#### Antenna selection for MIMO systems - a tutorial

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### **Contents**

- Introduction and motivation
- Performance analysis
- Antenna selection algorithms
- Effect of nonidealities
- RF preprocessing
- Results in measured channels
- Hardware aspects
- Summary and conclusions

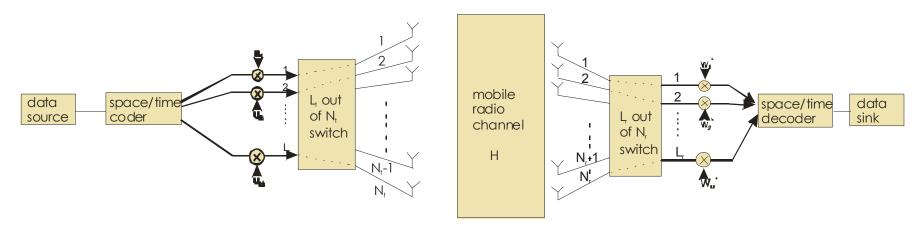
## **MIMO** systems

- Multiple antenna elements at transmitter and receiver
- Hottest topic in wireless communications
- Use for
  - diversity: single data stream with high quality
  - spatial multiplexing: multiple parallel data streams
- History:
  - transmit diversity invented in early 1990s (Wittneben, Winters, Lo); space-time codes (Alamouti, Tarokh)
  - spatial multiplexing: Winters (1987), Foschini, Telatar, Paulraj,
     Raleigh and Cioffi (mid 1990s)

### **Antenna Selection**

- Additional costs for MIMO
  - 1. more antenna elements (cheap)
  - 2. more signal processing (Moore's law)
  - 3. one RF chain for each antenna element
- Basic idea of antenna selection:
  - have many antenna elements, but select only best for downconversion and processing
  - only at one link end: cost reductions might be more important at one link end (MS) than the other
- Hybrid antenna selection: select best L out of available N
  antenna elements, use those for processing

## **System Model**



- Received vector  $\mathbf{y} = \sqrt{\frac{\rho}{N_t}} \mathbf{H} \mathbf{v} x + \mathbf{n}$ 
  - n: AWGN vector (Nr x 1)
  - H: Channel matrix (Nr x Nt)
  - v: Transmit weight vector (Nr x 1)
- Kronecker channel model  $\mathbf{H} = \mathbf{R}^{1/2} \mathbf{H}_{w} \mathbf{T}^{1/2}$

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### **Antenna Selection for Diversity**

### Weight selection if all antenna elements are used

- Write channel matrix as  $H = W \Lambda V^H$
- Excite channel with  $V_i$ , receive with  $W_i^H$
- Received power is  $\lambda_i^2$

### Antenna and weight selection for H-S/MRT

- Create submatrices by striking rows
- Compute maximum singular value for this submatrix
- Search submatrix that gives largest max. singular val.
- Use singular values associated with selected submatrix as antenna weights

$$\gamma = \max_{\mathcal{S}(\widetilde{H})} \left( \max_{i} (\widetilde{\lambda}_{i}^{2}) \right)$$

## **Bounds for the SNR distribution (I)**

Upper and lower bounds

$$\frac{1}{\min(L_t, N_r)} \sum_{i} \widetilde{\lambda}_i^2 \le \max_{i} \left(\widetilde{\lambda}_i^2\right) \le \sum_{i} \widetilde{\lambda}_i^2$$

Determine

$$\gamma_{bound} = \max_{S(\widetilde{H})} \left( \sum_{i} \widetilde{\lambda}_{i}^{2} \right) = \max_{S(\widetilde{H})} \left( \sum_{i} \sum_{j} \left| \widetilde{h}_{ij} \right|^{2} \right) \qquad \gamma_{bound} = \sum_{i=1}^{L_{t}} \gamma_{(i)}$$

where  $\gamma_{(i)}$  are ordered SNRs with distribution

$$p_{\gamma_{(i)}}(\gamma_{(1)}, \gamma_{(2)}, \dots (N_t)) = \begin{cases} N! \prod_{i=1}^{N_t} \frac{1}{\Gamma(N_r)} \gamma_{(i)}^{N_r - 1} \exp(-\gamma_{(i)}) & \text{for } \gamma_{(1)} > \gamma_{(2)} > \dots > \gamma_{(N_t)} \\ \hline 0 & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}.$$

## **Bounds for the SNR distribution (II)**

Characteristic function:

$$\Phi(jv) = \frac{N_{t}!}{\Gamma(N_{r})^{N_{t}}} \int_{0}^{\infty} d\gamma_{(1)} \gamma_{(1)}^{N_{r}-1} e^{-\gamma_{(1)}} e^{-jv\Xi(L_{t}-1)\gamma_{(1)}}$$

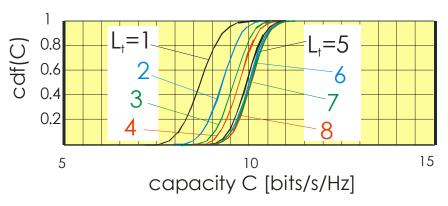
$$\int_{0}^{\gamma_{(1)}} d\gamma_{(2)} \gamma_{(2)}^{N_{r}-1} e^{-\gamma_{(2)}} e^{-jv\Xi(L_{t}-2)\gamma_{(2)}} \dots$$

$$\int_{0}^{\gamma_{(N_{t}-1)}} d\gamma_{(N_{t})} \gamma_{(N_{t})}^{N_{r}-1} e^{-\gamma_{(N_{t})}} e^{-jv\Xi(L_{t}-N_{t})\gamma_{(N_{t})}}$$

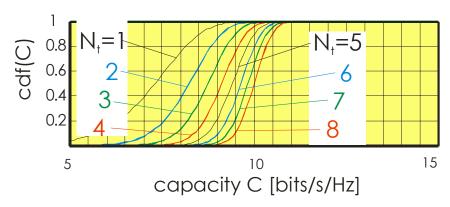
Analytical evaluation: recursive algorithm

## **HS-MRT** vs. MRT – Diversity Case

Hybrid selection



Maximum ratio transmission



## **Antenna Selection for Space-time Codes**

- Knowledge at transmitter only about statistics of fading
- Performance:
  - full diversity order
  - loss of coding gain
- In correlated systems:
  - select antennas so that determinants of correlation matrices at TX and RX are maximized

## **Antenna Selection for Spatial Multiplexing**

Capacity for full-complexity system

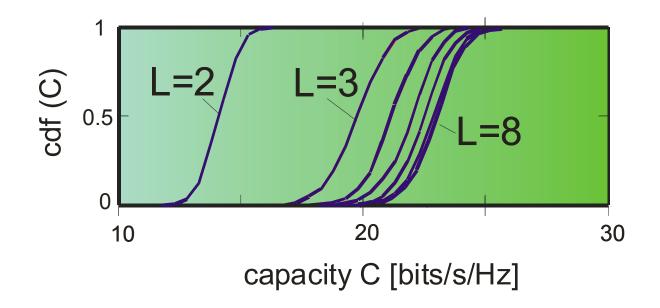
$$C_{\text{full}} = \log_2 \left[ \det \left( I_{N_t} + \frac{\overline{\Gamma}}{N_t} H H^{\dagger} \right) \right]$$

#### Antenna selection for H-S/MRT

- Create submatrices by striking rows
- Compute capacity according to Foschini equation
- Search the submatrix that gives largest capacity

$$C_{\text{select}} = \max_{S(\widetilde{H})} \left( \log_2 \left[ \det \left( I_{N_t} + \frac{\overline{\Gamma}}{N_t} \widetilde{H} \widetilde{H}^{\dagger} \right) \right] \right)$$

### Capacity with RX antenna selection



3 transmit antennas, 20dB SNR

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### **Antenna Selection Algorithms**

#### Truly optimum selection:

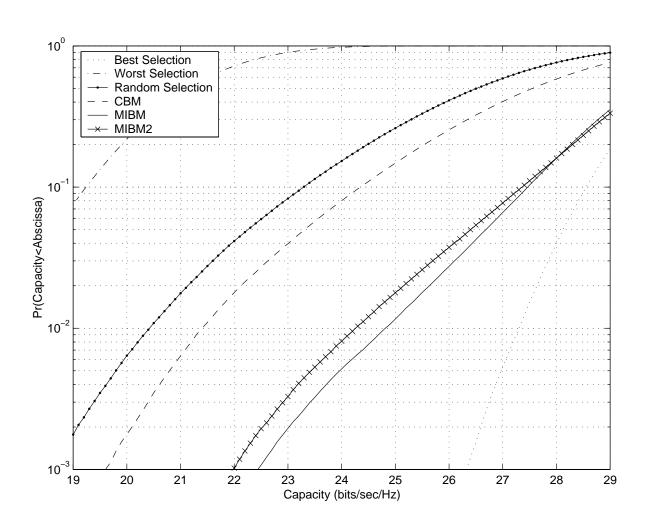
- Exhaustive search
- Effort proportional to

$$\binom{N_t}{L_t}$$
  $\binom{N_r}{L_r}$ 

### Approximate methods:

- Power-based selection: works well for diversity antennas, but not for spatial multiplexing
- Selection by genetic algorithms
- Minimize mutual information between antenna elements
- Gorokov's method

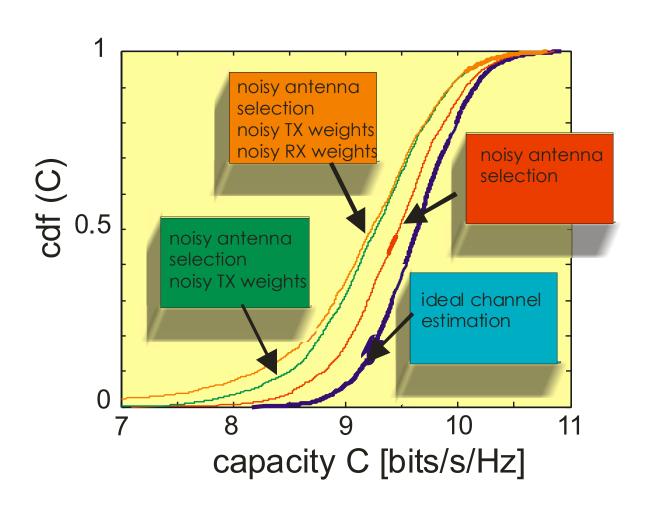
### **Minimization of mutual information**



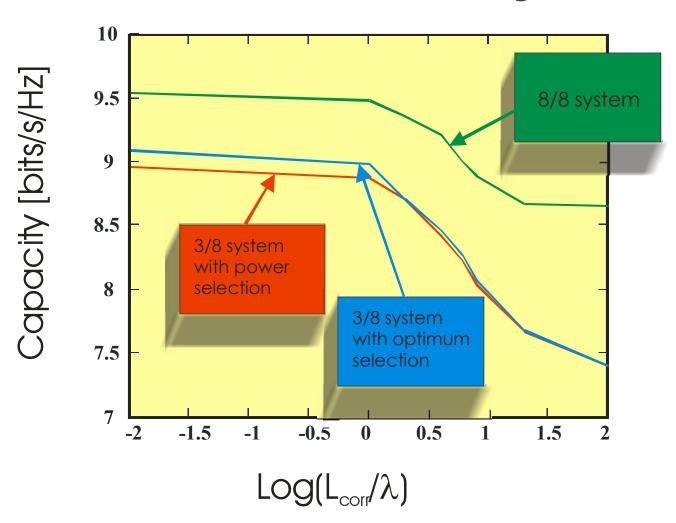
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### **Channel Estimation Error - Diversity**



## **Channel Correlation - Diversity**



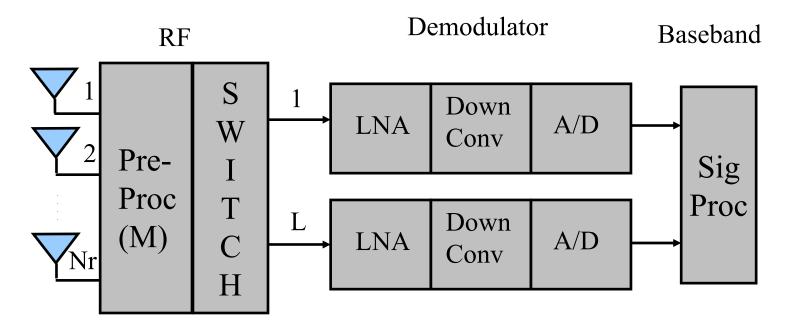
### Key properties of antenna selection

- Number of spatial streams is limited by number of RF chains
- Diversity order is determined by number of antenna elements
- Beamforming gain is limited by number of RF chains

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### **Principle**



- Diversity gain AND Beamforming gain maintained
- Beam selection Vs Antenna Selection
- Can be implemented using variable phase-shifters
- In case M is of size L x Nr, selection switch/algorithm is not required

## **RF Pre-processing Solutions**

- Channel-independent solution
  - Fixed matrix (FFT Butler matrix)
- Time-variant solution
  - Elements of pre-processing matrix tuned to instantaneous channel state
- Time-invariant solution
  - Elements of pre-processing matrix based only on channel-statistics
  - Can be implemented with or without selection

### **Channel-independent solution**

Transformation matrix is DFT matrix

$$\mathbf{M} = \frac{1}{\sqrt{r}} \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1 & \dots & 1 \\ 1 & e^{-j\omega_r} & \dots & e^{-j(r-1)\omega_r} \\ \vdots & \vdots & \ddots & \vdots \\ 1 & e^{-j(r-1)\omega_r} & \dots & e^{-j(r-1)^2\omega_r} \end{bmatrix}$$

- Transforms from antenna space to beamspace
- Each output of DFT has full beamforming gain N

### **Time-variant solution (instantaneous CSI)**

- For diversity:
  - Achievable performance: same as with full-complexity
     CSI
  - Phase-shifter only solution: optimum performance with 2 RF chains
- Frequent channel sounding required

## **Time-invariant solution (average CSI)**

Diversity case; only preprocessing (no selection) Signal after RF pre-processing

$$\widetilde{\mathbf{y}} = \mathbf{M}_L \mathbf{H} \mathbf{v} x + \mathbf{M}_L \mathbf{n}$$

Maximize average output SNR

$$\frac{1}{\gamma_{TI}} = \max_{\mathbf{M}_L} E_{\mathbf{H}} \left[ \frac{\rho}{N_t} \left( \mathbf{w}^+ \left( \mathbf{M}_L \mathbf{M}_L^+ \right)^{-1/2} \mathbf{M}_L \mathbf{H} \mathbf{v} \right)^2 \right]$$

### **Optimum RF and Baseband Solution**

Perform PCA on λ<sub>1</sub>u<sub>1</sub>

Pre-processing matrix (RF) Receive vector (baseband)

$$\mathbf{M}_{TI} = \mathbf{B}_{L} \mathbf{Q}_{\text{opt}}$$

$$\mathbf{Q}_{\text{opt}} = \left[\mu_{1}, \dots, \mu_{L}\right]$$

$$\mathbf{w}_{\text{opt}} = \frac{\mathbf{Q}_{\text{opt}} \mathbf{u}_{1}}{\left\|\mathbf{Q}_{\text{opt}} \mathbf{u}_{1}\right\|}$$

 $\mu_i$ : Eigenvector of i<sup>th</sup> largest eigenvalue of  $\mathbf{R}_{uu} = E\left[\lambda_1^2 \mathbf{u}_1 \mathbf{u}_1^+\right]$ 

**B**<sub>L</sub>: Any full rank L x L matrix

 Extension of principal component combining for a single antenna correlated multipath receiver [Alouini, VTC2000]

## **Phase-Only Implementation**

- Design of variable phase-shifters feasible
- Complex elements of M = [m<sub>ij</sub>] can have arbitrary amplitude and phase

### Algorithm

- Retain phase
- Replace amplitude of m<sub>ij</sub> with a switch a<sub>ij</sub> = 0/1
- Switch state chosen to maximize correlation between rows of M and its phase-only approximation
- Complexity: O(L log(L))

### RF Pre-Processing with Selection Switch

$$\frac{1}{\gamma_{TI}} = \max_{\mathbf{M}_{N_r}} E_{\mathbf{H}} \left[ \max_{\mathbf{S}_L} \frac{\rho}{N_t} \left( \mathbf{w}^+ \left( \mathbf{S}_L \mathbf{M}_{N_r} \mathbf{M}_{N_r}^+ \mathbf{S}_L^+ \right)^{-1/2} \mathbf{S}_L \mathbf{M}_{N_r} \mathbf{H} \mathbf{v} \right)^2 \right]$$

- Difficult to handle analytically
- S<sub>L</sub> that depends on instantaneous channel state
- Tractable lower bound: Swap max and expectation (E<sub>H</sub>)

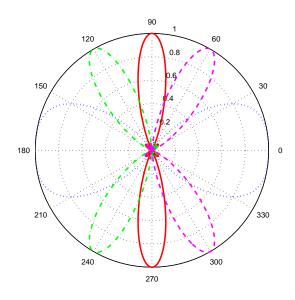
$$\frac{1}{\gamma_{TI}} \ge \max_{\mathbf{S}_L} \max_{\mathbf{M}_{N_r}} E_{\mathbf{H}} \left[ \frac{\rho}{N_t} \left( \mathbf{w}^+ \left( \mathbf{S}_L \mathbf{M}_{N_r} \mathbf{M}_{N_r}^+ \mathbf{S}_L^+ \right)^{-1/2} \mathbf{S}_L \mathbf{M}_{N_r} \mathbf{H} \mathbf{v} \right)^2 \right]$$

## **Solution that Improves Lower Bound**

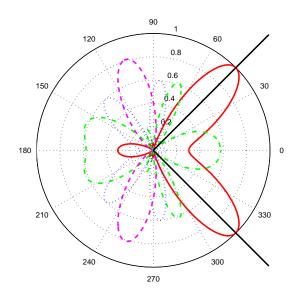
- Given S<sub>L</sub>, problem is similar to the LxN<sub>r</sub> case
  - Specifies only L columns of M
  - Remaining (N<sub>r</sub> L) columns must be orthogonal to these L columns
- Given S<sub>1</sub>, fix corresponding L columns
- Subsequent manipulations should not deteriorate previously considered selections
- Successive improvement of lower bound by fixing remaining columns

$$\mathbf{M}_{TI} = \mathbf{P} \left[ \mu_1, \dots, \mu_L, \dots, \mu_{N_r} \right]$$

### **Beam Patterns**



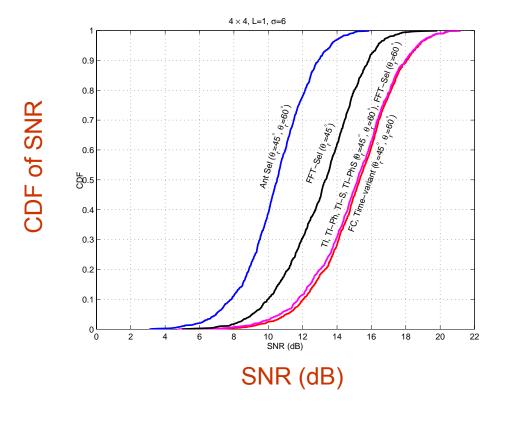
**FFT Butler** 



Time-Invariant (Mean AoA =  $45^{\circ}$ )

- TI adapts to mean AoA and angle spread (unlike FFT)
- Adapts to presence of multiple clusters

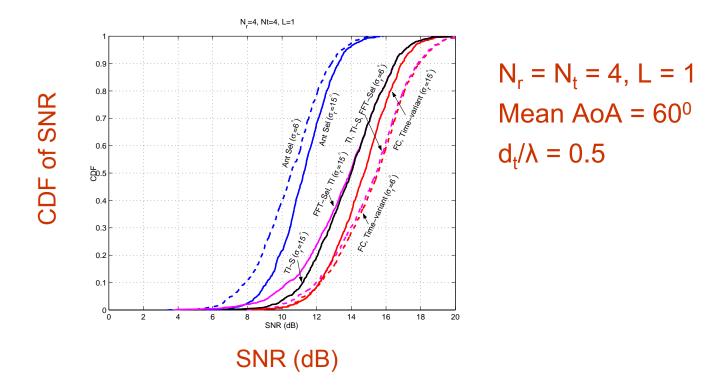
### **Comparison: Receivers with L demodulators**



$$N_r = N_t = 4$$
, L = 1  
Angle spread =  $6^0$   
 $d_t/\lambda = 0.5$ 

- Gain of over 5.0 dB over antenna selection
- Mean AoA = 45<sup>o</sup>: Gain of 2.2 dB over FFT-Selection
- Mean AoA = 45<sup>o</sup>: No gain over FFT-Selection

### **Effect of Spatial Correlation**



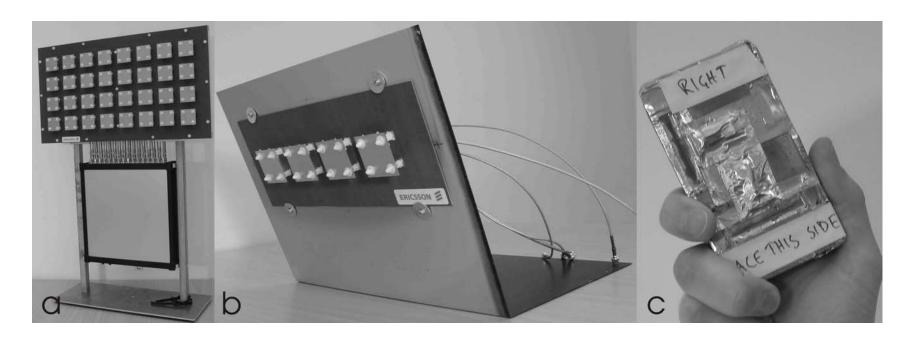
- Time-invariant solution efficacy decreases as correlation decreases
- Antenna selection efficacy improves as correlation decreases

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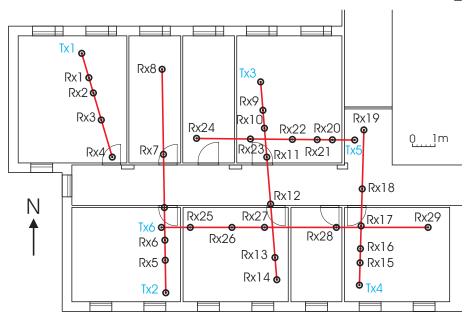
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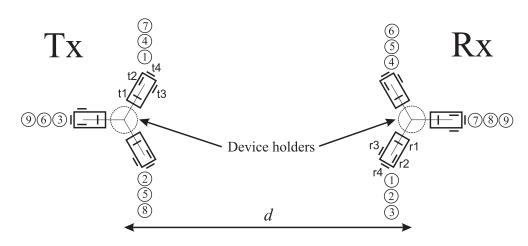
### Setup of measurement campaign

- Measure channel for "Personal Area Networks"
- Use access point, PC, and handheld



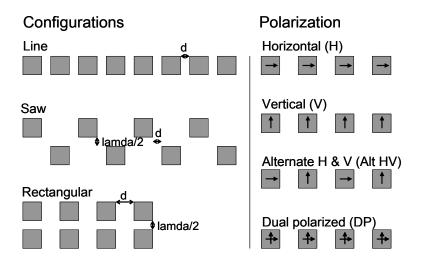
## Sitemap and measurement setup





# **Diversity gain**

## Impact of antenna configurations



Configuration comparison for the AP - PC scenario HS-B at PC only. LOS. 4:2×2:2.

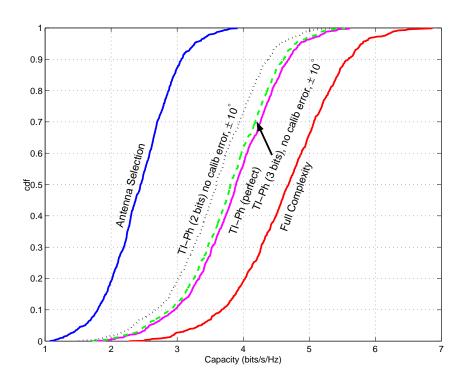
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### **Hardware Aspects**

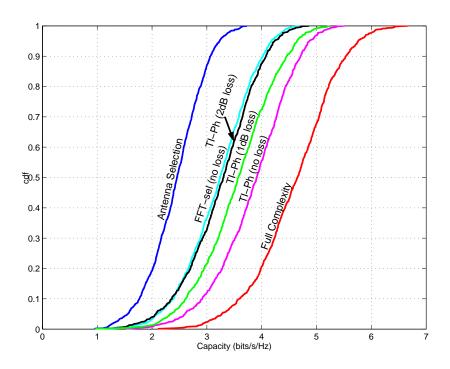
- Attenuation of switches
  - either decrease the effective SNR,
  - or LNA has to be before switch→requires more LNAs
- Switching time: has to be much smaller than duration of training sequence
- Accuracy of switch: transfer function has to be same from each input to each output port
- MEMS switches: have low insertion loss (0.1dB), but large switching time (5 microsec)
- Solid-state switches: high insertion loss (>1 dB), but short switching times (100 ns)

### **Phase Quantization & Calibration Errors**



- 3-bit phase quantization (steps of 45°): capacity within 0.1 bits/sec/Hz
- 2-bit phase quantization (steps of 90°): capacity within 0.3 bits/sec/Hz
- Spatial diversity: 1 dB loss in mean SNR observed

### **Insertion Loss**



- 2 dB loss: TI-Ph capacity same as ideal FFT selection
- 5 dB loss: TI-Ph capacity same as conventional antenna selection

### **Summary and Conclusions**

- Antenna selection retains the diversity degree, but SNR penalty
- For spatial multiplexing, comparable capacity if  $L_r \ge N_t$
- Optimum selection algorithms have complexity N!/(N-L)!; however, fast, good selection algorithms exist
- For low-rank channels, transmit antenna selection can increase capacity
- Channel estimation errors do not decrease capacity significantly
- Frequency selectivity reduces effectiveness of antenna selection
- RF preprocessing greatly improves performance, especially in correlated channels
- Covariance-based preprocessing especially suitable for frequencyselective channels
- Switches with low attenuation required both for TX and RX

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  - Pallav Sudarshan
  - Yabo Li
  - Peter Almers

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