## UNIVERSITY OF TECHNOLOGY SYDNEY Faculty of Engineering and Information Technology

## Low-complexity Iterative Receiver Design for High Spectral Efficiency Communication Systems

by

Weijie Yuan

A THESIS SUBMITTED IN PARTIAL FULFILLMENT OF THE REQUIREMENTS FOR THE DEGREE

Doctor of Philosophy

Sydney, Australia

2019

## Statement of Originality

I, Weijie Yuan, declare that this thesis, is submitted in fulfilment of the requirements for the award of PhD in Engineering, in the School of Electrical and Data Engineering at the University of Technology Sydney. This thesis is wholly my own work unless otherwise reference or acknowledged. In addition, I certify that all information sources and literature used are indicated in the thesis.

The document has not been submitted for qualifications at any other academic institution.

This research is supported by the Australian Government Research Training Program.

This thesis is the result of a research candidature conducted with another University as part of a collaborative Doctoral degree.

Production Note: Signature: Signature removed prior to publication.

#### ABSTRACT

## Low-complexity Iterative Receiver Design for High Spectral Efficiency Communication Systems

by

Weijie Yuan

With the rapid development of the modern society, people have an increasing demand of higher data rate. Due to the limited available bandwidth, how to improve the spectral efficiency becomes a key issue in the next generation wireless systems. Recent researches show that, compared to the conventional orthogonal communication systems, the non-orthogonal system can transmit more information with the same resources by introducing non-orthogonality. The non-orthogonal communication systems can be achieved by using faster-than-Nyqusit (FTN) signaling to transmit more data symbols in the same time period. On the other hand, by designing appropriate codebook, the sparse code multiple access (SCMA) system can support more users while preserving the same resource elements. Utilisation of these new technologies leads to challenge in receiver design, which becomes severer in complex channel environments. This thesis studies the receiver design for high spectral efficiency communication systems. The main contributions are as follows:

1. A hybrid message passing algorithm is proposed for faster-than-Nyquist, which solves the problem of joint data detection and channel estimation when the channel coefficients are unknown. To fully exploit the known ISI imposed by FTN signaling, the interference induced by FTN signaling and channel fading are intentionally separated.

2. Gaussian message passing and variational inference based estimation algorithms are proposed for faster-than-Nyquist signaling detection in doubly selective channels. Iterative receivers using mean field and Bethe approximations based on variational inference framework are proposed. Moreover, a novel Gaussian message passing based FTN signaling detection algorithm is proposed.

3. An energy minimisation based SCMA decoding algorithm is proposed and convergence analysis of the proposed algorithm is derived. Following optimisation theory and variational free energy framework, the posterior distribution of data symbol is derived in closed form. Then, the convergence property of the proposed algorithm is analysed.

4. A stretched factor graph is designed for MIMO-SCMA system in order to reduce the receiver complexity. Then, a convergence guaranteed message passing algorithm is proposed by convexifying the Bethe free energy. Finally, cooperative communication methods based on belief consensus and alternative direction method of multipliers are proposed.

5. A low complexity detection algorithm is proposed for faster-than-Nyquist SCMA system, which enables joint channel estimation, decoding and user activity detection in grant-free systems. The combination of FTN signaling with SCMA to further enhance the spectral efficiency is first considered. Then, a merging belief propagation and expectation propagation algorithm is proposed to estimate channel state and perform SCMA decoding.

### Acknowledgements

The accomplishment of my PhD thesis is owed to the contributions and supports of many people. First of all, I would like to express my deepest thanks to my supervisor Prof. Xiaojing Huang for his guidance and support throughout my PhD study years at UTS. I would like to thank Prof. Huang for his encouragement and mentorship during discussions on doing research and paper writing. I also want to thank my co-supervisor A/Prof. Andrew Zhang for his wonderful support and valuable advice for my research. From them, I have learned to be patient and dedicated to the work, which will undoubtedly influence my life.

I would like to thank Dr. Nan Wu from Beijing Institute of Technology for his guidance in my early graduate years, from whom I have learned how to think rigorously and how to solve research problems. I am also grateful to Prof. Yonghui Li from University of Sydney and A/Prof. Qinghua Guo from the University of Wollongong for kindly inviting me to visit their groups and conduct collaborative research works. Collaborating with them has broadened my horizon and improved my research.

I am greatly thankful to Prof. Franz Hlawatch from Vienna University of Technology and Dr. Bernard Etzlinger from Johannes Kepler University Linz for their help during my two-month visit in Austria. And I also thank Prof. Lajos Hanzo from the University of Southampton, Prof. Bernard Henri Fleury from Aalborg University and Prof. Jingming Kuang form Beijing Institute of Technology for research discussions and several fruitful works.

I would like to sincerely thank all my colleagues for helpful discussions during my graduate years, especially Hao, Yijiang, Yifeng, Bin, Qiaolin, Shaoang, Shizhe, Rui, Chongwen, Tuyen, Thomas and Renè. I learned a lot from them and I really enjoyed working with them. Moreover, I want to thank the Faculty and School for providing a warm and cozy family for me.

Finally, I would like to express my gratefulness to my parents Chenggang and Chongying for their unconditional love and confidence.

## List of Publications

#### **Published Journal Papers**

- J-1. W. Yuan, N. Wu, B. Etzlinger, H. Wang, and J. Kuang, "Cooperative Joint Localization and Clock Synchronization Based on Gaussian Message Passing in Asynchronous Wireless Networks," *IEEE Transactions on Vehicular Technology*, vol. 65, no. 9, pp. 7258-7273, Sep. 2016.
- J-2. W. Yuan, N. Wu, H. Wang, and J. Kuang, "Variational Inference-based Frequency Domain Equalization for Faster-than-Nyquist Signaling in Doubly Selective Channels," *IEEE Signal Processing Letters*, Vol. 23, No. 9, pp. 1270-1274, Sep. 2016.
- J-3. W. Yuan, N. Wu, Q. Guo, Y. Li, C. Xing, and J. Kuang, "Iterative Receivers for Downlink MIMO-SCMA: Convergence-guaranteed Message Passing and Distributed Cooperative Detection," *IEEE Transactions on Wireless Communications*, vol. 17, no. 5, pp. 3444-3458, May. 2018.
- J-4. W. Yuan, N. Wu, B. Etzlinger, H. Wang, and J. Kuang, "Expectation Maximization-Based Passive Localization with Asynchronous Receivers: Centralized and Distributed Implementations," *IEEE Transactions on Communications*, vol. 67, no. 1, pp. 668-681, Jan. 2019.
- J-5. W. Yuan, N. Wu, C. Yan, Y. Li, X. Huang, and L. Hanzo, "A Low-Complexity Energy Minimization Based SCMA Detector and Its Convergence Analysis," *IEEE Transactions on Vehicular Technology*, vol. 67, no. 12, pp. 12398-12403, Dec. 2018.
- J-6. N. Wu, W. Yuan, H. Wang, and J. Kuang, "TOA-based Passive Localization of Multiple Targets with Inaccurate Receivers Based on Belief Propagation on Factor Graph," *Digital Signal Processing*, no. 49, pp. 14-23, Apr. 2016.

- J-7. N. Wu, W. Yuan, Q. Shi, H. Wang, and J. Kuang, "Frequency-Domain Iterative Message Passing Receiver for Faster-than-Nyquist Signaling in Doubly Selective Channels," *IEEE Wireless Communications Letters*, vol. 5, no. 6, pp. 584-587, Dec. 2016.
- J-8. N. Wu, W. Yuan, Q. Guo, and J. Kuang, "A Hybrid BP-EP-VMP Approach to Joint Channel Estimation and Decoding for FTN Signaling over Frequency Selective Fading Channels," *IEEE Access*, vol. 5, pp. 6849-6858, May. 2017.
- J-9. X. Wen, W. Yuan, D. Yang, N. Wu, and J. Kuang, "Low Complexity Message Passing Receiver for Faster-than-Nyquist Signaling in Nonlinear Channels," *IEEE Access*, vol.6, pp. 68233-68241, Oct. 2018.
- J-10. Q. Shi, N. Wu, H. Wang, and W. Yuan, "Joint Channel Estimation and Decoding in the Presence of Phase Noise over Time-selective Flat-fading Channels," *IET Communications*, vol.10, no. 5, pp. 577-585, Nov. 2015.
- J-11. X. Qi, N. Wu, H. Wang, and W. Yuan, "A Factor Graph-Based Iterative Detection of Faster-than-Nyquist Signaling in the Presence of Phase Noise and Carrier Frequency Offset," *Digital Signal Processing*, no. 63, pp. 25-34, Apr. 2017.

#### Submitted Journal Papers

- J-12. W. Yuan, N. Wu, Q. Guo, X. Huang, Y. Li, and L. Hanzo, "TOA Based Passive Localization Constructed over Factor Graphs: A Unified Framework," Submitted to *IEEE Transactions on Communications*.
- J-13. W. Yuan, N. Wu, B. F. Fleury, X. Huang, and Y. Li, "A Merging Message Passing Algorithm for Cooperative Joint Localization and Synchronization," To be submitted to *IEEE Internet of Things Journal*.
- J-14. W. Yuan, N. Wu, A. Zhang, X. Huang, Y. Li, and L. Hanzo, "Iterative Receiver Design for Faster than NqyuistSignaling-Spare Code Multiple Access System," Submitted to IEEE Transactions on Wirless Communications.

## Contents

	Certificate		ii
	Abstract	j	iii
	Acknowledgments		v
	List of Publications	V	vii
	List of Figures	xi	iv
	Abbreviation	xvi	iii
	Notation	X	xi
1	Introduction		1
	1.1 Background		1
	1.2 Faster-than-Nyquist Signaling		4
	1.3 Sparse Code Multiple Access		9
	1.4 Thesis Objectives and Organisation	1	13
2	Joint Channel Estimation and FTN Signaling Detect	ion	
	in Frequency Selective Channels	1	9
	2.1 Introduction	1	19
	2.2 Faster-than-Nyquist Signaling Model	2	20
	2.3 Message Passing Receiver Design	2	23
	2.3.1 Output LLR of Channel Decoder	2	23
	2.3.2 Autoregressive Model of Colored Noise	2	24

		2.3.3	Factor Graph Representation	24
		2.3.4	Combined BP-EP-VMP Message Passing	25
		2.3.5	Computation of Extrinsic LLR	32
		2.3.6	Complexity Analysis	33
	2.4	Simula	tion Results	33
	2.5	Conclu	sions	39
3	Lo	w Coi	mplexity Receiver Design for FTN Signaling in	h
J				
	Do	oubly	Selective Channels	41
	3.1	Introdu	action	41
	3.2	System	Model	42
	3.3	FDE-N	IMSE based Algorithm	44
	3.4	Variati	onal Inference-based FDE for FTN Signaling in DSCs $\ldots$ .	45
		3.4.1	Probabilistic Model	45
		3.4.2	Variational Inference Method	46
		3.4.3	Complexity Reduction	47
		3.4.4	Simulation Results	48
	3.5	Iterativ	ve Message Passing Receiver for FTN signaling in DSCs	50
		3.5.1	Factor Graph Model	50
		3.5.2	FDE-based Message Passing Receiver	51
		3.5.3	Imperfect Frequency-Domain Channel Information	53
		3.5.4	Simulation Results	55
	3.6	Conclu	$sions \ldots \ldots$	58
4	Up	olink S	SCMA Multiuser Detector Design and Conver-	-

# gence Analysis

х

	4.1	Introdu	action	59
	4.2	System	Model	60
	4.3	Propos	ed Low-Complexity Receiver	61
		4.3.1	The Proposed Algorithm	61
		4.3.2	Computational Complexity	66
	4.4	Conver	gence Analysis	66
	4.5	Simula	tion Results	68
	4.6	Conclu	$sions \ldots \ldots$	70
<b>5</b>	Do	wnlin	k MIMO-SCMA Receiver Design: Convergent	t
	M	essage	Passing and Cooperative Detection	73
	5.1	Introdu	action	73
	5.2	Proble	m Formulation	75
		5.2.1	System Model	75
		5.2.2	Probabilistic Model	76
	5.3	Low-Co	omplexity BP-EP Receiver based on Stretched Factor Graph	77
		5.3.1	Factor Graph Representation	77
		5.3.2	Stretched Factor Graph and Low-Complexity BP-EP Receiver	78
		5.3.3	Algorithm Summary	82
	5.4	Conver	gence-guaranteed BP-EP Receiver	83
		5.4.1	Variational Free Energy and Belief Propagation	84
		5.4.2	Convergence-guaranteed BP-EP Receiver	86
		5.4.3	Complexity	90
	5.5	Distrib	uted Cooperative Detection	91
		5.5.1	Belief Consensus-Based Method	92

		5.5.2	Bregeman ADMM-Based Method	. 94
		5.5.3	Algorithm Summary	. 97
	5.6	Simula	tion Results	. 97
	5.7	Conclu	sions	. 104
6	Ite	erative	e Receiver Design for FTN Signaling - SCM	A
	$\mathbf{Sy}$	$\operatorname{stem}$		107
	6.1	Introdu	action	. 107
	6.2	System	Model	. 109
	6.3	Joint C	Channel Estimation and Decoding Algorithm for FTN-SCMA	
		System	ls	. 111
		6.3.1	Approximation of Colored Noise	. 111
		6.3.2	Probabilistic Model and Factor Graph Representation	. 111
		6.3.3	Message Passing Receiver Design	. 114
		6.3.4	Algorithm Summary	. 117
	6.4	User A	ctivity Detection in Grant-free FTN-SCMA Systems	. 119
		6.4.1	Probability based Active User Detection Algorithm	. 119
		6.4.2	Message Passing based Active User Detection Algorithm	. 121
	6.5	Simula	tion Results	. 125
	6.6	Conclu	sions	. 133
7	Co	onclusi	ions	135
	7.1	Summa	ary of Contributions	. 135
	7.2	Future	Work	. 137
$\mathbf{A}$	$\mathbf{M}$	inimiz	ing Constrained Mean Field Free Energy	139

в	Minimizing Constrained Bethe Free Energy	140
С	Proof of Proposition 1	142
D	Proof of Proposition 2	144
$\mathbf{E}$	<b>Derivation of Messages</b> $(5.41)$ and $(5.42)$	146
$\mathbf{F}$	<b>Derivations of</b> $(6.48)$ and $(6.49)$	148
	Bibliography	149

# List of Figures

1.1	The evolution of mobile communications.	2
1.2	The variation of data rate from 1G to 5G	3
1.3	Comparison of (a) Nyquist signaling and (b) FTN signaling	5
1.4	SCMA encoding process	11
1.5	The factor graph representation of SCMA system	12
2.1	System model for considered FTN signaling system	22
2.2	Factor graph representation for joint channel estimation and	
	decoding for FTN system. The subgraphs denoted by $(1)$ , $(2)$ , $(3)$ and	
	4 correspond to the FTN equalisation, multipath channel	
	equalisation, channel estimation and colored noise process,	
	respectively.	26
2.3	The equivalent "soft node" for multiplier node. The factor $f_k$	
	denotes the probability density function of $r_k$ conditioned on $\mathbf{s}_k$ , $\mathbf{h}_k$	
	and $\xi_k$ , which can be expressed as $f_k \propto \exp\left(-(r_k - \mathbf{h}_k^T \mathbf{s}_k'')^2 / \vec{V}_{\xi_k}\right)$	31
2.4	BER performance of the proposed algorithm for FTN system with	
	different packing factor $\tau$ . The roll-off factor $\alpha = 0.4$ and $\alpha = 0.05$ ,	
	respectively	34
2.5	Impact of $L_{\rm FTN}$ on BER performance. The roll-off factor $\alpha = 0.4$ ,	
	$\tau = 0.7$ and $\tau = 0.5$ , respectively	36
2.6	BER performance of different algorithms for considered FTN	
	signaling system, with $\tau = 0.7$ , $\alpha = 0.4$ .	37

2.7	MSE of channel estimation of the proposed algorithm, with $\tau = 0.7$ ,
	$\alpha = 0.4.  \dots  \dots  \dots  \dots  \dots  \dots  \dots  \dots  \dots  $
3.1	System Model for FTN signaling in DSCs
3.2	BER performance of different algorithms for FTN signaling
	$(\tau = 0.8)$ and Nyquist signaling $(\tau = 1)$ in DSCs
3.3	BER performance of MF and Bethe approximations versus different
	values of R for FTN signaling ( $\tau = 0.8$ ) in DSCs
3.4	Factor graph of FDE-based receiver for FTN signaling in DSC 52
3.5	Factor graph modification for imperfect channel information 54
3.6	BER performance of different algorithms for Nyquist signaling and
	FTN signaling
3.7	BER performance of the proposed robust algorithm with channel
	information uncertainty. The parameter $\rho = 0.99$
4.1	Block diagram of the SCMA system
4.2	BER performance of different algorithms. $(\lambda = 150\%)$ 70
4.3	BER performance of different algorithms. $(\lambda = 200\%)$
4.4	BER performance versus the number of iterations. $(\lambda = 150\%)$ 72
4.5	EXIT chart between the SCMA detector and channel decoder.
	$(\lambda = 150\%)  \dots  \dots  \dots  \dots  \dots  \dots  \dots  \dots  \dots  $
5.1	System model for downlink MIMO-SCMA
5.2	Factor graph representation of the factorisation in $(5.6)$ . For ease of
	exposition, only the variable vertices connected to the factor node
	$f_k^n$ are plotted

5.3	Stretched factor graph representation of the considered   MIMO-SCMA system. 79
5.4	Factor graph representation for cooperative detection
5.5	BER performance of different algorithms for MIMO-SCMA system 99
5.6	Impact of the number of iterations on BER performance of Stretch-BP-EP and Conv-BP-EP algorithms
5.7	BER performance of the proposed distributed cooperative detection schemes with $p = 5$ and $p = 10. \dots \dots$
5.8	Impact of communication range on the BER performance of Bregman ADMM-based method
5.9	BER performance of the proposed distributed cooperative detection schemes with noisy inter-user links
5.10	MSE of parameters versus the number of consensus iterations 106 $$
6.1	Transmitter side of the considered FTN-SCMA system
6.2	Receiver structure of the considered FTN-SCMA system 110
6.3	Factor graph representation of the of the <i>j</i> th resource element, where the shorthand notations $p_{kj} = p(h_{kj})$ . The factor graph is separated into four parts, i.e. decoding part denoted by ①, equalisation part denoted by ②, channel estimation part denoted by ③, colored noise part denoted by ④
6.4	Modified factor graph structure including user activity
6.5	Modified factor graph structure. The product node $\times_{kj}^{n}$ represents the constraint $\delta(\bar{s}_{kj}^{n} - \xi_k \tilde{s}_{kj}^{n})$
6.6	BER performance of different algorithms for FTN-SCMA system 127
6.7	BER performance of the proposed algorithm with different $\tau$ 128
6.8	BER performance of the proposed algorithm with different $L$ 128

6.9	BER performance of the proposed algorithm versus the number of
	iterations
6.10	NMSEs of different algorithms versus $E_b/N_0$
6.11	BER performance of the proposed active user detection algorithms
	and existing method
6.12	NMSE of channel estimate with different active probability $p_1$ 133

## Abbreviation

- 1G The First Generation
- 2G The Second Generation
- 3G The Third Generation
- 4G The Fourth Generation
- 5G The Fifth Generation
- ADMM Alternating Direction Method of Multipliers
- AMP Approximate Message Passing
- AR Auto Regressive
- AWGN Additive White Gaussian Noise
- BER Bit Error Rate
- BP Belief Propagation
- BS Base Station
- CDMA Code Division Multiple Access
- CS Compressive Sensing
- CSI Channel State Information
- dB Decibel
- DFT Discrete Fourier Transform
- DSC Doubly Selective Channel
- EM Expectation Maximisation
- EP Expectation Propagation
- EXIT Extrinsic Information Transfer
- FBMC Filter Bank Multi Carrier
- FDMA Frequency Shaped Sliding Mode Control

- FDE Frequency Domain Equalisation
- FTN Faster Than Nyquist
- GMP Gaussian Message Passing
- GSM Global System for Mobile Communication
- IDMA Interleave Division Multiple Access
- IDFT Inverse Discrete Fourier Transform
- ISI Inter Symbol Interference
- KLD Kullback-Leibler Divergence
- LDPC Low Density Check Code
- LDS Low Density Signature
- LLR Log Likelihood Ratio
- LMMSE Linear Minimum Mean Squared Error
- LS Least Square
- MAP Maximum A Posteriori
- MIMO Multiple Input Multiple Output
- MF Mean Field
- MMSE Minimum Mean Squared Error
- MPA Message Passing Algorithm
- MPSK M-ary Phase Shift Keying
- MUSA Multi-User Shared Access
- NOMA Non-Orthogonal Multiple Access
- OFDM Orthogonal Frequency Division Multiplexing
- OFDMA Orthogonal Frequency Division Multiple Access
- OMA Orthogonal Multiple Access
- PDMA Pattern Division Multiple Access
- PMF Probability Mass Function
- p-NOMA power domain NOMA

- QAM Quadrature Amplitude Modulation
- SCM Single-Carrier Modulation
- SCMA Sparse Code Multiple Access
- SIC Successive Interference Cancellation
- SPA Sum Product Algorithm
- TDMA Time Division Multiple Access
- VMP Variational Message Passing

## Nomenclature and Notation

- Capital boldface letters denote matrices.
- $\mathbf{A}_{:,i}$  denotes the *i*th column of matrix  $\mathbf{A}$ .
- Lower-case boldface alphabets denote column vectors.
- $(.)^T$  denotes the transpose operation.
- $(.)^*$  denotes the conjugate operation.
- $(.)^H$  denotes the Hermitian operation.
- $(.)^{-1}$  denotes the inverse operation.
- $I_n$  is the identity matrix of dimension  $n \times n$ .
- $\propto$  represents equality up to a constant normalization factor.
- $\mathbbmss{E}$  is the expectation operator.
- ${\cal C}$  denotes a constant.
- $\mathbb{B}^K$  denotes a K-dimensional binary space.
- $\mathbb{C}^K$  denotes a K-dimensional complex space.
- $\mathbb{R}^{K \times K}$  denotes a  $K \times K$ -dimensional complex space.
- \* denotes the convolution operator.