Modified Analog Transmission Scheme for Distributed Detection

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Abstract

In this paper, we consider the design of a modified analog transmission scheme for binary distributed detection systems in which the compressed information made by the local sensors are sent to the fusion center (FC) over parallel Rayleigh fading channels. For complexity concerns, we focus on the equal gain combiner fusion rules. Simulation results show that, without increasing extra transmission costs, the proposed transmission scheme can achieve significant performance gain not only over that of the widely adopted binary transmission scheme but also over that of the simple analog transmission scheme.

Keywords: distributed detection; analog transmission; wireless sensor network; data fusion

1 Introduction

A distributed detection system usually consists of multiple sensors and a fusion center (FC). In wireless sensor networks, the local decisions are sent over wireless channels and are prone to transmission errors. This motivates the needs of distributed detection algorithms that take into account the effects of the channels [1-5]. Fusion of binary decisions transmitted over fading channels has prevailed.

Although digital transmission predominates in modern communication system, analog one has still its own position. Considering that the multi-level or analog compressed information made by the local sensors are more informative than the binary decision, proper analog transmission scheme may improve the detection
performance of the distributed detection system. In [6], local sensor decisions are transmitted by means of analog relay amplifier processing. For both deterministic and stochastic Gaussian signals, asymptotic performance in a large sensor system is analyzed by deriving the error exponents. In [7, 8], each distributed node performs analog-relay amplifier local processing on its observation and transmits locally processed data to the fusion center over a wireless channel.

By simulations, we found that, the system using binary transmission perform better than that using analog transmission does, which explains why the former is prevailing. Theoretically, however, analog transmission can convey more information than binary one. Gastpar[9] showed that for a symmetric sensor network with no fading, analog transmission achieves the optimal performance theoretically attainable. Therefore, we devised a modified analog transmission scheme with significant performance gain over the binary transmission.

2 Transmission Scheme

We assume a frequency-nonselective slow-fading model for each channel, i.e., the channel remains unchanged during the transmission of the information of each sensor.

Binary Transmission. In this case, each local sensor transmits its local decision \( u_k \) to the FC and the output of the channel for the k-th sensor[2] can be denoted by

\[
r_k = \sqrt{P_{r_k}^f} h_k u_k + w_k.
\]

The SNR of \( r_k \) is given by

\[
\rho_{r_k}^b = \frac{\mathbb{E}\left[\left(\sqrt{P_{r_k}^f} h_k u_k\right)^2\right]}{\mathbb{E}\left[(w_k)^2\right]} = \frac{\mathbb{E}\left[h_k^2\right] P_{r_k}^f}{\sigma_{w_k}^2} = \frac{P_{r_k}^f}{\sigma_{w_k}^2}.
\]

Obviously, local binary quantization will lose some useful information. Therefore, a modified analog transmission is given in the following.
Analog amplifier transmission. Each local test statistic $s_k$ is amplified by $\sqrt{P_{rk}^k}$, the output of the channel for the $k$-th sensor is given by $r_k = \sqrt{P_{rk}^k} h_k s_k + w_k$.

The SNR of $r_k$ can be denoted by

$$\lambda_{rk} = \frac{\mathbb{E} \left[ \left( \sqrt{P_{rk}^k} h_k s_k \right)^2 \right]}{\mathbb{E} \left[ (w_k)^2 \right]} = \frac{\mathbb{E} [h_k^2] \mathbb{E} [s_k^2] P_{rk}^k}{\sigma_{w_k}^2} = \frac{P_{rk}^k (1 + \lambda_k)^2 M(M+1)}{(R-1)(R-2)}$$

. (1)

Modified Analog amplifier transmission. Each local test statistic $s_k$ is modified according to $s'_k = \begin{cases} s_k / \tau_k, & s_k \geq \tau_k; \\ -1, & s_k < \tau_k. \end{cases}$ Hence, the output of the channel for the $k$-th sensor is given by $r'_k = \sqrt{P_{rk}^k} h'_k s'_k + w_k$, where $w_k$ is zero mean Gaussian noise with variance $\sigma_{w_k}^2$, and $h'_k$ is the gain of a real valued Rayleigh fading channel with the PDF given by $f(h_k) = 2h_k e^{-h_k^2}$, $h_k \geq 0$. The SNR of $r'_k$, under $H_1$, is given by

$$\lambda_{rk}' = \frac{\mathbb{E} \left[ \left( \sqrt{P_{rk}^k} h'_k s'_k \right)^2 \right]}{\mathbb{E} \left[ (w_k)^2 \right]} = \frac{P_{rk}^k (1 + \lambda_k)^2 M(M+1)}{\sigma_{w_k}^2 \tau_k^2 (R-1)(R-2)} \frac{P_{d}(r_1, \lambda_k, M+2,R-2) + P_{d}(r_1, \lambda_k, M,R) - P_{d}(r_1, \lambda_k, M+2,R-2) + P_{d}(r_1, \lambda_k, M,R)}{\sigma_{w_k}^2}$$

. (2)

The probability density function of $r_k$ is

$$f \left( r_k / h_k, s_k, P_{rk}^k \right) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi \sigma_{w_k}^2}} \exp \left[ - \frac{\left( r_k - \sqrt{P_{rk}^k} h_k s_k \right)^2}{2\sigma_{w_k}^2} \right]$$

. (3)
\[ f(r_i/H_0) = \int_{0}^{\infty} 2h_i e^{-h_i^2} \exp \left[ -\frac{(r_i + \sqrt{P_i} h_i)^2}{2\sigma_{v_i}^2} \right] dh_i \left( 1 - \sum_{m=1}^{M} \frac{\tau_m^{\alpha^*} \Gamma(R+n-1)(1+\lambda_i)^M}{\Gamma(R)\Gamma(n)(1+\lambda_i+\tau_i)^{R+\alpha^*}} \right) \]

\[ + \int_{0}^{\infty} \int_{0}^{\infty} 2h_i e^{-h_i^2} \exp \left[ -\frac{(r_i - \sqrt{P_i} h_i s_i / \tau_i)^2}{2\sigma_{v_i}^2} \right] \frac{s_i^{M-1}(1+\lambda_i)^M \Gamma(M+R)}{(1+s_i + \lambda_i)^M \Gamma(M+R)} dh_i ds_i \]

(4)

\[ f(r_i/H_1) = \int_{0}^{\infty} 2h_i e^{-h_i^2} \exp \left[ -\frac{(r_i + \sqrt{P_i} h_i)^2}{2\sigma_{v_i}^2} \right] dh_i \left( 1 - \sum_{m=1}^{M} \frac{\tau_m^{\alpha^*} \Gamma(R+n-1)}{\Gamma(R)\Gamma(n)(1+\lambda_i+\tau_i)^{R+\alpha^*}} \right) \]

\[ + \int_{0}^{\infty} \int_{0}^{\infty} 2h_i e^{-h_i^2} \exp \left[ -\frac{(r_i - \sqrt{P_i} h_i s_i / \tau_i)^2}{2\sigma_{v_i}^2} \right] \frac{s_i^{M-1} \Gamma(M+R)}{(1+s_i + \lambda_i)^M \Gamma(M+R)} dh_i ds_i \]

(5)

3 Fusion rules

The received discrete signals by the FC from all the K sensors can be denoted by \( \mathbf{r} = [r_1, r_2, \cdots, r_K]^T \). The optimal test in Neyman-Pearson sense for the problem above can be formulated as

\[ \Lambda_{opt} \triangleq \ln \left[ \frac{p(\mathbf{r}|H_1)}{p(\mathbf{r}|H_0)} \right] \begin{cases} H_1 \text{ is true} \\ \leq \gamma \end{cases} \]

where \( \Lambda_{opt} = \sum_{k=1}^{K} \ln f(r_i/H_1) - \ln f(r_i/H_1) \) and \( \gamma \) denote the log-likelihood ratio and the threshold chosen to assure a fixed system false-alarm rate, respectively. Considering that the optimum detector is mathematically
intractable, we turn to the suboptimum EGC fusion rules [3]. The fusion rule of EGC is given by
\[ \Lambda_{EGC} = \sum_{k=1}^{N} \Lambda_k \].

4 Simulation Results

We consider an eight-sensor system for the following three cases. In case I, the local sensors have the same performance index, i.e., \( P_{ldk} = 0.5 \) and \( P_{lfk} = 0.01 \) for all k’s, and the channels have the same average received SNRs.

![Fig.1 System probability of detection versus the average received SNR in case I](image)

In case II, the local sensors have different detection performances, but the channels have the same average received SNR. Specially, \( \{P_{ldk}\} = \{0.1, 0.1, 0.3, 0.3, 0.5, 0.5, 0.7, 0.7\} \), and \( P_{lfk} = 0.01 \) for all k’s.

In case III, the local sensors have the same performance index as case II, but the channels have disparate average received SNRs. Specially, the average received SNRs of the channels are distributed as
\[ \{\text{SNR}_k\} = \{S + 2, S - 2, S + 4, S - 4, S, S + 3, S - 3\} \text{ dB, respectively,} \]

where \( S \) denotes the arithmetic mean of \( \{\text{SNR}_k\} \) in decibels.

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**Fig. 2** System probability of detection versus the average received SNR in case II.

**Fig. 3** System probability of detection versus the average received SNR in case III.
It is still a good choice to adopt the modified analog transmission scheme when local sensors have different performance indexes, as described in case II. The increase in detection probability is as much as 0.8 relative to the binary scheme, or as much as 0.16 relative to the simple analog scheme, as shown in Fig.2. Under disparate received channel SNRs of case III, the proposed modified analog transmission scheme also brings significant performance gain, as much as 15 percent relative to the binary scheme, or as much as 33 percent relative to the simple analog scheme, as shown in Fig.3. From Fig.1-Fig.3, we can make a conclusion that the proposed modified analog scheme can improve the system detection performance significantly compared with not only the binary scheme but also the simple analog one.

An interesting phenomenon can be observed that, when the channel SNR is larger than 20dB, the detection performance will almost keep constant. In another word, the detection performance of the distributed detection system is not proportional to the channel signal-to-noise ratio.

5 Conclusions

A modified analog transmission scheme for distributed signal detection was proposed and evaluated in this paper. It combines the simple analog transmission and the binary digital transmission. Simulation results show that, without increasing extra transmission costs, the proposed transmission scheme can achieve significant performance gain not only over that of the widely adopted binary transmission scheme but also over that of the simple analog transmission scheme. The proposed scheme, however, is of high performance.

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