

array. The j I and j Q array is next used to form the OFDM frequency domain signal, $X(f)$. An inverse FFT function is then used to compute the time domain signal, $X(t)$. The input time domain signal is then scaled to the required average input power level. Then the power amplified time domain signal, $X_a(t)$ is calculated. Using the FFT function, the PA output frequency domain signal, $X_a(f)$, is calculated. From $X_a(f)$, the resulting OFDM symbols j I , Q are mapped.

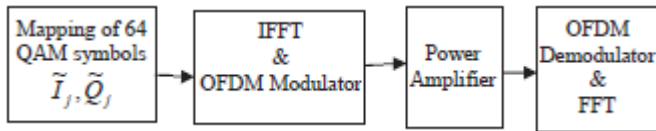


Figure 1: Block diagram of OFDM system

B. High power Amplifier Model

The IFFT output signal is then passed through a nonlinear power amplifier model. The complex envelope of the input signal into the amplifier can be expressed as

$$x_a(t) = |x(t)|e^{j\phi(t)}$$

The high power amplifier (HPA) is Rapp's solid state power amplifier model (SSPA) with amplitude and phase characteristics,

$$A[|x(t)|] = \frac{k_1|x(t)|}{\left[1 + \left(\frac{k_1|x(t)|}{A_0}\right)^{2p}\right]^{\frac{1}{2p}}}$$

$$\phi[|x(t)|] = \alpha_\phi \left(\frac{k_1|x(t)|}{A_0}\right)^4$$

Where, A_0 is the saturation output amplitude K_1 is the small signal gain $x(t)$ is the complex envelope of the input signal p is a knee factor which controls the smoothness of the transition from the linear region to the saturation region α_ϕ is typically set to zero, meaning SSPA adds no phase distortion.

3. Performance Metrics

The performance metrics such as PAPR, EVM, MER and BER which quantify the dynamic range of OFDM signals.

A. Peak to Average Power Ratio (PAPR)

PAPR for the discrete time OFDM signal $x(n)$ is defined as the ratio of maximum signal power to average signal power

$$PAPR = 10 \log \frac{\max |x(n)|^2}{\text{Avg} |x(n)|^2}$$

The PAPR reduction capability is measured by the CCDF which indicates the probability that the PAPR exceeds a certain threshold value. The CCDF of PAPR can be applied to determine the bounds for the minimum number of redundancy bits required to identify the PAPR sequences.

The complementary cumulative distribution function can be expressed as,
 CCDF = Probability (PAPR > PAPR0)
 Where PAPR0 is the threshold level

B. Error vector magnitude (EVM)

The below figure shows the error vector for one measured symbol. In this case with only one measured symbol, the magnitude of this small vector equals the EVM. If there were more symbols acquired than just this one, the EVM would equal the sum of the magnitudes of the error vectors for all of the measured symbols divided by the total number of measured symbols. The average power per symbol of the constellation. OFDM Signals are demodulated before EVM calculations are made. EVM is a measure of the deviation of the demodulated received symbol (j I , Q) from the original transmitted data symbol (j I , Q).

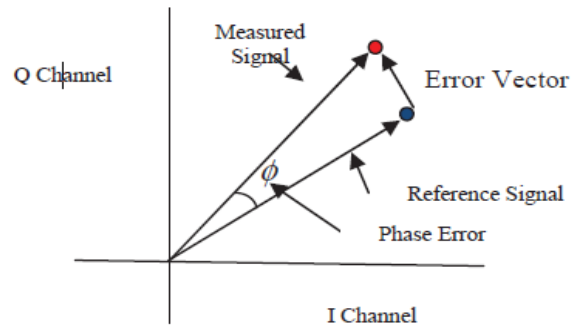


Figure 2: EVM Definition

The EVM, magnitude error and phase error can be expressed as

$$EVM_{rms} = \frac{\sqrt{\frac{1}{N} \sum_{j=1}^N [(I_j - \tilde{I}_j)^2 + (Q_j - \tilde{Q}_j)^2]}}{V_{max}}$$

$$MagnitudeError = \sqrt{I_j^2 + Q_j^2} - \sqrt{\tilde{I}_j^2 + \tilde{Q}_j^2}$$

$$PhaseError = \arctan \frac{Q_j}{I_j} - \arctan \frac{\tilde{Q}_j}{\tilde{I}_j}$$

Where,
 V_{max} is the maximum amplitude of the ideal constellation points
 N is the number of points in a measurement
 j I , Q are the ideal and quadrature components of the j -th Measured OFDM signal
 j I , Q are the ideal and quadrature components of the j -th Referenced OFDM signal
 EVMRMS is the RMS error magnitude

C. Modulation Error Ratio (MER)

MER is another measurement metric of OFDM system is closely related to EVM because in a single numerical value it summarizes the quality of a OFDM transmitter. The below figure shown Modulation error ratio is the ratio of average symbol power to average error power Modulation Error is used to Measure of Modulation quality.

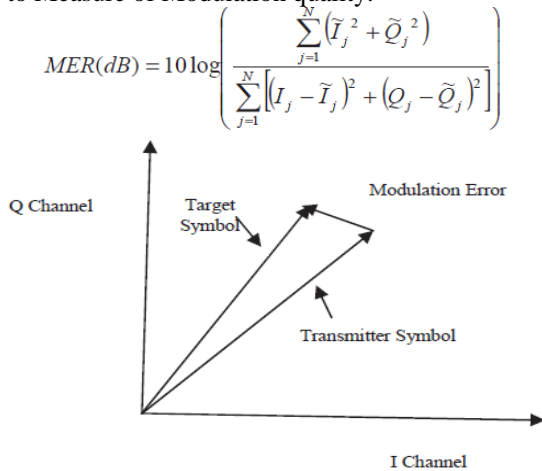


Figure 3: MER Definition

D. Bit Error Rate

BER measures how often symbols are pushed into boundaries of neighboring symbols, causing these symbols to be misinterpreted. BER does not measure the condition of the modulated signal itself, though a poor BER is an indicator of poor signal quality. Because the BER measurement detects and counts every misinterpreted bit, it is a sensitive indicator of problems caused by transient or busy noise interference. BER is a commonly used performance metric, which describes the probability of error, P_e in terms of number of bits per bit transmitted.

$$P_e = \frac{2 \left(1 - \frac{1}{L}\right)}{\log_2 L} Q \left(\sqrt{\left[\frac{3 \log_2 L}{L^2 - 1} \right] \frac{2E_b}{N_o}} \right)$$

Where,

- L is the number of levels in each dimension of the M -array QAM modulation system
- E_b is the energy per bit
- $N_o/2$ is the noise power spectral density
- $Q[.]$ is the Gaussian co-error function

4. OFDM Transmission Model

The below Figure shows a block diagram of the OFDM-based transmission model consisting of a single branch. A channel between the transmitting and receiving sides is modeled by typical additive white Gaussian noise (AWGN). On the transmitter side, baseband signals are generated by the Bernoulli binary rule and are encoded by convolutional encoding. The encoded signals are mapped to 256- or 1024-QAM by symbol modulation. OFDM modulation computes the inverse fast Fourier transform (IFFT) of the input QAM signals. Finally, cyclic prefix insertion is used as a typical OFDM transmission.

On the receiver side, first the cyclic-prefix is removed. OFDM demodulation then computes the fast Fourier

transform (FFT) of the received signals to separate each subcarrier component that is then de-mapped to QAM. Each component signal is demodulated by symbol demodulation. After Viterbi decoding, the original baseband signals are detected.

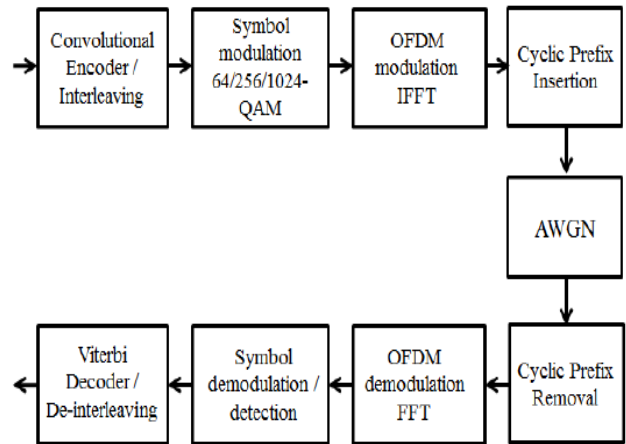


Figure 4: Block diagram of the OFDM transmission model.

5. Simulation Results

To show the PAPR, EVM, MER and BER performance of OFDM systems, we considered an OFDM system using 1024 subcarriers and different M-QAM modulations (for example $M=4, 16, 32, 64$ M is the modulation order), simulated by randomly generated data. PAPR is measured for OFDM system using randomly generated data bits with M array QAM modulations, the result is shown in Fig.6. In Fig. 6 it can be seen that by keeping fixed number of subcarrier ($N=1024$ are taken for example) and increasing the number of bits the PAPR value is not increasing rapidly as shown in Fig. 5. The PAPR of OFDM signal at each modulation changes in small fractions while keeping the subcarriers constant. The Fig. 6 shows the BER versus SNR performance of different modulation systems. It can be noticed that the BER decreases rapidly by increasing SNR. From Fig. 6, it is clear that the BER is lesser using 4 array QAM modulation technique rather than 16, 32 and 64 array QAM, by increasing the number of bits. The BER versus EVM curve shown in Fig. 7(a). It can be noticed that the inverse relationship that exists between BER and EVM. From Fig. 7(a), it can be seen that there is a constant 1.5% difference between 4 and 16-QAM, whereas there is a 0.5% difference between 16-QAM and 32-QAM at 10⁻³ BER level. The BER versus MER curve shown in Fig. 7(b). In Fig. 7(b), we note that there is a constant 20 dB difference between 4 and 16-QAM, whereas there is a 50dB difference between 16-QAM and 32-QAM at 10⁻² BER level. Fig. 7(c) shows EVM versus SNR performance of M-QAM OFDM system. Fig. 7(c) shows EVM versus SNR performance of M-QAM OFDM systems. It is clear that the lower the EVM, the better system performance. Fig. 7(d) shows MER versus SNR performance of M-QAM OFDM system. From Fig. 7(d), it can be seen that the higher the MER, the better system performance.

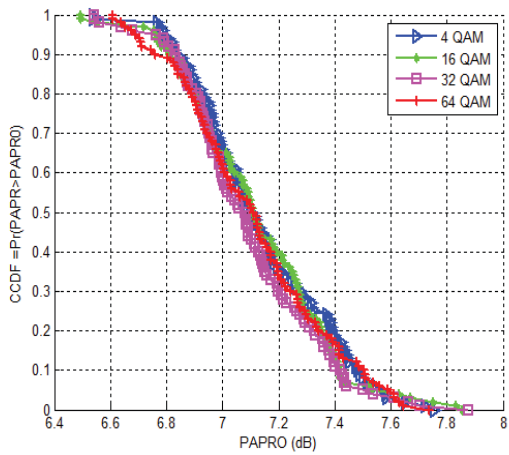


Figure 5: CCDF performance of OFDM system

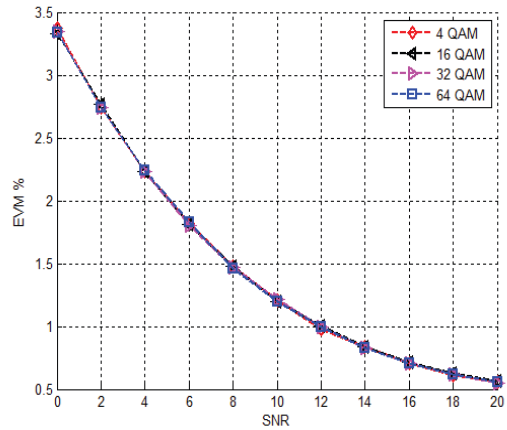


Figure 7: (c) EVM versus SNR performance of M-QAM OFDM systems.

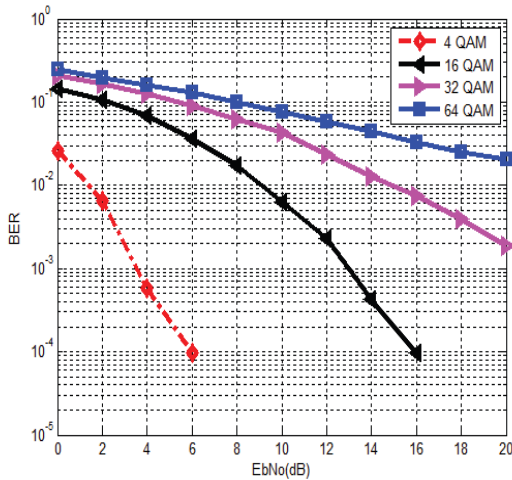


Figure 6: BER versus Eb/No performance of OFDM system

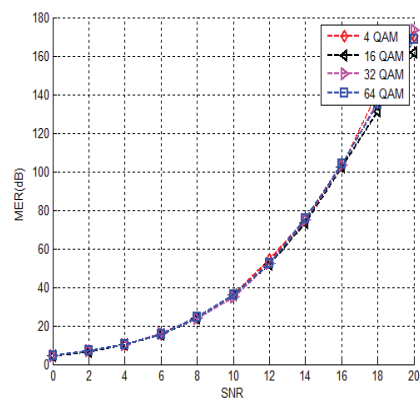


Figure 7: (d) MER versus SNR performance of M-QAM OFDM system.

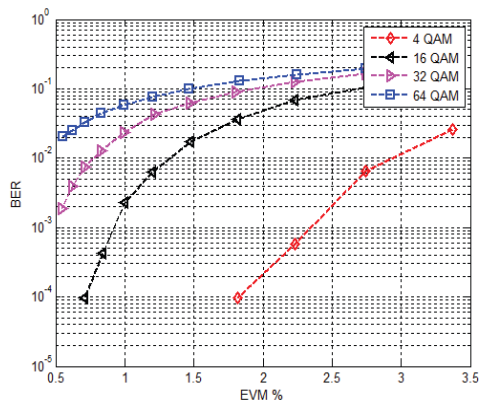


Figure 7: (a) The BER versus EVM curve performance of M-QAM OFDM system

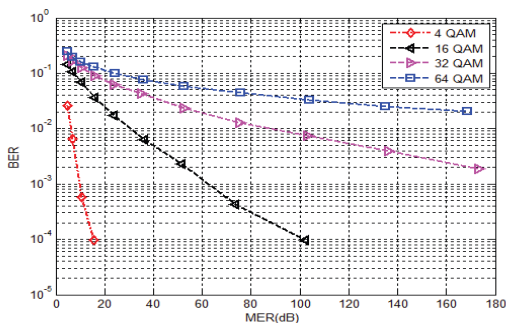


Figure 7: (b) The BER versus MER curve performance of M-QAM OFDM system

6. Conclusion

In this paper, we have studied the EVM, MER and BER, performances of the M-QAM-OFDM systems subject to the nonlinear HPA in AWGN channels. An analytical description of the joint effects of this imperfection on the performance of OFDM systems has been presented. We have derived closed forms of the EVM, MER and BER expressions for AWGN channels. Analytical and simulation results show that the higher the MER and the lower EVM. EVM and MER values of OFDM systems were computed and simulated in order to relate them to BER and SNR figures. Using the measured root mean square error magnitude data in combination with the plots from Fig. 7(a) and Fig. 7(c), the dynamic performance of the OFDM receiver can be predicted.

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