JOURNAL OF AERONAUTICAL MATERIALS
ISSN: 1005-5053

Vol. 44, Issue-01, 2024
pp. 233-243

OPTIMIZATION TECHNIQUES FOR SMART ANTENNA MAC PROTOCOLS AND INTEGRATION OF SMART ANTENNAS WITH EMERGING TECHNOLOGIES.

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Abstract:

Ad hoc networks are advantageous in emergencies such as natural disasters or military conflicts due to their minimal configuration requirements and rapid deployment capabilities. Dynamic and adaptive routing protocols facilitate the easy formation of ad hoc networks, enhancing their suitability for such situations. These networks possess scalability, fault tolerance, and autonomy, enabling them to operate effectively even without a trusted central authority. Traditionally, ad hoc networks assume nodes are equipped with omnidirectional antennas, providing 360-degree coverage by broadcasting signals in all horizontal directions [1]. However, this approach results in significant energy wastage, as only a small fraction of the transmitted energy reaches the intended recipient. Smart antennas offer several advantages over omnidirectional antennas. By directing energy toward specific directions, smart antennas reduce transmitter energy usage [2]. This directional transmission enhances spatial reuse, network capacity, and antenna gains, leading to substantial improvements in saturation efficiency. Moreover, directional networks benefit from an extended transmission range, as energy is concentrated in a single direction rather than dispersed in all directions. This allows for shorter hop counts and equivalent power consumption compared to omnidirectional networks. Additionally, directional MAC protocols enhance resistance to interference and jamming, further enhancing network reliability in challenging environments [3].

Keywords: Ad hoc networks, Dynamic routing protocols, Smart antennas, Directional transmission, Spatial reuse, Network capacity, Saturation efficiency, Transmission range, MAC protocols, Interference resistance.

Introduction:

Smart antennas have emerged as a superior alternative to omnidirectional antennas due to their lower power consumption, reduced interference, and extended transmission range [4]. Numerous studies have investigated MAC protocols utilizing smart antennas for Wireless Ad hoc Networks (WANETs) [2]. Smart antennas find application in various types of ad hoc networks including Mobile Ad hoc Networks (MANETs), Vehicular Ad hoc Networks (VANETs), and Smart Phone Ad hoc Networks (SPANs) [2, 5]. Their unique features enable secure wireless communication by mitigating risks such as jamming and eavesdropping, particularly in military applications [2, 6]. Directional transmission prevents signals from reaching unintended destinations, offering confidentiality advantages in border areas [2, 7]. To enhance the effective utilization of smart antennas. These include the Switched Beam Antenna Array MAC (SBAA-MAC) framework, Adaptive MAC and Modified Link State Routing

Protocol (AMAC-MLSR), and Nullifying MAC (NULLMAC) framework [2, 3]. The SBAA-MAC framework employs switched beam antenna arrays and operates as an adaptive, asynchronous, and distributed medium access control protocol [2, 9]. It introduces an additional control gap between Request to Send (RTS)/Clear to Send (CTS) and data packets to schedule concurrent transmissions [2, 10]. Each node can determine the active neighbor nodes through the use of antenna information (ANT) [2, 11]. Consequently, packets are not transmitted in the direction of active nodes, leveraging directional antenna beams to achieve reduced Energy Usage [2, 12].

The AMAC-MLSR framework, coupled with ESPAR antennas, empowers each node to dynamically maintain neighborhood information via the Signal Angle Table [2, 13]. NLST enables nodes to communicate optimally by selecting the best direction [2, 14]. GLST aggregates topology-related data from all network nodes, updating them periodically using topology update packets through a least visited neighbor first algorithm [2, 15]. Leveraging ESPAR, a modified link-state routing protocol enables directional routing, resulting in minimized Bit Error Rate (BER) and network slowdown [2, 16].

The NULLMAC framework, employing adaptive antennas, utilizes Multiple-Input Multiple-Output (MIMO) channel information to determine transmit/receive antenna array weights [2, 17]. This enables the framework to perform necessary nulling for ongoing communication sessions through Artificial Neural Network (ANN) algorithms [2, 18], reducing interference from unintended users and improving signal-to-noise ratio (SNR). Consequently, the framework supports synchronous multiple communication sessions, thereby enhancing network efficiency [2, 19].

Theoretical Study of PERFORMANCE ANALYSIS OF SBAA-MAC, AMAC-MLSR, AND NULLMAC:

Simulations were carried out to evaluate the proposed SBAA-MAC, AMAC-MLSR, and NULLMAC frameworks alongside their corresponding existing methods [2, 3]. Various factors including efficiency, bit error rate, signal-to-noise ratio, Energy Usage, slowdown, and the number of synchronous communication sessions were considered during the simulation process [2, 3].

1. Comparison of Efficiency:

Efficiency refers to the rate at which data packets are successfully delivered over a communication channel [2, 3], typically measured in bits per second (bps).

Table 1 Comparison of efficiency

Method	Average Efficiency (Kbps)
CMDMAC	5618.55
SBAA-MAC	7719.35

S-MAC	7090.14
AMAC-MLSR	9550.5
ADMAC	8500.2
NULLMAC	10679.46

Table 1 shows the average measurements for three proposed frameworks: SBAA-MAC, NULLMAC, and AMAC-MLSR, alongside their corresponding existing methods CMDMAC, S-MAC, and ADMAC.

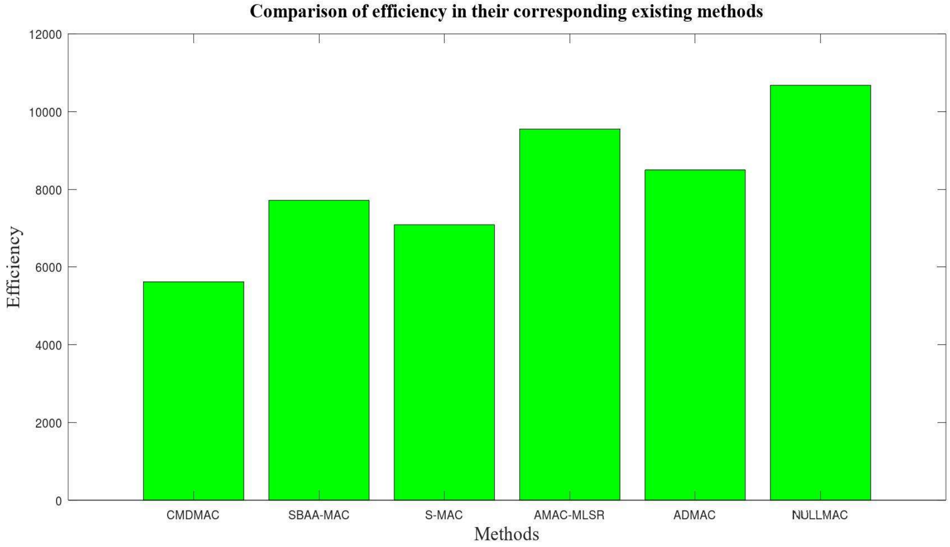

Figure 1 Comparison of efficiency

Observations from Table 1 and Figure 1 indicate that SBAA-MAC achieves an efficiency 42.31% higher compared to its existing method CMDMAC. Similarly, AMAC-MLSR demonstrates an efficiency improvement of 33.21% over its existing method S-MAC. Furthermore, NULLMAC exhibits superior performance, with a 37.52% increase in efficiency compared to its existing method ADMAC. Overall, NULLMAC appears to achieve the highest efficiency among all methods evaluated.

2. Bit error ratio (BER):

The Bit Error Rate (BER) represents the rate at which bits are in error [2, 3], defined as the ratio of the number of bit errors to the total number of bits transmitted within a specified time interval. BER is a dimensionless factor typically expressed as a percentage.

Table 2 Bit error ratio (BER)

Method	Average bit error rate (%)
CMDMAC	0.0308

SBAA-MAC	0.0324
S-MAC	0.0272
AMAC-MLSR	0.0087
ADMAC	0.0381
NULLMAC	0.0221

Table 2. provides an overview of the average bit error rate measurements for the three proposed frameworks SBAA-MAC, NULLMAC, and AMAC-MLSR in comparison with their corresponding existing methods, including CMDMAC, S-MAC, and ADMAC.

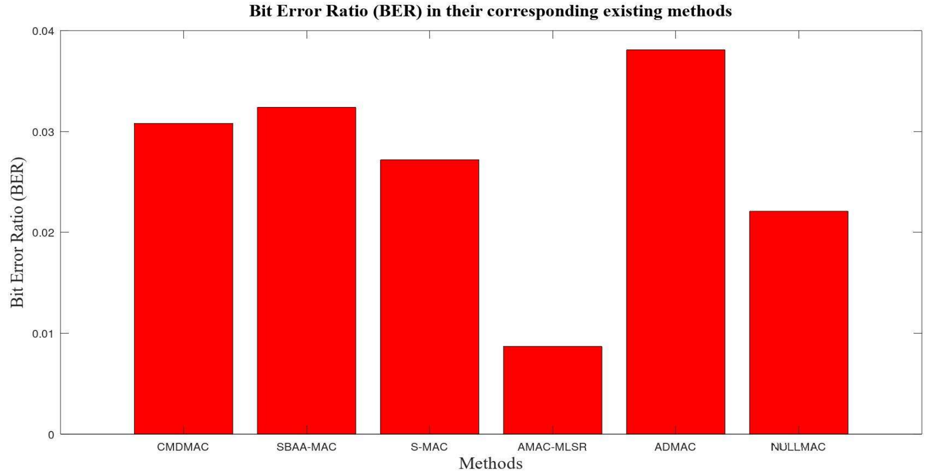

Figure 2. Bit error ratio (BER)

Observations from Table 2 and Figure 2 reveal that the Bit Error Rate (BER) achieved by SBAA-MAC is 49.8% lower compared to its existing method CMDMAC. Similarly, AMAC-MLSR demonstrates a BER reduction of 57.24% compared to its existing method S-MAC. Additionally, the BER of NULLMAC is 49.97% lower compared to its existing method ADMAC. Overall, AMAC-MLSR appears to exhibit significantly lower BER compared to all the methods evaluated.

3. Comparison of Signal to Noise Ratio:

The Signal-to-noise ratio (SNR) represents the ratio of the average power of the information signal to the combined average power of all interference and noise sources [2, 3]. SNR is commonly expressed in decibels (dB).

Table 3 Comparison of signal-to-noise ratio

Method	Average signal-to-noise ratio (dB)
CMDMAC	30.58
SBAA-MAC	50.70
S-MAC	40.05

AMAC-MLSR	61.04
ADMAC	55.90
NULLMAC	78.12

Table 3 outlines the average signal-to-noise ratio measurements for the three proposed frameworks SBAA-MAC, NULLMAC, and AMAC-MLSR in comparison with their corresponding existing methods, including CMDMAC, S-MAC, and ADMAC.

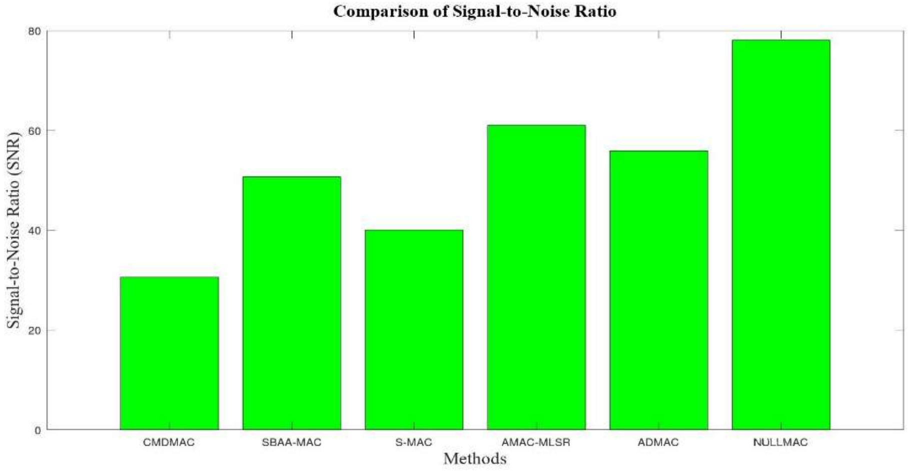

Figure 3 Comparison of signal-to-noise ratio

Observations from Table 3 and Figure 3 indicate that the Signal-to-noise ratio (SNR) achieved by SBAA-MAC is 34.9% higher compared to its existing method CMDMAC. Similarly, AMAC-MLSR exhibits an SNR improvement of 39.36% over its existing method S-MAC. Furthermore, NULLMAC demonstrates superior performance in terms of SNR, with a 44.26% increase compared to its existing method ADMAC. Overall, NULLMAC appears to achieve the highest SNR among all the methods evaluated.

4. Comparison of Energy usage:

Energy Usage during message distribution is evaluated by considering the energy consumed by an individual mobile node relative to the total number of mobile nodes in the network [2, 3]. Energy Usage is typically quantified in terms of Joules (J).

Table 4 Comparison of Energy Usage

Method	Average Energy Usage (Joules)
CMDMAC	70.05
SBAA-MAC	43.02
S-MAC	64.38
AMAC-MLSR	48.76
ADMAC	56.67

NULLMAC	55.61

Table 4 presents an assessment of the effectiveness of the three proposed frameworks—SBAA-MAC, NULLMAC, and AMAC-MLSR—compared to their corresponding existing methods, namely CMDMAC, S-MAC, and ADMAC.

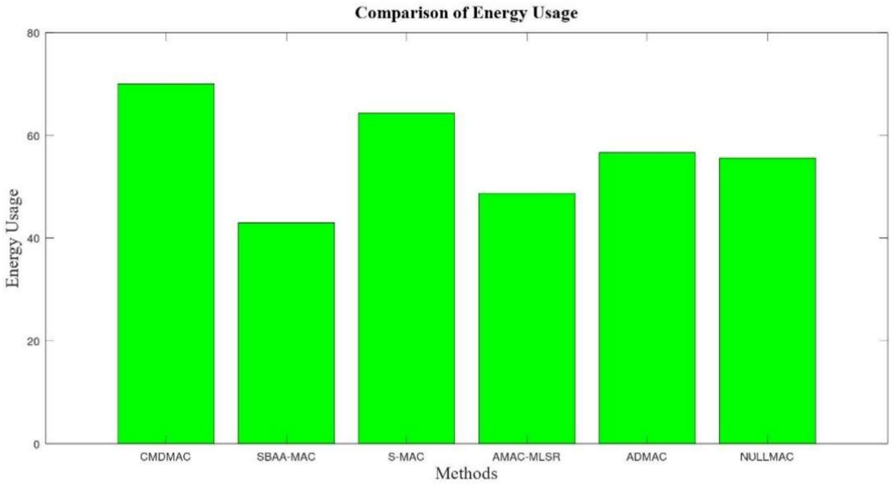

Figure 4 Comparison of Energy usage

Observations from Table 4 and Figure 4 reveal that the Energy Usage in SBAA-MAC is 39.63% lower compared to its existing method CMDMAC. Similarly, AMAC-MLSR demonstrates a 24.35% reduction in Energy Usage compared to its existing method S-MAC. Additionally, the Energy Usage of NULLMAC is 2.13% lower compared to its existing method ADMAC. Overall, SBAA-MAC appears to exhibit significantly lower Energy Usage compared to all the methods evaluated.

5. Comparison of Slowdown:

Network slowdown refers to the time taken for a data bit to travel from the source to the destination within a network [2, 3]. It is commonly measured in fractions of seconds.

Table 5 Comparison of slowdown

Method	Average slowdown (ms)
CMDMAC	5.39
SBAA-MAC	6.08
S-MAC	4.51
AMAC-MLSR	2.09
ADMAC	5.29
NULLMAC	5.10

Table 5 provides details on the average slowdown of the three proposed frameworks SBAA-MAC, NULLMAC, and AMAC-MLSR in comparison with their corresponding existing methods, including CMDMAC, S-MAC, and ADMAC.

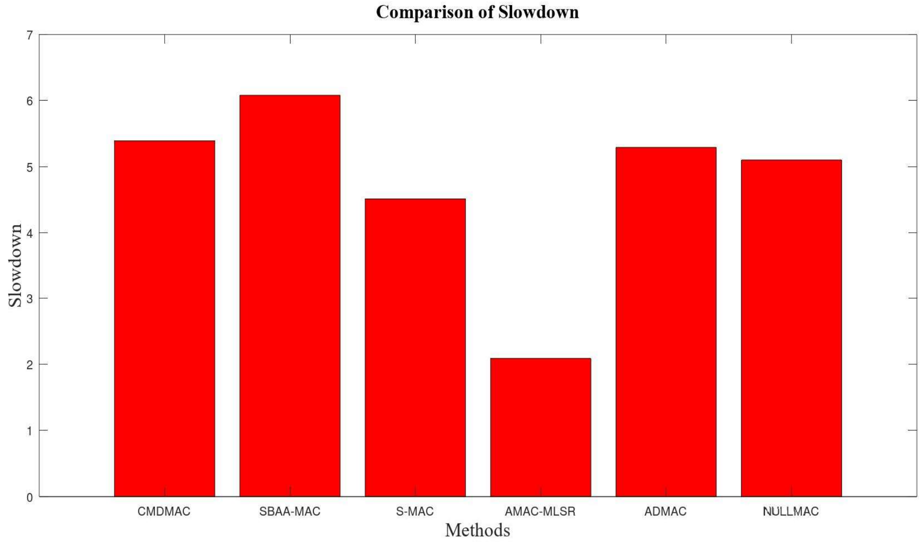

Figure 5 Comparison of slowdown

Observations from Table 5 and Figure 5 reveal that the slowdown in the existing method CMDMAC is 19.47% lower than that of the proposed method SBAA-MAC. Similarly, AMAC-MLSR demonstrates a 17.36% reduction in slowdown compared to its existing method S-MAC. Additionally, the slowdown in NULLMAC is 9.36% lower than that of its existing method ADMAC. Overall, the slowdown in AMAC-MLSR appears to be significantly lower compared to all the methods. However, it's noted that NULLMAC experiences an increased slowdown compared to SMAC and AMAC-MLSR due to the determination of weight vectors and conveying them to neighboring nodes.

6. **Comparison of Synchronous Communication:**

Synchronous communication refers to the maximum number of node pairs engaged in overlapping communications synchronously [2, 3]. It is primarily influenced by the null steering capability and the current network topology.

Table 6 Comparison of synchronous communication

Method	Number of Synchronous Communication
CMDMAC	11
SBAA-MAC	12
S-MAC	13
AMAC-MLSR	16
ADMAC	14
NULLMAC	15

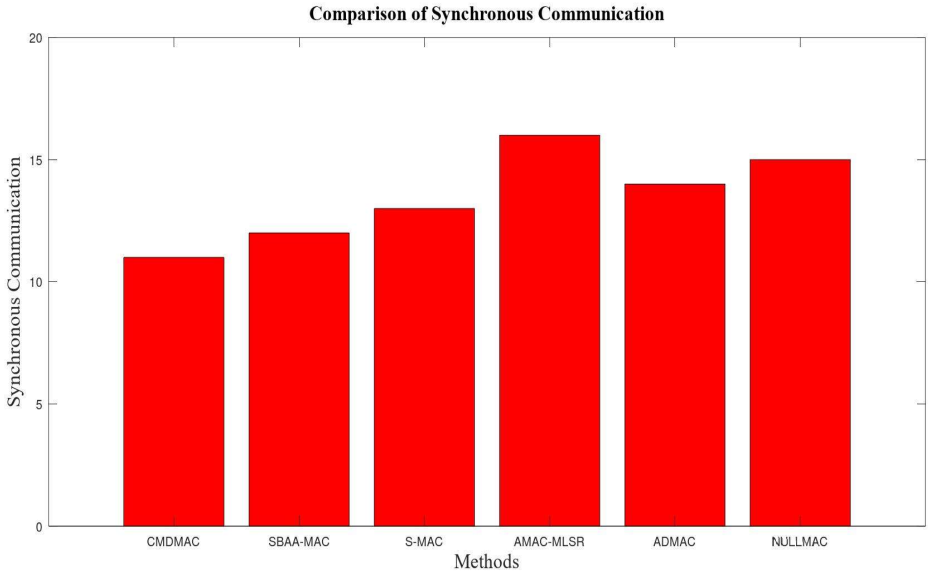

Figure 6 Comparison of synchronous communication

Observations from Table 6 and Figure 6 indicate that the number of synchronous communications facilitated by SBAA-MAC is 39% greater than that of its existing method CMDMAC. Similarly, AMAC-MLSR demonstrates an improvement of 39.16% over its existing method S-MAC, while NULLMAC supports more synchronous communication by 39.83% compared to its existing method ADMAC. Overall, the number of synchronous communications achieved by NULLMAC appears to be high compared to all the methods. However, in the case of SBAA-MAC, the number of synchronous communications is limited to 11 due to the wider beam width of the switched beam antenna, leading to reduced channel utilization and subsequently decreased efficiency.

7. Comparable Analysis:

A comparable analysis of the three proposed frameworks and their corresponding existing methods has been presented in Table 7 [2, 3]

Table 7 Comparable analysis

Method	Efficiency	BER (%)	SNR (dB)	Energy Usage (Joules)	Slowdown (ms)	No.of synchronous communication
CMDMAC	5618.55	0.0308	30.58	70.05	5.39	11
SBAA-MAC	7719.35	0.0324	50.70	43.02	6.08	12

S-MAC	7090.14	0.0272	40.05	64.38	4.51	13
AMAC-MLSR	9550.5	0.0087	61.04	48.76	2.09	16
ADMAC	8500.2	0.0381	55.90	56.67	5.29	14
NULLMAC	10679.46	0.0221	78.12	55.61	5.10	15

The results indicate that the average efficiency achieved in NULLMAC is 10679.46 Kbps, which appears to be higher compared to all other methods. The average Bit Error Rate (BER) of AMAC-MLSR is notably lower compared to the other methods, standing at approximately 0.0087%. In terms of signal-to-noise ratio (SNR), NULLMAC demonstrates an average SNR of about 78.12 dB, which appears to be higher than other methods. The average Energy Usage is recorded at 43.02 Joules for SBAA-MAC, significantly lower compared to all other methods. AMAC-MLSR exhibits an average slowdown of 2.09 ms, notably lower compared to other methods. Additionally, the number of synchronous communications facilitated by NULLMAC is 15, which appears to be higher compared to all other methods.

8. Conclusion:

A comprehensive analysis has been conducted on the proposed frameworks, namely SBAA-MAC, AMAC-MLSR, and NULLMAC [2, 3]. Theoretical evaluations and experimental results suggest that NULLMAC, equipped with adaptive antennas, outperforms in terms of efficiency, signal-to-noise ratio, and support for synchronous communication. This superiority is attributed to the utilisation of Artificial Neural Network (ANN) algorithms, which facilitate the design of transmit and receive antenna weights to nullify interfering users. Following closely, AMAC-MLSR, employing ESPAR antennas, exhibits a reduced bit error rate and slowdown. This enhancement is facilitated by the Global Link State Table (GLST), which provides network nodes with approximate knowledge of network topology, enabling packets to be directed toward the optimal direction through the Signal Angle Table (SAT) and Neighbour Link State Table (NLST). Lastly, SBAA-MAC demonstrates significantly lower Energy Usage compared to the other two proposed methods. This efficiency is achieved through the Adaptive Control Gap (ACG), which allows neighbor nodes to schedule concurrent transmissions, while the Antenna Control Table (ANT) provides essential information to avoid transmissions towards active nodes using the switched beam antenna array.

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