



Two-Level Game Theory Approach for Joint Relay Selection and Resource Allocation in Network Coding Assisted D2D Communications

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Abstract:

Device-to-device (D2D) communication, which enables direct transmissions between mobile devices to improve spectrum efficiency, is one of the preferable candidate technologies for the next generation cellular network. Network coding, on the other hand, is widely used to improve throughput in ad hoc networks. Thus, the performance of D2D communications in cellular networks can potentially benefit from network coding. Aiming to improve the achievable capacity of D2D communications, we propose a system with inter-session network coding enabled to assist D2D transmissions. We formulate the joint problem of relay selection and resource allocation in network coding assisted D2D communications, and obtain the overall capacity of the network under complex interference conditions as a function of the relay selection and resource allocation. To solve the formulated problem, we propose a two-level de-centralized approach termed NC-D2D, which solves the relay selection and resource allocation problems alternatively to obtain stable solutions for these two problems. Specifically, and a greedy algorithm based game allocates limited cellular resources to D2D pairs and relays in NC-D2D, respectively. The performances of the proposed scheme is evaluated through extensive simulations to prove its superiority.

Index terms –Device-to-Device communication, network coding, relay selection, resource allocation, game theory

1. INTRODUCTION

Demand for mobile Internet access is growing at a tremendous rate. To satisfy this explosive traffic demand, device-to-device (D2D) communications have been proposed for Long Term Evaluation-advanced [1]. In D2D communications, user equipment (UE) in close proximity set up direct links for data transmissions with licensed cellular spectrum resources, instead of through base stations (BSs). The benefits of such proximity communication is manifold [2], extremely high bit rate as well as low end-to-end delay and power consumption due to short-range transmissions. Since the cellular resources can be simultaneously shared and utilized by D2D UEs the spectrum efficiency and reuse gain are improved. In addition, D2D communications enable mobile traffic offloading by user co-operations for content downloading and sharing, also benefits cellular (non-D2D) users. Therefore, D2D communication is expected to be a key feature supported by the next-generation cellular network [3].

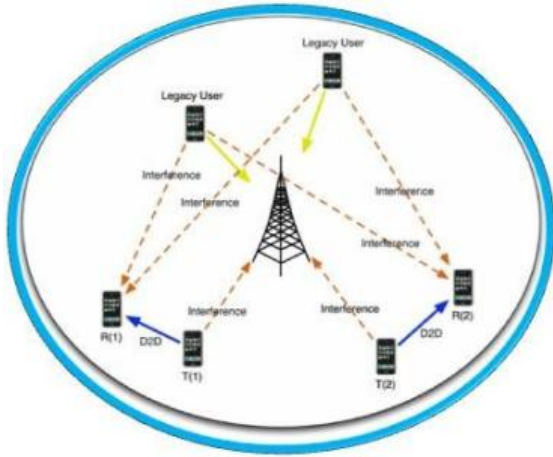
2. SYSTEM OVERVIEW AND MODEL

System Overview

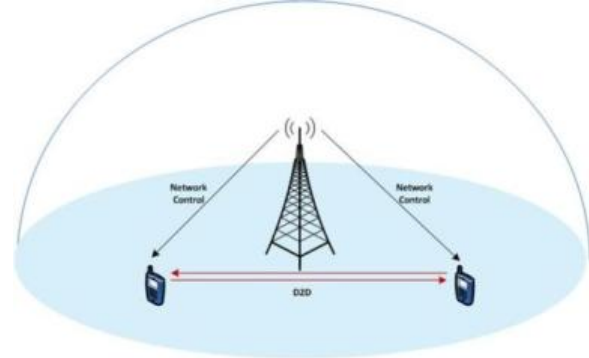
We focus on the scenario of a single cell involving multiple D2D pairs, relays and cellular users. In D2D communications, a pair of UEs in close proximity are able to enjoy extremely high data rate by setting up a direct link between them. However, it is well known that the channel quality between two users degrades rapidly as the distance between the transmitter and receiver increase. There are two kind of D2D pairs in the system, i.e., (i) ordinary D2D: two D2D users transmit via the direct link between them, and (ii) relay



Assisted D2D pair: two D2D users are assisted by a relay aided transmission.



For an ordinary D2D pair, the data is transmitted via the direct link between the two devices.



3. PROBLEM FORMULATION

We first derive the achievable capacity of network coding assisted D2D communication and compare it with that of ordinary D2D communications without the assist of network coding and cooperative relays, based on which we then obtain the sum capacity of the network as a function of X_D, X_R and Y .

Network Coding Assisted D2D Capacity

$$\alpha(j) = \min\{i | y_{i,r} = 1\},$$

$$\beta(j) = \min\{i | y_{i,r} = 1\}.$$

For the coding region of relay r_j , first consider $(d_{\alpha(j)}^t, d_{\beta(j)}^r)$ and

$(d_{\beta(j)}^r, d_{\alpha(j)}^t)$. For $(d_{\alpha(j)}^t, d_{\beta(j)}^r)$, the interference from other D2D transmitters, denoted by $I_{(d_{\alpha(j)}^t, d_{\beta(j)}^r)}^D$, is

Network Coding Gain

To compare the achievable capacities of D2D communications with and without relay assisted network coding, we define the network coding gain G_{NC} as the increased sum capacity by applying relay aided network coding dividing by the sum capacity achieved without applying network coding.

Overall System Capacity

To obtain the network sum capacity as a function of X_D, X_R and Y , we also need the sum capacities of ordinary D2D pairs and cellular users. For an ordinary D2D pair d_i transmitting via and the sum capacity of all cellular users.

system model

We define the binary variables $x_{d,u}$, $x_{r,u}$ and $y_{d,r}$ to depict the relay selection and resource allocation policies for D2D pairs and relays. Specifically, $x_{d,u}=1$ indicates that D2D pair d uses the uplink resource of cellular user u , otherwise $x_{d,u}=0$, while $x_{r,u}=1$ if relay r shares the spectrum resource of u , otherwise $x_{r,u}=0$. Similarly, $y_{d,r}=1$ indicates that relay r assists the D2D pair d 's transmission, otherwise $y_{d,r}=0$.

We denote the matrices of $x_{d,u}$, $x_{r,u}$ and $y_{d,r}$ as X_D, X_R and Y , respectively.

$$X_D = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix},$$

$$X_R = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix},$$

$$Y = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1 & 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

2.3 Network coding Assists D2D Transmission

We adopt an inter-session network coding to assist the transmissions of D2D pairs. A typical coding region is presented in which consists of two relay assisted D2D pairs and one relay. This scheme is described in [10], [16]. We will first describe the operation of this scheme in our system. Then we will derive the achievable rate of this coding region, and analyze the capacity gain of network coding.



The sum capacity S_{sum} of the network, involving all relay assisted D2D users, ordinary D2D users and cellular users.

Relay Selection & Resource Allocation Problem

The joint optimization problem of relay selection and resource allocation can be formulated as the one that maximizes the sum capacity $c_{\text{sum}}(X_D, X_R, Y)$ with the decision variables Y and X_D, X_R , subject to certain system constraints.

A D2D pair can only be assisted by one relay or transmit through direct link as an ordinary D2D pair, while a relay either assists two D2D pairs to form a coding region or does not take part in any D2D pair's transmissions.

4. NC-D2D OVERVIEW

Since relay selection and resource allocation are closely coupled, the optimal solutions for the two problems must be solved jointly, as in the joint optimizations. This is because changing the solution of relay selection or resource allocation also changes the solution of the other problem. For example, if two ordinary D2D pairs switch to relay assisted mode and form a coding region with a relay, that is, the solution of relays remain at the same locations, the interference from other users and relays actually changes. Therefore, once the solution for relay selection Y changes, the solution for resource allocation, X_D and X_R , need to be altered accordingly. Resource allocation impacts relay selection in a similar way.

In order to solve the relay selection and resource allocation problems jointly while maintaining low computation complexity, our NC-D2D utilizes a decentralized two-level optimization approach, where relay selection and resource allocation take place alternately. It should be noted that relay selection game is performed based on the link capacities, which requires the spectrum resources allocated to nodes. Similarly, the interference in resources allocated to nodes. Similarly, the interference in resource allocation game is determined by the results of relay selections. In other words, these two games each requires the results of the other game as an input.

5. Relay Selection Coalition Formation Game

In a coalition game, the players form coalitions to improve the system utility. Since there are two kinds of D2D pairs, we consider two kinds of coalitions in the coalition's formation game. The first kind of coalition is formed by relay and corresponding relay assisted D2D pairs. Let F_{r_j} represent the coalition of the coding region where r_j is in, which also consists of D2D pair's $d_{\alpha(j)}$ and $d_{\beta(j)}$. The number of first-kind coalitions equals to the number of relays in the network, which is fixed. The second kind of coalition is denoted by F_D , which consists of all the ordinary D2D pairs in the network.

In this coalition formation game, the players, namely, D2D pairs, swap coalitions in order to optimize the overall system performance. The decision of whether to swap coalition or not should be made according to a pre-defined preference order that applies to all the players. For the sake of achieving high sum capacity, the metric that defines the preference order in our coalition formation game should be related to the system sum capacity, while each node should be able to obtain it by relying only on local network information.

Swapping among Ordinary D2D Pairs and Assisted D2D pairs

Given an initialized coalition partition, for D2D pair d_i in F_{r_j} and d_k in F_D , if the system sum capacity can be increased after d_i and d_k swap their coalitions, then d_i should leave the coding region of r_j to switch to ordinary D2D mode while d_k should switch to relay assisted mode and form coding region with r_j . The system sum capacity defines the preference orders of

One relay aids two D2D pairs' transmissions by performing inter-session network coding. Specifically, we have first formulated the players in terms of swapping coalition. It should be noted that we do not need to compute the system sum capacity when trying to determine the performance order. For fixed resource allocation matrices X_D and X_R , such a coalition swapping does not change the transmission capacities of other links and coding regions except the capacities of F_{r_j} and d_o , due to the fact that the interferences to the rest of the links remain the same.



In this section, we evaluate the performance of our NC-D2D to demonstrate that it is capable of achieving high system sum capacity and outperforming other existing state-of-the-art schemes. We start by introducing our simulation setup. Then the performance of four relay selection coalition formation game and resource allocation game as well as the overall performance of NC-D2D are investigated, respectively.

Simulation Setup

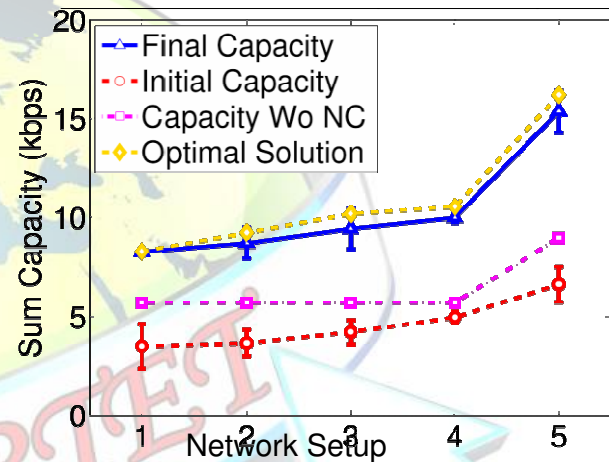
In our simulations, the relays, D2D pairs and cellular users are deployed in a cell, covering a circular area with a radius of 500m, and the BS is located in the cell center. As mentioned in Section 3, we assume Rayleigh fading, and adopt Friis transmission equation to calculate the path loss of the transmitted signal [23]. We set the uplink bandwidth of each cellular user to be 15 kHz. We assume Gaussian noise with the power of 132dBm for all channels. The transmission power is assumed to be 0dBm for all relays and D2D users, and 23dBm for all cellular users. The antenna gains of all relays, D2D users and cellular users are set to be identical to 0 dB, while the BS's antenna gain is set to be 14dBi [6]. The parameters of the simulated system are also listed.

D2D pairs and cellular users are uniformly randomly distributed in the cell. We simply assume that when two users are within the proximity of (10, 100) m, they are able to form a D2D pair. The relays are uniformly randomly deployed on a circle with radius 250 m, centered at the BS.

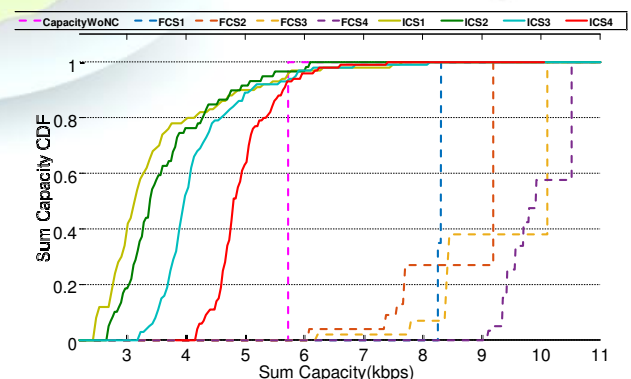
We evaluate our scheme in five different network setups. The numbers of D2D pairs and cellular users in network setups 1 to 4 are identical, which are 12 and 5, respectively. The numbers of relays in network setups 1 to 4 are set to 3, 4, 5 and 6, respectively. The locations of D2D pairs and cellular users in setups 1 to 4 are identical. That is, we only change the numbers of relays and

Simulation Parameters.

Parameter	Symbol	Value
Uplink Bandwidth	W	15kHz
Gaussian noise power	N	-132 dBm
D2D, relay transmission power	P_{TD}, P_{TR}	0 dBm
Cellular transmission power	P_{TU}	23 dBm
Cellular transmission power	G_{DT}, G_{RT}, G_{UT}	0 dBi
User transmitter antenna gain	G_{DR}, G_{RR}, G_{UR}	0 dBi
User receiver antenna gain	G_{BSR}	14
BS receiver antenna gain		



Comparison of sum capacities in relay selection coalition game under network setups 1 to 5.

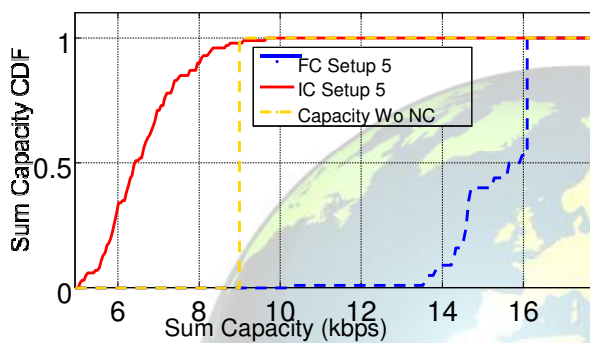


Comparison of sum-capacity CDFs in relay selection coalition game under network setups 1 to 4.



Relays' locations in network setups 1 to 4. The network topology of setup 5 is different from setups 1 to 4, with 6 relays, 18 D2D pairs, and 8 cellular users.

Since neither the relay selection problem nor the resource allocation problem is convex, NC-D2D only guarantees stable local optimal solutions, which is partially determined by the initial value. Hence we simulate 100 times for each topology and scenario, and evaluate the mean value and the cumulative distribution function (CDF).



Comparison of sum-capacity CDFs in relay selection coalition game under network setup 5.

6.1 Resource Allocation Game performance Evaluation

We next evaluate the performance of the resource allocation game in these five setups. The mean values of the system sum capacities under different network setups are plotted. Since we focus on the performance of resource allocation in this part, we omit the capacity achieved without network coding. It can be seen that our resource allocation game outperforms considerably the random allocation, where each D2D pair and relay uniformly and randomly select one cellular user to share its uplink resource.

7. CONCLUSIONS

In this paper, we have introduced network coding to enhance the performance of D2D communications underlying cellular networks, where joint problem of relay selection and resource allocation under realistic system constraints for the network coding assisted D2D communications underlying cellular network.

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