

## Outage Capacity Analysis for Cognitive Non-Orthogonal Multiple Access Downlink Transmissions Systems in the Presence of Channel Estimation Error

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**Abstract:** In this paper, we propose a downlink cognitive non-orthogonal multiple access (NOMA) network, where the secondary users (SUs) operate in underlay mode. In the network, secondary transmitter employs NOMA signaling for downlink transmission, and the primary user (PU) is interfered by the transmission from SU. The expressions for the outage probabilities are derived in closed-form for both primary and secondary users in the presence of channel estimation error. Numerical simulation results show that the channel estimation error and the inter-network interference cause degradation of the downlink outage performance. Also the power allocation and the location have a significant impact on the outage probability. The numerical experiments demonstrate that the analytic expressions of the outage probabilities match with the simulation results.

**Keywords:** Cognitive radio, NOMA, serial interference cancellation, channel estimation error, outage probability.

### 1 Introduction

Non-orthogonal multiple access (NOMA) is a newly proposed 5G multiplexing technology, which can meet the rapidly growing demand of mobile services. By actively introducing interference at the transmitting end and adopting interference cancellation technology at the receiving end, NOMA can obtain higher spectral efficiency and improve system throughput compared with the traditional orthogonal transmission technology [Al-Imari, Imran and Xiao (2017); Islam, Avazov, Dobre et al. (2017); Dai, Wang, Yuan et al. (2015); Timotheou and Krikidis (2015); Yang, Wang, Ng et al. (2017); Zeng, Yadav, Dobre et al. (2017)]. This is in line with the explosive data growth and access demand in the coming 5G era. Thus NOMA has attracted the attention of researchers all over the world. Especially in the cellular network of the Internet of Things (IoT), NOMA provides the need for large-scale connection of IoT devices with low delay by accommodating multiple users in the same frequency spectrum [Liaqat, Noordin, Abdul Latef et al. (2018); Liu, Song and Gui (2018); Borkar and Pande (2016)]. For

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example, in Ding et al. [Ding, Dai and Poor (2016)], the authors consider a novel precoding and power allocation strategy to realize the potential of NOMA in IoT. These proposed strategies can be applied to scenarios with two users or more. In order to take advantage of uplink NOMA technology in reducing the energy consumption of secondary users, an edge computing solution based on the NOMA technique is presented in Kiani et al. [Kiani and Ansari (2018)]. In the paper, the author minimizes the energy consumption of secondary users by utilizing an NOMA-based optimization framework. In DOCOMO [DOCOMO (2014)], the author uses NOMA scheme to improve the spectral efficiency which is essential for the construction of Internet of Things (IoT). NOMA technology now has been adopted in the 3GPP long term evolution [3rd Generation Partnership Project (2015)].

Similarly, in order to make full use of radio resources, researchers introduce NOMA technology into cognitive radio network (CRN), which allows multiple secondary users to adopt overlapping transmission mode on the same frequency band of authorized users to realize multi-user spectrum sharing and further improve the system performance of CRN [Lv, Ma, Zeng et al. (2018); Lv, Chen, Ni et al. (2017); Chen, Wang and Jiao (2017)]. In [Lv, Ni, Ding et al. (2017)], the authors introduce NOMA scheme into a cooperative spectrum-sharing networks and compare the advantages of NOMA scheme with orthogonal multiple access (OMA). In Lv et al. [Lv, Chen and Ni (2016)], the authors propose a cooperative transmission scheme based on CR-NOMA network to achieve the maximum diversity at SUs. In these papers, the study mainly focuses on the scheme of power allocation and user locations to improve system performance which assumes perfect CSI.

However, it is rather difficult to obtain perfect CSI of the system in the practical application scenario. The power consumption of the system would increase heavily in order to obtain perfect CSI [Gedik and Uysal (2009)], especially in large-scale wireless networks [Liu, Luo, Liu et al. (2018)]. Under these practical constraints, we focus on the application of imperfect CSI, which is of great significance to reduce system complexity and power consumption. Recently, in Yang et al. [Yang, Ding, Fan et al. (2016)], the optimal power allocation strategy based on the channel estimation errors has been studied, and the outage probability has been calculated to evaluate the system performance. Also NOMA technology in a downlink scenario with channel estimation errors is studied and the performance is evaluated by outage probability. In Arzykulov et al. [Arzykulov, Tsiftsis, Naurzybayev et al. (2018)], with the existence of channel estimation errors, a scheme of decode-and-forward cooperative underlay CR-NOMA is studied, and the expressions of outage probability are derived. The authors choose a set of power allocation factors based on different distances to ensure the fairness of secondary users. In Liu et al. [Liu, Song and Gui (2018)], the authors propose a basic framework to evaluate the security and reliability of cooperative NOMA in cognitive networks. Compared with the traditional schemes, the proposed scheme can effectively improve the system performance. The change of transmission distance is also taken into account because that the path loss has significant impact on the outage probability. Furthermore, in most of the CRN models, the interference from the primary network on SUs is generally ignored, which decreases the criterion of QoS and reduces the effectiveness of CRN systems.

Based on the above problems, we analyze the outage performance of a cooperative underlay downlink CR-NOMA network in the presence of channel estimation error. The channel estimation error is regarded as interference in the systems. In CR-NOMA network, we take into account both the channel estimation error and the inter-network interference between the primary network (PN) and the secondary network (SN). Also, we make a comparison between imperfect CSI and perfect CSI in NOMA systems. The closed-form expressions of outage probabilities are derived for both primary and secondary users. Simulation results show that the channel estimation error and the inter-network interference cause degradation of the downlink outage performance. Furthermore, the transmit distance has a significant impact on the outage probability, since the path loss is a dominant factor in the CR-NOMA network, which has a significant impact on the outage probability.

The paper is organized as follows. Section II gives a brief view of the system and channel model. Section III derives outage probability expressions of the SUs and PU respectively. Section IV discusses numerical and Monte Carlo simulations results. Finally, Section V concludes the paper with a summary and some final remarks.

### 2 System model

Consider a downlink CR-NOMA system which consists of one primary transmitter ( $P$ ), one secondary transmitter ( $S$ ) and one primary destination ( $P_0$ ) as well as  $N$  secondary destinations  $U_k$  ( $k = 1, 2, \dots, N$ ), as shown in Fig. 1.

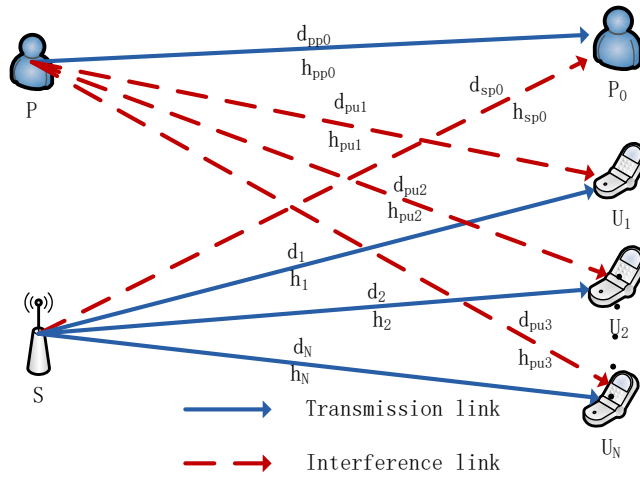


Figure 1: System model of the CR-NOMA network

In CR-NOMA network, we assume that each node with a single antenna operates in a half-duplex mode. Each channel keeps independently with each other, and complies with identically distributed. The total transmission power at secondary transmitter is limited by  $P_s$ . Similarly, define the transmit power of primary user as  $P_t$ . We assume that  $h_{pp_0}$ ,  $h_{su_k}$  and  $h_{sp_0}$  denote the channel coefficients from  $P$  to  $P_0$  ( $P \rightarrow P_0$ ), from  $S$  to  $U_k$

( $S \rightarrow U_k$ ), and from  $S$  to  $P_0$  ( $S \rightarrow P_0$ ). Respectively, each channel satisfies complex Gaussian distribution with zero-mean and variance 1. For example, the channel coefficient pertaining from  $S$  to  $U_k$  ( $S \rightarrow U_k$ ) is denoted by  $h_{su_k}$  and  $E(|h_{su_k}|^2) = \Omega_{su_k}$ . The channel between the transmitting end  $i$  and the receiving end  $j$  is given by

$$r_{ij} = \frac{h_{ij}}{d_{ij}^{-\frac{\alpha}{2}}} \quad (1)$$

where  $d_{ij}$  denotes the distance between the user  $i$  and  $j$ , and  $\alpha$  represents the path loss parameter. Similarly, it can be obtained that  $\Omega_p = d_{pp_0}^{-\alpha}$ ,  $\Omega_{su_k} = d_k^{-\alpha}$  and  $\Omega_{sp_0} = d_{sp_0}^{-\alpha}$ .

### 2.1 NOMA transmission protocol

As is known, in practical scenarios the feedback delay errors always cause the channel estimation errors. So it is rather difficult to obtain perfect CSI of the wireless network. The channel coefficients can be given as [Ikki and Aissa (2012); Wang, Liu and Dong (2012); Ma and Jin (2007)]:

$$r_i = \hat{r}_i + \varepsilon_i \quad (2)$$

where  $\varepsilon_i \sim CN(0, \sigma_i^2)$  represents the channel error vector which can be approximated as Gaussian random variable and  $\hat{r}_k \sim CN(0, d_k^{-\alpha} - \sigma_k^2)$  represents the estimated channel coefficient. It is assumed that the estimated channel gain in the cell are sorted as  $|\hat{r}_1|^2 \geq |\hat{r}_2|^2 \geq \dots \geq |\hat{r}_N|^2$ . In addition,  $\hat{\Omega}_i = \Omega_i - \sigma_i^2$  can be attained by assuming that  $\hat{r}_i$  is statistically independent of  $\varepsilon_i$ , and  $\hat{\Omega}_i = d_i^{-\alpha} - \sigma_i^2$ . Therefore,  $\hat{\Omega}_p = d_{pp_0}^{-\alpha} - \sigma_p^2$ ,  $\hat{\Omega}_{su_k} = d_k^{-\alpha} - \sigma_k^2$ .

During the cooperative transmission process,  $P$  transmits the signals  $x_p$  to the  $P_0$ . According to NOMA scheme, the signal  $s_i$  sent by the  $S$  to the user  $U_i$  ( $i=1, 2, \dots, N$ ) is summed as

$$x_s = \sum_{i=1}^N \sqrt{a_i P_s} s_i \quad (3)$$

where  $P_s$  denotes the transmission power, and  $a_i$  ( $i=1, 2, \dots, N$ ) denotes the power allocation factor, with  $a_1 < a_2 < \dots < a_N$ ,  $\sum_{i=1}^N a_i = 1$ .

Thus, the received signals at  $P_0$  and  $U_k$  are given respectively as

$$y_k = (\hat{r}_k + e_k) \sum_{i=1}^N \sqrt{a_i P_s} s_i + (\hat{r}_{pk} + e_{pk}) \sqrt{P_t} s_p + n_{U_k} \quad (4)$$

$$y_p = (\hat{r}_p + e_p)\sqrt{P_t}s_p + (\hat{r}_{sp_0} + e_{sp_0})\sum_{i=1}^N \sqrt{a_i P_s} s_i + n_{U_p} \tag{5}$$

For the convenience of mathematical derivation, we assume  $\sigma_n^2 = \sigma_k^2 = \sigma_p^2$ ,  $P_s = P_t = P$ . And denotes  $\rho = P / \sigma_0^2$  as the signal-to-noise ratio (SNR) of transmitting end.

During the secondary cooperative transmission process, it is assumed that the PU has a strong channel condition while the PU correctly transmits the message. Under such circumstances, we assume that the interference from the PU to the SU can be canceled at the secondary user  $U_i (1 \leq i \leq N)$ . Therefore, Serial interference cancellation (SIC) can be employed at  $U_k$ . Note that it is needed to detect the user  $U_i (k+1 \leq i \leq N)$ , whose estimated gains of channel are worse than their own. If  $U_k$  decodes the signal successfully, i.e.,  $R_{i \rightarrow k} > R_i^*$ , where  $R_i^*$  denotes the targeted rate of user  $U_i$ , then remove the signal  $s_i$ . Then  $U_k$  can detect other user  $U_i (k+1 \leq i \leq N)$  step by step until  $U_k$  can correctly decode its own signal. The general data rate expression for  $U_k$  to detect the signal is given by

$$\hat{R}_{j \rightarrow k} = \log\left(1 + \frac{\rho a_j |\hat{r}_k|^2}{\rho |\hat{r}_k|^2 \sum_{i=1}^{j-1} a_i + \rho \sigma_k^2 + \rho \sigma_p^2 + 1}\right), \quad k+1 \leq j \leq N \tag{6}$$

Now, if all the users  $U_i (k+1 \leq i \leq N)$  correctly decode the message, the data rate of user  $U_k$  can be expressed as

$$\hat{R}_k = \log\left(1 + \frac{\rho a_k |\hat{r}_k|^2}{\rho |\hat{r}_k|^2 \sum_{i=1}^{j-1} a_i + \rho \sigma_k^2 + \rho \sigma_p^2 + 1}\right), \quad 2 \leq k \leq N \tag{7}$$

In particular, when  $k = j = 1$ ,

$$\hat{R}_1 = \log\left(1 + \frac{\rho a_1 |\hat{r}_1|^2}{\rho \sigma_1^2 + \rho \sigma_p^2 + 1}\right) \tag{8}$$

In the downlink cognitive NOMA network, the user suffers interference from all of the other users. We assume that the estimated channel gain in the cell are sorted as  $|\hat{r}_1|^2 \geq |\hat{r}_2|^2 \geq \dots \geq |\hat{r}_N|^2$ .  $U_1$  is a strong channel user relative to all other users, so  $U_1$  has interference-free transmission.

In underlay mode, the secondary users can establish cooperation transmission without exceeding the PU interference threshold. But the interference from the SU to the PU always exists. If the estimated error of the interference from the secondary users to the

primary is ignored, the data rate of  $P_0$  in the presence of channel estimation error is given by

$$\hat{R}_p = \log\left(1 + \frac{\rho |\hat{r}_{pp_0}|^2}{\rho |r_{sp_0}|^2 + \rho \sigma_p^2 + 1}\right) \quad (9)$$

Similarly, in practical systems, if the interference from SU to PU is within an controllable range, i.e.,  $R_p > R_p^*$  and the channel estimation error of the interference is ignored, the data rate of  $P_0$  in practical systems can be expressed as

$$R_p = \log\left(1 + \frac{|r_p|^2}{|r_{sp_0}|^2 + \frac{1}{\rho}}\right) \quad (10)$$

## 2.2 Density functions of channel gains

According to statistics [David (2003)], in most cases the locations of users are fixed, and distances and path loss are deterministic. Also the fading is Rayleigh distributed. The cumulative distribution function (CDF) of the  $k$ -th estimation channel gain  $|\hat{r}_k|^2$  is given by Yang et al. [Yang, Ding, Fan et al. (2016)]

$$\begin{aligned} F_{|\hat{r}_k|^2}(x) &= k \binom{N}{k} \int_0^{F_{|r_k|^2}(x)} t^{N-k} (1-t)^{k-1} dt \\ &= k \binom{N}{k} \sum_{r=0}^{k-1} \binom{k-1}{r} (-1)^r \int_0^{F_{|r_k|^2}(x)} t^{r+N-k} dt \\ &= k \binom{N}{k} \sum_{r=0}^{k-1} \binom{k-1}{r} (-1)^r \frac{(F_{|r_k|^2}(x))^{r+N-k+1}}{r+N-k+1} \end{aligned} \quad (11)$$

where  $F_{|r_k|^2}(x)$  denotes the CDF of the unordered estimation channel gain. From Eq. (2),

we know that the unordered channel coefficients  $r_k = \bar{r}_k + \varepsilon_k$ , where

$\bar{r}_k \sim CN(0, d_k^{-\alpha} - \sigma_k^2)$ . And the conditional CDF  $F_{|\hat{r}_k|^2}(x)$  can be given as

$$F_{|\hat{r}_k|^2}(x) = 1 - \exp\left(-\frac{x}{\Omega}\right) \quad (12)$$

Therefore, the Probability density function (PDF) of the unordered channel gain is expressed as follows:

$$f_{|\hat{r}_k|^2}(x) = \exp\left(-\frac{x}{\Omega}\right). \quad (13)$$

Given the fact that the interference imposed to the primary receiver is controllable, and the interference would not exceed the threshold of the PU, it is critical to ensure that the message of  $S$  be decoded at  $U_k$ , and the instantaneous receiving data rate of each user on the receiving end exceed the threshold of targeted rate set by each user in advance.  $R_p^*$  and  $R_i^*$  are the thresholds of data rate that can be properly demodulated by the PU and the  $i$ -th user respectively. Therefore, if the  $k$ -th user wants to achieve correct demodulation, it must satisfy these conditions:  $\hat{R}_k > R_k^*$ ,  $\hat{R}_{i \rightarrow k} > R_i^*$  ( $k+1 \leq i \leq N$ ) and  $R_p > R_p^*$ .

### 3 Performance of NOMA with channel estimation error

Suppose that the  $k$ -th user  $U_k$  can successfully decode its own signal and its subsequent signal as event  $C_{j,k}^c, k \leq j \leq N$ . Note that the  $U_k$  needs to detect its own signal, meanwhile the estimation channel of the gains of all of the other users are worse than its own. The event is expressed as

$$\begin{aligned}
 C_{j,k}^c &= \{ \hat{\gamma}_{j \rightarrow k} > \gamma_{thj} \} \\
 &\doteq \left\{ \frac{\rho a_j |\hat{r}_k|^2}{\rho |\hat{r}_k|^2 \sum_{i=1}^{j-1} a_i + \rho \sigma_k^2 + \rho \sigma_p^2 + 1} > \gamma_{thj} \right\} \\
 &= \left\{ |\hat{r}_k|^2 > \frac{\gamma_{thj} (\rho \sigma_k^2 + \rho \sigma_p^2 + 1)}{\rho (a_j - \gamma_{thj} \sum_{i=1}^{j-1} a_i)} \right\} \\
 &= \left\{ |\hat{r}_k|^2 > \eta_j (\rho \sigma_k^2 + \rho \sigma_p^2 + 1) \right\}
 \end{aligned} \tag{14}$$

where  $\eta_j = \frac{\gamma_{thj}}{\rho (a_j - \gamma_{thj} \sum_{i=1}^{j-1} a_i)}$ ,  $\gamma_{thi} = 2^{R_i^*} - 1$ .  $R_i^*$  denotes the targeted data rate of the

user  $U_i$ . In particular, when  $k = j = 1$ ,

$$C_{1,1}^c = \left\{ |\hat{r}_1|^2 > \frac{\gamma_{th1}}{\rho a_1} (\rho \sigma_k^2 + \rho \sigma_p^2 + 1) \right\} \tag{15}$$

From Eq. (14), it can be seen that when the event can be established, it must satisfy:

$$a_j > \gamma_{thj} \sum_{i=j+1}^N a_i \tag{16}$$

During the secondary cooperative transmission process, the secondary users can establish cooperation transmission without exceeding the PU interference threshold. In other words,

it refers to the secondary cooperative transmission while the primary user can transmit normally, i.e.,  $\gamma_p > \gamma_{thp}$ . Now, assume that the PU transmits normally, the outage probability is expressed as

$$P_{out}^k = 1 - \Pr\left\{\bigcap_{i=k}^N C_{i,k}^c\right\} \Pr\{\gamma_p > \gamma_{thp}\} \tag{17}$$

Let  $\eta_k^* = \max[\eta_k, \eta_{k+1}, \dots, \eta_N], k = 1, 2, \dots, N$ , then the outage probability of  $U_k$  is expressed as

$$P_{out}^k = 1 - \Pr\left\{\left|\hat{r}_k\right|^2 > \eta_k^*(\rho\sigma_k^2 + \rho\sigma_p^2 + 1)\right\} \Pr\{\gamma_p > \gamma_{thp}\} \tag{18}$$

From (18), the outage probability of is given by

$$\begin{aligned} P_{out}^k &= 1 - \Pr\left\{\bigcap_{i=k}^N C_{i,k}^c\right\} \Pr\{\gamma_p > \gamma_{thp}\} \\ &= 1 - \Pr\left\{\left|\hat{r}_k\right|^2 > \eta_k^*(\rho\sigma_k^2 + \rho\sigma_p^2 + 1)\right\} \Pr\left\{\rho|r_p|^2 > \gamma_{thp}(\rho|r_{sp_0}|^2 + 1)\right\} \\ &= 1 + \binom{N}{k} \sum_{r=0}^{k-1} \frac{\binom{k-1}{r} (-1)^r}{r + M - k + 1} \left(1 - e^{-\frac{\eta_k^*(\rho\sigma_k^2 + \rho\sigma_p^2 + 1)}{\hat{\Omega}_{su_k}}}\right)^{r+M-k+1} - 1 \frac{\Omega_{sp_0}}{\Omega_{sp_0} \cdot \gamma_{thp} + \Omega_p} e^{-\frac{\gamma_{thp}}{\rho\Omega_p}} \end{aligned} \tag{19}$$

where  $\hat{\Omega}_{su_k} = d_k^{-\alpha} - \sigma_k^2$ ,  $\Omega_{sp_0} = d_{sp_0}^{-\alpha}$  and  $\Omega_p = d_{pp_0}^{-\alpha}$ .  $\gamma_{thp} = 2^{R_p^*} - 1$ ,  $R_p^*$  denotes the targeted data rate of the user  $P_0$  and  $\sigma_k^2$  denotes the channel error vector.

Similarly, the outage probability of the PU is also worth our analysis. In this section, it can be clearly proved that the interference of secondary users to PU and the channel estimation error affect the outage performance. If SU transmits normally, the outage probability of user  $P_0$  can be expressed as

$$\begin{aligned} P_{out,P} &= \Pr\{\hat{\gamma}_p < \gamma_{thp}\} \\ &= \Pr\left\{\rho|\hat{r}_{pp_0}|^2 < \gamma_{thp}(\rho|r_{sp_0}|^2 + \rho\sigma_p^2 + 1)\right\} \\ &= 1 - \frac{\hat{\Omega}_p e^{-\frac{\gamma_{thp}(\rho\sigma_p^2 + 1)}{\rho\Omega_{pp_0}}}}{(\hat{\Omega}_p + \Omega_{sp_0} \gamma_{thp})} \end{aligned} \tag{20}$$

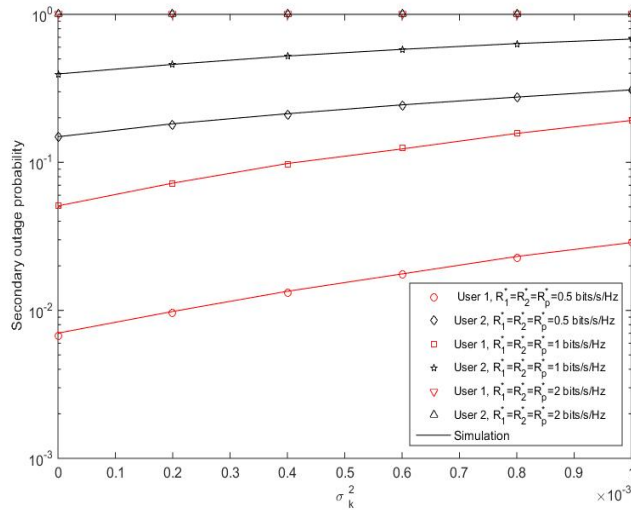
where  $\hat{\Omega}_p = d_p^{-\alpha} - \sigma_p^2$ ,  $\sigma_p^2$  denotes the channel error vector.

#### 4 Numerical results and simulations

In this section, we set up a coordinate system firstly. Then simulations are performed here

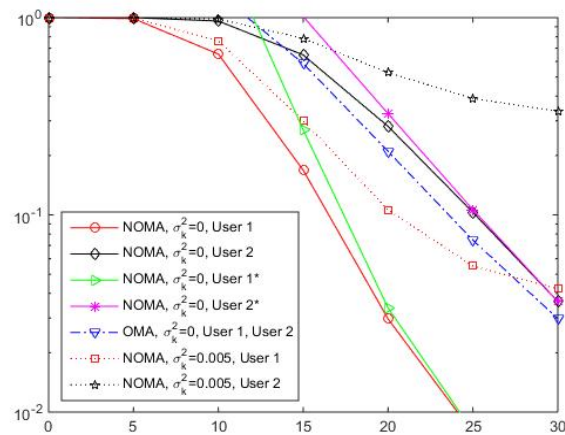


on the proposed scheme. Assuming that the CR-NOMA network has two secondary destination users ( $U_1, U_2$ ). So the distances between all of the users are expressed as  $d_{pp_0}, d_{sp_0}, d_1$  and  $d_2$ , respectively. The small-scale fading gain is Rayleigh distributed, i.e.,  $h_i \sim CN(0,1)$ . The average channel coefficient is set as  $\hat{r}_k \sim CN(0, d_k^{-\alpha} - \sigma_k^2)$ , with  $d_k$  representing the normalized distance between node  $S$  and node  $U_k$ . Assume that the path loss exponent  $\alpha = 3$ , the power allocation factor  $a_1 = 0.25, a_2 = 0.75$  and the distance  $d_{pp_0} = 1m$ . Monte Carlo simulations are performed here to evaluate the performance of the proposed resource allocation algorithms. The simulation results are obtained after  $10^5$  independent trials.



**Figure 2:** Impact of channel estimation error  $\sigma_k^2$  on secondary outage probability

Fig. 2 shows the outage probability of SUs with channel estimation errors variance  $\sigma_k^2$  observed in NOMA. In the figure, the SNR is set as 30 dB, and the distances are set as  $d_1 = d_2 = 5m$  and  $d_{sp_0} = 10m$ . With the increase of  $\sigma_k^2$ , the outage probability increases respectively. It can be seen that the simulation results match perfectly with the analytical results. Also larger channel estimation error brings stronger interference to the wireless system. In addition, it can be observed from Fig. 2 that the outage probability will always be 1 when choosing larger value of  $R_i^*$ . At this point, the parameter selection scheme fails to satisfy the condition  $\alpha_i > (2^{R_i^*} - 1) \sum_{l=1}^{i-1} \alpha_l$ .



**Figure 3:** Impact of SNR on secondary outage probability. For the curve of User 1\* and User 2\* with  $\sigma_k^2 = 0$  under NOMA scheme, please refer to Yang et al. [Yang, Ding, Fan et al. (2016)]

Fig. 3 depicts the impact of channel estimation error  $\sigma_k^2$  on the outage probability of secondary user  $U_k$ . In the figure, we set the targeted rate  $R_1^* = R_2^* = R_p^* = 0.5$  bit/s/Hz, the distance  $d_1 = d_2 = 5m$  and  $d_{sp_0} = 10m$ . It is observed that the outage performance can be significantly improved by increasing the transmitting SNR. Numerical simulation results show that the channel estimation error caused by partial channel information has a significant impact on the outage probability of  $U_k$ . Furthermore, we compare the results of the NOMA at  $\sigma_k^2 = 0$  to those obtained from Yang et al. [Yang, Ding, Fan et al. (2016)]. It can be observed from Fig. 3 that the accurate results from Yang et al. [Yang, Ding, Fan et al. (2016)] can be achieved only with higher SNRs, and in the paper, the analytical results are in good consistence with Monte Carlo simulations within the overall range of SNR. Under NOMA scheme, the secondary transmission with imperfect CSI cannot obtain diversity gain due to channel estimation error, while secondary transmission with perfect CSI can obtain a diversity gain.

Fig. 4 shows the analytical results of the primary outage probability. In the figure, the SNR is set as 30 dB, the distances  $d_1 = d_2 = 5m$  and  $d_{sp_0} = 10m$ . As can be seen from the figure, with the increase of error variance  $\sigma_p^2$ , the outage probability also increases, and the theoretical analysis results in Eq. (20) are in good consistence with Monte Carlo simulations.

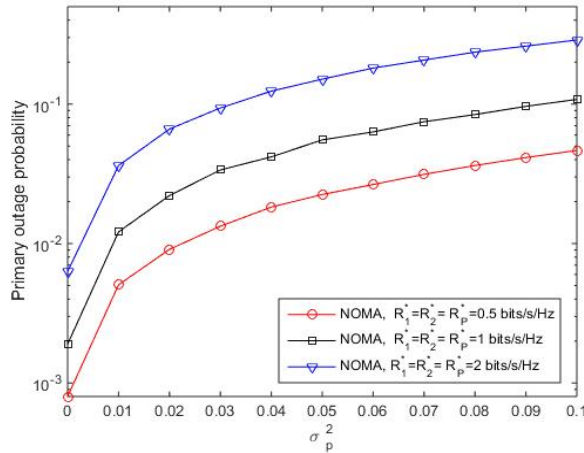


Figure 4: Impact of channel estimation error  $\sigma_p^2$  on primary outage probability

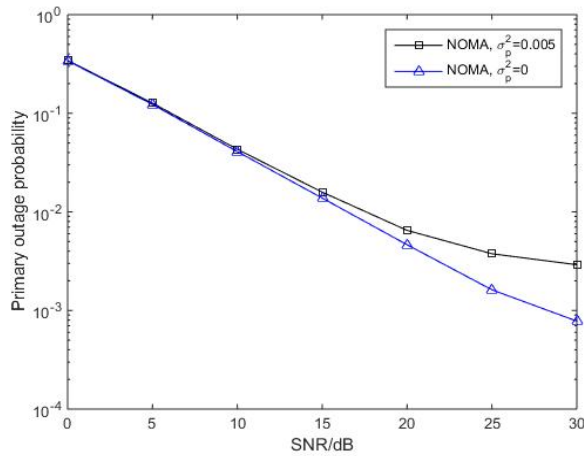
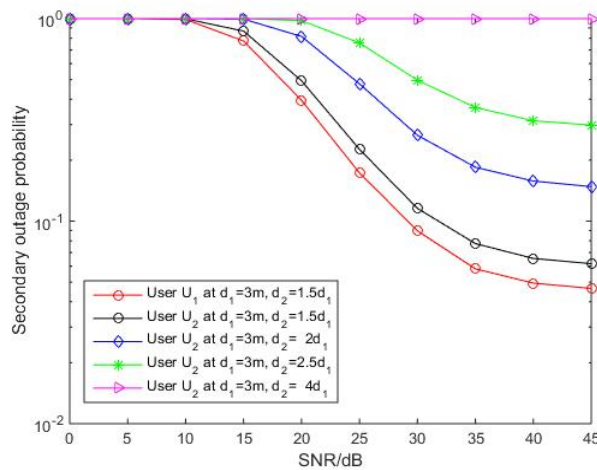


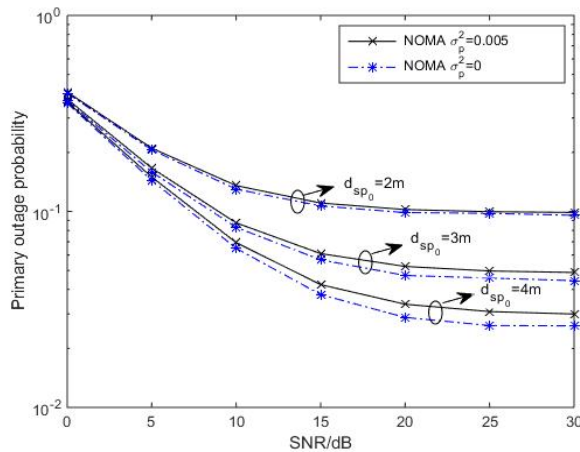
Figure 5: Impact of SNR on primary outage probability

Fig. 5 depicts the impact of channel estimation error  $\sigma_p^2$  on the primary outage probability. In Fig. 5, we set the targeted rate  $R_1^* = R_2^* = R_p^* = 0.5$  bit/s/Hz , the distances  $d_1 = d_2 = 5m$  and  $d_{sp_0} = 10m$  . The outage performance of PU is compared both using imperfect CSI and perfect CSI in NOMA systems. As expected, NOMA scheme with perfect CSI outperforms scheme with imperfect CSI. Thus, the simulation here can verify the correctness of the conclusion on the above simulation of secondary transmission system.



**Figure 6:** Secondary outage probability vs. SNR with different transmission distance  $d_2$

From Fig. 6, we can find the impact of SNR on the outage probability with different distance  $d_2$ . We set the targeted rate  $R_1^* = R_2^* = R_p^* = 0.5$  bit/s/Hz, and the distance  $d_1 = 3m$ ,  $d_2 = \{1.5d_1, 2d_1, 2.5d_1, 4d_1\}$ . It is observed from Fig. 6 that, the larger we increase the transmitting SNR, the better outage performance can be got. Here we assume that the interference from the primary user to the secondary user is negligible. So the quality of data transmission only depends on the quality of the channel. From the Fig. 6, with the increase of  $d_2$ , the outage probability increases. This is because the increase of transmission distance  $d_2$  leads to an increase of path loss and a deterioration of channel quality, which has a serious impact on outage performance.



**Figure 7:** Primary outage probability vs. SNR with different transmission distance  $d_{sp_0}$  of interference link

Fig. 7 shows the outage probability simulation results of PU with different  $d_{sp_0}$ . The targeted rate is set as  $R_1^* = R_2^* = R_p^* = 0.5$  bit/s/Hz, the distance  $d_{sp_0} = \{2m, 3m, 4m\}$ . As can be seen from the figure, with the increase of SNR, the outage probability of the PU deteriorates. Also the outage performance decreases with the increase of  $d_{sp_0}$ . Concluded from the simulation, the performance of NOMA scheme with perfect CSI outperforms system with imperfect CSI.

## 5 Conclusions

In this paper, we propose a single-cell underlay downlink NOMA network. The interference of PN on SN is considered in the established model, and then we derive the expression of the outage probability for PU and SU. We also take channel estimation error into consideration and investigate the performance of NOMA scheme. Simulation results show that the outage performance deteriorates with the increase of the error variance and higher channel estimation error results in stronger interference. The Monte Carlo simulations match well with numerical results and NOMA scheme outperforms conventional OMA scheme.

**Acknowledgement:** This work is supported by National Major Project (No. 2017ZX03001021005), NSFC Project (61871029) and 2018 Sugon New Model Program of Intelligent Factory on Advanced Computing Devices.

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