Energy Efficient Resource Allocation in 5G Hybrid Heterogeneous Networks: A Game Theoretic Approach

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Abstract—**Millimeter wave (mmWave) technology integrated with heterogeneous networks (HetNets) has emerged as a new wave to overcome the thirst for higher data rates and severe shortage of spectrum. In this paper, we consider the uplink of a hybrid HetNet with femtocells overlaid on a macrocell, and formulate a two layer game theoretic framework to maximise the energy efficiency (EE) while optimising the network resources. The outer layer allows each femtocell access point (FAP) to maximise the data rate of its users by selecting the frequency band either from the sub-6 GHz and the mmWave. The solution to this non-cooperative game can be obtained by using pure strategy Nash equilibrium. The inner layer ensures the energy efficient user association method subject to the minimum rate and maximum transmission power constraints by using dual decomposition approach. Simulation results show that the proposed hybrid HetNet scheme exploiting the mmWave frequency band improves the sum-rate and EE in comparison to the scenario where all the networks operate at sub-6 GHz frequency band. The performance can further be enhanced by incorporating the power control mechanism.**

Index Terms—**Heterogeneous network, millimeter wave, game theory, energy efficiency, sum-rate, hybrid network.**

I. INTRODUCTION

To manage the staggering growth of wireless data traffic, heterogeneous network (HetNets) have drawn tremendous attention in the next generation mobile systems. Heterogeneity in the wireless environment allows low power base stations (BSs), deployed in small cells of diverse sizes overlaid on a macrocell, to operate at different frequency bands that makes an efficient use of the radio resources [1], [2].

Millimeter wave (mmWave) technology has gained significant attention in the race of effective solutions to 5G requirements [3]–[5]. The spectrum available in mmWave bands, ranging from 10-300 GHz, is many times wider than the existing cellular networks. While improving network performance, it faces many challenges including hardware expenses, non-line-of-sight (NLOS) signal range and large distance connections [8]. However, with the help of highly directional antennas and beamforming, significant signal strength can be achieved within a range of about 150-200 meters. The coexistence of noise limited mmWave small cells with interference limited conventional UHF overlay in a hybrid HetNets will resolve the hardware problem along with improvement in the overall network performance [6], [7].

Drastic increase in the data traffic and substantial growth of network infrastructures has aggravated the concern of energy consumption [9]. This challenge has made developing energy efficient system, a key necessity for the next generation mobile networks. HetNets, consisting of small cells with smaller coverage range, allows BSs and user equipments (UEs) to communicate at lower powers which results in the reduction of energy consumption and also the interference [10], [11].

In this paper, we formulate a two layer framework for energy efficient resource allocation in a hybrid HetNet. In the first game, each femtocell access point (FAP) models its preferred access policy for both mmWave and UHF frequency bands, given the state of the network, to optimise the data rates of its home users. Then, these FAPs opt for one of these bands in the best interest of the network using a network-centric approach. To solve this game, we devise a scheme, which always reaches a pure strategy Nash equilibrium (PSNE). It is then followed by the next game where MUEs finalize their association, in a user-centric fashion with network assistance, while maximizing energy efficiency (EE) considering the power and minimum rate constraints. This game is solved using Lagrangian dual decomposition approach. The performance of this hybrid HetNet is compared with the stand alone UHF networks.

The rest of this paper is organized as follows. In Section II, we present the system model of the proposed framework.Section III presents game formulation. Section IV shows the simulation results and Section V concludes the paper.

II. SYSTEM MODEL

Consider the uplink of a two-tier HetNet having M FAPs overlaid on a macrocell, as shown in Fig. 1, where a total of N macrocell user equipments (MUEs) are randomly distributed. Let $\mathbb{M} = \mathbb{M}_{\mathbb{M}} \cup \mathbb{M}_{\mathbb{U}}$ be the set of FAPs where $\mathbb{M}_{\mathbb{M}}$ represents the set of FAPs operating on mmWave band and $\mathbb{M}_{\mathbb{U}}$ be the set of FAPs operating on UHF band whereas $\mathbb{M}_{\circ} = \{m_o\}$ be the singleton set representing macrocell base station (MBS). Similarly, let $\mathbb{N} = \mathbb{N}_{\circ} \cup \mathbb{N}_{\mathbb{M}}$ be the set of MUEs where $\mathbb{N}_{\circ}$ be the set of MUEs connected to MBS and $\mathbb{N}_{\mathbb{M}} = \bigcup_{m=1}^{M} \mathbb{N}_{\mathsf{m}}$ be the set of MUEs connected to the mth FAP. On the other hand, $\mathbb{F} = \bigcup_{m=1}^{M} \mathbb{F}_{\mathsf{m}}$ denotes the set of femtocell user equipments

(FUEs) where each $\mathbb{F}_\mathrm{m} = \{1, 2, \ldots, F\}$ is the set of FUEs connected to a single FAP. Also let $\mathbb{I} = \mathbb{N} \cup \mathbb{F}$ be the set of all the users in the network and $\mathbb{J} = \mathbb{M} \cup \mathbb{M}_\mathrm{o}$ be the set of all the base stations in the network.

The FAPs operating on mmWave band split the bandwidth, B_m, into identical K_m sub-bands depending on the number of users connected to them. On the other hand, FAPs operating on UHF band assign entire bandwidth B consisting of K subcarriers to all connected users. The same bandwidth, B, is also used by the MBS operating on UHF band. Hence, each MUE gets bandwidth B comprising of L subcarriers, which introduces cross-tier interference on UHF band.

The path loss models for this system are expressed by the following equations for mmWave and UHF links, respectively

$$L_\mathrm{mmW}(d)[\mathrm{dB}] = \begin{cases} b + 10\alpha_L \log(d) + \Omega_L & \text{if link is LoS} \\ b + 10\alpha_N \log(d) + \Omega_N & \text{otherwise.} \end{cases} \quad (1)$$

$$L_\mathrm{UHF}(d)[\mathrm{dB}] = 20\log(\tfrac{4\pi}{\lambda_c}) + 10\beta \log(d) + \Psi, \quad (2)$$

where d is the distance in meters, Ω_L and Ω_N are zero mean log normal random variables for line-of-sight (LoS) and non-line-of-sight (NLoS) mmWave links, respectively. Ψ represents the log normal random variable in the case of UHF links. In (1), $b = 32.4 + 20log(f_c)$ shows the fixed path loss for mmWave links, where f_c is the carrier frequency. Similarly in (2), λ_c corresponds to the carrier wavelength in case of UHF link. The path loss exponents for LoS and NLoS mmWave links are indicated by α_L and α_N, respectively, whereas the path loss exponent for UHF links is denoted by β.

To maintain the quality-of-service (QoS) requirements of the users, a constraint on the cross-tier interference is applied to find the optimal transmit power of the users. Let $\rho_i^j[x] \ \epsilon \ \{0, 1\}$ denotes the connection between any i^{th} user and any j^{th} BS on any subcarrier x. In case of connectivity, $\rho_i^j[x] = 1$, otherwise $\rho_i^j[x] = 0$. Let $I[x]$ denote the interference threshold for the mth BS on the xth subcarrier and we have

$$\sum_{\substack{j \in \mathbb{J} \\ j \neq m}} \sum_{i \in \mathbb{I}} \rho_i^j[l] g_{ij}[l] p_i^j[l] \leq I_m[x], \quad \forall x, \quad (3)$$

where g_{ij} is product of the magnitude squared of the channel gain and the inverse of the path loss between the ith user and the jth BS and p_i^j represents the optimal transmit power of the ith user with the constraint that
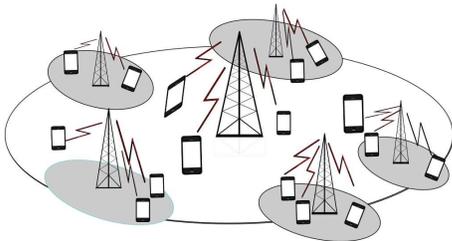
$$p_i \leq P_i^\mathrm{max}, \quad \forall i, \quad (4)$$

where P_i^max is the maximum transmit power of the ith user.

The received power of the ith user at the jth BS, separated by the distance d_{ij}, on x^{th} subcarrier is given as

$$\mu_i^j[x] = \begin{cases} \dfrac{p_i^j G(\theta_j) |h_{ij}[x]|^2}{L_\mathrm{mmW}(d_{ij})} & \text{mmWave,} \\ \dfrac{p_i^j |h_{ij}[x]|^2}{L_\mathrm{UHF}(d_{ij})} & \text{UHF,} \end{cases} \quad (5)$$

where p_i^j is the transmit power and $h_{ij}[x]$ represents the channel. $G(.)$ is the antenna gain and θ_j is the azimuthal angles of BS beam alignment. Here, a sectored approximation to the beam pattern is assumed. If $\theta \in [\theta_0 - \frac{\Delta\omega}{2}, \theta_0 + \frac{\Delta\omega}{2}]$, where $\Delta\omega$ is the half power beamwidth, then the perfect alignment of the transmitter beam is considered and its gain is denoted by G_max. The gain, in case of a misaligned beam, is G_min. The channel gain h follows Rayleigh or Rician distribution for LoS or NLoS links, respectively.

The signal-to-interference plus noise ratio (SINR) of the ith user on the xth subcarrier at the jth BS is given by

$$\mathrm{SINR}_i^j[x] = \frac{\mu_i^j[x]}{\sigma^2[x] + I_i^j[x]}, \quad (6)$$

where $I_i^j[x]$ represents the interference at the jth BS for the ith user on the xth subcarrier.

The interference for the ith user on subcarrier k_m at the mth FAP operating on mmW band is given by

$$I_i^m[k_m] = \sum_{\substack{j=1 \\ j \neq m}}^{M} \sum_{f=1}^{F} \left(1 - \prod_{\substack{a=1 \\ a \neq m}}^{\mathbb{M}_M} \mathbb{1}_{\rho_{f_j}^a[k_m]=0} \right) \mu_f^m[k_m] +$$
$$\sum_{n=1}^{N} \left(1 - \prod_{\substack{j=1 \\ j \neq m}}^{\mathbb{M}_M} \mathbb{1}_{\rho_n^j[k_m]=0} \right) \mu_n^m[k_m], \quad (7)$$

whereas the interference of the ith user on subcarrier k at the mth FAP operating on UHF band is given by

$$I_i^m[k] = \sum_{\substack{u=1 \\ u \neq i}}^{I} \left[\sum_{j=1}^{M} \left(1 - \prod_{a=1}^{M_U} \mathbb{1}_{\rho_{u_j}^a[k]=0} \right) \mu_u^m[k] + \prod_{j=1}^{M_M} \mathbb{1}_{\rho_u^j[k]=0} \mu_u^m[k] \right]. \quad (8)$$

where the indicator function $\mathbb{1}_{\{\rho\}} = 1$ if and only if $\rho = 0$

The interference for the nth MUE at MBS is given by

$$I_n^b[l] = \sum_{j=1}^{M} \sum_{i=1}^{F} \left(1 - \prod_{a=1}^{M_U} \mathbb{1}_{\rho_{i_j}^a[k]=0} \right) \mu_{f_j}^b[l] +$$
$$\sum_{\substack{i=1 \\ i \neq n}}^{N} \prod_{j=1}^{M_M} \mathbb{1}_{\rho_i^j[l]=0} \mu_n^b[l]. \quad (9)$$

The transmission power of all the users is limited to P^max. Each link between the user and the BS causes individual circuit power. In macrocell, it is denoted by $P_{C(\mathrm{MBS})}$ and it is represented as $P_{C(m)}$ in the mth femtocell where $P_{C(\mathrm{MBS})} = P_{C(m)} = P_C$. Thus, the total power is written as

Figure 1. A heterogeneous network with femtocells overlaid on a macrocell.

$$P_T = \epsilon \sum_{j \in \mathbb{J}} \sum_{i \in \mathbb{I}} \sum_{x \in \mathbb{X}} \rho_i^j[x] p_i^j[x] + (N + FM) \times P_C, \quad (10)$$

where ϵ represents the inverse of power amplifier efficiency. The EE, in bits/sec/Watt, is the amount of energy required by the system to transmit data and is expressed as

$$\eta_{\text{EE}} = \max_{p_i^j} \quad \frac{\sum_{j \in \mathbb{J}} \sum_{i \in \mathbb{I}} \sum_{x \in \mathbb{X}} R_i^j[x]}{\epsilon \sum_{j \in \mathbb{J}} \sum_{i \in \mathbb{I}} \sum_{x \in \mathbb{X}} \rho_i^j[x] p_i^j[x] + (N + FM) \times P_C}.$$
$$(11)$$

III. PROBLEM FORMULATION

In our proposed scheme, two games are played in a hierarchical order. In the first game, each FAP decides between mmWave and UHF frequency bands with the goal to optimise its data rate forming a non-cooperative game. In the start, all FAPs have open access policy which allows them to connect with the MUEs to reduce the interference and maximise their rates. Let the fraction of the band allocated by the mth FAP to the ith user is denoted by $\omega_{i,m}$. This frequency band assignment to the FUEs and the MUEs by the FAPs forms the strategy space of FAPs in this game. Here, $\boldsymbol{\omega}_m = [\omega_{n_1,m_u}, ..., \omega_{n_N,m_u}, \omega_{n_1,m_m}, ..., \omega_{n_N,m_m}, \omega_{f_1,m_u}, ..., \omega_{f_F,m_u}, \omega_{f_1,m_m}, ..., \omega_{f_F,m_m}]^T$ is the strategy vector of mth FAP where m_u represents the mth FAP operating on UHF band and m_m represents the mth FAP operating on mmWave band. $\boldsymbol{\omega}_{-m} = [\boldsymbol{\omega}_1^T, .., \boldsymbol{\omega}_{m-1}^T, \boldsymbol{\omega}_{m+1}^T, .., \boldsymbol{\omega}_M^T]^T$ shows the strategy vector of the other FAPs and $[.]^T$ denotes the transpose operator. The utility function of the mth FAP is the sum-rate of the FUEs and the MUEs connected to it.

$$\tilde{U}_m(\boldsymbol{\omega}_m, \boldsymbol{\omega}_{-m}) = \sum_{i=1}^{F} \omega_{f_i,m} \log(1 + \text{SINR}_i^m) +$$
$$\sum_{i=1}^{N} \omega_{n_i,m} \log(1 + \text{SINR}_i^m). \quad (12)$$

The strategy space in this game for the mth FAP is given as

$$\tilde{\chi}_m = \{\boldsymbol{\omega_m} \in [0, B]^N : \sum_{i=1}^{N_m \cup F_m} \omega_i^m = B\}. \quad (13)$$

The above constraint makes sure that frequency allocation is well defined by each FAP. The optimization problem for the mth FAP, given the strategy vectors of other FAPs, is

$$\max_{\boldsymbol{\omega}_m \in \tilde{\chi}_m} (\boldsymbol{\omega}_m, \boldsymbol{\omega}_{-m}). \quad (14)$$

This non-cooperative game achieves convergence using the solution of PSNE. A player achieves Nash equilibrium when

$$\tilde{U}_m(\boldsymbol{\omega^*}_m, \boldsymbol{\omega^*}_{-m}) \geq \tilde{U}_m(\boldsymbol{\omega}_m, \boldsymbol{\omega^*}_{-m}); \forall \omega_m \in \tilde{\chi}_m, \quad (15)$$

where ω_m represents the strategy vector of the mth player and U_m represents the utility function.

The next game incorporates user association to maximise the sum-rate and EE of the network, where users evaluate their connectivity with the goal of maximizing their rates without affecting the network performance. The single-objective optimization problem becomes

$$\max_{p_i^j} \quad \eta_{\text{EE}}$$
$$\text{s.t.} \quad \sum_{j \in \mathbb{J}} R_i^j[\omega] \geq R_{\min}, \quad \forall i,$$
$$\sum_{j \in \mathbb{J}} p_i^j[\omega] \leq P_i^{\max}, \quad \forall i, \quad (16)$$
$$\sum_{\substack{j \in \mathbb{J} \\ j \neq m}} \sum_{i \in \mathbb{I}} g_{ij}[\omega] p_i^j[\omega] \leq I[\omega], \quad \forall \omega,$$

where first constraint ensures the achieved rate of the user is at least as high as $R_{\min}$. Second and third constraints limit the maximum transmit power of the users to maximise EE. Here, we have replaced the subcarriers with the fraction of band, $(\omega_{i,j})$, allocated to the ith user by the jth BS. Let the index set of frequency band allocated to users be $\mathbb{W} = \{\omega_1, \omega_2, .., \omega_I\}$.

The objective function can then be expressed as

$$U(\eta_{EE}) = \max_{p_i^j} \quad \left[\sum_{j \in \mathbb{J}} \sum_{i \in \mathbb{I}} \sum_{\omega \in \mathbb{W}} R_i^j[\omega] - \eta_{\text{EE}}(\epsilon \sum_{j \in \mathbb{J}} \sum_{i \in \mathbb{I}} \sum_{\omega \in \mathbb{W}} p_i^{(j)}[\omega] + (N + FM) \times P_C) \right].$$
$$(17)$$

The Lagrangian function of the above equation becomes

$$L(p, \boldsymbol{\lambda}, \boldsymbol{\mu}, \boldsymbol{\nu}) = \sum_{m \mathbb{J} \in \mathbb{J}} \sum_{i \in \mathbb{I}} \sum_{\omega \in \mathbb{W}} R_i^j[\omega] - \eta_{\text{EE}} \left(\epsilon \sum_{j \in \mathbb{J}} \sum_{i \in \mathbb{I}} \sum_{\omega \in \mathbb{W}} p_i^j[\omega] \right.$$
$$+ (N + FM) \times P_C \bigg) + \sum_{i \in \mathbb{I}} \lambda_i \left(\sum_{j \in \mathbb{J}} \sum_{\omega \in \mathbb{W}} R_i^j[\omega] - R_{\min} \right) + \sum_{i \in \mathbb{I}} \mu_i$$
$$\left(P_i^{\max} - \sum_{j \in \mathbb{J}} \sum_{\omega \in \mathbb{W}} p_i^j[\omega] \right) + \sum_{\omega \in \mathbb{W}} \nu_\omega \left(I[\omega] - \sum_{j \in \mathbb{J}} \sum_{i \in \mathbb{I}} p_i^j[\omega] g_{ij}[\omega] \right),$$
$$(18)$$

where $\boldsymbol{\lambda} = \{\lambda_1, \lambda_2, ..., \lambda_I\}$, $\boldsymbol{\mu} = \{\mu_1, \mu_2, ..., \mu_I\}$ and $\boldsymbol{\nu} = \{\nu_{\omega_1}, \nu_{\omega_2}, ..., \nu_{\omega_I}\}$ are the Lagrange multiplier vectors associated with $R_{\min}$, optimal transmit power and cross-tier interference threshold constraints, respectively.

The Lagrangian dual function is

$$g(\boldsymbol{\lambda}, \boldsymbol{\mu}, \boldsymbol{\nu}) = \max_{p_i^j} \quad L(p_i^j, \boldsymbol{\lambda}, \boldsymbol{\mu}, \boldsymbol{\nu}). \quad (19)$$

$$g(\boldsymbol{\lambda}, \boldsymbol{\mu}, \boldsymbol{\nu}) = \sum_{\omega \in \mathbb{W}} g_\omega(\boldsymbol{\lambda}, \boldsymbol{\mu}, \boldsymbol{\nu}) - \epsilon\eta(N + FM)P_C +$$
$$\sum_{\omega \in \mathbb{B}} \nu_\omega I[\omega] + \sum_{i \in \mathbb{I}} \mu_i P_i^{\max} - \sum_{i \in \mathbb{I}} \lambda_i R_{\min}, \quad (20)$$

where $g_\omega(\boldsymbol{\lambda}, \boldsymbol{\mu}, \boldsymbol{\nu})$ is defined as

$$g_\omega(\boldsymbol{\lambda}, \boldsymbol{\mu}, \boldsymbol{\nu}) = \max_{p_i^j} \quad \left[\sum_{j \in \mathbb{J}} \sum_{i \in \mathbb{I}} R_i^j[\omega] - \eta\epsilon \sum_{j \in \mathbb{J}} \sum_{i \in \mathbb{I}} p_i^j[\omega] + \right.$$
$$\sum_{i \in \mathbb{I}} \sum_{j \in \mathbb{J}} \lambda_i R_i^j[\omega] - \sum_{i \in \mathbb{I}} \sum_{j \in \mathbb{J}} \mu_i p_i^j[\omega] - \sum_{i \in \mathbb{I}} \sum_{j \in J} \nu_w p_i^j[\omega] g_{ij}[\omega] \bigg].$$
$$(21)$$

$$g_\omega(\boldsymbol{\lambda}, \boldsymbol{\mu}, \boldsymbol{\nu}) = \max_{p_i^j} \left(\sum_{j \in \mathbb{J}} \sum_{i \in \mathbb{I}} B_w \log(1 + \beta_i^j p_i^j[\omega]) \left[1 + \lambda_i \right] \right.$$
$$\left. - \sum_{j \in \mathbb{J}} \sum_{i \in \mathbb{I}} (\mu_i + \epsilon\eta_{\text{EE}} + \nu_w g_{ij}[\omega]) p_i^j[\omega] \right). \tag{22}$$

where β_i^j represents channel-to-interference and noise ratio of the ith user connected to j^{th} BS.

We have decomposed the above dual problem into a hierarchical framework of two sub-problems. The master sub-problem uses sub-gradient method to update the Lagrangian multipliers whereas the slave sub-problem consisting of K sub-problems solved in parallel is responsible for computing power for given values of η_{EE} and Lagrange multipliers. The first derivative of (22) w.r.t $p_i^j[\omega]$ is

$$\frac{\partial g_\omega(\boldsymbol{\lambda}, \boldsymbol{\mu}, \boldsymbol{\nu})}{\partial p_i^j[\omega]} = \frac{B_w \left[1 + \lambda_i \right] \beta_i^j p_i^j[\omega]}{\ln 2(1 + \beta_i^j p_i^j[\omega])}. \tag{23}$$

Now, by applying KKT conditions, we get

$$\left. \frac{\partial g_\omega(\boldsymbol{\lambda}, \boldsymbol{\mu}, \boldsymbol{\nu})}{\partial p_i^j[\omega]} \right|_{p_i^j[\omega] = p_i^j[\omega]^*} = 0 \tag{24}$$

Hence,

$$p_i^j[\omega] = \begin{cases} \left(\frac{B_w \left[1 + \lambda_i \right]}{\ln 2 \left(\mu_i + \epsilon\eta_{\text{EE}} + \nu_w g_{ij}[\omega] \right)} - \frac{1}{\beta_i^j} \right)^+ & \omega > 0, \\ 0 & \text{otherwise.} \end{cases}$$

The optimal solution of (17) can be expressed as

$$p_i^{j*} = \min(p_i^j[\omega], P_i^{\max}) \tag{25}$$

Now, we can update the Lagrange multipliers as

$$\lambda_i(k+1) = \left(\lambda_i(k) - \frac{\alpha^1}{\sqrt{k}} \left(\sum_{j \in \mathbb{J}} \sum_{\omega \in \mathbb{W}} R_i^j[\omega] - R_{\min} \right) \right)^+, \tag{26}$$

$$\mu_i(k+1) = \left(\mu_i(k) - \frac{\alpha^2}{\sqrt{k}} \left(P_i^{\max} - \sum_{j \in \mathbb{J}} \sum_{\omega \in \mathbb{W}} p_i^j[\omega] \right) \right)^+, \tag{27}$$

$$\nu_\omega(k+1) = \left(\nu_\omega(k) - \frac{\alpha^3}{\sqrt{k}} \left(I[\omega] - \sum_{i \in \mathbb{I}} \sum_{j \in \mathbb{J}} p_i^j[\omega] g_{ij}[\omega] \right) \right)^+. \tag{28}$$

where α is the step length and i is the iteration number. These equations continues to update until convergence is achieved.

IV. SIMULATION RESULTS

We consider a two-tier HetNet with a single macrocell of radius 500 m where femtocells with the radius of 50 m each are uniformly overlaid on it. The users are also uniformly scattered over the area. The bandwidth, B_1, for mmWave band is 2 GHz and for UHF band the bandwidth, B_2, is 20 MHz [5]. The maximum transmit power $P_{\max}$ is set to be 0.4 W and the minimum acceptable data rate for the MUEs, $R_{\min}$, is 0.25 Mbps. These thresholds are same for all users. The value of P_C is fixed to be 0.1 W, ϵ is 38% and the interference threshold is 1.1943×10^{-14} W unless stated otherwise. The parameters for path loss models are listed in Table. I.

Table I
SIMULATION PARAMETERS.

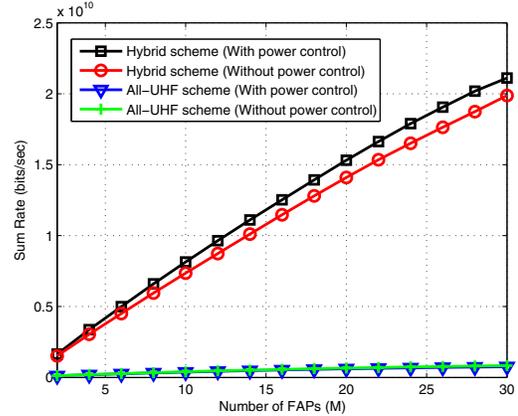| Parameter	Value	Parameter	Value
f_c(mmW)	73 GHz	f_c(UHF)	2.4 GHz
α_L	2.2	α_N	3.3
σ_{Ω_L}	5.2 dB	σ_{Ω_N}	7.38 dB
σ_Ψ	4 dB	K-factor (Rician)	4 dB

Figure 2. Sum-rate of a hybrid HetNet and all-UHF HetNet with and without power control with varying number of FAPs for N=100 and F=5.

We have analysed the sum-rate and EE of the proposed hybrid HetNet and all-UHF HetNet with and without power control mechanism. This proposed scheme allows FAPs to decide their access policy in the best interest of their users and MUEs to finalize their connectivity to maximise the EE while fulfilling all the constraints. It outperforms the all-UHF scheme as shown in Fig. 2 and Fig. 3 because the UHF network shows better coverage probabilities at lower SINR thresholds as they provide higher SINR at the BS for the cell edge users. The mmWave network, on the other hand, provides better coverage when users are located near the BS as it undergoes lower interference from the neighbouring users. Thus, a fusion of both networks leads to better performance. The increasing trend in all schemes in the sum-rate and EE with increasing number of FAPs is due to the fact that as FAPs increases, they connect more MUEs and thus reduce the interference in the network. The performance of this hybrid scheme further improves when power control is applied. By limiting transmit power to an optimal value, the cross-tier interference reduces, which increases the SINR; thus improving sum-rate and EE.

Fig. 4 reveals that the EE of a hybrid HetNet increases as the value of interference threshold decreases. The trend shows that as the threshold level decreases, the corresponding transmit power of the users decreases, which reduces the interference. This reduction in the interference leads to the increment in the SINR; thus improving sum-rate and EE.

Fig. 5 shows that the trend of EE associated with the density of mmWave FAPs. We can observe that the EE is very low when the density of mmWave FAPs is zero i.e. all UHF scheme. As the density of FAPs operating on mmWave increases, the users located near the FAPs will get better
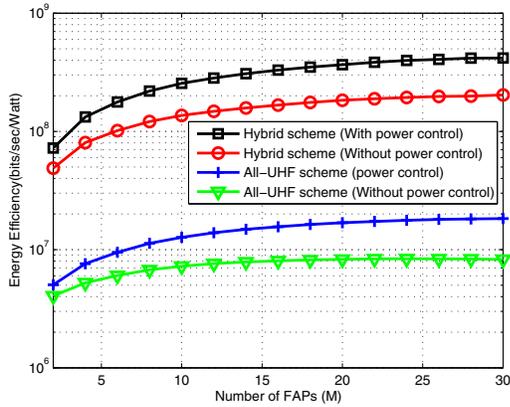
Figure 3. Energy Efficiency of a hybrid HetNet and all-UHF HetNet with and without power control with varying number of FAPs for N=100 and F=5.
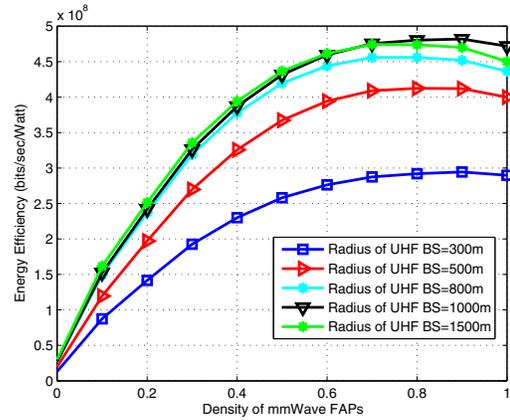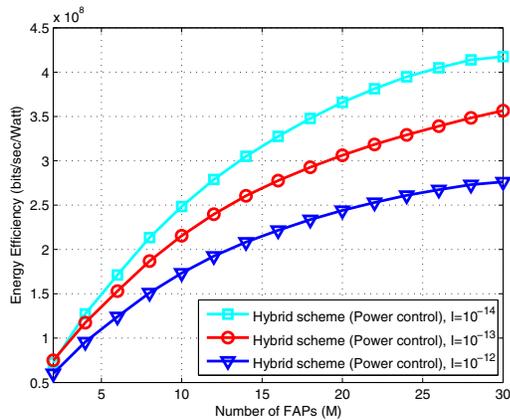

Figure 4. Energy Efficiency of a hybrid HetNet with power control for various interference threshold with varying number of FAPs for N=100 and F=5.

Figure 5. Energy Efficiency of a hybrid HetNet with power control with varying density of mmWave FAPs for M=15, F=5 and N=100.

coverage and thus data rates and EE increases. This trend becomes steady after a while as the FAPs serving the MUEs start dominating. This is due of the fact that the mmWave FAPs restrict their ability to form links over long distances due to greater path loss associated with mmWave and it is in the best interest of the network that these FAPs should operate on UHF band. Thus, a hybrid approach offers better data rates and EE than all-UHF and all-mmWave femto-tier network. From the figure, we can also observe that as the radius of the network increases, the distance between the MUEs and the FAPs increases, which will reduce the interference. Thus relatively less MUEs connect with the FAPs and the near located users play the major role making more FAPs to operate on mmWave due to better coverage. This trend follows up to a certain radius of the network, then it starts decreasing if we further increase the radius as the SINR start decreasing.

V. CONCLUSION

In this paper, a hierarchical game-theoretic framework is formulated to optimise EE in a two-tier hybrid HetNet while incorporating maximum transmit power and interference constraint. This scheme allows FAPs to decide their access policy along with the selection of frequency band in between sub-6 GHz and mmWave. The user association method is then carried out to maximise the EE. The proposed game framework is solved using PSNE for outer layer and dual decomposition approach for inner layer. Simulation results show that in contrast to the all-UHF network, hybrid networks promise performance enhancement in terms of EE. The performance of the proposed design can be further improved using power control mechanism that aims at limiting the interference and increasing the SINR.

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