

Receiver Orientation versus Transmitter Orientation in Linear MIMO Transmission Systems

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In conventional transmission schemes, the transmitter algorithms are a priori given, whereas the algorithms to be used by the receivers have to be a posteriori adapted. Such schemes can be termed transmitter (Tx) oriented and have the potential of simple transmitter implementations. The opposite to Tx orientation would be receiver (Rx) orientation in which the receiver algorithms are a priori given, and the transmitter algorithms have to be a posteriori adapted. An advantage of the rationale Rx orientation is the possibility to arrive at simple receiver structures. In this paper, linear versions of the rationale Tx orientation and Rx orientation are applied to radio transmission systems with multiantennas both at the transmitter and receiver. After the introduction of adequate models for such multiple-input multiple-output (MIMO) systems, different system designs are evaluated by simulations, and recommendations for proper system solutions are given.

Keywords and phrases: MIMO systems, transmitter orientation, receiver orientation.

1. INTRODUCTION

In conventional transmission schemes the transmitter algorithms are a priori given and made known to the receiver, whereas the algorithms to be used by the receivers have to be a posteriori adapted, possibly under consideration of channel information. For this approach, where the transmitter (Tx) is the master and the receiver (Rx) is the slave, the authors propose the term Tx orientation. The opposite to Tx orientation would be Rx orientation in which the receiver algorithms would be a priori given and made known to the transmitter, and the transmitter algorithms, again possibly under consideration of channel information, have to be a posteriori adapted correspondingly. Since the early times of radio communications, the rationale Tx orientation has been preferred because, seemingly, it has some kind of natural appeal to system designers. It was not before the 1990s that the first ideas of Rx orientation came up (cf. Table 1). It took another couple of years to clearly formulate this rationale in 2000 [1]. From then on, it attracted broader attention so that a systematical study could begin. This late perception of Rx ori-

entation is astonishing because each of the two approaches, depending on the particular field of application, has its distinct pros. In the case of Tx orientation, the transmitter algorithms to be a priori determined can be chosen with a view to arrive at particularly simple transmitter implementations. On the other hand, in the case of Rx orientation, the receiver algorithms can be a priori determined in such a way that the receiver complexity is minimized. If we consider, as an important example of a radio transmission, mobile radio systems, the complexity of the mobile terminals (MT) should be as low as possible, whereas more complicated implementations can be tolerated at the base stations (BS). Having in mind the above-mentioned complexity features of the rationale Tx orientation and Rx orientation, this means that in the uplink (UL), the quasi natural choice would be Tx orientation, which leads to low-cost transmitters at the MTs, whereas in the downlink (DL), the rationale Rx orientation would be the favourite alternative because this results in simple receivers at the MTs. In [1, 2], the application of the rationale Rx orientation to mobile radio DLs is considered.

TABLE 1: Selected early publications on Rx-oriented transmission in chronological order.

References	Type of system, proposed techniques, and further remarks
[3, 4]	SISO, CDMA with spreading at Tx, design of FIR prefilter (MF criterion) \Rightarrow Pre-Rake
[5]	SISO, CDMA with spreading at Tx, pre-decorrelator (ZF criterion)
[6]	SISO, CDMA with spreading at Tx, pre-decorrelator (ZF criterion)
[7]	SISO, CDMA with spreading at Tx, pre-decorrelator (ZF criterion) and pre-MMSE (MMSE criterion)
[8]	MISO, CDMA with spreading at Tx, design of FIR prefilter (MF / ZF / MMSE criterion) \Rightarrow Pre-Rake
[9]	SISO, CDMA with spreading at Tx, design of FIR prefilter (MF criterion) \Rightarrow Pre-Rake
[10]	MIMO, MMSE processing (MMSE criterion)
[11]	MISO, CDMA, joint transmission (ZF criterion) \Rightarrow TxZF
[12]	MISO, CDMA, joint pre-distortion (ZF criterion) \Rightarrow TxZF
[13]	SISO, CDMA with spreading at Tx, design of FIR prefilter (ZF criterion)
[14]	MISO, CDMA, joint transmission (ZF criterion) \Rightarrow TxZF

As mentioned above, in the case of Tx orientation, channel knowledge would be desirable at the MTs, whereas in the case of Rx orientation, such knowledge should be available at the BSs. This means that, in the case of mobile radio systems, the above proposed combination of Tx orientation in the UL and Rx orientation in the DL is particularly easily feasible, if the utilized duplexing scheme is time division duplexing (TDD). In TDD, the UL and the DL use the same frequency in temporally separated periods so that, due to the reciprocity theorem, both links experience the same channel impulse responses as long as the time elapsing between UL and DL transmissions is not too large. Therefore, the channel knowledge needed by the BS receivers in the Tx-oriented UL and obtainable for instance based on the transmission of training signals by the MTs can be used also as the channel knowledge required for the Rx-oriented DL transmission. This approach to exploit channel knowledge available in the BS for DL transmission has the additional advantage that no resources have to be sacrificed for the transmission of training signals in the DL, which is, anyhow, capacity-wise the more critical one of the two links.

An important asset with respect to increasing the spectrum efficiency of radio transmission systems is the use of multiantennas instead of single antennas at both the transmitter and the receiver [15, 16]. Such multi-antenna structures were given the designation multiple input multiple output (MIMO). A series of theoretical results concerning the capacity of MIMO systems [17, 18] and the implementation of such systems [19, 20] came up in recent years. The present paper has the goal to study and compare the rationales Tx

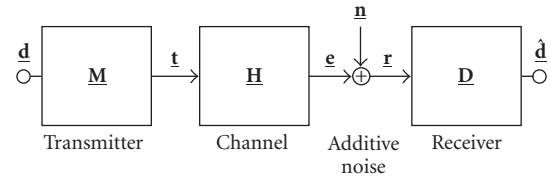


FIGURE 1: Generic model of a linear transmission system.

orientation and Rx orientation and to show some dualities and differences, if linear versions of these schemes are utilized in combination with MIMO antenna structures. Linear systems have, in contrast to nonlinear systems as for instance considered in [21], the advantage of lower complexity [22, 23]. Nevertheless, also in linear systems, a beneficial nonlinear feature can be introduced by operating the linear inner MIMO system in combination with outer FEC coding at the transmitter and FEC decoding at the receiver.

In Section 2, a generic model of linear transmission systems is developed. The topic of Section 3 is the detailed description of the rationales Tx orientation and Rx orientation under inclusion of the linear algorithms to be applied at the transmitters and receivers. In this section, also the quantity signal-to-noise-plus-interference ratio (SNIR) suitable for performance of comparisons of the two rationales is introduced. The generic model developed in Section 2 and the findings of Section 3 are adapted to linear MIMO transmission systems in Section 4. Section 5 presents the results of system simulations; these results help to decide in which cases Tx orientation or Rx orientation should be chosen. Finally, Section 6 summarizes the paper.

The investigations are performed in the time-discrete equivalent low-pass domain under utilization of the vector-matrix representation of signals and system components [24]. Consequently, signals and channel impulse responses are represented by complex vectors or matrices which are printed in bold face. In the analysis, $[\cdot]_{n,n}$ designates the n th diagonal element of a square matrix in brackets, $[\cdot]_n$ stands for the n th row of a matrix in brackets or the n th element of a vector in brackets, and $\|\cdot\|_2$ denotes the Euclidean norm of the vector in brackets. Moreover, the operation $\text{diag}(\cdot)$ yields a copy of the matrix in brackets with the diagonal elements being set to zero.

2. GENERIC MODEL OF LINEAR TRANSMISSION SYSTEMS

Figure 1 shows the generic model of a linear transmission system. In this model, the transmitter, the channel, and the receiver are described by the matrices \mathbf{M} , \mathbf{H} , and \mathbf{D} , respectively [1]. \mathbf{M} , \mathbf{H} , and \mathbf{D} are termed modulator matrix, channel matrix, and demodulator matrix, respectively. The signals occurring in the structure of Figure 1 are represented by the following column vectors:

- (i) \mathbf{d} : data signal to be transmitted,
- (ii) \mathbf{t} : transmit signal,
- (iii) \mathbf{e} : useful receive signal at the channel output,

TABLE 2: Dimensions of the vectors and matrices used in the structure of Figure 1.

Vector or matrix, respectively	Dimensions
$\underline{\mathbf{d}} = (d_1, \dots, d_N)^T$	$\mathbb{C}^{N \times 1}$
$\underline{\mathbf{M}}$	$\mathbb{C}^{Q \times N}$, $Q \geq N$
$\underline{\mathbf{t}}$	$\mathbb{C}^{Q \times 1}$
$\underline{\mathbf{H}}$	$\mathbb{C}^{S \times Q}$
$\underline{\mathbf{e}}$	$\mathbb{C}^{S \times 1}$
$\underline{\mathbf{n}}$	$\mathbb{C}^{S \times 1}$
$\underline{\mathbf{r}}$	$\mathbb{C}^{S \times 1}$
$\underline{\mathbf{D}}$	$\mathbb{C}^{N \times S}$
$\hat{\underline{\mathbf{d}}}$	$\mathbb{C}^{N \times 1}$

- (iv) $\underline{\mathbf{n}}$: Gaussian noise signal at the receiver input,
- (v) $\underline{\mathbf{r}}$: disturbed signal at the receiver input,
- (vi) $\hat{\underline{\mathbf{d}}}$: linear estimate of $\underline{\mathbf{d}}$ at the receiver output.

The dimensions of the vectors and matrices used in the structure of Figure 1 are specified in Table 2.

The elements d_n , $n = 1, \dots, N$, of $\underline{\mathbf{d}}$ are the data symbols to be transmitted and are taken from a finite symbol set

$$\mathbb{V} = \{\underline{v}_1 \cdots \underline{v}_M\} \quad (1)$$

of cardinality M . $\underline{\mathbf{d}}$ and $\underline{\mathbf{n}}$ are assumed to be wide-sense stationary with zero mean and the covariance matrices

$$\mathbf{R}_{\underline{\mathbf{d}}} = 2\sigma_d^2 \mathbf{I}^{N \times N}, \quad (2)$$

$$\mathbf{R}_{\underline{\mathbf{n}}} = 2\sigma_n^2 \mathbf{I}^{S \times S}, \quad (3)$$

respectively. In the system of Figure 1, the estimate $\hat{\underline{\mathbf{d}}}$ of $\underline{\mathbf{d}}$ obtained at the receiver output can be expressed as

$$\begin{aligned} \hat{\underline{\mathbf{d}}} &= (\hat{d}_1 \cdots \hat{d}_N)^T = \underline{\mathbf{D}} \underline{\mathbf{r}} = \underline{\mathbf{D}}(\underline{\mathbf{e}} + \underline{\mathbf{n}}) = \underline{\mathbf{D}}(\underbrace{\underline{\mathbf{H}} \underline{\mathbf{t}}}_{\underline{\mathbf{e}}} + \underline{\mathbf{n}}) \\ &= \underline{\mathbf{D}}(\underbrace{\underline{\mathbf{H}} \underline{\mathbf{M}} \underline{\mathbf{d}}}_{\underline{\mathbf{t}}} + \underline{\mathbf{n}}) = \underline{\mathbf{D}} \underline{\mathbf{H}} \underline{\mathbf{M}} \underline{\mathbf{d}} + \underline{\mathbf{D}} \underline{\mathbf{n}}. \end{aligned} \quad (4)$$

$\underline{\mathbf{D}} \underline{\mathbf{H}} \underline{\mathbf{M}}$ is a square matrix of dimension $N \times N$. Generally, each data symbol d_n , $n = 1, \dots, N$, has an influence on all Q elements of $\underline{\mathbf{t}}$. Therefore, Q can be considered as a spreading factor, where, as we will see in Section 4, spreading can have a temporal and a spatial component.

According to (2) and (4), the mean radiated energy invested for the data symbol d_n becomes

$$T_n = \frac{1}{2} \|\underline{\mathbf{M}}^T\|_n^2 2\sigma_d^2, \quad (5)$$

where the factor “1/2” results from the low-pass domain representation used within this contribution [25]. By averaging over all N data symbols d_n , $n = 1, \dots, N$, we obtain the mean

radiated energy

$$T = \frac{\sigma_d^2}{N} \sum_{n=1}^N \|\underline{\mathbf{M}}^T\|_n^2 \quad (6)$$

per data symbol.

The estimate \hat{d}_n of the transmitted data symbol d_n consists of the sum of a useful part

$$d_{\text{useful},n} = [\underline{\mathbf{D}} \underline{\mathbf{H}} \underline{\mathbf{M}}]_{n,n} d_n, \quad (7)$$

of an interference part

$$d_{\text{int},n} = [\overline{\text{diag}}(\underline{\mathbf{D}} \underline{\mathbf{H}} \underline{\mathbf{M}})]_n d_n, \quad (8)$$

and of a noise part

$$d_{\text{noise},n} = [\underline{\mathbf{D}} \underline{\mathbf{n}}]_n; \quad (9)$$

see also [24]. In (8) and (9), the terms in brackets are column vectors. A concise and obvious quality measure for the estimates \hat{d}_n of (4) are the SNIRs γ_n [24]. With (2), (3), (7), (8), and (9), we obtain

$$\begin{aligned} \gamma_n &= \frac{\mathbb{E}\{|d_{\text{useful},n}|^2\}}{\mathbb{E}\{|d_{\text{noise},n}|^2\} + \mathbb{E}\{|d_{\text{int},n}|^2\}} \\ &= \frac{|\underline{\mathbf{D}} \underline{\mathbf{H}} \underline{\mathbf{M}}|_{n,n}^2 \sigma_d^2}{\|\underline{\mathbf{D}}\|_n^2 \sigma_n^2 + \|\overline{\text{diag}}(\underline{\mathbf{D}} \underline{\mathbf{H}} \underline{\mathbf{M}})\|_n^2 \sigma_d^2}. \end{aligned} \quad (10)$$

Even though in this paper, γ_n is adopted as the quality measure and quantitatively studied, ultimately the symbol error probabilities would be the proper measure. Fortunately, in many cases, noise plus interference can be modeled as white Gaussian noise with sufficient accuracy. Then, the error probabilities immediately follow from the values γ_n . Otherwise, also the probability density function of noise plus interference has to be taken into account.

3. TRANSMITTER ORIENTATION AND RECEIVER ORIENTATION

The a posteriori determination of $\underline{\mathbf{D}}$ in the case of linear Tx orientation or of $\underline{\mathbf{M}}$ in the case of linear Rx orientation have to be performed under the consideration of certain criteria. Depending on these criteria, different matrices $\underline{\mathbf{D}}$ or $\underline{\mathbf{M}}$, respectively, result. In what follows, first expressions for determining $\underline{\mathbf{D}}$ or $\underline{\mathbf{M}}$, respectively, are presented, and only then it will be explained which criteria stand behind these expressions. The authors believe that this procedure facilitates the understanding of the presentation, even though the said expressions are consequences of the related criteria.

In the case of Tx orientation, $\underline{\mathbf{M}}$ and $\underline{\mathbf{H}}$ are a priori given, whereas $\underline{\mathbf{D}}$ is a posteriori determined at the Rx based on the knowledge of $\underline{\mathbf{M}}$ and $\underline{\mathbf{H}}$. Well-known approaches for determining $\underline{\mathbf{D}}$ are the receive matched filter (RxMF), the receive

zero forcer (RxZF), and the receive minimum mean square error estimator (RxMMSE) [24]. In these three cases, the demodulator matrix is a posteriori determined according to [24]

$$\underline{\mathbf{D}} = \begin{cases} (\underline{\mathbf{H}}\underline{\mathbf{M}})^H & \text{(RxMF),} \\ [(\underline{\mathbf{H}}\underline{\mathbf{M}})^H\underline{\mathbf{H}}\underline{\mathbf{M}}]^{-1}(\underline{\mathbf{H}}\underline{\mathbf{M}})^H & \text{(RxZF),} \\ [(\underline{\mathbf{H}}\underline{\mathbf{M}})^H\underline{\mathbf{H}}\underline{\mathbf{M}} + \sigma^2\mathbf{I}^{N \times N}]^{-1}(\underline{\mathbf{H}}\underline{\mathbf{M}})^H & \text{(RxMMSE).} \end{cases} \quad (11)$$

In the case of Rx orientation, $\underline{\mathbf{H}}$ and $\underline{\mathbf{D}}$ are a priori given, and $\underline{\mathbf{M}}$ is a posteriori determined at the Tx based on the knowledge of $\underline{\mathbf{H}}$ and $\underline{\mathbf{D}}$. Approaches meanwhile quite well known to determining $\underline{\mathbf{M}}$ are the transmit matched filter (TxMF) and the transmit zero forcer (TxZF) [1, 2]. For these, the modulator matrix is a posteriori determined as follows:

$$\underline{\mathbf{M}} = \begin{cases} (\underline{\mathbf{D}}\underline{\mathbf{H}})^H, & \text{(TxMF)} \\ (\underline{\mathbf{D}}\underline{\mathbf{H}})^H[\underline{\mathbf{D}}\underline{\mathbf{H}}(\underline{\mathbf{D}}\underline{\mathbf{H}})^H]^{-1}. & \text{(TxZF)} \end{cases} \quad (12)$$

Other options for Rx orientation are various kinds of transmit minimum mean square error modulators (TxMMSE). In one version, which leads to a closed-form expression for $\underline{\mathbf{M}}$, we set out from a given average transmit energy T , see (6), and, under this condition, determine $\underline{\mathbf{M}}$ with a real scalar k according to

$$\underline{\mathbf{M}} = k(\underline{\mathbf{D}}\underline{\mathbf{H}})^H \left[\underline{\mathbf{D}}\underline{\mathbf{H}}(\underline{\mathbf{D}}\underline{\mathbf{H}})^H + \frac{\sigma^2}{NT} \text{trace}(\underline{\mathbf{D}}\underline{\mathbf{D}}^H)\mathbf{I}^{N \times N} \right]^{-1},$$

$$\text{s.t. } \frac{\sigma_d^2}{N} \sum_{n=1}^N \|\underline{\mathbf{M}}^T\|_n^2 \stackrel{!}{=} T \quad \text{by proper choice of } k \quad \text{(TxMMSE).} \quad (13)$$

Equation (13) was first published in [26] in a somewhat different form.

Now we come to the said criteria behind the expressions (11) to (13). The criterion being fulfilled by the Tx-oriented schemes of (11) and the Rx-oriented schemes of (12) is the maximization of γ_n of (10) for a given mean transmit energy T_n per data symbol \underline{d}_n , see (5), and under different side conditions, namely [2, 24], the following.

- (1) RxMF, TxMF: the impact of the interference term $\|[\text{diag}(\underline{\mathbf{D}}\underline{\mathbf{H}}\underline{\mathbf{M}})]_n\|^2\sigma_d^2$ in the denominator on the right-hand side of (10) is neglected.
- (2) RxZF, TxZF: the impact of the interference term $\|[\text{diag}(\underline{\mathbf{D}}\underline{\mathbf{H}}\underline{\mathbf{M}})]_n\|^2\sigma_d^2$ in the denominator on the right-hand side of (10) is eliminated by forcing this term to zero.
- (3) RxMMSE: an optimum compromise between the impact of the noise term $\|[\underline{\mathbf{D}}]_n\|^2\sigma^2$ and the interference term $\|[\text{diag}(\underline{\mathbf{D}}\underline{\mathbf{H}}\underline{\mathbf{M}})]_n\|^2\sigma_d^2$ is brought about.

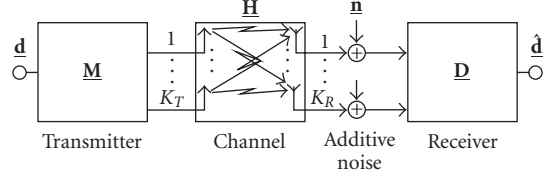


FIGURE 2: Linear MIMO transmission system.

In the case of the TxMMSE of (13), an average SNIR defined as

$$\gamma_{\text{TxMMSE}} = \frac{\sigma_d^2 \sum_{n=1}^N |[\underline{\mathbf{D}}\underline{\mathbf{H}}\underline{\mathbf{M}}]_{n,n}|^2}{\sum_{n=1}^N \{ \|[\underline{\mathbf{D}}]_n\|_2^2 \sigma^2 + \|[\text{diag}(\underline{\mathbf{D}}\underline{\mathbf{H}}\underline{\mathbf{M}})]_n\|_2^2 \sigma_d^2 \}} \quad (14)$$

is maximized for a given mean transmit energy T of (6) [26].

An important issue when evaluating the transmission schemes of (11) to (13) is the determination of the SNIRs for given mean transmit energies T_n of (5) or T of (6). Therefore, the question arises how these energies can be predetermined. In the case of the Tx-oriented schemes of (11), the mean transmit energies T_n per data symbol can be predetermined based on (5) when a priori establishing $\underline{\mathbf{M}}$ in a straightforward way. In the case of the TxMF and the TxZF, see (12), the predetermination of T_n has to be accomplished as follows:

- (i) determine $\underline{\mathbf{M}}$ by using (12),
- (ii) column-wise scale this $\underline{\mathbf{M}}$ in such a way that (5) yields the desired mean energies T_n .

In the case of the TxMMSE, see (13), the mean radiated energy T per data symbol can again be predetermined in a straightforward way.

The above theory is valid under the implicit understanding that the matrices to be inverted in (11) to (13) are non-singular. This condition is usually fulfilled in reasonably designed systems. However, a closer look at this problem has yet to come.

4. LINEAR MIMO TRANSMISSION SYSTEMS

Figure 2 shows a linear MIMO transmission system with K_T antennas at the transmitter and K_R antennas at the receiver. The question is how in the case of such a MIMO system the vectors and matrices introduced in the generic transmission system of Section 2 have to be adjusted in order to make the equations derived in Sections 2 and 3 applicable.

We assume that each data symbol \underline{d}_n is temporally spread over Q_t chips [2]. Then, with the K_T matrices

$$\underline{\mathbf{M}}^{(k_T)} = \begin{pmatrix} \underline{\mathbf{M}}_{1,1}^{(k_T)} & \underline{\mathbf{M}}_{1,2}^{(k_T)} & \cdots & \underline{\mathbf{M}}_{1,N}^{(k_T)} \\ \underline{\mathbf{M}}_{2,1}^{(k_T)} & \underline{\mathbf{M}}_{2,2}^{(k_T)} & \cdots & \underline{\mathbf{M}}_{2,N}^{(k_T)} \\ \vdots & \vdots & \ddots & \vdots \\ \underline{\mathbf{M}}_{Q_t,1}^{(k_T)} & \underline{\mathbf{M}}_{Q_t,2}^{(k_T)} & \cdots & \underline{\mathbf{M}}_{Q_t,N}^{(k_T)} \end{pmatrix} \in \mathbb{C}^{Q_t \times N} \quad (15)$$

termed transmit antenna specific modulator matrices, the (total) modulator matrix takes the form [2]

$$\underline{\mathbf{M}} = \begin{pmatrix} \underline{\mathbf{M}}^{(1)\text{T}} & \underline{\mathbf{M}}^{(2)\text{T}} & \dots & \underline{\mathbf{M}}^{(K_T)\text{T}} \end{pmatrix}^{\text{T}}, \quad (16)$$

$$\underline{\mathbf{M}} \in \mathbb{C}^{(Q_t K_T) \times N}.$$

According to (16), the spreading factor Q introduced in Table 2 now reads

$$Q = Q_t K_T. \quad (17)$$

This shows that the total spreading quantified by Q results from a temporal spreading and a spatial spreading represented by Q_t and K_T , respectively.

The radio channel between transmit antenna k_T , $k_T = 1, \dots, K_T$, and receive antenna k_R , $k_R = 1, \dots, K_R$, can be characterized by the transmit and receive antenna specific impulse response

$$\underline{\mathbf{h}}^{(k_R, k_T)} = \frac{1}{W} \begin{pmatrix} \underline{h}_1^{(k_R, k_T)} & \underline{h}_2^{(k_R, k_T)} & \dots & \underline{h}_W^{(k_R, k_T)} \end{pmatrix}^{\text{T}} \quad (18)$$

of dimension W [2]. Taking into account that each of the K_T transmit antennas radiates a signal of dimension $Q_t \times 1$, the signal transmission from the transmit antenna k_T , $k_T = 1, \dots, K_T$, to the receive antenna k_R , $k_R = 1, \dots, K_R$, can be described by the transmit and receive antenna specific channel matrix

$$\underline{\mathbf{H}}^{(k_R, k_T)} = \begin{pmatrix} \underline{h}_1^{(k_R, k_T)} & 0 & \dots & 0 \\ \underline{h}_2^{(k_R, k_T)} & \underline{h}_1^{(k_R, k_T)} & \ddots & \vdots \\ \vdots & \underline{h}_2^{(k_R, k_T)} & \ddots & 0 \\ \underline{h}_W^{(k_R, k_T)} & \vdots & \ddots & \underline{h}_1^{(k_R, k_T)} \\ 0 & \underline{h}_W^{(k_R, k_T)} & \ddots & \underline{h}_2^{(k_R, k_T)} \\ \vdots & \ddots & \ddots & \vdots \\ 0 & \dots & 0 & \underline{h}_W^{(k_R, k_T)} \end{pmatrix}, \quad (19)$$

$$\underline{\mathbf{H}}^{(k_R, k_T)} \in \mathbb{C}^{(Q_t + W - 1) \times Q_t}.$$

The $K_R K_T$ transmit and receive antenna specific channel matrices $\underline{\mathbf{H}}^{(k_R, k_T)}$ of (19) can be stacked to the (total) channel matrix

$$\underline{\mathbf{H}} = \begin{pmatrix} \underline{\mathbf{H}}^{(1,1)} & \underline{\mathbf{H}}^{(1,2)} & \dots & \underline{\mathbf{H}}^{(1, K_T)} \\ \underline{\mathbf{H}}^{(2,1)} & \underline{\mathbf{H}}^{(2,2)} & \dots & \underline{\mathbf{H}}^{(2, K_T)} \\ \vdots & \vdots & \ddots & \vdots \\ \underline{\mathbf{H}}^{(K_R, 1)} & \underline{\mathbf{H}}^{(K_R, 2)} & \dots & \underline{\mathbf{H}}^{(K_R, K_T)} \end{pmatrix}, \quad (20)$$

$$\underline{\mathbf{H}} \in \mathbb{C}^{[(Q_t + W - 1) K_R] \times [Q_t K_T]}.$$

According to (20), the quantity S introduced in Table 2 can be expressed as

$$S = (Q_t + W - 1) K_R \quad (21)$$

in the case of the considered MIMO system. Therefore, the signals $\underline{\mathbf{e}}$, $\underline{\mathbf{n}}$, and $\underline{\mathbf{r}}$, see Table 2, have the dimension $[(Q_t + W - 1) K_R] \times 1$. Consequently,

$$\underline{\mathbf{D}} \in \mathbb{C}^{N \times [(Q_t + W - 1) K_R]} \quad (22)$$

holds for the demodulator matrix.

With the matrices $\underline{\mathbf{M}}$, $\underline{\mathbf{H}}$, and $\underline{\mathbf{D}}$ defined by (16), (20), and (22), respectively, the different transmission schemes specified by (11), (12), and (13) can be immediately applied to linear MIMO transmission systems.

5. SYSTEM EVALUATIONS BY SIMULATIONS

Based on the performance measure SNIR of (10), different versions of linear MIMO transmission systems can be compared and assessed. Questions to be answered by such comparisons concern

- (i) the performance difference of Tx-oriented and Rx-oriented systems,
- (ii) the influence of the antenna numbers K_T and K_R on the system performance.

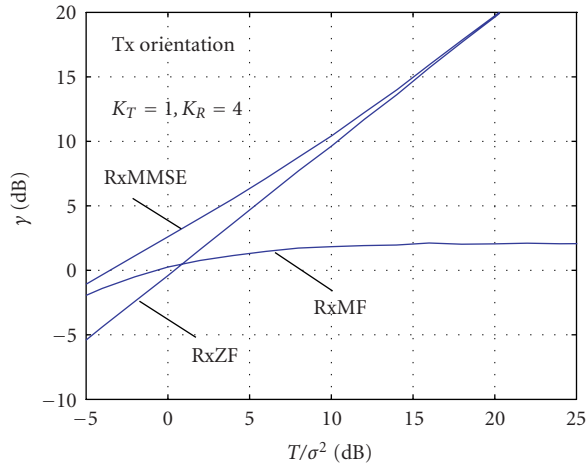
Because a closed-form analysis is not possible, these questions will be addressed by simulations in what follows. Concerning the design of linear MIMO transmission systems, besides the distinction between Tx orientation and Rx orientation, we can choose from a great variety of system parametrizations and channel realizations. In this paper, only a limited selection of such variants can be considered, which, nevertheless, will allow some generally valid statements. In all simulations, we set

$$N = Q_t = W = 4. \quad (23)$$

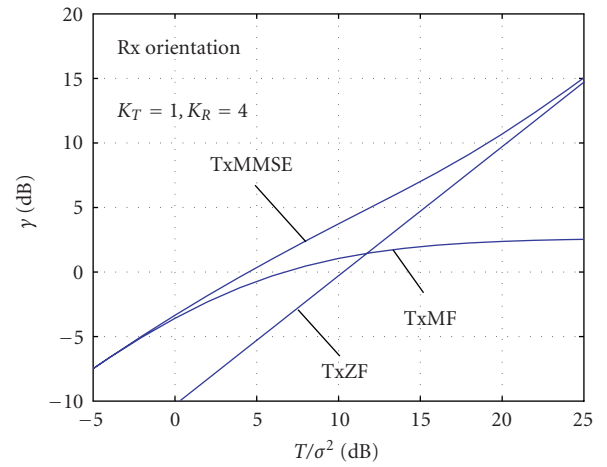
Simulations are performed for different pairs K_T , K_R of antenna numbers. For each such pair, many system realizations are investigated. In each realization, the elements of $\underline{\mathbf{h}}^{(k_R, k_T)}$ of (18) and—in the case of Tx orientation—the elements of $\underline{\mathbf{M}}$, or—in the case of Rx orientation—the elements of $\underline{\mathbf{D}}$ are chosen as independent realizations of a complex Gaussian random variable with variance 1 of its real and imaginary parts. For a given T/σ^2 , by averaging over all N values γ_n of (10) and all realizations, the mean SNIR γ can be obtained as a function of T/σ^2 . Concerning the predetermination of T , see the last paragraph of Section 3. The determination of $\underline{\mathbf{h}}^{(k_R, k_T)}$ described above means that all $K_T K_R$ channel impulse responses are totally uncorrelated. The opposite to this extreme case would be totally correlated channel impulse responses, which, however, are not considered in this paper.

In Figures 3a, 3b, 3c, 3d, 3e, and 3f, the mean SNIR γ is plotted versus T/σ^2 for different pairs K_T , K_R and different transmission schemes. The curves in these figures allow the following conclusions.

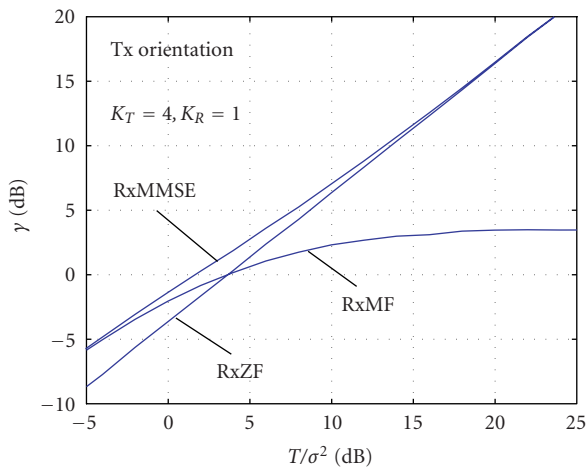
- (1) Both in the case of Tx orientation and Rx orientation, the MF outperforms the ZF for small values of T/σ^2 , and the ZF outperforms the MF for large values of T/σ^2 . See Figures 3a, 3b, 3c, and 3d.



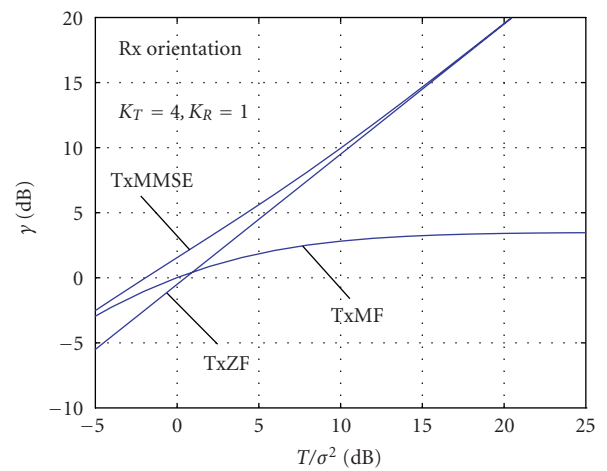
(a)



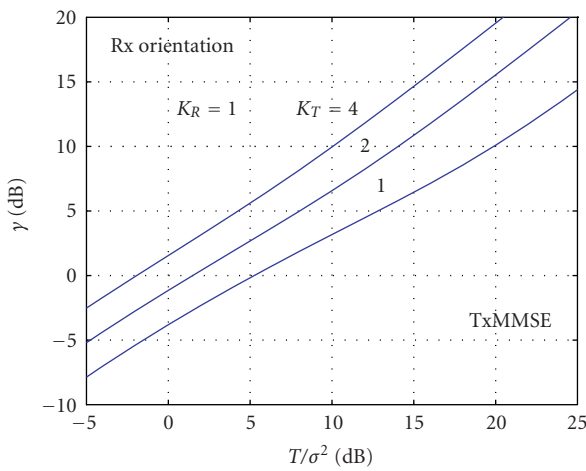
(b)



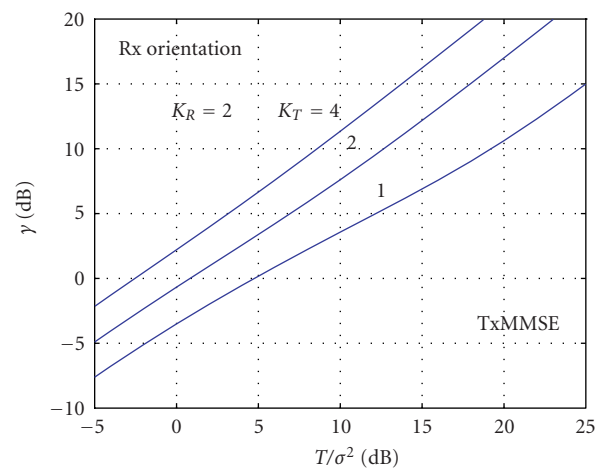
(c)



(d)



(e)



(f)

FIGURE 3: Mean SNIR γ versus T/σ^2 for the rationales Tx orientation and Rx orientation and for different combinations K_T, K_R ; $N = Q_t = W = 4$.

- (2) Both in the case of Tx orientation and Rx orientation, the MMSE outperforms the MF and the ZF. For small values of T/σ^2 , the performance of the MMSE converges to the performance of the MF, and for large values of T/σ^2 to the performance of the ZF. See Figures 3a, 3b, 3c, and 3d.
- (3) If the number K_R of receive antennas is larger than the number K_T of transmit antennas, Tx orientation should be chosen because it outperforms Rx orientation. If K_R is smaller than K_T , the opposite is true. Compare Figures 3a and 3b, and Figures 3c and 3d.
- (4) The performance is enhanced with growing K_T and K_R . See Figures 3e and 3f.

If we compare the Tx-oriented schemes for $K_T = 1$ and $K_R = 4$ (see Figure 3a) with the Rx-oriented schemes for $K_T = 4$ and $K_R = 1$ (see Figure 3d) or if we compare the Tx-oriented schemes for $K_T = 4$, $K_R = 1$ (see Figure 3c) with the Rx-oriented schemes for $K_T = 1$, $K_R = 4$ (see Figure 3b), we can find a very interesting result: if the number of antennas in the two considered schemes both at the a priori given sides and at the a posteriori adapted sides are equal, then the Rx-oriented schemes perform worse than the Tx-oriented schemes. This effect results from the assumption of totally uncorrelated channel impulse responses of dimension W , which is larger than one.

6. SUMMARY

A system model for linear MIMO transmission systems is developed, and this model is worked out for the cases of Tx-oriented and Rx-oriented systems. Based on the system model, performance comparisons and evaluations are made in which the performance measure is the mean SNIR, and the recommendations concerning the system design are given.

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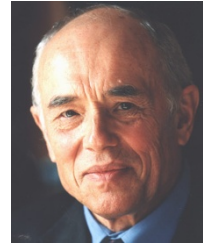
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