

Introduction to Cognitive radios

Part one

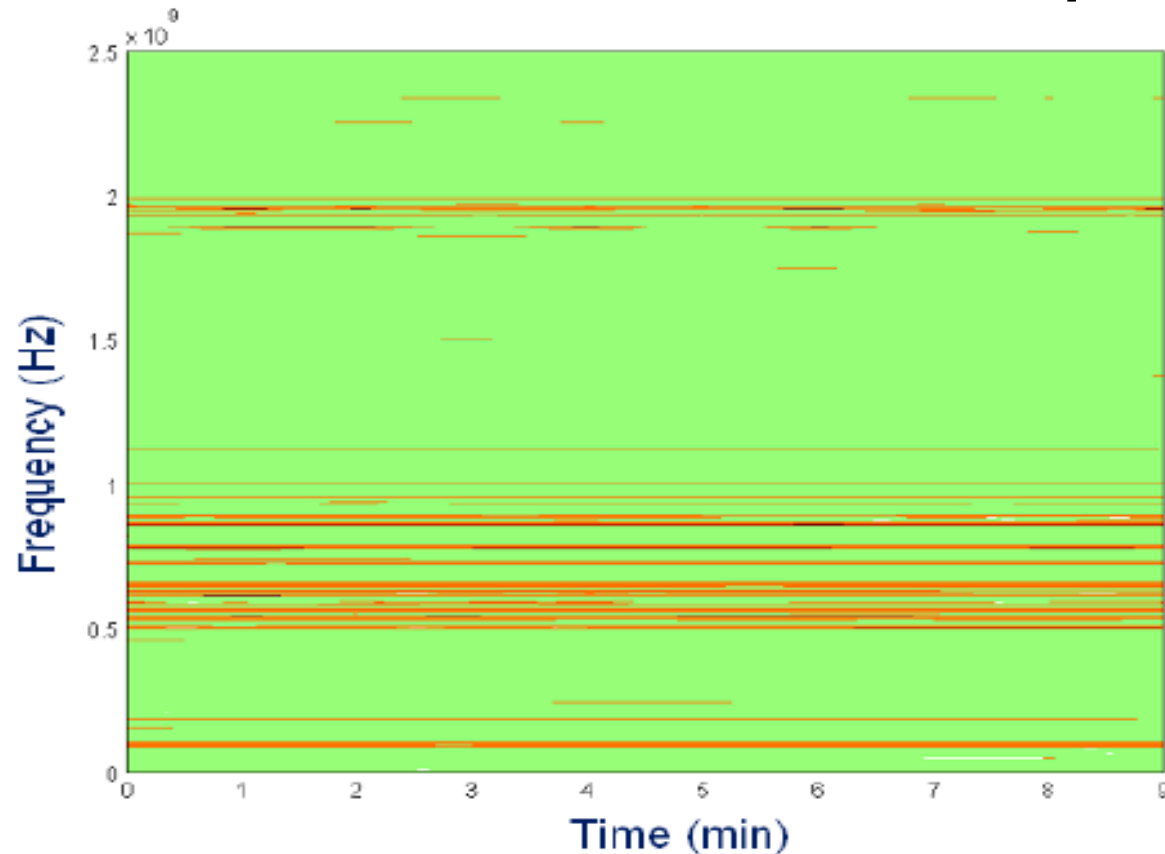
HY 539

Presented by: George Fortetsanakis

Increased user demand

- The ISM band is a host of many different wireless technologies.
 - WiFi
 - Bluetooth
 - Wimax
- The number of devices that function at the ISM band is constantly growing.
 - Interference between these devices is growing as well.
 - This means degradation of performance.

Underutilization of licensed spectrum



- Licensed portions of the spectrum are underutilized.
 - According to FCC, only 5% of the spectrum from 30 MHz to 30 GHz is used in the US.

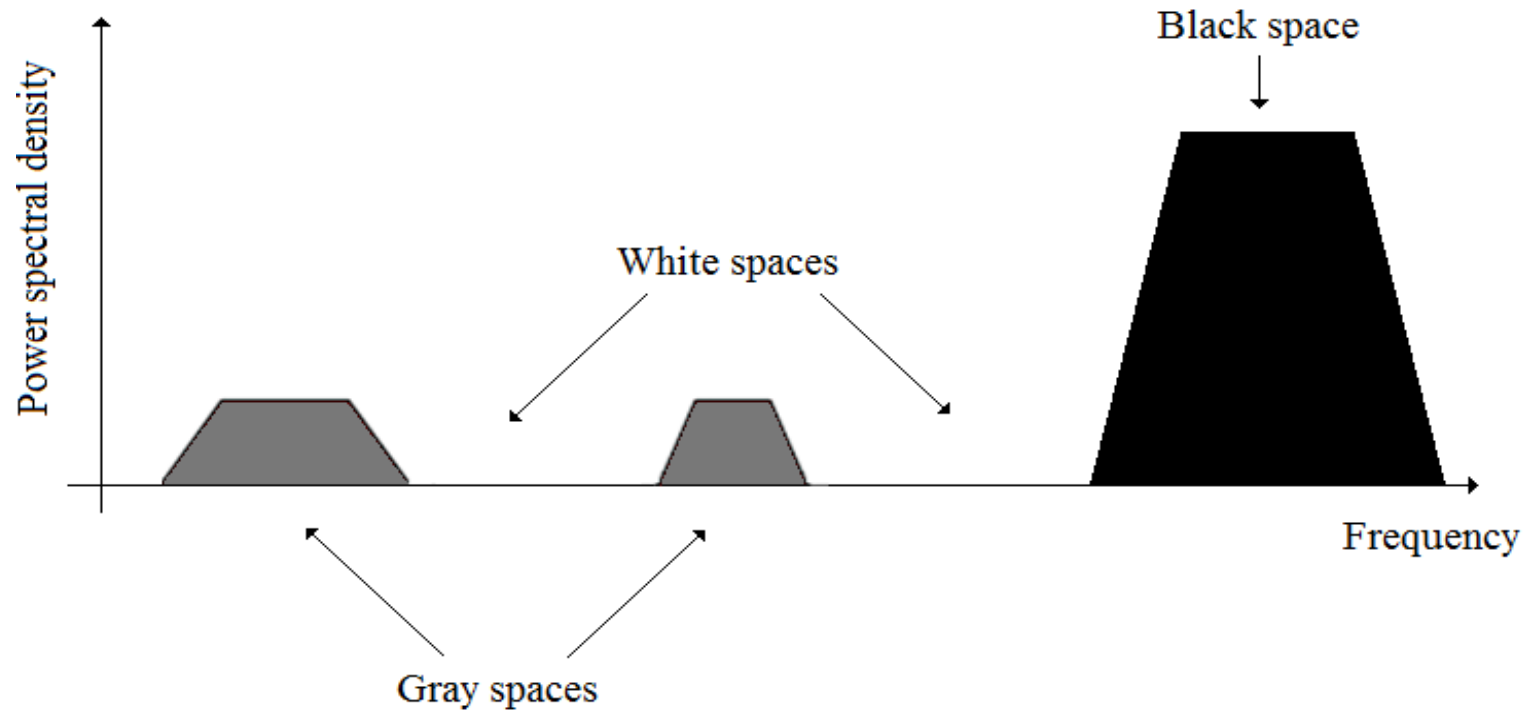
Cognitive radios

- Intelligent devices that can coexist with licensed users without affecting their quality of service.
 - Licensed users have higher priority and are called **primary users**.
 - Cognitive radios access the spectrum in an opportunistic way and are called **secondary users**.
- Networks of cognitive radios could function at licensed portions of the spectrum.
 - Demand to access the ISM bands could be reduced.

Restrictions to secondary users

- Licensed portions of the spectrum consists of frequency bands that belong to one of the following categories:
 - **White spaces:** Primary users are absent. These bands can be utilized without any restriction.
 - **Gray spaces:** Primary users are present. Interference power at primary receivers should not exceed a certain threshold called interference temperature limit.
 - **Black spaces:** Primary user's power is very high. Secondary users should use an interference cancellation technique in order to communicate.

Example



- Secondary users can identify white, gray and black spaces and adapt according to the corresponding restrictions.

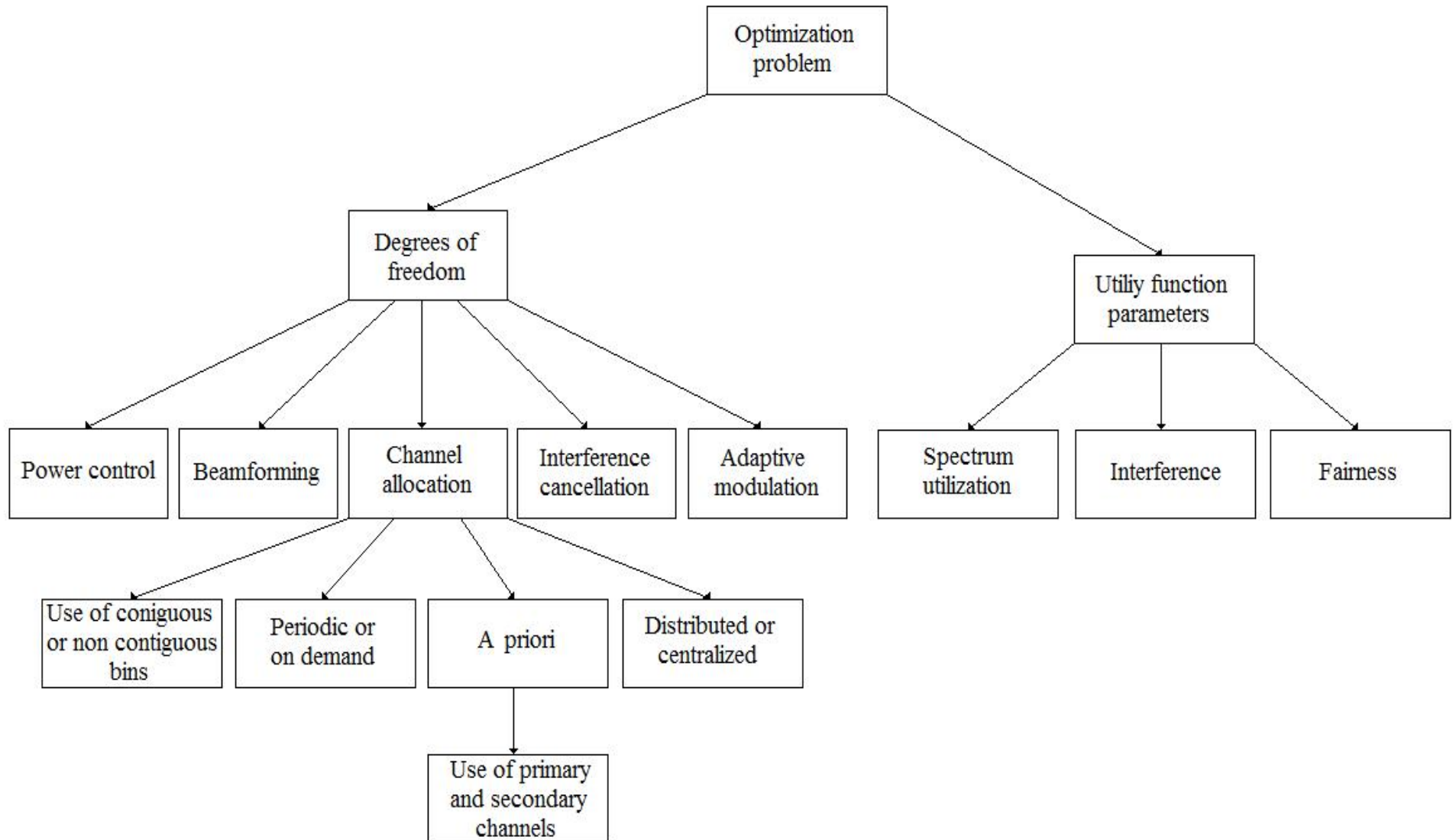
Coexistence of secondary users

- Usually, in cognitive radio networks, a large number of secondary users compete to access the spectrum.
- A **protocol** should define the behavior of all these users such that the network's performance is maximized.
- Performance metrics:
 - Spectrum utilization
 - Fairness
 - Interference to primary users.

Performance optimization

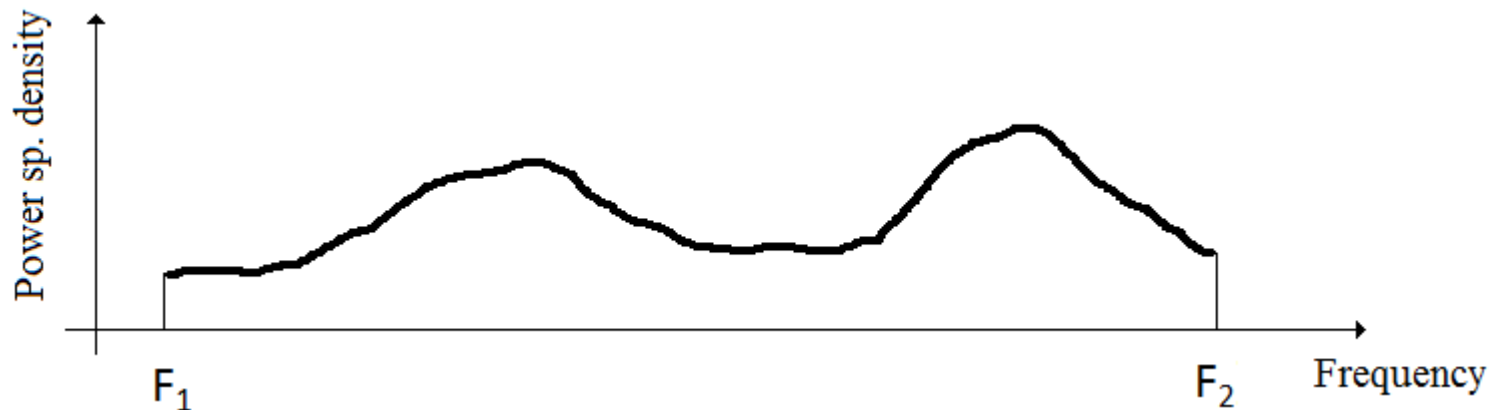
- Proposed protocols in the literature define an optimization problem.
 - The utility function depends on the performance metrics.
- Parameters of the problem are chosen from the following set:
 - Channel allocation
 - Adaptive modulation
 - Interference cancellation
 - Power control
 - Beamforming

Definition of the problem



1. Channel allocation

- Problem formulation:
 - 2 secondary users compete for access in the band $[F_1 F_2]$.
 - The interference plus noise power as observed by the first user is:



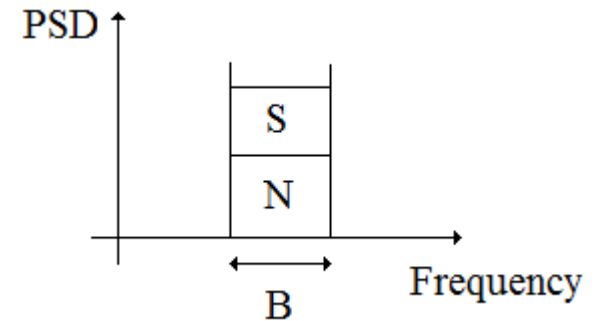
- Question: Which is the best way for this user to distribute its transmission power at the interval $[F_1 F_2]$?

Channel capacity

- According to Shannon the maximum rate that can be achieved in a channel is:

$$R(S) = B \log_2 \left(1 + \frac{S}{N} \right)$$

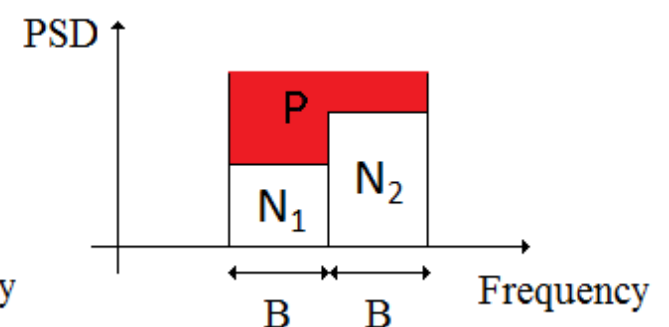
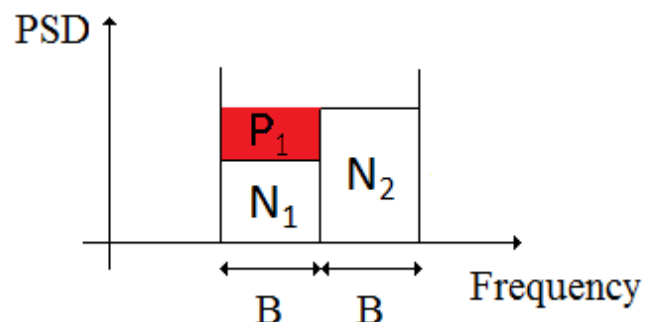
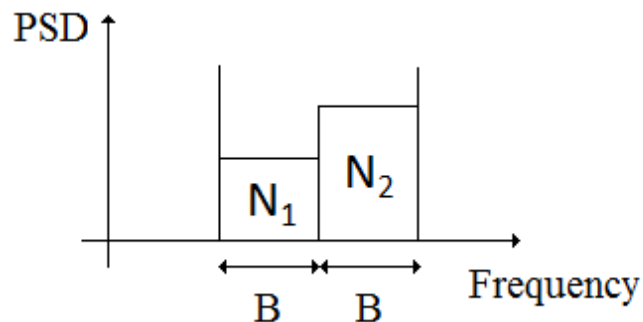
- S: signal power
- N: interference plus noise power
- B: width of the channel



$$\frac{dR(S)}{dS} = \frac{B}{\ln 2} \frac{1}{1 + \frac{S}{N}} \frac{1}{N} = \frac{B}{\ln 2} \frac{1}{S + N}$$

- As the power that is introduced to a channel increases, the achievable rate increases more and more slowly.

Energy investment in two channels



$$\frac{B}{\ln 2} \frac{1}{N_1} > \frac{B}{\ln 2} \frac{1}{N_2} \Rightarrow$$

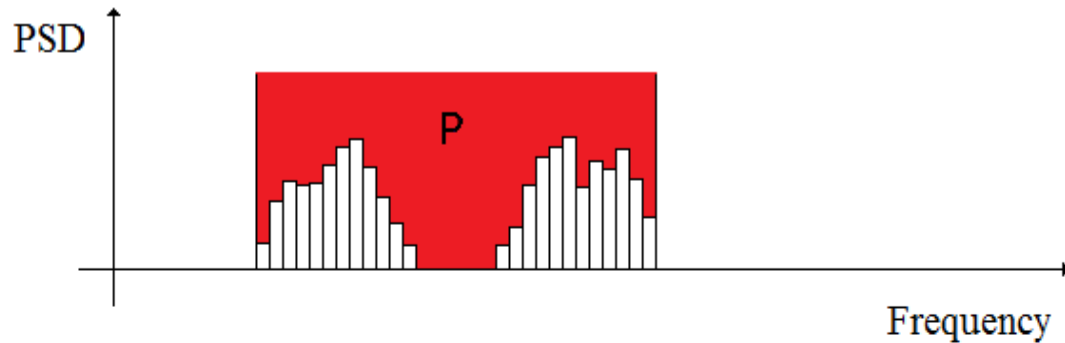
$$\frac{B}{\ln 2} \frac{1}{N_1 + P_1} = \frac{B}{\ln 2} \frac{1}{N_2} \Rightarrow$$

$$\frac{dR_1}{ds} > \frac{dR_2}{ds}$$

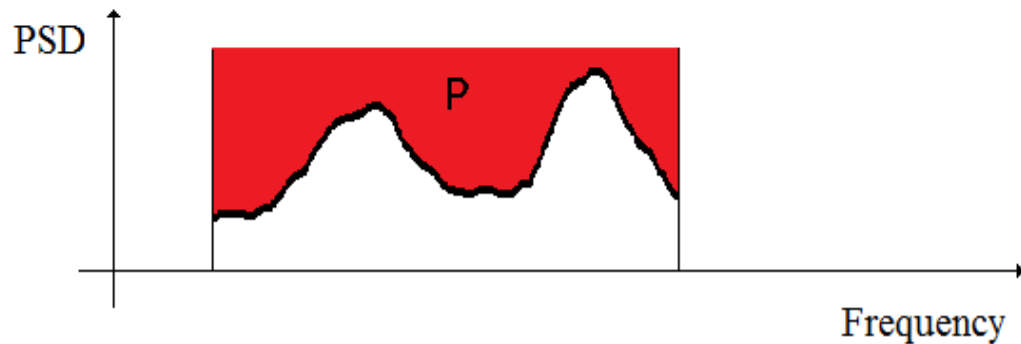
$$\frac{dR_1}{ds} = \frac{dR_2}{ds}$$

- We start by investing energy in the first channel until it's total power becomes equal to N_2 .
- After that point, energy is divided equally among the two channels.

Water filling strategy

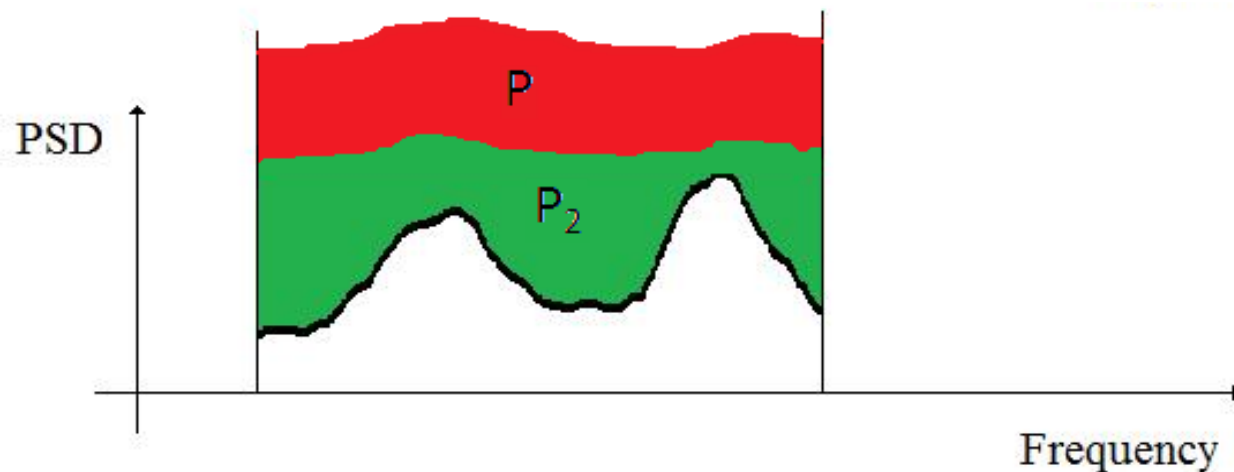


- The best way for a user to invest its power is to distribute it in the whole range of frequencies.



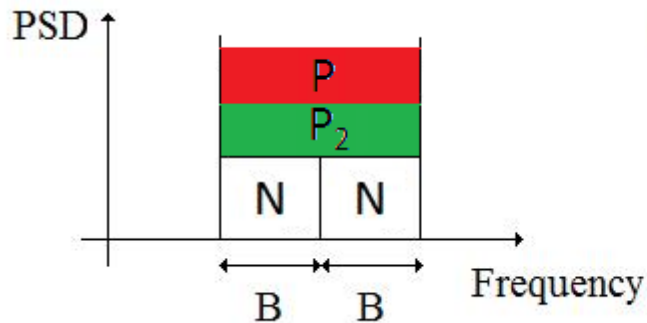
Interference between users

- Consider again that 2 systems compete for access in the band $[F_1 F_2]$.
 - According to the water filling strategy both will invest their energy in the whole interval $[F_1 F_2]$.
- The first user will achieve a lower rate than expected due to the interference of the second user.

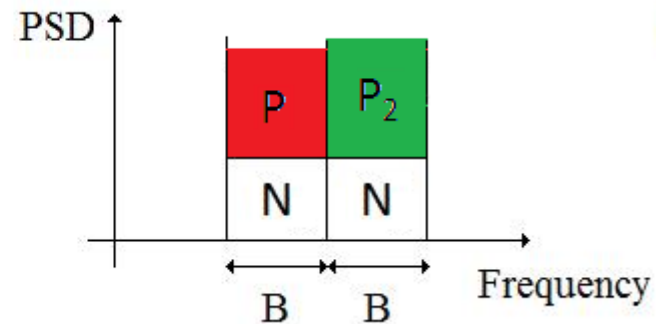


Cooperation

- Is it possible for the two users to achieve a better rate if they cooperate?
- Example:



$$R_1 = 2B \log\left(1 + \frac{P}{P_2 + 2N}\right)$$



$$R_1' = B \log\left(1 + \frac{P}{N}\right)$$

- When $R_1' > R_1$ then dividing the bandwidth among the two users is more effective than water filling.

Channel allocation problem

- M users compete to access a band.
 - They do not use the selfish water filling strategy
 - Instead they cooperate and divide the spectrum among them in the most efficient way.
- The initial band is divided into a number of non overlapping frequency bins.
 - An algorithm maps the bins to users in such a way that a global utility function is maximized.

Channel allocation algorithm

- There are various ways that a channel allocation algorithm could be designed.
 - Distributed or centralized.
 - Proactive or on demand.
 - Predetermined channel allocation.
 - Allocation of contiguous or non contiguous bins to devices.

Centralized algorithms

- One entity is responsible for the division of channels among users.
- This entity should be periodically informed about various parameters such as:
 - Traffic demand of users
 - Possible changes in the network topology
 - Quality of links
- The amount of information maintained by the centralized entity gets larger as the network grows.
 - Scalability issue

Distributed algorithms

- Each node should be kept informed about the conditions in it's own neighborhood.
 - If two nodes decide to use a channel they first inform their neighbors for this action.
 - That way no other node interferes with their communication.
 - Each node should be able to store an amount of information in it's memory.
 - A large number of messages should be exchanged for the algorithm to function.
- Distributed approaches ensure the scalability of the network better than centralized approaches.

Comparison

- Centralized approaches are a better choice for infrastructure networks.
 - The topology of such networks does not change very often.
 - There is an entity with which can maintain the information needed to administrate the network.
- Distributed approaches are more suitable for ad-hoc networks.
 - These networks are usually formed by nodes with limited resources.
 - Scale in an unpredicted way.

Proactive or on demand algorithms

- In proactive approaches, channels are allocated to users periodically.
- On demand approaches allocate channels to users only when they need them.
 - The channel allocation algorithm should be executed more times than in periodic approaches (when the traffic demand is high).
 - Better utilization of spectrum can be achieved.

Predetermined channel allocation

- Channels are allocated to users only when there is a change in the topology.
 - Each user gets an equal share of the bandwidth.
- Due to variation of load throughout the network, some users could need more bandwidth than other at certain times.
 - Users could borrow channels from their neighbors when they need them.

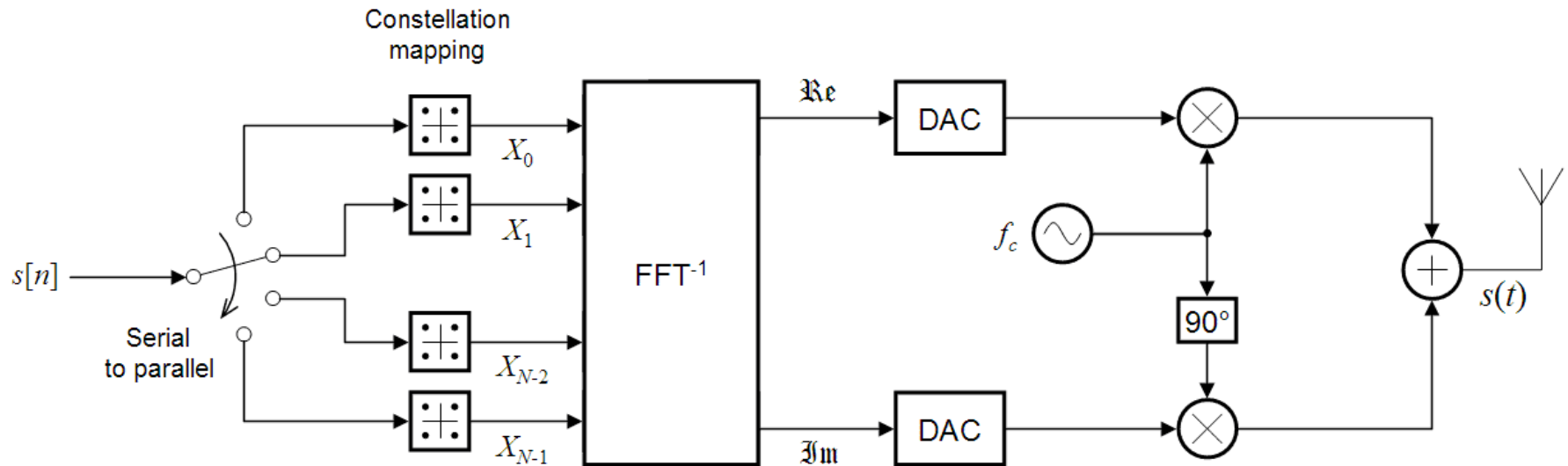
Primary and secondary channels

- Channels that are allocated to a user are called **primary**.
- Channels that a user borrows from the neighborhood are called **secondary**.
- Predetermined channel allocation is not so suitable for cognitive radio networks, due to:
 - Changes of channel conditions caused by primary user activity
 - Network topology changes very often.

Use of contiguous or non contiguous bins

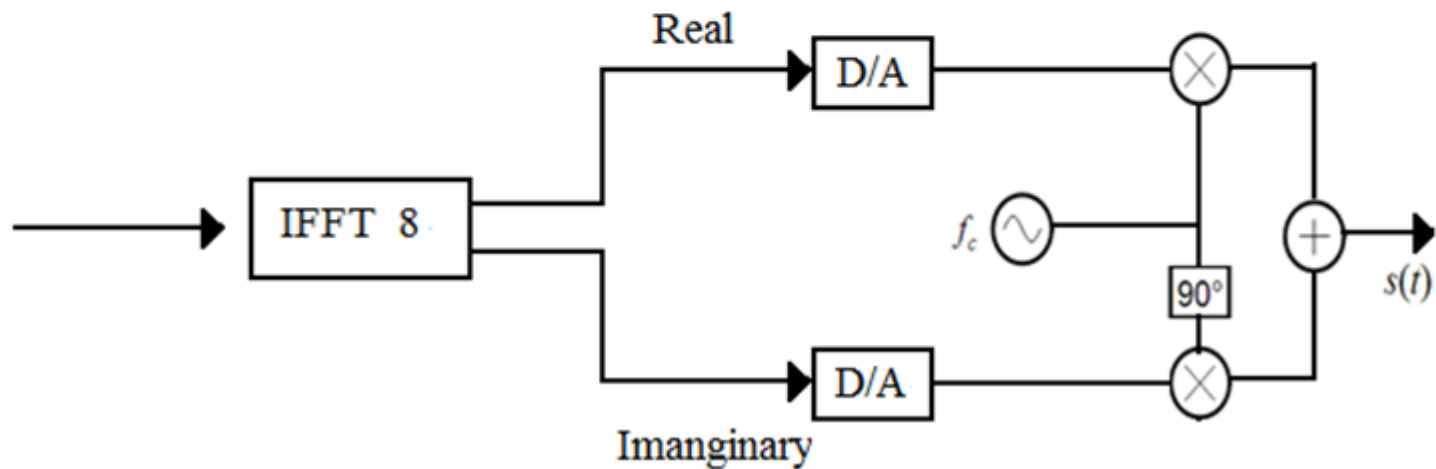
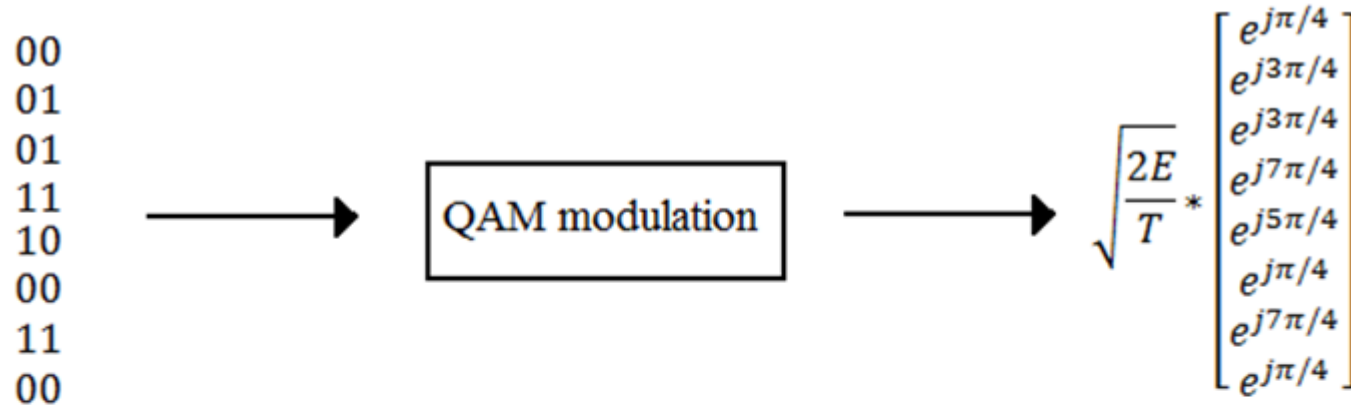
- Is it possible for the channel allocation algorithm to map bins that are not contiguous to a particular user.
- Answer: Yes, there is a modulation scheme called NC-OFDM that can be used in such a case.

OFDM modulation

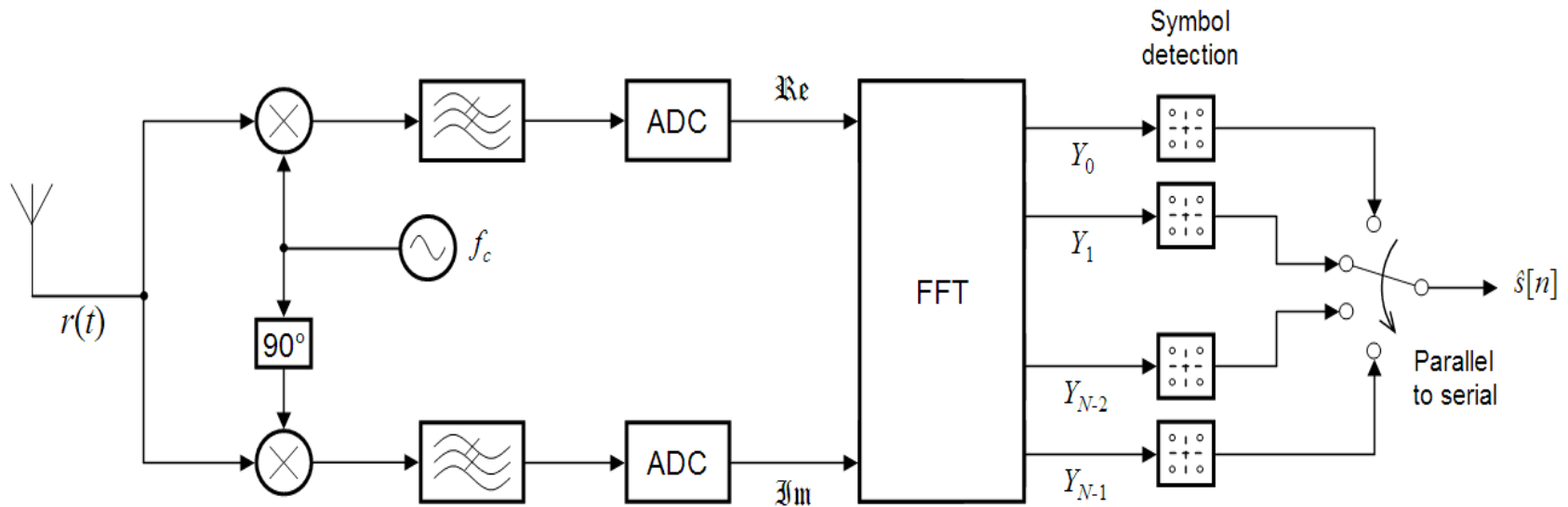


- The bit stream is divided into N parallel subflows.
- The symbols of each subflow are modulated using MPSK or MQAM.
- Resulting complex numbers are fed to a module that performs FFT^{-1} .
- Finally the signal is converted from digital to analog, brought to the RF frequencies and then fed to the antenna of the transmitter.

Example modulation

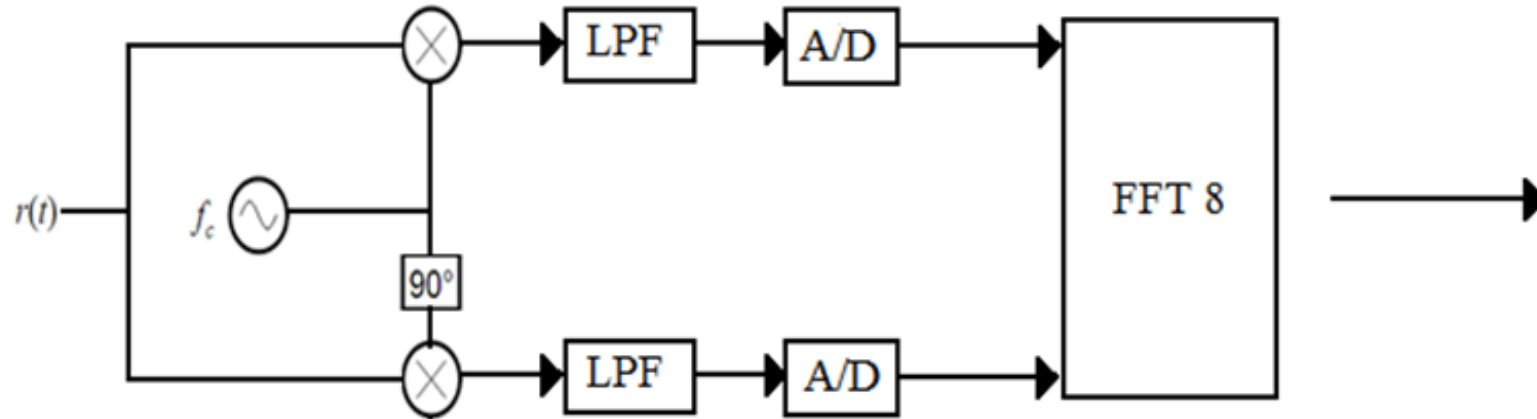


OFDM Demodulation

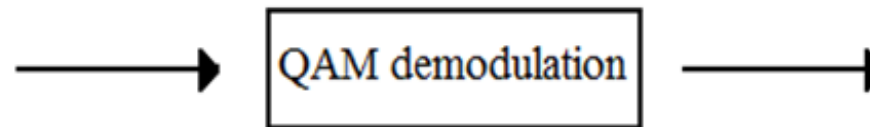


- At the receiver the inverse procedure is followed.
- First the signal is brought down to baseband and is converted from analog to digital. Then FFT is performed which produces the estimations of the transmitted symbols.

Example demodulation



$$\sqrt{\frac{2E}{T}}^* \begin{bmatrix} 0.80e^{j0.9\pi/4} \\ 0.82e^{j3.2\pi/4} \\ \mathbf{0.90e^{j4.01\pi/4}} \\ 0.76e^{j6.7\pi/4} \\ 0.96e^{j5.1\pi/4} \\ 0.70e^{j1.2\pi/4} \\ 0.87e^{j7.3\pi/4} \\ 0.79e^{j1.4\pi/4} \end{bmatrix}$$

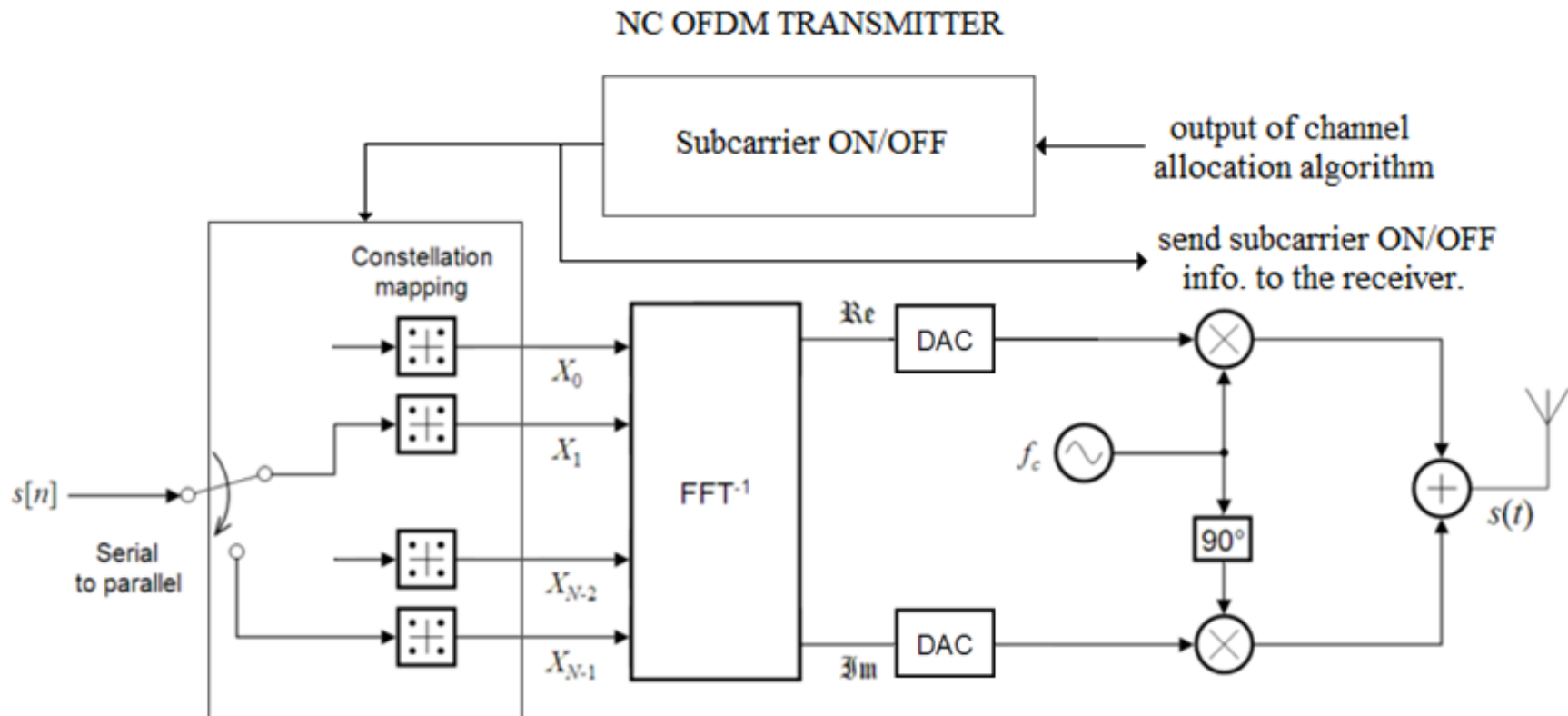


Transmitted seq.

| | |
|-----------|----|
| 00 | 00 |
| 01 | 01 |
| 10 | 01 |
| 11 | 11 |
| 10 | 10 |
| 00 | 00 |
| 11 | 11 |
| 00 | 00 |

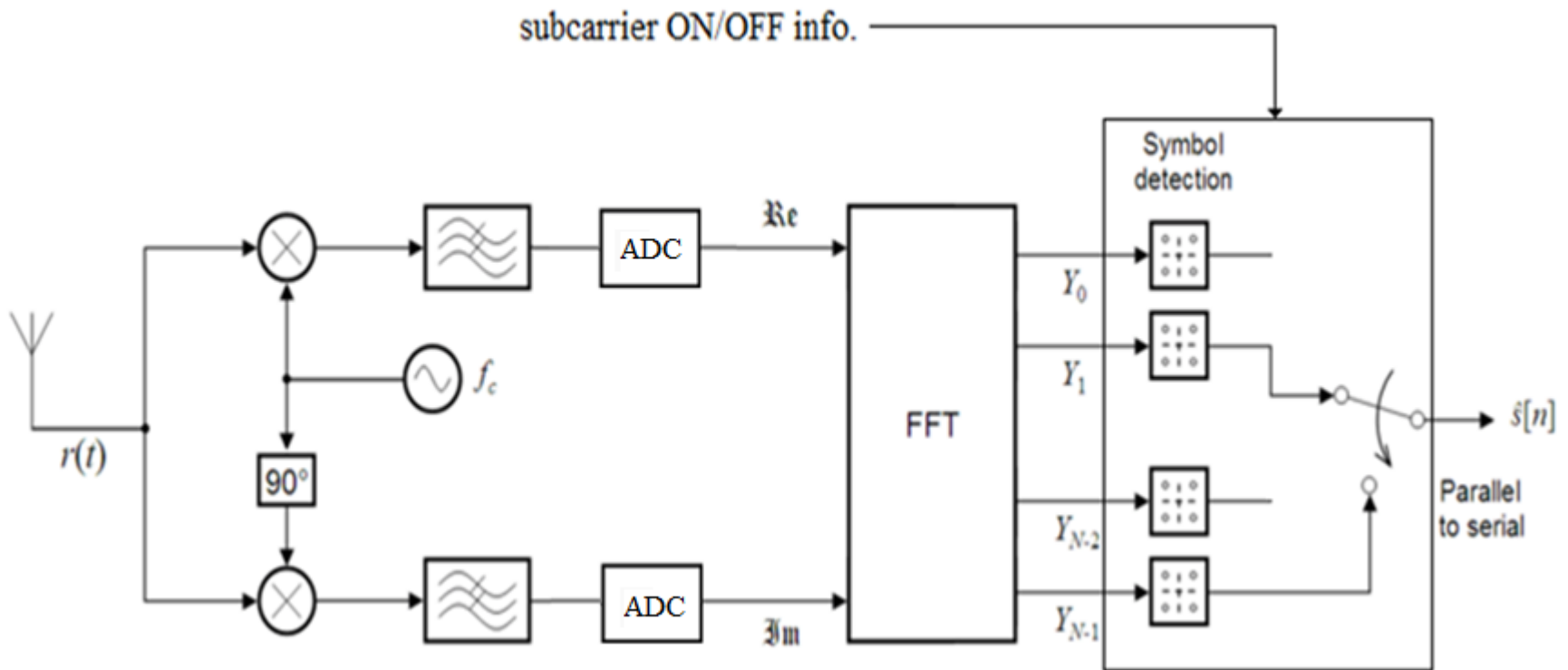
NC OFDM

- NC OFDM (non contiguous OFDM) is exactly the same as OFDM with the following difference:
 - Bins that are not allocated to a particular device are deactivated.

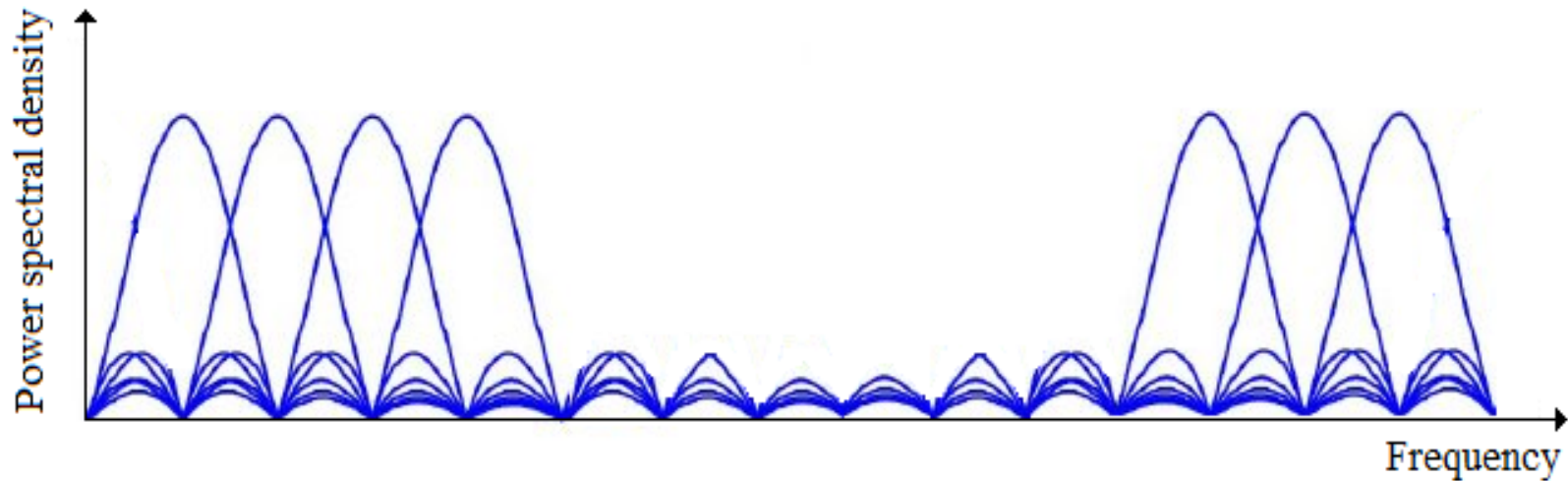


NC OFDM receiver

- At the NC OFDM receiver the reverse process is followed in order to extract the transmitted symbols.



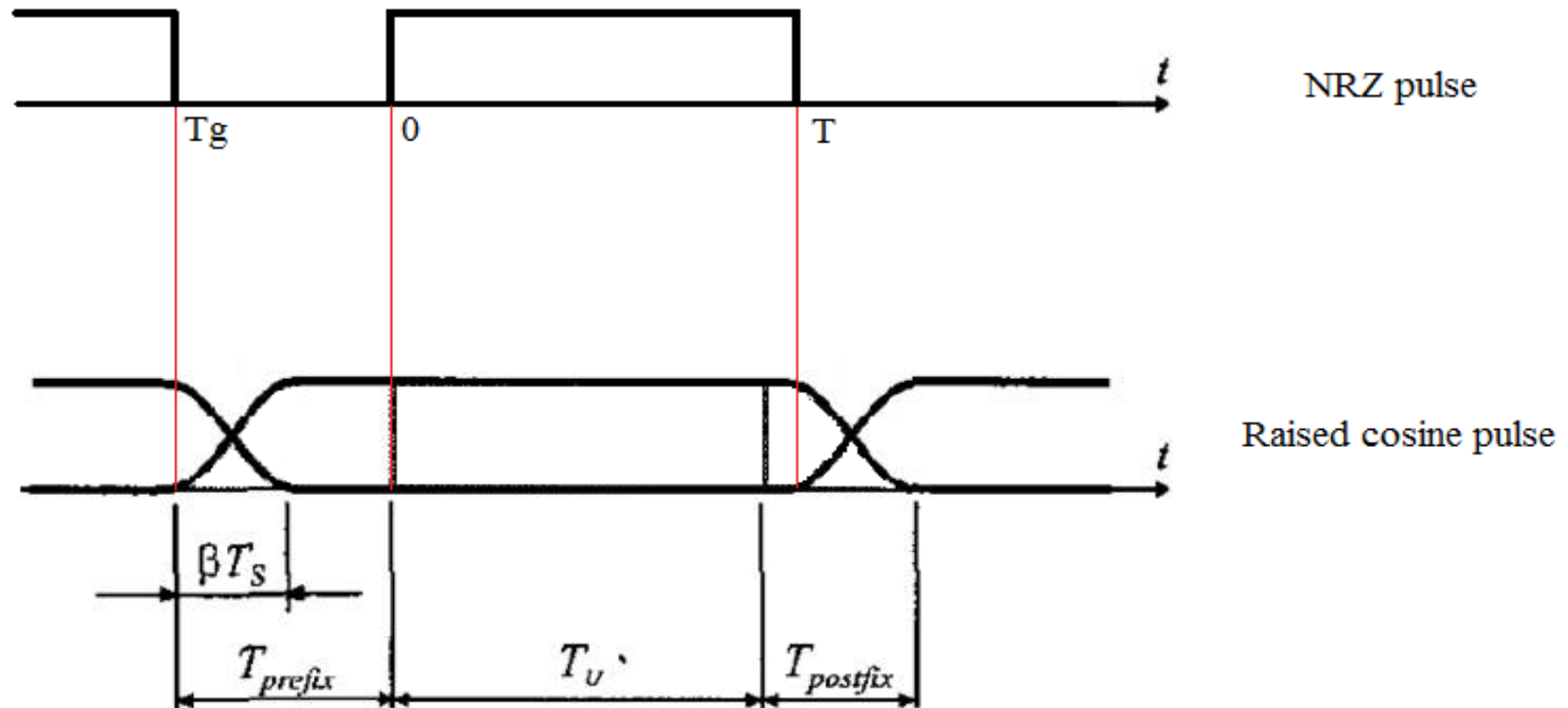
NC OFDM introduces interference



- The NC OFDM modulation scheme introduces a significant amount of interference power to adjacent frequency bins.

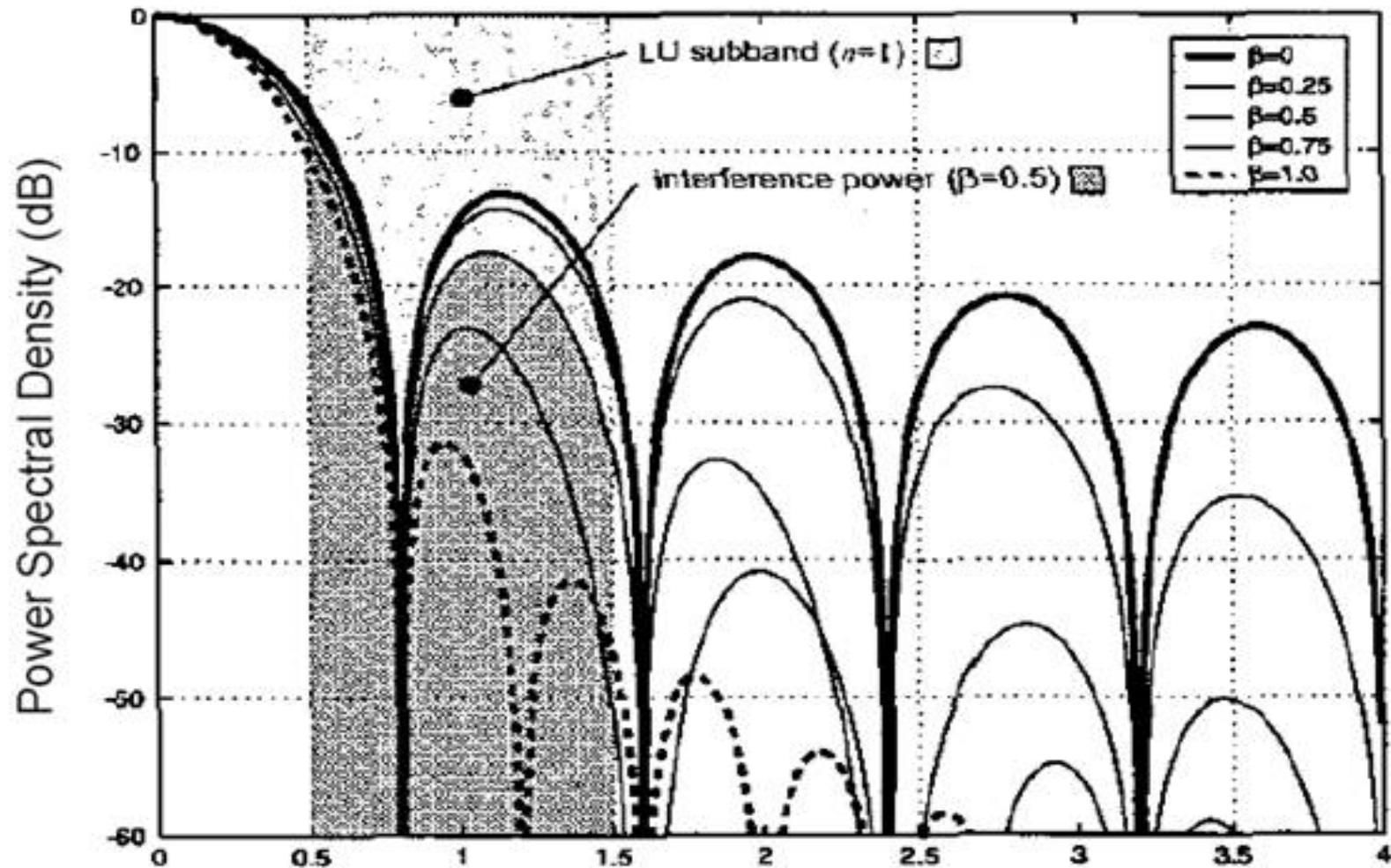
Solution 1: windowing of time signal

- Use raised cosine pulses for the modulation of the baseband signal instead of NRZ pulses.

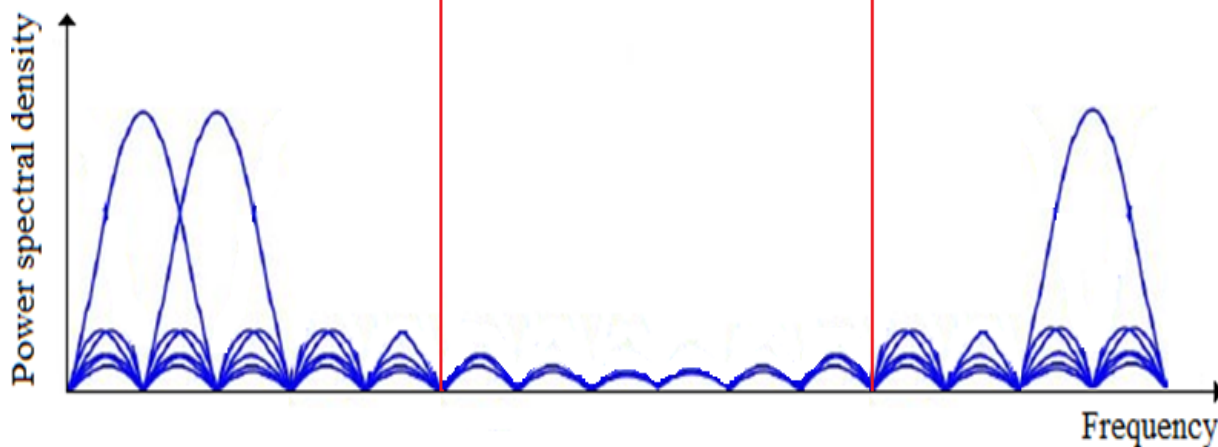
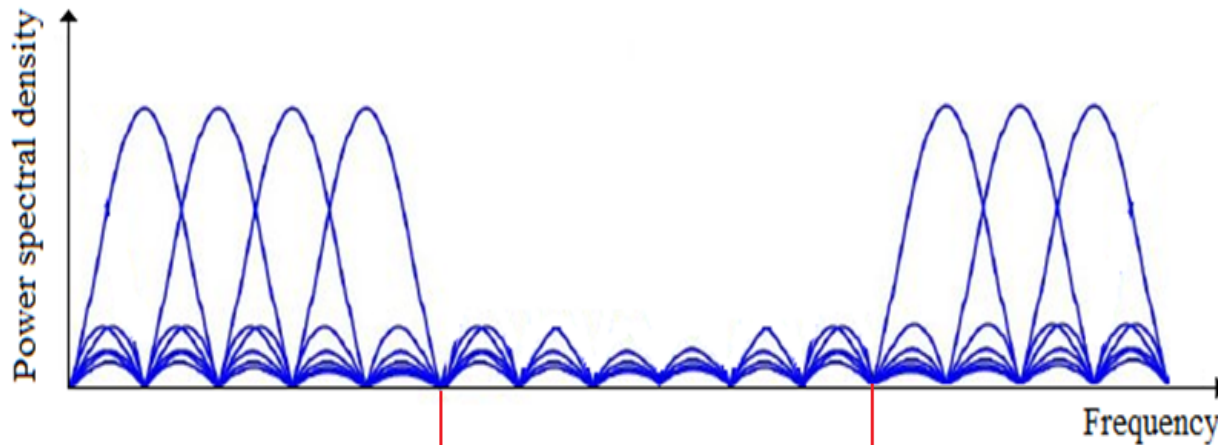


$$T_S = T_g + T \quad T_{prefix} = T_g$$

Power spectral density of raised cosine pulse



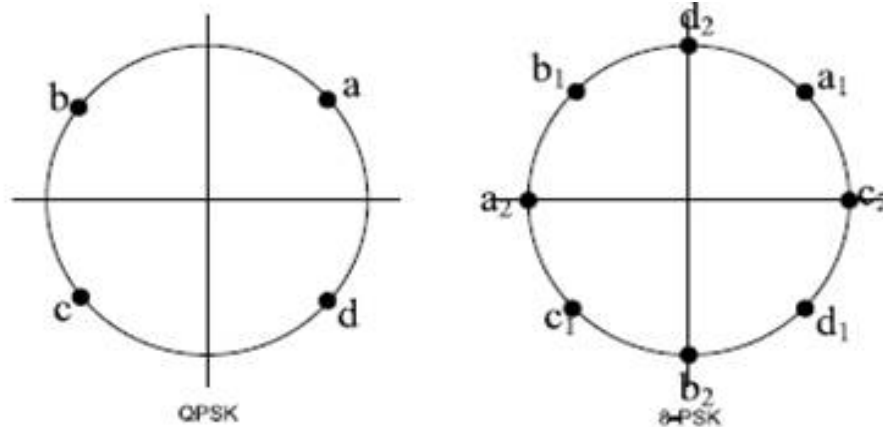
Solution 2: Deactivate some bins at the edges of a frequency zone



- Drawback: large portion of the bandwidth remains unutilized.

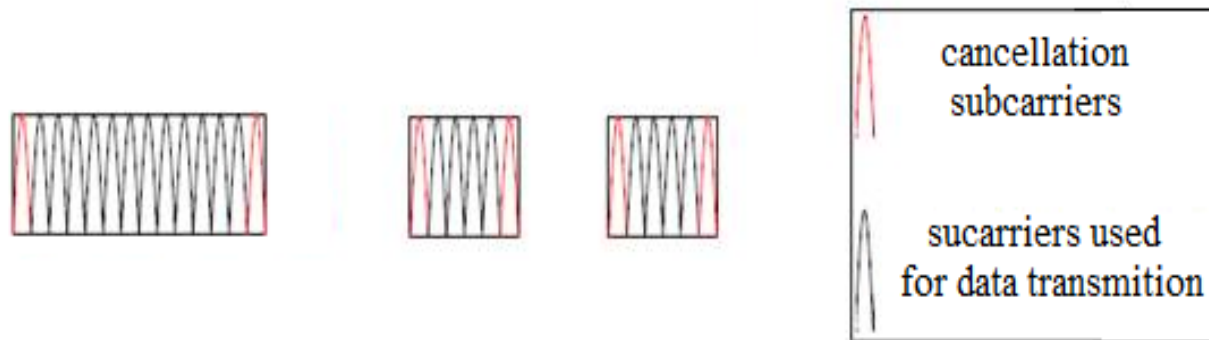
Solution 3: Constellation expansion

- The signal constellation is mapped to another constellation such that:
 - Each symbol corresponds to N (usually 2) points at the new constellation.



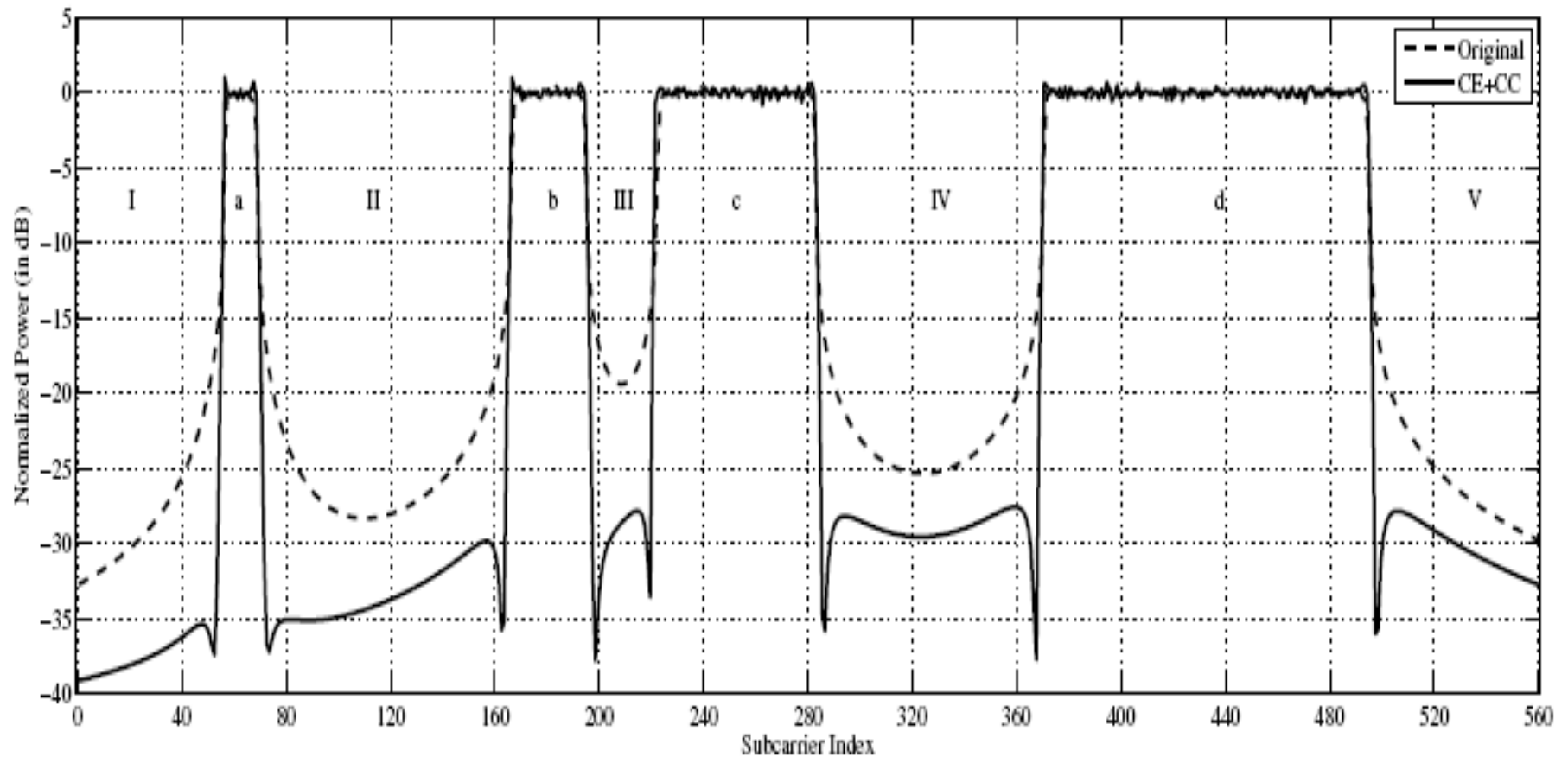
- If we take a sequence of k symbols we can represent it with N^k different ways.
 - We choose the way that reduces the sidelobe power levels.

Solution 4: Cancellation subcarriers



- We use one or two bins at the edges of all frequency zones that are allocated to a device and modulate them, such that:
 - The resulting signal is the opposite of the sidelobe signal.
- Drawbacks
 - A part of the transmission power is spend to modulate the CCs.
 - A portion of the available bandwidth remains unutilized.

Combined use of constellation expansion and cancellation subcarriers



References 1/2

- Channel allocation problem:
 - R. Etkin, A. Parekh, and D. Tse, "Spectrum sharing for unlicensed bands," in *IEEE DySPAN 2005, Baltimore, MD, Nov.8–11 2005*.
- *Centralized and periodic channel allocation*
 - T. Moscibroda, R. Chandra, Y. Wu, S. Sengupta, and P. Bahl. "Load-aware spectrum distribution in wireless LANs". In *ICNP'08*.
- Distributed and on demand channel allocation
 - Y. Yuan, P. Bahl, R. Chandra, T. Moscibroda, and Y. Wu. "Allocating Dynamic Time-Spectrum Blocks in Cognitive Radio Networks". In *Proc. of MOBIHOC, 2007*.

References 2/2

- NC-OFDM:
 - S. Pagadarai, A.M. Wyglinski, Novel sidelobe suppression technique for OFDM-based cognitive radio transmission, in: Proc. of IEEE Symposium on New Frontiers in Dynamic Spectrum Access Networks, DySPAN, Chicago, IL, USA, 2008.
- Predetermined channel allocation:
 - K. Xing, X. Cheng, L. Ma, and Q. Liang. Superimposed code based channel assignment in multi-radio multi-channel wireless mesh networks. In *MobiCom '07*.
 - A. Vasan, R. Ramjee, and T. Woo. "ECHOS: Enhanced Capacity 802.11 Hotspots". In Proceedings of IEEE INFOCOM 2005.

Introduction to Cognitive radios

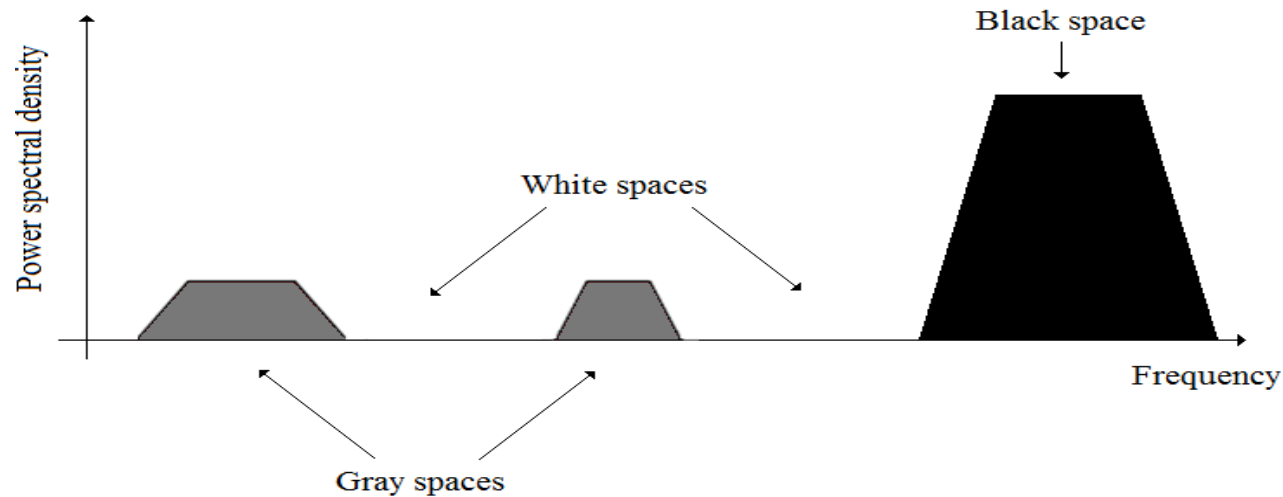
Part two

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2. Interference cancellation

- Black space: a portion of the spectrum in which the primary user's signal is very strong.



- Is there a way for a secondary system to function in a black space?
 - Use an interference cancellation technique.

Key innovation

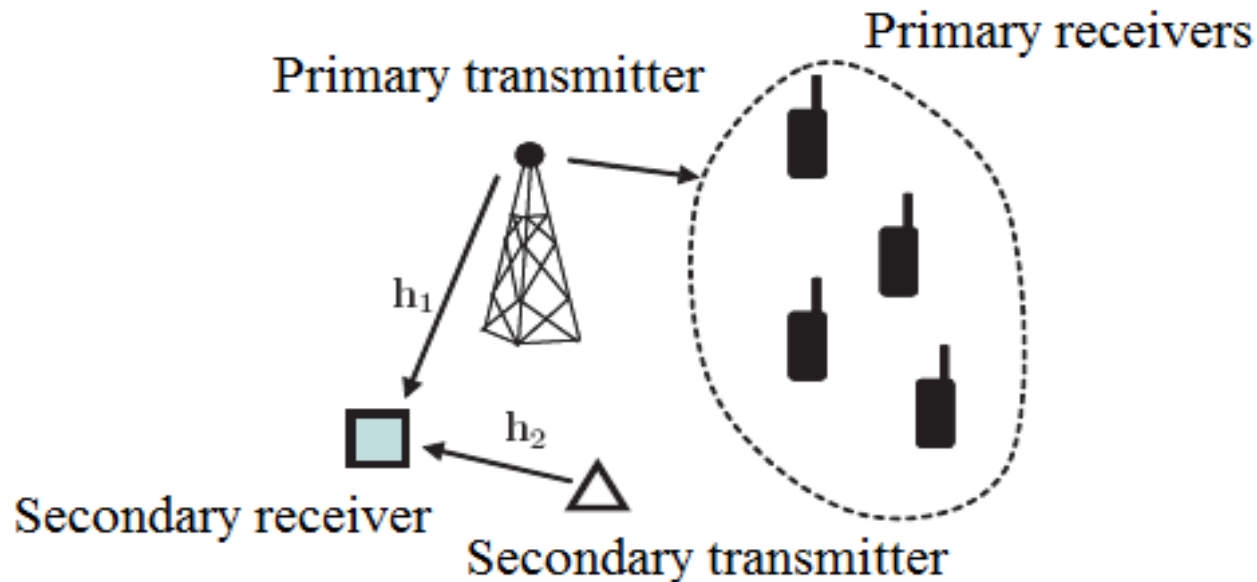
- The idea is to find a way to estimate the primary user's signal at the secondary receiver.
 - Subtract this estimation from the overall signal.
 - That way a significant amount of interference power would be cancelled.
- The secondary user's signal can now be decoded under a much higher value of SINR.

Decode the primary signal

- The simplest way to estimate the primary signal is to decode it.
- For such a purpose the secondary receiver should know the primary user's modulation scheme.
 - This information is assumed to be broadcasted by the primary user.
- Also the secondary receiver should be equipped with the proper hardware to perform the demodulation procedure.

Problem formulation

- A primary and a secondary system function at the same region.
 - The width of the band that is used by these systems is denoted by B .



Some definitions

- The secondary receiver observes an overall signal that consists of the following components:
 1. The primary system's signal of power P
 2. The secondary system's signal of power S
 3. The noise signal of power N .
- If we use the notation $\gamma_s = \frac{S}{N}$ and $\gamma_p = \frac{P}{N}$ then the values of SINR for the secondary and the primary signal are:

$$SINR_s = \frac{S}{P+N} = \frac{S/N}{1+P/N} = \frac{\gamma_s}{1+\gamma_p} \quad SINR_p = \frac{P}{S+N} = \frac{P/N}{1+S/N} = \frac{\gamma_p}{1+\gamma_s}$$

SINR requirement

- If the primary transmitter uses the rate R_p then it's signal can be decoded only if $\text{SINR}_p > \beta_p$, where:

$$R_p = B \log(1 + \beta_p)$$

- In other words β_p is the **minimum** value of SINR that is required for successful decoding of the primary signal.
- We will distinguish the following two cases:
 1. $\text{SINR}_p > \beta_p$
 2. $\text{SINR}_p < \beta_p$

1. $SINR_p > \beta_p$

- In this case the primary signal is decoded and subtracted from the overall signal.
 - Only the secondary signal and noise remains.

- The value of SINR for the secondary signal becomes now:

$$SINR'_s = \frac{S}{N} = \gamma_s$$

- This means that the achievable rate for the secondary system is:

$$R'_s = B \log(1 + \gamma_s)$$

2. $SINR_p < \beta_p$

- We again distinguish two subcases:
- $\gamma_p < \beta_p$: Even if the secondary signal was absent it would still be impossible to decode the primary signal.
 - The achievable rate for the secondary system is:

$$R_s = B \log(1 + SINR_s) = B \log \left(1 + \frac{\gamma_s}{1 + \gamma_p} \right)$$

- $\gamma_p > \beta_p$: We can use a method called superposition coding to achieve a better rate than R_s .

Superposition coding 1/2

- The secondary transmitter sends two streams of information denoted by x_1 and x_2 .
 - The first stream uses a portion α of the transmission power.
 - The remaining power is used for the modulation of the second stream.
- Define as β_{s1} and β_{s2} the minimum value of SINR that is required for successful decoding of signals x_1 and x_2 . If:

$$\frac{a \gamma_s}{1 + \gamma_p + (1 - a) \gamma_s} \geq \beta_{s1}$$

- The first stream can be decoded and subtracted from the overall signal.
 - Only the signal of the second stream, the primary signal and noise will remain.

Superposition coding 2/2

- Now the value of SINR for the primary signal has changed into:

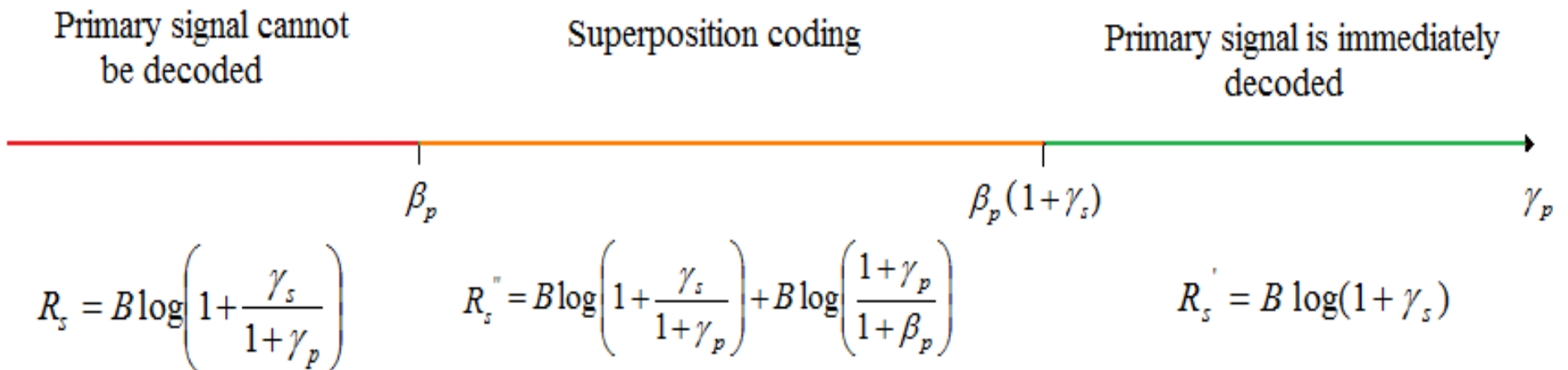
$$SINR_p' = \frac{\gamma_p}{1 + (1 - \alpha)\gamma_s}$$

- We can choose α such that $SINR_p' \geq \beta_p$. Now the primary signal can be decoded.
 - Only the second stream and noise will remain.

- The achievable rate for the secondary system is:

$$R_s'' = B \log \left(1 + \frac{\alpha \gamma_s}{1 + \gamma_p + (1 - \alpha)\gamma_s} \right) + B \log(1 + (1 - \alpha)\gamma_s) = B \log \left(1 + \frac{\gamma_s}{1 + \gamma_p} \right) + B \log \left(\frac{1 + \gamma_p}{1 + \beta_p} \right)$$

Summary



- Using the interference cancellation technique we can achieve much higher data rates.
- It is better that the primary signal's power is high.
 - That way it can be estimated more accurately.

3. Adaptive modulation

- Consider that a pair of nodes communicate using a channel of width B and transmission power equal to P .
- According to Shannon the capacity of the channel is:

$$C = B \log(1 + \gamma)$$

- Where γ denotes the value of SNR at the receiver.

Fading channel

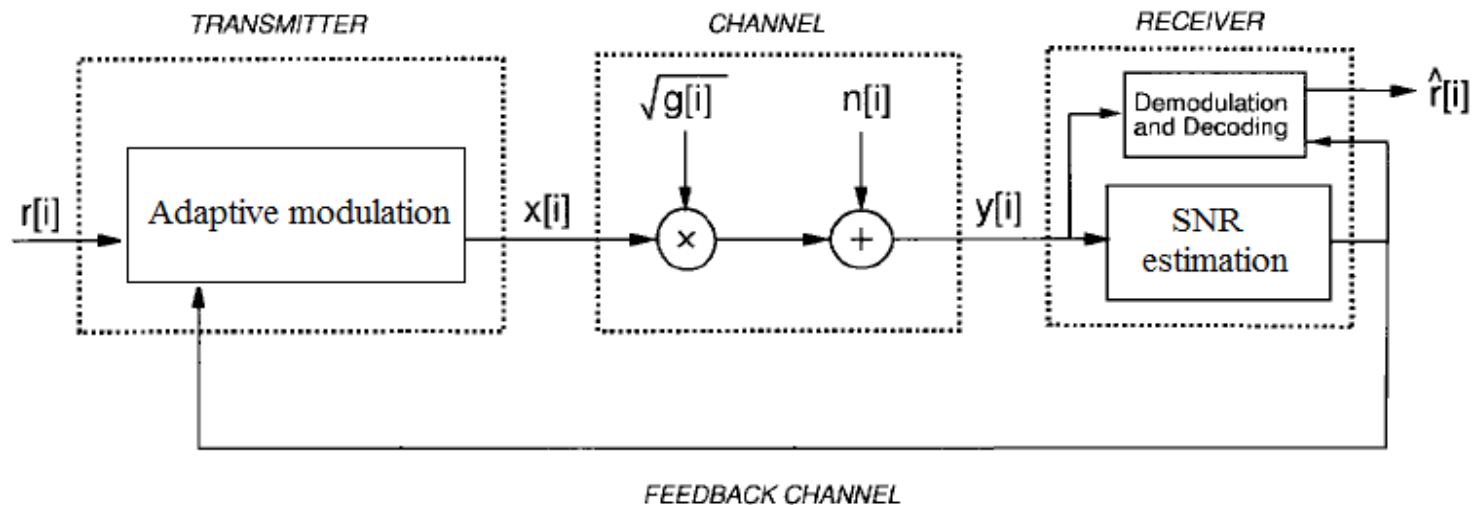
- If the channel is affected by fading phenomena the value of γ will vary according to a PDF $p(\gamma)$ which is:
 - Lognormal if the dominant fading phenomenon is shadowing.
 - Exponential if multipath fading is dominant (Rayleigh fading).
- We could now define the mean channel capacity as:

$$C_m = \int_0^{\infty} B \log(1 + \gamma) p(\gamma) d\gamma$$

- This is a theoretical result and we do not know a practical method to achieve it in real networks.

Problem formulation

- According to the current value of γ decide which is the best modulation scheme to use, in order to maximize the throughput.
- The value of γ is estimated at the receiver and sent to the transmitter through a control channel.

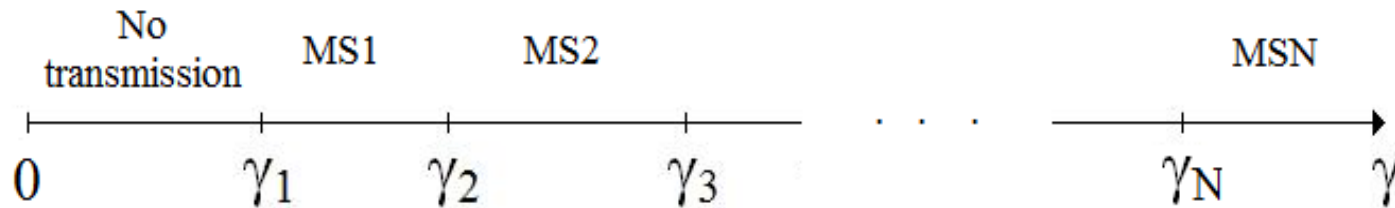


Hardware limitations

- If the transmitter was able to change its rate in a continuous manner then throughput would be close to capacity.
- Due to hardware limitations the transmitter has to choose among a **limited** number of modulation schemes.
 - The transmission rate could also take a finite number of different values.

Partition of SNR space

- Assume that the transmitter can use N different modulation schemes.
 - We can partition the space of possible values of SNR into $N+1$ non overlapping regions.



- If $\text{SNR} < \gamma_1$ the channel condition is poor and no transmission is performed.
- If $\gamma_1 < \text{SNR} < \gamma_2$ the first modulation scheme is used.
- If $\gamma_2 < \text{SNR} < \gamma_3$ the second modulation scheme is used etc.

Objective

- Our goal is to determine the values of $\gamma_1, \gamma_2, \dots, \gamma_n$ such that the throughput is maximized.
- Because the number of modulation schemes is finite, the achievable throughput will be less than the capacity.
- An increase in the number of available modulation schemes yields better approximations of the capacity.
 - Modulation schemes should change more quickly in this case.

4. Power control

- Power control is a method that is used to increase the value of SINR if it is too low or decrease it if it is too high.
 - This can be done by appropriate adjustment of transmission powers.
- In other words the goal of power control is to minimize the overall power that is needed in order to satisfy the SINR requirements of all links within a network.

Problem formulation

- Consider a set of M transmitter-receiver pairs that share the same channel.
 - G_{ij} : Link gain between transmitter i and receiver j .
 - P_i : Transmission power of the i th transmitter.
 - $G_{ji}P_j$: Power of the signal of the j th transmitter at the i th receiver.
- The transmitter i communicates with the receiver i .
 - The desired signal at receiver i is equal to $G_{ii}P_i$.
 - The interference from other transmitters to receiver i is:

$$I_i = \sum_{j \neq i} G_{ji} P_j$$

SINR conditions

- The value of the SINR at the i th receiver is expressed as:

$$\Gamma_i = \frac{G_{ii} P_i}{\sum_{j \neq i} G_{ji} P_j + N_i}$$

Where N_i is the power of noise.

- To ensure the successful communication of all transmitter-receiver pairs the following conditions should be satisfied:

$$\Gamma_i \geq \gamma_0 \quad \text{for each } i = 1, 2, \dots, M$$

Conditions in matrix form

- We can write the SINR conditions in matrix form as follows:

$$[\mathbf{I} - \gamma_0 \mathbf{F}] \mathbf{P} \geq \mathbf{u}$$

- Where:
 - $\mathbf{P} = [P_1 P_2 \dots P_M]^T$ is the transmission powers vector.
 - \mathbf{u} is a vector with elements $u_i = \gamma_0 N_i / G_{ii}$.
 - \mathbf{F} is a matrix defined as:

$$F_{ij} = \begin{cases} 0 & \text{if } j = i \\ G_{ji} / G_{ii} & \text{if } j \neq i \end{cases}$$

Formulation as optimization problem

- The power control problem can now be formally defined as follows:

$$\begin{aligned} & \text{minimize } \sum_i P_i \\ & \text{subject to } [\mathbf{I} - \gamma_0 \mathbf{F}] \mathbf{P} \geq \mathbf{u} \end{aligned}$$

- If the matrix $[\mathbf{I} - \gamma_0 \mathbf{F}]$ is positive definite then the solution of the above problem is the following:

$$\mathbf{P}_{opt} = [\mathbf{I} - \gamma_0 \mathbf{F}]^{-1} \mathbf{u}$$

5. Beamforming

- Consider that at the receiver of a secondary system there is an array of M antennas.
 - The outputs of the array elements are multiplied by a weight factor and are added in order to construct the received signal.
- By varying the weight factors we can adjust the beampattern of the receiver.
 - That way we could place nulls at the directions of interfering sources and the main lobe at the direction of the signal of interest.

Problem formulation

- We consider a set of M transmitter and receiver pairs that function at the same channel.
 - Each receiver uses an antenna array with K elements.
 - The gain of the ith array at the direction of arrival θ is defined as:

$$\mathbf{v}_i(\theta) = [v_i^1(\theta) \quad v_i^2(\theta) \quad \dots \quad v_i^K(\theta)]^T$$

- Where $v_i^k(\theta)$ is the gain of the kth antenna element of the ith receiver at the direction θ .

Received signal

- The received signal at the i th receiver is defined as follows:

$$\mathbf{x}_i(t) = \sum_{j=1}^M \sqrt{P_j G_{ji}} \sum_{l=1}^L \alpha^l_{ji} \mathbf{v}_i(\theta_l) s_j(t - \tau_j) + \mathbf{n}_i(t)$$

- Where:

- $S_j(t)$ is the message signal of the j th transmitter.
- τ_j is a time delay that corresponds to the arrival of the message signal at the receiver.
- $\mathbf{n}_i(t)$ is the thermal noise vector.
- P_j is the power of the j th transmitter.
- α^l_{ji} is the attenuation due to shadowing at the l th path.

- To simplify the above equation we set:

$$\mathbf{\alpha}_{ji} = \sum_{l=1}^L \alpha^l_{ji} \mathbf{v}_i(\theta_l)$$

Beamforming objectives

- The output of the i th antenna array can be written as follows:

$$e_i(n) = \mathbf{w}_i^H \mathbf{x}_i(nT)$$

Where \mathbf{w}_i is a vector that contains the weights with which we multiply the output of each antenna element.

- Goals:
 - Minimize the average output power $\varepsilon_i = E\{\mathbf{w}_i^H \mathbf{x}_i(nT) \mathbf{x}_i^H(nT) \mathbf{w}_i\}$.
 - Maintain unity gain at the direction of the desired signal $\mathbf{w}_i^H \mathbf{a}_{ii} = 1$.

Average output power

- By performing some calculations the average output power can be written as follows:

$$\varepsilon_i = E\{\mathbf{w}_i^H \mathbf{x}_i(nT) \mathbf{x}_i^H(nT) \mathbf{w}_i\} = \mathbf{w}_i^H E\{\mathbf{x}_i(nT) \mathbf{x}_i^H(nT)\} \mathbf{w}_i = \mathbf{w}_i^H \mathbf{\Phi}_i \mathbf{w}_i$$

where:

$$\mathbf{\Phi}_i = \sum_{j \neq i} P_j G_{ji} \mathbf{a}_{ji} \mathbf{a}_{ji}^H + N_i \mathbf{I} + P_i G_{ii} \mathbf{a}_{ii} \mathbf{a}_{ii}^H = \mathbf{\Phi}_m + P_i G_{ii} \mathbf{a}_{ii} \mathbf{a}_{ii}^H$$

and

$$\mathbf{\Phi}_m = \sum_{j \neq i} P_j G_{ji} \mathbf{a}_{ji} \mathbf{a}_{ji}^H + N_i \mathbf{I}$$

Formulation as an optimization problem

- The objectives of beamforming can be written as an optimization problem:

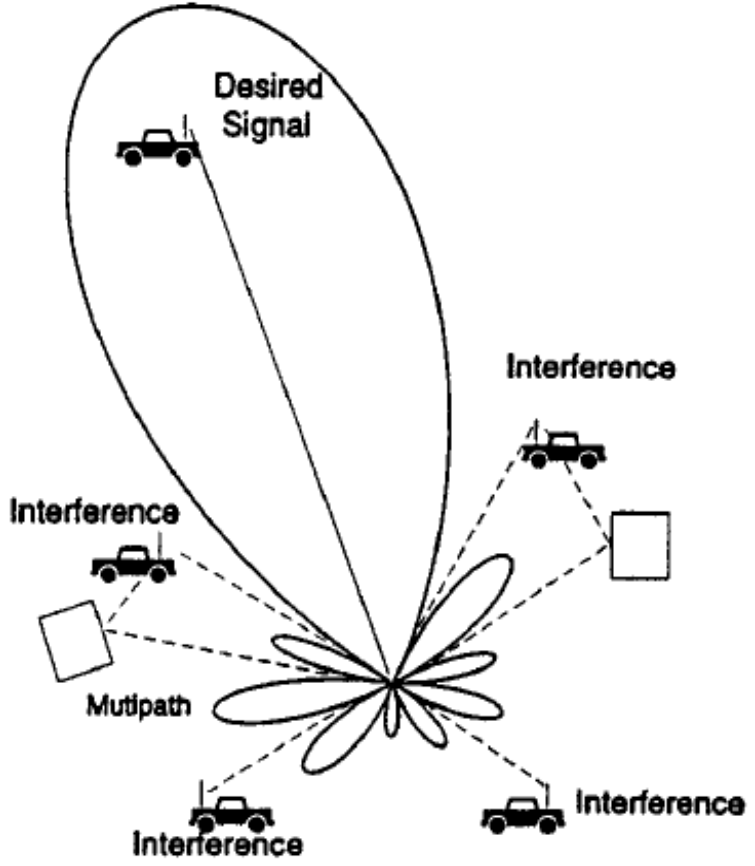
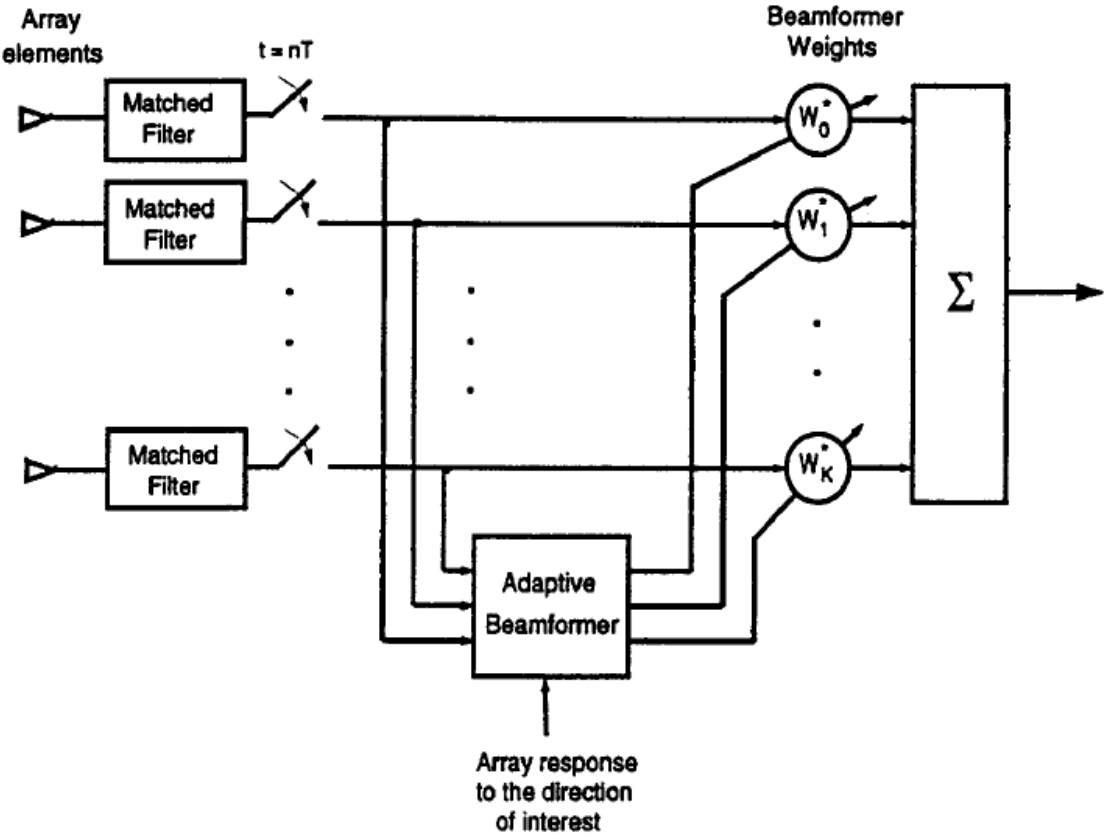
$$\text{minimize } P_i G_{ii} + \sum_{j \neq i} P_j G_{ji} \mathbf{w}_i^H \mathbf{a}_{ji} \mathbf{a}_{ji}^H \mathbf{w}_i + N_i \mathbf{w}_i^H \mathbf{w}_i$$

$$\text{subject to } \mathbf{w}_i^H \mathbf{a}_{ii} = 1$$

- Solution using Lagrange multipliers:

$$\mathbf{w}_{i\text{optm}} = \frac{\Phi_{in}^{-1} \mathbf{a}_{ii}}{\mathbf{a}_{ii}^H \Phi_{in}^{-1} \mathbf{a}_{ii}}$$

Example



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