Achieving Fair Cell-Edge Performance: Low-Complexity Interference Coordination in OFDMA Networks

Sunghyun Kim*, Hye-Kyung Jwa*, Jung-Mo Moon*, and Jee-Hyeon Na*

*Electronics Telecommunications Research Institute, Daejeon, South Korea koishkim@etri.re.kr, hkjwa@etri.re.kr, jmmoon@etri.re.kr, jhna@etri.re.kr

Abstract— We propose a low-complexity downlink interference coordination algorithm in OFDMA networks. The algorithm aims to achieve high proportional fairness among cell-edge users, as the effects of inter-cell interference are most noticeable in cell-edge areas where users are interfered by signals from neighbor base-stations. We demonstrate that the performance of our algorithm is greater than that of a decentralized algorithm which aims at interference randomization. Our algorithm consists of two stages. In the first stage, it constructs a bipartite graph that describes which set of base-stations imposes significant interference on each cell-edge user. In the second stage, exploiting the structure of the constructed graph, it solves an optimization problem to attain high proportional fairness.

Keyword—Cell-edge performance, Proportional fairness, Downlink interference coordination, OFDMA networks.

Sunghyun Kim received his B.S. degree and M.S. degree in Electrical Engineering from Korea Advanced Institute of Science and Technology (KAIST) in 2013 and 2015. He is currently a research associate at Electronics and Telecommunications Research Institute (ETRI). His research interests are in information theory and its applications in various fields, including wireless communication and machine learning.

Hye-Kyung Jwa received the B.S. degree in Electronics Engineering from Hanyang University, Seoul, Korea, in 1999 and the M.S. degree in Electrical and Electronics Engineering from KAIST, Daejeon, Korea, in 2001. Since 2001, she has been with mobile communication research of ETRI, where she has mainly worked on the modem test bed implementation for WCDMA smart antenna system, LTE and LTE-Advanced system with emphasis on channel estimation and MIMO detection algorithms. Her research interests include radio resource management algorithms and various design and performance aspects for 5G mobile communication.

Jung-Mo Moon received the B.S. and M.S. degrees in computer science from Hong-Ik University in 1992 and 1994, respectively. He received the Ph.D. degree in computer science from Chungnam National University in 2004. Since joining Electronics and Telecommunications Research Institute (ETRI) in 1994, he is currently a senior engineer and involved in the 4G small base station development. His current research interests include mobile QoS and radio resource management.

Jee-Hyeon Na is a director in Radio Access Network SW Section at ETRI, where she has been employed since 1989 after receiving her B.S. degree in computer science from Cheonnam National University. She received her M.S. and Ph.D. degrees in computer science from Chungnam National University in 2002 and 2008. She is a member of IEEE and IEICE communications. Her research interests are 4G, 5G Small Cell related radio access networks, MBMS and Self-Organizing Networks.

1