Chernoff bounds on pairwise error probabilities of space-time codes

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Keywords
Gaussian noise, Rician channels, Antenna arrays, Antenna theory, Error statistics, Space-time codes, Telecommunication signalling, Transmitting antennas, White noise

Disciplines
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Chernoff Bounds on Pairwise Error Probabilities of Space-time Codes

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Abstract

We derive Chernoff bounds on pairwise error probabilities of coherent and noncoherent space-time signaling schemes. First, general Chernoff bound expressions are derived for a correlated Ricean fading channel and correlated additive Gaussian noise. Then, we specialize the obtained results to the cases of space-time separable noise, white noise, and uncorrelated fading. We derive approximate Chernoff bounds for high and low signal-to-noise ratios and propose optimal signaling schemes. We also compute the optimal number of transmitter antennas for noncoherent signaling with unitary mutually orthogonal space-time codes.

Index Terms

Multiple antennas, Chernoff bounds, pairwise error probability, correlated Ricean fading, space-time modulation, transmitter and receiver diversity.

1 Introduction

Chernoff bounds on pairwise error probabilities have been used to design coded modulation schemes for fading channels [1]–[6] and, more recently, to design space-time codes and analyze the performance of multi-input multi-output (MIMO) wireless communication systems, see [7]–[11]. Assuming uncorrelated Ricean and Rayleigh fading channels and white noise, exact and approximate expressions for pairwise error probabilities of coherent space-time signaling schemes were derived in [12] and [13] (see also references therein). (For comprehensive treatment of methods for computing pairwise error probabilities in fading channels, see [14]). Recently, exact and asymptotic pairwise error probabilities have been computed for space-time signaling schemes in correlated Rayleigh fading and white noise, see [15] and [16]. In this correspondence, we derive Chernoff bound expressions for coherent and noncoherent signaling in a correlated flat Ricean fading channel and correlated additive Gaussian noise, generalizing the corresponding results in [7] and [8]. Approximate Chernoff bounds are derived for high and low scattering signal-to-noise ratios (SNRs) and optimal signaling schemes are proposed.

First, we introduce measurement and fading models. The $n_R \times 1$ vector signal received by the receiver array at time $t$ is modeled as

$$y(t) = H\phi(t) + e(t), \quad t = 1, \ldots, N, \quad (1.1)$$
where $H$ is the $n_r \times n_t$ channel response matrix, $\phi(t)$ is the $n_t \times 1$ vector of symbols transmitted by $n_t$ transmitter antennas and received by the receiver array at time $t$, and $e(t)$ is additive noise. Stacking all $N$ samples into a single vector, the above set of equations may be written as

$$y = (\Phi^T \otimes I_{n_R}) h + e,$$

where $y = [y(1)^T, y(2)^T, \ldots, y(N)^T]^T$, $h = \text{vec} \{H\}$, $e = [e(1)^T, e(2)^T, \ldots, e(N)^T]^T$, and $\Phi = [\phi(1) \cdots \phi(N)]$ is the matrix of symbols received in the coherent interval $t = 1, \ldots, N$. Here, the vec operator stacks the columns of a matrix one below another into a single column vector, $I_n$ denotes the identity matrix of size $n$, and $^T$ and $\otimes$ denote transpose and Kronecker product, respectively. Furthermore, we assume that the noise $e$ is a zero-mean complex Gaussian vector with positive definite covariance matrix $E[e e^H] = R$, and that the vector of fading coefficients $h$ is complex Gaussian with mean $E[h]$ and positive definite covariance $E[(h - E[h])(h - E[h])^H]$, denoted as

$$E[h] = \mu_h, \quad E[(h - \mu_h)(h - \mu_h)^H] = \Psi_h,$$

where $^H$ denotes Hermitian (conjugate) transpose. We will examine the following model for the mean $\mu_h$ of the fading coefficient vector (see also [17]):

$$\mu_h = x \cdot a_T \otimes a_R$$

where $a_T$ and $a_R$ are line-of-sight transmitter and receiver array responses, and $x$ is the complex amplitude of the line-of-sight signal.

In Section 2 we derive Chernoff bound expressions for coherent signaling. We specialize these expressions to the space-time separable noise scenario (Section 2.1) and examine optimal signaling schemes. White noise and uncorrelated fading models are considered in Section 2.1.1. In Section 3 we derive Chernoff bounds for noncoherent signaling. Based on approximate expressions for high and low scattering signal-to-noise ratios, we propose optimal code design criteria for noncoherent signaling (Sections 3.1 and 3.2). Finally, in Section 3.3 we examine equal-energy orthogonal signaling and compute the optimal number of transmitter antennas for this scenario.

## 2 Coherent Signaling

We compute Chernoff bounds for coherent signaling (i.e. assuming that the channel is known to the receiver) by obtaining the Chernoff bound expression for a given channel realization, and averaging it over all possible channel realizations under a correlated flat Ricean fading model.

Consider the measurement and fading models in Section 1, where the channel $h$ and noise covariance $R$ are known to the receiver. Assume that we wish to decide between two space-time codes, $\Phi_1$ and $\Phi_0$, i.e. to test the hypothesis $H_1 : \Phi_1$ transmitted versus the alternative $H_0 : \Phi_0$ transmitted. Assume also that $\Phi_1$ and $\Phi_0$ are equiprobable. Under $H_1$, the received measurement vector $y$ is a complex multivariate normal with mean $Z_1 h$ and covariance $R$, whereas under $H_0$ it is a complex multivariate normal with mean $Z_0 h$. 


and covariance $\mathbf{R}$. Denote the probability density function (pdf) of $\mathbf{y}$ under $H_i$ as $p_i(\mathbf{y}|\mathbf{h})$, $i = 0, 1$, and define

$$Z_1 = \Phi_1^T \otimes I_{n_R}, \quad Z_0 = \Phi_0^T \otimes I_{n_R}.$$  \hspace{1cm} (2.1)

Given $\mathbf{h}$, the Chernoff bound on pairwise error probability for deciding between $H_1$ and $H_0$ is

$$P_{CB}(\mathbf{h}, \lambda) = \frac{1}{2} \exp[\xi(\lambda|\mathbf{h})],$$  \hspace{1cm} (2.2)

where

$$\xi(\lambda|\mathbf{h}) = \ln \mathbb{E} \{\exp[\lambda \ln p_0(\mathbf{y}|\mathbf{h}) - \lambda \ln p_1(\mathbf{y}|\mathbf{h})] \mid H_1\}, \quad 0 \leq \lambda \leq 1,$$  \hspace{1cm} (2.3)

see [18, ch. 2.7], [19, ch. 3.4], and [8, App. B]. Here, (2.3) becomes

$$\xi(\lambda|\mathbf{h}) = \ln \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \cdots \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \frac{1}{|\mathbf{R}|} \exp[-\lambda (\mathbf{y} - Z_0 \mathbf{h})^H \mathbf{R}^{-1}(\mathbf{y} - Z_0 \mathbf{h}) - (1 - \lambda) (\mathbf{y} - Z_1 \mathbf{h})^H \mathbf{R}^{-1}(\mathbf{y} - Z_1 \mathbf{h})] \, d\mathbf{y},$$  \hspace{1cm} (2.4)

where $d\mathbf{y} = d(\text{Re} \mathbf{y})d(\text{Im} \{\mathbf{y}\})$. Let us denote complex conjugation by “$^*$”. To compute (2.4), we use the following lemma$^1$:

**Lemma 1:** Let $\mathbf{B}$ represent an $n \times n$ positive definite Hermitian matrix and $\mathbf{A}$ an $n \times n$ Hermitian matrix; let $\mathbf{a}$ and $\mathbf{b}$ represent $n \times 1$ vectors of complex constants; and let $a_0$ and $b_0$ represent complex scalars. Then,

$$\int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \cdots \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \frac{1}{2}[x^H \mathbf{A} x + x^H \mathbf{a} + a^H x + a_0 + a_0^*] \exp[-\frac{1}{2}(x^H \mathbf{B} x + x^H \mathbf{b} + b^H x + b_0 + b_0^*)] \, dx = \frac{1}{2} \pi^n |\frac{1}{2} \mathbf{B}|^{-1} \cdot \left[2\text{tr}(\mathbf{A}^{-1} \mathbf{B}^{-1} \mathbf{B}^{-1} \mathbf{a} - a^H \mathbf{B}^{-1} \mathbf{b} + b^H \mathbf{B}^{-1} \mathbf{A} \mathbf{B}^{-1} \mathbf{b} + 2 \text{Re} \{a_0\}) \cdot \exp[\frac{1}{2} b^H \mathbf{B}^{-1} \mathbf{b} - \text{Re} \{b_0\}]\right].$$  \hspace{1cm} (2.5)

**Proof:** See the Appendix.

Let us define

$$Q = (Z_1 - Z_0)^H \mathbf{R}^{-1}(Z_1 - Z_0).$$  \hspace{1cm} (2.6)

Then, applying Lemma 1 to (2.4), with $\mathbf{x} = \mathbf{y} - Z_1 \mathbf{h}$, $\mathbf{B} = 2 \mathbf{R}^{-1}$, $\mathbf{A} = 0$, $\mathbf{a} = 0$, $\mathbf{b} = 2\lambda \cdot \mathbf{R}^{-1}(Z_1 - Z_0) \mathbf{h}$, $a_0 = 1/|\mathbf{R}|$, and $b_0 = \lambda \mathbf{h}^H Q \mathbf{h}$, we get

$$\xi(\lambda|\mathbf{h}) = (\lambda^2 - \lambda) \cdot \mathbf{h}^H Q \mathbf{h},$$  \hspace{1cm} (2.7)

which is minimized for $\lambda = 1/2$, yielding the optimal Chernoff bound for the case of ideal channel state information:

$$P_{CB}(\mathbf{h}) = \frac{1}{2} \exp(-\frac{1}{4} \mathbf{h}^H Q \mathbf{h}).$$  \hspace{1cm} (2.8)

Now, following the Ricean fading model for the channel coefficients in (1.3), we average (2.8) over $\mathbf{h}$:

$$P_{CB} = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \cdots \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} P_{CB}(\mathbf{h}) \cdot \frac{1}{|\mathbf{\Psi}_h|} \exp\{-\frac{1}{2} (\mathbf{h} - \mu_0)^H \mathbf{\Psi}^{-1}_h (\mathbf{h} - \mu_0)\} \, dh,$$  \hspace{1cm} (2.9)

$^1$The integral in Lemma 1 has a fairly general form. Throughout this paper, we will use its special case with $\mathbf{A} = 0$ and $\mathbf{a} = 0$. 

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which can be computed by applying Lemma 1 with \( x = h, B = 2\Psi^{-1}Q, A = 0, a = 0, b = -2\Psi^{-1}Q, a = 1/(2|\Psi|), \) and \( b \) yielding

\[
P_{CB} = \frac{1}{2} \cdot \left| I_{n_T n_R} + \frac{1}{4} Q \Psi_h \right| \cdot \exp\left[ -\mu_h^H \left( I_{n_T n_R} + \frac{1}{4} Q \Psi_h \right)^{-1} Q \mu_h \right]. \tag{2.10}
\]

Interestingly, the exact minimum pairwise error probability for coherent detection (averaged over channel realizations) can be readily computed using (2.10) and [14, ch. 12.1.2.1 and eq. (4.2)]:

\[
P_{\text{EP}}(\Phi_0, \Phi_1) = \frac{1}{\pi} \int_{-\pi/2}^{\pi/2} \left| I_{n_T n_R} + \frac{1}{4} Q \Psi_h \right| \cdot \exp\left[ -\frac{1}{4} \sin^2(\theta) \mu_h^H \left( I_{n_T n_R} + \frac{1}{4} Q \Psi_h \right)^{-1} Q \mu_h \right] d\theta, \tag{2.11}
\]

see also [12], where a similar expression was derived for uncorrelated fading and white noise.

Let us now introduce some terminology and notation. A positive semidefinite Hermitian matrix is “large” if its nonzero eigenvalues are significantly larger than 1. Similarly, a positive semidefinite Hermitian matrix is “small” if its eigenvalues are significantly smaller than 1. Also, we will denote by \( \Psi^{1/2} \) a Hermitian square root of a Hermitian matrix \( \Psi \); then \( \Psi^{-1/2} = (\Psi^{1/2})^{-1} \).

**Large** \( \frac{1}{4} \Psi_{1/2} Q \Psi_{1/2} \): If the matrix \( \frac{1}{4} \Psi_{1/2} Q \Psi_{1/2} \) is “large” then we can approximate (2.10) as

\[
P_{CB} \approx \frac{1}{2} \cdot \left| \frac{1}{4} \Psi_{1/2} Q \Psi_{1/2} \right|_{\text{rank}(Q)} \cdot \exp\left[ -\mu_h^H \Psi_{1/2}^{-1} \cdot \Pi(\Psi_{1/2} Q \Psi_{1/2}^{-1}) \cdot \Psi_{1/2}^{-1} \mu_h \right], \tag{2.12}
\]

where \( \Pi(X) \) denotes the projection matrix\(^2\) onto the column space of \( X \), and \( |A|_r \) denotes the product of the \( r \) largest eigenvalues of a Hermitian matrix \( A \). Note also that \( \text{rank}(Q) = n_R \cdot \text{rank}(\Phi_1 - \Phi_0) \). Similarly, we can approximate the minimum pairwise error probability (2.11) under this scenario:

\[
P_{\text{EP}}(\Phi_0, \Phi_1) \approx \left( \frac{1}{\pi} \right) \cdot \left( \frac{1}{2} \int_{0}^{\pi/2} \sin^2(\theta) \frac{d\theta}{\text{rank}(Q)} \right) \cdot \exp\left[ -\mu_h^H \Psi_{1/2}^{-1} \cdot \Pi(\Psi_{1/2} Q \Psi_{1/2}^{-1}) \cdot \Psi_{1/2}^{-1} \mu_h \right] \]

\[
= \frac{\Gamma(\text{rank}(Q) + 0.5)}{2\sqrt{\pi} \cdot \Gamma(\text{rank}(Q) + 1)} \cdot \left| \frac{1}{4} \Psi_{1/2} Q \Psi_{1/2}^{-1} \right|_{\text{rank}(Q)} \cdot \exp\left[ -\mu_h^H \Psi_{1/2}^{-1} \cdot \Pi(\Psi_{1/2} Q \Psi_{1/2}^{-1}) \cdot \Psi_{1/2}^{-1} \mu_h \right] \]

\[
= \left( \frac{1}{4} \right) \text{rank}(Q) \cdot \left( \frac{2 \text{rank}(Q) - 1}{\text{rank}(Q)} \right) \cdot \left| \frac{1}{4} \Psi_{1/2} Q \Psi_{1/2}^{-1} \right|_{\text{rank}(Q)} \cdot \exp\left[ -\mu_h^H \Psi_{1/2}^{-1} \cdot \Pi(\Psi_{1/2} Q \Psi_{1/2}^{-1}) \cdot \Psi_{1/2}^{-1} \mu_h \right], \tag{2.13}
\]

where \( \Gamma(\cdot) \) denotes the Gamma function. The first equality in (2.13) follows from the identity

\[
\frac{1}{\pi} \int_{0}^{\pi/2} \sin^2(\theta) d\theta = \frac{1}{2\sqrt{\pi}} \cdot \frac{\Gamma(n + 0.5)}{\Gamma(n + 1)}. \tag{2.14}
\]

If \( \Phi_1 - \Phi_0 \) has full rank \( n_T \) (which is the rank criterion in [7]), (2.12) simplifies to

\[
P_{CB \text{ full rank}} \approx \frac{1}{2} \cdot \left| \frac{1}{4} \Psi_{1/2} Q \Psi_{1/2}^{-1} \right| \cdot \exp\left( -\mu_h^H \Psi_{1/2}^{-1} \mu_h \right). \tag{2.15}
\]

\(^2\)For the definition of a projection matrix, see e.g. [20, ch. 12.3].
To achieve the full rank $n_T$ of $\Phi_1 - \Phi_0$, the number of time samples needs to be equal to or larger than the number of transmitter antennas, i.e. $N \geq n_T$. From (2.15), it follows that the optimal codes should maximize

$$|Q| = |[(\Phi_1^* - \Phi_0^*) \otimes I_{n_R}] \cdot R^{-1} \cdot [(\Phi_1^T - \Phi_0^T) \otimes I_{n_R}]|,$$

(2.16)

which is an extension of the determinant criterion in [7] to this scenario.

**Small** $\frac{1}{4} \Psi_h^{1/2} Q \Psi_h^{1/2}$: If the matrix $\frac{1}{4} \Psi_h^{1/2} Q \Psi_h^{1/2}$ is “small,” then we can approximate (2.10) as

$$P_{CB} \approx \frac{1}{2} \cdot \exp \left\{ -\frac{1}{4} \text{tr}[Q(\mu_h \mu_h^H + \Psi_h)] \right\} = \frac{1}{2} \cdot \exp \left\{ -\frac{1}{4} \mathbb{E}(h^H Q h) \right\}.$$  

(2.17)

Clearly, the optimal codes need to maximize

$$\text{tr}[Q(\mu_h \mu_h^H + \Psi_h)] = \text{tr}\{[(\Phi_1^* - \Phi_0^*) \otimes I_{n_R}] \cdot R^{-1} \cdot [(\Phi_1^T - \Phi_0^T) \otimes I_{n_R}] \cdot (\mu_h \mu_h^H + \Psi_h)\},$$

(2.18)

which can be viewed as a measure of signal-to-noise ratio. We can define the Ricean $K$-factor as the ratio between the line-of-sight and scattering SNR components:

$$K = \frac{\mu_h^H Q \mu_h}{\text{tr}(Q \Psi_h)}$$

(2.19)

generalizing the single-input single-output (SISO) definition in e.g. [21, ch. 1.2.2]. If the line-of-sight SNR component is dominant (i.e. large $K$), then the optimal code design criterion for small $\frac{1}{4} \Psi_h^{1/2} Q \Psi_h^{1/2}$ reduces to maximizing $\mu_h^H Q \mu_h$ with respect to $\Phi_1 - \Phi_0$.

In the following, we specialize the above results to the case of space-time separable additive noise.

### 2.1 Space-time Separable Noise

In certain practical applications, it is reasonable to assume that additive noise is separable with respect to space and time, i.e. its spatial covariance is constant in time and its temporal covariance is the same at all sensors (see, for example, [22] and [23]). Therefore, the covariance matrix of the space-time noise snapshot $e$ can be written as

$$R = C^T \otimes \Sigma,$$

(2.20)

where $C$ and $\Sigma$ are the noise temporal and spatial covariance matrices. Then, (2.6) simplifies to

$$Q = U^* \otimes \Sigma^{-1},$$

(2.21)

where

$$U = (\Phi_1 - \Phi_0) C^{-1}(\Phi_1 - \Phi_0)^H.$$

(2.22)

For large $\frac{1}{4} \Psi_h^{1/2} Q \Psi_h^{1/2} = \frac{1}{4} \Psi_h^{1/2} (U^* \otimes \Sigma^{-1}) \Psi_h^{1/2}$ and $\Phi_1 - \Phi_0$ having full rank $n_T$, an approximate Chernoff bound follows easily from (2.15):

$$P_{CB \text{ full rank}} \approx \frac{1}{2} \cdot \frac{|\Sigma|^{n_T}}{\frac{1}{4} \Psi_h^{|U|^{n_R}}} \cdot \exp(-\mu_h^H \Psi_h^{-1} \mu_h),$$

(2.23)
and the determinant criterion simplifies to maximizing

$$|U| = |(\Phi_1 - \Phi_0)C^{-1}(\Phi_1 - \Phi_0)^H|$$

(2.24)

with respect to $\Phi_1 - \Phi_0$.

Consider now the case where $\frac{1}{4}\Psi_h^{1/2}(U^* \otimes \Sigma^{-1})\Psi_h^{1/2}$ is “small” and the mean of the fading coefficient vector $h$ follows (1.4). Then, an approximate Chernoff bound follows by substituting (2.21) and (1.4) into (2.17):

$$P_{CB} \approx \frac{1}{2} \cdot \exp \left\{ -\frac{1}{4} |x|^2 \cdot a_T^H U^* a_T \cdot a_R^H \Sigma^{-1} a_R - \frac{1}{4} \text{tr}(U^* \otimes \Sigma^{-1}) \Psi_h \right\}.$$  

(2.25)

Assuming that the line-of-sight SNR component is dominant, the noise is temporally white (i.e. $C = I_n$), and signaling is antipodal (i.e. $\Phi_1 = -\Phi_0$), the optimal codes need to maximize $a_t^H \Phi_1^* \Phi_1^T a_T$. Under a power constraint $\text{tr}(\Phi_1 \Phi_1^H) = 1$, $a_t^H \Phi_1^* \Phi_1^T a_T$ is maximized for

$$\Phi_1^* \Phi_1^T = (1/\sqrt{\sigma_t^H a_t}) \cdot a_t a_t^H,$$

(2.26)

implying that the optimal $\Phi_1$ is a rank-one matrix with the following structure:

$$\Phi_1 = -\Phi_0 = \frac{1}{\sqrt{\sigma_t^H a_t} \cdot \sum_{t=1}^N |s(t)|^2} \cdot a_t^* \cdot [s(1), s(2), \ldots, s(N)],$$

(2.27)

which corresponds to beamforming, i.e. “spatial matching” to the line-of-sight transmitter array response. This can be easily seen by rewriting (1.4) as $E(H) = x \cdot a_R a_T^*$, and by observing that $a_t^* = (a_t^T)^H$. Note also that $a_t^H a_T = n_T$ if the transmitter array consists of isotropic omnidirectional antennas. In the following discussion, we assume that both the receiver and transmitter arrays consist of isotropic omnidirectional antennas, implying that

$$a_T^H a_T = n_T \quad \text{and} \quad a_R^H a_R = n_R.$$  

(2.28)

### 2.1.1 White Noise and Uncorrelated Fading

Assuming that the additive noise is both spatially and temporally white (i.e. $R = \sigma^2 I_{n_R n_T}$), the fading coefficients are uncorrelated with equal variances $\psi_h^2$ (i.e. $\Psi_h = \psi_h^2 I_{n_T n_R}$), and the mean of the fading coefficients follows (1.4), equation (2.10) simplifies to

$$P_{CB} = \frac{1}{2} \cdot \left| I_{n_T} + \frac{\psi_h^2}{4\sigma^2} U \right|^{n_R} \cdot \exp \left[ -\frac{n_R |x|^2}{4\sigma^2} \cdot a_T^H \left( I_{n_T} + \frac{\psi_h^2}{4\sigma^2} U^* \right)^{-1} U^* a_T \right],$$

(2.29)

where

$$U = (\Phi_1 - \Phi_0)(\Phi_1 - \Phi_0)^H.$$  

(2.30)

Here we have used the fact that $a_R^H a_R = n_R$, which holds if antennas at the receiver are isotropic [see also (2.28)].
For full-rank $\mathbf{U}$ and large $\psi_h^2/(4\sigma^2) \cdot \mathbf{U}$, (2.29) is approximated as
\[
P_{\mathrm{CB \ full \ rank}} \approx \frac{1}{2} \cdot \exp \left[ -\frac{n_T \cdot \psi_h \cdot |x|^2}{\psi_h^2} \right],
\]
where we have used the fact that $\mathbf{a}_t^H \mathbf{a}_t = n_T$, which holds if the transmitter array consists of isotropic antennas [see also (2.28)]. Equation (2.31) can be obtained by substituting $\Sigma = \sigma^2 \mathbf{I}_{n_R}$, $\mathbf{C} = \mathbf{I}_N$, $\Psi_h = \psi_h^2 \mathbf{I}_{n_R n_T}$, (1.4), and (2.28) into (2.23).

For small $\psi_h^2/(4\sigma^2) \cdot \mathbf{U}$, (2.29) approximately equals
\[
P_{\mathrm{CB}} \approx \frac{1}{2} \cdot \exp \left[ -\frac{n_R |x|^2}{4\sigma^2} \cdot \mathbf{a}_t^H \mathbf{U}^* \mathbf{a}_t - \frac{n_R \psi_h^2}{4\sigma^2} \cdot \tr(\mathbf{U}) \right].
\]

It is interesting to examine optimal signaling schemes under the two scenarios above. For simplicity, let us concentrate on antipodal signaling:
\[
\Phi_1 = -\Phi_0,
\]
implying that $\mathbf{U} = 4 \Phi_1 \Phi_1^H$. We define normalized\(^3\) line-of-sight and scattering signal-to-noise ratios as
\[
\mathrm{SNR}_{\text{LOS}} = \frac{|x|^2}{\sigma^2}, \quad \mathrm{SNR}_{\text{SC}} = \frac{\psi_h^2}{\sigma^2}.
\]

We also impose a power constraint on the transmitted symbols:
\[
\tr(\Phi_1 \Phi_1^H) = \tr(\Phi_0 \Phi_0^H) = 1.
\]

**Large, Full-rank SNR\(_{\text{SC}} \cdot \Phi_1 \Phi_1^H:** For large, full-rank $\mathrm{SNR}_{\text{SC}} \cdot \Phi_1 \Phi_1^H$, the optimal antipodal codes [which minimize (2.31)] are constructed by maximizing
\[
|\mathrm{SNR}_{\text{SC}} \cdot \Phi_1 \Phi_1^H|
\]
subject to (2.35). Clearly, the optimal $\Phi_1 \Phi_1^H$ has all eigenvalues equal to $1/n_T$; hence
\[
|\mathrm{SNR}_{\text{SC}} \cdot \Phi_1 \Phi_1^H|_{\text{MAX}} = \left( \frac{\mathrm{SNR}_{\text{SC}}}{n_T} \right)^{n_T}
\]
see also [24] and [25]. In addition, the condition that $\mathrm{SNR}_{\text{SC}} \cdot \Phi_1 \Phi_1^H$ is large simplifies to the requirement that $\mathrm{SNR}_{\text{SC}}/n_T$ is large. For example, orthogonal designs, satisfying
\[
\Phi_1 \Phi_1^H = (1/n_T) \cdot \mathbf{I}_{n_T}
\]
are optimal. Substituting (2.37) into (2.31), we obtain an approximate Chernoff bound for optimal antipodal signaling:
\[
P_{\mathrm{CB, opt}} \bigg|_{\text{large SNR}_{\text{SC}}/n_T} \approx \frac{1}{2} \cdot \left( \frac{\mathrm{SNR}_{\text{SC}}}{n_T} \right)^{-n_T n_R} \cdot \exp \left[ -\frac{n_T \cdot n_R \cdot |x|^2}{\psi_h^2} \right]
\]
\[
= \frac{1}{2} \cdot \left[ \frac{1}{n_T} \cdot \kappa(\mathrm{SNR}_{\text{SC}}, \mathrm{SNR}_{\text{LOS}}) \right]^{-n_T n_R},
\]

\(^3\)The SNRs defined in (2.34) are normalized so that they do not depend on the numbers of receiver and transmitter antennas.
Figure 1: The approximate single-input single-output gain as a function of line-of-sight and scattering SNRs.

where

\[ \kappa(\text{SNR}_{\text{SC}}, \text{SNR}_{\text{LOS}}) = \text{SNR}_{\text{SC}} \cdot \exp \left( \frac{\text{SNR}_{\text{LOS}}}{\text{SNR}_{\text{SC}}} \right). \]  \hfill (2.40)

In a single-input single-output system, (2.39) simplifies to \( \frac{1}{2} \cdot 1/\kappa(\text{SNR}_{\text{SC}}, \text{SNR}_{\text{LOS}}) \). Therefore, we refer to \( \kappa(\text{SNR}_{\text{SC}}, \text{SNR}_{\text{LOS}}) \) as an approximate “gain” of a SISO system. In Fig. 1 we show \( \kappa(\text{SNR}_{\text{SC}}, \text{SNR}_{\text{LOS}}) \) in dB as a function of scattering and line-of-sight SNRs, also in dB. To meet the large \( \text{SNR}_{\text{SC}}/n_T \) requirement, we consider only the values of scattering signal-to-noise ratio \( \text{SNR}_{\text{SC}} \) larger than 20 (13 dB). For fixed line-of-sight signal-to-noise ratio \( \text{SNR}_{\text{LOS}} \) and for \( \text{SNR}_{\text{LOS}} < \text{SNR}_{\text{SC}} \), \( \kappa(\text{SNR}_{\text{SC}}, \text{SNR}_{\text{LOS}}) \) grows linearly with \( \text{SNR}_{\text{SC}} \). For fixed \( \text{SNR}_{\text{SC}} \) and \( \text{SNR}_{\text{SC}} < \text{SNR}_{\text{LOS}} \), \( \kappa(\text{SNR}_{\text{SC}}, \text{SNR}_{\text{LOS}}) \) grows exponentially with \( \text{SNR}_{\text{LOS}} \). Also, note that the minimum value of \( \kappa(\text{SNR}_{\text{SC}}, \text{SNR}_{\text{LOS}}) \) in Fig. 1 is 20, which corresponds to the Chernoff bound of 0.025 in a SISO system.

**Small \( \text{SNR}_{\text{SC}} \cdot \Phi_1 \Phi_1^H \):** For small \( \text{SNR}_{\text{SC}} \cdot \Phi_1 \Phi_1^H \) and nonzero \( \text{SNR}_{\text{LOS}} \), the optimal antipodal codes [which minimize (2.32)] are constructed by maximizing \( \text{SNR}_{\text{LOS}} \cdot a_T^H \Phi_1 \Phi_1^T a_T + \text{SNR}_{\text{SC}} \cdot \text{tr}(\Phi_1 \Phi_1^H) \), subject to (2.35), and are given in (2.27). Then, \( \Phi_1 \Phi_1^T = (1/n_T) \cdot a_T a_T^H \) and the condition that \( \text{SNR}_{\text{SC}} \cdot \Phi_1 \Phi_1^H \) is small simplifies to the requirement that \( \text{SNR}_{\text{SC}} \) is small. Substituting these results into (2.32), we obtain an approximate Chernoff bound for optimal antipodal signaling:

\[ P_{\text{CB, opt}} \bigg|_{\text{small } \text{SNR}_{\text{SC}}} \approx \frac{1}{2} \cdot \exp \left[ -n_T n_R \cdot \text{SNR}_{\text{LOS}} - n_R \cdot \text{SNR}_{\text{SC}} \right] = \frac{1}{2} \cdot \left[ \exp \left( \text{SNR}_{\text{LOS}} + \frac{1}{n_T} \cdot \text{SNR}_{\text{SC}} \right) \right]^{-n_T n_R}. \]  \hfill (2.41)
**Chernoff Bound for Antipodal Orthogonal Designs:** We compute the Chernoff bound for antipodal orthogonal designs by substituting (2.33) and (2.38) into (2.29):

\[
P_{\text{CB}} \bigg|_{\Phi_1 = -\Phi_0, \quad \Phi_1^H \Phi_1 T} = \frac{1}{2} \left[ \left( 1 + \frac{\text{SNR}_{\text{SC}}}{n_T} \right) \exp \left( \frac{\text{SNR}_{\text{LOS}}}{n_T} \right) \right]^{-n_T n_R}. \tag{2.42}
\]

Interestingly, the Ricean $K$-factor in (2.19) simplifies to

\[
K = \frac{\text{SNR}_{\text{LOS}}}{\text{SNR}_{\text{SC}}}. \tag{2.43}
\]

Observe that (2.42) decreases exponentially as the number of receiver antennas $n_R$ grows. Increasing the number of transmitter antennas $n_T$ results in two opposite effects. Clearly, the diversity gain (equal to $n_T n_R$) increases with $n_T$ thereby reducing error probability. However, due to the power constraint (2.35), the signal power per transmitter antenna decreases, which results in larger error probability per diversity branch. These two effects can also be observed in (2.42), which decreases exponentially with $n_T$, but the argument of the exponent (in square brackets) also decreases with $n_T$. In this case, the first effect is dominant: (2.42) decreases as $n_T$ grows for all possible SNR$_{\text{LOS}}$ and SNR$_{\text{SC}}$. Consequently, the corresponding pairwise error probability decreases with $n_T$ as well, see (2.11). Hence, for the fading and noise models considered here, it is desirable (in terms of minimizing the pairwise error probability) to use as many transmitter antennas as possible\(^4\). This is not true for noncoherent signaling, see Section 3.3. Information-theoretic criteria have also been used to determine the optimal number of transmitter antennas. For example, maximizing non-ergodic Shannon capacity for coherent low-rank channels was proposed in [26] and [27], resulting in optimal $n_T$ that is equal to the channel rank.

### 3 Noncoherent Signaling

We compute Chernoff bounds for noncoherent signaling, i.e. assuming that the channel is not known to the receiver. Consider the measurement model (1.2) with known noise covariance $R$ and unknown channel coefficient vector $h$, described by known mean $\mu_h$ and known covariance $\Psi_h$, see (1.3). (Efficient methods for estimating statistical properties of MIMO Ricean fading channels have been recently proposed in [28] and [29].) As before, we consider testing the hypothesis $H_1 : \Phi_1$ transmitted versus the alternative $H_0 : \Phi_0$ transmitted and assume that $\Phi_1$ and $\Phi_0$ are equiprobable. In this scenario, the received measurement vector $y$ under $H_1$ is a complex multivariate normal with mean $Z_1 \mu_h$ and covariance $R_{y,1} = Z_1 \Psi_h Z_1^H + R$, whereas under $H_0$ it is a complex multivariate normal with mean $Z_0 \mu_h$ and covariance $R_{y,0} = Z_0 \Psi_h Z_0^H + R$. Note that the above likelihood functions are marginal likelihoods, where the unknown channel vector $h$ has been integrated out with respect to its prior distribution. (It is also possible to construct concentrated-likelihood detectors that do not require knowledge of $\mu_h$, $\Psi_h$, or $R$ at the receiver. In these detectors, the likelihood function is concentrated with respect to the unknown channel and noise parameters [15],

\(^4\)Note, however, that $P_{\text{CB}}$ in (2.42) converges to $(1/2) \cdot \exp[-n_R \cdot (\text{SNR}_{\text{SC}} + \text{SNR}_{\text{LOS}})]$ as $n_T \to \infty$.\]
\[ P_{CB}(\lambda) = \frac{1}{2} \exp[\xi(\lambda)], \]  
where

\[ \xi(\lambda) = \ln E \{ \exp[\lambda \ln p_0(y) - \lambda \ln p_1(y) | H_1] \}. \]  

Here, (3.2) becomes

\[ \xi(\lambda) = \ln \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \cdot \frac{1}{\pi R_{y,0}^{1/2}} \cdot \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \cdot \frac{1}{\pi R_{y,1}^{1/2}} \cdot \exp[-\lambda(y - Z_0\mu_h)^H R_{y,0}^{-1}(y - Z_0\mu_h) - (1 - \lambda)(y - Z_1\mu_h)^H R_{y,1}^{-1}(y - Z_1\mu_h)] \, dy, \]

which can be computed by applying Lemma 1 with \( x = y - Z_1\mu_h, B = 2[\lambda R_{y,1}^{-1} + (1 - \lambda) R_{y,0}^{-1}], A = 0, a = 0, b = 2\lambda R_{y,1}^{-1}(Z_1 - Z_0)\mu_h, a_0 = 1/(\pi R_{y,0}^{1/2} |\pi R_{y,1}^{1/2}|^{1/2}) \), and \( b_0 = \lambda \mu_h^H(Z_1 - Z_0)^H R_{y,1}^{-1}(Z_1 - Z_0)\mu_h \):

\[ \xi(\lambda) = -\ln[\lambda R_{y,0}^{-1} + (1 - \lambda) R_{y,1}^{-1}] - \lambda \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \frac{1}{\pi R_{y,0}^{1/2}} \cdot \frac{1}{\pi R_{y,1}^{1/2}} \cdot \frac{1}{\pi R_{y,1}^{1/2}} \cdot \frac{1}{\pi R_{y,0}^{1/2}} \cdot \exp \left\{ -\lambda(1 - \lambda) \cdot \mu_h^H(Z_1 - Z_0)^H [\lambda R_{y,1} + (1 - \lambda) R_{y,0}]^{-1} (Z_1 - Z_0)\mu_h \right\}, \]

where, to compute (3.4a), we have used the identity

\[ -\left( \frac{1}{\lambda} R_{y,0} + \frac{1}{1 - \lambda} R_{y,1} \right)^{-1} = \lambda^2 R_{y,0}^{-1} \cdot [\lambda R_{y,0}^{-1} + (1 - \lambda) R_{y,1}^{-1}] \cdot R_{y,0}^{-1} - \lambda R_{y,0}^{-1}, \]

which follows from the matrix inversion lemma in [20, eq. (2.22) at p. 424]. Then, the Chernoff bound for a given \( \lambda \) is

\[ P_{CB}(\lambda) = \frac{1}{2} \cdot \frac{1}{\|R + Z\tilde{\Psi}_h(\lambda)Z^H\|} \cdot \exp \left\{ -\lambda(1 - \lambda) \cdot \mu_h^H(Z_1 - Z_0)^H [\lambda R_{y,1} + (1 - \lambda) R_{y,0}]^{-1} (Z_1 - Z_0)\mu_h \right\}. \]

where 0 ≤ \( \lambda \leq 1 \), and

\[ Z = [Z_1, Z_0], \quad \tilde{\Psi}_h(\lambda) = \begin{bmatrix} \lambda \Psi_h & 0 \\ 0 & (1 - \lambda)\Psi_h \end{bmatrix}. \]

Observe that

\[ Z^H[R + Z\tilde{\Psi}_h(\lambda)Z^H]^{-1} Z = Z^H R^{-1} Z - Z^H R^{-1} Z \cdot [\tilde{\Psi}_h(\lambda)^{-1} + Z^H R^{-1} Z]^{-1} \cdot Z^H R^{-1} Z \]

\[ = Z^H R^{-1} Z - Z^H R^{-1} Z \tilde{\Psi}_h(\lambda) \cdot [I_{2n_Tn_R} + Z^H R^{-1} Z \tilde{\Psi}_h(\lambda)]^{-1} \cdot Z^H R^{-1} Z \]

\[ = [I_{2n_Tn_R} + Z^H R^{-1} Z \tilde{\Psi}_h(\lambda) - Z^H R^{-1} Z \tilde{\Psi}_h(\lambda)] \cdot [I_{2n_Tn_R} + Z^H R^{-1} Z \tilde{\Psi}_h(\lambda)]^{-1} \cdot Z^H R^{-1} Z \]

\[ = [I_{2n_Tn_R} + Z^H R^{-1} Z \tilde{\Psi}_h(\lambda)]^{-1} \cdot Z^H R^{-1} Z. \]
Here, the right-hand side of (3.8a) follows by using the matrix inversion lemma in [20, eq. (2.22) at p. 424]. Also,

\[
\frac{|R_{v,1}|^{1\lambda} \cdot |R_{v,0}|^{1-\lambda}}{\lambda R_{v,1} + (1-\lambda) R_{v,0}} = \frac{|R + Z_1 \Psi_h Z_1^H|^{1\lambda} \cdot |R + Z_0 \Psi_h Z_0^H|^{1-\lambda}}{|R + Z \tilde{\Psi}_h(\lambda) Z_h^H|}
\]

(3.9a)

\[
= \frac{|R| \cdot |\Psi_h| \cdot |\Psi_h^{-1} + Z_1^H R^{-1} Z_1|^{1\lambda} \cdot |\Psi_h^{-1} + Z_0^H R^{-1} Z_0|^{1-\lambda}}{|R \cdot |\tilde{\Psi}_h(\lambda)| \cdot |\tilde{\Psi}_h(\lambda)^{-1} + Z^H R^{-1} Z|}
\]

(3.9b)

\[
= \frac{|I_{ntnr} + \Psi_h^{1/2} Z_1^H R^{-1} Z_1 \Psi_h^{1/2}|^{1\lambda} \cdot |I_{ntnr} + \Psi_h^{1/2} Z_0^H R^{-1} Z_0 \Psi_h^{1/2}|^{1-\lambda}}{|I_{ntnr} + \tilde{\Psi}_h(\lambda)^{1/2} Z^H R^{-1} Z \tilde{\Psi}_h(\lambda)^{1/2}|}
\]

(3.9c)

where (3.9b) follows by repeatedly applying the determinant formula in [20, th. 18.1.1 at p. 416] to the numerator and denominator terms in (3.9a). Using (3.8) and (3.9), we rewrite (3.6) as

\[
P_{cb}(\lambda) = \frac{1}{2} \cdot \frac{|I_{ntnr} + \Psi_h^{1/2} Z_1^H R^{-1} Z_1 \Psi_h^{1/2}|^{1\lambda} \cdot |I_{ntnr} + \Psi_h^{1/2} Z_0^H R^{-1} Z_0 \Psi_h^{1/2}|^{1-\lambda}}{|I_{ntnr} + \tilde{\Psi}_h(\lambda)^{1/2} Z^H R^{-1} Z \tilde{\Psi}_h(\lambda)^{1/2}|}
\]

\[
\cdot \exp \left\{ -\lambda(1-\lambda) \cdot [\mu_h^H, -\mu_h^H] \cdot \left[ I_{ntnr} + Z^H R^{-1} Z \tilde{\Psi}_h(\lambda) \right]^{-1} Z^H R^{-1} Z \cdot \left[ \mu_h -\mu_h \right] \right\}.
\]

(3.10)

Note that

\[
I_{ntnr} + \tilde{\Psi}_h(\lambda)^{1/2} Z^H R^{-1} Z \tilde{\Psi}_h(\lambda)^{1/2}
\]

\[
= \begin{bmatrix}
I_{ntnr} + \lambda \cdot \Psi_h^{1/2} Z_1^H R^{-1} Z_1 \Psi_h^{1/2} & \sqrt{\lambda(1-\lambda)} \cdot \Psi_h^{1/2} Z_1^H R^{-1} Z_0 \Psi_h^{1/2} \\
\sqrt{\lambda(1-\lambda)} \cdot \Psi_h^{1/2} Z_0^H R^{-1} Z_1 \Psi_h^{1/2} & I_{ntnr} + (1-\lambda) \cdot \Psi_h^{1/2} Z_0^H R^{-1} Z_0 \Psi_h^{1/2}
\end{bmatrix}.
\]

(3.11)

Equation (3.10) is the first closed-form Chernoff bound expression for noncoherent signaling in a MIMO Ricean fading channel. A special case for orthogonal signaling in a SISO channel with independent, identically distributed (i.i.d.) fading and white noise was derived in [33, eq. (12)]. For unitary space-time codes in an i.i.d. Rayleigh fading channel and spatially and temporally white noise, a Chernoff bound was computed in [8], see also [10].

### 3.1 Large $\Psi_h^{1/2} Z_1^H R^{-1} Z_1 \Psi_h^{1/2}$, $\Psi_h^{1/2} Z_0^H R^{-1} Z_0 \Psi_h^{1/2}$, and $\tilde{\Psi}_h(\lambda)^{1/2} Z^H R^{-1} Z \tilde{\Psi}_h(\lambda)^{1/2}$

If the matrices $\Psi_h^{1/2} Z_1^H R^{-1} Z_1 \Psi_h^{1/2}$, $\Psi_h^{1/2} Z_0^H R^{-1} Z_0 \Psi_h^{1/2}$, and $\tilde{\Psi}_h(\lambda)^{1/2} Z^H R^{-1} Z \tilde{\Psi}_h(\lambda)^{1/2}$ are “large” then we may approximate (3.10) as

\[
P_{cb}(\lambda) \approx \frac{1}{2} \cdot \frac{|\Psi_h^{1/2} Z_1^H R^{-1} Z_1 \Psi_h^{1/2}|_{\text{rank}(Z_1)} \cdot |\Psi_h^{1/2} Z_0^H R^{-1} Z_0 \Psi_h^{1/2}|_{\text{rank}(Z_0)}}{|\tilde{\Psi}_h(\lambda)^{1/2} Z^H R^{-1} Z \tilde{\Psi}_h(\lambda)^{1/2}|_{\text{rank}(Z)}}
\]

\[
\cdot \exp \left\{ -\lambda(1-\lambda) \cdot [\mu_h^H, -\mu_h^H] \cdot \tilde{\Psi}_h(\lambda)^{-1/2} \cdot \text{I} \left( \tilde{\Psi}_h(\lambda)^{1/2} Z^H R^{-1} Z \tilde{\Psi}_h(\lambda)^{1/2} \right) \cdot \tilde{\Psi}_h(\lambda)^{-1/2} \cdot [\mu_h -\mu_h] \right\}.
\]

(3.12)

Note that $\text{rank}(Z_i) = n_R \cdot \text{rank}(\Phi_i)$, $i \in \{0, 1\}$, and $\text{rank}(Z) = n_R \cdot \text{rank}(\left[ \Phi_1^T, \Phi_0^T \right])$.

**Equal Energy Signaling:** Consider the case where

\[
W = Z_1^H R^{-1} Z_1 = Z_0^H R^{-1} Z_0.
\]

(3.13)
which may be viewed as a multivariate extension of the equal energy condition (and is closely related to unitary space-time codes in [8]; see also Section 3.3). For full-rank antipodal signaling (i.e. $\Phi_1 = -\Phi_0$ has full rank $n_T$), (3.12) simplifies to

$$P_{\text{CB}}(\lambda)\big|_{\Phi_1 = -\Phi_0} \approx \frac{1}{2} \cdot \exp \left\{ -4\lambda(1 - \lambda) \cdot \mu_h^H \Psi_h^{-1} \mu_h \right\},$$

(3.14)

which is minimized for $\lambda = 1/2$. As expected, antipodal signaling performs poorly in this scenario: there is no diversity gain and, additionally, this scheme breaks down if the channel coefficients have zero mean.

If, in addition to the “equal energy” condition (3.13), we assume that $[\Phi_1^T, \Phi_0^T]$ has full rank equal to $2n_T$ (or, equivalently, $Z$ has full rank equal to $2n_T n_R$), then (3.12) becomes

$$P_{\text{CB}}(\lambda) \bigg| W = Z_1^H R^{-1} Z_1 = Z_0^H R^{-1} Z_0 \approx \frac{|W|}{|\lambda(1 - \lambda) \cdot \Psi_h| \cdot |Z_1^H R^{-1} Z_1|} \exp \left\{ -\mu_h^H \Psi_h^{-1} \mu_h \right\},$$

(3.15)

which is minimized for $\lambda = 1/2$. To achieve the full rank $2n_T$ of $[\Phi_1^T, \Phi_0^T]$, the number of time samples must be equal to or larger than twice the number of transmitter antennas, i.e. $N \geq 2n_T$. Based on (3.15), we formulate a determinant code optimization criterion for this scenario: maximize

$$\text{dist}(\Phi_1, \Phi_0) = \frac{1}{|W|} \cdot \begin{vmatrix} W & Z_1^H R^{-1} Z_0 \\ Z_0^H R^{-1} Z_1 & W \end{vmatrix}$$

(3.16a)

$$= |W - Z_1^H R^{-1} Z_1 W^{-1} Z_1^H R^{-1} Z_0|$$

(3.16b)

$$= |W - Z_1^H R^{-1} Z_0 W^{-1} Z_0^H R^{-1} Z_1|,$$

(3.16c)

where (3.16b) and (3.16c) follow by using [20, th. 13.3.8 at p. 188]. It is clearly desirable that

$$Z_1^H R^{-1} Z_0 = 0,$$

(3.17)

which can be viewed as a condition for orthogonality between codes $\Phi_1$ and $\Phi_0$. Then, (3.16) simplifies to

$$\text{dist}(\Phi_1, \Phi_0) \bigg| Z_1^H R^{-1} Z_0 = 0 = |W|,$$

(3.18)

For space-time separable noise [i.e. $R$ satisfies (2.20)], the equal energy condition (3.13) simplifies to

$$V = \Phi_1 C^{-1} \Phi_1^H = \Phi_0 C^{-1} \Phi_0^H$$

(3.19)

and the noncoherent determinant criterion in (3.16) becomes

$$\text{dist}(\Phi_1, \Phi_0) = \frac{|V - \Phi_0 C^{-1} \Phi_0^H V^{-1} \Phi_1 C^{-1} \Phi_0^H|^n_R}{|\Sigma|^n_T} = \frac{|V - \Phi_1 C^{-1} \Phi_0^H V^{-1} \Phi_0 C^{-1} \Phi_1^H|^n_R}{|\Sigma|^n_T}.$$

(3.20)

If the orthogonality condition $\Phi_1 C^{-1} \Phi_0^H = 0$ holds [which follows by simplifying (3.17)], the noncoherent determinant criterion reduces to maximizing $|V| = |\Phi_1 C^{-1} \Phi_1^H|$. 

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3.2 Small $\Psi_h^{1/2} Z_i^H R^{-1} Z_i \Psi_h^{1/2}$, $\Psi_h^{1/2} Z_0^H R^{-1} Z_0 \Psi_h^{1/2}$, and $\hat{\Psi}_h(\lambda)^{1/2} Z^H R^{-1} Z$ $\hat{\Psi}_h(\lambda)^{1/2}$

If the matrices $\Psi_h^{1/2} Z_i^H R^{-1} Z_i \Psi_h^{1/2}$, $\Psi_h^{1/2} Z_0^H R^{-1} Z_0 \Psi_h^{1/2}$, and $\hat{\Psi}_h(\lambda)^{1/2} Z^H R^{-1} Z \hat{\Psi}_h(\lambda)^{1/2}$ are “small” then we may approximate (3.10) as

$$P_{CB}(\lambda) \approx \frac{1}{2} \cdot \exp \left( -\lambda (1 - \lambda) \cdot \left\{ \mu_h^H Q \mu_h + \frac{1}{2} \text{tr}([Z_1 \Psi_h Z_1^H R^{-1} - Z_0 \Psi_h Z_0^H R^{-1}]^2) \right\} \right), \quad (3.21)$$

where $Q$ was defined in (2.6). To derive (3.21), we have used the following approximation:

$$\ln |I_n + A| \approx \text{tr}(A) - \frac{1}{2} \text{tr}(A^2), \quad (3.22)$$

which holds for a “small” $n \times n$ positive semidefinite Hermitian matrix $A$. The approximation (3.22) was applied to (logarithms of) the three determinant terms in (3.10). Note that (3.21) is minimized for $\lambda = 1/2$. Clearly, the optimal codes need to maximize

$$\text{tr}[Q \mu_h^H + \frac{1}{2} (Z_1 \Psi_h Z_1^H R^{-1} - Z_0 \Psi_h Z_0^H R^{-1})^2], \quad (3.23)$$

which further simplifies to $\mu_h^H Q \mu_h$ if the line-of-sight component is dominant in (3.23), i.e. $\mu_h^H Q \mu_h \gg \frac{1}{2} \text{tr}((Z_1 \Psi_h Z_1^H R^{-1} - Z_0 \Psi_h Z_0^H R^{-1})^2)$. In the following, we simplify (3.21) to the case of white noise and uncorrelated fading.

### 3.2.1 White Noise and Uncorrelated Fading

Using the optimal $\lambda = 1/2$, and assuming that the additive noise is both spatially and temporally white (i.e. $R = \sigma^2 I_{nR,n}$), the fading coefficients are uncorrelated with equal variances (i.e. $\Psi_h = \psi_n^2 I_{nR} I_n$), and the mean of the fading coefficients follows (1.4) [see also (2.28)], then (3.21) simplifies to

$$P_{CB} \approx \frac{1}{2} \cdot \exp \left( -\frac{n_R}{4} \cdot \left\{ \text{SNR}_L \cdot a_1^H (\Phi_1 - \Phi_0)^* (\Phi_1 - \Phi_0)^T \alpha + \frac{1}{2} \text{SNR}_{SC} \cdot \text{tr}((\Phi_1^H \Phi_1 - \Phi_0^H \Phi_0)^2) \right\} \right). \quad (3.24)$$

This approximation is valid if the matrices $\text{SNR}_{SC} \cdot (\Phi_1^H \Phi_1^H), \text{SNR}_{SC} \cdot (\Phi_0^H \Phi_0^H)$, and $\frac{1}{2} \text{SNR}_{SC} \cdot (\Phi_1^T \Phi_1 + \Phi_0^T \Phi_0)$ are small. If the line-of-sight component in the exponent of (3.24) is dominant, then the beamforming scheme in (2.27) is optimal.

**Rayleigh Fading:** If $\text{SNR}_L = 0$ (Rayleigh fading), it follows from (3.24) that the optimal codes need to maximize

$$\text{tr}[(\Phi_1^H \Phi_1 - \Phi_0^H \Phi_0)^2]. \quad (3.25)$$

(This scenario has been recently investigated in [34], where a cutoff-rate based design criterion was proposed.) Since $\text{tr}(\Phi_1^H \Phi_1 \Phi_0^H \Phi_0) = \text{tr}((\Phi_1^H \Phi_0^H) \cdot (\Phi_1^H \Phi_0^H)) \geq 0$, orthogonal signaling (i.e. $\Phi_1^H \Phi_0^H = 0$) is clearly optimal in this case. For orthogonal signaling, the code design criterion (3.25) further simplifies to

$$\text{tr}[(\Phi_1^H \Phi_1)^2] + \text{tr}[(\Phi_0^H \Phi_0)^2]. \quad (3.26)$$

Subject to the power constraint (2.25), this criterion is maximized for $\Phi_1^H \Phi_1 = u_1 u_1^H$ and $\Phi_0^H \Phi_0 = u_0 u_0^H$, where $u_1^H u_1 = u_0^H u_0 = 1$ and $u_1^H u_0 = 0$, which we refer to as *orthogonal-subspace beamforming*. Orthogonal-subspace beamforming is an example of a signaling scheme in which the “equal energy” condition (3.13) does not hold.
To summarize, orthogonal-subspace beamforming is optimal when $\text{SNR}_{\text{SC}}$ is small, $\text{SNR}_{\text{LOS}} = 0$, and the power constraint (2.35) is imposed. The approximate Chernoff bound then simplifies to

$$P_{CB} \approx \frac{1}{2} \cdot \exp \left[ - n_R \cdot \left( \frac{1}{2} \text{SNR}_{\text{SC}} \right)^2 \right],$$

and reasonably good performance can be achieved only if the number of receiver antennas $n_R$ is very large.

### 3.3 Equal Energy Orthogonal Signaling

We derive the optimal Chernoff bound for the case where the “equal energy” and orthogonality conditions in (3.13) and (3.17) hold. Substituting (3.13) and (3.17) into (3.10), we obtain

$$P_{CB} = \frac{1}{2} \cdot \frac{|I_{n_{\text{TR}}R} + W \Psi_h|}{|I_{n_{\text{TR}}R} + \lambda W \Psi_h| \cdot |I_{n_{\text{TR}}R} + (1 - \lambda) W \Psi_h|} \cdot \exp \left[ - \lambda (1 - \lambda) \cdot \mu_h^H \{ (I_{n_{\text{TR}}R} + \lambda W \Psi_h)^{-1} + (I_{n_{\text{TR}}R} + (1 - \lambda) W \Psi_h)^{-1} \} W \mu_h \right],$$

(3.28)

where $W$ was defined in (3.13). Note that the above expression remains the same if $\lambda$ is replaced with $1 - \lambda$. Differentiating the logarithm of the Chernoff bound expression in (3.28) with respect to $\lambda$ shows that (3.28) is minimized for $\lambda = 1/2$. Therefore, the optimal Chernoff bound is

$$P_{CB} = \frac{1}{2} \left| Z_0^H R^{-1} Z_1 = Z_0^H R^{-1} Z_0 \right| = \frac{1}{2} \left| Z_1^H R^{-1} Z_0 \right| \cdot \exp \left[ - \frac{1}{2} \cdot \mu_h^H \{ I_{n_{\text{TR}}R} + \frac{1}{2} W \Psi_h \}^{-1} W \mu_h \right].$$

(3.29)

In the following, we specialize (3.29) to the case of white noise and uncorrelated fading, and use the obtained result to compute the optimal number of transmitter antennas for unitary mutually orthogonal space-time codes.

#### 3.3.1 White Noise and Uncorrelated Fading

Assume that the additive noise is both spatially and temporally white (i.e. $R = \sigma^2 I_{n_R N}$), the fading coefficients are uncorrelated with equal variances (i.e. $\Psi_h = \psi_h^2 I_{n_{\text{TR}}N}$), and the mean of the fading coefficients follows (1.4). Then, (3.29) simplifies to

$$P_{CB} = \frac{1}{2} \cdot \frac{|I_{n_T} + \text{SNR}_{\text{SC}} \cdot V|^2}{|I_{n_T} + \frac{1}{2} \text{SNR}_{\text{SC}} \cdot V|^2} \cdot \exp \left( - \frac{1}{2} n_R \cdot \text{SNR}_{\text{LOS}} \cdot a_T^H \left[ I_{n_T} + \frac{1}{2} \text{SNR}_{\text{SC}} \cdot V^* \right]^{-1} V^* a_T \right),$$

(3.30)

where

$$V = \Phi_1 \Phi_1^H = \Phi_0 \Phi_0^H$$

(3.31)

and $\text{SNR}_{\text{LOS}}$ and $\text{SNR}_{\text{SC}}$ are defined in (2.34). For full-rank $V$ and large $\frac{1}{2} \text{SNR}_{\text{SC}} \cdot V$, the above expression simplifies to

$$P_{CB \text{ full rank}} \approx \frac{1}{2} \cdot \frac{1}{\frac{1}{2} \text{SNR}_{\text{SC}} \cdot V} \exp \left( - n_T n_R \cdot \frac{\text{SNR}_{\text{LOS}}}{\text{SNR}_{\text{SC}}} \right),$$

(3.32)

which can also be obtained by substituting $R = \sigma^2 I_{n_R N}$, $\Psi_h = \psi_h^2 I_{n_{\text{TR}}N}$, and $\lambda = 1/2$ into (3.15).
We now examine the performance of unitary orthogonal codes and discuss the optimal choice of the number of transmitter antennas $n_T$. Under the power constraint (2.35), the optimal $V$ [which minimizes (3.32)] has all eigenvalues equal to $1/n_T$, and therefore

$$|\text{SNR}_{SC} \cdot V|_{\text{MAX}} = \left( \frac{\text{SNR}_{SC}}{n_T} \right)^{n_T} \tag{3.33}$$

which is the same as (2.37) obtained for antipodal coherent signaling in white noise and uncorrelated fading. The condition that $\frac{1}{2} \text{SNR}_{SC} \cdot V$ is large simplifies to the requirement that $\text{SNR}_{SC}/(2n_T)$ is large. Let us choose

$$V = (1/n_T) \cdot I_{n_T}, \tag{3.34}$$

as in the unitary space-time codes [8], [9]. The optimal Chernoff bound (3.30) then simplifies to

$$P_{CB} \left|_{V=(1/n_T) \cdot I_{n_T}} = \frac{1}{2} \left[ \frac{(1 + \frac{\text{SNR}_{SC}}{2n_T})^2}{1 + \frac{\text{SNR}_{SC}}{n_T}} \exp \left( \frac{\text{SNR}_{LOS}}{2n_T} \frac{\text{SNR}_{SC}}{2n_T} \right) \right]^{n_Tn_R}. \tag{3.35}$$

In Fig. 2 we show the Chernoff bound in (3.35) as a function of the number of transmitter antennas $n_T$ and the line-of-sight SNR_{LOS}, where the scattering SNR and number of receiver antennas are chosen to be $\text{SNR}_{SC} = 10$ and $n_R = 2$. For larger values of SNR_{LOS}, the Chernoff bound decreases with $n_T$. However, for smaller values of SNR_{LOS}, there exists an optimal number of transmitter antennas $n_{TOPT}$ for which the Chernoff bound is minimized. Hence, if too many transmitter antennas are used, the signal power per transmitter may become so small that the resulting degradation in the performance of each diversity branch cannot be compensated by the diversity gain, see also the discussion in Section 2.1.1 and [35]. This is consistent with early results in [35] and [36] where optimal numbers of links for Rayleigh-faded noncoherent diversity systems were obtained using criteria based on Bhattacharyya bounds and error probabilities, respectively.

Differentiating the logarithm of (3.35) with respect to $n_T$, it can be shown that (3.35) is maximized when

$$\ln \left[ \frac{(1 + \frac{\text{SNR}_{SC}}{2n_T})^2}{1 + \frac{\text{SNR}_{SC}}{n_T}} \right] + \frac{\text{SNR}_{SC}}{n_T} - \frac{\text{SNR}_{SC}}{n_T} + \frac{\text{SNR}_{LOS}}{2n_T} \cdot \frac{\text{SNR}_{SC}}{2n_T} = 0. \tag{3.36}$$

Solving the above equation gives the optimal number of transmitter antennas $n_{TOPT}$ that minimizes the Chernoff bound. In Fig. 3, we show $\text{SNR}_{SC}/(2n_{TOPT})$ as a function of $\text{SNR}_{LOS}/(2n_{TOPT})$, computed using (3.36). From Fig. 3 we can easily find the optimal number of transmitter antennas for given line-of-sight and scattering SNRs. For example, assume a Rayleigh fading (i.e. $\text{SNR}_{LOS} = 0$) scenario with $\text{SNR}_{SC} = 10$. Then, we read from Fig. 3 that $\text{SNR}_{SC}/(2n_{TOPT}) \approx 1.5$ for $\text{SNR}_{LOS}/(2n_{TOPT}) = 0$, and therefore $n_{TOPT} \approx 10/(2 \cdot 1.5) \approx 3$. It may be easily verified in Fig. 2 that $n_T = 3$ is indeed the optimal number of transmitter antennas in this scenario.
Figure 2: Chernoff bound on error probability for equal energy orthogonal signaling as a function of number of transmitter antennas $n_T$ and line-of-sight $\text{SNR}_{\text{LOS}}$, with $n_R = 2$ receiver antennas and scattering $\text{SNR}_{\text{SC}} = 10$. 
Figure 3: Scattering $\text{SNR}_{\text{SC}}/(2n_{\text{TOPT}})$ as a function of line-of-sight $\text{SNR}_{\text{LOS}}/(2n_{\text{TOPT}})$, assuming that the optimal number of transmitter antennas $n_{\text{TOPT}}$ is deployed.

## 4 Concluding Remarks

We derived Chernoff bound expressions on pairwise error probabilities for coherent and noncoherent space-time signaling schemes. First, general Chernoff bound expressions were derived for correlated Ricean fading and correlated additive Gaussian noise, extending the corresponding results in [7] and [8]. [We also used our general Chernoff bound expression for coherent signaling to find a simple closed-form expression for the exact pairwise error probability under this scenario, see (2.11).] Then, we specialized our results to the cases of space-time separable and white noise, and uncorrelated fading. Approximate Chernoff bounds for high and low signal-to-noise ratios were derived and optimal signaling schemes were proposed. We computed the optimal number of transmitter antennas (minimizing the Chernoff bound) for noncoherent signaling with unitary mutually orthogonal space-time codes.

Further research will include analyzing the accuracy of the proposed bounds and computing simple expressions for pairwise error probabilities of noncoherent and concentrated-likelihood detection schemes.

### Appendix A. Proof of Lemma 1

For an $n \times 1$ complex vector $a = \text{Re}\{a\} + j \text{Im}\{a\} = a_r + ja_i$ and an $n \times n$ complex Hermitian matrix $A = \text{Re}\{A\} + j \text{Im}\{A\} = A_r + jA_i$, define

$$
\bar{a} = \begin{bmatrix} a_r \\ a_i \end{bmatrix}, \quad \bar{\Lambda} = \frac{1}{2} \begin{bmatrix} A_r & -A_i \\ A_i & A_r \end{bmatrix}, \quad (A.1)
$$
Note that, since $A$ is Hermitian, $A_i$ is symmetric (i.e. $A_i = A_i^T$) and $A_i$ is skew-symmetric (i.e. $A_i = -A_i^T$), and therefore $\bar{A}$ is symmetric (see also [37, ch. 2.9], [38, ch. 15]). The integral in (2.5) can be computed as follows:

$$ \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \cdots \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \frac{1}{2} [x^H A x + x^H a + a^H x + a_0 + a_0^*] \exp \left[ -\frac{1}{2} (x^H B x + x^H b + b^H x + b_0 + b_0^*) \right] dx $$

(A.2a)

\[
= \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \cdots \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} [x^T \bar{A} \bar{x} + \bar{x}^T \bar{a} + \Re\{a_0\}] \exp \left[ -(\bar{x}^T \bar{B} \bar{x} + \bar{x}^H \bar{b} + \Re\{b_0\}) \right] d\bar{x}
\]  

(A.3a)

\[
= \frac{1}{2} \pi^m |B|^{-1/2} \left[ \text{tr}(\bar{A} \bar{B}^{-1}) - \bar{b}^T \bar{B}^{-1} \bar{a} + \frac{1}{2} \bar{b}^T \bar{B}^{-1} \bar{B}^{-1} \bar{b} + 2 \Re\{a_0\} \right] \exp \left[ \frac{1}{2} \bar{b}^T \bar{B}^{-1} \bar{b} - \Re\{b_0\} \right]
\]  

(A.3b)

\[
= \frac{1}{2} \pi^m \frac{1}{2} |B|^{-1} \left[ 2 \text{tr}(AB^{-1}) - b^H B^{-1} a - a^H B^{-1} b + b^H B^{-1} AB^{-1} b + 2 \Re\{a_0\} \right] \cdot \exp \left[ \frac{1}{2} b^H B^{-1} b - \Re\{b_0\} \right].
\]  

(A.3c)

where (A.3b) follows by using [20, th. 15.12.1 at p. 322] and [39, th. 10.5.1 at p. 342]. Note also that $\Re\{b_0\} = (b_0 + b_0^*)/2$ and $\Re\{a_0\} = (a_0 + a_0^*)/2$. To derive (A.3c) we have used the following identities:

$$ |\bar{B}| = \left| \frac{1}{2} B \right|^2, \quad \text{(A.4a)}$$

$$ \text{tr}(\bar{A} \bar{B}^{-1}) = 2 \text{tr}(AB^{-1}), \quad \text{(A.4b)}$$

$$ \bar{b}^T \bar{B}^{-1} \bar{a} = b^H B^{-1} a + a^H B^{-1} b, \quad \text{(A.4c)}$$

$$ \bar{a}^T \bar{A} \bar{a} = \frac{1}{2} a^H A a, \quad \text{(A.4d)}$$

$$ \bar{b}^T \bar{a} = \frac{1}{2} b^H a + \frac{1}{2} a^H b, \quad \text{(A.4e)}$$

$$ \bar{b}^T \bar{B}^{-1} \bar{A} \bar{B}^{-1} \bar{b} = 2 b^H B^{-1} AB^{-1} b, \quad \text{(A.4f)}$$

which hold for arbitrary $n \times 1$ complex vectors $a$ and $b$, and $n \times n$ complex Hermitian matrices $A$ and $B$, where $B$ is nonsingular. The identities (A.4a) and (A.4d) can also be found, for example, in [38, ch. 15] and [37, ch. 2.9].

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**References**


