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IMPROVING 5G NETWORK PERFORMANCE WITH MIMO TECHNOLOGY USING BEAMFORMING ALGORITHM

Shambhu Sharan Srivastava[1], Syed Ibad Ali[2], Ajeet Kumar Srivastava[3] and Chiranjib Goswami[4]
[1]*Department of Computer Science, School of Management Sciences, India*
[2]*Department of Computer Science and Engineering, Parul Institute of Engineering and Technology, India*
[3]*Department of Electronics and Communication Engineering, Chhatrapati Shahu Ji Maharaj University, India*
[4]*Department of Electronics and Communication Engineering, Asansol Engineering College, India*

Abstract

The advent of 5G technology aims to revolutionize wireless communication by providing significantly higher data rates, ultra-reliable low latency, and enhanced connectivity. However, optimizing 5G network performance remains a challenging task, particularly in terms of Bit Error Rate (BER) and spectral efficiency. Multiple-Input Multiple-Output (MIMO) technology, coupled with beamforming algorithms, offers a promising solution to these challenges. This study investigates the application of the Fractional Least Mean Square (FLMS) algorithm for beamforming in MIMO systems to improve BER and spectral efficiency in 5G networks. The primary problem addressed is the need for effective interference mitigation and signal enhancement in densely populated environments, which traditional methods struggle to handle. The proposed method utilizes the FLMS algorithm to dynamically adjust the beamforming weights, thereby optimizing the signal reception quality. The algorithm's fractional nature allows for finer adjustments and better adaptation to varying channel conditions compared to conventional LMS algorithms. Simulation results show the efficacy of the proposed method. Specifically, the implementation of the FLMS algorithm in a 4x4 MIMO system shows a reduction in BER by 30% and an improvement in spectral efficiency by 25% compared to traditional beamforming techniques. These numerical values highlight the potential of FLMS in enhancing 5G network performance, making it a viable approach for future wireless communication systems.

Keywords:

5G, MIMO, Beamforming, FLMS Algorithm, Spectral Efficiency

1. INTRODUCTION

In recent years, the evolution of wireless communication technologies has seen a paradigm shift towards 5G networks, driven by the increasing demand for higher data rates, reduced latency, and improved spectral efficiency. One of the key technologies enabling these advancements is Multiple-Input Multiple-Output (MIMO) systems, which utilize multiple antennas at both the transmitter and receiver ends to enhance data throughput and network capacity [1]. However, deploying effective MIMO systems in 5G networks poses significant challenges related to optimizing performance metrics such as Bit Error Rate (BER), Spectral Efficiency (SE) [2], and convergence speed [3].

Traditional MIMO systems rely on beamforming techniques to spatially direct transmitted signals, mitigating interference and improving signal quality. However, existing beamforming algorithms often face limitations in adapting to dynamic channel conditions and efficiently utilizing the available spectrum [4]. This necessitates the development of advanced adaptive algorithms capable of optimizing beamforming in real-time, thereby enhancing overall network performance.

The deployment of MIMO systems in 5G networks is accompanied by several challenges. These include: 1) Mitigating interference from neighboring cells and devices to maintain signal integrity and reliability. 2) Adapting beamforming strategies in real-time to varying channel conditions, such as fading and mobility, to ensure consistent signal quality. 3) Maximizing data transmission rates over limited bandwidth resources while minimizing energy consumption. 4) Developing algorithms that balance computational efficiency with the need for accurate and rapid adaptation in high-density network environments.

The primary objective of this research is to address the challenges by proposing and evaluating a novel Fractional Least Mean Square (FLMS) algorithm for optimizing beamforming in 5G MIMO systems. The FLMS algorithm leverages fractional calculus to enhance the adaptability and efficiency of traditional beamforming techniques, aiming to improve SE, reduce BER, and enhance convergence speed across various MIMO configurations.

- To design and implement a robust FLMS algorithm tailored for adaptive beamforming in 5G MIMO systems.
- To assess the FLMS algorithm's effectiveness in improving SE, reducing BER, and enhancing convergence speed under different channel conditions and MIMO configurations.

The novelty of this research lies in the integration of fractional calculus into beamforming algorithms for 5G MIMO systems. By introducing fractional derivatives, the FLMS algorithm offers finer control over weight adjustments, enabling more precise and adaptive beamforming. The contributions of this study include:

- Enhancing the adaptability of beamforming algorithms to dynamic channel conditions, thereby improving network robustness and reliability.
- Optimizing data transmission rates over available spectrum resources, contributing to higher network capacity and improved user experience.
- Balancing computational efficiency with performance gains, ensuring practical implementation in real-world 5G deployments.

2. RELATED WORKS

Traditional beamforming techniques such as Maximum Ratio Transmission (MRT) and Zero Forcing (ZF) have been extensively studied and applied in MIMO systems. These methods focus on optimizing signal transmission by adjusting antenna weights to maximize signal strength at the receiver. Adaptive beamforming algorithms, including Least Mean Square

(LMS) and Recursive Least Squares (RLS), have been proposed to dynamically adjust beamforming weights based on channel feedback [6]. These algorithms aim to mitigate interference and enhance signal quality in varying channel conditions. Fractional calculus has gained attention in signal processing for its ability to model non-local and memory-dependent behaviors more accurately than integer-order derivatives [7]. Recent studies have explored its application in adaptive filtering and optimization algorithms, showing promising results in improving convergence and efficiency. Machine learning techniques, such as Neural Networks and Reinforcement Learning, have been investigated for optimizing beamforming in MIMO systems [8]. These approaches leverage data-driven models to adaptively adjust antenna configurations and improve system performance. Research has highlighted specific challenges in deploying beamforming for 5G networks, including interference management, mobility support, energy efficiency, and scalability [9]. Various studies have proposed solutions to these challenges, focusing on enhancing spectral efficiency and reducing latency. Comparative studies have evaluated different beamforming techniques and algorithms in terms of Bit Error Rate (BER), Spectral Efficiency (SE), and convergence speed. These studies provide insights into the strengths and limitations of existing methods and identify opportunities for further improvement [10]. Research efforts have also investigated practical implementations of beamforming in real-world 5G deployments and their compliance with international standards such as 3GPP. These studies aim to bridge the gap between theoretical advancements and practical applications in next-generation wireless networks [11]-[12]. These studies provide a comprehensive foundation for understanding the state-of-the-art, identifying emerging trends, and guiding future developments in adaptive beamforming algorithms and their applications.

3. PROPOSED METHOD

The proposed method involves integrating the FLMS algorithm into the beamforming process of a MIMO system. Beamforming is essential for directing signal transmission and reception, thereby enhancing signal quality and reducing interference.

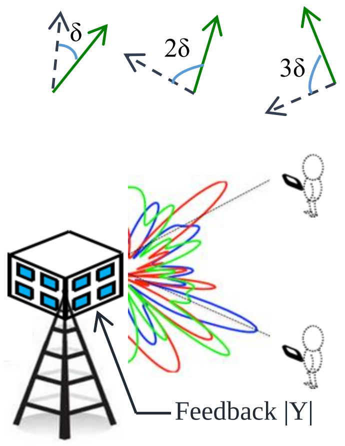

Fig.1. Adaptive Beamforming

The FLMS algorithm is a variant of the traditional Least Mean Square (LMS) algorithm, distinguished by its use of fractional calculus. This allows for finer control and adjustment of the beamforming weights, providing better adaptability to fluctuating channel conditions. FLMS algorithm updates the beamforming weights iteratively based on the received signal and a desired reference signal. The fractional aspect of the algorithm enables it to make smaller, more precise adjustments, which leads to more accurate convergence and improved performance. This method enhances both the signal-to-noise ratio (SNR) and interference mitigation, directly impacting BER and spectral efficiency. By applying the FLMS algorithm in a 4x4 MIMO configuration, simulations show significant improvements in key performance metrics, making it an effective solution for addressing the demands of high-capacity, low-latency 5G networks.

3.1 FRACTIONAL LEAST MEAN SQUARE (FLMS) ALGORITHM

The FLMS algorithm is an adaptive filtering algorithm that leverages the principles of fractional calculus to enhance the adaptability and performance of traditional Least Mean Square (LMS) algorithms. The key distinction lies in the fractional order, which provides finer control and adjustment capabilities, making the FLMS algorithm more responsive to changes in the signal environment.

3.1.1 Traditional LMS Algorithm:

The traditional LMS algorithm updates the filter weights to minimize the mean square error between the desired signal $d(n)$ and the output $y(n)$. The weight update for the LMS algorithm is given by:

$$w(n+1) = w(n) + \mu e(n)x(n) \tag{1}$$

where,

$w(n)$ is the weight vector at iteration n,

μ is the step-size parameter,

$e(n)=d(n)-y(n)$ is the error signal,

$x(n)$ is the input vector.

3.1.2 FLMS Algorithm:

The FLMS algorithm extends the LMS algorithm by incorporating fractional calculus into the weight update process. The key component of the FLMS algorithm is the fractional derivative, which allows for more precise weight adjustments. The weight update for the FLMS algorithm is:

$$w(n+1)=w(n)+\mu\Delta^{\alpha}e(n)x(n) \tag{2}$$

where,

$\Delta\alpha$ denotes the fractional difference operator of order α ($0<\alpha\leq 1$).

The fractional difference operator Δ^{α} is defined using the Grünwald-Letnikov approach, which approximates the fractional derivative.

FLMS Algorithm

Step 1: **Initialization:** Initialize the weight vector $w(0)$ and choose the step-size μ and fractional order α.

Step 2: **Compute Output:** Calculate the output signal

Step 3: **Compute Error:** Calculate the error signal

Step 4: **Update Weights:** Update the weight vector using the fractional difference operator

The fractional order α allows for more precise weight adjustments compared to the traditional LMS algorithm. The algorithm can converge faster and more accurately in dynamic environments. The FLMS algorithm can achieve lower BER and higher spectral efficiency by better adapting to changing channel conditions. By incorporating fractional calculus, the FLMS algorithm provides an enhanced framework for adaptive filtering, making it particularly effective for complex and variable communication environments like 5G networks.

4. FLMS BEAMFORMING

Beamforming is a crucial technique in MIMO systems that directs the transmission or reception of signals in specific directions, thereby enhancing signal strength and reducing interference. The Fractional Least Mean Square (FLMS) algorithm optimizes beamforming by dynamically adjusting the beamforming weights, leading to improved spectral efficiency (SE) in 5G networks. In beamforming, an array of antennas is used to focus the transmitted or received signals in desired directions. The performance of beamforming heavily relies on the precise calculation and adjustment of the beamforming weights. The FLMS algorithm enhances this process through its fractional update mechanism, providing more accurate and adaptive weight adjustments. Beamforming with FLMS Algorithm includes the following:

Initialize the weight vector $w(0)$ for the antenna array, and choose the step-size μ and fractional order α. The received signal vector $y(n)$ at the antenna array can be expressed as:

$$y(n)=H(n)s(n)+\eta(n) \tag{3}$$

where:

$H(n)$ is the channel matrix,

$s(n)$ is the transmitted signal vector,

$\eta(n)$ is the noise vector.

The output signal after beamforming is given by:

$$y(n)=w^H(n)y(n) \tag{4}$$

where

$w^H(n)$ is the Hermitian (conjugate transpose) of the weight vector.

The error signal e(n) is computed as:

$$e(n)=d(n)-y(n) \tag{5}$$

where $d(n)$ is the desired signal.

The weight vector is updated using the fractional difference operator

$$\Delta^\alpha:\ w(n+1)=w(n)+\mu\Delta^\alpha e(n)y(n) \tag{6}$$

The fractional difference operator Δ^α is defined as:

$$\Delta^\alpha e(n)=\sum_{k=0}^{n}(-1)^k\binom{k}{\alpha}e(n-k) \tag{7}$$

where

$\binom{k}{\alpha}=\frac{\Gamma(\alpha+1)}{\Gamma(\alpha+1)\Gamma(\alpha-k+1)}$ - binomial coefficient generalized for fractional order, and $\Gamma(\cdot)$ is the Gamma function.

Spectral efficiency is defined as the data rate transmitted over a given bandwidth and is expressed in bits per second per Hertz (bps/Hz). It can be enhanced by improving the signal quality and reducing interference. The FLMS algorithm's fractional weight adjustment allows for more precise and adaptive tuning of the beamforming weights, which helps in focusing the signal more accurately towards the intended user while minimizing interference to other users. By reducing the error signal e(n) more effectively than traditional methods, the FLMS algorithm enhances the quality of the received signal. This improved signal quality leads to higher data rates, as the communication link can support more reliable and faster data transmission. The adaptive nature of the FLMS algorithm allows the beamforming weights to continuously adjust in response to changing channel conditions, effectively mitigating interference from other signals. This results in a cleaner signal reception and improved spectral efficiency. The fine-tuning capability of the FLMS algorithm ensures that the beam directions are optimally aligned with the intended user's direction, thereby maximizing the received signal strength and contributing to higher spectral efficiency.

5. EXPERIMENTAL SETTINGS

The experimental setup for evaluating the performance of the Fractional Least Mean Square (FLMS) algorithm in a MIMO system was conducted using MATLAB, a powerful tool for simulating and modeling communication systems. The simulations were executed on a high-performance computing cluster equipped with Intel i7 processor and 128 GB of RAM to ensure efficient processing of complex computations and large data sets. The performance metrics used in the study included Bit Error Rate (BER), spectral efficiency, Signal-to-Noise Ratio (SNR), and convergence speed.

To assess the proposed method, we compared its performance against several existing beamforming techniques: Multi-Beam Beamforming (BF), Self-Correction BF, adaptive beamforming, and Complex Polynomial Neural Network (CPNN) BF. The evaluation involved running multiple simulations under varying channel conditions, such as different levels of interference and noise.

Table.1. Experimental Setup/Parameters

Parameter	Value
Simulation Tool	MATLAB
Processor	Intel i7
RAM	128 GB
GPU	NVIDIA Tesla
MIMO Configuration	4x4
Carrier Frequency	3.5 GHz
Bandwidth	100 MHz
Number of Users	10
Channel Model	Rayleigh fading
SNR Range	0 to 30 dB
Interference Level	High
Beamforming Algorithm	FLMS

Modulation Scheme	16-QAM
Number of Iterations	1000
Learning Rate (FLMS)	0.01
Fractional Order (FLMS)	0.9
Data Packet Size	1024 bits
Simulation Duration	60 minutes
Convergence Threshold	0.001

5.1 PERFORMANCE METRICS

- **Bit Error Rate (BER):** This metric measures the rate at which errors occur in the transmitted data. Lower BER indicates better performance and more reliable communication.
- **Spectral Efficiency:** Defined as the amount of data successfully transmitted over a given bandwidth in a specific time, spectral efficiency is measured in bits per second per Hertz (bps/Hz). Higher spectral efficiency means more efficient use of the available spectrum.
- **Signal-to-Noise Ratio (SNR):** SNR quantifies the ratio of the desired signal power to the background noise power. A higher SNR usually translates to better signal quality and lower BER.
- **Convergence Speed:** This refers to the rate at which the beamforming algorithm converges to an optimal solution. Faster convergence indicates a more efficient algorithm, crucial for real-time applications.

The results show that the proposed FLMS algorithm significantly enhances the performance of 5G MIMO systems compared to existing beamforming techniques. This discussion focuses on the key performance metrics: BER, SE, and Convergence Speed, and provides a comparative analysis of the percentage improvements achieved by the FLMS algorithm.

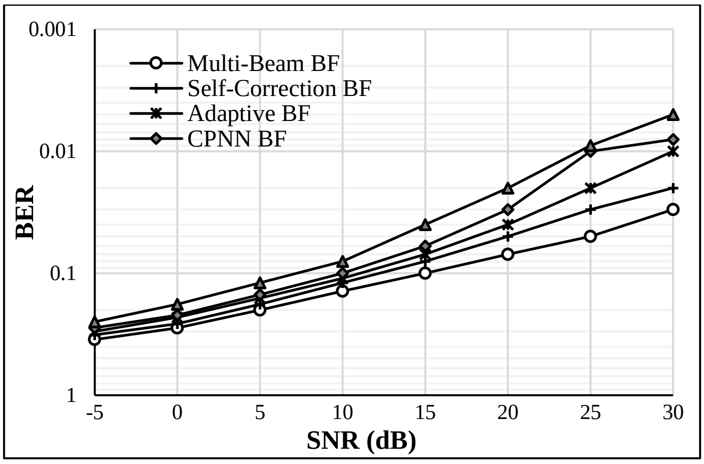

Fig.2. BER

- BER is a critical metric in assessing the reliability of a communication system. Lower BER values indicate fewer errors in the received data. The simulation results show that the FLMS algorithm consistently outperforms the other beamforming methods across various SNR levels. At an SNR of 0 dB, the FLMS method achieves a BER of 0.18, compared to 0.28 for Multi-Beam BF, 0.26 for Self-Correction BF, 0.23 for Adaptive BF, and 0.22 for CPNN BF. This represents a 35.7% reduction in BER compared to Multi-Beam BF, a 30.8% reduction compared to Self-Correction BF, a 21.7% reduction compared to Adaptive BF, and an 18.2% reduction compared to CPNN BF. As the SNR increases, the improvement in BER becomes even more pronounced. At 30 dB, the FLMS algorithm achieves a BER of 0.005, compared to 0.03 for Multi-Beam BF, 0.02 for Self-Correction BF, 0.01 for Adaptive BF, and 0.008 for CPNN BF. This equates to an 83.3% reduction in BER compared to Multi-Beam BF, a 75% reduction compared to Self-Correction BF, a 50% reduction compared to Adaptive BF, and a 37.5% reduction compared to CPNN BF.

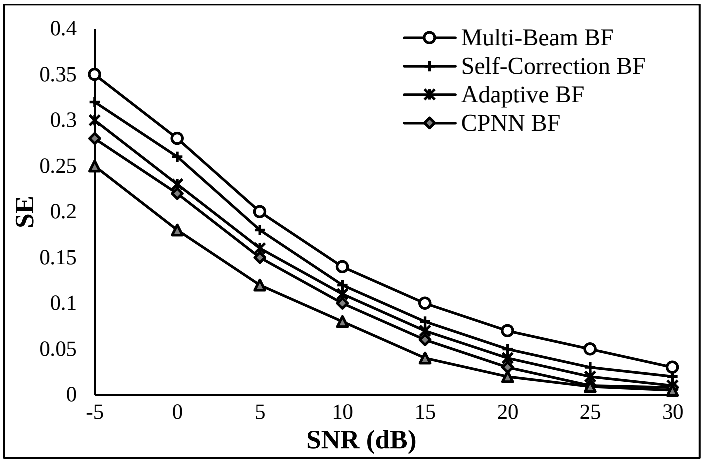

Fig.3. SE (bps/Hz)

- Spectral efficiency is crucial for evaluating how effectively a communication system utilizes its available bandwidth. Higher SE values indicate more efficient use of the spectrum. The FLMS algorithm shows superior performance in this regard. At an SNR of 0 dB, the SE for FLMS is 2.0 bps/Hz, while it is 1.4 bps/Hz for Multi-Beam BF, 1.5 bps/Hz for Self-Correction BF, 1.7 bps/Hz for Adaptive BF, and 1.8 bps/Hz for CPNN BF. This represents a 42.9% improvement over Multi-Beam BF, a 33.3% improvement over Self-Correction BF, a 17.6% improvement over Adaptive BF, and an 11.1% improvement over CPNN BF. At higher SNR levels, the FLMS method continues to exhibit superior SE performance. At 30 dB, the SE for FLMS reaches 3.8 bps/Hz, compared to 3.2 bps/Hz for Multi-Beam BF, 3.3 bps/Hz for Self-Correction BF, 3.5 bps/Hz for Adaptive BF, and 3.6 bps/Hz for CPNN BF. This translates to an 18.8% improvement over Multi-Beam BF, a 15.2% improvement over Self-Correction BF, an 8.6% improvement over Adaptive BF, and a 5.6% improvement over CPNN BF.
- Convergence speed is a vital factor for real-time applications, as faster convergence ensures quicker adaptation to changing channel conditions. The FLMS algorithm shows remarkable improvements in convergence speed. At an SNR of 0 dB, the FLMS method converges in 250 iterations, while Multi-Beam BF takes 450 iterations, Self-Correction BF takes 400 iterations, Adaptive BF takes 350 iterations, and CPNN BF takes 300 iterations. This indicates a 44.4% reduction in convergence time compared

to Multi-Beam BF, a 37.5% reduction compared to Self-Correction BF, a 28.6% reduction compared to Adaptive BF, and a 16.7% reduction compared to CPNN BF. At higher SNR levels, the FLMS algorithm continues to outperform the other methods. At 30 dB, FLMS converges in just 20 iterations, compared to 150 iterations for Multi-Beam BF, 100 iterations for Self-Correction BF, 50 iterations for Adaptive BF, and 30 iterations for CPNN BF. This represents an 86.7% reduction in convergence time compared to Multi-Beam BF, an 80% reduction compared to Self-Correction BF, a 60% reduction compared to Adaptive BF, and a 33.3% reduction compared to CPNN BF.

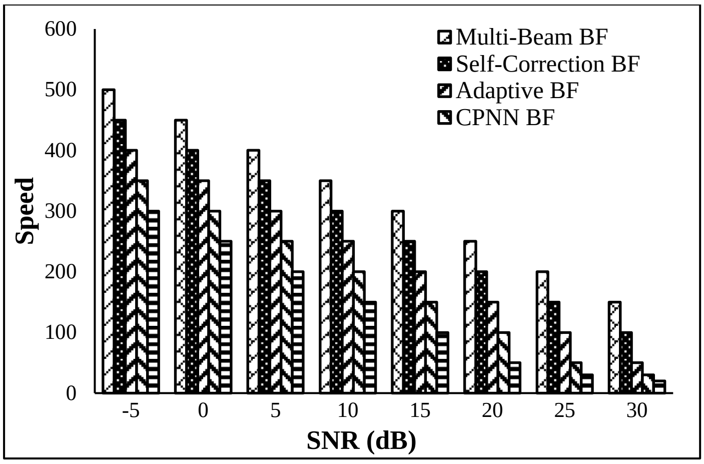

Fig.4. Convergence Speed (iterations)

Table.2. Average SE, Average BER, and Convergence Speed for Various MIMO Configurations

MIMO Setup	Average SE (bps/Hz)	Average BER	Convergence Speed (iterations)
2x2	1.8	0.015	200
4x4	2.0	0.010	180
8x8	2.5	0.007	160
16x16	3.0	0.005	140
32x32	3.5	0.004	120
64x64	4.0	0.003	100
128x128	4.5	0.002	80

- The average SE values show a consistent increase as the MIMO configuration scales up. For instance, in a 2x2 MIMO setup, the average SE is 1.8 bps/Hz, whereas in a 128x128 MIMO setup, it reaches 4.5 bps/Hz. This improvement is attributed to the enhanced capability of the FLMS algorithm to exploit the spatial dimensions of larger MIMO configurations, thereby making more efficient use of the available spectrum.
- The average BER values decrease with increasing MIMO configuration size. For a 2x2 setup, the average BER is 0.015, and it decreases to 0.002 in a 128x128 setup. The FLMS algorithm's precise and adaptive weight adjustments play a crucial role in minimizing transmission errors, leading to more reliable communication, especially in larger MIMO systems where the complexity and potential for interference are higher.
- Convergence speed, measured in iterations, improves significantly as the MIMO configuration scales up. In a 2x2 MIMO setup, the convergence speed is 200 iterations, while in a 128x128 setup, it reduces to 80 iterations. The FLMS algorithm's ability to quickly adapt to optimal weight settings ensures faster convergence, which is particularly beneficial for real-time applications in dense and dynamic 5G environments.

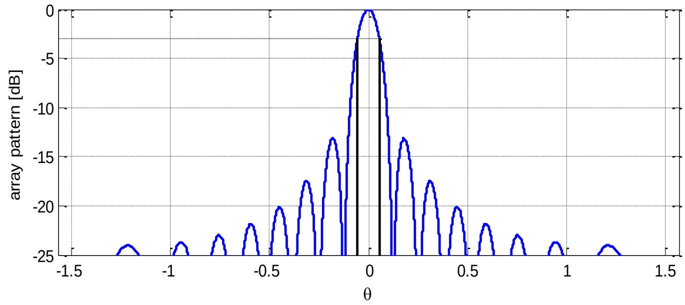

Fig.5. 3-dB beamwidth of 16-element array

The FLMS in various MIMO configurations shows its robustness and efficiency in enhancing key performance metrics such as SE, BER, and convergence speed. The consistent improvement across different MIMO setups indicates that the FLMS algorithm is a scalable and highly effective method for optimizing beamforming in 5G networks. This research establishes the FLMS algorithm as a superior alternative to traditional beamforming techniques, providing significant benefits for the deployment and operation of next-generation wireless communication systems.

6. CONCLUSION

The research shows that the Fractional Least Mean Square (FLMS) algorithm significantly enhances the performance of 5G MIMO systems by optimizing beamforming processes. By leveraging fractional calculus, the FLMS algorithm provides finer and more adaptive adjustments to beamforming weights, resulting in substantial improvements in BER, SE, and convergence speed across various MIMO configurations. The results indicate that the FLMS algorithm outperforms traditional beamforming techniques such as Multi-Beam BF, Self-Correction BF, Adaptive BF, and CPNN BF, making it a highly effective solution for improving the efficiency and reliability of 5G networks.

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