Collaborative Research: Breaking Information Sharing Barrier at Signal Level: A Learning-based Interference Mitigation for Pay-As-You-Go Spectrum Sharing

NSF SWIFT/NewSpectrum PI Meeting September 11-12, 2025

NSF Award #: 2434000

Thomas Hou

Virginia Tech

VIRGINIA TECH.

NSF Award #: 2434001

Huacheng Zeng

Michigan State University

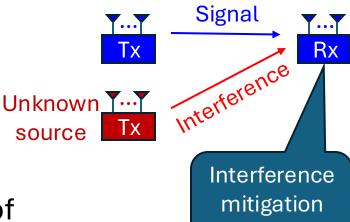


Project Objective

- Interference is a fundamental issue for spectrum sharing
- If wireless systems can share all instantaneous information, interference can be efficiently handled



- However, sharable information limited to high-level parameters
 - Protocol, system, and application levels
 - Examples: spectrum requirement, interference tolerance, wireless standard, waveform type
- Project Goal
 - Design interference mitigation solutions for wireless devices so that they can decode their desired signal in the presence of unknown interference



strategies?

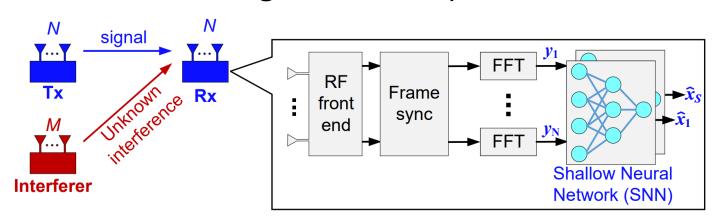
Wireless network 1

Wireless network 2

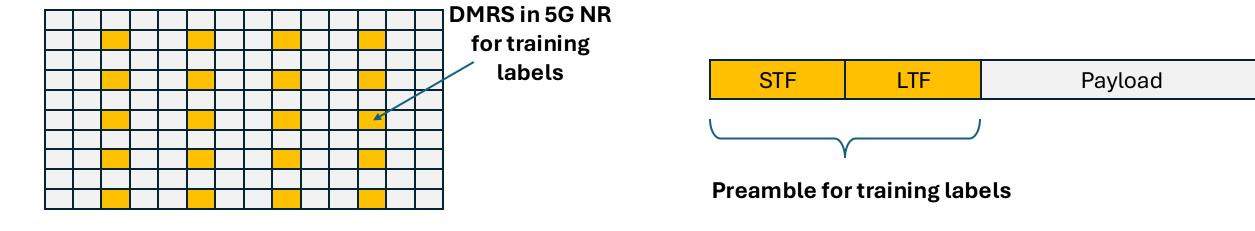
Interference

Our Approach

Learning-based interference mitigation in the spatial domain

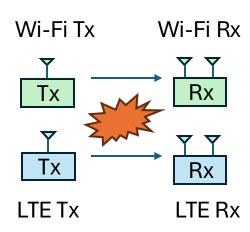


- Critical requirement: efficient training per frame
 - Shallow neural network (SNN), e.g., one or two layers
 - Use pilot/preamble in signal frames for supervised training



Experimental Results (Sub-6 GHz)

- Evaluate the approach via over-the-air experiments
 - One LTE link and one Wi-Fi link
 - Open-source Tx (srsRAN, gr-ieee802-11), no modification
 - Our design and implementation for Rx
 - No coordination between two networks
 - No information sharing between two networks



Mobile network

Static network

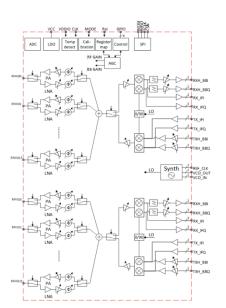


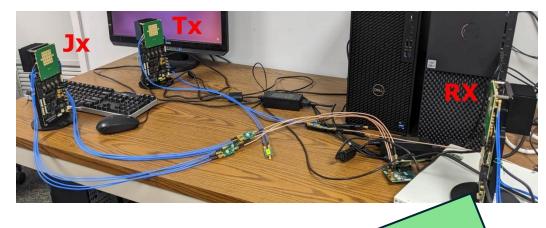


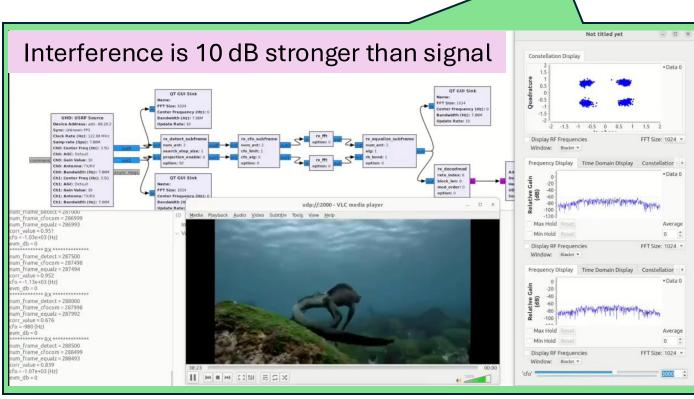
Experimental Results (mmWave)

- Apply the interference mitigation approach to 28GHz mmWave system
 - One Tx, one Rx, and one Jx
 - Can work on a single antenna Rx using its polarization
 - Tx and Jx use fixed beam pointing to Rx
 - Interference mitigation is solely on Rx side:
 Analog BF + Digital BF









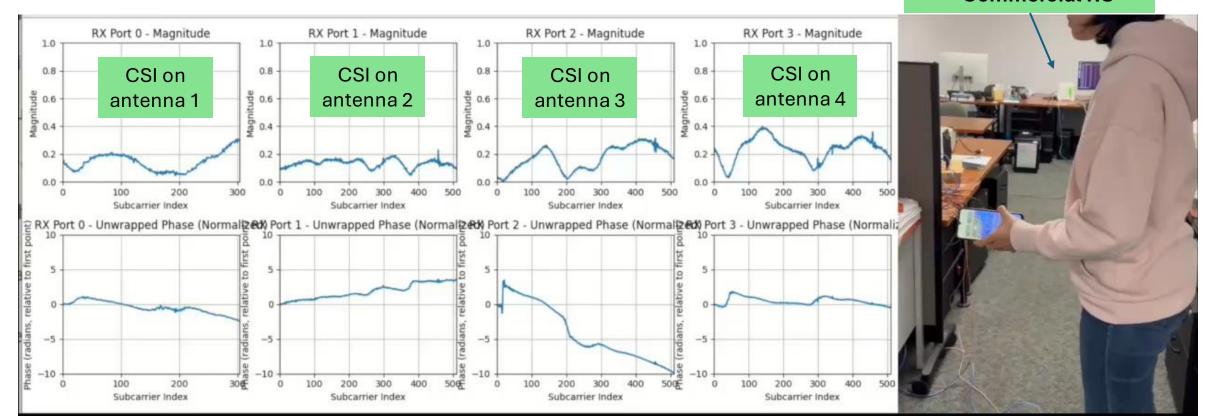
Results and Findings (5G O-RAN)

- Sharing instantaneous CSI is challenging in practice due to the timing and overhead constraints
- Explore AI models to extract the key features that are essential for interference mitigation
 - Temporal features, spatial features, and spectral features



CSI sharing

O-RAN: srsRAN CU/DU + Commercial RU



Broader Impacts

- Have potential to enable concurrent spectrum utilization of heterogeneous networks
 - For example, Wi-Fi and cellular
 - No need for timing sync or CSI sharing

Have potential to advance anti-jamming communications

Have supported two undergraduate students in this project