

Fig. 1. Transmitter and receiver structure of MC-MC-CDMA

system in [4] addresses this interference scaling problem by using just one code sequence instead of spreading each of the M multiplexed data streams so that the interference does not increase linearly with the data rate. However, this system [4] does not achieve the frequency diversity benefits of multicarrier modulation.

This contribution proposes a multicarrier CDMA system with multi-code that outperforms both [17] and [4]. Our proposed multi-code multicarrier CDMA (MC-MC-CDMA) system achieves the advantages of both systems: (i) variable data rates without interference scaling and (ii) enhanced robustness to multipath fading channels. Moreover, the proposed system has gain from both time and frequency domain to exploit the diversity and interference averaging properties of multicarrier modulation and CDMA.

The bit error probability of the proposed system is derived analytically and the improvement of the proposed system over an MC-CDMA system is shown through both analysis and simulations in a frequency selective fading channel. The rest of the paper is organized as follows: Section II discusses the system model and the characteristic of the gain of our proposed multi-code multicarrier CDMA system in the time and frequency domain. The bit error probability of the proposed system is derived in Section III, with a performance comparison presented in Section IV.

II. PROPOSED SYSTEM

A. System Model

The proposed MC-MC-CDMA system depicted in Fig. 1 uses a set of M codes called the code sequence set for M -ary modulation. Each user has the same code sequence set which

represents an information data symbol of $\log_2 M$ bits. The size of the code sequence set depends on the required data rate. In the usual CDMA case, the size of the code sequence set is 2, i.e. there are two sequences in the set, one to represent a '0' and the other to represent a '1'. In the proposed system, each user has a set of M code sequences, where $\log_2 M$ is the ratio of the required data rate to the base data rate (1 bit/symbol). Therefore, if the data rate is to be made $\log_2 M$ times the base data rate, the size of the code sequence set is M and each M -ary data symbol is mapped to one of the code sequences of length N . This code length N is fixed over all different values of M . Thus, varying the data rate does not change the code length N , but it does change the size of the code sequence set M . If orthogonal code sequences are used, the performance advantages of orthogonal modulation are attained. However, in order to maintain linear independence between the code sets, it is required that $M \leq N$. If non-orthogonal code sequences are used, then M can be greater than N , naturally at the expense of the distance between code symbols.

As shown in Fig. 1(a), an M -ary symbol selects one of M pre-mapped code sequences for transmission. Each code sequence has a time domain length of N . Each bit of the length N code sequence is copied onto the L subcarrier branches and multiplied with the user-specific scrambling code of the corresponding branch, $c_{k,l}$. Note that the $c_{k,l}$ are independent of time so that the spreading at this stage is only in frequency, allowing users to choose specific codes that have low cross-correlations with other user's codes. Each of these branches then modulates one of the L orthogonal subcarriers and the results are summed. As in popular orthogonal frequency division multiplexing (OFDM), this process can be implemented using a size L Inverse Fast Fourier Transform (IFFT) to replace the subcarrier multiplication and summation. Unlike OFDM, which uses serial to parallel conversion, in multicarrier CDMA the same information bit is replicated on all subcarriers to achieve a spreading gain for multiple access. Also, a cyclic prefix is not typically employed in multicarrier CDMA because self-ISI is a minor effect compared to multiple access interference.

B. Time and Frequency Signaling Gain: Orthogonality and Spreading

A multicarrier CDMA system with spreading only in the frequency domain is generally referred to as an MC-CDMA system, while a multicarrier system with spreading only in the time domain is usually called MC-DS-CDMA. As shown in Section II-A and Fig. 1, the proposed MC-MC-CDMA system has two-dimensional gain in both the time and frequency domains by using a multi-code signal and multicarrier modulation, respectively. Two-dimensional gain exploits both time and frequency domains and thus can simultaneously combat frequency selective fading and multiple-access interference (MAI) from the advantages of multicarrier modulation and CDMA.

The total gain with two-dimensional signaling is the product of the time domain gain which comes from the orthogonality between code sequences and the frequency spreading gain. Within a fixed total bandwidth, the two-dimensional gain can

$$\begin{aligned}
P_{e,M\text{-orthogonal}|\beta} &= 1 - \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} P(u > U_{1,m} | U_{1,1} = u)^{M-1} P_{U_{1,1}}(u) du \\
&= 1 - \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi\text{var}(U_{1,1})}} \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \int_{-\infty}^u \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi\text{var}(U_{1,m})}} \exp\left[-\frac{x^2}{2\text{var}(U_{1,m})}\right] dx \exp\left[-\frac{(u - E(U_{1,1}))^2}{2\text{var}(U_{1,1})}\right] du, \quad \text{where } m \neq 1 \quad (23)
\end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
J_1 &= \frac{1}{2T_c} \sum_{n=0}^{N-1} \sum_{k=2}^K \sum_{l=1}^L \sum_{q=1}^L \beta_{k,l}(0) v_m(n) v_{b_{k,0}}(n) c_{k,l}(n) c_{1,q}(n) \\
&\quad \times \int_0^{T_c} \cos((\omega_l - \omega_q)t + \phi_{k,l}(t) - \phi_{1,q}(t)) dt. \quad (14)
\end{aligned}$$

As shown in Appendix, $I_{1,m}$ and $J_{1,m}$ have zero mean and variance

$$\text{var}(I_{1,m}) = \frac{1}{4}(K-1)LN\sigma^2, \quad (15)$$

$$\text{var}(J_{1,m}) = \frac{\sigma^2 N(K-1)}{8\pi^2} \sum_{l=1}^L \sum_{q=1}^L \frac{1}{(l-q)^2}, \quad (16)$$

respectively. Therefore, assuming that we know the transmitted code sequence, the mean and variance of $U_{1,m}$, the statistics of output of the filter matched to the transmitted code sequence at time 0 is as follows:

$$E(U_{1,m}) = \frac{1}{2} \sum_{n=0}^{N-1} \sum_{l=1}^L \beta_{1,l}(0), \quad (17)$$

and

$$\begin{aligned}
\text{var}(U_{1,m}) &= \frac{1}{4}(K-1)LN\sigma^2 \\
&\quad + \frac{\sigma^2 N(K-1)}{8\pi^2} \sum_{l=1}^L \sum_{q=1}^L \frac{1}{(l-q)^2} + \frac{N_0 LN}{4T_c}. \quad (18)
\end{aligned}$$

We now separately derive the probability of error for orthogonal and non-orthogonal code sequences.

C. Probability of symbol error for the case of an M -ary signal using an orthogonal code sequence ($M = 2$)

If we use the Gaussian approximation for MAI and assume that we know all the subcarrier channels, the PDF of the output of the matched filter corresponding to the transmitted code sequence m for the desired user 1 is

$$P_{U_{1,m}}(x) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi\text{var}(U_{1,m})}} \exp\left[-\frac{(x - E(U_{1,m}))^2}{2\text{var}(U_{1,m})}\right], \quad (19)$$

where $E(U_{1,m})$ and $\text{var}(U_{1,m})$ are shown in (17) and (18). For simplicity, we assumed that the transmitted code sequence m is 1. The symbol error probability for the case of an M -ary orthogonal code sequence conditioned on the collection of subcarrier channels $P_{e,M\text{-orthogonal}|\beta}$ is

$$\begin{aligned}
P_{e,M\text{-orthogonal}|\beta} &= 1 - \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} P(u > U_{1,2}, \dots, u > U_{1,M} | U_{1,1} = u) P_{U_{1,1}}(u) du, \quad (20)
\end{aligned}$$

where $U_{1,m}$ is the output of the matched filter corresponding to the code sequence m for user i , $m = 1, \dots, M$. Since the $\{U_{1,m}\}$ are statistically independent, the joint probability function $P(u$

$> U_{1,2}, u > U_{1,3}, \dots, u > U_{1,M} | U_{1,1} = u)$ can be a product of $M-1$ marginal probabilities as follows,

$$P(u > U_{1,m} | U_{1,1} = u) = \int_{-\infty}^u P_{U_{1,m}}(x) dx, \quad (21)$$

where the PDF of the output of the matched filter corresponding to the code sequence m ($i = 1$) is

$$P_{U_{1,m}}(x) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi\text{var}(U_{1,m})}} \exp\left[-\frac{x^2}{2\text{var}(U_{1,m})}\right]. \quad (22)$$

These probabilities are all same for $m = 1, \dots, M$. Then, the symbol error probability for the case of an M -ary orthogonal code sequence conditioned on the collection of subcarrier channels can be obtained as (23). The symbol error probability can be evaluated by Monte Carlo integration over the channel realization $\{k,l\}$. The symbol error probability conditioned on the collection of subcarrier channels (23) is the same when any one of the other $M-1$ code sequence is transmitted. Since all the M code sequence are equally likely, the symbol error probability given in (23) is the average probability of a symbol error conditioned on the collection of subcarrier channels.

For $M = 2$, The symbol error probability conditioned on the collection of subcarrier channels can be simplified to

$$P_{e,\text{Binary-orthogonal}|\beta} = Q\left(\frac{E(U_{1,1})}{\sqrt{2\text{var}(U_{1,1})}}\right). \quad (24)$$

D. Probability of symbol error for the case of an M -ary signal using non-orthogonal code sequences ($M = 2$)

For an M -ary signal using non-orthogonal code sequences, the average symbol error probability conditioned on the collection of subcarrier channels $P_{e,M|j}$ can be expressed as

$$P_{e,M|j} = \frac{1}{M} \sum_{m=1}^M P_{e,m|\beta}, \quad (25)$$

where $P_{e,M|j}$ is the probability of error conditioned on the collection of subcarrier channels for the code sequence m . The probability of error $P_{e,M|j}$ is upper-bounded as

$$P_{e,m|\beta} \leq \sum_{\substack{s=1 \\ s \neq m}}^M P_{e,M=2|\beta}(v_s, v_m), \quad (26)$$

where $P_{e,M=2|\beta}(v_s, v_m)$ is the probability of error conditioned on the collection of subcarrier channels for a binary communication system using two non-orthogonal code sequences v_s and v_m . The binary error probability $P_{e,M=2|\beta}(v_s, v_m)$ is

$$P_{e,M=2|\beta}(v_s, v_m) = Q\left(\frac{d_{sm}^2}{2\sqrt{\text{var}(U_{1,m})}}\right), \quad (27)$$

where $d_{sm}^2 = \|v_s - v_m\|^2$. From (9), (10), the two sequences v_s

and s_j after passing through the channel and demodulator are

$$\hat{S}_j = \sum_{n=0}^{N-1} \frac{1}{T_c} \int_{nT_c}^{(n+1)T_c} r(t) \sum_{q=1}^L c_{i,q}(n) \cos(\omega_q t + \phi_{i,q}(n)) \alpha_{i,q} dt \quad (28)$$

$$\times h(t - nT_c), \quad j \in \{s, m\},$$

where i is the user index, and $r(t)$ is the received signal. Thus, the symbol error probability conditioned on the collection of subcarrier channels for an M -ary non-orthogonal code sequence is upperbounded as [20]

$$P_{e|\beta, M} \leq \frac{1}{M} \sum_{m=1}^M \sum_{s=1, s \neq m}^M Q \frac{1}{2} \sqrt{\frac{d_{sm}^2}{\text{var}(U_{1,m})}}, \quad (29)$$

which can be evaluated by Monte Carlo integration over the channel realizations $\{k_{s,l}\}$.

As shown in (29), the symbol error probability for the case of the non-orthogonal code sequence depends on the distance between code sequences in the code sequence set, as would be expected.

IV. PERFORMANCE COMPARISON FOR MULTI-CODE MULTI-CARRIER CDMA

In this section, the numerical BER performance of MC-MC-CDMA is compared to competing systems, and some properties of MC-MC-CDMA are observed. For the MC-MC-CDMA system, the chosen parameters are $N = 16$ for the length of the code sequence, $L = 16$ for the number of subcarriers, and $M = 2, 4, 8, 16$ for the M -ary symbols. The frequency selective Rayleigh fading channel is considered for the simulation. We assume that the channel on each subcarrier can be considered as flat fading and the receiver has perfect channel knowledge to detect the transmitted signal.

Fig. 2 shows the BER performance of the MC-MC-CDMA system with various M , the MC-CDMA system [6], and the multi-code single-carrier CDMA (MC-SC-CDMA) system [4]. In order to fairly compare the performance of these systems which have different subcarrier channel bandwidths, the number of subcarriers in each system is fixed to make the total bandwidth equal for all three systems. For example, when the length of the code sequence $N = M = 16$, the MC-MC-CDMA system transmits 16 bits within one symbol time (4 information bits). That means the MC-MC-CDMA system uses 4 times more bandwidth compared to an MC-CDMA system with the same data rate. Therefore, we use 16 subcarriers for the MC-MC-CDMA system and 64 subcarriers for the MC-CDMA system. For the MC-SC-CDMA system, the length of the code sequence is 256. Moreover, all three systems have the same data rate. Since the length of the code sequence N is 16, the maximum supportable data rate is 4 bits/symbol. Thus, both multi-code CDMA and the MC-CDMA systems have the same information rate of 4 bits/symbol. In this way, all three systems use the same total bandwidth and the same data rate in the simulation. As can be seen, the proposed MC-MC-CDMA system performs better than the MC-CDMA system. By using multicarrier modulation, the MC-MC-CDMA system also easily outperforms the MC-SC-CDMA system in a frequency selective fading channel. Due to the gain which comes from orthogonality between code sequences and frequency spread-

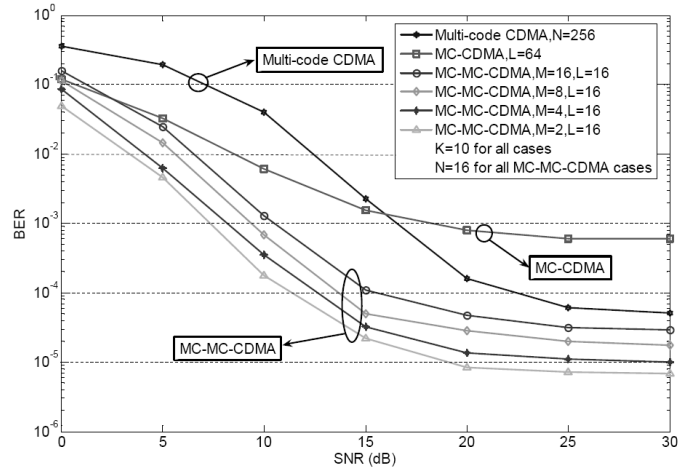


Fig. 2. Simulation results for BER versus SNR for MC-CDMA, MC-SC-CDMA, and MC-MC-CDMA with various M . All these systems occupy the same total bandwidth, and the MC-MC-CDMA system uses orthogonal code sequences since $M \leq N$.

ing gain, the proposed MC-MC-CDMA system shows better performance than MC-CDMA and MC-SC-CDMA systems. The performance can be adjusted to different channel conditions, since the time-frequency spreading tradeoff can be controlled accordingly.

In Fig. 3, the analytical expressions and the simulation results in a Rayleigh fading channel for the orthogonal code sequence case are compared. Here, $M = 2$ and 16, and $K = 10$. The performance of the $M = 2$ case is better, because the 16-ary MC-MC-CDMA system uses more code sequences than the binary MC-MC-CDMA system. In the same $N = 16$ dimensional signal space, it results in a smaller distance between code sequences than for the $M = 2$ case. The plot shows that the analytical derivations agree closely with the simulation results for the orthogonal code sequence case.

Fig. 4 shows the analytical upperbound on symbol error probability and the simulation results for the MC-MC-CDMA system using non-orthogonal code sequences with various average code distances, as derived in Section III-D. Here, $M = 16$, $N = 8$, $L = 32$, and $K = 10$. The code sequence set is randomly generated. In Fig. 4, d represents the average distance between code sequences:

$$d = \frac{1}{(M-1)(M-1)} \sum_{m=1}^M \sum_{s=1, s \neq m}^M \|v_m - v_s\|, \quad (30)$$

$$\text{where } v_i \in \Omega, \quad i = 1, \dots, M.$$

We notice that the simulation results fall in under the analytical upperbound, as expected. The upperbound is relatively tight. As shown in Section III-D, for the non-orthogonal code sequence, the symbol error probability upperbound depends on the distance between code sequences. Naturally, as the average distance between code sequences is decreased, the upperbound is increased.

The BER performance versus the number of users for both systems with an SNR of 10dB is shown in Fig. 5. At the same BER, data rate per user, and consumed bandwidth, the MC-MC-CDMA system can support more users than the

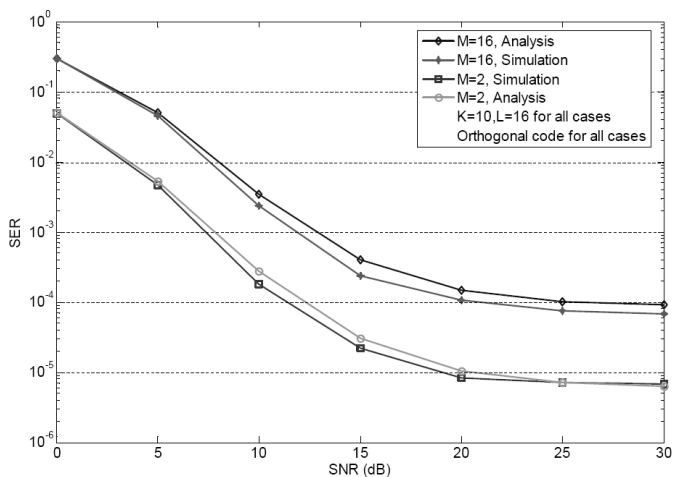


Fig. 3. The comparison of SER by analysis and SER by simulation for M -ary ($M = 2, M = 16$) orthogonal code sequence cases in $L = 16$ independent subcarrier channels

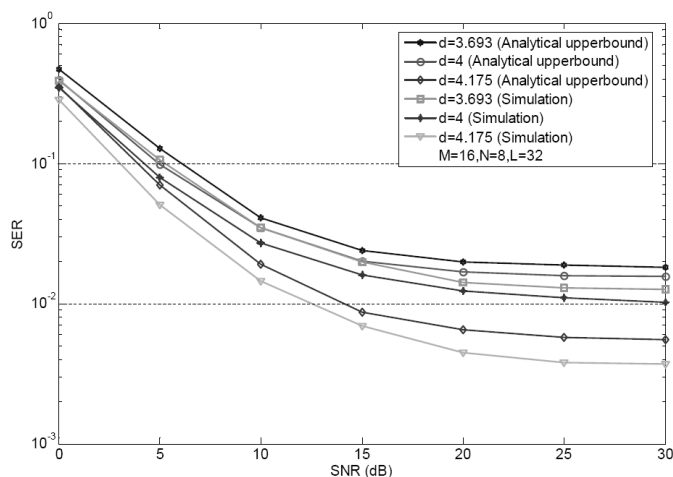


Fig. 4. The comparison of SER upperbound by analysis and SER by simulation for the MC-MC-CDMA system using non-orthogonal code sequence sets. $M = 16, N = 8, L = 32, K = 10$

MC-CDMA system. For example, at a BER of 3×10^{-3} , the number of users supported by the MC-MC-CDMA system is about 13, while it is about 7 for the MC-CDMA system. These are both uncoded systems with a total spreading gain of 64.

Fig. 6 shows the received (pre-despreading) signal to interference plus noise ratio (SINR) versus M with various numbers of users K and SNR. In this system, the mean of all interference power is assumed to be equal. As shown in Fig. 6, the received SINR of the MC-MC-CDMA system varies according to the variation of K and SNR, but not M . Since the length of the code sequence N is fixed over all different value of M , the received SINR is not changed according to M as shown in Fig. 6. It means that the proposed MC-MC-CDMA system can support higher data rate without increasing the interference unlike the multi-rate multicarrier CDMA system [17].

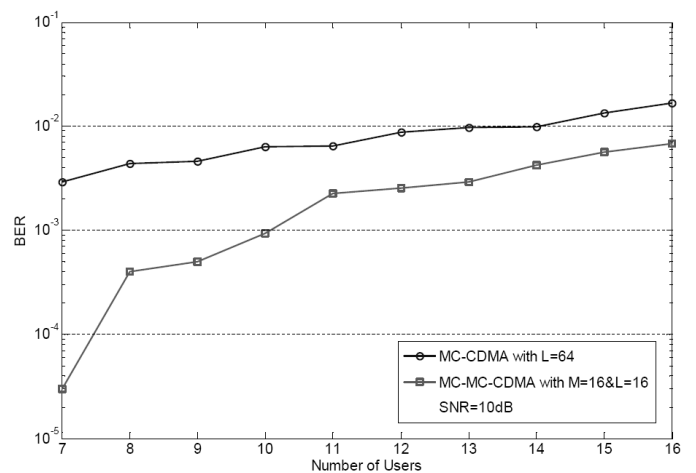


Fig. 5. The BER versus the number of users for the MC-CDMA system and the MC-MC-CDMA system. For the same total bandwidth, the MC-MC-CDMA can support a much higher system capacity than a conventional CDMA system.

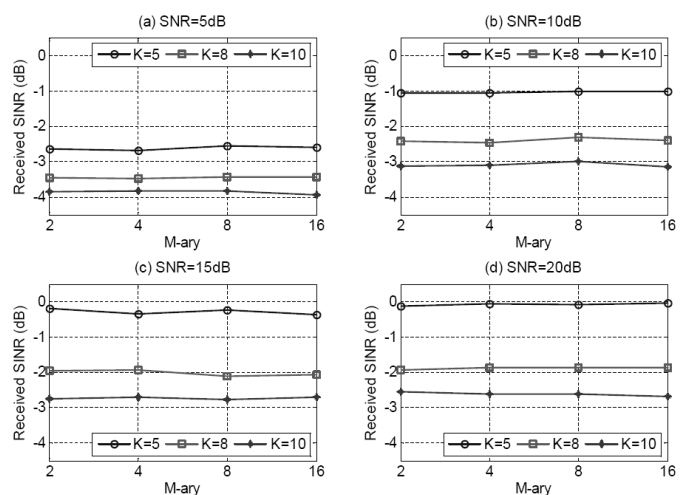


Fig. 6. The received (pre-despreading) SINR versus M with various K and SNR. It can be seen that the value of M does not change the received SINR.

V. CONCLUSION

In this paper, multi-code multicarrier CDMA was shown to be a promising method for supporting variable data rates for a large number of users in future cellular systems. By using the multi-code concept, the MC-MC-CDMA system achieves two-dimensional gain as well as frequency diversity. In addition, various data rates can easily be supported by changing the size of the code sequence set. With the same total bandwidth, both analytical and simulation results showed that the proposed MC-MC-CDMA system clearly outperforms multicarrier CDMA and single carrier multi-code CDMA in terms of bit error probability and user capacity in a frequency selective Rayleigh fading channel. This shows that data rate flexibility can be achieved in a multicarrier CDMA system without any

sacrifice in performance, and to the contrary, can actually allow improved robustness, flexibility, and capacity.

APPENDIX

DECISION VARIABLE (THE OUTPUT OF THE MATCHED FILTER)

For the analysis of the BER performance of the proposed system, the matched filter output can be written as (11). From (8) and (11), due to the orthogonality between subcarriers, the desired signal $D_{l,m}$ can be written as

$$\begin{aligned} D_{l,m} &= \frac{1}{T_c} \sum_{n=0}^{N-1} v_m(n) v_{b_{l,0}}(n) \int_{nT_c}^{(n+1)T_c} \sum_{q=1}^L \beta_{l,q}(n) \\ &\quad \times h(t-nT_c) c_{l,q}^2(n) \cos^2(\omega_q t + \phi_{l,q}(n)) dt \quad (31) \\ &= \frac{1}{2} \sum_{n=0}^{N-1} v_m(n) v_{b_{l,0}}(n) \sum_{q=1}^L \beta_{l,q}(n). \end{aligned}$$

The interference term $I_{l,m} + J_{l,m}$ is given by

$$\begin{aligned} I_{l,m} + J_{l,m} &= \frac{1}{T_c} \sum_{j=0}^{N-1} v_m(j) \int_{jT_c}^{(j+1)T_c} \sum_{k=2}^K \sum_{l=1}^L \sum_{n=0}^{N-1} \beta_{k,l}(n) \\ &\quad \times v_{b_{k,0}}(n) h(t-nT_c) c_{k,l}(n) \cos(\omega_l t + \phi_{k,l}(n)) \quad (32) \\ &\quad \times \sum_{q=1}^L c_{l,q}(j) \cos(\omega_q t + \phi_{l,q}(j)) dt, \end{aligned}$$

where $I_{l,m}$ corresponds to the interference from the other $K-1$ users on the same subcarrier and $J_{l,m}$ corresponds to the interference from the other $K-1$ users on the other subcarriers. Both $I_{l,m}$ and $J_{l,m}$ can be simplified as

$$\begin{aligned} I_{l,m} &= \frac{1}{T_c} \sum_{j=0}^{N-1} v_m(j) \sum_{k=2}^K \sum_{l=1}^L \sum_{n=0}^{N-1} \beta_{k,l}(n) v_{b_{k,0}}(n) c_{k,l}(n) c_{l,l}(j) \\ &\quad \times \int_{jT_c}^{(j+1)T_c} h(t-nT_c) \cos(\omega_l t + \phi_{k,l}(n)) \\ &\quad \times \cos(\omega_l t + \phi_{l,l}(j)) dt \quad (33) \\ &= \frac{1}{2} \sum_{k=2}^K \sum_{l=1}^L \sum_{n=0}^{N-1} \beta_{k,l}(n) v_m(n) v_{b_{k,0}}(n) \\ &\quad \times c_{k,l}(n) c_{l,l}(n) \cos(\phi_{k,l}(n) - \phi_{l,l}(n)), \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} J_{l,m} &= \frac{1}{T_c} \sum_{j=0}^{N-1} v_m(j) \sum_{k=2}^K \sum_{n=0}^{N-1} \sum_{l=1}^L \sum_{q=1}^L \beta_{k,l}(n) v_{b_{k,0}}(n) c_{k,l}(n) c_{l,q}(j) \\ &\quad \times \int_{jT_c}^{(j+1)T_c} h(t-nT_c) \cos(\omega_l t + \phi_{k,l}(n)) \\ &\quad \times \cos(\omega_q t + \phi_{l,q}(j)) dt \quad (34) \\ &= \frac{1}{2T_c} \sum_{k=2}^K \sum_{n=0}^{N-1} \sum_{l=1}^L \sum_{q=1}^L \beta_{k,l}(n) v_m(n) v_{b_{k,0}}(n) c_{k,l}(n) c_{l,q}(n) \\ &\quad \times \int_0^{T_c} \cos((\omega_l - \omega_q)t + \phi_{k,l}(n) - \phi_{l,q}(n)) dt. \end{aligned}$$

As shown in (31)-(34), the matched filter output is expressed in terms of correlation functions of the code sequences. Now we can derive the variance of the term $I_{l,m}$ and $J_{l,m}$ for the EGC case. All cross terms are uncorrelated due to the random phase, and $I_{l,m}$ and $J_{l,m}$ are zero mean. Therefore, with the fact that $E[\beta_{k,l}^2] = 2\sigma^2$, the variance of $I_{l,m}$ and $J_{l,m}$ can be simplified as

$$\begin{aligned} \text{var}[I_{l,m}] &= \frac{1}{4} \sum_{k=2}^K \sum_{l=1}^L \sum_{n=0}^{N-1} E \beta_{k,l}^2(n) E v_m^2(n) v_{b_{k,0}}^2(n) c_{k,l}^2(n) c_{l,l}^2(n) \\ &\quad \times E \cos^2(\phi_{k,l}(n) - \phi_{l,l}(n)) \quad (35) \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} &= \frac{1}{4} (K-1) L N \sigma^2, \\ \text{var}[J_{l,m}] &= \frac{1}{2T_c^2} \sum_{k=2}^K \sum_{n=0}^{N-1} \sum_{l=1}^L \sum_{q=1}^L E \beta_{k,l}^2(n) \\ &\quad \times E v_m^2(n) v_{b_{k,0}}^2(n) c_{k,l}^2(n) c_{l,q}^2(n) \\ &\quad \times E \left(\int_0^{T_c} \cos((\omega_l - \omega_q)t + \phi_{k,l}(n) - \phi_{l,q}(n)) dt \right)^2 \quad (36) \\ &= \frac{\sigma^2}{4T_c^2} \sum_{k=2}^K \sum_{n=0}^{N-1} \sum_{l=1}^L \sum_{q=1}^L E \left(\frac{T_c}{2\pi(l-q)} \{ \sin((\omega_l - \omega_q)t \right. \\ &\quad \left. + \phi_{k,l}(n) - \phi_{l,q}(n)) - \sin(\phi_{k,l}(n) - \phi_{l,q}(n)) \} \right)^2 \\ &= \frac{\sigma^2 N (K-1)}{8\pi^2} \sum_{l=1}^L \sum_{q=1}^L \frac{1}{(l-q)^2}. \end{aligned}$$

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