



UNIVERSITY OF
TECHNOLOGY SYDNEY

Intercell Interference Mitigation in Long Term Evolution (LTE) and LTE-Advanced

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by

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CERTIFICATE OF ORIGINAL AUTHORSHIP

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 within 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.

Ameneh Daeinabi

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TABLE OF CONTENTS

Certificate of Original Authorship.....	II
Acknowledgment.....	III
Table of Contents.....	IV
List of Figures	IX
List of Tables	XIV
List of Acronyms	XVI
List of Symbols.....	XX
Abstract.....	XXV
Chapter 1	1
Introduction	1
1.1. LTE Requirements	2
1.2. System Description	2
1.2.1. LTE Architecture	2
1.2.2. Orthogonal Frequency Division Multiplexing	4
1.2.3. LTE Frame Structure	7
1.2.4. Bandwidth.....	9
1.3. Heterogeneous Architecture	10
1.3.1. Backhaul.....	12
1.3.2. Frequency Deployment.....	13
1.4. Motivation and Objectives	13
1.4.1. Research Question	14
1.5. Research Method	15
1.6. Thesis Overview.....	17
1.7. Related Publication	19
Chapter 2	22
System Level Simulation of LTE and LTE-A Networks.....	22

2.1 Downlink LTE System Model.....	23
2.1.1 Mobility Modelling	23
2.1.2 Radio Propagation Modelling	24
2.2. Link Performance Model.....	28
2.3. Packet Scheduling.....	30
2.4. Traffic Models.....	31
2.5. Performance Metrics	32
2.6 Simulation Algorithm	34
2.7. Summary.....	34
Chapter 3.....	37
Overview on Macrocell-Macrocell Intercell Interference Problem and Solutions	37
3.1. Intercell Interference Formulation	38
3.2. Intercell Interference Mitigation Techniques in Macrocell-Macrocell Scenario ..	39
3.2.1. General Classification	40
3.2.2. Classification of Current ICI Avoidance Schemes in Macrocell-Macrocell Scenario	43
3.3. Qualitative Comparison	56
3.4. Summary.....	57
Chapter 4.....	59
An Intercell Interference Coordination Scheme in LTE Downlink Networks based on User Priority and Fuzzy Logic System	59
4.1. The Proposed Intercell Interference Coordination Scheme.....	60
4.1.1. Phase A: Priority of UEs.....	60
4.1.2. Phase B: PRB Allocation.....	62
4.1.3. Phase C: Transmission Power Allocation.....	64
4.2. Simulation Results and Discussion.....	68
4.2.1. Simulation Setup.....	68
4.2.2. Results and Discussion.....	70
4.3. Summary.....	73

Chapter 5	74
Overview on Macrocell-Picocell Downlink Intercell Interference Challenges and Current Solutions	74
5.1. Challenges of Macrocell-Picocell Scenario	75
5.1.1. Unbalanced Coverage	75
5.1.2. Cell Selection	75
5.1.3. Intercell Interference	77
5.2. Challenges of Intercell Interference Management	78
5.2.1. Time Domain	79
5.2.2. Frequency Domain	82
5.3. Enhanced Intercell Interference Coordination Techniques in Macrocell-Picocell Scenario	86
5.3.1. Time Domain Schemes	87
5.3.2. Power Domain Schemes	90
5.3.3. Frequency Domain Schemes	93
5.3.4. Qualitative Comparison	94
5.4. Summary	96
Chapter 6	98
Enhanced ICIC Scheme using Fuzzy Logic System in LTE-A Heterogeneous Networks	98
6.1. A Dynamic CRE Scheme based on Fuzzy Logic System	99
6.1.1. CRE Offset Value Module Description	99
6.2. A Dynamic ABS Scheme based on Fuzzy Logic System	102
6.2.1. ABS Value Module Description	104
6.3. A dynamic Enhanced ICIC Scheme with CRE	107
6.4. Performance Evaluation	108
6.4.1. Performance Analysis of Dynamic CRE Scheme	108
6.4.2. Performance Analysis of Dynamic eICIC Scheme	111
6.5. Summary	120

Chapter 7	121
Enhanced ICIC Scheme in LTE-A Heterogeneous Networks for Video Streaming Traffic	121
7.1. Proposed eICIC Scheme based on Fuzzy Q-Learning	122
7.1.1. Fuzzy Q-Learning Controller Components	122
7.1.2. FQL Algorithm.....	127
7.2. Proposed eICIC Scheme based on Genetic Algorithm	129
7.2.1. Maximizing Throughput.....	129
7.2.2. Minimizing Interference	130
7.2.3. Minimizing PLR.....	130
7.2.4. Minimizing Delay.....	131
7.2.5. Optimize Multi-Objectives	131
7.2.6. ABS Configuration using Genetic Algorithm (GA)	132
7.3. Simulation Results and Discussion.....	135
7.3.1. Performance Analysis of FQL based Scheme.....	135
7.3.2. Performance Analysis of GA based Scheme.....	147
7.4. Summary.....	150
Chapter 8	152
Analytical Calculation of Optimum CRE Offset Value and ABS Value using Stochastic Geometry Analysis.....	152
8.1. System Model	153
8.1.1. User Association.....	154
8.1.2. The Average Number of UEs per Tier	154
8.1.3. Statistical Distance to Serving eNB.....	155
8.2. Downlink Outage Probability	155
8.3. Average Ergodic Rate	160
8.4. Required Number of ABS and non-ABS	163
8.5. Results and Discussions	165
8.5.1. Outage Probability and Offset Value	165

8.5.2. Required Number of ABSs	167
8.5.3. Result Comparison	170
8.6. Summary.....	173
Chapter 9.....	174
Conclusions and Future Research Directions	174
9.1 Summary of Thesis Contributions.....	174
9.1.1 Intercell Interference Mitigation in LTE Macrocell-Macrocell Scenario.....	174
9.1.2 Intercell Interference Mitigation in Macrocell-Picocell Scenario in LTE-A HetNet	175
9.1.3. Mathematical Analysis of Downlink Intercell Interference in LTE HetNet using Stochastic Geometry	178
9.2 Future Research Directions.....	178
References	180

LIST OF FIGURES

Figure 1.1. Approximate timeline of the mobile communications standards	1
Figure 1.2. LTE architecture.....	4
Figure 1.3. Illustration of the OFDM transmission technique	5
Figure 1.4. A Comparison of OFDM and OFDMA.....	6
Figure 1.5. . Difference between OFDMA and SC-FDMA for the transmission of a sequence of QPSK data symbols	6
Figure 1.6. Frame structure type 1.....	7
Figure 1.7. Frame structure type 2 (for 5 ms switch-point periodicity).....	8
Figure 1.8. Downlink resource grid.....	9
Figure 1.9. LTE spectrum flexibility.....	10
Figure 1.10. Heterogeneous network architecture.....	12
Figure 2.1. Topology network for macrocell- picocell scenario.....	23
Figure 2.2. An example of a wrapped-around process.....	24
Figure 2.3. Shadow fading of a user during simulation time at speed 3 Km/h.....	27
Figure 2.4. Multi path propagation of a user during simulation time at speed 3 Km/h.....	27
Figure 2.5. SNR–BLER curves for CQI from 1 to 15	30
Figure 2.6. SINR to CQI mapping for BLER smaller than 10%.....	30
Figure 2.7. Video streaming traffic	31
Figure 2.8. Pseudo code and block diagram used to evaluate interference management techniques.....	35
Figure 3.1. Illustration of UE moving away from its serving eNB.....	38
Figure 3.2. Effect of SINR on throughput.....	39
Figure 3.3. Classification of ICI mitigation techniques.....	40
Figure 3.4. Time scales of ICI avoidance techniques.....	42
Figure 3.5. Classification of intercell interference avoidance schemes for macrocell-macrocell configuration.....	44

Figure 3.6. Power and frequency allocation for (a) RF1, (b) RF3 and (c) SerFR...	46
Figure 3.7. Power and frequency allocation for (a) PFR, (b) SFR and (c) SFFR...	46
Figure 3.8. Cell edge throughput of well-known LTE ICI avoidance schemes.....	48
Figure 3.9. Mean cell throughput of well-known LTE ICI avoidance schemes.....	48
Figure 3.10. Enhanced fractional frequency reuse.....	51
Figure 3.11. An illustration for user grouping and ICI correlative groups.....	51
Figure 4.1. Overview of the proposed algorithm.....	60
Figure 4.2. (a) Bandwidth division, (b) locations of UEs in queues of different cells based on UE's priority.....	64
Figure 4.3. Overview of fuzzy logic system.....	66
Figure 4.4. Flow-chart of the proposed Priority base ICIC algorithm.....	67
Figure 4.5. Delay comparison among priority, RF1 and SFR schemes.....	71
Figure 4.6. Interference level comparison among priority, RF1 and SFR schemes.....	71
Figure 4.7. Average cell edge user throughput comparison.....	72
Figure 4.8. Average cell throughput comparison.....	72
Figure 5.1. (a) Macro UE (MUE) interferes on the uplink of a nearby picocell, (b) Using the cell range expansion scheme to mitigate pico uplink interference.....	76
Figure 5.2. (a) A simplified scheme for LP-ABS, (b) Scheduling of UE located in range expanded area on the ABSs.....	80
Figure 5.3. Locations of control and data regions defined for PRBs.....	84
Figure 5.4. Alternatives for multiplexing of EPDCCH and PDSCH.....	86
Figure 5.5. eICIC using LLCS/ABS.....	88
Figure 5.6. Macrocell-picocell configuration.....	88
Figure 5.7. Region division.....	92
Figure 6.1. Graphical representation of fuzzy logic CRE system based on FL....	100
Figure 6.2. An example of the fuzzy aggregation.....	103
Figure 6.3. Block diagram of the proposed dynamic ABS scheme based on FL..	104
Figure 6.4. Membership functions of inputs and output.....	106
Figure 6.5. Block diagram of the proposed eICIC scheme using FL.....	107

Figure 6.6. The dynamic offset value for the center cell using FL for FB.....	109
Figure 6.7. The percentage of UEs offloaded to picocell for different schemes for FB.....	109
Figure 6.8. Average macro UE throughput for FB	110
Figure 6.9. RE UE throughput for FB	110
Figure 6.10. Average cell throughput for FB	110
Figure 6.11. The outage probability for FB	110
Figure 6.12. The ABS value obtained by FL for centre cell for FB (4 picos/macro).....	112
Figure 6.13. The offset value obtained by FL for centre cell for FB (4 picos/macro).....	112
Figure 6.14. Number of the offloaded UEs from macrocell to picocells for FB (4picos/macro).....	112
Figure 6.15. The ABS value obtained by FL for centre cell for FB (4 picos/macro).....	113
Figure 6.16. The offset value obtained by FL for centre cell for FB (4 picos/macro).....	113
Figure 6.17. Number of the offloaded UEs from macrocell to picocells for FB (4 picos /macro).....	113
Figure 6.18. The ABS value obtained by FL for centre cell for FB (2 picos/macro).....	114
Figure 6.19. The offset value obtained by FL for centre cell for FB (2 picos/macro).....	114
Figure 6.20. Number of the offloaded UEs from macrocell to picocells for FB (2 picos / macro).....	114
Figure 6.21. The outage probability for difference ABS values and CRE offset values for FB (4 picos/macro).....	116
Figure 6.22. The outage probability for difference ABS values and CRE offset values for FB (2picos/macro).....	116
Figure 6.23. Average macro UE throughput for FB (4 picos/macro).....	117
Figure 6.24. Average RE UE throughput for FB (4 picos/macro).....	117
Figure 6.25. Average picocell throughput for FB (4 picos/macro).....	117
Figure 6.26. Average macrocell throughput for FB (4 picos/macro).....	117

Figure 6.27. Average macro UE throughput for FB (2picos/macro).....	118
Figure 6.28. Average RE UE throughput for FB (2 picos/macro).....	118
Figure 6.29. Average picocell throughput for FB (2 picos/macro).....	118
Figure 6.30. Average macrocell throughput for FB (2 picos/macro).....	118
Figure 7.1. Block diagram of the proposed eICIC scheme based on FQL	124
Figure 7.2. Membership functions of Δ_{offset_value}	126
Figure 7.3. Membership functions of Δ_{ABS_value}	126
Figure.7.4. The initialized population of GA.....	133
Figure.7.5. Examples of crossover and mutation operators.....	133
Figure 7.6. The optimum ABS value for centre cell using FQL for FB.....	137
Figure 7.7. The optimum offset value for centre cell using FQL for FB.....	137
Figure 7.8. Number of the offloaded UEs from macrocell to picocells for FB	138
Figure 7.9. The outage probability for difference ABS values and CRE offset values for FB	138
Figure 7.10. Average macro UE throughput for FB	140
Figure 7.11. Average macrocell throughput for FB	140
Figure 7.12. Average RE UE throughput for FB	140
Figure 7.13. Average picocell throughput for FB	140
Figure 7.14. The optimum ABS value for centre cell using FQL for VS.....	142
Figure 7.15. The optimum offset value for centre cell using FQL for VS	142
Figure 7.16. Number of the offloaded UEs from macrocell to picocells.....	142
Figure 7.17. Average macro UE throughput for VS.....	144
Figure 7.18. Average macrocell throughput for VS	144
Figure 7.19. Average RE UE throughput for VS	144
Figure 7.20. Average picocell throughput.....	144
Figure 7.21. The obtained delay for difference ABS values and CRE offset values for VS.....	146
Figure 7.22. The outage probability for difference ABS values and CRE offset values for VS	146

Figure 7.23. Fitness value of GA.....	148
Figure 7.24. Average macro UE throughput using GA for VS	149
Figure 7.25. Average RE UE throughput using GA for VS	149
Figure 7.26. The outage probability using GA for VS	149
Figure 7.27. Delay using GA for VS.....	149
Figure 8.1. Example of the network model.....	153
Figure 8.2. Outage probability of picocell for different η	166
Figure 8.3. Outage probability for UEs connected to pico tier.....	166
Figure 8.4. Number of ABS for different offset values when $\lambda_p=4 \lambda_m$	169
Figure 8.5. Number of ABS for different offset values when $\lambda_p=10 \lambda_m$	170
Figure 8.6. Number of ABS for different schemes when $\lambda_p=4 \lambda_m$	171

LIST OF TABLES

Table 1.1. LTE Requirements.....	3
Table 1.2. Uplink-Downlink Configurations for LTE TDD.....	8
Table 1.3. Number of Resource Blocks for Different LTE Bandwidths (FDD and TDD).....	9
Table 1.4. LTE-Advanced Requirements.....	11
Table 2.1. International Telecommunication Union (ITU) Channel Models.....	25
Table 2.2. CQI Parameters.....	29
Table 2.3. Video Streaming Traffic Parameters with 256 kbps Average Data Rate.....	32
Table 2.4. Summary of Simulation Parameters and Values	36
Table 3.1. Comparison among Static, Semi-static and Dynamic Schemes.....	43
Table 3.2. Comparison Among ICI Avoidance Schemes For LTE Downlink Systems.....	58
Table 4.1. Standardized QCI Characteristics.....	63
Table 4.2. Allocating UEs to Subbands for Different Cells based on UE's Priority..	65
Table 4.3. System Performance Comparison for Different Coefficient Values.....	71
Table 5.1. RE Power Control Dynamic Range.....	82
Table 5.2. Comparison among ICIC Schemes in Macrocell-Picocell Downlink Systems.....	97
Table 6.1. (ABS, CRE) Combinations Used in This Thesis.....	111
Table 6.2. System Performance Comparison for FB (4 picos/macro).....	120
Table 7.1. Fuzzy Label Sets Defined for Input and Output Variables.....	123
Table 7.2. Simulation Parameters.....	136
Table 7.3. System Performance Comparison for FB.....	141
Table 7.4. System Performance Comparison for VS.....	147
Table 7.5. ABS Configuration Obtained by GA based Scheme for VS.....	147

Table 7.6. System Performance Comparison for GA based Scheme.....	150
Table 8.1.Simulation Parameters.....	165
Table 8.2. Maximum Allowable Offset Value for Different Desired Outage Probability ($\lambda_p=4 \lambda_m$).....	167
Table 8.3. Throughput comparison between the Proposed Scheme and [132] in Literature for $\lambda_u= 4 \times 10^{-4} \text{ m}^2$, $\theta_{RE}=\theta_p=\theta_m=0.027 \text{ nats/sec/Hz}$	172

LIST OF ACRONYMS

4G	Fourth Generation
ABCS	Adaptive Offset Configuration Strategy
ABS	Almost Blank Subframe
ACK	Acknowledgement
AWGN	Additive White Gaussian Noise
BLER	Block Error Rate
BW	Bandwidth
CA	Carrier Aggregation
CC	Component Carriers
CCE	Control Channel Element
CCU	Cell Centre UE
CDF	Cumulative Distribution Function
CDMA	Code Division Multiple Access
CEU	Cell Edge UE
CFI	Control Format Indicator
CG	Correlative Group
Ch	Chromosome
CINR	Channel to Interference and Noise Ratio
CoMP	Coordinated Multi-Point
CQI	Channel Quality Indicator
CRE	Cell Range Expansion
C-RNTI	Cell Radio Network Temporary Identifier
CRS	Common Reference Signal
CS	Common Subband
CSB	Common Subband
DFFR	Dynamic Fractional Frequency Reuse
DL	Downlink
DwPTS	Downlink Pilot Time Slot
EESM	Exponential Effective Signal to interference and noise ratio Mapping
eICIC	Enhanced Intercell Interference Coordination
eNB	Evolved NodeB
EPDCCH	Enhanced-PDCCH

EPS	Evolved Packet System
E-UTRAN	Evolved Universal Terrestrial Radio Access Network
FB	Full Buffer
FDD	Frequency-Division Duplex
FFR	Fractional Frequency Reuse
FLS	Fuzzy Logic System
FQL	Fuzzy Q-Learning
GBR	Guaranteed Bit Rate
GP	Guard Period
HARQ	Hybrid Automatic Repeat Request
HeNB	Home eNBs
HetNet	Heterogeneous Network
HII	High Interference Indication
HoL	Head-of-Line
HS	High Subband
HSPA	High-Speed Packet Access
IAF	Interference Avoidance Factor
IAR	Interference Avoidance Request
IASB	Interference Avoidance Subband
ICI	Intercell Interference
ICIC	Intercell Interference Coordination
IMT	International Mobile Telephony
ISI	Inter-Symbol Interference
ITU	International Telecommunication Union
IZ	Interference Zone
LLCS	Lightly Loaded Control Channel Transmission Subframe
LP-ABS	Low Power ABS
LS	Low Subband
LTE	Long Term Evolution
MCS	Modulation and Coding Scheme
MIB	Master Information Block
MIMO	Multiple –Input Multiple-Output
MME/GW	Mobility Management Entity/Gateway
NACK	Non-Acknowledgement
NCL	Neighbouring Cell List
NEFFR	Novel Enhanced Fractional Frequency Reuse

NP	Nondeterministic Polynomial
NRT	Neighbour Relation Table
OFDM	Orthogonal Frequency Division Multiplexing
OFDMA	Orthogonal Frequency Division Multiple Access
OI	Overhead Indication
PAPR	Peak-to-Average Power Ratio
PBCH	Physical Broadcast Channel
PCFICH	Physical Control Format Indicator Channel
PDCCH	Physical Downlink Control Channel
PDF	Probability Density Functions
PDN	Packet Data Networks
PDSCH	Physical Downlink Shared Channel
PFR	Partial Frequency Reuse
PGW	PDN Gateway
PHICH	Physical Indicator Channel
PLR	Packet Loss Rate
PPP	Poisson Point Process
PRB	Physical Resource Block
PSB	Priority Subband
PSF	Protected Subframes
PUSCH	Physical Uplink Shared Channel
QAM	Quadrature Amplitude Modulation
QCI	QoS Class Identifier
QoS	Quality of Service
QPSK	Quadrature Phase Shift Keying
RAN	Radio Access Network
RB	Resource Block
RE	Resource Element
RE UE	Range Expanded UEs
REG	RE Groups
RF1	Reuse Factor 1
RF3	Reuse Factor 3
RNC	Radio Network Controller
RNTP	Relative Narrowband Transmit Power
RR	Round Robin
RRC	Radio Resource Control

RSRP	Reference Signal Received Power
RSS	Received Signal Strength
SAE	System Architecture Evolution
SC-FDMA	Single Carrier Frequency Division Multiple Access
SDF	Service Data Flow
SerFR	Softer Frequency Reuse
SFFR	Soft Fractional Frequency Reuse
SFR	Soft Frequency Reuse
SGW	Serving Gateway
SINR	Signal to Interference plus Noise Ratio
TB	Transport Block
TDD	Time-Division Duplex
TDM	Time Division Multiplexing
TD-SCDMA	Time Division Synchronous Code Division Multiple Access
TTI	Transmission Time Interval
UE	User Equipment
UL	Uplink
UpPTS	Uplink Pilot Time Slot
VoIP	Voice over Internet Protocol
VS	Video Streaming
WCDMA	Wideband Code Division Multiple Access
ZP-ABS	Zero Power ABS

LIST OF SYMBOLS

$\rho_{m,n}$	Indicator of RB allocation to UE _{<i>m</i>}
$C_{m,n}$	Maximal bits supported by PRB _{<i>n</i>} for UE _{<i>m</i>}
σ_{κ_0}	Variance
P_n^i	Transmission power from the serving eNB _{<i>i</i>}
P_n^j	Transmission power from the interfering picocell <i>j</i>
P_n^k	Transmission power from the interfering macrocell <i>k</i>
$H_{n,m}^i$	Channel gain from the serving eNB <i>i</i>
$H_{n,m}^j$	Channel gain from the interfering picocell <i>j</i>
$H_{n,m}^k$	Channel gain from the interfering macrocell <i>k</i>
ζ_{eff}	Effective SINR
Λ	Calibration by means of link level simulations to fit the compression function to the AWGN BLER result
Hol'_m	Normalized value of <i>HoL</i>
I'_m	Normalized value of the interference level
Q'_m	Normalized value of <i>QCI</i>
$\mu_{L_i^n}$	Membership function for the <i>n</i> th FLS input and the rule <i>i</i>
χ	Learning rate
\mathcal{G}	Discount factor
O_P^{\max}	Maximum outage probability for picocell
O_P^{\min}	Minimum outage probability for picocell
θ_m	Minimum required data rate for macro UE
θ_p	Minimum required data rate for UEs located in picocell basic coverage area
θ_{RE}	Minimum required data rate for RE UE
a	Scalar parameter
a_i	Fuzzy action
b	Scalar parameter
BW_c	Bandwidth allocated to cell centre
BW_e	Bandwidth allocated to cell edge

c	Scalar parameter
$c_{i,n}$	Doppler coefficient of process i of the n^{th} sinusoid
d	Gaussian central value
D	Delay
D^*	The maximum allowed delay for sending data
d_0	Shadow fading correlation distance
D_c	Encoding delay
dir_i	Direction of UE $_i$
$d_{p,k}$	Delay of the p^{th} packet of UE $_k$
f_i	The desired objective functions
$f_{i,n}$	Discrete Doppler frequency of process i of the n^{th} sinusoid
f_{max}	Maximum Doppler frequency
$G(t)$	Gaussian random variable
h	Fast fading power gain from the serving eNB
I_M	Interference from neighbouring macro eNBs
I_m	Interference level of UE $_m$ from neighbouring eNBs
I_{max}	Maximum interference
I_p	Interference from neighbouring pico eNBs
K	Vector of actions
L	Offset value
L_i	Modal vector of rule i
L_i^n	Fuzzy label corresponding to a distinct fuzzy set defined in the domain of the n^{th} component S^n
L_m	Pathloss between a macro eNB and UE
loc_i	Location of UE $_i$
L_p	Pathloss between a pico eNB and UE
M	Transmission power reduction
m	Next state
mc	Number of interfering macrocells
m_{ch}	Number of chromosomes
N	Number of FLS inputs
N_a	Number of ABSs
N_i	Number of sinusoids of process i
N_m	Number of UEs located in macrocell
N_p	Number of UEs located in picocell basic coverage area
N_{packet}	Fixed number of packets

N_{PRB}	Total number of PRBs
N_{RB}	Number of RB allocated to each UE
N_{RE}	Number of UEs located in cell range expanded area
N_s	Number of subframes in each frame
N_U	Total number of UEs in macrocell and its picocells
N_{UE}	Ratio of RE UEs to macro UEs
o_i^k	k^{th} output action for rule i
o_j	Fuzzy output value
O_T	Acceptable outage probability
P	Set of rules
P^*	Maximum packet loss tolerance for video streaming traffic
P_C	Transmission power of CS
pc	Number of interfering picocells
P_H	Transmission power of HS
P_L	Transmission power of LS
P_m	Transmission power of macro eNB
P_N	Noise power
Pos_k	Locations of neighbouring eNB $_k$
Pos_l	Locations of serving eNB $_l$
P_p	Transmission power of pico eNB
P_{rf}	Power reduction factor
p_s	Total size of all packets (in bits) arrived into the eNB buffer of UE $_k$
P_T	Maximum transmission power of each eNB
q	Q-value function
Q	Q-value for the input state vector
Q_m	QCI priority
R	Distance of UE from its serving eNB
r	Distance from serving eNB
r_m	Minimum required data rate
R_m^*	The required transmission rate of macro UEs
R_p^*	The required transmission rate of pico UEs
s	Set of fuzzy rules
S	State vector
$SINR_{RE}$	5 % of CDF of SINR of pico UEs
S_n	n^{th} Subframe
S_p	Size of a packet

t	Time
T	Regular time interval
T^*	The required throughput of macro UEs
$T_{arrival}$	Time that the packet arrives to the buffer
Thr_m	Average throughput of macro UEs
T_{max}	Maximum allowable packet delay
T_{oj}	Output fuzzy set
T_s	Total simulation time
T_{xi}	Input fuzzy set
v_i	Speed of UE _{<i>i</i>}
w_i	Weighting coefficients
X	Vector
x_i	Fuzzy input value
z	SFR parameter
α	Pathloss
α_i	Degree of truth of rule i
α_m	Macrocell pathloss
α_p	Picocell pathloss
B	Offset value
γ_0	Outage threshold
Δ_{ABS_value}	Output of ABS value module
Δ_{offset_value}	Output of CRE offset value module
ΔP	Additional transmission power
ΔQ	Difference between the old and new values of Q
ε	Greedy parameter
η	Ratio of UEs schedules on ABS
$\theta_{i,n}$	Doppler phase of process i of the n^{th} sinusoid
κ_n	Correlated filtered white Gaussian noise with zero mean of the n^{th} sinusoid
λ_m	Density of macro eNBs
λ_p	Density of pico eNBs
λ_u	Density of UEs
μ	Membership degree
μ_{ap_i}	Approximated uncorrelated filtered white Gaussian noise
σ	Gaussian standard deviation
ζ_i	Vector of the per-RB SINR values
φ	Shadow fading

ψ_i	Shadow fading autocorrelation function
ω	Shadow fading standard deviation

ABSTRACT

Bandwidth is one of the limited resources in Long Term Evolution (LTE) and LTE-Advanced (LTE-A) networks. Therefore, new resource allocation techniques such as the frequency reuse are needed to increase the capacity in LTE and LTE-A. However, the system performance is severely degraded using the same frequency in adjacent cells due to increase of intercell interference. Therefore, the intercell interference management is a critical point to improve the performance of the cellular mobile networks. This thesis aims to mitigate intercell interference in the downlink LTE and LTE-A networks.

The first part of this thesis introduces a new intercell interference coordination scheme to mitigate downlink intercell interference in macrocell-macrocell scenario based on user priority and using fuzzy logic system (FLS). A FLS is an expert system which maps the inputs to outputs using “IF...THEN” rules and an aggregation method. Then, the final output is obtained through a defuzzification approach. Since this thesis aims to mitigate interference in downlink LTE networks, the inputs of FLS are selected from important metrics such as throughput, signal to interference plus noise ratio and so on. Simulation results demonstrate the efficacy of the proposed scheme to improve the system performance in terms of cell throughput, cell edge throughput and delay when compared with reuse factor one.

Thereafter, heterogeneous networks (HetNets) are studied which are used to increase the coverage and capacity of system. The focus of the next part of this thesis is picocell because it is one of the important low power nodes in HetNets which can efficiently improve the overall system capacity and coverage. However, new challenges arise to intercell interference management in macrocell-picocell scenario. Three enhanced intercell interference coordination (eICIC) schemes are proposed in this thesis to mitigate the interference problem. In the first scheme, a dynamic cell range expansion (CRE) approach is combined with a dynamic almost blank subframe (ABS) using fuzzy logic system. In the second scheme, a fuzzy q-learning (FQL) approach is used to find the optimum ABS and CRE offset values for both full buffer traffic and video streaming traffic. In FQL, FLS is combined by q-learning approach to optimally select the best consequent part of each FLS rule. In the third proposed eICIC scheme, the best location

of ABSs in each frame is determined using Genetic Algorithm such that the requirements of video streaming traffic can be met. Simulation results show that the system performance can be improved through the proposed schemes.

Finally, the optimum CRE offset value and the required number of ABSs will be mathematically formulated based on the outage probability, ergodic rate and minimum required throughput of users using stochastic geometry tool. The results are an analytical formula that leads to a good initial estimate through a simple approach to analyse the impact of system parameters on CRE offset value and number of ABSs.