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Downlink Non-Orthogonal Multiple Access with Limited Feedback

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Abstract

In this paper, we analyze downlink non-orthogonal multiple access (NOMA) networks with limited feedback. Our goal is to derive appropriate transmission rates for rate adaptation and minimize outage probability of minimum rate for the constant-rate data service, based on distributed channel feedback information from receivers. We propose an efficient quantizer with variable-length encoding that approaches the best performance of the case where perfect channel state information is available everywhere. We prove that in the typical application with two receivers, the losses in the minimum rate and outage probability decay at least exponentially with the minimum feedback rate. We analyze the diversity gain and provide a sufficient condition for the quantizer to achieve the maximum diversity order. For NOMA with K receivers where $K > 2$, we solve the minimum rate maximization problem within an accuracy of ε in time complexity of $O(K \log \frac{1}{\varepsilon})$, then, we apply the previously proposed quantizers for $K = 2$ to the case of $K > 2$. Numerical simulations are presented to demonstrate the efficiency of our proposed quantizers and the accuracy of the analytical results.

Index Terms

NOMA, rate adaptation, outage probability, minimum rate, limited feedback

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I. INTRODUCTION

Non-orthogonal multiple access (NOMA) has received significant attention recently for its superior spectral efficiency [2]. It is a promising candidate for mobile communication networks, and has been included in LTE Release 13 for the scenario of two-user downlink transmission under the name of multi-user superposition transmission [3]. The key idea of NOMA is to multiplex multiple users with superposition coding at different power levels, and utilize successive interference cancellation (SIC) at receivers with better channel conditions [4]. Specifically, for NOMA with two receivers, the messages to be sent are superposed with different power allocation coefficients at the BS side. At the receivers' side, the weaker receiver decodes its intended message by treating the other's as noise, while the stronger receiver first decodes the message of the weaker receiver, and then decodes its own by removing the other message from the received signal. In this way, the weaker receiver benefits from larger power, and the stronger receiver is able to decode its own message with no interference. Hence, the overall performance of NOMA is enhanced, compared with traditional orthogonal multiple access schemes. It is shown in [5] that the rate region of NOMA is the same as the capacity region of Gaussian broadcast channels with two receivers, but with an additional constraint that the stronger receiver is assigned less power than the weaker one.

There has been a lot of work on NOMA. In [2] and [5], the authors evaluated the benefits of downlink NOMA from the system and information theoretic perspectives, respectively. The performance of NOMA with randomly deployed users was investigated in [6]. A lot of effort has been put into the power allocation design in NOMA. For example, the authors in [7] and [8] analyzed the necessary conditions for NOMA with two users to beat the performance of time-division-multiple-access (TDMA), and derived closed-form expressions for the expected data rates and outage probabilities. In [9], power allocation based on proportional fairness scheduling was investigated for downlink NOMA. Transmit power minimization subject to rate constraints was discussed in [10]. A joint consideration of dynamic user clustering and power allocation was studied in [11].

However, all the mentioned papers have assumed a perfect knowledge of the distributed channel state information (CSI) at the BS and all the geographically-distributed receivers, which is difficult to realize in practice. Therefore, we consider the limited feedback scenario wherein each receiver only has access to its own local CSI, from the BS to itself, and then broadcasts its feedback information to the BS and other receivers [12]. Under such settings, interesting problems arise, for example: How to design simple but efficient quantizers for NOMA? What are the performance losses compared with the full-CSI case? A user-selection scheme based on limited feedback was studied in [13]. In [14], the authors derived the outage probability of NOMA based on one-bit feedback of channel quality from each receiver, and performed power allocation to minimize the outage probability. Additionally, the problems of transmit power minimization and user fairness maximization based on statistical CSI subject to outage constraints were studied in [15]. In [16], the authors derived the outage probability and sum rate with fixed power allocation by assuming imperfect and statistical CSI. In [17], the authors solved the sum rate maximization problem for downlink NOMA networks using a minorization-maximization algorithm in statistics. In [18], several antenna selection schemes were proposed for the NOMA systems, and the user fairness was evaluated using the Jain's fairness index.

In this paper, we focus on the limited feedback design for the typical scenario of downlink NOMA, where a BS communicates with two receivers simultaneously [3]. Based on distributed feedback and in the interest of user fairness, we wish to have the minimum rate of the receivers be as large as possible. Like [19], we also use the minimum achieved rate of all receivers as the performance measure, but moreover, the main focus of our work is to design efficient quantizers for downlink NOMA and analyze the achieved performance. With this goal, to dynamically adjust the transmission rates for better channel utilization, we propose a uniform quantizer which assigns each value to its left boundary point and employs variable-length encoding (VLE). Then, power allocation is calculated based on the channel feedback. We calculate the transmission rates that can be supported by the current channel states, and analyze the rate loss compared with the full-CSI scenario. The derived upper bound on rate loss shows that it decreases at least exponentially

with the minimum of the feedback rates. The feedback rate in this paper refers to the number of feedback bits each receiver sends for each channel state. where the target data rate needs to be supported and outage probability is the main concern, we conversely propose a uniform quantizer which quantizes each value to its right boundary point.¹ Through the developed upper bound, we show the outage probability loss also decays at least exponentially with the minimum of feedback rate. Additionally, we analyze the achieved diversity gain and provide a sufficient condition on the proposed quantizer in order to achieve the full-CSI diversity order. For the general scenario with K receivers, we solve the minimum rate maximization problem within an accuracy of ε in time complexity of $O\left(K \log \frac{1}{\varepsilon}\right)$, and apply the previously proposed quantizers for the two-user case here by treating the quantized channels as the perfect ones. We perform Monte Carlo numerical simulations to verify the superiority of our proposed quantizers and the accuracy of the theoretical analysis.

The primary goal of this paper is to study the impacts of quantization on the performance of NOMA, and provide meaningful insights for practical limited feedback design. To summarize, the main contributions of this paper are three-fold:

- (1) We propose efficient quantizers to maximize the minimum rate in NOMA. The ideas of our proposed quantizers and VLE as well as the designs for rate adaptation and outage probability based on distributed feedback can be generalized to many other scenarios, e.g., NOMA with other performance measures, the more general interference channels, and so on.
- (2) Our theoretical analysis serves as a general framework to analyze the performances of such quantizers in NOMA and other scenarios. For instance, it can be easily applied to study the performances of other power allocation schemes in NOMA based on limited feedback, i.e., [7], [8].
- (3) We solve the minimum rate maximization problem for any number of receivers with linear

¹For example, in some real-time multimedia service applications, the minimum data rate needs to be supported as often as possible, such that the chance of service outage can be greatly reduced.

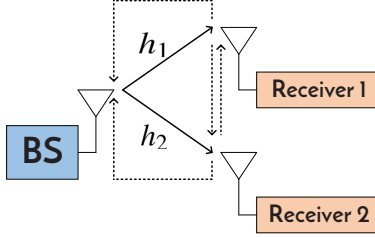


Fig. 1: Downlink NOMA networks. The solid and dashed lines represent the signal and feedback links, respectively.

time complexity.

The remainder of this paper is organized as follows: In Section II, we provide a brief description of the system model and formulate the problem of limited feedback. In Sections III and IV, we propose efficient quantizers for rate adaptation and outage probability, and analyze the performance loss. We extend our proposed quantizers to the general case with any number of receivers in Section V. Numerical simulations are provided in Section VI. We draw the main conclusions and summarize future work in Section VII. Technical proofs are presented in the appendices.

Notations: The sets of real and natural numbers are represented by \mathcal{R} and \mathcal{N} , respectively. For any $x \in \mathcal{R}$, $\lfloor x \rfloor$ is the largest integer that is less than or equal to x , and $\lceil x \rceil$ is the smallest integer that is larger than or equal to x . $\Pr\{\cdot\}$ and $E[\cdot]$ represent the probability and expectation, respectively. For a random variable (r.v.) X , $f_X(\cdot)$ is its probability density function (p.d.f.). $\mathbb{C}\mathcal{N}(\mu, \lambda)$ represents a circularly symmetric complex Gaussian r.v. with mean μ and variance λ . For a logical statement ST, we let $\mathbf{1}_{\text{ST}} = 1$ when ST is true, and $\mathbf{1}_{\text{ST}} = 0$ otherwise. Finally, the expression $X \sim_Y Z$ means $0 < \lim_{Y \rightarrow \infty} \frac{X}{Z} < \infty$.

II. PROBLEM FORMULATION

A. System Model

Consider the downlink transmission in Fig. 1, where a BS is to transmit a superposition of two symbols to two receivers over the same resource block.² Both BS and receivers are equipped

²We assume the two receivers have been pre-selected for the NOMA transmission based on user scheduling algorithms [2], [8]. In this paper, we mainly focus on the physical-layer performance of NOMA with limited feedback, and the study of user scheduling algorithms is beyond our scope of discussions.

with only a single antenna. According to the multiuser superposition transmission scheme [3], the transmitted signal is formed as

$$x = \sqrt{P_1}s_1 + \sqrt{P_2}s_2,$$

where s_i is the information bearing symbol for Receiver i with $\mathbb{E}[s_i] = 0$ and $\mathbb{E}[|s_i|^2] = 1$ for each channel state (the expectation is over all transmitted symbols); P_i is the average transmit power associated with s_i . Let $P = P_1 + P_2$ be the total transmit power, and $\alpha = \frac{P_1}{P}$ be the power allocation coefficient, then, $P_1 = \alpha P$ and $P_2 = (1 - \alpha)P$ with $0 \leq \alpha \leq 1$.

Denote by $h_i \sim \mathbb{CN}(0, \lambda_i)$ the channel coefficient from the BS to Receiver i . Without loss of generality, assume $\lambda_1 \geq \lambda_2$. The received signals at Receivers 1 and 2 are respectively given by

$$y_1 = h_1\sqrt{P_1}s_1 + h_1\sqrt{P_2}s_2 + n_1, \quad y_2 = h_2\sqrt{P_1}s_1 + h_2\sqrt{P_2}s_2 + n_2,$$

where $n_i \sim \mathbb{CN}(0, 1)$ represents the background noise. Let $H_i = |h_i|^2$, then, the p.d.f. of H_i is $f_{H_i}(x) = \frac{e^{-\frac{x}{\lambda_i}}}{\lambda_i}$ for $x > 0$.³ We assume a quasi-static channel model, in which the channels vary independently from one block to another, while remaining constant within each block. Either receiver is assumed to perfectly estimate its local CSI (i.e., H_i), and send the associated quantized local CSI to the other receiver and the BS in a broadcast manner via error-free and delay-free feedback links [20], [21]. In some scenario where the two receivers are far away from each other such that they cannot “talk” directly, the BS can play the role of relaying, i.e., forwarding the feedback information received from one receiver to the other.

With SIC, the stronger receiver with better channel condition (i.e., larger H_i) first decodes the message for the weaker receiver, and then decodes its own after removing the message of the weaker one from its received signal; the weaker receiver with poorer channel condition directly decodes its own message by treating the message of the stronger one as noise [9], [22]. Specifically, when $H_1 \geq H_2$, the rate for Receiver 2 (i.e., the weaker one) to decode s_2 by treating

³The results in this paper can be trivially generalized to other distributions of H_1 and H_2 .

s_1 as noise is

$$r_2(\alpha) = \log_2 \left(1 + \frac{PH_2(1-\alpha)}{\alpha H_2 P + 1} \right),$$

which is not larger than the rate for Receiver 1 to decode s_2 , given as $r_{1 \rightarrow 2} = \log_2 \left(1 + \frac{PH_1(1-\alpha)}{\alpha H_1 P + 1} \right)$. If s_2 is transmitted at the rate of $r_2(\alpha)$, Receiver 1 can decode s_2 successfully with an arbitrarily small probability of error [23]. Afterwards, Receiver 1 can remove $h_1 \sqrt{P_2} s_2$ from y_1 , and achieve a data rate for s_1 as

$$r_1(\alpha) = \log_2(1 + \alpha PH_1).$$

On the other hand, when $H_1 < H_2$, Receiver 2 first decodes s_1 , removes $h_2 \sqrt{P_1} s_1$ from y_2 , and then decodes s_2 , while Receiver 1 decodes s_1 directly by treating s_2 as noise.

B. Maximum Minimum Rate

Our goal is to maximize the minimum of $r_1(\alpha)$ and $r_2(\alpha)$ to ensure fairness between receivers [12], [24]. When perfect CSI is available at the BS and receivers, the optimal power allocation coefficient α^* can be found by solving the optimization problem $r_{\max} = \max_{0 \leq \alpha \leq 1} \min\{r_1(\alpha), r_2(\alpha)\}$, the solution of which is given in the following theorem.

Theorem 1. *When $H_1 \geq H_2$, the solution of $\max_{0 \leq \alpha \leq 1} \min\{r_1(\alpha), r_2(\alpha)\}$ is given by*

$$\alpha^* = \frac{2H_2}{\sqrt{(H_1 + H_2)^2 + 4H_1H_2^2P} + (H_1 + H_2)}. \quad (1)$$

Proof: Notice that with α increasing from 0 to 1, $r_1(\alpha)$ increases from 0 to $\log_2(1 + PH_1)$ and $r_2(\alpha)$ decreases from $\log_2(1 + PH_2)$ to 0. Since $\log_2(1 + PH_1) \geq \log_2(1 + PH_2)$, the maximum minimum rate is reached when $r_1(\alpha^*) = r_2(\alpha^*)$, from which α^* in (1) is derived. ■

The expression of α^* when $H_1 < H_2$ can be obtained straightforwardly. It is found from (1) that: (i) Both messages attain the same rate at optimality, i.e., $r_1(\alpha^*) = r_2(\alpha^*) = r_{\max}$. Moreover, it can be verified that the rate pair $(r_1(\alpha^*), r_2(\alpha^*))$ is on the rate region boundaries of both NOMA and Gaussian broadcast channels with two receivers [5]. (ii) When $P \rightarrow 0$, $\alpha^* \rightarrow \frac{H_2}{H_1 + H_2}$, in which case the power assigned to the stronger receiver is in proportion to the channel quality

of the weaker one; when $P \rightarrow \infty$, $\alpha^* \rightarrow 0$, then, BS should allocate almost all the power to the weaker one.⁴ (iii) $\alpha^* \geq \frac{1}{2}$. Generally, NOMA steers more power towards the weaker receiver to balance their transmissions.

With perfect CSI, the decoding order is determined based on whether $H_1 \geq H_2$ holds. The maximum minimum rate is

$$r_{\max} = \begin{cases} \log_2 \left(1 + \frac{2H_1H_2P}{\sqrt{(H_1+H_2)^2 + 4H_1H_2^2P} + (H_1+H_2)} \right), & H_1 \geq H_2, \\ \log_2 \left(1 + \frac{2H_1H_2P}{\sqrt{(H_1+H_2)^2 + 4H_1^2H_2P} + (H_1+H_2)} \right), & H_1 < H_2, \end{cases} \quad (2)$$

and the outage probability of minimum rate is

$$\text{out}_{\min} = \Pr \{ r_{\max} < r_{\text{th}} \}, \quad (3)$$

where r_{th} is the data rate at which the BS will transmit s_1 and s_2 for every channel state.

C. Limited Feedback

In the limited-feedback scenario, for an arbitrary quantizer $q: \mathcal{R} \rightarrow \mathcal{R}$, Receiver i maps H_i to $q(H_i)$, and feeds the index of $q(H_i)$ back to the BS and the other receiver, as shown in Fig.1. The index of $q(H_i)$ is decoded and the value of $q(H_i)$ is recovered. The decoding order will be contingent on whether $q(H_1) \geq q(H_2)$. For instance, when $q(H_1) \geq q(H_2)$, Receiver 1 is considered “stronger”, while Receiver 2 is “weaker”. In this case, the power allocation coefficient is computed based on (1) by treating $q(H_i)$ as H_i , i.e., $\alpha_q = \frac{2q(H_2)}{\sqrt{(q(H_1)+q(H_2))^2 + 4q(H_1)q^2(H_2)P} + q(H_1)+q(H_2)}$.

For rate adaptation, we shall design appropriate rates $r_{1,q}$ and $r_{2,q}$ for the messages s_1 and s_2 based on limited feedback from the two receivers, such that $r_{1,q}$ and $r_{2,q}$ can be supported and NOMA can be performed. The corresponding rate loss will be $r_{\text{loss}} = r_{\max} - \min \{ r_{1,q}, r_{2,q} \}$, where r_{\max} is given in (2).

For a constant-rate service, we care more about whether the current channels are strong enough to support target data rate with the power allocation coefficient computed based on

⁴Note that $r_1(\alpha^*) = r_2(\alpha^*)$ holds for any P . When $P \rightarrow \infty$, $\alpha^* \rightarrow 0$, and $r_1(\alpha^*) = r_2(\alpha^*) = \log_2 \left(1 + \frac{2PH_1H_2}{\sqrt{(H_1+H_2)^2 + 4H_1H_2^2P} + (H_1+H_2)} \right)$ will approach infinity.

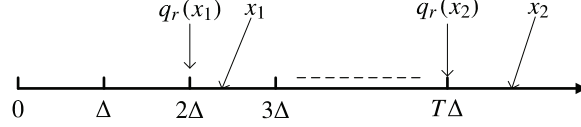


Fig. 2: A uniform quantizer for minimum rate.

limited feedback. The achieved outage probability is $\text{out}_q = \Pr\{r_q < r_{\text{th}}\}$, where

$$r_q = \min\{r_1(\alpha_q), r_2(\alpha_q)\} = \begin{cases} \min\left\{\log_2\left(1 + P \times \alpha_q \times H_1\right), \log_2\left(1 + \frac{PH_2(1-\alpha_q)}{PH_2\alpha_q+1}\right)\right\}, & q(H_1) \geq q(H_2), \\ \min\left\{\log_2\left(1 + \frac{PH_1(1-\alpha_q)}{PH_1\alpha_q+1}\right), \log_2\left(1 + P \times \alpha_q \times H_2\right)\right\}, & q(H_1) < q(H_2), \end{cases}$$

The outage probability loss is given as

$$\text{out}_{\text{loss},q} = \text{out}_q - \text{out}_{\text{min}}, \quad (4)$$

where out_{min} is given in (3). In the subsequent sections, we will propose efficient quantizers and investigate the performance losses brought by limited feedback.

III. LIMITED FEEDBACK FOR MINIMUM RATE

In this section, we first describe the proposed quantizer when the minimum rate is the concern, then, we show the relationship between the rate loss and the feedback rates.

A. Proposed Quantizer

We consider a uniform quantizer $q_r: \mathcal{R} \rightarrow \mathcal{R}$, given by⁵

$$q_r(x) = \begin{cases} \lfloor \frac{x}{\Delta} \rfloor \times \Delta, & x \leq T\Delta, \\ T\Delta, & x > T\Delta, \end{cases}$$

where x can be any non-negative real number, and the bin size Δ and the maximum number of bins $T \in \mathcal{N}$ are adjustable parameters. As shown in Fig. 2, $q_r(x)$ quantizes x to the left boundary of the interval where x is. For any $x \in [n\Delta, (n+1)\Delta)$ when $0 \leq n \leq T-1$, we have $q_r(x) = n\Delta$ and $x - \Delta \leq q_r(x) \leq x$; for any $x \in [T\Delta, \infty)$, $q_r(x) = T\Delta$ and $q_r(x) \leq x$.

⁵In q_r , “ q ” stands for quantizer, and the subscript “ r ” represents rate.

B. Rate Adaptation and Loss

When $q_r(\cdot)$ is employed, Receiver 2 is viewed as the “weak” receiver if $q_r(H_1) \geq q_r(H_2)$.

Then, according to (1), the power allocation coefficient α_{q_r} is calculated as

$$\alpha_{q_r} = \begin{cases} \frac{2q_r(H_2)}{\sqrt{[q_r(H_1)+q_r(H_2)]^2+4q_r(H_1)q_r^2(H_2)P+[q_r(H_1)+q_r(H_2)]}}, & q_r(H_1) > 0, q_r(H_2) > 0, \\ 0, & q_r(H_1) = 0 \text{ or } q_r(H_2) = 0, \end{cases}$$

which satisfies $\log_2(1 + P \times \alpha_{q_r} \times q_r(H_1)) = \log_2\left(1 + \frac{q_r(H_2) \times (1 - \alpha_{q_r})}{\alpha_{q_r} \times q_r(H_2) + \frac{1}{P}}\right)$ when $\alpha_{q_r} \neq 0$. To exploit the channels as much as possible, we let the BS send messages s_1 and s_2 at rates of

$$r_{1,q_r} = \log_2(1 + P \times \alpha_{q_r} \times q_r(H_1)), r_{2,q_r} = \log_2\left(1 + \frac{P \times q_r(H_2) (1 - \alpha_{q_r})}{P \times q_r(H_2) \alpha_{q_r} + 1}\right). \quad (5)$$

Lemma 1. *When $q_r(H_1) \geq q_r(H_2)$, the rates r_{1,q_r} and r_{2,q_r} in (5) can be achieved.*

Proof: Based on the channel coding theorem [23], if we can show the channel capacities for s_1 and s_2 under the settings of NOMA are no smaller than r_{1,q_r} and r_{2,q_r} , the rates r_{1,q_r} and r_{2,q_r} can be achieved with a probability of error that can be made arbitrarily small.

When $q_r(H_1) = 0$ or $q_r(H_2) = 0$, it is trivial to verify that r_{1,q_r} and r_{2,q_r} can be supported. When $q_r(H_1) \geq q_r(H_2) > 0$, the channel capacity for Receiver 2 by treating s_1 as noise is $r_2 = \log_2\left(1 + \frac{H_2(1-\alpha_{q_r})}{\alpha_{q_r} \times H_2 + \frac{1}{P}}\right) \geq \log_2\left(1 + \frac{q_r(H_2) \times (1-\alpha_{q_r})}{\alpha_{q_r} \times q_r(H_2) + \frac{1}{P}}\right) = r_{2,q_r}$, since $\log_2\left(1 + \frac{x(1-\alpha)}{x\alpha + \frac{1}{P}}\right)$ is an increasing function of x and $q_r(H_2) \leq H_2$. At the side of Receiver 1, the channel capacity of s_2 with treating s_1 as noise is $r_{1 \rightarrow 2} = \log_2\left(1 + \frac{H_1(1-\alpha_{q_r})}{\alpha_{q_r} \times H_1 + \frac{1}{P}}\right) \geq \log_2\left(1 + \frac{q_r(H_1) \times (1-\alpha_{q_r})}{\alpha_{q_r} \times q_r(H_1) + \frac{1}{P}}\right) \geq \log_2\left(1 + \frac{q_r(H_2) \times (1-\alpha_{q_r})}{\alpha_{q_r} \times q_r(H_2) + \frac{1}{P}}\right) = r_{2,q_r}$, because $H_1 \geq q_r(H_1) \geq q_r(H_2)$. Hence, s_2 can be decoded at Receiver 1 with an arbitrarily small error and removed from y_1 . After that, the channel capacity of s_1 is $r_1 = \log_2(1 + P \times \alpha_{q_r} \times H_1) \geq \log_2(1 + P \times \alpha_{q_r} \times q_r(H_1)) = r_{1,q_r}$. Therefore, the rates r_{1,q_r} and r_{2,q_r} can be achieved for both s_1 and s_2 . ■

To sum up, it is the key fact of $q_r(x) \geq x$ that ensures the rates r_{1,q_r} and r_{2,q_r} in (5) can be supported. When $q_r(H_1) \geq q_r(H_2)$, the rate loss is $r_{\text{loss}} = r_{\text{max}} - \min\{r_{1,q_r}, r_{2,q_r}\}$.

Lemma 2. *The average rate loss of the quantizer $q_r(\cdot)$ is upper-bounded by:*

$$\mathbb{E}[r_{\text{loss}}] \leq \log_2 \left(1 + C_0 \times P \times \max \left\{ e^{-\frac{T\Delta}{\lambda_1}}, \Delta \right\} \right), \quad (6)$$

where C_0 is a positive constant that is independent of P, T and Δ .

Proof: See Appendix A. ■

We mainly focus on showing how the average rate loss changes with the bin size Δ . It is beyond the scope of this paper to find the tightest bounds, i.e., the smallest value for C_0 . A value for C_0 which is derived from the proof in Appendix A is $C_0 = \max \left\{ 4 + \frac{\lambda_1}{\lambda_2}, \lambda_2 \right\}$.

It is observed from (6) that when $e^{-\frac{T\Delta}{\lambda_1}} > \Delta$, the maximum number of bins, T , can degrade the rate. To eliminate this effect, we choose T such that $e^{-\frac{T\Delta}{\lambda_1}} = \Delta$, which yields $T = \frac{\lambda_1}{\Delta} \log \frac{1}{\Delta}$.⁶ With an appropriate value for T , we can make the rate loss decrease at least linearly with Δ .

Corollary 1. *When $T = \frac{\lambda_1}{\Delta} \log \frac{1}{\Delta}$, the average rate loss of the quantizer $q_r(\cdot)$ is upper-bounded by:*

$$\mathbb{E}[r_{\text{loss}}] \leq \log_2 (1 + C_0 \times P \times \Delta) \leq C_1 \times P \times \Delta, \quad (7)$$

where C_0 and C_1 are positive constants that are independent of P and Δ .

C. Feedback Rate

Rather than the naive fixed-length encoding (FLE) for feedback information which requires $\lceil \log_2(T+1) \rceil$ bits per receiver per channel state, we consider the more efficient variable-length encoding (VLE) [21], [25].⁷ An example of VLE that can be applied here is $b_0 = \{0\}$, $b_1 = \{1\}$, $b_2 = \{00\}$, $b_3 = \{01\}$ and so on, sequentially for all codewords in the set $\{0, 1, 00, 01, 10, 11, \dots\}$, where b_n is the binary string to be fed back when $q_r(x) = n\Delta$. The length of b_n is $\lceil \log_2(n+2) \rceil$.

⁶Approaching the performance in the full-CSI case generally requires a small value for Δ . We mainly consider the case where $\Delta \leq 1$ in this paper.

⁷For example, when $\Delta = 0.01$ and $\lambda_1 = 1$, $T = \frac{\lambda_1}{\Delta} \log \frac{1}{\Delta} \approx 460.5$. When FLE is adopted, the feedback rate per receiver will be $\lceil \log_2(T+1) \rceil = 9$ bits per channel state. As shown by the theoretical analysis and numerical simulations later, VLE will cost far fewer bits.

The following theorem derives an upper bound on the rate loss with respect to the feedback rate of Receiver i (denoted by $R_{r,\text{VLE},i}$).

Theorem 2. *When variable-length encoding is applied to the quantizer $q_r(\cdot)$, the rate loss decays at least exponentially as:*

$$\mathbb{E}[r_{\text{loss}}] \leq \log_2 \left(1 + C_2 \times P \times 2^{-\min\{R_{r,\text{VLE},1}, R_{r,\text{VLE},2}\}} \right) \leq C_3 \times P \times 2^{-\min\{R_{r,\text{VLE},1}, R_{r,\text{VLE},2}\}}, \quad (8)$$

where C_2 and C_3 are positive constants independent of P and $R_{r,\text{VLE},i}$.

Proof: The feedback rate of Receiver i is derived as

$$\begin{aligned} R_{r,\text{VLE},i} &= \sum_{n=0}^{T-1} \lfloor \log_2(n+2) \rfloor \int_{n\Delta}^{(n+1)\Delta} f_{H_i}(H_i) dH_i + \lfloor \log_2(T+2) \rfloor \int_{T\Delta}^{\infty} f_{H_i}(H_i) dH_i \\ &\leq \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \lfloor \log_2(n+2) \rfloor \int_{n\Delta}^{(n+1)\Delta} f_{H_i}(H_i) dH_i \leq \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \underbrace{\log_2(n+2)}_{\leq \log_2(n+1)+1} \int_{n\Delta}^{(n+1)\Delta} \frac{e^{-\frac{H_i}{\lambda_i}}}{\lambda_i} dH_i \\ &\leq \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} e^{-\frac{n\Delta}{\lambda_i}} \left(1 - e^{-\frac{\Delta}{\lambda_i}} \right) \times \log_2(n+1) + \underbrace{\sum_{n=0}^{\infty} 1 \times \int_{n\Delta}^{(n+1)\Delta} \frac{e^{-\frac{H_i}{\lambda_i}}}{\lambda_i} dH_i}_{=1} \\ &= 1 + \left(1 - e^{-\frac{\Delta}{\lambda_i}} \right) \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} e^{-\frac{n\Delta}{\lambda_i}} \times \log_2(n+1) \leq 1 + \frac{\Delta}{\lambda_i} \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} e^{-\frac{n\Delta}{\lambda_i}} \times \log_2(n+1). \end{aligned}$$

With the help of [21, Eq.(22)]: $\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} e^{-\beta n} \log(n) \leq \frac{e^{-\beta}}{\beta} \left[2 + \log \left(1 + \frac{1}{\beta} \right) \right]$, by letting $\beta = e^{-\frac{\Delta}{\lambda_i}}$,

we have

$$\sum_{n=0}^{\infty} e^{-\frac{n\Delta}{\lambda_i}} \times \log_2(n+1) = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} e^{-\frac{n\Delta}{\lambda_i}} \times \log_2(n+1) = \frac{e^{\frac{\Delta}{\lambda_i}}}{\log 2} \sum_{n=2}^{\infty} e^{-\frac{n\Delta}{\lambda_i}} \times \log(n) \leq \frac{1}{\frac{\Delta}{\lambda_i}} \left[\frac{2}{\log 2} + \log_2 \left(1 + \frac{1}{\frac{\Delta}{\lambda_i}} \right) \right].$$

Then, $R_{r,\text{VLE},i}$ is upper-bounded by⁸

$$R_{r,\text{VLE},i} \leq \frac{2}{\log 2} + 1 + \log_2 \left(1 + \frac{1}{\frac{\Delta}{\lambda_i}} \right), \quad (9)$$

or equivalently (when $R_{r,\text{VLE},i}$ is sufficiently large),

$$\Delta \leq \frac{\lambda_i}{2^{R_{r,\text{VLE},i}-1-\frac{2}{\log 2}} - 1} \leq \frac{\lambda_i}{2^{R_{r,\text{VLE},i}-2-\frac{2}{\log 2}}} = C_4 \times 2^{-R_{r,\text{VLE},i}}. \quad (10)$$

⁸Although it is intractable to derive a closed-form expression for $R_{r,\text{VLE},i}$, the upper bound in (9) provides a good estimate on how many feedback bits will be consumed.

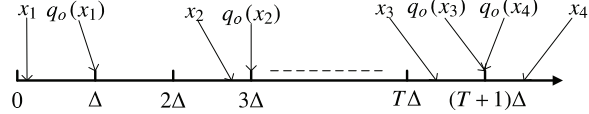


Fig. 3: A uniform quantizer for outage probability.

Substituting (10) into (7) proves the theorem. ■

Therefore, we can see that appropriate values for T and the use of VLE enable the rate loss to decrease at least exponentially with the feedback rate.

IV. LIMITED FEEDBACK FOR OUTAGE PROBABILITY

Outage probability is an important performance metric that evaluates the chance that the channels are not strong enough to support the constant-rate data service [26]. An ideal quantizer for outage probability should have at least the following properties: (i) The outage probability loss should decrease toward zero when the feedback rate increases toward infinity. (ii) The outage probability loss should approach zero whenever $P \rightarrow 0$ or $P \rightarrow \infty$. The intuition of (ii) comes from the fact that when P is adequately small, the outage probabilities of both the full-CSI case and the quantizer should be close to one; when P is significantly large, both outage probabilities should be almost zero. Then, the outage probability losses in both scenarios go to zero.

A. Proposed Quantizer

As portrayed in Fig. 3, the uniform quantizer proposed for outage probability is given by

$$q_o(x) = \begin{cases} \lceil \frac{x}{\Delta} \rceil \times \Delta, & x \leq T\Delta, \\ (T+1)\Delta, & x > T\Delta. \end{cases} \quad (11)$$

The only difference between $q_o(\cdot)$ and $q_r(\cdot)$ lies in whether the left or right boundary of the interval is used as the reconstruction point. The quantizer proposed for rate adaptation cannot be directly inherited because when the channel is very weak (i.e., $H_i < \Delta$), it will be quantized as zero (i.e., $q_r(H_i) = 0$), which will result in a zero-value power allocation coefficient, i.e., $\alpha_{q_r} = 0$, and a minimum rate of zero, i.e., $r_1(\alpha_{q_r}) = 0$ or $r_2(\alpha_{q_r})$. In this case, the transmission will surely encounter an outage. However, even a weak channel reserves the possibility of non-outage,

so long as the transmit power P is large enough. Therefore, an appropriate quantizer for outage probability should not quantize any value to zero. The quantizer in (11) fulfills this requirement.

B. Outage Probability Loss

Lemma 3. *The outage probability loss of the quantizer $q_o(\cdot)$ is upper-bounded by:*

$$\text{out}_{\text{loss},q_o} \leq C_5 \times e^{-\frac{C_6}{P}} \times \frac{1 + \sqrt{P}}{P} \times \max \left\{ \Delta^{\frac{1}{2}}, \Delta^{\frac{3}{2}}, e^{-\frac{T\Delta}{\lambda_1}} \right\}, \quad (12)$$

where C_5 and C_6 are positive constants that are independent of P and Δ .

Proof: See Appendix B. ■

Different from the rate loss which increases linearly in terms of P , because of the term $e^{-\frac{C_6}{P}} \times \frac{1 + \sqrt{P}}{P}$, the upper bound on $\text{out}_{\text{loss},q_o}$ in (12) converges to zero either when $P \rightarrow 0$ or $P \rightarrow \infty$.

To have good performance, we mainly focus on the quantizers with small granularities. When $\Delta \leq 1$, we have $\Delta^{\frac{3}{2}} \leq \Delta^{\frac{1}{2}}$, and the upper bound in (12) is restricted by $\max \left\{ e^{-\frac{T\Delta}{\lambda_1}}, \Delta^{\frac{1}{2}} \right\}$. For fixed Δ , the optimal choice for T should satisfy $e^{-\frac{T\Delta}{\lambda_1}} = \Delta^{\frac{1}{2}}$, given by $T = \frac{\lambda_1}{2\Delta} \log \frac{1}{\Delta}$.

Corollary 2. *When $0 < \Delta \leq 1$ and $T = \frac{\lambda_1}{2\Delta} \log \frac{1}{\Delta}$, the average rate loss of the quantizer $q_o(\cdot)$ is upper-bounded by:*

$$\text{out}_{\text{loss},q_o} \leq C_5 \times e^{-\frac{C_6}{P}} \times \frac{1 + \sqrt{P}}{P} \times \Delta^{\frac{1}{2}}, \quad (13)$$

where C_5 and C_6 are positive constants independent of P and Δ .

C. Feedback Rate

The same VLQ for rate adaptation can be applied to $q_o(\cdot)$ for a better utilization of the feedback resource. From (9) and (10), we obtain $R_{o,\text{VLE},i} \leq \frac{2}{\log 2} + 1 + \log_2 \left(1 + \frac{1}{\frac{\Delta}{\lambda_i}} \right)$ and $\Delta \leq C_4 \times 2^{-R_{o,\text{VLE},i}}$. Thus, $\Delta^{\frac{1}{2}} \leq \sqrt{C_4 \times 2^{-R_{o,\text{VLE},i}}} = C_7 \times 2^{-\frac{R_{o,\text{VLE},i}}{2}} \leq C_7 \times 2^{-\frac{\min\{R_{o,\text{VLE},1}, R_{o,\text{VLE},2}\}}{2}}$. The following theorem states the relationship between the outage probability loss of $q_o(\cdot)$ and the feedback rates.

Theorem 3. When variable-length encoding is applied to the quantizer $q_o(\cdot)$, the rate loss decays at least exponentially as:

$$\text{out}_{\text{loss},q_o} \leq C_8 \times e^{-\frac{C_6}{P}} \times \frac{1 + \sqrt{P}}{P} \times 2^{-\frac{\min\{R_{o,\text{VLE},1}, R_{o,\text{VLE},2}\}}{2}}, \quad (14)$$

where C_6 and C_8 are positive constants independent of P and $R_{o,\text{VLE},i}$.

D. Diversity Order

With an outage probability out , the achieved diversity order is given as $d = \lim_{P \rightarrow \infty} \frac{\log \text{out}}{\log P}$ [26, Section 2.3]. The following lemma shows the achievable diversity order of $q_o(\cdot)$ and a sufficient condition to achieve the maximum diversity order in the full-CSI scenario.

Lemma 4. (1) With $q_o(\cdot)$ and fixed Δ , the diversity orders of $\frac{1}{2}$ and 1 are achievable for Receivers 1 and 2, respectively.

(2) A sufficient condition for both receivers to achieve the maximum diversity order of 1 is $\Delta \sim_P P^{-\frac{1}{3}}$.

Proof: See Appendix C. ■

In the full-CSI case, both receivers can achieve the same diversity order of 1 as in the case when no interference exists. In the limited feedback case, it can be found from the proofs in Appendices B and C that the cause of this insufficient diversity order for Receiver 1 comes from the marginal region when $0 < H_1, H_2 \leq \Delta$. Therefore, an adequately small Δ that scales at least in proportion to $P^{-\frac{1}{3}}$ in the high- P region is desired to diminish the probability that H_i falls into that region so as to obtain the maximum diversity gain.

V. EXTENSION TO MORE THAN TWO RECEIVERS

A. Full-CSI Performance

In this section, we consider NOMA with more than two downlink receivers. Assuming perfect CSI universally available and $H_1 \geq H_2 \geq \dots \geq H_K$, the maximum minimum rate can be obtained

by solving the optimization problem:

$$r_{\max} = \max_{\boldsymbol{\alpha}=[\alpha_1, \dots, \alpha_K]} \min_{k=1, \dots, K} r_k(\boldsymbol{\alpha}), \text{ subject to } 0 \leq \alpha_k \leq 1, \sum_{k=1}^K \alpha_k = 1, \quad (15)$$

where K is the number of receivers, and $r_k(\boldsymbol{\alpha}) = \log_2 \left(1 + \frac{\alpha_k}{\sum_{i=1}^{k-1} \alpha_i + \frac{1}{PH_k}} \right)$ is the achieved rate for Receiver k under superposition coding and SIC. To the best of our knowledge, no closed-form solution for r_{\max} is available in the literature. We present the following lemma that helps solving the above optimization problem numerically.

Lemma 5. *There exists $\boldsymbol{\alpha}^* = [\alpha_1^*, \alpha_2^*, \dots, \alpha_K^*]$, such that all receivers achieve the same rate at optimality, i.e., $r_{\max} = r_1(\boldsymbol{\alpha}^*) = r_2(\boldsymbol{\alpha}^*) = \dots = r_K(\boldsymbol{\alpha}^*)$.*

The proof of Lemma 5 is given in Appendix D. Since $r_{\max} = r_k(\boldsymbol{\alpha}^*) = \log_2 \left(1 + \frac{\alpha_k^*}{\sum_{i=1}^{k-1} \alpha_i^* + \frac{1}{PH_k}} \right)$ for $k = 1, \dots, K$, we have $\alpha_k^* = (2^{r_{\max}} - 1) \times \left(\sum_{i=1}^{k-1} \alpha_i^* + \frac{1}{PH_k} \right)$, which leads to⁹

$$\alpha_k^* = (2^{r_{\max}} - 1) \left[\frac{1}{PH_k} + (2^{r_{\max}} - 1) \sum_{i=1}^{k-1} \frac{2^{(k-1-i)r_{\max}}}{PH_i} \right]. \quad (16)$$

To find α_k^* , we need to solve for r_{\max} first. Summing both sides from $k = 1, \dots, K$ and after trivial calculations, we obtain

$$\sum_{k=1}^K \alpha_k^* = 1 = \underbrace{(2^{r_{\max}} - 1) \sum_{i=1}^K \frac{2^{(K-i)r_{\max}}}{PH_i}}_{=\bar{\omega}(r_{\max})}. \quad (17)$$

In other words, r_{\max} satisfies $\bar{\omega}(r_{\max}) = 1$.¹⁰

Let $r_{\text{ub}} = \log_2(1 + \min_{k=1, \dots, K} PH_k) = \log_2(1 + PH_K)$. Since $\bar{\omega}(x)$ is an increasing function of x as well as $\bar{\omega}(0) < 1$ and $\bar{\omega}(r_{\text{ub}}) \geq 1$, we could use the bisection method to find the root of $\bar{\omega}(x) = 1$ in the interval $(0, r_{\text{ub}}]$. The calculation of $\bar{\omega}(x)$ costs $O(K)$, thus, the time complexity of finding r_{\max} within an accuracy of ε is $O(K \log \frac{1}{\varepsilon})$.

⁹Note that [19] also derives (16), but using the tools of convex optimization.

¹⁰Note that [27] has solved a different optimization problem, i.e. maximizing the sum rate subject to a minimum rate constraint, which satisfies $\sum_{k=1}^K \alpha_k^* = 1$ but results in different α_k^* s.

B. Limited Feedback

Under limited feedback, the previously proposed quantizers $q_r(\cdot)$ and $q_o(\cdot)$ in Figs. 2 and 3 can still be applied here for rate adaptation and outage probability, respectively. The maximum minimum rate can be calculated using the bisection method by treating $q_r(H_k)$ or $q_o(H_k)$ as H_k , and the corresponding power allocation coefficients can be computed. Although it is non-trivial to derive upper bounds on the losses in rate or outage probability for $K > 2$ theoretically, numerical simulations in Section VI show that the relationships between the performance loss and the feedback rate are similar to the case of $K = 2$.

VI. NUMERICAL SIMULATIONS AND DISCUSSIONS

In this section, we perform numerical simulations to validate the effectiveness of our proposed quantizers for rate adaptation and outage probability. In all subsequent simulations for K receivers, we use the channel variances in Table I.

TABLE I: Channel variances for numerical simulations.

$K = 2$	$\lambda_1 = 1, \lambda_2 = 0.5$
$K > 2$	$\lambda_k = \frac{1}{k}, k = 1, \dots, K$

Results for other values of channel variances will exhibit similar observations. For outage probability, sufficiently large number of channel realizations are generated to observe at least 10000 outage events.

In Fig. 4, we simulated the minimum rates of the full-CSI case, $q_r(\cdot)$ and the TDMA scheme (where each receiver occupies half of the time to transmit). We observe that the proposed quantizer with NOMA outperforms the TDMA scheme when $\Delta = 0.01$ and 0.05 . The rate loss between the full-CSI case and $q_r(\cdot)$ with $\Delta = 0.01$ is almost negligible. The corresponding values for $T = \frac{\lambda_1}{\Delta} \log \frac{1}{\Delta}$ and the feedback rates for both receivers (bits/per channel state) are listed in Table II. Compared with FLE which costs $\lceil \log_2(T + 1) \rceil$ bits per receiver per channel state, VLE can save almost half of the feedback bits.

In Fig. 5, we plot the rate losses of $q_r(\cdot)$ for different values of Δ and the feedback rates $R_{r,\text{VLE},1}$ and $R_{r,\text{VLE},2}$. It shows that the rate loss of $q_r(\cdot)$ decreases at least linearly with respect

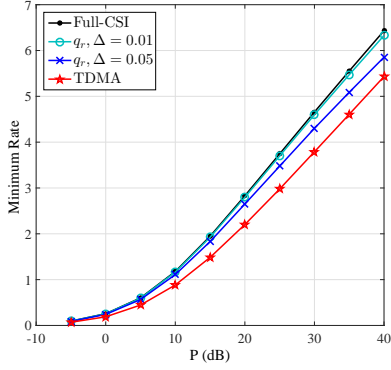


Fig. 4: Simulated minimum rates of NOMA for $K = 2$.

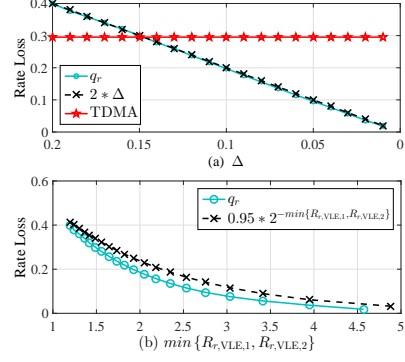


Fig. 5: Simulated rate losses versus (a) Δ and (b) $\min\{R_{r,VLE,1}, R_{r,VLE,2}\}$ for $K = 2$ and $P = 10$ dB.

TABLE II: Feedback rate for either receiver.

Δ	T	$\lceil \log_2(T+1) \rceil$	Receiver 1	Receiver 2
0.01	461	9	5.3	4.6
0.05	60	6	3.6	2.7

to Δ and exponentially with $\min\{R_{r,VLE,1}, R_{r,VLE,2}\}$, which validates the accuracy of our derived upper bounds in (7) and (8). In addition, Fig. 5(a) shows that Δ needs to be less than 0.15 such that $q_r(\cdot)$ can obtain a higher rate compared with the TDMA scheme.

In Fig. 6, we compare the outage probabilities of the full-CSI case, $q_o(\cdot)$ under various values of Δ and the TDMA scheme. It can be seen that: (i) The curve for $q_o(\cdot)$ with $\Delta = 0.01$ almost coincides with that of the full-CSI case. (ii) When P is large, $q_o(\cdot)$ with $\Delta = 0.2$ suffers from an

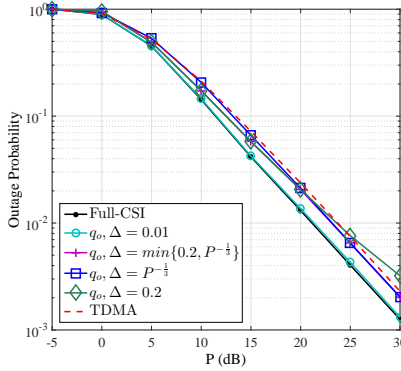


Fig. 6: Simulated outage probabilities of NOMA for $K = 2$.

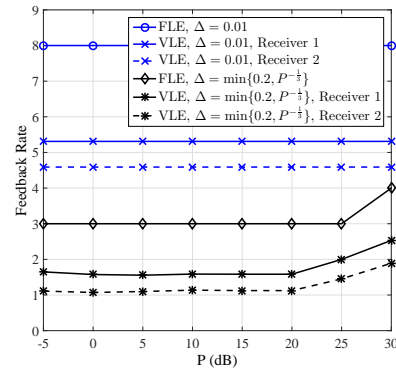


Fig. 7: Simulated feedback rates versus P for $K = 2$.

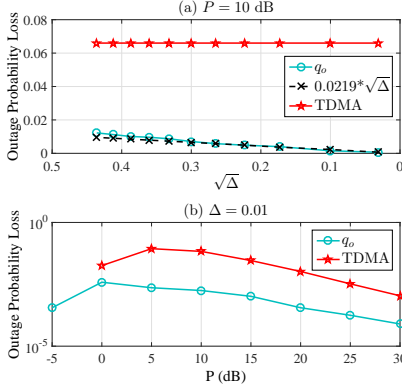


Fig. 8: Simulated outage probability losses versus $\sqrt{\Delta}$ and P for $K = 2$.

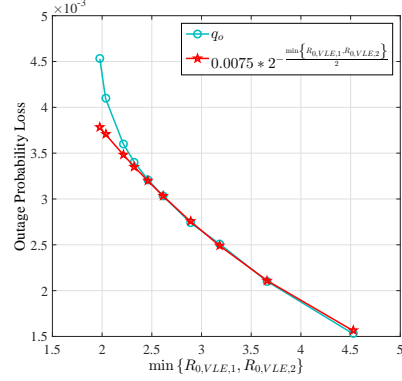


Fig. 9: Simulated outage probability losses versus $\min\{R_{0,VLE,1}, R_{0,VLE,2}\}$ for $K = 2$.

insufficient diversity gain in the high- P region. According to our analysis in Lemma 4, $\Delta = 0.2$ is large enough not to scale with $P^{-\frac{1}{3}}$.¹¹ (iii) Although the maximum diversity order is achieved when $\Delta = P^{-\frac{1}{3}}$, much less array gain is obtained in the lower and medium- P regions (where Δ is large). Alternatively, $\Delta = \min\{0.2, P^{-\frac{1}{3}}\}$ will reserve both benefits of the maximum diversity order brought by $P^{-\frac{1}{3}}$ and the higher array gain of $\Delta = 0.2$.¹² The comparison of feedback rates for VLE and FLE (which requires $\lceil \log_2(T+2) \rceil = \lceil \log_2\left(\frac{\lambda_1}{2\Delta} \log \frac{1}{\Delta} + 2\right) \rceil$ bits per channel state) under different values of Δ and P is shown in Fig. 7, which verifies the superiority of VLE. It can be seen that the feedback rates for $\Delta = \min\{0.2, P^{-\frac{1}{3}}\}$ stay flat in the low and medium- P regions (since $0.2 \leq P^{-\frac{1}{3}}$). When $P^{-\frac{1}{3}} \leq 0.2$ where $P \geq 20.9$ dB, the feedback rates start to increase as Δ gets smaller.

In Fig. 8(a), the outage probability loss decays at least linearly with respect to Δ ; in Fig. 8(b), the outage probability loss approaches zero whenever $P \rightarrow 0$ or $P \rightarrow \infty$; in Fig. 9, the outage probability loss decays at least exponentially with $\frac{\min\{R_{0,VLE,1}, R_{0,VLE,2}\}}{2}$. All these observations validate our theoretical analysis.

In Figs. 10 and 11, we simulated the rate and outage probability losses for more than two receivers. For Receiver k , the channel variance is set to be $\lambda_k = \frac{1}{k}$, the maximum number of

¹¹The value 0.01 for Δ will also exhibit an insufficient diversity order as long as P is large enough, although we might not be able to observe this in the region of $P \leq 30$ dB in Fig. 6.

¹²We also observe a similar effect of Δ on the achieved minimum rates, but we mainly elaborate it on outage probability.

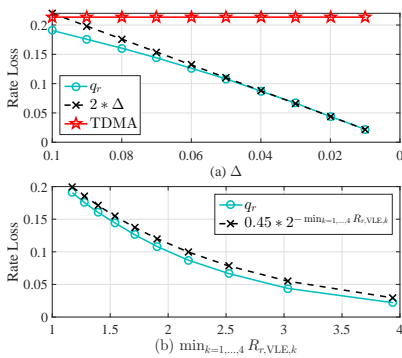


Fig. 10: Simulated rate losses versus (a) Δ and (b) $\min_{k=1,\dots,K} R_{r,VLE,k}$ for $K = 4$ and $P = 10$ dB.

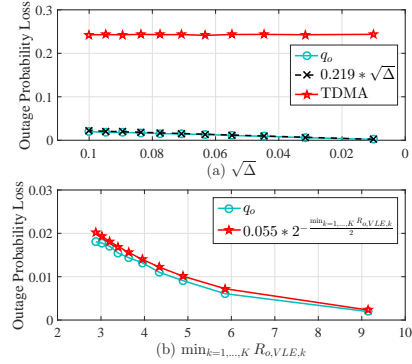


Fig. 11: Simulated outage probability losses versus (a) $\sqrt{\Delta}$ and (b) $\min_{k=1,\dots,K} R_{o,VLE,k}$ for $K = 4$ and $P = 10$ dB.

bins T for $q_r(\cdot)$ and $q_o(\cdot)$ is $T = \frac{\lambda_k}{\Delta} \log \frac{1}{\Delta}$, and the accuracy used by the bisection method is $\varepsilon = 10^{-4}$. We simply treat the result of bisection method based on perfect CSI as the “full-CSI” performance. Compared with Figs. 5, 8 and 9 for $K = 2$, Figs. 10 and 11 exhibit very similar relationships between the losses and Δ or the feedback rates.

VII. CONCLUSIONS AND FUTURE WORK

We have introduced efficient quantizers for rate adaptation and outage probability of minimum rate in NOMA with two receivers. We have proved that the losses in rate and outage probability both decrease at least exponentially with the minimum of the feedback rates. Furthermore, we generalized the proposed quantizers to NOMA with any number of receivers. The performance of NOMA with noisy quantized feedback and the user scheduling under limited feedback will be interesting future research directions.

APPENDIX A: PROOF OF LEMMA 2

To clarify, the notation D_i for $i \in \mathbb{N}$ represents a positive constant independent of P, T and Δ . The average rate loss of $q_r(\cdot)$ can be expressed as

$$\mathbb{E}[r_{\text{loss}}] = \underbrace{\int_{\mathcal{H}_{0,\geq}} r_{\text{loss}} \prod_{i=1}^2 f_{H_i}(H_i) dH_i}_{=\mathbb{E}_{\geq}[r_{\text{loss}}]} + \underbrace{\int_{\mathcal{H}_{0,<}} r_{\text{loss}} \prod_{i=1}^2 f_{H_i}(H_i) dH_i}_{=\mathbb{E}_{<}[r_{\text{loss}}]}$$

where $\mathcal{H}_{0,\geq} = \{(H_1, H_2) : q_r(H_1) \geq q_r(H_2)\}$ and $\mathcal{H}_{0,<} = \{(H_1, H_2) : q_r(H_1) < q_r(H_2)\}$. We will only show $E_{\geq}[r_{\text{loss}}] \leq \log_2 \left(1 + D_0 \times P \times \max \left\{ e^{-\frac{T\Delta}{\lambda_1}}, \Delta \right\} \right)$, and skip the proof for $E_{<}[r_{\text{loss}}]$ due to similarity. Note that $q_r(H_1) \geq q_r(H_2)$ does not necessarily mean $H_1 \geq H_2$, since it is possible that $q_r(H_1) = q_r(H_2)$ and $H_1 < H_2$. When $q_r(H_1) \geq q_r(H_2)$, define

$$\text{snr}_{\text{max}} = \begin{cases} \alpha^* H_1 = g_{\geq}(H_1, H_2), & \text{if } H_1 \geq H_2, \\ \alpha^* H_2 = g_{<}(H_1, H_2), & \text{if } H_1 < H_2, \end{cases} \quad (18)$$

$$\text{snr}_{q_r} = \alpha_{q_r} \times q_r(H_1) = g_{\geq}(q_r(H_1), q_r(H_2)), \text{snr}_{\text{loss}} = \text{snr}_{\text{max}} - \text{snr}_{q_r}.$$

where $g_{\geq}(x, y) = \frac{2xy}{\sqrt{(x+y)^2 + 4xy^2P + x+y}}$ and $g_{<}(x, y) = \frac{2xy}{\sqrt{(x+y)^2 + 4x^2yP + x+y}}$. Then, we have $r_{\text{loss}} = \log_2(1 + P \times \text{snr}_{\text{max}}) - \log_2(1 + P \times \text{snr}_{q_r}) = \log_2 \left(1 + P \frac{\text{snr}_{\text{loss}}}{1 + P \times \text{snr}_{q_r}} \right) \leq \log_2(1 + P \times \text{snr}_{\text{loss}})$. Grounded on this, the main steps of the proof are listed as follows:

(1) Partition $\mathcal{H}_{0,\geq}$ into the following mutually disjoint sub-regions $\mathcal{H}_1, \dots, \mathcal{H}_4$:

$$\mathcal{H}_1 = \{(H_1, H_2) : q_r(H_1) \geq q_r(H_2), H_1 < T\Delta, H_2 < T\Delta, H_1 < \Delta \text{ or } H_2 < \Delta\},$$

$$\mathcal{H}_2 = \{(H_1, H_2) : q_r(H_1) \geq q_r(H_2), H_1 \geq H_2, \Delta \leq H_1 < T\Delta, \Delta \leq H_2 < T\Delta\}$$

$$\mathcal{H}_3 = \{(H_1, H_2) : q_r(H_1) = q_r(H_2), H_1 < H_2, \Delta \leq H_1 < T\Delta, \Delta \leq H_2 < T\Delta\}$$

$$\mathcal{H}_4 = \{(H_1, H_2) : q_r(H_1) \geq q_r(H_2), H_1 \geq T\Delta \text{ or } H_2 \geq T\Delta\}.$$

Here, \mathcal{H}_1 and \mathcal{H}_4 are edge regions where $H_i < \Delta$ or $H_i \geq T\Delta$; \mathcal{H}_2 and \mathcal{H}_3 are the dominant regions where $\Delta \leq H_i < T\Delta$. It can be verified that $\mathcal{H}_i \cap \mathcal{H}_j = \emptyset$ for $i \neq j$, and $\mathcal{H}_{0,\geq} = \bigcup_{i=1}^4 \mathcal{H}_i$.

(2) Let $\mathcal{E}_i = \int_{\mathcal{H}_i} \text{snr}_{\text{loss}} \prod_{i=1}^2 f_{H_i}(H_i) dH_i$. Then, $E_{\geq}[\text{snr}_{\text{loss}}] = \sum_{i=1}^4 \mathcal{E}_i$. Prove $\mathcal{E}_i \leq D_i \times \max \left\{ e^{-\frac{T\Delta}{\lambda_1}}, \Delta \right\}$ for $i = 1, \dots, 4$.

(3) After Steps (1) and (2), we obtain $E_{\geq}[\text{snr}_{\text{loss}}] \leq D_0 \times \max \left\{ e^{-\frac{T\Delta}{\lambda_1}}, \Delta \right\}$. Based on Jensen's inequality, we have

$$E_{\geq}[r_{\text{loss}}] \leq E_{\geq}[\log_2(1 + P \times \text{snr}_{\text{loss}})] \leq \log_2(1 + P \times E_{\geq}[\text{snr}_{\text{loss}}]) \leq \log_2 \left(1 + D_0 \times P \times \max \left\{ e^{-\frac{T\Delta}{\lambda_1}}, \Delta \right\} \right).$$

Now, we only need to show the upper bound on \mathcal{E}_i in Step (2).

For \mathcal{E}_1 , since $\mathcal{H}_1 \subseteq \{(H_1, H_2) : H_2 \leq \Delta\}$ and $\text{snr}_{\text{loss}} \leq \text{snr}_{\text{max}} \leq H_1$, we obtain

$$\mathcal{E}_1 \leq \int_0^{\infty} H_1 \frac{e^{-\frac{H_1}{\lambda_1}}}{\lambda_1} dH_1 \int_0^{\Delta} \frac{e^{-\frac{H_2}{\lambda_2}}}{\lambda_2} dH_2 = \lambda_1 \left(1 - e^{-\frac{\Delta}{\lambda_2}} \right) \leq \lambda_1 \times \frac{\Delta}{\lambda_2} = D_1 \times \Delta,$$

where the last inequality follows since $1 - e^{-x} \leq x$ for $x \geq 0$.

For \mathcal{E}_2 , since $H_1 \geq H_2$ and $q_r(H_i) \leq H_i \leq q_r(H_i) + \Delta$ for $H_i \leq T\Delta$, we upper-bound snr_{loss} by

$$\begin{aligned} \text{snr}_{\text{loss}} &= \frac{2H_1H_2}{\underbrace{\sqrt{(H_1+H_2)^2 + 4H_1H_2^2P}}_{=\Upsilon} + (H_1+H_2)} \\ &\quad - \frac{2q_r(H_1)q_r(H_2)}{\underbrace{\sqrt{[q_r(H_1)+q_r(H_2)]^2 + 4q_r(H_1)q_r^2(H_2)P}}_{\leq \Upsilon + H_1 + H_2} + [q_r(H_1)+q_r(H_2)]} \\ &\leq 2 \frac{H_1H_2 - q_r(H_1)q_r(H_2)}{\Upsilon + H_1 + H_2} \leq 2 \frac{H_1H_2 - (H_1 - \Delta)(H_2 - \Delta)}{\Upsilon + H_1 + H_2} = 2\Delta \frac{H_1 + H_2 - \Delta}{\Upsilon + H_1 + H_2} \leq 2\Delta. \end{aligned} \quad (19)$$

Then, an upper bound on \mathcal{E}_2 can be $\mathcal{E}_2 \leq 2\Delta \int_{\mathcal{H}_2} \prod_{i=1}^2 f_{H_i}(H_i) dH_i \leq 2\Delta = D_2 \times \Delta$.

For \mathcal{E}_3 , we have $q_r(H_1) = q_r(H_2) \leq H_1 < H_2$ and $q_r(H_i) \leq H_i \leq q_r(H_i) + \Delta$ hold for $(H_1, H_2) \in \mathcal{H}_3$. Similar to (19), we can also obtain $\text{snr}_{\text{loss}} \leq 2\Delta$ and $\mathcal{E}_3 \leq D_3 \times \Delta$.

For \mathcal{E}_4 , since $\mathcal{H}_4 \subseteq \{(H_1, H_2) : H_1 > T\Delta\}$ and $\text{snr}_{\text{loss}} \leq \text{snr}_{\text{max}} \leq H_2$, the upper-bound on \mathcal{E}_4 can be $\mathcal{E}_4 \leq \int_{T\Delta}^{\infty} f_{H_1}(H_1) dH_1 \int_0^{\infty} H_2 f_{H_2}(H_2) dH_2 = \int_{T\Delta}^{\infty} \frac{e^{-\frac{H_1}{\lambda_1}}}{\lambda_1} dH_1 \int_0^{\infty} H_2 \frac{e^{-\frac{H_2}{\lambda_2}}}{\lambda_2} dH_2 = \lambda_2 e^{-\frac{T\Delta}{\lambda_1}} = D_4 \times e^{-\frac{T\Delta}{\lambda_1}}$.

We have accomplished Step (2) and the proof of (6) is complete. \blacksquare

APPENDIX B: PROOF OF LEMMA 3

When the uniform quantizer $q_o(\cdot)$ is applied, the outage probability loss in (4) is rewritten as

$$\text{out}_{\text{loss}, q_o} = \underbrace{\int_{I_{0, \geq}} \mathbf{1}_{\{\min\{r_1(\alpha_{q_o}), r_2(\alpha_{q_o})\} < r_{\text{th}}\}} \prod_{i=1}^2 f_{H_i}(H_i) dH_i}_{=\text{out}_{\geq, \text{loss}, q_o}} + \underbrace{\int_{I_{0, <}} \mathbf{1}_{\{\min\{r_1(\alpha_{q_o}), r_2(\alpha_{q_o})\} < r_{\text{th}}\}} \prod_{i=1}^2 f_{H_i}(H_i) dH_i}_{=\text{out}_{<, \text{loss}, q_o}}.$$

where

$$\begin{aligned} I_{0, \geq} &= \{(H_1, H_2) : q_r(H_1) \geq q_r(H_2), r_{\text{max}} = \log_2(1 + P \times \text{snr}_{\text{max}}) \geq r_{\text{th}}\} \\ &= \left\{ (H_1, H_2) : q_r(H_1) \geq q_r(H_2), \text{snr}_{\text{max}} \geq \frac{\beta}{P} = \frac{2^{r_{\text{th}}-1}}{P} \right\}, \\ I_{0, <} &= \left\{ (H_1, H_2) : q_r(H_1) < q_r(H_2), \text{snr}_{\text{max}} < \frac{\beta}{P} \right\}. \end{aligned}$$

and snr_{max} is defined in (18). We show $\text{out}_{\geq, \text{loss}, q_o} \leq D_5 \times e^{-\frac{D_6}{P}} \times \frac{1+\sqrt{P}}{P} \times \max\left\{e^{-\frac{T\Delta}{\lambda_1}}, \Delta^{\frac{1}{2}}, \Delta^{\frac{3}{2}}\right\}$

and skip the proof for $\text{out}_{<, \text{loss}, q_o}$ due to similarity. The main steps of the proof are:

(1) Partition $I_{0,\geq}$ into the following mutually disjoint sub-regions:

$$\begin{aligned} I_1 &= \left\{ (H_1, H_2) : q_r(H_1) \geq q_r(H_2), \text{snr}_{\max} \geq \frac{\beta}{P}, H_1 \leq \Delta, H_2 \leq \Delta \right\}, \\ I_2 &= \left\{ (H_1, H_2) : q_r(H_1) \geq q_r(H_2), \text{snr}_{\max} = g_{\geq}(H_1, H_2) \geq \frac{\beta}{P}, \Delta < H_1 \leq T\Delta, H_2 \leq \Delta \right\}, \\ I_3 &= \left\{ (H_1, H_2) : q_r(H_1) \geq q_r(H_2), H_1 \geq H_2, g_{\geq}(H_1, H_2) \geq \frac{\beta}{P}, \Delta < H_1 \leq T\Delta, \Delta < H_2 \leq T\Delta \right\}, \\ I_4 &= \left\{ (H_1, H_2) : q_r(H_1) = q_r(H_2), H_1 < H_2, g_{<}(H_1, H_2) \geq \frac{\beta}{P}, \Delta < H_1 \leq T\Delta, \Delta < H_2 \leq T\Delta \right\}, \\ I_5 &= \left\{ (H_1, H_2) : q_r(H_1) \geq q_r(H_2), \text{snr}_{\max} \geq \frac{\beta}{P}, H_1 > T\Delta \text{ or } H_2 > T\Delta \right\}. \end{aligned}$$

Here, I_1 , I_2 and I_5 are the marginal regions where $H_i \leq \Delta$ or $H_i > T\Delta$; I_3 and I_4 are the main regions where $\Delta < H_i \leq T\Delta$. It can be verified that $I_i \cap I_j = \emptyset$ for $i \neq j$, and $I_{0,\geq} = \bigcup_{i=1}^5 I_i$.

(2) Let $\mathcal{F}_i = \int_{I_i} \mathbf{1}_{\min\{r_1(\alpha_{q_o}), r_2(\alpha_{q_o})\} < r_{\text{th}}} \prod_{i=1}^2 f_{H_i}(H_i) dH_i$. Then, $\text{out}_{\geq, \text{loss}, q_o} = \sum_{i=1}^5 \mathcal{F}_i$. Prove $\mathcal{F}_i \leq D_{2i+5} \times e^{-\frac{D_{2i+6}}{P}} \times \frac{1+\sqrt{P}}{P} \times \max\left\{e^{-\frac{T\Delta}{\lambda_1}}, \Delta^{\frac{1}{2}}, \Delta^{\frac{3}{2}}\right\}$ for $i = 1, \dots, 5$.

Now, we need to show the upper bound on \mathcal{F}_i in Step (2).

For \mathcal{F}_1 , we have $q_o(H_1) = q_o(H_2) = \Delta \geq H_2$, and thus, $\alpha_{q_o} = \frac{1}{\sqrt{P\Delta+1+1}} \leq \frac{1}{\sqrt{PH_2+1+1}}$. For any $(H_1, H_2) \in I_1$, since $g_{\geq}(x, y) \leq \min\{x, y\}$ and $g_{<}(x, y) \leq \min\{x, y\}$, it must have $\frac{\beta}{P} \leq \text{snr}_{\max} \leq \min\{H_1, H_2\}$. Moreover, we obtain $\mathbf{1}_{\min\{r_1(\alpha_{q_o}), r_2(\alpha_{q_o})\} < r_{\text{th}}} \leq \mathbf{1}_{r_1(\alpha_{q_o}) < r_{\text{th}}} + \mathbf{1}_{r_2(\alpha_{q_o}) < r_{\text{th}}}$, and

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbf{1}_{r_1(\alpha_{q_o}) < r_{\text{th}}} &= \mathbf{1}_{H_1 \times \alpha_{q_o} < \frac{\beta}{P}} = \mathbf{1}_{H_1 < \beta \frac{\sqrt{P\Delta+1+1}}{P}}, \\ \mathbf{1}_{r_2(\alpha_{q_o}) < r_{\text{th}}} &= \mathbf{1}_{\frac{H_2(1-\alpha_{q_o})}{PH_2\alpha_{q_o}+1} < \frac{\beta}{P}} \leq \mathbf{1}_{\frac{H_2\left(1-\frac{1}{\sqrt{PH_2+1+1}}\right)}{PH_2 \times \frac{1}{\sqrt{PH_2+1+1}+1}} < \frac{\beta}{P}} = \mathbf{1}_{H_2 < \frac{\beta^2+2\beta}{P}}. \end{aligned}$$

Thus, an upper bound on \mathcal{F}_1 is

$$\begin{aligned} \mathcal{F}_1 &\leq \int_{I_1} \mathbf{1}_{H_1 < \beta \frac{\sqrt{P\Delta+1+1}}{P}} \prod_{i=1}^2 f_{H_i}(H_i) dH_i + \int_{I_1} \mathbf{1}_{H_2 < \frac{\beta^2+2\beta}{P}} \prod_{i=1}^2 f_{H_i}(H_i) dH_i \\ &\leq \int_{\frac{\beta}{P}}^{\beta \frac{\sqrt{P\Delta+1+1}}{P}} \frac{e^{-\frac{H_1}{\lambda_1}}}{\lambda_1} \int_{\frac{\beta}{P}}^{\Delta} \frac{e^{-\frac{H_2}{\lambda_2}}}{\lambda_2} dH_1 dH_2 + \int_{\frac{\beta}{P}}^{\Delta} \frac{e^{-\frac{H_1}{\lambda_1}}}{\lambda_1} \int_{\frac{\beta}{P}}^{\frac{\beta^2+2\beta}{P}} \frac{e^{-\frac{H_2}{\lambda_2}}}{\lambda_2} dH_1 dH_2 \\ &\leq \frac{e^{-\frac{\beta}{\lambda_1}}}{\lambda_1} \times \left[\beta \frac{\sqrt{P\Delta+1+1}}{P} - \frac{\beta}{P} \right] \times \frac{1}{\lambda_2} \times \left[\Delta - \frac{\beta}{P} \right] + \frac{1}{\lambda_1} \times \left[\Delta - \frac{\beta}{P} \right] \times \frac{e^{-\frac{\beta}{\lambda_2}}}{\lambda_2} \times \left[\frac{\beta^2+2\beta}{P} - \frac{\beta}{P} \right] \\ &\leq \frac{e^{-\frac{\beta}{\lambda_1}}}{\lambda_1} \times \beta \times \frac{\overbrace{\sqrt{P\Delta+1}}^{\leq \sqrt{P\Delta+1}}}{P} \times \frac{1}{\lambda_2} \times \Delta + \frac{1}{\lambda_1} \times \Delta \times \frac{e^{-\frac{\beta}{\lambda_2}}}{\lambda_2} \times \frac{\beta^2+\beta}{P} \end{aligned}$$

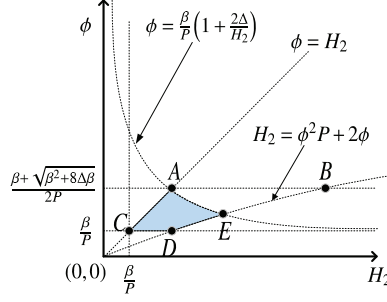


Fig. 12: The integration region I_2'' .

$$\leq D_{17} \times e^{-\frac{D_{18}}{P}} \times \frac{\sqrt{P\Delta} + 1}{P} \times \Delta + D_{19} \times e^{-\frac{D_{20}}{P}} \times \frac{\Delta}{P} \leq D_7 \times e^{-\frac{D_8}{P}} \times \frac{1 + \sqrt{P}}{P} \times \max \left\{ e^{-\frac{T\Delta}{\lambda_1}}, \Delta^{\frac{1}{2}}, \Delta^{\frac{3}{2}} \right\}. \quad (20)$$

For \mathcal{F}_2 , let $\mathcal{F}_{2,i} = \int_{I_2} \mathbf{1}_{r_i(\alpha_{q_o}) < r_{\text{th}}} \prod_{i=1}^2 f_{H_i}(H_i) dH_i$ for $i = 1, 2$. Then, $\mathcal{F}_2 \leq \mathcal{F}_{2,1} + \mathcal{F}_{2,2}$. For $\mathcal{F}_{2,1}$, since $H_1 > H_2$ for $(H_1, H_2) \in I_2$ and $g_{\geq}(x, y)$ is increasing on x and y , we have

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbf{1}_{r_1(\alpha_{q_o}) < r_{\text{th}}} &= \mathbf{1}_{\frac{2H_1 \times q_o(H_2)}{\sqrt{[q_o(H_1) + q_o(H_2)]^2 + 4q_o(H_1)q_o^2(H_2)P + [q_o(H_1) + q_o(H_2)]}} < \frac{\beta}{P}} \\ &\leq \mathbf{1}_{\frac{2(q_o(H_1) - \Delta) \times q_o(H_2)}{\sqrt{[q_o(H_1) + q_o(H_2)]^2 + 4q_o(H_1)q_o^2(H_2)P + [q_o(H_1) + q_o(H_2)]}} < \frac{\beta}{P}} = \mathbf{1}_{g_{\geq}(q_o(H_1), q_o(H_2)) < \frac{\beta}{P} \times \frac{1}{1 - \frac{\Delta}{q_o(H_1)}}} \end{aligned} \quad (21)$$

$$\leq \mathbf{1}_{g_{\geq}(q_o(H_1), q_o(H_2)) < \frac{\beta}{P} \times \left(1 + \frac{2\Delta}{q_o(H_1)}\right)} \leq \mathbf{1}_{g_{\geq}(q_o(H_1), q_o(H_2)) < \frac{\beta}{P} \times \left(1 + \frac{2\Delta}{q_o(H_2)}\right)} \quad (22)$$

$$\leq \mathbf{1}_{g_{\geq}(q_o(H_1), q_o(H_2)) < \frac{\beta}{P} \times \left(1 + \frac{2\Delta}{H_2}\right)} \leq \mathbf{1}_{g_{\geq}(H_1, H_2) < \frac{\beta}{P} \times \left(1 + \frac{2\Delta}{H_2}\right)}, \quad (23)$$

where (21) follows from $q_o(H_1) \leq H_1 + \Delta$, (22) follows from $\left(1 - \frac{\Delta}{q_o(H_1)}\right) \times \left(1 + \frac{2\Delta}{q_o(H_1)}\right) \geq 1$ because $q_o(H_1) \geq 2\Delta > q_o(H_2) = \Delta$, and (23) follows from $q_o(H_2) \geq H_2$ and $g_{\geq}(q_o(H_1), q_o(H_2)) \geq g_{\geq}(H_1, H_2)$. Then, we obtain $\mathcal{F}_{2,1} \leq \int_{I_2' = I_2 \cap \{(H_1, H_2): g_{\geq}(H_1, H_2) < \frac{\beta}{P} \times \left(1 + \frac{2\Delta}{H_2}\right)\}} \prod_{i=1}^2 f_{H_i}(H_i) dH_i$.

We change the integration variables from (H_1, H_2) to (ϕ, H_2) where $\phi = g_{\geq}(H_1, H_2)$. Then, $H_1 = \frac{\phi^2 P + \phi}{H_2 - \phi} \times H_2$, and the Jacobian matrix is $\left| \frac{dH_1}{d\phi} \right| = \frac{2\phi P H_2 + H_2 - \phi^2 P}{(H_2 - \phi)^2} \times H_2 \leq \frac{2\phi P H_2 + H_2}{(H_2 - \phi)^2} \times H_2 \leq \frac{2\phi P H_2 + 2H_2}{(H_2 - \phi)^2} \times H_2 = \frac{2(\phi P + 1)}{(H_2 - \phi)^2} \times H_2^2$. For any $(H_1, H_2) \in I_2'$, we have: (i) $\frac{\beta}{P} \leq \phi = g_{\geq}(H_1, H_2) \leq H_2$ and $\phi < \frac{\beta}{P} \times \left(1 + \frac{2\Delta}{H_2}\right)$; (ii) since $H_1 \geq H_2$, $H_1 = \frac{\phi^2 P + \phi}{H_2 - \phi} \times H_2 \geq H_2$, then, $H_2 \leq \phi^2 P + 2\phi$. Therefore, $\mathcal{F}_{2,1}$ is derived as $\mathcal{F}_{2,1} \leq \int_{I_2'' = \{(H_1, H_2): \frac{\beta}{P} \leq H_2 \leq \phi^2 P + 2\phi, \frac{\beta}{P} \leq \phi \leq \min\{H_2, \frac{\beta}{P} \times \left(1 + \frac{2\Delta}{H_2}\right)\}} \prod_{i=1}^2 f_{H_i}(H_i) dH_i$. The integration region I_2'' is demonstrated in Fig. 12 as the shaded area surrounded by the points A, E, D and C . It can be strictly proven that I_2'' is within the region surrounded the points A, B, D

and C . Recall that $H_1 = \frac{\phi^2 P + \phi}{H_2 - \phi} \times H_2$ and $\left| \frac{dH_1}{d\phi} \right| \leq \frac{2(\phi P + 1)}{(H_2 - \phi)^2} \times H_2^2$. Then, we have

$$\begin{aligned}
\mathcal{F}_{2,1} &\leq \int_{\frac{\beta}{P}}^{\frac{\beta + \sqrt{\beta^2 + 8\Delta\beta}}{2P}} \int_{\phi}^{\phi^2 P + 2\phi} \frac{e^{-\frac{H_2}{\lambda_2}}}{\lambda_2} \times \frac{e^{-\frac{1}{\lambda_1} \times \frac{\phi^2 P + \phi}{H_2 - \phi} \times H_2}}{\lambda_1} \times \frac{2(\phi P + 1)}{(H_2 - \phi)^2} \times H_2^2 d\phi dH_2 \\
&\stackrel{z=H_2-\phi}{=} D_{21} \int_{\frac{\beta}{P}}^{\frac{\beta + \sqrt{\beta^2 + 8\Delta\beta}}{2P}} \int_0^{\phi^2 P + \phi} \underbrace{e^{-\frac{z}{\lambda_2} - \frac{\phi}{\lambda_2}}}_{\leq e^{-\frac{z}{\lambda_2}} \times e^{-\frac{\beta}{\lambda_2}}} \times \underbrace{e^{-\frac{1}{\lambda_1} \times \frac{\phi^2 P + \phi}{z} \times (z + \phi)}}_{\leq e^{-\frac{\phi^2(\phi P + 1)}{\lambda_1 z}}} \times \frac{\phi P + 1}{z^2} \times (z + \phi)^2 d\phi dz \\
&\leq D_{21} \times e^{-\frac{\beta}{\lambda_2 P}} \int_{\frac{\beta}{P}}^{\frac{\beta + \sqrt{\beta^2 + 8\Delta\beta}}{2P}} \int_0^{\phi^2 P + \phi} e^{-\frac{z}{\lambda_2}} e^{-\frac{\phi^2(\phi P + 1)}{\lambda_1 z}} \times (\phi P + 1) \times \left[1 + \frac{2\phi}{z} + \frac{\phi^2}{z^2} \right] d\phi dz. \tag{24}
\end{aligned}$$

Using the inequalities: (i) $\int_0^\infty x^{\nu-1} e^{-\frac{\beta}{x} - \gamma x} dx = 2 \left(\frac{\beta}{\gamma} \right)^{\frac{\nu}{2}} \mathcal{K}_\nu \left(2\sqrt{\beta\gamma} \right)$ [28, Eq. (3.471.9)] with $\mathcal{K}_\nu(z)$ being the modified bessel function of the second kind, (ii) $\mathcal{K}_0(x) \leq \frac{2}{x}$ and $\mathcal{K}_{-1}(x) = \mathcal{K}_1(x) \leq \frac{1}{x}$ for $x > 0$ [29, Eq. (27)], after lengthy but basic calculations, we obtain $\mathcal{F}_{2,1} \leq D_{22} \times e^{-\frac{D_{23}}{P}} \times \frac{\Delta + \sqrt{\Delta}}{P}$. Detailed calculations for (24) can be found in Appendix B of [30].

For $\mathcal{F}_{2,2}$, because $H_1 > H_2$ and $q_o(H_1) > q_o(H_2) = \Delta \geq H_2$, we have

$$\begin{aligned}
\alpha_{q_o} &\leq \frac{2q_o(H_2)}{\sqrt{[q_o(H_2) + q_o(H_2)]^2 + 4q_o(H_2)q_o^2(H_2)P + q_o(H_2) + q_o(H_2)}} \\
&= \frac{1}{\sqrt{q_o(H_2)P + 1 + 1}} = \frac{1}{\sqrt{P\Delta + 1 + 1}}. \tag{25}
\end{aligned}$$

Since $r_2(\alpha_{q_o})$ is decreasing on α_{q_o} , we obtain $r_2(\alpha_{q_o}) \geq r_2\left(\frac{1}{\sqrt{P\Delta + 1 + 1}}\right)$ and $\mathbf{1}_{r_2(\alpha_{q_o}) < r_{\text{th}}} \leq \mathbf{1}_{r_2\left(\frac{1}{\sqrt{P\Delta + 1 + 1}}\right) < r_{\text{th}}} = \mathbf{1}_{\frac{H_2\left(1 - \frac{1}{\sqrt{P\Delta + 1 + 1}}\right)}{PH_2 + 1 + \sqrt{P\Delta + 1 + 1}} < \frac{\beta}{P}} = \mathbf{1}_{\frac{H_2\sqrt{P\Delta + 1}}{PH_2 + 1 + \sqrt{P\Delta + 1}} < \frac{\beta}{P}} = \mathbf{1}_{\frac{H_2\sqrt{P\Delta + 1}}{P\Delta + 1 + \sqrt{P\Delta + 1}} < \frac{\beta}{P}} = \mathbf{1}_{H_2 \leq \frac{\beta(\sqrt{P\Delta + 1} + 1)}{P}}$. Sim-

ilar to (20), we will have $\mathcal{F}_{2,2} \leq \int_{I_2} \mathbf{1}_{H_2 < \beta \frac{\sqrt{P\Delta + 1} + 1}{P}} \prod_{i=1}^2 f_{H_i}(H_i) dH_i \leq D_{24} \times e^{-\frac{D_{25}}{P}} \times \frac{\sqrt{P\Delta + 1}}{P} \times \Delta$. Together with the upper bound on $\mathcal{F}_{2,1}$, we obtain $\mathcal{F}_2 \leq \mathcal{F}_{2,1} + \mathcal{F}_{2,2} \leq D_{22} \times e^{-\frac{D_{23}}{P}} \times \frac{\Delta + \sqrt{\Delta}}{P} + D_{24} \times e^{-\frac{D_{25}}{P}} \times \frac{\sqrt{P\Delta + 1}}{P} \times \Delta \leq D_9 \times e^{-\frac{D_{10}}{P}} \times \frac{1 + \sqrt{P}}{P} \times \max \left\{ e^{-\frac{T\Delta}{\lambda_1}}, \Delta^{\frac{1}{2}}, \Delta^{\frac{3}{2}} \right\}$.

For \mathcal{F}_3 , since $q_o(H_1) \geq q_o(H_2)$ and $q_o(H_i) - \Delta \leq H_i \leq q_o(H_i)$ for $i = 1, 2$, we obtain

$$\begin{aligned}
r_1(\alpha_{q_o}) &= \log_2(1 + PH_1 \times \alpha_{q_o}) \geq \log_2(1 + P \times (q_o(H_1) - \Delta) \times \alpha_{q_o}) \\
&= \log_2(1 + P \times q_o(H_1) \times \alpha_{q_o} - P \times \Delta \times \alpha_{q_o}) \\
&= \log_2 \left(1 + P \times g_{\geq}(q_o(H_1), q_o(H_2)) - P \times g_{\geq}(q_o(H_1), q_o(H_2)) \times \frac{\Delta}{q_o(H_1)} \right) \\
&= \log_2 \left(1 + P \times g_{\geq}(q_o(H_1), q_o(H_2)) \times \left(1 - \frac{\Delta}{q_o(H_1)} \right) \right)
\end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
&\geq \log_2 \left(1 + P \times g_{\geq}(q_o(H_1), q_o(H_2)) \times \left(1 - \frac{\Delta}{q_o(H_2)} \right) \right) \\
&\geq \log_2 \left(1 + P \times g_{\geq}(H_1, H_2) \times \left(1 - \frac{\Delta}{q_o(H_2)} \right) \right), \\
r_2(\alpha_{q_o}) &= \log_2 \left(1 + \frac{H_2(1 - \alpha_{q_o})}{H_2 \alpha_{q_o} + \frac{1}{P}} \right) = \log_2 \left(1 + \frac{(q_o(H_2) - \Delta) \times (1 - \alpha_{q_o})}{(q_o(H_2) - \Delta) \times \alpha_{q_o} + \frac{1}{P}} \right) \\
&\geq \log_2 \left(1 + \frac{(q_o(H_2) - \Delta) \times (1 - \alpha_{q_o})}{q_o(H_2) \times \alpha_{q_o} + \frac{1}{P}} \right) = \log_2 \left(1 + \frac{q_o(H_2) \times (1 - \alpha_{q_o})}{q_o(H_2) \times \alpha_{q_o} + \frac{1}{P}} - \frac{\Delta \times (1 - \alpha_{q_o})}{q_o(H_2) \times \alpha_{q_o} + \frac{1}{P}} \right) \\
&= \log_2 \left(1 + P \times g_{\geq}(q_o(H_1), q_o(H_2)) \times \left(1 - \frac{\Delta}{q_o(H_2)} \right) \right) \\
&\geq \log_2 \left(1 + P \times g_{\geq}(H_1, H_2) \times \left(1 - \frac{\Delta}{q_o(H_2)} \right) \right),
\end{aligned} \tag{26}$$

Therefore, we have

$$\begin{aligned}
\mathbf{1}_{\min\{r_1(\alpha_{q_o}), r_2(\alpha_{q_o})\} < r_{\text{th}}} &\leq \mathbf{1}_{\log_2 \left(1 + P \times g_{\geq}(H_1, H_2) \times \left(1 - \frac{\Delta}{q_o(H_2)} \right) \right) < r_{\text{th}}} = \mathbf{1}_{g_{\geq}(H_1, H_2) < \frac{\beta}{P \left(1 - \frac{\Delta}{q_o(H_2)} \right)}} \\
&\leq \mathbf{1}_{g_{\geq}(H_1, H_2) < \frac{\beta}{P} \left(1 + \frac{2\Delta}{q_o(H_2)} \right)} \leq \mathbf{1}_{g_{\geq}(H_1, H_2) < \frac{\beta}{P} \left(1 + \frac{2\Delta}{H_2} \right)},
\end{aligned} \tag{27}$$

where (27) is because $\left(1 - \frac{\Delta}{q_o(H_2)} \right) \times \left(1 + \frac{2\Delta}{q_o(H_2)} \right) = 1 + \frac{\Delta}{q_o(H_2)} - 2 \left(\frac{\Delta}{q_o(H_2)} \right)^2 \geq 1$ since $q_o(H_2) \geq 2\Delta$ for $(H_1, H_2) \in \mathcal{I}_3$, and $q_o(H_2) \geq H_2$. Similar to (23) and (24), we can obtain an upper bound on \mathcal{F}_3 (the detailed derivation is omitted due to similarity). For \mathcal{F}_4 , its upper bound can be developed in the same way as the upper bound on \mathcal{F}_3 .

For \mathcal{F}_5 , when $H_1 \geq H_2 \geq \Delta$, since $g_{\geq}(H_1, H_2) \geq \frac{2H_1H_2}{\sqrt{(H_1+H_1)^2 + 4H_1^2H_2P} + H_1 + H_1} = \frac{H_2}{\sqrt{PH_2+1}+1}$, we obtain from (27) that

$$\mathbf{1}_{\min\{r_1(\alpha_{q_o}), r_2(\alpha_{q_o})\} < r_{\text{th}}} \leq \mathbf{1}_{g_{\geq}(H_1, H_2) < \frac{\beta}{P} \left(1 + \frac{2\Delta}{H_2} \right)} \leq \mathbf{1}_{g_{\geq}(H_1, H_2) < \frac{\beta}{P} \left(1 + \frac{2\Delta}{\Delta} \right) = \frac{3\beta}{P}} \leq \mathbf{1}_{\frac{H_2}{\sqrt{1+H_2P}+1} < \frac{3\beta}{P}} = \mathbf{1}_{H_2 < \frac{D_{26}}{P}}, \tag{28}$$

where $D_{26} = (3\beta + 1)^2 - 1$. Similarly, when $H_1 < H_2$, we have $\mathbf{1}_{\min\{r_1(\alpha_{q_o}), r_2(\alpha_{q_o})\} < r_{\text{th}}} \leq \mathbf{1}_{H_1 < \frac{D_{26}}{P}}$.

Therefore, an upper bound on \mathcal{F}_5 is

$$\begin{aligned}
\mathcal{F}_5 &\leq \int_{\mathcal{I}_4 \cap \{(H_1, H_2): H_1 \geq H_2\}} \mathbf{1}_{H_2 < \frac{D_{26}}{P}} \times \prod_{i=1}^2 f_{H_i}(H_i) dH_i + \int_{\mathcal{I}_4 \cap \{(H_1, H_2): H_1 < H_2\}} \mathbf{1}_{H_1 < \frac{D_{26}}{P}} \times \prod_{i=1}^2 f_{H_i}(H_i) dH_i \\
&\leq \underbrace{\int_{T\Delta}^{\infty} \frac{1}{\lambda_1} e^{-\frac{H_1}{\lambda_1}} dH_1}_{=e^{-\frac{T\Delta}{\lambda_1}}} \int_{\frac{\beta}{P}}^{\frac{D_{26}}{P}} \frac{1}{\lambda_2} \underbrace{e^{-\frac{H_2}{\lambda_2}}}_{\leq e^{-\frac{\beta}{P\lambda_2}} \leq e^{-\frac{\beta}{P\lambda_1}}} dH_2 + \underbrace{\int_{T\Delta}^{\infty} \frac{1}{\lambda_2} e^{-\frac{H_2}{\lambda_2}} dH_2}_{=e^{-\frac{T\Delta}{\lambda_2}} \leq e^{-\frac{T\Delta}{\lambda_1}}} \int_{\frac{\beta}{P}}^{\frac{D_{26}}{P}} \frac{1}{\lambda_1} \underbrace{e^{-\frac{H_1}{\lambda_1}}}_{\leq e^{-\frac{\beta}{P\lambda_1}}} dH_1
\end{aligned} \tag{29}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
&\leq e^{-\frac{T\Delta}{\lambda_1}} \times \frac{1}{\lambda_2} \times e^{-\frac{\beta}{P\lambda_1}} \times \frac{D_{26}-\beta}{P} + e^{-\frac{T\Delta}{\lambda_1}} \times \frac{1}{\lambda_1} \times e^{-\frac{\beta}{P\lambda_1}} \times \frac{D_{26}-\beta}{P} \leq D_{27} \times e^{-\frac{D_{28}}{P}} \times \frac{1}{P} \times e^{-\frac{T\Delta}{\lambda_1}} \\
&\leq D_{15} \times e^{-\frac{D_{16}}{P}} \times \frac{1+\sqrt{P}}{P} \times \max \left\{ e^{-\frac{T\Delta}{\lambda_1}}, \Delta^{\frac{1}{2}}, \Delta^{\frac{3}{2}} \right\},
\end{aligned}$$

where (29) is based on the assumption that $\lambda_1 \geq \lambda_2$. This completes the proof of the upper bound on $\text{out}_{\text{loss},q_o}$ in (12). \blacksquare

APPENDIX C: PROOF OF LEMMA 4

It is trivial to obtain the maximum diversity order for both receivers is 1 in the full-CSI case.¹³

When $q_o(\cdot)$ is employed, the outage probability of Receiver i is $\text{out}_{q_o,i} = \int \mathbf{1}_{r_i(\alpha_{q_o}) < r_{\text{th}}} \prod_{i=1}^2 f_{H_i}(H_i) dH_i$ for $i = 1, 2$. Following the derivations of \mathcal{F}_i for $i = 1, \dots, 5$ in Appendix B, we will obtain $\text{out}_{q_o,1} \leq \text{out}_{\text{min}} + D_{29} \times e^{-\frac{D_{30}}{P}} \times \left[\frac{\sqrt{\Delta} + e^{-\frac{T\Delta}{\lambda_1}}}{P} + \frac{\Delta^{\frac{3}{2}}}{\sqrt{P}} \right]$ and $\text{out}_{q_o,2} \leq \text{out}_{\text{min}} + D_{31} \times e^{-\frac{D_{32}}{P}} \times \frac{D_{33} + \Delta + e^{-\frac{T\Delta}{\lambda_1}}}{P}$.¹⁴ Therefore, for fixed Δ , the diversity orders of $\frac{1}{2}$ and 1 are achievable for Receivers 1 and 2, respectively.

For Receiver 1, $\frac{\Delta^{\frac{3}{2}}}{\sqrt{P}}$ in the upper bound on $\text{out}_{q_o,1}$ is the bottleneck for diversity gains. If we scale Δ as $\Delta^{\frac{3}{2}} \sim P \frac{1}{\sqrt{P}}$, i.e., $\Delta \sim P^{-\frac{1}{3}}$, the diversity order of 1 is also achievable for Receiver 1. \blacksquare

APPENDIX D: PROOF OF LEMMA 5

Given K and $\beta > 0$, define the following two optimization problems:

$$\begin{aligned}
\text{(P1)} \quad r_{\text{max}}^*(K, \beta) &= \max_{\alpha = [\alpha_1, \dots, \alpha_K]} \min_{k=1, \dots, K} r_k(\alpha), \text{ subject to } 0 \leq \alpha_k \leq \beta \text{ and } \sum_{k=1}^K \alpha_k = \beta. \\
\text{(P2)} \quad r_{\text{max}}^\dagger(K, \beta) &= \max_{\alpha = [\alpha_1, \dots, \alpha_K]} \min_{k=1, \dots, K} r_k(\alpha), \text{ subject to } r_1(\alpha) = \dots = r_K(\alpha), 0 \leq \alpha_k \leq \beta, \text{ and} \\
&\quad \sum_{k=1}^K \alpha_k = \beta,
\end{aligned}$$

where **(P1)** is the original optimization problem in (15) when $\beta = 1$. We will show that the maximum minimum rates of **(P1)** and **(P2)** are the same, i.e., $r_{\text{max}}^*(K, \beta) = r_{\text{max}}^\dagger(K, \beta)$, which proves the lemma.

¹³Detailed derivations for the maximum diversity order can be found in Appendix C of [30].

¹⁴Note that when we derive the diversity order for $\mathcal{F}_{2,2}$, we will not use its upper bound here. From (25), we obtain $\alpha_{q_o} \leq \frac{1}{\sqrt{P\Delta+1+1}} \leq \frac{1}{\sqrt{PH_2+1+1}}$, and $\mathbf{1}_{r_2(\alpha_{q_o}) < r_{\text{th}}} \leq \mathbf{1}_{r_2\left(\frac{1}{\sqrt{PH_2+1+1}}\right) < r_{\text{th}}} = \mathbf{1}_{H_2 < \frac{\beta^2 + \beta}{P}}$, then, it is trivial to obtain that $\mathcal{F}_{2,2} \leq D_{34} \times \frac{e^{-\frac{D_{35}}{P}}}{P}$.

Denote the optimal power allocations for **(P1)** and **(P2)** by $\boldsymbol{\alpha}_K^*(\beta) = [\alpha_{1,K}^*(\beta), \dots, \alpha_{K,K}^*(\beta)]$ and $\boldsymbol{\alpha}_K^\dagger(\beta) = [\alpha_{1,K}^\dagger(\beta), \dots, \alpha_{K,K}^\dagger(\beta)]$, respectively. Since $r_{\max}^*(K, \beta) \geq r_{\max}^\dagger(K, \beta)$, it is sufficient to prove that $r_{\max}^*(K, \beta) \leq r_{\max}^\dagger(K, \beta)$.

The proof for $K = 2$ is provided in the proof of Theorem 1. By induction, assume $r_{\max}^*(K, \beta) = r_{\max}^\dagger(K, \beta)$ holds for $K = K_1$. When $K = K_1 + 1$, there are two possibilities:

- (i) If $r_{K_1+1}(\boldsymbol{\alpha}_{K_1+1}^*(\beta)) \geq r_{K_1+1}(\boldsymbol{\alpha}_{K_1+1}^\dagger(\beta))$, since $r_{K_1+1}(\boldsymbol{\alpha}) = \log_2 \left(1 + \frac{\alpha_{K_1+1}}{\sum_{i=1}^{K_1} \alpha_i + \frac{1}{PH_{K_1+1}}} \right) = \log_2 \left(1 + \frac{\alpha_{K_1+1}}{\beta - \alpha_{K_1+1} + \frac{1}{PH_{K_1+1}}} \right)$ for any $\boldsymbol{\alpha}$ satisfying $\sum_{i=1}^{K_1+1} \alpha_i = \beta$, it must have $\alpha_{K_1+1, K_1+1}^*(\beta) \geq \alpha_{K_1+1, K_1+1}^\dagger(\beta)$, then, $\beta_1 = \sum_{k=1}^{K_1} \alpha_{k, K_1+1}^*(\beta) = \beta - \alpha_{K_1+1, K_1+1}^*(\beta) \leq \beta - \alpha_{K_1+1, K_1+1}^\dagger(\beta) = \sum_{k=1}^{K_1} \alpha_{k, K_1+1}^\dagger(\beta) = \beta_2$. Next, we obtain

$$r_{\max}^*(K_1 + 1, \beta) = \min \left\{ \left\{ \min_{k=1, \dots, K_1} r_k(\boldsymbol{\alpha}_{K_1+1}^*(\beta)) \right\}, r_{K_1+1}(\boldsymbol{\alpha}_{K_1+1}^*(\beta)) \right\} \leq \min \{ r_{\max}^*(K_1, \beta_1), r_{K_1+1}(\boldsymbol{\alpha}_{K_1+1}^*(\beta)) \} \quad (30)$$

$$= \min \{ r_{\max}^\dagger(K_1, \beta_1), r_{K_1+1}(\boldsymbol{\alpha}_{K_1+1}^*(\beta)) \} \quad (31)$$

$$\leq \min \{ r_{\max}^\dagger(K_1, \beta_2), r_{K_1+1}(\boldsymbol{\alpha}_{K_1+1}^*(\beta)) \} \quad (32)$$

$$= \min \{ r_{\max}^\dagger(K_1 + 1, \beta), r_{K_1+1}(\boldsymbol{\alpha}_{K_1+1}^*(\beta)) \} \quad (33)$$

$$= \min \{ r_{K_1+1}(\boldsymbol{\alpha}_{K_1+1}^\dagger(\beta)), r_{K_1+1}(\boldsymbol{\alpha}_{K_1+1}^*(\beta)) \}$$

$$= r_{K_1+1}(\boldsymbol{\alpha}_{K_1+1}^\dagger(\beta)) = r_{\max}^\dagger(K_1 + 1, \beta).$$

Thus, $r_{\max}^*(K_1 + 1, \beta) \leq r_{\max}^\dagger(K_1 + 1, \beta)$. The inequality (30) is due to the optimality of $r_{\max}^*(K_1, \beta_1)$; (31) arises from the assumption that $r_{\max}^*(K, \beta_1) = r_{\max}^\dagger(K, \beta_1)$ when $K = K_1$; (32) is because $r_{\max}^\dagger(K, \beta)$ is non-decreasing on β ; (33) holds since $r_{\max}^\dagger(K_1, \beta_2) = r_{\max}^\dagger(K_1 + 1, \beta)$.

- (ii) If $r_{K_1+1}(\boldsymbol{\alpha}_{K_1+1}^*(\beta)) < r_{K_1+1}(\boldsymbol{\alpha}_{K_1+1}^\dagger(\beta))$, we have $r_{\max}^*(K_1 + 1, \beta) \leq r_{K_1+1}(\boldsymbol{\alpha}_{K_1+1}^*(\beta)) < r_{K_1+1}(\boldsymbol{\alpha}_{K_1+1}^\dagger(\beta)) = r_{\max}^\dagger(K_1 + 1, \beta)$, which completes the proof of Lemma 5. \blacksquare

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