

A Utility-Based Joint Power and Rate Adaptive Algorithm in Wireless Ad Hoc Networks

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Abstract—In this paper, a utility-based joint power and rate adaptive algorithm (UPRA) is proposed to alleviate the influence of channel variation by using softened signal-to-interference-and-noise ratio (SINR) requirements. The transmission power and rate of each user will be adjusted to maximize its own net-utility according to the states of channel, which results in a balance between the effective transmission rate and power consumption. Although the UPRA works based on a non-cooperative game, cooperation among users can be achieved so that the throughput of the whole network will be improved. The convergence of the algorithm has also been studied in both feasible and infeasible cases.

Index Terms—Joint power and rate adaptive, non-cooperative game, effective transmission rate, wireless ad hoc networks.

I. INTRODUCTION

TRANSMISSION power and rate have significant impacts on the performance of wireless networks. On one hand, high transmission rate requires high Signal-to-Interference-and-Noise Ratio (SINR). On the other hand, high transmission power means more energy consumption and interference to other users. Although the issue of joint power and rate control is challenging, it offers more flexibility in radio resource management thus the possibility of better network performance.

Non-cooperative game model was employed for power control in wireless networks in previous work. One characteristic of non-cooperative games is “all players for themselves” [1]. Each node tries to maximize its own net-utility, which is defined as utility minus cost. With distinct optimizing objectives, different utility functions were formulated in prior work, such as throughput per unit power consumption [2], frame outage [3], Shannon capacity [4] and sigmoid-like softened SINR requirement [5]. The cost was often modeled as a linear function of transmission power. In this way, cooperation was introduced to the non-cooperative game. It should be pointed out that all the above algorithms were designed for cellular networks where power control schemes can be implemented at base stations. However, power control in wireless ad hoc networks can only work based on local measurements. In [6], a joint transmission power and rate control algorithm based on game theory, called Distributed Power and Rate Control based on Step-up Pricing Game (DPRC/SPG), was proposed for wireless ad hoc networks. Its net-utility function is defined as the normalized transmission rate minus the cost of

power. However, variations of channel condition between two consecutive iterations were not considered in the algorithm. Moreover, the proposed utility function was just on transmission rate while the probability of successful transmission was not taken into account.

To improve the performance of wireless ad hoc networks, a utility-based joint power and rate adaptive algorithm for wireless ad hoc networks, called UPRA, is proposed in this paper. The beauty of this scheme is that the utility function is designed with consideration of both the transmission rate and the probability of successful transmission. Specifically, the utility is defined as effective transmission rate, which is the product of the transmission rate and the probability of successful transmission. Each node selects the power-rate pair to achieve the highest net-utility according to its historical SINRs by measurements. Instead of setting SINR to track the hard threshold like in [7]–[10], a dynamic and optimized margin is reserved for the instant SINR threshold and the balance can be achieved between effective transmission rate and power conservation, which in turn improves the net-utility of each node and the performance of the whole network.

The rest of the paper is organized as follows. In Section II, we present the system model, reformulate the power-control problem as a non-cooperative game, which leads to a power and rate control algorithm. We also discuss the convergence of both feasible and infeasible cases. In Section III, numerical evaluation is given. Finally, Section IV concludes the paper.

II. UTILITY-BASED JOINT RATE AND POWER CONTROL

A. System Model

We consider a wireless ad hoc network consisting of N transmitter-receiver pairs (links), where all nodes are equipped with identical multi-rate half-duplex transceivers. The SINR of the i th link is given by

$$SINR_i = \alpha_i P_i \quad (1)$$

with

$$\alpha_i = \frac{G_{ii}}{\sum_{j=1, j \neq i}^N G_{ij} P_j + \eta_i}. \quad (2)$$

Here G_{ij} denotes the channel gain from the transmitter of the j th link to the receiver of the i th link. P_i is the transmission power of the i th link which is tunable between 0 and P_{\max} . η_i is the power of the white noise at the receiver of the i th link. In the rest of this paper, “interference” refers to the sum of the interference caused by other links and white noise.

In this multiple rate system, let γ_i denote the SINR requirement of the i th link for the lowest transmission rate R_1 . The

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SINR requirements of the i th link for the transmission rates $b_2R_1, b_3R_1, \dots, b_MR_1$ ($1 = b_1 < b_2 < b_3 < \dots < b_M$) are $h_2\gamma_i, h_3\gamma_i, \dots, h_M\gamma_i$ ($1 = h_1 < h_2 < h_3 < \dots < h_M$), respectively. Since in Shannon capacity increasing SINR provides diminishing returns in rate, it is assumed that [6]

$$\frac{h_M - h_{M-1}}{b_M - b_{M-1}} > \frac{h_{M-1} - h_{M-2}}{b_{M-1} - b_{M-2}} > \dots > \frac{h_2 - h_1}{b_2 - b_1} > 1 \quad (3)$$

B. Power and Rate Selection in UPRA

In the wireless ad hoc network discussed in this paper, all the users are peers and compete for limited radio resources selfishly, thus no explicit cooperation is possible. Such a problem is a typical non-cooperative game [1]. We define the net-utility of user i as

$$NU_i = U_i - C_i \quad (4)$$

where U_i and C_i are the utility and cost of user i , respectively. Each user tries to maximize its own net-utility by jointly adjusting its transmission power P_i and transmission rate r_i . In UPRA, C_i is defined as a linear function of transmission power

$$C_i(P_i) = c_i P_i \quad (5)$$

where the coefficient c_i is a positive constant. The utility function U_i is defined as the effective transmission rate, which is the product of the transmission rate and the probability of successful transmission. If $SINR_i > h_k\gamma_i$, applicable data rates could be $R_1, R_1b_2, \dots, R_1b_k$. The lower is the data rate, the more likely data is successful received. In fact, any rates lower than the threshold can be a candidate.

The variation pattern of the channel condition was studied previously [11]–[14]. Let $\alpha_i(k) = G_{ii}(k) / \left(\sum_{j=1, j \neq i}^N G_{ij}(k)P_j(k) + \eta_i \right)$ denote α_i at discrete time instant k . Let \bar{x} denote the decibel value of a variable x , namely, $\bar{x} = 10 \log x$. $\bar{\alpha}_i(k)$ can be assumed to vary according to the random-walk model [13].

$$\bar{\alpha}_i(k+1) = \bar{\alpha}_i(k) + \bar{\eta}_i(k) \quad (6)$$

where $\bar{\eta}_i(k)$ is a normal distributed random variable representing the variation of environment. The mean value of $\bar{\eta}_i(k)$ is zero and its variance is σ^2 . If link i transmits with rate b_mR_1 at time index k and power P_i is fixed from time instant k to $k+1$, the probability of $SINR_i$ staying above the threshold $h_m\gamma_i$, referred to as SINR guarantee, for time index $k+1$ is represented by

$$S(SINR_i, m) = \frac{1}{2} \left\{ 1 + \operatorname{erf} \left[\frac{\ln(SINR_i/h_m\gamma_i)}{\sigma\sqrt{2}} \right] \right\} \quad (7)$$

with $m = 1, 2, \dots, M$. $S(SINR_i, m)$ is the cumulative distribution function of lognormal distribution. $\sigma = 0$ means that α_i is constant. When σ increases, higher $SINR_i$ is needed to achieve the same SINR guarantee.

In order to ensure that $SINR_i$ is greater than or equal to the threshold, a suitable transmission rate will be selected under the constraint of channel conditions. Let r_i denote the ratio of

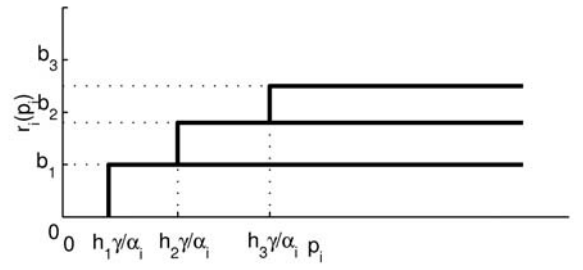


Fig. 1. Candidate data rates and the transmission power under the condition of α_i in a three-rate system.

candidate transmission rate to the lowest data rate. Then r_i is a function of $SINR_i$, denoted as

$$r_i(SINR_i) = \begin{cases} b_M, b_{M-1}, \dots, \text{ or } b_1 & SINR_i \geq h_M\gamma_i \\ b_{M-1}, \dots, \text{ or } b_1 & h_M\gamma_i > SINR_i \geq h_{M-1}\gamma_i \\ \vdots & \vdots \\ b_1, & h_2\gamma_i > SINR_i \geq h_1\gamma_i \\ 0, & h_1\gamma_i > SINR_i \end{cases} \quad (8)$$

which is plotted in Fig. 1. It should be noted that the relationship between r_i and $SINR_i$ is not one-to-one relationship.

Thus far, we have formulated the relationship between transmission rate r_i , SINR guarantee, and $SINR_i$ respectively. We integrate transmission rate and SINR guarantee into the utility function U_i as (9).

$$U_i(SINR_i, m) = r_i(SINR_i)S_i(SINR_i, m) = \frac{b_m}{2} \left\{ 1 + \operatorname{erf} \left[\frac{\ln(SINR_i/h_m\gamma_i)}{\sigma\sqrt{2}} \right] \right\} \quad m = 1, 2, \dots, M \quad (9)$$

U_i is an increasing function of $SINR_i$ which satisfies: $U_i(0, m) = 0$; $U_i(\infty, m) = b_m$.

By (1), (4) and (5), the net utility of user i is

$$NU_i(SINR_i, m, P_i) = U_i(SINR_i, m) - C_i(P_i) = r_i(SINR_i)S_i(SINR_i, m) - \frac{c_i}{\alpha_i} SINR_i \quad (10)$$

The utility and the cost versus SINR of a 3-rate system are depicted in Fig. 2. The curves are utilities using different transmission rates. The straight lines 1, 2, 3 and 4 denote cost at different channel condition α_i . The slope of the cost lines is c_i/α_i . Since $\alpha_i = G_{ii} / \left(\sum_{j=1, j \neq i}^N G_{ij}P_j + \eta_i \right) \leq G_{ii}/\eta_i$. The cost line has a positive lower bound as illustrated by line 1. Let \underline{K}_i be the slope of line 1, i.e. $\underline{K}_i = c_i(\eta_i/G_{ii})$. For a given transmission rate b_m , when the slope is small enough $c_i/\alpha_i < 0.5b_m/h_m\gamma_i$, the cost line has at most one intersection with the utility curve. When the slope increases to $0.5b_m/h_m\gamma_i$, the intersection is at the point $(h_m\gamma_i, 0.5b_m)$ as shown by line 4. \bar{K}_i is the slope of line 4, i.e., $\bar{K}_i = 0.5b_m/h_m\gamma_i$. When we continue to increase the slope, there is no intersection any more and it means the cost is very high.

The joint rate and power control problem for user i can be formulated as

$$\max_{\substack{0 \leq P_i \leq P_{\max}, \\ m=1, 2, \dots, M}} NU_i \quad (11)$$

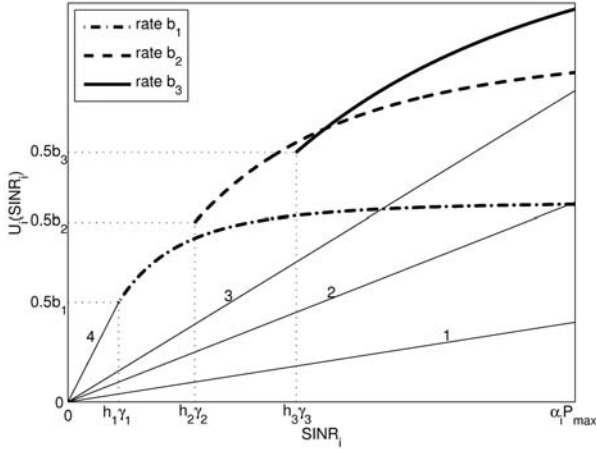


Fig. 2. Utility (and cost) versus $SINR$ for user i .

Taking the derivative of NU_i with regard to $SINR_i$, we have:

$$\frac{d \left[U_i(SINR_i, m_i) - \frac{c_i}{\alpha_i} SINR_i \right]}{dSINR_i} = 0 \quad (12)$$

Solving this function for $\sigma > 0$, it has a unique solution

$$SINR_i = \min \left(h_m \gamma_i e^{\sqrt{2\sigma^2 \ln(b_m \alpha_i / \sqrt{2\pi} \sigma c_i h_m \gamma_i) + \sigma^4} - \sigma^2}, \alpha_i P_{\max} \right)$$

for $c_i/\alpha_i \leq \min(b_m/(\sqrt{2\pi}\sigma h_m \gamma_i), 0.5b_m/h_m \gamma_i)$. For a given rate b_m , there exists one optimal target SINR, denoted as $SINR_{i,TAR,m}$, with which the net utility could be maximized.

If $\alpha_i P_{\max} > h_m \gamma_i$, $SINR_{i,TAR,m} = 0$. Otherwise, $SINR_{i,TAR,m}$ is denoted in (13),

If $\sigma = 0$, it means that the channel condition remains constant and the best strategy is to set the target SINR as the SINR threshold $h_m \gamma_i$. The resultant utility is equal to the relative transmission rate.

So far, we have got the best target SINR for a given m . With the aim to maximize the net utility, the overall optimum power and rate among different rates are denoted by $SINR_{i,OPT}$ and m_{OPT} respectively as

$$(SINR_{i,OPT}, m_{i,OPT}) = \arg \max_{\substack{0 \leq P_i \leq P_{\max}, \\ m=1,2,\dots,M}} [NU_i(SINR_i, m_i)] \quad (14)$$

From (1), the optimum power is given as

$$P_{i,OPT} = SINR_{i,OPT}/\alpha_i \quad (15)$$

It should be noted that if $SINR_{i,OPT} = 0$, the best strategy for a node is not to transmit.

In our model, if an iteration occurs at time index k , the iteration index is defined as k . Apply the iteration index to (15), we obtain

$$P_{i,OPT}(k+1) = \frac{SINR_{i,OPT}(k+1)}{SINR_i(k)} P_i(k). \quad (16)$$

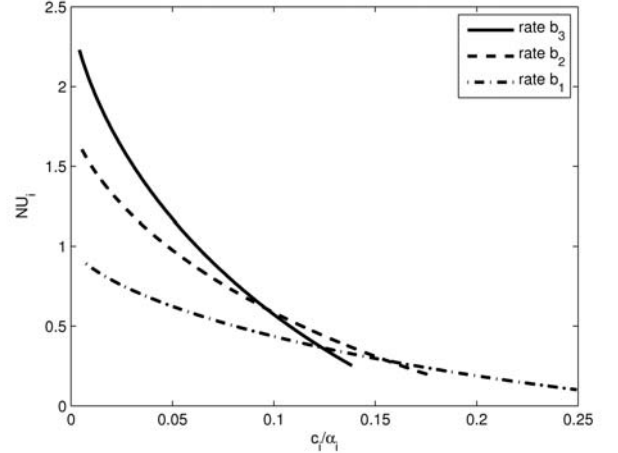


Fig. 3. Net utility using $SINR_{i,TAR}$ versus c_i/α_i for user i .

C. UPRA Algorithm

Initially, each link uses the predetermined transmission rate and power. In each of the following iterations, link i operates as following steps.

- 1) Calculate α_i by (2) and σ from historical values of α_i , respectively. Then, $SINR_{i,TAR}$ and net utility for each transmission rate are obtained according to (13) and (10), respectively. The $(SINR_{i,OPT}, m_{i,OPT})$ pair that has the highest net utility can be found. If $SINR_{i,OPT} = 0$, give up the transmission in this iteration and wait for a random time to start its next iteration. Otherwise go to step 2.
- 2) Data is transmitted using the transmission rate $b_{m_{i,OPT}R1}$ and the transmission power $P_{i,OPT}$ obtained by (16).

The net utility of higher data transmission rates decreases faster than that of lower data transmission rates when c_i/α_i increases, as shown in Fig. 3. This property has been proven analytically in Appendix. Therefore, according to (14), lower data transmission rate is preferred when c_i/α_i is large as illustrated in Fig. 4(b). Since large c_i/α_i indicates a worse channel condition, links will not further exacerbate the already deteriorated channel by increasing transmission power greedily. In this way, cooperation is realized.

D. Feasibility and Convergence

By UPRA, a system is defined as feasible if a power assignment vector $\mathbf{P} = [P_1, P_2, \dots, P_N]^T$ exists while $SINR_i \geq b_m \gamma_i$ for all links. Such a power vector is a feasible solution.

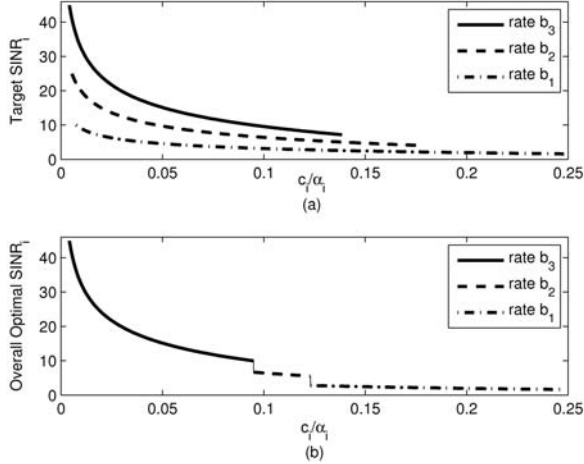
In a feasible system, an iterative power control algorithm $\mathbf{P}(k+1) = I(\mathbf{P}(k))$ is said to be standard if for all $\mathbf{P} \geq 0$ the following properties are satisfied [15].

- Positivity: $I(\mathbf{P}) > 0$;
- Monotonicity: If $\mathbf{P} \geq \mathbf{P}'$, then $I(\mathbf{P}) \geq I(\mathbf{P}')$;
- Scalability: For all $a > 1$, $aI(\mathbf{P}) > I(a\mathbf{P})$.

$I(\mathbf{P})$ is referred as the *interference function*. It can be proven that UPRA is standard as shown in Appendix. Using the results of [15] concerning convergence, we get the following

$$\text{SINR}_{i\text{TAR},m} = \begin{cases} \min(h_m\gamma_i e^{\Psi_m}, \alpha_i P_{\max}) & \frac{c_i\eta_i}{G_{ii}} \leq \frac{c_i}{\alpha_i} \leq \min\left(\frac{b_m}{\sqrt{2\pi\sigma}h_m\gamma_i}, \frac{0.5b_m}{h_m\gamma_i}\right) \\ h_m\gamma_i & \frac{b_m}{\sqrt{2\pi\sigma}h_m\gamma_i} < \frac{c_i}{\alpha_i} < \frac{0.5b_m}{h_m\gamma_i} \\ 0 & \frac{c_i}{\alpha_i} \geq \frac{0.5b_m}{h_m\gamma_i} \end{cases} \quad (13)$$

$$\text{with } \Psi_m = \sqrt{2\sigma^2 \ln(b_m\alpha_i/\sqrt{2\pi\sigma}c_i h_m\gamma_i) + \sigma^4 - \sigma^2}$$


 Fig. 4. $\text{SINR}_{i\text{TAR}}$ and $\text{SINR}_{i\text{OPT}}$ versus c_i/α_i for user i of UPRA.

properties of our scheme when it is applied to a feasible system.

- If the proposed scheme has a fixed point, it is unique.
- For any initial power vector \mathbf{P} , the iteration converges to a unique fixed point \mathbf{P}^* .

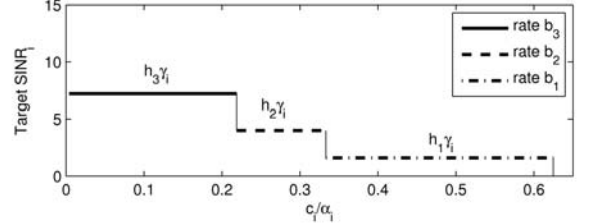
When the system is infeasible, there is a problem of “opting out”, which is not special to UPRA but rather arises whatever algorithm is used [9]. By UPRA, links that find $\text{SINR}_{i\text{OPT}} = 0$ will give up transmission for a random period as described in Step 1, which means that these links quit from the game. Some other links may select the slow rates rather than the highest one.

III. PERFORMANCE EVALUATION

A. Numerical Evaluation for a Link

In this subsection, we demonstrate how a user reacts to the variations of channel conditions by adjusting transmission rate and power by the UPRA algorithm. From (2) and the fact that c_i is a constant, large c_i/α_i means large interference and hostile environment. We show the power and rate selection procedure of a 3-rate system where $h_3 = 4.5$, $h_2 = 2.5$, $h_1 = 1$, $b_3 = 2.5$, $b_2 = 1.8$ and $b_1 = 1$. SINR requirement for the lowest transmission rate $\gamma_i = 1.6$. Cost coefficient $c_i = 1$. The transmission power is bounded by $P_{\max} = 1$. We set the standard variance σ to be 1.

Fig. 4(a) shows the changes of $\text{SINR}_{i\text{TAR}}$ for 3 rates when c_i/α_i varies between $0.03b_m/(\sqrt{2\pi\sigma}h_m\gamma_i)$ and $b_m/(\sqrt{2\pi\sigma}h_m\gamma_i)$. It can be seen that as c_i/α_i increases, $\text{SINR}_{i\text{TAR}}$ decreases. Moreover although $\text{SINR}_{i\text{TAR}}$ of a


 Fig. 5. $\text{SINR}_{i\text{TAR}}$ versus c_i/α_i for user i of DPRC/SPG.

higher transmission rate is always greater than that of a lower transmission rate, it decreases faster than that of a lower one.

Fig. 3 shows how much net utility can be achieved if $\text{SINR}_{i\text{TAR}}$ in Fig. 4(a) is used. As c_i/α_i increases, the net utility decreases. When c_i/α_i is very small, the net utility of rate b_3 is the greatest. The net utility of a higher transmission rate decreases faster than that of a lower transmission rate when c_i/α_i increases. When $0.095 < c_i/\alpha_i < 0.123$, the net utility of rate b_2 becomes the greatest. When $c_i/\alpha_i > 0.123$, rate b_1 has the greatest net utility. Accordingly, the curve of $\text{SINR}_{i\text{OPT}}$ will be composed of 3 parts as shown in Fig. 4(b), each corresponding to one transmission rate. Without loss of generality, it can be proved that due to the monotonic $\text{SINR}_{i\text{OPT}}$, the optimum transmission rate will be decreasing when c_i/α_i increases. From Fig.3-4, we can find that a link will be able to slow down its transmission rate and reduce target SINR when the environment becomes hostile, which is in consistent with other rate-adaptive MAC algorithms in ad hoc networks (e.g., [16]). Implicit social cooperation can be produced by the UPRA algorithm though each link tries to maximize its own net utility selfishly in the non-cooperative game. $\text{SINR}_{i\text{TAR}}$ versus c_i/α_i for DPRC/SPG is also shown in Fig. 5 for comparison, in which $\text{SINR}_{i\text{TAR}}$ remains constant and equal to a threshold value in each segment and does not vary with the channel conditions.

B. Simulation Results

To illustrate the advantage of the proposed mechanism, we compare the UPRA algorithm with DPRC/SPG algorithm in [6]. The latter sets the SINR threshold as target SINR.

We consider 8 one-hop links randomly located in a 1.5-km-square area. Maximum power is 1W. Background receiver noise power within the user’s bandwidth of $\eta_i = 8 \times 10^{-13}$ W is used in the simulation. The path gain G_{ij} is modeled as $G_{ij} = A_{ij}/d_{ij}^4$, where d_{ij} is the distance between the transmitter of link j to the receiver of link i , and A_{ij} is the attenuation factor due to fading. We assume that all A_{ij} are independent and identically log-normally distributed random variables with

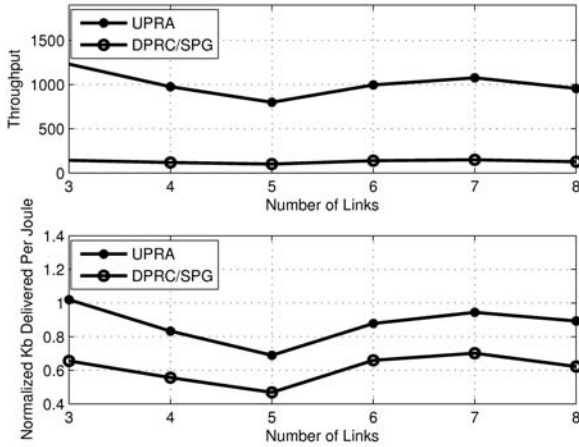


Fig. 6. Throughput and power versus the number of links.

0-dB expectation and 8-dB log-variance. The fading values of links change asynchronously. When $SINR_{iOPT} = 0$, link i holds its transmission for a random period which is uniformly distributed between $[1 \sim N]$ iterations.

First, we verify the capacity improvement via simulation with different numbers of links. The cost coefficient for DPRC/SPG starts from the lower bound $c_{min} = \frac{h_M(b_M - b_{M-1})}{(h_M - h_{M-1})P_{max}}$, increased by $c = c\delta$. The step size is set to be $\delta = 1.2$ in the comparison. Simulation results show that the UPRA algorithm can achieve an obvious improvement on throughput and power conservation over the DPRC/SPG algorithm as shown in Fig. 6. It is because of the fact that the latter is vulnerable since actual SINR may readily go below the target threshold due to variation of channel conditions, causing the cost coefficient to increase step by step and eventually making some links be refrained from transmission. The UPRA algorithm can also alleviate the influence of SINR variation. When channel condition fluctuates intensively, the target SINR will be set higher than the SINR threshold so as to leave a margin to cover the variation to some extent. When channel condition is stable, higher transmission rates are used and the target SINR is close to the SINR threshold, which leads to thrift in power.

Next, convergence is shown using a 4-link 3-rate system. The path gain matrix G of the simulated system is shown in (17).

$$G = \begin{bmatrix} 0.0707 & 0.0060 & 0.0104 & 0.0008 \\ 0.0151 & 0.1692 & 0.0071 & 0.0035 \\ 0.0120 & 0.0041 & 0.3203 & 0.0005 \\ 0.0015 & 0.0140 & 0.0005 & 0.0731 \end{bmatrix} \times 10^{-9} \quad (17)$$

It is easy to verify that the system is feasible when $\gamma_i = 1.6$, $h_3 = 4.5$, $h_2 = 2.5$, $h_1 = 1$, $b_3 = 2.5$, $b_2 = 1.8$ and $b_1 = 1$. The evolution curves of power and SINR for the DPRC/SPG and the UPRA are shown in Fig. 7 and Fig. 8, respectively. Before the 40th iteration, the target SINR and power converge to the same point in the two schemes because their power vector and rate vector are identical in feasible condition. At the 40th and the 80th iterations, fading values of the four links change and they cause jumps in target SINR and power. After

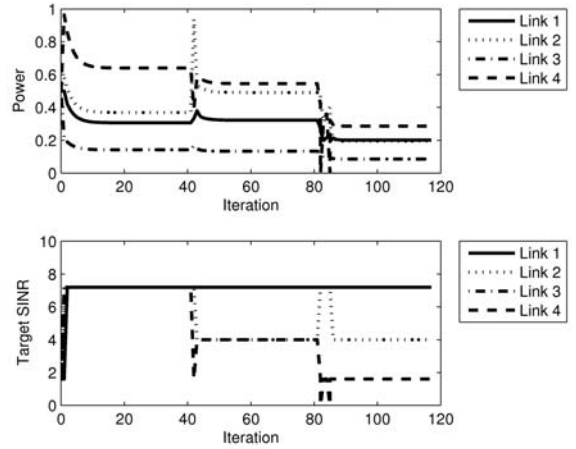


Fig. 7. Evolution of power and target SINR in a feasible case, using DPRC/SPG.

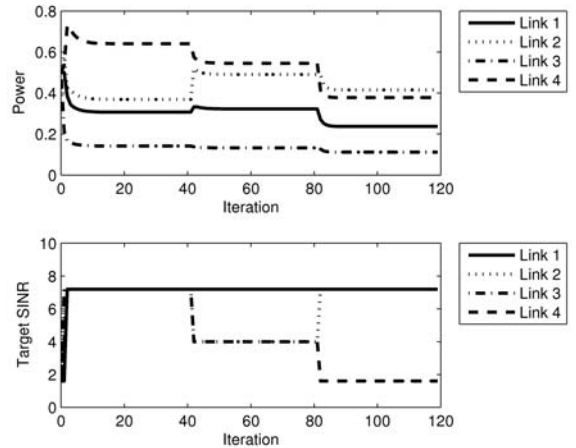


Fig. 8. Evolution of power and target SINR in a feasible case, using UPRA with cost coefficient $c = 1$.

the 80th iteration, by the DPRC/SPG, link 1 and 3 select the highest rate; link 2 selects the middle rate and link 4 selects the lowest rate. While by the UPRA, link 1, 2 and 3 select the highest rate and link 4 selects the lowest rate.

The system is infeasible when $\gamma_i = 2$. The evolution of power and target SINR for DPRC/SPG and UPRA are shown in Fig. 9 and Fig. 10, respectively, which show that both schemes are convergent. Before the 40th iteration, by the DPRC/SPG, link 1, 2, and 3 select the highest rate while link 4 selects the lowest rate. At the same time, by the UPRA, link 2 and link 3 select the highest rate while link 1 and link 4 refrain from transmission. This is because G_{22} and G_{33} are much greater than G_{11} and G_{44} in (17). It means that the channel condition favors link 2 and link 3.

IV. CONCLUSION

In this paper, a joint power and rate adaptive algorithm, called UPRA, has been proposed to deal with the variation of channel conditions in wireless ad hoc networks. The operation of the network is modeled as a non-cooperative game and a net-utility function based on effective transmission rate

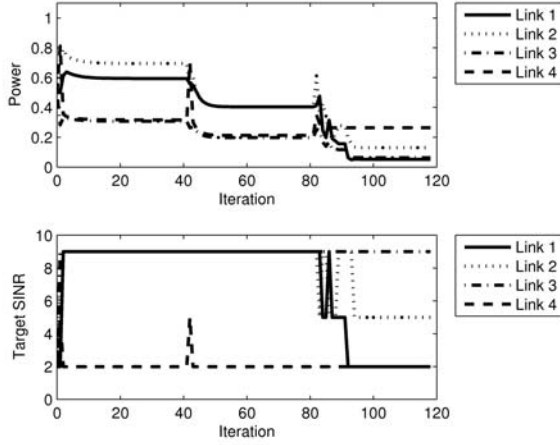


Fig. 9. Evolution of power and target $SINR$ in an infeasible case, using DPRC/SPG.

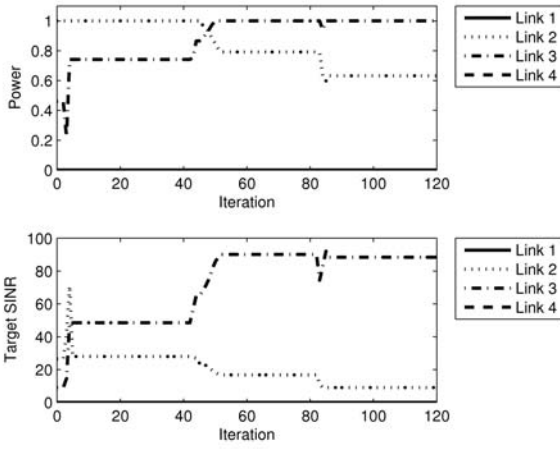


Fig. 10. Evolution of power and target $SINR$ in an infeasible case, using UPRA with cost coefficient $c = 1$.

and power consumption has been designed. By softening the $SINR$ requirement, a margin can be obtained so that data is more likely to be successfully delivered in unstable wireless channels, thus increase the overall network throughput. Moreover, the UPRA algorithm is proven to be convergent under both feasible conditions and infeasible conditions. Simulation results show that by using the UPRA algorithm, higher throughput can be obtained and more energy can be saved.

APPENDIX

Lemma 1: $SINR_{i,TAR}(c_i/\alpha_i)$ is a non-increasing function of c_i/α_i on $[K_i, \bar{K}_i]$ for all i .

Proof:

$$\text{Let } \lambda_m = \sqrt{2 \ln\left(\frac{b_m \alpha_i}{\sqrt{2\pi\sigma} c_i h_m \gamma_i}\right) + \sigma^2}.$$

$$\text{For } \frac{c_i}{\alpha_i} \leq \min\left(\frac{b_m}{\sqrt{2\pi\sigma} h_m \gamma_i}, \frac{0.5b_m}{h_m \gamma_i}\right),$$

$$\begin{aligned} SINR_{i,TAR,m} &= \min(h_m \gamma_i e^{\Psi_m}, \alpha_i P_{\max}) \\ &\geq \min(h_m \gamma_i, \alpha_i P_{\max}), \end{aligned}$$

$$\frac{\partial SINR_{i,TAR,m}}{\partial (c_i/\alpha_i)} = -\frac{\alpha_i \sigma}{c_i \lambda_m} SINR_{i,TAR,m} < 0.$$

$$\text{For } \frac{b_m}{\sqrt{2\pi\sigma} h_m \gamma_i} < \frac{c_i}{\alpha_i} < \frac{0.5b_m}{h_m \gamma_i},$$

$$SINR_{i,TAR,m} = h_m \gamma_i \leq \min(h_m \gamma_i e^{\Psi_m}, \alpha_i P_{\max}).$$

$$\text{For } \frac{c_i}{\alpha_i} \geq \frac{0.5b_m}{h_m \gamma_i}, SINR_{i,TAR,m} = 0 < h_m \gamma_i.$$

Q.E.D.

Lemma 2: For c_i/α_i on $[K_i, \bar{K}_i]$ and two rates $m > n$, $SINR_{i,TAR,m} \geq SINR_{i,TAR,n}$.

Proof:

$$\text{For } \frac{c_i}{\alpha_i} \leq \min\left(\frac{b_m}{\sqrt{2\pi\sigma} h_m \gamma_i}, \frac{b_m}{\sqrt{\pi}}, \frac{b_n}{\sqrt{2\pi\sigma} h_n \gamma_i}, \frac{b_n}{\sqrt{\pi}}\right),$$

$$SINR_{i,TAR,m} = h_m \gamma_i e^{\Psi_m}, SINR_{i,TAR,n} = h_n \gamma_i e^{\Psi_n}.$$

$$\frac{\partial SINR_{i,TAR,n}}{\partial b_n} = \frac{SINR_{i,TAR,n}}{b_n} \frac{\sigma}{\lambda_n} > 0$$

$$\frac{\partial SINR_{i,TAR,n}}{\partial h_n} = \frac{SINR_{i,TAR,n}}{h_n} \left[1 - \frac{\sigma}{\lambda_n}\right] > 0$$

and if $m > n$, we have $b_m > b_n$ and $h_m > h_n$. The directional derivative of $SINR_{i,TAR,n}$ along the vector $(b_m - b_n, h_m - h_n)$ is

$$\begin{aligned} &\nabla(SINR_{i,TAR}) \cdot (b_m - b_n, h_m - h_n) \\ &= \left(\frac{\partial SINR_{i,TAR}}{\partial b}, \frac{\partial SINR_{i,TAR}}{\partial h}\right) \cdot (b_m - b_n, h_m - h_n) > 0 \end{aligned}$$

For $\max\left(\frac{b_m}{\sqrt{2\pi\sigma} h_m \gamma_i}, \frac{b_n}{\sqrt{2\pi\sigma} h_n \gamma_i}\right) < \frac{c_i}{\alpha_i} < \min\left(\frac{b_m}{\sqrt{\pi}}, \frac{b_n}{\sqrt{\pi}}\right)$, $SINR_{i,TAR,m} \geq SINR_{i,TAR,n}$.

Q.E.D.

Lemma 3: $SINR_{i,TAR}(c_i/\alpha_i)/\alpha_i$ increases with increasing c_i/α_i on $[K_i, \bar{K}_i]$ for all i .

Proof:

$$\text{For } \frac{c_i}{\alpha_i} \leq \min\left(\frac{b_m}{\sqrt{2\pi\sigma} h_m \gamma_i}, \frac{b_m}{\sqrt{\pi}}\right),$$

$$SINR_{i,TAR}(c_i/\alpha_i)/\alpha_i = \min(h_m \gamma_i e^{\Psi_m}/\alpha_i, P_{\max}),$$

$$\frac{\partial \left[SINR_{i,TAR}\left(\frac{c_i}{\alpha_i}\right) \frac{1}{\alpha_i} \right]}{\partial \left(\frac{c_i}{\alpha_i}\right)} = \frac{1}{c_i} SINR_{i,TAR}\left(\frac{c_i}{\alpha_i}\right) \left[1 - \frac{\sigma}{\lambda}\right] > 0.$$

Q.E.D

Lemma 4: $SINR_{i,OPT}$ is a non-increasing function of c_i/α_i .

Proof:

Let U' denote the slope of $U_i(c_i/\alpha_i)$ with regard to c_i/α_i .

$$U' = \frac{\partial U_i\left(\frac{c_i}{\alpha_i}\right)}{\partial \left(\frac{c_i}{\alpha_i}\right)} = -\frac{\alpha_i b}{\sqrt{2\pi} c_i \lambda} e^{\frac{\Psi^2}{2\sigma^2}} < 0$$

$$\text{Let } F = \frac{\alpha_i b}{\sqrt{2\pi} c_i \lambda^2} e^{\frac{\Psi^2}{2\sigma^2}} > 0.$$

We get

$$\frac{\partial U'}{\partial b} = -\left[\sigma - \frac{1}{\lambda}\right] \frac{F}{b} \quad \text{and} \quad \frac{\partial U'}{\partial h} = -\frac{F}{h} \left[\lambda - \sigma + \frac{1}{\lambda}\right]$$

The directional derivative of U' along the vector $(b_m - b_n, h_m - h_n)$ is

$$\begin{aligned} &\nabla U' \cdot (b_m - b_n, h_m - h_n) \\ &= \left(\frac{\partial U'}{\partial b}, \frac{\partial U'}{\partial h}\right) \cdot (b_m - b_n, h_m - h_n) \\ &\leq -F \frac{\Delta b}{b_n} \left[\sigma - \frac{1}{\lambda_n}\right] - F \frac{\Delta b}{b_n} \left[\lambda_n - \sigma + \frac{1}{\lambda_n}\right] \\ &= -F \frac{\Delta b}{b_n} \lambda_n < 0. \end{aligned}$$

Q.E.D

For $\frac{\Delta h}{h_n} \geq \frac{\Delta b}{b_n}$, the inequality holds. This condition is reasonable since the SINR requirement is faster than the increase of the data rate. Hence, for two rates m and n ($m > n$), the utility U_i of m decreases faster than that of n . By Lemma 3 and (3), the cost of m increases faster than that of n . By (9), the net utility NU_i of m falls faster than that of n . According to UPRA, we always select the rate which has the largest net utility, the optimal data rate will decrease when c_i/α_i increases. By Lemma 2, $SINR_{iOPT}$ decreases with increasing c_i/α_i .

Proposition 1: UPRA is standard on $[\underline{K}_i, \bar{K}_i]$ for all i .

Proof:

From (15), the interference function of UPRA is

$$I(\mathbf{P}) = [I_1(\mathbf{P}), I_2(\mathbf{P}), \dots, I_N(\mathbf{P})]^T$$

where $\mathbf{P} = [P_1, P_2, \dots, P_N]^T$ and $I_i(\mathbf{P}) = SINR_{iOPT}/\alpha_i$.

- Positivity: Since background noise $\eta_i > 0$, $I(\mathbf{P}) > 0$.
- Monotonicity:

$$I(\mathbf{P}) = \frac{SINR_{iOPT}}{SINR_i} P_i = \frac{SINR_{iOPT}}{\alpha_i} = SINR_{iOPT} \left(\frac{c_i}{\alpha_i} \right) \frac{c_i}{\alpha_i} \frac{1}{c_i}$$
 Since $\alpha_i = G_{ii} / \left(\sum_{j=1, j \neq i}^N G_{ij} P_j + \eta_i \right)$, we get $\alpha_i(\mathbf{P}) \leq \alpha_i(\mathbf{P}')$ for $\mathbf{P} \geq \mathbf{P}'$. From Lemma 3, $I(\mathbf{P})$ is increasing with c_i/α_i . Hence, for a fixed price coefficient c_i , $I(\mathbf{P}) \geq I(\mathbf{P}')$.
- Scalability: For all $a > 1$, we have

$$\begin{aligned} I(a\mathbf{P}) &= SINR_{iOPT} (c_i/\alpha_i(a\mathbf{P})) / \alpha_i(a\mathbf{P}) \\ &\leq SINR_{iOPT} \left(c_i \frac{\sum_{j=1, j \neq i}^N G_{ij} P_j + \eta_i}{G_{ii}} \right) \\ &\quad \cdot \frac{\sum_{j=1, j \neq i}^N a G_{ij} P_j + \eta_i}{G_{ii}} \\ &< a SINR_{iOPT} (c_i/\alpha_i(\mathbf{P})) / \alpha_i(\mathbf{P}) = aI(\mathbf{P}) \end{aligned}$$

Lemma 4 tells us $SINR_{iOPT}$ is decreasing with c_i/α_i , so the first inequality holds.

Q.E.D.

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