

AN EFFICIENT APPROACH FOR SQUARED CREST FACTOR REDUCTION IN OFDM SYSTEMS USING TONE RESERVATION WITH CUSTOMIZED CONVEX OPTIMIZATION

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Abstract

Orthogonal frequency-division multiplexing (OFDM) is a method of encoding digital data on multiple carrier frequencies. This scheme uses a number of sub-carriers and converts a frequency selective fading channel to a set of parallel flat fading channels. The OFDM signal is having a drawback that some signal values can be much higher than the average value. This results in high Squared Crest Factor (SCF). This paper deal with the Tone Reservation (TR) technique for reducing SCF. In this scheme few subcarriers are reserved to reduce the peak signal. These reserved carriers are called as Peak Reduction Carriers (PRCs) and these PRCs are used to reduce the SCF of the original signal. Similarly the Bit Error Rate also gets lowered. In contrast to previous methods, the TR method with Customized Convex Optimization implies a very quick convergence of minimum SCF and the bit error rate solution at a lower computational cost. The proposed method is compared with the SCF reduction techniques like Differential Scaling. The proposed OFDM system also discusses about the effects of oversampling at different rates.

Keywords: Convex Optimization, Orthogonal Frequency Division Multiplexing (OFDM), Squared Crest Factor (SCF), Tone Reservation (TR), Peak Reduction Carriers (PRCs), Complementary Cumulative Distribution Function (CCDF).

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1. INTRODUCTION

Orthogonal frequency Division Multiplexing is a technique in which high speed data is split into low speed parallel channels. One of the main practical issues of OFDM is the high Squared Crest Factor of the transmit signal. There are many techniques for reducing the SCF but these techniques either need side information or not needed. Depending on the necessity of side information the SCF reduction technique can be classified into two groups. The main two techniques which need side information is the Partial Transmit Sequence (PTS) [1], [10] and the Selected Mapping (SLM) [2], [9] technique. These techniques modify the symbols of both frequency domain and time domain. The side information is generally used for preventing the OFDM system from burst errors. The other techniques which do not need side information include Clipping and Filtering (CF) [3], Peak Windowing (PW) [4], Active Constellation Extension (ACE) [5], and Tone Reservation [6], [7]. The TR method reserves a minimum number of tones and assigns appropriate values to reduce SCF. The TR approach is also an iterative one, but it does not change the data symbols.

2. TONE RESERVATION

In the TR approach, a small number of unused subcarriers are reserved by the transmitter for SCF control. These unused subcarriers are known as Peak Reduction Carriers (PRCs) which are designed to be orthogonal with the data bearing subcarriers thereby causing no distortion. At the receiver side the contents of the PRCs will be ignored since it does not contain any useful information and also no side information needs to be transmitted. In general, there are two schemes to reduce the SCF in the TR technique. The first is to select the PRC set for reducing the SCF and the second is to design the proper values on these PRCs to generate an optimal peak-canceling signal that minimizes the SCF of a transmitted OFDM signal. Several methods [11-13] have been proposed to search a nearly-optimal PRC sets in the TR technique for the improvement of the SCF performance of OFDM signals.

3. DIFFERENTIAL SCALING

Differential Scaling is another technique which is used for the reduction of SCF. In this technique different amplitude levels are scaled in a different manner and so it is called as Differential Scaling. We have considered three types of scaling as described below.

3.1. Scale Up

In this method, the amplitude levels of the average signal are increased or scaled up by a factor of x . In this technique only the average signal gets increased, but there is no change in the peak value. The resulting Squared Crest Factor gets reduced. The reduction function for Squared Crest Factor can be shown as

$$\begin{aligned}
 h(x) &= \alpha x_p, & \text{if } x > \alpha x_p \\
 &= \beta x, & \text{if } x < A \\
 &= x, & \text{if } A \leq x \leq \alpha x_p
 \end{aligned} \tag{1}$$

Where x_p be the peak amplitude value which decides the clipping threshold in terms of peak value percentage and α denotes the scaling factor for the range $[A, \alpha x_p]$ whose value is greater than one.

3.2. Scale Down

In this method, the higher amplitude levels of the average signal are decreased or scaled down by a factor of x . This leads to decrease in both peak value and the average value. The resulting Squared Crest Factor gets reduced. The decrease in average power is lesser than the decrease in the peak power. The reduction function for Squared Crest Factor can be shown as

$$\begin{aligned}
 h(x) &= \alpha x_p, & \text{if } x > \alpha x_p \\
 &= \gamma x, & \text{if } B \leq x \leq \alpha x_p \\
 &= x, & \text{if } x < B
 \end{aligned} \tag{2}$$

Where x_p be the peak amplitude value which decides the clipping threshold in terms of peak value percentage and α denotes the scaling factor for the range $[B, \alpha x_p]$ whose value is lesser than one.

3.3 Scale Up and Down

This method deals with the combination of both Scale Up and Scale Down approach. When compared with the above two approaches this approach gives more reduction in Squared Crest Factor since this method carries the advantages of both Scale Up and Scale Down. The reduction function for Squared Crest Factor can be shown as

$$\begin{aligned}
 h(x) &= \alpha x_p, & \text{if } x > \alpha x_p \\
 &= \gamma x, & \text{if } B \leq x \leq \alpha x_p \\
 &= \beta x, & \text{if } x < A \\
 &= x, & \text{if } A \leq x \leq B
 \end{aligned} \tag{3}$$

Where x_p be the peak amplitude value which decides the clipping threshold in terms of peak value percentage, α denotes the scaling factor in the range $[0, A)$ and β is the scaling factor for the range $[B, \alpha x_p]$. A marker is used for making all the scaling techniques realizable. This marker is used for identifying the inversion sequence at the receiver. The marker may be accommodated like the pilot symbols or

transmitted on different frequencies orthogonal to the carrier signal.

4. TONE RESERVATION WITH CUSTOMIZED CONVEX OPTIMIZATION

The OFDM signal is generated and the QPSK modulation is performed. IFFT converts the frequency domain information back to the time domain and the Tone Reservation technique is applied. Then again the information is converted back into frequency domain using FFT. The signal is demodulated so that the original signal is obtained and the CCDF characteristics are plotted. The process flow diagram for the Tone Reservation technique is given below.

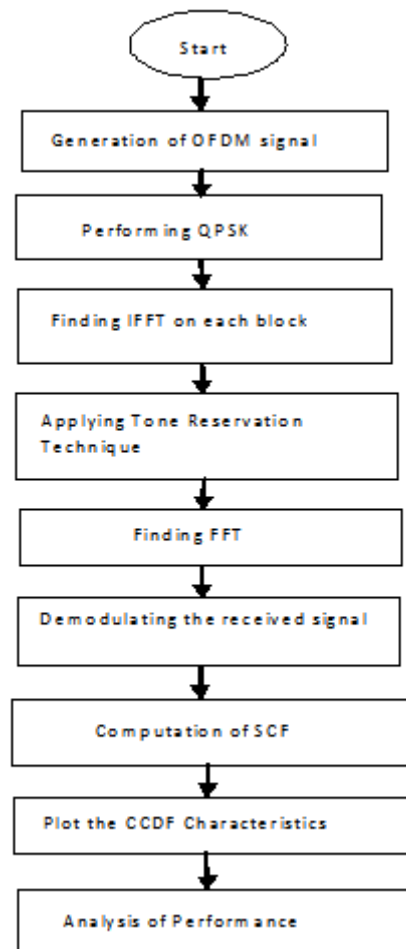


Fig -1: Flowchart for TR Technique

4.1 Customized Convex Optimization

Convex minimization, a subfield of optimization, studies the problem of minimizing convex functions over convex sets. Convex Optimization [8] is used widely in the estimation of signals, communication and networking and for designing electronic circuits.

Condition for convexity:

$$f(ax + by) \leq a f(x) + b f(y) \tag{4}$$

General form of optimization problem

$$\begin{aligned} &\text{Minimize } f(x) && \text{(objective function)} \\ &\text{Subject to } g(x) \leq b && \text{(constraint function)} \end{aligned} \quad (5)$$

Where x is the optimization variable for both objective and constraint function. The SCF problem is treated as a convex optimization problem so that minimum SCF is obtained.

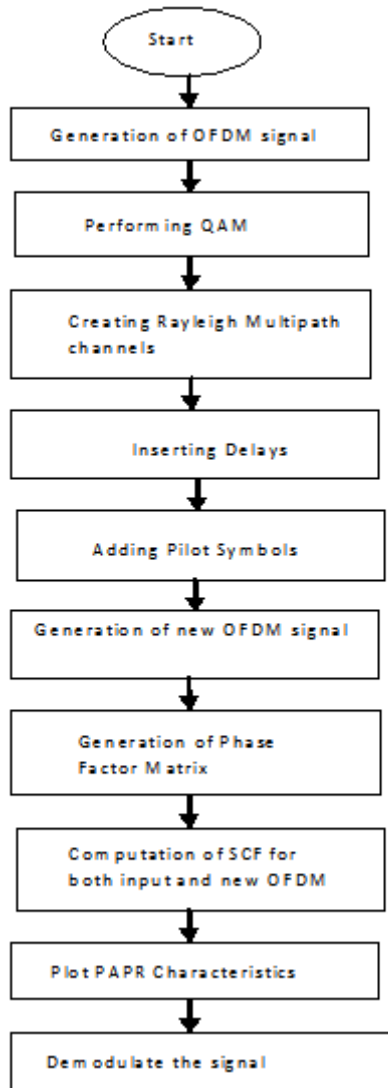


Fig -2: Flowchart for Convex Optimization

The above flowchart represents the step involved in convex optimization. The OFDM signal contains 48 data symbols, 4 pilot symbols and 12 reserved tones and 128 symbols. The length of the Cyclic Prefix is 16. The subcarriers (data/pilot) were modulated using 16-quadrature amplitude modulation (QAM).The data is divided into many orthogonal data streams and each was passed to a separate subcarrier. By performing IFFT the frequency domain symbols are transformed to time domain. Then demodulation is performed and the original signal is received by the receiver. For Customized convex optimization instead of generating a

new signal the tone reserved signal is given as input and the SCF characteristics are obtained.

5. SIMULATION RESULTS

Simulation and analysis of the proposed method are carried out for 128 sub-carrier OFDM system with QPSK modulation scheme.

The figures 3 and 4 shown below shows the generation of OFDM signals with 128 sub carriers and the QPSK modulation for the generated signal respectively.

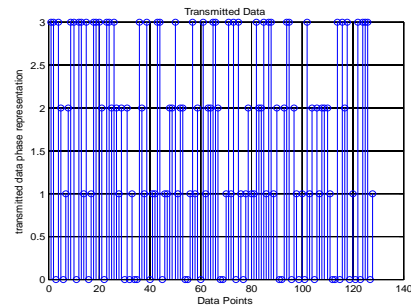


Fig -3: Transmitted data phase representation

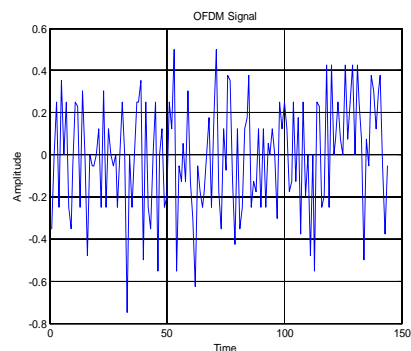


Fig -4: Transmitted OFDM Signal

Figure 5 shown below describes the CCDF vs SCF plot for Tone Reservation and Differential Scaling technique. The performance of Squared Crest Factor (SCF) is better in Differential Scaling when compared to Tone Reservation.

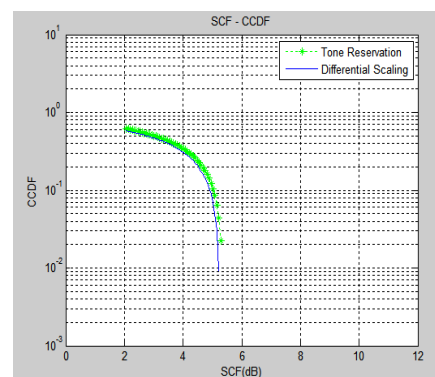


Fig -5: CCDF vs. Squared Crest Factor

Table -1: SCF performance for different sampling rate and different subcarriers

Sampling Rate	Number of Subcarriers	SCF(dB)
L=2	128	3.984
	256	4.342
L=4	128	4.01
	256	4.346
L=8	128	4.019
	256	4.363

The below figure represents a general OFDM signal with and without optimization.

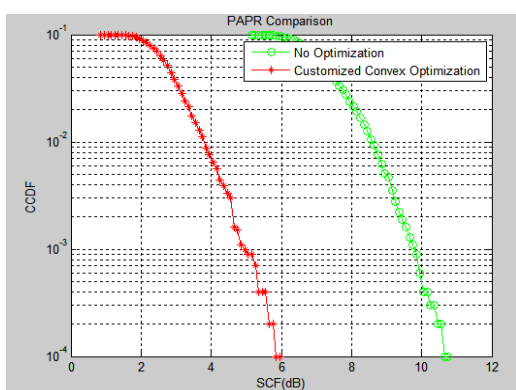


Fig -6: OFDM signal with and without Optimization

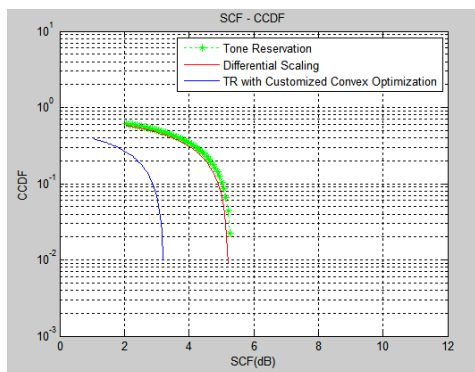


Fig -7: SCF Performance with Convex

Optimized TR , TR without optimization and Differential Scaling

From the figure 6, it is clear that the SCF is reduced while applying customized convex optimization. The SCF is about 10.9 when no optimization is applied and if optimization technique is applied, it reduces to 5.7. So there will be a reduction of 5.2 dB the optimization technique is applied. From the figure 7 it is clear that after applying customized convex optimization the SCF gets reduced more in the tone reservation technique when compared with Differential Scaling technique. The below table shows the SCF

performance for Differential Scaling and Tone Reservation with and without optimization.

Table -2: SCF performance

CCDF	SCF(dB)		
	Differential Scaling	Tone Reservation without Optimization	Tone Reservation with Optimization
0.3	2.7	3.02	1.8
0.25	3.0	3.29	2.08
0.2	3.4	3.5	2.22
0.15	3.65	3.8	2.54
0.1	3.84	3.97	2.83
0.05	3.98	4.15	3.06
0	4.19	4.29	3.20

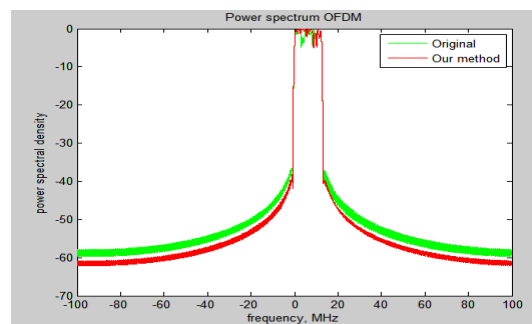


Fig -8: PSD plot for the proposed technique

From the Figure 8, the Power Spectral Density is reduced in TR technique with respect to Frequency. This shows that the Out of band radiation is minimized in TR Technique.

Table -3: Out of band radiation comparison chart

Performance Measure		Normalized Frequency 0.4	Normalized Frequency 0.6	Normalized Frequency 0.8
L=1	Without TR Technique	-0.2499 dB	-0.4758 dB	-0.8984 dB
	With TR Technique	-1.328 dB	-3.374 dB	-3.262 dB
Reduction		1.0781 dB	2.8982 dB	2.3636 dB
L=2	Without TR Technique	-0.4945 dB	-0.8571 dB	-1.215 dB
	With TR Technique	-3.721 dB	-4.758 dB	-5.323 dB

Reduction		3.23 dB	3.900 dB	4.108 dB
L=4	Without TR Technique	-0.6423 dB	-0.948 dB	- 1.435 dB
	With TR Technique	- 5.031 dB	- 5.343 dB	- 6.568 dB
Reduction		4.3887 dB	4.395dB	5.133 dB
L=8	Without TR Technique	- 0.7342dB	-0.9367 dB	-1.2312 dB
	With TR Technique	- 6.451dB	-7.532dB	- 8.6985 dB
Reduction		5.7168 dB	6.595 dB	7.4673 dB

6. CONCLUSIONS

The proposed Tone Reservation technique changes the response of the filter and hence produces a better reduction in SCF. The SCF reduction is achieved more while applying Customized Convex Optimization. Simulation results clearly show that this method offers less distortion in the processed OFDM symbols with better out-of band radiation. The algorithm was defined for QPSK but it equally applies for other modulation techniques as well.

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