Abstract—In this paper, the statistics of quadratic forms in normal random variables (RVs) are studied and their impact on performance analysis of wireless communication systems is explored. First, a chi-squared series expansion is adopted to represent the probability density function of a quadratic form in normal RVs and novel series truncation error bounds are derived, which are much tighter compared to already known ones. Secondly, it is theoretically shown that when an orthogonal space time block coding (OSTBC) transmission scheme is used, the signal to noise ratio (SNR) at the receiver under various fading conditions can be expressed as a quadratic form in normal RVs. Capitalizing on these results, a thorough error probability and capacity analysis is presented for the performance of OSTBC systems over Nakagami-$q$ (Hoyt) fading channels. For all error probability and capacity performance criteria considered, simple, closed-form truncation error bounds expressions are derived, which avoid the use of infinite sums and complicated functions. The proposed theoretical analysis is validated through extensive Monte Carlo simulations.

Index Terms—Quadratic forms in normal RVs, OSTBC, MIMO, Nakagami-$q$ (Hoyt) distribution, fading channels, performance analysis.

I. INTRODUCTION

Performance analysis of wireless mobile digital communication systems depends mainly on two factors, namely the channel fading statistics and the utilized diversity scheme. In such communications systems, the transmitted signal is impaired by fading resulting in severe performance degradation. To combat fading, diversity schemes can be applied at the transmitter or the receiver by properly combining multiple replicas of the transmitted signal. In several applications, fading and diversity are such that the statistics of a quadratic form in normal random variables (RVs) need to be evaluated. This necessity has motivated our current research effort since, in general, analytical closed-form expressions for the probability density function (PDF) and the cumulative distribution function (CDF) of a quadratic form in normal RVs are not available. These functions are usually represented by certain infinite series expansions [1], whose convergence is controlled by properly selecting the values of their parameters. When a series representation is used, bounds on the truncation error, i.e., on the error resulting after retaining a number of leading series terms, are becoming of major importance. Closed-form expressions of truncation error bounds for various series expansions related to quadratic forms in normal RVs have been reported several years ago in the statistical literature [2], [3].

An important application, where a quadratic form in normal RVs appears, is in studying the performance of orthogonal space-time block coding (OSTBC) over various fading channels. In recent years OSTBC is becoming increasingly popular as an efficient transmit diversity technique to combat fading in wireless communications [4]. This approach offers full spatial diversity and maximum likelihood performance with linear decoding complexity. In the past, several performance analysis results have been reported for OSTBC operating over various classical fading channels, including Rayleigh [5], Nakagami-$m$ [6], [7], and Nakagami-$n$ (Rice) [8]. Another distribution, which has recently received increased attention in modeling fading channels, is the Nakagami-$q$ (Hoyt) distribution [9]. Studies have shown that the Hoyt fading channel model provides a very accurate fit to experimental channel measurements in various telecommunications applications. For instance, in [10] this model has been used in outage analysis of cellular mobile radio systems, in [11] the capacity of Hoyt fading channels has been studied and more recently, in [12] an error performance analysis of $M$-ary modulation schemes in Hoyt fading channels was presented. Similarly, the Hoyt distribution can be considered as an accurate fading model for satellite links with strong ionospheric scintillation [13]. However, regarding the performance of OSTBC schemes over Hoyt fading channels, very few studies have been published in the open technical literature. Such studies usually have dealt with specific performance criteria, e.g., ergodic capacity [14], and information outage probability [15].

A well known approach that could be used to analyze the performance of OSTBC over Hoyt fading channels is the moment generating function (MGF) method [9]. It is not difficult to show that for only special cases of specific fading parameter values, the MGF method leads to closed
form expressions for various performance metrics. However, for the general problem we are dealing with in this paper, the MGF method fails to provide a compact and mathematically tractable framework, which enables accurate performance analysis.

Motivated by the above, in this paper, a new approach for the performance evaluation of OSTBC wireless communication systems is introduced and analyzed. This approach is based on the analysis of the statistics of quadratic forms in normal RVs. To this end, we first consider the formulation of central quadratic forms in normal RVs, i.e., quadratic forms where the involved random variables are zero mean, which may be statistically independent or not. Following that, the chi-squared series expansion is used to represent the PDF and CDF of central positive definite quadratic forms [1]. The main advantages of our approach are its simplicity, mathematical tractability and fast convergence. Based on these representations, new analytical closed-form expressions of truncation error bounds are derived for both the PDF and the CDF, which are much tighter as compared to already known ones [2], [3]. The bounds are derived following a novel approach, while their analytical expressions are quite simple allowing for further mathematical manipulations.

In the sequel, a detailed performance analysis of OSTBC operating over not necessarily identical Hoyt distributed fading channels is presented. First, it is shown that the problem of evaluating the performance of OSTBC reduces to the analysis of the distribution of a central, positive definite quadratic form in normal RVs. Hence the previously mentioned framework can be directly applied in solving this problem. Following that an error probability as well as a capacity evaluation results (theoretical and computer simulated) are presented and discussed in Section VI. The conclusion of the paper can be found in Section VII.

II. QUADRATIC FORMS IN NORMAL RVs

Let $A$ be an $n \times n$ real symmetric matrix and $x$ an $n \times 1$ vector of zero mean normal RVs with a positive definite covariance matrix $C = \text{Cov}(x)$. Then a quadratic form in central normal RVs is defined as follows [1]

$$Q = x^T Ax$$

(1)

where $(\cdot)^T$ denotes transposition. It should be emphasized that irrespective of the covariance matrix $C$, $Q$ can be equivalently written as a function of zero mean uncorrelated normal RVs. Indeed, by making the transformation

$$z = C^{-1/2}x$$

(2)

where $C^{1/2}$ denotes a square root of $C$, (1) becomes

$$Q = z^T R z$$

(3)

where $R = C^{T/2} A C^{1/2}$. Substituting the real symmetric matrix $R$ in (3) by its eigenvalue decomposition, i.e., $R = U \Lambda U^T$, where $U$ is an orthonormal matrix and $\Lambda$ a diagonal matrix containing the real eigenvalues of $R$, yields

$$Q = y^T \Lambda y$$

(4)

where $y = Uz$. Obviously, $y$ has zero mean i.e., $E[y] = 0$, and covariance $\text{Cov}(y) = I$, where $I$ denotes the identity matrix. Equivalently, the above equation can be expressed as

$$Q = \sum_{i=1}^{n} \lambda_i y_i^2$$

(5)

where for $i = 1, 2, \ldots, n$, $\lambda_i$ are the real eigenvalues of $R$ and $y_i$ zero mean independent normal RVs. When matrix $A$ is positive definite, then $\lambda_i > 0, \forall i$, and $Q$ is characterized as a central, positive definite quadratic form, the analysis of which will be the main focus of this work.

As it will be shown in Section IV quadratic forms in normal RVs show up in several applications related to performance evaluation of wireless communication systems. Thus, in order to obtain expressions for the various performance criteria, the PDF and CDF of such forms must be determined in a mathematically simple form. A similar analysis is also presented for the capacity, including the information outage probability and the ergodic capacity, of OSTBC over Hoyt fading channels. The theoretical analysis has been also verified by means of extensive computer simulated performance evaluation results.

The paper is organized as follows. After this introduction, in Section II, quadratic forms in normal RVs are defined for both independent and correlated RVs. In Section III, the chi-squared series expansion is utilized and novel truncation error bounds for the PDF and CDF of a quadratic form in normal RVs are derived. Section IV, studies OSTBC for fading channels, while a detailed performance analysis of OSTBC over Hoyt fading channels is presented in Section V. Various performance results (theoretical and computer simulated) are presented and discussed in Section VI. The conclusion of the paper can be found in Section VII.

III. QUADRATIC FORMS STATISTICS

In general, there is no known analytical expression for the PDF and CDF of $Q$ in (5). However, various infinite series expansions have been proposed to evaluate the statistics of quadratic forms in normal RVs [1]. One such a representation is the chi-squared series expansion which offers mathematical tractability and fast convergence. Using a chi-squared series expansion the PDF of $Q$ is expressed as follows [1, pp. 115 - 123]

$$p_Q(x) = \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} c_k f \left( x, 2\beta, \frac{n}{2} + k \right)$$

(6)

where

$$f(x, b, l) = \frac{x^{l-1} \exp \left( -\frac{x}{b} \right)}{b^l l!}$$

(7)

$\frac{1}{2}$If $A$ is not symmetric, symmetry can be imposed by writing $Q$ in the equivalent form $Q = x^T (A + A^T) x$. 

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while its CDF is given by

$$P_Q(x) = \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} c_k F\left(x, 2\beta, \frac{n}{2} + k\right)$$  

(8)

with

$$F(x, b, l) = \frac{1}{\Gamma(l)} \gamma\left(l, \frac{x}{b}\right).$$  

(9)

In the previous expressions, $\Gamma(\cdot)$ is the gamma function [16, eq. (6.5.1)] and $\gamma(\cdot, \cdot)$ the lower incomplete gamma function [16, eq. (6.5.2)] and $\beta$ is an arbitrary parameter controlling the convergence of the series. More specifically as stated in [3], for any choice of $\beta > 0$, the uniform convergence of (6) and (8) in any finite interval on the positive semiaxis can be ensured. Additionally, if $\beta$ is chosen such that $\beta < 2 \min\{\lambda_i\}$, the PDF and CDF series converge uniformly for all $x > 0$. According to the analysis in [2], by choosing $\beta$ as

$$\beta = \frac{2 \max\{\lambda_i\} \min\{\lambda_i\}}{\max\{\lambda_i\} + \min\{\lambda_i\}}$$  

(10)

not only uniform convergence of (6) and (8) for all $x > 0$ is guaranteed, but also a sufficiently high rate of convergence of the series (6) and (8) is achieved. Hence in [2] selection of $\beta$ as in (10) is proposed, which is also adopted in our simulations. It must be noted that, in general, for any choice of $\beta$ the rate of convergence depends on the spread of the values $\lambda_i$, i.e., on the ratio $\max\{\lambda_i\} / \min\{\lambda_i\}$ with small spreads resulting in faster convergence. The coefficients $c_k$ of the expansions (6) and (8) can be obtained recursively as

$$c_k = \frac{1}{2k} \sum_{i=0}^{k-1} d_{k-i} c_i$$  

for $k > 0$  

(11)

with

$$c_0 = \prod_{i=1}^{n} \left(\frac{\beta}{\lambda_i}\right)^{1/2}$$  

and

$$d_k = \prod_{i=1}^{n} \left(1 - \frac{\beta}{\lambda_i}\right)^k.$$

(12)

Although (11) and (12) provide an efficient way to compute the coefficients of the chi-squared series, here, an alternative expression proposed in [3] will be adopted

$$c_k = c_0 E\left[Z^k\right] / (2^k k!)$$

(13)

where $E[Z^k]$ is the $k$-th moment of a quadratic form $Z$ defined as

$$Z = \sum_{i=1}^{n} \eta_i \gamma_i^2,$$  

with $\eta_i = 1 - \frac{\beta}{\lambda_i}$.  

(14)

As it will become clear in the following subsection, these expressions are more convenient in deriving truncation error bounds of chi-squared series.

A. Truncation error bounds

In practice, a truncated version of the infinite series (6) and (8) is used. Thus, in order to assess the accuracy of the truncated series, derivation of bounds on the truncation error becomes extremely important. Such bounds provide an indication of the number of series terms that must be kept in order to achieve a desired accuracy. Let’s first consider the PDF from (6), and assume that $N+1$ series terms are retained.

To obtain a truncation error bound the following quantity must be properly bounded [3]

$$e(x) = \sum_{k=N+1}^{\infty} |c_k| f\left(x, 2\beta, \frac{n}{2} + k\right)$$

(15)

where $|\cdot|$ denotes the absolute value. According to (13), to obtain a bound on $|c_k|$, the amplitude of the moments of $Z$ must be properly bounded. In [3], by considering a new quadratic form as

$$W = \sum_{i=1}^{n} |\eta_i| y_i^2$$

(16)

and using the inequality

$$|E[Z^k]| \leq E[W^k] \leq \max_i |\eta_i|^k E\left[\left(\sum_{i=1}^{n} y_i^2\right)^k\right]$$

(17)

the following bound on $|c_k|$ has been proposed

$$|c_k| \leq c_0 \left(\max_i |\eta_i|\right)^k \Gamma\left(\frac{n}{2} + k\right) / \Gamma\left(\frac{n}{2}\right).$$  

(18)

However, extensive simulation results have shown that the bound of (18) can be extremely loose (see, e.g., Fig. 1). In the applications of interest, as described in Section IV, the number of terms in the quadratic form is even. By taking advantage of this special property, a much tighter upper bound can be derived. Indeed, let us first rewrite $W$ as

$$W = \sum_{i=1}^{n} \xi_i u_i^2$$

(19)

where $\xi_i$ and $u_i$ are proper permutations of $|\eta_i|$ and $y_i$, respectively, such that $\xi_i$ are in decreasing order, for $i = 1, 2, \ldots, n$. The basic idea here is to formulate a new quadratic form, $V$, which results from $W$ by grouping in pairs successive squared normal RVs $u_i^2$, i.e.,

$$V = \sum_{i=1}^{n/2} \xi_{2i-1} \left(u_{2i-1}^2 + u_{2i}^2\right).$$

(20)

Comparing (19) and (20), clearly $W \leq V$ and thus $E[W^k] \leq E[V^k] \forall k$. Furthermore and most importantly the moments of $V$ can be now easily obtained using its moment generating function (MGF), given by

$$M_V(t) = \prod_{i=1}^{n/2} \frac{1}{1 - 2\xi_{2i-1} t}.$$  

(21)

By employing partial fractions and assuming that all $\xi_{2i-1}$ are distinct, (21) is expressed as:

$$M_V(t) = \sum_{i=1}^{n/2} A_i \frac{1}{1 - 2\xi_{2i-1} t}$$  

(22)

where

$$A_i = \xi_{2i-1}^{-n/2} \prod_{i \neq j \neq 2i-1}^{n/2} \frac{1}{\xi_{2i-1} - \xi_{2j-1}}.$$  

(23)
Noting that (22) corresponds to the MGF of a RV that is a mixture of gamma distributed RVs, it can be easily shown that the moments of $V$ can be expressed as:

$$E[V^k] = \sum_{i=1}^{n/2} A_i k! (2\xi_{2i-1})^k. \quad (24)$$

Since $|E[Z^k]| \leq E[W^k] \leq E[V^k]$, from (13), (23), and (24) the following very simple bound for $|c_k|$ can be obtained

$$|c_k| \leq c_0 \sum_{i=1}^{n/2} \frac{\Delta_i e^{-2k+1}}{\xi_{2i-1} - \xi_{2i-1}}$$

A tight truncation error bound, $e_b(x)$, of the PDF series (6) can now be defined by substituting (25) in the right hand side (RHS) of (15), i.e.,

$$e_b(x) = \sum_{k=N+1}^{n/2} \sum_{i=1}^{\infty} \Delta_i c_0 e^{-2k+1} f(x, 2\beta, n/2 + k). \quad (26)$$

Defining the series

$$d(x,a,b) = \sum_{p=0}^{\infty} a^p f(x, b, p + 1) \quad (27)$$

from (7) it can be easily shown that

$$d(x,a,b) = \frac{\exp \left[ \frac{-(1-a)x}{b} \right]}{b}. \quad (28)$$

Furthermore, it can be proven that the series in (27) converges uniformly for $a > 0$, as long as $a < 1$. Hence by selecting $\beta$ as $\beta < 2\min_i \{\lambda_i\}$, the condition $\xi_{2i-1} < 1$ for all $i$ is satisfied and the uniform convergence of (6) and (27) can be ensured. The truncation error bound is then expressed in closed-form as

$$e_b(x) = c_0 \sum_{i=1}^{n/2} \Delta_i g(x, 2\beta, N + n/2 - 1) \quad (29)$$

where

$$g(x,a,b,m) = d(x,a,b) - \sum_{k=0}^{m} a^k f(x, b, k + 1). \quad (30)$$

Additionally, a truncation error bound of the CDF series (8) can now be derived from (30) by simple integration, yielding

$$e_b(x) = c_0 \sum_{i=1}^{n/2} \Delta_i G(x, 2\beta, N + n/2 - 1) \quad (31)$$

where

$$G(x,a,b,m) = \int_0^x \left[ \sum_{k=0}^{m} a^k f(t, b, k + 1) \right] dt. \quad (32)$$

Using the incomplete gamma function $\gamma(\cdot, \cdot)$ the last equation is rewritten as

$$G(x,a,b,m) = 1 - \exp \left[ \frac{-(1-a)x}{b} \right] - \sum_{k=0}^{m} a^k \gamma(k+1, \frac{1}{b}). \quad (33)$$

Although (29) and (31) were obtained using the reasonable assumption that all $\xi_{2i-1}$ are distinct, similar expressions can be derived for non-distinct $\xi_{2i-1}$ as shown in the Appendix. Notice also that (29) and (31) comprise simple elementary functions only. The importance of this property will become evident in the following sections, where the application of central, positive definite quadratic forms in normal RVs in the performance analysis of wireless communications systems is studied and (29), (31) will be used to assess the estimation accuracy of several infinite series expansions.

### IV. OSTBC in Fading Channels

Let us consider an OSTBC multiple-input multiple-output (MIMO) system with $n_t$ transmit and $n_r$ receive antennae. The symbols to be transmitted are organized in blocks and are properly coded in space and time so that the original MIMO system is transformed in a number of parallel single-input single-output (SISO) systems achieving maximal diversity. It can then be shown that the signal to noise ratio (SNR) per bit at the output of the system is expressed as [17]

$$\gamma_{OSTBC} = \frac{\|H\|_F^2}{R \Omega_n} \gamma_t \quad (34)$$

where $R$ is the rate of the space-time code and $\gamma_t$ is the SNR at the transmitter side, defined as the ratio of the transmitted energy per bit over the noise density. In addition,

$$\|H\|_F^2 = \sum_{p=1}^{n_r} \sum_{j=1}^{n_t} |h_{p,j}|^2 \quad (35)$$

is the square of the Frobenius norm of the $n_r \times n_t$ channel matrix $H$, and $|h_{p,j}|$ stands for the amplitude of the complex fading coefficient between the $j$th transmit and $p$th receive antenna. Under various fading models (e.g., Rayleigh, Ricean, or Nakagami-$q$), the real and imaginary parts of $h_{p,j}$ correspond to normal RVs. Consequently, from (34) and (35), the SNR is expressed as a quadratic form in normal RVs with an even number of terms equal to $2n_t n_r$.

In this paper, the Nakagami-$q$ (Hoyt) fading scenario, for which only a few performance analysis results exist in the open technical literature is considered. This is probably due to the fact that in most previous efforts the Hoyt PDF was employed directly, which is rather difficult to manipulate. Instead, in this analysis we exploit the fact that when $|h_{p,j}|$ is Hoyt distributed, the real and imaginary parts of $h_{p,j}$ are zero-mean normal RVs with, in general, different variances [7].

Thus, the SNR given in (34) is a central, positive definite quadratic form in normal RVs, and all the results presented

\[2\] Let $\theta$ and $\phi$ be zero-mean normal RVs with variances $\sigma_\theta^2$ and $\sigma_\phi^2$ respectively and $h = \theta + j\phi$. Then, $|h|$ is Hoyt distributed and its PDF is given by [9]

$$p_{|h|}(x) = \frac{(1+q^2)x}{2\Omega} \exp \left[ -\frac{(1+q^2)x^2}{4\Omega} \right] I_0 \left( \frac{(1-q^2)x^2}{4\Omega} \right)$$

where $I_0(.)$ is the zeroth order modified Bessel function of the first kind [16, eq. (9.6.16)] and the parameters $q$ and $\Omega$ are related to $\sigma_\theta^2$ and $\sigma_\phi^2$ as

$$\sigma_\theta^2 = \frac{\Omega}{1+q^2} \quad \text{and} \quad \sigma_\phi^2 = \frac{\Omega q^2}{1+q^2}.$$
in the previous section apply directly to $\gamma_{\text{OSTBC}}$. More specifically, the quadratic form in (34) consists of $2n_r n_t$ squared zero-mean normal RVs with, in general, different variances $\sigma_i^2$, $i = 1,2,\ldots,2n_r n_t$. Then, from (5) and (34), $\lambda_i$ can be defined as $\lambda_i = \frac{\sigma_i^2}{\sigma_{\text{Hoyt}}^2} n_r n_t$, $i = 1,2,\ldots,2n_r n_t$. The PDF and CDF of $\gamma_{\text{OSTBC}}$ can be obtained by using (6) and (8) respectively, where now the coefficients $c_k$ are suitably defined according to (11) and (12) and $\lambda_i$ given as above. Consequently, several performance analysis criteria of OSTBC over Hoyt fading can be now derived. Moreover, the accuracy of the proposed metrics can be evaluated through appropriate closed-form truncation error bounds.

In the following section, an error probability analysis for various modulation schemes, as well as a capacity analysis for OSTBC schemes over Hoyt fading is presented. Note that the Hoyt RVs corresponding to the fading coefficients may be correlated\(^3\). In such case, a suitable transformation of the resulting quadratic form in (34) can be applied to obtain a quadratic form with independent normal RVs, as explained in Section II. Hence, the performance analysis presented in the next section applies to both independent as well as correlated, not necessarily identical Hoyt fading channel coefficients in OSTBC MIMO systems.

V. PERFORMANCE ANALYSIS OF OSTBC OVER HOYT FADING CHANNELS

In this section a detailed error probability and capacity analysis are presented for OSTBC schemes over Hoyt fading channels, following the approach developed in the previous sections. Based on the chi-squared series representation, novel expressions for the symbol and bit error probabilities of various modulation schemes as well as the information outage probability and the ergodic capacity are presented. For all these performance criteria, simple expressions of the truncation error bounds, which avoid the use of infinite sums and complicated functions, are also derived.

A. Error Probability Analysis

For the error probability analysis, the calculation of integrals of the form

$$\mathcal{P} = \int_0^\infty p_Q(\gamma) P(\gamma) d\gamma \quad (36)$$

is required, where $P(\cdot)$ is a function related to the modulation scheme. A common approach for the calculation of such types of integrals is by using the MGF of $Q$ [9]. It can be shown that by following this approach integrals of the form

$$\mathcal{M} = \int_0^\theta \prod_{i=1}^{2n_r n_t} \frac{1}{(1+2\lambda_i g \sin^2 \phi)^{1/2}} d\phi \quad (37)$$

need to be evaluated, where $\theta$ and $g$ are modulation specific constants. In special cases, depending on the values of the model parameters $\lambda_i$, the integral $\mathcal{M}$ can be evaluated in closed form. Specifically, for this to happen, all distinct parameters $\lambda_i$ should appear with even multiplicities, leading to integer powers in the denominator of the integrand in (37), i.e.,

$$\mathcal{M} = \int_0^\theta \prod_{i=\in}[0,\infty) \frac{1}{(1+2\lambda_i g \sin^2 \phi)^{m_i}} d\phi \quad (38)$$

where $S$ is the set of distinct values of the parameters $\lambda_i$ and $m_i$ are integers. It must be noted that when $m_i$ are integers, the PDF of $Q$ has a closed form expression, which can also be obtained by properly manipulating (6), (7), (13) and (14). For these values of $m_i$, the PDF and the MGF approaches, given by (36) and (37) respectively, are equivalent. Nevertheless, to the best of our knowledge, no closed form solution exists for (37) when the model parameters $\lambda_i$ take arbitrary values, as is in the case in the problem under consideration in this work.

To derive closed form expressions for various performance metrics, we propose the substitution of $p_Q(x)$ in (36) by the infinite series representation given in (6). Then, (36) is rewritten as

$$\mathcal{P} = \sum_{k=0}^\infty c_k \int_0^\infty f(\gamma, 2\beta, \frac{n}{2} + k) P(\gamma) d\gamma \quad (39)$$

where $f(\cdot,\cdot,\cdot)$ is given by (7). Additionally, using (29) bounds on the truncation error of the SEP and BEP series can be obtained by evaluating the integral

$$\mathcal{E} = \int_0^\infty e_b(\gamma) P(\gamma) d\gamma. \quad (40)$$

1) SEP Expressions: In the following SEP expressions and the corresponding truncation error bounds are derived for various modulation schemes.

- M-PAM: For an $M$-PAM modulation scheme, $P(\cdot)$ is given by [9]

$$P(\gamma) = \delta Q(a\sqrt{\gamma}) \quad (41)$$

where $Q(\cdot)$ is the Gaussian $Q$-function, [9, eq. (4.1)] and $a$, $\delta$ are given as

$$a = \sqrt{\frac{6 \log_2 M}{M^2 - 1}}, \quad \delta = 2 \frac{M - 1}{M}. \quad (42)$$

For integer $m_i$, it is shown in [9, p. 127] that

$$L(a,b,m) = \int_0^\infty \int_0^\infty f(\gamma, b, m) Q(a\sqrt{\gamma}) d\gamma \quad (43)$$

where

$$\mu = \sqrt{\frac{\alpha^2 b}{2 + a^2 b}}. \quad (44)$$

Thus, using (39) and (43), the SEP for M-PAM can be expressed as

$$P_{\text{PAM}}^n = \delta \sum_{k=0}^m c_k L(a, 2\beta, \frac{n}{2} + k) \quad (45)$$

Additionally, from (29) and (43), after some manipulations, the truncation error bound of $P_{\text{PAM}}^n$ can be expressed in closed-form as

$$\mathcal{E}_{\text{PAM}}^n = \delta c_0 \sum_{i=1}^{n/2} \Delta_i L(a, 2\beta, \xi_{2i-1}, N + \frac{n}{2} - 1) \quad (46)$$

\(^3\)Here, correlation among Hoyt RVs is meant as correlation among their constituent normal RVs.
where

\[ \mathcal{L}(a,b,\rho,m) = \frac{L(a,b/(1-\rho),1)}{1-\rho} - \sum_{l=0}^{m} \rho^l L(a,b,l+1) \]  

(47)

which can be also very easily evaluated.

**M-QAM:** Employing a rectangular QAM scheme with \( M_I \) amplitude levels for the in-phase channel and \( M_Q \) levels for the quadrature channel, \( P(\gamma) \) becomes

\[
P(\gamma) = \delta_I Q(a_I) + \delta_Q Q(a_Q) \\
- \delta_I \delta_Q Q(a_I) Q(a_Q) 
\]

(48)

where the coefficients \( \delta_I, \delta_Q \) and \( \delta_{IQ} \) are calculated by setting \( M = M_I \) and \( M = M_Q \) in (42) respectively. Thus, from [18] the symbol error probability becomes

\[
P_{QAM}^s = \delta_I \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} c_k I(a_I,2\beta,n/2+k) \\
+ \delta_Q \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} c_k L(a_Q,2\beta,n/2+k) \\
- \delta_I \delta_Q \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} c_k H(a_I,a_Q,2\beta,n/2+k) 
\]

with

\[
H(a_I,a_Q,b,m) = \frac{1}{4} - [v(a_I,a_Q,b,m) + v(a_Q,a_I,b,m)] 
\]

(50)

and

\[
v(a_I,a_Q,b,m) = \frac{1}{\pi} \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \frac{2^{n-1/2} a_I \sqrt{n} (n+3/2)}{(a_I^2 b + 2) n^{n+1/2} n! (1+2n)} \\
- \frac{1}{4\pi} \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \frac{b a_I a_Q 2^{n+1}}{(a_I^2 b + 2 + a_Q^2 b) n^{n+1}} \\
\times 2 F_1(1, 1+n/2; 1/2; a_I^2 b + 2 + a_Q^2 b) 
\]

(51)

where \( 2 F_1(\cdot, \cdot; \cdot) \) is the Gauss Hypergeometric function [16, eq. (15.1.1)]. In the case of a square QAM, (50) can be simplified as [9, eq. (5.30)]. Working in a similar way and using (40) and (48) the following bound for the SEP series truncation error can be found:

\[
\mathcal{E}_{QAM}^s = c_0 \delta_I \sum_{i=1}^{n/2} \Delta_i L(a_I,2\beta,\xi_{2i-1},N+n/2-1) \\
+ c_0 \delta_Q \sum_{i=1}^{n/2} \Delta_i L(a_Q,2\beta,\xi_{2i-1},N+n/2-1) \\
- c_0 \delta_I \delta_Q \sum_{i=1}^{n/2} \Delta_i H(a_I,a_Q,2\beta,\xi_{2i-1},N+n/2-1) 
\]

(52)

where

\[
H(a_I,a_Q,b,\rho,m) = \frac{H(a_I,a_Q,b/(1-\rho),1)}{1-\rho} \\
- \sum_{l=0}^{m} \rho^l H(a_I,a_Q,b,l+1). 
\]

(53)

**M-PSK:** For the case of \( M \)-PSK it is known that [9]

\[
P(\gamma) = \frac{1}{\pi} \int_0^{(M-1)\pi/M} \exp \left( -\gamma \log_2 M g_{PSK} \sin^2 \theta \right) d\theta 
\]

(54)

with \( g_{PSK} = \sin^2(\pi/M) \). It can then be shown that the SEP is expressed as:

\[
P_{PSK}^s = \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} c_k J(M,2\beta,n/2+k) 
\]

(55)

where \( J(M,b,m) \) can be found in [9, eq. (8.115)]. Similarly, the truncation error bound on the SEP series is written as

\[
\mathcal{E}_{PSK}^s = \sum_{i=1}^{n/2} c_0 \Delta_i J(M,2\beta/(1-\xi_{2i-1}),1) \\
+ \sum_{i=1}^{n/2} c_0 \Delta_i \sum_{l=0}^{N+n/2-1} \xi_{2i-1}^l J(M,2\beta,l+1). 
\]

(56)

**2) BEP Expressions:** In the following, BEP expressions and the corresponding truncation error bounds are derived for various modulation schemes.

**M-PAM BEP:** For the calculation of BEP for an \( M \)-PAM system with Gray coding, \( P(\gamma) \) is defined as [19]

\[
P(\gamma) = \frac{1}{\log_2 M} \sum_{j=1}^{\log_2 M} P_b(j,\gamma,M) 
\]

(57)

with

\[
P_b(j,\gamma,M) = \frac{2}{M} \sum_{i=0}^{(1-2^{-j})M-1} \delta_M(i,j) Q(a_i \sqrt{\gamma}) 
\]

(58)

and

\[
\delta_M(i,j) = (-1)^{|\lfloor 2^{j-1}/M \rfloor |} \left( 2^{j-1} - \frac{\lfloor 2^{j-1}/M \rfloor + 1}{2} \right) 
\]

(60)

where \( \lfloor \cdot \rfloor \) denotes the floor operator. Consequently, using (43) the BEP can be written as

\[
P_{PAM}^b = \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} \frac{c_k}{\log_2 M} \sum_{j=1}^{\log_2 M} P_b(j,2\beta,n/2+k,M) 
\]

(61)

with

\[
P_b(2\beta,m,M) = \frac{2}{M} \sum_{i=0}^{(1-2^{-j})M-1} \delta_M(i,j) L(a_i,2\beta,m) 
\]

(62)

and its truncation error bound becomes

\[
\mathcal{E}_{PAM}^s = \sum_{i=1}^{n/2} c_0 \Delta_i \sum_{j=1}^{\log_2 M} P_b(j,2\beta/(1-\xi_{2i-1}),1) \\
+ \sum_{i=1}^{n/2} c_0 \Delta_i \sum_{l=0}^{N+n/2-1} \xi_{2i-1}^l \sum_{j=1}^{\log_2 M} P_b(j,2\beta,l+1). 
\]

(63)
M-QAM BEP: Examining again the case of a rectangular QAM with \( M_I \) amplitude levels for the I-channel and \( M_Q \) levels for the Q-channel, \( P(\gamma) \) can be expressed as [19]

\[
P(\gamma) = \frac{1}{\log_2(M_I M_Q)} \left[ \sum_{j=1}^{\log_2 M_I} P_{M_I M_Q}(j, \gamma, M_I) + \sum_{j=1}^{\log_2 M_Q} P_{M_I M_Q}(j, \gamma, M_Q) \right]
\]

with

\[
P_{M_I M_Q}(j, \gamma, M_0) = \frac{2}{M_0} \sum_{i=0}^{(1-2^{-j})M_0-1} \delta_{M_0}(i, j) Q(a_i \sqrt{\gamma}).
\]

In this case, the coefficients \( a_i \) are computed using the expression

\[
a_i = (2i + 1) \sqrt{6 \log_2(M_I M_Q) M_I^2 + M_Q^2 - 2}
\]

while the coefficients \( \delta_{M_0} \) are given by setting \( M = M_0 \) in (60) and the BEP becomes

\[
P^b_{QAM} = \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} \frac{c_k}{\log_2(M_I M_Q)} \left[ \sum_{j=1}^{\log_2 M_I} K_j \left( 2\beta, \frac{n}{2} + k, M_I \right) + \sum_{j=1}^{\log_2 M_Q} K_j \left( 2\beta, \frac{n}{2} + k, M_Q \right) \right]
\]

with

\[
K_j(2\beta, m, M_0) = \frac{2}{M_0} \sum_{i=0}^{(1-2^{-j})M_0-1} \delta_{M_0}(i, j) L(a_i, 2\beta, m).
\]

Again, the truncation error bound on the BEP series can be calculated using (40) as

\[
\varepsilon^b_{QAM} = \frac{c_0}{\log_2(M_I M_Q)} n/2 \sum_{i=1}^{\log_2 M_I} \left[ \sum_{j=1}^{\log_2 M_I} K_j \left( 2\beta, \xi_{2i-1}, N + \frac{n}{2} - 1, M_I \right) + \sum_{j=1}^{\log_2 M_Q} K_j \left( 2\beta, \xi_{2i-1}, N + \frac{n}{2} - 1, M_Q \right) \right]
\]

where

\[
K_j(b, \rho, m, M_0) = \frac{K_j(b/\rho, M, M_0)}{1 - \rho}
\]

\[\] \( \sum_{l=0}^{m} \rho^l K_j(b, l + 1, M_0). \]

M-PSK BEP: For M-PSK with Gray-coding, a close approximation for \( P(\gamma) \) is [9]

\[
P(\gamma) \approx \frac{2}{\max(\log_2 M, 2)} \sum_{i=1}^{\max(M/4,1)} Q(a_i \sqrt{\gamma})
\]

with

\[
a_i = \sqrt{2 \log_2 M \sin \left( \frac{2i-1}{2} \pi \right)}.
\]

Hence, a useful approximation of the BEP for OSTBC over Hoyt fading channels is

\[
P^b_{PSK} \approx \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} \frac{2}{\max(\log_2 M, 2)} \sum_{i=1}^{\max(M/4,1)} L(a_i, 2\beta, m).
\]

B. Capacity Analysis

The normalized capacity of an OSTBC MIMO system, expressed in bits/sec/Hz, is given by [4]

\[
C = R \log_2 \left( 1 + \frac{\|H\|^2_F}{R_{n_t} \gamma_T} \right)
\]

where \( \gamma_T \) is the SNR at the transmitter side. In the performance evaluation of wireless communication systems, the most commonly used capacity related criteria are information outage probability (IOP) and ergodic capacity.

1) Information Outage Probability: IOP is defined as the probability that a given transmission rate \( C_0 \) cannot be supported [20]. Thus, denoting IOP as \( P_{out}(C_0) \), it holds that

\[
P_{out}(C_0) = \Pr(C < C_0) = \Pr(\|H\|^2_F < H_0)
\]

where from (74)

\[
H_0 = \frac{R_{n_t}}{\gamma_T} (2C_0/R - 1).
\]

Consequently, the IOP can be easily evaluated as

\[
P_{out}(C_0) = P_Q(H_0)
\]

where \( P_Q(C) \) is the CDF of the quadratic form \( \|H\|^2_F \) given by (8). Moreover, the truncation error bound for the IOP is computed using (31) as

\[
\varepsilon_{iop}(C_0) = c_0 \sum_{i=1}^{n/2} \Delta_i G(H_0, \xi_{2i-1}, \beta, N + \frac{n}{2} - 1).
\]

2) Ergodic capacity: Ergodic capacity \( \langle C \rangle \) is defined as the average value of the capacity [4]. By denoting with \( Q_0 \) the quadratic form

\[
Q_0 = \frac{\|H\|^2_F}{R_{n_t} \gamma_T}
\]

\( \langle C \rangle \) is written as

\[
\langle C \rangle = \frac{R}{\beta} \int_0^\infty p_{Q_0}(x) \log_2 (1 + x) \, dx.
\]

The integral in (80) can be evaluated noting that [21]

\[
\Psi(b, l) = \frac{1}{(l - 1)!} \int_0^\infty x^{l-1} \ln (1 + x) \exp \left( -\frac{x}{b} \right) \, dx
\]

\[
= \exp \left( \frac{1}{b} \right) \sum_{i=1}^{l} b^i \Gamma \left( -l + 1, \frac{1}{b} \right)
\]
with $\Gamma(\cdot, \cdot)$ being the upper incomplete Gamma function [16, eq. (6.5.3)], thus yielding the following expression for the ergodic capacity

$$
(C) = R \log_2 (e) \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} c_k \frac{\Psi(2\beta, \frac{n}{2} + k)}{(2\beta)^{n/2+k}}
$$

(82)

where $e$ is the Neper number. Using (81), the following bound on the truncation error for the ergodic capacity can be obtained

$$
E(C) = R \log_2 (e) c_0 \left[ \sum_{i=1}^{n/2} \Delta_i \frac{\Psi(2\beta, (1 - \xi_{2i-1})/1)}{2\beta} \right. \\
- \left. \sum_{i=1}^{n/2} \sum_{k=0}^{N+n/2-1} \xi_{k+1} \frac{\Psi(2\beta, k+1)}{(2\beta)^{k+1}} \right]
$$

(83)

which completes the analysis.

It is interesting to note that for high SNRs, simple approximate expressions for the various performance criteria can be obtained. As it will be shown in the next section, for high SNR the BEP, SEP and IOP truncation error bounds decrease very rapidly. Therefore, the number of series terms that would be sufficient for a prescribed accuracy is reduced. Based on this observation, for high SNR the series expressions for the BEP, SEP and IOP could be simplified and approximated by their first terms. For instance, from (49) the SEP of $M$-QAM would be expressed as follows:

$$
P_{QAM}^* \approx c_0 \left[ \delta_1 L \left( a_1, 2\beta, \frac{n}{2} \right) + \delta_2 L \left( a_Q, 2\beta, \frac{n}{2} \right) \right] - \delta_1 \delta_2 H \left( a_1, a_Q, 2\beta, \frac{n}{2} \right)
$$

(84)

VI. PERFORMANCE EVALUATION AND DISCUSSION

In this section, performance evaluation results will be presented comparing the previously derived theoretical analysis with computer simulations. In these experiments, we have considered a $2 \times 2$ MIMO system with Alamouti space-time coding [4]. In Fig. 1, truncation error bounds of the chi-squared series PDF for two Hoyt fading scenarios are depicted. In the first scenario, the channel fading coefficients are quite similar, i.e., $(\Omega_{1,1}, q_{1,1}) = (0.25, 0.9)$, $(\Omega_{1,2}, q_{1,2}) = (0.25, 0.8)$, $(\Omega_{2,1}, q_{2,1}) = (0.25, 0.75)$, $(\Omega_{2,2}, q_{2,2}) = (0.25, 0.7)$, resulting in a small spread of the quadratic form parameters $\lambda_i$ in (5). In the second scenario, a large spread is obtained by selecting the Hoyt parameters as $(\Omega_{1,1}, q_{1,1}) = (0.4, 0.4)$, $(\Omega_{1,2}, q_{1,2}) = (0.3, 0.5)$, $(\Omega_{2,1}, q_{2,1}) = (0.2, 0.6)$, $(\Omega_{2,2}, q_{2,2}) = (0.1, 0.8)$. In both cases, the values of the parameter $\beta$ have been chosen according to (10). Moreover, we have considered $N = 15$ and $N = 20$ for the first and second scenarios, respectively. It can be observed from Fig. 1 that in both fading scenarios the proposed bound is meaningful and much tighter than the bound derived in [3], with the latter appearing to be impractical for large spreads of the quadratic form parameters. In the remaining simulations presented below, a $2 \times 2$ Alamouti scheme following scenario 2 has been employed.

In Fig. 2, both theoretical and simulation curves of the SEP for various modulation schemes are depicted. The theoretical curves were obtained from (45), (49) and (55) for various values of $M$. To obtain a truncation error bound that is at least one order of magnitude lower than the corresponding SEP value, a number of $N = 25$ series terms was required. It has been observed through extensive computer simulations that one order of magnitude is a good compromise, which allows for sufficiently tight truncation error bounds and relatively small number of retained series terms. The almost perfect match of theoretical and simulation curves verifies the accuracy and fast convergence of the chi-squared series in representing the PDF.

The truncation error bound on the SEP series for 4-PAM and several values of $N$ given in (46) is shown in Fig. 3. It can be observed that a slight increase in the number of terms in the series leads to a significant improvement of the proposed bound. Moreover, it can be seen that for high SNR values the bound becomes negligibly small for all choices of $N$. This is also confirmed in Fig. 4 where the SEP series theoretical truncation error bound is plotted for several modulation schemes and $N = 25$ according to (46), (52) and (56). It can be seen from the figure that as the SNR increases, the choice $N = 25$ results in very small values.
The number of series terms is required for each criterion in order to attain a predefined estimation accuracy.

In Fig. 7, the IOP is plotted as a function of the SNR for $C_0 = 3$bits/sec/Hz and $N = 25$. The theoretical curves for the IOP and the corresponding truncation error bound have been obtained form (77) and (78), respectively. We observe that there is a perfect match between theoretical and experimental results, while the bound is kept at least one order of magnitude lower than the IOP for all SNRs. Finally, theoretical and experimental ergodic capacity curves are presented in Fig. 8. In the same figure the theoretical truncation error bound of the ergodic capacity series is also plotted for $N = 30$. The theoretical curves shown in the figure are obtained from (82) and (83) respectively. Again, simulations verify completely the presented analytical results.

VII. CONCLUSION

This paper has presented a new perspective for the performance evaluation of OSTBC wireless communication systems. A basic property of OSTBC is that the SNR at the receiver for the truncation error bound, that are multiple orders of magnitude lower than the calculated SEP. Thus, for high SNR values, a very small number of terms would be adequate for the accurate calculation of the SEP. Note that the same holds for all performance metrics considered in the sequel.

BEP theoretical and simulations results for various modulation schemes are illustrated in Fig. 5. Theoretical curves were obtained using (61), (67) and (73). The number of terms $N$ was taken equal to 20. Again, it can be observed that analytical and simulation curves almost coincide. In addition, the truncation error bounds on the BEP series for several PAM and QAM schemes as given by (63) and (69) are shown for $N = 20$ in Fig. 6. Clearly the derived truncation error bounds make sense and thus can be considered as a fairly reliable criterion, when evaluating the accuracy of the chi-squared series expansion approach. It must be noticed that due to the different analytical expressions of various performance criteria and their corresponding truncation error bounds, a different number of series terms is required for each criterion in order

**Fig. 3.** Truncation error bound for the SEP series of 4-PAM for several values of $N$.

**Fig. 4.** SEP truncation error bound for several modulation schemes and $N = 25$.

**Fig. 5.** BEP theoretical and simulation curves for PAM, QAM and PSK modulation schemes and $N = 20$.

**Fig. 6.** BEP truncation error bounds for PAM and QAM and $N = 20$. 

Authorized licensed use limited to: National Observatory of Athens. Downloaded on December 29, 2008 at 05:14 from IEEE Xplore. Restrictions apply.
The purpose of this appendix is to derive an expression for the truncation error bound, when the parameters $\xi_{2i-1}$ in (20) are non distinct. To this end, it is assumed that $S_\xi = \{\xi_1, \xi_2, \ldots, \xi_l\}$ is the subset of distinct values of the set $S_\xi' = \{\xi_1, \xi_2, \ldots, 2l-1\}$ and $\{p_1, p_2, \ldots, p_l\}$ are the multiplicities of the elements of $S_\xi$ with respect to $S_\xi$. Using $S_\xi$, the MGF of $V$ is written as

$$M_V(t) = \prod_{i=1}^{l} \frac{1}{(1 - 2\xi_i t)^{p_i}} = \sum_{i=1}^{l} \sum_{j=1}^{p_i} \frac{A_{i,j}}{(1 - 2\xi_i t)^j}$$  \hspace{1cm} (85)

where $A_{i,j}$ are easily computed [22]. The moments of $V$ will be given by

$$E[V^k] = \sum_{i=1}^{l} \sum_{j=1}^{p_i} \frac{\Gamma(j + k)}{\Gamma(j)} (2\xi_i)^k.$$  \hspace{1cm} (86)

It is thus easy to observe from (15) that in this case the bound on the truncation error is

$$e_b(x) = c_0 \exp\left(-\frac{x}{2\beta}\right) \times \sum_{t=N}^{\infty} \left[ \sum_{i=1}^{l} \sum_{j=1}^{p_i} A_{i,j} (j \cdot k + n/2 + k - 1) \frac{(x/2\beta)^{n/2+k-1}}{(j)_{k}! k!} \right]$$  \hspace{1cm} (87)

with $(\cdot)_k$ denoting the Pochhammer symbol. Thus, recalling the definition of the Hypergeometric function $\mathbf{1}_F(a; b; z)$, [23, eq. (07.20.02.0001.01)],

$$\mathbf{1}_F(a; b; z) \overset{\Delta}{=} \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} \frac{a_0}{(b)_k} \frac{z^k}{k!}$$  \hspace{1cm} (88)

$e_b(\cdot)$ becomes

$$e_b(x) = c_0 \left(\frac{x}{2\beta}\right)^{n/2-1} \exp\left(-\frac{x}{2\beta}\right) \times \sum_{t=N}^{\infty} \left[ \sum_{i=1}^{l} \sum_{j=1}^{p_i} A_{i,j} \mathbf{1}_F\left(j \cdot \frac{n}{2}, \xi_i x \frac{1}{2\beta}\right) \right.$$  \hspace{1cm} (89)

$$\left. - \sum_{i=1}^{l} \sum_{j=1}^{p_i} A_{i,j} \sum_{k=0}^{N} \frac{j^k}{(2\beta)^k} \right]$$

Note that for integer $a, b$ and $a < b$, which holds in our case, the expression of the hypergeometric function $\mathbf{1}_F$ is simplified as in [23, eq. (07.20.03.0024.01)].

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