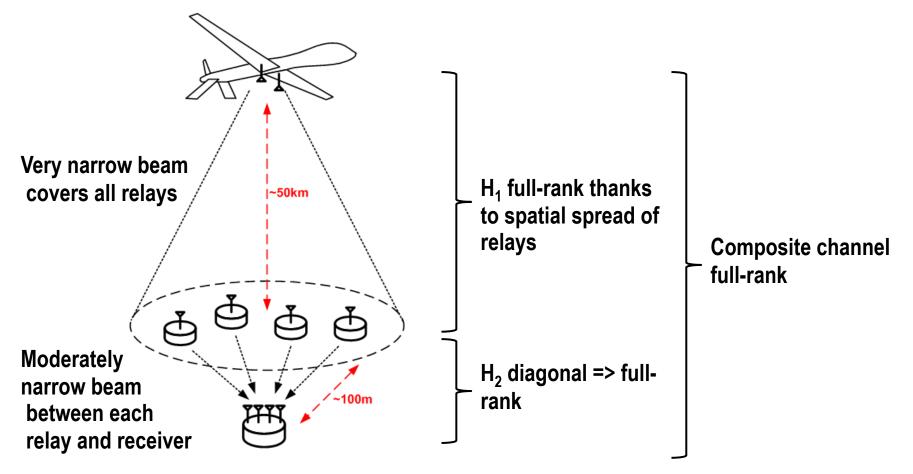


Rayleigh-spaced arrays: spatial multiplexing (Smaller spacing: diversity) Each array is a sub-wavelength spaced subarray: beamforming

RF beamforming per subarray. Mixed signal processing across.

Distributing subarrays to sidestep form factor constraints

The road to long-range wireless fiber: finally a compelling case for relays



Irish, Quitin, Madhow, ITA 2013



Signal processing for multi-GHz signals

How to scale system bandwidth indefinitely? How to keep riding Moore's law?

The bandwidth scaling problem

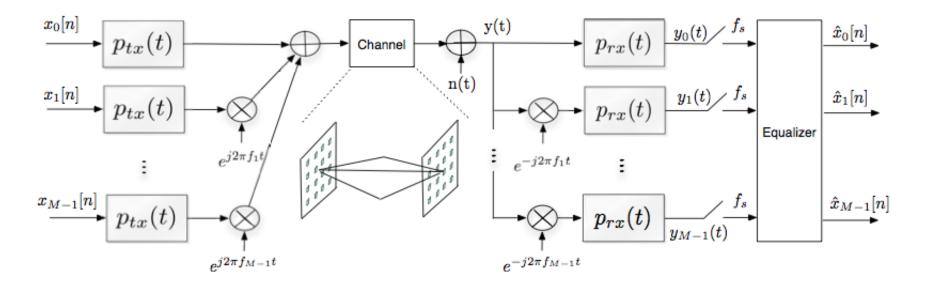


- We like riding Moore's law
 - Enables economies of scale for cellular and WiFi
 - Keeps going at multiGigabit speeds
- The ADC is the bottleneck
 - High-rate, high-precision ADC costly, power-hungry and/or not available
 - Forces us beyond the OFDM comfort zone
- Clever solutions with low-precision ADC (1-4 bits)?
 - OK if we can keep dynamic range under control
- Time-interleaved ADCs?
 - Each sub-ADC still sees the full bandwidth

Is there a natural successor to OFDM as we scale bandwidth?

Analog Multitone for indefinite scalability



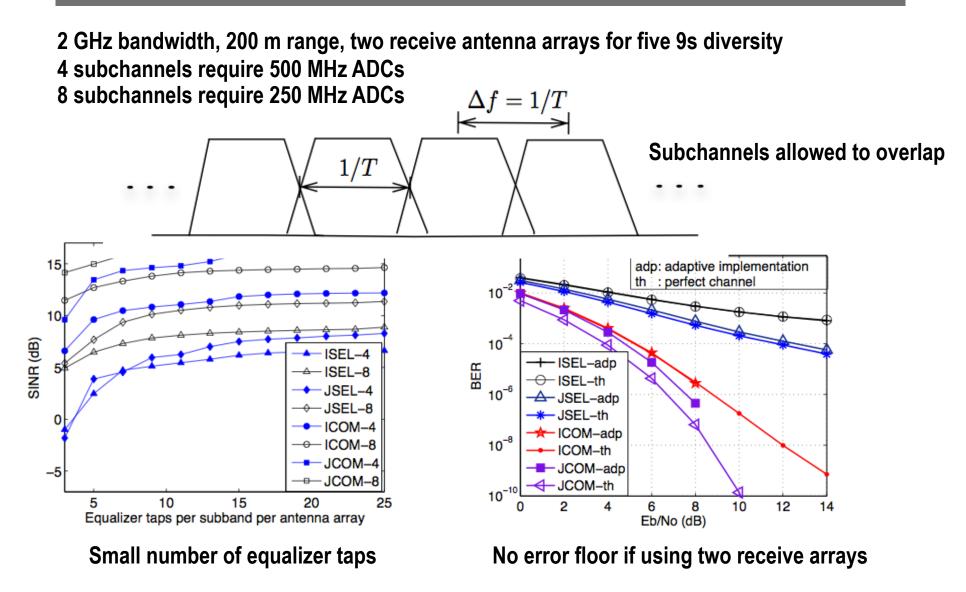


- •Off-the-shelf ADC technology determines subchannel speed
- •Desired bandwidth determines number of subchannels (much fewer than number of subcarriers in OFDM)
- Analog channelization at transmitter and receiver
- Sophisticated DSP for each subchannel: combat both ISI and ICI
 Promising simulation results for 1 x 2 60 GHz backhaul link

Zhang, Venkateswaran, Madhow, Analog multitone with interference suppression: relieving the ADC bottleneck for wideband 60 GHz systems, IEEE Globecom 2012.

Example: 60 GHz backhaul link





Currently exploring OFDM within subchannels for indoor settings

Parting thoughts on the mm wave frontier



- Getting the most out of 60 GHz indoors
 - Near-LoS MIMO, rapid beam adaptation, handling blockage
- Picocellular backhaul
 - Quasi-deterministic links, highly directional mesh networks
- Mm wave to the mobile
 - Electrically large arrays, rapid adaptation and tracking, networklevel coordination
- Wireless data centers
 - 3D beamforming and near-LoS MIMO
- Long-range wireless fiber
 - Distributed architectures for sidestepping geometric constraints
- Signal processing at scale: addressing the ADC bottleneck head on Significant interdisciplinary effort over the next 2 decades

SPAWC focus



- Array of subarrays as a canonical MIMO architecture
 - RF beamforming within subarray
 - Digital, or mixed analog-digital, signal processing across subarrays
- The ADC bottleneck
 - ADC-constrained but DSP-centric design for multiGHz systems
 - Analog multitone as the new OFDM?
- But SP cannot be practiced in a silo
 - Must account for the physics of tiny wavelengths
 - Must account for hardware constraints associated with scaling
 - Must interact with directional networking protocols

Exploring further



Survey

U. Madhow, S. Singh, 60 GHz communication, chapter in Handbook of Mobile Comm. (ed. J. Gibson), 2012.

MIMO techniques and channel modeling

Sheldon, Seo, Torkildson, Madhow, Rodwell, A 2.4 Gb/s millimeter-wave link using adaptive spatial multiplexing, APS-URSI 2010.

Torkildson, Madhow, Rodwell, *Indoor millimeter wave MIMO: feasibility and performance,* IEEE Trans.Wireless Comm., Dec 2011. (see also mmCom 2010)

Zhang, Venkateswaran, Madhow, *Channel modeling and MIMO capacity for outdoor millimeter wave links*, WCNC 2010. (see also mmCom 2010)

Compressive adaptation

Ramasamy, Venkateswaran, Madhow, Compressive adaptation of large steerable arrays ITA 2012.

Ramasamy, Venkateswaran, Madhow, Compressive tracking with 1000-element arrays..., Allerton 2012.

Ramasamy, Venkateswaran, Madhow, Compressive estimation in AWGN, TSP, April 2014.

ADC Bottleneck

Zhang, Venkateswaran, Madhow, *Analog multitone with interference suppression: relieving the ADC bottleneck for wideband 60 GHz systems,* IEEE Globecom 2012.

Ponnuru, Seo, Madhow, Rodwell, Joint mismatch and channel compensation for high-speed OFDM receivers with timeinterleaved ADCs, IEEE TCOM, August 2010.

Singh, Dabeer, Madhow, On the limits of communication with low-precision analog-to-digital conversion at the receiver, IEEE TCOM, December 2009.

Networking with highly directional links

Singh, Mudumbai, Madhow, Interference analysis for highly directional 60-GHz mesh networks: the case for rethinking medium access control, IEEE/ACM Trans. Networking, October 2011.

Singh, Mudumbai, Madhow, *Distributed coordination with deaf neighbors: efficient medium access for 60 GHz mesh networks,* IEEE Infocom 2010.

Singh, Ziliotto, Madhow, Belding, Rodwell, *Blockage and directivity in 60 GHz WPANs*, IEEE JSAC, October 2009.