

Performance Evaluation Based on Energy Detection and Operational Interval of Spectrum Sensing In Cognitive Radio

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Abstract

Cognitive radio is an intelligent communication system which focus on dynamic spectrum usage rather than fixed spectrum assignment. Cooperative spectrum sensing is a technique for detecting the primary user accurately based on information collected from various secondary users. Energy detection technique for spectrum sensing method is employed to determine the occupancy of the frequency spectrum observed over a time interval. It deals with the simulation of the spectrum sensing algorithm for Cognitive Radio under low SNR scenario. With small tradeoffs between the detection probability and the false alarm probability, improvement can be done over spectrum sensing ability greatly. This is depicted through MATLAB. And through NETSIM, scenario is elaborated in terms of data traffic with respect to operational interval.

Keywords: Cognitive radio, Cooperative spectrum sensing, Energy detection, false alarm probability, detection probability.

I. Introduction

The demand of spectrum is increasing very rapidly with the growth of wireless services. The scarcity of spectrum has become more serious. Cognitive radio provides a new way of utilizing spectrum efficiently. The basic spectrum sensing technologies include energy detection, cyclostationary detection and match filter detection.

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The optimal detector is a match filter detector with the priori information since it can maximize the received SNR. Cyclostationary detection uses the cyclic autocorrelation function to analyze the received signal for realizing the detection. Both of the two methods need some prior information of PU, therefore in some scenarios that SUs are lack of the information, match filter detection and cyclostationary detection may not be feasible any more in those scenarios. In the cases of unknown signal detection, a common method is energy detection. Energy detection exhibits simplicity and serves as a practical spectrumsensing scheme [1]. It detects received signals and compares it with threshold value, to deduce the availability of primary users. One disadvantage lies with it, is that threshold easily influenced by unknown or changing noise levels. A key technique to improve the spectrum sensing for Cognitive Radio Network (CRN), cooperative sensing is proposed to combat some sensing problems such as fading, shadowing, and receiver uncertainty.

II. Energy Detection

It is the simplest technique for sensing the spectrum. It can be used conveniently with analog and digital signals. Energy detector measures the energy received from primary user during the observational period. If energy calculated is less than threshold value, it is declared as spectrum hole .When CR users start the spectrum sensing to detect the primary users status, the received signal $r(t)$, can be expressed in terms of binary hypothesis as shown in Eq. 1:

$$\begin{cases} r(t) = & n(t) & H_0 \\ & s(t)+n(t) & H_1 \end{cases} \quad (1)$$

Where $s(t)$ is the signal waveform and the $n(t)$ is a zero-mean AWGN. H_0 signifies absence of primary user, and H_1 the presence of primary user. For single cognitive user, the probability of detection, probability of false alarm is shown in Eq. 2 and Eq. 3:

$$P_d = Q_u(\sqrt{2\gamma}, \sqrt{\lambda}) \quad (2)$$

$$P_f = \Gamma(u, \lambda/2) / \Gamma u \quad (3)$$

Cooperative spectrum sensing is a technique of deciding the presence or absence of primary users by combining the decisions of more than one cognitive user. It mitigates the problems of hidden node and exposed node problem [3]. Eq. 4, 5 and 6, depicts the cooperative probability of detection, probability of miss-detection, and probability of false alarm [1].

$$Q_d = 1 - \prod_{i=1}^N (1 - P_{d,i}) \quad (4)$$

$$Q_m = \prod_{i=1}^N (P_{m,i}) \quad (5)$$

$$Q_f = 1 - \prod_{i=1}^N (1 - P_{f,i}) \quad (6)$$

N is the total number of cognitive users and "i" denotes a specific user among them.

III. Receiver Operating Characteristic Curves

It gives the graphical summary of a cognitive detector performance. It assumes the detector operates in an additive white Gaussian noise environment. Effect of varying false alarm probability on the probability of detection can be depicted for a fixed value of SNR. Even the effect of varying SNR on probability of detection can be deduced for fixed value of probability of false alarm.

A detector's performance is measured by its ability to achieve a certain probability of detection and probability of false alarm for a given SNR. Cooperative detection can improve the probability of detection while maintaining a desired probability of false alarm level [1].

IV. Simulation Results

A. With MATLAB R2012a:

In this section, the simulation results of energy detector based spectrum sensing are discussed for different channel parameters.

The performance in terms of Probability of detection is depicted.

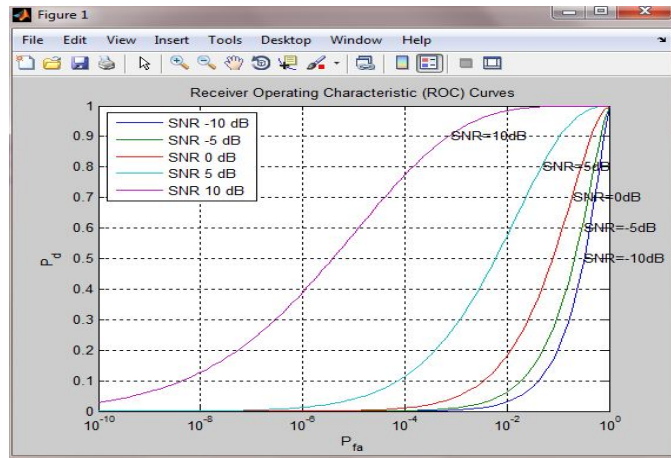


Fig. 1 P_{fa} vs P_d for different SNR

As we go on increasing the value of SNR, the probability of false alarm decreases and vice-versa, and the performance comparatively upgrades as shown in Fig 4.1 and Fig 4.2.

For small values of thresholds, there is greater chance of detection of spectrum even on low SNR. Another point here is that all these curves are bell shaped[4].

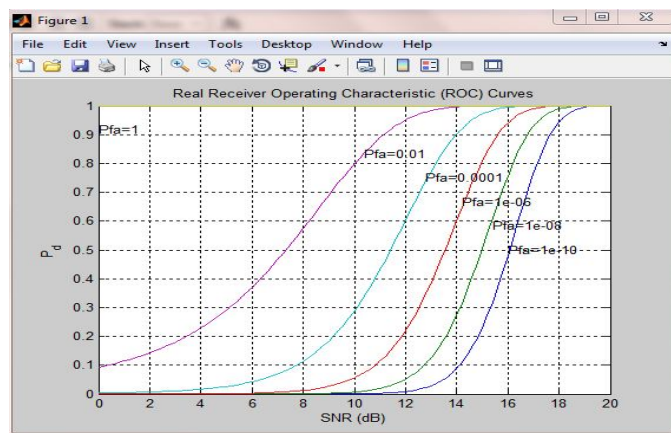


Fig. 2 SNR vs P_d for different P_{fa}

The multipath channel is considered here for detection of primary user, for which spectrum is AWGN. Noise variance plays an important role in deciding the performance of energy detector, especially in low SNR. As we move to high SNR, we can use the estimated variance of noise, as received signal is well distinguished there. The perfect knowledge of noise variance is advantageous in case of low SNR conditions.

Now, Performance of cooperative spectrum sensing results are shown in Figure 4.3 and 4.4 [1].

Shadowing and fading are ignored. Some common simulation parameters are given below:

Number of cognitive users, $N=3$

Time bandwidth product, $u=5$

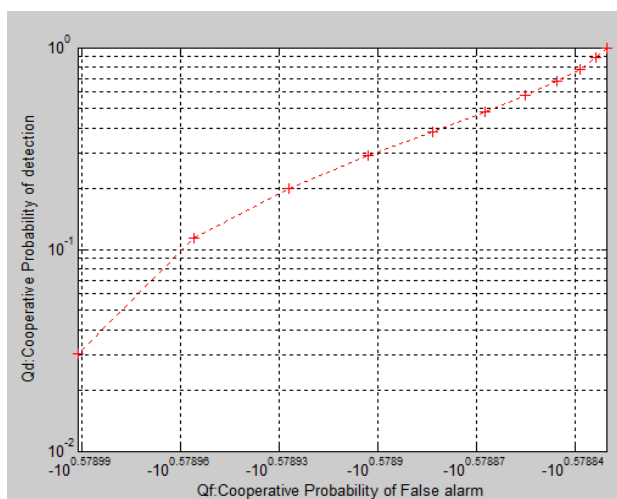
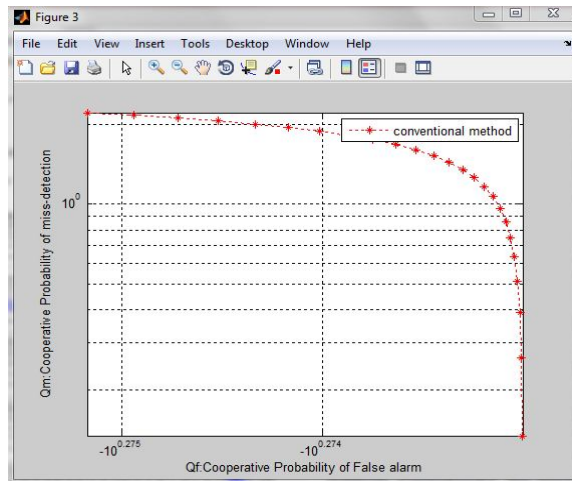


Fig. 3 Q_d vs. Q_f

A high Q_m (low Q_d) would result in missing the presence of the primary user with high probability which interferes the primary user.

Whereas high Q_f means that the secondary user observes the primary user while it does not exist in fact, this turns out to be low spectrum utilization.

Fig.4 Q_m vs. Q_f

B. With NETSIM version 7

Scenario for spectrum sensing with two cognitive users is shown in Fig 4.6. The cognitive users are connected to their respective base stations, which are further connected to a router. Here the operational interval is varied, and its impact over the traffic is displayed.

Assumptions:

- For Base Stations: Operational frequency: 54 to 60 MHz
- Operational Time: 10sec (constant), Operational interval: 2, 4, 6, 8, 10 sec.
- For Cognitive Radio Users:
- Traffic Type: Voice
- Packet size: 50 bytes
- Service type: CBR

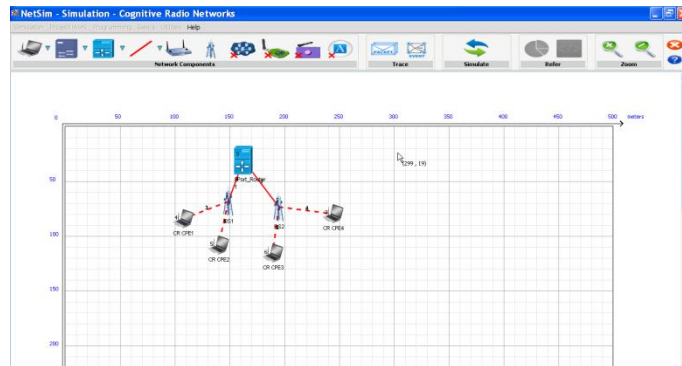


Fig. 5 Scenario with two cognitive users

Fig 6,7,8,9 is the resultant graphs taken directly from NETSIM environment for comparison of the metrics with various operational interval values (2, 4, 6,8,10 sec respectively).

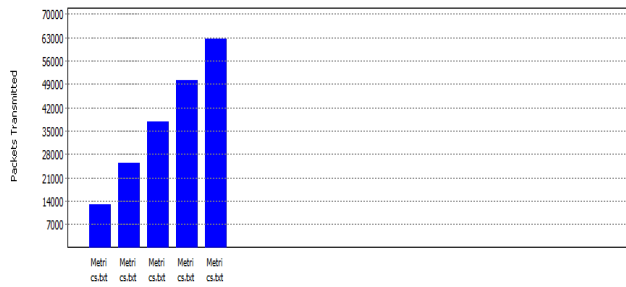


Fig. 6 Comparison of packets transmitted

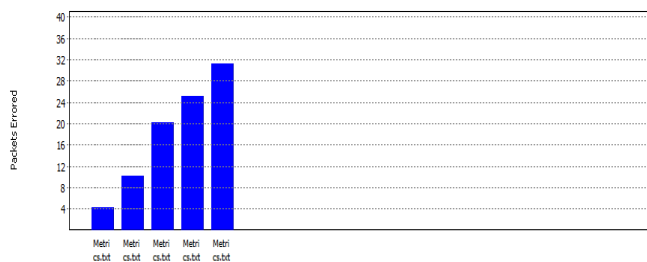


Fig. 7 Comparison of packets Error

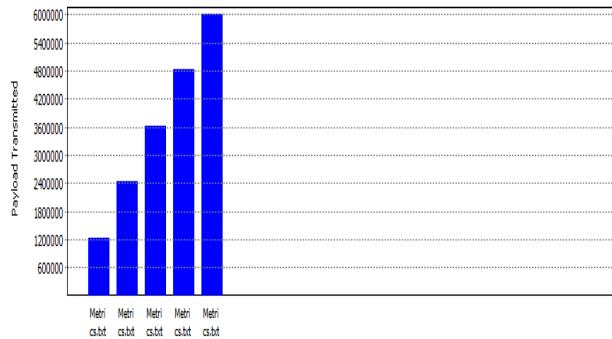


Fig. 8 Comparison of payload transmitted

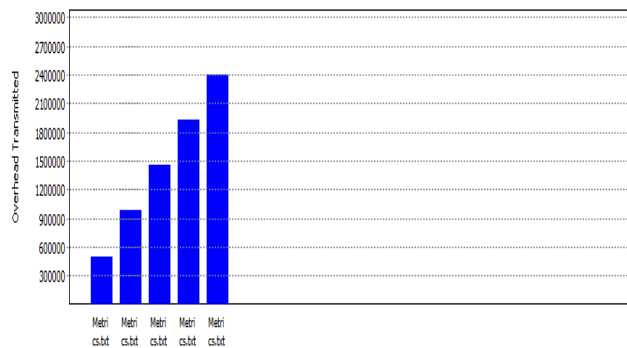


Fig. 9 Comparison of overhead Transmitted

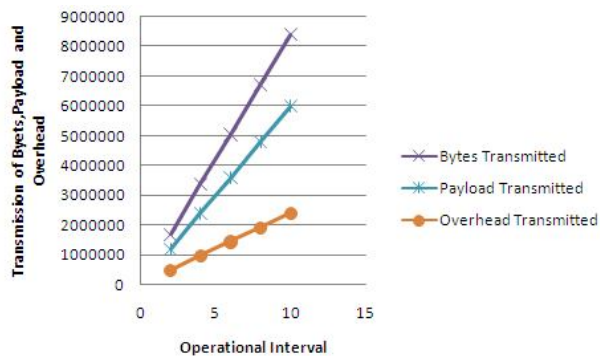


Fig. 10 Operational Intervals. Transmission of Bytes, payload and overhead

As the operational time is constant and operational interval is increased, the more is the opportunity for CR users to access the channels. Hence the data traffic increases through the channels.

Overhead is the extra bit or information which is added to guide the data packets. And payload is the actual data received by the destination node in a communication network. Hence these two parameters also increase as packets transmitted increases as shown in Fig 10.

Now in terms of throughput, it also increases with increase in operational interval, as shown in Table I and in Figure 11.

Table I: Operational Interval Versus Throughput

Operational Interval(sec)	Throughput (Mbps)
2	0.004
4	0.008
6	0.012
8	0.016
10	0.019

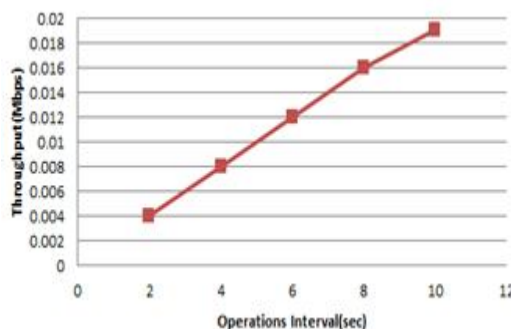


Fig. 11 Operational Intervals.Throughput

Following Table II describes all the results obtained in the scenario proposed and following which all the above graphs related to NETSIM was obtained.

Table II: Results Obtained

Operational Interval	Packets Transmitted	Packets Error	Bytes Transmitted	Payload Transmitted	Overhead Transmitted
2	12573	4	1690940	1207902	483038
4	24980	10	3366756	2406072	960684
6	37399	20	5041672	3603022	1438650
8	49807	25	6717628	4801436	1916192
10	62232	31	8393528	5999606	2393922

V. Conclusion

In this paper, through MATLAB, ROC graphs tell that SNR and probability of false alarm plays crucial role in deciding the performance of spectrum sensing. It can be enhanced by increasing the value of SNR or by decreasing the value of probability of false alarm. Cooperative probability of detection increases or cooperative probability of miss-detection decreases with decrease in cooperative probability of false alarm and gives more accurate results.

With NETSIM, it's been shown that throughput of spectrum increases almost proportionally with increase in operational interval. Along with that overhead transmission and payload transmission also increases.

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