Performance Analysis of Packet Scheduling Algorithms for Long Term Evolution (LTE)

A Thesis
submitted to
University of Technology, Sydney
by

Minjie Xue

In accordance with the requirements for the Degree of

Master of Engineering (Research)

Faculty of Engineering and Information Technology
University of Technology, Sydney
New South Wales, Australia
August 2010

CERTIFICATE OF AUTHORSHIP/ORIGINALITY

I certify that the work in this thesis has not previously been submitted for a degree nor has it been submitted as part of requirements for a degree except as fully acknowledged with the text.

I also certify that the thesis has been written by me. Any help that I have received in my research work and the preparation of the thesis itself has been acknowledged. In addition, I certify that all information sources and literature used are indicated in the thesis.

Signature of Candidate

Production Note:
Signature removed prior to publication.

ACKNOWLEDGMENT

First and foremost, I would like to express my deepest gratitude to my supervisor, A/Prof Kumbesan Sandrasegaran, who has given me great supports and valuable guidance throughout my research work in UTS. He gave me the opportunity to get involved into the research area of telecommunication and offered me valuable suggestions and criticisms with his profound knowledge and research experience.

I would like to extend my appreciation to Huda Adibah Mohd Ramli who has helped me to gain the fundamental knowledge within my research scope and given me many suggestions on my research.

I also would like to thank Riyaj Basukala and Rachod Patachaianand, who have given me a lot of comments to improve my research work.

I would like to thank my fellow officemates: Cheng-Chung Lin, Leijia Wu and Lu Chen, who have given me a lot of encouragement and made the office a very pleasant and comfortable place.

Finally, I would like to give grateful thank to my parents, Jianyou Xue and Lili Wu, who has given me the excellent support and encouragement to achieve the best education.

TABLE OF CONTENTS

List of Fig	gures	.vi
List of Tal	blesv	/iii
Abstract		.ix
Chapter 1	Introduction	1
1.1	Brief History	1
1.2	LTE	3
	Wireless Spectrum	
1.4	Packet Scheduling in Downlink LTE System	8
1.5	Problem Statements and Research Objectives	9
1.6	Thesis Outline	10
1.7	Original Contribution	10
	Publication	
Chapter 2	Background	12
	LTE Architecture	
	Resource Block	
	OFDMA	
2.4	Radio Resource Management	
2.4.1	Admission Control	
2.4.2		
2.4.3		
2.4.4	8	
2.4.5		
2.4.6		
	Radio Propagation Model	
2.5.1		
2.5.2		
2.5.3	1	
2.5.4	11 0	
	Summary	
	Packet Scheduling Algorithms	
	Performance Metrics of Packet Scheduling Algorithms	
	Review of Packet Scheduling Algorithms	
3.2.1	()	
	First-In-First-Out (FIFO)	
3.2.3	Maximum Rate (Max-Rate)	
3.2.4	Proportional Fair (PF)	
3.2.5	Maximum-Largest Weighted Delay First (M-LWDF)	
3.2.6	Exponential/Proportional Fair (EXP/PF)	
3.2.7	Jeongsik Park's Algorithm	
3.2.8	Sun Qiaoyun's Algorithm	
	Performance Comparison of Packet Scheduling Algorithms	
3.3.1	Performance Comparison of Well-Known Packet Scheduling algorithms.	41

TABLE OF CONTENTS

3.3.2 Performance Comparison of Recently Proposed Packet Scheduling	
Algorithms	52
3.4 Summary	
Chapter 4 Theoretical Delay Analysis for OFDMA System	
4.1 Voice-over-IP (VoIP)	
4.2 Hybrid-Automatic Repeat Request (HARQ)	
4.3 Analytical Model of Delay for OFDMA System with VoIP Traffic	
4.3.1 Analytical Model for Talk Spurt Latency	
4.3.2 Analytical Model for Voice Packet Latency	
4.4 Simulation Result	
4.5 Summary	68
Chapter 5 Theoretical Throughput Analysis of Packet Scheduling Algorithms	70
5.1 Theoretical Throughput Analysis of PF Algorithm	70
5.1.1 Throughput Analysis of PF Algorithm	70
5.1.2 Simulation Result for PF Algorithm	
5.2 Theoretical Throughput Analysis of M-LWDF Algorithm	79
5.2.1 Throughput Analysis of M-LWDF Algorithm	79
5.2.2 Simulation Result for M-LWDF Algorithm	85
5.3 Summary	
Chapter 6 Conclusions and Future Research Work	
6.1 Conclusion	88
6.2 Future Research Work	89
Abbreviations	
Symbols	93
References	

LIST OF FIGURES

Figure 1-1 History of the 3GPP Releases [3]	2
Figure 1-2 Evolution of 3GPP Technologies [4]	2
Figure 1-3: Development of 3GPP Radio Access Technologies[5]	3
Figure 1-4: Difference between OFDMA and SC-FDMA for the Transmission of a	
Sequence of QPSK Data Symbols [6]	4
Figure 1-5 FDD/TDD in Paired and Unpaired Spectrum Allocation [7]	5
Figure 1-6 Operating Bands of E-UTRAN [6]	
Figure 1-7 Spectrum Allocation of IMT-2000 [8]	
Figure 1-8 Migration of Spectrum Allocation from GSM Deployment to LTE [10]	7
Figure 1-9 Bandwidth Flexibility in LTE System [5]	
Figure 1-10 Generalized PS Model for Downlink LTE System[9]	
Figure 2-1: Network Architectures of UTRAN and E-UTRAN [4]	
Figure 2-2: The Downlink LTE Resource Block [13]	
Figure 2-3: Radio Resource Block for the Downlink LTE [5]	
Figure 2-4: RB Assignment for the Downlink LTE [10]	
Figure 2-5: Maintaining the Subcarriers' Orthogonality [3]	
Figure 2-6: OFDM Symbol in both Frequency Domain and Time Domain [6]	
Figure 2-7: A Comparison of OFDM and OFDMA [6]	
Figure 2-8 Objectives of Quality of Service [15]	
Figure 2-9 Model of Link Adaptation [15]	
Figure 2-10 (a) Power Control and (b) Rate Control [10]	
Figure 2-11 Radio Propagation Model [16]	
Figure 2-12:Model of Multi-path Fading [25]	
Figure 3-1: System Throughput vs. Number of RT Users	42
Figure 3-2: Average System HOL Delay vs. Number of RT Users	43
Figure 3-3: PLR vs. Number of RT Users	44
Figure 3-4: RB Utilization vs. Number of RT Users	
Figure 3-5: System Throughput vs. Number of NRT Users	
Figure 3-6: Fairness vs. Number of NRT Users	
Figure 3-7: RB Utilization vs. Number of NRT Users	
Figure 3-8: System Throughput vs. Number of Users	
Figure 3-9: Average System HOL Delay for RT Users vs. Number of RT Users	
Figure 3-10: PLR for RT Users vs. Number of RT Users	
Figure 3-11: Average Throughput for RT User vs. Number of RT Users	
Figure 3-12: Fairness for NRT Users vs. Number of NRT Users	
Figure 3-13: RB Utilization vs. Number of Users	
Figure 3-14: System Throughput vs. System Load	
Figure 3-15: Average System HOL Delay vs. System Load	
Figure 3-16: Packet Loss Ratio vs. System Load	
Figure 3-17: RB Utilization vs. System Load	
Figure 4-1: Packet Stream for an Actual Voice Traffic [43]	59

LIST OF FIGURES

Figure 4-2: Characteristics of Voice Connections [40]
Figure 4-3: Stop-and-Wait (SAW) ARQ Protocol [48]60
Figure 4-4: N-Interlace Stop-and-Wait (SAW) Protocol [48]6
Figure 4-5: Queuing Model Used for Talk Spurt Resource Assignment Latency
Analysis [49]
Figure 4-6: Talk Spurt Resource Allocation and HARQ Timeline [49]65
Figure 4-7 Talk Spurt Assignment Latency vs. Average Talk Spurt Arrival Rate68
Figure 5-1: Normalized Single User's Throughput for PF Algorithm vs. System Load 7'
Figure 5-2: Normalized System Throughput for PF Algorithm vs. System Load
Figure 5-3: Limit of Normalized System Throughput for PF Algorithm79
Figure 5-4: Normalized Single User's Throughput for M-LWDF Algorithm vs. System
Load80
Figure 5-5: Normalized System Throughput for M-LWDF Algorithm vs. System Load
8

LIST OF TABLES

Table 2-1. Number of Available RBs Depending on Downlink Bandwidth [6]	15
Table 2-2. Mapping Table of Downlink SNR to Data Rate [29]	27
Table 3-1. Downlink LTE System Parameters[28, 29]	40
Table 3-2. Parameters of a RT Video Streaming Application [28, 37]	40
Table 3-3. Parameters of a NRT Web Browsing Application [28, 37]	40
Table 3-4. Performance Comparison of Packet Scheduling Algorithms	52
Table 3-5. PLR Performance Comparison	55

ABSTRACT

The third generation partnership project long term evolution (3GPP LTE) system is proposed as a new radio access technology in order to support high-speed data and multimedia traffic. The 3GPP LTE system has a flat radio access network architecture consisting of only one node, known as eNodeB, between user and core network. All radio resource management (RRM) functions are performed at the eNodeB. As one of the essential RRM functions, packet scheduling is responsible for the intelligent allocation of radio resources for active users. Since there is a diversity of the traffic types in wireless systems, active users may have different Quality of Service (QoS) requirements. In order to satisfy various QoS requirements and efficiently utilize the radio resources, a packet scheduler adopts a specific packet scheduling algorithm when making decisions. Several packet scheduling algorithms have been proposed in the literature.

The objective of this thesis is to evaluate the performance of the well-known and some recently proposed packet scheduling algorithms and identify the suitability of these algorithms in the downlink LTE system. The performance evaluation of packet scheduling algorithms based on both computer simulation and theoretical analysis is provided in this thesis.

The performance of packet scheduling algorithms is evaluated in three scenarios including 100% RT scenario, 100% NRT scenario and 50% RT and 50% NRT scenario under the downlink LTE simulation environment. The simulation results for well-known packet scheduling algorithms show that Maximum-Largest Weighted Delay First (M-LWDF) outperforms other algorithms in the 100% RT scenario, while Exponential/Proportional Fair (EXP/PF) is comparatively more suitable in the 50% RT and 50% NRT scenario. In the 100% NRT scenario, Proportional Fair (PF) and Maximum Rate (Max-Rate) achieve a good throughput and resource block (RB)

utilization performance while Round Robin (RR) has the best fairness performance. Additionally, two recently proposed algorithms are evaluated and can be considered as the packet scheduling candidates. The simulation results show that Sun Qiaoyun's Algorithm is more appropriate than Jeongsik Park's Algorithm for the downlink LTE supporting the real-time traffic.

The mathematical model for performance evaluation of the packet scheduling algorithms in the downlink LTE system is discussed in this thesis. The theoretical delay analysis for OFDMA system and the theoretical throughput analysis of PF algorithm is studied and validated in detail. This thesis moves further to theoretical performance analysis of M-LWDF and obtains the analytical result of the expected throughput of M-LWDF.