Cooperative HARQ Assisted NOMA Scheme in Large-scale D2D Networks

Zheng Shi, Shaodan Ma, Hesham ElSawy, Guanghua Yang, and Mohamed-Slim Alouini

Abstract—This paper develops an interference aware design for cooperative hybrid automatic repeat request (HARQ) assisted non-orthogonal multiple access (NOMA) scheme for large-scale device-to-device (D2D) networks. Specifically, interference aware rate selection and power allocation are considered to maximize long term average throughput (LTAT) and area spectral efficiency (ASE). The design framework is based on stochastic geometry that jointly accounts for the spatial interference correlation at the NOMA receivers as well as the temporal interference correlation across HARQ transmissions. It is found that ignoring the effect of the aggregate interference, or overlooking the spatial and temporal correlation in interference, highly overestimates the NOMA performance and produces misleading design insights. An interference oblivious selection for the power and/or transmission rates leads to violating the network outage constraints. To this end, the results demonstrate the effectiveness of NOMA transmission and manifest the importance of the cooperative HARQ to combat the negative effect of the network aggregate interference. For instance, comparing to the non-cooperative HARQ assisted NOMA, the proposed scheme can yield an outage probability reduction by 21%. Furthermore, an interference aware optimal design that maximizes the LTAT given outage constraints leads to 17% throughput improvement over HARQ assisted orthogonal multiple access (OMA) scheme.

Index Terms—Device-to-device communications, non-orthogonal multiple access, hybrid automatic repeat request, cooperative communications, stochastic geometry.

I. INTRODUCTION

A. Motivation and literature review

ACCORDING to ITU-R M.2083-0, the fifth generation (5G) and beyond of cellular networks are not only envisioned to enhance the mobile broadband services, but also to support massive number of machine type connections

within the Internet-of-Things (IoT) paradigm as well as to provide ultra-reliable low-latency communications for some services [1]–[3]. Such new requirements impose unprecedented challenges that cannot be fulfilled via the conventional orthogonal multiple-access (OMA) with centralized base station controlled communications [4], [5]. Instead, the 3GPP considers more aggressive spectral utilization schemes such as device-to-device (D2D) communication [6], [7] and non-orthogonal multiple access (NOMA) [8], [9] to support such massive number of connections. Despite the increased interference level imposed by D2D communications, it has been shown that D2D can significantly improve the overall network spatial spectral utilization thanks to the low-power short range direct proximity transmissions enabled by D2D communication [10]–[13]. The NOMA further improves the spectrum utilization by simultaneous transmission from the same source to multiple devices on the same time-frequency resources [8], [14]. Specifically, NOMA leverages superposition coding (SC) along with successive interference cancellation (SIC) and multi-user diversity to efficiently enhance spectrum utilization. By allocating more transmission power to the user with poorer channel condition, NOMA can achieve a balanced tradeoff between system throughput and user fairness [14]–[17]. This benefit has sparked of wide applications of NOMA to various wireless communication systems recently [18]–[20].

The foreseen gains of NOMA transmission have triggered several research efforts to optimize its operation. For instance, different power allocation strategies for NOMA transmission were developed in [14]–[16]. The work in [21] investigated the effect of user pairing on the NOMA sum rate performance. Sub-optimal joint power allocation and user pairing strategy was advocated in [22]. For MIMO networks, the authors in [23] developed an optimized downlink procedure to maximize NOMA sum rate under per-user rate constraint. The fairness of NOMA transmission was investigated in [17]. Improving NOMA transmission reliability via cooperation was studied in [24] and via hybrid automatic repeat request (HARQ) was studied [25], [26]. The potential gains from integrating NOMA with D2D communication was investigated in [27]. However, none of [14]–[17], [21]–[27] accounted for the network aggregate interference, which is significant in current cellular networks specially with D2D communication. Note that such co-channel interference affects the power allocation and rate adaptation, which are very crucial for NOMA transmission. The operation of NOMA under aggregate network interference in uplink cellular networks was studied in [28]. However, the model in [28] neither accounted for HARQ nor for cooperation, which are fundamentals for reliable NO-

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MA communication. Furthermore, the influence of aggregate network interference was also studied for NOMA in D2D networks in [29]. By assuming perfect instantaneous channel state information (CSI) at the transmitters, the joint subchannel and power allocation was proposed to maximize the sum rate.

B. Contribution

To the best of the authors' knowledge, this paper is the first to study cooperative HARQ assisted NOMA in large-scale D2D networks. This is essentially different from the scenario of NOMA application in [29] where perfect CSI is assumed at transmitters for NOMA and the accurate location information of interfering nodes are available. Evidently, the channel uncertainty at the transmitter, the randomness of interference and interfering node locations would significantly deteriorate the system performance. To boost the reception reliability in such scenario, the proposed scheme integrates both cooperative communication and HARQ with NOMA. Specifically, HARQ is known as a reliable transmission technique whose performance has been extensively studied in prior literature [30]–[32], HARQ technique can generally be categorized into three types according to the encoding and decoding operations applied at the transceivers, i.e., Type I HARQ, HARQ with chase combining (HARQ-CC) and HARQ with incremental redundancy (HARQ-IR) [33]. Type I HARQ is the simplest HARQ scheme because the erroneously received packets are directly discarded and the decoding is performed by solely relying on the most recently received packet. Hence, Type I HARQ does not entail a high hardware cost on D2D devices, e.g., computational capacity and storage. This paper thus focuses on Type I HARQ. Besides, combining NOMA and HARQ enables cooperative communication for further enhancement of reliability.

Using stochastic geometry [34], [35], we develop a novel mathematical paradigm for cooperative HARQ assisted NOMA that accounts for the spatial interference correlations among the NOMA receivers as well as the temporal interference correlation across the HARQ transmissions¹. Specifically, we consider a single source two users NOMA scheme and model the interfering D2D devices via a Poisson point process (PPP) (cf. Fig. 1a), which is widely accepted for modeling D2D devices [10]–[13], [35]. Exact expressions for the outage probability and long term average throughput (LTAT) are calculated for the two users. Furthermore, simplified approximation for LTAT are proposed and validated via simulations. The approximate expressions are utilized to develop interference aware rate selection and power allocation for cooperative HARQ assisted NOMA that maximize different network objectives such as LTAT and area spectral efficiency (ASE). The results show the significance of interference spatial and temporal correlation on the NOMA performance. Further, the gains of NOMA over conventional orthogonal multiple access as well as the gains due to cooperation and HARQ are quantified. The main

contributions of the paper can be summarized in the following three points:

- The paper develops a novel mathematical model based on stochastic geometry for HARQ assisted cooperative NOMA transmission. Different from the existing literature, the developed model accounts for the spatiotemporal interference correlations that interweave the decoding performances of the proximate NOMA receivers and diminish the diversity of the HARQ retransmissions. The paper presents exact as well as simple, yet accurate, approximate expressions for the LTAT and outage probability.
- The developed mathematical model enables interference aware optimal design that maximizes different network objectives, such as LTAT and ASE, subject to outage probability constraints.
- The numerical results manifest the superiority of the proposed HARQ assisted cooperative NOMA over the non-cooperative HARQ assisted NOMA as well as the conventional OMA scheme. Furthermore, the results show that interference-oblivious or correlation-oblivious design is unable to fulfill the outage probability constraints.

C. Notation and organization

Throughout the paper, $\mathbb{P}[X]$ denotes the probability of an event X , $\mathbb{E}$ refers to the expectation operator, $X \cup Y$ and $X \cap Y$ denote the union and the intersection of events X and Y , respectively, $[\cdot]^+$ denotes the projection onto the nonnegative orthant, $\|\cdot\|$ stands for Euclidean norm operation, Ω denotes the sample space and $\emptyset$ denotes the empty set.

The remainder of this paper is organized as follows. Section II presents the considered cooperative HARQ assisted NOMA scheme for D2D networks along with the overlay assumption. Section III then analyzes the performance of the proposed scheme, particularly the LTAT and outage probability. In Section IV, the analytical results are testified and some discussions are provided via numerical analysis. With the analytical results, Section V then performs the interference-aware design for the proposed scheme. Finally, Section VI concludes this paper.

II. SYSTEM MODEL

NOMA has recently been conceived as a promising candidate multiple access technology for the next generation (5G) mobile systems [8], [47]. For example, a multi-user superposition transmission (MUST) of NOMA has been proposed for 3rd generation partnership project long-term evolution advanced (3GPP-LTE-A) downlink transmission [9], [48]. In such scenarios, some D2D users can act as relays to help the base station forward the messages so as to extend the coverage of wireless networks [6]. Moreover, in order to alleviate severe interference from base stations, we assume that the D2D network operates in overlay mode, in which the dedicated spectrum resources are utilized [13], [49]. Particularly, this paper considers a D2D communication network, where the active D2D sources are modeled as a homogeneous PPP $\Phi \in \mathbb{R}^2$ with intensity λ . All D2D devices have backlogged

¹Considering the spatial and temporal interference correlations highly complicate the analysis and lead to involved performance expressions. However, it is mandatory to reveal the true network performance and alleviate misleading design insights as shown in [36]–[46] and will be shown in this paper.

buffers and are always transmitting over a shared frequency channel, which is dedicated to D2D communication. Without loss of generality, we focus on a typical source D2D device that is serving two nearby users, as shown in Fig. 1a, via cooperative HARQ assisted NOMA scheme, as shown in Fig. 1b. It is worth mentioning that the analytical approach developed in the upcoming section is also applicable to the scenario with more than two NOMA users. To avoid tedious derivations, this paper focuses on the scenario of two NOMA users. On the other hand, the scenario of two NOMA users is intensively adopted, because it leads to limited multiuser interference, low hardware complexity and low processing delay [28].

Let z be the location of the source device, then the distance between the source device and user i (the user at o_i) is denoted by $d_i = \|z - o_i\|$, where $i \in \{1, 2\}$. Exploiting the stationarity of the PPP, we assume that one of the users is located at $o_1 = (0, 0)$ and the other user is located at $o_2 = (D, 0)$. Although the locations of two users are specified in this paper, it has been proved in [50] that the analysis holds for random d_1 , d_2 and D . Since NOMA protocol takes advantage of the difference between fading channels compared to time division multiple access (TDMA) [24], we stipulate that user 1 is closer to the source device than user 2, that is, $d_1 < d_2$, without loss of generality. Note that HARQ can realize the reliable transmissions to combat the channel uncertainties or errors in channel measurement, the proposed cooperative HARQ assisted NOMA scheme does not necessarily need perfect knowledge of instantaneous CSIs at the source. Instead, the scheduler at the MAC layer sorts the two NOMA users on the basis of the average fading gains (path loss) between the source and the two NOMA users². Moreover, the average channel gains/path loss generally does not vary fast or dramatically in a short period compared to the small-scale fading. Therefore, frequent instantaneous SNR reporting is no longer necessary. Since the transmission distance determines the average fading gain/path loss, the two NOMA users are essentially sorted according to the distance information. The application of NOMA given the knowledge of average fading gain has been thoroughly discussed in [25], [51], [53].

As shown in Fig. 1b, the cooperative HARQ assisted NOMA transmission can be divided into two phases, namely Phase I and Phase II. In Phase I, the source utilizes superposition coding with power domain multiplexing to encode the two signals s_1 and s_2 that are intended to the two users 1 and 2, respectively. Based on the received superposition message, the nearer user 1 first decodes the interfering signal s_2 , which is denoted hereafter as NOMA interference. Once s_2 is successfully decoded, the nearer user can decode its intended signal s_1 by subtracting s_2 via SIC in the current and subsequent

transmissions. Unlike the nearer user, the farther user 2 directly decodes s_2 while treating the NOMA interference s_1 as noise. The transmission of the superposition messages is repeated until either user 1 or 2 acknowledges successful reception or the maximum number of retransmission K is reached. If either of the two devices acknowledges successful reception, Phase II starts in which the source node only transmits the remaining (i.e., not acknowledged) signal. Furthermore, if user 1 was the acknowledging receiver, it cooperates with the source and relays s_2 to user 2. When both users 1 and 2 acknowledge successful reception, the next two signals in the source queue are transmitted via the same aforementioned operation. If the maximum number of transmission K is reached without decoding the intended signals, the signals are dropped from the queue and outage event is declared. For simplicity, we assume that the feedback channel is error-free and delay-free, which can be justified by the low transmission rate and the short length of acknowledgement message.

In this paper, we assume a block Rayleigh fading channel (i.e., channel coefficient remains constant during each HARQ transmission) with known statistical CSI at the source device. However, the channel gain randomly and independently changes from one transmission to another. However, it is important to note that the locations of the interfering devices do not change dramatically over the short HARQ time interval, especially for interferers with low-to-medium mobility. Thus it is reasonable to assume that the interferer locations are fixed during HARQ transmissions, i.e., follow stationary interferer model (SIM) [44], which is valid because of the limited maximal allowable number of transmissions for HARQ in practice, e.g., the maximal number of transmissions is usually chosen up to 5 and each HARQ round consumes around 8ms [54]. The received signal at each of the devices in each transmission phase can be represented as follows.

1) *Phase I*: The signal received by user i in the k -th HARQ round is written as

$$\mathbf{y}_{i,k} = \sqrt{\ell(d_i)} Ph_{zo_i,k} (\beta \mathbf{s}_1 + \sqrt{1 - \beta^2} \mathbf{s}_2) + \sum_{x \in \Phi \setminus \{z\}} \sqrt{\ell(\|x - o_i\|)} Ph_{xo_i,k} \mathbf{s}_{x,k} + \mathbf{n}_{i,k}, \quad (1)$$

where P denotes the transmit power and β represents the power allocation coefficient. The signal $\mathbf{s}_i$ intended for user i is a modulated symbol vector of length L , and each element of $\mathbf{s}_i$ is Gaussian distributed with unit variance. Each signal of $\mathbf{s}_1$ and $\mathbf{s}_2$ is encoded independently at the source device and is transmitted with a fixed transmission rate $R_i = \frac{b_i}{L}$ for user i , where b_i is the number of information bits conveyed by signal $\mathbf{s}_i$ [46]. $\mathbf{s}_{x,k}$ denotes a Gaussian signal with unit variance and delivered by an interfering device located at x in the k -th HARQ round. $\ell(d) = \mathcal{K}d^{-\alpha}$ captures the path loss effect with path loss exponent $\alpha > 2$, where $\mathcal{K} = \left(\frac{\lambda}{4\pi d_0}\right)^2$, $d_0 = 1\text{m}$ and λ refers to the signal wavelength [55]. The notation $\Phi \setminus \{z\}$ denotes the set of all devices excluding the source device z . $\mathbf{n}_{i,k}$ denotes a complex additive white Gaussian noise (AWGN) vector with zero mean and variance matrix of $\sigma^2 \mathbf{I}$, i.e., $\mathbf{n}_{i,k} \sim \mathcal{CN}(\mathbf{0}, \sigma^2 \mathbf{I})$. $h_{xo_i,k}$ denotes the channel coefficient from the interfering device x to user i in the k -th HARQ round,

²If the CSI is perfectly known at the receiver, it should be highlighted that the decoding order of NOMA users is sorted according to channel gains or received SNRs, like [21], [24], [29]. Nevertheless, in our work, only the statistical knowledge of fading channels is available and the identically distributed aggregate network interferences are also unpredictable. Clearly, the former strategy is inapplicable to this scenario. To address it, the decoding order is generally determined by the average channel gain/path loss/transmission distance, which also simplifies the design of power allocation and rate adaption for NOMA [25], [46], [51], [52].

Fig. 1: (a) A NOMA-based D2D network model. (b) Cooperative HARQ assisted NOMA transmission model for each superposition encoded signal of s_1 and s_2 , where black color denotes Phase I modes, red color denotes Phase II modes, dotted arrows denote logical state transitions, and solid arrows denote physical transmissions.

and $h_{z o_i, k}$ and $h_{x o_i, k}$ are complex Gaussian distributed with zero mean and unit variance, i.e., $h_{z o_i, k}, h_{x o_i, k} \sim \mathcal{CN}(0, 1)$.

Following the NOMA protocol, after receiving the signal at both user 1 and user 2, the message intended for user 2 is decoded first with SINR

$$\gamma_{o_i, k, 2}^{(I)} = \frac{(1 - \beta^2) P |h_{z o_i, k}|^2 \ell(d_i)}{\beta^2 P |h_{z o_i, k}|^2 \ell(d_i) + I_{i, k} + \sigma^2}, \quad i \in \{1, 2\}, \quad (2)$$

where $I_{i, k}$ denotes the total interference at user i from interfering devices $x \in \Phi$ excluding z , i.e., $\Phi \setminus \{z\}$. More precisely, it follows from (1) that

$$I_{i, k} = P \sum_{x \in \Phi \setminus \{z\}} \ell(\|x - o_i\|) |h_{x o_i, k}|^2. \quad (3)$$

If user 1 successfully decodes the message of user 2, SIC will be carried out to recover its own message s_1 through subtracting the decoded signal s_2 with SINR

$$\gamma_{o_1, k, 1}^{(I)} = \frac{\beta^2 P |h_{z o_1, k}|^2 \ell(d_1)}{\mathcal{Q}(1 - \beta^2) P |h_{z o_1, k}|^2 \ell(d_1) + I_{1, k} + \sigma^2}, \quad (4)$$

where $\mathcal{Q}$ refers to the error propagation factor and is used to model SIC error [18]. Specifically, $\mathcal{Q} = 0$ represents perfect SIC, while $\mathcal{Q} = 1$ corresponds to the worst case that SIC is totally unsuccessful and the entire s_2 is treated as interference.

2) *Phase II*: Following the proposed scheme, if s_2 is successfully decoded prior to the k -th HARQ round, the received signal at o_1 in the k -th HARQ round is therefore given by

$$\mathbf{y}_{1, k} = \sqrt{\ell(d_1)} P h_{z o_1, k} \mathbf{s}_1 + \sum_{x \in \Phi \setminus \{z\}} \sqrt{\ell(\|x - o_1\|)} P h_{x o_1, k} \mathbf{s}_{x, k} + \mathbf{n}_{1, k}. \quad (5)$$

Correspondingly, the received SINR can thus be expressed as

$$\gamma_{o_1, k, 1}^{(II)} = \frac{P |h_{z o_1, k}|^2 \ell(d_1)}{I_{1, k} + \sigma^2}. \quad (6)$$

Conversely, if s_1 is successfully decoded prior to the k -th HARQ round, the received signal at user 2 with cooperation from user 1 in the k -th HARQ round is therefore given by

$$\mathbf{y}_{2, k} = \sqrt{\ell(D)} P h_{o_1 o_2, k} \mathbf{s}_2 + \sqrt{\ell(d_2)} P h_{z o_2, k} \mathbf{s}_2 + \sum_{x \in \Phi \setminus \{z\}} \sqrt{\ell(\|x - o_2\|)} P h_{x o_2, k} \mathbf{s}_{x, k} + \mathbf{n}_{2, k}, \quad (7)$$

where $h_{o_1 o_2, k}$ denotes the channel coefficient between two users in the k -th transmission. Similar to (6), the received SINR of user 2 can be written as

$$\begin{aligned} \gamma_{o_2, k, 2}^{(II)} &= \frac{P |\sqrt{\ell(D)} h_{o_1 o_2, k} + \sqrt{\ell(d_2)} h_{z o_2, k}|^2}{I_{2, k} + \sigma^2} \\ &= \frac{P |h_{eq, k}|^2 (\ell(D) + \ell(d_2))}{I_{2, k} + \sigma^2}, \end{aligned} \quad (8)$$

where $h_{eq, k} \triangleq \sqrt{\frac{\ell(D)}{\ell(D) + \ell(d_2)}} h_{o_1 o_2, k} + \sqrt{\frac{\ell(d_2)}{\ell(D) + \ell(d_2)}} h_{z o_2, k}$ denotes the equivalent channel coefficient in the k -th transmission, and follows a complex Gaussian distribution with zero mean and unit variance, i.e., $h_{eq, k} \sim \mathcal{CN}(0, 1)$, and $\ell(D) + \ell(d_2)$ is the equivalent path loss.

It is important to note that the signals, and hence the SINRs, are spatially and temporally correlated. For instance, in Phase I, the spatial correlation exists between (1) for $i = 1$ and $i = 2$ and the temporal correlation exists in (1) across different k . In Phase II, only temporal correlations across different k in the signals (5) and (7) exist since either user 1 or 2 is receiving. Similar notion applies to the SINRs given in (2), (6), and (8). The spatial and temporal correlations stem from the fact that the two users see common interfering sources across the HARQ rounds. Consequently, the decoding performed at the two users is interwoven due to the spatial correlations as well as the NOMA protocol and cooperative communications. As will be shown in the next section, such interdependence between the performance of the two users makes the analysis significantly involved.

III. ANALYSES OF THROUGHPUT AND OUTAGE PROBABILITY

LTAT is a widely adopted metric to characterize the performance of HARQ system [30]–[32]. Here we adopt the model developed in [33] to calculate the LTAT of the NOMA transmission with HARQ in the limit for large subcodeword length L . For notational convenience, let t denote the number of slots and $b_{o_i}(t)$ be the number of information bits, which are intended for user i and successfully decoded by user i , up to slot t . The total LTAT η measured in bps/Hz is defined as

$$\eta = \lim_{t \rightarrow \infty} \frac{b_{o_1}(t) + b_{o_2}(t)}{tL} = \lim_{t \rightarrow \infty} \frac{R_{o_1}(t) + R_{o_2}(t)}{t}, \quad (9)$$

where $R_{o_i}(t) \triangleq b_{o_i}(t)/L$ denotes the corresponding information bits per second per hertz successfully decoded by user i . The event that user i stops the transmission of the current message is treated as a recurrent event [56]. The recurrent event occurs with two random rewards $\mathcal{R}_{o_1}$ and $\mathcal{R}_{o_2}$ gained by the two users at o_1 and o_2 , respectively. Thus by using renewal-reward theorem, the LTAT of the cooperative HARQ assisted NOMA system is given by

$$\eta = \frac{\mathbb{E}(\mathcal{R}_{o_1}) + \mathbb{E}(\mathcal{R}_{o_2})}{\mathbb{E}(\mathcal{T})}, \quad \text{with probability 1,} \quad (10)$$

where $\mathcal{T}$ is the random number of transmissions between two consecutive occurrences of the recurrent event (inter-renewal time). In analogous to [33], [56], the original information bits in the source queue are divided equally so as to guarantee the same amount of information bits b_i delivered to user i in each transmission with the proposed scheme. The transmission rate $R_i = \frac{b_i}{L}$ thus keeps fixed across time. Accordingly, $\mathcal{R}_{o_i} = R_i$ bps/Hz if user i successfully recovers its own message, otherwise $\mathcal{R}_{o_i} = 0$ bps/Hz, we have

$$\mathbb{E}(\mathcal{R}_{o_i}) = 0 \times \mathcal{O}_{K,o_i} + R_i(1 - \mathcal{O}_{K,o_i}) = R_i(1 - \mathcal{O}_{K,o_i}), \quad (11)$$

where $\mathcal{O}_{K,o_i}$ denotes the outage probability of user i after K HARQ rounds. Moreover, $\mathcal{T}$ is a discrete random variable with the sample space $\{1, 2, \dots, K\}$ and obeys the probability distribution as

$$\mathbb{P}[\mathcal{T} = \kappa] = \begin{cases} \mathcal{O}_{\kappa-1,o_1|o_2} - \mathcal{O}_{\kappa,o_1|o_2}, & \kappa < K \\ \mathcal{O}_{K-1,o_1|o_2}, & \kappa = K \end{cases}, \quad (12)$$

where $\mathcal{O}_{\kappa,o_1|o_2}$ denotes the probability of the outage event occurring at either user 1 or user 2 after κ transmissions. By using inclusion-exclusion identity, it follows that

$$\mathcal{O}_{\kappa,o_1|o_2} = \mathcal{O}_{\kappa,o_1} + \mathcal{O}_{\kappa,o_2} - \mathcal{O}_{\kappa,o_1,o_2}, \quad (13)$$

where $\mathcal{O}_{\kappa,o_1,o_2}$ represents the probability that both two users fail to decode their own messages after κ HARQ rounds. As such, the average number of transmissions $\mathbb{E}(\mathcal{T})$ is obtained by using (12) and (13) as

$$\mathbb{E}(\mathcal{T}) = \sum_{\kappa=1}^K \kappa \mathbb{P}[\mathcal{T} = \kappa] = 1 + \sum_{\kappa=1}^{K-1} (\mathcal{O}_{\kappa,o_1} + \mathcal{O}_{\kappa,o_2} - \mathcal{O}_{\kappa,o_1,o_2}), \quad (14)$$

Accordingly, substituting (11) and (14) into (10) leads to

$$\eta = \frac{R_1(1 - \mathcal{O}_{K,o_1}) + R_2(1 - \mathcal{O}_{K,o_2})}{1 + \sum_{\kappa=1}^{K-1} (\mathcal{O}_{\kappa,o_1} + \mathcal{O}_{\kappa,o_2} - \mathcal{O}_{\kappa,o_1,o_2})}. \quad (15)$$

Thus the LTAT is expressed as a function of outage probabilities, which are the fundamental performance metrics. It is worth noting that (15) is a general expression to evaluate the LTAT of HARQ assisted NOMA system, which is applicable to both cooperative and non-cooperative cases, and even OMA system, because these operations do not change the derivations. Following the same analytical approach, it can be readily extended to derive the LTAT of HARQ assisted NOMA system with more than two users. To avoid tedious mathematical derivations, we skip the detailed discussion. However, it should be mentioned that the outage probabilities depend on the specific HARQ assisted scheme. Hence, the cooperative HARQ assisted NOMA scheme determines the explicit expressions of the outage probabilities $\mathcal{O}_{K,o_1}$, $\mathcal{O}_{K,o_2}$ and $\mathcal{O}_{K,o_1,o_2}$. To proceed with our analysis, they are individually derived as follows.

A. The outage probability $\mathcal{O}_{K,o_1}$

According to the system model in Section II, the decoding performance of s_1 depends on the number of HARQ rounds consumed by user 1 to successfully decode and subtract s_2 as well as the number of HARQ rounds consumed by user 2 to decode s_2 . This is because the source transmission power is totally allocated to s_1 after user 2 acknowledges successful decoding. To facilitate our analysis, we define the following events.

- $\Theta_{o_1,i,l}$: The event that user 1 successfully decodes the signal s_i after l HARQ rounds;
- $\bar{\Theta}_{o_1,i}$: The complement of the union $\bigcup_{l=1}^K \Theta_{o_1,i,l}$, that is, user 1 fails to decode the signal s_i after K HARQ rounds;
- $\Theta_{o_2,k}$: The event that user 2 succeeds in decoding its own message after k HARQ rounds;
- $\bar{\Theta}_{o_2}$: The complement of the union $\bigcup_{k=1}^K \Theta_{o_2,k}$, that is, user 2 fails to recover its own message after K HARQ rounds.

With the above definitions, the outage probability of user 1, i.e., $\mathcal{O}_{K,o_1}$, can be obtained by using law of total probability as

$$\mathcal{O}_{K,o_1} = \mathbb{P}[\bar{\Theta}_{o_1,1}] = \mathbb{P}\left[\bar{\Theta}_{o_1,1}, \left(\bigcup_{l=1}^K \Theta_{o_1,2,l}\right) \cup \bar{\Theta}_{o_1,2}, \left(\bigcup_{k=1}^K \Theta_{o_2,k}\right) \cup \bar{\Theta}_{o_2}\right]. \quad (16)$$

Notice that $\Theta_{o_1,2,1}, \dots, \Theta_{o_1,2,K}$ and $\bar{\Theta}_{o_1,2}$ are mutually exclusive events, that is, the intersection of any sequence of these events is empty. Similarly, $\Theta_{o_2,1}, \dots, \Theta_{o_2,K}$ and $\bar{\Theta}_{o_2}$ are also mutually exclusive. In addition, $\Theta_{o_1,2,l}$ and $\Theta_{o_2,k}$ are mutually exclusive if $l > k$, since the source only sends s_1 after the

acknowledgement of user 2, and hence, SIC is not required. Therefore, (16) can be simplified as

$$\begin{aligned} \mathcal{O}_{K,o_1} &= \sum_{k=1}^K \sum_{l=1}^k \mathbb{P} [\bar{\Theta}_{o_1,1}, \Theta_{o_1,2,l}, \Theta_{o_2,k}] \\ &+ \sum_{k=1}^K \mathbb{P} [\bar{\Theta}_{o_1,1}, \bar{\Theta}_{o_1,2}, \Theta_{o_2,k}] + \sum_{l=1}^K \mathbb{P} [\bar{\Theta}_{o_1,1}, \Theta_{o_1,2,l}, \bar{\Theta}_{o_2}] \\ &+ \mathbb{P} [\bar{\Theta}_{o_1,1}, \bar{\Theta}_{o_1,2}, \bar{\Theta}_{o_2}]. \quad (17) \end{aligned}$$

The terms at the right hand side of (17) will be derived one by one as follows.

1) $\mathbb{P} [\bar{\Theta}_{o_1,1}, \Theta_{o_1,2,l}, \Theta_{o_2,k}]$: From information-theoretical perspective, an outage event happens when the mutual information is less than the transmission rate. Herein, $\mathbb{P} [\bar{\Theta}_{o_1,1}, \Theta_{o_1,2,l}, \Theta_{o_2,k}]$ represents the outage probability of user 1 after SIC given that decoding s_2 by user 1 consumed l HARQ rounds and decoding s_2 by user 2 consumed k HARQ rounds. Note that $l \leq k$ should be satisfied in this case. With the signal model in Section II, $\mathbb{P} [\bar{\Theta}_{o_1,1}, \Theta_{o_1,2,l}, \Theta_{o_2,k}]$ can be obtained as

$$\mathbb{P} [\bar{\Theta}_{o_1,1}, \Theta_{o_1,2,l}, \Theta_{o_2,k}] = \mathbb{P} \left[\begin{aligned} &\bigcap_{j=l}^k \mathcal{I}(\gamma_{o_1,j,1}^{(I)}) < R_1, \bigcap_{j=k+1}^K \mathcal{I}(\gamma_{o_1,j,1}^{(II)}) < R_1, \\ &\bigcap_{j=1}^{l-1} \mathcal{I}(\gamma_{o_1,j,2}^{(I)}) < R_2, \mathcal{I}(\gamma_{o_1,l,2}^{(I)}) \geq R_2, \\ &\bigcap_{j=1}^{k-1} \mathcal{I}(\gamma_{o_2,j,2}^{(I)}) < R_2, \mathcal{I}(\gamma_{o_2,k,2}^{(I)}) \geq R_2 \end{aligned} \right], \quad (18)$$

where $\mathcal{I}(\gamma) = \log_2(1 + \gamma)$ denotes the mutual information given SINR γ . It is challenging to derive (18) because of the correlated SINRs, i.e., $\gamma_{o_1,j,1}^{(I)}, \gamma_{o_1,j,1}^{(II)}, \gamma_{o_1,j,2}^{(I)}$ and $\gamma_{o_2,j,2}^{(I)}$, whose correlations stem from the temporally and spatially correlated interference, as pointed out in Section II. Thanks to the tractability provided by stochastic geometry, (18) can be derived in closed-form in Appendix A as

$$\mathbb{P} [\bar{\Theta}_{o_1,1}, \Theta_{o_1,2,l}, \Theta_{o_2,k}] = \left[\sum_{\tau_1=0}^{l-1} \sum_{\tau_2=0}^{k-l} \sum_{\tau_3=0}^{K-k} \sum_{\tau_4=0}^{k-1} (-1)^{\sum_{j=1}^4 \tau_j} C_{l-1}^{\tau_1} C_{k-l}^{\tau_2} C_{K-k}^{\tau_3} C_{k-1}^{\tau_4} \times \begin{pmatrix} \Psi \left(\mathbf{U}_a, \boldsymbol{\tau}_a; \frac{2^{R_2-1}}{(1-2^{R_2}\beta^2)\ell(d_2)}, \tau_4 + 1 \right) \\ -\Psi \left(\mathbf{U}_a, \boldsymbol{\tau}_b; \frac{2^{R_2-1}}{(1-2^{R_2}\beta^2)\ell(d_2)}, \tau_4 + 1 \right) \end{pmatrix} \right]^+, \quad (19)$$

where $\boldsymbol{\tau}_a = (\tau_1 + 1, \tau_2, \tau_3)$, $\boldsymbol{\tau}_b = (\tau_1, \tau_2 + 1, \tau_3)$ and $\mathbf{U}_a = \left(\frac{2^{R_2-1}}{(1-2^{R_2}\beta^2)\ell(d_1)}, \frac{2^{R_1-1}}{(\beta^2 - \mathcal{Q}(1-\beta^2)(2^{R_1}-1))\ell(d_1)}, \frac{2^{R_1-1}}{\ell(d_1)} \right)$. Herein, it should be mentioned that $1 - 2^{R_2}\beta^2 > 0$, otherwise user 1 is unable to mitigate the NOMA interference s_2 . In addition, the function of $\Psi(\mathbf{U}, \boldsymbol{\tau}; \hat{\mathbf{U}}, \hat{\boldsymbol{\tau}})$ is defined as

$$\Psi(\mathbf{U}, \boldsymbol{\tau}; \hat{\mathbf{U}}, \hat{\boldsymbol{\tau}}) = e^{-\frac{\sigma^2}{P}(\mathbf{U}\boldsymbol{\tau}^T + \hat{\mathbf{U}}\hat{\boldsymbol{\tau}}^T) - \lambda\varphi(\mathbf{U}, \boldsymbol{\tau}; \hat{\mathbf{U}}, \hat{\boldsymbol{\tau}})}, \quad (20)$$

where $\mathbf{U} = (U_1, \dots, U_N)$, $\boldsymbol{\tau} = (\tau_1, \dots, \tau_N)$, $\hat{\mathbf{U}} = (\hat{U}_1, \dots, \hat{U}_M)$, $\hat{\boldsymbol{\tau}} = (\hat{\tau}_1, \dots, \hat{\tau}_M)$, and

$$\varphi(\mathbf{U}, \boldsymbol{\tau}; \hat{\mathbf{U}}, \hat{\boldsymbol{\tau}}) = \int_{\mathbb{R}^2} \left(\frac{1 - \prod_{n=1}^N \frac{1}{(1+U_n\ell(\|u\|))^{\tau_n}} \times \prod_{n=1}^M \frac{1}{(1+\hat{U}_n\ell(\|u+o_1-o_2\|))^{\hat{\tau}_n}} \right) du. \quad (21)$$

Moreover, it should be mentioned that (19) can also be applied to a more generalized path loss model, like dual-slope path loss model, by directly replacing $\ell(\cdot)$ with the adopted path loss model. The detailed discussions are omitted here to save space, interested readers could refer to [52] for more details.

2) $\mathbb{P} [\bar{\Theta}_{o_1,1}, \bar{\Theta}_{o_1,2}, \Theta_{o_2,k}]$: Once user 2 succeeds in decoding s_2 after k HARQ rounds, the source device will deliver only s_1 in subsequent retransmissions, which will be straightforward decoded at user 1 without the use of SIC. Accordingly, $\mathbb{P} [\bar{\Theta}_{o_1,1}, \bar{\Theta}_{o_1,2}, \Theta_{o_2,k}]$ can be written as

$$\mathbb{P} [\bar{\Theta}_{o_1,1}, \bar{\Theta}_{o_1,2}, \Theta_{o_2,k}] = \mathbb{P} \left[\begin{aligned} &\bigcap_{j=k+1}^K \mathcal{I}(\gamma_{o_1,j,1}^{(II)}) < R_1, \bigcap_{j=1}^k \mathcal{I}(\gamma_{o_1,j,2}^{(I)}) < R_2, \\ &\bigcap_{j=1}^{k-1} \mathcal{I}(\gamma_{o_2,j,2}^{(I)}) < R_2, \mathcal{I}(\gamma_{o_2,k,2}^{(I)}) \geq R_2, \end{aligned} \right]. \quad (22)$$

With the same approach in Appendix A, (22) can be derived as (23), shown at the top of the next page.

3) $\mathbb{P} [\bar{\Theta}_{o_1,1}, \Theta_{o_1,2,l}, \bar{\Theta}_{o_2}]$: When user 1 successfully decodes s_2 after l HARQ rounds, it means that user 1 can fully eliminate the NOMA interference in the current and subsequent HARQ rounds utilized to decode s_1 , which improves the outage probability. Therefore, $\mathbb{P} [\bar{\Theta}_{o_1,1}, \Theta_{o_1,2,l}, \bar{\Theta}_{o_2}]$ can be expressed as

$$\mathbb{P} [\bar{\Theta}_{o_1,1}, \Theta_{o_1,2,l}, \bar{\Theta}_{o_2}] = \mathbb{P} \left[\begin{aligned} &\bigcap_{j=l}^K \mathcal{I}(\gamma_{o_1,j,1}^{(I)}) < R_1, \bigcap_{j=1}^{l-1} \mathcal{I}(\gamma_{o_1,j,2}^{(I)}) < R_2, \\ &\mathcal{I}(\gamma_{o_1,l,2}^{(I)}) \geq R_2, \bigcap_{j=1}^K \mathcal{I}(\gamma_{o_2,j,2}^{(I)}) < R_2 \end{aligned} \right]. \quad (24)$$

Likewise, (24) can be derived as

$$\mathbb{P} [\bar{\Theta}_{o_1,1}, \Theta_{o_1,2,l}, \bar{\Theta}_{o_2}] = \left[\sum_{\tau_1=0}^{l-1} \sum_{\tau_2=0}^{K-l} \sum_{\tau_3=0}^K (-1)^{\sum_{j=1}^3 \tau_j} C_{l-1}^{\tau_1} C_{K-l}^{\tau_2} C_K^{\tau_3} \times \begin{pmatrix} \Psi \left(\mathbf{U}_b, \boldsymbol{\tau}_c; \frac{2^{R_2-1}}{(1-2^{R_2}\beta^2)\ell(d_2)}, \tau_3 \right) \\ -\Psi \left(\mathbf{U}_b, \boldsymbol{\tau}_d; \frac{2^{R_2-1}}{(1-2^{R_2}\beta^2)\ell(d_2)}, \tau_3 \right) \end{pmatrix} \right]^+, \quad (25)$$

where $\boldsymbol{\tau}_c = (\tau_1 + 1, \tau_2)$, $\boldsymbol{\tau}_d = (\tau_1, \tau_2 + 1)$ and $\mathbf{U}_b = \left(\frac{2^{R_2-1}}{(1-2^{R_2}\beta^2)\ell(d_1)}, \frac{2^{R_1-1}}{(\beta^2 - \mathcal{Q}(1-\beta^2)(2^{R_1}-1))\ell(d_1)} \right)$.

4) $\mathbb{P} [\bar{\Theta}_{o_1,1}, \bar{\Theta}_{o_1,2}, \bar{\Theta}_{o_2}]$: If user 1 fails to mitigate the NOMA interference and user 2 fails to decode its own message

$$\mathbb{P}[\bar{\Theta}_{o_1,1}, \bar{\Theta}_{o_1,2}, \Theta_{o_2,k}] = \sum_{\tau_1=0}^{K-k} \sum_{\tau_2=0}^k \sum_{\tau_3=0}^{k-1} (-1)^{\sum_{j=1}^3 \tau_j} C_{K-k}^{\tau_1} C_k^{\tau_2} C_{k-1}^{\tau_3} \times \Psi\left(\left(\frac{2^{R_1}-1}{\ell(d_1)}, \frac{2^{R_2}-1}{(1-2^{R_2}\beta^2)\ell(d_1)}\right), (\tau_1, \tau_2); \frac{2^{R_2}-1}{(1-2^{R_2}\beta^2)\ell(d_2)}, \tau_3+1\right). \quad (23)$$

after K transmissions, it is impossible for user 1 to decode $\mathbf{s}_1$. Thus $\mathbb{P}[\bar{\Theta}_{o_1,1}, \bar{\Theta}_{o_1,2}, \bar{\Theta}_{o_2}]$ is expressed as

$$\mathbb{P}[\bar{\Theta}_{o_1,1}, \bar{\Theta}_{o_1,2}, \bar{\Theta}_{o_2}] = \mathbb{P}\left[\bigcap_{j=1}^K \mathcal{I}(\gamma_{o_1,j,2}^{(I)}) < R_2, \bigcap_{j=1}^K \mathcal{I}(\gamma_{o_2,j,2}^{(I)}) < R_2\right]. \quad (26)$$

Similarly, (26) can finally be derived as

$$\mathbb{P}[\bar{\Theta}_{o_1,1}, \bar{\Theta}_{o_1,2}, \bar{\Theta}_{o_2}] = \sum_{\tau_1=0}^K \sum_{\tau_2=0}^K (-1)^{\sum_{j=1}^2 \tau_j} C_K^{\tau_1} C_K^{\tau_2} \times \Psi\left(\frac{2^{R_2}-1}{(1-2^{R_2}\beta^2)\ell(d_1)}, \tau_1; \frac{2^{R_2}-1}{(1-2^{R_2}\beta^2)\ell(d_2)}, \tau_2\right). \quad (27)$$

B. The outage probability $\mathcal{O}_{K,o_2}$

Similar to (17), the probability of outage event at user 2, i.e., $\mathcal{O}_{K,o_2}$, can be obtained by using law of total probability as

$$\begin{aligned} \mathcal{O}_{K,o_2} &= \mathbb{P}[\bar{\Theta}_{o_2}] \\ &= \mathbb{P}\left[\left(\bigcup_{k=1}^K \Theta_{o_1,1,k}\right) \cup \bar{\Theta}_{o_1,1}, \left(\bigcup_{l=1}^K \Theta_{o_1,2,l}\right) \cup \bar{\Theta}_{o_1,2}, \bar{\Theta}_{o_2}\right] \\ &= \sum_{l=1}^K \sum_{k=l}^K \mathbb{P}[\Theta_{o_1,1,k}, \Theta_{o_1,2,l}, \bar{\Theta}_{o_2}] + \sum_{l=1}^K \mathbb{P}[\bar{\Theta}_{o_1,1}, \Theta_{o_1,2,l}, \bar{\Theta}_{o_2}] \\ &\quad + \mathbb{P}[\bar{\Theta}_{o_1,1}, \bar{\Theta}_{o_1,2}, \bar{\Theta}_{o_2}], \quad (28) \end{aligned}$$

where the last step holds because of $\Theta_{o_1,1,k} \cap \Theta_{o_1,2,l} = \emptyset$ if $k < l$ and $\Theta_{o_1,1,k} \cap \bar{\Theta}_{o_1,2} \cap \bar{\Theta}_{o_2} = \emptyset$. Noting that $\mathbb{P}[\bar{\Theta}_{o_1,1}, \Theta_{o_1,2,l}, \bar{\Theta}_{o_2}]$ and $\mathbb{P}[\bar{\Theta}_{o_1,1}, \bar{\Theta}_{o_1,2}, \bar{\Theta}_{o_2}]$ have been derived in Sections III-A3 and III-A4, respectively. Hence, the remaining term is $\mathbb{P}[\Theta_{o_1,1,k}, \Theta_{o_1,2,l}, \bar{\Theta}_{o_2}]$, which is derived in the sequel.

Suppose that user 1 successfully decodes $\mathbf{s}_2$ after l HARQ rounds and $\mathbf{s}_1$ in the k -th HARQ round with SIC, where $k \geq l$. Thereupon, user 1 and the source device cooperate to deliver the message to user 2 in the subsequent transmissions. In this case, the outage probability of user 2 after K HARQ rounds, i.e., $\mathbb{P}[\Theta_{o_1,1,k}, \Theta_{o_1,2,l}, \bar{\Theta}_{o_2}]$, is obtained explicitly by considering the two cases of whether $k = l$ or not. Firstly, if $k = l$, it means that user 1 successfully subtracts

NOMA interference and decodes $\mathbf{s}_1$ at the same HARQ round, $\mathbb{P}[\Theta_{o_1,1,l}, \Theta_{o_1,2,l}, \bar{\Theta}_{o_2}]$ can thus be derived as

$$\mathbb{P}[\Theta_{o_1,1,l}, \Theta_{o_1,2,l}, \bar{\Theta}_{o_2}] = \mathbb{P}\left[\bigcap_{j=1}^l \mathcal{I}(\gamma_{o_2,j,2}^{(I)}) < R_2, \bigcap_{j=l+1}^K \mathcal{I}(\gamma_{o_2,j,2}^{(II)}) < R_2, \bigcap_{j=1}^{l-1} \mathcal{I}(\gamma_{o_1,j,2}^{(I)}) < R_2, \mathcal{I}(\gamma_{o_1,l,2}^{(I)}) \geq R_2, \mathcal{I}(\gamma_{o_1,l,1}^{(I)}) \geq R_1\right]. \quad (29)$$

By applying the method introduced in Appendix A, $\mathbb{P}[\Theta_{o_1,1,l}, \Theta_{o_1,2,l}, \bar{\Theta}_{o_2}]$ can be obtained as (30) at the top of the next page.

On the other hand, if $k > l$, that is, the events of the successful message decoding and NOMA interference cancellation at user 1 occur in two different HARQ rounds, $\mathbb{P}[\Theta_{o_1,1,k}, \Theta_{o_1,2,l}, \bar{\Theta}_{o_2}]$ can be expressed as

$$\mathbb{P}[\Theta_{o_1,1,k}, \Theta_{o_1,2,l}, \bar{\Theta}_{o_2}] = \mathbb{P}\left[\bigcap_{j=1}^k \mathcal{I}(\gamma_{o_2,j,2}^{(I)}) < R_2, \bigcap_{j=k+1}^K \mathcal{I}(\gamma_{o_2,j,2}^{(II)}) < R_2, \bigcap_{j=1}^{l-1} \mathcal{I}(\gamma_{o_1,j,2}^{(I)}) < R_2, \mathcal{I}(\gamma_{o_1,l,2}^{(I)}) \geq R_2, \bigcap_{j=l}^{k-1} \mathcal{I}(\gamma_{o_1,j,1}^{(I)}) < R_1, \mathcal{I}(\gamma_{o_1,k,1}^{(I)}) \geq R_1\right]. \quad (31)$$

Similarly, $\mathbb{P}[\Theta_{o_1,1,k}, \Theta_{o_1,2,l}, \bar{\Theta}_{o_2}]$ can be eventually derived as

$$\mathbb{P}[\Theta_{o_1,1,k}, \Theta_{o_1,2,l}, \bar{\Theta}_{o_2}] = \left[\sum_{\tau_1=0}^{l-1} \sum_{\tau_2=0}^{k-l-1} \sum_{\tau_3=0}^k \sum_{\tau_4=0}^{K-k} (-1)^{\sum_{j=1}^4 \tau_j} C_{l-1}^{\tau_1} C_{k-l-1}^{\tau_2} C_k^{\tau_3} C_{K-k}^{\tau_4} \right] \times (\Psi(\mathbf{U}_d, \boldsymbol{\tau}_f; \mathbf{U}_c, \boldsymbol{\tau}_e) - \Psi(\mathbf{U}_d, \boldsymbol{\tau}_g; \mathbf{U}_c, \boldsymbol{\tau}_e)) \quad k > l, \quad (32)$$

where $\boldsymbol{\tau}_e = (\tau_3, \tau_4)$, $\boldsymbol{\tau}_f = (\tau_1 + 1, \tau_2 + 1)$ and $\boldsymbol{\tau}_g = (\tau_1, \tau_2 + 2)$, $\mathbf{U}_c = \left(\frac{2^{R_2}-1}{(1-2^{R_2}\beta^2)\ell(d_2)}, \frac{2^{R_2}-1}{\ell(d_2)}\right)$ and $\mathbf{U}_d = \left(\frac{2^{R_2}-1}{(1-2^{R_2}\beta^2)\ell(d_1)}, \frac{2^{R_1}-1}{(\beta^2 - \mathcal{Q}(1-\beta^2)(2^{R_1}-1))\ell(d_1)}\right)$.

$$\mathbb{P}[\Theta_{o_1,1,l}, \Theta_{o_1,2,l}, \bar{\Theta}_{o_2}] = \sum_{\tau_1=0}^{l-1} \sum_{\tau_2=0}^l \sum_{\tau_3=0}^{K-l} (-1)^{\sum_{j=1}^3 \tau_j} C_{l-1}^{\tau_1} C_l^{\tau_2} C_{K-l}^{\tau_3} \times \Psi \left(\left(\frac{2^{R_2}-1}{(1-2^{R_2}\beta^2)\ell(d_1)}, \max \left\{ \frac{2^{R_2}-1}{(1-2^{R_2}\beta^2)\ell(d_1)}, \frac{2^{R_1}-1}{(\beta^2-\mathcal{Q}(1-\beta^2)(2^{R_1}-1))\ell(d_1)} \right\} \right), (\tau_1, 1); \left(\frac{2^{R_2}-1}{(1-2^{R_2}\beta^2)\ell(d_2)}, \frac{2^{R_2}-1}{\ell(D)+\ell(d_2)} \right), (\tau_2, \tau_3) \right), \quad (30)$$

C. The outage probability $\mathcal{O}_{K,o_1,o_2}$

Analogous to (17) and (28), it follows by using law of total probability that

$$\begin{aligned} \mathcal{O}_{K,o_1,o_2} &= \mathbb{P}[\bar{\Theta}_{o_1,1}, \bar{\Theta}_{o_2}] \\ &= \mathbb{P}\left[\bar{\Theta}_{o_1,1}, \left(\bigcup_{l=1}^K \Theta_{o_1,2,l}\right) \cup \bar{\Theta}_{o_1,2}, \bar{\Theta}_{o_2}\right] \\ &= \sum_{l=1}^K \mathbb{P}[\bar{\Theta}_{o_1,1}, \Theta_{o_1,2,l}, \bar{\Theta}_{o_2}] + \mathbb{P}[\bar{\Theta}_{o_1,1}, \bar{\Theta}_{o_1,2}, \bar{\Theta}_{o_2}], \end{aligned} \quad (33)$$

where $\mathbb{P}[\bar{\Theta}_{o_1,1}, \Theta_{o_1,2,l}, \bar{\Theta}_{o_2}]$ and $\mathbb{P}[\bar{\Theta}_{o_1,1}, \bar{\Theta}_{o_1,2}, \bar{\Theta}_{o_2}]$ have been given by (25) and (27), respectively.

Accordingly, the outage probabilities $\mathcal{O}_{K,o_1}$, $\mathcal{O}_{K,o_2}$ and $\mathcal{O}_{K,o_1,o_2}$ can be calculated by using (17), (28) and (33), respectively. Substituting them into (15) yields the LTAT of the proposed scheme. In order to evaluate the outage probabilities, it essentially resorts to the calculation of the double integral of $\varphi(\mathbf{U}, \boldsymbol{\tau}; \hat{\mathbf{U}}, \hat{\boldsymbol{\tau}})$ in (21). Unfortunately, the double integral representation of (21) entails a high computational complexity on the performance evaluation. Alternatively, we propose an accurate approximation approach to compute (21) effectively. Since it is usually expected that NOMA users are not far away from each other due to the exploitation of cooperative communications, i.e., small D , we have the following theorem to obtain an accurate approximation of $\varphi(\mathbf{U}, \boldsymbol{\tau}; \hat{\mathbf{U}}, \hat{\boldsymbol{\tau}})$.

Theorem 1. For small D , $\varphi(\mathbf{U}, \boldsymbol{\tau}; \hat{\mathbf{U}}, \hat{\boldsymbol{\tau}})$ in (21) can be written as (34) at the top of the next page, wherein $\tilde{\mathbf{U}} = (\mathbf{U}, \hat{\mathbf{U}}) = (\tilde{U}_1, \dots, \tilde{U}_{N+M})$ and $\tilde{\boldsymbol{\tau}} = (\boldsymbol{\tau}, \hat{\boldsymbol{\tau}}) = (\tilde{\tau}_1, \dots, \tilde{\tau}_{N+M})$, δ_s denotes Dirac function, $F_D^{(N)}(\cdot)$ denotes the fourth kind of Lauricella function [57, Eq. A.52], $\tilde{U}_\mu = \max\{\tilde{U}_1, \dots, \tilde{U}_{N+M}\}$ and $B(a, b) = \frac{\Gamma(a)\Gamma(b)}{\Gamma(a+b)}$ represents Beta function. Moreover, the approximation (34) would become equal for $N + M = 1$.

Proof. Please see Appendix B. $\square$

It is worth noting that the simple and closed-form expression of $\varphi(\mathbf{U}, \boldsymbol{\tau}; \hat{\mathbf{U}}, \hat{\boldsymbol{\tau}})$ can significantly facilitate later optimal system design.

IV. VERIFICATION AND DISCUSSIONS

This section aims at validating the developed mathematical model via independent system level simulations. Numerical results are also presented to demonstrate the effect of interference on NOMA performance as well as to quantify the gains

offered by the proposed NOMA scheme. Unless otherwise specified, the network parameters are selected as follows: $\alpha = 3$, $f_c = 2\text{GHz}$, $d_1 = 5\text{m}$, $d_2 = 10\text{m}$, $R_1 = 2\text{bps/Hz}$, $R_2 = 0.5\text{bps/Hz}$, $D = 10\text{m}$, $\beta^2 = 0.3$, $\lambda = 2 \times 10^{-4}\text{m}^{-2}$ and $\mathcal{Q} = 0$.

A. Verification

In Fig. 2a, the LTAT is plotted against the transmit signal-to-noise $\frac{P}{\sigma^2}$ (SNR, the ratio of transmit power to AWGN power) for different K , where Monte Carlo simulations are conducted to confirm the analysis. With regard to the approximation approach for $K = 1$, it is readily found from (50) that the approximation in (34) becomes an equality, and hence, the exact results for $K = 1$ can be obtained with (34). Clearly, Fig. 2a shows an excellent agreement between the simulation results and the exact results, and justifies the accuracy of the approximation results as well. Not surprisingly, the LTAT can be improved through increasing the transmit SNR, while it saturates in high SNR regime at a value lower than the sum of transmission rates, i.e., $R_1 + R_2 = 2.5\text{bps/Hz}$, due to the interference incurred by other active D2D transmitters. Additionally, as shown in Fig. 2a, we should pay attention to the fact that the increase of the maximal number of transmissions K may yield the deterioration of the LTAT because of the intricate relationship between η and K . This is essentially due to (10) that increasing the maximal number of transmissions allows more information bits to be successfully delivered, nevertheless, the average number of transmissions $\mathbb{E}(\mathcal{T})$ increases. The contradictory effects of increasing K thus result in different tendencies of η with respect to K under low SNR and under high SNR. More specifically, the increase of K is favorable for η below a certain SNR threshold, whereas continuing to increase SNR would become counterproductive for η .

Fig. 2b illustrates the outage probabilities of the two NOMA users versus the transmit SNR. The figure further verifies the accuracy of the exact and approximation results. It is easily seen that the outage probabilities of both two users decrease with the transmit SNR but would converge to certain outage floors in high SNR regime due to the co-channel interference, as elucidated in Fig. 2a. Moreover, unlike Fig. 2a, the outage probabilities can be significantly reduced through increasing the maximal number of transmissions, which manifests the improved reliability offered by HARQ.

$$\varphi(\mathbf{U}, \boldsymbol{\tau}; \hat{\mathbf{U}}, \hat{\boldsymbol{\tau}}) \approx \varphi(\tilde{\mathbf{U}}, \tilde{\boldsymbol{\tau}}; \mathbf{0}, \mathbf{0}) = \pi K^{\frac{2}{\alpha}} \tilde{U}_\mu^{\frac{2}{\alpha}-1} \mathcal{B} \left(1 - \frac{2}{\alpha}, \sum_{l=1}^{N+M} \tilde{\tau}_l + \frac{2}{\alpha} \right) \sum_{\kappa=1}^{N+M} \tilde{\tau}_\kappa \tilde{U}_\kappa \times \\ F_D^{(N+M-1)} \left(1 - \frac{2}{\alpha}, (\tilde{\tau}_l + \delta_{l-\kappa})_{l=1, l \neq \mu}^{N+M}; \sum_{l=1}^{N+M} \tilde{\tau}_l + 1; \left(1 - \frac{\tilde{U}_l}{\tilde{U}_\mu} \right)_{l=1, l \neq \mu}^{N+M} \right), \quad (34)$$

Fig. 2: The effect of transmit SNR $\frac{P}{\sigma^2}$.

B. Effect of Spatially and Temporally Correlated Interference

Considering temporal and spatial correlation among interferences across all HARQ rounds is important to reveal the true system performance. To illustrate the adverse impact of spatially and temporally correlated interference, Figs. 3a and 3b compare, respectively, the LTAT η and outage probability $\mathcal{O}_{K,o_i}$ of the considered correlated interference model with those of two other simpler interference models that i) ignore the effect of co-channel interferences (labeled as “No Inter.” in figures), and ii) ignore the spatial and temporal correlation in co-channel interferences (labeled as “No Corr.” in figures). As shown in the two figures, the two simpler interference models provide an unrealistic overestimate of the NOMA performance compared to actual performance especially in high SNR regime. For instance, Fig. 3a shows that the models ignoring interference correlation and assuming no interference overestimate the true performance of LTAT by up to 7% and 37%, respectively. Fig. 3b shows that the actual outage probability is considerably higher than the two simpler interference models by roughly $10^2 \sim 10^4$ times for a fixed value of transmit SNR $\frac{P}{\sigma^2} = 77$ dB. This is because the temporal and spatial correlation in interferences captures the diversity losses due to the fixed interferers locations [45]. Therefore, accounting for the spatial and temporal correlation is mandatory to reveal the true system performance.

C. Comparison with non-cooperative HARQ assisted NOMA

In order to quantify the value of cooperation, the performance of the proposed scheme is compared with that of non-cooperative HARQ assisted NOMA scheme in this

subsection by assuming $\frac{P}{\sigma^2} = 68$ dB. It is worth noticing that the throughput and outage analyses in Section III are also applicable to the non-cooperative HARQ assisted NOMA scheme by setting the transmit power at the relay (i.e., user 1) in phase II to zero. Figs. 4a and 4b show the comparison between the two schemes in terms of the LTAT and the outage probability, respectively. It is readily seen in both figures that the proposed cooperative scheme outperforms the non-cooperative HARQ assisted NOMA scheme. For instance, the proposed scheme can reduce the outage probability by up to 21% given $K = 4$, compared with the non-cooperative HARQ assisted NOMA scheme. In addition, the LTAT and the outage probability $\mathcal{O}_{K,o_2}$ of the non-cooperative HARQ assisted NOMA scheme remain constant when the inter-device separation distance D varies, because the link between two NOMA users is not utilized to retransmit the message of user 2. Whereas the increase of D will degrade the performance of the proposed scheme because of the rising path loss in relaying phase. Moreover, the approximate LTAT η and outage probability $\mathcal{O}_{K,o_i}$ are equal to the exact results for $K = 1$, because (34) becomes equal in this case. Note that $K = 1$ implies no retransmission and no cooperation, the proposed scheme achieves the same performance as the non-cooperative scheme. Accordingly, the approximate and non-cooperative results are not repeatedly plotted for $K = 1$. It is worth noting that the outage probability of user 1 is independent of D because user 2 does not decode nor relay user 1 message. Furthermore, Figs. 4a and 4b also justify the accuracy of the approximate expressions in Theorem 1.

Fig. 3: Effect of spatial and temporal interference correlation.

Fig. 4: Effect of inter-user distance D .

V. OPTIMAL SYSTEM DESIGN

In the last section, the numerical results confirm the high accuracy of the approximation approach of (34) in Theorem 1. The simple and closed-form expression of (34) enables the effective evaluation of outage probabilities compared with the double integral representation of (21). Thus we apply the approximation approach to facilitate the interference-aware design for the cooperative HARQ assisted NOMA scheme, including the maximization of LTAT and the maximization of ASE.

A. Maximization of LTAT

As seen in Fig. 2a, the increase of the maximal number of HARQ transmissions may decrease the LTAT. In order to combat the negative impact of co-channel interference and fully exploit the benefit of cooperative HARQ, an interference aware optimal design is proposed herein. Particularly the LTAT is maximized through properly choosing system parameters while maintaining the quality of service. By taking the optimal rate selection as an example, the LTAT is maximized by optimally selecting transmission rates given the predetermined power allocation coefficient β^2 , while guaranteeing outage

constraints and the implementation of NOMA protocol. Mathematically, the optimization problem can be formulated as

$$\begin{aligned} & \underset{R_1, R_2}{\text{maximize}} && \eta \\ & \text{subject to} && \mathcal{O}_{K,o_i} \leq \varepsilon_i, i = 1, 2 \\ & && 0 \leq \beta^2 < 2^{-R_2}, \end{aligned} \quad (35)$$

where ε_i denotes the maximal allowable outage probability for user i . It is worth highlighting that (35) can not be solved in closed-form due to the complicated expressions of the outage probabilities and the non-convexity of the problem. Fortunately, interior-point algorithm can be exploited to numerically solve it with sub-optimal solution, and the implementation of interior-point algorithm is available in numerous software packages, such as MATLAB.

For comparison, the HARQ assisted orthogonal multiple access (OMA) scheme is also implemented, where OMA scheme could be TDMA and Orthogonal frequency-division multiple access (OFDMA) [58] etc. Unlike the proposed scheme, the HARQ assisted OMA transmission does not require the near user to decode the message of the far user first. Therefore, the near user can not help the source device deliver the message to exploit extra spatial diversity from cooperative communi-

Fig. 5: The maximal LTAT via the optimal rate selection with $\beta^2 = 0.3$ and $\varepsilon = 0.01$.

cations. The LTAT of the HARQ assisted OMA scheme is derived in Appendix C. For the fairness of the comparison, the same coefficient β^2 is introduced to allocate the orthogonal resources (bandwidth/time) in the OMA scheme. Moreover, we assume the same outage constraints for two users, i.e., $\varepsilon_1 = \varepsilon_2 = \varepsilon$.

The system parameter settings in Section IV also apply to the following numerical analysis unless otherwise indicated. Fig. 5 manifests the superiority of the optimal LTAT achieved by the proposed scheme over that of the OMA scheme under optimal rate selection. For instance, the proposed scheme yields an approximately 17% throughput gain when $\frac{P}{\sigma^2} = 90\text{dB}$ and $K = 4$, compared with the OMA scheme. In addition, increasing the maximal number of transmissions is in favor of the optimal LTAT no matter under the proposed scheme or under the OMA scheme. It is important to note that the designs based on the ‘No Inter.’ and ‘No Corr.’ violate the outage probability constraints, and hence, the corresponding LTATs are not plotted in Fig. 5. Particularly, the outage probabilities $\mathcal{O}_{K,o_1}$ corresponding to $K = 4$ for ‘No Inter.’ and ‘No Corr.’, respectively, are 0.35 and 0.1, which greatly exceed the outage constraint $\varepsilon = 0.01$. Hence, totally ignoring the interference or just ignoring the interference correlation lead to an infeasible network design by violating the network operational constraints. To summarize, Fig. 5 reveals the superior performance of the proposed interference aware design under the assumption of statistical CSI available at transmitter. It is worth noting that the same conclusion holds true if perfect CSI is known at transmitter [24].

Furthermore, power allocation coefficient β^2 can also be optimally selected to maximize the LTAT given the desired transmission rates. However, it should be noticed that the joint optimal rate and power allocation for LTAT maximization may result in less or no information (or power) delivered (or allocated) to the far user with poor channel condition. Indeed, this is not beyond our expectation when user fairness (e.g., target transmission rate for each user) is not considered. Without fairness constraint, the joint optimization of the power and rate would aggressively allocate most of power to the user with better channel condition, which behaves like water-

filling algorithm regardless of user fairness [59] and violates the intention of NOMA protocol [14]–[17]. This interesting phenomenon can be observed in Table I for the proposed scheme, where the notation “–” denotes no feasible solution. Without any exceptions, the conclusion is also applicable to the OMA scheme. For further illustration, the joint power and rate optimization of the OMA system with $K = 1$ is examined as an example in the following remark.

Remark 1. For joint power and rate optimization of the OMA scheme to maximize the throughput with $K = 1$ and $\varepsilon_1 = \varepsilon_2 = \varepsilon$, it is proved in Appendix D that no power would be allocated to convey information to the far user with worse channel condition, and the optimal transmission rate for the far user is zero, i.e., $\beta^{*2} = 1$ and $R_2^* = 0\text{bps/Hz}$.

TABLE I: The optimal β^2 under joint power and rate optimization for $K = 2$.

Outage Tolerance ε	Transmit SNR $\frac{P}{\sigma^2}$		
	40dB	70dB	90dB
0.1	–	1.0000	0.9993
0.01	–	1.0000	1.0000

B. Maximization of ASE

Aside from the LTAT, the ASE is another useful metric to characterize the performance of the whole D2D network [60]. Specifically, the ASE of the D2D network is given by

$$\Delta = \lambda\eta. \quad (36)$$

Inspired by (35), the intensity of D2D transmitters can also be jointly designed to maximize the ASE, such that

$$\begin{aligned} & \underset{R_1, R_2, \lambda}{\text{maximize}} && \Delta \\ & \text{subject to} && \mathcal{O}_{K,o_i} \leq \varepsilon_i, i = 1, 2 \\ & && 0 \leq \beta^2 < 2^{-R_2}. \end{aligned} \quad (37)$$

Similarly to (35), (37) can also be effectively solved with interior-point algorithm.

In Fig. 6, the optimal ASE is plotted against the transmit SNR via optimal design of transmission rates and intensity. It is observed in Fig. 6 that increasing K and relaxing ε could significantly improve the optimal ASE. Moreover, it is intuitive that increasing the transmit SNR will enhance the optimal ASE. However, the gain turns out to be negligible in high SNR regime. This is because increasing the transmit SNR not only improves the received SNR but also boosts the interference, and consequently SINR does not vary. Similar to the LTAT scenario, ASE maximization based on ‘No Corr.’ model would violate the outage probability constraints, and hence, lead to an infeasible solution.

VI. CONCLUSION

This paper has utilized stochastic geometry to develop an interference-aware mathematical model for cooperative HARQ assisted NOMA in D2D networks. Particularly, by modeling the spatial locations of the interfering devices using a PPP,

Fig. 6: The maximal ASE via optimizing the transmission rates and the intensity.

tractable exact expressions for the long term average throughput (LTAT) and outage probability of a two user NOMA scenario have been derived. The developed model accounts for the spatial and temporal correlation of the interference at the two NOMA users and across the HARQ rounds. It has been shown that the decoding performance at the two receivers are interwoven and that the temporal and spatial correlation negatively influences the NOMA performance. To this end, an accurate analytical approximation for the LTAT has been proposed to enable interference aware optimal network design. Numerical results have shown that the proposed cooperative NOMA scheme decreases the outage probability by up to 21% compared to the non-cooperative case. Additionally, the optimized LTAT of proposed scheme outperforms that of the OMA scheme by 17%. It has also been shown that interference-oblivious rate selection results in violating the network outage constraints. Finally, optimal ASE has been presented to maximize the overall network performance.

APPENDIX A PROOF OF (19)

Putting (2), (4) and (6) into (18), and then rearranging it yields

$$\mathbb{P} [\bar{\Theta}_{o1,1}, \Theta_{o1,2,l}, \Theta_{o2,k}] = \mathbb{P} \left[\begin{array}{l} \bigcap_{j=1}^{l-1} \frac{P|h_{zo1,j}|^2}{I_{1,j}+\sigma^2} < U_{o1,2}, \\ U_{o1,2} \leq \frac{P|h_{zo1,l}|^2}{I_{1,l}+\sigma^2} < U_{o1,1,I}, \\ \bigcap_{j=l+1}^k \frac{P|h_{zo1,j}|^2}{I_{1,j}+\sigma^2} < U_{o1,1,I}, \\ \bigcap_{j=k+1}^K \frac{P|h_{zo1,j}|^2}{I_{1,j}+\sigma^2} < U_{o1,II}, \\ \bigcap_{j=1}^{k-1} \frac{P|h_{zo2,j}|^2}{I_{2,j}+\sigma^2} < U_{o2,I}, \frac{P|h_{zo2,k}|^2}{I_{2,k}+\sigma^2} \geq U_{o2,I} \end{array} \right], \quad (38)$$

$$\text{where } U_{o1,1,I} = \frac{2^{R_1-1}}{(\beta^2 - Q(1-\beta^2)(2^{R_1-1}))\ell(d_1)}, \quad U_{o1,2} = \frac{2^{R_2-1}}{(1-2^{R_2}\beta^2)\ell(d_1)}, \quad U_{o2,I} = \frac{2^{R_2-1}}{(1-2^{R_2}\beta^2)\ell(d_2)} \text{ and } U_{o1,II} =$$

$\frac{2^{R_1-1}}{\ell(d_1)}$. Herein, it should be mentioned that $1 - 2^{R_2}\beta^2 > 0$, otherwise user 1 is unable to mitigate the NOMA interference s_2 . For simplicity, we define the following successful decoding events $A_{1,j} \triangleq \left\{ \frac{P|h_{zo1,j}|^2}{I_{1,j}+\sigma^2} \geq U_{o1,2} \right\}$, $j \in [1, l]$; $A_{2,j} \triangleq \left\{ \frac{P|h_{zo1,j}|^2}{I_{1,j}+\sigma^2} \geq U_{o1,1,I} \right\}$, $j \in [l, k]$; $A_{3,j} \triangleq \left\{ \frac{P|h_{zo1,j}|^2}{I_{1,j}+\sigma^2} \geq U_{o1,II} \right\}$, $j \in [k+1, K]$; $B_{1,j} \triangleq \left\{ \frac{P|h_{zo2,j}|^2}{I_{2,j}+\sigma^2} \geq U_{o2,I} \right\}$, $j \in [1, k]$. Then (38) can be simplified as

$$\mathbb{P} [\bar{\Theta}_{o1,1}, \Theta_{o1,2,l}, \Theta_{o2,k}] = \mathbb{P} \left[\begin{array}{l} \bigcap_{j=1}^{l-1} (\Omega - A_{1,j}), A_{1,l} - A_{2,l}, \bigcap_{j=l+1}^k (\Omega - A_{2,j}), \\ \bigcap_{j=k+1}^K (\Omega - A_{3,j}), \bigcap_{j=1}^{k-1} (\Omega - B_{1,j}), B_{1,k} \end{array} \right]. \quad (39)$$

By applying inclusion-exclusion principle into the first term in the square bracket, (39) can be rewritten as

$$\mathbb{P} [\bar{\Theta}_{o1,1}, \Theta_{o1,2,l}, \Theta_{o2,k}] = \sum_{\tau_1=0}^{l-1} \sum_{\nu_1 \in \mathcal{M}_{\tau_1}} (-1)^{\tau_1} \times \mathbb{P} \left[\begin{array}{l} \bigcap_{v \in \nu_1} A_{1,v}, A_{1,l} - A_{2,l}, \bigcap_{j=l+1}^k (\Omega - A_{2,j}), \\ \bigcap_{j=k+1}^K (\Omega - A_{3,j}), \bigcap_{j=1}^{k-1} (\Omega - B_{1,j}), B_{1,k} \end{array} \right], \quad (40)$$

where $\mathcal{M}_{\tau_1}$ refers to the union of all the τ_1 -element subsets of the natural number set $\{1, 2, \dots, l-1\}$. Similarly, repeatedly using the same approach as (40) leads to

$$\mathbb{P} [\bar{\Theta}_{o1,1}, \Theta_{o1,2,l}, \Theta_{o2,k}] = \sum_{\tau_1=0}^{l-1} \sum_{\tau_2=0}^{k-l} \sum_{\tau_3=0}^{K-k} \sum_{\tau_4=0}^{k-1} (-1)^{\sum_{j=1}^4 \tau_j} \times \mathbb{P} \left[\bigcap_{v \in \nu_1} A_{1,v}, A_{1,l} - A_{2,l}, \bigcap_{v \in \nu_2} A_{2,v}, \bigcap_{v \in \nu_3} A_{3,v}, \bigcap_{v \in \nu_4} B_{1,v}, B_{1,k} \right], \quad (41)$$

where $\mathcal{M}_{\tau_2}$, $\mathcal{M}_{\tau_3}$, $\mathcal{M}_{\tau_4}$ denote unions of all the subsets of natural number sets $\{l+1, \dots, k\}$, $\{k+1, \dots, K\}$ and $\{1, \dots, k-1\}$ with cardinalities τ_2 , τ_3 and τ_4 , respectively.

Noticing that $A_{2,l} \subset A_{1,l}$ if $U_{o1,1,I} > U_{o1,2}$, otherwise

$A_{1,l} - A_{2,l} = \emptyset$. Thereafter, (41) can be derived as

$$\mathbb{P}[\bar{\Theta}_{o1,1}, \Theta_{o1,2,l}, \Theta_{o2,k}] = \sum_{\tau_1=0}^{l-1} \sum_{\tau_2=0}^{k-l} \sum_{\tau_3=0}^{K-k} \sum_{\tau_4=0}^{k-1} (-1)^{\sum_{j=1}^4 \tau_j} \times$$

$$\sum_{\nu_1 \in \mathcal{M}_{\tau_1}} \sum_{\nu_2 \in \mathcal{M}_{\tau_2}} \sum_{\nu_3 \in \mathcal{M}_{\tau_3}} \sum_{\nu_4 \in \mathcal{M}_{\tau_4}} \left[\mathbb{P} \left[\bigcap_{v \in \nu_1} A_{1,v}, A_{1,l}, \bigcap_{v \in \nu_2} A_{2,v}, \bigcap_{v \in \nu_3} A_{3,v}, \bigcap_{v \in \nu_4} B_{1,v}, B_{1,k} \right] \right. \\ \left. - \mathbb{P} \left[\bigcap_{v \in \nu_1} A_{1,v}, A_{2,l}, \bigcap_{v \in \nu_2} A_{2,v}, \bigcap_{v \in \nu_3} A_{3,v}, \bigcap_{v \in \nu_4} B_{1,v}, B_{1,k} \right] \right] \quad (42)$$

It follows from (42) that all the terms in square brackets have the same sign no matter $U_{o1,1,l} > U_{o1,2}$ or not. Hence, (42) can be rewritten as (43) at the top of the next page.

Noticing the inner probability terms $\mathbb{P}(\cdot)$ are independent of ν_1, ν_2, ν_3 and ν_4 , the cardinalities of set $\mathcal{M}_{\tau_1}, \mathcal{M}_{\tau_2}, \mathcal{M}_{\tau_3}$ and $\mathcal{M}_{\tau_4}$ are given by $C_{l-1}^{\tau_1}, C_{k-l}^{\tau_2}, C_{K-k}^{\tau_3}$ and $C_{k-1}^{\tau_4}$, respectively. Accordingly, (43) can be simplified as (19), wherein $\Psi(\mathbf{U}, \boldsymbol{\tau}; \hat{\mathbf{U}}, \hat{\boldsymbol{\tau}})$ is defined for notational convenience as

$$\Psi(\mathbf{U}, \boldsymbol{\tau}; \hat{\mathbf{U}}, \hat{\boldsymbol{\tau}}) \triangleq \mathbb{P} \left[\bigcap_{n=1}^N \bigcap_{k=1}^{\tau_n} \mathcal{A}_{n,k}, \bigcap_{n=1}^M \bigcap_{k=1}^{\hat{\tau}_n} \mathcal{B}_{n,k} \right], \quad (44)$$

where $\mathbf{U} = (U_1, \dots, U_N)$, $\boldsymbol{\tau} = (\tau_1, \dots, \tau_N)$, $\hat{\mathbf{U}} = (\hat{U}_1, \dots, \hat{U}_M)$, $\hat{\boldsymbol{\tau}} = (\hat{\tau}_1, \dots, \hat{\tau}_M)$, $\mathcal{A}_{n,k} \triangleq \left\{ \frac{P|h_{k_n}|^2}{I'_{1,k_n} + \sigma^2} \geq U_n \right\}$, $\mathcal{B}_{n,k} \triangleq \left\{ \frac{P|\hat{h}_{k_n}|^2}{I'_{2,k_n} + \sigma^2} \geq \hat{U}_n \right\}$, $I'_{i,k_n} = P \sum_{x \in \Phi \setminus \{z\}} \ell(\|x - o_i\|) |h'_{x o_i, k_n}|^2$ and $k_n = \sum_{\ell=1}^{n-1} \tau_\ell + k$, the channel amplitudes $\left\{ |h_k|, k = [1, \dots, \sum_{\ell=1}^N \tau_\ell] \right\}$, $\left\{ |\hat{h}_k|, k = [1, \dots, \sum_{\ell=1}^M \hat{\tau}_\ell] \right\}$, $\left\{ |h'_{x o_1, k}|, k = [1, \dots, \sum_{\ell=1}^N \tau_\ell] \right\}$ and $\left\{ |h'_{x o_2, k}|, k = [1, \dots, \sum_{\ell=1}^M \hat{\tau}_\ell] \right\}$ follow independent Rayleigh distributions with unit average power.

Since fading channels follow independent Rayleigh distribution given the interferences $I'_{i,k}$, $\Psi(\mathbf{U}, \boldsymbol{\tau}; \hat{\mathbf{U}}, \hat{\boldsymbol{\tau}})$ can be derived as (45) at the top of the next page. Then plugging (3) into (45) leads to

$$\Psi(\mathbf{U}, \boldsymbol{\tau}; \hat{\mathbf{U}}, \hat{\boldsymbol{\tau}}) = e^{-\frac{\sigma^2}{P}(\mathbf{U}^T \boldsymbol{\tau} + \hat{\mathbf{U}}^T \hat{\boldsymbol{\tau}})} \times$$

$$\mathbb{E}_{I'_{i,k}} \left(\prod_{n=1}^N \prod_{k=1}^{\tau_n} e^{-U_n \sum_{x \in \Phi \setminus \{z\}} \ell(\|x - o_1\|) |h'_{x o_1, k_n}|^2} \times \prod_{n=1}^M \prod_{k=1}^{\hat{\tau}_n} e^{-\hat{U}_n \sum_{x \in \Phi \setminus \{z\}} \ell(\|x - o_2\|) |h'_{x o_2, k_n}|^2} \right). \quad (46)$$

Given the PPP Φ and noticing the independence of fading channels, (46) can be further written as (47) at the top of the next page, where $\mathbb{E}_z^!$ denotes the expectation taken against

the reduced Palm distribution of the PPP Φ . Averaging over channel coefficients of Rayleigh distribution yields

$$\Psi(\mathbf{U}, \boldsymbol{\tau}; \hat{\mathbf{U}}, \hat{\boldsymbol{\tau}}) = e^{-\frac{\sigma^2}{P}(\mathbf{U}^T \boldsymbol{\tau} + \hat{\mathbf{U}}^T \hat{\boldsymbol{\tau}})} \times$$

$$\mathbb{E}_z^! \left(\prod_{x \in \Phi \setminus \{z\}} \prod_{n=1}^N \frac{1}{(1 + U_n \ell(\|x - o_1\|))^{\tau_n}} \times \prod_{n=1}^M \frac{1}{(1 + \hat{U}_n \ell(\|x - o_2\|))^{\hat{\tau}_n}} \right). \quad (48)$$

It follows by using Slivnyak theorem and the Laplace functional of PPPs that [34]

$$\Psi(\mathbf{U}, \boldsymbol{\tau}; \hat{\mathbf{U}}, \hat{\boldsymbol{\tau}}) = e^{-\frac{\sigma^2}{P}(\mathbf{U}^T \boldsymbol{\tau} + \hat{\mathbf{U}}^T \hat{\boldsymbol{\tau}})} \times$$

$$e^{-\int_{\mathbb{R}^2} \left(1 - \prod_{n=1}^N \frac{1}{(1 + U_n \ell(\|x - o_1\|))^{\tau_n}} \prod_{n=1}^M \frac{1}{(1 + \hat{U}_n \ell(\|x - o_2\|))^{\hat{\tau}_n}} \right) \Lambda(dx)}, \quad (49)$$

where $\Lambda(\cdot)$ denotes the intensity measure of the PPP Φ with intensity λ . By making the change of variables and after some algebraic manipulations, (49) can be derived as (20).

APPENDIX B PROOF OF (34)

For small D , $\varphi(\mathbf{U}, \boldsymbol{\tau}; \hat{\mathbf{U}}, \hat{\boldsymbol{\tau}})$ in (21) can be approximated by setting $o_1 = o_2$ as

$$\varphi(\mathbf{U}, \boldsymbol{\tau}; \hat{\mathbf{U}}, \hat{\boldsymbol{\tau}}) \approx \varphi(\tilde{\mathbf{U}}, \tilde{\boldsymbol{\tau}}; \mathbf{0}, \mathbf{0}), \quad (50)$$

where $\tilde{\mathbf{U}} = (\mathbf{U}, \hat{\mathbf{U}}) = (\tilde{U}_1, \dots, \tilde{U}_{N+M})$ and $\tilde{\boldsymbol{\tau}} = (\boldsymbol{\tau}, \hat{\boldsymbol{\tau}}) = (\tilde{\tau}_1, \dots, \tilde{\tau}_{N+M})$. By applying polar coordinates together with (21), $\varphi(\tilde{\mathbf{U}}, \tilde{\boldsymbol{\tau}}; \mathbf{0}, \mathbf{0})$ can be rewritten as

$$\varphi(\tilde{\mathbf{U}}, \tilde{\boldsymbol{\tau}}; \mathbf{0}, \mathbf{0}) = \int_0^\infty \int_0^{2\pi} \left(1 - \prod_{\ell=1}^{N+M} \left(1 + \frac{\mathcal{K} \tilde{U}_\ell}{r^\alpha} \right)^{-\tilde{\tau}_\ell} \right) r d\theta dr$$

$$= 2\pi \int_0^\infty \left(1 - \prod_{\ell=1}^{N+M} \left(1 + \frac{\mathcal{K} \tilde{U}_\ell}{r^\alpha} \right)^{-\tilde{\tau}_\ell} \right) r dr. \quad (51)$$

By using integration by parts, (51) can then be derived as

$$\varphi(\tilde{\mathbf{U}}, \tilde{\boldsymbol{\tau}}; \mathbf{0}, \mathbf{0}) = \pi \int_0^\infty \left(1 - \prod_{\ell=1}^{N+M} \left(1 + \frac{\mathcal{K} \tilde{U}_\ell}{r^\alpha} \right)^{-\tilde{\tau}_\ell} \right) dr^2$$

$$= \pi \sum_{\kappa=1}^{N+M} \tilde{\tau}_\kappa \mathcal{K} \tilde{U}_\kappa \times$$

$$\int_0^\infty r^{1-\alpha} \left(1 + \frac{\mathcal{K} \tilde{U}_\kappa}{r^\alpha} \right)^{-\tilde{\tau}_\kappa - 1} \prod_{\substack{\ell=1 \\ \ell \neq \kappa}}^{N+M} \left(1 + \frac{\mathcal{K} \tilde{U}_\ell}{r^\alpha} \right)^{-\tilde{\tau}_\ell} dr$$

$$= \pi \sum_{\kappa=1}^{N+M} \tilde{\tau}_\kappa \mathcal{K} \tilde{U}_\kappa \int_0^\infty r^{1-\alpha} \prod_{\ell=1}^{N+M} \left(1 + \frac{\mathcal{K} \tilde{U}_\ell}{r^\alpha} \right)^{-\tilde{\tau}_\ell - \delta_{\ell-\kappa}} dr, \quad (52)$$

$$\mathbb{P}[\bar{\Theta}_{o1,1}, \Theta_{o1,2,l}, \Theta_{o2,k}] = \left[\begin{array}{c} \sum_{\tau_1=0}^{l-1} \sum_{\tau_2=0}^{k-l} \sum_{\tau_3=0}^{K-k} \sum_{\tau_4=0}^{k-1} \sum_{\nu_1 \in \mathcal{M}_{\tau_1}} \sum_{\nu_2 \in \mathcal{M}_{\tau_2}} \sum_{\nu_3 \in \mathcal{M}_{\tau_3}} \sum_{\nu_4 \in \mathcal{M}_{\tau_4}} (-1)^{\sum_{j=1}^4 \tau_j} \times \\ \left(\mathbb{P} \left[\bigcap_{v \in \nu_1} A_{1,v}, A_{1,l}, \bigcap_{v \in \nu_2} A_{2,v}, \bigcap_{v \in \nu_3} A_{3,v}, \bigcap_{v \in \nu_4} B_{1,v}, B_{1,k} \right] \right. \\ \left. - \mathbb{P} \left[\bigcap_{v \in \nu_1} A_{1,v}, A_{2,l}, \bigcap_{v \in \nu_2} A_{2,v}, \bigcap_{v \in \nu_3} A_{3,v}, \bigcap_{v \in \nu_4} B_{1,v}, B_{1,k} \right] \right) \end{array} \right]^+, \quad (43)$$

$$\begin{aligned} \Psi(\mathbf{U}, \boldsymbol{\tau}; \hat{\mathbf{U}}, \hat{\boldsymbol{\tau}}) &= \mathbb{E}_{I'_{i,k}} \left(\mathbb{P} \left[\bigcap_{n=1}^N \bigcap_{k=1}^{\tau_n} |h_{k,n}|^2 \geq \frac{U_n (I'_{1,k,n} + \sigma^2)}{P}, \bigcap_{n=1}^M \bigcap_{k=1}^{\hat{\tau}_n} |\hat{h}_{k,n}|^2 \geq \frac{\hat{U}_n (I'_{2,k,n} + \sigma^2)}{P} \right] \right) \\ &= e^{-\frac{\sigma^2}{P} (\mathbf{U}^T \boldsymbol{\tau} + \hat{\mathbf{U}}^T \hat{\boldsymbol{\tau}})} \mathbb{E}_{I'_{i,k}} \left(\prod_{n=1}^N \prod_{k=1}^{\tau_n} e^{-\frac{U_n I'_{1,k,n}}{P}} \prod_{n=1}^M \prod_{k=1}^{\hat{\tau}_n} e^{-\frac{\hat{U}_n I'_{2,k,n}}{P}} \right). \end{aligned} \quad (45)$$

$$\Psi(\mathbf{U}, \boldsymbol{\tau}; \hat{\mathbf{U}}, \hat{\boldsymbol{\tau}}) = e^{-\frac{\sigma^2}{P} (\mathbf{U}^T \boldsymbol{\tau} + \hat{\mathbf{U}}^T \hat{\boldsymbol{\tau}})} \mathbb{E}_z \left(\prod_{x \in \Phi \setminus \{z\}} \left(\prod_{n=1}^N \prod_{k=1}^{\tau_n} \mathbb{E}_{|h'_{x o_1, k_n}|} \left(e^{-U_n \ell(\|x - o_1\|) |h'_{x o_1, k_n}|^2} \right) \right) \right). \quad (47)$$

where δ_s denotes Dirac function. By making a change of variable $s = r^\alpha$, we have

$$\begin{aligned} \varphi(\tilde{\mathbf{U}}, \tilde{\boldsymbol{\tau}}; \mathbf{0}, \mathbf{0}) &= \pi \sum_{\kappa=1}^{N+M} \tilde{\tau}_\kappa \mathcal{K} \tilde{U}_\kappa \times \\ &\int_0^\infty s^{\sum_{\iota=1}^{N+M} \tilde{\tau}_\iota + \frac{2}{\alpha} - 1} \prod_{\iota=1}^{N+M} \left(s + \mathcal{K} \tilde{U}_\iota \right)^{-\tilde{\tau}_\iota - \delta_\iota - \kappa} ds. \end{aligned} \quad (53)$$

Assuming that $\tilde{U}_\mu = \max \{ \tilde{U}_1, \dots, \tilde{U}_{N+M} \}$ and by the change of variable $z = \frac{\mathcal{K} \tilde{U}_\mu}{s + \mathcal{K} \tilde{U}_\mu}$, (53) can be rewritten as

$$\begin{aligned} \varphi(\tilde{\mathbf{U}}, \tilde{\boldsymbol{\tau}}; \mathbf{0}, \mathbf{0}) &= \pi \mathcal{K}^{\frac{2}{\alpha}} \tilde{U}_\mu^{\frac{2}{\alpha} - 1} \sum_{\kappa=1}^{N+M} \tilde{\tau}_\kappa \tilde{U}_\kappa \times \\ &\int_0^1 z^{-\frac{2}{\alpha}} (1-z)^{\sum_{\iota=1}^{N+M} \tilde{\tau}_\iota + \frac{2}{\alpha} - 1} \times \\ &\prod_{\substack{\iota=1 \\ \iota \neq \mu}}^{N+M} \left(1 - \left(1 - \frac{\tilde{U}_\iota}{\tilde{U}_\mu} \right) z \right)^{-\tilde{\tau}_\iota - \delta_\iota - \kappa} dz. \end{aligned} \quad (54)$$

With the definition of the fourth kind of Lauricella function $F_D^{(N)}(\cdot)$ in [57, Eq. A.52], (54) can finally be expressed in terms of Lauricella function as (34).

APPENDIX C

LTAT OF HARQ ASSISTED OMA SCHEME

With (15), the LTAT of HARQ assisted OMA scheme is expressed as

$$\eta_{\text{OMA}} = \frac{R_1 (1 - \mathcal{O}_{\text{OMA}, K, o_1}) + R_2 (1 - \mathcal{O}_{\text{OMA}, K, o_2})}{1 + \sum_{\kappa=1}^{K-1} (\mathcal{O}_{\text{OMA}, \kappa, o_1} + \mathcal{O}_{\text{OMA}, \kappa, o_2} - \mathcal{O}_{\text{OMA}, \kappa, o_1, o_2})}, \quad (55)$$

where $\mathcal{O}_{\text{OMA}, K, o_1}$, $\mathcal{O}_{\text{OMA}, K, o_2}$ and $\mathcal{O}_{\text{OMA}, K, o_1, o_2}$ are respectively given by

$$\begin{aligned} \mathcal{O}_{\text{OMA}, K, o_1} &= \mathbb{P}[\bar{\Xi}_{o_1}] = \mathbb{P} \left[\bar{\Xi}_{o_1}, \left(\bigcup_{k=1}^K \Xi_{o_2, k} \right) \cup \bar{\Xi}_{o_2} \right] \\ &= \sum_{k=1}^K \mathbb{P}[\bar{\Xi}_{o_1}, \Xi_{o_2, k}] + \mathbb{P}[\bar{\Xi}_{o_1}, \bar{\Xi}_{o_2}], \end{aligned} \quad (56)$$

$$\begin{aligned} \mathcal{O}_{\text{OMA}, K, o_2} &= \mathbb{P}[\bar{\Xi}_{o_2}] = \mathbb{P} \left[\left(\bigcup_{l=1}^K \Xi_{o_1, l} \right) \cup \bar{\Xi}_{o_1}, \bar{\Xi}_{o_2} \right] \\ &= \sum_{l=1}^K \mathbb{P}[\Xi_{o_1, l}, \bar{\Xi}_{o_2}] + \mathbb{P}[\bar{\Xi}_{o_1}, \bar{\Xi}_{o_2}], \end{aligned} \quad (57)$$

$$\mathcal{O}_{\text{OMA}, K, o_1, o_2} = \mathbb{P}[\bar{\Xi}_{o_1}, \bar{\Xi}_{o_2}]. \quad (58)$$

Herein, $\bar{\Xi}_{o_i}$ denotes the outage event at user i after K HARQ rounds and $\Xi_{o_i, k}$ represents the successful decoding event at user i after k HARQ rounds. To proceed, $\mathbb{P}[\bar{\Xi}_{o_1}, \Xi_{o_2, k}]$, $\mathbb{P}[\Xi_{o_1, l}, \bar{\Xi}_{o_2}]$ and $\mathbb{P}[\bar{\Xi}_{o_1}, \bar{\Xi}_{o_2}]$ will be derived one by one.

From information-theoretical perspective, $\mathbb{P}[\bar{\Xi}_{o_1}, \Xi_{o_2, k}]$ is given by

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbb{P}[\bar{\Xi}_{o_1}, \Xi_{o_2, k}] &= \\ &\mathbb{P} \left[\begin{array}{c} \bigcap_{j=1}^k \beta^2 \mathcal{I} \left(\frac{P |h_{z o_1, j}|^2 \ell(d_1)}{I_{1, j} + \sigma^2} \right) < R_1, \\ \bigcap_{j=k+1}^K \mathcal{I} \left(\frac{P |h_{z o_1, j}|^2 \ell(d_1)}{I_{1, j} + \sigma^2} \right) < R_1, \\ \bigcap_{j=1}^{k-1} (1 - \beta^2) \mathcal{I} \left(\frac{P |h_{z o_2, j}|^2 \ell(d_2)}{I_{2, j} + \sigma^2} \right) < R_2, \\ (1 - \beta^2) \mathcal{I} \left(\frac{P |h_{z o_2, k}|^2 \ell(d_2)}{I_{2, k} + \sigma^2} \right) \geq R_2 \end{array} \right]. \end{aligned} \quad (59)$$

Similar to Appendix A, $\mathbb{P}(\bar{\Xi}_{o_1}, \Xi_{o_2, k})$ can be derived as

$$\mathbb{P}[\bar{\Xi}_{o_1}, \Xi_{o_2, k}] = \sum_{\tau_1=0}^k \sum_{\tau_2=0}^{K-k} \sum_{\tau_3=0}^{k-1} (-1)^{\sum_{j=1}^3 \tau_j} C_K^{\tau_1} C_{K-k}^{\tau_2} C_{k-1}^{\tau_3} \times \Psi \left(\left(\frac{2^{\frac{R_1}{\beta^2}} - 1}{\ell(d_1)}, \frac{2^{R_1} - 1}{\ell(d_1)} \right), (\tau_1, \tau_2); \left(\frac{2^{\frac{R_2}{1-\beta^2}} - 1}{\ell(d_2)}, \tau_3 + 1 \right) \right). \quad (60)$$

With the same approach, we can prove

$$\mathbb{P}[\bar{\Xi}_{o_1, l}, \bar{\Xi}_{o_2}] = \sum_{\tau_1=0}^{l-1} \sum_{\tau_2=0}^l \sum_{\tau_3=0}^{K-l} (-1)^{\sum_{j=1}^3 \tau_j} C_{l-1}^{\tau_1} C_l^{\tau_2} C_{K-l}^{\tau_3} \times \Psi \left(\left(\frac{2^{\frac{R_1}{\beta^2}} - 1}{\ell(d_1)}, \tau_1 + 1; \left(\frac{2^{\frac{R_2}{1-\beta^2}} - 1}{\ell(d_2)}, \frac{2^{R_2} - 1}{\ell(d_2)} \right), (\tau_2, \tau_3) \right) \right). \quad (61)$$

Analogously, $\mathbb{P}(\bar{\Xi}_{o_1}, \bar{\Xi}_{o_2})$ follows as

$$\mathbb{P}[\bar{\Xi}_{o_1}, \bar{\Xi}_{o_2}] = \mathbb{P} \left[\begin{array}{l} \bigcap_{j=1}^K \left(\beta^2 \mathcal{I} \left(\frac{P|h_{z_{o_1}, j}|^2 \ell(d_1)}{I_{1,j} + \sigma^2} \right) < R_1 \right), \\ \bigcap_{j=1}^K \left((1 - \beta^2) \mathcal{I} \left(\frac{P|h_{z_{o_2}, j}|^2 \ell(d_2)}{I_{2,j} + \sigma^2} \right) < R_2 \right) \end{array} \right]. \quad (62)$$

After some algebraic manipulations, it follows that

$$\mathbb{P}[\bar{\Xi}_{o_1}, \bar{\Xi}_{o_2}] = \sum_{\tau_1=0}^K \sum_{\tau_2=0}^K (-1)^{\sum_{j=1}^2 \tau_j} C_K^{\tau_1} C_K^{\tau_2} \times \Psi \left(\left(\frac{2^{\frac{R_1}{\beta^2}} - 1}{\ell(d_1)}, \tau_1; \frac{2^{\frac{R_2}{1-\beta^2}} - 1}{\ell(d_2)}, \tau_2 \right) \right). \quad (63)$$

APPENDIX D PROOF OF REMARK 1

Similar to (35), the problem of joint rate and power optimization for the HARQ assisted OMA scheme can be formulated as

$$\begin{aligned} & \underset{R_1, R_2, \beta^2}{\text{maximize}} && \eta_{\text{OMA}} \\ & \text{subject to} && \mathcal{O}_{\text{OMA}, K, o_i} \leq \varepsilon_i, \quad i = 1, 2 \end{aligned} \quad (64)$$

Herein, we consider the case of $K = 1$ and $\varepsilon_1 = \varepsilon_2 = \varepsilon$. According to (55), (56) and (57), the LTAT and outage probabilities of the OMA scheme with $K = 1$ are

$$\begin{aligned} \eta_{\text{OMA}}^{K=1} &= R_1 e^{-\frac{\sigma^2}{P} \frac{2^{\frac{R_1}{\beta^2}} - 1}{\ell(d_1)} - \pi \lambda \mathcal{K} \frac{2}{\alpha} \left(\frac{2^{\frac{R_1}{\beta^2}} - 1}{\ell(d_1)} \right)^{\frac{2}{\alpha}} \text{B} \left(-\frac{2}{\alpha} + 1, \frac{2}{\alpha} + 1 \right)} \\ &\quad + R_2 e^{-\frac{\sigma^2}{P} \frac{2^{\frac{R_2}{1-\beta^2}} - 1}{\ell(d_2)} - \pi \lambda \mathcal{K} \frac{2}{\alpha} \left(\frac{2^{\frac{R_2}{1-\beta^2}} - 1}{\ell(d_2)} \right)^{\frac{2}{\alpha}} \text{B} \left(-\frac{2}{\alpha} + 1, \frac{2}{\alpha} + 1 \right)} \\ &= \beta^2 \phi_1 \left(\frac{R_1}{\beta^2} \right) + (1 - \beta^2) \phi_2 \left(\frac{R_2}{1 - \beta^2} \right), \end{aligned} \quad (65)$$

$$\mathcal{O}_{\text{OMA}, K, o_1}^{K=1} = 1 - \vartheta_1 \left(\frac{R_1}{\beta^2} \right), \quad (66)$$

$$\mathcal{O}_{\text{OMA}, K, o_2}^{K=1} = 1 - \vartheta_2 \left(\frac{R_2}{1 - \beta^2} \right), \quad (67)$$

where $\phi_i(x) = x e^{-\frac{\sigma^2}{P} \frac{2^x - 1}{\ell(d_i)} - \pi \lambda \mathcal{K} \frac{2}{\alpha} \left(\frac{2^x - 1}{\ell(d_i)} \right)^{\frac{2}{\alpha}} \text{B} \left(-\frac{2}{\alpha} + 1, \frac{2}{\alpha} + 1 \right)}$ and $\vartheta_i(x) = e^{-\frac{\sigma^2}{P} \frac{2^x - 1}{\ell(d_i)} - \pi \lambda \mathcal{K} \frac{2}{\alpha} \left(\frac{2^x - 1}{\ell(d_i)} \right)^{\frac{2}{\alpha}} \text{B} \left(-\frac{2}{\alpha} + 1, \frac{2}{\alpha} + 1 \right)}$. Instead of jointly optimizing R_1 , R_2 and β^2 , we introduce $z_1 = \frac{R_1}{\beta^2}$, $z_2 = \frac{R_2}{1 - \beta^2}$, and the optimization problem (64) can be reformulated by using (65), (66) and (67) as

$$\begin{aligned} & \underset{z_1, z_2, \beta^2}{\text{maximize}} && \beta^2 \phi_1(z_1) + (1 - \beta^2) \phi_2(z_2) \\ & \text{subject to} && \vartheta_i(z_i) \geq 1 - \varepsilon, \quad i = 1, 2, \end{aligned} \quad (68)$$

With decomposition theory [61], the optimization with respect to z_1 and z_2 can be decoupled as

$$\begin{aligned} & \underset{z_i}{\text{maximize}} && \phi_i(z_i) \\ & \text{subject to} && \vartheta_i(z_i) \geq 1 - \varepsilon, \end{aligned} \quad (69)$$

Noticing that $d_1 < d_2$, it follows that $\phi_1(z_1^*) > \phi_2(z_2^*)$. After obtaining the optimal z_1^* and z_2^* , it is not hard to prove that the optimal LTAT is an increasing function of β^2 , i.e., $\beta^2(\phi_1(z_1^*) - \phi_2(z_2^*)) + \phi_2(z_2^*)$. The maximal LTAT is achieved if and only if $\beta^{*2} = 1$. Hence, we have $R_2 = (1 - \beta^2) z_2^* = 0$ bps/Hz. The proof is then completed.

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