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# Message passing-based joint CFO and channel estimation in mmWave systems with one-bit ADCs

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Abstract—Channel estimation at millimeter wave (mmWave) carrier frequencies is challenging when large antenna arrays are used. Prior work has leveraged the sparse nature of millimeter wave channels via compressed sensing-based algorithms for channel estimation. Most of these algorithms, though, assume perfect synchronization and are vulnerable to phase errors that arise due to carrier frequency offset and phase noise. Recently sparsityaware, non-coherent beamforming algorithms that are robust to phase errors were proposed for narrowband phased array systems with full resolution analog-to-digital converters. Such energy based algorithms, however, are not robust to heavy quantization at the receiver. In this paper, we develop a joint carrier frequency offset and wideband channel estimation algorithm that is scalable across different hardware architectures. Our method exploits the sparse nature of millimeter wave channels in the angle-delay domain, in addition to compressibility of the phase error vector. We formulate the joint estimation as a quantized sparse bilinear optimization problem and then use message passing for recovery. We also give an efficient implementation of a generalized bilinear message passing algorithm for the joint estimation in one-bit receivers. Simulation results show that our method is able to estimate the frequency offset and the channel compressively, even in the presence of phase noise.

*Index Terms*—Wideband channel estimation, carrier frequency offset, compressed sensing, message passing, one-bit receivers, mm-Wave

## I. Introduction

Millimeter wave (mmWave) communication introduces new challenges in the design of multiple-input multiple-output (MIMO) communication systems [1]. For instance, large antenna arrays at the transmitter (TX) and the receiver (RX) are necessary to meet the link budget requirements [2]. As a result, the channel has a higher dimension compared to what is typical in lower frequency MIMO systems, and must be estimated more frequently thanks to the smaller coherence time [3]. Furthermore, cost and power consumption are major issues at the larger bandwidths that accompany mmWave, primarily due to high resolution analog-to-digital converters (ADCs) [4]. Typical mmWave hardwares that limit power consumption at large bandwidths introduce compression in the channel measurements. For example, the one-bit ADC architecture [4] allows access to the output of every antenna at the expense of heavy quantization. The compression of channel measurements and the use of large antenna arrays complicate signal processing at mmWave.

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Compressed sensing (CS) [5] [6] is an efficient technique to recover sparse high-dimensional signals with few projections. As MIMO channel matrices at mmWave are sufficiently sparse when expressed in an appropriate dictionary, applying tools from CS to mmWave channel estimation can potentially reduce the training overhead. CS-based sparse channel estimation algorithms have been proposed for various hardware architectures [7]–[9]. Recent developments in approximate message passing [10] [11] have enabled channel estimation algorithms in low resolution receivers [12]. Most CS-based channel estimation algorithms, however, assume perfect synchronization and may fail when there is any residual carrier frequency offset (CFO) or phase noise [13].

CFO and phase noise are hardware impairments that corrupt the phase of the channel measurements. The mismatch between the carrier frequencies of the local oscillators at the TX and the RX results in CFO. Phase noise in the system arises due to short-term random fluctuations in the frequency of the oscillators. Both these non-idealities are larger at mmWave due to the high carrier frequency and ignoring them can result in significant channel estimation error [14]. Correcting for the CFO and then performing channel estimation seems like a possible solution. The disadvantage, however, is that prior to beamforming or channel estimation, mmWave systems operate at very low signal-to-noise ratio (SNR), which can result in significant error in the CFO estimate. Prior work has considered joint CFO and channel estimation [15] [16] in lower frequency systems. These joint estimation algorithms, however, cannot be applied to typical mmWave systems due to differences in the hardware architectures. Furthermore, they are not designed to incorporate the sparse nature of mmWave channels. Therefore, there is a need to design either phase error robust channel estimation algorithms, or joint CFO and channel estimation algorithms that can exploit the sparsity of mmWave channel.

Recent work on phase error robust channel estimation is limited to narrowband systems and has focussed on specific mmWave hardware. In [13], [17] and [18], phase error robust compressive beamforming algorithms were proposed for the analog beamforming architecture. In [13], phase tracking followed by phase error compensated compressive beamforming was proposed. The compensation, however, was done prior beamforming and therefore suffers from low SNR. The noncoherent algorithms in [17] and [18] are not robust to heavy quantization at the receiver. These algorithms cannot be used in standard one-bit receivers because the amplitude information in the channel measurements is completely lost due to one-bit quantization with a zero threshold.

Recent joint CFO and sparse narrowband channel estimation algorithms in [14] and [19] require high computational complexity when extended to wideband systems. In [14], we proposed a joint CFO and narrowband channel estimation algorithm using third-order tensors [20]. We also developed a sparsity-aware joint estimation algorithm for the one-bit ADC architecture in [19]. The main idea underlying our approach in [19] was to use the lifting technique [21] along with message passing for the joint estimation with one-bit channel measurements. Extending the narrowband solutions in [14] or [19] to typical wideband mmWave systems would require optimization over millions of variables, which may be prohibitive in a practical setting.

In this paper, we propose a quantized sparse bilinear formulation of the joint CFO and wideband channel estimation problem, and solve it using message passing. We assume that a unique CFO and a unique phase noise process corrupt the channel measurements. We also assume that there is perfect frame timing synchronization between the TX and the RX. We summarize the main contributions in this paper as follows.

- We formulate the joint CFO and wideband channel estimation problem as a noisy quantized sparse bilinear optimization problem. Our framework leverages the sparse nature of the wideband channel in the angle and delay domains, and also exploits the compressibility of the phase error vector in the frequency domain.
- To solve the non-convex problem at hand, we use the vector variance version of the Parametric Bilinear Generalized Approximate Message Passing (PBiGAMP) algorithm [22]. As a naive implementation of PBiGAMP can be computationally expensive for typical mmWave settings, we derive a low complexity version of PBiGAMP by exploiting structure in the joint estimation problem.
- We propose the concept of "CFO propagation" for the joint CFO and channel estimation using circulant training. Although circulant training allows fast message passing with the channel variables, it results in a non-identifiable joint estimation problem due to CFO propagation. We prove that any circulant training-based joint CFO and channel estimation technique that exploits channel sparsity in a DFTbased dictionary suffers from CFO propagation.
- We evaluate the performance of our joint estimation algorithm assuming a digital receiver architecture with one-bit ADCs and compare it with the hypothetical full resolution case. Simulation results show that the proposed approach is able to recover both the channel and the CFO compressively with IID Gaussian- and IID QPSK-based training matrices, even in the presence of phase noise uncertainity.

Our algorithm is advantageous over the existing sparsity-aware methods for joint estimation or phase error robust channel estimation in terms of the capability to efficiently handle frequency selective channels and scalability to other mmWave architectures.

**Notation:** A is a matrix, a is a column vector and a, A denote scalars. Using this notation  $A^T$ ,  $\overline{A}$  and  $A^*$  represent the transpose, conjugate and conjugate transpose of A. The

matrices  $|\mathbf{A}|$  and  $|\mathbf{A}|^2$  contain the element-wise magnitude and squared magnitude of the entries of  $\mathbf{A}$ . We use  $\mathbf{A}^{(i)}$  and  $\mathbf{A}_{(j)}$  to denote the  $i^{th}$  row and  $j^{th}$  column of  $\mathbf{A}$ . We use diag (a) to denote a diagonal matrix with entries of  $\mathbf{a}$  on its diagonal. The scalar  $a_m$  denotes the  $m^{th}$  element of  $\mathbf{a}$ . The symbols  $\otimes$  and  $\odot$  are used to denote the Kronecker product and the Hadamard product. vec ( $\mathbf{A}$ ) is a vector obtained by stacking all the columns of  $\mathbf{A}$  and vec<sub>m</sub> ( $\mathbf{A}$ ) denotes the  $m^{th}$  element of vec ( $\mathbf{A}$ ). We define  $\mathbf{A}_{i,j} = \text{vec}_i(\mathbf{A}_{(j)})$ . We use  $I_N$  to denote the set  $\{1, 2, 3, ...N\}$ . The matrix  $\mathbf{U}_N \in \mathbb{C}^{N \times N}$  denotes the unitary discrete Fourier transform matrix.  $\mathcal{N}(\mathbf{m}, \mathbf{R})$  is the probability density function of complex Gaussian random vector with mean  $\mathbf{m}$  and covariance  $\mathbf{R}$ . We define  $\mathbf{e}^{\ell,N} \in \mathbb{R}^{N \times 1}$  as the N dimensional canonical basis vector with its  $\ell^{th}$  coordinate as 1. The function sign(a) is 1 for  $a \geq 0$  and is -1 for a < 0. We define  $\mathrm{sinc}(a) = \mathrm{sin}(\pi a)/(\pi a)$ .

#### II. SYSTEM AND CHANNEL MODELS

In this section, we describe the underlying hardware architecture, CFO and phase noise model, and the wideband mmWave channel model used for our simulations. In particular, we focus on the digital receiver architecture with one-bit ADCs to highlight the differences with the existing non-coherent algorithms. Nevertheless, our algorithm can be extended to other mmWave architectures as the underlying joint estimation problem is bilinear in nature.

# A. System Model

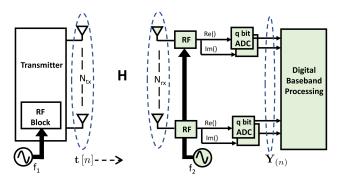


Fig. 1. A MIMO system with local oscillators operating at  $f_1$  and  $f_2$ . Each receive antenna is associated with a radio frequency chain and a pair of q-bit ADCs. In this paper, we consider the extreme cases of q = 1 and  $q = \infty$ .

We consider a MIMO system with uniform linear array of  $N_{\rm tx}$  antennas at the TX and  $N_{\rm rx}$  antennas at the RX, as shown in Fig. 1. We use linear arrays for a concise representation of the simplifications involved in PBiGAMP; our framework can be extended to other array geometries using appropriate array response vectors in the formulation. We do not impose constraints on the number of radio frequency (RF) chains or the resolution of the digital-to-analog converters (DACs) at the TX. The resolution of the  $N_{\rm rx}$  ADCs at the RX, however, is assumed to be limited. We assume that all the RF chains at the TX are driven by a single oscillator that operates at a carrier frequency of  $f_1$ . In a practical mmWave system, multiple oscillators may be employed at the TX as the use of a single oscillator can result in a higher insertion loss

[23]. Even in such settings, our assumption is reasonable from a mathematical perspective as multiple colocated mmWave oscillators at the TX can be synchronized to the same  $f_1$ through calibration [24], [25]. The use of a single oscillator at the RX can be justified using a similar argument. The RX downconverts the received RF signal using a carrier frequency  $f_2$ , that slightly differs from  $f_1$ . After downconversion at the RX, the output at each antenna is sampled using a pair of qbit ADCs, one each for the in-phase and the quadrature phase components. We use  $Q_q(\cdot)$  to represent the q-bit quantization function corresponding to the ADCs. In this paper, we consider the extreme case of q = 1 and provide a performance comparison relative to  $q = \infty$ . The quantization functions for the two cases are  $Q_1(\mathbf{x}) = \operatorname{sign}(\operatorname{real}(\mathbf{x})) + j \operatorname{sign}(\operatorname{imag}(\mathbf{x}))$ and  $Q_{\infty}(\mathbf{x}) = \mathbf{x}$ . Note that the functions sign  $(\cdot)$ , real  $(\cdot)$  and  $imag(\cdot)$  are applied element-wise on the vector.

The impact of CFO on channel estimation algorithms is more significant in one-bit receivers than the full resolution ones. The mismatch in the carrier frequencies, i.e.,  $|f_2 - f_1|$  is typically in the order of several parts per millions (ppms) of  $f_1$ or  $f_2$ . Due to the high carrier frequencies at mmWave, even such small differences can significantly perturb the channel estimate when ignored [13]. For a symbol duration of T seconds, we define the digital domain CFO as  $\epsilon = 2\pi (f_1 - f_2)T$ . CFO results in unknown phase errors in the received samples that linearly increase with time. Hence, the impact of CFO on standard channel estimation algorithms is determined by the length of training. As one-bit receivers relatively need a longer training for channel estimation when compared to the full resolution ones, channel estimation algorithms that ignore phase errors are more vulnerable to the CFO in one-bit systems than the full resolution ones.

Phase noise in wireless systems arises due to jitter in the frequency of the oscillators. In this paper, we assume that phase noise occurs only at the receiver. Such an assumption is reasonable in broadcasting applications where a high quality oscillator is used at the TX [26]. As is common in prior work, we model phase noise at the receiver as a Wiener process with an innovation variance of  $\beta^2$  [27], [28]. Let  $\phi_k$  denote the phase error introduced in the  $k^{th}$  received sample due to phase noise at the RX. In a Wiener process, the innovations in the phase error, i.e.,  $\phi_k - \phi_{k-1}$ , are modeled as IID Gaussian random variables with zero mean and variance  $\beta^2$ . For such a process, it can be observed that the variance of  $\phi_k$  linearly increases with k. As  $\beta^2$  is proportional to  $f_2^2$  [13], phase noise is higher at mmWave carrier frequencies for a given quality of oscillator. We assume a unique phase noise process at the receiver. Such an assumption is valid only when a single oscillator drives all the RF chains at the receiver. When multiple oscillators are used at the RX, the impact of phase noise on the received signal is more complicated. Although calibration of multiple oscillators at the RX can achieve local carrier frequency synchronization [24], [25], it may not result in the same random phase noise process across all the RF chains. Our assumption regarding a unique phase noise process is perhaps simplistic, but we leave the development of new joint estimation techniques that account for multiple phase noise processes to future work.

Now, we describe the received signal model in the digital receiver architecture. Let  $\mathbf{t}[n] \in \mathbb{C}^{N_{tx} \times 1}$  be the  $n^{th}$  transmit symbol satisfying the power constraint  $\mathbb{E}[\mathbf{t}^*[n]\mathbf{t}[n]] = P$ . The discrete time baseband representation of the MIMO channel is assumed to be limited to L taps. Let  $\mathbf{H}[\ell] \in \mathbb{C}^{N_{rx} \times N_{tx}}$  be the  $\ell^{th}$  tap of the equivalent baseband channel, where  $\ell \in \{0, 1, 2, ..., L-1\}$ . Under the perfect frame timing synchronization assumption, the sampled baseband vector in the  $n^{th}$  symbol duration can be given by

$$\mathbf{Y}_{(n)} = \mathcal{Q}_q \left( e^{j(\epsilon n + \phi_n)} \sum_{\ell=0}^{L-1} \mathbf{H} \left[ \ell \right] \mathbf{t} \left[ n - \ell \right] + \mathbf{V}_{(n)} \right), \tag{1}$$

where  $\mathbf{V}_{(n)} \sim \mathcal{N}(\mathbf{0}, \sigma^2 \mathbf{I}_{N_{rx}})$  is additive white Gaussian noise. In this paper, we develop an algorithm to estimate  $\epsilon$  and  $\{\mathbf{H}[\ell]\}_{\ell=0}^{L-1}$  from the series of observations  $\mathbf{Y}_{(n)}$ . Our joint estimation algorithm can be extended to any q-bit ADC architecture by defining appropriate output likelihood functions in message passing.

# B. Channel Model

We consider a clustered channel model for the frequency selective mmWave MIMO channel. The channel consists of  $N_{\rm cs}$  clusters with  $M_n$  rays in the  $n^{th}$  cluster. Let  $\gamma_{n,m}$ ,  $\tau_{n,m}$ ,  $\theta_{{\rm r},n,m}$  and  $\theta_{{\rm t},n,m}$  denote the complex gain, delay, angle-of-arrival (AoA) and angle-of-departure (AoD) of the  $m^{\rm th}$  ray in the  $n^{\rm th}$  cluster. We assume that the transmitted signal is bandlimited to 1/T Hz. With  $\omega_{{\rm r},n,m}=\pi\sin\theta_{{\rm r},n,m}$ ,  $\omega_{{\rm t},n,m}=\pi\sin\theta_{{\rm t},n,m}$ , and the Vandermonde vector

$$\mathbf{a}_{N}(\Delta) = \left[1, e^{j\Delta}, e^{j2\Delta}, \cdots, e^{j(N-1)\Delta}\right]^{T}, \tag{2}$$

the  $\ell^{th}$  tap of the wideband MIMO channel for a half wavelength spaced uniform linear array is given by

$$\mathbf{H}\left[\ell\right] = \sum_{n=1}^{N_{\text{cs}}} \sum_{m=1}^{M_n} \gamma_{n,m} \mathbf{a}_{N_{\text{rx}}} \left(\omega_{\text{r},n,m}\right) \mathbf{a}_{N_{\text{tx}}}^* \left(\omega_{\text{t},n,m}\right) \operatorname{sinc}\left(\ell - \frac{\tau_{n,m}}{T}\right).$$
(3)

The wideband channel can be represented using  $N_{\rm rx}N_{\rm tx}L$  complex entries, and the matrix in (3) is large in typical mmWave systems. The channel impulse response in (3) is represented using a linear combination of bandlimited  ${\rm sinc}(\cdot)$  functions. Notice that each of these  ${\rm sinc}(\cdot)$  functions is delayed by the normalized delay spread, i.e,  $\tau_{n,m}/T$  and evaluated at periodic time instants to obtain the discrete time representation in (3). Other filtering functions could also be used to incorporate the effect of pulse shaping at the TX or filtering at the RX [29].

The mmWave MIMO channel is approximately sparse in an appropriate dictionary due to the propagation characteristics of the environment at mmWave frequencies. Compared to the lower frequency channels, mmWave channels comprise of fewer clusters [4]. Each of the channel taps  $\mathbf{H}[\ell]$ , is approximately sparse in the spatial Fourier basis at mmWave [12]. Furthermore, the channel is approximately sparse along the time dimension as the delays of the propagation rays are heavily clustered within the delay spread. As the delays  $\tau_{n,m}$  may not necessarily be an integer multiple of T, there is a

leakage effect along the time dimension. Let  $C[\ell] \in \mathbb{C}^{N_{rx} \times N_{tx}}$  be the 2-D Fourier transform of  $H[\ell]$ , such that

$$\mathbf{H}[\ell] = \mathbf{U}_{N_{rv}} \mathbf{C}[\ell] \mathbf{U}_{N_{r}}^{*}, \qquad \forall \ell \in \{0, 1, 2, ..., L-1\}.$$
 (4)

The matrix  $\mathbf{C}\left[\ell\right]$  is defined as the beamspace matrix corresponding to the  $\ell^{\text{th}}$  channel tap. The approximate sparsity of the mmWave MIMO channel along the angle and delay domains [30] is directly reflected in the matrices  $\{\mathbf{C}\left[\ell\right]\}_{\ell=0}^{L-1}$ . A higher resolution dictionary can be used for the angle and delay dimensions to increase sparsity of the mmWave channel at the expense of higher dimensionality and higher frame coherence [31]. Our GAMP-based approach will be robust to leakage effects that arise due to approximate sparsity. Therefore, we use the terms sparsity and approximate sparsity interchangeably throughout this paper.

# III. DEMYSTIFYING JOINT CFO AND CHANNEL ESTIMATION AT MMWAVE

In this section, we propose a quantized sparse bilinear formulation for the joint estimation problem. We also identify existing techniques to solve the problem and describe their limitations in terms of scalability to other mmWave architectures and computational complexity.

### A. Bilinear formulation

We consider a single-carrier with frequency-domain equalization (SC-FDE) system [3] and derive a compact form for the received signal model in (1). In wireless standards like IEEE 802.11ad, SC-FDE is preferred over orthogonal frequency division multiplexing (OFDM) due to its advantages like lower peak-to-average power ratio and robustness to CFO [32]. Let  $\mathbf{T} \in \mathbb{C}^{N_{\text{tx}} \times N_{\text{p}}}$  be a training block of length  $N_{\text{p}}$  such that  $\mathbf{T}_{(k)} =$  $\mathbf{t}[k]$ . The TX transmits a training sequence with a cyclic prefix of length L-1, i.e.,  $\left[\mathbf{T}_{\left(N_{p}-L+2\right)},\mathbf{T}_{\left(N_{p}-L+3\right)},...,\mathbf{T}_{\left(N_{p}\right)},\mathbf{T}\right]$ . The cyclic prefix padded transmission gets convolved with the frequency selective MIMO channel before sampling at the receiver. As usual, the first L-1 samples of the received block that experience interference from the previous transmit block are discarded [3]. Let  $\mathbf{Y} \in \mathbb{C}^{N_{\text{rx}} \times N_{\text{p}}}$  be the received block obtained after discarding the first L-1 received vectors. We define an  $\ell$  circulant delay matrix  $\mathbf{J}_{\ell} \in \mathbb{C}^{N_p \times N_p}$ , such that its first column is the canonical basis vector  $e^{1+\ell,N_p}$ . We define a vector  $\mathbf{d}(\epsilon) \in \mathbb{C}^{N_p}$  such that its  $n^{th}$  entry has the phase error corresponding to the received vector  $\mathbf{Y}_{(n)}$ , i.e.,  $d_n(\epsilon) = e^{j(\epsilon n + \phi_n)}$ . The received samples corresponding to the transmit block defined by T can be expressed using (1) as

$$\mathbf{Y} = \mathbf{Q}_q \left( \sum_{\ell=0}^{L-1} \mathbf{H} [\ell] \mathbf{T} \mathbf{J}_{\ell} \operatorname{diag} (\mathbf{d}(\epsilon)) + \mathbf{V} \right). \tag{5}$$

The phase errors in (5) are invariant along any column of the unquantized received block as there is a unique CFO and a phase noise process in the system. The representation in (5) can be further simplified to capture the structure in the phase errors and the channel.

We exploit the structure in the joint estimation problem using sparsity of the channel and the phase error vector in appropriate dictionaries. A compact representation of (5) can be obtained by following the same steps in [12], except for the diagonal matrix containing the phase errors. We use **b** to denote the DFT of the phase error vector  $\mathbf{d}(\epsilon)$ , i.e.,  $\mathbf{b} = \mathbf{U}_{N_p} \mathbf{d}(\epsilon)$ . With **Z** used to denote the noiseless unquantized version of **Y** in (5) such that  $\mathbf{Y} = Q_q(\mathbf{Z} + \mathbf{V})$ , we have

$$\mathbf{Z} = \sum_{\ell=0}^{L-1} \mathbf{H}[\ell] \mathbf{T} \mathbf{J}_{\ell} \operatorname{diag}(\mathbf{d}(\epsilon))$$

$$= \sum_{\ell=0}^{L-1} \mathbf{U}_{N_{\text{rx}}} \mathbf{C}[\ell] \mathbf{U}_{N_{\text{tx}}}^* \mathbf{T} \mathbf{J}_{\ell} \operatorname{diag}\left(\mathbf{U}_{N_{\text{p}}}^* \mathbf{b}\right)$$

$$= \mathbf{U}_{N_{\text{rx}}} \underbrace{\left[\mathbf{C}[0] \ \mathbf{C}[1] \cdots \mathbf{C}[L-1]\right]}_{\triangleq \mathbf{C}} \underbrace{\begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{U}_{N_{\text{tx}}}^* \mathbf{T} \mathbf{J}_0 \\ \mathbf{U}_{N_{\text{tx}}}^* \mathbf{T} \mathbf{J}_1 \\ \vdots \\ \mathbf{U}_{N_{\text{tx}}}^* \mathbf{T} \mathbf{J}_{L-1} \end{bmatrix}}_{\triangleq \mathbf{F}} \operatorname{diag}\left(\mathbf{U}_{N_{\text{p}}}^* \mathbf{b}\right).$$
(6)

The matrix  $\mathbf{C} \in \mathbb{C}^{N_{\text{rx}} \times N_{\text{tx}} L}$  is just a concatenation of the angle domain representation in (4) corresponding to each tap of the MIMO channel and is approximately sparse at mmWave. Furthermore, the vector **b**, i.e., the DFT of  $\mathbf{d}(\epsilon)$ , can be considered to be approximately sparse. To explain the sparsity of **b**, we define a vector  $\mathbf{p} \in \mathbb{C}^{N_p}$  to contain phase errors due to phase noise, i.e.,  $p[n] = e^{j\phi_n}$ , and write  $\mathbf{d}(\epsilon) = \mathbf{p} \odot \mathbf{a}_N(\epsilon)$ . By the multiplication-convolution duality of the Fourier transform, it follows that the DFT of  $\mathbf{d}(\epsilon)$  is a circular convolution of the DFTs of **p** and  $\mathbf{a}_N(\epsilon)$ . As **p** models a slowly varying random phase error process, it has significant low frequency components and negligible high frequency components [33]. Therefore, the DFT of **p** is approximately sparse. The DFT of  $\mathbf{a}_N(\epsilon)$  is approximately sparse due to its Vandermonde structure [14]. As circular convolution of sparse signals results in a sparse signal, it can be concluded that **b** is approximately sparse.

Now, we derive a quantized sparse bilinear formulation for the joint estimation problem. Using (6), the quantized received block **Y** in (5) can be expressed as

$$\mathbf{Y} = \mathbf{Q}_q \left( \mathbf{U}_{N_{rx}} \mathbf{CF} \operatorname{diag} \left( \mathbf{U}_{N_p}^* \mathbf{b} \right) + \mathbf{V} \right). \tag{7}$$

We define the  $N_p N_{rx} \times 1$  vectors  $\mathbf{y} = \text{vec}(\mathbf{Y})$ ,  $\mathbf{z} = \text{vec}(\mathbf{Z})$  and  $\mathbf{v} = \text{vec}(\mathbf{V})$ , and the  $N_{rx} N_{tx} L \times 1$  vector  $\mathbf{c} = \text{vec}(\mathbf{C})$ . In vector notation, (6) can be written as

$$\mathbf{z} = \operatorname{diag}\left(\mathbf{U}_{N_{n}}^{*}\mathbf{b} \otimes \mathbf{a}_{N_{rx}}(0)\right) \operatorname{vec}\left(\mathbf{U}_{N_{rx}}\mathbf{CF}\right).$$
 (8)

Notice that  $\mathbf{a}_{N_{rx}}(0)$  is just the all ones vector in  $N_{rx}$  dimension. Using the property  $\text{vec}(\mathbf{PQR}) = (\mathbf{R}^T \otimes \mathbf{P}) \text{vec}(\mathbf{Q})$ , the received vector  $\mathbf{y}$  is expressed as

$$\mathbf{y} = \mathbf{Q}_q \left( \operatorname{diag} \left( \mathbf{U}_{N_{\mathrm{p}}}^* \mathbf{b} \otimes \mathbf{a}_{N_{\mathrm{rx}}}(0) \right) \left( \mathbf{F}^T \otimes \mathbf{U}_{N_{\mathrm{rx}}} \right) \mathbf{c} + \mathbf{v} \right). \tag{9}$$

We define the matrices  $\mathbf{G} = \mathbf{U}_{N_{p}}^{*} \otimes \mathbf{a}_{N_{rx}}(0)$  and  $\mathbf{A} = (\mathbf{F} \otimes \mathbf{U}_{N_{rx}})^{T}$  to rewrite (9) as

$$\mathbf{y} = Q_q \left( \text{diag} \left( \mathbf{G} \mathbf{b} \right) \mathbf{A} \mathbf{c} + \mathbf{v} \right). \tag{10}$$

Estimating the phase errors and the channel is equivalent to estimating  $\mathbf{b}$  and  $\mathbf{c}$  from  $\mathbf{y}$  in (10). The joint estimation problem in (10) can be observed to be a noisy quantized bilinear problem in  $\mathbf{b}$  and  $\mathbf{c}$ , subject to the sparsity of  $\mathbf{b}$  and  $\mathbf{c}$ .

# B. Limitations of existing techniques

- 1) CFO robust methods: Existing sparse channel estimation methods that are robust to CFO discard the phase of the channel measurements. A hashing technique based noncoherent beam alignment algorithm was proposed in [17] for analog beamforming systems. This method, however, assumes fine control over the phase shifters, which is not necessarily the case with mmWave systems. The received signal strengthbased method in [18] accounts for the limited phase control and uses pseudo-random phase shifts for compressive beamtraining. The solutions in [17] and [18] assume a narrowband mmWave system and perform beam-alignment with just the magnitude of the channel measurements. These methods, however, cannot be used in standard one-bit receivers that use a zero threshold, as energy detection with undithered one-bit ADCs is not feasible unless additional circuit components are used. For example,  $Q_1(\mathbf{r})$  and  $Q_1(\alpha \mathbf{r})$  are the same for any  $\alpha > 0$ . As the only information provided by an undithered one-bit ADC is phase quantized to 4 levels, discarding it due to phase errors leaves no information.
- 2) Joint estimation using lifting: Lifting [21] [34] is a convex relaxation technique that transforms a bilinear problem to a higher dimensional one and then recovers the original vectors by solving the higher dimensional problem. We describe the lifting technique applied to the joint estimation problem in (10). With M denoting the number of entries in  $\mathbf{y}$  or  $\mathbf{z}$ , i.e.,  $M = N_{\rm rx}N_{\rm p}$ , the  $m^{\rm th}$  entry of  $\mathbf{z}$  can be written as

$$z_m = \text{vec}_m \left( \text{diag} \left( \mathbf{Gb} \right) \mathbf{Ac} \right) \tag{11}$$

$$= \mathbf{G}^{(m)} \mathbf{b} \mathbf{A}^{(m)} \mathbf{c} \tag{12}$$

$$= \mathbf{G}^{(m)} \mathbf{b} \mathbf{c}^T \left( \mathbf{A}^{(m)} \right)^T \tag{13}$$

$$= \left(\mathbf{A}^{(m)} \otimes \mathbf{G}^{(m)}\right) \operatorname{vec}\left(\mathbf{b}\mathbf{c}^{T}\right), \qquad \forall m \in I_{M}.$$
 (14)

We define a lifted variable  $\mathbf{x} = \text{vec}(\mathbf{bc}^T)$  and a measurement matrix  $\mathbf{\Phi} \in \mathbb{C}^{M \times N_p N_{rx} N_{tx} L}$ , such that  $\mathbf{\Phi}^{(m)} = \mathbf{A}^{(m)} \otimes \mathbf{G}^{(m)}$ . Hence, the quantized measurements in (10) can be expressed as

$$\mathbf{y} = \mathbf{Q}_q \left( \mathbf{\Phi} \mathbf{x} + \mathbf{n} \right). \tag{15}$$

The lifted vector  $\mathbf{x}$  in (15) is sparse as it is just an outer product [20] of the sparse vectors  $\mathbf{b}$  and  $\mathbf{c}$ . Several CS-based algorithms [6] [35] can be used to recover  $\mathbf{x}$  from the possibly under-determined noisy quantized system in (15). Using the SVD of the higher dimensional matrix estimate, the vectors in the joint estimation problem can be estimated upto a scale factor.

Lifting followed by the SVD was applied to joint CFO and narrowband channel estimation for one-bit receivers in our previous work [19]. The main issue in extending our method in [19] to wideband systems arises due to the large dimensionality of the lifted problem. For instance, the dimension of **x** to perform joint CFO and channel estimation in wideband

systems would be  $N_{\rm rx}N_{\rm tx}N_{\rm p}L$ . Using lifting necessarily implies solving for millions of variables for typical wideband mmWave systems, due to the large number of antennas and the need for additional pilots to compensate for the heavy quantization in low resolution systems.

The limitations of the existing phase error robust and joint estimation solutions in terms of architectural scalability and computational complexity, motivate the need to develop new low complexity joint estimation algorithms that can be applied to wideband systems and low resolution receivers.

# IV. MESSAGE PASSING BASED JOINT CFO AND CHANNEL ESTIMATION

In this section, we give a brief introduction to PBiGAMP [22] and discuss its application to the quantized sparse bilinear problem in (10). We exploit the inherent structure in our problem to derive a low complexity and memory efficient implementation of PBiGAMP for the joint estimation. Furthermore, we explain the CFO propagation effect induced by circulant training matrices that prevents further reduction in the computational complexity.

#### A. Introduction to PBiGAMP

The joint estimation problem in (10) can be solved using PBiGAMP [22] by considering  $\mathbf{b}$ ,  $\mathbf{c}$ ,  $\mathbf{z}$  and  $\mathbf{y}$  of (8) and (10) as realizations of random vectors, say  $\mathbf{b}$ ,  $\mathbf{c}$ ,  $\mathbf{z}$  and  $\mathbf{y}$ . Let  $\mathbf{b}_i$ ,  $\mathbf{c}_k$ ,  $\mathbf{z}_m$  and  $\mathbf{y}_m$  be the elements of these random vectors. In general, deriving the closed form Minimum Mean-Squared Error (MMSE) estimates [36] of  $\mathbf{b}$  and  $\mathbf{c}$  is difficult as it requires marginalizing the joint PDF of  $\mathbf{b}$  and  $\mathbf{c}$  conditioned on  $\mathbf{y} = \mathbf{y}$ . Using ideas from message passing, PBiGAMP can obtain the MMSE estimates of both the vectors in the quantized sparse bilinear problem.

We explain message passing using the factor graph [37] in Fig. 2, which shows the dependency between **y**, the random vectors (**b**, **c**) and their prior distributions. The circular nodes in the factor graph are called as variable nodes as they represent the random variables. The rectangular nodes in the factor graph are called as factor nodes and they contain the prior distribution of a random variable or the likelihood function associated with an observation. The messages in message passing are essentially probability distributions, also called as beliefs. The idea underlying message passing is to perform belief flows iteratively between the factors and the variables until all the variable nodes reach a consensus on their marginal probability distributions [37]. As the factor graph for joint estimation is strongly connected, standard message passing can be computationally intractable.

Using ideas from Approximate Message Passing [10], PBiGAMP simplifies the messages by assuming a large number of variable nodes. Simulation results in [22], that show that PBiGAMP outperforms the lifting technique for IID Gaussian measurement matrices, motivate applying it to our problem. Furthermore, PBiGAMP performs optimization over the same number of variables in the problem, unlike lifting [21] that solves the problem in a higher dimensional space. For the joint estimation problem in typical wideband mmWave systems,

PBiGAMP is memory efficient over lifting by several orders of magnitude.

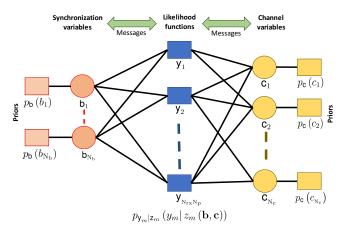


Fig. 2. The factor graph of quantized sparse bilinear message passing for joint CFO and channel estimation. The rectangular nodes, called as factors, contain the likelihood functions corresponding to the received samples or the sparse priors. Messages are sent between the factor nodes and the variable nodes until the marginal probability distributions of the variables converge.

#### B. PBiGAMP for joint estimation

In this section, we explicitly state PBiGAMP [22] for joint estimation in (10) and describe the information contained in the factor nodes of Fig. 2. To be consistent with the notation used in [22], we rewrite the random variable dependency corresponding to (11) in the tensor notation as

$$Z_{m} = \sum_{i=1}^{N_{b}} \sum_{k=1}^{N_{c}} z_{m}^{(i,k)} b_{i} c_{k},$$
 (16)

where  $N_b = N_p$ ,  $N_c = N_{rx}N_{tx}L$ , and  $z_m^{(i,k)}$  is an element of a third order tensor given by

$$z_m^{(i,k)} = \mathbf{G}_{m,i} \mathbf{A}_{m,k}. \tag{17}$$

As  $y_m = Q_q(z_m + v_m)$ , the output likelihood function corresponding to the  $m^{\text{th}}$  channel measurement, i.e.,  $p_{y_m|z_m}(y_m|z)$ , can be expressed as

$$p_{y_m|z_m}(y_m|z) = \begin{cases} F\left(\frac{\sqrt{2}\operatorname{sign}(\operatorname{Re}\{y_m\})\operatorname{Re}\{z\}}{\sigma}\right)F\left(\frac{\sqrt{2}\operatorname{sign}(\operatorname{Im}\{y_m\})\operatorname{Im}\{z\}}{\sigma}\right) & q = 1\\ \frac{1}{\pi\sigma^2}e^{-\frac{\|y_m-z\|^2}{\sigma^2}} & q = \infty \end{cases},$$

$$(18)$$

where  $F(\cdot)$  is the cumulative distribution function of the standard normal distribution. The factor nodes in Fig. 2, that contain likelihood functions in (18), ensure that the solution to the bilinear problem is faithful to the observed channel measurements.

The sparsity of the vectors **b** and **c** is incorporated by assuming parametrized Bernoulli-Gaussian (BG) distributions for their priors  $p_{\mathbf{b}}(\mathbf{b})$  and  $p_{\mathbf{c}}(\mathbf{c})$ . Prior work on linear CS has shown that message passing with BG distributions can perform better sparse recovery than LASSO in many settings [38]. In GAMP-based channel estimation [12], the BG distribution was

successfully used as a generative prior for mmWave channels that are approximately sparse. For simplicity, it is assumed that each entry of  $\bf b$  is independent of the other and identically distributed as  $p_b$ . Similarly, the entries of  $\bf c$  are assumed to be IID, with  $p_c$  as the distribution. Furthermore, the vectors  $\bf b$  and  $\bf c$  are assumed to be independent of each other. Let  $\lambda_b$  and  $\lambda_c$  denote the sparsity fraction of  $\bf b$  and  $\bf c$ . Let  $\sigma_b^2$  and  $\sigma_c^2$  be the variances of the coefficients corresponding to the non-zero support of the vectors  $\bf b$  and  $\bf c$ . With  $\delta(x)$  used to represent the Dirac-delta function, the BG distributions  $p_b$  and  $p_c$  can be given as

$$p_{\mathsf{b}}(x) = \lambda_{\mathsf{b}}\delta(x) + (1 - \lambda_{\mathsf{b}}) \mathcal{N}(0, \sigma_{\mathsf{b}}^2), \tag{19}$$

$$p_{\rm C}(x) = \lambda_{\rm C}\delta(x) + (1 - \lambda_{\rm C})\mathcal{N}(0, \sigma_{\rm C}^2). \tag{20}$$

It can be observed from (19) that each entry of **b** is 0 with a probability of  $\lambda_b$  and is distributed as Gaussian otherwise. As a result, the BG priors in (19) and (20) can model sparse vectors for an appropriate  $\lambda_b$  and  $\lambda_c$ .

The PBiGAMP algorithm from [22] to obtain the MMSE estimates of **b** and **c** in (10) is summarized in Table I. The likelihood defined in (18), and the priors defined in (19) and (20), are used in (D1)-(D3) of Table I. In practice, the parameters governing  $p_b$  and  $p_c$ , i.e.,  $\lambda_b$ ,  $\lambda_c$ ,  $\sigma_b$  and  $\sigma_c$ , are not known apriori. To overcome this problem, PBiGAMP is embedded within an Expectation Maximization (EM) algorithm [22]. EM considers **b** and **c** as hidden variables, and maximizes the likelihood that  $\mathbf{y} = \mathbf{y}$  over the unknown parameters. To do so, the marginal posterior probabilities of the hidden variables, i.e.,  $p_{b_i \mid \mathbf{y} = \mathbf{y}}$  and  $p_{c_i \mid \mathbf{y} = \mathbf{y}}$  are needed [22]. As it is difficult to compute the true marginal posteriors, PBiGAMP marginal estimates, i.e.,  $p_{\mathsf{b}_i|\mathsf{q}_i}(b \mid \widehat{q}_i(t); v_i^q(t))$  and  $p_{\mathsf{c}_k|\mathsf{r}_k}(c \mid \widehat{r}_k(t); v_k^r(t))$ in Table I, are used instead of the true marginals [22]. For a detailed description on how to use EM with P-BiGAMP, we refer the interested reader to Section III-J of [22]; the embedding is based on EM-GAMP algorithm in [11].

The channel and the phase error vector can be derived using appropriate transformations over the PBiGAMP estimates. Due to the bilinear nature of the underlying problem in (10), the vector  $\hat{\mathbf{c}}$  obtained from PBiGAMP is an estimate of the vectorized version of  $\mathbf{C}$ , the angle-delay domain channel in (7), upto a scale factor. Let  $\hat{\mathbf{C}} \in \mathbb{C}^{N_{rx} \times N_{tx} L}$  denote the angle-delay domain estimate of the wideband channel, such that  $\operatorname{vec}(\hat{\mathbf{C}}) = \hat{\mathbf{c}}$ . It can be observed from (6) that  $\mathbf{C}$  is just a concatenation of the angle domain representation of all the L taps of the MIMO channel. Therefore, the  $\ell^{th}$  tap of the antenna domain MIMO channel, upto a scale factor, can be derived as

$$\widehat{\mathbf{H}}\left[\ell\right] = \mathbf{U}_{N_{\mathrm{rx}}}\left[\widehat{\mathbf{C}}_{(\ell N_{\mathrm{tx}}+1)}, \widehat{\mathbf{C}}_{(\ell N_{\mathrm{tx}}+2)}, \ldots, \widehat{\mathbf{C}}_{(\ell N_{\mathrm{tx}}+N_{\mathrm{tx}})}\right] \mathbf{U}^*_{N_{\mathrm{tx}}}.$$
(21)

The vector  $\hat{\mathbf{b}}$  derived from PBiGAMP is an estimate of  $\mathbf{b}$ , the DFT of the phase error vector  $\mathbf{d}(\epsilon)$  upto a scale factor. The magnitude of the scaling can be estimated from the observation that  $\|\mathbf{d}(\epsilon)\|_2 = \sqrt{N_p}$ . The phase of the scale factor, however, cannot be estimated as  $(\widehat{\mathbf{b}}e^{j\Omega},\widehat{\mathbf{c}}e^{-j\Omega})$  is a solution to (10) for any  $\Omega \in [0, 2\pi)$ . We define  $\kappa = \sqrt{N_p}/\|\widehat{\mathbf{b}}\|_2$  and the phase error

Definitions: 
$$p_{Z_{m}|p_{m}}(z \mid \widehat{p}; v^{p}) \triangleq \frac{p_{Y_{m}|Z_{m}}(y_{m}|z)N(z;\widehat{p}, v^{p})}{\int_{z'}p_{Y_{m}|Z_{m}}(y_{m}|z')N(z';\widehat{p}, v^{p})} (D1)$$

$$p_{C_{k}|i_{k}}(c \mid \widehat{r}; v') \triangleq \frac{p_{C_{k}}(x_{i}, v')}{\int_{c'}p_{C_{k}}(x', v')}(x';\widehat{p}, v')}{\int_{c'}p_{C_{k}}(x', v')}(x';\widehat{p}, v')} (D2)$$

$$p_{b_{i}|q_{i}}(b \mid \widehat{q}; v^{q}) \triangleq \frac{p_{b}(b)N(b;\widehat{q}, v^{q})}{\int_{b'}p_{b}(b')N(b';\widehat{q}, v^{q})} (D3)$$
Initializations: 
$$\forall m : \widehat{s}_{m}(0) = 0 \qquad (I1)$$

$$\forall i, k : \text{choose} \quad \widehat{b}_{i}(1), v_{i}^{b}(1), \widehat{c}_{k}(1), v_{k}^{c}(1) \qquad (I2)$$
for  $t = 1, \dots T_{\max}$ 

$$\forall m, i : \widehat{z}_{m}^{(i,*)}(t) = \sum_{k=1}^{N_{b}} \widehat{z}_{m}^{(i,k)} \widehat{c}_{k}(t) \qquad (R1)$$

$$\forall m, k : \widehat{c}_{i}^{(*,*)}(t) = \sum_{i=1}^{N_{b}} \widehat{b}_{i}(t) \widehat{c}_{m}^{(i,*)}(t) \qquad \sum_{k=1}^{N_{c}} \widehat{c}_{k}(t) \widehat{c}_{m}^{(*,k)}(t)$$

$$\forall m, k : \widehat{z}_{m}^{(*,*)}(t) = \sum_{i=1}^{N_{b}} \widehat{b}_{i}(t) \widehat{c}_{m}^{(i,*)}(t) \qquad \sum_{k=1}^{N_{c}} \widehat{c}_{k}(t) \widehat{c}_{m}^{(*,k)}(t) \qquad (R3)$$

$$\forall m : \widehat{v}_{m}^{p}(t) = \sum_{i=1}^{N_{b}} \widehat{b}_{i}(t) \widehat{c}_{m}^{(i,*)}(t) \qquad \sum_{k=1}^{N_{c}} \widehat{c}_{k}(t) \widehat{c}_{m}^{(*,k)}(t) \qquad (R3)$$

$$\forall m : \widehat{v}_{m}^{p}(t) = \sum_{i=1}^{N_{b}} \widehat{b}_{i}(t) \widehat{c}_{m}^{(i,*)}(t) \qquad \sum_{k=1}^{N_{c}} \widehat{c}_{k}(t) \widehat{c}_{m}^{(*,k)}(t) \qquad (R3)$$

$$\forall m : \widehat{v}_{m}^{p}(t) = \sum_{i=1}^{N_{b}} \widehat{b}_{i}(t) \widehat{c}_{m}^{(i,*)}(t) \qquad \sum_{k=1}^{N_{c}} \widehat{c}_{k}(t) \widehat{c}_{m}^{(*,k)}(t) \qquad (R3)$$

$$\forall m : \widehat{v}_{m}^{p}(t) = \sum_{i=1}^{N_{b}} \widehat{b}_{i}(t) \widehat{c}_{m}^{(i,*)}(t) \qquad \sum_{k=1}^{N_{c}} \widehat{c}_{k}(t) \widehat{c}_{m}^{(*,k)}(t) \qquad (R3)$$

$$\forall m : \widehat{v}_{m}^{p}(t) = \widehat{v}_{m}^{p}(t) + \sum_{i=1}^{N_{b}} \widehat{b}_{i}(t) \widehat{c}_{m}^{(i,*)}(t) \qquad \sum_{k=1}^{N_{c}} \widehat{c}_{k}(t) \widehat{c}_{m}^{(*,k)}(t) \qquad (R3)$$

$$\forall m : \widehat{v}_{m}^{p}(t) = \widehat{c}_{m}^{m}(t) + \sum_{i=1}^{N_{b}} \widehat{b}_{i}(t) \widehat{c}_{m}^{(i,*)}(t) \qquad \sum_{k=1}^{N_{c}} \widehat{c}_{k}(t) \widehat{c}_{m}^{(*,k)}(t) \qquad (R3)$$

$$\forall m : \widehat{v}_{m}^{p}(t) = \widehat{c}_{m}^{m}(t) + \sum_{i=1}^{N_{b}} \widehat{b}_{i}(t) \widehat{c}_{m}^{(i,k)}(t) \qquad (R4)$$

$$\forall m : \widehat{v}_{m}^{p}(t) = \widehat{c}_{m}^{p}(t) + \sum_{i=1}^{N_{b}} \widehat{b}_{i}(t) \widehat{c}_{m}^{(i,k)}(t) \qquad (R5)$$

$$\forall m : \widehat{v}_{m}^{p}(t) = \widehat{c}_{m}^{p}(t) - \widehat{c}_{m}^{p}(t) \widehat{c}_{m}^{p}(t) \rightarrow \widehat{c}_{m}^{p}(t) \rightarrow \widehat{c}_{m}^{p}(t) \rightarrow \widehat{c}_{m}^{p}$$

TABLE I
THE PBIGAMP ALGORITHM FROM [22].

vector estimate as  $\hat{\mathbf{d}} = \kappa \mathbf{U}_{N_p}^* \hat{\mathbf{b}}$ . As  $\hat{\mathbf{d}}$  and  $\mathbf{d}$  can differ in a global phase, i.e.,  $\Omega$ , the  $n^{\text{th}}$  entry of  $\hat{\mathbf{d}}$  can be modeled as

$$\widehat{d}[n] = e^{j(\epsilon n + \phi_n + \Omega)} + w[n], \tag{22}$$

where w[n] is a zero mean IID noise process. We use the scalar variance approximation in PBiGAMP [22] to compute the variance of w[n] as  $v_w = \kappa^2 \sum_{i=1}^{N_b} v_i{}^b(T)/N_{\rm p}$ . Now,  $\epsilon$  and  $\Omega$  in (22) are considered as state space variables to be estimated from  $\widehat{\mathbf{d}}$  [39]. The phase error in (22), i.e.,  $\epsilon n + \phi_n + \Omega$ , is a linear function of the state space variables that is perturbed by an unknown Wiener phase noise. The  $n^{\rm th}$  observation in (22) is a noisy non-linear function of the phase error. For the state space definitions and the model in (22), we use an extended Kalman filter (EKF) [39] to estimate  $\epsilon$  from  $\widehat{\mathbf{d}}$ . A detailed treatment on how to apply EKF to (22) can be found in [13].

In this paper, we exploit the compressibility of the phase error vector in the DFT basis for joint estimation. It is possible, however, to incorporate the statistics of the phase noise by replacing the nodes corresponding to **b** in Fig. 2 with the phase error variables and adding factors corresponding to the phase noise process. In such case, the message passing algorithm must handle the non-linear dependence of **z** on the phase errors.

# C. PBiGAMP: From theory to practice

A standard implementation of the algorithm in Table I is memory and computationally intensive as it involves repeated operations over a third order tensor [22]. In this section, we provide insights into the key equations of Table I, and describe our low complexity implementation for joint CFO and channel estimation.

The equations in PBiGAMP are essentially determined by the belief flows from the factor nodes to the variable nodes, and vice versa. Without loss of generality, we describe the message flow between the variable node  $b_1$  and the factor node  $y_1$  in Fig. 2. In standard message passing, the message sent from a factor node to  $b_1$  essentially represents the PDF of  $b_1$  presumed by that factor node. In a fully connected factor graph, the node  $b_1$  receives messages from all the M factor nodes  $(\{y_i\}_{i=1}^M)$  in addition to its prior distribution  $p_b$ . As  $b_1$  receives several beliefs from different factors, the belief sent by  $b_1$  to  $y_1$  is just a normalized product of all the beliefs received by  $b_1$  except the one from  $y_1$ . For generic priors and likelihood functions in the factor graph, performing standard message passing can be difficult as the belief flows are flows of PDFs that are functions.

PBiGAMP simplifies standard message passing using the central limit theorem (CLT) and the Taylor series approximation. Notice that y<sub>1</sub> receives beliefs from all its neighbouring variable nodes and contains the likelihood function in itself. The belief sent from  $y_1$  to  $b_1$  is computed by multiplying the likelihood function, with all the incoming beliefs to y<sub>1</sub> except the one from b<sub>1</sub>, and then integrating over all the random variables except  $b_1$ . The multiplication followed by integration essentially yields the PDF of b<sub>1</sub> presumed by the factor node  $y_1$ . The integration is often multidimensional and can be difficult to compute. If y<sub>1</sub> depends on a large number of independent variable nodes through a linear function, then the linear combination can be approximated as a Gaussian random variable using the CLT [10]. In such case, the variable nodes can send just the mean and variances of the PDFs to the factors and this information is sufficient to compute the mean and variance of the Gaussian random variable, as seen in (R3) and (R5) of Table I. The message sent from  $y_1$  to  $b_1$ can now be computed by multiplying the likelihood at y<sub>1</sub> with the compound Gaussian PDF, and marginalizing the product with respect to  $b_1$ . In general, the likelihood function can be non-linear in nature and can yield a complicated PDF of b<sub>1</sub> [22]. Using a second order Taylor series expansion for the log PDF [10], PBiGAMP simplifies the belief sent from y<sub>1</sub> to b<sub>1</sub> to a Gaussian whose mean and variance can be computed from (R7)-(R9) of Table I. For q-bit ADCs, the closed form expressions for the conditional mean and variance in (R7) and (R8) can be found in [40, Appendix A]. Unlike standard message passing, PBiGAMP is computationally tractable as the messages contain just the mean and variances of the PDFs.

After several approximate message flows between the factor nodes and the variable nodes, PBiGAMP is expected to converge. The MMSE of  $b_1$  is computed as the expectation of the effective marginal, i.e., the normalized product of all the M Gaussian PDFs received by  $b_1$  from the factor nodes and the

Operation	Complexity
$\mathbf{U}_{N_{\mathrm{rx}}}\widehat{\mathbf{C}}(t)\mathbf{F}$	$O\left(N_{\rm rx}N_{\rm tx}LN_{\rm p}\right)$
$\mathbf{U}_{N_{\mathrm{p}}}^{*}\widehat{\mathbf{b}}\left(t\right)$	$O\left(N_{\mathrm{p}}\mathrm{log}N_{\mathrm{p}}\right)$
(R3), (R13)	$O\left(N_{\rm rx}N_{\rm p}\right)$
(R4), (R5), (R11)	$O\left(N_{\mathrm{tx}}LN_{\mathrm{p}}\right)$
(R12), (R14)	$O\left(N_{\rm rx}N_{\rm tx}LN_{\rm p}\right)$

TABLE II

COMPLEXITY OF A SINGLE PBIGAMP ITERATION USING A FAST IMPLEMENTATION.

prior distribution on  $b_1$ . Notice that the normalization has to be done to ensure that the PDF integrates to 1. The expectation step for the MMSE of  $b_1$  is given in (R18) using (R11) and (R12) as the intermediate steps. Similarly, the expectation for the MMSE of  $c_1$  is given in (R16) using (R13) and (R14) as the intermediate steps. Thus, PBiGAMP provides estimates of the vectorized sparse channel and the DFT of the phase error vector

The generic implementation of PBiGAMP is computationally expensive primarily due to (R1), (R2), (R5), (R12) and (R14) in Table I. It can be verified that each of these operations have a complexity of  $O\left(N_{\rm rx}^2N_{\rm p}^2N_{\rm tx}L\right)$  for a single PBiGAMP iteration to perform joint estimation. For instance, (R1) requires computing the scalar  $\widehat{z}_m^{(i,*)}(t)$  for every  $m \in I_M$  and  $i \in I_{N_{\rm b}}$ , Therefore, (R1) demands  $O(MN_{\rm b}N_{\rm c})$  computations, as each scalar computation requires  $N_{\rm c}$  multiplications. As  $M = N_{\rm rx}N_{\rm p},\ N_{\rm b} = N_{\rm p}$  and  $N_{\rm c} = N_{\rm rx}N_{\rm tx}L$  for the joint estimation, (R1) has a complexity of  $O\left(N_{\rm rx}^2N_{\rm p}^2N_{\rm tx}L\right)$  for every PBiGAMP iteration. By exploiting the structure in the joint estimation problem, the complexity of PBiGAMP can be significantly reduced. A detailed description on our low complexity implementation can be found in the Appendix. Our implementation exploits the Kronecker product structure of G and G in (17), and the fast Fourier transform.

The complexity of PBiGAMP operations in our implementation is summarized in Table II. The entries in Table II are found using the complexity of matrix multiplications and FFTs. It can be noticed that the overall complexity of PBiGAMP using our implementation is  $O\left(N_{\rm rx}N_{\rm p}N_{\rm tx}L\right)$ , thereby achieving a speedup factor of  $N_{\rm p}N_{\rm rx}$  compared to the generic implementation. After all possible simplifications of PBiGAMP for joint estimation, training design is possibly the only frontier that can be exploited to further reduce the computational complexity.

# D. CFO propagation effect: A barrier to complexity reduction with circulant training

In this section, we explain how a reasonable training solution that allows a low complexity implementation does not permit joint estimation. For simplicity of exposition, we consider a narrowband system, i.e., L=1. We define  $\mathbf{H} \in \mathbb{C}^{N_{\mathrm{rx}} \times N_{\mathrm{tx}}}$  as the narrowband channel and  $\mathbf{C} = \mathbf{U}_{N_{\mathrm{rx}}}^* \mathbf{H} \mathbf{U}_{N_{\mathrm{tx}}}$  as its angle domain representation.

The complexity of our PBiGAMP implementation is determined by matrix multiplications with  $\mathbf{F}$ , a matrix constructed from the  $N_{\text{tx}} \times N_{\text{p}}$  training matrix  $\mathbf{T}$ . For the narrowband setting,

it can be observed from (6) that  $\mathbf{F} = \mathbf{U}_{N_{\mathrm{Lx}}}^* \mathbf{T}$ . For a generic matrix  $\mathbf{M} \in \mathbb{C}^{N_{\mathrm{Tx}} \times N_{\mathrm{tx}}}$ , standard matrix multiplication in  $\mathbf{MF}$  requires a complexity of  $O(N_{\mathrm{rx}}N_{\mathrm{tx}}N_{\mathrm{p}})$ . A possible approach to reduce this complexity is to set  $N_{\mathrm{p}} = N_{\mathrm{tx}}$ , and choose  $\mathbf{T}$  as an  $N_{\mathrm{tx}} \times N_{\mathrm{tx}}$  circulant training matrix [12]. When  $\mathbf{T}$  is a circulant matrix, it can be diagonalized using the DFT as  $\mathbf{U}_{N_{\mathrm{tx}}}^* \mathbf{T} \mathbf{U}_{N_{\mathrm{tx}}} = \mathbf{\Lambda}_{\mathbf{T}}$ , where  $\mathbf{\Lambda}_{\mathbf{T}}$  is a diagonal matrix. Equivalently,  $\mathbf{U}_{N_{\mathrm{tx}}}^* \mathbf{T} = \mathbf{\Lambda}_{\mathbf{T}} \mathbf{U}_{N_{\mathrm{tx}}}^*$  or  $\mathbf{F} = \mathbf{\Lambda}_{\mathbf{T}} \mathbf{U}_{N_{\mathrm{tx}}}^*$ . The matrix  $\mathbf{MF}$  is then  $\mathbf{M}\mathbf{\Lambda}_{\mathbf{T}} \mathbf{U}_{N_{\mathrm{tx}}}^*$ . As a result, the fast Fourier transform can be used to compute  $\mathbf{MF}$  for a complexity of  $O(N_{\mathrm{rx}}N_{\mathrm{tx}}\log N_{\mathrm{tx}})$ . In this section, we show that circulant training is not suitable for the joint estimation problem in (10) as it results in CFO propagation.

The CFO propagation effect results in a class of sparse channels and CFOs that are consistent with the observed channel measurements. To explain this effect, we define  $\Lambda_{\epsilon} = \operatorname{diag}(\mathbf{d}(\epsilon))$  and consider the noiseless unquantized received block in (6), i.e.,

$$\mathbf{Z} = \mathbf{U}_{N_{rx}} \mathbf{C} \mathbf{U}^*_{N_{tx}} \mathbf{T} \operatorname{diag}(\mathbf{d}(\epsilon))$$
 (23)

$$= \mathbf{U}_{N_{rx}} \mathbf{C} \mathbf{\Lambda}_{\mathbf{T}} \mathbf{U}^*_{N_{tx}} \mathbf{\Lambda}_{\epsilon}. \tag{24}$$

For our analysis, we assume that there is no phase noise, i.e.,  $\beta=0$ , and choose the CFO  $(\epsilon)$  to be an integer multiple of  $2\pi/N_{\rm p}$ . We define an integer  $d=N_{\rm p}\epsilon/2\pi$  to interpret  $\Lambda_{\epsilon}$  as a matrix that contains eigenvalues of the d circulant delay matrix  $\mathbf{J}_d\in\mathbb{C}^{N_{\rm p}\times N_{\rm p}}$ , i.e.,  $\mathbf{J}_d\mathbf{U}_{N_{\rm lx}}=\mathbf{U}_{N_{\rm lx}}\Lambda_{\epsilon}$ . As  $\Lambda_{\epsilon}^*=\Lambda_{-\epsilon}$ , it can be shown that  $\mathbf{J}_{N_{\rm lx}-\underline{d}}\mathbf{U}_{N_{\rm lx}}=\mathbf{U}_{N_{\rm lx}}\Lambda_{\epsilon}^*$ . Furthermore, as  $\mathbf{J}_{N_{\rm lx}-d}$  is a real matrix and  $\overline{\mathbf{U}}_{N_{\rm lx}}=\mathbf{U}_{N_{\rm lx}}^*$ , we have  $\mathbf{U}_{N_{\rm lx}}^*\Lambda_{\epsilon}=\mathbf{J}_{N_{\rm lx}-d}\mathbf{U}_{N_{\rm lx}}^*$ . Therefore,  $\mathbf{Z}$  in (24) can be expressed as

$$\mathbf{Z} = \mathbf{U}_{N_{\text{rx}}} \mathbf{C} \mathbf{\Lambda}_{\mathbf{T}} \mathbf{J}_{N_{\text{tx}} - d} \mathbf{U}^*_{N_{\text{tx}}}. \tag{25}$$

From a channel recovery perspective,  $\mathbf{T}$  must be full rank. As a result,  $\mathbf{\Lambda}_{\mathbf{T}}^{-1}$  exists and is well defined. We define  $\mathbf{C}(\epsilon) = \mathbf{C}\mathbf{\Lambda}_{\mathbf{T}}\mathbf{J}_{N_{tx}-d}\mathbf{\Lambda}_{\mathbf{T}}^{-1}$  to rewrite (25) as

$$\mathbf{Z} = \mathbf{U}_{N_{\text{rx}}} \mathbf{C} \mathbf{\Lambda}_{\mathbf{T}} \mathbf{J}_{N_{\text{tx}} - d} \mathbf{\Lambda}_{\mathbf{T}}^{-1} \mathbf{\Lambda}_{\mathbf{T}} \mathbf{U}^*_{N_{\text{tx}}}$$
(26)

$$= \mathbf{U}_{N_{rx}} \mathbf{C}(\epsilon) \mathbf{\Lambda}_{\mathbf{T}} \mathbf{U}^*_{N_{tx}} \tag{27}$$

$$\stackrel{(a)}{=} \mathbf{U}_{N_{rv}} \mathbf{C}(\epsilon) \mathbf{\Lambda}_{\mathbf{T}} \mathbf{U}^*_{N_{rv}} \mathbf{\Lambda}_{0}, \tag{28}$$

where (a) follows from the observation that  $\Lambda_0$  is an identity matrix. Comparing (28) with (24), it can be observed that the beamspace matrix C and a CFO of  $\epsilon$ , result in the same received samples as the matrix  $C(\epsilon)$  and a zero CFO. Furthermore,  $C(\epsilon)$  has the same sparsity as that of C, as scaling and circulant shifting operations due to  $\Lambda_{\bf T} {\bf J}_{N_{\rm tx}-d} \Lambda_{\bf T}^{-1}$ do not change the sparsity of a signal. Therefore,  $(\mathbf{C}(\epsilon), 0)$ is also a solution to the sparse quantized bilinear problem that is consistent with the observed channel measurements. In general, it can be shown that for any  $\xi$  that is an integer multiple of  $2\pi/N_p$ ,  $\mathbf{C}(\xi)$  and  $\epsilon - \xi$  are candidate solutions for the beamspace channel and CFO. As a result, it is not possible to determine the true channel and CFO with circulant trainingbased joint estimation. We call this as the CFO propagation effect as circulant training propagates CFO into the channel in an inseparable manner.

In this work, we consider circulantly shifted Zadoff-Chu (ZC) sequences proposed in [12] to illustrate the CFO propagation effect. It must be noted, however, that this effect can

be observed with other circulant training blocks. Designing structured training blocks that exploit fast transforms and ensure a unique optimal point under a sparse prior is an interesting direction for future work.

# V. SIMULATIONS

In this section, we provide simulation results for the proposed quantized sparse bilinear message passing-based joint CFO and channel estimation algorithm. We consider a hardware architecture in Fig. 1 that uses a uniform linear array of antennas and choose  $N_{\rm tx} = N_{\rm rx} = 32$ . In this paper, we assume that the receiver is equipped with one-bit ADCs, i.e., q = 1. To obtain a performance benchmark for one-bit receivers, we evaluate our algorithm for full resolution receivers, i.e.,  $q = \infty$ , although they may not be practical at large bandwidths due to high power consumption. We consider a mmWave carrier frequency of 38 GHz and an operating bandwidth of  $W = 100 \, {\rm MHz}$  [41], which corresponds to a symbol duration of  $T = 10 \, {\rm ns}$ .

We describe the simulation parameters of the clustered mmWave channel model in (3). We consider L = 16 taps to model the mmWave channel in the 100 MHz bandwidth. Such model is good enough for RMS delay spreads upto 33 ns, assuming  $L = 5W\tau_{\rm rms}$ . Our assumption is reasonable as 95% of the measured RMS delay spreads at 38 GHz were found to be less than 37.8 ns [42]. The measurements in [42] were made in a UMi-LoS environment using a resolution of 2 ns. We assume  $N_{cs} = 4$  clusters, each comprising of 10 rays and the complex ray gains as IID standard normal random variables. Furthermore, the AoAs and AoDs of the rays within a cluster are chosen from a laplacian distribution corresponding to an angle spread of 15°. The wideband channel is scaled so that  $\mathbb{E}\left[\sum_{\ell} \|\mathbf{H}[\ell]\|_{\mathrm{F}}^2\right] = \mathbb{E}\left[\|\mathbf{C}\|_{\mathrm{F}}^2\right] = N_{\mathrm{rx}}N_{\mathrm{tx}}$ , where the expectation is taken across several channel realizations. The channel matrix generated with the aforementioned parameters is practical at mmWave and the angle-delay domain representation, i.e., C, can be verified to be approximately sparse.

Our PBiGAMP-based approach exploits compressibility of the phase error vector in the Fourier basis. To evaluate the worst case performance of our algorithm, we choose a CFO that is maximally off grid and within the practical limits. As the resolution of the DFT grid is  $2\pi/N_p$ , we choose  $\epsilon = 45\pi/1024$  for a training block of  $N_p = 1024$  pilots. The corresponding analog domain CFO can be verified to be 2.2 MHz, which is about 58 ppm of the carrier frequency. We set  $\beta = 0.067$  rad as the standard deviation of the effective Wiener phase noise process at the RX. This parameter translates to a phase noise level of about  $-82\,\mathrm{dBc/Hz}$  at 1 MHz offset for the RX oscillator [27], and meet the specifications of a 38 GHz oscillator [43].

The performance of our joint estimation algorithm is evaluated using the Normalised Mean Square Error (NMSE) of the channel estimate and the mean square error (MSE) of the CFO estimate  $\epsilon$ . For a given SNR, the variance of the IID Gaussian noise, i.e.,  $\sigma^2$  in (1), is chosen such that

SNR = 
$$10\log_{10} \left( \frac{\|\mathbf{T}\|_{\rm F}^2}{N_{\rm p}\sigma^2} \right)$$
. (29)

For our simulations, we consider training blocks comprising of IID QPSK entries, IID Gaussian entries, and shifted ZC sequences proposed in [12]. For mmWave systems, the IID QPSK training is more practical than the IID Gaussian one, as it can be generated using a TX architecture that is as simple as analog-beamforming with 2-bit phase shifters.

#### A. NMSE of the channel estimate

Due to the bilinear nature of the underlying problem, we can only estimate the wideband channel or equivalently **C** upto a scale factor. Furthermore, any positive amplification of **C** results in the same received block in one-bit receivers at high SNR. Therefore, the NMSE of the channel estimate is defined as

NMSE = 
$$\mathbb{E}\left[\frac{\left\|\mathbf{C} - \gamma \widehat{\mathbf{C}}\right\|_{\mathrm{F}}^{2}}{\left\|\mathbf{C}\right\|_{\mathrm{F}}^{2}}\right],$$
 (30)

where  $\gamma$  is a scalar such that  $\gamma = \arg\min_{a} \left\| \mathbf{C} - a\widehat{\mathbf{C}} \right\|_{F}$  for a given

 ${f C}$  and  $\widehat{{f C}}$ . The matrix  $\gamma \widehat{{f C}}$  can be considered as the normalized angle-delay domain estimate of the wideband channel. The function  ${\Bbb E}[.]$  denotes the empirical expectation and is taken across several channel and training realizations. For a given realization of the channel and its estimate, we define the Normalized Squared Error (NSE) as  $\left\|{f C}-\gamma \widehat{{f C}}\right\|_F^2/\|{f C}\|_F^2$ .

For a sequence of  $N_p = 1024$  pilots, our joint estimation algorithm recovered the channel within acceptable limits with a probability greater than 0.95, at a SNR of 0 dB using IID QPSK training. The number of outliers in this case is determined by the phase-transition region of PBiGAMP [22]. It can be observed from Fig. 3 that the probability of successful recovery monotonically increases as a function of the training length and quickly approaches 1. To ignore

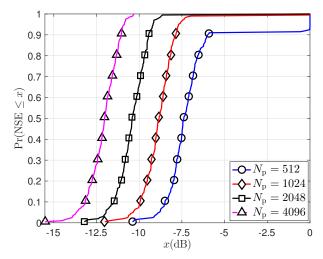


Fig. 3. The empirical CDF of the Normalized Squared Error of the channel estimate obtained using an IID QPSK training, at a SNR of 0 dB in a one-bit receiver. The reconstruction performance in terms of the recovery probability and the mean monotonically improve with the number of pilots.

the effect of outliers, the channel NMSE and CFO MSE results we report are averages over 95% of the realizations

for  $N_p = 1024$ . In practice, the failure probability can be lowered by increasing the training length or by designing a retransmission protocol that accounts for the failure. As seen in

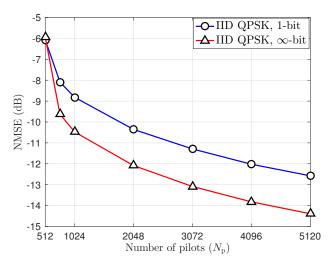


Fig. 4. The NMSE of the channel estimate as a function of the training length, for an IID QPSK training at a SNR of 0 dB. The NMSE monotonically decreases with the training length for one-bit and full resolution receivers. Due to the quantization noise in one-bit receivers, NMSE in the one-bit case is higher than the full resolution one.

Fig. 4, the NMSE monotonically decreases with the number of pilots. In practical wireless systems, the choice of the number of pilots is determined by the channel coherence time [3].

In Fig. 5, we plot the NMSE as a function of the SNR for various training sequences. It can be observed that the reconstruction error is approximately the same for IID QPSK training and IID Gaussian training matrices. For the one-bit case, the NMSE saturates at high SNR because the recovery performance is limited by the quantization noise. As shown in Fig. 4, the channel reconstruction error in one-bit receivers can be further decreased by using a higher number of pilots for the training. It can be noticed from Fig. 5 that joint estimation with circulantly shifted ZC sequences proposed in [12] performs poorly. The failure due to such structured matrices can be attributed to the CFO propagation effect and confirms with our analysis in Section IV-D.

# B. MSE of the CFO estimate

The CFO in our algorithm is obtained using an Extended Kalman Filter [39] on the inverse DFT of  $\widehat{\mathbf{b}}$ . If  $\widehat{\boldsymbol{\epsilon}}$  is the estimate of the CFO in the digital domain, the MSE of the CFO estimate is given by  $\mathbb{E}\left[(\epsilon-\widehat{\boldsymbol{\epsilon}})^2\right]$ . For a sequence of 1024 pilots, the MSE of  $\widehat{\boldsymbol{\epsilon}}$  is shown as a function of the SNR in Fig. 6, for IID QPSK and IID Gaussian training matrices. It can be noticed from Fig. 6 that the MSE of the CFO estimate saturates even for the full resolution case because the performance of the EKF is limited by the phase noise at high SNR [44]. Similar to the NMSE of the channel estimate, the MSE of  $\widehat{\boldsymbol{\epsilon}}$  is expected to saturate at high SNR for one-bit receivers due to quantization noise. The CFO estimation error, however, is determined by the phase noise [44] because the CFO MSE for the one-bit case approaches that of the full resolution one. As expected,

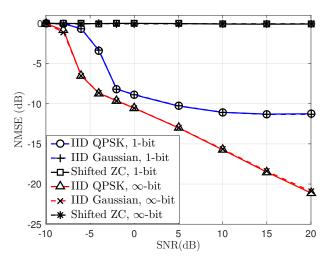


Fig. 5. NMSE of the channel estimate obtained with one-bit and full resolution channel measurements for  $N_p = 1024$ . Joint estimation is possible with IID Gaussian and IID QPSK training, but not with shifted ZC training due to the CFO propagation effect discussed in Section IV-D. It can be observed that the NMSE for the one-bit case saturates at high SNR due to quantization noise.

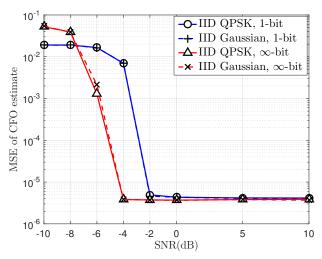


Fig. 6. MSE of the CFO estimate as a function of SNR for a training length of 1024. A maximally off-grid CFO of  $\epsilon = 45\pi/1024$  was chosen to evaluate the performance. At high SNR, the MSE saturates for both the one-bit case and the infinite resolution case due to phase noise [44].

the CFO MSE decreases with the number of pilots and is shown in Fig. 7.

## C. Performance invariance with the CFO

In this section, we show that the performance of our joint estimation approach is invariant to the CFO within practical limits. As an example, we evaluate our algorithm for different values of the CFO in the range  $[-40\,\mathrm{ppm},40\,\mathrm{ppm}]$  of  $f_1$ . These limits were chosen according to the IEEE 802.11ad specifications. From Fig. 8, we see that the reconstruction errors in the channel is constant across the practical range of the CFO. The invariance arises due to the use of Bernoulli-Gaussian prior for the synchronization variables, that achieves robustness against off-grid leakage effects.

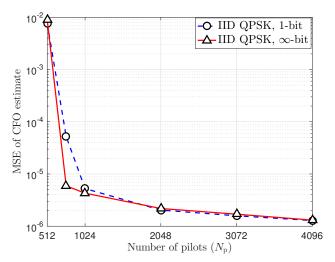


Fig. 7. MSE of the CFO estimate as a function of the training length for a SNR of 0 dB. Here, the CFO in the system was fixed to  $\epsilon = 45\pi/1024$ , and the phase noise standard deviation to  $\beta = 0.067$  rad. The MSE decreases with the number of pilots and the performance gap between the one-bit case and the full-resolution case is negligible. The sharp decrease in the CFO MSE can be attributed to the phase-transition effect of PBiGAMP [22].

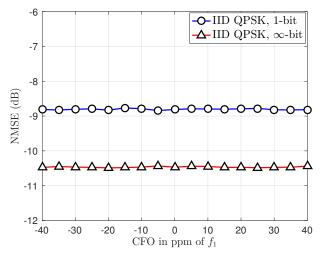


Fig. 8. For a SNR of 0 dB, the plot shows the invariance of the channel NMSE over the practical range of the CFO. The phase noise standard deviation was set to 0.067 rad, and 1024 pilots were used for the joint estimation. It can be observed from the plot that our joint estimation algorithm is robust to leakage effects that arise due to an off-grid CFO.

## VI. CONCLUSIONS

Most sparsity-aware channel estimation algorithms for mmWave systems assume perfect synchronization and perform poorly in the presence of such errors. In this paper, we propose a message passing based algorithm that can leverage the sparsity of the wideband mmWave channel in addition to the compressibility of the phase error vector. We exploit the structure in the joint estimation problem to provide a low complexity implementation of a parametric bilinear message passing algorithm. Unlike the existing methods that are specific to certain hardware architectures or use non-coherent techniques, our technique can be adapted to perform joint estimation with other mmWave architectures.

Simulation results show that it is possible to perform joint

CFO and channel estimation using IID QPSK and IID Gaussian training matrices. The CFO propagation effect proposed in this paper shows that the use of circulant training results in a continuum of optimum solutions for the joint estimation problem. Extending our joint estimation algorithm to a multiuser setting is an interesting research direction. In our future work, we will also consider frame synchronization while ensuring low complexity and scalability of our algorithm to different mmWave architectures.

#### ACKNOWLEDGMENT

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#### APPENDIX: FAST IMPLEMENTATION OF PBIGAMP

We describe our fast implementation of PBiGAMP for the joint estimation in the following sub-sections. The  $t^{\text{th}}$  iteration variables of PBiGAMP are defined as  $\widehat{\mathbf{b}}(t) \in \mathbb{C}^{N_{\text{p}} \times 1}$ ,  $\widehat{\mathbf{C}}(t) \in \mathbb{C}^{N_{\text{rx}} \times N_{\text{tx}} L}$  and  $\widehat{\mathbf{Z}}(t) \in \mathbb{C}^{N_{\text{rx}} \times N_{\text{p}}}$ , such that  $\widehat{b}_i(t)$ ,  $\widehat{c}_k(t)$  and  $\widehat{z}_m(t)$  are the  $i^{\text{th}}$ ,  $k^{\text{th}}$  and  $m^{\text{th}}$  entries of  $\widehat{\mathbf{b}}(t)$ ,  $\text{vec}(\widehat{\mathbf{C}}(t))$  and  $\text{vec}(\widehat{\mathbf{Z}}(t))$ .

1) Operations (R1)-(R3): For an  $i_o \in I_{N_p}$ , we have

$$\widehat{z}_{m}^{(i_{o},*)}(t) = \sum_{k=1}^{N_{c}} z_{m}^{(i_{o},k)} \widehat{c}_{k}(t)$$
(31)

$$= \sum_{i=1}^{N_{b}} \sum_{k=1}^{N_{c}} z_{m}^{(i,k)} e_{i}^{i_{o},N_{p}} \widehat{c}_{k}(t)$$
 (32)

= 
$$\operatorname{vec}_{m}\left(\mathbf{U}_{N_{rx}}\widehat{\mathbf{C}}(t)\operatorname{Fdiag}(\mathbf{U}_{N_{p}}^{*}\mathbf{e}^{i_{o},N_{p}})\right)$$
 (33)

= 
$$\operatorname{vec}_{m}\left(\mathbf{U}_{N_{rx}}\widehat{\mathbf{C}}(t)\operatorname{Fdiag}(\mathbf{U}_{N_{p_{(i\alpha)}}}^{*})\right),$$
 (34)

where the compact form in (34) is obtained by going back from the tensor formulation to the original bilinear model in (6). Likewise, for a  $k_0 \in I_{N_c}$ , we have

$$\widehat{z}_{m}^{(*,k_{o})}(t) = \sum_{i=1}^{N_{b}} \sum_{k=1}^{N_{c}} z_{m}^{(i,k)} \widehat{b}_{i}(t) e_{k}^{k_{o},N_{c}}$$
(35)

= 
$$\operatorname{vec}_{m}\left(\mathbf{U}_{N_{rx}}\mathbf{e}^{r_{o},N_{rx}}(\mathbf{e}^{c_{o},N_{tx}L})^{T}\mathbf{F}\operatorname{diag}(\mathbf{U}_{N_{p}}^{*}\widehat{\mathbf{b}}(t))\right)$$
(36)

$$= \operatorname{vec}_{m} \left( \mathbf{U}_{N_{\text{rx}}(r_{o})} \mathbf{F}^{(c_{o})} \operatorname{diag}(\mathbf{U}_{N_{p}}^{*} \widehat{\mathbf{b}}(t)) \right), \tag{37}$$

where  $(r_o, c_o)$  correspond to the row and column of the  $N_{\rm rx} \times N_{\rm tx} L$  matrix version of  $\mathbf{e}^{k_o, N_c}$ , with

$$k_o = (c_o - 1)N_{\rm rx} + r_o.$$
 (38)

Similarly, (R3) can be computed as

$$\widehat{z}_{m}^{(*,*)}(t) = \operatorname{vec}_{m} \left( \mathbf{U}_{N_{rx}} \widehat{\mathbf{C}}(t) \mathbf{F} \operatorname{diag}(\mathbf{U}_{N_{p}}^{*} \widehat{\mathbf{b}}(t)) \right). \tag{39}$$

To evaluate (39), the product  $\widehat{\mathbf{C}}(t)\mathbf{F}$  can be found using  $N_{\text{rx}}N_{\text{tx}}LN_{\text{p}}$  computations. Using the FFT over the resultant product,  $\mathbf{U}_{N_{\text{rx}}}\widehat{\mathbf{C}}(t)\mathbf{F}$  can be computed with an additional complexity of  $O(N_{\text{p}}N_{\text{rx}}\log N_{\text{rx}})$ . Finally, the complexity to multiply the resultant  $N_{\text{rx}} \times N_{\text{p}}$  matrix with the IFFT of  $\widehat{\mathbf{b}}(t)$  is  $O(N_{\text{p}}\log N_{\text{p}}) + N_{\text{rx}}N_{\text{p}}$ . Therefore, the computational complexity of (39) is  $O(N_{\text{rx}}N_{\text{tx}}N_{\text{p}}L)$ , unlike  $O(N_{\text{rx}}^2N_{\text{p}}^2N_{\text{tx}}L)$  of the generic implementation using (R1)-(R3).

2) Operations (R4), (R5): It can be noticed from (34) that  $\left|z_m^{(i,*)}(t)\right|$  is invariant with respect to i and is given by

$$\left| \widehat{z}_{m}^{(i,*)}(t) \right| = \frac{1}{\sqrt{N_{\text{p}}}} \text{vec}_{m} \left( \left| \mathbf{U}_{N_{\text{rx}}} \widehat{\mathbf{C}}(t) \mathbf{F} \right| \right). \tag{40}$$

Using the invariance property in (40), a compact version of the first summand in (R4) can be expressed as

$$\sum_{i=1}^{N_{\rm p}} v_i^b \left| \widehat{z}_m^{(i,*)}(t) \right|^2 = \frac{\sum_{i=1}^{N_{\rm p}} v_i^b}{N_{\rm p}} \operatorname{vec}_m \left( \left| \mathbf{U}_{N_{\rm rx}} \widehat{\mathbf{C}}(t) \mathbf{F} \right|^2 \right). \tag{41}$$

For the second summand in (R4), it can be shown from (37) that

$$\left|\widehat{z}_{m}^{(*,k_{o})}(t)\right| = \frac{1}{\sqrt{N_{\text{rx}}}} \text{vec}_{m}\left(\left|\mathbf{F}^{(c_{o})} \text{diag}\left(\mathbf{U}_{N_{p}}^{*} \widehat{\mathbf{b}}(t)\right)\right| \otimes \mathbf{a}_{N_{\text{rx}}}(0)\right).$$
(42)

Furthermore, as  $c_o$  denotes the column number corresponding to  $k_o$  (see (38)),  $\left|\widehat{z}_m^{(*,k)}(t)\right|$  is invariant  $\forall k \in I_{aN_{\text{TX}}} \setminus I_{(a-1)N_{\text{TX}}}$ , where  $a \in I_{N_{\text{TX}}L}$ . To use this invariance for efficient computation of the second summand in (R4), we define a row vector  $\boldsymbol{\mu}^c(t) \in \mathbb{R}^{1 \times N_{\text{TX}}L}$  containing the column-wise mean corresponding to  $N_{\text{TX}} \times N_{\text{TX}}L$  matrix version of  $\left\{v_k^c(t)\right\}_{k \in I_{N_c}}$  as

$$\mu_n^c(t) = \frac{1}{N_{\text{rx}}} \sum_{k \in I_{n,N_{\text{rx}}} \setminus I_{(n-1),N_{\text{rx}}}} v_k^c(t) . \tag{43}$$

With some algebraic manipulation, the second summand in (R4) can be simplified as

$$\sum_{k=1}^{N_{c}} v_{k}^{c}(t) \left| \widehat{z}_{m}^{(*,k)}(t) \right|^{2} = \operatorname{vec}_{m} \left[ \left( \boldsymbol{\mu}^{c}(t) \left| \mathbf{F} \operatorname{diag}(\mathbf{U}_{N_{p}}^{*} \widehat{\mathbf{b}}(t)) \right|^{2} \right) \otimes \mathbf{a}_{N_{\text{rx}}}(0) \right]. \tag{44}$$

To simplify the computations involved in (R5), we expand the summand using (17) as

$$\sum_{i=1}^{N_{b}} \sum_{k=1}^{N_{c}} v_{i}^{b}(t) v_{k}^{c}(t) \left| z_{m}^{(i,k)} \right|^{2} = \sum_{i=1}^{N_{b}} \sum_{k=1}^{N_{c}} v_{i}^{b}(t) v_{k}^{c}(t) \left| \mathbf{G}_{m,i} \mathbf{A}_{m,k} \right|^{2}$$

$$(45)$$

$$= \frac{\sum_{i=1}^{N_{\rm p}} v_i^b(t)}{N_{\rm p}} \sum_{k=1}^{N_{\rm c}} v_k^c(t) \left| \mathbf{A}_{k,m}^T \right|^2, \tag{46}$$

where (46) follows from (45) as  $\left|\mathbf{G}_{m,i}\right| = \frac{1}{\sqrt{N_p}}$ ,  $\forall m, i$ . Besides, as  $\mathbf{A}^T = \mathbf{F} \otimes \mathbf{U}_{N_{rx}}$ , the entries of  $\left|\mathbf{A}^T\right|$  are invariant within blocks of size  $N_{rx} \times N_{rx}$ . With arguments similar to the simplifications involved in the second summand of (R4), (R5) can be efficiently evaluated as

$$\sum_{i=1}^{N_{b}} \sum_{k=1}^{N_{c}} v_{i}^{b}(t) v_{k}^{c}(t) \left| z_{m}^{(i,k)} \right|^{2} = \frac{\sum_{i=1}^{N_{p}} v_{i}^{b}(t)}{N_{p}} \times \operatorname{vec}_{m} \left[ \left( \boldsymbol{\mu}^{c}(t) \left| \mathbf{F} \right|^{2} \right) \otimes \mathbf{a}_{N_{\text{rx}}}(0) \right]. \tag{47}$$

3) Operations (R11), (R13): From (42), it can be observed that  $\left|\widehat{z}_{m}^{(*,k)}(t)\right|^{2}$  is fixed for  $m \in I_{aN_{\text{TX}}} \setminus I_{(a-1)N_{\text{TX}}}$  and  $k \in I_{bN_{\text{TX}}} \setminus I_{(b-1)N_{\text{TX}}}$ , where  $a \in I_{N_{\text{p}}}$  and  $b \in I_{N_{\text{TX}}L}$ . The invariance of  $\left|\widehat{z}_{m}^{(*,k)}(t)\right|^{2}$  with respect to m and k arise because of the

Kronecker product with  $\mathbf{a}_{N_{\mathrm{rx}}}(0)$  and the column invariance in (38). To exploit this property in computing  $v_k^r(t)$  of (R11), we construct a vector  $\boldsymbol{\mu}^z(t) \in \mathbb{R}^{N_{\mathrm{p}} \times 1}$  to contain the columnwise mean corresponding to the  $N_{\mathrm{rx}} \times N_{\mathrm{p}}$  matrix version of  $\left\{v_m^s(t)\right\}_{m \in I_{N_{\mathrm{p}}N_{\mathrm{rx}}}}$ , i.e.,

$$\mu_k^z(t) = \frac{1}{N_{\text{rx}}} \sum_{m \in I_k N_{\text{rx}} \setminus I_{(k-1)N_{\text{rx}}}} v_m^s(t) . \tag{48}$$

With the above definitions, a simplified version of  $\left(v_j^r(t)\right)^{-1}$  in (R11) can be given as

$$\sum_{m=1}^{M} v_{m}^{s}(t) \left| \widehat{z}_{m}^{(*,k)} \right|^{2} = \text{vec}_{k} \left[ \left( \left| \mathbf{F} \text{diag}(\mathbf{U}_{N_{p}}^{*} \widehat{\mathbf{b}}) \right|^{2} \boldsymbol{\mu}^{z}(t) \right) \otimes \mathbf{a}_{N_{\text{rx}}}(0) \right]. \tag{49}$$

From (40), we rewrite  $(v_i^q(t))^{-1}$  in (R13) as

$$\begin{aligned} \left(v_i^q(t)\right)^{-1} &= \sum_{m=1}^{M} v_m^s \text{vec}_m \left( \left| \mathbf{U}_{N_{\text{rx}}} \widehat{\mathbf{C}}(t) \mathbf{F} \right|^2 \right) \\ &= \mathbf{v}^s \text{vec} \left( \left| \mathbf{U}_{N_{\text{rx}}} \widehat{\mathbf{C}}(t) \mathbf{F} \right|^2 \right), \quad \forall i \in I_{N_p}. \end{aligned}$$

4) Operations (R12), (R14): We define  $\widehat{\mathbf{F}}(t) = \mathbf{F} \operatorname{diag}\left(\mathbf{U}_{N_p}^* \widehat{\mathbf{b}}(t)\right)$  and consider the term in the second summand of (R12) for  $k = k_o$ . From (37) and (38), we have

$$\sum_{m=1}^{M} \widehat{s}_m(t) \widehat{z}_m^{(*,k_o)}(t)^* = \sum_{m=1}^{M} \widehat{s}_m(t) \operatorname{vec}_m \left[ \overline{\mathbf{U}}_{N_{\mathsf{rx}}(r_o)} \overline{\widehat{\mathbf{F}}(t)}^{(c_o)} \right]. \quad (50)$$

With  $\widehat{\mathbf{S}}(t) \in \mathbb{C}^{N_{\mathrm{rx}} \times N_{\mathrm{p}}}$  defined such that  $\widehat{s}_{m}(t) = \mathrm{vec}_{m}(\widehat{\mathbf{S}}(t))$ , (50) can be expressed as,

$$\sum_{m=1}^{M} \widehat{s}_m(t) \widehat{z}_m^{(*,k_o)}(t)^* = \left\langle \widehat{\mathbf{S}}(t), \mathbf{U}_{N_{\text{rx}}(r_o)} \widehat{\mathbf{F}}(t)^{(c_o)} \right\rangle$$
 (51)

$$= \left(\mathbf{U}_{N_{\mathrm{rx}}(r_o)}\right)^* \widehat{\mathbf{S}}(t) \left(\widehat{\mathbf{F}}(t)^{(c_o)}\right)^* \tag{52}$$

$$= \operatorname{vec}_{k_o} \left( \mathbf{U}_{N_{rx}}^* \widehat{\mathbf{S}}(t) \widehat{\mathbf{F}(t)}^* \right). \tag{53}$$

The term in the third summand of (R12) can be given by

$$\begin{split} \sum_{m=1}^{M} v_{m}^{s}(t) \sum_{i=1}^{N_{p}} v_{i}^{b}(t) \left| z_{m}^{(i,k)} \right|^{2} &= \sum_{m=1}^{M} v_{m}^{s}(t) \frac{\sum_{i=1}^{N_{p}} v_{i}^{b}(t) \left| \mathbf{A}_{m,k} \right|^{2}}{N_{p}} \\ &= \left( \frac{\sum_{i=1}^{N_{p}} v_{i}^{b}(t)}{N_{p}} \right) \operatorname{vec}_{k} \left( \left| \mathbf{A}^{T} \right|^{2} \mathbf{v}^{s} \right). \end{split}$$

Once again exploiting invariance within  $|\mathbf{A}^T|$ , we efficiently compute the third summand in (R12) as

$$\sum_{m=1}^{M} v_{m}^{s}(t) \sum_{i=1}^{N_{p}} v_{i}^{b}(t) \left| z_{m}^{(i,k)} \right|^{2} = \frac{\sum_{i=1}^{N_{p}} v_{i}^{b}(t)}{N_{p}} \times \operatorname{vec}_{k} \left[ \left( |\mathbf{F}|^{2} \boldsymbol{\mu}^{z}(t) \right) \otimes \mathbf{a}_{N_{\text{TX}}}(0) \right]. \tag{54}$$

The term in the second summand of (R14) can be rewritten using (34) as

$$\sum_{m=1}^{M} \widehat{s}_{m}(t) \widehat{z}_{m}^{(i,*)*} = \left\langle \widehat{\mathbf{S}}(t), \mathbf{U}_{N_{rx}} \widehat{\mathbf{C}}(t) \mathbf{F} \operatorname{diag}(\mathbf{U}_{N_{p(i)}}^{*}) \right\rangle. \tag{55}$$

For fast implementation of (55), we first compute the column wise inner product between  $\widehat{\mathbf{S}}(t)$  and  $\mathbf{U}_{N_{tx}}\widehat{\mathbf{C}}(t)\mathbf{F}$  and then perform a Fast Fourier Transform (FFT). We construct  $\mathbf{g} \in \mathbb{C}^{N_p \times 1}$ , such that  $\mathbf{g}_k = \left\langle \left(\widehat{\mathbf{S}}(t)\right)_{(k)}, \left(\mathbf{U}_{N_{tx}}\widehat{\mathbf{C}}(t)\mathbf{F}\right)_{(k)} \right\rangle$ . Hence, the second summand in (R14) simplifies to

$$\sum_{m=1}^{M} \widehat{s}_m(t) \widehat{z}_m^{(i,*)*} = \text{vec}_i \left( \mathbf{U}_{N_p} \mathbf{g} \right).$$
 (56)

The term in the third summand of (R14) can be expressed as

$$\sum_{m=1}^{M} \sum_{k=1}^{N_{c}} v_{m}^{s}(t) v_{k}^{c}(t) \left| z_{m}^{(i,k)} \right|^{2} = \sum_{m=1}^{M} \sum_{k=1}^{N_{c}} v_{m}^{s}(t) v_{k}^{c}(t) \left| \mathbf{G}_{m,i} \mathbf{A}_{m,k} \right|^{2}$$

$$= \frac{1}{N_{p}} \sum_{m=1}^{M} v_{m}^{s}(t) \sum_{k=1}^{N_{c}} v_{k}^{c}(t) \left| \mathbf{A}_{k,m}^{T} \right|^{2}.$$
(58)

Using the compact form of  $\sum_{k=1}^{N_c} v_k^c(t) \left| \mathbf{A}_{k,m}^T \right|^2$  from (47), we rewrite (58) as

$$\sum_{m=1}^{M} \sum_{k=1}^{N_{c}} v_{m}^{s}(t) v_{k}^{c}(t) \left| z_{m}^{(i,k)} \right|^{2} = \frac{1}{N_{p}} \sum_{m=1}^{M} \left( v_{m}^{s}(t) \times \operatorname{vec}_{m} \left[ \left( \boldsymbol{\mu}^{c}(t) \left| \mathbf{F} \right|^{2} \right) \otimes \mathbf{a}_{N_{\text{rx}}}(0) \right] \right). \tag{59}$$

Furthermore, exploiting the kroenecker product with  $\mathbf{a}_{N_{\text{rx}}}(0)$ , we have

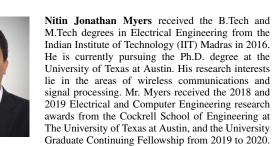
$$\sum_{m=1}^{M} \sum_{k=1}^{N_{c}} v_{m}^{s}(t) v_{k}^{c}(t) \left| z_{m}^{(i,k)} \right|^{2} = \frac{N_{rx}}{N_{p}} \boldsymbol{\mu}^{c}(t) |\mathbf{F}|^{2} \boldsymbol{\mu}^{z}(t).$$
 (60)

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