

DETECTION PROBABILITY AND RATE TRADEOFF IN MIMO-OFDM ISAC SYSTEM WITH IMPERFECT CHANNEL INFORMATION

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OUTLINE

- ▶ **Background & Motivation**
- ▶ System Model
 - ▶ MIMO-OFDM ISAC Model
 - ▶ Performance Metrics
- ▶ Detection Probability Derivation
- ▶ Simulations & Numerical Results
- ▶ Conclusion

BACKGROUND AND MOTIVATION

- Integrated sensing and communication (ISAC) integrates the traditionally distinct domains of
- sensing and communication, enabling systems to jointly transmit data and gather valuable environmental information.
- **Features**
- Wireless networks with enhanced capabilities: improved environment awareness, increased resilience to interference, efficient resource utilization
 - Recent researches have explored various facets: signal processing tools [[Zhang et al. '21a](#)], network and system architecture [[Zhang et al. '21b](#)], fundamental sensing and communication performance tradeoffs [[Li et al. '24](#)]
 - Sensing for estimating channels, and detecting targets
 - Performance bounds between communication rate and probability of detection (PD) [[Liu et al. '18](#)]

BACKGROUND AND MOTIVATION

- Orthogonal frequency division multiplexing (OFDM) has garnered widespread interests as the architectural backbone for communication-centric ISAC systems.
- ▶ **Features**
 - ▶ OFDM-based ISAC systems can achieve performance on par with sensing-centric systems, using dual-functional waveform for communications [[Gaudio et al. '19](#)]
 - ▶ Sensing & communication signals occupy distinct frequency bands to mitigate interference, optimization typically revolves around power allocation across subcarriers
 - ▶ Multiple-input multiple-output (MIMO) involves beamforming techniques
 - ▶ MIMO Enables power allocations for beams directed towards both sensing receiver (SR) and communication receiver (CR)

BACKGROUND AND MOTIVATION

► **Observation**

- Characterization of PD and rate of MIMO-OFDM-based ISAC systems remains limited
- Existing literature mainly focuses on Shannon capacity as performance metric of communication rate: It overlooks impact of imperfect channel information on detection performance and capacity

► **Question**

- What are tradeoffs in ISAC incurred by joint power allocations across both multi-beam and subcarriers?
- What is the joint performance bound when considering capacity with MMSE channel estimation?

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SYSTEM MODEL

► System Model

► Non-collocated bi-static ISAC model based on MIMO-OFDM

► $K \times 1$ OFDM block with superposition waveform model: $\mathbf{x}^m = \mathbf{s}_c^m + \mathbf{s}_s^m$ with power constraints

$$\|\mathbf{s}_s\|^2 = PP_s, \|\mathbf{s}_c\|^2 = PP_c.$$

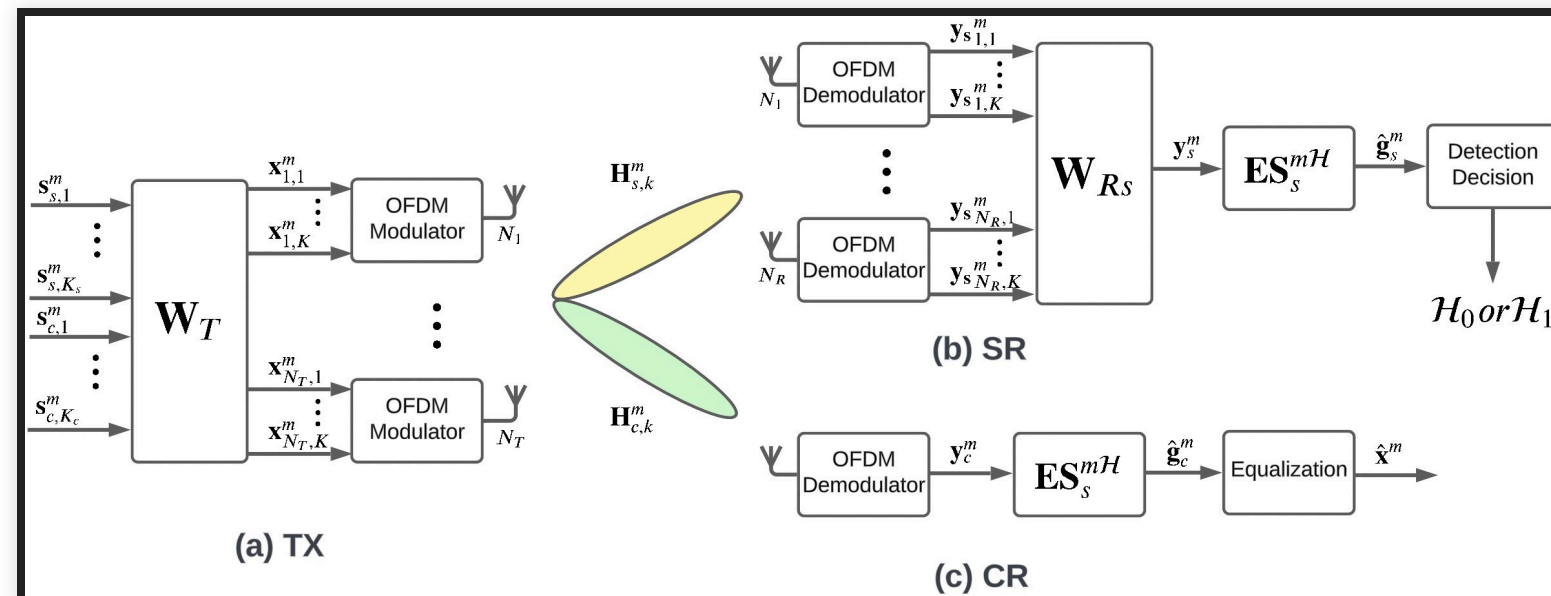
► $N_T \times 1$ equivalent symbol vector on OFDM subcarrier k : [Pucci et al. '22]

$$\mathbf{x}_k^m = \mathbf{w}_T \mathbf{x}_k^m = \left(\sqrt{\rho} \mathbf{w}_{Ts} + \sqrt{1 - \rho} \mathbf{w}_{Tc} \right) \mathbf{x}_k^m$$

$$\mathbf{w}_{Tc} = \frac{\sqrt{P_E}}{\|\boldsymbol{\alpha}^T(\theta_{Tc})\|_1} \boldsymbol{\alpha}^*(\theta_{Tc}), \mathbf{w}_{Ts} = \frac{\sqrt{P_E}}{\|\boldsymbol{\alpha}^T(\theta_{Ts})\|_1} \boldsymbol{\alpha}^*(\theta_{Ts}), \boldsymbol{\alpha}(\theta) = [\alpha_1(\theta), \alpha_2(\theta), \dots, \alpha_N(\theta)]^T.$$

► **Intuition** : When sensing and communication signal occupy non-overlapping frequency resources, sensing signal serves as effective pilots for channel estimation.

► Explicitly assume $|\mathcal{K}_s|$ subcarriers are allocated for sensing with dual purpose of channel estimation and detection



SYSTEM MODEL

► Sensing Receiver

► Equivalent MIMO-OFDM system with beamforming.

► $K \times 1$ frequency domain symbol vector at m -th OFDM block: $\mathbf{y}_s^m = \sqrt{\rho} \mathbf{G}_s^m \mathbf{x}^m + \mathbf{n}^m$

► Communication Receiver

► Equivalent MISO-OFDM system with only transmit beamforming.

► $K \times 1$ frequency domain symbol vector at m -th OFDM block: $\mathbf{y}_c^m = \sqrt{1 - \rho} \mathbf{G}_c \mathbf{x}^m + \boldsymbol{\eta}^m$

► **Observation** : Both sensing and communication equivalent channels after OFDM demodulation are diagonal.

► Removing Communication Interference

► Since sensing and communication signal occupy non-overlapping frequency resources, we can ensure $\mathbf{S}_s^{m\mathcal{H}} \mathbf{G}_s \mathbf{s}_c^m = \mathbf{0}$ by post-processing at the SR end, where $\mathbf{S}_s^m = \text{diag}(\mathbf{s}_s^m)$, $\mathbf{g}_s = \text{diag}(\mathbf{G}_s)$.

► The interference from unknown communication signal can be removed as $\mathbf{S}_s^{m\mathcal{H}} \mathbf{y}_c^m = \sqrt{1 - \rho} \mathbf{S}_s^{m\mathcal{H}} \mathbf{S}_s^m \mathbf{g}_s + \mathbf{S}_s^{m\mathcal{H}} \boldsymbol{\eta}^m$.

► At CR, the estimated channels across sensing subcarriers are instead used to interpolate communication subcarrier channels.

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PERFORMANCE METRICS

► Communication performance metrics

- Most literature assumes perfect channel knowledge, where capacity of MISO-OFDM channel is achieved with power loading:

$$C = \frac{1}{K} \sum_{k \in \mathcal{K}_c} \mathcal{E} \left[\log \left(1 + \frac{|G_k^{(c)}|^2 (1 - \rho) P_k^{(c)}}{\delta^2} \right) \right]$$

- **Intuition** : Capacity with water-filling does not capture the situation with incomplete channel information
- Capacity lower bound under MMSE channel estimation provides a more realistic tradeoff between rate and detection probability

Definition (Capacity under MMSE channel estimation)

$$C_{MMSE} \geq \frac{1}{K} \sum_{k \in \mathcal{K}_c} \mathcal{E} \left[\log \left(1 + \frac{|\hat{G}_k^{(c)}|^2}{\mathcal{E} \left[|G_k^{(c)} - \hat{G}_k^{(c)}|^2 + \frac{\delta^2}{(1-\rho)P_c} \right]} \right) \right]$$

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CLOSED FORM EXPRESSION FOR PD

Proposition (Probability of Detection)

The probability of detection has the following closed form:

$$P_D = Q_{K_s} \left(\sqrt{\frac{2\rho K_s (PP_s/K_s + \sigma_s^2)^2}{PP_s \sigma_s^2} \|\mathbf{E} \mathbf{S}_s^m \mathcal{H} \mathbf{S}_s^m \mathbf{g}_s^m\|^2}, \sqrt{\frac{2(\Gamma - \mu) K_s (PP_s/K_s + \sigma_s^2)^2}{\nu \sigma_s^2 PP_s}} \right),$$

where

$$\mu = K_s \ln \left(\frac{2\sigma_s^2}{\rho PP_s P_E \sigma_h^2 + \sigma_s^2} \right),$$

and

$$\nu = \frac{(PP_s/K_s + \sigma_s^2)^2}{\sigma_s^2 PP_s} - \frac{(PP_s/K_s + \sigma_s^2)^2}{\sigma_s^2 PP_s + \frac{\rho}{2} P^2 P_s^2 P_E \sigma_h^2}$$

CLOSED FORM EXPRESSION FOR PD

► Proposition: Sketch of proof

- **Intuition** : Instead of performing hypothesis testing over received symbols, channel estimations are used as test statistics

$$\hat{\mathbf{g}}_s^m = \begin{cases} \mathcal{H}_1 : \sqrt{\rho} \mathbf{E} \mathbf{S}_s^{m\mathcal{H}} \mathbf{S}_s^m \mathbf{g}_s^m + \mathbf{E} \mathbf{S}_s^{m\mathcal{H}} \mathbf{n} \\ \mathcal{H}_0 : \mathbf{E} \mathbf{S}_s^{m\mathcal{H}} \mathbf{n} \end{cases}.$$

- Formulate log-likelihood function as:

$$\ln \left[\frac{f(\hat{\mathbf{g}}_s^m | \mathcal{H}_1)}{f(\hat{\mathbf{g}}_s^m | \mathcal{H}_0)} \right] = \mu + \nu \|\hat{\mathbf{g}}_s^m\|^2$$

- Noting that $\|\hat{\mathbf{g}}_s^m\|^2$ follows a non-central chi-squared distribution of degree $2K_s$ results in probability detection shown in Proposition and probability of false alarm (PFA) as

$$P_{FA} = Q_{K_s} \left(0, \sqrt{\frac{2(\Gamma - \mu)K_s(PP_s/K_s + \sigma_s^2)^2}{\nu\sigma_s^2 PP_s}} \right)$$

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NUMERICAL RESULTS

Unless otherwise noted, values for simulation parameters are summarized as follows.

Parameter	Value
Carrier frequency f_c	3 GHz
Subcarrier frequency spacing Δf	0.59 MHz
Distance / pathloss from BS to CR/SR	100 m / 110 dB
Transmit power & EIPR	20 dBm
Modulation type	OFDM w/ QPSK
Total Subcarrier number K	64
Sensing Subcarrier number K_s	4
Noise power $\sigma_s^2 = \sigma_n^2$	-100 dBm
Height of BS h_B	30 m
Height of receive antennas h_R	1 m
Channel realizations	100, 000 times

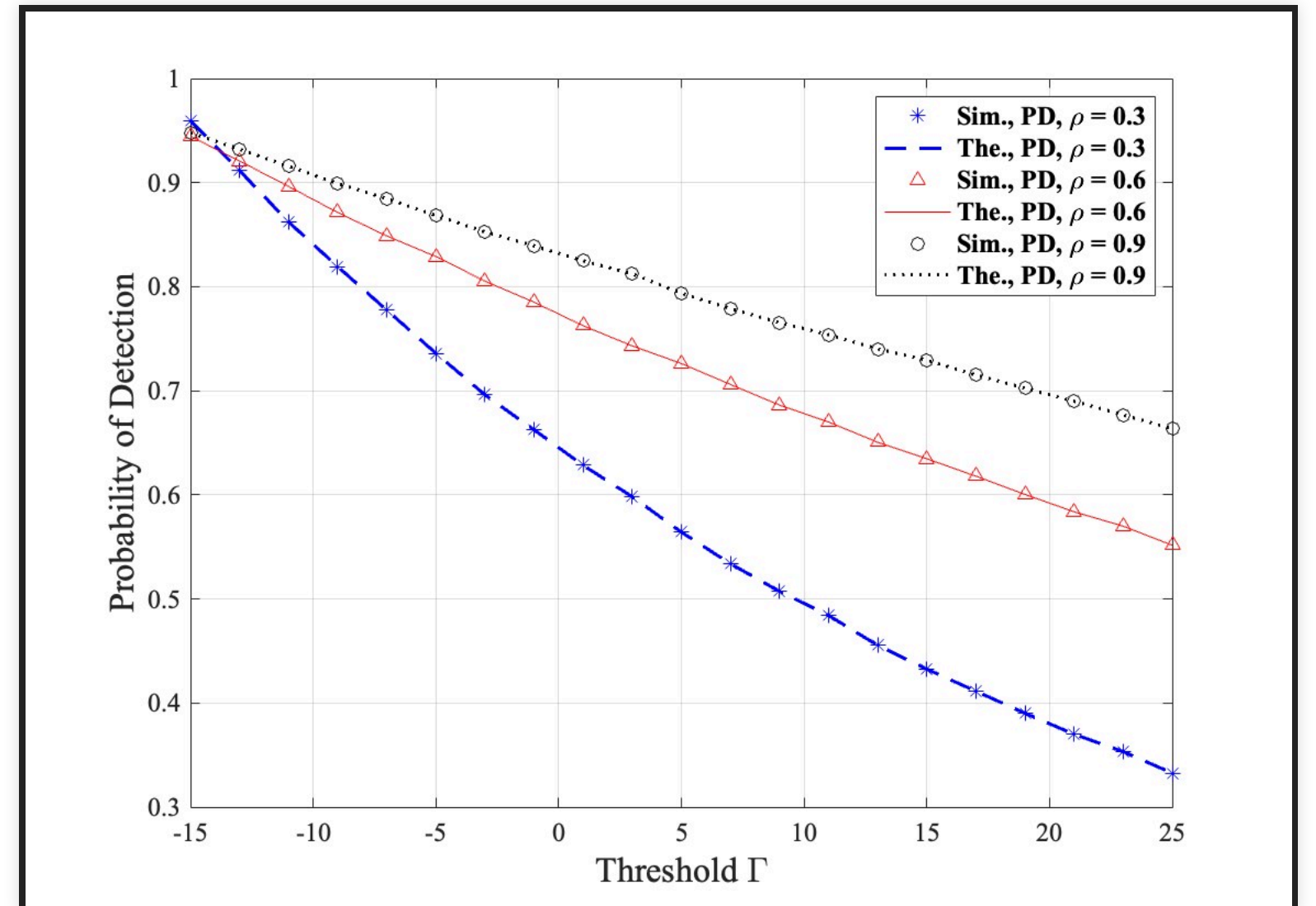
COST231 hata model pathloss:

$$L = (44.9 - 6.55\log_{10}h_B)\log_{10}d - (1.1\log_{10}f_c - 0.7)h_R + 5.83\log_{10}h_B + 35.46\log_{10}f_c - 89.2 \text{ dB}$$

NUMERICAL RESULTS

► Figure 2: Verification of accuracy of theoretical PD

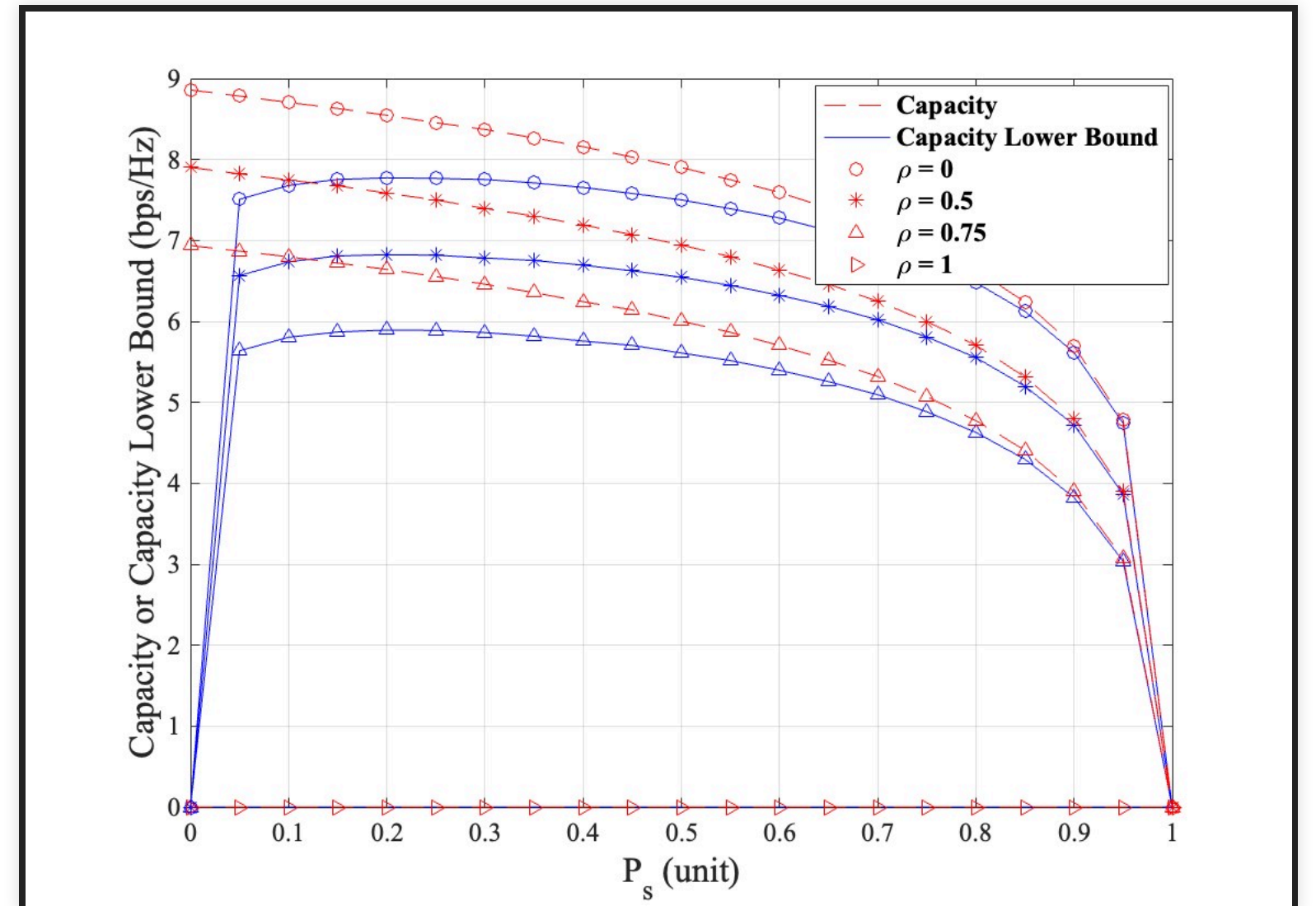
- An equivalent receive SNR of 40 dB, with a subcarrier power splitting of $P_s = 0.5$.
- PD decreases with increasing detection threshold
- When more power is allocated for beamforming towards SR, increasing PD can be observed since sensing subsystem receives more power



NUMERICAL RESULTS

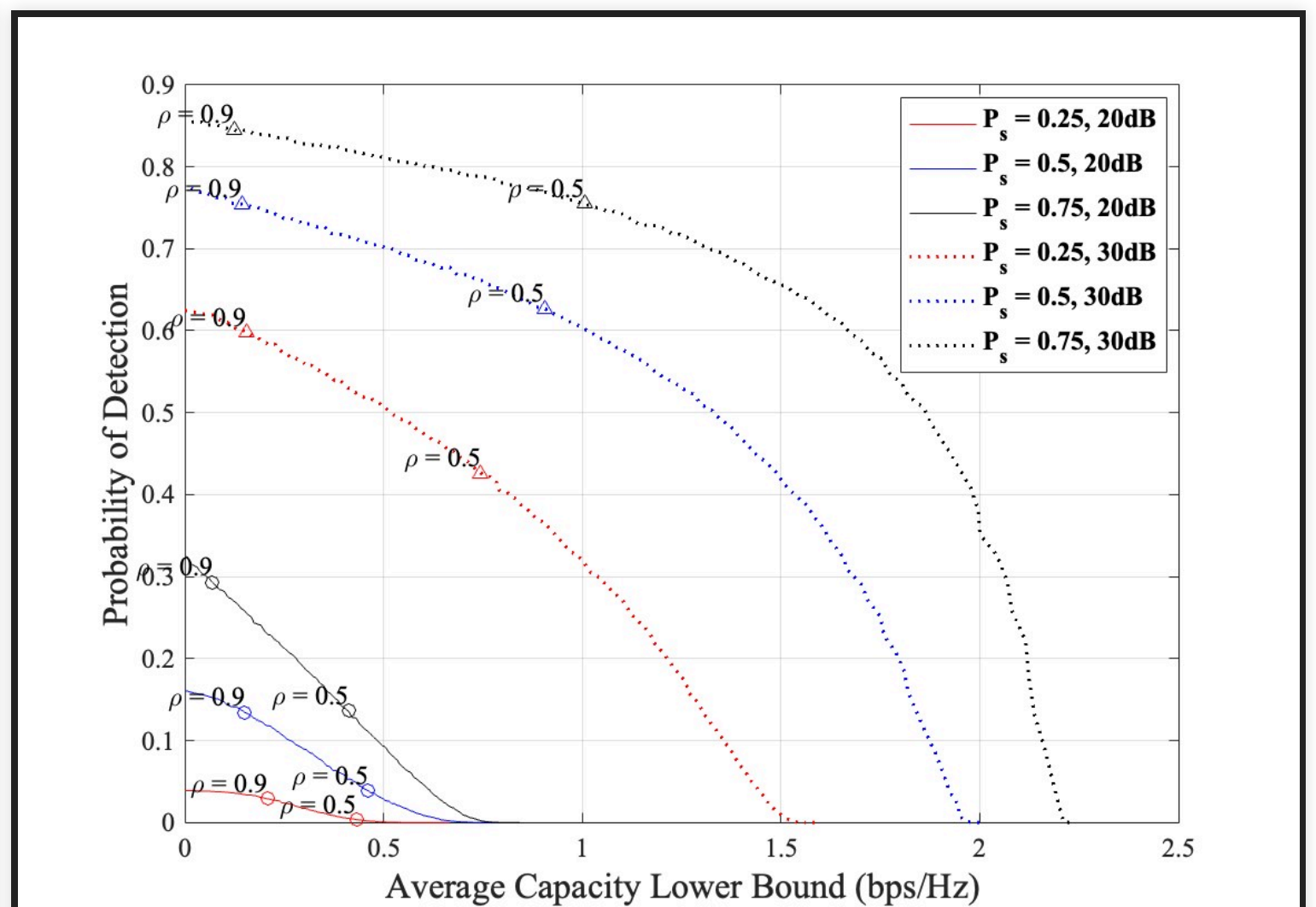
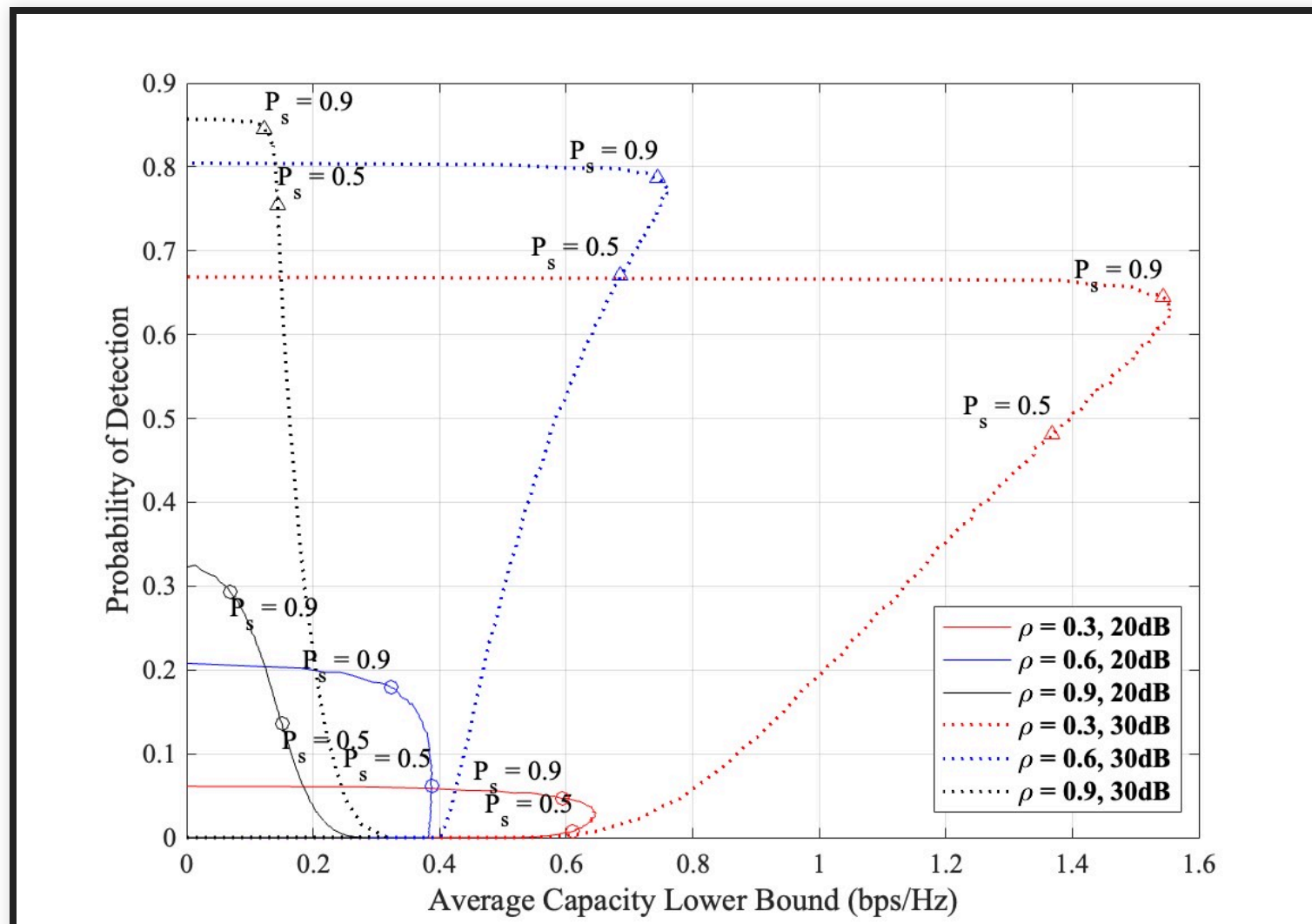
► Figure 3: Relationship between capacity metrics & P_s

- An equivalent receive SNR of 40 dB, with a subcarrier power splitting of $P_s = 0.5$.
- Both capacity metrics evidently see increases with decreasing ρ , as more power is used for beamforming towards CR
- Inadequate power allocation towards sensing subcarriers → shannon capacity fails to account for uncertainty in channel estimation → disparity between two metrics at low P_s
- Too much power allocated to sensing subcarriers, information-carrying subcarriers experience a decrease in SNR → reduced capacity



NUMERICAL RESULTS

- ▶ **Figure 4a,4b: Pareto regions for joint performance bound of capacity lower bound & PD**
 - ▶ PD approaches 1 with increasing total transmit power & fraction of power allocated for sensing beam ρ
 - ▶ Average capacity lower bound reaches a maximum at around $P_s = 0.9$; decreases as
 - ▶ More power for sensing subcarriers leads to insufficient resources for information-bearing symbols
 - ▶ Less power results in poor channel estimation
 - ▶ Different allocations of beam power $\rho \rightarrow$ non-overlapping performance bounds



CONCLUSION

- ▶ **We demonstrated performance tradeoff between PD and average capacity lower bound for an ISAC system based on MIMO-OFDM**
 - ▶ Optimization of joint performance bound is over fraction of power used for beamforming towards SR / CR, & fraction of power allocated for sensing / communication subcarriers.
- ▶ **We considered incomplete knowledge of channel information, and derived resulting exact PFA & PD expressions from hypothesis testing over channel estimations**
 - ▶ Joint performance bound → influence of joint resource allocation on communication & sensing functionalities.
- ▶ **Tradeoff observed**
 - ▶ Beamforming power allocation between rate & PD.
 - ▶ Subcarrier power allocation for pilot & message symbols → channel estimation quality, detection quality, and communication rate.

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Thank You

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