



OFDM –DWT & BPSK Using QPSK & 16PSK

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Abstract

Orthogonal Frequency Division Multiplexing (OFDM) has become the most widely adopted technology for various high data rate wireless communication systems due to its spectral bandwidth efficiency and robustness to frequency selective fading channels. This paper examines the performance degradation of conventional Orthogonal Frequency Division Multiplexing (OFDM) and Discrete Wavelet Transform based OFDM (DWT-OFDM) systems when the signals are passed through a nonlinear High Power Amplifier (HPA). In the case of DWT OFDM, several wavelets such as Daubechies, Symlet and Biorthogonal are evaluated. Computer Simulation result shows that DWT OFDM specifically Haar (db1) is more robust against nonlinearity in comparison to DFT-OFDM.

Keywords: OFDM; DWT; BPSK; QPSK; 16PSK

1. Introduction

Multicarrier Modulation (MCM) is an efficient modulation scheme which divides the incoming high rate data into lower rate data. The duration of symbols is increased by simultaneously transmitting N data symbols which leads to robustness against channels fading, impulsive noise, and Inter Symbol Interference (ISI). OFDM is a multicarrier scheme commonly used nowadays.

OFDM has been widely adopted and standardized across the world. A number of applications and standards which use OFDM include Digital Audio Broadcasting

(DAB), Digital Video Broadcasting (DVB), WiFi (IEEE 802.11a/g/j/n), World Wide Interoperability for Microwave Access (WiMAX-IEEE 802.16), Ultra Wide Band Wireless Personal Area Network (UWB Wireless PAN-IEEE 802.15.3a) and Mobile Broadband Wireless Access (MBWA-IEEE 802.20). Inverse Fast Fourier Transform (IFFT) and FFT are used in OFDM to multiplex the signals together and demultiplex the signals in the receiver, respectively [1]. A Cyclic Prefix (CP) is prepended to data signals before transmission. The purpose of the CP is to minimize ISI (Inter-symbol interference). However, the CP has

disadvantages such as reducing the spectral containment of the channel, power consumption, etc. [2].

Wavelet transformation has recently emerged as a strong candidate for digital communications [3]. In DFT-OFDM systems, signals only overlap in the frequency domain while DWT-OFDM signals overlap both in the time and frequency domains, so there is no need for the CP as in the DFT-OFDM case. Therefore, by using this transformation, the spectral containment of the channel is improved [4].

Performance of MCM communication systems is highly sensitive to nonlinear distortions arising mainly from the HPA [5-7]. To achieve more output power, transmission power should be increased, which in turn causes the HPA to operate in saturation region. Hence, it seems necessary to assess and compare the DFT-OFDM and DWT-OFDM system performances in the presence of the HPA.

This paper aims to evaluate the impact of the distortion introduced by the nonlinear behavior of a Solid State Power Amplifier (SSPA), as an HPA, which is commonly used in cellular systems. In this study, the Rapp model is used both in DFT-OFDM and DWT-OFDM systems. The Rapp model is characterized by [8]:

$$F_{AM/AM} = V_{in} / [1 + (V_{in}/V_{sat})^{2p}]^{1/2p}$$

Where V_{in} is the magnitude of the input signal, p is smoothness factor, $F_{AM/AM}$ is the magnitude of the output signal, and V_{sat} is the output saturation level. The smoothness factor controls transition for the amplitude gain as the output amplitude approaches saturation. Fig. 1 shows input-output characteristics for various smoothness factors p . Also, the phase transfer function is almost zero.

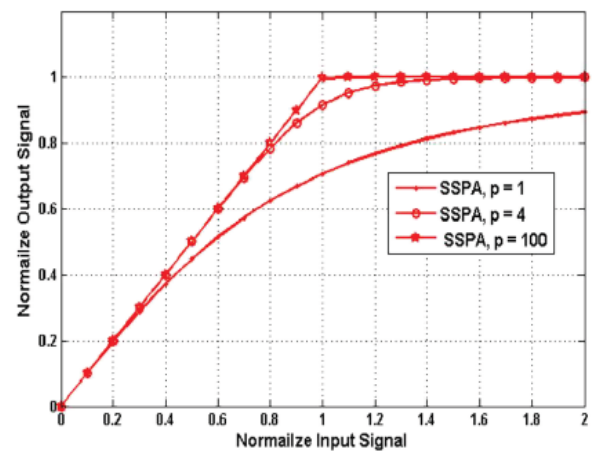


Fig 1: Input-output characteristic of the Rapp model.

The paper is organized as follows. Section II introduces block diagrams of DFT-OFDM and DWT-OFDM systems, respectively. Section III considers the PAPR (peak to average power ratio) performance in DFT-OFDM and DWT-OFDM systems. Section IV and V evaluate the Bit Error Rate (BER) performance without SSPA, in the presence of fading channel and with SSPA, respectively. Finally VI concludes the paper.

2. Related Work

2.1 Block diagrams of DFT-OFDM and DWT-OFDM systems:

DFT-OFDM and DWT-OFDM transceiver systems are shown in Fig. 2. In DFT-OFDM, the data bit-stream is first mapped onto QAM constellation to form a complex symbol followed by a S/P. Then it is

modulated onto orthogonal subcarriers using IDFT. After P/S, a CP (that is 25% of each symbol in practical systems) is wrapped to the symbols. Then the signals are passed through the HPA followed by channel. At the receiver, the CP is discarded. The resulting signal is demodulated to recover the original data bits.

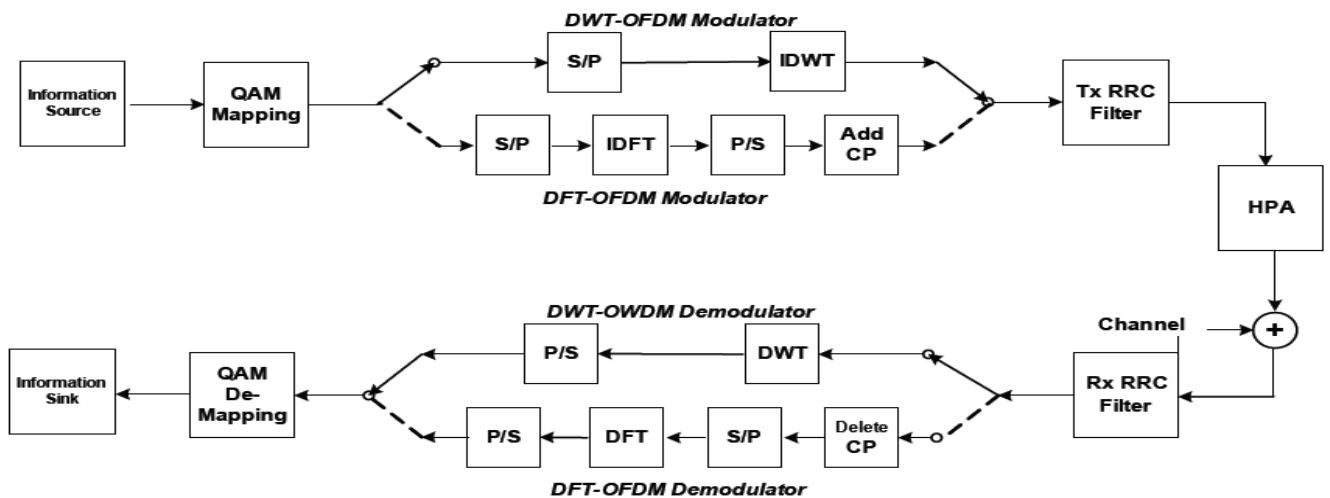


Fig 2: DFT-OFDM and DWT-OFDM transceiver block diagrams.

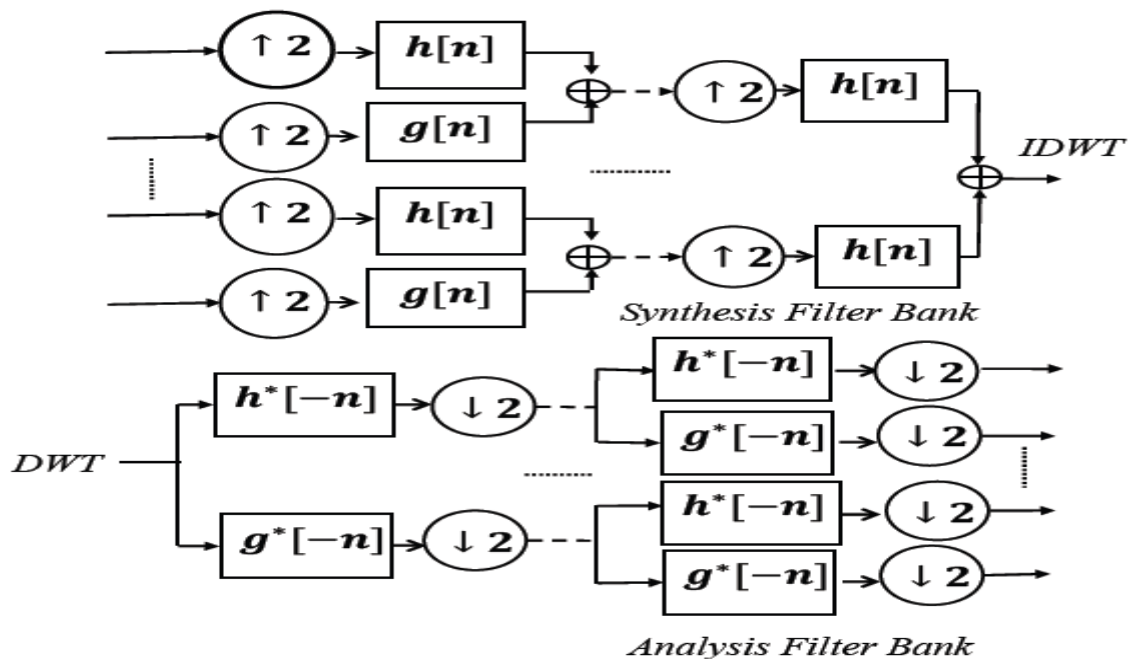


Fig 3: IDWT and DWT blocks.



Wavelet Transform (WT) is a class of generalized Fourier transforms with basis function being localized well both in the time and frequency domains. They are constructed by means of Quadrature Mirror Filter (QMF) pairs [9-10]. It has been shown that DWT-OFDM is more robust to narrowband interference and multipath propagation loss than DFT-OFDM [11]. In DWT-OFDM transmitter, the incoming signal is first converted from serial to parallel. In the case of DWT-OFDM, the number of iterations can be expressed by:

$$\text{Number of Iteration} = 2 \log (\text{Number of Subcarriers}) (2)$$

Fig.3 shows DWT and inverse DWT (IDWT) blocks. IDWT (as the synthesis filter bank) and DWT (as the analysis filter bank) are used in place of IDFT and DFT, respectively, at the transmitter and receiver. Any iteration of IDWT upsamples two signals and filters one with a High Pass (HP) Finite Impulse Response (FIR) filter and the other one with a Low Pass (LP) FIR filter. The outputs of the HP and LP filters are then subsequently added [12]. Consequently, DWT-OFDM does not require P/S in the transmitter and S/P in the receiver. In our study, several wavelets such as dbN, symN, biorNr, Nd are evaluated. When analysis bank is exchanged with the synthesis bank, the system will be still a perfect reconstruction (PR) [13]. Accordingly, if these

wavelets preserve orthogonality between the symbols, it is expected that the Bit Error Rate (BER) plot lies on the theoretical BER plot.

Fundamentally, DFT-OFDM and DWT-OFDM have many similarities as both use orthogonal waveforms as subcarrier. The main difference between DFT-OFDM and DWT-OFDM lies on the shape of the subcarrier and in the way they are created. One important property of wavelet is that the waveforms being used in general are longer than the transform duration of each symbol [14-15]. This causes DWT-OFDM symbols to overlap in the time domain.

The multicarrier symbols of DFT-OFDM do not overlap each other as IDFT and DFT transforms are carried out for each group of subcarriers independently. The use of longer waveforms in DWT-OFDM, on the other hand, allows better frequency localization of subcarriers while in DFT-OFDM the rectangular shape of the DFT window generates large side lobes [16].

Simulation parameters and characteristics of wavelet families are shown in Tables I and II, respectively. For a fair comparison, the CP is not used for DFT-OFDM in AWGN channel, but we used 25% of subcarrier length for CP in fading channel.

3. Implementation

3.1 PAPR in DFT-OFDM and DWT-OFDM systems:

One of main drawbacks of OFDM is its high PAPR. Signals with large peaks may be obtained as a result of constructive superposition of subcarriers. PAPR is defined as the ratio between the maximum powers occurring in OFDM symbol to the average power of the same OFDM symbol:

$$PAPR = \frac{\max|x(t)|^2}{E[|x(t)|^2]}$$

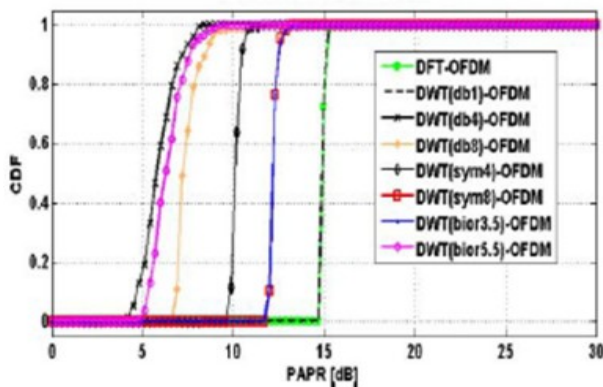


Fig 4: CDFs of the PAPR for different schemes.

Where $E[.]$ denotes expectation. PAPR depends linearly on the number of subcarriers, but in systems with a large number of subcarriers, the probability of a symbol with a large PAPR is small and vice versa. This leads to use CDF (Cumulative Distribution Function) to describe PAPR distribution. High peak power is a disadvantage of HPAs. Due to

amplifier imperfection, peaks are distorted nonlinearly. The result can be interpreted as an ICI (Inter-Carrier Interference) in the system. In general, PAPR is evaluated from the discrete time samples by oversampling. PAPR can take values in a range that is proportional to the number of subcarriers. In this study, the DFT-OFDM and DWT-OFDM schemes with 64 subcarriers, each modulated with QAM, were compared in terms of CDF. Fig. 4 shows that while DWT (db1)-OFDM has a comparable PAPR performance, other wavelets exhibit inferior performance in comparison to DFT-OFDM.

3.2 Simulation without power amplifier:

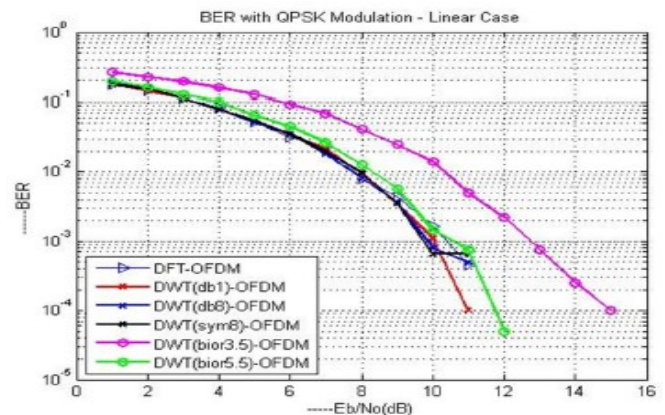


Fig 5: Performance of DFT-OFDM and DWT-OFDM for the linear case.

As for sanity check, performance of both DFT-OFDM and DWT-OFDM systems without SSPA are evaluated. Fig. 5 shows the BER performance of the QAM modulation scheme in an AWGN channel. It can be observed in this figure that the BER performances of

DWT-OFDM and DFT-OFDM are the same except for bior3.5, and bior5.5. These wavelets are not orthogonal and thus the orthogonality between subcarriers is destroyed. The difference between dbN and symN is not significant, because they do not use any nonlinear element such as HPA and the model is perfectly reconstructive. This validates the simulations.

4. Experimental Results

4.1 Results in the presence of the SSPA:

An HPA is usually identified by two parameters known as Input Back Off (IBO) and Output Back Off (OBO), defined in decibel as:

$$IBO = 10 \log_{10}(P_{imax}/P_i) \text{ and } OBO = 10 \log_{10}(P_{omax}/P_o), \text{ respectively,}$$

Where P_{imax} and P_{omax} are the mean power of the input and output signals of the HPA. P_{omax} is the maximum output power (saturation power), and P_{imax} is the input power corresponding to the maximum output power [19]. A pictorial description of OBO and IBO is shown in Fig. 6 and defined (on a logarithmic scale) as the difference between the maximum output power and the output power at the quiescent point. Fig. 7 shows the BER performance of DFT-OFDM and DWT-OFDM when Rapp model is applied with smoothness factor $p=1$ at $OBO=3$ dB. In

this Figure DWT-OFDM outperforms DFT-OFDM. As shown

in Fig. 7, by decreasing the order of Daubechies filters, performance of DWT-OFDM system will be degraded. This behavior is more obvious at E_b/N_o values larger than 20 dB.

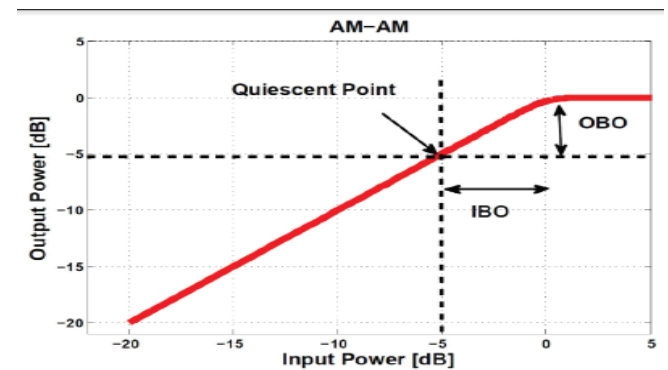


Fig 6: AM-AM characteristic.

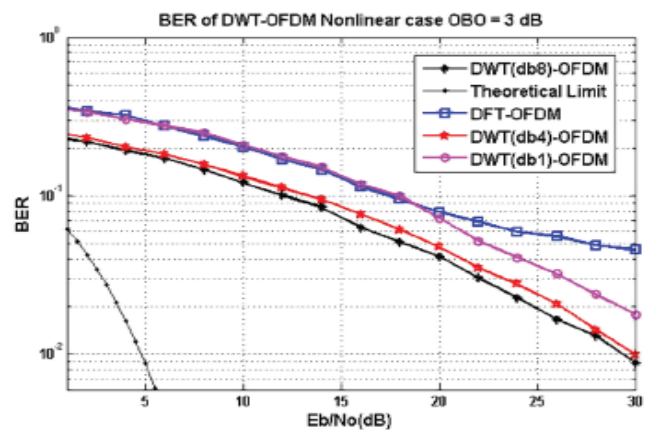


Fig 7: Performance of DFT-OFDM and DWT-OFDM in the presence of SSPA and fading channel.

5. Conclusion

In this paper the BER, PAPR, and TD performances of DFT-OFDM and DWT-



OFDM in the presence of SSPA –asan HPA- were evaluated using Rapp model. The Simulationresult shows that the BER performance of DWT-OFDM isthe same as DFT-OFDM in AWGN channel for the linearsystem i.e. without SSPA as a nonlinear block. InDaubechies and Symlet families, the BER and TDperformances were degraded when the length of the filterwas increased. The result showed that just db1 (Haar)wavelet for the DWT-OFDM system achieved better BERand TD performances compared to DFT-OFDM. The aboveresults were confirmed for the corresponding equalizedschemes as well. Also, some DWT-OFDM schemes showedsuperior PAPR performances than that DFT-OFDM.

6. References

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